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Happening today

- **MYANMAR PRESIDENT** Min Aung Hlaing is scheduled to arrive in India on an official visit. He is set to hold talks with PM Narendra Modi on June 1.

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STRONG EL NINO, INDIAN OCEAN CONDITION ALSO NOT FAVOURABLE

Decade's driest monsoon looms: Met cuts estimate to 90% of 50-yr average

Silver lining: Foodgrain stocks ample, reservoir levels adequate

Amitabh Sinha & Anjali Marar
New Delhi, Bengaluru, May 29

INDIA IS staring at the driest monsoon season in a decade, with the Met office Friday making a downward revision its earlier forecast and predicting only 90 per cent rain this season.

In April, in its first forecast for this year's monsoon, India Meteorological Department (IMD) had said the country was likely to get 92 per cent of the long-period average (LPA) rainfall during the four-month season.

The LPA, revised every 10 years, is the average rainfall over the 50-year period 1971-2020, which is considered the baseline, or normal. Its current value is 89 cm for the rainy season — June to September — across the country as a whole.

The latest forecast is the lowest by IMD in the last 20 years.

If this holds, India could be in for the driest rainy season

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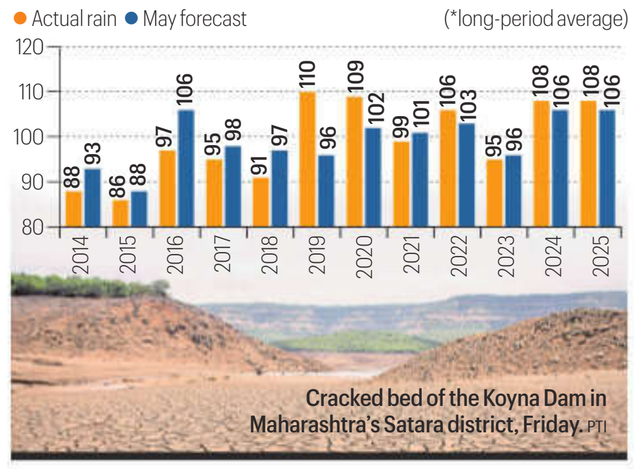
• Actual monsoon rainfall as % of LPA*



Cracked bed of the Koyna Dam in Maharashtra's Satara district, Friday. PTI

ADDRESSES CONCERNS OVER DELAY

Bail to verdict: SC pushes High Courts to speed up justice

Directs judgment be delivered within 3 months of matter being reserved, uploading of bail plea order the same day

Express News Service
New Delhi, May 29

ADDRESSING CONCERNS over undue delay in pronouncement of judgments reserved by judges, the Supreme Court issued directions Friday to all high courts to pronounce verdicts within three months of hearing the case and to "display extra promptitude" in cases of personal liberty and bail.

A bench comprising Chief Justice of India Surya Kant and Justice Joymalya Bagchi said the directions were intended to strengthen the judicial administration and ensure timely delivery of judgments.

Among the key directions, the Supreme Court said that bail applications should be heard and the order should preferably be pronounced and uploaded the same day. If it is reserved, it should be pronounced the next day and uploaded on the website.

The Supreme Court also called for reasoned judgments pronounced in open courts to be uploaded on the High Court website within 24 hours.

The directions came on a petition filed by four convicts serving life sentences whose criminal appeals had been reserved by the Jharkhand High

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E. EXPLAINED

Flags litigant's right

The SC has held that delay in pronouncing verdicts after hearing them is not only against the provisions of law but an infringement of the right to personal liberty guaranteed by the Constitution. The SC guidelines give litigants a right to seek redress against delays.

NATION PAGE 10

NEET LEAK: PROBLEM WON'T END UNTIL ACCOUNTABILITY IS FIXED, SC TELLS NTA

Sharp rise in obesity, diabetes in five years since 2019, shows latest health survey

Proportion of obese women jumps 6.7 percentage points; 4.4 for men

• Men and women who were overweight or obese

CATEGORY	2023–24 (NFHS-6)	2019–21 (NFHS-5)
Women (15–49 yrs) overweight or obese	30.70%	24%
Men (15–49 yrs) overweight or obese	27.30%	22.90%

Harikishan Sharma
New Delhi, May 29

ADULT OBESITY in India is rising fast, with the proportion of men and women in the 15-49 age group who were overweight or obese up by 4.4 and 6.7 percentage points, respectively, in five years between 2019 and 2024, according to the National Family Health Survey-6 (NFHS-6), released by the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare Friday.

The NFHS-6, conducted in 2023-24 by the Union Health Ministry with the International Institute for Population Sciences (IIPS), Mumbai as the nodal agency, covered around 6.79 lakh households across 715 districts in all States and UTs, except Manipur. It provides "vital evidence" on population, health, nutrition and family welfare indicators.

As per the survey, the percentage of women who were overweight or obese increased to 30.7 per cent in 2023-24 from 24 per cent in 2019-21. The obesity was higher in urban areas than rural areas. In urban areas, 42.8 per cent women were reported overweight or obese, while the figure was 25.5 per cent in rural areas.

The percentage of men who were overweight or obese also increased to 27.3 in 2023-24 from 22.9 in 2019-21. In rural areas, 23 per cent men were reported obese, while in urban areas the figure was 36.3 per cent.

Like the spike in adult obesity, the burden of high blood

»CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

NEGOTIATIONS TO END WEST ASIA CRISIS

Making 'final determination' on Iran deal to open Hormuz, extend ceasefire: Trump

US President in White House huddle with aides; Tehran says deal not final

Aamer Madhani & Michelle L Price
Washington, May 29

US PRESIDENT Donald Trump said Friday he's holding a White House Situation Room meeting with his advisers as he looks to make a "final determination" on moving forward with a deal to extend the Iran ceasefire and reopen the Strait of Hormuz. Iran said the deal has not been finalised.

Trump confirmed the high-level talks the day after *The Associated Press* and other news outlets reported that US and Iranian negotiators had come to terms on a tentative agreement. The deal would extend the fragile ceasefire by 60 days as new talks are held on Iran's disputed nuclear programme.

Trump wrote on social media that "Iran must agree that they will never have a

»CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

Iranians walk past a billboard of the late Iranian President Ebrahim Raisi in downtown Tehran. AP

Hormuz crisis: Build LPG stock for at least 30 days' demand, Govt tells OMCs

Sukalp Sharma
New Delhi, May 29

THE LPG supply squeeze due to the West Asia crisis has underscored the requirement to have more LPG storage in the country, and the government has asked public sector oil marketing companies (OMCs) — Indian Oil, Bharat Petroleum, Hindustan Petroleum — to work on a plan for LPG reserves to meet at least 30 days of demand in addition to their regular commercial stocks.

»CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

POLITICS PAGE 6

INDIA TRUSTED PARTNER, ONLY 1% OF TRADE DEAL TALKS LEFT: GOR

In signal to contractors, Rly tells Faridabad station developer can't reduce project scope

50% payment, Deepak Builders proposed reducing scope of station citing 'safety and restoration work'

Dheeraj Mishra
New Delhi, Faridabad, May 29

IN A decision that sends a clear message to contractors, the Northern Railway has turned down a proposal for reducing the scope of the station redevelopment project being executed under the flagship Amrit Bharat station scheme.

Ludhiana-based contractor Deepak Builders and Engineers India Ltd had in November 2025 proposed to do away with the originally-planned through-roof (canopy covering the entire station), reduce the width of the concourse or pathways between platforms, and cut down on the number of lifts and escalators, from the Rs 240-crore project. This was deliberated upon for almost six months before the Northern Railway finally turned it down on May 16.

The Northern Railway has asked the contractor to submit a detailed planning as per original plan, but assured it of all possible help including

»CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

DHEERAJ MISHRA

Faridabad station redevelopment work almost 50% complete.

Business as Usual
By EP UNNY

U.P. BRIDGE BEING BUILT COLLAPSES, 6 WORKERS DIE P10

RPL TRADING CASE

Relief for RIL: SC sets aside SEBI order to pay Rs 447 cr, upholds Rs 25-cr fine

Express News Service
New Delhi, May 29

THE SUPREME Court Friday set aside the Securities and Exchange Board of India's (SEBI) finding of fraud and manipulation by Reliance Industries Limited (RIL) in trading Reliance Petroleum Limited (RPL) futures to make unlawful gains.

While it upheld the Rs 25 crore penalty on RIL, the bench of Justices J B Pardiwala and R Mahadevan set aside the regulator's disgorgement order of Rs 447.27 crore with 12 per cent interest.

The March 24, 2017 order of the SEBI had been upheld by the Securities Appellate Tribunal (SAT) on November 5, 2020.

The bench said, "We have reached the conclusion that SAT, in its majority judgment, committed an egregious error in passing the impugned judgment insofar as the question of fraud under regulations 3 and 4 of PFUTP Regulations (SEBI Prohibition of Fraudulent and Unfair Trade Practices relating to Securities Market)."

It also ordered that the Rs 250 crore deposited by RIL during the pendency of the case, in accordance with its earlier direction, be returned. The court, however, upheld the Rs 25 crore penalty on RIL "for alleged violation of the disclosure

»CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

AAP storms into Punjab civic bodies; Cong at second position, SAD trails independents

Kanchan Vasdev
Chandigarh, May 29

THE AAM Aadmi Party (AAP) on Friday coasted to victory in the Punjab civic body elections, winning 958, or 48% of 1,977 wards. Hailing the win, Chief Minister Bhagwant Mann said people had "defeated the politics of hatred and supported developmental politics".

The Congress finished second with 397 wards and the Shiromani Akali Dal (SAD) fourth with 192, behind Independents at 251. The BJP came a distant fifth, but the party managed to increase its tally from 49 to 172, increasing its footprint across Punjab's urban and semi-urban landscape. The BSP won seven wards. Out of eight municipal corporations, the AAP won five: Barnala, Batala, Moga, Mohali, and Bathinda. Barnala is the home turf of newly appointed state BJP president Kewal Dhillon.

»CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

AAP workers celebrate in Bathinda, Friday. GURMEET SINGH

• AT 81 CASES, INCLUDING 38 NOT LODGED BY NIA, THE NIA COURT IN DELHI IS HEARING 8 TIMES THE NUMBER RECOMMENDED BY THE TOP COURT

5th judge since 2022, 43 NIA cases: SC order on speedy UAPA trials & a reality check

Nirbhay Thakur
New Delhi, May 29

EARLIER THIS month, the Supreme Court directed the setting up of exclusive NIA courts to enable timebound disposal of UAPA trials. "If there are more than 15 trials pending within the jurisdiction of a particular High Court... two courts will be set up. Whereas, where trials exceed 25, three courts will be set up," a Division Bench comprising Chief Justice of India (CJI) Surya Kant and Justice Joymalya Bagchi ordered.

This followed a Court order that judges presiding over NIA courts not be burdened with additional work.

If a court stands as a stark contrast to this, it is the one headed by Special NIA Judge Prashant Sharma at Patiala House Court in Delhi. The most sensitive NIA cases are heard in the Capital, which has just one other NIA court besides Justice Sharma's.

Appointed on November 20, 2025, Justice Sharma is the fifth judge to head the Patiala House NIA court since September 2022. Its four previous presiding judges spent an average of 11 months each in the post.

There are 43 NIA cases pending before the court being tried under the UAPA — ranging from terrorism and cross-border conspiracy to radicalisation — apart from others involving money laundering and other charges.

Of these 43 cases, in seven, Judge Sharma is hearing arguments afresh, with the accused and the NIA having almost completed their arguments before the previous judges were transferred. One of these cases was registered in 2017.

In these seven cases, it is the second or third time that hearings are being held afresh, and involve 87 accused, with arguments on charges against 32 still pending.

At 81 cases, including 43 under the UAPA and 38 not lodged by the NIA, the NIA court headed by Judge Sharma is hearing eight times the number recommended by the Supreme Court (10 per judge). Over 2017, 2018 and 2019, the average disposal time of a case in this NIA court was seven, four and three years, respectively (against the Supreme Court's "expectation" of one month). Eight cases in all were disposed of in this period.

On an average, Justice Sharma has held 19 hearings in these NIA cases, with a total of 132 hearings across the 43 cases.

A defence counsel for some of the accused told *The Indian Express* on the condition of anonymity: "The frequent transfer of judges causes delay... The process is prolonged especially in complex cases with a large number of accused persons." Since getting bail in terror cases is extremely difficult, a delay also means longer incarceration as an undertrial.

Special Public Prosecutor

»CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

PAGE 1 anchor

• NIA COURT PENDENCY

- Only 18 of 53 designated NIA courts have no pending cases.
- Only 3 of 53 designated NIA courts deal exclusively with NIA cases.
- Jharkhand (28), Delhi (19), J&K (16), West Bengal (13), Chhattisgarh, Kerala and TN (8 each), Assam and Gujarat (6 each) rank the highest in terms of cases pending for at least 5 yrs, or more
- Chhattisgarh: Highest number of cases under trial at 73, with 4 NIA dedicated courts.
- J&K, with 71 cases, has only 1 court; as does Jharkhand with 52 cases
- Delhi, with 44 cases and 2 NIA courts; West Bengal, with 38 cases and 3 courts

Kalai-II hydel project gets forest nod amid white-bellied heron habitat concerns

Nikhil Ghanekar
New Delhi, May 29

IN ONE of the key habitats of the critically endangered white-bellied heron, the Environment Ministry's Forest Advisory Committee (FAC) has granted in-principle forest clearance to the 1,200 MW Kalai-II hydroelectric project proposed on the Lohit river, a tributary of the Brahmaputra.

The clearance paves the way to clear 869 hectares of forest for the project, including submergence of 638 hectares in Anjaw and Namsai forest divisions, Arunachal Pradesh. The THDC India Ltd's Rs 14,176.26-crore run-of-the-river project is proposed in Anjaw district bordering China, and will involve construction of a 128.5-m concrete gravity dam and an underground powerhouse. Compensatory afforestation for the project will be done in Madhya Pradesh as Arunachal Pradesh is a "hilly and forested state with forest cover more than two-third of the geographical area.

During the project's appraisal on May 8, the state government's nodal office informed FAC that the heron species "is not spotted in the area proposed for diversion". FAC, however, stated since the presence of bird species is reported in the landscape, the project's wildlife management plan shall be vetted/ reviewed by the Wildlife Institute of India. This will be done to ensure "landscape-level ecological coherence and consistency with mitigation measures..."

Prior to the FAC meeting on May 8, Soblam Malo, a project-affected person from Anjaw's Chengung village, had written to the panel on reservations regarding the project. He said the bird had been sighted by wildlife researchers and locals in its riverine habitat along the length of Lohit river from upstream (Walong) to downstream (Parashuram Kund), including in the directly affected area of the Kalai II project such as Chenguinty. FAC directed that the wildlife management plan should have a special emphasis on conservation of habitat of the white-bellied heron, and have to be submitted along with a compliance report of the conditions laid down in the principle clearance.

Even as FAC was informed that no heron was spotted in the area proposed for diversion, Arunachal Pradesh forest department had officially recorded it in April 2021. It was also recorded in Kamlang Tiger Reserve downstream of Kalai-II project area. Arunachal forest department had documented the sighting of the elusive bird in April 2021.

HC upholds TRAI regulation fixing 12 mins of ads per hr

Sohini Ghosh
New Delhi, May 29

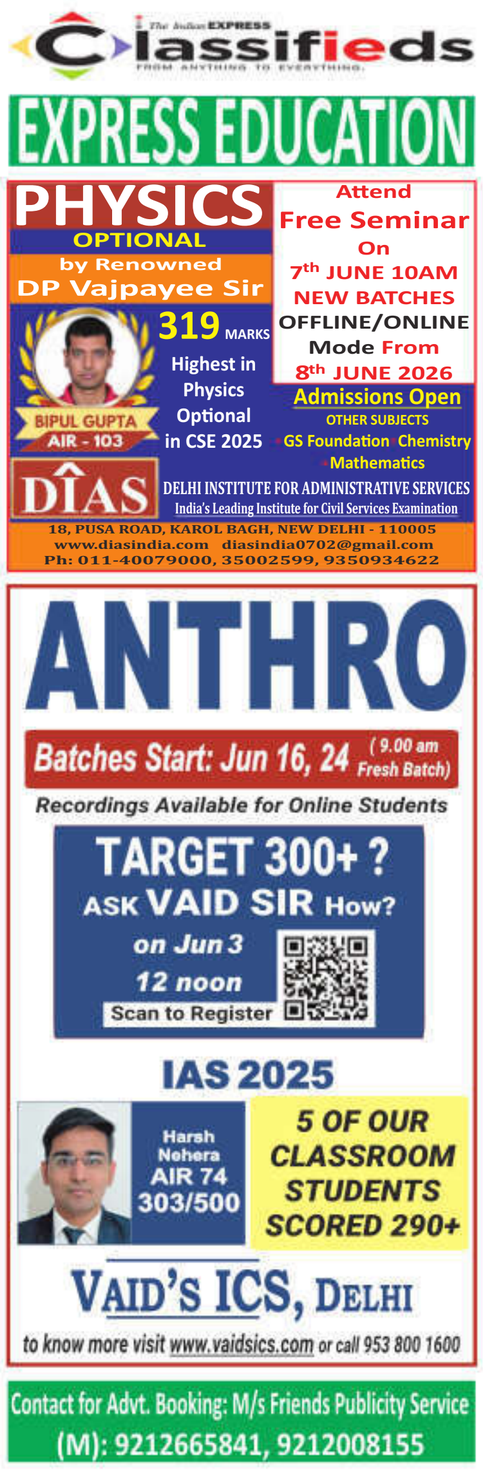
THE DELHI High Court on Friday upheld the 2012-2013 regulation over broadcast and cable services that fixes 12 minutes of ads per hour, with a 10-minute cap on commercial advertisements and a 2-minute cap for self-promotional ads.

A division bench of Justices Anil Kshetarpal and Amit Mahajan disposed of 17 petitions, filed by entertainment channels, news broadcasters, regional channels among others, challenging the regulation by the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) as being violative of Article 14 (right to equality) and Article 19 (right to free speech). The regulation was brought in in 2012 and amended in 2013.

The verdict comes after over a decade since the first petition was moved in 2013, and the last petition in 2021.

The broadcasters had pointed out their primary revenue source is ads and the time ceiling interferes with it, undermines the broadcasters' economic viability and impacts their right to commercial speech.

The Centre, on the other hand, had argued that since advertisements is a major source of revenue for broadcasters, they deliberately lengthen the duration of commercial breaks, thus reducing the quality of viewing experience. It was also argued that the broadcasters do not have unfettered right to access or use airwaves which is scarce public property. The bench reasoned that "broadcasters cannot claim an unfettered right to exploit spectrum for commercial purposes," and thus the state can regulate the manner and extent of such usage.



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

Verdict within 3 months: SC to HCs

Court in 2022 but the verdicts were pronounced three years later. While deciding their plea, the Supreme Court chose to address what it described as a wider institutional issue affecting courts across the country.

In May 2025, the Supreme Court had taken note of a report in The Indian Express that highlighted how the Jharkhand High Court pronounced verdicts in 75 criminal appeals in a week, following a rap from the top court.

The Court said that orders in cases seeking bail or suspension of sentence should be communicated to the jail authorities as soon as it is pronounced, and that the undertrial or convict must be released, preferably the same day or at most the next day.

It also said that if a judgment in a criminal appeal or a death reference is reserved and the appellant is in custody, then a clarification can be sought by the parties within seven days of the date of reserving the judgment.

The bench also said that at the end of every month, an automated list of reserved judgments that remain pending must be generated and placed before the Chief Justice of the High Court, with a copy to the bench concerned. If a judgment is not delivered in three months of reserving the order, the Registrar General must place the matter before the Chief Justice, who is then required to bring the delay to the notice of the bench concerned within two weeks, the top court said.

Crucially, where a judgment remains pending despite these steps, the SC said the case must be reassigned to another bench for a fresh hearing.

A similar string of directions, aimed at improving access to justice were issued in a 2001 case, Anil Rai v. State of Bihar, in which the Supreme Court noted that delivering judgments long after arguments had concluded could affect public confidence in the judicial process.

The Court had directed the Chief Justices of HCs to monitor reserved judgments and ensure lists of pending reserved matters were periodically prepared. It also held if a judgment remained pending for more than 3 months, a party could move an application seeking an early pronouncement. However, if six months lapsed without a judgment, the litigant could approach the CJ seeking reassignment of the case to another bench. However, implementation varied across high courts, and delays continued to surface.

Trump

nuclear weapon or bomb." He said the strait must be reopened for international navigation and all sea mines destroyed.

Iran's main negotiator said it has "no trust in guarantees or words," only actions, underscoring lingering distrust after the US and Israel have twice attacked Iran over the past year while it was engaged in nuclear negotiations.

"No step will be taken before the other side acts," Mohammad Bagher Ghalibaf wrote on X. "We do not gain concessions through talks, but through missiles."

Foreign Ministry spokesman Esmail Baghaei later told a state broadcaster that the agreement "has not been finalized yet."

On Thursday, US Vice President JD Vance suggested negotiators were trying to strike general terms on Iran's nuclear programme, with the specifics to be hammered out in the ensuing talks.

Trump and his team said from the start of the conflict that a prime objective was to ensure that Iran can never have a nuclear weapon, but Vance framed the war's accomplishments more modestly.

"We're in a position where we could substantially set back their nuclear programme, not just during the term of this President but over the long term," Vance said, adding that it would be "very, very good" for Americans.

Baghaei, however, said Friday that Iranian officials were "focused on the end of war and are not discussing the details of the nuclear plan at this point."

Iran also wants any deal to include a truce between Israel and Iran-backed Hezbollah militants in Lebanon, where fighting has intensified despite a nominal ceasefire.

The Islamic Republic has 440.9 kg of uranium that is enriched up to 60% purity, a short, technical step from weapons-grade levels of 90%, according to the International Atomic Energy Agency.

Iran has long maintained its nuclear programme is peaceful and has not publicly committed to giving up the stockpile. It's believed to be buried under three nuclear sites that were badly damaged by US strikes last year.

Trump returned Friday to his on-and-off demand for the removal of the cache as part of a deal. The material would be unearthed by the US, in coordination with Iran and the IAEA, "and destroyed," he posted.

The proposed memorandum makes clear that Iran would not be able to impose tolls on the Strait of Hormuz and that it would have to remove all mines from the vital waterway within 30 days, according to a US official who was not authorized to comment publicly and spoke on condition of anonymity.

The US would gradually lift its blockade on Iranian ports and would also agree to relax sanctions, allowing Iran to sell more of its oil. Baghaei said Iran and Oman, which lie on opposite sides of the strait, would manage it and "adopt mechanisms" for transit through it, "based on their own national interests and the interests of the international community."

The two nations' foreign ministers discussed the issue by phone earlier Friday, according to Iranian Foreign Minister Abbas Araghchi, who wrote on X that he had expressed solidarity "in the face of any threat."

On Wednesday, Trump had warned Oman, a US ally, not to enter into any agreement with Iran to share control of the strait or the US will "have to blow them up." ASSOCIATED PRESS

LPG stock

Petroleum Ministry Joint Secretary Sujata Sharma told reporters Friday: "We are working on the strategic reserves. Oil marketing companies have been asked to work out (a plan) to have LPG reserves for a minimum of 30 days with them, and they are working on it."

Sharma said the proposal is still at an early stage and declined to comment on a timeline for these reserves to be created.

Whether this additional storage will be in underground caverns, as in case of strategic crude oil reserves, or in overground tankage will also be worked out by OMCs depending on cost considerations and feasibility.

The move to expand storage capacity for LPG, which is used as a cooking fuel by over 33 crore Indian households, comes at a time when LPG has been the most impacted energy segment because of the West Asia war and the closure of the Strait of Hormuz. While India has strategic petroleum reserves for crude oil, it has none for LPG and LNG. A bulk of the available stocks for crude oil also are commercial stocks with refiners.

Monsoon

since 2015, when the overall seasonal rainfall happened to be 86 per cent of the LPA.

In the last two decades, there have been only two other occasions — 2009 and 2014, apart from 2015 — when seasonal monsoon rain have remained below 90 per cent of LPA. This year looks all set to join that group. IMD's updated forecast Friday showed there was a 60 per cent chance that the seasonal rainfall would be below 90 per cent of LPA. The IMD did not say what prompted the downward revision in its forecast. However, more recent assessments of the emerging El Nino in the equatorial Pacific Ocean, and of the Indian Ocean Dipole could be the possible reasons.

Since its previous forecast in April, more information about the emerging El Nino has become clear. El Nino, a largescale ocean-atmospheric interaction in the equatorial Pacific Ocean that influences weather patterns worldwide, is known to suppress rainfall over the Indian region.

There are predictions that this year's El Nino, which could persist well into the next year, could develop into one of the strongest ever. The possibility of emergence of an El Nino has been known for the last few months, but forecasts made for this phenomenon during March and April usually suffer from a greater degree of uncertainty, something that is referred to as spring barrier.

The information coming about El Nino now is considered more accurate and robust. Recent forecasts suggest the formation of a strong El Nino.

"With these limitations (spring barrier) and the understanding back then regarding the intensity of the emerging El Niño, we made calculations of the monsoon forecast to be around 92 per cent in April. However, we have downgraded the forecast keeping in view two things — emergence of moderate-strong El Niño earlier in the season than anticipated. In addition, the transition of the Indian Ocean Dipole from neutral to positive is expected only during the latter-half of the monsoon season. All put together, we arrive at 90 per cent of LPA this year," said a senior IMD official.

The Indian Ocean Dipole (IOD) refers to the temperature differential of surface waters between Bay of Bengal and the Arabian Sea side. If the latter is warmer, that is considered a "positive IOD" and heralds a better monsoon that may offset, to some extent, the adverse impact of a strong El Nino.

IMD said Friday the El Nino was expected to be weak in June, moderate in July and August and strong in September. This would mean that most of the monsoon season would pass off when the El Nino phase is weak or moderate. However, its actual impact on the rainfall cannot be quantified.

As for IOD, the IMD's earlier assessment was it would transition from a neutral state to positive state during monsoon season, which could counter some of the effects of the El Nino. But on Friday, the IMD said IOD was likely to remain neutral through the entire monsoon season.

This year, therefore, looks all set to end an unusually good run of monsoon seasons for India.

Five of the last seven years, including the last two years, had produced more than 100 per cent rainfall. The other two years, 2021 and 2023, were also not bad, bringing in 99 and 95 per cent rains respectively.

While low rainfall is, no doubt, a reason for concern, it might not bring immediate pain. India's foodgrain stocks are in a comfortable state, following a good harvest last year. The impact of El Nino is likely to be felt only in second half of the monsoon season, by which time the kharif sowing season should be over. The major reservoirs of the country have sufficient amounts of water right now because of ample rains last year. Lack of adequate rain is expected to push temperatures up. IMD said the country was likely to see less than 92% rain in June.

Faridabad station

reasonable space for timely completion of the project.

Railway sources said at least two other contractors had proposed a similar reduction of scope of development after emerging as the lowest bidder and winning the contract. "Had the proposal gone through, it would have downgraded the originally conceived airport-look of the station," said a source, who did not wish to be named. Further, it has sent a signal to contractors they cannot bid low, get a project, and then attempt to scale it down,

On May 16, the Northern Railway zone informed Deepak Builders that descoping of Faridabad station that it sought was not feasible in the view of future passenger growth, *The Indian Express* has learnt. The company had cited safety and restoration work in its proposal to scale down the scope of the project.

When contacted, a senior executive in Deepak Builders and Engineers, told *The Indian Express*, that the company was not getting enough blocks to complete the redevelopment work; hence it proposed to reduce the scope of work. Blocks refer to temporary suspension of train movement on specific sections for construction works.

Deepak Builders is executing the project under an Engineering, Procurement and Construction (EPC) contract. The company was awarded the work in 2022.

Sources said the removal of the entire through-roof of about 22,950 sqm — bigger than an international cricket ground — was proposed on the grounds of safety and restoration concerns. The reason cited for compressing the concourse between platforms 1 and 4 was that the contractor was not getting enough space for undertaking construction activities with trains operating continuously, said the sources.

On March 25, *The Indian Express* sent a detailed questionnaire to Northern Railway on the proposed descoping of the Faridabad project. The Ministry of Railways responded on May 27 and said the work will be carried as per the original scope of the contract. "No descoping is envisaged at this stage in respect of the ongoing Faridabad station redevelopment work and the work is planned to be carried as per the original scope of the contract," it said.

Such de-scoping of the project after awarding it to the contractor could have raised questions on the fairness of the tender and could be understood as giving favour to a party in a competitive bid, said a source. The descoping was pitched as entailing savings of almost Rs 24 crore to the Railways, but sources said these works are actually valued at a much higher price as per current market rate and the contractor was likely to benefit from a scaling down of the works. Sources said that Railways have already made payment of almost 50 per cent of the project cost (Rs 117 crore) to the contractor.

The contractor had, in its November missive, proposed to reduce the width of concourse from 72 meters to 15 meters for some parts between platform 1 and platform 4, removal of through roof, 50 per cent reduction in lifts in concourse area and reducing five escalators in both foot over bridges (FOBs). This could have adversely affected the total passenger evacuation time from the platform in case of peak demand. The reduction of one escalator from the platform reduces the evacuation capacity by 90 passengers per minute and creates congestion on the platform for public movement during peak hour traffic.

The removal of the through roof was proposed keeping in view the various maintenance issues and expeditious restoration of services during and after any probable accident or mishap.

Deepak Builders and Engineers India Private Ltd has been awarded three more station development works under the Amrit Bharat Station scheme: Ludhiana Junction, Jalandhar Cantt and Delhi Cantt stations.

SC relief for RIL

requirements under the 2001 SEBI circular in respect of position limits". The case has its origins in RIL's March 29, 2007 decision to raise funds for the completion of various projects to the extent of Rs 87,000 crore by selling shares of its listed subsidiary, RPL. It was decided to sell 5 per cent of its RPL shareholding, which roughly equated to 22.5 crore shares. The decision to sell the shares was based on the premise that RPL's shares were overvalued.

From November 6, 2007 to November 29, 2007, RIL sold 20.29 crore shares out of the proposed 22.5 crore shares in the cash segment of NSE and BSE, out of which 2.25 crore shares were sold in the last 10 minutes, between 3.21.40 pm and 3.30 pm on November 29.

RIL realised Rs 4,500 crore from the sale of the shares in the cash segment and Rs 513 crore from the futures segment through the 12 agents, totalling an aggregate amount of Rs 5,013 crore.

The SEBI later concluded that by employing 12 agents to take separate positions within their Open Interest limits on its behalf, by executing separate agreements with each of them, and cornering 93.63 per cent of the November Futures of RPL, RIL acted in a fraudulent manner while dealing in RPL scrip.

The market regulator said an analysis of the trading strategy/pattern adopted by RIL in the cash market during November 2007, and specifically on November 2, 2007 being the expiry day of the November Futures of RPL, revealed a manipulation of the last half an hour settlement price, which was a violation of the SEBI Act, 1992, read with the PFUTP Regulations.

On appeal, the SAT found no error in the SEBI order.

AAP

The Congress had a clear majority in Kapurthala, while the BJP won Abohar. In Pathankot, no party was able to get a majority, but the BJP emerged as the single-largest party.

The results are a big boost for the AAP months before the state votes in the Assembly elections in early 2027.

Though the urban civic polls are seen as a virtual semi-final before the Assembly polls, in the past, the party that has swept the elections has gone on to be voted out of power in the state. In 2015, the SAD-BJP alliance won 1,420 urban wards while the Congress bagged just 356. However, barely two years later, the Congress stormed to power with 77 of 117 Assembly seats, while the SAD-BJP alliance was reduced to 18.

The pattern repeated last time too. In the 2021 municipal polls, the Congress bagged 1,516 seats across municipal corporations, councils, and nagar panchayats. But months later, in early 2022, the AAP stormed to power with 92 Assembly seats and the Congress fell to 18.

Mann said people endorsed his government's work, including "free power to the domestic sector, availability of daytime power supply to farmers, free treatment at Aam Aadmi clinics and rejection of divisive politics".

Referring to BJP as the "ED (Enforcement Directorate) party", the CM said ED raids in Punjab and the arrest of Cabinet Minister Sanjeev Arora had failed to influence voters. "People have rejected them completely. They are at number five. Even their former alliance partner SAD has failed to deliver. The AAP alone has won more seats than these four parties combined," he said.

"The people of Punjab have replied to the 'ED party'. 'ED politics' will not work in Punjab," said AAP leader Manish Sisodia.

For the Congress, while there were isolated pockets of success, its inability to convert Lok Sabha election momentum — it won 7 of 13 constituencies — into a strong grassroots organisation will be of concern. Congress insiders said factional rivalries had weakened the party in several towns. At a meeting in New Delhi with the Congress high command, state Congress leaders are learnt to have engaged in a blame game over the party's poor performance.

Among the pockets where the party performed well was former CM Charanjit Singh Channi's bastion Chamkaur Sahib, where the party won 11 of the 13 seats. In Kapurthala, Congress MLA Rana Gurjit Singh steered the party to victory with 31 of 50 seats. His son and Independent MLA Rana Inder Partap Singh also saw his candidates dominate the Sultanpur Lodhi municipal council. However, AAP swept Gidderbaha, home turf of Punjab Congress chief Amarinder Singh Raja Warring, winning 17 of the 19 wards.

Sharp rise in obesity

sugar is also climbing among those aged 15 years and above, the survey shows. The proportion of men reporting high or very high (>140mg/dl) blood sugar levels or taking medicine to control it increased to 20.9 per cent in 2023-24 from 15.6 per cent in 2019-21. The figure was higher in urban areas — 23.9 per cent of men reported battling high or very high blood sugar levels or being under medication to control while it was 19.7 per cent in rural areas.

The proportion of women reporting high blood sugar levels was lower compared to men but it has increased sharply from 2019 to 2024. As per the survey, 17.8 per cent of women reported having high or very high blood sugar levels or taking medicine to control it, up from 13.5 per cent in 2019-21.

In 2023-24, 21.9 per cent of urban women and 16.2 per cent of rural women reported having high or very high blood sugar levels or taking medicine to control it. The rate of caesarean-section deliveries has also been rising — particularly in private healthcare facilities.

The proportion of births at a private health facility delivered by caesarean section rose to 54.1 per cent in 2023-24 from 47.4 per cent in 2019-21. For public health facilities, it increased to 16.9 per cent from 14.3 per cent.

43 NIA cases

Rahul Tyagi, who is representing the NIA in many of these cases, is on the same side as the defence counsel on this, adding that if the new NIA courts come up, "the distribution of cases in them should be done in a manner that partly heard cases are not impacted and continue to stay with the current judge (concerned)".

Section 11 of the NIA Act, incidentally, empowers the Central government to enable a judge to continue trying the case even if he retires, to ensure continuity and speedy trial.

On March 24, the Supreme Court first asked 17 states, including Delhi, to try and ensure that trials in UAPA (or terror) cases were completed within one year. The Division Bench of CJI Kant and Justice Bagchi also said states may set up dedicated NIA courts if more than 10 cases were pending under the jurisdiction of its High Court.

"There may be a case where one matter may take more than one month to conclude. But we are expecting that, on an average, one NIA case is concluded in a month. For this, you need to have day-to-day hearing," the apex court said. It also directed that NIA courts "should exclusively deal with UAPA or other related trials and that such Presiding Officers should not be entrusted with any other cases".

The Bench passed these directions while hearing a suo motu case registered in January, to oversee the creation of special courts to tackle the pendency of trials under special laws such as the UAPA. At the time, it was hearing a challenge to a Delhi High Court order denying bail to Md Heydaitullah, an alleged ISIS member accused of radicalising youths through cyberspace.

Heydaitullah and his seven co-accused had started arguments before the previous judge, who got transferred and now the hearing has re-commenced before Judge Sharma.

The 10 cases where Justice Sharma is hearing arguments afresh, including seven under the NIA, include:

- A 2017 case against Lashkar-e-Taiba chief Mohd Hafeez Saeed for alleged terror funding.
- A 2020 case of an alleged al-Qaeda module operating across West Bengal and Kerala.
- A 2021 case pertaining to alleged publication and dissemination of an "ISIS-linked" digital magazine.
- A 2021 case against gangster and designated terrorist Lawrence Bishnoi and 19 others, over allegations of running a vast trans-border empire involved in contract killings and extortion.
- Two 2021 cases against Sukesh Chandrashekhar pertaining to allegations of a Rs 200-crore extortion racket.
- A 2022 case against Oma Salam, the then chairman of the now banned Popular Front of India (PFI), of alleged "transnational conspiracy" to raise funds and of holding "radicalisation" training camps.
- A 2022 case against Canada-based Arshdeep Dalla, of alleged involvement with the Khalistan Tiger Force (KTF).
- A 2023 case related to ethnic violence in Manipur.
- A 2024 case involving human trafficking and cyber-slavery allegations. WITH INPUTS BY VINEET BHALLA

HC seeks details of amenities for slum dwellers evicted near PM's house

Sohini Ghosh
New Delhi, May 29

THE DELHI High Court on Friday directed Centre to submit the details of schools available in North West Delhi's Savda Ghevra after slum dwellers, who are residing near the PM's residence at Race Course Road in New Delhi and are being evicted, cited lack of basic amenities in an affidavit at the site where they are being rehabilitated, nearly 45 km away.

In their affidavit, the slum dwellers flagged lack of adequate educational and healthcare facilities, including lack of higher secondary schooling facilities, as well as water, electricity and sewage facilities.

They have also claimed that the area lacks last mile connectivity to the nearest Metro station, and the stretch from the colony to the nearest Metro station and bus stop passes through a deserted and isolated area, posing safety risks.

Senior advocate N Hariharan, representing the residents in the court, also said that several school and college-going children of the slum dwellers are appearing for their exams in May and June, and the relocation would disrupt their academics.

The Centre, through Additional Solicitor General (ASG) Chetan Sharma and Central government standing counsel Ashish Dixit, however, told the division bench of Chief Justice DK Upadhyaya and Justice Tejas Karia that "there are 13 schools in the vicinity" and emphasised that "strategically, we (government) need this land (on which the slums exist)."

Following an informal proposal from the court at the last hearing, the Centre also told the court that the Delhi Transport Corporation has acceded to give free bus passes to the rehabilitated dwellers for a period of one year, which can be extended beyond the period too.

Slum dwellers are being relocated to Savda Ghevra.
PRAVEEN KHANNA

The High court, at the last hearing, had inquired if the relocated residents could be provided with free bus and Metro passes for a period of three years.

ASG Sharma further submitted that while the Delhi Metro Rail Corporation (DMRC) "has no such scheme" for providing free metro passes, the court can direct for the same, or the Centre too can undertake "that whatever the charges are there for three years, we (L&DO) will reimburse...we will underwrite this."

The High Court has now directed the Centre to respond to the inadequate facilities flagged in slum dwellers' affidavit, on an affidavit, especially with respect to schooling, stating the number of schools in the area, and also on the general conditions of the schools.

The bench also directed Centre to "clearly indicate in the said affidavit the arrangement which is sought to be made with DTC for arranging buses for three years, as also the arrangement which has been proposed with the DMRC for arranging free travel for a period of 3 years."

The court will hear the matter next on June 4.

INVESTIGATORS SAY HE RAN AN ORGANISED SYNDICATE, RECRUITED POOR PEOPLE FOR CARRYING OUT ROBBERIES

Delhi constable booked under stringent MCOCA after arrest in dacoity case

Sakshi Chand
New Delhi, May 29

CONSTABLE SAMAY Singh Meena, who was arrested earlier this month in a dacoity case, has been booked under sections 3 and 4 of Maharashtra Control of Organized Crime Act (MCOCA), *The Indian Express* has learnt. Posted with the 5th Battalion of the Delhi Armed Police (DAP), Meena was released last May on bail following the arrest in another robbery case.

The policeman, officers said, allegedly ran an organised crime syndicate wherein he targeted people in need of money and recruited them to execute robberies and dacoities. Apart from Meena, the stringent act has been invoked against his accomplices — Salman, Sahil, Javed, Nikhil Kumar Meena, Rohit alias Himanshu, and Farman, among others, for their role in the alleged network.

The proposal for invoking sections of MCOCA was prepared by Inspector Ashutosh Kumar, SHO of Bara Hindu Rao police station, where the dacoity case has been filed, and was sent to senior officers for approval. According to the investigators, he had set up a gang that allegedly planned robberies and dacoities.

The police claimed that this syndicate had been active since 2022 and multiple criminal cases were registered against its members. Sources said senior officers approved the use of MCOCA against the syndicate members as the group had allegedly continued its activities despite repeated arrests and FIRs The authorities argued that ordinary criminal laws were no longer enough in this matter.

Syndicate had been active since 2022; stringent Act invoked after repeated arrests, FIRs linked to network

"Samay Singh Meena and his associates are not just regular criminals, but members of a structured organised crime network operating in Delhi," an officer said.

Investigators, according to sources, found that members of the group had repeatedly been chargesheeted in serious offences punishable with imprisonment of more than three years.

"Meena's modus operandi was to first recruit a person for one robbery and then recruit... may be... his brother for another robbery. Basically, he would, in a way, trap the entire family. Not everyone was supposed to be on the execution front and only a certain individual interacted with him. The remaining members interacted with the individual who was in charge," the officer said.

He was again arrested earlier this month weeks after his gang on March 31 allegedly robbed businessman Rana Mahepalsinh, who was travelling with his colleague, Mohan Lal, towards Chandni Chowk in an auto with Rs 50.37 lakh in cash from Kirti Nagar in West Delhi.

The case was initially registered at Bara Hindu Rao Police Station as a robbery case but after the fifth person was arrested in the matter, it was turned into a dacoity case.

Sources said Meena, also known as Raju, initially did not know the amount the businessman would be carrying but he was aware it was a large sum of money.

"In this case, Meena had taken into confidence one of the accused, Nikhil, who had in turn hired others. Hence, during the initial arrests, the role of Meena did not come up. It was only when Nikhil was arrested that he revealed that Meena was the main conspirator," an officer said.

35% voters mapped, SIR prep phase to begin in Gurgaon from June 5

Abhimanyu Hazarika
Gurgaon, May 29

OVER 35% OF Gurgaon's 15.55 lakh registered voters have been mapped so far under the Election Commission of India's Special Intensive Revision (SIR) 2026 exercise, District Election Officer and Deputy Commissioner Uttam Singh said on Friday while announcing a district-wide campaign for revision of electoral rolls.

Addressing mediapersons, Singh said the qualifying date for the revision exercise has been fixed as July 1, making people who turn 18 on or before that date eligible for voter registration. "Gurgaon district currently has 15,55,039 registered voters, of which 5,46,970 (35.17%) have already been mapped. This figure is expected to rise during the upcoming enumeration process," he added.

Based on a preliminary review of the district's four Assembly constituencies, 251 new polling stations have been proposed in addition to the existing 1,504. Separate polling stations are also being planned in group housing societies and high-rise residential complexes, Singh said. He added that the initial phase of the campaign will run from June 5 to 14, during which booth level officers (BLOs), electoral registration officers and booth level agents of political parties will undergo training on electoral roll revision guidelines and procedures.

District Election Officer Uttam Singh.

Following this, BLOs will make door-to-door visits to get voters' enumeration forms filled, update voter photographs and collect signed forms. "Form 6 will be used for fresh voter registrations, while online applications can also be submitted through the Election Commission portal, voters.eci.gov.in," Singh said.

Furthermore, rationalisation of all polling stations in the district will take place from June 14 to 26 to ensure that no booth has more than 1,200 voters and that no voter has to travel over 2 km to cast their vote. As far as possible, members of the same family and residents of a specific area will be assigned to a single polling station, Singh added.

The draft electoral roll will be published on July 21, after which claims and objections can be filed till September 18. Notices will be issued to voters whose names are not included in the list.

'Pathetic': Rights body on Faridabad woman giving birth in parking area

Abhimanyu Hazarika
Faridabad, May 29

THE HARYANA Human Rights Commission (HHRC) has taken serious cognisance of an incident at a government facility in Faridabad, where a pregnant woman was allegedly forced to deliver her child in a parking area under torchlight after finding the hospital gates closed.

In an order dated May 25 and uploaded Friday afternoon, the Commission, headed by Chairperson Justice Lalit Batra, highlighted the "glaring pathetic situation" and sought detailed reports from senior health officials by August 12. The order also asked the Civil Surgeon, Faridabad, to "show cause why compensation should not be recommended for the serious violation of human dignity and human rights."

According to the complaint and media reports placed before the Commission, the woman arrived at the Government Primary Health Centre (PHC) at Sector 3, Ballabhgarh, during the night of May 15-16 while in active labour.

The order was issued May 25.

It is alleged that the main gate was locked and no immediate medical assistance was provided, forcing the family to conduct the delivery in an open area. The incident triggered a public outcry after photographs showed her giving birth under mobile phone flashlights.

Justice Batra observed that the allegations, if true, reveal a "disturbing and inhuman" failure of the public healthcare system. The Commission stated that while the State claims full implementation of the Janani Shishu Suraksha Karyakram (JSSK), a scheme meant to ensure free and cashless delivery, the woman was denied institutional care at the hospital's doorstep.

"The circumstances narrated... painfully remind one of primitive times when deliveries were conducted at home in the absence of proper medical facilities, institutional care, and professional support," the order noted. The Commission emphasised that the case concerns fundamental rights under Article 21 of the Constitution, including the right to life, dignity, and emergency medical care. It directed the Additional Chief Secretary (Health), the Director General of Health Services, the Civil Surgeon of Faridabad, and the in charge of the PHC to submit responses regarding the availability of staff during night hours, the functionality of emergency entries, and the status of obstetric protocols.

Free travel for NEET retest candidates

New Delhi: The Delhi government on Friday announced free travel on DTC buses for all candidates appearing for NEET retest on June 21. The candidates will be required to show their NEET admit card to the bus conductor, said officials.

CM Rekha Gupta said, "Understanding various challenges, the Delhi government stands with the candidates. The government's effort is to ensure that candidates do not face any transportation-related inconvenience on the day of the examination. With this objective, free travel in DTC buses will be provided to all NEET candidates on June 21 so that they can reach their examination centres on time without any additional stress and take the examination with complete concentration and confidence." ENS

भारतीय खाद्य निगम
Food Corporation of India
16-20, Barakhamba Lane, New Delhi-110001
Phone : 011-43527462

VACANCY NOTICE

The Food Corporation of Food Corporation of India invites applications for engagement of one Advisor (Information Technology) on short term contract (STC) basis. The application form, terms and conditions for appointment and the procedure for submitting application may be seen at http://fci.gov.in. Last date for receipt of application is 30 days from the date of publication of Notice in the Employment News.

Deputy General Manager (Estt.)

PUBLIC NOTICE

IN THE MATTER OF THE SCHEME OF AMALGAMATION BETWEEN LANDMARK HI TECH DEVELOPMENT PRIVATE LIMITED
(Transferor Company / Applicant Company-1)
AND
UPPAL-CHADHA HI-TECH DEVELOPERS PRIVATE LIMITED
(Transferee Company / Applicant Company-2)

Notice is hereby given pursuant to the Order dated 28 April 2026 passed by the Hon'ble National Company Law Tribunal, New Delhi Bench, in C.A. (CAA) No.18/ND/2026, whereby meetings of the shareholders, secured creditors and unsecured creditors of Uppal-Chadha Hi-Tech Developers Private Limited (UCHDPL) have been dispensed with.
Further, since Applicant Company-1 has no secured creditors, convening of such meeting was not required.
Copies of the proposed Scheme of Amalgamation and related documents may be obtained free of cost on all working days (except Saturdays, Sundays and public holidays) during business hours from the registered office situated at:

First Floor, M-4, South Extension Part-II, South Delhi, New Delhi – 110049
Any person desirous of making representations in connection with the proposed Scheme may submit the same before the Hon'ble Tribunal within 30 days from publication/receipt of this notice and simultaneously send a copy to:
Uppal-Chadha Hi-Tech Developers Private Limited
First Floor, M-4, South Extension Part-II, South Delhi, New Delhi –110049
Email: secretarial@waveinfratech.com
In absence of any representation within the prescribed period, it shall be presumed that no objections/representations exist.

राष्ट्रीय बौद्धिक दिव्यांगजन सशक्तिकरण संस्थान (दिव्यांगजन)
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ADMISSION NOTIFICATION FOR THE YEAR 2026-27

NIEPID, Secunderabad and its Regional Centres located at Navi Mumbai, Noida, Kolkata & Composite Regional Centres at Davanagere, Rajnandgaon and Nellore invites applications for various Under Graduate/Post Graduate and Diploma Courses in Special Education for the academic year 2026-27 as per the details given below:-

Sl.No.	Name of the course	No. of seats
NIEPID, Secunderabad		
Post Graduate/Under Graduate Courses (Affiliated to Osmania University)		
1.	Post Graduate Diploma in Early Intervention (PGDEI)	20 + 2 (EWS)
2.	M.Ed.in Special Education (ID)	25 + 2 (EWS)
3.	B.Ed.in Special Education (ID)	30 + 3 (EWS)
4.	B.A.-B.Ed.SE (ID) Middle Stage (ISITEP)	20
*** Diploma Courses**		
5.	Diploma in Education Special Education (IDD)	35 + 3 (EWS)
6.	Diploma in Early Childhood Special Education (ID)	30
7.	Diploma in Vocational Rehabilitation (ID)	30
8.	Diploma in Indian Sign Language Interpretation (DISLI)	30
NIEPID Regional Centre, Noida		
*** Diploma Courses**		
9.	Diploma in Education Special Education (IDD)	35 + 3 (EWS)
NIEPID Regional Centre, Navi Mumbai		
Post Graduate/Under Graduate Courses (Affiliated to University of Mumbai)		
10.	M.Ed.in Special Education (ID)	15 + 1 (EWS)
11.	B.Ed.in Special Education (ID)	20 + 2 (EWS)
*** Diploma Courses**		
12.	Diploma in Education Special Education (IDD)	35 + 3 (EWS)
13.	Diploma in Early Childhood Special Education (ID)	30
14.	Diploma in Vocational Rehabilitation (ID)	30
NIEPID Regional Centre, Kolkata		
Post Graduate/Under Graduate Courses (Affiliated to West Bengal State University)		
15.	M.Ed.in Special Education (ID)	12 + 1 (EWS)
16.	B.Ed.in Special Education (ID)	30 + 3 (EWS)
*** Diploma Courses**		
17.	Diploma in Education Special Education (IDD)	35 + 3 (EWS)
18.	Diploma in Vocational Rehabilitation (ID)	30
CRC, Nellore, Andhra Pradesh State		
*** Diploma Courses**		
19.	Diploma in Education Special Education (HI)	35
20.	Diploma in Indian Sign Language Interpretation (DISLI)	30
CRC, Davangere, Karnataka State		
*** Diploma Courses**		
21.	Diploma in Education Special Education (HI)	35
22.	Diploma in Education Special Education (IDD)	35
23.	Diploma in Indian Sign Language Interpretation (DISLI)	30
CRC, Rajnandgaon, Chattisgarh State		
*** Diploma Courses**		
24.	Diploma in Education Special Education (IDD)	35
25.	Diploma in Indian Sign Language Interpretation (DISLI)	30

* NOTE: All the Diploma Level Courses are affiliated to RCI, New Delhi for which the admisison schedule is yet to be issued by RCI. Please visit website www.rehabcouncil.nic.in & www.niepid.nic.in for further updates.

For further details about detailed Notification, Application form for UG/PG Courses, prospectus, Eligibility Criteria, Fee details and important dates, please visit Institute's website: www.niepid.nic.in and Osmania University website www.ouadmissions.com. Last date for submission of applications is 06.07.2026 & 15.07.2026 (with late fee).

DIRECTOR, NIEPID

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AmarJyoti Institute of Physiotherapy Karkardooma, Vikas Marg, Delhil 10092 Website: https://amaritotitchab.org Email: info@amajyotirchab.org	● MPT (Msk Sci.) ● MPT (Neuro Sci.)	05 05

For further details please visit Websites of respective Institutions
To Apply Online go to :https://pdunippd.nic.in

● Starting Date for online Application : 30.05.2026 (Saturday)
● Closing Date of online receipt of Application : 14.06.2026 (Sunday)
● Declaration of Merit list : 18.06.2026 (Thursday)
● Date of 1st Physical Counseling : 025.06.2026 (Thursday)

CBC-38103/11/0003/2627
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President Droupadi Murmu meets Delhi BJP chief Harsh Malhotra. X/@HDMALHOTRA

Decongest city, MCD polls: Priorities for Delhi BJP chief

Gayathri Mani
New Delhi, May 29

FROM OVERSEEING the celebrations of the Narendra Modi government's 12 years at the Centre in June to rejigging of the city team in two months and preparing for the Municipal Corporation of Delhi (MCD) polls later this year: Union Minister Harsh Malhotra, the newly-appointed Delhi BJP chief, has his calendar packed.

Malhota, who is also the East Delhi MP and holds the portfolio as Minister of State for Road Transport and Highways, and Corporate Affairs, in an interview with *The Indian Express* on Friday, said he is "confident that he can balance" all the responsibilities.

"Those who work a lot are given more work and responsibilities because the party knows that they have the capacity for it... time management was part of my schedule while working as Lok Sabha MP as well as a minister...So, I am comfortable in discharging my duties as a president also."

As a Union Minister, Malhotra said he will be giving special attention to decongesting Delhi's major corridors to provide relief to commuters from heavy traffic jams.

His first assignment as the Delhi BJP chief?

Successfully holding fortnight-long programmes in June, marking 12 years of Modi government at the Centre. The programmes, he said, will be held from June 5 to June 21. He said he held a meeting on Thursday with all party MPs, MLAs, councilors and district presidents to discuss preparations for the programmes.

Calling the upcoming MCD polls in December his next major responsibility, Malhotra said the party was fully geared for the civic elections. "Preparation for the upcoming polls is already underway...BJP is not a party that starts studying two days before examinations. We work throughout the year, preparation on ground level is already underway and active campaigning and meetings will be visible six months ahead of the civil polls," he said.

Describing the BJP's grassroots workers as the party's "arms and ammunition", Malhotra said, "We held our first meeting yesterday, which was attended by all the district presidents. The gaps in the organisation at the district-level will be filled on priority. The formation of new teams for our districts will be done in the next 15 to 20 days. The re-organisation of unit and office bearers will also be done within one to two months."

On strengthening public outreach, he added that all BJP MPs would be asked to spend a day in every Assembly constituency for better ground-level engagement.

Before he was elected as an MP from the East Delhi constituency, Malhotra had served as the Mayor of the East Delhi Municipal Corporation (EDMC), which was later merged with the MCD.

Speaking about decongesting the Capital, the Union Minister said that some of the most congested corridors like Kalindi Kunj, Faridabad and Sarai Kale Khan junction have ongoing road projects under the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways, including a proposed elevated corridor connecting Sarai Kale Khan to Sohna and Faridabad to Jewar. This, he said, is expected to be completed by December.

Talking about perennial snarls between Noida-Kalindi Kunj Link Road, he said a Rs 650-crore project has been proposed to decongest and make the Kalindi Kunj stretch signal-free. Malhotra added that key arterial roads, including the Ashram-Badarpur corridor, Mehrauli-Gurgaon Road and the Punjabi Bagh-Tikri Border stretch are also being taken up for improvement.

He added, "The coordination between the government and the party has always been good. Even as MP, we have taken up all party programmes related to, and the organisation also felt that MP was needed here. All the MPs and MLAs participated in all the programmes and celebrated the one year of Delhi government together and held several public meetings and programs also. The BJP has always had and continues to have coordination with everyone at the state-level."

FAULTY WIRE MAY HAVE CAUSED SPARK IN AC THAT TRIGGERED FIRE, SAY POLICE

Retd IAS officer's death cut short plans for his 80th b'day in Gymkhana, London

Pragynesh
New Delhi, May 29

GAURAV KUMAR, a tour and travel startup founder, had landed in Delhi from London on May 26 with grand plans to celebrate his father Dhanendra Kumar's birthday — first at the Delhi Gymkhana Club on May 30 and then in London on June 6, when the retired IAS officer, who served as Executive Director at the World Bank and became the first Chairman of the Competition Commission of India, turned 80.

Flight tickets had already been booked for Gaurav and his parents' journey on June 3. But fate had other plans.

Late Tuesday, Dhanendra breathed his last at AIIMS Trauma Centre, after inhaling poisonous smoke from a fire suspected to have been triggered by an explosion in an air conditioner at his three-floor house in Hauz Khas's R block. The AC, 12 years old, was serviced a week before Gaurav came home, said police.

Gaurav, meanwhile, remains admitted to the hospital.

Abhishek, a domestic help who had been working for Dhanendra and his wheelchair-bound wife Manju for 14 years said Gaurav was speaking to his wife over the phone when he noticed sparks coming from the AC in his room around 11 pm. Within moments, it caught fire.

Besides Dhanendra, Manju and Gaurav, two helpers — including Deepak who has worked with the family since 2018 — were present on the ground floor at the time.

The ground floor has two bedrooms. While Dhanendra and Manju stayed in one, Gaurav was staying in the other.

"I was in the kitchen having dinner. Gaurav sir screamed and asked me to help him get madam out," Deepak said.

Deepak and Gaurav first helped Manju out of the house before calling out to Dhanendra, who was inside the bathroom in his bedroom.

"He replied, *'main aa raha hun'*. But when I and Gaurav sir returned, he was not there. His room was filled with smoke. We then saw him lying near the bathroom. We carried him out," Deepak said.

In the meantime, Abhishek said Gaurav's wife — who was in London — had called and asked him to rush to the Hauz Khas home. By the time Abhishek arrived from Chhatarpur, thick plumes of smoke were coming out of the house.

"Flames were about to come out from the windows of Gaurav sir's room. We tried to contain it there. By then, a PCR van had taken Manju madam, Dhanendra sir and Gaurav sir to the hospital," he said.

Abhishek said no fire tender had arrived by then. "Some neighbours joined us in trying to control the fire. Deepak opened the water tank of the house while others started taking out water in buckets and trying to douse the blaze."

According to a neighbour, a mosquito net fixed outside the window in Gaurav's room initially did not allow water to enter the room. "A policeman removed the net.... and I tried to pour in water. I started pouring in piped water... The fire tenders arrived at least 20-25 minutes later," the neighbour added.

Abhishek described Dhanendra as his mentor, someone he looked up to. "He would wake up at 5 am, exercise, and then sit to write articles or attend meetings," he said.

Deepak said the family is yet to inform Manju about Dhanendra's death. "He used to take care of her health – arrange her medicines, feed her. More than any doctor," he said.

Police said initial findings suggest a faulty wire may have caused the spark in the AC that triggered the fire.

The room that caught fire; (right) the family's 3-storey house. EXPRESS

Temperature dips 9.4 deg C in 48 hrs

Clouds shrouded Delhi and trace rain was reported in a few areas on Friday as the city recorded its lowest maximum in 21 days and witnessed a sharp fall in temperatures of up to 9.4° C in many places over the last 48 hours. The day temperature settled at 36.8° C, the lowest since May 8 when it stood at 36.4° C. The minimum was recorded at 25.3° Celsius. The IMD has forecast thunderstorms and rain to persist until May 31. For Saturday, a yellow alert has been issued for thunderstorms and rain. AMIT MEHRA

• Skywatch

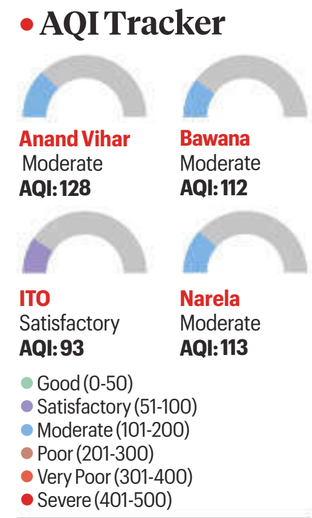
Forecast: May 30, 2026

Partly cloudy sky becoming generally cloudy sky

MAX: 34-36
4.4°C below normal

MIN: 22-24
4.6°C below normal

• AQI Tracker



Delhi model drowns in Kerala stone quarry, body flown to city

Express News Service
Thiruvananthapuram, May 29

A YOUNG model from Delhi, Divyanshu Joshi, drowned in an abandoned stone quarry, which had turned into a deep lake, at Mudakuzha in Kerala's Ernakulam district Thursday.

The body was fished out the same day and after postmortem examination, it was flown to Delhi on Friday evening, said police. A case for unnatural death has been lodged.

Kodanad police Station House Officer Sarin A S said Joshi and two others from Delhi were in Kerala in connection with the shooting of an advertisement film for a Delhi textile firm. "The shooting of the ad video was scheduled for Friday. However, Joshi and his friends reached Mudakuzha on Thursday without informing their team in Kerala. They had found the location of the shooting through google search and moved to Mudakkuzha."

"Joshi stepped into the water but soon slipped into a deep section while his two friends filmed him swimming. The quarry was dug in the shape of an inverted spiral pyramid to allow vehicle movement when it was operational. He may have slipped from one level into deeper water," the officer said.

Mudakuzha panchayat president Shimy Varghese said the quarry had turned into a death trap several years ago. "We had prevented people from going there. A few people had drowned in the past and we had placed warning boards."

"We do not know how they reached there. We had not given sanction to shoot the ad film, but we heard they were planning to approach the panchayat on Friday," she added.

'Such disorder unacceptable': Delhi CM orders facelift of e-sub registrar office within a week

Express News Service
New Delhi, May 29

EXPRESSING DISPLEASURE over the dilapidated condition of the building and facilities available at the Revenue department's e-sub registrar office at Ambedkar Bhawan in Rohini Sector 16, Delhi Chief Minister Rekha Gupta, during a surprise inspection on Friday, directed officials to ensure proper facilities, including sitting arrangements, fans, air conditioning and construction of the floor, within a week.

While seeking a detailed report, the CM said she would personally conduct a follow-up inspection. The e-sub registrar office caters to Model Town in Pitampura and Rohini.

Officials said that during her visit, the CM reviewed the poor condition of the office building, facilities offered to residents and cleanliness, among others.

Maintaining that the condition of the office building had been neglected for years, officials said the CM pointed out that many lights were not working, toilets were unusable, air-conditioners were non-functional, floors were damaged and even basic seating arrangements were unavailable.

"She said such disorder was unacceptable in a place where a large number of people visit every day for important documentation and property-related works," the official said.

The CM also interacted directly with people present at the office and listened to their grievances. "Many people complained about having to wait for long periods, the absence of a token system and the lack of basic facilities," said the official.

Directing officials, Gupta said "people should not face any inconvenience". "She added that it is the government's responsibility to provide a dignified and comfortable environment in public offices," the official said.

Gupta went on to direct officials to submit records of all correspondence and repair proposals related to the office. Further, she directed the department to appoint an officer or caretaker in every office to ensure regular monitoring of basic facilities and cleanliness.

Chief Minister Rekha Gupta during the surprise inspection. ANI

Twisha death: Mother-in-law and husband in CBI custody until June 2

Anand Mohan J
Bhopal, May 29

A BHOPAL court Wednesday remanded retired judge Giribala Singh and her son Samarth Singh to CBI custody until June 2 in connection with the death of model-actor Twisha Sharma.

The order came a day after the CBI arrested Twisha's mother-in-law Giribala Singh following the Madhya Pradesh High Court's decision to quash the anticipatory bail granted to her in the case. Twisha's husband Samarth Singh had already been in custody following his arrest after remaining absconding for several days.

Advocate Gyandendra Sharma, representing the accused, said, "The CBI wants to question both the accused and complete its investigation."

Twisha, former Miss Pune and an actor originally from Noida, was found hanging at her matrimonial home in Bhopal on May 12. A case of dowry death was later lodged.

Among the most significant steps likely during the remand is a face-to-face confrontation between Giribala and Samarth.

The central agency recently took over the investigation from the Madhya Pradesh Police after the state government transferred the case amid allegations of investigative lapses, evidence tampering and influence over the probe.

Giribala Singh leaves the court in Bhopal on Friday. PTI

• UNIVERSITY TELLS COLLEGE PROPOSED MOVE VIOLATES UGC AND DU RULES

DU blocks St Stephen's College plan to absorb Principal John Varghese as professor

Vidheesha Kuntamalla
New Delhi, May 29

DELHI UNIVERSITY has directed St Stephen's College not to proceed with a proposal to absorb Principal John Varghese as a professor once his tenure as institution head ends, saying such a move would violate University Grants Commission (UGC) regulations and university rules.

This comes days after a controversy broke out over the appointment of its new principal. DU had asked St Stephen's to "not proceed with the appointment" of Professor Susan Elias as its new principal on the grounds that the committee that chose her was allegedly constituted in violation of UGC regulations. The college authorities, however, have maintained earlier that Elias is scheduled to take office as the Principal on June 1.

In a letter dated May 29 to the Chairman of the Governing Body of St Stephen's College, Registrar Vikas Gupta said it was responding to media reports regarding the proposed absorption of Varghese in the college's English Department.

The University has argued that the proposal has no basis in existing UGC regulations or University rules. It noted that the UGC, which funds colleges, sanctions substantive teaching posts only at the level of Lecturer or Assistant Professor.

The letter also referred to the ongoing legal challenge to Varghese's continuation as principal, stating that the grant of another term to him is "in violation of UGC Regulations 2018" and that the matter is currently pending before the Delhi High Court.

Explaining its position, the University said teachers in colleges are appointed as Assistant Professors and subsequently promoted to Associate Professor and Professor through the Career Advancement Scheme (CAS) under the UGC Regulations, 2018.

The Registrar further wrote that neither the UGC Regulations nor any rules approved by the statutory bodies of the University provide for the absorption of an employee or any other person directly as a Professor in a college.

"In view of the above, it is apparent that the absorption of Prof. John Varghese as Professor in the college is in violation of all rules of UGC and University," the letter stated.

The University then took the position that any recommendation by the Governing Body to this effect would be beyond its powers.

"Accordingly, any such recommendations of the Governing Body is ultra vires and should not be acted upon any further," the letter said, adding: "You are requested to not proceed with this."

The University also said that under existing rules, Varghese should be repatriated to his parent institution after the completion of his tenure and would draw pension and other retirement benefits, if any, from that institution alone.

The communication was issued with the approval of the competent authority and copies were marked to the Chairperson and Secretary of the UGC.

St Stephen's did not respond to calls seeking comment.

The college has been in a long-running institutional conflict with DU over questions of governance and autonomy.

DU had repeatedly challenged the continuation of Prof Varghese in the principal's post beyond March 2021, and described his extension as "illegal", "non-statutory", and "ab initio null and void". According to the university, UGC rules required a fresh selection process that would involve DU and the nominees of the commission.

St Stephen's had, on the other hand, maintained that Varghese's continuation was valid under resolutions passed by the supreme council of the college.

St Stephen's had maintained that Varghese's continuation was valid under resolutions passed by the college's supreme council.

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INTERVIEWS

Superhuman Sound: Inside Starkey's Omega AI Revolution

***Brandon Sawalich**, President & CEO of **Starkey**, on the role India plays in the future of hearing technology - and what 'superhuman' really means.*

*Starkey, America's only privately owned hearing technology company, has just unveiled Omega AI - a flagship product and the most intelligent hearing aid they've ever made. At the helm is **Mr. Brandon Sawalich**, a leader who has steered Starkey from a traditional hearing-aids manufacturer into a global technology and wellness powerhouse. In a conversation with Indian Express, Sawalich speaks about DNN 360, India's outsized role in Starkey's ambitions, affordability, and why the ear - not the wrist - is the next frontier in wearable technology.*

BRANDON SAWALICH
President & CEO, Starkey

What makes Omega AI a meaningful step forward for everyday hearing?
At Starkey, we know hearing is not just a luxury or convenience; it is essential to overall health and well-being. Our newest flagship technology, Omega AI, features DNN 360, the world's first deep neural network-powered directionality system. This advanced AI technology helps tackle the single biggest struggle people with hearing loss face: hearing clearly in noisy environments. What makes it truly remarkable is that DNN 360 doesn't just process sound - it predicts the next acoustic adaptation before it happens, similar to how the healthy human brain filters out unwanted noise, helping the user focus on the sounds they want to hear. The result is up to 28% better speech intelligibility in challenging environments and an 8 dB signal-to-noise improvement. That is why we say Omega AI is technology so intelligent, it is superhuman.

How is Omega AI different from previous Starkey products like Edge AI or Genesis AI?
Every generation of Starkey technology has been a giant leap at the time of its release, and Omega AI is no exception. Starkey being a privately-held technology company gives us an extraordinary advantage, allowing us to pivot quickly to keep up with science and focus on the needs of patients and professionals, rather than the demands of shareholders. Our advanced development team is working on technology that isn't yet scientifically possible, so that the moment it becomes possible, we are already there. Omega AI introduced advanced technology and many first-to-world features, including the industry-first TeleHear AI feature, which uses generative AI to resolve common hearing issues in real time with 93% predictive accuracy, and LED indicators that double as a find-my-hearing-aid tool. Each breakthrough is a testament to Starkey's continued leadership, not just in the hearing industry, but in the technology space. We are setting the speed of innovation - and we intend to keep it that way.

How will Omega AI improve real-life listening for people across diverse lifestyles, including in India?
Omega AI is fully customisable for every lifestyle and listening environment. Your hearing care provider can programme the device to your precise audiological profile. For those living active lives - and India has 1.4 billion people who do - the upgraded waterproofing, tested to last 10 times longer than previous coatings, and the 20x stronger shell resin make Omega AI incredibly durable. Our Edge Mode+ is a game-changer for on-the-go adjustments: with a simple gesture or tap, users get DNN-powered real-time tuning for both comfort and speech clarity. Whether you are navigating a noisy Delhi metro, a bustling Mumbai marketplace, or a quiet boardroom in Bengaluru, Omega AI adapts intelligently.

> **"The ear is the new wrist. Hearing aids are no longer single-use sound amplifiers - they are multi-function wellness tools."**

How is Starkey keeping Omega AI reliable, upgrade-ready and future-proof for all users?
Future-proofing begins with the hardware itself. Omega AI is built on the most advanced processor available, paired with the latest Bluetooth capabilities and 51 hours of battery life between charges - the industry benchmark. Pairing Omega AI with the My Starkey app allows users to receive and install firmware updates the moment they are released, without a clinic visit. They can quickly upgrade their own devices to keep up with the newest available firmware and enjoy the latest capabilities. In a market like India, where customers have always valued long-term reliability and value, this is a huge advantage.

How is Starkey preparing its ecosystem for rising expectations around wellness, connectivity and comfort?
Starkey has consistently led the industry in Healthable innovation - a term we coined to describe hearing aids that do far more than amplify sound. We were the first to integrate onboard sensors into a hearing aid, and still the only company to offer fall detection and alerts. With Omega AI, we introduce Balance Builder, a My Starkey app feature that delivers at-home exercises to improve stability and coordination, and an industry-first automatic respiratory rate monitor that tracks breathing passively in the background - giving users and their families advance warning of potential health changes. Starkey turned single-use devices into multi-function wellness tools that improve lives and give loved ones and caregivers peace of mind.

Where is Starkey's technology headed in the next five years, and which upcoming trend excites you most personally?
I always say that in five years, Starkey will be ten years ahead. In 2018, when we introduced Livio AI - the industry's first AI-powered hearing aid - I declared that 'the ear is the new wrist.' Today, every major hearing company is chasing the health-monitoring capabilities Starkey pioneered. The technology leaps of the last five years alone have been monumental. What excites me most is the convergence of AI, biometric sensing and ambient computing inside a device smaller than a fingertip. The future possibilities are almost beyond imagination, but Starkey is already working on them. We are legacy built, future driven.

What significance does India hold for Starkey - not just as a market, but as a hub for technology, innovation and manufacturing?
India holds enormous strategic significance for Starkey for many reasons. Indian consumers are among the most tech-savvy in the world. They have adopted AI technologies faster than many other markets, and they actively seek out the most innovative products rather than settling for the familiar. That openness to new ideas and technology creates a tremendous opportunity for us. Beyond the consumer market, we have a rapidly growing team in India focused on app development and next-generation technology features. The innovative culture embedded in India's tech ecosystem - in cities like Bengaluru, Hyderabad and Pune - makes it an ideal location for deeper exploration into the technologies of the future. India is not just a market we serve; it is a market we are building with.

India has a vast population with varying income levels. Does Starkey plan to offer products catering to lower-income groups?
The short answer is yes. Hearing loss does not discriminate by income, and neither should access to quality hearing solutions. I am excited to share that there are new, accessible options coming to the India market very soon. I cannot say more at this stage, but I encourage the Indian market to watch this space closely. Starkey's mission has always been to connect people back to their lives through better hearing - and that mission does not carry an income threshold.

> **"In five years, Starkey will be ten years ahead. We are already working on technology that isn't yet scientifically possible."**

How do you see the global hearing aid industry shaping up amid rapid technological innovation - with Starkey in the driving seat?
I am confident that Starkey will continue to lead the trajectory of this industry. We have introduced first-to-world technology with every product release for the past eight years, and we are not slowing down. Our exclusive partnerships and collaborations with leading technology companies give us an incredible advantage in bringing new ideas to market faster than anyone else. And being privately held means our decisions aren't just based on quarterly earnings cycles - we can invest heavily in long-term R&D and make bold decisions when the science demands it. The industry will follow; Starkey will lead.

What is Starkey doing to ensure hearing care professionals and users worldwide - especially in India - feel consistently supported?
What has always made me proud of Starkey is that our brand, mission and culture are evident in every one of our 29 global facilities. When I visit Starkey India, I feel at home - because the same purpose that drives our team in Eden Prairie, Minnesota drives our colleagues in India. That purpose is creating caring products that connect people through better hearing. Our mission is to serve our customers better than anyone else. That purpose and mission aren't just taglines; they resonate deeply with our more than 6,000 employees worldwide. It's how we run this company every single day and that consistency is what keeps hearing care professionals and patients trusting Starkey, in India and everywhere else.

Omega AI and the Future of Hearing Healthcare in India

India's hearing healthcare industry is entering a new phase with the launch of Omega AI, the latest artificial intelligence-driven hearing solution from Starkey, powered by its most advanced G3 Gen AI Neuro Processor.As awareness around hearing wellness grows, advanced technology is reshaping how people experience communication, lifestyle, and overall wellbeing.

*In this exclusive interaction, **Mr. Akhil Chauhan**, Managing Director of Starkey India & South Asia, shares his views on technology, awareness, accessibility, AI innovation, and the future of hearing healthcare in India.*

AKHIL CHAUHAN, *MD*
Starkey India & South Asia

With the launch of Omega AI in India, how is Starkey redefining hearing healthcare in India and South Asia?
Omega AI is much more than a product launch for us. It represents a major advancement in hearing healthcare innovation. Powered by Starkey's most advanced G3 Gen AI Neuro Processor, the device can automatically understand different listening environments and make real-time adjustments to create a natural and personalized hearing experience. What makes Omega AI different is that it goes beyond traditional hearing correction. It combines intelligent sound processing, wellness tracking, fall detection, and smart connectivity in one compact and discreet device. For millions across India and South Asia living with hearing challenges, this technology can significantly improve communication and quality of life. At Starkey, we believe Indian consumers deserve access to the same advanced hearing technology available globally, and Omega AI reflects that commitment.

India still faces a major gap in hearing awareness and early diagnosis. What are the biggest shortcomings of the hearing healthcare ecosystem today?
The biggest challenge is awareness. Many people still associate hearing loss only with old age or severe deafness, so mild and moderate hearing problems often remain untreated for years. Accessibility is another concern. Advanced hearing care services and audiologists are concentrated mainly in metro cities, while Tier 2, Tier 3, and rural regions remain underserved. Then there is social stigma. Many individuals hesitate to use hearing aids because they fear judgment or embarrassment. Hearing health should be treated just like eye care or any other aspect of overall wellness. The positive side is that awareness is gradually improving, especially among younger and health-conscious consumers.

Despite rapid technological advancement, hearing aid adoption in India remains low compared to global markets. What factors are influencing this trend?
One major reason is delayed action. Hearing loss develops gradually and usually without pain, so people often ignore it for years before seeking professional help. Affordability also remains an important factor. Premium hearing solutions are still considered expensive by many families, while insurance coverage for hearing healthcare remains limited. At the same time, awareness about modern hearing technology is still relatively low. Many consumers continue to imagine hearing aids as bulky devices, whereas today's solutions are sleek, rechargeable, discreet, and highly intelligent. The industry must continue educating consumers that hearing aids are not only medical devices - they are lifestyle solutions that improve communication, confidence, productivity, and emotional wellbeing.

Omega AI introduces next-generation artificial intelligence into hearing solutions. How do you see AI transforming hearing correction and lifestyle enhancement?
Artificial intelligence is completely transforming the hearing experience. Omega AI can automatically identify environments such as restaurants, meetings, traffic, offices, or quiet spaces and instantly optimize hearing without manual adjustments. AI is now doing much more than improving sound clarity. It is turning hearing aids into smart wellness devices. Features such as fall detection, wellness tracking, caregiver alerts, and smartphone integration provide greater safety and convenience, especially for senior citizens. This technology allows users to remain socially active, independent, and connected with family and friends. We believe hearing devices are evolving into wearable wellness technology, and AI will continue driving this transformation in the coming years.

Indian consumers today are becoming increasingly technology-savvy and aspirational. How receptive is the market towards premium AI-enabled hearing solutions?
The Indian consumer today is far more aware and aspirational than before. People are already comfortable using smart devices, digital healthcare tools, and wearable technology in everyday life. We are seeing growing interest in premium hearing solutions, especially among professionals, entrepreneurs, and active senior citizens who value both technology and lifestyle benefits. Design also plays an important role. Modern hearing devices are smaller, more comfortable, and nearly invisible, which reduces hesitation among first-time users. Once consumers experience the comfort and convenience of AI-powered hearing technology, they quickly understand its value. Demand for premium hearing solutions in India is steadily increasing.

From a business perspective, how important is India in Starkey's growth strategy?
India is one of Starkey's most important growth markets globally and a key focus area for South Asia. Under the visionary leadership of Mr. Brandon Sawalich, President & CEO, Starkey continues to focus on innovation, accessibility, and expanding advanced hearing healthcare into emerging markets like India. The country has rising healthcare awareness, increasing acceptance of advanced technology, and enormous long-term potential. At the same time, hearing healthcare remains underpenetrated, creating opportunities for both business growth and meaningful social impact. Our focus is not only expansion but also improving hearing healthcare standards across the country through awareness programs, technology adoption, and stronger accessibility.

Accessibility and affordability continue to be concerns. How is Starkey India bridging this gap in Tier 2 and Tier 3 markets?
Expanding access remains one of our top priorities. We are strengthening our presence across smaller cities and towns through partnerships with clinics, audiologists, and regional healthcare providers. We are also conducting awareness initiatives in regional languages to educate people about hearing health and early diagnosis. Affordability is equally important, which is why we continue exploring flexible EMI options through authorised dispensers to make advanced hearing solutions more accessible. At Starkey, our mission is simple - "To Serve Our Customers Better Than Anyone Else." That mission guides every decision we make, whether it is innovation, service quality, accessibility, or customer support.

The conversation around hearing health is shifting from "medical necessity" to "quality of life and wellness." How important is this change?
This shift is extremely important for the future of the industry. When hearing care is viewed only as a medical issue, people often delay treatment because of fear or hesitation. But when hearing health becomes connected with confidence, relationships, social interaction, career growth, and emotional wellbeing, people become far more open towards solutions. Good hearing improves everyday experiences - whether it is conversations with loved ones, workplace communication, travel, or entertainment. As awareness grows, hearing devices will increasingly be viewed as wellness and lifestyle products rather than something associated with stigma.

What role do audiologists, hearing care professionals, and awareness initiatives play in improving hearing healthcare outcomes?
Audiologists and hearing care professionals remain central to the industry. Technology is important, but counselling, fitting, guidance, and long-term support are equally critical for successful outcomes. Awareness initiatives encourage people to identify hearing problems early and seek professional help before the condition worsens. At Starkey India, we continue investing in training programs, educational initiatives, and professional partnerships because meaningful progress requires strong collaboration across the ecosystem.

What is your long-term vision for the Indian hearing industry?
I believe the future of hearing healthcare in India is extremely promising. Over the next few years, we will see wider adoption of AI-powered hearing devices, remote hearing care services, and more personalized hearing solutions. I also hope hearing screening becomes as routine as regular health check-ups because early diagnosis and awareness can make a significant difference in people's lives. Most importantly, society must stop viewing hearing loss as a stigma. Better hearing ultimately leads to better communication, stronger relationships, and improved quality of life.

Reflecting on your 18-year journey with Starkey India, what have been your biggest learnings and what drives you and your team every day?
My biggest learning has been that trust and consistency are the foundation of long-term success. Building a strong healthcare organization in India requires patience, commitment, and meaningful relationships. Over the years, I have personally witnessed how hearing technology can transform lives, and that continues to motivate our team every day. I am incredibly proud to lead such a committed, passionate, and purpose-driven team at Starkey India. Their dedication and relentless efforts have helped us earn the "Great Place to Work" certification for the second consecutive year - a recognition that truly reflects our culture, values, and people-first approach.I would also like to sincerely thank our business partners for their continued trust, collaboration, and staunch support. Their shared commitment and partnership have been invaluable in helping us touch more lives, deliver better hearing experiences, and bring greater happiness to every end user.

'Hold polls outside peak season': Tourism industry writes to Goa CM

Pavneet Singh Chadha
Panaji, May 29

THE TOURISM industry stakeholders in Goa have written to the chief minister requesting that the assembly elections in the coastal state be scheduled ideally at the end of February next year, "outside the peak tourist months", arguing that elections in December would disrupt the "economic lifeline" of tourism and hurt Goa's status as a premier global destination.

In a letter to CM Pramod Sawant, the Travel and Tourism Association of Goa (TTAG) said the scheduling of elections during peak tourist season is a matter of grave concern, and the grapevine suggests they will be held in December. The assembly polls in Goa are expected to be held early 2026.

Jack Sukhija, president, TTAG said: "... As you are aware, December represents the zenith of Goa's tourism calendar."

The association said it is advocating "for the postponement or rescheduling of the election dates..."

India a trusted partner, only 1% of trade deal talks left: Gor

Shubhajit Roy
New Delhi, May 29

SERGIO GOR, US Ambassador to India, said Friday that Washington expects that a bilateral trade deal with India will be signed in "next few weeks and months". He indicated that only "1 per cent" of the deal was left to be concluded and Indian and US negotiators were working on it.

Describing Secretary of State Marco Rubio's recent four-day visit to India as "substantive", Gor, speaking at the US-India TRUST Initiative event at IIT Delhi, said, "Just last week, India had sent a team to Washington DC to finalise the last 1 per cent of that trade deal. Next week we will welcome a US delegation here to continue those talks."

"We fully expect that the trade deal will be signed over the next few weeks and months," he said.

Randhir Jaiswal, spokesperson for the Ministry of External Affairs, made similar remarks Friday. "We had a trade team which visited the US in April... and now we are expecting a team from US to visit India next week, where negotiations will be taken forward. So far, we have had a positive and constructive engagement," Jaiswal said.

US Ambassador to India Sergio Gor addresses the US-India Trust Initiative event at IIT Delhi, Friday. PTI

Earlier, the Commerce Ministry had said that a high-level US trade delegation was scheduled to visit from June 1-4 to iron out the remaining clauses of the proposed bilateral agreement.

Gor said there was limitless potential to take forward the US-India relationship. "The importance of India is now... not only economically but strategically to the world."

The envoy said the TRUST (Transforming the Relationship Utilizing Strategic Technologies) initiative, launched during PM Narendra Modi's visit to Washington earlier this year, was helping deepen cooperation in critical and emerging technologies such as AI, semiconductors, quantum computing, biotechnology, energy and space.

Underlining the exponential trajectory of the economic relationship, Gor noted that bilateral trade in goods and services had skyrocketed from just USD 20 billion to over USD 220 billion in the past two decades. He said the US is focusing on partnerships with countries it considers trusted collaborators in emerging technologies, noting that "India's one of those partners".

He also highlighted India's inclusion in the Pax Silica initiative, a technology and supply-chain network led by the US.

"The reason India was in the first top 10 countries around the world to join this is that we trust this place. We trust the people here, we trust the technology, we trust your government," the Ambassador said. He said India is joining "a network of trusted ecosystems and resilient supply chains" covering technologies such as AI, semiconductors and quantum computing.

On artificial intelligence (AI), he said major American technology companies are increasing investments in India. He also flagged cooperation in space, citing the recent launch of the NASA-ISRO NISAR mission and India's participation in the Axiom-4 mission.

Kerala: Row after only 2 stanzas of Vande Mataram played in House

Shaju Philip
Thiruvananthapuram, May 29

CONTROVERSY MARKED the first session of the newly elected Kerala Legislative Assembly Friday after the Congress government chose not to play the full version of 'Vande Mataram' ahead of the Governor's formal address to the House

The official band played only two stanzas of 'Vande Mataram', disregarding the directive from the Lok Bhavan. The government decided to skip the full version of the national song after its rendition during the Cabinet swearing-in ceremony sparked controversy, with the Opposition LDF alleging Chief Minister V D Satheesan had surrendered before the Sangh Parivar.

Governor Rajendra Vishwanath Arlekar later expressed discontent over the issue and flagged a protocol violation. The Governor said: "Yesterday, we had insisted that whenever the governor is present, as per protocol, 'Vande Mataram' has to be sung fully. It was not sung, but only played by the band. Yet they could have played it fully. I have spoken to the assembly speaker. Let us see how things develop".

While Opposition leader and CPI(M) politburo member Pinarayi Vijayan not only backed the abridged version of the song but also said it is not mandatory to stand when 'Vande Mataram' is sung, BJP legislator V Muraleedharan said the government's stand was an insult to the Lok Bhavan as well as the governor.

Kerala Governor Rajendra Arlekar (right) with CM VD Satheesan and Minister Sunny Joseph in Thiruvananthapuram. PTI

"Satheesan has surrendered before CPI(M) and Jamaat-e-Islami. The national song has been insulted on its 150th anniversary. The government did not abide by the Union government's directive that the entire version of 'Vande Mataram' should be sung during programmes attended by the governor. The government action shows that it has attested the argument of the CPI(M) and Jamaat-e-Islami that the national song is not compatible with secularism..." he said.

The Congress-led UDF government, which had alleged a CPI(M)-BJP deal during the elections, had faced an embarrassing political situation during the swearing-in ceremony that began with the rendition of the full version of Vande Mataram.

The CPI(M) had alleged that singing the full version of 'Vande Mataram' was a wrong precedent. The party state secretariat had then stated it was inappropriate in a pluralistic and secular society.

When the issue snowballed into the first political controversy confronting the newly sworn-in Cabinet, Chief Minister V D Satheesan said: "We were not aware that the entire version of Vande Mataram would be rendered. The swearing-in ceremony was conducted by the Lok Bhavan and the instructions came from there. We realized it only when it was being sung during the function. It was inappropriate to interrupt midway".

ON AGENDA: DISCUSSIONS WITH PM ON STRENGTHENING TIES, INDUSTRY INTERACTIONS IN MUMBAI

Myanmar President's India visit starts today

Shubhajit Roy
New Delhi, May 29

MYANMAR PRESIDENT U Min Aung Hlaing is set to begin his India visit, his first to the country since he took over last month, on Saturday.

He will hold bilateral talks with Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Monday, after visiting Bodh Gaya in Bihar over the weekend. He will also travel to Mumbai on Tuesday.

Hlaing, the former chief of the military junta government, was elected President on April 3 through a parliamentary vote – five years after the elected government was ousted in a coup.

Ministry of External Affairs' official spokesperson Randhir Jaiswal said on Friday that Hlaing, who was scheduled to arrive in India to participate in the International Big Cat Alliance Summit on June 1, which has since been deferred, will now pay an official visit to the country from May 30 to June 3.

U Min Aung Hlaing was elected Myanmar President on April 3 through a parliamentary vote

He will be accompanied by a high-level delegation comprising several Cabinet ministers, senior officials and business leaders. "During his visit to New Delhi, President U Min Aung Hlaing will hold discussions with Prime Minister Modi on June 1 on further strengthening the historical and civilisational ties between the two countries. He will also participate in a business forum," the MEA spokesperson said.

"Regarding border security, connectivity, and other issues, all matters that form part of the gamut of relations between Myanmar and India will come up for discussion. Our idea is to take our friendly, civilizational ties forward," Jaiswal said.

During his Mumbai visit, Hlaing will hold business and industry interactions besides site visits.

On strategic objectives behind the visit, the MEA spokesperson said that "Myanmar lies at the confluence of India's Neighborhood First, Act East and MAHASAGAR policies. The official visit of President U Min Aung Hlaing to India is expected to further strengthen and deepen the multi-faceted relations between the two countries".

Officials said India shares a long land border of over 1,643 kms with Myanmar as well as a maritime boundary. This makes it important to engage with Myanmar's leadership for security and defence domains, officials said, despite the challenges and the human rights concerns there.

E. EXPLAINED

Why Myanmar matters

INDIA SHARES a long land border with Myanmar as well as a maritime boundary in the Bay of Bengal. Four northeastern states — Arunachal Pradesh, Nagaland, Manipur and Mizoram — share a boundary with the southeast Asian nation. This makes it important for India to engage with Myanmar's leadership for security and defence domains, despite the human rights concerns and other challenges there.

Principal suspended over 'defamatory' FB post on CM — two days before retirement

Shaju Philip
Thiruvananthapuram, May 29

WITH TWO days left for his retirement, the principal of a government school in Kerala was suspended Friday on charges of circulating an objectionable photo of Chief Minister V D Satheesan on social media.

The general education department cracked the whip on Javad S, principal of Government HSS, Attingal, in Thiruvananthapuram, based on the recommendation of the ADGP (intelligence). Calls and texts to the principal went unanswered.

The suspension order said the principal had posted an edited photo of the CM on his social media page: "Javad Subair with objectionable and defamatory content. On May 25, the state intelligence wing recommended action against the principal saying that his Facebook post will give a wrong message to society and will lead to political polarisation... Defaming individuals using social media should be seen as a serious violation of service rules. Hence, the ADGP had recommended stringent department-level disciplinary action against the principal, who is slated to retire from service on May 31".

The order said the code of conduct prohibits state government employees from participating in events of a political nature. Besides, his action amounted to violation of a 2017 circular regarding government employees using media and social media.

Celebrating the new era of Hindi journalism

From awakening political consciousness during India's freedom movement to leading conversations in today's digitally influenced world, Hindi journalism acts as a strong pillar of democracy and public engagement

The media is termed as the fourth pillar of democracy in India, serving as the channel to actively inform people about world affairs. Over the last two decades, Hindi journalism has grown manifold from a literary initiative into a driving force of Indian society. To honour this resilient spirit of vernacular press, India celebrates Hindi Journalism Day on 30th May.

The date also holds a historic relevancy. On this very day, Udant Martand was launched in 1826, the country's first hindi newspaper published by Pandit Jugal Kishor Shukla. What began as a single edition newspaper in colonial Calcutta, slowly evolved into a glorious 200-year legacy of truth and empowerment.

Throughout this timeframe, Hindi journalism served as a fierce weapon during the freedom struggle, acting as a powerful voice to national identity and social reform. Today, it humbly stands as a massive media powerhouse, shaping public opinion and safeguarding democracy.

HINDI JOURNALISM: A VOICE OF RESISTANCE AND REFORM

Hindi journalism has played a transformative role in shaping modern India. More than a medium of knowledge, it is an instrument of political awakening, social reform, cultural revival, and national integration. From the nineteenth century onwards, Hindi newspapers and journals became the voice of the masses and contributed significantly to the nation's freedom struggle and post-independence nation-building.

Newspapers such as Udant Martand, Pratap, and AAj, helped in informing people about the colonial consequences. Post independence, Hindi journalism contributed to nation-building by promoting democracy, national unity, and awareness about citizens rights and duties.

Similarly, it supported social reform by raising its voice against caste discrimination, child marriage, dowry, illiteracy, and gender inequality. It promoted women's education, social equality, and emphasised on scientific thinking while acting as a voice for the voiceless from the marginalized sections of the society. Therefore, Hindi journalism became a powerful force in shaping modern India.

THE EXPANDING REACH OF REGIONAL AND HINDI MEDIA

The rise of regional media and Hindi journalism has rightfully become India's primary growth engine. Through the years, Hindi newspapers, radio shows, television channels, and social media platforms have expanded their reach beyond metropolitan cities and connected deeply with the rural and semi-urban spaces.

With the passing of time, Hindi journalism has become an intermediary for sharing news, culture, politics, health, and social issues in a language which is highly understood by the common masses.

Continued on next page ➤➤

* RED (READ. ENGAGE. DELIVER.) IS THE MARKETING SOLUTIONS TEAM OF THE INDIAN EXPRESS GROUP

Celebrating the new era of Hindi journalism

➤➤ Continued from previous page

In urban India, it continues to shape public opinion and compete with English media through television debates, digital news portals, and social media platforms. The growth of internet access and smartphones has further strengthened its digital journalism, ensuring the reach of regional news to wider audiences. As a result, Hindi journalism today enjoys strong public trust and has emerged as a major force in India's democratic and media landscape.

REDEFINING JOURNALISM IN THE DIGITAL AGE

Media in India is not dying but shifting and with it the role of journalists are evolving as well. Today's digitally first and 24x7 news environment have transformed the Hindi journalists from traditional desk writers to multimedia storytellers. The focus is on providing real-time updates, multimedia content, and continuous coverage of events throughout the day. Besides reporting, reporters create videos, podcasts, live streams, and social media to engage audiences across different platforms.

Moreover, the digital era is witnessing increased competition and the pressure on public news, quickly making accuracy and fact-checking more important than ever. Thus, journalists nowadays must adapt to new technologies, data journalism, and audience analytics while maintaining ethical standards and credibility. With this the profession has evolved from traditional reporting to a fast-paced, multi-skilled, and technology-driven form of communication where continuous upskilling is quite crucial.

INSIDE THE FAST-CHANGING WORLD OF MODERN JOURNALISM

Digital transformation, to a large extent, has reshaped the news industry. The shift is towards a dynamic and interactive ecosystem. To a large extent technology, social media, data journalism, and artificial intelligence have transformed the way news is gathered, reported, and consumed. Modern day journalists use smartphones, digital tools, and online platforms to collect information and share updates instantly from anywhere in the world

Various social media platforms such as Instagram, X, and Youtube have become a major source for breaking news, audience interaction, and public opinion. Another major area of interest is data journalism including statistics, surveys, and visual graphics to decipher complex information in a simple and engaging way. Simultaneously, AI is helping media organizations with automated reporting, content recommendations, translation, and faster-fact-checking. Overall, digital transformation has made journalism faster, more interactive, and more accessible to diverse audiences.

JOURNALISM BETWEEN PUBLIC INTEREST AND PUBLIC NOISE

In the Indian media setup, ethical journalism acts as a primary safeguard for the society. It stands against the modern inflow of misinformation. Driven by core principles such as accuracy, independence, and accountability, journalists maintain credibility by continuously checking the sources, correcting errors, and providing context, which ultimately combats the rapid spread of fake news.

Present media houses use verification tools and dedicated fact-checking teams to ensure accuracy before publishing a news article. Hence, maintaining credibility and public trust is crucial because responsible journalism plays an important role in protecting democracy, promoting informed discussions, and preventing the spread of confusion and misinformation in society.

PRINT JOURNALISM IN THE ERA OF DIGITAL TRANSFORMATION

In this fast spaced world, the message is very clear - traditional journalism skills are no longer sufficient. The industry is changing and it demands a new breed of multimedia storyteller. With rapid growth of technology, many readers prefer accessing news online rather than through traditional newspapers.

However, print journalism continues to hold strong influence, majorly in rural and semi-urban areas. Due to this, major Hindi newspapers have come up with e-papers, mobile apps, websites, and social media platforms to reach younger audiences. Despite the proliferation of digital media, print journalism retains its credibility, as readers frequently associate physical publications with greater accuracy and depth compared to rapid online content. By integrating print with multimedia storytelling and online engagement, Hindi journalism continues to remain relevant in the changing media landscape.

FUTURE OF MEDIA FOR YOUNG JOURNALISTS

The modern industry of media expects young journalists to be adaptable, creative, ethical, and technologically skilled in today's fast-changing digital landscape. Apart from strong writing, reporting, and communication abilities, aspiring media professionals are now expected to have a concrete understanding about digital journalism, social media management, video editing, data analysis, fact checking and storytelling.

Presently, media organizations look for individuals who are capable of working across multimedia platforms and create engaging content for print, television, websites, podcasts, and social media. Additionally, the expansion of digital media has opened exciting career opportunities in journalism, content creation, public relations, broadcasting, advertising, digital marketing, podcasting, and independent media platforms. Moreover, the rise of Hindi and regional media has further increased opportunities for young professionals who can connect with diverse audiences in local languages.

Hindi journalism has successfully evolved from a powerful tool of India's freedom movement to a dynamic force in today's digital media landscape. Despite rapid technological changes and challenges, it continues to play an important role in informing society, strengthening society, and connecting a diverse range of audiences. With a young set of journalists adapting to changing industry demands, the future of Hindi journalism is entering a new era of innovation and opportunity which remains influential, relevant, and full of possibilities.

Every year, India honours the resilient spirit of vernacular press by celebrating Hindi journalism day on 30th May. The date is considered historic, as it launched 'Udant Martand', the country's first hindi newspaper published by Pandit Jugal Kishor Shukla in 1826.

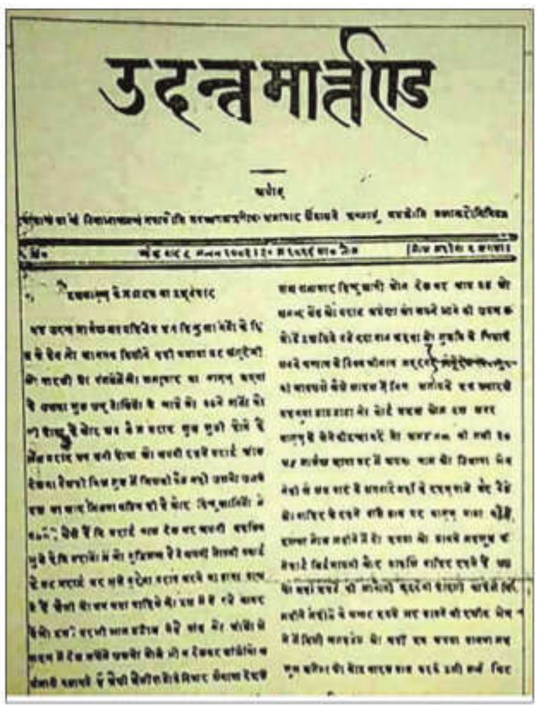
Vivekananda Institute of Professional Studies

Nurturing Sovereign Minds in the Legacy of Udant Martand

Dr SC Vats
Founder-Chairman, VIPS

The publication of the first Hindi newspaper, Udant Martand, on May 30, 1826, marked a defining moment in India's intellectual and national awakening. At a time when the country was under British colonial rule, the emergence of a newspaper in an Indian language was much more than a journalistic milestone - it was an assertion of India's cultural identity and civilisational confidence. Our freedom struggle was not fought merely against political subjugation; it was equally a battle against the colonial mindset that sought to undermine Indian languages, traditions, and systems of thought.

As the nation commemorates the 200th anniversary of Udant Martand, we are reminded of the continued relevance of freeing ourselves from mental colonisation. Prime Minister Narendra Modi has repeatedly emphasised the importance of overcoming the colonial mindset and reclaiming pride in India's intellectual and cultural heritage. This vision resonates deeply in the field of education and communication.


उदन्तमार्तण्ड

At Vivekananda Institute of Professional Studies, the spirit of intellectual sovereignty forms the foundation of academic philosophy. Through its courses in Journalism and Mass Communication, the institute seeks to nurture not just skilled professionals but also socially conscious and culturally rooted citizens. While the institution's infrastructure and professional standards are comparable with the best globally, its pedagogy remains firmly anchored in Indian thought and philosophy, as consistently envisioned by its founder, Dr SC Vats.

The students graduating from the Vivekananda School of Journalism and Mass Communication are trained to excel in modern media and communication while remaining connected to the values and intellectual traditions of India. In doing so, they carry forward the legacy of Udant Martand - the legacy of nurturing sovereign minds in a sovereign nation.

IMS Noida

Shaping Future-Ready Media Professionals

As India marks Hindi Journalism Day on May 30, it is a fitting moment to reflect on the enduring role of journalism in informing society, shaping public discourse, and strengthening democratic values. While the media landscape has evolved dramatically with the rise of digital platforms, the demand for skilled communicators, ethical journalists, and compelling storytellers continues to grow.

Preparing students for this dynamic environment requires a blend of academic excellence, industry exposure, and practical learning. At IMS Noida's School of Journalism and Mass Communication, the BAJMC and MJMC programs are designed to equip students with the skills needed to succeed in today's fast-changing media ecosystem.

Established in 1998, IMS Noida brings a legacy of over 27 years in higher education, backed by NAAC A+ accreditation, a network of 40,000+ alumni, and 700+ recruiting organizations. Located in the heart of the NCR media ecosystem, students benefit from proximity to leading newsrooms, broadcasters, production houses, digital media companies, and communication agencies, creating valuable opportunities for internships and industry engagement.

The curriculum combines theoretical foundations with hands-on training in journalism, multimedia storytelling, digital content creation, public relations, and emerging media technologies. Supported by international academic collaborations and a strong industry connect, students gain exposure to both global perspectives and real-world media practices.

With over 12,000 placement offers generated across programs and career opportunities spanning journalism, digital media, corporate communication, content creation, and public relations, IMS Noida continues to nurture future-ready media professionals equipped to inform, engage, and create impact in an increasingly connected world.

SGT University

From Freedom's Voice to Digital Stories: Celebrating 200 Years of Hindi Journalism

Nearly 200 years ago, Hindi journalism began its journey with a simple mission: to give voice to society and connect people with truth. From the pages of early newspapers during India's freedom movement to today's fast-paced digital media platforms, Hindi journalism has continuously evolved while shaping public opinion and strengthening democracy. Beginning with Udant Martand in 1826, Hindi journalism evolved from a struggle against colonial censorship into a powerful force for India's freedom movement, social reform, and democracy. Pioneers like Bharatendu Harishchandra shaped its identity, and the legacy continues today as, with the inception of the internet and social media, we witness a transformation in Hindi media into India's most influential and widely consumed journalistic voice.

The celebration of 200 years of Hindi journalism is not only about remembering the past; it is about inspiring the future. As India celebrates this historic milestone, the School of Emerging Media, Communication and Film Studies (SMCF) at SGT University, Gurugram, proudly reflects the same spirit of transformation and innovation. At SMCF, we nurture a new generation of journalists, filmmakers, digital creators, and communication professionals who understand both the legacy and future of media. Classrooms go beyond textbooks. Students learn through newsroom simulations, digital storytelling, radio production, filmmaking, advertising campaigns, and multimedia journalism, preparing them for the rapidly changing media industry. The School believes in blending ethical journalism with emerging technologies, ensuring that students remain socially responsible as well as industry-ready. Through creativity, innovation, and meaningful communication, SMCF also encourages Hindi media by empowering young storytellers to inform, educate, and inspire society through the Hindi language.

DELHI CONFIDENTIAL

Going Natural

UNION MINISTER Shivraj Singh Chouhan on Friday announced that the Agriculture Ministry will launch a month-long campaign — 'Khet Bachao Abhiyan' — from June 1 to promote balanced use of fertilisers and encourage natural farming practices among farmers across the country. The announcement was made on the concluding day of the two-day National Kharif Conference, attended by agriculture ministers from 20 states. Gujarat Governor Acharya Devvrat, who is known for practising and advocating natural farming, gave a presentation on fertilisers and natural farming at the conference — perhaps the first occasion when a state Governor participated in the programme.

Austerity Mode

THE KRISHI Bhawan, which houses offices of several ministries such as Agriculture, Food, Rural Development, Fisheries & Animal Husbandry and Panchayati Raj, has switched to energy-saving mode following PM Narendra Modi's appeal to reduce fuel consumption and conserve energy. The Ministry of Agriculture, it is learnt, has directed its officials to switch off unnecessary lights and reduce excessive use of air conditioners during office hours. Some of the senior officials are leading by example, using only one tubelight/bulb in their rooms and limiting the use of cooling systems to just one AC.

ABVP endorses CBSE's move on 3-language policy

New Delhi: The ABVP has thrown its weight behind the CBSE's decision to make three languages, including at least "two native Indian languages", compulsory for Class 9 students from July 1, with its national general secretary Virendra Singh Solanki stating that the opposition to the move was a result of a "subverted mindset".

The Akhil Bharatiya Vidyarthi Parishad (ABVP) began its three-day national executive council meeting in Bhubaneswar on Friday by endorsing the CBSE's move. **ENS**

In new Assam House, BJP refrain: 'Cong represents one community'

Opposition calls it 'divisive' talk

Sukrita Baruah
Guwahati, May 29

THE ASSAM Assembly elections threw up a House that has never been as starkly disparate along communal lines as now. The effect is showing – in debates, in the language used by the ruling BJP, and in the choices made by the Opposition Congress.

Of the 126 seats in the Assembly, the NDA holds 102, including the BJP's 82, and 10 each of its allies AGP and BPF (Bodoland People's Front). All the seats NDA MLAs won were where ethnic Assamese, Hindu and tribal voters form the bulk of the population. The Opposition holds only 24 seats – 19 won by the Congress, 2 by the Raijor Dal, 2 by the AIUDF and 1 by the Trinamool Congress. Only two of them are Hindu MLAs, Joy Prakash Das of the Congress and Akhil Gogoi of the Raijor. The rest are Muslim leaders, who won from seats where minority voters are dominant.

True to his word, Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma, who often targets Bengali-origin Muslims in Assam, brought the Bill to introduce the Uniform Civil Code (UCC) in the very first Session of the new Assembly. Any pushback from the Opposition, which does not have the numbers to even try stalling the Bill, was projected by the BJP and Sarma as proof of where the Opposition's loyalties lay.

When it was his turn to speak on the Bill at the tail end of a five-hour debate in which over 30 MLAs participated, the CM said the Opposition was "not representative" of popular opinion.

"The composition of the Assembly itself proves that the Congress does not represent Assam in the totality of its communities and religions today. It only represents a particular religious community... And if you look at their opposition to the UCC, you will see that they have only opposed it from the lens of a particular community. They have not opposed it from the perspective of Hindu people, Christian people or tribal people."

Sarma added: "Today, we are seeing in the Assembly a secular party like the Congress, which 150 years ago spoke about equal rights and duties, representing a particular religious community only. They spoke about the Quran and Shariat but not once did the Bhagwad Gita, Ramayan and Mahabharat leave their mouths."

MLAs during the first session of the 16th Assam Assembly. ANI

Multiple Opposition MLAs argued during the debate that existing laws make the UCC redundant. "There are already strong laws in the country against child marriage and for women's rights. The Prohibition of Child Marriage Act is in place across the country and the Assam government itself has arrested thousands of people on the basis of this... triple talaq has been made a punishable offence. For polygamy, the Assam Assembly passed an Act last year... When these laws are in place, what can be the political motive of bringing in a UCC?" said Congress Legislature Party (CLP) leader Wazed Ali Choudhury.

The Opposition also demanded public consultation, with leaders of different religions and communities, before introducing the UCC, and raised concerns about infringement of personal liberty with the regulations on live-in relationship. Some MLAs pointed to Articles 25 and 26 of the Constitution, and said the freedom of religion and to manage religious affairs protected the practice of personal law.

Choudhury said: "The attempt to impose one set of rules in a multi-religious and multicultural society like ours goes against the core values of the Constitution... Personal laws haven't come up overnight, they have been developed and established over ages."

The Trinamool Congress's Sherman Ali Ahmed opposed certain sections of the UCC Bill as "violating the Quran", adding: "The Quran should not be violated, that is guaranteed under Articles 25 and 26. A section violates the Quran by dictating whom I marry..." Ahmed also opposed the stipulations regarding divorce.

The Congress's choice of Choudhury as CLP chief reflects strategic balancing by the party too given the House composition. For Deputy CLP, the party picked its sole Hindu MLA, Joy Prakash Das.

With all its biggest leaders having lost in the Assembly elections, including Congress Assam president Gaurav Gogoi and Leader of the Opposition Debebrata Saikia, Choudhury is the party's senior-most state legislator now. A five-time MLA, he currently represents the Birsing Jarua constituency.

Speaking to *The Indian Express*, Das said Sarma's statements about the Opposition in the Assembly were "an attempt to build on a narrative".

"It is true that they (the NDA) got 102 MLAs, and we got 19. But if an MLA wins, it does not mean that all sections of the people in that seat are with him. There are seats in Upper Assam, like Duliajan and Bihpuria, where we lost by small margins... Now Sarma is trying to divide Assam in the Assembly itself. His work is to divide people," Das said. Another Congress leader admitted the statistics in the Assembly were "not favourable" for the party.

Rajya Sabha polls in June, BJP weighs Delhi role for Biren

Deeptiman Tiwary
New Delhi, May 29

NEXT MONTH, when 23 MPs join the Rajya Sabha, one of them could be former Manipur CM N Biren Singh. Sources in the BJP said Singh's name was being seriously considered by the central leadership and he could be the one candidate coming from Manipur.

Of the 23 seats falling vacant in June in the Upper House, four each are from Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka and Gujarat, three each from Madhya Pradesh and Rajasthan, and one each from Meghalaya, Manipur, Jharkhand, and Arunachal Pradesh.

"We have heard about it. But the central leadership has not yet directly communicated any such thing to him," a source close to Singh told *The Indian Express*.

A BJP leader in Delhi too confirmed developments around such a possibility. "It is being discussed, but the final call will be taken by the top leadership," the leader said. Sources said there was a need to placate an unseated CM and keep two party heavyweights in Manipur invested in separate geographic locations as far as possible.

After almost two years of ethnic conflict in Manipur, Singh had to resign as the CM on February 9, 2025. The state was then put under President's Rule. A year later, much to the chagrin of the former CM, his rival Y Khemchand Singh was made the CM. Sources said both at the time of his resignation and when the BJP central leadership chose Khemchand that Biren Singh had been promised that Delhi would take care of him and his political career would not be jeopardised.

After almost two years of ethnic conflict in Manipur, Singh had to resign as CM in February 2025.

The party gave him due importance even when there was President's Rule in the state, with Union Home Minister Amit Shah regularly engaging with him on issues related to the state. When the announcement of Khemchand becoming the CM was to be made, Shah chose Singh to do the honours, sources said. "He had even been asked to give two names for the post of Chief Minister before the central leadership took a call on Y Khemchand Singh. Although his candidates were not selected, his key aides in the party were accommodated in the Khemchand cabinet," said a BJP leader from the state.

However, the party is also aware of the pitfalls of having two political heavyweights in the state, especially when they are not known to be on great terms. When Biren Singh as CM was facing rebellion within the party through 2024-25, Khemchand's was the most prominent voice.

In November 2024, Khemchand Singh openly criticised Biren Singh for refusing to resign amid the law and order crisis and unrest in the state. "I asked him to resign a couple of times, but he is not putting down his papers," he said.

Buzz around new Karnataka Cabinet as Siddaramaiah and son meet Rahul

Shivakumar also meets Congress high command; new CLP leader today

Manoj CG
New Delhi, May 29

WITH SIDDARAMAIAH having stepped down as Chief Minister of Karnataka to pave the way for the smooth elevation of D K Shivakumar, the focus on Friday shifted to the second part of the well-choreographed transition in the southern state – formation of the new Cabinet. Both Siddaramaiah and Shivakumar were in Delhi but made it a point to meet the Congress leadership separately with their wishlists.

They did, however, have lunch together to paint a picture of unity.

Siddaramaiah met Leader of the Opposition in Lok Sabha Rahul Gandhi and later Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge along with his son Yathindra, an MLC. He introduced Yathindra to Rahul. The signals were clear. He also met AICC general secretary (organisation) K C Venugopal. Siddaramaiah is said to be seeking a berth for his son and loyalists in the new Cabinet, including the post of Deputy Chief Minister.

Top sources in the party said the party high command does not have a problem in inducting Yathindra in the Cabinet.

Siddaramaiah has already declined a Rajya Sabha nomination offered by the party leadership. He also said that he wants to remain in Karnataka and is not keen on a central role, which the party high command had suggested to him.

A meeting of the Congress legislature party will be held in Bengaluru on Saturday to elect a new leader. Venugopal and AICC general secretary in charge of the state Randeep Singh Surjewala will oversee the exercise.

The Congress high command heaved a sigh of relief after Siddaramaiah met the top leadership and thanked them for having given him the opportunity to lead the state for eight years. That he brought his son along signalled that the transition would be smooth and trouble free. "It was a very pleasant meeting. They discussed multiple political issues," said Surjewala after Siddaramaiah's meeting with Gandhi. Asked if the transition will be smooth in Karnataka, he said, "Absolutely. There is no hurdle in the smooth tradition of power in the state."

Congress leader Siddaramaiah with Karnataka Deputy CM DK Shivakumar, state Minister KJ George, and MLC Yathindra Siddaramaiah in New Delhi on Friday. PTI

The leadership, too, praised Siddaramaiah. "His public life has consistently reflected dignity, compassion and a deep commitment to social justice. From humble beginnings to serving Karnataka twice as Chief Minister, he remained steadfast in his commitment to equality, harmony and the welfare of the marginalised. Karnataka and the Congress remain grateful for his contributions to public life. Wishing him good health and the very best in his continued service to people," Kharge said

Noting that he has been a hugely dominant figure in Karnataka's politics for over four decades, Congress communication head Jairam Ramesh said, "The dignity with which he has been participating in the transition of power in the state has enhanced his stature immeasurably. He will be fondly remembered as he begins a new innings in his public life."

After Siddaramaiah, Shivakumar met Gandhi and Kharge and then had a discussion with Venugopal. The focus of the discussions revolved around Cabinet formation. Shivakumar is said to be not keen on having Deputy Chief Ministers but sources in the Congress said the party will have to balance caste, regional and factional equations.

Stormy scenes at Cong strategy meeting for Punjab elections

Man Aman Singh Chhina
Chandigarh, May 29

A MEETING of the Congress' central leadership with its Punjab unit ahead of 2027 Assembly elections saw stormy scenes with verbal duels, charges and counter charges taking place.

The meeting was convened at the residence of Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge, where former party chief Rahul Gandhi and AICC general secretary KC Venugopal were present.

The results of local body polls gave ammunition to former CM Charanjit Singh Channi whose strongholds Chamkaur Sahib and Morinda saw the Congress emerging victorious. The party, though, suffered a drubbing in Gidderbaha, considered a bastion of state chief Amrinder Singh Raja Warring.

It is learnt that Channi raised the question of poor performance in Gidderbaha. Warring is learnt to have raised the absence of Channi from Punjab for a prolonged period. It is also learnt that Leader of Opposition Partap Singh Bajwa left the meeting midway. Congress general secretary in charge of Punjab, Bhupesh Baghel, meanwhile, told reporters, "We have to move forward unitedly in Punjab..."

Delhi HC declines to order unblocking of Cockroach Janta Party's X account

Sohini Ghosh
New Delhi, May 29

WHILE DECLINING to immediately order unblocking of the X account of Cockroach Janta Party (CJP), the Delhi High Court orally remarked that the "entire activity" appears offending and the court has to "draw a distinction between a particular tweet and the entire account."

It also relegated CJP founder, Abhijeet Dipke, to a review committee to challenge the blocking order passed against the account in India.

Dipke had moved court challenging the blocking of the CJP's X handle, which was withheld in India on May 21 after a direction from the Centre following inputs that raised "national security concerns". The Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY) asked X to withhold the account under Section 69(A) of the IT Act, 2000.

While senior advocate Akhil Sibal, appearing for Dipke, insisted that the court pass directions to unblock the account and can further direct to keep alleged objectionable tweets blocked, Justice Purushaindra Kaurav refused. He orally remarked, "Normally, we pass interim or final orders after hearing the other side..."

Sibal pointed out that in past cases, the court has ordered for unblocking of entire accounts while keeping select posts, which are purportedly objectionable, blocked.

Justice Kaurav orally remarked, "In those cases and this case, there seems to be a slight difference... In those cases, some tweets were found to be offending. In this case, it seems that the entire activity per se perhaps is slightly offending. Therefore, we have to draw a distinction between a particular tweet and the entire account."

THE SATIRICAL ONLINE PLATFORM REFLECTS THE YOUTH'S DISSATISFACTION WITH THE ESTABLISHMENT, BUT ALSO THE OPPOSITION'S FAILURE TO COME ACROSS AS AN ALTERNATIVE

Cockroach Janta Party can't be swatted away: Why parties must heed Gen Z discontent

THE NEERJA CHOWDHURY COLUMN

WEEKLY INSIGHT INTO WHAT'S CHANGING IN NATIONAL POLITICS – AND WHY

WHEN AN indignant Dilliwalla, whose family was associated with the freedom struggle, told me he would never vote for an outfit that called itself Cockroach Janta Party (CJP), he was summing up the dilemma of an older India compelled to adjust to a rapidly changing younger India, with all that it brought in its wake.

Here was a thinking individual who followed politics, a successful entrepreneur who had just crossed 60, inclined against the BJP for the very reasons outlined in the CJP's "manifesto" but unwilling to support it. In a week, the CJP became a sensation with over 20 million followers on Instagram, overtaking the following the BJP and the Congress had built over several years. This made even the international media sit up and take note. This could be just another social media flash in the political pan, but it's worth reflecting on why it struck a chord.

Just earlier this month, actor C Joseph Vijay came to power in Tamil Nadu, sweeping aside an entrenched party like the DMK, with the Opposition AIADMK also failing to emerge as the alternative. All thanks to Gen Z and an even younger Gen Alpha, 12 to 16-year-olds who influenced the voting choice of adults in their home.

"My teenage granddaughter compelled my wife to vote for Vijay," said the editor of a daily in Tamil Nadu. "And in home after home in Tamil Nadu, children prevailed on their parents and grandparents to vote for Vijay and remember, many of them will be first-time voters five years down the line."

Elections are increasingly being influenced, in small or big measure, by social media. That is why a rapper, Balendra Shah, is Nepal's Prime Minister today. That is also one reason why Sheikh Hasina, whose father Sheikh Mujibur Rahman created Bangladesh, was ousted from power and is in exile in India.

What CJP stands for

India is a large and diverse country and it is not easy to pull off a Nepal or a Bangladesh here. But it will be a mistake to dismiss the CJP as a foreign conspiracy. This is not to say that the government of the day should not be vigilant about the possibility of forces that may try to use or fuel such a phenomenon, particularly when the global reordering of power blocs is taking place.

The CJP highlights dissatisfaction with the establishment, and this is also reflected in its manifesto and anthem. That it should come soon after the BJP's impressive victory in West Bengal, unseating a leader such as Mamata Banerjee, is a reminder that the ruling party has to go beyond making madrasa students in the state sing Vande Mataram.

More importantly, the online phenomenon highlights the failure of the Opposition parties to come across as alternatives for Gen Z. Those who flocked to an unknown, faceless Boston-based Abhijeet Dipke did not gravitate to the handles of the Congress, the AAP, the TMC, or the RJD.

Councillors carrying posters of cockroach during a protest over the NEET controversy during the House meeting of the Municipal Corporation of Delhi earlier this week. PRAVEEN KHANNA

These parties too flagged the NEET-UG paper leak and called for Union Education Minister Dharmendra Pradhan's resignation. They also took exception to Chief Justice of India Surya Kant's comments in which he used the word "cockroach". The CJI later clarified, "What I had specifically criticised were those who have entered professions like the Bar (legal profession) with the aid of fake and bogus degrees. Similar persons have sneaked into the media, social media, and other noble professions as well, and hence, they are like parasites. It is totally baseless to suggest that I criticised the youth of our nation."

There is a fatigue with existing political parties and their ways of functioning; there is boredom with the language they use, and a deep dissatisfaction with their inability, and lack of desire, to address the challenges that confront the youth today.

It is early days yet to know whether the Cockroach Janta Party will convert itself into a movement on the ground or register itself as a party and contest elections as the Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) did.

Though Dipke says 94% of the CJP's followers are Indians, Instagram does not provide any breakdown by nationality. It would be difficult to say how many of the self-proclaimed "cockroaches" are mere spectators or entertainment-seekers and how many seriously seek change. Had the word cockroach not been used to describe the new party, would it have provoked as big a reaction as it did?

Social media thrives on the sensational, the dramatic, and the irreverent. It has little time for nuanced opinions, which is also an integral part of political functioning. Having said that, the CJP has moved so far with finesse, using satire and humour — a deadly weapon — to lampoon without personalising the attack. It has also raised five demands, including calls for ensuring judicial independence and ensuring 50% reservation for women in Parliament.

Dipke, who says he first conceived of the idea of the satirical online platform on May 16, has faced casteist attacks and was trolled when he revealed, in response to a question on reservation, that he was a Dalit. That, he said, should say it all.

There have been signs of growing disaffection among the upper caste, the middle class, and the urban youth about narrowing economic opportunities amid the OBC-isation of the polity and the cross-party agreement on a caste census, which is expected to help the OBCs. This angst came to the fore again with the 2026 UGC norms on the promotion of equity, which were brought to prevent discrimination against OBCs and Dalits. For the moment, the Supreme Court has stayed these guidelines. The caste composition of the CJP's followers is not known, but it will have a bearing on the future strategy of Dipke and his team.

Much will also depend on how the BJP, good at directing a discourse, handles the situation. Will it take further steps to put down this online upsurge as it did initially by getting CJP's "X" handle suspended? Or will it, in the words of Shashi Tharoor, allow the pressure cooker to let off steam and take steps that defuse the situation?

Can a "party" formed online influence voter choices? It may be a new way of creating a political narrative without even forming a formal political organisation. Therein may lie the import of the Cockroach Janta Party. Established political parties will have to come to terms with these new realities. So will the rest of us.

(Neerja Chowdhury, Contributing Editor, The Indian Express, has covered the last 11 Lok Sabha elections. She is the author of How Prime Ministers Decide.)

Manipur: Driver from Bengal killed, cop injured in attack on truck convoy

Jimmy Leivon & Sukrita Baruah
Imphal, Guwahati, May 29

A TRUCK driver from West Bengal was killed and a police constable was injured when a convoy of goods trucks moving with security cover on the Imphal-Ukhrul road was attacked by "unknown armed miscreants" on Friday.

The attack was carried out around 10 am along National Highway-202 between Leingangching and TS Kasom in an area under Litan Police Station in Ukhrul district. The convoy was heading towards the Ukhrul district headquarters. The driver was identified as Nitish Kumar, 57, from West Bengal's Hooghly district. The injured police constable was 35-year-old Disingam Maringmei from Imphal West district.

According to an official in Ukhrul, a set of trucks carrying goods such as rice and fuel had been stranded in Imphal East's Yaingangpokpi for the last couple of days because of the enforcement of a blockade by Kuki groups preventing their onward movement amid heightened tensions in Manipur's hill areas between the Naga and Kuki-Zo communities.

"On Friday, the RAF was brought in and used teargas to disperse the crowd. From there, the trucks moved forward with security cover from the police and BSF. However, during this movement, the convoy was ambushed," said the official.

Calling the incident an "ambush carried on goods vehicle by unknown armed miscreants", Manipur Chief Minister Yumnam Khemchand Singh issued a condemnatory statement.

"Ambushing a goods vehicle and taking the life of a driver, who plays a crucial role in ensuring the uninterrupted supply of essential items across the state, is one of the most cowardly acts and is intended to further aggravate the tense situation prevailing in the area. The ambush seemed to be carried out by vested interest groups with ill motives to derail the initiatives of the state government to restore peace and normalcy in the state," the CM said.

'TET must for in-service teachers': SC rejects plea seeking review of order

Ananthakrishnan G
New Delhi, May 29

THE SUPREME Court on Friday dismissed petitions seeking review of its 2025 ruling, which made Teacher Eligibility Test (TET) mandatory for even those teachers who joined service prior to the enactment of the Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education (RTE) Act, 2009, but extended the time for this till August 31, 2028.

A bench of Justices Dipankar Datta and Manmohan said "service of teachers cannot come at the cost of the educational future of children" and reiterated that TET is not only a mandatory eligibility requirement but also a constitutional necessity flowing from the right to quality education under Article 21A.

The SC in its September 1, 2025 order in Anjuman Ishaat-e-Taleem Trust vs State of Maharashtra held that the RTE Act "ought to apply to all minority institutions, whether aided or unaided". It also held that in-service teachers...recruited prior to enactment of the Act, and having more than five years to retire on superannuation, should qualify TET within 2 years, i.e. by August 31, 2027, failing which they would not be entitled to continue in service. The court also held that irrespective of the length of service remaining, any teacher aspiring for promotion would necessarily be required to qualify the TET.

> **"The RTE Act is a child-centric legislation and must be read so. Service of teachers can't come at cost of educational future of children"**
> SC BENCH

About 70 petitions were filed following this by various states, teachers' associations/ organisations and individual teachers seeking a review of the part regarding TET.

It was contended that making TET qualification mandatory for in-service teachers, and giving 2 years for compliance could potentially lead to a large number of teachers being rendered ineligible to continue in service and also have serious ramifications on the interests of school-going children who may suffer disruption in the continuity and quality of education.

Rejecting this, the court said: "Today, we stand nearly a decade away from the window granted by the 2017 (RTE) Amendment Act and in excess of a decade-and-a-half since the RTE Act was enforced. The period of 15 years could be considered more than sufficient time for a teacher to acquire the TET qualification. In Anjuman, we noted the practical realities and granted a further time of two years to the teachers in service to acquire the TET qualification...This too, according to the review petitioners, is not sufficient." "The RTE Act is a child-centric legislation and must be read so. Service of teachers cannot come at the cost of educational future of the children."

The petitioners contended that the provisions of the RTE Act, which came into force from 1st April, 2010, together with the amendment introduced by the Amendment Act of 2017, cannot be applied retrospectively to teachers. They argued that insistence upon TET qualification for in-service teachers is "arbitrary, unreasonable and unjustified", as such teachers had been appointed in accordance with the prevailing service rules.

The court said: "We sympathise with the teachers who figure as review petitioners, in as much, they could face difficulties highlighted by them. However, a perceived sense of insecurity is not a sufficient reason for this court to take a re-look at the matter again."

Mumbai Gymkhanas on public land under review for wider access

Pratip Acharya
Mumbai, May 29

Today, each of the three community gymkhanas has more than 2,000 members. Yet membership remains beyond the reach of most Mumbaikars. GANESH SHIRSEKAR

A WEEK after the Union Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs' Land and Development Office (L&DO) asked the century-old Delhi Gymkhana Club to vacate its leased premises on Safdarjung Road, the Maharashtra government has initiated moves to draft a policy aimed at making land parcels occupied by Mumbai's gymkhanas more accessible to public.

Government sources told *The Indian Express* that the exercise is also intended to ensure greater government control over these land parcels. The state's action comes close on the heels of the Brihanmumbai Municipal Corporation's (BMC) 2024 takeover of a large portion of the Mahalaxmi Racecourse to create a public park.

The move follows a government resolution (GR) issued in February this year. According to the resolution, the state revenue and forest department has proposed setting up a study group to review existing policies governing gymkhanas and clubs across Maharashtra.

"In Mumbai as well as several other districts in the state, government owned lands have been allotted to Gymkhanas on lease basis at a subsidised rate. To ensure that the functioning of the Gymkhanas become more inclusive in the future and to also ensure that these lands can also benefit the common public going forward, a study group is being appointed to review the existing policies of gymkhanas and clubs and to make necessary changes wherever required," the GR stated.

The document added that the proposed policy amendments would also seek to make club memberships more transparent and re-evaluate the existing revenue model.

In space-starved Mumbai, where public open spaces remain scarce, gymkhanas and clubs occupy a significant share of the city's green cover. According to a report by the Observer Research Foundation (ORF), gymkhanas and VIP clubs occupy 664 acres — nearly one-fifth of Mumbai's total 3,780 acres of open space. The report noted that Mumbaikars have access to just 1.28 square metres of open space per capita.

Government records show that Mumbai has more than 20 gymkhanas and clubs. Membership fees at several elite clubs reportedly go up to Rs 1 crore, while waiting periods in some cases stretch beyond two decades. Of the 20 gymkhanas in Mumbai, 16 stand on collector-owned land. These plots were leased out at nominal rates during the colonial era for setting up social and recreational clubs for the British. Today, these institutions count among their members elite citizens and senior bureaucrats, some of whom receive service memberships during their tenure.

On Friday, the collector's office summoned office-bearers of all 16 gymkhanas for one-on-one meetings with Mumbai's additional collector. The gymkhanas included Bombay Gymkhana, Hindu Gymkhana, Islam Gymkhana, Parsee Gymkhana and Wodehouse Gymkhana.

"We consulted with the Gymkhana administration on a one-on-one basis seeking their cooperation throughout the process of our review. We also aim to involve them in the process since there should be a transparent methodology as they are the current leaseholders of these plots," a senior government official said. Officials said nine teams comprising government officers had conducted physical inspections of all 16 gymkhanas over the past week. The inspections included scrutiny of land records, actual land usage and any structural alterations.

Officials also clarified that Maharashtra's exercise was unrelated to the Union government's move involving Delhi Gymkhana. "Our policy was drafted as early as February and since then we have held multiple meetings with the authorities. This is a standalone issue and has no relationship with the union ministry's move," the official added.

A member of a prominent gymkhana who attended Friday's meeting said, "Today's meeting was mainly about the state government officials discussing about increasing the lease and license fees for Gymkhanas. Earlier, the Gymkhanas would only pay an annual revenue, however going forward they may also charge us tariffs for hosting concerts or banquet events in our premises."

Spurious liquor leaves 14 dead in Pune

Chandan Haygunde & Sushant Kulkarni
Pune, May 29

A police team at Hadapsar where at least four people died after consuming spurious liquor, on Friday. ARUL HORIZON

AT LEAST 14 people have died after consuming spurious liquor in Pune in the last three days. Several others, who too are suspected to have consumed the same liquor, are undergoing treatment at different hospitals, police said. The state government has ordered a CID probe. Three officers of Hadapsar police station have been suspended.

Among the deceased, 10 were residents of Phugewadi-Dapodi areas of Pimpri-Chinchwad under Pune district. Police said they died between May 26 and May 28 after consuming spurious country liquor. Probe revealed they consumed hooch at an illegal liquor den in Pawar Wasti in Dapodi.

Usha Netke, who lost her brother Sachin, said, "He slept off yesterday around 10 pm. He got up around midnight and was sweating profusely. After a while, he fell asleep. He didn't get up in the morning. We admitted him to YCM hospital, where he was declared dead."

At least four other victims of Phugewadi-Dapodi are undergoing treatment at the Medipoint Hospital, Aundh, and YCM Hospital, Pimpri, stated a press release issued on Friday.

The remaining four victims were residents of Sasane Nagar in Hadapsar area of Pune city.

Pimpri Chinchwad Police Commissioner Vinoy Kumar Choubey said on Friday that an FIR was lodged at the Dapodi police station.

A separate FIR was lodged at the Hadapsar police station on Friday, naming one Akash Jadhav, 30, and his aides, as accused. Bijlidevi, wife of Vijay Sharma, a daily wage labourer, said he was a liquor addict. "He returned home on Wednesday night after consuming liquor brought from a local hand-brewed liquor den. But later he complained of losing his vision and feeling body pain. His condition kept worsening through the night. We rushed him to the hospital on Thursday morning, but he died," she said.

Meanwhile, Pimpri Chinchwad police arrested five persons in connection with the deaths.

Police said postmortem of the bodies has been done, but the medical opinion regarding the cause of deaths is awaited. They said viscera samples of the victims have been sent for chemical analysis and the reports are awaited.

Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis on Friday said, "Eight persons have been nabbed in this case. We have ordered a probe. All those involved in the supply and making of illicit liquor that leads to deaths will be tracked and punished."

(With inputs from Manoj More and Nilambari Salunke)

Woman cop suspended for 'custodial torture' in Odisha faced action earlier too

Sujit Bisoyi
Bhubaneswar, May 29

A WOMAN inspector of the Odisha police, recently suspended over allegations of custodial torture, was suspended earlier too – twice in six years. She was given a clean chit in one of those instances.

The inspector, Sandhyarani Jena, was recently posted at the Talchua Marine police station in coastal Kendrapada district, and was suspended on Wednesday for "gross misconduct and dereliction of duty" after a 55-year-old woman and her 31-year-old son lodged a custodial torture complaint. The mother and son were summoned to the police station by Jena over a domestic dispute case.

A departmental probe has also been ordered against Jena's conduct based on which further action will be initiated against her, officials said. Jena did not respond to calls and messages seeking a comment.

According to the complainants, the officer assaulted the 55-year-old and disrobed her. The son was allegedly tortured in police custody, they claimed.

This is not the first time the policewoman has faced action. In 2020, when Jena was posted as inspector-in-charge at Patana police station in Keonjhar, she was suspended after a purported video of her thrashing a youth during the Covid lockdown emerged. She was reinstated after a departmental inquiry gave her a clean chit.

In 2024, Jena was suspended while she was posted as the inspector-in-charge at Lakhanpur in Jharsuguda. Officials said she was accused of shifting the bodies of three accident victims from her jurisdiction to the limits of a neighbouring police station to avoid the investigation and other formalities. She was eventually reinstated, a senior officer said.

Govt considering expansion of BSF's operational mandate: Shah

Express News Service
Ahmedabad, May 29

Union Home Minister Amit Shah interacts with the BSF personnel at the G-7 Border Outpost, Bhuj, in Kutch on Friday. ANI

THE CENTRE is considering assigning additional areas of responsibility to the Border Security Force (BSF) while also planning to completely change the concept of "border security" and launching a new concept of "territorial security" in the 60th year of the foundation of the BSF, Union Home and Cooperation Minister Amit Shah said Friday.

Shah made the remarks while interacting with BSF personnel in Bhuj, Kutch, after inaugurating two new border outposts in the region on the India-Pakistan border, G-7 and G-13. Shah said, "...We have decided to completely change the BSF's concept of border security. We are going to form a security grid with a quadrangular concept and also launch a new concept of territorial security instead of border security. It will include the public, civic administration, local police and military and the BSF will continue to have leading responsibility (in it)." He said the government was planning to strengthen the security grid on borders with Pakistan and Bangladesh under the Smart Border Suraksha Project. Shah said its formation is on, "with investment of thousands of crores of rupees."

"In this, we will erect a strong security grid involving drones, radar, watch towers, totally modern technology and jawans. Because of which nobody will dare to penetrate our borders," Shah said.

WET CANTEEN : DGNCC CAMP

DGNCC invites tender as per Letter No. B/89915/AP-2/2003/Land (Policy & ANC)/75 dt 28 Sep 2017 for running of Wet Canteen at DGNCC Camp, Parade Ground, Delhi Cantt, New Delhi–110010.

Pre Bid Meeting will be held at underneath address on 05 Jun 2026 at 1500 hrs.

AQMG Coord Office, HQ DG NCC, RK Puram, West Block-4 New Delhi– 110066.
Tender Opening Date– 17 June 2026
Please contact the underneath for any queries.
Tele – 011-35459364
Email – aqmgcoord@nccindia.nic.in

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BCCL
NOTICE
All the tenders issued by Bharat Coking Coal Limited (B.C.C.L.) for procurement of Goods, Works and Services are available on website of **B.C.C.L. www.bcclweb.in**, Coal India Limited (CIL) e-procurement portal **https://coalindiatenders.nic.in** and Central Public Procurement Portal **https://eprocure.gov.in**. In addition, procurement is also done through GeM portal **https://gem.gov.in**.
This is applicable to all Open (Domestic / Global) Tenders issued through e-procurement portal of CIL.
This information is also available on BCCL Website www.bcclweb.in

Admin-12011(14)/6/2025-eoffice
Government of India
Ministry of Health and Family Welfare
Department of Health and Family Welfare
(Drugs Section)

Central Drugs Standard Control Organisation invites application from eligible candidates for filling up the post as mentioned below at Central Drugs Standard Control Organisation on deputation basis. The last date for receiving the applications will be within 60 days from the date of publication of this advertisement.
2. For further details please visit CDSCO's website **https://cdsco.gov.in**

SI. No.	Name of the Post	Pay as per 7th CPC	No. of Post	Office for which the posts is filled up
1.	Head Clerk, Non- Gazetted, Non-Ministerial	Pay Level-6 (Rs.35400-12400) of pay matrix of 7th CPC	04	Central Drugs Standard Control Organisation

Director (Admn.)
CDSCO, HQ, Director General Health Services,
FDA Bhawan, Kotla Road, New Delhi - 110002
CBC-17194/11/0003/2627

CENTRAL COUNCIL FOR RESEARCH IN AYURVEDIC SCIENCES
(Ministry of Ayush, Government of India)
J.L.N.B.C.A.H. Anusandhan Bhawan,
No. 61-65, Institutional Area, Opp. 'D' Block, Janakpuri, New Delhi-110058
Advertisement 2026 (June Batch)
CCRAS Post Doctoral Fellowship Programme
CCRAS PDF Programme)

The Central Council for Research in Ayurvedic Sciences (CCRAS), an autonomous body of the Ministry of Ayush, Government of India, is implementing **"CCRAS Post Doctoral Fellowship Programme"** with due Approval of Ministry of Ayush, to identify promising young researchers with innovative ideas and provide them research opportunities in different multidisciplinary areas in the field of Ayurveda including related science discipline. The Programme aims at facilitating their transition from mentored to independent research career. CCRAS intends to offer ten (10) such fellowships every year to promising fresh PhD/PG degree holders of Ayurveda and Ph.D. holders of related science disciplines at reputed organizations like CSIR, ICMR, DBT, National Institutes, recognized Universities and National Institutions of Ayush etc. These fellowships will be allocated, depending upon the needs of the Institute/Centre. The Last Date of online submission of Application on the CCRAS PDF Portal (**https://pdf.ccras.org.in/**) is 30th June, 2026 for June, 2026 batch. The Portal will open for registration and submission of proposals on 1st June, 2026.

The Eligible aspirants are may visit the CCRAS PDF Portal which provides access to the application form, prescribed undertaking format, and the detailed advertisement outlining eligibility criteria, age limit, tenure, remuneration, application procedure, and mode of selection.

CBC - 17216/11/0004/2627 Administrative Officer (Estt.)

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EXTRACT OF AUDITED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL RESULTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2026
(Rs. in crore, except per share data and ratios)

Sr. No.	Particulars	Year Ended 31 Mar' 26 Audited	Year Ended 31 Mar' 25 Audited
1	Total Income from Operations	4,604.27	4,657.48
2	Net Profit before Exceptional Item and Tax	297.38	1,360.83
3	Net Profit before Tax (after Exceptional Item)	835.67	1,360.83
4	Net Profit after Tax	282.72	717.47
5	Total Comprehensive Income [Comprising Profit (after tax) and Other Comprehensive Income/(Loss) (OCI) (after tax)]	809.81	336.52
6	Paid up Equity Share Capital	2,720.69	2,720.69
7	Reserves (excluding Revaluation Reserve)	25,399.78	23,866.12
8	Securities Premium Account	-	-
9	Net worth	28,255.86	26,860.30
10	Paid up Debt Capital / Outstanding Debt	13,073.55	16,435.21
11	Outstanding Redeemable Preference Shares	-	5,000.00
12	Debt Equity Ratio	0.46	0.62
13	Earnings Per Share (EPS) for the year - Class 'B' Equity Shares of face value of Re. 1/- each		
	- Basic and Diluted (in Rupees) - After Exceptional Item	0.10	0.26
	- Basic and Diluted (in Rupees) - Before Exceptional Item	(0.09)	0.26
14	Capital Redemption Reserve	5,000.00	-
15	Debenture Redemption Reserve	935.00	935.00
16	Debt Service Coverage Ratio	0.29	0.81
17	Interest Service Coverage Ratio	1.18	1.90

Notes:
1 The above is an extract of the detailed format of the Audited Annual Financial Results for the year ended 31st March 2026 filed with the Stock Exchange under Regulation 52 of the Securities and Exchange Board of India (Listing Obligations and Disclosure Requirements) Regulations, 2015. The full format of the Audited Annual Financial Results for the year ended 31st March 2026 are available on the website of BSE Limited (www.bseindia.com) and can be accessed on the Company's website (www.jupl.co.in).
2 For the other line items referred in Regulation 52(4) of the Securities and Exchange Board of India (Listing Obligations and Disclosure Requirements) Regulations, 2015, the pertinent disclosures have been made to BSE Limited (www.bseindia.com) and can be accessed on the Company's website (www.jupl.co.in).
3 The Audit Committee has reviewed, and the Board of Directors has approved the above results and its release at their respective meetings held on 29th May 2026. The statutory auditors have issued audit report with unmodified opinion on the above results.

For Jamnagar Utilities & Power Private Limited
Sd/-
Satish Parikh
Chairman
DIN : 00094560
Date : 29th May 2026

Indian National Space Promotion and Authorization Centre (IN-SPACe)
Department of Space, Government of India
Engagement of Young Professional
Under IN-SPACe Young Professional Scheme.
(ADVT. NO. IN-SPACE: 02:2026 Dated 30/06/2026)

IN-SPACE is an independent nodal agency under Department of Space (DOS) for promotion and authorization of Space activities and usage of DOS owned facilities by Non-Government Entities (NGES).

Applications are invited from eligible candidates for engagement as Young Professional under IN-SPACE Young Professional Scheme **for a period of 01 (One) year (extendable up to 03 subject to need and satisfactory performance)** as per terms and conditions of IN-SPACE Young One year at time Professional Scheme.

YP Category	No. of Posts
Young Professional (Grade-1/Grade-2) in various Directorates of IN-SPACE	10

The detailed advertisement is available on the website https://www.inspace.gov.in under announcement section. The last date for submission of application is 20/06/2026
CBC- 49121/11/0001/2627 **Issued by IN-SPACe**

Seven arrested in Hyderabad lawyer's murder

Nikhila Henry
Hyderabad, May 29

POLICE HAVE arrested seven persons, including educationists Mujahid Alam Khan alias Baba and his father Mahaboob Alam Khan, for allegedly plotting the murder of Hyderabad-based lawyer Khaja Moizuddin. The Khans run well-known educational institutions in Hyderabad.

Senior lawyer Khaja Moizuddin (63), died after he was mowed down by a speeding SUV outside his house in Masab Tank area of Hyderabad Saturday morning. He was rushed to a private hospital, where he succumbed to severe injuries.

Hyderabad Police Commissioner V C Sajjanar said, "Probe revealed that long-standing disputes existed between the family of the accused, Mujahid Alam Khan, and the deceased, Advocate Khaja Moizuddin, relating to Waqf properties' management issues in Malakpet and Lakdikapul, Hyderabad. Several civil, criminal and Waqf Tribunal cases have been pending between them for many years."

During a press conference in Hyderabad Friday, Sajjanar said, "The accused believed that due to the active involvement of the deceased in legal proceedings against them, they were suffering continuous legal setbacks and humiliation. Bearing a grudge against the deceased, accused Mujahid Alam Khan and Mahmood Alam Khan conspired to eliminate him." The alleged contract killing was executed for Rs 15 lakh.

Mujahid Alam Khan and Mahaboob Alam Khan are alleged to have conspired along with their close aides, Hassan Ali alias Chaous and Muneer, to execute the plan through Kishan alias Pappu, police said.

NEET PAPER LEAK ROW

SC stresses accountability, govt says PM supervising situation

Express News Service
New Delhi, May 29

CBI Special Director Manoj Shashidhar (left) and NTA Director General Abhishek Singh ahead of a parliamentary standing panel meeting held to review the NEET leak probe, in Delhi on Friday. ANI

HEARING PLEAS in connection with the cancellation of NEET-UG 2026 over allegations of paper leak, the Supreme Court on Friday quizzed the National Testing Agency (NTA), which said the matter is being monitored by none other than Prime Minister Narendra Modi himself. The court, however, said that the problem will not end unless accountability is fixed.

"The real problem won't stop till actual accountability is fixed. Not in terms of so and so will be liable, it will be effective when we know which individual shoulders the responsibility. Unless you identify the specific duty bearers, it will be difficult," said Justice P S Narasimha presiding over a two-judge bench. He said in a situation of the given nature, unless the responsibility is identified, it will only remain a case of the committee holding meeting after meetings.

The bench asked the Centre to file an affidavit indicating how and in which manner the process of conduct and conclusion of the examination, year after year, will be done. It said the affidavit be filed within six weeks and posted the matter for hearing in the second week of July.

The bench also comprising Justice Alok Aradhe said NTA must learn from bodies like the UPSC on conducting competitive exams. "We have... created and established world-class institutions. UPSC, for example, with the amount of conduct of the preliminary exams and other things, (has) never been (in) a situation like this. We need to learn...," Justice Narasimha said.

The judge said "the problem with most of our institutions is ad hocism. So much so you will have the best of the officers working and everybody will depend on that. It is a phenomenon everywhere in our country..."

Stating that "we will keep monitoring this for some time", Justice Narasimha said, there is something called "institutional memory. It's not the individual who has the capability; it's the institution which should have the capability. That's what you need to prepare, irrespective of people coming, irrespective of people going... There must be something to evolve over the existing practices." The bench also interacted with former ISRO chairman K Radhakrishnan, who is the head of the Monitoring Committee set up by the SC in 2024 to recommend measures to strengthen the NEET exams. "You were also part of the expert committee... How much monitoring has happened about the implementation? Have you been holding regular meetings," Justice Narasimha asked.

Radhakrishnan answered in the affirmative following which the judge asked, "Then how did this failure occur...?" Justice Narasimha said: "Despite your monitoring on the basis of the high-powered committee's recommendation, if this incident (NEET paper leak) has happened, then there is something wrong with the original recommendation (or) there would not have been effective monitoring. How has it happened?"

Radhakrishnan said the high-level panel of experts had given 60 recommendations for 2025 and 2026 exams, and 35 for the long-term. He said most of the recommendations had been implemented while a few were in the process of being implemented. He said in 2025, the NEET-UG was conducted almost satisfactorily but for power failures at some centres. Radhakrishnan said it had also recommended steps "to strengthen NTA which was really outstretched (itself) to conduct all the tests assigned to it. This has happened recently."

The court asked: "What was that which was not in the contemplation of the HPC that led to this?" Radhakrishnan said the "Committee contemplated all possible problems. The question was really the question paper preparation". "There are certain protocols, certain practices to be followed... Many are implemented. A few are yet to be done," he said while assuring the court that "at the moment, these are being taken care of" and "for the re-Neet that is going to be held on June 21, these are going to be taken care of". "Our target is to see the reforms implemented," he said.

Justice Narasimha said what has happened is "traumatic" for lakhs of students who spent years preparing for NEET. "We shouldn't disappoint our youngsters, it's very traumatising so much investment of emotions and time... It's the most sensitive thing." Solicitor General Tushar Mehta, appearing for the Centre, said, "We are dealing with youth and the government is seriously concerned about the concerns of the youth." He said Radhakrishnan "did not very advisedly say certain things because the investigation is on". Also, some new mechanisms have been put in place for the June 21 exams. "Not divulging but it is monitored at the highest possible executive level." Mehta said, adding, "the Hon'ble Prime Minister is personally supervising it".

Mehta said there are also certain new things which were found by the panel. "They have identified the areas and suggested measures. Some of the measures are in the process of being implemented for the test which is scheduled on June 21."

From now on, AI will do 85% translation of NEET papers, testing agency tells top court

Vidheesha Kuntamalla
New Delhi, May 29

The expert panel has recommended transition of NEET-UG from pen & paper to computer from next year, with multi-session and multi-stage testing, the NTA told court

DAYS AFTER the CBI found that an arrested NEET-UG 2026 subject expert had not only helped set the leaked May 3 question paper but had also translated portions of it, the National Testing Agency (NTA) told the Supreme Court that in future, it would use "AI-based tools" for "at least 85% of the translation work in order to minimise human intervention...and lower the probability of any security compromise".

In its affidavit filed before the Supreme Court ahead of Friday's hearing on pleas seeking the restructuring or replacement of the NTA, the agency outlined a sweeping overhaul of examination security, administration, and technology going forward, even as it defended its handling of the cancelled NEET-UG 2026.

The proposal on the use of AI in translation — which is one of several steps listed by NTA in the affidavit as part of its "way forward" — is significant because the CBI probe into the paper leak has found that one of the arrested subject experts, Manisha Gurunath Mandhare, was involved in setting questions and translating the paper. Mandhare, a Biology expert from Pune's Modern College of Arts, is learnt to have translated questions in both the Botany and Zoology sections, which gave her access to a wider portion of the paper than previously known.

Another arrested expert, retired Chemistry lecturer P V Kulkarni of Dayanand Junior College in Latur, allegedly translated the paper into Marathi.

The affidavit states the "Randomization & Rotation Policy" is being "further institutionalised for engagement of paper setters, moderators, vetters, translators, proof-readers, etc", and "background checks/antecedent verification of such functionaries as well as of the officials involved in high-stakes exams of NTA shall... be rigorously undertaken". The NTA presented a detailed account of reforms implemented under the supervision of the High-Powered Steering Committee (HPSC) headed by former ISRO chairman K Radhakrishnan. The HPSC was constituted by the Ministry of Education in November 2024 after a High-Level Committee of Experts submitted 101 recommendations on exam reforms. According to the affidavit, the HPSC continues to function and monitor the implementation of those recommendations. The NTA affidavit submitted that less than three weeks before NEET-UG 2026, the HPSC had reviewed preparations, and suggested an "elaborate set of pre-examination, during-examination and post-exam measures".

Despite a "full security protocol" having been followed for the exam, on May 7, the agency received inputs alleging malpractice, the affidavit said. The exam was subsequently cancelled and the matter referred to the CBI. The re-exam on June 21 would be held under a "further strengthened SOP framework, with multi-layer authentication, surveillance and inter-agency coordination", the NTA told the court. The affidavit noted that "only NEET(UG) 2026 was conducted in Pen & Paper (PPT) mode", while "all other major NTA exams are already in Computer Based Test (CBT) mode.

This will change: The expert committee has "specifically recommended transition of NEET(UG) from PPT to CBT mode, along with the introduction of multi-session and multi-stage testing", the NTA informed the court.

"The transition will be implemented from the next examination cycle in consultation with the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare", it said. The NTA told the court it plans to develop "at least 1,000 Secure Testing Centres in reputed Government institutions", adopt "cloud-based infrastructure/AI-ML/blockchain", and develop "international cooperation and collaboration". Surplus funds available with NTA were being deployed to strengthen exam security through "advanced cybersecurity systems and next-generation firewalls", among others, the agency said.

HC to Google: Pay Rs 30L damages to company for trademark infringement

Sohini Ghosh
New Delhi, May 29

THE DELHI High Court has directed Google LLC to pay damages of Rs 30 lakh in a trademark suit by sanitaryware brand Hindware after the court found that the AdWords programme of Google allowed a tool which leads to infringement.

Justice Mini Pushkarna, in an order dated May 22, observed: "Google cannot be permitted to shrug off responsibility by making available a tool (keyword planner tool) that leads to infringement, and then turning around to claim that the said tool was not mandatory." Google AdWords Programme is a paid referencing and keyword advertising service on their search engine.

The court also held that Google cannot invoke the safe harbour provision as an intermediary, noting: "...it has been admitted by Google that it allows use of trademarks as keywords in order to seek out users interested in the goods or services covered by the registered trademark... Google is an active participant in use of the trademarks of proprietors. The trademarks are monetised by Google by using the same as keywords for displaying the paid advertisements on the SERP (search engine results page)... The Ads Programme of Google encourages the users to use various search terms, including, trademarks as keywords for display of the advertisements to the target audience. Thus, Google cannot seek the benefit of exemption under Section 79 of the IT Act."

Observing that the "conduct of Google" in selling trademarks as keywords takes "unfair advantage" of Hindware's trademark, the court observed that the same is "contrary to honest practices in industrial and commercial matters". The court ruled that Google's actions of "selling or trading off the plaintiff's trademark to the direct rivals or competitors of the plaintiff, without permission, as well as without sharing the profits with the trademark proprietor, is evidently dishonest."

Hindware, in its trademark suit, had alleged that competing brands in the sanitaryware space had purchased its registered trademark space to appear as a result when consumers searched for 'Hindware Sanitary', or 'Hindware Sanityware' or 'Hindware Sanitary Ware India'.

6 workers die in under-construction bridge collapse in UP, asst engineer suspended

Manish Sahu
Lucknow, May 29

The site of Hamirpur bridge collapse on Friday. PTI

SIX WORKERS were crushed to death after a concrete slab from an under-construction bridge over Betwa River in Uttar Pradesh's Hamirpur collapsed early Friday, after a storm that lashed the district. An investigation has been ordered and an assistant engineer suspended, officials said.

Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath took cognisance of the tragedy and ordered compensation of Rs 5 lakh for the next of kin of the deceased, and Rs 50,000 aid for the injured. The incident occurred around 3 am between Parsani and Kandaur villages. The deceased were identified as Lokendra (22), Kuldeep Nishad (19), Sawant Yadav (28) and Sabhajeet (30) from Banda, and Pushpendra Singh Chauhan (34) and Rajesh Pal (42) from Hamirpur, police said.

After rescue operations, police said three men were pulled out alive from under the debris. "During preliminary inquiry, it was found that the victims were working when one of the slabs collapsed on them," said Hamirpur Additional Superintendent of Police Arvind Kumar Verma.

Officials said the IMD and the district administration Thursday evening issued warnings regarding strong winds, storms and rain. Early Friday, as per the MeT department, strong winds reaching 100 kmph, heavy rain and thunderstorms impacted 20 districts, including Lucknow, Varanasi and Prayagraj.

The 800-metre-long bridge has been under construction since 2024 and is intended to connect Mora Kandar and Kandaur villages in Kurara block of Hamirpur district. It was being built by a private contractor engaged by the Uttar Pradesh State Bridge Corporation. Mithlesh Kumar, Joint Managing Director (Civil) of the Corporation, said Assistant Engineer Gajendra Chaudhary has been suspended and a departmental inquiry ordered against Deputy Project Manager Dileep Kumar, posted in Hamirpur, over the incident.

He said the department has also constituted a three-member committee to probe the collapse: "The committee has been tasked with examining the circumstances surrounding the incident and determining the cause of the collapse."

Officials said roughly 60% of the bridge had been completed at the time of the accident. Supporting pillars had already been erected and five concrete slabs had been placed. Following the incident, police officers, firefighters and district administration officials rushed to the site and immediately launched rescue operations amid difficult weather conditions.

Teams from the State Disaster Response Force (SDRF) later joined the operation, bringing heavy equipment and rescue personnel to help search through the debris. In a post on X, the CM said instructions were issued to the district administration to swiftly carry out relief and rescue operations in coordination with the SDRF. He wrote: "The loss of lives in a tragic accident on the Betwa River in Hamirpur district is extremely heartbreaking and heart-rending. My condolences are with the bereaved families... I pray to Lord Shri Ram that the departed souls attain a place at His divine feet and the injured recover swiftly."

Hamirpur Sadar MLA said that the collapse had raised serious questions and asserted that strict action would be taken against those found responsible after completion of the investigation.

WITH PTI INPUTS

7 killed, widespread damage as massive storm hits Kolkata

Sweety Kumari
Kolkata, May 29

HEAVY RAINFALL lashed Kolkata and other parts of West Bengal on Friday, leaving seven persons dead and causing widespread damage. Flight operations were also hit, with several diverted or delayed.

The weather department said a squall passed over Kolkata's Alipore from the north-westerly direction with a maximum speed reaching 88 kmph at 2.45 pm. A squall passed over Dumdum, North 24 Parganas, with a maximum speed of 74 kmph at 2.29 pm. The squalls were accompanied by heavy thunderstorms.

Announcing compensation of Rs 4 lakh each for the families of those who died, Chief Minister Suvendu Adhikari said, "Between this storm and other factors such as electrocution, railway incidents, house collapses, and lightning, seven persons lost their lives. We all know that no monetary compensation can ever replace a lost life. However, on behalf of the government, we are announcing a compensation of Rs 4 lakh each for these seven families. District magistrates, along with local MLAs, have been instructed to ensure this compensation reaches the families as swiftly as possible."

The Home Secretary, the Disaster Management Secretary and all other government departments are monitoring the situation, and police and district magistrates were instructed to complete postmortems and other necessary formalities. On the damage caused by the storm, the CM said, "Overall, reports of uprooted large trees and other damages have come in from several districts including Howrah, North 24 Parganas, Hooghly, Paschim Medinipur and Purulia. In Kolkata, trees fell on cars, and some people have been injured."

He said that those injured would also be given compensation, which will be announced later, and that he had directed officials to ensure they get prompt medical treatment.

According to the weather department, scattered rain and storms would continue across districts in south Bengal over the next few days, bringing temperatures down. Winds of around 40-50 kmph is also expected across these districts on Saturday.

On SC Collegium list, a woman advocate, judges who probed Justice Varma cash row

Apurva Vishwanath, Sohini Ghosh & Omkar Gokhale
Mumbai, New Delhi, May 29

(L-R) V Mohana, Chief Justices Sanjeev Sachdeva, Arun Palli, Shree Chandrashekhar and Sheel Nagu

SENIOR ADVOCATE V Mohana became only the second woman to be recommended by the Collegium for direct elevation from the Bar to the Supreme Court, after Justice Indu Malhotra. Should Mohana join Justice Malhotra on the Bench, she would be the 12th woman to become a Supreme Court judge in its 76-year history.

Chennai-born Mohana has practised for nearly four decades in the Supreme Court, building a reputation as a lawyer who took on constitutional, civil and criminal matters and served as amicus curiae in several significant cases. Among her most noted appearances was the landmark litigation on permanent commission for women officers in the Indian Army.

If appointed, she will share the Bench with a classmate from Coimbatore Law College, Justice K V Viswanathan, also appointed directly from the Bar. They were part of the first batch of the five-year law course from 1983 to 1988.

Mohana may have a five-year tenure as Supreme Court judge, till June 2031. The Supreme Court has only one woman judge currently, Justice B V Nagarathna, who is in line to become the first woman CJI. The other women judges who have had a tenure of over five years in the SC are Justices Ruma Pal and R Banumathi.

Justice Sachdeva

Currently the Chief Justice of Madhya Pradesh High Court, Justice Sanjeev Sachdeva's parent HC is Delhi.

Justice Sachdeva, 62, enrolled with the Bar Council of Delhi in 1988, and has practised in district courts, the Delhi HC and the Supreme Court. He was standing counsel for the Bar Council of India and senior panel counsel for the Union of India for over a decade, before being designated a Senior Advocate by the Delhi HC in July 2011.

In 2013, Justice Sachdeva was elevated as an Additional Judge of the Delhi HC. Transferred to the Madhya Pradesh HC in 2024, he was appointed its Chief Justice in July 2025.

In April this year, Justice Sachdeva initiated suo motu contempt proceedings against a BJP MLA and mining baron for allegedly attempting to contact a sitting judge in a mining case. He also ordered the removal of 102 web links "misusing" live-streamed court proceedings.

If appointed, Justice Sachdeva would have a tenure of over three-and-a-half years in the SC, retiring in December 2029.

Justice Arun Palli

He is the Chief Justice of the J&K and Ladakh HC; his parent HC is Punjab and Haryana. His elevation to the SC would bring Punjab and Haryana's representation in the SC to three, including CJI Surya Kant and Justice Augustine George Masih.

Justice Palli, 62, is a fourth-generation lawyer who began his practice at the Punjab and Haryana HC in 1988. He served as Additional Advocate General for Punjab from September 2004 to March 2007, before being designated as Senior Advocate in 2007. He was elevated as a judge of the Punjab and Haryana HC in December 2013 and took charge as Chief Justice of the J&K and Ladakh HC in 2025.

In December 2025, he dismissed a PIL by PDP president Mehbooba Mufti seeking repatriation of undertrial prisoners from jails outside J&K, recording that the petition appeared to be "for the explicit purpose of garnering political advantage".

If appointed, Justice Palli will serve 3 years and 4 months, retiring in September 2029.

Justice Shree Chandrashekhar

Justice Chandrashekhar, whose parent HC is Jharkhand, is the Chief Justice of the Bombay HC. He was part of the three-member committee constituted by Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla to probe allegations of cash seizure against Allahabad HC judge Justice Yashwant Varma.

If appointed, Justice Chandrashekhar would become the first SC judge from Jharkhand.

Ranchi-born Justice Chandrashekhar, 61, did his LLB from the Campus Law Centre, University of Delhi, in 1993, and enrolled as an advocate in December that year. He practised civil and criminal matters for nearly 19 years, appearing for both the government and private entities. He became an Additional Judge of the Jharkhand HC in 2013, was confirmed as a Permanent Judge in June 2014, and served as Acting Chief Justice of the Jharkhand HC in December 2023.

He was transferred to the Bombay HC in July 2025 and sworn in as its 49th Chief Justice on September 5. His Bench upheld the 2018 verdict acquitting all 22 accused in the Sohrabuddin Sheikh encounter case and quashed charges against the last four accused in Malegaon blasts case. His Bench also set aside MMRDA penalty notices related to BKC plots, ordering refunds of over Rs 700 crore to entities, including Reliance Industries. It also allowed the felling of 45,675 mangroves for the proposed Versova-Bhayandar coastal road project.

If appointed, Justice Chandrashekhar will serve 3 years and 11 months as an SC judge, retiring in May 2030.

Justice Sheel Nagu

He is the Chief Justice of the Punjab and Haryana HC, with the Madhya Pradesh HC his parent court. He was also part of the panel that investigated the allegations against Justice Varma.

Justice Nagu, 61, enrolled as an advocate in 1987 and practised on the civil and constitutional sides at the Madhya Pradesh HC. He was elevated as an Additional Judge of the HC in May 2011 and confirmed as a permanent judge in May 2013. He was sworn in as the 36th Chief Justice of the Punjab and Haryana HC on July 9, 2024.

If appointed, Justice Nagu will serve 3 years 7 months in the SC, retiring in January 2030.

HISAR TO BERLIN

YOUR FOOD IS ON ITS WAY

On the streets of the German capital is a familiar gig: Indians, astride electric bikes, delivering food as they race against the clock. With Germany emerging as a favoured destination for young Indians, ADRIJA ROYCHOWDHURY on the journey they make — a life far away from home, with a career pitstop as a *fahrer* (driver) or *kurier* (courier)

An estimated 90% of the food delivery workers are migrants, with Indians a significant part of the workforce. ADRIJA ROYCHOWDHURY

AT 11, Mihir hurriedly drinks his morning cup of *chai* and lines up three mobile phones in front of him. The first has the Uber Eats app open, the second Wolt and the third Lieferando, the only platform where he is legally employed as a food delivery worker. The sunlight, soft and unfiltered, bounces off his apartment walls, though a lingering chill remains. "*Aaj nahin banegi order* (It is not the best day to get orders)," he says, looking out of the window.

The two years that he has spent in Germany hasn't softened the Haryanvi in his Hindi and he has been making do with rudimentary German, but he already considers himself a Berliner. "There is something about Berlin. I feel free...," says Mihir.

The 25-year-old, who arrived in Germany in May 2024, recently completed a Master's degree in tourism and hospitality from a private university in Berlin and is currently on a job-seeker visa. But that was simply a route he took. All he wanted was to work in Germany.

Since August 2024 last year, he has been working as a *fahrer* (rider) or *kurier* (courier), as delivery workers are called in Germany.

As Germany's platform economy expands, migrant workers have become its most visible workforce, with Indians and other South Asians prominent in food-delivery jobs in cities such as Berlin.

On a weekday afternoon, many of them turn up at the bustling Simon-Dach-Straße, the central Berlin street that's lined with cafés, bakeries and brunch spots. As they sit astride their electric bikes, waiting for orders, some thumb through their phones, others trade jokes and swap stories of their day on the road.

While there is no official data on Indians as gig workers in Germany, Aju John, a Berlin-based lawyer who researches migration and platform economies, says, "One can be certain that more than 90% of the food delivery workers in Berlin at least are recent migrants. Of that, 50% are Indians and another 25-30% Bangladeshis or Pakistanis," he says.

This way to Berlin

While the conservative Christian Democratic Union government under Friedrich Merz has steered Germany away from its traditional "open door" stance towards migration, it has simultaneously worked to promote legal immigration in a bid to address labour shortages in sectors such as logistics, hospitality, healthcare and engineering.

Programmes such as the Opportunity Card, or *Chancenkarte*, which allows non-European Union job seekers to live in Germany for up to a year while searching for employment, have made Germany accessible to young migrants from India.

The number of Indians in Germany has gone up from 86,000 in 2015 to 280,000 in the beginning of 2025. According to a statement by DAAD, the German organisation that supports academic exchange, as of 2025, Indian students (49,483 of them in 2024-25, up from 20,819 in 2018-19) were the largest international community in the country.

Like Mihir, many choose the student route to enter Germany's labour market. Unlike countries such as the US or UK, where international education often requires high tuition fees and expensive private universities, Germany's public universities charge little or no tuition fees even for foreign students. But they have stringent entry requirements and so, many enrol in the newer private universities, some of which operate in a loosely regulated space.

Germany's relatively easier post-study work options help too. International students are allowed to work part-time for up to 20 hours a weeks.

49,483
INDIAN STUDENTS IN GERMANY IN 2024-25, UP FROM 20,819 IN 2018-19

WHAT ATTRACTS INDIANS TO GERMANY

1 Easier and quicker visa processing when compared to Canada, USA, Australia and the UK

2 Requirements for German language proficiency are relaxed when compared to other non-English speaking countries

3 Stronger labour laws in Germany result in better labour regulations for gig workers. For example, a directly employed, full-time delivery rider in Lieferando is entitled to an hourly minimum wage of €13.90 per hour, employee benefits such as sick leaves, paid vacation etc. That, however, is changing as platforms move to the subcontractor model

4 Several provisions exist for paid jobs on a student visa. International students, entitled to work 20 hours per week, can do 'mini job', 'midi job', part-time employment, student or research assistant jobs, or paid internships. After completion of studies, the student can apply for a one-year job-seeker visa to look for jobs

5 A recent spree of agreements between India and Germany aims to increase the mobility of skilled migrants through legal mechanisms

As is apparent on the streets of Berlin, many of them start with gig work.

Patrick Feuerstein, co-principal investigator at Fairwork Germany, a global initiative studying the working conditions on digital labour platforms, says, "Most of the riders are young, tech savvy, need the money, and are flexible. There seems to be a lot of body referral going on, with people from the same communities referring their friends and family to the jobs."

'There are so many rules'

The son of a farmer, Mihir decided to move out of his village Chuli Khurd, in Hisar district, after the Agnipath scheme disrupted his dreams of joining the Army. "I thought, if I have to do *dehadi mazdoori* (daily-wage labour), I might as well do it abroad," he says, looking out of the window at the East Berlin street below. He shares the two-room apartment with four men from Hisar.

His initial choices were Australia, Canada and the UK, but his agent suggested Germany.

In February 2024, Mihir received his acceptance letter from Berlin School of Business and Innovation (BSBI), a private university in Berlin. He paid around Rs 25,000 to the agent and applied for a bank loan of Rs 15 lakh to pay the university fees. The agent, he says, convinced him there was no need to know German.

Within 15 days of arriving in Germany, he got his first job — as a cleaner with a Berlin-based online platform. Since classes were held only thrice a week, he would frequently head out in the middle of college hours to attend to his work shifts.

In August 2024, he applied to Lieferando to work as a delivery worker. Luckily for him, knowledge of German was not a requirement; he only needed to know how to ride a bike. A quick phone interview later, he had the job. He later picked up jobs with Uber Eats and Wolt, and now earns about €2,500 a month if he works for eight hours all seven days a week.

Like Mihir, Tajinder Singh, 30, from Chandigarh, came to Berlin to study Marketing at Arden University, the Berlin campus of a private UK university. Soon after reaching Berlin, he joined Amazon as a delivery worker to manage his living expenses. A year later, he joined Lieferando. He now has six months left on his job-seeker visa.

Tajinder says most Indian students prefer delivery jobs because they are "stress-free" and "flexible". "In most other jobs, you need to know German, but here, you just hand over the packet, nod, at the most say *bitte schön* (you are welcome) and leave," he says.

Soon after landing in Berlin in May 2024, Mihir moved into a student accommodation. Very quickly, he found himself overwhelmed by the sheer number of rules. "There are rules for walking, talking, living, and even breathing, I realised," he says.

It was especially tough to speak softly. "*India mein, apne ghar mein kuch bhi karo,* no problem (Back home, you can do whatever). But here, especially after 10 pm, there must be pin drop silence. On most days, I come home late after work and can't even cook in a pressure cooker. The neighbours would call the police if the whistle went off at that hour," Mihir says.

Sticking to the right-lane while on his bike to deliver orders was tricky, too. "It's just the opposite of what it is at home," he says. He would frequently slip into the wrong lane, inviting angry stares.

During the winter months, riding on the snow-covered streets of Berlin was tough and he would often slip. "Now I am used to it. I can get from one end of the city to another in less than an hour," he says.

Mihir says he still trips over the German names of streets. "I only know the main roads that lead out from my home. For the rest, there's Google Maps."

A shorter route: Subcontractors

At 2.10 pm, Mihir's phone rings out sharply. He finally had the first order of the day from Wolt. These orders are critical. On Uber Eats and Wolt, where he works through subcontractors, he is paid per delivery.

Over the last few decades, a number of sectors in Germany, from construction to logistics and delivery, which rely largely on migrant labour, have adopted the subcontractor route to hire workers.

There have been allegations of hirings that circumvent German laws on minimum wages, with the subcontractors paying per delivery and demanding a payment from the workers to get them on board. Besides, there is little job security. Mihir says that a few months ago, when he visited India for 40 days, he lost his Uber Eats gig though he had paid the subcontractors €600 euros for the job. Since then, he has been using his friend's ID to work on Uber Eats.

A 38-year-old from Chandigarh says the subcontractor he worked with mostly hired delivery workers through 'mini job' contracts — a part-time job provision that allows students to earn a tax-free income up to €603. "But the riders would often work full time, and the remaining income is paid in cash. It is a blatant misuse of the student visa," he says.

By 10 pm, Mihir has completed six orders. After deductions, he is left with under €50. "Sometimes I don't get a single order"

At Lieferando, where Mihir is a direct employee, he gets the minimum wage of €13.90 per hour, is not allowed to work for more than 20 hours a week as mandated by his student visa, and gets other employee benefits such as sick leaves, and medical aid. But the amount wasn't enough for him to pay off his student loan and he needed to send money back home, so he signed up with subcontractors of Wolt and UberEats, where he is paid per delivery.

Amrita Datta, a sociologist working on Indian migrants in Germany, says the problem is not as much with gig work as with the subcontracting model that often leaves migrants vulnerable to exploitation.

Last year, Lieferando, which was the only delivery app that had been hiring directly until then, announced that they too were exploring the subcontracting route, sparking protests from among its workers' collective.

Florian Anders, head of PR and communications at Wolt, Germany, however, said in an email interview that all delivery riders, "whether directly employed or engaged through partners... work under fair, lawful, and transparent conditions."

Anders insisted that subcontractors are expected to meet high standards and employ their couriers on a permanent basis, treat them responsibly, and comply with all legal requirements.

Uber's Mobility Communications Lead, DACH, Maja Ruhbach, said all their deliveries are handled by third-party fleet partners. "While these fleet partners act as independent employers... we contractually obligate them to comply strictly with all German labor laws, including mandatory social security contributions and the payment of the statutory minimum wage."

Emails sent by *The Indian Express* to the press office at Lieferando and the Federal Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs went unanswered.

A 38-year-old Indian working with Lieferando says workers exploiting German labour regulations may have pushed firms to adopt the subcontracting route. "Riders would log in during their shift times but not step out to do the deliveries. Since the labour rules ensured they would be paid on a per hour basis regardless of the number of deliveries, they made the most of the system. Ultimately, the platforms turned to hiring indirectly through subcontractors."

Between two worlds

It's 2:30 pm by the time Mihir reaches the restaurant to pick up his first order of the day. He is already behind schedule. He pedals hard for the next five or six kilometers, reaching the neighbourhood of Neukölln in southeast Berlin in 20 minutes.

He walks up to the apartment gate where the customer is waiting for the order. He is nearly half an hour late. Mihir apologises, the customer shrugs to say it's alright.

"This is the big difference between India and Germany," he says. "People are polite here. They say 'please', 'thank you'. They even apologise if I have to climb up too many stairs to deliver the order." In Hisar, where he worked with a food delivery platform for a week, "people would refuse to pay if the order reached them a bit late. I earned less than Rs 2,000 in an entire week, and ended up paying over Rs 500 from my pocket for fuel."

Mihir gets two more orders, both on the outskirts of West Berlin. By now, his bike's battery indicator is flashing low and he decides to go home to recharge it.

After a couple of hours, he steps out again. It's a sunny spring day and most people are out on the roads. "This is a bad season for food deliveries. Winters are the best," he says, talking about a bitingly cold January day, when he made his highest single-day earnings of €250, working for 12 hours straight.

Today is different. By 10 pm, he has completed six orders. After deductions, he is left with under €50. "Sometimes I don't get a single order," he says.

Those days are the hardest. Yet, returning to India is not an option he considers. "The delivery work is just a temporary job. Someday, I'll be a chef at a restaurant," he says.

The next morning, at 11 am, Mihir is ready with his three phones, scanning for orders. Outside, the air is colder. "Perhaps today will be better," he says.

Names of delivery workers have been changed to protect their identities

(The writer, Head of Research at indianexpress.com, *is in Germany for a journalist-in-residence fellowship at the Max Planck Institute for the History of Science)*

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BECAUSE THE TRUTH INVOLVES US ALL

On fertiliser, Centre and states must align policy

PRIME MINISTER Narendra Modi wants Indian farmers to cut consumption of chemical fertilisers by 25-50 per cent, in order to conserve precious foreign exchange as well as protect the long-term fertility of Indian soils. However, the governments in Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh and Maharashtra are doing the opposite. All three — many more may follow — have decreed that manufacturers and suppliers of subsidised fertilisers such as urea and di-ammonium phosphate (DAP) cannot sell nutrient products where no government subsidy or price controls are in place. In other words, fertiliser companies can sell only those products whose usage is being discouraged by the Modi government. They have been banned from selling any bio, nano, water-soluble and liquid speciality fertilisers or micronutrients and bio-stimulants.

The ban orders are not only an example of the Centre and states working at cross purposes, but also of ease of doing business going into reverse. Most of the non-subsidised nutrient products being marketed by the likes of Iffco, Coromandel International and Yara Fertilisers are applied in low doses for high-value crops such as grapes, apple and pomegranate. Moreover, they are notified under the Centre's Fertiliser Control Order after field trials for bio-efficacy and toxicology conducted by the Indian Council of Agricultural Research. What incentive would companies have now to innovate and introduce such products that can deliver nutrients more efficiently either straight into the plant's root zone via drip irrigation or onto leaves by foliar application? If the Modi government is serious about weaning away farmers from urea and DAP — whose applied nutrients are more prone to volatilisation, leaching or locking in soils than being available for uptake by crops — it should crack down on states that are sending contrary signals to the industry and farmers alike.

India has enough land, water and sunshine for growing crops. But that's not the case with fertilisers, where it is overwhelmingly import-dependent. In 2025-26, the country's imports of fertiliser inputs and products were valued at about $27.2 billion. The unresolved West Asia conflict and closure of the Strait of Hormuz could result in that bill even surpassing the 2022-23 high of $33.4 billion post Russia's invasion of Ukraine. The current crisis is both a moment of reckoning and an opportunity to transform the existing product-specific fertiliser subsidy regime into an expanded PM-Kisan 2.0 direct income support programme. When fertiliser prices are market-determined, farmers will start using the right nutrients in the required quantities for their crops. And they will be enabled even more when guaranteed a minimum income per acre per crop.

Meanwhile, Israel goes on with its wrecking ball

IN A clear violation of the October 2025 Donald Trump-brokered ceasefire between Israel and Hamas, Benjamin Netanyahu said on Thursday that he had ordered the military to take control of 70 per cent of Gaza, where the population is crammed into the little territory that remains habitable. That Israel was not abiding by the ceasefire had long been evident from its continued strikes on Gaza even as West Asia was engulfed by the Iran war. Yet it is difficult not to wonder if Netanyahu's decision to escalate further, at this particular moment, serves his political objectives ahead of the country's first elections since Hamas's horrific October 7, 2023 terror attack.

The past few weeks have not gone Netanyahu's way. Tel Aviv has largely been sidelined in the talks between Tehran and Washington aimed at ending a war that the US and Israel jointly initiated. Trump and Netanyahu's tense phone call a few days ago underscored their differing approaches to Iran, an inevitable divergence given the war's growing unpopularity in the US and the mounting political costs for the Trump administration. Netanyahu's apparent pursuit of eternal war follows a familiar script: Prolong conflict for political self-preservation and to defer domestic accountability for the October 7 security failure. In more than two years, Israel has failed to achieve its stated objective of destroying Hamas, even as it has killed at least 75,000 civilians and reduced Gaza to dust and ashes.

When Trump emerged as the unlikely peacemaker in Gaza, there was a sense of optimism about resolving the Israel-Palestine conflict. Announcing his 20-point plan and the "Board of Peace", the US president had declared: "The people of Gaza have suffered long enough. The time is NOW." Since then, however, Israel's repeated violations of the ceasefire have effectively shredded the plan, while the peace board is yet to receive any of the billions of dollars pledged by donors. Peace in Gaza requires Israeli restraint and an institutional credibility capable of assuaging Palestinian fears. Netanyahu's latest order does precisely the opposite. And the one man who claims he can make the Israeli PM do "whatever I want him to do" has turned a blind eye.

With a little help from Paul McCartney

AT THE age of 83, Paul McCartney has produced his 18th solo LP. Is this what human striving looks like in the age of the algorithm? No doubt McCartney's creative energy has always been close to superhuman: It is evident in the sheer depth, volume and imaginative leaps of the Lennon-McCartney songbook as well as the prodigiousness of the musician's post-Beatles output. But long before AI-generated music started sneaking onto Spotify playlists, McCartney was combining this immense talent with hard work to create an important chunk of the music on which the technology was trained.

The lesson here is twofold. The first applies specifically to this moment in history when it seems like the machine is poised to take over every creative bastion — witness the fear whipped up by the allegations that a Commonwealth Prize recipient this year used AI. The anxiety is understandable: Technology can now "write" books, "compose" music, "paint" pictures and "make" films. As it gets more sophisticated, what was once passable may even become genuinely interesting. Yet, McCartney's persistence in doing what he has always done reminds us that creativity is not so much about the outcome as it is about the process itself.

The second lesson is that perseverance matters as much as ability. In Peter Jackson's documentary *The Beatles: Get Back*, which covers the making of *Let It Be*, the Fab Four's final studio album, the viewer watches the band almost break up. In the end, it's not just alchemy that keeps them together; it's also McCartney's stubborn belief in the work itself, in the insistence that they show up, regardless of personal and creative differences to "go through the bad bit and get to the good bit".

India, US: From estranged to engaged to restrained democracies

SANJAYA BARU

IT WAS an American diplomat, Dennis Kux, who famously termed the United States and India "estranged democracies" during the Cold War era. The historic India-US civil nuclear energy agreement, authored by President George Bush and Prime Minister Manmohan Singh, was seen as converting them into "engaged democracies". That honeymoon is not viewed any longer as having lasted more than a decade. President Donald Trump, it is widely believed, has downgraded a "strategic partnership", what President Barack Obama called the "defining partnership of the 21st century", to a purely transactional relationship.

The recent visit of US Secretary of State Marco Rubio is being interpreted as an attempt to reduce the transactionalism and return to a more "strategic" relationship based on "geopolitical" convergence. However, it bears mentioning that even this "convergence" of interests is defined by transactionalism.

The fact is that the so-called India-US strategic partnership was always based on a transactional foundation. Several quid pro quos defined the terms of negotiations of the nuclear deal. India's willingness to sign on to "A New Framework for the US-India Defence Relationship" in June 2005 was the key that opened the door to negotiations on a nuclear deal.

The framework established a Defence Policy Group that would, as the agreement stated, "expand two-way defence trade between our countries. The United States and India will work to conclude defence transactions, not solely as ends in and of themselves, but as a means to strengthen our countries' security, reinforce our strategic partnership, achieve greater interaction between our armed forces, and build greater understanding between our defence establishments."

The intention was to secure an opening-up of the Indian defence market to US business, reducing India's dependence on Russia. Going beyond this commitment, India was required to reduce dependence on oil imports from Iran and Venezuela. The US establishment drove a hard bargain that finally required a presidential veto to get the agreement signed. Credit must go to Bush for taking a long-term view of India's economic rise and restricting the element of transactionalism in the partnership.

Bush viewed India's rise as a global public good and in itself serving US strategic interests. Trump upended that perspective when he made the relationship mainly transactional. Whatever the rhetoric that now fills up new documents signed by the two governments, the fact is that the US establishment is no longer willing to give India a free pass.

This in itself is understandable. What has come to hurt the relationship is the fact that the US has taken steps unmindful of the consequences for India. The unilateral actions on the trade front, the support to Israel in destabilising the Gulf, pushing oil and gas prices up and reducing access to these, and the new relationship with Pakistan all have adverse geopolitical and geo-economic consequences for India.

The weaponisation of trade, finance and energy flows by the US, with its allies playing second fiddle, has deeply hurt Indian economic interests, impacting India's economic rise, and as a consequence, its national security and global standing. Barely two years ago, the New Delhi establishment was celebrating India's emergence as the world's third-largest economy. As a consequence of both domestic and global developments, India has slipped back to the sixth rank.

> Whatever the rhetoric that now fills up new documents signed by the two governments, the fact is that the US establishment is no longer willing to give India a free pass

A naïve hope is being expressed by some that the extensive people-to-people relationship between the two democracies will somehow help secure the relationship. It is time for a reality check with respect to the role of the so-called diaspora in the bilateral relationship. It is true that in the 1990s and early 2000s the Indian American community did play a facilitating role in strengthening the bilateral partnership. However, evidence today suggests that two aspects of the diaspora have come to limit its positive role.

As I have elaborated in my recent book, *Secession of the Successful: The Flight Out of New India*, the Indian American community, especially second- and third-generation immigrants, have become an integral part of MAGA — making America great again. Their role in "making India great" is increasingly limited as elite emigration has come to define exit from India to the West.

While Indian political leadership and media celebrate the achievements of high-profile Indian Americans, it should be remembered that they are now increasingly American and less Indian. They have become an important part of the engine of American economic resurgence. As US Congressman Jim Himes put it candidly, Indian Americans are "a secret weapon for (American) economic growth".

Second, people-to-people connect means little when larger geopolitical and national interests are in play and define Trump's "America First" policy. Despite all the visible nationalism of overseas Indians, on display every time Prime Minister Narendra Modi travels abroad, non-resident Indians (NRIs) have become "non-returning Indians". Moreover, the communalisation of the Indian diaspora and growing Western concerns about the direction of Indian domestic politics, with implications for minority rights, have also come to limit the so-called "soft power" of the diaspora.

It is time for Indian policymakers and analysts to come to terms with the reality of a fundamental shift away from the "strategic partnership", which defined the move from "estrangement" to "engagement" at the turn of the century and in the first decade-and-a-half, to the more "what's in it for me" transactionalism that has come to define a restrained relationship.

It is just as well that External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar defined India's approach to the new realities of the world as "multi-alignment". The full meaning and implications of multi-alignment appear not to have sunk into the minds of analysts and media. If actions taken by both the US and China are hurting Indian economic interests, then Indian policy must be based on a recognition of this fact. Neither power is going to help build India as a third pole of the global economy.

Addressing the Constituent Assembly in December 1949, Jawaharlal Nehru famously said that India's foreign policy would have to be defined by her economic policy and interests. The Modi government's policy of *atmanirbharta* is defined by the same approach. India's external relationships must once again give precedence to our national economic interests and not be defined only by concerns about defence and security.

The writer is former editor, The Financial Express *and was media advisor to Prime Minister Manmohan Singh*

Go gently into the night, Bashir sahab

RAKHSHANDA JALIL

I KNEW Bashir Badr as a child. He was my grandfather's student and was unfailingly kind to us children when we visited our grandparents' home in Aligarh, offering us toffees in little tin boxes and chocolates in shiny wrappers, and on one memorable occasion, even taking us to watch a movie at the city's iconic Tasveer Mahal.

Writing this, I am reminded of another luminous memory from those halcyon days of Bashir Badr reciting his poetry at university *mushairas* at the Kennedy Hall.

Long before I could fully understand the import of his words, it was his *tarrannum*, the slightly nasal twang with which he recited his poetry, and the unfailingly cheerful look he seemed to sport on the dais as though he quite enjoyed being a poet, that made an impact on my young mind.

This sher in particular wafts through my mind redolent with the scents of summers past as childhood memories often are: *Meri mutthi mein hain kuchh sookhe se phool/Jinki khusbhuain hawa chura le gayi* (In my hand I hold some dried flowers/Whose fragrance has been stolen by the breeze).

It might not be an exaggeration to say that Bashir Badr was the last of the great modern Urdu poets from India along with Shahryar and Nida Fazli.

Modern in tone and sensibility, accessible in metaphors and images yet grounded in a rigorous classical tradition, he was equally popular on the mushaira circuit as he was admired through the beauty of the written word.

Born in Ayodhya in 1935, he had been suffering from a prolonged illness and hadn't been seen or heard in public for some time. Yet, such is the impact of his powerful yet simple words that his poetry has consistently remained relevant.

Honoured with the Padma Shri and awarded by the UP Urdu Academy four times and once by the Bihar Urdu Academy, he was also bestowed with the Meer Academy Award.

A teacher of Urdu for 17 years at Meerut College, he was away from the limelight for many years yet remained a voice of our time. In a life marked by hardship where success was tardy and setbacks many, he once rued that life had dealt him a poor hand: *Zindagi tu ne mujhe qabr se kum dii hai zameen/Paanv phailaauun to deewaar mein sar lagta hai* (Life, you've given me even less space than a grave/When I stretch my legs my head strikes the wall).

When his house was looted and burnt down in the horrific communal riots of 1987 in Meerut, he left the city and built a new life in Bhopal.

He also found a wellspring of courage and compassion from deep within to tell his countrymen: *Saat sanduqon mein bharkar dafn kar do nafratein/Aaj insaan ko mohabbat ki zarurat hai bahut* (Stuff all the hatred in seven boxes and bury it deep/Today, humans need love more than anything else).

And also: *Naye daur ke naye khwaab hain naye mausamon ke gulaab hain/Ye mohabbaton ke charaagh hain inhein nafraton ki hawa na de* (These are new dreams of a new age, new roses of a new season/These are lamps of love; don't stir them with the breeze of hatred).

Whether it was a political statement or a personal one, there was always a simplicity and a directness in his poetry as here: *Na tum hosh mein ho na hum hosh mein hain/Chalo mai-kade mein waheen baat hogi* (Neither are you in your senses, nor am I Let's go to the tavern; we will talk there)

And then there is this sher, my personal favourite: *Ujaale apni yaadon ke hamare saath rahne do/Na jaane kis gali mein zindagi ki shaam ho jaae* (Leave the light of your memories with me/Who knows when the night might fall).

Go gently into the night, Bashir *sahab*, in the light of happy memories.

> Whether it was a political statement or a personal one, there was always a simplicity and a directness in Bashir Badr's poetry as here: 'Na tum hosh mein ho na hum hosh mein hain/Chalo mai-kade mein waheen baat hogi'

Jaleel is a Delhi-based writer, translator and literary historian

Vaibhav Sooryavanshi, the superhero Bihar never had

PRITISH RAJ

I GREW up in a very small town in Bihar. A town termed "rural" by English newspapers and "*pichhda*" by the Hindi ones. We had basic facilities, but to dream big, you had to leave home, sometimes as early as 10 years old. While one had a choice of Engineering, Medicine and the ultimate Bihari thirst trap — civil services — sports was a distant dream, often killed in examination halls and coaching centres. There were several reasons, and a major one was the lack of a sporting hero. Maharashtra had cricketing god Sachin Tendulkar and hockey's magician Dhanraj Pillay, Delhi had wrestling king Sushil Kumar, Haryana and Punjab had sporting heroes for every generation. Neighbouring Bengal had the prince of cricket, Sourav Ganguly; UP had magical hockey striker Mohammed Shahid, Odisha had Dilip Tirkey. South India produced sporting heroes in bulk with the likes of Rahul Dravid, P T Usha, and Anil Kumble.

Bihari kids of the 2000s and 2010s were huge sports fans and claimed M S Dhoni, but in truth, they had no sporting hero of their own. By the early 2010s, Bihar had all kinds of heroes: Revolutionaries, civil service officers, poets, journalists, academics, criminals, scamsters, fraud politicians, but not a sporting one. Given the history of Bihar, especially the years rife with crime and corruption, a sporting hero would probably have been good for the youth.

In 2026, when the world had shrunk enough to fit on a smartphone screen, Vaibhav Sooryavanshi emerged. The 15-year-old isn't just the talk of the town but the global cricket conversation. And guess what? He is from Bihar. And he is selling jerseys and filling stadiums. A sportsperson who is Bihar's own, unlike others who had to move to different states to move up the ladder. Not that this makes them any less Bihari, but you get the gist. Now, a kid in Bihar can look up to Sooryavanshi and think, "I can get there". For parents, he can become a point of reference.

Growing up, sporting excellence stories would happen in faraway lands. Rajyavardhan Singh Rathore won a silver medal at the Olympics, Abhinav Bindra won a gold, and Vijender Singh won a boxing medal. It all looked out of reach. With the partition of Bihar and Jharkhand, the neighbouring state got all the sports centres; all that Bihar was left with was a broken ecosystem. When Shreyasi Singh, now a minister in the Bihar government, won a medal at the 2018 Commonwealth Games, there was a brief spark. When I started my career in sports journalism, I waited for when I would write a story about Bihar and lace it with local references and metaphors. With Sooryavanshi around, I believe the wait will soon be over. The beauty of having sporting heroes you can relate to is that they make greatness feel attainable, not aspirational. Sooryavanshi didn't just break records — he broke the ceiling. The superhero we never had is here, and he is just getting started.

> While I was growing up, sporting excellence stories would happen in faraway lands. Rajyavardhan Singh Rathore won a silver medal at the Olympics, Abhinav Bindra won a gold, and Vijender Singh won a boxing medal. It all looked out of reach

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40 YEARS AGO

May 30, 1986

INDIAN EXPRESS

Barnala rules out resignation
Dissidents exploiting religion

Steps will be taken to stop migration: PM

S-I in India security arrested

Letter warrants action: Arjun

NTR not to attend meet on Telugu Ganga

Notice to Govt on Muslim Act

Barnala rules out resignation

SURJIT SINGH Barnala said he had no intention of stepping down as Punjab CM and party president, as the two offices had been bestowed on him by the "*panth*". Instead of demanding his ouster for the police action in the Golden Temple complex and exploiting a religious issue, the dissidents should have resigned from the Vidhan Sabha if they felt hurt, Barnala said, addressing a huge conference organised by the Sangrur District Akali Dal.

PM on emigration from Punjab

PRIME MINISTER Rajiv Gandhi has assured Congress (I) legislators from Punjab that all possible steps would be taken to stop migration from the state. The Centre is fully aware of the situation, he said. The Prime Minister heard the views of various groups of Punjab Congress (I) legislators and the Pradesh Congress (I) president, Beant Singh, on the situation in the state. Beant Singh and Gurbinder Kaur Brar, leader of the Congress (I) group in the state assembly, met the PM separately.

Imbroglio in Congress-I

CONGRESS-I VICE president Arjun Singh said that the publication of the text of Congress-I working president Kamlapati Tripathi's April 22 letter to PM Rajiv Gandhi had created a new situation and therefore the process of consultations on "action to be taken on the matter has been set in motion." Talking to reporters, Singh declined to elaborate on the proposed action. He refused to say whether the consultations he had with other senior party colleagues were about the action to be taken against the working president or on the contents of his letter to Gandhi. "I will not qualify action at this stage," he said.

Doctor shot as others quarrel

A YOUNG doctor from JP hospital was shot dead outside his house in Munirka in a dispute between other people. Dr Swarandeep Singh (22), an intern in the ENT department, came down after some people quarrelled with the woman living on the first floor below. As the doctor noted their car number, they shot him dead. He was murdered outside F-9 block almost opposite Jawaharlal Nehru University minutes after the ill-fated family had finished celebrating the success of his younger brother in the class X examination.

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A democracy must worry about fake voters, but much more about excluded citizens

FAIZAN MUSTAFA AND MADHAV ANAND

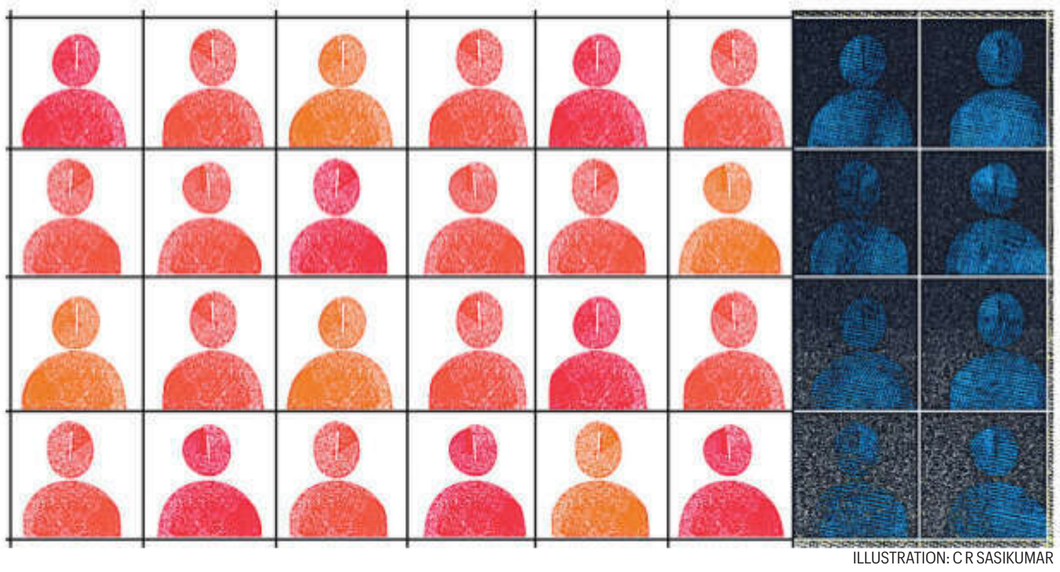

ILLUSTRATION: C R SASIKUMAR

IN INDIRA *Nehru Gandhi v Raj Narain* (1975), Chief Justice A N Ray made a strange distinction. Democracy, he held, may be part of the basic structure, but free and fair elections could not themselves be elevated to that status. But post-Emergency, in *Mohinder Singh Gill* (1978), the Court held that without periodic free and fair elections, democracy ends. In the *Gujarat Assembly Election Reference* (2002), it went further: Democracy and free and fair elections, the Court said, are "inseparable twins". Free and fair elections fundamentally depend on the independence and absolute neutrality of the Election Commission of India (ECI) as an umpire, and therefore the onus is on ECI to win over the trust of independent observers and the Opposition. Here, what matters is public perception, not law or court judgments.

A bench of Chief Justice Surya Kant and Justice Joymalya Bagchi in their historic 124-page judgment has upheld the Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of Bihar. No one can question the judgment's positivistic and legalistic interpretation of the black-letter laws. But in terms of consequences, which Justice Ray denied formally in 1975, the present judgment risks diluting in practice if ECI is not a neutral umpire. The problem with the SIR judgment is not that it values electoral integrity too highly but that the court did not examine the all -important issue of whether we have got such rolls after SIR. There are reports pointing to inconsistencies, and significant inaccuracies even in the revised rolls.

Justice Surya Kant correctly held that no constitutional democracy can function with duplicate, fictitious or fraudulent entries. But the judgment did not raise the equally important possibility of genuine citizens being pushed out of the democratic process in the name of so-called "purification". Did the petitioners not bring to the Court some living persons who had been shown as dead? But the judgment simply stated that no rolls can be perfect and that there was sufficient transparency in exclusion and opportunities of appeal.

Without asking the ECI to show concrete reasons, the Court accepted its justification for the statewide exercise. Section 21(3) of the Representation of the People Act contemplates special revision in "any constituency or part thereof" and Justice Surya Kant, applying the well-known rules of statutory interpretation, correctly held that "any" here would mean "all".

Justice Surya Kant's interpretation of Article 324 and 327, too, is absolutely correct as the ECI neither becomes powerless the moment Parliament enacts a law nor becomes so powerful as to go against the statute. The CJI rightly held that Parliament itself through Section 21(3) has preferred to give the ECI extremely wide powers as to SIRs through non-obstante clauses by using the words "in such manner" and "as it [the ECI] may think fit".

The judgment upheld documentary compliance as though the burden is socially neutral. Marginalised citizens lacking documents and minorities facing heightened bureaucratic suspicion do not stand on equal footing with more privileged groups. The ECI's huge victory in the judgment was the Court upholding its list of 11 documents, but then the petitioners had argued that nearly 37 per cent of adults in Bihar lacked even one of the prescribed documents. For marginalised communities, this is even more concerning. The judgment also did not seriously consider the ground realities of massive confusion, administrative inconsistency, rushed timelines, and the enormous discretion vested in low-level local officials. Evidence of BLOs filling forms themselves, missing acknowledgments, and lakhs of forms being submitted without documents find no mention in the judgment because issues were framed purely in legalistic terms and not in terms of the impact when such powers are exercised.

> The CJI's assurance that exclusion from the electoral roll does not formally divest citizenship offers limited comfort as a few states have started denying benefits to the excluded people

Ideally, the scale of exclusion itself should have invited deeper constitutional scrutiny. The final roll reportedly stood at around 7.42 crore electors. This was substantially lower than official population projections that suggest Bihar would have approximately 8.22 crore eligible voters. Yet, the judgment concluded that the "post-exercise data" did not reveal disenfranchisement so "widespread or systemic" as to establish constitutional infirmity.

If the citizenship concerns were so marginal in practical outcome, why did they become so central to the architecture of the exercise itself? But this approach reduced constitutional scrutiny to aggregate numbers alone. The deeper issue was not simply how many voters were excluded, but who was really excluded. The SIR was justified as necessary to identify illegal immigrants and preserve electoral integrity. The ECI did not provide any figures of non-citizens found in the electoral rolls but reports suggest those numbers to be negligible.

Districts recording some of the highest deletions reportedly overlapped heavily with Bihar's poorest and most migration-affected regions. Muslims appeared disproportionately represented among excluded voters, especially in Seemanchal. According to one report, Muslims accounted for 32.1 per cent of exclusions across the state. Another report asserted that Muslim exclusion was not that disproportionate as it stood at 18.4 per cent. In contrast, the Hindu-majority districts recorded lower-than-average exclusions, reflecting a broader pattern where nine out of the 10 top Hindu-dominated districts were below the state average 6.05 per cent. How far there is truth in this alleged differential has not been examined by the Court. Women reportedly constituted nearly 60 per cent of exclusions.

Rule 21A in the Registration of Electors Rules, 1960 requires the ERO to form an opinion regarding deletion and provide affected electors with an opportunity of hearing. The Court held that these safeguards were "preserved in substance". Non-inclusion in the draft roll was treated merely as a temporary administrative stage rather than a substantive democratic injury.

Strictly in terms of law, the Court rightly distinguished between the formal "determination of citizenship," which belongs to the Ministry of Home Affairs, and the Election Commission's "administrative satisfaction regarding electoral eligibility". Justice Surya Kant's assurance that exclusion from the electoral roll does not formally divest citizenship offers only limited comfort as a few states have already started denying the benefits of welfare schemes to the excluded people. This reminds us of the havoc the Doubtful Voter category introduced by T N Seshan played in Assam. We now have millions of doubtful citizens.

The judgment is correct on questions of law as after all the SC is expected to decide cases in accordance with the law. It rarely invokes Article 142 to do "complete justice". A constitutional democracy must certainly worry about fraudulent voters. But it must worry much more about the frightened, excluded, genuine and eligible citizens.

Mustafa is an expert on constitutional law and Anand is a legal scholar at NUJS, Kolkata. Views are personal

Delimitation can bring more female-urban participation

SHAMIKA RAVI

AFTER THE 2026 Census, the Lok Sabha could expand from 543 to 816 seats. Most of the discussion has focused on how the new seats will be distributed across states. We add a complementary question, drawing on our analysis of all the 2,171 parliamentary constituency (PC) elections held in India since 2009: How will delimitation affect voter participation?

The 2024 general elections saw a turnout of 65.8 per cent — the second-highest of any Indian general election. However, urban turnout has been lagging. The fully built-up constituencies of Mumbai, Bengaluru, Hyderabad and the NCR are touching turnout floors of 55 to 60 per cent, well below the national average. The rural-urban turnout gap, 4.4 percentage points in 2009, has gone up to 11.6 points in 2024.

Two changes have reshaped the geography of Indian voting. First, the long-observed pattern that big constituencies vote less than small ones — the "size penalty" — has vanished in the average data. In 2009, a 2-million-elector seat turned out 11 percentage points lower than a 1-million-elector one. By 2024, that gap is just 1.4 points.

Second, the divergence in Indian voting now runs along urban-rural lines, with a sharp gendered twist. The woman voter in a large rural constituency is the most engaged — turnout around 75 per cent at two-million-elector seats. The woman voter who lives in a large urban area is the least engaged — turnout falls to about 64 per cent. As constituencies grow toward 3 million electors — a frontier several Mumbai, Delhi, and Bengaluru seats are approaching — our model projects the rural-urban gap to widen to 22 percentage points for women and 16 for men.

The polling station is the third piece of the picture. Booth crowding has always been more severe in urban constituencies than in rural ones. The EC's station expansion between 2019 and 2024 brought modest relief at the urban end. But between 2019 and 2024, the rationalisation slipped: Stations grew only 1.3 per cent against 7.2 per cent growth in electors, pushing up urban crowding. The resulting 1.28-percentage-point national turnout decline is fully accounted for by this renewed booth crowding. Booth crowding deters male voters strongly — it explains 19.5 per cent of the male size penalty in our data — but has little direct effect on women's turnout (3.4 per cent). For them, mobilisation works through different channels: Campaign, household and time-of-day flexibility, and direct engagement with collectives.

Why does all this matter for delimitation? Because the size penalty looks like it has disappeared on average, but at high urban shares, it has not. Our model predicts that a 2-million-elector urban constituency turns out at about 65 per cent; at 1 million electors, it predicts a turnout of about 74 per cent. Splitting a 2-million-elector urban PC into two 1-million-elector PCs would raise the turnout by roughly 9 percentage points per half. This is the strongest empirical case for the 543-to-816 expansion.

What should the delimitation agenda then look like?

Put the new seats where they will actually raise turnout. The biggest gains are in the band of urbanisation that runs through the suburbs of Bengaluru, Mumbai, NCR, Hyderabad, Pune, Ahmedabad and Chennai — constituencies that are 75 to 90 per cent urban, which have grown 46 per cent in electorate since 2009 (well above the 35 per cent national average) and where voters are turning out at the lowest rates. Targeted shrinkage of these large urban PCs is where the model predicts the largest turnout gains.

Build the polling station capacity alongside. A ratio of below 900 voters per booth — the level achieved after the 2018 rationalisation — has to be locked in.

Bring urban women into the participatory fold. The rural channels that have historically mobilised women — panchayat networks, anganwadis, self-help groups — do not extend to cities like Mumbai or Bengaluru. The right urban tools include women's canteen schemes, urban self-help-group networks under the National Urban Livelihoods Mission, women-only polling booths, and mobilisation by women councillors elected under the 74th Constitutional Amendment's reservation provisions for urban local bodies.

The next delimitation will also be the moment at which the Nari Shakti Vandan Adhiniyam (the Women's Reservation Act) comes into force. Delimitation that creates smaller urban constituencies in the band where female turnout is currently the lowest, layered with women candidates on the ballot under the new reservation, and paired with the operational and engagement infrastructure that brings urban women to the polling station, can substantially close the urban turnout gap among women voters.

As India urbanises rapidly, the share of the electorate in metropolitan PCs will continue to rise. Whether that rising urban share translates into a falling national turnout, or into a renewed wave of female-urban participation, will be decided by what the Delimitation Commission chooses to do.

The writer is member, EAC-PM

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Karnataka transition

CONGRESS RISKS repeating in Karnataka the very culture of drift that weakened it nationally ('A new Karnataka CM, a tired Congress script', *IE*, May 29). Leadership change alone cannot conceal deeper failures of governance. Bengaluru — India's technology capital — continues to reel under flooding, traffic paralysis, water scarcity and overstretched civic infrastructure despite the state's strong revenues. City planning remains hostage to bureaucratic fragmentation and factional politics.

Havya Garg, Chandigarh

BY SUCCESSFULLY managing the change from Siddaramaiah to D K Shivakumar, the party leadership has shown greater maturity and decisiveness ('A new Karnataka CM, a tired Congress script', IE, May 29). Unlike the instability witnessed earlier in states like Punjab, Rajasthan and Madhya Pradesh, the Karnataka shift appears orderly and controlled. However, the challenge for Congress has only begun. Siddaramaiah remains a towering figure in state politics with a strong support base among backward classes, Dalits and minorities.

Sanjay Chopra, Mohali

Athlete, administrator

THE EDITORIAL on Raja Randhir Singh fittingly highlighted his contribution to Indian sport as both athlete and administrator ('Consensus builder, and a bridge', *IE*, May 29). His role in strengthening shooting infrastructure and India's sporting presence globally laid the groundwork for future champions. It is impossible to discuss India's rise in shooting without recalling Olympic medallists like Rajyavardhan Singh Rathore and Abhinav Bindra, who emerged from an ecosystem gradually shaped by such pioneering efforts. Singh's legacy deserves recognition as part of India's larger sporting transformation.

Harsh Pawaria, Rohtak

Who gets ST benefits, who shouldn't? Debate continues

RAM MADHAV

LAST SUNDAY, lakhs of tribal people from more than 500 different tribes travelled to the national capital. Their demand was for "de-listing", a constitutional process by which tribals who have converted to Christianity or Islam would be denied ST status and the benefits that accrue from it, and an amendment to Article 342 to that effect. In the 1960s, a tribal Congress MP, Kartik Oraon, first raised the issue. His contention was that those who adopted Christianity or Islam automatically cease to be tribal because they no longer follow tribal customs and traditions. He demanded the exclusion of converted tribals from the ST list. He presented a memorandum of a JPC to PM Indira Gandhi, supported by 235 MPs, with a proposed amendment to Article 342. It read: "3. Notwithstanding anything contained in Paragraph 2, no person who has given up tribal faith or faiths and has embraced either Christianity or Islam shall be deemed to be a member of any Scheduled Tribes."

Indira Gandhi didn't pay much attention to the issue. In the past two decades, the Janjati Suraksha Manch has championed the cause. Oraon, who served as a minister in Indira Gandhi's government, documented that barely 10 per cent of converted tribals were appropriating nearly 70 per cent of reservation benefits. As the number of converted tribals has grown — around 20 per cent today — resentment among the non-converted, too, is growing. Their argument is that converts are enjoying the benefits of both ST reservations and minority welfare programmes. At the root of this problem is a constitutional anomaly. In 1950, at the time of the enactment of the Constitution, two separate orders for SCs and STs were promulgated. The Scheduled Castes order, in paragraph 3, categorically stated that "Notwithstanding anything contained in paragraph 2, no person who professes a religion different from Hinduism shall be deemed to be a member of a Scheduled Caste." Unfortunately, the Constitution (Scheduled Tribes) Order, 1950 remained vague on the definition of a tribe. Resenting this , in 2010, tribal leaders submitted a memorandum signed by 27.67 lakh tribals from 26,253 villages to President Pratibha Patil, demanding the de-listing of converted tribals from the ST category.

> In matters relating to the ST converts, the vagueness in the constitutional provisions has led to courts taking suggestive positions rather than issuing definitive orders

Since there is constitutional clarity in the matter of the SCs, the courts have repeatedly said that the SC status cannot be extended to those not belonging to Hinduism, Sikhism and Buddhism. In matters relating to the ST converts, the vagueness in the constitutional provisions has led courts to take suggestive positions rather than issue definitive orders. In 2004, the Supreme Court held that although it cannot be concluded that "merely by change of religion (a) person ceases to be a member of a Scheduled Tribe", it insisted that the matter needs to be examined case by case.

The core issue is whether, like SCs, STs can also have a clear definition. An advisory committee constituted in 1950 for the "revision of the lists of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes" vaguely stated that STs are characterised as such "because of the life led by them". However, the Justice P B Lokur Committee, constituted in 1965-66, identified "primitive traits, distinctive culture, geographical isolation, shyness of contact with the community at large and backwardness" as the basis for identifying STs.

The current demand rests on the reports of Oraon's JPC and the Lokur Committee, besides the Supreme Court's observations. This is not against any religion or conversion. The converted SCs and STs have full access to the welfare programmes available under the minority category. This demand is primarily to ensure that the traditional tribal population is not denied its legitimate rights under the Constitution's ST provisions.

The writer, president, India Foundation, is with the BJP

In Siddaramaiah exit, a transition and label-free politics

SUGATA SRINIVASARAJU

A POWER transition is underway in the Congress government in Karnataka: Chief Minister Siddaramaiah has tendered his resignation, and D K Shivakumar looks likely to take over. Whatever the rivalry between the two, the transition has taken place as smoothly as turning a page. That was quite unexpected and quite uncharacteristic of Siddaramaiah.

Siddaramaiah has never responded well to losing power. He has demonstrated restlessness and recklessness when he has been denied power or lost it. This first became apparent in 1996 when he was part of the JD(S). This trait resurfaced in 2023, when he checkmated Shivakumar to wrest the CM's chair, even though it was the latter who had led the party to a stellar victory.

Siddaramaiah seems less driven by ideology or principles, although his aggressive political branding tells a very different story. Every time he contested or led the JD(S) or Congress in an election, the claims of his wide social base were exposed by his vote share as a candidate or what he was able to get for his party. The BJP grew manifold despite Siddaramaiah's active presence in Karnataka politics. Even when Congress won big in 2023 with the novelty of "guarantee" welfarism, the BJP's vote share remained intact. A question that continues to circle, therefore, is why he surrendered so meekly this time.

Beyond these power games and interpersonal rivalries, the transition signifies some other fundamental shifts in the larger political terrain. Congress cannot settle for Shivakumar as the face of change, but he may lead the transition to a more universal game that the party is not entirely unfamiliar with. It is not a question of choice now; it is about the winds of political circumstance.

This universal game may not be about relying on anachronistic caste identity politics alone, but about building broader demographic coalitions, like the one we saw form suddenly and accidentally in neighbouring Tamil Nadu with Joseph Vijay's victory. This is also a response to the broader coalition-building that the BJP has successfully done by foregrounding the Hindu vote and creating political capital around the majority community, but strategically dispensing welfare capital to all communities.

> The imagination that a particular leader like Siddaramaiah or a party commands a bulk of caste votes has become a fallacy

Mandal politics has suddenly become outmoded. The imagination that a particular leader like Siddaramaiah or a party commands a bulk of caste votes has become a fallacy, because the big castes have not stopped splintering as people have become more conscious of their sub-caste inheritances. In the age of sub-caste politics, caste as a category does not yield the same dividends as before. It can only be a contributing factor. Therefore, the exit of Siddaramaiah, the decline of Nitish Kumar, and the dismantling of Lalu Prasad symbolise a new politics, which is emerging as a new demographic is taking control of the political field. Shivakumar fits the transition perfectly because he is label-free, unlike Siddaramaiah.

As Shivakumar moves in, Congress may consider refining his pragmatic style into something more winnable by 2028, when Karnataka goes to the polls. Unlike Shivakumar, who has the image of an unabashed businessman, networker and money manager, Siddaramaiah branded himself as a rooted socialist, unflinchingly secular, and a saviour of backward communities. Those labels may now become glorious artefacts in an uncurated museum of politics, and wait in the margins to be fact-checked by history.

Srinivasaraju, a senior journalist, is author of The Conscious Network: A Chronicle of Resistance to a Dictatorship

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• TELECOM

The row over new Airtel priority tier for postpaid users

Soumyarendra Barik
New Delhi, May 29

THIS MONTH, Bharti Airtel launched a new 'Priority Postpaid' service that will offer all its postpaid customers more consistent connectivity during periods of network congestion. This launch of this preferential service tier — using a technology called 5G "network slicing" — has triggered debate. Should premium users (read postpaid users) be allowed preferential access to network resources? Here's a look at how 5G network slicing works and whether it violates the net neutrality principle.

What is 5G network slicing?

Network slicing is one of the defining features of standalone 5G networks. Instead of operating as a single network, where all users compete for the same pool of resources, a telecom operator can divide the network into multiple virtual "slices", each configured for a specific purpose. Think of it as creating lanes on a highway. While the road remains the same, certain lanes can be reserved for vehicles with particular requirements.

In telecom networks, one slice can be optimised for ultra-low latency applications, another for industrial automation, another for customers seeking a more reliable consumer broadband experience, and so on.

Globally, operators in markets such as the US, UK, Singapore and South Korea have already deployed network slicing for enterprise and mission-critical applications.

So how is this different from, say, paying for a broadband plan that offers greater speed?

5G network slicing is different. A premium broadband plan usually gives users access to a higher maximum speed under normal conditions, but all customers still use the same underlying network.

Network slicing changes how the network itself allocates resources. During periods of congestion, a user on a dedicated 5G slice can be given preferential access to capacity, while others may experience slower speeds or higher latency. In effect, broadband plans sell more bandwidth, whereas network slicing can provide a higher quality of service even when the network is under strain.

So, does network slicing violate net neutrality?

Net neutrality is the principle that all internet traffic should be treated equally, without discrimination based on content, platform, service or user category. Around a decade ago, India adopted some of the world's strongest net neutrality protections.

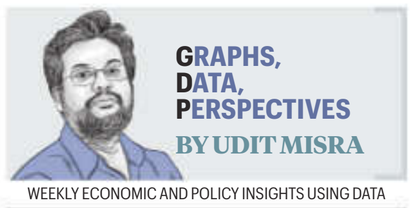
"As per my understanding of current Net Neutrality regulations, creating plans with higher speeds does not violate Net Neutrality, as long as you don't prioritise speeds for specific apps, services or sectors, or price access to different apps, services or sectors differently," Nikhil Pahwa, founder of MediaNama, who played a key role in the successful campaign for net neutrality in 2015, said on social media platform X.

Critics argue that Airtel's plan creates a fast lane for customers willing to pay more, potentially undermining the principle of equal access. The Parliamentary Standing Committee on IT has begun examining whether the service breaches the non-discrimination principle embedded in India's telecom framework. Airtel, however, maintains that the service is fully compliant with net neutrality rules because it does not prioritise any specific application, website or content provider. Reliance Jio has also argued that network slicing can be compatible with net neutrality provided it remains application-agnostic and does not degrade service for other users.

• ECONOMY

Why inflation rate is not the same as affordability

While policymakers focus on containing inflation rate, consumers care more about whether their incomes grow faster than price rise



WEEKLY ECONOMIC AND POLICY INSIGHTS USING DATA

THE US and Israel's war on Iran and the resultant spike in prices of crude oil and other products critical to the smooth functioning of the global economy have made inflation the main worry for policymakers.

Between June 3 and 5, the Monetary Policy Committee of India's Reserve Bank of India (RBI) will deliberate on this matter. On its part, the Union government has as yet shielded average consumers in India from the full effect of the rise in international prices.

But while policymakers are focused on containing the inflation rate, average consumers in India focus more on affordability. The notion is best captured in the worries of several consumers, who bemoan that "once prices go up, they never come down".

In other words, consumers are often more worried about the cumulative effect of past price increases on their household budgets and overall affordability than just the inflation rate in a particular month. This difference between the two ideas is also at the heart of the so-called "affordability crisis" in the US and the cost-of-living crisis in the UK. In both countries, affordability, more than just the inflation rate, is also leading voters to change their political choices.

What's the difference between inflation and affordability?

The inflation rate is the rate at which the general price level rises from one year to another.

Every country has chosen a representative basket of goods and services that its consumers use, and it tracks how the prices for this basket move. The year-on-year increase in this general price level is called the "headline" inflation rate, the one commonly referred to in policy debates.

As *chart 1* shows, since the RBI adopted a policy regime to target a specific level of inflation in 2016, India's inflation rate has been within the RBI's comfort zone of 2% to 6% (red lines), even if it stayed above the target rate of 4% (green line). More importantly, over the past three years, the RBI has successfully brought down the inflation rate from almost 7% to around 2%.

The worry for policymakers now is that the blockade of the Strait of Hormuz is likely to push up the inflation rate for the current financial year (2026-27) closer to 5%.

The consumers, on the other hand, are more bothered about affordability, which, in turn, depends on two broad factors:

- The cumulative effect of repeated inflation spikes on the general price level
- The growth in their incomes relative to the rise in the general price level

In other words, consumers effectively care more whether they are better-off or worse-off in "real" terms — that is, after the effect of inflation is neutralised both from prices and incomes.

How to know where you stand in real terms

Did your income growth keep pace with the increase in the general price level? *Chart 2* provides a simple test.

Let's assume the general price level as of March-end 2014 (the end date for financial year 2013-14) was 100, around the beginning of the first term of the current NDA government. If one then applies the annual inflation rates to this, one can arrive at the price level at the end of March 2026. As the data show, it is 175. In other words, a basket of goods and services that cost Rs 100 to consumers in March 2014, cost Rs 175 at the end of March 2026.

One way to assess whether one is better- or worse-off is to compare incomes. If their income has gone up by 75%, then one is exactly where one was 12 years ago in "real" terms. If their income has grown by a lesser degree, then one is worse-off, and if the income has grown by a higher percentage, then one is better-off to that extent.

Similarly, the general price level has grown by 41% between March 2019 and March 2026. Calculations can accordingly be made for those who started working at the start of April 2019 (around the second NDA term), albeit the key number is 41% in this case.

What about the rest of India?

The Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (MoSPI) releases regular Periodic Labour Force Surveys (PLFS) that map employment, unemployment and income data. The PLFS divides the whole workforce into three categories of workers:

1. Salaried (regular wage earners)
2. Self-employed (e.g., small vendors)
3. Casual labour (e.g., those working on construction sites)

However, for reasons of data comparability, the only period for which one can get a representative picture is between 2017-18 and 2023-24. Still, it provides a broad sense of how India fared during this period in terms of affordability. From the end of March 2018, data shows that the growth in incomes of the salaried and the self-employed lagged behind the rise in the price level. In other words, in real terms, they became worse off during this period. The daily wages of casual labour, however, grew faster than the general price level.

It is noteworthy that casual labourers actually earn the lowest in absolute terms among the three categories. For instance, at a daily earning of Rs 453 in 2025-26, a casual labourer working all 30 days would have still earned only Rs 13,590 a month, while the self-employed earned Rs 14,861 per month and salaried workers earned Rs 22,699 per month.

Moreover, over this period, the share of self-employed — the category worst-off in terms of affordability — grew rapidly while the shares of the other two categories declined.

So, how can RBI help matters?

The RBI cannot directly do much about the income growth of different workers. That depends on a whole host of factors outside its scope.

On the inflation front, too, the RBI can't address the main reason for inflation: inadequate crude oil supply. Under the circumstances, all that the RBI can do is to constrain overall demand for goods and services among consumers by raising interest rates. Higher interest rates would slow down economic activity by making loans (be it for cars, homes or factories) costlier.

In other words, if RBI wants to arrest inflation, it will have to drag down India's economic growth; an action that mirrors what the government is doing by raising fuel prices and urging people to consume less.

Out of step

From the end of March 2018, growth in incomes of the salaried and the self-employed lagged behind the rise in the price level.

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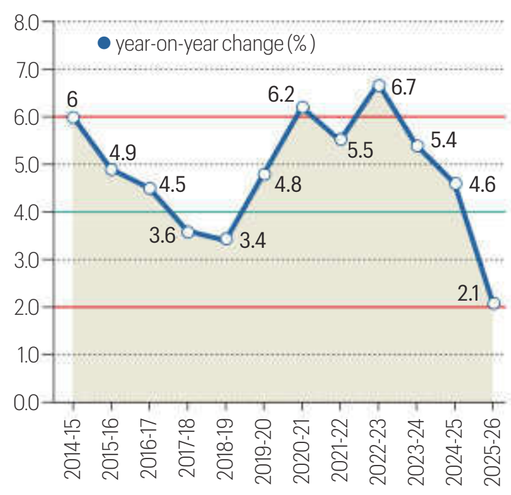
While daily wages of casual labour grew relatively faster, they earn the lowest in absolute terms.

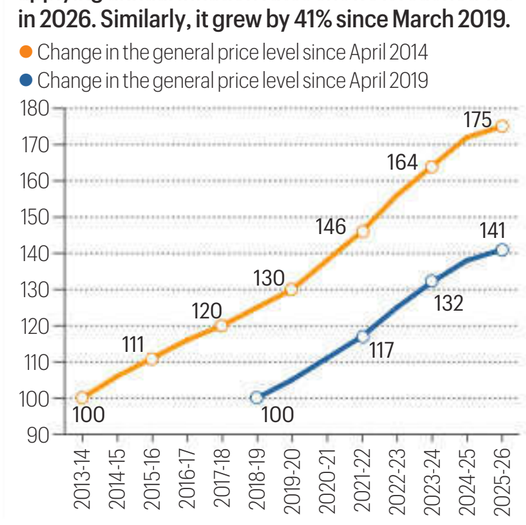
• Inflation within comfort zone

Chart 1: India's retail inflation rate has largely remained within RBI's 2% to 6% comfort range



• Rise in general price level

Chart 2: Assuming price level was 100 in 2014, applying annual inflation rates shows it reached 175 in 2026. Similarly, it grew by 41% since March 2019.



SOURCE: CMIE, INDIAN EXPRESS RESEARCH

• TECHNOLOGY

How ACs catch fire, and the role temperature plays in it

Pratyush Deep
New Delhi, May 29

RETIRED IAS officer and the first chairman of the Competition Commission of India (CCI), Dhanendra Kumar, 80, died in a fire after a suspected air conditioner (AC) blast at his Delhi home on Thursday.

The incident is the latest in a series of AC-related fire accidents reported in the National Capital Region this summer.

Just this week, a split AC reportedly exploded and triggered a fire on the 15th floor of a residential tower in Ghaziabad's Indirapuram. And, earlier this month, nine people were killed in a blaze at a residential complex in East Delhi's Shahdara, where initial reports also pointed to an AC blast as a possible trigger.

The incidents call attention to a disturbing pattern increasingly unfolding in Indian cities every summer. With higher average temperatures every year and rising AC sales nationwide, the likelihood of such incidents is increasing.

How do ACs catch fire?

Continuously running an AC, coupled with the high atmospheric temperatures during summer, can lead to overheating.

This overheating can degrade an AC's insulation, melt internal components, and ignite combustible materials inside the unit.

Another major reason is short-circuiting, which occurs when the flow of electric current in a circuit takes an unintended path. This is not always dangerous, but when a large amount of current is flowing, it can, in turn, generate a great amount of heat. This can melt wires and lead to a fire.

The Delhi government's Department of Fire Services states: "About 60% fires are of electric origin on account of electric short circuit, overheating, overloading, use or non standard appliances."

According to an official from the Delhi Power Department, house fires are commonly caused by short circuits in electricity meters, switchboards, or due to loose, poor-quality or faulty wiring.

"In AC units, fires usually occur due to gas leakage or overheating in the compressor, which is in the outdoor unit. However, in the Delhi incident, the suspected explosion occurred in the indoor unit of the AC, which is uncommon. Sometimes, if there is a spark caused by faulty wiring in a closed room along with a gas leak, it can ignite and lead to an explosion," the official said.

Is an inverter AC safer?

In an AC, a compressor (the external box unit with a fan in split ACs) performs a crucial function. It is responsible for circulating a substance called refrigerant gas through the unit. Refrigerants absorb heat from indoor spaces and then release it outdoors. A non-inverter AC uses a fixed-speed compressor that runs at full speed until the room reaches the target temperature, then shuts off completely. When the temperature rises, it turns back on at full speed.

During extreme heat and prolonged use, this creates higher electrical and mechanical stress, which can overheat components such as the compressor, capacitor or wiring. If the unit is old, poorly maintained, or exposed to voltage fluctuations, it can lead to short circuits and fires — often referred to as "AC blasts".

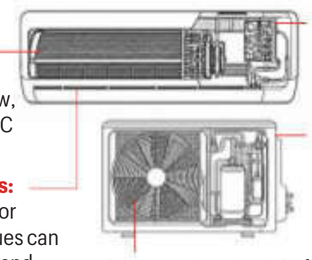
On the other hand, an inverter AC regulates the compressor speed gradually instead of constantly switching on and off. While this variability reduces stress in the system, it's not foolproof. Fires can still occur due to overheating of electronic circuit boards, faulty wiring, refrigerant leakage, poor installation, voltage fluctuations or lack of maintenance.

What are some signs of a safety risk?

According to Haier, some common signs of a potential blast include unusual noises from the unit, frequent cycling on and off, inconsistent cooling of the room, and burning smells/smoke. Professional services should be called in to fix these issues.

WITH INPUTS FROM ALOK SINGH AND RISHIKA SINGH

• Common causes of ACs overheating



SIMPLE SAFETY PRACTICES

- Regular maintenance
- Secure indoor/outdoor wiring connections, ensure that the circuit breaker and fuse are in good condition
- Install a stabiliser if electricity frequently fluctuates
- Clean dust on air filters, since it can hinder air flow and put pressure on the system
- Set temperature between 24-26 degrees Celsius. Low temperature settings can stress the machine

• DIPLOMACY

Quad's struggle to find momentum, as members pursue disparate objectives

EXPERT EXPLAINS

MAJ GEN G G DWIVEDI (RETD)

WAR VETERAN, PROFESSOR OF STRATEGIC INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS AT LAL BAHADUR SHASTRI INSTITUTE OF MANAGEMENT

THE RECENT Quadrilateral Security Dialogue (Quad) held in New Delhi among the foreign ministers of Australia, India, Japan and the United States came as an assurance that the grouping remains relevant.

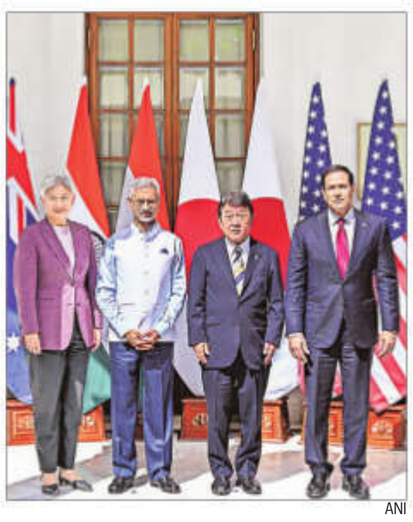
The Indo-Pacific has emerged as the world's strategic and geo-economic centre of gravity today. It hosts critical sea lanes, carrying over 50% of global trade and energy flow. China's rise, its coercive maritime behaviour, and technological dominance have created shared concerns among the Quad partners.

While the rationale behind the Quad has been compelling, it continues to grapple with a central question — is it a strategic force multiplier or merely a mechanism for consultative dialogue?

What is the Quad?

After the Indian Ocean tsunami of December 2004, India, Japan, Australia, and the US came together in an informal arrangement to coordinate disaster relief operations. In 2007, the Quadrilateral Security Dialogue, commonly known as the Quad, kicked off. However, it never really picked up momentum, and while it was revived in 2017, the Quad has, at best, sputtered along since.

The major reasons for this are that the four constituents don't always have the same aims, and China strenuously opposes the grouping. Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi even compared the Quad to sea foam, saying it will simply dissipate over time.


ANI

(From left) Australian Foreign Minister Penny Wong, External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar, Japanese Foreign Minister Toshimitsu Motegi and US Secretary of State Marco Rubio during the Quad meet.

Beijing argued that the Quad's purpose is mainly to target China. After the recent meeting on May 26, China's Foreign Ministry spokesperson Mao Ning said at a presser, "We do not support the formation of exclusive cliques or bloc confrontation. No cooperation should undermine mutual trust and cooperation among regional countries."

What do members want from it?

For Australia, Beijing's intimidating posturing means it has to expand strategic outreach and security partnerships, but it remains heavily dependent on China economically.

India needs to balance China in view of their shared border and the security calculus. It is also strongly opposed to China's design of carving out a unipolar Asia, but Delhi remains wary of compromising its strategic autonomy.

Tokyo views Quad as an essential security imperative, given the tensions in the South China Sea due to Beijing's apparently expansionist designs.

For the US, the Quad is perceived as the pillar of its Indo-Pacific strategy and the mechanism to balance out China without military confrontation. In fact, Washington perceives the Quad as a networked security architecture that substantiates American primacy in Asia. Under Donald Trump, however, the US seems to be leaning towards a bilateral deal with Beijing.

These different priorities explain why the Quad's progress has been incremental rather than decisive. The security cooperation remains constrained, lacking a NATO-like collective defence mechanism, and there is no binding treaty obligation.

What happened at this meeting?

The Quad Foreign Ministers meeting on May 26 attempted to break fresh ground. It focussed on maritime security, resilient supply chains, critical minerals and energy security amid geopolitical uncertainties.

Important initiatives were unveiled for enhanced maritime surveillance coordination, an energy security framework and cooperation on critical minerals, to reduce dependence on China and the consequent vulnerabilities of supply chains.

The grouping also announced its first joint project — the development of port infrastructure in Fiji — signalling forward movement from dialogue to concrete deliverables.

What is the way ahead?

The Quad's future lies in strategic clarity among all members. To ensure organisational depth, the Quad needs to move towards permanent institutional architecture, alongside enhanced military operability, synergised technology partnerships and strengthened maritime capacity building in the Indo-Pacific.

The real test of Quad is not whether it becomes an Asian NATO, but whether the four democracies, with varying interests, can sustain strategic cooperation in the era of great power competition.

FULL REPORT ON WWW.INDIANEXPRESS.COM

INDIA'S GROWTH OUTLOOK REMAINS POSITIVE: RBI'S ANNUAL REPORT FOR FY26

RBI: War could pose headwinds to growth & inflation in short run

'Elevated valuations in tech sectors may undergo reassessment, raising the risk of corrections in markets'

George Mathew
Mumbai, May 29

WITH THE monetary policy review a week away, the Reserve Bank of India on Friday said the West Asia conflict and risks such as higher energy prices, supply chain disruptions, financial market volatility, global trade uncertainty and weather disruptions could affect growth and inflation in the short term.

In a highly uncertain global environment, continuous assessment of the evolving developments is warranted to frame the appropriate policy response on an ongoing basis, the central bank said.

"Lingering geopolitical tensions and supply chain disruptions may pose near-term risks to corporate earnings and the performance of loan portfolios," the RBI said in its Annual Report for 2025-26.

However, India's growth outlook remains positive, it said. Considering various factors, and on the assumption that the adverse impact of the West Asia conflict would remain contained in the near-term, real GDP growth for 2026-27 is projected at 6.9% with risks tilted to the downside, the report said.

The RBI's Monetary Policy Committee kept the main repo rate unchanged at 5.25% in the April review.

However, the rupee remains volatile at 95 against the dollar and capital outflows continue unabated amid the US-Iran conflict. The government's decision to hike fuel prices is likely to put upward pressure on inflation.

While the ongoing geopolitical tensions are likely to exert pressure on the availability and prices of key inputs, particularly fertilisers, the government's continued efforts in ensuring adequate availability of fertiliser and other key inputs through diversified sources and buffer management are expected to mitigate these potential concerns, the RBI said.

The central bank said geopolitical risk has re-emerged as the dominant drag on global growth in 2026. "The adverse impact of outbreak of the conflict in West Asia in end-February 2026 is reflected in the forecasts of global growth and inflation," the RBI said.

With continued geopolitical tensions, inflation faces upside risks globally, the RBI said. "The surging energy prices and disruptions in key shipping routes could intensify supply-side pressures." The RBI also said elevated valuations in technology sectors may undergo reassessment, raising the risk of corrections in equity markets.

FULL REPORT ON WWW.INDIANEXPRESS.COM

The RBI has projected FY27 real GDP growth to be at 6.9%. REUTERS

RBI plans 'kill switch': How it can stop scams

ENS Economic Bureau
Mumbai, May 29

THE RESERVE BANK of India is exploring the possibility of introducing a 'kill switch' mechanism that would allow users at the receiving end of a potential digital scam to immediately stop all financial transactions from their accounts.

Besides, it has also proposed a 'switch on' and 'switch off' facility for all digital payment modes. It would help bolster consumer confidence and contribute towards controlling frauds in digital payment transactions, the RBI Annual Report said.

The proposal for a 'kill switch' — being examined by the government and the RBI — envisages, among other possibilities, an emergency button integrated into payment applications of lenders that could instantly freeze all banking operations when a user suspects they are being targeted by fraudsters.

FULL REPORT ON WWW.INDIANEXPRESS.COM

Bank fraud nos down; amount up 46% in FY26

ENS Economic Bureau
Mumbai, May 29

THE AMOUNT involved in fraud cases reported by the banking sector shot up by 46% to Rs 48,021 crore during FY2026 as against Rs 32,803 crore in the previous year.

However, the number of fraud cases dipped to 10,114 from 23,722 a year ago, the Reserve Bank of India's Annual Report said.

Of this public sector banks accounted for Rs 35,709 crore in FY 26 as against Rs 23,617 crore last year and private sector Rs 11,399 crore (Rs 8,927 crore), the RBI said.

Data pertaining to FY26 includes fraud classification in 314 cases amounting to Rs 30,199 crore, pertaining to previous financial years, reported afresh during the current financial year after re-examination and ensuring compliance with the judgement of the Supreme Court, dated March 27, 2023, the RBI said.

Amount involved in advances of banks shot up to Rs 40,774 crore in 8,640 fraud cases as against Rs 30,367 crore (7,924 cases) in the previous financial year.

"Frauds reported in a year could have occurred several years prior to the year of reporting," the central bank said.

FULL REPORT ON WWW.INDIANEXPRESS.COM

Govt dials fund managers for gig workers' safety net

Ravi Dutta Mishra
New Delhi, May 29

THE CENTRAL government is consulting fund managers to bring social security schemes for gig workers, a labour ministry official said on Friday, about a month after several parts of north India witnessed protests demanding a minimum wage while citing rapidly rising cost of living.

"A huge part of our workforce is now getting absorbed in the gig and platform economy, and the potential is immense. Today, around 1 crore workers are employed in this sector, and the potential is to reach around 2.5 crore workers by the end of the decade. The government is focusing more towards this sector," Ashutosh AT Pednekar, Joint Secretary and Director General (Labour Welfare), said.

He said that the government is in the process of operationalising various social security schemes related to accident and maternity for platform workers.

"We are in the process of creating various schemes and engaging with several fund managers to ensure the schemes are operationalised," Pednekar said.

He also said that the Code on Social Security rules under the new labour code has already been notified on May 8.

"We are in the process of operationalising the Code, based on the rules through various mechanisms like the National Social Security Board for gig and platform workers, which is being operationalised. The board will look at unorganised workers," he said.

According to Eternal's (Zomato and Blinkit's parent company) Q3FY25 shareholder letter, average monthly earnings for delivery workers of Zomato and Blinkit who logged in at least eight hours a day and 26 days a month were Rs 27,726 in 2024, excluding fuel costs (which is a big expense for workers who drive hundreds of kilometres a day).

However, Eternal's then-CEO Deepinder Goyal had said that in 2025, the average delivery worker on Zomato worked just 38 days in the year and 7 hours per working day.

Though he said that reflects the gig-style nature of the job, workers say that those types of average earnings are only possible when they do 10-14-hour shifts. Besides, much of the earnings are tied to incentives that companies offer workers for meeting certain targets on a given day.

In the case of platforms like Zomato and Swiggy, for instance, that means completing a set number of deliveries in a scheduled amount of time, without rejecting a single order.

One cancellation makes workers ineligible for any incentive, irrespective of the number of hours they put in. Platforms like Swiggy also deduct worker earnings for rejecting orders, this paper had earlier reported.

About the e-Shram portal, Pednekar said that it already has the database of aggregators and "we can understand, on a real-time basis, the benefits which the worker can or has availed".

"Just like the UPI and Aadhaar changed the digital landscape in India, the e-Shram has the potential of changing the way the benefits are given to workers, along with the portability of benefits, which is a challenge worldwide, including India," he said. Workers' protests in Noida turned violent in April with clashes with police and torching of vehicles.

Since the start of this year, workers' protests have been going on across industrial hubs, even before the energy crisis deepened after the closure of the Strait of Hormuz.

FULL REPORT ON WWW.INDIANEXPRESS.COM

• UNCERTAIN WAGES

ETERNAL'S Q3FY25 shareholder letter says that average monthly earnings for delivery workers of Zomato and Blinkit — who logged in at least eight hours a day and 26 days a month — were Rs 27,726 in 2024, excluding fuel costs (which is a big expense for workers)

HOWEVER, ETERNAL'S then-CEO Deepindir Goyal had said that in 2025, the average delivery worker on Zomato worked just 38 days in the year and 7 hours per working day. Though he said that it reflects the gig-style nature of the job, workers say that those types of average earnings are only possible when they do 10-14-hour shifts

MSCI rebalancing sees markets slumping 1.5% in late trade

Akash Mandal
Mumbai, May 29

THE REBALANCING of the MSCI's Global Standard index, that came into effect on Friday, triggered a late sharp selloff in the Indian stock markets, causing the benchmark indices to slump around 1.5%.

India's weightage on the marquee global index fell marginally to 12.3% from 12.4% earlier as the changes took effect.

Despite the weightage being broadly stable, such index rejigs trigger short-term pressure on the market as global investors rebalance their portfolios based on the changes. The MSCI Global Standard index is a benchmark that is tracked by global investors, and thus inclusions and exclusions can lead to a sharp change in flows.

In the latest set of changes, the likes of Federal Bank, Multi Commodity Exchange of India, National Aluminium, and Indian Bank were added to the Global Standard index, while Hyundai Motor India, Jubilant Foodworks, Kalyan Jewellers, and Rail Vikas Nigam were chopped off.

According to Nuvama Quantitative and Alternative Research, the excluded stocks are expected to trigger passive outflows between $136 million and $281 million, while the inclusions are seen attracting inflows between $209 million and $491 million.

According to IIFL Finance, 27 stocks are expected to see outflows of up to $20 million, 16 stocks may witness outflows between $30 million-$50 million, and 8 stocks may see outflows between $50 million-$80 million.

"The MSCI rebalancing is expected to generate significant trading activity during the closing auction session. Investors should expect elevated volumes and sharp price movements in stocks affected by the index changes," the firm said.

As these changes came into effect, the BSE's Sensex index, which was down around 0.4% or 338.66 points, tanked 843 points during a 10-minute window to eventually end the session down 1,092.05 points or 1.4% at 74,775.74.

The NSE's Nifty 50 index also saw a similar slump, ending the session down 1.5% at 23,547.75.

"The pressure intensified during the final hours of trade after the MSCI Global Standard Index rebalancing came into effect, triggering heightened volatility in select stocks amid expected passive fund flow adjustments and portfolio rebalancing activity," said Siddharth Khemka, head of research of wealth management at Motilal Oswal Financial Services.

Among other changes, big names such as Hindustan Unilever, Bajaj Finance, and TCS saw their weightages trimmed on the Global Standard index. These stocks could see passive outflows between $140 million and $204 million, according to IIFL Capital.

FULL REPORT ON WWW.INDIANEXPRESS.COM

• BALANCING ACT

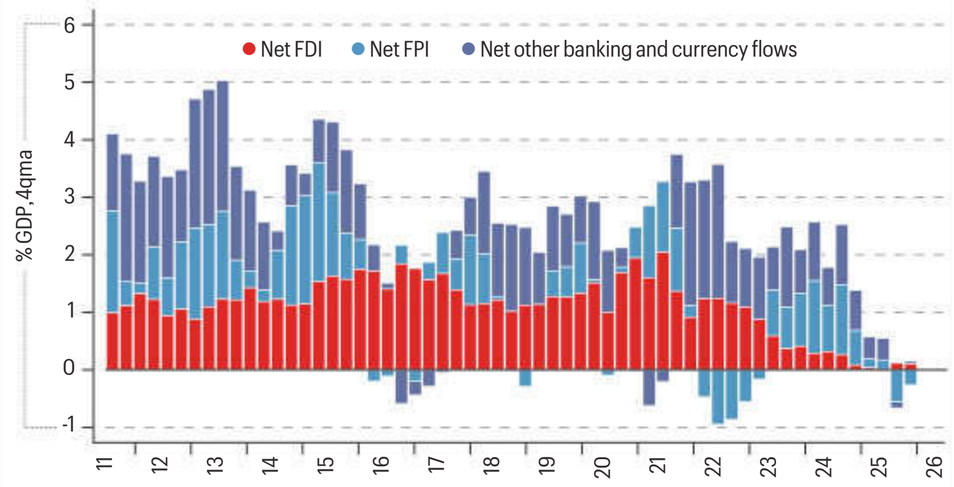
INDIA'S WEIGHTAGE on the marquee global index fell marginally to 12.3% from 12.4% earlier as the changes took effect

DESPITE THE weightage being broadly stable, such index rejigs trigger short-term pressure on the market as global investors rebalance their portfolios

THE MSCI Global Standard index is a benchmark that is tracked by global investors, and thus inclusions and exclusions can lead to a sharp change in flows

• DRYING FINANCIAL FLOWS INTO INDIA

Net financial account flows under FDI, FPI and other banking and currency categories have all dried up. And it all started well before the war in West Asia disrupted the crude oil flow. According to ANZ Research, tight global financial conditions and concentrated global growth driven by the technology supercycle led to India's current balance of payments stress.



SOURCE: RBI, MOS&PI, BLOOMBERG, MACROBOND, ANZ RESEARCH

FPIs sell $3.45 bn of equities in May

Akash Mandal
Mumbai, May 29

GEOPOLITICAL TENSIONS and lingering uncertainty over a possible peace agreement between the US and Iran muted investor sentiment towards emerging markets, including India, even as crude oil prices continuing to hover near the $100-a-barrel mark.

Foreign portfolio investors (FPIs) sold Indian shares worth around $3.45 billion during the month of May, extending the trend of capital outflows, but the pace of share sales slowed compared to the previous two months.

According to National Securities Depository Ltd (NSDL) data, this was much lower than the $6.47 billion and $12.72 billion worth of Indian stocks they had dumped in the previous two months, with most of the challenges caused by the West Asia war already largely factored into the markets by investors. Meanwhile, IT stocks gained on AI-related optimism.

The pace of the selloff by FPIs slowed down as the month progressed, with investors now increasingly getting used to the constant news flow out of West Asia, with the focus now also on corporate earnings.

FULL REPORT ON WWW.INDIANEXPRESS.COM

• BRIEFLY

Central Bank pays 6% interim dividend

Mumbai: Central Bank of India has paid the 4th interim dividend of 6% for FY2025-26. With this, the bank's cumulative interim dividends declared stands at 12% including interim dividends aggregating to 6% declared for the first three quarters. ENS

Govt amends CSR norms, provides more leeway for cos

New Delhi: In a significant move, the government has allowed companies to invest up to 10% of their CSR funds in zero coupon zero principal instruments issued by not for profit organisations through a social stock exchange. PTI

IndiGo mulls hedging fuel costs after loss

New Delhi: IndiGo said it will consider hedging fuel costs to protect margins after posting a quarterly loss on Friday, as soaring crude prices driven by the Iran war have pushed up jet fuel prices and squeezed airlines globally. Jet fuel is typically the largest expense for airlines worldwide, and sharp price swings can erode profitability for carriers. REUTERS

• MARKETS

Sensex	NIFTY	Gold ▼	US Dollar ▼
74,775.74	23,547.75	₹1,56,463	₹95.00
-1092.06	-359.40		
-1.44%	-1.50%		
		Silver ▲	Oil ▼
		₹2,63,350	$97.52

NOTE: GOLD, SILVER RATES AS PER INDIA BULLION AND JEWELLERS ASSOCIATION (IBJA) DATA GOLD PER 10G, SILVER PER 1 KG; CRUDE OIL (INDIAN BASKET) AS OF MAY 28, 2026

• THE SAN FRANCISCO-BASED COMPANY WAS VALUED AT $380 BILLION AS RECENTLY AS FEBRUARY

How Anthropic leapfrogged arch rival OpenAI to $1 trillion valuation

Soumyarendra Barik
New Delhi, May 29

ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE (AI) startup Anthropic has raised $65 billion in funding, catapulting its valuation to within touching distance of the coveted $1 trillion mark, and making it the world's most valuable AI start-up — leapfrogging arch rival OpenAI.

The funding marks a dramatic rise for the San Francisco-based company, which was valued at $380 billion as recently as February. Anthropic's latest valuation now exceeds that of rival OpenAI, which was last valued at around $852 billion post-money following its March fundraising.

While both companies develop frontier AI models, their strategies have diverged. OpenAI has focused on consumer adoption, building a massive user base around ChatGPT and expanding into search, productivity and multimodal AI.

Anthropic, founded by former OpenAI executives, has positioned Claude as an enterprise-first platform, with a strong emphasis on coding, business workflows and AI safety. Claude has gained traction among software developers and large corporations, helping Anthropic establish a lucrative foothold in the enterprise market.

The latest valuation suggests investors increasingly believe Anthropic has taken the lead in the commercial AI race. Rapid enterprise adoption, explosive revenue growth and deep partnerships with cloud providers such as Amazon have helped the company close the gap with OpenAI and, at least in valuation terms, move ahead of the firm that sparked the generative AI boom.

Anthropic, founded by former OpenAI executives, has positioned Claude as an enterprise-first platform. REUTERS

The OpenAI vs Anthropic rivalry

Like every era of technology has produced key protagonists — Apple vs Samsung, Boeing vs Airbus, Windows vs MacOS — OpenAI and Anthropic have emerged as the two key companies in the AI space, amid competition from the likes of Google and Meta

Much of the competition between the two companies is primarily a factor of the contrasting approach they have taken to AI development, and the relationship between founders — OpenAI's Sam Altman and Anthropic's Dario Amodei. Before starting Anthropic in 2021, Amodei spent years working at OpenAI, where he served as its Vice President of Research, and also led the development of large language models like GPT-2 and GPT-3. As he experienced AI's ability to scale exponentially, he began to feel that development of the technology had to be done more responsibly, with safety and security at its core. In 2020, he left OpenAI over differences about the company's approach to safety. He, along with his sister Daniela and a group of former OpenAI employees, started Anthropic a year later.

In a podcast in 2024, Amodei said that the real reason for leaving OpenAI was that "it is incredibly unproductive to try and argue with someone else's vision."

A small circle

The connections between the two companies are not unique. As *The Indian Express* recently explained, the world's most consequential artificial intelligence research is being conducted by a strikingly small circle of scientists who studied mostly under the same mentors, taught in the same rooms and kept recruiting from each other's labs.

After the e-commerce website eBay acquired the fintech company PayPal in 2002, a close-knit group of former PayPal founders and employees — that included Peter Thiel, Elon Musk and Reid Hoffman — went on to found or fund many of Silicon Valley's most influential companies. Their ventures include YouTube, LinkedIn, Tesla, Yelp, SpaceX and Palantir. OpenAI was founded by Elon Musk (who later left the board), Altman, Ilya Sutskever, Greg Brockman, Wojciech Zaremba and John Schulman. Thiel was the main backer and mentor of Altman, providing a large part of the $5 million that made up Altman's initial venture fund. When OpenAI launched in 2015, Thiel was one of the founding investors pledging $1 billion.

The most notable startups founded by OpenAI alumni include the San Francisco-based Anthropic. It has rapidly grown to become OpenAI's biggest rival. Additionally, the themes central to the divide between the companies have also appeared within OpenAI in the recent past. Its co-founder and chief scientist, Ilya Sutskever, left OpenAI in May 2024 after he was reportedly part of a failed 2023 coup to replace Altman, stemming from concerns about safety in the development of AI. However, OpenAI employees rallied behind Altman, leading to his reinstatement.

FULL REPORT ON WWW.INDIANEXPRESS.COM

TALKS SEEK TO FORGE PEACE AND DISARM IRAN-BACKED HEZBOLLAH IN LEBANON

Israeli troops push deeper into Lebanon amid US talks

Ground forces cross Litani River, 30 km into north

Associated Press
Jerusalem, Beirut, May 29

ISRAELI TROOPS entered a southern Lebanese village early Friday, pushing deeper into the country as Lebanese and Israeli military officials began direct talks at the Pentagon over the deadly conflict.

The entrance of Israel's troops into the village of Dibbine, near the town of Marjayoun, came as Israeli airstrikes killed at least six people.

Five were killed in an airstrike on the villages of Deir Qanoun al Nahr and Abbasiyeh, while a municipal policeman was killed in the village of Ebba, state media reported.

In Washington, a six-member Lebanese military delegation was meeting on Friday with Israeli military officials in the first direct military talks between the two countries in decades. A nominal ceasefire went into effect on April 17.

A senior Lebanese military official told *The Associated Press* Friday that the Lebanese delegation, led by the army's head of operations Brig. Gen. George Rizkallah, would be to make it comprehensive.

The official added the Lebanese delegation will request the reactivation of the committee monitoring the enforcement of an earlier US-brokered ceasefire that halted the war between Israel and Hezbollah in late 2024.

Another Lebanese official, who is briefed throughout the day about the ongoing talks at the Pentagon, also said the delegation would seek the comprehensive implementation of the ceasefire and a stop to ongoing hostilities.

He said implementation would be followed by talks at a later date on matters such as deploying the Lebanese army along the border and the withdrawal of Israeli troops from southern Lebanon.

Both officials spoke on condition of anonymity because they were not authorized to speak to the media about the ongoing talks in Washington.

President Joseph Aoun's office said he received a call Friday from US Secretary of State Marco Rubio and they discussed the situation in Lebanon and the latest developments in the Middle East.

Aoun's office said that the president told Rubio that efforts should concentrate on implementing the ceasefire as it is "the essential entry point for transitioning to any other issues."

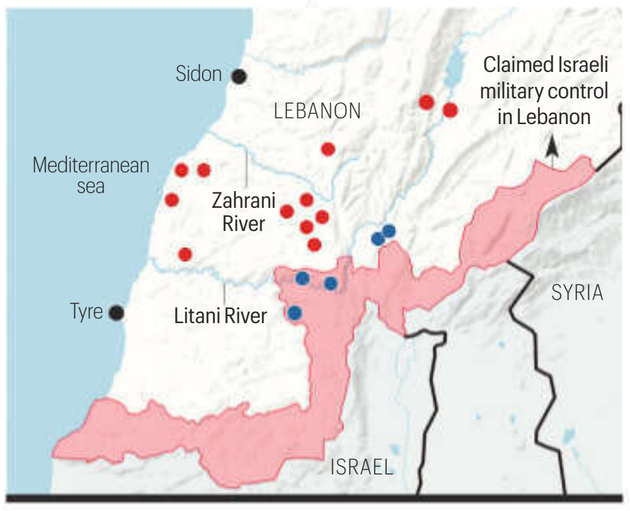
The military said this week it had expanded ground operations beyond a security zone its troops have occupied since April 16. During a visit to the Israel-Lebanon border on Friday, Netanyahu said troops had pushed even further, past the Litani River that cuts east-west around 30 km (19 miles) into southern Lebanon.

"Our forces have crossed the Litani and advanced to controlling positions," Netanyahu said in remarks to military personnel, according to excerpts released by his office. "We are operating in Beirut, in the Bekaa (Valley), across the entire width of the front, and are dealing Hezbollah a crushing blow."

—WITH REUTERS INPUTS

• FORCES PUSH NORTH, ORDER EVACUATIONS

● Fighting between Hezbollah and Israeli troops ● Civilian evacuations urged north of Litani River



Netanyahu pushes for 70% control of Gaza; 'escalation' says Hamas

Reuters
Gaza, Cairo, May 29

HAMAS SAID on Friday that Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's declaration that his country would expand its area of control in Gaza was a dangerous escalation, as European states and residents of the Palestinian territory also voiced alarm at the plan.

Under a ceasefire deal in October Israel's military was to remain in control of 53% of Gaza, but Netanyahu said on Friday that it would expand that area to an initial 70%, without laying out details or a timeline.

The Palestinian militant group, which triggered two years of devastating warfare in Gaza with its October 7, 2023, attack on Israel, described his comments as a plan for ethnic cleansing and forced displacement of Palestinians.

"Any attempt to impose a new reality of occupation in Gaza is null and illegitimate," said Ismail al-Thawabta, head of the Hamas-run Gaza government media office, adding that Netanyahu's statement 'represents a dangerous escalation".

More than eight months into the ceasefire, and with global attention fixed on the war in Iran, Gaza's underlying conflict remains stubbornly unresolved with continued Israeli attacks, little aid reaching civilians and the risk of major new violence.

Israel has already expanded its area of control in Gaza from the 53% lying behind a "yellow line" mapped into the ceasefire deal up to around 64%, with an area it has designated as restricted in maps shared with aid groups.

Last year's deal brokered by US President Donald Trump established a Board of Peace to oversee a phased ceasefire, and was ratified by the United Nations Security Council.

However, many of the toughest areas of dispute including the disarmament of Hamas, a full Israeli withdrawal and the makeup of a Gaza government were postponed to later in the process. The Board of Peace negotiators have been talking to both sides on the disarmament issue.

Israel and Hamas have repeatedly accused each other of violating the truce. Israeli strikes in Gaza have killed more than 900 Palestinians since the start of the truce while Palestinian militant attacks have killed four Israeli soldiers. Israel's military and the prime minister's office did not immediately respond to a Reuters request for comment.

• BRIEFLY

UNITED STATES

US Treasury prepares to make Trump face of a new $250 bill

Scott Bessent unviels the $250 bill bearing Trump's likeness. FILE

TREASURY SECRETARY Scott Bessent said on Thursday his agency had been working on a mock-up of a $250 note bearing the face of President Trump in preparation for an addition to the nation's paper currency that would for the first time include portrait of a living president. "I don't think that there's anything untoward about having the person who is the US President of on the 250th anniversary bill," Bessent said. Trump has pushed for creation of a $1 coin bearing his image and having his signature added to currency this year. NYT

CHINA

Former Shaolin Temple head gets 24-yrs for graft

SHI YONGXIN, former abbot of China's Shaolin Temple was sentenced to 24 years in prison for crimes including embezzlement and bribery, state media reported Friday. Shi, 60, was charged in March this year. A court in Henan handed the sentencing, saying Shi abused his roles to embezzle, misappropriate, and take and give bribes of around $44.33 million. REUTERS

CANADA

Man accused of aiding 14 suicides to plead guilty

A CANADIAN man accused of selling a legal but potentially deadly chemical online to 14 people who took their own lives is expected to plead guilty on Friday to aiding their suicides, allowing him to avoid a murder trial. Kenneth Law, 60, is scheduled to appear on Friday morning at the Ontario Superior Court of Justice in Newmarket, Ontario, north of Toronto. REUTERS

WHO chief arrives in Congo, says Ebola spread can be stopped

Associated Press
Kinshasa, May 19

THE HEAD of the World Health Organization has arrived in Congo's capital, Kinshasa, to support efforts against an outbreak of a rare type of Ebola virus, as medical personnel struggle with a lack of equipment, a distrustful population and armed groups in region.

The World Health Organization said Friday authorities have reported 906 suspected cases and 223 suspected deaths.

"To come here is to really show to the community that they're not alone," WHO Director-General Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus told reporters at the airport late Thursday.

"Pushing orders from my comfortable office in Geneva is easy, but I'm asking my colleagues to work with the community and I am asking communities to protect themselves," he added. The outbreak "can be stopped," he said, but is "very complex."

Challenges like the high number of people displaced by armed conflict in the region and food insecurity are complicating efforts to stop the spread of the virus, Tedros said.

Containment has been particularly difficult because the disease likely spread for weeks before it was first identified in mid-May. The International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies has said three of its volunteers in Ituri province died after they were believed to have contracted Ebola doing unrelated health work on March 27 — more than a month before the first suspected death cited by the Africa Centres for Disease Control and Prevention.

Meanwhile, the outbreak continues to spread faster than the response, despite health facilities becoming more organized and the arrival of more equipment.

• Ebola Vaccines Under Development

Global health agencies are racing to find vaccines, treatments and tests for a rare Ebola strain in eastern Congo.

OUTBREAK
- The Bundibugyo strain has caused 906 suspected cases and 223 suspected deaths in Congo.
- There are no approved vaccines or treatments for this strain.

LEADING VACCINE
- The main candidate is an IAVI-developed single-dose shot, seen as the most promising option.
- It uses the same platform as Merck's approved Ebola vaccine.

SECOND VACCINE
- Oxford University and the Serum Institute of India are also developing a vaccine candidate.
- The WHO says doses could be ready within months for testing.

SURVIVOR-DERIVED OPTIONS
- Researchers are also studying antibodies taken from Bundibugyo survivors.
- One candidate showed strong protection in animal studies.

ANTIVIRAL DRUGS
- Gilead's experimental drug obeldesivir is being considered after exposure.

REUTERS

A screen grab of the explosion of the unmanned Blue Origin's New Glenn rocket during a test on a launchpad in Cape Canaveral, Florida, on Friday. REUTERS

Bezos' Blue Origin rocket explodes on launch pad during engine test

Reuters
Cape Canaveral, May 29

AN UNCREWED Blue Origin New Glenn rocket exploded on a Florida launchpad during a test on Thursday, in a major setback for Jeff Bezos' space venture as it seeks to narrow the gap with Elon Musk's IPO-bound SpaceX.

Video posted by NASASpaceflight, which livestreams launches from Florida, showed the towering New Glenn rocket igniting on the pad at about 2100 ET (0100 GMT on Friday) before erupting into a massive fireball that billowed skyward, sending a towering plume of flames and smoke into the air.

Blue Origin was preparing the rocket for its fourth launch, which was due to deliver 48 Amazon Leo satellites into low-Earth orbit, part of efforts to build a broadband constellation to rival Musk's Starlink network.

Amazon Leo satellites were not integrated on the rocket at the time of the incident, a source familiar with the matter said, asking not to be named due to its sensitivity.

The explosion marks the latest setback for the long-delayed New Glenn, which is supposed to play a central role in delivering lunar landers and cargo under NASA's Artemis lunar exploration missions.

It comes just two days after NASA awarded Blue Origin a $188 million contract to land rovers on the moon's surface, and less than a week after SpaceX - years ahead in development - carried out a largely successful test of its next-generation Starship rocket.

Blue Origin confirmed it had experienced an "anomaly" during a hot-fire test, where a rocket engine is fired up while anchored to the ground. "Very rough day, but we'll rebuild whatever needs rebuilding and get back to flying. It's worth it," Bezos said in a post on X.

NASA Administrator Jared Isaacman said the agency would work with Blue Origin to support an investigation of the incident. "Spaceflight is unforgiving, and developing new heavy-lift launch capability is extraordinarily difficult," Isaacman said on X.

Isaacman also added that NASA would provide information on any impacts to its Artemis and Moon Base programs.

Russian drone hits Romania housing block; NATO vows to defend territory

Reuters
Galati, May 29

NATO ACCUSED Moscow on Friday of reckless behaviour and pledged to "defend every inch of Allied territory" after Romania said a Russian drone had crashed into an apartment block in the alliance member state during an attack on neighbouring Ukraine.

Romania's defence ministry said a woman and a child suffered minor injuries in Galati near the border with Ukraine overnight after radar tracked a Russian drone entering Romanian airspace.

Russia's *TASS* news agency cited Kremlin spokesman Dmitry Peskov as saying President Vladimir Putin had been informed about the incident.

The US ambassador to NATO, Matthew Whitaker, condemned the "reckless incursion" in a post on X and pledged the US "will defend every inch of NATO territory." The White House did not immediately respond to a request for comment.

"Russia's reckless behaviour is a danger to us all," NATO Secretary General Mark Rutte said on X after speaking by phone to Romanian President Nicusor Dan, whose country is in both the North Atlantic Treaty Organization and the European Union.

'I affirmed that NATO stands ready to defend every inch of Allied territory," he said, without making any mention of triggering NATO's mutual defence clause. "We will continue to enhance our readiness to deter and defend against any threat, including from drones."

• NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

PAKISTAN

11 arrested over 'anti-army' posts on social media

ELEVEN SOCIAL media activists in Pakistan's Punjab province have been arrested for content targeting the army and inciting unrest among the public, an official said on Friday. "The arrested suspects are involved in spreading provocative content... against state institutions," he said. PTI

NEPAL

5 honoured for contributions to the Himalayas

NEPAL ON Friday felicitated five for their contributions in work related to conservation of the Himalayas Pasang Dawa Sherpa received the International Everest Award for his 31 Everest ascents, while Priya Adhikari, Tenzing David Sherpa and Poornima Shrestha for mountaineering achievements.PTI

8 held on suspicion of arson after Kenya girls' school fire

Associated Press
Nairobi, May 29

POLICE IN Kenya have arrested eight female students on suspicion of arson, authorities said Friday, after a fire destroyed a dormitory at a boarding school, killing 16 children and injuring dozens of others. The motive is still unknown.

Police held 30 students overnight for questioning. Authorities said school administrators would face disciplinary action for safety violations after an exit door was found to be locked during the panicked rush to escape the building. At least 79 people were injured.

Education Minister Julius Ogamba said two teachers were aware that students were planning something but failed to take appropriate action, without elaborating.

A full day after the blaze, some parents said they had still not been told whether their children were under arrest or just being questioned.

"We have not even been told about the eight that police have arrested," a parent, who spoke on condition of anonymity because of fear that her daughter could be victimized, told *The Associated Press*. "We are just here and no one is giving us any information."

Parents gather outside Utumishi Girls Academy after a dormitory fire in Gilgil, Kenya, on Friday.

Education Minister Ogamba said the school's board of management had been dissolved and the principal would face disciplinary action for failing to comply with safety regulations.

"In particular, there was congestion in the dormitory and one exit door was locked, contrary to the prescribed safety requirements," he said.

• JAPAN'S POPULATION FELL TO 123 MILLION IN 2025, MARKING ITS BIGGEST DROP SINCE 1920, WITH OFFICIALS PROJECTING IT WILL SHRINK FURTHER TO 87 MILLION BY 2070.

Japan's population is crashing at a record pace; empty cradles foretell a harder future

Javier C. Hernández, Pablo Robles & Kiuko Notoya
Tokyo, May 29

JAPAN'S POPULATION fell by more than 3 million over the past five years, according to official statistics released on Friday, a drop that underscores the depths of the country's accelerating demographic crisis.

The population stood at 123 million in 2025, according to preliminary census results, down from 126.1 million in 2020. It is the biggest decrease since the government began collecting census data in 1920.

Japan's population peaked in 2008 at 128 million, and it is projected to fall to 87 million by 2070. The country is now roughly the same size it was in 1989.

For decades, the Japanese authorities have tried to make up for the rapidly aging population by encouraging young people to have more children. But the effort has fallen short, leaving the country with one of the world's lowest birth rates. For each new birth, there are two deaths.

Japan is a harbinger of the demographic headwinds that will soon buffet other developed countries. The shrinking population is already constraining Japan's economic growth, putting pressures on its health care system and causing labor shortages.

The census data shows that the demographic crisis has now reached almost every part of Japan. All but two of the country's 47 prefectures reported population decreases in 2025, and the rate of decline is accelerating.

Among the hardest hit areas were the northern prefectures of Akita and Aomori, where the population shrank by about 8 percent from 2020 to 2025. Those areas are home to some of Japan's oldest residents, and young people have left at a rapid rate because of stagnant wages and harsh winters.

The Japanese countryside is hollowing out as the population ages and young people leave to seek jobs in Tokyo, Osaka, Nagoya and other cities. In some rural areas, schools are being converted into nursing homes and community centers. Millions of homes are vacant; government offices and hospitals are downsizing; and train lines are shutting down.

Shoppers crowd at the Ameyoko shopping district, which is Tokyo's biggest street food market shopping on December 29, 2022 FILE

Opening Japan's doors more widely to foreigners could help offset the declines. But the government has long taken a cautious approach to immigration, and nationalist politicians and commentators have gained influence recently with a "Japan First" agenda.

"Japan has now reached a level where this kind of decline is not reversible in the short- or medium-run," said James Raymo, a professor of sociology at Princeton University who studies Japan. "It simply will not happen in the absence of mass immigration."

There were a few bright spots in the census, including Okinawa, a subtropical chain of islands in the south, where the population grew slightly. Okinawa has Japan's highest fertility rate, with women there giving birth to an average of 1.5 children in their lifetimes, compared with 1.1 nationally.

Japan's biggest cities are managing to stave off demographic decline — for now. The population of the Tokyo metropolitan area, which includes Tokyo and the surrounding prefectures of Kanagawa, Saitama and Chiba, rose slightly to 37 million in 2025. The area now accounts for roughly 30 percent of Japan's total population.

Tokyo, a vibrant hub of business, politics and culture, is now about 20 times denser than the rest of Japan — and one of the world's densest cities. (Tokyo's population rose more than 1 percent to 14.2 million in 2025.) The growth has been fueled in large part by an influx of students and young workers looking for jobs and educational opportunities.

Japan's woes are likely to worsen in the coming decades. It will probably become increasingly difficult to find workers to staff schools, hospitals, police departments and train stations. The country could lack young people to pay taxes necessary to support retirees. NYT

KONKAN RAILWAY CORPORATION LIMITED
(A Government of India Undertaking)

TENDER NOTIFICATION

Dy Chief Engineer (Works), Konkan Railway Corporation Limited, Ratnagiri, invites Open Tender Single Packet Bid system through E-Tendering on IREPS Portal from eligible contractors for the following work: **Name of work:** Conversion of Platform from Rail Level to High Level at Sape Wamane Station in Ratnagiri region of Konkan Railway. **Tender Notice No.: KR-RNDYCEW-SAPE-4-2026 Dated: 29/05/2026. Total Estimated cost:** ₹ 1,20,56,917.71/- (Excluding GST). **Bidding start date:** 05/06/2026. **Closing Date/ Time:** 19/06/2026 upto 15:00 Hrs for submission of on line offers/bids. **Completion period:** 6 months. Manual offers shall not be accepted. Please visit https://www.ireps.gov.in website for details/participation and corrigendum/addendum will be hosted on this website only.

CHITTARANJAN LOCOMOTIVE WORKS

E- Tender Notice

E-Tenders are invited for and on behalf of the President of India for the following works: **a) Tender No.: EL-1594. b) Name of the work:** Repair of different capacities of DG under Central Power House. **c) Contract Type:** Works. **d)Tender Value (GST inclusive) (Rupees): ₹8,46,464.84/-** (Rupees Eight Lakh Forty Six Thousand Four Hundred Sixty Four and Eighty Four Paisa Only). **e) Cost of tender Document (Rupees):** Not Applicable. **f)Earnest Money(Rupees): ₹ 6,900/- (Rupees Six Thousand Nine Hundred Only).g)Period of completion (In Months):**03 Months. **h) Date of closing:16.06.2026 at 15:00 Hrs.** Note: Complete details can be seen on the Railway's website **www.ireps.gov.in**

PR1/361 **Dy.CEE/M/CLW/ Chittaranjan**

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Department of Water Resources, Government of Odisha

32001/303/2627

"e" Procurement Notice No. ACEDC-BBSR-03/2026-27

1. **Name of the Works:** Total 07 (Seven) Nos. Drainage work.
2. **Estimated Cost:** Rs. 135.09 lakh to Rs. 336.36 lakh
3. **Period of Completion:** 11 (Eleven) months
4. **Date and time of availability of bid document in the portal:** From 11.00 hours of Dt. 02.06.2026 to 18.00 hours of Dt. 17.06.2026.
5. **Last date/time for receipt of bids in the portal:** 18.00 hours of Dt. 17.06.2026.
6. **Date of Opening of Technical Bid:** 18.06.2026 at 11.00 hours
7. **Name and address of the Officer inviting Bid:** Additional Chief Engineer, Drainage Circle, Unit-8, Bhubaneswar-751012. e-mail Id:- **sedrainagebbsr12@gmail.com.**
8. The update notification will be intimated to the participated bidders to their registered e-mail & to their registered mobile number through an autogenerated text message by e-procurement system. On such intimation, individual bidder needs to log in to their ID through DSC to know the uploaded summary, i.e. details of opening of financial bid, lottery date time, venue, acceptance of bid etc.

Further details can be seen from the e-Procurement portal of Odisha Government **https://tendersodisha.gov.in.** All information, notices, addendum, corrigendum cancellation notice etc. if required, will be published in this portal.

Sd/-
Additionál Chief Engineer
Drainage-Circle, Bhubaneswar
OIPR- 32001/32409/1/26-27/0002

KONKAN RAILWAY CORPORATION LIMITED
(A Government of India Undertaking)

E-Tender Notice

On behalf of Konkan Railway Corporation Ltd., Divisional Electrical Engineer, KRCL, Ratnagiri, is inviting E-Open Tenders for the following work. **Name of the work** - Composite work (All Electrical + Civil work) for Design, Supply, erection, testing, commissioning of Passenger Lift (Machine room less), 02 nos each for FOB at Kudal and Kankavali stations under Ratnagiri region of Konkan Railway (20 Passenger Lift/ 1360Kgs / 1 Speed / 2 Floors / 2 Stops /Stainless Steel (1.5 Mm) Car Cabin). As per RDSO approval and specification. (Spec No. RDSO/2013/EM/SPEC/0016 (Rev'2')-2025 or latest). **Tender No. KR/RN/EL/T/17/2026 DATED 29.05.2026, Estimated cost** - ₹ 2,43,23,999/- (Excluding GST), **Cost of Tender form** - NIL, **EMD** - ₹ 4,86,500/- (or as shown on IREPS portal). **Last date and time of depositing of tender ON LINE :** 19/06/2026 upto 15:00 hrs. For further details, contact office of Divisional Electrical engineer, MIDC area, Mirjole, Ratnagiri or on Railway web site (www.ireps.gov.in).

DIRECTORATE OF MINES & GEOLOGY
STEEL AND MINES DEPARTMENT, GOVT. OF ODISHA, BHUBANESWAR

30001/30/2627

Heads of Department Building, Unit-V, Pin-751001
Tel No.: 0674-2391537, Fax No.: 0674-2391684
Email ID: directormines1@orissaminerals.gov.in

Date: May 29, 2026

Notice Inviting Tender

"Invitation of bids for grant of Mining Lease for Iron Ore, Bauxite, Aluminous Laterite, Limestone and Manganese Mineral and for grant of Composite Licence for Bauxite Mineral"

In exercise of the powers conferred by Section 10 (B) and Section 11 of the Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act, 1957 and in accordance with the Mineral (Auction) Rules, 2015 as amended from time to time notified thereunder, the Government of Odisha has identified:

a) 8 mineral blocks (2 blocks of Bauxite, 1 iron Ore, 1 Iron Ore & Aluminous Laterite, 2 blocks of Iron Ore & Manganese, 1 block of Manganese & Dolomite, and 1 block of Limestone) for Electronic Auction and hereby invites tenders for the purposes of grant of **Mining Lease.**
b) 3 mineral blocks of Bauxite for Electronic Auction and hereby invites tenders for the purposes of grant of **Composite Licence.**

Accordingly, financial bids are invited in digital format only and technical bids are invited both in digital and physical format from eligible bidders.
Eligibility conditions, date and time for participating in the electronic auction are provided in the Tender Document. Detailed Tender Documents along with timelines, notifications, updates and other details for the e-auction process for the mineral blocks are available in electronic form only and can be downloaded from the website of MSTC Limited: **(https://www.mstcecommerce.com/auctionhome/mlcln/).**
Interested and eligible bidders can register themselves on the above website. On successful registration, eligible bidders will obtain login ID and password necessary for participation in the e-auction process. Model Tender Document and Mineral Block Summary are available free of cost on the website of MSTC Limited.
The block specific Tender documents are available for purchase on the e-auction portal of MSTC Limited from Monday, June 01, 2026. Last date for purchase of Tender
Document after payment of a tender fee on website of e- auction platform provider is Monday, July 06, 2026 and the last date for submission of the bid is Monday, July 13, 2026 on or before 17:00 hours (Indian Standard Time). The Price of Tender Document is exclusive of applicable GST. GST is payable under the Reverse Charge Mechanism. All blocks are put up for auction as virgin blocks.

List of Mineral Blocks for Auction

Sr. No	Name of Block	District	Mineral	ML/ CL	Price of Tender Document
1.	Karlapat Bauxite Block	Kalahandi	Bauxite	ML	5,00,000
2.	Nunapaimali Bauxite Block	Rayagada	Bauxite	ML	5,00,000
3.	Patamunda - B Manganese & Iron Ore Block	Sundargarh	Manganese & Iron Ore	ML	5,00,000
4.	Kendudihi-Parulipada Manganese & Dolomite Block	Kendujhar	Manganese, & Dolomite	ML	5,00,000
5.	Jaldihi Tantigram Iron Ore & Aluminous Laterite Block	Sundargarh	Iron Ore & Aluminous Laterite	ML	5,00,000
6.	Gadadharpur Iron Ore Block	Kendujhar	Iron Ore	ML	5,00,000
7.	Barpada South Iron & Manganese Ore Block	Sundargarh	Iron Ore & Manganese	ML	5,00,000
8.	Behera Banjipali Limestone Block	Bargarh	Limestone	ML	2,00,000
9.	Tikirimali-Budharajamali Bauxite Block	Rayagada	Bauxite	CL	5,00,000
10.	Tikriguda-Maliguda Bauxite Block	Rayagada	Bauxite	CL	5,00,000
11.	Nangalmarhimali Bauxite Block	Rayagada	Bauxite	CL	5,00,000

Sd/-
Director of Mines & Geology, Odisha

OIPR- 30001/30028/1/26-27/0002

Airports Economic Regulatory Authority of India
(A Statutory Body of the Government of India)

3rd Floor, 'A' Block, Udaan Bhawan, Safdarjung Airport, New Delhi - 110003
Ph; 24695041, Website: **http://aera.gov.in**

VACANCY NOTICE

(i) Director (Legal)-Pay level 13 (1 Nos)
(ii) Bench Officer (Legal)-Pay level 11 (1 Nos)

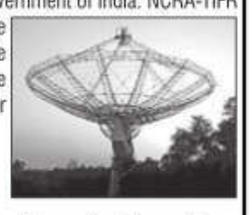
Airports Economic Regulatory Authority of India (AERA), invites applications from eligible candidates for filling up posts of, Director (Legal) - Pay Level 13 (01 No.), Bench Officer (Legal) - Pay Level 11 (01 No.), in New Delhi on deputation basis. The Authority is in process of amending recruitment rules for enabling absorption of personnel in AERA. The candidates selected for deputation may also be considered for permanent absorption in this office, based on extant guidelines and the rules post amendment. Details are available on AERA's website **http://aera.gov.in**. Last date for receipt of applications is 30.06.2026 till 5:30 pm. Corrigendum/Addendum, if any, in this regard would be published only on AERA's Website.
Note:- The vacancies are liable to change without notice and without assigning any reason.

CBC 03112/12/0004/2627

National Centre for Radio Astrophysics
TATA INSTITUTE OF FUNDAMENTAL RESEARCH
Post Bag No. 3, Ganeshkhind, Pune 411007
Email: estt@ncra.tifr.res.in; **URL:** http://www.ncra.tifr.res.in

Recruitment Advt. No. 2026/07

NCRA is a unit of TIFR which is deemed to be a university and an autonomous institute of Department of Atomic Energy, Government of India. NCRA-TIFR has set up two radio telescopes, including the Giant Metrewave Radio Telescope, which is the world's largest radio telescope at metre wavelengths. NCRA-TIFR is on a look out for the following position for its Centre in Pune.



Administrative Officer-E
[1-Post; UR; HQ: Pune]

Last Date is 30-June-2026. For detailed advertisement and for making online application, visit **https://tinyurl.com/ncrajob-2026**

कार्यपालक अभियन्ता का कार्यालय, ग्रामीण कार्य विभाग, कार्य प्रमण्डल, लातेहार

अल्पकालीन ई– पुनर्निविदा आमंत्रण सूचना
ई–निविदा संख्या :– 05/R2/2024-25/EE/RWD/LATEHARदिनांक : 29.05.2026

क्र0	आईडेंटी फिकेशन सं0 / पैकेज सं0	प्रखंड	कार्य का नाम	प्राक्कलित राशि (रूपये में) अंक में	अक्षर में	कार्य समाप्ति की तिथि	टेंडर कॉल
2	RWD/LATEHAR21/2024-25	बरवाडीह	ग्राम पंचायत छेंचा पंचायत भवन पी0डब्लू0डी0 रोड से आंगनबाड़ी होते हुए कोयल नदी तक पथ निर्माण।	342.804	रू0 तीन करोड़ बेयालीस लाख अस्सी हजार चार सौ रूपये मात्र।	15 माह	तृतीय

1. वेबसाईट में निविदा प्रकाशन की तिथि : 05.06.2026
2. ई–निविदा प्राप्ति की अंतिम तिथि एवं समय : 13.06.2026 अपराह्न 5:00 बजे तक।
3. निविदा खोलने की तिथि एवं समय : 15.06.2026 अपराह्न 03:30 बजे।
4. निविदा आमंत्रित करने वाले पदाधिकारी का नाम एवं पता, कार्यपालक अभियंता, ग्रामीण कार्य विभाग, कार्य प्रमंडल, लातेहार पिन – 829206
5. ई–निविदा प्रकोष्ठ का दूरभाष सं0 – 06565245038

विस्तृत जानकारी के लिए वेबसाईट www.jharkhandtenders.gov.in में देखा जा सकता है।

कार्यपालक अभियन्ता
ग्रामीण कार्य विभाग कार्य प्रमण्डल, लातेहार

PR 381054 (REO)26-27*D

NORTHERN RAILWAY
CORRIGENDUM

Ref: SLT notice letter No. NR-HQ0MECH(CHG)/10/2026-O/oSSE/Chg/1/HQ/NR dated 25.05.2026 (publish on 26.05.2026).
Sub: - Corrigendum pertaining Special Limited Tender (SLT) e-tender notice for the Work: "Better On-Board Services (OBHS and linen Distribution) in identified trains of NR through Empaneled firms for the period of Two Years (730 days)". (Tender No- NRMECHCHG 1026 Better OB)
For the subject SLT tender document, the date of submission of SLT proposal on IREPS website is extended from 09.06.2026 by 15:00 hrs. **to 10.06.2026 by 15:00 hrs.** with Corrigendum as under:
Corrigendum Slip

	Description	Existing	Should be read as
5	Earnest Money (on Line)	Rs. 22,36,270/- (in favour of FA&CAO, Northern Railway, New Delhi.)	22,36,300
10	Date and time of tender opening	09.06.2026, 15.30 Hrs. onwards If the date of opening happens to be a holiday or otherwise the tender shall be opened on the next working day.	10.06.2026 by 15:00 hrs.

Note: This is the First Corrigendum. **1810/2026**

SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE

PROCLAMATION REQUIRING THE APPEARANCE OF ACCUSED PERSON

See Section 84 Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita, 2023

Whereas complaint has been made before me that accused **Shambhu, S/o: Balai Dass, R/o: H.No-A-1160, JJ Colony, Bawana, Delhi** has committed (or is suspected to have committed) the offence in case **FIR No.: 191/2018, U/s: 33 D.Ex. Act, P.S. Bawana, Delhi** and it has been returned to a warrant of arrest thereupon issued that the said **Shambhu** cannot be found and whereas it has been shown to my satisfaction that the said **Shambhu** has absconded (or is concealing himself to avoid the service of the said warrant).

Proclamation is hereby made that the said accused **Shambhu** of **P.S. Bawana, Delhi** is required to appear before this court to answer the said complaint on or before **06.08.2026.**

By Order
Ms. Bharti Beniwal
JMFC-01, North Distt., Room No. 114, Rohini Court, Delhi

DP/6989/ON/2026

e-Procurement Cell OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER
SPECIAL WORKS DIVISION
BUILDING CONSTRUCTION DEPARTMENT, RANCHI.

VERY- VERY SHORT TERM NOTICE INVITATION QUOTATION
Quotation Reference No:BCD/Special Work Division BCD, Ranchi/NIQ-12/2026-27
(Rate Purpose Only)

E- quotations are invited for the work of **Comprehensive Annual Maintenance Contract and Operation of Building Management System Installed at New Jharkhand Bhawan, Bangla Sahib Road, New Delhi for the One Year** for Operation and maintenance of BMS System work etc. for all Materials from Reputed Shop Keepers, Manufacturers, Suppliers, Retailers, Distributors, Furniture Suppliers, Registered B.C.D. Contractors and other for following items. They should quote their rates for unit mentioned in the table. If they do not deals all of the below mentioned items. Then they are allowed to quote their rate for part of the items which ever they deals. The rates should be exclusive of all types of Taxes, GST, Contractor's Profit and overhead charges etc. but inclusive of Royalty. All Rates should be exclusive of Labour Cess.

Term and Condition
1. The quotationer shall furnish pan, GST registration no.
2. The rate quoted by quotationer shall be firm and final.
3. The undersigned reserves the right to accept or reject/cancel any or all quotations without assigning any reason thereof.

नोटः– 1. वेबसाईट में ई–कोटेशन प्रकाशन की तिथि 01.06.2026 के अपराह्न 3:00 बजे।
2. वेबसाईट में ई–कोटेशन अपलोड की अंतिम तिथि 08.06.2026 के अपराह्न 3:00 बजे तक।
3. ई–कोटेशन खोलन की तिथि एवं समय 09.06.2026 अपराह्न 3:30 बजे।
4. ई–कोटेशन आमंत्रित करने वाले पदाधिकारी का नाम एवं पता कार्यपालक अभियंता, विशेष कार्य प्रमण्डल, भवन निर्माण विभाग, राँची।
5. ई–कोटेशन प्रकोश्ठा का दूरभाश सं0–7903899611

विस्तृत जानकारी के लिए वेबसाईट jharkhandtenders.gov.in में देखा जा सकता है।

Nodal Officer
e-Procurement Cell, Office of the Executive Engineer
Special Works Division, BCD, Ranchi

PR.NO.381025 Building(26-27):D

NORTH WESTERN RAILWAY — E-TENDER NOTICE

DRM / Electrical, North Western Railway, Jodhpur for & on behalf of the president of India, invites E-tender for the following work. 1. Complete details of tenders can be seen on Website No. :- **http://www.ireps.gov.in**, 2. Date & time of closing of e-tender:- 17.06.2026 up to 15:00 hrs. 3. Date & time of opening of e-tender :- After 15:00 hrs. on 17.06.2026, **Tender No. :** 11/2026-27, **Name of Work :** Electrical work in connection with provision of new additional high level full length platform no. 2 with 03 seater benches, water booths, 03 bay platform shelters & pathway for inter platform movement of wheel chairs at Marwar Lohawat, Tivari, Marwar Mathania (03) stations in the section of Sr. DEN/Central. **Approx. Cost of the work (Rs.) :** Rs. 7975834.96, **Tender No. :** 12/2026-27, **Name of Work :** Electric work in c/w provision of customer facilities at Good Shed/CRT of Hanwant Station. **Approx. Cost of the work (Rs.) :** Rs. 5505787.80, **Tender No. :** 13/2026-27, **Name of Work :** Electrical work in connection with provision of new station building with - (i) booking office, waiting hall, 02 nos waiting room, retiring room at Makrana (NSG-4) category station, (ii) booking office, waiting hall, waiting room at NAWA city station (NSG-5) category station, (iii) provision of second entry with- booking office, waiting hall at RKB station (NSG-5). **Approx. Cost of the work (Rs.) :** Rs. 6333316.36, **Tender No. :** 14/2026-27, **Name of Work :** Electrical work in connection with construction of new 12 unit Type-II (DIA-04 nos, LAU-04 nos, SUJH-04 nos) and 04 unit Type-IV (DIA-02 nos, LAU-02 nos) staff quarters under ADEN/DNA. **Approx. Cost of the work (Rs.) :** Rs. 4081741.67, **Tender No. :** 15/2026-27, **Name of Work :** Electrical work in connection with (i) replacement of old/dilapidated quarters by 09 units Type-II quarters under ADEN/MTD. (ii) Construction of new 9-unit Type-II (UMS-04 nos, DSO-04 nos, MCPE-01 no.) staff quarters at various stations under ADEN/MTD. **Approx. Cost of the work (Rs.) :** Rs. 3764925.10, **Tender No. :** 16/2026-27, **Name of Work :** Electrical work in connection with construction of new staff quarters of Type-II (PMY- 11 nos., LUNI-05 nos. = Total 16 nos), Type-III (PMY-01 nos, LUNI-01 nos = Total 02 nos) under ADEN/Line Jodhpur Division. **Approx. Cost of the work (Rs.) :** Rs. 3676072.78, For details information visit **http:www.ireps.gov.in**, No. 1EL/JU/WC/2026-27/11, 12, 13, 14, 15 & 16, Dated - 26.05.2026

792-DO/26 **Divisional Railway Manager/Electrical**

Please join us on /NWRailways NWRailways_

HARYANA GOVERNMENT
IRRIGATION AND WATER RESOURCES DEPARTMENT

Notification
The 21st May, 2026

No. 1622/1L.- Whereas, it appears to the Governor of Haryana that the land specified below is needed by the Government, at the public expenses, in public interests for carrying of water by laying an underground pipeline. The project titled "Water Conservation and Reuse of Accumulated Water in Massani Barrage by Creating a Water Body and Developing Irrigation Potential" has been proposed to lift treated wastewater from the Massani Barrage and convey it to the Sahibi River basin at Mozabad village in District Gurugram. The proposed pipeline alignment will traverse through certain Govt. land and private land in villages including Meerpur, Rojka, Tatarpur Istmurar and Khaliawas of District Rewari and villages of Mahaniyawas, Khalilpur, Khatiawas, Gangli, Pahadi and Bapas of District Gurugram. For this purpose, it is necessary to acquisition of the Right of User in Land, the details of which description is given below which the said underground pressurized pipeline is to be laid.

Now, therefore, in exercise of powers conferred by Sub Section (1) of section 3 of the Haryana under pipelines (Acquisition of right of User in Land), Act, 2008 (31 of 2008), the Governor of Haryana here notify its intention to acquire the right of user over the said Land described with specifications below.

In exercise of powers conferred by the aforesaid section, the Governor of Haryana here by authorizes the District Revenue Officer's-cum-Land Acquisition Collector, Rewari and Executive Engineer, Water Services Division No.2, Rewari with their servants and work men, for the time being engaged in the under taking, to enter upon and survey the land in the locality and to all other Act's required on permitted by that section.

Land document under sub section (1) of section 3 of the Haryana under pipe lines (Acquisition of right of user in land), Act 2008 (31 of 2008) has been approved from the Financial Commissioner and Principal Secretary to the Government Irrigation Department Haryana, Chandigarh vide Memo No. 2/61/2026-1IW dated Chandigarh the 20.05.2026.

Any person interested in land described below, who has any objection to the acquisition of the right of user for laying of the underground pipe line, may, with in a period of twenty one day's from the publication of this notification in the Official Gazette or in two daily newspaper's circulating in the locality, of which at least one shall in the regional language or publicity in the locality whichever is later, file an objection, if any, in writing before the District Revenue Officer-cum-Land Acquisition Collector, Rewari and Executive Engineer, Water Services Division No.2, Rewari who are authorized as the competent authority by the State Government under clause(a) of Section 2 of the said Act, notified vide Haryana Government, Revenue and Disaster Management Department, Notification No. Leg 33/2008 Dated 06 October, 2008.

The plan of the land may be inspected in the office the District Revenue Officer-Cum- Land Acquisition Collector, Rewari or in the office of Executive Engineer, Water Services Division No. 2, Rewari.

Specification

Sr No.	Village Name	Tehsil	District	Rakba (K – M)	Mustil / Khasra No.	Killa No.
1	Meerpur (H.B. No. – 274)	Rewari	Rewari	6-1	9	12 min (0-9) ,19/1 min (0-7)
					17	2 min (0-8),9 min (0-8),12/2 min (0-8), 19/1 min(0-4),19/2 min (0-3), 22/2 min (0-8).
					19	2/5 min(0-8),3 min (0-1), 8 min(0-7), 18/1 min(0-4), 18/2 min(0-4), 23min(0-7) .
					31	3/1 min(0-4), 3/2 min(0-4), 8 min(0-8), 13 min(0-8), 18 min(0-11).
2	Rojhka (H.B. No. – 281)	Rewari	Rewari	1-6	20	1/1 min (0-9), 2 min(0-9), 3/1 min(0-8)
3	Tatarpur Istmurar (H.B. No. – 277)	Dharuhera	Rewari	2-17	29	17 min(0-6), 16 min (0-9).
					30	20 min(0-13) 19/1min(0-4), 18/1/1 min(0-9), 17/3 min(0-0), 17/1 min(0-8), 16/1 min(0-8).
4	Khaliawas (H.B. No. – 283)	Dharuhera	Rewari	5-8	24	6 min (0-7), 15 min (0-8), 16/1 min (0-4), 16/3 min (0-4), 25/1 min (0-8).
					40	5/1 min(0-2), 5/2 min(0-6) , 6 min (0-9).
					28	5/1 min(0-4), 5/2 min (0-4), 6min(0-8), 15/1 min(0-2), 15/2 min(0-2), 15/3(0-4), 16/1(0-8), 16/3 min (0-0), 25/1 min (0-0), 25/2 min(0-8),
					38	11 min (0-8), 12/1/1min(0-1),12/3 min (0-2), 19/1/1/1 min (0-4), 19/1/1/2 min (0-0), 19/2/1/2 min (0-4), 19/2/1/3 min (0-1)

PRADEEP YADAV,
Superintending Engineer,
JLN Water Services Circle, Rewari.

No. 45729/HRY

HARYANA GOVERNMENT
IRRIGATION AND WATER RESOURCES DEPARTMENT

Notification
The 21st May, 2026

No. 1621/1-L.- Whereas, it appears to the Governor of Haryana that the land specified below is needed by the Government, at the public expenses, in public interests for carrying of water by laying an underground pipeline. The project titled "Water Conservation and Reuse of Accumulated Water in Massani Barrage by Creating a Water Body and Developing Irrigation Potential" has been proposed to lift treated wastewater from the Massani Barrage and convey it to the Sahibi River basin at Mozabad village in District Gurugram. The proposed pipeline alignment will traverse through certain Govt. land and private land in villages including Meerpur, Rojka, Tatarpur Istmurar and Khaliawas of District Rewari and villages of Mahaniyawas, Khalilpur, Khatiawas, Gangli, Pahadi and Bapas of District Gurugram. For this purpose, it is necessary to acquisition of the Right of User in Land, the details of which description is given below which the said underground pressurized pipeline is to be laid.

Now, therefore, in exercise of powers conferred by Sub Section (1) of section 3 of the Haryana under pipelines (Acquisition of right of User in Land), Act, 2008 (31 of 2008), the Governor of Haryana here notify its intention to acquire the right of user over the said Land described with specifications below.

In exercise of powers conferred by the aforesaid section, the Governor of Haryana here by authorizes the District Revenue Officer's-cum-Land Acquisition Collector, Gurugram and Executive Engineer, Water Services Division No.2, Rewari with their servants and work men, for the time being engaged in the under taking, to enter upon and survey the land in the locality and to all other Act's required on permitted by that section.

Land document under sub section (1) of section 3 of the Haryana under pipe lines (Acquisition of right of user in land), Act 2008 (31 of 2008) has been approved from the Financial Commissioner and Principal Secretary to the Government Irrigation Department Haryana, Chandigarh vide Memo No. 2/61/2026-1IW dated Chandigarh the 20.05.2026.

Any person interested in land described below, who has any objection to the acquisition of the right of user for laying of the underground pipe line, may, with in a period of twenty one day's from the publication of this notification in the Official Gazette or in two daily newspaper's circulating in the locality, of which at least one shall in the regional language or publicity in the locality whichever is later, file an objection, if any, in writing before the District Revenue Officer-cum-Land Acquisition Collector, Gurugram and Executive Engineer, Water Services Division No.2, Rewari who are authorized as the competent authority by the State Government under clause(a) of Section- 2 of the said Act, notified vide Haryana Government, Revenue and Disaster Management Department, Notification No. Leg 33/2008 Dated 06 October 2008.

The plan of the land may be inspected in the office the District Revenue Officer-Cum- Land Acquisition Collector, Gurugram or in the office of Executive Engineer, Water Services Division No.2, Rewari.

Specification

Sr. No.	Village Name	Tehsil	District	Rakba K - M	Mustil / Khasra No.	Killa No.
1	Mahaniyawas (H.B. No.–22)	Pataudi	Gurugram	3 - 7	12	4 min(0-11),5 min (0- 9)
					13	1/1 min (0-9),2 min (0-9),3/1 min (0-10), 4/1 min (0-6),5/1 min (0-9) .
					14	1 min (0-4)
2	Khalilpur (H.B. No. – 272)	Pataudi	Gurugram	9 - 18	8	15/1min (0-5), 15/2min (0-4), 16min (0-8), 24 min(0-8)
					9	2min (0-9) ,8min (0-9), 9min (0-5), 10min (0-7), 14min (0-9), 16min (0-9)
					10	20min (0-9), 22/1/1min (0-4), 22/1/2 min (0-6), 22/2min (0 – 4)
					11	11min (0-14), 20min (0-8), 21 min (0-8).
					12	3/3min (0-5), 4min (0-9), 6min(0-9), 7min(0-0)
					14	3min(0-8), 8min(0-2), 9min(0-7), 12min(0-7), 20/1min(0-1), 20/2min(0-7), 21min(0-1) .
					15	25/2min(0-6), 25/1min(0-2)
					22	1 min(0-8)
					373	373 min(0-0)
3	Khetiawas (H.B. No. – 268)	Pataudi	Gurugram	0 - 11	5	21min(0-8)
					10	1/1min(0-3)
4	Gangli (H.B. No. – 267)	Pataudi	Gurugram	2 - 3	9	25min(0-8)
					12	4/1 min (0-4), 4/2 min (0-4), 8/1 min (0-8) , 8/2 min (0-2), 13/1 min (0-0), 13/2 min (0-8), 19 min (0-9).
5	Pahadi (H.B. No.- 265)	Pataudi	Gurugram	2 - 13	25	1/2 min (0-3), 10/2 min (0-1), 10/1/2 min (0-7), 11/1 min (0-8), 20/1 min (0-8), 21 min (0-8).
					40	1/1min(0-4), 1/2min(0-4), 10 min(0-10)
6	Bapas (H.B. No.- 266)	Pataudi	Gurugram	2 - 11	4	11 min (0-6), 20 min (0-8), 21min(0-7).
					15	1min(0-8), 10min (0-8), 11/1min (0-4), 11/2min (0-4), 20min (0-6)

PRADEEP YADAV,
Superintending Engineer,
JLN Water Services Circle, Rewari.

No. 45728/HRY

BENGALURU NORTH CITY CORPORATION
Office of the Executive Engineer, Hebbala Division, BNCC, Zone-2, 2nd Floor BNCC (Old BBMP) Bulding, Opp to Indira Canteen, JC Nagar Main Road, Munireddy Palya, Bengaluru-560006

No:BNCC-Z2/EE/HBL/PR/04/2026-27 **Date: 29-05-2026**

SHORT TERM TENDER NOTIFICATION

(Through **GOK** KPP Portal **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in** only)
Tenders on Item Rate basis are invited by the undersigned on behalf of the Commissioner, BNCC for the works mentioned below from the registered contractors of GBA-Bengaluru North City Corporation or Equivalent registration with CPWD/KPWD/Railways/MES or any State Government Organizations. (STD KW-3)

Sl No.	Name of the works / Category
1.	Providing Thermoplastic Painting for Rumbler strips, Lane Marking, Junction Markings, different types of sign boards, Pelican signals and Kerb stones, HRPC and other safety furnitures as per Traffic police requests in Hebbala Division.(Others) **Est. Cost: ₹.220.00 Lakhs, EMD: ₹.3,30,000.00 (1.00 lakh through e-payment (NEFT) balance ₹.2,30,000 through BG/FDR, should be submit before opening of Technical bid)**

Calendar of Events: (1) Tender Documents can be uploaded in e-Portal from **01-06-2026** (2) Pre Bid Meeting will be held on **11-06-2026** at **3:00** pm (3) Last Date for uploading the filled proposals is **15-06-2026** upto **4:00** pm (4) Date of opening of Technical Bid is **16-06-2026** after **4:30** pm. (5) Date of opening of Financial Bid After approval of Technical bid

Sd/- Executive Engineer
Hebbala Division, Zone-2, BNCC

Classifieds

PERSONAL

I,hitherto known as Ruchi Kapoor,D/o-Trilok Chand and,W/o-Sh.Manish Kumar,R/o-H.No-638,Gali Cinema Wali,Subzi Mandi,Malka-Ganj,Delhi-110007,have changed my name and shall hereafter be known as Ruchi. 0040857573-2

I,hitherto known as Amana Chadhar,S/O-Malthu,R/O-92-B,Dr. Ambedkar-Camp,Jhilmil-Industrial Area,Jhilmil,Vivek Vihar,East-Delhi, Delhi-110095,have changed my name and shall hereafter be known as Amna Bunkar. 0040857570-7

I,Vie Kim Ruth,D/O V. Koba,residing at,Y-33,UGF,Hauz Khas,South West Delhi,Delhi-110016,have changed my name to V. K. Ruth,for all future,purposes. 0040857570-5

I,Vedant Naidu,S/O Kamleshbhai Kalidasbhai Naidu,R/O Parathe Wali-Gali Raipur Khadar,Sector-126, Agarwals Guest White House-Noida G.B.Nagar, have changed my name to Vedant Kamlesh Naidu. 0040857411-2

I,Sachin Kumar Sharma S/o Dal Chand Sharma R/o,Flat-No-B-202, Upkari CGHS-Ltd.,Plot-No-9,Sector-12,Dwarka, South-West Delhi, Delhi-110078,have changed my name to Sachin Sharma. 0040857573-4

I,Rajeev Kumar,S/o SH.Suresh Kumar,R/o-H.no-A-80/1 Gali.no.2,North Chhajjupur,Delhi-110094, That is my Daughter name Khushi Sharma 10th-Class Roll.No-14198135 & 12th-Class Roll.No-14678940. In marksheet my name is mention-as Rajeev Sharma which is incorrect. Actual name of mine is Rajeev Kumar. 0040857411-6

I,RENU W/o Munesh Sharma R/o D-96 Mange Ram Park Budh Vihar Phase-I, Delhi-110086 have changed my name to RENU SHARMA 0040857572-8

I,RAHIL SHAKEEL S/O SHAKEEL UR REHMAN,R/O -T-374 AHATA KIDARA CHAMELIAN ROAD DELHI-110006,HAVE CHANGED MY NAME TO 'RAHIL SHAKIL, FOR ALL PURPOSES. 0040857570-3

I,Pooja w/o-Ashwani Gupta r/o-T-203/3,Gali no-1,Gautam puri new seelampur Delhi-110053,have changed my name to Pooja Gupta 0040857572-3

I,PRANEETA KAUR TANEJA,W/O Nitin Singh Taneja R/O P-1404,BPTP Spacio Apartments, Sec-37D, Gurgaon,Haryana-122001, have changed my name to PRANEETA KAUR 0040857572-9

I,POORAN SINGH SHEKHAWAT is,father of,Army no.15237759F,Rank-GNR(OFC) Name Govind Singh Shekhawat, presently,residing at,Village-Prithvipura,teh shrimadhopur,distt-sikar,Rajasthan-332715,have changed my name from pooran singh shekhawat to Puran singh and DOB-01/01/1970 to 02/07/1969,for all purposes. 0040857573-5

I,Indu W/o Rajeev Ranjan,R/o-House No.15,Gijhore-Colony Sector-53,noida,Gautam-Budh Nagar,Uttar Pradesh-201301, have Changed My Name from Indu to Indu Prasad for all future Purposes 0040857572-12

I,Neha Gaur D/o Brajesh Kumar Sharma,R/o-H-238,Alpha-2,Greater-Noida, G.B.Nagar, U.P.My name on my Bank-account Aastha Gaur is registered and In my other document,My Neha Gaur is registered Aastha Gaur and Neha Gaur are the some person 0040857411-7

I,Nadia Munsoor,w/o-Mansoor Naqi r/o-A-14,flat no-401,street no-3,johri farm jamia nagar okhla Delhi-110025,have changed my name to Nadia Mansoor 0040857572-1

I,NUPUR TYAGI,W/o-Smarth Gautam,R/o-Flat No-2701, Tower-A,Apex Golf-Avenue,Near-Panchsheel Hynis, Greater-Noida, West, Gautam Buddha-Nagar,Uttar Pradesh-201306,have changed my name to NUPUR GAUTAM,for all future purposes. 0040857570-1

I,MUNESH S/o Gauri Shankar R/o D-96 Mange Ram Park Budh Vihar Phase-I, Delhi-110086 have changed my name to MUNESH SHARMA 0040857572-7

I,MISBAHUDDIN S/O MUSHTAQUE AHMED R/O A-313 3RD-FLOOR A-BLOCK MANGOLPURI DELHI-110083.HAVE CHANGED MY NAME TO MISBAHUDDIN SAQBI FOR ALL PURPOSES. 0040857573-1

I,MANNAT KAUR TANEJA,D/O Nitin Singh Taneja R/O P-1404,BPTP Spacio Apartments,Sec-37D, Gurgaon, Haryana-122001, have changed my name to MANNAT KAUR 0040857572-10

I,MAHESH AWATRAM RAMNANI,S/o-AWATRAM SEUMAL RAMNANI,R/o-6262,ATS ONE HAMLET, SECTOR-104,GAUTAM BUDDHA NAGAR,UP-201304,have changed my name to MAHESH RAMNANI 0040857572-11

I, Chingthat Jamkhoson Mate S/O Ch Thanghem Mate born on 04/03/1973 residing at Tengnoupal Village, have changed my name to CJ Mate vide affidavit dated 06/05/2026 at Imphal. 0050290359-1

I,Krishan kumar is,father of,Army no.15341403A,Rank-HAV Name Subhash chander,presently,residing at,Village jeetpura,teh, Hansi,distt,hisar,haryana 125033,have changed my name from Krishan Kumar to Krishan and DOB-10/06/1954 to 01/01/1949,for all purposes. 0040857573-6

I,Hitherto known as Gayatri Devi alies Gayatri Thakur,D/o-Vijender Singh,W/o-Vimal Singh,R/o-X/2957, Gali.No.4, Raghubarpura.No.2,Gandhi-Nagar,East Delhi-110031,have changed my name and shall hereafter be known as Gayatri Thakur. 0040857411-4

I,Harish Kumar S/o Subhash Chand Goyal R/o House 4828, Jangpura Lane,Bhogal,Hazrat Nizamuddin,Delhi-110014 have changed my name to Harish Kumar Goyal. 0040857570-2

I,Dhirender Kumar Chaubey, S/o-Triloki Nath Chaturvedi, R/o-H.No-329 Sector-11,Vasundhara, Ghaziabad U.P-201012 have changed my name to Dhirender Kumar Chaturvedi. 0040857570-4

I,BIKRAM RAY,S/O-BIJOY ROY,R/O-PLOT.NO-11,FLAT.NO-104 SHREE RAM-COLONY,OPP-ORANGE COUNTY-NYAY KHAND-3 INDIRAPURAM, GHAZIABAD U.P.201014,HAVE CHANGED MY NAME TO BIKRAM ROY,FOR ALL,FUTURE PURPOSES 0040857570-8

I,Avnish Gupta R/o-A-108 Amrapali Leisure Valley Villas,Greater-Noida west, PO:Roza Yakubpur, DIST:Gautam Buddh-Nagar, Utter Pradesh-201009,That I have changed my minor Daughter Bhumika name and shall hereafter be Known as Bhumika Gupta. 0040857411-3

I,Ashwani s/o-Om prakash r/o-T-203/3, street no-1,Gautam puri new seelampur Delhi-110053, have changed my name to Ashwani Gupta 0040857572-4

I,Aryan S/o Shri Satish Kumar R/o D-605,Aashiana Apartments, Mayur Vihar,Phase-1 Extension,Delhi-11009,have changed my,name to Aryan Kumar for all purposes. 0040857570-9

I,Nadia Munsoor,w/o-Mansoor Naqi r/o-A-14,flat no-401,street no-3,johri farm jamia nagar okhla Delhi-110025,have changed my name to Nadia Mansoor 0040857572-2

I,Aradhana Sharma,W/o Sh.Gaurav Sharma,R/o 104,Chander Nagar,Janak Puri,New Delhi-110058,have changed my name,from Aradhna Sharma to Aradhana Sharma,for all,purposes 0040857573-3

I,Anamika Dwivedi Mishra,D/o-Lakshman Prasad Dwivedi,W/o-Ambrish Kumar Mishra,R/o-K-1001,VVIP Addresses,Raj-Nagar-Extn., Ghaziabad,UP,have changed my name and hereafter shall will be known as,Anamika Dwivedi. 0040857570-6

I,ANWAR AHMAD,S/O-Asgar Ali,R/o-E-6/242,Ground Floor,Gali.No-2 Sunlight-Colony old-seemapuri East-Delhi-110095,have changed my name,from Anwar Ahmad to Anwar Ahmed,for all the future purposes.The correct name is Anwar Ahmed. 0040857570-10

I, hitherto known as SHILPA D/O AMAR NATH MISHRA R/O FLAT NO. 61, S/F, PH-2, POCKET-3, SECTOR-14, N.S.I.T. DWARKA, SOUTH WEST DELHI, DELHI-110078 have changed my name and shall hereafter be known as SHILPA MISHRA. 0071038747-1

I, Vishal Mathur S/o Manmohan Mathur R/o 909, Regalia Heights, Shipra Sun City, Indirapuram, Ghaziabad, Uttar Pradesh-201014 have changed my name from Vishal Mathur to Vishal Mohan. Henceforth I would be known by the name of Vishal Mohan for all future purposes. 0040857412-1

I, Tanish Krishnan Jaikant Kumaran, Tanish Krishnan S/o Manika Vaishwanar R/o N-486, Jal Vayu Vihar,Pocket P-4, Builder's Area,Greater Noida G.B Nagar U.P have changed my name to Tanish Krishnan Vaishwanar for all future purposes. 0071038853-1

I, Suresh S/O Kanahaiya Lal, R/o 125/1, Sector - 1 Pushp Vihar, M.B.Road, Malviya Nagar, South Delhi, Delhi - 110017, have changed my name and shall hereafter be Known as Suresh Kumar. 0071038741-1

I, Sunita Tyagi W/o Naresh Tyagi R/o HN 127, DDA LIG Flat, Pul Pehlad Pur, Delhi-110044. have changed my name to Sunita for all future purpose. 0040857440-1

I, Shyamal Raghavan Jaikant Kumaran, Shyamal Raghavan S/o Manika Vaishwanar R/o N-486, Jal Vayu Vihar,Pocket P-4, Builder's Area,Greater Noida G.B Nagar U.P have changed my name to Shyamal Raghavan Vaishwanar for all future purposes. 0071038849-1

I, Divya Kumari D/o Dinesh Kumar Singh R/o H NO. 418 E, New Krishna Nagar, Vijay Nagar, Ghaziabad, Uttar Pradesh-201009, have changed my name to Divya Singh. 0071038761-1

I, SANTHOSH VIJAYAN S/o S Vijayan, 9/203, Sri Niwas Puri, Delhi-65 have changed my name to S Santhosh. 0071038895-1

I, Bhagwan Singh S/o Jaswant Singh r/o House No. 30 Krishna Nagar Near Avon Public School Tehsil Camp Panipat Haryana 132103 have changed my name to Bhagwant Singh 0050290399-1

I, Shiv Kumar Beri S/o Sh. Jugal Kishore Beri R/o D-501, Saraswati Apartment, I.P. Extn., Patparganj, Delhi-92 , do hereby inform the Public at large that my name has been mentioned as "Shiv Kumar Beri" in my Aadhaar and PAN Card, S.K. Beri in my Driving License and Shiv Beri in my other documents. That "SHIV KUMAR BERI" and "S.K. BERI" and "SHIV BERI" all are my names and belongs to me. 0040857425-1

I, Shahanaz Bano W/o Zahid Hasan R/o-51, Gaon Bhakroad, Saharanpur, Khurrampur, UP have changed my name to Sahanaz Bano. 0071038908-1

I, Saptarshi Chaudhuri S/o Surajit Kumar Chaudhuri R/o 1105 L Block Sispal Vihar AWHO Sohna Road Sector 49 Gurugram, Haryana- 122101, I have changed the name of my minor son Ameya Chaudhuri to Ameya Duggal Chaudhuri aged 10 months. 0071038762-1

I, SANJEEV GARG , S/O BAJRANG LAL GARG , R/o B-81 CC COLONY RANA PRATAP BAGH NORTH DELHI - 110007 , have changed my minor Son's name from PARAV GARG , aged 16 years to PARV GARG forever. 0071038834-1

I, SANDEEP SINGH BISHT, S/o GAJENDRA SINGH R/o 17 G - 404, Green View Apartment, Vasundhara, Ghaziabad, Uttar Pradesh - 201012, have changed the name of my minor daughter ANANYA BISHT aged 3 Years and she shall hereafter be known as KRISHIKA BISHT. 0071038906-1

I, Ravi S/o Kishan Lal Chhabra R/o F-1st/156, Madangir, Dr Ambedkar Nagar, Delhi have changed my name to Ravi Chhabra for all purposes. 0071038854-1

I, Pritik s/o Shri Mewa Ram r/o F-25, Vikas Nagar, Shiva Enclave, Uttam Nagar, New Delhi-110059 have changed my name as PRATEEK. 0040857420-1

I, Pinki Chaudhary D/o Vinay Chaudhary R/o Pocket-7 1/12, Sector-82, Noida Po:Maharishi Nagar G.B.Nagar U.P,have changed my name from Pinky Chaudhary to Pinki Chaudhary for all future purposes. 0071038912-1

I, Nimisha Mathur W/o Vishal Mohan R/o 909, Regalia Heights, Shipra Sun City, Indirapuram, Ghaziabad, Uttar Pradesh-201014 have changed my name from Nimisha to Nimisha Mathur. Henceforth I would be known by the name of Nimisha Mathur for all future purposes. 0040857412-2

I, Narinder kumar S/o Sita Ram Makkar R/o Tower-G, Flat no tha central park resorts, sector-48, south city-II Gurgaon Haryana-122018 have changed my name to Narinder Kumar Makkar for all future purposes 0071038792-1

I, Mukesh Kumar Srivastava S/o Krishndeo Narain Srivastava R/o Flat No- 202, Banshi Vihar Aparttment, Road No-3A/225, New Patliputra Colony, Phulwari, Patliputra, Phulwari Patna, Bihar- 800013, have changed my minor daughter's name from Mahika Mukesh aged 17 years to Ananya Raj forever 0071038915-1

I, Mohammad Zahid Hasan S/o Abdul Sahid Hasan R/o-51, Gaon Bhakroad, Saharanpur, Khurrampur, UP have changed my name to Zahid Hasan. 0071038914-1

I, Mithlesh W/O Kishan dev born on 01/01/1972 residing at wz - 46E/4A have changed my name to Kamlesh vide affidavit dated 08/04/2026 at delhi 0050290433-1

I, Mannu Seth S/o Krishan Kumar Seth R/o A-1073, 7th Floor, Parx Laureate, Sector-108, Noida, UP-201304, have changed my name to MANU SETH for all future purposes. 0071038793-1

I, Manish Kumar Sharma S/o Surinder Kumar Sharma R/o D-3/3633, Vasant Kunj, South WestDelhi -110070, I have changed the name of my minor son Pratush Sharma to Pritush Sharma aged 17 years. 0071038851-1

I, MD Asraf S/o Mohd Akhtar R/o A-330, Transit-Camp, Govindpuri, Kalkaji, New Delhi-110019, have changed my name to Mohd Asharaf. 0040857572-5

I, Kunti Devi W/o Sh. Dharamveer Singh R/o Mahuaa Kheda, Bulandshahr, Uttar Pradesh 202396, have changed my name from Kamlesh Devi to Kunti devi. 0040857571-1

I, Ganita Devi, W/o Ravi Shankar Prasad R/o 107, Tower Aster First Floor,SKS Green Arch, Greate-Noida West,G.B.Nagar, have changed my name to Ganita Kumari. 0040857411-1

I, GAURAV S/o Khushi Ram, G First 21, Sector-4, Madangir, Delhi-62 have changed my name to GAURAV KUMAR. 0071038900-1

I, Farida Khatoon W/o Mohd Asharaf R/o A-528, Transit-Camp, Govindpuri, Kalkaji, New Delhi-110019, have changed my name to Farida Begam. 0040857572-6

I, ABHISHEK SINHA, S/o KAMLESH KUMAR SINHA R/o Flat No E-2107, Tower-dewberry, Greenarch, Techzone 4, Greater Noida West, Gautam Buddha Nagar – 201306, Uttar Pradesh, have changed the name of my minor daughter SHRINIKA SINHA aged 7 Years and she shall hereafter be known as SHRINIKA A SINHA. 0071038859-1

I, ASIM KUMAR BAITHA S/o SHANKAR BAITHA R/o 68B, GALI NO- 11, UTTAM NAGAR, UTTAM NAGAR, WEST DELHI, DELHI-110059 HAVE CHANGED MY NAME to SANDEEP KUMAR BAITHA FOR ALL PURPOSES. 0071038791-1

I, AMIT KUMAR S/O Mange Ram Khari R/O B-1155, Gharoli Dairy Farm, Mayur Vihar Phase-3, Delhi-110096 have changed my name to AMIT KUMAR KHARI for all future purposes 0071038911-1

I, AJAY CHAUHAN S/o Jagpal Singh, R/o Flat No. 1427, 14th Floor, Tower Catania, Mahagun Moderne, Sector 78, Noida, Uttar Pradesh-201301, have changed my name to AJAY KUMAR. 0071038891-1

I hitherto known as Kamla Devi Gandhi w/o Late Sh Satish Katyal, residing at 703, Mahalaxmi Apptts, Sec 43, Sushant Lok-1 Gurgaon have changed my name and shall hereafter be known as Kamla Gandhi. It is certified that I have compiled with other legal requirements in this connection. 0040857406-1

I Zebu Nisha D/o Ajgar Ali and W/o Rashid Azad R/o Pahari No. 1 135A, Taimoor Nagar, New Friends Colony, South Delhi, Delhi - 110065, have changed my name to Zaibun Nisa 0071038871-1

I Suman Verma W/o Rajesh Kumar R/o H. No- 44-A, L.I.G Flats Madhuban Enclave Madipur, Delhi- 110063, have changed my name to Suman Bala 0071038866-1

I Shiv Kumar S/o Virendra Sharma R/o Sri Krishna Nagar, Motihari, East Champaran, Bihar- 845401, have changed my name to Shiv Deep Sharma 0071038919-1

I Naveen Kumar S/o Mahesh Chand R/o 671, Gali No.23, DDA Flats, Madangir, Dr.Ambedkar Nagar, Pushpa Bhawan S.O.,South Delhi, Delhi-110062 have chaI Harjeet Kaur W/O, Amarjeet Singh Chhabra R/o 65/50 New Rohtak Road Karol Bagh Delhi Pin 110005 have changed my name to Harjeet Kaur Chhabra. 0040857403-1

I Harjeet Kaur W/O, Amarjeet Singh Chhabra R/o 65/50 New Rohtak Road Karol Bagh Delhi Pin 110005 have changed my name to Harjeet Kaur Chhabra. 0040857403-1

I Naveen Kumar S/o Mahesh Chand R/o 671, Gali No.23, DDA Flats, Madangir, Dr.Ambedkar Nagar, Pushpa Bhawan S.O.,South Delhi, Delhi-110062 have changed the name of my minor daughter from Kashvi Khandelwal to Kaashvie Khandelwal for all purposes. 0040857402-4

I Diksha Yadav D/o Sadan Singh Yadav W/o Agrim Shokeen R/o Plot No.1, Dalip Vihar, Nilothi Extn.,Nilothi, Delhi-110041 have changed my name to Diksha Shokeen for all purposes. 0040857402-3

LOST & FOUND

I Madhu Sharma D/o Sh. Mathura Singh Gautam R/o A-12, Second Floor, Street No.1, Krishna Nagar, East Delhi-110051 have lost my Original Agreement to Sell and Payment Receipt dated 02.09.2004 executed by Ramnik Bhardwaj in favour of Surender Pal Anand and Original Payment Receipt dated 12.01.2004 executed by Rabinder Nath Bhardwaj in favour of Ramnik Bhardwaj all W.R.T. Property No A-12, First Floor, Krishan Nagar Extension, Delhi-110051. Finders may contact at above address. 0040857402-1

I Shri Rajendra Kumar Choudhary S/o Shri Nand Kishore Choudhary have lost my original Sub-Lease Deed Dated 17.12.2019 vide Document NO. 43430, Bahi No.1, Jild No.35475, Page No.241 to 280 in respect of Unit no.T-14/0701, 7TH Floor, in Shri Radha Sky Garden, Plot No.GH-05, Sector-16B, Greater Noida, Gautam Budh Nagar, UP. Finder May contact at 9540410200 0040857402-2

Lost Original Allotment-Letter Dated-17-07-2015 Exceuted By M/S HR Oracle Developers Pvt.Ltd.in favour of Mr.Shammi Kapoor,S/o-Late A.L.Kapoor, R/o-C-76,Sector-14,Noida-201301,Founder May Inform Ph.8130063499 0040857411-8

RECRUITMENT

SITUATION VACANT

OTHERS

Alliance Network India is Looking for SALES EXECUTIVE for EDC/Soundbox sales on fixed salary + incentive. Email-veena@omadigitalsolutions.com 0040857572-13

PUBLIC NOTICE

PUBLIC NOTICE

General public is hereby informed that my client Abdul Samad S/o Abdul Rashid age 59 R/o H.No. E-12, Khasra No. 133, Third Floor, BLK-E, Street No.9 Near Ameena Masjid, Village Wazirabad, P.O. Burari, Delhi 110084 Has severed their all relation with their son SALMAN GOURI R/o H.No. E-12, Khasra No. 133, Third Floor, BLK-E, Street No.9, Near Ameena Masjid, Village Wazirabad, P.O. Burari, Delhi 110084 debarred and disowned them all their moveable, immoveable properties forever from today due disloyal, disobedient, immoral attitude & behavior towards our client and our client shall not be responsible for any acts deeds done by their son SALMAN GOURI, at any point of time.

TAMJEED UDDIN (ADVOCATE)
M.Com. LLB. - D/5375/2024

LOST & FOUND

It is hereby informed that my **MIG Flat No. 206, Sector-16, Awas Vikas, Vashundhara Ghaziabad U.P.-201012** along with its original allotment registration letter dated **09/10/2000** and possession letter dated **09/07/2009**, has actually been lost somewhere.

This information is being published in the public interest. If anyone finds these documents, kindly contact: **Shobha Nigam Wife of S.K. Nigam Mobile: 9818979748**

PUBLIC NOTICE

It is publicly informed that My Client Mr. Dheeraj Chugh S/o Shri Chander Bhan Chugh R/o AB-98, Shalimar Bagh, Delhi hereby declare that he alongwith Shri Rajesh Ajwani S/o Late Shri Manohar Lal Ajwani are the co-owners of Entire Shop No.C-473, New Subzimandi, Azadpur, Delhi, and my client declare that he has lost Original GPA-Agreement File Sat. Dt.13.7.1988, duly executed by Shri Ram Singh S/o Shri Gulab Singh in favour of Smt. Pushpa Chugh, Smt. Deepa Devi, Smt. Nanki Devi and Smt. Rajni Devi. My Client has also lodged the necessary NCR, vide LR No.330975/2026, Dt.27.05.2026. Any Person who may found such documents shall deliver the same at the aforesaid address of my client. And now my client alongwith other co-owner intends to sell/transfer the aforesaid property. Any person (s)/Bank/Financial Institution, etc., have any claim, right, title, interest, objection then he/she/they can contact either my client in writing at his address or me in writing at advocateadhirajchawla@gmail.com, within Fifteen Days from the date of this Notice, failing which such objection shall be treated as null and void.

DHIRAJ CHAWLA (Advocate) Enrl. No.D/2951/2008

PUBLIC NOTICE

It is hereby informed to the General Public that our client states that Mohd Ashiq Ansari is the absolute owner of property bearing Plot no.1637, Sector-64, Urban Estate, Faridabad.

The original conveyance deed executed by Haryana Shehri Vikas Pradhikaran in favour of Mohd Ashiq Ansari duly regd in the office of Sub-registrar, Ballabgarh on 04-12-2023 vide regn no.6971 in Book no.I in respect of said property has been lost by our client, while lying in their custody. An FIR dated 29-05-2026 was filed for loss of said document.

If anyone find the said document, he/she is requested to kindly return the same to undersigned, HDFC Bank or the owner.

Sd/-
RAVI CHOPRA (Advocate)
Office no 1 First Floor
DDA Market Pocket-A-1,
Mayur Vihar PH-III, Delhi-110096

PUBLIC NOTICE

All concerned are hereby informed through this Public Notice that my clients Sh. Om Prakash Singh S/o Sh. Dudhi Nath Singh & Smt. Nitu Devi W/o Sh. Om Prakash Singh Both R/o H.No. 60, Sainik Enclave, Gali No.1, Sector-2, Mohan Garden, West Delhi, Delhi-110059 have disowned and debarred their son Rohit Singh his wife Rajni Singh from all their moveable and immoveable properties and cancelled all their relations with him from immediate effect. The above said son misbehave, abuse, disobedient attitude & threatening and not keeping any relation with my client. My client will not be held responsible for any acts, deed and thing in whatsoever in any manner made by him and if anyone deals with him shall deal at per his/her own risk, cost and consequence. My client shall not be responsible for his any acts in future. **Krishan Kumar** (Advocate)
Office: 34 & 34-A, S-Extn., Gandhi Chowk, Mohan Garden, Uttam Nagar, New Delhi-59

PUBLIC NOTICE

The General Public is hereby informed that my clients Sh. Anil Kumar S/o Late Sh. Shri Same Singh and his wife Smt Kitabo Devi both R/o F 58 H.No.569/179 village Lado Sarai New Delhi 110030 have severed all their relations with their sons Sh. Naveen Sejwal and Parveen Sejwal due to their bad habits. Both of my above named clients have also disowned and debarred their said sons from all their movable and immovable properties. Anybody dealing with Sh. Naveen Sejwal and Sh. Parveen Sejwal will do so at his/her/their own risk and responsibilities and my clients will not be responsible for any act, deed or dealing done by Sh. Naveen Sejwal and Sh. Parveen Sejwal.

Saksham Sejwal (Advocate)
F-322, Lado Sarai, New Delhi-110030

PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice is hereby given to all concerned that my clients **Sh. Umesh Chandra Agnihotri** and **Renu Devi** R/O Flat no. 1790-1791, Creative Heights Society, Sec-29, Rohini, Delhi, have disowned/debarred/ discarded their real son's **Mr. Mohit Kumar Agnihotri** and her daughter in law **Alisha Gumber,** due to their misbehavior, disobedience, illegal activities/assets, also ceased all their relations with them, any person whosoever deal with them shall do at his/her their own risks/costs/responsibility.

Sd/-
VIMAL TRIPATHI
Advocate
Enrol. No. D-3355-A/09
Address-373, Ground Floor
Pocket 4, Sector 22, Rohini,
Delhi 110086

PUBLIC NOTICE

Information is given to general public at large upon instruction from Kotak Mahindra Bank Ltd. that Mrs. Nonita Devi & Mr. Balbir Singh who are the owners of Residential House No. 248, in Block-S, area measuring 260.125 sq. mtrs., situated in the colony known as Uppal's Southend, at Sector-48 & 49, area of village Fazilpur, Jharsa and Ghasola, Tehsil & Distt. Gurgaon, Haryana by virtue of Relinquishment Deed dated 10.04.2024, Doc. No. 410 and Sale Deed dated 04.02.2010, Doc. No. 22151, Original Sale Deed dated 21.05.2007, Document no. 4256 intends to sell the said property. That prior Title document i.e. Original Conveyance Deed dated 17.03.2006, Doc. No. 27104 is lost/misplaced and is not traceable and F.I.R. has been lodged vide LR No. 333710/2026. If any one finds the said document, please send back to the above-mentioned address. Misuse of the same may attract legal action.

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 10 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, Jangpura Extn. New Delhi-110014, 8010391672

"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.

T.Z.A.S.P. Mandal's
PRAGATI COLLEGE OF ARTS AND COMMERCE, DOMBIVLI (E)
D.N.C. Road, Datta Nagar, Dombivli (E),
Tal. - Kalyan, Dist- Thane 421201.

APPLICATIONS ARE INVITED FOR THE FOLLOWING POST FROM THE ACADEMIC YEAR 2026-27.

AIDED

Sr. No.	Cadre	Total No. of Posts	Category
1.	Principal	01	01 - OPEN

The advertisement is approved subject to the final decision in the Writ Petition No. 12051/ 2015.

The above post is open to all however candidates from any category can apply for the post.

Reservation for women will be as per **University Circular No. BCC/16/74/1998 dated 10th March, 1998. 4% reservation shall be for the persons with disability as per University Circular No. Special Cell/ICC/2019-20/05 dated 05th July, 2019.**

Candidates having knowledge of Marathi will be preferred.

"Qualification, Pay Scales and other requirement are as prescribed by the UGC Notification dated 18th July, 2018, Government of Maharashtra Resolution No.Misc- 2018/C.R.56/18/UNI-1, dated 8th March, 2019 and University circular No. TAAS/(CT)/ICD/2018-19/1241, dated 26th March, 2019 and revised from time to time" The Government Resolution & Circular are available on the website mu.ac.in

Applicants who are already employed must send their application through proper channel. Applicants are required to account for breaks, if any in their academic career.

Applications with full details should reach the **CHAIRMAN, Thane Zilla Agari Shikshan Prasarak Mandal, Arye- Dombivli, PRAGATI COLLEGE OF ARTS AND COMMERCE, Kalyan, Dist. - Thane DOMBIVLI (E), D.N.C. Road, Datta Nagar, Dombivli (E), Tal. - 421201.** within 15 days from the date of publication of this advertisement. **This is University approved advertisement.**

Sd/-
PRINCIPAL

NORTH WESTERN RAILWAY **Expression of Interest (EOI)**

EOI Notice No. NWR-HQOMECH (CnW)/11/2026 **Dated: 30.05.2026**

For and on behalf of the president of India, PCME/NWR invites EOI to empanel competent and experienced agencies for providing enhanced On-board Services as per the policy guidelines on "Reforms for Better On-Board Services" and Technical Evaluation Criteria., The interested firms are requested to submit their sealed complete proposal on or before date 12/06/2026, 15:00 hrs. Opening time-12/06/2026 at 15:30 hrs. The EOI proposals should be submitted in the Box available in O/o Dy. CME/RS/NWR, Room No 411, Fourth Floor, Mechanical Department, North Western Railway. Headquarters Office, Near Jawahar Circle Jaipur-302017, Rajasthan, on any working day during office hours. For further details, please visit North Western Railway website or office of Principal Chief Mechanical Engineer (CRSE/Chg./NWR), North western Railway Headquarters Office, Near Jawahar Circle Jaipur-302017, Rajasthan., Website: **https://nwr.indianrailways.gov.in**

799-DO/26

Please join us on /NWRailways NWRailways_

PROCLAMATION REQUIRING THE APPEARANCE OF ACCUSED PERSON

See Section 82 CrPC / 84 Bhartiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita, 2023

Whereas complaint has been made before me that accused person **Lalit S/o** Lt. Sh. Madan, **R/o** H. No. 411, Gali Hotel Wali, Kabir Basti, Malka Ganj, Delhi, has committed (or is suspected to have committed) the offence in **FIR No. 59/2019, U/S 323/341/506/34 IPC, PS Subzi Mandi, North Distt., Delhi** and it has been returned to a warrant of arrest thereupon issued that the said accused **Lalit** cannot be found, and whereas it has been shown to my satisfaction that the said accused **Lalit** has absconded (or is concealing himself to avoid the service of the said warrant);

Proclamation is hereby made that **Lalit** the said accused of **FIR No. 59/2019, U/S 323/341/506/34 IPC, PS Subzi Mandi, North Distt., Delhi** is required to appear before this Court to answer the said complaint on or before **07.07.2026.**

By Order
Ms. Preeti Rajoria
Judicial Magistrate First Class-07,
Central Distt., Room No.-32,
Tis Hazari Courts, Delhi

DP/7061/N/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) **Ravinder Singh S/o** Sh. Ajit Singh, **R/o:** V-4/90 B Keshav Puram **New Delhi** has committed (or is suspected to have committed) the offence in **CC No. 6519/2018, U/S: 138 NI Act, PS: Barakhamba Road, Delhi** and it has been returned to a warrant of arrest thereupon issued that the said accused person(s) **Ravinder Singh,** cannot be found and whereas it has been shown to my satisfaction that the said accused person(s) **Ravinder Singh**, has absconded (or is concealing himself to avoid the service of the said warrant). Proclamation is hereby made that the said accused person(s) **Ravinder Singh**, of **CC No. 6519/2018, U/S: 138 NI Act, PS: Barakhamba Road, Delhi** is required to appear before this Court to answer the said complaint on or before **30.06.2026**.

By Order
Vijay Shree Rathore
Judicial Magistrate First Class-05
Court No. 13,
Patiala House Court, Delhi

DP/6718/NDD/2026
(Court Matter)

NORTHERN RAILWAY

INVITATION OF TENDERS

THROUGH E-PROCUREMENT SYSTEM

Tender Notice No. 16 /2026-2027 **Date : 27.05.2026**

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. N.	Tender No.	Brief Description	Qty.	Closing Date
01	12265005A	HEAVY DUTY PASSENGER ESCALATOR	49 NOS	23.06.26
02	02265091	4.5 KW UNDER SLUNG TYPE CONSTANT	658 NOS	23.06.26
03	12265006	HEAVY DUTY ELEVATORS	42 NOS	23.06.26
04	15265070	EDDY CURRENT ARRAY TESTING EQUIPMENT	1 SET	29.06.26
05	02260069	BATTERY CHARGING UNIT CUM PRE-COOLING TRANSFORMER	35 NOS	06.07.26
06	15235293A	TELESCOPIC BOOM CRANE OF MINIMUM 175 T	8 NOS	21.07.26
07	12261186A	SINGLE CORE ELASTOMERIC CABLE SIZE 150 SQ.	3392 MTR	27.07.26
08	09262437	BOLSTER SPRING OUTER FOR BLC WAGON	5010 NOS	10.08.26

NOTE -1. Vendors may visit the IREPS website i.e. **www.ireps.gov.in** for details.
2. No Manual offer will be entertained.

1815/26

SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE

FROM THE HOUSE OF MYSORE SANDAL SOAP

Karnataka Soaps & Detergents Limited
(A Government of Karnataka Undertaking)
Sandal City: P.B No. 5531, Bengaluru - Pune Highway, Bengaluru – 560055. Ph: 080-22164879, 22164886,
Website: **www.mysoresandal.org** E-mail: **ksdl.dgmmtls@gmail.com**

An ISO-9001:2015 & 14001:2015 Company

Date : 29.05.2026

NOTICE INVITING TENDER

Tenders are invited by **KS&DL** in two cover system through Karnataka Public Procurement Portal (Website: **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in/**) with respect to supply of following Goods/Services/Works.

Sl.No.	Tender Number	Tender Name	Tender Quantity	Published date	Last date of submission
1	KSDL/2026-27/SE0243	Appointment of Consultants for Architectural & Engineering Design Services for Soap Factory Buildings and Allied Works at Ittangihal Industrial Area in Vijayapura District.	Services	29.05.2026	16.06.2026
2	KSDL/2026-27/IND1216/CALL-3	Procurement of Amyris oil	13200 Kgs	29.05.2026	08.06.2026
3	KSDL/2026-27/SE0232/CALL-2	Selection of Agency for Outsourcing End-to-End Production Activity of Three New Variants of Soaps	Services	29.05.2026	08.06.2026

For any queries contact the undersigned

Sd/- Asst. Gen. Manager (Materials)

Pune Municipal Corporation
Tender Process
Re-tender Advertisement

Sale Period From : 30/05/2026 to 13/06/2026 at 02.30 pm Acceptance Date : 30/05/2026 to 13/06/2026 at 02.30 pm
Technical Tender Opening Process Date : 15/06/2026 After 03.00 pm

Tender Notice

| Sr. no. | Tender No. | Account Name | Job Title/Full Details. | Tender Set/Price Rs. | Estimate Amount | Principle Amount | Term of work | Name

कार्यपालक अभियंता (यॉंत्रिक) का कार्यालय

सिंचाई यॉंत्रिक प्रमंडल, वीरपुर

E-Mail ID:- imdbirpur@gmail.com

शुद्धि–पत्र

इस कार्यालय के पत्रांक 1033 दिनांक 15.05.2026 द्वारा आमंत्रित एवं PR No.-003646 WRD 2026-27 द्वारा प्रकाशित अल्पकालीन पुर्नकोटेशन आमंत्रण सूचना संख्या–03/2026-27 में अपरिहार्य कारणवश निम्न रूपेण विस्तारित किया जाता है।

विवरण	आमंत्रित कोटेशन की अवधि	कोटेशन की विस्तारित अवधि
कोटेशन कागजात डाउनलोड एवं अपलोड करने की अवधि	दिनांक 26.05.2026 से दिनांक 30.05.2026 के 3.00 बजे अपराह्न तक (सिर्फ वेबसाईट www.eproc2.bihar.gov.in पर)	दिनांक 03.06.2026 से दिनांक 06.06.2026 के 3.00 बजे अपराह्न तक (सिर्फ वेबसाईट www.eproc2.bihar.gov.in पर)
प्री–बिड मिटिंग का समय, स्थान एवं तिथि	दिनांक 27.05.2026 को 3.00 बजे अपराह्न में मुख्य अभियंता (यॉंत्रिक), जल संसाधन विभाग पटना के कार्यालय कक्ष में।	दिनांक 04.06.2026 को 3.00 बजे अपराह्न में मुख्य अभियंता (यॉंत्रिक), जल संसाधन विभाग पटना के कार्यालय कक्ष में।
तकनीकी बीड खोलने की तिथि एवं समय	दिनांक 01.06.2026 को 3.30 बजे अपराह्न (सिर्फ वेबसाईट www.eproc2.bihar.gov.in पर)	दिनांक 08.06.2026 को 3.30 बजे अपराह्न (सिर्फ वेबसाईट www.eproc2.bihar.gov.in पर)

कृपया इसे इस हद तक संशोधित समझा जाय। कोटेशन के शेष सभी नियम एवं शर्तें यथावत रहेगें।

(ई0 अंकित कुमार)
कार्यपालक अभियंता (यॉं0)
सिंचाई यॉंत्रिक प्रमंडल, वीरपुर

PR- 004446 (WRD) 2026-27

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

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

प्रचार्य कार्यालय

श्री राम जानकी चिकित्सा महाविद्यालय, समस्तीपुर

Email id- principalsrjmcsamastipur@gmail.com

निविदा सूचना

भारतीय चिकित्सा परिषद, नई दिल्ली के मापदण्ड को पूर्ण करने हेतु श्री राम जानकी चिकित्सा मेडिकल कॉलेज समस्तीपुर के केन्द्रीय एवं विभागीय पुस्तकालय के लिए वित्तीय वर्ष 2026–27 में मेडिकल पुस्तकों की नवीनतम एवं मूल संस्करण, विभिन्न विषयों/विशेषताओं के जर्नल (राष्ट्रीय एवं अंतराष्ट्रीय) की आपूर्ति करने हेतु प्रकाशकों, प्राधिकृत विक्रेताओं अथवा अधिकृत विक्रेताओं जो FPBA of India नई दिल्ली के माप दंडों के शर्तों को पूरा करते हो एवं जी0ओ0सी0 के द्वारा पुस्तकों/जर्नलों की आपूर्ति के प्राधिकृत एजेन्ट हो वे निम्न शर्तो और स्थिति (Terms and Condition) के साथ विज्ञापन के प्रथम प्रकाशन की तिथि से 21 दिनों के अंदर मुहरबंद लिफाफे में निबंधित डाक/स्पीड पोस्ट द्वारा निविदा समर्पित करेंगे। 21 वे दिन अगर किसी प्रकार का अवकाश रहता है या निविदा प्राप्त करने की अंतिम तिथि के अगले दिन क्रय समति के समक्ष निविदा खोली जायेगी। जिसमें निविदादाता या उनके प्राधिकृत प्रतिनिधि उपस्थित रह सकते है।

1. मेडिकल पुस्तकों/जर्नलों की सूची केन्द्रीय पुस्तकालय में कार्य दिवस 12 बजे पूर्वाहन से 4 बजे अपराहन् तक निःशुल्क प्राप्त कर सकते हैं या के बेवसाईट–https://nmchpatna.org पर देखी जा सकती है।

(डॉ0(प्रो0) सुधीर कुमार कर्ण)
प्राचार्य, श्री राम जानकी चिकित्सा महाविद्यालय, समस्तीपुर

PR- 004517 (Health) 2026-27

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

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

बिहार सरकार

बिहार शहरी आधारभूत संरचना विकास निगम लिमिटेड, बुडको

(बिहार सरकार का उपक्रम)
परियोजना निदेशक का कार्यालय, बुडको, रोहतास (सासाराम)
e-mail:-pdbuidcorohtas@gmail.com

निविदा आमंत्रण की सूचना (ई–टेडरिंग द्वारा www.eproc2.bihar.gov.in.)

NIT No.- 11/26-27

1. विज्ञापनदाता का पदनाम एवं पता– परियोजना निदेशक, बुडको, रोहतास (सासाराम)
2. निविदा आमंत्रण सूचना निर्गत की तिथि – दिनांक–27.05.2026
3. परिमाण विपत्र प्राप्त करने की तिथि एवं समय– दिनांक–01.06.2026 से दिनांक–15.06.2026 के अपराहन 04.00 बजे तक (on www.eproc2.bihar.gov.in)
4. प्री बीड मीटिंग की तिथि, समय एवं स्थान– दिनांक–05.06.2026 को समय 11.00 बजे पूर्वाह्न में परियोजना निदेशक, बुडको, रोहतास (सासाराम) के कार्यालय कक्ष में
5. संवेदक द्वारा निविदा अपलोड करने की अंतिम तिथि–एवं समय दिनांक–15.06.2026 समय अपराहन 05.00 बजे तक (on www.eproc2.bihar.gov.in)
6. तकनीकी बीड खोलने की तिथि एवं समय– दिनांक–15.06.2026 समय अपराहन 05.00 बजे के बाद
7. वित्तीय बीड खोलने की तिथि– तकनीकी बीड में सफल होने के उपरान्त निर्देशानुसार
8. कार्य की विवरणी–

क्र सं0	कार्य का नाम	प्राक्कलित राशि (रू. में)	अग्रधन की राशि (online के माध्यम से) Website:- www.Eproc2.bihar.gov.in	परिमाण विपत्र का मूल्य (online के माध्यम से) Website:- www.Eproc2.bihar.gov.in	Bid Processing fee (Through Online Payment हेतु प्रोसेसिंग शुल्क	कार्य समाप्ति की अवधि
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1	वार्ड नं0–06 में सैदाबाद काली मां मंदिर से न्यू बाईपास तक भाया डुगुलाडीह सड़क निर्माण कार्य।	1,11,86,580.00	2,23,800.00	17,700.00	Eproc2 पर निर्धारित राशि के अनुसार	6 माह
2	थाना चौक बिक्रमगंज में सासाराम रोड मुख्य पथ से घुसिया रोड वार्ड नं0–23,24,25,26 एवं 27 होते हुए रेलवें कॉसिंग तक पी0सी0सी0 पथ एवं ढकन सहित नाली निर्माण।	1,07,88,428.00	2,15,800.00	17,700.00	Eproc2 पर निर्धारित राशि के अनुसार	6 माह
3	वार्ड नं0–24 में नासरीगंज मोड के पास से ग्राम कोन्हिया टोला तक पी0सीसी0 नाला एवं स्लैब का निर्माण कार्य।	81,29,100.00	1,60,600.00	17,700.00	Eproc2 पर निर्धारित राशि के अनुसार	6 माह
4	नगर पंचायत, कोचस वार्ड नं0 01 अंतर्गत कांति पथ से श्रीराम पब्लिक स्कूल के पास नाला व रविन्द्र पाठक के घर व अशोक पासवान व सासाराम चौसा पथ व सतेन्द्र तिवारी के घर होते हुए आनन्द तिवारी के घर तक नाली, स्लैब पी0सी0सी0 निर्माण कार्य।	81,39,100.00	1,62,800.00	17,700.00	Eproc2 पर निर्धारित राशि के अनुसार	6 माह

नोटः– Bidders Should submit Bid Processing fee thorugh Online Payment as per Amount generated on Website www.eproc2.bihar.gov.in

परियोजना निदेशक
बुडको, रोहतास (सासाराम)

विस्तृत जानकारी state.bihar.gov.in/prdbihar से प्राप्त की जा सकती है।

PR. No.004514 (B&C) 2026-27

नशामुक्त हो जाए बिहार, सुरक्षित रहे घर परिवार।

बिहार सरकार

कार्यपालक अभियंता का कार्यालय, बाढ़ नियंत्रण एवं जल निस्सरण प्रमंडल, लालगंज

Email Id – eefloodanddrainagedivlalganj@gmail.com

शुद्धि पत्र

इस कार्यालय के पत्रांक–767 दिनांक–18.05.2026 द्वारा आमंत्रित अल्पकालीन कोटेशन आमंत्रण सूचना संख्या–01/2026–27, जिसका PR No.-003715(WRD) 2026-27 द्वारा विभिन्न समाचार पत्रों मे प्रकाशित है। में टंकक भूलवश Specification of flood ambulance मे Camper अंकित हो गया है जिसके स्थान पर इसे Tractor with trolly एवं Labour-06 Nos के स्थान पर Labour-10 Nos पढ़ा एवं समझा जाय।

शेष शर्तें पूर्ववत रहेगी।

इसे इस हद तक संशोधित समझा जाय।

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

कार्यपालक अभियंता
बाढ़ नियंत्रण एवं जल निस्सरण प्रमंडल, लालगंज।

PR. No. 004384 (WRD) 2026-27

नशामुक्त हो जाए बिहार, सुरक्षित रहे घर परिवार।

Govt. of Bihar

Department of Environment, Forest & Climate change
Office of the Director, Patna Zoo

NOTICE INVITING e-TENDER

(Through e-Procurement mode only on (https://eproc2.bihar.gov.in)

Short Notice Tender No: 06/e-PROC/PZ/2026-27

Separate Online Bids under **Two-Bid system** are invited from registered event management agencies for providing end-to-end event management services in Patna Zoo.

Sl No.	Scope of work	Cost of tender document (In Rupees) (Online Mode) (Non-Refundable)	Tender processing Fee (Non-Refundable) (in Rupees)	Earnest Money Deposit (In Rupees) Online	Time Period
1	2	3	4	5	6
01.	Selection of Event Management Agency for Patna Zoo.	Rs. 1,000/-	As per e-proc fees	Rs. 1,00,000/-	1 Year

Tender Schedule/Programme:

Sl. No.	Activity	Date/Time: Duration
1.	Online Sale/Download date of Tender documents	From 01.06.2026 to 15.06.2026 (Upto 2:00 P.M.) (https://eproc2.bihar.gov.in)
2.	Bid-clarification date and time	06.06.2026 - 12:00 P.M. to 1 P.M. (In the office of the Director, Patna Zoo)
3.	Date/Time for Submission/ Uploading of offer/Bid	Till 15.06.2026 up to 02.00 P.M. (https://eproc2.bihar.gov.in)
4.	Date & time for Opening of Technical Bid.	15.06.2026 at 03:00 P.M. (https://eproc2.bihar.gov.in)
5.	Contact person/Nodal Officer for queries	Director, Patna Zoo Email: patnazoobihar@gmail.com Phone No: 0612 2217758
6.	Financial Bid Opening Date and Time	Will be Communicated after Opening of Technical Bid.

1. Detailed descriptions of the item and instructions for submitting your offer can be downloaded from e-Procurement Portal (https://eproc2.bihar.gov.in).
For further details please visit website state.bihar.gov.in/prdbihar

PR- 004680 (Forest) 2026-27

Director,
Patna Zoo.

नशे की मार, बर्बाद करे सुखी परिवार।

बिहार सरकार

जल संसाधन विभाग
कार्यपालक अभियंता का कार्यालय
सोन उच्च स्तरीय नहर प्रमण्डल, भभुआ
पुनर्निविदा

अल्पकालीन निविदा आमंत्रण सूचना संख्या 02/2026-2027

(केवल ई–टेन्डर पद्धति के अनुसार वेबसाईट www.eproc2.bihar.gov.in पर)

1. कार्य का विवरणः–

क्र० सं0.	कार्य का नाम	प्राक्कलित राशि (लाख रू0 में)	अग्रधन की राशि (रू0 में) (ऑन लाईन मोड में भुगतेय)	परिमाण – विपत्र का मूल्य (अप्रत्यर्पणी) (केवल ऑन लाईन मोड में भुगतेय) रू0 में	बेल्ट्रॉन को देय बिड प्रोसेसिंग फी (अप्रत्यर्पणी) (केवल ऑन लाईन मोड में भुगतेय) रू0 में	कार्य समाप्ति की अवधि	अभियुक्ति
01	करौन्दा वितरणी के 0.00 एवं 0.70 पर अवस्थित संरचना का मरम्मति कार्य एवं करौन्दी लघुनहर में सुरक्षा दीवार एवं संरचना मरम्मति कार्य।	25.97162	52000.00	5000.00	590.00	1महीना	

2. विज्ञापनदाता का पदनाम एवं पता :– कार्यपालक अभियंता, सोन उच्च स्तरीय नहर प्रमंडल, भभुआ। मो0–7463889388/9304561983
3. निविदा आमंत्रण सूचना निर्गत करने की तिथि :– 27.05.2026
4. निविदा कागजात डाउनलोड एवं अपलोड करने की अवधि :–06.06.2026से 09.06.2026 के 3:00 बजे अपहरान् तक। (सिर्फ वेबसाईट www.eproc2.bihar.gov.in पर)
5. प्री–बिड मीटिंग का समय स्थान एवं तिथि :– दिनांक 08.06.2026, समय 3:00 बजे अपराहन में, अधीक्षण अभियंता का कार्यालय, सिंचाई अंचल, भभुआ के कार्यालय कक्ष में।
6. तकनीकी बिड खोलने की तिथि एवं समय :– दिनांक 11.06.2026 समय 3:30 बजे अपराहन। (सिर्फ वेबसाईट www.eproc2.bihar.gov.in पर)
7. वित्तिय बिड खोलने की तिथि एवं समय :–सक्षम पदाधिकारी द्वारा बाद में घोषित की जायेगी (सिर्फ वेबसाईट www.eproc2.bihar.gov.in पर)
8. निविदा खोलने का स्थान :– www.eproc2.bihar.gov.in पर
9. निविदा की वैधता अवधि :– 120 दिन
10. विशेष जानकारी प्राप्त करने हेतु वेबसाईट www.eproc2.bihar.gov.inएवं wrd.bihar.gov.in पर देखा जा सकता है।

(ई0 अखिलेश कुमार)
कार्यपालक अभियंता
सोन उच्च स्तरीय नहर प्रमण्डल, भभुआ।
मो0–7463889388/930456198

विस्तृत जानकारी www.state.bihar.gov.in/prdbihar से प्राप्त की जा सकती है।

PR. No. 004579 (WRD) 2026-27

नशामुक्त हो जाए बिहार, सुरक्षित रहे घर परिवार।

समाहरणालय, बाँका

(मद्य निषेध शाखा)

वाहन नीलामी हेतु अति अल्पकालीन आम सूचना

(बिहार मद्यनिषेध एवं अधिनियम 2016 एवं संशोधित अधिनियम 2018 के सुसंगत प्रावधानों के तहत् राजसात्किये गये वाहनों की अल्पकालीन सार्वजनिक नीलामी सूचना)

एतद् द्वारा सर्व साधारण को सूचित किया जाता है कि बाँका जिलान्तर्गत विभिन्न थाना काण्डों/उत्पाद वादों में राजसात किये गये वाहनों को बिहार मद्य निषेध एवं उत्पाद अधिनियम, 2016 के सुसंगत प्रावधानों के तहत् विभिन्न अधिहरण वादों में अधिहरण न्यायालय अनुमंडल दण्डाधिकारी, बाँका, भूमि सुधार उपसमाहर्त्ता, बाँका, अपर समाहर्त्ता–सह–मद्यनिषेध दण्डाधिकारी, बाँका, जिला प्रंचायती राज पदाधिकारी–सह–मद्यनिषेध दण्डाधिकारी, बाँका एवं जिला परिवहन पदाधिकारी–सह–मद्यनिषेध दण्डाधिकारी, बाँका द्वारा राजसात् किये वाहनो कि सार्वजनिक नीलामी जो जहाँ है जैसे है के रुप में 11.30 बजे पूर्वाह्न में अधीक्षक मद्यनिशेध, महेशाडीह, बाँका के कार्यालय वेष्म में निम्न प्रकार से की जायेगी।

वाहन नीलामी की तिथि		आवेदन प्राप्त की अंतिम तिथि	आवेदन प्राप्त करने का स्थान
दिनांक 06.09.2025 (पहली नीलामी), 07.01.2026 (दूसरी नीलामी), 09.02.2026 (तीसरी नीलामी), 12.03.2026 (चौथी नीलामी) एवं 08 .04.2026 (पाँचवी) को आयोजित नीलामी से शेष बचे वाहनो की छठी नीलामी की तिथि नये SOP (विभागीय पत्रांक–809, दिनांक–03.02.2026) के आधार पर।	17.06.2026	15.06.2026 को अपराह्न 05:00 बजे तक	कार्यालय अधीक्षक मद्यनिषेध बाँका

नोटः– (1) विभागीय पत्रांक–809, दिनांक–03.02.2026 के आलोक में पांच बार नीलामी होने के पश्चात शेश बचे वाहनों की नीलामी "AS IS WHERE IS BASIS" पर किया जायेगा एवं AS IS WHERE IS BASIS पर प्रत्येक नीलामी में वाहनों के मूल्य को 10% कम करते हुए तब तक नीलामी की जायेगी, जब तक वाहन नीलाम न हो जाये।
(2) निम्नांकित वाहन के स्वामियों को भी सूचित किया जाता है कि यदि वे निम्नांकित वाहनों के लिये अपील/रिवीजन/प्रपत्र IV दायर किये हों तो इसकी सूचना साक्ष्य सहित नीलामी की तिथि के पूर्व नीलामी समिति को उपलब्ध करा देंगे।
(3) उक्त वाहन से संबंधित वाहन स्वामी यदि इच्छुक हैं तो नीलामी में भाग ले सकते हैं।

क्र0 सं0	न्यायालय, बांका का ज्ञापांक/दिनांक	उत्पाद /थाना नाम	उत्पाद /थाना कांड सं0	वाहन का प्रकार	पंजीयन संख्या	चेचिस सं0	इंजन सं0	MVI द्वारा मूल्यांकित राशि (रूपया में)	दिनांक 08.04.2026 की नीलामी की राशि	SOP के आलोक में छठी नीलामी की राशि	अग्रधन की राशि (20 %)	वाहन स्वामी का नाम व पता	वाहन निर्माण का वर्ष (मॉडल)	वाहन की भौतिक उपस्थिति	नीलामी समय बीमाकृत मूल्य (वाहन की बीमाकृत मूल्य)	वाहन जहाँ पर है
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
1	584/DPRO 29.08.24	उत्पाद (बाँका)	363/23	होण्डा मोटरसाईकिल	UP14AL0383	ME4JC367F78003533	JC36E0085051	4000	2592	2333	467	नाम–अनुज कुमार झा, पे0–श्री डी0 एन0 झा, सा0–फ्लेट नं0–108 कृष्ण विहार, थाना–विहार गजियाबाद, जिला–गाजियाबाद (उत्तर प्रदेश)		Scrap		उत्पाद (बाँका)

विशेष जानकारी के लिए कार्यालय अधीक्षक मद्यनिशेध, बाँका से संपर्क किया जा सकता है।

समाहर्त्ता
बाँका

PR- 004528 (Excise) 2026-27

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

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

PROCLAMATION REQUIRING THE APPEARANCE OF A PERSON ACCUSED

See Section 82 Cr. P.C. / 84 BNSS

Whereas complaint has been made before me that accused person **Rajendra Kumar @ Raj S/o Ruldu Ram R/o H. No. A-122, Rajeev Nagar, Opposite Sector-22, Rohini, New Delhi** has Committed (or is suspected to have committed) the offence in case **FIR No. 218/2016 U/s 354A/354C/506 IPC, P.S. Govindpuri, New Delhi** and it has been returned to a warrant of arrest thereupon issued that the said accused **Rajendra Kumar @ Raj** cannot be found and whereas it has been shown to my satisfaction that the said accused **Rajendra Kumar @ Raj** has absconded (or is concealing himself to avoid the service of the said warrant).

Proclamation is hereby made that the said accused **Rajendra Kumar @ Raj** of case **FIR No. 218/2016 U/s 354A/354C/506 IPC, P.S. Govindpuri, New Delhi** is required to appear before this Court to answer the said complaint on or before **30.06.2026.**

By Order
Ms. Kanika Handa
Judicial Magistrate First Class (Mahila Court)-02
Room No. 507
Saket Court Complex, New Delhi

DP/7058/SE/2026 (Court Matter)

PROVISION OF SECURED SURVEILLANCE SYSTEM WITH NETWORKING AT LC GATES OF RANGIYA DIVISION

E-Tender Notice No. RN-ST-01-2026-27-RT; Date: 26-05-2026. E-tenders are invited by the undersigned for the following work. **Name of Work**: Provision of Secured Surveillance system with Networking for real time monitoring at all Special Class LC Gates of Rangiya Division of N.F. Railway. Tender Value: ₹1,18,64,547.40/-; Earnest Money: ₹2,37,300.00/-; **E-tenders will be closed** at 15:00 hrs. on 26-06-2026 and **Opened** at 15:30 hrs. on 26-06-2026 at Sr. DSTE/Rangiya's office. The complete information with the tender document of above e-tender will be available in website www.ireps.gov.in.

DRM (S&T)/Rangiya
NORTHEAST FRONTIER RAILWAY
"Serving Customers with a smile"

MAA MANIKESHWARI UNIVERSITY
मा माणिकेश्वरी विश्वविद्यालय
(Erstwhile : Kalahandi University)
Manikya Vihar, Bhawanipatna, Kalahandi, Odisha

11001/68/2627

No. 1698/MMU Dt. 29.05.2026

RECRUITMENT NOTICE

Maa Manikeshwari University invites applications in both physical and online mode through HIMS portal from Indian citizens having eligibility as per the UGC Notification, New Delhi, dated 18th July 2018, for appointment to the posts of Assistant Professor/ Associate Professor/ Professor against regular sanctioned vacant posts in the departments of Anthropology, Botany, Chemistry, Commerce, Education, Economics, English, Geography, History, Mathematics, Odia, Physics, Political Science, Sanskrit, Sociology and Zoology of this University as directed vide Letter No. 5322/HE, Dated 31.01.2026 of Department of the Higher Education, Government of Odisha, Bhubaneswar. The online application form and department wise reservation details will be made available on the University website **https://kalahandiuniversity.ac.in/** and HIMS Portal from 01.06.2026 onwards. For details of the terms and conditions, guidelines for applying etc. Please visit the University website.

Application open date: 01.06.2026
Application closing date: 05.07.2026
Closing Date for receipt of Printed copy of the application: 15.07.2026

Sd/-
REGISTRAR
Maa Manikeshwari University
Bhawanipatna
OIPR-11001/11182/26-27/0003

GOVERNMENT OF HARYANA TENDER NOTICE

SR. No.	NAME OF BOARD/CORP./AUTH	NAME OF WORK NOTICE TENDER	OPENING DATE CLOSING DATE	AMOUNT / EMD (APPROX.) IN RUPEES	WEBSITE OF THE BOARD CORP./AUTH	NODAL OFFICER/CONTACT DETAILS/EMAIL
1	MUNICIPAL COMMITTEE, NANGAL CHOUDHARY	RENNOVATION OF MC OFFICE 1ST FLOOR IN MC NANGAL CHOUDHARY	Closing Date 01.06.2026	Rs. 5,74,734/-	https://etenders.hry.nic.in	9812892869 secy-NangalC@ulbharyana.gov.in

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION KINDLY VISIT : www.haryanaeprocurement.gov.in or www.etenders.hry.nic.in No. 45716/HR

GOVERNMENT OF JHARKHAND, OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER NATIONAL HIGHWAY DIVISION, HAZARIBAGH

Request for Proposal for Performance Based Maintenance Contracts

CORRIGENDUM

NOTICE INVITING TENDER

Tender Refence No. - NH/HAZARIBAGH/2026-27/01 Dated: 29.05.2026

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	12,97,59,654/-	10,000/- (RFP) & 1,800/- (GST)	12,98,000/-	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	**29.05.2026**
2.	Last Date For Receiving Queries	29.06.2026 at 17:00 Hrs
3.	Pre-BID Meeting at Venue (as mentioned in RFP)	01.07.2026 at 12:30 Hrs
4.	Authority Response to Queries Latest by	01.07.2026
5.	Period of Sale of Bid Document	From 02.06.2026 17:00 Hrs to 16.07.2026 upto17:00 Hrs through official portal of : [https:// eprocure.gov.in]
6	BID Due Date	Date 16.07.2026 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	17.07.2026, up to 12.30 Hrs
8.	Time and Date of Opening Technical Bid (RFP)	Date 17.07.2026 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

Old PR no. : 380812 Road (26-27)_(D)

PR 381088 (Road) 26-27 (D)

Executive Engineer
NH Division, Hazaribagh

"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.

North Eastern Railway

E-Tendering Notice

Sr. Divisional Materials Manager, N.E. Railway, Varanasi for and on behalf of President of India, invites Tender through e-Procurement system "Open Tender" for the supply of the following item. Complete description of the item and other terms and conditions are available on website www.ireps.gov.in.

Sr. No. : 1, **e-Tender No.** : 50265323, **Due Date :** 29.06.2026, **Description:** CG Make Traction Motor (AC) CGL type C1016TM for 1600 HP DEMU with pinion, **Quantity :** 02 Nos., **Earnest Money :** Rs. 2,06,830.00.

Sr. Divisional Materials Manager,
CPRO/S-17 **NER/Varanasi**

Do not travel with inflammable article in train

GOVERNMENT OF HARYANA TENDER NOTICE

SR. No.	NAME OF BOARD/CORP./AUTH	NAME OF WORK NOTICE TENDER	OPENING DATE CLOSING DATE	AMOUNT / EMD (APPROX.) IN RUPEES	WEBSITE OF THE BOARD CORP./AUTH	NODAL OFFICER/CONTACT DETAILS/EMAIL
1	MUNICIPAL CORPORATION, FARIDABAD	ESTIMATE FOR DAY TO DAY MAINTENANCE FOR 12 MONTHS PERIOD SUCH AS TOILET BLOCKS, CIVIL WORK AND ELECTRICAL WORK ETC. IN ALL OFFICES SITUATED AT MCF HEAD OFFICE, NIT FARIDABAD	27.05.2026 06.06.2026	EST. COST RS. 68.09 LACS	https://etenders.hry.nic.in	01292411649 nitinkadian.ulb@hry.gov.in

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION KINDLY VISIT : www.haryanaeprocurement.gov.in or www.etenders.hry.nic.in No. 45718/HR

समाहरणालय, सिवान

(मद्य निषेध एवं उत्पाद शाखा)

प्रेस–विज्ञप्ति

बिहार मद्य निषेध एवं उत्पाद अधिनियम 2016 के तहत् अधिहरित वाहनों की सार्वजनिक नीलामी हेतु आम सूचनाः–

एतद् द्वारा सर्वसाधारण को सूचित किया जाता है कि बिहार मद्य निषेध एवं उत्पाद अधिनियम 2016 के तहत् अधिहरण वाद में जप्त वाहनों को समाहर्त्ता–सह–जिला दण्डाधिकारी, सिवान के द्वारा अधिनियम मे विहित प्रावधानों के अधीन राजसात/अधिहरित वाहनो की सार्वजनिक नीलामी अधोहस्ताक्षरी/प्राधिकृत पदाधिकारी द्वारा **मद्यनिशेध थाना सदर, सिवान के परिसर** में दिल्ली (राज्य) के कुल **01 (एक)** जप्त वाहनों को **दिनांकः–06.06.2026, 14.06.2026 & 22.06.2026** को **11:00 बजे पूर्वाह्न** से किया जायेगा। नीलामी प्रक्रिया नीलामी समिति के पर्यवेक्षण में सम्पन्न होगी। जिसमें अपर समाहर्त्ता, सिवान, अधीक्षक मद्य निषेध, सिवान एवं पुलिस उपाधीक्षक (मुख्यालय), सिवान रहेगें।

–:नीलामी हेतु वाहनों की सूचीं:–

क्र0 सं0	थाना नाम	थाना काण्ड संख्या/दिनांक	वाहन का प्रकार	वाहन का निबंधन संख्या/चेचिस नंबर/इंजन नंबर	पारित आदेश की संख्या	वास्तविक मूल्य	Scrap	अभियुक्ति	राज्य का नाम	10% अग्रिम राशि
1	Excise	496/2024	Honda City	DL9CU0858, MAKGM251F9N00323, L15A70028951	718/2025	45000	Scrap	RAVI KISHAN SONI, AT -S-17/256 NEW SANJAY	DELHI	4500

नीलामी प्रक्रिया में भाग लेने वाले उम्मीदवारों को सूचित किया जाता है कि आप जिस वाहन को लेने को इच्छुक है, उसे निश्चित् ही रख–रखाव स्थल पर जाकर भौतिक रूप से स्वयं देखने के उपरान्त ही नीलामी में भाग लेने हेतु आवेदन समर्पित करेगें।

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

समाहर्त्ता,
सिवान

PR. No. 004468 (Excise) 2026-27

बिहार में शराब का व्यापार, बिक्री एवं सेवन अवैध है। इससे संबंधित शिकायत इस नंबर पर दर्ज करायें, आपकी जानकारी गुप्त रखी जाएगी।
टॉल फ्री नं– 15545 या 1800 345 6268

GOVERNMENT OF JAMMU & KASHMIR
DIRECTORATE OF INDUSTRIES AND COMMERCE, 1ST FLOOR, UDYOG BHAWAN, RAILHEAD COMPLEX, JAMMU
Tele/Fax No: 0191-2474085, email id: dirjmu.ind@jk.gov.in

NOTICE
Subject: Tentative assignment of land in Industrial Estates

Through the medium of this notice, the revised merit list of applicants who have been assigned Industrial Estates/land in Jammu Division is hereby placed in the public domain on **https://singlewindow.jk.gov.in** and **https://industriesjammu.jk.gov.in** for inviting objections, if any, by or before 8th June 2026 through email at: **dirjmu.ind@jk.gov.in**

Further, in case any applicant who has been assigned an Industrial Estate is not interested in the Estate assigned to him/her, then in that eventuality he/she is requested to convey the same through the above-mentioned email or through a letter in the office of Director, Industries and Commerce Jammu. In such cases, the concerned application shall be kept on hold during the current cycle of allotment and shall be considered in the subsequent allotment cycle.

In case no response is received from the applicant(s) within the stipulated time, then it shall be presumed that the applicant is interested in allotment at the Industrial Estate assigned, and the application shall be processed accordingly for allotment.

Response should reach the office of Director, Industries and Commerce-Jammu by or before 8th June 2026, by mail or through physical handing over of hard copies of objections, if any, in the Personal Section of Directorate of I&C- Jammu.

Sd/-
No: MSE-J/Dev/MISC/581/926 **Dr. Arun Manhas**
Date: 26-05-2026 **Director**
DIP/J-2779/26 - DATE 29 MAY 2026 **Industries & Commerce, Jammu.**

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER, U. P. LIVESTOCK DEVELOPMENT BOARD
Badshah Bagh, Gokaran Nath Road, Lucknow-226007
Ph. No. 0522-2741899, Email ID: upldb@rediffmail.com, Website: https://upldb.up.gov.in

L. No. 359/UPLDB/RGM-IVF/2026-27, **Date: May, 29, 2026**

NOTICE FOR INVITATION OF CUSTOM GEM-BID

Uttar Pradesh Livestock Development Board (U.P.L.D.B.) is a society registered under the Society Registration Act, 1860 established as per Govt. of India directives has invited online Custom GeM Bid# GEM/2026/B/7584153, Dated: 27.05.2026 for implementation of In Vitro Fertilization (IVF) programme in the State of Uttar Pradesh. For this an Ultrasound Machine, ultrasound Probe with all attachments and needle guiding system for bovine OPU is to be procured and installed at IVF Laboratory, Chak-Ganjaria at Niblet, Jahagirabad, Barabanki, U.P. as per the details given below:

GeM Bid Details

Custom GeM Bid No. & Date	Tendered Items/Instruments (As per details given in the GeM Bid documents)	Earnest Money (Rs.) (Refundable)	Last Date & time for submission	Opening of GeM Bids (Technical bids)
Custom GeM Bid# GEM/2026/B/7584153, Dated: 27.05.2026	Ultrasound Machine, ultrasound Probe with all attachments and needle guiding system for bovine OPU with accessories	30,000.00	12.06.2026 upto 03:00 P.M.	12.06.2026 03:30 P.M. onwards

The complete GeM Bid details have been uploaded on GeM portal as per information given in the above table. Any corrigendum/amendment in the GeM Bid document shall be uploaded on GeM portal only. UPLDB reserves the right to cancel any or all the GeM-Bids without assigning any reason and decision of UPLDB shall be final and binding.

Dr. Pramod Kumar Singh
Chief Executive Officer

Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF ENGINEER PMGSY (JKRRDA) JAMMU.
NOTICE INVITING e-TENDERS
e-NIT No:-CEJ/PMGSY/819 of 2026-27 Dated:- 25/05/2026

Chief Engineer PMGSY (JKRRDA) Jammu on behalf of The Government of Jammu & Kashmir, invites e-tenders on %age Above/Excess (+) OR %age Below/ Less (-) basis (i.e. on Percentage-Rate Basis) from approved and eligible Contractors registered with J&K U.T.Govt, CPWD, Railways or equivalent and other State/U.T.Govts up to 1700 Hrs. on 17-06-2026 for each of the following works.

S. No.	Name of the Work/Package. No.	Name of the PIU	Constt. Part (Rs. In Lacs)	Maintt. Part (Rs. In Lacs)	Total (Rs. In Lacs)	Cost of Documents (Rs. In Lacs)	Bid Security (EMD) @2% of total cost rounded to the nearest thousand (Rs. In Lacs)	Time Allowed for completion	Call of tender	Time and date of opening of technical bids	Class of Contractor
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
1.	Construction and Maintenance of Road from L119-(Link Route) Kailawala to ghai mohalla Package No. JK05-4049, PMGSY-IV, Batch-I of 2026-27, Block-Akhnoor, District Jammu Length 4.000 Kms **Adv. Cost excluding maintenance but inclusive of GST-Rs. 664.77 Lacs**	Jammu	664.77	53.18	717.95	0.10	14.36	11 months	1st	19-06-2026 1100 Hrs.	Any registered contractor with State/U.T. PWD/CPWD/ Railways or equivalent qualifying eligibility criteria as provided in the Standard Bidding Documents can tender for the works
2.	Construction and Maintenance of Road from L123-(Link Route) Kaneri to Ghani chang via padone bangla Package No. JK05-4020, PMGSY-IV, Batch-I of 2026-27, Block-Chowki Choura District Jammu Length 11.000 Kms **Adv. Cost excluding maintenance but inclusive of GST-Rs. 1950.88 Lacs**		1950.88	156.07	2106.95	0.20	42.14	20 months	1st		
3.	Construction and Maintenance of Road from L119-(Link Route) Budhy to Suliyan village Package No. JK05-4022, PMGSY-IV, Batch-I of 2026-27, Block-Chowki Choura District Jammu Length 8.500 Kms **Adv. Cost excluding maintenance but inclusive of GST-Rs. 1517.76 Lacs**	Jammu	1517.76	121.42	1639.18	0.20	32.78	17 months	1st	19-06-2026 1100 Hrs.	Any registered contractor with State/U.T. PWD/CPWD/ Railways or equivalent qualifying eligibility criteria as provided in the Standard Bidding Documents can tender for the works
4.	Construction and Maintenance of Road from L022-(Link Route) Thandapani to Drabi Package No. JK05-4018, PMGSY-IV, Batch-I of 2026-27, Block-Dansal District Jammu Length 4.400 Kms **Adv. Cost excluding maintenance but inclusive of GST-Rs. 781.28 Lacs**		781.28	62.50	843.78	0.10	16.88	12 months	1st		
5.	Construction and Maintenance of Road from L021-(Link Route) Sangar to Challanah Package No. JK05-4041, PMGSY-IV, Batch-I of 2026-27, Block-Dansal District Jammu Length 4.000 Kms **Adv. Cost excluding maintenance but inclusive of GST-Rs. 719.34 Lacs**		719.34	57.54	776.88	0.10	15.54	11 months	1st		
6.	Construction and Maintenance of Road from L028-(Link Route) panaya to sansoor kalla Package No. JK05-4024, PMGSY-IV, Batch-I of 2026-27, Block-Kharah Balli, District Jammu Length 7.000 Kms **Adv. Cost excluding maintenance but inclusive of GST-Rs. 1261.64 Lacs**		1261.64	100.93	1362.57	0.20	27.25	15 months	1st		
7.	Construction and Maintenance of Road from L022-(LINK ROUTE) BALHA TO KANDI Package No. JK05-4031, PMGSY-IV, Batch-I of 2026-27, Block-Maira Mandrian, District Jammu Length 5.000 Kms **Adv. Cost excluding maintenance but inclusive of GST-Rs. 765.88 Lacs**		765.88	61.27	827.15	0.10	16.54	12 months	1st		
8.	Construction and Maintenance of Road from L025-(Link Route) Dung to Kaletar Gorani Package No. JK05-4013, PMGSY-IV, Batch-I of 2026-27, Block-Nagrota, District Jammu Length 5.200 Kms **Adv. Cost excluding maintenance but inclusive of GST-Rs. 908.68 Lacs**		908.68	72.69	981.37	0.10	19.63	12 months	1st		
9.	Construction and Maintenance of Road from L025-(Link Route) Rajani to kamala Package No. JK05-4044, PMGSY-IV, Batch-I of 2026-27, Block-Samwan, District Jammu Length 4.000 Kms **Adv. Cost excluding maintenance but inclusive of GST-Rs. 689.34 Lacs**	Jammu	689.34	55.14	744.48	0.10	14.89	11 months	1st	19-06-2026 1100 Hrs.	Any registered contractor with State/U.T. PWD/CPWD/ Railways or equivalent qualifying eligibility criteria as provided in the Standard Bidding Documents can tender for the works
10.	Construction and Maintenance of Road from L024-(Link Route) Papar Abtara to Papar Brahmana Package No. JK21-4006, PMGSY-IV, Batch-I of 2026-27, Block-Nud, District Jammu Length 4.230 Kms **Adv. Cost excluding maintenance but inclusive of GST-Rs. 754.46 Lacs**		754.46	60.35	814.81	0.10	16.30	12 months	1st		
11.	Construction and Maintenance of Road from L022-(Link Route) Khara to Devsthan Package No. JK21-4005, PMGSY-IV, Batch-I of 2026-27, Block-Purmandal, District Jammu Length 4.600 Kms **Adv. Cost excluding maintenance but inclusive of GST-Rs. 736.66 Lacs**		736.66	58.93	795.59	0.10	15.91	11 months	1st		
12.	Construction and Maintenance of Road from L022-(Link Route) Liani to Bagun Package No. JK21-4004, PMGSY-IV, Batch-I of 2026-27, Block-Sumb, District Jammu Length 10.000 Kms **Adv. Cost excluding maintenance but inclusive of GST-Rs. 1894.07 Lacs**		1894.07	151.52	2045.59	0.20	40.91	20 months	1st		
13.	Construction and Maintenance of Road L022-(Link Road) Dunadi Patnazi KM 6th to Haryana Package No. JK17-4233, PMGSY-IV, Batch-I of 2026-27, Block-Bunjwah, District Kishtwar Length 6.700 Kms **Adv. Cost excluding maintenance but inclusive of GST-Rs. 1573.56 Lacs**	Kishtwar	1573.56	125.88	1699.44	0.20	33.99	17 months	1st	19-06-2026 1100 Hrs.	Any registered contractor with State/U.T. PWD/CPWD/ Railways or equivalent qualifying eligibility criteria as provided in the Standard Bidding Documents can tender for the works
14.	Construction and Maintenance of Road L059-(Link Road) Kalchanda to Khaloru Package No. JK17-4243, PMGSY-IV, Batch-I of 2026-27, Block-Drabshalla, District Kishtwar Length 5.000 Kms **Adv. Cost excluding maintenance but inclusive of GST-Rs. 1258.68 Lacs**		1258.68	100.69	1359.37	0.20	27.19	15 months	1st		
15.	Construction and Maintenance of Road L056-(Link Road) CVPP Bridge point Galhar to Chicha Package No. JK17-4211, PMGSY-IV, Batch-I of 2026-27, Block-Nagseni, District Kishtwar (Using Waste Plastics Length 11.900 Kms) Length 11.900 Kms **Adv. Cost excluding maintenance but inclusive of GST-Rs. 3282.65 Lacs**	Kishtwar	3282.65	262.61	3545.26	0.20	70.91	26 months	1st	19-06-2026 1100 Hrs.	Any registered contractor with State/U.T. PWD/CPWD/ Railways or equivalent qualifying eligibility criteria as provided in the Standard Bidding Documents can tender for the works
16.	Construction and Maintenance of Road L058-(Link road) KP Road to Piyass Package No. JK17-4212, PMGSY-IV, Batch-I of 2026-27, Block-Nagseni, District Kishtwar Length 4.000 Kms **Adv. Cost excluding maintenance but inclusive of GST-Rs. 1039.64 Lacs**		1039.64	83.17	1122.81	0.20	22.46	15 months	1st		
17.	Construction and Maintenance of Road L029-(Link Road) KP road km 12TH TO Siribhata via Dhobipora Package No. JK17-4213, PMGSY-IV, Batch-I of 2026-27, Block-Nagseni, District Kishtwar Length 4.000 Kms **Adv. Cost excluding maintenance but inclusive of GST-Rs. 1074.02 Lacs**		1074.02	85.92	1159.94	0.20	23.20	15 months	1st		

Date and Time Schedule

S.No	Particulars	Date	Time
1.	Date of issue of tender notice	26-05-2026	1700 hrs
2.	Document Download / Sale Start Date	26-05-2026	1855 hrs
3.	Pre-Bid Meeting	30-05-2026	1200 hrs
4.	Bid Submission Start Date	01-06-2026	1000 hrs
5.	Bid Submission End Date	17-06-2026	1700 hrs
6.	Date & Time of Opening of Technical Bids	19-06-2026	1100 hrs
7.	Date & Time of Opening of Financial Bids	To be notified after technical evaluation is completed	

1. The bidding document can be downloaded from the website and bids shall be submitted ONLINE ONLY in electronic format through the e-tendering portal.
2. For complete details and instructions, bidders are advised to refer to Standard bidding document(SBD).
3. For further details and updates, bidders may visit the official website https://pmgsytendersjk.gov.in

No:-CEJ/PMGSY/4258-4332 **Sd/-**
Dated:-25-05-2026 **Chief Engineer PMGSY (JKRRDA) Jammu**
For and on behalf of The Government of Jammu and Kashmir
DIP/J-2819/26 – DATE 29 MAY 2026

NORTH WESTERN RAILWAY
E-TENDER NOTICE
256 Sig/06/2026-27 Dated: 27/05/2026

Open E-tender is invited by DRM (S&T), Jodhpur for and on behalf of the President of India for S&T work. Details as below. , **1. E-Tender Notice No: SNT-JU-06-2026-27**, 2. **Name of Work:** Replacement and Augmentation of datacom equipment of UTS/PRS over Jodhpur division, **3. Estimated cost of the work:** Rs **1,46,21,686/-**(R/O), **4. Address of the NIT Issuing office:** Sr.DSTE/JU NWR, DRM Office Harish Joshi Marg Jodhpur., **5. Earnest money to be deposited.:** Rs **2,92,400/-**, **6. Last Date & time for submission of E-tender and opening of tender:** 25/06/2026 Upto 15:00 Hrs through E-tendering online submission on IREPS, Tender will be opened at 15:00 Hrs., **7. Website particulars, where complete details of tender can be seen and participated: www.ireps.gov.in Note:** This is a E-Tender, so tenderer can participate through e-tendering process only on mentioned website.

797-DO/26 **DRM (S&T)/Jodhpur**

Please join us on /NWRailways NWRailways_

NORTH WESTERN RAILWAY
NOTICE OF INVITING E-TENDER
E-Tender No:- 34265257, Date:- 27.05.2026, Sr.DMM, DRM Office, Bikaner, acting for and on behalf of The President of India invites E-Tender No. 34265257 Closing date 24.06.2026 at 14.25 hrs. Bidders will be able to submit their original/revised bids up to closing date and time only. Manual offers are not allowed against this tender and any such manual offer received shall be ignored., **1. Description of Work:** 5-Watt VHF Digital Walkie Talkie Set without Keypad and without Display, Specification No. RDSO/SPN/TC/107/2018 Ver. 2.1 or latest., **2. Quantity:** 222 Nos., **3. Date and time for submission of tender:** Submission of E-Tender up to 24.06.2026 at 14.25 hrs., **4. Website Particular: www.ireps.gov.in**

796-DO/26 **Sr.DMM/DRM Office/Bikaner**

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NORTH EASTERN RAILWAY
E- Works Tender Notice No. 05-TMC-IOH- 2026-27 Dated 27.05.2026

On behalf of the President of India, Dy.CE/TMC, North Eastern Railway, Gorakhpur invites the following Works Tender:

IOH / Annual & Major repair of track machines at ZTMD/GKC, STMD/DLR and during break down at site under the jurisdiction of N.E Railway for 24 months from the date of issue of letter of acceptance.

Sl.No.1, Open tender No./Due On: 05-TMC-IOH-2026-27, due on 18.06.2026, **Description of Work:** IOH / Annual & Major repair of track machines at ZTMD/GKC, STMD/DLR and during break down at site under the jurisdiction of N.E Railway for 24 months from the date of issue of letter of acceptance as per attached Schedule and Additional Special Terns & Condition of contract. Quantity Required: As per attached Scheduled, Place of work: At working site of Track Machines in N.E Railway or ZTMD/GKC or STMD/DLR, Work Completion Period: 24 Months. Estimated Tender Value (Rs.): ₹1,39,59,187.07, Earnest Money: ₹2,79,200.00

Note:- 1.0 The complete information along with tender document of above E-Procurement Tender is available in website on http://ireps.gov.in up to 15.00 hrs. on the due date of tender opening. **2.0** Bids other than in the form of E-Bids shall not be accepted against above Tenders. For this purpose, venders are required to get themselves registered with IREPS website along with class-III Digital signature certificates issued by CCA under IT Act-2000. **3.0** Rates entered into Financial Rate page and duly signed digitally shall only be considered. Rates and any other financial entity in any other form/letter head if attached by vendor shall be straight way ignored and shall not be considered. **4.0** Documents being attached should be signed by the tenderer on its body. **5.0** Earnest Money should be deposited through online. **6.0** Tenderers quoting financial conditions deviating from tender condition stipulated in tender document are required to quantify its implications in financial term duly enclosing the calculation sheet supporting with authentic document, so that the impact of such financial condition on the offer may be worked out to decide inter-se-position of offers. In case tenderer quotes such financial condition without quantifying its financial implications, such tenders/offers shall be summarily rejected, for which Railway Administration shall not entertain any correspondence. **7.0** Tenderers are requested to read complete tender document carefully. **8.0** In case of any difficulty helpdesk available on the website of IREPS may be approached. 1.Executive Engineer/TMC-9794840222, 2. SSE(TMC)/HQ-9794840293

Executive Engineer/TMC
CPRO/W-130 **Gorakhpur**

Never travel on roof and foot boards.

ग्रेटर नौएडा औद्योगिक विकास प्राधिकरण
प्लाट सं. 01, नालेज पार्क-IV, ग्रेटर नौएडा, गौतमबुद्ध नगर, उत्तर प्रदेश-201308
वेबसाइट: www.greaternoidaauthority.in ई-मेल: authority@gnida.in

पत्रांक: वरी०प्र०/(ई–निविदा सेल)/2026/756 **दिनांक: 27/05/2026**

ई–निविदा आमंत्रण सूचना

महाप्रबंधक (अभियन्त्रण) ग्रेटर नौएडा औद्योगिक विकास प्राधिकरण द्वारा मुख्य कार्यपालक अधिकारी, ग्रेटर नौएडा की ओर से ई–निविदा आमंत्रण सूचना संख्या–वरि0.प्र0/(वर्क सर्किल–8)/2026/755 दिनांक 27/05/2026 के माध्यम से उल्लेखित क्रम संख्या–01 से 48 तक के कार्य की ई–निविदाये आमन्त्रित की जाती है। समस्त नियम व शर्ते ग्रेटर नौएडा प्राधिकरण की वेबसाइट **www.greaternoidaauthority.in** पर ई–निविदा लिंक एवं **ई–पोर्टल https://etender.up.nic.in** पर उपलब्ध हैं। किसी परिवर्तन, संशोधन व अतिरिक्त सूचनाओं के लिए उक्त वेबसाईटें देखते रहें।

क्र.सं.	कार्य का नाम / वर्क सर्किल	अनुमानित लागत
निर्माण का कार्य		
1	ग्रेटर नौएडा के ग्राम देवटा में इण्टरलॉकिंग टाईल्स उपलब्ध कराने व बिछाने और (अवशेष) ड्रेन का कार्य। (वर्क सर्किल–8)	रू. 14.73 लाख
2	ग्रेटर नौएडा के सेक्टर के०पी०–2 में विभिन्न स्थानों पर प्रीकास्ट ड्रेन कवर और ड्रेन मरम्मत का कार्य। (वर्क सर्किल–4)	रू. 21.65 लाख
3	ग्रेटर नौएडा में ग्राम बिसौण्डी के बारातघर की बाउण्ड्रीवॉल के निर्माण का कार्य। (वर्क सर्किल–4)	रू. 23.08 लाख
4	ग्रेटर नौएडा के ग्राम खेड़ा धर्मपुरा, छपरौला में शेड, चबूतरा वेटिंग हाल की चारदीवारी और शमशान घाट की इण्टरलॉकिंग टाईल्स का निर्माण कार्य। (वर्क सर्किल–1)	रू. 28.56 लाख
5	ग्रेटर नौएडा के ग्राम बादलपुर में नाली कवरिंग और सी0सी0 रोड़ की मरम्मत का कार्य। (वर्क सर्किल–4)	रू. 36.57 लाख
6	ग्रेटर नौएडा के पॉकेट पी–3 बिल्डर्स एरिया के पास इन्फोर्मल सैक्टर में सड़क और नाली का निर्माण कार्य। (वर्क सर्किल–4)	रू. 36.35 लाख
7	ग्रेटर नौएडा के ग्राम बादलपुर में विभिन्न स्थानों पर आर0सी0सी0 नालियों, प्रीकास्ट ड्रेन कवर लगाने का कार्य। (वर्क सर्किल–4)	रू. 45.59 लाख
8	ग्रेटर नौएडा के ग्राम अस्तौली फाटक से पटेल इंटर कॉलेज तक सी0सी0 रोड और सी0सी0 इण्टरलॉकिंग पेवर ब्लॉक से चौड़ीकरण का कार्य। (वर्क सर्किल–8)	रू. 65.18 लाख
9	ग्रेटर नौएडा के ग्राम रोजा जलालपुर में शमशानघाट की बाउण्ड्रीवाल शेड, चबूतरा और प्रतीक्षा कक्ष का निर्माण कार्य। (वर्क सर्किल–1)	रू. 71.72 लाख
10	ग्राम मिलक लच्छी, रोजा जलालपुर, रोजा याकूबपुर एवं अछेजा में तीन वर्ष तक मरम्मत का कार्य (वर्क सर्किल–1)	रू. 78.88 लाख
11	ग्रेटर नौएडा के सैक्टर–16 सी में 45 मीटर चौड़ी सड़क पर आर0सी0सी0 सेंट्रर वर्ज का निर्माण कार्य। (वर्क सर्किल–1)	रू. 80.58 लाख
12	ग्रेटर नौएडा में एस्टर पब्लिक स्कूल के पास 60 मीटर चौड़ी सड़क के सर्विस रोड के साथ आर0सी0सी0 ड्रेन बनाने का कार्य। (वर्क सर्किल–5)	रू. 85.51 लाख
13	ग्रेटर नौएडा के ग्राम छपरोला रेलवे क्रॉसिंग से शाहबेरी पुलिया तक डासना नाले की सफाई का कार्य। (वर्क सर्किल–ड्रैन)	रू. 86.54 लाख
14	ग्रेटर नौएडा के सेक्टर–के0पी0–3 आर0सी0सी0 प्रीकास्ट ड्रेन कवर लगाने का कार्य। (वर्क सर्किल–4)	रू. 108.65 लाख
15	ग्रेटर नौएडा के जेवर विधान सभा क्षेत्र के विभिन्न स्थानों पर आर0सी0सी0 प्रीकास्ट बाउण्ड्रीवॉल का निर्माण कार्य (भाग–1)। (वर्क सर्किल–8)	रू. 141.36 लाख
16	ग्रेटर नौएडा के ग्राम तालडा, चचूला, दलेलगढ़, अटाई मुरादपुर, अमरपुर, दादूपुर दनकौर, ननुआ का राजपुर, नवादा, पीपलका सूरतपुर और बुलंदखेडा में (10 नग) विज्ञान प्रयोगशाला स्थापित करने का कार्य। (वर्क सर्किल–8)	रू. 145.50 लाख
17	ग्रेटर नौएडा के जेवर विधान सभा क्षेत्र के विभिन्न स्थानों पर आर0सी0सी0 प्रीकास्ट बाउण्ड्रीवॉल का निर्माण कार्य (भाग–2)। (वर्क सर्किल–8)	रू. 146.68 लाख
18	ग्रेटर नौएडा के सेक्टर–सिग्मा–3 में आंतरिक सड़कों के रिसर्फेसिंग का कार्य। (वर्क सर्किल–5)	रू. 149.42 लाख
19	ग्रेटर नौएडा के ग्राम चिपयाना बुजुर्ग, हैबतपुर, अच्छेजा, मिलक लच्छी, बैदपुरा, सुनपुरा, श्योराजपुर, धूम मानिकपुर जौन समाना, रूपवास और कैलाशपुर में विज्ञान प्रयोगशाला स्थापित करने का कार्य। (वर्क सर्किल–2)	रू. 153.79 लाख
20	ग्रेटर नौएडा के सैक्टर के0पी0–3 में पुस्ता ब्रिज से शारदा रोटरी तक 60 मीटर चौड़ी सड़क के किनारे आर0सी0सी0 ड्रेन का निर्माण कार्य। (वर्क सर्किल–4)	रू. 159.13 लाख
21	ग्रेटर नौएडा के ग्राम बिरोंडा में इण्टरलॉकिंग टाईल्स उपलब्ध कराने व बिछाने और आर0सी0सी0 ड्रेन का निर्माण कार्य। (वर्क सर्किल–8)	रू. 161.46 लाख
22	ग्रेटर नौएडा के सेक्टर ओमिकॉन–1ए में 18 मी0 चौड़ी सड़क के किनारे इण्टरलॉकिंग टाईल्स एवं ग्रास पेवर ब्लॉक लगाने का कार्य। (वर्क सर्किल–6)	रू. 163.63 लाख
23	ग्रेटर नौएडा के ग्राम रूपवास में सी0सी0 रोड का निर्माण कार्य। (वर्क सर्किल–2)	रू. 89.98 लाख
24	ग्रेटर नौएडा के ग्राम तिलपता करनवास में डी0एस0सी0 पेरागाउण्ट रोड से स्कूल तक सी0सी0 रोड, सीवर लाईन, पानी की लाईन, और आर0सी0सी0 ड्रेन का विकास कार्य। (वर्क सर्किल–2)	रू. 121.69 लाख
25	ग्रेटर नौएडा के ग्राम रूपवास में सी0सी0 रोड और आर0सी0सी0 ड्रेन का निर्माण कार्य। (वर्क सर्किल–2)	रू. 146.56 लाख
26	ग्रेटर नौएडा में डासना नाले (ताज राजमार्ग) के किनारे आर0सी0सी0 प्रोटेक्शन वॉल का निर्माण कार्य। (वर्क सर्किल–2)	रू. 195.90 लाख
वार्षिक अनुरक्षण		
27	ग्रेटर नौएडा के ग्राम छपरौला में तीन वर्ष तक अनुरक्षण कार्य। (वर्क सर्किल–1)	रू. 76.85 लाख
28	ग्रेटर नौएडा के ग्राम पल्ला पाली एवं थापखेड़ा में सरफेस ड्रेसिंग, जंगल सफाई, नाली सफाई, पेन्टिंग कार्य और अन्य विविध कार्य तीन वर्ष तक अनुरक्षण कार्य। (वर्क सर्किल–6)	रू. 125.60 लाख
29	ग्रेटर नौएडा में रोजा रोटरी से इटेरा रोटरी से पहले (यू–टर्न) तक 130 मीटर चौड़ी सड़क का तीन साल के लिए (ड्रेन सफाई, जंगल सफाई, फुटपाथ की मरम्मत, पेंटिंग, रोड मार्किंग और अन्य विविध कार्य) का रखरखाव/अनुरक्षण कार्य। (वर्क सर्किल–7)	रू. 128.26 लाख
30	ग्रेटर नौएडा में हिंडन ब्रिज से इटेरा रोटरी के बाद (यू–टर्न) तक 130 मीटर चौड़ी सड़क का तीन साल के लिए (ड्रेन सफाई, जंगल सफाई, फुटपाथ की मरम्मत, पेंटिंग, रोड मार्किंग और अन्य विविध कार्य) का रखरखाव/अनुरक्षण कार्य। (वर्क सर्किल–7)	रू. 134.88 लाख
31	ग्रेटर नौएडा में खैरपुर रोटरी से सैनी रोटरी तक 130 मीटर चौड़ी सड़क का तीन साल के लिए (ड्रेन सफाई, जंगल सफाई, फुटपाथ की मरम्मत, पेंटिंग, रोड मार्किंग और अन्य विविध कार्य) का रखरखाव/अनुरक्षण कार्य। (वर्क सर्किल–7)	रू. 141.69 लाख
32	ग्रेटर नौएडा में लोहिया नाले से दादरी बाईपास तक डी0एस0सी0 रोड का तीन वर्ष का अनुरक्षण कार्य। (वर्क सर्किल–3)	रू. 143.89 लाख
33	ग्रेटर नौएडा में ए0टी0एस0 रोटरी से मकोड़ा रोटरी तक एवं डेल्टा–3, टी–पाइंट से 130 मीटर तक सैक्टर जीटा–1 के आस पास 60 मी0 रोड का तीन वर्षों का अनुरक्षण कार्य। (वर्क सर्किल–5)	रू. 149.18 लाख
34	ग्रेटर नौएडा के सैक्टर म्यू–2, जू–2, जू–1, जू–2 के मध्य और रिक्रेशनल ग्रीन के साथ लगी 60 मीटर चौड़ी सड़क के अनुरक्षण का कार्य (नाली सफाई, जंगल सफाई, पेन्टिग, व्हाइट वॉस एवं अन्य विविध कार्य) का तीन वर्षों के लिए कार्य। (वर्क सर्किल–6)	रू. 149.55 लाख
35	ग्रेटर नौएडा के लोहिया एन्कलेव, ओमिकॉन–1ए में पटरी ड्रेसिंग, जंगल सफाई, पेन्टिग, और अन्य विविध कार्यों का तीन वर्षों के लिए कार्य। (वर्क सर्किल–6)	रू. 151.49 लाख
विद्युतीकरण के कार्य		
36	ग्रेटर नौएडा के ग्राम हतेवा, नवादा, बिसायच और घघोला ग्रामों में ई–लाइब्रेरी/ सामाजिक प्रयोजन भवन के लिए आंतरिक विद्युतीकरण कार्य। (वर्क सर्किल–ई0एण्डएम0–3)	रू. 06.16 लाख
37	ग्रेटर नौएडा के नामोली (भाग–2) गांव में जो 6 प्रतिशत आबादी वाला क्षेत्र है एल.ई.डी. स्ट्रीट लाईट उपलब्ध कराने का कार्य। (वर्क सर्किल–ई0एण्डएम0–2)	रू. 8.82 लाख
38	ग्रेटर नौएडा कार्यालय भवन में 2 एम.वी.ए. 33/0.415 के.वी. ड्राई टाइप ट्रांसफार्मर की रिपेयरिंग, इंस्टोलेशन, टेस्टिंग एवं कमीशनिंग का कार्य। (वर्क सर्किल–ई0एण्डएम0–2)	रू. 32.86 लाख
39	ग्रेटर नौएडा के सैक्टर के0पी0–4 स्थित कार्यालय भवन के लिए डी0जी0 सेट की सर्विसिंग का कार्य। (वर्क सर्किल–ई0एण्डएम0–2)	रू. 20.04 लाख
40	ग्रेटर नौएडा के विभिन्न ग्रामों में बनी पी0डब्लू0डी0 लिंक रोड पर एल0ई0डी0 स्ट्रीट लाईटों की आपूर्ति एवं स्थापित करने का कार्य। (वर्क सर्किल–ई0एण्डएम0–3)	रू. 69.49 लाख
41	ग्रेटर नौएडा के जी0एन0आई0डी0ए0 ऑफिस बिल्डिंग के0पी0–4 में स्थापित एस0टी0पी0 का एक वर्ष का अनुरक्षण एवं तीन वर्ष हेतु सी0ए0एम0सी0 का कार्य। (वर्क सर्किल–ई0 एण्ड एम0–2)	रू. 81.90 लाख
42	ओमेगा–1 गोल्फ लिंक सोसाइटी में स्ट्रीट लाईट लगाने का कार्य एवं तीन वर्ष अनुरक्षण का कार्य। (वर्क सर्किल–ई0एडएम0–3)	रू. 160.85 लाख
उद्यान विभाग		
43	ग्रेटर नौएडा में म्यू–2 और ओमीकॉन–2, जू–1, और ऑमीकॉन–1 तथा सैक्टर ओमीकॉन–2 और ओमीकॉन–1 के बीच सेन्ट्रल वर्ज में वृक्षारोपण और दो वर्ष हेतु रख रखाव का कार्य। (वर्क सर्किल–उद्यान)	रू. 36.39 लाख
44	ग्रेटर नौएडा में ओमीकॉन–1ए और आरसी ग्रीन तथा, जू–3, साइड और सैक्टर ऑमीकॉन–1ए बैक साइड सेन्ट्रल वर्ज में वृक्षारोपण और दो वर्ष हेतु रख रखाव का कार्य। (वर्क सर्किल–उद्यान)	रू. 109.33 लाख
45	ग्रेटर नौएडा में ओमीकॉन–1ए में दो वर्ष हेतु वृक्षों, झाड़ियों और लॉन के सिविल सहित अनुरक्षण का कार्य। (वर्क सर्किल–उद्यान)	रू. 109.38 लाख
46	ग्रेटर नौएडा के सैक्टर जैतपुर आबादी (एक्सटेंन्सन) कॉमिशयल क्षेत्र के पास अमलतास रोड़ से सटी 105 मीटर और 60 मीटर पर दो वर्ष हेतु वृक्षारोपण, झाड़ियों और लॉन की देख भाल एवं अनुरक्षण का कार्य। (वर्क सर्किल–उद्यान)	रू. 161.09 लाख
47	ग्रेटर नौएडा के सेक्टर अल्फा–2 में दो वर्षों के लिए पेड़ों झाड़ियों, और लॉन का रखरखाव, सहित सिविल कार्य। (वर्क सर्किल–उद्यान)	रू. 121.51 लाख
स्वास्थ्य विभाग		
48	ग्रेटर नौएडा में ग्राम पोवारी स्थित गौशाला में एक वर्ष हेतु हरे चारे की आपूर्ति का कार्य। (वर्क सर्किल–स्वास्थ्य)	रू. 70.84 लाख

(अ) क्रम सं0–01 से 26 तक के कार्यों को दिनांक–01.06.2026 से 10.06.2026 को 5:00 बजे तक अपलोड किया जा सकता है। प्राप्त ई–निविदाओं की प्री–क्वालिफिकेशन दिनांक 12.06.2026 को 11:00 बजे खोली जाएगी।

(ब) क्रम सं0–27 से 48 तक के कार्यों को दिनांक–04.06.2026 से 15.06.2026 को 5:00 बजे तक अपलोड किया जा सकता है। प्राप्त ई–निविदाओं की प्री–क्वालिफिकेशन दिनांक 17.06.2026 को 11:00 बजे खोली जाएगी।

वरिष्ठ प्रबंधक (ई–निविदा सेल)

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SALUTE THE SOLDIER

BORDER SECURITY FORCE

HC AMAR SINGH
16 BN BSF
26.06.1949 – 30.05.1992

L/NK A SASI
16 BN BSF
10.12.1957 – 30.05.1992

CT DIPEN KR DAS
16 BN BSF
05.01.1969 – 30.05.1992

CT ARUN KUMAR SINGH
16 BN BSF
15.10.1969 – 30.05.1992

CT MOHAN CHAVAN
16 BN BSF
01.06.1968 – 30.05.1992

CT SATVIR YADAV
16 BN BSF
30.05.1967 – 30.05.1992

Director General and all Ranks of Border Security Force remember its gallant Jawans Head Constable Amar Singh, Lance Naik A Sasi and Constables Dipen Kr Das, Arun Kumar Singh, Mohan Chavan and Satvir Yadav on their Balidan Diwas. On this day, they sustained fatal injuries in an IED blast triggered by militants in area of Jagraon, Ludhiana, Punjab and made ultimate sacrifice in the line of duty.

HEAD CONSTABLE
JAGDISH CHANDER
12 BN BSF
02.07.1965 – 30.05.2002

CONSTABLE
PRADEEP SINGH
12 BN BSF
13.05.1967 – 30.05.2002

Director General and all Ranks of Border Security Force remember its gallant Jawans Head Constable Jagdish Chander and Constable Pradeep Singh on their Balidan Diwas. On this day, they sustained fatal bullet injuries, while fighting with militants in area of CI Post Thuru, Jammu and made ultimate sacrifice in the line of duty.

CONSTABLE
SRIPADA DEB
59 BN BSF
08.02.1967 – 30.05.1990

Director General and all Ranks of Border Security Force remember its gallant Jawan Constable Sripada Deb on his Balidan Diwas. On this day, he sustained fatal bullet injuries while fighting with miscreants in area of BOP Patharghate, West Bengal and made ultimate sacrifice n the line of duty.

CONSTABLE
SUKH RAM BISHNOI
81 BN BSF
08.07.1974 – 30.05.1996

Director General and all Ranks of Border Security Force remember its gallant Jawan Constable Sukh Ram Bishnoi on his Balidan Diwas. On this day, he sustained fatal bullet injuries during a counter terror operation in Srinagar area, J&K and later succumbed to his injuries at 92 Base hospital, Srinagar.

CENTRAL RESERVE POLICE FORCE

Veer Balidani
Naik Indra Bahadur Subba
38 Bn
15-02-1943 To 30-05-198

Veer Balidani
Lance Naik Bishan Singh
38 Bn

Veer Balidani Lance Naik
Bachhan Singh
38 Bn
31-08-1949 To 30-05-1989

Veer Balidani
Constable
Ram Gopal Yadav
38 Bn
18-01-1947 To 30-05-1989

Veer Balidani
Constable
Diwaker Swain
38 Bn
03-04-1968 To 30-05-1989

Veer Balidani
Constable
Din Mohammad
38 Bn
01-11-1968 To 30-05-1989

DG and all Ranks of #CRPF pay solemn tribute to six bravehearts of 38 Bn, who made the supreme sacrifice while bravely countering an ambush by terrorists during an area domination patrol at Mehmoodpur village, Tarn Taran, Punjab on 30 May 1989. #CRPF salutes the bravehearts and pledges never to let their sacrifice go in vain.

Veer Balidani
Constable
G. Ranganathan
2 Bn
27-01-1981 To 30-05-2008

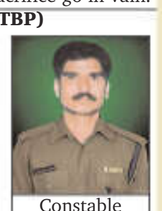
DG and all Ranks of #CRPF pay solemn tribute to Constable G. Ranganathan of 2 Bn, who made the supreme sacrifice after being seriously injured in a cowardly attack by a Maoist during an area domination patrol at Majhar Parakate Kalyan market, district Dantewada, Chhattisgarh on 30 May 2008. #CRPF salutes the braveheart and pledges never to let his sacrifice go in vain.

INDO-TIBETAN BORDER POLICE(ITBP)

Dy. Commandant Joy Lal

Head Constable Khajan Singh

Head Constable Shamsher Singh


Constable Kailash Chand

ITBPsalutes its bravehearts Dy. Commandant Joy Lal, Head Constable Khajan Singh, Head Constable Shamsher Singh & Constable Kailash Chand of 4th Battalion, who made the supreme sacrifice in the line of duty on this day in J&K in 1999.

कार्यालय महाप्रबन्धक(सि०), उ0प्र0 राज्य औद्योगिक विकास प्राधिकरण
ए-1/4, लखनपुर, कानपुर

ई-निविदा सूचना

एतदद्वारा सूचित किया जाता है, कि विभिन्न औद्योगिक क्षेत्रों के अन्तर्गत विकास/अनुरक्षण/उच्चीकरण कार्यों हेतु सरकारी विभागों/सार्वजनिक उपक्रमों/निगमों/प्राधिकरणों/परिषदों/नगर निकायों में कार्यरत फर्मों/ठेकेदारों से ई–निविदायें आमंत्रित की जाती है, जिसको अपलोड करने की समय सीमा निम्नवत् है:–

अंकित कार्य की निविदा दिनांक 01.06.2026 को पूर्वान्ह 11.00 बजे से दिनांक 22.06.2026 को अपरान्ह 5.00 बजे तक अपलोड की जा सकती हैं, जिन्हें दिनांक 22.06.2026 को अपरान्ह 5.30 बजे खोला जायेगा (पूर्णकालिक)

निविदादाताओं द्वारा केवल शपथ पत्रों की मूलप्रतियों निविदा प्रपत्रों में उल्लिखित दिनांक तक कार्यालय में जमा की जा सकेंगी। ई–निविदा के माध्यम से आमंत्रित की जाने वाली निविदाओं का विवरण निम्नवत् है:–

क्रमांक	कार्य का नाम	कार्य की लागत रू0 (लाख में)
1	Annual Maintenance work For I.A. EPIP Kasna Distt. G.B. Nagar	121.14
2	Annual Maintenance work For I.A. Surajpur Site-4 Distt. G.B. Nagar	110.33
3	Annual Maintenance work For I.A. Site-5 Kasna Distt. G.B. Nagar	166.20
4	Annual Maintenance work For I.A. Surajpur Site-B Distt. G.B. Nagar	124.75
5	Annual Maintenance work For I.A. Surajpur Site-C Distt. G.B. Nagar	159.18

नोटः–निविदादाता अपनी निविदाओं में समस्त कर सहित दरें अंकित करें। जी0एस0टी0 अलग से देय होगा। निविदा सम्बन्धी विस्तृत जानकारी प्राधिकरण की website: https://beta.upsidamarketplace.com पर स्थित ई–लिंक एवं यूपीएलसी की website: http://etender.up.nic.in पर देखी जा सकती है। अन्य जानकारी हेतु कार्यालय के वरिष्ठ प्रबन्धक (सिविल–मु0) के श्री राजीव कुमार मोबाइल नं0 9910017449 पर सम्पर्क किया जा सकता है।

महाप्रबन्धक(सि0), उ0प्र0रा0औ0वि0प्रा0, कानपुर

GOVERNMENT OF HARYANA
DEPARTMENT OF TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING, HARYANA

PUBLIC NOTICE

The Hon'ble Supreme Court of India vide order dated 18.05.2026 in M.A. No. 89/2026 in W.P. (Civil) No. 876 of 1996 and connected matters in the case titled "Okhla Enclave Plot Holders Welfare Association Vs. Union of India & Others" given some directions for effective implementation of the judgement dated 03.10.2019 & 25.04.2025. In compliance of the said directions, all concerned individuals/ associations/ forums/claimants having claims in respect of the project in question namely Okhla Enclave, Phase-I & II of Durga Builders Pvt. Ltd. in sector-91, Faridabad are hereby informed to submit their claims/representations along with supporting documents in respect of residential/commercial/institutional category plots in the office of the Nodal Officer-cum-Senior Town Planner Faridabad, Room no. 303, 2nd Floor, HSVP Complex, Sector-12, Faridabad - 121007 (Ph. no. 0129-2220705, e-mail id- stpfbd.nodalofficer.tcp@gmail.com), **within 04 weeks from the date of publication of this Public Notice.**

The claims shall be accompanied with the following documents/details:

1. Copy of allotment letter/agreement along with receipts/proof of payments made to the Colonizer showing details and date of allotment.
2. Affidavit of the claimant/applicant stating that:
   - the claim/allotment has not been cancelled by the Colonizer at any stage;
   - the claimant has not transferred/sold the plot/allotment to any other third person i.e no third-party rights have been created in respect of the said claim/allotment;
   - details of any earlier claim/application/ representation/ proceeding filed in respect of the same plot/transaction; and
   - whether any member of the same family has filed any separate claim in respect of the project.
3. Copy of sale deed/agreement/transfer documents, if any, showing ownership/right in respect of the claim/allotment.
4. Identity proof of the claimant/applicant (Aadhaar Card/PAN Card/ Voter ID/ Passport/Driving Licence etc.) along with one passport size photograph.

Note:

i. All claims/applications/representations must be submitted only before the Nodal Officer, and none of the claimants, association, repetitive body or any other person shall be permitted directly approach/ communicate with the Learned Special Committee.
ii. The final date of submission of such claims and representation, which shall not be later than 4 weeks from the date of publication of this public notice.
Submission of a claim does not guarantee acceptance, and no application or representation submitted after the cut-off date shall be entertained, except pursuant to the further order of the Hon'ble Supreme Court.
iv. This Public Notice is issued for ensuring orderly and time-bound implementation of the directions issued by the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India.

Dated:..../...../.....
Sd/-
Devender Pal Nodal
No. 45730/HRY **Officer -cum-STP, Faridabad**

The Kerala Minerals and Metals Ltd
(A Govt. of Kerala Undertaking) Sankaramangalam, Kollam-691 583
Phone: 0476-2651215 to 2651217, e-mail: md@kmml.com, URL: www.kmml.com

TENDER NOTICE

For more details please visit E-Tendering Portal, https://etenders.kerala.gov.in or www.kmml.com

Sl No.	Tender ID	Items
1	2026_KMML_853258_1	Supply of Poly Aluminium Chloride Gr.Commercial SAB-18
2	2026_KMML_853226_1	Supply of safety shoes for DCW Employees

Chavara 29.05.2026 Sd/- Managing Director for The Kerala Minerals and Metals Ltd

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PROCLAMATION REQUIRING THE APPEARANCE OF ACCUSED PERSON

See Section 82 Cr. P.C / 84 Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita, 2023

Whereas complaint has been made before me that accused Namely: **Lakhan, S/o. Dinesh, R/o. Jhuggi No. 322, Faiz Road, Karol Bagh, Delhi Also at: Vegabond, Near New Delhi Railway Station** has committed (or is suspected to has committed) the offence in a case vide **FIR No.221/2022 U/S 379/411 IPC** registered at **P.S. Nabi Karim, Central District, Delhi,** and it has been returned to a warrant of arrest thereupon issued stating that the said accused **Lakhan** cannot be found and whereas it has been shown to my satisfaction that accused **Lakhan** is absconded (or is concealing himself to avoid the service of the said warrant).

Proclamation is hereby made that the said **Lakhan**, accused of **FIR No. 221/2022 U/S 379/411 IPC, P.S. Nabi Karim, Central District, Delhi** is required to appear before the court to answer the said complaint on or before **30.07.2026.**

By Order, Dr. Raj Kumar Singh,
Judicial Magistrate First Class-05 (Central),
Central District, Room No. 241,
Tis Hazari Court, Delhi

DP/7043/CD/2026
(Court Matter)

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

// सर्व संबंधित को सूचना //

भारत सरकार, पर्यावरण वन एवं जलवायु परिवर्तन मंत्रालय, नई दिल्ली की ई.आई.ए. अधिसूचना दिनांक 14/09/2006 (यथा संशोधित) के अन्तर्गत सर्व साधारण को सूचित किया जाताहै कि मेसर्स छत्तीसगढ़ मिनरल डेव्हलपमेंट कार्पोरेशन लिमिटेड, (सरभंजा बाक्साईट माईन), ग्राम - सरभंजा, तह. - मैनपाट, जिला- सरगुजा स्थित कुल क्षेत्रफल - 207.87 हेक्टेयर (निजी भूमि - 76.63 हेक्टेयर एवं शासकीय भूमि - 131.24 हेक्टेयर) में प्रस्तावित बाक्साईट (मुख्य खनिज) उत्खनन क्षमता-8,36,939.10 टन प्रतिवर्ष, रोम - 2,30,769.23 टन प्रतिवर्ष, ओव्हर बर्डन क्षमता - 6,06,169.87 टन प्रतिवर्ष, अपशिष्ट - 80,769.23 टन प्रतिवर्ष के पर्यावरणीय स्वीकृति हेतु लोक सुनवाई मुख्यालय, छत्तीसगढ़ पर्यावरण संरक्षण मंडल, नवा रायपुर अटल नगर, रायपुर में आवेदन किया गया है। उक्त परियोजना के संबंध में आपत्तियां / सुझाव / विचार, टीका-टिप्पणियाँ, इस सूचना के जारी होने के दिनांक से 30 दिवस के भीतर क्षेत्रीय कार्यालय, छत्तीसगढ़ पर्यावरण संरक्षण मण्डल, कन्या परिसर रोड, शासकीय आयुर्वेदिक चिकित्सालय के पास, नमनाकला गंगापुर, अंबिकापुर, जिला- सरगुजा (छ.ग.) के कार्यालय में मौखिक या लिखित रूप से कार्यालयीन समय में प्रस्तुत की जा सकती है। इस परियोजना के लिए **लोक सुनवाई 02/07/2026 को समय 11:00 बजे स्थल - माध्यमिक विद्यालय, सरभंजा, तह. - मैनपाट, जिला - सरगुजा (छ.ग.) में नियत की गई है।**

ई.आई.ए. अधिसूचना दिनांक 14/09/2006 (यथा संशोधित) प्रावधानों के अनुसार ड्राफ्ट ई.आई.ए. रिपोर्ट, कार्यपालक सार की प्रतियां (हिन्दी व अंग्रेजी में) एवं इसकी सी. डी. (साफ्ट कॉपी) जन सामान्य के अवलोकन / पठन हेतु डॉयरेक्टर, पर्यावरण, वन एवं जलवायु परिवर्तन मंत्रालय, भारत सरकार, इंदिरा पर्यावरण भवन, जोरबाग रोड, नई दिल्ली, साईटिस्ट 'डी' एकीकृत क्षेत्रीय कार्यालय, पर्यावरण, वन एवं जलवायु परिवर्तन मंत्रालय, अरण्य भवन, नार्थ ब्लाक, सेक्टर-19, नवा रायपुर अटल नगर, जिला - रायपुर, कार्यालय कलेक्टर, अंबिकापुर, जिला- सरगुजा (छ.ग.), कार्यालय मुख्य कार्यपालन अधिकारी, जिला पंचायत, अंबिकापुर, जिला- सरगुजा (छ.ग.), अनुविभागीय अधिकारी (रा.), कार्यालय अनुविभागीय अधिकारी (रा.) सीतापुर, जिला- सरगुजा (छ.ग.), मुख्य कार्यपालन अधिकारी, जनपद पंचायत, मैनपाट, जिला- सरगुजा (छ.ग.), कार्यालय महाप्रबंधक, जिला व्यापार एवं उद्योग केन्द्र, अंबिकापुर, जिला- सरगुजा (छ.ग.), उपसंचालक / खनि अधिकारी, कार्यालय कलेक्टर (खनिज शाखा), अंबिकापुर, जिला- सरगुजा (छ.ग.), सरपंच / सचिव, कार्यालय ग्राम पंचायत - सरभंजा, लुरेना, पथरई, केसरा, असगवां, पैगा, कंचीरा, डांडकेसरा, परपटिया, नर्मदापुर, बरीमा, कमलेष्वरपुर, कुदारीडीह, कुनिया, लब्जी, तह. - मैनपाट, जिला- सरगुजा (छ.ग.), सदस्य सचिव, मुख्यालय, छत्तीसगढ़ पर्यावरण संरक्षण मण्डल, पर्यावास भवन, नार्थ ब्लाक, सेक्टर-19, नवा रायपुर अटल नगर, जिला - रायपुर (छ.ग.) एवं क्षेत्रीय अधिकारी, क्षेत्रीय कार्यालय, छत्तीसगढ़ पर्यावरण संरक्षण मण्डल, कन्या परिसर रोड, शासकीय आयुर्वेदिक चिकित्सालय के पास, नमनाकला गंगापुर, तह. - अंबिकापुर, जिला - सरगुजा (छ.ग.) में रखी गई है।

सदस्य सचिव
छत्तीसगढ़ पर्यावरण संरक्षण मंडल,
नवा रायपुर, अटल नगर, रायपुर (छ.ग.)

DISTRICT POLICE HEADQUARTERS KATHUA

E- mail: sspkathua@jkpolice.gov.in, Fax/Phone No.: 01922-234010

LOOK OUT NOTICE

On 21-05-2026, one person namely Vinod Kumar S/O Krishan Chand R/O Chack Sardar Desa Singh Tehsil and District Kathua lodged a written report at Police Station Kathua stating therein that on 20-05-2026 at about 2330 hrs his daughter namely Tanshika, age 18 years is missing from home. The complainant and his family members tried their best to search the missing girl but all in vain. On this, missing report vide DD No. 06 dated 21-05-2026 has been entered at Police Station Kathua.

During the course of investigation, best efforts were made to locate missing individual, whereas she is still un-traced.

As such Description Roll/Photograph of said missing individual is being shared with the appeal that anybody having clue/information about her whereabouts may inform us accordingly. The informer will be rewarded suitably:-

- Name — Tanshika Kattal
- Father — Vinod Kumar
- Permanent Address — Chack Sardar Desa Singh Kathua
- Present Address — Chack Sardar Desa Singh Kathua
- Tehsil — Kathua
- Police Station — Kathua
- Age — 18 years
- Height — 5 feet 3 inch
- Complexion — Fair
- Built — Normal
- Face — Oval
- Eyes — Black
- Languages known — Hindi/ Dogri

Any information related to the whereabouts of the subject may be communicated on following contacts:-

1. DPO Kathua- 01922-234010 (Phone/Fax)
2. dpokathua@jkpolice.gov.in (Mail ID)
3. PCR Kathua- 01922-234311(Phone/Fax)
4. Police Station Kathua – 01922-234310

Sr. Superintendent of Police
Kathua.

DIP/J-2834/26- DATE 29 MAY 2026

EAST CENTRAL RAILWAY

TENDER NOTICE

E-TENDER NOTICE No. SG-664-06-Sig-2026-27

E-TENDER IS INVITED ON BEHALF OF THE PRESIDENT OF INDIA FOR THE UNDER MENTIONED WORK.

1. Name of the work : Replacement of defective S&T cables, Decayed/worn-out Location Boxes, overaged track relays and other equipments in section of DSTE/KQR & ASTE/GMO. **2. Appox. Cost of the work :** ₹ 5,30,98,401.96 (Approx), **3. Earnest Money :** ₹ 10,62,000.00, **4. Date & time for closing of tender :** 15.06.2026 at 12:30 Hrs., **5.** Any E-Tenders which is sent by Post / Courier / FAX or self, Manual proposals although the letter is on firms letter pad or received in time will not be accepted. The above E-Tenders, E-Tendering document alongwith full information is available on website i.e. **http//www.ireps.gov.in**

Note :- Tenderers are requested to visit the website **http//www.ireps.gov.in** atleast 10 days before last date of closing for latest corrigendum / corrections etc. in response to this E-tender. **Sr. D.S.T.E., Dhanbad**

PR/296/DHN/S&T/T/26-27/32

EAST CENTRAL RAILWAY

TENDER NOTICE
No. DNR/S&T/Sig/2026/7

Divisional Railway, Manager (Signal & Telecom), East Central Railway, Danapur Division, for and on behalf of President of India invites tenders on web portal www.ireps.gov.in for the following work: **(1) Name of work with its location:** Improvement in existing Earthing and Surge protection arrangement as per latest RDSO-TAN version 3.0 at S&T installation in KCA-JAJ section & Improvement of earthing arragnements at mid-section Interlocked LC gates under Danapur Division. **(2) Approximate cost of work:** Rs. 50787270.90 **(3) Earnest Money:** Rs. 1015800.00 **(4) Last Date & Time of Submission:** Up to 15:00 hrs. on 19.06.2026 **(5) Opening of tender:** 15:00 hrs. on 19.06.2026 **(6) Website particulars where detail of the work and criteria can be seen: www.ireps.gov.in (7) Address of the office from where detail information can be obtained.:** Sr. Divnl. Signal & Telecommunication Engineer, East Central Railway, Danapur **Note:** Any corrigendum if required will be uploaded on above website before 14 days.

Asst. Signal & Telecom Engineer
East Central Railway, Danapur
PR/0318/DNR/S&T/T/26-27/36

S. E. RAILWAY – TENDER

e-Tenders against open tenders are invited by Divisional Railway Manager (Engg), S.E.Railway, Chakradharpur for & on behalf of the President of India for the following works. Manual offers are not allowed against these tenders and any such manual offer received shall be ignored. **Sl. No. & Tender Notice No.; Name of work; Tender value; EMD: (1) CKP-CENTRAL-26-27-12, dated 27.05.2026;** Manufacturing, supply and stacking of 55,000 Cum machine crushed Track Ballast conforming to RDSO Specification No. IRS-GE-1 with latest correction slips issued up to the date of inviting tender, at all yards, bridge approaches and other nominated locations as directed by the Engineer-in-Charge, in the section between Rajkharsawan and Gua under Chakradharpur Division; ₹ 10,21,74,600/-; ₹ 20,43,500/-. **(2) CKP-EAST-26-27-20, dated 27.05.2026;** Augmentation of water supply arrangement at Adityapur (ADTP) Railway Station; ₹ 7,96,53,955.55; ₹ 15,93,100/-. **(3) CKP-EAST-26-27-12, dated 27.05.2026;** Construction of yard drains and drain cum retaining wall of various sizes in TATA yard (All yards including bulb line); ₹ 12,19,63,101.35; ₹ 24,39,300/-. **(4) CKP-WEST-26-27-11, dated 27.05.2026;** Through Ballast Renewal along with deep screening under the jurisdiction of Sr. Divisional Engineer (West)/Chakradharpur (2nd call); ₹ 8,09,87,310.73; ₹ 16,19,800/- **(5) CKP-WEST-26-27-10, dated 27.05.2026;** (i) Construction of Parcel office and RMS building including associated Electrical works (Composite work) at Jharsuguda Railway Station (ii) Civil Engineering work in connection with Interlocking of Non-interlocked Engineering Level Crossing Gate Nos. B11 (Bondamunda Yard), RB-I (Rourkela-Kuarmunda) and RB-I (Link C-DMF) in Chakradharpur Division; ₹ 8,01,35,280.75; ₹ 16,02,700/-. **Cost of Tender Form :** 0.00 for each. **Date of Opening :** 23.06.2026 for sl. no. 1, 19.06.2026 for sl. no. 2, 3 & 4 and 18.06.2026 for sl. no. 5. The tender can be viewed at website **http://www.ireps.gov.in** The tenderer/bidders must have Class-III Digital Signature Certificate & must be registered under on IREPS portal. Only registered tenderer/bidder can participate on e-tendering. **Note:** e-Tender Forms shall be issued free of cost to all tenderers. (Authority–Railway Board's letter No. 2020/CE-I/CT/3E/GCC/Policy dtd. 16.07.2020). **(PR-245)**

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF ENGINEER INDORE
PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT, INDORE

Opp. Gayatri Mandir, Old Palasia Indore-452001

Email: cepwdwest@mp.nic.in, **Phone: 0731-2491825**

NIT No. 05/Gen./40/2026-27 **Indore, dated 26/05/2026**

"Notice Inviting Tender"

Online tender in three envelope system is hereby invited for the following work. Details of works can be seen on the website http://mptenders.gov.in

No.	Portal No.	District	Name of work	Probable amount of Contract (In Lacs)	Amount of EMD (In Rs.)	Cost of Tender form (In Rs.)	Time allowed for completion
1.	2026_PWD RB_510804	Indore	Construction of center divider work with center lighting work from Niranjanpur square to Mangliya Road opposite of TATA showroom AB Road Lasudiya Indore (OLD AB ROAD) Road Length 07.00km. (Fourth Called)	639.98	639980/-	20000/-	06 Month's including rainy Season
2.	2026_PWD RB_510806	Burhanpu	Strengthening Nimbola of Mangrul Thatar Baldi Utambi Bori Bujurg Road Length 6.30km. (Second Called)	671.92	671920/-	20000/-	08 Month's including rainy Season
		Total-	1311.9 Lacs				

The document can only be purchased online from the above website after making online payment. The last date & time for purchase of document and bid submission online is dated 12.06.2026 up to 17:30. Detailed NIT and other details can be viewed on the above-mentioned portal.

Amendments to NIT, if any would be published on website only, and not in newspaper. Submit all the mandatory documents online on above mentioned website. Do not submit any physical document in the office.

Sd/-
Chief Engineer
G-13652/26 **P.WD. Indore, Zone Indore**

UTTARAKHAND SUB AREA CANTEEN

VACANCY FOR CONTRACTUAL EMPLOYMENT IN UTTARAKHAND SUB AREA CANTEEN & EXTN COUNTER VIKASNAGAR

1. Applications are invited by HQ Uttarakhand Sub Area from candidates for the following post for Uttarakhand Sub Area Canteen, Dehradun & Extn Counter Vikasnagar on 11 months Contractual Basis.

Sl. No.	Appt	Vacancy		
		Dehradun	Vikasnagar	Total
(a)	Asst Mgr	1	1	2
(b)	Security Supervisor	1	-	1
(c)	Store Supervisor	1	-	1
(d)	Floor Manager	2	-	2
(e)	Accountant	1	1	2
(f)	Assistant Accountant	1	-	1
(g)	Canteen Clerk	1	-	1
(h)	Computer Operators	36	02	38
(j)	Sales Person	03	-	03
(k)	Security Guard	08	-	08
(l)	Chowkidar	07	04	11
(m)	Safaiwala	2	1	3
(n)	Multi Tasking Staff (MTS)	08	1	09
	Total	**72**	**10**	**82**

2. **THE APPLICATION FORMS FOR ABOVE MENTIONED POSTS ALONGWITH THEIR QUALITATIVE REQUIREMENT (QR) ARE AVAILABLE IN UTTARAKHAND SUB AREA CANTEEN, GARHI CANTT, DEHRADUN-248003.**
3. Interested candidates/applicants are requested to submit the form alongwith their handwritten application alongwith biodata, contact number & self-attested photocopies of testimonials in support of educational qualification, work experience and copy of PAN Card and Aadhar Card to 447 Company ASC Supply (Type G), Near Supply Chowk, Garhi Cantt, Dehradun 248003 **by 1400h on 20 Jun 2026.**
4. Any application received after 1400h on **20 Jun 2026,** without contact number **and desirable documents** will not be accepted. **Priority will be given to Ex-Servicemen, Veer Naries/Widows and their wards. Preference will be given to residents of Dehradun, Uttarakhand.**

Educational Qualification.

(a) Minimum qualification is 10+2 (except for Class IV employees).
(b) **For Class-IV.** 8th pass.
(c) **For Computer Operators.** Diploma/Certificate in Computers.
(d) **For Sales Person.** Minimum one year experience in any commercial organization.
(e) **Accountant/Assistant Accountant.** Graduation with minimum one year experience in accounts handling.

5. **Age Limit.** Minimum age limit is 18 yrs & maximum is 58 yrs on the date of publication of the advt.
6. **There will be relaxation for age, qualification and experience for ex-servicemen/war widows/widows and wards of serving/ex-servicemen based on the discretion of the Managing Committee/Selection Board.**
7. Selection process will involve scrutiny of documents, computer proficiency test, written test, skills test, physical test and personal interview based on the Qualitative Requirement (QR).
8. The applications will be scrutinized by BOO and only short-listed candidates will be called for selection process. Subsequently merit will be drawn for successful candidates.
9. **Duration of Employment.** - Only 11 months on contractual basis **(02 Aug 2026 to 01 Jul 2027)**
10. **Biodata Duly Mentioning Mobile No- to be Submitted to** - 447 Company ASC Supply (Type G), Near Supply Chowk, Garhi Cantt, Dehradun-248003,Uttarakhand
11. Last date of submission of application - **20 Jun 2026**
12. Scrutiny of Applications - **22 Jun to 25 Jun 2026**
13. Date of computer proficiency test, written test, skills test, physical test and interview - **06 to 11 Jul 2026**
14. For queries, contact - Uttarakhand Sub Area Canteen. Tele-0135-2755261/ Canteen Office, HQ UK Sub Area.
15. The office authority reserves the right for any amendment, cancellation and changes in whole, or in part, without assigning any reason.

Note: If selected canteen staff are found guilty of indiscipline, insubordination, unprofessional conduct, incompetence, or falsifying eligibility details, their contract will be terminated immediately. This termination is without prejudice to other legal remedies and without any financial liability to the employer.

OIC Canteen

AMARAVATI DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION LIMITED (ADCL)
(CIN Number : U93000AP2015SGC105535), Email : ccdmc.amaravati@gmail.com
Block 4, APCRDA Project office, Rayapudi Post, Tulluru (M), Amaravati, Guntur (Dist.), A.P - 522237

E-PROCUREMENT - REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL

NIT No. 414/IPD/ADCL/2026 **Date: 29.05.2026**

Name of Assignment: Request for Proposal for Engagement of PMC for Construction Supervision and Project Management of Lump Sum Contract (%Tender) Works including DLP of 2 Years for works of : (1) Package XXXVII: Flood Protection and Strengthening of Inspection of Right Bank of River Krishna E1 Road (Karakatta) from Ch.0+300 to Ch.2+480; (2) Package XXXVIII: Flood Protection and Strengthening of Inspection of Right Bank of River Krishna E1 Road (Karakatta) from Ch.2+480 to Ch.4+990; (3) Package XXXIX: Flood Protection and Strengthening of Inspection of Right Bank of River Krishna E1 Road (Karakatta) from Ch.4+990 to Ch.7+200; (4) Package XXXXX: Flood Pumping Station-2 (8400 Cusec Capacity) at Undavalli Village; (5) Package XXXXXIII: 2 Lane Bridge including Shiplock & Regulator for Kondaveetivagu and Guntur Channel; and (6) Package XXXXXVIII: Construction of Roads, Drains, Water Supply, Sewerage, Utility Ducts for Power & ICT, Reuse Waterline, STP & Avenue Plantation compatible with Trunk Infrastructure Layouts for Land Pooling Scheme Layout in Zone-11 at Undavalli Village in Amaravati, Capital City of Andhra Pradesh.

The above bid can be downloaded on AP e-procurement portal from **Dt. 30.05.2026 @18:00 Hrs to Dt. 22.06.2026 @15:00 Hrs.** Due date for submission of Bid is **Dt.22.06.2026 @16:00 Hrs,** Technical Bid opening is on **Dt. 22.06.2026 @16.00 Hrs.** For further details please refer to 'Tender' section of **www.apeprocurement.gov.in** and **www.adcl.in**

Sd/- Chairperson & Managing Director

GOVERNMENT OF HARYANA TENDER NOTICE

SR. No.	NAME OF BOARD/CORP./AUTH	NAME OF WORK NOTICE TENDER	OPENING DATE CLOSING DATE	AMOUNT / EMD (APPROX.) IN RUPEES	WEBSITE OF THE BOARD CORP./AUTH	NODAL OFFICER/CONTACT DETAILS/EMAIL
1	MUNICIPAL CORPORATION, ROHTAK	ESTIMATE FOR OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE OF RAILWAY UNDERPASS LHS 106A (DOUBLE-FATAK) ROHTAK WARD NO. 15, M.C. ROHTAK	28.05.2026 04.06.2026	Rs. 21.56 LACS	https://etenders.hry.nic.in	9467283967 xenmcrohtak@gmail.com
2	MUNICIPAL CORPORATION, ROHTAK	DESILTING OF NALA IN VARIOUS WARDS 07, 10, 11, 12, 15, 18, 20, 21 IN M.C. ROHTAK	28.05.2026 04.06.2026	Rs. 24.53 LACS	https://etenders.hry.nic.in	9467283967 xenmcrohtak@gmail.com

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION KINDLY VISIT : www.haryanaeprocurement.gov.in or www.etenders.hry.nic.in **No. 45733/HR**

GOVERNMENT OF HARYANA CORRIGENDUM

SR. No.	NAME OF BOARD CORP./ AUTH	OLD REFERENCE/ NIT NO.	NATURE OF CORRIGENDUM	WEBSITE OF THE BOARD CORP./AUTH	NODAL OFFICER/CONTACT DETAILS/EMAIL
1	HVPNL	NIET NO. 17/TS/PWL/2025-26, DATE: 24.03.2026 (REFERENCE NO. 20267EE73FD7 F49C 4C11 A06B 39A0B3FD136C977HVP) FOR THE WORK OF AUGMENTATION OF EXISTING 220KV DOUBLE BUS BAR WITH TWIN 0.4 SQ. INCH ACSR CONDUCTOR TO 220KV DOUBLE BUS BAR WITH TWIN TARANTULA CONDUCTOR AT 220KV S/STN., PALWAL. (TENDER ID- 2026_HBC_510607_1) (DNIT NO. 0324202613-34-27/156704)	The date of online bid submission is extended upto 03.06.2026	www.hvpn.org.in	0172-2583789 pro@hvpn.org.in
2	HVPNL	NIET NO. 17/TS/PWL/2025-26, DATE: 24.03.2026 (REFERENCE NO. 2026AB05ADBD 37F1 4937 B5E0 776B4932A1E3977HVP) FOR THE WORK OF AUGMENTATION OF EXISTING 66KV DOUBLE BUS BAR WITH TWIN 0.4 SQ. INCH ACSR CONDUCTOR TO 66 KV DOUBLE BUS BAR WITH TWIN TARANTULA CONDUCTOR AT 220KV S/STN., PALWAL (TENDER ID- 2026_HBC_510610_1) (DNIT NO. 0324202613-49-59/156707)	The date of online bid submission is extended upto 03.06.2026	www.hvpn.org.in	0172-2583789 pro@hvpn.org.in
3	HVPNL	NIET NO. 19/TS/PWL/2025-26, DATE: 24.03.2026 (REFERENCE NO. 2026A4A15357 7095 4528 977B A5D6AA6A26AD977HVP) FOR THE WORK OF AUGMENTATION OF EXISTING 66KV SINGLE BUS BAR WITH TWIN 0.4 SQ. INCH ACSR CONDUCTOR TO 66 KV SINGLE BUS BAR WITH TWIN 0.4 SQ. INCH ACSR CONDUCTOR AT 66KV S/STN., MANDKOLA (PALWAL) (TENDER ID- 2026_HBC_510612_1) (DNIT NO. 0324202614-02-48/156728)	The date of online bid submission is extended upto 28.05.2026	www.hvpn.org.in	0172-2583789 pro@hvpn.org.in

**FOR

Shubhra Gupta

The Art of Not Fitting In

UNDER ITS deceptively calm surface, there's a lot going on in Tribeny Rai's assured debut, *Shape Of Momo*. Based on Rai's own experiences, the film assimilates several themes — search of self, the definition of home, gender roles, family ties — in a film which has the courage to back a lead character who refuses to conform, or to be likeable.

While the other themes are familiar, the creation of Bishnu — stubborn and soft at the same time — breaks free from the good girl trap that most female characters find themselves confined in, in our mainstream cinema. Only recently have we had characters (Varsha Bharath's *Bad Girl*) that have broken free and in turn allowed the films to chart unexplored territories.

Played by Gaumaya Gurung, who bears a startling resemblance to the director, Bishnu is the kind of girl whose headstrong behaviour drives her mother (Pashupati Rai) and her visiting pregnant sister (Shyama Shree Sherpa) up the wall. Having returned to her native Sikkim village from Delhi, where one of her poems in 'English' has been published, no less, in a newspaper, Bishnu will now be matched suitably, get married, and make perfectly shaped momos, the acme of all accomplishment.

Wait. Scratch that. Bishnu will have nothing to do with shapely momos, even if that means turning her back on her personable suitor (Rahul Mukhia). She will, instead, daydream by a running stream, curled up much like a human momo, be vocal about wanting to turn their large home nestled in a meadow into a homestay (there's a snarky line about 'picturesque homestays' which makes you smile), and lift a heavy gas cylinder by herself, much to her mother's horror. It's bad enough that the father, the strong male protector, is no more; Bishnu, striding about in shapeless fleece jackets and pants, is beyond.

An interesting thread is raised, as the insider-outsider debate rages in the North-East, when a working-class family unit which has lived in their outhouse is asked to leave: a woman whose husband is away earning money for the family, who is also in charge of a sick daughter, and a mutinous teenage son who resents Bishnu's high-handed ways, refusing to be mollified by a gift of apples. They have gone to Nepal, we are told. A break-in, never explained, becomes enough reason for the local cops to roll up a group of men, who may or may not have had anything to do with it. While never making it explicit, the film taps into the rise of suspicion and distrust, mirroring current political realities, among people who've lived peaceably all these years.

The inclusion of a grandmother makes it a family of four women, who feel the absence of men in different ways: the grandma, old and bedridden but still feisty, waiting for her Dubai-based son, who thinks a new iphone is a good enough replacement for his presence; the mother remembering her dead husband who would tell off pesky intruders; the sister having to take permission for every small thing in her marital home, with the husband presumably happier being his mamma's boy, and Bishnu herself who likes the man willing to give her space, but who would not acceptable should he turn into an arbiter of the shape of her momos.

The fact that he could perhaps help her in making those delectable edibles doesn't occur to her because the film refuses to box her in. That her mother understands Bishnu's reluctance to give in to the relentless domesticity of perfectly shaped momos is even more noteworthy, in a film full of telling strokes and real performances, with only a few obvious strands. And that's clearly a scripting triumph: Rai has co-written the film with Kislay (the director of the terrific *Aise Hee*), creating a gentle, felt tapestry of dreams and desires.

SHAPE OF MOMO
★★★½
DIRECTOR: Tribeny Rai
CAST: Gaumaya Gurung, Shyama Shree Sherpa, Pashupati Rai, Rahul Mukhia, Bhanu Maya Rai

The Safes and the Sound

Shalini Langer

PARAPHRASING BILLY Joel's *Piano Man*, if you'all in the mood for a melody, this film has got you feelin' alright.

Seemingly discordant storylines are strung together into a pleasing whole by director-co-writer Daniel Roher (who won an Oscar for his documentary, *Navalny*), largely due to the effortless charm of its cast.

Leo Woodall is Niki, a piano prodigy who now tunes pianos for a living, having developed a hearing condition that has left him allergic to loud sounds. Two years of therapy, of being kept in a dark room, means he can just about get around the world of noise via ear plugs and noise-cutting headphones.

Dustin Hoffman is Harry, a piano player of some repute and a friend of Niki's late dad, who runs the piano tuning and fixing company where Niki works. The film begins with their effortless banter as Harry trades his wisdom and tricks with his beloved Niki, and tries to evade the sharp eyes of his wife Marla (the unmissable Tovah Feldshuh) who is worried for his failing health.

Havana Rose Liu is Ruthie, a pianist training to be a composer and hoping that the piece she is preparing for her graduation will earn her a place with her favourite maestro (Jean Reno in a brief role). Ruthie and Niki meet over a piano repair session and sparks fly — as do keys and notes — in an effective meet-cute.

If the keyboard instrument ties together this strand, it is Niki's hearing condition that puts him in the path of Uri (Lior Raz, of *Fauda*). The latter runs a company that provides hi-tech security to rich clients, which he also uses to steal things here and there that the wealthy don't miss. It is 'The Law of Diminishing Marginal Reality', Uri and his gang explain to Niki, with different things meaning different things depending on one's class. Since Niki is sensitive to the slightest sounds, he can figure out how to open locks of safes, turning the knob this way and that.

When the worlds of the piano players and the robber gangs meet, as they shall invariably, the clash is not as loud as one would expect. Niki's hearing condition provides a convenient plot interlude more than once; at other times, the film falls back on sheer incongruity; the redistribution of wealth logic to justify the robberies is also a stretch.

"Tuning a piano is like creating harmony out of chaos," says Niki. Some keys remain out of tune, but *Tuner* manages more harmony than chaos.

TUNER
★★★½
DIRECTOR: Daniel Roher
CAST: Leo Woodall, Dustin Hoffman, Havana Rose Liu, Tovah Feldshuh, Lior Raz

Wishful Thinking

Shalini Langer

BOY LIKES girl. What next? A lot of possible romances end right here. But what happens when the shy boy gets one miracle wish that can turn romance into a love story?

A YouTuber on the road to fame after *Obsession* wowed audiences at Toronto International Film Festival, and got horror impresario Jason Blum on board as executive producer, director Curry Barker is all of 26. He is also the writer of this tragicomic horror film, with Cooper Tomlinson, who plays one of the key characters, as his long-time collaborator.

Barker taps right into Gen Z's *au courant* crisis and places *Obsession* in the irresolute territory where love is an all-consuming but never-consummate emotion. Relationships are situationships, and situations are at the mercy of just too many things. Commitment is a word — and world — too long.

So when Bear (Michael Johnston) thinks he is in love with Nikki (Inde Navarrette), a friend and workmate, he doesn't know what to say that won't sound too needy or risk rejection. Even when she comes right out and asks him, Bear hesitates, with each waiting for the other to take the leap.

Could a 'One Wish Willow' that Bear has chanced upon be the answer? The shopkeeper who sells it to Bear suggests there have been "complaints", without specifying what, but he decides to take a chance.

And, lo and behold, Nikki is what Bear wished her to be — a girl who "loves me more than anyone else in the whole world".

Barker stages the transformation with creepy effect as Nikki (a very impressive Navarrette) changes into another being altogether — prone to standing in shadows and silhouettes, and popping up or lashing out unexpectedly. A lot is left unsaid but effectively and scarily implied in how Nikki just stands in the corner of the room, or speaks with just her eyes strategically lit, or has the light-and-dark play across her face suggesting a grotesqueness underneath.

OBSESSION
★★★
DIRECTOR: Curry Barker
CAST: Michael Johnston, Inde Navarrette, Cooper Tomlinson, Megan Lawless

Bear (Johnston, effective), who is anyway unsure about how much of Nikki's now obsessive feelings for him are organic, grows more and more nervous. There is a subversiveness here, about the male partner in a toxic relationship being the traumatised one, afraid to move an inch or leave the house without offering an explanation.

The problem is that Barker doesn't know how to flesh this out into a feature-length. Once the premise is established, the group of Bear and Nikki, and their friends Ian (Cooper Tomlinson) and Sarah (Megan Lawless), seem to go over the same lines and scenarios again and again. A poor cat is an unnecessary collateral.

It's also preposterous that there is no outside intervention by any party in a day and age when one of Bear's biggest fears is that, despite all the evidence to the contrary, Nikki would have an eager audience if she claims that he is "taking advantage of her".

As the elders in the room would say, be careful what you wish for.

• STREAMING WATCHLIST

The Four Seasons S2
NETFLIX

AFTER NICK (Steve Carell) dies in a car crash, his girlfriend Ginny (Erika Henningsen) announces to Kate (Tina Fey), Jack (Will Forte), Anne (Kerri Kenney-Silver), Danny (Colman Domingo), and Claude (Marco Calvani) that she's pregnant with Nick's kid. Coming off a hard year, our group of friends carries on their tradition of vacationing together, now with a baby (and a little baggage) in tow.

Jolly LLB 3
JIOHOTSTAR

AS *JOLLY LLB 3* returns with another courtroom drama, it shifts its focus to farmers and their land acquisition inspired by the 2011 Bhatta-Parsaul land protests. Jagdish 'Jolly' Tyagi (Arshad Warsi), takes on a pro bono case for a widowed woman whose father-in-law died by suicide after his land was fraudulently stolen. Opposing him is Jagdishwar 'Jolly' Mishra (Akshay Kumar), an opportunistic lawyer to help a major industrialist's project.

On the Waterfront
NETFLIX

THIS 1954 American crime drama, directed by Elia Kazan and written by Budd Schulberg, is considered to be one of Marlon Brando's biggest critical and commercial successes. The cast features Karl Malden, Lee J Cobb, Rod Steiger, Pat Henning and Eva Marie Saint. The score was composed by Leonard Bernstein, his only original film score. The movie is celebrated for Brando's performance as well as winning eight Academy Awards.

Spider-Noir
PRIME VIDEO

MARKING A striking shift for the Spider-Man franchise, Nicolas Cage's *Spider-Noir* brings a darker, moodier and a noir-inspired take to the superhero universe. Spider-Man Noir was already a distinctive character — stylish, theatrical and deliberately out of step with everyone around him. This version leans into crime, mystery and a hero who has already been carrying the weight of the mask for years.

A Good Girl's Guide to Murder S2
NETFLIX

TEEN SLEUTH Pippa Fitz-Amobi has a new mystery to solve, alongside Ravi Singh. It picks up in the aftermath of the pair solving what happened to missing student Andie Bell. They are joined by new co-stars Misia Butler, Eden H Davies and Jack Rowan in this adaptation of the second book in Holly Jackson's series, *Good Girl, Bad Blood*. Pip and Ravi are drawn to a new investigation when a crucial witness in a previous case, goes missing. ALAKA SAHANI

A Roaring Good Time

Shubhra Gupta

I HAD gone in with a degree of skepticism into *Return of the Jungle*. The title itself sounded generic, coming on the back of multiple Indian animation flicks, heavy on mythological figures, blaring background music, and an overarching preaching-from-the-pulpit tone.

While the 93-minute *Return of the Jungle* is also dotted with several 'teachable' moments, it never forgets to add in the fun bits, and that's where it scores. Once I got drawn in, it was clear that the film has more than a few things going for it. Playful animal characters, school kids who feel like they could exist out of the frame, relatable 'problems' that feel like they could be fixed, and, glory be, not a single mythological figure lurking in the jungle.

The parallels are drawn neatly. In the Kendriya Vidyalaya, where our characters study (specifically in class 1V B, nice touch) there's your nice young boy and his pals, facing off a bully. A wise *thatha* (grandfather) is roped in for advice, and practical help; said grandpa does his job well by coming up with a folk tale, the kind where Goliaths defeat Davids.

A fancy dress competition blows up into a battle between the bully and nice boy. A cricket match, executed with impressive detailing — someone clearly knows their game — becomes another round between the nice guys and the not-so-nice ones. What's nice is that the scale of the villainy — a Superman-like superhero vs a very-green dinosaur — is playful and then the good guys win, which of course they do, everyone, including the bully boy, cheers.

What's even more impressive is that the team knows the ethos of the KVs well: the kids are from different backgrounds and religions, and it feels good to see the reflection of a composite India, featuring a Rahul and an Ali among others, when so much of it is being erased from mainstream cinema.

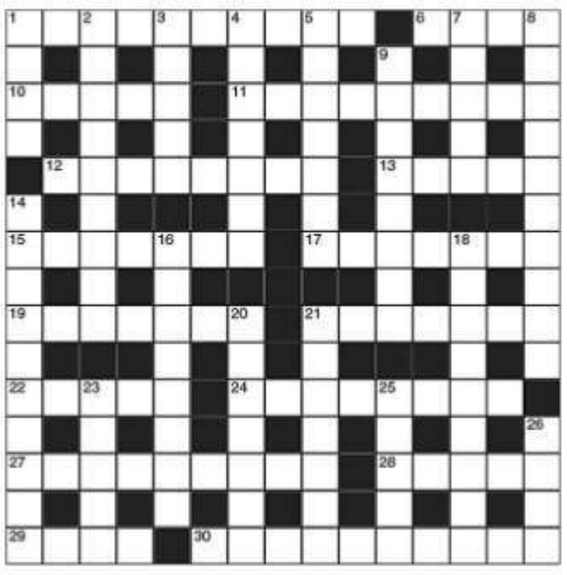
It did strike me that the insistence on creating confluence makes it problematic to figure out exactly where the film, with its efficient animation, is set: a house on stilts, very North-East like, music from all over, with the Tamilian *thatha* listening to a *Suprabhatam*, a dargah being the setting of a predictable but rousing qawwali, plus a lush jungle with cute critters winning over a scary hunter. But you can safely ignore such niceties, because overall, the film stays light and entertaining, perfect for the little ones.

Bits of *Panchatantra*, bits of Bollywood, and a lot of fun, *Return Of The Jungle* is a fun desi alternative to the Hollywood superheroes crowding our canvas.

RETURN OF THE JUNGLE
★★★
DIRECTOR: Vaibhav Kumaresh
CAST: Arav Bhatia, Surendra Bhatia, Manish Bhawan

Bits of Panchatantra, bits of Bollywood, and a lot of fun,* Return Of The Jungle *is a fun desi alternative to the

• CROSSWORD 6002



ACROSS

1 Use fingers to eat a plum in the break (10)
6 Sign on the staff (4)
10 Teachings that follow closely on a degree (5)
11 A ruinous craft (9)
12 Trampled on Oriental in mad rush (8)
13 Game pie has nothing in it (5)
15 Dames in confusion look younger (7)
17 It's pressed into service for distribution by air (7)
19 Appear on stage again or make another record (2-5)
21 Main roads? (7)
22 Finished with a dish from Italy (5)
24 Writer is about to approve a colour (3,5)
27 Capital sum for headmaster (9)
28 Academic appointment taken by the president (5)
29 Line of status (4)
30 It means a lot of extra work in the theatre (5,5)

DOWN

1 Obliged to be called a servant (4)
2 Balls — and bats — can be part of it (5,4)
3 Song performed by little Sarah in the afternoon (5)
4 They are made to scale (7)
5 Hardy girl has time for a bit of artistic piecework (7)
7 Hen's bed (5)
8 Enthusiasm experienced by a novice poker player? (5,5)
9 Standards are judged by them (8)
14 Could it be described as an abrasive publication? (5,5)
16 Recent uproar about an actor's appearance (8)
18 Do competitors rocket into the lead in it? (5,4)
20 To do so can brighten a room from either end (7)
21 Not only is it swift it looks like one (7)
23 Single issue of new coins (5)
25 They may be used for storing stretchers (5)
26 Berliner's odd bits of cheese (4)

SOLUTIONS CROSSWORD 6001 ACROSS: 1 Petunia, 5 Calve, 8 Direction, 9 Dip, 10 Awry, 12 Articles, 14 Canape, 15 Fervid, 17 Stitches, 18 Asia, 21 Egg, 22 Faculties, 24 Sonic, 25 Dialect **DOWN:** 1 Padua, 2 Tar, 3 Nick, 4 Apiary, 5 Consider, 6 Ladyloves, 7 Exposed, 11 Running in, 13 Specific, 14 Cossets, 16 Fenced, 19 Asset, 20 Plea, 23 Ice

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.

The ___ teach much which the __ never know. - Ralph Waldo Emerson (5,.,4)

BAETA

ISSUED

SRWOM

FTYYPI

SOLUTIONS: Abate, Worms, Disuse, Typify
ANSWER: The **years** teach much which the **days** never know.
- Ralph Waldo Emerson

• OVER THE HEDGE

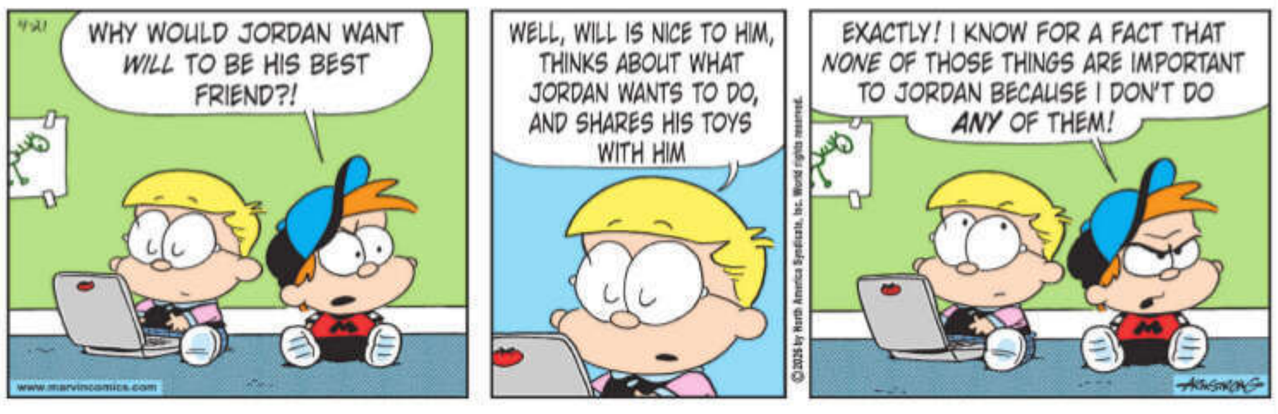
BY MICHAEL FRY & T LEWIS

• CALVIN & HOBBES

BY BILL WATTERSON

• MARVIN

BY TOM ARMSTRONG



SUDOKU 6334

DIFFICULTY LEVEL 4s 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

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

SOLUTION SUDOKU 6333

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

• ROYAL STARS

BY GEORGIA NICOLS

ARIES (MAR 21 - APR 20): It is is a great day to do something different. You might unexpectedly have to travel. Discussions about politics, religion and racial issues will be intense but you're sympathetic. Tonight: Explore and learn.

TAURUS (APR 21 - MAY 21): Double-check banking issues, because something unexpected could impact your assets. Today you might feel compassion for those who are less fortunate. Look for new resources to try a new approach to something. Tonight: Check your finances.

GEMINI (MAY 22 - JUNE 21): Your partner might catch you off guard today by saying or doing something you least expect. They will probably express themselves with passion. Tonight: Listen and cooperate.

CANCER (JUNE 22 - JULY 23): Your work routine might be interrupted today. Pet owners also might be surprised by something. This is also an excellent day for creative work or coming up with new approaches to medicine or something that is health-related. Tonight: Get better organised.

LEO (JULY 24 - AUG 23): This is a lovely day to chat with others. Surprise invitations might come your way. Artists will flourish because they are in touch with their muse. Parents should be aware that issues related to your kids are unpredictable. Guard against accidents. Tonight: Play.

VIRGO (AUG 24 - SEP 23): Your home routine might be interrupted today. A minor breakage could occur or a small appliance might break down. Someone unexpected might appear at your door. Be patient with parents and bosses if plans suddenly change. Tonight: Relax at home.

LIBRA (SEP 24 - OCT 23): Pay attention to everything you say and do today because this is an accident-prone day for you. However, bright, clever ideas also might spring up in your mind. You might see new places and meet new faces. Tonight: Lively discussions.

SCORPIO (OCT 24 - NOV 23): Keep an eye on your money and assets today. Of course, you might find money or you might lose money. Be smart and protect what you own against loss, theft or damage. You might be tempted to spend on luxury things. Tonight: Check banking.

SAGITTARIUS (NOV 24 - DEC 22): Today the Moon is in your sign, which makes you feel impulsive, excited and up for an adventure. You might attract people to you who are different from your usual crowd. You also might feel sympathetic toward children. Tonight: You win.

CAPRICORN (DEC 23 - JAN 20): Something going on behind the scenes might disrupt your work or your health today. It might even affect your pet. Meanwhile, relations with those who are closest to you are warm and helpful. Tonight: Enjoy privacy.

AQUARIUS (JAN 21 - FEB 19): Friendships are important to you, and you especially love to meet a new character. You'll be drawn to unusual people. Alternatively, someone you know might throw you a curveball. Stay lighter on your feet and be ready for sudden changes. Tonight: Be friendly.

PISCES (FEB 20 - MAR 20): People will notice you more than usual. Some might know intimate details about your private life. Relations with a parent or a family member might surprise you. Someone might do something you least expect. Tonight: You're admired.

PROCLAMATION REQUIRING THE APPEARANCE OF ACCUSED PERSON

(See Section 82 Cr. P.C./84 BNSS)

Whereas complaint has been made before me that the accused **Chahat @Sameer @Shahrukh** S/o Bhura @Bhola R/o 1457, I-Block, Gali No.-1500, Jahangirpuri, Delhi has committed (or is suspected to have committed) the offence in **FIR No. 625/2024 U/s 307/317(2)/3(5) Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita, PS Subzi Mandi, Delhi** and it has been returned to warrant of arrest there upon issued that the said accused **Chahat @Sameer @Shahrukh** cannot be found and whereas it has been shown to my satisfaction that the said accused **Chahat @Sameer @Shahrukh** has absconded (or is concealing himself to avoid the service of said warrant). Proclamation is hereby made that **Chahat @Sameer @Shahrukh** in **FIR No. 625/2024 U/s 307/317(2)/3(5) Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita, PS Subzi Mandi, Delhi** is required to appear before this court to answer the said complaint on or before **30.06.2026**.

By order
Ms. Preeti Rajoria
Judicial Magistrate First Class-07
Room No. 32
Tis Hazari Court, Delhi

DP/7054/N/2026

NORTH WESTERN RAILWAY **ई–निविदा आमंत्रण सूचना**

पत्र सं.– **WB-74-W-O/Works/NIT/X** दिनांक:– **26.05.2026**, मंडल रेल प्रबन्धक, इंजीनियरिंग, उत्तर पश्चिम रेलवे, जोधपुर द्वारा भारत के राष्ट्रपति के लिये एवं उनकी ओर से ई–निविदा के माध्यम से प्रचलित नियमों के अन्तर्गत निर्धारित प्रपत्रों में निविदा निम्न कार्यों के लिए क्रमानुसार आमंत्रित की जाती है– **ई–निविदा सूचना सं०** : 74 of 2026-27, **कार्य का नाम व स्थान** : Casual Renewal of rail & Earthwork & Cess Repair work & Replacement of wider Gauge PSC Sleeper on Curve sharper than 5° (Degree) & above in the section of ADEN/JSM. **अनुमानित लागत रूपये** : 46296760.15, **बयाने की राशि रूपये** : 925900.00, **ई–निविदा सूचना सं०** : 75 of 2026-27, **कार्य का नाम व स्थान** : Pre and post tamping track measurement survery using Trimble Gedo Vorsys trolley system or Similar, in the Jurisdiction of SSE/PW/PLC of Jodhpur Division. **अनुमानित लागत रूपये** : 3974370.75, **बयाने की राशि रूपये** : 79500.00, **ई–निविदा सूचना सं०** : 76 of 2026-27, **कार्य का नाम व स्थान** : Pre and post tamping track measurement survery using Trimble Gedo Vorsys trolley system or Similar, in the Jurisdiction of SSE/PW/JSM of Jodhpur Division. **अनुमानित लागत रूपये** : 6056184.00, **बयाने की राशि रूपये** : 121100.00, **ई–निविदा सूचना सं०** : 77 of 2026-27, **कार्य का नाम व स्थान** : Pre and post tamping track measurement survery using Trimble Gedo Vorsys trolley system or Similar, in the Jurisdiction of SSE/PW/MMY of Jodhpur Division. **अनुमानित लागत रूपये** : 3595859.25, **बयाने की राशि रूपये** : 71900.00 **ई–निविदा सूचना सं०** : 78 of 2026-27, **कार्य का नाम व स्थान** : Zone contract (Masonry & Painting) Zone 7:- Water supply zonal work for residential staff Quarters, Service building & Bungalows at JU under ADEN/HQ/JU for Year 2026-27 & 2027-28. **अनुमानित लागत रूपये** : 38210709.57, **बयाने की राशि रूपये** : 764200.00, **ई–निविदा सूचना सं०** : 79 of 2026-27, **कार्य का नाम व स्थान** : Zone contract (Water Purification & Maintenance of Aqua Guard) Zone-9 : Maintenance and supply of consumables for effective operation of chlorinator and water purification equipments & water softening/filter plants, Thermostat lining under ADEN/HQ/JU. for Year 2026-27 & 2027-28. **अनुमानित लागत रूपये** : 3015820.23, **बयाने की राशि रूपये** : 60300.00 **ई–निविदा सूचना सं०** : 80 of 2026-27, **कार्य का नाम व स्थान** : Zone contract (Masonry & Painting) Zone X :- All Service Building, Hostel Building, Training Building & other buildings with in the Premises of Disel shed/BGKT in the Section of ADEN/HQ/JU for Year 2026-27 & 2027-28. **अनुमानित लागत रूपये** : 23209989.48, **बयाने की राशि रूपये** : 464200.00, **ई–निविदा सूचना सं०** : 81 of 2026-27, **कार्य का नाम व स्थान** : Zone contract Zone XI:- Zone work for Horticulture & Sewer chamber Cleaning of Service buildings & Residential Buildings in the section of ADEN/HQ/JU for Year 2026-27 & 2027-28. **अनुमानित लागत रूपये** : 29915250.20, **बयाने की राशि रूपये** : 598300.00, **ई–निविदा सूचना सं०** : 83 of 2026-27, **कार्य का नाम व स्थान** : Zone contract-(Water Supply) Zone-5 :- Supply of potable sweet drinking water to pway gangs, staff qtrs,., stations & L-xing etc. of MTD section under ADEN/MTD for Year 2026-27. **अनुमानित लागत रूपये** : 6699996.66, **बयाने की राशि रूपये** : 134000.00, **ई–निविदा सूचना सं०** : 84 of 2026-27, **कार्य का नाम व स्थान** : Zone contract (Masonry & Painting) Zone 5 :- Service Building in the section of SSE/W/P/JU i.e. Loco Shed, Washing Line area, at JU & other service Building at JU under ADEN/HQ/JU for year 2026-27 & 2027-28. **अनुमानित लागत रूपये** : 36935947.61, **बयाने की राशि रूपये** : 738700.00, निविदा सूचना संख्या 74-81 of 2026-27 निविदा प्रस्तुत करने की तिथि 15.06.2026, 84 of 2026-27 निविदा प्रस्तुत करने की तिथि 16.06.2026 & निविदा सूचना संख्या 83 of 2026-27 निविदा प्रस्तुत करने की तिथि 18.06.2026 को 15:00 बजे तक है। वेबसाईट का विवरण जहाँ पर ई–निविदा देखी व भरी जा सकती है – **www.ireps.gov.in**

793-DO/26 मंडल रेल प्रबन्धक / इंजी०

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KOLHAPUR MUNICIPAL CORPORATION,CITY
WATER SUPPLY DEPARTMENT

E Tender (mahaetenders.gov.in) Extension

Tender Notice No	Work no.	Publish date	News paper name	Extension no.
07/2026-27	9	30/04/2026	Indian Express / Daily sakal	4th

Due to no Response for the above work, date Extension is being given From Date 01/06/2026 to Date 04/06/2026. The Terms & Conditions of Earlier Tender will be same.

sd/-
Hydraulic Engineer

PROCLAMATION REQUIRING THE APPEARANCE OF A PERSON ACCUSED

(See Section 82 Cr. PC/ 84 Bhartiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita-2023)

Whereas complaint has been made before me that accused person namely **Gopi Rai S/o Shankar Rai R/o H.No. A-76, Gali No.14, Jashwant Colony, Budh Vihar Ph-02, Delhi** has committed (or is suspected to have committed) the offence in case **FIR No. 171/18 U/s 356/379/411 IPC at PS: Vijay Vihar, Delhi** and it has been returned to a warrant of arrest thereupon issued that the said accused **Gopi Rai** can not be found and whereas it has been shown to my satisfaction that the said accused **Gopi Rai** has absconded (or is concealing himself to avoid the service of the said warrant). Proclamation is hereby made that the said accused **Gopi Rai of FIR No. 171/18 U/s 356/379/411 IPC at PS: Vijay Vihar, Delhi is required to appear before this court to answer the said complaint on or before 31.07.2026.**

By order
Shagun
Judicial Magistrate First Class
Room No.109, First Floor,
Rohini Courts, New Delhi

DP/7067/RD/2026

NORTHERN RAILWAY
TENDER NOTICE

The Sr. DME/Diesel, Northern Railway, Diesel Loco Shed, Tughlakabad for and on behalf of President of India invites e-tenders for the following work .The tender will be accepted online only in the prescribed tender document.

Subject	Description
Name of Work	"Complete body cleaning, Cyclonic filters cleaning in 3-phase Electrical locomotives and Complete body cleaning, MIO type side body filters cleaning in conventional Electrical Locomotives at Diesel Shed Tughlakabad for 02 years."
Place of work	Diesel Shed, Tughlakabad, New Delhi-110044.
Completion Period	02 Years
Approx. Cost of work	Rs. 11,70,900/-Including GST (Rupees Eleven Lakh Seventy Thousand Nine Hundred Only)
Amount of Bid Security	Rs. 23,400/- (Rs. Twenty Three Thousand Four Hundred only)
Technical Eligibility Criteria	As per clause 10 of tender form (second sheet) of Tender Document.
Financial Eligibility Criteria	As per clause 10 of tender form (second sheet) of Tender Document.
Website to download and upload e-tender document	www.ireps.gov.in
Due date & time of uploading of Tender by tenderer	18.06.2026 upto 12:00 Hrs.
Date & Time of Tender opening	18.06.2026 after 12:00 Hrs.
Validity of offer	60 days from opening of tender.
Allocation	05-0511-32

Tender Document can be downloaded from Indian Railway website **www.ireps.gov.in.** For details of work experience, scope of work and terms & conditions please see Tender document.

Tender Notice No. DSL-TKD-Filter-OT-RT2-26 Dated 27.05.2026 **1816/2026**

SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE

RAJASTHAN RAJYA VIDYUT UTPADAN NIGAM LTD.
Suratgarh Super Thermal Power Station, Suratgarh-335805

E-Tender Notice : TN-2167 (RVU2627GLOB00413)

Online tenders are invited for "Supply, Installation, Testing & commissioning of CCTV Surveillance System with 3 years comprehensive onsite warranty at various location of SSTPS, Suratgarh." Tender details are available on websites **http//eproc.rajasthan.gov.in** (for e-tender), **www.energy.rajasthan.gov.in/rvunl & www.sppp.rajasthan.gov.in.**

Raj.Samwad/C/26/3708 **RVUN/PR-4401** **Addl. Chief Engineer (Proc.)**

NORTHERN RAILWAY
Notice for Shortlisting of PAD/Non-PAD Items/Brands

For and on behalf of the President of India, Sr. Divisional Commercial Manager/G, Delhi Division, Northern Railway invites applications in prescribed format from renowned and eligible manufacturers/ suppliers/firms for shortlisting of PAD/Non-PAD items/brands for sale/supply at catering establishments over Delhi Division, Northern Railway for the period 01.04.2027 to 31.03.2029.

Applications for shortlisting may be submitted in the office of Sr. Divisional Commercial Manager/G, Northern Railway, State Entry Road, New Delhi during working hours between 10:00 hrs to 17:00 hrs on any working day up to 31.07.2026 (15:00 hrs).

Applications received within the stipulated period shall be considered for primary shortlisting and the shortlisting shall remain valid as per terms and conditions of the notification.

Detailed notification, eligibility criteria, terms & conditions and application form are available on Northern Railway website i.e. **https://nr.indianrailways.gov.in**.

Any corrigendum/modification, if any, shall be available on the aforesaid website only.

SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE **1820/26**

NORTHERN RAILWAY
TENDER NOTICE

Tender Notice No. TKD-Hot-Cold-OT-2026 dated 27.05.2026

The Sr.DME/Diesel, Northern Railway, Diesel Loco Shed, Tughlakabad for and on behalf of President of India invites e-tenders for the following work The tender will be accepted online only in the prescribed tender document.

Subject	Description
Name of work: "Repair work of High Pressure Hot and Cold water stream jet cleaning plant in Diesel Shed Tughlakabad".	
Place of work	Diesel Shed, Tughlakabad, New Delhi-110044.
Completion Period	03 Months
Approximate cost of work	Rs. 9,50,490/-Including GST (Rupees Nine Lakh Fifty Thousand Four Hundred Ninety Only)
Amount of Bid Security	Rs. 19,000/- (Rs. Nineteen Thousand only)
Technical Eligibility Criteria	As per clause 10 of tender form (second sheet) of Tender Document.
Financial Eligibility Criteria	As per clause 10 of tender form (second sheet) of Tender Document.
Website to download and upload e-tender document	www.ireps.gov.in
Due date & time of uploading of Tender by tenderer	18.06.2026 upto 12:00 Hrs.
Date & Time of Tender opening.	18.06.2026 after 12:00 Hrs.
Validity of offer	60 days from opening of tender.
Allocation	07-0364-32

Tender Document, can be downloaded from Indian Railway website **www.ireps.gov.in.** For details of work experience, scope of work and terms & conditions please see Tender document. **1817/2026**

SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE

JHARKHAND URBAN INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT COMPANY LIMITED
(Govt. of Jharkhand Undertaking)
JUIDCO Bhawan, Kutchery Road, Ranchi-834001, Jharkhand.
Ph No.: +91-651-2225878,
CIN: U45200JH2013SGC001752,e-mail ld-juidcolimited@gmail.com

Corrigendum – 1

Name of Work: Development of Roundabout of Hinoo Chowk Softscaped and Hardscaped work
NIT No.: JUIDCO/NIT/Hinoo Chowk/RNC/705
Tender ID: 2026_UDD_113699_1
Ref PR No.: 379049

Sl. No.	Particulars	As per NIT	As per Corrigendum - 1
7	Last Date/Time of Bid Submission	28.05.2026 at 17:00 Hrs	02.06.2026 at 17:00 Hrs
8	Date/Time of Opening of Bid	29.05.2026 at 17:00 Hrs	03.06.2026 at 17:00 Hrs

Further details available on: http://jharkhandtenders.gov.in

Sd/-
Project Director (Technical)
JUIDCO Ltd., Ranchi

PR 381084 (Urban Development)26-27*D

NORTH WESTERN RAILWAY **E-TENDER NOTICE**

No. WA/E-Tender/08/2026 **Dated: 27.05.2026**

Following E-tenders are invited by DRM (Engg.) NWR/Ajmer at 15:00 Hrs. on the mentioned date. **1. Tender No.** : 67/2026, **Name of work** : ADEN (Line) Ajmer Subdivision: Zone No. 8 (2026-27 and 2027-28). All Repairs & maintenance of General and Sanitary works in Service Buildings in the jurisdiction of SSE (Works) Line Ajmer (Ajmer Station, GRP Thana, RRI Tower, parcel office, DSK store, SRK, Loco RR, TTE Rest House, Guard RR, Dispensary, NWREU, UPRMS office, BRI, SSE(PW)North & South office, SSE/RT, Coaching depot, RPF office, SSE(Works)Line office, H.I. Office Electric office) including Madar, Adarsh Nagar, Gadi Malian, Makarwali, Budha Pushkar and Pushkar). **Approximate Cost** : Rs. 3,00,43,765.80, **Earnest Money** : Rs. 6,00,900.00, **Tender Closing Date** : 05.06.2026. **2. Tender No.** : 69/2026, **Name of work** : ADEN Marwar Sub Division : Zone No. 10 (2026-27 and 2027-28) - All Repairs & maintenance and Sanitary works in staff Quarters between Beawer to Bhinwaliya (Excluding Bhinwaliya) section. **Approximate Cost** : Rs. 3,34,89,852.90, **Earnest Money** : Rs. 6,69,800.00, **Tender Closing Date** : 08.06.2026. **3. Tender No.** : 70/2026, **Name of work** : ADEN Marwar Sub Division: Zone No. 11 (2026-27 and 2027-28) - All Repairs & maintenance and Sanitary works in Service Building between Beawer to Bhinwaliaya section (excluding Bhinwaliay station). **Approximate Cost** : Rs. 1,74,54,703.12, **Earnest Money** : Rs. 3,49,100.00, **Tender Closing Date** : 08.06.2026, **4. Tender No.** : 71/2026, **Name of work** : ADEN/Ranapratapnagar Sub Division :- Zone no.-20 (2026-274 and 2027-28) All types of repair, maintenance and sanitary works in staff quarters at Udaipur and Ranapratapnagar. **Approximate Cost** : Rs. 3,40,84,538.82, **Earnest Money** : Rs. 6,81,700.00, **Tender Closing Date** : 08.06.2026, **5. Tender No.** : 72/2026, **Name of work** : ADEN/Ranapratpnagar Sub Division :- Zone No.-21 (2026-27 and 2027-28) all types of repairs & maintenance and sanitary wroks in staff quarters at berach (excluding) to Debari (including) and Barisadri (including) to Marwar Jn (excluding) and other than Udaipur under SSE/W/Ranapratapnagar and Mavli Jn. **Approximate Cost** : Rs. 2,73,21,452.74, **Earnest Mondy** : Rs. 5,46,400.00, **Tender Closing Date** : 08.06.2026. **6. Tender No.** : 73/2026, **Name of work** : ADEN/Ranapratapnagar Sub Division :- Zone No.-22 (2026-27 & 2027-28) All type repairs & maintenance and sanitary works in service buildings Udaipur (including) to Chitaurgarh (excluding) and Bari Sadri (including) to Marwar Jn (excluding) and excluding ZRTI in jurisdiction of SSE/W/Ranapratapnagar & SSE/W/Mavli Jn. **Approximate Cost** : Rs. 2,87,52,330.68, **Earnest Money** : Rs. 5,75,100.00, **Tender Closing Date** : 08.05.2026. **7. Tender No.** : 74/2026, **Name of work** : ADEN/ Ranapratapnagar Sub Division :- Zone No.23 (2026-27 & 2027-28) All type reairs & maintenace and sanitary works in Staff Quarters & Service buildings at Zonal Railway Training Institute, Udaipur. **Approxmiate Cost** : Rs. 3,49,99,886.48, **Earnest Money** : Rs. 7,00,000.00, **Tender Closing Date** : 05.06.2026. **8. Tender No.** : 75/2026, **Name of work** : ADEN-Dungarpur Sub Divion: Zone No. 24 (2026-27 & 2027-28) - All type Repairs, Maintenance and Sanitory works in all Staff Quarters & Service Buildings in Dungarpur area and Udaipurcity (Excluding) to Himmat Nagar (including). **Approximate Cost** : Rs. 3,51,94,388.90, **Earnest Money** : Rs. 7,03,900.00, **Tender Closing Date** : 08.06.2026, **9. Tender No.** : 77/2026, **Name of work** : ADEN/Ranapratapnagar Sub Division: - Provision of an additional line at Khemli station (common user work). **Approxmiate Cost** : **71,48,628.74, Earnest Money** : Rs. 1,43,000.00, **Tender Closing Date** : 05.06.2026. **10. Tender No.** : 78/2026, Name of work : **Ajmer Division:-** Supply, activation and annual maintenance contract of GPS trackers for 36 months. **Approximate Cost** : Rs. 80,02,872.00, **Earnest Money** : Rs. 1,60,000.00, **Tender Closing Date** : 05.06.2026, **11. Tender No.** : 79/2026, **Name of work** : ADEN(Line) Ajmer Subdivision: Zone No. 7 (2026-27 & 2027-28) All repair & mainteance and general and sanitary works in staff quarters in the jurisdiction of SSE(Works) Line/Ajmer from Ajmer (including) to Beawar (excluding) including Madar, Adarsh Nagar, Gadi Malian, Makarwali, Budha Pushkar, Pushakr and Ras. **Approximate Cost** : Rs. 1,65,83,932.24, **Earnest Money** : Rs. 3,31,700.00, **Tender Closing date** : 05.06.2026. **12. Tender No.** : 80/2026, **Name of work** : ADEN (Line) Ajmer Subdivision: Zone No. 09 (2026-27 and 2027-28) - All Repairs & mainteance of General and Saniatry works in Service Building in the jurisdiction of SSE (W) Line- Ajmer other than Ajmer Area, including DOZ, ZMC, and way side station Ajmer (excluding) to BER (excluding) and BNGM-RAS section. **Approximate Cost** : Rs. 1,66,92,845.80, **Earnest Money** : Rs. 3,33,900.00, **Tender Closing** : 05.06.2026. **13. Tender No.** : 81/2026, **Name of work** : Ajmer- (RPF Company reserve Ajmer) Modernization and upgradation of RPF barracks to accordance with template on barrack post/out post. **Approximate Cost** : Rs. 29,97,740.51, **Earnest Money** : Rs. 60,000.00, **Tender Closing Date** : 12.06.2026. **14. Tender No.** : 53/2026, **Name of work** : AJMER Zone No. 02 (2026-27 & 2027-28) - All Type of repairs & maintenance work Residential building i.e. in staff Qtrs. and Bungalows for civil works in the area of SSE/W/South Ajmer jurisdiction. **Approximate Cost** : Rs. 4,99,91,085.28, **Earnest Money** : Rs. 9,99,800.00, **Tender Closing Date** : 08.06.2026. **15. Tender No.** : 54/2026, **Name of work** : AJMER Zone No. 03 (2027-27 & 2027-28) All Type of Repairs & mainteance work of Service Building in the jurisdiction of SSE/W/North/All Jurisdiction. **Approxmiate Cost** : **Rs. 2,49,71,404.20, Earnest Money** : Rs. 4,99,400.00, **Tender Closing Date** : 08.06.2026. **16. Tender No.** : 55/2026, **Name of work** : AJMER Zone No. 04 (2026-27 & 2027-28) - All Type of repairs & mainteance work of service building in the jurisdiction of SSE/W/South Ajmer jurisdiction. **Approximate Cost** : Rs. 2,09,96,704.80, **Earnest Money** : Rs. 4,19,900.00, **Tender Closting Date** : 08.06.2026. **17. Tender No.** : 56/2026, **Name of work** : Zone No. 05 (2026-27 & 2027-28) - All Type of repairs & maintenace of Sanitary works in Residentail building i.e. in staff Qtrs. and Bungalows in the jurisdiction of SSE(Works) Water supply-Ajmer. **Approxmiate Cost** : Rs. 4,19,99,129.50, **Earnest Mondy** : Rs. 8,40,000.00, **Tender Closing Date** : 08.06.2026. **18. Tender No.** : 57/2026, **Name of works** : Zone No. 06 (2026-27 & 2027-28) - All Types of repairs & maintenace of Sanitary works in Service Building in the jurisdiction of SSE(Works) Water supply-Ajmer. **Approximate Cost** : Rs. 3,19,99,522.28, **Earnest Money** : Rs. 6,40,000.00, **Tender Closing Date** : 08.06.2026. **19. Tender No.** : 50/2026, **Name of work** : ADEN - Bhiwara Sub Division : Zone No. 18 (2026-27 and 2027-28) - All Repairs & maintenance of General and Sanitary works in staff quarters in the jurisdiction of ADEN-BHL, Hatundi (including) to Chanderia (excluding). **Approximate Cost** : Rs. 2,09,02,323.70, **Earnest Money** : Rs. 4,18,100.00, **Tender Closing Date** : 08.06.2026. **20. Tender No.** : 51/2026, **Name of work** : Bhilwara Sub Divison : Zone No. 19 (2026-27 & 2027-28) - All Repairs & maintenance of General and Sanitary works in Service Building in the jurisdiction of ADEN-BHL, Hatundi (including) to Chanderia (excluding). **Approximate Cost** : Rs. 2,31,27,722.12, **Earnest Money** : Rs. 4,62,600.00, **Tender Closing Date** : 08.06.2026. **21. Tender No.** : 82/2026, **Name of work** : Provision of Extension of TRD building of DRM office at Ajmer. **Approximate Cost** : Rs. 1,52,09,666.03, **Earnest Money** : Rs. 3,04,200.00, **Tender Closing Date** : 19.06.2026. The details information of the above tender is available on website **www.ireps.gov.in** and Tender Notice Board of DRM Office, NWR/Ajmer.

794-DO/26 **Divisional Railway Manager (Engg.)**

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Pant steps down as LSG captain after disastrous IPL campaign

Rishabh Pant-captained Lucknow Super Giants finished last this season. CREIMAS

Express News Service
New Delhi, May 29

RISHABH PANT has stepped down as captain of Lucknow Super Giants (LSG), the Indian Premier League (IPL) franchise announced on Friday. This brings to an end a rather forgettable tenure as LSG skipper for Pant, with the wicketkeeper-batsman captaining the side in 28 matches and winning just 10.

"Lucknow Super Giants (LSG) wish to formally announce that Rishabh Pant has requested to be relieved of his captaincy duties with the franchise, and the franchisee has accepted his request with immediate effect," said LSG in its statement.

LSG director of cricket Tom Moody further said in the press release that Pant "approached the franchise with the request".

Pant had joined the side in the mega auction ahead of the 2025 season for a record fee of Rs 27.50 crore after spending eight seasons with the Delhi Capitals. He was made captain immediately, replacing KL Rahul, who went the other way to DC.

LSG, however, ended up winning just six out of their 14 matches in the 2025 season, thus missing out on the playoffs. Their recently concluded 2026 campaign was even worse. With just four wins, LSG finished bottom of the table, tied on eight points with the Mumbai Indians and trailing them on the net run rate.

Individually, Pant has suffered two of his least productive seasons in his IPL career with LSG.

He managed to score just 269 runs in the 2025 season, his worst return since his debut year in 2016, at a strike rate of 133.16 and average of 24.45 in 13 innings.

It has to be noted that 118 of these runs came in a single innings as he scored a century against Royal Challengers Bengaluru in the last match of the season.

Things didn't get better for him with the bat this year as he scored 312 runs in 13 innings at a strike rate of 138.05 and average of 28.36 with one half-century.

INDIAN PREMIER LEAGUE

Gill upstages Vaibhav on night of openers

After teenager hits a 47-ball 96, Gujarat Titans skipper makes stellar ton to take his team to third final in five years

SYNOPSIS: Despite Vaibhav Sooryavanshi's heroic 96, Shubman Gill's century powers Gujarat Titans to the final.

Venkata Krishna B
Chennai, May 26

THE TWO teams that finished at the top of the league table will fight it out for the IPL 2026 trophy. Going into the game, the openers of both teams were in focus and Gujarat Titans' Shubman Gill and B Sai Sudharsan upstaged Rajasthan Royals' Yashasvi Jaiswal and Vaibhav Sooryavanshi, despite the latter giving another exhibition of his unbelievable capabilities. Set 215 to win, Titans made light work of the chase, entering their third IPL final in five years.

Going for the kill

Even as Sooryavanshi was threatening to take the game away, during the interaction with the host broadcaster, Gujarat's assistant coach Parthiv Patel felt that if they restricted Rajasthan below 220, they were in a good spot. The eventual required run rate at the start of the chase was 10.75, well within Gujarat's reach, provided they stuck to their template.

Having been blown apart in the Powerplay against Royal Challengers Bengaluru, Gill and Sudharsan seldom took any undue risk right through their 167-run stand that lasted 12.5 overs before the left-hander was out hit wicket like he did against RCB. ON display were two elegant batsmen with compact techniques to rely on, playing to their strengths, picking the right deliveries to attack and milking singles and twos effortlessly.

If there was one bowler who could trouble them, it was Jofra Archer, the in-form speedster whose pace and bounce was expected to be handy on the New Chandigarh surface. However, with Archer not finding his range, Sudharsan and Gill hit him for two boundaries each in the first over to set the tone. From there on, runs flowed freely.

India's Test and ODI captain, who was deemed not good enough to fit into the T20 World Cup side, put up a regal show. There was not a delivery which the 26-year-old tried to muscle. Instead, it was all about timing and playing into gaps, while going aerial whenever a chance presented itself.

Complementing Gill perfectly was Sudharsan, whose array of cuts and drives were second to none. The two openers have 11 century stands in T20s.

Having already made over 600 runs in the season, the century on Friday in a match-winning cause will only propel his name in discussions when it comes to Indian team selection. Who knows what winning a trophy can do as the temptation of having a single captain for all formats would be too hard to resist for the selectors.

Gill's batting isn't going to be a problem. This was an innings paced perfectly, as he brought up his fifty off 30 deliveries before getting to his fifth IPL century off 47. It was clean, steady acceleration without breaking sweat. On a night when flicks, drives, and swats dictated his innings, it was the three pulls that stood out. Each of them was picked up right in front of his eyes, and was met with the meat of the bat, with one going the distance.

Complementing Gill perfectly was Sudharsan, whose array of cuts and drives were second to none. The two openers have 11 century stands in T20s, the most for any pair in the world.

Running successfully

As RCB had shown in Qualifier I, Gujarat's plans are too rigid. They have certain limitations and have to play around with them. But when the opportunity presented itself to bat them out of the game, the Rajasthan batting, except Sooryavanshi, failed on the night. In the last leg of the tournament, their batting being largely dependent on a 15-year-old summed up their campaign.

Even before they could get a hang of the conditions, they were two down, losing Yashasvi Jaiswal and Dhruv Jurel to two of the best Powerplay bowlers.

Even in the middle order, with the exception of Ravindra Jadeja - who was the first to counter-attack when Sooryavanshi was still searching for rhythm - the rest crumbled against the high-quality Gujarat attack. Rajasthan ended up with 214, but they had kept one door open for Gujarat as this was the sort of target they don't sweat over.

Holding Rajasthan's innings together, before Jadeja and Donovan Ferreira took it past 200, was Sooryavanshi. Having been rattled early by the sheer pace of Rabada, he stood his ground courageously.

There was even an instance where one of the South African's short deliveries – there were plenty of them aimed at his body – hit Sooryavanshi flush on the left ear, needing a short medical break.

But moments later, the left-hander was back to playing pulls and hooks. They weren't his best, but it didn't matter on the night. Those testing moments aside, he was in his element whenever an opportunity presented itself.

Having made a habit recently of getting out in the 90s, he once again narrowly missed a century that was there for the taking, as he fell for 96. The scoreboard will show he took only 47 deliveries. But that won't reveal the full picture of the knock.

BRIEF SCORES: Rajasthan Royals 214/6 in 20 overs (Vaibhav Sooryavanshi 96, Ravindra Jadeja 45 not out, Donovan Ferreira 38 not out; Jason Holder 2/27) lost to Gujarat Titans 219/3 in 18.4 overs (Sai Sudharsan 58, Shubman Gill 104; Nandre Burger 1/35) by 7 wickets.

Shubman Gill with his trademark celebration on reaching his century against Rajasthan Royals in Qualifier 2 of the IPL in New Chandigarh. KAMLESHWAR SINGH

By playing waiting game, wunderkid proves he is more than just a six-hitter

Venkata Krishna B
Chennai, May 29

IT WAS a night where 15-year-old Vaibhav Sooryavanshi showed there's a different side to his batting. So far this season, all of his knocks have been breathtaking, providing edge-of-the-seat entertainment.

On Friday, in the Qualifier II against the Gujarat Titans, on a two-paced pitch in Chandigarh, he had his back against the wall. Wickets kept falling at regular intervals at the other end. The bowlers were not giving him room to free his arms.

The sixes, which seemed to arrive as and when he intended, didn't come easily. He was made to earn them. Sooryavanshi took the challenge head-on. When he was dismissed for 96 runs from 47 balls, he had made an impact once again, despite reaching a half-century in 31 deliveries.

Before Sooryavanshi could hit his first six off the 14th delivery, Rajasthan Royals were already in trouble. Mohammed Siraj took out Yashasvi Jaiswal in the first over. Kagiso Rabada then ended Dhruv Jurel's stay in the second over. Rajasthan responded by sending Ravindra Jadeja at No.4 to provide some solidity.

What followed was a riveting contest. Gujarat maintained aggressive lines and were also delivering some high-quality short stuff. All of this meant that Sooryanshi didn't get off to the flying start that he usually does.

Vaibhav Sooryavanshi made 96 from 47 balls. PTI

But it was the innings that Rajasthan needed.

The first six arrived only off the 14th delivery he faced off Kagiso Rabada, but what is worth noting is, in the previous 13 deliveries he faced, didn't show the desperation to manufacture one.

Early on against Siraj, he tried to go heave one over the mid-wicket, but the scrambled seam that the pacer delivered meant, it held on the surface. Sooryavanshi didn't connect well. So he immediately put that shot away for the time being.

While the sixes didn't arrive, there were boundaries to show. There were those plays and misses.

And then there was the pressure factor. He saw wickets falling at the other end. Barring Ravindra Jadeja, who retired hurt and came back again, the rest hardly rose to the occasion, leaving Sooryavanshi with a humongous job of carrying the team to the final.

So far in his brief career, Sooryavanshi has rarely been put on a situation like this. Yet, despite all it, he didn't get into a shell. Instead, whenever the Gujarat attack offered him some sort of room, Sooryavanshi ensured, they were punished.

As Siraj repeatedly hit that hard length in the powerplay, Sooryavanshi took him on. Then in the same over, as Siraj strayed on the leg-side, he got on his knees and swept fine. The timing wasn't there. Perhaps, he was trying too hard to break the shackles. But off the next delivery, a crisply timed flick announced Sooryavanshi has arrived on the night.

Those two boundaries gave him the confidence to take on Rabada. The hard-length which he has been hitting consistently this season had fetched wickets regularly. Here, Sooryavanshi responded with fire — clear the front foot away, and hit it over cover. As a 153kmph delivery landed on the back of the length, the left-hander, having been beaten for pace twice in that over, opened up his stance on the occasion and lofted him straight for his first six. Again, outstanding game sense from a 15-year-old, who had the clarity to go straight and not bring out a cross-batted shot.

Once he brought up his fifty, Sooryavanshi resumed normal service.

Off the next 16 deliveries, he smacked 46, hitting five sixes in the phase as Rajasthan went past the 200-run mark with help from Jadeja and Donovan Ferreira.

Vallejo fined for sexist remark about female referee: 'Need lot of courage'

Reuters
Paris, May 29

PARAGUAYAN PLAYER Adolfo Daniel Vallejo will be fined after he suggested women lack the courage to umpire rowdy crowds following his marathon five-hour defeat by a French teenager, the French Tennis Federation (FFT) said on Friday.

Vallejo blamed Brazilian referee Ana Carvalho for failing to control the home crowd during his second-round loss to France's Moise Kouame, who triumphed 6-3, 7-5, 3-6, 2-6, 7-6 (10-8) at a packed Court Suzanne Lenglen. "I think this sort of matches should be umpired by a man," Vallejo told *Clay* magazine. "It's very difficult for a woman to do it because the crowd is very annoying. You need to have a lot of courage to go against the crowd."

The 17-year-old Kouame was roared on by passionate home supporters during the thriller that lasted four hours and 56 minutes, but Vallejo insisted the atmosphere only helped his opponent. "I knew it was going to be like that. It didn't harm me, it only strengthened him," he said, adding that a male umpire would have "absolutely" made a difference against the "disrespectful" crowd.

Adolfo Daniel Vallejo of Paraguay. AP

The FFT swiftly condemned the comments as "unacceptable" and announced the fine.

"The competence of an umpire is not determined by their gender, but by their professionalism and ability to officiate at the highest level," the FFT said in a statement.

"The outcome of a sporting event, whether positive or negative, can never justify or excuse such remarks. The tournament organisers will impose a significant sanction on Adolfo Vallejo in the form of a fine.

"The Roland Garros tournament strongly condemns all sexist remarks, regardless of who makes them, and offers its support to the match umpire and, more broadly, to all the tournament's umpiring officials."

Vallejo attempted damage control on social media, claiming his comments were taken out of context.

"I never spoke about women in general, I was referring specifically to the referee, who failed to manage the crowd at any point during the match," he posted on X.

Rublev advances

Andrey Rublev shrugged off the mystique around his unmistakable mane of red hair, saying on Friday that there were no secrets to his look and his rise up the world rankings shaped how it was perceived. Rublev's shaggy hair has grown noticeably longer in recent months and has remained largely undisturbed by the sweat and the stress of competition, becoming as recognisable as his striking forehand and sometimes volatile temper.

"No secrets, I guess I was just lucky. The way I wake up is the way it is," World No.13 Rublev told reporters following his 7-5, 7-6(2), 7-6(2) third round win over Nuno Borges.

"No, to be honest, of course I take care of my hair."

Rublev said the attention around his hair had shifted with his results over time, turning from curiosity and ridicule into admiration as his ranking climbed. "It's funny because when I was far away from the top 10, it was the opposite. Can he have a normal haircut? What's this with his hair? He looks like a monkey. He has no money to have a haircut?" the former world number five from Russia added.

"Then when you start to be a better player, somehow you appear to the top 10, it's like 'wow, what hair he has, what style, he's a rockstar'. I had all my life, this hair. How that opinion changes, you know? Of course I'm taking care (of it), but not (going) crazy."

PSG's appetite for silverware stronger

Reuters
Paris, May 29

PARIS ST Germain's hunger has not faded after last year's Champions League triumph, with captain Marquinhos and coach Luis Enrique insisting the club's historic breakthrough only sharpened their appetite for more silverware.

PSG face Arsenal in Saturday's final at the Puskas Arena seeking to cement their status among Europe's elite after finally lifting the trophy last season.

But Marquinhos said the emotional high of their 5-0 victory over Inter Milan in last season's showpiece match had only fuelled the squad's determination to experience it again.

"It's really important to have that motivation," Marquinhos told a news conference on Friday.

"Last year we said it and we showed it on the pitch. Once you win the Champions League, once you taste that title and those moments, you want to relive them again."

The Brazilian defender said PSG had learned from last season's run and were now better equipped to handle the pressure and noise surrounding a Champions League final.

PSG coach Luis Enrique (C) ahead of the Champions League final. AP

"There are a lot of things around these matches, the expectations, the pressure," he said. "The message in the dressing room was to change nothing, to continue working the same way and keep the same hunger we had last year."

"Even today, I have the same sensations and the same emotions I had last season."

Luis Enrique, who guided PSG to their first Champions League title last term, said they were driven less by legacy than by the desire to remain the best team in Europe. "Once is historic, twice is legendary," a banner by PSG ultras recently read.

"But our motivation is not to make history because we already did that last year," Luis Enrique said when asked about the slogan. "Our motivation is to continue being one of the best teams in Europe and in the world."

With Arsenal chasing a first Champions League title in the same way PSG were a year ago, Luis Enrique said his side now had an even greater source of motivation — the chance to win it again.

"It's powerful," he said of Arsenal's drive. "But you know how powerful it is to try to win the second Champions League. It's even bigger."

The coach praised Arsenal and Mikel Arteta, saying the Premier League side deserved to win the English title after being "the most consistent team."

"They score a lot of goals and we defend very well, but the path to achieve that is different," he said.

PSG forward Ousmane Dembele, who has fully recovered from a calf problem, said his individual ambitions, including Ballon d'Or speculation, were secondary to the club's collective goals.

"It hasn't changed my way of being or my way of playing," Dembele said. "I've always had the desire to win trophies with this club, with this squad and this staff. Individual trophies come afterwards. The most important thing is winning with PSG."

The France forward added that the squad had managed to stay mentally and physically fresh despite another exhausting campaign in which they retained the Ligue 1 title.

"We didn't have many holidays but the coach and the staff managed the season very well," he said. "They gave us time to disconnect from football.

Pooja breaks Sahana's 14-year-old high jump NR

Pritish Raj
New Delhi, May 29

POOJA, 19, STEADIED herself before attempting the 1.93m jump at the Asian U20 Athletics Championships in Hong Kong on Friday. She visualised herself taking the strides and jumping and seconds later, executed all of it in a harmonic motion to break the 14-year-old national record.

As she fell on the track shedding tears, in the background, Sahana Kumari couldn't hold herself back either. The high jumper-turned-coach was constantly encouraging Pooja and the tears came out the moment she saw her own record being erased.

"It is a special feeling. I had always said that Pooja is the kid who can break my national record and she has done it today. Honestly, I was not aware that it's been 14 years since I set the record. I came to know when calls started coming. It's a feeling I can't express in words," Sahana told *The Indian Express* from Hong Kong. "I didn't want to cry but couldn't hold myself in joy. She came and hugged me and it was a good feeling."

Pooja, one of India's brightest young athletes for the past two years, had been on the verge of breaking the national record for quite some time. In January, she had jumped 1.90m at the Indian Athletics Series in New Delhi, but her three attempts at the national record were unsuccessful there.

"After a point, getting a new personal best is not easy. We have to go step by step. I believe the national record is near," she had said then.

Pooja jumped 1.93m to win gold at Asian U20 Championships. AFI

Super consistent

Pooja's consistency has been remarkable and she is unbeaten at the national level in six competitions, while holding both the senior and junior Asian titles.

According to Sahana, an early start to her athletics career and body coordination is the reason behind her meteoric rise and consistency.

"She started at a young age. Her body is perfect for high jump with excellent coordination. It is very rare for a high jumper to have equal hand action and leg lift. These small things matter. With her progression, she has a good chance to go past the 2m mark," explained Sahana.

While Sahana was emotional seeing her national record erased by someone she has been advising constantly, Pooja's coach Biran Sergey had another reason to be happy.

"The competition record was held by my wife (Svetlana Radzivil) and it has been broken by my athlete," Sergey told *The Indian Express*.

Training under Sergey

Pooja started training with Sergey, the husband and coach of the three-time Asian Games champion, this season. It has resulted in Pooja going beyond her personal best twice this year.

"We are working step by step on technique, physical condition and confidence. She is very talented and disciplined, and most importantly, she trusts the process. A big role was also played by her first coach, who gave her the love for sport, the desire to work hard and the right attitude towards training," Sergey said.

He made a few technical adjustments that have been vindicated but feels that they need to stay calm and focus on the upcoming big tournaments.

"We made some technical adjustments, but I don't want to go into details. We are working on many small things together — approach, rhythm, take-off and confidence in competition. We also pay a lot of attention to the last three steps before take-off," he said. "Right now, the main thing is to stay calm, continue working and progress step by step. This year, there is the World Championships, where it is important to gain experience, but the main target is the Asian Games. We want to be in our best shape for it."

Pooja's consistent performances at the international level has also drawn praise from former greats of the game. Blanka Vlasic, two-time World champion and double Olympic medallist, had words of high praise. "Her progression is brilliant and she is just 19. She just needs to continue doing what she is doing. Once she perfects her technique, sky's the limit for a young athlete like her," the Croat had told *The Indian Express* last month.

Carlsen beats Gukesh after year-long wait

Magnus Carlsen contemplates his next move. AMIT KAMATH

Amit Kamath
Oslo, May 29

ON HIS last day as a teenager — and then again on his first day as a 20-year-old — world champion D Gukesh was reminded that there is still some growing up for him to do. On Thursday, the world champion picked up a fight on the board against World no.1 Magnus Carlsen, and lost.

"Gukesh sometimes plays a bit too ambitiously. He wanted to prove a serious advantage today, which I'm not sure there was," Carlsen said later. "Eventually, he played himself into some trouble. And I took over more and more."

Even though Friday was a rest day at the tournament, Gukesh turned 20 in the company of fellow grandmasters, including world championship challenger Javokhir Sindarov and Carlsen. The players spent three hours on sailboats racing against each other at Oslofjord in the annual Norway Chess games, where at least twice, impromptu chorus of 'happy birthday' rang out for a grinning Gukesh.

But just before the players were to get on the boats, a video from the social media team from Norway Chess dropped where other participants at this year's event wished him. Right at the top was Carlsen's message for him, delivered with a cheeky grin: 'Happy birthday, Gukesh. You're not a teenager anymore. So time to grow up.'

Ever since the World No.1 from Norway smashed his fist on the table almost a year ago in reaction to losing at the same tournament to the Indian, the chess world had been eagerly awaiting another Carlsen-Gukesh battle. Thursday's game — the first of two instalments between the two at Norway Chess this year — did not disappoint.

Seats at the Deichman Bjørvika started to fill up half an hour before the first moves would be made. Fans paying NOK 300 (just over Rs 3,000) had filled out the first two rows of chairs in front of the players.

After Carlsen lost two classical games in the first three rounds of Norway Chess, some of his contemporaries had been wondering aloud if he still had what it takes. Even by his own track record of 'rusty' starts to tournaments, two losses in the first three rounds was unprecedented. Gukesh's form, meanwhile, has been scrutinised for the past 18 months since he became the youngest world champion in chess history. Almost every defeat is held up as proof that he is not a world champion with impeccable credentials like Carlsen.

In a game that saw an exchange variation of the queen's gambit declined, Gukesh, playing with white pieces, played aggressively, catching the world no 1 off guard at the start.

"Did I miss knight to b5 (Gukesh's ninth move)? Yes! Was it an unpleasant surprise? Yes," Carlsen said in an early visit to the confessional booth.

After Carlsen was left with doubled pawns on the f file, Gukesh had a small edge, according to the eval bar. But the Norwegian soon found a way to bounce back. While Carlsen had struggled to keep up with the clock in the unique time control used at Norway Chess till then, on Thursday it was Gukesh who found himself fighting time trouble in the middle game, needing to make 12 moves in seven minutes.

By the 30th move, Carlsen was winning after Gukesh's bishop to e4. By the 39th, the world champion had to sacrifice his queen in exchange for a rook. Three moves later, he resigned.

Then the duo sat on the board for a few minutes discussing the intricacies of the game in a way they had rarely done after past encounters.

"It was a huge relief (to win today). After missing a few chances (in previous games), you kind of get little doubts in your mind. What's it going to take for me to get it done? Feels good to get that monkey off my back," Carlsen told Take Take Take after the win.

At the 2025 Norway Chess tournament, after Carlsen's first-round win over Gukesh, the Indian had posted a quote from The Wire on his X handle: 'You come at the king, you best not miss.'

On Thursday, his X account stayed silent. There is another Carlsen-Gukesh game coming next week, after all.

THE WRITER IS IN OSLO ON THE INVITATION OF NORWAY CHESS

Supreme Court clears Vinesh to compete in Asian Games trials

Ashish Shaji
New Delhi, May 29

THE SUPREME Court on Friday allowed wrestler Vinesh Phogat to participate in Asian Games 2026 selection trials. The court was hearing WFI's plea against the Delhi High Court's order allowing her to compete in the trials scheduled for May 30. "The respondent shall be permitted to participate in the selection trials for Asian Games 2026, which are scheduled for 30 May and 31 May 2026," the bench said in its order.

The court, however, expressed concern over the manner in which the Delhi High Court examined the matter. Phogat, who was on a break from December 2024, it included a maternity break, had been permitted to participate in tournaments from January 1 this year by the international wrestling body. The WFI barred her participation and, in the show cause notice, also accused her of indiscipline.

Earlier. The division bench of Chief Justice D K Upadhyaya and Justice Tejas Karia pf Delhi High Court said, "It is necessary that (Phogat) is permitted to participate in the Selection Trials in the interest of sport and justice.

In view of the peculiar facts and circumstances of this case, it is clear that except for (her) motherhood and the SCN issued by WFI, she would be entitled to participate in the Selection Trials. Therefore, the circumstances were beyond her control... It is deemed appropriate to protect the interest of (Phogat) by permitting her to participate in the Selection Trials."

The respondent shall be permitted to participate in the selection trials for Asian Games 2026.

AIMS TO COMPETE IN 53 KG CATEGORY

Vinesh returns to mat after crossing multiple hurdles

As a precaution will carry her own weighing scale, trusted person will ensure food, water are not tampered

Mihir Vasavda
Mumbai, May 29

IF THIS were any other tournament, Vinesh Phogat would have been studying her opponents on the eve of her much-anticipated return to competition. Not least because she would be stepping on the mat for the first time in two years on Saturday – this time in the 53kg category.

Instead, the two-time World Championship medallist and a three-time Olympian was glued to the Supreme Court proceedings, where the Wrestling Federation of India (WFI) – in their last, desperate attempt – tried hard to stop her from competing in the Asian Games selection trials.

After the bench comprising Justice PS Narasimha and Justice Alok Aradhe cleared her participation, Vinesh and her team's focus quickly turned to Saturday's trials – preparing not just for the expected battles on the mat, but the unexpected ones off it too.

Their measures include carrying their own weighing scales, designating a 'trusted person from the inner circle' to ensure Vinesh's food and water are not tampered with, and filming the bouts, even though the Delhi High Court ordered that the trials be video recorded to ensure fairness.

According to the WFI rules, wrestlers will be given a 1kg exemption during weigh-in for these trials. Vinesh, her team said, 'is within the prescribed weight limit'.

"We are leaving nothing to chance," said a member of Vinesh's entourage. "Although we hope that everything will be done as per the rules and fairly, we want to take all the precautions from our end too. We will carry our weight machines just in case something fishy comes up during the weigh-in. We will take proper care of the food and water she will consume. We are thankful to the Court for ordering the video recording of the bouts. We hope that it will encourage fair judging."

Since she announced her comeback in December last year, reversing the decision to retire after the Paris Olympics, Vinesh has alleged that the WFI has been 'actively creating roadblocks' and 'twisting rules and regulations' in a way that 'prevents' her from competing again.

WFI U-turn

The WFI has argued that Vinesh isn't eligible for the Asian Games selection trials because she did not meet the criteria. In a circular on May 6, the WFI said only the medal winners of the 2025 National Championships, held in December, and last February's Federation Cup would be allowed to compete in the selection trials. Vinesh, who gave birth to a baby boy in July last year, did not compete in either tournament.

Vinesh was set to make her comeback at the 2026 Ranking Tournament in Gonda from May 10 to 12, hoping that it would open the door for her to compete in the trials. The WFI, however, excluded the Ranking Tournament from its list of eligible competitions.

It went on to bar her from competing in Gonda, declaring her ineligible due to anti-doping protocols and an ongoing disciplinary hearing.

On May 27, the WFI issued a fresh circular, allowing the Ranking Tournament medallists to compete in this weekend's Asian Games trials.

Vinesh Phogat will compete in the 53 kg category at the Asian Games trials. EXPRESS PHOTO

> **"We are leaving nothing to chance. Although we hope that everything will be done as per the rules and fairly, we want to take all the precautions from our end too."**
> A MEMBER OF VINESH'S TEAM

WFI president Sanjay Singh said the trials would go ahead as scheduled, but when asked about the U-turn, he hung up.

Key opponents

The latest circular means potentially four more wrestlers in each category, leading to more bouts and – consequently – a tricky situation for Vinesh, whose stamina would be tested.

On current form, Vinesh's biggest challenge could come from Meenakshi Goyat. The 25-year-old, who boasts of a strong defence, has won two silver medals this year, at the Asian Championship and the Muhamet Malo tournament in Albania. However, her stock has risen in this weight class after she stunned twice World Championship medallist Antim Panghal during the Asian Championship selection trials in March.

Antim was so shocked after the loss that she lay on the mat in disbelief for minutes after the bout. The Paris Olympian, however, would be keen to prove that the defeat was only a blip. After all, the counter-attacking wrestler was the only Indian to return with a medal from the 2025 World Championship and also won a bronze medal at the Asian Championships, apart from gold medals at the Hungary and Mongolia Ranking series.

A dark horse in this category could be recently-crowned Under-23 Asian Champion Muskan. Only 19, she conceded just two points en route to winning the title in Da Nang, Vietnam, earlier this week. However, the short turnaround time between the two competitions could impact her performance on Saturday.

U-23 World Championship bronze medallist Nishu, who competes in 55kg but is likely to drop to 53 for these trials, is another wrestler who could pose a challenge, along with Hansika Lamba, who won a bronze at the Asian Championship earlier this year, although in the 55kg category.

Suruchi-Esha complete an Indian 1-2 at ISSF WC

Nitin Sharma
Chandigarh, May 29

IN ALMOST the repeat of the ISSF World Cup Final at Munich last year, where two Indian shooters won gold and silver in the women's 10m air pistol, Suruchi Singh Phogat and Esha Singh made it a 1-2 finish for India this year too.

Phogat claimed her fifth ISSF World Cup title with 21-year-old Esha achieving the rare feat of medals in the 25 m pistol and 10m air including the 25m world record earlier this week. "This is my first World Cup title of the year and the starting has been good for me. I did not face any pressure (to compete against Esha for the gold)," Suruchi said. "The start was not good but after that I got the flow and settled down. I just followed my technique and it went well. It is a very important year with Asian Games and Olympic quota matches too. I hope I will be able to win a medal in the Asian Games and then in the Olympics too," Suruchi told ISSF TV.

The day saw Phogat and Esha finishing eighth and ninth in qualification with scores of 578 each with Phogat having higher inner tens and another Indian Muskan, who was competing in non-medal category, finishing sixth. It meant that Esha too qualified for the eight-shooter-final. Phogat and Esha edged out Paris Olympics 25m champion Yang Jinn and 10m air pistol champion Oh Ye-jin of Korea as well as world number one Qianxun Yao of China for the last two spots.

The eight-shooter final had the likes of Tokyo Olympian Choo Gaeun, 25m pistol World Junior silver medallist Mirslova Mincheva of Bulgaria, Granada World Cup champion Shen Yiyao of China, 25m pistol Asian Champion Nguyen Thuy Trang of Vietnam, London Olympics silver medallist Celine Goberville of France apart from Zhang Qi of China.

Goberville grabbed the early lead in the final with her first series of 51.6 followed by Gaeun at the second spot with just 0.1 point behind. Singh shot a first series of 51.5 to be placed third with Qi at fourth place with Phogat at fifth place with 49.4 points.

Phogat would shoot a second series of 51.5 points to climb to the fourth spot with Gaeun maintaining her top spot followed by Goberville and Singh at fourth and Mincheva at fifth. Chang dropped to sixth spot followed by Thuy and Yiyao at seventh and eight respectively.

In the elimination stages, Phogat slowly climbed her way up with Esha dropping to fifth but again coming back to the top four before Mincheva was eliminated at the fourth spot. Gaeun followed by hitting some low nines to exit at the third spot.

Phogat, who had a 1.2 lead over Esha, would shoot 10.2 and 10.3 in the last elimination series with Esha shooting 10.1 and 10.7. Phogat won the gold with a lead of 0.9 points.

● SINGAPORE OPEN SUPER 750

Satwik-Chirag find different ways to skin the cat in quarters

Shivani Naik
Mumbai, May 29

IN THE current phase of their careers, Satwiksairaj Rankireddy and Chirag Shetty don't take their big smashing abilities for granted, and use their powers judiciously. While clamping down on Malaysian upstarts Kang Khai Xing and Aaron Tai, the Indian duo found other ways to get the job done and make the semifinals at the Super 750 Singapore Open on Friday.

While India's singles challenge ended with PV Sindhu fizzling out 21-17, 21-14 to An Seyoung and Lakshya Sen suffering his first-ever defeat to Koki Watanabe 19-21, 21-15, 15-21, this would be the first Super 750 level event in a while with two Indian doubles pairings in the last four.

Tanisha Crasto and Dhruv Kapila benefitted from the retirement of World No.3 Toh Ee Wei and Chen Tang Jie, after Ee Wei injured her knee at 16-18. In the semis on Saturday, they will play unseeded World No.18 Yuichi Shimogami and Sayaka Hobara.

Satwik-Chirag now face the World No.1 left-right pair of Koreans Kim Won-ho and Seo Seung-jae. The Indians are looking for their first win against the pair after two losses.

They scored fewer points (94-95) than the highly-rated Malaysians, aged 20 and 21, while winning 19-21, 21-17, 21-13. The game-style was also energy-efficient, though even a mellow Satwik can cause enough damage with his soft kills. Chirag has been on a roll since the Thailand Super 500.

Kang-Tai had handed Satwik-Chirag a shock loss at the All England. Tai, whose endurance started depleting by the middle of the first game itself, does have some wild racquet-work in strokes and a proper jump smash. The two Malaysians buzzed around like bees, in contrast to the two tall towers of Indian badminton.

Satwik-Chirag will face Kim-Seung in the semi-final of the Singapore Open. BADMINTON PHOTO

A plan devised by India's Malaysian coach, Tan Kim Her, was underway, but first up, came the customary Indian first-game dawdle.

Falling 13-18 behind, the Indians pulled off a 5-point surge to level at 18-18. Then in experimental mode, first Chirag then Satwik sent two flick serves, not high enough, that ended up looking like poor choices, as they were hammered down both times, to lose the opening game.

Comeback on

These days, Satwik-Chirag can shrug off first-game reversals and still win comfortably. The bouncy Malaysians, talked up by no less than PV Sindhu, were coasting at 8-3 up in the second when the Indians decided they had had enough.

The 2022 instinct would've been to amp up the attack and go smashing away. But it's not how the close-circuited, flat exchanges game against Malaysians and Indonesians work. So the Indians started cutting at the shuttle gently, shearing it off pace, but lifting and clearing it high enough to not allow Tai a chance to smash it down.

Satwik, in fact, would tempt fate a few times keeping the rally going with soft taps and flicks and even floaty drives adding loopy variations before he would strike the hammer down. A few chosen moments of vintage Satwik-Chirag 1-2s would follow, where Satwik smashed from the back court, with the scrambled weak returns finished off with a Chirag smash.

But at most times, the Indian idea was to stay calm and composed in defence, not allow the rally pace to be dictated, stabilise exchanges, before picking out the opportune time to attack.

The inexperienced Malaysians couldn't feed off the speed of rallies to unleash chaos, and eventually the Indians cruised to secure a place in the Super 750 semifinals.

A day earlier, Tan had offered crucial advice to Tanisha-Dhruv: to not get intimidated by Japanese champ Yuta Watanabe's reputation. "First game, they didn't play their game because they gave too much respect to Yuta," Tan would say.

The comeback kicked in as the Indians reached the quarters beating the famous Japanese from a game down. "Yuta usually plays cross-drive, Tanisha intercepted 3-4 of them. This confused Yuta. Then Tanisha had a very good service," Tan would explain.

That "not respecting reputations too much" was put into practice on Friday against Malaysian World Champions too till the injury ended the match.

Tan might need to drill the message down Satwik-Chirag too, when facing Seo-Kim.

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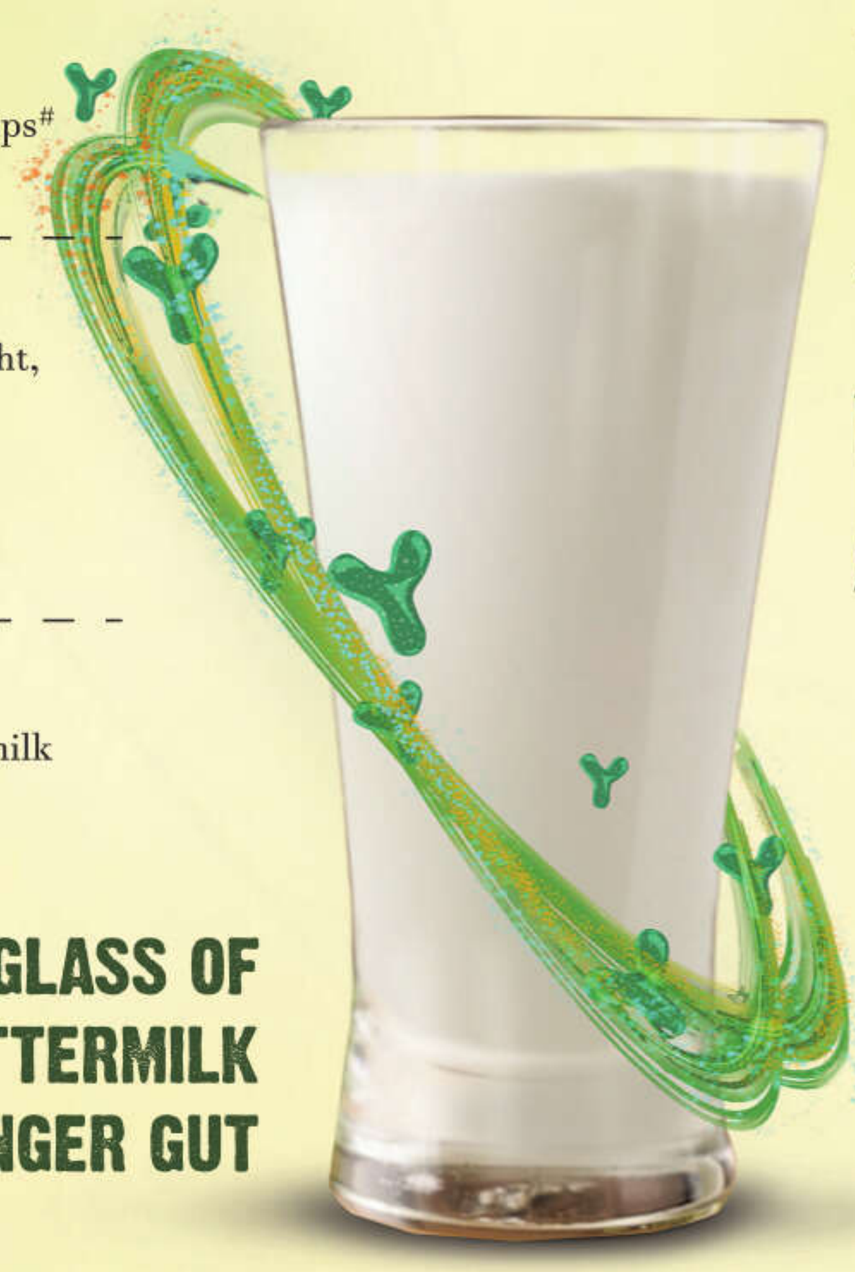

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