



Solutions to health and climate problems need to be low-cost, Bill Gates tells TOI in an interview, adds all 7 innovations mentioned in the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation's Goalkeepers report will be available soon, **PG OPP**

THE TIMES OF INDIA

Centre Asked Court To Await Parl View On New Penal Code

Dhananjay Mahapatra
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New Delhi: The Supreme Court Tuesday referred to a five-judge bench the issue of constitutional validity of the contentious and much misused sedition offence under Section 124A of the Indian Penal Code after rejecting the Union government's plea to pause the judicial scrutiny and await Parliament's view on the proposed new code in Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS), which seeks to do away with the provision.

A bench of Chief Justice DY Chandrachud and Justices JB Pardiwala and Manoj Misra backed their decision not to accede to the requests by attorney general R Venkatara-

ED studying Jain's potential gain if circle rate raised

The Delhi government's move to effect a six-fold increase in circle rates of agricultural land has piqued the interest of the ED team investigating former Delhi minister Satyendar Jain in money laundering case, reports **Pradeep Thakur**.

Sources said Jain would have been among the chief beneficiaries of the increase in circle rates and the agency is looking into it. Jain allegedly used five shell companies to acquire huge tracts of land between 2010 and 2014 in the villages of Karala, Auchiandi, Nizampur and Budhan. Jain and his associates had earlier denied owning the land. The AAP leadership had also reiterated his claim that he had resigned by 2013 from the companies that own the land. **P13**

India offered VVIP jet for stranded Canadian PM

India had offered its VVIP aircraft — India One — to fly Canadian PM Justin Trudeau and his team to Ottawa on Monday, after their 36-year-old Airbus A310 developed a snag in Delhi, sources said. Canada had declined the offer, and the PM and his team left on Tuesday afternoon after the plane was repaired. **P22**

Ashoka centre disbands itself

The scientific board of the Trivedi Centre for Political Data at Ashoka University announced in an open letter Tuesday that it was dissolving itself and cited "breach of academic norms" by the varsity. It claimed Belgian political scientist Gilles Verniers, founder & co-director of the centre, had been "forced to leave". **P8**

Soldier, Army dog die in J&K action, 3 hurt in encounter



Jammu: A soldier and an Army dog were killed in action and three other securitymen wounded in J&K's Rajouri on Tuesday while on the trail of terrorists fleeing their hideout after a member of the armed outfit had been shot in the first burst of gunfire, reports **Sanjay Khajuria**. Defence PRO Lt Col Suneel Bartwal said the gunfight took place in a forested area.

► At forefront of op, **P22**

INCLUSIVE OF DELHI TIMES (CIRCULATED ONLY IN DELHI NCR)

Russian President Vladimir Putin says he sees nothing in the India-Middle East-Europe Economic Corridor (IMEC) that can hinder Russia and he believes the project will benefit his country, **P 20**

*APPLICABLE ONLY ON MONTHLY PURCHASE (IN DELHI NCR)

Kolkata-born Jayanta Bhattacharya, professor at Stanford University, along with fellow scientists, wins a landmark legal victory in a free speech censorship case against the US govt, **P 23**

Speaker Kevin McCarthy says he is directing a House committee to open a formal impeachment inquiry against US Prez Joe Biden over his family's business dealings, launching historic proceedings ahead of the 2024 election, **P 23**



SC rejects govt's plea, bench of 5 to decide on sedition law

Centre Asked Court To Await Parl View On New Penal Code

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'CASES PENDING'

- SC says even if Parliament enacts new penal code, prosecutions pending under Sec 124A must be dealt with
- It says in 1962 Kedar Nath verdict, SC upheld sedition law after testing it against Art 19 guaranteeing free speech; since then, SC has expanded ambit of scrutiny to rights under Art 14 (equality), 19 and 21 (protection of life & liberty)
- The judgment did not distinguish between the state and the government

man and solicitor general Tushar Mehta, for deferment of the judicial scrutiny of sedition provision citing three reasons. First, the bench said, Section 124A continues to exist in the statute book and pending prosecutions under this provision would be valid even if Parliament enacted a new penal code.

► **SC on 5-judge bench, P 22**

SC fumes at lower courts not granting bail

New Delhi: The Supreme Court on Tuesday expressed its anguish over lower courts and high courts denying bail to accused in cases involving ordinary infractions despite the apex court's various orders exhorting them to be liberal in granting bail when custody is not needed, reports Amit Anand Choudhary.

"Why should everybody come here (Supreme Court) for bail? Despite our orders, bails are not granted by courts... 40% of cases (reaching SC) should be dealt at different levels but we are called upon to decide the cases," the bench said. It was hearing the bail plea of an accused who remained in jail due to delay in framing of charges despite the chargesheet being filed 14 months ago.

► **'It's unfortunate...', P 22**

SC raps Guj for remission delay, orders parole

New Delhi: Days after it raised questions on the remission policy being implemented selectively while hearing the Bilkis Bano case in which 11 lifers convicted of gang rape and murder were granted premature release, the Supreme Court has pulled up the Gujarat government for delay in deciding the remission plea of a prisoner despite the court's order and unanimous recommendation by the Jail Advisory Committee sent a year ago, reports Amit Anand Choudhary.

Noting the delay, the court on August 28 gave the state two weeks to decide on the remission plea but the government failed to comply. As the state sought more time, the bench directed the prisoner's release on parole.

► **Not offered apology, P 22**

IN THE COURTS

- Vijayawada court rejects Chandrababu Naidu's house custody plea, says he's safer in jail. Naidu moves HC for bail & quashing of case | **P 20**
- Watching porn in one's private time without showing it to others not an offence, rules Kerala HC | **P 22**
- Court acquits two in 2020 Kharuri Khas riots case, says statements of eyewitness and investigating officer are contradictory | **P 5**
- Delhi HC upholds trial court order, lets off Pucco accused, saying survivor's Aadhaar card showed she was 21 | **P 3**
- Delhi HC acquits man accused of raping minor. Says overall circumstances have to be considered | **P 3**
- Have got sanction from MHA to prosecute Lalu in land-for-job scam case, CBI tells Delhi court | **P 20**
- NDPS court stresses right to go abroad, orders NCB to return passport of actor Rhea Chakraborty's brother | **P 22**

Monu Manesar (in blue T-shirt) in the custody of the Haryana police in Manesar on Tuesday

Monu Manesar, alias Monu Manesar, was arrested on Tuesday by an SIT that is investigating the communal violence that broke out in Nuh on July 31, the first time the Bajrang Dal activist has been taken into custody since he emerged as a politically influential gau rakshak and the leader of a network of cow vigilantes in the state.

Soon after the SIT arrested him in Manesar, where he lives, took him to Nuh and produced him at the district court there, Monu was handed over to the Rajasthan police, which had applied for his transit remand for its own investigation into the killings of two Muslim men from Bharatpur-Nasir and Ju-

naid on February 16 this year;

► **Monu taken to Deeg, P 11**

Monu Manesar arrested in Hry, Raj cops take him on remand for murder probe



2 buffaloes, a calf & a very cold case: 78-yr-old man arrested for theft in 1965

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Bidar: The arrest came long, long after the cows, rather than the buffaloes, came home.

Ganapati Vitthal Wagore of Udgir, Maharashtra was just 20, and the year was 1965, when he became the prime accused in the theft of two buffaloes and a calf from Mehakar village in Bidar, Karnataka.

Now 78, Vitthal was arrested on Tuesday, as part of the local police's cold case project, dubbed LPC, long pending cases. For Bidar police, this was the oldest of the LPCs that they are looking into currently.

Bidar district in Karnataka borders Maharashtra, no doubt creating enabling conditions for inter-state crime. Vitthal's co-accused, Krish-

► **Vitthal likely to get bail, P 22**

Woman, bro kill lover for refusing to marry her

A 24-year-old man found dead in a Mussoorie homestay three days ago was murdered by his lover and her brother from Shaheen Bagh in Delhi, police said. Kapil Choudhary, a driver, and 20-year-old Kudrat Basdar, who worked at a tailor's met at a shop in Karol Bagh two years ago and over phone conversations, fell in love, report Kalyan Das and Anmol Jain.

A few weeks ago, Kapil told Kudrat he couldn't marry her since she was of a different faith. Angered by this, Kudrat enlisted the help of her 18-year-old brother Abdulla and called Kapil to Mussoorie. In the early hours of September 10, Abdulla slit Kapil's throat and hid the body under the bed. Brother and sister then fled to Haridwar from where they were nabbed. **P 11**

Rtd Army driver cons job aspirants posing as Col, held

A 56-year-old man, who used to pose as a Colonel to dupe aspiring soldiers, was held by a unit of the UP STF from Meerut after a tip-off from military intelligence two days ago. He was booked for "cheating, breach of trust and criminal intimidation" and sent to jail on Tuesday, reports Krishna Chaudhary. Satya Pal Singh Yadav had been a naik in the Army since 1985 and retired in 2003. Additional SP (STF) B K Singh said, "Yadav owns a paint business, in which he invested the money got through his crime. He amassed close to Rs 6 crore over the past seven years by conning more than 50 aspirants."

Soldier, Army dog die in J&K action, 3 hurt in encounter



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► **Son can sit now, P 6**

Crowdfunded para player wins bronze

Para-badminton player Prema Biswas, who crowdfunded her participation at the Fox Indonesia Para-badminton tournament, has won a bronze medal. **FLAP OPP**



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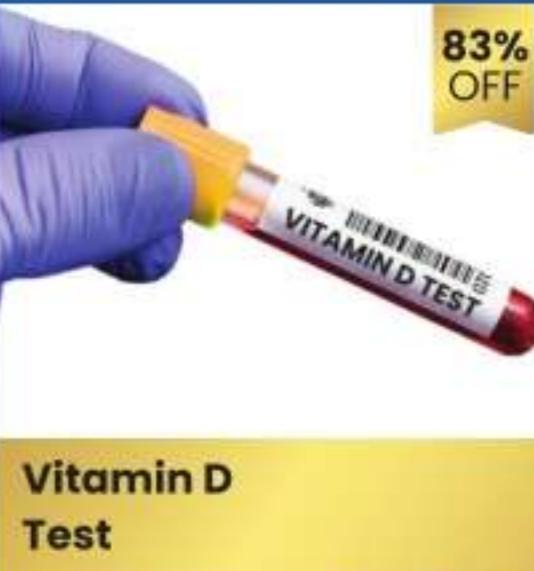
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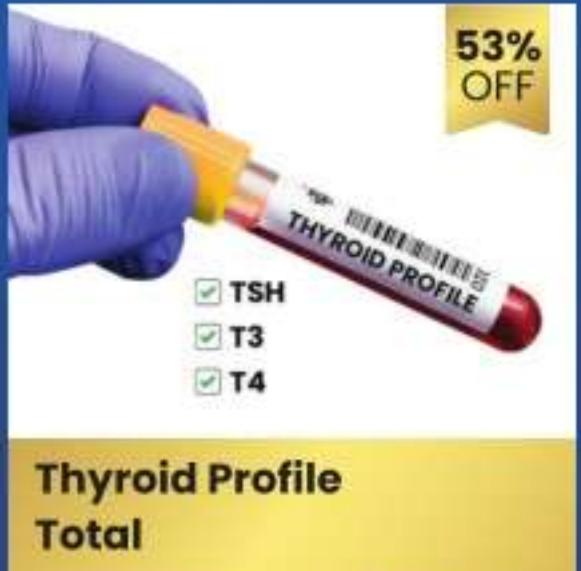
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Instruments of great Indian music maestros displayed at new Parliament's Sangeet Deergha | 5



Metro consistently surpassing pre-Covid passenger journeys | 8



Street kids pad up for their world cup | 3

Diwali Air Pollution Not Just About Firecrackers: Experts

Cutting Pollutants Helps, But Met Conditions Bigger Factor

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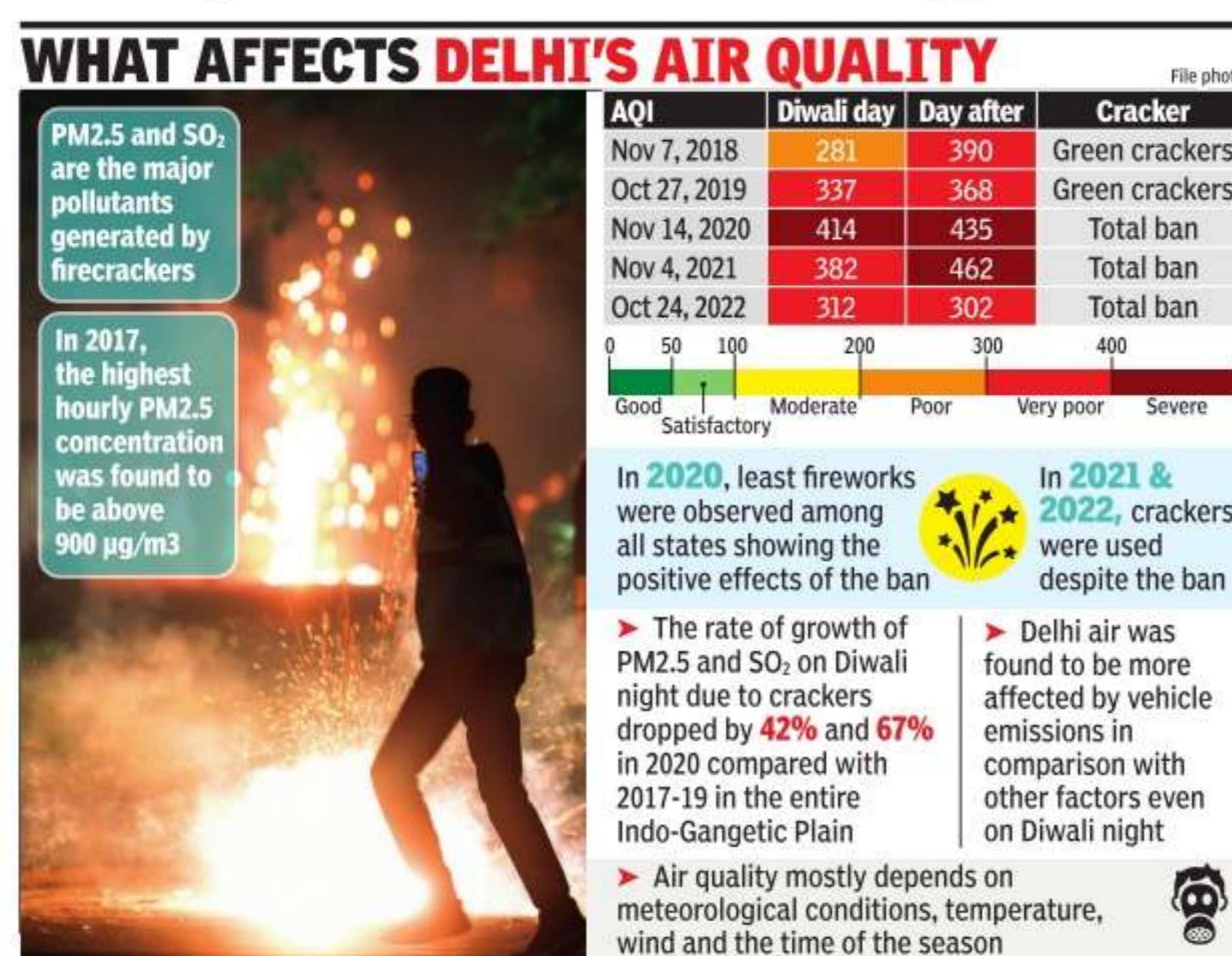
New Delhi: Since 2020, Diwali nights have been a tad less loud. Fireworks were banned that year to curb pollution, a ban that environment minister Gopal Rai reiterated for the 2023 festival season on Monday. Indeed, the city saw very clean pre-Diwali and Diwali days in 2020, but experts said it wasn't all due to a check on pyrotechnics.

While the elimination of a source of pollutants had a bearing on the cleanliness of the air, experts learnt that meteorological conditions were as important a factor in the quality of air during the festival and the winter months. The windy conditions during Diwali in the past couple of years had more to do with the better air than people not bursting crackers.

The role of prohibiting fireworks to cut down emission, of course, isn't insignificant. "There is no doubt that air quality depends on meteorological conditions. But alongside, controlling toxic pollutants like dust and gases also helps," said D Saha, former head, air pollution laboratory, Central Pollution Control Board.

"We must work to reduce toxicity by curtailing different sources of pollution or emissions at the ground level. Banning fireworks, even if their contribution to pollution is just 1%, is still a good decision from the perspective of people's health."

A research study at the Post-Graduate Institute of Medical Education and Research, Panjab University, released in July last year pointed out that air quality across the entire Indo-Gangetic Plains was good on Diwali night, attributable, therefore, not to the cracker



ban in the city but to the prevailing winds, which ventilated the pollutants across the swathe of north India.

In fact, vehicle emissions and stubble burning in the capital's neighbourhood nullified all the gains of the fireworks ban and kept pollution levels fairly high in the capital. As another assessment by Climate Trends discovered, while the pollution level reduced last Diwali, it was still well above the safe limit.

The PGIMER study found that PM2.5 and sulphur dioxide (SO₂) were the major pollutants generated by firecrackers. There was no effect on the ozone level, contrary to earlier assumptions. The rate of growth of PM2.5 and SO₂ due to crackers dropped dramatically by 42% and 67% on Diwali night in 2020 compared with 2017-19 in the entire Indo-Gangetic Plain due to

and windy days. This means that the weather condition is the single most important factor in the pollution level in the city."

While calling the ban on fireworks a "civic duty," Bhushan said that if particle pollutants fell 42% in the past few years as claimed by the state government, it is not due to steps taken such as not allowing crackers for Diwali. "Yes, it is true that the firecracker ban leads to less smoke and less noise. But other measures have to be taken too. A very crucial intervention to be made in winters is to stop the burning of waste and biomass for heating," said Bhushan. "Delhi government has more than adequate environment funds and should be able to provide electric heaters to the people in need. The impact of not allowing biomass burning can then be seen."

BJP attacks AAP govt over cracker ban, pollution fight

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi: BJP leaders on Tuesday termed the ban on firecrackers during Diwali by Delhi government "politics of appeasement". They also alleged that the government had failed to check air pollution in the city.

In a press conference held at the party office, Delhi BJP vice-president Kapil Mishra alleged, "For the last few years, the Kejriwal government has not been fighting against pollution but only trying to suppress Diwali enthusiasm. As Diwali approaches, firecrackers are banned to appease a section of the society." "Pollution due to firecrackers is usually negligible and Kejriwal should show to the people the details of the steps taken by them to deal with other pollution causes," he said.

"BJP demands implementation of the decision given by the Supreme Court on the use of green crackers. Kejriwal who, before the Punjab elections, talked about the magic solution to stop pollution from stubble burning should tell what he has done on it till now," Mishra said.

BJP media department head Praveen Shankar Kapoor said that "every year, a large sum comes to the Delhi government as environment cess through commercial vehicles, but till date, there is no information about what it does with that money".

The AAP government did not respond to the allegations.

On Monday, environment minister Gopal Rai announced a blanket ban on all kinds of fireworks through the winter in a bid to control pollution levels.

He said the decision was taken while preparing this year's winter action plan and the ban had been announced early for better preparations to curb sales, storage, manufacture and online delivery of all kinds of firecrackers in Delhi.

Winter plan: Artificial rain among ideas to curb bad air

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

ning is one of the major causes of pollution in the capital city as per report by real-time apportionment studies.

"The local biomass burning needs sincere attention and we will conduct a meeting with local security guard companies, because it has been noticed that security guards stoke bonfires during

Rai said separate action plans would be made for 13 hotspots to reduce pollution and improve air quality. A separate winter action plan will help in tackling the issues comprehensively because they have different causes of pollution

winters. Teams of Delhi Pollution Control Committee will continuously monitor the hotspots," said Rai.

Anumita Roychowdhury, executive director, research and advocacy, Centre for Science and Environment (CSE), who attended the experts meet, said, "The issue of air pollution was discussed comprehensively with a focus on sector-wise implementation strategy. We discussed the scope of action targeting key sources, including vehicles, construction, waste, industry, energy for cooking and heating and al-

ter season to reduce the number of 'severe' days. The proposal on artificial rain will be prepared considering the weather and other factors. It will be discussed with chief minister Arvind Kejriwal and depending on its feasibility, the government will take a call."

Cloud seeding, which is a weather-modification technology to create rain, was also proposed in 2018 with the help of institutions like IIT-Kanpur. However, the plan was later dropped as weather conditions like low moisture levels in the city were found unsupportive.

Some parts of Delhi experience drizzle, expect more till Sunday

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi: Some parts of Delhi, including Tughlaqabad, Ayanagar, Vasant Kunj and Deramandri, saw a drizzle on Tuesday. Ayanagar logged 0.6 mm rainfall between 8.30 am and 5.30 pm. There are chances of very light rain to light rain for the next five days.

According to India Meteorological Department, the maximum temperature was 34.5 degrees Celsius, one degree above normal. The minimum temperature was 24.8 degrees Celsius, one degree below normal. The relative humidity oscillated between 64% and 93%.

A Met official said, "Due to moisture fed

from south Uttar Pradesh, the city may see very light rain or drizzle on Wednesday and Thursday. There is a possibility of light rain or thunderstorms on Friday and Saturday. There is a chance of drizzling on Sunday while rain is unlikely on Monday."

The maximum temperature is likely to hover around 35 degrees Celsius for the next few days. Delhi's air quality, meanwhile, reached the lower end of the 'satisfactory' category with an air quality index of 89. According to Air Quality Early Warning System for Delhi, the air quality is likely to remain in the 'satisfactory' category on Wednesday. However, it may enter the 'moderate' category on Thursday and 'satisfactory' category on Friday.

Women Power Ensuring Haryana's Progress

जो गना गो कर दिखाया – सरकार हरियाणा



- Strengthening rights of women by ensuring 50% participation in Panchayats
- 33% ration depot reserved for women
- Free education and transportation services for all girl students up to Post-graduation
- **Beti Bachao-Beti Padhao Programme** - Gender ratio at birth improved from 871 to 927
- Out of a total of 74 newly opened Government colleges, 31 are only for girl students
- Financial assistance up to ₹6000 to around 8 lakh pregnant women under the Pradhan Mantri Matru Vandana Yojana

“महिलाओं का जीवन बेटर बनाना आज हमारी सरकार की प्राथमिकता है। हमारी माताओं-बापों की मुश्किलें दूर हों, वे देश की विकास यात्रा की मजबूत भागीदार बनें, इसके लिए हम लगातार कदम उठा रहे हैं।”

नरेन्द्र मोदी



Pocso: Relief for man as Aadhaar says girl an adult

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi: Delhi High Court has upheld a trial court's order discharging an accused of charges under the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences Act (Pocso Act) on the basis of the alleged survivor's Aadhaar card, which indicated that she was a major. In a police complaint, the girl's mother had claimed that the girl was 16 years old.

The perusal of impugned order dated 29.7.2016 reflects that the trial court had rightly observed that the date of birth of the prosecutrix as appearing in the school record was not based on birth certificate issued by MCD or any other statutory authority. In the absence of these documents, the trial court has rightly relied upon the Aadhaar card to ascertain the age of prosecutrix as per mandate of section 94 of the Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2015, which reflects the date of birth of the prosecutrix as 01.01.1994. It is also pertinent to mention that the prosecutrix was not subjected to the ossification test to determine her approximate age," the single judge bench of Sudhir Kumar Jain said.

The bench dismissed an appeal filed by the state government against the trial court's order.

The prosecution had argued that the trial court had erred by relying upon the age mentioned in the Aadhaar card, and by not resorting to Section 94 of Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2015 (JJ Act).

Discharging the accused of all charges, the trial court had observed that the accused and the prosecutrix were in love and she was 21 years of age as per her Aadhaar card.

Earlier, the mother alleged that the girl was kidnapped, raped, and compelled to marry the accused. The accused was charge-sheeted for the offences under sections 363/366/368A/376 of the Penal Code, 1860 read with sections 4 and 6 of the Pocso Act, 2012.

The girl, however, denied that she was kidnapped and sexually assaulted by him.

46-yr-old woman shot at while trying to save son, one held

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi: A 46-year-old woman was shot at in Delhi's Shahbad Dairy and one of the suspects has been arrested, police said.

The victim identified as Sushila Devi, who lives with her family in Shahbad Dairy, was trying to save her son from the suspects, Monu and Deepak, when one of them allegedly shot her, police said.

Police received information about the incident at 11.05pm on Sunday. A team went to the spot at street number 3 in Bhalswa. The victim's son, Karan, told police that he and his friend Ravi were standing near a wine shop when Monu came and started fighting with Ravi. Karan tried to sort out the matter, but Monu started abusing him also.

"Monu then made a phone

In 6 Mths, Skywalk To Cut Nehru Place Congestion

Planned 5 Yrs Ago, It Will Link Metro Stn With District Centre

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The entire revamp of the area, including the skywalk, will be finished by the end of March 2024. The restoration involves improving the building facades, boosting the drainage and sewer system, installing tiles and seating at the public plaza and overhauling the staircases

restored the stormwater drains. No major waterlogging was reported in the market in the recent rains."

In the past traders often complained about the problem of flooding of the basements due to lack of pro-

DDA OFFICIAL SAYS

To begin with, the construction of the skywalk is almost finished and work is in progress to connect it with the metro station. We have already laid the granite floor of the skywalk and put up the steel railings

per drainage and sewerage and other issues.

Inder Kohli, a business owner, however, pointed out that many electric poles were still not functional and the newly constructed toilets were supplied water by tankers for lack of piped supply. "Though the basements are no longer deluged, except once when heavy rain occurred a few days ago, the sewage lines are still not efficient enough to take load of the entire area," said Kohli.

Reacting to this, a DDA official said that there was no report of seepage in the basements after the completion of the revamp. He added, "To systematise the parking in the area and to dissuade illegal parking, work on the multi-level car parking is underway and this should be completed by March 31 next year."

However, HC pointed out that the prosecution did not place on record any document to establish the correct age of the girl who first claimed that she was 17-year-old and then during her examination before the trial court said that she was 19 while her complainant brother claimed she was 12-year-old.

"There is no doubt to the legal position that testimony of the prosecutrix alone is sufficient to bring home the guilt of an accused for committing offence under Section 376 (rape) of the IPC; however, before arriving at a just decision, the Court also has to consider the overall facts and circumstances of the case," it observed.

"This court is of the opinion that the learned trial court has rightly held that the prosecution has failed to prove guilt of the accused beyond reasonable doubts. Finding no error in the impugned judgment the present petition seeking leave to appeal is dismissed," it added.

CM & LG discuss city's development at Raj Niwas, meeting 'cordial'

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

to come out from his house. Deepak was also carrying a pistol with him," police said. After hearing the noise, Sushila and her daughter came out of their house and tried to pacify them. "Deepak then fired at Sushila, which hit her on the left shoulder. Both men fled the spot, and she was taken to the hospital by her family members. She was later transferred to another hospital," an officer said, adding the bullet was still inside her body and surgery will be done in next few days.

"We conducted raids and arrested Monu and are also searching for other accused," police said. A case under Sections 307 (attempted murder), 506 (criminal intimidation), and 34 (acts done by several persons in furtherance of common intention) of the IPC and Section 27 of Arms Act was registered at Bhalswa police station.

While the elected dispensation and the LG's secretariat have been engaged in verbal duel over several matters, the latest flashpoint being the preparations for the recently concluded G20 summit in the capital and the money spent by different agencies on beautification of Delhi, sources said the Tuesday meeting between the LG and Kejriwal was "cordial" and the two held discussions over a host of issues relating to the event.

The last one-on-one meeting between the LG and the chief minister had taken place at Raj Niwas on July 31. The two heads of government have shown a bonhomie since a Van Mahotsav event that took place in the third week of July at Asola Bhatti wildlife sanctuary.

While appreciating the preparations made by various Delhi government departments for the G20 meeting, the chief minister had earlier this month mentioned in a social media post how the LG had led from the front. After the conclusion of the event, the LG too had expressed his gratitude towards various central and state government agencies for their contribution in making the event successful.

Thrilled, street kids pad up for their world cup



HOW'S THAT: The event, for which the children are training hard, will see the participation of 22 countries

relented. We want to change the way we are perceived."

Each of the teenager in the team has a story to tell. Many of them were ragpickers while others worked as household workers until Chetna rescued them. "We gave them the opportunity to receive primary education. A girl we rescued from near the railway station used to paint the straps of flip-flops for a living. What unites them now is the spirit to break free of

their social constraints," said a Chetna coordinator.

Bowler Ranju couldn't hold back her excitement. "I'm thrilled to be going to a new place having never left Delhi before this. In Chennai, I'll get to interact with the players from abroad, learn about their culture and introduce them to India. I'll also work on improving my communication skills," she smiled.

Jannat has a tough schedule with a double shift and often

struggles to find time. "I work as a domestic worker and with my second job at a boutique, there are days when I miss practice because I have no time left for cricket. I try to make the most of whatever time I am able to spare," she said.

The NGO has taken care of

the important issue of nutrition for the kids. It provides the cricketers fruits, dry fruits and milk. "We are not only kitting them out, but also ensuring they are physically fit,"

HC acquits man accused of confining, raping minor

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi: Delhi High Court has upheld the acquittal of a man accused of forcibly keeping a "minor" girl in his house and repeatedly raping her on the ground of conflicting testimony.

The court said while the testimony of a survivor alone is sufficient to establish guilt, overall circumstances have to be considered to arrive at a "just decision" and dismissed an appeal by the accused for an aesthetic look," a DDA official said.

The court said prosecution not only failed to bring on record the exact age of the girl but also could not prove that the accused had forcibly made physical relations with her.

Noting that the survivor had even visited the accused's native village claiming to be his wife and did not raise alarm on earlier occasions, HC remarked that "the behaviour of prosecutrix speaks a volume about her conduct" and a case of "false accusation" cannot be ruled out.

The survivor has deposited that the accused had made relations thrice with her in a park and also stated that there were public persons in the park but she neither raised any alarm nor any public person noticed it, which is highly unbelievable," HC said, adding it also seems she willingly continued living in the accused's house for 27 days.

The accused was booked on the basis of an FIR registered for alleged commission of offences under the Indian Penal Code (IPC), including rape, and the Prevention of Children from Sexual Offences Act (Pocso).

However, HC pointed out that the prosecution did not place on record any document to establish the correct age of the girl who first claimed that she was 17-year-old and then during her examination before the trial court said that she was 19 while her complainant brother claimed she was 12-year-old.

"There is no doubt to the legal position that testimony of the prosecutrix alone is sufficient to bring home the guilt of an accused for committing offence under Section 376 (rape) of the IPC; however, before arriving at a just decision, the Court also has to consider the overall facts and circumstances of the case," it observed.

"This court is of the opinion that the learned trial court has rightly held that the prosecution has failed to prove guilt of the accused beyond reasonable doubts. Finding no error in the impugned judgment the present petition seeking leave to appeal is dismissed," it added.

'Funds shortage': Tender cancelled, official gets notice

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi: The chief engineer of the flyover zone of Delhi government's PWD issued a showcase notice to an executive engineer on Tuesday to explain why the cancellation of a tender to build an underpass in northeast Delhi was attributed to budget shortage.

As per PWD's website, the tender related to the construction of an underpass along Loni Road across Mangal Pandey Marg was being cancelled on the directions of the minister

of the funds have been marked for the ambitious plan. But as it has run into trouble and many things still need to be worked out, we are facing difficulties in getting financial approvals for other projects too," said a source in PWD.

Currently, PWD has 30 ongoing projects while several others are in the pipeline and awaiting approvals. Sources said a few like the parallel flyover near Savitri Cinema, which was approved in May, was stuck due to lack of financial approvals.

Several contractors, the sources said, have complained about pending bills of work related to the construction of underpasses in Jagatpuri and Gopalpur. Construction of one of the ramps of Ashram flyover extension and bridge expansion work over Ghazipur drain in Kondli was also delayed due to unpaid bills to contractors, they added.

Sources in the government, however, said there was no shortage of funds and no infrastructure project had been stopped or cancelled for want of money.

TIMES ASCENT

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Maestros' Instruments Reach New House

Amjad Ali Khan's Sarod, Ravi Shankar's Sitar, Shiv Kumar's Santoor On Display At Parliament

Anuja Jaiswal
@timesgroup.com

New Delhi: Ustad Amjad Ali Khan, Pandit Hariprasad Chaurasia, Ustad Bismillah Khan, Pandit Ravi Shankar and Pandit Shiv Kumar Sharma may never have performed together on stage, but their iconic instruments form a cultural orchestra in the new Parliament building.

"India has a rich musical heritage that spans classical, folk and contemporary genres. A Sangeet Deergha within the Parliament building is the platform that showcases this diverse musical wealth," said an official of the Indira Gandhi National Centre for the Arts (IGNCA). Perhaps the most apt symbols of India's culture, the instruments are part of the specially designed gallery, which will also exhibit the journey of Indian classical music through paintings, sculptures and dance forms.

Ten musical instruments that the maestros themselves played on are part of the 14 on display in the Sangeet Deergha. Officials said architecturally, the inclusion of the deergha enhanced the aesthetic appeal of the new building and added to its cultural significance. People will be able to visit the gallery in the new parliament building from September 18, when a special session commences there.

According to officials at IGNCA, the 21.5-metre sangeet gallery has 10 panels related to dance and music comprising



1 The first panel will show origin of the Indian musical tradition (Naada), tradition of reciting vedic mantras in the form of 'samagama'

2 Apsaras playing instruments

3 Inspired by a Rajasthani miniature painting from 1750 CE

4 Indian classical instruments gifted by renowned artistes from across the country

5 A variety of folk and tribal musical instruments from all regions, including bhangra dhol, surbahar, been, ektaa, etc

6 Bharat Muni, the author of Natyashastra; representation of Samudragupta gold coin; kinnara playing veena, inspired by Ajanta Caves

7 Navarasa in Kangra-style painting

8 Acharya describes 28+4 Asamyukta Hasta



Ustad Amjad Ali Khan with Sachchidanand Joshi, member-secretary, IGNCA

sing mural, sculptures, paintings of musicians and original Indian classical instruments donated by the 10 legendary musicians along with sculpted instruments and the hasta mudra, a bronze statue of Nataraja from Tamil Nadu and miniature dolls showing folk and tribal dance forms.

The instruments have been donated to the Sangeet Deergha by the families of the maestros. "Each of these instruments has been used by the legends of Indian music during their lifetime," claimed professor Sachchidanand Joshi, member-secretary, IGNCA. He added that it was at the initiative of the prime minister that the gallery was conceptualised and executed by the Union ministry of culture.

Directional speakers have been placed in some of the panels at the gallery to allow viewers to listen to the sound of the tones of a particular instrument. "The visitors can touch the instruments digitally through kiosks and use headphones to listen to clear sounds," said an official.

Ustad Amjad Ali Khan, who has been honoured with numerous awards for his contribution to music, including the Padma Vibhushan, the country's second highest civilian award, the Padma Bhushan and Padma Shri, told TOI, "I have nearly 15 sarods that I use on different occasions. I have named each one for a river. I gifted Narmada, which was one of my favourites, to be showcased in the Parliament

house. This archival museum is for the preservation of our legacy and the younger generation should know that Khan Sahib played this sarod."

Pandit Hariprasad Chaurasia, the celebrated classical flautist and Padma Vibhushan and Padma Bhushan awardee, told TOI, "It is a great honour for an artist that his musical instrument is being showcased in Parliament. This is bigger than the civilian awards. I

OFFICIAL SAYS

The visitors can touch the instruments digitally through kiosks and use headphones to listen to clear sounds

am happy and fortunate that people will remember me through my instrument and will talk about me and our music culture after seeing it."

Equally proud to be part of the showcasing of Indian culture at Sangeet Deergha was morsing maestro, Vidwan AS Krishnan. He gifted his own instrument to the project.

The public entrance to Parliament leads to three galleries — the Sangeet Deergha which highlights dance, song and musical traditions of India, the Sthapatya Deergha depicting the architectural heritage of the country and the Shilp Deergha showcasing the distinctive handicrafts of the various states.

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Court acquits two of charges in riots case

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi: A court has acquitted two men accused of rioting, unlawful assembly and others in a matter related to the 2020 riots in Delhi's Khajuri Khas.

"In view of my foregoing discussions, observations, and findings, I find that charges levelled against the accused persons in this case are not proved. Hence, accused Shahrukh and Aman alias Surya are acquitted of all the charges levelled against them in this case," said the court of additional sessions judge Pulakayya Parmachala.

Charges were framed against Shahrukh and Aman in September 2021. However, both denied the allegations and pleaded not guilty taking plea that they were falsely implicated/arrested and charged in this case by the IO only to work out this case and were not present in any mob.

They took plea that they were falsely identified by the witnesses at the instance of IO and their respective signatures were obtained on blank and pre-printed papers in the police station, adding the contents of those documents were not read over to them.

CP rewards cops for work at G20 Summit

Vibha.Sharma@timesgroup.com

New Delhi: Delhi Police commissioner Sanjay Arora has given special commendation discs and certificates to police officers across ranks for their work during the G20 Summit.

"Those who were deployed in IARI Pusa, NGMA, Jaipur House, Rajghat, IGI airport, ITPO, hotels, PCRs, and QRTs were awarded," police said. The CP Reserve Company was also rewarded with commendation discs and certificates.

An order read, "The smooth, professional and precise execution of the colossal G20 arrangement, which saw participation, commitment and contribution from the entire and rank file of Delhi Police, was made possible only by the shared sense of pride and ownership in the overall objectives of the mega arrangement by every participant." TNN

No dengue report from MCD for over a month

Vibha.Sharma@timesgroup.com

New Delhi: Municipal Corporation of Delhi (MCD) has not released a dengue report for over a month now.

The last report was shared on August 7, and it showed a spurt in cases. After that, officials did not provide any weekly data on the number of cases, dengue deaths and status of other vector borne diseases — an exercise followed for decades.

Till August 7, a total of 348 dengue cases were reported, double the number of cases (174) reported at the same time last year.

Two weeks ago, Delhi BJP

had claimed that one dengue death happened in a Kalkaji DDA flat, but no confirmation came from MCD.

On being asked the reason for not releasing the report, a senior MCD official said: "It is not a statutory mandate to release a report every week. Things are under control and our staff is working dedicatedly to mitigate sources of mosquito breeding in all areas."

According to MCD's August 7 report, "In the first week of August, 105 new cases were reported. In comparison, 75 cases were

reported in the month of August (till this time) in 2022, 72 in 2021 and 47 in 2020. With the addition of 105 cases, total cases reported cases were 348. The figure was almost double the cases reported in 2022 as 174. In 2021, 22 cases of dengue were reported and 35 in 2020."

An MCD official said their staff was working with dedication in all areas. "Our staff are concentrating on red zones as well where the maximum dengue cases were reported in the last 2-3 years. After the concluding of

G20 Summit, drives for spraying insecticide have been intensified in public areas again," the official said.

In August and September, maximum cases of dengue are reported due to humid weather. An MCD official said: "Though the chances of mosquito breeding are high from 25 degrees to 35 degrees Celsius temperature, especially with inconsistent rain, this is not the case now. The recent rain lasted for two days and then stopped suddenly."

The number of malaria cases also saw a surge with 85 cases till August 5, in comparison to 35 cases in 2022.

The court was hearing a case against Shahrukh and Aman, who were charged with rioting and unlawful assembly during the riots. Charges were framed against both accused persons for offences punishable under sections 143 (unlawful assembly), 147 (rioting), 148 (rioting armed with deadly weapon), 308 (attempt to commit culpable homicide) of the IPC read with Section 149 (every member of unlawful assembly guilty of offence committed in prosecution of common object).

The complainants Rajesh Kumar and Vedant Mishra had filed complaints regarding a riotous mob causing injuries to them.

Charges were framed against Shahrukh and Aman in September 2021. However, both denied the allegations and pleaded not guilty taking plea that they were falsely implicated/arrested and charged in this case by the IO only to work out this case and were not present in any mob.

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DoE launches suicide prevention week

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi: The Directorate of Education launched the Jeevan Anmol Hai Suicide Prevention Week from September 10 to 16, recognising that schools can become a safety net in protecting students from the pressures and stress of the fast-paced world that can lead to mental health challenges and propel children towards self-harm.

The theme of the campaign is "Creating Hope Through Action". It is aimed at reducing suicidal ideation and destigmatising help-seeking behaviour.

The campaign includes a series of events and activities aimed at students, teachers, parents and other stakeholders.

Audio messages, assembly talks, success story videos, slogan writing and drawing competitions, stress management talks, street plays and oath-taking ceremonies are some of the activities that will happen in all Delhi government schools. Students participating in the activities will get participation and appreciation certificates.

The campaign, Creating Hope Through Action, is aimed at reducing suicidal ideation and destigmatising help-seeking behaviour

In line with the objectives, an audio message prepared by the directorate of education was shared with all government school students via WhatsApp on September 10.

Next, the school assemblies featured talks by educational and vocational guidance counsellors and teacher counsellors on self-harm and suicide prevention.

On Tuesday, videos highlighting success stories, selected by the head of schools, was shared via WhatsApp or shown in class.

Next, the students in Classes IX-XII will participate in slogan writing, while students in Classes VI-VIII will participate in drawing competitions on the theme "Jeevan Anmol Hai".

A talk on managing stress will be conducted by the counsellors for the school management committee members and parents, targeting at least 50 parents on September 14.

The schools will also organise Nukkad Natak (street plays) and role-play activities to raise awareness through their performances.

The week will culminate with heads of schools narrating success stories, followed by an oath-taking ceremony on "Jeevan Anmol Hai".

District directors of education are urged to ensure participation from all schools within their jurisdiction and are encouraged to visit two schools daily in the week.

'After injection, my son can sit, move his legs'

►Continued from P1

The target was reached with the help of politicians, actors, philanthropic organisations and thousands of ordinary folks.

Talking to TOI, an overwhelmed Amit Jangra said, "I just cannot thank all these donors enough for their help. It was impossible for me to raise this huge amount. My son received the dose on July 13 and now after one-and-a-half months his legs have started moving and he is able to sit."

Kanav was diagnosed with SMA type 1 when he was just seven months old, Jangra added. Babies suffering from this genetic disorder are ventilator-dependent by age two and seldom survive beyond that age. According to doctors, the disease begins in infancy and those inflicted with it cannot sit or walk independently. They can develop feeding difficulties and respiratory complications.

"I request everyone to help parents of those children who are struggling to arrange help for the treatment of their children suffering from SMA," Amit added.

Chief minister Arvind Kejriwal visited Kanav's house in Najafgarh on Tuesday to inquire about his health. After a conversation with Kanav's parents, Kejriwal

stated that Kanav needed the injection, which had to be imported from the US. With the efforts of MPs Sanjeev Arora and Sanjay Singh, and support of the public, this injection has been administered to Kanav. "I want to thank all those people who have helped Kanav," the CM said.

Kejriwal said, "The central government relaxed import duty on the injection, and we extend our gratitude towards them too. Because of this help and injection, Kanav's condition has improved significantly. Now, his hands are working effectively like a normal kid, his legs are improving. I pray for Kanav's longer, healthier and happier life." The CM added that nine cases of the rare disease have been reported across India.

Actors and TV personalities including Sonu Sood, Rajpal Yadav, Farah Khan, Vidya Balan, Shakti Kapoor and Kapil Sharma had appealed for funds for the child's treatment on social media platforms.

Man killed, his brother injured; one suspect held

New Delhi: A 23-year-old man was murdered, and his brother injured after they were stabbed in southeast Delhi's Khadda Colony on Tuesday and one suspect has been apprehended, police said.

The deceased, Kamal Kishore, lived with his family in Kalindi Colony, police said, adding his brother, Shivam Sharma, was receiving treatment.

Deputy commissioner of police (southeast) Rajesh Deo said after receiving information about a stabbing incident near Arpan Puliya, police rushed the victims to a hospital. "Kamal was declared dead, while Shivam had received stab injuries in his stomach and was operated," an officer said. During the investigation, cops apprehended 22-year-old Shahrukh, a resident of Khadda Colony.

"The victims and assailant were known to each other, and the incident took place due to some petty dispute," the DCP said.

A purported video of the incident has surfaced, showing one victim lying in pool of blood and the other crying in pain. TNN

Delhi govt bans glue traps, cites cruelty

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi: Delhi government has issued directions to ban manufacturing, sale and use of glue traps in the city citing cruelty, as these "illegal" traps lead to death of non-target animals like squirrels and birds.

The order by director, animal husbandry unit has urged different departments to ensure that "cruel" glue traps are not used in their jurisdiction and warned that any violation may lead to action under provisions of Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act, 1960.

"Just like Shravan Kumar who took his parents on a pilgrimage, I consider the elderly of Delhi as my parents and send them on pilgrimage," Kejriwal said.

CM gives train tickets to 780 senior citizens for tirth yatra

New Delhi: Chief minister Arvind Kejriwal on Tuesday flagged off the 76th batch of senior citizens going on pilgrimage to Rameshwaram and Madurai under the Mukhyamantri Tirth Yatra Yojana.

The chief minister handed over train tickets to 780 beneficiaries going on the pilgrimage. More than 73,000 people in 75 batches have visited popular pilgrimage sites for free.

The event was organised at Thyagraj Stadium. It was also attended by revenue minister Atishi. A programme of bhajan was also organised at the stadium. Talking to the devotees going on the pilgrimage, Kejriwal said it was a "pleasant" sight to see them happy and excited.

"We have tried to make the best possible arrangements for devotees for their transportation, food and accommodation," he added.

Delhi BJP, however, alleged that the pilgrims were being forced by the government to come to the stadium to listen to political speeches. "It is highly insensitive to force the pilgrims to come to the stadium to hear the speeches of the CM and his minister. The government should stop spending lakhs of rupees on hiring stadiums and making other arrangements for farewell functions," Delhi BJP spokesperson Praveen Shankar Kapoor said. TNN

"The advisories have been issued by the Animal Welfare Board of India (AWBI) to prohibit manufacture, sale and indiscriminate use of cruel and illegal glue traps causing cruelty and death to animals including 'non-target' animals like birds, squirrels, reptiles, frogs etc," stated an August 30 letter by director, animal husbandry.

"Therefore, you are targeted to ensure that there is no manufacturing, sale, and

indiscriminate use of Cruel Glue Traps in the area under jurisdiction. If found guilty, action should be taken against such establishment/person for violation of Section 11 of the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act, 1960," said the letter.

Usually made of plastic trays or sheets of cardboard covered with strong glue, these traps are often used to control menacing rodents like rats, mice, and some insects.

The PETA India had earlier requested to implement the AWBI's directions against the glue traps. As per a PETA statement, similar circulars taking action on glue traps have been issued by the governments of Andhra Pradesh, Arunachal Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Goa, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu and Kashmir, Karnataka, Ladakh, Lakshadweep, Madhya Pradesh, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Sikkim, Tamil Nadu, Telangana, Uttarakhand, and West Bengal.

"PETA India applauds Delhi government for taking this step to spare countless animals, no matter how small, hideously slow and painful deaths," says PETA India advocacy officer Farhat Ul Ain.

KIRTAN & ANTIM ARDAS



With profound sorrow we regret to inform you that our beloved
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Anamra Boury (Grand-daughter),
Neelima Sharma (Niece),
Janesh Bhaskar (Nephew).

CM gives train tickets to 780 senior citizens for tirth yatra

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Delhi BJP, however, alleged that the pilgrims were being forced by the government to come to the stadium to listen to political speeches. "It is highly insensitive to force the pilgrims to come to the stadium to hear the speeches of the CM and his minister. The government should stop spending lakhs of rupees on hiring stadiums and making other arrangements for farewell functions," Delhi BJP spokesperson Praveen Shankar Kapoor said. TNN

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4 south Delhi roads to follow G20 model

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi: PWD minister Atishi on Tuesday inspected four roads in south Delhi, including Press Enclave Road and Mandir Marg in Saket, where beautification and maintenance work will be carried out.

"Chief minister Arvind Kejriwal has promised the people of Delhi that he will beautify every part of Delhi on the lines of G20-designated areas. On Monday, a review meeting of MCD and PWD was held regarding this initiative, and without wasting any time, the departments have started working at the ground level," said Atishi.

Atishi said the city's beauty, as witnessed during the G20 Summit, will now be expanded by the Delhi government.

The project will entail streetscaping, marking of roads, extensive horticulture work, and repair of footpaths and drains and is likely to be extended to roads of over 500km in length. For this purpose, a budgetary provision has also been made.

The minister said she, along with officials, visited major roads in south Delhi and assessed how they could increase greenery and landscaping, redesign footpaths and make the stretches better. Atishi directed officials to take all necessary steps to enhance the beauty of roads. She also instructed that the beautification work related to the G20 Summit should be regularly maintained to ensure its quality.

"The government will ensure all roads in the city become aesthetically appealing with the presence of greenery, lights and sculptures on the footpaths. We want to provide the people of Delhi with a world-class road experience," said Atishi.

For the past two years, the government has been working on 16 'model roads' under the streetscaping division to develop them at a par with European standards. Before the G20 Summit, cabinet ministers had inspected the stretches and showcased the Delhi government's vision to provide good road infrastructure for residents.

CBI to freeze bank accounts of absconding preacher

New Delhi: Delhi High Court on Tuesday gave CBI the go ahead to freeze the bank accounts of the absconding self-styled spiritual preacher Viresh Dev Dixit.

The court examined the status report filed by CBI on steps taken to arrest Dixit, who is facing rape cases and has been absconding for several years, and noted the existence of certain bank accounts that were operated by him.

"CBI shall certainly be free to freeze the bank accounts by taking steps in accordance with law," said a bench of Chief Justice Satish Chandra Sharma and Justice Sanjeev Narula, while granting the federal agency six weeks to take further steps. It observed the CBI has "done the needful and are still doing the needful" in the matter and directed it to continue the search and seizure and freeze all bank accounts linked to Dixit. TNN



Powering A New Growth Story

Chairman Speech at 37th Annual General Meeting held on 12th September, 2023



Smt. Parminder Chopra, CMD along with Shri R. K. Singh Hon'ble Minister of Power and New & Renewable Energy and His Excellency Yasutoshi Nishimura, Minister of Economy, Trade and Industry, Government of Japan, announcing PFC as 1st member from India to join Asia Transition Finance Study Group (ATFSG).

estimated investment of approximately ₹31 lakh crore.

Over recent years, Discoms have grappled with financial and operational challenges, which has put a strain on the entire power sector value chain. However, a transformative shift is underway. The government has undertaken significant reforms for Discoms over the past two years. The impact of these reformative measures, as part of the Revamped Distribution Sector Scheme (RDSS), is evident. Equally noteworthy is our success in implementing the LPS Rules. Over the past year, we have disbursed loans worth ₹16,800 crore to power distribution companies under these rules. The scheme has led to a remarkable 40% reduction in legacy dues payable by distribution utilities from their peak level of ₹1.4 lakh crore. The settlement of current dues are also being monitored rigorously with the help of PRAAPT portal, which is set up and maintained by our subsidiary, PPFCL. The scheme has brought in the much-needed fiscal discipline in the sector, which is helping all the players across the power sector value chain.

The power sector is currently at an interesting juncture, which creates plethora of growth opportunities for PFC.

"Nayi Soch Nayi Rahein" – PFC steering into new directions

Embracing the motto "Nayi Soch Nayi Rahein," PFC is boldly moving into new directions, shaping the future through innovative ideas and forward-looking perspectives.

Forayed into Infrastructure Financing

On 25th August, 2022, PFC was granted the mandate by the Ministry of Power to extend lending support to the infrastructure and logistics sector. With the amendment in the Memorandum of Association, PFC's lending capabilities have been extended to encompass the wider infrastructure and logistics sectors. This is one of those milestone decisions, which will play a crucial role in PFC's long-term business growth. The idea is to gradually build it over time and creating a complementary business line as the power sector matures.

Under the new mandate, we have supported projects in the domains of healthcare, sea water desalination, petrochemicals, optic fibre networks, roads, ports, and metro rail systems. In the last financial year, we have sanctioned projects worth ₹16,700 crore to non-power infrastructure segments.

Forging a Greener Future through Integrating Environment, Social and Governance (ESG) pillars

In today's world, climate change is one of the most critical challenges we face. Among its drivers, the energy sector

To address this growing demand, additional capacity would be needed. Government plans to double the installed capacity, with addition of around 500 GW of capacity by 2032, with 87% from non-fossil fuel sources and 13% from fossil fuels, requiring an

investment of around ₹1000 billion.



IIM-ATM 2023 : 77TH Annual Technical Meeting of The Indian Institute of Metals

Dates : 22nd to 24th Nov 2023, Venue : KIIT, Bhubaneswar, Odisha

- Join the largest congregation of metallurgists and material engineers in India at the Annual Meet of The Indian Institute of Metals. With 48 chapters and over 10,000 members, the IIM plays a significant role in the field of research, innovation and technology in the mining and metal sector. Meet the top CEOs and Policy Makers of the country.
- Online Registration for the flagship IIM-ATM 2023 event can be done through website – www.iimatm.org.
- Indian Material Technology Start-Up Companies can participate in the event and win prize money of Rs. 2 lakh. IIM – ATM 2023 provides an excellent platform for business networking and industry connect. For more details visit – iim-india.net and encash the golden opportunity.

Last Date for Online Registration
15th October 2023

Log on to
www.iimatm.org



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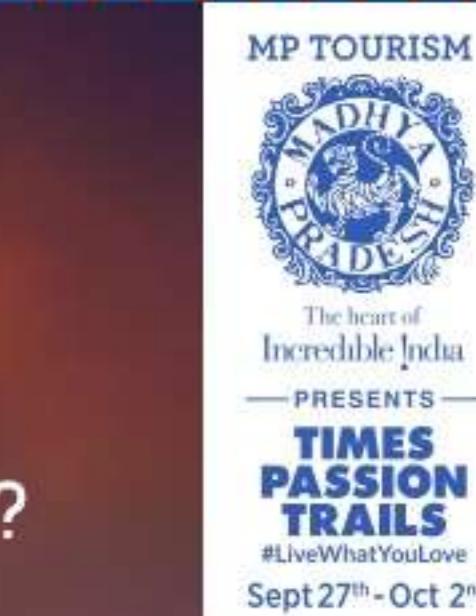
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TOI

MADHYA PRADESH

THE TIMES OF INDIA

CHANGE Begins Here

WT.5634.2023

"I am delighted to share that, in FY 23 we have delivered the highest ever net profit of ₹11,605 crore, up 16% from the previous fiscal. We registered double-digit growth of 13% in our loan asset book. Continuing with our commitment to maximize shareholders return, we have declared a dividend of ₹13.25 per share which equates to an impressive 132.5% on the share face value.

Parminder Chopra
Chairman & Managing Director



Revamped Distribution Sector Scheme (RDSS)
Your company has been designated by the Government of India as the nodal agency for the implementation Revamped Distribution Sector Scheme (RDSS). RDSS has an outlay of ₹3,03,758 crore covering Smart metering and infrastructure works, with an estimated Government grant of ₹97,631 crore. The objective of the scheme is to reduce AT&L losses to pan-India levels of 12-15% by 2024-25 and reduction of ACS-ARR gap to zero by 2024-25. The funding under the scheme will be from the govt. grants, and balance will be counterpart funding from PFC or our subsidiary REC or State's own equity for infrastructure works.

Corporate Governance & Social Responsibility
At PFC, we are committed to upholding the highest standards of transparency, accountability, and disclosure. As a publicly listed company, we adhere to a comprehensive framework of corporate governance frameworks and policies such as the Companies Act, 2013, SEBI's Listing Obligations & Disclosure Requirements Regulations, DPE Guidelines etc. We also have various risk management Committees at Board level & senior management levels which oversees the key functions of our company and provide strategic directions in each area.

This ensures that every aspect of our work is guided by principles that promote integrity, fairness, and responsible conduct.

Acknowledgement

Before I conclude, I want to express my heartfelt gratitude to our shareholders who have reposed faith in us. I am grateful to the Hon'ble Union Minister of Power, New and Renewable Energy, Hon'ble Minister of State for Power and the officials of Ministry of Power for their support and guidance. I also thank the Board of Directors for their valuable guidance, our client utilities, employees, various ministries, investors, auditors, regulators and other stakeholders of PFC for their continued support.

Thank you, and let us make Power Finance Corporation's journey ahead even more remarkable.

Place : New Delhi
Date : 12.09.2023
(Parminder Chopra)
Chairman & Managing Director

(This does not purport to be a record of the proceedings of the Annual General Meeting held on 12th September, 2023. For full text, please visit : www.pfcindia.com)



संवाद सलाहकार समाप्ति
दिनांक 17 अगस्त 2023 वर्ष
राजभाषा समाप्ति 2022-23*

for effective implementation of Official Language from Shri R. K. Singh, Hon'ble Minister of Power and New & Renewable Energy.

Hon'ble Minister of Power and New & Renewable Energy.

responsibly and sustainably. But we are not just making changes for ourselves—we are leading the way for the entire energy sector. Our goal is to have a greener and better tomorrow, and we are on a determined path to make that future a reality.

PFC's Future Business Thrust Areas

We will continue to increase our financing in our traditional business areas of generation and T&D space. This will be further complemented with infrastructure financing. In addition to these areas, our financing endeavours will also be closely aligned with the government's goals and vision for the power sector particularly in clean energy space and RDSS.

Renewable & emerging technologies in clean energy space.

In order to achieve India's energy transition targets, the share of renewable energy in the energy mix, which is presently about 27%, will have to reach 50% by 2030. This requires quadrupling of the present solar and wind generation capacity. We would also have to add about 10 GW of pumped storage capacity and over 100 GWh of battery storage in order to meet the energy balancing needs. Commensurate equipment manufacturing capacity and evacuation infrastructure also need to be in place.

Given the huge investment required for decarbonisation of our economy, funding of energy transition related projects will be PFC's mainstay for the foreseeable future. PFC is focused on funding entire value chain of energy transition. In addition to the traditional solar/wind projects, we are also exploring bankable projects in the fields of renewable equipment manufacturing, energy storage, green evacuation corridors and electric mobility, green hydrogen and ammonia production and manufacturing of electric vehicles.

These endeavours constitute a few immediate steps we have taken towards ESG integration. Our promise is to keep lending



Smt. Parminder Chopra, CMD receiving 'Swachita Pekhwa Award 2023' from Shri Pankaj Agarwal, Secretary (Power), Government of India. The award was conferred to PFC for its exemplary performance under Swach Bharat Abhiyan.

Our commitment to making a sustainable future is strong, and we are taking big steps forward. In the current FY 24, PFC is steadfastly working to institute a well-structured approach to our ESG practices, seamlessly integrating Environmental, Social, and Governance principles into our operations. In this direction, PFC has already taken tangible actions to integrate ESG into our business. Recently, to have a focussed approach towards ESG, an Environment, Social, and Governance (ESG) unit has been established. This centralized ESG unit will work in close collaboration with various stakeholders to chart the ESG course for PFC.

Under the new mandate, we have supported projects in the domains of healthcare, sea water desalination, petrochemicals, optic fibre networks, roads, ports, and metro rail systems. In the last financial year, we have sanctioned projects worth ₹16,700 crore to non-power infrastructure segments.

Forging a Greener Future through Integrating Environment, Social and Governance (ESG) pillars

In today's world, climate change is one of the most critical challenges we face. Among its drivers, the energy sector

emerges as pivotal, with its transformation deeply impacting society. Recognizing this, the Indian government has unveiled the 'Pancharatna' agenda, aiming for a non-fossil energy capacity of 500GW by 2030, a billion-ton carbon reduction, a 45% emission intensity decrease by 2030, and net-zero emissions by 2070.

PFC is fully committed to the Government's vision for a Greener India. Today PFC is India's largest renewable financier, supporting almost a fifth of the India's renewable energy capacity.

In the pursuit of India's net-zero objective, in financial year 2023, PFC has achieved significant milestones in promoting clean energy transition. Notably, PFC has sanctioned loan of ₹633 crore to Blu Smart for the purchase of 5000 passenger Electric Vehicles (EVs). This move is expected to lead to emission savings exceeding 100,000 tons of CO2 equivalent. To put this into perspective, it's equivalent to the CO2 absorption capacity of over 5 million fully-grown trees in a year. This transaction also marks the largest E-vehicle asset finance initiative in India, poised to greatly enhance the adoption of clean energy alternatives. Further, PFC's funding of ₹6,112 crore to 1,227 MW solar and wind projects of JSW Energy Group underscores its commitment to sustainable energy. In alignment with Govt. initiative for making urban India 'Garbage Free', PFC has cumulatively sanctioned waste to energy projects worth ₹1,600 crore with a combined capacity of 192 MW.

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Another Row: Ashoka's Data Centre Board Dissolves Itself

Says Director Forced To Leave; Univ Says Couldn't Meet Norms

Shreya.Ghosh@timesgroup.com

New Delhi: The scientific board of the Trivedi Centre for Political Data (TCPD) at Ashoka University announced in an open letter on Tuesday that it was dissolving itself because the university, "in breach of academic norms", did not inform or consult the members regarding the "substantial changes" about how the centre would be run. The letter claimed Belgian political scientist Gilles Verniers, founder and co-director of TCPD, had been "forced to leave" the centre.

The scientific board, which includes political scientist Christophe Jaffrelot, former election commissioner SY Quareshi and Milan Vaishnav, director of the South Asia programme at the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, said it was "surprised and disappointed" by Ashoka University's decisions.

"TCPD's vibrant and important agenda, under the leadership of founding director professor Gilles Verniers, is what attracted each of us to serve on its scientific board and contribute to its intellectual mission," the letter said. "We commit to supporting Gilles Verniers' and his partners' efforts to maintain the future and the integrity of the



The data of Trivedi Centre for Political Data had become a primary source for scholars, journalists and researchers studying Indian politics

data and of the work associated with it," the statement added.

Ashoka University, however, claimed that Verniers' departure arose due to his failure to meet the stringent criteria for continuation of service. After having left Ashoka, where he was assistant professor of political science, Verniers is now Karl Loewenstein visiting fellow at Amherst College in Massachusetts and senior fellow at the Centre for Policy Research, New Delhi. It said that faculty who did not qualify for tenure leave the university within three semesters.

Announcing the dissolution of the board, the open letter read, "Given this track record of excellence, we were surprised and disappointed that we, as the scientific board, were not consulted before substantial changes were made governing how the centre is run and situated within its home institution in breach of academic norms."

Quareshi told TOI, "There is complete uncertainty regarding the future of the board, as the decision is to be made by the university. The board has excelled in generating valuable election data and providing it to the public for free. However, the university has been too preoccupied to address the board's situation."

As per sources, scholars at TCPD have produced 16 datasets, led 20 research projects, organised 80 research seminars, published 20 research papers and book chapters and organised two major conferences on computational social sciences. The team has also published over 300 analyti-

cal articles in the Indian press, built high-quality academic partnerships. In 2017, it was designated an 'International Research Partner' by the Centre for National Scientific Research, France.

The institution's data had become a primary source for scholars, journalists, and researchers studying Indian politics and had been incorporated into various public data repositories worldwide. The board pointed out that these had had "a transformative impact on the field of Indian electoral politics".

The university said there are plans to integrate some of its centres and offices with the newly established Centre for Data Sciences and Analytics. "The Trivedi Centre for Political Data is among them and its proposed integration with the new centre was communicated to the TCPD scientific board recently," it added.

The letter comes weeks after a controversy at the university following the resignation of assistant professor Sabysachi Das after a controversy over his research paper arguing that BJP won a disproportionate share of closely contested parliamentary seats in 2019 Lok Sabha polls, especially in states where it was the ruling party at the time.

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Air Surcharge

Rs. 2 is applicable on this edition for Leh, Srinagar and Viz.

GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL
TENDER NOTICE
Executive Engineer, Central Mechanical Division, Nirman Bhavan, Salt Lake, Kolkata-91 on behalf of the Governor of West Bengal invites for passenger rates for the following services - NIT-68/2023-24/EE/CMD. Detail may be seen at Wb. Tender Portal & Departmental website : www.wbtenderservices.gov.in Last date of bid submission is 20.09.23 upto 14.00 Hrs. Sd/- Executive Engineer, Central Mechanical Division. ICA-T18804(3)/2023

GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL
KMDA TENDER NOTICE
e-NIO No: KMDA/EM/SE/EC/11/
NIO-06/2023-24

Online Tender is invited by the Superintending Engineer, Electrical Circle-II, EM Sector, KMDA, Block-C, 2nd floor, Unmaya Bhawan, Salt Lake City, Kolkata-700091, from the reputed Lift Manufacturers or reliable & resourceful contractors / firms having experience and credential, for the work of Name of Works, Estimated Value of work, Earnest Money Deposit, Time of Completion, Bid Submission, Installation, Testing and commissioning of 2 Nos. MRL type 15 passengers lift and Vertical extension of existing "Schindler" make 2 Nos. MRL type 15 passengers lift in connection with additional four floors over the existing Administrative Building (B+G+4) Nabardanga Bhavan in GN-20 in Nabardanga Industrial Township, Sector-V, Bidhannagar, Kolkata-700091, Rs.1,03,24,225/-, Rs.2,00,000/- (Initial), 04 months from the date of firm order. Last date & time of online Tender submission: 04.10.2023 upto 14.00 hrs., for details contact the above office or visit both websites. (KMDA-S584)
www.kmda.wb.gov.in
www.wbtenders.gov.in ICA-T18821(3)/2023

GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL
NOTICE INVITING TENDER
Ref. no.: WBMSCL/NIT-548/2023; Dated: 07/09/2023 - Repairing work of all ceiling / wall mounted / exhaust fan of Gangarampur Super Speciality Hospital, Gangarampur, Dakshin Dinajpur. Repairing work of all ceiling / wall mounted / exhaust fan of Balurhat Super Speciality Hospital, Balurhat, Dakshin Dinajpur. Bid reference no.: WBMSCL/NIT-547/2023; Dated: 07/09/2023 - Supply and fixing of Wall Mounted Fan on Various location at Bongona Super Speciality Hospitals, North 24 Parganas. Bid reference no.: WBMSCL/NIT-549/2023; Dated: 07/09/2023 - Supply and delivery of spare parts at Metabazar Government Speciality Hospital, North 24 Pargas. Bid reference no.: WBMSCL/NIT-550/2023; Dated: 07/09/2023 - Urgent replacement of cable connecting between LT Panel & Fire Fighting Motor Panel of Gangarampur SSH, Dakshin Dinajpur. Bid reference no.: WBMSCL/NIT-551/2023; Dated: 07/09/2023 - Repair and renovation work of 11KV HT Panel & 2Nos. of 250kVA APFC panel of Gangarampur SSH, Dakshin Dinajpur. Last date of submission of bid (online) - 19.09.2023 at 3.00 PM. The tender document can be downloaded from www.wbtenders.gov.in or after 11.09.2023 at 1.00 PM. Clarification requests, if any may be sent to, Sd/- Managing Director WBMSCL & Senior Special Secretary to the Govt. of W.B. H&FW Department ICA-T18825(3)/2023

GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL
NOTICE INVITING TENDER
(Govt. of West Bengal Undertaking)
NIT No.33/WBTDCL of 2023-24
(Technical) 2nd Call

Tender ID: 2023_WBTDCL_566817_1 to 2023_WBTDCL_566817_5

WBTDCL invites the following 5 (Five) number e-tenders from the reputed, bona fide and experienced agencies having requisite credentials: i) SITC for Rehabilitation of main building for main building (11 nos. guest room, 1 no. Sutty, Annex block (18nos. room) and reception, restaurant area etc. at Bishnupur Tourism Property. (Rs.3,68,747/-); ii) Supply of electrical items at Matla Tourism Property, Dist. South 24 Pgs. (Rs.7,38,334/-); iii) CCTV works at Matla Tourism Property in the district of South 24 Parganas (Rs.10,20,304/-); iv) SITC of Lightning arrester at Balatot Tourism Property. (Rs.4,88,419/-); v) Electrical works of Cable Restoration for 2nd Floor VTPN at Udayachal Tourism Property, Kolkata (Rs.1,25,786/-). Start date & time of documents download: 14.09.2023, 11.00 Hrs. Last date & time of Bid Submission: 22.09.2023, 14.00 Hrs. Details are available in website: www.wbtenders.gov.in / wbtenders.gov.in Sd/- Superintending Engineer, West Bengal Tourism Development Corporation Limited ICA-T18815(3)/2023

GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL
Siliguri Jalpaiguri Development Authority
Himanchal Vihar, Near-Passport
Seva Laghu Kendra, Matlaga-734010
NOTICE INVITING TENDER

The Chief Executive Officer, Siliguri Jalpaiguri Development Authority, Siliguri invites electronic notice inviting e-Bid (Online) under 2 (Two) bid system from eligible resourceful bona fide and experienced firms / companies / individual contractors for the following works: Tender No. 1) NIT 07/Engg/2023-24 of SIDA, 2) NIT 08/Engg/2023-24 of SIDA & 3) NIT 08/Engg/2023-24 of SIDA. Name of Work : 1) Construction of CC Road from Dharmar Narayan House to Dhonesh Roy House, Ghumtiapara, Part-20/158 under Kumil GP, Mal Block, Jalpaiguri. 2) Construction of CC Road from Hari Mandir to Neora Railway Station, Neora Mouza Part-20/160 under Kumil GP, Mal Block Jalpaiguri & 3) Construction of CC Road from Alam Md. House to Saharan Alom House at Neora Mouza, Part-20/160, Jummapara under Kumil GP, Mal Block, Jalpaiguri. Amount put to Tender:- 1) Rs. 4,97,90,000, 2) Rs. 4,95,600,00 & 3) Rs. 4,96,614,00, Earnest Money- Rs. 9,958,00, 2) Rs. 9,92,00 & 3) Rs. 9,932,00. Tender Date: 27/09/2023 Start Date & Time: 12.00.2023 at 4.00 PM, and Bid Submission End Date & Time: 22.09.2023 upto 4.00 PM, Date of opening of Financial Proposals- to be notified after technical evaluation. Corrigendum will also be available in website only. All details can be obtained from the website : www.sjda.org.in or Log in http://wbtenders.gov.in or contact Engineering Section of SIDA at (0353) 2512922, 2515647. Sd/- Executive Officer ICA-T18806(4)/2023

CONSUMER AFFAIRS DEPARTMENT
No.:3900 CAD-14014(13)/7/2018 Date: 11.09.2023

In continuation with the earlier Advertisement No. 534-CAD-14014(13)/7/2018 dated 08/02/2023 published on 09th February, 2023, Consumer Affairs Department, Government of West Bengal invites applications from Indian citizens for selection of candidates for appointment to the following posts:

1. PRESIDENT, District Consumer Disputes Redressal Commission (DCDRC),

2. MEMBER, West Bengal State Consumer Disputes Redressal Commission, (WBSCDRC),
3. MEMBER (Female), District Consumer Disputes Redressal Commission (DCDRC)

In terms of sections 29 and 43 of the Consumer Protection Act, 2019 read with the Consumer Protection (Qualification for appointment, method of recruitment, procedure of appointment, term of office, resignation and removal of the President and members of the State Commission and District Commission) Rules, 2020, read with Judgement dated 03rd March, 2023 by the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India in the matter of Civil Appeal No. 831 of 2023 @ SLP(C) NO. 19492 of 2021 [The Secretary Ministry of Consumer Affairs vs. Dr. Mahindra Bhaskar Limaye & Ors.]. For details including number of vacancies, kindly visit website wbconsumers.gov.in and wb.gov.in.

By Order, Sd/-
Special Secretary

West Bengal Tourism Development Corporation Limited
(Govt. of West Bengal Undertaking)

NOTICE INVITING e-QUOTATION

NIT No. 04/WBTDCL/2023-24/Technical

Tender ID: 2023_WBTDCL_567200_1

WBTDCL invites e-Quotation for the work:

"IT Procurement Installation for EPOS software system at various Tourism Properties of West Bengal under WBTDCL". From the reputed, bona fide and experienced agencies mentioned in similar works. Start date & time of documents download: 14.09.2023, 11.00 Hrs. Last date & time of Bid Submission: 29.09.2023, 14.00 Hrs.

Details are available in website:-

www.wbtenders.gov.in

Sd/- Superintendent Engineer, West Bengal Tourism Development Corporation Limited ICA-T18816(3)/2023

GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL
Engagement Notice

Balurhat Central Correctional Home is going to engage

Medical Officer on whole time contractual basis. Candidates will have to appear before the Selection Committee on 29.09.2023 at 12.00 Noon in the office chamber of the Superintendent of Balurhat Central Correctional Home. Last date of submission of application of document is 28.09.2023 upto 5.00 P.M. Full particulars may be had from the website:

wbcorrectionalservices.gov.in

Sd/-

Superintendent

Balurhat Central Correctional Home ICA-N494(3)/2023

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Engagement Notice

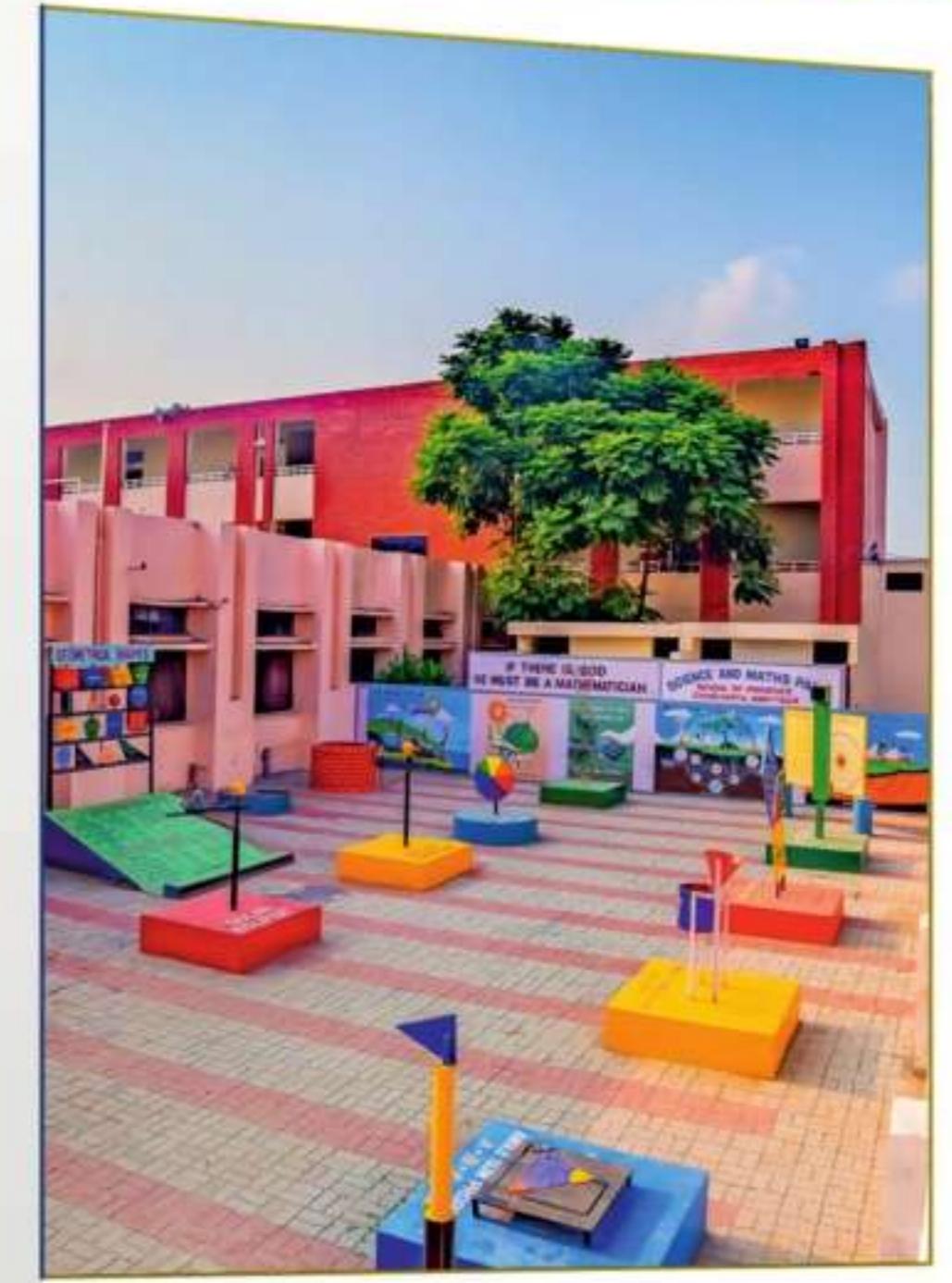
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Chief Guest

Arvind Kejriwal

Chief Minister, Delhi

13th September, 2023 | 2:00 PM
Ranjit Avenue Ground, Amritsar

Bhagwant Singh Mann
Chief Minister, Punjab



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Monu taken to Deeg for double murder probe

►Continued from P1

Dressed in civvies, the SIT members parked their two cars, a Bolero and a Creta, at vantage points and waited for him at Sector 1 in Manesar on Tuesday morning. Monu showed up there around 11am. The SIT picked him up as he was on his way out, since he was on his way out, source said.

Monu (32) was booked in an FIR filed suo motu by the Nuh police at its Cyber police station on August 26, invoking sections 153 (maliciously or wantonly doing anything which is illegal, gives provocation to any person intending or knowing it to be likely that it will cause rioting), 153A (promoting enmity between different groups), 295A and 298 (outraging religious feelings), 504 (intentional insult and provocation) and 109 (act or offence said to be committed in consequence of abetment) of the IPC. Sections of the Arms Act were added in the FIR after his arrest.

The rioting that broke out in Nuh on July 31 was preceded by days of vitriolic posts by individuals from two communities surrounding the Brij Mandal Jalashishik Yatra, an annual religious procession that begins in Gurgaon and ends at the Radha Krishna temple in Nuh with a stopover at the Nalhar Shiv temple, also in Nuh. Much of these posts centred around Monu's speculated presence at the yatra, which came under attack after it entered Nuh on July 31 by a heavily-armed mob.

The video for which Monu was booked was posted on August 26, according to the FIR, two days before the VHP and other organisations announced they would complete the disrupted yatra (eventually, police did not allow the yatra on August 28 but let seers perform

rituals at the temples).

Constable Manoj Kumar said in his complaint, based on which the FIR against Monu was filed, that he came across a Facebook account of 'Mohit Manesar' while monitoring social media. The account had posted a video in which Monu purportedly says, "Parinam ki chinta hum nahi karte.... vaar ek bar hi hoga, par aakhir hogा (we don't bother about result.... We will strike once, but it will be final)"

The FIR against Monu is the 12th linked to hate posts that Nuh police have registered since the July 31 violence. He is the third to be arrested, the other two being Shabid and Abid. Cow vigilante Bittu Bajrangi, who claims to be an associate of Monu, was also booked and arrested by Faridabad police on August 2 for posting a Facebook video with the provocative jibe. Bittu was arrested later again by Nuh police on rioting charges for attacking a police team during the July 31 violence. So far, Nuh police have made 317 arrests in connection with the riots.

A Rajasthan Police team was present at Nuh court when Monu was produced before judicial magistrate (first class) Amit Verma, who sent Monu to 14 days in judicial custody and granted the application for transit remand. From Nuh, Monu was taken to Deeg in Rajasthan, where officers investigating the deaths of Junaid (39) and Nasir (21), whose charred bodies were found in a burnt Bolero in Bhiwani after they were allegedly abducted by cow vigilantes near the Nuh border on the suspicion of being cattle smugglers. Monu had denied involvement but police wanted to examine his role in the conspiracy.

(With inputs from Ajay Singh Ugras in Jaipur)

Girl, brother held for killing lover in Mussoorie

Kalyan Das & Anmol Jain | TNN

Dehradun/Mussoorie: Police on Tuesday claimed to have solved the murder of a 24-year-old man found dead in a Mussoorie homestay a few days ago, by arresting a Delhi-based sister-brother duo, from Haridwar.

A senior police officer privy to the investigation said that the victim, Kapil Choudhary, was in a relationship with Kudrat Bashir, 20, a resident of Shaheen Bagh in Delhi, for the past two years. However, a few weeks ago, Kapil told Kudrat that he couldn't marry her as she belongs to a different faith. Kudrat, who had a tattoo of his name on her wrist, tried to convince him by claiming that she would manage things at her home but he didn't relent, the officer said.

Angry and upset, she then informed her brother, Abdullah, 18, about it. They convinced Kapil to come to Mussoorie, where they booked a room at a homestay. In the early hours of September 10, when Kapil was asleep, Abdullah slit his throat and hid the body under the bed before fleeing with Kudrat in Kapil's car. They were later nabbed by police.

SSP (Dehradun), Daleep Singh Kunwar said, "Kapil, a resident of Roorkee and son of a UP police sub-inspector; used to work as a driver while Kudrat works at a ladies' tailoring shop in Shaheen Bagh. About two years ago, both had met at a shop in Delhi's Karol Bagh. They exchanged their contact details and started developing feelings for each other, following which Kapil used to often go to Delhi to meet her."

Things went awry when a few weeks ago, Kapil told Kudrat that he "couldn't marry her." The SSP added: "Once she informed her brother, the latter was enraged by the betrayal. Soon, they plotted to kill him. They were produced before a local court and sent to jail. Police have also recovered the kitchen knife used for the murder."


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always been one of the finest B2B platforms to display, interact and engage with potential customers. We are hopeful that like earlier shows, 2023 will also be a great year," says Umang Singh, vice-president, ColorJet Signage.

"Congratulations to the Media Expo team for 20 years of being creative, enabling connections, helping things grow and certainly making the media and advertising world even better. We are looking forward

to seeing great things in the future," adds Yatin Singh Vaghela, CEO, Lisco Systems Pvt Ltd.

"We have been associated with Media Expo for many years and it has helped us to showcase our technologies, connect with the buyers and grow our business. As Media Expo celebrates 20 years, I invite you to visit the 51st edition and experience the magic once again," mentions Iain Wallace, director, Metamark UK Ltd.

"Media Expo is completing

20 years in the Indian signage industry space and I congratulate the Media Expo team on achieving this great milestone and ensuring that the Indian signage fraternity sees the best and gets the best on a single dais," elaborates Santosh Nair, CEO, Skytek Group.

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Sustainable Advertising: Exploring textile-based media in advertising will unravel the possibilities and potential of environmentally-friendly textile-based solutions for brands.

For visitors' convenience, free shuttle service has been facilitated at the show (see box for more details).

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असाधारण**EXTRAORDINARY****भाग II-खण्ड 3-उप-खण्ड (ii)****PART II-Section 3-Sub-section (ii)****प्राधिकार से प्रकाशित****PUBLISHED BY AUTHORITY**

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 No. 3741] NEW DELHI, MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 4, 2023/BHADRA 13, 1945

MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS**(Northern Railway)****(CONSTRUCTION ORGANIZATION)****NOTIFICATION**

New Delhi, the 4th September, 2023

S.O. 3903(E).—In exercise of the powers conferred by the sub-section (1) of section 20A of the Railway Act, 1989 (24 of 1989) amended through Railways (Amendment) Act, 2008 (hereinafter referred to as the said Act), the Central Government, after being satisfied that for the public purpose, the land to be acquired, with or without structure, the brief description of which is given in the Schedule below, is required for execution, maintenance, management and operation in connection with the Special Railway Project, namely, "Haryana Orbital Rail Corridor Project from Palwal to Sonipat via Sohna, Manesar and Kharkhoda" New Broad Gauge Double Rail Line on the stretch of land from K.M. 50.350 to K.M. 63.350 in the District of Gurugram in the state of Haryana, hereby declares its intention to acquire such land.

Any person interested in the said land may, within a period of thirty days from the date of publication of this notification in the Official Gazette, raise objection to the acquisition and use of such land for the aforesaid purpose under sub-section (1) of section 20D of the said Act.

Every such objection shall be made to the competent authority, namely, Sub-Divisional Officer (Civil)-cum-Competent Authority (LA), Pataudi in writing and shall set out the grounds thereof & the competent authority shall give the objector an opportunity of being heard, either in person or by legal practitioner, and may, after hearing all such objections & after making such further enquiry, if any, as the competent authority thinks necessary, by order, either allow or disallow the objections.

Any order made by the competent authority under sub-section (2) of section 20D of the said Act shall be final. The land plans and other details of the land covered under this notification are available and can be inspected by the interested person at the aforesaid office of the competent authority.

SCHEDULE

Brief description of the land to be acquired, with or without structure, for the Special Railway Project, namely, "Haryana Orbital Rail Corridor Project from Palwal to Sonipat via Sohna, Manesar and Kharkhoda" New Broad Gauge Double Rail line on the stretch of land from K.M. 50.350 to K.M. 63.350 in the district Gurugram in the State of Haryana.

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14	93//23 min	Banjar Kadeem	Private	0.0506
15	94//2 min	Banjar Kadeem	Private	0.0405
16	94//3 min	Banjar Kadeem	Private	0.0379
17	94//4 min	Banjar Kadeem	Private	0.0076
18	94//6 min	Banjar Kadeem	Private	0.0152
19	94//7 min	Banjar Kadeem	Private	0.0455
20	94//8 min	Banjar Kadeem	Private	0.0278
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38	96//8 min	Chahi	Private	0.0025
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53	112//11 min	Chahi	Private	0.0202
54	112//20 min	Chahi	Private	0.0202
55	112//21 min	Chahi	Private	0.0152
56	114//5 min	Chahi	Private	0.0455
57	114//6 min	Chahi	Private	0.0379
58	114//7 min	Chahi	Private	0.0202
59	114//14 min	Chahi	Private	0.0481
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63	114//18/2 min	Chahi	Private	0.0228
64	114//22 min	Chahi	Private	0.0025
65	115//5/1 min	Chahi	Private	0.0152
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67	115//6 min	Chahi	Private	0.0202
68	115//15 min	Chahi	Private	0.0152
69	115//16 min	Chahi	Private	0.0152
70	115//25 min	Chahi	Private	0.0253
71	116//2 min	Chahi	Private	0.0304

Serial No.	Survey Number Rect. No./Field No.	Nature of Land	Type of Land	Land Area in Hectares	Serial No.	Survey Number Rect. No./Field No.	Nature of Land	Type of Land	Land Area in Hectares
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
72	116//9 min	Chahi	Private	0.0304	23	43//1/1 min	Chahi	Private	0.0405
73	116//12/1/2 min	Chahi	Private	0.0152	24	43//10/1 min	Chahi	Private	0.0278
74	116//12/2 min	Chahi	Private	0.0152	25	43//11 min	Chahi	Private	0.0126
75	116//18/1 min	Chahi	Private	0.0076	26	44//2/2 min	Chahi	Private	0.0304
76	116//19/1/1 min	Chahi	Private	0.0228	27	44//3/1 min	Chahi	Private	0.0101
77	116//23/1 min	Chahi	Private	0.0228	28	44//8/2 min	Chahi	Private	0.0076
78	116//23/2 min	Chahi	Private	0.0025	29	44//9/1 min	Chahi	Private	0.0304
79	117//3 min	Chahi	Private	0.0304	30	44//9/2 min	Chahi	Private	0.0304
80	117//8 min	Chahi	Private	0.0304	31	44//11/2 min	Chahi	Private	0.0202
81	117//13 min	Chahi	Private	0.0304	32	44//12 min	Chahi	Private	0.0531
82	117//18 min	Chahi	Private	0.0304	33	44//19 min	Chahi	Private	0.0304
83	117//23/1 min	Chahi	Private	0.0304	34	44//20/1 min	Chahi	Private	0.0051
84	118//3 min	Chahi	Private	0.0304	35	44//20/2 min	Chahi	Private	0.0278
85	118//8 min	Chahi	Private	0.0304	36	44//21/1 min	Chahi	Private	0.0278
86	118//14/2 min	Chahi	Private	0.0531	37	44//21/2 min	Chahi	Private	0.0152
87	118//15/2 min	Chahi	Private	0.1163	38	44//22 min	Chahi	Private	0.0101
88	118//17/1 min	Chahi	Private	0.0582	39	45//2 min	Chahi	Private	0.0152
89	121//7/1								



ANSWERED EVERYTHING: TMC MP NUSRAT ON 6-HR ED QUIZZING OVER FLAT-SALE ROW



ABHISHEK TO SKIP INDIA BLOC'S DELHI MEET FOR DEPOSITION BEFORE ED, SAYS TMC

Judge heard Gyanvapi case for 2 yrs without jurisdiction

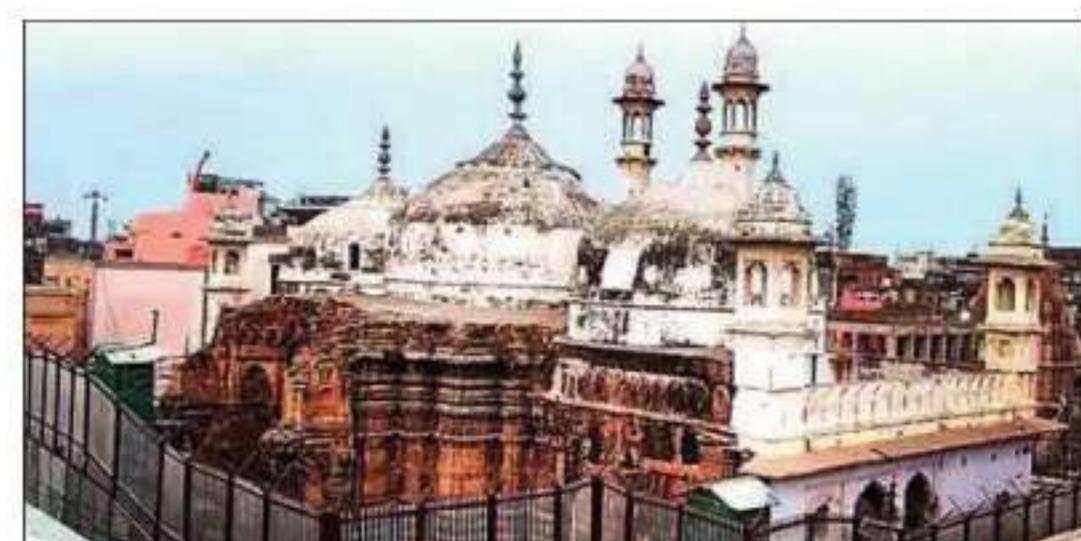
CJ Takes Over Case In Interest Of Judicial Propriety & Discipline

Rajesh Kumar Pandey | TNN

Prayagraj: Cases related to the Kashi Vishwanath-Gyanvapi title suit were withdrawn recently from a single-judge bench of the Allahabad high court as it was hearing the "matter without jurisdiction", Chief Justice Pritiñker Diwaker has said.

In his August 28 order, uploaded recently, Justice Diwaker termed the hearings by Justice Prakash Padia an instance of "judicial impropriety". "The single judge continued with the hearing of these cases for over two years, even though he had no jurisdiction in the matter as per the roster," Justice Diwaker said.

The Chief Justice further said the decision to withdraw the matter from the single judge and assign it to himself was taken in the interest of "judicial propriety, judi-



The cases included pleas by Anjuman Intezamia Masjid challenging the maintainability of a suit by Hindu parties seeking restoration of Lord Vishweshwar temple at the Gyanvapi mosque site, and another petition challenging a court direction to conduct an ASI survey of the mosque

cial discipline and transparency in listing of cases".

The cases included pleas by Anjuman Intezamia Masjid — the Gyanvapi mosque management — challenging the maintainability of a suit by Hindu parties seeking restoration of Lord Vishweshwar temple at the site where

the Gyanvapi mosque exists in Varanasi. Another petition challenging a Varanasi court direction in 2021 to conduct an ASI survey of the Gyanvapi mosque has also been clubbed with the AIM petition.

Justice Padia held a final hearing on July 25, 2023, fixing August 28 as judgment day.

The Chief Justice withdrew the case days before that. He overruled objections from AIM, which argued that Justice Padia had heard the matter "at least 75 occasions" earlier. The AIM described the "administrative decision" as inappropriate and said it should be reversed.

Justice Diwaker was to hear the matter on Tuesday but could not do so due to a lawyers' protest. It will now come up on September 18.

The Chief Justice added that it was a July 27 complaint filed by one of the parties to the dispute that led him to take note of "such impropriety". "It is apt to note that procedural observance in the matter of disposal of cases deserves a larger public interest of ensuring faith in the justice dispensation system and cannot be viewed lightly," Justice Diwaker said in his order.

CHURCHILL'S OLD WAR OFFICE NOW HINDUJA HOTEL

PTI



Winston Churchill's Old War Office in Whitehall will reopen as Hinduja Group's new luxury hotel on September 26. The Hindus had acquired the landmark building opposite Downing Street eight years ago. The Old War Office, originally completed in 1906, was formerly the site of the original Palace of Whitehall. Its architecture has also made the building a backdrop for James Bond films and, more recently, the Netflix series 'The Crown'

Nipah virus kills 2 in Kerala, 4 others 'infected'

New Delhi: Two persons have died due to Nipah virus infection in Kerala, health minister Mansukh Mandaviya said on Tuesday, reports **Durgesh Nandan Jha**. He said samples of four others from the state also suspected to be suffering from the disease have been

TIMES VIEW: Authorities in Kerala have dealt with the dreaded virus in the past. One hopes that the experience is put to good use and the virus is contained again.

sent to Pune's National Institute of Virology. The first was recorded on August 30 and the second on September 11.

"We have sent a team of experts to Kerala to further evaluate the situation and assist the state government to deal with it," Mandaviya said.

Stalin caught in jam, 2 senior cops shunted

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Chennai: Two days after Tamil Nadu CM MK Stalin's convoy got caught in a traffic jam triggered by music director A R Rahman's concert on the East Coast Road (ECR), jurisdictional deputy commissioner of police Deepa Sathyam was shunted out and kept without posting on Tuesday, reports **Selvaraja A.**

The same day, another IPS officer — joint commissioner of police of Chennai City east zone Disha Mittal — met with the same fate. His transfer comes a day after a BJP protest at Valluvar Kottam threw traffic out of gear in Chennai. The transfer orders didn't mention a reason. Officers in compulsory wait must stay at police headquarters without any work.



APPLE OF DISCORD

The minister said in May,

Cong: An attack on Indian farmers

A sking why PM Modi has to buy his way to state dinners and praises in foreign land", Congress said lowering of import duty on American apples was an attack on J&K, Himachal and Uttarakhand farmers. AICC spokesperson Supriya Shrivastava said, "What happened to the slogan 'vocal for local'? Why is the PM trying to please the Americans?" TNN

Following the settlement of trade disputes with the US, the government did away with the 20% additional duty on apples and walnuts, which had been in place since 2019. These levies were in addition to the customs duty of 50% for apples and 100% for walnuts, the commerce department said. "Customs duty has not been reduced. Only the additional duty has been done away with," commerce and industry minister Piyush Goyal told reporters.

The minister said in May,

and plant health, would ensure that only those apples that complied with the specifications could enter India.

Given that Washington apples, the main variety imported from the US, are priced in the higher segment, the removal of additional duties will ensure more competition in the high-end segment, helping consumers get a better deal.

the directorate general of foreign trade (DGFT) had notified a Minimum Import Price of Rs 50 a kg for imported apples, other than those coming from Bhutan. This was to check against the entry of apples below the notified price, helping block cheap imports. Besides, Goyal said sanitary and phytosanitary standards, which sets out rules for food safety

and plant health, would ensure that only those apples that complied with the specifications could enter India.

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Given that Washington

One-size-fits-all policy may not work for hybrid mode

By James Agrawal

What started out as a temporary arrangement during the pandemic has turned out to be the reality for months together. There are hardly any companies that can claim that all their employees have returned to offices. Companies like Apple and Google that tried to get their employees to come to offices last year — for at least 3-4 days in a week — had to back down after their workforce protested

against such mandates. This year, the same companies have tried to reinforce the idea by linking presence in office with employee performance. But, employees are in no mood to get back to office and are in many cases willing to quit over getting back to office.

The same scenario is playing out in India. Many workplaces have tried to incorporate some element of hybrid arrangement to retain their

employees. So, what is the final word on hybrid work? Is there a way that it can co-exist with office spaces? How do we go about defining the norms?

One-size doesn't fit all: All companies will have to find their own sweet spot. There is no one readily available solution. Apart from roles that need people to be in office — all other roles can be provided various options of hybrid work.

Companies may find it best to let team leaders decide what works for them with inputs from team members. Some others may like to renegotiate individual employee agreements to come to an understanding on how much hybrid work is good for a particular role. Policies for new hires may vary since they need to learn the ropes and inculcate the work culture, which will need them to be in a physical space. Companies will have to go through this process to arrive at what

works for them. Once a model is built and implemented, it should be reviewed to measure the impact.

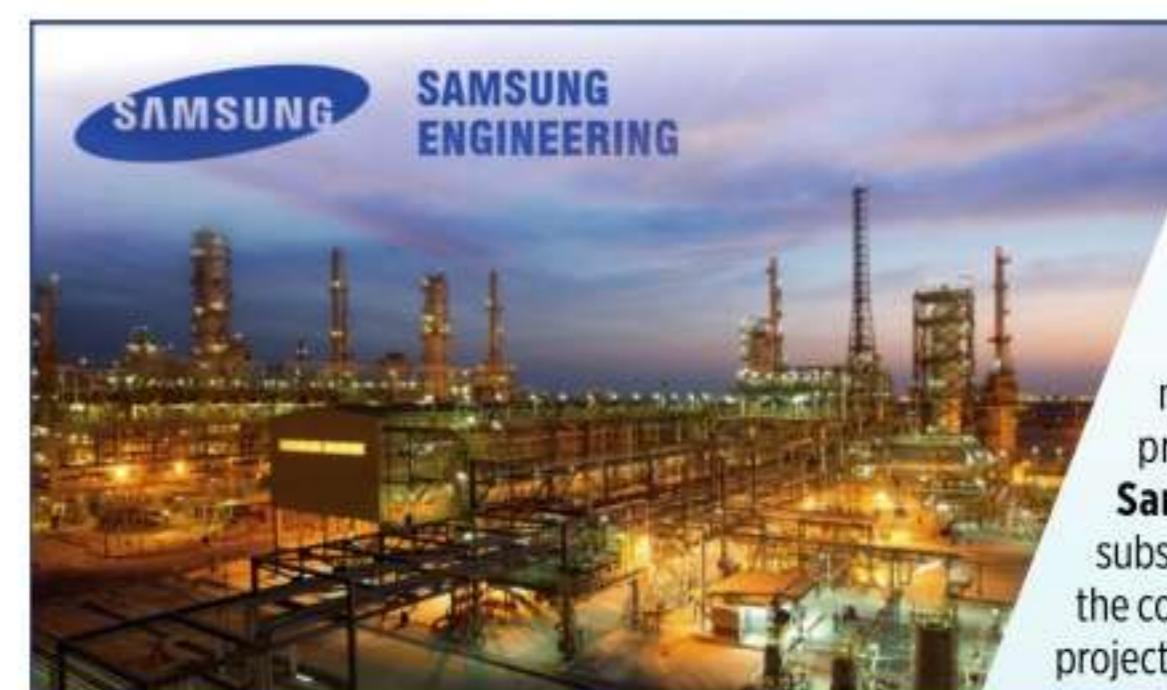
Technology aspect: Hybrid work will involve some amount of the office being carried into homes. It is important to ensure that the technology required to be in place to enable hybrid workers also to contribute as much as an on-site employee, is installed.

Office space: Desk-sharing

arrangements can become the norm for companies that allow hybrid work. This will mean that the office space required will be lesser.

The basics don't change: A hybrid work plan that caters to every employee will be difficult to formulate. Employers need to keep the basics of employee management to determine how to work around this particular issue.

(The writer is MD, BTI Executive Search)



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- ▶ Control Systems and Instrumentation
- ▶ Piping



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Date: Saturday, September 23, 2023

Time: 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Venue: Luxera Hotel

Near Arjan Garh Metro Station

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If you are unable to participate in a walk-in interview, please submit your application on career page <https://www.fluor.com/careers>

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Responsible for setting up and development of agency channels in the south & western states of India

Location : • Chennai • Mumbai

Graduates/ Post graduates with specialisation in sales & marketing with more than 22 year's experience in managing large distribution. Insurance industry experience preferred.

Code : BHAGENCY

Zonal Manager – Agency

Responsible for setting up and development of agency channel in the respective geographies.

Graduates/ Post graduates with specialisation in sales & marketing with more than 18 year's experience in managing large distribution. Insurance industry experience preferred.

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Code : ZMAGENCY

Regional Manager/Asst Regional Manager – Agency

Responsible for setting up and development of agency channels in the respective geographies.

Graduates/ Post graduates with specialisation in marketing with more than 12 year's experience in managing agency channels in Insurance industry will be preferred

Location : All major cities in the states of • Tamilnadu • Kerala • Karnataka • Maharashtra • Gujarat • Rajasthan • Madhya Pradesh • Orissa • West Bengal • Bihar • Jharkhand • Chhattisgarh • Haryana • Punjab • Himachal Pradesh • Delhi-NCR • Uttar Pradesh • Uttarakhand • Jammu & Kashmir and North East.

Code : RMAGENCY

Area Manager/Asst Area Manager – Agency

Responsible for setting up and development of agency channels in the respective branches.

Graduates/ Post graduates with specialisation in marketing with more than 3 year's experience in managing agency channels in Insurance industry will be preferred.

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Code : AMAGENCY

Regional Manager – Alternate Channel

Responsible for setting up and development of Alternate channel which includes Bancassurance, Cooperative Banks, Brokers, Corporate agents, IMF and other new age channels.

Graduates/ Postgraduates with specialisation in marketing with more than 10 year's experience in Insurance industry managing Alternate/Partnership distribution channels will be preferred.

Location : • Chennai • Kochi • Hyderabad • Mumbai • Pune • Ahmedabad • Bhubaneswar • Bhopal • Indore • Lucknow • Varanasi • Nagpur • Raipur • Cuttack • Patna • Guwahati • Bangalore • Chandigarh • Pune • Jaipur • New Delhi • Ranchi • Kolkata.

Code : RMAUTERNATE

Area Account Manager – Alternate Channel

Responsible for setting up and development of Alternate channel which includes Bancassurance, Brokers, Corporate agents, IMF and other new age channels.

Graduates/ Postgraduates with specialisation in marketing with more than 4 year's experience in Insurance industry managing Alternate/Partnership distribution channels will be preferred.

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SJVN Limited, a Mini Ratna, Category-I and Schedule- 'A' CPSE under administrative control of Ministry of Power, Govt. of India, was incorporated on May 24, 1988 as a joint venture of the Government of India (GOI) and the Government of Himachal Pradesh (GOHP). The company has a total portfolio of approximately 56000 MW and has commissioned seven projects totalling 2091.5 MW of installed capacity.

Commensurate to its ambitious growth plans & swift growth trajectory, SJVN intends to engage manpower on Fixed Tenure basis in following disciplines and invites applications from promising & committed individuals. The engagement shall be temporary & on contract basis for an initial period of 3 years. The contract period can further be extended on yearly basis for 2 more years depending upon the work requirement and performance of the individual. The engagement will not entitle him/her to claim for any regular employment in SJVN or any relaxation in case of any requirement for any post in SJVN, however, the selected candidates shall be considered for regularization in SJVN in line with SJVN's policy for regularization of Fixed Tenure Appointees.

TENTATIVE VACANCIES/EDUCATIONAL QUALIFICATION/EXPERIENCE REQUIREMENTS

Designation	Tentative No. of posts	Qualification Requirement	Minimum post qualification executive experience with posts	Upper age limit
Field Engineer (Electrical/Civil)	08	Full time regular Degree in Electrical/Electrical & Electronics/ Civil Engineering from a recognized University/ Institute of India.	14/10/6 years of post-qualification executive experience in Engineering/Costing/ Contracting/ Construction Work/ Operation & Maintenance of Transmission line	45/36/ 35 years
Field Officer (Official Language)	02	Graduate with two years full time Post Graduate Degree in Hindi with English as a subject in the Degree Examination from a recognized University/ Institute	14/10/6 years of post-qualification executive experience in Implementing GoI's policy regarding use of Hindi for official work in all respects including translation & other related work/ Well conversant with official Hindi terminology	45/36/ 35 years
Field Officer (F/A)	04	CA/ICWA-CMA/Two years full time MBA with specialization in Finance.	14/10/6 years of post-qualification executive experience in Finance & Accounting	45/36/ 35 years
Field Engineer (Electrical/Mechanical/Civil)	15 (Elec.-8, Mech.-4 & Civil-3)	Full time regular Degree in Electrical/Electrical & Electronics/Civil/ Mechanical Engineering from a recognized University/ Institute of India.	14/10/6 years of post-qualification executive experience in activities regarding Contracting/ Commercial/O&M etc. of Solar/ Wind Power Projects.	45/36/ 35 years
TOTAL	29			

Note: (i) Number of posts shown above are tentative and can be changed at the discretion of management as per requirement.

(ii) For detailed advertisement and applying for above posts please visit SJVN website www.sjvn.nic.in

IMPORTANT DATES

1. Commencement of Online Registration for submitting applications	25.09.2023
2. Closing date for submitting applications through website	15.10.2023
3. Last date for sending application print out along with Payment receipt and certificates	05.11.2023

SHARED VISION: 25000 MW by 2030 and 50000 MW by 2040



COAL INDIA LIMITED (CIL) – A schedule 'A', MAHARATNA Public Sector Undertaking, under Ministry of Coal, Government of India, with Corporate Hqrs., at Kolkata is the single largest coal producing company in the world having manpower of 2.39 lakhs approximately. CIL contributes around 79% of the total coal production in India.

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For important dates, online application and detailed information on eligibility criteria, number of vacancies, upper age limit, application fee, reservation & relaxations, process of applying, selection process etc. please refer to the detailed advertisement to be released soon on CIL Website www.coalindia.in under the link "Career with CIL."

Any amendment / modification / result etc. relating to this recruitment will be notified on CIL website only. Legal jurisdiction will be Kolkata only.

For any queries, write to mtrecruitment.cil@coalindia.in.

Advertisement No. 03/2023

GM (Personnel / Recruitment)

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Central Recruitment & Promotion Department
Corporate Centre, Mumbai
Phone: 022-22820427; email: crpd@sbi.co.in

Engagement of Apprentices in SBI under Apprenticeship Act 1961 (Advertisement No. CRPD/APPR/2023-24/17)

Applications are invited from Indian citizens for Engagement of Apprentices in State Bank of India.

Number of Apprentices: 6160

Training Period: One year

Eligibility criteria (age, educational qualification, fees, etc.) and other details are available under Advertisement No. CRPD/APPR/2023-24/17 on Bank's website <https://bank.sbi/careers> OR <https://www.sbi.co.in/careers> OR <https://apprenticeshipindia.org> OR <https://nsdcindia.org/apprenticeship> OR <https://bfsssc.com>

Candidates are advised to go through the detailed advertisement ensuring their eligibility and other details before applying and remitting fees.

DATE FOR FILLING ONLINE APPLICATION: 01.09.2023 to 21.09.2023

For any query, please write to us through link "CONTACT US" → "Post Your Query" which is available on Bank's website URL - <https://bank.sbi/careers/post-your-query> OR <https://www.sbi.co.in/careers/post-your-query>.

Place: Mumbai
Date: 01.09.2023

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'INDIA unity doesn't mean uniformity on every issue'

AAP's RS MP Raghav Chadha tells Ambika Pandit that all parties in the opposition bloc need to get rid of their biases and work as one for its success. Excerpts from the interview:



AAP has not joined the INDIA group for any personal electoral ambitions and has joined this for the larger good of the country

Will we see AAP and Congress come together in Delhi or Punjab as part of the INDIA bloc?

■ AAP has joined this alliance in order to defeat the dictatorial and anti-democratic regime of BJP. AAP has not joined the INDIA group for any personal electoral ambitions and has joined this for the larger good of the country. Today, our country is battling several challenges, from inflation to price rise to unemployment to agrarian crisis and we need a government at the

TOI INTERVIEW

Centre that has a blueprint to solve these challenges. With that in mind, there will be a conversation regarding who should contest on how many seats across the country. No discussion around seat sharing has yet happened within the alliance so far.

The AAP leadership in Punjab appears to be open to an alliance but Congress's state unit has objections. So, where does AAP stand on this?

■ Junior leadership of political parties, including mine, has in the past made certain statements which do not necessarily reflect the view of the party. We all have to remember that for an alliance like this to be successful, 'ma-

hatvankanksha' (ambition), 'mathbed' (difference of opinion) and 'manbed' (difference of mind) need to be set aside. Just like in 1977, under the banner of Janata Party, socialists, communists, Jan Sanghis, right wingers and left wingers, everyone got together to defeat the mighty (then PM) Indira Gandhi's regime, in 2024, something similar is happening where people have sacrificed personal and political differences for the larger good of the country. And the outcome of 1977 is going to repeat itself in 2024.

AAP prose to prominence by accusing other parties of corruption and projecting itself as an 'alternative'. But now you have joined hands with the very same parties. Will that affect your party's appeal?

■ First of all, there is unity within INDIA on the issues plaguing the country but that does not mean uniformity on every single issue. As far as public appeal goes, political parties come together not on

the whims and fancies of a leader but based on feedback they receive from people.

You were one of the first people to protest the use of 'President of Bharat' in G20 invites. What is your objection to the usage?

■ The way BJP is rattled with the INDIA group is shown in the way they are planning to change the name of the country. BJP should realise that the country's name is not their ancestral property, it belongs to 135 crore Indians. It is a brand that has been built over decades and has global value.

To those who argue that the name India carries a colonial legacy that we must shed, why did it take BJP nine years to suddenly change the name of the country?

What are your objections to 'One Nation, One Election'?

■ Only a government that wishes to completely evade public accountability will conceive the idea of one nation, one election.

TMC refused to react on Singh's statement while DMK

(With inputs from
New Delhi bureau)

Nitish INDIA's PM face, says JD(U), bloc allies parry queries

Manoj Chaurasia
@timesgroup.com

Patna/New Delhi: Bihar chief minister Nitish Kumar's repeated assertions about not aspiring to the prime ministership or any post within the INDIA bloc seemed to have been overridden by his JD(U) on Tuesday when party president Rajiv Ranjan Singh declared to a large gathering in stronghold Nalanda: "Your leader is now ready to lead the country."

JD(U) pitching Nitish comes amid Congress propping up Rahul Gandhi and TMC pushing for Mamata Banerjee as PM face



JD(U) pitching Nitish comes amid Congress propping up Rahul Gandhi and TMC pushing for Mamata Banerjee as PM face

organising secretary R S Bhattacharya said that party chief M K Stalin had said on multiple occasions that it was more important to oust BJP from government than anything else.

At Harnaut in Nalanda, from where Nitish had been first elected as an MLA in 1985, Singh aka Lalan, had read out the CM's CV to project him as the most deserving leader in the leadership race.

AICC spokesperson Supriya Shrinivas suggested that the IN-

DIA bloc parried questions on JD(U) joining the backdoor scramble for pole position in the leadership race.

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DIA bloc parried questions on JD(U) joining the backdoor scramble for pole position in the leadership race.

"He (Nitish) served as an MLA and MP, and also held

key portfolios in governments at the Centre, including railways, agriculture and surface transport. Despite serving as a Union minister for long, there is no taint (of corruption). He has

served the country with honesty," the Munger MP said.

(With inputs from New Delhi bureau)

Oppn bloc and Badal come out in Naidu's support

Mohua Chatterjee
@timesgroup.com

New Delhi: After arrest of former chief minister N Chandrababu Naidu by the Jagan Mohan Reddy government in Andhra Pradesh on Saturday, some parties of the INDIA bloc have come out in his support, in what is seen as an attempt to reach out to the former CM ahead of next year's Lok Sabha polls and assembly polls in the state.

The first open support for Naidu came from West Bengal CM Mamata Banerjee on Monday through a recorded message that was circulated on social media platforms. It was not a simple post on X by Banerjee, but a recorded video message where she speaks out against the move to jail a senior leader and political rival.

Though efforts are underway to work out a seat-sharing formula as soon as possible, sources said the question of how parties will

tackle the ticklish issue of seat sharing in West Bengal, where TMC is unlikely to cede ground to the Congress or Left, and Kerala – where Congress and Left are in a similar bind – will remain sticking points.

Activists scuffle with cops during a rally to protest the arrest of party chief N Chandrababu Naidu, in Visakhapatnam on Tuesday



TDP activists scuffle with cops during a rally to protest the arrest of party chief N Chandrababu Naidu, in Visakhapatnam on Tuesday

INDIA's coordination panel to meet today

The first meeting of the INDIA bloc's coordination committee will be held in Delhi on Wednesday, where the 14-member panel is expected to begin discussions on a seat-sharing formula and the broad contours of a campaign strategy ahead of next year's Lok Sabha elections, reports Swati Mathur. The meeting will be held at the residence of NCP leader Sharad Pawar.

Though efforts are underway to work out a seat-sharing formula as soon as possible, sources said the question of how parties will tackle the ticklish issue of seat sharing in West Bengal, where TMC is unlikely to cede ground to the Congress or Left, and Kerala – where Congress and Left are in a similar bind – will remain sticking points.

The meeting is also expected to firm up the group's strategy for the five-day special session of Parliament from September 18.

of modern Andhra Pradesh, is trying to strengthen his people before the election.

In his post on X, Yadav said, "...arresting opposition leaders has now become a trend of the Centre. Put in jail those who are not with the ruling regime, this was the policy of the autocratic rulers. BJP and their opportunistic friends should remember that such deviation in political behaviour may prove costly."

TIMES ascent

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Last Date to Apply: 24th September 2023

For detailed job description and qualifications required for the above position, visit 'Careers' at www.nmims.edu or scan the QR code

SCAN



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Interested candidates may send their CV along with photograph to rags@rgs.edu.in and careers@rgs.edu.in mentioning the post on the subject line within 3 days of publication.

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Application Deadline for Current Round of Recruitments: October 5, 2023

The faculty Recruitment process is conducted on a rolling basis

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OPaL is looking for Head – Cracker

ONGC Petro additions Limited (OPaL) is one of the largest integrated Petrochemical Complexes in South Asia, located in the port town of Dahej, Gujarat. The complex is equipped with world-class technology from Linde, INEOS, Mitsui and Lurgi, GmbH, Axens with an annual capacity of 2.0 million tonnes of wide portfolio of petrochemicals viz. HDPE, LLDPE, PP, Benzene, Butadiene, Pyrolysis Gasoline, and CBFs etc. The Cracker unit, the heart of the mega petrochemical Complex is distinct due to the dual-feed configuration which is licensed by Linde and capable of producing 1100 KTPA of Ethylene, 400 KTPA of propylene.

Level: Assistant Vice President (M9 Grade), Upper Age limit: 54 Years, Place of Posting: Dahej, Hiring CTC* Range: Rs. 36.00 - 48.00 Lakhs

Job Profile: The incumbent shall report to Chief Operating Officer of OPaL and shall head the operations of Cracker plants which consist of Dual Feed Cracker Unit and the Associated Units i.e., Pyrolysis Gasoline Hydrogenation Unit, Butadiene Extraction Unit and Benzene Extraction Unit. The incumbent shall be accountable for maximizing consistent high quality production with highest level of safety and environmental standards and shall be responsible for reduction of production costs, debottlenecking, quality, efficiency and reliability improvement etc. He/She shall ensure consistent operational effectiveness, provide technical assistance for resolving plant issues, implementing changes, HAZOP reviews, HSE reviews, implementation of PSM, implementation of IMS and Energy Management systems, incidents reviews, and troubleshooting etc. The incumbent shall coordinate with Feed Management Group, Maintenance group, Central Technical Services, HSE, Marketing, Material Management, Finance and other departments for safe and smooth plant operation, production planning, compliances, managing relations with suppliers and vendors, fostering culture of continuous improvements, work culture and dispute resolutions etc.

Qualification: Engineering Graduate in Chemical Engineering from AICTE approved Institutes. Candidates with first class degree in mentioned qualification shall be given preference.

Experience: Post Qualification minimum 24 years of experience in Plant Operations, out of which at least 15 years in Cracker Operations and he should have worked atleast 5 years at Head/Plant In-charge level in Cracker Operations. Experience in similar technology will have an added advantage.

Note:

1. Based on qualification, relevant experience, and potential, the selected candidates will be offered an attractive package on CTC (*currently under revision) basis. In addition to CTC, company offers attractive Mediclaim coverage, group insurance, etc.

2. Mentioned Age Limit/Minimum years of Experience Criteria shall be reckoned with/as on the closing date of the application.

3. Company reserves the right to change the place of posting across India.

How to Apply: Aspirants may send the detailed resume (along with present position in the organization hierarchy, current and expected CTC) by email at careerconnect@opalinIndia.in, mentioning the role / position on the subject line of the mail latest by 5th October, 2023. Applications by any other mode shall not be accepted.

Interested candidates can scan and mail the filled Application Form to us within 10 Days at careers@sanskargarth.in by downloading staff application form www.sanskargarth.in.

Contact No : 8598998989, 9556654777

Nearest Airport: Jharsuguda: 2 hr. journey by road, Raipur: 3 hr. journey by road

Interested candidates can scan and mail the filled Application Form to us within 10 Days at careers@sanskargarth.in by downloading staff application form www.sanskargarth.in.

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Contact No : 8598998989, 9556654777

Nearest Airport: Jharsuguda

KARNATAKA POWER CORPORATION LIMITED
CIN : U85110KA1970SGC001919
No:KPCL/2023-24/SE0049 Dt: 11.09.2023

SHORT-TERM NOTICE INVITING TENDER
(Two Cover System) (Through e-Procurement portal only)

Tenders are invited through GoK e-procurement platform website:<https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in> for the work of **Liasioning, Movement, handling and delivery of up to 10.00 lakh MT of Coal from Mahanadi Coalfields Limited, Talcher in Odisha to Raichur Thermal Power Station(RTPS) in Karnataka by Rail-Sea-Rail Route** for a period of 6 Months. Last date for receipt of completed bids: **19.09.2023 up to 17:00 Hrs.** The tender document can be downloaded from the website: <https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in> Further details can be had from office of the Superintending Engineer (MINES), KPCL, No.82, Shakti Bhawan, 3rd Floor, Race Course Road, Bengaluru-1. Tel:080-22203894E-mail: cefuelskpcl@karnataka.gov.in Website: <https://www.kpcl.karnataka.gov.in>

UJVN Limited
HO "UJJWAL", Mahanari Bagh, GMS Road, Dehradun-248006
Telephones: 0135-2763808 Fax: 0135- 2763508
CIN No. U40101UR2001SGC025866, Website: www.ujvn.com

पत्र सं: 843 दिनांक : 11 / 09 / 2023

e-Tender Notice

Office of the Executive Engineer (Civil) Maneri Bhalji Stage – Ist Maneri, Uttarkashi invited online bids from interested parties. Brief summary of tender is given below:

Tender No: 1- 19/EE(Civil)/MB-I/TN/2023-24, 2- 20/EE(Civil)/MB-I/TN/2023-24

Service/Name of work: (1) Hiring of One number Non AC diesel Vehicle such as Mahindra Bolero or Equivalent without driver for one year for all AE's (Civil), MB-I, at Maneri, Uttarkashi. 2- Construction of Community Meeting centre and Renovation of Devi Mata Mandir near Panchayat chowk at Gram Panchayat Maneri, Uttarkashi

Estimated cost : (1)- ₹ 2,77,200 /-(Including GST), (2)- ₹ 29,99,999/- (Excluding GST)

Date of availability of bid document on website : 12.09.2023 from 17:00 hrs.

Last Date for submission of bids on website: 07-10-2023 upto 15.00 hrs For fuller & further details, kindly visit "e-procurement portal <http://uktenders.gov.in>"

Executive Engineer (Civil) MB-I Maneri
"Avoid wasteful use of Electricity"

PROCLAMATION REQUIRING THE APPEARANCE OF A PERSON ACCUSED
SEE SECTION U/S 82 Cr. P.C.

Whereas complaint has been made before me that accused (1) Pawan S/o Rama R/o 1596, F-Block, Transit Camp, Anand Parbat, Delhi. (2) Mohan @ Ganja S/o Balram R/o H.N.o. A-35, Transit Camp, Anand Parbat, Delhi. (3) Vishnu S/o Kishan R/o H.N.o. 1583, F-Block Transit Camp, Anand Parbat, Delhi, has committed (or is suspected to have committed) the offence in FIR No. 368/21 U/s 307/34 IPC, P.S.Anand Parbat, Delhi, and it has been returned to a warrant of arrest there upon issued that the said accused (1) Pawan (2) Mohan @ Ganja (3) Vishnu cannot be found and whereas it has been shown to my satisfaction that the said accused Pawan (2) Mohan @ Ganja (3) Vishnu has absconded (or is concealing himself to avoid the service of the said warrant). Proclamation is hereby made that the said accused Pawan (2) Mohan @ Ganja (3) Vishnu of FIR No. 368/21 U/s 307/34 IPC, P.S.Anand Parbat, Delhi, is required to appear before this Court to answer the said complaint on or before 18.10.2023.

By Order
Sh. Shubham Devadiya
L.d Metropolitan Magistrate-05
West, Room No.336A
Tis Hazari Courts, Delhi

DP/9869/CD/2023

TOI

**He drives change with gestures.
She moves hearts with her music.
They're among India's Unstoppable 21.**

The jury have selected Mehul Borad and Sharanya Mudundi as two of the 21 Unstoppable Indian prodigies. Dive into their fascinating stories at [#Unstoppable21](http://www.unstoppable21.in)

Mehul Borad, age 19, inventor

Sharanya Mudundi, age 16, Carnatic music prodigy

THE TIMES OF INDIA
CHANGE Begins Here

PRESS NOTICE INVITING COMPOSITE PERCENTAGE RATE e-TENDER

Executive Engineer(C), Postal Civil Division, Lucknow, invites on behalf of the President of India, online percentage rate composite tenders for the following work-N.I.T. No. -23-IEE/PCDL/2023-24

Name of Work: **Construction of Small Post office building at Munsyari in Pithoragarh Division Uttrakhand. (3rd Call)**

Estimated Cost : - Rs. 6487441/- ((Rs. 5982900 Civil Portion) & (Rs. 50451 Electrical Portion))

Earnest Money : - Rs. 129749/-

Period of completion : - 06 months

Last date and time of submission of bid: 03.10.23 upto 18:00 hrs.

The bid forms and other details can be obtained from the website <https://dopcivil.euniwizarde.com>

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Telephone No. 01332-272256 Fax No. 01332-272315

E-TENDER CORRIGENDUM Dated: 11.09.2023

"Work for repairing of 01 NO. 40 MVA 132/33 kv Transformer ABB Make at 132 KV Sub-Station, Bhagwanpur" against e-tender specification No.CE/GZR-07/2023-24 is hereby extended. The last date of submission of online/offline e-tender is 21.09.2023 upto 15.00 hours which shall be opened on 22.09.2023 at 15.00hrs.Details of e-tender can be obtained from e-tender website www.uktenders.gov.in and information of e-tender can be seen from PTCUL website www.ptcul.org. All other terms and conditions shall remain same. For any assistance on e-tendering, please contact on Mb. No. +91-8899890000.

No. 1737/CE(O&M)/GZR/Advt. **CHIEF ENGINEER (O&M)**

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CAD-2021
omfed
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PH NO.: 0674-2546030, 2540273, 2540417, 2540947
Email Id: omfed@yahoo.com

E-TENDER FOR EQUIPMENT FOUNDATION AT UNIT OF OMfed

OMfed invites Techino-Commercial tenders from experienced civil contractors 'B class' or above for execution of the "CIVIL-STRUCTURAL WORK FOR CONSTRUCTION OF FOUNDATION FOR DAIRY EQUIPMENT'S TO BE STATED AT DIFFERENT LOCATIONS OF OMfed".

Interested persons may tender their bids to the following address: The OMfed, 10000, www.omfed.com for reference. Bid document will be available in the [https://omfed.iodisha.gov.in](http://www.omfed.com) from 10.00 AM of 12.09.2023 to 5.00 PM of 31.02.2023 for bidding. Tender cost of Rs. 10000/-+18% GST along with E.M.D. of Rs. 1,08,750/- shall be submitted in shape of Demand Drafts in favor of OMfed drawn on any Nationalized Bank payable at Bhubaneswar & should reach at the above office address on or before 05.00 PM of 05.10.2023. The technical Bid shall be opened at 03.00 PM on 06.10.2023 at the OMfed Corporate Office in the presence of the interested bidders.

Management reserves the right to accept or reject any or all the bid documents or part thereof without assigning any reason.

Sd/-
Managing Director
OIPR - 06063/11/0034/23-24

BURARI HOSPITAL
(GOVT. OF NCT OF DELHI)
KAUSHIK ENCLAVE, BURARI, DELHI 110084
Email:- burarihospital@gmail.com

Applications are invited for recruitment of Non-Teaching Specialist Grade-III in various departments in Burari Hospital on purely contract basis. For complete details of the posts, eligibility, terms and condition and application form please visit official website of Burari Hospital & Delhi Govt. at <http://burari.delhi.gov.in> and <https://health.delhi.gov.in/>. The last date for the receipt of application 16.10.2023 at 4:00 PM.

Medical Director
Burari Hospital
DIP/Shabdharth/Classified/0130/23-24

PROCLAMATION REQUIRING THE APPEARANCE OF ACCUSED PERSON
See Section 82 Cr.P.C.

Whereas complaint has been made before me that accused **Devender @ Pankaj** S/o Chaman Lal R/o Bhaji Ki Makan, Gali No. 5, Baba Shiv Mandir, Alipur, Delhi has committed (or is suspected to have committed) the offence FIR No. 01/2015 dated 01.01.2015 u/s 395/412/34 IPC P.S. Alipur, Delhi and it has been returned to a warrant of arrest thereupon issued that the said **Devender @ Pankaj** cannot be found and whereas it has been shown to my satisfaction that the said **Devender @ Pankaj** absconded (or is concealing himself to avoid the service of the said warrant). Proclamation is hereby made that the said **Devender @ Pankaj** accused of FIR No. 01/2015 dated 01.01.2015 u/s 395/412/34 IPC P.S. Alipur, Delhi is required to appear before this Court to answer the said complaint on or before 10.10.2023.

By Order: Sushil Kumar
Addl. Session Judge-iv, (North)
Room No. 206, 2nd Floor,
Rohini Court, Delhi

DP/10147/ON/23

SEARCH FOR MISSING MALE

General Public is hereby informed that one male (depicted in the photo) namely Avishek Ranjan S/o Nand Kishor Prasad R/o E-429, Gali No.8 Near Durga Mandir, East Vinod Nagar Aged-31 Years has been reported missing since 31.08.2023 at 7 PM from his residence vide **DD No.92A Dated 01.09.2023** registered at Police Station Kalyanpuri, Delhi. His physical description is as under:-

Complexion: Shallow, Height: 5'9", Face: Round, Built: Fatty, Clothing: Blue coloured shirt, Light Blue coloured jeans and Shoes in feet.

Any person having any information/Clue about this missing male, may inform SHO, Kalyanpuri, Delhi at E-mail: cic@cbi.gov.in or website: <http://cbi.nic.in>

Sd/-
Tele No.: 011-24368638 or 24368641 SHO, Kalyanpuri, Delhi
FAX No.: 011-24368639 Tel.: 011-22772287, 22772251
DP/10051/ED/2023 Mob.: 8750817830

APPEAL FOR IDENTIFICATION

General public is hereby informed that an unidentified dead body of a male (depicted in the photo) namely Avishek Ranjan S/o Nand Kishor Prasad R/o E-429, Gali No.8 Near Durga Mandir, East Vinod Nagar Aged-31 Years has been reported missing since 31.08.2023 at 7 PM from his residence vide **DD No.92A Dated 01.09.2023** registered at Police Station Kalyanpuri, Delhi. His physical description is as under:-

Complexion: Shallow, Height: 5'6", Face: Round, Built: Fatty, Clothing: Blue coloured shirt, Light Blue coloured jeans and Shoes in feet.

In this regard a DD No. 08-A dated 11.09.2023 has been lodged at P.S. GTB Enclave, Delhi. The dead body has been preserved for identification in the mortuary of GTB Hospital, Delhi.

Any person having any information or clue about the deceased may kindly inform to the undersigned on the following address or telephone nos.

SHO - P.S. GTB Enclave, Delhi
Tel. No. : 011-22580946-22580947, 07065036031, 08010503657
DP/10222/SHD/2023

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

जिज्ञासन संख्या-25/2023, गृह विमान (आरक्षी शाश्वत), बिहार, पटना के अद्यैन बिहार अग्निशमन सेवानिति सहायता प्रभावित पर्यावरणी (पुलिस उपचार के समक्ष) के कुल 21 (इक्कलों) रिक्त पदों पर नियुक्त होते दिनांक-26.04.2023 को प्रकाशित जिज्ञासन से संबंधित आँलाइन आवेदन की प्रक्रिया कर्तव्य तकनीकी कारणों से स्थगित किया गया था, जिसे पुनः प्राप्त किया जाता है।

2. आँलाइन आवेदन भरने से संबंधित तिथि एवं अवधि नियमानुसारित हैं:-

1. आँलाइन आवेदन प्राप्त करने की तिथि	13.09.2023
2. आँलाइन आवेदन भरने की अंतिम तिथि	28.09.2023
3. Edit करने की अंतिम तिथि	05.10.2023
3. अपर्याप्ती आवेदन भरने की प्रक्रिया प्राप्त करने के पूर्व वेबसाईट पर प्रदर्शित विस्तृत जिज्ञासन एवं आँलाइन आवेदन भरने हेतु आवश्यक एवं विस्तृत नियंत्रण का लागत है।	स्टार्ट-
	परीक्षा नियंत्रक
	बिहार लोक सेवा आयोग, पटना

RANCHI MUNICIPAL CORPORATION, RANCHI
Near Kuchery Chowk
Ranchi 834001
Ph. No. - (0651-2212674/2210495)

VERY SHORT E -TENDER NOTICE
Letter No. 479 Date 12/09/2023

SI No.	Particular	Important Instructions
1	Name of Work	Supply of Various Chemicals, Annual Rate Contract on FOR Contract basis
2	Time of Work	1(One) Year
3	Date of Publication of Tender	13/09/2023
4	Bid	Downloading/Submission Start Date
5	Downloading of Tender form	22/09/2023 upto 5:00 PM
6	Last date of receipt of tender fee and security	23/09/2023 upto 3:00 PM
7	Date of opening of technical Bid	25/09/2023 upto 3:00 PM
8	Opening of Financial Proposal	To be Communicated later
9	Tender Fee in term of DD	Rs. 10,000/- (Rupees Ten Thousand Only)+18% GST in the form of a demand draft (nonrefundable) in the favor of "Administrator, Ranchi Municipal Corporation", Ranchi on any schedule bank, payable at Ranchi.
10	Earnest Money Deposit	Rs. 1,00,000 (Rupees One Lacs Only) in the form of Fixed Deposit Receipt/ Bank Guarantee issued by a Nationalized/Scheduled Bank in India having a branch in Ranchi, in favor of Administrator "Ranchi Municipal Corporation", Payable at Ranchi ("Bid Security")

Note : Further details can be seen on website : www.jharkhandtenders.gov.in Sd/-
By Administrator,
Ranchi Municipal Corporation, Ranchi
PR 306822 (Ranchi Municipal Corporation) 23-24 (D)

APPEAL FOR IDENTIFICATION



General public is hereby informed that this women (depicted in the photo) **Name: Unknown, W/o: Unknown, R/o: Unknown, Age: about 35 Years, Sex: Female, Height: 5'4", Complexion: Shallow, Wearing: Upper and Lower (Like Night Dress) with printed Mickey Mouse, found dead at Sanjay Gandhi Hospital, Mangolpuri, Delhi on 03.09.2023 by 5.30 am under area of PS. Mangolpuri, Delhi.**

In this regard a **DD No. 99A dated 03.09.2023** has been lodged at P.S. Mangolpuri, Delhi.

Sincere efforts have been made by local police to trace out information about this women but no clue has come to light so far.

If any person having any information or clue about this person may kindly inform to the following.

SHO
PS. Mangolpuri, Delhi
DP/10165/OD/2023 (UIDB) Ph.: 011-27922186, 7065036122

APPEAL FOR IDENTIFICATION

General Public is hereby informed that an unidentified dead body of a male (depicted in the photo) **Name: Unknown, S/o Unknown, R/o Unknown, Age: 45 years, Height: 5'6", Complexion: Shallow, Wearing: Dark Grey coloured T-shirt and Sky Blue coloured jeans, was found dead on 30.08.2023 at 3:53 PM from Nathu Colony Chowk underpass. In this regard a **DD No.53A, dated 30.08.2023** has been lodged at P.S. Mansarovar Park, Delhi.**

If any one having any clue about deceased male may kindly inform the undersigned and contact on following numbers.

SHO
P.S. Mansarovar Park, Delhi
Ph.: 011-22599374, 22599373
Mob.: 7065036029, 8595847344
DP/10216/SHD/2023

SEARCH FOR MISSING/KIDNAPPED



General public is hereby informed that this female (depicted in the photo) **namely Yasmin D/o Abdul Wahid R/o E-1/62-63, Shani Bazar, Sunder Nagri, Delhi** has been missing from her residence since 18.08.2023 at 05.00 PM. In this regard a **DD No. 78-A Dated 19.08.2023** has been lodged at **PS Nand Nagri, Delhi**. Sincere efforts have been made by local police to trace out this female but no clue has come to light so far.

Her physical description is as under:-

Sex: Female, Age: 26 years, Height: 5' ft., Complexion: Fair, Face: Round, Built: Medium, Wearing: White colour Suit.

Any person is having information or clue about this missing female may kindly inform to the following telephones numbers:-

SHO
Website: <http://cbi.nic.in>
E-mail: cic@cbi.gov.in
Tel. No.: 011-24368638/24368641
Fax No.: 011-24368639
Mob. No: 8750870733
DP/10189/NE/2023

CAD-2045

**ODISHA STATE ROAD TRANSPORT CORPORATION**

BHUBANESWAR

No. 1686 /INTR -11/2023 Date : 12.09.2023

The Chairman-Cum-Managing Director, Odisha State Road Transport Corporation (OSRTC) Bhubaneswar has invited a Request for Proposal (RFP) on the Selection of Bus Operator for Supply, Operation and Maintenance of Buses for Managing Public Transport across the Cluster-I, II, III & V routes under LiMo Scheme on Gross Cost Contract (GCC) Model for OSRTC through the e-tendering process. The Tender documents will be available on e-Nvida at <https://envida.odisha.gov.in> and OSRTC website www.osrtc.in on Dt.13.09.2023. The interested firms/ agencies should upload their proposals online bids on the e-Nvida Portal may be obtained at <https://envida.odisha.gov.in> from Dt. 12.09.2023 to Dt. 05.10.2023 up to 3:00 PM and the same will be opened on Dt.10.05.2023 at 5:00 PM at OSRTC conference hall.

For any doubt, agencies' firms may contact Mr. Rashmi Pani on 9937567240 to address the issue during office hours.

The Authority reserves the right to accept or reject any or all proposals without assigning any reason thereof.

Sd/- General Manager (A)
OSRTC, Bhubaneswar
OIPR-38002/11/0004/23-24

Uttarakhand Peyjal Sansadhan Vikas Evm Nirman Nigam
Office of the Superintending Engineer, Construction Circle, Dehradun
Gali No. 11 Rajendra Nagar, Dehradun, Phone/fax 0135-2751879 | Email: se9circle10@yahoo.com

पत्रांक -2341 / 343 / 126

दिनांक 12.09.2023

NATIONAL COMPETITIVE BIDDING**E-Tender Notice**

On behalf of the Chairman, Uttarakhand Peyjal Nigam, District Dehradun sealed tenders in **Two Bid System** on item rate contract basis (inclusive of all material), are invited for the construction of following works in District Dehradun (Uttarakhand) from technically and financially capable bidders, registered with Central / Any State Government/ Central or Any State Government Undertaking Department / Government Institution up to prescribed time & date and on the portal as mentioned in terms and conditions given below:-

Sl. No.	Name of Work	(Earnest Money) (Rs. in Lakh)	Cost of bid Submission (Rs.)	Online Bid Submission End Date
1	Confirmatory Survey, Design, Construction & laying of sewer line, connection to existing sewerage network, testing and commissioning (with one year defect liability period) with all appurtenant works on item rate contract basis including supply of all material, labour T&P etc. for Om City Kusum Vihar area in Dehradun	9.60	5000+18% GST	29.09.2023, 17.00 Hours

Note:- All Terms & conditions can be seen online on the e-Government Procurement System Portal i.e. <https://uktenders.gov.in>

Superintending Engineer

जल श्रोतों को प्रदूषित होने से बचायें वैद्यानिक बेतानी – जल श्रोतों को प्रदूषित करना दण्डनीय अपराध है।

C-



1st Floor, OUIDF, 172-Vivekananda Marg, SUDA campus

Bhubaneswar, ODISHA, PIN- 751014

Telephone No. 0674-2436396/397]

E-mail ID: [oudf.hudd@gmail.com & smc.smartied@gmail.com]

Notice Inviting RFP

RFP No.: 02 / OUIDF- 231-A/ 2023 - Bhubaneswar,

Dated: 12.09.2023

Notice Inviting Tender

Request For Proposal for Appointment of Independent Engineers for Implementation of LED Public Street Lighting Project in 110 ULBs in Odisha.

Odisha Urban Infrastructure Development Fund (OUIDF), a wholly owned Trust of Housing & Urban Development Department, Government of Odisha, invites tender from Reputed Firms/ Agencies for Appointment of Independent Engineers for Implementation of LED Public Street Lighting Project in 110 ULBs in Odisha. Interested Firms may download the RFP document from e-procurement portal of Government of Odisha i.e., <https://tendersodisha.gov.in/nicgep/app> and submit the complete RFP Document on or before 31.10.2023 up to 17.00 Hrs.

Sd/-
Administrative, OUIDF
OIPR- 13048/11/0002/23-24

Directorate of Urban Local Bodies, Jammu
Panama Chowk, Narwal Road, Adjoining Architect Organization (Near Canal)
Email : dbijammu@gmail.com; Phone: 0191-2470050 <https://jktenders.gov.in>

1. Director, Directorate of Urban Local Bodies, Jammu (DULBJ) invites online bids for the following works :

NIT Reference No.	Name of Project/ Work(s)	Availability of Tender online for downloading From To	Last Date & Time for on-line Submission of Bids	Bid Security/ (Earnest Money (Rs.)	Cost of Document/ Tender Fee (Rs.)
DULBJ/RFP/07/2023-24 Dated: 08.09.2023	Request for proposal for Rate Contract for Empanelment of Agency for Supply & Installation of MRF Equipment for 36 ULB's of Jammu Division	08-09-2023 16:00 Hrs. 22-09-2023 15:00 Hrs.	22-09-2023 15:00 Hrs.	NA	NA

2. For downloading the RFP and details such as important dates, detailed scope of work, qualifications and eligibility criteria, visit website <https://jktenders.gov.in>.3. Pre-bid meeting is schedule online on 15.09.2023 at 11: 00 AM through link: <https://meet.google.com/gpc-ubdi-dtc>-Sd-
Director,
Urban Local Bodies,
Jammu.No: DULBJ/2023/3168
Date : 08-09-2023
DIP No:DIPUJ-8081/23/11.09.2023

OFFICE OF THE SPL. INSPECTOR GENERAL OF POLICE, MOTOR TRANSPORT, M.S.PUNE.
E-Mail ID- dyspsp@gmail.com Tel./Fax No.020-25880718
CENTRAL STORE PURCHASE BRANCH

NO.CSP-1/E-TENDER / T.T.,BATT, SPARE PARTS/3592/ 2023
OFFICE OF THE SPL. INSPECTOR GENERAL OF POLICE
MOTOR TRANSPORT, M.S.PUNE.
PUNE, DATE -08/09/2023.

E - TENDER NOTICE FOR PURCHASE OF TYRES-TUBES, BATTERIES, AUTOMOBILE SPARE PARTS REQUIRED FOR MOTOR VEHICLES IN MAHARASHTRA POLICE DEPARTMENT

The Spl. Inspector General of Police, Motor Transport, M.S.Pune invites online tenders from Primary/ Original Manufacturers or Authorized Dealers/ Authorized distributors/ Authorized Stockists of Original / Primary Manufacturers to participate in the competitive bidding process to supply the following items required for motor vehicles in MAHARASHTRA POLICE DEPARTMENT.

1) Tyres-Tubes required for four wheeler vehicles
2) Automotive Batteries required for four wheeler and two wheeler vehicles
3) Spare parts required for Tata Passenger, Tata... Mahindra & Mahindra make vehicles.

For the detailed tender document, interested bidders should visit <http://mahatenders.gov.in>

Tender submission would be online. Deadline to submit the proposal is Dt. 20/09/2023 up to 17:00 hrs.

sd/-

(Gayatri pawar)

Superintendent of Police,(H.Q.)
Motor Transport Maharashtra State, Pune

DGIPR 2023-2024/3464

UNION TERRITORY OF JAMMU AND KASHMIR OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER JAL SHAKTI (PHE) MECHANICAL DIVISION RAJOURI

NOTICE INVITING e-TENDER**e-NIT No. 81 of 2023-24 Dated 08.09.2023**

For and on behalf of Lt. Governor of UT of J&K, Executive Engineer, Jal Shakti (PHE) Mechanical Division Rajouri, invites e-tenders (in 2 covers) on item rate basis from Original pump manufacturers, joint ventures/memorandum of understanding with principal pump manufacturers/ their authorized dealers/ registered in DIC / reputed contractors (electromechanical works) of MES/CPWD/Water works corporations of different states for below mentioned work at Water Supply Schemes of Jal Shakti (PHE) Mechanical Division Rajouri, of Jammu Province of UT of J&K, under Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM) on Turnkey basis.

The bidding process shall be completed online on www.jktenders.gov.in in two covers viz. **Cover I** consisting of General Terms and Conditions and Technical Specifications and **Cover II** consisting of Financial Bid, in the prescribed BOQ.

S. Particular of the works No.	Estimated cost (in lakh)	Tender fee (in Rs.)	Earnest money deposit (in lakh)	Bid validity	Time of completion of work (Days)
1 Providing, installation, testing, commissioning of pumping machinery along with electro mechanical components at different locations of WSS PATRARA, BALASHAMA & LAM under JJM	134.50	1000/- (Rs. One Thousand only)	1.00 lakh (Rs. One lakh only)	180 days	150 days

Position of funds : Approved Under Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM)

Accorded

Sanctioned

Tender inviting authority : Executive Engineer Jal Shakti (PHE) Mechanical Division Rajouri,

CRITICAL DATES

a) Publish Date	08.09.2023
b) Document Download/sale start Date	08.09.2023
c) Date of Pre-bid meeting	11.09.2023
d) Bid submission start date	12.09.2023
e) Bid submission end date	19.09.2023
f) Date of Bid opening	20.09.2023

1. Bid documents can be accessed and download from the website www.jktenders.gov.in.

sd/-

No. PHE/MDR/137-3148
Dated : 08.09.2023Executive Engineer
Jal Shakti (PHE) Mech. Division
Rajouri.

DIP No:DIP-J-0805/11.09.2023

MM-155

OFFICE OF THE DIVISIONAL FOREST OFFICER, BERHAMPUR DIVISION
AT-COURTPETA, BRAHMAPUR-760004
Phone/Fax- 0680-2281354, Mob. +91 7653908594
Email - dfo.berhampur@odisha.gov.in

Bid Identification No. 215 IF Dated 07.09.2023

TENDER FOR CONSTRUCTION OF BUILDINGS (FOREST GUARD QUARTERS)
IN BERHAMPUR FOREST DIVISION

The Divisional Forest Officer, Brahmapur Forest Division on behalf of Governor of Odisha invites percentage rate bid in OFF-LINE mode from eligible contractors with valid licenses for execution of Building & other work as detailed in DTCN

1. Nature of Works	: Construction of Buildings (Forest Guard Quarters)
2. No. of Work	: 4 Nos.
3. Tender Cost	: Rs.6000/- (For Each One)
4. Class of Contractor	: "C" and "D" Class Contractor
5. Availability of bid document in the Office	: From Dt. 11.09.2023 10.00 A.M. to Dt. 25.09.2023 5.00 P.M.
6. Last date and time of submission of bids in tender box of office	: Dt. 26.09.2023 05.00 P.M.
7. Date of opening of Bid	: Dt. 26.10.2022 at 11:00 AM
8. The bidders have to participate in OFF-LINE bidding only.	

Sd/-
Divisional Forest Officer
Brahmapur Division
OIPR-08038/11/0015/23-24

**Ahmedabad Municipal Corporation****Tender Notice**For Ahmedabad Municipal Corporation under Gujarat Resilient Cities Partnership: Ahmedabad City Resilience Project **UNDER WORLD BANK FUNDING PROGRAMME**

Ahmedabad Municipal Corporation Re-invites Request for Proposal for following works.

- Design, Build and Operation of new 375 MLD sewage treatment plant and upgradation of the allied infrastructure including three terminal sewage pump station/s with operation and maintenance for 10 years at Vasna for the city of Ahmedabad, Gujarat, India (2nd call) (Estimated Cost Rs. 840.00 Cr.)

Pre Bid Meeting:

26.09.2023 at 15:30 hours (offline)

Online Submission up to :

31.10.2023 Up to 12.00 hours

Date of RFP (Technical Bid) Opening:

31.10.2023 at 12.30 hours

Detail and RFP available on : <https://eprocure.gov.in>

Municipal Commissioner

Comedian Birbal who acted in 500+ films dies

Mumbai: Well-loved comedian Birbal, who capitalised his bumbling persona to his advantage, passed away at age 84 on Tuesday, reports **Bella Jaisinghani**.

The actor lived at Seven Bungalows in Andheri.

A familiar figure with a

heavy Punjabi accent and thick glasses, Birbal had acted in over 500 films in Hindi, Punjabi and Bhojpuri languages during a long career that began in the mid-1960s.

Born Satinder Khosla, Birbal was the eldest child of a businessman who ran a

printing press in Punjab. He did his college in Jalandhar but came away to Mumbai to become a singer, inspired by his idol Kishore Kumar.

Birbal earned immense value as the prisoner in Sholay and the jilted lover in the 'paan' song from Biwi Ho To Aisi.

4 killed in Kashmir landslide

Four people died when a landslide hit their vehicle on the Jammu-Srinagar NH on Tuesday, reports **Sanjay Khajuria**. The victims were Ifran Ahmed, his brother Showkat Ahmed and driver M Afzal Garoo and his brother M Altaf Garoo.

GOVERNMENT OF TAMIL NADU
TIRUPUR HIGHWAYS,
(Construction & Maintenance) CIRCLE
TENDER NOTICE

T.N. No. 10 / 2023 - 24 / HDO, Dated 11.09.2023.

For and on behalf of the Governor of Tamil Nadu, Percentage tender through online only will be received upto **18.10.2023** 11.00 hours by the Superintending Engineer (H), C&M, Tirupur Circle for CRIDP 2023-2024 Works - Single Work **6 Nos - pertaining to Tirupur, Dharapuram, Erode & Karur (H) C&M Divisions.**

Details of works, approximate value of works, EMD, availability of tender documents and all other details are available from **16.09.2023** onwards in the Government website <https://tntenders.gov.in>. If any Changes/Corrections in the tender, it will be published in the above Government website only.

Superintending Engineer (H),
C&M, Circle, Tirupur.

DIPR /5056 / TENDER / 2023



GOVERNMENT OF MAHARASHTRA
COMMISSIONERATE of Health Services, Mumbai.

Procurement Cell, 6th Floor, Arogya Bhavan, St. Georges Hospital Compound,

Mumbai - 400 001.

Tel. No. 022-22717538, 022-22717537 • e-mail - procurementcell@gmail.com

TENDER NOTICE



Date :- 12.09.2023

Joint Director of Health Services (Procurement Cell), Mumbai invites tenders in two envelope systems from the eligible Service Providers to Design, Build, Finance, Operate & Transfer (PPP-DBFOT Hybrid Model) Maharashtra Emergency Medical Services (MEMS) Project-2023 under Health Institutes under Commissionerate of Health Services, Maharashtra.

Sr. No.	Tender No.	Name of Item	Period of sale, preparation & submission of bid	Date of Pre bid meeting	Date of Bid Closing	Bid Opening
1	E-08	Appointment of Service Provider to Design, Build, Finance, Operate & Transfer (PPP-DBFOT Hybrid Model) Maharashtra Emergency Medical Services (MEMS) Project-2023 in health facilities under Commissionerate of Health Services, Maharashtra state.	12.09.2023, 10:00 AM to 05.10.2023 2:00 PM	18.09.2023 At 02.00 PM	05.10.2023 2:00 PM	06.10.2023, 02:00 PM

1. For detailed information, the interested Service Providers may visit the <https://mahatenders.gov.in>.
2. The Jt. Director of Health Services, (P. Cell) Mumbai reserves the right to increase or decrease the quantity to be purchased and also reserves the right to cancel all the tenders without giving any reason to.

For re-tendering help/information, please contact.
Website: - <https://mahatenders.gov.in>.
Contact: Toll-free Number: 1800-419-3436; 1800-102-3436
Email - procurementcell@gmail.com

Jt. Director of Health Services
(Procurement Cell), Mumbai



Office of The Superintending Engineer
7th Circle PWD, Gopeshwar

E Mail: sepwdgope@rediffmail.com

No. 5293/50 Yatayat-7/2023 Dated: 12.09.2023
E-tender Notice (Two Bid)

Superintending Engineer, 7th Circle, P.W.D., Gopeshwar invites bid on behalf of Hon'ble Governor of Uttarakhand by e-tendering under two bid system for the following works. Information regarding bid will be available from 15.09.2023 on <https://www.uktenders.gov.in>

Sl. No	Name of Work	Amount of Earnest Money (Rs. Lakhs)	Cost of e-tender document	Validity of tender (in days)	Completion Period (in months)	Contractor's Category of Registration
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1	Construction of 30 M. Span Steel Girder Motor Bridge in km 4 of Salya - Khera - Tulanga Motor Road in Ukhimath Block of District Rudraprayag Under State Sector.	4.60	5000.00 + GST	120	15	Registered in Category "B" and above for Bridge work in Uttarakhand & other State/Govt. of India/ any Govt undertaking
2	Improvement work under One Time Maintenance Bungidhar - Mehalchauri - Bachhuwban motor road under Gairsain Block of Karanprayag Assembly in District Chamoli.	3.90	5000.00 + GST	120	4	Registered in Category "B" and above for Road work in Uttarakhand & other State/Govt. of India/ any Govt undertaking

भारतीय वायु सेना / INDIAN AIR FORCE
AIR FORCE DAY CELEBRATIONS 2023
INVITATION TO RETIRED JWOs AND SGTs
03 OCTOBER 2023

On behalf of the Chief of the Air Staff, Air Officer-in-Charge Administration invites all retired JWOs and SGTs with spouse for Tea to celebrate the 91st Anniversary of the IAF, on 03 Oct 23 (Tuesday) at 1630 Hr at Parade Ground Indoor Shed, Air Force Station New Delhi.

All retired JWOs and SGTs may intimate their acceptance on e-mail to cer@iaf.nic.in or in writing to the following address by 20 Sep 2023.

Room No. 108
Air Crme Org (Cer)
Air HQ(VB)
Raf Marg New Delhi-110 106

DRESS: Open Collar
TRANSPORT ARRANGEMENTS ARE BEING MADE AS FOLLOWS:-

FROM NOIDA : ROAD BETWEEN SECTOR 21 & 25 - AFS NEW DELHI (DEPARTURE TIME 1430 Hr)
FROM GREATER NOIDA : JAL VAYU VIHAR - AFS NEW DELHI (DEPARTURE FROM JAL VAYU VIHAR AT 1345 Hr)
FROM FARIDABAD : YMCA- AJRONDA MOD - NEELAM CHOWK- OLD FARIDABAD CHOWK - BADKAL CHOWK - AF STN TUGHLAGABAD (MAIN GATE) - SARAI - AFS NEW DELHI (DEPARTURE FROM YMCA 1430 Hr)
FROM GURUGRAM : PALAM VIHAR (SHOPPING COMPLEX) - JAI CINEMA - SECTOR 15 - IFFCO CHOWK - SECTOR 31 - SECTOR 56 (JAL VAYU TOWER) - AFS NEW DELHI (DEPARTURE FROM PALAM VIHAR, JAI CINEMA AT 1700 Hr)
FROM NAJAFGARH : GAUTAM BOOK STALL, LAJPAT NAGAR, SAHBABAD, GAZIABAD - AFS NEW DELHI (DEPARTURE FROM GAUTAM BOOK STALL AT 1430 Hr)
FROM ROHINI : GOPAL NAGAR EXTN (INDRA SERVICE STATION)- AFS NEW DELHI (DEPARTURE FROM GOPAL NAGAR EXTN AT 1430 Hr)
FROM DWARKA : MADHUBAN CHOWK - HASTSAL, VIKASPURI - JANAK CINEMA, JANAKPUR - AFS NEW DELHI (DEPARTURE FROM MADHUBAN CHOWK AT 1500 Hr)
PLAY GROUND (SECTOR 17) -AYUDH CHOWK-ANMOL APARTMENT- SECTOR 7- HANUMAN CHOWK (PALAM) - AF AUDITORIUM (DEPARTURE FROM PLAY GROUND-1500 Hr)

Note : No separate invitations are being extended. For security reasons, kindly be in possession of a proof of identity viz. Card issued by Zila Sainik Board, Discharge Book etc.

CBC 10802/11/0023/2324

ICAR - INDIAN INSTITUTE OF MAIZE RESEARCH, LUDHIANA

File No. CRP - Maize biofortification / Dated :- 12.09.2023

INTERVIEW

Walk-in-Interview will be held on **05.10.2023 at 11.00 AM** onwards for one contractual position of SRF & one contractual position of YP-I under CRP - Maize biofortification project at ICAR-IIIMR Delhi. For details, please visit <https://iimr.icar.gov.in>.

Asstt. Administrative Officer

GOVERNMENT OF ANDHRA PRADESH RAMAYAPATNAM PORT DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION LIMITED e-procurement tender Notice

Online Tender Notice No. 05/SE/RPDCL/2023, Dt. 12-09-2023 Online tenders are invited for the following works. 1. NIT No. 05/SE/RPDCL/2023-24, "Supply, manning, operation, and maintenance of Two Tugs of 40 Ton Bollard Pull (ASD/SRP/VOITH) or more of SSV Type-IV/Coastal vessel compliant for Ramayapatnam Port for a period of Five Years". The details can be viewed and download online directly through www.tender.apreprocurement.gov.in from 13.09.2023 onwards. Last date for submission of online Tenders is 30.09.2023 till 00 PM.

Sd/- Superintending Engineer, RPDCL, Mangalagiri

DIPR No.2344PP/CL/ADVT/1/1/2021-22 Dt.12/09/2023

Dress : Open Collar

Note : (a) All retired Officers are requested to be in possession of ROIC.

(b) Due to limited availability of parking space at Air Force Auditorium, guests are advised to share vehicles

CBC 10802/11/0021/2324

भारतीय वायु सेना / INDIAN AIR FORCE

AIR FORCE DAY CELEBRATIONS 2023

INVITATION TO RETIRED AIR FORCE OFFICERS
27 SEPTEMBER 2023

Chief of the Air Staff invites all retired Officers of the rank of Air Marshal and below with spouse to Reception (Dinner) to celebrate 91st Anniversary of the IAF on 27 September 2023 (Wednesday) at 1900 Hr at the lawns of Air Force Auditorium, Subroto Park, New Delhi – 110 010.

All retired Officers are requested to positively confirm their attendance to Air Force Association at Air Force Station, New Delhi or Air Crme Org (Ceremonials) at Air HQ on the following e-mail addresses.

E-mail IDs
Air Force Association : aafaheadoffice@gmail.com
Air HQ (VB) : cer@iaf.nic.in

On receipt of conformation of attendance on email, an e-invite with the applicable car parking label will be sent on the registered email of the respective Officer which would be required to be shown at the entry.

Parking arrangements will be as follows :-

(a) Air Marshals and AVMs - Auditorium Parking.
(b) Air Crme & below - Road between AFCME & TAFS (Shuttle service to the venue will be provided).

RSVP : 23015478 / 7303036377 - On all working days

Dress : Open Collar

Note : (a) All retired Officers are requested to be in possession of ROIC.

(b) Due to limited availability of parking space at Air Force Auditorium, guests are advised to share vehicles

CBC 10802/11/0021/2324

झारखण्ड लोक सेवा आयोग, सर्कलर रोड, राँची

प्रेस विज्ञप्ति

गैर शैक्षणिक विशेषज्ञ चिकित्सक (नियमित) नियुक्ति परीक्षा (विज्ञापन संख्या-03/2023) के संबंध में आवश्यक सूचना।

झारखण्ड राज्य के स्वास्थ्य विभाग द्वारा एवं परिवार कल्याण विभाग के अन्तर्गत गैर शैक्षणिक विशेषज्ञ चिकित्सक के विभिन्न पद पर नियमित नियुक्ति परीक्षा (विज्ञापन संख्या-03/2023) के कुल-771 स्थित पद पर पर नियुक्त हेतु औपचारिक रूप से स्वीकृत अध्यर्थीयों का अभिलेख सत्याग्रह एवं साक्षात्कार कार्यक्रम आयोग कार्यालय में दिनांक-18-09-2023 से दिनांक-24-09-2023 तक नियारित है। जिसकी विधरणी एवं आवश्यक नियंत्रण आयोग के वेबसाइट www.jpsc.gov.in पर उपलब्ध है।

2. अभिलेख सत्याग्रह एवं साक्षात्कार हेतु अध्यर्थीयों को Call Letter डाक द्वारा नहीं भेजा जायेगा।

3. औपचारिक रूप से स्वीकृत अध्यर्थी बुलावा पत्र (e-Call Letter) आयोग के वेबसाइट www.jpsc.gov.in पर उपलब्ध है।

4. अस्तीकृत अध्यर्थीयों की सूची (कारण सहित) आयोग के वेबसाइट www.jpsc.gov.in पर उपलब्ध है।

5. आयोग के वेबसाइट पर e-Call Letter डाउनलोड नहीं होने की स्थिति में आयोग के हेल्पलाइन नं-09431301419 / 9431301636 पर उपलब्ध होने वाले जन्म तिथि सालकर प्राप्त कर सकते हैं।

6. यह प्रेस विज्ञप्ति आयोग के वेबसाइट www.jpsc.gov.in पर भी उपलब्ध है।

Watching porn privately is not an offence, says Kerala HC

Kochi: Watching pornographic photographs or videos in one's private time without showing it to others is not an offence under the law as it is a matter of personal choice, the Kerala high court has held.

The HC said that declaring such an act as an offence would amount to intrusion of a person's privacy and interference with his personal choice.

The ruling by Justice P V Kunhikrishnan came while quashing a case of obscenity under Section 292 of the Indian Penal Code against a 33-year-old man, who was back in 2016 caught by police while watching porn videos on his mobile phone on the roadside near the Aluva palace. The ruling came on the accused person's plea to quash the FIR and the court proceedings against him.

The court said pornography was in practice for centuries and the new digital age has made it more accessible, even to children.

"The question to be decided is whether a person watching a porn video in his private time without exhibiting it to others amounts to an offence? A court of law cannot declare that the same amounts to an offence as it is his private choice and interference with the same amounts to an intrusion of his privacy," it said. "If the accused is trying to circulate or distribute or publicly exhibit any obscene video or photos, then the offence under Section 292 IPC is attracted," Justice Kunhikrishnan said. TNN

It's unfortunate we are being asked to decide such cases: SC

►Continued from P 1

A bench of Justices Sanjay Kishan Kaul and Sudhanshu Dhulia said it was "unfortunate" that the apex court is called upon to decide cases which should have been decided at the level of lower courts and high courts. The influx of such cases creates undue burden on SC and creates a huge task for it. The court had recently maintained that denying bail in cases where custody was not needed amounts to "intellectual dishonesty".

The SC in recent times has consistently maintained that liberal approach be adopted by courts in granting bail and it also framed guidelines.

On May 2, the court passed strictures against a session judge in Lucknow for not complying with its rulings to be liberal in granting bail to accused where custody was not needed and not to pass detention order in a routine and mechanical way. Deciding to take stern action against such judges, the court in one-of-its-kind order had asked the Allahabad high court to withdraw judicial work from the judge and send him to judicial academy for upgrading his skills.

On Tuesday, taking note of the 14-month delay in framing of charges in the case, the bench said that the problem is of court management and the huge burden of cases on lower courts. It said that the number of courts would have to be increased to share the burden and a limited number of cases should be taken up each day by lower courts to bring the case to logical conclusion instead of keeping it pending.

It directed Serious Fraud Investigation Office to respond on why the petitioner should not be granted bail as other accused in the case have been given relief.

Won't defer reference to 5-judge bench: SC

►Continued from P 1

Second, while upholding the validity of the provision in 1962 in Kedar Nath Singh case, the SC had tested it only on the touchstone of Article 19 guaranteeing free speech whereas in the last six decades, SC has expanded the ambit of scrutiny to involve the core troika of rights under Articles 14, 19 and 21. And the 1962 judgment did not distinguish the state, which found mention in the reasonable restrictions to free speech under Article 19(2), from the government, which was not mentioned in the same Article.

There was a debate on the strength of the bench which would hear the batch of petitions challenging the validity of Section 12A since a 5-judge bench of the court had already upheld its validity in 1962.

To close infra gap with China, Rajnath unveils 90 projects

Key Arunachal Tunnel, Bengal Airfields, 63 Bridges Among Them

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi: Continuing the ongoing effort to reduce the huge border infrastructure differential with China, as many as 90 projects — including the crucial Nechipu tunnel on the road to Tawang in Arunachal Pradesh, two revamped airfields in West Bengal, two helipads, 22 roads and 63 bridges — were formally inaugurated by defence minister Rajnath Singh on Tuesday.

The foundation stone for the upgrade of the critical Nyoma advance landing ground barely 50 km from the Line of Actual Control in eastern Ladakh, which will ensure it can also handle fighter jet operations, was also "virtually" laid by Singh, at the ceremony to inaugurate the 423-metre Devak bridge built by the Border Roads Organisation (BRO) in Jammu.

The Rs 230 crore upgrade work at the Nyoma ALG located at an altitude of over 13,400-feet — which includes extending and strengthening the existing airstrip into a 2.7-km "rigid pavement" runway for all kinds of fixed-wing aircraft for "defensive as well as offensive operations" — will



The Nechipu tunnel will help bypass the extreme foggy and bad weather conditions that hamper general traffic and military convoys in Arunachal

be completed around mid-2025, as was reported by TOI in February.

"Nyoma will be developed as a staging ground for troops deployed at forward posts in Ladakh. It will be one of the highest airfields in the world, which will be a game-changer for our forces," Singh said.

The thrust on border infrastructure development is taking place amid the continuing military confrontation with China in eastern Ladakh, which is into its fourth year now, as also heightened tensions all along the 3,488-km long LAC.

The 90 new infrastructure projects, built by BRO at a cost

kang border villages, China has also massively upgraded all its air bases facing India.

Singh, on his part, was all praise for the BRO for constructing a network of roads, tunnels and bridges in "many inaccessible areas" despite huge challenges. "Together with BRO, we are ensuring the nation is secure and border areas are developed. Timely completion of infrastructure projects in far-flung areas has now become the new normal of the new India," he said.

The 500-metre long Nechipu tunnel on Balipara-Charduar-Tawang road at an altitude of 5,700-feet, for instance, will help bypass the extreme foggy and bad weather conditions that hamper general traffic and military convoys in the region. "This tunnel, along with the under-construction Sela Tunnel, will provide all-weather connectivity to the strategic Tawang region," an officer said.

The Bagdogra and Barrackpore airfields in West Bengal, reconstructed at a cost of over Rs 500 crore, in turn, will not only bolster the preparedness of the IAF but also facilitate commercial flight operations in the region.

PRESENTS FROM THE PM

PM Modi gifted G20 leaders with exquisite 'Made in India' handcrafted artefacts showcasing the country's rich cultural traditions

G20



Guj hasn't even offered apology for delay in remission call: SC

AmitAnand.Choudhary
@timesgroup.com

New Delhi: The Supreme Court on Tuesday disapproved of the Gujarat government seeking more time to decide on the remission plea of a prisoner after a delay of one year, and failing to state a timeframe within which the decision would be taken.



SC directed that the petitioner shall be forthwith enlarged on parole on appropriate terms and conditions

"Firstly, the state has not applied for extension of time to comply with the last order. The affidavit shows that ADGP is still in the process of preparing a proposal for submitting it to the state government (home department) for passing final order. The affidavit is silent about the time frame in which that will be done. The state has not applied for extension of time granted under order dated August 28. Not even an apology has been tendered for the delay," the bench of Justices Abhay S Oka and Pankaj Mital said in its order.

Interestingly, the apex court had last month, while

hearing Bilkis Bano's plea against the state's decision to remit sentences of 11 who were convicted for raping her and killing 14 of her family members, asked the Centre and Gujarat government why remission policy was being implemented selectively, pointing out that many other convicts were languishing

"Why is the policy of remission being applied selectively? The opportunity to reform and reintegrate should be given to all prisoners but only a few of them are given. Question is whether the remission policy is being implemented uniformly when prisoners are eligible. It should not be en masse, but for those who are eligible for it and for life sentence convicts after 14 years in jail," the court had said, while agreeing that reformative approach should be taken while deciding remission plea but stressed that the policy be applied uniformly for all.

6-year-old Kent was at forefront of Op Sujaligala: Army officer

Jammu: A gunfight between terrorists and security personnel took place in a forested area of remote Narla village in J&K's Rajouri after a raid on the terrorist hideout. A soldier and an Army dog were killed in action. While the identity of the soldier killed during the operation wasn't immediately known, the Army released a statement confirming that Kent, a six-year-old Labrador Retriever from the 21 Dog Unit, was fatally shot "while shielding her handler", reports Sanjan Khajuria.

Kent was at the forefront of Op Sujaligala, leading a column of soldiers on the trail. She laid down her life in the best traditions of Indian Army," Lt Col Bartwal said.

Of the three personnel wounded in retaliatory firing by the retreating terrorists, one is a special police officer. Additional DGP (Jammu zone) Mukesh Singh said the cordon-and-search hadn't been called off until late Tuesday.

"Acting on specific inputs, the joint team had cordoned off the surroundings of Narla village when the terrorists hiding there fired at the advancing personnel. One of the terrorists was killed in the opening minutes of the shootout. We believe two to three terrorists are still holed up somewhere in the vicinity," police said.

Killers sported cop commando fatigue, say witnesses

►Continued from P 1

Around 6.30am, they launched an attack on three unarmed villagers — Satnevo Tuboi (37), Ngammilun Lhouvum (30), and Ngammilun Kipgen (32) — who were travelling from Ponlen village to Kangpokpi. Kipgen was unwell and had an appointment with a doctor in Kangpokpi.

This route also facilitates people coming to Churachandpur areas from external locations via Guwahati and Dimapur in Nagaland for urgent medical or domestic needs and funeral rites, the sources said.

Witnesses in Ireng reported that the assailants, wearing Manipur police commando fatigue, fled to the Kadangband area after the crime. This marks the second violent act within four days, following a previous attack on September 8 in Pallel of Tengnongpal district, where three people lost their lives and more than 50 were wounded. The violence triggered strong reactions from civil society groups. The Committee on Tribal Unity (COTU), a Kangpokpi-based organisation, has called for the immediate declaration of all valley districts as disturbed areas and the imposition of the Armed Forces (Special Powers) Act.

While senior advocate Kapil Sibal said the matter should be referred to a five-judge bench to decide whether the 1962 judgment required reconsideration, senior advocate Arvind Datar said the CJL, being the master of the roster, had the power to refer it directly to a seven-judge bench.

CJI Chandrachud said he did not want to wear two hats

SEDITION LAW

sit on the judicial side and refer the matter to a five-judge bench and then on the administrative side exercise authority to send the petitions to a 7-judge bench. He said if the 5-judge bench disagrees with the Kedar Nath ruling, he would refer it to a 7-judge bench.

Sibal supplemented the bench's view and said consti-

tutional validity scrutiny of Section 124A is urgently needed as it was draconian and misused to silence people from speaking against the government in a democracy.

"The new provision on sedition in the proposed BNS is even more draconian," he alleged. Mehta said whether it is draconian or not the SC would test it, but it was the present government which agreed in May last year to keep the provision in virtual suspension allowing the SC to put in abeyance all pending prosecutions under Section 124A of IPC.

"The earlier governments

missed many chances to rectify the provision. The present government is attempting to correct it," he said, adding that the colonial-era provision was a non-cognisable offence till 1973, when the Indira Gandhi government

made it a cognizable offence through amendments in Criminal Procedure Code.

The AG and SG requested the court to defer reference to a 5-judge bench as Parliament is in the process of re-enacting the provisions of the Indian Penal Code. But the CJL-led bench said, "We are not inclined to accept the request for deferring consideration of the constitutional challenge involved in this batch of matter. The provisions of Section 124A continue to remain on statute. Even on the assumption that the new law, which is proposed to be brought in by the government before the legislature, would result in modification of the existing provisions of Section 124A, there is a presumption that any penal law in a new statute would have only prospective effect."

Canada declines India's offer of plane for Trudeau

PM Returns
After Own
Plane Is Fixed

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi: India had offered its VVIP long-haul aircraft — India One — to fly Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau and his delegation to Ottawa on Monday, after their 36-year-old Airbus A310 developed a snag in Delhi, sources said. Canada declined the offer, and Trudeau and his team left on Tuesday afternoon after the plane was repaired and declared airworthy.

The aircraft, which had transported Trudeau to New Delhi from Singapore on September 8, was originally scheduled to fly to Ottawa via Rome on Sunday night following the conclusion of the G20 summit. However, a technical glitch was detected just before departure, causing the delay.

As hosts, India offered its VVIP plane to Trudeau to return home, despite frosty relations between the two nations over the Khalistan issue, sources said.

Canada had sent an alternative aircraft, but it was diverted to London as it was no longer required in Delhi after the Airbus A310 was repaired.

TOI LINE OF NO CONTROL

JUSTIN JUST OUT

SANDEEP ADHWARYU



Trudeau 'disrespected', shut down Indian mission in Ottawa, says SFJ

Pro-Khalistan outfit Sikhs for Justice, outlawed in India, has called for the shut-down of the Indian high commission in Ottawa and recall of high commissioner Sanjay Kumar Verma over India allegedly "disrespecting PM Trudeau" during the Canadian PM's visit. SFJ also said that it would hold a "Khalistan referendum" in Surrey, British Columbia, on October 29.

SFJ founder Gurpatwant Singh Pannun's threat came a day after the outfit held a referendum in Surrey even as PM Narendra Modi raised strong concerns about anti-India activities by extremist elements in Canada. On Monday, a heavily guarded Pannun made a public appearance at the referendum and even delivered a provocative speech about "Balkanising" India. The voting took place at the Guru Nanak Sikh Gurdwara in Surrey, where Khalistani terrorist Hardeep Singh Nijjar was gunned down by unidentified assailants in June this year. TNN

Return passport to Rhea's brother, court directs NCB



Showik & Rhea. Personal liberty includes right to go abroad, the court said

Rebecca Samvel
@timesgroup.com

"The passport cannot be impounded, except by the passport authority in accordance with law. Moreover, admittedly in the present matter, retention of the passport by the respondent has not been done in conformity with the provisions of law, that is, as per provisions of Passport Authorities Act," the judge said.

The judge said Showik appears to be a resident of Mumbai and has roots in society. "Therefore, from the appreciation of material on record, there appears no substance in the contention of the respondent (NCB) that applicant (Showik) may flee or abscond from justice if the passport is returned," the judge said.

Stating that interests of the NCB can be safeguarded by imposing certain conditions, the judge further said Showik is to submit his address in Australia.

"The...accused shall again surrender his passport to the Narcotics Control Bureau (NCB) after returning to India," the judge said.

Showik and his parents have also moved the Bombay HC for suspension of the look out circular against them. His parents said the investigations were complete.

Contents of Chinese suitcases a mystery

►Continued from P 1

The security personnel were anyway intrigued on getting to know that the Chinese delegation has sought a separate and "private" internet connection, which the hotel declined. Sources at the hotel said the 12-hour-long drama was resolved only after Chinese security agreed to remove the equipment from the hotel and have it sent to their embassy.

Incidentally, the Brazilian president, the next host of the G20 summit, was also staying in the same hotel.

Sources, who were part of the security at Taj Palace, confirmed that Chinese security personnel resisted the request to get the equipment checked but the Indian security team stood its ground.

"A three-member security team had to stand guard outside the room for around 12 hours before a

Modi visits G20 secretariat, lauds MEA team

New Delhi: Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Tuesday met PMO officers and staff on Tuesday for a debriefing on their experiences from the G20 summit. He then immediately went to Sushma Swaraj Bhawan to interact with MEA officers as well as all levels of staff and spoke to them on their G20 experience.

Sources said that the MEA officers were meeting at the G20 secretariat, sharing their experience about the success of the summit. Sources said that the Prime Minister briefly interacted with the MEA officials and thanked them for contributing in making the summit a great success.

The summit, under India's presidency, ended on Sunday, and was seen to be hugely successful as the bloc put out a unanimous joint statement touching on a range of issues, including the war in Ukraine. Modi's leadership drew praise from world leaders. TNN



TIMES GLOBAL

THE TIMES OF INDIA, NEW DELHI | WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 13, 2023

LIFE ITSELF IS THE MOST WONDERFUL FAIRY TALE
— HANS CHRISTIAN ANDERSEN



ROCK BAND AEROSMITH POSTPONES SIX SHOWS OF ITS FAREWELL TOUR DUE TO FRONTMAN STEVEN TYLER'S VOCAL CORD DAMAGE

KATE WINSLET SAYS SHE'S UNAFRAID OF NUDE SCENES DESPITE 'FAT' CRITICISM: 'DON'T WASTE PRECIOUS ENERGY ON CRITICISING MYSELF'

5k Dead, 10k Missing In Libya Floods

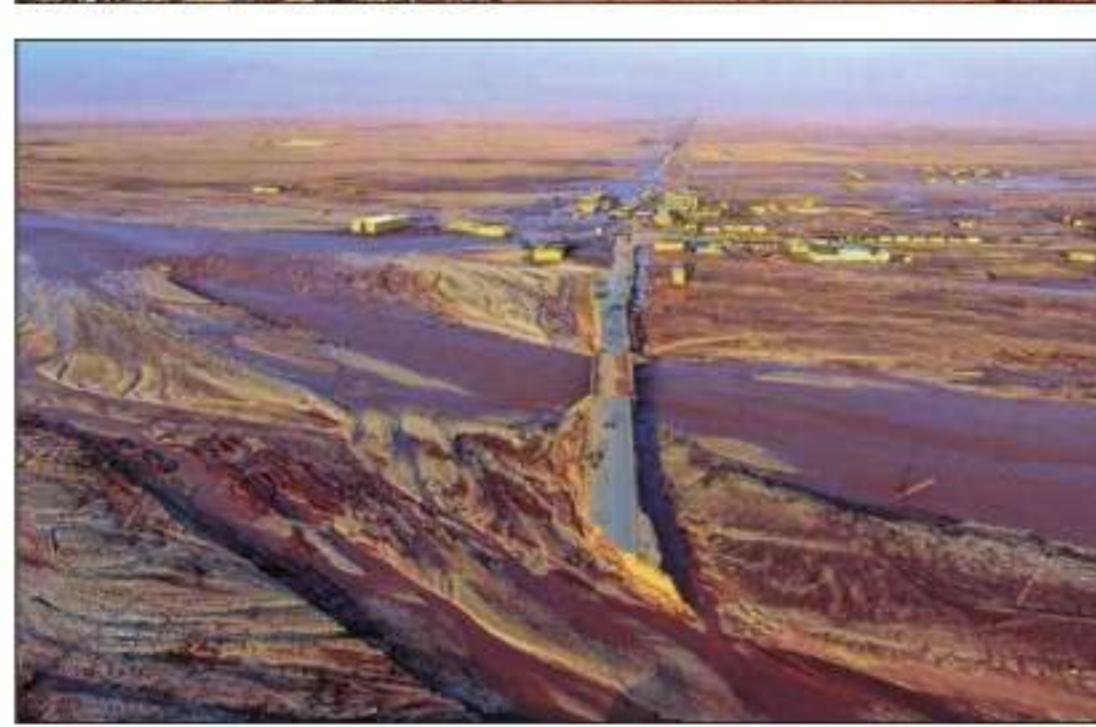
Storm Hits Country Crumbling From Conflict; Dams Burst In Derna, Wiping Out Much Of City

More than 5,000 people were killed and at least 10,000 were missing in Libya after torrential rains caused two dams to burst near the coastal city of Derna, destroying much of the city and carrying entire neighbourhoods into the sea, local authorities said on Tuesday.

Libya, a North African nation splintered by a war, was ill-prepared for the storm, called Daniel, which swept across the Mediterranean Sea to batter its coastline. The country is administered by two rival governments, complicating rescue and aid efforts, and its infrastructure had been poorly maintained after more than a decade of political chaos.

In the city of Derna alone, at least 5,200 people died, said Tarek al-Kharraz, a spokesman for the interior ministry of the government that oversees Eastern Libya, according to the Libyan television station al-Masar. At least 20,000 people were displaced. Thousands more are missing and the death toll is likely to rise in the coming days.

The flooding buckled buildings, sank vehicles and blocked roads, impeding access to the most stricken areas. "Bodies are lying everywhere — in the sea, in the valleys, under the bu-



(Clockwise from top) The flood-hit areas of Derna, Marj & Al-Mukhallif

Clips of 'quake lights' in Morocco viral. Mystery unexplained

People near Marrakech, Morocco, shared videos recorded before the 6.8 magnitude earthquake that hit the area Friday, showing unidentified lights in the sky. The bizarre aerial phenomena are known as earthquake lights and seem to occur above sites of seismic stress. "People have wondered about them forever," said Karen Daniels, a physicist at North Carolina university.

Earthquake lights are difficult to study because tremors are impossible to predict. But accounts of these lights go back centuries. In a study in 2014, researchers found reports of aerial luminous phenomena from 65 quakes occurring in Europe and the Americas during the 18th, 19th and 20th centuries.

People have reported a variety of kinds of earthquake lights, ranging from glows high in the sky to low on the horizon. Some last up to minutes; others flash on and off. They've also been seen in different colours. One hypothesis for how earthquake lights form is that the friction between tectonic plates generates electricity. But experts question that idea, because this usually results from two different materials. Other explanations might be electrical arcing from power lines shaken by quakes. Experts also don't rule out the possibility that there is no link between the lights and tectonic events. Meanwhile, the death toll from the Morocco quake rose to 2,901, while the number of injured doubled to 5,530. NYT



It's US vs Google In Antitrust Trial

Justice Dept Says Tech Major Pays \$10bn A Year To Maintain Search Dominance; Popular Because Of Quality, Counters Co

Washington: Google has exploited its dominance of the internet search market to lock out competitors and smother innovation, the department of justice charged on Tuesday at the opening of the biggest US antitrust trial in a quarter century. "This case is about the future of the internet and whether Google's search engine will ever face meaningful competition," said Kenneth Dintzer, the justice department's lead litigator.

Over the next 10 weeks, federal lawyers and state attorneys general will try to prove Google rigged the market in its favour by locking its search engine in as the default choice in a plethora of places and devices. US district judge Amit Mehta likely won't issue a ruling until early next year: If he decides Google broke the law, another trial will decide what steps should be taken to rein in the Mountain View, California-based company.

Top executives at Google and its corporate parent Alphabet Inc, as well as those from other powerful technology companies are expected to testify. Among them is likely to be Alphabet CEO Sundar Pichai. Court documents also suggest that Eddy Cue, a high-ranking Apple executive, will be called to the stand.

The justice department filed its antitrust lawsuit against Google nearly three years ago during the Trump administration. Government lawyers

why, he said, Google pays so much for its search engine to be the default option on products from Apple and other companies. Dintzer said the Google "began weaponising defaults" more than 15 years ago and cited an internal Google document calling it an "Achilles Heel" for rival search engines offered by Yahoo and MSN.

He also charged that Google strong-armed Apple into giving its search engine a default position on their devices as a condition for getting revenue sharing payments. Litigators argue the company's anti-competitive tactics prevented Apple from developing a search engine of its own. And Dintzer said that Google deleted documents to keep them out of court proceedings and sought to hide others under attorney-client privilege.

Speaking for Google, attorney John Schmidtlein said the US was wrong to argue the search and advertising giant broke antitrust law to stay on top, saying its search engine was wildly popular because of its quality and that dissatisfied consumers can switch with "a few easy clicks".

The justice department's antitrust case echoes the one it filed against Microsoft in 1998. Regulators then accused MS of forcing computer makers that relied on its dominant Windows operating system to also feature Microsoft's Internet Explorer. AP & REUTERS

ildings," Hichem Abu Chkiout, minister of civil aviation in the administration that controls the east, said after visiting Derna — a city of about 125,000 inhabitants. "I am not exaggerating when I say that 25% of the city has disappeared."

Other eastern cities including Libya's second biggest city Benghazi, were also hit by the storm. Tamer Ramadan, head of a delegation of the International Federation of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, said the death toll would be "huge". "We can confirm from our independent sources of information that the number of missing people is hitting 10,000 so far," he told reporters via video link. The UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs said emergency response teams had been mobilised to help on the ground. Turkey and other countries rushed aid to Libya. Analysts said the nation's woes — political division, economic instability, corruption, environmental degradation and dilapidated infrastructure — seemed to coalesce in one catastrophe when the dams south of the city collapsed. The flooding came days after an earthquake in Morocco, another North African nation, killed over 2,900 people. NYT & REUTERS

Upholding Benazir coup convictions, Pak SC throws out ex-army duo's plea

Omer Farooq Khan | TNN

Islamabad: Pakistan's Supreme Court dismissed on Tuesday pleas by two former army officers against convictions for plotting to overthrow the Benazir Bhutto government in 1995 and upheld their sentences. Colonels Mohammad Azad Minhas and Inayat Ullah Khan were arrested in September 1995 along with scores of others in the failed coup, sacked and sentenced to four years in 1996, with their properties confiscated.

Justice Muneeb Akhtar said in his order that the two former officers were rightly dealt with under the Army Act, and their argument that the action against them was malafide had "no legal justification". He also observed that the two had moved court after over 27 years, could not give "sufficient reason as to why they remained silent" for so long and pointed out that on this score alone, their "petitions are liable to be dismissed".

Thirty-eight army officers were charged for plotting to storm a corps commanders meeting in 1995 at the Army's General Headquarters. It was claimed that they had planned to assassinate Bhutto, top cabinet ministers and the military brass to bring about a "corruption-free government in Pakistan". But the army brass sniffed the plot and suppressed the coup.

House panel opens impeachment inquiry into Biden over family biz

Speaker Kevin McCarthy Says Investigation So Far Has Found A 'Culture Of Corruption' Around US Prez's Family



Washington: US Speaker Kevin McCarthy on Tuesday directed top congressional Republicans to open an impeachment inquiry into President Biden, blowing past GOP divisions as he worked to appease far-right lawmakers who have threatened to oust him amid a pitched fight over spending.

McCarthy said he would task three committees — Oversight, Judiciary and Ways and Means — with carrying out the inquiry into the president and his family as Republicans hunt for evidence of financial wrongdoing or corruption.

"Today I am directing our House committees to open a formal impeachment inquiry into President Joe Biden," McCarthy told reporters outside his office at the US Capitol.

McCarthy has signalled for weeks he supports an impeachment inquiry of the president to give congressional investigators more power to dig into Biden's family finances. Such an inquiry would mean Republicans no longer have to justify their investigation as assisting in the work of legislating McCarthy's allies have said.

But Tuesday's move was a break with the past and a major change in strategy for McCarthy, who previously indicated that he believed the full

questions about the millions Hunter Biden and other family members made from overseas firms. McCarthy also accused the Biden administration of giving his son Hunter "special treatment" in a criminal tax investigation against him. "House Republicans have uncovered serious and credible allegations into President Biden's conduct," McCarthy said. "Taken together these allegations paint a picture of a culture of corruption." If an impeachment inquiry were to be approved, House investigators would issue subpoenas for the bank records of Biden and his family members, according to those familiar with the plans.

Democrats have been readying their defences of the president. Representative Jamie Raskin of Maryland huddled with members of his committee on Sunday to plan a response to the Republicans.

On Monday, the Democrats released a 14-page memo. It noted that the Oversight Committee has received more than 12,000 pages of subpoenaed bank records, reviewed more than 2,000 pages of suspicious activity reports and spent hours interviewing witnesses. But none of the bank records released so far show any payment to the president. NYT

Kim in Russia with military brass amid US warnings not to sell arms



North Korean leader Kim Jong-un arrived in Russia by private train to the strains of a military band on Tuesday for talks with President Vladimir Putin — amid warnings from Washington they should not trade weapons. Kim left Pyongyang for Russia on Sunday on board his train. The North's state media reported on Tuesday, accompanied by top arms industry and military officials. A Russian source said Kim had arrived on Tuesday morning, leaving his train to meet Russian officials in Khasan, the rail gateway to Russia's far east, before meeting natural resources minister Alexander Kozlov. Kim's final destination is uncertain. Kim and Putin are expected to meet at an unspecified location later this week

to the north. He said he had his own programme, "When I get there, you will know."

The make-up of Kim's delegation, including top defence industry and military officials with the notable presence of munitions industry department director Jo Chun Ryong, suggested an agenda heavy on defence industry cooperation, analysts said. Kim could offer artillery rounds from North Korea's large stockpile, which could replenish Russia's capabilities in the short term, but questions about the ammunition's quality may

mit the overall impact, military analysts said.

Washington has expressed concern over closer military ties between Russia and the nuclear-armed North. South Korea said many countries were watching the summit between "North Korea which has been sanctioned by the UN, and Russia, a permanent member of the UNSC". Kremlin spokesman Dmitry Peskov said, "While implementing relationship with our neighbours, the interests of our two nations are important to us, and not warning messages from Washington." REUTERS

Nawaz Sharif to return to Pak on Oct 21: Shehzad

Islamabad: Former PM Shahid Khaqan Abbasi revealed on Tuesday that his elder brother, PML-N chief Nawaz Sharif, will return to Pakistan on October 21 to lead the party's political campaign for the upcoming elections in the country, reports Omer Farooq Khan.

Last July, Shehzad had said that if the PML-N was voted into government, Nawaz would be the party's candidate for PM. The Pakistan SC had in 2017 disqualified Nawaz for life from holding public office in connection with the "Panama Papers". He left for London in 2019 on medical grounds. The possibility of Nawaz's return rose after parliament passed amendments to the Election Act, changing the law on disqualification.

The report also pointed out, "Still, the order limits the scale of the injunction, which had previously included the State Department, the Department of Homeland Security, Health and Human Services. Today's order applies only to the White House, the surgeon general, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and FBI."

Concluding his article, Bhattacharya explained what was at stake. "Our government is not immune to the authoritarian impulse. I have learned the hard way that it is only we, the people, who must hold an overreaching government accountable for violating our most sacred rights. Without our vigilance, we will lose them."

AROUND THE WORLD



NARROW ESCAPE: A Russian passenger plane with 170 people on board made a successful wheels-down emergency landing in a field on Tuesday, and no one was seriously injured, officials said. The Airbus A320 was flying from Sochi to Omsk when the crew reported a problem with the hydraulic system and requested permission for the plane to land at a nearby airport. The pilots later realised they did not have enough fuel to make it and decided to land instead in a field

Marilyn Monroe's LA home saved from demolition after outcry

Hollywood icon Marilyn Monroe's LA residence, the only property she owned in her life, has been saved from demolition after a backlash from residents in the neighbourhood. Monroe bought the palatial pad in 1962 after her divorce from Arthur Miller but was found dead in the property just

months later, following an apparent drug overdose at the age of 36. The property was to be demolished by its current owner, who bought the 2,900-square-foot hacienda for \$8.35 million. The neighbours became aware of the planned demolition after the owner filed for permits. After a backlash from the residents, the Los Angeles officials intervened to block the demolition. LA city council

woman Traci Park said she got hundreds of calls urging her to save the Spanish colonial-style house. On Friday, the city council unanimously approved Park's emergency motion to begin the process to designate the house a historic building.

'Indiana Jones of art world' recovers stolen Van Gogh A Dutch art detective has recovered a precious Vincent van Gogh painting that was stolen from a museum in a daring midnight heist during the Covid lockdown three-and-a-half years ago, police said on Tuesday. Arthur Brand — dubbed the "Indiana Jones of the Art World" — took possession of the missing painting, the 1884 "Parsonage Garden at Nuenen in Spring" on Monday. Brand said frequent calls by him and the Dutch police to hand back the stolen artwork finally paid off when a man, whose identity was not revealed, handed Brand the painting in an IKEA bag, covered with bubble-wrap and stuffed in a pillow casing.

How a Kolkata-born Stanford professor & other scientists triumphed in a battle against free speech censorship in US

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

A Kolkata-born professor at Stanford University, teaming up with fellow scientists, won a landmark legal victory in a free speech censorship case against the US government.

"The victory is not just for me but for every American who felt the oppressive force of this censorship industrial complex during the pandemic," writes Jay (shortened from Jayanta) Bhattacharya, in a fascinating account detailing the why and how of the legal action, published online in The Free Press (thefp.com) on Monday.

Bhattacharya, who researches epidemiology and health economics, traces the case's genesis back to October 2020 when Harvard University medicine professor Martin Kullendorff, Oxford University epidemiologist Sunetra Gupta and he — joined hands to publish The Great Barrington Declaration during the peak of the Covid pandemic.

In brief, the Declaration urged for a stop to economic lockdowns and similar other restrictive policies. The argument was that they "disproportion-



Press revealed in its Twitter files reporting, in 2021 Twitter blacklisted me for posting a link to the Great Barrington Declaration," he writes.

His parents had grown up in poverty, Bhattacharya writes, his mother in a Kolkata slum. In the 1970s, his father, an electrical engineer and rocket scientist by training, migrated to the USA and became a successful engineer. His mother ran a family daycare business. When 19, he became an American citizen internalizing the values of the country.

"The American civic religion has the right to free speech as the core of its liturgy. I never imagined that there would come a time when an American government would think of violating this right, or that I would be its target," he writes.

The pushback started in August 2022 when the Missouri and Louisiana attorneys general asked him "to join as a plaintiff in their case, represented by the New Civil Liberties Alliance, against the Biden administration. The aim of the suit was to end the government's role in this censorship—and restore the free speech rights of all Americans in the digital town.

square," says Bhattacharya.

The Stanford professor underlines that he is not a political person and isn't registered with a political party. "I have always viewed my job as telling people honestly about the data issues, regardless of whether Democrats or Republicans liked the message. Yet at the height of the pandemic, I found myself smeared for my supposed political views, and my views about Covid policy and epidemiology were removed from the public square on all manner of social networks. I could not believe this was happening in the country I so love," he writes in the article headlined, "The government censored me and other scientists. We fought back—and won."

Earlier this year, a preliminary injunction was issued in the case, ordering "the federal government to immediately stop coercing social media companies to censor protected free speech." An administrative stay followed. On Friday, however, a three-judge panel of the Fifth Circuit "unanimously restored a modified version of the preliminary injunction." In its Sept 8 report, headlined



A thought for today

Big results require big ambitions

HERACLITUS

Sunny Side Up

India-Saudi MoU on linking national power grids is smart prep for coming surge in green energy capacity

India and Saudi Arabia signed a memorandum of understanding on September 10 to cooperate in the field of energy. The highlight was the emphasis on renewable energy, which includes the possibility of connecting national grids through an undersea interlink. Both countries are executing a huge pivot towards renewable energy (RE) from traditional sources. Saudi Arabia aims to increase domestic RE capacity to 50% of total energy by 2030. India's formal goal is to more than double RE capacity of 175 GW in 2022 to 450 GW by 2030.

The trend in both countries mimics a massive global push towards RE. IEA forecast that by next year RE capacity addition will take the global capacity to 4500 GW, which is equal to the power output of the US and China combined. The top-down push towards RE through a combination of fiscal incentives in many countries hasn't quite solved what comes next. RE production is linked to right conditions such as sunshine, unlike energy from fossil fuels. RE, therefore, makes grid management tricky as power demand is not constant through the day.

India's uneven state-wise RE development provides an insight into the challenge. Once storage costs for RE are brought into the picture, the cost calculus of RE is not always attractive. The ideal solution is to move power through the grid to other locations as there are variations in peak power demand. India's huge scale-up in RE by 2030, which is likely to be led by solar, will present significant downstream challenges in terms of grid management.

If there's a global surge in RE capacity addition, connecting national grids is a way to make it financially viable. Energy storage technology through batteries is fast improving but it needs countries to find ways to ensure that trade in critical materials such as cobalt that go into batteries is not weaponised. It's early days yet in the India-Saudi Arabia MoU, but it's important to explore linking national grids to deal with the surge in RE capacity. Here, both countries start with the advantage of a stable diplomatic relationship.

Just Not In Trudeau

If Canadian PM's homilies on Khalistanis continue, so will, rightly, India's cold treatment of him

Deja vu... Justin Trudeau came again, saw again and flubbed again. The Canadian PM finally left India on Tuesday and at home he's getting roasted for yet another diplomatic disaster in India. Biden and Japan's Kishida had bilaterals with Modi on the sidelines of G20, Trudeau was only granted a pull-aside meeting. New Delhi-Ottawa ties are as icy as Canadian winters, the reason being Canada's warm, fuzzy response to Khalistani extremists. When Modi brought up the Khalistani issue, Trudeau countered with the right to peaceful protest. But that's not the point at all. The right to protest is fundamental in a democracy.

But what should a government do when known extremists who advocate violence and target diplomats, and who are in cahoots with terror sponsors, regularly put up threatening shows of strength?

Khalistanis' links with Pakistan-backed Kashmiri groups are well-documented. In recent months, Khalistanis in Canada have circulated posters with names and photographs of Indian diplomats, marking them as targets. On Tuesday, terror outfit Sikhs for Justice called for the shutdown of the Indian embassy in Ottawa, demanding that the Indian ambassador be sent home.

Plus, it's rich of Trudeau to defend 'peaceful' protests when his government is using strong-arm tactics against Canada's indigenous Wet'suwet'en land defenders protesting the construction of the Coastal GasLink pipeline cutting through their territory. Fact is radical Sikhs in Canada have come to wield disproportionate influence over the Canadian political system where candidates need to bring in letters of support. And Khalistanis have the mobilising mechanism to effectively secure nominations for their candidates.

Trudeau's mishandling of the Khalistani issue is hurting larger India-Canada cooperation. That he paused trade talks with India just before the G20 summit is already attracting domestic Canadian criticism. Bilateral Indo-Canadian trade in goods amounted to \$8.2 billion and service trade touched \$6.6 billion in 2022. This means there is much headroom for growth in sectors such as IT, energy, agriculture and food processing. Holding that to ransom by mollycoddling Khalistani extremists is plain silly. Or given Trudeau's aircraft troubles, we should say, plane silly.

India or Bharat?

Changing the name of the Republic will spell a sea-change in the Indian, er, Bharati Ocean

Jug Suraiya

That India might drop its foreign-associated alias and become plain Bharat has caused much conjecture internationally.

"It was confusing enough when Madras became Chennai, and Bombay became Mumbai, and Calcutta became Kolkata, but now they want to change the name of the whole country to reflect ancient traditions."

"Well, it is their country and they can call it what they like."

"Yeah, but some of them are saying that the proposed name change is not so much about ancient roots but about a brand new name called INDIA spelt in capital letters."

"So now all Indians, including those in favour of INDIA, will call themselves Bharatis, yeah?"

"Yup. And Bharati being a name given to a lot of female children, there'll be a lot of Bharati Bharatis, which'll make them sound like double-barrelled patriots."

"But if the delete button is hit on 'India', won't a whole lot of other things also have to be renamed, like the Indian Ocean now being called the Bharati Ocean?"

"I guess so. And you know how touchy those Indians, er, Bharatis are about maps so mapmakers will have to be extra careful about places like the West Indies, which might now have to be shown as West Bharatis."

"Golly. What about those other places, in America, called Indiana and Indianapolis? Will they have to be renamed too, to avert an international crisis?"

"There's more. If the name change is to be retrospective, then a whole lot of history will have to be rewritten. Like the East India Company becoming the East Bharat Company, and Queen Victoria no longer being the Empress of India but the Empress of Bharat."

"Which kind of defeats the purpose of the name change as a means of getting rid of the colonial past, doesn't it?"

"It does. And to prevent INDIA from changing to BHARAT will the name-changers patent Bharat? Would that be a..."

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second opinion

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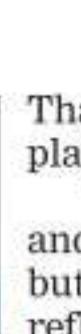
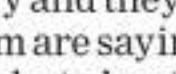
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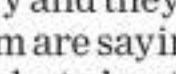
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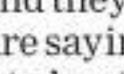
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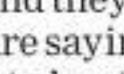
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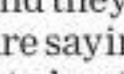
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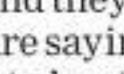
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There were 395,070 ultra wealthy individuals (those with at least \$30 million net worth) worldwide in 2022, Altrata's report showed. This is a 5.4% drop from 2021 and the first downturn since 2018. Combined net worth fell by 5.5% to \$45.4 trillion. Asia saw the biggest drop at nearly 11%

No. of people with over \$30mn net wort in 2022

THE TIMES OF INDIA, NEW DELHI | WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 13, 2023



Source: Statista

Retail inflation eases, still above RBI's comfort level

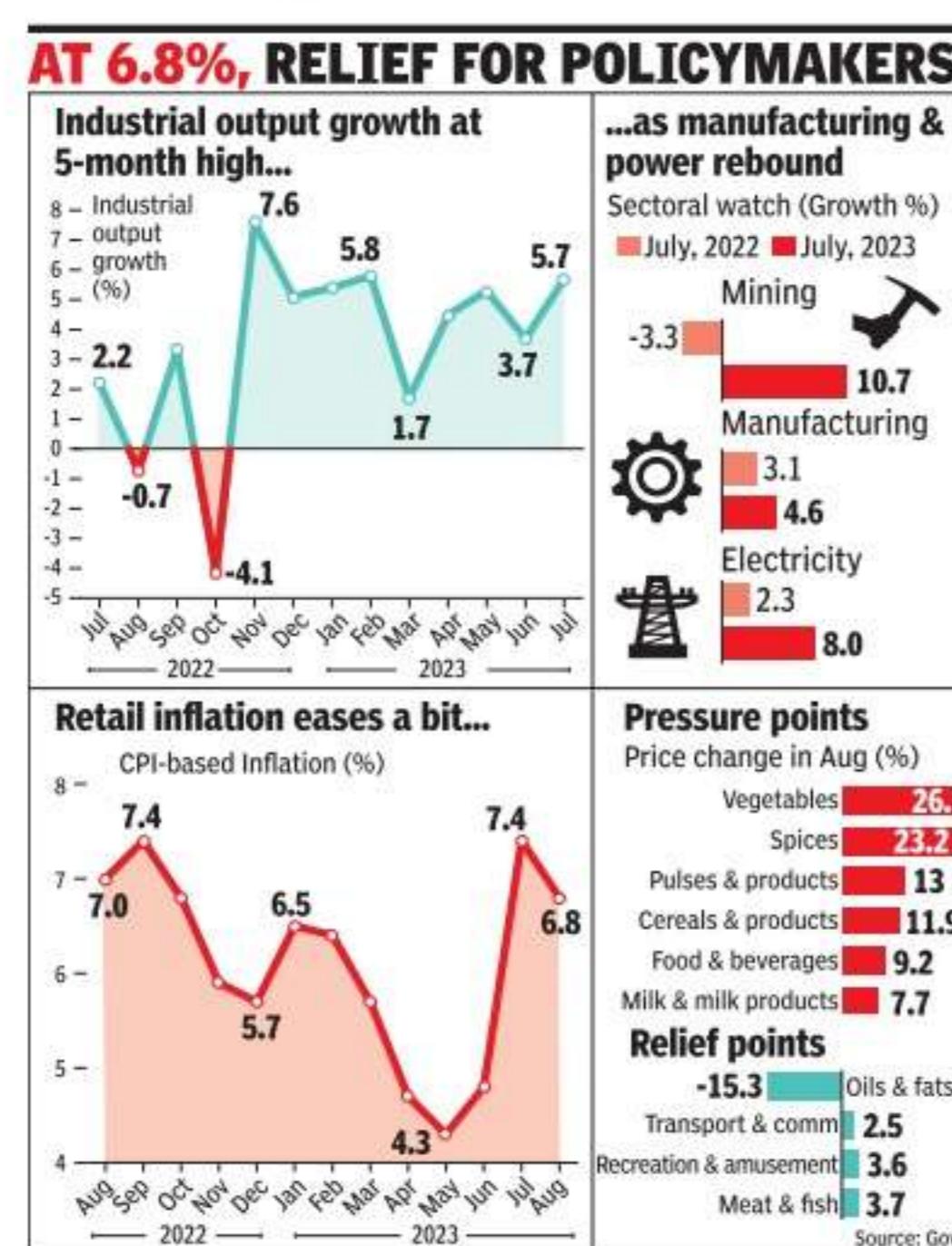
Factory Growth Strong | Repo Rate Pause Likely To Continue

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi: Retail inflation eased in August on the back of moderating food prices but remained above RBI's comfort level while factory output growth continued to be robust in July, providing comfort to policymakers.

Data released by the National Statistical Office (NSO) on Tuesday showed retail inflation, as measured by the consumer price index (CPI), rose an annual 6.8% in August, slower than the 15-month high of 7.4% in July, bringing much-needed relief. Food inflation eased to 9.9% in August from 11.5% in July. Rural inflation was higher at 7% while urban recorded 6.6%. Inflation in vegetables slowed to 26.1% in August from 37.4% in the previous month.

"Notwithstanding the reversal of the relatively transient spike in tomato prices, the outlook for food inflation remains on edge, on account of other vegetables like onions, as well as kharif crops with a year-on-year lag in sowing such as pulses. Well distributed rainfall in the rest of September could help to protect kharif yields, even as reservoir levels do



keeps a watch on the trajectory of food prices. "We expect the RBI to look through the July-August lift in inflation due to sharp spike in vegetable prices and maintain status quo on rates and stance in the October policy," said D K Joshi, chief economist at ratings agency Crisil.

"Food inflation will remain a key monitorable for them because, if sustained, it can spill over to other components and steer the headline CPI inflation above the RBI's target," said Joshi.

Separate data showed the IIP rose 5.7% in July, higher than the 3.7% in June on the back of a robust performance by the manufacturing sector. The manufacturing sector, which accounts for nearly 78% of the IIP, rose 4.6% in July from 3.1% in the year earlier month. "The purchasing Managers Index (PMI) for manufacturing at a 3-month high of 58.6 in August points towards improved prospects for IIP growth. We believe that the strength of industrial production in the coming months will be tested by the external environment as the global slowdown is expected to intensify in the second half of the year," said Joshi.

not portend well for an early kick-off of rabi sowing," said Aditi Nayar, chief economist at ratings agency ICRA.

The frequent incidences of recurring food price shocks pose a risk to anchoring of inflation expectations, which has been underway since September 2022 and the central bank will remain watchful of this also, RBI governor Shaktikanta Das said in a recent speech.

Experts said RBI is expected to hold interest rates as it

investment in the healthcare sector and the first of its kind in the regional hospitals segment in North India.

The transaction includes a sizeable infusion of growth capital, which will help further improve the breadth and quality of patient care services offered by Ivy's existing facilities and expand its footprint to other cities in Punjab and adjoining regions.

Founded by Gurtej Singh and Kanwaldeep Kaur in 2008, Ivy has emerged as the largest corporate chain of hospital facilities in Punjab. Annually, the Ivy network serves over 3 lakh patients.

Piramal, Bain Capital fund acquires Ivy hospital chain

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Mumbai: India Resurgence Fund (IndiaRF), an investment platform promoted jointly by Piramal Enterprises and Bain Capital, has acquired a majority stake in Ivy Health and Life Sciences (Ivy), a corporate healthcare provider

Large drop in small, mid-cap stocks after Kotak report

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Mumbai: A day after domestic brokerage firm Kotak Institutional Equities shook up the market by withdrawing its recommendations for mid- and small-cap stocks, Dalal Street investors panicked and pressed the sell button. As a result, BSE's small-cap index closed 4% down while the mid-cap index lost 3% on Tuesday.

The sell-off in these stocks came amid sporadic buying in large-cap stocks, which helped the sensex close a marginal 94 points up at 67,221 points. BSE data showed 14 out of 30 sensex stocks closed higher, which helped the index close higher for the seventh consecutive session.

The heavy selling in non-blue chip stocks also skewed the advance-decline ratio on the BSE that showed for every stock that closed higher, more than four stocks closed lower. Investors were left poorer by Rs 4.8 lakh crore with BSE's market capitalisation now at Rs 322 lakh crore, official data showed. During Tuesday's session, selling in mid- and small-cap stocks picked up pace in the late session on the back of rumours that several of the mutual funds were also offloading these stocks to take some profits home.

On Monday, the Kotak Institutional report said it saw no fundamental reasons for several of these stocks to rally the way they had in past few months.

There are indications that 'irrational exuberance' has set in several of these stocks, increasing risks of holding them in portfolio. Irrational exuberance is a term that was popularised by former US Fed chairman Alan Greenspan in 1996, to indicate a situation in stock market when prices are so high that it can't be justified by looking at fundamentals.

Gadkari withdraws his GST remark on diesel

Tells Industry To Reduce Use Of Polluting Fuel In Whatever Way Possible | Stocks Fall

Pankaj.Doval@timesgroup.com

New Delhi: Road transport minister Nitin Gadkari literally created a flutter in the car industry on Tuesday by saying that he would recommend an additional 10% GST on diesels, before withdrawing his own statement after it had created a furore that saw share prices of companies such as Mahindra & Mahindra and Tata Motors crash almost immediately.

As soon as Gadkari made the statement, Mahindra's stock declined by around 4% on BSE. It recovered after his clarification and closed the day down 2% at Rs 1,553. Tata Motors' stock also crashed by a little under 4%, but recovered later to close the day at Rs 621 after falling 2.2%.

"Pollution is a serious problem, and we are also importing the fuel. I will request the finance minister to add an additional 10% GST on diesel engines... Reduce diesel production, otherwise I will increase the tax," the minister said in a hall packed with representatives from the industry as companies, such as, Tata Motors, Mahindra & Mahindra, Hyundai, Kia, Toyota, and Mercedes-Benz were left shocked.

The minister — who asked the industry to go for relatively-cleaner products such as electrics, flex fuel and CNG vehicles — did not stop in the diesel bashing as he continued address to the industry at the annual convention of industry body Siam. "Say bye-bye to diesel in whatever way possible. If not, we will increase tax so much that it will be difficult for you to sell."

Before the industry could digest the statement as the minister moved out of the venue, Gadkari took a U-turn, and that too within half an hour. "There is an urgent need to clarify media reports suggesting an additional 10% GST on sale of diesel vehicles. It is essential to clarify that there is no such proposal currently under active consideration by the government," he said through his

66 (Auto) industry should look at greener alternative fuels to check the menace of pollution
Nitin Gadkari, road transport minister

We are already one of the most taxed industry and diesel SUVs are taxed at around 45%, which is extremely high. How can the minister even talk about taxing us more when we are complying with all the laws
CEO of a leading car company

handle on X (formerly Twitter).

The minister, however, added in his statement that the industry should look at "greener alternative fuels" to check the menace of pollution.

"In line with our commitments to achieve Carbon Net Zero by 2070 and to reduce air pollution levels caused by hazardous fuels like diesel and rapid growth in automobile sales, it is imperative to embrace cleaner and greener alternative fuels. These fuels should be import substitutes, cost-effective, indigenous, and pollution-free."

The share of diesel cars has been falling due to several strictures passed against the fuel by various governments.

ments, including in Delhi-NCR region, where they have 10-year lifespan against 15 years in other places.

The minister's statement, however, ended up rattling the industry as companies said any additional tax on any fuel type will slow down the industry. "We are already one of the most taxed industry and diesel SUVs are currently taxed at around 45%, which is extremely

high. How can the minister even talk about taxing us more when we are complying with all the laws that have been stipulated for the industry," a CEO of a leading car company said, requesting anonymity.

Another official said it is "wrong to demonise diesels", especially as they meet all the emission standards as stipulated by the government. "We have spent crores of rupees on upgrading our diesel engines to BS6, and subsequent standards. How can the government talk about burdening us with further duty even when the fuel is compliant with strict emission norms?"

What happens to our investments?
—A co's executive

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Don't import auto parts unnecessarily, says Goyal

New Delhi: In a strongly-worded message, commerce and industry minister Piyush Goyal on Tuesday suggested the auto industry not to import components unnecessarily if the exporting country is not giving equal access to Indian players.

He however said that companies can import quality products if those are not available or manufactured domestically. "Where things are being unnecessarily imported without India getting an equal opportunity in those countries I would be tempted....," he said here at the annual convention of the Society of Indian Automobile Manufacturers. He did not elaborate on these remarks.

Goyal also said that the government may have to look at the practices of some of the players in the sector which get dictated by their parent com-

**"Where things are being unnecessarily imported without India getting an equal opportunity in those countries I would be tempted....,"
Goyal said**

panies on sourcing and pricing of imports of components. He added that there are certain companies which by choice prefer to import and there are certain firms which may not by themselves be importing and on record showing a greater degree of indigenisation.

"But the moment, we go down one or two levels into their supply chain, we find them still dependent on imports. Often being dictated by their parent company from where these component suppliers would source, the pricing at which it will be sourced.

"I do not know how legal that is. But I personally think there is a question mark on transfer pricing in that, there is a question mark on fairplay.... I would urge all the players of the auto industry to introspect on it," he added. AGENCIES

In fast lane: Car cos eye 4mn sales in 2023

SUVs, New Models Continue To Drive Demand

Pankaj.Doval@timesgroup.com

New Delhi: Demand for new cars continues to stay strong despite concerns on interest rates and inflation. After registering a 33% sales growth in 2022, the industry is confident to close this year with a record 4-million-plus vehicles with as many as one million units expected to come in only during the festive season.

Companies such as Maruti Suzuki, Hyundai, Kia, MG Motor, and Mercedes-Benz said demand continues to remain robust as sales of premium vehicles are not showing any signs of slowdown.

"We believe that by the end of September, the industry's volumes would cross 3 million units. Riding the festive demand, we are confident to add an additional one million in the last quarter, and cross 4-million units for the full year, creating a record for the industry," Shashank Srivastava, director (marketing & sales) at Maruti Suzuki, told TOI on the sidelines of the annual convention of auto body Siam.

"The going has been healthy so far, and we expect to be no different when it comes to festivals. We will have 83 days in the festive period this year,

The electrification trend is set to strengthen further, with multiple offerings — Shailesh Chandra, MD of Tata Motors Passenger & Electric Vehicles

The going has been healthy so far, and we expect to be no different when it comes to festivals. We will have 83 days in the festive period this year,

The fresh demand continues to be strong, even as companies clear the previous backlog of bookings. The industry has grown by 9% this year, and we are confident to see the same growth over the remaining months — Tarun Garg, COO, Hyundai India

in which we intend to clock a record one million units," he said, adding that SUVs and new models continue to fuel the momentum.

Tarun Garg, COO of Hyundai in India, also said demand looks safe so far. "The fresh demand continues to be strong, even as companies clear the previous backlog of bookings. The industry has grown by nine per cent this year, and we are confident to carrying on the momentum."

Santosh Iyer, MD of Mercedes in India, also said that new bookings do not show signs of a weakness even in luxury. "We are confident of carrying on the momentum."

Shailesh Chandra, MD of Tata Motors passenger and electric vehicles, said even electrics are contributing to the growth.

Shailendra Singh, MD of Tata Motors passenger and electric vehicles, said even electrics are contributing to the growth.

Another int'l co gives up its asset rejig biz licence

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi: PM Narendra Modi on Tuesday asked the auto companies to focus on sustainability and environment as the industry registers growth and moves ahead in scale.

"The need of the hour today is to develop a mobility ecosystem that is sustainable and in harmony with the environment. Environmentally-conscious and economically-viable mobility is the future,"

the PM said in a special message at the annual convention of industry body Siam.

The PM's message was read out by Siam president Vinod Aggarwal, and Modi said the industry should look at various technologies to cut down emissions.

"The Indian auto industry's efforts towards de-carbonisation through the introduction of vehicles with a wide range of powertrain technologies is noteworthy. Today, we have vehicles running on multiple alternative technologies like ethanol, flex-fuel, CNG, bio-CNG, hybrid electric, electric and hydrogen. There is a

need to continue and enhance such concerted efforts for reducing both carbon emissions and our country's dependence on oil imports," he said.

The PM said the period till

2047 — when the country celebrates 100 years of independence — is an opportune time to realise the vision of building a strong, sustainable, self-reliant and developed India.

"I am confident that the discussions amongst industry experts and key stakeholders at this convention will help draw a pathway for the automobile industry towards achieving the goals of Amrit Kaal."

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IndiGo may be hit by P&W engine inspection

Saurabh.Sinha@timesgroup.com

New Delhi: The bad news from Pratt & Whitney (P&W) shows no signs of ebbing for customer airlines using its snag-ridden engines on the best-selling single aisle Airbus A320neo planes and passengers. The engine-maker has now warned that "600 to 700 engines will be removed for shop visits between 2023 and 2026 (and) the accelerated removals and incremental shop visits will result in higher aircraft on ground." As the world's biggest customer for A320 family aircraft, IndiGo is trying to lease over 20 older generation A320neos to cope with what could further aggravate its grounded fleet situation. India's largest domestic airline has a fleet of over 300 planes of which almost 50 are grounded for want of P&W engines.

The neos were supposed to be more fuel efficient than the A320ceos but the issues with P&W engines has now led IndiGo to look for A320ceos. IndiGo currently has over 130 A320neos and could be badly hit by the new P&W warning.

It has already wet leased (taken on lease with operating crew) two wide body aircraft from Turkish Airlines which are used to operate a daily between Istanbul and Delhi and Mumbai. GoAir had a fleet of P&W-powered A320s but is now grounded. The airline had squarely blamed P&W for its collapse.

In a statement, IndiGo said

Tuesday: "We are in receipt of the recent information from our original equipment manufacturer P&W regarding the outcome of the latest inspection of their engine. We continue to work closely with P&W to assess the potential impact to our fleet and implement mitigation measures as required."

The "accelerated removals" have become necessary as P&W detected "powder metal contamination" that can lead to some engine components cracking. Greg Hayes, chairman and CEO of US-based aerospace major RTX that makes P&W engines, said:

"We are focused on addressing the challenges arising from the powder metal manufacturing issue."

In a 1st, India-made iPhones to go on sale on launch day

Apple Unveils iPhone 15 With Type-C Charger



NEW 48MP CAMERA SYSTEM

ars from Huawei Technologies. Apple also showed off a new Series 9 Watch with a feature called "double tap" where users tap thumb and finger together twice, without touching the watch, in order to perform tasks like answering a phone call.

It uses machine learning to detect tiny changes in blood flow when the user taps their fingers together, freeing up the other hand for other tasks like walking a dog or holding a cup of coffee, said Apple COO Jeff Williams.

Slight delays with the India-built device could occur because of unforeseen logistics bottlenecks, the people said. Apple representatives didn't respond to a request for comment. Apple began iPhone 15 production at supplier Foxconn Technology Group's factory in Tamil Nadu state last month. That move was yet another effort by the US tech giant to further narrow the gap between its India operations and its main manufacturing bases in China. AGENCIES

Another int'l co gives up its asset rejig biz licence

Mayur.Shetty
@timesgroup.com

Mumbai: The stressed asset space is losing its allure for international players. Arcion Revitalization, originally promoted by Apollo Global and ICICI Bank, has become the latest firm to relinquish its license for an asset reconstruction company (ARC). In January of this year, Lonestar had surrendered its ARC license. In 2020, amid the pandemic, KKR had abandoned its firm's intentions to establish an ARC.

"In emerging economies, foreign capital has played a key role in cleansing the non-performing loans market and releasing blockaded domestic capital. Probab-

ly, there is a need for a more liberalised environment to facilitate ease of doing business in the stressed asset market," said Hari Hara Mishra, CEO of the Association of ARCs in India.

Bankers say there are various reasons for the flight of foreign investors. The increase in the capital requirement for these companies — from Rs 2 crore in 2016 to Rs 100 crore, which was to be achieved by 2019 — is a major factor. Last year, the capital requirement was raised to Rs 300 crore by April 2026.

The second reason is the government's decision to establish the National Asset Reconstruction Company (NARCL), which enjoys government backing and gua-

rantees. Private players found it challenging to compete for assets with NARCL given the government's support. Around 29 companies were granted a licence by RBI. Of this, the active foreign players are JC Flovers and ACRE.

RBI announced that Arcion had surrendered its certificate of registration, marking its exit from the asset reconstruction business. The certificate has been cancelled as of August 28. Apollo Global, KKR and Lonestar continue to be major players in the bad loan business globally.

International funds are also crucial players in the bad loans business because they have deep pockets.

GOVERNMENT OF NATIONAL CAPITAL TERRITORY OF DELHI DEPARTMENT OF LAW, JUSTICE & LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS 8th LEVEL,C-WING, DELHI SECRETARIAT, I.P. ESTATE, NEW DELHI law-gnctd@delhi.gov.in

No. F.5 (694)/LJ&LA/Lit./2023/

NOTICE INVITING e-TENDER

Dated: _____

E-Tenders are invited from the eligible Insurance Companies registered with Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority (IRDA) having adequate financial resources and healthy track record in handling business of large magnitude for providing Group (Term) Insurance under Chief Minister Advocates Welfare Scheme for providing life cover of Rs. 10,00,000/- (Rupees Ten Lakhs only per Advocate), in respect of approximately 24500 practicing advocates, who are enrolled with the Bar Council of Delhi and are also in the Voters' list of Delhi.

The tender document, with complete details, specifications and other terms and conditions can be downloaded from the website <https://www.law.delhi.gov.in> and the same is available on Government of NCT of Delhi e-procurement portal <https://govtprocurement.delhi.gov.in/nicgep/app>.

Sl. No.	Particulars	Date from	Time
1.	Date and time of availability of e-tender	13.09.2023 (Wednesday)	From 11:00 AM
2.	Last date & time for submission of tender	04.10.2023 (Wednesday)	Upto 06:00 PM
3.	Date & Time of opening of Technical Bids	06.10.2023 (Friday)	At 02:30 PM
4.	Date & Time of opening of Financial Bids	Will be intimated to the technically qualified bidders at later stage.	

Please check the above mentioned websites regularly for any further amendments/corrigendum/ addendum (if any) to the tender.

Tender document complete in all respect should be submitted only on the Delhi Government e-procurement portal <https://govtprocurement.delhi.gov.in/nicgep/app>.

DIP/Shabdharth/Classified/0132/23-24

Dy. Secretary (Lit)

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e-TENDER NOTICE

Tender Ref No: Pavillion / 2023

Dated : 11-09-2023

The Director Tourism UT Ladakh invites online tender for "selection of an Agency for the Design, Fabrication, Installation and Maintenance of Ladakh Tourism Pavillion at World Travel Market (WTM) 2023, London and ITB Asia 2023, Singapore.

The tender document can be downloaded from e-Procurement System Union Territory of Ladakh's portal (<http://tenders.ladakh.gov.in>). The Bid Opening date is 11th Sept. 2023 from 01:00 PM and Bid Submission end date is 26th Sept. 2023 till 11:00 AM.

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F.No.A/126/2023-ADMIN I-Part (1)

Dated: 05/09/2023

Walk-in-Interview to fill the vacant posts of Assistant Professor in the Teaching sub-cadre (Faculty) purely on **contract basis** for a period of one year in the following specialties will be held in Office of the Director, Lady Hardinge Medical College & Smt. S. K. Hospital, New Delhi on the dates as mentioned below against each category:-

S No	Name of the Deptt.	Vacant posts of Assistant Professors to be filled on contract*	SC	ST	OB C	UR	EW S	Date of Interview & Registration
1	Medicine	5	-	-	1	4	-	20-09-2023
2	Anesthesia	1	-	-	1	1	-	20-09-2023
3	PSM	2	-	-	1	1	-	21-09-2023
4	PMR	1	-	-	-	1	-	21-09-2023
5	Forensic Medicine	2	-	-	1	1	-	22-09-2023
6	Plastic Surgery	1	-	-	-	1	-	22-09-2023
7								

GEN AI HAS TRANSFORMED THE PROGRAMMING WORLD



Liberating developers to focus on core expertise

Large language models like ChatGPT are redefining code creation, liberating developers to focus on their core expertise. As we look into the future, technologies such as AR/VR, blockchain, and quantum computing are poised to reshape industries, with BFSI at the forefront. To excel in this ever-evolving landscape, developers must continually refine their skills and stay tuned to industry trends. Key developer skills encompass problem-solving, analytics, and effective communication, critical for seamless collaboration with cross-functional teams and product owners. However, today's developer landscape has evolved dramatically. Building products and services requires a holistic perspective. Scalability, security, and accessibility are paramount in the development process, aligning with the dynamic demands of modern consumers. Navigating this complexity is integral to the modern developer's toolkit. Therefore, as a software developer, prioritise three key elements: technical mastery, deep domain knowledge, and the ability to articulate and influence. These skills not only fuel your professional growth but also position you as a catalyst in the transformative journey of modern software development.

BHARAT RAIZADA | Technology Executive, Wells Fargo India & Philippines

INTERNATIONAL PROGRAMMERS' DAY

The world of programming today is transforming like perhaps never before. Generative AI, which came to prominence late last year with ChatGPT, is able to produce a lot of code which otherwise involves programmers writing them. What does this mean for programmers and programming? That's what we asked some of India's top technologists on the occasion of International Programmers' Day – September 13. The day is annually celebrated on the 256th day of the year – chosen because this is the number of distinct values that can be represented with an eight-bit byte, and it's the highest power of two which is less than 365.



Change is the only constant

My coding journey is reflective of the maxim: 'Change is the only constant'. I started with FoxPro programming and have since worked with SQL, C++, PL/SQL, Python, Spark, Julia and more. Over the years, advancements such as integrated development environments (IDEs) have been adding intelligence into coding with features like autocomplete, identification of syntactic errors, etc. However, the advent of generative AI has been a step change. AI models are fast becoming co-pilots for coders. The comprehension capability of LLMs has made it possible to generate code snippets and test cases, rapidly convert code from one programming language to

another, predict and pre-empt problems, manage system documentation and find ways to optimise code. Many times, coders have to work through multiple resources to arrive at an optimal solution. With Gen AI, this search can now be compressed into a single ask. My advice to all programmers is to assimilate the fundamentals of coding well as the principles remain the same across programming languages. Get a clear insight into the business requirement, code in a way that's easy to decipher, comment extensively, adhere to coding and style standards, and track coverage with relevant test scenarios.

ANITHA NAYAR | Associate Director, Data & AI Capability, Advanced Technology Centres in India, Accenture

Certifications are crucial

Coding has changed dramatically in recent years, thanks to advances in AI and related technologies. To stay ahead of this shift, Microsoft is working to help the developer community adopt new ways of working, including building AI skills and knowledge. Azure certifications are one way we're doing this. Our research shows that developers who are certified by Microsoft are 90% more productive and 60% more efficient. This is because certification not only enables developers to work more effectively with AI, but also helps them code faster and build innovative solutions to real-world problems.

HIMANI AGRAWAL | Country Head – Azure, Microsoft India

Programming is becoming an art

In two decades of navigating the tech landscape, I've witnessed coding's profound transformation, thanks to AI, automation, and the dynamic Gen AI. Today, coding offers unparalleled potential and challenges. AI has gifted us efficiency, automating mundane tasks and magnifying our creative powers. It's like having a tireless coding companion, accelerating development, and broadening our horizons. This shift demands relentless upskilling. We must embrace diverse languages and paradigms in this multifaceted coding world. I've journeyed through this change, from system engineering with C/C++, embracing various languages and tech, to

Use apt, succinct English to generate better results

Over the years, the tech landscape has been contributing to the improvement of human tasks in a wide range of sectors. The recent accelerated developments in the technology subspace of AI is improving the life of developers as well. By performing tasks such as generating boilerplate code and creating and placing code documentation, Gen AI gives us more time to focus on mission critical tasks requiring application of engineering principles which are essentially human skills built over a period of time through self-learning, formal education, or industrial experience. Rubber Duck Debugging is being replaced, which can ultimately help in bouncing ideas and reaching correct solutions quickly. With ease, however, comes a need for precaution. It's important to use apt, succinct English to generate better results. Soon enough, we would be able to even converse in our native tongue to generate results with the same accuracy as we can in English. As it goes with any new tech which surfaces in the coding community, early adoption is the key to staying relevant.

KRUTI CHAUHAN | Machine Learning Engineer, Zscaler

exploring AI and LLM. It's thrilling but requires constant learning. The key is staying curious and agile, recognising that coding will always evolve. As we stand on this coding precipice, let's master the tools and embrace innovation. Gone are the days of laborious coding in basic integrated development environments (IDEs). Semi-intelligent IDEs now boost efficiency, liberating us from mundane tasks. AI-based pair coding is reshaping programming. A programmer's value lies in design and craftsmanship over mere code typing. Today, mastering the 'art of programming' is key—applying creative patterns, navigating languages and tech.

It's not about being a 'language programmer' but a versatile coding artist. This shift is a monumental change in our coding world.

HARSHA KODNAD | Director, Technology Engineering, Tally Solutions

Imagine dynamically generated video games

Even in the gaming industry, AI has brought in great transformation. Gen AI isn't just about generating images with a prompt or talking to ChatGPT. There are several AI-powered tools that are making writing code more efficient and faster like GitHub Copilot, one such tool that does almost all the manual work and all you need to do is focus on the logic. With such changes in the ecosystem at a rapid pace, one needs to keep up with a lot of reading and experimenting to understand and incorporate in your daily work. Now is the era where AI will truly unleash its potential in gaming. I can imagine dynamically generated games with just a starting point, where every individual user has a different experience. This would also increase the replayability of a story-based game, as every repeat play will give a guarantee of a different plot and outcome.

ASHISH JHANWAR | Senior Software Developer, now.gg

Picking right algos and tools can be tricky

With the advent of Gen AI and automation, coding has undergone a revolutionary evolution, reshaping how programmers work and presenting new opportunities. A notable shift is the emergence of automated code generation, where Gen AI powered tools synthesise code based on high-level specifications or plain language descriptions. At Kiwi, we've harnessed the power of GitHub Copilot as an AI pair programmer, streamlining code writing and offering innovative problem solving suggestions. To further simplify processes like code reviews and test case creation, we're exploring Codium AI. However, embracing this AI-driven era presents its share of challenges. Developers must continually upskill to effectively integrate these tools and navigate the learning curve. Selecting the right algorithms and tools for specific tasks can be intricate. As AI reshapes the programming landscape, developers must adapt to these innovations while adeptly handling associated challenges.

AKSHAT KANSAL | CTO, Kiwi

Core AI subjects still relevant

It is a fact that verifying an algorithm is far easier than devising one. If solution components can be produced through generative code completion and coding companions, developers only need to verify correctness of the generated code and build upon it. Programmers also employ AI to perform the reverse, which is to test the correctness of their code. We are witnessing a variety of code converters today that assist companies rapidly adopt innovative business models. Consider an airline aiming to create a new digital passenger experience. To achieve this, they must convert legacy systems developed decades ago in Cobol on mainframes, into Java microservices on a modern hyperscaler. Not too long ago, this transformation would have required a monumental effort. However, today, we are moving towards realising this in a low-touch manner by leveraging refactoring tools and AI modelling. Thus, while the relevance of most core subjects, ranging from algorithms to statistics, remains unaltered, AI-powered automation is changing the way programmers think and the pace at which they work.

SREEKRISHNAN VENKATESWARAN | CTO, Kyndryl India

GLOSSARY OF IN-GROUP TERMS USED ON THIS PAGE

BIT & BYTE

A binary digit or bit is the smallest unit of data in computing that a computer can process and store. A bit is always in one of two physical states – represented either by 0 or 1. A byte is a unit of data that is eight binary digits long, and is the unit most computers use to represent a character such as a letter, number or typographic symbol. An 8-bit system can range from 00000000 to 11111111. This offers 256 possible combinations, which is enough to cover the entire English alphabet and other common symbols on the keyboard of most computers.

SD-WAN

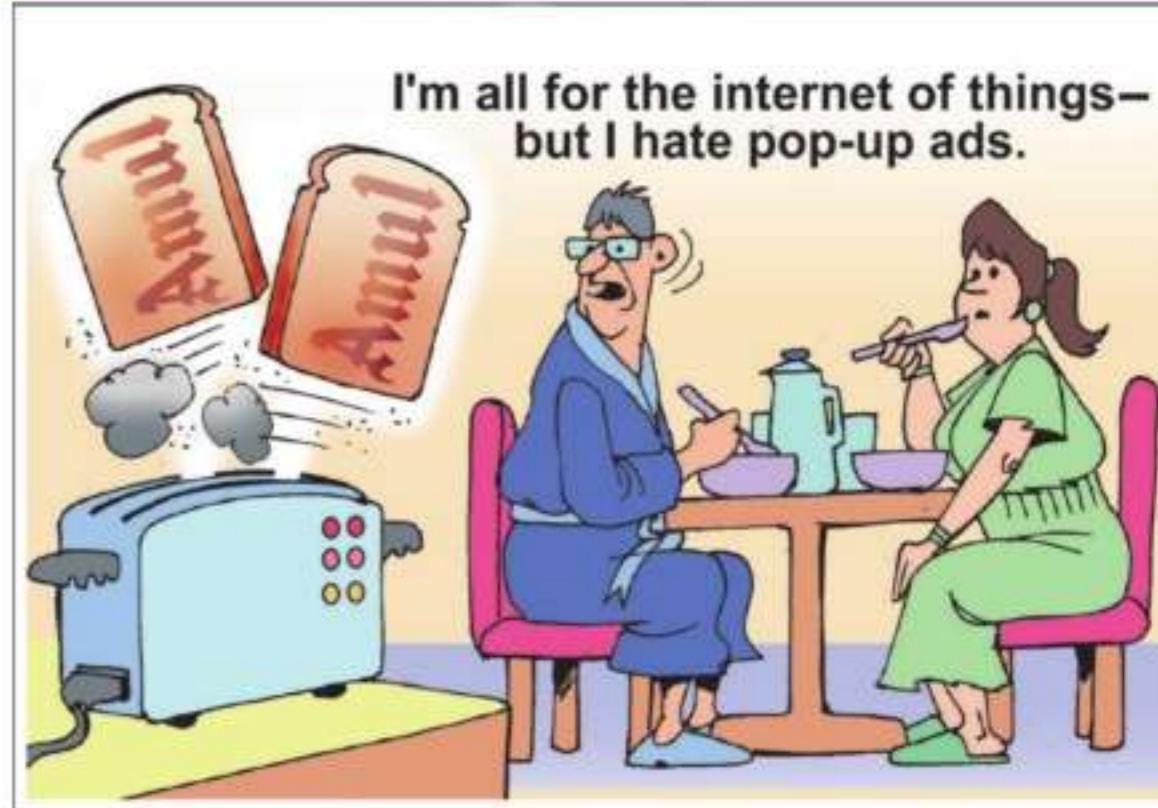
When an enterprise has operations beyond the HQ, like branch offices, it needs a WAN or wide-area network to connect all the locations. Earlier, routers were used to bring the branch data to the HQ data centre, where advanced security inspection services could be applied, and other actions performed. Today, with enterprises having multiple data centres, cloud storage and cloud applications, there's an explosion in WAN traffic, and bringing all that to a central location wastes bandwidth and impacts speed of operations. SD-WAN or software-defined WAN is a networking tech that obviates the need to backhaul traffic, manages security, and optimises WAN performance.

LOG

A log is the automatically produced and time-stamped documentation of events in a computing system. A log can include problems, errors or just information on current operations. These events may occur in the operating system or in other software. A message or log entry is recorded for each such event.

iToons

Sunil Agarwal & Ajit Ninan



Today's cartoon is in memory of Ajit Ninan, who passed away on September 8. Ajit did this cartoon together with Sunil Agarwal in 2015. It was published in TOI as part of the then iToons series.

Next-gen firewalls needed as attack surface expands

FIREWALL IS THE FIRST LINE OF DEFENCE

Anybody who comes to us, we give them a firewall, or a native cloud firewall, or virtual firewall. It's crucial. I can't afford to have a customer getting compromised within my network, because that would create a horizontal threat to my other customers. If a threat comes in and sits inside my network, then it becomes very difficult for us to isolate that, even though we have a lot of AI Ops, we do correlation of logs.

Rajesh Dangi | CHIEF DIGITAL OFFICER, NXGEN DATACENTER & CLOUD TECHNOLOGIES

As a telco, we are the gateway for external access for all enterprises – to their branch network, to the internet, to international gateways. So, we don't just offer connectivity. We are the right place for offering perimeter security solutions, whether it is for denial of service mitigation, for managed firewall solutions, for hosted cloud security solutions, and now managed SD-WAN offerings.

Rochak Kapur | EVP & LOB HEAD – CONNECTIVITY, SECURITY, CLOUD & BUSINESS OPERATIONS, VODAFONE IDEA

It is really important to have an automated security firewall platform to keep universities safe. There is a misconstrued image that academic institutions are not targeted by hackers... Yes, security is not inexpensive. It comes at a cost. But trust me, if you don't invest in security, the consequences will be severe and the damages will be super high.

V S Shankar Sriram | TATA COMMUNICATIONS CHAIR PROFESSOR OF CYBER SECURITY, SASTRA DEEMED UNIVERSITY

We visualise the entire security architecture in such a way that it is seamless across the infrastructure layer, application layer, end-user computing layer.

Sujit John | CHIEF INFORMATION SECURITY OFFICER, SEAHK & ANZ, FORTINET

Firewalls are your first line of defence. This is where organisations need to spend more time. While security is a fragmented market, firewall continues to be the best and the most important control point for an organisation. Forrester has done research that shows that a next-generation firewall can provide an ROI (return on investment) of about 318% over three years.

Vishak Raman | VP SALES – SAARC, SEAHK & ANZ, FORTINET

Cloud Technologies, said that given multi-tenancy on cloud, it is important for their cloud to talk to the customer's firewall, and vice-versa. For that reason, he said, it's very important to choose firewall vendors carefully. "If I take a software-defined firewall, does that firewall understand which hypervisor it is sitting in, is it able to interact with that, can it give me a single pane of glass, and send me right alerts to my monitoring dashboard, and does it allow me to take the logs and analyse it externally?" he said.

Rochak Kapur, EVP & LoB head of connectivity, security, cloud & business operations at Vodafone Idea, said the only way to deal with the diverse set of firewalls of their customers, and the complexity of configuring all of them with different set of rules and policies, is to centrally manage the whole thing with at least partial automation.

Kumar K V, group CIO at Narayana Health, said AI/ML

also play crucial roles in different aspects of security. "They are very useful in detecting unusual traffic patterns, unusual user behaviours, and that can help us to prevent data exfiltration or any other kinds of threats. A next-generation firewall, if integrated with threat intelligence, will be far more effective in analysing all feeds in real-time and apply appropriate corrective action," he said.

V S Shankar Sriram, Tata Communications chair professor of cyber security at Sasthra Deemed University, said the convergence of IT and OT (operational technology - used typically in industrial equipment) means future firewalls will have to build threat intelligence that combines signatures (designed to counteract attacks on protocols in an OT environment) and the different modes of deployment used to attack different industrial equipment.

TIMES TECHIES WEBINARS

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FORTINET

RUNNING THE SHOW

Fernandes Shines As Portugal Lash Luxembourg In Record 9-0 Victory

Lisbon: Portugal didn't need Cristiano Ronaldo to rack up their biggest-ever win in a competitive game.

A 9-0 rout of Luxembourg in European Championship qualifying on Monday was achieved without Ronaldo, who was suspended because of an accumulation of yellow cards in earlier Group J games. Goncalo Ramos, Goncalo Inacio and Diogo Jota all scored twice along with goals for Ricardo Horta, Bruno Fernandes and Joao Felix in Algarve. "It was a satisfactory aspect that, being 4-0 or 5-0 up, the team kept playing the same way as if it was 0-0," Portugal coach Roberto Martinez said. Portugal are dominating the group with six straight wins. No other team has that many victories in qualifying.

Martinez's team stayed five points ahead of Slovakia and moved eight ahead of Luxembourg. The top two in each group qualify automatically. Ramos scored two of the team's first three goals as Ronaldo's replacement, a role he seems to thrive in.

DRONE DELAY

In Group D, Croatia's 1-0 win over Armenia in Yerevan was delayed for about 70 seconds in the first half when a drone carrying the flag of Nagorno-Karabakh, a breakaway Armenian-populated region of Azerbaijan, flew over the field — to cheers and applause from many home fans, according to footage on social media. The incident comes amid soaring tensions be-



IN FORM: Portugal's Bruno Fernandes scores their eighth goal against Luxembourg

PROTEST IN THE AIR: A drone flies in the stadium carrying a flag of the Republic of Artsakh during the match

tween Armenia and Azerbaijan, with lawmakers in the region — which the Armenians call Artsakh — voting to elect a new separatist president on Saturday in a move that was condemned by the Azerbaijani authorities.

It is set to lead to a UEFA disciplinary case on the grounds of it being a political statement at a game.

Andrej Kramaric's early goal sealed the victory for Croatia that lifted the World Cup semifinalists into first place in the group. The striker scored after a 13th-minute corner from Luka Modric deflected off an Armenia player and went straight to Kramaric, who stuck out a foot and diverted the ball in.

The goal was checked for offside as it appeared Croatia defender Josko Gvardiol got a touch, too. AP



RESULTS: Group D: Armenia 0 lost to Croatia 1 (Kramaric 13); Latvia 0 lost to Wales 2 (Ramsey 29 pen, Brooks 90+5); Group J: Iceland 1 (Finnbogason 90+1) bt Bosnia and Herzegovina 0; Portugal 9 (Inacio 14, 45+4, Ramos 17, 33, Jota 57, 77, Horta 67, Fernandes 83, Felix 88) bt Luxembourg 0; Slovakia 3 (Hancko 1, Duda 3, Mak 6) bt Liechtenstein 0.

Cancer-survivor Brooks on the mark for Wales

Riga: David Brooks scored his first international goal since returning from a cancer diagnosis as Wales kept their chances of reaching Euro 2024 with a 2-0 win away to Latvia on Monday.

Bournemouth winger Brooks was diagnosed with stage-two Hodgkin lymphoma in October 2021. He returned to playing at club level in March and helped secure a vital three points for manager Rob Page in stoppage time in Riga. Page's future was in doubt after a run of one win in 13 games.

Aaron Ramsey's 100th career goal from the penalty spot midway through the first half put the visitors in front. But the lack of

a clinical goalscorer since Gareth Bale's retirement was evident as Wales' inability to add to their advantage until the 96th minute led to a nervy finale.

Janis Ikaunaeks' deflecting shot hit the side netting late on to deny the side ranked 134th in the world a first point in qualifying. Instead,

Brooks produced a classy finish to drink the ball over Roberto Ozols on the counter-attack to finally double Wales' lead.

Victory keeps Wales in the mix to reach a third consecutive Euro. Page's men go level on points with Armenia and three behind Turkey in the battle for the second automatic qualifying spot in Group D. AFP



DAVID BROOKS

Peru shamans 'neutralize' Neymar ahead of WC qualifier

Lima: Dressed in colorful ponchos, a group of Peruvian shamans tie up an effigy of Neymar as they seek to "neutralize" him ahead of Tuesday's (Wednesday 7.30 am IST) World Cup qualifying match against Brazil.

The group of traditional healers from the jungle, mountains, and coastal areas, called on "Tayta Inti" (Father Sun) to help Peru in its match against five-time World Cup winners Brazil.

"We have neutralized Neymar by tying his feet. We tied him up so that he is not in good shape, and doesn't run and play well," said shaman Felix Rondon.

The shamans blew into a conch shell as they carried out the ritual outside the national stadium, where they have erected a colorful altar with swords, amulets, flags, and photos of players from both teams. Earlier, they took ayahuasca -- the powerful hallucinogenic concoction said

to open the door to the spirit world. Shaman Walter Alarcon said the ritual was aimed at clouding Neymar's mind so that he can not "achieve what he is looking for, which are goals." Alarcon predicts a tie, saying the match will be difficult.

Time has come to put all cards on table: Stimac on astrologer controversy

New Delhi: In the eye of the storm for his alleged correspondence with an astrologer during the Asian Cup Qualifiers, India coach Igor Stimac on Tuesday hinted at major revelations ahead and reaffirmed his dream of transforming the country into a footballing nation.

"Target or honest fighter for the betterment of Indian football? The time is coming to put all cards on the table and see how much and who really cares about football in this country," Stimac posted on X (formerly Twitter).

"Give it a thought before making up your judgment and thanks once again for your support. My dream of making India a football nation is still alive," he added. That the AIFF had hired an astrologer for predictions on the Indian football team, for an estimated cost of Rs 16 lakh. The controversy has again cast a shadow over Indian football and this time the men's team coach is being linked to it. PTI

BFC all set for the balancing act

Coach Grayson Weighs In On Club-Vs-Country Debate

Times News Network

Bengaluru: Bengaluru FC coach Simon Grayson said the former champions were ready to find a balance between national duty and the Indian Super League (ISL).

"It's a messy year for Indian football given the number of competitions that the national team is in. But as coach our role is to improve the standard of the ISL, improve the quality of Indian players."

It's a messy year for Indian football given the number of competitions that the national team is in. But as coach our role is to improve the standard of the ISL, improve the quality of Indian players.

—Simon Grayson, BFC COACH

The holistic and scientific training is a big help for the youngsters," Chhetri said.

Asked whether the departures of big players like Roy Krishna, Jhingan and Udanta Singh affect the balance of the team, Grayson said: "I don't think it will affect the balance of the team. I felt we needed some freshness. Udanta was a great servant, Sandesh is a difficult decision. But we have a set of talented youngsters and they have a big part to play in our success this year. It's recognition of our academy system that Sivasakthi and Roshan Singh won emerging player awards."

"With BFC we are used to winning titles. There is no point going into the tournament if you think that you can't win the title. This is going to be one of the best ISLs in terms of the level of competition. We have set our ambitions and that's the big trophy," Grayson said ahead of the team's opener against Kerala Blasters in Kochi.

Subroto Cup from Sept 19, Bengaluru added as host city

Times News Network

New Delhi: The oldest inter-school football tournament in India — Subroto Cup — will be held from September 19 to October 23 at three different venues. In the earlier editions, Delhi and Gurugram were the usual venues, but this time Bengaluru has been added to the list of host cities.

"Target or honest fighter for the betterment of Indian football? The time is coming to put all cards on the table and see how much and who really cares about football in this country," Stimac posted on X (formerly Twitter).

"Give it a thought before making up your judgment and thanks once again for your support. My dream of making India a football nation is still alive," he added. That the AIFF had hired an astrologer for predictions on the Indian football team, for an estimated cost of Rs 16 lakh. The controversy has again cast a shadow over Indian football and this time the men's team coach is being linked to it. PTI

ritories will participate in three categories. Teams from Bangladesh and Nepal will add foreign flavour, with over 180 matches scheduled to be played.

Pilgrim Higher Secondary School, Dimapur (Nagaland) are the defending champions in the junior boys tournament, while St Patrick's School, Gumla (Jharkhand) are the reigning champions in junior girls category. In the sub-junior boys category, Heikrok Higher Secondary School, Imphal (Manipur) are the previous edition's winner.

The 62nd Subroto Cup will be historic given that it will be played in Bengaluru for the first time. It has been our desire to spread the reach of this tournament to more corners of the country," said Air Marshal RK Anand, the vice-chairman of Subroto Mukerjee Sports Education Society.

Rubiales to appear in court over forced kiss

Madrid: Former Spanish football federation president Luis Rubiales must appear in court on Friday in connection with the investigation into his forcible kiss on Jenni Hermoso's lips after the Women's World Cup final.

Rubiales has been summoned to appear before an examining magistrate "to be heard as an accused" and to respond to accusations of "sexual assault," a Madrid court said in a statement Tuesday. The 46-year-old kissed Hermoso following Spain's triumph in Sydney on August 20, which she says was not consensual, while Rubiales

insists it was. Judge Francisco de Jorge of the National Court admitted a complaint against Rubiales on Monday filed by Spanish prosecutors last week regarding alleged "crimes of sexual assault and "coercion".

Under a recent reform of the Spanish penal code, a non-consensual kiss can be considered sexual assault, a criminal category that groups together all types of sexual violence.

The penalties for a forced kiss can range from a fine to four years in prison, according to sources from the public prosecutors' office.

Rubiales stepped down as the

Spanish football federation's president on Sunday but continued to defend himself over the kiss. "I have faith in the truth and I will do everything in my power so that it prevails," Rubiales wrote in an open letter.

Hermoso, 33, who plays for Mexican club Pachuca, has said the unwanted kiss left her feeling "vulnerable and like the victim of an assault", with a statement on social media describing it as "an impulsive, macho act, out of place and with no type of consent on my part".

She also accused Rubiales of pressuring her to speak out in his

defence immediately after the furor over the kiss erupted, which prosecutors said could be considered a crime of coercion.

At UEFA's headquarters was Vero Boquete, who as Spain captain eight years ago joined a player revolt that removed the long-time and unpopular male coach of the national team.

"Today, this subject obviously came up," Boquete told The Associated Press when asked if the Rubiales controversy was on the agenda. "A little bit (of) specifics but also in general, what we can do to protect players or to give them a safe space."

AGENCIES

Djokovic will dominate tennis for years: Murray

Manchester: Novak Djokovic, who won his 24th Grand Slam title on Sunday, will dominate men's tennis for years because younger players have yet to reach his level, according to Andy Murray.

Djokovic's latest triumph at the US Open saw him equal Margaret Court's record of major singles titles.

"It's up to the young guys to be pushing Novak and looking to overtake him. It doesn't look like that's close to happening," Murray told the BBC on Monday. "He proved that he's the best player in the world again yesterday and like I said it's up to the youngsters to improve enough to take him."

The 36-year-old Serbian, one of the 'Big Three' with Rafael Nadal and Roger Federer who dominated men's tennis for the past two decades, said he had no plans to retire.

"Novak's longevity has been the greatest. He's played at this level for such a long time now," said Britain's Murray, who won three Grand Slams.

In July, 20-year-old Carlos Alcaraz ended Djokovic's Wimbledon reign after the Serbian had won four titles in a row at the All England Club. However, Murray believes the wrong conclusions were drawn from the Spaniard's victory.

"I said that after Wimbledon, everyone was saying it was a changing of the guard,



Novak Djokovic celebrates his win

but it wasn't for me," he added.

"Physically, motivation, whether someone like Alcaraz improves - he's an amazing player. Alcaraz, he's brilliant, but to do what Novak is doing on a consistent basis is different."

World No. 1 Djokovic will next travel to Valencia and join the Serbia team for their Davis Cup Finals group stage ties with South Korea, Spain and Czech Republic. REUTERS

"Occasionally asking myself, why do I need this still at this stage after all I have done, you know? How long do I want to keep going? I do have these questions in my head, of course. Knowing that I play at such a high level still and I win the biggest tournaments in this sport, yeah, I don't want to get rid of this sport or I don't want to leave this sport if I'm still at the top."

—Novak Djokovic

"He's just enjoying, he likes the challenges. Like you ask me 25 (majors), yeah, if he wins 25 he's going to think, 'If I win 25, why not 26?' It's always one more, something more. He's taking care of his body, he's taking care of everything, every single detail has to be perfect, prepared. He's never happy on the court."

—Goran Ivanisevic | NOVAK'S COACH

RUSHENDRA, RAKSHITHA WIN BADMINTON TITLES

Bengaluru: Telangana's Rushendra Thirupathi and Rakshitha Sree emerged triumphant with hard-fought wins in the boys and girls singles finals respectively at the Junior National Badminton Championships here on Tuesday. Rushendra registered a 21-18, 18-21, 21-16 victory against eighth seed Samaveer of Chandigarh while Rakshitha beat third seed Anmol Kharb of Haryana 9-21, 21-13, 21-18.

Top seeds Tushar Suveer and Nicholas Nathan Raj of hosts Karnataka rallied to down Delhi's Bhavya Chhabra and Param Choudhary 7-21, 21-11, 21-13 to claim the doubles title.

Red card for unsporting behaviour

After winning the mixed doubles title, Sathwik Reddy, who paired with Vaishnavi Khadkekar, was shown a red card by the umpire for 'removing his jersey and unsportsmanlike behaviour on the court'.

MotoGP Bharat expected to rewrite speed records

Hindol.Basu@timesgroup.com

Greater Noida: India's first-ever tryst with fast bikes and flamboyant bikers is all set to be a riveting one with the big guns of motorcycle racing like Francesco Bagnaia (current World Champion), Marc Marquez, Jorge Martin and Marco Bezzecchi expected to line up for the MotoGP Bharat at the Buddhi International Circuit from September 22-24.

The Buddhi circuit played host to three Formula One races from 2011 to 2013, but a tax dispute with the government meant F1's stay in India was all too brief.

Now, for motorsports fans in India, and across the globe, the circuit has been homologated to make it suitable for motorcycle racing. In motorsports, homologa-

tion is the 'type approval' or conformity process through which a vehicle, a race track, or a standardised part is required to go for certification to host races in a given league or series.

It may be preposterous but organisers of MotoGP Bharat are expecting the race to shatter speed records in motorsports history. In the ongoing MotoGP season, South African Brad Binder, representing Red Bull KTM, became the fastest rider ever by clocking 366.1 km per hour at the Italian GP in Mugello. Binder beat Spaniard Jorge Martin's previous record of 363.6 kmph, again set at Mugello (in 2022).

The Buddhi International Circuit is a fast, flowing track. We can expect the bikes to hit highest speeds here. The long back straight, which measures 1006 metres, will

give the riders an opportunity to reach speeds of around 370 kmph," Amit Sandill, the director of racing, MotoGP Bharat, told TOI.

"This straight stretch is divided into two parts. The first segment is downhill, that will allow the riders to achieve maximum acceleration, while the latter part, which is uphill, will enable them to brake late and maintain top speed."

Sandill added, "The parabola or the stadium section on turn 9 and 10 is the perfect camber for riders to slingshot out of the turns and permits them to push their bikes to the limit. The track's surface gives exceptional grip to the tires, offering riders complete control over their machines."

"Safety measures have also been bolstered with the installation of 1,800 metres of new safety barriers," Sandill said. "For the last 30 years, Dorna Sports has been managing MotoGP across the world. According to Carlos Ezpeleta, the chief sporting officer of Dorna, the MotoGP Bharat this year will be 'special'.

"The changes made to the Buddhi International Circuit are truly remarkable. This track now stands witness to India's commitment to hosting world class motorsport events. We believe the circuit has the potential to register speed that could rewrite the record books," Ezpeleta said.



FORMER DORTMUND STRIKER ANTHONY MODESTE MOVES TO AFRICAN CHAMPIONS AL-AHLY IN EGYPT

ROHAN BOPANNA TO JOIN DAVIS CUP SQUAD ON WEDNESDAY FOR MOROCCO CLASH



KULDEEP IMPACT!

Spinner's 4/43 Trumps Wellalage's All-Round Effort As India Boss Lanka In Low-Scoring Thriller To Seal Asia Cup Final Slot

Nitin.Naik@timesgroup.com

Twenty-year-old Duniit Wellalage produced one of the great solo all-round efforts in ODI cricket, taking 5/40 and scoring 42* (46 balls, 3x4, 1x6) and for a while — along with the rest of the team — threatened to take Sri Lanka home in their chase of 214 in the Asia Cup Super-4 clash on a spin-friendly R Premadasa track on Tuesday. From 99/6, Sri Lanka had got to 162/6 in 37.2 overs.

SUPER-4 TABLE

TEAMS	M	W	L	T	N/R	PT	NRR
INDIA	2	2	0	0	0	4	2.690
SRI LANKA	2	1	1	0	0	2	-0.200
PAKISTAN	2	1	1	0	0	2	-1.892
BANGLADESH	2	0	2	0	0	0	-0.749

Skipper Rohit Sharma was having frequent conversations with his bowlers. Virat Kohli and vice-captain Hardik Pandya too joined in.

That's when De Silva lost his nerve and hit Ravindra Jadeja to Shubman Gill at mid-on. India got an opening. Mahees Theekshana was pouched brilliantly at midish mid-on by substitute Suryakumar Yadav off an impressive Hardik Pandya (5-0-14-1). Kuldeep Yadav, who had been hit for a slog-swept six by the young Wellalage but had picked up two vital wickets of Sadeera Samarakrama and Charith Asalanka before, then cleaned up the tailenders Kasun Rajitha and Matheesha Pathirana in three balls of his last over to end with 4-43 and help India win by 41 runs. A spot in Sunday's final is now guaranteed for India.

They have another league game against Bangladesh, who have been knocked out of the tournament. The Pakistan-Sri Lanka game on Thursday is now a virtual shootout.

For a while, we were transported back to the mid-90s and early 2000s. Sri Lanka used to play on turners at Premadasa that allowed them to script unreal comebacks through players in their top six, who could bowl their full quota of finger spin. Aravinda de Silva and Sanath Jayasuriya come to mind.

On Tuesday, after India won the toss and batted and rattled along to 80 for no loss, with



88 Matches taken by Kuldeep Yadav to complete 150 ODI wickets at 25.64 runs apiece, including 7 four-wicket hauls and two five-wicket hauls — the quickest by an Indian spinner and the second quickest behind Mohammad Shami's 80 matches. Mitchell Starc holds the record. He got to the mark in 77 matches.

HEAD TURNER! Kuldeep gives a send-off to Sri Lanka's Sadeera Samarakrama in Colombo on Tuesday

INDIAN BATTERS IN 10,000-RUN CLUB IN ODIs

Batsman	M	Runs	HS	Ave	100	50	S/R	Inns to 10,000
S Tendulkar	463	18426	200*	44.83	49	96	86.23	259
V Kohli	279	13027	183	57.38	47	65	93.79	205
S Ganguly	311	11363	183	41.02	22	72	73.70	263
R Dravid	344	10889	153	39.16	12	83	71.23	287
MS Dhoni	350	10773	183*	50.57	10	73	87.56	273
R Sharma	248	10031	264	48.93	30	51	90.27	241

skipper Rohit Sharma scoring a sublime half century and getting to 10,000 ODI runs in the process, one felt the Indian batters were in cruise mode again after they had plundered the Pakistani attack for 356/2 a day before.

However, the introduction of left-arm-spinner Wellalage quickly changed things. The bald, brown surface aided him. The first ball that he bowled from wide off the crease turned from middle stump and hit Gill's off stump. The over-eagerness to play on the front foot and being foiled by the wide angle, a recurring theme for all players, accounted for Gill.

Virat Kohli, eyeing his fifth successive ton

on this ground, chipped Wellalage to mid-wicket and Rohit played from the crease to an arm ball that kept low and was castled. KL Rahul looked the most settled Indian batter against spin as he was proactive with his foot-work in the box. He and Ishan Kishan added an important stand of 63 for the fourth wicket and despite boundaries drying up, one felt India were on the road to get 250-plus.

However, Wellalage, in his second spell, accounted for Rahul as he went back to a delivery that stopped and bounced on him and all he could do was bat the ball back to the bowler. In this Asia Cup, Sri Lanka have

missed key bowlers like Dilshan Madhushanka, Lahiri Kumara and Wanindu Hasanga due to injuries. However, in specialist batters like De Silva and Asalanka, they have cricketers who can utilize a turning pitch with fastish finger spin. Both tied up the left-handers, Ishan Kishan, Jadeja and Axar Patel.

Asalanka got Kishan to spoon catch to Wellalage at cover and the latter then dismissed Hardik Pandya caught behind to complete a well-deserved five-for. When India bowled, Umrah and Siraj's opening burst reduced Sri Lanka to 25/3 to ensure that the spinners didn't have to do all the work.



FAMILIAR FAILING: Virat Kohli falls to Wellalage at the Premadasa Stadium

Kohli's old bugbear: Left-arm spin

Nitin.Naik@timesgroup.com

What's common between Keshav Maharaj, Mitchell Santner, Shakib Al Hasan, Ashton Agar and Duniit Wellalage? All of them are slow left-arm orthodox spinners. And all of them have dismissed Indian legend Virat Kohli in ODIs since 2021. Maharaj, Santner and Shakib have got Kohli out twice.

His dismissal Wellalage in India's Asia Cup Super Four clash against Sri Lanka on a dry and bald R Premadasa Stadium pitch was the eighth time he had fallen to left-arm spin in 28 matches since January 2021.

He has scored only 104 runs against that type of bowling having faced 159 balls, 79 of them dots. He averages just 13 against left-arm spin since 2021 and has a strike-rate of 65.4.

After his heroics against Pakistan on the adjacent pitch on Mon-

day which had an even grass covering and was skidding on to the bat, Kohli found the going tough against Sri Lanka on a pitch that was offering grip, uneven bounce, and sharp turn. It seemed like Day Three of a Test in Indore.

Wellalage, who led Sri Lanka Under-19 in the World Cup in the West Indies, last March, had sent back Shubman Gill off the first ball he had bowled. He then produced a leading edge off Kohli first ball.

Next ball, a flick gave the Indian star two runs. The forward lunge and hard hands, a no-no on a pitch that is offering sharp turn though would have got the young Lankan interested.

With extra fielders inside the circle, Kohli found it tough to rotate the strike against Wellalage, who was bowling it flat and quick and was also getting purchase. The fact that he is a reluctant sweeper and doesn't employ the slog sweep, also plays into

the hands of the bowler, when he is on top, as there are few release shots.

With dots piling up, he perished while trying to whip a short of good length delivery past mid-wicket, but

with the ball holding up, he hit it in the air to Sri Lankan skipper Dasun Shanaka and was out for 3. It was a soft dismissal, but one has seen him get out like that in Paarl to Maharaj,

part of the 10-member cycling contingent, and he is confident of finishing on the podium.

So, how did he manage this switch from roller skating to cycling? "It wasn't difficult. It came naturally to me. After the Jakarta Asian Games, I had made up my mind to quit roller skating because of lack of financial support. I went to international competitions in South Korea, the Netherlands and China from my family's savings. I had won silver in the elimination track race at the Asian skating championships held in China but received no monetary support either from the government or the federation. I realised that there was no point wasting my time in a sport which doesn't sup-

doping and its consequences, no-syringes policy and media-related services and emergencies.

ASIAN GAMES

Listing out the don'ts, the country's sports officials have cautioned the athletes from 'wrong behaviour in and around media', use of social media platform for grievances' and 'forwarding misleading information' about the Games.

The message has been clear from the authorities — follow the rules when the Games open in another 10 days' time or expect trouble there.

The athletes have also been tutored and instructed on how to reply to

prickly questions, like on political and social issues. Sample this: (a politically inclined question) There was a political incident that happened yesterday, what do you feel about that? The generic answer: "Say you are an athlete and will only answer questions related to sports or can avoid the question completely by saying no comment, or that you are not aware of it".

To another question like 'You performed well against a player despite (partner or a fellow team member) making mistakes/not performing well. Can you tell me anything about that?' The authorities have asked athletes to turn the answer in

a positive direction and reply in such a manner that 'Every athlete has an off day or we all make mistakes and then start talking about the positive aspect of the game'.

The athletes have been reminded that they have been selected to represent the country out of 317.8 million sporting population and thereby should be respectful and mindful of the Indian Identity.

The athletes have also been told to strictly avoid media-related emergencies like misrepresentation of country flag or symbols and same captured through media; miscommunication or wrong statement made in press conference or interviews.

Halep gets 4-yr ban for doping, says will appeal

London: Two-time Grand Slam champion Simona Halep has been suspended from professional tennis for four years for doping violations, the International Tennis Integrity Agency said Tuesday. The 31-year-old Romanian had been accused of two doping rule violations.

Halep had been provisionally suspended since October 2022. The four-year ban will run to Oct. 6, 2026.

Halep reached No. 1 in the WTA rankings in 2017. She won Wimbledon in 2019, beating 23-time major champion Serena Williams in the final, a year after winning the French Open.

Halep, who had blamed a contaminated supplement, plans to appeal to the Court of Arbitration for Sport. "I am continuing to train and do everything in my power to clear my name of these false allegations and return to the court," Halep said in a statement. She said she also will "pursue all legal remedies against the supplement company in question."

Indian athletes warned: Follow rules, embrace Chinese culture

Sabi.Hussain@timesgroup.com

New Delhi: Indian athletes have been warned against 'wrong hand/finger gestures', 'abusing or getting into fight with audience or citizen' and 'winking or whistling in public places' during their stay in China for the Asian Games beginning later this month, as 'disrespecting the host country's culture and tradition' could land them in trouble with local authorities.

A 651-member strong Indian contingent will be travelling to Hangzhou for the Asiad, scheduled from September 23 to October 8, with the Sports Authority of India (SAI) coming out with an 'Informational Module' for

the Games, listing out the dos and don'ts for the country's athletes. TOI has accessed a 39-page playbook for the Games — which will govern the behaviour of Indian athletes during the Games. The playbook, divided into three sections — Getting ready for Hangzhou, Just don't Dope and Press & Media — talks about travel preparations for athletes, venue, transport and access, weather and environment, availability of services at the Games Village, communication facilities available since WhatsApp, Uber, Google and Google Maps won't work, usage of English language words for local mandarin with their pronunciations,

The message has been clear from the authorities — follow the rules when the Games open in another 10 days' time or expect trouble there.

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prickly questions, like on political and social issues. Sample this: (a politically inclined question) There was a political incident that happened yesterday, what do you feel about that? The generic answer: "Say you are an athlete and will only answer questions related to sports or can avoid the question completely by saying no comment, or that you are not aware of it".

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Harshveer Sekhon: Roller skater in Jakarta, cyclist in Hangzhou!

Sabi.Hussain@timesgroup.com

New Delhi: He always aspired to make the country proud in roller skating but lack of government and financial support prompted Harshveer Singh Sekhon to quit the sport and return to his studies.

Disheartened but not disappointed, the Ludhiana boy soon found his second calling in cycling. And, within a year of pursuing the sport, he not only made it to the Indian national team but also to the Hangzhou Asian Games squad in the men's Madison race. Just five years ago, Harshveer had participated as a roller skater in the men's 20,000m event at the Jakarta Asian Games. At the Hangzhou Asiad, he will be

part of the 10-member cycling contingent, and he is confident of finishing on the podium.

"In 2018, I was introduced to the sport of cycling by a family friend. I competed in the men's team pursuit event at the All-India inter-varsity track cycling championship at GNDU. In my first professional outing as a cyclist, I ended up winning a gold

and a bronze. The twin medals gave me confidence that I could pursue my sporting career in cycling," he added.

The 25-year-old informed that he had started roller skating to lose weight as he was body-shamed by schoolmates for being obese. "I started skating at the age of six when I was in Class I. I was overweight and my classmates used to make fun of me. I was introduced to skating by my father's friend who took me to coach JS Dhalwal at the Leisure Valley skating rink in Ludhiana. I developed an instant liking for the sport and went on to win medals in All-India inter-varsity, state and national meets, besides a silver at the Asian skating.

"However, I got discouraged by the fact that even for Nationals, we ska-

teders were forced to spend from our pockets to participate. My parents started asking me questions about my future as an athlete when there was no monetary gain in return. So, I made up my mind to leave the sport after the Jakarta Asiad and pursue my passion for cycling. I am proud of my decision because the cycling federation (CFI) has supported me a lot as a national camper and that has reflected in my performance internationally. I have been able to win several medals in Track Asia Cup and Asian championships," said Sekhon, who is pursuing PG diploma course in computer applications from Panjab University.

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Since 1948, the Seamaster has served every kind of ocean adventurer from solo free divers to entire racing yacht crews. Along the way, there have been many amazing editions, including this 39.5 mm Seamaster Planet Ocean 600M Co-Axial Master Chronometer with blue ceramic dial and matching unidirectional bezel. As the name makes clear, it is water resistant to 600M. Hence the helium-escape valve. This year we celebrate the 75th anniversary of our oceangoing icon, with a promise to keep defying the depths and delivering new levels of precision.

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