



FM Nirmala Sitharaman says "only political stability, policy consistency & decisiveness will guarantee India's economy moving upwards". Also says Nudge Theory of economist Richard Thaler has been used by Modi govt to make a difference in the economy, P 13

Sikkim toll at 38, bodies found in Bengal, B'desh

The toll in the glacial lake outburst flood caused by the high-altitude South Lhonak reservoir in North Sikkim imploding into a giant cascade down the Teesta basin soared to 38 on Thursday, including four of the 22 Army personnel reported missing. Most of the bodies were found downstream of the Teesta in neighbouring Bengal's Jalpaiguri, Cooch Behar and Siliguri. A few bodies were also retrieved from Galibandha in Bangladesh. **SEE OTHER BOOK**

Flying gets costlier due to fuel charge

Market leader IndiGo will from Friday levy a distance-based fuel charge from Rs 300 to Rs 1,000 on all flights due to ATF price hike. SpiceJet will follow suit. **P 8**

CBI files FIR to probe CBFC bribery case

The CBI has filed an FIR against three persons and some officials of CBFC on actor Vishal's allegation that he had to pay Rs 6.5 lakh to get a certificate. **OTHER BOOK, P 9**

DOUBLE DELIGHT

Today's bumper issue of **TOI** is organised in two sections, both equally packed with news and analysis. To get the full reading experience of today's edition, make sure you don't miss the other section.

OTHER BOOK TOP STORIES

- **Shah: Ruthless approach needed to combat terror**
- **Give NewsClick founder copy of FIR, orders court**
- **US denies envy said ties will be hit by India-Canada spat**

SC: If Sisodia not in money trail, PMLA won't stand

Says As Per ED, Money Didn't Go To His Pocket

AmitAnand.Choudhary
@timesgroup.com

Vijay Nair is there but Manish Sisodia is not there in this part (money trail). How will you bring him in PMLA (Prevention of Money Laundering Act)? In case it is a company with whom he is involved, then we have vicarious liability. otherwise the prosecution falters.

...PMLA will be triggered after proceeds of crime are given or paid. You have to connect the person concerned with the proceeds of crimes, directly or indirectly

When there is a policy change, everybody wants a change that will be beneficial for them... There will always be lobby and group with vested interest. But it is the money part which would make it an offence

—SC bench

ked additional solicitor general S V Raju, "Manish Sisodia is not involved in all this. Vijay Nair (a close aide of CM Kejriwal who looked after AAP's publicity wing) is there but Manish Sisodia is not there in this part. How will you bring him in the PMLA (Prevention of Money Laundering Act)? Money did not come to his pocket but someone else. In case it is a compa-

ny with whom he is involved, we have vicarious liability. Otherwise, the prosecution falters. Money laundering is an entirely different offence."

The bench said as per ED's submission, Sisodia never got possession of the money and under PMLA, it was essential to connect a person with the proceeds of crime.

► 'Not PMLA offence', P 2

9-yr-old witness nails mum for dad's murder

A nine-year-old witness has ensured the conviction of his mother who murdered his father with the help of her lover in 2016, reports Kanwardeep Singh.

Ramandeep Kaur Mann, a UK national, had plotted a family vacation in Shahjahanpur to murder her husband, NRI Sukhjeet Singh. She picked up her lover, Gurpreet Singh, from Kapurthala in Punjab. On the night of September 2, she poisoned the food served to the family before slitting Sukhjeet's throat. Their older son, who didn't eat the food, witnessed the crime. **P 10**

Court gives ED custody of Sanjay Singh till Oct 10

If ED now makes AAP an accused in the alleged liquor case, it proves they found nothing against Manish Sisodia and Sanjay Singh. This will only show their desperation —Atishi | AAP

Kejriwal ji has no answer to the liquor scam that has brought shame to him. So far, the deputy CM & others have gone to jail, but the kingpin is still out

—Anurag Thakur | BJP

location charts of those involved to corroborate this claim of the investigating agency".

► 'Nothing so far', P 2

SC: Defamatory statement in Parl not a crime

New Delhi: The Supreme Court on Thursday rejected a proposition to term defamatory slogans at political opponents in Parliament or assemblies as part of criminal conspiracy so as to attract penal provisions of law and said an act of defamation on the floor of the House is not a crime, reports Dhyananjan Mahapatra.

In a bid to extricate JMM MLA Sita Soren from 'bribe-for-vote' charge by arguing that she had the immunity under Article 19(4)(2) of the Constitution for 'anything said or vote cast' in the House, senior advocate Raju Ramachandran said if an anterior illegal act connected to the vote cast or speech made in the House is not immune, legislators would be hauled up for conspiracy to defame other members by making derogatory speech inside the House.

► 'Cloak of immunity', P 11

IN THE COURTS

► SC expresses reservations in allowing married couples to terminate a normal pregnancy after 24 weeks, saying it will open a Pandora's box and couples will rush to courts to abort if they do not want a child due to some reasons | P 8

► SC says repeated visitation of a child on court premises in matrimonial dispute between his parents will not be in his interest. Allows dad to meet boy at a mall | P 8

► Varanasi court grants 4 more weeks to ASI to complete survey of Gyanvapi mosque complex & submit report | OTHER BK, P 10

► Madras high court denies bail to a biker & vlogger held on charges of rash and negligent driving, saying he needs to be taught 'a lesson' | P 8

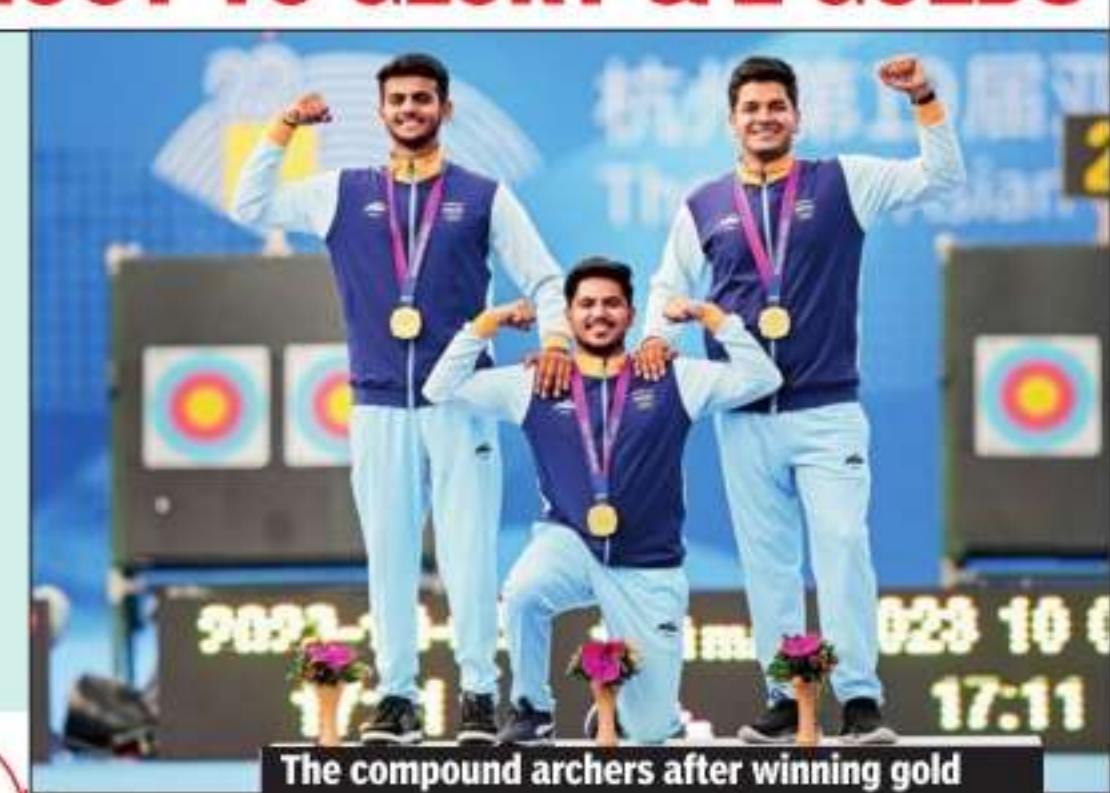
ARCHERS SHOOT TO GLORY & 2 GOLDS

► On a day when strong gusts blew over the Fuyang Yinhua Sports Centre in Hangzhou, India's compound archers, led by veteran Abhishek Verma and Jyothi Surekha Vennam, showed how to overcome challenging conditions. **The men's team** — Verma, Ojas Pravin Deotale and Prathamesh Jawkar — and the women's team comprising Vennam, Aditi Swami and Parneet Kaur, blew away fancied opponents from South Korea and Chinese Taipei to win twin gold medals

► Harinder Pal Singh Sandhu and Dipika Pallikal Karthik combined to claim gold in mixed doubles squash. But squash legend Saurav Ghosal, 37, lost the men's final and had to settle for silver

► A valiant HS Prannoy battled his way to semis — the 1st Indian in 41 years to ensure a badminton medal in men's singles in the Asian Games

► 7-time champion India sets up a semifinal clash with Pak in men's kabaddi competition after topping their group following an unbeaten run



INDIA @ ASIAD
Total: 86 FULL REPORT P14 & 15



Norwegian playwright Jon Fosse wins Lit Nobel

Stockholm: Jon Fosse, a master of spare Nordic prose in a sprawling body of work ranging from plays to novels and children's books, won the Nobel Prize in literature Thursday. Fosse's work, rooted in his Norwegian background, "focuses on human insecurity and anxiety", Anders Olsson, chair of the Nobel literature committee, said. "The basic choices you make in life, very elemental stuff."

Fosse said he had "cautiously prepared" himself for a decade to receive the news that he had won. "I was surprised when they called, yet at the same time not," the 64-year-old said. "It was a great joy for me to get the phone call."



G20 virtual summit likely to be held Nov 22

A virtual summit of G20 leaders will be held on November 22 before India hands over the presidency of the grouping to Brazil in December, reports Sidhartha. Top of the agenda will be implementation of the decisions taken at the New Delhi summit in September.

This is the first time that leaders from G20 nations will gather twice during the year and take stock of progress since the main meeting. Before that, at least two sets of deliberations are planned next week — among finance ministers and central bank governors, and parliamentarians.

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Why Delhi is unlikely to face brunt of farm fires in much of Oct | Book 2, P2

35.1° MAXIMUM
19.4° MINIMUM
Mainly clear sky. Maximum and minimum temperatures will be around 35°C and 20°C
FORECAST Mainly clear sky. Maximum and minimum temperatures will be around 35°C and 20°C
SUNRISE 6.17AM (SAT)
SUNSET 6.02PM (FRI)

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DELHI AQI
ON THURSDAY
(MODERATE
CATEGORY)

| 4

Traffic cops pick 117 congestion points, north tops dubious list | Book 2, P2



Generation Of Money Not PMLA Offence: SC

ASG Says Sisodia Handled Money Indirectly

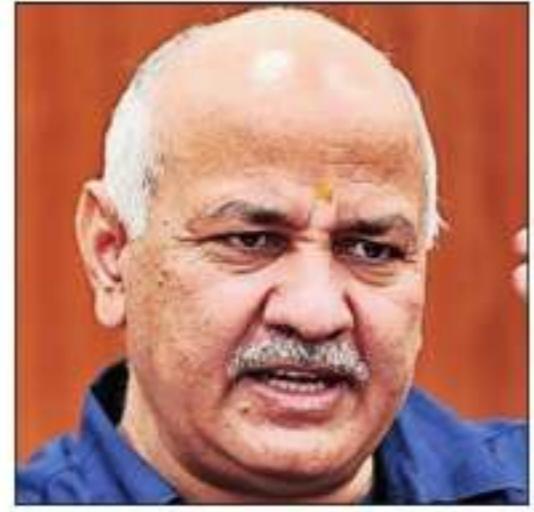
►Continued from P1

Responding to the court's query, ASG Raju said Sisodia was instrumental in generating the money which was done by changing the excise policy to favour select liquor groups who paid bribes.

But the bench referred to Section 3 of the PMLA and said the Act does not recognise "generation" of money as an offence.

Section 3 of the Act says whosoever directly or indirectly attempts to indulge or knowingly assists or knowingly is a party to or is actually involved in any process or activity connected with the proceeds of crime, including its concealment, possession, acquisition or use and projecting or claiming it as untainted property, shall be guilty of the offence of money-laundering.

"Generation of money has



Manish Sisodia

not been made an offence under Section 3. It is an offence under Indian Penal Code, Prevention of Corruption Act. In case of bribery or kidnapping, generation of money is itself an offence but not under PMLA. Perhaps there is a flaw in the Act. PMLA will be triggered after proceeds of crime are given or paid. You have to connect the person concerned with the proceeds of crimes, directly or indirectly."

"When there is a policy change, everybody wants a change that will be beneficial for them. That will be there. There will always be lobbies and groups with vested interest. But it is the money part which would make it an offence," the bench said.

The hearing on Sisodia's bail plea, which has been going on for two days, remained inconclusive and will resume on October 12.

'If ED makes AAP accused, it proves nothing found against Sisodia, Singh'

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi: AAP convener Arvind Kejriwal claimed on Thursday that all the cases filed against his party leaders were "false" and called these probes a waste of time of the central government and its agencies.

"The way the court asked questions it felt that they (agencies) have in a way lodged wrong cases against us," the Delhi chief minister said while answering a question over the Supreme Court's observations on the bail application of former deputy CM Manish Sisodia in the excise policy case.

Kejriwal said so many cases had been lodged, but nothing had come out. "All cases are false. They (agencies) keep investigating, but nothing comes out. It's a wastage of time," he said. "Everyone should work for the country's benefit... by filing false cases, the country will not progress."

Atishi, another party leader, said if the ED now made AAP an accused in the liquor case,

'Nothing so far to doubt approver's statements'

►Continued from P1

The judge referred to alleged corroboration "from different statements by the approver Dinesh Arora" and the latter's employee. "In view of the totality of facts and circumstances, the accused is being remanded to the custody of ED till October 10 for the purposes of his detailed and sustained interrogation and confrontation with oral and documentary evidence," the order said.

"Though the veracity of these statements will be tested during the course of trial only, but for the purposes of investigation, such statements have to be believed and taken into consideration. There is also nothing on record to show at this stage that the above statements of approver Dinesh Arora are tainted," the judge observed.

Ahead of the order, Singh

made a direct appeal in court, saying there should not be a "different law" for him.

Appearing for the ED, special public prosecutor NK Matta said Rs 2 crore was delivered at Singh's residence by associates of accused-turned-approver Dinesh Arora. The agency sought Singh's custody to question him on digital and other evidence seized during the past year in connection with the scam. The evidence includes digital records seized from Singh's phone.

The AAP leader's counsel, senior advocate Mohit Mathur, however, said Arora may have implicated Singh to secure his own liberty.

"Look at the changing stand of Dinesh Arora. He gives statements in March and April. He was granted bail and then his tone changed. You don't want to call me for investigation. You want to humiliate me by arresting me," Mathur said. Refuting



Sanjay Singh being taken to the Rouse Avenue Court

the contention, ED claimed it not only had statements of other accused corroborating the money trail but also had digital evidence that established call data records of the accused meeting Singh and his associates.

In its remand note and enforcement case information report, the ED claimed that "the accused is directly related to receipt of proceeds of crime to the tune of Rs 2 crore in respect of Delhi liquor scam". The agency further said its investigation

found that "this amount was delivered by an employee of co-accused Dinesh Arora, who has already turned an approver in this case, at the residence of this accused (Sanjay Singh) to his close associate Sarvesh Mishra in two different instalments".

Arora, according to ED, had paid Rs 1 crore out of Rs 3 crore he had collected as bribes from co-accused Sameer Mahandru during August-October 2021 on the instructions of another co-accused in the case, Vijay Nair.

The ED claimed these 'proceeds of crime' were used for the Goa elections. Another Rs 1 crore allegedly delivered by Arora to Singh's associates, the ED claimed, was collected from the 'South Group' and was meant for the party fund of AAP.

According to the agency, Arora also said that he had called Singh to confirm receipt of the

payments. "Besides the statement of concerned persons involved in delivery of the said amounts and transactions, there is also some other evidence to corroborate the same in the form of CDRs and cell locations of mobile phones of above employee of approver Dinesh Arora as well as Sarvesh Mishra," the ED has said.

Singh, in his personal appeal to the court, asked why the approvers had decided to implicate him. The ED objected to the allegation, saying the court is not a political forum. "I ask you with folded hands, give me the strictest punishment if there is any truth in the allegations. But these allegations are all false. I was not summoned even once. Why is the law different for me?" On the approvers, he said no one had "remembered" his name before. "Suddenly, what has happened that he (Arora) gave a statement against me?"

As BJP intensifies attack, Thakur targets Kejriwal

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi: A day after the Supreme Court's poser to Enforcement Directorate on why it had not investigated the Aam Aadmi Party leadership when it was, going by the agency's charge, the main beneficiary of the alleged liquor scam, BJP taunted AAP by saying there was a strong possibility of the arrest of the "kingpin" of the excise embezzlement.

"Kejriwal ji (Delhi CM) has no explanation for the liquor scam that has brought shame to him. So far, the deputy chief minister (Manish Sisodia) and others have gone to jail, but the kingpin is still out. The probe is under way and the turn of the kingpin will also come," I&B minister

Driven by the fear of defeat in the Lok Sabha polls, BJP has imposed an "undisclosed emergency" in India, attempting to suppress every voice raised against it, alleged the Delhi government minister. "They claimed that they had first raided Sisodia's house and found nothing, then raided his ancestral village, searched his locker, and even raided his office, but still found nothing. And now, the same story is unfolding with Singh."

Delhi BJP spokesperson Praveen Shankar Kapoor said AAP ministers had been forgetting that recovery of cash didn't matter in Enforcement Directorate cases. "It is the establishment of the money trail that matters," he pointed out.

fielding a battery of spokespersons to rebut the charge of vendetta.

"Agli kiski baari hai, ye media ke headline banne ki tareeji hai (whose turn is going to be next? Media should start working on the headline)," the minister said, while talking to reporters in poll-bound Chhattisgarh, his jibe coinciding with the SC's clarification that its remark about the AAP leadership was not meant to implicate it.

Thakur rejected Kejriwal's defence of Sanjay Singh and other AAP functionaries. "All persons to whom Kejriwal had distributed certificates of honesty are in jail since the last one year. Who gave him the right to distribute the certificates?" he asked.

BJP spokesman Sambit Patra too hit out at Kejriwal's outfit. Talking to reporters in Bhubaneswar, he mocked Arunachal for claiming that ED had found no evidence of corrup-

tion during the search it carried out on Singh's premises, and said that unlike petty thieves, AAP functionaries knew how to cover their tracks. "They are not petty thieves but kingpins of corruption," he said.

Later, party MP Parvesh Verma and spokesman Shehzad Poonawala held a press conference and made a strong defence of the ED action citing serious allegations against Singh. Talking to reporters at Swami Vivekananda airport in Raipur, Thakur was relentless in his attack on AAP and said "those who were elected to power by raising the slogan of 'India against corruption' have now been found to be steeped in corruption."

Asked about Kejriwal's allegations that PM Narendra Modi ordered Singh's arrest as political vendetta, Thakur said, "People are laughing at Arvind Kejriwal ji and tension can be seen on his face."

Singh arrest: AAP takes to streets, says BJP rattled

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

"Don't stop, don't bend, we are the revolution."

Rai said, "When nothing was found, why was he arrested without evidence? BJP is claiming that the arrest was made in connection with the liquor scam."

Singh's arrest is not an isolated incident. Rather, there has been a spree of authoritarianism over the past four days. The entire country has witnessed that journalists who raised their voices against corruption in the Modi government, who questioned unemployment and inflation, were arrested," he said.



Police said 31 people were detained to maintain law and order

BJP prayer at Rajghat for 'liberation' from Kejriwal

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi: The BJP MPs and MLAs along with other party leaders held a prayer meeting at Mahatma Gandhi's memorial, Rajghat, on Thursday for the "liberation" of Delhi from the "corrupt AAP government" in the city.

Assembly leader of Opposition Ramvir Singh Bidhuri, along with MPs Harsh Vardhan and Pravesh Sahib Singh, visited Rajghat, the party said. Bidhuri said, "The entire party of Arvind Kejriwal is based on the foundation of corruption and now the pillars of this building have started falling one by one."

He said: "Manish Sisodia and Sanjay Singh are already under investigation... and very soon Arvind Kejriwal will also be under investigation."

He alleged that Kejriwal

has now become synonymous with corruption and the fall of his government was certain.

Harsh Vardhan said Kejriwal had betrayed whoever he considered his ideal. "He started the Corruption Free India movement with the support of Anna Hazare and betrayed him and formed a party which only did corruption and ruined Delhi. Mahatma Gandhi was always against liquor, but Kejriwal made Delhi a liquor city," the MP said.

MP Pravesh Sahib Singh said: "The day is not far when the new address of AAP will be Tihar jail."

Delhi BJP chief Virendra Sachdeva said: "Mahatma Gandhi said liquor causes physical and spiritual degradation. Here, we have seen that liquor has caused the moral degradation of Kejriwal. AAP is drowned in corruption."

Rai said raids were being done in the homes of leader of the DMK, which is affiliated with the INDIA alliance.

Cabinet minister Atishi said not a single penny of corruption was found. "Despite this, he (Singh) was arrested. This reflects the BJP's anxiety about losing the 2024 elections." She said that an undeclared state of emergency has begun in the country. AAP leader Kuldeep Kumar said: "We have been protesting peacefully but the police misbehaved with party leaders. They were dragged and taken away. These things will not dent our spirit. We will continue fighting. The people of Delhi are seeing how BJP is trying to break the spirit of an honest political party."

Al cabin crew files complaint over lewd action of passenger

New Delhi: A case has been registered on an Air India cabin crew member's complaint against a passenger's misbehavior with her and other travellers.

The incident took place on a New York-Delhi flight. A case was registered on October 1.

In her complaint, the cabin crew member wrote that she was working in the economy-class section when the passenger, identified as Abhinav Sharma of Jalandhar on Air India flight AI102, started making lewd comments and abusing other passengers.

The cabin crew member first gave him a verbal warning and then a written warning. When he did not change his behaviour, the crew had to restrain him. "The accused (person) made racist remarks and even abused other crew members. He went onto say that 'you' girls are available for two dollars. The passenger was loud and even disrespectful towards our country (India)," the complainant cabin crew member said.

The department currently has 63 depots — 23 for cluster buses and 40 for DTC vehicles.

Officials said the department has signed a memorandum of understanding with the Delhi Metro Rail Corporation to develop the terminal under a public-private partnership.

Though Delhi Transport Corporation and the transport department have been mulling redeveloping the existing depots into multi-storeyed terminal buildings with a facility to operate hotels, food courts and offices too, it is



NEW HOPE: The bus depot will come up on a plot of 7,735 square metres

only recently that concrete steps have been taken in this direction.

According to officials, two more bus depots

— Vasant Vihar and Hari Nagar — are also being redeveloped into multi-storeyed terminals.

The department has brought in NBC India Limited, a central public sector enterprise under the housing and urban affairs ministry, for the project. The designs of both the terminals have been finalised and tenders were floated earlier this year to engage a contractor to build the terminals.

"We are planning the redevelopment of terminals in a way that they are self-sustained with revenue from the sale of shop spaces to cover the cost of building the depots," an official said.

The department currently has 63 depots — 23 for cluster buses and 40 for DTC vehicles.

Officials said the department has signed a memorandum of understanding to redevelop its three inter-state bus terminals at Kashmere Gate, Sarai Kale Khan and Anand Vihar.

23 of the Aircraft Act, TN



शोक संदेश

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Cop Was Killed Just A Week After She Returned To Delhi

Had Gone To Bulandshahr When Covid Pandemic Broke Out

TIMES NEWS NETWORK



New Delhi: An investigation into the murder of former Delhi Police constable Monika Yadav has revealed that she was killed a week after coming to Delhi from her hometown, Bulandshahr, in 2021.

Police sources said she had gone to Bulandshahr during Covid-19 and returned to the city to prepare for her UPSC exams six days before the murder. "She was staying as a paying guest in Mukherjee Nagar. The accused constable, Surender Singh Rana, used to go there and force her to meet him," a police source said.

Investigators said Yadav and Rana had an argument on September 8, 2021, after she rejected his advances and told him that she would tell his wife about his behaviour. Rana



Monika Yadav and Surender Singh Rana

then planned to kill her. He told her to accompany him to his home. "The accused took her to an isolated place in Burari Pushta, strangled her and buried her body," the police source said.

Police have also found out that Rana used a specific phone from which Monika's sister used to get calls from an alleged "Arvind". The phone was used for no other purpose as Rana knew that the CDR analysis would

vin to make phone calls to her family. "He wanted to make sure the family would not get to know the exact location of Yadav, so that's why he and his brother-in-law travelled to various states and then made the calls," the source said.

When police officers asked Rana about the phone, he gave varying answers. "He first told us that he threw it somewhere. Then, he changed his statement and claimed he had burned it," the source further said.

Police have again sought three days' remand for Rana to recover the phone. They are searching for the woman who was seen accompanying Rana and Ravi to a dhaba to create the false impression that Yadav was alive. Teams have been sent to multiple states where they are questioning hotel and dhaba owners.

He took the phone to various states, where he asked Ra-

DDA to open outdoor area of Roshanara Club soon

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi: Delhi Development Authority (DDA) has told Delhi High Court that it plans to open the outdoor area of Roshanara Club, the cradle of cricket, which it had recently sealed.

Delhi Development Authority said the century-old club would remain the same but the ownership would be with the land-owning agency. The clarification was made before Justice Anup Jairam Bhambhani during the hearing of a contempt petition filed by Roshanara Club Ltd against the agency after it sealed the premises on September 29 and took possession of the historic club.

The move came nearly six months after an eviction notice was served on the Roshanara Club by the agency as its lease had expired.

The club moved the High Court, arguing that in April the court had "directed that no coercive steps be taken against

DDA COUNSEL SAYS
Not only the 4,000 members, but for all... the Roshanara Club will be opening its portals. It is going to be for everybody, including the members. No facility is going to be restricted

the petitioner club solely on the ground that the lease of the petitioner club has already expired", yet Delhi Development Authority moved in.

"What is the purpose of the court's order of no coercive steps? This is the extreme coercive step which they have taken by sealing the club," the club's counsel argued. However, Delhi Development Authority submitted that members of the club will continue to remain members and it is within its right to exercise its ownership of the property.

"Delhi Development Aut-

hority is now taking an egalitarian view. Not only the 4,000 members, but for all the Roshanara Club will be opening its portals. It is going to be for everybody, including the members. No facility is going to be restricted. It is not that the club will shut down," the agency's counsel said.

The standing counsel for DDA submitted that there was a plan to open the outdoor facilities, including the major BCCI ground, cricket ground and other grounds, within a week and it would be open to all.

However, Justice Bhambhani observed: "If that is the plan of action then the whole context and backdrop will change. I don't mean to be elitist but a club is a club. It is by definition for members and a closed affair: You can open and close memberships. But if you are going to throw it open as a general sports facility for everyone... where is the continuity or legacy?" he asked.

The court will take up the matter next week.

New Delhi: Delhi Police arrested a gangster and recovered 28 sophisticated pistols and 154 live cartridges in north Delhi on Wednesday. An investigation has revealed that the accused wanted to revive his gang in the absence of a gang leader.

The accused was identified as Bintu, (23), a native of Bhiwani in Haryana and a member of the Kasni gang. Cops received an input that one Lalit would visit Civil Lines to supply illegal firearms and ammunition to Bintu on Wednesday. "We laid a trap and nabbed Bintu. The accused had pointed the pistol towards the police party, but after brief scuffle he was overpowered by the team," police said.

Bintu told cops that their rival gang was planning to eliminate his gang leader, Pradeep Kasni, who was lodged in Bhondsi Jail.

Gangster arrested, arms seized

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

New AC block of hostel to cater to 117 women

Vibha.Sharma@timesgroup.com

New Delhi: New Delhi Municipal Council has given the nod to the proposal for constructing a new fully airconditioned block at Indira Niketan Women's Hostel at Laxmi Bai Nagar with facilities to accommodate 117 women.

The new building, with a modern design, will have rainwater harvesting and firefighting systems. Currently, there are three working women hostels in NDMC jurisdiction with accommodation for 500 women. While Indira Niketan

can house 208 women, Akansa 88, and Swati 207.

At a recent meeting of New Delhi Palika Parishad Samaj Kalyan Samiti, a decision was taken that working women or researchers living in Delhi can also apply for women hostels in the NDMC area.

NDMC vice chairman Satish Upadhyay said that decisions were taken to improve the living conditions in working women's hostels and old age homes. "So far, Delhi residents were not allowed to apply for accommodation in women's hostels but now this

will not be the case...we also planned to convert the rooms in working women hostels into double seater.

Each of these rooms will have a facility for one washroom. This transformation will be accompanied by a revision of fee structures to align with contemporary living standards," he said.

In the meeting, a decision was also taken to provide 24X7 ambulance service with drivers for night shifts at Aashirwaad and Aaradhana old age

homes, in addition to improved wifi services.

To enhance energy efficiency, NDMC is planning to upgrade its existing buildings of senior citizens homes and working women hostels with sensor-based LED lights which will work only when inmates are present. Improving toilet facilities, food quality and digitalisation of all payments related to the Samaj Kalyan Samiti (SKS) were also discussed in the meeting," said Upadhyay.



NOTICE INVITING BID

DBO Tender for Tertiary Treatment of Sewage for Industrial Reuse at Taloja MIDC

CIDCO of Maharashtra Limited through the process of E-tendering invites "ON LINE" item rate bids in three packet system (Packets A, B & C) on "Design, Build and Operate (DBO) basis as DBO contract" from experienced prospective bidders fulfilling the mandatory eligibility criteria and scoring minimum qualifying marks of 75 in the Technical bid evaluation, comprising of total 100 marks, as per Clause no.46 Table 2, registered with CIDCO Ltd. or with Central Govt., or with State Govt. of Maharashtra and its undertakings in class as mentioned below:

- Name of Work:** DBO Tender for Tertiary Treatment of Sewage for Industrial Reuse at Taloja MIDC. Milestone-1 (Phase-1) comprising of 50 MLD Kalamboli STP Refurbishment with Additional Works, 20 MLD Tertiary Treatment Plant, 20 MLD Tertiary Treated Sewage Pumping Station with Rising Main and Elevated Service Reservoir. Milestone-2 (Phase-1) comprising of 70 MLD Kharghar STP Refurbishment with Additional Works and 20 MLD Secondary Sewage Pumping Station with Rising Main. Milestone-3 (Phase-2) comprising of 20 MLD Secondary Sewage Pumping Station, 20 MLD Tertiary Treatment Plant and 20 MLD Tertiary Treated Sewage Pumping Station and 10 Years of Operation and Maintenance after completion of Milestone-1 for all the above units. (The TTP & TTSP shall be based on 70:30 deferred payment model)
- C.A. No.:** 03/CIDCO/EE(WSP)/2023-24
- E.M.D.:** ₹2,56,000,000
- Registration Class:** Class – I A & above
- Completion Period:** Design Build Period: Milestone-1: 24 Months (including monsoon) from the date of award of contract. Milestone-2: 36 Months (including monsoon) from the date of award of contract. Milestone-3: 12 Months (including monsoon) Work to commence after one year from the completion of Milestone-1.
- Operation & Maintenance Period:** For 10 years after completion of Milestone-1
- Tender Processing Fee:** ₹70,800.00/- (including 18% GST (Non-Refundable))

Bid Document along with bidding programme will be available on the website mahatenders.gov.in from 10/10/2023 at 17.01 Hrs.

Superintending Engineer (W/S)
CIDCO/PR/334/2023-24

DIRECT ADMISSION NOTICE
Limited Seats in B.TECH CSE (2023 Batch)
IN PRESTIGIOUS DELHI / NCR COLLEGE UNDER MANAGEMENT CATEGORY.
upto **100%** SCHOLARSHIPS TO MERITORIOUS / ECONOMICALLY WEAKER STUDENTS
Contact: 9667180341 | 9311098463

Indian Institute of Technology Bombay
Powai, Mumbai 400076, India

UCEED 2024

Applications are invited for Undergraduate Common Entrance Exam for Design (UCEED) for admission to B.Des at IIT Bombay, IIT Delhi, IIT Guwahati, IIT Hyderabad and IITD Jabalpur.

Eligibility: Class XII (or equivalent) students who passed in 2023 or appearing in 2024 (refer to the UCEED 2024 Information Brochure for details).

Course: B.Des. **Duration:** 4 Years

IMPORTANT DATES

Online Registration Oct. 3 - Oct. 31, 2023

Examination Jan. 21, 2024 (Sunday)
9:00 am to 12:00 noon

For more information
Website: www.ceed.iitb.ac.in

CEED 2024

Applications are invited for Common Entrance Exam for Design (CEED) for M.Des at IISc Bangalore, IIT Bombay, IIT Delhi, IIT Guwahati, IIT Hyderabad, IIT Jodhpur, IIT Kanpur, IIT Roorkee and IITD Jabalpur; and for PhD at several IITs and Design schools.

Eligibility: Candidates who have completed a degree or diploma programme of minimum 3 years (after 10+2), or appearing for final examination of such a programme by July 2024 (refer to the CEED 2024 Information Brochure for details).

Course: M.Des. **Duration:** 2 Years

IMPORTANT DATES

Online Registration Oct. 3 - Oct. 31, 2023

Examination Jan. 21, 2024 (Sunday)
9:00 am to 12:00 noon

For more information
Website: www.ceed.iitb.ac.in

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Terms and conditions apply. Images are for representation purpose. Features and accessories shown may not be a part of standard equipment and are subject to change without prior notice. The actual car colour may vary. The dark shade on the glass is due to the lighting effect. ^Benefits up to INR 1 00 000 on Taigun topline AT (without Electric seats). (Cash benefits up to ₹ 40,000, Exchange and loyalty bonus up to INR 60,000). Benefits up to INR 80,000 on Virtus topline AT (without Electric seats). (Cash benefits up to INR 40,000, Exchange and loyalty bonus up to INR 40,000). Loyalty bonus is applicable on all variants and for individual customers only. Exchange and Corporate benefits at the sole discretion of authorised dealers only. *Exclusive Program for Corporate Customers at select locations. **Free services applicable on 1 000 Kilometers, 7 500 kilometers and 15 000 kilometers. In service, only labour charge are free. To know more about the scheme please visit our nearest Volkswagen dealership.

Authorised Dealers: Volkswagen Rajdhani (Wazirpur & Paschim Vihar) 9999278000, 8700364207; Volkswagen Delhi West (Moti Nagar) 9999278000, 8595948291; Volkswagen Dwarka (Rajapuri) 9999278000, 8595948291; Volkswagen Capital (Fazlabad & Okhla) 9512095126; Volkswagen Delhi East (Patparganj) 9586224000, 8860311311; Volkswagen Delhi South (Lajpat Nagar) 9540069090, 9540019816; Volkswagen Safdarjung (Safdarjung Enclave) 8750042011, 8750065138; Volkswagen Gurugram (Golf Course Road) 769232086, 9205479001; Volkswagen Gurgaon (MG Road) 9540019801, 9911599744; Volkswagen NCR East (Ghaziabad) 9999278000, 9999129726; Volkswagen Noida (Sector 6) 9510645678, 9582226976; Volkswagen Noida (Sector 63) 9582226976; Volkswagen Ambala: 7056370009, 7056430004. Volkswagen Bareilly: 9917575205, 9837081850; Volkswagen Kashi: 9044052461. DWA Outlets: Volkswagen Chandigarh - 9878079999; Volkswagen Solan - 7807880155; Volkswagen Mohali - 9915764777; Volkswagen Pathankot - 9915402777.

390 safai staff get regularisation letters

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi: Municipal Corporation of Delhi on Thursday regularised 390 of its sanitation workers as urban development minister Saurabh Bharadwaj and mayor Shelly Oberoi handed over appointment letters to these workers which included nullah beldars.

"Earlier, in phase-I, 370 MCD employees were regularised. We will continue to regularise the re-

maining employees," said Oberoi. "This is happening for the first time that the beldars of the erstwhile north and east corporations are being regularised. Nullah beldars neither had a union for workers nor their voices were heard by MCD earlier. However, now, chief minister Arvind Kejriwal has listened to them," said Bharadwaj.

Stating that regularisation of employees had slowed down sin-

ce AAP took over MCD, leader of opposition in MCD and BJP councillor Raja Iqbal Singh said: "AAP government is selectively regularising only a small percentage of employees on compassionate grounds and neglecting the rest, even though all the employees should be regularised according to the rules."

There was no immediate reaction available from AAP on these claims.

NOTICE INVITING PROPOSAL GOVERNMENT OF MAHARASHTRA Public Works Division, Ahmednagar. NOTICE FOR Request for Proposal (RFP)

Tenders Executive Engineer, Public Work Division, Ahmednagar. Dist. Ahmednagar
email - ahmednagar.ee@mahapwd.gov.in (Phone No. 0241/2325334)

E-TENDER NOTICE/ 35/FOR 2023-24

INVITATION of Request for Proposal (RFP) for Consultancy Services for Feasibility Study cum DPR, Survey and Preparation of Land Plan for Widening to two lane with Paved Shoulders to various roads as per package mentioned below in the state of Maharashtra (Under EPC). Public Works Department, Mumbai (the "Authority") is engaged in the development of highways and as part of this endeavor, the Authority has decided to undertake development of Improvement to various roads in Maharashtra State. The Public Works department in Government of Maharashtra through Maharashtra Road Improvement Project with financial assistance of Asian Development Bank (the "Projects") has decided to carry out the bidding process for selection of the Consultant to whom the D P R Preparation of the Project may be awarded.

Brief particulars of the Project are as follows:

State	Project	Project Length (Km)	Duration of the project	Cost of Tender Fee (RFP) Document
Maharashtra	Request for Proposal (RFP) for Consultancy Services for Feasibility Study cum DPR, Survey and Preparation of Land Plan for Widening to two lane with Paved Shoulders to various roads as per package mentioned below in the state of Maharashtra (Under EPC mode). Improvement to Kashti Kharatwadi Pedaon Road (MDR 64) Km 0/00 to 13/200, Pedgaon Shrigonda Road (MDR 62) Km. 21/00 to 34/100, Kashti Shrigonda Deolgaon, Mandavgun Road (MDR 63) Km.15/600 to 48/00, Tal. Shrigonda, Dist. Ahmadnagar in the state of Maharashtra with financial aid of Asian Development Bank (Under EPC mode).	58.70	365 days	Rs. 15075/- Online payment through NEFT/RTGS per package
	2) Improvement of Kolgaon Surodi Vadali Shrigonda Pedgaon Road (MDR 62) Km 0/00 to 21/00 Tal. Shrigonda Dist. Ahmadnagar in the state of Maharashtra with financial aid of Asian Development Bank (Under EPC mode).	21.00		

e-tender Time Table

Sr. No.	Event Description	Time/Duration
1	Download Period of online Tender	Dt. 6/10/2023 at 10.00 am. to Dt. 13/10/2023 at 18.00 p.m.
2	Last date and time for online raising of technical points for clarification	Online raising of technical points on or before DL 10/10/2023 up to 17.30 Hrs.
	Last date for receiving queries for pre-bid/ Pre-proposal meeting (Pre- bid Meeting & Place)	Pre-bid meeting in the office of the Chief Engineer (Konkan) and Project Director (EAP), Public Works Region, Bandhkan Bhawan, Mumbai on DL 11/10/2023 at 12.30 Hrs.
3	Submit Hash to Create online Tender by Contractor (Technical and financial Bid Last date and time)	Dt. 13/10/2023 at 18.00 p.m.
4	Period for online Super Hash generation (for Office use only)	Dt. NIL Up to Hrs.
5	Period of online Decryption and Re- encryption for tender details by Contractor.	Dt. 6/10/2023 at 10.00 am. to Dt. 13/10/2023 at 18.00 p.m.
6	Place, Date and timing of opening Request For Proposal	Dt. 16/10/2023 at 11.00 am. in the office of Superintending Engineer, Public Works Circle, Ahmednagar.

Note:
1. All the payment towards cost of Tender forms will be done online only through RTGS/NEFT. It should be noted that one should complete these activities at least one day in advance.
2. All eligible/interested consultants who want to participate in tendering process should compulsorily get enrolled on e-tendering portal "<http://mahatenders.gov.in>" in the appropriate category applicable to them.
3. Contact below for difficulties in online submission of tenders. - Desk Number 1800 3070 2232, Mobile Number +91787807985/86, Mobile Number +7878007972/731.2.8
4. Other terms and conditions are detailed in online e-tender form. Right to reject any or all online bid of work, without assigning any reasons thereof, is reserved with department.

Outward No. AB / Tender/8778
Dt. 3/10/2023 Office of the Executive Engineer,
Public Works Division, Ahmednagar.

DGIPR 2023-2024/3958

NORTHERN RAILWAY TENDER NOTICE	
The Chief Administrative Officer/Constituted Member, Northern Railway, Kashmere Gate, Delhi for and on behalf of the President of India invites Open e-tender under Two Packet System for the under noted work:-	
Full Name : Construction of two lane ROB including approaches in lieu of L-Xing 571 at KM 1493/361 on New Delhi-Palwal section.	
Approx. cost of work : Rs. 41.96 Cr.	
Completion period of the work : 24 (Twenty Four) months.	
Earnest Money to be deposited : Rs. 22,48,00/-	
Sale/availability of tender document will be available in IREPS web site i.e. document on Rly. Website www.ireps.gov.in from 05.10.2023 to 27.10.2023 upto 11.30hrs	
Last date/Time of upload of tenders by the tenderer on IREPS web site w.e.f. 13.10.2023 to 27.10.2023.	
Date and time of opening of tender : 27.10.2023 at 11.30 hours. The detailed tender notice also can be seen on the Notice Board of the above office	
Tender Notice No. 74-W-13-147-WA-SSB Dated : 05.10.2023 SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE 3092/23	

OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER, MUNICIPAL CORPORATION, GWALIOR (M.P.)	
Narayankrishna Sejwakan Bhawan Near Taran Pushkar, City Center, Gwalior	
Tel No. : 0751-2438300, 4080352, Fax No. : 0751-2434249	
NIT No. 2023-IAD-314025-1/MPGM/C/23/23/1/PHE/Maint.Div/GwL/2023 Gwalior, Date : 03/10/2023	
जनरल एरोड रोड 701 Notice Inviting Tender दिनांक 05-10-2023	
On behalf of Gwalior Municipal Corporation, M.P. online percentage rate bids for the following work are invited on portal http://www.mpmtenders.gov.in from registered contractors and competent firms.	
Description of Works	
Probable Amount (In Rs.)	Completion Period (In Days)
1,59,37,733/-	365 days including Rainy Season
15ve vitt aayog ke antart praapt dhanashri mein se Dakshin vidhansabha gwalior mein purv se bichhe huye sewerage network main 100 mm dia ke sewer ke sthaan par design ke anusar sewer bichhaye Jane evan 100mm dia se adhik dia ke bichhe sewerage network mein jahan proper slop (sewer toolane athava dhasakne) nahin hai, vaahan design ke anusar sewerage network bichhaye jaane ke liye.	
Interested bidders can view the NIT of portal http://mpmtenders.gov.in , the bid document can be purchased only on online from dated 03.10.2023 to 01.11.2023 upto 5.30 PM.	
Executive Engineer Water Supply Dakshin Vidhansabha, Municipal Corporation Gwalior	

NORTHERN RAILWAY OPEN E-TENDER NOTICE	
Sr. Divisional Engineer-II/Northern Railway, New Delhi for and on behalf of President of India invites e-tender on the prescribed form for the under noted work.	
Name of work with location, cost of work and Earnest money:-	

1. Renewal of steel channel sleeper by H-Beam Sleeper for Bridge No. 67 UP, 67A DN, 79 UP & 79 DN in the section of SSE/P way SNP under ADEN/PPN.

Approx. Cost : Rs. 94,750,52.7. Earnest Money : 1.90,00,000

2. PNP-Annual Zone Work for Repair and Maintenance of Staff Quarter and Service Buildings from GNU to KFU on DUK section in the Jurisdiction of Section Engineer (W) N.Rly. PNP on DUK section, under Assistant Engineer N.Rly. PNP for the Period Ending 30.06.2024.

Approx. Cost : Rs. 71,73,398.14. Earnest Money : 1.95,50,000

3. JP-Annual Zone Work for Repair and Maintenance of Staff Quarter and Service Buildings etc. in the Jurisdiction of Senior section Engineer (W) PNP on JHU/PNP section under Assistant Engineer N.Rly. PNP for the Period Ending 30.06.2024.

Approx. Cost : Rs. 71,22,648.93. Earnest Money : 1.42,50,000

4. Crossing of 1x300mm dia M.S. pipe dia through 1x800mm dia casing pipe under Railway track at Km. 135/3-5 between TRR & NLKR Railway Stations on DLI-UUMB Section.

Approx. Cost : Rs. 35,38,720.45. Earnest Money : 70,800/-

Earnest Money should be in the form of net banking or payment gateway only. Note : FDR or Demand Draft will not be accepted as EMD for tender invited on IREPS as per Railway Board's letter No.2015-CE-II/CT/5/1 dated 31.08.2016.

Completion Period: 1 & 4. 08 Months, 2&3. 12 Months

Date and time of submission of tender and opening of tender: Upto 15.00 hrs. on 27.10.2023 opening of e-tender at 15.00 hrs. on 27.10.2023.

Website particulars, published tender, notice location etc complete details of tender can be seen and website where the tender form can be downloaded: Above tender available on IREPS site i.e. www.ireps.gov.in

Similar nature of work: 1. Fabrication/slaying of Channel Sleepers in running track. 2 & 3. Any Civil work other than track work.

NOTE: All attachments must be self attested by the tenderers and the affidavit should be submitted in the new format attached with tender conditions as per Annexure-XXIV is compulsorily.

No.: 128-W/280/Notice/23-24/W-IIT/37-38, 39 & 40 Dated: 05.10.2023 3096/2023 SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE

DJB Finds Over 200 Illegal Borewells In Central Delhi

Inspections Bring Hotels In Paharganj, Karol Bagh Under Lens

Siddhanta.Mishra@timesgroup.com



New Delhi: Delhi Jal Board (DJB) in inspections done in August and September found out that there were 246 hotels in the Karol Bagh-Paharganj area allegedly extracting groundwater illegally.

As per the standard operating procedure (SOP) of the department of environment, the board is likely to shut down all the borewells to stop illegal extraction of groundwater.

Varun Gulati, a water activist, had filed a petition in the National Green Tribunal (NGT) in April this year, saying that several hotels had illegal borewells installed in hotels and guest houses and the agencies need to take action in the matter.

Based on the directions of the tribunal, a joint inspection was done by Delhi Jal Board, Delhi Pollution Control Committee (DPCC) and Municipal Corporation of Delhi (MCD) and found the violations.

The hotel owners say that due to shortage of water, they turn to drilling borewells. In 2020, the Delhi go-

vernment prepared a standard operating procedure for prohibition of illegal activities related to use of borewells to extract water.

"Drawing ground water through a borewell or tubewell for domestic, commercial, agricultural or industrial use without the prior permission of the 'competent authority' will be

considered illegal and without authority of law," the SOP said. Hotel owners cannot run borewells illegally. On the other hand, Delhi Jal Board should provide water supply as required and also the DM should consider giving permission for borewells as per norms if the water table is satisfactory in the areas.

"The hotel and guesthouse owners have been served notices by DJB. There is a need for clarity on the policy regarding borewells" a hotel owner in Paharganj said on the condition of anonymity.

In case an illegal borewell is in operation, it will be closed and electricity supply to the well will be disconnected even if it is through DG sets. In case an illegal borewell is under construction, the drilling rig will be sealed, government rules say.

In order to increase water production, the Delhi government is working on installing 500 tubewells. Many such tubewells will be around sewage treatment plants and artificial lakes where the treated water will be cleaned and supplied further into the network.

Passengers can now simply message a 'Hi' to +91 9650855800 on WhatsApp or scan the QR code to effortlessly purchase metro tickets using their smartphones.

This user-friendly WhatsApp chatbot is available in both English and Hindi. The service now extends to the entire DMRC network, including Gurugram Rapid Metro in collaboration with Meta and their authorized partner Pelocal Fintech Pvt. Ltd.

According to DMRC officials, a maximum of six QR tickets can be generated by a user in a single attempt. Tickets can be booked between 6am and 9pm for all lines and from 4am to 11pm for the Airport Line. Ticket cancellations are not allowed in WhatsApp ticketing. A marginal convenience fee will be applied to transactions via credit/debit card, while none will be charged for UPI-based transactions.

Vikas Kumar, Managing Director of DMRC, said, "WhatsApp is the preferred messaging platform for the majority of Indians and buying a metro ticket will now be as easy as messaging a friend or family member. We are confident that this integration will encourage more commuters to travel with the Delhi Metro."

Metro extends WhatsApp ticketing to entire network</h2

The Summit that brought Gujarat onto the Springboard of Success

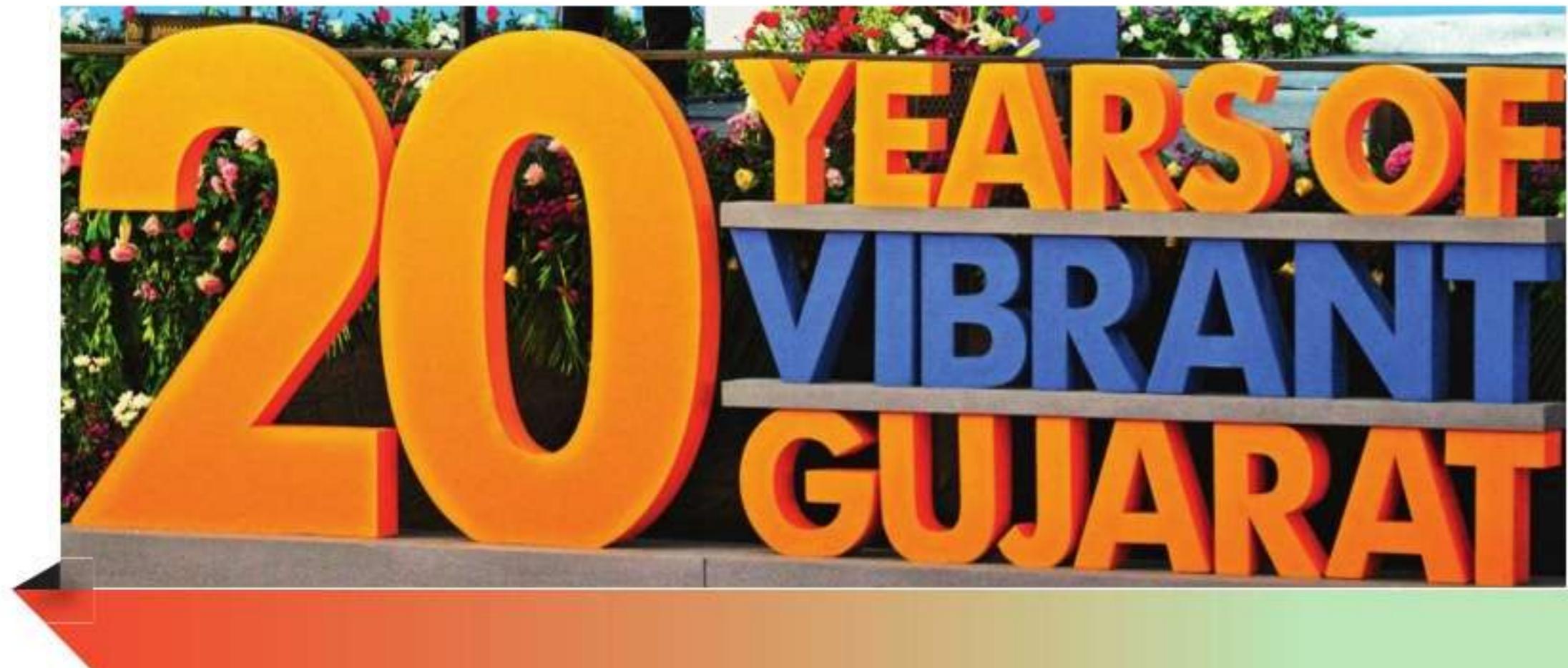
Commemorating its 20th anniversary, the Vibrant Gujarat Global Summit has emerged as a formidable platform showcasing the state's industrial and administrative excellence. Gujarat is now a bankable business destination as the state government is relentlessly developing investor-friendly ecosystems, Ease of Doing Business initiatives and an impeccable industrial infrastructure.



Narendra Modi,
Prime Minister



Bhupendra Patel,
Chief Minister



GUJARAT'S INDUSTRIAL INFRA

Several significant projects were initiated in earlier editions of the Vibrant Gujarat Global Summit:

Gujarat International Finance Technology (GIFT) City: In 2007, GIFT City, India's first greenfield International Financial Service Center (IFSC) in Gandhinagar, was conceived. It spans 886 acres with 62 million sq. ft. of built-up area, attracting a committed investment of USD 1.57 billion. GIFT City is home to India's first International Exchange (India INX) and major institutions like the World Trade Centre, BSE, NSE, SBI, LIC, and more, making it a financial and fintech hub.

Dholera Special Investment Region (SIR): Established in 2009 under the Special Investment Region Act, Dholera SIR is a greenfield industrial city located 100 km southwest of Ahmedabad. Spanning 920 sq.km, it's India's first platinum-rated industrial smart city, focusing on sectors like defence, aviation, electronics, and biotechnology. Dholera promotes sustainable urban development and contributes to balanced regional growth.

Delhi Mumbai Industrial Corridor (DMIC): DMIC is India's ambitious infrastructure program aimed at expanding manufacturing and services. Dholera SIR is one of the eight manufacturing cities being developed under DMIC, with an estimated investment of USD 100 billion. It benefits from the Western Dedicated Freight Corridor (DFC), with 36% of the 1500 km DFC passing through Gujarat.

It has truly been the Summit of Success, celebrating Gujarat's achievements across all facets — its administration, investor-friendly ecosystem, industrial policies, infrastructure, Ease of Doing Business, and much more. The Vibrant Gujarat Summit exemplifies the state's efficient administration, a legacy spanning from the tenure of Prime Minister Narendra Modi when he served as Chief Minister to the present leadership under Chief Minister Bhupendra Patel.

Addressing the Summit of Success at Science City, Ahmedabad, marking two decades of the Vibrant Gujarat Global Summit, Prime Minister Narendra Modi highlighted its transformation from a one-time event to a prestigious institution. He credited its success to key elements: idea, imagination, and implementation. The Vibrant Summit showcases Gujarat's capacity for effective decision-making and a focused approach, spotlighting its people's potential and sectoral opportunities to the world. It serves as a platform to showcase India's talent and Gujarat's rich heritage on a global stage.

The Prime Minister urged domestic and international industrialists to identify development opportunities and explore them in upcoming Vibrant Summits. Reflecting on the past, the Prime Minister recalled Gujarat's challenges before 2001, including water scarcity, earthquakes, and economic turmoil. "I pledged to uplift Gujarat from its challenges, making the Vibrant Gujarat Summit our key tool," said the Prime Minister. This transformation has turned it into a global Summit of Success. Gujarat's commitment to Good Governance, policy-driven approach, and equitable growth attracted industries.

The Prime Minister noted India's global leadership in sustainability, with Gujarat playing a pivotal role. In the last two decades, Gujarat has taken strides across various sectors like automobile manufacturing, chemicals, food processing, medical devices, diamonds, ceramics, and more, achieving

new milestones. Prime Minister Narendra Modi has also emphasized the importance of the next 20 years, with Vibrant Gujarat approaching its 40th anniversary and India nearing its centenary of independence in 2047.

Chief Minister Bhupendra Patel congratulated Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi for India's historic G-20 Presidency success. He highlighted India's global collaboration under the Prime Minister's visionary leadership, leading to new industries, technology, and employment opportunities. The Chief Minister noted that the Vibrant Summit, initiated by Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi 20 years ago, has evolved into a powerful symbol of Gujarat's progress and global prominence in industries, investments,



and job creation.

He emphasised that Gujarat, thanks to the Vibrant Summit, is now a leading state in exports, contributing 33 % of India's merchandise export and attracting Fortune 500 companies. The Prime Minister's belief in

Gujarat's potential, encapsulated in "Gujarat Can and Gujaratis Will," has transformed into the mantra of 'Sauno Saath, Sauno Vikas.' Gujarat boasts of world-class projects like GIFT City, Dholera, and DREAM City, contributing to India's economic growth under Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi's leadership. Gujarat's focus on emerging sectors like semiconductors, green hydrogen, AI, 5G, advanced materials, and e-commerce aligns with India's goal of becoming a five trillion-dollar economy by 2027.

The state aims to become a Green Hydrogen Hub, combatting global climate change, and position itself as the 'Gateway to the Future' for the world. Minister of Industries Balvantsinh Rajput highlighted the legacy of Vibrant Gujarat initiated by Prime Minister Narendra Modi in 2003. He expressed pride in organising the 10th edition under the Prime Minister's guidance, propelling Gujarat's industrial progress.

Present at the event were Director of JETRO (South Asia) Takashi Suzuki, ArcelorMittal Group Chairman Lakshmi Mittal, and Welspun Group Chairman B.K. Goenka. Other luminaries present were Minister of State for Industry Harsh Sanghvi, Minister of State for MSMEs Jagdish Vishwakarma, Navsari MP C.R. Patil, members of the Council of Ministers, Mayor of Ahmedabad Pratibha Jain, Chief Secretary Raj Kumar, Chief Principal Secretary to the Chief Minister K. Kailashnath, senior officials, industrialists, industry associations, trade and commerce leaders, young entrepreneurs, startups, and college students.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi, during his tenure as Chief Minister, inaugurated the first Vibrant Summit in 2003. On September 27, 2023, he delivered a keynote address at the 20th-anniversary celebration of the Vibrant Gujarat Global Summit held at Science City in Ahmedabad.



20 IMPACTFUL YEARS AND COUNTING: GUJARAT- ONE OF THE TOP PERFORMING STATES

State's GDP grew at a CAGR of 15% from 2002-03 to 2022-23

Attracted FDI worth USD 51 billion (2003-2022)

Home to 100+ Fortune 500 Global Companies

Gujarat holds 33% of India's total exports

Gujarat is home to over 13 lakh MSMEs (Udyam registered) across the value chain

Gujarat has a 15.5% share in India's renewable energy sector

It is the first state to produce Nano Liquid Urea

Gujarat tops the country in the LEADS index in 2022 and also in 2021, 2019, and 2018

Gujarat is number one in NITI Aayog's Energy and Climate Index for 2022

Maintains the top position in the National Startup Ranking in 2021, 2019, and 2018



The 10th edition of the Vibrant Summit shall take place between January 10 and 12, 2024, at the Mahatma Mandir in Gandhinagar



VIBRANT GUJARAT GLOBAL SUMMIT 2024

- Leading up to the summit, district-level seminars will highlight Gujarat's strengths and its role in Atmanirbhar Bharat and Viksit Bharat @ 2047 on the sectors like food security, healthcare, startups and innovation, and sustainability.
- The Vibrant Gujarat Global Trade Show will spotlight Techade & Champion Service Sectors. Over 20 seminars with themes like "Industry 4.0," "Technology and Innovation," and "Transitioning towards Sustainability" would be conducted.
- Seminars will delve into smart manufacturing, semiconductors and electronics, startups, green energy, skill development, circular economy, and more.



A LEGACY OF EXCELLENCE: 20 YEARS OF GLORY

- Since 2003, Vibrant Gujarat, a biennial investors' summit held by the Government of Gujarat, is aimed at bringing together corporate leaders, investors from various sectors, thought leaders, policy, and opinion makers.
- The nine summits held so far have been a resounding success. The key areas for development have been - innovation, sustainability, youth and skill development, and knowledge sharing.
- The Vibrant Gujarat Global Summit propels progress for both the state and the nation. It fosters inclusive growth, elevating Indian products to a global stage and setting a precedent for other states.



FROM BOLSTERING FARMERS, LABOURERS AND INDIGENOUS COMMUNITIES TO EMPOWERING WOMEN, SENIOR CITIZENS AND ENTREPRENEURS

EXCEEDING PROMISES, EXEMPLIFYING COMMITMENT



₹93,724.79 CRORE

PAYMENT TO PADDY FARMERS



₹9,270 CRORE

AGRICULTURAL LOAN WAIVER OF 18.82 LAKH FARMERS



₹344 CRORE

EXEMPTION OF PENDING IRRIGATION TAX FOR 17 LAKH FARMERS



₹4,104.45 CRORE

DISCOUNT ON ELECTRICITY BILLS FOR DOMESTIC CONSUMERS



₹2,560.73 CRORE

LOAN TO 2.47 LAKH GROUPS THROUGH BANK CREDIT LINKAGE



₹12 CRORE

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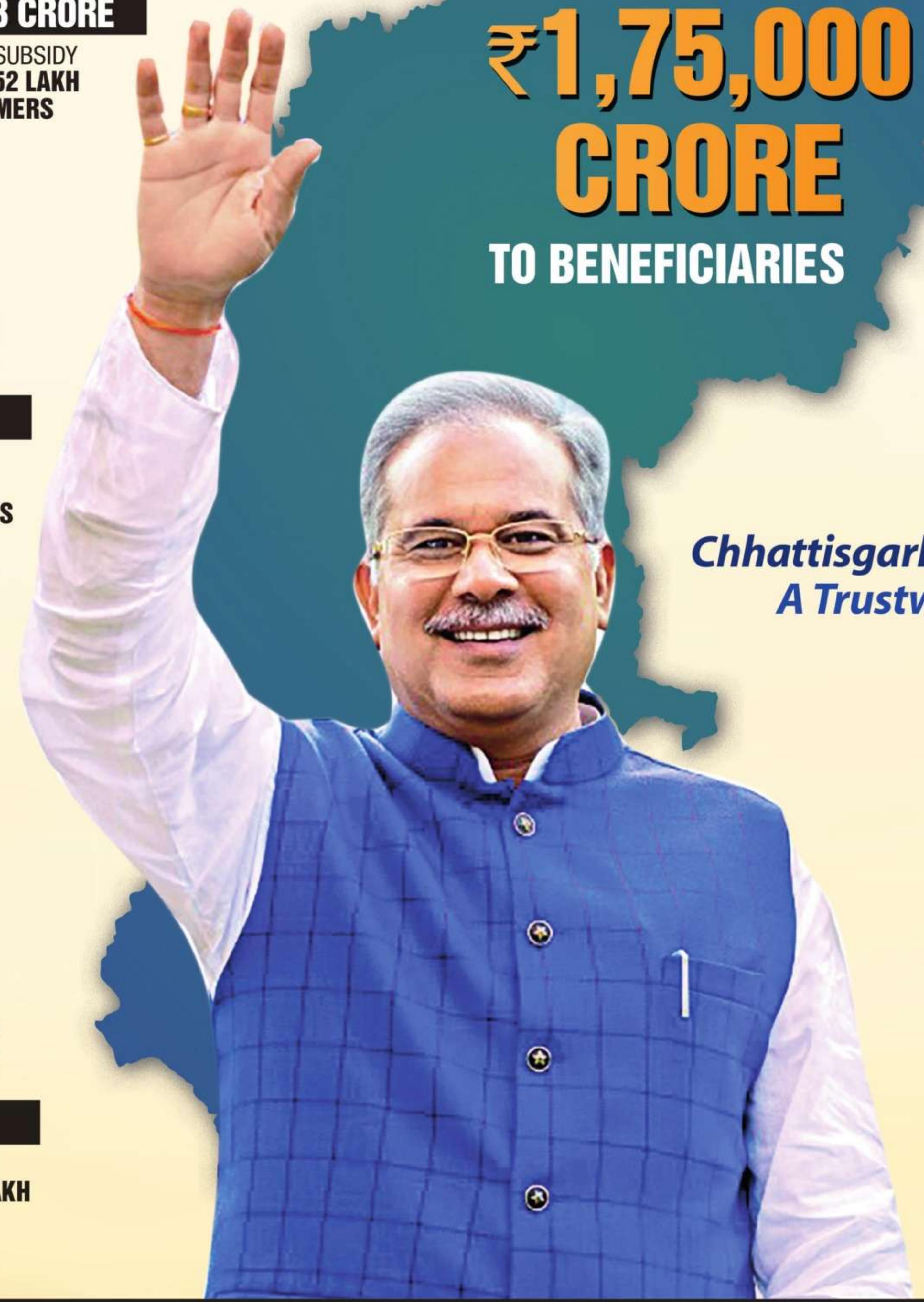


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Shri Bhupesh Baghel,
Chief Minister, Chhattisgarh

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'Gehlot has trust in Modi': PM takes a dig at Raj CM

CM Absent From Event To Launch ₹5,000Cr Projects

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Jodhpur: The PM took a subtle dig at Rajasthan CM Ashok Gehlot's absence from a government event of launching projects worth Rs 5,000 crore on Thursday in the latter's hometown of Jodhpur, saying the Congress leader is confident that everything would be fine when Narendra Modi is around.

"Unko Modi pe itna bhara shai. Aur isliye unko laga ki arre bhai Modi aa raha hain to bas ho jayega. Aur mai bhi unko kehta hua, aap vishram kijiye, ab hum samhal lenge. He has so much confidence in Modi. He felt that Modi is coming, work will be done. And I am telling him to take rest, we will take care of everything," the PM said addressing a large public gathering at the Rawan-ka-Chabutra ground, which is within Gehlot's assembly constituency of Sardarpur.

This marked Modi's third rally within two weeks in the state, which is set to go to polls later this year.

At a different venue, Modi inaugurated and laid the foundation of various projects, including two trains, the dedication of the IIT Jodhpur campus to the nation, a trauma centre at AIIMS Jodhpur, a new terminal building at Jodhpur airport, and several roads.

He urged the people to bring BJP back to office in Rajasthan to elevate Jodhpur's development prospects. Modi accused the Congress government of obstructing the execution of the Jal Jeevan Mission, which aims to provide tap water to every household in the country.



PM Modi at a rally in Jodhpur on Thursday. The PM mentioned concerns about law and order, including gang violence and crimes against women, in Rajasthan

PM continues attack on Cong, says it was not a single family that fought for India's freedom

In his third visit to poll-bound Madhya Pradesh in 11 days, PM Narendra Modi on Thursday continued his attack on Congress, accusing its leaders of getting rich on money meant for the poor, reports Suchandana Gupta.

Addressing a large gathering in Jabalpur, Modi attacked Congress for "dynastic rule" and said: "The party that ruled the country for decades after Independence did just one work. They paid reverence to one family and did not bother about the country." "No one family fought for the country's Independence. And the nation's development was also not achieved by one family. It was our government that respected all and looked after everyone," he said.

While Modi laid the foundation stone for the memorial of Rani Durgavati on her 500th birth anniversary, AICC general secretary Priyanka Gandhi unveiled the statue of tribal hero Tantiya Bhil in Mohankhera, Dhar district, the same day. With one month to the assembly elections, both BJP and Congress are consistently pursuing the tribal votebank in the state which has 2 crore tribals, 47 tribal-reserved seats and 84 other constituencies that tribals can influence.

The PM also mentioned concerns about law and order, including gang violence and crimes against women. "Jodhpur city was known for peace. There is gang war in broad daylight now. A businessman's son was kidnapped and brutally killed. A Congress MLA says she is not safe. We can imagine what would be the condition of sisters and daughters," he said.

"Five years of bad governance has pushed Rajasthan to the top of corruption and riots. Women and Dalit atrocities have shot up and everyone knows how freely the drug trade thrives," he said.

Modi also mentioned the "red diary" (an alleged and unseen list of corruption by Gehlot and Congress leaders), terming it to be a "black secret" that should come out. "If you want to know the truth about this diary, you need to bring BJP to government," he said.

(With Agency Inputs)

Bribery can't be brought within cloak of immunity: SG

►Continued from P 1

Referring to the recent 'hate speech' by a BJP MP against a BSP member in Lok Sabha, senior advocate Ramachandran said the immunity from prosecution for anything connected to vote or speech, even if it is bribe or conspiracy, has to be absolute as otherwise those making defamatory speeches on the floor of House would have to be investigated about possible conspiracy to do so prior to the speech.

A seven-judge bench of CJI D Y Chandrachud and Justices A S Bopanna, M M Sundresh, P S Narasimha, J B Pardiwala, Sanjay Kumar and Manoj Misra disagreed with the proposition citing complete immunity from prosecution to members for what they speak inside the House.

"It is a criminal conspiracy, if what is intended to be done is an illegal act. Here the act of a so-called defamatory statement on the floor of the House is not an illegal act and is constitutionally immune from prosecution... Moreover, if the ingredients of a crime are in the speech itself, which is immune from prosecution, there could be no liability under the penal law," the CJI said, indicating that the House concerned is equipped to handle such speeches.

Attorney general R Venkataramani said anything which is an offence under any statute can't have a refuge under the immunity from prosecution given to lawmakers for free speech or casting of vote in the House. However, he sought to distinguish Sita Soren's case by arguing that voting in Rajya Sabha polls had no connection with the proceedings of the House and hence bribes allegedly taken for voting to elect a member of the upper House would make the MLA liable for prosecution.

Solicitor general Tushar Mehta said bribery can never be brought within the cloak of immunity under Articles 105(2) and 194(2) as the offence, even if linked to voting or speech made in Parliament or assembly, is committed outside the House. "The SC need not interpret the provisions taking into account the rarest of rare occurrence of an MP giving bribe to another MP inside the House to vote or speak in a particular manner."

The bench reserved the verdict after the completion of the two-day proceedings, which were initiated to review the 25-year-old P V Narasimha Rao ruling that had shielded JMM MPs and MLAs who took bribes for casting their votes in Parliament by extending the immunity attached to the vote to any act connected with it.

Cable TV Act tweaked, no imprisonment clause

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi: The I&B ministry on Thursday notified significant amendments to the Cable Television Networks Regulation Act, which replace imprisonment provisions with monetary penalty and other non-monetary actions like issuing warnings and advisories, and censure.



Earlier, the Cable Television Networks (Regulation) Act, 1995 had provided for punishment for contraventions under any of its provisions, including imprisonment up to two years in the first instance and five years for every subsequent offence. To make the law more business-friendly and boost confidence in the sector, the government said the punishments were re-examined and decriminalised through the Jan Vishwas (Amendment of Provision) Act, 2023.

The watered down punishments, a government statement said, aims to encourage compliance with the Act without resorting to harsh punishments.

MHA bans Shabir Shah party for five years

New Delhi: The Centre on Thursday banned jailed separatist Shabir Ahmad Shah's Jammu and Kashmir Democratic Freedom Party (JKDFP) for five years for its "anti-India" and "pro-Pakistan" activities, according to an official notification.

In the notification issued by the ministry of home affairs on Thursday, additional secretary Praveen Vashista said, "The central government... of firm opinion that it is necessary to declare JKDFP as an unlawful association with immediate effect." He added that the notification will be effective for a period of five years from the date of its publication in the official gazette, subject to any order that may be made under relevant sections of the UAPA.

The notification said Shah had called Kashmir a "dispute" and ruled out any settlement within the framework of the Constitution of India and

the members of his party have been at the forefront of secessionist activities with an intention to create a separate Islamic state. "The leader or members of the JKDFP have been involved in raising funds through various sources including Pakistan and its proxy organisations for perpetrating unlawful activities, including supporting terrorist activities, and sustained stone-pelting on security forces in J&K," the officer said.

The ministry said the government is of the opinion that if there is no immediate curb or control of unlawful activities of the JKDFP, it will use this opportunity to continue with its anti-national activities, advocate secession of J&K, escalate its insurrectionary activities including attempt to carve out an Islamic State out of the territory of the Union of India by destabilising the government established by law. PTI

म.प्र. स्टेट सिविल सप्लाइज कार्पोरेशन लि.
मुख्यालय, भोपाल
क्रमांक/नमक निविदा/2023-24/163 भोपाल, दिनांक : 05.10.2023

आई.एम.आई. मार्क आयोडीन यूक रिफाईंड नमक एवं
आई.एम.आई. मार्क डबल फोटोफाइड नमक क्रय हुत
पृथक-पृथक निविदा आमंत्रण सूचना

- कार्पोरेशन द्वारा अहंकारी आई.एस.आई. मार्क आयोडीन यूक रिफाईंड नमक एवं आई.एम.आई. मार्क डबल फोटोफाइड नमक के निमिताओं से नमक क्रय हुत पृथक-पृथक जोनवार अनेलाइन इन-निविदा आमंत्रित है।
- उपरोक्तानुसार निविदा प्रपत्र अहंताएं शर्ते एवं निविदा कार्यक्रम इत्यादि की जानकारी <http://www.mptenders.gov.in> पर देखी एवं निविदा भरी जा सकती है। औनलाइन निविदा क्रय करने की अंतिम तिथि 27.10.2023 अपराह्न 3 बजे तक तथा जामा करने की अंतिम तिथि 27.10.2023 सात 5 बजे तक रहेगी। निविदा कार्यक्रम एवं पूर्ण निविदा दसावेज कार्पोरेशन की वेबसाइट www.mpscsc.mp.gov.in पर मात्र अवलोकन हेतु उपलब्ध है। निविदा संबंधी किसी भी स्पष्टीकरण हेतु कार्पोरेशन के दूरभाष 0755-2677847 पर संपर्क किया जा सकता है।
- म.प्र. मायम/112464/2023

प्रबंध संचालक

O-1204
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF CONSTRUCTION ENGINEER
RURAL WORKS CIRCLE, BERHAMPUR
(E-mail : servbpr2004@yahoo.com, Tel/FAX : 0680-2404287)

Identification No	Name of work	No. of Works	Approx. Estimated Cost (In lakh)	Class of Contract	Period of Completion
Online Tender/63-2023-24/BPR	Bridge Works (BSY) for 2023-24	04 Nos	From Rs. 273.83 Lakhs to Rs. 399.53 Lakhs	"B" Class & "A" Class as applicable	09 (Nine) & 11 (Eleven) Calendar Month as provided

Procurement Officer Bid Identification No. Online Tender/63-2023-24/BPR

Chief Construction Engineer, R.W.Circle, Berhampur

11.10.2023 upto 3.00 P.M.

(i) EMD / Bid Security, Cost of Bid document is to be transferred through Online as per the procedure mentioned in the DTCN.
(ii) Non-submission of the information / documents through online by the bidder as per the items mentioned in the eligible criteria of the DTCN will also liable for rejection of his tender.

Further details & Corrigendum if any can be seen from the website : www.tendersdisha.gov.in

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R.W.Circle, Berhampur
OIPR-25071/11/0066/2324

BJP govt treating women reservation as a joke, says Priyanka

The BJP-led Centre is treating women reservation as a "joke", Congress leader Priyanka Gandhi Vadra said in tribal-dominated Dhar district, Madhya Pradesh, on Thursday, pointing out that 33% quota cannot be implemented for at least a decade, reports Salil Mekad. Making a strong pitch for caste census, she asked, "Why is the Union government wary of conducting a caste census if everyone has equal rights? The caste census recently conducted in Bihar revealed that 84% of the population is OBCs and Dalits. But these people are not holding government posts. When asked about this, the BJP falls silent."

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सहायक, बिहार लोक सेवा आयोग (मुख्य)
प्रतियोगिता परिका (वि.सं. 06 / 2022)

दिनांक 14.09.2023 को आयोग कार्यालय में गतिशील लोक लोक अनुशंसित (Referred) एवं उक्त तिथि को अनुपस्थित आयोगियों को सूचित किया जाता है कि वे दिनांक 11.10.2023 को 03:00 बजे अपराह्न 2 में IGIMS Patna में उपरिक्त दोकान अपनी विद्यार्थियों की जांच करवाना सुनिश्चित करेंगे। उक्त नियरित तिथि को दिव्यांगता प्रदान नहीं किया जायेगा एवं दिव्यांगों का लाभ देय नहीं होगा, जिसके लिए वे स्वयं जिम्मेवार होंगे।

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स्थान:- प्रधानी विद्यार्थियों की जांच करवाना सुनिश्चित करेंगे।

सामान्य प्रशासन विभाग

प्रेस-विज्ञप्ति

बिहार उत्कृष्ट खिलाड़ियों की सीधी नियुक्ति नियमाली, 2023 के अलावा में उत्कृष्ट खिलाड़ियों के संबंध में सामान्य प्रशासन विभाग, बिहार, पटना के वेबसाइट पर प्रकाशित औपचारिक मेघ सूची से विलोक्य द्वारा आपसी अनलाइन के माध्यम से बिहार राज्य खेल प्रशिक्षण, पटना के वेबसाइट पर प्रदर्शित Link (<https://online.bih.nic.in/GADREC/Default.aspx>) पर दिनांक-18.10.2023 को अपराह्न 05:00 बजे तक दर्ज की जा सकती है। उक्त तिथि के बाद या किसी अन्य माध्यम यथा स्पीड-पोर्ट या हाथ-हाथ प्राप्त दावा / आपसी पर विद्यार्थी नहीं किया जायेगा।

(मो ०६० सिराजुद्दीन अंसारी)

सरकार के अवर सचिव

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शुद्धि-पत्र-02

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इस कार्यालय के पत्रांक-1709(अनु) दिनांक-28.08.2023 द्वारा प्रकाशित निविदा आमंत्रण सूचना सं- RCD/DBG/06/2023-24 है, जिसका पी.आर. सं- 007790 (RCD) 2023-24 है। उक्त प्रकाशित निविदा के क्रम सं 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9 एवं 12 में उल्लिखित तिथि को अपरिहार्य कारणों से निम्न संशोधन के अनुसार पढ़ा जाया।

क्रमांक ३ पूर्व में प्रकाशित

25.10.2023

क्रमांक 4 Period for sale of RFP Document

From 04.10.2023 Time 10:00 AM to 11.10.2023 up to 03:00 PM

Date, Time & Place of Pre-Application Conference

31.10.2023

Date 07.10.2023 at 03:00 PM at the office of the Chief Engineer, North, Road Construction Department, Bihar, Patna.

6 Authority Response to Queries Listed By (09.10.2023)

06.11.2023

Period of Submission/Uploading Tender Document by bidder.

26.10.2023

Date 04.10.2023



A thought for today

You learn a lot about someone when you share a meal together

ANTHONY BOURDAIN

Mess-y Education

Segregating students by food creates a terrible learning environment. IIT-B must do better

IIT Bombay was established in 1958. This year it placed among the top 150 universities in the QS World University Ranking. That's the kind of headline that will do its students a world of good, as alumni and employers take note across various countries. But then there is also a very different kind of ground being broken here in 2023: Some tables in the mess have been reserved for vegetarians. An email from the mess administration reportedly said this was because "some people" cannot stomach the look or smell of non-vegetarian food. Students who have protested have been fined. Faculty members who support the protesting students credibly argue that what's taking place here is a dangerous institutionalisation of a purity-pollution matrix, which can also be deeply casteist.

Vegetarianism is a perfectly valid food choice. As is non-vegetarianism. Students may come into IITs with a personal background where only one of these choices dominates. This will be only one of their many, many encounters with an Other who becomes familiar only through the IIT years and experience. This gaining of familiarity and comfort with the unfamiliar and even intimidating is valuable broader education. The IITs were built to provide world-class excellence in an otherwise second-rate higher educational system and over the decades, this has remained a core role. What has changed dramatically is the IIT brand value, thanks to the many professionals with IIT degrees who star the global business-scape today. And as prized as their skills and learning may be, the soft skills of dealing with varied workforces are no less critical to their success.

IIT-B student Darshan Solanki's suicide in February had already put a spotlight on issues of caste discrimination on elite campuses. It should have made the administration more responsive to complaints of stigmatisation. That it is instead targeting students protesting about harassment of meat-eaters, accusing them of disrupting "peace and harmony within the mess" is misguided at best. Too many educational institutions simply ignore the deep social cleavages playing out on campus every day. This is also what allows them to treat every student suicide as isolated, even when the causes are systemic. Institutional policies must address prejudices directly, and firmly deny all demands that perpetuate these. All the Indian students studying abroad benefit from host countries' support for diversity. It is unconscionable to deny them the same at home. IIT-B must de-segregate its mess.

SOS From Mountains

Loss of life and infra in Sikkim flash floods is another reminder of project risks in Himalayas

People stranded. Bridges and a dam washed away. Casualties mounting. Gangtok cut off. A powerhouse submerged. Officials say Sikkim's largest hydropower project, the 1,200MW Sikkim Urja on the Teesta river, will need thousands of crores in reconstruction, damaged in the flash floods that hit three Sikkim districts Mangan, Pakyong and Gangtok on Wednesday. The loss to life and economy will be counted days after the tragedy. The trigger will be scientifically debated – an earthquake or torrential rains or permafrost degradation, or a mix of such reasons. A global assessment found three million Indians in the vulnerable Himalayan region are at risk of flooding following GLOF (glacial lake outburst flood) events. The Himalayas have over 7,500 glacial lakes, and the numbers are growing.

We know all this, but India lives in post-event damage-control mode. Sikkim's disaster committee had flagged a vulnerability a decade ago for Lhonak Lake, the very site of Wednesday's GLOF event. It wasn't the only report or study. Each Himalayan state is battling consequences of a state-and-public disdain, time and again, for scientific caution, vulnerability mapping and ecological risks of construction in hill states alongside climate impact. This includes warnings against large hydro projects on terrains established as being geologically unstable.

The losses in Uttarakhand, Himachal and now Sikkim have much to do with a wink-and-nudge policy framework that bypasses environmental concerns to build in the mountains. It is precisely due to the doubtful resilience of such construction that many projects get mired in long delays and overrun costs. Climate change risks are barely accounted for, triggering cascading hazard chains that simply get amplified downstream. After Sikkim, there are flood alerts for Bengal and Bangladesh. The Himalayas are frequently flashing SOS signs of unsustainable operations. What scale of tragedy will it take for policymakers to sit up?

Terror Firma

Canada has emerged as the biggest rival to Pakistan's most lucrative industry

Jug Suraiya

The Commander-in-Chief of Pakistan's Inter-Services Intelligence (ISI), the organisation which runs the country, is in a meeting with his Flunkie-in-Chief.

Commander-in-Chief: We've got a problem that poses a threat to our status in the international community.

Flunkie-in-Chief: We do indeed, Boss. A problem called India.

C-in-C India: Don't be a bigger idiot than you already are. India is not our biggest problem, India is our biggest asset, without which we'd be out of business.

F-in-C Gee, Boss, I always thought that India was our biggest enemy.

C-in-C India: Is our biggest enemy because of Kashmir, Partition and all that stuff, which is precisely why it is also our biggest asset, which supports our most important industry. In fact, which helps support our only industry: providing a safe haven for terrorists. No India, no terrorists. No terrorists, no millions of American dollars by way of bribes to make us pretend we're on the US side in their 'War Against Terror'.

F-in-C You're right, Boss. India is our biggest asset. So what's this problem that threatens our status in the international community?

C-in-C The problem is a place called Canada.

F-in-C Canada? I think I've heard of it. It's a part of America, no?

C-in-C It is, sort of. But it's also challenging our global reputation for being the biggest sanctuary for terrorists of all kinds, not to mention gangsters, and other assorted psychos. Canada's become a threat to our brand image of 'Terrorists R Us'.

F-in-C No kidding, Boss. How did that happen?

C-in-C Well, like us, Canada didn't have much by way of industry, except for something called maple syrup.

F-in-C Maple syrup? What's that?

C-in-C Exactly. So they had to find something to do, and harbouring terrorists and other fugitives filled the gap.

F-in-C So what should we do about it, Boss?

C-in-C We should invite all their terrorists to come and set up shop here. Our sales pitch being Location, in that we're much closer to India than Canada is.

F-in-C Shall we get a red carpet to welcome them?

C-in-C Make it a green carpet – it's more eco-friendly...

A thought for today

You learn a lot about someone when you share a meal together

ANTHONY BOURDAIN

Reservations according to caste share in population is a bad idea. Look at the smart thing the ex-princely state did: disproportionately bigger reservations for worst-off

Narendar Pani



The release of the caste survey in Bihar is bound to have a domino effect on other states. Karnataka will face demands to release the caste data it has already collected, and states that haven't yet carried out such caste surveys will be under pressure to do so. While much of the focus will be on reservations regaining the centrestage of Indian politics, there is a quiet shift in the nature of the demand for reservations.

The debate has shifted from the approach of keeping out the forward castes to one of seeking representation for all castes; from the aggressive backward-versus-forward caste rhetoric of Mandal to a more inclusive approach reminiscent of the first reservations in India – in Mysore in 1921.

The social strife generated by the acceptance of the Mandal report was, in part, due to its disconnection with the way caste works in India. Its emphasis on mobilising the backward castes against the forward castes was based on the view that caste was no more than a proxy for class. But as sociologists have pointed out, social and economic exclusion was only true for Scheduled Castes. Castes just below the line drawn between backward and forward castes were not all that much worse off than castes just above that demarcation.

The initial response of castes above the demarcation was to turn against reservations. But they soon realised they would be better off claiming reservations themselves. This resulted in a variety of castes known for their dominance claiming reservations, from Patidars of Gujarat to Lingayats in Karnataka. As dominant castes began to claim reservations there weren't too many forward castes to campaign against reservations. The focus shifted from debating

the necessity of reservations to the share of reservations each caste should get.

In keeping with the tendency of the debate on reservations to move quickly to extreme positions, the case now being put forward is that each caste should have a share in seats and jobs on a par with its share of the population. Even as this approach makes the much-needed case for representativeness, it is not without its problems.

When taken to its logical conclusion,

from politically expedient positions to develop a system that allows for merit and representation, there are inputs available from historical experiments with reservations. The reservations of 1921 in the princely state of Mysore sought to merge objectives of free competition with that of social representation. It did so by reserving 50% of jobs in government so that the other half of the jobs was left to open competition.

share of the population.

The greatest advantage of the Mysore reservations was that it did not result in the kind of inter-caste hostility the Mandal report generated. With very few excluded from reservations the battles were those of individual castes seeking a greater share rather than an all-out war between those who benefitted and those who were left out. It also allowed for continued monitoring of the social justice aspect of reservations.

The socio-economic status of castes could be evaluated at different points to determine whether a caste remained backward and hence required a share greater than its share of the population, or whether its status had improved to a point where it could do with a share less than its share of the population.

Having the country go back to the Mysore reservations would require answers to two questions. First, what should be the distribution of seats and jobs between open competition and reservation? It is doubtful if the limit of 50% can withstand the sustained assault

from a multitude of political parties. But it is important not to dramatically reduce the share of seats left to open competition. The 'General' quota does offer some space for the best from any caste or community. It may be dominated by a few castes today, but it would be wrong to believe that others will never be good enough to compete in this category.

Second, what should be the share of reserved seats and jobs for each caste or other identity group? Ideally, the share for the worst-off would need to be greater than their share of the population. But if the caste survey tells us, as it has in Bihar, that the share of the worst-off castes is much less than their actual share of the population, even getting their share on a par with their share of the population would be a major step forward.

The writer is dean of social sciences at National Institute of Advanced Studies, Bengaluru

Mysore Masala Quota

How to roll out reservations

from the *Times of India*

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How European Regulators Are Cracking Down On Big Tech

The 10-week trial in a blockbuster antitrust case, brought by the US department of justice, against Google has entered its fourth week in court. DOJ has alleged that the tech titan uses deceitful, anti-competitive approaches to secure an outsized position in the search market. European regulators, too, have launched a series of probes against Big Tech. In the latest one, Britain's media regulator asked the country's antitrust authority to investigate Amazon and Microsoft's dominance of the UK cloud market. Here are some of the actions taken by Europeans...

Source: Reuters

TIMES BUSINESS

THE TIMES OF INDIA, NEW DELHI | FRIDAY, OCTOBER 6, 2023

EUROPEAN UNION

Microsoft Chat and video app Teams will have to be unbundled from its Office product to avoid a possible antitrust fine. **Meta** Hit with a record 1.2bn euro fine for its handling of user information. **Google** Part of its adtech biz may have to be sold due to anti-competitive practices. **Apple** Accused of restricting rivals' access to its NFC technology used for mobile wallets. **Amazon** Settled 3 antitrust probes over seller data use.

ITALY

Apple Investigated over its dominant position in the apps market. **Meta** Faced measures over an alleged abuse of its position in the country.

UK

Amazon & Microsoft Dominance of the UK cloud market set to be investigated.

Rishi Sunak (PM)

FRANCE

Nvidia Raids at local offices. **Apple** Claimed to be violating regulations over utilisation of iPhone user data in ads.

Emmanuel Macron (PRESIDENT)

NETHERLANDS

Apple Fined 50mn euros over failure to comply with regulations aimed at limiting the dominant position of App Store.

Mark Rutte (PM)

POLAND

ChatGPT Being investigated over violation of data protection laws. **Amazon** Accused of misleading sales and delivery practices.

Mateusz Morawiecki (PM)

SPAIN

Amazon & Apple Penalised for colluding to limit the online sale of devices from Apple and competitors in the country.

Pedro Sánchez (PM)

Political stability crucial to become 3rd largest eco: FM

'Policy Consistency To Ensure India's Eco Moving Upwards'

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi: Finance minister Nirmala Sitharaman on Thursday said political stability and policy consistency will be crucial for India to emerge as the world's third largest economy, a goal that PM Narendra Modi expects to be achieved by 2029.

"For anyone who indicates that it's a given that India will move from fifth to third place, they aren't making a fair comment. Only political stability, policy consistency and decisiveness will guarantee India's economy moving upwards. Industries are always concerned, and they ask for consistency in policy to ensure growth in economic activities," FM told students at the Shri Ram College of Commerce.

She said the economy had emerged as the fifth largest due to efforts from farmers, entrepreneurs and others. The comments came ahead of crucial general elections next year where a coalition of parties, which call themselves IN-

You need governments that are futuristic, ready for reforms and provide consistency for businesses to grow. That's exactly the difference when it comes to the kind of decisions the Modi government has taken and which didn't happen earlier, pulling the country backwards.

... Industries are always concerned and they ask for consistency in policy to ensure growth in economic activities

Nirmala Sitharaman | FM



DIA, are seeking to end BJP's two-term run. Modi and his party colleagues have argued that they have provided stability to help the economy emerge from the Covid-crisis and become the fastest growing major economy. "There cannot be a more volatile macroeconomic situation globally. I am talking about the global situation, not just India. In that situation, what is actually guaranteed?" she said.

The minister also flagged concern over supply disruption in certain areas, such as food and fertiliser. Since the

"You need governments

90% unclaimed deposits listed on RBI portal

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Mumbai: The RBI on Thursday added 23 more banks to UD-GAM portal—a centralised database through which investors can search and get information about their deposits lying unclaimed with various banks—taking the total to 30. About 90% of the unclaimed deposits in the Indian banking system are now available on the, an RBI release said.

During this round of addition, most of the large private sector lenders have been included. HDFC Bank, ICICI Bank, Kotak Mahindra Bank, Axis Bank and IndusInd Bank are now in this list of 30 banks.

Bajaj Finance gets board nod to raise ₹10k cr

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Mumbai: The board of Bajaj Finance on Thursday approved the company's plans to raise Rs 10,000 crore through a mix of qualified institutional placement (QIP) and preferential allotment to its promoter Bajaj Finserv. The company will now seek shareholders' nod for the fund-raise.

It will raise up to Rs 8,800 crore through a QIP by issuing equity shares. It will also issue up to 15.5 lakh warrants to Bajaj Finserv through the preferential route.

Cooling tomato prices bring down thali rates

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi: Cooling tomato prices brought down the cost of vegetarian and non-vegetarian thalis in September, bringing much-needed relief for consumers reeling under the burden of surging prices.

The cost of a vegetarian thali fell 17% month-on-month in September. The major contribution was from tomato prices, which declined 62% month-on-month to Rs 39 per kg in September 2023 from Rs 102 per kg in August, according to the Roti Rice Rate—ratings agency Crisil's monthly indicator of food plate cost.

Onion prices rose 12% month-on-month in September and are expected to remain firm amid the expected lower output in kharif 2023, according to the estimates of the ratings agency.

The cost of a non-vegetarian thali declined 9% month-on-month due to a 2.3% estimated month-on-month increase in prices of broiler (more than 50% share in the total thali cost).

Latest data showed retail inflation, as measured by the Consumer Price Index (CPI), moderated in August on the back of easing food prices but remained above RBI's comfort level. Retail inflation rose an annual 6.8% in August, slower than the 15-month high of 7.4% in

3-MTH LOW FOR VEG, NON-VEG PLATES



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%.

Cost of fuel, which accounts for 14% and 8% of total cost of vegetarian and non-vegetarian thalis, respectively, declined 18% month-on-month in September as the cost of a 14.2 kg cooking gas cylinder fell to Rs 903 from Rs 1,103.

Chillies, which cooled off 31% month-on-month, too, provided a sobering effect to thali costs. The average cost of preparing a thali at home is calculated based on input prices prevailing in north, south, east, and west India. Monthly change reflects the impact on the common man's expenditure.

The data also shows the ingredients (cereals, pulses, broilers, vegetables, spices, edible oil, cooking gas) driving changes in the cost of a thali.

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19th ASIAN GAMES

TIMES SPORT

THE TIMES OF INDIA, NEW DELHI
FRIDAY, OCTOBER 6, 2023



IN MY VILLAGE, THEY USED TO PASS COMMENTS WHEN THEY SAW A GIRL WEARING SHORTS AND RUNNING. IF NOT FOR ATHLETICS, GAON MEIN REHTE TOH SHAADI VAGERA HO JAATI."

— PARUL CHAUDHARY, AFTER CLAIMING THE GOLD MEDAL IN THE WOMEN'S 5000M RACE

DIPAKA REVELS IN TWIN ROLES

Playing The Anchor, Veteran Provides Calming Influence To Harinder's Frayed Nerves For Gold

TIMES IN HANGZHOU
Sabi.Hussain@timesgroup.com

Hangzhou: Embracing motherhood comes with a price. They have to put family before careers. But the world of sports is still replete with stories of women sportspersons juggling professional careers and motherhood. At 32 years, Indian squash's leading lady, Dipika Pallikal, is a shining example of that.

Dipika, who is married to Indian cricketer Dinesh Karthik, gave birth to twin boys — Kabir and Zian — on 18 October 2021. She returned to the circuit not long after in 2022 to clinch both the women's doubles and mixed doubles titles at the World Championships in Glasgow.

On Thursday, partnering another old warhorse Harinder Pal Sandhu, she created history after claiming India's first-ever mixed doubles gold medal in squash at the Asian Games.

Dipika and Harinder scored a stellar come-from-behind victory against the Malaysian pair of Aifa Azman and Mohamad Kamal to continue India's gold rush at the ongoing Games. The top-seed Indians scored a 11-10, 11-10 win over the second-seeded Malaysians.

Dipika, a 2014 Glasgow Commonwealth Games gold medallist in women's doubles, had earlier combined with Joshna Chinappa, Anahita Singh and Tanvi Khanna to win the team bronze in Hangzhou.

"As mothers, we could be sacrificing a lot of things but that doesn't mean we have to give up on our dreams. I think it's important for every woman to feel empowered, to also know that it's ok to take the time off for what you love to do. It's ok to have kids and make a successful comeback," Dipika said.

"I know that guilt will always be there... the guilt of leaving my kids alone for two weeks. But I know that I am doing something worthwhile and, when they grow up, they will realise that their mother wasn't holidaying in Hangzhou but working hard to win a medal for the country, and for them. I am happy that people can look up to me and know that they still have careers after having

“It is all right to have kids and come back to the sport. I know the guilt will always be there. I am feeling the guilt of leaving my kids for two weeks.”
— Dipika Pallikal

kids," she continued.

In the final, India trailed their opponents in both games. In the first game, Dipika and Harinder rallied to overcome a four-point deficit before pocketing the opener.

In the second, Indians enjoyed a comfortable lead of seven points at 9-2 and were just two points away from claiming the title. However, Harinder suddenly lost pace in his game, leaving Dipika to put in the hard yards. The Malaysians racked off eight points in a row to lead Indians by 10-9, and the match looked heading into the decider.

Dipika and Harinder then had an animated discussion on the court, following which they changed gears and engaged the Malaysians in frequent drop shots and cross-court winners to not only save two crucial match points but to emerge triumphant in a nerve-wracking final.

"I had to control my emotions on the court," Harinder said. "It was crazy, and the need was to stay positive. It wasn't a great sight to see losing the lead. I wasn't doing well on the court. It was like a kid going to school. When a kid loses track, the teacher comes in and she is always there in your ears. Dipika did that job very well. She put me back on track. I am happy that we could finish it off on a high note."

Talking about their camaraderie, Dipika said: "We have grown up together. Being squash players, you are always hanging out with each other... in training and during tournaments. We try to make memories together. So, for both of us, it was special to win (Indian squash) first-ever mixed doubles title. It just turned out to be an unbelievable tournament for us."

"It's a complete blur now," added Dipika, "Harry and I remember only one thing, which is the last point that we won. It was tough in the end."



Talk of retirement swirls as singles gold eludes Ghosal

Sabi.Hussain@timesgroup.com

Hangzhou: At 37, Indian squash legend Saurav Ghosal — veteran of four Asian Games, and a team gold and individual silver medallist at the 2014 edition — doesn't know what the future holds for him. He is noncommittal about his chances to represent the country at the next edition of the Asian Games in Japan's Nagoya in 2026.

Though he stopped short of announcing his retirement on Thursday, after losing his men's individual squash final to Malaysia's Eain Yow NG 1-3, Ghosal reckoned that it was a case of "gold lost and a date with history missed" as he walked off the arena at the Olympic Sports Centre dejected and disappointed.

In his own words, this was his and

India's "best chance" to win the first-ever squash gold in an individual event at the Asian Games. The Indian went down 11-9, 9-11, 5-11, 7-11 to Yow NG to settle for his second silver, after the one won at Incheon in 2014. Apart from two silver, Ghosal — India's most successful player in Asian Games history — has three individual bronze (2006, 2010, and 2018) as well.

"For me, personally, that was the one medal I really wanted. I put everything on the line. I don't know if I am going to have another shot at it or not. But right now, I am super sad and disappointed. I guess if this is the last one (Asian), then I can be super proud of the fact that I gave it everything. I don't think I could have given more," Ghosal said after his loss.

On whether he will feature in the next edition of the Games, he said: "It's a dif-

ficult question to answer right now. Things are very raw at the moment. I don't know myself whether I have played my last Asian or not. I don't know about playing for three more years. That's the decision to be made when things are a little bit calmer and not in haste.

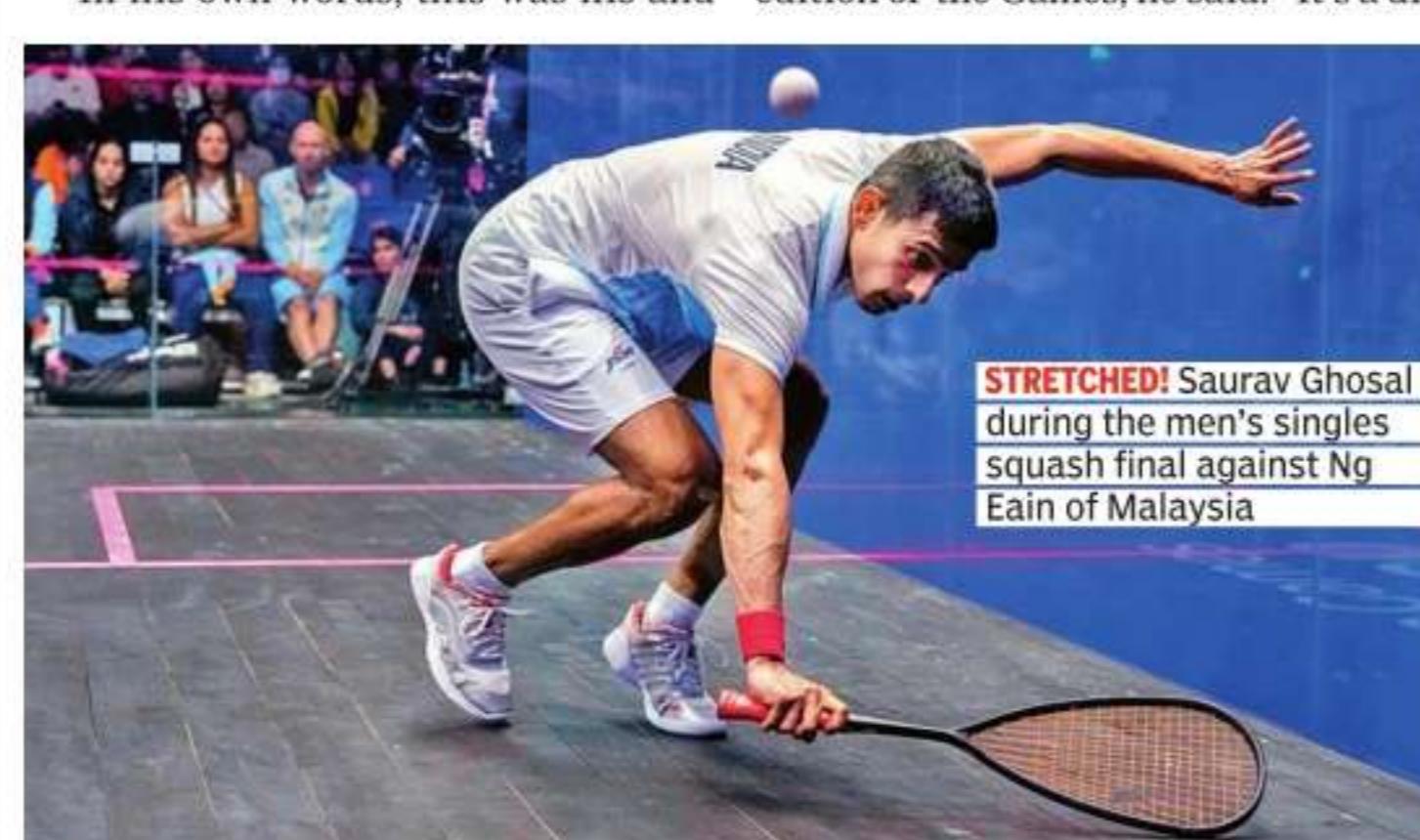
"I have given 90 percent of my life to this game, so I don't think it will be fair on this game to make this decision right now. In 2014, I was just one point away from winning the medal. Now at 37, I don't know about today's being my best or worst chance. I would say a chance is a chance and I missed it," a disheartened Ghosal added.

In the final, Ghosal started the proceedings by overturning a deficit and taking the first game. But the Malaysians relied on his deft touches and lengthy rallies to force Ghosal into committing errors. It was neck-and-neck till 6-all and then 9-all, but Yow NG rallied to earn two consecutive points to pocket the second game 11-9.

In the third, the Malaysian opened an 8-5 lead after being tied at 5-all. Ghosal looked to have run out of ideas after the Malaysian came up with some brilliant cross court winners. Enjoying a two-game advantage, Yow NG went on the offensive and engaged his opponent in lengthy rallies and occasional drop shots to widen his lead to 10-5. Ghosal saved two match points but those weren't enough to claw his way back.

"Things unravelled a little bit from the middle of the second game. They didn't go my way. Sometimes weird things happen. I try to deal with it as best as I can. I know I played some very good squash, started off a lot better but couldn't respond when needed the most," he said.

"I had a period of about two-three minutes where I got three to four straight points in a row but weren't allowed (by the referee). As players, we try to deal with the situation. The Malaysian made the best use of his chances," he added.



Satwik-Chirag, Prannoy make medal bracket

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HS Prannoy battled a painful back injury to down Lee Zii Jia of Malaysia 21-16, 21-23, 22-20 in the quarterfinals of the Asian Games badminton on Thursday.

Prannoy will be the first Indian after Syed Modi (1982) to win a men's singles medal at the Asian. Satwiksairaj Rankireddy and Chirag Shetty trounced Ng Ean Jie and Johann Prajogo of Singapore 21-7, 21-9 to also end a 41-year-old drought in men's doubles. Leroy D'sa and Pradeep Gudhe had won the men's doubles bronze in 1982.

However, PV Sindhu faltered against He Bing Jiao of China 16-21, 12-21 in the women's quarterfinals.

Prannoy had suffered a lower-back injury during practice a day before he left for Hangzhou. He skipped the men's team final on Sunday and struggled a lot on Thursday.

With his lower back heavily taped and spasms restricting his movement, Prannoy took a medi-

cal timeout at 16-16 in the decider. Lee made it match point. Staying calm, Prannoy scored two cross-court winners to make it 20-20. He then secured another winner and signed off with an accurate smash to beat Lee.

Thrilled after prevailing in the 78-minute contest, Prannoy ran to his coach Pullela Gopichand, hugged him and turned emotional. "I'm not even 80 percent fit. But you have to learn to pull off matches like this... I would give a lot of credit to myself. I think the will to fight paid off," Prannoy said.

The 31-year-old will face Li Shi Feng of China in the semifinals. The world No.7 Indian has defeated Li thrice so far and twice this year. From the bottom-half of the draw, China's Shi Yu Qi and Japan's Kodai Naraoka reached the semis.

Meanwhile, Satwik-Chirag took just 31 minutes to trounce the Singapore duo. Satwik-Chirag will face Aaron Chia and Soh Wooi Yik next. The Malaysians enjoy an 8-1 win-loss record with the Indians scoring their first win in July this year.



BACK-BREAKING:
Prannoy in action on Thursday

CHESS: INDIA MEN BEAT VIETNAM, WOMEN DRAW WITH KAZAKHSTAN

Hangzhou: Arjun Erigaisi's win on the fourth board helped the top-seeded Indian men beat Vietnam 2.5-1.5 in the seventh round of the chess team competition here on Thursday. The second-seeded women's team were held to a 2-2 draw by Kazakhstan.

Both the men and women's teams from India are in second spot with 11 Match Points (MPs) each with a couple of rounds to be played.

Grandmasters D Gukesh, R Pragganandhaa and Vidit S Gujrathi drew their games against Quang Liem Le, Ngoc Truong Son Nguyen and Tuan Minh Le. Indian men will face Republic of Korea in the eighth round. PTI

LUTSENKO GIFTS FELLOW KAZAKH GOLD IN ROAD RACE

Hangzhou: Young Kazakh rider Yevgeniy Fedorov was gifted gold by decorated teammate Alexey Lutsenko as they crossed the line nearly six minutes ahead of the field on Thursday. The pair, who ride professionally for Astana Qazaqstan, timed their race to perfection on the challenging 20.70km course through the Chinese mountains.

After sitting in the chasing peloton, defending champion Lutsenko took control with 80km left and the duo stayed together as they pulled clear.

They were seen chatting to each other as they cruised to the finish, with Lutsenko waving his mate over the line first in 4hr 25min 29sec. "In the end we decided that I could win a gold medal because Alexey had already won a gold medal in this race at the 2018 Asian Games," said Fedorov. Mongolia's Jambaltsams Sainbayar came third. Agencies

INDIANS IN ACTION TODAY

BADMINTON: 8.30am — Men's singles semis — HS Prannoy vs Li Shifan (Chn); 4pm — Men's doubles semis — Satwiksairaj Rankireddy/Chirag Shetty vs Malaysia

ARCHERY: 6.35am — Recurve women's team QF — India vs Japan; 8.40am — Medal matches; 11.50am — Recurve men's team QF — India vs Mongolia; 1.30pm — Medal matches

BRIDGE: 6.30am — Men's team final vs Hong Kong, session 4-6

CANOE SLALOM: 6.30am — Men's canoe semis — Vishal Kewat; 7.34am — Women's kayak semis — Shikha Chouhan; 11.30am — Men's canoe final; 12.01pm — Women's kayak final

CHESS: 12.30pm — Men's, Women's team R8

CRICKET: 6.30am — Men's semifinal — India vs Bangladesh

EQUESTRIAN: 6.30am — Jumping individual — Yash Nensee; 12.30pm — Final

HOCKEY: 4pm — Men's final — India vs Japan

JU-JITSU: 6.30am onwards — Women's 52kg R16 — Rohini Kalam vs UAE; 6.30am onwards — Women's 52kg R16 — Anupama Swain vs

Chn; 6.30am onwards — Women's 57kg R32 — Angitha Shiju vs Korea; 6.30am onwards — Women's 57kg R32 — Nikita Choudhary vs Mgl

KABADDI: 7am — Women's team semis — India vs Nepal; 12.30pm — Men's team semifinal — India vs Pakistan

SEPAKTAHKRAW: 6.30am — Men's prelims — India vs Myanmar

SOFT TENNIS: Not before 10.45am — Women's singles — M Kulandaivelu vs Cam; Not before 12.15pm — Women's singles — Aadhya Tiwari vs Tpe; Not before 12.15pm — Men's singles — Jay Meena vs Ina; Not before 1pm — Women's singles — M Kulandaivelu vs Vie; Not before 4pm — Men's singles — Aniket Patel vs Phi; Not before 2.30pm — Men's singles — Jay Meena vs Tpe; Not before 4pm — Women's singles — Aadhya Tiwari vs Kor

SPORT CLIMBING: 6.30am — Men's boulder and lead semis — Aman Verma, Bharath Pereira; 6pm — Final

WRESTLING: 7.30am onwards — Men's freestyle 57kg — Aman vs Korea; 7.30am onwards — Women's freestyle 62kg — Sonam vs Nep; 7.30am onwards — Men's freestyle 65kg — Bajrang vs Phi; 7.30am onwards — Women's freestyle 68kg — Radhika; 7.30am onwards — Women's freestyle 76kg — Kiran

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TEAM INDIA



MEDALS TALLY

Country	G	S	B	T
1 CHN	179	99	55	333
2 JPN	44	54	60	158
3 KOR	33	47	77	157
4 IND	21	32	33	86
5 UZB	19	16	25	60
6 TPE	15	15	23	53
7 PRK	10	16	9	35
8 THA	10	14	27	51
9 BRN	10	2	5	17
10 IRA	8	17	17	42

China make short work of India girls Semis Drubbing Leaves Savita's Team With A Lot To Ponder

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India's strikers ran into a sturdy backbone while the defenders were bulldozed by a rampaging Chinese forwardline. This summed up Indian women's hockey semifinal outing against hosts China at the Asian Games on Thursday. The result: A 4-0 rout and the direct ticket to the Paris Olympics lost.

Throughout the pool phase of the competitions, India's shortcomings were masked by weak oppositions and some fine field goals. But the Chinese laid bare many chinks in their armour. Although there is still a bronze medal to be won, India's coach Janneke Schopman has a lot of work to do after a performance that highlighted lack of game awareness, tactical acumen and execution of their skill-sets.

A case in point: Six penalty corners went beginning of which two made it to the goal but were disallowed as they were hit into the net. The hosts, on the other hand, converted three of the six penalty corners.

The Chinese, led admirably by Zixia Ou, systematically dismantled India's game plan. Their repeated attacks led to a soft midfield and defenders crumbled under pressure. The strikers, who had to often fall back to make up the numbers, failed to regroup quickly. China dealt the opening blow in the 25th minute. They earned a penalty corner after



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INDIAN ARROWS HIT THE NUB

Compound Archers Down South Korea, Taipei To Win Twin Gold



TIMES IN HANGZHOU

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Hangzhou: India's recurve archers have often been seen blaming strong winds as a reason for their failure at major multisport events. Be it London, Rio or Tokyo Olympics.

But, on a day when strong gusts blew over the Fuyang Yinhua Sports Centre here, the country's compound archers – led by veteran Abhishek Verma and Jyothi Surekha Venman – showed how to overcome tough and challenging conditions.

It was heartening to watch the men's and women's compound teams putting up a courageous fight against their fancied opponents to win twin gold medals on a memorable day for Indian archery.

The gold rush was started by the women's trio of Venman, Aditi Swami and Parneet Kaur, who edged out the Chinese Taipei team of Yi-Hsuan Chen, I-Jou Huang and Lu-Yun Wang 230-229 in a see-saw battle. It was the country's first gold medal in women's compound archery at the Games – after the bronze at Incheon 2014 and silver at Jakarta 2018.

Later in the day, the men's team comprising Verma, Ojas Pravin Deotale and Prathamesh Jawkar, defeated the top-seeded South Koreans to join their female counterparts on top of the podium. The Indians defeated the Korean trio of Jaehoon Joo, Jaewon Yang and Kim Jongho 235-230.

On the women's team perfor-

65 There was a little nervousness in the match but we just focused on the shots and tried to hold ourselves as much as possible. We did not focus on the competitors' shots and just did our best." — Parneet Kaur

66 We are very happy because this is the first time that we have won a gold medal in the Asian Games in the compound women's category. I have the individual final on Saturday, so I'm looking forward to taking that gold too." — Jyothi Surekha Venman

mance, chief foreign coach, Italian Sergio Pagni, said, "I am very proud of the girls. Not only for this competition, because we have been quite dominant over the whole season worldwide. The whole group is very strong, and I think they take what they deserve. I have been training some of them since 2018 but I started the intense programme only this season. This is the first season that we are really following all my coaching methods. We clean up a lot of little diseases (fix problems). We have a very young team. With the young girls it is easier to find a proper way to compete at this level."

Parneet, who was playing in her debut Asiad, admitted she was nervous going into the final, but the senior members helped calm down her frayed nerves.

"It's very special as it's my first Asian Games medal. I am feeling very happy and excited for my upcoming matches. There was a little nervousness before the final, but we just focused on the shots and tried to



ARCHERS' DAY OUT: (Top, from left) Prathamesh Jawkar, Abhishek Verma and Ojas Pravin Deotale celebrate with their coach after winning the compound men's team gold on Thursday. (Above, from left) Parneet Kaur, Aditi Swami and Jyothi Surekha Venman exult after a good hit during their final against Chinese Taipei

hold ourselves in as much as possible. We did not focus on the competitors' shots and just did our best."

Verma, who won his second men's team gold after the victory in Incheon, said they were confident about finishing on the top after logging in some impressive perfor-

mance at the World Cups. "We were quite sure (of the gold) because we did very well in the past year in the World Championships and in the World Cups. We didn't fear our opponents. All we believe is in our abilities. There is a big secret to our success as well – coach Pagni. He is

a game changer."

Ojas credited Verma for being a guiding light to them and said he's been a big influence on the team. "It's been a very nice, new experience for me. It's a very special feeling. Much credit goes to Verma bhaiya," Ojas said.

ANTIM GETS MEDAL ON A TOUGH DAY FOR WRESTLERS

Hangzhou: Teen sensation Antim Panghal humbled Tokyo Olympics medalist Bolortuya Bat-Ochir 3-1 to win a bronze medal but other Indian wrestlers struggled badly here on Thursday. The 19-year-old Antim bounced back after losing to two-time Japanese world champion Akari Fujinami in the quarterfinals as she did not let the Mongolian attack much in the women's 53kg bronze play-off.

Antim saved the day for the Indian contingent which badly needed a medal after Narinder Cheema (Greco-Roman 97kg), Naveen (Greco Roman 130kg) and Pooja Gehlot (women's 50kg) were ousted. Pooja was outplayed 2-9 in the bronze medal bout by Aktenge Keunimjaeva, the Asian championship bronze winner.

A lot was expected from Mansi Ahlawat (women's 57kg), but she too ended up losing her bronze play-off by fall to Uzbekistan's Laylokhon Sobirova, who needed just 70 seconds to win the contest.

Antim had come to Hangzhou after winning a bronze at the world championships and she carried her good form into the prestigious event. Her bronze is only the second wrestling medal of this edition.

In other match-ups, Cheema lost his quarterfinal 1-3 to South Korea's Lee Seyeol 1-3, while Mansi was defeated 2-5 by Japan's Sakurai Tsugumi in the last-eight round. Greco-Roman grapper Naveen, too, lost his quarterfinal contest 0-3 to 25-year-old Chinese Meng Lingzhe.

Bairang Punia (65kg) and Aman Sehrawat (56kg), will be in action on Friday. PTI

Man Singh finishes 8th in marathon

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Hangzhou: India's Man Singh finished eighth in the men's marathon at the Qiantang River Green belt clocking a time of 2:16:58 here on Thursday. The second Indian in the fray, Belliappa AB, finished 12th in 2:20:52. Both the Army men were unable to break Shivnath Singh's national record of 2:12:00 set in 1978. China's Ji He took the gold in 2:13:02 followed by Ilryong Han of North Korea in 2:13:27. He's countryman Shaohui Yang grabbed the bronze medal (2:13:39).

Man Singh's coach Younis Khan said he was happy with his trainee's show. "He had a decent show – neither good nor bad. Considering that he had a bout of fever recently, this is a good show," Khan said.

Next up for Man Singh is the Mumbai marathon scheduled in January where he is the defending champion in the Indian Elite section, the coach said. "To qualify for the Paris Games, it will be helpful if he gets a chance to run in international marathons," Khan said.

Results: Marathon: Men: 1. Ji He (Chn, 2:13:02); 2. Ilryong Han (North Korea, 2:13:27); 3. Shaohui Yang (Chn, 2:13:39); 8. Man Singh (Ind, 2:16:59), 12. Belliappa AB (Ind, 2:20:52). Women: 1. ECP Chumba (Brn, 2:26:14); 2. D Zhang (Chn, 2:27:55); 3. S Trofimova (Kg, 2:28:41 SB).



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TEAM INDIA GEAR UP FOR [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] debate is far from settled even as Team India appear as cup [REDACTED]

Indore: India are building up steam as the World Cup [REDACTED] ticking boxes on the way, getting battle ready. [REDACTED] looks sharp, [REDACTED] action.

But there are few issues the team management would like to iron out [REDACTED] of which will be played on [REDACTED] where they have never [REDACTED] in [REDACTED]

The think-tank have preferred [REDACTED] instead of [REDACTED] as it offers the Men in Blue some batting depth which [REDACTED]

To start in the quadrennial event, India are staring at a long tail—from No. 8 to 11—starting with [REDACTED]

But when [REDACTED] numbers are compared with [REDACTED] the latter edges ahead. But one can't discredit [REDACTED] as the first ODI was a rare off day he encountered in recent times. After all, he merits a place in the squad considering his knack to pick wickets when the team requires.

In the World Cup, you shouldn't put too much workload by playing back-to-back games. Things are [REDACTED]



Source: BCCL Archives

“You shouldn't put too much workload by playing back-to-back games. Things are [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] image and made a conscious effort to stay at the crease to see India over the line in the company of [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] is another area that needs to be addressed. "Batting and bowling can [REDACTED] but so can catches," [REDACTED]

stand-in skipper [REDACTED] has been troubled by back issues in recent months, looked jittery in [REDACTED] before [REDACTED]. In contrast,

His happiness could be judged from his response post-match. "That was what I was dreaming of when I started playing this format—try and bat till the end as much as possible and finish the game for the team. (Earlier) I think I was hurrying a bit. I thought, let's take [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] run-out of [REDACTED] where he had ample time to dislodge the bails but couldn't collect the ball. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] sure they [REDACTED]

India have been in the field.

[REDACTED] selection ahead of specialist spinners [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] also revolved around the same theory.

"We need to create that depth (in

battling and bowling) as it was lacking in our team for the last few years. When we talk about depth in batting, the [REDACTED]

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