BENNETT, COLEMAN & CO. LTD. | Estd. MDCCCXXXVIII | VOL. 76 NO. 36 | NEW DELHI | TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 2025 | PAGES 32 | CAPITAL | INVITATION PRICE ₹5.50; *₹9.50 WITH ET OR ₹10.00 (₹8.50 IN FARIDABAD EDITION) WITH NAVBHARAT TIMES

THE TIMES OF

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

After Abujmarh, 2nd Red citadel Bijapur also falls

Indravati National Park in Chhattisgarh's Bijapur district was a safe hideout for Maoists till Sunday, when 31 guerrillas were shot in one of the bloodiest encounters with security forces till date. After Abujmarh, this 'Red citadel', too, has fallen, where cadre-training infra, gun-making factories, arsenal stock and other wings are in a shambles. P16

Child trafficking ring busted, 2 rescued

Delhi Police has busted a child trafficking ring and rescued two infants and arrested four traffickers. The network exploited vulnerable families and sold abducted children to childless couples under the guise of adoption. P10

BJP asks Raj mantri to explain tap claim

BJP has issued Rajasthan minister Kirori Lal Meena a show-cause notice on Monday, asking him to explain within three days the allegation made by him last week that his own party's govt was tapping his phone and spying on him. TNN

In a rare occurrence, the world's most advanced 5th-generation stealth fighter jets, Russia's Su-57 (above) & America's F35 were both on display at Aero India-2025 in Bengaluru on Monday. India's Tejas, Su-30s, Jaguars and Rafales participated in the flypast | P17

₹5k-20k fine if vehicle stalls on Noida eway

Police are issuing challans between Rs 5,000 and Rs 20,000 and impounding vehicles if they break down on Noida Expressway. Commercial vehicles are being targeted and nearly 50 vehicles have been fined or seized in the first 10 days of Feb. P11

Tension in Mysuru over WhatsApp post

North-east Mysuru witnessed unrest on Monday night as protests erupted outside Udayagiri police station over a derogatory WhatsApp status targeting a particular community. Police resorted to tear gas to disperse the gathering. TNN

BTech, BSc grads held for stealing ATM

An engineer and a BSc graduate were arrested on Sunday for allegedly stealing an ATM in Wazirabad, north Delhi, and making off with Rs 29.1 lakh on Feb 6. The duo took the machine to Mewat, where they cut it open with gas cylinders. P5

YouTuber's poser on show draws flak

Content creator Ranveer Allahbadia, known online as BeerBiceps, has drawn significant backlash and potential legal consequences for inappropriate remarks on 'India's Got Latent' show. Allahbadia has since apologised for the comment. P13

India to cite recent duty cuts in bid to escape Trump tariffs

Will Levy 25% On Aluminium, Steel, Warns US Prez

Surojit Gupta & Sidhartha

New Delhi: As President Trump issued fresh threats of '25% tariff' on all steel and aluminium imports into the US (on top of existing metal duties), India is getting ready to unbracket itself from countries he has called "worst tariff manipulators", citing its recent duty cuts to point to a reduction in average duties in recent years.

On Monday, Trump's economic adviser Kevin Hassett said India has high tariffs that lock out imports, and added that Modi had a "lot to discuss" with Trump as they meet later this week.

Following Budget announcements on tariff cuts for bikes, including the iconic Harley Davidson, and other products in the run-up to PM Modi's meeting with Trump, officials said they have prepared the ground for the PM to point to Trump that his govt is sensitive to White House's concerns and has undertaken a comprehensive look at tariffs to bring them down to Asean rates. They also pointed out that the reduction was a signal to the world that tariff rates were not high as perceived by some trading partners.

The reduction in the Union Budget is estimated to have lowered the average duty by a percentage point to 10.6%. Average tariffs on imports from US have also come down over the years. In fact, for the top 30 imports from the US, including oil, gas, diamonds and airplanes, the levy is going up to 7.5% at the most, officials have said.

▶ EDIT: Mr 25%
▶ Trump on a tear on tariffs as Modi heads to US, PG OPP
▶ PREZ TARGETS SWIFT AFTER SUPER BOWL BOOS, PG OPP
▶ 25% steel tariff..., P 18

RISK OF DUMPING IN INDIAN MARKET

$475 million India's export of iron and steel to US

$2.8 billion Export of iron & steel products

$950 million Export of aluminium and articles made of aluminium

➤ Prospect of higher tariffs on Chinese steel and aluminium opens up the **risk of cheap imports flooding the Indian market**

➤ China, for instance, will look to **tap the vast Indian market** to offset probable losses in US

President Trump at the US National Football League Super Bowl on Monday

➤ **India's steel industry has already petitioned govt** to impose **20-25% safeguard duty on steel** to shield domestic players from predatory imports

Modi in France to co-chair summit on AI

PM Narendra Modi landed in France late Monday on a two-day visit, during which he will co-chair an action summit on AI with French President Emmanuel Macron. He will also hold a bilateral meeting with him to deepen the strategic partnership between the two countries.

Shortly after his arrival, Modi attended Macron's welcome dinner for leaders participating in the summit, including German Chancellor Olaf Scholz, Canadian PM Justin Trudeau, European Commission President Ursula von der Leyen and US Vice President JD Vance. Modi will travel to Washington Wednesday for a two-day visit to the US. On his bilateral with Trump, Modi said he will look to deepen ties in tech, trade, defence, energy, & supply chain resilience. P14

▶ EDIT PG: India-France will harness AI's potential, P 20

Kejriwal calls Punjab CM, MLAs for meet; Cong & BJP claim rift within AAP

Ambika Pandit & Vibhor Mohan

New Delhi/Chandigarh: AAP chief **Arvind Kejriwal** has called Punjab CM **Bhagwant Mann**, ministers and party MLAs to Delhi for deliberations on Tuesday, in a move that was not only seen as aimed at insulating its govt but also termed by rivals as "preparation" for the removal of Mann from the top post.

Although AAP termed it an "organisational meeting" for feedback and acknowledging work done by Mann and Punjab MLAs in Delhi polls, it intensified speculation about unrest in the party over failure to deliver its poll promises and growing tensions between Kejriwal and Mann. AAP Punjab netas will attend along with party members from Delhi.

Stirring the pot, BJP's Tarun Chugh claimed "countdown for Mann's govt has started", while party MLA Majinder Sirsa cautioned the CM on "plans afoot to remove him".

▶ '30 AAP MLAs in touch', P 18

Mamata slams AAP, Cong for Delhi loss

Congress's inflexibility in Delhi and AAP's intransigence in Haryana led to BJP wins in these states, Mamata Banerjee said, declaring TMC wasn't banking on anyone's support to win a "two-thirds majority" in Bengal. An editorial in Sena (UBT) mouthpiece Saamna questioned the need for opposition unity if constituents continue to fight each other. P15

Should convicts be barred for life from polls? SC seeks responses from Centre, EC

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New Delhi: If a convicted person is barred from govt employment, what is the rationale behind provisions in the Representation of the People Act that allow a convicted criminal to contest elections and become a lawmaker six years after he has served the sentence, Supreme Court asked on Monday.

After two landmark judgments on electoral reforms — mandatory disclosure of assets and criminal antecedents by candidates, and prescribing automatic disqualification on conviction and sentence beyond two years — a bench of Justices Dipankar Datta and Manmohan decided to foray into a possible third by agreeing to test the constitutional validity of parts of Sections 8 & 9 of RP Act — should there be a life ban on the convicted on contesting election?

The SC asked govt and EC to file replies to the plea by advocate-petitioner Ashwini Kumar Upadhyay in three weeks.

▶ SC hearing on Mar 4, P 18

IN THE COURTS

➤ Acknowledging that **Ratan Tata is a well-known figure whose trademark deserves protection**, Delhi HC restrains a 3rd party from unauthorised use of the late industrialist's name | P 13

➤ With disqualification of BRS MLAs who allegedly defected to Cong pending for 7 months, **SC asks Telangana speaker what is a reasonable time frame to take a decision** | P 17

➤ **Allahabad HC stays arrest of a schoolteacher accused of attending a meet** where a speaker allegedly incited attendees to disrespect Hindu religious symbols | P 13

Sonia: 14cr being denied food security due to census delay

Raising the delay in conducting the census by over four years, Congress MP Sonia Gandhi, in her maiden intervention in Rajya Sabha on Monday, claimed 14 crore people are being deprived of benefits under National Food Security Act (NFSA).

She said the quota for beneficiaries is still determined based on the 2011 census, which is now well over a decade old. In her zero hour intervention, Gandhi said NFSA enacted by the UPA govt in 2013 is a landmark initiative aimed at ensuring food & nutritional security for the poor and legislation played a key role in protecting millions of vulnerable households from starvation. P16

▶ RS din on 'withdrawal' of query on UP builders, P4

PM's mantra to students: Degrees valuable, but skills make you indispensable

New Delhi: Pariksha Pe Charcha 2025 broke tradition with an open-air, informal conversation at Sunder Nursery, replacing the conventional auditorium setup, as students engaged with PM Narendra Modi in a free-wheeling discussion around diet, stress, technology and personal struggles related to examinations, **reports Manash Pratim Gohain.**

Modi revealed, "Had I not been PM, I would have liked to work in the skill development ministry." He advised the young audience to "break hierarchical barriers" and emphasised, "True leadership is about inspiring and guiding others, not just giving orders."

Focusing on skill development, Modi said, "Degrees are valuable, but skills make you indispensable." He shared examples of young entrepreneurs and innovators who turned their passions into careers, emphasising that adaptability and continuous learning define success today. "You are lucky to be growing up in an era with so much technology... but you must decide whether you are using it wisely."

PM Modi offers sweets to students during Pariksha Pe Charcha 2025 at Sunder Nursery

▶ PM on difficulties, P 18

BJP strives to find consensus candidate as Biren successor

The search for a consensus face to succeed N Biren Singh as Manipur CM could stretch until Wednesday as BJP's Northeast incharge Sambit Patra scans a clutch of prospective candidates seeking to drive the Meitei-Kuki "reconciliation" agenda, **reports Prabin Kalita.**

At least one contender – cabinet minister and known Biren baiter Yumnam Khemchand Singh – put his hand up on Monday by declaring that the process of reconciling communities after nearly two years of ethnic bloodletting would "start soon". Khemchand, who met Patra at a hotel in Imphal, told the media that discussion was focused on restoring peace. "The challenge we are facing is how to restore normalcy," he said. P15

KUMBH RUSH JAMS HIGHWAYS IN UP, MP, BIHAR

A massive traffic jam in Prayagraj on Monday. A huge influx of pilgrims for Maha Kumbh has caused snarls stretching 20-30km at various stretches across highways leading to Prayagraj, with jams spilling onto neighbouring states of MP and Bihar. Over the past three days, nearly 4 crore people have come for a dip at Sangam, causing severe congestion and logistical challenges. The surge has also overwhelmed railway stations, which struggled with the rush despite additional trains being deployed. SP chief Akhilesh Yadav shared a photo of a jam at MP border, where thousands were stranded for two days | P 16

Apply mind: SC to Guj govt on Cong MP's poem recital

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New Delhi: Observing that a poem recited by Congress MP Imran Pratapgarhi did not seem to be against any religion, Supreme Court on Monday asked the Gujarat govt "to apply its mind" to the poem and take a stand on the politician's plea to quash criminal proceedings initiated against him in the state for hurting religious sentiments.

The court granted two weeks to the state govt to take a decision while highlighting that it was just a poem and creativity was also important for society. The bench said Gujarat high court did not appreciate the meaning of the poem while hearing a plea filed by Pratapgarhi.

Appearing for the Congress MP, senior advocate Kapil Sibal said, "The judge (of Gujarat HC) has done violence to the law. That is my worry."

> **It is ultimately a poem.** It is not against any religion. This poem indirectly says even if somebody indulges in violence, we will not indulge in violence. That's the message... So that somebody who indulges in violence will be dethroned... Please apply your mind to the poem. **After all, creativity is also important** – SC

▶ 'It's a poem,' P 18

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What Can Bring Yamuna Back To Life

River That Became Centre Of Political Discourse Needs More Wetlands And Biodiversity

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New Delhi: The pollution of the Yamuna caused a lot of heat in the assembly polls campaign, with accusations of the Aam Aadmi Party's failing in its commitment to clean the river by 2025 and culminating with Arvind Kejriwal accused the BJP govt in Haryana of deliberately contaminating the river to discredit the AAP govt in Delhi just before the voting.

With BJP poised to form the next govt in the capital and with the same party at the helm at the Centre and in Haryana, excuses like resource scarcity and upstream pollution will no longer remain valid justifications for any failure to address the river's contamination. BJP, having promised a clean river in its manifesto, will have to live up to its assurance.

However, with the river now much more polluted than it ever was, especially 27 years at the time of the last BJP govt in Delhi, rejuvenating a virtually dead river will prove onerous given the inefficient administrative system and historical wrongs. The efforts must, therefore, be multi-directional and without distractions caused by the occasional improvements, say due to dilution during monsoons.

Experts feel the efficiency of sewage treatment plants has to be increased and their full functioning ensured. No sewer should be left untapped and reverse monitoring employed to trace and fix the source of industrial effluents. "Back in the 1990s, chromium touching the 100-unit mark was considered an emergency. Now, it breaches 250," noted Sanjay Sharma, president, India Water Quality Association. "Water production at treatment plants was reduced whenever ammonia levels reached 0.5ppm. Now, the level even crosses 9ppm."

Sharma said a start should be made by increasing the efficiency of STPs. "When a pilot plant of 16 million gallon a day worked at 90% efficiency, we found a 30-40% improvement in biological oxygen demand (BOD), total suspended solids, etc," he revealed. "A homegrown tech that used coagulators even brought these levels to acceptable standards. The tech costs around Rs70 lakh for a 16 MGD plant. For conventional treatment plants, the cost would perhaps be Rs 40 crore."

Sharma was all for harnessing tech too. He said the Internet of Things (IOT) or Industrial Internet of Things (IIOT) could be employed to ascertain that STPs were working. Recently, DPCC found nearly half of STPs failing to meet operating standards. "IOT would take signatures such as motor vibration, RPMs, heat, and electrical signatures and analyse if the STP was working properly or not. It will also alert to machine breakdowns," Sharma pointed out, adding, "Sampling currently is poor. Agencies must collect six in and out samples to determine if the STP is working properly or not."

According to Dr SK Sarkar of TERI, the river needs a proper flow to sustain life. "Industrial effluents from Haryana and Delhi pollute the water. Domestic sewage worsens this. The contamination level fluctuates when the river has extra water, say during floods. It must be decided how much water must be maintained to ensure that the river has better quality," said Sarkar.

In Feb last year, DPCC declared in a report that making the Yamuna compliant with bathing standards was difficult in the absence of the natural flow of the river. Under the water-sharing agreement, the Yamuna in Delhi must maintain a minimum environmental flow of 0.86 million cubic metres per day. But a 2013 study done by researchers in Delhi University and Jamia Millia Islamia reported that this agreed flow is itself far from sufficient and the river needed a minimum freshwater flow of about 6.6 million cubic metres/day even to avoid algal choking. The water sharing states are set to renegotiate the shares this year.

Faiyaaz Khudsar, scientist in charge, DDA's Biodiversity Park Programme, felt that no state would give up its share of Yamuna water for Delhi and so the only reliable solution would be to refurbish its wetlands and catchments areas. "Identify and restore wetlands, grasslands and floodplain forests. The silted wetlands can store a large quantity of flood water without disturbing the main channel and will also relieve the Yamuna during the dry season through lateral flow," said Khudsar. He noted that the National Green Tribunal had thrice suggested building more biodiversity parks in river catchment areas. The NGT-appointed high level committee on the river, which was to meet every month to monitor river cleaning, last met in July 2024.

Manu Bhatnagar of INTACH also advocated temporary relief for the river by installing artificial aerators. The Yamuna has zero dissolved oxygen in most stretches in Delhi. "They can install aerators to temporarily increase dissolved oxygen to assist life, like the fish population," said Bhatnagar. "An INTACH study found that the river now had just four species of fishes with a very thin and stunted population due to pollution. There used to be 65 species. The ecological inventory of Yamuna must be fixed. Bioremediation of various drains with outfall in the river through constructed wetland or bacterial bioremediation will help."

THE YAMUNA WE HAVE AND THE ONE WE NEED

The river flows **300 km** downstream from Hathini Kund, Haryana

STATE OF RIVER

More polluted than ever	₹7,000cr spent since 2017 to clean it	Maximum investment in sewage infrastructure	Several untapped sewers from slums

- That environmental flow or e-flow (amount, quality and timing of water) should be .86 million cubic metre/day was decided for Delhi. However, Yamuna needs minimum 6.6 mcm/day as e-flow to sustain life
- Sewage treatment plants inefficient and unmonitored

FIGURING IT OUT

Last Dec, Yamuna had the highest pollution since **Dec 2020**

Peak faecal coliform or untreated sewage in Dec 2024 was **8.4 million MPN/100ml**
The highest level was recorded when the Yamuna crossed Shahdara and Tughlakabad drains

When river entered city, faecal level was **1,200 units**

While exiting Delhi, coliform level was **3,360 times** the permissible limit and **16,800 times** the desired limit

BATHING STANDARDS

1. Faecal coliform or untreated sewage should be 2,500 MPN/100ml maximum
2. Biomedical Oxygen Demand (BOD), a measure of a river's capacity to heal itself, should be 4 mg/l maximum. It is many times higher, was 70 mg/l last Dec at the exit point
3. Dissolved Oxygen, which reflects life in the river, should be 5 mg/l minimum. It is mostly nil except when it enters Delhi

COURSE CORRECTION

- Increase STP efficiency. A DJB test found STPs working at 90% efficiency reduced river pollution by 40%
- Monitor STPs using internet of things (IOT)
- Do better quality assessment at a 24/7 lab
- Collect hourly samples
- Track down source of industrial effluents
- Fix untapped drains
- Ensure minimal e-flow
- Maintain 10-15m wide riverine grass belt
- Have natural vegetation on eight river islands
- Do bioremediation of drains
- Install temporary aerators in river to spike oxygen
- Replicate biodiversity model
- Restore silted wetlands for summer

TIMES *Special*

Gupta urges LG to demerge 'Sheesh Mahal' properties

Times News Network

New Delhi: Newly-elected BJP MLA Vijender Gupta on Monday requested LG V K Saxena to cancel the merger of four govt properties with AAP chief Arvind Kejriwal's former residence 6, Flagstaff Road. The bungalow, termed 'Sheesh Mahal' by BJP, was expanded by the amalgamation of these properties, said Gupta.

The reconstructed bungalow was the official residence of Kejriwal as CM from 2015 until Oct 2024, when he vacated it after resigning from the post under fire from BJP over corruption charges. There was no immediate response from AAP.

Gupta, who was Leader of the Opposition in the outgoing Delhi Assembly, said the new BJP chief minister will not live in the bungalow as it was under investigation over alleged irregularities. The land of the demerged properties should be used for other official purposes, like the construction of govt quarters, he added.

For more than two years, BJP criticised Kejriwal, levelling allegations of corruption, including irregularities in the reconstruction of the bungalow and its lavish interiors and high-end domestic goods and fixtures.

In his letter to LG, Gupta alleged Kejriwal transformed the bungalow into "an ultra-luxurious Sheesh Mahal" by illegally annexing neighbouring govt properties. "The scope of these unauthorised alterations is particularly concerning. What was meant to be a standard official residence has been transformed into a lavish complex spanning more than 50,000 sqm," he said.

Gupta said the merged properties included eight Type-V flats at 45 and 47 Rajpur Road, and the two govt bungalows (8-A and 8-B Flag Staff Road) with the 6, Flagstaff Road bungalow.

"I urgently request your intervention to restore these properties to their original independent status and return 6, Flagstaff Road to its previous area of less than 10,000 sqm," he wrote.

Gupta also requested LG to expedite the ongoing investigation into the alleged violations, saying swift action was crucial for ensuring accountability and restoring public trust in govt institutions. He said the property should be brought back to its original status as it was being "misused".

VIJENDER GUPTA

The new BJP chief minister will not live in the bungalow as it was under investigation over many alleged irregularities

"Once this is done, 10 dwelling units would come out of this. Delhi anyway has a shortage of staff quarters, and there is no need for amalgamation of houses for giving luxury to one person," Gupta said in his letter.

Gupta, who won from Rohini for the third time in a row, has been vocal on the issue. During the campaign, BJP shared several videos featuring the residence and portraying it as a representation of luxury. Party functionaries said their vigorous campaign was strategically aimed at challenging AAP's fundamental principles, particularly its image of representing the common person and simplicity.

Winning Over Jats: How BJP Scored A Perfect 10

Working On Rural Issues And Fielding Verma Gave It Edge

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New Delhi: The BJP swept all 10 Jat-dominated constituencies in Delhi into its kitty, capturing territory that they did not have in the last two elections.

Party officials attributed the strong Jat support for the BJP to several factors, particularly the party's focus on addressing rural problems and its willingness to give tickets to several Jat functionaries.

A senior BJP functionary said that there were several problems in Jat-dominated areas, such as registries, a crumbling civic infrastructure, and a need for better connectivity. "Through DDA and with the support of the lieutenant governor, some work was done. The Jats realised that central govt assistance could play a key role in their development, which was not happening," the BJP source said.

Days before the elections, the representatives from all 360 villages of Delhi declared their backing for BJP. Their decision stemmed from a general dissatisfaction with Delhi govt for its failure to resolve issues affecting rural communities.

Another BJP functionary said that giving a ticket to Parvesh Verma also helped, as it led to the consolidation of the community, especially the youth, in BJP's favour. He said the bitter political confrontation, when AAP chief Arvind Kejriwal called Verma a traitor for giving money to women through his NGO before the model code of conduct kicked in, also did not help AAP. "When Kejriwal made personal statements targeting Parvesh Verma through his press briefings, he often made it a Jat issue as well," the BJP functionary said.

Also, when Verma was pitched against Kejriwal, it made the contest a battle of personalities, which led to a strong Jat backing for BJP. The BJP also swept outer Delhi seats, which were once the stronghold of his father and former chief minister Sahib Singh Verma.

Another functionary said that having senior Jat functionaries contesting the polls helped in different ways. When AAP raised the issue of Jat reservation, these functionaries were quick to respond that if the party was serious then it should have first brought the proposal in the Vidhan Sabha when it was ruling, but it never did. "The voices got amplified," he said.

Paramjeet Sejwal, who lives in Lado Sarai, said: "There were several reasons for the BJP's gain. The crumbling infrastructure when not much was happening on the development front was one. Second, people in the community saw leaders such as Kailash Gahlot leaving. Also, the INDIA bloc did not give any ticket to people from the Jat community. So, these factors started consolidating after a point."

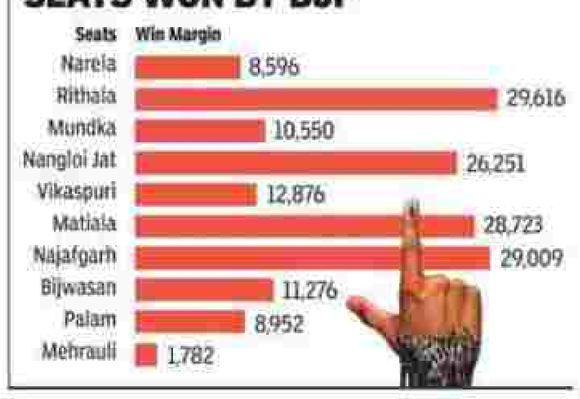
In Lado Sarai, which is part of the Jat-influenced seat of Mehrauli, Gajendra Yadav of BJP won by 1,786 votes. The margins in other seats were larger. In the Jat-dominated seat of Najafgarh, Neelam Pahalwan of BJP won by 29,009 votes against Tarun Kumar of AAP. Last time, AAP got 72,699 votes in this seat.

Gahlot, a former AAP govt minister who switched sides before the polls, won by 11,276 votes against Surendra Bharadwaj of AAP.

In the Palam constituency, a key seat where Jats are in significant numbers, Kuldeep Solanki of BJP won by a margin of 8,952 votes against Joginder Solanki of AAP. The AAP polled 73,094 votes in this seat.

In Nangloi Jat, Manoj Kumar Shokeen of BJP won against Raghuvinder Shokeen of AAP by a margin of 26,251 votes. The party won Narela by 8,596 votes, Rithala by 29,616, Mundka by 10,550 and Nangloi Jat by 26,251. In Vikaspuri, Matiala and Palam also, BJP got good winning margins.

JAT-DOMINATED ASSEMBLY SEATS WON BY BJP



Cong to focus on Dalit and minority support, says Yadav

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New Delhi: Delhi Congress chief Devender Yadav said on Monday that the party's strategy in the city would be to focus on minority and Dalit communities in the coming days.

He pointed out that Congress's electoral defeat was due to AAP successfully drawing Dalit and minority voters.

"The anti-BJP votes of Dalits and minorities went to AAP on the mistaken premise that AAP would form a govt, but the rest of the city didn't show faith in the party, and it failed to perform. However, the diversion of Dalit and minority votes to AAP affected the prospects of the Congress. The situation automatically benefited the BJP," Yadav said.

Devender Yadav

After being out of power in Delhi for 11 years, Congress focused its efforts on reclaiming its core vote bank but was unsuccessful. It failed to get any seat. BJP secured 48, while AAP won 22.

Yadav highlighted that among AAP's 22 seats, eight were reserved for Scheduled Castes, and four were minority-dominated. "Then there were four other seats which had a major population of minorities. This is the segment which doesn't want to vote BJP, and ideally, this should have come to us. We will work hard in the coming days, fight for their issues," Yadav said.

Thanking the party workers for their dedication, he said: "I am proud of my cadres. They did a very good job on the ground. We retained our cadre votes, which went up to 6.5%, but we did not get the votes of two segments of our sympathisers, Dalits and Muslims, which went to AAP," he said.

He observed that Dalits and minorities were uncomfortable with BJP's political stance and primarily aimed to prevent BJP from forming the govt.

Following improved Lok Sabha poll results in alliance with AAP, Congress began assembly poll preparations early. They did a month-long Delhi Nyay Yatra in Nov-Dec across all 70 constituencies, led by Yadav.

Senior Congress official Chattar Singh said that though the party's vote share didn't increase dramatically, the party managed to bring Congress back into the conscience of the people.

"Our candidates performed much better than the last time. Ten candidates got more than 10% vote share this time, while there were just six in the 2020 assembly polls," Singh said.

Delhi gets warmest day of year 2 days on the trot

Times News Network

New Delhi: The maximum temperature spiked to the warmest day of the year for two consecutive days. On Monday, the city experienced a warm, sunny day with little wind, as both minimum and maximum temperatures increased. The air quality also worsened, remaining within the "poor" category.

The rise in temperature was due to the influence of a western disturbance, which reduced wind speeds. The maximum temperature reached 28°C, five degrees above normal, compared to 27.4°C the previous day. Prior to this, the highest maximum temperature was 27°C, recorded on Jan 31. Last year, the maximum temperature reached 29.7°C, and in 2023, it spiked to a scorching 33.6°C in Feb.

According to the India Meteorological Department (IMD), daytime temperatures are expected to remain warm until Tuesday, potentially reaching 29°C as wind speeds stay low. Weather analysts noted that the western disturbance is influencing the region, likely reducing wind speed and altering wind direction. The city is currently receiving warm westerly winds, although cool north-westerly winds during peak afternoon hours are preventing a drastic rise in temperatures.

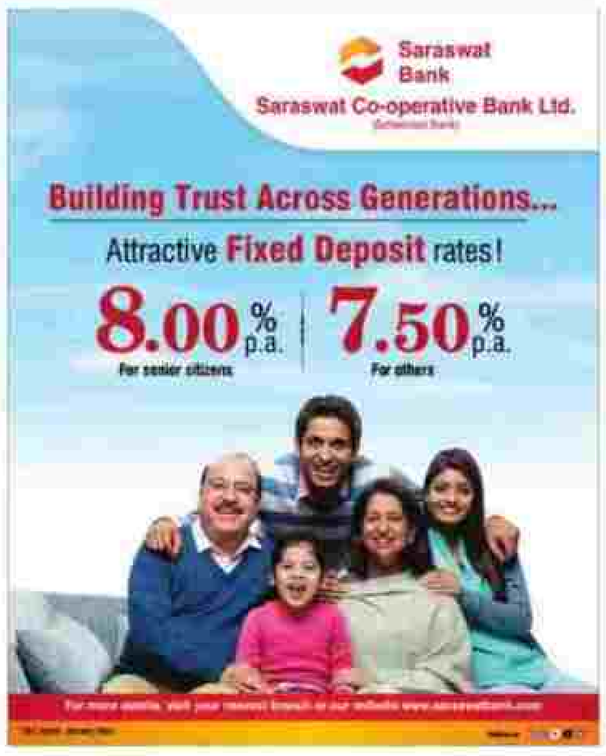
12 KM/H MAX SPEED OF WESTERLY WINDS

On Monday, westerly winds reached speeds of up to 8 km/h in the morning and evening, and up to 12 km/h in the afternoon. The minimum temperature, however, remained below normal as clear skies during the night allowed heat to escape into the atmosphere. The minimum temperature on Monday was recorded at 9.7°C, a notch below normal, compared to 7.8°C the previous day.

The forecast indicates that minimum temperatures will rise, expected to hover between 10-12°C on Tuesday, 11-13°C on Wednesday, and 10-12°C on Thursday.

Meanwhile, the city's air quality worsened, falling into the "poor" category on Monday. On Sunday, after two consecutive days of "moderate" AQI levels on Friday and Saturday, the air quality dropped to "poor". Monday saw an AQI of 271, on Sunday it was 227.

The IITM's air quality early warning system predicts the AQI will worsen. "The air quality is likely to be in the "very poor" category on Feb 11. On Feb 12, it will likely remain in the "poor" category, and by Feb 13, it may improve to "moderate".



16 foreign nationals detained

New Delhi: Sixteen foreign nationals were detained and sent to a deportation centre after they were found to be living illegally in different areas of Dwarka in Jan.

The people were identified as: Mohammad Sharif (54), Najrul Sheikh (50), his wife Parveen (25), and their two children, all residents of Bangladesh; Ikechukwu Paul, Ekene Boniface (41), Ebuka Desmond Akuchukwu (32), Omodu (36), Izuka Emmanuel Nwakonobi (32), Ekwebili Victor (39), Jonathan Egbunike Okoye (34), and Stanley Chialuka Mbamara (22), all residents of Nigeria.

DCP (Dwarka) Ankit Singh formed special teams to apprehend foreign nationals who overstayed in India without a valid visa and were residing or roaming in Dwarka district. TNN

Submit report on borewells in Civil Lines: NGT

New Delhi: The National Green Tribunal has asked the subdivisional magistrate (SDM) of Civil Lines to file a report on the status of the sealing of two illegal borewells in the area, as sought in an earlier order.

A resident filed a plea before the tribunal in 2023 against the illegal extraction of groundwater in Civil Lines. He claimed that the borewells were dug without permission from any govt authority.

The tribunal, in its order dated May 13, 2024, permitted a private agency to dismantle both the borewells within 15 days and disposed of the original application. However, a miscellaneous application was filed in the tribunal this year.

"A notice be issued to SDM, Civil Lines, New Delhi, requiring him to file his response with respect to the sealing of the borewells in accordance with the rules and to the member secretary, Delhi Pollution Control Committee, requiring him to file his response regarding the imposition and realisation of environmental compensation in accordance with the law," the bench said in an order dated Jan 31.

The matter will be heard on April 1. TNN

2 pose as Bishnoi associates, held for extorting man

New Delhi: Two men were arrested on Sunday for allegedly posing as associates of gangster Lawrence Bishnoi and extorting money from a govt employee in Paharganj, central Delhi.

Struggling with a debt of Rs 2 lakh, the accused devised a scheme to threaten the employee. One of them had previously worked as an attendant for the victim's bedridden father-in-law and was familiar with the family's circumstances.

The accused, identified as Ajeet (32) and Mohammad Aman (32), both residents of central Delhi, were apprehended following an investigation.

The incident took place earlier this month. The govt employee filed a complaint stating that his wife received a phone call from a man claiming to be associated with the gangster and demanding Rs 3 lakh. An FIR was registered, leading to the arrest of the duo. TNN

Outlaws Find Donkey Route Safe Because Of Their Own Networks

Gangsters Have Resources And Cash In On Their Corrupt Connections

Rajshekhar.Jha
@timesofindia.com

New Delhi: When gangster Sunil Yadav was accused of snitching on a close aide of don Lawrence Bishnoi, the only way out seemed a donkey route to the United States. Yadav came to Delhi, got a forged passport made in the name of Rahul and set out on a perilous route west that involved passing through Dubai. Once there, Yadav touched new heights as an international drug smuggler with operations spanning many countries, including India.

Yadav was an aspiration for many in his Punjab village until Bishnoi's men tracked him down in Stockton, California, last month and gunned him down. Yadav, ironically, is not an isolated case. Most success stories on the 'donkey route' are about outlaws determined to make it to the United States.

Punjabi pop singer Sidhu Moose Wala was shot dead on May 29, 2022, in Punjab by shooters of the Lawrence Bishnoi gang. A month before the murder, Bishnoi had directed his younger brother Anmol Bishnoi and relative Sachin Thapan to flee the country by obtaining forged passports. Both came to Delhi and acquired Tatkal passports using forged documents. Thapan's passport was in the name of Tilak Raj Toteja while Anmol's bore the name of Bhanu. By the time, their police verification was conducted and negated, the traffickers had flown them to Dubai to embark on a donkey route.

The duo was flown to Azerbaijan. Anmol, being Bishnoi's younger brother, set off for the US first. Thapan stayed behind to complete some tasks and wait for his turn. However, Delhi Police tracked him down and brought him back to Delhi. Anmol, however, managed to reach the US and is currently running the gang operations from there with Satinderjeet Singh aka Goldy Brar, who had secured a study visa to Canada in 2019, stayed there for a while and then illegally crossed over to the US two years ago.

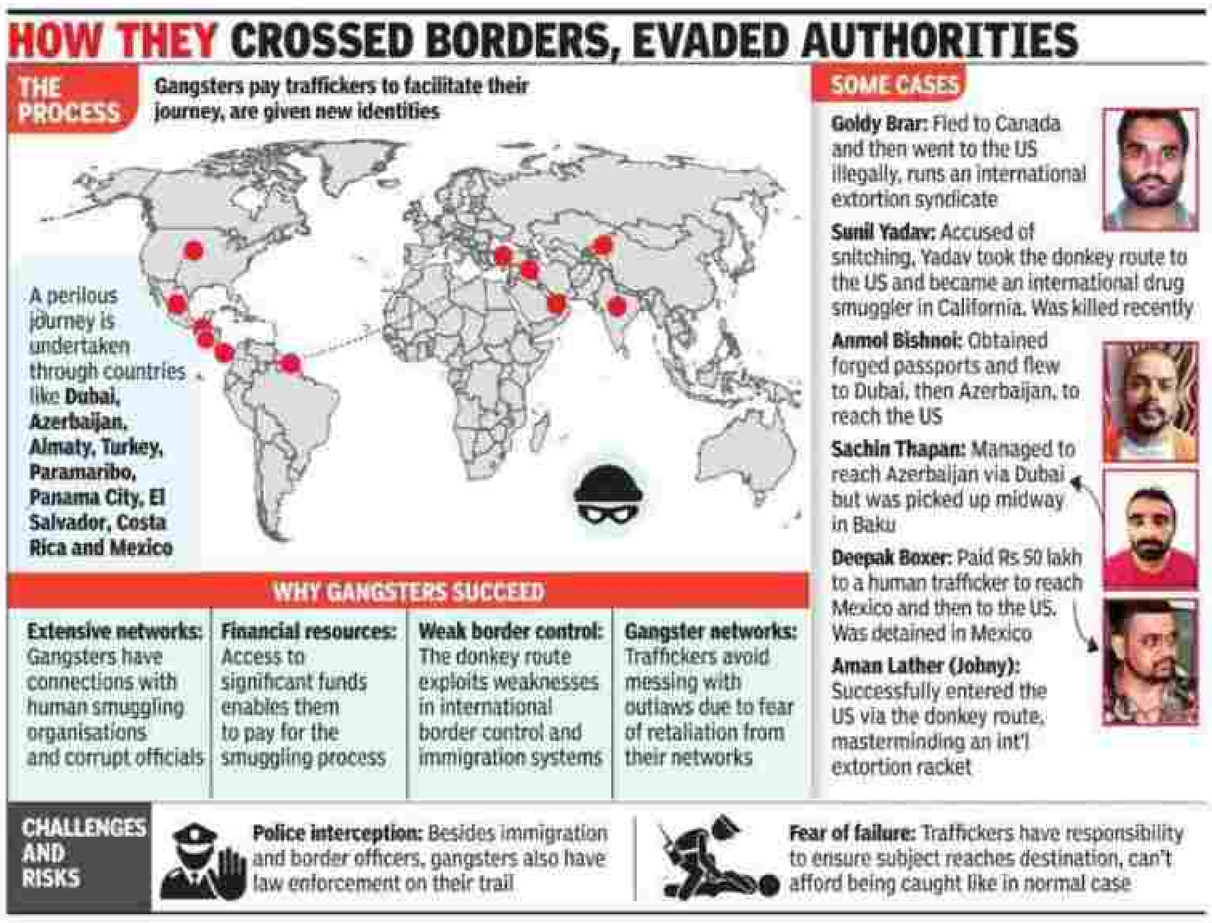
The journey of gangster Deepak Pahal aka Boxer is another donkey route case. When police turned the heat on him after a series of murders in Delhi, Boxer paid Rs 50 lakh to a trafficker to get him to the US. Boxer took the trademark route: he flew to Dubai and then got on a month-long journey that took him across Almaty, Turkey, Paramaribo, Panama City, El Salvador and Costa Rica before reaching Cancun in Mexico. Just as he was about to launch into the last leg of his journey towards his final destination in the US, Delhi Police's Special Cell tracked him, got him intercepted and then deported back to India.

Aman Lather alias Johny had embarked on a similarly perilous journey to the US in Feb 2023. He travelled for several weeks through different countries, including Guyana and Panama, before making his way to the US. His successful entry into that country marked the beginning of a new chapter in his life, one that would be marred by his involvement in a complex web of extortion and crime. From the shadows, Johny masterminded an extortion racket, leveraging his connections with notorious gangsters, including Goldy Brar. He orchestrated a campaign of fear and intimidation, targeting wealthy builders and property dealers in India. Johny's operatives, Rohit Lather and Ritik Lather, implemented his plans, using tactics that included gunfire and threatening notes, a show that's still playing.

Why do gangsters and outlaws stand a better chance at survival on a donkey route than ordinary people with an American dream? The investigators credit the comparative success of the criminals to their extensive networks and resources. "These individuals typically have established connections with human smuggling organisations and corrupt officials, allowing them to obtain fake documents, such as passports and visas, and bypass security checks," said a senior officer. Additionally, gangsters often have access to significant financial resources, enabling them to pay for the costly and complex smuggling process.

"The donkey route also exploits weaknesses in international border control and immigration systems," pointed out an immigration officer. "The circuitous nature of this route, involving a number of countries and modes of transportation, makes it challenging for authorities to track and intercept migrants. Furthermore, the use of fake identities and documents, combined with the ability to blend in with legitimate travellers, allows outlaws to avoid detection and successfully enter the US."

Also, very often, the traffickers make an out of the donkeys. The agents want more money and also need scapegoats. So, the weak and the poor are the ones who are sacrificed. "The traffickers avoid messing with outlaws as they know their gang network can strike at them later," revealed another investigator.



AMERICAN DREAM

Coaching centre deaths: Ex-CEO gets bail relief

Times News Network

New Delhi: A Delhi court on Monday granted bail to the former CEO of Rau's IAS Study Circle, Abhishek Gupta, and coordinator Deshpal Singh in a case related to the drowning of three UPSC aspirants in the basement of the coaching centre in Old Rajendra Nagar in July last year.

The court of principal district and sessions judge Anju Bajaj Chandna granted bail to the accused on a personal bond of Rs 1 lakh with two sureties of the like amount. Till now, they were on interim bail.

On Sept 23, a Delhi court granted interim bail to Gupta and Singh, stating bail is the rule and jail is the exception as per the law of the land established by various judgments of the Supreme Court. Refusal of bail at a stage when the investigation is substantially done would amount to inflicting punishment before the trial, it added.

In Dec, a Delhi court took cognisance of a chargesheet filed by CBI in a case related to the the deaths of the three aspirants. The court of additional chief judicial magistrate Nishant Garg issued summons to six accused named in the chargesheet to appear on Dec 20.

The chargesheet, filed by the agency in Sept under BNS sections 61(2) (criminal conspiracy) and 105 (culpable homicide not amounting to murder), named six people – Abhishek Gupta, Deshpal Singh, and basement co-owners Parvinder Singh, Sarabjit Singh, Harvinder Singh and Tajinder Singh.

The court said the co-owners let out the basement of the building to Gupta for commercial use despite knowing it could not be used for such purposes and that rainwater used to enter the basement, particularly during the rainy season. The court noted that they took an electricity connection with a load capacity of 11.0 KVA with the intention to use the basement for commercial purposes.

> **The court of principal district and sessions judge Anju Bajaj Chandna granted bail to the accused on a personal bond of ₹1 lakh with two sureties of the like amount. Till now, they were on interim bail**

On Jan 21, Delhi High Court granted regular bail to the four co-owners and asked them to deposit Rs 5 lakh with Delhi State Legal Services Authority towards the welfare of the families of the deceased.

The deaths of the three students — Shreya Yadav, Tanya Soni and Nivin Daiwin — had sparked anger and protests across the national capital. Following the incident, several coaching centres in the area were sealed for holding classes illegally in their basements. It also triggered a political row between Delhi govt and the authorities.

Court seeks CBI reply on non-investigation of Vashist encounter

Times News Network

New Delhi: A Delhi court sought a detailed response from the deputy inspector general of CBI on non-investigation of the Manoj Vashist encounter case of 2015.

The court of additional chief judicial magistrate (ACJM) Jyoti Maheshwari, taking a serious view of the fact that the investigation was neither done nor transferred to another agency, sought a detailed report.

"Any FIR or report lodged by a person or aggrieved has to be taken to its logical conclusion, and if CBI, on account of statutory compulsions, could not investigate the above FIR, a communication or written report regarding the same had to be filed/sent, and the case should have been transferred to any other probe agency empowered to investigate the same," the court said in the order dated Feb 7. The report should be filed at least one week before the next date of hearing, which is on March 4.

The order was passed by the court while hearing a protest petition filed by Priyanka Sharma, wife of the deceased. During the hearing, advocate Parikshit Sharma, counsel for the protest petitioner, submitted before the court that it would be necessary to know the status or outcome of the FIR filed at a police station in Baghpat, which was eventually transferred to CBI for investigation.

Vashist was killed in an alleged fake encounter in a restaurant in Rajendra Nagar in May 2015, allegedly by special cell of Delhi Police. Two FIRs were registered in the case — one by CBI and another by the brother of the deceased in Baghpat, where the family of the deceased resides. The closure report was filed by CBI in Oct 2019 in the FIR registered by CBI in July 2015.

The court noted the submissions of the investigation officer and public prosecutor appearing for CBI, who told the court that the FIR was currently with CBI, but the same had not been investigated, as CBI could only investigate offences as per Sections 3 and 4 of Delhi Special Police Establishment Act, 1946. "This, in the present case, has given rise to a peculiar situation, wherein the FIR has been transferred to CBI, but no investigation to date has admittedly been carried out by the agency. However, it is unfortunate to note that no communication/correspondence, whatsoever, has been sent by CBI to Delhi Police/any other police agency in this regard," said the court.

Minor among two held for 'cow slaughter'

New Delhi: Police arrested a man and apprehended a minor for allegedly slaughtering cows near Signature Bridge in northeast Delhi on Monday. A probe has been launched to determine whether they are linked to a larger network.

The incident came to light at 8:20am when a call was made to New Usmanpur police station. "On reaching the spot, the police team found the caller beside two people involved in cow slaughtering," DCP (northeast) Ashish Mishra said. Cops also recovered carcasses of two cows, slaughtering tools, a syringe, a medicine bottle and a car.

A case was registered under sections 325 (killing, poisoning, or maiming an animal), 195 (assaulting or obstructing a public servant when suppressing a riot), 299 (deliberate and malicious acts intended to outrage religious feelings), and 111 (organised crime) of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS), along with section 11 of Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act. TNN

Faceoff in Rajya Sabha over 'withdrawal' of question on UP builders

Dipak.Dash@timesofindia.com

New Delhi: Rajya Sabha witnessed a faceoff between Chairman Jagdeep Dhankhar and leader of opposition Mallikarjun Kharge on Monday when the former announced that a starred question on non-payment of dues to authorities by builders in Noida and other cities of Uttar Pradesh had been "withdrawn", moments before it was to be taken up.

Kharge asked how a question could be withdrawn when it was in the list and had been circulated among members. Dhankhar said, "Leave it to me. There are rules and I have only informed the House. If anyone wants to know the background, I will let you know." Not satisfied with the response, Kharge was heard saying had the question been withdrawn before it was listed, there would not have been an issue.

To this, Dhankhar said, "Let me inform the LoP that this is not the first time. As a matter of fact, it's very frequent. It's a parliamentary practice and the decision is taken by the chairman." Unhappy with some observations of Kharge, the chairman said he knew his "limitations".

Interestingly, the question was asked by Laxmikant Bajpayee, a BJP MP from UP. He had asked the housing and urban affairs ministry to give the names of developers of housing projects in Noida and other cities of UP who had not paid dues to development authorities and the amount owed by them. He had also sought details of the projects. Bajpayee sought the dates from which the dues were pending and the provisions in law for taking action against defaulting developers.

The set of questions also sought details of the action taken by authorities against such developers and their names, and the manner in which the authorities proposed to recover dues from the developers.

Non-payment of dues by builders have denied lakhs of homebuyers from getting their properties registered even after taking possession of flats.

Invitation For Bids (IFB)

The Chief Executive Officer (CEO), Assam Skill University Project (ASUP) under Assam Skill University (ASU) ("the Purchaser) invites online bids from eligible bidders for **the below mentioned packages** at Assam Skill University:

#	Package No.	Package Name	Deadline for Submission	
			Date	Time
1	GS02/ASU/AFT/016	Equipment for Food Analysis Lab 1	12 March 2025	14:00 Hours (IST)
2	GS02/ASU/AFT/087	Equipment for Food Analysis Lab 2	12 March 2025	14:30 Hours (IST)

Interested bidders may download and submit their bids electronically using the e-Procurement portal **https://assamtenders.gov.in/.**

Sd/-
CEO, ASUP cum Registrar, ASU

Janasanyog/CF/3597/24/11-Feb-25

DELHI POLLUTION CONTROL COMMITTEE
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT, (GOVT. OF NCT OF DELHI)
5TH FLOOR, ISBT BUILDING, KASHMERE GATE, DELHI-06
Visit us at: http://dpcc.delhigovt.nic.in

No. DPCC/(3)(2)(46)/Admn-19/3795 **Dated: 10/02/25**

Rolling Advertisement for Recruitment of various posts on (i) By deputation & (ii) By deputation (including short term contract) in Delhi Pollution Control Committee

The Delhi Pollution Control Committee (DPCC), Govt. of NCT of Delhi, invites applications for the following posts that are to be filled on (i) By deputation and (ii) By deputation (including short term contract):-

(A) **By deputation**:- Applications from eligible officers/officials, working in the Central/State Governments/Autonomous Bodies/Statutory Bodies/PSUs:

Sl. No.	Name of the Post	Level of Post	Eligibility	Number of Posts (tentative)
1	Additional Director(Scientific)	Level-13	Eligibility mentioned in the circular available at DPCC website.	1
2	Senior Scientist L-II (Scientist-D)	Level-12		1
3	Senior Scientist L-I (Scientist-C)	Level-11		2
4	Environmental Engineer	Level-11		12
5	Principal Private Secretary-PB3	Level-10		2
6	Section Officer	Level-8		1
7	Assistant Section Officer	Level-7		7
8	Steno Grade I	Level-7		3
9	Scientific Assistant	Level-6		1
10	Senior Lab Assistant	Level-4		2
	Total			**32**

(B) **By deputation (including short term contract)**:- Applications from eligible officers/Officials, working in the Central/State Government /Union Territory/Recognized Research Institute/ Autonomous bodies/Statutory Bodies/PSUs:

S.No.	Name of the Post	Level of Post	Eligibility	Number of Posts
1	System Analyst	Level-11	Eligibility mentioned in the circular available at DPCC website	1
	Total			**1**

Detailed information may be seen at the DPCC website **www.dpcc.delhigovt.nic.in** under the head "Office Order & Circulars". Applications (through proper channel) in the prescribed format available on the website may be submitted to the **Administrative Officer, DPCC, 5th Floor, ISBT Building, Kashmere Gate, Delhi- 110006.**

This is a Rolling Advertisement and following are the cut off dates:-

1st cut-off date	45 days from the date of publication of the advertisement in Employment News/Rojgar Samachar.
2nd cut-off date	30.04.2025
3rd cut-off date	31.05 2025
Last date of receipt of applications along with relevant documents through Proper Channel	As on the cut-off date

The relevant information related to the recruitment shall be intimated on DPCC website from time to time.

Sd/-
Member Secretary
DPCC

DELHI POLLUTION CONTROL COMMITTEE
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT, (GOVT. OF NCT OF DELHI)
5TH FLOOR, ISBT BUILDING, KASHMERE GATE, DELHI-6
visit us at : http://dpcc.delhigovt.nic.in

No. DPCC/(3)(2)(72)/Admn-23

ENGAGEMENT OF CONSULTANTS ON CONTRACTUAL BASIS

Applications are invited for the following posts from the citizens of India who **Retired** from the services of Central / State Government Departments/Autonomous Bodies having expertise in related field on purely contractual basis in Delhi Pollution Control Committee (DPCC):

Sl. No.	Name of the Post	Number of Post (Tentative)	Maximum Age
1.	**Consultant (Technical)**	01	62 Years
2.	**Consultant (Accounts)**	01	62 Years
3.	**Consultant (Vigilance)**	02	62 Years
4.	**Consultant (Procurement)**	02	62 Years
5.	**Consultant (Establishment)**	02	62 Years
6.	**Consultant (Administration)**	02	62 Years
7.	**Consultant (IT)**	01	62 Years

Detailed information in this regard, may be seen at the DPCC website: **www.dpcc.delhigovt.nic.in** under the head "Office Order & Circulars". Application in the prescribed format (available on the website) may be submitted to the Administrative Officer, Delhi Pollution Control Committee, 5th Floor, ISBT Building, Kashmere Gate, Delhi-110006, within **21 days** from the date of publication of advertisement on the website. Corrigendum etc, if any, shall be put on the official website of DPCC, candiates shold visit the DPCC website from time to time.

Sd/-
Member Secretary

DELHI POLLUTION CONTROL COMMITTEE
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT, (GOVT. OF NCT OF DELHI)
5TH FLOOR, ISBT BUILDING, KASHMERE GATE, DELHI-06
Visit us at: http://dpcc.delhigovt.nic.in

No. DPCC/(3)(2)(249) Admn./2020 **Date**

ENGAGEMENT OF TRAINEES ON CONTRACTUAL BASIS

Applications are invited for the following post on purely contractual basis in Delhi Pollution Control Committee:

S.N	Name of the Post	Vacancies (Tentative)	Exam Qualified
1.	Trainees	45	GATE/NET/CLAT(PG)

The detailed information in this regard, may be seen at the DPCC website: **www.dpcc.delhigovt.nic.in** under the head "Office Order & Circulars." Prescribed format for application is available on the website and may be submitted to the Administrative Branch, DPCC 5th floor Kashmere Gate, ISBT Building, Delhi-110006 within 15 days from the date of publication of advertisement on the DPCC website. Corrigendum etc, if any, shall be put on the official website of DPCC, candidates should visit the website from time to time.

Sd/-
Admn. Officer,
DPCC

A year and counting: Spl kids of cops get life lessons

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi: It started as a small, albeit significant, step to help 'special children' of Delhi Police personnel last year. A year on, it has evolved into a full-fledged initiative to enable them to reach new heights, with at least six therapists helping 52 children with special needs.

On Jan 31, the unit, named 'Smita', marked a significant milestone with its first anniversary with the children. For the therapists and the children alike, it was a day of unparalleled joy as they celebrated the occasion at the centre in Malviya Nagar Police Colony, which is run by the Police Families Welfare Society (PFWS).

Children, beaming with excitement, were dressed in their finest attire, eager to showcase their talents. The therapists, who had worked tirelessly to help the kids overcome their challenges, were filled with pride and emotion.

The air was filled with anticipation as well-known educationist and social worker Sonal Shah, who inaugurated the centre a year ago, returned to witness the remarkable progress. As the sun set on the celebration, she described the centre as an opportunity for the special children to thrive, develop new skills and discover their potential.

Ritu Arora, president of the society, said that Smita was more than a therapy centre. "It's a sanctuary of possibilities. The objective of the initiative is not just to provide therapy, but to build bridges of understanding and support that will last a lifetime," she said.

Their words resonated with the families that had gathered. Each had their own story of transformation to narrate.

For therapists and children of Smita, it was a day of unparalleled joy

"I work 10-hour shifts with the police control room, so I always struggled to give my 10-year-old daughter the time she needed. She has cerebral palsy and a speech impairment. A year ago, she could barely speak and spent most of her day in bed. My wife and I, caught up in our demanding jobs, felt helpless," recalled head constable Ajay.

"But this initiative changed everything," he told **TOI**. "With the therapists' support, our daughter became more self-sufficient, active and happier. Her speech improved tremendously in just one year. Seeing her progress has been nothing short of a blessing," he said happily.

The six dedicated therapists have created more than just a treatment facility – they have built a safe haven where special children can flourish.

"Apne bacche ki tarah rakhte hain (they treat our children like their own)," said head constable Satendra Singh. "My daughter is only six years old and has cerebral palsy, but the therapists make her feel so comfortable, like she's family. In their care, she has shown remarkable improvement and is genuinely happy to be there. As a parent, I couldn't be more grateful," he added.

Sewa Bharti's contributions have equipped the facility with specialised equipment while partnerships with Sahyog Care 4 U and BSES have secured funding for the therapists' salaries, ensuring continuous care for the next year.

BJP celebrates Delhi poll victory with 'Modi-Modi' chants in Parliament

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi: BJP's victory in the Delhi polls was hailed by NDA members with chanting of "Modi, Modi" slogan in both houses of Parliament on Monday, while former Union minister Anurag Thakur took a jibe at Rahul Gandhi in Lok Sabha over Congress's dismal performance in elections in the capital over the years.

BJP members in Rajya Sabha also ridiculed AAP chief Arvind Kejriwal for having once said that PM Modi would have to be reborn to unseat AAP in Delhi. They also stated that "people had shown the mirror to those living in Sheesh Mahal".

Soon after Lok Sabha proceedings started, BJP MPs raised the slogan, to which Congress MPs objected. The sloganeering went on for a while before Speaker Om Birla called for the question hour.

Taking a jibe Rahul in Lok Sabha, Thakur said, "Rahul Ji, *zero check kar lijiye*... (Rahul, please check the zero) as Congress has consecutively secured zero seats third time in a row. Referring to Congress' poor track record, he said, "How many seats did people of Delhi give to Congress in the 2014 Lok Sabha elections? Zero. In 2015? Zero. In 2019? Zero. In 2020? Zero. In 2024? Zero. And in 2025? Zero."

When proceedings of the upper house began, BJP members started sloganeering in support of PM Modi. However, sloganeering was paused for a while when Chairman Jagdeep Dhankhar extended birthday greetings to BJP's Sanjay Seth. It again started, with BJP MPs chanting *"Delhi ke dil me Modi hai, Desh ke dil me Modi hai"*.

Meanwhile, BJP MP from Maharashtra Medha Vishram Kulkarni, while praising the budget, referred to its impact in Delhi polls, saying, "People showed a mirror to those living in Sheesh Mahal."

Quoting a Hindi couplet, BJP MP Dinesh Sharma, without naming Kejriwal, said his haughtiness got a befitting answer in AAP's stinging defeat. "The defeat came in this very birth," he quipped.

Meanwhile in Lok Sabha, Thakur questioned Congress leaders for not taking a holy dip during the Maha Kumbh and wondered if they had been directed not to do so by "Uncle Soros and Uncle Sam." Thakur said even former PM Jawaharlal Nehru took a dip in the Sangam but today's generation of the Congress is avoiding it.

ATM uprooted from north Delhi found in Nuh well, duo held

The well was covered with leaves and branches

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi: An engineer and a BSc graduate were arrested on Sunday for allegedly stealing an ATM from a kiosk in Wazirabad, north Delhi, and making off with Rs 29.12 lakh on Feb 6. The duo transported the machine to a secluded area in Mewat, where they used gas cylinders to cut it open and access the cash. After splitting the money, they disposed of the ATM by throwing it into a well in Nuh and covering it with leaves and branches to hide it, police said.

The accused, identified as Nadeem (28) and Sameer (27), executed the heist at around 3.50 am on Thursday. The bank's control room triggered an alert after detecting tampering with the ATM. When police arrived, they found the machine forcibly removed and the kiosk's security camera disabled with black paint.

A senior police officer said the investigation quickly led to Nadeem and Sameer. "The accused persons were changing their location frequently and moving in the Nuh area," police said. The search covered 15-20 villages in Nuh over three days before the suspects were tracked down in Nalhad village, Mewat. During a raid, they were apprehended after a brief scuffle with locals.

"The operation was conducted by a team led by additional CPs Sanjay Sain and Sanjay Bhatia," said joint commissioner Surendra Singh.

The duo confessed to the crime and named four accomplices: Mubarik, Devid alias Billa, Rahul, and Imran. The six men arrived at the Wazirabad ATM in two vehicles, one of which was stolen. While Sameer stood as a lookout, the others used a car to uproot the ATM and transport it to Mewat, police said.

On Feb 6, the group gathered in Nuh, where they used gas cylinders to break open the ATM and extract approximately Rs 29 lakh. After dividing the cash, they disposed of the machine in a well in Jogipur village, Nuh, and covered it with branches. Nadeem, a BTech graduate, had a history of criminal activity and never pursued a legitimate career. Sameer, a BSc graduate, worked for two years at a cement company in Nuh before turning to crime.

Teen arrested for killing mother's lover, dumping his body in Wazirabad

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi: A 16-year-old boy was apprehended on Monday for allegedly killing his mother's lover and disposing of his body in a pond inside a park in east Delhi's Ghazipur.

According to police, the accused, enraged over his mother's alleged relationship, killed her lover by hitting him with a brick. He planned and executed the murder with a friend.

"We received a PCR call on Monday at Ghazipur police station about a man's body found in Smriti Van Park's lake. Teams were rushed to the spot immediately and discovered the partially submerged body of a 24-year-old man, later identified as Rahul Singh Bisht from Uttarakhand. He had multiple head injuries," DCP (east) Abhishek Dhania said.

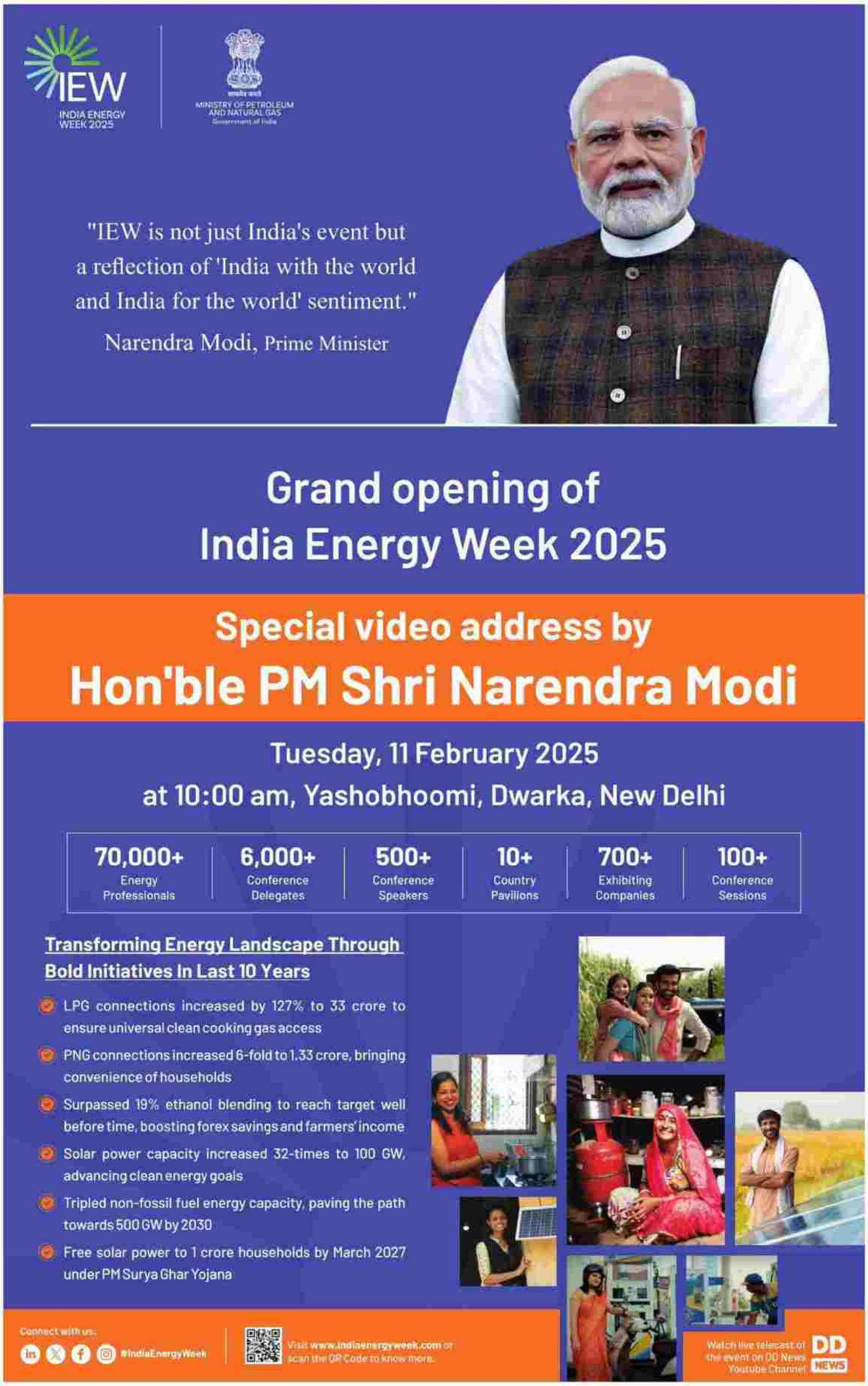
Forensic teams collected evidence, and the body was sent to a hospital, where doctors declared him dead on arrival. A murder case was subsequently registered.

"Four teams from Ghazipur police station were deployed, and via analysis of CCTV footage and CDRs during the probe, the team found that the victim was in regular contact with a woman," DCP Dhania said.

Upon questioning, she admitted to being in a two-year relationship with the deceased. She revealed that Rahul visited her house intoxicated the night before and created a scene. Unable to control the situation, she asked her son to drop him home, he added.

Police said the teenager was apprehended and, during questioning, confessed that instead of taking Rahul home, he and his friend took him to Smriti Van Park. They attacked him with a brick, killing him on the spot, then threw the murder weapon and the body into the pond before fleeing. Both teenagers were caught while trying to escape the city.

In another incident, a 17-year-old boy was stabbed to death in northeast Delhi's Seelampur on Sunday. Police found him lying in a pool of blood in Gautampuri with multiple stab wounds. A case under section 103 (murder) of BNS was registered, and further investigation is underway.



GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL
PWD TENDER NOTICE
EE/KNHED/PWDte invite online e-tender for the work "Operation of Bed-cum Passenger Lift at I.B. Roy S.A.M.C.H under North Kolkata Health Electrical Sub-Division, PWD.(2025-26)." e-NIT No. WBPWD/EE/KNHED/e-NIQ-164/24-25, Tender Id: 2025_WBPWD_812722_1, Bid Submission Start Date (online): 18/02/2025, 1.05 P.M. Bid Submission Closing Date (online): 24/02/2025 upto 1.00 P.M. Corrigendum if any will be Published in website only. Details of NIT and Tender Documents may be download from http://wbtenders.gov.in Sd/- S.Chakraborty/EE/KNHED/PWDte. ICA- T2555(1)/2025

GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL
PWD TENDER NOTICE
EE/KNHED/PWDte invite online e-tender for the work "Annual Day to day routine and preventive maintenance Of Sub Station & IT Electrical installations of different building within the campus of I.B. Roy S.A.M.C.H (2025-26)." e-NIT No. WBPWD/EE/KNHED/e-NIQ-166/24-25, Tender Id: 2025_WBPWD_812823_1 Bid Submission Start Date (online): 18/02/2025, 1.05 P.M. Bid Submission Closing Date (online): 03/03/2025 upto 1.00 P.M. Corrigendum if any will be Published in website only. Details of NIT and Tender Documents may be download from http://wbtenders.gov.in Sd/- S.Chakraborty/EE/KNHED/PWDte. ICA- T2556(1)/2025

GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL
SDB TENDER NOTICE
e_NIT No.-WBSDB/EE/CED-IV/NIT-12 (e)/2024-25
e-Tenders are invited for Preparation of Two DPR works on behalf of Governor, Govt. of West Bengal by the Executive Engineer, CEDIV, SDB from the reliable bonafide resourceful contractors. Bid submission start date 12.02.2025 at 11.00 Hrs. bid submission end date 03.03.2025 at 17.00 Hrs. Details of works are available from the website https://wbtenders.gov.in as well as www.sundarbanaffairswb.in Sd/- Executive Engineer, Civil Engineering Division No-IV, Sundarban Development Board ICA- T2577(1)/2025

GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL
e-টেন্ডার বিজ্ঞপ্তি
জেলা মুখ্য স্বাস্থ্য আধিকারিক, আলিপুরদুয়ার জেলা: অধীনে নিম্নলিখিত কাজের জন্য e-টেন্ডার আহ্বান করছেন e-টেন্ডার নম্বর - 2025_HFW_812509_1 তাং: 07.02.2025, কাজের নাম - PROCUREMENT OF HAEMATOLOGY CELL COUNTER REAGENT। টেন্ডার সংক্রান্ত তারিখ – 20.02.2025, বিকাল: 05টা এবং বিশদ বিবরণের জন্য দেখুন - www.wbhealth.gov.in/tender
জেলা মুখ্য স্বাস্থ্য আধিকারিক, আলিপুরদুয়ার জেলা ICA- T2040(1)/2025

GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL
WRD&DD. e-NIT
Executive Engineer (A-M) Midnapore (A-M) Division invites e-tender for Different works under Jhargram / Paschim Medinipur District under Non-Plan 2024-25 under Midnapore (A-M) Division vide Tender reference no-WBWRDD/EE(AM)MID/eNIT-71 /24-25, Tender ID: 2025_WRDD_813545_1. Last date of dropping: 18.02.2025 (2.00 pm) Intending bidders are requested to visit the website http://wbtenders.gov.in for details.
Sd/-
Executive Engineer (A-M)
Midnapore (A-M) Division, Midnapore
ICA- T2044(1)/2025

GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL
PWD TENDER NOTICE
Executive Engineer, South 24 Parganas Highway Division, P.W.(Roads)Dte. invites online e-NIT No.12 of 2024-2025. Tender Id: 2025_SH_812835_1, 2025_SH_812835_2, 2025_SH_812835_3, 2025_SH_812835_4, 2025_SH_812835_5. Bid submission start date: 13.02.2025 from 11.00 AM Bid submission end date: 28.02.2025 up to 11.00 AM. Details of NIT and tender documents may be downloaded from http://wbtenders.gov.in Sd/- Executive Engineer South 24 Parganas Highway Division P.W.(Roads) Directorate ICA- T2075(1)/2025

GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL
NOTICE INVITING TENDER
West Bengal Medical Services Corporation Ltd. is inviting electronic bids for supply and commissioning of one VATS 3D camera system with VATS instruments set for the Dept. of CTVS, NRS Medical College & Hospital, Kolkata as per details indicated in below:
Equipment Name (Qty.): VATS 3D camera system with VATS instruments set (01). Bid Ref. No.: WBMSCL/NIT-098/2025; Dated-06.02.2025. Last date of submission of online bid: 06.03.2025 up to 05:00 P.M. Interested Bidders may download the tender document and submit their bids online at the website www.wbtenders.gov.in. The tender document may also be downloaded from the websites www.wbhealth.gov.in and www.wbmsc.gov.in Sd/- General Manager, WBMSCL & Joint Secretary, H&FW Dept. ICA- T2021(1)/2025

GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL
PWD TENDER NOTICE
Executive Engineer, Nadia Construction Division, P.W.Dte invites online e-Tender for the works of : 1) Roof treatment work at administrative building & hostel building of ANMR Training School, Kalyani, Nadia.(Civil Works only). Estimated Amount : Rs. 12,44,005.00 e-N.I.T-13 (4th call of 51.06)of 2023-24 of EE/NCD/PWDte Tender ID: 2025_PWD_812841_1. Bid submission start date(online) : 13.02.2025 from 11.00 A.M. Bid submission closing (online) : 27.02.2025 up to 2.15 P.M. Corrigendum, if any, will be published in website only. Details of N.I.e.T and Tender Documents may be download form https://wbtenders.gov.in Sd/-Executive Engineer, Nadia Construction Division, P.W.Dte. ICA- T2067(1)/2025

GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL
WRD&DD. e-NIT
e-tender has been invited against NIT No. 18 TO 22 of 2024-25by the Executive Engineer (A-M), Purulia (A-M) Division for the works of Construction of SFMIS under A.E (A-M) Purulia-I (A-M) Sub-Division under the jurisdiction of Purulia (A-M)Division, Purulia under Jalasritha (Ph-X) & Matri Shoshi Programme vide e-Tender Id: 2025_WRDD_812695_1,2025_WRDD_812[illegible]2970_1 And 2025_WRDD_812946_1. Last date & time of application is 24.02.2025 up to 18:00 Hrs. Other details may also be seen from the office notice board & in https://wbtenders.gov.in website. Corrigendum if any will be published in website only. Sd/-
Executive Engineer (A-M)
Purulia (Agri-Mech) Division
ICA- T2051(1)/2025

GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL
PWD TENDER NOTICE
WB/PWD/EE/NBD/SS/ NIeT No. 18 of 2024-2025. EE, NBD, SS, P.W. Dte. invites e-Tender for the works of : - Refilling of existing Fire Extinguishers and supply & installation of new Fire Extinguishers of different types & capacities with three years expiry period at the Super Speciality Block of North Bengal Medical College & Hospital at Sushrutanagar in the District of Darjeeling. Tender Id:- 2025_WBPWD_812909_1 Bid submission start date (online) : 12-Feb-2025 12:00 PM Bid submission closing date (online) : 26-Feb-2025 12:00 PM Corrigendum if any will be published in website only. Details of NIT & tender documents may be downloaded from http://wbtenders.gov.in Sd/- EE, NBD, SS, P.W. Dte., Siliguri, Govt. of WB. ICA- T2070(4)/2025

GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL
NOTICE INVITING TENDER
West Bengal Medical Services Corporation Ltd. is inviting online bids for the following e-Tenders. Name of Work : Sl. 1 - Construction of Shed for dispensary counter of the (G+9) OPD Building, Prafulla Chandra Sen Govt. Medical College and Hospital, Arambagh, District Hooghly. Bid Ref. No.: WBMSCL/NIT/EE(C)-04/008/2025, Dated - 05/02/2025. Last Date of Submission: 27/02/2025 at 3:00 p.m. Sl. 2 - Procurement of Gymnasium Items & Sports Items for NMC compliance at Prafulla Chandra Sen Government Medical College and Hospital, Arambagh (2nd Call). Bid Ref. No.: WBMSCL/NIT/EE(C)-04/009/2025, Dated - 05/02/2025. Last Date of Submission: 24/02/2025 at 3:00 p.m. The tender document(s) can be downloaded from www.wbmsc.gov.in and www.wbtenders.gov.in portal on or after 11/02/2025 @10.00 A.M. Clarification requests, if any, please call 033-40340435 or email at info@wbmsc.gov.in Sd/- General Manager, WBMSCL ICA- T2032(1)/2025

GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL
ABRIDGED E-TENDER NOTICE
e-Tender No. 01/WBZA/EOD/2024-2025 (2nd Call)
The undersigned invites e-Tender from eligible contractors/suppliers for Supply of dry Ration, Nutrition, Fruits and Medicine for different captive Birds and Animals for the period of 01 year at Harinalaya, New Town, Kolkata. Details can be seen at https://wbtenders.gov.in Sd/- Ex-Officio Director, Harinalaya & Deputy Conservator of Forests, Urban Recreation Forestry Division ICA- T2028(1)/2025

GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL
NOTICE INVITING TENDER
West Bengal Medical Services Corporation Ltd. is inviting online bids for the following e-Tenders. Name of Work : Sl. 1 - Construction of Shed for dispensary counter of the (G+9) OPD Building, Prafulla Chandra Sen Govt. Medical College and Hospital, Arambagh, District Hooghly. Bid Ref. No.: WBMSCL/NIT/EE(C)-04/008/2025, Dated - 05/02/2025. Last Date of Submission: 27/02/2025 at 3:00 p.m. Sl. 2 - Procurement of Gymnasium Items & Sports Items for NMC compliance at Prafulla Chandra Sen Government Medical College and Hospital, Arambagh (2nd Call). Bid Ref. No.: WBMSCL/NIT/EE(C)-04/009/2025, Dated - 05/02/2025. Last Date of Submission: 24/02/2025 at 3:00 p.m. The tender document(s) can be downloaded from www.wbmsc.gov.in and www.wbtenders.gov.in portal on or after 11/02/2025 @10.00 A.M. Clarification requests, if any, please call 033-40340435 or email at info@wbmsc.gov.in Sd/- General Manager, WBMSCL ICA- T2033(1)/2025

GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL
e-Tender Notice
The undersigned invites e-Tender for the following work. Name of Work : Sl. 1 - Construction of Shed for dispensary counter of the (G+9) OPD Building, Prafulla Chandra Sen Govt. Medical College and Hospital, Arambagh, District Hooghly. Bid Ref. No.: WBMSCL/NIT/EE(C)-04/008/2025, Dated - 05/02/2025. Last Date of Submission: 27/02/2025 at 3:00 p.m. Sl. 2 - Procurement of Gymnasium Items & Sports Items for NMC compliance at Prafulla Chandra Sen Government Medical College and Hospital, Arambagh (2nd Call). Bid Ref. No.: WBMSCL/NIT/EE(C)-04/009/2025, Dated - 05/02/2025. Last Date of Submission: 24/02/2025 at 3:00 p.m. The tender document(s) can be downloaded from www.wbmsc.gov.in and www.wbtenders.gov.in portal on or after 11/02/2025 @10.00 A.M. Clarification requests, if any, please call 033-40340435 or email at info@wbmsc.gov.in Sd/- General Manager, WBMSCL ICA- T2034(1)/2025

GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL
e-TENDER NOTICE
The Director, IPGME&R, Kolkata, having its office at 244, A.J.C Bose Road, Kolkata-700020 is inviting e-tender for Disposal of Cine Cath Lab as Condemned Article (1st call) from the bonafide bidders. Tender ID: 2025_HFW_812628_1. For details log onto www.wbtenders.gov.in
Sd/- MSVP
Sd/- Director
IPGMER-SSKM Hospital, Kolkata-20
ICA- T2048(1)/2025

GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL
Irrigation & waterways Directorate
ABRIDGED TENDER NOTICE
e-NIT NO. WBIW/EE-I/LDKD/e-NIT-15/24-25
Encrypted electronic bids are hereby invited by the undersigned on behalf of the Governor of West Bengal from the eligible bonafide contractors for 3 (Three) no. Works ranging from Rs. 61.13 Lakh to Rs. 93.59 Lakh. Last date & time of Bid submission is 27.02.2025 till 16:00 Hours IST. Other details may be seen in the website www.wbtenders.gov.in and www.wbiwd.gov.in and in the office of the undersigned. Sd/- Executive Engineer-I, Lower Damodar Irrigation Division ICA- T2030(1)/2025

GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL
PWD TENDER NOTICE
The Executive Engineer, Bankura Highway Division, Public Works (Roads) Directorate invites online e-Tender for the works of :- 1) Repairing and renovation work of Raipur Inspection Bungalow under Bankura Highway Division in the district of Bankura. e-NIT No. 17 of 2024-25 of the Executive Engineer, Bankura Highway Division, P.W.(Roads) Directorate. Tender Id:- 2025_WBPWD_811538_1. Bid submission start date (online): 13-02-2025 at 10.00 A.M. Bid submission closing date (online): 27-02-2025 up to 2.00 P.M. Corrigendum, if any, will only be published accordingly. Details of NIT and NIT documents may be downloaded from: http://wbtenders.gov.in Sd/- Executive Engineer, Bankura Highway Division, Public Works (Roads) Directorate ICA- T2053(1)/2025

GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL
Irrigation & Waterways Directorate
e-Tender Notice
e-N.I.T No- WBIW/EE-II/LDCD/e-NIT-15 of 2024-25
Executive Engineer-II, Lower Damodar Construction Division, Feleswar, Uluberia, Howrah-711316 invites e-tender (online) for Two (02) nos. work vide e-N.I.T No- WBIW/EE-II/LDCD/e-NIT-15/2024-25, Notice Memo no- 145 dated- 05/02/2025 of the EE-II/LDCD. Document Download start date is 11/02/2025 at 17.00 hours, Bid submission start date is 11/02/2025 at 17.30 hours & bid submission end date is 25/02/2025 at 17.00 hours. For details please visit website www.wbtenders.gov.in & www.wbiwd.gov.in Sd/- Executive Engineer-II, Lower Damodar Construction Division ICA- T2031(1)/2025

GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL
TENDER NOTICE
E.E., Berhampore Division-I, PWD invites online e-tender for the work of : 1. Construction of Parking Shed at office of the Assistant Engineer, Jangipur Sub-Division under Berhampore Division No-I, P.W.D. in the district of Murshidabad during year of 2024-2025. (Estimate Cost.- Rs. 2,47,100.00), Tender ID: 2025_PWD_812667_1. Notice inviting e-Tender No. WBPWD/EE/BD-I/e-NIT-25/2024-25. 2. Extension of height of existing boundary wall with concertina towards NH-34 side at Omarpur Stackyard under Jangipur Sub-Division (PWD) within Berhampore Division No-I (PWD) in the district of Murshidabad during year of 2024-2025. (Estimate Cost.- Rs. 4,70,898.00). Tender ID: 2025_PWD_812667_2. Notice inviting e-Tender No. WBPWD/EE/BD-I/e-NIT-25/2024-25. 3. Repairing work of godown with outside plastering, painting and repairing G.C.I roofing at Omarpur Stackyard under Jangipur Sub-Division (PWD) within Berhampore Division No-I (PWD) in the district of Murshidabad during the year 2024-25. Estimate Cost.- Rs. 3,92,875.00). Tender ID: 2025_PWD_812667_3. Notice inviting e-Tender No. WBPWD/EE/BD-I/e-NIT-25/2024-25. Bid Submission start date and time(online): 12/02/2025 at 11.30 A.M. Bid Submission end date and time (online): 19.02.2025 at 11.30 A.M. Details will be available from the website http://wbtenders.gov.in and notice board of this office on all working days within office hours. Sd/- Executive Engineer, P.W.D., Berhampore Division-I ICA- T2057(1)/2025

GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL
KMDA TENDER NOTICE
e-NIT No: KMDA/EM/SE/EC-II/NIT-15/ 2024-25 (2nd Call)
Online Tender is invited by the Superintending Engineer, Electrical Circle-I, EM Sector, KMDA, Block-D, 2nd floor, Uttayan Bhavan, Salt Lake City, Kolkata-700091, from eligible agencies, for the work. Name of Works, Estimated Value of work, Earnest Money Deposit, Time of Completion. Round the clock operation, cleaning including daily/periodic maintenance, attending, repairing etc. of different electro-mechanical equipment's, pumps, Lifts (operation only), 11KV sub-station, Generators, stage lighting arrangement, sound system etc. at Uttayan Bhavan for a period of 14 (Fourteen) months., Rs.98,22,251/-, Rs.1,96,445/-, 14 months from the date of firm order. Last date & time of online Tender submission: 07.02.2025 upto 14.00 Hrs., for details contact the above office or visit both websites. (KMDA-1150)
www.kmda.wb.gov.in
www.wbtenders.gov.in
ICA- T2050(1)/2025

GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL
PWD TENDER NOTICE
The Executive Engineer, Bankura Highway Division, Public Works (Roads) Directorate invites online e-Tender for the works of :- 1) Repairing and renovation work of Raipur Inspection Bungalow under Bankura Highway Division in the district of Bankura. e-NIT No. 17 of 2024-25 of the Executive Engineer, Bankura Highway Division, P.W.(Roads) Directorate. Tender Id:- 2025_WBPWD_811538_1. Bid submission start date (online): 13-02-2025 at 10.00 A.M. Bid submission closing date (online): 27-02-2025 up to 2.00 P.M. Corrigendum, if any, will only be published accordingly. Details of NIT and NIT documents may be downloaded from: http://wbtenders.gov.in Sd/- Executive Engineer, Bankura Highway Division, Public Works (Roads) Directorate ICA- T2055(1)/2025

GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL
Irrigation & Waterways Directorate
e-Tender Notice
e-N.I.T No- WBIW/EE-II/LDCD/e-NIT-15 of 2024-25
Executive Engineer-II, Lower Damodar Construction Division, Feleswar, Uluberia, Howrah-711316 invites e-tender (online) for Two (02) nos. work vide e-N.I.T No- WBIW/EE-II/LDCD/e-NIT-15/2024-25, Notice Memo no- 145 dated- 05/02/2025 of the EE-II/LDCD. Document Download start date is 11/02/2025 at 17.00 hours, Bid submission start date is 11/02/2025 at 17.30 hours & bid submission end date is 25/02/2025 at 17.00 hours. For details please visit website www.wbtenders.gov.in & www.wbiwd.gov.in Sd/- Executive Engineer-II, Lower Damodar Construction Division ICA- T2031(1)/2025

GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL
NOTICE INVITING TENDER
Online Tenders for Minor Repair work of Indoor Building of Jamaldah PHC under Mekhliganj Block, vide Tender ref no. DHFWS/CBR/NIeT/CIV/24-25/05 in Coochbehar district are hereby invited by the undersigned. For details please visit the website www.wbtenders.gov.in and www.coochbehar.nic.in and www.wbhealth.gov.in Any corrigendum will published in website only. Sd/- CMOH, Cooch Behar ICA- T2035(1)/2025

GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL
NOTICE INVITING TENDER
On-line Tender is being invited by E.E. Birbhum Electrical Division, PWD, for – "Thorough Repair and Renovation work of the electrical wiring at Administrative building at Labpur R.H. Birbhum." Tender No: BIRED/149/e-NIQ (1st call) of 2024-25 Tender ID:- 2025_WBPWD_812890_1. Bid submission closing Date- 24.02.2025up to 01.00pm, For more information Visit https://wbtender.gov.in Sd/- S.K Mallick Executive Engineer, PWD, Birbhum Electrical Division. ICA- T2046(1)/2025

GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL
OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT
ESI HOSPITAL BANDEL
HOOGHLY, PIN-712123
e-TENDER NOTICE
The e-tenders are being invited by the Superintendent of ESI Hospital Bandel, Hooghly-712123, for the following : 1. "Selection of agency / contractor for the Supply of Different types of medicine / Drugs" at ESI Hospital Bandel, Hooghly-712123. Bid submission will be starting on 12.02.2025. Tender schedule with detailed terms & condition will be available in the website : www.wbtenders.gov.in Sd/- Superintendent, ESI Hospital, Bandel ICA- T2017(2)/2025

GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL
SDB TENDER NOTICE
e_NIT No.-WBSDB/EE/CED-IV/NIT-11 (e)/2024-25
e-Tenders are invited for Preparation of Four DPR works on behalf of Governor, Govt. of West Bengal by the Executive Engineer, CEDIV, SDB from the reliable bonafide resourceful contractors. Bid submission start date 11.02.2025 at 11.00 Hrs. bid submission end date 27.02.2025 at 17.00 Hrs. Details of works are available from the website https://wbtenders.gov.in as well as www.sundarbanaffairswb.in Sd/- Executive Engineer, Civil Engineering Division No-IV, Sundarban Development Board ICA- T2026(1)/2025

GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL
NOTICE INVITING TENDER
Online tender is invited by the undersigned for the works: "AMC of Electrical Works at VRK – Supply & Replacing of damaged DBs, MCBs, Cables, Wirings, switches, sockets & allied electrical works at 5 meter level & 11 MV Level of the Stadium——as & When required". Tender No.: WBPWD/EE/BCD/e-NIQ 91/2024-25 & e-Tender ID No. 2025_WBPWD_812522_1. Document Download Closing Date: 25.02.2025 up to 15.00 Hrs. Details may be downloaded from: etender.wb.nic.in Sd/- Executive Engineer, PWD Bidhannagar Electrical Division. ICA- T2072(2)/2025

GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL
TENDER NOTICE
Following E-tender has been invited by the concerned TIA under the Directorate of Fisheries, WB: Establishment/District: Assistant Director of Fisheries, South 24 Parganas. NIT No.: WBDOF/ADF/S24PGS/NIT_10/24-25. Name of Work/Scheme: Arrangement of Refreshment for training programme in South 24 Parganas District. Bid Submission Start date: 12.02.2025, Bid Submission End date: 19.02.2025. Other details may also be seen at https://wbtenders.gov.in Sd/- Director of Fisheries, West Bengal ICA- T2023(1)/2025

GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL
CORRIGENDUM
Please note Bid submission end date (online) is extended to 17.02.2025 up to 2.00 P.M. for the following job "Cable Laying and Allied Electrical Installation work for proposed Microbiology Lab at Central Combined Laboratory." vide e-tender no. WBPWD/EE-I/CKHED/eNIT107/24-25 Tender ID: 2024_WBPWD_804401_1. Detail information/download/upload will be available from the website: http://etender.wb.nic.in, http://wbtenders.gov.in & http://pwd.wb.in Sd/- Arindam Haldar, Executive Engineer-I, P.W.Div. Central Kolkata Health Electrical Division ICA- T2071(2)/2025

Woman accuses judge of bias, penalised ₹5k

New Delhi: Delhi High Court has imposed a cost of Rs 5,000 on a litigant for seeking the transfer of a child custody case from one family court to another on the grounds of bias, terming it an attempt to undermine the court's authority.

A single judge bench of Dharmesh Kumar Sharma on Jan 27 rejected the transfer petition, saying that the woman could challenge the trial court's custody order on the judicial side if she wanted to, instead of accusing the judge of bias.

"The transfer on the basis of such a ground is simply scandalous...The petitioner, if aggrieved by any order, has all the right to challenge the same on the judicial side. There is no substance in this petition. It is dismissed with the cost of Rs 5,000 to be deposited with Delhi High Court Legal Services committee," said the court. TNN

NOTICE
CONTRACTUAL ENGAGEMENT UNDER MID-DAY-MEAL SECTION
Applications are invited from eligible candidates for engagement to contractual post of 'Accountant' and 'Assistant Accountants' under Mid-Day-Meal Section, Office of the District Magistrate, Cooch Behar. May visit www.coochbehar.gov.in for details [Employment Notice No. 02/MDM/CBR Dated 10.02.2025].
Sd/-
Additional District Magistrate (Dev)
Cooch Behar

e-Tender
e-Tender is hereby invited for PATHASHREE-3 2023-24 work under WBSRDA, Jalpaiguri Division, vide NIeT No. WBSRDA/09-EE/JLP/ 2024-25, dated-10.02.2025. Last date for submission of tender is 05.03.2025. All details may be had from this office Notice Board and in website: https://wbtenders.gov.in.
Sd/-
Executive Engineer
WBSRDA, Jalpaiguri Division

An Inevitability About It?

CITY CITY BANG BANG

SANTOSH DESAI

It was like watching a statue topple in slow motion. You knew it was going to happen, and happen soon, but the sight was still a little surprising. Arvind Kejriwal and AAP's fall had been scripted some time back as one by one the pieces fell in place, and what we saw last week was the consummation of a demise foretold.

Several factors have played into this, with the party being both victim and protagonist. There appears to be little doubt that the Centre targeted Kejriwal, his key associates, and the party. It had shackled the local govt to an LG determined to thwart it at every instance and fundamentally made the task of providing any meaningful governance extremely difficult. This was a completely transparent ploy.

For AAP, this is a body blow. After it evolved from its activist roots into being a political party in every sense of the word, the basis of its connection with voters was its brand of welfarism, with free and affordable basic facilities like electricity and water as well as a greater focus on providing quality services in the areas of education and healthcare even to the poorest. Kejriwal himself embodied the common man, and the iconography he surrounded himself with—the muffler and the jhadoo—helped complete the picture of a grassroots-minded political formation.

Not being allowed to deliver anything new to his constituency has meant that for AAP voters, it is rational today to vote for the party in office at the Centre. It makes little sense to continue to support a government that is unable to act on its behalf, whatever the reasons might be. For many voters, it does not matter who is right or wrong, but who is in a better position to help them.

The corruption cases against Sisodia and Kejriwal haven't helped either. While critics of the Centre also label this as a purely political move devoid of any judicial merit, the truth might be a little more complex. There is no way

of knowing, but it is not out of the realm of possibility that the urgent need to generate funds for campaigns might have led the party into actions that could legitimately invite close scrutiny. And while virtually every political party has found its own funding methods, AAP was particularly vulnerable, since it was constantly in the crosshairs of the Centre.

One doesn't know how much this has dented Kejriwal's image as an anti-corruption crusader, but arguably that was no longer his calling card. What is interesting is that there was no major grassroots reaction to his arrest, and that perhaps speaks of the diminution of his brand even before the court case and the arrest.

Over the years, the politician Kejriwal has perhaps become far too politically supple for his own good. He began by accreting power to himself, getting rid of the brand names who could compete with him. Although this did not hurt him too badly, it knocked a big hole into the party's claim that it was out to cleanse politics in India. He proved himself as a canny street fighter and was soon seen as perhaps the only challenger to the brand of politics practised by the BJP. But the sense that here was a different politician practising a new brand of politics was fading.

After the 2019 elections, the party made a strategic decision to stop targeting Modi personally and to play what a lot of observers have called the 'soft Hindutva' card. Free tirth yatras, recitation of Hanuman Chalisa, and carefully calibrated statements on immigration marked this shift.

To what extent has the soft-pedalling of religious polarisation hurt him? Many commentators argue that this made him indistinguishable from BJP and gave voters no reason to vote for him if they wanted an alternative. There is possibly some truth in this, but for AAP, this gambit always seemed defensive in nature, to prevent BJP from being able to attack it on that front.

It seems likelier that the voters rejected Kejriwal not because he was not distinct enough from BJP, but because he stopped being useful. He simply did not seem to have either the gumption or the resources, physical and mental, to overcome the challenge posed by the Centre to deliver anything of value anymore. The trust that was placed in him, the belief that he was the strongest champion that they could have on their side, has been replaced by a dawning recognition that he, like other politicians, was primarily interested in taking any position that would keep him in office, but unlike other politicians from the governing party, did not have the means to do something for the voters in a meaningful way. It is noteworthy that in the entire time, not a single thing that he said went viral or struck a resonant chord. He was another politician making another political speech.

There is a lesson here somewhere, but it is not easy to find. One could argue that had he maintained greater integrity to his cause and shown less interest in survival, perhaps this would not have come to pass. It is equally possible that without the cunningness and political agility he has shown, he would have already been erased from our consciousness. The reality is BJP has just too many weapons in its arsenal, and for Kejriwal and AAP, it was just a matter of time.

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Years later, Bengali Camp residents still wait for a house they can call their own

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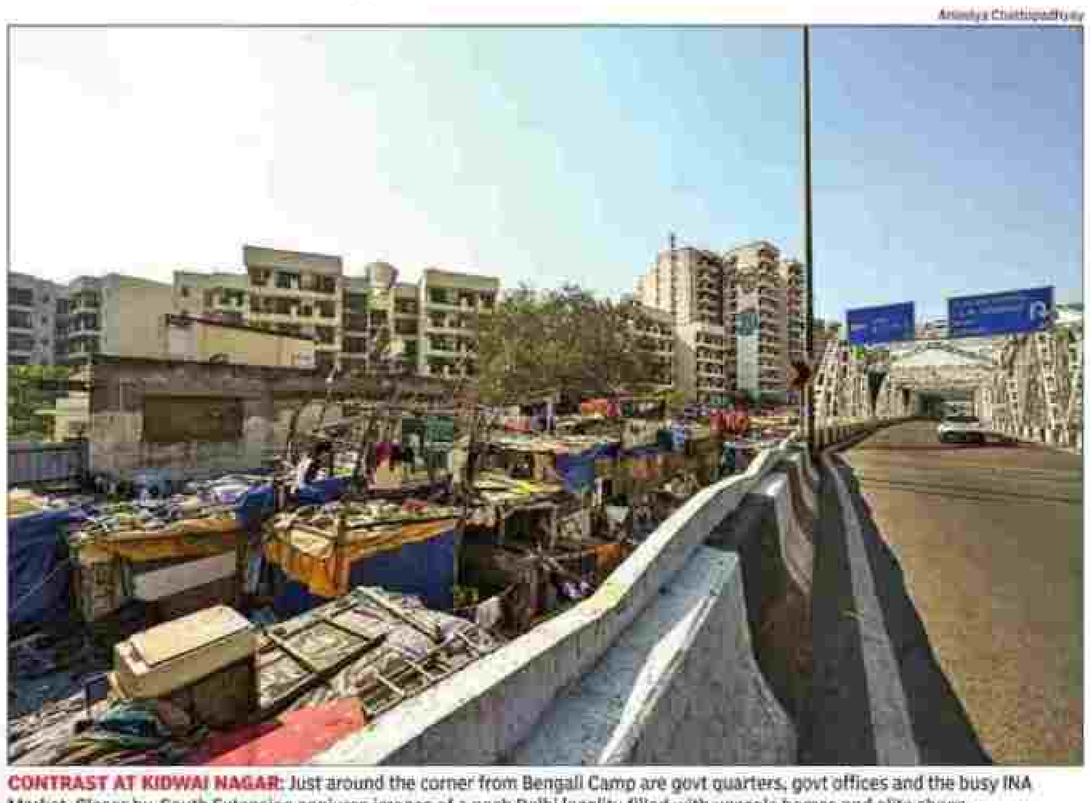
Anindya Chattopadhyay



CONTRAST AT KIDWAI NAGAR: Just around the corner from Bengali Camp are govt quarters, govt offices and the busy INA Market. Closer by, South Extension conjures images of a posh Delhi locality filled with upscale homes and elite shops

New Delhi: Saadhna Das, 59, showed documents she kept safely in a suitcase in her small house in Bengali Camp in south Delhi. She said, "We came here 32 years ago to clean and cook and earn a living. In 2010, our jhuggis were demolished and Delhi govt promised us homes in 2013. Arvind Kejriwal said we could live here until the flats were finished. In 2019, we were asked to pay for the flats and we thought that we would get our homes after the 2020 assembly elections. It was a dream then and remained so even till the 2025 polls."

Just around the corner from Bengali Camp are govt quarters, govt offices and the busy INA Market. Closer by, South Extension conjures images of a posh Delhi locality filled with upscale homes and elite shops. But stop near the flyover cutting through the area and amid the stench of the Kushak Nullah, a narrow path leads to slum settlements like Bengali Camp and Jhansi Camp. This is where the fragile hopes of people for a makaan have lingered on since 2019.

Many slum residents put their life savings, some augmenting their meagre savings by selling family heirlooms, into the dream of a home promised by Delhi govt. At Jhansi Camp, teenaged Suman saw her parents selling jewellery to put together Rs 1.3 lakh for the flat. Today, all they can do is hold up laminated certificates of payment, clutch receipts like talismans — and hope that change in the state govt will finally bring them their cherished home.

TIMES *Special*

Letters sent to the residents by Delhi Urban Shelter Improvement Board, which works to improve life for slum dwellers, say "As per the provisions of the Delhi Slum & JJ Rehabilitation and Relocation Policy, 2015, under the survey conducted on August 26, 2018, at Jhuggi Basti Jhansi Camp, Kidwai Nagar East, XXX (name of resident), was found provisionally eligible for relocation."

When **TOI** asked DUSIB why the people hadn't yet got their flats, officials claimed the wait would be over soon. They said tenders for flats at the resettlement colony in northwest Delhi's Savda Ghevra were being prepared and around 400 of the 1,000 flats there would be allocated to beneficiaries living along the Khushak Nullah.

Explaining the delay, an official said, "The matter of the rehabilitation project went to the court, and a high-powered committee was established. Delhi govt said it had Rs 37 crore in unused funds, mostly from JNNURM, partly from individual payments and a part from land-owning agencies. The court finally advised utilisation of land-owning agency funds. With that clarity, we have now floated tenders."

The proposal has at least provided a timeline for the completion of the much awaited homes. There is hope for the people now. Reena Das said, "The change in govt has given us hope again. But it's been such a waste.

MAYA, DOMESTIC HELP, SAYS

It's been seven years since we paid the money and all this while we have only had drain water to drink

Kahin aur paisa lagaya hota toh byaaz hi arjata (We could have earned interest on our money elsewhere)."

But most of the Kushak Nullah people aren't aware of these developments. Standing in the doorway of her cramped, one-room home in Bengali Camp, Lakshmi Das said, "This is where we sleep, eat and live. Every day, every night. Is this even a room?" Gesturing at the narrow space where she, her husband and their son slept on the floor each night, she added, "My husband can't even stretch his legs when he sleeps." Das had emptied out her savings for a flat. "We were promised a flat under the SC quota if we paid Rs 31,000. We believed them," she said.

Rashmani, who is in her 60s, paid Rs 3 lakh in 2019. "What have I got? Nothing," she groaned. "Many of my old companions died waiting. Only a few of us are left, still longing for a proper house." Maya, who moved to Delhi from Bihar in 1990 in search of work, works as a domestic help and cook. She says in frustration, "It's been seven years since we paid the money and all this while we have only had drain water to drink."

The house, for families like those of Das, Rashmani and Maya, means dignity, stability and survival. It means freedom from a lack of basic amenities and the monsoon floods. "Our personal documents often get spoiled by water from the flooded nullah during the monsoons," said Premdasi, who also pointed out the indignity of having no toilets, private or public.

Need to differentiate rape from consensual affair gone sour: HC

New Delhi: Delhi High Court on Monday granted bail to a man and said there should be a distinction between rape and a consensual relationship gone sour.

Justice Neena Bansal Krishna said that while it was the duty of the legislature and the executive to enact and implement laws for the safety and well-being of women in the workforce, the court had a "onerous duty" to be a "watchdog" and prevent its abuse and misuse.

"In the present times, many a time close proximity in the workplace results in consensual relationships, which on turning sour get reported as crimes, making it pertinent to be conscious of the distinction between the offence of rape and consensual sex between two adults," the court said.

Acting on the man's bail plea, the court observed that the case fell in the same genre in which the man and the woman developed "sexual proximity" in the same workplace, but after about a year, the relationship turned sour, and allegations of "force and rape" followed.

HIGH COURT SAYS

Many a time close proximity in the workplace results in consensual relationships, which on turning sour get reported as crimes, making it pertinent to be conscious of the distinction between the offence of rape and consensual sex between two adults

The court saw no use of keeping the man, arrested in May 2024, behind bars for a long time.

The charges in the case were framed and the veracity of the allegations should be tried during trial, which was likely going to take some time, it added.

The man claimed the parties dated each other for "quite a long time" and were "in deep love" with each other.

However, the relationship ended after the accused discovered the complainant was also dating someone else and out of vendetta, she filed a fabricated complaint, the plea claimed.

The police opposed the bail plea saying the allegations were serious in nature. ETI

AIIMS launches unique waste conversion system

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi: All India Institute of Medical Sciences Delhi launched an automated biomedical waste conversion rig on Monday, developed by CSIR-NIIST, Thiruvananthapuram.

The innovative waste disposal system, "Srjanam", was officially launched by Union minister for science and technology Dr Jitendra Singh. It offers an economical and environmentally friendly alternative to conventional biomedical waste treatment methods like incineration.

AIIMS officials said the fully automated system dissects and neutralises hazardous biomedical waste, including blood, urine, sputum, and laboratory disposables, without relying on costly and energy-intensive incinerators, making waste disposal more efficient and economical.

A unique feature of the system is its ability to impart a pleasant fragrance to otherwise foul-smelling toxic waste, ensuring safer and more manageable handling and disposal.

With a capacity of 400 kg per day, the system was launched on Monday, with its initial phases currently capable of processing up to 10 kg/day of degradable medical waste. The technology will be ready for implementation soon, pending approval from the concerned authorities.

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Global Energy Transition Shaping Up with India at its Heart

The third edition of India Energy Week will see over 70,000 attendees, 700 exhibitors, 6,000 delegates, and 500 speakers from more than 120 countries

India is not only fulfilling its own energy demand but is also setting the growth trajectory for the world. The rapid reforms being undertaken by the government are making India a global destination for investment in the energy sector.
(India Energy Week 2024)

NARENDRA MODI
Prime Minister

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The most prominent energy leaders and professionals from around the world will gather at Yashobhoomi Convention Centre in New Delhi during the third edition of India Energy Week 2025 to deliberate, collaborate, and innovate to accelerate the transition of the global energy sector from fossil fuels to greener fuels.

Held under the patronage of the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas, India Energy Week this year is expected to have more than 70,000 energy professionals, 700 exhibitors, 6,000 delegates, and over 500 speakers from 120+ countries making a beeline to participate in what is seen as the second largest energy event globally in terms of participation, exhibition space, and sessions.

The four-day event, which covers an area of over 100,000 square metres, will be attended by foreign energy ministers, ambassadors, heads of leading energy organisations, and over 90 CEOs and members of the executive boards of some of the world's largest Fortune 500 energy companies. Their conversations could help shape the emerging new energy order, critical for the future of the globe.

As India gears up for rising energy demand, backed by a rapidly growing economy and primary energy consumption set to double by 2045, the country is emerging as the global leader in the energy transition while ensuring energy access, security, affordability, and sustainability for its population.

PM Modi addressing global energy leaders at India Energy Week 2024 in Goa

The spotlight for India Energy Week 2025 will also be on India's enhanced role in the global energy ecosystem, seeking to foster global collaboration, and drive measurable progress towards a cleaner energy future for all.

EMERGING NEW ENERGY ORDER

Global energy demand is significantly shifting towards developing nations. Due to rapid economic growth and a rising population, most future energy consumption is projected to come from emerging markets. India is set to play a pivotal role in this shift towards cleaner fuel.

As the race towards energy transition heats up, India is aggressively investing in bolstering its renewable energy capabilities, including an ambitious target for non-fossil fuel electricity generation by 2030. The government's push for green hydrogen and biofuels positions the country as a global leader in transitioning to sustainable energy.

Talking about India's stride in the green hydrogen sector, Prime Minister Narendra Modi, during his inaugural speech at India Energy Week last year, highlighted the National Green Hydrogen Mission, which will pave the way for India to become a centre of hydrogen production and export. He expressed confidence that India's green energy sector can make both investors and industries win in the emerging market.

India's active participation in global energy forums and collaboration with multiple countries on technologies to promote global energy transition have put the country in pole position. The Global Biofuels Alliance, launched by PM Modi on the sidelines of the G20 Summit in New Delhi, which comprises 24 member countries and 12 international organisations, is a testimony to India's growing clout in the emerging landscape.

SPOTLIGHT ON INDIA

India Energy Week 2025 will emphasise showcasing India's transformative efforts across the entire energy landscape, including strengthening energy security and promoting energy justice through a series of discussions during the four days. It will also amplify the voice of the Global South and unveil the immense investment opportunities within India's hydrocarbon sector.

India's advancements in renewable energy and cutting-edge technologies, such as battery storage, 2G and 3G biofuels, green ammonia, and hydrogen production, will be showcased prominently, positioning the nation as a global leader in innovative energy solutions.

Industry & Policymakers Collaborate to Drive Impactful Change

Consistent execution of government policies across the country by industry has helped serve the needs of both

TE@timesofindia.com

India's energy transition to a low-carbon future is taking giant strides as the country moves from setting up renewable energy projects to integrating them into the national grid with an enhanced transmission structure. With an installed capacity of 209.44 GW across all renewable energy projects, the ground has now been firmly set for the benefits of the transition to unfold.

India's tryst with renewable energy began nearly two decades ago when the government decided to reduce its dependence on fossil fuels. As the effects of rising population, increased energy consumption, and climate change became evident, investments in renewable energy were significantly expanded a decade ago. This has helped India emerge at the heart of the energy transition as the world seeks to decarbonise.

PM Modi at the inauguration of India Energy Week 2024

Solar energy has been critical to the emerging India story. Soon after the launch of the National Solar Mission, the ambitious target, including 100 GW of installed capacity by 2022, was announced. The government incentivised solar power through subsidies, tax benefits, and promoting solar parks. India also played its role in setting up the International Solar Alliance (ISA), buttressing its push for renewable energy sources.

India is one of the world's largest producers of solar energy, driven by a 36 percent growth over the last 11 years, according to EY. The rapid growth of renewable energy installations has helped drive availability, affordability, and access, the three magical As, often tracked both by industry and government.

POLICYMAKERS DRIVING INDUSTRY

India's energy sector has traditionally been dominated by fossil fuels. But Prime Minister Narendra Modi's announcement during COP26 that 50 percent of electricity would come from non-fossil sources by 2030 signalled a transformative shift for the country.

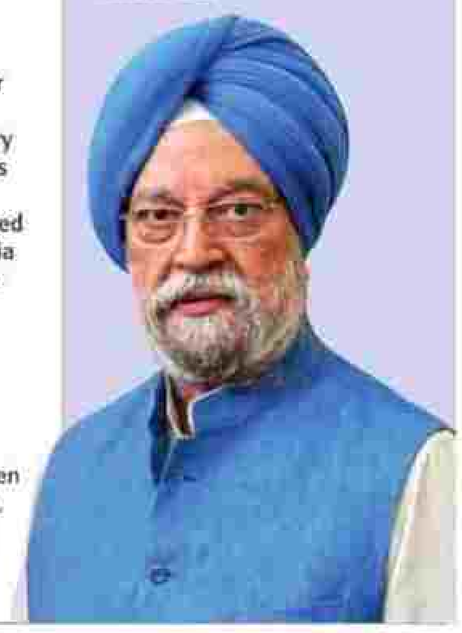
India's clean energy sectors – solar, wind, green hydrogen, electric vehicles (EVs), and battery energy storage systems (BESS) – have seen robust investment activity. For example, over $2 billion has been raised for solar rooftop installation since 2015. Wind energy companies have secured significant equity funding in selected states, while green hydrogen projects have attracted large-scale investments too. India aims to be a significant player in the green hydrogen market, while BESS investments are now hovering around the $10 billion mark annually, driven by venture capital and government-backed tenders.

After the initial years of sluggish growth, the vision to rapidly expand renewable power installations followed. Policy tweaks followed, and the industry bid for renewable power projects across the country. In about a decade, policymakers have enticed investments that are making India the beacon for global renewable power.

Rapid decarbonisation across industries requires access to technology and funding. It is estimated that India would need US$150 to 200 billion of investments annually, driving green bonds, green deposits, and more. The industry could be looking at policymakers to drive growth for another market.

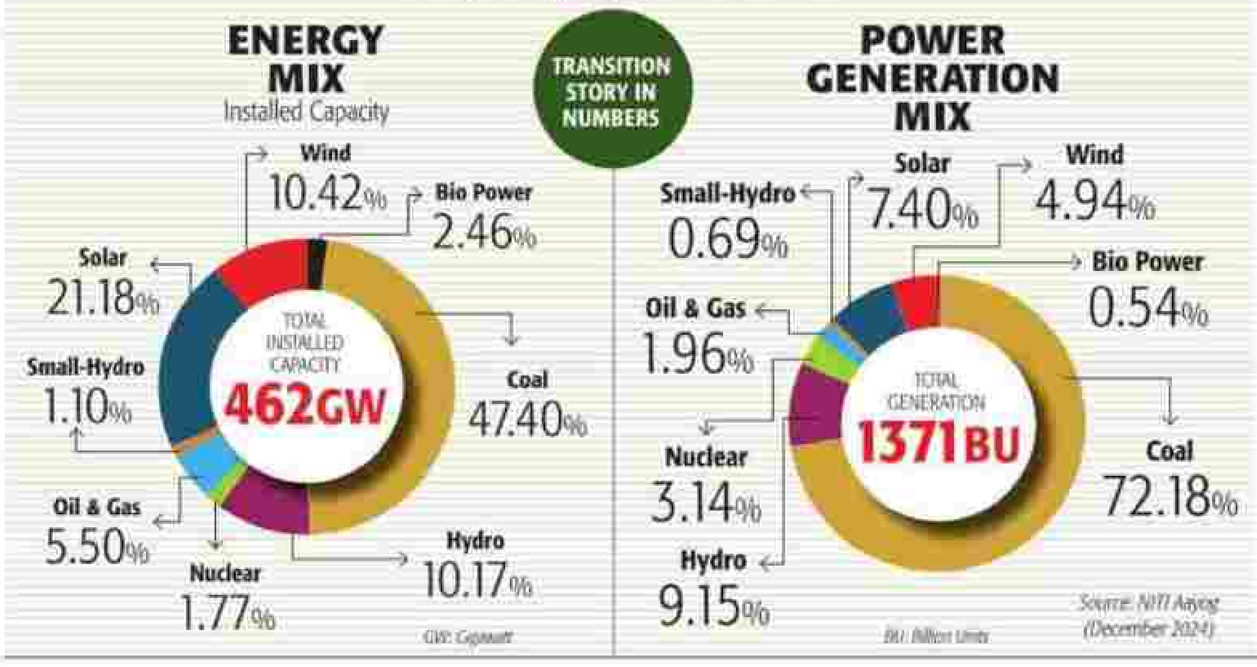
I think the world is just beginning to see that green hydrogen may not be as distant a story as was initially thought. And at least the Indian estimates of 5 million metric tons per annum by 2030 is very much an underestimation.
(India Energy Week 2024)

HARDEEP SINGH PURI
Minister of Petroleum and Natural Gas



India's Unfolding Energy Transition

Coal has traditionally dominated India's power generation capacity, but the country's energy mix is clearly shifting away from the fossil fuel



From Paris 2015… to Net Zero for the World

Countries need to assiduously work together to execute decarbonisation plans for the common global good

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When the Paris Agreement was signed in 2015, countries agreed that by 2100, they would collectively contain global warming to 1.5 degrees above the current level.. For the roadmap, the emission-related reductions that need to be achieved by 2030 will require significant resources and will. The threat of depleting natural resources and handling extreme weather events requires the industry to rewire itself to consume clean energy. A fundamental transformation of all sectors, including energy, manufacturing, transport, infrastructure, agriculture, forestry, and land use, is needed.

Countries have made public their commitments to net zero: the US (2050), China (2060), and India (2070). The European Union hopes to cut emissions by 55 percent by 2030 (from 1990 levels) and reach climate neutrality by 2050.

If the energy sector can be measured, its efficiency can be improved. As renewable power takes further roots in the everyday operations of large and small businesses and end consumers, measuring efficiency and consumption patterns becomes the key to change. With the wide goal of net zero at its commitment, the government and industry need to focus on the long-term approach.

Governments have a wide range of policy interventions to choose from. They can use financing measures to support the transformation of energy and industrial systems, improve energy efficiency, tackle environmental pollution, and protect and replenish natural capital. Taxation and policy push become key.

Businesses may have the influence to change to help create actionable outcomes and impact. However, governments have a more prominent role because they must choose from competing priorities for policies and funding. Economic pressures may sway policymaking in a direction that could be dictated by short-term interests, making transparency critical. More effective global leadership and cooperation is needed to mitigate these challenges.

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DDA to host half-marathon in April, expects 25k to run

Vibha.Sharma@timesofindia.com

New Delhi: Delhi Development Authority (DDA) is gearing up to host a half-marathon on April 13. The event, set to commence at Baansera Park opposite Sarai Kale Khan, will accommodate 20,000 participants along with 5,000 additional guest participants.

The planned activities include three distinct races: a half-marathon for participants aged 18 years and older, a 10-km race for those who are 14-17 years old, and a 5km run designed for children aged between 10 and 13 years.

Steps have been taken by the authority to engage an experienced event management firm that will oversee the operation, from developing the concept to handling participant registrations and coordinating all logistics. The tentative cost for holding the event will be Rs 3 crore.

"The selected agency will be responsible for the comprehensive planning and execution of the half marathon, including developing innovative themes, designs and concepts for the event, digital platform for managing the event such as registration, payment gateway for the participation fees, communication through SMS and email etc," the tender document said. For the participants, a Zumba session and a warm-up activity will be organised before the race.

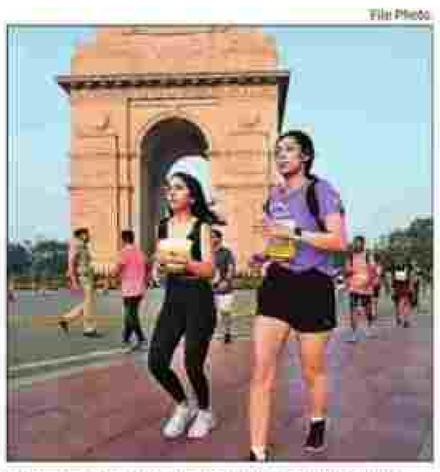
The agency will also be assigned the task of preparing the event venue, ensuring that all necessary services and facilities are in place on the route and at the venue. The authority aims to do a detailed event branding and promotion through traditional and digital platforms to see maximum participation of people, DDA said.

"To ensure that the logistics and venue meet the norms, the event company shall be responsible for route measurement by a World Athletics certified measurer and responsible for affiliation of the event with the Athletic Federation of India or State Athletic Federation. Besides, at the venue and on the route, provision for electricity, water, garbage disposal and toilets will be made," DDA said.

However, during the organisation of the event, it will be ensured that no damage is caused to the environment by excavation work or unnecessary disturbance to the habitat.

"All infrastructure work done for the events shall be managed and executed so that they maintain a safe distance from the public roads and other structures, services and sensitive areas such as forests, sanctuaries, historical places, national monuments, schools, hostels, and residential areas. Also, cutting trees shall not be permitted and the agency should follow all DPCC and NGT guidelines. Once the event is completed, the debris and other waste material shall be removed immediately," said the authority.

File Photo



A Zumba session and a warm-up activity will be organised before the race

Man dies by suicide: A 24-year-old man died by suicide in central Delhi with police suspecting that he might have taken the step after the woman he loved was set to get married elsewhere. Police said they received information on the intervening night of Sunday and Monday that Shiraj, from Uttar Pradesh, hanged himself in Turkman Gate area. He was employed as a bakery shop worker. During investigation, it was found that Shiraj wanted to marry his brother's sister-in-law who was already set to marry someone else. He was in depression because of it, a senior police officer said. On Sunday, he had an argument with his co-worker Mobin for not helping him convey his feelings to his family, the officer said. PTI

Child Trafficking Ring Busted; Two Infants Rescued, Four In Police Net

Search For Minor Who Went Missing From NDLS Triggered Investigation

Times News Network

New Delhi: Delhi Police has busted a child trafficking ring and rescued two infants and arrested four traffickers. The network, according to police, exploited vulnerable families, especially at railway stations, and sold the abducted children to childless couples under the guise of adoption. The investigation has revealed that the racket was active since 2023 and was involved in several cases.

According to DCP KPS Malhotra, an investigation had been initiated on Jan 21 after a woman reported her two-year-old son missing from the main hall of New Delhi Railway Station. When the cops analysed CCTV footage, they zeroed in on a woman suspect seen taking the kidnapped child with her. The woman was seen boarding an autorickshaw from the station's main entry gate.

Police tracked down the auto driver, who revealed he had dropped the suspect near the toll gate at the Badarpur-Faridabad border. "The investigating team analysed the footage from an integrated network of 700 CCTV cameras and stitched the same on time and space parameters. These were superimposed with the telecom data to find clues that led to crucial leads," explained DCP Malhotra.

The investigators also learned of a similar incident in 2023 when a three-year-old boy had been abducted from the ticket counter of the station. The CCTV analysis showed the same woman picking up that kid too.

A special team comprising ACP Sanjeev Chahar and inspectors Vijay Samaria and Vishwanath Paswan was formed to crack the case. The team used CCTV analysis, digital forensics, field intelligence and technical analysis to identify the suspects, carried out simultaneous raids at different locations and managed to arrest four accused persons.

Among the arrested were three women. One of them was the main accused, who managed the affairs of the gang. The other picked up the infants from stations and the third handled accounts and documentation. Their male accomplice, Suraj, who handled financial transactions and coordinated with traffickers and buyers, was the fourth individual arrested.

The interrogation of the arrested suspect led to the rescue of two kidnapped infants. "The child abducted in Oct 2024 was recovered from Loni in Ghaziabad, while the one picked up on Jan 21 was recovered from Paharganj," said joint commissioner Vijay Kumar. The two children have been placed in a child care home. They have undergone medical examinations and are receiving counselling. Child welfare committees have been involved to ensure proper rehabilitation.

Investigations revealed that the network had been operating in several states for over two years. The gang specifically targeted vulnerable families at railway stations at night. Technical surveillance showed that the accused used at least 15 different mobile numbers and changed their locations frequently to evade detection.

The questioning of suspects established that the gang charged Rs. 3-5 lakh per child from prospective adoptive parents. The money was routed through different bank accounts to avoid detection. The accused maintained detailed records of their transactions in coded language on encrypted digital devices.

HOW THE GANG OPERATED...

1 Target selection & abduction
- **Kidnapped infants/kids** from public places
- **Railway stations and bus stops** were preferred hotspots
- **Women used** as foot soldiers to pick up sleeping kids
- Mostly struck during winter months, **used shawls for cover**
- Pre-decided **escape routes** were used to avoid detection

2 Fake documentation & legal cover
- Created an **assumed identity** for the the baby
- **Fake adoption papers,** medical records and affidavits created
- Misrepresented trafficked children as **'abandoned'** or **'illegitimate'**

3 Sale & illegal adoption
- Trafficked infants were **sold to childless** couples
- **Authorities and buyers misled** into believing it was lawful adoption

HOW THE CASE WAS CRACKED...

Jan 21: A woman reported kidnapping of 4-month-old infant from New Delhi Railway Station

1 Police integrated network of 700 CCTV cameras, stitching them on time and space parameters

2 CCTV data superimposed with telecom data to find clues

3 Enhanced surveillance techniques identified autorickshaw's registration through technical analysis of CCTV data

Raids conducted, four arrested, two infants rescued

Gang erased kids' identities after abduction

Rajshekhar.Jha @timesofindia.com

New Delhi: Behind the façade of maternal kindness, a ruthless triangle of deception was allegedly forged by three women who preyed on the most vulnerable of families. Aarti, the mastermind, would weave in and out of crowded railway stations, plucking innocent children, mostly toddlers, from the arms of unsuspecting parents.

Nirmala, the document forger, would then conjure up fake papers, erasing the children's true identities. Meanwhile, Kanta, the puppeteer, would pull the strings and connect the abducted children with desperate couples willing to pay top rupee for a chance at parenthood. As the trio's ill-gotten gains piled up, their greed only grew. They ensnared more victims in their heartless game until the law caught up with them.

Interestingly, the arrest of the women also uncovered the role of one Dr Priya who had figured in the interrogation of several trafficking suspects in the past and had been evading the law for months. According to police, she is accused of playing a pivotal role in the illicit operation, using her credentials to legitimise the unpermitted adoptions and directing stolen children to desperate couples.

Despite her lofty alias of Dr Priya, Kanta actually was not a licensed medical doctor, only a nurse with experience in handling childbirth. She had been masquerading as a gynaecologist, using her limited medical knowledge to deceive and manipulate others, including desperate couples seeking to adopt children.

The arrest of the women also uncovered the role of one Dr Priya who had figured in the probe of several trafficking suspects in the past and had been evading the law for months

"This illicit module deployed foot soldiers to scour fertility clinics across Delhi-NCR. There, they identified and targeted vulnerable couples who were desperate to become parents," said DCP KPS Malhotra said. These unsuspecting individuals, driven by their desire for a child, were then exploited and manipulated into illicitly adopting children, often unaware of the manner in which the kids had been acquired.

The women's interrogation has opened a can of worms. Aarti detailed how she stole a three-year-old child from Ajmeri Gate side of New Delhi Railway Station and rushed to Dr Priya who sent the child's photo to her customers. When none agreed to pay a satisfactory price and fearing being caught, Aarti abandoned the child on the street after two days.

Aarti also confessed to stealing a two-and-a-half-year-old child from the same place in Oct last year. She gave this child to Nirmala whom she had met earlier in a Faridabad court. After the papers were prepared, Aarti and her husband posed as parents of the child and met a couple. They claimed to be impoverished and were, therefore, giving up their kid for adoption. They received Rs 1.2 lakh for the sale.

Aarti confessed that on Jan 20 this year, she took her minor relative Rajat with her and reached New Delhi Railway Station. There, in the waiting hall of platform No. 1, she saw a woman sleeping with a young child and spirited away the kid. The next day, Aarti contacted Priya and handed her the child for an advance payment of Rs 35,000. The rest was to be paid later. But before that could happen, the women were arrested.

Jamia students protest action against 'activists'

Times News Network

New Delhi: Scores of students at Jamia Millia Islamia staged a protest on campus on Monday against the administration's crackdown on demonstrations, just days before a university disciplinary committee is set to review the case of two PhD students accused of organising a protest last year, as part of annual observance commemorating the 2019 anti-CAA protests.

Raising slogans and carrying posters with messages like "Restore Campus Democracy" and "Without Dissent, There Is No Jamia", a large group of students gathered to oppose what they called "the university's suppression of student activism".

The protest was led by several Left-affiliated student organisations, including All India Students Association, All India Revolutionary Students Organisation, among others.

The disciplinary committee, scheduled to meet on Feb 25, will examine the role of two PhD students who allegedly organised Jamia Resistance Day in 2024, an annual observance commemorating the 2019 anti-CAA protests.

On Dec 15, 2019, Delhi Police allegedly entered the Jamia campus and baton-charged students inside the library while searching for "outsiders" during protests against the Citizenship Amendment Act (CAA) and the proposed National Register of Citizens (NRC). The crackdown sparked nationwide protests.

Court convicts 2 for using fake ₹2k notes

Times News Network

New Delhi: A Delhi court has convicted two men for possessing and using counterfeit Rs 2,000 notes at a shop in INA Market in 2020, ruling that the prosecution had successfully proven the charges against them.

In an order dated Feb 7, Additional Sessions Judge Lovleen stated that the prosecution had established that accused individuals, Akib and Waqar, had visited a shop in INA Market on Feb 23, 2020, where they used a fake Rs 2,000 note. Following this, the shopkeeper handed them over to the police.

The case was registered against Akib and Waqar by the Kotla Mubarakpur police station under Indian Penal Code (IPC) sections 489B (using as genuine forged or counterfeit currency notes) and 489C (possession of forged or counterfeit notes). A third accused, Munish Ahmed, was charged under section 489C of the IPC.

During the investigation, police recovered 29 counterfeit Rs 2,000 notes from Akib and Waqar. The duo disclosed that they had obtained the notes from Munish Ahmed, who was later arrested, and three fake notes were seized from his residence in Khanpur.

The court also noted that the Currency Note Press in Nasik confirmed that all the seized notes were counterfeit. "In light of the above facts, accused Akib and Waqar have been convicted under IPC sections 489B and 489C, while accused Munish Ahmed is convicted under section 489C," the court said.

The matter has been scheduled for sentencing arguments on Feb 24.

500 bird enthusiasts likely to record species in Delhi-NCR

Times News Network

New Delhi: More than 30 teams and nearly 500 participants will cover diverse habitats across Delhi-NCR to document bird species on Big Bird Day on Feb 16. Similarly, birdwatchers across the country will determine bird species from Feb 14 to 17 for the global Great Backyard Bird Count.

Habitats such as urban parks, wetlands, forests and farmlands will be covered during the annual Big Bird Day. While 234 species were recorded last year, the highest count remains 271, in 2005. The number of species reported during Big Bird Day in Delhi is over 200 every year, except 183 in 2007, when the count was conducted in Nov.

"Big Bird Day is more than just numbers. It's a celebration of urban biodiversity, a chance to observe nature up close, and an opportunity to foster a deeper connection with the environment," said Nikhil Devasar, a birder and one of the organisers of Big Bird Day.

The event highlights the importance of scientific documentation, conservation and community engagement, and makes birdwatching accessible and enjoyable for everyone, he added.

For the global Great Backyard Bird Count, birdwatchers will come together to document as many birds as possible across the country's diverse locations. Pankaj Gupta, one of the regional coordinators from Bird Count India, said, "People can also determine the bird species in their backyards, colonies and other stretches and upload their entries on eBird."

In 2024, among the most frequently observed birds in India were the Himalayan bulbul in the Himalayas, feral pigeon in the north, red-vented bulbul in the western, eastern and central regions, house crow in the south, and red-whiskered bulbul in the Andaman and Nicobar Islands.

Last year, India ranked second highest in terms of submitting bird lists (58,276 checklists) and stood third in the number of reported species, closely following Colombia and Ecuador. Over 1,036 species were documented — representing 75% of all known bird species in the country.

Garima Bhatia

Big Bird Day

FIR against AAP MLA, aides for helping murder suspect flee

New Delhi: Delhi Police registered an FIR against Aam Aadmi Party MLA Amanatullah Khan and his supporters for allegedly interfering with a Crime Branch team's arrest of an attempted murder suspect in Jamia Nagar. Police claimed that Khan and his supporters scuffled with Crime Branch team, allowing the suspect to escape.

According to the cops, Crime Branch team arrived at the suspect's house in Jamia Nagar to arrest him in connection with a 2018 attempted murder case. However, when Khan and his supporters arrived, they allegedly obstructed the arrest and facilitated the suspect's escape.

Police registered a case against Khan, his supporters, and the suspect under various sections, including assault and obstruction of govt work. The police are currently searching for the accused.

"The suspect, who was involved in a 2018 attempted murder case, fired several rounds at a man in Jamia Nagar," police said. **TOI** tried to contact Khan for his response, but he did not respond. TNN

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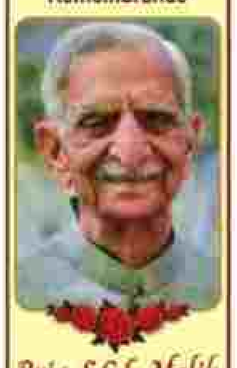
OBITUARY | REMEMBRANCES
DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS

With profound sadness we inform the demise of

Shri P. Krishnan (Retd. Director General, CPWD)
on February 5, 2025.
In grief:
Harish & Dinesh Krishnan and family
krishnanedithi@gmail.com

In fond and loving Remembrance



Brig. S.C.L. Malik
24.06.1923-11.02.2023
Your life was an embodiment of selfless service, love, and positivity.
Forever in our hearts.
Deepak Malik, Ashwin & Shuchi Malik, Tarun & Vipra Malik, Aditi, Gaurav, Lavani, Smiti, Adhir, Abeer & Ambika

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REMEMBRANCE
SHARING MEMORIES

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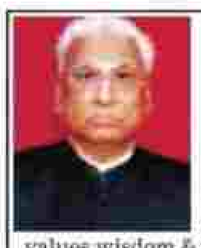
Sh. Virendar Kumar Jain
We offer our solemn tribute to you. We shall always cherish your Patience, Humility & Gentle Nature. Fondly remembered by Smt. Manju Jain and Family.
Delhi Calendar Mfg. Co. (Ph 9650318636)

(In Fond Remembrance
Smt. Dharamwati Verma
(06.10.1924 - 11.02.1995)
Sweet memories of your sublime love and boundless affection remain eternally enshrined in our blissful consciousness, Family.

Col Sribatsha Pradhan
(05.05.1966 - 09.02.2025)
DGAFMS and all ranks of AFMS family deeply mourn the sad demise of Col Sribatsha Pradhan, Quartermaster at Command Hospital (Western Command). May God grant peace to the departed soul and give strength to the bereaved family.

(IC-16437X)
MAJ GEN S MEDIRATTA (RETD)
(12 Nov 1944 To 10 Feb 2025)
DG OS & Sr Col Comdt and all ranks of Army Ordnance Corps pray to the Almighty to grant peace to the departed soul & fortitude to the bereaved family to bear this irreparable loss. Contact:- Mrs Bina Mediratta (Wife) M:9810482980. Address A-11/17, Vasant Vihar, New Delhi-110057.



In Loving Memory of
Sh. D.C. Kasliwal
(06.06.1930 - 11.02.2008)
We all miss you every moment in our life. The warmth of your love, values, wisdom & patience inspires us to be better each day. We wish you are at peace wherever you are. Remembered by Kasliwal Family & D.C. Kasliwal & Associates P. Ltd.

LIEUTENANT COLONEL VIMAL KUMAR MALIK (RETIRED)
(28 Mar 1944 to 08 Feb 2025)
Lieutenant Colonel Vimal Kumar Malik was commissioned on 15 June 1969 into 200 Mountain Regiment. The officer was a dedicated soldier, whose demise on 08 February 2025 has left an irreparable void in the Gunners Fraternity. We salute his immense contribution and offer sincere condolences to the bereaved family.
Director General & All Ranks Regiment of Artillery.

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38-Year-Old Gets Life Back In Own Hands After Transplant

Ex-Serviceman Donates His Late 76-Year-Old Wife's Hands

Anuja.Jaiswal@timesofindia.com

New Delhi: Imagine the heartache and then the joy of a mother who will soon be able to feel and touch her son after being unable to do so for over a decade due to the loss of her hands. As Twinkle Dogra, a 38-year-old PhD scholar at AIIMS Rishikesh, recovers after a hand transplantation today, she is overwhelmed with gratitude towards the 76-year-old hands that has given her a new lease of life.

Twinkle lost both her hands 13 years ago in a tragic electrocution accident, leaving her unable to perform basic motherly tasks like hugging or lifting her baby. The anguish of not beingable to physically care for her child was something beyond words. But now, thanks to a selfless donation from an ex-military officer who gave his late wife's hands after she passed away from intracranial bleeding, Twinkle has regained a sense of normalcy.

While Twinkle's hands are now those of a 76-year-old woman, she is unfazed by the visible signs of age. "My existence has resumed after a 12-year pause," she says with a smile. Twinkle has already started feeling sensations in her shoulder area and remains optimistic about regaining complete touch and sensation, as per her medical team's expectations.

Reflecting on the long years of struggle, Twinkle says, "When the incident occurred, my baby was only 10 months old, and from that point on, I couldn't physically connect with him. As a mother, it's vital to nurture and care for your child, but I couldn't do that after the accident. Now, I feel 'whole' again."

Having also qualified for the UGC NET exam, Twinkle adapted to her new life after the accident by opting for a cosmetic hand and a mechanical prosthetic. The Rs 8 lakh prosthetic, fitted to her left side, allowed her to continue her academic work despite her right hand being severely damaged. Being right-handed, Twinkle trained herself to use the computer with her left hand, allowing her to complete her thesis on yoga's impact on the mental health of NICU mothers.

The transplant was performed by a team headed by Dr Mohit Sharma, who looks after the plastic and reconstructive surgery department at Amrita Hospital in Faridabad. Asked about the procedure, Dr Sharma said that hand transplants involve the transplantation of complex tissues, including bones, muscles, arteries, veins, nerves, and skin. "Over 25 tendons, major arteries, and nerves must be connected during the procedure. While the skin's high immunogenicity necessitates increased doses of immunosuppressants, the team can quickly address signs of rejection, such as skin rashes," he said.

"Unlike organ transplants, hand transplantation is not life-saving but life-enhancing," Dr Sharma noted. The procedure required coordination of four surgical teams—two for the donor and two for the recipient—which made it both logistically complex and time-intensive, he said.

Twinkle's husband, Karan Dogra, a private sector professional, recalled the incident that changed their lives. "It happened on Jan 6, 2012, two years after our wedding. She came in contact with a high-tension wire while hanging clothes to dry. The accident left her incapacitated as it affected her legs and hands. Initially, we consulted a doctor in Meerut, who warned about the possibility of losing all limbs. We then sought treatment at Safdarjung Hospital, where after 20 days of hospitalisation, both her hands had to be amputated. Following treatment at various hospitals, she regained movement in her legs," he said.

For the hand transplant to proceed, the donor and recipient must share matching blood groups and have similarly sized hands. Additionally, the donor must be free of infectious diseases and other complications, and the compatibility of their arterial and venous systems must be verified through thorough evaluation. Lymphocyte cross-matching is also performed to ensure proper compatibility.

SURGERY AT A GLANCE

Essential criteria for hand transplant donor selection:

- Blood group match between donor and recipient
- Donor's hands should be of a similar size and structurally intact
- Donor must not have any infectious diseases or connective tissue disorders
- Detailed assessment to ensure arteries and veins are functioning properly
- Lymphocyte cross-matching to confirm compatibility

Complexities and recovery

- Surgical technique varies depending on the level of transplantation. If performed near the wrist, functional recovery is quicker since nerves and muscles are already present
- Procedure involves joining 24 tendons, major arteries, and nerves
- As the transplantation moves higher up the arm (forearm, elbow, upper arm, or shoulder), the complexity increases, and functional recovery takes longer
- Higher transplants involve fewer structures to reconnect, and nerve regrowth takes more time, leading to slower functional restoration

The surgery was a life-changing gift for **Twinkle Dogra**

Revolutionising transplantation

While still in the experimental phase, some of the recent developments may revolutionise transplantation in the near future. These include:

- Stem cell research
- Tissue engineering

50 trees felled illegally in Aravalis

Ipsita.Pati@timesofindia.com

Gurgaon: More than 50 trees spread across two acres in Kot village of the Aravalis were illegally felled on Sunday. Stems and branches of desi kikar, vilayati kikar, and kadam trees were found scattered in the forest.

The area, notified under the Punjab Land Preservation Act of 1900, prohibits any non-forestry activity. The action violates the order by National Green Tribunal (NGT) to maintain status quo in the Aravalis and threatens the Mangar Bani buffer zone, where construction is prohibited.

Suni Harsana, a wildlife researcher and environmentalist, told TOI that he saw the trees being chopped off inside the forest area that falls under the Mangar Bani buffer. "It seemed like they were clearing up the forested areas to get them registered as their property," he added. No damage report has been lodged under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986, so far.

Kot, a densely forested village, is prone to tree felling. Last year, more than 12 cases of tree felling were recorded in the area, which is located barely 300 kilometres from Mangar Bani sacred grove, an eco-sensitive zone.

Vinay Gupta

Kot village is prone to tree felling

In July 2021, more than 1,000 trees were felled within a span of a week.

Meanwhile, forest officials said they have increased surveillance in the area to ensure such incidents don't get repeated. "The ground staff visited the forest after they got to know that trees were being felled there. We will investigate the matter further and take appropriate action," Jhalkar Uyake, divisional forest officer, Faridabad, told TOI.

The status of all land in Kot is being checked via surveys the district administration and forest department are conducting. To pave the way for the restoration of huge tracts of land meant for common use — known as Shamlat Deh — in villages falling in the Aravalis, Supreme Court held in 2022 that all such land had to be utilised by the panchayat for the present and future needs of the villagers.

The order can have far-reaching benefits for the Aravali hills in Haryana, experts have observed.

₹5k fine if car breaks down on Noida e-way

Shafaque.Alam@timesofindia.com

Noida: Noida Expressway has been designated as a 'breakdown challan' stretch by police, which means the cops can issue challans and even impound vehicles that stop due to a snag and disrupt traffic flow.

The need for such a step, which could potentially also penalise people for unforeseen problems like a flat tyre, was felt because vehicle breakdowns on the speedway are frequent and triggers snarls because of the high volume of traffic on it. Nearly 5 lakh commuters take the expressway every day, which connects not just Noida, Greater Noida and Delhi but also Yamuna Expressway.

The fines, police said, will be issued under Section 207 of the Motor Vehicles Act, which deals with penalties for causing obstruction to free flow of traffic. These are stiff fines, ranging between Rs 5,000 and Rs 20,000. DCP (traffic) Lakhan Singh Yadav said a high volume of vehicles causes traffic to crawl on the expressway, especially during peak traffic hours, and breakdowns only worsen it. To address this recurring problem, he said, the expressway has been declared a "breakdown challan" stretch.

"It means that if a vehicle breaks down on the expressway, traffic police will not only tow the vehicle away but also issue fines, or seize it, if it doesn't have a fitness certificate or other permits," the DCP said. However, private car drivers don't yet have to worry. "For now, we are only focusing on commercial vehicles," the DCP added. Nearly 50 vehicles have already been fined or seized on the expressway in the first 10 days of this month.

While a car breakdown on the expressway in itself is not a traffic violation that would result in a challan, obstructing traffic is. If the vehicle is found to be without a valid fitness or registration certificate and pollution under control (PUC) certificate or is overloaded, these are also factors for which penalties can be issued, sources said. Vehicles must also comply with servicing requirements and adhere to emission norms set by the National Green Tribunal — the age cap for petrol-related vehicles is 15 years and for diesel-powered cars is 10 years.

"As a practice, traffic cops usually ask an owner or driver to provide these documents once a vehicle is towed away. Now, challans will be issued if all documents are not in place," the DCP said.

Currently, the traffic department has one hydraulic crane and two smaller ones for towing away vehicles from the expressway.

Juveniles rob man to fund birthday party

New Delhi: Two juveniles have been apprehended for allegedly robbing a man in southwest Delhi's Dabri to fund a birthday celebration at a luxury hotel.

On Feb 1, the suspects, aged 17 and 16, assaulted the victim while he was walking his dog, stole his mobile phone, and fled on a scooty. Along with two accomplices, they targeted the victim, attacked him, and took his phone after finding no cash. "Police reviewed CCTV footage from the area and tracked the suspects' movements, which eventually led to their apprehension on Feb 3," a senior police officer said.

During questioning, the juveniles admitted to the crime. "They intended to celebrate a friend's birthday at a luxury hotel," said DCP (Dwarka) Ankit Singh. TNN

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Suraksha gets Rera green light for seven Wish Town projects

Aditya.Dev@timesofindia.com

Noida: Suraksha Group has secured revalidation of UP-Rera registration for seven Jaypee Wish Town projects that it took over last year, marking a significant milestone that promises to expedite construction of flats and streamline home loan approvals for thousands of buyers.

The projects for which Suraksha received an approval included Jaypee Greens Klassic, Jaypee Greens Kosmos A and C, Jaypee Greens Kensington Boulevard, Kasa Isles, Krescent Homes, and Pebble Court. These projects involve 10,082 residential units, which are scheduled for phased delivery from Dec this year, according to the resolution plan.

The lack of valid Rera registration had earlier posed significant challenges for Jaypee homebuyers, hampering their ability to secure home loans or facilitate balance transfers.

"Many Jaypee homebuyers were struggling to secure home loans because of the absence of a valid Rera registration. This revalidation will now enable them to access financing more easily," said Jash Panchamia, the executive director of Suraksha Group.

Suraksha's takeover of JIL in the middle of 2024 brought relief to over 20,000 homebuyers who had been waiting for nearly a decade to take possession of their properties, despite having invested substantial amounts.

JIL's financial crisis had led to extensive construction delays, leaving flat buyers in a state of uncertainty. The company's insolvency proceedings started in Aug 2017, following an application by an IDBI Bank-led consortium.

On March 7, 2023, the National Company Law Tribunal (NCLT) approved Suraksha's bid to acquire the debt-ridden real estate firm — a decision later upheld by the National Company Law Appellate Tribunal (NCLAT) in May 2024.

When the resolution plan was approved, construction was going on in 62 towers of four projects affecting 9,321 homebuyers. Some of these structures had remained abandoned for up to eight years, compounding the buyers' financial and emotional distress.

With the Rera revalidation, Suraksha officials said they would prioritise reviving these stalled projects and ensure their timely completion.

उत्तराखण्ड पावर कॉरपोरेशन लि0
(उत्तराखण्ड सरकार का उपक्रम)
विद्युत द्वितीय कार्य मण्डल, हल्द्वानी (नैनीताल)

ई-निविदा सूचना

अधोहस्ताक्षरकर्ता द्वारा पत्र संख्या 646/वि0द्वि0का0म0 (ह0) दिनांक 07.01.2025 द्वारा आमन्त्रित एवं पत्र संख्या 698/वि0द्वि0का0म0 (ह0) दिनांक 27.01.2025 द्वारा विस्तारित निम्नलिखित ई-निविदाओं को अपरिहार्य कारणों से दिनांक 19.02.2025 अपरान्ह 1.00 बजे तक विस्तारित की जाती है उक्त निविदायें दिनांक 19.02.2025 को 12.30 बजे अपरान्ह तक ऑफलाइन जमा की जायेगी एवं दिनांक 19.02.2025 को ऑनलाईन 1.00 बजे अपरान्ह में खोली जायेगी। निविदा की अन्य नियम व शर्तें पूर्ववत् रहेंगी-

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INDIAN RAILWAYS

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MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS
(RAILWAY BOARD)

No. 2024/RS(E)/TM/2 — **New Delhi, Dated : 07.02.2025**

CORRIGENDUM No.-1

Sub.: E-open Global Tender No. 2024-TM-2 closing on 21.02.2025 for Design, Manufacture, Supply, Testing & Commissioning of 41 nos. of 'Ballast Regulating Machine (BRM)' along with Training of Indian Railway personnel and 3 years post warranty AMC.

1. The due date of closing of the subject tender has been changed from 21.02.2025 (Friday) to **22.04.2025 (Tuesday).**

2. All other terms and conditions of the tender shall remain the same.

Director, Railway Stores (F)
(Railway Board)

460/25 **SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE**

APPEAL FOR IDENTIFICATION

General public is hereby informed that this person (depicted in the photo) **Name:** Unknown, **S/o:** Unknown, **R/o:** Unknown, **Age:** About 40 Years, **Sex:** Male, **Height:** 5 feet 4 inch, **Face:** Round, **Built:** Thin, **Complexion:** Wheatish, **Wearing:** Brown Colour Jacket and Blue Jeans was found dead at H No. 1430 Jain Imporyam Gali Guliyan in front of Jama Masjid, Delhi on dated **01.02.2025** Under area of **P.S. Jama Masjid, Delhi.**

In this regard a **DD. No. 20A, dated 01.02.2025**, has been Lodged at **P.S. Jama Masjid, Delhi.**

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

Dead Body has been preserved in MAMC Mortuary, Delhi for 72 Hours. If any person having any information or clue about this person may kindly inform to the following.

SHO
P.S. Jama Masjid, Delhi.
Ph.: 91-11-23269777, 8750870422

DP/1556/CD/2025

SEARCH FOR MISSING/KIDNAPPED

RINKU

General Public is hereby informed that one Female (depicted in the photo) namely **RINKU D/o** Om Parkash, **R/o:** RZB-16, Street No.-25, Ambedkar Place, Baprola Vihar, Delhi, **Age**-33 Yrs, has been reported missing since 07.02.2025 at about 11.00 AM from her Residence, vide, **DD No. 58A, Dated 09.02.2025,** registered at **Police Station Ranhola, Outer Distt., Delhi-110041.** Her physical description is as under:

Sex: Female, **Height:** 5'6", **Complexion:** Wheatish, **Face:** Long, **Built:** Thin, **Wearing:** Red T-Shirt & Sky Blue Lower.

Sincere efforts have been made by local police to trace out the missing female but no clue has come to light so far. If anyone have any information about this missing female please inform to the following.

SHO,
Police Station Ranhola,
Outer Distt., Delhi-110041
Ph.: 7015780862

Website: https://cbi.nic.in
DP/1612/OD/2025

NORTHERN RAILWAY

OPEN E-TENDER NOTICE

No. 128-W/280/e Tender Notice/NIT/42/2024-25/W-3 — **Dated : - 07.02.2025**

The Sr. Divisional Engineer-III, Northern Railway, Delhi Division invites E-Tender for the following work.

1	Name of work	Replacement of Non Standard Diamond, Crossings in Delhi Yard including Design, Manufacturing, Supply of Special Non-Standard Diamond (Two obtuse and Two acute per diamond) in the section of SSE/P.way/DLI under ADEN/DLI.
2	Approx cost of work	₹ 15,83,37,727.80 (Rupees Fifteen Crore Eighty Three Lacs Thirty Seven Thousand Seven Hundred Twenty Seven and Eighty Paise Only)
3	Earnest Money to be Deposited	₹ 9,41,700/- (Rupees Nine Lacs Forty One Thousand Seven Hundred Only)
4	Cost of tender document	Rs. 0.00/-
5	Date & Time of submission of tender bid and opening of tender	28.02.2025 at 15:00 Hrs.
6	Website particulars where complete details of tender documents can be seen	www.ireps.gov.in

• The tenderers must be registered on the Indian Railway E-Procurement system (IREPS) site i.e. **www.ireps.gov.in** for participating in the e-tender system. • For all terms and conditions please refer tender document. • No manual offers are acceptable. • Cost of tender document and Earnest money will be acceptable through net banking or payment gateway only. **439/25**

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पत्र संख्या/अ-11417 कृ0वि0प0/2024-25 — दिनांक: 10.02.2024

E-TENDER NOTICE

Online e-tenders are invited for Integrated Web based sugar bag counter system to Semikhera, Bisalpur & Puranpur Cooperative Sugar Factories of U.P., as per details given in tender documents.The e-tender documents with detailed specifications terms and conditions etc. can be downloaded from e- tender portal **http://etender.up.nic.in** & federation website **www.upsugarfed.org**, time to time.

The Federation reserves the right to cancel any or all bids/annul e-bidding process without assigning any reason to & decision of Federation will be final & binding.

(KUMAR VINEET) MANAGING DIRECTOR

कार्यालय - अधीक्षण अभियन्ता
उत्तराखण्ड पावर कॉरपोरेशन लिमिटेड
विद्युत वितरण मण्डल, हल्द्वानी (नैनीताल)

निविदा संशोधन सूचना

इस कार्यालय द्वारा पूर्व में प्रकाशित निम्नलिखित निविदाओं को खोलने की तिथि दिनांक 18.02.2025 निर्धारित की गयी है। निविदा भाग-1 में वांछित निविदा धरोहर धनराशि त्रुटिवश गलत अंकित होने के उपरान्त संशोधित धरोहर धनराशि को निम्नानुसार पढ़ा जाय। अन्य सभी अपरिवर्तनीय रहेंगी।

क्रमांक	निविदा संख्या	त्रुटिवश धरोहर धनराशि	संशोधित धरोहर धनराशि
1	ईओडीसी (एच0) 85/2024-25	2,85,000.00	3,37,000.00
2	ईओडीसी (एच0) 87/2024-25	3,02,000.00	3,56,000.00
3	ईओडीसी (एच0) 88/2024-25	3,00,000.00	3,54,000.00
4	ईओडीसी (एच0) 90/2024-25	3,00,000.00	3,54,000.00
5	ईओडीसी (एच0) 93/2024-25	2,84,000.00	3,35,000.00

अधीक्षण अभियन्ता
विद्युत वितरण मण्डल, हल्द्वानी

''विद्युत बिलों के 24 x 7 ऑनलाईन भुगतान हेतु www.UPCL.org पर जायें''
Customer Toll Free No. 1912 ''गृहहित में विद्युत बचायें'' संख्या-490/वि0वि0म0(ह0)/ई-निविदा/2024-25 दिनांक: 10.02.2025

SEARCH FOR MISSING/KIDNAPPED

PREETI

General Public is hereby informed that one Female (depicted in the photo) namely **PREETI D/o** Nanak Singh, **R/o:** H.No. C-223, Street No.-5, Ph.-6, Shiv Vihar, Karawal Nagar, Delhi-94, **Age**-20 Yrs, has been reported missing since 02.02.2025 at about 2-3.00 AM from her Residence, vide, **DD No. 37A, Dated 04.02.2025,** registered at **Police Station Karawal Nagar, North-East Distt., Delhi-110094.** Her physical description is as under:

Sex: Female, **Height:** 5'0", **Complexion:** Wheatish, **Face:** Long, **Built:** Thin, **Wearing:** Purple Suit, White Salwar & Blue Jacket and Slipper on her feet.

Sincere efforts have been made by local police to trace out the missing female but no clue has come to light so far. If anyone have any information about this missing female please inform to the following.

SHO,
Police Station Karawal Nagar,
North-East Distt., Delhi-110094
Ph. 9205832616, 9582544291

Website: https://cbi.nic.in
DP/1520/NE/2025

DEDICATED FREIGHT CORRIDOR CORPORATION OF INDIA LIMITED
A Government of India (Ministry of Railways) Enterprise

NOTICE INVITING e-Tender

Tender No.: DFCC-JP-EL-REJN-KSGN-T-15 **Name of Work: OHE Work in connection with connectivity between New Rewari Junction (DFC) and Kumbhawas (IR) under DFCCIL, Jaipur Unit. Estimated Cost of Work:** Rs. 11,17,01,323.80/- (Rupees Eleven Crore Seventeen Lakh One Thousand Three Hundred Twenty-Three & Eighty Paise Only) Including GST. **Earnest Money:** Rs. 7,08,600/- (Rupees Seven Lakh Eight Thousand Six Hundred Only) to be paid online through payment gateway provided at www.ireps.gov.in. **Last date and time of online submission of Tender:** 15.00 hrs. on 17.03.2025. **Date and time of opening of tender:** 15.30 hrs. on 17.03.2025. Tender document can be downloaded from the website www.ireps.gov.in and https://dfccil.com. Other terms, conditions and information are available on above mentioned websites. Any further Addendum/ Corrigendum for this tender will be posted on above mentioned websites.

General Manager/Co-ordination
DFCCIL/Jaipur

APPEAL FOR IDENTIFICATION

General public is hereby informed that an unidentified male person (depicted in the photo) name **Unknown,** residence and family is **Unknown** age 30 years approx. was found dead at **Town Hall Road Footpath Chandni Chowk, Delhi on 19.01.2025 at 10.07 am.** In this regard a DD No. **22A** Dated **19.01.2025** has been lodged at **PS Kotwali, Delhi.**

His physical description is as under:-

Sex: Male, **Age:** 30 years approx., **Height:** 5' 7" ft., **Complexion:** Wheatish, **Wearing:** Black Colour Jacket, Red Colour Checkdar Shirt and Blue Colour Pant, Bare Footed.

Any person having any information or clue about the deceased may kindly inform to the undersigned on the following:-

SHO
PS: Kotwali, Delhi
Ph.: 011-23977100, 23953442
Mobile: 8750870121

DP/1459/N/2025

SOUTHERN POWER DISTRIBUTION COMPANY OF TELANGANA LIMITED

e-Procurement Tender Notice (Paper Notification)

TGSPDCL intends to float tender for procurement of (a) 33KV & 11KV Indoor Switchgear Unit (b) 3Cx70+16+50 Sq mm LT AB XLPE Cable on e-procurement platform.

For further details at each item above please visit **www.tgsouthernpower.org, www.tender.telangana.gov.in.**

Phone: 040-23431360, 1033, 1035, 1036

Sd/-
CHIEF ENGINEER (PSMM)

R.O.No.: 996-PP/CL-AGENCY/ADVT/1/2024-25, Date:10.02.2025

PSPCL Punjab State Power Corporation Limited

Regd. Office : PSEB Head Office, The Mall, Patiala-147001
CIN : U40109PB2010SGC033813 Website : www.pspcl.in
GVK Power (Goindwal Sahib) Limited
Regd. Office: Plot No. 10, Paigah Colony, Sardar Patel Road, Secunderabad-500003, Telangana, India CIN : U40109TG1997PLC028483
(A wholly owned subsidiary of Guru Amar Das Thermal Power Limited, GATPL)
(A step down wholly owned subsidiary of Punjab State Power Corporation Limited, PSPCL)

Dept-HOD, HR & Admin GATP, Goindwal Sahib, invites E-Tender for the work of :

1 **Tender Enquiry No. 012**/GATP/HRADMIN/50007162 dated 10/02/2025
"TENDER FOR GVKPGSL EMPLOYEES INSURANCE"
at 2X270 MW Guru Amardas Thermal Plant (GATP), Goindwal Sahib, Distt.: Tarn Taran, Punjab as per details given in the tender specifications."

For detailed NIT & tender specifications, please refer to **https://eproc.punjab.gov.in** from 10/02/2025 from 17:00 Hrs onwards.

Note : Corrigendum and addendum, if any, will be published online at https://eproc.punjab.gov.in

GATP-0425, DHR/Pb.-78155/12/0001/2024/1555

UTI Infrastructure Technology And Services Limited
(A Government of India Company)

UTIITSL invites online Bids through e-tender for selection of Bidders / Vendors / Agencies for Supply of Goods and Services to UTIITSL.

For details and bidding through e-tender portal, please log on to: https://etenders.gov.in/eprocure/app

- Civil work of Repairing of crack and external cement plaster work at the office premises of UTI Infrastructure Technology And Services Ltd., Plot No 3, Sector 11, CBD Belapur, Navi Mumbai 400 614.
- Supply, Installation, Testing and Commissioning of Split Air Conditioning Machines at Office premises of UTIITSL PAN India.

All in general are requested to visit website https://www.utiitsl.com and https://etenders.gov.in/eprocure/app regularly for details and free download of all the tender documents / RFP with terms and conditions.

(LAST DATE FOR SUBMISSION IS UPTO 3.00 PM ON 04/03/2025)

Kalyan Singh Super Speciality Cancer Institute
C.G. City, Sultanpur Road, Lucknow-226002
Website: https://cancerinstitute.edu.in, Email: procurement.kssscl@gmail.com

E-TENDER & GeM bid NOTICE

On-line offers are invited from Manufacturer/Authorized Importers/ Authorized distributors/Dealers (Declared by Principal Firm only) for the supply and installation of medical equipment & other capital items for various departments of the Institute such as **Desktop Computer, Multifunction Printer Machine (MFM), UPS, Scanner, ICU Ventilator, PCR Thermal Cycler, Western Blot Unit, Transportation Boxes for Blood Bags, Syringe Infusion Pump, Air Sampler, Multipara Monitor etc.** as per tender conditions, as stipulated in the tender documents. Tender documents duly filled will be submitted in two bid system i.e. technical bid and price bid.

For detailed information like name of equipment, date of submission and opening of tender, name of e portal etc., you may please visit the e-tender portal or GeM Portal. The above details will also be available on our website **https://cancerinstitute.edu.in** for reference only.

The Director reserves the right to accept or reject any tenders in part or full without assigning any reason thereof. In case any legal dispute, the legal jurisdiction shall be court of law at Lucknow (UP), India.

Advt No.- KSSSCI / PRO-21/2024-25 — **Director**

AHMEDABADMUNICIPAL TRANSPORT SERVICE
Outside Jamalpur gate,
Ahmedabad-380 022.

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL (RFP) FOR SELECTION OF BUS OPERATOR FOR PROCUREMENT, OPERATION, AND COMPREHENSIVE MAINTENANCE OF 225 BRT-COMPATIBLE MIDI AC FULLY BUILT ELECTRIC BUSES ON A GROSS COST CONTRACT (GCC) BASIS FOR AHMEDABAD MUNICIPAL TRANSPORT SERVICE (AMTS), INCLUDING FLEET MANAGEMENT, CHARGING INFRASTRUCTURE, AND ITS COMPLIANCE

Ahmedabad Municipal Transport Service (AMTS) invites proposals from duly qualified interested parties for Procurement, Operation and Maintenance of Operator owned 225 BRT-Compatible Midi AC Fully Built Electric Buses on a Gross Cost Contract (GCC) Basis for Ahmedabad Municipal Transport Service (AMTS), Including Fleet Management, Charging Infrastructure, and ITS Compliance for Ahmedabad City. Interested parties may download RFP from website www.amts.nprocure.com, and www.ahmedabadcity.gov.in from Dt. 10.02.2025 onwards. Pre-bid queries can be sent on or before Dt.17.02.2025 by 6:00 PM at the address provided in the RFP. Last date of online submission of price bids shall be before Dt. 03.03.2025 by 6:00 PM. Offline submission of RFP Fee, EMD and Technical bid shall be strictly before 04.03.2025 by 6:00 PM.

Date: 10/02/2025 — **PUBLISHED BY A.M.T.S.**

DELHI MILK SCHEME GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

Notice inviting REoI

Request for Expression of Interest (REoI) Notice No. A-12001/01/2025- 26/Proc/DMS, Phone No. 20838134/ 20838233)

General Manager, Delhi Milk Scheme, West Patel Nagar, New Delhi - 110008 for & on Behalf of President of India invites Request for Expression of Interest (REoI) for selection/ shortlisting of parties to finalize the contract agreement for supply of Raw (pasteurized) Milk (Cow/ Mixed),Raw (pasteurized) Cow Milk and Concentrated Skimmed Milk (CSM) from State Co-operative Dairy Federations and their Milk Unions and Milk Producers Companies doing the milk business (Procurement and Processing of milk) having valid FSSAI license on the rates, incentive which are applicable as per the milk procurement pricing policy of DMS from time to time on the agreement basis from **09.04.2025 to 08.04.2026** or till handing over of operation and management of DMS to any external agency/ closing of DMS activities by Deptt. of AH&D, whichever is earlier. **REoI forms containing detailed terms & conditions can be downloaded from Central Public Procurement Portal web/site i.e. http://eprocure.gov.in/eprocure/app from 11.02.2025 to 27.02.2025 upto 2:30 PM.** SDFs/ Milk Unions and Milk Producer Companies are exempted from deposition of EMD, however parities other than SDFs/ Milk Unions are required to submit "Bid Security Declaration form". Duly filled in EoI offers shall be accepted up to 2:30 PM on 27.02.2025 and will be opened next day at 2:30 PM on 28.02.2025. Please visit website **http://eprocure.gov.in/eprocure/app** or DAHD website i.e. **www.dahd.nic.in.**

JC (DD), DAHD
and GM & DGM (A) Delhi Milk Scheme

SEARCH FOR MISSING

Muskaan

General public is hereby informed that this girl (depicted in the photo) Namely: **Muskaan, D/o: Jaan Mohammed, R/o: CN-102, Takiya Kale Khan, Mirdard Road, Delhi** has been kidnapped from her residence on **07.01.2025.** In this regard a kidnapped report vide **FIR No.107/25 Dated 08.02.2025** has been lodged at **P.S IP Estate, Delhi.**

Her Physical description is as under:-

Sex: Female, **Age:** 15 Years, **Height:** 4'6", **Complexion:** Wheatish, **Wearing:** White colour suit & salwar and mehndi colored sandals.

Sincere efforts have been made by local police to trace out the missing girl but no clue has come to light so far. If anyone having any information about this person please inform to the following.

Phone No.: 011-24368638, 011-24368641 | Fax no.: 011-24368639
Email id : cic@cbi.nic.in | Website : http://cbi.nic.in

SHO
P.S –IP Estate, Delhi
Phone: 011-23274683/8750870426

DP/1550/CD/2025

SEARCH FOR MISSING

Huma khan

Arshi Khan

General public is hereby informed that a Female namely **Huma khan** W/o Mohammad Wasim, along with her girl child namely **Arshi Khan** D/o Mohammad Wasim R/o Pappu Pehalwan ka Makaan, Village Nangal, Thakran, Delhi has been missing since 01.02.2025 from the area of her house. In this regard **DD No. 45A Dated 03.01.2025 has been Lodged at P.S. Bawana, Delhi.** Sincere efforts have been made by the local police to trace out the missing Family, but no clue has come to light, so far. The description of the missing Family is as under:

Name: Huma khan, **Gender:** Female, **Age:** 24 years, **Height:** 5 "1", **Complexion:** Fair, **Built:** Medium, **Face:** Long, **Wearing:** Blue Color Burkha and hawai Slippers in feet.

Name: Arshi Khan, **Gender:** Girl, **Age:** 2 years, **Height:** 3 '0", **Complexion:** Fair, **Built:** Medium, **Face:** Long, **Wearing:** Grey Color Suit.

If anyone has any information regarding this missing Family, kindly inform SHO/ Bawana, Delhi.

E-mail : cic@cbi.gov.in
Ph.: 011-24368638, 24368641
Fax : 011-24368639
DP/1545/ON/2025

SHO
PS, Bawana, Delhi
Ph. no. 7014969221

SEARCH FOR MISSING

Prachi

Ragini

General public is hereby informed that a two Girls namely **Prachi** D/o Om Prakash R/o H. No. A-555, Rajiv Nagar, Bhalswa Dairy, Delhi, **Ragini** D/o Ram Prashad R/o A Block, Durga Chowk, Bhalswa Dairy has been missing since 22.12.24 at 02:00pm from the area of her house. In this regard **FIR No. 1025/24 Dated 22.12.24 U/s 137(2) BNS has been Lodged at P.S Bhalswa Dairy, Delhi.** Sincere efforts have been made by the local police to trace these missing Girls, but no clue has come to light, so far. The description of these missing Girls is as under:

Name: Prachi, **Gender:** Girl, **Age:** 15 years, **Height:** 4'10" ft, **Complexion:** Shallow, **Built:** Thin, **Face:** Long, **Wearing:** White Color Jacket Blue Color Jeans and Black Sandal in feet.

Name: Ragini, **Gender:** Girl, **Age:** 13 years, **Height:** 5'0" ft, **Complexion:** Shallow, **Built:** Medium, **Face:** Round, **Wearing:** Black Color Jacket, Red n Brown Shawl and Sky Blue Slippers in feet. If anyone has any information regarding these missing Girls, kindly inform SHO/ Bhalswa Dairy, Delhi.

E-mail : cic@cbi.gov.in
Ph.: 011-24368638, 24368641
Fax : 011-24368639
DP/1481/ON/2024

SHO
PS, Bhalswa Dairy, Delhi
Ph. no. 9868950491, 7065036328

SEARCH FOR MISSING

KAVITA

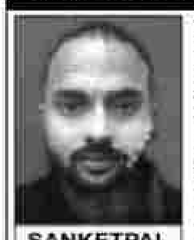
General Public is hereby informed that one Woman **Namely: Kavita** D/o Lal Singh, **R/o:** H. No. 236, Gali No. 07/1, B-Block, Sindhu Farm Road, Meethapur, Ext., Delhi, **Sex:** Female, **Age:** 25 Years, **Height:** 5', **Complexion:** Shallow, **Face:** Round, **Built:** Thin, **Wearing:** Brown colour Suit-Salwar and Black colour Jutti in feet has been missing from her house since 22.01.2025. In this regard **DD No. 60A, Dated: 30.01.2025,** has been registered at **P.S.: Jaitpur, Delhi.**

Sincere efforts have been made by local Police to trace out the missing woman but no clue has come to light so far. If anyone have any information about this the missing woman, please inform to the following.

E-mail: cic@cbi.gov.in
Website: http://cbi.nic.in
Fax: 011-24368639
Ph: 011-24368638, 24368641
DP/1509/SE/2025

SHO
P.S: Jaitpur, Delhi,
Ph. : 011-26666412, 8750871645

SEARCH FOR MISSING/KIDNAPPED



SANKETPAL

General public is hereby informed that this Person (depicted in the photo) namely **Sanketpal S/o Manojpal R/o G-8/21, 4" Floor, Sector-15, Rohini, Delhi** has been missing from residence since **02.02.2025 at 07:00 PM.** In this regard a vide DD No. **54-A, Dated 04.02.2025** has been registered at **PS K.N. Katzu Marg, Distt. Rohini, Delhi.** Sincere efforts have been made by local police to trace out this person but no clue has come to light so far. His physical description is as under:-

Sex: Male, **Age:** 26 years, **Height:** 5' 8" ft., **Complexion:** Shallow, **Face:** Round, **Built:** Normal, **Wearing:** Black colour T-Shirt, Brown Jacket & black colour Pant and wearing shoes in foot.

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

SHO
Website: http://cbi.nic.in — **PS: KN Katzu Marg, Rohini, Delhi**
E-mail: cic@cbi.gov.in — **Ph.: 011-27571171**
Tel. No.: 011-24368638/24368641 — **Mob. No: 8750870327**
Fax No.: 011-24368639 — **DP/1523/RD/2025**

KARNATAKA STATE MEDICAL SUPPLIES CORPORATION LIMITED
No.1, Dr. Siddaiah Puranik Road, KHB Colony, Magadi Road, Bengaluru - 560079.
Ph: +91 80 29619801 Email: md.ksmscl@gmail.com

No. KSMSCL/EQPT/HFW/FW/DPL/TND/21/2024-25 — **Date: 10.02.2025**

Tender Notification No.
(IND-0208)

Nationwide Tender is invited through e-Tendering system under KTPP Act 1999 and Rules 2000 for the following tender:

"TENDER FOR SUPPLY AND INSTALLATION OF DOUBLE PUNCHTURE LAPAROSCOPE UNDER FAMILY WELFARE PROGRAMME FOR THE YEAR 2024-25"

Details regarding EMD, Terms and Conditions and other information are available in the Tender Document, which can be downloaded from the website **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in** from 10.02.2025. The eligible tenderers shall submit their e-tenders under e-procurement platform for above mentioned tenders. Further information if any may be obtained from this office.

Sd/-
Managing Director
KSMSCL, Bengaluru

DIPR/CP/AAA/4948/2024-25

कर्मचारी राज्य बीमा निगम अस्पताल कोटा
E.S.I.C. HOSPITAL KOTA
(श्रम एवं रोजगार मंत्रालय, भारत सरकार)
कालनपाड़ रोड, कोटा-324005 | दूरभाष सं. : 0744-2427946 | ई-मेल : ms-kota.rj@esic.nic.in

623/ESICH/Kota/ARMSR/Works — Date : 08.02.2025

TENDER INVITING NOTICE

Medical Superintendent, ESIC Hospital, Kota, Rajasthan invites E-Tender from eligible Central/State/Public Sector Undertaking (PSU)/Autonomous Bodies for Annual Repair, Maintenance & Operation (ARMO) of ESIC Hospital Kota with staff quarters including services, operation/maintenance of equipment's and plants along with provision of Special Repair (SR) Work of same on as and when need basis at **Jhalawar Road Kota, Rajasthan** on deposit mode of works execution basis for one year. Last date and time for submission of E-Tender is **17.02.2025 & 10:00 AM** respectively.

For more information visit the website **www.esic.nic.in** and **https://eprocuru.gov.in/eprocure/app (Tender ID:2025_ESIC_844088_2, e-Published Date: 31-Jan-2025).**

Medical Superintendent

Rajasthan State Mines & Minerals Limited
(A Government of Rajasthan Enterprise), 4, Meera Marg, Udaipur - 313001 Phone: (0294)2421777/ 2411715-20, Fax: (0294)2411724, Email: [illegible]

Detailed Notice Inviting Tender — Date - 10/02/2025

NIT No. & Date	Description of Work
e-Tender no. Cont- 23/2024-25 dated 06.02.2025 UBN No. RML2425WLOB00201	Production of Low Silica Limestone Grit by Deployment of Machines, Equipment, Crushing & Screening Plant & Other Services, Through Cooperative Societies At Sanu Limestone Mine No.- 1 (ML no. 27/1996), Distt. Jaisalmer. Contract value Rs. 2812.00 Lac, EMD in Rs. 56.25 Lac, Tender Fees Rs. 4720/-

Other terms & conditions have been given in detailed tender for which please visit us at our website **www.rsmm.com** or **www.sppp.rajasthan.gov.in** or **eproc.rajasthan.gov.in** or Sr. Manager (Contract) on above address.

Raj.Samwad/C/24/11417 — **Dy. General Manager (P&A)**

The West Bengal Power Development Corporation Limited
(A Govt. of West Bengal Enterprise)
Corporate Identity No. U40104WB1985SGC039154
Registered & Corporate Office : Bidyut Unnayan Bhaban
Plot No.: 3/C, LA - Block, Sector- III, Bidhannagar, Kol-700106

NOTICE For e-AUCTION

Ref. No. : WBPDCL / Tend-Adv/24-25/CORP /CC - 3122 — **Dated: 07.02.2025**
Tender Cum Forward eAuction No: WBPDCL /CORP/NIT/E1994/24-25 — **Dated : 07.02.2025**

Tender-cum-forward e-Auction for Sale of 57,000 MT Dry Fly Ash per Month from STPS, WBPDCL shall be held on **25.02.2025 at 12.00 PM**. Last date of Bid submission : **21.02.2025 at 12:00 hrs**. Tender document published at **wbtenders.gov.in Contact Person:** Ipsita Chaudhuri, Senior Manager, M&C, Corporate Office, WBPDCL, **Contact:** 9830616477, **E-mail :** ichaudhuri@wbpdcl.co.in

ICA- T2878(3)/2025

उत्तराखण्ड पावर कारपोरेशन लि0
(उत्तराखण्ड सरकार का उपक्रम)
कार्यालय अधीक्षण अभियन्ता, विद्युत वितरण मण्डल, श्रीनगर (गढ़वाल) दूरभाष: 01346-222137
Email: [illegible]

ई-निविदा आमंत्रण सूचना — दिनांक: 10.02.2025

अधोहस्ताक्षरकर्ता द्वारा विद्युत वितरण मण्डल, श्रीनगर के अन्तर्गत निम्न ई-निविदायें आमंत्रित की जाती हैं:-
1. ई-निविदा संख्या-69/विविधमी/2024-25
2. ई-निविदा संख्या-70/विविधमी/2024-25
3. ई-निविदा संख्या-71/विविधमी/2024-25

आवेदक निविदाओं की और अधिक जानकारी हेतु **www.uktenders.gov.in** पर देखें।
पत्रांक: 329/विविधमी0/टी-9 — अधीक्षण अभियन्ता

(राष्ट्र हित में बिजली बचायें) टोल फ्री नं0 1800 419 0405 — विद्युत चोरी की सूचना हेतु सतर्कता अधिकारी से फोन 0135-2760911 एवं मोबाइल +91-8958811999 पर व्हाट्सएप्प द्वारा रिपोर्ट करें।

हरियाणा रेल अवसंरचना विकास निगम लिमिटेड
(हरियाणा सरकार और रेल मंत्रालय का संयुक्त उपक्रम)
Haryana Rail Infrastructure Development Corporation Ltd.
A Joint Venture of Government of Haryana & Ministry of Railways

Tender No.: HORC/HRIDC/Rail-01/2025 — Date: 10.02.2025

E-Tenders are invited by HRIDC for execution of the following work: -

Name of Work: RAIL-01: Manufacture and supply of 60 kg (60E1) rails of R260 and R350 HT Grade in connection with Haryana Orbital Rail Corridor (HORC) Project.

Tender Security: INR 5,000,000.00 Only.
Date of closing of e-tender: 25.03.2025 at 15:00 Hrs IST.
Date of opening of e-tender: 25.03.2025 at 15:30 Hrs IST.
Period of completion: 14 Months.

Website particulars: **http://etenders.hry.nic.in** and **http://hridc.co.in**

No manual tender will be accepted against e-tendering. **GM/IP&IT/ HRIDC/Gurugram**

SEARCH FOR MISSING/KIDNAPPED

Mithila

General Public is hereby informed that one Female (depicted in the photo) namely **Mithila W/o** Unknown, **R/o:** Apna Ghar Ashram, Village-Budhpur, Alipur, Delhi, **Age**-26 Yrs, has been reported missing since 01.02.2025 at 9.00 AM from Apna Ghar Ashram, Village-Budhpur, Alipur, Delhi, vide, **DD No. 45A, Dated 01.02.2025,** registered at **Police Station Alipur, Outer-North Distt., Delhi-110036.** Her physical description is as under:

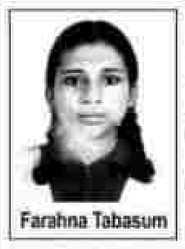
Sex: Female, **Height:** 5'0", **Complexion:** Shallow, **Face:** Long, **Built:** Thin, **Status:** Mentally Disturbed, **Wearing:** Light Blue Kurta & Pajama and Shoes on her feet.

Sincere efforts have been made by local police to trace out the missing female but no clue has come to light so far. If anyone have any information about this missing female please inform to the following.

SHO,
Police Station Alipur,
Outer-North Distt., Delhi-110036
Ph. 8447877373, 7065036325

Website: https://cbi.nic.in
DP/1552/ON/2025

SEARCH FOR MISSING



Farahna Tabasum

General public is hereby informed that one girl (depicted in the photo) Namely: **Farahna Tabasum, D/o: Md. Kalim, R/o: H.No. N-86/104, T-huts, Lawrence Road, Industrial Area, Delhi - 35** has been Missing from her home since **03.02.2025 at 9.00 P.M.** In this regard a missing report case vide **FIR No.92/2025 U/S 137(2) BNS dated 05.02.2025** has been registered at **P.S Keshavpuram, Delhi.**

Her Physical description is as under:-

Sex: Female, **Age:** 14 Years, **Height:** 5'3, **Complexion:** Wheatish, **Built:** Normal, **Face:** Oval, **Wearing:** White color suit, black lower and red slippers.

Sincere efforts have been made by local police to trace out the missing girl but no clue has come to light so far. If anyone having any information about this person please inform to the following.

Phone No.: 011-24368638, 011-24368641 | Fax no.: 011-24368639
Email id : cic@cbi.nic.in | Website : http://cbi.nic.in

SHO
P.S – Keshavpuram, Delhi
Phone: 9540519206

DP/1534/NW/2025

TIMES NATION

THE TIMES OF INDIA, NEW DELHI | TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 2025

JMM CHIEF SHIBU SOREN FLIES TO DELHI HOSPITAL AFTER COMPLAINING OF BREATHLESSNESS; STABLE

DELHI HC GRANTS BARAMULLA MP RASHID ENGINEER 2-DAY PAROLE ON FEB 11 & 13 TO ATTEND PARLIAMENT

Shape of them: Spotted in Bengal, Ed Sheeran riding Arijit's scooter

About 220km from Kolkata, pop icon Ed Sheeran had a much smoother scooter and boat ride in Murshidabad's Jiaganj on Monday than the rocky reception he got from cops in Bengaluru the day before, reports **Sukumar Mahato**. Keeping him company all along was "good friend" Arijit Singh.

Sheeran and Singh hit it off last Sept when the celebrated Indian singer was in London for his concert, with the duo belting out each other's hits on stage. Now on a tour of India, the British singer took time out to pay his friend a visit in his hometown in north Bengal Monday. The two spent close to five hours together, vrooming down Jiaganj's dusty roads — from the bustling Phulmore to the relatively deserted banks of the Bhagirathi — on Singh's two-wheeler, with Sheeran riding pillion. At Shibtala ghat, they got on a mechanised boat for an hour-long ride on the Bhagirathi.

Ed Sheeran and Arijit Singh spent close to 5 hours together Monday

Murshidabad SP Surya Kumar Yadav said, "We are aware Ed Sheeran is in Jiaganj. Arijit specifically told us they did not need personal security but requested us to look into the law-and-order aspect in view of Sheeran's celebrity status. We have ensured it."

251 out of 543 LS MPs face criminal cases, including 19 of 20 Kerala MPs

4,732 Criminal Cases Pending Against Sitting/Ex-Legislators

Dhananjay.Mahapatra
@timesofindia.com

New Delhi: Data on criminalisation of politics presented to Supreme Court on Monday showed that of the 543 Lok Sabha MPs, as many as 251 face criminal cases, and of them, 170 are charged with offenses that are punishable with an imprisonment of five or more years.

Collating the data from various high courts, amicus curiae and senior advocate Vijay Hansaria submitted a 83-page report to a bench of Justices Dipankar Datta and Manmohan. It stated that 19 out of 20 MPs (95%) from Kerala faced criminal charges, and 11 of them faced serious cases.

Of the 17 MPs from Telangana, 14 faced criminal charges (82%), Odisha 76% (16 of 21), Jharkhand 71% (10 of 14), Tamil Nadu 67% (26 of 39), around 50% of MPs from other major states — Uttar Pradesh, Maharashtra, West Bengal, Bihar, Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh — faced criminal cases.

Haryana (10 MPs) and Chhattisgarh (11 MPs) have just one MP each facing criminal charges, Punjab 2 out of 13, Assam 3 out of 14, Delhi 3 out of 7, Rajasthan 4 out of 25, Gujarat 5 out of 25, and Madhya Pradesh 9 out of 29 MPs faced criminal charges.

Hansaria told the court that though SC had in 2023 directed the jurisdictional HCs to set up a bench to monitor the progress of trial in criminal cases pending against sitting/former legislators, there were many states which are yet to set up designated courts for this purpose and because of which, in some states, trial in such cases is pending for more than two decades.

SC was told that though the court had in 2023 directed jurisdictional HCs to set up a bench to monitor the progress of trial in criminal cases against legislators, many states were yet to designate courts

He said as of Jan 1, as many as 4,732 criminal cases are pending trial against accused persons who are either sitting or former legislators. Uttar Pradesh topped the list with 1,171 such cases pending. Other states having large pendency of such cases are Odisha 457, Bihar 448, Maharashtra 442, Madhya Pradesh 326, Kerala 315, Telangana 313, Karnataka 255, Tamil Nadu 220, Jharkhand 133 and Delhi 124.

Out of the 4,732 criminal cases, 863 have been registered against sitting or former legislators for violation of prohibitory orders put in place under Section 144 of Crpc, a phenomenon peculiar to Himachal Pradesh (307 cases), Bihar (175), Telangana (112) and Maharashtra (96). Delhi has registered just four such cases.

When Hansaria complained of liberal adjournment, non-appearance of accused and additional judicial work being given to the designated courts for conducting trials of cases against sitting and former MPs, Justices Datta and Manmohan said since the order was passed by a three-judge bench, it would be better if a bench of same strength dealt with the issue. It referred the matter to the CJI for constituting an appropriate bench.

Punjab cops nab trio over Feb 3 'blast' at outpost, seize AK-47

Amritsar: Punjab Police arrested three men allegedly responsible for an explosion near Fatehgarh Churian police outpost on Feb 3. Two of them received bullet injuries during a failed attempt to flee police custody.

Amritsar's police commissioner Gurpreet Singh Bhullar on Monday said accused Lovepreet Singh 'Labha', Karandeep Singh 'Karan', and Buta Singh are from Ajnala and Rajasansi near Amritsar: "During interrogation, they admitted to have been involved in the attack. They used a wrapped material that, upon impact, produced a loud noise, causing panic."

Police said one Harpreet Singh 'Happy Pashian' provided funding and automatic weapons to the trio through local contacts. Bhullar claimed Buta was in direct contact with Pashian, and through him, Labha and Karan also connected with the 'kingpin'.

Based on their inputs, police recovered an AK-47 rifle, a pistol and ammunition from Ajnala and Rajasansi. TNN

YouTuber triggers outrage with remarks on show; FIR filed

Times News Network

Mumbai: Content creator **Ranveer Allahbadia**, known online as BeerBiceps, has drawn significant backlash and potential legal consequences for inappropriate comments made during his appearance on 'India's Got Latent' show. The row emerged when he directed an unsuitable question with sexual connotation about parents to a participant.

A case has been registered against Allahbadia and four others in Assam. In Mumbai, the Khar police is examining a written complaint. DCP (Zone IX) Dikshit Gedam confirmed that a probe is on. Cops who visited the show's recording location at Habitat building, Khar, found it empty as the shooting had concluded.

CM Devendra Fadnavis said, "Everyone has freedom of speech, but our freedom ends when we encroach upon the freedom of others. In our society, we've made some rules, and if someone violates them, it is absolutely wrong. Action should be taken."

Following outcry, Allahbadia posted an apology on X, "My comment wasn't just inappropriate, it wasn't even funny. Comedy isn't my forte. I am just going to say sorry."

Crack down on OTT platforms' content, NCW urges Centre

National Commission for Women Monday sought that Centre take immediate regulatory measures and issue strict guidelines which prevent OTT platforms from streaming or allowing users to upload inappropriate or obscene content. In a letter to I&B minister Ashwini Vaishnaw, NCW chief Vijaya Rahatkar said authorities must enforce stringent censorship and content moderation systems to protect public from exposure to harmful material. TNN

Insult-to-religion case: Allahabad HC stays arrest of schoolteacher

Prayagraj: Allahabad high court has stayed the arrest of a schoolteacher accused of attending a meeting where the speaker allegedly incited the attendees to disrespect Hindu religious symbols and desecrate temples by striking them with footwear, reports **Rajesh Kumar Pandey**.

The division bench of Justices Mahesh Chandra Tripathi and Prashant Kumar directed the state govt to file a counter affidavit within six weeks in response to petitioner Bhisham Pal Singh's plea to quash the FIR against him. The interim order issued on Feb 7 restrains police from arresting the petitioner till the next hearing or submission of the investigation report.

The petitioner was booked under Section 299 (deliberate and malicious acts intended to outrage religious feelings of any class by insulting its religion or religious beliefs) of BNS. The petitioner argued that he was present at the meeting but did not participate in any unlawful activities.

Ratan Tata known figure, must protect his trademark: HC

Abhinav.Garg
@timesofindia.com

New Delhi: Acknowledging that **Ratan Tata** is a well-known figure whose trademark deserves protection, Delhi high court has restrained a third party from unauthorised use of the late industrialist's name.

Dealing with a suit filed by the Tata Group and Sir Ratan Tata Trust, HC observed last week it is "manifest that the name of Late Shri Ratan Tata is a well-known personal name/mark, which needs to be protected from any unauthorised use by any third party", and restrained a journalist from using the name "Ratan Tata National Icon Award" or using "Tata" and "Tata Trusts" trademarks for an event organised by him.

Justice Mini Pushkarna passed the order after one Rajat Srivastava, founder of an outlet called Delhi Today Group, agreed not to use Ratan Tata's name and refrain from proceeding with the event in the same name.

HC pointed out that Srivastava's actions clearly show he intentionally put up posts which wrongly claim association with the plaintiff and misuse his name by unauthorisedly using the plaintiffs' registered marks. In its prima facie observations, HC said Srivastava's actions are in bad faith and "egregious infringement of plaintiffs' statutory and legal rights, in order to have a free ride on the tremendous goodwill of the plaintiffs and that of the late Ratan Tata, with a view to benefitting from and gaining publicity out of the late Tata's distinct and widely regarded personality and public persona".

In the suit, the company and trust have also sought damages of over Rs 2 crore for causing harm to their reputation and goodwill.

7 rocket shells found in garbage heap near Punjab school

Police have sought Army's help for additional details and expertise

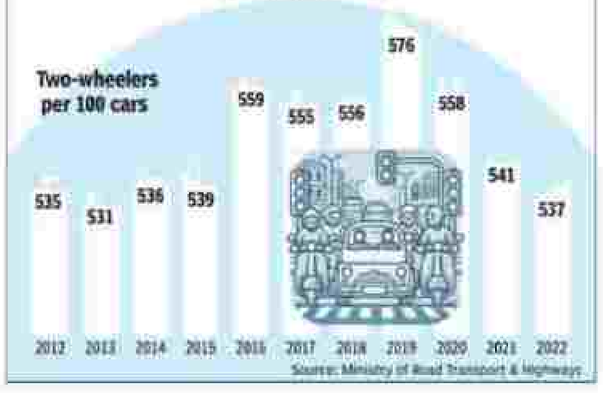
Patiala: The discovery Monday of seven rocket shells in a bag in a garbage heap near a school in Punjab's Patiala district is being investigated by police, reports **Bharat Khanna**.

Police initially claimed these were non-working rocket launchers. After investigations, police said the "unidentified objects" were probably dumped there by a scrap dealer. However, further investigation is being conducted to check the origin of these devices. Police have sought Army's help for additional details and expertise.

STATISTICS A slice of life in numbers — By Sayan Ghosh

For every car on Indian roads, there are 5 two-wheelers

Two-wheelers are kings of the road: there are over 500 of them for every 100 four-wheelers in India, though the ratio has narrowed since 2019. Between 2012 and 2022, yearly two-wheeler sales more than doubled, but so did four-wheeler sales



Class 12 kids arrive at farewell in convoy of 30 luxury cars; probe on

Times News Network

Surat: A group of 35 class 12 students from a reputed Surat-based school drove straight into the clutches of the law for allegedly performing stunts and bursting firecrackers on their way to the institute's farewell function in a convoy of 35 high-end cars on Dandi road.

After the Feb 7 reel of the convoy — set to the song of Bollywood film 'Animal' — went viral on social media, police on Monday began proceedings against the students and their parents for multiple violations of traffic rules and seized 12 of the 35 cars that could be identified from the video.

Cops have initiated action against the students and their parents and seized 12 cars that can be identified

Dressed in blazers to celebrate their last day of school, the students set off in luxury vehicles, capturing videos of their drive using drones and cameras. The video triggered widespread outrage, with citizens questioning lack of police action against the students engaging in dangerous stunts.

"We have reviewed the footage and identified multiple violations. The law will take its course, and necessary action will be taken against those responsible," DCP Amita Vanani said. Following the DCP's statement, Pal Police — under whose jurisdiction the school is — visited the institution to obtain the details of the students and their parents.

School founder Vardan Kabra told **TOI** they do not endorse such activities. "We cooperated with police and provided necessary details. We had advised students and parents against arriving in personal vehicles. No cars were allowed in the school."

DIRECTORATE OF INCOME TAX
(PUBLIC RELATIONS, PUBLICATION & PUBLICITY)
6th Floor, Mayur Bhawan, Connaught Circus, New Delhi - 110001

Corrigendum

Kind reference to the advertisement published regarding campaign on "Highlights of Budget 2025-26" on 10th February, 2025 bearing no CBC/15401/13/0018/2425. It is hereby notified that the point "National Savings Scheme (NSS) withdrawals are tax-free for deposits made on or after the 29th Aug. 2024" may be read as "National Saving Scheme (NSS) withdrawals on or after 29th Aug. 2024 are tax free".

CBC 15401/11/0019/2425

EXTRACT OF THE UN-AUDITED STANDALONE AND CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL RESULTS FOR THE QUARTER AND NINE MONTHS ENDED 31st DECEMBER 2024

(₹ in Lakhs)

Sl. No.	Particulars	STANDALONE						CONSOLIDATED					
		QUARTER ENDED			NINE MONTHS ENDED		YEAR ENDED	QUARTER ENDED			NINE MONTHS ENDED		YEAR ENDED
		31-Dec-24	30-Sep-24	31-Dec-23	31-Dec-24	31-Dec-23	31-Mar-24	31-Dec-24	30-Sep-24	31-Dec-23	31-Dec-24	31-Dec-23	31-Mar-24
		(Unaudited)	(Unaudited)	(Unaudited)	(Unaudited)	(Unaudited)	(Audited)	(Unaudited)	(Unaudited)	(Unaudited)	(Unaudited)	(Unaudited)	(Audited)
1	Revenue from operations	75,016.17	67,643.30	85,632.77	2,03,721.84	2,44,189.05	3,23,216.50	76,458.77	68,894.26	86,763.86	2,07,735.81	2,47,572.03	3,28,085.65
2	Other Income	3,704.60	5,294.86	2,923.69	12,769.06	16,847.90	22,459.96	3,807.37	4,696.49	3,050.02	12,390.57	16,802.35	21,916.45
3	Total Income	78,720.77	72,938.16	88,556.46	2,16,490.90	2,61,036.95	3,45,676.46	80,266.14	73,590.75	89,813.88	2,20,126.38	2,64,374.38	3,50,002.30
4	Net Profit for the period (before tax, Exceptional and/or Extraordinary items)	11,613.46	9,996.96	6,808.64	29,174.43	35,396.43	47,040.72	12,582.73	9,907.54	7,143.88	30,416.47	36,111.29	47,818.35
5	Net Profit for the period before tax (after Exceptional and/or Extraordinary items)	11,613.46	9,996.96	6,808.64	29,174.43	35,396.43	47,040.72	12,582.73	9,907.54	7,143.88	30,416.47	36,111.29	47,818.35
6	Net Profit for the period after tax (after Exceptional and/or Extraordinary items)	8,810.38	7,912.14	5,022.48	22,200.37	26,605.20	35,699.06	9,375.66	7,689.81	5,274.32	22,959.72	27,055.33	36,016.13
7	Share of Profit/(Loss) in Joint Venture Entities/ Associates	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,497.56	2,273.39	1,060.57	7,036.41	5,917.97	8,509.65
8	Profit for the period	8,810.38	7,912.14	5,022.48	22,200.37	26,605.20	35,699.06	10,873.22	9,963.20	6,334.89	29,996.13	32,973.30	44,525.78
9	Total comprehensive income for the period [Comprising Profit/(Loss) for the period (after tax) and Other Comprehensive income (after tax)]	8,381.20	7,430.76	4,520.98	20,928.74	25,175.98	37,423.11	10,420.50	9,478.28	5,834.82	28,713.87	31,548.36	46,240.76
10	Paid-up equity share capital (Face Value of ₹ 5/-)	28,102.13	28,102.13	28,102.13	28,102.13	28,102.13	28,102.13	28,102.13	28,102.13	28,102.13	28,102.13	28,102.13	28,102.13
11	Other Equity						2,03,025.76						1,97,429.25
12	Earning Per Share (EPS) (₹ per share of ₹ 5/- each)												
	i) Basic & diluted EPS before Extraordinary items in ₹	1.57	1.41	0.89	3.95	4.73	6.35	1.94	1.77	1.13	5.34	5.87	7.92
	ii) Basic & diluted EPS after Extraordinary items in ₹	1.57	1.41	0.89	3.95	4.73	6.35	1.94	1.77	1.13	5.34	5.87	7.92

NOTES:

1) Presently there is no Independent Director on the Board of the Company. The Company has reconstituted the Audit Committee comprising of 3 wholetime Directors. However, as per Corporate Governance norms presence of requisite number of Independent Directors is required to form the quorum. In the absence of same, Standalone/ Consolidated Financial Results for the quarter and nine months ended 31st Decemeber, 2024 were reviewed and approved by the Board of Directors in their meeting held on 10th February 2025.
2) The Auditors of the Company have carried out "Limited Review" of the above financial results for the quarter and nine months ended 31st December, 2024.
3) These financial results have been prepared in accordance with Indian Accounting Standards (Ind AS) as prescribed under section 133 of the Companies Act, 2013 read with Rule 3 of the Companies (Indian Accounting Standards) Rules, 2015 and relevant amendment rules thereafter.
4) The above is an extract of the detailed format of Quarterly Financial Results filed with the Stock Exchanges under Regulations 33 of the SEBI (Listing and Other Disclosures Requirements) Regulations, 2015. The full format of the Financial Results is available on the Stock Exchange Websites: **www.bseindia.com** and **www.nseindia.com**. The same is also available on the Company Website **www.engineersindia.com**.

Place : New Delhi
Dated : 10th February, 2025

By Order of the Board
For **Engineers India Limited**
Sd/-
(Sanjay Jindal)
Director (Finance) & Whole-time Director
DIN: 09223617

ENGINEERS INDIA LIMITED
A Navratna company
Delivering Excellence through People

Regd. Office: Engineers India Bhavan, 1, Bhikaiji Cama Place, New Delhi-110066
Telephone: 011- 26762121 I Fax: 011- 26178210 I E-mail: eil.mktg@eil.co.in
Website: www.engineersindia.com I CIN: L74899DL1965GOI004352

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/company/engineers-india-limited

Scan QR Code to read Detailed Financial Results

Modi lands in Paris ahead of AI summit

Will Open India's First Consulate In Marseille, Head To US Tomorrow

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi: PM Narendra Modi landed in France late on Monday for a two-day visit during which he will co-chair an action summit on AI with French President Emmanuel Macron and hold a bilateral meeting with him to deepen strategic partnership between the two countries.

Shortly after his arrival, Modi attended Macron's welcome dinner for leaders participating in the summit, including German Chancellor Olaf Scholz, Canadian PM Justin Trudeau, European Commission President Ursula von der Leyen and US Vice President JD Vance. From France, Modi will travel to Washington on Wednesday for a two-day visit to the US.

Ahead of his departure, Modi said the summit in France will explore a collaborative approach to AI for innovation and larger public good in an inclusive, secure and trustworthy manner.

On his bilateral meeting with President Donald Trump, Modi said he will look to deepen ties between the two countries in technology, trade, defence, energy and supply chain resilience. He said both will work for "mutual benefit of people of our two countries and shape a better future for the world".

"I look forward to meeting my friend, President Trump. This will be our first meeting following his historic electoral victory and inauguration in Jan. I have a warm recollection of working together in his first term in building a Comprehensive Global Strategic Partnership between India and the US," said Modi.

PM Modi being welcomed on his arrival in Paris on Monday

"This visit will be an opportunity to build upon the successes of our collaboration in his first term and develop an agenda to further elevate and deepen our partnership," he added.

On his engagement with Macron, Modi said it will provide an opportunity to review the progress on 2047 Horizon Roadmap for India-France strategic partnership along with Macron.

"We will also travel to the historic French city of Marseille to inaugurate the first Indian Consulate in France and also visit International Thermonuclear Experimental Reactor project, in which India is a member of the consortium of partner countries including France, to harness energy for the global good," said Modi, adding he will also pay tribute to Indian soldiers who laid down their lives during World Wars I and II at Mazargues War Cemetery.

India-France strategic ties to get major boost with Rafale & Scorpene deals

Rajat.Pandit@timesofindia.com

New Delhi: India's expansive strategic partnership with France is set to get a further boost with two mega deals being virtually finalised for direct acquisition of 26 Rafale-Marine fighters, as well as the construction of three additional Scorpene submarines, which will collectively be worth almost Rs 1 lakh crore (Euro 10.6 billion).

As PM Narendra Modi left for Paris on Monday, govt sources told **TOI** that the Rs 63,000 crore deal for 22 single-seat Rafale-M jets and four twin-seat trainers for Navy is now with the cabinet committee for security (CCS), awaiting the final nod.

The Rs 33,500 crore deal for 3 additional diesel-electric Scorpene submarines, to be constructed by Mazagon Docks (MDL) in collaboration with French Naval Group, in turn, will soon head for CCS after inter-ministerial consultations. "CCS will take up the Rafale-M deal after the PM returns from France-US trip. The cost negotiations for Scorpenes took a little longer because MDL had originally quoted a high price. The aim is to ink both deals before this fiscal ends on March 31," a source said.

SOARING HIGHER

The two countries are also discussing a possible collaboration between French major Safran, which already makes helicopter engines in India, and DRDO to co-develop the 110 kilonewton jet engine for the Indian fifth-generation stealth fighter project, AMCA (advanced medium combat aircraft). But that is in the future. The impending govt-to-govt Rafale-M deal includes weapons, simulators, crew training and five-year performance-based logistics support as well as spares for the 36 Rafales already inducted by IAF under the Rs 59,000 crore contract in Sept 2016.

The 26 Rafale-M jets manufactured by Dassault Aviation, with "specific enhancements" to operate from the deck of indigenous aircraft carrier INS Vikrant, will be delivered in 37 to 65 months after inking of the contract. "The new inter-governmental agreement mirrors the one inked in the IAF deal. All jets are to be delivered by 2030-31," a source said.

The first of the three additional Scorpenes, in turn, will roll out of MDL in six years, followed by the other two at intervals of a year each, after the contract is inked. The deal's cost does not yet include the price of fitting them with the fuel cell-based air-independent propulsion (AIP) developed by DRDO for greater underwater endurance.

The three new Scorpenes will have "some design modifications and improvements" over the first six such Kalvari-class vessels constructed at MDL for over Rs 23,000 crore. The plan is to fit them with the indigenous AIP, while the first six operational Scorpenes will progressively get it when they come for their scheduled refits.

Amid Trump's threats, India backs Chabahar port in Iran

New Delhi: As the Trump administration threatens to roll back the sanction waiver that allowed India to develop the strategic Chabahar port in Iran, New Delhi Monday strongly backed the port saying it has provided a much-needed alternative route to Afghanistan for its reconstruction and economic development, while boosting trade linkages with Central Asia, reports **Sachin Parashar**.

The remarks by a senior official in ministry of external affairs (MEA) follow the US restoration last week of its "maximum pressure" campaign on Iran to deny it all paths to a nuclear weapon and counter its "malign influence" abroad. It saw US President Donald Trump signing a memorandum that calls upon Secretary of State to modify or rescind sanction waivers, particularly those that provide Iran "any degree of economic or financial relief, including those related to Iran's Chabahar port project".

The remarks, at an event to mark the 46th anniversary of Islamic Revolution of Iran, came days before PM Modi's bilateral meeting with Trump in Washington Thursday.

"Regional connectivity has been an important pillar of India, Iran ties. Development of Chabahar port in southeastern Iran reflects our joint vision for connectivity for mutual benefits," said MEA secretary (east) Jaideep Mazumdar, while describing signing of the long-term contract for development of Chabahar port in May last year as a "significant milestone in India-Iran ties". "The port has emerged as the connecting point for the region in delivering deliver humanitarian assistance, especially during Covid," added the official.

Miraj's sitars find a home abroad but face an uncertain future

Priya Kothari | TNN

The sitars of Miraj still sing. They resonate with the same depth of sound that once captivated the world through Pandit Ravi Shankar's fingers, enchanted by Vilayat Khan's mastery, and found an unexpected champion in George Harrison's "Norwegian Wood"...

For now, the chisels still strike, the polish still gleams, and the strings still hum. But how much longer?

The artisans of this small city in Maharashtra's Sangli district have breathed life into the sitar for 300 years. Today, these same hands, calloused by generations of craftsmanship, struggle to hold on to a tradition that is more inheritance than profession.

Inside the timeworn workshops in the narrow alleys of Miraj, the artisans stand at a crossroads. While the craft wavers at home, Miraj's sitars are finding a market across the oceans. In US, Germany and UK, musicians cherish the handcrafted instruments.

The demand for these instruments is vast — greater than ever, in fact — but the hands that craft them are growing fewer. Where once thousands laboured, only a few hundred remain.

Mohsin Mirajkar, a seventh-generation sitar maker, knows this struggle intimately. At 43, he has dedicated his life to carving, stringing, and tuning the instrument that defines his family's legacy. Yet, he watches helplessly as younger generations turn away. "The effort it takes to make a sitar is immense," he said. "With less effort, they can earn more in IT or engineering. The demand is huge, but we can't even meet 25% of it."

The irony is stark. While the world craves the authentic voice of Miraj's sitars, the very hands that shape them are forced to consider a future without them.

"During the pandemic, only doctors and essential workers were in demand," said Mohammed Saeem Shikalgar, a young sitar maker, who balances the art with his medical studies. "I love making sitars, but I needed a backup. If this tradition fades, I will have something to fall back on."

To the untrained eye, a sitar might seem like just another instrument, its shape familiar, its sound enchanting but distant.

Yet, behind its curved frame lies a labour of profound patience.

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Craftsman Imran Salim described the process: "The polishing, the carving, the bridge, the turning pegs... everything has to be perfect. Each sitar takes about 20 to 25 days. You can't rush it. It must be allowed to find its own voice."

But time, the very thing these artisans honour, is now their greatest adversary. The rise of mass-produced sitars — factory-made imitations that lack the warmth of handmade ones — has only added to their woes.

Miarj's fame was built upon its musical heritage, attracting luminaries like Pandit Bhimsen Joshi, Pandit Venkatesh Kumar, Ustad Rashid Khan, and sitar virtuosos Shujaat Khan and Ustad Shahid Parvez Khan. Even Hridaynath Mangeshkar turned to Miraj for instruments that carried not just notes but soul.

The city's sitars still travel across borders, finding homes in concert halls, in the hands of maestros, in the quiet corners of music lovers who understand their worth. Yet, one cannot ignore the silence creeping in behind the melodies.

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Adv. Naman Wadhwa +91 8527388687

Before the Court of 1st Additional District Judge Srinagar
Present Mr. Khursheed-ul-Islam
Haleema Bano V/s S.Harpal Singh
Notice through publication to : S.Harpal Singh, R/o H.No.58, K, New Mahavir Nagar, Tilak Nagar, West Delhi 110018
Office Address : Shop no.5 at Wazir Bagh, Srinagar, Ph.no. 7006858436
Whereas, above titled suit has been filed against you in this court and you have been conveyed as defendant no 1. The next date of hearing is fixed on 14.03.25. Whereas, Summons were sued for your appearance in this court, but you avoided to acknowledge the summon, as a result the summon got returned as untraced. This way you did not appear before this court to answer the suit and it appears that your attendance may not be procured through the issuance of an Ordinary Summons. You are as such Summoned through this Publication and directed to appear before this court personally or through counsel on 14.3.25 failing to which appropriate orders will be penned against you. In case the date fixed is declared as holiday the matter shall be take up on next following day.
1st Additional District Judge, Srinagar

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I Tejaswani Sharma D/o Vineet Kumar Sharma R/o Kalindi kunj, M-3 GT Road Khurja have changed my name to Taneesha Sharma for all future purpose

I, Krishan Chandra Parewa S/o Khemchand Parewa, R/o A-192, Outside of Surajpole Gate, Jati Ji Ki Bagichi, Laxmi Narayan Puri, Jaipur-302002 (Raj.), presently residing at EA-111, Ground Floor, Inderpuri, New Delhi-110012, have changed my minor son's name from SARTHAK PAREWA to SHAURYA PAREWA for all future purposes.

I, Nandini, D/o Sushit Kumar Nath, R/o Flat No. 1612, B-1, Vasant Kunj, New Delhi 110070, have changed my name to Nandini Mishra Nath for all future purposes.

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BJP's races clock in search for consensus face to succeed Biren

Prabin.Kalita@timesofindia.com

Security personnel stand guard in Imphal

Guwahati: The search for a consensus face to succeed N Biren Singh as Manipur CM could stretch until Wednesday as BJP's North-East in-charge Sambit Patra scans a clutch of prospective candidates seeking to drive the Meitei-Kuki "reconciliation" agenda. At least one contender — cabinet minister and known Biren baiter Yumnam Khemchand Singh — put his hand up on Monday by declaring that the process of reconciling the communities after nearly two years of ethnic bloodletting would "start soon".

Khemchand, who met Patra at a hotel in Imphal, told the media that the discussion was focused on restoring peace in the state. "The challenge we are facing is how to restore normalcy," Khemchand said. "Isn't that what everyone in Manipur would love to have? I want this too."

Patra, who accompanied Biren on his trip back to Imphal from Delhi on Sunday after the latter's meeting with home minister Amit Shah and BJP national president JP Nadda, had a stream of visitors throughout Monday amid frenzied speculation about who would be the next CM. Khemchand said Biren's resignation was "a decision taken by the high command, and we accept it". He said it was the party brass's prerogative to pick the next CM.

"Whatever the party high command decides, we have to accept that. Doesn't matter who is selected. You may have heard from others (on the probables), but this is the way," he said.

Patra met speaker Thokchom Satyabrata, another strident critic of Biren, minister Thounaojam Basanta Kumar Singh and MLA Th Radheshyam, among others.

Manipur Congress president K Meghachandra said President's rule in the state shouldn't even be an option. "We also oppose any move to place the assembly in suspended animation for now. Congress wants a democratically elected govt in Manipur in the interest of safeguarding democracy."

Congress, which has five MLAs in the House of 60, had been planning a no-trust move against the BJP-led govt before Biren's sudden resignation after braving repeated calls for his ouster over his handling of the ethnic conflict since May 2023.

The budget session of the assembly, which was scheduled to begin on Monday, was put on hold by governor AK Bhalla late Sunday, hours after he accepted Biren's resignation and requested him to continue as caretaker CM till "alternative arrangements are made".

Didi blames 'inflexible' Cong, AAP for Delhi, Hry loss

Krishnendu.Bandyopadhyay
@timesofindia.com

Kolkata: Congress's inflexibility in Delhi and AAP's intransigence in Haryana led to BJP victories in assembly elections there, Bengal CM **Mamata Banerjee** said on Monday while declaring that Trinamool Congress wasn't banking on anyone's support to return to govt in the state by a two-thirds majority next year.

"We won't need anybody's support. But everyone in the party must work together," she told TMC legislators at a closed-door meeting in the assembly building before the start of the budget session. Mamata govt is scheduled to table the last budget of its current term next Wednesday.

Trinamool MLAs quoted the CM as saying that BJP edged out AAP in Delhi "by a mere 4% vote gap" solely because of Congress's refusal to side with the party in govt. "The outcome would have been different had Congress forged an alliance with AAP," she said.

Mamata also faulted the AAP brass for nixing a pre-election understanding with Congress in Haryana last year. "In Haryana, too, AAP and Congress split votes to make it easy for BJP to retain office."

TMC spokesperson Kunal Ghosh backed Mamata's contention that Trinamool would be better served going it alone in Bengal. "The Congress-Left Front alliance in 2021 could not stop the Trinamool juggernaut," he said, pointing out that INDIA bloc was set up to put up a united resistance to BJP in the 2024 Lok Sabha polls. "The next Lok Sabha elections are five years away. BJP doesn't need to worry about INDIA bloc."

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3.	सी-1, 1023.71 वर्गफुट	01
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सार्वजनिक क्षेत्र के उपक्रम / सरकार के स्वामित्व वाली संस्था/बैंक आदि इच्छुक संस्था द्वारा उपरोक्त दुकानों को किराये पर लिए जाने हेतु अपनी अभिरुचि को अभिव्यक्ति (Expression of Interest) एक सप्ताह में झाँसी नगर निगम कार्यालय भवन के तृतीय तल पर स्थित झाँसी स्मार्ट सिटी लिमिटेड के कार्यालय में अथवा झाँसी स्मार्ट सिटी लिमिटेड की ईमेल आईडी0 JHANSISMARTCITYLTD@GMAIL.COM पर उपलब्ध कराई जा सकती है।
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झाँसी स्मार्ट सिटी लिमिटेड, झाँसी।

कार्यालय मुख्य अभियन्ता, नगर निगम, बरेली
पत्रांक: 1082/मु0अभि0/नि0वि0/2024-25 दिनांक: 10.02.2025
ई-निविदा आमन्त्रण सूचना
ई-निविदा सूचना शासनादेश सं0- 1890/नौ-5-(149)/2019 नगर विकास अनुभाग-05 2020 शासन लखनऊ दिनांक 20 सितम्बर 2019 के अनुपालन में ठेकेदारों से निर्माण कार्यों हेतु निविदायें दो बिड पद्धति (तकनीकी एवं वित्तीय) के माध्यम से निम्न प्रकार से आमंत्रित की जाती है। ई-निविदा से सम्बन्धित प्रपत्र उत्तर प्रदेश की ई-प्रोक्योरमेन्ट की वेबसाईट https://etender.up.nic.in व नगर निगम की वेबसाईट www.nagarnigambareilly.com पर देखी जा सकती है।

उपवन योजना के अन्तर्गत प्रथम बार ई-निविदा आमंत्रित हेतु	
ई-निविदा डाउनलोड प्रारम्भ की तिथि/समय	13.02.2025 (03:00 PM)
ई-निविदा अपलोड की प्रारम्भ तिथि/समय	13.02.2025 (04:00 PM)
ई-निविदा अपलोड की अंतिम तिथि/समय	05.03.2025 (03:00 PM)
ई-निविदा खोली जाने की तिथि/समय	05.03.2025 (04:00 PM)
फाईनेशियलई - निविदा खोली जाने हेतु	After Technical Evaluation

शर्तों का विवरण, नियम व शर्तें नगर निगम बरेली की वेबसाईट www.nagarnigambareilly.com पर ई-निविदा लिंक एवं ई-पोर्टल https://etender.up.nic.in पर उपलब्ध है। किसी परिवर्तन, संशोधन व अतिरिक्त सूचनाओं के लिये उक्त वेबसाइट पर देखी जा सकती है।
मुख्य अभियन्ता
नगर निगम बरेली।

भारत सरकार
कारपोरेट कार्य मंत्रालय
त्वरित कॉर्पोरेट समाधान प्रसंस्करण केंद्र (सी-पेस),
आई.आई.सी.ए. बिल्डिंग, 7वीं मंज़िल,
प्लाट P-6,7,8, सै.-5, आई.एम.टी. मानेसर, गुरुगाँव,
हरियाणा - 122050.
Email: roc.cpace@mca.gov.in
Government of India
Ministry of Corporate Affairs
Centre for Processing Accelerated Corporate Exit (C-PACE)
IICA Building, 7th Floor,
Plot P-6,7,8, Sector-5, IMT Manesar,
Gurgaon, Haryana - 122050.
Email: roc.cpace@mca.gov.in
FORM No. STK --6
PUBLIC NOTICE
[Pursuant to sub-section (2) and sub-section (4) of section 248 of the Companies Act, 2013 and rule 7 of the Companies (Removal of Names of Companies from the Register of Companies) Rules, 2016]
Public Notice:ROC/C-PACE/STK-2/248(2)/2024-25/1672 Date: -21/01/2025
Reference:
(1) In the matter of striking off or removal of names of (67) companies in the state of Delhi under section 248 of the Companies Act, 2013 in respect of:

S.No.	Work Item	CIN	Company Name
1	AB2374421	U93090DL2018PTC336589	ADMIVO MANAGEMENT PRIVATE LIMITED
2	AB2370533	U85100DL2022OPC397748	CAREOXY HEALTHCARE (OPC) PRIVATE LIMITED
3	AB2228368	U74140DL1981PTC012441	H I CONSULTANTS PRIVATE LIMITED
4	AB2275749	U74899DL1988PTC034220	WRG HOUSING INDUSTRIES PRIVATE LIMITED
5	AB2343070	U74899DL1986PTC026729	ARORA TOWERS PRIVATE LIMITED
6	AB2078339	U74899DL1986PTC026303	TOP ASSOCIATES PRIVATE LIMITED
7	AB2175754	U74899DL1982PTC050665	DOLPHIN PRODUCTS PRIVATE LIMITED
8	AB2121076	U74899DL1995PTC064243	TRISOFT SYSTEMS PRIVATE LIMITED
9	AB2300376	U51109DL1991PTC045047	LOTO IMPEX PRIVATE LIMITED
10	AB2191643	U40102DL1996PTC079245	OAKWELL INDIA PRIVATE LIMITED
11	AB2443949	U18101DL1995PTC071175	DUGGAL INDUSTRIES PRODUCTS PRIVATE LIMITED
12	AB2264908	U18101DL2003PTC123422	HOPA SYNTEX PRIVATE LIMITED
13	AB2275217	U70101DL2005PTC140724	UNIQUE REALCON PRIVATE LIMITED
14	AB2365652	U55101DL2005PTC140757	SARASWATI RESORTS PRIVATE LIMITED
15	AB2359448	U45400DL2007PTC171129	AMAZONE HOMES PRIVATE LIMITED
16	AB2234000	U45200DL2008PTC173995	D.D.PRADHAN CONTRACTS PRIVATE LIMITED
17	AB2203273	U74200DL2008PTC180685	ENCLOSURE WORLD INDIA PRIVATE LIMITED
18	AB2251971	U74120DL2008PTC181418	AGRIM LOGISTICS PRIVATE LIMITED
19	AB2217174	U70200DL2009PTC187729	VICTORY INFRACON PRIVATE LIMITED
20	AB2300977	U45201DL2006PTC144632	NCPL DEVELOPERS PRIVATE LIMITED
21	AB2359719	U72200DL2006PTC145057	GRIP COMPUSOFT PRIVATE LIMITED
22	AB2347363	U74899DL2005PTC144012	SAJAG LAMTEX PVT LTD
23	AB2304358	U80302DL2010PTC200203	ISHAN VIDYA PREP PRIVATE LIMITED
24	AB2152443	U24306DL2010PTC203081	REDMAT REVES FILMS PRIVATE LIMITED
25	AB2372970	U55101DL2010PTC208468	GOOD LIVING PLAZA PRIVATE LIMITED
26	AB2403786	U18109DL2011PTC215496	MAYANK CREATIONS PRIVATE LIMITED
27	AB2361873	U65191DL2009PTC194556	DEVYANI MANAGEMENT SERVICES PRIVATE LIMITED
28	AB2296496	U45400DL2011PTC216722	ASF BUDGET HOUSING PRIVATE LIMITED
29	AB2286122	U45400DL2011PTC216721	ASF AFFORDABLE HOUSING PRIVATE LIMITED
30	AB2373948	U72200DL2009PTC189688	CHAMPIONS IT CONSULTANCY PRIVATE LIMITED
31	AB2332392	U45204DL2009PTC191888	PRAKHAR REALCON PRIVATE LIMITED
32	AB2232829	U70101DL2012PTC243160	LA SOLARA PROJECTS PRIVATE LIMITED
33	AB2442444	U31908DL2014PTC269839	SUPERTRONIX PRIVATE LIMITED
34	AB2256911	U21001DL2014PTC272137	EMENOX HEALTHCARE PRIVATE LIMITED
35	AB2250138	U74140DL2014PTC274788	CAMELLIA BUSINESS SOLUTIONS PRIVATE LIMITED
36	AB2230547	U74140DL2014PTC274361	ALCHEMIST INSTITUTE OF ENGLISH AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT PRIVATE LIMITED
37	AB2330483	U24100DL2014PTC267767	GLOBISN CHEMICALS PRIVATE LIMITED
38	AB2325114	U74140DL2014PTC267769	INVESTLINK INDIA PRIVATE LIMITED
39	AB2214318	U74140DL2012PLC246489	JINDAL INFRA SOLUTIONS LIMITED
40	AB2325059	U62100DL2012PTC245190	SCOPE TRADING COMPANY PRIVATE LIMITED
41	AB2220733	U45400DL2012PTC229938	KANTH INFRAPROJECTS PRIVATE LIMITED
42	AB2299145	U74999DL2015PTC281046	LUIT RENEWABLE PRIVATE LIMITED
43	AB2188712	U74999DL2016PTC291726	MYHY MEDICAL TOURISM PRIVATE LIMITED
44	AB2102362	U51909DL2018PTC335763	WOKE VAPORS PRIVATE LIMITED
45	AB2260147	U72900DL2017PTC327200	POKYCOMM PRIVATE LIMITED
46	AB2228860	U72200DL2019PTC351123	HACK SQUARE PRIVATE LIMITED
47	AB2227075	U45309DL2019PTC348954	NAVODIT DEVELOPERS PRIVATE LIMITED
48	AB2285508	U55100DL2018PTC340776	REDBEE VENTURES PRIVATE LIMITED
49	AB2325224	U74999DL2018PTC342878	MOBIUS RESEARCH AND KNOWLEDGE SERVICES INDIA PRIVATE LIMITED
50	AB2282202	U52100DL2019PTC357270	MOHAK JEWELER PRIVATE LIMITED
51	AB2308703	U29309DL2019PTC352481	AMBRE TECHNOLOGIES PRIVATE LIMITED
52	AB2229359	U65999DL2020PTC360006	INSTANTPAY FOREX SERVICES PRIVATE LIMITED
53	AB2408788	U72200DL2020PTC367834	BINBIZ TECHNOLOGIES PRIVATE LIMITED
54	AB2291263	U45309DL2020PTC366060	NATURESHINE RESOURCES PRIVATE LIMITED
55	AB2270979	U29309DL2020PTC371918	HOMELAND PRECISION MANUFACTURING PRIVATE LIMITED
56	AB2226332	U51909DL2016FTC378120	CUE DEE INDIA PRIVATE LIMITED
57	AB2292647	U65999DL2021PLN378017	GREENPEYG NIDHI LIMITED
58	AB2217894	U24290DL2022PTC392261	SEBACURE PHARMACEUTICALS PRIVATE LIMITED
59	AB2390557	U28999DL2021PTC391284	BODHI NIRVAN PRIVATE LIMITED
60	AB2378263	U74999DL2022PTC401901	BHUGRA INDIA PRIVATE LIMITED
61	AB2424751	U51909DL2022PTC398568	SPIMEX OVERSEAS PRIVATE LIMITED
62	AB2288118	U62099DL2022PTC407098	SMART MART TECHNOLOGIES PRIVATE LIMITED
63	AB2372854	U52291DL2023PTC415622	DISCOVERING LANDSCAPES PRIVATE LIMITED
64	AB2429785	U68100DL2023PTC415389	PURE EARTH BUILDTECH PRIVATE LIMITED
65	AB2397264	U26700DL2024PTC432796	MELA RAM FOTOLAMINATE INDIA PRIVATE LIMITED
66	AB2298521	U21009DL2024PTC427632	TCM NATURAL REMEDIES PRIVATE LIMITED
67	AB2349841	U32509DL2024PTC435605	SOUND FOR LIFE HEARING SOLUTIONS PRIVATE LIMITED

(2). Notice is hereby given that the Registrar of Companies had received applications from the above-mentioned companies under section 248(2) of the Companies Act, 2013 for removal of its/their name (s) from the register of companies either on the ground that they have failed to commence business within one year of their incorporation or on the ground that the company(ies) is/are not carrying on any business or operation for a period of two immediately preceding financial years and has/have not made any application (s) within such period for obtaining the status of a dormant company under section 455 of the Companies Act, 2013 or the company(ies) have obtained the status of dormant company/subscribers to the memorandum have not paid the subscription which they had undertaken to pay at the time of incorporation of a company and a declaration to this effect has not been filed within one hundred and eighty days of its incorporation under subsection (1) of section 10A/ have not been carrying on any business or operations, as revealed after the physical verification carried out under sub-section (9) of section 12, but it/they do not wish to continue its/their registration as companies and have, therefore, requested for removal/strike off of its/their names from the register of companies.
(3) Accordingly, the Registrar of Companies proposes to remove or strike off the names of the above-mentioned companies from the Register of Companies.
(4) Any person objecting to the proposed removal or striking off name of the companies from the register of companies may send his or her objection to the office address mentioned here above within thirty days from the date of publication of this notice.
Haribara Sahoo
Registrar
Centre for Processing Accelerated Corporate Exit
CBC 07123/11/0720/2425

Centre for Development of Advanced Computing
Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology
Government of India
JOIN US
WE ARE HIRING
Scientific & Technical Positions
Project Associate
(Fresher/Experienced)
Project Engineer
(Fresher/Experienced)
Senior Project Engineer
Project Lead
Module Lead
(min. 4 yrs. of experience)
Project Manager
Project Delivery Manager
Programme Manager
Knowledge Partner
(min. 9 yrs. of experience)
Qualification
1. BE/B.Tech. or equivalent degree
2. Post Graduate degree in Science/ Computer Application/MBA
3. ME/M.Tech or equivalent degree
4. Ph.D.
Non-Technical Positions
Project Support Staff / Project Officer
(min. 0 - 3 years experience based on educational qualification)
Qualification
1. Graduate with atleast 50% marks
2. Post Graduate
3. CA/LLM/CS
4. Two Years MBA/ Post Graduate in relevant field professional qualification

IN SEARCH OF TALENT
FOR EXCITING AND CHALLENGING ASSIGNMENTS
Location: Across India
LAST DATE TO APPLY - 20th February 2025
FOR DETAILED ADVERTISEMENT AND FOR APPLYING VISIT "CAREER" PAGE OF WWW.CDAC.IN
Branding & Communication/CorpHR/C-DAC Pune 2025
ADVT NO.CORP/IT/01/2025 Advancing Technology for National Development CORPORATE HRD
CBC 06132/12/0020/2425

BJP MP seeks probe into USAID funding, alleges Cong-Soros link

'Agency Promotes Western Agenda, Anti-India People'

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

BJP's Nishikant Dubey said USAID, whose operations were shuttered by US President Donald Trump, collaborated with George Soros and Congress leadership to promote 'western agenda'

New Delhi: The controversy in the US over USAID (United States Agency for International Development) assistance for promoting "woke" culture and "liberal ideology" and influencing politics in different countries reverberated in Lok Sabha on Monday with BJP MP Nishikant Dubey alleging that the agency funded anti-India elements aligned with Congress, and demanded a comprehensive probe.

Speaking during Zero Hour in Lok Sabha, Dubey said USAID, whose operations have been shuttered by President Donald Trump, collaborated with George Soros, the controversial US billionaire, and Congress leadership to promote "western agenda".

"Did USAID provide Rs 5,000 crore to Open Society Foundation run by George Soros to destabilise India? Did USAID and George Soros Foundation give money to Rajiv Gandhi Foundation and Rajiv Gandhi Charitable Trust or not? I demand that Congress should answer and a govt probe be conducted," Dubey said as Congress members protested.

Dubey's attack coincided with growing outrage in America over details of USAID's funding — from promotion of a transgender concert and publication of transgender comic books in South American countries to promotion of atheism in Nepal and helping migrant workers in Tamil Nadu "deal with loneliness". Last week, Republican Senator Geoge Kennedy brought up the issue of funds for opening of a clinic for transgenders in India and got the support of the influential billionaire Trump ally, Elon Musk.

Dubey saw USAID's hand in Nepal ceasing to be a Hindu republic, and blamed the US agency also for the turmoil in Bangladesh.

Several Congress members rose in protest against Dubey's remarks and sought to raise a point of order but were disallowed by presiding officer Sandhya Ray who said such provisions did not apply to Zero Hour proceedings. Later, Congress members met Speaker Om Birla to register their objection to Dubey being allowed to make unsubstantiated claims in the House.

"USAID gave money to support electric vehicles in Vietnam with our taxpayers' money. USAID gave money to a transgender clinic in India. I didn't know that. I bet the American people didn't know that. Musk also found that $1.5 million was given to Serbian LGBT organisations. They got the money to advance diversity, equity and inclusion in Serbian workplaces and business communities," Kennedy had said, adding, "USAID spent $164 million to support radical organisations around the world. Of that, they gave $122 million to groups aligned with foreign terrorist organisations. USAID gave millions of dollars to such organisations in Gaza."

The comments came days after Republican Congresswoman Nancy Mace questioned the $750,000 grant by USAID to an NGO linked to actor Sonam Kapoor's brother-in-law Anant Ahuja for "alleviating loneliness among migrant workers in India".

No land allotted for memorials of leaders in last five years: Govt

New Delhi: There has been no allocation of fund for setting up of memorials of departed national leaders such as Presidents, Vice-Presidents, PMs and deputy PMs in past five years, govt told Rajya Sabha Monday.

Quoting two cabinet decision of 2013 and 2014, which contains guidelines on organising the remembrance ceremonies of departed national leaders, MoS for housing and urban affairs Tokhan Sahu said govt "may consider to sanction one-time grants-in-aid to trusts/societies, which have been set up for memorials, on a case-to-case basis." This comes against the backdrop of govt initiating the process to provide land for memorial of former President Pranab Mukherjee and former PM Manmohan Singh.

YSR Congress MP Parimal Nathwani had asked whether govt has a policy for allocation of govt land for establishing memorials of national leaders. Sahu, quoting the guidelines, said it included "total ban" on conversion of govt bungalows into memorials and development of any Samadhi for departed leaders. The trusts or societies set up in memory of the departed leaders may set up such memorials or samadhis, but the expenses to be incurred in this regard. Nathwani had also asked about details of total memorials approved by govt in past five years along with details of land allocated, location, and expenditure incurred. Sahu said, "No such allocation has been done during past five years." TNN

Why no Bharat Ratna for MMS: Chidambaram

Congress MP P Chidambaram Monday, while participating in discussion on Union Budget in Rajya Sabha, asked govt why ex-PM Manmohan Singh was not conferred Bharat Ratna this Republic Day. Praising Singh (who passed away on Dec 26, 2024) for his wisdom and farsightedness, the former home minister recalled how in 1991, when the country's economy faced a grave crisis, "a man entered Parliament and North Block (where finance ministry is headquartered)." "He had an economic philosophy. He followed it with policies that required wisdom & farsightedness. Singh had it. I urge the finance minister to recapture wisdom & farsightedness of Singh," he said, in a message meant for Nirmala Sitharaman. TNN

State public univs grappling with faculty shortages, poor infra: Niti

WHAT THE REPORT SAYS

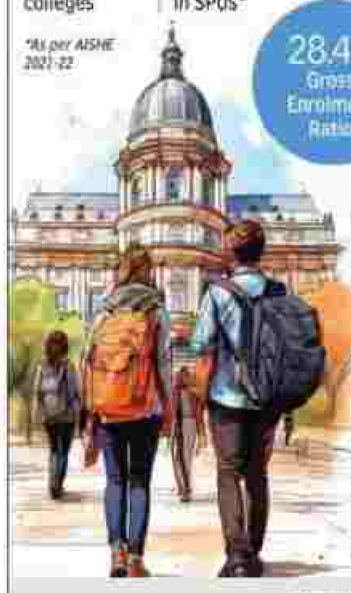
1,168 Total universities

495 Total state public universities

43,467 State govt colleges

3.25 cr Total students in SPUs*

*As per AISHE 2021-22



Challenges and inadequacies

- **81% of students** in India are enrolled in state public universities (SPUs), yet they remain underfunded
- **40% of faculty** positions in SPUs are vacant, leading to poor student-teacher ratio
- The student-teacher **ratio in SPUs is 30:1,** far from the recommended 15:1 standard
- Only **10% of SPUs** have well-equipped research facilities, limiting innovation
- **32% of SPUs** have fully functional digital libraries, restricting access to global research
- Over **60% of SPUs** do not have sufficient hostel and accommodation facilities, making higher education inaccessible for students from rural areas
- Govt investment in higher education remains **below 6% of GDP,** affecting quality
- SPUs **lack industry collaboration,** leading to low graduate employability rates
- Low industry collaboration — less than **25% of SPUs have active partnerships** with private sector companies for research and employability training
- **Funding delays** create financial instability, impacting research and faculty recruitment
- Outdated curricula and **lack of vocational training** result in low employability rates among SPU graduates
- SPUs charge **60% lower tuition fees** than private universities but struggle with quality education
- Regional disparity in **infrastructure and faculty distribution** further widens the education gap

KEY RECOMMENDATIONS

- Increase public investment in higher education to 6% of GDP as per NEP 2020
- Implement performance-based funding to boost research and academic quality
- Expand One Nation One Subscription (ONOS) to provide SPUs access to 13,000+ global journals
- Grant greater autonomy to SPUs for governance, faculty hiring, and curriculum design
- Strengthen industry-academia partnerships to improve skill development and employability

Manash.Gohain
@timesofindia.com

New Delhi: State public universities (SPUs), which enrol 81% of India's higher education students, are grappling with severe faculty shortages and outdated infrastructure, affecting academic excellence and research output.

A policy report by Niti Aayog, Expanding Quality Higher Education Through SPUs, released Monday, highlights that over 40% of faculty positions remain vacant, and only 10% SPUs have well-equipped research facilities, significantly impacting learning outcomes.

Despite these shortcomings, SPUs remain India's most crucial higher education institutions, ensuring affordable and inclusive education for over 3.25 crore students. To address these issues, the report recommends raising public investment in higher education to 6% of GDP, implementing performance-based funding, and granting greater autonomy to SPUs to improve governance and research capacity.

SPUs, which serve as the backbone of India's higher education sector, are struggling with outdated infrastructure and insufficient research facilities, limiting their ability to produce impactful academic work. The report warns that access to digital resources remains a challenge, with only 32% of SPUs having fully functional digital libraries, making it difficult for students and faculty to access global research databases.

The report highlights that over 40% of faculty positions remain vacant in SPUs, leading to an unfavourable student-teacher ratio of 30:1, compared to the recommended 15:1. As a result, students receive limited academic mentorship and research guidance, affecting both their learning outcomes and employability. "SPUs must prioritise faculty recruitment and retention strategies. Without adequate teaching staff, the goal of improving academic standards cannot be achieved," states the report.

The report notes that tuition fees in SPUs are, on average, 60% lower than those in private institutions, making higher education more accessible to students from socially and economically disadvantaged groups (SEDGs).

To revitalise SPUs, the report proposes a multi-pronged reform strategy. It calls for public investment in higher education to be raised to at least 6% of GDP, in line with National Education Policy 2020 recommendations. It also suggests performance-based funding models to incentivise research, greater autonomy for SPUs in decision-making, and stronger academia-industry linkages to enhance graduate employability. Additionally, initiatives such as One Nation One Subscription (ONOS) scheme, which provides free access to over 13,000 global research journals, should be expanded to benefit all SPUs.

The report underscores that govt colleges, particularly those affiliated with SPUs struggle with accreditation due to high NAAC costs, restricting their access to quality improvement funds. Additionally, bureaucratic inefficiencies delay curriculum updates & faculty recruitment, affecting academic quality.

14 crore denied benefits of food security due to delay in Census: Sonia

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi: Raising delay in conducting census by more than four years, Congress MP **Sonia Gandhi**, in her maiden intervention in Rajya Sabha Monday, said around 14 crore people are being deprived of benefits under National Food Security Act (NFSA). She said the quota for beneficiaries is still determined based on the 2011 census, which is now well over a decade old.

In her Zero Hour intervention, Sonia said NFSA enacted by UPA govt in Sept 2013 was a "landmark initiative aimed at ensuring food and nutritional security for the country's poor" and the legislation played a crucial role in protecting millions of vulnerable households from starvation, particularly during Covid-19 crisis.

"For the first time in the history of independent India, the decennial census has been delayed by more than four years. Originally scheduled for 2021, there is still no clarity as to when the census will be conducted. The Budget allocation reveals that updated census is unlikely to be conducted this year as well. Around 14 crore eligible Indians are thus being deprived of their rightful benefits under NFSA," she said. NFSA provides for coverage of up to 75% of rural and up to 50% of urban population for receiving highly subsidised foodgrains, which according to the 2011 census comes to about 81.4 crore.

The Congress functionary urged govt to prioritise completion of the census as soon as possible and ensure that all deserving individuals receive the benefits guaranteed to them under NFSA. "Food security is not a privilege. It is a fundamental right," she said. The Narendra Modi govt has made foodgrain distribution to the poor free under PM Garib Kalyan Anna Yojana (PMGKAY) and has extended the scheme for five years till Dec 2029.

Oppn, treasury benches spar over Budget; DMK terms tax relief 'sugar rush'

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi: Opposition and treasury benches sparred in the two Houses Monday during discussion on Union Budget with Congress' P Chidambaram saying Budget was "without a philosophy" and DMK's Dayanidhi Maran calling tax relief a "sugar rush" which could not be sustained.

BJP countered the statements and Anurag Thakur hailed Budget as a "force multiplier" and a "booster shot".

TMC, NCP (SP), AIMIM and others too criticised NDA for its "failure to address main issues" in the economy, where rupee has touched a "historic" low against US dollar and foreign investments are leaving the country. TMC said it is opposed to FDI in insurance, entirely.

Speaking in Rajya Sabha, Chidambaram said Budget was drafted targeting assembly elections in Delhi. He attacked the finance minister for cutting capital expenditure to manage fiscal deficit while not reducing GST, or bringing down pump prices of petrol and diesel which could have brought relief across the board. "Govt could have done better raising minimum wages," he added.

However, treasury benches in both Houses defended govt, calling it a "visionary Budget" which would contribute in 'Viksit Bharat' goal with ease of doing business and leaving more income in hands of the common man. Hailing Budget, JDU's Sanjay Jha said it had corrected the "historical neglect of Bihar" by making provisions through special schemes for the state. This, he said, fit into Modi govt's 'rising east' policy.

In LS, Congress' Manish Tewari expressed concern at rising govt debt, which has gone up from Rs 55 lakh crore in FY2014 to Rs 196 lakh crore in FY2026. He said the burden was left for future generations to service the huge debt.

Referring to Rs 12 lakh tax rebate, Maran said this would only benefit 2.5 crore taxpayers, while there was nothing for 99% of the population.

O-1433

By E. Mail/e-Despatch
E_Mail ID: eerwcbaripada@gmail.com
Ph No-(0678)-2613432/2613344
Gangraj, Baripada

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF CONSTRUCTION ENGINEER
RURAL WORKS CIRCLE, BARIPADA
"e" Procurement Notice for Plan Road Work
Identification No.- Online Tender-Road N.C.B. No.367 for 2024-25.
Letter No. 403/ Date : 05.02.2025

1. Name of the work :- Road Work in the District of Mayurbhanj for the year 2024-25.
2. Total No. of work :- 02 Nos. (Two)
3. Estimated Cost :- **Rs.522.27 Lakhs to Rs.965.67 Lakhs** (approximately)
4. Eligible Class of Contractor :- As per annexure.
5. Period of Completion :- As per annexure.
6. Other details

Procurement Officer	Bid identification No.	Availability of tender On-line for bidding		Last Date & Time of seeking Tender Clarification.	Date & Time of Opening of Tender in O/O C.C.E.R.W. Circle, Baripada.	
		From	To		Technical Bid	Financial Bid
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Chief Construction Engineer, Rural Works Circle, Baripada	Road On-line N.C.B. No.367	Dt.13.02.2025 at 11.00 A.M.	Dt.27.02.2025 up to 5.00 P.M.	Dt.25.02.2025 up to 5.00 P.M.	Dt.28.02.2025 at 11.00 A.M.	Will be intimated later

- Further details can be seen from the website: www.tendersodisha.gov.in.
- Any Corrigendum / Addendum will be displayed in the above e_tender website only.

Sd/- A.K Naik
Chief Construction Engineer,
R.W. Circle, Baripada.
OIPR-25132/11/0018/24-25

SOUTH WESTERN RAILWAY

E-Tender Notice No. SG-SWR-PROJ-UBL-PSS Dated : 04-02-2025

The undersigned, on behalf of the President of India, invites E-Tenders for the following works:

Item of work	Approx. Value
*Request for Proposal (RFP) for providing Project Supervision Services (PSS) At Various Construction Sites/Sections in the Jurisdiction of CSTE/ Project Hubballi and CSTE/Project Bengaluru, South Western Railway"	Rs. 13,60,09,261.96

Last date for submission of bids:
Upto 15:00 Hrs. on 27-02-2025

For details log on: www.ireps.gov.in
Keep visiting the website for any corrigendum till closing date

Divisional Signal & Telecom Engineer
Project, Hubballi

PUB/778/AAF/PRB/SWR/2024-25
South Western Railway - SWR SWRHELP SWRHELP

After Abujmarh, Indravati nat'l park: 2nd Red fort crumbles

Soumitra Bose | TNN

Nagpur: Indravati national park in Chhattisgarh's Bijapur, which also houses a tiger reserve, was a safe hideout for Maoists till Sunday, when 31 guerrillas were shot in one of the bloodiest encounters with security forces till date. Peoples' Liberation Guerrilla Army (PLGA), which is tottering in its headquarters at Abujmarh, was compelled to concede a vital stretch of land in the sprawling park.

Buoyed by a 2,000sqkm security vacuum in restricted areas of Indravati national park, Maoists had consolidated their hold in the forested region, which was used as a PLGA base and rehabilitation centre for decades. Maoists' formations of three states, Chhattisgarh, Maharashtra and Telangana, used the sprawling forests as their second alternative to Abujmarh, and senior cadres, including members of the outfit's central committee and politburo, were known to be holed up in the park.

Now, after Abujmarh, this 'Red citadel', too, has fallen, where cadre-training infrastructure, gun-making factories, arsenal stock and other wings, including medical, technical, propaganda and press, are now a shambles.

Union minister Amit Shah, who lauded efforts of Chhattisgarh police, has set a deadline of March 26 to wipe out Maoist extremism in state. After the Sunday gunfight, Maharashtra has stepped up drone surveillance along its borders, adjacent to the national park. Gadchiroli police have put up three border posts, Damrancha, Dechlipetha and Manne Rajaram, on high alert to ensure PLGA guerrillas don't sneak into Maharashtra to escape advancing security forces from Chhattisgarh.

After the fall of Abujmarh, Maoists depended on their hideouts in the Indravati park area for resting and regrouping. Sources stated Gadchiroli-based formations, such as Aheri local organisational squad, would cross the Indravati river to enter national park zone to dodge C-60 commandos during area domination drives and searches.

As per official sources, Gadchiroli police kept a close watch on Sunday's encounter as several local formations were likely to be present and chances were high that some Maharashtra-based cadres were hit. There was also speculation about Telangana state committee secretary being present along with key politburo members during the gun battle.

CORPORATE BUZZ

www.toi.in/psu

BIS hosts convention in healthcare sector

The Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) organised the Annual Convention for deans and HODs of academic institutions and research and development organisations in the healthcare sector at its National Institute of Training for Standardisation, Noida. There's a necessity of academia-industry collaboration in shaping standards that drive innovation and economic growth, said Director General,

Bureau of Indian Standards, Pramod Kumar Tiwari. Around 36 participants from 28 institutes were present at the convention. The convention aimed to generate awareness regarding standardisation in the healthcare and medical device sector and explore opportunities for collaboration with academia and research organisations to strengthen the standardisation activity of BIS. Chandan Bahl, Scientist-G and DDG (International Relations); Deepak Aggarwal, Scientist-F and Head (Standards Coordination and Monitoring Dept.); and Chinmay Dwivedi, Scientist-E and Head (Medical Equipment and Hospital Planning Dept.) also spoke on the occasion.

HUDCO inks pact with ALIMCO

HUDCO, a *Navratna* CPSE, signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) with ALIMCO, to extend support for distribution of aids and assistive devices to Persons with Disabilities (*divyangjan*) and senior citizens, all over the country. The MoU signing ceremony was held in the presence of Sanjay Kulshrestha, CMD, HUDCO; Praveen Kumar, CMD, ALIMCO; M Nagaraj, Director (Corporate Planning), HUDCO; and Daljeet Singh, Director (Finance), HUDCO. This is to highlight the shared commitment of both the organisations to social welfare and inclusivity. As part of the ongoing partnership with ALIMCO, more than 5000 PwDs and senior citizens have been provided assistive devices under HUDCO's CSR initiatives all over the country. This is an initiative for upliftment of marginalised and vulnerable sections of the society as part of its commitment towards social welfare.

CRPF commemorates Valour Day

The Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) proudly commemorated 'Valour Day', paying tribute to the brave souls, who gallantly defended the nation's honour during the historic 'Battle of Sardar Post' in the Rann of Kutch. In a solemn ceremony at the National Police Memorial in Chanakya Puri, New Delhi, Anish Dayal Singh, Director General of CRPF,

laid a wreath to honour the fallen heroes. Following the tribute, he graced the ceremony at the Shaurya CRPF Officers Institute in Vasant Kunj, New Delhi, as the Chief Guest.

During the ceremony, 48 gallantry medal recipients were honoured for their exemplary bravery, while eight other officers and personnel were awarded with *Asadharan Asuchana* Medal for commendable service. Among the esteemed guests was Kishan Singh, the lone surviving veteran of the Sardar Post Battle, whose heroic accounts continue to inspire generations. He was felicitated by DG CRPF.

DFCCIL excels in freight transportation

The Dedicated Freight Corridor (DFC) has reached a significant milestone in freight train operations during January 2025, marking a new benchmark in India's logistics and transportation efficiency. This achievement reflects the increasing reliance on DFC for seamless and efficient freight transportation, reinforcing its role as a backbone for industrial and economic growth.

Further, Praveen Kumar, Managing Director of DFCCIL, visited the DFCCIL Exhibition Camp and expressed his appreciation for the overwhelming response from the visitors.

The exhibition camp has successfully provided visitors with a comprehensive understanding of DFC's construction journey, its state-of-the-art infrastructure, and the technologies driving freight operations. Such initiatives play a vital role in highlighting India's progress in modern rail logistics, and inspiring future developments in transportation infrastructure.

PNB launches Home Loan Expo 2025

Punjab National Bank (PNB) is hosting the PNB Home Loan Expo 2025, a two-day event aimed at helping homebuyers and real estate investors explore exclusive financing solutions.

The PNB Home Loan Expo 2025 will bring together leading real estate developers, financial experts, and aspiring homeowners under one roof, offering a range of exclusive benefits to make homeownership more accessible, affordable, and convenient.

Speaking on the occasion, Ashok Chandra, MD and CEO, PNB, said, "We are committed to empowering homebuyers with tailored financial solutions that simplify their journey to homeownership. The PNB Home Loan Expo 2025 serves as a comprehensive platform, offering seamless access to the best home loan deals, expert financial guidance, and exclusive benefits. Further, Kalyan Kumar, executive director, PNB, added, "The expo is designed to raise awareness about the bank's home loan products, promote quality retail lending growth, and strengthen brand loyalty by fostering long-term customer relationships."

Steep hike on cards for RC renewal of cars, 2-wheelers older than 20 years

Govt Proposes ₹2k Fee To Renew Registration Of 2-Wheelers, ₹10k For Cars

Dipak.Dash@timesofindia.com

New Delhi: Keeping your vehicles beyond 20 years is going to cost you more as the road transport ministry has issued a draft notification proposing a steep hike in renewal of their registration. The move is aimed at disincentivising people to keep vehicles that were manufactured before the BS-II emission norms came into force. The ministry has proposed that renewal of registration of over 20-year-old motorcycles and cars would cost Rs 2,000 and Rs 10,000 respectively.

With focus on phasing out commercial medium and heavy vehicles that are over 15 years old, the draft rule has proposed renewal fees to Rs 12,000 and Rs 18,000 respectively. For renewing registration of such vehicles over 20 years would be doubled to Rs 24,000 and Rs 36,000 respectively.

PROPOSED RENEWAL CHARGES

Vehicle type	Renewal fee after 20 yrs (in ₹)
2-Wheeler	2,000
3-wheeler	5,000
Car/ Jeep	10,000
Medium passenger & goods	25,000
Heavy passenger & goods	36,000
Vehicle type	**Renewal fee after 15 yrs**
Medium passenger & goods	12,000
Heavy passenger & goods	18,000

While the proposed changes would impact vehicle owners across the country, this will have no effect in Delhi-NCR where it's mandatory to scrap 10-year-old diesel and 15-year-old petrol vehicles because of the court's order.

The road transport ministry in Oct 2021 had increased the registration and renewal fee of motorcycles, three-wheelers and cars, but had left out medium and heavy passenger and goods vehicles. "We have not touched the renewal fees for private vehicles after they complete 15 years. While we have proposed revised fees for 15-year-old commercial vehicles, we have sought to increase the renewal charge for the ones which were registered 20 years back," said a transport ministry official.

Similarly, the ministry has proposed to double the fee for fitness tests of both private commercial vehicles that are over 20 years old.

All India Motor Transport Congress said it has opposed "sudden and excessive hike" in the fitness test fees. It said the fee for fitness test ranged between Rs 500 and Rs 1,500 for most vehicles, with heavy transport vehicles paying a maximum of Rs 3,000. But in the draft notification, it has been more than doubled, with commercial motorcycles now requiring to pay Rs 1,000 for 8-15 year old and Rs 2,000 after 15 years. Similarly, fitness tests for three-wheelers and heavy vehicles have been proposed between Rs 7,000 and Rs 25,000. It has sought withdrawal of the draft notification.

Give timeframe for T'gana MLAs' disqualification petitions: SC

New Delhi: As disqualification of BRS MLAs who allegedly defected to Congress party is pending for over seven months, Supreme Court on Monday asked Telangana assembly Speaker as to what is a reasonable time frame to take a decision.

A bench of Justices B R Gavai and K Vinod Chandran said the rights of political parties could not be permitted to be frustrated in democracy. "We have all the respect for the other two wings but that does not mean that the Act of Parliament should itself be permitted to be frustrated," it said.

BRS filed a Special Leave Petition (SLP) in Supreme Court against the defected MLAs. The petitions urge SC to direct Telangana assembly Speaker and secretary to take prompt action and take a decision on their disqualification. The petition pointed out that elections to Telangana legislative assembly were held on Nov 30, 2023, while the disqualification petitions were filed between June 25, 2024 and July 16, 2024.

The court granted time till Feb 18 to brief the court and tell the time frame within which the Speaker would take a decision. TNN

SC reserves judgment on TN govt's plea against guv

New Delhi: Supreme Court Monday reserved its judgment on petitions filed by Tamil Nadu govt against governor R N Ravi for withholding assent for 12 bills which were sent to him after being passed by the state assembly and also questioned him on how he could refer bills to the President after they were resent by the House following reconsideration.

A bench of Justices J B Pardiwala and R Mahadevan wound up proceedings after hearing the matter over four days. The court has formulated eight questions to be decided in the case pertaining to the role of a governor when a bill is sent to him for approval.

The bench had earlier observed that Tamil Nadu governor seemed to have "devised his own procedure" while withholding assent and then referring the bills to the President. TNN

SC locks verdict in WB teachers-job scam case

New Delhi: Supreme Court Monday reserved its verdict on a petition filed by West Bengal govt challenging the April 22, 2024, order of Calcutta HC, which had quashed the recruitment of more than 25,000 teachers and non-teaching staff for state-run and state-aided schools.

As CBI explained the systematic manner in which OMR (answer) sheets were tampered with, including appointment of persons who had submitted blank OMR sheets, accompanied by appointment of those securing lower ranks at the cost of meritorious candidates, the only question a bench of CJI Sanjiv Khanna and Justice Sanjay Kumar focused on was whether the irregularities were all pervasive or whether the tainted can be segregated. TNN

A 37-year-old man dies in Pune, city GBS toll touches 7

Pune: A 37-year-old man from Sangli referred to a Pune hospital died late Sunday of Guillain-Barre Syndrome (GBS), becoming Maharashtra's seventh victim from the rare but treatable infection since Pune reported an outbreak just over a month ago. The latest casualty coincided with the city's caseload going up by eight overnight to touch 192 on Monday, reports **Steffy Thevar**.

The health department, which has confirmed water contamination as the primary cause of GBS outbreak, said the seventh victim was a driver undergoing treatment at Kamala Nehru Hospital.

IAF's Tejas & Su-30, American F-35, Russian Su-57 dominate 1st flying display at Aero India

World's most advanced 5th-generation stealth fighter planes, Russia's Su-57 and America's F-35, parked at the same bay at Aero India show in Bengaluru on Monday

Chethan.Kumar@timesofindia.com

Bengaluru: The first flying display at this edition of Aero India was dominated by fighter jets — IAF's Tejas and Su-30, the American F-35, and the Russian Su-57. With IAF's Sarang not performing, Surya Kiran Aerobatic Team (Skat) garnered the most applause as the lone aerobatic team here.

While Tejas, Su-30, Jaguar, IJT, and Rafale participated in the official flypast along with helicopters (Mi-17 and LUH) and Skat, the inaugural flying display only saw Tejas and Su-30 among the fighters.

The flypast began with paragliders from IAF's Akash Ganga team jumping off an AN-32, followed by the "Dhwaj" formation with three Mi 17 helicopters carrying the tricolour, the IAF flag, and the Aero India flag. This was followed by three LCA-MkIA Tejas aircraft and three LUH in "Bhim" formation, and three Coast Guard Dornier aircraft in "Rakshak" formation.

Two more Dorniers accompanied an AN-32 transport aircraft, which were followed by LCA-MkIA in "Yodha" formation, two Hawks and MiG-29s along with a P8I aircraft in "Varuna" formation, and the big C-130 accompanied by two C-295 aircraft in "Saathi" formation.

The flypast ended with five Jaguar aircraft in "Arjun" formation, an Airborne Early Warning and Control System Embraer aircraft flanked by two Su-30 fighters, a Rafale with Su-30 and, finally, three Su-30 fighters in "Trishul" formation.

Skat, Su-57, and F-35 rule the skies

The flying display was kicked off by HAL's HTT-40 and IJT before Tejas-MkIA soared, performing multiple stunts. Su-30 was the show-stopper with its moves. The morning flying display ended with a fine spectacle by Skat, making up for the absence of its partner Sarang (which was reported in these columns last Friday).

The afternoon display belonged to the two fifth-generation fighters from Russia and the US — Su-57 and F-35.

Scooters, laptops & lies: Kerala's ₹500cr half-price hoax swindles 40k people

Disney.Tom@timesofindia.com

Kochi: Scooters, laptops, and home appliances at half the price — the offer seemed like a golden opportunity for thousands of middle-class families across Kerala. The scheme, marketed as a CSR initiative by large companies, claimed to empower women and support low-income households. Women could own a brand-new scooter priced at Rs 1.2 lakh for just Rs 60,000. Laptops, water tanks, fertilisers, and sewing machines were also promised at massive discounts. This generous offer was allegedly devised and executed by Ananthu Krishnan, 28, of Kudayathoor in Idukki district, a self-styled social activist with an eye for deception.

The scheme, police sources said, was nothing more than a sophisticated Ponzi operation, rechannelling funds from new investors to fulfil promises to earlier ones — until it all came crashing down.

On Jan 30, Ananthu was arrested and police froze the bank accounts linked to the operation, cutting off the flow of funds. An SIT was formed to uncover the full extent of the fraud. By then, the scam had already ensnared between 30,000 and 40,000 people, many of whom had taken loans to invest. Over 3,000 people have filed complaints, with investigations estimating the total fraud amount at Rs 500 crore. In just 34 FIRs, Rs 37 crore was confirmed as swindled.

As per investigators, Ananthu lived extravagantly on the bilked money. He rented luxury apartments in Kochi's Marine Drive, spent heavily on a posh lifestyle, and invested in properties in at least five locations across Idukki and Kottayam. Ananthu had carefully built an image of credibility. Fluent in English and active on social media, he posed for photos with celebrities, politicians, and govt officials, adding an air of legitimacy to his scheme.

He said large corporations were funding the initiative under CSR obligations, and to make it appear authentic, he even approached companies & NGOs for real CSR contributions, though none materialised. A project named 'Women on Wheels' was the gateway to the scam's success. Initial investors received scooters, fuelling trust & encouraging more bargain-hunters to invest. Soon, the scheme expanded, offering household items at steep discounts.

But as with any Ponzi scheme, the money eventually ran dry and left thousands in the lurch. A single complaint to Kerala's police chief triggered the first probe. "We didn't know the magnitude of the scam when the first FIRs were registered," police said. Ananthu's scam was more than just a solo act. It involved a web of NGOs and influential figures. Many organisations unknowingly acted as intermediaries, collecting money from investors and forwarding it to the scam. The scam had also spilled into Kerala's political circles, with accusations surfacing against politicians from multiple parties.

CAD-

ODISHA MINING CORPORATION LIMITED
OMC House, Bhubaneswar-751001,Odisha
CIN: U13100OR1956SGC000313, www.omcltd.in

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Short Notice
(For Sale of unsold ore lying Koira Mining Circle)

The Odisha Mining Corporation Ltd. intends to sell the unsold ore produced by ex-lessees for Koira Iron Ore Mines of M/s Essel Mining & Industries Ltd. under Koira Mining Circle through National e-auction which will be conducted by MSTC Ltd. The e-auction shall be held from 11.00 AM to 2.00 PM on dt. 12.02.2025. For details, please visit the website of MSTC i.e www.mstcecommerce.com

Sd/-
Chief General Manager (S&M)

DIPR-3005/11/0141/24-25

Ministry of Culture, Government of India
File No: 4/1/2020-SD/AM

INDIRA GANDHI NATIONAL CENTRE FOR THE ARTS
(An Autonomous Trust under Ministry of Culture, Govt. Of India)
Janpath Building, Janpath, New Delhi – 110 001

Indira Gandhi National Centre for the Arts (IGNCA), New Delhi, an Autonomous Trust under the Ministry of Culture, intends to fill up 02 (Two) posts of **Junior Hindi Translator** in the Pay Matrix Level – 6 Rs.35,400-1,12,400/- on direct recruitment basis.

The last date of receipt of application is within 30 days from the date of publication of the advertisement in the Employment News. For details, please refer to the vacancy circular published on the official website **www.ignca.gov.in.**

CBC 09118/12/0006/2425 (Director Admn)

PUBLIC NOTICE

A notice is hereby given to all concerned that, under the instructions of our client, we are investigating the rights, title, entitlement and interest, including but not limited to any development rights, FAR, FSI, entitlements, etc. of (i) **Bacon Developers Private Limited**, a company incorporated under the Companies Act, 2013 and having its registered office at Flat No. 621-A, 6th Floor Devika Towers, 6, Nehru Place, South Delhi, New Delhi, Delhi, India-110019 (**"BDPL"**); (ii) **Blossom Properties Private Limited**, a company incorporated under the Companies Act, 1956 and having its registered office at Flat No. 224A, 2nd Floor Devika Tower, 6, Nehru Place, South Delhi, New Delhi, Delhi, India- 110019 (**"BPPL"**); (iii) **Feldon Developers Private Limited**, a company incorporated under the Companies Act, 1956 and having its registered office at Flat No. 224A, 2nd Floor Devika Tower, 6, Nehru Place, South Delhi, New Delhi, Delhi, India- 110019 (**"FDPL"**); (iv) **Ignacio Developers Private Limited**, a company incorporated under the Companies Act, 1956 and having its registered office at Flat No. 621-A, 6th Floor Devika Towers, 6, Nehru Place, South Delhi, New Delhi, Delhi, India-110019 (**"IDPL"**); (v) **Mendell Developers Private Limited**, a company incorporated under the Companies Act, 1956 and having its registered office at Flat No. 224A, 2nd Floor Devika Tower, 6, Nehru Place, South Delhi, New Delhi, Delhi, India- 110019 (**"MDPL"**); (vi) **Vaibhav Warehousing Private Limited**, a company incorporated under the Companies Act, 1956 and having its registered office at 275, Piccadily House, Floor-1, Captain Gaur Marg, Srinivaspuri, South Delhi, New Delhi, Delhi, India- 110065 (**"VWPL"**) and (vii) **Vatika Limited**, a company incorporated under the Companies Act, 1956 and having its registered office at Unit No.- A-002, INXT City Centre, Ground Floor, Block-A, Sector-83, Vatika India Next, Gurugram, Haryana, India - 122012 (**"Vatika"**) (collectively **"Land Owners"**) and (i) **Baffin Developers Private Limited** a company incorporated under the Companies Act, 2013 and having its registered office at Flat No. 224A, 2nd Floor Devika Tower, 6, Nehru Place, South Delhi, New Delhi, Delhi, India - 110019 (**"Erstwhile Developer"**); (ii) **Mahira Homes Private Limited** a company incorporated under the Companies Act, 2013 and having its registered office at #301, 3rd Floor, Global Foyer Mall, Sector-43, Shivaji Nagar, Gurugram, Haryana, India- 122001 (**"Developer"**) over the land parcel admeasuring 80 Kanal 12 Marla i.e. approximately 10.075 acres, situated in Village Harsaru, Sector 88B, District Gurugram, Haryana, out of which land admeasuring 53 Kanal 8 Marla, i.e., approximately 6.675 acres forms part of License No. 9 of 2022 and land admeasuring i.e., approximately 27 Kanal 4 Marla, i.e., approximately 3.4 acres forms part of License No. 61 of 2023, granted by the Directorate of Town and Country Planning, Haryana, as more particularly described in the land schedule hereto (collectively **"Land"**).

Any person(s) or entity(s) including but not limited to any bank or financial institution having or claiming or asserting to have any rights, title, interest, demand, estate in respect of the Land or to any part thereof including but not limited to any tenancy rights, leasehold rights, development rights, FAR, FSI, entitlements, etc., of any nature whatsoever and, or, any claim, by way of, under or in the nature of any sale, exchange, assignment, charge, gift, license, lease, tenancy, inheritance, lien, mortgage, hypothecation, encumbrance, pending litigation, possession, contract/agreement, development rights, partnership, family arrangement/settlement, partition, decree or order of any court of law, acquisition by the government or any entity, prohibition or any other impediment with respect to the Land, or any part thereof and, or, having any objection(s) of any manner whatsoever, are hereby required to give notice in writing to the undersigned of any such claim, accompanied with all necessary and supporting documents and other proofs within 15 (fifteen) days from the date of publication hereof, failing which it will be presumed that no party or person has any right, title, interest, entitlement, claim, share, demand in the Land of any nature whatsoever, and the Land Owners/ Erstwhile Developer/Developer are vested with absolute, clear and marketable title and interest in the Land, and the claim or objection, if any, has been knowingly waived and thereafter, no claims or objections of any sort from any person will be entertained and taken into consideration, and shall not be binding on our client.

Land Schedule

Rectangle No.	Killa No.	Kanal	Marla	Land Owner	Status of License
5	20/2 Min	5	7	BDPL	61 of 2023
	21/1	5	17		
8	16 Min	2	13		
	23 Min	0	8		
	24 Min	4	19		
	25	8	0		
11	2 Min South East	1	12	FDPL (1/2 share); and IDPL (1/2 share)	License 9 of 2022
	3 Min South East	6	16		
	4	8	0		
	5/1	6	16	BPPL	
	5/2	1	4		
	6/1	4	14	MDPL	
	7/1	4	14	VWPL	
	8/1	4	14		
	9/1 Min South East	4	11	Vatika	
	10/1 Min South East	0	19	BPPL	
12	1/1	5	17	MDPL	
	10/2 Min North	3	11		
	Total Area	**80**	**12**		
	Total Area in (Acres)	**10.075**			

Date: February 11, 2025

By:
Advocates
Hardeep Sachdeva, Ravi Bhasin and Nupur Singh
AZB & Partners
A-8, Sector 4, Noida- 201301
Emails: hardeep.sachdeva@azbpartners.com
ravi.bhasin@azbpartners.com
nupur.singh@azbpartners.com

Govt. of Bihar

BIHAR STATE TOURISM DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION LTD
A Govt of Bihar Undertaking

NATIONAL COMPETITIVE E-BIDDING INVITATION
TENDER NO. 44/E-TENDER/ BSTDC/SBD/2024-25
(Through e-procurement mode only – www.eproc2.bihar.gov.in)

File No.: 216/Engg/2024/175/engg/25

1. Bihar State Tourism Development Corporation Limited (BSTDCL), a nodal agency for executing tourism infrastructure projects in the state of Bihar, India, intends to execute tourism infrastructure projects at its tourism potential locations.
2. Any Contractor registered with Central Government/any State Government or any PSU or an agency of International or National repute may participate in the tender but registration with any works department, Bihar will be essential after issue of L.O.A. and before executing the agreement.

Gr. No.	Name of work	Estimated Cost (in Lac)	Bid Processing fees (Nritron)	Bid Document Cost	Bid Security (EMD) (in Lac)	Contract Duration
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1	DEVELOPMENT OF SUN TEMPLE AT BELAUR BHOJPUR (PHASE – II)	Rs-455.38	Rs-5,900.00	Rs-10,000.00	Rs-9.11	12 Months

3.	Date of inviting tender	: Date- 07.02.2025
4.	Date of downloading of bid document	: From 28.02.2025 to 07.03.2025 up to 3:00PM. Through website www.eproc2.bihar.gov.in only
5.	Place & Date of Pre-bid meeting	: Date 03.03.2025 Time 03:00PM. (Office of Chief Engineer B.S.T.D.C. Patna)
6.	Last date and time for receipt on eproc2	: Date 07.03.2025 up to 3:00PM
7.	Last date and time for Submission of Original instrument of EMD&Affidavit	: Date 10.03.2025 up to 3:00PM
8.	Time and date of opening technical bids	: Date 10.03.2025 Time 3:30PM Through website www.eproc2.bihar.gov.in
9.	Time and date of opening of financial bids	: To be communicated latter on
10.	Place of opening of bid	: Through website www.eproc2.bihar.gov.in
11.	Period of bids validity	: 120 days
12.	Officer inviting bids	: Executive Engineer(South), BSTDC Ltd.

For further details please visit : **www.state.bihar.gov.in/prdbihar**

PR. No.19119 (B & C) 2024-25

Executive Engineer (South)
BSTDC Ltd, Patna

बिहार में शराब का व्यापार, बिक्री एवं सेवन अवैध है।
इससे संबंधित शिकायत इस नंबर पर दर्ज कराये, आपकी जानकारी गुप्त रखी जाएगी।
टॉल फ्री नं– 15545 या 1800 345 6268

कार्यपालक अभियंता का कार्यालय
भवन प्रमंडल छपरा
ई0 निविदा आमंत्रण सूचना संख्या 15 (S.B.D) /2024–25
शुद्धि–पत्र

इस कार्यालय के द्वारा आमंत्रित ई0 निविदा आमंत्रण सूचना संख्या 15(S.B.D)/भ0प्र0छपरा/2024–25 जिसका P.R No- **011277 (BCD) 2024 -25** एवं शुद्धि पत्र का P.R No-**15362 (BCD) 2024-25** के निविदाओं में निम्न प्रकार संशोधित की जा रही है–

क्रमिक संख्या	कार्य का विषय	पूर्व में निर्धारित तिथि एवं समय	नया संशोधित तिथि एवं समय	पुनः नया संशोधित तिथि एवं समय
23	[illegible]	28.11.2024 से 18.12.2024 को 3:00 बजे अपराह्न तक।	21.01.2025 से 10.02.2025 3:00 बजे अपराह्न तक।	24.02.2025 से 10.03.2025 3:00 बजे अपराह्न तक।
24	[illegible]	19.12.2024 से 3:00 बजे अपराह्न तक।	11.02.2025 को 03:00 बजे अपराह्न तक।	17.03.2025 को 03:00 बजे अपराह्न तक।
25	[illegible]	20.12.2024 को 3:00 बजे अपराह्न	12.02.2025 को 3:00 बजे अपराह्न	18.03.2025 को 3:00 बजे अपराह्न
26	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
28	[illegible]	1. 04.12.2024 को 12:30 बजे अपराह्न [illegible] 2. 13.12.2024 को 12:30 बजे मुख्य अभियंता, [illegible]	1. 29.01.2025 को 12:30 बजे अपराह्न [illegible] 2. 31.01.2025 12:30 बजे मुख्य अभियंता, [illegible]	1. 04.03.2025 को 12:30 बजे अपराह्न [illegible] 2. 11.03.2025 12:30 बजे मुख्य अभियंता, [illegible]

शेष अन्य शर्तें पूर्ववत रहेंगी।

कार्यपालक अभियंता
भवन प्रमंडल छपरा

PR- 019081 (BCD) 2024-25

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

RAJBHAVAN BHOPAL

NOTICE INVITING ONLINE APPLICATIONS FOR APPOINTMENT OF VICE-CHANCELLOR FOR ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE HINDI VISHWAVIDYALAYA, BHOPAL (M.P.)

Advt. No. F 1-1/25/G.S./U.A.1/124 **Dated : 07 February, 2025**

It is proposed to appoint a Vice-Chancellor for the Atal Bihari Vajpayee Hindi Vishwavidyalaya, Bhopal, established under the Atal Bihari Vajpayee Hindi Vishwavidyalaya Adhiniyam, 2011 (No. 34 of 2011), by the Chancellor out of a panel to be recommended by a Committee, appointed in terms of section 29(2) of said Act.

2. The Vice Chancellor shall hold office for a term of 04 years from the date on which he enters office.
3. As the Vice Chancellor is the Principal and Academic Officer of the University, he should have highest level of competence, integrity, morals and institutional commitment. He/She is required to have sound administrative acumen besides being a distinguished academician. He/She must have been born on or after 01st August, 1959.
4. The Vice Chancellor shall draw salary only as per provision of Statute 01 of the University.
5. In support of his unblemished career and undoubted integrity, the applicant should file a self attested certificate to the effect that no enquiry is instituted/commenced/pending in Lokayukt Sangathan, Economic Offence Bureau or any other Organization against him at any level.
6. Along with the application, in case the applicant is in service, he should file a certificate of his employer / head of the office to the effect that no departmental enquiry/criminal case is pending against him.
7. In case of any enquiry conducted as above in earlier years, details of such cases and final conclusion of the enquiry shall have also to be clearly mentioned by the applicant in the self attested certificate.
8. The aspirant for the post of Vice-Chancellor may submit his/her application and documents online on or before 25th of March, 2025 on the link available on Rajbhavan's website "governor.mp.gov.in" and send, self-signed on every page of generated receipt and downloaded copy of application submitted with documents alongwith bio-data and required certificates, to the Additional Chief Secretary, Governor's Secretariat, Rajbhavan, Bhopal - 462003 (M.P.) by registered/speed post etc. "Application for the post of Vice-Chancellor, Atal Bihari Vajpayee Hindi Vishwavidyalaya, Bhopal (M.P.)" should be super-scribed on the upper part of envelope.
9. Any application received directly without online submission shall not be taken into consideration. Online submission of application is compulsory.

Sd/-
Addl. Secretary to Governor
Madhya Pradesh

G-22839/24

Govt. of Bihar

Bihar Industrial Development Area Authority (BIADA)
Ref No: BIADA/RFQ/ PR Agency/01/2024-2025
Request for Proposal for Selection of Creative and Media Agency for promoting Industries in Bihar
NOTICE FOR INVITING REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL

A Media & Communications strategy is essential to regularly convey information about the BIADA, its activities and other components to diverse stakeholders and create awareness, through direct and indirect engagement. To implement Media & Communications strategy through a 360-degree Media Campaign activity, services of a PR agency are required for a period of 2 years in BIADA.

The scope of work and details of the mentioned engagement and prescribed formats for submission can be accessed from Bihar e-procurement Portal http://www.eproc.bihar.gov.in

Sl. No.	Particulars	Details
1	Date of Issue of RFQ	10.02.2025
2	Start date and time of downloading the RFQ	15.02.2025
3	Date & Time of Pre-Bid meeting & submission of queries	24.02.2025 at 03:00 PM
4	Date of publication of responses to Pre-Bid queries	03.03.2025
5	Last Date and Time of submission of RFQ (online)	10.03.2025 at 3:00 PM
6	Last date and Time of submission of physical documents	10.03.2025 at 3:30 PM
7	Address where Bidders have to send physical Documents	Bihar Industrial Area Development Authority, 3rd floor, Udyog Bhawan, East Gandhi Maidan, Patna -800004
8	Date & Time of opening of Technical Bid	10/03/25 at 04:00 PM
9	Date & Time of opening of Financial Bid	Will be informed later
10	Bid Validity	180 days

This information is available on **state.bihar.gov.in/prdbihar** also

PR- 19228 (B & C) 2024-25

Deputy General Manager,
Media, Branding & Communications

नशे की मार, बर्बाद करे सुखी परिवार।

Every difficulty brings an opportunity to grow: Modi

▶Continued from P 1

Are you spending hours watching reels, or are you learning something from technology? Technology is not a storm that will sweep you away—it is a tool. If you use it properly, it will empower you," PM Modi said addressing a common complaint parents have of their children.

Students participated in a candid exchange with Modi, marked by warmth and spontaneity. "Earlier, we met him on stage, but this time, it feels personal," one student shared. Another added, "No scripts, no formality — just open discussion. It makes us feel heard."

The discussion covered a wide range of topics, from language and culture to health and mindfulness. Akanksha from Kerala praised Hindi, prompting the PM to recite a poem. "Society wrongly associates success with exam scores. But real success comes from persistence. A good cricketer focuses on the ball, not the noise in the stadium. Similarly, students should focus on learning, not stress," Modi said.

Traditional food customs were also highlighted as students enjoyed tilgud (sesame-jaggery) sweets. "Just like we offer guests something at home, he shared with us," a student observed. PM Modi underscored mindful living, asking, "Do you know how many teeth we have?" to stress proper chewing habits.

On exam stress, he reassured students, "Marks don't define you." Modi told students that knowledge and examinations are two different things. One should not view exams as be-all and end-all in life, he said.

Stress, he said, is like a pressure cooker, and urged students to express their emotions openly. "Depression often arises due to lack of communication," he noted, encouraging them to embrace challenges: "Every difficulty brings an opportunity to grow."

CALMING NERVES

Encouraging students to balance hobbies with studies, he used an analogy: "If you have a pet dog at home, do you stop spending time with it just because exams are near? No, because it brings you joy. Similarly, hobbies refresh the mind and keep you balanced."

Urging parents to not use their children as models to "show off", he said they should not compare them with others and instead support them. When asked what advice he would give talented students who work hard but don't achieve success, Modi said "rather than focusing on what someone is lacking, appreciate what they excel at. If you encourage them, they will feel valued. Instead of just studying for exams, students should also write—like poetry or essays—to express their thoughts."

He reinforced the importance of curiosity and lifelong learning, telling students, "Be inquisitive. Never stop asking questions. Learning doesn't end with exams; it's a lifelong pursuit." Emphasising knowledge and examinations are two different things, he cited India's tradition of questioning and exploration, noting that great minds push boundaries by asking the right questions.

As the event concluded, PM Modi joked, "Don't act bossy at home just because you now have a direct connection with the Prime Minister!"

25% steel tariff won't hit India's shipments to US

▶Continued from P 1

Officials are also laying store by US' strategic requirement to have good strategic ties with India, that Trump may not breach New Delhi's pain barrier on threshold.

Though Modi and Trump have enjoyed a good rapport since the latter's first term, the govt recognises that nothing can be taken for granted while dealing with a US president who sees himself as a transactionalist with an unrivalled capability to get the best deals for the US.

While the proposed 25% tariff on steel and aluminium has rocked the world, it is unlikely to have a significant impact on India's shipments to the US. During the last fiscal year, India's export of iron and steel was estimated at $475 million, with iron and steel products adding up to another $2.8 billion. Export of aluminium and articles made of this metal were estimated at just under $950 million in 2023-24. The largest sources of US steel imports are Brazil, Canada and Mexico, followed by South Korea and Vietnam, according to govt and American Iron and Steel Institute data.

MONEY MATTERS

In 2018, the previous Trump administration had imposed 25% tariff on steel and 10% on aluminium, citing national security concerns. These tariffs covered most primary steel products, except stainless steel, and included steel pipes and tubes. The tariffs applied to most countries, triggering a wave of retaliatory measures and escalating tensions in global trade. This had also prompted American auto companies to slash production.

Trump had clubbed India, along with China, Brazil and Mexico, as a high-tariff country and threatened action. So far, however, India has not faced any specific action and both sides have spoken about strengthening trade and economic relations. Modi's meeting with the US president is expected to only smoothen the process, given the close bond that the two leaders share.

Trump's announcement pushed up gold prices, seen as a safe haven during turbulent times, while the dollar inched higher. While the sensex closed 550 points lower on Monday, global stocks seem to have shrugged off the threat. Global markets have been on the edge, wary of a possible trade war. The prospect of higher tariffs on Chinese steel and aluminium in particular is, however, not good news for India as the domestic industry is already complaining of cheap imports flooding the markets. This could get worse if Trump goes ahead with his plan, likely Monday, as China would look at the vast Indian market to cover some of the probable losses in the US.

The domestic steel industry has petitioned govt to impose 20-25% safeguard duty on steel to shield domestic players from predatory imports. Small businesses and exporters are, however, wary of these levies and have sought a "balanced response" so that Indian consumers do not end up paying more. An analysis by GTRI showed that India's iron and steel imports have grown from $10.4 billion in FY2018, when the US-China trade war began, to $18.6 billion in FY2024.

Next SC hearing on convicts fighting polls on March 4

▶Continued from P 1

Supreme Court said if Union govt and EC did not file their responses within the stipulated period, it would still proceed with the matter and posted further hearing on March 4.

Under the RP Act, a person is eligible to contest elections six years after he has served out the sentence awarded to him upon conviction in a criminal case or one concerning moral turpitude or corruption. Appearing for the petitioner, senior advocate Vikas Singh gave the example of a convicted criminal not being eligible for a peon's job in govt but being eligible, six years after completion of prison term, to be a lawmaker. Drawing the court's attention to rising crimes by juveniles, Singh said even if held guilty for murder, a juvenile aged 17 would not get imprisonment of more than three years. This means, by the age of 26, he would be eligible to contest elections and if backed by a political party, he would stand a fair chance of becoming a lawmaker.

Though this example caught the bench's imagination, Justice Manmohan appeared more aware of ground realities and machinations of convicted politicians in getting around even the six-year ban, making their wives either the CM or lawmaker. "We must not do something that would provide another ruse for politicians to retain control through remote control," he said.

Amicus curiae and senior advocate Vijay Hansaria supported the petition and told the court that the time had come to test the constitutional validity of certain parts of Sections 8 and 9 of RP Act that allowed a convicted criminal/politician to enter/re-enter the political arena.

Tamil Nadu's additional advocate general Amit Anand Tiwari said the main stakeholders, national and state parties, should be given notice for their responses. The bench said these days SC proceedings were widely reported and it would hear arguments from all stakeholders, whosoever decided to address the court on this issue.

In 2003, in People's Union for Civil Liberties case, SC had for the first time directed candidates contesting an election to declare their assets and criminal antecedents. This order was reinforced by another order in 2018, mandating candidates to file affidavits giving details of their criminal antecedents and details of their own and spouses' assets.

Cong's Bajwa says 30 of Mann's MLAs in touch; 'Mungerilal', says AAP

▶Continued from P 1

Congress talked about the imminent prospect of mid-term polls in Punjab. "More than 30 AAP MLAs in Punjab are in touch with us," said leader of opposition in Punjab, Partap Singh Bajwa, while Congress MP from Gurdaspur Sukhjinder Singh Randhawa predicted mid-term polls. "It depends on how many AAP MLAs switch sides. Congress is the only option for AAP MLAs as BJP has no future in state," he said.

AAP senior spokesperson Neel Garg, however, accused Sirsa of "rumour mongering" to please BJP leadership as he was in race for Delhi CM's post. "Mann is leading a stable AAP govt in Punjab and Sirsa should now worry about delivering BJP's pre-poll promises in Delhi," he said.

"Bajwa is dreaming impossible dreams — just like 'Mungerilal'. Even his brother (Fatehjang Bajwa) joined BJP," AAP MP Malvinder Singh Kang said, downplaying speculation on dissent within AAP & calling Kejriwal's meeting with Punjab MLAs a "routine strategy session". After Kejriwal called the meeting, Punjab govt Monday postponed a cabinet meeting which had to be held after nearly 5 months to decide dates for state budget session. "Delhi got rid of 'AAP-da' and now Punjab also want to get rid of it. Mann govt has failed to tackle the liquor, sand and mining mafia," BJP national general secretary Chugh said.

Political circles were also surprised by the move because of both timing and the optics. Mann, ministers and MLAs of Punjab being called to Delhi is a throwback to days when the all-powerful "high command" could dispense with niceties and need to be sensitive to regional sentiments.

Congress Punjab in-charge Devender Yadav told **TOI**, "AAP MLAs have been restless over being controlled from Delhi. Now that Kejriwal has lost in Delhi, the unrest is growing. This uncertainty over where the control lies could trigger a split as a splinter group within AAP MLAs has been taking shape for some time."

WHO: Use low sodium salt to reduce heart attack risk

DurgeshNandan.Jha
@timesofindia.com

New Delhi: In a renewed effort to reduce sodium intake, WHO has recommended that people should consider replacing regular table salt with Lower-Sodium Salt Substitutes (LSSS).

LSSS refers to the salt form in which a certain percentage of sodium chloride is replaced with another mineral, most commonly potassium chloride. Use of LSSS when compared to regular salt is linked with reduction in heart attack and stroke risk, WHO said.

WHO, in 2012, had issued a guidance document that was later adopted by member states including India which set a global target to reduce mean population sodium intake by 30% by 2030. But current trends suggest slow progress which is why it has come up with this new strategy to promote LSSS, in addition to encouraging member states to reduce overall sodium intake.

It is sold by different brands in India and has 15- to 30% less sodium. However, its uptake is very low due to higher cost and low awareness. Pink Himalayan salt, black salt and sea salt, that are growing in popularity, do not fall in this category.

WHO recommendation is based on findings from 26 randomised controlled trials in adults in which assignment to LSSS compared to regular salt resulted in reductions in blood pressure over 56 days to five years of follow-up. LSSS is not only low in sodium, but also contains potassium which is associated with lower levels of blood pressure.

However, WHO warns, high levels of potassium can be harmful to those with impaired kidney function because their kidneys may not be able to excrete mineral leading to hyperkalemia – a condition that affects heart function and can be life-threatening. WHO guideline on LSSS is, therefore, not applicable for individuals with kidney impairments or with other circumstances or conditions that might compromise potassium excretion. As there is insufficient evidence of the benefits of substituting regular table salt with LSSS in children & pregnant women, these two categories have also been kept out of the ambit of WHO recommendation.

Dr Mohit Gupta, professor of cardiology at Delhi's G B Pant hospital said switching to low-sodium salt substitutes can be beneficial for most people in reducing sodium intake and lowering blood pressure, thereby decreasing the risk of cardiovascular diseases.

Dr Kameshwar Prasad, head of neurology at Fortis Healthcare and Dr Kunal Gandhi, senior consultant, nephrology at Amrita Hospital Faridabad, on the other hand, suggested that it may be better to encourage cutting down salt intake instead of promoting LSSS.

WHO recommends that **one should consume less than 5g salt (2g sodium) daily.** However, all available evidence suggests that people, including Indians, consume two to three times the recommended level of salt

That's why WHO has now recommended that people should, in addition to cutting salt intake, **try to replace salt with Low Sodium Salt Substitute (LSSS)**

What are LSSS?

LSSS refers to salt in which a certain percentage of sodium chloride in the salt is replaced with another mineral, most commonly potassium chloride

Benefits of LSSS over common salt

The use of LSSS can help in lowering sodium in food. Sodium, a key component of salt we consume, is essential for nerve and muscle function. However, if taken in high amounts, it can increase the risk of high blood pressure, heart attack and stroke

RISKS INVOLVED

- Low sodium salts contain potassium in higher amounts
- It is good for healthy adults but children, pregnant women are not advised to use them currently
- Also, doctors say, in persons from diabetes, cardiac and renal diseases, it can cause hyperkalemia – excess levels of potassium in blood – that is known to cause symptoms such as weakened pulse, slow heartbeat, or muscle weakness

It's a poem, not against any religion: SC backs Cong MP

▶Continued from P 1

Reading English translation of the poem, which was attached by Pratapgarhi in his petition, the bench of Justices Abhay S Oka and Ujjal Bhuyan said, "It is ultimately a poem. It is not against any religion. This poem indirectly says even if somebody indulges in violence, we will not indulge in violence. That's the message which this poem gives... that we will quietly suffer the violence but we will not do anything. So that somebody who indulges in violence will be dethroned. It is not against any particular community."

As the state govt sought time to file its reply and sought adjournment, the bench told its lawyer, "Please apply your mind to the poem. After all, creativity is also important." The court also extended its interim order by which the MP was protected in the case lodged against him for posting a video clip with the poem 'Ae khoon ke pyase baat suno'.

On Jan 17, HC had refused to quash the FIR, saying there was a need for further probe. It had said the poem's tenor indicated something about the throne and that responses to the poem on social media pointed to a potential disturbance in social harmony. It had said all citizens, especially an MP, should behave in a manner that did not disrupt communal or social harmony.

After Gujarat HC order, Pratapgarhi appealed in SC which on Jan 21 granted him protection. Noting that he had not been arrested in the case so far, SC had said "no further steps shall be taken in any manner on the basis of the FIR".

MM

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE, RPRC, BHUBANESWAR
(e-mail Id: prebbsr@gmail.com)
Tel-(0674)-2557925

No-T/56/ 232 /RPRC Date: 10.02.2025

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL
Bid Identification No. RPRC/ 18/2024-25

The Chief Executive, RPRC, Bhubaneswar on behalf of Forest, Environment & Climate Change Department, Govt. of Odisha invites RFP for **"Supply and installation of GFRC and combination of GFRC/ GFRP decorative Garden Benches in Botanical Garden of RPRC, Bhubaneswar"** from eligible bidders though e- tendering process in two bid system. The bidders fulfilling the eligibility criteria of the RFP document can access and download the complete RFP and other details from RPRC website **www.rprcbbsr.in/** e-portal **https://rprc.ewizard.in**. The bid calendar under the end-to-end process are-

EMD in Rs.	Cost of Bid Document in Rs.	Availability of RFP document (online)		Date of Opening of (Technical Bid)
		From	To	
1,60,000/- (online)	10,000.00 (Online)	11.02.2025/ 10.00 A.M.	03.03.2025/ 10.00 A.M.	03.03.2025/ 11.00 A.M.

Addendum/Corrigendum/ Cancellation, if any, will be published in RPRC website and e-portal. Bidder needs to register on the portal after successful Registration and send a mail to **eprochelpdesk.101@gmail.com** with details (For New Bidders). For any other queries regarding registration & online tender submission contact to: Mr. Shivendra Kumar, Mobile- **9355030813** and Jitesh Kumar, Mobile- **9355030604, e-mail: eprochelpdesk.101@gmail.com**

Sd/-
CHIEF EXECUTIVE,
RPRC, BHUBANESWAR
CIPR-08004/11/0017/24-25

पूर्वोत्तर आयुर्वेद और लोक चिकित्सा अनुसंधान संस्थान
(आयुषमंत्रालय, भारत सरकार के अधीन एकस्वायत्त संस्थान)
NORTH EASTERN INSTITUTE OF AYURVEDA & FOLK MEDICINE RESEARCH
(An Autonomous Institute under the Ministry of Ayush, Government of India)

No. NEIAFMR/195/CC/2024/309 Dated Pasighat the 7th February, 2025

WALK -IN-INTERVIEW
(Advertisement No. 01/2025)

It is proposed to conduct a Walk-in-Interview on **14.02.2025** at 10:00 Hrs for engagement of following position on contractual basis at North Eastern Institute Ayurveda & Folk Medicine Research (NEIAFMR), Pasighat for a period of one year.

Sl. No.	Posts	No. of Post	Age limit	Venue of Interview
1	Professor (Kayachikitsa)	01	64 years	Ministry of Ayush, AYUSH Bhawan, 'B' Block, GPO Complex, INA, New Delhi- 110023

For further details such as education qualification, experience, and other eligibility criteria for the post and application format may be downloaded from the Institute's website: **www.neiafmr.org.in**

-Sd-
(Dr. Robindra Teron)
Director

CBC 17218/11/0005/2425

SEARCH FOR MISSING

Vikas Kumar @ Vicky

General Public is hereby informed that one person namely **Vikas Kumar @ Vicky S/o Rajinder Kumar, R/o** Dhani, Bisheshar Nath, Abohar, Fazilka, Punjab-15216 has been missing from Arya Samaj Road, Karol Bagh, Delhi Since 09.02.2025 at 01.27 PM. In this regard a case vides **DD No. 05-A** dated **10.02.2025** has been Lodged at PS. Karol Bagh, Delhi. The description of missing person is as under :

Name: Vikas Kumar @ Vicky, **Father's Name:** Rajinder Kumar, **Age** : 36 yrs., **Height** : 5'7", **Built:** Normal, **Face** : Long, **Complexion** : Fair, **Wearing** : White Color Shirt & Sky Blue Color Jeans.

If anyone having any clue/information, kindly inform to the following:-

Website : http://cbi.nic.in
e-mail : cic@cbi.gov.in
Fax : 011-24368639
Ph. : 011-24368638, 24368641

SHO
P.S., Karol Bagh, Delhi
Ph : 011-28726870

DP/1602/CD/2025

SEARCH FOR MISSING

Annu

General Public is hereby informed that one girl namely **Annu D/o Prem Chand R/o** 9171 Gali No.4, Multani Dhanda Pharganj, New Delhi has been missing since 15.01.2025 at 04.30 PM. from 6/62, 2nd Floor above sahib ji store, wea Karol Bagh, Delhi the area of P.S. Karol Bagh, Delhi. In this regard a case vides **DD No. 01-A** dated **16.01.2025** has been registered at PS. Karol Bagh, Delhi. The description of missing girl is as under :

Name : Annu, **Father's Name** : Prem Chand, **Age** : 24 yrs., **Built:** Normal, **Height** : 5'3", **Face** : Oval, **Complexion:** Wheatish, **Hair** : Black, **Wearing** : Jamuni Color Suit & Salwar and Black Color Coat

If anyone having any clue/information, kindly inform the undersigned.

Website : http://cbi.nic.in
e-mail : cic@cbi.gov.in
Fax : 011-24368639
Ph. : 011-24368638, 24368641

SHO
P.S., Karol Bagh, Delhi
Ph : 011-28726870, 28721115

DP/727/CD/2025

New Okhla Industrial Development Authority
NOIDA AN AREA OF EXCELLENCE
NOIDA AUTHORITY BUILDING, SECTOR-6, NOIDA, G.B. NAGAR (U.P.),
Website : www.noidaauthorityonline.com

E-TENDER NOTICE

E-Tenders are invited from eligible, contractors/firm for the following jobs against which bids can be uploaded and same shall be opened/downloaded as per schedule mentioned. The details and conditions of all tenders are available on Noida Authority's official website : **www.noidaauthorityonline.in** & **https://etender.up.nic.in**. Please ensure to see these websites for any changes/amendments & corrigendum, etc.

A) Fresh-Tender work

S. No.	Jobs No.	Name of the work	Tender Amount (Rs. Lacs)
1	37/DGM/SM/(WC-3)/ 2024-25	Strengthening of Road (Strengthening of Internal road in Block-A, B, C, D, E, F, G, H in Sector-39), Noida.	160.95
2	14/DGM/SM/(WC-4)/ ET/2024-25	Remodelling of drain (Remodelling and repair of drain and raising culvert in E-Block Sector-63), Noida.	163.45
3	20/DGM/SM/(WC-7)/ ET/2024-25	D/o Village (C/o C.C. Road, Drain and fixing of M.S. Jaal at different location in Village Nagla Charandas), Noida.	232.41
4	25/DGM/SM/(WC-7)/ ET/ 2024-25	M/o Building (C/o FOB, Wall, Fencing work around park, other shades and repairing of toilets in Old Court Campus, Phase-II), Noida	132.45
5	32/DGM/SM/(WC-8)/ ET/ 2024-25	Internal Development Work (D/o Balance road 5% Abadi Plots in Sector-144), Noida	136.12

The above tenders can be uploaded by **dated 24.02.2025 upto 5.00 PM.** Pre-qualification shall be opened/ downloaded on **dated 25.02.2025 at 11.00 AM.**

B) Re-Tender Work

S. No.	Jobs No.	Name of the work	Tender Amount (Rs. Lacs)
6	22/DGM/SM/(WC-6)/ 2024-25	Strengthening of road (Strengthening of Main Carriage way FNG road from Parthala Gol Chakkar to U-Turn before Bisharakh road), Noida.	975.56

The above tenders can be uploaded by **dated 17.02.2025 upto 5.00 PM.** Pre-qualification shall be opened/ downloaded on **dated 18.02.2025 at 11.00 AM.**

महत्वपूर्ण सूचना – नवीन ओखला औद्योगिक विकास प्राधिकरण के अधिसूचित क्षेत्र में शासन से स्वीकृत मास्टर प्लान एवं उत्तर प्रदेश औद्योगिक क्षेत्र विकास अधिनियम, 1976 के विपरीत प्लॉटिंग या किसी भी प्रकार का अन्य निर्माण पूरी तरह अवैध है। जनसामान्य को आगाह किया जाता है कि इस प्रकार की अवैध कॉलोनियों एवं अवैध निर्मित भवनों में भूखण्डों/अपार्टमेंट/दुकान/गोदाम/फार्महाउस की खरीद-फरोख्त से पूर्णतः संयत रहें तथा कॉलोनाइजर के लुभावने एवं भ्रामक विज्ञापनों से बचें। साथ ही नोएडा अधिसूचित क्षेत्र के हिण्डन एवं यमुना नदियों के डूब क्षेत्र (**Flood Plain Zone**) में अनामिकृत/अवैध प्लॉट एवं फार्म हाउसों के कारोबार में संलिप्त भूमाफियाओं के चंगुल में न फंसें।

Dy. General Manager (Civil)
NOIDA

CLEAN, GREEN, SAFE & SECURE NOIDA

Dr.Ambedkar International Centre
Department of Social Justice & Empowerment
Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment
Government of India

Walk-In-Interview for the post of Assistant Accounts at DAIC

Applications are invited for engagement as Young Professional for the post of Assistant Accounts (No. of Post: One) at Dr. Ambedkar International Centre on Contract Basis. Please visit the official websites https://daic.gov.in/ and https://socialjustice.gov.in for details like Eligibility Criteria, Application Form etc. All eligible candidates are requested to bring two sets of Photo Copy of the documents i.e. Application Form, Identity Proof, Updated CV and all documents related to qualifications and work experiences on the day of walk-in-interview.

Date of Walk-In-Interview : 21/02/2025 (Reporting Time: 09:30 am at Dr. Ambedkar International Centre. 15, Janpath, New Delhi-110001.

Sd/-
(Akash Patil)
Director, DAIC

CBC-38121/11/0007/2425 **Ph. 011-23477499/ 479**

INDIAN RAILWAYS
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS
(RAILWAY BOARD)

No.2023/RS(E)/TM/2 New Delhi, Dated 10.02.2025

CORRIGENDUM No.-1

Sub: E-Open Indigenous Tender No: 2025-TM-1 closing on 14.02.2025 for Design, Manufacture, Supply, Testing & Commissioning of 101 Nos. of 'on track Utility Track Vehicles (8-Wheeler) for B.G. (1676 mm)' along with Training of Indian Railway personnel and 3 years post warranty AMC.

1. The due date of closing of the subject tender has been changed from 14.02.2025 (Friday) to **25.03.2025 (Tuesday).**

2. All other terms and conditions of the tender shall remain the same.

Director, Railway Stores (F)
(Railway Board)

459/25 **SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE**

NORTHERN RAILWAY
Tender Notice

Name of Work and its location	30-Elect-37-T-R1-24-25-E3 Electrical work in connection with repairing of ductable AC plant microwave V-SAT hub TH, Road New Delhi Replacement of Cassette AC and other Allied work related to safety of water coolers with camc of AC Units Window/Split, AC Plant installed over Delhi Division (Under SSE/ACSP NDLS, DLI, Baroda House, Rail Bhawan & SSE/PS/NRCH)
Approx cost of the work in	₹ 256.38 lacs
Address of the Office	Sr. Divl Elect. Engineer/General, New Delhi
Bid Security	Rs. 278200.00
Date & time of submission of tender	05.03.2025, 12.00 Hrs
Opening of tender	05.03.2025, 12.00 Hrs
Website & notice board	www.ireps.gov.in & Sr. Divl. Elect. Engineer/General, New Delhi

442/2025

Serving Customers With A Smile

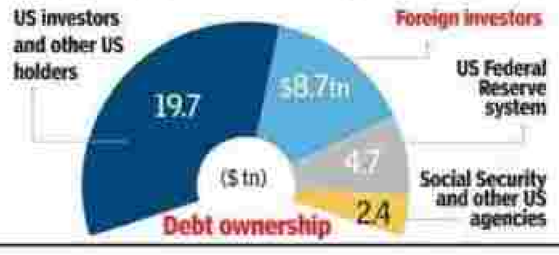
TIMES BUSINESS
THE TIMES OF INDIA, NEW DELHI | TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 2025

Who Owns US Debt?

The US govt has nearly **$36 trillion** of debt on issue and its bonds are the bedrock of the global financial system

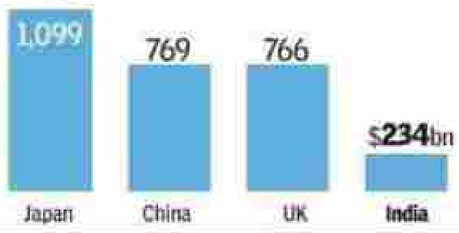
Source: Reuters

> President Trump said his administration was examining Treasury debt payments for possible fraud and **suggested that the country's debt might not be that high** — remarks that may unsettle investors who regard the US debt as a safe asset



Among foreign investors, Japan ranks 1st, India 14th

Holding in $ bn



Record St: Rupee nears 88/$, gold ₹88k

Sensex Slides 548 Pts As FPIs Continue To Sell

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Mumbai/Hyderabad: Investors across geographies and assets were jittery on Monday as US President Donald Trump continued to announce new measures, mostly related to trade tariffs. During the day, the rupee weakened to a new record low at close to 88-to-a-dollar mark but closed substantially off that mark, at 87.48, while gold prices inched closer to the Rs 88,000-per-10-gram mark, a record high level. On Dalal Street, across-the-board selling pulled the sensex down by 548 points or 0.7% to 77,312.

However, small and midcap stocks were affected more than blue chips by the selloff led by foreign funds. BSE's midcap index was down 2.1% while smallcap was down 2.3%.

On Monday, foreign portfolio investors were net sellers at Rs 2,464 crore, BSE data showed. So far this year, FPIs have net withdrawn nearly Rs 90,000 crore from the stock market alone, data from NSDL and BSE showed.

This outflow of foreign funds also had a negative impact on the rupee-dollar exchange rate, which is hitting new record low levels on a regular basis.

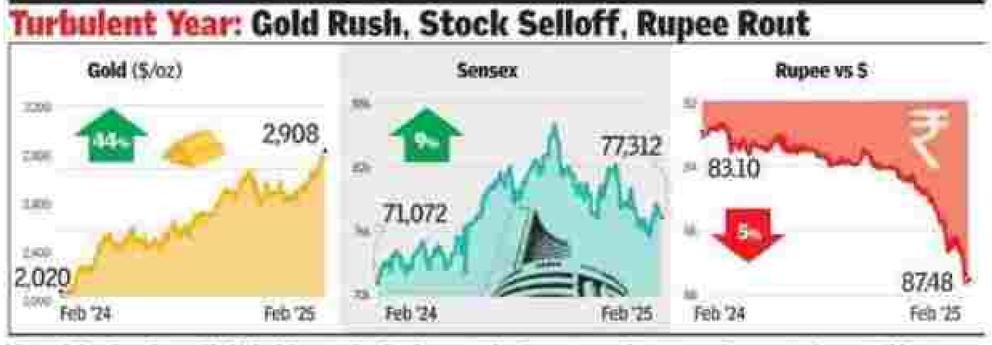
According to Jateen Trivedi of LKP Securities, the rupee's weakness was mainly due to the recent continued outflow of foreign funds post-Budget and RBI policy as neither of the events provided any substantial reforms or structural shifts beyond tax sops for retail investors and a minor cut in interest rate by the central bank. "With ongoing capital outflows, global trade tensions, and a strong dollar, rupee volatility is expected to persist in the 87.25-88 range."

In the bullion market, propelled by the Trump effect, gold breached the $2,900/ounce mark for the first time ever to hit an intraday high of $2,911 in international spot markets late on Monday. This rally sent prices in local spot markets soaring by over Rs 1,000 in a single day to over Rs 87,250. On MCX, the futures prices for April delivery had hit an all-time high at Rs 85,835.

HDFC Securities attributed the latest high to increased fund flow towards gold as a safe haven asset in response to Trump's latest decision to impose 25% tariffs on all steel and aluminium imports to the US.

In Aug 2020, when gold was at its then peak of $2,019, rupee was pegged at around 75 to the dollar. Indian Bullion & Jewellers' Association's Surendra Mehta said the sudden surge in prices post Trump's coming to power has driven customers out of the market. "It's a one-sided sentiment. There are no customers in the market. Walk-ins have plunged 80%. It's a big problem as even gold leasing rates are going up," Mehta said.

Turbulent Year: Gold Rush, Stock Selloff, Rupee Rout



Siddhartha Lal to take over as exec chairman of Eicher

New Delhi: Eicher Motors said the company's board approved appointment of Siddhartha Lal as executive chairman, after retirement of chairman S Sandilya. The company's consolidated net profit increased 18% year-on-year to Rs 1,171 crore for quarter ended Dec 2024, riding on higher sales. Revenue from operations rose to Rs 4,973 crore in Q3 over the previous year. AGENCIES

Reliance enters sports drinks mkt

RIL through its FMCG arm Reliance Consumer Products has entered into the sports hydration drink segment with the brand 'Spinner', co-created with Sri Lankan cricket icon Muttiah Muralitharan. AGENCIES

IIHL set to acquire Rel Cap by Feb 26

Mumbai: IndusInd International Holdings (IIHL) is set to acquire Reliance Capital by Feb 26 as NCLT accepted IIHL's request. During hearing, IIHL confirmed financial closure towards implementation of the resolution plan of Reliance Capital. AGENCIES

Grasim Q3 profit drops 29% to ₹1,844cr

New Delhi: Grasim Industries on Monday reported a 29% drop in consolidated net profit to Rs 1,844 crore for quarter ending Dec 2024. It had posted a net profit of Rs 2,603 crore in Oct-Dec last year. AGENCIES

42% mfg cos plan to invest: Survey

Sees Higher Q3 Inventory, Increased Exports, More Hiring

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi: The average capacity utilisation in the manufacturing sector is around 75%, which reflects sustained economic activity in the sector, and the future investment outlook is also positive, a survey showed on Monday.

About 42% of respondents indicated plans for investments and expansions in the next six months, according to the Ficci quarterly survey of the manufacturing sector. Govt expects private investments to gather pace and add strength to overall GDP growth, which is estimated to have slowed to 6.4% in 2024-25.

"Domestic demand conditions show optimism in Q3 of 2024-25. This assessment of Indian manufacturing is also reflected in the higher order books. 83% of the respondents are expecting a higher number of orders in Q3 FY25 compared to the previous quarter," according to the survey results.

"Challenges faced by respondents in expanding capacities include rising raw material costs, high interest rates, which are creating financial pressures. Respondents expect weak domestic and export demand, further contributing to market uncertainties going forward," the survey said, but added that measures unveiled in the Budget may help in overcoming some of the challenges.

The latest quarterly survey on manufacturing (QSM) assessed the performance of manufacturers for Q3 (Oct-Dec), 2024-25, for eight major sectors that include automotive & auto components, capital goods, chemicals, fertilisers & pharmaceuticals, electronics & electricals, machine tools, metal & metal products, textiles, apparels & technical textiles and miscellaneous.

Responses have been drawn from manufacturing units from both large and SME segments with a combined annual turnover of over Rs 4.7 lakh crore.

In the third quarter of 2024-25, more than 75% of the respondents are expecting higher or the same level of inventory. In exports, about 65% reported higher exports in Q2, 2024-25 and in Q3, 2024-25, more than 70% expect their exports to be higher as compared to previous year's similar quarters.

About 35% of the respondents are looking at hiring an additional workforce in the next three months.

Avg Capacity Utilisation @75%

Source: Ficci Survey

Biocon's growth formula: Generics & biosimilars

Pharma Co To Leverage Viatris Acquisition

Veena Mani & Shilpa Phadnis | TNN

Bengaluru: Biocon is betting big on new product launches in its generics and biosimilars portfolios, which are expected to fuel its expansion in the next 2-3 years. The company is leveraging the Viatris acquisition to provide a significant boost towards an integrated biosimilars enterprise model.

This integrated approach encompasses complete oversight of value-generation through development and production, alongside value-realisation through distribution and market deployment. "We have an experienced and committed team in the US which is focused strongly on biosimilars. And the fact that we are now a fully integrated biosimilars company has enabled us to position ourselves in a strong position with the payers, the PBMs (pharmacy benefit managers) and HMO (health maintenance organisation) sectors. We are India's premier biosimilars company and we are making a brand presence in the global markets. We are building Brand Biocon and getting a 20% plus market share in the US for some products is significant," said **Kiran Mazumdar-Shaw**, chairperson of the Biocon Group.

Its subsidiary Biocon Biologics completed the acquisition of the global biosimilars business of its partner Viatris. As a part of the transaction, Biocon Biologics issued compulsorily convertible preference shares (CCPS) in the company valued at $1 billion, equivalent to an equity stake of at least 12.9% on a fully diluted basis. It made an upfront cash payment of $2 billion to Viatris. Biocon Biologics crossed $1 billion revenue in FY24.

Biocon Group's Dec quarter revenue rose Rs 3,821 crore, with performance driven by a double-digit growth of 14% on a year-on-year basis in biosimilars and a return to growth in research services, which grew by 11%.

Govt eyes $100bn FDI as it sets up EFTA platform

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi: With an eye on receiving $100 billion investment from European Free Trade Association (EFTA) nations — Switzerland, Norway, Iceland and Liechtenstein — govt on Monday announced the setting up of a dedicated platform to promote trade, investment and business facilitation between the two regions.

Last March, India and the four European nations had signed a free trade agreement, which included an investment commitment in return for tariff reductions by New Delhi on products, including chocolates, watches and cut and polished diamonds.

The agreement is not yet operational but is expected to be in force later this year. Commerce and industry minister Piyush Goyal said all the four EFTA nations have moved forward in seeking to implement the agreement.

"With the $100 billion FDI, I believe that we could be catalysing overall investments of may be $400 billion or $500 billion in the Indian ecosystem," the minister said, adding that a million direct jobs could be created.

The setting up of the dedicated investment desk is seen as an important step and it will be the centralised support mechanism for companies from the EFTA region looking to expand in India. It will provide market insights and regulatory guidance, business match-making and assistance in navigating India's policy and investment landscape. "It will help businesses from EFTA countries navigate areas of concern and it will make it easier for them to do business in India," Goyal told reporters.

He also said India has offered EFTA countries an opportunity to have dedicated enclaves in either of the 20 industrial smart cities, being developed by National Industrial Corridor Development Corporation, or in the 100 industrial hub and spoke model areas announced in Budget. "We are in dialogue with the countries to see if any of these (industrial parks) could be dedicated to companies from their respective countries," Goyal added.

Helene Budliger Artieda, Swiss state secretary said that they are informing their companies about investment opportunities in India.

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PIYUSH GOYAL | COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY MINISTER

FM: RBI's gold buying not to replace $ for settlements

New Delhi: FM Nirmala Sitharaman on Monday clarified in the Lok Sabha that India's rising gold reserves, including those held by RBI, is not intended to replace any international currency.

She responded to Congress MP Manish Tiwari's concerns about whether the global shift towards gold signalled a move away from the US dollar as a dominant settlement mechanism.

Sitharaman said, "Gold is also kept in the Reserve Bank and gold is also being bought by the Reserve Bank. But beyond that, as regards an international currency or potential currency, there is not much for me to comment at this stage."

Congress MP Tiwari stated that since the US abandoned the gold standard in 1971, gold had lost its significance as a major financial asset. However, in recent years, central banks worldwide have increased their gold holdings. From constituting only 6% of global reserves in 2006, gold now makes up about 11% in 2024. Countries like China, India, Poland, and Turkey have been among the most aggressive buyers, and domestic gold prices in India have surged as well. He asked "this shift away from the dollar to gold, does it indicate a renewed search for an alternative international settlement mechanism being cost the dollar?"

Responding to this, She acknowledged that gold demand in India remains strong and has even grown. She attributed this to the traditional preference of Indian households, small businesses, and women for gold as a secure and liquid investment.

Regarding RBI's gold purchases, she confirmed that the central bank is accumulating gold to maintain a balanced reserve portfolio. While the US dollar has been a dominant component of India's foreign exchange reserves, the RBI also holds reserves in other currencies and gold. AGENCIES

IPO market gets reality check as $4bn stock lockups expire

The country's newest stocks joined a broader market selloff in the country as sale restrictions on about $4 billion of such shares expired on Monday.

That's adding pressure to a stock market already down $1 trillion in value since mid-Dec. Lockups in FirstCry operator BrainBees Solutions, Ceigall India, Ola Electric Mobility and Unicommerce eSolutions were among those that ended on Monday, according to data compiled by Nuvama Alternative & Quantitative Research.

On Monday, shares of most of the companies cited by Nuvama Alternative fell, led by a 20% drop in train signalling firm Quadrant Future Tek. Unicommerce eSolutions' shares also slumped 10% in their biggest plunge since trading debut in Aug. Ola Electric tumbled 3.3% while food delivery firm Swiggy's shares closed almost 5% lower.

It was India's biggest lockup expiry in recent months, but not all these shares were up for sale as the companies' founders hold sizable portions, according to Abhilash Pagaria, head of the researcher Nuvama.

The expiries come amid a continued rush of Indian IPOs — the securities regulator says it's processing more than 60 applications — which has defied the broader pessimism engulfing the nation's shares. Concerns about the slowing economy and earnings growth have contributed to a 20% decline in the total market cap of Indian stocks from a Dec high to 84.1 trillion. BLOOMBERG

BP, ONGC tie up for projects in India, abroad

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi: Flagship explorer ONGC and British energy major BP plc on Monday signed a framework MoU (Memorandum of Understanding) to explore partnerships in oil and gas projects in India and internationally, giving a much-needed leg up for India's pitch for investments at the India Energy Week beginning here on Tuesday.

The MoU comes within a month of ONGC selecting BP as a technical service provider for raising output from its flagship Mumbai High oil and gas field. The focus of the collaboration will be on exploration and production as well as trading, besides other vectors of the energy sector, the companies said after signing the MoU in the presence of oil minister Hardeep Singh Puri.

The companies see scope for jointly bidding for offshore acreage under India's Open Acreage Licensing Programme (OALP) rounds in partnership with their respective partners. In addition, the companies see potential for collaborating in deep-water exploration, enhancing production and optimising management of ONGC's maturing fields.

The MoU envisages value-creation through strategic collaboration in trading and other areas, such as carbon sequestration. The MoU is valid for three years, during which both parties will work together in the identified areas of collaboration.

"ONGC and BP have agreed to explore opportunities for collaboration and partnership across the energy industry in India and internationally, focused on oil and gas exploration and production, as well as trading and extending to other energy vectors," a statement said.

'South states need to boost productivity'

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Chennai: Southern states can do more to improve labour productivity, gross value addition, research and skilling, said chief economic adviser V Anantha Nageswaran. Speaking at the CII South Global Linkages Summit, he said the southern states have performed well in GDP per capita, labour force participation, skilling and gross value addition in manufacturing but there is room for improvement.

He said the number of persons engaged in manufacturing in south India is 33% but output share is about 26%. "So that kind of tells you there is scope for improvement in productivity," he said, adding, while these states have basic skilled workforce, it needs to improve professional skills and 'very high order' professional skills, especially with the global developments of high value added manufacturing and adoption of artificial intelligence. Southern states have done well in economic and social progress and should benchmark themselves against the world, not within India, he added.

India top mkt for Swiss watch co Rado

Pankaj.Doval@timesofindia.com

New Delhi: Chinese pain has become India's gain when it comes to the global operations of Swiss watch maker Rado, a part of the Swatch group. With economic difficulties in China slowing down demand for luxury watches, Rado has enjoyed swift gains in India that has seen the country emerge as the brand's largest single-market in worldwide sales.

Adrian Bosshard, Rado's global CEO, said demand in India has been going strong and the company is the biggest player in the $1000-$5000 price category (around Rs 85,000-4,50,000) within the country. "While there are many markets that are challenged globally, the Indian market is in a good place with a positive outlook," he said. "Even China is in a challenging position right now. On the other hand, we are seeing a momentum in India which is unprecedented."

The company has around 33 stores here (apart from being retailed out of multi-brand sellers), and Bosshard said metros and top towns have been the biggest contributors so far. "Now, we also see healthy interest for Swiss watches from Tier 2, Tier 3, and even Tier 4 regions."

Indians are buying watches not only locally but even abroad. "People with Indian roots are buying in Dubai, Australia, UK, US and Canada. The same is true for those travelling for holidays or business, and purchasing in other countries." And, what is prompting Indians to buy luxury watches, Bosshard said it is fuelled by a relatively younger population with higher disposable incomes.

"There is a great momentum in India, as more and more people are passionate about luxury goods. There is a young population and a positive demography here. Also, the education levels of professionals are high and purchasing power is growing."

Rado has been present in the country since the 1970s and Bosshard said it gains from a relatively stronger sales and service network. "While we continued to expand here, there are many other brands that ignored this market for long. Also, our local management helps us develop tailor-made solutions when it comes marketing and consumer connect initiatives."

> While there are many markets that are challenged globally, the Indian market is in a good place with a positive outlook. Even China is in a challenging position right now. On the other hand, we are seeing a momentum in India which is unprecedented

> There is a young population and a positive demography here (in India). Also, the education levels of professionals are high and purchasing power is growing

— ADRIAN BOSSHARD | GLOBAL CEO, RADO

A thought for today

Let us never negotiate out of fear. But let us never fear to negotiate

JOHN F KENNEDY

Mr 25%

Trump's tit-for-tat tariffs will hurt trade in goods. India should think of services more

Trump just tariffed again. A flat 25% duty on all American imports of steel and aluminium, two key industrial products. India is the world's second largest producer of both, but a small US supplier. But even its $450mn worth of steel, aluminum exports to US aren't trivial. And mills making metal for export are in a real bind. Since Modi's meeting Trump on Thursday, there's hope. Maybe Trump's just fishing for a deal – he suspended his 25% tariffs on all Canadian and Mexican goods promptly last week. So, a little give and take might make him rethink "if they charge us, we charge them".

If he doesn't, we lose some, but US loses more. Trump first imposed tariffs of 25% on steel and 10% on aluminium in March 2018, arguing these two metals are the bedrock of America's defence-industrial base. His focus even then was on "unfair trade", boosting America's economy, protecting jobs and raising revenue.

Two years on, the numbers didn't look encouraging. Yes, US steel industry added 1,000 jobs. But because tariffs had made imported steel costlier, domestic steel prices rose. Each of those 1,000 jobs eventually cost US consumers $900,000 more – many times a mill worker's pay. But 75,000 jobs that might have been added in industries making cars, washing machines, etc – products that use steel – didn't happen because costly steel made steel products costlier, and uncompetitive against cheaper imports. In those two years, US firms filed 100,000 requests to be exempted from steel import tariffs.

Trump's promised voters he'll create jobs but he misses the point that steelmakers shielded with tariffs are likely to use more machines than men to ramp up production. Consumers lose, workers don't gain, what's the point of tariffs then? That's America's problem. Ours is to find markets for our own steel and aluminium. But global trade's belief system is changing, and a narrow focus on manufacturing and exporting goods will need to be complemented by other strategies. Think, services. GCCs have thrived, and India's strengths – democracy, demographics, comfort with English – create room for more. High-paid services create demand for low-paid services – cooks, cleaners, drivers – and in a booming economy there's always a market for aluminium and steel.

Water Of India

Neurological disease outbreak in a major city shows how govts can cause health crises

Pune's GBS outbreak is a scary reminder of how poor govt services can create a public health emergency. GBS, a neurological disorder, is triggered by certain bacteria and viruses. In Pune, the culprit was Campylobacter jejuni, which made its way into the water supply – tap water from a well that did not undergo adequate treatment. Contaminated water is a national problem. In J&K's Rajouri, unexplained deaths of 17 people may also have a contaminated drinking water link. A final report is awaited. But initial findings point to a spring with traces of toxins such as carbamates, organophosphorus, and cadmium. In Dec, Chennai saw three deaths due to possible drinking water contamination in an area with a long history of piped water supply.

Increasing piped water supply is not the only challenge confronting govts. Safe, potable water is no guarantee when supply is through old pipes that run next to sewage lines. GOI schemes like Jal Jeevan that aim to increase piped water supply can't guarantee supply of safe water. Reasons include poor infra, inadequate treatment and unchecked water pollution. Therefore, govt's focus must shift from just quantity (number of piped connections) to quality (purification and integrity of supply).

Most Indians are faced with one of two outcomes – no piped water or contaminated piped water. As for groundwater, used by 80% of Indians as primary water source, contamination is common in most districts in the country. Toxicity in groundwater comes from metals such as arsenic, iron, cadmium, chromium and uranium. India's water quality problem is part of a larger problem of govts' attention deficit when it comes to supplying basic services to citizens who can't afford private solutions.

Dome Sweet Dome

The peace dividends of war profiteering

Rupa Sengupta

Trump's 'outside-the-box', 'revolutionary' thinking will 'bring peace', suggests Israel's Netanyahu. Isn't he (far) right?

Take West Asia. What better 'peace plan' for a MAGA-Stripped region than for US to 'buy', 'own' and yet be bootless in Gaza? Not for nothing Trump pushed the Israel-Hamas ceasefire, approved 2,000 pound bunker-busting bombs for Tel Aviv, and suggested 2.1mn Palestinians vamoose. What about their attachment to a homeland Israel's relentlessly pounded, with US aid? Don't worry, they'll be happy *outside* Gaza – future 'Riviera' with casinos instead of bombed-out craters. As son-in-law Kushner said, turn battlefront into waterfront. Life's a beach, eh?

Next, take Ukraine. What sweeter peace 'deal' for battered Ukrainians than for US to hog their natural resources? Ever-so businesslike, Trump threatened to sanction Russia if fighting continued. Reportedly, his administration then briefly halted arms shipments to Ukraine, near-hobbling its fightback. He finally sought Ukraine's rare earths in exchange for keeping it fighting fit! What about the casualties of a 'ridiculous war' Trump said he'd end in an iffy jiffy? Well, since peace-brokering takes time, it had better be profitable meantime, right?

Finally, take the world. What greater peace programme than for US to put missile-detecting sensors and kill-capability weapons in space – a grand 'next-generation' missile defence shield against 'foreign aerial attack'? If Israel's 'Iron Dome' can smash short-range rockets, surely Trump's early-warned America can demolish the ballistic, hypersonic and advanced cruise missiles of its long-ranging foes.

Russia claims US's 'focus' on space warfare will heighten global 'tensions'. How bang on target. Strategic deterrence only works if all nations with nukes-brandishing M.A.D.-men are sitting ducks – a precarious balance that'll collapse if Donald ducks. But then, aren't peace-poopers proliferating? So, yes, US must also possess those very missiles Trump wants neutralised by eye-in-the-sky satellites, spy-in-the-sky trackers and collide-in-the-sky interceptors of what non-fantasists dub his pie-in-the-sky project.

So is global amity, or calamity, within striking distance? Well, if US's arms-factories revive Star Wars, retaliators can also lucratively militarise space. Entropic equilibrium will set in; with arms-racers ignoring nuclear insecurity to cash in on Domeland Security, the dome's-day clock won't strike midnight. See? Trump may seem an unguided missile. But when Bibi hailed the Don of peace, he hit the nail on the warhead.

LOVE, COMMON CODED

Couples choose live-in relationships to avoid the rigmarole of marriage. Uttarakhand UCC brings down the full weight of harassment on this choice. It attacks fundamental personal freedoms

Mihira Sood

"The law is an ass," wrote Charles Dickens in his classic *Oliver Twist*. It's hard to recollect an instance when this has been more true than now, with the notification of rules under Uttarakhand's Uniform Civil Code, particularly those regarding live-in relationships.

The entire idea of a live-in relationship is that parties prefer a more casual, less formal arrangement than marriage, or find it more convenient for the time being. Increasingly, couples wish to test their compatibility before getting married.

Often, in India, inter-faith couples facing familial opposition live together as they try to bring their families around. Whatever be the reason, the essence of the arrangement is to avoid the legal rigmarole and obligations that come with marriage, a choice consenting adults are free to make in any democracy worth the name.

It is ironic then, that the requirements to enter and exit a live-in relationship under this law are instead *more* cumbersome than for marriage, including parental consent for those under 21, compulsory registration of the start and end of cohabitation, a 16-page form that has to be validated through Aadhaar (itself a questionable requirement as the Supreme Court has allowed Aadhaar to be demanded in very limited circumstances), a fee for registration, and imprisonment for non-compliance. These are just some of the absurd features of Uttarakhand's UCC.

Far worse is the fact that registration is not an automatic process – it is actually a process of seeking *permission*, and permission can be denied for a variety of reasons, most disturbingly, if the registrar is of the opinion that consent has been vitiated by coercion, misrepresentation etc. This may seem unremarkable, but it needs to be viewed in context.

Opposition to live-in arrangements invariably comes from women's families who object to her consensual inter-faith or inter-caste relationship; and falsely allege that her partner forced her to convert, misrepresented his identity, or applied other pressure. In this backdrop, it is not difficult to see how this power of the registrar can be used to override her wishes.

In fact, this UCC allows complaints regarding non-registration to be made by any third party, opening the door for not just controlling parents, but interfering neighbours, landlords, local goons, religious extremists, or any other busybody to play moral police.

This not only undermines a woman's right to privacy and autonomy, but also the Supreme Court's own rulings on the subject. In Lata Singh vs State of UP (2006) the court reiterated that a woman who is above 18 years of age was free to live with anyone of her choosing, and specifically directed that the local administration should protect live-in relationships from outside interference, including from family members.

How then, has this UCC been passed? The official justification is to prevent crimes being committed against women by cohabiting partners. But was this necessary?

In fact, the law already recognises and protects "domestic relationships" through the Protection of Women from Domestic Violence Act, whereby protection is extended to relationships "in the nature of marriage".

Several countries similarly protect "common law marriages", where a couple that has been living together for a length of time in a marriage-like relationship, is treated as such for maintenance and child support. This has been recognised by the Supreme Court as far back as 1978 in the case of Badri Prasad vs Dy Director of Consolidation.

In the 2010 case of D Velusamy vs D Patchaiammal, the court held that if a couple is legally capable of getting married, and have voluntarily cohabited and held themselves out to the world as being akin to spouses for a significant period of time, then the same rules of maintenance would apply as if they were legally married. Similarly, rights of residence, inheritance rights of cohabiting partners, and of children born from the relationship have been recognised in a slew of other Supreme Court decisions.

It is therefore a fact that women have been entitled to these protections even before this UCC was passed. It is also a fact that registration has no bearing on preventing domestic crimes against women – the dowry harassment, marital rape, desertion, and cruelty meted out to legally married women on a daily basis are proof enough of this.

This law is not only completely unnecessary, but places innumerable obstacles before women exercising their freedom of choice. If at all we need a law for unmarried cohabitants, it should be to shield them from interference and harassment, not make them more vulnerable to it.

A uniform civil code is supposed to do two things – empower women and create a secular framework. This one actively undermines both these goals. It infantilises women, legitimises moral police, and targets inter-faith couples. In the guise of providing rights that women were already entitled to, govt is steadily chipping away at fundamental freedoms, and hoping nobody will notice.

Before you know it, this law will be replicated in other states, and this template will be used to denude us of other rights. It's a slippery slope to an Orwellian future, and we are well on that path. But as long as it's smooth and fast and lined with gleaming shopping malls, will anyone even notice, or care?

The writer is a lawyer and scholar in the field of women's rights

'India-France will harness AI's potential for global good'

Modi is in Paris for an AI summit. French ambassador writes the scope of the two nations' strategic partnership goes beyond security, and is sharply focused on innovation

Thierry Mathou

"A giant in world history, with a decisive role to play in the future, a strategic partner, a friend." President Macron's words celebrate the outstanding relations between India and France. PM Modi's visit to Paris as co-chair of the two-day AI Action Summit hosted by France (Feb 10-11), provides a new opportunity to expand France and India's partnership. This visit follows cross visits of the Indian PM to Paris in 2023 and President Macron's visit to India on its 75th Republic Day in 2024.

Our longstanding relationship is based on solid fundamentals: unwavering mutual trust and respect; approaching this relationship as equals; and a profound understanding of our mutual ambitions, even during difficult times. This has led to wide-ranging security and defence cooperation.

The high-profile stopover of the French navy's Carrier Strike Group (CSG) in India last month was a large-scale event. The CSG's joint exercises with India's armed forces offered a compelling illustration of France and India's shared belief in a free, open, inclusive, secure and peaceful Indo-Pacific.

In these fundamentals lies the success of France and India's strategic partnership, based on constant innovation to meet the challenges of our times. "Because, as partners, aren't we first and foremost inventing the future together, through the power of our imagination, our ability to innovate, and our willingness to learn from our differences and experiences?" These words were uttered not in 2025, but in 1998 – by President Jacques Chirac, when our strategic partnership was established. The same point could be made today.

This vision shows that, from its very inception, the idea of the Indo-French 'strategic partnership' was not limited to security affairs. The ever-evolving partnership has become universal, extending from seabed to space. It includes improving economic prosperity, ensuring sustainable development, and building a secure and peaceful Indo-Pacific region.

Among challenges ahead, artificial intelligence (AI) is the future of our cooperation. France and India already possess strong assets in terms of research capabilities, talent, and data. PM Modi and President Macron foresaw great potential for future cooperation in 2019, when they endorsed the Indo-French Roadmap on Cybersecurity and Digital Technology. India and France share a common vision of AI governance for the

File Photo

development of a safe, open, secure, and trustworthy AI, its responsible and ethical use and solutions, as founding members of the Global Partnership on Artificial Intelligence. Based on their dynamic cooperation on digital public infrastructure, India and France will harness the potential of AI for human development and the global commons.

French and Indian innovation ecosystems are already closely linked. French digital companies – whether major groups or startups – not only have a strong presence in India, but are also willing to enhance their involvement in India's ambitious digital programmes. This ambition is embodied by the French Tech Bangalore-India, launched in 2019, which has brought together hundreds of individuals, startups and corporate members from over 20 cities in India and France. Similarly, digital and telecommunications are key investment sectors for Indian companies in France. Indian startups are soon to be incubated at Station-F, the world's biggest startup campus based in Paris.

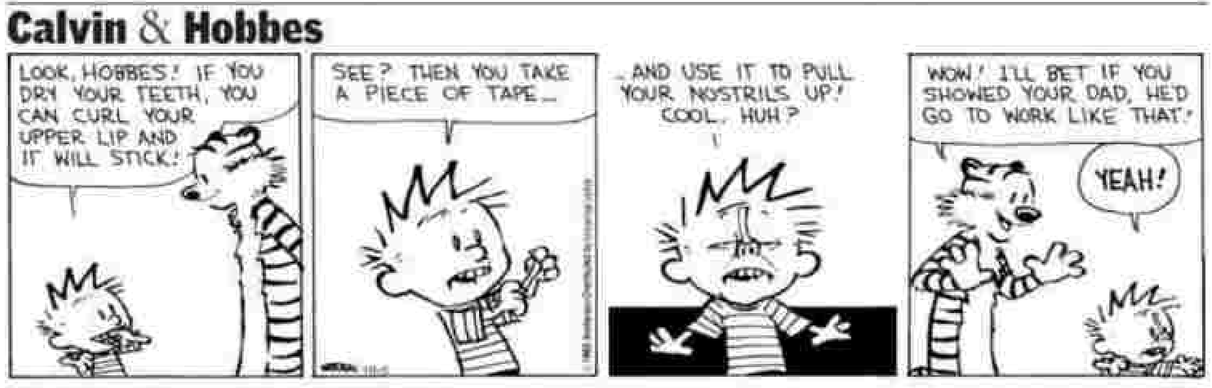
The launch of the 'India AI Mission' in March 2024 has brought renewed opportunities. France is eager to deepen its partnership with India on AI as the mission unfolds to develop computing access, improve data quality, develop AI capabilities, attract top talent, foster industry collaboration, providing startup risk capital, ensuring socially impactful AI projects and bolstering ethical AI.

Much has been done, and the AI Action Summit co-chaired by India will undoubtedly shed light on India and France's joint work in the five dedicated working groups to tackle key issues for tomorrow: Public Interest AI, Future of Work, Innovation & Culture, Trust in AI, and Global AI Governance.

India's role will be key to help respond to three questions we all face. How can we massively develop AI technologies and uses across the world? How can we ensure nobody is left behind and preserve our freedoms in the AI revolution? How can we ensure uses of AI respect our humanistic values, and that technology serves society and public interest?

The AI Action Summit will provide strong impetus to our forward-looking cooperation. As announced by President Macron and PM Modi in Jan 2024, the year 2025 will be the India-France Year of Innovation. Many concrete initiatives will be taken to bring our respective innovation ecosystems closer to tackle the economic, environmental, and technological challenges the world faces. The year will also promote a common vision for a responsible and inclusive innovation model that will help build a shared future – as former President Jacques Chirac had hoped on the signing of the Indo-French strategic partnership more than 25 years ago.

Calvin & Hobbes



Sacred*space*

The three great essentials to achieve anything worthwhile are, first, hard work; second, stick-to-itiveness; third, common sense.

Thomas A Edison

Jevons Paradox Of Love And Hate

Jug Suraiya

Commenting on the exponential ramifications for the artificial intelligence (AI) industry following the Chinese technological breakthrough which created the advanced language model of DeepSeek, at a fraction of the cost of its competitors, the CEO of Microsoft, Satya Nadella, invoked the spectre of the Jevons Paradox.

Formulated 160 years ago by the British economist William Stanley Jevons, the counter-intuitive paradox shows that technological advancement in the use of any given resource leads to an increasing, and not a decreasing, use of that resource.

Jevons based his theory on how the better utilisation of coal during Britain's Industrial Revolution through the invention of the steam engine led to a greater demand for coal, and increased instead of lowering its consumption.

Similarly, the construction of more roads and highways to cut down on driving time can have the unintended consequence of increasing the volume of vehicles, leading to congestion, delays and traffic jams.

More efficient electrical systems lead to a greater demand for electricity and therefore increased consumption of power.

Nadella expressed the apprehension that the advent of DeepSeek could augur an uncontrolled and uncontrollable proliferation of AI usage, both for benefic purposes such as medical research, and for the malefic creation of deepfakes and propagandist misinformation.

THE SPEAKING TREE

Can the equivalent of the Jevons Paradox obtain in the non-material realm of the psyche? Can it work in the realm of the antipodes of love and hate?

Time and time again, history has shown that given a conducive environment which promotes it, the destructive energy of hatred thrives and feeds on itself to grow to monstrous proportions, as witnessed in Nazi Germany, in the Red Terror of the Stalinist purges, in the McCarthy witch hunts in America, and in the ongoing and escalating Israeli-Palestinian conflict.

Collective hate, the systemic 'otherisation' of those who belong to a different country, religion, or ideology, is indeed a self-generating, constantly renewable resource, with universally tragic consequences.

Can the same claim be made for hate's composite polar opposite of love and compassion, a combined resource of the spirit that our environmentally endangered and strife-ridden planet so desperately needs?

By its nature hate divides; by its essence compassion, manifested through empathy, unites. Even as the hate-driven wars of antagonism divide, the empathy-inspired crusades against hunger and poverty, and against environmental degradation, unify through commonality of purpose.

The resource of divisive hate is created and propagated by rabble-rousing demagogues and dictators. The resource of unifying compassion is generated and fostered by scientists seeking cures for disease, by philosophers and ethicists in search of universal verities that sustain all humanity, by poets and artists who help us to see the familiar world with the startling newness of unfamiliar vision.

As in the case of 19th century coal, or 21st century AI, the timeless human resources of hate and compassion are subject to the Jevons Paradox; the more they are used, the greater is the demand for them.

While hate perpetuates a vicious circle of anti-evolutionary descent, compassion creates a virtuous spiral of ascent.

And AI is the new, perhaps ultimate, frontier where the two age-old and highly resourceful adversaries will contend to define what it is to be human.

TIMES SPORT

THE TIMES OF INDIA, NEW DELHI | TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 2025

THOMAS DETRY GETS HIS FIRST PGA TOUR WIN, A 7-SHOT ROMP AT THE PHOENIX OPEN IN US

SPANISH DEFENDER SERGIO RAMOS SAYS HE'S COME TO MEXICO TO WIN MORE TROPHIES

ROHIT'S AGONISING WAIT ENDS

Skipper Keeps Critics At Bay With Welcome Return To Form Ahead Of Champions Trophy

IANS

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Cuttack: Rohit Sharma generally enjoys his interactions with journalists and often sports a smiling face at press conferences. But at the pre-match media conference ahead of the first game of the ongoing ODI series against England in Nagpur, Rohit lost his cool, a rarity for him.

Asked to reflect on his prolonged lean patch and whether he had been asked to clarify his future plans to selectors, the India captain had shot back, "How is it relevant that I talk about my future plans sitting here when there are three ODIs and a Champions Trophy coming up?

"(Such) reports have been going around for a number of years, but I am not here to clarify those. For me, these three games and the Champions Trophy are very important, so my focus is on these games. We will see what happens afterwards."

Thankfully, on Sunday, Rohit was back to his usual best with bat in hand in the second ODI against England. He looked calm and composed and would have soothed many nerves with his 32nd ODI century.

Later, at the presentation ceremony, Rohit, an easy choice for the Player-of-the-Match award at the Barabati Stadium, reflected on his approach.

"I really broke it down into pieces about how I wanted to bat. It's a 50-over format, a little longer than T20 and a lot shorter than Test cricket. Obviously you still need to break it down and assess what you need to do at regular intervals and that is what I kept doing. It was important for a batter who gets set to bat as deep as possible and that was my focus."

Prior to Sunday's century — his second fastest in ODIs — Rohit's last 16 innings across formats had yielded 6, 5, 23, 8, 2, 52, 0, 8, 18, 11, 3, 6, 10, 3, 9, and 2. He had scored 166 runs at an average of 10.37. During this period, he managed to score 30 or more runs only once and had sub-10 scores 11 times. The only half-century came against New Zealand in the Bengaluru Test in Oct last year.

However, Rohit's ODI scores since his last century (131) against Afghanistan in the ODI World Cup on Oct 11, 2023, are 86, 48, 46, 87, 4, 40, 61, 47, 47, 58, 64, 35 and 2. It's quite good considering he was consistently scoring half-centuries or getting out in the 40s. However, now that he has retired from T20Is after leading India to the T20 World Cup title last year — and that ODIs are played less these days — his lack of runs across formats came under the spotlight.

Naturally, Rohit was long overdue for an innings which fits his nickname, the 'Hitman'. Rohit will be hoping this is not a one-off and that he can find consistency and rediscover the knack of scoring big hundreds heading into the Champions Trophy.

"Looking at the pitch, when you play on black soil, (the ball) tends to skid on a bit, so it's important that you show the full face of the bat when you are batting initially. Once I got into my innings, I understood what they were trying to do – bowling into my body and trying to not give any room, keep it on the stumps," Rohit said about his approach to the innings. "That's where I prepared my plan as well, what I wanted to do with those kinds of deliveries, trying to access the gaps which were there. It's about understanding what you want to do as a batter and obviously I got very good support from (Shubman) Gill to start with and then Shreyas (Iyer)," acknowledged the skipper.

With Gill, Rohit shared a 136-run opening stand in under 17 overs. The Punjab opener, "a very, very classy player who doesn't get overawed by the situation" — according to his skipper — was all praise for his senior opening partner.

"He makes things much easier than what it is," Gill said after the game. "The way he dominated the fast bowlers today was just a treat to watch from the non-striker's end."

Rohit had spoken about ticking all the boxes before the Champions Trophy starts on Feb 19. With his trademark innings leading India to series-winning victory, he certainly has ticked a very important checkbox for himself as well as the team.

Meanwhile, teammate Ravindra Jadeja brushed aside any dressing-room concerns about the skipper's lean patch. "In our dressing room, there was no such atmosphere (of pressure). He is such a great player that he knows exactly how to build an innings," Jadeja said about Rohit's match-winning century.

"It's just a matter of one good innings. As you saw, it didn't even feel like he hadn't scored runs in the previous innings. The shots he played were smooth and he looked confident. He played normal strokes," said Jadeja.

> **"I enjoyed being out there, scoring some runs for the team. I broke it down into pieces about how I wanted to bat. It's a 50-over format, but you still need to break it down and assess what you need to do at regular intervals. It was important for a batter who gets set (to) bat as deep as possible and that was my focus."**
>
> —**Rohit Sharma** | INDIA CAPTAIN

> **"Rohit's knock is a nice reminder for all of us that if someone of his calibre can be under pressure, we should all go a bit easier on ourselves. Any time you're playing against great players and they're playing an innings like that, players on both sides will be watching and learning. He really showed the modern sort of way of playing 50-over cricket, which is very dynamic, very aggressive."**
>
> —**Jos Buttler** | ENGLAND CAPTAIN

ODI FORM NOT A PROBLEM FOR ROHIT

Rohit in Tests vs Rohit in ODIs (last 15 matches)

—Stats: Rajesh Kumar

	M	I	NO	Runs	HS	Avr	100	50	6s	SR
ODIs	15	15	0	875	131	58.33	2	5	46	129.43
Tests	15	28	1	624	131	23.11	2	2	11	62.15

(In his last 8 Tests, from Sept-Dec 2024, **Rohit averaged only 10.93 from 15 innings**, a long lean patch)

A One-Day Colossus

ODI CAREER	267	259	36	10987	264	49.26	32	57	338	92.70
1st phase (2007-2012)	86	81	16	1978	114	30.43	2	12	23	77.93
2nd phase (2013-2020)	138	136	16	7137	264	59.47	27	31	221	92.54
3rd phase (2021-2025)	43	42	4	1872	131	49.26	3	14	94	116.85

'Credit domestic cricket for maintaining rhythm'

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RAVINDRA JADEJA

Cuttack: Allrounder Ravindra Jadeja, who came up with another impressive performance in the second ODI against England, believes his recent stint in domestic cricket in the Ranji Trophy helped him get into the right rhythm even for the white-ball 50-over format. Jadeja played two Ranji Trophy matches for Saurashtra before the England series but bowled in only one of them, against Delhi — 30 overs for 12 wickets across the two innings.

It was the perfect way to prepare and he has continued his good form from there on, pocketing six wickets from the 19 overs he has bowled in the first two games of the England ODI series. His pivotal performance ahead of the Champions Trophy, beginning in just about a week from now, will also be a confidence booster for the entire team.

Jadeja credited the short stint in domestic cricket for maintaining his rhythm despite returning to the format after long, largely due to lesser ODIs being played these days.

"It feels really good, especially after almost two years — since the (ODI) World Cup. Coming back into this format requires quick adaptation, but I believe the domestic matches I played helped me a lot," the veteran allrounder said.

"In the match (against Delhi), I bowled more than 30 overs, which helped me maintain my rhythm, so I never lost my rhythm. I'm trying to bowl Test lines and lengths in ODIs as well. What we call rhythm, continuity, was in place because my break from cricket wasn't that long. So in my view, I have benefited from the domestic match that I played," he added.

Following the debacle in the Border-Gavaskar Trophy Down Under, the Indian cricket board (BCCI) issued a mandate that barring injuries or workload-management issues, top players have to turn out for their Ranji Trophy state teams whenever free from national duty.

Jadeja acknowledging the benefits of the move appears to be a vindication of the board's views.

ENGLAND'S BETHELL OUT OF CHAMPIONS TROPHY WITH INJURY

Cuttack: Jacob Bethell is set to miss next week's Champions Trophy after the left-handed batter sat out the second ODI against India with a hamstring injury. The 21-year-old Bethell made 51 in the opening defeat last week but was missing on Sunday as India took an unbeatable 2-0 lead in the series. "I'm pretty sure (Bethell) has been ruled out of the Champions Trophy, to be honest," captain Jos Buttler said. "That's really disappointing for him. He played nicely the other day and has been one of the really exciting players. It's a shame that injury is going to rule him out." AFP

REIFFEL, ILLINGWORTH NAMED UMPIRES FOR INDIA-PAK CT GAME

New Delhi: Paul Reiffel and Richard Illingworth have been appointed on-field umpires for the India-Pakistan game in the Champions Trophy, the ICC said on Monday. Michael Gough will be TV umpire while Adrian Holdstock is the fourth umpire. David Boon will assume charge as match referee for the game, to be held on Feb 23 at the Dubai International Stadium. Reiffel and Holdstock will be on-field umpires for India's tie against Bangladesh on Feb 20 while Gough and Illingworth will umpire the India-New Zealand clash in Dubai on March 2. IANS

VIDARBHA TAKE BIG LEAD, IN COMMAND AGAINST TN

Nagpur: Vidarbha pacer Aditya Thakare picked up his sixth five-wicket haul in first-class cricket while left-handed batter Yash Rathod struck a half-century in the second innings as last year's runners-up Vidarbha took a commanding 297-run lead against Tamil Nadu in their quarterfinal here on Monday.

Thakare, whose four-wicket burst had TN hanging on the ropes at 159/6 after the second day's play on Sunday, broke the resistance of tailender Sonu Yadav (32) as Sai Kishore'a side was dismissed for 225, giving Vidarbha a 128-run first-innings lead.

Scores: Vidarbha 353 & 169/5 in 62 overs (Y Rathod 55*; Sai Kishore 2/47) vs Tamil Nadu 225 in 64.3 overs (CA Siddharth 65; A Thakare 5/34, Y Thakur 2/78).

Gujarat amass 511 against Saurashtra

Rajkot: Jaymeet Patel completed a well-deserved hundred in the morning but it was wicketkeeper-batter Urvil Patel who knocked the stuffing out of hosts Saurashtra, scoring 140 as Gujarat inched closer to the last-four stage on the third day of their quarterfinal here. Having dismissed Saurashtra for 216, Gujarat finished their first essay on a mammoth 511, a lead of 295, which has almost sealed the deal for Chintan Gaja's men. At stumps, Saurashtra were 33 for no loss.

Scores: Saurashtra 216 and 33/0 in 16 overs vs Gujarat 511 in 159.1 overs (J Patel 103, U Patel 140; D Jadeja 5/120). PTI

Mumbai take firm control against Haryana

RANJI TROPHY

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Kolkata: Allrounder Shardul Thakur continued to make a strong case for a comeback into the national side in red-ball cricket by putting up a consistent show in the ongoing Ranji Trophy season.

After a player-of-the-match performance in the last match against Meghalaya that saw him claim four wickets in both innings, including a hat-trick, Shardul picked up a six-wicket haul to hand Mumbai a crucial 14-run lead. Opponents Haryana were bowled out for 301 a little after the first-hour's play on Day Three of the quarterfinal match here on Monday.

Suryakumar Yadav and Ajinkya Rahane then strengthened the defending champions' grip on the match by putting on a 129-run fourth-wicket partnership that propelled Mumbai to 278/4 at stumps, thereby enjoying a commanding 292-run lead.

Thakur, who had one scalp on Sunday, claimed all the remaining five wickets as Haryana added only 38 runs in the morning. The pacer first sent back overnight unbeaten Rohit Sharma in the first over of the day and then returned with the second new ball to wrap up the last four wickets to finish with six for 58.

"I am always in India contention," a confident Thakur said at the end of the day's play. "Now I have to continue doing the good work," the 33-year-old, who has played 11 Tests, added. Thakur played his last Test against South Africa in Centurion in Dec 2023.

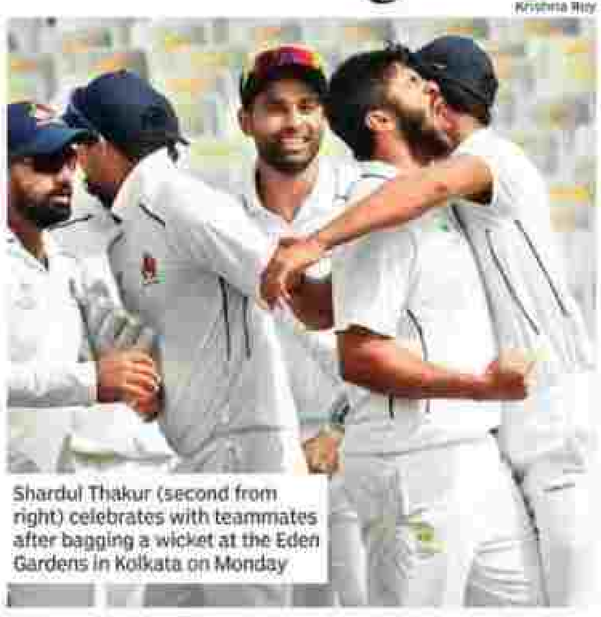
A day after Rohit Sharma returned among runs by hitting a century against England in the second ODI, India's T20I skipper Suryakumar Yadav followed suit, getting a fluent 70.

The middle-order batter opened with a boundary and then played the reverse-sweep to perfection against Jayant Yadav early into his innings. He slowed down a bit after racing to 28 off just 23 balls. At 31, he was dropped at first slip, but Suryakumar soon got going again, playing some well-timed late cuts to reach his first half-century in 14 innings. He pulled seamer Anuj Thakral for six but fell trying to repeat the shot off the very next delivery. His mistimed shot was taken easily by substitute fielder Amit Rana at mid-on as Surya departed for 70 off 86 balls, with the help of eight fours and two sixes.

Skipper Rahane, on the other hand, preferred to play a waiting game, putting up a 52-run third-wicket stand with Siddhesh Lad (43) after Mumbai lost both the openers Ayush Mhatre and Akash Anand cheaply before lunch.

Rahane reached his third fifty of the season, his second in a row, by pulling Nishant Sindhu over mid-wicket for a boundary and stayed undefeated on 88 off 142 balls, hitting 10 boundaries. He got good assistance from Shivam Dube (batting on 30) as the duo batted out the last 11 overs to keep Mumbai's nose ahead.

Brief scores: Mumbai 315 and 278/4 in 67 overs (A Rahane 88*, S Yadav 70) vs Haryana 301 in 84.5 overs (A Kumar 136; Shardul Thakur 6/58).



Krishna Roy

Shardul Thakur (second from right) celebrates with teammates after bagging a wicket at the Eden Gardens in Kolkata on Monday

Neeraj to begin season in May at Doha DL

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New Delhi: With 2025 promising a busy year for track and field, headlined by September's World Athletics Championships in Tokyo, javelin ace **Neeraj Chopra**, it is learnt, will commence his season at the Doha Diamond League (DL) on May 16.

According to Indian athletics' chief coach Radhakrishnan Nair, Neeraj is expected to feature in the Doha meet, which will mark the two-time Olympic and World Championships medallist's first competitive outing in the upcoming athletics season. He will then proceed to other DL events lined up in different parts of Europe in July-Aug.

"Neeraj is already preparing for the opener with his coach (Czech javelin legend Jan Zelezny)," Nair said. Doha is third on the list of a total 14 DL meets this season that commences on April 26 in China's Xiamen before culminating with the Diamond League Final in Zurich on Aug 27 and 28.

Before the Tokyo Worlds, Neeraj is expected to feature in DL events in Rome, Stockholm, Paris, Eugene, Monaco, Lausanne and Brussels, provided he remains injury-free. The 26-year-old from Panipat has been training with Zelezny in his South African base in Potchefstroom, where has been undergoing off-season training. Potchefstroom has been a familiar hub for Neeraj, where he prepared for both the Tokyo 2020 and Paris 2024 Olympics.

According to those in the know, Zelezny has specifically focused on refining Neeraj's throwing technique, his run-up sequence and planning his season's calendar in preparation for the Worlds, where he will be defending his title. During the season, Neeraj will also be looking to breach the elusive 90m-mark, with his personal best being 89.94m, which he achieved at the Stockholm DL in 2022.

Under Zelezny's guidance, Neeraj is eager to deepen his technical mastery and build on the successes that have defined his career.

Nizar helps Kerala gain one-run lead

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

SALMAN NIZAR

Salman Nizar produced a superb rearguard action to not only resurrect a stuttering Kerala innings but also hand them an unlikely one-run lead against Jammu and Kashmir on Day 3 of their Ranji Trophy quarterfinal at the MCA Stadium in Gahunje, Pune, on Monday. By stumps, J&K had hit back by capitalising on a pitch that became easier for batting, helping themselves to 180/3 in their second essay.

In a game where the pendulum swung both ways on the first two days, the fate of the match now hinged on a second innings shootout, and at close on Day 3, all three results looked possible.

However, the day belonged to Nizar. Kerala began the day at 200 for nine, 80 runs adrift of J&K's first innings total. Forget the lead; getting close to the J&K total looked a remote possibility at the start of the day's play. But Nizar had other ideas.

Unbeaten on 49 overnight, Nizar mixed caution with aggression but, more importantly, farmed the strike from No. 11 Basil Thampi and kept finding the boundary.

The southpaw used his feet well, both against the pacers and the spinners, and employed the sweep shot against the slower bowlers to clear the ropes. Thampi, on the other hand, defended with great resolve and was quick to take singles and give his senior partner the strike.

Before long, Salman reached his second successive ton, reaching the three-figure mark in 112 balls with the aid of a dozen fours and three sixes.

He belted one more six after reaching his ton as Kerala surpassed the J&K score in the 84th over. In the very next over, Thampi fell to Auqib Nabi for a 35-ball 15.

Nizar was left stranded on an unbeaten 112 (172 balls, 12x4, 4x6), and Kerala should seriously consider sending him up the order in their second essay. Nabi, meanwhile, finished with figures of 6/53.

Scores: J&K 280 in 95.1 overs & 180/3 in 57 overs (P Dogra 73*; MD Nidheesh 2/45) vs Kerala 281 in 85 overs (S Nizar 112*, J Saxena 67; A Nabi 6/53).

NZ in final with Kane classic

Lahore: Star cricketer Kane Williamson hit a brilliant century to take New Zealand into the tri-series final with a thumping six-wicket win on Monday, overshadowing South African opener Matthew Breetzke's record score on debut. Breetzke scored 150 — the highest score by any batter in his first One-Day International — to lift South Africa to 304-6 but Williamson's unbeaten 133 proved match-winning at Gaddafi Stadium in Lahore.

This was Williamson's first ODI century in nearly five years and he was ably supported by opener Devon Conway, who missed his century by just three runs.

Scores: NZ 308/4 in 48.4 overs (K Williamson 133*, Conway 97) vs SA 304/6 (M Breetzke 150, W Mulder 64). AGENCIES

South Africa's opening batter Matthew Breetzke broke Desmond Haynes' 47-year-old record when he made the highest score on ODI debut with 150 against New Zealand in a tri-nation fixture in Lahore on Monday

HIGHEST SCORES ON ODI DEBUT

Runs	Balls	SR	Batter	For	Vs	Date
150	148	101.35	M Breetzke	SA	NZ	10-2-2025
148	136	108.82	D Haynes	WI	Aus	22-2-1978
127	127	100.00	R Gurbaz	Afg	Ire	21-1-2021
124*	116	106.89	M Chapman	HK	UAE	16-11-2015
124	126	98.41	C Ingram	SA	Zim	15-10-2010
122*	135	90.37	M Guptill	NZ	WI	10-1-2009

—Rajesh Kumar

2 NZ's Kane Williamson has reached the 7000-ODI runs mark in 159 innings, behind only Hashim Amla's 150 innings.

GALLERY

Humphreys bags 6 as Ire beat Zim

Bulawayo: Spinner Matthew Humphreys bagged career-best figures of 6-57 to help Ireland clinch a 63-run win over Zimbabwe on Day 5 of the one-off Test vs Zimbabwe at the Queens Sports Club on Monday.

Punjab FC held to 1-1 draw: Punjab FC were held to a 1-1 draw by 10-man Odisha FC as the two teams shared the spoils in their Indian Super League match on Monday.

Aditi finishes T-34th: Aditi Ashok carded a second consecutive 69 to finish tied-34th at the Founders Cup, marking her first event on the LPGA Tour this season. The 26-year-old had rounds of 72-70-69-69 for a 4-under total.

SSP, Rahil headline PGTI season opener: Locals SSP Chawrasia and Rahil Gangjee are the top draws in the PGTI Players Championship in Kolkata. Other contenders are Rashid Khan, Chikkarangappa and defending champion Manu Gandas.

Jil wins singles title, Anshba-Pridankina claim doubles: Prarthana Thombare and Arianne Hartono went down to the Russian duo of Amina Anshba and Elena Pridankina in the doubles final, while Jil Teichmann won vs Mananchaya Sawangkaew to claim the singles title at the Mumbai Open.

Poonacha-Lock pair enters main draw: India's Niki Poonacha and Zimbabwe's Courtney John Lock entered the Delhi Open doubles main draw as No. 2 seeds. AGENCIES

ACTION TODAY

CRICKET: Ranji Quarters, 9.30 am (Jio); **FOOTBALL:** CL Playoffs Leg 1, Juventus vs PSV; Sporting CP vs Dortmund; Man City vs Real Madrid, 1.30 am Wednesday (Sony); I-League, Churchill vs Delhi FC, 3.30 pm; Aizawl vs Inter Kashi, 7 pm (Sony)

THEM AGAIN!

For The 4th Season Running, City & Real Face Off In The KO Phase

Getty Images

Man City vs Real Madrid

League phase performance:
Man City: 22 (W3 D2 L3)
Real Madrid: 11 (W5 D0 L3)

SCORE TACTICS: City's Erling Haaland (left) and Real's Vinicius Jr

Manchester: Manchester City coach Pep Guardiola said his side were well aware of Real Madrid's habit of producing their best in tough times, with a string of injuries having depleted the visitors' defence ahead of Tuesday's Champions League playoff. Real and City have to play a two-legged playoff. The clubs have met in four Champions League knockout ties since 2020.

In the first leg of the playoff tie at the Etihad on Tuesday, La Liga leaders Real will be without key defenders Dani Carvajal, Antonio Rudiger, Eder Militao and David Alaba. "I think both teams have had problems in terms of injuries during the season. Madrid handled it much better than us because they are still top of the league and fighting against Atletico Madrid," Guardiola told reporters on Monday. "That shows again the consistency they have. At the end they are a huge competitor. We know it."

Since the sides' met last year, Real have strengthened an already formidable attack with the acquisition of Kylian Mbappe, who is supported by Rodrygo, Jude Bellingham and Vinicius Jr.

Guardiola said it would be impossible to shut out Real's forwards, adding: "They are exceptional. How they combine, the runners, the ability one-against-one, how they keep the ball; all four are exceptional. Everybody knows it, so you have to reduce that involvement as much as possible, knowing that it's going to happen, accept it."

City have endured a testing time on the pitch this season and are languishing fifth in the Premier League, 15 points adrift of leaders Liverpool.

Defender Ruben Dias said the campaign has been his most challenging since joining City in 2020, but the Portuguese international stressed he was still optimistic about the club's chances in the Champions League. "I'm a firm believer that even in the most difficult scenario, most difficult beginning, you can still do something and achieve something beautiful in the end," he said.

"It's a question of believing in what we have in the dressing room and we have loads of talent. We just have to use them in the right way. With belief, we are able to do anything." REUTERS

*Also, Borussia Dortmund, last season's beaten finalists, are away to Sporting Lisbon.

3 Adding to the intrigue, the side that progressed from this tie in each of the previous three campaigns ended their season with a Champions League title — Real Madrid earned their 14th and 15th crowns in 2021-22 and 2023-24 while Man City claimed their first in 2022-23.

13 Real Madrid have knocked English clubs out of the Champions League knockout phase 13 times, which is more than any other side.

PREVIOUS MEETINGS

Man City		Real
4	Wins	3
21	Goals	18
5	Draw	5

> We have faced it many times with Real, how in the tough moments they bring the best out of themselves. They are huge competitors."
> —Pep Guardiola, CITY MANAGER

FORM GUIDE

REAL MADRID (All comps, most recent first): L W W L W

MAN CITY W W L W D

AN ALL-FRENCH AFFAIR SO EARLY?

Ligue 1 teams Brest and PSG play each other. An all-France game in Feb was impossible in the past 20 years because UEFA separated teams from the same country until the quarterfinals. Now the tennis-style seeded knockout bracket does not keep national rivals apart.

JUVE'S PREVIOUS WIN OVER PSV COUNTS FOR NOTHING, SAYS MOTTA

Paris: PSV Eindhoven will pose a more formidable challenge for Juventus as they battle for a place in the last 16 of the Champions League despite the Italians beating the Dutch side earlier in the competition, Juve coach Thiago Motta said. Motta's side opened the new league phase with a 3-1 win over PSV in Sept, but Juve finished 20th in the standings and in the knockout phase playoff they take on a side who placed 14th, after they defeated Liverpool in the final game. "We played a good game against PSV at that point but a lot of things have changed, both here and there," Motta said. Juve will have French forward Kolo Muani available.

NAPOLI FRUSTRATED BY MISSED CHANCES IN ITALIAN LEAGUE

Rome: Napoli coach Antonio Conte said his side deserved more after they were held to a 1-1 draw by Udinese in Serie A, but felt they gave everything as they extended their unbeaten run to nine games. The manager lamented, "It's a pity, because I think we deserved more than a point this evening. In the first half, we created a lot of chances," Conte told DAZN.

Napoli missed the chance to move six points clear at the top.

Nesta returns as Monza manager seven weeks after sacking: Monza have recalled Alessandro Nesta to take over as manager following the sacking of Salvatore Bocchetti after the club stayed rooted at the bottom. Bocchetti replaced Nesta in December. REUTERS

Maaya, new hope on the horizon

Starved Of Success, Indian Tennis Looks To A 15-Year-Old Now

Kumaraswamy.K
@timesofindia.com

Pune: A little over two years ago, **Maaya Rajeshwaran Revathi** lost in straight sets in the quarterfinals of a Grade 3 ITF junior event in Pune. "I don't lose often. Maybe I will win it next year," Maaya, then just 13, had declared. Twelve months later, she did exactly that.

Any lingering apprehensions were swept away at last week's Mumbai Open, a WTA 125 event. Unranked a week earlier, the 15-year-old Coimbatore girl now appears on the WTA charts at No. 646, putting her in the top-20 of highest ranking achieved on debut. The list includes Jennifer Capriati, Gabriela Sabatini, Monica Seles and the Williams sisters, among others. The teenager's arrival already spells hope for a beleaguered Indian tennis scene — starved of success, bartered by apathy of the officialdom, and a court case against the national body.

Imran Mirza, who once famously nurtured a prodigy, is very impressed. "Her temperament is the most impressive part," Mirza, father-coach to Sania, told **TOI**. "She seemed very level-headed. That's something one needs to go to the highest level.

"We put a lot of pressure in India. With Sania, that was one thing we had to always control, the kind of external pressure there was," explained Mirza. "There's already so much excitement with that one performance. She has a long way to go. We have to make sure she's not pressured into thinking that she's the only (one)."

According to Imran, Maaya's parents — father Rajeshwaran who deals in procurement of construction raw materials, and mother Revathi, who co-owns a small business — are best placed to nurture her temperament. "A child is bothered about what the parents think, not what the whole world thinks. Once the fear of losing comes in, it's very difficult to remove that," he said.

Maaya's mentality reflects in her aggressive game. Even at 13, she wouldn't hesitate to put away a moonball.

Manoj Kumar, coach since she was 10, said, "We impressed upon her that to compete with the world's best juniors, she needed to be aggressive and at the same time become a bit more consistent."

Kumar underlined that Maaya was yet to complete her junior career. "She hasn't yet transitioned into the women's circuit. She has done well in one tournament, she needs to do it regularly," he said.

Transition to the pros has always proved the biggest hurdle in Indian tennis. Maaya seems to come well prepared. A little over five-feet-seven in her shoes, she has a good couple of more years to grow, putting on four kgs of muscle mass over the past year. "I eat like a beast," she said recently.

With the Rafa Nadal Academy offering her a one-year scholarship, the Indian is in a group of four players who are monitored by two head coaches and assistants. Last month, Miguel Fragoso accompanied her for junior events in India, but she can also summon the familiarity of Kumar in her corner.

While the teenager will continue with schooling in Spain, Imran cautioned against too much tinkering with technique. "In Europe, most of the training is more suited to the clay-court game," he said, "There can be exceptions, (but) we seem to be more suited to hard courts because we have more skill in our hands, and in our joints than in the feet."

Caruana outplays Gukesh; Carlsen, Keymer in semis

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

World chess champion D Gukesh had shown his prowess when he finished tied first after the classical phase of Wijk aan Zee tournament in Jan. It was his first classical event after becoming the youngest ever world champion in Dec. But when it came to Fischer Random chess, the Indian came out a cropper. The 19-year-old has now failed to win a single game in 11 attempts in the first leg of Freestyle Chess Grand Slam in Weissenhaus, Germany. He lost the quarterfinals to Fabiano Caruna with a second successive defeat on Monday.

Caruana, playing white, outclassed Gukesh in 18 moves with some precise rook, queen and pawn moves in the middle game. The starting position was not conducive for Black.

The knockout phase is played over two-game mini matches having a time control of 90 minutes and 30 seconds increment per player. Though Gukesh cannot win the event, he can redeem himself through playoffs (5-8 placings) scheduled over next four days along with semis and final.

Alireza Firouzja of France chose to play Vincent Keymer but the German scored a surprise win on Sunday. And followed that up with a draw and entry into semis. Magnus Carlsen beat Nodribek Abdusattorov with white on Sunday and black on Tuesday to march on.

19-year-old Dev Meena shatters pole-vault record

Dehradun: Madhya Pradesh's Dev Meena smashed the national record in men's pole vault event while winning the gold medal with an effort of 5.32m on the third day of athletics competition at the National Games here on Monday.

In another creditable show, Anushka Yadav of Uttar Pradesh bettered the women's hammer throw Games record on way to winning gold with an effort of 62.89m.

In men's shot put, NR holder Tajinderpal Singh Toor of Punjab expectedly won the gold with a throw of 19.74m.

Of the 8 gold medals on offer on the day, Punjab secured three, while MP, UP, Services, Tamil Nadu and host Uttarakhand took one each. PTI

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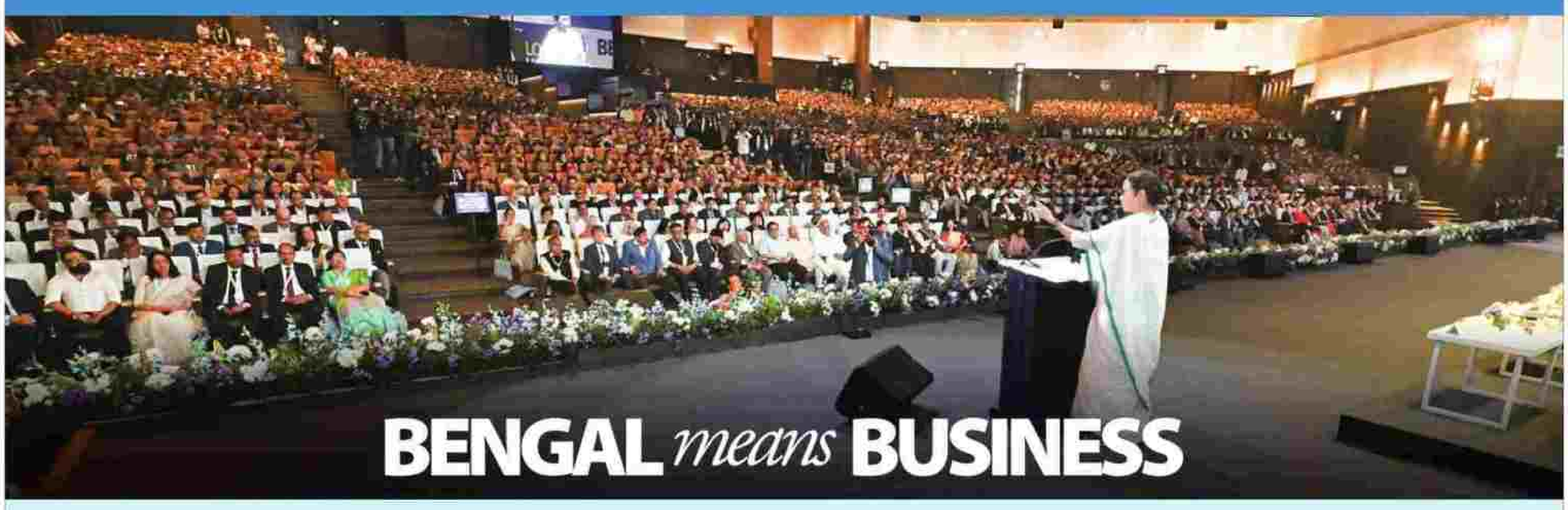
Ravindra Jadeja says playing domestic cricket for Saurashtra has helped him maintain consistency during the ODI series against England, P 21

The 8th Bengal Global Business Summit was an extraordinary success, propelled by the dynamic leadership of **Mamata Banerjee,** Hon'ble Chief Minister of West Bengal.



Investment proposals surged, reaching an unprecedented aggregate of

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AGRICULTURE AND ALLIED (ANIMAL RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT)	FISHERIES AND BLUE ECONOMY
KNOWLEDGE ECONOMY INCLUDING IT & ITES	POWER INCLUDING NON-RENEWABLE ENERGY SOURCES
INTERNATIONAL TRADE	CREATIVE ECONOMY AND FILM INDUSTRY
LOGISTICS AND MOBILITY	DEFENCE
SUSTAINABILITY, CIRCULAR ECONOMY AND NATURAL RESOURCES	ENGINEERING, PLASTICS & CHEMICALS
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TIMES GLOBAL

THE TIMES OF INDIA, NEW DELHI | TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 2025

THE ROOTS OF EDUCATION ARE BITTER, BUT THE FRUIT IS SWEET — ARISTOTLE

TOM CRUISE SAYS HE 'PASSED OUT' FROM 'NOT GETTING OXYGEN' DURING PLANE STUNTS FOR UPCOMING 'MI8': 'I COULDN'T GET BACK INTO COCKPIT'

LADY GAGA PAYS TRIBUTE TO VICTIMS OF LA WILDFIRES AND NEW ORLEANS ATTACK IN SURPRISE SUPER BOWL PERFORMANCE

Palestinians won't have right to return under Trump's Gaza plan

Enclave A 'Big Real Estate Site', US 'Committed To Owning It': Prez

President Donald Trump said Palestinians in Gaza would not have a right to return under his plan for US "ownership" of the war-torn territory, contradicting other officials in his administration who have sought to argue Trump was only calling for the temporary relocation of its population.

Less than a week after he floated his plan for the US to take control of Gaza and turn it in "the Riviera of the Middle East", Trump, in an interview with Fox News' Bret Baier that was set to air on Monday, said "No, they wouldn't" when asked if Palestinians in Gaza would be have a right to return to the territory. It comes as he has ramped up pressure on Arab states, especially US allies Jordan and Egypt, to take in Palestinians from Gaza, who claim the territory as part of a future homeland. "We'll build safe communities, a little bit away from where they are, where all of this danger is," Trump said. "In the meantime, I would own this. Think of it as a real estate development for the future. It would be a beautiful piece of land. No big money spent."

On Sunday too, Trump reiterated his proposal for the US to take over Gaza, telling reporters on Air Force One that the strip of land was "a big real estate site" that the US was "going to own". Trump said the US is committed "to owning it, taking it and making sure that Hamas doesn't move back", adding that "we may give it to other states in the Middle East to build sections of it."

Trump's comments added even more confusion around the proposal, which he first announced last week at a news conference at the White House alongside PM Netanyahu of Israel. The idea has drawn widespread international condemnation, with some critics likening it to ethnic cleansing.

Trump also said that he was disturbed by the emaciated condition of Israeli hostages released this weekend and suggested he was losing patience with the ceasefire deal between Israel and Hamas. Trump said the hostages "look like they haven't had a meal in a month. No reason for that, and I don't know how much longer we can take it." He compared their condition to that of "Holocaust survivors." Trump didn't detail any steps he might take, though he said he was committed to ridding Gaza of Hamas. AGENCIES

AFP

TRUMP COMPARES ISRAELI HOSTAGES TO 'HOLOCAUST SURVIVORS' Trump said he was losing patience with the ceasefire deal after seeing footage of Hamas releasing hostages, whose appearance he compared to Holocaust survivors. 'They look like they haven't had a meal in a month'

Hamas says Israel violated truce deal, to delay next hostage release

Jerusalem: A Hamas spokesman on Monday accused Israel of violating the ceasefire agreement with the group, including targeting Palestinians in Gaza with air strikes, and said that next Saturday's hostage release would be delayed.

Israel and Hamas are in the midst of a six-week ceasefire during which Hamas is releasing dozens of the hostages captured in its Oct. 7, 2023, attack in exchange for nearly 2,000 Palestinian prisoners. The sides have carried out five swaps since the ceasefire went into effect last month, freeing 21 hostages and over 730 prisoners.

Abu Obeida, the spokesperson for Hamas' military wing, the Al-Qassam Brigades, accused Israel on Monday of systematically violating the ceasefire agreement over the past three weeks. "This includes delays in allowing displaced Palestinians to return to northern Gaza, targeting them with airstrikes and gunfire across various areas of the Strip, and failing to facilitate the entry of humanitarian aid as agreed." AP

TRACKING TRUMP

Prez orders treasury secretary to stop minting pennies

On Sunday night, President Trump said he had ordered treasury secretary Scott Bessent to stop producing new pennies, a move that he said would help reduce unnecessary govt spending. "Let's rip the waste out of our great nations budget, even if it's a penny at a time," he said in a post on Truth Social, adding that pennies "literally cost us more than 2 cents." It is unclear whether Trump has the power to do this. It is Congress, not the treasury or the Federal Reserve, that authorises the manufacture of the nation's coins, according to the US Mint. But he is right that pennies cost more than they are worth. For years, experts and govt officials have called for eliminating the penny, whose purchasing power has fallen because of inflation even as its production costs have risen. It cost 3.69 cents to produce and distribute a penny last year, according to the US Mint's annual report. This means that, accounting for their face value, each penny made a loss of 2.69 cents. In 2012, Canada stopped producing pennies, describing them as essentially a waste of time and space. Australia withdrew its one- and two-cent coins from circulation in 1992, citing inflation and production costs. Even earlier, countries like Sweden and New Zealand stopped minting their one-cent coins. NYT

Tough talking Trump on a tear on tariffs as Modi heads to US

Chidanand Rajghatta | TNN

Washington: While US President Donald Trump's tariff war is aimed primarily at China, Mexico, and Canada, with all three having 10x more trade with US than India does, New Delhi is now caught in the vortex of a trade spat that will likely play out in public on Wednesday despite India's efforts to assuage Washington with quiet concessions ahead of the visit with tariff cuts in at least a dozen sectors.

New Delhi has long made the point that the US should not be taking a hardline approach towards India in view of its efforts to counter China's rise as a belligerent power. But US response to that line of argument is to sell to India, on a purely commercial basis, more US arms, energy and agricultural products, rather than offer any accommodation on trade.

The US has a trade deficit of around $32 billion with India — much smaller than the $150bn to $300bn it has with its three biggest trading partners China, Mexico and Canada — which it wants to bridge with either lowered Indian tariffs or greater US exports.

The issue is now threatening to overshadow long-hyped talk of a "strategic relationship" between US and India as the the MAGA-powered Trump II administration recalibrates its global ties to restore American primacy at the expense of almost every other nation, including allies and partners.

AFP, Getty

Tariff row is now threatening to overshadow talk of a 'strategic relationship' between US and India

So great is the resentment in Trump's MAGA base against their perceived American munificence to rest of the world — including India, which receives a pittance in US aid — at the expense of the American taxpayer that they are targeting even modest programmes like the US funding of a transgender clinic in Hyderabad.

The aid, which was less than $1 million, was highlighted last week by Republican Senator John Kennedy eliciting a "wow" response from Trump's financial watchdog Elon Musk, who has made it a personal mission to oppose transgenderism among many other liberal causes.

Ahead of PM Narendra Modi's visit, MAGA radicals are also doubling down on their campaign against the H1-B foreign guest worker programme, which India regards as part of trade issues between the two countries since it involves services. They are now extending their opposition to even the OPT (Optional Practical Training) programme that allows graduating students from one to three years (in case of stem graduates) of paid internships in the US.

The dramatic rise of insular nativism and hostility towards perceived concessions, let alone aid, to foreign nations, even allies, has cast a shadow on the Indian PM's visit.

Modi's first meeting with Trump's during his first term in the summer of 2017 included a grand, ceremonial White House reception followed by warm hugs and bonhomous backslapping, leading to two unprecedented public rallies in Houston and Ahmedabad in subsequent years.

Things look very different in 2025, as Modi arrives in Washington on a cold Feb evening with wet weather and possibly some snow on Tuesday and Wednesday.

3rd judge blocks Trump's EO ending birthright citizenship

A third federal judge on Monday blocked President Trump's executive order ending birthright citizenship for the children of people who are in the US illegally.

The ruling from US district judge Joseph Laplante in New Hampshire comes after two similar rulings by judges in Seattle and Maryland last week. Laplante, who was nominated by Republican President George W. Bush, said he wasn't persuaded by the Trump administration's defence of the executive order. He said he would issue a longer order later explaining his reasoning.

A lawsuit filed by the American Civil Liberties Union contends that Trump's order violates the constitution and "attempts to upend one of the most fundamental American constitutional values." It was brought on behalf of immigrant rights groups with members who are pregnant and whose children could be affected by the order.

Trump's Republican administration asserts that children of noncitizens are not "subject to the jurisdiction" of the US and therefore are not entitled to citizenship. At least 9 lawsuits have been filed to challenge the birthright citizenship order.

In the case filed by four states in Seattle, district judge John Coughenour said last week Trump govt was attempting to ignore the constitution. Trump office is appealing the judge's block. A federal judge in Maryland also blocked Trump's order in another case brought by immigrants' rights groups and pregnant women. The US is among about 30 countries where birthright citizenship — the principle of jus soli, or "right of the soil" — is applied. AP

Trump takes aim at Swift after Super Bowl boos

New Orleans: Donald Trump mocked pop star Taylor Swift after the singer was booed Sunday at the Super Bowl during the Kansas City Chiefs defeat to the Philadelphia Eagles.

Trump — who became the first sitting US president to attend the Super Bowl in Sunday's showpiece in New Orleans — left the game shortly after half-time. However, he could not resist posting a social media dig at Swift, who was in the crowd to watch her boyfriend, Chiefs star Travis Kelce.

The Chiefs would go on to suffer a bruising 40-22 defeat. "The only one that had a tougher night than the Kansas City Chiefs was Taylor Swift," Trump wrote on Truth Social. "She got BOOED out of the Stadium. MAGA is very unforgiving!"

Trump had earlier shared a post from a different account mocking Swift, which contrasted Trump's reception by Super Bowl fans with that of the singer. Trump was given loud roars of applause when he was shown on the screen inside the stadium. "Trump gets massive cheers at the Super Bowl while Taylor Swift gets booed - the world is healing!" the post read.

Swift was a prominent celebrity backer of Trump's election rival Kamala Harris last year. Her endorsement prompted Trump to post on Truth Social: "I hate Taylor Swift". AFP

via Reuters

Taylor Swift was booed when she appeared on screens during a break in play. The singer turned her head to face the camera with a slightly embarrassed smile

Feb 9 to be 'Gulf of America Day'

President Trump has signed a proclamation recognising Feb 9 as "the first-ever Gulf of America Day" after a recent executive order by him to rename the Gulf of Mexico. Trump signed the proclamation on Sunday on his way to the Super Bowl in New Orleans, which sits on the gulf. "We are flying right over it right now," Trump said, sitting aboard Air Force One with a pen in his hand. "So we thought this would be appropriate. Today, I am making my first visit to the Gulf of America since its renaming." PTI

Now, a 'Faith Office' at White House

Donald Trump signed an executive order Friday to open a "Faith Office" at the White House, led by the televangelist Paula White, Trump's so-called spiritual advisor. A day earlier Trump had unveiled a task force under new AG Pam Bondi to root out what he called the "persecution" of Christians in the US. AFP

Yunus sticks to Dec timeline for polls, rejects BNP's call to hold vote earlier

Ahsan Tasnim

Dhaka: Brushing aside BNP's demand to hold the national elections by Aug this year, Bangladesh's interim govt, led by chief adviser Muhammad Yunus, has remained firm on its previously announced election timeline, confirming that the polls will take place in Dec.

The "confirmation" came shortly after the meeting on Monday between Yunus and a BNP delegation led by party secretary general Mirza Fakhrul Islam Alamgir. In a post-meeting interaction with reporters, Alamgir said Yunus has assured that his govt is working to arrange the elections by Dec. The interim govt had previously stated that the elections could take place either by Dec this year or in June 2026.

Political pressure for holding an early election has been growing daily, amid the sharply deteriorating law and order situation. In Jan, Alamgir had said: "We think the elections are possible in the middle of this year, and that means between July and Aug."

On Monday, Alamgir led a three-member BNP team to the 90-minute meeting with Yunus. "What we have repeatedly said (to Yunus) is that this govt is an interim govt. So, we have called on them again for quick elections," he told reporters. He added that the interim govt cannot avoid the responsibility for the recent vandalism, as they happened in front of govt institutions and forces.

1,300 held in crackdown on Hasina loyalists

Bangladeshi police said Monday over 1,300 people have been arrested in a sweeping crackdown dubbed "Operation Devil Hunt", targeting gangs allegedly connected to the ousted govt of Sheikh Hasina. From its launch on Saturday, "1,308 people were arrested across the country", a police spokesman said. The govt said operations began after gangs "linked to the fallen autocratic regime attacked a group of students, leaving them severely injured". The operations have raised concerns. Supreme Court lawyer Snehadri Chakravarty slammed it as "eye-wash", saying that mass arrests risked sweeping up "innocent people". AFP

Jaishankar may meet B'desh counterpart next wk in Oman

Indian foreign minister S Jaishankar could meet his Bangladesh counterpart Touhid Hossain next week on the margins of the 8th Indian Ocean Conference in Muscat, Bangladesh media reported. There was no official confirmation by India but sources said both sides remain in touch over bilateral issues. If it happens, it will only be the second bilateral meet between the two leaders since their meeting on the margins of UNGA last year. TNN

DeepSeek collects excessive personal data: South Korea

Seoul: South Korea's spy agency has accused Chinese AI app DeepSeek of "excessively" collecting personal data and using all input data to train itself.

The National Intelligence Service (NIS) said it sent an official notice to govt agencies last week urging them to take security precautions over the app. "Unlike other generative AI services, it has been confirmed that chat records are transferable as it includes a function to collect keyboard input patterns that can identify individuals and communicate with Chinese companies' servers such as volcengine.com," it said Sunday.

Some govt ministries in South Korea have blocked access to the app, citing security concerns, joining Australia and Taiwan in warning about or placing restrictions on DeepSeek.

The NIS said DeepSeek gives advertisers unlimited access to user data and stores it in Chinese servers. The Chinese govt would be able to access such information when requested, it added. REUTERS

A British MP disapproves of London tube sign in Bengali, and Musk agrees

Naomi Canton

London: Elon Musk has backed a British MP's disapproval of a sign at Whitechapel London Underground station being written in Bengali.

Reform UK MP Rupert Lowe, who Musk frequently retweets, and whose party is opposed to immigration, tweeted a photo of Whitechapel station showing its sign in English and in Bengali script and wrote: "This is London — the station name should be in English, and English only." Musk replied "Yes."

Abdal Ullah, a Tower Hamlets councillor and founder of the British Bangladeshi Power & Inspiration, spearheaded the Bengali script sign. He told **TOI** it came about during events to celebrate the 50th anniversary of Bangladesh as there is a large British Bangladeshi community in Whitechapel. "We did a number of events to celebrate the contribution of the Bangladesh community to Britain, like building the rag trade and the Brick Lane curry houses," Ullah said. "During that time we initiated the lighting up of the London Eye in red and green, we organised a bike ride to promote climate change and British Bangladeshi artist Mohammed Ali created a mural in Brick Lane saying 'Mateer Tan' (Land is calling). At that time the Elizabeth line was about to open, so I initiated a plan to ask TfL to recognise the contribution of British Bangladeshis in the East End and to have the Whitechapel sign written in Bengali. Chinatown already had street signs in Chinese characters, even Brick Lane already had signs in Bengali. I did a campaign and TfL told me they thought it was a great idea to recognise our contributions and so we launched it," he explained.

When the sign was approved, West Bengal CM Mamata Banerjee did a tweet on it. "That was my claim to my fame and I was very honoured when she did that," he said.

"So, to be woken up and now told that Elon Musk is commenting on it, well he clearly has nothing better to do," Ullah said. "...Lowe is just pandering to the right-wing and trying to attract attention," he added. Southall, known as Little Punjab, has had a sign in Gurmukhi script at its station saying "Southall" for many years. Even St Pancras International, the station for Eurostar, has signs in French. Ansar Ullah, director of the Swadhinata Trust, a Tower Hamlet-based Bengali community group, said the sign was meant to acknowledge the community rather than because they could not read English.

But Hindi teacher Indu Barot said she was against the signage. "It makes Punjabis think Southall is their area and Bengalis think Whitechapel is their area... I sense a touch of politics in this, which seems to be dividing rather than uniting. We are living in Britain so the signs should just be in English," she said.

X/Rupert Lowe MP

Reform UK MP Rupert Lowe (L) tweeted a photo of Whitechapel station showing its sign in English and in Bengali and wrote: 'This is London — the station name should be in English, and English only.' Musk replied 'Yes'

Iraq prez sues PM over unpaid Kurdistan pay

Baghdad: Iraq's president has sued PM Mohammed Shia al-Sudani over unpaid salaries for civil servants in the autonomous region of Kurdistan, bringing into focus a rift in the leadership.

President Abdul Latif Rashid, a Kurd, filed the lawsuit against Sudani and the finance minister last month, but his adviser, Hawri Tawfiq, only announced it on Sunday. The case, submitted to Iraq's top court, seeks an order to ensure salaries are paid "without interruption" despite ongoing financial disputes between Baghdad and Arbil, the regional capital.

Iraq's public sector is wracked with inefficiency and corruption, and analysts say Sudani and Rashid had long had disagreements. While public sector workers got their Jan salaries, they are still waiting for their Dec pay. Tawfiq said the lawsuit was only disclosed now due to protests in Sulaimaniyah, the president's hometown. AFP

DAILY PLANET

AP

STENCH OF A CORPSE? A rare corpse flower bloomed after 15 years at Canberra gardens in Australia, drawing hundreds of visitors despite its pungent odour. It is its third flowering in as many months

US man sentenced to record 475 years for dogfighting & cruelty to animals

A Georgia man who authorities said kept more than 100 dogs in cruel conditions at his home has been sentenced to 475 years in prison after being found guilty last month of dogfighting and cruelty to animals, prosecutors said. The man, Vincent Lemark Burrell, 57, of Dallas was found guilty by a jury on Jan. 30 of 93 counts of dogfighting and 10 counts of cruelty to animals. Authorities found 107 dogs, many of them underweight, scarred and missing teeth, chained up in his yard in 2022. The dogs, some of which were emaciated, had been tied with heavy chains to trees and left with little to no shelter. Others were boarded in the basement of Burrell's house, where the odor of urine and feces was so strong that officers had to wear protective equipment to enter. They also found items associated with dogfighting, including a chicken used to entice the dogs and a stick to pry open their jaws. Dogfighting is a felony in all 50 states, but it remains prevalent across the US. The sentence is said to be the longest jail term ever given for dog fighting.

Overflowing sewage stops Bryan Adams show in Aus

Overflowing sewage caused by a "large blockage" of fat, grease and rags has forced organisers to cancel a Bryan Adams concert in Perth, Australia, citing a threat to the arena's toilets. "Contingencies, including the use of sucker trucks, were considered, but the volume of wastewater generated by a capacity crowd of 16,000 people at the Arena was considered too great," the water authority said.

AROUND THE WORLD

Jennifer Lopez's Versace dress that she wore to the Grammys in 2000 led to the creation of Google Images in 2001. It became the most searched query at the time. 'People wanted more than just text,' then Google CEO Eric Schmidt wrote in 2015. '(So) Google Image Search was born'

The Times of India is the world's largest-selling English daily

Marriages in China plunge by a record in 2024, fanning birthrate concerns

Hong Kong: Marriages in China plummeted by a fifth last year, the biggest drop on record, despite manifold efforts by authorities to encourage couples to wed and have children to boost the declining population.

Declining interest in getting married and starting a family has long been blamed on the high cost of childcare and education in China. On top of that, sputtering economic growth over the past few years has made it difficult for university graduates to find work and those that do have jobs feel insecure about their long-term prospects.

More than 6.1 million couples registered for marriage last year, down from 7.68 million a year earlier, figures from the ministry of civil affairs showed. "Unprecedented! Even in 2020, due to Covid-2019, marriages only decreased by 12.2%," said Yi Fuxian, a demographer at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. He noted that the number of marriages in China last year was less than half of the 13.47 million in 2013. If this trend continues, "the Chinese government's political and economic ambitions will be ruined by its demographic Achilles' heel," he added.

For Chinese authorities, boosting interest in marriage and baby-making is a pressing concern. China has the second-biggest population in the world at 1.4 billion — one that is aging quickly. The birth rate fell for decades due to China's 1980-2015 one-child policy and rapid urbanisation. And in the coming decade, roughly 300 million Chinese — the equivalent of almost the entire US population — are expected to enter retirement.

Measures taken last year by authorities to tackle the problem included urging China's colleges and universities to provide "love education" to emphasise positive views on marriage, love, fertility and family. In Nov, China's state council or cabinet, also told local govts to direct resources towards fixing China's population crisis and spread respect for childbearing and marriages "at the right age".

Last year saw a slight rise in births after a lull due to the pandemic and because 2024 was the Chinese zodiac year of the dragon — with kids born that year considered likely to be ambitious and have great fortune. But even with increase in births, the population fell for a third consecutive year. The data also showed that more than 2.6 million couples filed for divorce last year, up 1.1% from 2023. REUTERS

REUTERS/File

More than 6.1 million couples registered for marriage last year, down from 7.6 million a year earlier, figures from the ministry of civil affairs showed

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SA batter Matthew Breetzke breaks Desmond Haynes' 47-yr-old record for highest score on ODI debut with 150 against New Zealand, P 21

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To tum ho Unani.

Agar kabhi lift ke badle seedhi chadh jaate ho,
To tum ho Unani.

Agar zindagi ki bhaagdaud mein bhi kuch pal sukoon ke churaate ho,
To tum ho Unani.

Jab sehatmand aadaton ko apnate ho,
To tum ho Unani.

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Why US cos are dumping anti-discriminatory policies

It was a principle aimed at undoing the impact of historical discrimination against marginalised groups and minorities. But, after coming under fire from US prez Trump, it has fast fallen out of favour with corporate America. Google is the latest to drop it

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

What's The Origin Of DEI?

While the term — it stands for diversity, equity and inclusion — itself is new, efforts to address structural racism and discrimination against marginalised groups and minorities in the country have a prominent history. That includes the civil rights movement of the 1950s and '60s, which had led to then-President Lyndon B Johnson signing the landmark Civil Rights Act in 1964 to ban discrimination based on race, religion, national origin, colour and sex and ended segregation.

Johnson had also issued an executive order in 1965 that further prohibited discrimination in federal employment by requiring that applicants for govt jobs and govt staffers are treated without regard to their race, creed, colour, or national origin. One of the steps Trump took after taking office for his second stint as president was to revoke that executive order.

How Has Trump Targeted It?

Among the barrage of executive orders Trump signed after his swearing-in on Jan 20 this year, were two that have dismantled the federal govt's DEI programme. He ended all federal offices and jobs related to DEI and put all federal DEI office staff on paid leave as their offices faced closure. And, apart from revoking Johnson's Equal Employment Opportunity order of 1965, he also directed that a review be held of federal contractors who have provided DEI training materials to govt agencies.

TOI Explains

"My administration has taken action to abolish all discriminatory diversity, equity, and inclusion nonsense – and these are policies that were absolute nonsense – throughout the govt and the private sector," Trump told the World Economic Forum after taking office for his second term.

Why Is Trump Against DEI?

DEI actions picked up pace, including in the private sector, in 2020 after the death in a case of police brutality in Minneapolis of African American George Floyd. That became a flashpoint for widespread protests in the US and across the world against racism and police brutality. Trump was in office at the time in his first run as US president.

The Trump camp says DEI unfairly discriminates against other Americans, including white people and men while weakening the importance of merit in job hiring and promotions. Though they have not provided any evidence for it, they have blamed diversity efforts for the handling of recent deadly California wildfires and the recent Washington air crash in which 67 people were killed.

What Does America Think?

Billionaire businessman Elon Musk, a key fixture of the new Trump administration, has said on social media that DEI "is just another word for racism. Shame on anyone who uses it". Media reports say that Trump echoed that view during his presidential campaign, claiming that there was "a definite anti-white feeling in this country".

A 2022 report by global consulting major McKinsey said that firms where DEI was at work were better placed to deal with challenges and attract talent. An earlier report had found that most employees support diversity and that gender and ethnic diversity correlated with better corporate competitiveness.

However, per a recent survey by think tank Pew Research Centre, American workers' opinions on the role of DEI in the workplace "have become more negative since last year". It said that "compared with Feb 2023, workers are now somewhat more likely to say: focusing on increasing DEI at work is mainly a bad thing [and] their company or organisation pays too much attention to increasing DEI".

What Impact Has Trump Had?

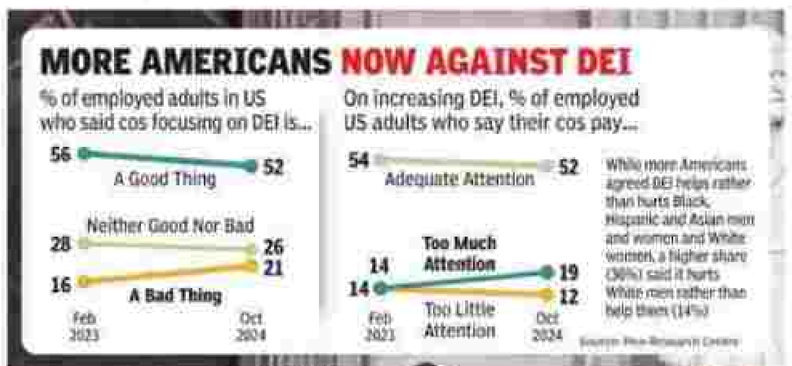
Even before Trump's executive orders, the US Supreme Court had in 2023 delivered a verdict against college admissions that took into account applicants' race. UK newspaper The Guardian reported that petitioners had argued "these anti-discrimination measures were in fact discriminatory towards the groups that had historically dominated workplaces, including white Americans".

Now, in light of Trump's moves, a number of prominent US companies have scaled back or set aside DEI initiatives. Apart from Google, which said that as a federal contractor it needed to comply with presidential orders opposing DEI policies, the list includes the likes of Facebook parent Meta, Amazon, McDonald's, retailers Walmart and Target, etc.

Can They Be Challenged?

While conservatives have argued that DEI measures go against the US constitution since they promote preferential treatment based on race, gender, and sexual orientation, experts said that companies revoking such practices may be exposing themselves to anti-discrimination lawsuits by workers.

They pointed out that many common corporate policies that fall under the DEI umbrella – like audit of pay practices, ensuring diversity in job candidate pools, etc – are part of state and federal laws banning workplace bias. "When companies are sued by women or people of colour and they're held liable for discrimination... the Trump administration can't save them and nothing in this executive order can save them," said Jason Solomon, director of the National Institute for Workers' Rights, a left-leaning think tank.



ABOUT TURN: World's richest man Elon Musk (right) has been a vocal critic of DEI. After Trump (photo right) signed executive orders to do away with DEI in his govt, Alphabet, under CEO Sundar Pichai (2nd from right), and Amazon, founded by Jeff Bezos (3rd from right), have moved against DEI along with Meta of Mark Zuckerberg (left)

6 mths after riot, 11 UP families return not to homes but rubble

July 18 Clashes In Gausganj Had Left 1 Dead

Sandeep Rai & Asif Ansari | TNN

Manish Kumar

Shafeekan sits at what was once the door to her home. 'At least I have my house back,' the 60-year-old says

Bareilly: Six months after the violence, the dust in Gausganj still hasn't settled. On July 18, communal clashes left one Hindu man dead and several injured. In the days that followed, 42 Muslim families fled or were forcibly displaced, and eight homes were bulldozed by the administration for "encroaching on govt land". The 58 Muslim men held continue to languish in jail.

Scattered and uncertain, the displaced families sought refuge in the homes of relatives in different villages, only to move again when they could afford to rent modest dwellings. With no stable income, they continued working as labourers whenever they could find work. Their children, once students, saw their education come to an abrupt halt.

Now, 11 families have returned under security cover — not to homes, but to rubble, looted cupboards, shattered doors, and a village that doesn't know whether to welcome them back or push them away.

Shafeekan, 60, steps carefully over what used to be her doorstep, now just a jagged remnant of concrete. "At least I have my home back," she says. "We are a family of daily wagers and I have no money to fight the cases of my two sons and husband. I don't know how they'll come out of jail."

Ruksana Begum, 62, sits on the narrow ramp of her front porch, her gaze darting toward the cops patrolling the village. "We do not want to talk. We have no problem," she murmurs, before vanishing behind a tattered curtain.

Mohd Tahir, 23, is here, but not to stay. "I don't live here anymore. I work in Haryana," he says, his voice low, his eyes watchful. "I came to settle my parents. Nothing is left. We have to start from scratch."

Al Jabah, 9, won't be going back to school soon. "I saw my schoolbag torn. I don't go to school now," she says.

For now, the survival of these families depends on charity. "An NGO provides us with meals and basic necessities like utensils and brooms," says Mevish Jahan, whose son Yasin is behind bars. "Our electricity metres are broken, and water supply is erratic."

Gausganj, once home to marginal farmers and labourers, became an open battleground following the violence. Livestock was taken. Tractors and farming equipment were seized. Land, too, is now under threat. "We get offers through common connections, asking us to sell at throwaway prices," says a returnee. "When we protested, we were threatened with more FIRs. We have little hope of justice."

For some families in the village, resentment still runs deep. Tejpal, a 23-year-old Hindu man, was killed in the riots and his family is still seeking justice. "He was my nephew," says panchayat assistant Raj Kumari. "He was murdered. And now they are being allowed back? How can we tolerate this? Today, police are with us, but what about after six months? Who will guarantee our security?" Tensions are expected to peak as Holi approaches. "We have set up a police picket at the village entrance," says Shahi SHO Amit Balyan. "A large Hindu gathering is expected, so we're keeping a heavy force deployed."

Dalai's brother, champion of the Tibet cause, and thukpa

Kalimpong: Most residents of Kalimpong, and adjoining Siliguri and Darjeeling, have no clue the thukpa that had been filling their bowls for over half a century came from a factory set up by the Dalai Lama's elder brother, a towering spiritual figure among Tibetans, who passed away on Saturday at 97, reports **Nisha Chettri**.

Way back in 1966-67, **Gyalo Thondup** not only built his residence, Tagtser House, in Kalimpong but also set up a noodle-making factory, Trans Himalaya. The popular Tibetan dish, thukpa, soon became a staple of the region, where Tibetans came as refugees. In no time, Trans Himalaya's produce was being exported to Sikkim and other parts of India as well as to adjoining Bhutan and other countries.

While the thukpa produced by Trans Himalaya became a rage, most people in the region were not even aware the 14th Dalai Lama's elder brother lived in Kalimpong.

"If we look at the history of noodles in Kalimpong... Gyalo Thondup started it in an authentic Tibetan style. By the 1970s, it had become extremely popular. His noodles were in demand until Covid," said trader Subash Pradhan who sells noodles in Kalimpong.

Thukpa making involves rolling the dough, cutting it into thin strands with a techno blade, leaving it at room temperature for three days, and then sun-drying it for another day. Lhamo Thondup, an aide of the Dalai Lama's brother, had mastered the art and was the guiding force behind Trans Himalaya. His grandson Tenzing Rigzin now owns Eagle Noodles, another prominent Kalimpong brand.

The Tibetan community remembers the leader differently. "Thondup always had the well-being of his people in mind. He tried his best to negotiate with China for Tibet's freedom and has left behind a great legacy," said a businessman.