



## मोदी की एक और गारंटी दोनों जाही पूरी

श्री नरेन्द्र मोदी  
माननीय प्रधानमंत्री

श्री विष्णु देव साय  
माननीय मुख्यमंत्री, छत्तीसगढ़

## कृषक उन्नति योजना

दिनांक 12 मार्च 2024

प्रदेश के 24.72 लाख से अधिक  
किसानों के खाते में आएंगे

₹13,320 करोड़

खुशहाल किसान ■ समृद्ध छत्तीसगढ़ ■ विकसित भारत

- एमएसपी के बाद अब अंतर की राशि का  
भुगतान करने जा रही सरकार

- किसानों को प्रति एकड़ 19,257 रुपए के  
मान से आदान सहायता



### मोदी की गारंटी - विष्णु का सुशासन

सबका साथ, सबका विकास, सबका विश्वास और सबका प्रयास

# THE WORLD



## TOP OF THE WORLD

### YEMEN

Leader with \$5 mn bounty dead: Al-Qaeda

**Dubai:** The leader of Yemen's branch of al-Qaeda is dead, the militant group announced late Sunday, without giving details. Khalid al-Batarfi had a \$5 million bounty on his head from the US government over leading the group, al-Qaeda in the Arabian Peninsula, through years that saw him imprisoned, freed in a jailbreak, and governing forces in Yemen amid that country's grinding war. Though believed to be weakened in recent years due to infighting and suspected US drone strikes killing its leaders, the group has long been considered the most dangerous branch of the extremist group still operating after the killing of founder Osama bin Laden. Al-Qaeda released a video showing al-Batarfi wrapped in a white funeral shroud and al-Qaeda's black-and-white flag. AP

### GERMANY

Tain drivers' union calls for another strike

**Berlin:** A union representing many of Germany's train drivers has called for another strike in a long and bitter dispute with the state-owned main railway operator over working hours and pay, drawing sharp criticism from the country's transport minister. The GDL union called on drivers of Deutsche Bahn's passenger trains to walkout for 24 hours starting at 2 a.m. (0100 GMT) Tuesday. Meanwhile, drivers of freight trains will walk off the job from 6 p.m. (1700 GMT) Monday. The walkout was announced on Sunday evening, in keeping with a union announcement last week that it would no longer give a 48-hour notice before striking. AP

### PAKISTAN

19 ministers inducted into Sharif's Cabinet

**Islamabad:** Pakistan President Asif Ali Zardari on Monday administered the oath to 19 members of the Cabinet of the newly elected Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif, ending the tenuous wait for the completion of government formation. The oath-taking ceremony was held in the President's House and was attended by Prime Minister Sharif among others. The portfolio of the new minister will be announced later. The oath-taking came hours after Prime Minister Sharif recommended the 19 names. AP

### PORTUGAL

Centre-right set to rule, far-right warns instability

**Lisbon:** Portugal's centre-right Democratic Alliance (AD) won Sunday's general election by a slim margin and is preparing to govern without an outright majority as the far-right Chega warned of instability if it is not included in government. With 99.1% of the vote counted, the AD won 79 seats in the 230-seat legislature, followed by the Socialists with 77 seats, prompting the latter to concede defeat. Chega voters said before polls that Portugal was in a bad way and they wanted changes in housing, education, and healthcare. REUTERS

## Macron announces legislation for 'aid in dying', with strict conditions

ASSOCIATED PRESS  
PARIS, MARCH 11



French President Emmanuel Macron. File

FRENCH PRESIDENT Emmanuel Macron has announced new legislation to legalise "aid in dying" that will allow adults facing end-of-life illness to take lethal medication, a first in the country.

The move follows last year's report indicating that most French citizens support legalising end-of-life options.

In an interview published Monday by French newspapers La Croix et Libération, Macron said the new bill will bring from an incurable illness who are expected to die in the "short or

middle-term" and who are suffering "intractable" physical or psychological pain.

Macron said the law will offer "a possible path, in a determined

situation, with precise criteria, where the medical decision is playing its role".

He gave the example of people with terminal cancer, some of whom until now have gone abroad to end their lives.

Only people aged 18 or above who are capable of forming their own views will be allowed to get in the process, meaning those with severe psychiatric conditions and neurodegenerative disorders such as Alzheimer's disease won't be eligible, Macron specified.

Patients who seek to enter the process will need to reconfirm their choice after 48 hours and they should then receive an answer from a medical team within two weeks maximum, Macron

said. A doctor will then deliver a prescription, valid for three months, for the lethal medication.

People will be able to take the medication at home, at a nursing home or at a health care facility, Macron said. If their physical condition doesn't allow them to do it alone, they will be allowed to get help from someone of their choice or by a doctor or a nurse.

Macron said the new bill will refer to "aid in dying ... because it's simple and humane," rather than terms like euthanasia or medically assisted suicide.

Macron set no date for the legislation to be applied, saying it will first need to follow a months-long legislative process that will start in May.

**Ukraine rebuffs Pope's call for peace talks, Russia says ready to come to table**

REUTERS  
MARCH 10

**UKRAINE** ON Sunday rebuffed Pope Francis's call to negotiate an end to the war with Russia, with President Volodymyr Zelenskiy saying the pontiff was engaging in "virtual mediation" and his foreign minister saying Kyiv would never capitulate.

Francis said that when things were going badly for a party to a conflict one had to show the "courage of the white flag" and negotiate. The pope's interview was believed to be the first time Francis has used terms like "white flag" or "defeated" in discussing the Ukraine war, though he has referred in the past a need for talks.

Zelenskiy made no direct reference to Francis or his comments but mentioned religious figures helping inside Ukraine.

"They support us with prayer, with their discussion and with deeds. This is indeed what a church with the people is," Zelenskiy said in his nightly video address.

The Kremlin Monday said that the call by the Pope was quite understandable and that Russia was ready to sit down, but that Kyiv had ruled out talks due to its mistaken view that the West could defeat Russia.

Russia calls the war a "special military operation" to ensure its own security. Kyiv and the West call it a brutal colonial-style war of conquest.

"It is quite understandable that he spoke in favour of negotiations," Kremlin spokesman Dmitry Peskov said when asked about the Pontiff's remarks. He said that President Vladimir Putin had spoken of Russia's willingness to negotiations.

Ryan Gosling performed his nominated *I'm Just Ken* in a pink suit surrounded by dancing Kens, as well as a guitar cameo from Slash.

Jonathan Glazer, whose *The Zone of Interest* (depicting a Nazi family living next to Auschwitz) won Best International Film, spoke on the war in Gaza. "We stand here as men who refute their Jewishness and the Holocaust being hijacked by an occupation which has led to conflict for so many innocent people."

## And the Oscars go to...

Oppenheimer bags seven Oscars, followed by Poor Things with 4 awards.

BEST PICTURE: *Oppenheimer*



BEST SUPPORTING ACTOR:  
Robert Downey Jr.,  
*Oppenheimer*

BEST SUPPORTING ACTRESS:  
Da'Vine Joy Randolph, *The Holdovers*

BEST ACTRESS:  
Emma Stone, *Poor Things*

BEST ACTOR:  
Cillian Murphy,  
*Oppenheimer*

BEST DIRECTOR:  
Christopher Nolan,  
*Oppenheimer*



BEST ORIGINAL SONG:  
*What Was I Made For?* by  
Billie Eilish for *Barbie*

BEST ADAPTED SCREENPLAY:  
*American Fiction*

BEST ORIGINAL SCREENPLAY:  
*Anatomy of a Fall*

BEST ORIGINAL SCORE:  
*Oppenheimer*



BEST LIVE ACTION SHORT:  
*The Wonderful Story of Henry Sugar*



Ryan Gosling performed his nominated *I'm Just Ken* in a pink suit surrounded by dancing Kens, as well as a guitar cameo from Slash.



Wrestler-actor John Cena stunned fans with his naked avatar as he joined Jimmy Kimmel to present the Oscar — for costume design



Emma Stone, in her speech, confessed that she had a 'broken' dress, whose back had unravelled during the *I'm Just Ken* performance



Jonathan Glazer, whose *The Zone of Interest* (depicting a Nazi family living next to Auschwitz) won Best International Film, spoke on the war in Gaza. "We stand here as men who refute their Jewishness and the Holocaust being hijacked by an occupation which has led to conflict for so many innocent people."

## Blinken flies to Jamaica for talks on Haiti crisis

ASSOCIATED PRESS  
MARCH 11



Antony Blinken. File

ised by members of a regional trade bloc known as Caricom who for months have pressed for

a transitional government in Haiti as violent protests demanded Henry's resignation.

"Whilst we are making considerable progress, the stakeholders are not yet where they need to be," Caricom said in a statement Friday announcing the urgent meeting in Jamaica.

Attacks by gangs on key government targets began February 29 across Haiti's capital of Port-au-Prince. Gunmen have burned police stations, closed the main in-

ternational airports and raided the country's two biggest prisons, releasing more than 4,000 inmates.

Scores of people have been killed, and more than 15,000 people are homeless after fleeing neighbourhoods raided by gangs. Food and water are dwindling as stands and stores selling to impoverished Haitians run out of goods. The main port in Port-au-Prince remains closed, stranding dozens of containers with critical supplies.

## SEVERAL NEWS AGENCIES INITIALLY PUBLISHED PHOTO, WITHDREW IT LATER

## As manipulated photo fuels rumours, Kate says she edited it herself

BRIAN MELLEY & JILL LAWLESS  
LONDON, MARCH 11

KATE, PRINCESS of Wales, apologized Monday for "confusion" caused by her editing of a family photo released by the palace — an image of Kate and her children that was intended to calm concern and speculation about the British royal's health, but had the opposite effect.

Several news agencies that initially published the photo, including *The Associated Press*, withdrew the image over concerns about digital manipulation.

Issued by the couple's Kensington Palace office on Sunday to mark Mother's Day in Britain, it was the first official photo of 42-year-old Kate since she had abdominal surgery nearly two months ago.

The retractions sent the online rumor mill, already rampant with speculation over Kate's operation and recuperation, into overdrive. The PR disaster is more evidence that the royal family's long-held mantra — "never complain, never explain" — is impossible in a social media-saturated era.

In a post on social media, Kate said that "like many amateur

photographers, I do occasionally experiment with editing."

"I wanted to express my apologies for any confusion the family photograph we shared yesterday caused," the post said.

In the past, the palace has issued several of Kate's family snapshots featuring her and heir to the throne, Prince William, with their children Prince George, 10; Princess Charlotte, 8; and Prince Louis, 5.

The latest photo was taken by William, Kensington Palace said. In an accompanying social media message, Kate said: "Thank you for your kind wishes and continued support over the last

two months. Wishing everyone a Happy Mother's Day."

While there was no suggestion the photo was fake, AP retracted it because closer inspection revealed the source had manipulated the image in a way that did not meet AP's photo standards. For instance, it contained an inconsistency in the alignment of Princess Charlotte's left hand with the sleeve of her sweater.

Kensington Palace said it would not release the original unedited photograph. And while Kate's statement provided a measure of clarification, it looked unlikely to stop the swirl of rumor that has accelerated during

### POLITICIANS INACTIVE, EMISSIONS STILL RISING'

### THUNBERG BLOCKS SWEDEN HOUSE ENTRANCE

GRETA THUNBERG and dozens of other environmental campaigners blocked the main entrances to Sweden's parliament on Monday in a sit-down protest against the effects of climate change and what they said was political inaction. "(The politicians) have not been acting. The emissions are still increasing," she said.

REUTERS

### NAMED AMONG ISRAEL'S MOST WANTED

## Israel bombs Gaza camp targeting Hamas military second-in-command

Unclear if Marwan Issa among five killed in central Gaza airstrike

REUTERS  
JERUSALEM, CAIRO, MARCH 11

ISRAEL WAS checking on Monday if Hamas's second-highest military leader died in an air strike, media said, as talks stumbled to secure a ceasefire in the Gaza war to coincide with the Islamic holy month of Ramadan.

If his death is confirmed, Marwan Issa would be the highest-ranking official from the Islamist militant movement taken out by Israel in the more than five-month war that has pulverised the Palestinian enclave and killed thousands.

Israeli Army Radio said Israel had bombed the Al-Nusseirat camp in central Gaza on Saturday night, where it had intelligence about the location of Issa, second-in-command of Hamas's military wing the Izz el-Deen al-Qassam Brigades.

The attack killed five, the report said. Israeli daily *Haaretz* reported Israel was checking if the fatalities included Issa.

Neither the Israeli military nor Hamas officials immediately commented on the media reports.

On Sunday, in a statement rounding up operations from the previous 24 hours, Israel said its forces had killed militants in central Gaza but did not mention the camp.

Issa is high on Israel's most wanted list, together with military wing head Mohammed Deif and Hamas's Gaza leader Yahya Sinwar, who are believed to have masterminded the October 7 attack that triggered the conflict.

Both the Israeli military and the Israeli military have been exchanging fire along Lebanon's southern border since October, when Hezbollah fired rockets at Israel in support of its Palestinian ally Hamas, which is at war with Israel in

### the Gaza Strip.

Israeli strikes had been mostly limited to the southern border region of Lebanon, although they have edged further north in recent weeks.

Hezbollah last month said it fired rockets against the same target in the Golan Heights.

The armed group has used surface-to-air missiles on several occasions since Oct. 7 to target Israeli aircraft.

It has also launched its own surveillance drones into northern Israel.

The Israeli military said two hostile aerial targets crossed from Lebanon into Israeli territory in the northern Golan area "fell in open areas".

It also said Israeli warplanes struck a Hezbollah military site in the border area of Jibbail and overnight hit another Hezbollah outpost in the Taybeh area.

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# Modi Sarkar ki Guarantee

## Modernization of Indian Railways



**A Gift of 6000 Railway Projects Worth more than ₹85 Thousand Crore**

### Laying of Foundation Stone/ Dedication to the Nation

- 50 Pradhan Mantri Bhartiya Janaushadhi Kendras
- 222 Railway Goods-sheds
- 51 Gati Shakti Multi-Modal Cargo Terminals
- 2646 Digital Controlling of Stations
- 35 Railway Workshops, Loco Sheds, Pit Lines / Coaching Depots
- Doubling / Multi Tracking and Gauge Conversion of 1500 km of Railway Lines
- Automatic Block Signalling of 80 Rail Line Sections of 1045 km
- 35 Rail Coach Restaurants
- More than 1500 'One Station One Product' stalls
- 975 Solar Powered Stations / Service Buildings
- Electrification of 2135 km Rail Line Sections
- 401 km of New Khurja - Sanehwal Eastern Dedicated Freight Corridor Section
- 244 km of New Makarpura - New Ghovad Western Dedicated Freight Corridor Section
- Operation Control Centre, Ahmedabad
- Phaltan - Baramati New Rail Line
- 9 Electric Traction System Upgradation Work

### Flagging off of Vande Bharat & other Trains

- Mysuru - Chennai
- Lucknow- Dehradun
- Kalaburagi - Bengaluru (Sir M. Visvesvaraya Terminal)
- Ranchi - Varanasi
- Delhi (Nizamuddin) - Khajuraho
- Secunderabad- Visakhapatnam
- New Jalpaiguri - Patna
- Patna - Lucknow
- Ahmedabad- Mumbai Central
- Puri - Visakhapatnam
- and other train services

### Benefits of the projects

- Ultra-modern facilities equivalent to an aircraft travel
- Fast, trouble free and comfortable travel experience
- Reduction in logistics cost and promotion of regional economy
- Ahmedabad Operation Control Centre is equipped with most modern techniques equivalent to world's biggest control centres.

- Ensuring minimum 75% low cost and good quality generic medicines under Pradhan Mantri Janaushadi Kendra project for every individual.
- Rail Interior Theme based restaurants to provide special meal experience.

by  
**Narendra Modi**  
Prime Minister

In the August Presence of

**Acharya Devvrat**

Governor, Gujarat

**Bhupendra Bhai Patel**

Chief Minister, Gujarat

**Ashwini Vaishnaw**

Union Minister of Railways, Communications and Electronics & Information Technology

**Rao Saheb Patil Danve**

Union Minister of State for Railways, Coal and Mines

**Darshana Jardosh**

Union Minister of State for Railways & Textiles

**Tuesday, 12 March, 2024, 08:00 AM**

Watch live telecast on



# ECONOMY

SENSEX: 73,502.64 ▼ 616.75 (0.83%) NIFTY: 22,332.65 ▼ 160.90 (0.72%) NIKKEI: 38,820.49 ▼ 868.45 HANG SENG: 16,587.57 ▲ 234.18 FTSE: 7,632.60 ▼ 27.14 DAX: 17,682.33 ▼ 132.18



GOLD

₹66,400



USD RATE

₹82.75



OIL

\$83.42



SILVER

₹75,500

Note: Gold, silver rates at Delhi spot market, gold per 10g, silver per 1 kg; Crude oil (Indian basket) as of March 8

International market data till 1900 IST

REGULATOR CAN'T ALLOW BUBBLES TO BUILD UP IN SMALL-CAP SEGMENT

## Signs of price manipulation in IPOs of SMEs, share trading: Sebi chief Buch

EN SECONOMIC BUREAU  
MUMBAI, MARCH 11

SECURITIES AND Exchange Board of India (SEBI) Chairperson Madhabi Puri Buch on Monday raised concern over signs of price manipulation in the initial public offerings (IPOs) of small and medium enterprises (SMEs) and trading in such shares. The market regulator is now looking to mandate additional disclosures in the case of listing SMEs.

After the SEBI chief's comments, the BSE SME IPO fell 3.28 percent, or 1878.33 points to close at 55,453.91. The benchmark Sensex also plunged by 617 points, or 0.83 per cent, to 73,502.64.

The Nifty Smallcap 100 index fell 2 per cent after the Sebi chief warned that the regulator can't allow bubbles to build up in the small-cap segment.

"In terms of actual price manipulation (in the SME segment) both at the IPO level and the trading level, we are working to evidence that, and we do see the signs. We have the technology to do it, so we are able to see certain



Sebi chairperson Madhabi Puri Buch. File

patterns. However, as per the regulations, the way we need to construct the entire case, we do need to take some time to do that in a robust manner," Buch said at an event organized by the Association of Mutual Funds in India (AMFI).

She said SEBI has received feedback from the market on price manipulation in the listing of SMEs. The regulator has also been advised by the market participants on ways to identify such cases and deal with them.

In 2023, there were 182 SME

IPOs, raising a total of over Rs 4,600 crore, a rise of 150 per cent from Rs 1,800 crore in 2022. Moreover, in the first two months of 2024, as many as 30 SME IPOs collectively raised over Rs 1,000 crore. There's separate platform for listing and trading in SME shares on both the NSE and the BSE.

In January, Buch had mentioned that SEBI was probing cases of mule accounts and inflated IPO applications that were meant to jack up share sale subscription numbers. She said that

three cases had come to the notice of the regulator, without giving any details.

Buch further said the regulator wants to be a facilitator and have a listing environment which is not as regulated as the main board because SMEs find it hard to comply with many of those requirements. However, it was found that some entities are missing that facilitator framework.

"The reality is that these (SMEs) are relatively small entities, the market is small, the free float is small, it is relatively easy to manipulate both at the IPO level and the trading level," she said.

Buch said many of the surveillance measures such as Additional Surveillance Measure (ASM) and Graded Surveillance Measure (GSM), which were earlier not applicable on the SME board, have now been made applicable in the segment so as to try and mitigate the risk of price manipulation.

She said some more disclosures in the SME IPO segment in terms of risk factors are required for investors to understand that the SME segment is different from the main board, the regulations

and the disclosures are different, and therefore, the nature of the risk is different.

On the timeline for additional disclosure norms in the SME IPOs, Buch said the regulator is still working with advisors to try and understand the dimensions and analyze the data.

When asked about small and mid-cap funds, where some concerns have been raised, Buch said the market regulator cannot allow bubbles to build up and has asked mutual fund trustees to formulate policies in order to protect the interest of investors.

"Some people call it a bubble; some may call it froth. It may not be appropriate to allow that bubble to keep building because if it keeps building, then when it bursts... by definition bubbles burst, and when they burst, they impact investors adversely, which is not a good thing," Buch said.

The Nifty Smallcap 100 index fell 2 per cent and Nifty Midcap 100 also ended 0.39 per cent down on Monday, following the SEBI chief's comments.

FULL REPORTON  
[www.indianexpress.com](http://www.indianexpress.com)

## 'If your tech, business model becomes successful in India, it will be successful outside'

FUELLED BY India's aim to become the global drone hub by 2030, domestic unmanned aerial vehicle (UAV) manufacturers are setting their sights on international markets.

Among these is IdeaForge, a maker of surveillance drones for the defence sector, which recently announced its expansion to the United States (US). In a conversation with AGGAM WALIA, VISHAL SAXENA, Vice President, Business Development at the Mumbai-based company, talked about the nuances of the US market, the degree of indigenization in the UAV supply chain, and the Production-Linked Incentive (PLI) scheme for drones. Edited excerpts:



**THE EXPRESS  
INTERVIEW**

WITH  
VISHAL SAXENA  
VICE PRESIDENT, BUSINESS  
DEVELOPMENT, IDEAFORGE

ments from the Himalayas to the Thar desert. If you can be successful in this geography, both in terms of technology and business model, we are confident that we will be fairly successful outside.

How is the regulatory ecosystem different between the two markets, if at all?

We're not leading with our entire portfolio there, just two products - Switch and Netra V4 Pro. We have not launched Netra V4 Pro in the Indian market yet

because of the kind of technology it uses and people may not have the wherewithal to test it.

Most of the products have to be certified by the Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) and I don't think I will get a Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) certificate for some of those components because they are state of the art and by the time

the regulations adapt, I can't be going against the law of the land.

So I will not use those technologies here, I'll probably use that technology in the US.

It's a known fact in the tech sector that the regulations or the government is following and the technology is leading. Those are some of the nuances of each

market.

In terms of product features, will there be any tweaks for the US market?

We would have done about half a million flights here in India and why it makes us special is because we would have encountered at least 95 per cent of the corner cases in terms of technology, environment, and user expectations. We have technology built in for that so you don't find a lot of surprises in India. But now when we are flying with our customers in the US, there are some surprises which we are finding not because there is a deficiency in technology but they have completely different user expectations.

In India, people are happy for UAVs to fly on their own but in the US, people want to really be in control. So that's a shift on the user behaviour perspective. We are learning to adopt, so there will be versions which could be very useful in the US but may not be very useful here. Secondly, everything is very process-oriented in the US. If rules say you should not be flying above 100 metres, no matter what they will not fly above that limit. Here, the user does not want that clamping. So that's a difference and you start tweaking your software and hardware to comply with that user and regulatory environment.

To what extent is the UAV supply chain indigenised?

A lot of indigenization is happening and we are working with our downstream suppliers to do that. Alternatives are coming up fast but there are certain areas like chips, we don't make that and most of it gets imported.

The only distinction we'll make is, because of the nature of products and our customers, is coming from authorised or non-China sources. Nobody makes lenses in India so you're working with top notch players like Sony or Flir. I think that alternative is still not there and while we see some people coming up with that quality and reliability, we're not finding it.

FULL REPORTON  
[www.indianexpress.com](http://www.indianexpress.com)

## Aditya Birla Finance to merge with parent Aditya Birla Capital

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU  
MUMBAI, MARCH 11

ADITYA BIRLA Capital Ltd, which manages assets worth Rs 4.1 lakh crore, on Monday announced that its board of directors approved the merger of Aditya Birla Finance Ltd, its wholly-owned subsidiary, with the company.

Aditya Birla Capital is a listed systemically important non-deposit taking core investment company (NBFC-CIC). Aditya Birla Finance, its wholly-owned subsidiary, is a non-deposit taking systematically important NBFC (NBFC-ICC).

The group said the proposed amalgamation will result in reduction of legal entities and simplification of the group structure of Aditya Birla Capital. Post completion of the amalgamation, Aditya Birla Capital will get converted from a holding company to an operating NBFC.

"This will create a unified large entity with a greater financial strength and flexibility enabling direct access to capital. This will also help the company to maximise its share of opportunities by efficient utilisation and allocation of capital," the company said in an exchange filing.

"The proposed amalgamation will lead to consolidation of the businesses and operational synergies and resulting in the expansion and long-term sustainable growth. This will enhance value for various stakeholders of the company," it said.

The amalgamation is expected to lead to seamless implementation of policy changes and reduction in the multiplicity of

legal and regulatory compliances. "The proposed amalgamation will result in compliance with the Scale based Regulations of RBI (Reserve Bank of India) which require mandatory listing of Aditya Birla Finance by September 30, 2025," it said.

Kumar Mangalam Birla, Chairman Aditya Birla Group said, "The financial services sector is the bedrock of India's growth story. Our financial services business has scaled smartly to emerge as a core growth engine for the Aditya Birla Group. The proposed amalgamation will create a strong capital base for Aditya Birla Capital to grow its business and participate in India's growth story, successfully fulfilling its commitment to empower the financial aspirations of millions of Indians."

Once the scheme becomes effective, Vishakha Mulye will assume the role as managing director and chief executive officer (CEO) and Rakesh Singh will assume the role as Executive Director and CEO (NBFC) of the amalgamated company, subject to regulatory/statutory approvals.

As of December 31, 2023, Aditya Birla Capital manages aggregate assets under management of about Rs 4.1 lakh crore with a total lending AUM of Rs 115,139 crore and gross written premium of Rs 13,500 crore in life and health insurance businesses.

It reported consolidated revenue of Rs 26,791 crore and a profit after tax of Rs 2,090 crores for the nine months ended FY 2024. The company has a pan-India presence with 1,462 branches across all businesses as of December 31, 2023.



"Women can lead and champion the right investment causes by leveraging their perspectives, advocating for inclusive decision-making processes, and fostering environments where diverse voices are heard and valued"

MADHABI PURI BUCH, Sebi chairperson

42,000 mark

The number of women MF distributors as of Dec 2023

### WOMEN INVESTORS

Mar 2017 15%  
Dec 2023 21%

50% women investors fall in the 25-44 age group

40% Goa boasts the highest share of women in MF industry

30% Chandigarh, Maharashtra, and New Delhi

Pace of growth was more prominent in the hinterland

Most female MF investors continue to invest through the regular plan route

Source: Association of Mutual Funds/PTI

## Government abolishes wireless operating licence, launches regulatory sandbox to ease trial permit

JATIN GROVER

NEW DELHI, MARCH 11

IN A bid to enhance ease of doing business in the telecom sector, the department of telecommunications (DoT) on Monday announced a regulatory sandbox policy to give easy permission for spectrum needed in any kind of trials of equipments and research and development (R&D).

The same assumes significance in the sense that currently academia, R&D labs, telecom service providers, equipment manufacturers, and government departments needed to follow a long process to get DoT's permission for any spectrum assignment in wireless test zones. Now, the applicants can apply



The purpose behind developing technology is for utilising and improving efficiency for spectrum bands. File

through Saral Sanchar Portal at a nominal charge of Rs 1,000 per spectrum per annum.

In December last year, FE was the first to report that the government was planning second generation reforms for the telecom sector including faster grant

of spectrum for trial purposes, including regulatory sandbox. A lot more reforms have been

taken by the government in the Telecommunications Act, 2023.

"Through this spectrum regulatory sandbox, we will give very easy portal-based permis-

sions," communications and IT minister Ashwini Vaishnaw said at the curtain raiser event of World Telecommunication Standardization Assembly (WTSA 2024). WTSA will be held in New Delhi from October 15-24.

According to Vaishnaw, the simplified process will do away with the series of requirements, and licences that were needed earlier to get spectrum. The purpose behind developing technology is for utilising and improving efficiency for spectrum bands.

With regard to the process, wireless test zones (WiTe Zones)

have been divided into two categories viz. experimentation in unassigned and assigned spectrum bands. FE

vestors such as investment firms and credit institutions authorised to operate in financial markets, the Financial Conduct Authority (FCA) said in a statement.

The FCA warned crypto exchange traded notes (ETNs) - bonds issued by financial institutions that track the performance of underlying assets - pose harm to retail investors. Nonetheless, demand is picking up across the investment community.

Asset managers now hold the biggest bullish position in bitcoin futures on record, according to weekly data from the U.S. Commodity Futures Trading Commission.

In the week to March 5, the net long position held by asset managers - usually interpreted as covering holdings of institutional investors such as mutual funds and pension funds - rose to 15,531 lots, worth \$5.5 billion based on the current bitcoin price.

RAVI DUTTA MISHRA

NEW DELHI, MARCH 11

NEARLY TWO years after India and the 27-member bloc European Union (EU) re-launched trade negotiations, both countries continue to differ on "key outstanding issues" with the next round of talks now scheduled only after India's general elections, a report on the seventh round of negotiations released by EU on Monday said.

This comes at a time when India and the four-nation European Free Trade Association (EFTA), an intergovernmental grouping of Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway and Switzerland, signed a trade pact on March 10, days before the dates for general elections are expected to be announced triggering the model code of conduct (MCC).

To be sure, the proposed India-EU FTA is among the most comprehensive deals that is being negotiated and could accrue tangible market access gain for India in services and labour intensive sectors, such as leather, textiles and engineering among others. However, the deal is also among the most complicated to close with differing positions of the 27 members during a global election year.

"Some progress was made on texts during this round, in particular on Intellectual Property Rights, but both sides' respective positions still diverge on many key outstanding issues. The 8th round of EU-India FTA negotiations will be held in Brussels after the upcoming Indian elections, with dates yet to be confirmed," the EU report said.

The Indian Express has earlier reported that several export items to the EU have suffered due to technical barriers. Indian tea exports for instance have suffered from stiff maximum residue level (MRL) requirements in the EU.

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CAA RULES NOTIFIED AHEAD OF LOK SABHA POLLS

## No passport, no visa: Rules eased for seeking citizenship under CAA

PM delivered on commitment: Shah

DEEPTIMAN TIWARY  
NEW DELHI, MARCH 11

A HINDU, Sikh, Buddhist, Jain, Parsi or Christian from Pakistan, Bangladesh and Afghanistan, who entered India before December 31, 2014, can now seek Indian citizenship without producing a valid passport or a valid visa from these countries or a valid visa from India, according to the Citizenship (Amendment) Act, 2019, (CAA) rules notified on Monday.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

## KEY RULE CHANGES

- Any document, even great grandfather's, good enough to prove country of origin
- Certificate from local body member enough to prove date of entry
- Central panel, not District Collector, to handle applications

RELATED REPORTS  
PAGES 6 & 17

Opp-ruled states say bid to polarise polls, will oppose

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE  
NEW DELHI, MARCH 11

AS THE UNION government notified on Monday rules for the Citizenship (Amendment) Act (CAA), over four years after the legislation was passed by Parliament, Opposition parties and the Chief Ministers of West Bengal, Kerala, Tamil Nadu and Delhi vowed to oppose it, alleging that the BJP has resurrected

the "divisive" Act ahead of the Lok Sabha polls to exploit religious sentiments for political gain.

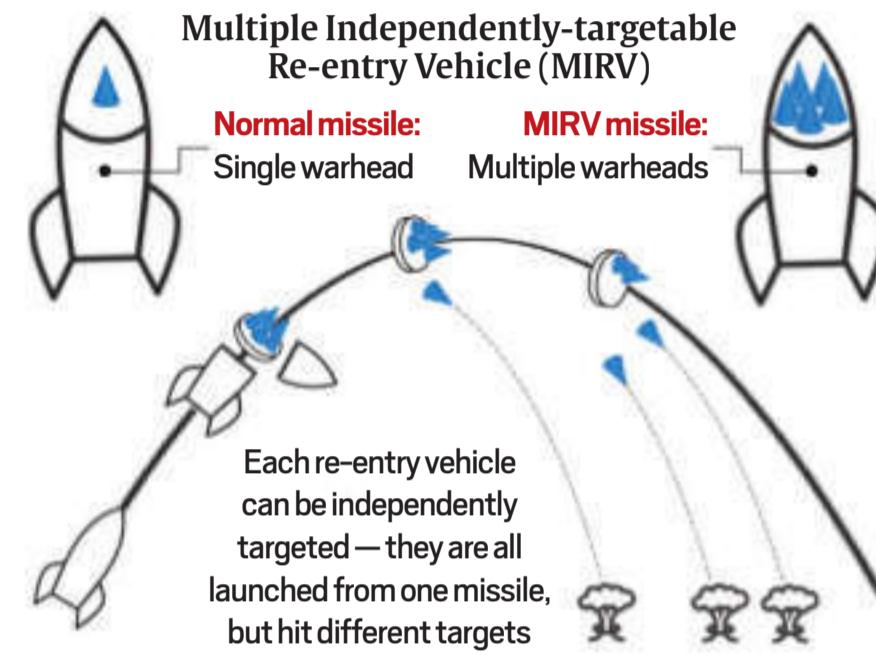
Questioning the timing of the notification, the Congress said it is "evidently designed" to polarise the elections, especially in West Bengal and Assam, and aimed at "managing the headlines" after the Supreme Court's severe strictures on the electoral bonds scandal".

Kerala Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan reiterated that

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

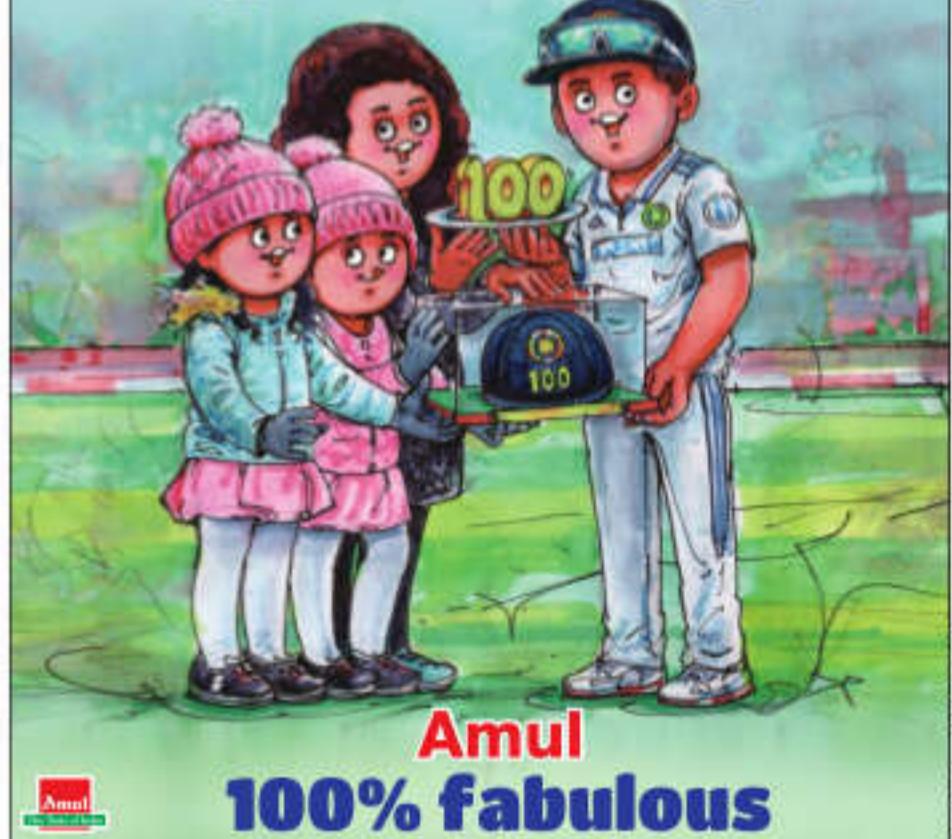
PM hails first test of Agni-5 with multiple warhead technology

## ONE MISSILE, MANY WARHEADS



Source: Center for Arms Control and Non-proliferation

Ash good as it gets!



daCunha/AB/937

## THE HARYANA STRETCH

PM Narendra Modi, Union Road Transport and Highways Minister Nitin Gadkari, Haryana CM Manohar Lal Khattar at the inauguration of the 19-km Haryana stretch of the Dwarka Expressway in Gurgaon on Monday. PTI

PAGE 4

## EXPRESS NETWORK

PM-LED PANEL TO MEET ON MARCH 14 TO PICK TWO ECs

1ST BATCH OF INDIAN MILITARY PERSONNEL 'LEAVES' MALDIVES

SANDESHKHALI: SC REJECTS PLEA AGAINST CBI PROBE  
PAGES 6 & 8

SC rejects plea for stay on acquittal of Saibaba, others



Released from jail on March 7, two days after his acquittal

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE  
NEW DELHI, MARCH 11

THE SUPREME COURT on Monday rejected the request by government-owned State Bank of India (SBI) for time till June 30 to disclose to the Election Commission of India details of electoral bonds purchased anonymously and encashed by political parties, and asked it to furnish these before close of business hours on March 12. Separately, it asked the EC to publish these details by 5 pm on March 15.

A five-judge Constitution Bench presided by Chief Justice of India D Y Chandrachud said there was no reason for further extension since the "submissions of SBI indicate that the information... is readily available". "SBI is directed to disclose the details by the close of business

## BUSINESS AS USUAL



'Matching' code may be missing, but petitioners hope for 'quid pro quo' trends

DAMINI NATH & RITU SARIN  
NEW DELHI, MARCH 11

WHEN THE ELECTION Commission of India compiles and puts out on March 15 the data on electoral bonds provided to it by the State Bank of India, details on the bonds issued from April 12, 2019 to February 15, 2024, will be available in public domain in two separate lists. One list will have the date of

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

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In Raebareli, Cong legacy faces likely hurdle: 'Even emotions have a shelf-life'



At an office in Raebareli, Congress functionaries discuss the party's electoral prospects. Vishal Srivastav

PAGE 1  
ANCHORMAULSHREE SETH  
RAEBARELI, MARCH 11

SITTING WITH other Congress leaders around a large wooden table, Amit Mishra, secretary of the party's city committee, says he is hurt that Rahul Gandhi did not get out of his jeep when the recent Bharat Jodo Nyay Yatra wound its way through Raebareli town.

"Aap pariwar ka rishta kehte hain par (The Gandhis call us family and yet)... Rahul was welcomed at 29 spots in Raebareli, he could have stepped out of his vehicle at any of these places," he says.

As some of the veterans talk fondly of the Gandhi family and how Raebareli has always voted "emotionally", Mishra is visibly uneasy.

And then, he spells out what frames the Congress's biggest challenge in this party pocket borough: "Raebareli mein party workers ko attention chahiye..."

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

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## FROM PAGE ONE

FULL REPORTS ON  
WWW.INDIANEXPRESS.COM

## No passport, no visa: Rules eased for seeking citizenship under CAA

The rules, which pave the way for implementation of the CAA, state that "any document" that shows one of the parents, grandparents or even great-grandparents of the applicant was from one of these countries would suffice to prove their nationality. And instead of a visa, even a certificate issued by an elected member of a local body would be enough.

With the notification, the Centre has eased the process of granting Indian citizenship to members of these communities from the three countries, as envisaged in the legislation passed in December 2019. The development is likely to benefit thousands of non-Muslim migrants from the three countries who are seeking Indian citizenship. Until now, these migrants were either living in India illegally or on long-term visas. The Modi government today notified the Citizenship (Amendment) Rules, 2024. These rules will now enable minorities persecuted on religious grounds in Pakistan, Bangladesh and Afghanistan to acquire citizenship in our nation. With this notification PM Shri@narendramodi Ji has delivered on another commitment and realised the promise of the makers of our Constitution to the Hindus, Sikhs, Buddhists, Jains, Parsis and Christians living in those countries," Home Minister Amit Shah said in a post on X.

The CAA had evoked widespread protests across the country as, read with the Centre's plan

to conduct a nationwide National Register of Citizen (NRC) enumeration, it was perceived as an attempt to deprive Muslims of Indian citizenship.

On Monday, while several Opposition-ruled states said they would not implement the CAA, the rules have tweaked the process in such a way that states would have little say in grant of citizenship, with much less participation than before.

The CAA presumes that members of these communities who entered India faced religious persecution in those countries. It stipulates that any member of these communities who entered India, legally or illegally, from the three countries before December 31, 2014 shall be eligible for citizenship. The law has also reduced the period of citizenship by naturalisation from 11 years to five years.

## Changes in evidence

The rules have virtually done away with the centrality of requiring a passport of Pakistan, Bangladesh or Afghanistan and a residential permit issued by India. Instead, birth or educational institution certificate; "identity document of any kind"; "any licence or certificate"; "land or tenancy records"; or "any other document" issued by these countries, which proves the applicant was their citizen, would suffice as proof of citizenship. Any document that shows "either of the parents or grandparents or great-grand-

parents of the applicant is or had been a citizen of one of the three countries" is also acceptable. Importantly, these documents will be admissible even beyond their validity period.

Earlier, the applicants required a copy of a valid foreign passport along with a copy of valid residential permit; a copy of bank challan in original amounting to Rs 1,500; an affidavit from self (applicant) and two affidavits from two Indians testifying to the character of the applicant; two newspaper cuttings of different dates or of different newspapers notifying his/her intention to apply for citizenship among other documents.

The government has also done away with the requirement of producing a certificate from an educational institution that the applicant knows one of the languages mentioned in the Eighth Schedule of the Constitution. Now, a declaration to that effect and being able to speak the language will be enough.

Similarly, to prove that the applicant entered India before December 31, 2014, a list of 20 documents has been given, any of which would be admissible.

These include a valid visa, residential permit issued by FRRO, slip issued by Census enumerators in India, driving licence, Aadhaar card, ration card, any letter issued by the government or court, Indian birth certificate, land or tenancy records, registered rent agreement, PAN card issuance

document, document issued by Centre, state, PSU or bank, certificate issued by an elected member of any rural or urban body or officer thereof or a revenue officer; post office account; insurance policy; utility bills; court or tribunal records; EPF documents, school leaving certificate; academic certificate; municipality trade licence; and marriage certificate.

Earlier, a visa along with certain other documents was a must.

## Changes in procedures

The government has also tweaked the process of grant of citizenship in a manner that state governments would have limited participation in the process. This could deal with the possibility of state governments opposed to the legislation trying to stall the implementation of the law.

Earlier, citizenship applications were made to the district collector, who is under the administrative control of state government. The new rules provide for an empowered committee and a district level committee to be constituted by the Centre for receiving and processing the applications, which are to be submitted electronically. The empowered committee would be headed by a director (census operations), with the deputy secretary or above officer of the Subsidiary Intelligence Bureau, the FRRO, state informatics officer of the National Informatics Centre, postmaster general of the state, as members.

There would also be two invitees to the committee: a representative from the office of principal secretary (home) or additional chief secretary (home) of the state government or Union Territory concerned; and a representative of the Railways' jurisdictional divisional railway manager.

The district level committee would be headed by the jurisdictional senior superintendent or superintendent of post, who shall also be the designated officer. The members shall include the district informatics officer or district in-

fomatics assistant and a nominee of the central government. The two invitees include a representative not below the rank of naib tehsildar or equivalent from the office of the district collector; and the Railways' jurisdictional station master (subject to availability).

The district level committee is supposed to administer an oath to the applicant for grant of Indian citizenship as specified in the law.

The empowered committee has the authority to scrutinise and grant or reject Indian citizenship.

The empowered committee may make such inquiry as it considers necessary for ascertaining the suitability of the applicant, including obtaining report from the security agency." The rules say. Each person registered as a citizen under the new law would be given a digital certificate, which would be digitally signed or signed, by chairman of the empowered committee.

## • SC asks SBI to submit electoral bond details today

February 15 this year struck down the electoral bond scheme and asked the SBI to furnish the details of the bonds purchased from April 12, 2019, to February 15, 2024, to the ECI by March 6. Just two days before the court-set deadline, SBI had on March 4 sought an extension of time till June 30.

Not taking SBI's request, the top court sought an affidavit from the Chairman and Managing Director of SBI on compliance of its directions and cautioned that it may initiate proceedings if the bank failed to comply with the timelines set by it in Monday's order.

In fact, it quizzed the SBI on the steps taken till date subsequent to the February 15 order: "Our judgment is dated February 15. We are now on March 11. In the last 26 days...what steps have been taken by you? The application is absolutely silent on that," CJL Chandrahas said.

On February 15, striking down the changes made in the laws in 2018 to implement the scheme as "unconstitutional", the Supreme Court bench, also comprising Justices Sanjiv Khanna, B R Gavai, J B Pardiwala and Manoj Misra, had asked the SBI to disclose details of each electoral bond encashed by political parties, including their date of encashment and the denomination.

Four years back, in an interim order on April 12, 2019, the SC had asked political parties to submit details of donations via electoral bonds to the ECI in a sealed cover to be kept in the safe custody of the commission till further orders. On Monday, the SC directed the poll body to publish this data on its website as well.

The court which was also seized of contempt petitions filed by the petitioners in the case against SBI said, "While we are not inclined to exercise the contempt jurisdiction... at this stage bearing in mind the application which was submitted for an extension of time, we place SBI on notice that this court may be inclined to proceed against it for wilful disobedience of the judgement if SBI does not comply with the directions of this court as set out in the judgement dated February 15, 2024, by the timelines indicated in this order."

## Matching bonds against recipients

Appearing for the SBI, Senior Advocate Harish Salve said though the information on purchase and redemption was available with the bank in two sepa-

rate silos, the confusion was about whether the February 15 order required it to match the bonds against the recipients.

"The only problem... the Standard Operating Procedure which we had, made sure there was no connection between the name of the purchaser in our core banking system and the bond number because we as a bank were told that this is supposed to be secret," Salve said.

In response, the CJL said, "If you see the directions which we have issued (referring to the February 15 order), we have not told you to do the matching exercise. We have asked you for a plain disclosure. Therefore, the grounds on which you seek an extension of time to make the disclosure does not accord with the directions of the judgement at all. The judgement does not tell you to do that exercise..."

"If that's not so, then there is no problem," said Salve.

During the hearing, as the senior counsel reiterated his apprehension on matching, Justice Gavai said, "That's not been asked Mr Salve. There is no direction to correlate it with the purchaser and the political party."

When Salve said the order seemed to suggest so, Justice Gavai said, "Don't go by what is suggested. Whatever we wanted to speak, we have spoken it black and white."

After the court dictated its order, Salve once again sought a clarification on the point to which Justice Gavai said that from the order dictated by the CJL Monday, "it is very clear that there is no scope for any confusion..."

Earlier during the hearing, Salve explained the process adopted by SBI and said, "When the purchases were made, we divided the information. The names were kept at one place and purchases recorded at another place... We knew this was sensitive information. So a physical process was devised. We sort of did KYC and kept the name in that. It was done to prevent this type of gossip that so and so purchased this much..."

## • SBI has all details'

The CJL said, "But ultimately, everything was sent to the Mumbai main branch... given your FAQs which were shown to us in the course of the hearing, they indicate that for every purchase, you have to have a separate KYC... every time somebody made a purchase, a KYC was mandatory... therefore, you have

the details."

"I have, I am not saying I don't have it," said Salve.

"You say the purchase details are there in a sealed cover in the main branch of SBI. You simply have to open the sealed cover, take the names and give the details. You also say donee details are there in sealed cover, open and give it," said Justice Khanna.

Salve said the bank will file a detailed response to which the CJL said, "It should have been disclosed in the affidavit. It's the SBI which is coming to us. We expect that there should be a degree of candour on the part of the SBI that this is the work which we have done. The work is at this stage, we need an extension of time to carry on with the balance of the exercise..."

On the time being taken, Salve said the bank cannot afford to make a mistake as it would lead the donors to sue it, Justice Khanna said, "Why would that happen?... one bank in the country, we expect them to be able to handle this."

The senior counsel said, "We were told to make sure this information doesn't leak. So the way we stored this information, the bond no did not get into the core banking system. If we had been told to keep information to this basis, we would have devised our system accordingly. If we had kept it like that, any senior bank officer could have found out... and the whole thing would have been out in public domain." Rejecting the prayer for more time, the court said, "...the electoral bond published by the SBI... states that KYC documents must be submitted by the purchaser each time the bond is purchased... Contributors who have SBI accounts as well as those who do not, have to submit the electoral bond application, KYC documentation and proof of payment through NEFT/cheque or demand draft. Thus, the details of the electoral bond which have been purchased and which have been directed to be disclosed by this Court are readily available," it said.

Similarly, SBI's FAQs on electoral bonds with respect to redemption of bonds state that each political party can open only one current account for electoral bond redemption. "The current account could be opened by the political party only in 29 branches... thus, information about a political party encashment of electoral bonds would be stored only in these branches which would be clearly accessible..." it said.

Similarly, SBI's FAQs on electoral bonds with respect to redemption of bonds state that each political party can open only one current account for electoral bond redemption. "The current account could be opened by the political party only in 29 branches... thus, information about a political party encashment of electoral bonds would be stored only in these branches which would be clearly accessible..." it said.

## • PM hails first test of Agni-5 with multiple warhead tech

handful of countries—the United States, Russia, China, United Kingdom and France. Last year, Pakistan also claimed to have tested a MIRV-equipped missile, Ababeel.

Underlining the significance of the test, Prime Minister Narendra Modi announced it himself in a congratulatory message for Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO), much like he had done five years ago when India had carried out an anti-satellite test.

"Proud of our DRDO scientists for Mission Divyastra, the first flight test of indigenously developed Agni-5 missile with Multiple Independently Targetable Re-entry Vehicle (MIRV) technology," Modi said in a message posted on X. Agni is a long-range missile developed indigenously by the DRDO. The family of Agni missiles have been in the arsenal of the Indian armed forces since the early 1990s.

Missiles equipped with MIRV technology can aim multiple targets that can be located hundreds of kilometres apart. Agni-5, which can carry nuclear warheads and hit targets more than 5,000 km away, is aimed mainly at thwarting the challenge from

China. It uses a three-stage solid-fuelled engine.

Dr VK Saraswat, former head of DRDO, said MIRV technology significantly increased the potency of Agni-5 missile.

"In the latest flight test, we are carrying more than one warhead. The advantage of these warheads is that they are smart and intelligent and could be controlled to hit multiple specific targets, thus covering a larger area of influence. Thus, it is a force multiplier," he said.

He said the MIRV-equipped Agni-5 missiles developed by DRDO could carry three to four warheads. The mother missile can release different payloads at different velocities and altitudes for different targets and the warheads can be autonomously guided to a pre-determined target location.

"India has a no-first-use nuclear policy. So, in the instance of a (nuclear) attack, India's response has to be stronger and of a higher potency to inflict large damage," he said. The MIRV technology will give India that capability and thus act as a deterrence, Saraswat said.

Dr Tessy Thomas, former head of the Aeronautical Systems of DRDO who had been handling the Agni project till last year, said the

successful flight test of the missile was a proud moment for the country.

The Agni 1 to 4 missiles have ranges from 700 km to 3,500 km and have already been deployed. This included medium to intercontinental versions. Agni-5 has been successfully tested several times since 2012.

Monday's test follows the two tests of Agni-5 missile in 2021. Agni-5 are modernised versions of the older generation Agni-1 and Agni-2 missiles equipped with latest technologies. In December 2022, DRDO also tested the night-time capabilities of Agni-5. The next upgrade of Agni missile, Agni-6, is expected to be a full-fledged intercontinental ballistic missile with a range well over 7,000 km.

Government sources said the DRDO development team of MIRV-equipped Agni-5 missile was headed by a woman and included many other women scientists. While DRDO sources did not reveal the identity of the person heading the programme, a 2023 DRDO newsletter named Sheena Rani, scientist and associate director of DRDO's Advanced Systems Laboratory, as programme director of Agni.

## • In Raebareli, Cong legacy faces likely hurdle: 'Even emotions have a shelf-life'

written by the former PM. Some others, however, especially the younger lot around the table, are visibly upset that members of the Gandhi family haven't been visiting the constituency, pointing out that the last time Sonia visited was in January 2020, when she, along with Priyanka, came to offer condolences on the death of former MLA Ajay Pal's son.

Stalin said the Centre had "kept the act in cold storage" all this while "fearing backlash from the people". "Now, as elections loom, Prime Minister Modi seeks to salvage his sinking ship by cynically resurrecting the Citizenship Amendment Act, exploiting religious sentiments for political gain. However, the people of India will never forgive the BJP for unleashing this divisive Act..." Stalin said.

Saibaba was convicted and sentenced to life imprisonment by a trial court in 2017, under various provisions of the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act (UAPA). On appeal, the Nagpur bench of the Bombay High Court discharged him on October 14, 2022, saying there was no valid sanction for prosecution as required under the UAPA. It also acquitted four others in the case; the sixth accused died in August 2022.

In April 2023, the Supreme Court set aside the High Court order discharging the accused, and remanded the matter back to the High Court to be decided afresh by a different bench.

Last week, the Nagpur bench of the Bombay High Court acquitted Saibaba and the others, noting that the prosecution had failed to prove its case. A two-judge bench ruled that the sanction under the UAPA was null and void, and the entire prosecution case had been vitiated on account of invalid sanction to prosecute the accused. It said the trial that was held despite the violation of mandatory provisions of law amounted to a "failure of justice".

The HC said that the prosecution had failed to establish legal seizure of material and could not prove any incriminating material against the accused. Possession of literature sympathetic to Maoist philosophy could not be an offence under UAPA, and downloading Naxal material would not constitute an offence unless specific evidence was provided, it said.

Saibaba was released from jail on March 7, two days after his acquittal.

Which is why, as Mishra says, the party can't afford to take chances. The discussion around the table at the office of the Congress leader picks up. Some party veterans pull out photographs of their relatives with Indira Gandhi; some share letters from the former PM. Some others, however, especially the younger lot around the table, are visibly upset that members of the Gandhi family haven't been visiting the constituency, pointing out that the last time Sonia visited was in January 2020, when she, along with Priyanka, came to offer condolences on the death of former MLA Ajay Pal's son.

Kamlesh Dwivedi, 77, who is from a family of Congressmen, complains that "loyal faces" have been neglected. Showing a personal letter of thanks written by Indira in 1974 for the work he did for her election campaign, he says his father was a part of the delegation from Raebareli that had gone to convince Indira Gandhi to contest from here in 1967. Claiming to have been part of the delegation that convinced Sonia to contest from the seat in 2004, he says, "Now I want Priyanka Gandhi Vadra to contest from the heartland and send out signals right down to the grassroots."

Which is why, as Mishra says,

"Emotions ki bhi umar hoti hai" (The party workers in Raebareli want attention. Even emotions have a shelf-life.)

Sonia, who represented the constituency from 2004 to 2024, brought the Rail Coach Factory, Al-

IMS, National Institute of Fashion Technology and National Institute of Pharmaceutical and Research to Raebareli. But with the UP losing power in 2014, the projects either slowed down or the proposals never saw the light of day. The effects of that political tussle is visible everywhere in Raebareli—in the dust and chaos from half-built flyovers, in the potholed roads and unfinished projects. While Sonia laid the foundation stone of AIIMS Raebareli before the 2014 elections, the building was inaugurated only last week by Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

Despite the projects cleared by the Congress when in power, local BJP leaders are in no mood to grant it any concessions. "They brought these projects in a hurry. It was the BJP government that completed them. Sonia never visited the constituency during her last term," says a BJP leader who didn't want to be named.

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GOVT EARNED RS 3.52 CR FROM 6,500 UNCLAIMED VEHICLES

# Over 13,000 overage vehicles impounded – 99% scrapped

GAYATHRI MANI  
NEW DELHI, MARCH 11

IN APRIL 2023, Naveen Khurana's 96 Mercedes-Benz was impounded during an enforcement drive against end-of-life vehicles (ELVs) by the Delhi transport department. Since then, the Punjabi Bagh resident made multiple visits to the scrapyard to find out what had happened to his vintage car, to no avail.

"Despite several requests, the scrapyard didn't release my vehicle... The last time I went in August, they sent me back saying they would release my car once the (ELV) policy was in place. Recently, I heard all impounded vehicles were scrapped... I don't know if my vehicle is in one piece..." he said.

Nearly 99% of vehicles impounded during the drive between March and August 2023 have been scrapped, officials said. As per the department's data, 13,585 out of the total 13,760 impounded ELVs (old petrol and diesel vehicles found plying illegally on roads or parked in public places) were disposed of. 175 vehicles were

## WHAT DATA SHOWS

- Drive started on March 29, 2023, and continued till August, 2023
- Vehicles seized during this period: 13,760
- Vehicles released: 175
- Vehicles scrapped: 13,585
- Drive was stopped after August 22, 2023, following court orders
- 45-50% of vehicles scrapped after court intervention (between August and October)



- Of total vehicles scrapped, over 6,000 people have not claimed their vehicle/scrap value
- Scrap value received by transport dept: ₹3.52 cr

released after court intervention.

In August 2023, the HC had directed the department to frame a policy to release several seized ELVs on undertakings by the owner that if released, the vehicles won't "ply or be parked in any public space" in the city. According to an official source, 45-50% of total vehicles were scrapped, despite court directions, in September and October last year.

Shahzad Alam, special commissioner (enforcement/scrap-

looking into the matter said, "The court did not order a stay or direct us to stop the process. The department was told to frame a policy for release of such vehicles on taking undertakings... The department sought advice from the law department for clarification on the matter... Scrapers were informed about the ongoing developments... by the time the department could reach a conclusion, they scrapped the vehicle as per existing rules..."

The official added that in some cases, scrapyards disposed of the vehicles without the owner's consent. "One such scrap was blacklisted."

As per the department's scrapping cell, around 6,500 car owners didn't claim their vehicles. "The department received Rs 3.52 crore as scrap value for such vehicles," said an official.

According to new guidelines released on February 20, owners wishing to reclaim their ELV will have to submit an undertaking that the vehicle will not ply or be parked in any public place in Delhi. The special commissioner last week filed a report on behalf of the government with a copy of the policy in court.

## 'Proved facts not fully consistent': Court acquits man in 2017 Lajpat Nagar murder

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE  
NEW DELHI, MARCH 11

A DELHI court has recently acquitted a man for allegedly stabbing a woman to death in Delhi's Lajpat Nagar in 2017. Pooja (30) was killed on March 24, 2017; her body was found at her Amar Colony residence on March 27 that year, said police.

Ruling out the motive of the murderer to be "stealing", as revealed during investigation earlier, the court pointed out that

"planting of evidence by police" could also not be ruled out in the case. It underlined that the prosecution's case was based on circumstantial evidence, and that the alleged motive of murder was on a "weak footing".

Additional Sessions Judge Sachin Sangwan, Saket Court, said: "...The facts proved during the trial are not sufficient to complete the chain of circumstantial evidence against the accused. Moreover, even the proved facts are not fully consistent with the guilt of the accused, and cannot

be said to be totally inconsistent with his innocence."

The accused, Mohd Sufiyan, who was in a relationship with a friend of the deceased, allegedly used to visit Pooja's house with his girlfriend and stay the night there. However, the two women had a fallout, forcing Sufiyan to look for another place to meet his girlfriend. "Police scanned CCTV footage... and zeroed in on a man who took a rickshaw to the victim's house on the day of the incident. Police traced the route taken by him, after killing the woman;

they found his blood-stained clothes in Sarai Kale Khan," an officer had said earlier.

Later, Sufiyan confessed during interrogation that he had "killed Pooja" due to his financial distress. Ruling out the motive, the court said that the jewellery was recovered from the accused 1.5 months after the offence, suggesting "he was not in desperate need of money". It said arguments of the defense counsel were "not without substance", flagging that the prosecution chose not to file the CDR/data of Pooja's cellphone.

‘... Public figure not above law of land: AAP MLA’s pre-arrest bail dismissed

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE  
NEW DELHI, MARCH 11

"An MLA or a public figure is not above the law of the land," said the Delhi High Court on Monday, while dismissing the 'pre-arrest bail' petition of AAP MLA Amanatullah Khan in the Enforcement Directorate's (ED) money laundering case linked to alleged irregularities in the Delhi Waqf Board's staff recruitment.

Observing that not responding to summons issued by an investigating agency amounts to non-cooperation with probe, a single-judge bench of Justice Swarana Kanta Sharma said that Khan was presented with "six opportunities by the investigating

agency to join the investigation and submit relevant details, but the applicant (Khan) refused to join the process of investigation".

"This Court wonders whether a person's plea of being busy with personal or official work can be a valid ground on occasions to avoid summons on the ground that he is a public person. The answer in this Court's opinion has to be in the negative, since cooperating with investigating agency by a public figure too is public service..." observed the HC.

Justice Sharma, thereafter, underscored that investigating agencies in India have the "right to conduct investigation and to perform their duties on behalf of citizens" without any intimidation, influence or avoidance

by public figures.

The HC also said that "material evidences" gathered during the course of investigation revealed that Khan "has acquired huge cash amounts, being the proceeds of crime out of criminal activities relating to his corrupt and illegal activities relating to illegal recruitment of persons in Delhi Waqf Board, leasing out properties of Delhi Waqf Board in unfair and illegal manner, misappropriation of Delhi Waqf Board funds including others, while being a public servant i.e. the chairman of Delhi Waqf Board and MLA from Okhla Legislative Assembly of Delhi during the period from 2015 onwards".

FULL REPORT ON  
[www.indianexpress.com](http://www.indianexpress.com)

Submit daily action report on water issues: DJB told

New Delhi: Calling it a "top priority", Chief Secretary Naresh Kumar has directed the Delhi Jal Board (DJB) to submit reports on daily action taken in over 40 grievances related to water supply in the national capital — as flagged by the legislators.

This was in response to a communication from Delhi Assembly Speaker Ram Niwas Goel along with 42 complaints pertaining to different locations in the Capital, said a senior government official.

"By March 14, the Chief Secretary should submit a detailed progress report on all these issues to the Water Minister (Atishi) for presentation in the Legislative Assembly session on March 15....," read the communication.

ENS

## EXPRESS Careers

गार्डन रीच शिपबिल्डर्स एण्ड इंजीनियर्स लिमिटेड  
Garden Reach Shipbuilders & Engineers Limited  
Regd and Corp Office: GRSE Bhawan, 81, Garden Reach Road, Kolkata - 700 024  
(भारत सरकार द्वारा संचालित एवं गोपनीय कार्यालय)  
राष्ट्रीय बंदरगाह के उम्मीदवार / A Govt. of India Undertaking)  
Web: [www.grse.in](http://www.grse.in) (CIN: L35111WB1934G01007891)

GRSE Ltd. is one of the premier Defence Shipyards and Mini Ratna Category-I Company. The Company invites applications from qualified, talented and energetic Indian Nationals for the posts in various grades as indicated below:

### EMPLOYMENT NOTIFICATION NO. 2024/03(S)

PERMANENT EMPLOYMENT - Design Assistant (S-2)- Hull & Hull Outfit / Forward Design Group, Electrical; Supervisor (S-2)-Material Management/ Import, Digital Branding, Indigenization; Supervisor (S-1)- HR&A, Finance; Engine Technician (S-1)-Electrical ; FIXED TERM EMPLOYMENT - Supervisor (S-4)(FT)-Mechanical, Electrical, Hull & Hull Outfit; Design Assistant (S-1)(FT)- Mechanical; Supervisor (S-1)(FT)- Mechanical, Electrical, Dock, Safety, Civil Engg, Finance, Naval Architecture, HR&A, Pharmacy, Security

### EMPLOYMENT NOTIFICATION NO. 2024/04(O)

PERMANENT EMPLOYMENT - Deputy Manager (E-2)- Finance, Medical ; FIXED TERM EMPLOYMENT - Additional General Manager (E-6)(FT)-Technical

### EMPLOYMENT NOTIFICATION NO. 2024/05(E)

CONTRACTUAL ENGAGEMENT - Expert/ Specialist-Shipbuilding-Engineering

The details like General Conditions, eligibility, essential qualification, minimum experience, selection process, how to apply etc. are available in 'Career section' of GRSE website [www.grse.in](http://www.grse.in) or <https://jobapply.in/grse2024>

Candidates are required to apply only through ONLINE mode. No other means / mode of submission of applications will be accepted.

Any Addendum/Corrigendum will only be published in GRSE website.

Opening Date for Online registration: 06 Mar 2024 (14:00 hrs onwards)

Closing Date for Online registration: 27 Mar 2024 (upto 23:59 hrs)

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Educational Multimedia Research Centre (EMMRC)  
Jai Narain Vyas University, Jodhpur

ADVERTISEMENT No. 54 /2023-24

Applications are invited for the post of Director [1 UR]. The application form, qualifications, experience and other details can be obtained from the University website [www.jnvyu.edu.in](http://www.jnvyu.edu.in). The candidate should submit the filled form along with the payment of Rs. 500/- for Gen. Category, Rs. 300/- for OBC (Non-Creamy Layer) and Rs. 100/- for SC/ST/PH, through Demand Draft / Banker's Cheque only, in favour of "The Director, EMMRC, JNV University, Jodhpur". The application form and detailed information may also be obtained from office of the undersigned between 11.00 to 3.00 p.m. on any working day on payment of Rs. 100/-. The application form should reach office of the Director, Educational Multimedia Research Centre, Jai Narain Vyas University, Jodhpur - 342011 till 06.04.2024 up to 05:00 pm. Incomplete applications and applications received after due date will not be entertained.

Those who have applied earlier in pursuance to Advertisement No. 19/2023-24 need not apply again. However, they can submit additional documents to update their application.

Sd/- DIRECTOR

गार्डन रीच शिपबिल्डर्स एण्ड इंजीनियर्स लिमिटेड  
Garden Reach Shipbuilders & Engineers Limited  
(भारत सरकार के उम्मीदवार / A Govt. of India Undertaking), राष्ट्रीय बंदरगाह / Ministry of Defence  
Regd and Corp Office: GRSE BHAVAN, 81, Garden Reach Road, Kolkata - 700 024  
Web: [www.grse.in](http://www.grse.in) (CIN: L35111WB1934G01007891)

### EMPLOYMENT NOTIFICATION NO. 2024/06(P)

GRSE Ltd. is one of the premier Defence Shipyards and Mini Ratna Category-I Company. The Company invites applications from qualified, talented and energetic Indian Nationals for the following posts on contractual basis as indicated below:

Opening Date for Online registration: 22 Mar 2024 (14:00 hrs onwards)

Closing Date for Online registration : 12 Apr 2024 (upto 23:59 hrs.)

SENIOR PROJECT EXECUTIVE- Hull & Hull Outfitting, Engineering (Plumbing & Machinery), Electrical & Weapons

PROJECT COORDINATOR-Hull & Hull Outfitting, Engineering (Plumbing & Machinery), Electrical & Weapons, Civil, Electrical. The details like General Conditions, eligibility, essential qualification, minimum experience, remuneration, selection process, how to apply etc. will be available in 'Career section' of GRSE website [www.grse.in](http://www.grse.in) or <https://jobapply.in/grse2024>

Candidates are required to apply only through ONLINE mode. No other means / mode of submission of applications will be accepted.

Any Addendum/Corrigendum will only be published in GRSE website.

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When our closed one's are away  
from home during festivals  
you are with them  
as a family member

Prime Minister celebrates every Diwali with soldiers

Attack on terrorism with surgical-air strike

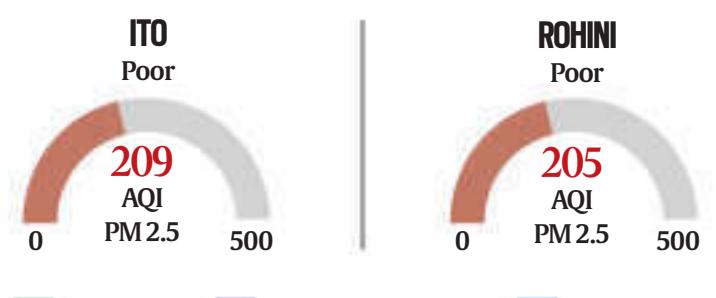
Army's capacity enhanced with modern weapons

More than 23 times increase in defence exports

Payment of ₹ 95 thousand crore under  
One Rank-One Pension

National security strengthened  
Mera Bharat, Mera Parivar





S K Y W A T C H  
FORECAST:  
March 12  
Mainly clear sky

MAX: 32 | MIN: 13  
3.1°C above normal | 1.9°C below normal

## 19-KM HARYANA STRETCH NOW OPEN TO PUBLIC

# 'I don't think small, I harbour big dreams': PM inaugurates Dwarka expressway's first leg

AISWARYA RAJ  
GURGAON, MARCH 11

"I DON'T think small... I harbour big dreams... I want to see India become developed in 2047," said Prime Minister Narendra Modi in Gurgaon as he inaugurated the first leg of the Dwarka Expressway — a 19-km section in Haryana — following a roadshow on Monday.

Stating that the 9,000-crore project would improve travel in NCR, Modi said: "This will shift the gear of lives of people in the NCR. Earlier governments would inaugurate small projects and brag about it for five years. While the BJP has been inaugurating various projects, we don't have enough time to unveil them all. Not even three months have passed in 2024, and so far, Rs 10 lakh crore worth of projects have been either inaugurated or their foundation stones have been laid. The difference between challenges and opportunities is how you look at them. To turn problems into opportunities is Modi's guarantee."

Haryana Chief Minister Manohar Lal Khattar, Deputy CM Dushyant Chautala, Governor Bandaru Dattatreya, Union Road Transport and Highways Minister Nitin Gadkari, and Gurgaon MP Rao Inderjit Singh were present at the event.

Modi recollects Gurgaon's transition from an unsafe area to the fastest-growing city in the NCR. "This expressway will help access the (Delhi) airport better. It would integrate the NCR better and boost the economy. When this joins the Delhi-Mumbai Expressway, it will start a new chapter," he added.

He also recalled his earlier days with Khattar, when he used to ride a pillion on his motorcycle: "We

## India's largest 8-lane elevated road

### THE PROJECT

Dwarka Expressway, India's first elevated 8-lane access control urban expressway, is part of the Centre's Rs 60,000 crore highway development plan in the NCR to decongest the national capital.

### TODAY'S OPENING

The Haryana section. It includes two packages — the 10.2-km Delhi-Haryana Border to Basai Rail-over-Bridge (ROB) and 8.7-km Basai ROB to Kherki Daula.

### HOW WILL IT HELP COMMUTERS?

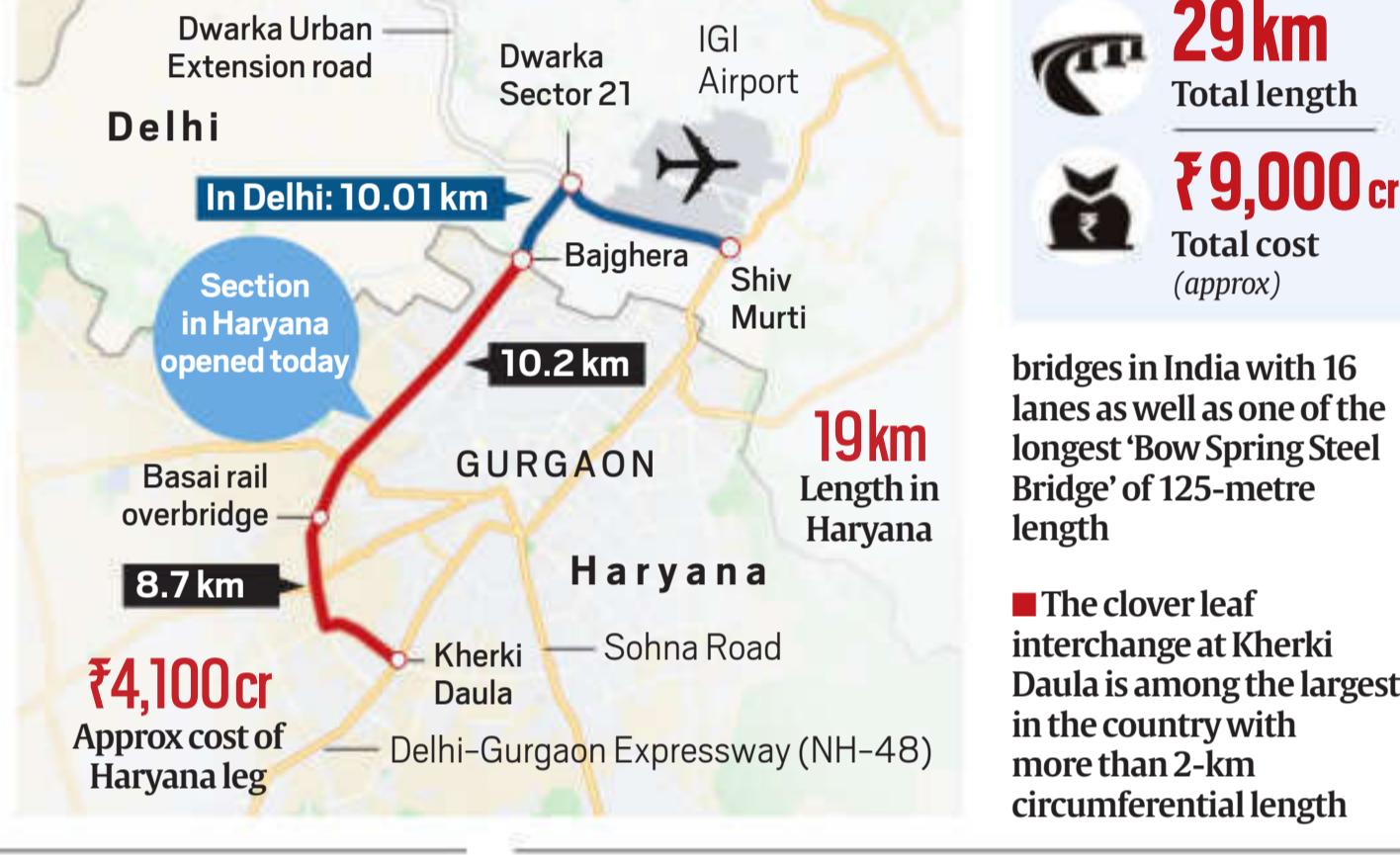
- Once completed, it will provide direct connectivity to the IGI Airport in Delhi and Gurgaon Bypass
- Will cater to heavy traffic requirements between Delhi and Gurgaon for the next 25 years

### SOME FIRSTS

- It is India's first eight-lane elevated road constructed on 'single pier'
- Package 3 has a 8.6-km elevated section with a width of 34 metres
- Package 4 has a 3.7-km elevated section with a width of 34 metres. This section also features one of the widest railway over-



The Haryana section of the Dwarka Expressway ahead of its inauguration by Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Monday (image via PMO). PTI



would leave Rohtak for Gurgaon; I remember that it was difficult to

go on that road. *Aaj mujhe khush ho rahi hai, hum bhi saath hai,*

*aapke bhavishy bhi saath hai.*"

"I don't think small, I don't

harbour small dreams, I don't make small plans. I harbour big

dreams. *Mujhe jo bhi karna hai, vi-rat chahiye, vishal chahiye, tez gati se chahiye.* I want to see India become developed in 2047," he said.

He also hit out at the Opposition alliance: "... There is so much development; when they talk of one project, Modi does 10. They can't comprehend how quickly we get the work done. This is why they say Modi is doing work worth crores for polls. In 10 years, the country has transformed, but the glasses of Congress and its alliance have not changed. The power of their glasses is the same, all negative..."

"They used to run the government on poll promises... Eastern Peripheral Expressway was discussed in 2008, but we completed it in 2018. Dwarka Expressway and Urban Extension Road were also stuck for 20 years, but our double-engine government completed the work," Modi said, adding, "Pehle dhole hote the, ab delivery hoti hai. Pehle vilambit hota, ab vikas hota hai."

Speaking on the occasion, Khattar said while the government has paid attention to infrastructural development, it has also revived cultural and religious heritage: "Haryana was known for its skewed sex ratio and the national campaign of Beti Bachao Beti Padhao started from here. Today, four major developmental projects are being initiated in Haryana," he said.

Gadkari said it was a very important day on the journey to make India a 5-trillion dollar economy. He added that in three months, the government will inaugurate the Urban Extension Road-2 as well. This will ensure people coming to Delhi from Punjab, Haryana, Himachal, and Jammu and Kashmir to Delhi airport do not have to wait for hours stuck in traffic in the Capital.

AAP-Cong alliance won't dent BJP's votes in Delhi: Shah

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE  
NEW DELHI, MARCH 11

THE ALLIANCE between AAP and Congress will not make any difference to the fortunes of BJP in Delhi, Home Minister Amit Shah said Monday.

Speaking at the launch of piped natural gas supply and other projects in Delhi's villages, Shah said Prime Minister Narendra Modi will return to power with over 400 seats in Lok Sabha. "Whether you have an alliance with the Congress or even merge with it, nothing is going to happen because zero plus zero remains zero," Shah said.

"They used to run the government on poll promises... Eastern Peripheral Expressway was discussed in 2008, but we completed it in 2018. Dwarka Expressway and Urban Extension Road were also stuck for 20 years, but our double-engine government completed the work," Modi said, adding, "Pehle dhole hote the, ab delivery hoti hai. Pehle vilambit hota, ab vikas hota hai."

The two parties, which are part of the INDIA bloc, have tied up in Delhi, Gujarat, Haryana and Goa.

The Home Minister also attacked Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal for forming an alliance with Congress despite having risen to power on the back of an anti-corruption movement against the party. "There are two types of people in politics — those who deliver on what they say and those who do the opposite.

Both types of people are present in Delhi. One is Narendra Modi and the other is Kejriwal, who has not done anything that he said. You sat on the lap of the Congress, the very same party that you accused of corruption. You are acknowledging the corruption of the Congress," he said, also accusing Kejriwal of being involved in several scams.

Reacting to Shah's statements, AAP said, "People of Delhi have shown their preference thrice in the Vidhan Sabha and MCD polls, where they voted against the 15 years of misrule of the BJP... Where were BJP MPs when rights of citizens of Delhi were snatched through the GNCTD Act?... The people of Delhi have shown their repeated preference for an honest government and will ensure the ouster of the BJP in the Lok Sabha polls..." the party said.

Shah, meanwhile, also credited Delhi L-G VK Saxena with the initiation of development work in Delhi's villages under the Dilli Gramodaya Abhiyan. Saxena and Union Housing and Urban Affairs Minister Hardeep Puri were present at the event.



Shah was speaking at the launch of piped natural gas supply and other projects in Delhi's villages, Monday. Gajendra Yadav

AFTER CAA RULES NOTIFIED AHEAD OF LS POLLS  
**Cops hold flag marches, security increased in city**

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE  
NEW DELHI, MARCH 11

HOURS AFTER the Ministry of Home Affairs notified the rules for implementation of the Citizenship (Amendment) Act, security was tightened in the national capital on Monday.

Police said a team, led by DCP (East) Apoorva Gupta, is patrolling 24x7 in parts of East Delhi. DCP (Northeast) Joy Tirkey said flag marches will be carried out in Northeast Delhi for the next few days, starting Monday. "Social media posts are also being monitored real-time," he said.

Meanwhile, a small protest was held at Jamia Millia Islamia.

University registrar Nazim Husain Jafri told *The Indian Express*: "A small group of students had gathered on campus, and was dispersed by the Proctor later. There was no 'protest' as such. Security around the campus has been increased as anti-CAA protests erupted here last

time too..."

"We tightened security to avoid any kind of agitation on the campus. No protests against CAA will be allowed by students or outsiders near the campus," said Jamia's Acting VC Eqlab Hussain, as quoted by PTI.

DCP (Southeast) Rajesh Deo said a small protest was held in front of the Central Canteen, near gate number 7 on the campus, around 8 pm. "Students affiliated to NSUI led the protest. A total of 10-12 students had gathered on the campus... for 15 minutes... No protests took place outside."

A senior police officer said heavy police deployment is in place outside the varsity to prevent any further gathering.

During the anti-CAA protests in December 2019, police had barged into campus in pursuit of alleged miscreants, who had set some buses on fire, and were accused of attacking students in the library. Several students were injured in the violence.

(WITH PTI INPUTS)



The 19-km-long Haryana portion of the Expressway, Monday. Gajendra Yadav

waged on vertical support structures for bridges, Chatterjee said they took on the challenge to build single-pier bridges, making the expressway the first 8-lane elevated road constructed on a 'single pier'.

The project was based on the EPC (engineering, procurement and construction) model, which gives the private agency complete liberty to plan, design and construct — and in this case to improvise. "Originally, the contract said a two-pier structure, which we deviated from," said Chatterjee.

Amogh Garg, a 27-year-old engineer who was overseeing work on package 4 — Basai ROB to Kherki Daula — for the last 1.5 years pointed out that project has a lot of firsts: It has one of the widest railway-over-bridges in India with 16 lanes as well as one of the longest 'Bow Spring Steel Bridge' of 125-metre length.

The biggest challenge was when the pandemic struck. Work nearly came to a standstill... labourers left and people were even falling sick, but we never stopped paying their salaries... I had to keep the team motivated when hindrances came our way," said Chatterjee, who lives in Delhi and has been in the profession for 33 years.

Garg was in charge of a team of 30 working on a 600-metre un-

derpass and three subways. "We had to go below the soil level, around 12 metres below the ground, which was the most demanding task. It is difficult to con-

trol the soil and there were times when we burst open gas pipelines that went underground. We braved rainy seasons and runny soil while racing against

time. But it is rewarding as we achieved a project which is a revolution in engineering," he added.

For Naresh Punia (32), a site engineer with the NHAI, the

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time. But it is rewarding as we achieved a project which is a revolution in engineering," he added.

For Naresh Punia (32), a site engineer with the NHAI, the

most gruelling aspect was removing the permanent structures: "When we started out, we had to clear structures on the land; this included shifting electric lines, towers and buildings.

Even now, a few problems regarding land persist." He said he's been a part of the project since its pre-construction stage in 2019.

Kuldeep Mahabal (32), also a site engineer with NHAI who worked on the project as a quality control engineer from 2019 to 2023, reserved praise for the labourers: "They put in more work than any other workforce — they toiled day and night, right from casting of parts, transporting them to the site, and erecting piers according to the drawing."

Mahabal, originally from Palwal, said he was in charge of testing, field testing and sample testing. "... We have seen the project take shape, and being there during the inauguration was special," he said.

New Delhi: A day after a man's body was recovered from a DJB borewell in West Delhi's Keshopur, police lodged a case of causing death by negligence and are probing how the borewell was left open without supervision. DCP (West) Vichitra Veer said, "Further investigation will be taken up and efforts are on to identify the deceased person."

He also said Khushboo has two children and is currently in critical condition in the hospital.

Police have registered an FIR under IPC sections of rash driving, causing hurt by act endangering life or personal safety of others and causing death by negligence at Sector 49 police station. Officials said investigation is on to trace the victim.

The victim's uncle, Saddam, said Shumaila leaves behind a family of five — her parents, sisters and a brother. "The whole family has been destroyed... She (Shumaila) was to be married in one-and-a-half months... She had saved up money and was going to manage all expenses for the wedding," added Saddam.

"We are checking multiple CCTV cameras to identify the culprit. We have not got any leads so far... the accused is still on the run but we will arrest them soon," said a police officer.

Noida: Gautam Buddha Nagar police Monday started a fire safety audit of high rises to avoid fire incidents during the summer. Officials said the drive will continue for 15 days where fire safety equipment in residential societies will be inspected; action will be taken accordingly. ENS



# BOCWWB GUJARAT: EMPOWERING CONSTRUCTION WORKERS

## e-Nirman Portal:

To avail benefits under various schemes run by the board, construction workers are required to register on the E-Nirman Portal/Application. Construction workers in the age group of 18 to 60 can get the E-Nirman card. They can register at Common Service Centres (CSC), E-Gram centres, Dhanvantari mobile units, Kadiya Naka booths as well as through self-registration. As of now, a total of 8,85,389 construction workers have been registered on the E-Nirman portal.

### Shramik Annapurna Scheme:

- Construction workers and their families are provided nutritious meals for just Rs. 5.
- A total of 278 Annapurna food booths have been established in 17 districts across the state, including Ahmedabad, Gandhinagar, Kheda, Anand, Vadodara, Bharuch, Surat, Navsari, Valsad, Mehsana, Patan, Banaskantha, Bhavnagar, Rajkot, Jamnagar, Sabarkantha, and Morbi.
- Food is delivered at construction sites if there are more than 50 construction workers.
- Each meal consists of around 625 grams of food and 1,225 calories. As of now, a total of 267 lakh meals have been provided. The total expenditure incurred is Rs. 10,497 lakhs. More than 40,000 meals are being distributed each day.



### Maternity Assistance Scheme:

Female construction workers are given financial assistance worth Rs. 37,500. A financial assistance of Rs. 6,000 is provided to the wife of a construction worker. So far, 14,823 women have been benefited under this scheme. Total expenditure incurred is Rs. 1,777 lakhs. Assistance is also extended in cases of miscarriage.

### Mukhya Mantri Bhagyalakshmi Bond Scheme:

A bond (FD) of Rs. 25,000 in the name of one daughter of a construction worker. It is paid for a period of 18 years. A total of 4238 daughters have been benefited so far. Expenditure of Rs. 587 lakhs has been incurred so far.

### Accidental Death Assistance Scheme:

Assistance worth Rs. 3,00,000 to the legal heirs of construction workers. Assistance is paid in case of death due to accident or permanent disability. A total of 493 workers have been benefited under the scheme so far. Total assistance paid amounts to Rs. 1383 lakhs.

### Funeral Assistance Scheme:

In the event of the death of a construction worker registered with the Board while his membership is continuing, a financial assistance of Rs. 10,000 is being paid to the legal heir. Under this scheme, assistance of Rs. 72 lakhs has been paid to 1,156 persons.



### Go Green Scheme:

- Battery operated two-wheelers are being provided at subsidised rates.
- For buying a vehicle, assistance amounting to 50% of the vehicle's ex-showroom price or Rs. 30,000 is paid.
- Full assistance for RTO tax and Road tax.
- In-principle approval given to 291 beneficiaries under the scheme until now.
- Total expenditure of Rs. 120 lakhs has been incurred so far.



### Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana (PMJAY):

Registered construction workers and their families are provided annual health coverage under PMJAY. The scheme provides the benefit of cashless treatment to construction workers and their families at hospitals. The health department issues Ayushman-MAA card to registered construction workers without considering their income limit. Board will provide grant to the Health Dept. for the premium of registered construction workers.



### Kushal Shramik Sahay Yojana:

If a construction worker or any two of his children take admission in courses run by the Kaushalya Skill University or any institute affiliated to it, the full fee amount is reimbursed to the construction worker through Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT).

### Shramik Parivahan Yojana:

Registered construction workers are eligible for relief in travel expenses through public transport in the four municipal corporations of Ahmedabad, Surat, Vadodara and Rajkot. The Building and Other Construction Workers Board bears 80% of the cost of the bus pass. As of now, a total of 6,547 workers have been provided assistance of Rs. 323 lakhs under the scheme.



### Shree Nanaji Deshmukh Housing Scheme:

A one-time financial assistance of Rs. 1,60,000 is given to a registered construction worker who has been allotted a house under EWS/LIG/MIG under the Mukhya Mantri Awas Yojana. The Board pays the assistance to the organisation concerned on behalf of the beneficiary. As of now, financial assistance of Rs. 354 lakhs has been extended to 221 beneficiaries.



### Pradhan Mantri Jeevan Jyoti Bima Yojana (PMJJBY):

Construction workers in the age group of 18 to 50 years are eligible for a life insurance cover of Rs. 2 lakhs. Under the PMJJBY scheme, the annual premium amount of Rs. 436 is reimbursed to the workers until the age of 55. An assistance of Rs. 8.2 lakhs has been paid to 2024 beneficiaries under this scheme.



### Go Green Three Wheelers Scheme:

This scheme is aimed to provide subsidy to purchase battery operated three-wheelers (e-rickshaw) to disabled (divyang) construction workers. The subsidy is 50% of the vehicle cost or Rs. 48,000, whichever is lower. The Board also bears the RTO tax and Road tax for such vehicles.



Shri Narendra Modi  
Hon'ble Prime Minister



Shri Bhupendrabhai Patel  
Hon'ble Chief Minister, Gujarat

## Doorstep healthcare services through Dhanvantari Arogya Rath Yojana:



The Dhanvantari Arogya Raths or Mobile Medical Units conduct primary medical examination and laboratory tests, and provide treatment to construction workers at their doorstep. These raths also distribute basic medicines and sanitary pads, providing primary care to children and women. A total of 154 such raths are deployed for delivering healthcare services to construction workers. The labour counsellor deployed in these mobile health units also assist with the registration of construction workers and accept their applications related to various schemes. As of now, these raths have catered to a total of 82,74,245 outdoor OPD. An expenditure of Rs. 9,307 lakhs has been incurred so far.

### Education Assistance Scheme:

Financial assistance ranging from Rs. 1800 to Rs. 2 lakhs once a year to children of construction workers for education, right from standard 1 to medical studies.

No.	Courses	Assistance
1	Std 1 to 5	1800/-
2	Std 6 to 8	2400/-
3	Std 9 and 10	8000/-
4	Std 11 and 12	10,000/-
5	Graduate level courses such as BA, BCom, BBA, BSc, BCA, LLB, etc. in government recognised/self-financed institutions	10,000/-
6	Post-graduate courses such as MA, MCom, MSc, MSW, MLW, etc. in government recognized/self-financed institutions	15,000/-
7	Post-graduate courses such as MCA and MBA in government recognized/self-financed institutions	25,000/-
8	Self-supporting courses in Diploma from government recognised institution after Class 10	25,000/-
9	MBBS, dental or MD courses from a government recognized/self-financed institutions	(1) Minimum Rs. 25,000/- (2) Maximum Rs. 2,00,000 or 100% of the fee
10	Graduate-level professional courses such as Pharmacy, Agriculture, Ayurveda, Homoeopathy, Nursing, Physiotherapy, Paramedical, etc. from government recognised/self-financed institutions	(1) Minimum Rs. 25,000/- (2) Maximum Rs. 50,000 or 100% of the fee
11	Graduate-level professional courses such as engineering/technology, architecture, etc. from government recognised/self-financed institutions.	(1) Minimum Rs. 25,000/- (2) Maximum Rs. 50,000/- or 100% of the fee

### Financial assistance of up to Rs. 2 lakhs for children pursuing PhD.

- Hostel assistance of Rs. 12,000/- and book assistance of Rs. 10,000 studying in the first year, for technical and medical stream students.
- Total assistance of Rs. 42 crores provided in financial year 2022-23.
- As of now, a total of 3,27,131 students have benefited under the scheme.
- Total assistance paid amounts to Rs. 198 crores.



### Total Health Check-up Scheme:

Seventeen types of tests are being carried out at the construction sites by doctors. The 17 tests are:

- Pathology
- Investigations Blood Group & RH Type
- Urine Routine & Micro Examination
- Stool Routine & Micro Examination
- Haematology
- Complete Blood Count (CBC) & ESR
- Lipid Profile & Total Lipids
- S. Cholesterol & S. Triglyceride
- HDL, LDL, VLDL
- Diabetic Profile & Fasting Blood Sugar
- Post Prandial Blood Sugar (PPBS)
- Renal (Kidney) Profile
- S. Creatinine & Liver Profile
- SGPT & SG
- TSH & PFT
- X-Ray Chest (One View) & ECG
- Pap Smear (Females) / PSA (Males) & Mammo

The tests are conducted by Dhanvantari Arogya Raths (mobile medical units). The report is provided to construction workers through the Sanman portal. So far, 13,718 persons have availed of benefits under the scheme.



### Housing Subsidy Scheme:

A construction worker is being paid annual assistance of Rs. 20,000 for five years if he/she has taken a loan of up to Rs. 15 lakhs for buying a house.

### Hostel Assistance Scheme for Children of Migrant Construction Workers:

This scheme is to provide hostel facilities to the children of registered migrant construction workers by making arrangements in government, grant-in-aid primary and secondary schools in districts that have high migration. This ensures continuity in the children's education. Under this scheme, hostels have been started in Narmada, Dahod and Chhota Udaipur districts on a pilot basis. As of now, expenditure of Rs. 1068 lakhs has been incurred as assistance on 4730 beneficiaries under this scheme.



### Shramik Basera Yojana:

This scheme is aimed at providing temporary accommodation to registered construction workers at subsidised rates. All construction workers registered with the Gujarat Building and Other Construction Workers Board and their family members are eligible for benefits under this scheme. Prefabricated transit accommodation will be built near kadiya nakas for better living of construction workers.

### Assistance Scheme for Occupational Diseases:

- Twenty-three types of occupational diseases, including occupational cancer, elastosis, silicosis, etc.
- Covers 15 types of occupational injuries such as injury to the eye, exposure to poisonous gas, etc.
- The maximum financial assistance is Rs. 3 lakhs.
- As many as 709 persons have been benefited under the scheme.
- Assistance worth Rs. 759 lakhs have been paid.



All Assam Students' Union members protest in Guwahati. Express

## Call for mass protests in Assam as CAA strikes a nerve again

SUKRITA BARUAH  
GUWAHATI, MARCH 11

WITH THE Centre's notification of the rules for the implementation of the Citizenship (Amendment) Act on Monday touching a long-standing raw nerve in Assamese society, Opposition parties and regional outfits in the state gave a call for peaceful mass protests.

There had been tense anticipation in Assam over the last few weeks regarding the notification, following repeated assertions by Union ministers that the rules would be implemented before the enforcement of the Model Code of Conduct for the upcoming Lok Sabha elections.

Bamboo barricades have been placed on roadsides across Guwahati city in anticipation of protests, and on Monday evening, security was beefed up at the Legislative Assembly and the Janata Bhawan, with heavy barricading and security deployment in their vicinity.

Sporadic protests broke out in some parts of the state on Monday night itself, including in front of Cotton University in Guwahati.

Terming it a "black day" for Assam, Lurinjyoti Gogoi, the president of the Asom Jatiya Parishad – a party born out of the 2019 anti-CAA protests – called for protests across the state.

"Former CM Sarbananda Sonowal and (current) CM Himanta Biswa Sarma have grovelled before Delhi, and like clockwork, they have given their support to this law. This work of theirs has been seen by the people of Assam as a crime against the community and they will be remembered as villains by the community," said Lurinjyoti, who is also a former president of the All Assam Students' Union (AASU).

When protests had flared up in different parts of the country in December 2019 with the enactment of the CAA, Assam saw some of the most heated protests,

## DELHI CONFIDENTIAL



### SON'S TURN

THE CONGRESS leadership, it is said, was keen on Ashok Gehlot contesting the Lok Sabha elections quite like former Chhattisgarh CM Bhupesh Baghel but the former Rajasthan Chief Minister expressed his unwillingness to fight the polls this time. Instead he wanted his son Vaibhav to try out his luck once again. Monday, the Congress's Central Election Committee cleared Vaibhav's candidature but from a different seat in Rajasthan. Vaibhav lost the 2019 elections from Jodhpur to Union Minister Ajay Singh Shekhar. This time, the party has surprisingly fielded Vaibhav from Jaalore. Senior leaders Sachin Pilot and Bhanwar Jiendra Singh are unlikely to contest, as they are AICC general secretaries in charge of states. Sources said Kamal Nath's son and sitting MP Nakul's ticket has been cleared from the Chhindwara seat in Madhya Pradesh.

### STAGE FRIGHT

AFTER NO seat-sharing, it's no stage-sharing for the Trinamool Congress. The party Sunday announced its candidates for all the 42 Lok Sabha seats in West Bengal, dashing the Congress's hope of a seat-sharing pact with it in the eastern state. The TMC is now set to announce its candidates for the Tura Lok Sabha seat in Meghalaya and at least four seats in Assam. The Congress, however, has said it would invite all INDIA bloc parties to the rally in Mumbai on March 17 to mark the culmination of Rahul Gandhi's Bharat Jodo Nyay Yatra. The TMC, it is learnt, will not send its representative to the rally, as it feels it cannot share the stage with the Congress when its West Bengal chief Adhir Ranjan Chowdhury is attacking it repeatedly.

# With CAA, Modi govt underlines: 'Delivered all that we promised'

BJP hopes to make gains in Bengal, sees it fulfilment of another ideological commitment

LIZ MATHEW & VIKAS PATHAK  
NEW DELHI, MARCH 11

FOUR YEARS after the Citizenship (Amendment) Act was passed, its rules have been notified just ahead of the next general elections as the Narendra Modi government wants to emphasise its message to voters that "Jo kaha, vo kya" (delivered all that we promised).

Minutes after the rules were notified, Union Home Minister Amit Shah, who has steered the CAA, posted on X: "With this notification PM Shri @narendramodi ji has delivered on another commitment and realised the promise of the makers of our Constitution to the Hindus, Sikhs, Buddhists, Jains, Parsis and Christians living in those (neighbouring) countries."

The CAA had been brought in and passed within months of the 2019 Lok Sabha elections, in which the Act was part of the BJP's manifesto promises. It eased the citizenship process for "persecuted religious minorities" from neighbouring countries Pakistan, Bangladesh and Afghanistan who had entered India before December 31, 2014 – hence, covering Hindus, Parsis, Sikhs, Buddhists, Jains and Christians, and excluding only Muslims.

Seen as discriminatory towards Muslims, the Act had triggered protests across the country, forcing the government to pause its notification. As the wait for its rules to be notified dragged on, Opposition parties attacked the BJP for talking about the CAA only close to elections, just so to polarise voters.

Now that the CAA has come into force, the BJP will hope for electoral gains in West Bengal, which has a huge population of Hindus who migrated from Bangladesh and have been demanding citizenship rights. The Trinamool Congress-ruled state with its 42 seats is a good catchment area for the BJP if Modi's goal of winning 370 seats in the coming Lok Sabha polls is to come true. The BJP had won 18

seats in Bengal last time.

While BJP leaders admitted they expected protests over the CAA's implementation, at least in some parts, unlike the widespread agitation of 2019, sources said the government is confident of ensuring these do not get out of control. The government will be particularly concerned about party-ruled Assam, where citizenship to "outsiders" is a touchy issue.

But what the BJP is counting on is that the move reinforces PM Modi's image of a "doer" and "decisive leader", a BJP leader said. "This will embellish Brand Modi, boosting his image in Hindu minds. It's not just in West Bengal, it's UP or Telangana or Maharashtra, the slogans for Modi will be 'Jo kehte hain, so karte hain... Hindu hit ki raksha karte hain' (We do what we say... protect Hindu welfare)."

The two groups in Bengal which can hope for their citizenship exercise to be speeded up are the Matuas (a Dalit Hindu group with roots in Bangladesh) and Rajbanshis (who include Hindu refugees from Bangladesh). BJP leaders said it might also consolidate the larger Hindu vote behind the party.

In Assam, the CAA is seen as contradicting the promise made to the state in the Assam Accord, which set a cut-off year of 1971 for recognition of migrants who had entered the state. By Monday evening, there were reports of sporadic protests in the state over the CAA issue.

A senior BJP leader admitted that things were about to get "tough" for the party government in the state. However, he said: "The CAA is an ideological commitment of the party. The BJP cannot go to the elections without fulfilling that promise."

The Modi government had committed itself to bringing in a CAA – arguing that India was the natural home of all "persecuted" Hindus – in addition to its three core promises of a Ram temple at Ayodhya, abrogation of Article 370 and a Uniform Civil Code.

A senior leader said the lead-

ership trusted Assam Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma to "handle" the situation. "The state administration has had enough time to prepare for this."

BJP leaders also played down the possibility of the issue having an impact on the polls, pointing out that despite protests against the CAA that were already on in Assam, the BJP had won nine of the 14 Lok Sabha seats in the 2019 general elections.

The BJP along with its allies had also returned to power for the second straight term in May 2021, after the passage of the CAA.

In Bengal, which also saw state elections in 2021, BJP had emerged as the main Opposition party, but performed poorly in North 24 Parganas and Nadia districts bordering Bangladesh. This was seen as a reflection of the Matua anger against the BJP for failing to notify the CAA. The Rajbanshis, though, had stayed with the BJP in large numbers.

"The party could have lost the support of both the communities this time had the CAA not been implemented," the BJP leader from the state said.

### 'NRC' apprehensions

In its 2019 manifesto as well as its statements since, the BJP has sought to ease the apprehensions surrounding the CAA. "We will make all the laws to clarify the issue to sections of the population from the Northeastern states who have expressed apprehensions regarding the legislation. We reiterate our commitment to protect the linguistic, cultural and social identity of the people of Northeast," its manifesto had said.

The government has also said that the CAA is "a law to give citizenship", "not take away the citizenship of any Indian citizen, irrespective of religion". "This Act is only for those who have suffered persecution for years and have no other shelter in the world except India," it has said, adding that the Constitution grants the government "the right to provide religious persecuted refugees with fundamental rights and to

As per BD Graham, a scholar of Jana Sangh, Mookerji demanded there be a clause to provide for sanctions should a side fail to honour the agreement. When this was not inserted in the Nehru-Liaquat pact, he resigned from Cabinet.

There was pressure on the Nehru government to find a solution, with Union Home Minister Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel backing a firm line against Pakistan, and Nehru looking for a negotiated settlement. In April 1950, Nehru invited then Pakistan PM Liaquat Ali Khan to Delhi, and the talks eventually led to a pact calling on both sides to provide "equality, freedom and justice" to their minorities.

Modi said, "Any society can progress by creating opportunities and ensuring the dignity of Nari Shakti." On the schemes launched to address the issues related to women, the Prime Minister said, "Modi's samvedhan (sensitivities) and Modi's yojnayen (schemes) have emerged from the experiences rooted in everyday life. Modi does not avoid problems, he confronts them, works for their permanent solutions."

The PM asked the members of the self-help groups to come forward in the implementation of the PM Suryaghar Muft Bijli Yojana. He said wherever members of the self-help groups take initiative, they will be given priority. "Today, the number of women in self-help groups has crossed 10 crore. In the last 10 years, our government has not only expanded self-help groups, but also opened bank accounts of 98% of the groups. Our government has also increased the assistance to them to Rs 20 lakh," he said.

The PM also witnessed agricultural drone demonstrations conducted by Namo Drone Didis at the Indian Agricultural Research Institute, Pusa, Delhi. WITH PTI

**EXPLAINED**



Mallikarjun Kharge with Rahul Kaswan in New Delhi on Monday. Anil Sharma

**Denied ticket, Churu BJP MP joins Cong**

HAMZA KHAN  
JAIPUR, MARCH 11

MORE THAN a week after the BJP dropped him from the Churu Lok Sabha seat and fielded Paralympian Devendra Jhajharia, the BJP's incumbent MP Rahul Kaswan joined the Congress in Delhi on Monday. Hours before joining, he announced his resignation from the BJP's primary membership and the Lok Sabha. He is now expected to get the Congress ticket from Churu.

After Hissar MP Brijendra Singh left the BJP to join the Congress on Sunday, Kaswan's move gives some respite to the Opposition party that has been left reeling by scores of defections in the past few weeks. In Rajasthan itself, it has lost sitting MLA and CWC member Mahenderajeet Singh Malviya, former Union Minister Lalchand Kataria, and former Minister of State (Home) in Ashok Gehlot government Rajendra Yadav, among several others.

Kaswan joined the Congress in Delhi in the presence of party president Mallikarjun Kharge, the party's state in-charge Sukhjinder Singh Randhawa, state president Govind Singh Dotsara, and Leader of Opposition in Assembly Tika Ram Jolly. After joining the BJP, Kaswan said he was following the wishes of the people of Churu and attacked the "feudal mindset" of the ruling party at the cost of farmers' voices. He also thanked PM Narendra Modi for giving him the opportunity to be the Churu Lok Sabha MP for two years.

Kaswan said the BJP state leadership had failed to resolve the differences between him and Rathore – without naming him – and said he was not heard and indicated that the decision to drop him was unilaterally taken. "There has been a communication gap in the state leadership," he said.

Modi said, adding: "Main aaj desh ke har mahila, har bahan, har beti ko ye batana chaita hoon, jab jab maine Lal Qila se apke sashaktikaran ki baat ki, dur bhagya se Congress jaaise desh ke rajneetik dal mazaaka

that awaits the 42-year-old.

BJP's Rajya Sabha MP Samik Bhattacharya alleged that the Mamata-led party was "fanning Muslim fanaticism". "He (Raihan)

was with an organisation against whom there were allegations and probe for funding separatists in Kashmir," he said.

Raihan said, "I love India and have not said anything against my country. The BJP IT cell has been

attacking me since my name was declared. They are peddling lies and fake news. Yes, I raised slogans

against the BJP and criticised them

for their move to bring in CAA and NRC, which it is using to push people out of the country."

**TMC deploys Oxford scholar to breach Congress turf**

RAVIK BHATTACHARYA  
KOLKATA, MARCH 11

AMONG THE first-time candidates that the Trinamool Congress has fielded for the Lok Sabha elections is 42-year-old academic and former journalist Shahnawaz Ali Raihan who faces the tough task of helping the party win a seat that the Congress's Abul Hasem Khan Choudhury, the brother of former Union Minister AB A Ghani Khan Choudhury, has held since 2009.

The candidature of Raihan has triggered a war of words between the TMC and the BJP as he was part of a group that protested

against the Citizenship Amendment Act (CAA) and the proposed National Register of Citizens (NRC) in front of the Indian High Commission in London around 2019-20.

Raihan is a historian pursuing his DPhil at Oxford University's St Antony's College since 2018 under the supervision of noted historian Faisal Devji. His research topic is "Between Marx and Muhammad: Muslims and Communism in Bengal". Raihan told *The Indian Express* that he had always been vociferous against the BJP's "divisive policies and politics". "Now I have decided to contest (the Lok Sabha elections) as the BJP has

been infusing the politics of division in my home area of Malda. So far, I have been highlighting their divisive agenda through my writings and speeches," he said.

Raihan is from the Motihari area of Kaliachak-II block of Malda district and graduated from Calcutta University with a journalism degree and completed his Master's degree in

Mass Communication from Rabindra Bharati University. He pursued higher education at the Jamia Millia Islamia in Delhi, during which he came in contact with the Students Islamic Organisation, the students' wing of the Jamaat-e-Islami Hind. He served as the outfit's national secretary. Raihan returned to Kolkata after completing his studies and worked as a journalist for a few years.

Sources said TMC pursued

Raihan for a long time and managed to convince him after much effort. After the TMC unveiled its candidate list on Sunday, Raihan took to social media to thank West Bengal CM Mamata Banerjee and TMC national general secretary, and the party's number two, Abhishek Banerjee. "Many thanks to Mamata Banerjee and Abhishek Banerjee for putting this trust on me. I will try my best to come up to the expectations of the people of Malda Dakshin and Uttar Murshidabad. There is no place for divisive forces here," he posted.

Malda Dakshin is one of the two seats the Congress won in 2019, the other being Adhir Ranjan Chowdhury from Barampur. The TMC finished third in the constituency in 2019 behind Abu Hasem and the BJP's Sreerupa Mitra, underscoring the challenge

that awaits the 42-year-old.

BJP's Rajya Sabha MP Samik Bhattacharya alleged that the Mamata-led party was "fanning Muslim fanaticism". "He (Raihan)

was with an organisation against whom there were allegations and probe for funding separatists in Kashmir," he said.

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attacking me since my name was declared. They are peddling lies and fake news. Yes, I raised slogans

against the BJP and criticised them

for their move to bring in CAA and NRC, which it is using to push people out of the country."

## PM-led committee to meet on March 14 to select two ECs

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE  
NEW DELHI, MARCH 11

THE THREE-MEMBER committee headed by Prime Minister Narendra Modi will meet on Thursday to select candidates for the two vacant posts of Election Commissioners, a source said on Monday.

The committee comprises a Union Minister to be nominated by the Prime Minister and Leader of the Opposition or leader of the single largest Opposition party in the Lok Sabha, in this case, Congress leader Adhir Ranjan Chowdhury. The committee will deliberate on replacements for former Election Commissioners Arun Goel and Anup Chandra Pandey. While Pandey retired on February 15, Goel's unexpected resignation on March 9 left the three-member commission only with Chief Election Commissioner Rajiv Kumar.

These appointments would be the first ones under the new law passed last year to regulate the appointment of ECs and ECs, until Parliament enacts a law. Prior to the Act, the President used to appoint the CEC and ECs, on the advice of the government, in the absence of legislation. In March last year, the Supreme Court had ruled that a committee of the Prime Minister, Chief Justice of India and the Leader of Opposition would be responsible for selecting ECs and ECs, until Parliament enacts a law.



Prime Minister Narendra Modi presents certificate of appreciation to a Lakhati Didi at the Sashakti Nari-Vikas Bharat programme in New Delhi on Monday. Union Minister Arjun Munda and Giriraj Singh are also seen. PTI

**Whenever I spoke from Red Fort about women empowerment, Cong ridiculed me: Modi**

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE  
NEW DELHI, MARCH 11

PRIME MINISTER Narendra Modi Monday took a dig at the Opposition saying whenever he spoke about your empowerment from the Red Fort, unfortunately political parties such as the Congress "ridiculed" and "insulted" him.

Participating in the Sashakti Nari – Vikas Bharat event, Modi said he is the first PM who spoke from the ramparts of the Red Fort, a reference to his Independence Day speeches, on issues related to women, including lack of toilets, use of sanitary pads, adverse effects of smoke-causing kitchen fuels like wood and coal, and the need for bank accounts.

In a swipe at previous governments, he said women's lives and hardships were not a priority for them while the BJP dispensation has come out with different initiatives to help them.

  
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 (MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE & EMPOWERMENT, GOVT. OF INDIA)  
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Adv. No.: AD 6B 10 / 03 / 2024 Dated: 07.03.2024

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2	Social Worker-cum-vocational Counsellor	Level-06	UR-1	1
3	Data Entry Operator	Level-06	UR-1	1
4	Junior Assistant	Level-04	UR-2	2

The aspiring applicants fulfilling the eligibility criteria in all respect can submit their application through online mode. The online registration of application will be made available on SVNIRTAR, Cuttack Website i.e. <https://svnirtar.nic.in> or <https://recruitment.svnirtar.nic.in>. The link of submission of online application in respect of above said posts along with other relevant information will be activated on 15.03.2024. For all other details, terms and conditions, please log on to website <https://svnirtar.nic.in>.

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Your attention is hereby drawn invited to provisions of sub-section (8) of section 13 of the Act in respect of time available to you redeem the secure assets. This notice is issued without prejudice to the bank's rights in the suit/litigation pending before DRT/Court.

The details of the accounts and secured assets along with amount outstanding with interest and other charges and expenses thereon are given below.

Name of Account & Guarantor	Name of the owner & Description of the property Mortgaged	1. Date of Demand Notice 2. Date of NPA 3. Amount Outstanding
SRI RAVI MALVIYA S/O Sri ARUN SINGH, Prop. M/s Ravi Malviya A/C No. : 0569008700009615 & 056900100000252 Branch : Barh (056900)	EM of Part and Parcel of Land and Construction thereof situated at Mauza-Langarpur, Anchal-Barh, PS-Barh, Distt-Patna, Revenue Thana-No- 71, Khata No- 162, Survey Plot No- 400 under Nagar Parishad Barh, Area- 6.25 decimal pertaining to Sri Ravi Malviya Vide Sale Deed No- 1421 dated 03.03.2015, Boundary: North: Sri Arun Singh (Purchaser), South: Sri Ram Pravesh Singh, East: Sri Arun Singh (Purchaser), West: Sri Umesh Singh.	1.12.2024 2.01.2024 3. Rs. 31,93,728.88 (Rs. Thirty-One Lakh Ninety-Three Thousand Seven Hundred Twenty-Eight & Eighty- Eight Paisa only) with further interest w.e.f. 12.02.2024 until payment in full.

Date : 12.02.2024 Authorised Officer Place : Barh Punjab National Bank

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e-Payment is convenient for other taxpayers also as it ensures correct credit.

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**Amount**  
100% of the Advance Tax payable

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Divl. Rtr Manager, N.W.Railway, Jaipur for and on behalf of President of India invites open E-Tender for the following works upto 15.30 hours on the date shown as below:  
Sr. No. 2, Name of work with location : ENGG-JP-2023-24-124 ADEN-FL Sub Division - Provision of 4 Nos Escalators, 2 Nos lift and PF shelter and Platform work at KSG Station. Approx. Cost of work : 18107031.79, Earnest money Rs. : 240500, 1. Detail is available on N.W.Rly website - [www.iirps.gov.in](http://www.iirps.gov.in) and Notice Board in WA section, DRM Office, NWR/Jaipur. 2. Tender No. ENGG-JP-2023-24-124 is to be closed on 03.04.2024 at 15.30 hrs and opened on 03.04.2024 at 16.00 hrs. 327-AC/24

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(Tel. 2220640-643, Fax: 0612-2223178)

**POSSESSION NOTICE**  
(Under Rule 8 (1) of security Interest (Enforcement) Rule, 2002)

Whereas,  
The undersigned being the Authorized Officer of the **Bank of India, Retail Business Centre Branch, Jamal Road, Patna** under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 and in exercise of powers conferred under Section 13(12) read with rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) rules 2002 issued a demand notice as detailed in the table hereunder written calling upon the below mentioned borrowers to repay the amount shown in the respective notices mentioned against their names in the table, within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said notice.

The borrower/s and/or guarantor/s having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the borrower/s or guarantor/s and the public in general that the undersigned has taken possession of the property described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on him under sub-section (4) of section 13 of Act read with rule 8 of the Security Interest Enforcement Rules, 2002 on this the 08<sup>th</sup> day of March of the year 2024.

The borrower/s and/or guarantor/s in particular and the public in general is hereby cautioned not to deal with the property and any dealings with the said property will be subject to the charge of the **Bank of India, Retail Business Centre Branch, Jamal Road, Patna** for the amount shown in the respective column of the table.

The borrower/s attention is invited to provisions of sub-section (8) of section 13 of the Act, in respect of time available, to redeem the secured assets.

Sl. No.	Name of Borrower & Guarantor	i. Branch, ii. Date & Amount as per Notice u/s 13(2)	Description of the Immovable property	Date of Possession of Assets
1.	Borrower: Mr. Ajai Ahmad Fider Bazaar, Daulatganj, Gudrigarh, Po-Baghawat Bazaar, Chhapra, Saran, Bihar-841301.	(i) RETAIL BUSINESS CENTRE BRANCH, PATNA Demand Notice Date: 14.12.2023, ₹ 5,96,982.16 and future interest & incidental charges w.e.f 31.05.2021	EQM of the property in the name of Mr. Ajai Ahmad vide Deed of Agreement of Sale Deed No. 701, dated 28.01.2024, Flat No-306, 3rd floor, Neelkanth Dinesh, Jamshaut, Plot no-2321, Thana-30, Taazi-5456, Khat-178, PS-Danapur, Patna. Area-1100 Sq.ft. the said Flat is Bounded as follows : <b>North</b> : Open Space, <b>South</b> : Open Space and Flat-303, <b>East</b> : Stair Case and Flat-301, <b>West</b> : Lift and Flat 305	08.03.2024
2.	Borrower: Mr. Sanjeev Kumar Co-Borrower: Mrs. Kavita Mishra, Flat No-512, Oasis Home Beta-2, Greater Noida, Dist-Gautam Budh Nagar	(i) RETAIL BUSINESS CENTRE BRANCH, PATNA Demand Notice Date: 14.12.2023, ₹ 13,17,814.50 and future interest & incidental charges w.e.f 30.06.2016	EQM of the property in the name of Mr. Sanjeev Kumar vide Deed of Agreement of Sale Deed No 8770 dated 04.09.2013, Flat No-103, 1st Floor, Soho Nirmala Apartment, Ashok Puri, Beside of Blue Bell's Academy, Danapur, Patna and one reserved Car, Parking for Flat No 103 on the basement / Ground Floor the said Flat is Bounded as follows : <b>North</b> : Set Back of Building, <b>South</b> : Lobby, <b>East</b> : Open Space & Flat 101, <b>West</b> : Open Space & Staircase.	08.03.2024

\* WITH FURTHER INTEREST AT APPLICABLE RATE TILL REPAYMENT.

Date: 08.03.2024 Authorized Officer  
Place: Patna Bank of India

Ministry of Culture  
Government of India



Sahitya Akademi

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# PRESENTATION OF SAHITYA AKADEMI AWARD 2023

12 March 2024, 5:30 p.m. Kamani Auditorium, Copernicus Marg, New Delhi

**SAHITYA AKADEMI** organises  
World's Largest Literature Festival



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MARCH 2024

- 1100+ Writers, Scholars & Distinguished Personalities
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Cong moves  
Delhi HC  
over ₹105-cr  
I-T notice

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE  
NEW DELHI, MARCH 11

THE CONGRESS Monday moved the Delhi High Court against a March 8 order of the Income Tax Appellate Tribunal (ITAT) dismissing its plea seeking a stay on the recovery of more than Rs 105 crore as outstanding tax for the assessment year 2018-19.

A division bench of Justices Yashwant Varma and Purushandra Kumar Kaur listed the matter for Tuesday.

On March 8, the ITAT had dismissed the Congress's plea for stay, observing that "once the mandatory requirements contained in Section 13A of the Act is violated, there is no discretion with the income tax authorities to give any relaxation in allowing the exemption envisaged". It had said the party was unable to make out a "strong prima facie case" against the interpretation of Section 13A of the Act as adopted by department to deny exemption.

Section 13A pertains to instances wherein certain income such as "voluntary contributions received by a political party from any person" is not included in the total income of the previous year of such a political party.

While dismissing the stay application, the Tribunal had also clarified that its observations in the March 8 order have been made only for deciding the stay application and shall have no effect on the merits of the case.

According to the ITAT order, the assessment of the Congress party for the year 2018-19 was completed at an income of Rs 1,99,15,26,560 "against nil income" declared in its return, thereby resulting in a demand of Rs 105,17,29,635. The order noted that the difference between the returned and assessed income is solely for the reason that the Congress claim for exemption under Section 13A of the Income Tax Act has been denied by the assessing officer, and the entire income of Rs 1,99,15,26,560 was held to be taxable.

## ATTACK ON ENFORCEMENT DIRECTORATE TEAM

# Sandeshkhali: SC says won't interfere with HC order transferring probe to CBI

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE  
NEW DELHI, MARCH 11

REFUSING TO interfere with the Calcutta High Court's order transferring the probe into the January 5 attack on ED officials in Sandeshkhali to the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI), the Supreme Court on Monday asked the West Bengal government why the main accused, TMC strongman Shahjahan Sheikh, was not arrested for so many days?

Gupta said that while seven persons were arrested following the attack on ED officials, prime accused Sheikh was not arrested as there was a stay on investigation by the High Court. "We went back to court seeking clarification. Within one day, he (Sheikh) was arrested," Gupta submitted.

Appearing for the CBI, Additional Solicitor General S V Raju countered, saying the investigation was stayed by the High Court at a "later stage" and accused the West Bengal Police of trying to dilute the charges against Sheikh.

"They tried to water down the case... They filed some other case.

### 3 ARRESTED BY CBI; CURFEW IN 3 AREAS

Kolkata: The CBI Monday arrested three people who are associates of suspended TMC leader Shahjahan Sheikh in connection with the Sandeshkhali attack. "They will be produced before a magistrate tomorrow," a CBI statement said. Meanwhile, the district administration has again clamped prohibitory orders under Section 144 in three pockets of Sandeshkhali. ENS

That's why the investigation was stayed," the CBI's counsel said.

"At first, no serious effort was made by the state police to enter the residence of the accused (Sheikh), which was bolted from

inside. No charge of IPC Section 307 (attempt to murder) was added initially...," he said, adding that a counter-version was also registered alleging theft and molestation by the ED officers and "before our FIR, that (counter) FIR is taken on record".

To a query about the probe by a Joint SIT comprising West Bengal Police and CBI personnel as ordered by the single judge of the Calcutta High Court, the ASG said that though the SIT was constituted, the police flouted the High Court's order and refused to hand over relevant documents.

"There are several cases of harassment against Shahjahan Sheikh who has been patronised by local police and politicians," Raju said.

Senior Advocate AM Singhvi, who appeared for the West Bengal government, sought to draw the Supreme Court's attention to the observations made in the High Court order.

The Division Bench of the High Court, while setting aside the order for setting up an SIT, had said: "The state police are totally biased and every attempt is being made to delay the investigation to protect the accused who was absconding for more than 50 days...".

"We are very concerned about the strictures," said Singhvi. CBI counsel Raju, however, said there was "substance in those allegations", but added those observations "may be deleted."

Agreeing, the Supreme Court bench expunged the remarks regarding the West Bengal government and police.

The state government, in its plea before the apex court, had dubbed the High Court order as perverse, illegal, and arbitrary which deserves to be set aside.

## Siddaramaiah on Hegde remark: Bloodshed if Constitution is changed

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE  
BENGALURU, NEW DELHI,  
MARCH 11

THE CONGRESS Monday reacted sharply to BJP MP Anantkumar Hegde's remarks that his party would amend the Constitution after securing a two-third majority in the Rajya Sabha with Karnataka Chief Minister Siddaramaiah saying if the Constitution is changed there would be bloodshed in the country, and Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge claiming that the ruling party and the RSS were always against reservation.

Siddaramaiah alleged that the BJP wanted a Constitution in accordance with Manusmriti. "If the Constitution is changed, there will be bloodshed in the country. The BJP, he said, had two choices, either to 'oust Hegde immediately from the party or to openly agree with what he said'.

"Let this general elections revolve around this issue," the CM said, adding that there is anger among the people in Uttara Kannada against Hegde.

That is why (Prime Minister) Narendra Modi is floating this idea through Anantkumar Hegde," the CM said.

Siddaramaiah recalled that Hegde had previously spoken about changing the Constitution when he was serving as Union Minister. "This is a conspiracy of the BJP. They are not seeking a majority (in the Lok Sabha polls) for the welfare of the nation or the people but are asking for a majority to change the Constitution," he said.

The BJP, he said, had two choices, either to 'oust Hegde immediately from the party or to openly agree with what he said'.

"Let this general elections revolve around this issue," the CM said, adding that there is anger among the people in Uttara Kannada against Hegde.

## Kerala witnesses mumps outbreak: 190 cases in a day

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE  
NEW DELHI, MARCH 11

KERALA IS witnessing a mumps outbreak with the state having reported 190 cases in a single day on March 10 (Sunday). There have been 2,505 cases of the viral infection this month, and 11,467 cases in the little over two months this year, according to Keralan health department data.

Officials from the Union Health Ministry confirmed the outbreak and said that the National Centre for Disease Control in the state has been alerted.

Mumps is caused by the paramyxovirus that is spread through direct contact or airborne droplets from the upper respiratory tract of an infected person. It takes two to four

weeks for the symptoms to manifest, which begin with low-grade fever, headache, bodyache, and malaise. The most distinctive symptom of the disease is the swelling of the salivary glands. It usually affects young children but adolescents and adults can also get infected.

Most of the cases are being reported from Malappuram district and other parts of north Kerala, according to officials.

While there exists a vaccine against mumps, along with measles and rubella, it is not part of the government's universal immunisation programme.

According to public health experts, children can receive the mumps-measles-rubella (MMR) vaccine against all three diseases at private centres. "Even if children have received their measles-rubella (MR) vaccine

that is part of the government's immunisation programme, they can get an MMR vaccine from private centres. For a government programme, an MMR vaccine doesn't make sense, as it doesn't provide as good a protection against mumps as it does against measles and rubella,

where more than 90 per cent

people can be protected with just two doses," said an immunisation expert on condition of anonymity.

He said: "Malappuram is a

district where vaccine hesitancy

has been the highest in Kerala traditionally."

In most cases, mumps is a self-limiting disease, but in rare cases it can lead to complications such as swelling of the brain, hearing loss, and painful inflammation of the testis in adult males.

After a high-level meeting in

## First batch of Indian military personnel leaves Maldives: Reports

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA  
MALE, MARCH 11



Maldives President Mohamed Muizzu

New Delhi on February 2 between the two sides, the Maldivian foreign ministry said India would replace its military personnel operating the three aviation platforms in the Maldives by May 10 and the first phase of the process would be completed by March 10.

India had agreed to remove its troops from the Maldives under the condition that a number of their civilians equivalent to the military presence are brought to operate the aircraft.

Muizzu rode to power last year on an anti-India stance and within hours of taking oath demanded India to remove its personnel from the strategically located archipelago nation in the Indian Ocean.

The Muizzu's government also allowed a sophisticated Chinese research ship to dock at Male. Last week, the MNDF signed a deal with China's military. Under this deal, China will supply 'non-lethal' weapons to the Maldives free of cost.

The first group of Indian civilian personnel, which included 26 people, arrived on February 26 to replace the Indian military personnel operating a helicopter in Addu city, the Adhauhu news portal reported.

India also sent a new helicopter and transported the old helicopter used in Addu city for repairs. A ship carrying the new helicopter docked in Addu on February 29.

## 'Atrocious': SC to examine HC ruling that said downloading, watching child porn isn't offence

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA  
NEW DELHI, MARCH 11

TERMING AS "atrocious", the Supreme Court on Monday agreed to hear a plea challenging a Madras High Court ruling which said that mere downloading and watching child pornography is not an offence under the POCSO Act and the Information Technology law.

The high court had, on January 11, quashed the criminal proceedings against a 28-year-old man charged with downloading on his mobile phone pornographic content involving children.

The present-day children are grappling with the serious issue

of watching porn and instead of punishing them, the society must be "mature enough" to educate them, it had also said.

A bench comprising Chief Justice DY Chandrachud and Justices JB Pardiwala and Manoj Misra took note of the submissions of senior advocate H S Phoolka, appearing for two petitioner organisations, that the high court judgement was contrary to the laws. "This (the high court judgement) is atrocious.

How can the single judge say

this? Issue notice returnable in three weeks," the CJL said.

Asenior lawyer appeared for

two petitioner organisations –

'Just Rights for Children Alliance'

of Faridabad and New Delhi-

based 'Bachpan Bachao Andolan'. The NGOs work for the welfare of children.

The top court also sought the response of S Harish, a resident of Chennai and the two police officers concerned of Tamil Nadu.

The high court had quashed the criminal case against Harish under the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) Act, 2012 and the Information Technology Act, 2000.

"In order to constitute an offence under Section 67-B of Information Technology Act, 2000, the accused person must have published, transmitted, created material depicting children in a sexually explicit act or conduct. A careful reading of this

provision does not make watching child pornography, per se, an offence under Section 67-B of

Information Technology Act, 2000," the high court had said.

Even though the said section of the IT Act has been widely worded, it does not cover a case where a person has merely downloaded in his electronic gadget child pornography and watched the same without doing anything more, the high court had said.

There were two videos involving minor boys that had been downloaded and were available on the mobile phone of the petitioner, and those were neither published nor transmitted to others and were within the private domain of the petitioner, it had said.

## RJD 'associate' arrested by ED in sand mining case

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE  
NEW DELHI, MARCH 10

THE ENFORCEMENT Directorate has arrested Subhash Yadav, allegedly an RJD associate, in Patna as part of a money-laundering probe related to alleged illegal sand mining in Bihar.

The ED also carried out search operations Sunday at six locations related to Subhash and his close associates. "Based on the material gathered and having regard to his role in the offence of money laundering, Subhash Yadav was arrested on March 9 and produced before the Special PMLA Court Monday wherein he has been sent to the judicial custody till March 22. During the searches, unexplained cash of around Rs 2.37 crore and digital devices, including pen drives, mobile phones, and laptops containing incriminating data, have been found and seized from the premises of an employee and close associates of Subhash," an ED spokesperson said Monday.

It is alleged that M/s Broadson Commodities Private Limited (BCPL) has been involved in illegal sand mining and selling of sand without using the departmental pre-paid transportation e-challan issued by the mining authority, Bihar, and has caused huge revenue loss to the extent of Rs 161.15 crore to the government exchequer, the spokesperson said. "Investigation has revealed that the illegal mining of sand and its sale was mainly controlled by a syndicate. Subhash is the key member of the syndicate as well as the former director of M/s Broadson Commodities Private Limited. Investigation has revealed that Subhash has generated huge proceeds of crime," the spokesperson alleged.

"Heard learned counsel for the petitioners.

Issue notice.

Status quo as on today maintained by the parties until further order from this Court."

The matter above mentioned was listed before Hon'ble Court (In Chambers) on 6th February, 2024, When the following order was passed:

"IA No. 210353/2023:

1. For the reasons assigned, the application seeking permission for substituted service is allowed.

2. The unserved respondents, i.e. respondent No. 2 in SLP(C) Nos. 8152-8158 of 2019 and respondent No. 1 in SLP(C) No. 8153 of 2019, SLP(C) NO. 8154/2019, SLP(C) NO. 8155/2019, SLP(C) NO. 8156/2019, SLP(C) NO. 8157/2019, SLP(C) NO. 8158/2019, SLP(C) NO. 8159/2019 (SECIV-B)

3. Steps be taken for the same within four weeks and proof of substituted service be filed with the Court in the same time. List thereafter."

NOW, THEREFORE, TAKE NOTICE that the above matter(s) will be posted for hearing before the Court in due course when you may appear before this Court either in person or through an advocate-on-record of this Court duly appointed by you in behalf within thirty days from the date of service of notice. You may thereafter show cause to the Court on the day that may subsequently be specified as to why special leave and interim relief, as prayed for, be not granted and the resultant appeal be not allowed.

You may file your affidavit in opposition to the petition as provided under Rule VI of Order XXI I, SCR 2013, within thirty days from the date of receipt of notice or not later than two weeks before the date appointed for hearing, whichever be earlier, but shall do so only by setting out the grounds in opposition to the questions of law or fact set out in the SPECIAL LEAVE PETITION (CIVIL) and may produce such pleadings and documents filed before the Court against whose order the SPECIAL LEAVE PETITION (CIVIL) is filed and shall also set out the grounds for not granting interim order or for vacating interim order if already granted.

TAKEN FURTHER NOTICE that if you fail to enter appearance, as aforesaid, no further notice shall be given to you even after the grant of special leave for hearing of the resultant appeal and the matter above mentioned shall be disposed of in your absence.

Dated: 21 February, 2024

ASSISTANT REGISTRAR

SIGNATURE BUILDERS PRIVATE LIMITED | CIN: U70101DL2011PTC22075

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Promoter urges every applicant to inspect the project site and, therefore, requests to make personal judgment prior to submitting an application for allotment. Unless otherwise stated, all the images, visuals, materials and information contained herein are purely creative/artistic and may not be actual representations of the product and/or any amenities. Further, the actual design may vary in the fit and finished form, from the one displayed above. Journey time shown, if any, is based upon Google Maps which may vary per the traffic at a relevant point of time. \*Rate mentioned above does not include GST and other statutory charges, if applicable. T & C Apply. 1 sq. mt. = 10,763 sq. ft.

7053-121-121

NARENDRA MODI  
Prime Minister

# TRANSFORMATIVE 60 DAYS

## MADHYA PRADESH On the Path of Spiritual Advancement

DR. MOHAN YADAV  
Chief Minister Madhya Pradesh

### CM Dr. Mohan Yadav attributes *Darshan* to good deeds

**MP Cabinet visits Ayodhya for divine *darshan* of Lord Shri Ram**

Upholding the values of Sanatan culture, the members of Madhya Pradesh Cabinet visited AyodhyaDham led by Chief Minister Dr. Mohan Yadav and had darshan of Lord Shri Ram. After the divine darshan, the Chief Minister simple expressed his feelings as "Life is now blessed. Darshan of Lord Shri Ram is possible due to good deeds. The privilege of visiting the sanctum sanctorum and other places of Lord Ram can not be described in words. He prayed Lord Ram and Mahakaal to bless everyone. The flag of Sanatan culture should keep soaring high. Every citizen of the country is connected with Prime Minister Shri Modi. People of India are part of family of the Prime Minister. Everyone respects Prime Minister.

**Shri Ram Jai Ram, Jai Jai Ram**  
Reaching the Ram temple complex in Ayodhya, the members of the Council of Ministers, engrossed in devotion and chanted Shri Ram Jai Ram Jai-Jai Ram. They prayed Lord Shri Ram for the prosperity of all citizens of the state and the country and wished for the well-being of the world.

The visit of the Council of Ministers to Ayodhya is historically important. This is a manifestation of profound respect for Lord Rama.



### Ram Van Path Gaman

#### Seven departments assigned tasks, all sites to be developed

Madhya Pradesh is drawing out detailed plans for development of pathways sanctified by Lord Shri Rama during his exile. Chief Minister Dr. Mohan Yadav has asked seven departments to work out comprehensive action plans for the development of Ram Van Path Gaman.

The responsibility of development of such sacred sites has been given to seven departments. These departments are busy preparing the blueprint for the development work. These departments include Panchayat and Rural Development, Forest, Urban Administration, Endowments, Culture, Tourism, Water Resources, Revenue, New and Renewable Energy, Public Works are busy making action plans. Chitrakoot, Amarkantak will be taken up in the first phase. Its master plan is being prepared. These cities will be planned in an organized manner. Appropriate infrastructural arrangements will be made. Facilities for religious tourism will be available to the devotees. Ram Van Path

Gaman will be developed from the Centre's PRASAD, Swadesh and Eco Tourism Scheme.

**Revenue Department:** Chitrakoot's 50 percent geographical portion falls in Madhya Pradesh and rest in Uttar Pradesh. Development is going on in parts of Uttar Pradesh. Now development work will be done rapidly by Madhya Pradesh. The government is considering organizing International Ramlila. Along with this, various festivals and religious events will be organized during Diwali.

**Public Works Department -** will take up works connecting Chitrakoot to Lucknow Expressway. From here there will be direct connectivity to Orchha and Khajuraho. Efforts will also be made from Satna side to connect it with the railway line.

**Rural Development Department -** Development of Mandakini Ghat will be done by Panchayat and Rural Development and Tourism Department. The Water Resources Department will take up cleaning of Mandakini. Water will be released from the check dam built on the river

and to stop the rain water through small dams.

The forest department will work on creating medicinal forests. The work of preparing medicinal forests in Chitrakoot, Amarkantak has been entrusted to the Forest Department. Medicinal plants found in these areas will be conserved.

Developing Ram Van Path Gaman will be expedited and all concerned departments will work jointly.

The path followed by Lord Shri Ram from Ayodhya to Lanka is being marked.

Lord Shri Ram spent 12 out of 14 years of his exile in Chitrakoot, Madhya Pradesh. After crossing the Vindhya Mountains from Amarkantak, he went to Panchvati in Dandakaranya, which is currently at a place called Parnashala in Khammam district of Telangana state, on the banks of the Godavari river. It was from here Sitaji was abducted by Ravana. Ram Van Gamanpath Yatra will be organized like Narmada Parikrama.

#### Events like Geeta and Ramayana Mahotsav to be held

Chief Minister Dr. Mohan Yadav is drawing out an action plan for efficient management of the temples and charged-places in Madhya Pradesh, which is spiritually rich. Along with the development of required facilities at the sacred places of Lord Shri Ram Van Gaman Path. The divine footprints of Lord Shri Krishna will also be developed as pilgrimage places. Arrangements will be made for the pilgrims.

Along with management of temples, works on issues related to food sector, use of solar energy, cleanliness and beautification will also be carried out. An annual calendar is being prepared to systematically organize activities of cultural and religious importance.

The community of saints and seers will be consulted about the management of events. Their advices would be honoured and implemented in letter and spirit.

An action plan is being drawn out to organize Geeta and Ramayana Mahotsav at the international level and to establish units for manufacturing miniature images of Gods and Goddesses.

#### Amjhera and Narayan Dham to have all facilities

Lord Shri Krishna came to Ujjain from Mathura and received education at Sandipani Ashram. Narayan Dham has special significance in Amjhera of Dhar district and Mahidpur tehsil of Ujjain district. There are ancient temples of Shaiva and Vaishnav sects in Amjhera. This place is related to Lord Krishna and Rukmani. Narayan Dham has the only temple in the world, where Lord Krishna and his friend Sudama are enshrined.



of Vindhya and Rewa will get the facility to stay in Devbhoomi. Three thousand square feet of land in Badrinath Dham and 12 thousand 500 square feet of land in Hardwar are owned by Laxmanbagh Institute, Rewa.

#### Plan for development of Dangwara

Boreshwar Mahadev resides in the famous Shiva temple of Dangwara near Ujjain. Here the reservoir never dries out. Chambal river moves forward after circling this temple. There is a constant flow of pilgrims to Kavad. The devotees come here throughout the year. Renowned archaeologist Dr. Wakankar researched the archaeological importance of this region. Some idols obtained from this region are kept on display at Kolkata and London. Steps are being taken by Gram Panchayats for the construction of auspicious buildings at various places on the Narmada Parikrama Path.

### Country's first Prasadam comes up at Shri Mahakal Mahalok -Ujjain

The country's first Prasadam has come up at the Neelkanth forest complex of Shri Mahakal Mahalok of the world famous pilgrimage site Ujjain. This is a big achievement for Madhya Pradesh. This became possible due to the initiative of Chief Minister Dr. Mohan Yadav.

This prasadam is being built by Ujjain Smart City Limited under the 'Clean Street Food Hub' program of the Food and Safety Standards Authority of India at a cost of Rs 1 crore 75 lakh, between the Neelkanth forest complex of Shri Mahakal Mahalok and Avantika Haat.

A clean street food hub has been set up by constructing 17 shops. Parking and other public facilities are available for the devotees.

Keeping in mind the health and hygiene of the devotees in Mahakal Lok Complex, Chief Minister Sanjeevani Clinic is being operated at Mahakal Lok Complex, Neelkanth Gate, keeping in mind the health of over 1 lakh devotees

on an average every day. Emergency health services will also be available. With the inauguration of Ujjain Food Street, the devotees coming to visit Mahakal Lok will get clean and nutritious food. Avantika Haat has been built near



the smart parking in Mahakal complex. Under Prasadam, street food has been made available to the devotees and tourists in Eat Right India in 900 square feet area. The staff members use aprons and gloves. Maintaining cleanliness is a priority. Dustbins have been placed at various places. Along with the facility of mobile food tasting unit, digital menu board, Prasadam also has arrangements for organizing various cultural festivals

### Ujjain-Indore divisions being developed as religious-spiritual circuit

For Simhastha-2028 in Ujjain, an action plan to develop Ujjain-Indore division as a religious-spiritual circuit incorporating Pashupatinath Mandsaur, Khandwa's Dada Dhuniwale, Bhadwamatla, Nalkheda, Omkareshwar. Infrastructure improvement is underway. Chief Minister Dr. Mohan Yadav has focus on greater public participation in management of Simhastha. Brainstorming is going on the action plan of Simhastha-2028.

#### Kshipra ghats to be expanded

Simhastha-2028 fair area will be developed systematically. The ghats of Kshipra river will be expanded to accommodate a large number of devotees. Drawing lessons from the previous Simhastha, guest houses with basic facilities will be built on all the routes reaching Ujjain by estimating the number of devotees coming in the upcoming Simhastha. The network of

hotels and dharamshalas built in a large number in Ujjain city will be further strengthened. Home Stay will be promoted in rural areas adjacent to Ujjain.

#### 523 works worth Rs 18 thousand 840 crores

In 2028, Simhastha Mahaparva will take place from 27 March to 27 May. There will be 03 royal baths and 07 baths from 9th April to 8th May. About 14 crore devotees are expected this time. A preliminary action plan has been prepared for Simhastha-2028 by including the districts of Indore and Ujjain divisions, in which 523 works worth about Rs 18 thousand 840 crore related to 19 departments have been proposed.

Priority will be given to transportation of devotees, development of main roads, construction of new roads, drinking water, Kshipra purification, electricity supply,



law and order and traffic management, accommodation arrangements during the period of Simhastha festival, development of tourist places.

### World's first Vedic clock at Ujjain : India's Time has come

In the fast changing time, the world's first Vedic clock set up at historic city of Ujjain will spread fame of Madhya Pradesh and India across the world. Now India's Time has come. Led by the Chief Minister Dr. Mohan Yadav, the Madhya Pradesh Government is marching forward practicing the principles of King Vikramaditya. Prime Minister Narendra Modi launched online the Vedic Clock.

The King Vikramaditya was respected far and wide. He is known for establishment of civic governance system.

Ujjain city is a referral point of calculating time. It is the city of Mahakal and symbolizes Sanatan culture of which every Indian feels pride.

Efforts are going on to make Ujjain a spiritual as well as a trade, business and industrial centre. Maharaja Ranji Scindia constructed the Mahakal temple and Madhav Mahraj II established a



free-trade fair in Madhavganj. Ujjain is a city of immense possibilities.

The Vedic Clock is installed on an 85 feet high tower built near the Government Jiwaji Observatory in the Jantar Mantar area.

This will display Vedic Hindu calendar, planetary positions, auspicious days, astrological calculations and predictions.

The Vedic Clock will also display Indian Standard Time (IST) and Greenwich Mean Time (GMT).

To calculate time, measure the period between two consecutive sunrises. It also divides the period between two sunrises into 30 parts. The time of each hour in these 30 parts will be 48 minutes as per Indian Standard Time.

The Vedic Clock will display all time calculations, which are related to Vedic Hindu calendar.

Three centuries ago the world's standard time was ascertained from Ujjain.

Vedic Clock reading will start with sunrise and will work for 30 hours. There will be 48 minutes each.

#### Jantar Mantar

Between 1724 and 1730, Maharaja Sawai Jai Singh II of Jaipur built five astronomical observatories in northern India.

These observatories are known as "Jantar-Mantar". They are located in Jaipur, Delhi, Varanasi, Ujjain and Mathura.

They consist of several buildings. Each has a special function for astronomical measurements.

Observatories followed a tradition of positional astronomy shared by many civilizations. JantarMantar is the manifestation of this tradition.

10

# The Indian **EXPRESS**

FOUNDED BY

**RAMNATH GOENKA**

BECAUSE THE TRUTH INVOLVES US ALL

## WHO PAID WHOM

Supreme Court's directions on electoral bonds are clear.  
SBI must not lose any more time in complying

**I**N FEBRUARY, A five-judge bench of the Supreme Court ordered the State Bank of India to provide all information on electoral bonds — including details on who purchased the bonds and which party received them — to the Election Commission (EC) by March 6. The Court had also asked the EC to publish this information by March 13. However, last week, SBI asked the Court to extend the deadline for submitting details to June 30. Accepting SBI's plea would have meant that the detailed information on electoral bonds would be available only after the elections. This would have deprived voters of vital information before they exercised their franchise. The Court's decision on Monday to reject SBI's plea is, therefore, immensely welcome. The Court rightly asked the SBI for an explanation for its inaction: "In the last 26 days... what steps have been taken by you? The application is... silent on that." The bank must not lose any time in complying with the order and furnish all the information by the close of business hours on March 12. Considering that SBI already has all the details, the KYC information of the donors, it has no reason to procrastinate. The EC must also publish that information by March 15. As the CJI said while reversing the electoral bond scheme in February, "information about funding of political parties is essential for the effective exercise of the choice of voting."

Further, SBI must also provide the matched data — linking the donor of the bond with its recipient. As the judgment had also noted, "there is a legitimate possibility that financial contribution to a political party would lead to quid quo pro arrangements because of the close nexus between money and politics". As per the details provided by SBI, 22,217 electoral bonds were used for donating to political parties. As each bond would have two sets of information — donors and receivers — this would imply a total of 44,434 information sets to be "decoded, compiled and compared". As the country's largest bank, SBI has all the manpower resources it needs to match the data. It also has all the details of the donors and recipients. It must no longer seek refuge in the excuse of "practical difficulties with the decoding exercise... due to the stringent measures undertaken to ensure that the identity of the donors was kept anonymous".

The EC must also be proactive on this issue. It should have, in the first instance itself, pushed SBI to release all the information. It must not delay disclosing this information any further. After all, matters involving the world of campaign finance in India should be at the centre of the electoral process and it begins with the voters' right to know.

## A HEALING HAND

Resumption of penicillin production signals government intent on bulk drugs. It will have to make the endeavour sustainable

**T**HREE DECADES AFTER the India's last penicillin manufacturing unit was shut down, the country will start producing this active pharmaceutical ingredient (API or bulk drug) used in several antibiotics. According to the Union Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (MoHFW), production of penicillin-G (or pen-G) will resume this year. This was phased out in the 1990s, when the country's markets were flooded with cheaper alternatives, largely from China. The decline in API production was noticed only in a few circles until late 2019, when supply chains were disrupted following China's stringent regulations on its industry. The Covid pandemic made the problem grave and API shortages threatened to have serious ramifications outside India's borders, given the country's status as the largest manufacturer of generic medicines. The resumption of penicillin manufacturing owes in great measure to the government's production-linked investment (PLI) scheme.

Pen-G manufacture is cost-intensive and involves a complex fermentation and extraction process. That's why drug manufacturers find it prudent to outsource their production. The situation has compounded in the last few years because Chinese penicillin makers have been producing well below their capacity. In 2019, the public sector Hindustan Antibiotics Ltd was reportedly the government's first choice to restart its production under the Make in India scheme. However, the PSU expressed its inability to participate in the venture, citing resource constraints. About the same time, the Department of Health Research informed the MoHFW that India needs more than 13,000 million doses of penicillin in the next three years to deal with bacterial infections that cause rheumatic fever — India has amongst the highest death rates from such illnesses. The government also received requests from doctors to procure this bulk drug. Broad-spectrum antibiotics, such as azithromycin, that have been used as penicillin substitutes are known to harm essential bacteria naturally present in the human body, leaving a patient vulnerable to harmful germs.

The PLI scheme envisages a support of 20 per cent for the first four years, 15 per cent for the fifth year, and 5 per cent for the sixth year on eligible sales of fermentation-based bulk drugs and hormones such as insulin. It's early years for the scheme and India still imports close to 90 per cent of all APIs for antibiotics. The challenge for the country's health authorities will be to ensure that the focus on self-reliance does not affect the affordability of medicines. They should also make sure that the companies can sustain themselves once the government hand holding is over.

## NOLAN'S WORLD

'Oppenheimer's' Oscar success is a validation of big-studio, big-spectacle films

**A**T THE ACADEMY Awards, in his acceptance speech for Best Director, his first win in eight nominations, Christopher Nolan said, "Movies are just a little bit over 100 years old and imagine being there 100 years into painting or theatre... We don't know where this incredible journey is going from here, but to know that you think that I'm a part of it means the world to me." Nolan might be forgiven for his modesty, for if there's anything that this year's awards season and last year's stellar run at the box office have established, it is this: It's Christopher Nolan's world and we are all just living in it.

When a film with 13 nominations enters the fray, there is likely to be little surprise in the outcome of the awards ceremony, even if it has been a year of extraordinarily diverse movies. But in winning seven awards at the Academy Awards, including Best Director, Best Picture, Best Actor and Best Actor in a Supporting Role, what Nolan's *Oppenheimer* lost out in terms of drama, it made up in validation for an older way of filmmaking: The big-studio, big-spectacle film, whose rise and fall had been stalled by the pandemic and the OTT-driven content generated in its aftermath. Of course, Nolan has done it before with his Batman trilogy, resurrecting the flagging fortunes of Warner Bros with his slick storytelling and his ability to tie together parallel timelines into an intellectually stimulating yarn, whose metaphysical undertone is apace with its ability to thrill and awe.

What the win for a film like *Oppenheimer* does is show that when it comes to entertainment, the appeal of the big screen is unlikely to wane. Like *The Lord of the Rings* or *Ben-Hur*, both of which won multiple Oscars, Nolan's multiverses are not meant for the confines of the OTT screen but for the liberating conviviality of the big screen, where audiences of all kinds converge. In this season of niche, individualistic projects, that is, perhaps, the crux of Nolan's triumph.

# THE EDITORIAL PAGE

WORDLY WISE

ALWAYS MAKE THE AUDIENCE  
SUFFER AS MUCH AS POSSIBLE.

— ALFRED HITCHCOCK

# EC's hour of reckoning



ASHOK LAVASA

With vacancies in poll body, the CEC Bill 2023 will be tested in letter and spirit

**I**N MARCH LAST year, when the Supreme Court ordered the constitution of a selection committee for the Election Commission of India (ECI) with the Chief Justice of India (CJI) as a member, there were no vacancies in sight in the ECI. Just over a year later, and three months after Parliament passed a law excluding the CJI from the committee, there are two vacancies in the ECI and the time to test the law and its spirit is here.

Since the introduction of The Chief Election Commissioner And Other Election Commissioners (Appointment, Conditions Of Service And Term Of Office) Bill, 2023 in Parliament, I have been trying to understand the thought behind some of its provisions and the final amendments. The words belong to law professionals but is the wisdom theirs?

The Indian Constitution provides for many institutions that form the spine of our democracy. Although each institution has a different purpose and character, it has a relationship with the government either supportive or regulatory, or as a counterweight.

Parliament exercises checks on the government. The courts scrutinise laws passed by the legislature and examine the legality of the government's decisions. A somewhat similar function is performed by the tribunals. The Attorney General advises the government, occasionally representing it in courts. The Comptroller and Auditor General maintains government accounts and audits government expenditure. The Public Service Commission carries out recruitment for the government and advises it on certain service matters.

The Constitution also provides for institutions, some of which do not have a permanent existence, such as the Finance Commission or the Delimitation Commission, as independent organs of the state. The Finance Commission proposes a financial framework for the fiscal relationship between the Centre and states, the devolution of taxes and other modes of central transfers. The Delimitation Commission proposes the delineation of boundaries of Assembly and parliamentary constituencies. Two institutions perform a function that is not directly related to government action. One is the Delimitation

Commission, and the other, of course, is the ECI. Its vital function is to ensure free and fair elections leading to the formation of a democratically-elected political system responsible for running the government till the next elections. Unlike the other aforementioned bodies, the ECI's responsibility is not dependent on government actions. It neither scrutinises government policy or action nor regulates it except while enforcing the Model Code of Conduct. Its compact is with the voters and its responsibility is to safeguard their rights.

It is in this context that one should examine the government's intent in introducing certain provisions in the CEC Bill and later amending them. The provisions on the equivalence of CEC/ECs with Supreme Court judge/Cabinet Secretary, the composition of the Search Committee, and the procedure of removal of CEC/ECs and subsequent amendments stand out. One should also try to understand the thinking behind the provision about the composition of the Selection Committee.

Let us first look at the composition of the Selection Committee, originally constituted in an ad hoc manner by the SC order of March 2, 2023, till Parliament enacted a law. It is hard to fathom why the government altered the composition by excluding the CJI, thereby creating a predetermined bias in the Committee's majority view. It is difficult to recall instances where the CJI disagreed with the PM in any similar selection committee and his exclusion may seem like an attempt to ensure a majority rather than relying on consensus building.

The issue of equivalence seems more intriguing. The status of CEC was never in question as Article 324(5) provided that "the Chief Election Commissioner shall not be removed from his office except in like manner and on the like grounds as a Judge of the Supreme Court and the conditions of service of the Chief Election Commissioner shall not be varied to his disadvantage after his appointment." Subsequently, the Election Commission (Conditions of Service Of Election Commissioners And Transaction Of Business) Act, 1991 granted the CEC and ECs salary "equal to the salary of a Judge of the Supreme Court" and provided that the conditions of

service relating to allowances, and other perquisites would be "as are... applicable to a Judge of the Supreme Court".

It is, therefore, difficult to understand what prompted the government to equate the ECI and ECs with the Cabinet Secretary (sections 10 and 15 of the original Bill). This was opposed by critics who were pleasantly surprised by the provision (section 11 (2) in the original Bill) that brought about parity in the removal process of CEC and ECs, as in the extant provision, the CEC could be removed through a process of impeachment, like an SC Judge, but ECs could be removed by the President on the recommendations of the CEC.

In its order of March 2, 2023, the SC had observed that "it is desirable that the grounds of removal of the Election Commissioners shall be the same as that of the Chief Election Commissioner that is on the like grounds as a Judge of the Supreme Court, subject to the recommendation of the Chief Election Commissioner" as provided under the second proviso to Article 324(5) of the Constitution of India."

However, the amendments in the final version betray muddled thinking. The government seems to have struck a bargain by restoring the equivalence of CEC/ECs with SC judges and at the same time reversing its position on the issue of parity in the removal process and letting the disparity between CEC and ECs persist. The thought process behind this is baffling because the two issues are not related.

Equally confounding is the replacement of the Cabinet Secretary by the Law Minister as the chair of the Search Committee. The original provision also provided for "two other members... having knowledge and experience in matters relating to elections." The purpose of changing the chairmanship and dropping "having knowledge and experience in matters relating to elections" in the case of the members, and the thought process behind the other provisions as proposed and amended beats my bureaucratic understanding, evolved during four decades in the government.

The writer is a former Election Commissioner



SHUBHRA GUPTA

**F**INALLY, AND IRONICALLY, an immutable law of physics — what goes up, comes down — didn't kick in. Right from July 2023 when Christopher Nolan's biopic *Oppenheimer* released to critical hosannas and box-office bonanzas all over the world, it had begun gathering Oscars buzz. Through the awards season, that buzz kept spiralling, and the film, a mostly sympathetic portrait of the father of the A-bomb, ended up hoovering seven of the big awards at the 96th Academy Awards night, including Best Picture, Best Director (Nolan), Best Actor (Cillian Murphy) and Best Supporting Actor (Robert Downey Jr).

*Barbie*, the other film that released on the same day, unleashing a wave of pink in a bid to turn our notions of greedy corporates who upsell plastic dolls on their well-groomed heads, didn't fare as well. It won only one (Original Song) of its eight nominations: Director Greta Gerwig didn't get a look-in, nor did Margot Robbie, who plays the titular character. The two nominations in the Supporting Category, Ryan Gosling and America Ferrera, stayed right there, even if the former reprising his disarming "I'm Just Kent" act was one of the high points of the staid show.

In the real world, the Barbenheimer double-bill became a zeitgeist catch phrase of 2023. It denoted many things — showing naysayers sceptical about a movie on science and scientists their place, the importance of the women (and some good men) who became a potent box-office force in a movie about a pneumatic doll, and rescuing Hollywood and the larger world of movie-making from the pandemic-induced doldrums with their mighty global box-office collections.

## MEMORIES AND HISTORY

From 'Poor Things' to 'Oppenheimer', the highs and lows of this year's Oscars

pandemic-induced doldrums with their mighty global box-office collections.

But such are the strange, inexplicable and opaque ways of the Academy voters who have started skewing its middle-aged-white-American prototype only in the past decade, that the doll didn't stand a chance in front of the biopic on the theoretical physicist who created the worst or the most effective weapon in the world, depending upon which side of the fence you stand.

Host Jimmy Kimmel, who started off with a shaky monologue — a couple of jokes about men dating their mothers and the shape of male nether-regions coming off tasteless — promised us surprises. But there really were none, unless you count a near-naked act by rapper-actor John Cena, who used a large envelope as a fig-leaf, saying "the male body is not a joke". A nod to the David Niven-Elizabeth Taylor 1974 moment when a streaker ran across the stage, Cena was announcing the Best Costume design for *Poor Things*, and it was really a smarter gag than the way it came off: Yorgos Lanthimos's brilliantly bonkers, marvellously feminist reworking of the Frankenstein myth, which gave Emma Stone a well-deserved Best Actress award, uses nakedness in a way that movies have forgotten, making the female body a sharp statement of ownership, and liberation.

Stone's playing of Bella Baxter is stunning: In her billowing bell sleeves, bloomers and open hair falling below her waist, she uses immaculate physical comedic notes — moving from jerky toddler movements to a filled-out personality — to embellish a woman who

learns to live on her own terms. While Lily Gladstone from Martin Scorsese's epic tale of the Osage people, *Flowers Of The Kill Moon*, would have been the politically correct choice, if Stone hadn't got that Best Actress Oscar, it would have been an act of betrayal.

Unlike last year with its strong desi flavour — the 'Naatu-Naatu' dance-off, M M Kreem brandishing his Best Original Song Oscar, and the beauteous Deepika Padukone on stage — this wasn't an India year. In the Memoriam section, we got a brief flash of the famed art director Nitin Chandrakant Desai. And in the Feature Documentary category, Nisha Pahuja's controversial documentary on the fightback of a Jharkhand family against the rapists of a minor girl, was nominated. But this was always going to be the year of *20 Days In Mariupol*, a moving account of the way the town's people are being impacted by the conflict in Ukraine.

Another war, the one being waged in Palestine, simmered and bubbled all through the evening, but with only one attendee making it a talking point. Jonathan Glazer, the British director of the searing Nazi revisionist *Days In Mariupol*, spoke of the victims of dehumanisation in both Israel and Gaza. It was a powerful, necessary intervention, even if momentary, in an evening full of glitter and shine. As Mstyslav Chernov, director of *Days In Mariupol*, said, "Cinema forms memories, and memories form histories." The fact that it did get a mention will always be part of both memory and history.

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## NOLAN'S WORLD

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MARCH 12, 1984, FORTY YEARS AGO

### NDA's PROTEST CALL

THE NATIONAL DEMOCRATIC Alliance has given a call to observe a protest day all over the country on March 25 against the atmosphere of terrorism and the law and order situation in Punjab. National Democratic Alliance general secretary Vijay Kumar Malhotra added that rallies, demonstrations, dharnas, and hunger strikes would be part of the protest day.

### PAKISTAN COUP FAILS

ABOUT 40 ARMY officers, a former minister and three other civilians have been ar-

rested in Pakistan for plotting a coup against the Zia regime recently, according to *The Economist*. Some 400 officers have been interrogated in connection with the attempted coup. Essential elements of the report have been confirmed by Pakistani political experts in Britain.

### BANGALORE VIOLENCE

TWO PERSONS WERE injured when the police opened fire on a mob indulging in arson and violence in Bangalore. Night curfew had been imposed in the area the previous night following large-scale violence sparked off by the alleged death of a

person in police lock-up. A head constable and two constables attached to Shivaji Nagar police station have been suspended in connection with the death.

### CAPTAIN GAVASKAR

FORMER CAPTAIN SUNIL Gavaskar was appointed captain of the Indian cricket team for the inaugural Asia Cup one-day tournament, commencing at Sharjah from April 7. National selectors — chairman Gulam Ahmed, Pankaj Roy Chandu Borde, Bishen Singh Bedi and Hanuman Singh — met for the second time for a couple of hours before selecting Gavaskar.

# THE IDEAS PAGE

## Moving to a better count

New expenditure survey will lead to fresh poverty estimates. It will also have implications for inflation and monetary policy



C RANGARAJAN AND  
S MAHENDRA DEV

RECENTLY, SUMMARY RESULTS of the Household Consumption Expenditure Survey (HCES), 2022-23, conducted by the National Sample Survey Office (NSSO) were released. In this context, we discuss three issues here: Trends in poverty; difference between private consumption expenditure of NSSO and the figure provided by the National Accounts Statistics (NAS); and changes in consumption patterns and implications for consumer price index and monetary policy. The HCES 2022-23 has undergone some changes as compared to the previous surveys in consumption expenditure. These are: One, item coverage; two, changes in the questionnaire; three, multiple visits for data collection and computed assisted personal interviews compared to pen and paper interviews. These changes have to be kept in mind while comparing the results of HCES 2022-23 with those of previous surveys.

The first issue is to examine the changes in poverty using the new information on consumption expenditure. The poverty lines for 2011-12 based on Expert Group (Tendulkar) methodology were Rs 816 and Rs 1,000 per capita per month respectively for rural and urban areas. An SBI report has estimated poverty ratios in 2022-23 by updating poverty lines. The new updated poverty line is Rs 1,622 in rural areas and Rs 1,929 in urban areas. According to this SBI report, poverty in rural areas declined from 25.7 per cent in 2011-12 to 7.2 per cent in 2022-23 while in urban areas it declined from 13.7 per cent to 4.6 per cent. Using the shares of the rural and urban populations, the total poverty ratio based on the Tendulkar committee methodology comes to 6.3 per cent.

The poverty line for 2011-12 based on Expert Group (Rangarajan) methodology was Rs 972 and Rs 1,407 per capita per month respectively for rural and urban areas. Using CPI, we updated the poverty line which is Rs 1,837 for rural and Rs 2,603 for urban areas in 2022-23. As Table 1 shows, the poverty ratio for rural areas declined from 30.9 per cent in 2011-12 to 12.3 per cent in 2022-23. For urban areas, it declined from 26.4 per cent in 2011-12 to 8 per cent in 2022-23. It may be noted that the poverty ratio derived from the Expert Group (Rangarajan) method is 71 per cent higher in rural areas and 74 per cent higher in urban areas than that derived by using the Expert Group (Tendulkar) method. The overall poverty ratio under the Rangarajan methodology for 2022-23 will be 10.8 per cent. While the poverty ratio is higher under our methodology, the order of decline in percentage points between the two periods is the same under both methodologies in rural areas. But in urban areas, the decline in our methodology is higher.

However, as mentioned above, the data on consumption expenditure in 2022-23 is not strictly comparable to earlier surveys. The comparable data would have probably given

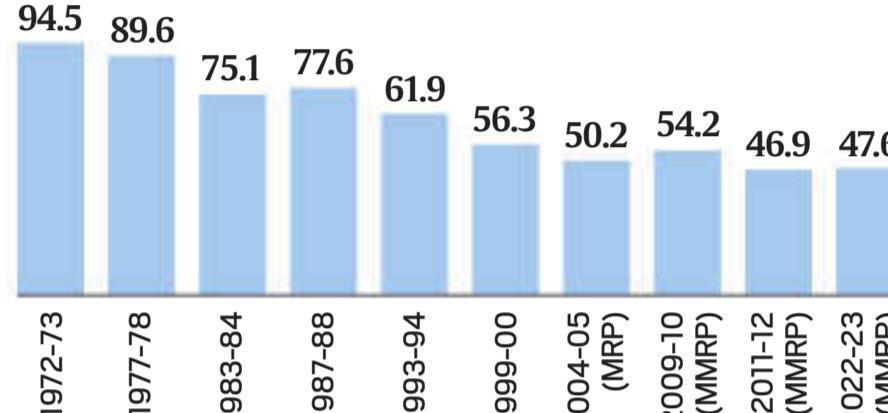


### 1. POVERTY LINE AND POVERTY RATIOS FOR 2011-12 AND 2022-23

Year	Poverty Line (Rs.)		Poverty Ratio (%)	
	Rural	Urban	Rural	Urban
<b>Expert Group (Rangarajan)</b>				
2011-12	972	1407	30.9	26.4
2022-23	1837	2603	12.3	8.0
<b>Expert Group (Tendulkar)</b>				
2011-12	816	1000	25.7	13.7
2022-23	1622	1929	7.2	4.6

Source: Estimated by the authors. The numbers in the last row are taken from SBI Research Report, February, 2024.

### 2. PRIVATE CONSUMER EXPENDITURE OF NSS AS PERCENT OF NATIONAL ACCOUNTS STATISTICS



MRP: Mixed reference period; MMRP: Modified mixed recall period; Source: Rangarajan Committee up to 2009-10; Estimated by the authors for 2011-12 and 2022-23.

C R Sasikumar

much higher poverty figures under the Rangarajan Committee methodology, particularly for urban areas. The above estimates are tentative and we can have better analysis once the unit-level data is released.

The second issue is the alarming difference between the aggregate private consumption expenditure given by the NSSO and the figure provided by the National Accounts Statistics (NAS). What is disturbing is that despite substantial methodological changes to capture private expenditure, the NSS share increased only marginally in 2022-23. These two estimates of consumption (NSS and NAS) do not match in any country; India is no exception. What is perplexing is that the difference in India between the NSS and the NAS consumption is widening over time.

From a difference of less than 10 per cent in the late 1970s, it has come to 53 per cent in 2011-12 (Table 2). This difference declined only marginally to 52 per cent in 2022-23. However, with the continuation of differences of more than 50 per cent, the time has come for a deeper analysis of the factors contributing to the difference. It is too big to be pushed under the carpet. The NSS Advisory Group must study the problem and come out with possible suggestions for improving the collection of data through both routes. Such a large difference has implications for computing the poverty ratio.

The third issue is the implications of the HCES 2022-23 for the Consumer Price Index (CPI). The latest data reveal that there have been some changes in consumption patterns between 2011-12 and 2022-23. In rural areas, the share of food in monthly per capita expenditure (MPCE) has declined from 52.9 per cent in 2011-12 to 46.4 per cent in 2022-23 – a decline of 6.5 percentage points in 11 years. In urban areas, the share of food in total con-

The second issue is the alarming difference between the aggregate private consumption expenditure given by the NSSO and the figure provided by the National Accounts Statistics (NAS). What is disturbing is that despite substantial methodological changes to capture private expenditure, the NSS share increased only marginally in 2022-23. These two estimates of consumption (NSS and NAS) do not match in any country; India is no exception. What is perplexing is that the difference in India between the NSS and the NAS consumption is widening over time.

sumption decreased from 42.6 per cent to 39.2 per cent during the same period – a decline of 3.5 percentage points in 11 years. The share of cereals in average MPCE has shown a significant decline in rural areas from 10.8 per cent in 2011-12 to 4.9 per cent in 2022-23 and 6.7 per cent to 3.6 per cent in urban areas. In food items, the share of fruits, beverages and processed food rose both in rural and urban areas. There is some reduction in the share of vegetables. In non-food items, the shares of toiletries and household items, conveyance and durable goods increased significantly in both rural and urban areas.

What are the implications for the weights of food and non-food items in the CPI and inflation due to these changes in consumer patterns? This new data can help adjust weights in the CPI basket which is currently based on 2011-12 weights. The decline in the weights of food items is a good sign as food prices are volatile and many times higher than those of non-food items. But, the question is whether the present decline in food share is enough to have a significant impact on inflation levels. The food share is still high at 46 per cent and 39 per cent respectively in rural and urban areas. The share of cereals, vegetables and edible oils declined but the share of fruits has increased while the share of egg, fish and meat remains the same. However, a decline in food share will have some impact on inflation. The monetary policy committee will have to work with a new price index.

C Rangarajan is former chairman, Economic Advisory Council to the Prime Minister and former governor, Reserve Bank of India. S Mahendra Dev is former chairman, Commission for Agricultural Costs and Prices, GoI and former vice chancellor, IGIDR, Mumbai

## A new Assam

Neglected for decades, the state has transformed over the last eight years



HIMANTA BISWA SARMA

IN 1950-51, ASSAM had an enviable per capita income of 4 per cent above the national average. After suffering repeated reorganisation – without economic planning – creating more states till 1971, subsequent blows such as bouts of illegal immigration, agitations and extremism harmed Assam's growth. By 1998, Assam's per capita income went down to 41 per cent below the national average.

Seven decades of darkness created a complex web of political, economic, and social challenges. We needed a million rays to disperse the darkness and this mission has been led by Prime Minister Narendra Modi. His love for the people of Assam and its development is evident in the host of central initiatives for the state.

Be it an AIMS in Assam, the Dholka-Sadiya bridge over the Brahmaputra or massive programmes for women and youth empowerment in Assam, none of them would have been possible without PM Modi's support. Indeed, wearing the traditional gamocha around his neck, he has been the biggest brand ambassador of Assam. Jawaharlal Nehru, as Prime Minister, abandoned Assam amidst the 1962 India-China war while claiming that his heart went out to its people. Prime Minister Modi has repeatedly called the region Ashtalakshmi and Bharat's growth engine.

PM Modi's resolve to build a Viksit Bharat during Amrit Kaal has been the guiding light for Assam to develop a roadmap for Viksit Assam 2047. In less than eight years, under the PM's guidance, governance in the state has

seen more public participation, transparency and accountability.

We prioritised three issues: Extremism, drugs and narcotics, and women's safety. The near end of extremism is a result of negotiations with extremist groups, jointly led by the Ministry of Home Affairs and the state. This has resulted in 11 peace accords since 2016, the latest one with ULFA. Second, as per the World Drugs Report 2018, Assam had 7.5 lakh active drug users. Assam and the northeast typically acted as a transit point for the illicit transnational drugs trade. The Assam police undertook the task of disrupting this deep-rooted network. In a massive crackdown between 2021 and 2023, the police registered a record 8,184 cases arresting 13,565 traffickers and seizing 346 kg of heroin and 98,993 kg of ganja and others worth Rs 1,860 crore. The disturbing infant and maternal mortality rates coupled with crimes against the women of Assam were a matter of deep concern. Our strict policies curbing child marriages, repealing the colonial Assam Muslim Marriage and Divorces Registration Act, and focusing on women's health have led to a significant decline in crimes against women – by 51.7 per cent from 2021 to 2022.

The government's push towards transformative policy initiatives such as in the semiconductor industry, methanol production, EVs, etc, has set the tone for investments in manufacturing. Assam's first methanol plant with a Rs 1,600 crore investment, inaugurated by the Prime Minister in April 2023, has already started exporting to Bangladesh and

Nepal. Large oil and gas investments, including a Rs 28,000 crore expansion of Numaligarh Refinery, expansion of Digboi Refinery, railway projects, and airports are at an advanced stage. In the last few months, the state approved 21 mega industrial units worth Rs 13,400 crore.

The Tatas' love for Assam goes beyond tea. The group has partnered with Assam in a range of sectors, from establishing a cancer-care network to the hospitality sector, and now to a semiconductor plant.

The recent approval by the Union Cabinet for a Rs 27,000 crore Semiconductor Assembly Testing, Marking and Packaging (ATMP) Unit by the Tatas is a historic development. The construction work will start in the next 100 days in Jagiroad with a capacity of 48 million per day. Soon, the project location will see a new world-class township to serve its 15,700 employees and another 13,000 indirectly employed. Tech giants IBM and Tesla are technology partners for this unit for the co-development of flip-chip and ISP technology respectively. For wire-bond technology, Tatas have operational experience. This would be a game-changer for the northeast region and could catalyse India's economic ties with Southeast Asia.

Seven decades of darkness are now behind Assam's amrit peedhi. Our youth are our heroes. We commit ourselves to providing them with opportunities in Amrit Kaal.

The writer is chief minister of Assam

## WHAT THE OTHERS SAY

"The key to meaningful election reform lies with the politicians. If they are able to pull this off in the current legislature's term, the next general elections may no longer require a caretaker set-up."

—DAWN, PAKISTAN

## Justice delayed, empathy denied

Release of G N Saibaba after 10 years of incarceration is a welcome return to judicial conscience. It should mark a turning point



ASHWANI KUMAR

ON MARCH 7, Professor G N Saibaba walked to freedom after a 10-year-long incarceration, declared by the Nagpur Bench of the Bombay High Court as illegal on March 5. Rejecting the charge against all the accused – of aiding members of a banned organisation to wage war against the Government of India – the Court held that their detention, including that of the wheelchair-bound handicapped academic, was unsustainable in law. The judgment, based on a piercing scrutiny of the law and evidence on record, is a welcome, albeit belated, affirmation of the Constitution's libertarian promise. We are reminded that a reflective intellectual engagement with political doctrines cannot, in itself, be a basis of criminality, consistent with the fundamental human right to free speech and thought.

That freedom came to Saibaba and others after suffering long years of a "brutal" life in unlawful custody is a painful reminder of a grave institutional deficit. The illegal custody of the accused, facilitated by an insensitive persistence by enforcers of the state to keep them – including a physically challenged academic – in prison, questions the fairness of the nation's administrative and judicial processes.

Particularly worrisome and wholly unconscionable is the Supreme Court's earlier order in 2022 restoring Saibaba to custody after setting aside his discharge by the High Court and hearing the state's appeal on a holiday.

The turns and twists in the case have tested the boundaries of state power and the resilience of our judicial processes to vindicate the constitutional conscience. In a resounding and reasoned rejection of the state's case, the court held that merely downloading information about "Naxal philosophy" or even sympathising with their philosophy would not invite the rigours of the UAPA and that the prosecution had failed to establish an active role of the accused with particular incidents of violence and terrorism. The court scoffed at "vague allegations" pressed by the prosecution as the basis of criminal conviction and thereby reaffirmed the first principles of criminal jurisprudence.

Will the Saibaba case and its lessons be relegated to the margins of our memories and allowed to fade away in time or will it serve as a transformative moment in an unending "pilgrimage to justice"? This is the defining question of our times. Since the history of nations is shaped by events that unfold over time, this case should be a watershed moment towards a renaissance of our cultural heritage rooted in benign justice and empathy for the weak. We know that the fate of freedom depends upon a collective assertion of its moral force that lends it legitimacy as a constitutional right. And lest we forget, the enduring lesson of history is that the idea of freedom survives the ravages of tyranny.

The refusal of the apex court to stay the order of acquittal in this case holds out hope that the top court will reclaim its custody of the Constitution. Bound by the fetters of their remit, constitutional institutions are indeed expected to vindicate justice and be seen to be doing so.

The writer is senior advocate, Supreme Court and former Union Minister for Law and Justice. Views are personal

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### FREE TO DISAGREE

THIS REFERS TO the editorial, 'Let them speak' (IE, March 11). The largest democracy in the world must conduct itself appropriately. Article 19(1)(a) of the Constitution guarantees freedom of speech and expression to all citizens. No legal action should be ensued against somebody who wishes to dissent against the government of the day. Police should be educated about this. Members of law-enforcing agencies are duty bound to protect the rights of citizens even if someone is dissenting.

Subhash Vaid, New Delhi

THIS REFERS TO the editorial, 'Let them speak' (IE, March 11). Criticising government policy is not grounds to accuse someone of creating disharmony. The Constitution guarantees India's citizens freedom of speech. Unreasonable restrictions and arbitrary arrests undermine faith in a democracy. SC rightly said that police force needs to be taught about constitutional values, especially, the freedom of speech. But police conduct is dictated by insulation or lack thereof from political power. That needs remedy.

Sanjay Chopra, Mohali

### TAKE SBI TO TASK

THIS REFERS TO the article, 'Standing up for the voter' (IE, March 11). It is strange that the SBI has approached the Supreme Court, seeking an extension to make public the details of electoral bonds purchased since April 12, 2019. All banking transactions are now digital, and the SBI, as the largest bank in India, can be no exception. The SC has ruled that voters' right to information should not be curtailed. The Court should not only refuse

to accede to the bank's unreasonable request but also reprimand it.

SPaul, Noida

### RECIPE FOR DISASTER

THIS REFERS TO the editorial, 'A speech, a question' (IE, March 9). Paying his first visit to Kashmir after the abrogation of Article 370, Prime Minister Narendra Modi has reached out to the people in the Valley. His message is clear: The state's development will go hand-in-hand with that of the country. However, two challenges remain: Restoration of J&K's statehood and conduct of elections. Delay in undertaking these all-important exercises is sending out the message that all is not well. The resumption of the electoral process is the need of the hour to regain the trust of political parties and voters. Allowing democracy to wither is a recipe for disaster.

Khokan Das, Kolkata

### INDIA'S JOB PROBLEM

Cong Kerala chief's latest: Spokeswoman who flagged gender imbalance in LS list is 'a nobody'

SHAJU PHILIP  
THIRUVANANTHAPURAM,  
MARCH 11

CONGRESS KERALA chief K Sudhakaran, known for shooting off the hip, has now termed All India Congress Committee spokesperson Shama Mohamed a "nobody" after she called out the poor representation of women in the party's Lok Sabha candidate list.

On Mohamed's observation, Sudhakaran, the MP from Kannur, told reporters Sunday: "She is a nobody in the party. Ask her about her comment (on women's representation)."

Shama, who also hails from Kannur, Monday added her designation of party spokesperson to her Facebook page in an apparent response to Sudhakaran.

Amid the row set off by Sudhakaran, Satheesan stepped in on Monday. "I have spoken to her. What she said is absolutely correct. We couldn't give adequate representation for women. We are sad about it. Shama assured me she would not say anything that hurts the party. She will spend more time in Kerala during the elections," he said.

Two days back, Mohamed had pointed out that there was only one woman Lok Sabha candidate among the 16 fielded by the Congress in Kerala — Ramya Haridas, a sitting MP from the Alathur seat reserved for Scheduled Castes.

Mohamed said: "There were two women candidates (from Kerala) in the last election. In the first election coming after the

Women's Representation Bill was passed, the number of women candidates has come down to one. Women need better representation. Ramya got the chance because her seat is in the reservation category. Women should be allotted seats where they can win. If we have to get women voters, they should be adequately represented in the candidates list."

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The SC bench said that "on August 25, 2023, we were at the initial stage. So, we had said we will have the investigation monitored by a Special Judge in Assam. Now, he wants to know what do I do after that".

Appearing for the Justice (Retired) Gita Mittal Committee appointed by the court, Senior Advocate Vibha Datta Makhija said there are "some matters of grave importance" which the committee wanted to bring to the notice of the court.

"Let's have some idea about how many cases we are dealing with. Then we will also request them to give some assistance on whether the trial should take place in Assam"

#### SC BENCH TO MANIPUR AG

Judicial Magistrate and Special Judge in Gauhati, Assam, to conduct all proceedings in connection with the investigation of cases relating to the violence in Manipur....We direct that an updated status report be filed...within a period of two weeks by the government of Manipur as well as CBI/NIA in regard to the investigations. The status report shall indicate whether chargesheets have been filed, and if so in how many cases and the stage of the investigation in others."

The SC said, "The letter of the Special Judge arises in the context of the ordered August 25, 2023, of this court by which the Chief Justice of Gauhati High Court was requested to nominate one or more officers of the rank of Chief

The bench said that "on August 25, 2023, we were at the initial stage. So, we had said we will have the investigation monitored by a Special Judge in Assam. Now, he wants to know what do I do after that".

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"The state administration is being held by these actions" of rival groups, she said, adding, "There are some worrying public notices". The senior counsel said that "all relief activities now has been stopped specially with the District Collector's office being burnt down where all the relief material was housed".

Referring to the committee seeking enquiry into the events of January 24, February 15, and February 27 this year, the CJL said "surely the government can do it".

Makhija said, "The government has been interacting and some magisterial enquiry has also

been set up. But that is not the main point. The point that is being sought to be brought before this court is that because of both the factions and because of inciting material, now this is not protest, it has become an armed protest where the officers are held to ransom. The residence of the District Collector...has been completely burnt down. The highways are stopped. There is no movement of relief material".

The CJL said "that is why the state government is there, to bring about law and order. How can the SC direct organisations to desist from violence, and provocations that can lead to violence?...These are not matters where this court can give directions. It is a matter for proper policing and maintenance of law and order by the government...We can't be issuing directions to civil society organisations. That's for the government to control their activities".

The court then asked the AG to look into the report. The AG said his information is that the February 15 and February 27 incidents have been handed over to the CBI and he shall verify.

SKM's 'Dilli Chalo' march tomorrow, farmers 'mahapanchayat' on Mar 14 at Ramlila Maidan

RAAKHI JAGGA  
LUDHIANA, MARCH 11

FARM OUTFITS belonging to Samyukt Kisan Morcha (SKM) are all set to participate in "Kisan Mazdoor Mahapanchayat" (farmers' convention) at Ramlila Maidan in Delhi on March 14 to press the Centre to accept their demands, including a law on the minimum support price (MSP) for crops. The farmers will be marching to Delhi a day before.

Delhi Police and Municipal Corporation of Delhi (MCD) have also given their nod to hold the "mahapanchayat" by issuing a no objection certificate (NOC) to SKM. Farmers from across the country and largely from northern India will be part of the "mahapanchayat".

"Both Delhi Police and MCD have issued an NOC for holding the 'mahapanchayat'," Darshan Pal, member, national coordination committee, SKM, told *The Indian Express*. Delhi Police will earmark a place for parking of buses that will come from various parts of the country for the "mahapanchayat", he said.

This "mahapanchayat" comes at a time when other farmer unions under the banner of Kisan Mazdoor Morcha (KMM) and SKM (non-political) are sitting at Shambhu and

Khanauri points on Punjab's border with Haryana for the past 28 days after their 'Dilli Chalo' march on tractor-trolleys to press the Centre for similar demands was stopped by security forces. SKM is not part of the 'Dilli Chalo' march, although it has extended support to protesters at both protest sites.

However, for this 'mahapanchayat', SKM members will be going to Delhi on trains and buses, not on tractor-trolleys, said Darshan Pal.

Sukhdev Singh Kokrikalan, general secretary of BKU Ugrahan, said, "We will be going to Delhi by trains or buses only. People from Punjab will start on March 13 morning and will reach New Delhi by evening where they will camp at various gurdwaras. By 10 am on March 14, thousands of farmers and farm labourers will be at Ramlila Maidan as per the plan."

The day-long "mahapanchayat" is regarding the long-pending demands of farmers and labourers which centre had agreed upon on December 9, 2021, Darshan Pal added.

Patiala said, "Mostly farmers of Punjab, Haryana, Rajasthan, MP, UP, and Uttarakhand will come. There will also be small delegations from West Bengal, Karnataka, Telangana, Andhra Pradesh and other states."

**Maoist killed in encounter, jawan injured in IED blast**

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE  
RAIPUR, MARCH 11

A MAOIST was killed in an encounter with security personnel, and a Bastar Fighters jawan suffered serious injuries in an Improvised Explosive Device (IED) explosion in Bijapur district of Chhattisgarh on Monday.

In another incident, a villager, who was abducted on March 8, was found dead on Monday.

An encounter took place between Maoists and security forces in a forest area between Purangel village (Kirandul police station) and Peediya village (Gangulur police station), which is a border area, around 8 am.

During search operations, an unidentified body of a Maoist was found. While conducting search operations around 2.30 pm near Mutavendi camp pass, constable Ramu Korsa of Bastar Fighters accidentally stepped on a pressure IED connection, triggering a blast. He sustained injuries on his legs and is said to be in a stable condition now.

In the other incident, the body of 35-year-old Hemla Pusu was found. Terming Pusu a police informer, Bhairamgarh area committee Maoists allegedly strangled and thrashed him to death with wooden sticks. Pusu was a resident of Telipetha village under Kutru police station, but used to live in another area in Kutru.

**उत्तर प्रदेश आयुर्विज्ञान विश्वविद्यालय, सैफ़ाद, इटावा (उ.प्र.)**  
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Ref.: 5508/UPUMS/Recruitment Cell/2023-24 Dated: 11.03.2024  
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# Manipur violence: SC seeks probe status reports from govt, agencies

Asks Manipur government, NIA, CBI if chargesheets have been filed in any case

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE  
NEW DELHI, MARCH 11

THE SUPREME Court Monday sought reports from the Manipur government, the NIA, and the CBI on the status of the probe into incidents of ethnic violence in the state and whether chargesheets have been filed in any case.

#### SC BENCH TO MANIPUR AG

Judicial Magistrate and Special Judge in Gauhati, Assam, to conduct all proceedings in connection with the investigation of cases relating to the violence in Manipur....We direct that an updated status report be filed...within a period of two weeks by the government of Manipur as well as CBI/NIA in regard to the investigations. The status report shall indicate whether chargesheets have been filed, and if so in how many cases and the stage of the investigation in others."

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**Jo Khele, Wo Khile**

**KIRTI**

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# My Life is My Message

- Mahatma Gandhi



## Mahatma Gandhi Sabarmati Ashram Restoration Project

Bhoomi Vandana By  
Hon'ble Prime Minister of India  
**Shri Narendra Modi**

12<sup>th</sup> March 2024, Tuesday

09:30 AM Onwards

Sabarmati Ashram, Ahmedabad

## Features of Ashram Restoration

- ◆ The project, planned at a cost of Rs 1200 crs aims to develop and upgrade the Ashram and surrounding infrastructure, visitors' amenities and create a world-class memorial as a tribute to Mahatma Gandhi ji.
- ◆ The project will comprise of a memorial spread over an area of 55 acres. It will serve as an inspiration for future generations, fostering Gandhian thoughts and will enliven the essence of Gandhian values.
- ◆ It involves conservation of 20 old ashram buildings, Restoration of 13 Buildings and Redevelopment of 3 buildings adhering to austere, simple and authentic architecture of the original Ashram.
- ◆ The project aims to create a serene, tranquil and lush green natural environment for the visitors.
- ◆ It is envisaged to promote values of sustainability and self reliance by creating hands-on experience for visitors of making hand-made products, which were made during Gandhiji's time in the Ashram.
- ◆ Informative Exhibitions depicting Gandhiji's Life and the Timeless Legacy of the Ashram.
- ◆ Interactive Exhibitions depicting Satyagrahas and freedom struggle initiated from the Sabarmati Ashram by Pujya Bapuji.
- ◆ Interpretation Center, Public Facilities & Amenities such as Food Court & Souvenir Shops for visitors with global accessibility standards.

The memorial will be a hub to foster the deeper understanding and appreciation of Gandhiji's contributions and ideals



Scan for more information

On the occasion of Dandi March day  
A heartfelt salute to Gandhiji and all the Satyagrahis

Mahatma Gandhi Sabarmati Ashram Memorial Trust



Shri Bhupendra Patel

Chief Minister Of Gujarat

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LS secretariat to SC: Moitra's plea against expulsion not sustainable

New Delhi: The Lok Sabha secretariat has told the Supreme Court that Trinamool Congress leader Mahua Moitra's plea challenging her expulsion from the Lower House is "not sustainable" and it does not satisfy the threshold of judicial review of legislative action which is permissible under the scheme of the Constitution.

In a counter affidavit filed in the apex court, the Lok Sabha secretariat said that Article 122 of the Constitution envisages a framework wherein the Parliament is allowed to exercise its internal functions and powers without judicial intervention in the first instance as Parliament is sovereign in respect of its internal proceedings. It referred to Article 105 of the Constitution which deals with powers, privileges etc. of the Houses of Parliament and of the members and committees thereof.

"The present writ petition is not sustainable in light of Article 105 and Article 122 of the Constitution of India," the affidavit said. PTI

## Madhya Pradesh HC to ASI: Survey disputed complex within six weeks

**ANAND MOHAN J**  
Bhopal, March 11

THE MADHYA Pradesh High Court on Monday ordered the Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) to conduct within six weeks a survey of the Bhojshala Temple cum Kamal Maula Mosque complex in Madhya Pradesh's Dhar district, observing that its nature and character needs to be "demystified and freed from the shackles of confusion".

For Hindus, the ASI-protected complex is a temple dedicated to the Goddess Vagdevi (Saraswati), while for Muslims, it is the site of the Kamal Maula Mosque. As per an arrangement in 2003, Hindus perform puja at the complex on Tuesdays while Muslims offer namaz on Fridays.

The petitioners in the case, a group called the Hindu Front for Justice, have argued that Kamal Maula Mosque was constructed during the reign of Alauddin Khilji between the 13th and 14th

centuries by "destroying and dismantling ancient structures of previously constructed Hindu temples".

Ordering a complete scientific investigation, survey, and excavation of the Bhojshala complex, a Bench of Justices Sushrut Arvind Dharmadhikari and Devnarayan Mishra said the "nature and character of the whole monument, admittedly maintained by the Central government, needs to be demystified and freed from the shackles of confusion". It said that because of the "mystery" surrounding the exact "nature, form and character" of the complex, "the ghost of controversies has assumed such mammoth proportions..."

The court ordered the ASI to constitute an expert committee that will "complete scientific investigation, survey and excavation, through adoption of latest methods and techniques" and submit the report within six weeks.

"A detailed scientific investigation (should) be conducted by

adopting carbon dating method for ascertaining the age, life of various structures both above and beneath the ground; (and of) permanent, movable and immovable structures both beneath as well as above the ground, constituting the walls, pillars, floors, surfaces, upper top, (and) sanctum sanctorum of the entire complex," the court said.

The ASI has also been ordered to "unlock and open the locked/sealed rooms, halls of the whole complex and prepare a complete inventory of each and every artefact, idol, deity, or any structure, and subject them to scientific investigation".

Dhar's Shahar Qazi (Muslim community's local religious head) Waqar Sadiq said that the mosque's management would move the Supreme Court against the HC ruling.

Senior advocate Ajay Bagadia, who appeared on behalf of the Muslim side, submitted that a similar issue had been brought in 2003 and that it had

been dismissed by the Jabalpur Bench of the High Court.

However, Assistant Solicitor General Himanshu Joshi, who appeared for the ASI, told the court that in the 2003 case, the ASI "did not take into consideration the previously prepared report in the year 1902-03 under the aegis of the then existing expert body", which "clearly pointed out the pre-existence of Bhojshala Temple of Vagdevi and stated the same to be the important Gurukul and temple of vedic learning and studies."

"This report also stated that the said temple was razed down and dismantled, defaced by the Islamic invaders, who ruled the country later to construct the mosque therein," Joshi told the court, adding, "However, to separate the grain from the chaff, it is the specific submission and stand of the ASI that a fresh survey would clear the entire dust around the whole status of the complex..."

Bagadia argued that the ASI

was "taking a particular stand under the influence and pressure of the Government" and that the court should "pierce through the said obvious reasons of such a partisan stand in favour of the existence of Bhojshala Vagdevi Temple against the interests of Muslims, who have been praying on the situs and offering Namaz for years."

The state government told the court that it supported the plea of the petitioners to "clear the misunderstanding, which has long been the reason for communal strife between both the communities".

Vishnu Jain, who represented the petitioners, argued that a survey is a statutory duty that the ASI "ought to have performed long back at the inception, when the mystery and confusion about the true character of Bhojshala Saraswati Temple cum Maulana Kamal Maula Mosque arose, leading to disputes about its true status."

— WITH PTI INPUTS

## Rajkot BJP corporator accused of allotting houses to her kin, loses civic body post

Rajani alleged.

However, Mukesh Doshi, president of the BJP's Rajkot city unit, told reporters that the party has instructed Devu to step down as the chairperson of RMC's Acts and Rules Committee, pending an inquiry by the RMC and that she has complied. "After the allegations, we have sought and got her resignation and it has been sent to the office of the Rajkot Mayor," Doshi told *The Indian Express*, adding, "The BJP felt that it won't be appropriate for Jadav to hold the office of the chairperson of Acts and Rules Committee when allegations are levelled against her."

The development comes four days after Chief Minister Bhupendra Patel virtually presided over a draw of lots to allot alternate housing facilities to slum-dwellers as part of its efforts to clear slum clusters from the bank of Randarda Lake and make way for a development project.

At an event organised on March 7 and virtually presided over by the Chief Minister, the RMC conducted a draw of lots and allotted 193 flats to residents of Sagarnagar, Manchanagar and Kabir Tekari slums. The slum-dwellers were allotted 1 BHK flats, constructed in the Gokulnagar area of the city, under the Rajiv Awas Yojana (RAY) and adjoining Ambawadi under the Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana (PMAY).

Hours later, RMC received complaints that the 193 beneficiaries included Mansukh Jadav, husband of Devu Jadav, and her other family members. On Saturday, Congress submitted a memorandum to Rajkot Municipal Commissioner Anand Patel alleging that 12 flats were allotted to Devu's family and six to relatives of Vaji Golat, the BJP corporator from RMC Ward No. 5.

Led by Congress Rajkot city unit president Atul Rajani, the Opposition submitted one more memorandum to the Commissioner demanding action against 19 people whom the party accused of getting houses based on forged documents. "The BJP corporators misused their powers to get RMC flats in their family members' names,"

FULL REPORT ON

[www.indianexpress.com](#)

## SC sets aside HC order on higher ACR grade to IAS officer Khemka

**ANANTHAKRISHNANG**  
NEW DELHI, MARCH 11



**IAS officer  
Ashok  
Khemka**

of it possessing the requisite expertise and mandate," the court said, allowing the appeal by the Haryana government against the March 18, 2019, HC order.

In June 2017, the Chief Secretary, who was the reporting authority, had awarded Khemka, a 1991-batch IAS officer, an overall grade of 8.22. Subsequently, the Haryana Health Minister, who was the reviewing authority, upgraded his overall grade to 9.92. However, in December 2017, the Haryana Chief Minister, who was the accepting authority, downgraded his overall grade to 9.

Though he made representations against this, the accepting authority took no decision after which he moved the Central Administrative Tribunal (CAT) "seeking deletion of the remarks and overall grades recorded by the accepting authority; and restoration of the overall grades and remarks awarded by the reviewing authority".

The CAT dismissed his application after which he approached the HC, which set aside the CAT order and restored the overall grades and remarks awarded by the reviewing authority.

The bench also noted that "the accepting authority is yet to take a decision on the underlying representation (of Khemka)" and directed it "to take a decision...within a period of 60 days from the date of pronouncement of the judgment".

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### GRAB & SMASH

Ahead of Holi, artisan Amzed Khan Monday gives finishing touches to Gulal Gotas at a shop in Jaipur. These are thin, breakable lac containers filled with gulal that can be thrown at people.

## 5 killed in UP as bus on way to wedding touches high-tension wire, catches fire

**EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE**  
LUCKNOW, MARCH 11



The bus in flames at Mardha in Ghazipur on Monday. PTI

FIVE PERSONS, including three women and a child, were killed and nine others injured when a private bus en route to a wedding caught fire near Mardha police station in Ghazipur district on Monday afternoon. Police said the bus came in contact with a high-tension wire, resulting in the fire.

The government suspended three officials — Executive Engineer Manish, Sub-Divisional Officer Santosh Chowdhury, and Junior Engineer Pradeep Rai.

Lineman Narendra, who was working with the Electricity Department on a contract basis, has been sacked, a press note issued by the department said.

Most of the victims were relatives of the bride, who is from Ghazipur, while the groom hails from Mau district.

"A total of 14 people were affected, with five fatalities. While four of the injured persons have been discharged from the hospital,

tal after receiving medical aid, the remaining five are still hospitalised," said Additional Director General (Varanasi Zone) Piyush Mordia, who reached the accident spot later in the day.

According to the police, the bus was carrying over 35 passengers

when due to heavy traffic, the bus driver decided to take a shortcut, leading to some of the passengers getting down. "The bus was carrying around 15 people and was passing through a bad stretch of road when it tilted and came in contact with a high-tension wire, and caught fire," said a police officer.

Condoling the loss of lives, Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath announced financial aid of ₹5 lakh to the family of each of the deceased, and ₹50,000 to the seriously injured persons, and directed that free treatment be given to the injured.

Urban Development and Energy Minister AK Sharma met the injured persons. Sources said the minister ordered the suspension of the three officials and the sacking of the lineman.

## ED attaches ₹10-crore demand draft of TMC in probe against ex-MP KD Singh

**EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE**  
NEW DELHI, MARCH 11

THE ENFORCEMENT Directorate has provisionally attached ₹10.29 crore of the Trinamool Congress (TMC) in the form of a demand draft tendered by it during the investigation into an alleged money laundering case involving Alchemist Group and others.

The head of the Alchemist Group, former TMC MP Kanwar Deep Singh, was arrested by the ED in January on charges of money laundering.

"The ED investigation has revealed that an amount of ₹10.29 crore was paid by Alchemist Airways Pvt Ltd to various aviation/helicopter companies for the aviation services

availed by All India Trinamool Congress during the campaigning for 2014 Lok Sabha elections for its star campaigners such as West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee, former Union Railway Minister Mukul Roy, Munmun Sen, MP Nusrat Jahan and others," an ED spokesperson alleged in a statement Monday.

The ED had initiated a probe into the affairs of Alchemist Group in 2018 on the basis of FIRs registered by Kolkata Police against Singh, his son Karandeep Singh, M/S Alchemist Township India Limited, M/S Alchemist Holdings Limited, and various other group companies and their directors for allegedly cheating thousands of customers and investors.

"The ED investigation revealed that M/S Alchemist Group collected funds amounting to ₹10.29 crore for the aviation services

Ensure free, fair elections: CEC briefs observers

New Delhi: Briefing officers who will be deployed as general, police and expenditure observers for the Lok Sabha elections, Chief Election Commissioner Rajiv Kumar on Monday emphasised the importance of maintaining a level-playing field.

The 2,150 officers, who belong to the IAS, IPS, IRS and other Central services, will be deployed as general observers (900), police observers (450), and expenditure observers (800), an Election Commission statement said.

The CEC reminded the observers of "their crucial role" and "directed them to ensure a level-playing field for free, fair, and intimidation-free elections," the statement said. The observers were asked to confine themselves to their constituency. ENS

## Body buried in house, baby's killing: Kerala theft probe unearths a mystery

**SHAJU PHILIP**  
THIRUVANANTHAPURAM,  
MARCH 11

IT SEEMED like a routine arrest in Kerala's Idukki district. Residents of Kattappana town caught two people allegedly stealing from an automobile shop on March 2, roughed them up and handed them over to police.

What followed, though, was a murky trail involving two women locked up in a room, a body buried under a floor — and the killing of a four-day-old infant.

The first sign that something was amiss came when police questioned the two men, Vishnu, 27, and his friend Nitheesh, 31, and found their answers contradictory. They then searched Vishnu's rented house in Kakkatukada village, under the Kanchiyar panchayat area, look-

ing for potentially stolen goods. They instead found two women locked inside a room. They were Vishnu's mother and sister, who appeared mentally unstable. Questioned about the whereabouts of Vishnu's father — N G Vijayan (65) — the women gave unclear answers that contradicted Vishnu's statements. Police then contacted the relatives of the family who told them that they had had no contact with Vijayan since September last year.

Some more digging led to the truth — and more questions. Vijayan's daughter, who was unmarried, had given birth in 2016. Police said some members of the family killed the infant when it was just four days old and buried it in the compound of a house they owned in Kattappana.

Kattappana Deputy SP P V Baby, who is leading the probe,

said: "The newborn was killed in 2016 as it was born to the unmarried daughter of Vijayan. Nitheesh, who is also a priest, developed a relationship with Vijayan's family, which sought his service for certain rituals at home. To kill the newborn, Nitheesh got the support of Vijayan and his son Vishnu."

The family then sold the house and moved into the rented one in Kakkatukada in August last year — around the same time Vijayan had been allegedly murdered. Police on Sunday exhumed his body, buried under the floor of the rented house. They suspect that his son Vishnu as well as Nitheesh had a hand in his death.

Questions remain over the imprisonment of the two women within the house. Kanchiyar panchayat member Rama Manoharan said the local resi-

dents had no idea that women were living there. "Vishnu, who took the house on rent in August, said the rented premises were meant for him and his father. We never saw Vishnu's father there either. He told the neighbours that his mother and sister were living in Pune. Every day, he would leave claiming that he was going to a site where his new house was being constructed and return in the evening," said Manoharan.

Police said they are yet to join the dots behind Vijayan's murder. "We have to verify the statements of the accused persons, Vishnu and Nitheesh. There was a dispute between Nitheesh and Vijayan leading to the murder. We are also looking into whether the dispute stemmed from a financial deal," said Baby.

The search for the remains of the infant is still on.

— paper.indianexpress.com

Marathi. The current script is said to be more convenient for printing than the Modi script. Principal of the Satara school, Balaji Jadhav, who started the initiative in October 2023 along with teacher Sheshaba Narale, said: "While reading about Maratha reservation in the news, I learnt that several historic documents in Marathi are in Modi script and

due it to schoolchildren. "This will not only introduce them to basic reading and writing skills of Modi script, but will also create a strong base for those who might have to read this script in future as students or researchers of history," he said. Jadhav began by counselling parents to obtain their consent to introduce Modi script to children in school. Once that was done, he began teaching — starting with only three to four letters a day. After students could write 10 letters, the lessons would include making simple words. "Children were learning to read simultaneously. In a month, we completed learning all alphabets," said Jadhav, adding that the struggle began at the time of writing compound words. Now, 35 children from Class 2 to 4 are able to read and write simple words and sentences in the Modi script.

— paper.indianexpress.com

## Village school in Maharashtra seeks to revive old 'Modi' script, three-four letters at a time

**PALLAVI SMART**  
MUMBAI, MARCH 11

WITH THE aim of reviving the ancient 'Modi' script of Marathi, Satara's Vijay Nagar Primary Zilla Parishad school in Man taluka has started an initiative of teaching it along with the more commonly used Marathi script.

Found in historic government documents and manuscripts in Marathi, the name of the ancient script is directly derived from the Marathi verb *modane*, which means "to bend or to break". The script involves the bending of letters for convenience in shorthand writing. The cursive-fast-writing variant had been in use until the 1950s. However, with the passage of time, the script was replaced with the more popular Balbodh Devanagari. As he began learning the script himself through video tutorials available online, Jadhav decided to intro-

duce it to schoolchildren. "This will not only introduce them to basic reading and writing skills of Modi script, but will also create a strong base for those who might have to read this script in future as students or researchers of history," he said. Jadhav began by counsellings parents to obtain their consent to introduce Modi script to children in school. Once that was done, he began teaching — starting with only three to four letters a day. After students could write 10 letters, the lessons would include making simple words. "Children were learning to read simultaneously. In a month, we completed learning all alphab



He (Jurgen Klopp) made us a better team, he made me a better manager. I wish he will be back soon, because football needs personalities like him."

PEP GUARDIOLA  
ON LIVERPOOL'S MANAGER



Alex Carey kept his wicket after reviews in his favour at 19 and 37. He eventually scored a match-winning unbeaten 98. AP

## Carey carries Aussies over the line in a close finish vs Kiwis

REUTERS  
CHRISTCHURCH, MARCH 11

ALEX CAREY scored a magnificent unbeaten 98 to drive Australia to victory over New Zealand by three wickets in a tense conclusion to the second test in Christchurch on Monday, sealing a 2-0 series sweep for the visitors. Wicketkeeper Carey combined with Mitchell Marsh in a match-winning partnership of 140 for the sixth wicket and then teamed up with captain Pat Cummins as Australia chased down their 279-run victory target before tea on day four.

"It was pretty tense," said Cummins, who scored 32 not out and hit the winning runs with a four to the point boundary.

"I think the story of this series was in key moments, someone stood up and made themselves a match-winner so yeah, keep finding ways to win. It's a pretty awesome squad." New Zealand, chasing a first home win over their neighbours in 31 years, had put the tourists on the back foot with four wickets in the last 90 minutes of play on day three. After rain delayed the start of day four for an hour, skipper Tim Southee struck with the eighth delivery to dismiss Travis Head for 18 and reduce the tourists to 80-5.

In retrospect, however, Rachin Ravindra fumbling a straightforward catch that would have sent back Marsh for 28 off the previous delivery was perhaps the more significant moment. "I think whenever you've finished a close game you always look back on a number of things," said Southee, who with fellow stalwart Kane Williamson was playing his 100th test.

### Crowd silenced

The defeat left the Black Caps with just one test win in 24 attempts against their closest rivals this century, while Australia will now move above them into second place in the World Test Championships standings behind India. After the early setback, Carey came out to join Marsh and the pair scored at a fair lick, subduing the crowd and gradually putting the pressure on the New Zealand bowlers. Marsh picked up his ninth test half century and Carey his eighth but both had scares along the way.

Carey kept his wicket by virtue of reviews when he was on 19 and 37, while Marsh was saved on 55 when the technology showed the tiniest bit of bat on a Glenn Phillips delivery that hit him on the toe.

**Brief scores:** New Zealand 162 (Hazlewood 5-31, Starc 3-59) and 372 (Ravindra 82, Latham 73, Cummins 4-62) lost to Australia 256 (Labuschagne 90, Henry 7-67) and 281 for 7 (Carey 98\*, Marsh 80, Sears 4-90)

LALITH KALIDAS  
MARCH 11

**178-ALL!** Ninety-one years and eight months since CK Nayudu's men took the field against England at Lord's in 1932, representing India in a Test for the first time, the team led by Rohit Sharma achieved a significant milestone by trouncing the same opponent in Dharamsala.

Having endured numerous crests and troughs and outraging the underdog tag throughout their cricketing history, India's innnings-and-64-run win against the Bazballers was their 178th win in their 579th Test appearance.

While '178' as a number may not necessarily stand out in itself, the triumph pulled India's wins level with the number of losses for the first time in their Test history — the win-loss ratio now stands at 1 after 314 cricketers have spent 2,673 days on the field for the country.

### Laggards to contenders

Registering their first Test victory took India 25 Tests and 20 years. After playing England, Australia and West Indies — for 12 losses and as many draws — India notched up an innnings-and-six-run victory over England in Madras under the leadership of the legendary Vijay Hazare on February 10, 1952.

By their 10th Test win, India had played 94 Tests. The W/L ratio remained lopsided for a fledgling Indian team after 100 Tests — reeling at 0.25 with 10 wins, 40 losses, and 50 draws.

A maiden overseas win came in Dunedin against New Zealand in 1968 as spin stalwarts Erappalli Prasanna and Bishan Singh Bedi also propelled India to their first overseas series win by a 3-1 margin.

However, such instances remained rare for a developing Indian side that showed the ability to punch above their weight only in patches. India remained a middling team, ranked sixth-best in the world in the 20th century. Pakistan and South Africa, who played considerably fewer games than India during this period, recorded more wins. As of December 31, 2000 — India had played 336 Tests for 63 wins with a W/L percentage of 0.58.

India was also not known to be the dominant team at home that they are now. It took 150 Tests (36-35) at home for India's wins to outnumber their losses. The W/L ratio eventually stood at 1.166 (in 179 home Tests) at the end of the 20th century — with Pakistan (2.529), West Indies (2.444) and Australia (2.140) leading the charts in that regard.

For a 25-Test cut-off, India were also the poorest touring team, having won 14 out of



India's innnings-and-64-run win against England was their 178th in their 579th Test appearance. PTI

### PLAYERS WHO WERE PART OF MOST TEST WINS



■ Sachin Tendulkar has been part of the most number of Test wins for India

the 157 Tests played, a pitiful W/L ratio of 0.20.

### Era of domination

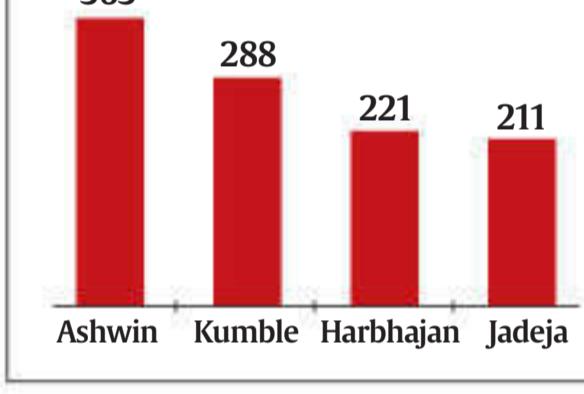
However, the 21st century brought about a remarkable uptick in India's Test fortunes. In these 23 years, India has won 115 of 243 Tests and stands second among all teams, only behind Australia.

The dramatic turnaround has largely

been fuelled by their dominant run in home conditions, where they boast an astounding win percentage of 62.7 in 110 matches, with only Australia ahead of them. India has also won 46 matches in 131 outings overseas since 2001, only bettered by Australia again.

While progress was made in the 2000-09 decade, India surged to the top spot over Australia from the start of 2010, both at home

### MOST WICKETS IN TEST WINS



and away — with 77 wins from 142 matches — amassing a W/L ratio of 1.833.

A pivotal phase in India's resurgence came when MS Dhoni passed the reins of the Test side to Virat Kohli. Between 2014 and 2020, Kohli led India to 40 wins in 68 Tests with a 58.82 win percentage. Since taking over captaincy in 2022, Rohit has also had a positive record, with 10 wins in 16 matches.

### MOST RUNS IN TEST WINS

Team	M	W	Lost	W/L
Aus	866	413	232	1.78
Eng	1071	392	324	1.209
WI	575	183	210	0.871

Team	M	Won	Lost	W/L
Aus	866	413	232	1.78
Eng	1071	392	324	1.209
WI	575	183	210	0.871
Ind	579	178	178	1
SA	464	178	161	1.105
Pak	456	148	142	1.042
NZ	470	115	184	0.625
SL	314	101	121	0.834

Team	M	W	Lost	W/L
Home	289	118	55	1.15
Away	290	60	123	0.48
Total	579	178	228	1

Team	M	W	Lost	W/L
Sachin Tendulkar	363	288	221	1.33
Rahul Dravid	288	221	211	1.33
Virat Kohli	221	211	211	1.00

Team	M	W	Lost	W/L
Home	289	118	55	1.15
Away	290	60	123	0.48

Team	M	W	Lost	W/L
Home	289	118	55	1.15
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Team	M	W	Lost	W/L
Home	289	118	55	1.15
Away	290	60	123	0.48

Team	M	W	Lost	W/L
Home	289	118</		

Deepti's heroics in vain, fielding woes again for UP Warriorz

NAMIT KUMAR  
NEW DELHI, MARCH 11

A FIGHTING partnership, inspired knock from Deepti Sharma, misfields, and high drama may not have been enough to win the game for the UP Warriorz. But it was enough to ensure a fourth successive thriller in the WPL as the Gujarat Giants crawled to an eight-run win in New Delhi on Monday.

A well-paced, fortunate knock from Beth Mooney and a fiery spell from 16-year-old Shabnam Shakil would put Gujarat in an unassailable-looking position before Deepti's unbeaten 60-ball 88 and 109-run partnership with Poonam Khemnar took the game to the penultimate ball.

Deepti came into bat in the second over, after Shabnam cleaned up the team's top order, finishing with figures of 3-11. From there, Deepti kept the scoreboard ticking with occasional boundaries. She kept the team in the running for an unlikely victory in a must-win encounter that they had been fumbling through errors of their own doing. Last week, after a disappointing defeat against Mumbai Indians, Warriorz coach Jon Lewis explained why there have been so many dropped catches and misfields throughout this season – especially in his own team. Inexperience in different fielding positions and playing under the lights were among the reasons.

It would again be the Warriorz's undoing. UP's slow spinners turned the screws on a batting attack that had been well set up by their openers, reducing them to 105/5 in 14 overs from 53/0 in the powerplay. However, the Warriorz would drop two absolute sitters for the wicket of Mooney, Gujarat's only settled batter who was majorly struggling for rhythm.

The first, by Shweta Sehrawat at extra cover, and the second, by Khemnar at deep mid-wicket. Mooney would go on to smash 21 in the final over alone, to drag her side to 152. This was the third time the Warriorz failed to chase a 160-odd total. But the momentum had swung with their sloppiness in the field, and their run chase was demolished early. The defeat has all but ended their campaign with RCB in pole position for the third spot.

**BRIEF SCORES:** GG 152/8 (Wolvaardt 43, Mooney 74; Ecclestone 3/38, Deepti 2/22) beat UPW 144/5 (Deepti 88\*, Poonam 36; Shabnam 3/11) by 8 runs.

# Vinesh takes no chances

Two-time World Championship medallist competes in both 50kg and 53kg classes, with Antim Panghal already securing a quota place in the latter

SHASHANK NAIR  
PATIALA, MARCH 11

"TODAY WAS about keeping my Paris Olympic hopes alive."

For Vinesh Phogat, living up to that statement began early in the morning, merely minutes into the proceedings of the selection trials for the Asian Olympic qualifiers and Asian Championships at NIS Patiala on Monday, on a day of dramatic events.

At the centre of the storm was Vinesh, who started the day by weighing in for the 50kg Olympic weight category and shocked most who expected her to compete in her usual 53kg event. She also insisted that she wanted to be a part of the 53 kg trial, and essentially fight in two different weight classes.

Her proclamation led to all eight draws being made public, except the 50kg and 53kg lists. It led to a three-hour delay during which athletes complained to the organisers that the interruption was providing more recovery time for certain athletes. One of those athletes with the grudge was 50kg wrestler Mamata Rani, who lost to Phogat on Monday and said that the extra time between bouts was giving an advantage to the two-time World Championship bronze medallist.

"The 50kg trials got delayed and instead of starting matches at 10 AM, they started matches at 1PM. It gives an athlete who comes from a higher weight category more time to recover and that recovery means their weight is higher when the bout starts," said Rani.

While there is a case to be made that Phogat would have regained plenty of water weight lost during recovery, the same three hours were available to other wrestlers as well, who likely would have made similar gains.

The Haryana wrestler, on her part though, was clinical in her bouts on Monday. She won her first two contests, one in each weight category, with ease. She continued to win her 50kg matches, while giving a bye in the 53kg fight as well as conceding an eight-second loss by technical superiority in the next fight.

The 53kg category was a round-robin format and all Vinesh needed was one win to ensure that she would be among the top four wrestlers in the class. In the space of a few bouts, she had ensured top spot in the lower weight class as well as manoeuvred a way into



Vinesh Phogat (right) was clinical in her bouts on Monday. Shashank Nair

contending for the quota spot won by Antim Panghal, should that opportunity arise.

Essentially, Vinesh's chances to go to Paris would depend on her performances rather than external factors. The ad hoc committee had told her that she would have the chance to compete for the Paris Olympics Games 53kg quota if she met the criteria through the trials held on Monday. But not knowing which side would be at the helm prompted Phogat to compete in both weight categories.

"I had no clarity about the 53kg quota situation whether there would be trials or not. Usually, the quota is won by the country but they hadn't held trials before. They (ad hoc committee) said that wouldn't be the case this time. I had no other option but to do this because I have to participate in the Olympics," said the 29-year-old after the trials, confirming that the decision to take part in the 50 kg weight class was to ensure that her Paris Olympics prospects remained in her own hands and not of any administration or federation official.

Vinesh's decision to participate in two categories raised its fair share of questions, the chief one being whether the move was breaking any rules. But according to Bhupender Singh Bajwa, the ad-hoc committee chairman, an expert had been consulted and it was confirmed that the rules that stated an athlete could only participate in one weight category were meant for competitions and not trials. "We have made it

clear that the committee will resolve any dispute that arises from the selection trials. She (Vinesh) requested to be a part of two weight classes. Since these were the trials, we accepted. If this was a competition situation, we wouldn't have made the same decision. They wanted the trial to be held over two days but we didn't have an extra day available," said Bajwa when asked whether any rules were broken.

## Longtime coach returns

Longtime coach of Vinesh Phogat, Voller Akos has returned to the camp and has been working with her for the past month. Vinesh said that the move was already paying dividends with her technique getting fine-tuned in just a short period of time.

"He has been back for a month. It's almost like my game has changed again. Sometimes athletes aren't able to push the most crucial parts of our training. Technique-wise, I tried my best to continue learning as best as I could. But a coach teaching you moves on the mat and breaking down footage of opponents' wrestling matches is really important. In one month since he's been here, the graph of my wrestling has changed. You could see the difference in my wrestling today," said Vinesh.

**Women's team for Asian Olympic qualifiers:**  
**50kg:** Vinesh Phogat; **57kg:** Anshu Malik; **62kg:** Mansi Ahlawat; **68kg:** Nisha Dahiya; **76kg:** Reetika; **53 kg:** Antim Panghal has already won India the Paris Olympics quota

# All eyes on Satwik-Chirag as India look to end 23-yr wait

VINAYAK MOHANARANGAN  
NEW DELHI, MARCH 11

THE PRESTIGIOUS All England Open starts in Birmingham on Tuesday and if you are an Indian badminton fan, you could be forgiven for thinking the stars are aligning. It's an event steeped in history, but for India, one where success has been elusive for 23 years – even in the era of Saina Nehwal, PV Sindhu, and a plethora of men's singles stars.

This week, there is a New Hope. In the spirit of Leia's message from the 1977 epic – 'Help me, Obi-Wan Kenobi. You're my only hope' – India's top shuttlers will look to a collection of jedi masters in their corners. Among the coaching group that will help them guide through tricky draws, are two of India's only champions of this famous event.

Prakash Padukone (1980 winner), Pullela Gopichand (2001) – along with Vimal Kumar – will be looking to inspire their wards to succeed at the Super 1000 event, alongside a group of younger generation of Indian coaches too (plus, of course, honorary Indian Mathias Boe.)

Primarily, hopes will be pinned on Satwiksairaj Rankireddy and Chirag Shetty, who enter the tournament as top seeds. The duo have made it to the title clash in all the three tournaments on the World Tour they have featured in 2024, winning the French Open in Paris on Sunday. It is no secret that these major tournaments are their key targets, and All England is near the top of that list.

They have a trickier draw this week. First up, Mohammad Ahsan and Hendra Setiawan, the Indonesians whom they idolise. The 'Daddies' however, aren't the force they once were and the Indians should've too much firepower.

Muhammad Shohibul Fikri / Bagas Maulana, champions in 2022, have troubled the Indians in the last year, winning twice, and will push them in the second round. Another tough match awaits should they reach quarterfinals. Aaron Chia and Soh Wooi Yik are no longer their nemesis but still a top pair to contend with.

In the form they are in, however, SatChi will go all in and will be India's best bet.

PV Sindhu impressed in Paris, pushing the Olympic champion to the distance in her first big test at the French Open. Should she overcome Yvonne Li in the first round, the biggest test in women's singles awaits: An Se



Satwiksairaj Rankireddy (right) and Chirag Shetty are the in-form pair, winning the French Open doubles title on Sunday. File

Young, Sindhu's record is 0-6 against the Korean superstar. Se Young has shown signs of physical vulnerability – by her high standards – this season, so it could be a chance for Sindhu to break the duck.

In men's singles, HS Prannoy has gone off the boil a bit with three first-round exits in four events this year. But he has the best draw on paper, the India No 1 will start off against Chinese Taipei's Su Li Yang. Christo Popov or Lee Cheuk Yiu are beaten opponents in the second round despite their strong start to the year.

Also in Prannoy's half is Viktor Axelsen, who has a quiet start to the year and will be raring to go. The world No 1 will face Srikanth Kidambi in the opening round, the Indian who has lost to him the last seven times they have met.

Lakshya Sen received a shot in the arm for Paris qualification hopes after his semi-final run in Paris. He was slated to face Ng Tze Yong in the first round, but the Malaysian – a direct competitor for a top-16 spot that a few are chasing – is not fit. So the Indian faces a reserve to start. A likely second round will be tricky against Anders Antonsen.

Priyanshu Rajawat faces Indonesia's Chico Aura Dwi Wardoyo. Gayatri Gopichand and Treesa Jolly enjoy All England more than any other event, having reached semifinals in the last two years with a few upsets to their name. They'd need one right off the bat against Apriyani Rahayu and Siti Fadia Silva Ramadhanti but are placed in a nightmare quarter. Tanisha Crasta and Ashwini Ponnapa will start against Hong Kong's Yeung Nga Ting and Yeung Pui Lam in the opening round, in a more winnable fixture.

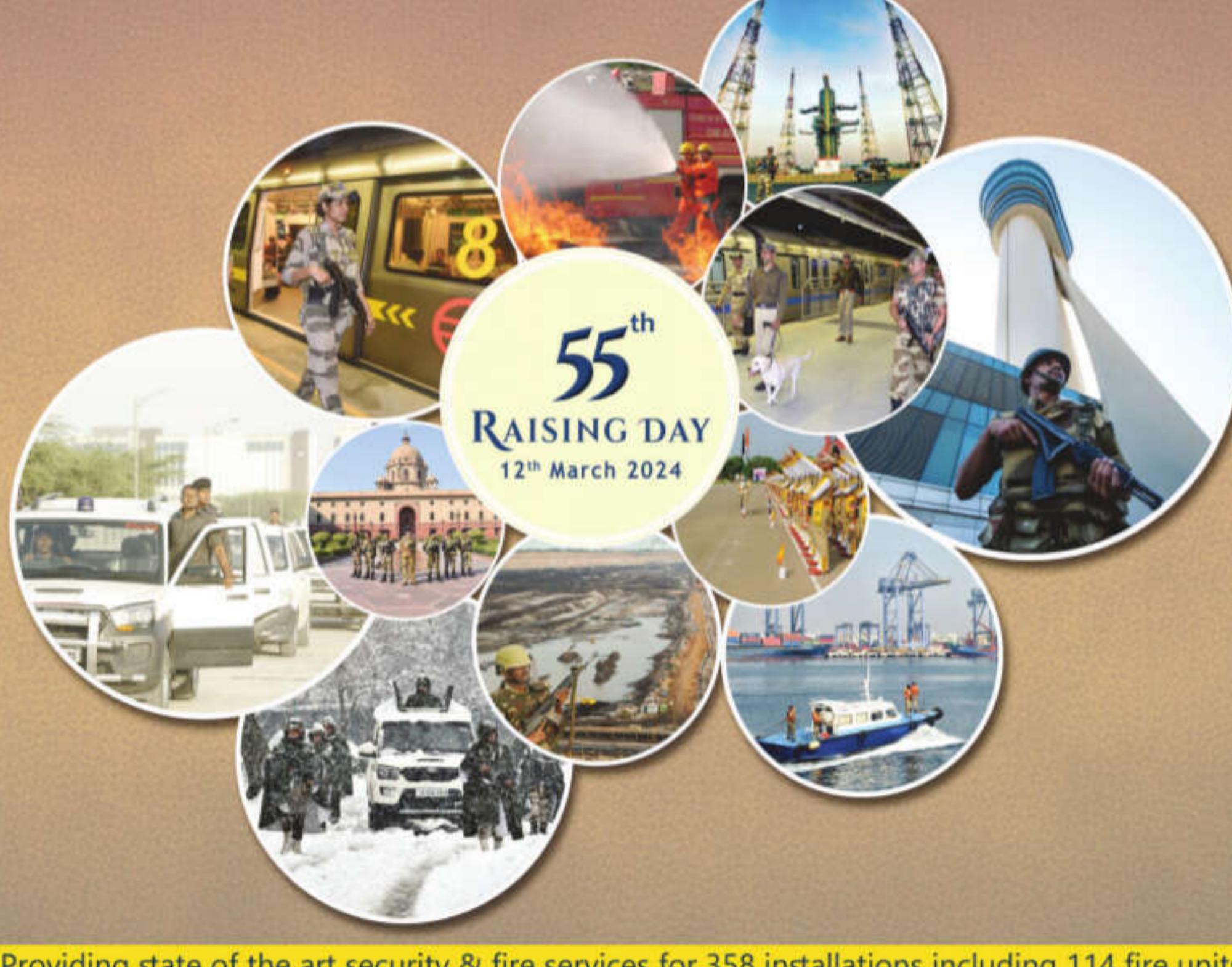
## राष्ट्र प्रथम, सदैव प्रथम

### CENTRAL INDUSTRIAL SECURITY FORCE



"सभी सीआईएसएफ कर्मियों को बल के स्थापना दिवस पर शुभकामनाएं। महत्वपूर्ण एवं रणनीतिक बुनियादी ढांचे सहित प्रमुख स्थानों पर कड़ी मेहनत और पेशेवर दृष्टिकोण के साथ चौबीसों घंटे सुरक्षा प्रदान करने में सीआईएसएफ की अहम भूमिका है।"

- नरेन्द्र मोदी



- Providing state of the art security & fire services for 358 installations including 114 fire units.
- Consultancy services to 228 establishments.
- A vigilant force stands alert, ensuring the secure passage of 10 lakh air travelers through 68 airports and safeguarding over 71 lakh Delhi Metro commuters daily with unwavering dedication and precision.

# CAA: issues in the legal challenge to the citizenship law

**AUPURVA VISHWANATH**

NEW DELHI, MARCH 11

MORE THAN four years after Parliament passed The Citizenship (Amendment) Act, 2019, the Ministry of Home Affairs on Monday notified the Rules to implement the law.

The CAA, which had led to widespread protests in the winter of 2019-20, is also under challenge before the Supreme Court. Why is the CAA contentious, and what will change after it is implemented?

## The citizenship law

In December 2019, Parliament passed an amendment to The Citizenship Act, 1955, to include a provision for grant of citizenship to migrants belonging to the Hindu, Sikh, Buddhist, Jain, Parsi, or Christian communities who entered India before December 31, 2014 from Pakistan, Afghanistan, or Bangladesh.

In essence, the amendment relaxed the eligibility criteria for certain classes of migrants (on religious lines) from three neighbouring Muslim-majority countries. Certain categories of areas, including tribal areas in Assam,

Meghalaya, Mizoram, and Tripura, and areas protected by the "Inner Line" system, were exempted from the purview of the CAA.

The colonial concept of Inner Line separates the tribal-majority hills of the Northeast from the plains areas. To enter and stay in these areas, an Inner Line Permit (ILP) is needed.

The law was notified on January 10, 2020 amidst protests around the country, particularly in Assam, but could not be implemented in the absence of the Rules.

On May 28, 2021, the central government issued an order under Section 16 of The Citizenship Act, 1955, giving district collectors in 13 districts with high migrant populations the power to accept citizenship applications from groups identified in the 2019 amendment.

The 39-page Rules notified in the e-gazette on Monday prescribe the modalities and procedure for eligible individuals to apply for Indian citizenship. The Rules specify what documents and paperwork are required for putting forward and considering a claim of citizenship.

## The legal challenge

The amendment was challenged before

the Supreme Court in 2020 by the Indian Union Muslim League (IUML). Since then, more than 200 petitions have been filed and tagged with the IUML's challenge. These include petitions from politicians Asaduddin Owaisi, Jairam Ramesh, Ramesh Chennithala, and Mahua Moitra, and political organisations such as the Assam Pradesh Congress Committee, Asoom Gana Parishad (AGP), National People's Party (Assam), Muslim Students' Federation (Assam), and Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam (DMK).

In October 2022, a Bench comprising then Chief Justice of India U U Lalit and Justices Ravinder Bhat and Hima Kohli passed an order stating that final hearings would begin in December 2022 after CJ Lalit's retirement. However, the case has not been heard since.

According to the Supreme Court website, the case is currently listed before a Bench headed by Justice Pankaj Mital.

## The right to equality

The challenge to the CAA rests on the ground that it violates Article 14 of the

Constitution, which says that "the State shall not deny to any person equality before the law or the equal protection of the laws within the territory of India". The petitioners argue that using religion as a qualifier or a filter violates the fundamental right to equality.

The petitioners have argued that the National Register of Citizens (NRC) in Assam to identify illegal immigrants, along with the CAA, will result in the targeting of Muslims.

The court will have to look into whether the special treatment given to the so-called "persecuted minorities" from the three Muslim-majority neighbouring countries only is a reasonable classification under Article 14 for granting citizenship, and whether the state is discriminating against Muslims by excluding them.

The Supreme Court has held that the law has to clear two legal hoops to pass the equality test when it is challenged on the grounds of Article 14. First, any differentiation between groups of persons must be founded on an "intelligible differentia", and second, "that differentia must have a rational nexus to the ob-

ject sought to be achieved by the Act".

The government has said that Muslims have been excluded from the group of "persecuted" minorities because Pakistan, Afghanistan, and Bangladesh are Islamic countries where Muslims are in majority. However, it will be tested whether these three countries were picked essentially to keep Muslims out – this is because groups like Tamil Hindus in Sri Lanka, the Rohingya in Myanmar, or minority Muslim sects like Ahmadis and Hazaras are also persecuted minorities in these countries.

The SC can strike down a classification if it is found to be arbitrary. The court recently struck down the electoral bonds scheme on the ground that it was "manifestly arbitrary" – that is, "irrational, capricious or without an adequate determining principle".

There is also the larger issue of whether making religion a ground for eligibility for citizenship violates secularism, which is a basic feature of the Constitution.

## The CAA and Assam

Apart from the equality argument, part of the challenge to the CAA also rests on the fate

of Section 6A of The Citizenship Act, 1955, which too is under challenge before the SC.

In December 2023, a five-judge Constitution Bench led by Chief Justice of India D Y Chandrachud reserved its verdict on the validity of Section 6A, which was introduced in the Citizenship Act after the signing of the Assam Accord between the Centre and the leaders of the Assam movement in August 1985.

The Accord determines who is a foreigner in the state of Assam. Clause 5 of the Accord states that January 1, 1966 shall serve as the base cut-off date for the detection and deletion of "foreigners", but there are provisions for the regularisation of those who arrived in the state after that date, and upto March 24, 1971. This was also the basis of the final NRC published in 2019.

Section 6A of the Act allows foreign migrants who came to Assam after January 1, 1966 but before March 25, 1971, to seek Indian citizenship. If the effective cut-off date of March 24, 1971 is upheld by the SC as the cut-off date for entry into the state, the CAA could fall foul of the Assam Accord, since it creates a different timeline.

## EXPLAINED CULTURE

# WHY ARE THE ACADEMY AWARDS CALLED OSCARS? MULTIPLE ANSWERS

**RISHIKA SINGH**  
NEW DELHI, MARCH 11

THE 96TH Academy Awards ceremony was held on Monday. Why are the awards called the "Oscars"?

The official website of the Academy Awards says: "Officially named the Academy Award of Merit, the statuette is better known by its nickname, Oscar, the origins of which aren't clear."

## Need for a new name

The first Academy Awards ceremony was held in 1927. Bruce Davis, the Academy's Executive Director for 20 years, wrote in his book *The Academy and the Award* that a need for a short name for the award was felt by the mid-1930s.

The trade magazine Variety suggested calling it "The Iron Man" briefly, but the name did not find much acceptance. "The Gold Man" also had a short run.

## The possible originators

Three people are often credited for the name – actor Bette Davis, librarian and later Academy Executive Director Margaret Herrick, and Hollywood gossip columnist Sidney Skolsky.

Bette Davis won the Best Actress award in 1936. She wrote in her 1962 book *The Lonely Life*: "I stared at the little gold-plated man in the palm of my hand. He was a Hollywood male, and, of course, epicene; but in a kind of madness his backview was the spit of my husband's." She was then married to Harmon Oscar Nelson.

However, Bruce Davis's book records that the name was in use even before Bette Davis won her Oscar.

According to Davis's book, when Margaret Herrick was formally introduced to a copy of the statuette, "she regarded it a moment", and then observed, "He reminds me of my Uncle Oscar". A newspaper columnist present there wrote



Emma Stone holds her Oscar on March 10. Reuters

that "Employees have affectionately dubbed their famous statuette 'Oscar.'"

The Hollywood columnist Sidney Skolsky, meanwhile, was apparently frustrated with the official term used to refer to the trophy – "statuette".

"I'd show them, acting so high and mighty about their prize, I'd give it... a name that would erase their phony dignity... I remembered the vaudeville shows I'd seen. The comedians having fun with the orchestra leader in the pit would say, 'Will you have a cigar, Oscar?'... During the next year of columns, whenever referring to the Academy Award, I used the word 'Oscar'. In a few years, Oscar was the accepted name," Davis quoted Skolsky as writing his memoir, *Don't Get Me Wrong – I Love Hollywood*.

Davis offered a candidate of his own – Academy employee Eleanor Lilleberg, who never took credit for the name. Lilleberg was born in Norway in 1871, a year before Oscar II was crowned king. Davis believed this could have been an inspiration.

**LONGER VERSION**

indianexpress.com/explained

India has tested an Agni-V missile equipped with MIRV technology, joining a small group of countries with this capability. Apart from inflicting crippling damage, these missiles can dodge defence systems.

**AMITABH SINHA**  
NEW DELHI, MARCH 11

INDIA ON Monday announced that it had successfully tested a new Agni-V missile capable of carrying multiple warheads and striking multiple targets. The most important thing about this new missile is its integration with what is known as the MIRV technology.

MIRV (Multiple Independently Targetable Re-Entry Vehicle) technology is the capability that allows multiple warheads to be loaded on a single missile delivery system and programmed to hit different targets, thus greatly enhancing the missile's destructive potential.

The development of MIRV capability marks a significant upgrade for India's missile systems, and expands its nuclear options.

## MIRV

Traditional missiles carry a single warhead, or weapon, that goes and hits the intended target. MIRV-equipped missiles can accommodate multiple warheads, each of which can be programmed to strike a separate target. They can all be made to hit the same location too, one after the other, thus ensuring complete annihilation of the target.

While simultaneous strikes at multiple locations can have a debilitating impact on the enemy, the use of nuclear warheads can bring the opposition to its knees.

The technology is not new. It was developed in the 1960s and first deployed in the 1970s by the United States and the then Soviet Union. But it's a complicated technology. The warheads have to be miniaturised, be equipped with independent guidance and navigation controls, and released sequentially from the delivery system.

Over the years, France, the United Kingdom, and eventually China have developed this technology. Pakistan too has claimed to have tested an MIRV-equipped missile called Ababeel, first in 2017 and then in 2023.

The number of warheads that a missile can carry depends on its design, weight, size, range and other parameters. The one that India tested on Monday can carry three to four warheads, V K Saraswat, the former head of Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO), said. There are other systems that can carry as many as 15 war-

heads, or even more. However, an MIRV-equipped missile has never been used so far in any conflict situation. Arms control advocates argue that MIRV technology incentivises the urge to strike first, thus increasing the risk from nuclear weapons.

## Advantages

Apart from the obvious advantage of inflicting multiple damages with a single strike, MIRV is a sought-after military technology for several other reasons. One of them is its ability to penetrate missile defence systems.

A missile defence system is a network of technologies aimed at detecting, tracking, intercepting and destroying an incoming missile. It involves the deployment of sophisticated radars, communication systems, and interceptor missiles. It's considered a good safeguard against traditional missiles,

and several countries are in the process of developing or strengthening their missile defence systems.

MIRV-equipped missiles, however, can render the system useless. Multiple warheads, each with an independent trajectory, can make the job of tracking and intercepting extremely complicated. In addition, MIRV-equipped missiles can be made to carry decoy warheads to confuse the defence system. It is thus very likely that one or more warheads penetrate the shield created by the defence system, and inflict damage.

Another key strategic benefit, especially for countries like India which has a no-first-use policy for nuclear weapons, is the capability to cause crippling damage in a response strike. The response strike could be disproportionate, and can thus serve as a deterrence to the enemy.

Monday's test was carried out from DRDO Bhawan in New Delhi. PTI

## Disadvantages

MIRV-equipped missiles, however, can render the system useless. Multiple warheads, each with an independent trajectory, can make the job of tracking and intercepting extremely complicated. In addition,

MIRV-equipped missiles can be made to carry decoy warheads to confuse the defence system. It is thus very likely that one or more warheads penetrate the shield created by the defence system, and inflict damage.

The development was significant enough for Prime Minister Narendra Modi to himself tell the nation about it, much like he had done five years earlier when DRDO had successfully carried out an anti-satellite test, an equally notable technological achievement that put India among a handful of nations with the capability to strike at an enemy's space-based assets, such as satellites.

The development was significant enough for Prime Minister Narendra Modi to himself tell the nation about it, much like he had done five years earlier when DRDO had successfully carried out an anti-satellite test, an equally notable technological achievement that put India among a handful of nations with the capability to strike at an enemy's space-based assets, such as satellites.

Monday's test was carried out from DRDO Bhawan in New Delhi, off the coast of Odisha, which hosts India's integrated missile test range. Various telemetry and radar stations tracked and monitored multiple re-entry vehicles. The mission accomplished the designed parameters," DRDO said in a statement.

## Centre's pact with Tripura govt and TIPRA Motha: its terms, significance

**DEBRAJ DEB**  
AGARTALA, MARCH 11

THE CENTRE this month signed a tripartite agreement with the Tripura government and the state's main opposition party, the TIPRA Motha, for a time-bound "honorable resolution" of the long-pending demands of the state's tribal population, including economic, political, land, linguistic, and cultural rights.

The agreement, which was signed on March 2, put an end to the indefinite protest fast begun by TIPRA Motha founder and Tripura royal scion Pradyot Kishore Manikya Debbarma on February 27. It also facilitated the TIPRA Motha's joining the BJP in the state government, with two of its members sworn in as ministers, ahead of Lok Sabha elections.

## Demands of the TIPRA Motha

The demands include a "Greater

Tipraland" – a separate state for Tripura's tribals – including those living outside the Tripura Tribal Areas Autonomous District Council (TTAAC) area as well. The party has sought more powers for the TTAAC, including direct funding from the Centre, its own police force, and share of revenue from gas exploration in the state. It also wants the Roman script to be declared as the official script for the indigenous Kokborok language.

Pradyot Debbarma has described the agreement with the Centre as "60 per cent of the battle being won".

The tripartite accord comes a year after Home Minister Amit Shah met Pradyot at Agartala. The BJP's coordinator for the Northeast, Sambit Patra, who joined the discussion, later told the media that Shah had asked for an interlocutor to be appointed, who would discuss the demands of the Motha, involving other stakeholders such as tribal leaders from various parties, tribal

community leaders, etc.

## What the accord says

"Under the pact, it was agreed to amicably resolve all issues of indigenous people of Tripura relating to history, land and political rights, economic development, identity, culture and language. Along with this, it was agreed to constitute a joint working group/committee to work out and implement the mutually agreed points on all the above mentioned issues in a time-bound manner to ensure an honourable solution," the Centre said in a statement.

"In order to maintain a conducive atmosphere for implementation of the pact, all stakeholders shall refrain from resorting to any form of protest/agitation, starting from the day of signing of the agreement," it added.

## Honouring history'

Union Home Minister Amit Shah has termed the signing of the accord "historic".

large numbers before the 1971 Bangladesh war, and of concerns of illegal immigration from Bangladesh.

## Pradyot's position

As the Motha joined the National Democratic Alliance (NDA), two of its legislators – Animesh Debbarma, who served as Leader of the Opposition for the past one year, and lawyer-turned-politician Krishnadeep Debbarma – were sworn in as ministers in the Manik Saha government by Governor Indrasena Reddy Nallu on March 7.

The decision attracted some criticism for the Motha, with Opposition parties accusing it of having "clandestine links" with the BJP for three years.

Pradyot, however, said the two ministers from his party wouldn't remain silent if tribals' rights were not taken care of, or if the government "committed atrocities" – like when anti-CAA protesters were shot in Madhabbari in 2019.

Pradyot also said that pressure would be

kept on the government from inside (Assembly), outside (party), through civil societies, and "by sending our people to the Centre", apparently a reference to the East Tripura ST Lok Sabha constituency, for which BJP is yet to announce a candidate.

## Opposition's criticism

**GOVERNMENT OF ASSAM  
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF ENGINEER, PWD (ROADS),  
ASSAM, CHANDMARI, GUWAHATI-03**

No. CE/Maint/MMPPNA/01/2023-24/1

**PRESS NOTICE INVITING TENDER**

The Chief Engineer (Roads), PWRD, Assam, Chandmari, Guwahati-3 invites Rebids on behalf of Governor of Assam for 5 (Five) nos. of packages for Construction of Roads Projects including Routine Maintenance for 4 (four) years under Mukhya Mantri Paki Path Nirman Achan (MMPPNA) for the year 2023-24 in Kamrup(Rural) District of Assam amounting to Rs.10.4003 Crores (approx.) including GST etc. from approved & eligible Contractors registered with PWRD, Assam.

Details may be seen from 12-03-2024 to 18-03-2024 at website [www.assamtenders.gov.in](http://www.assamtenders.gov.in). Amendment /Addendum to the SBD, if any, and further notifications shall appear in this website and also at the office of the undersigned during office hours. The contractor/bidder must be registered with the Electronic Tendering System (ETS) of PWRD, Assam website [www.assamtenders.gov.in](http://www.assamtenders.gov.in).

Formal work order will be issued after receipt of Administrative Approval from competent authority.

Note:- N.I.T Value is inclusive of GST (12%), Labour cess (1%) etc.

Chief Engineer, PWD (Roads)  
Assam, Chandmari Guwahati-3



**OFFICE OF THE GUWAHATI MUNICIPAL CORPORATION  
:: Ganeshguri :: Guwahati- 06**

No:GMC/SBM/04/2024/57

**Notice Inviting Bids**

Bids are invited from eligible legal entities for - "Comprehensive Operation and Maintenance of Public Toilets of Six Divisions of Guwahati Municipal Corporation Area".

**Package wise details are-**

SI. No.	Brief Description of Non- Consultancy Services	Period of Contracting	Lump- Sum Bid Security (Rs.)	Non-refundable Fee
1	Comprehensive Operation and Maintenance of Public Toilets of Guwahati Municipal Corporation - Division 1.	1 Years	50000/- (To be paid through <a href="http://assamtenders.gov.in">assamtenders.gov.in</a> only)	1000/- (To be paid through <a href="http://assamtenders.gov.in">assamtenders.gov.in</a> only)
2	Comprehensive Operation and Maintenance of Public Toilets of Guwahati Municipal Corporation - Division 2.	1 Years	50000/- (To be paid through <a href="http://assamtenders.gov.in">assamtenders.gov.in</a> only)	1000/- (To be paid through <a href="http://assamtenders.gov.in">assamtenders.gov.in</a> only)
3	Comprehensive Operation and Maintenance of Public Toilets of Guwahati Municipal Corporation - Division 3.	1 Years	50000/- (To be paid through <a href="http://assamtenders.gov.in">assamtenders.gov.in</a> only)	1000/- (To be paid through <a href="http://assamtenders.gov.in">assamtenders.gov.in</a> only)
4	Comprehensive Operation and Maintenance of Public Toilets of Guwahati Municipal Corporation - Division 4.	1 Years	50000/- (To be paid through <a href="http://assamtenders.gov.in">assamtenders.gov.in</a> only)	1000/- (To be paid through <a href="http://assamtenders.gov.in">assamtenders.gov.in</a> only)
5	Comprehensive Operation and Maintenance of Public Toilets of Guwahati Municipal Corporation - Division 5.	1 Years	50000/- (To be paid through <a href="http://assamtenders.gov.in">assamtenders.gov.in</a> only)	1000/- (To be paid through <a href="http://assamtenders.gov.in">assamtenders.gov.in</a> only)
6	Comprehensive Operation and Maintenance of Public Toilets of Guwahati Municipal Corporation - Division 6.	1 Years	50000/- (To be paid through <a href="http://assamtenders.gov.in">assamtenders.gov.in</a> only)	1000/- (To be paid through <a href="http://assamtenders.gov.in">assamtenders.gov.in</a> only)

**Note- Division wise list of Toilets (Tentative) may be referred as detailed in Appendix A of the bidding document.**

The detailed documents can be downloaded from [www.assamtenders.gov.in](http://www.assamtenders.gov.in) from 13.03.2024 (11:00 Hrs).

A pre-submission meeting is scheduled on 20:03:2024 at 14:00 Hrs. Address for the meeting is -O/o the Commissioner, Guwahati Municipal Corporation, Ganeshguri, Guwahati-6.

The last date of submission is 08:04:2024 .....upto 14:00 Hrs.

Bids will be opened online on the e-procurement portal on 08.04.2024 at 14:30 Hrs.

The non-refundable processing fee and Bid Security as detailed above is required to be deposited online through [www.assamtenders.gov.in](http://www.assamtenders.gov.in) only.

The TIA reserves the right to accept or reject any Bid, and to cancel/annul the process and reject all bids at any times prior to contract award.

Sd/-  
Commissioner  
Guwahati Municipal Corporation  
Guwahati



**OFFICE OF THE GUWAHATI MUNICIPAL CORPORATION  
:: Ganeshguri :: Guwahati- 06**

No:GMC/SBM/04/2024/58

**Notice Inviting Bids**

Bids are invited from eligible legal entities for - "Door to Door Collection and Transportation of Municipal Wastes in Six Divisions of Guwahati Municipal Corporation Area". Package wise details are-

SI. No.	Name of Work	Bid Security (Rs.)	Non-refundable Processing Fee (Rs.)	Duration of contract (extendable)
1	Door to Door Collection and Transportation of Municipal Waste in Division-I of GMC.	5.00 Lac	2000	1 Years
2	Door to Door Collection and Transportation of Municipal Waste in Division-II of GMC.	5.00 Lac	2000	1 Years
3	Door to Door Collection and Transportation of Municipal Waste in Division-III of GMC.	5.00 Lac	2000	1 Years
4	Door to Door Collection and Transportation of Municipal Waste in Division-IV of GMC.	5.00 Lac	2000	1 Years
5	Door to Door Collection and Transportation of Municipal Waste in Division-V of GMC.	5.00 Lac	2000	1 Years
6	Door to Door Collection and Transportation of Municipal Waste in Division-VI of GMC.	5.00 Lac	2000	1 Years

The detailed documents can be downloaded from [www.assamtenders.gov.in](http://www.assamtenders.gov.in) from 13.03.2024 (11:00 Hrs).

A pre-submission meeting is scheduled on 20.03.2024. at 15:00 Hrs. Address for the meeting is-O/o the Commissioner, Guwahati Municipal Corporation, Ganeshguri, Guwahati-6.

The last date of submission is .08.04.2024. ....upto 14.00 Hrs.

Bids will be opened online on the e-procurement portal on 08.04.2024. at 14:30 Hrs.

The non-refundable processing fee and Bid Security as detailed above is required to be deposited online through [www.assamtenders.gov.in](http://www.assamtenders.gov.in) only.

Sd/-  
Commissioner  
Guwahati Municipal Corporation  
Guwahati

JANASANYOG/CF/6476/23/12-Mar-24

**2010 Bareilly riot case: Cleric skips court summons, non-bailable warrant issued**

**EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE  
LUCKNOW, MARCH 11**

A COURT in Bareilly on Monday issued a non-bailable warrant (NBW) against Barevi sect cleric Maulana Tauqueer Raza Khan in the 2010 Bareilly riot case after he did not appear before the court despite summons issued to him. Tauqueer Raza is also the head of the Bareilly-based political outfit, Ittehad-e-Millat Council (IMC).

On Monday, the Bareilly police submitted a report saying that the summons to Tauqueer Raza could not be served as he was not present at his residence, which was found locked. The report submitted in the court was forwarded by inspector Ashutosh Rahuvanshi, in-charge of Premnagar police station in Bareilly.

"The court also directed Circle Officer (Bareilly) Sandeep Singh to ensure that the NBW is served," said government counsel, Bareilly, Digamber Patel. The court fixed March 13 as the next date for hearing. On Monday, the court also directed Senior Superintendent of Police, Bareilly, to conduct departmental proceedings and take punitive action against in-charge of Prem Nagar police station for not following procedure while serving summons to Tauqueer Raza.

Based on the facial features of the suspect which has been captured without a mask in some CCTV footage, investigators have veered towards the theory that the suspect is a missing link from an ISIS module that emerged in the Thirthahalli area of Shivamogga in 2016.

**RAMESHWARAM CAFE CASE: ROLE OF SHIVAMOGGA ISIS MODULE SUSPECTED**

# Investigators closer to identifying suspect in cafe blast case: Minister



CCTV grab of suspect in Rameshwaram Cafe case

The theory on the identity of the suspect can be established only after the arrest of the suspect or through scientific evidence, police sources said.

"The identity of the suspect has been established in some ways. We have to confirm it and we have to catch the suspect... The NIA and CCB (Central Crime Branch) are working together. We are getting closer," state Home Minister G Paramehewa said Monday.

Based on the facial features of the suspect which has been captured without a mask in some CCTV footage, investigators have veered towards the theory that the suspect is a missing link from an ISIS module that emerged in the Thirthahalli area of Shivamogga in 2016.

Between 2022 and 2023, the NIA, which began probing the Shivamogga module arrested 10

members in three separate terrorism cases registered in Karnataka while the main persons behind the module – Taha and Shazeb – remained elusive.

Investigators are now of the view that one of the missing men from the Shivamogga ISIS module is the suspect in the March 1 blast. The two missing men from the Shivamogga module were earlier identified by the police and NIA as the handlers of Mohammed Shariq, 24, who was caught after an IED he was carrying on November 19, 2022, accidentally exploded in an auto-rickshaw in Mangaluru.

Investigations into the March 1 blast revealed a close similarity in terms of the IED that was used in the cafe to the one that blasted in Mangaluru. The detonation system in both were identical.

The two missing men from the Shivamogga module are also accused in a case filed in Bengaluru in 2020 for the creation of an ISIS-inspired terrorist gang with members from Kerala, Tamil Nadu, and Karnataka called the Al Hind ISIS module, which was recruiting youths in the southern states of India in 2019.

The alleged IS-linked recruitment and radicalisation plot emerged in December 2019 after the Tamil Nadu police began a hunt for an IS-linked suspect Khaja Moideen from Tamil Nadu

who disappeared despite being undertrial for two terrorism cases in TN – the murder of a right-wing Hindu leader and recruitment of youths on behalf of the Islamic State.

Taha and Shazeb are also accused of being behind three Shivamogga youths – Shariq, Maaz Munee and Syed Yasin – who were arrested in 2021 as students for writing provocative graffiti on the wall of a police station in Mangaluru.

Taha and Shazeb carry an NIA reward of Rs 5 lakh each on their heads for the older cases against them. The NIA has now announced a Rs 10 lakh reward for the arrest of the suspect in The Rameshwaram Cafe blast case.

The probe is yet to ascertain how the suspect arrived in south-east Bengaluru on the morning of March 1 but is believed to have entered from Tamil Nadu which borders the southeast region of Bengaluru. CCTV cameras picked up the trail of the suspect in the Silk Board area in southeast Bengaluru on March 1 – over an hour before he reached the cafe at 11:40 am to plant the IED.

## 5 killed in MP as truck rams into wedding procession

**Raisen:** Five people were killed and 11 injured after a truck allegedly overtaking from the wrong side ploughed into a wedding procession in the Sultanpur area of Madhya Pradesh's Raisen district on Monday, a senior official said.

The procession had arrived from Anchalkheda in Hoshangabad district. The accident occurred at 10 pm near the Khamaria village, Raisen Collector Arvind Dubey told PTI.

The victims include labourers carrying lights as part of the procession, said Rajat Sarathe, the Sultanpur police station in-charge. The truck driver fled the spot after the accident, he added.

"Five people were killed and 11 injured. Of the injured, the condition of five is serious. They have been shifted to Bhopal," the collector said. PTI

## 3 LS poll names out, BSP set to cut into SP, Congress votes

**LALMANI VERMA**  
NEW DELHI, MARCH 11

THE BAUHUMAN Samaj Party (BSP), which is contesting alone in the forthcoming Lok Sabha polls, has over the last couple of days floated the names of candidates for three western Uttar Pradesh seats – Saharanpur, Amroha and Moradabad.

Crucially, all the three candidates belong to the Muslim community and might cut into the minority votes that the Samajwadi Party (SP)-Congress combine is hoping to gain.

At party events held in the three constituencies in the past week, the BSP told workers that Irfan Saifi was being fielded from Moradabad, while Mujahid Hussain and Majid Ali would contest from Amroha and Saharanpur respectively.

Saifi, who is an OBC Muslim, is currently the chairman of the Thakurdwara Nagar Palika in Moradabad district.

In 2019, the BSP had not contested from Moradabad, as the seat had gone to the SP in their alliance. The SP's ST Hasan had a huge victory, winning by 97,878 votes.

This time, it is the SP and Congress which

have an alliance, and Moradabad has been retained by the SP as part of the arrangement. The SP is yet to declare a candidate from the seat.

Hussain, who has been fielded from Amroha, is seen as belonging to a higher caste among Muslims and is a businessman, while his wife Bage Jahan is chairperson of the Dasna nagar panchayat of the Ghaziabad district. As part of its arrangement with the SP, the Congress is to contest Amroha.

The BSP had won the seat in 2019 by 63,248 votes, but its MP Danish Ali was suspended in 2023 for "anti-party activities". Ali's recent appearance at Congress leader Rahul Gandhi's Bharat Jodo Nyay Yatra has fuelled speculation that he will be fielded by Congress from the seat.

In Saharanpur, Ali, also an OBC Muslim and former zilla parishad chairperson, replaces Haji Fazlur Rehman, a BSP MP who was elected in 2019. Rehman had won the seat last time by 22,417 votes.

All the three seats have a substantial Muslim and Dalit population and the SP-BSP alliance in 2019 benefited from their partnership. This time, the SP-Congress combine hopes that Muslims will rally behind them, but with the BSP also fielding strong Muslim candidates, there could be a split in votes.

between Worli and Marine Drive (9.5km) to under 10-minutes, which usually takes around 45 minutes during peak hours. Motorists travelling towards Nariman Point can enter the coastal road from one of the interchanges at Worli and drive southwards via the undersea-tunnel and exit near the Islam Gymkhana at Marine Drive.

While the project started in December 2018 with the ground-breaking ceremony, it took a little over 5 years to complete the project. The second wing of the project – the north bound arm from Marine Drive to Worli is likely to get completed over the next three months by May 2024.

At present, out of the 10.58 kilo-

metres, 9.5 km has opened and the remaining along with the north-bound lane would open for traffic from May, 2024. It also includes launching the girders of a "bow-string" bridge that will connect the coastal road with Bandra-Worli Sea Link (BWSL), leading to seamless transport from Marine Drive to the Bandra end of the new road.



## Classifieds

## PERSONAL

I, Ramesh Sahani S/o Arun Sahani R/o Lions Club , Rabindra Nagar, Uttar Bagdora, District Darjeeling, West Bengal-734014, have change my father name in NIOS record from Arjun Sahani to Arun Sahani for all purposes.

0040719178-1

It is for general information that I, Arvind Aggarwal, S/o -Ram Kumar Aggarwal R/o-H.No.5/16 Subhash Gali,Vishwas Nagar,Shahdara,Delhi-110032,declare that name of mine has been wrongly written as Arvind Kumar in my S.B.I/Bank A/C No.10245326598, Anaj Mandi Shahdara.The Actual name of mine is Arvind Aggarwal. which may be amended accordingly.

0040719119-8

It is for general information that I, Anshul Singh,S/o Sh.Ranjeet Singh,R/o Sanpuri Gali,Village-Duhai, Ghaziabad,U.P-201001, declare that name of my mother has been wrongly written as Manju Singh in my 10th & 12th-education documents.The actual name of my mother is Sheetal Devi which may be amended accordingly.

0040719157-1

It is for general information I, GEETIKA SHERA DAUGHTER OF RAMESHWAR DAYAL, EX WIFE OF NARESH KUMAR GUPTA S/O SH. OM PRAKASH GUPTA, R/O H-163, THIRD FLOOR, H-BLOCK, VIKAS PURI, DELHI-110018 declare that I got divorce from my Ex. Husband SH. NARESH KUMAR GUPTA vide court decree HMA No. 532/2020, dated 04/03/2020. Further I re-married to RAJEEV KUMAR BANGA son of LATE SH. SHIV RAM BANGA on 30.01.2022 vide marriage certificate no 9073000186041 dated 19/01/2024. Henceforth I have change the name of mine and my minor son namely KIYAN GUPTA age 11 years and we shall hereafter be known as LAKSHITTA BANGA and KIYAN BANGA respectively and also name of the father of my minor son may be known as RAJEEV KUMAR BANGA in future for all purposes.

0070893480-1

I, hitherto known as Poonam Sachdeva alias Neelam,D/o JAGAT RAM TREHAN,W/o Vinod Sachdeva,R/o-8/20,Kalkaji-Extn., New Delhi-110019,have changed my name and shall hereafter be known as Poonam Sachdeva.

0040719170-7

I, Wajahat Ali Khan,s/o Muzaaffar Ali Khan,R/o C-115,Jigar-Colony,Near-Tikona Park,Moradabad-244001,Uttar Pradesh,have changed my name to Wajahat Ali Khan,for all,future purposes.

0040719167-3

I, Vinod Kumar S/o Om Parkash Sharma R/o-598,Third-Floor Parmanand Colony Delhi-110009,have changed my name to Vinod Kumar Sharma.

0040719167-1

I, VINTEE SHUKLA,W/O VIDYAPATI SHUKLA, ADD-1928,2ND-FLOOR,FLAT-N0.7-KATWARA SARAI-VILLAGE,SOUTH WEST DELHI-110016,changed my name to VINTEE MISHRA,for all,future purposes.

0040719170-5

I, Pooja/Pooja Kaushik w/o Sandeep Khurana, age 29 years,R/o 62, SF, Block-3, Charmwood Village, Faridabad-121009, Haryana, has changed my name to Pooja Kaushik Khurana, vide Affidavit no-IN-LDL56457909721700W, before Notary Public of Delhi dated 11/03/2024.

0040719084-1

I, VIDHI RASTAGI,D/O SHRI SURENDRA KUMAR RASTOGI,R/O-307-A, RAM-NAGAR,NEAR-LAXMI-NARAYAN MANDIR,KRISHNA NAGAR, DELHI-110051, HAVE CHANGED MY NAME VIDHI RASTOGI TO VIDHI RUSTAGI,FOR FUTURE,ALL PURPOSES. BOTH NAMES ARE SAME-PERSON.

0040719107-2

I, Swati Singh,D/o Balbir Singh Jain,W/o Navdeep Singh,R/o-H.No.94,Lohari-Road, Charkhi Dadri City,Charkhi Dadri, (Haryana)-127306,have changed my name to Swati.

0040719167-2

I, Shivam S/o-Dharmender Yadav, R/O House,no-D-375,Nawada Housing Complex Gali-no.9,Jain road Uttam-Nagar,New Delhi -110059,have changed my name to Shivam Yadav,Permanently.

0040719119-5

I, Sarwan Kumar,S/o-Late Mata Ram,R/o-F-501,JJ Colony,Budh Nagar,Inder Puri,Delhi-110012,have changed my name,From Sarwan Kumar To Sarwan Kumar,for all purposes.

0040719170-3

I, Rhea Rebecca Rogers,D/o Sanjay Rogers R/o-H.1093/76, Ground-Floor,Back-Side Ward No.-1,St.John's Church-Compound Mehrauli,New Delhi-110030,have changed my name to Rhea Rogers.

0040719119-2

I, Ravinder Garg,S/o-Manohar Lal Garg R/O,House.no -L-9 First-floor,Kalkaji,New Delhi-110019,have changed my name to Ravinder Kumar Garg, Permanently.

0040719119-7

I,SUNIL KUMAR KANOJIA,S/o Late,HARI PRASHAD KANOJIA,R/o PLOT,No.622,SF-1,SARTHAK ENCLAVE,SECTOR-1,VAISHALI, GHAZIABAD,U.P-20100,have changed my.name from SUNIL KUMAR to SUNIL KUMAR KANOJIA and in my,Passport my,Father's name HARI PRASHAD wrongly-written instead-of correct name HARI PRASHAD KANOJIA, for all future purposes.

0040719174-7

I,Rajesh Kumar,S/o Ram Chander,R/o H.No.440/4, New Railway Road, Jacobpura, Gurgaon(Haryana), have changed my name to Rajesh Jain.

0040719107-3

I,Subrata Kumar Agarwal, R/o-4/2, Friends,Tower Sector-9,Rohini Delhi-110085, have changed my name to Subrata Kumar Agarwal.

0040719107-4

I,REKHA RASTOGI,W/O SHRI SURENDRA KUMAR RASTOGI,R/o-307-A, RAM NAGAR, NEAR LAXMI-NARAYAN MANDIR, KRISHNA NAGAR, DELHI-110051, HAVE CHANGED MY NAME REKHA RASTOGI TO REKHA RASTOGI,FOR FUTURE,ALL PURPOSES, BOTH NAMES ARE SAME-PERSON.

0040719107-9

I,RANJEET SINGH,S/o JAGDISH, ADD-WZ-29, A-STREET,NUMBER-13,SANT GARH TILAK NAGAR P.O:TIKAL-NAGAR DIST:WEST-DELHI-110018,changed my name to Ranjeet,for all,future purposes.

0040719167-5

I,Pooja Singh Sarin W/o Varun Sarin R/o B-166, Sector-36, Noida(U.P) have changed my name to Pooja Singh for all purposes.

0040719089-1

I,PARAMALI AHIRWAR,Son of Shri,RAJARAM AHIRWAR,employed as DRIVER in the TAMARIND GLOBAL,residing at S-81/183,I.G,CAMP,SUNLIGHT COLONY No.2,ASHRAM,NEW DELHI-110014,have changed the name of my minor daughter POONAM AHIRWAR,aged-17 and she shall hereafter be known as POONAM It is certified that I have complied with other legal requirements in this connection.

0040719174-6

I,Neha D/o Krishan Pal,R/o Pocket G-8,Plot No.27,Ground floor,Sector-11,Rohini,Delhi-110085,have changed my name to Neha Sehrawat,for all,future purposes.

0040719107-1

I,Narendra Kumar Jethi,S/o Ram Lal Jethi R/o 43-44, UGF,Pocket-8 Sector-22 Rohini Delhi-86,have changed my name to Narinder Jethi.

0040719119-4

I,Saroj Arora W/o Krishan Lal R/o-CD-878 South Pitampura Delhi-110034,have changed my name to Saroj Rani

0040719167-8

I,Mohammad Abdur Rashid Mazhari, S/o-Abdur Rahman, Address-ward.no-16,Rahman medical hall Subhash pally-road kishanganj,Bihar-855108,changed my name to Mohammad Abdur Rashid.

0040719107-6

I,Nishithi D/o Sunil Dua R/o-5,Popular Apartment,Sector-13,Rohini North West Delhi-110009,changed my name to Nishithi Dua.

0040719170-6

I,Vinod Kumar S/o Om Parkash Sharma R/o-598,Third-Floor Parmanand Colony Delhi-110009,have changed my name to Vinod Kumar Sharma.

0040719167-1

I, hitherto known as Poonam Sachdeva alias Neelam,D/o JAGAT RAM TREHAN,W/o Vinod Sachdeva,R/o-8/20,Kalkaji-Extn., New Delhi-110019,have changed my name and shall hereafter be known as Poonam Sachdeva.

0040719170-7

I, Neha D/o Krishan Pal,R/o Pocket G-8,Plot No.27,Ground floor,Sector-11,Rohini,Delhi-110085,have changed my name to Neha Sehrawat,for all,future purposes.

0040719107-1

I,Mohammad Abdur Rashid Mazhari, S/o-Abdur Rahman, Address-ward.no-16,Rahman medical hall Subhash pally-road kishanganj,Bihar-855108,changed my name to Mohammad Abdur Rashid.

0040719107-6

I,Mishthi D/o Sunil Dua R/o-5,Popular Apartment,Sector-13,Rohini North West Delhi-110009,changed my name to Mishthi Dua.

0040719167-8

I,Vinod Kumar S/o Om Parkash Sharma R/o-598,Third-Floor Parmanand Colony Delhi-110009,have changed my name to Vinod Kumar Sharma.

0040719167-9

I, hitherto known as Poonam Sachdeva alias Neelam,D/o JAGAT RAM TREHAN,W/o Vinod Sachdeva,R/o-8/20,Kalkaji-Extn., New Delhi-110019,have changed my name and shall hereafter be known as Poonam Sachdeva.

0040719170-7

I, AMOH FURKAN,S/O HAJI ZIYAU HUSSAIN R/O-25B WEST LAXMI-MARKET KRISHNA NAGAR,DELHI-110015, HAVE CHANGED MY NAME TO AMOH FURQAN FOR ALL PURPOSES.

0040719167-9

I,MAHINDER SINGH,S/O SANTA SINGH,R/O-22 GF DAYALBAGH SURAJKUND FARIDABAD,HARYANA-121009,HAVE CHANGED MY NAME TO MOHINDER SINGH,FOR ALL PURPOSES.

0040719107-5

I,MADHURI,W/O CHANDRA SHEKHAR,R/o G-350-GC3,GALAXY NORTH AVENUE,GAUR CITY-1,GREATER NOIDA WEST, Gautambudh-Nagar(UP)-201307,have changed my name to MADHURI BHASKAR.

0040719174-2

I,Krishan Lal Arora S/o Jamana Dass R/o-CD-878 South Pitampura Delhi-110034,have changed my name to Krishan Lal

0040719167-7

I,KAPIL MITTAL,S/o Devki Nandan Mittal R/o-F5/2,First-Floor,Street,No.4/West Chander-Nagar,Krishna-Nagar,Delhi-110051have changed my name to DIVYANI MITTAL

0040719107-1

I,Swati Singh,D/o Balbir Singh Jain,W/o Navdeep Singh,R/o-H.No.94,Lohari-Road, Charkhi Dadri City,Charkhi Dadri, (Haryana)-127306,have changed my name to Swati.

0040719167-2

I,Jarnail Singh Batt S/O GURMUKH SINGH R/O HNO.92,KAMALKE, MOGA,PUNJAB-142042.HAVE CHANGED MY NAME TO JARNAIL SINGH.

0040719170-1

I,ISLAM KHAN,S/O IMAMUDDIN KHAN,R/o N-31,SECTOR-12,NOIDA,GAUTAMBUDH NAGAR,UTTAR PRADESH-201301,changed my minor DAUGHTER's name INAYAT KHAN to INAYAT KHAN.

0040719107-7

I,VIDHI RASTAGI,D/O SHRI SURENDRA KUMAR RASTOGI,R/o-307-A, RAM-NAGAR,NEAR-LAXMI-NARAYAN MANDIR,KRISHNA NAGAR, DELHI-110051, HAVE CHANGED MY NAME VIDHI RASTOGI TO VIDHI RUSTAGI,FOR FUTURE,ALL PURPOSES. BOTH NAMES ARE SAME-PERSON.

0040719107-0

I,Swati Singh,D/o Balbir Singh Jain,W/o Navdeep Singh,R/o-H.No.94,Lohari-Road, Charkhi Dadri City,Charkhi Dadri, (Haryana)-127306,have changed my name to Swati.

0040719119-5

I,Shivam S/o-Dharmender Yadav, R/O House,no-D-375,Nawada Housing Complex Gali-no.9,Jain road Uttam-Nagar,New Delhi -110059,have changed my name to Shivam Yadav,Permanently.

0040719119-1

I,Rhea Rebecca Rogers,D/o Sanjay Rogers R/o-H.1093/76, Ground-Floor,Back-Side Ward No.-1,St.John's Church-Compound Mehrauli,New Delhi-110030,have changed my name to Rhea Rogers.

0040719119-2

I,Ravinder Garg,S/o-Manohar Lal Garg R/O,House.no -L-9 First-floor,Kalkaji,New Delhi-110019,have changed my name to Ravinder Kumar Garg, Permanently.

0040719119-7

I,Deepak S/o Om Prakash,R/o RZE-107,Nihal Vihar,Nangloi, Delhi-110041,have changed my name to Deepak Verma

0040719107-8

I,Dasrath Sharma,S/o Ibarat R/o-A-23, Ram Nagar,Prem Nagar-3,Kirari Suleman Nagar Delhi-110086,have changed my name to Dasrath Sharma.

0040719170-4

I,CHANDRA SHEKHAR BHASKAR,S/o RAM KISHAN,R/o G-350-GC3,GALAXY NORTH AVENUE,GAUR CITY-1,GREATER NOIDA WEST, Gautambudh-Nagar(UP)-201307,have changed my name to CHANDRA SHEKHAR.

0040719170-4

I,Aditya Yadav S/o K M Yadav R/o-1E,Block-1,Type-6, Hudco Place,Andrewsganj, Delhi-49 have changed my name to Aditya.

0070893463-1

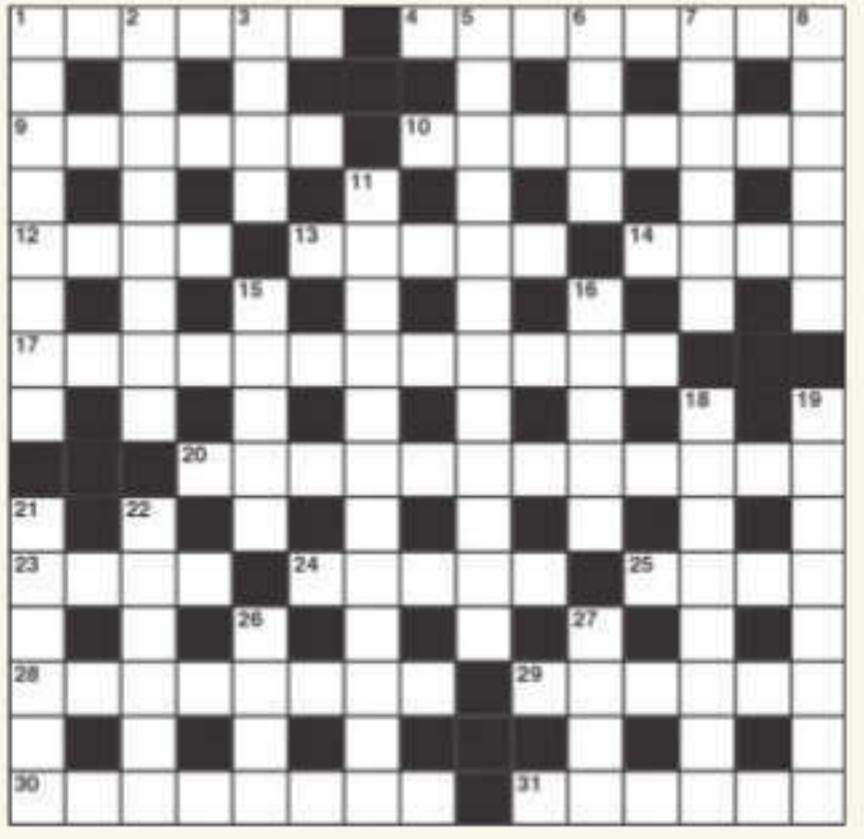
I,ABHISHEK S/O GOPAL DASS, R/O 11233, (GF) GALI NO.3, IDGA ROAD, MOTIA KHAN, NEW DELHI-110055,has changed my name to ABHISHEK NAGARWALL for all purposes.

0040719094-1

I,Sikandar Desai S/o Ram Niwas Desai R/o 5/0 B-23, Chandrasekhar Azad Nagar, Bhilwara, Rajasthan-311001, have finally changed my name to Sumit Kumar Desai

0070893429-1

## CROSSWORD 5310



## ACROSS

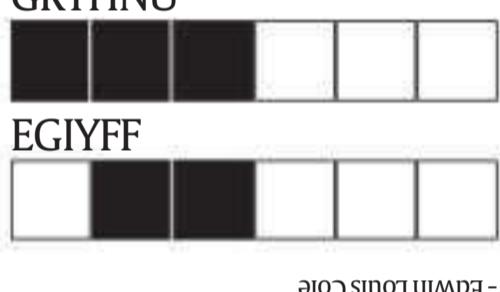
- 1 Failing of trendy company (6)  
4 Charming Arab about to swindle the French? (8)  
9 Notes clever point made (6)  
10 Surely and firmly the lady ties a knot (8)  
12 Worker hurt back in part of industrial Germany (4)  
13 They come to light (5)  
14 She has a hole in a sandal perhaps (4)  
17 Close call from a stepped-on piglet? (6,6)  
20 Capital cover for hunters (12)  
23 Part of the church in a pseudo Gothic style (4)  
24 Pick up something exclusive (5)  
25 Thought I'd half of each (4)  
28 A number claim it is changeable like the weather (8)  
29 V sign shows one is not in agreement (6)  
30 Cry and sing about housework (8)  
31 It introduces a wrong denial (4-2) get the job done (4)

Solutions Crossword 5309 Across: 1 Cells, 4 Suppose, 8 End, 9 Strapping, 10 Tackles, 11 Erred, 13 Spoons, 15 Assail, 18 Costs, 19 Sapping, 21 Pointless, 23 Bye, 24 Impress, 25 Dies Down; 1 Creates, 2 Ludericus, 3 Sisal, 4 Stress, 5 Peppers, 6 Obi, 7 Edged, 12 Read in bed, 14 Rosette, 16 Luggers, 17 Aspens, 18 Capri, 20 Pests, 22 Imp

## JUMBLED WORDS

Given below are four jumbled words. Solve the jumbles to make proper words and move them to the respective squares below. Select the letters in the shaded squares and jumble them to get the answer for the given quip.

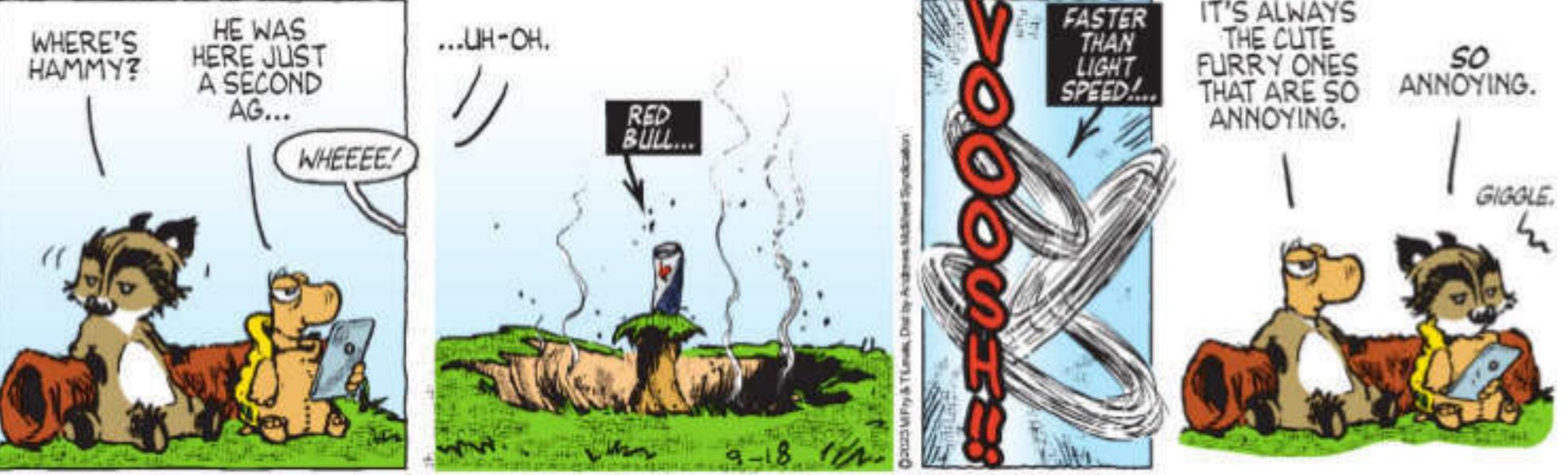
Confidentiality is a virtue of the loyal, as loyalty is the virtue of \_\_\_\_\_ - Edwin Louis Cole (12)



- Loyalty Confidentiality is a virtue of the loyal, as loyalty is the virtue of \_\_\_\_\_ - Edwin Louis Cole (12)

SOLUTION: AGES, STOOL, HINGER, EFGY

## OVER THE HEDGE by Michael Fry &amp; T Lewis



## CALVIN &amp; HOBBS by Bill Watterson



## MARVIN by Tom Armstrong



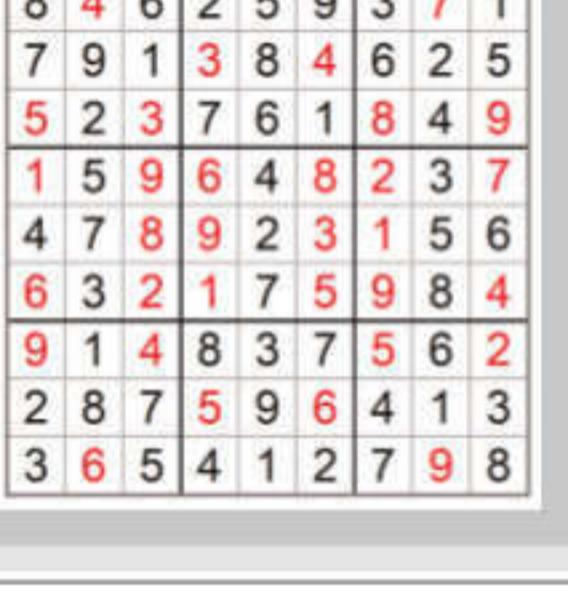
## SUDOKU 5499

Difficulty Level 3s  
Instructions  
To solve a Sudoku puzzle, every digit from 1 to 9 must appear in each of the nine vertical columns, in each of the nine horizontal rows and in each of the nine boxes.

Difficulty Level  
1s = Very easy; 2s = Easy;  
3s = Medium; 4s = Hard;  
5s = Very Hard;  
6s = Genius



## SOLUTION SUDOKU 5498



## GOVERNMENT OF ASSAM

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF ENGINEER (ROADS), PUBLIC WORKS ROADS  
DEPARTMENT, ASSAM, GUWAHATI-03

No. CE/DEV/TB/1368/2023-24/01

## PRESS NOTICE INVITING TENDER

The Chief Engineer (Roads), PWRD, Assam, Chandmari, Guwahati-3 invites Bids on behalf of Governor of Assam for 1 (One) nos. of Package for Construction of Road and Bridge projects under SOPD-G for the year 2023-24 in Kamrup (M) District of Assam amounting to Rs. 1.63 Crores (approx.) including GST etc. from approved & eligible Contractors registered with PWRD, Assam. Details may be seen from 12-03-2024 at website www.assamtenders.gov.in. Amendment /Addendum to the SBD, if any, and further notifications shall appear in this website and also at the office of the undersigned during office hours. The contractor/bidder must be registered with the Electronic Tendering System (ETS) of PWRD, Assam website www.assamtenders.gov.in.

Note: - N.I.T Value is inclusive of GST (12%), Labour cess (1%) etc.

Janasanyog/CF/6447/23/12-Mar-24

Chief Engineer (Roads), PWRD  
Assam, Chandmari, Guwahati-3

हस्तशिल्प नियंत्रित संवर्धन परिषद  
Export Promotion Council for Handicrafts  
CIN: U20299DL1986NPL023253

Regd. Office: EPCH House, Plot No. 1, Pocket 6 & 7, LSC, Sector - C, Vasant Kunj, New Delhi - 110070.

Tel.: +91-11-26135256 Fax: 011-2613518 / 19, Email id: mails@epch.com, Website: www.epch.in

NOTICE OF THE ADJOURNED 37<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING, INFORMATION ON E-VOTING

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT THE ADJOURNED 37<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING(AGM) OF THE COMPANY IS SCHEDULED ON THURSDAY, MARCH 28<sup>TH</sup>, 2024 AT 10:00A.M AT GOVT. SERVANTS CO-OPERATIVE HOUSE BUILDING SOCIETY LTD., KALYAN KENDRA, 9, PASCHIMI MARG, VASANT VIHAR, NEW DELHI - 110057, TO TRANACT THE BUSINESS AS STATED IN THE NOTICE OF MEETING SENT TO THE MEMBERS INDIVIDUALLY.

The Agenda and Notice of Adjourned AGM has been dispatched to all the members whose email IDs are registered with the Company. Physical copies of the same have been sent to members at their registered address in the permitted mode who's email ID's are not registered with EPCH.

The same are also available on the EPCH website www.epch.in. Additionally, the notice of Adjourned AGM is also available on the website of National Securities Depositories Limited ('NSDL') at https://evoting.nsdl.com.

In terms of Section 108 of Companies Act, 2013, read with rules thereto, as amended, the company is pleased to provide Remote E-Voting facility to the members to cast their vote by electronic means (Remote E-voting) on all the resolutions set forth in the notice. The company has engaged services of NSDL for providing e-voting facility. Kindly refer the notice of the AGM regarding instructions on e-voting and same is also available EPCH website www.epch.in.

The remote e-voting commences on Saturday, March 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2024 at 10:00 a.m. (IST) and will end on Wednesday, March 27<sup>th</sup>, 2024 at 5:00 p.m. (IST). The remote e-voting shall not be allowed beyond the said date and time.

\* The cut-off date for determining the eligibility to vote by electronic means or at the AGM is Friday, June 30, 2023.

\* A person whose name is recorded in the register of members as on the cut-off date, i.e. Friday, June 30 2023, shall be entitled to avail the facility of remote e-voting or voting-in-person available at the meeting, as the case may be.

\* The company shall also provide facility for voting through polling paper / e-voting at the venue of the meeting and Members attending the meeting who have not already casted their vote by remote e-voting shall be able to exercise their right to vote at the Adjourned AGM from 10:00 AM to 12:00 Noon on 28<sup>th</sup> March, 2024.

\* The members who have casted their vote by remote e-voting prior to the meeting may participate in the meeting but shall not be entitled to cast their vote again.

\* In case of any queries, you may refer to the 'Frequently Asked Questions' (FAQs) and 'e-voting user manual' available in downloads section of NSDL's e-voting website https://evoting.nsdl.com. In case of any grievances, you may contact NSDL at Toll free number 1800-222-990; email: evoting@nsdl.co.in who will also address grievances connected with the voting by electronic means.

\* The results of voting would be declared as stipulated under the relevant rules and will also be posted on the EPCH website and website of NSDL.

By Order of the Committee of Administration

Rajesh Rawat  
Secretary-EPCH

New Delhi

Date: March 12, 2024

## NORTHERN RAILWAY

## Invitation of Tender through

## E-Tendering (E-Procurement Systems)

N.I.T. No. 231576  
Name of work and its location

Tender for "Provision of Dismantling/Stripping of Old corroded pipe, leakage testing and fitment of single ferrule air brake pipeline as per scope of work."

Approx. Cost of work Rs.22,71,500/- Including GST (Rs. Twenty Two Lacs Seventy One Thousand Five Hundred Only)

Earnest Money Rs. 45,400/-

Completion period of Work 12 months of date of execution of work

Cost of Tender document on cash/by post NIL

Date and time for submission of tender and opening of tender Upto 15:00 hrs on 03.04.2024 Opening of Tender at 15:00 hrs.

Website particulars notice board location complete details of tender can be seen Above tender available on IREPS site i.e. www.ireps.gov.in

No. 231576 Dated: 11.03.2024 769/2024

Serving Customers With A Smile

## DAY TODAY

BY PETER VIDAL

## ARIES (Mar 21 - Apr 20)

I am not saying it has been easy for you over the past few weeks. But then neither has everything been as difficult as you may imagine. To an extent, you have been responsible for certain failures and it's therefore necessary that you understand your real motives.

## TAURUS (Apr 21 - May 21)

Please pay attention to family developments, even if you have other plans. Sometime over the next forty-eight hours somebody close, more likely a partner than a child, is going to be unexpectedly difficult and you will have to know how to respond for the best.

## GEMINI (May 22 - June 21)

Today's planetary movements suggest a lively, restless atmosphere. Don't forget one facet of your intellectual make-up that other people often overlook, namely your creative ability to string fascinating ideas together in a way that lesser mortals often miss.

## CANCER (June 22 - July 23)

Although you're still concerned by the state of an old friendship, financial affairs look increasingly important. Your plans will be dominated by what you can afford. Even intimate personal relationships will be affected by your degree of debt or solvency.

## LEO (July 24 - Aug 23)

Buoyant planetary influences set you up for the rest of the week. You'll be in control at home, so now is the time to put a few people straight about vital domestic issues. Partners are full of bright ideas, but that doesn't mean that they're right. You can compromise over the details, but not the principle.

## VIRGO (Aug 24 - Sep 23)

The week's stars are generally auspicious but there is a real possibility at the moment of saying more than is necessary. Look carefully at what each situation warrants and try to respond as you think fit. The best thing you can do now is give someone else the benefit of the doubt.

## PISCES (Feb 20 - Mar 20)

Mars, planet of energy, is enabling you to shine by increasing your general energy level.

Take a colourful approach to work and mundane tasks and you'll be surprised how enjoyable your routine can be. What you also have to do, though, is decide whether you're prepared to make a close relationship work.

## LIBRA (Sep 24 - Oct 23)

There can be few Librarians who are not overdriven or have time to make up for, after last week's intriguing lunar alignments. Do not be concerned if the position is still unsatisfactory. At least difficult circumstances will ease within the next fortnight.

## SCORPIO (Oct 24 - Nov 23)

Mercury, planet of communication, is maintaining its challenging position all week. There are times when you feel as if you're being pushed against your will. Therefore, if at all possible, please refrain from signing on the dotted line or otherwise finalising arrangements until next week.

## SAGITTARIUS (Nov 24 - Dec 22)

If you're feeling withdrawn, the cause may lie in another routine commitment. By this I mean that professional stresses and strains may make you rather fed up and inclined to change direction - and go your own way.

## CAPRICORN (Dec 23 - Jan 20)

Recent events will have almost certainly clarified your professional intentions. However, it may not be until the week is out that you have the chance to make the desired moves. Family spending will prove beneficial, and you may manage to make a small profit.

## AQUARIUS (Jan 21 - Feb 19)

You may have lost the battle but you will go on to win the war. To extend the military metaphor, you must now re-group your forces and wait until the moment returns when it is safe to strike. There is, by the way, a danger that your relationships will be affected when your fantasies overwhelm the facts.

## PICTURES (Feb 20 - Mar 20)

Mars, planet of energy, is enabling you to shine by increasing your general energy level. Take a colourful approach to work and mundane tasks and you'll be surprised how enjoyable your routine can be. What you also have to do, though, is decide whether you're prepared to make a close relationship work.

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## SALUTE THE SOLDIER



Constable  
Mangseru Lal

ITBP salutes its braveheart Constable Mangseru Lal of 24th Battalion, who made supreme sacrifice in the line of duty on this day in Jammu & Kashmir in 1994.

**Resident of :** Plot No.: 110, Gali No.- 06, Vishthpit Kshetra Pashulok, Bairaj, PO- IDPL, Rishikesh (UKD)  
**INDO-TIBETAN BORDER POLICE(ITBP)**

### कार्यपालक अभियन्ता का कार्यालय, ग्रामीण कार्य विभाग, कार्य प्रमण्डल, चतरा शृंदि-पत्र

ग्रामीण कार्य विभाग, कार्य प्रमण्डल, चतरा के अन्तर्गत मुख्यमंत्री ग्राम सङ्करण योजनानांतरं हैं-अंतिमालालेन निविदा संख्या-17/2023-24/RWD/CHARTA, दिनांक-29.02.2024 (Identification No.-RWD/CHARTA/40/2023-24), जिसकी प्राप्ति की अंतिम तिथि 13.03.2024 है तथा P.R. No. 321162 (Rural Work Department) 23-24-D है, उसमें विभागीय निदेशानुसार निम्नलिखित संबोधन किया जाता है:-

निविदा की शही संख्या-

2 वेसाइट में निविदा प्रकाशन की तिथि:- 15.03.2024

3 ई-निविदा प्राप्ति की अंतिम तिथि एवं समय :- 26.03.2024 पूर्वाह्न 5.00 बजे तक।

4 ई-निविदा खोलने की तिथि एवं समय :- 28.03.2024 पूर्वाह्न 3.30 बजे।

5 अन्य शही यथावत् रहेंगी।

विस्तृत जानकारी के लिए वेबसाइट [www.jharkhandtenders.gov.in](http://www.jharkhandtenders.gov.in) में देखा जा सकता है।

कार्यपालक अभियन्ता,  
ग्रामीण कार्य विभाग, कार्य प्रमण्डल, चतरा।

PR.NO.322073 Rural Work Department(23-24):D

### PROCLAMATION REQUIRING THE APPEARANCE OF ACCUSED PERSON

See Section 82 Cr.P.C.

Whereas complaint has been made before me that accused Mohd. Wasim, S/o: Noor Alam Khan, R/o: 983, Gali No. 10, Main Road Nehru Nagar, Anand Parbat, Delhi, Permanent Address: Village Jeetkai, Post Office Pachpadi, Police Station Dhaka, District East Champaran, Bihar has committed (or is suspected to have committed) the offence in case FIR No. 109/17, U/s 33 Delhi Ex. Act, P.S.: Anand Parbat, Delhi and it has been returned to a warrant of arrest thereupon issued that the said accused Mohd. Wasim cannot be found and whereas it has been shown to my satisfaction that the said accused Mohd. Wasim has absconded (or is concealing himself to avoid the service of the said warrant). Proclamation is hereby made that the said accused Mohd. Wasim is accused of the offence in case FIR No. 109/17, U/s 33 Delhi Ex. Act, P.S.: Anand Parbat, Delhi is required to appear before this court to answer the said complaint on or before 12.04.2024.

By Order

Sh. Shubham Devadya  
Metropolitan Magistrate-05 (West)  
Room No. 336-A, 3rd Floor,  
Tis Hazari Court, New Delhi

### PROCLAMATION REQUIRING THE APPEARANCE OF A PERSON ACCUSED

(See Section 82 Cr. PC)

Whereas complaint has been made before me that accused person namely Sameer Jain (Director of Bigjos Infra estate Pvt Ltd R/o D-12 South Extension Part-2 Delhi has committed (or is suspected to have committed) the offence in case FIR No. 584/2023 U/s 406/420/34 IPC at PS: Maurya Enclave, New Delhi and it has been returned to a warrant of arrest thereupon issued that the said accused Sameer Jain can not be found and whereas it has been shown to my satisfaction that the said accused Sameer Jain has absconded (or is concealing himself to avoid the service of the said warrant). Proclamation is hereby made that the said accused Sameer Jain of FIR No. 584/2023 U/s 406/420/34 IPC of PS: Maurya Enclave, New Delhi is required to appear before this court to answer the said complaint on or before 15.04.2024.

By order

Vasundhra Chhaunkar  
AC Metropolitan Magistrate  
North-West, Room No.101, 1st Floor,  
Rohini Courts, Delhi

### PROCLAMATION REQUIRING THE APPEARANCE OF A PERSON ACCUSED

(See Section 82 Cr.P.C.)

Whereas complaint has been made before me that accused Faisal S/o Luqman R/o Village Badli, Tehsil Punhana, Distt. Nuh, Haryana has committed (or is suspected to have committed) the offence in Case E-FIR No. 013821/2021 U/S 379/411/34 IPC, PS. Sadar Bazar, Delhi and it has been returned to a warrant of arrest thereupon issued that the said accused Faisal can not be found and whereas it has been shown to my satisfaction that the said accused Faisal has absconded (or is concealing himself to avoid the service of the said warrant).

Proclamation is hereby made that the said accused Faisal of E-FIR No. 013821/2021 U/S 379/411/34 IPC, PS. Sadar Bazar, Delhi is required to appear before this court to answer the said complaint on or before 14.04.2024.

By Order

Ms. Arjinder Kaur  
Metropolitan Magistrate, Central District  
Room No. 247, Tis Hazari Court, Delhi

### झारखण्ड सरकार, जल संसाधन विभाग

कार्यपालक अभियन्ता का कार्यालय  
खरकई नहर प्रमण्डल, आदित्यपुर  
(eekcdadi.icha@gmail.com)

झू-टर्नकी निविदा आमंत्रण सूचना

निविदा आमंत्रण सूचना संख्या- WRD/IGC/KCD, Adityapur/Turnkey-02/2023-24 दिनांक 11.03.2024

1. कार्य का नाम Bhimkhanda Micro Lift Irrigation Scheme with OMS and SCADA up to outlet.

2. सांकेतिक प्राक्कलेता राशि ₹३० के ₹७५,९०,३८,७५० (रुपये पचहत्तर करोड़ नब्बे लाख अंतीम हजार सात सी सातावन मात्र)

3. परिमाण विपत्र का मूल्य ₹३० 10000/- (Online Mode)

4. अध्याधर की राशि (₹० में) ₹० 75,९०,४००/- (Online Mode)

5. कार्य समाप्ति की अवधि 730 दिन

6. वेसाइट पर निविदा प्रकाशन की तिथि एवं समय 28.03.2024 अपराह्न 5.00 बजे।

7. Pre-bid Meeting का समय एवं स्थान 05.04.2024 अपराह्न 3.00 बजे मुख्य अधिकारी कार्यालय, इंचा गालूडी कम्पलेक्स, आदित्यपुर, जमशहर।

8. वेसाइट से निविदा दिनांक 28.03.2024 अपराह्न 5.00 बजे दाउनलोड करने की तिथि एवं समय से दिनांक 26.04.2024 अपराह्न 5.00 बजे तक।

9. निविदा प्रपत्र ऑनलाइन प्राप्त करने की तिथि एवं समय दिनांक 06.04.2024 से 26.04.2024 अपराह्न 5.00 बजे तक।

10. निविदा खोलने की तिथि एवं समय दिनांक 30.04.2024 पूर्वाह्न 11.00 बजे

11. निविदा प्राक्कलेता करने वाले पदधिकारी का नाम एवं पता ई-कुमार अरविंद, कार्यपालक अभियन्ता, खरकई नहर प्रमण्डल, आदित्यपुर।

12. झू-टर्नकी आमंत्रण सूचना का नाम 0657-3510191

13. निविदा खोलने की तिथि एवं पता 09431166643 पदधिकारी का दूसरा संस्था

नोट- केवल झू-टर्नकी ही स्वीकार किया जाएगा।

1. विस्तृत जानकारी के लिये वेबसाइट [https://jharkhandtenders.gov.in](http://jharkhandtenders.gov.in) देखें।

2. प्राक्कलेता राशि में परिवर्तन हो सकता है, BOQ की राशि ही मात्र होगी।

3. कार्यक्रम एवं अध्याधर के लिये कार्यालय अवधि में दुरुसाधा सं. 0657-238167 एवं प्रतिक्रिया रूप से सम्पर्क कर सकते हैं।

PR 32210 Water Resource (23-24)\_D कार्यपालक अभियन्ता खरकई नहर प्रमण्डल, आदित्यपुर

Resource (23-24)\_D



### Uttar Gujarat Vij Company Limited

CIN: U4102GJ2003SGC042906

Regd. & Corporate Office, Visnagar Road, Mehsana, Gujarat-384001

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#### TENDER NOTICE

TENDER NOTICE No. UGCL/SP/II/CP/24-25/1274/11 KV MVCC with Accessories is put up for on line tendering on [www.ugvcl.com](http://www.ugvcl.com) and [https://tender.nprocure.com](http://tender.nprocure.com). Interested Vendors are requested to locate the same from above mentioned Web site

I/c Chief Engineer (P&P)

RAJASTHAN RAJA VIDYUT UTPADAN NIGAM LIMITED CIN-U4102UR2001SGC016484 (A Govt. of Rajasthan Undertaking)

KALISINDH THERMAL POWER PROJECT, JHALAWAR (RAJASTHAN)

E-TENDER NOTICE : TN-584(RVU2324WSO2620)

Online tenders are invited for Capital overhaul of unit# 1 of 600 MW DC make Steam Turbine, BFP-Turbine-02 Nos, Turbine Valves and Generator of 2x600 MW, KaTPP, Jhalawar. Tender details are available on websites [www.e-proc.rajaasthan.gov.in](http://www.e-proc.rajaasthan.gov.in) (for e-tender), [www.energy.rajasthan.gov.in/rvunl](http://www.energy.rajasthan.gov.in/rvunl) & <http://sppt.rajaasthan.gov.in>.

RVUNL/PR-3988

Chief Engineer (KaTPP)

### UVN LIMITED

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CIN No.U40101UR2001SGC025866, Website:www.ujvn.com

RO. No. 356

Dt.: 11.03.2024

#### e-Tender Cancellation Notice

Online bids invited through e-NIT No 13(EE-Civil-III)/LMP/2023-24 by Office of the Executive Engineer (Civil-III), Lakhwah Bhawan, Dakpathar, Dehradun is hereby canceled due to unavoidable reasons.

EE (Civil-III) Lakhwah Project

"Avoid wasteful use of Electricity"

### MAHARASHTRA STATE WAREHOUSING CORPORATION (A Government Undertaking) Pune - 411037

Phone: 020-24206847 / 020-24206846

#### E-Tender Notice No. MSWC/ QC/Cont. HR/01/2024

Maharashtra State Warehousing Corporation (MSWC) invites E-tender from registered agencies for Supply of Skilled, Semi-skilled & Unskilled manpower at its Head Office, Regional Offices and Warehousing Centers spread across Maharashtra.

Agencies are requested to register themselves for E-tenders online. Bidding documents can be seen & downloaded from the website - <http://mahatenders.gov.in>. (Select Organization-Co-operation, Marketing & Textiles Dept, Mumbai). Blank tender document can be accessed and the bid can be submitted in electronic format on the website - <http://mahatenders.gov.in> from 12.03.2024 to 04.04.2024 and last date for submission of Bid is 04.04.2024. Chairman & Managing Director

DNIT No. CE(Buildings)/PWD/ACE/Project Unit/ DNIT / 79/ 2023-24

- Estimated Cost: Rs. 15,43,91,936.00
- Earnest Money: Rs. 30,87,839.00
- Bid Fee: Rs. 10,000.00
- Time for Completion: 660 (Six Hundred Sixty) Days

Last date & time for online Bidding: 26-03-2024 up to 1500 Hrs

Note: The bid forms and other details including online activities should be done in the e-procurement portal <https://tripuratenders.gov.in>.

(Er. I. Debbarma)  
Executive Engineer  
Gonda Twisa Division, PWD (G)  
Gonda Twisa, Dhalai District



### RAJASTHAN LIVESTOCK DEVELOPMENT BOARD

Pashudhan Bhawan Parisan, Tonk Road, Jaipur

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