



उप्र. पावर ट्रांसमिशन कारपोरेशन लि.

ई-निविदा आमंत्रण सूचना अनुभवी
फॉर्म/ फैक्टेडायर कार्यालयी संस्थाओं से
विद्युत परेशन मण्डल मेंटर के अंतर्गत निम्न
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संस्था, कार्य का विवरण, निविदा के प्रथम भाग खुलने
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विद्युत उपकेन्द्र नंगली की कठमातापि हेतु 01
नगा 40 एम.वी.ए. परिवर्तक को 132 के.वी. उपकेन्द्र
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249/ वि.पा.सं./ETC/मेरठ/MT/TENDER
दिनांक: 29/01/2024

Kuki-Zomi MLAs write to PM seeking separate administration

Guwahati: Referring to the January 24 "meeting" of radical Meitei group Arambabai Tengol and Meitei MLAs and MPs "to-tal breakdown of the Constitutional machineries",

ENS

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13

E. EXPLAINED

EXPLAINED GLOBAL

Why some nations have paused UNRWA funding

ALIND CHAUHAN
NEW DELHI, JANUARY 29

A Palestinian man holds a flour bag provided by UNRWA in Khan Younis in November 2023. Reuters

UN OFFICIALS Sunday urged countries to reconsider their decision to suspend the funding for the United Nations agency for Palestinian refugees (UNRWA), assuring that it would take strict action against any staff member found to be involved in Hamas' October 7 attack on Israel.

The officials said two million Palestinians in Gaza are dependent on UNRWA services that would be scaled back by February if the funding is not restored. The US and eight other countries, which provided more than half of UNRWA's 2022 budget, cut the money after Israel accused some of the agency's staffers of involvement in the October 7 attack.

What is UNRWA?

UNRWA stands for UN Relief and Works Agency for Palestinian Refugees in the Near East. It was founded in 1949 to provide aid to about 700,000 Palestinians who were forced to leave their homes in what is now Israel during the 1948 Arab-Israeli war.

The UN agency operates in Gaza, the Israeli-occupied West Bank, Lebanon, Syria, and Jordan. According to its website, it runs education, health, relief and social services, microfinance and emergency assistance programmes. Currently, around 5.9 million Palestine refugees — most of them are descendants of original refugees — access the agency's services.

UNRWA is funded almost entirely by voluntary contributions by donor states like the US.

What has Israel accused UNRWA of?

The details of the accusations are scant. Israel has alleged that 12 staff members of UNRWA were involved in the October 7 attack. It has also claimed that Hamas siphons off funds given to

UNRWA and fights from in and around the agency's facilities. Israel has alleged that "Hamas tunnels (are) running next to or under UNRWA facilities and accuses the agency of teaching hatred of Israel in its schools," the Associated Press reported.

How has UNRWA responded?

The UNRWA has denied all the allegations, saying it has no links to Hamas. In the statement, UN officials said out of 12 staff members who were accused of being involved in the attack, nine have been terminated. One is confirmed dead and the identity of the two others is being clarified.

Chris Gunness, a former UNRWA spokesman, told AlJazeera that the allegations against the agency are a "coordinated political attack" by Israel.

What happens now?

UNRWA is crucial for the survival of people living in Gaza, which has plunged into a humanitarian crisis. The agency has been the main supplier of food, water and shelter to civilians of the enclave. UNRWA, however, would run out of money needed for its aid work within weeks if the funding isn't restored, according to Gunness, which would exacerbate the situation in Gaza.

Rover data confirm ancient lake sediments on red planet

NASA'S ROVER Perseverance has gathered data confirming the existence of ancient lake sediments deposited by water that once filled a giant basin on Mars called Jezero Crater, according to a study published last week.

The findings from ground-penetrating radar observations conducted by the robotic rover substantiate previous orbital imagery and other data leading scientists to theorise that portions of Mars were once covered in water and may have harboured microbial life.

The study, led by teams from the University of California at Los Angeles (UCLA) and the University of Oslo, was published in the journal *Science Advances*.

It was based on subsurface scans taken



PAPER CLIP

NEW RESEARCH

by the car-sized, six-wheeled rover over several months of 2022 as it made its way across the Martian surface from the crater floor onto an adjacent expanse of braided, sedimentary-like features resembling, from orbit, the river deltas found on Earth.

Soundings from the rover's RIMFAX radar instrument allowed scientists to peer underground to get a cross-sectional view of rock layers 65 feet (20 metres) deep, "almost like looking at a road cut," said UCLA planetary scientist David Paige, the first author of the paper.

Those layers provide unmistakable evidence that soil sediments carried by water were deposited at Jezero Crater and its delta from a river that fed it, just as they are in lakes on Earth. REUTERS

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The new public-private partnership to grow seafood outside the sea

SHAJU PHILIP

THIRUVANANTHAPURAM, JANUARY 29

KOCHI-HEADQUARTERED ICAR-Central Marine Fisheries Research Institute (CMFRI) has entered into a collaborative research agreement with a private-sector startup offering cultivated meat technology solutions to grow fish meat in the laboratory.

The Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) signed by the institute, which works under the Union Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers' Welfare, with New Delhi-based Neat Meatt Biotech is the first initiative of its kind in the country.

What is lab-grown fish?

It is merely a type of lab-grown — or cultivated / cultured — meat. Seafood without the sea is 'grown' in the same way as other cultivated meats are grown — without the need to raise and kill an animal.

Cultivated fish meat is produced by isolating specific cells from fish and growing them in a laboratory setting using media that is free

of animal components. The final product is expected to replicate the flavour, texture, and nutritional qualities of 'real' fish meat.

What roles are CMFRI and Neat Meatt playing in this collaboration?

According to the MoU signed by CMFRI Director Dr A Gopalakrishnan and Neat Meatt Biotech co-founder and CEO Dr Sandeep Sharma in Kochi last week, the institute will focus on the genetic, biochemical, and analytical work related to the project.

In its cell culture lab, CMFRI will carry out research on early cell line development of high-value marine fish species — a process that involves isolating and cultivating fish cells for further research and development. It will initially focus on developing cell-based meat of fish such as pomfret, kingfish, and seerfish.

Neat Meatt, with its expertise in cell culture technology, will lead the optimisation of cell growth media, development of scaffolds or microcarriers for cell attachment, and scaling up production through bioreactors. The company will also provide nec-

essary consumables, manpower, and any additional equipment needed for the project, says the MoU.

What is the need to grow fish meat in the laboratory?

Experiments are ongoing in many countries on developing commercially viable lab-grown fish meat, which is expected to address the ever growing demand for seafood, and reduce excessive pressure on wild resources. Overfishing — the removal of fish faster than the resource can replenish itself — has resulted in dramatic reductions in populations of certain species, which has impacted entire marine ecosystems in many areas.

In theory, lab-grown fish meat has significant potential for ensuring food security and environmental benefits. Besides taking some load off traditional fishing, lab-grown fish meat will be antibiotics- and environmental contamination-free, and will have no contact with microplastics or heavy metals in the polluted seas and oceans.

Which countries are growing fish meat

essary consumables, manpower, and any additional equipment needed for the project, says the MoU.

in the laboratory?

Large-scale commercial manufacture of lab-grown fish meat is probably still some years away, but a number of countries have made great strides in this pioneering technology. Israel is the frontrunner, followed by Singapore, the United States and China.

Earlier this month, Israel-based Forsea Foods successfully produced lab-grown freshwater eel meat, and hopes to be able to make this meat available in markets in the next couple of years. Last year, Israel's Steakholder Foods said that in association with Singapore-based Umami Meats, it had 3D printed the first ever ready-to-cook fish fillet using animal cells grown in a laboratory.

"This project aims to accelerate development in this field, ensuring India is not left behind in this emerging industry", Dr Gopalakrishnan said of the CMFRI-Neat Meatt public private partnership.

"It marks a crucial step in bridging the gap between India and other nations like Singapore, Israel, and the USA, who are already advancing cultured seafood research.. This collaboration leverages CMFRI's marine research expertise with Neat Meatt's technological know-how in this field, paving the way for a sustainable and secure future for seafood production in India," he said.

Dr Sharma of Neat Meatt expressed confidence that the proof of concept of the proj-

ect could be established within a couple of months.

What other kinds of meat are being produced in labs?

The Dutch pharmacologist Mark Post was the first to present a proof of concept for cultured meat in 2013. Several dozens of companies around the world are now reported to be working on developing lab-grown meat from cells, including chicken, pork, lamb, fish and beef.

According to the Good Food Institute, a global nonprofit think tank that also has an India chapter, the industry has "grown to more than 150 companies on 6 continents as of late 2022, backed by \$2.6 billion in investments... (and) dozens more companies have formed to create technology solutions along the value chain".

In June 2023, the US Department of Agriculture cleared the sale of lab-grown chicken meat in the country. Two California-based companies, Good Meat and Upside Foods, were granted permission to supply lab-grown chicken meat to restaurants and supermarkets.

Quota row in UGC draft norms

After a chapter about dereservation of posts in higher educational institutes in the UGC's draft guidelines sparked outrage, the regulator and the Education Ministry have been quick to issue clarifications

RITIKA CHOPRA
NEW DELHI, JANUARY 29

THE UNION government and the University Grants Commission (UGC) were on Sunday seen issuing clarifications that faculty positions in universities reserved for SC, ST, OBC, and EWS candidates will not be opened to the general category.

This was in response to a controversy surrounding new draft guidelines on the implementation of reservation in higher education, made public by the UGC last month for feedback. A chapter in the draft guidelines suggests that reserved posts could be derevered in "exceptional cases", leading to a public outcry.

Why did UGC issue the guidelines?

The University Grants Commission already has guidelines for implementing reservations, issued in 2006. About a year ago, the higher education regulator assigned a four-member committee the task of working on a new draft that would incorporate all updated government instructions.

The committee was led by HS Rana, Director of the Institute of Public Administration in Bangalore. Professor DK Verma, the Director and Dean of the School of Social Sciences at Dr BR Ambedkar University of Social Sciences in Madhya Pradesh; former government officer OP Shukla; and UGC Joint Secretary GS Chauhan were the other members.

"Since the 2006 guidelines, there have been changes, including new DoPT circulars based on court orders. It was observed that there was considerable confusion regarding the existing rules on implementing reservations. The objective was to develop a fresh set of guidelines that would clarify the latest government position," said one of the committee members on condition of anonymity.

This exercise by the UGC was similar to what the Department of Personnel and Training (DoPT) undertakes from time to time to ensure that the government's updated instructions are followed regarding the implementation of reservations.

The draft guidelines formulated by the UGC committee were made public on December 27, with public feedback sought by January 28. The document lists all pertinent court cases and subsequent government orders that have tweaked or clarified the process of implementation reservation in higher education. It is organised into chapters covering

NO DERESERVATION, GOVT MAINTAINS



The draft guidelines issued by the University Grants Commission were made public in December. Archive



...There has been no dereservation of reserved positions in central institutions, and there is going to be no de-reservation...
JAGADESH KUMAR
UGC CHAIRMAN

the determination of quotas in faculty posts, the preparation of reservation rosters, derivation, verification of caste claims, and reservation in student admissions.

It was the chapter on de-reservation that sparked controversy on Sunday, after it went viral on social media.

What does the chapter on dereservation state?

The chapter states that while there is a general ban on the dereservation of reserved faculty vacancies in the case of direct recruitment, in exceptional circumstances, it can be done if a university can provide adequate justification.

In this context, direct recruitment means the process of appointing teachers by inviting applications after publicly advertising the posts. Dereservation, on the other hand, means opening up faculty positions that were originally reserved for specific categories (SC, ST, OBC, EWS candidates) to applicants belonging to the general category if those positions remain vacant despite efforts to fill them.

The draft guidelines specify that proposals for dereservation of Group A and Group B level jobs should be submitted to the Education Ministry, while proposals for Group C and D level posts should be forwarded to the Executive Council, the highest decision-making body of the university, for special permission.

In a university, all faculty positions (assistant professor, associate professor, and professor) fall under Group A. Section officers in a higher education institution typically hold Group B level positions, clerks and junior assistants fall under Group C, and multitasking staff, such as peons, are classified under Group D.

According to the draft UGC guidelines, the proposal for dereservation would need to include information such as the designation, pay scale, name of the service, responsibilities, required qualifications, efforts made to fill the post, and reasons why it cannot be allowed to remain vacant in the public interest.

Why did this chapter cause an outcry?

In current academic practice, reserved faculty positions are not converted to recruit general candidates. Although the DoPT permits dereservation in exceptional circumstances exclusively for Group A posts under the central government, this provision has not been implemented in higher education institutions. According to a former UGC officer who did not wish to be identified, unfilled quota positions in universities are re-advertised and special recruitment drives are carried out till suitable candidates are identified.

In fact, even in replies to questions asked in Parliament, the Education Ministry's official position is that "there is a ban on dereservation of reserved vacancies for SC, ST, and

OBC in direct recruitment."

The draft UGC guidelines were basically seen to be paving the way for dereservation in faculty positions, and this caused the outcry.

So why did the UGC committee include the dereservation provision in the draft guidelines?

When asked this question, a committee member told *The Indian Express*, "The committee is not empowered to change the law of the land. We can't bring new provisions. We were just reiterating what is already permitted by the DoPT. These (DoPT) circulars are in the public domain."

While it is true that the language of the dereservation chapter in the draft UGC guidelines is nearly identical to that used in the DoPT's compendium of instructions issued in 2022, there's a significant difference as well.

According to the DoPT handbook, dereservation is only permitted for direct recruitment for Group A posts in exceptional circumstances. In contrast, the draft UGC guidelines extend this provision to posts of Grade B, C, and D as well. The reason for this extension by the committee is not clear.

What was the government's reaction?

On Sunday, when the dereservation chapter went viral on social media, the government swiftly took action to control the damage. The Ministry of Education issued a clarification stating there is no new instruction permitting dereservation.

The ministry said on X, "Reservation in Central Educational Institutions (CEI) is provided for all posts in direct recruitment in Teacher's cadre as per the Central Educational Institutions (Reservation in Teachers' Cadre) Act, 2019. After enactment of this Act, no reserved post is to be de-reserved. The Ministry of Education has given directives to all the CEIs to fill up the vacancies strictly as per the 2019 ACT."

UGC chairman Jagadesh Kumar wrote on X (formerly Twitter) Sunday, "This is to clarify that there has been no dereservation of reserved category positions in Central Education Institutions (CEI) in the past, and there is going to be no such de-reservation. It is important for all HEIs to ensure that all backlog positions in reserved categories are filled through concerted efforts."

Speaking to *The Indian Express*, Kumar said that the guidelines were only a draft document and that anything on dereservation would not make it to the final document.

What is IRI, that 'killed' US soldiers in Jordan?

RISHIKA SINGH
NEW DELHI, JANUARY 29

THREE US military servicemen were killed in a drone attack on their outpost in Jordan on Sunday night, marking the first time US soldiers have died in the ongoing Middle East conflict. US President Joe Biden said in a statement that "radical Iran-backed militant groups operating in Syria and Iraq" were behind the strikes.

A group known as the Islamic Resistance of Iraq (IRI) has claimed responsibility for the attack.

Why were US troops stationed in Jordan?

The strikes targeted Tower 22, a US military outpost in Jordan. The country is bordered by Israel to its west, Saudi Arabia to its southeast, Iraq to its northeast and Syria to its north.

A Reuters report said the outpost has

around 350 US Army and Air Force staffers.

"Jordan's army is one of the largest recipients of Washington's foreign military financing. The kingdom has hundreds of US trainers and is one of the few regional allies that hold extensive exercises with US troops throughout the year," the report added.



Pope Francis

VATICAN

Pope: Africans are special case when it comes to LGBT blessings

Vatican City: Pope Francis said in an interview published Monday that Africans were a "special case" in the opposition of bishops and many other people in the continent to homosexuality. But he said he was confident that, except for Africans, critics of his decision to allow blessings for same-sex couples would eventually understand it. Blessings were allowed last month in a document called *Fiducia Suplicans* (Supplicating Trust), which has caused widespread debate in the Catholic Church, with strong resistance coming from African bishops. "Those who protest belong to small ideological groups," he said. **REUTERS**

ITALY

Meloni opens Africa summit to curb migration

Rome: Italian Premier Giorgia Meloni opened a summit of African leaders on Monday aimed at illustrating Italy's big development plan for the continent that her government hopes will stem migration flows and forge a new relationship between Europe and Africa. Two dozen African leaders, top European Union and United Nations officials and representatives from international lending institutions were in Rome for the summit, the first major event of Italy's Group of Seven presidency. **AP**

BANGLADESH

China invites Hasina for official visit

Dhaka: China has invited Bangladeshi Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina for an official visit to the country as Beijing is keen to work with the new government in Dhaka to cement bilateral cooperation in all fields. "We (Dhaka) will find a suitable time for the visit," Foreign Minister Hassan Mahmud told reporters after he met with Chinese Ambassador to Bangladesh Yao Wen on Sunday. Wen met Mahmud after the Hasina-led Awami League was re-elected to power. **PTI**

UNITED STATES

Indian pleads guilty to drugs sale on dark web

Washington: A 40-year-old Indian national extradited from the UK has pleaded guilty to operating a global dark web enterprise to sell "deadly and dangerous drugs to communities across America" and agreed to forfeit approximately USD 150 million in cryptocurrency. According to court documents, Banmeet Singh from Haldwani in Uttarakhand created vendor marketing sites on dark web marketplaces to sell controlled substances, including fentanyl, LSD, ecstasy, Xanax, Ketamine, and Tramadol, the US Department of Justice said in a release. **PTI**

THE WORLD

Biden vows to retaliate after deadly strike at Jordan base, Iran denies role

ASSOCIATED PRESS
COLUMBIA, JANUARY 29

US PRESIDENT Joe Biden said Sunday that the US "shall respond" after three American troops were killed and dozens more were injured in an overnight drone strike in northeast Jordan near the Syrian border.

Biden blamed Iran-backed militias for the first US fatalities after months of strikes by such groups against American forces across the Middle East since the start of the Israel-Hamas war.

Biden, who was travelling in South Carolina, asked for a moment of silence during an appearance at a Baptist church's banquet hall. "We had a tough day last night in the Middle East. We lost three brave souls in an attack on one of our bases," he said. After the moment of silence, Biden added, "and we shall respond".

"On Monday, Iran's foreign ministry dismissed the US accusation that Tehran was behind the drone strike," according to the official IRNA news agency.

Meanwhile, US officials said preliminary accounts suggest the enemy drone that struck the installation known as Tower 22 may have been mistaken for an American drone that was in the air at the same time.

The officials said that as the enemy drone was flying in at a low altitude, a U.S. drone was returning to the base. As a result, there was no effort to shoot down the enemy drone.

Palestinians flee Khan Younis due to the Israeli ground operation on Monday. **Reuters**

Israel releases paper against 12 UN staff accused of aiding Hamas raid

ASSOCIATED PRESS
TEL AVIV, JANUARY 29

An Israeli document obtained Monday spelled out allegations against a dozen UN employees the country says took part in Hamas' Oct 7 assault — claiming seven stormed into Israeli territory, including two who participated in abductions.

The allegations against staffers with the UN Agency for Palestinian refugees prompted Western countries to freeze funds vital for

the body, which is a lifeline for desperate Palestinians in Gaza. The UN condemned the "abhorrent alleged acts" and fired nine of the accused workers, who include teachers and a social worker. Two are reportedly dead and the last is still being identified.

Major donors, including the US and Britain, have cut funding. On Monday, Japan and Austria joined them. With the majority of its budget in doubt, and because UNRWA spends donor contributions as they come in throughout the year, the agency says it will be

forced to halt operations within weeks if funding isn't restored. The threat to the UN agency came as Israel said cease-fire talks held Sunday were constructive but that "significant gaps" remained in any potential agreement. The talks are meant to bring about some respite to Gaza and secure the release of over 100 hostages held in Gaza.

Fighting continued, further complicating assistance to people in Gaza. Israel issued an evacuation order to residents in the western part of Gaza City, urging them to head south.

Rise and shine: Japanese Moon probe back to work

ASSOCIATED PRESS
TOKYO, JANUARY 29

A JAPANESE Moon explorer is up and running Monday after several tense days without the sunlight it needs to generate power. Japan's first lunar mission hit its target in a precision touchdown on Jan. 20, but landed the wrong way up, leaving its solar panels unable to see the sun. But with the dawn of the lunar day, it appears that the probe has power.

The Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency, or JAXA, said Monday that it successfully established communication with the probe Sunday night, and the craft has resumed its

mission, taking pictures of the Moon's surface and transmitting them to the Earth.

After a last-minute engine failure caused the Smart Lander for Investigating Moon, or SLIM, to make a rougher-than-planned landing, JAXA used battery power to gather as much data as possible about the touchdown and the probe's surroundings. The craft was then turned off to wait the sun to rise higher in the lunar sky in late January. With power, SLIM has continued work to analyze the composition of olivine rocks on the lunar surface with its multi-band spectral camera, seeking clues about the Moon's origin and evolution, the agency said.

Tractors try to reach Paris during a protest over price pressures, taxes and green regulation, in Noailles on Monday. France said it would push to ease European Union environmental regulations on fallow farmland. **Reuters**

FARMERS BLOCK PARIS HIGHWAYS

IN AN apparent reference to Taliban-led Afghanistan, Iranian Foreign Minister Hossein Amir Abdollahian Monday said there was "no doubt" that militants located in the border areas of Pakistan and Iran were "led and supported by third countries", days after the two neighbours conducted tit-for-tat military strikes at alleged terrorist bases in both countries.

Abdollahian arrived in Pakistan late Sunday night to de-escalate the tension between the two nations following the military strikes conducted earlier this month.

In a joint press conference along with Pakistan Foreign Minister Jalil Abbas Jilani, Abdollahian said: "There is no doubt that the terrorists located in the common border regions and areas of Iran and Pakistan are led and supported by third countries and they never favour any good action in line with the benefits of the Iranian and Pakistani governments and nations."

He, however, did not name any country.

Jilani said Pakistan and Iran have agreed to "establish a high-level constructive mechanism at the level of foreign ministers of the two countries". Both the nations have agreed to "cooperate to fight terrorism in our respective areas". **PTI**

Trump can't bully his way through: Haley

RACE FOR THE WHITE HOUSE

LALIT K JHA
WASHINGTON, JANUARY 29

Nikki Haley takes a selfie with supporters in Conway, South Carolina, on Monday. **Reuters**

DONALD TRUMP cannot "bully" his way through nomination, Indian-American presidential aspirant Nikki Haley has said after her party said that it's time for Republicans to unite around the former US president and frontrunner in the race for the White House in 2024.

Haley is the only remaining Republican after Florida Governor

After the New Hampshire pri-

Haley has refused to quit. The next major primary is scheduled to be held in her home state of South Carolina later next month. "He (Trump) can't bully his way through the nomination. I think, it's not surprising that he is surrounded by the political elite, but let's keep in mind, the political elite has gotten nothing done for us in stopping the wasteful spending, has gotten nothing done to secure the border, has gotten nothing done to keep us more safe, as we see wars around the world," Haley told NBC News' Meet the Press. Haley ruled out withdrawing from the race.

"This is a democracy. The American people want to have their say in who is going to be their nominee," she said.

Ahead of the South Carolina primary, she said that she is going strong in her home State. **PTI**

AFTER SURGERIES

KING CHARLES, KATE BACK HOME

Britain's King Charles III Monday left the hospital following a procedure for an enlarged prostate. The 75-year-old King spent three nights in the hospital. Meanwhile, Kate, the Princess of Wales, has returned home from hospital after a two-week stay following abdominal surgery.

M.D.P HAS MAJORITY IN PARLIAMENT

Maldives Opp party set to move impeachment motion against Muizzu

MPs clash in House over approval of 4 of Muizzu's Cabinet



Pro-China Mohamed Muizzu (left) defeated India-friendly Ibrahim Mohamed Solih in polls in September last year

THE MAIN opposition MDP, which holds a majority in the Maldivian Parliament, Monday said it plans to submit a motion to impeach President Mohamed Muizzu, a day after clashes broke out in the House between pro-government MPs and opposition lawmakers following differences over the approval of four members of his cabinet.

The development comes on a day when the President Muizzu re-appointed three members of his cabinet, who were earlier in the day denied approval during a vote in the Parliament where the Maldivian Democratic Party (MDP) has the highest number of members.

The MDP's plan to impeach

President Muizzu was opposed by the government coalition Progressive Party of Maldives (PPM) and People's National Congress (PNC). The coalition leaders said that they would not allow efforts to remove President

Muizzu to proceed through parliament. At a press conference, PPM Parliamentary Group (PG) Leader Eydhafushi constituency MP Ahmed Saleem said that the coalition would stop any efforts from MDP to remove President Muizzu from his office. "They will have to kill us all first before they can even think of removing the President from office," Saleem was quoted as saying by The Edition.mv.

The Maldivian Parliament has a total of 80 members. The MDP has 45, followed by its ally DEM with 13 members. Of the ruling coalition of PPM-PNC, the Progressive Party of the Maldives has 2 while the People's National Congress has 13 members.

The gathering of signatures for an impeachment motion against the President comes a day after the PPM-PNC coalition submitted no-confidence motions against Speaker Mohamed Aslam and Deputy Speaker Ahmed Saleem – both from MDP.

Earlier in the day, Parliament voted to deny approval to Housing Minister Ali Haider Ahmed, Islamic Minister Mohamed Shaheen Ali Saeed, and Attorney General Ahmed Usman, while Economic Minister Mohamed Saeed survived the same fate.

In Pakistan, Iran FM takes jibe at Taliban: Militants along border 'led, backed' by others

SAJJAD HUSSAIN
ISLAMABAD, JANUARY 29

IN AN apparent reference to Taliban-led Afghanistan, Iranian Foreign Minister Hossein Amir Abdollahian Monday said there was "no doubt" that militants located in the border areas of Pakistan and Iran were "led and supported by third countries", days after the two neighbours conducted tit-for-tat military strikes at alleged terrorist bases in both countries.

Abdollahian arrived in Pakistan late Sunday night to de-escalate the tension between the two nations following the military strikes conducted earlier this month.

In a joint press conference along with Pakistan Foreign Minister Jalil Abbas Jilani, Abdollahian said: "There is no doubt that the terrorists located in the common border regions and areas of Iran and Pakistan are led and supported by third countries and they never favour any good action in line with the benefits of the Iranian and Pakistani governments and nations."

He, however, did not name any country.

Jilani said Pakistan and Iran have agreed to "establish a high-level constructive mechanism at the level of foreign ministers of the two countries". Both the nations have agreed to "cooperate to fight terrorism in our respective areas". **PTI**

IMRAN'S PARTY ALLEGES ACTION AGAINST CANDIDATES

Lahore: Jailed former Pakistan prime minister Imran Khan-led Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf Monday condemned the brutal crackdown by police and oppression on participants of the party's election campaign ahead of the February 8 general elections. The Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf vowed that the people will take revenge for these cruelties through the power of their vote. Khan has been incarcerated at the Adiala Jail at Rawalpindi for over six months.

PTI

POSTPARTUM CARE FACILITIES 'ARE BEST' IN SOUTH KOREA, WHERE NOT MANY WANT CHILDREN BECAUSE OF HIGH COSTS

Facials, massages & classes: Seoul care centres for new moms have it all

LAURETTA CHARLTON
SEOUL, JANUARY 29

FOUR MOTHERS sat quietly in the nursing room around midnight, breastfeeding their newborn babies. As one mother nodded off, her eyelids heavy after giving birth less than two weeks earlier, a nurse came in and whisked her baby away. The exhausted new mom returned to her private room to sleep.

Sleep is just one of the luxuries provided by South Korea's postpartum care centers.

The country may have the world's lowest birthrate, but it is also home to perhaps some of its



Lee Joo-bae, chief nurse at St. Park, explaining how to hold and make the baby burp. Now eight out of 10 South Korean mothers go to a joriwon after giving birth. **NYT**

though mothers can request their newborns be sent to their rooms at any time.)

Staying at a joriwon can cost from a few thousand to tens of thousands of dollars, depending on the length of stay, which is often 21 days, the amount of time it takes for a woman's body to heal after childbirth, according to Korean custom. But the centers weren't always so luxurious, said Soohyun Sarah Kim, 46, the owner of St. Park.

"When I had my first child, there was no place to go," she said. "Normally in Korea, the grandmother should take care of the new baby, but my mom didn't have the skill, so we decided

to go to a joriwon."

In 2007, when Kim was pregnant with her first child, joriwons were not yet popular. "At that time, there was no nurse to take care of the baby," Kim said.

She opened St. Park in 2008 with a mission of providing exceptional care for new mothers in a Bali-inspired retreat. "We don't want moms to run into trouble at home, that's our approach," she said.

Now eight out of 10 South Korean mothers go to a joriwon after giving birth. Pregnant women clamor to get into their joriwon of choice, and the competition has become so stiff that some moms send in booking re-

quests as soon as they see the double lines on their pregnancy test.

The issue of class, and cost, is highly sensitive in South Korea, where inequality is on the rise. Two weeks at St. Park — not including massages, facials and hair treatments — costs more than \$6,000. Insurance does not cover the fees, but they can be subsidized by the government through a stipend meant to encourage more families to have babies.

As pricey as some joriwons can be, their cost is but a blip in the overall expense of raising a child in South Korea, a fact that may help explain the country's birthrate. **NYT**

SENSEX: 71,941.57 ▲ 1,240.90 (1.76%) NIFTY: 21,737.60 ▲ 385(1.8%) NIKKEI: 36,026.94 ▲ 275.87 HANG SENG: 16,077.24 ▲ 125.01 FTSE: 7,638.16 ▲ 3.07 DAX: 16,869.91 ▼ 91.48



GOLD

₹63,100



USD RATE

₹83.14



OIL

\$82.07



SILVER

₹76,400

Note: Gold, silver rates at Delhi spot market, gold per 10g, silver per 1 kg; Crude oil (Indian basket) as of January 26

International market data till 1900 IST

OVERHAUL OF CYBERSECURITY FRAMEWORK

To safeguard cyber infra, Govt may push use of made in India products

National Critical Information Infrastructure Protection Centre is behind the framework

SOUMYARENDRA BARIK
NEW DELHI, JANUARY 29

ASSERTING THAT there has been significant progress over the last few years in the development of indigenous cybersecurity products and solutions, the Centre is expected to recommend enterprises – especially those in critical sectors like banking, telecom, and energy – to use only security products and services developed in India. *The Indian Express* has learnt.

The government has drawn up a guiding policy called the National Cybersecurity Reference Framework (NCRF) in an attempt to provide an implementable measure – with clear articulation of roles and responsibilities for cybersecurity – based on existing legislations, policies and guidelines.

The action comes as India faces a barrage of cybersecurity-related incidents – most recently a high-profile attack on the systems of AIIMS Delhi in 2022 – which pose a major challenge to New Delhi's national security imperatives. At least three union ministers told *The Indian Express* that they feel hamstrung by the lack of an overarching framework on cybersecurity when

they are formulating sector-specific legislations. This is what the NCRF is expected to solve.

"In recent years many threat actors backed by nation-states and organised cyber-criminal groups have attempted to target Critical Information Infrastructure (CII) of the government and enterprises. In addition, availability of 'cyber-attacks-as-service' has reduced the entry threshold for new cyber criminals, thus increasing the exposure to individuals and organisations," the NCRF is likely to recommend.

The framework has been drawn up by the National Critical Information Infrastructure Protection Centre (NCIIPC) – which reports to the Prime Minister's Office – with support from the National Cybersecurity Coordinator (NCSC).

The NCRF was shared privately with companies and other government departments for consultation in May last year, but is yet to be made public. Apart from the main policy document, at least three supporting compendiums detailing global cybersecurity standards, products and solutions have also been formulated.

This paper has also learnt that the NCRF could recommend

that enterprises allocate at least 10 per cent of their total IT budget towards cybersecurity.

"Adequate resources must be allocated for cybersecurity, and these should be distinct from IT resources... Based on global best practice, it is recommended that at least 10 per cent of the total IT budget should be allocated to cybersecurity. Such allocation should be mentioned under a separate budget head for monitoring by the top-level management / board of directors," the NCRF is likely to say.

Last June, former National CyberSecurity Coordinator Lt. General Rajesh Pant had said that the NCRF will be released for the public soon. The current guiding framework on cybersecurity for critical infrastructure in India comes from an UPAs-era measure, the National Cybersecurity Policy of 2013.

"It (NCRF) is an important document that supersedes the 2013 policy. From 2013 till 2023, the world has changed as new threats and new cyber organisations have emerged calling for new strategies. The document will be put in public domain after a final check by the committee to ensure that nothing confidential is released," he said.

It (NCRF) is an important document that supersedes the 2013 policy. From 2013 till 2023, the world has changed as new threats and new cyber organisations have emerged calling for new strategies. The document will be put in public domain after a final check by the committee to ensure that nothing confidential is released," he said.

However, the NCRF is a guideline, meaning that its recommendations will not be binding – although, organisations can use the NCRF to improve their cybersecurity posture, reduce their risk of data breaches or any cybersecurity incidents, ensure compliance with regulations, increase confidence with customers and enhance operational efficiency.

Queries sent to the NCSC's office remained unanswered until publication.

The NCRF could also recommend that along with the directions to regulate the operations in the critical sector, regulators overseeing and auditing them must also define information security requirements.

"The regulators may also need to access sensitive data and deficiencies related to the operations in the critical sector, and therefore they also would need to have an effective Information Security Management System (ISMS) instance," the policy may recommend.

It could also prescribe that national nodal agencies evolve platforms and processes for machine-processing of data from different entities to carry out sectoral and cross-sectoral analysis of audit compliance, audit effectiveness and grading of auditors.

RLL shares spurted by 6.86 per cent to Rs 2,896.15 after hitting the 52-week high of Rs 2,905. Its market capitalisation crossed the 19 lakh crore mark to Rs 19.59 lakh crore. While some sectors like IT, FMCG and Pharma underperformed, it was overshadowed by the gains in other sectors, especially the oil and gas sector. ONGC surged by 8 per cent.

Siddhartha Khemka, Head - Retail Research, Motilal Oswal Financial, said the sentiment got a boost following stimulus announcement from China and hope of a favourable Union Budget. Also, US data raised hopes of an early interest rate cuts, he said. According to analysts, the surge in benchmark indices can

be largely attributed to investor optimism in anticipation of the upcoming interim budget on February 1, where significant allocations are expected in key sectors like infrastructure and energy. "This optimism is not unfounded, as government spending in these areas typically signals robust growth prospects, thereby attracting investor interest. Additionally, specific sectors such as defence and railways are experiencing a surge, likely due to expectations of targeted fiscal stimulus. This sector-specific rally is a strong contributor to the overall index performance, as these sectors form a substantial part of the Nifty 50," said an analyst.

The collective sentiment seems to be tilting towards optimis-

mism, driven by expectations from the interim Budget and the consequent potential growth in key sectors," he said. Domestic institutions were buyers and accumulated stocks worth over Rs 3,000 crore during the day.

Vinod Nair, Head of Research, Geojit Financial Services, said, "the domestic market underwent an upturn as the recent sell-off and positive Asian peers provided an opportunity to accumulate quality stocks. Despite premium valuations, confidence is upheld among investors due to the optimistic environment surrounding the interim budget and recent set of results aligning with forecasts."

FULL REPORT ON
www.indianexpress.com

'Intimidating and coercing': Air India union flag concerns over duty timings

New Delhi: Air India pilots' groupings have alleged that the airline management is "intimidating and coercing" some of their members to extend flight duty timings beyond the prescribed limits.

The Indian Commercial Pilots Association (ICPA) and Indian Pilots' Guild (IPG) have written to Air India Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer Campbell Wilson flagging the issues.

In their joint letter, dated January 28, the unions also claimed the airline's approach to extend the Flight Duty Time Limitation (FDTL) for pilots amounts to "compromising" with safety of the pilots besides violating established regulations.

ICPA represents the narrow body pilots while IPG has members from the wide body fleet of Air India.

It has come to the notice that some pilots are facing intimidation and coercion to extend their FDTL beyond the prescribed limits, including threats of jeopardising their career progression, the letter said.

The unions' allegations also assume significance against the backdrop of aviation regulator DGCA, earlier this month, coming out with revised FDTL norms for pilots that provide for increased weekly rest period, extension in night hours by an hour and just two night landings as against six earlier.

Sony scrapped \$10-billion merger as Zee failed to meet financial terms'

ARPAN CHATURVEDI &
ADITYA KALRA
NEW DELHI, JANUARY 29

SONY SCRAPPED THE \$10 billion merger of its Indian arm with Zee Entertainment in part because Zee failed to meet some financial terms of the deal and come up with a plan to address them, according to a termination notice reviewed by Reuters.

Zee denied the allegations in a letter to Sony, also reviewed by Reuters, and accused the Japanese company of "bad faith" in calling off the merger.

A Zee-Sony merger would have created a media powerhouse in India with 90-plus channels across sports, entertainment and news.

But Sony terminated the plans on January 22, saying in a statement it was doing so because

"closing conditions" were not satisfied after two years of negotiations. Neither Sony nor Zee made the contents of the termination notice public.

Sony's notice said Zee had "failed to take commercially reasonable" efforts to meet some financial thresholds, including with regards to cash availability, while a "lack of commercial prudence" by the network contributed to its decision.

In the 62-page notice, Sony said several breaches of the merger agreement were "not remediable and any further attempts to mutually discuss would be an empty formality, especially given ... plain denial (by Zee) and failure to provide a proposal to protect" Sony's interests.

The breaches committed by Zee are not procedural or technical in nature and will have a substantive impact on the transactions," Sony said.

REUTERS

RESULTS CORNER

GAIL net jumps 10-fold as key businesses fire on all cylinders

New Delhi: State-owned gas utility GAIL (India) Ltd on Monday reported a 10-fold jump in its third quarter net profit as all engines of its business – from gas transportation to marketing and petrochemicals – fired on all cylinders.

Standalone net profit of the nation's largest gas transmission and marketing firm came at Rs 2,842.62 crore in October-December – the third quarter of the current fiscal year that started in April 2023 – as compared to Rs 245.73 crore earning a year back, the company said in a statement.

The net profit was better than Rs 2,404.89 crore earning in the preceding quarter.

This came on the back of pre-tax earnings from the gas transportation business jumping nearly three-fold to Rs 1,215.07 crore.

BPCL net profit jumps 82% on higher refining, market margins

New Delhi: State-owned Bharat Petroleum Corporation Ltd (BPCL) on Monday reported an 82 per cent jump in its December-quarter net profit on the back of higher-than-expected refining margins and a rise in margins on fuel sales.

Its consolidated net profit of Rs 3,181.42 crore in October-December – the third quarter of the current fiscal year, stated on April 1, 2023 – compares to Rs 1,747.01 crore earnings in the same period of the previous financial year, according to a company statement.

Its profit was, however, lower than Rs 8,243.55 crore earnings in the preceding quarter (July-September 2023).

The continuing freeze in fuel prices, which is now 21 months old, despite a fall in input raw material (crude oil) prices helped raise marketing margins. PTI

Court orders realty giant Evergrande to liquidate

The decision comes as restructuring \$300 bn debt fails



Evergrande Group is one of the biggest of a series of Chinese developers that have collapsed since 2020. AP

ASSOCIATED PRESS
HONG KONG, JANUARY 29

A Hong Kong court ordered China Evergrande Group, the world's most heavily indebted real estate developer, to undergo liquidation following a failed effort to restructure \$300 billion owed to banks and bondholders that fuelled fears about China's rising debt burden.

Judge Linda Chan said Monday it was appropriate for the court to order Evergrande to wind up its business given a "lack of progress on the part of the company putting forward a viable restructuring proposal" as

well as Evergrande's insolvency.

China Evergrande Group is one of the biggest of a series of Chinese developers that have collapsed since 2020 under official pressure to rein in surging debt the ruling Communist Party views as a threat to China's slowing economic growth.

But a crackdown on excess borrowing has tipped the property industry into crisis, making it a drag on the economy, as scores of other developers ran into trouble, their predicaments rippling through financial systems in and outside China.

Global financial markets were rattled earlier by fears an

Evergrande liquidation could cause global shockwaves. But Chinese regulators said risks could be contained. Only a few billion dollars of Evergrande's debt was owed to foreign creditors.

It's unclear how the liquidation order will affect China's financial system.

Evergrande's Hong Kong-traded shares plunged nearly 21 per cent early Monday before they were suspended from trading. But Hong Kong's benchmark Hang Seng index was up 0.8 per cent and other property developers saw gains in their share prices.

China's largest real estate developer, Country Garden, gained 2.9 per cent and Sunac China Holdings jumped 4 per cent. Some other property companies logged moderate declines.

The Shanghai Composite index dropped 0.6 per cent while Shenzhen's A-share index fell more than 2 per cent.

Evergrande gained a reprieve from the Hong Kong court in December after it said it was attempting to "refine" a new debt restructuring plan of more than \$300 billion in liabilities. It could affect the ruling Communist Party views as a threat to China's slowing economic growth.

Fergus Saurin, a lawyer representing an ad hoc group of creditors, said Monday he was not surprised by the outcome.

CGST Act enacted in public interest, is consumer centric: Delhi HC

MALAVIKA PRASAD
NEW DELHI, JANUARY 29

WHILE UPHOLDING the constitutional validity of the Central Goods and Services Tax (CGST) Act, the Delhi High Court Monday observed that the law not only "simplifies and harmonises the indirect tax regime" in the country, but also marks a "paradigm shift" in the

manner in which it is enacted.

The verdict came in a batch of over 100 petitions moved by firms running businesses ranging from hospitality, fast-moving consumer goods and real estate, challenging the constitutional validity of certain provisions of the Act, the CGST rules and the legality of the notices proposing imposition or penalty orders by the National Anti-Profiteering Authority (NAA).

The NAA had passed final orders directing the petitioners to pass on the commensurate benefit of reduction in the rate of tax or the input tax credit to its consumers along with interest as per Section 171 of the Act.

A division bench of Acting Chief Justice Manmohan and Justice Dinesh Kumar Sharma observed that the Act "primarily intends" to provide a common na-

tionwide market for goods and services as reflected in its motto 'One Nation One Tax'. Terming it a "consumer-centric Act", the Bench said it eliminates the levy of multiple taxes, streamlines the credit mechanism by removing distortions in the supply chains, and ensures a smooth pass-through and transparent mechanism for levying tax.

FULL REPORT ON
www.indianexpress.com

RAJASTHAN STATE HIGHWAYS AUTHORITY, JAIPUR Notice Inviting Bid (36/2023-24)

Bids for collection of user fee on 'Bawali-Pipar-Khinwas Road section of SH-86C Length Km. 83.225' are invited from interested bidders upto 11:30 AM on 19.02.2024. Other particulars of bid may be visited on the procurement portal (<http://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in>, <http://sppp.raj.nic.in>) of the state. The estimated value of Annual Remittance is 3.09 Cr.

UBN: PWD2024SLOB18109
Raj.Samwadi/C23/12300

Member (W,C & O)
RSHA, Jaipur

Member (W,C & O)<

Classifieds

PERSONAL

I Renu Devi W/o Chandeswar Paswan R/o 4/1/h-14, Mathur Babu Lane, Kulia Tangra 3rd Lane, Tangra, Kolkata-700015, have changed my name to Jayanti Debi 007088573-1

I Pawan Kumar S/o Lakhi Ram Semwal R/o E-143 Top floor, Gali No.11 East vinod nagar Delhi-91. Have changed my name to Pawan kumar semwal. Both names are of one same person. 007088553-1

I Manoj Singh Yadav S/o Gulab Singh Yadav R/o Fahimpur, Gangauli, Mohammabad Ghazipur, Uttar Pradesh-23222, have changed my name to Shivam Singh Yadav 0070885754-1

I Harshit Kumar S/o Sh. Rakesh Kumar R/o H.No.B-75/201, Gali No.3, Khazani Nagar, Johri Pur, North East Delhi-110094 have changed my name to Harshit Dayal for all purposes. 0040710621-3

I Ayush Diwan Kharana S/o Anil Diwan R/o House -A- 144, Defence Colony, First Floor, Defence Colony, Lajpat Nagar, District- Defence Colony, District- South Delhi, Delhi-110024, have changed my name to Ayush Dewan Kharana 0070885514-1

I Anshul Grover D/o Sh. Ravinder Lal Grover R/o Sh. Ashish Rohatgi R/o D-2, Ganpati Apartment, 6, Sharmath Marg, Civil Lines, Delhi-110054 have changed my name to Anshul Rohatgi w/o Sh. Ashish Rohatgi for all intents & purposes. 0040710621-1

I Amit Gupta S/o Late Sh. Ved Prakash Gupta R/o House No.43/1, Rajpur Road, Civil Lines S.O., North Delhi, Delhi-110054 have changed the name of my minor daughter from Savya Gupta to Sammaira Gupta for all purposes. 0040710621-1

I Abhishek khandelwal s/o Sh. Roop Narayan Khandelwal R/o A-305, Grand Ajnara Heritage Sector-77, Noida Gautam Buddha Nagar, have changed my minor daughter's name Dhvani to Dhvani Khandelwal for all future purposes. 0070885537-1

I Soma Nandi D/o Sh. Balie Raj R/o E-2/241, Sultanpur, Delhi-110086 declare that my name wrongly mentioned in my Passport as Soma Nandi. But my actual and Correct name is Soma Nandi for all purpose. 0040710636-1

I MAKARAND RANADE,S/O BHASKUR PURUSHOTTAM RANADE,R/o-79,KK BIRLA LANE,LOHDI-ESTATE,LODHI ROAD,NEW DELHI-110003, HAVE CHANGED MY NAME FROM MAKARAND RANADE TO MAKARAND BHASKAR RANADE,VIDE AFFIDAVIT.NO.INDL3455752328547W DATED-29/01/2024, AT NEW-DELHI. 0040710715-7

I Have Changed My Name From Mohammad Azizur Rehman To Azizurehman As per Documents 0130039730-1

It is for general information that I,Sabir Husain,S/o Sh.Gulam Husain,R/o,H.No.355 ST. No.6,new kardampuri shahdara,delli-110094,declare that name of mine has been wrongly-written as Sabir Hassain and D.O.B-15.8.1959 in my Aadhar card Voter ID and Pen Card Passort.The actual name of mine is Sabir Husain and my D.O.B-30.9.1957,which may be amended accordingly. 0040710738-6

I Naveen Kumar Gupta, son of Late Madan Lal Gupta R/o 311, Jai Ma Apartment, Plot No.16, Sector-5, Dwarka, New Delhi-110075, have changed my name to NAVEEN GUPTA for all purposes. 0040710630-1

I Vinod Kumar Gupta,S/o Tara Chand Aggarwal,R/o-H.No.2480, Padam Dham Colony,Narela Mandi Extn., Delhi-110040,have changed my name to Vinod Gupta,for all future,purposes. 0040710738-2

I,Vimmy Kapoor,W/o-Pardeep Kapoor,Address-166R model town rohtak haryana 124001, Changed my name to Vibha Kapoor. 0040710715-6

I,VARINDER GOGIA,S/O LATE SH.SHAMLAL GOGIA,R/o B-42,NAVSHAKTI CO.OP GHS LTD ROHINI,SECTOR-9,NORTH-WEST DELHI-110085,have changed my name,from varinder Kumar to varinder gogia,for all,future purposes. 0040710733-9

I,Sushma W/o Ravinder Pal Sareen,R/o A-3/176,First-Floor,Sector-5,Rohini,North West Delhi-110085,have changed my name to Sushma Sareen. 0040710733-1

I,Seema Khandwal,W/o Arun Kumar,R/o F-1004,Pearl Court, Rampurtha Greens,Sec-7, Vaishali, Ghaziabad,U.P-201010,have changed my name to Seema now for all purposes. 0040710733-1

I,Savir Khan alias Shabir Saifi alias Sabir Khan S/o Baba Khan R/o 645,Deepak Vihar, Khora-Colony Ghaziabad(U.P) have changed my name to Shabir Khan Saifi for all future purposes 0040710682-1

I, Rashmi Lahia D/o Ramesh Chand R/o 160, Gali No.15, Sangam Vihar, Najafgarh, New Delhi; have changed my name to Rashmi Singh. 0070885720-1

I,Sardana Priya Vinod,w/o Puneet r/o-1801,sector-12,sopanit have changed my name to Priya Sardana,for all purposes. 0040710738-3

I,Sant Raj,S/o-Pancha Nand Thakur,R/o-642,Third Floor,T-1 Chirag Delhi,New Delhi-110017,have changed my name,from Sant Raj,to Sant Raj Thakur,for all purposes. 0040710745-2

I,Manisha,W/o,Vivek Malik, R/o,A-14,3rd Floor, Kibithu-Villas,opposite Baani Squire, Sector-47,Gurgaon(Haryana), have changed my name to Manisha Malik. 0040710733-3

I,Sanjay Kumar,S/o Durga Prasad,R/o 3/824 Vasundhra Ghaziabad U.P-201012,have changed my name to Sanjay Sharma. 0040710658-1

I,Safiya Khan,D/o,Moinuddin,R/O-K, Block-K Batla House Jamia-Nagar,New Delhi-110025,have changed my name to Safiya Begum,for all,future purpose. 0040710738-4

I,SUDHA GULATI,W/O RAKESH KUMAR,R/O B-107,RISHI NAGAR RANI BAGH,DELHI-110034.HAVE CHANGED MY NAME TO SUDHA. 0040710721-8

I,SHUBH RATTAN,father of,AADITYA Presently, residing at,164,Defence-Officers Enclave,Dhaura Kuan Part-2,Vande Matram Road,New Delhi-110010,have changed my-minor son's name,from AADITYA to AADITYA RATTAN.,Vide-affidavit dated-29/01.2024. 0040710715-10

I,SHRRUTI A MALHOTRA,D/O ASHWANI KUMAR MALHOTRA, R/O A-2/3,SHIVAJI APARTMENT, SECTOR-14,ROHINI,DELHI-110085.HAVE CHANGED MY NAME TO SHRRUTI KHANNA. 0040710658-5

I,SAMRITI D/O AJAY NARANG, R/O HNO.123-3RD-FLOOR, ROADNO.27,EAST PUNJABI-BAGH,DELHI-110026.HAVE CHANGED MY NAME TO SAMRITI NARANG. 0040710715-5

I,Somya D/o,Durgesh Kumar R/Ho. No.1-53,a-139 G/f Hari Nagar Harsh Vihar Badarpur South Delhi Delhi 110044 have changed my name to Somya Singh. 0040710696-1

I,Ravinder Pal,S/o Hansraj,R/o,A-3/176,First-Floor,Sector-5,Rohini,North West Delhi -110085,have changed my name to Ravinder Pal Sareen. 0040710733-2

I,Rajbala W/o Dalraj Singh R/o,A-14/4, Kibithu Homes,Mayfield Gurgling, Sector-47,Gurgaon,for all,future Purposes. 0040710733-4

I,RAKESH GULATI,S/O SURAJ PARKASH,R/O B-107,RISHI NAGAR,RANI BAGH,DELHI-110034.HAVE CHANGED MY NAME TO RAKESH KUMAR. 0040710721-7

I,RAJ KUMAR,S/o RAM PARSHAD, HOUSE.NO.31,U.G.F, PANCHSHEEL ENCLAVE, POCKET-11-ASECTOR-23, ROHINI,NEW DELHI 110085,changed my name to RAJ KUMAR SHARMA. 0040710658-4

I,Parveen Kumar,S/o Prakash Chand Jain R/o-211,Guru Apartment,Sector-14, Rohini, Delhi-110085,changed my name to Parveen Kumar Jain 0040710733-8

I,Pulkit Shailani S/o Shripal Singh,R/o F3,Type-IV, Tower-12,Kidwai Nagar East Dilli Haat South,Delhi-110023,have changed my name to Pulkit Singh 0040710733-6

I,Poonam Sankla,D/o Sh.Ram Vilas,W/o Sh.Sanjay Mahamna,R/o-B-748,Near Vayusenad,J.C Colony,Tigri, South-Delhi, Delhi-110062.That Poonam Sankla and Poonam Mahamna are the name of one and same-person i.e deponent. 0040710685-7

I,Parveen Kumar,S/o Prakash Chand Jain R/o-211,Guru Apartment,Sector-14, Rohini, Delhi-110085,changed my name to Parveen Kumar Jain 0040710733-8

I,Nagender Singh Rawat S/o Manmohan Singh Rawat,R/o H-17D/132,Konark Enclave,Sector-17,Block-D Vasundhara Ghaziabad,U.P-201024,have changed my name to Nagender Singh. 0040710685-1

I,NAVEEN MITTAL,S/O MADAN LAL MITTAL R/O ED-67C,MADHUBAN CHOWK,PITAMPURA,DELHI-110088.HAVE CHANGED MY NAME TO NAIVEEN KUMAR MITTAL. 0040710715-3

I,Mohit S/o Chander Mohan R/o 1-B-145 NH 1 FARIDABAD NIT HARYANA 12100 have changed my name,from varinder Kumar to varinder gogia,for all,future purposes. 0040710685-6

I,MOHAMMAD ANAS KHAN,S/O MOHD ASHFAQ KHAN,HOUSE.NO.A-197,GALI NO.13-JAFRADAB, NORTH EAST,DELHI-110053, changed my name to MOHD ANAS KHAN,for all,future purposes. 0040710721-3

I,Lajpat,S/O Kanheya Lal Grover,R/o H.No.566-C,Near-Geta Bhawan Chowk,Mohalla Kalan, Sonipat,Haryana-131001,have changed my name to Lajpat Grover, permanently. 0040710721-9

I,NARENDER KUMAR MUTREJA S/o Param Kishor,R/o 762, Plot No.-1, Bahawalpur Apartments, Dwarka, Sector-4, Delhi-110078 have changed my name to NARENDER KUMAR for all purposes 0040710625-1

I,Sangeeta W/o Late Shri Umesh Chand R/o G-1/12, Sector-16, Rohini, Delhi-110089 have changed my name to Sangeeta Gupta for all future purposes. 0070885758-1

I,Kuldeep Kaur Virdi,W/o Kawaleet Singh Chawla R/o-WZ-641, Near-Agarwall Sweet Sri,Nagar Saraswati,Vihar Delhi-110034,changed my name to Kuldeep Kaur 0040710733-5

I,Kashif S/O Zameer Ahmad,R/o D-535,Gali No-16,Near Chand Masjid,Shri Ram-Colony,Rajeev Nagar,Delhi-110094,have changed my name to KASHIF AHMED, Permanently. 0040710715-4

I,MANISHA,W/o,Vivek Malik, R/o,A-14,3rd Floor, Kibithu-Villas,opposite Baani Squire, Sector-47,Gurgaon(Haryana), have changed my name to Manisha Malik. 0040710733-3

I,Sanjay Kumar,S/o Durga Prasad,R/o 3/824 Vasundhra Ghaziabad U.P-201012,have changed my name to Sanjay Sharma. 0040710658-1

I,Rajender Kumar Singh,S/O Shambhu Singh,House Number,D-21/B-25,Street Number-6,Vijay-Colony-3- Pusta,New Usmanpur, Garhi-Mendu,North-East Delhi,Delhi-110063,have changed my name to Rajender Kumar,for all,future purposes. 0040710658-3

I,Safiya Khan,D/o,Moinuddin,R/O-K, Block-K Batla House Jamia-Nagar,New Delhi-110025,have changed my name to Safiya Begum,for all,future purpose. 0040710738-4

I,Manisha,W/o,Vivek Malik, R/o,A-14,3rd Floor, Kibithu-Villas,opposite Baani Squire, Sector-47,Gurgaon(Haryana), have changed my name to Manisha Malik. 0040710733-3

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I

PSPCL Punjab State Power Corporation Limited
(Regd Office: PSEB Head Office, The Mall, Patiala)
CIN: U40109PB2010SGC033813, Website: www.pspcl.in
Mobile No. 96461-17607.

Tender Enquiry No. 32/AHP-143(ON)/MM-II/O&M Dated: 25.01.2024
SE/M-III&M, GHTP, Lehra Mohabbat-151111 invites e-tender for the Work of Operation & Maintenance and General Cleanliness of PLC based Complete Ash Handling Plant Stage-I and Stage-II units along with operation & routine maintenance of 1 No. 100 MT electronic pitless weighbridge and issuing of Excise Gate Pass cum Invoices to each dry fly ash loading trucks and Work of Decantation of LDO/HSD/HFS/HFO wagons/BTPN wagons/Tankers and general House Keeping and maintenance of Decantation system & storage tank area at GHTP Lehra Mohabbat. For detailed NIT & Tender Specification please refer to <https://eproc.punjab.gov.in> from 25.01.2024 from 6.00 pm onwards.

NOTE: Corrigendum & addendum, if any will be published online at <https://eproc.punjab.gov.in>. 31815/PB C-08/24

INDIAN RAILWAYS
Azadi Ka Matsova
PUBLIC NOTIFICATION
Notice is hereby given to all users of Railway lines and premises situated on the completed section of the under noted section of the Northern Railway that the 25000 Volt 50 Hz. AC overhead traction wires will be energized on or after the date specified against the section. On and from the same date the overhead traction lines shall be treated as live at all the times and no un- authorized person shall approach or work in the proximity of the said overhead lines.

Section	Date
1. Washing Line No. 21 at Delhi Yard.	
2. Washing Line No. 1 at Hazrat Nizamuddin yard.	31.01.2024
3. Washing Line No. 5 at Delhi Sarai Rohila Yard.	

(Atamjeet Singh)
Sr. Divisional Electrical Engineer/TRD, Northern Railway, New Delhi
Date: 25.01.2024 301/2024
SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE

PROCLAMATION REQUIRING THE APPEARANCE OF ACCUSED PERSON (SEE SECTION 82 Cr.P.C.)
Whereas complaint has been made before me that accused person(s) **Subhash Sharma S/o Uday R/o E-2/9, Shastri Nagar, Delhi** has committed (or are suspected to have committed) the offence in case FIR No. 57/2020 Dated 20.03.2020 U/s 420/467/468/471/34 IPC, PS Civil Lines, Delhi and it has been returned to a Warrant of arrest thereupon issued that the said accused person(s) **Subhash Sharma** can not be found and whereas it has been shown to my satisfaction that the said accused person(s) **Subhash Sharma** has absconded (or is concealing himself to avoid the service of the said warrant). Proclamation are hereby made that the said accused person(s) **Subhash Sharma** of case FIR No. 57/2020 Dated 20.03.2020 U/s 420/467/468/471/34 IPC, PS Civil Lines, Delhi are required to appear before this court to answer the said complaint on or before dated 28.02.2024

By Order
Sh. Gaurav Goyal

Metropolitan Magistrate
Central District, Room No. 247
Tis Hazari Courts, Delhi

PROCLAMATION REQUIRING THE APPEARANCE OF ACCUSED PERSON

(See Section 82 Cr.P.C.)

Whereas complaint has been made before me that accused **Harmeet Singh @ Gurjeet Singh @ Hunny, S/o Lt. Sh. Deedar Singh R/o H.No.WB-102, Gall No.10, Sharpa, New Delhi** has committed (or is suspected to have committed) the offence in case FIR No.35243/2018 u/s 411 IPC, P.S. Hari Nagar, Delhi and it has been returned to a warrant of arrest thereupon issued that the said accused **Harmeet Singh @ Hunny** cannot be found and whereas it has been shown to my satisfaction that the said accused **Harmeet Singh @ Gurjeet Singh @ Hunny** has absconded (or is concealing himself to avoid the service of the said warrant). Proclamation is hereby made that the said accused **Harmeet Singh @ Gurjeet Singh @ Hunny** of FIR No.35243/2018 u/s 411 IPC, P.S. Hari Nagar, Delhi is required to appear before this Court to answer the said complaint on or before 29.02.2024.

By Order,
Ms. Swati Bhardwaj

Metropolitan Magistrate
(North-West), Room No.101, 1st Floor
Rohini Courts, New Delhi

PROCLAMATION REQUIRING THE APPEARANCE OF ACCUSED PERSON

See Section 82 Cr. P.C.

Whereas complaint has been made before me that accused **Dharmender Singh @ Titu S/o Sh. Mahesh Singh, R/o- H. No. 181, MLA wali Gali, Village- Bawana, Delhi** has committed (or suspected to have committed) the offence in case registered vide FIR No. 362/2023 U/s 394/397/34 IPC & 25/27 of Arms Act P.S. Rani Bagh, Delhi and it has been returned to a warrant of arrest there upon issued that the said accused **Dharmender Singh @ Titu** can not be found and whereas it has been shown to my satisfaction that the said **Dharmender Singh @ Titu** has absconded (or is concealing himself to avoid the service of the said warrant).

Proclamation is hereby made that the said accused **Dharmender Singh @ Titu** of case FIR No. 362/2023 U/s 394/397/34 IPC & 25/27 of Arms Act P.S. Rani Bagh, Delhi is required to appear before this court (or before me) to answer the complaint on or before the day of 28.02.2024.

By Order,

Ms. Vasundhra Chhauhan
Addl. Chief Metropolitan Magistrate
(North-West), Room No.101, 1st Floor
Rohini Courts, New Delhi

PROCLAMATION REQUIRING THE APPEARANCE OF ACCUSED PERSON

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Proclamation is hereby made that the said accused **Dharmender Singh @ Titu** of case FIR No. 362/2023 U/s 394/397/34 IPC & 25/27 of Arms Act P.S. Rani Bagh, Delhi is required to appear before this court (or before me) to answer the complaint on or before the day of 28.02.2024.

By Order

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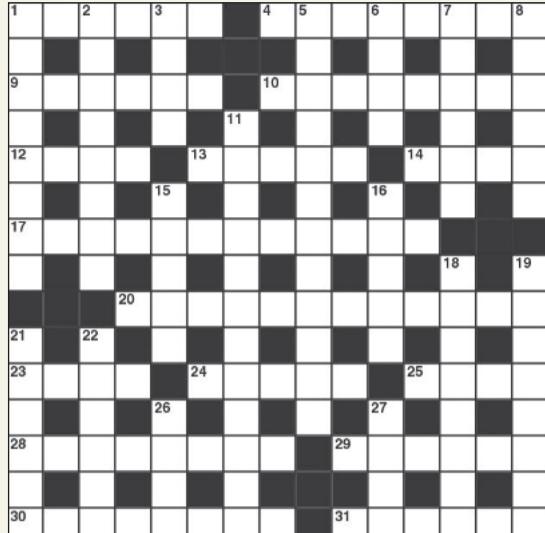
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CROSSWORD 5274



ACROSS

- 1 A way man gets lost (6)
 4 Important person seen at the fair (3,5)
 9 A nut is loose in Texas (6)
 10 Start to note (8)
 12 A dollar for it sounds dear (4)
 13 An average sort of shirt is indicated (5)
 14 Country lacking a prominent feature (4)
 17 It is mainly uninhabited (6,6)
 20 He gives assistance in need for a sculptor (6,6)
 23 The song told a story (4)
 24 Climb the range (8)
 25 Father to the French and mother to the Germans (4)
 28 Not trying hard with a point deficit (8)
 29 Superior Spanish gentleman I accommodated (6)
 30 Had plenty from State Aid (8)
 31 It can give one a breath of sweetness (6)

Solutions Crossword 5273 Across: 1 Quill, 4 Cyclops, 8 Aid, 9 Certainly, 10 Tigress, 11 Imply, 13 Reacts, 15 States, 18 Lathe, 19 Authors, 21 Depressed, 23 Ave, 24 Emerald, 25 Speed Down; 1 Quarter, 2 Indignant, 3 Lure, 4 Caress, 5 Chariot, 6 Own, 7 Shyly, 12 Patronage, 14 Theresa, 16 Suspend, 17 Paused, 18 Lodge, 20 Tides, 22 Pie

DOWN

- 1 A bed made badly by George Eliot (4,4)
 2 Two trials setting a precedent (4,4)
 3 Fruitless sort of raid (4)
 5 Where to find data on unmarried people of one rank (2,6,4)
 6 Whisky drinkers may say it is just a question of time (4)
 7 Sheila gets converted by a prophet (6)
 8 Enjoying favour (6)
 11 It may help in crime scene reconstruction (12)
 15 What the conscientious judge did (5)
 16 In any case a refusal will not please (5)
 18 Small party conflict (8)
 19 Four repeatedly out rustling (4-4)
 21 Their function is to secure quiet in class (6)
 22 The quibbler gets Dan in a temper (6)
 26 Bird seen when others rise (4)
 27 Girl upsets a clergyman (4)

You can't... yourself in drink. I've tried, you... - John Barrymore (5..5)

JUMBLE 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.

You can't... yourself in drink. I've tried, you... - John Barrymore (5..5)

BXAOR



MIIDEN



FYLOT



ILNOFW

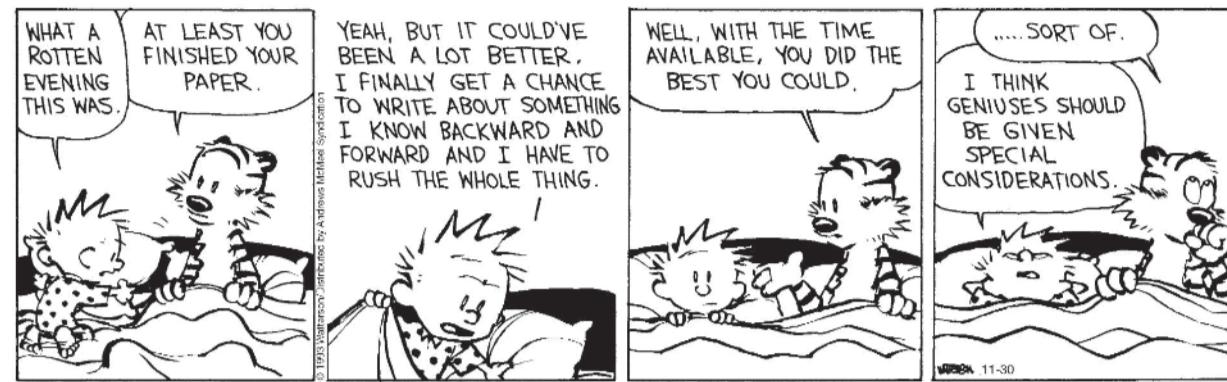


-from Barrymore
Answer: BOAUX FORT, MINDEN, INTOW

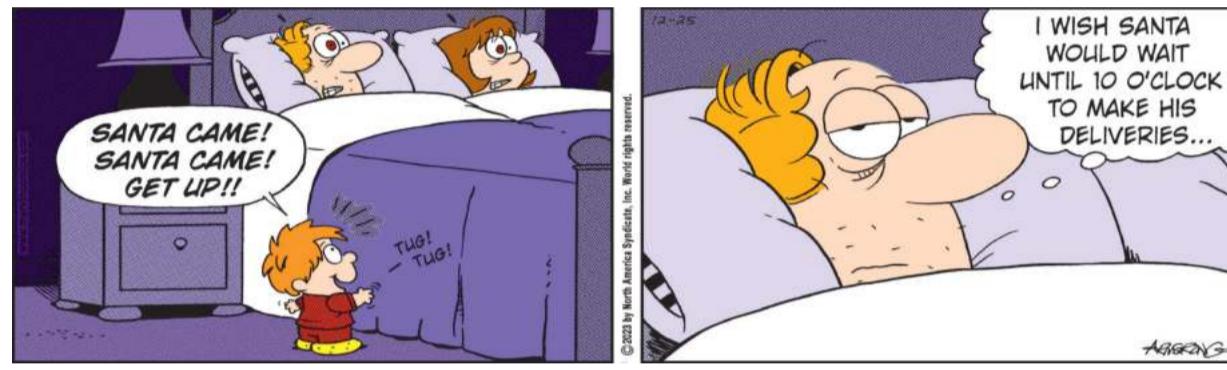
OVER THE HEDGE by Michael Fry & T Lewis



CALVIN & HOBBS by Bill Watterson



MARVIN by Tom Armstrong



SUDOKU 5457

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

8	4	2	1					
7			9					
5	2		4					
		7	2					
			6					
7		1	5					
				7	3			
6					8			
8	3	5			9			

SOLUTION SUDOKU 5456

4	3	5	1	7	8	2	6	9
1	7	2	4	6	9	5	8	3
9	6	8	5	2	3	7	1	4
2	5	6	8	1	4	9	3	7
3	9	4	7	5	6	1	2	8
7	8	1	3	9	2	4	5	6
6	4	9	2	3	1	8	7	5
8	1	7	6	4	5	3	9	2
5	2	3	9	8	7	6	4	1

DAY TODAY

BY PETER VIDAL

ARIES (Mar 21 - Apr 20)

Just because your planetary patterns are encouraging professional acclaim and financial rewards, it doesn't mean that you will see the fruits of your labours just yet. It's possible that there are one or two personal questions to be ironed out first.

TAURUS (Apr 21 - May 21)

The Moon, which represents your day-to-day affairs, teams up with Neptune and Pluto, which symbolise your life as a whole. It's therefore time to think deeply about your future. Consider any option available. Even the most unlikely ideas could help open new doors.

GEMINI (May 22 - June 21)

Now that you have stunned colleagues into silence by your show of inspiration and energy, you must be magnanimous. Generosity in victory is a trait which will be much admired. On the other hand, you are entitled to give yourself a pat on the back - even if nobody else does.

CANCER (June 22 - July 23)

Just remember that old planets Saturn, Uranus and Neptune are as likely to bring joy and satisfaction as problems and self-doubt. Now that the planetary alignments are so positive, please try to emphasise the former qualities at the expense of the latter: believe in yourself.

LEO (July 24 - Aug 23)

Venus and Mercury are still sending sensational messages to your sign, guaranteeing that ideas will be flowing fast. Allow thoughts about your future to dictate decisions at work. Once partners have satisfied themselves that you know what you're talking about, they'll back you.

VIRGO (Aug 24 - Sep 23)

You must now ask if it matters one jot what other people say, think or do? It is time to pay attention to the truth rather than to the essentially trivial opinions that surround you. If you're in the opening stages of a new romance, by the way, your passion will be undimmed.

PISCES (Feb 20 - Mar 20)

One particularly reassuring planetary aspect is now permitting

you to speak out and formulate fresh ideas. Yet you should not try to squash debate if other people put forward their own proposals. You have followed the inevitable thus far. But should you go any farther?

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INTERVIEW: SANJAY SINGH, PRESIDENT OF SUSPENDED WFI

'Efforts are on, we will be returning to power in 10 days'

SHIVANI NAIK
PUNE, JANUARY 29

SANJAY SINGH leads the suspended Wrestling Federation of India and is viewed as a front for Brij Bhushan Sharai Singh, accused of sexual harassment by leading female wrestlers. The Varanasi loyalist has gone ahead to conduct a Senior Nationals at Pune by gathering lesser-known wrestlers from 24 state units, defying the Sports Ministry orders and calling the ad hoc committee's Jaipur Nationals a mistake.

He is confident he will convince the government to revoke their suspension and will be back calling the shots in "10 days."

The WFI though was chastised enough to set up a sexual harassment committee, and Singh says he will engage with wrestlers Vinesh Phogat, and Sakshi Mallik while maintaining that they will find redressal to their complaints only in courts. He insists Brij Bhushan Singh Sharai has not even a paisa invested in wrestling anymore, but is free to run his academy in UP.

Excerpts

How did your association with wrestling start?

It started as a district official in Benaras in 2008. Wrestling was a hobby. In 2009, I became a vice president of UP wrestling. And after 2011 I was joint secretary of WFI. I wasn't a wrestler myself, but my father used to organise mud dangals.

Your federation is suspended by the Ministry. How do you propose to move ahead?

We are talking to the government and will convince them their ad hoc committee decision is wrong. Our efforts are on to end this and in 10 days we will be back in power.

What do you plan to do about the Olympics, given much is expected out of wrestling?

There are two Olympic qualifying events left. The winners of the Pune Nationals will be called to a camp. Then we'll conduct trials and send them to the qualifiers. I'm confident 4-5 more wrestlers will qualify. Antim Panghal has already qualified.

4-5 more in men and women?

Yes, women also.

What about the winners of the Jaipur Nationals?

Our winners come from 25 state units, and there are wrestlers who need jobs and our certificates will help them. Those who are already employed with Railways and Services already have jobs and didn't need to compete here so they didn't care. In all this, the ones suffering are wrestlers competing in Pune. But I promise that those who go for the Olympics will be from the Pune Nationals only.

But the ad hoc committee is mandated by



Sanjay Singh.

ios for women wrestlers. We are also in talks with foreign coaches. And we will send wrestlers abroad for four months. Wrestling won't stop no matter what. We are confident of resolving this without going the legal route. We are in contact with the government. We won't disappoint at the Olympics.

Do you wish to say anything to the aggrieved wrestlers fighting the battle against Brij Bhushan?

I wish to tell them you can't achieve everything by becoming adhyaksh (leader). They should join us, and guide the youngsters, in an advisory capacity. We'll welcome them.

But what if they want to compete and play? Quality-wise they are still better than most wrestlers here.

Well, they can also practice. But come into the camp giving trials. Follow the rules, and don't steal someone else's rights and fair spot.

What will be your preferred mode of Olympic qualification?

Since there's no time left for trials, those who win quotas only will be sent to the Olympics. But we'll discuss it again at our Executive Committee.

There are serious concerns about Brij Bhushan still being involved with wrestling. Can't you distance yourself from him completely to allay fears?

We will appoint physios for chet-chapet (niggles). There will be adequate female phys-

He is just an ex-president. There's no interference from him. No involvement of even one paisa. He's taken Sanyaas from wrestling. He of course runs his private wrestling academy in Uttar Pradesh and we can't stop him. There's no involvement as an office bearer.

After he was accused of serious sexual harassment by genuine champions like Sakshi and Vinesh, do you think there are concerns from girls and their parents about getting into wrestling?

Yes, there are safety concerns. But that's why we've appointed a sexual harassment committee at WFI. It also has Monica from an NGO who's the chairperson. Five women wrestlers have competed internationally in World wrestling. We are trying to ensure that girls can trust us again. If they can regain their old form, we will welcome all past women wrestlers and ensure no one is treated unjustly.

How do you look back at the time since your election as president?

We've lost 1.5 months, but 25 state units are with me. And all the wrestling kids trust me and have hopes for me. The likes of Vinesh, Sakshi and Bajrang can fight their battles in the court. If they want to do politics, they can fight elections. But if their heart is really in wrestling, they can come back to us. You can ask anyone – or they can tell me if I've ever misbehaved with anyone. If they accuse me of being close

to the former president, it's because I was office bearer for 12 years, and he for 15. I can say, if I'm considered close to him, weren't they also close? And on Brij Bhushan's happy birthday, hundreds of people wished him with bouquets. Does it mean they are all his kareebi (close to him)? I will make sure I put an end to this confusion.

Besides being interested in wrestling, do you have a proper profession?

I'm originally a farmer, and to feed my family, a small-time businessman.

Do you plan to expand wrestling to cities and encourage it in colleges like in the USA so this sport is not stuck?

SAI is there to take care of city centres. I want to revive the old village akhadas.

But that's again going back and nothing new?

I want to restore rural akhadas to its former glory.

What's your view on personal coaches appointed by NGOs who brought Olympics success to India but were opposed by the last dispensation?

We'll set up a committee to look into that.

How many Olympic medals can India win in Paris?

If I'm given a free rein, we will win 4 at least.

Indian Davis Cup team 'well looked after' in Pakistan

NAMIT KUMAR
NEW DELHI, JANUARY 29

FOR THE first time in 60 years, an Indian tennis team has travelled to Pakistan to play a Davis Cup tie. The 10-member contingent, including the five players, support staff and coaches, landed in Islamabad for the World Group 1 playoff tie, to be held between February 3-4, on Sunday to a warm reception despite the All India Tennis Association's (AITA) attempts to have the tie moved to a neutral venue.

"I can say we are all well looked after," Anil Dhupar, secretary general of AITA, told *The Indian Express* over the phone from Islamabad. "Having been here 24 hours, I can say all is well. From the reception at the airport from the Pakistan Tennis Federation (PTF) to the three-hour-long practice the players had today, the hospitality has been great."

The Pakistan Sports Board (PSB) and PTF have ensured to follow the security arrangements approved by the ITF and have granted the team the security cover usually reserved for heads of state.

"Since an Indian team has come to Pakistan after 60 years, we are taking extra precaution. There are four to five layers of security around the Indian team, I, as event security manager, am with them during travel," Col Gul Rehman, secretary general of the PTF, told *PIT*.

Sporting ties continue to remain frosty between India and Pakistan. In recent times, however, a Pakistan team traveled to India for the cricket World Cup, and an Indian bridge team had travelled to Lahore for the Bridge Federation of Asia and Middle-East Championships (BFAME) where they won four gold medals, ensuring qualification for the World Championships.

Unlike in 2019, when India were slated to play in Pakistan but geopolitical tensions between the countries meant the tie was shifted to a neutral venue in Nur Sultan, Kazakhstan, this time around, the International Tennis Federation (ITF) rejected AITA's appeals for the same. The national federation first saw its appeal rejected by the Davis Cup Committee, and then by an independent ITF tribunal. Once no more options were left at their disposal, AITA approached the Sports Ministry seeking permission for the team to go to Pakistan, which was approved without much resistance.

If India were to forego the tie, they would be immediately relegated back to World Group 2 and could potentially suffer sanctions from the ITF. Forfeiting the tie had never been a consideration, the authorities say. "There was no question," Dhupar says. "We did what we could to get a neutral venue, but since we could not, we are here. All that is behind us now. What matters is the boys are charged up for this one now."

With India's top-ranked singles players Sumit Nagal - fresh off a run to the second round of the Australian Open - and Sasikumar Mukund pulling out of the tie last month itself, the World No. 463 Ramkumar Ramanathan will spearhead an Indian contingent full of doubles specialists. Nagal had won both of his singles rubbers and spearheaded India's home win over Morocco in the World Group 2 tie in Lucknow in September alongside Rohan Bopanna, who has now retired from Davis Cup duty.

Yuki Bhambri, who is now a full-time doubles player, may be roped in to play a singles rubber if needed. Saketh Myneni, N Srikanth Balaji, and Niki Poonacha are the other players in the squad.

Pakistan's contingent will be led by their veterans. 43-year-old Aisam-ul-Haq Qureshi, ranked World No. 127 in doubles and having reached a US Open final alongside Bopanna back in 2010, is their highest-profile player.

Unpaid coaches, a federation in debt, players reduced to driving taxis, lack of hockey balls to train and an archaic playing system without midfielders, Pakistan hockey has been in the absolute doldrums the last dozen years

MUHIR VASAVDA
MUMBAI, JANUARY 29

TONGUE FIRMLY in his cheek, a television presenter harks back to the time when hockey was 'sone ka phuvara', golden fountain. Another anchor, less sarcastic but more dramatic, sheds 'khoon ke aansu'.

There's a sombre recollection of the days when they were the 'shahenshah'. And venting of pent-up feelings. "Dynamite lagi imaraate itni tezi se nahi giri jtni tezi se Pakistan hockey giri hai [Buildings fitted with dynamites don't fall as fast as Pakistan hockey]," screams a host.

The Paris Olympics hockey tournament will begin in six months. But Pakistan won't be there. Like in Tokyo three years ago. And at Rio before that. Last weekend, they finished fourth at a qualification tournament in Muscat. Only top three qualified.

It means the fabled Green Shirts, the most successful team at the Games after India, have now missed the Olympics the same number of times as they have won the golds – three.

Outside the studios, few waste their precious tears. For most, it was a fall foretold.



"We all need to understand," asserts Dutch coach Roelant Oltmans, "that hockey in Pakistan isn't a priority anymore."

Few, inside Pakistan or outside, have had a better first-hand view of the collapse than Oltmans. The 69-year-old world traveller has been the coach of the Netherlands, India and Malaysia. But Pakistan is where he's been the most – three times in the last 20 years.

During his first stint, in 2003-04, the country's national sport was treated as one. There was ambition. And that was backed by money.

"There was clearly a lot more money," Oltmans tells *The Indian Express*. That meant more staff. "In 2004, at the Athens Olympics, I had three Dutch coaches and a video operator in my staff." A video analyst back then was rare. In that sense, Pakistan were ahead of the curve, at least in Asia.

In 2009, the Pakistani government gave its country's hockey federation a whopping 1.2 billion Pakistan rupees. Around that time, players in India were going on a strike for unpaid wages and the federation was suspended.

When Oltmans returned in 2018, Pakistan had just enough cash reserves to hire an Australian trainer. And last December, after he took over the reins for the third time, they barely had money to pay him. In December, the Pakistan Hockey Federation asked him to take charge of the Qualifiers-bound team, and the under-21s coach agreed. But a dodge that would have made the country's past masters proud caught Oltmans and the hockey administration wrong-footed. Pakistan's caretaker Prime Minister Anwar-ul-Haq Kakar ordered a change of regime in the federation.

In came a new president and out went Oltmans, just days before the qualifiers. "That," Oltmans says, "was a wrong decision in a series of wrong decisions taken in the country. Look at what happened with Sigfried Aikman!"



Aikman – the Dutch coach with Surinamese and Indian heritage – came to Pakistan a couple of years ago with his reputation preceding him.

He'd turned Japan, a virtual nobody in world hockey, into Asian Games champions and then at Tokyo, they looked the likes of



For the third consecutive Olympic Games, Pakistan's hockey team will not be in Paris 2024 after finishing fourth in a qualification tournament in Muscat.

FROM PODIUM TO PITS

Pakistan, who have won 3 Olympic gold and been crowned world champions four times, have qualified for just one major event in the last 10 years

2014 World Cup	2020 Olympics
Did not qualify	Did not qualify
2016 Olympics	Did not qualify
2023 World Cup	Did not qualify
2018 World Cup	12th out of 16 teams
2024 Olympics	Did not qualify



the ball, they were left open to counterattacks.

Their mindset was, 'win the ball and aage jao. But by the time they make it to the opponent's D, they have run 50-60m at a high pace and get tired. They don't score because they make unforced errors as they are tired.' A decade ago, all this would have been true for Indian hockey as well. But while strong administrative interventions turned the tide, Pakistan is stuck in a seemingly irrevocable downward spiral. No balls, no technology, no gym, no protein and no money.

Aikman says after he wasn't paid his salary for the first few months, the government released funds enough to pay his six month's wages. "They paid me for two months while the rest of the money was distributed among the players. They, too, weren't paid for months and were driven merely by passion."

After a point, though, the federation's coffers dried up again and they stopped paying the Dutchman, he claims. "I haven't been paid 10 months' salary. I probably will never get it. That's why I couldn't continue. I have a family to take care of."

Adisconnected telephone connection, cut-

One such player is Ali Butt.

Butt spent most of his adult life doing what he loved the most – play hockey. It earned him a job, a stable income and a purpose. Until all of it was suddenly snatched away.

"The current situation, coupled with Covid, have made things worse," Butt, who was employed by a government unit, told National Point in 2021. "So, if we go to the ground where will we earn our income from? My department disbanded the team and I got unemployed. I do not have any other experience other than playing hockey. So, I drive a taxi for 12 hours and one or two hours in the evening, I fulfil my hobby. It's no longer a profession."

The policy and the financial stress in the country also led to a talent drain. Players began taking premature retirement and moved out of Pakistan to play in professional foreign leagues.

Drag-flicker Mubashir Ali, hero of Pakistan's previous Olympic qualifying campaign, in 2019 when they gave the Netherlands an almighty scare, turned his back on the national team and moved to England, where he plays professionally. "He doesn't want to come back because of what's happening in the country," Oltmans says.

Those who have stayed back are often blamed for the rut.

The great Samiullah 'The Flying Horse' Khan expresses 'afsoos' – regret – and grievances on air. But for him, it's also a 'told-you-so' moment. "Akhtar Rasool, Qasim Zia, Shahbaz Senior, Asif Bajwa... they were (PHF) secretaries. All very good Olympians but their motives weren't great," Samiullah told Geo Super.

"They still think they are the second best country in the world after India because of the gold medals won at the Olympics. That's not how it is," Oltmans says. "If you miss out on three Olympics in a row, it shows already that the decline began a long time ago."

Why Sarfaraz could play ahead of Patidar in 2nd Test at Vizag

TUSHAR BHADURI
JANUARY 29

A RARE Test defeat at home has already put India under pressure, and the team, that will be without their talisman Virat Kohli for the second game as well, suffered a twin blow on Monday as middle-order mainstay KL Rahul and all-rounder Ravindra Jadeja were ruled out of the contest in Visakhapatnam starting on Friday.

Jadeja sustained a hamstring injury during play on Day 4 of the Hyderabad Test while Rahul complained of pain in his right quadriceps, a BCCI release said.

For a team trying to come to terms with the challenge and positivity of Ben Stokes' England, losing two senior players for such a crucial game sends them back to the drawing board. These selectors have added Sarfaraz Khan, left-arm spinner Sourabh Kumar and off-spinning all-rounder Washington Sundar to the squad.

In Kohli's absence, Rahul was the most experienced batsman in the middle order and scored 87 in the first innings as India took a 190-run lead. His dismissal on the fourth afternoon was part of a dramatic collapse that paved the way for England's 28-run win.

Rajat Patidar is already part of the squad and has shown good temperament in white-ball cricket. In normal circumstances, he should be the next cab off the rank but with questions being raised over Indian batsmen's proficiency in facing spin and their reluctance to employ the various versions of the sweep shot, Sarfaraz could get a look in.

Sarfaraz has been shown to have some issues while facing genuine pace and bounce, but with the pitch at Visakhapatnam expected to be spin-friendly, his prowess in that department could be deemed useful.

As far as a replacement for Jadeja is concerned, left-arm wrist spinner Kuldeep Yadav is already in the squad. The Uttar Pradesh tweaker has an impressive Test record and has the ability to confound batsmen with his variations. But his inclusion wouldn't do much for India's batting depth. His teammate Sourabh is an experienced performer at the first-class level and could be a like-for-like replacement for Jadeja, who has been one of the foremost all-rounders in Test cricket over the last seven years.

On the batting front, it remains to be seen whether the selectors go for the weight of domestic runs that Sarfaraz brings to the table or the impression that Patidar has made in his small sample size, even though he averages much less in first-class cricket.

India's squad for 2nd Test: Rohit Sharma (C), Shubman Gill, Yashasvi Jaiswal, Shreyas Iyer, K S Bharat (WK), Dhruv Jurel (WK), Ravichandran Ashwin, Axar Patel, Kuldeep Yadav, Mohd. Siraj, Mukesh Kumar, Jasprit Bumrah (VC), Avesh Khan, Rajat Patidar, Sarfaraz Khan, Washington Sundar, Sourabh Kumar

Day after win, Hartley gets a Whitney Houston-inspired chant

VENKATA KRISHNA B
HYDERABAD, JANUARY 29

Dharamshala – the venue which is hosting the final Test, is set to be the biggest attraction, according to Adolphy, there is no better crowd-puller than Bazball.

"They have shown us there is a new way to play Test cricket and they have imprinted their style. Even if they step down tomorrow, there is no way, we can go back to that traditional way of playing Test cricket. The travelling fans tell you how even they are brought into this approach and it is what you come to pay and watch. Since the Bazball came on we are witnessing more membership requests and with every Test, the ticket demand has only been increasing," says Adolphy who is making all the arrangements including hotel stay, commute to the ground and travel within India.

When the schedule was announced with Tests being played in the non-traditional centres, there were concerns if England fans would turn up. But according to Adolphy, it turned into an unexpected game changer. "A lot of them have been coming here for years. And since the venues were scattered all across, in a vast country like India, it is tough to manage the logistics. But apart from getting to watch Bazball, most of them also wanted to explore Hyderabad, Vizag, Rajkot, Ranchi and Dharamshala as they have never been before," Adolphy says.

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Meanwhile, Finch gives a low down of the chants that they have been ready with. The one for Mark Wood is inspired by the Beatles' track Twist and Shout. But there is a problem too. "He takes way too long to finish an over! Since he is putting in too much energy, it goes for seven-eight minutes and then you have Stokes changing the field almost every ball. So to keep blowing the trumpet and the chant going for that long is really tiring. We are just hoping he gets a wicket every now and then so we get a break!" Finch says.

When Ollie Pope was changing the course of the match, the Barmy Army was there to lend him their voice. Chants of "Hot, hot, hot...Ollie Pope" hung in the air for several minutes as Pope completed the most enterprising century ever made by a visiting batsman on Indian soil.

During their pre-tour preparation camp in Abu Dhabi, one of the standing instructions from former Test star Graeme Swann, who coached the team's spinners, was to silence the local crowd. Once that is done, the English can expect the Barmy Army to make them feel at home.

Fanfare in Dharamshala

Despite not having won a Test series in India since 2012, according to Adolphy a record number of fans are expected to turn up in India through the course of the series. While

How Pope and England's other Bazballers systematically humbled Indian spinners

Blow-by-blow account of how the hosts' much-touted spin attack was demystified

SRIRAM VEERA
JANUARY 29

ON A wearing pitch, England amassed 420 in the second innings against R Ashwin, Ravindra Jadeja and Axar Patel, deploying the reverse sweep, conventional sweeps, and down-the-track charges in a tactically-done Bazball way. Here is how Ollie Pope and co. systematically targeted the Indian spinners, forcing them to alter their plans.

6th over: Reverse sweep is out

A plan emerges with Zak Crawley reverse-sweeping R Ashwin's length ball on the middle and off from round the stumps square to the point boundary. It was his second reverse sweep, after already reverse-sweeping Ashwin for a four in the second over.

7th over: Crawley hits a six

Moments after Crawley paddles an Axar delivery around the corner, Rohit Sharma moves midwicket to short-fine. Immediately, Crawley jumps down the track to crash-land the ball over long-on. The cat-and-mouse game has begun. Same over, the left-handed Ben Duckett reverse-slaps a four.

8th over: Pope's entry

A couple more sweeps makes Ashwin switch to over the wicket and have just one man in front on the off side at covers, and Crawley pings the cover boundary. Ashwin gets Crawley next over with a slider from round the stumps. Enter Ollie Pope, who reverse-sweeps his second ball but doesn't connect properly. England's plan is clear but it's not apparent yet to the onlookers as Kevin Pietersen says on air that "Pope needs to calm down, not manufacture something".

Duckett forces Axar to change

There is rough outside Duckett's off stump but Axar Patel is bowling from round the stumps and keeps pinging middle and leg, as the left-hander wallops a couple of fierce reverse sweeps to the square boundary. "With that angle, he isn't hitting the rough. Has to go over the wicket," Ravi Shastri sighs on air. Axar tries to bring the ball towards middle stump, and Duckett reverse-slaps him again. Axar signals in the 11th over to Rohit to have a man at point region to intercept but is denied.

Duckett negates Ashwin, Axar

Ashwin, who has been bowling early



Ollie Pope plays a reverse sweep on the third day of the first Test against India in Hyderabad.

not with Bumrah and Ashwin but with the two left-arm spinners. Pope sweeps Jadeja a few times.

Ashwin comes over the stumps

In the 54th over, Ashwin had another brief attempt from this angle. He slips in a beauty that loops, dips, and breaks back from outside off and through the intended Pope drives past the leg stump. "That's the length I am talking about," announces Sunil Gavaskar, who has been exasperated with the lengths and line of attack the whole day. But on the very next ball, perhaps anticipating a reverse sweep, Ashwin goes fuller and Pope pulls out the conventional sweep. Back round the stumps, and Pope reverse-sweeps off the length to square boundary.

Jadeja does beat Pope

Interestingly, in this phase, Jadeja had quite a few balls that went past Pope; nearly all of them landing around off stump and turning away and Pope, who likes to feel the ball on bat as they say, kept poking and missing. But the length and line wasn't maintained consistently. And when Pope brought up his hundred with an on drive, a stat flashed on the telly: backfoot 30%, front foot 50% and stepping down 20%.

A silly point appears for Jadeja and Pope reverse-sweeps a boundary and nearly holes out next ball with another reverse-sweep on 110 but Axar Patel clangs it at backward point. Jadeja sinks to the ground, holding his head; Rohit throws his head skywards. Next ball, though, is short but this time Pope isn't sweeping, but punching it through covers for a four.

Pope lap-scoops Axar

With Axar homing in on the off stump from a length, Pope doesn't reverse sweep him, but on 120, pulls out the reverse-lap-scoop over slip. Then plays out a couple of dot balls before reverse-scooping over his own head.

2nd new ball: Pope thrives

He pushes three full-length balls quietly before lap-scooping Jadeja over slips to boundary in the first over (89th of the innings) of the new ball. "Keep bowling, Jaad," cries Bharat.

Tom Hartley joins in

Hartley charges down the track to spinners and also sweeps them, and at 406 for 7, he reverse-sweeps Ashwin for a four. That's when Kevin Pietersen announces to the world: "Not often you see Ashwin and Jadeja rattled, but they are rattled. It's a shot clearly been practiced, practiced, and practiced. There are no consequences for these English batsmen. They are encouraged to be unorthodox and encouraged to be free spirited".

90kmph tries a 77kmph slower dipping full toss to see if it upsets Duckett's bat-speed. Nope. Duckett adjusts cleverly, waits to reverse-lap to third man boundary. In the 13th over, Axar goes over the wicket finally, but Pope takes an off-stump guard and blasts a conventional sweep to the boundary.

Post lunch: Tactical bashing

As he would do throughout his knock, Pope hardly stays quiet for any length of period. Just three balls of pushing Ashwin to covers in the first over, he reverse-sweeps; it's just a single but Ashwin's plans are upset. He goes over the wicket, gets real close to the stumps, but Pope sashays down the track to ease the in-drifter to straight boundary. Next ball, he glances Ashwin to fine-leg boundary. The over-the-wicket attack is

quickly abandoned again by Ashwin.

Pope targets Jadeja

Jadeja is brought back into attack in the 25th over after a few overs of seam and immediately Pope reverse-sweeps him for a four. Silly point moves out to short point. "Koi nahi yaar (it's all right)" screams KS Bharat, whose exhortations through the day keep changing, reflecting England's domination. He had started with "one brings in two (one wicket would trigger a collapse) at start of Pope's knock. In the afternoon, he would talk about "patience rakhenge Jaddu, bowl in the right areas", and by evening, it would reduce to just "keep bowling". India just kept bowling by the end. In the 33rd over, Pope slogan-sweeps a Jadeja length ball from outside off to midwicket boundary. Correcting length

by dragging it back, as was the case with Jadeja after sweeps, hasn't worked.

Ashwin, over the wicket but ...

After being reverse-swept and carted to cow corner by an advancing Pope, Ashwin goes over the wicket in the 37th over. Pope sweeps uppishly to the deep and Ashwin course-corrects by dragging it short and its easily tapped away.

In his 60s, Ashwin tries to keep a straight fielder behind him almost at the deep, but Pope isn't bothered, dancing down the track and targeting wide long-on boundary.

Post tea: Plans go pear shaped

By now, Rohit Sharma had given up attacking. A short point, a backward point, and just a slip in place and he starts this session

S. No.	Particulars	Standalone						Consolidated					
		Quarter ended		Nine Months ended		Year ended		Quarter ended		Nine Months ended		Year ended	
		31.12.2023 (Unaudited)	31.12.2022 (Unaudited)	31.12.2023 (Unaudited)	31.12.2022 (Unaudited)	31.03.2023 (Audited)	31.12.2023 (Unaudited)	31.12.2022 (Unaudited)	31.12.2023 (Unaudited)	31.12.2022 (Unaudited)	31.12.2023 (Unaudited)	31.12.2022 (Unaudited)	31.03.2023 (Audited)
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12		
1	Total Income from Operations	495.04	636.70	1,563.88	1,559.91	2,003.65	495.15	636.70	1,564.39	1,559.97	2,004.05		
2	Net Profit / (Loss) for the period (before Tax, Exceptional and/or Extraordinary items#)	166.00	309.16	612.73	630.37	783.44	165.74	309.16	611.63	629.94	783.06		
3	Net Profit / (Loss) for the period before tax (after Exceptional and/or Extraordinary items#)	166.00	309.16	612.73	630.37	783.44	165.74	309.16	611.63	629.94	783.06		
4	Net Profit / (Loss) for the period after tax (after Exceptional and/or Extraordinary items#)	137.72	230.81	516.29	551.51	673.09	137.56	230.73	515.31	551.22	672.85		
5	Total Comprehensive Income for the period [Comprising Profit / (Loss) for the period (after tax) and Other Comprehensive Income (after tax)]	137.05	232.44	514.28	556.39	670.57	136.89	232.36	513.30	556.10	670.33		
6	Paid up Equity Share Capital	3,665.88	3,665.88	3,665.88	3,665.88	3,665.88	3,665.88	3,665.88	3,665.88	3,665.88	3,665.88		
7	Reserves (excluding Revaluation Reserve)	7,105.74	6,998.72	7,105.74	6,998.72	6,762.90	7,103.87						