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HDFC Bank hikes  
home loan rates,  
PNB FD rates

HDFC Bank has raised its retail prime lending rate by 30 bps, hiking the cost of borrowing for all floating rate home loan customers. PNB has raised its FD rates by 10-20 bps. **P22**

**Maoists ready for  
talks, with riders**

Nearly a month after Chhattisgarh CM Bhupesh Baghel invited Maoists for talks, insurgents have set conditions — revoke ban, free leaders & pull out forces. **P11**

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**TODAY'S HAPPY TIMES**  
Q1. By how much were  
LPG prices hiked on  
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Q2. Name the BJP neta  
facing arrest warrant  
issued by a Punjab court.

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## Sedition law time-tested, no need to re-examine validity: Govt to SC

'Remedy Lies In Preventing Abuse'

AmitAnand.Choudhary  
@timesgroup.com

Instances of abuse of provision would never be a justification to reconsider a binding judgment... The remedy would lie in preventing such abuse... rather than doubting a longstanding settled law defended by a Constitution bench for about 6 decades

—Centre's submission

New Delhi: Contending that the apex court's six-decade-old verdict upholding the validity of Section 124A — pertaining to sedition — is a good law and balances constitutional rights and principles with needs of the State, the Centre told the Supreme Court on Saturday that there is no need to re-examine the SC's judgment in the Kedar Nath Singh case.

In a written submission by Solicitor General Tushar Mehta on whether the batch of petitions challenging the validity

of sedition law be referred to a Constitution bench, the Centre said the 1962 verdict has stood the test of time and needs no reconsideration; remedy lies in preventing abuse of the law.

► Larger bench, P 16

After rap, police file FIR on Delhi dharma sansad

Dhananjay.Mahapatra  
@timesgroup.com

New Delhi: Under pressure from the Supreme Court for closing investigation into alleged hate speeches made at a 'dharma sansad' in Delhi in December, the Delhi Police did an about-turn and informed the court on Saturday that it has registered a fresh FIR for the alleged offence of inciting communal passions and hurting religious sentiments.

On April 22, an SC bench headed by Justice AM Khanwilkar had taken strong exception to the affidavit filed by southeast Delhi DCP Esha Pandey that said police have closed investigations into complaints alleging hate speech at the event organised by Hindu Yuva Vahini at Banarasidas Chandiwal Auditorium, near Govindpuri Metro Station, on December 19.

In a fresh affidavit, DCP Pandey stated that "after further minute verification of the material", an FIR was registered on May 4 at Okhla Industrial Area police station.

► 'Promoting enmity', P 9

**Farmer's son  
breaks 30-yr-old  
5k m nat'l record**

Govt processes 2 SC judge appointments in 48 hours

Dhananjay.Mahapatra  
@timesgroup.com

FAST TRACK

► Law ministry processed the collegium's recommendation sent to it on Thursday evening

► PMO immediately cleared the names and the files were sent to the President on Friday

► The President on Saturday issued orders of appointment

► To reach full strength, P 16

**Team denied entry, Gyanvapi survey stalled**

The survey and videography of Varanasi's Gyanvapi mosque premises, which began on Friday amid tight security, was stalled on Saturday as the advocate commissioner and a team of lawyers were not allowed to enter and protest continued for the second day, reports Binay Singh. The Anjuman Intezamia Masjid Committee has requested a local court to change the advocate commissioner, claiming he is biased. **P11**

► Rajasthan vs Noida cops over journo's arrest, P 16

RBI rate hike not a surprise, but its timing was, says FM

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Mumbai/New Delhi: The Reserve Bank of India's (RBI) decision to raise interest rates will not impact the government's planned infrastructure investments and the hike was part of a synchronised action by major central banks

ET AWARDS

across the globe to deal with the twin challenges of taming inflation and supporting economic revival, finance minister Nirmala Sitharaman said on Saturday. At the Economic Times Awards for Corporate Excellence in Mumbai, Sitharaman said the timing of RBI's hike came as a surprise but not the action itself.

► 'Global action', P 13



Defence minister Rajnath Singh presents the ET Business Reformer of the Year award to finance minister Nirmala Sitharaman

**Ensure free & fair play for eco actors: Rajnath**

Defence minister Rajnath Singh on Saturday called for modern regulations that encourage not just free play but also fair play for the economic actors and suggested that the corporate sector needs to take care of its employees as well as the ecology, while focusing on its bottomlines. **P13**

**In midnight hearing, HC stays warrant against Bagga**

Ajay.Sura@timesgroup.com

Chandigarh: The Punjab and Haryana high court issued an order late Saturday restraining Punjab police from taking any coercive action against Delhi-based BJP functionary Tajinder Pal Singh

► CBI raids Punjab AAP MLA, seizes ₹16.5cr

The CBI raided the premises of AAP MLA J S Gajjanmra on Saturday in connection with an alleged Rs 40 crore bank loan fraud and seized Rs 16.5 crore in cash & 88 foreign currency notes. **P16**

Bagga, against whom a Mohali court had issued an arrest warrant earlier in the day.

During the midnight hearing, Justice Anoop Chit

kara took up a petition filed by Bagga challenging the arrest warrant.

► 'Wrongly accused', P 2

**Lashkar offshoot kills cop in Kashmir**

Terrorists of The Resistance Force, an LeT offshoot, shot dead a policeman, constable Ghulam Hassan Dar, in downtown Srinagar on Saturday and claimed responsibility for it. **P13**

**Varsity suspends prof over question**

An assistant professor at Sharda University was suspended on Friday for an "objectionable" question in a political science paper after some students complained to varsity officials. **P10**



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Adfactors

# Cops were detained illegally: Punjab govt

Moves Court For Preserving CCTV Footage

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

**Chandigarh:** In the matter arising from Friday's arrest and subsequent release of BJP functionary Tajinder Pal Singh Bagga, Punjab government moved an application in Punjab and Haryana High Court on Saturday seeking directions to preserve the May 6 CCTV footage of Janakpuri police station in Delhi and Sadar police station in Kurukshetra, Haryana, and to implead the Delhi Police commissioner as party in the case.

Punjab government's application said, "The officers of Punjab Police were illegally detained at the Janakpuri police station in New Delhi and the police station of Sadar Kurukshetra. For the correct decision in the present case, the CCTV footage dated May 6, 2022, of both these police stations is required to be produced and preserved."

The high court adjourned the hearing of the matter to May 10. BJYM secretary Bagga's plea for the quashing of the FIR against him at Mohali will be clubbed with the habeas corpus petition of Punjab Police, which was filed alleging illegal detention of its personnel by the police of Haryana and Delhi for legally arresting Bagga in connection with the case registered at Mohali.

Anshu Singh, the superintendent of police, Kurukshetra, informed the high court in writing that on receipt of a message from Delhi Police about Bagga being taken away in a Bolero assisted by some other vehicles, the traffic police of Kurukshetra stopped the vehicles at Khanpur Koliyan village. One of the vehicles bore Manpreet Singh, PPS, superintendent of police (Rural), Mohali, other officers and a person whose identity was disclosed to be Tajinder Pal Singh Bagga.

In the meantime, the superintendent of police, Ambala, arrived and met Ghanshyam Bansal, DCP (West), Delhi Police. They were informed that a police team headed by Prashant Gautam, ADCP (West), Delhi Police, has already been



Bagga leaves Thanesar Sadar Police station in Kurukshetra on Friday

## Minority panel seeks report over turban row during arrest

**Chandigarh:** The National Commission for Minorities (NCM) on Saturday asked Punjab chief secretary Anirudh Tewari to submit a factual report by May 14 about claims by the media that Punjab Police had not allowed Delhi BJP spokesperson Tajinder Pal Singh Bagga, a Sikh, to even put on his turban during his arrest from Delhi on Friday.

The commission has taken suo-motu cognizance of these media reports, stating in the orders that: "This is a serious case of violation of religious rights of a Sikh. You (the Punjab chief secretary) must submit a factual report on the alleged incident and these media report within seven days, by May 14." TNN

directed to reach the village. On arrival at the police station of Sadar Kurukshetra, they identified Bagga and produced the FIR registered against his kidnapping at the Janak-

**BJYM secretary Bagga's plea for the quashing of the FIR against him at Mohali will be clubbed with the habeas corpus petition of Punjab Police, which was filed alleging illegal detention of its personnel**

puri police station in Delhi as well as the search warrants issued by Neetika Kapoor, metropolitan magistrate-II, Dwarka district courts, for production of Bagga in the said court.

Following deliberations by the cops of the three states over the search warrant issued by the Delhi court, Bagga's

custody was handed over to Delhi Police. Singh claimed that Punjab Police personnel were not detained by the Kurukshetra cops, but were requested to proceed to their destination as no further action was required in the matter.

This statement was confirmed by Bansal, who informed the high court that following the registration of FIR against Bagga's alleged abduction, a search warrant was obtained from the metropolitan magistrate, Dwarka, and a wireless message was flashed to intercept and trace the abducted person. Bansal said that on receipt of information from Kurukshetra cops, Bagga was "rescued" by Delhi Police with the assistance of Kurukshetra cops and was brought back to Delhi to produce him in the court. The high court was informed that no personnel of Punjab Police had been detained at Janakpuri police station in Delhi.

Rai argued that the gravity of the alleged offence — posting allegedly incitement tweets against AAP convener and Delhi CM Arvind Kejriwal — wasn't so serious as to warrant custodial interrogation. This was being done out of "sheer political vendetta, prejudicing the liberty of the petitioner as provided under the Constitution, after having failed in their attempt to arrest him on May 6", he said.

According to the petition, registering the FIR in Mohali was a clear abuse of the process of law as the alleged incident of provocation took place in Delhi.

"The only allegation made against the petitioner is that he made a statement during political debates on electronic media on April 30, 2022. The perusal of the entire FIR reveals that no case is made out in respect of sections invoked in the FIR. Moreover, the alleged statement was in public domain and was made on an electronic media platform which is beyond the control of the petitioner," it stated.

Earlier in Mohali, the court of judicial magistrate Ravesh Inderjit Singh directed the cyber cell of Punjab police to execute the arrest warrant and produce Bagga in court. The judge then scheduled the next hearing on May 23. TNN

# One or 100 FIRs can be registered against me, I will keep exposing opposition: Bagga

Atul.Mathur@timesgroup.com

**New Delhi:** Hours after the police of three states got involved in his dramatic arrest and release, BJP youth leader Tajinder Pal Singh Bagga said he would continue to raise the issues of the sacrilege of Guru Granth Sahib in Punjab and what he alleged to be an insult of Kashmiri Pandits by chief minister Arvind Kejriwal while speaking about making *The Kashmir Files* film tax-free.

"No matter one or 100 FIRs registered against me, I will keep exposing the opposition both in the field and in the social media," said Bagga on Saturday. Surrounded by family and friends with a Delhi Police team keeping guard outside his home in west Delhi's Janakpuri, Bagga, 36, narrated on a loop the tale of the "misbehavior" of Punjab Police while arresting him on Friday.

Known for his association with the RSS, Bagga came to notice in October 2011 when

## My client wrongly accused of provocation in an FIR: Bagga's counsel in court

**Chandigarh:** Punjab and Haryana High Court late on Saturday night, took a petition of the Delhi-based BJP functionary Tajinder Pal Singh Bagga against the arrest warrant issued by a Mohali court in case of alleged provocative speech against CM Kejriwal. Justice Anoop Chitkara took up the petition by Bagga late at night.

Counsel R S Rai contended that his client had been wrongfully accused of provocation in an FIR filed by Mohali police at the behest of AAP members. "No coercive steps till May 10 (the next date of hearing)," said Bagga's counsel Chetan Mittal on the HC order.

Rai argued that the gravity of the alleged offence — posting allegedly incitement tweets against AAP convener and Delhi CM Arvind Kejriwal — wasn't so serious as to warrant custodial interrogation. This was being done out of "sheer political vendetta, prejudicing the liberty of the petitioner as provided under the Constitution, after having failed in their attempt to arrest him on May 6", he said.

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Prem Bisht



They didn't allow me to tie my hair and wear the patka, which is a must for a Sikh man stepping out of the house

-TAJINDER BAGGA | BJP YOUTH FUNCTIONARY

he assaulted lawyer Prashant Bhushan on the Delhi High Court premises for demanding a referendum on Kashmir. The same year, he disrupted the launch of author Arundhati Roy's book at India Habitat Centre calling it "anti-Army". A year later, he heckled Syed Ali Shah Geelani at an event. His outfit, Bhagat Singh Kranti Sena,

was also accused of defacing walls around the Pakistan High Commission and pasting posters demanding freedom for Balochistan.

During the 2019 Parliament election, he was accused of violence at a roadshow of Union home minister Amit Shah. Bagga was also a part of a protest held by BJYM outside Kejriwal's re-

sidence on March 30 when there were alleged instances of vandalism. He unsuccessfully contested the 2020 assembly polls from the Hari Nagar constituency.

He runs an online store called 'T-Shirt Bhaya' and sells customized tees and jewellery with nationalist slogans. One of the shirts had an image of the controversial tying of a Kashmiri on the jeep by an Army officer.

When asked about his "disruptive" politics, Bagga said he was involved in just the Prashant Bhushan case, but Kejriwal and AAP, he alleged, were trying to sully his image. "Since I am most vocal against the opposition, whether on social media or in the field, they target me. Even the statement for which the FIR has been registered against me had nothing wrong in it. They have tweaked it to serve their own political purpose," Bagga maintained.

# Punjab followed law, others backed 'serial offender': AAP

TIMES NEWS NETWORK



Delhi Police personnel on guard outside Bagga's house

it," the Kalkaji MLA said.

Condemning the way Delhi and Haryana police got Bagga released, Bharadwaj said it reflected poorly on the Indian federal system. "The entire federal system of the country is being threatened with these actions taken by BJP," the Greater Kailash MLA said.

Delhi BJP spokesperson Praveen Shankar Kapoor said the Rajya Sabha MP claimed that Bagga misbehaved with lawyer Prashant Bhushan. "But Sanjay Singh forgot to tell how he, along with his leader Arvind Kejriwal, humiliated and kicked off Prashant Bhushan from Aam Aadmi Party," Kapoor stated further.

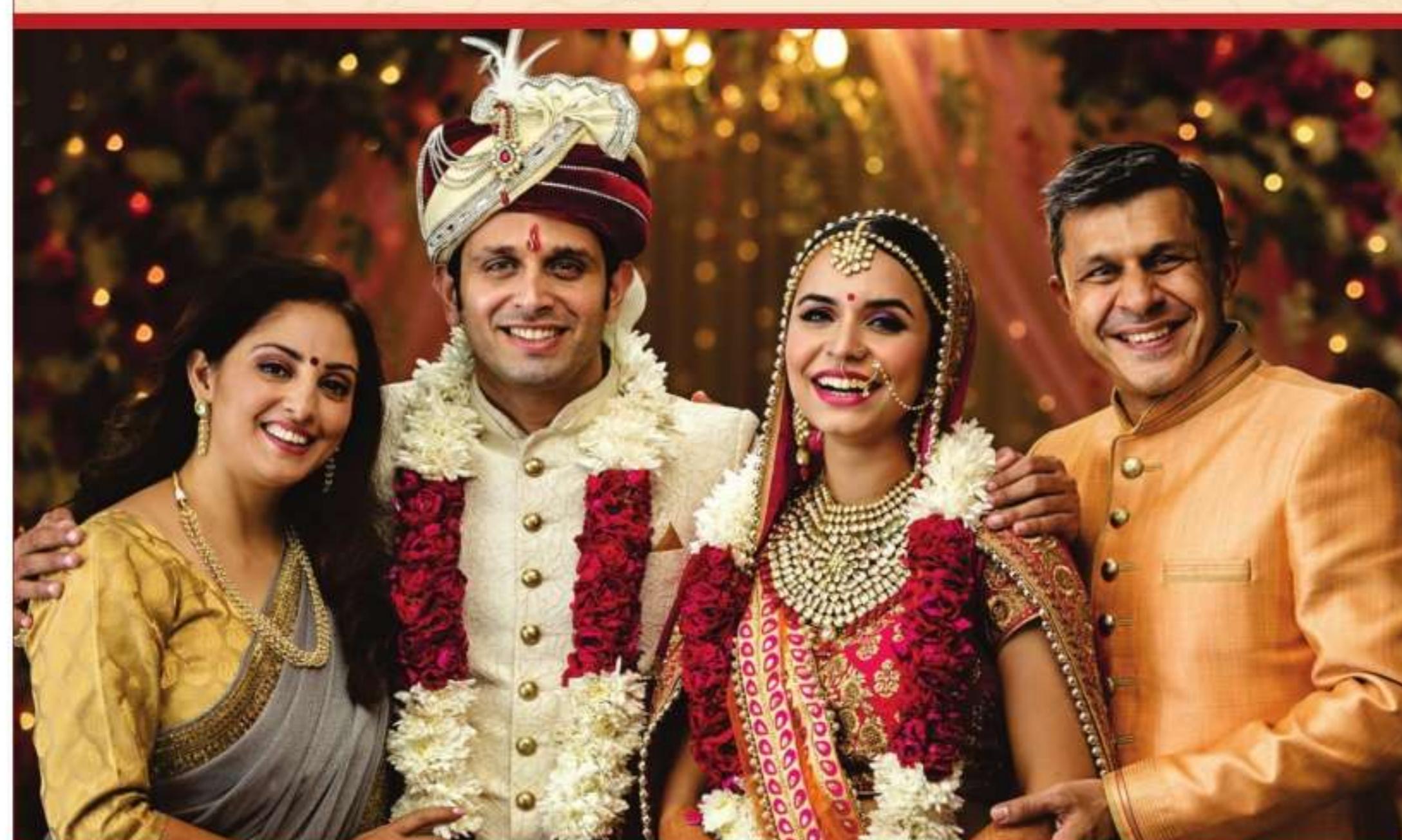
Bagga is a true nationalist who speaks up against every anti-national act and has set up high standards of public service during the Covid era. People are shocked to see AAP leaders insulting and abusing a true nationalist like Bagga and they will teach AAP a political lesson in the ensuing civic election," Kapoor claimed.

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# AIIMS 2nd Public Hospital In India To Do Lung Transplant

Organ Came From Soldier Declared Brain Dead After Accident

Durgeshnandan Jha  
@timesgroup.com

New Delhi: AIIMS has become only the second public hospital in the country to conduct a lung transplant procedure after PGIMER, Chandigarh. The surgery involves removing one or both diseased lungs from a patient and their replacement by a healthy one from a cadaver donor. The recipient of the new lung at AIIMS on Friday is a woman in her 30s.

Murali Manoharan, the donor, a soldier in the Indian Army, was declared brain dead at the Army (Research and Referral) Hospital after a road traffic accident, according to vice admiral Rajat Datta, director general, Armed Forces Medical Services. "Manoharan's wife, Kaushalya, consented to the donation. His organs have given a new lease of life to three terminally ill patients and the gift of sight to two patients suffering from corneal blindness. In life, this young braveheart pledged to serve the country. After life, he gave the greatest gift to humanity: his organs. I salute him and his family," said Datta.

While the lungs were used for the transplant at AIIMS, the heart and liver went, respectively, to Mumbai's Jaslok Hospital and Delhi's Institute of Liver and Biliary Sciences.

Group captain Suresh Kastha of the Army hospital said that this was the first time they retrieved the lungs from a brain-dead donor. "The recipient was suffering from cystic fibrosis, a genetic disorder that da-

## WHAT IS A LUNG TRANSPLANT

It involves removing a diseased lung and replacing it with a healthy lung from another person. The surgery may be done for one lung or for both

### KEY FACTS

- First lung transplant was done in the US in 1963
- Till date, 4,000 lung transplants have been conducted globally, including 200 in India
- The first single lung transplant was conducted in India in 2012 on a 41-year-old woman in Mumbai. She died 14 days later due to infection
- Later, many other private hospitals like Apollo, Narayana Health and Max Healthcare conducted the transplant. It is the only definitive treatment for end-stage lung disease

**AIIMS** is the second public hospital in the country to conduct lung transplants. First was **PGI Chandigarh** that conducted the surgery in 2017

## WHY LUNG TRANSPLANTS ARE RARE

**Costly procedure** Transplant costs around ₹30 lakh in private hospitals. Yearly costs of follow-up medicines run into several lakhs

**Donor shortage** There is an acute shortage of suitable cadaver donors in the country although demand for transplants is rising

**High-risk surgery** Long-term survival rate is lower in case of lung transplants compared with transplants involving other organs like kidney or liver. It has improved significantly though as more and more surgeons conduct the challenging procedure



mages the lungs, due to which she couldn't breathe properly. She was on non-invasive ventilator support for almost two years," said Kaitha.

Dr Randeep Guleria, AIIMS director, informed, "The recipient is under observation." He said the next few days were crucial. He lauded the doctors who performed the transplant surgery for their remarkable achievement.

The demand for lung transplant—the only definitive treatment for a person suffering from end-stage lung disease—has increased, but few transplants are carried out because of unavailability of suitable cadaveric donors and the high cost of post-operative care. Lung transplant, like a heart transplant,

can only be carried out with an organ donated by a deceased donor. Till date, around 4,000 such transplants have been done globally, around 200 of them in India.

Except for one, all lung transplants in India have been done in private hospitals where the procedure can cost Rs 20-30 lakh or more. Follow-up medications, which must be taken lifelong, cost several lakhs a year.

The success of public hospitals such as AIIMS and PGI Chandigarh, where surgery is conducted free of cost, offers a ray of hope to many patients suffering from end-stage lung diseases. AIIMS also plans to provide the following up medicines at no cost. "Organ donation is a su-

preme act of kindness. Kaushalya lost her husband within a year of marriage and still consented to the donation. This will surely encourage others," hoped lieutenant general Ashok Jindal, commandant of the Army hospital. According to Dr A K Bisoi, who was part of the team led by Dr P Venugopal that conducted India's first heart transplant in 1994, told TOI recently that technical feasibility wasn't the most difficult part when it came to heart or lung transplants, but arranging cadaver donors. "Also, most patients in a country like ours cannot afford post-transplant care, which involves taking immunosuppressive medications and living in a sanitized environment," Bisoi said.

cross 44 degrees Celsius by May 10," said RK Jenamani, senior scientist at IMD.

The maximum temperature is likely to reach around 43 degrees Celsius by Monday. "The winds are now again westerly, which are dry and warm. This may lead to a rise in maximum temperatures with the possibility of small spells of heatwaves around May 9. The maximum temperature may

record the maximum temperatures of 41.8 degrees, 41.7 degrees, 40.8 degrees and 40.2 degrees, respectively.

On Sunday, the maximum and minimum temperatures may hover around 41 and 24 degrees Celsius, respectively.

Meanwhile, the air quality of the city improved within the 'poor' category. On Saturday, the air quality index, on a scale of 0 to 500, was recorded at 206 compared with 273 a day earlier.

Sisodia had met the representatives of about 50 prominent markets of Delhi last week to speed up the implementation of the state government's plan to redevelop Delhi's iconic markets and hold the annual shopping festival.

The government, which intends to redevelop five iconic markets of the city, will soon form a committee to evaluate the applications and shortlist the names.

Once the markets are identified, the departments concerned would carry out a survey to understand the major issues that need to be resolved and a concrete redevelopment plan would be prepared.

Officials said the market associations would also be asked for their "support and cooperation" to ensure that the businesses operating from the area get maximum benefit of the redevelopment.

Deputy chief minister Manish



Kuljinder who has links with criminals and is the one patronised by drug smugglers like Sarabjit was used by AAP Punjab Govt as its henchman."

He also accused AAP of using Kulwinder Singh to execute illegal operations and intimidate their political opponents.

In February 2019, a special CBI court in Mohali sentenced Jagdish Bhola, ex Punjab police DSP, to 12 years' rigorous imprisonment for his involvement in a drugsmuggling case. He was dismissed from service in 2004 after poppy husk was recovered from him.

Bhola had attained fame after earning a silver medal in the 1991 Asian Wrestling Championships. He was given the Arjuna award which was withdrawn after his name figured in a drug racket.

His alleged testimony where he spoke about his links with Akali leader Bikramjit Singh Majithia led AAP to launch a campaign against Akalis.

Delhi CM and AAP chief Arvind Kejriwal, who led the charge, apologised to Majithia when he slapped him with a defamation notice, only to effectively renew the attack during the campaign for recent assembly polls.

## 50 market bodies interested, govt to pick five iconic hubs for revamp

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi: The associations of about 50 prominent markets of Delhi have shown interest in redevelopment for Delhi Shopping Festival, which will be held later this year, the AAP government said in a statement on Saturday.

The government, which intends to redevelop five iconic markets of the city, will soon form a committee to evaluate the applications and shortlist the names.

Once the markets are identified, the departments concerned would carry out a survey to understand the major issues that need to be resolved and a concrete redevelopment plan would be prepared.

Officials said the market associations would also be asked for their "support and cooperation" to ensure that the businesses operating from the area get maximum benefit of the redevelopment.

Deputy chief minister Manish

governments' operations" on his behalf.

"DSP Kuljinder was posted on the instructions of drug lord Sarabjit who is also being investigated by NIA for his links with terrorists and drug smugglers, after a Chandigarh-based newspaper, 'Daily World' exposed a recording in which Sarabjit can be heard," the BJP leader said.

He said, "Sarabjit gave instructions to the then Punjab DGP Siddharth Chatto-padhyay to post DSP Kuljinder in Mohali. This 'defaulter cop'

jobs in five years through promotion, branding and infrastructural facelift of iconic marketplaces.

The redevelopment project will be taken up jointly by the tourism department and Delhi Tourism and Transportation Development Corporation. Officials said the government's aim is to promote the iconic markets to create a brand around them to increase the sales and attract more customers from Delhi and the rest of the country.

The government in April last week had asked the traders across the city if there was a hub of any unique product or food item, which qualifies them for entry into the top five markets of Delhi for redevelopment purposes. It had also asked the traders to identify five major infrastructure problems plaguing their market and how the market association can help the administration in redevelopment of the area.

## Mercury crosses 41°C again, likely to touch 44 by Tuesday

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi: The national capital saw a slight rise in the mercury on Saturday even as the respite from heatwave continued. The daytime temperature touched 41 degrees Celsius in a few areas. Heatwave conditions are likely to be back from May 9 onwards, said weather analysts.

According to India Meteorological Department (IMD),

the maximum temperature at Safdarjung, the city's base weather station, was recorded at 39.4 degrees Celsius as against 38.4 degrees Celsius a day earlier. The minimum temperature was 23.8 degrees Celsius compared with Friday's 24.2 degrees.

Sports Complex and Najafgarh stations recorded over 41 degrees Celsius temperature. Sports Complex, Najafgarh, Ridge and Palam observatory

crossed the maximum temperatures of 41.8 degrees, 41.7 degrees, 40.8 degrees and 40.2 degrees, respectively.

The maximum temperature is likely to reach around 43 degrees Celsius by Monday. "The winds are now again westerly, which are dry and warm. This may lead to a rise in maximum temperatures with the possibility of small spells of heatwaves around May 9. The maximum temperature may

record the maximum temperatures of 41.8 degrees, 41.7 degrees, 40.8 degrees and 40.2 degrees, respectively.

On Sunday, the maximum and minimum temperatures may hover around 41 and 24 degrees Celsius, respectively.

Meanwhile, the air quality of the city improved within the 'poor' category. On Saturday, the air quality index, on a scale of 0 to 500, was recorded at 206 compared with 273 a day earlier.

Sisodia had met the representatives of about 50 prominent markets of Delhi last week to speed up the implementation of the state government's plan to redevelop Delhi's iconic markets and hold the annual shopping festival.

The government, which intends to redevelop five iconic markets of the city, will soon form a committee to evaluate the applications and shortlist the names.

Once the markets are identified, the departments concerned would carry out a survey to understand the major issues that need to be resolved and a concrete redevelopment plan would be prepared.

Officials said the market associations would also be asked for their "support and cooperation" to ensure that the businesses operating from the area get maximum benefit of the redevelopment.

Deputy chief minister Manish

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## PUBLIC NOTICE

In compliance with order passed by Hon'ble NCT on 20.05.2020 in the matter of O.A. No. 46/2018,

**N Jayasimha Vs Govt of NCT of Delhi, CPCB has framed "Guidelines for Environmental Management of Dairy Farms and Gaushalas".** The guidelines framed by CPCB are available at the website of DPCC i.e., [dpcc.delhigovt.nic.in](http://dpcc.delhigovt.nic.in)

The Dairy Farms & Gaushalas have been categorized as Orange and Green Category respectively based on the direction given by CPCB under **Section 18(1)(b) of the Water (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Act, 1974 & the Air (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Act, 1981** on 10.07.2020.

The dairy farms and gaushalas are categorized as below:

S.NO.	ACTIVITY NAME	CONSENT CATEGORY
1.	Gaushala	Green
2.	Dairy Farm ( Upto 14 animals )	Green
3.	Dairy Farm ( 15 or more animals )	Orange

Therefore, **all the dairy farms and gaushala owners in Delhi** are hereby directed to immediately apply for Consent under the Water (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Act, 1974 & the Air (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Act, 1981, as per relevant category, to DPCC **within 15 days from issue of this notice** failing which further necessary action under relevant acts shall be initiated.

Member Secretary ( DPCC )

## BJP cites audio clip to claim links of 'tainted' cop with Bagga arrest

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi: BJP on Saturday released an audio clip to claim that the AAP government in Punjab hand-picked a deputy SP, who had links with tainted cop and drug smuggler Jagdish Bhola, for the arrest of Tajinder Pal Singh Bagga.

The party released the purported recording of a conversation of one of Bhola's aides with a police officer to allege that the Punjab Police team deployed to arrest Bagga had targeted personnel who carried out the "illegal" operation.

"Changing the name doesn't change the past and notorious actions of a person. This KS Sandhu who came to pick up Tajinder Bagga is the same notorious Kuljinder Singh with an ill-famed past," BJP leader Adesh Gupta, R P Singh and Manjinder Singh Sirsa during a protest against the arrest of Tajinder Pal Singh Bagga

new, "On behalf of the mothers whose children were killed due to intoxication, I ask Delhi CM Kejriwal what do you have to do with Sarabjit, who was accused of drug smuggling of Rs 700 crore?"

Sirsa revealed that Kuljinder Singh Sandhu was posted as the DSP (Mohali) at the instance of prime accused in the Bhola drug case, Sarabjit Singh. Sirsa shared an audio clip of an allegedly leaked conversation between tainted cop Sarabjit Singh and former Punjab DGP Siddharth Chatto-padhyay.

Sarabjit could be heard conceding that Kuljinder Singh Sandhu enjoyed his 'full confidence' and could carry out 'ille-

gal operations' on his behalf.

"DSP Kuljinder was posted on the instructions of drug lord Sarabjit who is also being investigated by NIA for his links with terrorists and drug smugglers, after a Chandigarh-based newspaper, 'Daily World' exposed a recording in which Sarabjit can be heard," the BJP leader said.

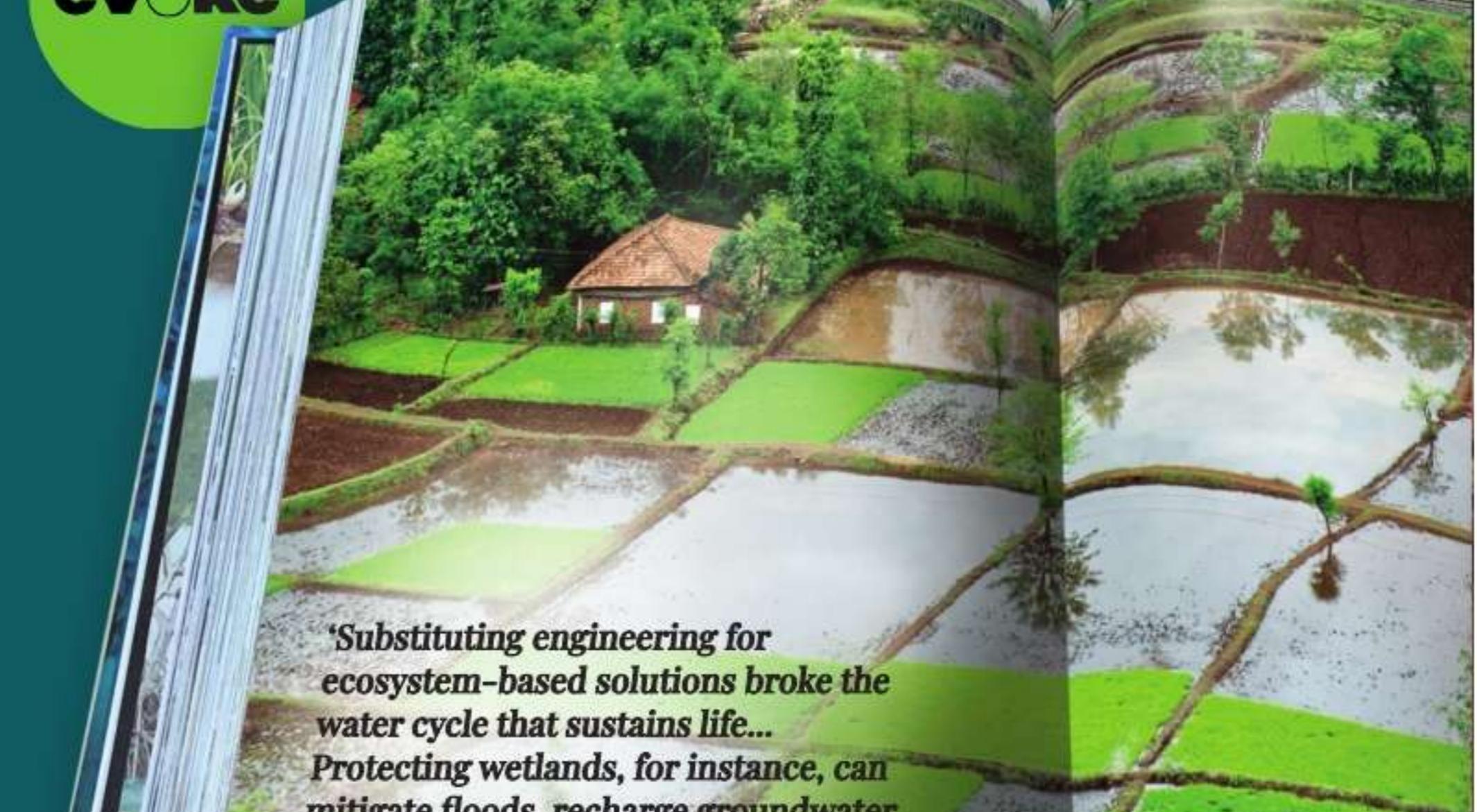
He said, "Sarabjit gave instructions to the then Punjab DGP Siddharth Chatto-padhyay to post DSP Kuljinder in Mohali. This 'defaulter cop'

had asked the traders across the city if there was a hub of any unique product or food item, which qualifies them for entry into the top five markets of Delhi for redevelopment purposes. It had also asked the traders to identify five major infrastructure problems plaguing their market and how the market association can help the administration in redevelopment of the area.

**'We've broken the water cycle – we should work with nature to ensure water security'**

SANDRA POSTEL, STOCKHOLM WATER PRIZE LAUREATE

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# 20-year-old man dies 3 days after a group thrashed him

Attackers Suspected Him To Be Police Informant; Nine Held

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi: A 20-year-old man was thrashed by a group of men in southwest Delhi's Dabri on April 23 and died in hospital three days later. The group suspected the youth of being an informant for the cops. The video of the assault went viral on social media on Saturday.

Police identified the victim as Krishna. As some men recorded a video of the beating, the others thrashed him with belts, sticks and blows. Krishna was referred to Safdarjung Hospital, where he died of his injuries on April 26. So far, nine men have been arrested and a hunt is on



VICTIM: Krishna

to nab the others accused.

Police sources said Krishna quarreled with a man named Suraj on Holi. Komal, Krishna's sister, said, "My brother had gone to a nearby locality on Holi and smeared

colour on one of his female friends. This angered Suraj and they had a fight. But after apologising, he returned home. He was suffering from jaundice and was taking medicines. He was once jailed in UP, but after that he had remained away from the world of crime."

According to Komal, on April 23, a group of men started thrashing Krishna, who ran to the terrace to save himself. "He jumped on the roofs of at least five houses, but his attackers had come prepared to kill him. They thrashed him with anything they could lay their hands on," said Komal. "The girl on whom he had smeared colours leading

to the quarrel with Suraj was also present. She requested the men not to beat Krishna, but no one listened to her. They tore off his shirt and bashed him up so badly that he died of his injuries."

The accused were identified as Zaheer (48), Enabul (34) and Tabrez (48). All of them were nabbed from the Jahangirpuri area. "We caught Zaheer and Enabul on Friday whereas Alam was nabbed on Saturday," a police source said.

New Delhi: Delhi Police has apprehended three more people in the Jahangirpuri violence case. So far, 36 accused, including three juveniles, have been apprehended.

The accused were identified as Zaheer (48), Enabul (34) and Tabrez (48). All of them were nabbed from the Jahangirpuri area. "We caught Zaheer and Enabul on Friday whereas Alam was nabbed on Saturday," a police source said.

Inquiry revealed that Zaheer was seen brandishing a pistol in a video. We are probing whether he had fired any shot. Enabul has a criminal history. All the three accused are residents of Jahangirpuri," the source said.

Sources said Tabrez was arrested based on digital evidence. When DCP (north-west) was asked whether Tabrez was part of an aman committee, no reply came from her side.

Police are raiding Delhi-NCR as well as other states to catch those who were involved in the violence. They have been using facial recognition technology and advanced social media tools to track the culprits.

Violence had erupted at the C Block area in Jahangirpuri during a Hanuman Jayanti procession on April 16 that left nine people injured, including eight police personnel and a civilian.

## School assault: EDMC turns strict on norms

Vibha.Sharma@timesgroup.com

New Delhi: After the incident of alleged assault of two minor girls at a primary school in Bhajanpur, the East Delhi Municipal Corporation (EDMC) has issued a circular to the management of its 354 schools to adhere to the guidelines strictly to avoid action.

The teachers and principals have been asked to not leave school/class without giving prior information to management. They have been advised to come to the school 15 minutes early and not allow anyone, including parents, during school hours inside

the premises. Also, teachers will ensure that gates remain closed during school hours on a rotation basis.

EDMC mayor Shyam Sunder Agarwal said they installed cameras at six to seven places but could not continue the project due to a lack of funds. "This is the case with guards who are basically deployed for the safety of school buildings in the second half. But they do come in the morning to open the complex," said the mayor earlier.

Officials from the educa-

tion department, however, said that there are group-IV employees like nursery aayas, sani-

tation workers, etc., present at the schools, and principals have been asked to take their services to restrict entry at the main entrance gates. It has also been noticed that teachers are leaving school early so

we have categorically asked principals to ensure teachers leave schools at least 15 minutes after they are discharged and after confirming that all children leave for their home

safely. In case any teacher leaves the school during working hours, then the principal will be responsible, mentioned in the circular," said an official.

The circular also stated that details related to the parents, their contact number, taxi/bus etc. in which children are commuting should be available with class teachers. "And the rooms which are not in use in any shift should be kept close and their keys should be available with principals. No relatives of sanitation workers or guards, etc., will be allowed in the schools," stated in the circular which has over 30 points.

**3 | 5 | 4**  
SCHOOLS RUN BY  
EDMC HAVE BEEN  
ASKED TO ADHERE  
TO THESE  
GUIDELINES

## DELHI STATE LEGAL SERVICES AUTHORITY is organising National Lok Adalat on Saturday, 14<sup>th</sup> May, 2022



for amicable settlement of all types of Civil and Criminal Compoundable Cases

From 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM  
at High Court of Delhi, all District Courts, Debt Recovery Tribunals,  
Delhi State Consumer Disputes Redressal Commission and  
District Consumer Disputes Redressal Commission, Delhi

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- (iii) Money Recovery cases;
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- (vi) Electricity and Water Bills cases;
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- (viii) Land Acquisition cases;
- (ix) Services matters relating to pay and allowances and retiral benefits;
- (x) Revenue cases (pending in District Courts and High Courts only);
- (xi) Other Civil cases;
- (xii) Compoundable Traffic Challans

### FOR TRAFFIC CHALLANS:-

- Compoundable Challans pending on Virtual Traffic Court till 31.01.2022 will be taken up in this Lok Adalat.
- Challan slips can be downloaded by litigants directly through the link <https://traffic.delhipolice.gov.in/notice/lokadalat> or <https://delhitrafficpolice.nic.in/notice/lokadalat> only. Litigants or their Advocates will have to visit the particular Court Complex (as per their selection) on the day of Lok Adalat and produce the print out of challan slip before the concerned Lok Adalat Judge for disposal of their challans.
- Aforementioned Links to download traffic challans for National Lok Adalat will be made available to public at Delhi Traffic Police website and DLSA website from 11<sup>th</sup> May, 2022 at 10 a.m. till 1,44,000 challans are downloaded from the site.
- Court Complex, Court Number and timing of Lok Adalat where the challan can be got disposed of will be mentioned on the Challan Slip.

**FOR ALL OTHER MATTERS:-** Parties may move an application for referral of their cases before Concerned Court where their cases are pending.

Bharat Parashar

Member Secretary

Delhi State Legal Services Authority, Patiala House Courts, New Delhi-110001

Settlement of disputes through Lok Adalat ensures speedy disposal, amicable settlement and refund of court fee paid. Award passed in Lok Adalat shall be final and binding on all the parties to the dispute and no appeal shall lie to any Court against the award.

(DLSA doesn't make calls for Lok Adalat as such, beware of FRAUD CALLS impersonating as Lok Adalat/DLSA employee)

For any query, please contact at:-

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## Three more nabbed for violence in Jahangirpuri

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

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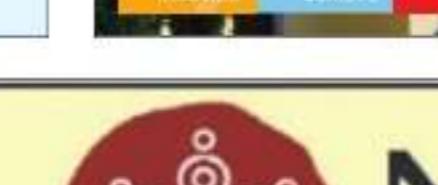
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# 12 rounds fired in W Delhi, 2 brothers hurt; cops look for motive

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi: More than a dozen rounds were fired on a busy west Delhi Hari Nagar road by gunmen, leaving two brothers injured. According to police, the victims were identified as Ajay Chaudhary and Jassa Chaudhary. They are residents of Tihar village.

Investigators are probing whether the firing was a result of personal enmity or business rivalry between two groups. Police said the incident took place around 8pm on Saturday when the victims were going in a car. When they reached a cinema hall, they were intercepted by gunmen who fired indiscriminately on the accused.

The accused, suspected to be on a two-wheeler, left the spot. The incident took place on a busy road and the passersby stopped and a PCR call was made to the police.

Meanwhile, police rushed to the spot and cordoned off the area. Forensic officials were called in to inspect the

**AN OFFICER SAYS**  
**One of the victims was either an ex-chairman or member of the mandi. We can't confirm if he is still a member**

crime scene and the injured were taken to the hospital. Senior officers, including the DCP, reached the spot.

The cops are probing whether contract killers and gangsters were hired to attack both brothers. "We suspect that they were coming home or going close to their homes when they were attacked,"

an officer said.

According to a senior officer, during the inquiry, they found that Ajay was connected to Keshopur Mandi. "We have found that he was either an ex-chairman or member of the mandi. We can't confirm whether he is currently a member or not," the officer said, adding that it

was not the case of a gang war. DCP (west) Ghanshyam Bansal said they have registered a case and have formed several teams to arrest the criminals. "We are also analyzing the CCTV footage of nearby areas. The victims are being operated on," he said. Investigators are probing the role of known people also.

**2 deaths, 1,407 new Covid-19 cases in city**

New Delhi: Two people died of Covid-19, while 1,407 new cases were reported from the city on Friday, revealed the data shared by the health department.

The total active cases in the capital stood at 5,955 on Friday. Delhi registered a test positivity rate of 4.72% with 29,821 tests conducted across 11 districts in the city in comparison to 5.39% on Thursday, when 30,709 tests were done. The total number of Covid-19 cases on Thursday was recorded at 6,096. TN

**Man dies after being beaten up, 4 arrested**

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi: A man died days after allegedly being beaten up by four people in south Delhi's Ambedkar Nagar. Police have arrested all accused in the case.

Police said on Tuesday night while patrolling near Holi chowk in Madangir, a constable saw that some boys were mercilessly beating a person with iron rods and sticks. The boys fled the spot on seeing the police staff, leaving the injured on the ground. He was taken to the hospital and a case was registered.

The victim was identified as Nishant, a resident of Madangir. On May 4, four accused, Shashank Barva (28), Rohit (20), German (26) and Rohit (20), were nabbed.

During interrogation, the accused claimed that they had old enmity with the victim, which led to the incident.

Deputy commissioner of police (south) Benita Mary Jaiaker said, on Saturday, they received information about the death of Naveen from his mother. "We have added section 302 (murder) of IPC in the case and further investigation was going on," she said.

## OBITUARY

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Being a fountain-head of knowledge & source of Inspiration, Master Amir Chand Ji has left behind rich harvest of everlasting memories.

You are forever in our thoughts & prayers

Family Members of Late Shri Shyam Lal Gupta



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You continue to shine in our hearts and lives.

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OUR DEAREST FATHER

AJAY SIDANA

July 1967 - May 2021

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Papa, to love and be loved by you.

Hardik and Jigyasu Sidana

## TIMES TRIBUTE

PAYING HOMAGE TO THE DEPARTED SOUL

### In Loving Remembrance



### Shri Hansraj Shiv

(29.04.1939 - 08.05.2017)

Those we love don't go away  
They walk beside us every day  
Unseen, unheard, but always near  
Still loved, still missed, still very dear.

Fondly Remembered by

Neerav Hans - Ramika Hans (Son & Daughter-in-Law)  
Siddharth Hans - Neha Hans (Son & Daughter-in-Law)  
Renu Hans & Shilpa Hans (Daughters)

Grandchildren:

Hireena, Jaiditya, Rania, Shantanu, Faria  
Staff & Members of BSL Group & Help Rural India



### REMEMBRANCE SHARING MEMORIES



In the Loving Memory of  
Mrs. Kusum Singh

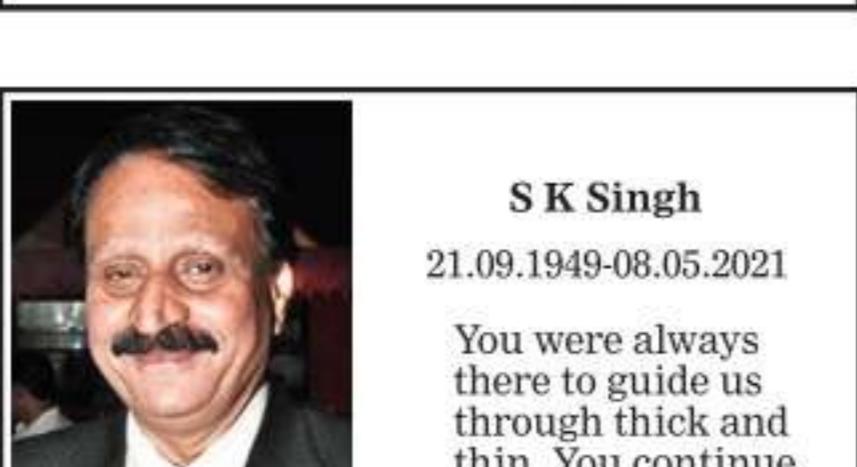
22 years of your eternal presence, in our hearts forever

Deeply missed by  
Children and  
Grandchildren



In Loving Memory of  
Mr. Anand Kumar Sitholay

Dearest Papa,  
We miss you a lot and you will always remain in our heart.  
Abha Sitholay ,  
Abhinav Sitholay &  
All Relatives - 9810743838

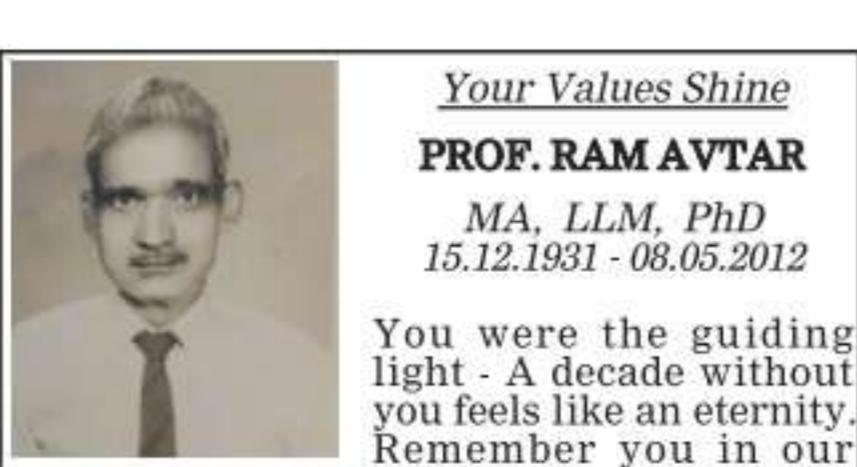


S K Singh

21.09.1949-08.05.2021

You were always there to guide us through thick and thin. You continue to give us strength and inspiration in everything we do. You and your sweet memories will always remain a part of our lives.

Fondly Remembered by : Aditi Singh, Rahul, Anurag, Ruchi, Kiran, Sia, Sana, Samaira, Friends and Family members.



Your Values Shine

PROF. RAM AVATAR  
MA, LLM, PhD  
15.12.1931 - 08.05.2012

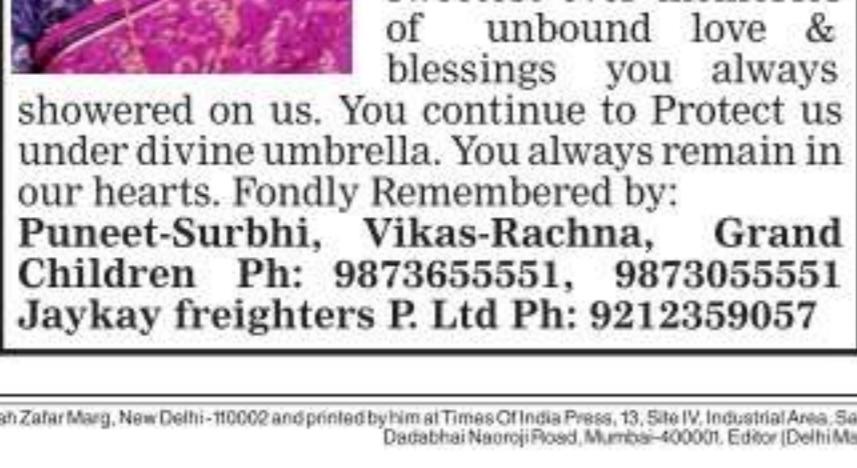
You were the guiding light - A decade without you feels like an eternity. Remember you in our prayers & thoughts every day. Values you taught carry us thru. May you rest in peace Pitaji. Luv Kumar & family. # 8377002593



Smt. Veena Jain

W/o Sh. Satya Bhushan Jain

On Mother's Day our hearts are warm with sweetest ever memories of unbound love & blessings you always showered on us. You continue to Protect us under divine umbrella. You always remain in our hearts. Fondly Remembered by: Puneet-Surbhi, Vikas-Rachna, Grand Children Ph: 9873655551, 98730604727 Jaykay freighters P Ltd Ph: 9212359057



In Loving Memory of

MR DIWASH LOHANI

07.03.1973- 19.05.2021

We mark a year of your passing with the same feelings as every other day - sadness that you're gone and wishing we could tell you one last time how much we love you; Your precious memories will always be our greatest assets, you will always remain our IDEAL Mother-Prema, Wife-Monika, Children-Yagya and Juhu

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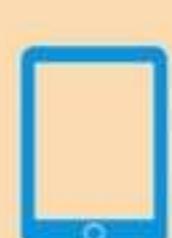


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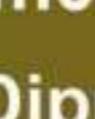
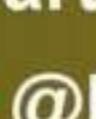
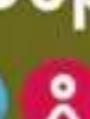
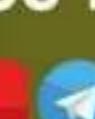
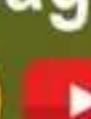
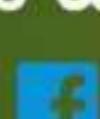
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# TIMES interact

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## real estate

### SUSHANT LOK-2 on the GOLF COURSE ROAD

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### ULTRA LUXURY BUILDER FLOORS

4 Separate Ready to Move Buildings Approx 3000 sq.ft. 4 BHK 5 Toilets Located in the Elite block 'E' @ 3.31 - 3.99 Cr (Just 90 Seconds Drive from Golf Course Road)

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1000 yd (E-block) Facing Huge Lawn, Sun facing @ 1.10 L

928 yd (E-block) Corner, North, Park facing @ 1.72 L (With 215 yd (130ft X 15ft) Exclusive Green Belt alongside the Plot)

500 yd (A-block) Direct Access - 20 Seconds Drive from Golf Course Road North facing near Metro/ Park @ 1.69 L

500 yd (A-block) East, facing Huge Park @ 1.72 L

500 yd (D-block) East facing 4th Plot from Golf Course Extn. Rd @ 1.72 L

300 yd (D-block) East facing 18 Mtrs Road @ 1.99 L

### DLF-I ULTRA LUXURY FLOORS

500 yd (A-block) Park and North Facing @ 6.25 Cr. onwards All Four Floors Available

### SUSHANT LOK-I ULTRA LUXURY FLOORS

300 yd (A-block) North Facing and Facing Huge Park. Gated Neighbourhood @ 4.25 Cr. onwards All Four Floors Available

Brokers Welcome (Minimum 2% Commission on Floors) 98100-11187

**BUY/SELL**  
**AMBIENCE CAITRIONA**  
4BHK, 5BHK  
**DLF PHASE-1**  
PLOTS - 500, 1000 SQ.YDS.  
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**MANOJ SHARMA**  
9810779402

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STARTING 4 CR. ONWARDS Just 2km from NH 8 • 10 minutes drive from Indira Gandhi Intl. Airport • 100% Genuine Land with Mutation & Registry • Pollution Free Environment • Solar Light Planned in 40 ft wide Inner Road • Construction & Interiors Facility Also Available • Gated Community with Borewell & Sewage Connection

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**GODREJ SUMMIT 104 DWARKA EXP.** (1200 FLATS FULLY OCCUPIED SOCIETY)  
**APPROVED NURSERY SCHOOL BUILDING.**  
**1050 SQ YARD PLOT** Built up 2988 Sq Ft. Open Area 6600 Sq Ft. Possibility of principal and staff accomodation  
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### DELHI

**LGf Basement Green Park** Main Rd 3200/ 1600 + 1600 Drs CA Ady Edu Inst Gym Spa Office Near AIIMS Metro Market Ph 9873978783 Brk wlcm

**ANAND lok Hauz khas** opposite brahma ghat park facing rich specifications reputed builder brokers excuse # 8700427477

**PLOT** For Sale 100 Sq. yards two side open road gated society immediately registers & possession at Rajokari New Delhi # 981067885, 9717298000

**BUILDER flat 1 BHK** 3BHK 70-77 Lac lift, car parking. Both side road bank loan registry under const. Rajokari. 852148385, 9717298000

**FURNISHED** 200 sq.yds having 3 BHK 2nd floor B-32 Moti Nagar New Delhi with lift and parking for sale. Contact 9816922866 between 2-6 PM any day.

**FOR SALE** commercial property in Mayapuri,Phase-1, main rd, nr metro,1st, 2nd & 3rd Flr Area each-1120 sq ft, Ample parking, # 9966049207

**MUST SELL FACTORY** Udyog Vihar-5, 450 Mtr. with built-up Basement/GF/ FF/ SF @ 9.80 Cr. Sunil Kumar Verma 9810081245

**JLS PROPMART**

**FOR SALE RENTED** Property(Grade-A) Golf Course Ext Rd, MNC Tenant. Fresh Lease. Brokers Welcome: 981823 0051

**DLF 1 Arjun Marg Shopping Mall** Shop 1250 sq ft G Flr Posh locality Heavy footfall Ideal retail Ph 9810082244 Brk Wlcm

**RENTED** HT Media 75,000

Dominoes 132,000

Yo China 1,53,000

RBL Bank 1,16,000

HDFC Bank 1,41,000

SBI Bank 1,66,000

Kotak Mahindra 3,35,000

School 18,00,000

**DEFENCE COLONY** Two Floors at Price of almost one Dikshit Bhatia 9910629222

**SPECIAL 2ND & 3RD** Floor Duplex Plus Terrace 325 Sq. Yards, 5BdRooms, 2 Car Parking & Powers. backup. Well maintained.

**SAMAL** 9310247980 GK 250y Crnr new 4Br & GF+B Crnr @4; Gulmohar 200y SF+4F+1; Green Pk 311y GF @5; Def Col 325y FF @5.50; Laq Ngr-III 200y SF @3.50

**FOR SALE PRE RENTED SHOP** in DLF Galleria DLF Phase-4 Price 4 to 23 Cr. Dua Realtors 9810110325 9810159600

**AGGARWAL HOMES** 9873497770

**SANT NAGAR (East of Kailash)** 4 BHK 2nd Floor 250 Yds JAIN 9910019884

**NEW CONST.** Freehold 3 Side Open Corner, Lift & 2 Car Parking @ 2.75 Cr. Near GK-1/ Nehru Place. Jain 9910019884

**PSHEEL PARK** 500y TF + ter; Saffdarjung Encl 419y GF Corner East/Park fac; Vasant vhr b+gf @7.75; PPS 9818881000, 9599806726

**WESTEND** 800yd G.Flr/S.Fir Panchsheel 800y B+GF/TF+Ter H.Khas Enc 100y B+GF P.Fac G.K 100y F.100y T.Flr-Terrace Ambica Prop (Regd) 98101-20612

## WANTED PLOTS

**South City-1,2 Greenwood City Suncity Township Sushant Lok-2,3 Ansal Esencia DLF Almeda DLF Garden City Sabharwal Associates**  
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**Space Available For Warehouse A-5, Sec-67, Noida Plot Area 2100 sqmt (10000 sqft Covered with Shed)**  
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**5500 SFT. FULLY FURNISHED INDEPENDENT BUILDING 100% AIR CONDITIONED**  
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Ext-II Original Booking GKI, 1st Flr, 2100 sq. ft., 400 sq. yrd. plot, 4 bed, 3 bath, 2 storied, roof rights, Old Const. in gd condition. Anand 9810791589, 9810791569

**ANAND lok Hauz khas** opposite brahma ghat park facing rich specifications reputed builder brokers excuse # 8700427477

**PLOT** For Sale 100 Sq. yards two side open road gated society immediately registers & possession at Rajokari New Delhi # 981067885, 9717298000

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**NH-24, GHAZIABAD** Taj exp. 1 Bhk, 450 Sqft. and shop 160 sqft. Price-1000/- per sqft. Attractive com. for delar. 9560109990

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# Ready To Roll: First Trainset Handed Over For First RRTS

Semi-High-Speed Train Will Be Transported To Gzb Depot Soon

**Sidhartha.Roy@timesgroup.com**

**New Delhi:** The first semi-high-speed trainset of India's first Regional Rapid Transit System (RRTS) corridor 'rolled out' on Saturday as it was handed over to National Capital Region Transport Corporation (NCRTC) at the manufacturing factory of Alstom at Savli, Gujarat.

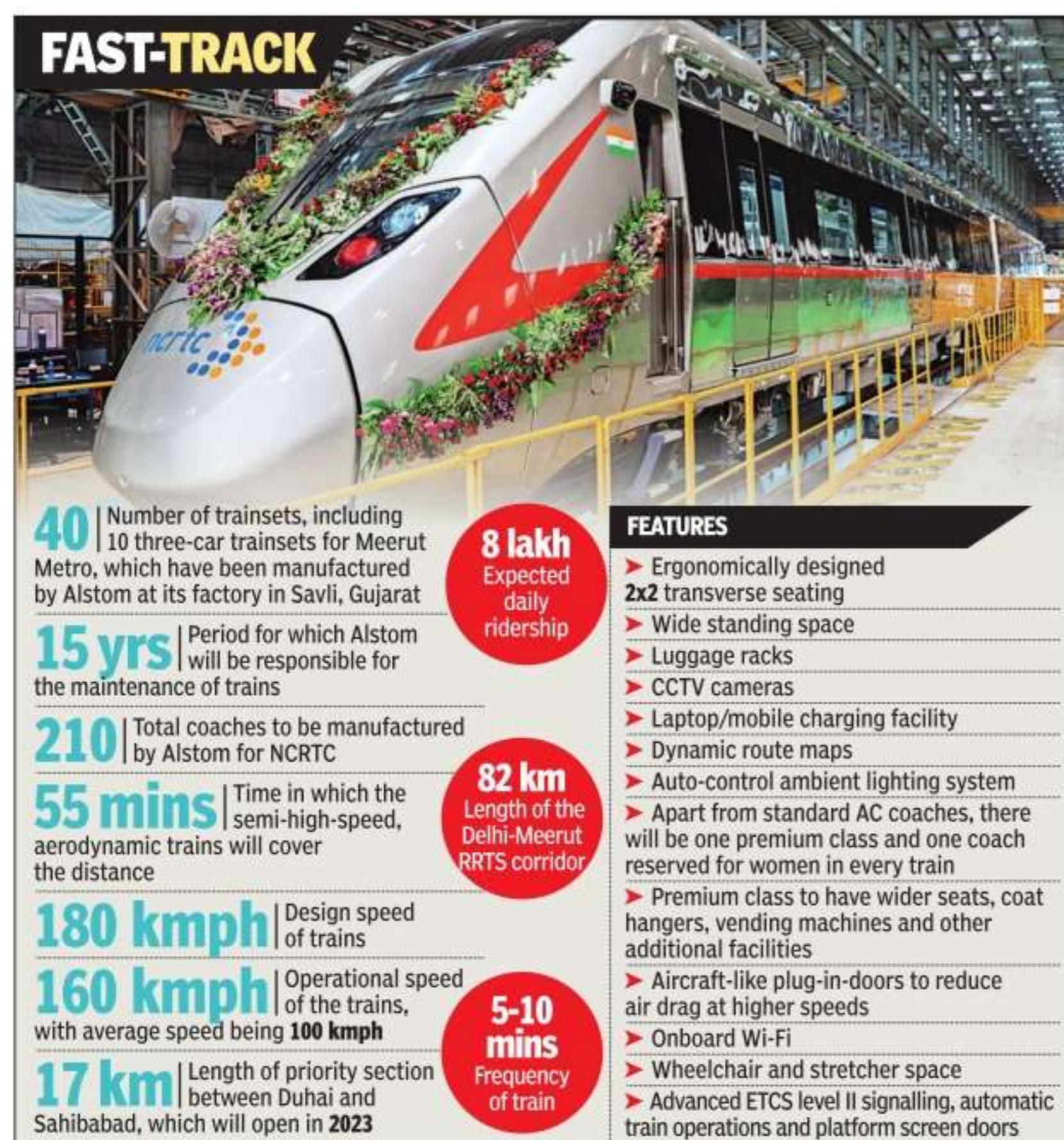
The process of the rollout began with the click of a button by Manoj Joshi, secretary, Union ministry of housing and urban affairs and chairman, NCRTC. After the trainset was flagged off, NCRTC's managing director Vinay Kumar Singh was handed over the ceremonial keys of the first train by Alain Spohr, managing director, Alstom India.

A NCRTC spokesperson said that with this rollout, the delivery of the trainsets has started and the first trainset will soon be brought on large trailers to the Duhai depot in Ghaziabad. The semi-high-speed trains will be the fastest in India with a design speed of 180 kmph, an operational speed of 160 kmph and an average speed of 100 kmph.

"This is just the beginning of India's journey of regional rails with two more RRTS corridors planned in the first phase itself. Work on them will also be taken up shortly and once completed, it will create a network of networks connecting all the major hubs of NCR," the Union minister of housing and urban affairs said in a video message, where he also complimented the NCRTC and Alstom teams for their efforts even during the pandemic to achieve the milestone.

While work is now going on the 82-km-long Delhi-Meerut RRTS corridor and the priority section between Duhai and Sahibabad is expected to be commissioned next year, the other two proposed RRTS corridors are Delhi-Panipat and Delhi-Alwar.

"What makes this project even more special is that under



#### NCRTC CHAIRMAN SAYS

**The design of these 30 RRTS ultra-modern trains has been completed indigenously in Hyderabad and all of the trainsets are getting manufactured at Savli**

the Make in India guidelines, the design of these 30 RRTS ultra-modern trains has been completed indigenously in Hyderabad and all of the trainsets are getting manufactured at Savli, Gujarat," Joshi said.

The NCRTC MD said that along with the bundled contract for supply and comprehensive maintenance of trainsets awarded to Alstom, the corporation has now finalised the selection process of a private partner for a long-term operation and maintenance contract of the Delhi-Meerut RRTS corridor. "The successful operation of these two contracts will bring a paradigm shift in the railway industry in the country," Singh said.

As per the contract, Alstom will deliver 40 trainsets, including 10 three-car trainsets for Meerut Metro, apart from maintenance for 15 years. The contract also includes

designing, supplying, installing, testing, and commissioning signalling and train control, supervision, platform screen doors, and telecommunication systems for the Delhi-Meerut corridor.

"Our trains and ETCS (European Train Control System) signalling systems will ensure safer and seamless intercity commute, benefitting millions of people and contributing towards socio-economic development," Spohr said.

"Delivering the first train within a year of commencing production reinstates Alstom's commitment to revolutionise India's rail networks," he said.

During the inquiry, cops found that Das had changed approximately 18 International

## FIR filed on charges of promoting enmity, hurting religious sentiments

were being closed in the matter; an SC bench headed by Justice AM Khanwilkar had asked additional solicitor general KM Nataraj. "Can we accept this position? Has the DCP reproduced what the investigating officer's report said or she independently applied her mind in drafting the affidavit? Does the DCP understand the nuances and other aspects of the issue involved?"

Nataraj had told the bench that "we (police) will have a relook and file a fresh affidavit. The bench had given the Delhi Police time till May 4 to file a "better affidavit" and posted the matter for further hearing on May 9.

The Delhi Police's earlier affidavit had stated: "After a deep inquiry and evaluation of the contents of the video, the police did not find any substance in the videos as per the allegations levelled by the complainants."

"There is no use of such words which mean or could be interpreted as 'open calls for genocide of Muslims in order to achieve ethnic cleansing or an open call for murder of an entire community' in the speech (as was alleged by petitioners — Qurban Ali and former HC judge Anjana Prakash)," the police said and wondered why the petitioners did not lodge a police complaint if they were aggrieved by the alleged hate speeches.

For the third cohort, where students are appearing for their supplementary or compartment examinations, need-based support will be provided.

"In the first phase, from May 9 to May 31, child-centric need-based support to address the needs of the students for forthcoming supplementary or compartment exams will be provided. In the second phase, from June 1 to June 15, after supplementary or compartment examinations, the same strategies as cohort II will be followed," officials said.

The order further added, "The heads of schools must ascertain that the information regarding teaching-learning activities should be disseminated to the parents and students at the time of declaration of results and ensure that the students attend the classes regularly."

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# Sharda varsity suspends teacher over 'fascism-right wing' question

Sets Up Committee To Look Into 'Bias' In Other Queries In Mid-Term Paper

**Shafaque.Alam**  
atimesgroup.com

**Noida:** An assistant professor at Sharda University was suspended on Friday for an "objectionable" question in a mid-term political science paper for undergraduates.

There were eight questions in the paper, conducted on Thursday afternoon, which carried a total of 50 marks. But question number 6 is what drew attention. "Do you find any similarities between Fascism/Nazism and Hindurightwing(Hindutva)? Elaborate with arguments", it asked. The question

carried seven marks.

The faculty member was suspended after some students complained to university officials. The university also formed a three-member committee to investigate after the question made it to Twitter, setting off a furor.

Ajit Kumar, the officiating registrar at Sharda, said some students lodged a complaint on Friday. "The university constituted a three-member committee of senior faculty members to look into the possibility of bias in all the questions. Till the inquiry is being conducted, the faculty member concerned will remain suspended," he said.

**REGISTRAR SAYS**  
**The question has been withdrawn from the assessment and the marks it carried would be adjusted with the other questions**

The other questions in the paper included — what do you understand by the term political ideologies, define conservatism briefly, what are the core themes of conservatism, what are the basic tenets of Fascism/Nazism, why is state a necessary evil according to liberal thought, and what are

the core themes of liberalism? Kumar said question number 6 had been withdrawn from the assessment and the marks it carried would be adjusted with the other questions. The assistant professor, he said, is an ad hoc faculty member and is pursuing his PhD in political science from Jamia Millia Islamia in New Delhi.

In a press note, the university expressed regret over the question. "The university fraternity is totally averse to any line of thought which distorts the great national identity and the inclusive culture inherent in our national ethos. As an institution of higher learning,

we are committed to the larger mission of civilization revival that celebrates the best of our religion, tradition, history and culture that have shaped not just the idea of India, but all the facets of human knowledge on the world stage," the statement read.

University officials said although there was a panel for setting semester exam papers, the questions for mid-term internal tests were set by individual faculty members. The assistant professor's contract with Sharda is scheduled to end on May 31.

The suspended faculty member was not available for comment.

## Humboldt Research Award for DU teacher

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

**New Delhi:** Delhi University scientist Professor Inderjeet Singh has been conferred with the prestigious Humboldt Research Award 2022. In addition, the ecologist is invited to undertake research in collaboration with German scientists.

The award includes the prize money of 60,000 Euro (Rs 49 lakh approx) with the possibility of further support during the prize winner's life.

Singh, a plant ecologist at the department of environmental studies at the university, focuses his research on understanding how plant species become invasive and cause harm to the environment. His research programme is an interdisciplinary multifaceted attempt with

global coverage to understand ecological-evolutionary processes of non-native invasive plants achieving success and influencing native communities.

Singh has global research collaborations and has published more than 100 papers in most-reputed journals. He has been previously awarded the Whittaker Distinguished Ecologist Award by the Ecological Society of America in 2015.

Speaking to **TOI**, Singh said: "It is good to see your work being recognised," adding that in Germany he will continue to work on plant invasion. "My research will continue to be on the chemistry of plant invasion. Why exotic plants are successful and how the chemistry leads to the success."

## Staffer in Rohini jail injured after attack by inmate

**New Delhi:** A head warden was injured after he was allegedly attacked with a sharp object by an inmate in Rohini Jail on Friday.

According to the prison's authorities, at 7.35 pm at Rohini's central jail number 10, two inmates, Pramod and Amit, refused to get locked inside their cell. While the head warden Bikram Dahiya was pursuing them, he was attacked suddenly with a sharp hand-made weapon. "Both the inmates were immediately over-powered. Dahiya was stabbed in the abdomen and has a few minor injuries on his arms," an officer said. His injury is not deep and his vital organs are not hurt.

"He was immediately taken to a hospital. His condition is stable and he is recuperating. Legal action under the law provisions has been initiated against the inmates," the officer said. **TNN**



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3.	PGP office Assistant	Graduate from reputed University with at least 50% Marks, minimum 5 Years' experience in the relevant field	Activities related to Academic Administration, such as, Scheduling of Classes, Student Exchange, Coordination with Students & Faculty.
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**7 killed, 5 hurt as stalker triggers fire in Indore building**

Antriksh.Singh@timesgroup.com

**Indore:** A spurned lover trying to settle scores with a girl by allegedly setting fire to her scooter triggered an inferno in a three-storey building in Indore early Saturday that killed seven people. Five residents were critically injured.

The building's only exit was blocked by burning vehicles while the door to the terrace was locked, trapping the victims inside. Bodies were found on the stairs. Some jumped from the third floor to escape.

CCTV footage from nearby buildings in the city's Swarnabhag neighbourhood shows a man leaving the premises seconds after the fire started. "He has been identified as Sanjay, alias Shubham Dixit, who was a tenant in the building till six months ago and was in love with a girl who lives there. Her marriage was fixed recently, which angered Sanjay," Indore



Charred remains after the fire at the 3-storey building on Saturday

police commissioner Harinayakanchari Mishra said.

Sanjay was identified by the survivors when they were shown the CCTV clips, Mishra said. "He took some inflammable liquid and set fire to the girl's scooter that was kept under the electricity meter."

This happened at 2.54am. There were a dozen vehicles on the ground floor and they all erupted, one after the other. Neighbours say they heard the fuel tanks exploding like bombs.

The victims were caught in their sleep when flames and thick smoke surged through the building, triggering panic. Shabana, a neighbour, said, "One of the tenants jumped from the third floor and fell on the road."

Some neighbours tried to mount a rescue from the terraces of adjoining buildings but in vain. It wasn't until dawn that firemen brought the blaze under control. By then, seven people were dead.

# WHO Covid toll report flawed and unacceptable, say states

**Health Mantris Of 20 States, Including Non-BJP Ones, Pass Resolution**

Sushmi.Dey@timesgroup.com

**New Delhi:** Health ministers of several states, including Jharkhand, Maharashtra, Tamil Nadu, Delhi and Punjab where non-BJP parties are in office, have unanimously slammed the World Health Organisation (WHO) for its estimate of 47 lakh excess deaths directly or indirectly linked to the Covid-19 pandemic in India in 2020 and 2021, calling it "unacceptable" and based on a "flawed mathematical assumption", sources said.

Citing the recently-released civil registration system (CRS) data, health ministers, from around 20 states and Union territories at the 14th Conference of Central Council of Health and Family Welfare (CCHFW) in Gujarat, jointly passed a resolution rejecting the UN health agency's estimates of excess deaths related to Covid-19.

WHO estimates are nearly 10 times higher than the coun-



India counts deaths due to all causes systematically through a transparent and legal process, the resolution said

try's official count of 4.8 lakh Covid-19 fatalities during the two years. These estimates drawn from flawed mathematical assumptions are unacceptable, in view of the fact that India counts deaths due to all causes systematically through a transparent and legal process," the resolution, reviewed by TOI, said.

Several health ministers

questioned WHO's estimates and called them erroneous. Ministers and state representatives said Covid-19 fatalities are systematically recorded in the country in accordance with a legal process.

The resolution states that the Council is "deeply disappointed by WHO's modelling based on exorbitant estimates of excess mortality in the coun-

try during the pandemic phase". The Council also sought "appropriate action" in this regard from health minister Mansukh Mandaviya. Many health ministers urged the Centre to raise the concerns against the UN health agency at the international level.

According to CRS data, 4.7 lakh additional 'all-cause' deaths were registered in India in 2020—the first year of the pandemic, as compared to 2019.

According to the resolution, the council also noted that India mounted a "pre-emptive, proactive, comprehensive and science driven" response to Covid-19 pandemic as a whole of government and whole of nation approach.

"India has a robust, legally mandated, comprehensive system of death registration under the 'Registration of Births and Deaths Act 1969'. Under the Act, the states/UTs report and document actual number of deaths counts of India," the resolution noted.

## Xiaomi alleges 'coercion', ED calls it 'baseless, untrue'

TIMES NEWS NETWORK



WAR OF WORDS

According to a Reuters report, that quoted from Xiaomi's court filings of May 4, officials of the ED had threatened Xiaomi's former managing director Manu Kumar Jain and its current chief financial officer Sameer BS Rao and their families of dire consequences if they did not give statements as desired by the agency.

The ED has, however, said Jain and Rao had deposited before the agency and gave statements "voluntarily". While Manu Jain ap-

peared before the ED four times between April 13 and 26, statements of Rao were recorded over six days between March 25 and April 26.

The ED said "no complaint was filed by them at any point of time during recording of statements at various occasions. Last statement of the officials of the company was recorded on April 26 and the seizure order (of Rs 5,551 crore) was passed on April 29". It appears that the allegation now made after passage of substantial time "is an afterthought", the ED said and added that the allegations are far from facts.

It is reiterated that the ED is a professional agency with strong work ethics and there was no coercion or threat to the officers of the company at any point of time, the statement further said.

## After SC slams bail delay, cops file new case against Azam

**Bareilly:** Rampur police filed a supplementary chargesheet in an ongoing school affiliation case on Friday and named senior Samajwadi Party leader Azam Khan as a "co-accused", reports Kanwardeep Singh. This is the second chargesheet in this case which was originally registered against Azam's wife Tazeen Fatimah and a government clerk Taufiq Ahmad.

The move came just hours after the Supreme Court expressed displeasure over delay in hearing Azam's bail application in an enemy property land grabbing case, calling it "a travesty of justice", and noted that he "got bail in 86 out of 87 cases". The Allahabad high court had on Thursday reserved its order on Azam's bail plea in the same case.

## Gyanvapi survey stalled as key members denied entry

Binay Singh | TNN

**Varanasi:** The survey and videography of the Gyanvapi mosque premises, which began on Friday amid tight security, was stalled on Saturday as the advocate commissioner and a team of lawyers were not allowed to enter and protests continued the second day.

The lawyer for respondent Anjuman Intezami Masjid Committee (AIMC), meanwhile, requested a local court to change the advocate commissioner for the survey and videography. The court of civil judge (senior division) Ravi Kumar Diwakar directed the plaintiffs and advocate commissioner to present their side in this regard in court and fixed May 9 as the next hearing date. The committee claimed the current advocate commissioner is biased and working under pressure from the plaintiffs.

The advocate commissio-



People gather at the site during the survey of the Gyanvapi Masjid complex and Shringar Gauri Temple, in Varanasi on Saturday

ner and lawyers arrived at the Gyanvapi premises in the afternoon to survey the Shringar Gauri temple in the complex, but a crowd of namazis gathered outside the premises. Police dispersed the crowd after slogans started.

The petitioners' advocate Vishnu Jain said, "The court had given a clear order; but it was not followed. People from the Muslim community came and stood at the door. Thus the survey has been stopped." "We will put our stand before the court on May 9," he said.

### 1 held for shouting slogans

One person was arrested late on Saturday for provocative slogans near Gyanvapi Masjid entry point. The arrested accused has been identified as one Mohd Abdul Salam. His accomplices managed to escape taking advantage of the crowd, said police.

## Maoists ready for talks, but C'garh says no to riders

Rashmi.Drolia  
@timesgroup.com

A road blocked by Maoists in Bastar to oppose recruitment for an anti-Naxal force, in this April photo

and then we are ready to talk with them on any platform."

A statement, attributed to Vikalp, Maoist spokesperson for Dandakaranya Special Zonal Committee, is circulating on social media. It refers to CM Baghel's offer of talks but alleges that it's the government that is "violating the constitutional rights of people". "We have already responded to the CM's talks offer. We will always be ready for talks on certain conditions that the government creates a conducive environment for it," the statement read.

## Ulfa-I 'executes' 2 new recruits for 'spying' for security forces

**Guwahati:** Paresh Baruah-led Ulfa-I on Saturday claimed to have "executed" two recruits from its new batch after identifying them as moles spying for the Army and Assam police, reports Prabin Kalita. Baruah said the duo, identified as Dhananjit Das of Barpeta and Sanjib Sarma, had been trying to convince cadres to surrender.

CM Himanta Biswa Sarma termed the killings, ahead of home minister Amit Shah's two-day visit to the state, "a very sad thing to have happened".

The outfit said its "court" held the dual guilty of treason and pronounced the death sentence on May 4 and 5. Baruah said they were "executed to day under the laws laid down in the constitution of Ulfa-I".

A few weeks ago, Myanmar-based Ulfa(I) released purportedly "confessional" videos of the two recruits in which they claimed to have been "planted" by a police official and an Army officer to gather information and help destroy the outfit's bases.

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**Institute of Hotel Management, Catering & Nutrition**  
Pusa, New Delhi-110012  
(An Autonomous Body Under Ministry of Tourism, Government of India)  
Phone No. 011-2581411, Website: [www.ihmpusa.net](http://www.ihmpusa.net)  
E-mail: [ihmpusa@rediffmail.com](mailto:ihmpusa@rediffmail.com)

**EMPLOYMENT NOTIFICATION**

Online applications in prescribed format are invited from eligible candidates for the post of "Teaching Associates" purely on temporary & fixed term contract basis. Details are available on the Institute's Website : [www.ihmpusa.net](http://www.ihmpusa.net)

Principal/Secretary

**MSME - Technology Development Centre, FRAGRANCE & FLAVOUR DEVELOPMENT CENTRE, KANNAUJ**  
Ministry of Micro, Small & Medium Enterprises Announces Joint Training-cum-workshop with FRI, Dehradun on **Essential oil, Perfumery & Aromatherapy**

This training-cum-workshop is designed to give an overview of the theoretical and practical aspects of essential oils, fragrances & aromatherapy right from natural sources to application stage including quality assessment. It would be beneficial for cosmetologist, beauticians, scientists, doctors, aromatherapists, traders, students and entrepreneurs.

**DURATION : 07 - 11<sup>th</sup> June, 2022 (10.00 AM to 5.00 PM)**

**INTAKE : 35 Nos.**

**VENUE : Forest Research Institute (Deemed University), PO-New Forest, Dehradun - 248006, Uttarakhand (India)**

**FEE : Rs.25,000/- (including lodging & boarding)**

Applying online goole form link available on FFDC website & fee via any online mode like NEFT/IMPS/Cash Transfer/Cheque Transfer in favour of FFDC payable at Kannauj latest by 31-05-2022 (on first come & first serve basis) to following Nodal Officer:- Dr. V.K. Varshney, Scientist-G, Chemistry and Bioprospecting Division, FRI, Dehradun-248006, Phone: 91-135-2224208, O+91-7900791000, E-mail: [vinay.varshney5@gmail.com](mailto:vinay.varshney5@gmail.com)

**Fragrance & Flavour Development Centre (FFDC)**  
Govt. of India Autonomous Body, Ministry of MSME  
Makrand Nagar, G.T. Road, Kannauj - U.P. - (209 726)  
Website : [www.ffdcindia.org](http://www.ffdcindia.org) E-mail : [ffdcnkn@gmail.com](mailto:ffdcnkn@gmail.com)  
Mobile : 8756019406, 8299151944, 7900791000, 7869365457

Certificates will be awarded

**DEPARTMENT OF STATE TAXES & EXCISE, HIMACHAL PRADESH.**

**Advertisement No. - 2-96/83-EXN-H-Estt-(PH)-2016- NOTICE FOR RECRUITMENT of PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES**

Applications are invited on prescribed proforma for filling up 05 posts of Excise & Taxation Inspectors (ASTEO) and 05 posts of Jr. Office Assistant (IT) amongst the candidates covered under following disabilities -

05 = Excise & Taxation Inspectors (ASTEO)	01 (Gen.) = a-blindness and low vision
	02 (Gen.) = b-deaf and hard of hearing
	01 (Gen.) = C-locomotor disability including cerebral palsy, leprosy cured, dwarfism, acid attach victims and muscular dystrophy
	01 (Gen.) = d & e-autism, intellectual disability, specific learning disability and mental illness. Multiple disabilities from amongst persons under clauses (a) to (d) including deaf/blindness
05 = Junior Office Assistant (IT)	02 (Gen.) = a-blindness and low vision
	01 (Gen.) = b-deaf and hard of hearing
	01 (Gen.) = C-locomotor disability including cerebral palsy, leprosy cured, dwarfism, acid attach victims and muscular dystrophy
	01 (Gen.) = d & e-autism, intellectual disability, specific learning disability and mental illness. Multiple disabilities from amongst persons under clauses (a) to (d) including deaf/blindness

The detailed advertisement along with application form may be downloaded from the website of the Department of State Taxes & Excise i.e. [www.hptax.gov.in](http://www.hptax.gov.in)

Yunus, (IAS) Commissioner of State Taxes & Excise Himachal Pradesh, Shimla171009



# Rajnath bats for free & fair play for economic actors

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

**New Delhi:** Defence Minister Rajnath Singh on Saturday called for modern regulations that encourage not just free play but also fair play for the economic actors and suggested that the corporate sector needs to take care of its employees as well as the ecology, while focusing on its bottomlines.

"If we are building a market-based economy, then we need to ensure necessary freedom for the market forces. They can operate according to their requirements and create wealth. But we also need to ensure that these forces comply with the social norms," Singh told a

gathering of the who's who of India at the ET Awards for Corporate Excellence.

He underlined how the challenges posed by the Ukraine war, resulting in an increase in food and fuel prices, and disruption in global supply chains, the defence minister said it was not in the government or the country's mindset to silently watch the situation without responding to it, although it may not have been thrust upon it.

"It is because of our efforts that domestic demand, investment and consumption have seen a rapid rise. We have seen a V-shaped recovery after the pandemic. The focus on infrastructure and logistics has helped ease the supply side problems. In-

come tax and GST collections have been higher than expectations," he said, while complimenting Sitharaman for the steps taken to address the crisis during the pandemic and deal with the current challenges posed by the war in Ukraine.

Singh, who has been helming the indigenisation strategy, said the Modi government had taken several initiatives—for positive list of items to be procured from domestic vendors to corporatisation of the ordinance factory boards and greater focus on R&D—which will result in orders of around Rs 4.5 lakh crore being awarded to domestic entities in the next five to seven years.

TRF claimed responsibility for the attack on constable Ghulam Hassan Dar from Eidgah's Danwar area.

Dar was heading to work at Srinagar police control room on his bike in civvies. Police said Dar was on duty driver of police vehicles.

Soon after the attack, the entire area was cordoned off and searches were launched to trace the perpetrators, a police officer said. TNN

## Rate hike part of synchronised global action: FM

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

**Mumbai/New Delhi:** Finance minister Nirmala Sitharaman on Saturday described the RBI's surprise move to raise its key interest rate by 40 basis points on Wednesday as somewhat of a 'synchronised action' with other central banks.

"In a way, it was a synchronised action. Australia did it, and the US did it that night. So I see a greater understanding among central banks nowadays. And obviously, when they meet at the World Bank, there's a lot exchanged. But the understanding of how to handle recovery from the pandemic is not fully unique or typical for only India. It's a global issue," said finance minister Nirmala Sitharaman.

The FM said the sanctions against Russia were "constraining India" as traditional buyers from Russia were shifting to source part of the Indian basket of crude, 80-85% of which is from the Middle East. This shift was likely to put more pressure on the Indian crude basket price.

The sanctions have resulted in people rushing to alternative sources where countries like India are

there for decades. Now suddenly it will be crowded with more people who want to buy the same thing. So supply and price factors will now have its ramifications on us," she said.

The FM made it clear that India will continue to buy crude oil from wherever it is available cheaply.

"In matters related to our oil consumption and from buying it from the source,

**Deloitte.**

**THE ECONOMIC TIMES AWARDS FOR CORPORATE EXCELLENCE**

which gives us a concessional rate, we've asserted our right in doing that," said Sitharaman. "We've been explaining that we will certainly purchase it, so it is something which has not been said for the first time. We'll go ahead with what is good for the country. We need cheap fuel. If it is available, why won't we want to buy it?" the FM said.

Sitharaman said even before the war, there was an increase in prices of fertilisers. The government had to seek extra spending approval during the supplementary demands because of the way crude oil was playing up and the rise in commodity prices due to supply disruptions.

## Stalin sop for kids to mark 1 year of govt

### Uddhav water plan with eye on civic polls

**Chennai:** Tamil Nadu chief minister MK Stalin on Saturday announced a free breakfast scheme for government school students. In the first phase, the scheme would be implemented in primary schools in a few corporations, municipalities and remote villages through local body administration. It would be extended across the state in a phased manner:

It is one of the five schemes announced by the CM to mark the completion of one year of the DMK government. A free nutrition scheme will also be rolled out for children below the age of six years. The government will establish "schools of excellence" and urban health centres at a cost of Rs 180 crore to extend integrated medical care to urban dwellers.

"The free breakfast scheme has been devised after the government learned that several students were coming to school without having breakfast," Stalin said. TNN

## After 100km chase, six held for poaching deer

**Maheesh.Buddi**  
@timesgroup.com

**Hyderabad:** Two spotted deer were hunted and killed in Kamareddy's Polkampet forest area in Telangana in the early hours of Saturday. A gang of six people, including a Hyderabad businessman, were arrested while three locals who helped the accused managed to escape.

While key accused Mohammed Hameed Uzzaman, who has a licensed sports rifle, was nabbed close to the spot where the deer were shot, five of his accomplices were caught by cops after a 100km chase in the jungle.

At around 4am, two police constables noticed suspi-

cious movement of two cars in Polkampet. "They spotted the two cars and asked the drivers to stop. Instead of stopping, the cars sped away. The constables gave a chase and alerted nearby police stations," Kamareddy district SP Srinivas Reddy said.

Soon, police noticed that one of the cars was abandoned on the road near a rice mill in the village. "There was no one in the car. Our team found chopped body parts of two spotted deer stuffed in the boot space," the SP said. The police team also spotted Hameed with a rifle and immediately took him into custody. He confessed to hunting the deer with his licensed sports rifle.

The application duly filled-in along with necessary documents must reach to the Office of Director, IHBAS on or before 23.05.2022. The applicant who is in service of Central Govt./State Govt./Public Sector Undertaking/Autonomous Body shall have to submit his/her NOC at the time of interview. A certificate from the employer is also required to be submitted in case of his/her selection his department will be relieved him/her to join IHBAS.

(For complete details please visit our website [www.ihbas.delhigovt.nic.in](http://www.ihbas.delhigovt.nic.in))

DIP/Shabdharth/0078/22-23

MENTAL ILLNESSES ARE TREATABLE

## LeT offshoot kills constable in Srinagar

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

**Srinagar:** Terrorists of The Resistance Force (TRF), an offshoot of Lashkar-e-Taiba, shot dead a policeman in downtown Srinagar on Saturday morning, reports, **Saleem Pandit**. In the past five months alone, terrorists have murdered around a dozen policemen in Kashmir. In 2021, as many as 229 cops were killed.

TRF claimed responsibility for the attack on constable Ghulam Hassan Dar from Eidgah's Danwar area.

Dar was heading to work at Srinagar police control room on his bike in civvies. Police said Dar was on duty driver of police vehicles.

The Chinese presence has increased in the northern sector in the recent past. Due to their proficiency in construction in mountainous areas, they manage to reach different places very quickly. BRO must

## To counter China, use latest tech to boost border infra, Singh tells BRO

continue to work in parallel and focus on increasing its capability with full use of technology," Singh said, addressing BRO personnel on their 63rd raising day.

The BRO's capital budget has been increased by 40% to Rs 3,500 crore in 2022-23, reflecting the government's commitment to the country's security and development of border areas, Singh said.

There are no signs of any de-escalation in the two-year-old military confrontation with China, with the two sides continuing to forward deploy over 50,000 soldiers each along with

heavy weapons along the frontier in eastern Ladakh.

The People's Liberation Army has used the last 24 months to further consolidate its military positions and border infrastructure all along the Line of Actual Control as well as upgrade all its air bases facing India.

The latest example is China's construction of a bridge across the Pangong Tso in the Khunak Fort area, illegally occupied by China since 1958, for better connectivity of its troops between the north and south banks of the brackish lake, as reported by TOI.

## INSTITUTE OF HUMAN BEHAVIOUR & ALLIED SCIENCES (IHBAS)

(Hospital based autonomous academic Institute, under Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi dealing with) "Brain- Mind Problems & Their Solutions" Dilshad Garden, Delhi 110 095 (India)

Tel.: 22112136, Fax:2259 9227 E-mail: director@ihbas.org Website: [www.ihbas.delhigovt.nic.in](http://www.ihbas.delhigovt.nic.in)

Dated: 07/05/2022

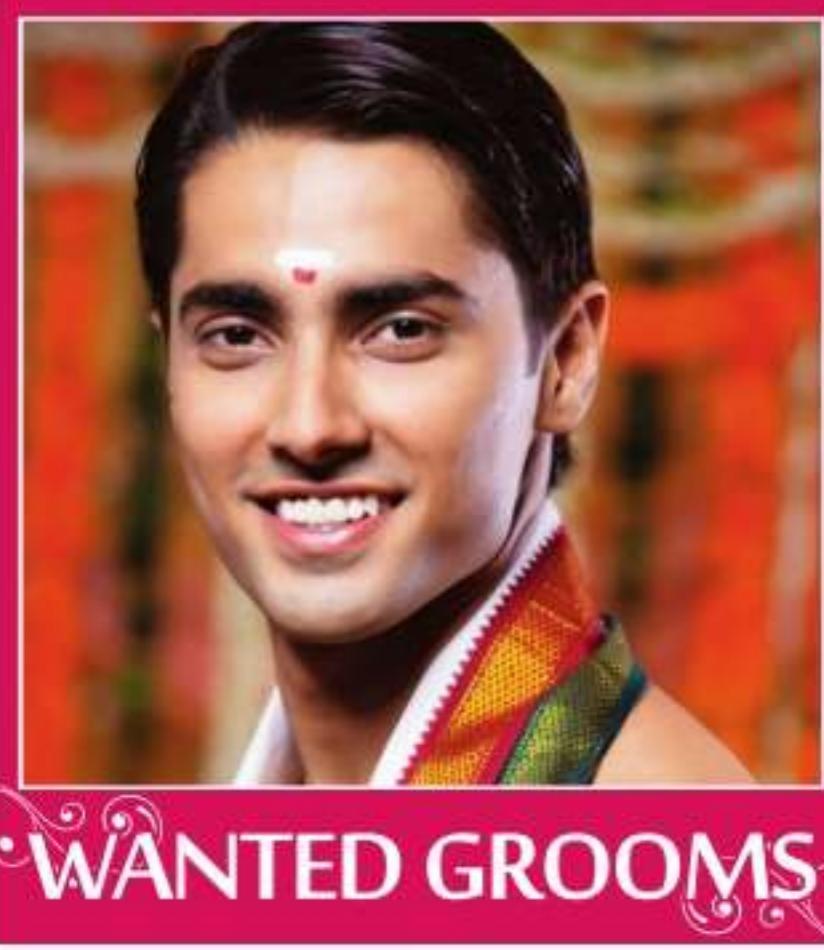


Applications are invited from the citizens of India for the following Faculty posts on Regular Basis

S. No.	Name of post	No. of post	Reservation					Pay Matrix Level	Mode of Recruitment
			UR	SC	ST	BC	EWS		
1	Professor (Neuro Chemistry)	01	01	--	--	--	--	Level-14A Rs.168900-220400	Regular basis
2	Professor (Neuro-radiology)	01	01	--	--	--	--	Level-14A Rs.168900-220400	Regular basis
3	Professor (Neurosurgery)	01	01	--	--	--	--	Level-14A Rs.168900-220400	Regular basis
4	Professor (Psychiatry)	01	--	--	--	01	--	Level-14A Rs.168900-220400	Regular basis
5	Professor (Neuro-anesthesia)	01	01	--	--	--	--	Level-14A Rs.168900-220400	Regular basis
6	Professor (Psychiatric Social Work)	01	01	--	--	--	--	Level-14A Rs.168900-220400	Regular basis
7	Professor (Clinical Psychology)	01	01	--	--	--	--	Level-14A Rs.168900-220400	Regular basis
8	Professor (Human Behaviour Department)	01	01	--	--	--	--	Level-13A2+ Rs.148200-211400	On Deputation basis
9	Addl. Professor (Neuro Surgery)	01	01	--	--	--	--	Level-13A2+ Rs.148200-211400	Regular basis
10	Addl. Professor (Psychiatry)	04	02	01	--	01	--	Level-13A2+ Rs.148200-211400	Regular basis
11	Addl. Professor (Neurology)	01	01	--	--	--	--	Level-13A2+ Rs.148200-211400	Regular basis
12	Addl. Professor (Neuro Anesthesia)	01	01	--	--	--	--	Level-13A2+ Rs.148200-211400	Regular basis
13	Addl. Professor (Psychiatric Social Work)	01	01	--	--	--	--	Level-13A2+ Rs.148200-211400	Regular basis
14	Addl. Professor (Clinical Psychology)	01	01	--	--	--	--	Level-13A2+ Rs.148200-211400	Regular basis
15	Associate Professor (Microbiology)	01	01	--	--	--	--	Level-13A1+ Rs.138300-209200	Regular basis
16	Associate Professor (Neuro-psychopharmacology)	01	01	--	--	--	--	Level-13A1+ Rs.138300-209200	Regular basis
17	Associate Professor (Neuro-radiology)	01	01	--	--	--	--	Level-13A1+ Rs.138300-209200	Regular basis
18	Associate Professor (Psychiatry)	08	03	--	01	04	--	Level-13A1+ Rs.138300-209200	Regular basis
19	Associate Professor (Neurology)	03	02	--	--	01	--	Level-13A1+ Rs.138300-209200	Regular basis
20	Associate Professor (Neuro-anesthesia)	01	01	--	--	--	--	Level-13A1+ Rs.138300-209200	Regular basis
21	Associate Professor (Psychiatric Social Work)	01	01	--	--	--	--	Level-13A1+ Rs.138300-209200	Regular basis
22	Associate Professor (Medical Anthropology)	01	01	--	--	--	--	Level-13A1+ Rs.138300-209200	Regular basis
23	Associate Professor (Psychiatric Nursing)	01	01	--	--	--	--	Level-13A1+ Rs.138300-209200	Regular basis
24	Assistant Professor (Neuro Psychopharmacology)	01	--	--	--	01	--	Level-12 Rs.101500-167400	Regular basis
25	Assistant Professor (Neuro-radiology)	01	--	--	--	01	--	Level-12 Rs.101500-167400	Regular basis
26	Assistant Professor (Neuro Surgery)	01	01	--	--	--	--	Level-12 Rs.101500-167400	Regular basis
27	Assistant Professor (Psychiatry)	08	--	02	05	01	--	Level-12 Rs.101500-167400	Regular basis
28	Assistant Professor (Neurology)	04	02	01	--	01	--	Level-12 Rs.101500-167400	Regular basis
29	Assistant Professor (Clinical Psychology)	01	--	--	--	01	--	Level-12 Rs.101500-167400	Regular basis
30	Assistant Professor (Social Work)	01	01	--	--	--	--	Level-12 Rs.101500-167400	Regular basis
31	Assistant Professor (Psychology)	01	01	--	--	--	--	Level-12 Rs.101500-167400	Regular basis
32	Assistant Professor (Social & Cultural Anthropology)	01	01	--	--	--	--	Level-12 Rs.101500-167400	

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**M4** b'ful , Fair S.L. Mlkg Jain Girl, 52" 10.19.90, 8.20 AM, Muzaffarnagar (U.P.), wkg as CA in Ggn. Well sett. from reputed family Delhi NCR will be pref. Cont - 8219830934, 9148748602 WhatsApp

**MBA** IMT Girl July 92/52" Wkg MNC Gurgaon Father Business seeks prof Qual Suitable Boy # 9897314782, anil@taranginketics.com

**JATAV**

**MATCH** for Fair, slim girl 29/52", M.Tech (IT) Ph.D, Asstt. Prof. CU Chandigarh (PB), Mob: 9866619739, Email: nare1962@yahoo.com

**KASHYAP**

**NM** boy,Tall,fair,H'som,W.sett, pref doctor/for a 5'3" 30 yr slim fair b'ful & prof! (B.Tech& MPT)kashyap.girl,fatherRetd. Govt. No. 941251267, 9891061971

**KAYASTHA**

**SM4** Kayastha Graduate Professional Qualified girl 28/53" Reqd Non smoker,Non drinker, Veg. well std boy, Govt. service prefer # 9873769544, 9319935017

**DELHI/NCR** based Match for Beautiful Mathur Girl 30/53" M.Sc Dietician in Hospital, 3.6 LPA. Castle no bar. Call/ WhatsApp: 9650998800

**B'FUL** Fair 57" / 32. M.Com, CA, Inter girl wkg in CA firm, 5.5pa, well std rtd. Fmly # 8700098383, 8800535653 shr711@gmail.com

**SHRIHASTAV** fair girl Sept. 85/54", B.Tech works IT MNC Chandigarh, 14LPA approx. Fmly: 941575553629 Aksri09@gmail.com

**SUITABLE** match for fair and beautiful slim girl 53" /6.12.1991 fashion merchant-disier belonging to a reputed kavita family. Jalandhar M.P. send biodata and on whatsp cont: 9981484936

**BTECH** Sri NM Aug8/52" Mr. Iqvia Mbai 31 LPA Lko bsd fmly seeks wtd boy,dm. Fmly # 9733811780 or 0091 7073058503

**BHATNAGAR** Mlgk. B'ful Homely Aus. 92/53" BA Psycho Dl Baking & Patissier Sophia Mumbai, Rptd Jaipur. 9950911835.

**SM4** Mathur, b'ful girl 24/54" B.Tech works in Tech MNC mumbai. Father Govt Officer. 7440443334, 9425103252

**MATHUR** Delhi bed Covt. ended. Girl 26 yrs/53"/slim, fair & 10 LPA, seek Mathur family well edn. & Cultured boy std in Delhi/NCR, Cont: 9891045834 / 9971033600

**REQ** MBBS/MD boy for b'ful fair BDS/MPH Kayatha girl 26/54". Prof Delhi NCR, Father Class-I Officer in U.P Forest, 882549229

**SRIVASTAVA** Girl Pediatric Dentist Assoc. Prof. University (NCR) 1982/152 Weeks Suitable match contact 9415020008 8299725699.

**KHATRI**

**LAS** /PS Allied service Up Khatri b'ful 160 S/W Engr MNC Castle no bar BHP: peeyush khanna2007@gmail.com

UP Khatri girl 31/54" B.Tech MBA- IIM Lucknow, Product Manager MNC. Pckg-30-40, sees prof qld, well edn from premied Institute, Caste no bar. # 8840420516, 700567368

**SM** for Hindu Khatri Girl, 30/04/1989, 12.25AM, MBA Banking, Working in Reputed Bank, Annual CTC-10 Lacs, # 8288046534, 737672146

**KSHATRIYA**

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Mumbai based extremely affluent & highly educated Agarwal business family seeks for their very beautiful girl a very well settled, professionally qualified boy from an equally established and affluent family in India or Abroad

Girl is 27/53", Graduated from USA & Europe (MBA). Working for a European PE firm.

Send details on (E): incopia22@gmail.com WA only : 9833815641

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PREFERABLY Doctor for 28/54" fat girl MBBS, MD (Pathology) from Rptd fmly. Contact # 9488872822

**IAS,IPS,JUDICIAL** officer, any class-I or, highly B.Man Smf a fat B.ful girl 92 born 5/3 master degree P.G. diploma father high profile B.man well connected fatj family of Guj. Hrv. w. 9671802532,9466070514 Reg. fmly. fshashrati.matriomail@gmail.com

**RAJPUT** Boy for East UP Rajput Girl 27 5' 3" Up Govt Officer Lucknow Contact Mob: 8009067784

**SWARNKAR**

**MAIR** Swarnkar Girl MTech, PhD (Robotics), Asst Professor, Top University, Gurgaon, 9.5pa,191/51". Educated family Mob: 639611658,9450420573

### VAISH

**LEADING** Industrialist Vaish family, highly educated girl age 30/54" seek groom looking for handsome well settled qualified Industrialist. Mob. no +917897337870. Emg:gantotri75@gmail.com

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**SUITABLE** match for nonmanglik brahmin girl 1987/52", MBA Sr.MgrMNC Pune, 973875989, pakhi.dub@gmail.com

**PROBASHI BENGALI**

**UNMARRIED-** M.B.A- Working, Beautiful, Fair Hindu Girl 47 55"; Seeks Qualified Handsome Groom Mail BHP to: mbja@rediffmail.com

### YADAV

**RAJPUT**

**PQM4** Yadav b'ful slim girl Feb9/54" B.Tech Asst. Mngt Canara Bank, Ftrh Rtd S.E., well reputd family. Mob: 9897793587, WP: 639486271.

**BY COMMUNITY**

**AGARWAL**

**SM4** NM Goyal Fair b'ful BE MBA rptd inst 32/5.5 girl EU MNC Bigr dld BE VP seeks stl d by big city. agw1963@gmail.com 9372458334, 9976010534

**REPUTED** Punjabi girl 53" / 17.9.1999, 1:05 AM Delhi, 5.5pa, well std rtd. Fmly # 9811177059

**GENERAL**

**CASTE NO BAR**

**RAJPUT**

**PQM4** b'ful fair Noida based Punjabi Brahma girl 33/53" MBAs, wkg in large FMCG in GGN Caste no bar Cont Mob: 9800294984

**JAIPUR** based Chauhan, DEF Officer family seeks for B'ful, well edu, talented. Dec' 92/55". Marketing professional, BTech Daughter. Seek compatible Rajput match from Affluent families/highly qualified professionals. Email ID: hrc656919@gmail.com

**RAI/SHIVRAJE**, Govt Officer Engg. girl, 1993, 5'3" working at Delhi Metro Rail Corp., Prefd Govt. Officer Engg. Ph: 98266239602, 9424624986

**BDS DOCTOR** girl, 33/54" 14.12.88 (OBC) Del-NCR sees well std. Well std. Doc. Doctor. Engg. pref. wkg in FMCG. Email: madatoss141287@gmail.com

**BENGALI** Kayastha girl 53" / 28/54" B.tech, Mba wkg mnc (Gyn) Duffer Officer seek IAS, IPS, IRS, DM, MCH, MS, MD, IIT/IMM boys. 9835633792

**REPUTED** Kurmi Kshatriya family invites all-iance for their daughter 28/53" fair & slim, B.Tech. Top head office, 35-LPA. Caste no bar. Never married. M: 9822968303, 8005275601

**DEFENCE** IAS / ITM 28/53" B.tech wkg nida s/w. Conv. educ. Groop, rtd. Doc. Father Retd Army officer. #9655759324 E: gyanps57@gmail.com

**RAJPUT** 28/53" MBBS, MD (PEAD) & 25/54" MBBS, MD (GYN) Duffer Officer seek IAS, IPS, IRS, DM, MCH, MS, MD, IIT/IMM boys. 9835633792

**REPUTED** Kshatriya girl 53" / 28/54" B.tech, Mba wkg mnc (Gyn) Duffer Officer seek IAS, IPS, IRS, DM, MCH, MS, MD, IIT/IMM boys. 9835633792

**ISSUELS**, professionally qualified match from Australia or India for 88 born 5'3" Hindu Punjabi girl, divorced, Issueless, wrkg in US. Willing to relocate to India for suitable match. Email: matrimonial.mil@gmail.com .

**MANGLIK**

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**PROPOSALS** invited for a very charming, pleasing personality, very fair, well settled US Citizen, unmarried South Asian girl 34/155 from well-educated vegetarian grooms settled or willing to settle to US. Nonsmokers and Smart, Attractive, Sophisticated Daughter 43 to 44 Height 5'06" (Looking much Younger) Actively working & Flourishing family Business Wish to hear from A Handsome, Well Established, Industrial & Businessman Hr. Prof. Educated Coming from Very strong & Affluent Family. Pref. in Mumbai / Delhi, Caste No Bar.

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### BY PROFESSION

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**ELITE** Cltd. Edt. MD. Dr. fmls of Drs NGC. Duffer Officer seek IAS, IPS, IRS, DM, MCH, MS, MD, IIT/IMM boys. 9958926777, 9811061500

**SPQM4** for a DEL based Himachali Mahajan Kshatriya girl, born 5' 3" MD Paedia@Central Govt from MD/MS/IAS/IPS/RS/Judical /Defense. 9999926677, 99589160555

**DEFENCE** IAS / ITM 28/53" MAE Bed Conv. educ. Groop, rtd. Doc. Father Retd Army officer. #9655759324 E: gyanps57@gmail.com

**REPUTED** Punjabi girl 53" / 28/54" B.tech, Mba wkg mnc (Gyn) Duffer Officer seek IAS, IPS, IRS, DM, MCH, MS, MD, IIT/IMM boys. 9835633792

**YADAV**

**RAJPUT**

**PQM4** 4 NM/girl 55" / 28/54" B.tech, Mba wkg mnc (Gyn) Duffer Officer seek IAS, IPS, IRS, DM, MCH, MS, MD, IIT/IMM boys. 9835633792

**REPUTED** Doctor parents looking for a suitable match for their daughter 94 born 5' 4" pursuing P.G. Pathology Preference for Doctor/Professionals. Castle no bar. Contact: 9004859340.

**SEKHS** Edu well std boy for their daughter 30/50" slim, fair, good personality, good health, good family background.

**WANTED** professional grom for beautiful, tall, 82 born rajput girl, legal adviser with Govt of India, pursuing Ph.D from DU. NOT qualified. Caste no bar. NET. Ph.D. from: 9431602642

**PG** Medico Match for beautifull girl, MD/Diploma for going MD Radiodiagnosis +2PDDC Interventional degrees from AIIMS. Pg. 35/54" issues/fmls. Father IS. Mrs. Alka. Prf. Dr. NRC/971790446

**B'FUL**,fair,Arora,Delhi based girl, MD/Dermatology, 33/55", divorcee, Iress, upper middle class, required grom (preferably doctor). 9650306699

**HINDU** Beautiful Girl, 53" / 28/54" working in IT Sector at Gurgaon. Family Settled in Amadavat. 9327165867

**PQM4** Aug 33/54" convt. Edu. B.Tech MBA V.Fair. Beautiful girl from Cosmo Veg Business Family Pune # 7507000158 pmundra2022@gmail.com

**BENGALI**, Kayastha, only daughter, 30/50", good health, education, 5' 3" & LBD. Husband (Gold Medalist) from JNU-Jodhpur. Corporate Lawyer from a reputed law firm in New Delhi. Father retired as Chief Manager from a reputed law firm in New Delhi. Looking for like

# IMD: Another spell of heatwave from today

**3-Day Alert For Northwest, Central India**

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

**New Delhi:** The India Meteorological Department (IMD) on Saturday predicted a fresh spell of heatwave conditions over parts of northwest and central India for three days, beginning Sunday.

Maximum temperature in many parts of the region is expected to be over 42-44 degree celsius. On Saturday, the highest maximum temperature of 45 degree celsius was recorded at Barmer in west Rajasthan.

Issuing its forecast on Saturday, the India Meteorological Department said a rise in maximum temperatures by 2-4 degree celsius (roughly over 40-42 degree celsius) is very likely in the region during the next three days. The remaining parts of the country may, however, not see any significant change in the maximum temperature during this period.

According to the IMD forecast, heatwave conditions are likely to prevail over Vidarbha region till May 11, over west Rajasthan during May 8-11, over south Haryana & east Rajasthan during May 9-11, over west Madhya Pradesh on May 8-9, and over south Punjab & Jammu division on May 10-11.



A sandstorm on a hot summer day at Sangam in Prayagraj on Saturday

**Sorcerer 'rapes' woman for 79 days in Odisha:** A sorcerer allegedly raped a woman in Odisha's Balasore district for more than 79 days on the pretext of resolving her marital dispute. As per the complaint, the woman's mother-in-law had sought the help of a sorcerer to resolve the couple's marital tensions. The tantric then allegedly raped the victim in the presence of her mother-in-law. Some days later, the mother-in-law and the sorcerer allegedly abducted the woman and her son and kept them hostage. Then the sorcerer allegedly raped the woman for more than 79 days. TNN

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA, LAKSHADWEEP ADMINISTRATION KAVARATTI SMART CITY LIMITED (KSCL) KAVARATTI- 682 555, Phone : 04896- 26 3361 Email :- smartkavari@gmail.com**  
F.No.13/Smart City/2019 (Part 1) Dated: 06.05.2022  
E- Tender are invited for "Selection of Master System Integrator for Establishment of Integrated Command and Control Center in Lakshadweep"  
• Online downloading of tender: 06.05.2022 at 14:15 Hours  
• The last date for online submission of Technical Bids: 06.06.2022 at 17:30 Hours.  
The details are available on website [www.tendersutl.gov.in, https://lakshadweep.gov.in](http://www.tendersutl.gov.in, https://lakshadweep.gov.in)  
-Sd-  
**CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER**  
KAVARATTI SMART CITY LIMITED

**EXPRESSION OF INTEREST (EOI)**  
**Madhya Pradesh State Tourism Development Corporation Limited (MPSTDC)**  
Corporate Identification Number (CIN) - U63040MP1978G001445  
Registered Office: Paryatan Bhawan, Bhadrbada Road, Bhopal 462003. Tel: 0755-2774450  
Website : [www.mpstdc.com](http://www.mpstdc.com) Email: [sandesh@mpstdc.com](mailto:sandesh@mpstdc.com)  
Tender No: 34 Date: 06 May, 2022  
"EOI for development of a viable hospitality facility at the existing MPT Lake View Residency Hotel at Bhopal through Private Sector Participation on DBFO/T basis for Promoting Tourism"  
MPSTDC invites Expression of Interest (EOI) for the purpose of Pre-NIT Conference for qualified and experienced applicants for above. The detailed document can be downloaded from [https://www.mpstdc.com/www.mpstenders.gov.in](http://www.mpstdc.com/www.mpstenders.gov.in). Interested Applicants eligible as per qualification criteria may submit their response to the EOI latest by 10 June 2022 till 1500 hrs. For any other information, contact Mr. Sandesh Yashlaha at 9424796880 or email - [sandesh@mpstdc.com](mailto:sandesh@mpstdc.com). For any technical issues contact MP e- Procurement Toll free number -0120-4001 002.

**MANAGING DIRECTOR**

**WATERSHED MANAGEMENT DIRECTORATE, UTTARAKHAND**  
Letter No. 2500/11-11(7) Dated : 06 May, 2022  
**NOTICE INVITING QUOTATION FOR CONSULTING SERVICES**  
Advertisement Reference No.: 06/GEF-6/2022-23  
Green-Ag: Transforming Indian Agriculture for Global Environment Benefits and the Conservation of Critical Biodiversity and Forest Landscapes (GEF-6 Project, FAO PS: 637244, ID: 9243)  
The Green-Ag Project is funded by the Global Environment Facility (GEF), the Ministry of Agriculture, Cooperation and Farmers' Welfare (DAC & FW) as the National Executing Agency, and FAO is the Implementing Agency.  
In Uttarakhand, the Watershed Management Directorate of Uttarakhand is the State Project Management Unit (SPMU) for the project. The project is being implemented in the Rajaji and Corbett Landscape. The project covers Rajaji and Corbett Tiger Reserves and 1,234 Revenue Villages under Koh, Nayar, and Hyun watershed.  
The SPMU is inviting Quotations for Consulting Services from reputed Institutes, Departments, and Agencies working/ having experience of at least 10 years in the relevant sector, for study on "Sustainable Energy Alternatives in Uttarakhand Landscape" in Uttarakhand Landscape in a bid-system.  
Through this study, the consulting agency will prepare a report on the potential of Sustainable Energy Alternatives in the selected Uttarakhand Landscape and the gaps between the needs and the existing policies & programs on renewable energy. The study will help the project in implementing sustainable energy alternatives in the landscape as a guiding note. This study will be conducted in the Rajaji Corbett Landscape of Uttarakhand selected under Green Ag. The study duration would be six months w.e.f. the date of the agreement.  
The Terms of Reference (ToR) for the study assignment and additional information about the project are available at <http://www.wmduk.gov.in>.  
The agency find eligible through a Technical bid would only be considered to open the Financial Proposal. The quotation should be sent in sealed envelope mentioning Quotation for study on "Sustainable Energy Alternatives in Uttarakhand Landscape" on top, and containing two separate sealed envelopes of technical and financial proposals. The quotation must be delivered to the address below (in person, or by registered post only), by 23 May 2022 up to 4.30 PM.

Watershed Management Directorate,

Indira Nagar Forest Colony, Dehradun Uttarakhand, Pin-248006

Tel. No. 0135-2764244, 2768712, Telefax No. 0135-2760170

Mail: [wmd-ua@nic.in](mailto:wmd-ua@nic.in), Web: [www.wmduk.gov.in](http://www.wmduk.gov.in)

The Chief Executive Officer, UPRRDA, Lucknow on behalf of Governor of Uttar Pradesh invites the percentage rate bids in electronic tendering system for construction (With Conventional Technology) and Maintenance of roads under Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana for the following districts for the number of packages mentioned in column number 4 with construction cost including maintenance cost as in column 8 from the eligible contractors registered with the UP PWD / UP RED, in appropriate class (A, or B as per limit) or equivalent category in CPWD / MES / Railways and other State Govt. and Central Govt. Departments. Non-registered bidders may submit bids; however, the successful bidders must get registered in appropriate class with appropriate authorities before signing the contract.

Time of completion of construction work is 12 months including rainy season.

SL. NO.	CONCERNED SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER	DISTRICT NAME	NO. OF PACKAGES	LENGTH IN KM	ESTIMATED COST IN RS. LAKH		
					CONSTRUCTION COST EXCLUDING GST IN RS. LAKH	MAINTENANCE COST EXCLUDING GST IN RS. LAKH	TOTAL COST EXCLUDING GST IN RS. LAKH
1	S.E. PMGSY Circle, PWD Agra	Agra	9	83.130	3488.23	512.51	4000.74
2	S.E. PMGSY Circle, PWD Bareilly	Bareilly	2	19.650	1131.18	121.14	1252.32
3	S.E. PMGSY Circle, PWD Gorakhpur	Ambedkar Nagar	2	10.280	555.42	63.38	618.80
4	S.E. PMGSY Circle, PWD Lucknow	Bahraich	3	29.500	2037.52	181.87	2219.39
		Hardoi	2	11.300	676.67	69.67	746.34
		Sitapur	4	34.175	2720.67	255.13	2975.80
5	S.E. PMGSY Circle, PWD Meerut	Saharanpur	1	16.900	839.34	104.19	943.53
6	S.E. PMGSY Circle, PWD Prayagraj	Sultanpur	1	5.250	346.91	32.37	379.28
7	S.E. PMGSY Circle, PWD Varanasi	Chandauli	1	5.400	255.18	33.29	288.47
8	S.E. RED, Agra	Mathura	2	24.800	1681.87	189.25	1871.12
9	S.E. RED, Aligarh	Aligarh	9	77.480	4591.53	477.67	5069.20
10	S.E. RED, Ayodhya	Barabanki	1	5.000	319.14	30.83	349.97
11	S.E. RED, Bareilly	Pilibhit	2	15.950	754.66	98.33	852.99
12	S.E. RED, Gorakhpur	Kushinagar	1	11.200	657.09	69.05	726.14
13	S.E. RED, Moradabad	Rampur	4	24.300	1243.54	149.81	1393.35
		Sambhal	2	12.800	742.54	78.91	821.45

- Date of publishing of e-procurement notice in News Paper : 08.05.2022
- Start date & time of availability of bid document for download on website : 14.05.2022 from 12.00 Noon onwards
- Date and Time of pre-bid meeting : 19.05.2022 at 11:00 AM
- Date and Time of submission of Bids through e-procurement : 21.05.2022 from 11:00 AM
- Last Date/ Time for receipt of bids through e-procurement : 03.06.2022 upto 12.00 Noon
- Date/ Time for opening of bids through e-procurement : 04.06.2022 at 12.30 PM
- Availability of Bid Documents and mode of submission : The bid document is available online and should be submitted online in [www.pmgstendersup.gov.in](http://www.pmgstendersup.gov.in)

Chief Executive Officer

## Moradabad Municipal Corporation

Pili Kothi, Jalkal Compound, Moradabad-244001 (U.P.)

### E-Procurement Tender Notice

Ref. No: 49/Ex. Eng./Env. Eng/NNM/2022-23 Date 07.05.2022

Tender reference : 187/Ex. Eng./Env. Eng/NNM/2021-22 Date 11-03-2022

Name of Work/ Description of Item : SELECTION OF CONTRACTOR FOR SURVEY, DESIGN AND RE-CONSTRUCTION OF SLF WORKS AROUND THE WASTE PROCESSING SITE AT MORADABAD, U.P. (244001)

RFP Fee : INR 10000+1800(GST) = 11800 (Eleven thousand eight hundred Only).

The payments to be made in the form of RTGS/NEFT from any nationalised bank to the account details as mentioned below:

Bank of Baroda

Beneficiary Name: NAGAR NIGAM MORADABAD E-TENDERING, A/c No - 270501000201717, IFSC code - BARBOLYMLOR

Earnest Money Deposit (E.M.D.) : 2.3 Lacs (Two Lac Thirty Thousand only)

The payments to be made in the form of DD/RTGS/NEFT/FDR from any nationalized bank / Scheduled bank of India in favour of the "Commissioner, Municipal Corporation, Moradabad" payable at 'Moradabad'

The details can be viewed and downloaded online directly from the Government of Uttar Pradesh e-Procurement Portal <https://etender.up.nic.in> from 09/05/2022 at 11:00 Hours (IST) onwards. Online bids are invited for the following works up to 18/05/2022 at 17:00 hours.

For more details on the tender and bidding process you may please visit the above mentioned portal.

NOTE:- MMC : Moradabad Municipal Corporation Address : Pili Kothi, Moradabad-244001 U.P.)

Mobile : 9105900529 Email : [moradabdnagarnigam@gmail.com](mailto:moradabdnagarnigam@gmail.com)1- All eligible/interested consultants are mandated to get enrolled on e-Procurement portal (<https://etender.up.nic.in>)

2- Contractor can contact Help Desk for any clarification of their doubts regarding the process of Electronic Procurement System.

(Rajeev Kumar Rath) Ex. En./Environment Engineer Nagar Nigam Moradabad

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Mobile : 9105900529 Email : [mor](mailto:moradabdnagarnigam@gmail.com)

# CBI raids Punjab AAP MLA over ₹40cr loan fraud, recovers ₹16.5L

Bharat.Khanna  
@timesgroup.com

**Patiala:** The CBI raided the premises of AAP legislator from Amargarh constituency Jaswant Singh Gajjanmraja on Saturday in connection with an alleged Rs 40.9 crore bank loan fraud case and recovered around Rs 16.5 lakh in cash and some documents. The MLA, however, claimed that he was being targeted by the central government.

"I resigned in 2016 as director of the private firm, which is owned by my younger brother. I don't know details about the case. However, one thing is clear — that the central government under BJP is targeting me," Gajjanmraja said.

During the searches, apart from the Rs 16.5 lakh, it is learned that the CBI also recovered around 88 foreign currency notes, some proper-

## BSY exit pushed K'taka down communal spiral: BJP neta

**Shivamogga:** A hint of a rift between BJP over Karnataka's repeated trysts with communal friction peeked through on Saturday, with state party vice-president B Y Vijayendra claiming things started going downhill in the state after his father B S Yediyurappa resigned as chief minister.

"There was peace and communal harmony when my father was chief minister. But things have changed since Basavaraj Bommai took over the reins of the state," he told reporters.

"Since this is an election year, opposition parties are deliberately raking up communal issues to polarise voters. BJP is not going to do so," he said.

On the growing tension in Shivamogga, Vijayendra said there were not many clashes during his father's tenure as CM because he knew how to keep conflict in check. TNN

The agency recovered 88 foreign currency notes, property documents, bank account papers and other 'incriminating' documents

ty documents, bank account papers and other "incriminating" documents. The CBI is also learned to have recovered many blank cheques carrying signatures of different people, with Aadhaar cards enclosed.

The CBI raided Gajjanmraja's house, where he lives along with his brothers, a school and college owned by the family in Gajjanmraja village, and searched the premises of a private firm based in Jitwala Kalan village in Ahmedgarh, Malerkotla.

# It's Raj cops vs UP cops in Noida over journo's arrest

## Obstructed By UP Police, Say Dungarpur Cops

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

**Jaipur/Udaipur/Noida:**

A high-voltage drama took place on Saturday morning when a team of Rajasthan's Dungarpur district police arrived in Noida with a warrant to arrest News18 anchor Aman Chopra but returned empty-handed, thanks to what it called "obstruction" by local police.

Dungarpur SP Sudhir Joshi said it was for the second time that Noida police "obstructed" his team and kept them waiting to allow the accused to flee from his house. "The UP Police asked our team of 12 cops to first come to police station with them. The team went to the

## Gehlot modern-day 'Aurangzeb': BJP over Raj cops' raid at scribe's house

Rajasthan BJP has termed the state police "raid at the residence of anchor Aman Chopra a Congress-sponsored attempt to suppress the freedom of speech in India". CM Ashok Gehlot, who is a self-proclaimed Gandhian, has damaged principles and values of the Constitution by attacking a journalist for showing the truth. It would not be an exaggeration to call him a modern-day 'Aurangzeb' for acting against the majority community to appease its core vote bank," said Satish Poonia, BJP state president. TNN

police station in Noida and showed them the arrest warrant. When the team returned to Chopra's flat Arhant Apartments, he couldn't be found," the SP said, adding the local police had done the same thing with his team earlier in the week too.

Countering the claim, ACP-2 central Noida Yogenra Singh said: "A team from Rajasthan Police had come to the Bisrakh police station around 3pm with the non-

bailable warrant of Chopra. They completed the legal procedure and two of our personnel accompanied them and went to Chopra's house. His house was locked, following which they pasted the warrant outside and left." Singh said, "They themselves came to the police station. We didn't have any idea about any team coming."

Rajasthan Police said an FIR was registered against Chopra at the Bichhawara police

station under IPC and the IT Act on April 23. It was filed after Chopra in his show had allegedly claimed a centuries-old temple in Alwar was razed to avenge a demolition drive that took place in Delhi's Jahangirpuri.

Joshi said Chopra's assertion was wrong as the anti-encroachment drive in Alwar's Rajgarh had taken place before the Jahangirpuri drive. After Chopra's show was aired, three FIRs were registered against him—in Alwar, Bundi and Bichhawara.

Earlier in the day, the Rajasthan HC's Jaipur bench had ordered that no coercive action be taken against Chopra in connection with the cases against him in Alwar and Bundi as "multiple FIRs can't be filed for same cause of action". It sought replies from Rajasthan government within two weeks on Chopra's petition on quashing FIRs registered against him.

# Oppn rejects J&K delimitation report, set to meet tomorrow

**Jammu:** Alleging that the delimitation commission totally ignored ground realities and aspirations of the people of J&K, opposition parties comprising Congress, National Conference, CPM, CPI and others, under the banner of All Parties United Morcha (APUM), on Saturday rejected its report, terming it "highly objectionable, biased and politically motivated at the behest of the governing BJP", reported Sanjay Khajuria

A press statement issued by APUM said its members have called an emergency meeting on Monday to discuss the situation emerging after the report. The APUM leadership appealed to all like-minded parties and organisations to come together to raise voice against the report.

"Senior members of opposition parties have jointly rejected the final report, which is highly partisan, motivated and against all basic norms of delimitation like contiguity, connectivity, population, physical features and public convenience, etc." it said. It maintained that the exercise of the commission was an eyewash as the draft report was prepared at the behest of governing BJP.

## Delhi court issues bailable warrant against Mamata's kin

**Kolkata:** Days before the Supreme Court hears the pleas of Trinamool Congress national general secretary Abhishek Banerjee and his wife Rujira against the Enforcement Directorate's summonses, asking them to appear before it in Delhi, a Patiala House court on Saturday issued a bailable warrant against Rujira.

As per sources, their pleas are listed for hearing in the apex court on May 12 while the bailable warrant seeks Rujira's appearance by August 20.

The developments are linked to the ED's ongoing probe into illegal coal mining in Bengal. A lawyer, acquainted with the case, said: "We are aware of the bailable warrant. Appropriate legal steps will be taken depending on the SC hearing." Abhishek has twice appeared in person before the ED in Delhi. But, Rujira has repeatedly asked the agency's officials to question her in Kolkata, expressing her inability to stay away from their minor child for a long duration that travelling to Delhi would involve. TNN

# India set for string of tests of advanced homemade weapons

Rajat Pandit | TNN



An Astra-1 air-to-air missile being fired from a Sukhoi-30MKI fighter jet

New Delhi: India is getting set to conduct a slew of tests of several indigenously-developed advanced weapons, ranging from air-to-air missiles and anti-radiation missiles to smart anti-airfield weapons and long-range glide bombs.

The tests of at least three weapons—the Astra-1 (100-km range) and Astra-2 (160-km) beyond visual range air-to-air missiles (BVRAAMs) as well as the new generation anti-radiation missile (NGARM) Rudram-1 with a strike range of 150-km—are slated for this month, defence sources told TOI.

The Astra-2's "first live launch" will be from a Sukhoi-30MKI fighter after completion of its carriage and handling trials as well as "dummy drops". The Astra-1, already under production by defence PSU Bharat Dynamics after the successful completion of its user trials, in turn will be tested for the first time with an indigenous seeker instead of the existing Russian AGAT from a Sukhoi jet.

The IAF has already placed an initial order for 250 Astra-1 missiles, which flies over four times the speed

of sound at Mach 4.5, to arm its Sukhoi fighters. The integration of Astra-1 with the Tejas and MiG-29 fighters is also concurrently under way.

The DRDO is also planning to conduct the first test of Astra-3, based on the solid fuel-based ducted ramjet propulsion to enhance its range to 350-km, by the end of this year, sources said.

The all-weather day and night capable Astra series of missiles, designed to detect, track and destroy highly-agile supersonic fighters packed with "counter-measures" at long ranges, will eventually replace the expensive Russian, French and Israeli BVRAAMs that are currently imported to arm IAF fighters.

Another test this month will be of

the Rudram-1 NGARM that is designed to destroy a variety of enemy surveillance, communication and radar targets on the ground at a 150-km range after being fired from fighter jets. The DRDO is also developing Rudram-2 (350-km range) and Rudram-3 (550-km) air-to-ground missiles, which also have INS-GPS navigation with a passive homing head for the final attack.

"Trials of Rudram-2 should also begin soon. Rudram missiles are designed for suppression of enemy air defences (SEAD) from longer stand-off ranges to allow IAF strike aircraft to carry out their bombing missions without hindrance," a source said.

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## In absence of subsidy, users to bear burden of LPG price hike

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi: Following the latest hike in LPG rate that has taken the price of a cylinder past Rs 1,000 in many cities, domestic consumers will have to bear the entire burden of the increase in the absence of subsidy. The government had scrapped the LPG subsidy in May 2020, taking advantage of a fall in global energy prices due to the pandemic.

Domestic LPG rates were last revised on March 22 this year by Rs 50, breaking the price freeze since October 6,

## With Justices Pardiwala & Dhulia taking oath, SC to reach full strength of 34

Dhananjay.Mahapatra@timesgroup.com

New Delhi: The Prime Minister's Office wasted no time to clear the names of Justices Sudhanshu Dhulia and Jamshed Burjor Pardiwala and the files were sent to the President on Friday itself for issuance of warrants of appointment. This usually lengthy process was completed in an unprecedented short span of 48 hours.

The President on Saturday issued the warrants appointing Gauhati high court Chief Justice Sudhanshu Dhulia and Gujarat high court judge Jamshed Burjor Pardiwala, both of whom superseded many who are senior to them in the all-India judges' seniority list, as SC judges. CJN V Ramana will administer the oath of office to the new judges on Monday, which would make SC achieve its full sanctioned strength of 34 judges.

The speed contrasted with the time the government usually takes to clear names for appointments to the higher judiciary. The CJJ had recently pointed out that as many as 50 names recommended by the SC collegium for appointment as HC judges have been pending with the government for months. The apex court had just two vacancies. But in the high courts, out of

the 1,104 sanctioned posts of judges, 388 are vacant. The trial courts, the appointments for which are handled by high courts, have 5,000 of the 24,000 sanctioned positions of judicial officers lying vacant.

If the Centre and state governments and the high court collegiums showed a fraction of this speed, which was witnessed in filling the two vacancies in the apex court, to appoint judges to the high courts and judicial officers for trial courts, it would go a long way to address the issue of the 4.8 crore cases pending in the three-tier justice delivery system.

Though the Supreme Court on Monday will achieve full strength of judges after a gap of three years, it would be short-lived as Justice Vineet Saran would retire on May 10, two days after the new SC judges taking oath. Less than a month later, Justice LN Rao would retire on June 7.

# In case of sedition law relook, it must be referred to a larger bench: Centre

AmitAnand.Choudhary  
@timesgroup.com

New Delhi: Battling for retention of the sedition law (Section 124A of IPC) in a written submission to the Supreme Court, the Centre said the 1962 SC judgment in the Kedar Nath Singh case had considered its constitutional validity from all possible angles.

Solicitor general Tushar Mehta said the court decided to re-examine the provision, it must be done by a larger bench and not a three-judge bench.

Countering the allegation that the provision was brought in by the colonial masters and has lost its relevance in an independent country, Mehta said Kedar Nath Singh case was decided post-Independence and the case was decided with a clear backdrop and experience of how Sec-

tion 124A used to operate prior to Independence and the apex court had consciously read down the provision.

Mehta said that misuse of the provision, as alleged by the petitioners, could never be a ground to strike it down and the remedy would lie in preventing its abuse. "The said judgment in Kedar Nath Singh case is a good law and needs no reconsideration. It must be treated as binding precedent requiring no reference. A holistic reading of the judgment clearly reveals that the Constitution Bench considered the constitutional validity of Section 124A from the perspective of all constitutional principles, including the test of Articles 14, 19 and 21. Merely because Article 14 and 21 are not mentioned, would not undermine its final judicial conclusion.

The five-judge bench read down Section 124A only to bring it in conformity with Article 14, 19 and 21 of the Constitution. No reference, therefore, would be necessary nor can the three-judge bench once again examine the constitutional validity of the very same provision," the SG said in his submission.

Though the written submission has been filed on the issue of reference and the Centre is yet to file an affidavit which it will have to do on May 12 as directed by the SC, the submission makes the Centre's stand clear that it is against scrapping of the sedition law, a stand similar to what attorney general KK Venugopal took days before in court and batttered for retention of the controversial provision in the law book.

"Instances of the abuse of provision would never be a justification to reconsider a binding judgment of the Constitution bench...." Mehta said.

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Expression Of Interest (EOI)  
Senior Divisional Commercial Manager/ECR/Sonpur invites Expression Of Interest (EOI) for developing of a Gati Sakti Multi Model Cargo Terminal over Sonpur Division.  
EOI Notice /documents may be seen or downloaded of the website link shown below-  
[>Sonpur Division >Commercial Department.](https://ecr.indianrailways.gov.in)  
Last date of submission of EOI is up to 12:00 hrs on 31.05.2022.  
Sr. Divisional Commercial Manager,  
East Central Railway, Sonpur  
PR/0204/SEE/COM/L/N/22-23/24



# Haryana Shehri Vikas Pradhikaran

## Offers e-Auction of

### Institutional Plots, Commercial Complex and Hospital Sites in all Zones

On 29th May, 2022

#### Commercial Complex and Commercial Tower in Gurugram Zone

Sr. No.	Sector/ Urban Estate	Category	Area (Sq.Mtr)	No. of Plots
1	25, Gurugram	Commercial Complex	1884.46	1
2	27, Gurugram	Commercial Complex-I	3635.1	1
3	38, Gurugram	Commercial Complex	11007.84	1
4	41, Gurugram	Commercial Complex	6740.58	1
5	52-A, Gurugram	Commercial Complex	12141	1
6	56, Gurugram	Commercial Complex	2000	1
7	62, Gurugram	Commercial Tower-1	8296.35	1
8	65, Gurugram	Commercial Tower	6758.49	1
9	65, Gurugram-II	Commercial Complex	14528.73	1

#### Institutional Properties in Gurugram and Panchkula Zones

Sr. No.	Sector/ Urban Estate	Category	Area (Sq.Mtr)	No. of Plots
1	18, Gurugram	Institutional Plot 76-H	3180.63	1
2	18, Gurugram	Institutional Plot 76-I	2776.59	1
3	32, Gurugram	Institutional Plot No 8	8380.00	1
4	32, Gurugram	Institutional Plot No 12	7938.10	1
5	32, Gurugram	Institutional Plot No 45	2220.00	1
6	32, Gurugram	Institutional Plot No 72	2167.90	1
7	32, Gurugram	Institutional Plot No 99	2167.90	1
8	44, Gurugram-II	160	5769.86	1
9	44, Gurugram-II	165	4000	1
10	44, Gurugram-II	167	9860.15	1
11	56, Gurugram	Institutional Plot	3375.00	1
12	32, Panchkula	Site No. 4	4985.40	1
13	3, Panchkula	Ip17	3000	1

#### Hospital Sites In All Zones

Sr. No.	Sector/ Urban Estate	Category	Area (Sq.Mtr)	No. of Plots
1	37, Gurugram-II	Hospital Site	7539.29	1
2	56, Gurugram-II	Hospital Site	9024.49	1
3	23 Panchkula	Hospital Site	24281.16	1
4	32 Panchkula	Hospital Site	11621.40	1
5	62, Faridabad	Hospital Site	27592.00	1
6	62 (Part-B), Faridabad	Hospital Site-2	8340.00	1
7	62 (Part-B), Faridabad	Hospital Site-3	10798.12	1

Registration will close one day before the scheduled date of e-Auction, at 5 pm.

e-Auction Portal  
<https://hsvphy.org.in>  
e-Auction will start at 10:00 AM

Helpline Number: 8360516607 (9 AM to 5 PM), 1800-180-3030 (8AM TO 8 PM)

For any queries email us at [eauctionquery.hsvp@gmail.com](mailto:eauctionquery.hsvp@gmail.com)

EMD is calculated on base price, the first round of bidding will start from base price.

Reserve Price are fixed by HSVP above base price and same will not be disclosed.

Chief Administrator  
**Haryana Shehri Vikas Pradhikaran**  
C-3, HSVP Complex, Sector 6, Panchkula 134 109, Haryana

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The detailed information of the sites and terms & conditions of e-auction will be available on <https://hsvphy.org.in>.

## सार्वजनिक सूचना

सर्वशास्त्रण को चुनियत किया जाता है कि यमुना एक्सप्रेस-वे विकास प्राइवेट लिमिटेड द्वारा बनायी गयी एक्सप्रेस-वे, यमुनामुद्द नगर का विकास कारार आवंटी श्री मधन कुमार सिंहधल, निवासी मकान नं-323, द्वितीय तल, कोहार एफ्सेक्स, योगपुरा, दिल्ली, कार्यालय पाठ- जी-12, नीलकंठ अपार्टमेंट, अल्मोड़ा-1, यैटर नोएडा, यमुनामुद्द नगर द्वारा मैसैट मार्ग फिल्मिंज प्राइवेट लिमिटेड, पाठ-208, द्वितीय तल, सिक्किम में शैश्वत, एलएससी, सविता विहार दिल्ली की ओर दिनांक 24.01.2022 को हो चुका है। पार्सी कम्पनी उनके मूल्यांकन के साथके बतार व्यापार एम पार्ट पैटर अंकन राखे 2,28,00,000/- हरातारण कर्ता के खाते भी जमा करा चुकी है। दोनों पाठों के बीच हस्तांतरण की प्रक्रिया की जाकी है, जोकि यमुना एक्सप्रेस-वे विकास प्राइवेट लिमिटेड के द्वारा की जाना है। उनके सम्पर्कित को याद लारोक अपार्टमेंट द्वारा कियी अन्य व्यवसितों को विक्याय किया जाता है कि कोई अपार्टमेंट द्वारा किया कराने की प्रक्रिया कराई हो तो प्राप्ति कम्पनी उसके लिए कानूनी कार्यालय करने के लिए वापर होती, जिसके जियिम व सर्वे का वह स्वयं जिम्मेदार होगा। उपरोक्त मूल्यांकों के संबंध में प्राप्ती की ने एक वाद संख्या 768 / 2022 न्यायालय सिविल जंक्शन, यमुनामुद्द नगर के समस्त दायर किया है।

वारसे  
माया किनारी प्राप्ति

## PROCLAMATION REQUIRING THE APPEARANCE OF ACCUSED PERSON

See Section 82 Cr.P.C.

Whereas complaint has been made before me that accused **Prashant Dixit** S/o Shiv Kumar Dixit R/o H.No. F-148, East Jawahar Nagar, Ghaziabad U.P. and Post Office Suiyalpur, Mahamayanagar, Badhnoor, Suijalpur, Hathras, U.P. has committed (or is suspected to have committed) the offence in case FIR No. 40/19 u/s 411 IPC P.S. Kamla Market, Delhi and it has been returned to a warrant of arrest thereupon issued that the said **Prashant Dixit** cannot be found and where as it has been shown to my satisfaction that the said **Prashant Dixit** has absconded (or is concealing himself to avoid the service of the said warrant). Proclamation is hereby made that the said accused **Prashant Dixit** of FIR No. 40/19 u/s 411 IPC P.S. Kamla Market, Delhi is required to appear before this Court to answer the said complaint on or before 16.07.2022.

By Order: **Vidhi Gupta Anand**  
Metropolitan Magistrate-08

DP/1441/CD/22 Room No. 272, Tis Hazari Court, Delhi

Government of Jammu & Kashmir (UT)  
OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER  
Mechanical Division Srinagar, Mechanical Engineering Department, Kashmir.

| Fax No.: 0194-2497093 | email : xenmds@gmail.com | website: [www.medkashmir.org](http://www.medkashmir.org) |

CORRIGENDUM NO. – 01  
FOR DATE EXTENSION

Name of work : Supply of Suitable Variable Snow Plough and Cardon-Shaft Attachable Cutter/Blower Assembly along with "Unimog-423427" Carrier Vehicle. References : This office eNIT No.: MDS/TS/e-Tendering/ 03 ; dated : 13.04.2022 (Tender Id: 2022\_PWDJK\_1)

In view of representations received from the firms and discussions & deliberation held in the office chambers of the Chief Engineer MED Kmr today on 05.05.2022, the critical dates for the subject NIT is extended as under, for wider participation:

	Previous dates	Extended dates
Last date of uploading of bids online	06.05.2022 (06:55 pm)	21.05.2022 upto 06:55 P.M
Date of opening of bids online	07.05.2022 at 11:00 AM	23.05.2022 at 02.00 P.M

All other terms, conditions, technical specifications and critical dates of the NIT shall remain same.

No. - MDS/TS/599-12  
Dated - 05.05.2022  
DIP No - DIPK-1538/22

Executive Engineer  
Mechanical Division Srinagar.

कार्यालय परियोजना प्रबन्धक यूनिट- 12  
कन्स्ट्रक्शन एण्ड डिजाइन सर्विसेज

उत्तर प्रदेश जल निगम

(उपर प्रदेश का उपकरण)

आईएसटीओ 9001:2015 प्रामाणित संस्था

ए 63, भूतल, सेवरट 70.

नोटा गोपीनाथद्वारा गरिः 201307

पत्रांक 853 / एक्स-12 टेलर्ड-70 /

दिनांक 05.05.2022

इंडियन सूचना

अध्यक्ष, उत्तर प्रदेश जल निगम की ओर से अपीलसाहारा द्वारा Special Repair Works at JNV, Dist-Kapurthala (Punjab)

अप्तु 693.69 लाख रुपये द्वारा दिनांक 23-05-2022 की अपवाह 04:00 बजे तक

इनियांग आमनेंद्री की जाती हैं। उक्त कार्य हैं इनियांग प्राविदा प्राविदा दिनांक 06-05-2022 से

दिनांक 23-05-2022 के मध्य प्रदेश सरकार की e-procurement की वेबसाइट

<https://etender.up.nic.in> से डाउनलोड

किये जा सकते हैं तथा इनियांग दिनांक 23-05-2022 की अपवाह 04:30 बजे

कार्यालय परियोजना प्रबन्धक यूनिट-12, सीरी

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# JAIPUR DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

Indira Circle, Jawahar Lal Nehru Marg, Jaipur-302004

No.: JDA/EE&amp;TA to Dir.Engg.-II/2022/D-54

Date : 06.05.2022

**NOTICE INVITING BID****NIB No.: EE & TA to Dir. Engg.-II/06/2022-23**

Bids are invited for works given below in various zones as per details given below :-

S. No.	Zone	UBN No.	Cost of Work (Lacs)	A&F	Nature of Work	Last Date
1.	EE-8	JDA223WSOB00054	253.90	023/2022-23	Construction of 200 ft. Sector Road	28.05.2022
2.	EE-Elec.-III	JDA223WLOB00053	574.30	029/2022-23	Electrification Work for Aditya Vihar	30.05.2022

Details are available at Procurement Portal website [www.sppp.rajasthan.gov.in](http://www.sppp.rajasthan.gov.in), [www.eproc.rajasthan.gov.in](http://www.eproc.rajasthan.gov.in) and [www.jda.urban.rajasthan.gov.in](http://www.jda.urban.rajasthan.gov.in)

Raj. Samwad/C/2022-23/1555

Executive Engineer &amp; TA to Dir. Engg.-II

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(An Autonomous Organization under the Department of Higher Education, Ministry of Education, Government of India)**National Council For Hotel Management And Catering Technology,  
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davp 21354/12/0003/2223

**Capital Region Urban Transport**

Plot No. 548/1452, Kalarahanga, Patia, Bhubaneswar – 751024, Odisha

Phone No. 0674-3501580, E-Mail Id: [crutbsr@gmail.com](mailto:crutbsr@gmail.com)**Ref. No. 846/CRUT****INVITATION FOR BIDS (IFB)**

Date. 06/05/2022

**BID IDENTIFICATION No. 846/CRUT/2022-23**

General Manager (Engg.), CRUT, Bhubaneswar on behalf of Managing Director, CRUT invites Percentage Rate bids in double cover system for the construction of works as detailed in the table, from the class of eligible contractors as mentioned in column-5 (five) registered with the State Governments and Contractors of equivalent Grades / Class Registered with Central Government / MES / Railways for execution of Civil Works. The proof of registration from the appropriate authority shall be enclosed along with the Bid. If successful, the bidder who has not registered under state government has to register under the State Government of Odisha in appropriate class of eligibility before signing of the agreement.

The bidders may submit bids for the following work through 'e'-Tendering only.

Sl. No.	Name of work	Approximate value of work (₹ in Crore)	Validity of Tender	Class of Contractor	Bid Security	Cost of document (In ₹)	Last date of online receipt of bids
1	Development of Bus Depot including construction of boundary wall and provision of 30 Mo Bus parking in front of helipad near Naraj, Cuttack, Odisha.	5.02	12 (Twelve) Calendar Months	'A' & 'Special Class'	Bid Security declaration to be furnished as per Finance Deptt.Order No. 8484 Dt.05.04.22	₹ 10,000/- + GST @ 12% ₹ 1,200	24/05/2022 up to 5.30 P.M.
2	Development and construction of Bus Depot at Pokhariput, Bhubaneswar, Odisha.	3.40	12 (Twelve) Calendar Months	'A' & 'Special Class'	- do -	₹ 10,000/- + GST @ 12% ₹ 1,200	24/05/2022 up to 5.30 P.M.

1. The Bid documents will be available in the website <http://tendersodisha.gov.in> from 10/05/2022 to 5.30 P.M. of 24/05/2022.

2. All Corrigendum and Addendum will be published in the Website only.

3. Other details can be seen in the bidding documents.

GM, Engineering on behalf of Managing Director, Capital Region Urban Transport (CRUT)

**CENTRAL BOARD OF SECONDARY EDUCATION**

2, COMMUNITY CENTRE, PREET VIHAR, DELHI-110092.

**PUBLIC NOTICE****WALK-IN-INTERVIEW**

CBSE intends to hire two (02) numbers of retired personnel for the post of consultants (on contract) for a prestigious project in the Delhi location. The remuneration will be fixed as per the directions of the DoPT issued in respect to the re-employment of the government employees after their retirement and the duration of the contract will be initially for one year. Person holding the post with pay level 12 of 7th CPC or equivalent at the time of retirement (with minimum experience of 5 years on the post) with Graduate/Post Graduate from a recognized University or Institution, having thorough knowledge about Procurement, Administration and Finance under Government of India rules and provisions and proficiency in spoken/written English with knowledge of computer including MS Office package are invited for walk in interview along with 2 copies of Bio-data, 2 photographs, Original documents related to qualifications and experience. Walk in Interview will be held at **1100 hrs on 10.05.2022** in the Conference Hall, CBSE, 17, Rouse Avenue, Delhi-110001. No TA/DA will be paid for attending the interview. The interested candidates are requested to report the venue by 1030 hrs.

davp - 21107/12/0001/2223

**Joint Secretary (A&L)**कार्यपालक अभियंता का कार्यालय,  
वाढ़ नियंत्रण प्रमण्डल, गया।  
(eefcdbagha@gmail.com)**शुद्धि-पत्र**

इस कार्यालय के पत्रांक-321 दिनांक-26.04.2022 द्वारा निर्गत अति अल्पकालीन निविदा आमंत्रण सूचना सं-01एस.बी.डी./2022-23 दिनांक-26.04.2022 (PR. No. 001300(WRD) 2022-23) के निरसन के क्रममें Technical Sheet के Time of Completion in Months में विमानीय निवेशनसाथ 15.06.2022 के स्थान पर ढेढ़ माह समझा जाय। शेष शर्तें यथावत रहेगी।

PR- 1824 ( W R D ) 2022-23

नरो से बनानी दूरी है, क्योंकि परिवार जरूरी है।

कार्यपालक अभियंता  
वाढ़ नियंत्रण प्रमण्डल, गया।**Govt. of Bihar****Tourism Department, Patna****Notice Inviting Tender**

Tender No: TDRT/50010/01-2022/11

**Empanelment of Event Management Agencies**

Tender are invited Empanelment of Event Management Agencies with Department of Tourism, Government of Bihar

Name of Work	Empanelment of Event Management Agencies with Department of Tourism, Government of Bihar
Website for downloading tender document	<a href="http://www.tourism.bihar.gov.in">www.tourism.bihar.gov.in</a>
Bid Document Fee	INR 5,000 (non-refundable), payable by Demand Draft in favor of Director Tourism, payable at Patna
Earnest Money Deposit (EMD)	INR 1,00,000 (INR One Lakh) (refundable), payable by Demand Draft/ Bank Guarantee in favor of Director Tourism, payable at Patna
Date & Time of Pre-bid Meeting	Date & Time: 17-05-2022; 03:00 PM Place: Directorate of Tourism, 1 <sup>st</sup> Floor, B Block, Extension Bhawan, Main Secretariat, Patna 800015
Last Date & Time for Submission of Bids	02-06-2022; 3:00 PM
Date & Time for opening of Technical Bids	02-06-2022; 4:00 PM
Date & Time for opening of Financial Bids	To be communicated to technically responsive bidders
Bid Validity Period	180 days
Place of submission and opening of bids	Directorate of Tourism, 1 <sup>st</sup> Floor, B Block, Extension Bhawan, Main Secretariat, Patna 800015

**Note:** Detailed Scope of work, terms and conditions are mentioned in the Tender available on the website of the Department of Tourism, Government of Bihar – [www.tourism.bihar.gov.in](http://www.tourism.bihar.gov.in)

Department of Tourism reserves the right to modify the terms of the RFP and dates mentioned in the RFP or cancel the entire bidding process at its sole discretion without assigning any reasons thereof. Proposals received after the due date and time shall not be opened and returned back unopened.

PR- 1755 ( Tourism ) 2022-23

नरो से बनानी दूरी है, क्योंकि परिवार जरूरी है।

**Director Tourism****बिहार स्वास्थ्य सुरक्षा समिति**

State Health Agency

**Advt. No. BSSS-SHA-01/2022****Walk-in-Interview for the post of Director-Health Care**

Bihar Swasthya Suraksha Samiti (BSSS), a society registered under the Society Registration Act 1860, is the nodal agency working under the auspices of Health Department, Government of Bihar and is mandated for the implementation of AYUSHMAN BHARAT-PRADHAN MANTRI JAN AROGYA YOJNA (AB-PMJAY) and MUKHYA MANTRI JAN AROGYA YOJANA (MMJAY) through BSSS in the state.

Name of the Post	No. of Vacancy	Salary (INR)	Eligibility Criteria
Director – Health Care	1 (UR)	1,00,000/- pm	<p><b>Essential Qualification:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>MBBS/BDS from a recognized institute/University.</li> <li>Essential Experience:</li> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>At least 5 years of experience in health sector in handling Health Insurance Scheme.</li> </ul> </ul> <p>*Preference shall be given to candidates with higher years of experience.</p> <p>Age: Maximum 50 Years as on 1<sup>st</sup> April 2022</p>

The above said post is tenable for Patna on contractual basis initially for 3 years. Interested and eligible candidate may appear for Interview on below mentioned date and venue along with their testimonials. Please visit our website <http://biswass.bihar.gov.in>, <http://statehealthsocietybihar.org> or <https://state.bihar.gov.in/health/CitizenHome.html> for detailed application format and prescribed requirements

Date and Time of Walk-in Interview: Tuesday, 24 May 2022

Registration time: 10:00 AM to 12:00 NOON

Venue: Block No-3, Second Floor, Old Secretariat Extension Building, Patna – 15, Bihar

Please note: Application in prescribed format will only be considered. Along with the application, candidates are advised to bring copy of all educational certificates and experience certificates in original for verification purpose. Post document verification, if the candidate meets the eligibility criteria he/she will be considered for Interview process. No TA/DA is admissible for the said interview process.

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PR. No. 001853 (NI.NI) 2022-23

**विहार स्वास्थ्य सुरक्षा समिति**

# '77% of women stay mum about domestic violence'

30% Face Physical Abuse Since They're 15: NFHS-5

Ambika Pandit | TNN



Among never-married women who reported sexual violence, the most common perpetrators were 'other' relatives (42%), according to the survey

married women aged 18-49 have experienced physical, sexual, or emotional spousal violence. The most common type of spousal violence is physical violence (28%), followed by emotional violence (14%) and sexual violence (6%).

Ever married women or men are persons who have been married at least once in their lives although their current marital status may not be 'married'.

One-fourth of ever-married women (18-49 years) who have experienced spousal physical or sexual violence reported having physical injuries, including 7%

who have had eye injuries, sprains, dislocations, or burns, and 6% who have had deep wounds, broken bones, broken teeth, or any other serious injury.

NFHS-5 shows that sexual violence is most often committed by individuals with whom women have an intimate relationship.

Among ever-married women of

age 18-49 who have ever experienced sexual violence, 83% reported their current husband and 13% reported a former husband as perpetrators. Among never-married women who reported sexual violence, the most common perpetrators were 'other' relatives (42%), followed by a current or former boyfriend (13%) and a family friend (10%). Some never-married women mention strangers (8%) and teachers (2%) as perpetrators.

Among ever-married women age 18-49 who have experienced physical violence since age 15, 84% reported their current husband as the perpetrator of the violence, and 8% reported their former husband.

For never married women who have experienced physical violence since age 15, the most common perpetrators are mothers or step-mothers (59%), fathers or step-fathers (37%), sisters or brothers (27%), and teachers (9%).

All the other terms and conditions of tender document shall remain the same

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## '44% of Kerala men feel contraceptives make women promiscuous'

Aswin.JKumar  
@timesgroup.com

**Thiruvananthapuram:** If a woman is on birth control, does that make her sexually unfaithful? The recently released National Family Health Survey (NFHS-5) 2019-21, India Report, of the Union health ministry shows that Kerala has the highest percentage of men in the country who think along this line, raising serious questions about the much-hyped 'progressive' nature of the state.

The chapter related to men's contraception about perceptions and knowledge by state/Union territory shows that 44.1% of men in Kerala agree that women who use contraception may become promiscuous.

Only 19.6% of men agree with this statement nationally. The Union Territories of Chandigarh and Lakshadweep (43.7%) and the state of Punjab are the only other regions in the country with 40% or above men who agree that the use of contraception may make a woman promiscuous.

In Kerala, men aged between 45-49 and 30-34 are more likely to support this statement.

The lowest percentage of men in Kerala who agree with the connection between licentious behaviour and the use of birth control was found among the youngest age group (15-19).

Among caste/tribes, men belonging to other caste and other backward class have the highest percentage who agree with this

## Barring Muslims, all big religious groups' TFR now below replacement level

TIMES INSIGHT GROUP

The National Family Health Survey Data shows that all major religious groups other than Muslims have now achieved a TFR of below replacement level, while the Muslim rate remains a little above it despite declining rapidly with each round of the survey. Over the five rounds of the NFHS so far, Muslim TFR has fallen by 46.5%, that for Hindus by 41.2% and for Christians and Sikhs by about a third. TFR data for Jains and Buddhists/neo-Buddhists was not compiled in NFHS-1 (1992-93).

Fertility data shows clearly that one of the primary determinants of fertility levels is the level of schooling of the mother. For those with no schooling in NFHS-5, the TFR is 2.82, for those with 12 years or more, it plummets to 1.78. Among Muslim women aged 15-49 (considered the reproductive age), 31.4% had no schooling and only 44% had over seven years. For Hindus, the corresponding numbers were 27.6% and 53%, for Christians 16.8% and nearly 65%.

Also, the TFR for the same community varies widely across states. For instance, Hindus in Uttar Pradesh have a TFR of 2.29, but the same community in, say, Tamil Nadu, has a TFR of 1.75, well below replacement rate. Similarly, the Muslim TFR in UP is 2.66, but in Tamil Nadu it is 1.93, again below replacement rate.

**The total fertility rate (TFR) varies for the same community from state to state. For instance, Hindus in UP have a TFR of 2.29, but in TN the same community has a TFR of 1.75, well below the replacement rate**

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## 2 Mum mosques breach loudspeaker norms, slapped with FIRs

V.Narayan@timesgroup.com

**Mumbai:** The city police on Friday registered FIRs against two mosques in the western suburbs for using loudspeakers before 6 am in violation of Supreme Court guidelines.

The first FIR has named as accused Anwar Mohammed Shabir Shah (28) from Noorani Masjid in Bandra (West), and the second has

named Mohammed Shoaib Satar Shaikh (30) and Arif Mohammed Siddiqui (30), both from the Muslim Kabrastan Masjid in Santa-cruz (West). They have been booked under IPC Sections 188 (disobedience to order duly promulgated by public servant), 34 (common intention) and relevant sections of the Maharashtra Police Act.

The police action has come in wake of the row over MNS chief

Raj Thackeray's demand that loudspeakers at mosques be removed in Mumbai and the rest of Maharashtra.

Raj Thackeray had given an ultimatum that if loudspeakers were not removed by May 3 (Tuesday), Hindus would recite the Hanuman Chalisa on loudspeakers outside mosques. He had claimed that it was not a religious issue but a social one.

Of the 1,141 mosques in the city, only 135 had played azaan on loudspeakers on Wednesday, state home department officials had said, as the ruling Maha Vikas Aghadi accused Raj of political opportunism. Police had carried out preventive action that day, including detention of MNS workers.

The Supreme Court guidelines say loudspeakers should not be used between 10 pm and 6 am.

### O-180 OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER RWSS DIVISION, RAIRANGPUR INVITATION FOR BIDS

E-mail - eerwss\_rai@nic.in, eerwss.rai@gmail.com

#### e-PROCUREMENT NOTICE

IDENTIFICATION NO. 01 RWSS/RPRP- 2022-2023 / Dated 22.04.2022

The Superintending Engineer, RWSS Division, Rairangpur on behalf of Governor of Odisha, invites percentage rate bids to be received in online mode for the following works from the eligible experienced contractors in similar nature of work, registered with State Govt. & contractor of equivalent Grade/class registered with Central Govt. / Railways.

1. Nature of work : a) Execution of clubbed up PWS schemes to different villages of Bahala, Bijatala, Bisoi, Jamda Karanja & Thakurmunda & Tiring Block under RWSS&S Division Rairangpur in the District of Mayurbhanj.
2. No. of packages : 20 (Twenty) nos.
3. Period of Completion : 11 (Eleven) months
4. Cost of tender : Rs. 1000.00
5. Estimated cost : Rs. 293.22 lakhs to Rs. 497.79 lakhs
6. Class of Contractor : (As mentioned in Tender Call Notice)
7. Date and time of availability of bid documents in Portal : from 10 hours of 10.05.2022 to 17.00 to hours of 31.05.2022
8. Receipt of bid cost, bid security, documents : Online only
9. Date & time of opening of technical bid : Dt. 01.06.2022 at 11.00 hours onwards.
10. Other Documents : (As mentioned in DTCN)
11. The bidders have to participate in on-line bidding only. Further details can be seen from the website https://www.tendersodisha.gov.in.
12. Any addendum / Corrigendum / Cancellation of tender can also be seen in the said website.

Sd/- 22.04.22  
Superintending Engineer

RWSS Division, Rairangpur

OIPR - 25010/11/0006/22-23

### C-224 GOVERNMENT OF ODISHA OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER PUBLIC HEALTH DIVISION, RAYAGADA e-mail: eephod.rgda.od@nic.in

#### NATIONAL COMPETITIVE BIDDING THROUGH e-Procurement INVITATION FOR BIDS (IFB) NO.SEPHRAYAGADA- 9/2022-23 DT.05.05.2022

01	Name of the work	1	Procurement of D.I. K-7 Pipe for Augmentation of W/S to Rayagada Town.
02	Number of works	1	1 Nos.
03	Estimate cost	776.29 Lakh	
04	Period of completion	As per DTCN	
05	Class of Contractor	Reputed Manufacturers	
06	Date & Time of availability of bid document in the portal	From 08.00 AM of 16.05.2022 To 5.30 PM of 30.05.2022	
07	Last date / time of receipt of bids in the portal	1.00 PM of 30.05.2022	
08	Date & Time of opening of bids	At 12 PM of 31.05.2022	
09	Name and Address of the Officer Inviting Bid	Superintending Engineer, P.H. Division, Rayagada	
10	The bidders have to participate in ONLINE bidding only	Further details can be seen from the e-Procurement portal "https://www.tendersodisha.gov.in"	

Sd/-  
SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER,  
P.H. DIVISION, RAYAGADA

OIPR-1305/11/0003/22-23

### GOVERNMENT OF ASSAM

#### OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR OF SPORTS & YOUTH WELFARE, ASSAM RUDRA SINGHA SPORTS COMPLEX, DISPUR, GUWAHATI- 781006

No: DSY/S/Manpower/KISCE/25/2022

Dated: 6th May, 2022

#### PRESS NOTICE FOR RECRUITMENT TO VARIOUS CONTRACTUAL POSTS IN KHELO INDIA STATE CENTRE OF EXCELLENCE (KISCE), ASSAM

The Directorate of Sports & Youth Welfare, Government of Assam, invites applications from the eligible citizens of India for filling up different vacant posts in Khelo India State Centre of Excellence (KISCE), Assam, at State Sports Academy, Sarusajai Sports Complex, Guwahati, Assam, on purely temporary and contractual basis.

The detailed advertisement and Application Form can be downloaded from this Directorate's website: [dsy.assam.gov.in](http://dsy.assam.gov.in). The applicants should apply through the official email ID: [recruitment.kisceassam@gmail.com](mailto:recruitment.kisceassam@gmail.com) only. Application submitted offline mode will not be accepted.

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Sports & Youth Welfare, Assam & Chairman, Selection Committee

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### UNION TERRITORY OF JAMMU AND KASHMIR, OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER JAL SHAKTI (PHE) DIVISION KULGAM NOTICE INVITING TENDER e-NIT No. 10 OF 2022-23 Dated : 04-05-2022

For and on behalf of Lt. Governor of UT of J&K, Executive Engineer Jal Shakti (PHE) Division Kulgam invites e-tenders from reputed and resourceful Bidders/ Firms/Companies/ of all classes registered in JKPWD/CPWD/Railways or any other state Government for below mentioned works at various Water Supply schemes of PHE Division Kulgam of Kashmir Province of UT of J&K, under Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM).

The bidding process shall be completed online on [www.jktenders.gov.in](http://www.jktenders.gov.in) in two covers viz. Cover 1st consisting of General Terms and Conditions and Technical Specifications and Cover 2nd consisting of Financial Bid on overall percentage rate basis, in the prescribed BOQ.

Sr. No.	Particulars of the work Tender fee (in Rs.)	Estimated cost	Earliest money Deposit	Bid Validity	Time of Completion of work (days)
1	2	3	4	5	6

1. Laying & fitting of delivery mains consisting of GMS Tubes ductile iron pipes of different nominal bores along with pipe fitting and control valves incl other allied works

Execution of ancillary civil works like spring covers boundary walls, SRs Slow sand filtration plants, protection works etc at various water supply schemes of special PHE Jal Shakti Division Kulgam

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

The tender inviting authority is Executive Engineer, Jal Shakti (PHE) Division Kulgam

The awarding authority is District Jal Jeevan Mission (DJM).

#### Critical Dates :

I	Publish Date	04-05-2022
II	Document Download/sale start Date	04-05-2022
III	Date of Pre-bid meeting	10-05-2022
IV	Bid submission start date	04-05-2022
V	Bid submission end date	27-05-2022
VI	Date and time of Bid opening	28-05-2022

1. Bid documents can be

# India speaks in many tongues so why pick one?

## POLITICALLY INCORRECT



SHOBHAA DE

Straw poll time: Ask five people randomly if they think Hindi qualifies as the national language of India. Their answers may surprise you! Ask me, and I'll tell you that Marathi is my mother tongue. No dispute. What about Hindi? I'm a pukka Mumbaikar so we speak our own lingo called Bambaiyya. It is a mish mash of so many delightful languages like a bhal-puri — tangy and irresistible. Everyone understands Bambaiyya in Mumbai while not many get shudh Hindi. So, wondering what sparked off these reflections? The Hindi versus the rest controversy started with a tweet from Kannada star ('Eega') Kichcha Sudeep who wrote: "Everyone says that a Kannada film was made on a pan-India level but a small correction is that Hindi is not a national language anymore." Ajay Devgn came up with a dramatic rebuttal declaring, "Hindi was, is and always will be our mother tongue and national language." Excuse me, but on whose behalf is he speaking? He should know that Article 343 of the Constitution states that the official language of the Union shall be Hindi in Devanagari script. Emphasis on the words 'official language'. This does not mean 'national language'. He signed off with a resounding 'Jan Gan Man' (Devgn's spelling, not mine).

Since Devgn addressed his tweet to 'My brother Kichcha Sudeep', the brother responded politely but firmly, only to get a limp riposte from Devgn claiming "what was lost in translation." Arrey baba... lots is lost in translation when it comes to movies. Soon, it became a free for all, with singer Sonu Nigam recommending Tamil as the national language, since 'it's the oldest language in the world'. Sonu had consulted historians and scholars, mind it! Not to be left behind, our lady for all seasons and reasons, Kangana Ranaut declared herself a spokesperson for Sanskrit, while quasi-movie actor Shashi Tharoor defined Hindi as a "gift that keeps on giving..." Giving what? And to whom, dear MP?

The biggest players in India right now are all Gujaratis. Just saying. From our beloved Prime Minister and the mighty Amit Shah to billionaire industrialists Mukesh Ambani and Gautam Adani, India is controlled by Guju bhais with more combined clout than all of Putin's muscle power. I propose Gujarati as our national language — for one, if that happens, the rest of us will be forced to learn the language of commerce and emerge richer for it. Kai vando nathi.

But seriously India speaks in many tongues. According to the hopelessly dated language census data (2011), more



MIND YOUR LANGUAGE: Protests erupted in Karnataka over Ajay Devgn's remark that Hindi is our national language

than 19,500 languages are spoken as mother tongue in India. As many as 43.6% of our population identifies Hindi as a mother tongue, followed by Bengali at 8%, while Marathi comes next at 6.8%. Gujarati features lower down the ladder, after Tamil and Telugu.

We have the absolute right to express ourselves in whichever 'bhasha' we choose. Mother tongue is mother tongue. But what about father tongue? Why this gender discrimination? I am all for declaring a 'national tongue' after we agree on which one 'wins' this contest. At the moment, Hindi heavyweights are 'lagaoing' too much pressure and behaving like language sarmats. They are forgetting history, when anti-Hindi agitations led by students had rocked Chennai way back in 1965. Try asking for directions in Hindi if you are in any city in south India and see the stupefied reaction.

Even Hindi has many avatars. There is Bollywood-wal, chutneyed Hindi, and then there is asli Hindi. In between there is Dilli's sarkari Hindi, perfected by babu-dom and designed to confound the rest of India.

Jaamey bhi do, yaaron. Take your cues from Amitabh Bachchan's dialogues. In his recent movie outing for Ajay Devgn, Bachchan playing a tough lawyer spouts highly sanskritised Hindi dialogues to intimidate the accused. "Gurutva aatarshan" is what he calls the law of gravity. In Namak Halaal, Bachchan playing Arjun Singh utters a dialogue that has spawned countless meme fests ("I can talk English, I can walk English. I can laugh English. Because English is a very phunny language.") Champions of Hindi should stay 'khamosh' for a bit and accept that good communication is about conveying an idea effectively. *Sab kuch chalta hai* so long as you get your work done. Language is like a river that flows across the land and picks up words from several shores.

I'm participating in a podcast next week which focuses on 'Hinglish and heritage in modern India.' The moderator is an Italian professor of Hindi and South Asian literature at London's SOAS. We may indulge ourselves by conversing in 'Italiish'.

Till then, I can't wait to hear the considered mazdaar views on Hindi as a national language expressed boldly and transparently by Urvi Javed using the one language that's perfectly understood across the world — body language. ■

# Like me, many Partition descendants long to witness their place of origin

*The wounds of Partition are certainly felt most acutely by those who lived through it, but descendants of those who had to cross the border feel a sense of loss as well. In 'The Language of Remembering', oral historian and author Aanchal Malhotra interviews second and third generations of Partition-afflicted families to discuss everything from trauma to identity, religion to hope. In an interview with Ketaki Desai, Malhotra explains why even 75 years later, young people feel the pain of their ancestors so keenly*

■ In your book, you examine how the experience of Partition is inherited by descendants of survivors. Why is it that they are often more overtly emotional about it and how did the conversations they had with their grandparents change them?

If the hours I spent with survivors had demonstrated the subtlety and diversity of lived experiences, then the hours spent with their descendants did quite the same; the subject of Partition did not feel removed from them, no matter how removed they may have been from the site of its occurrence. Many chapters demonstrate how it is actually the relationship between the grandparent and the grandchild which often leads to the past being exhumed; how remembrance sometimes may skip a generation. In fact, the largest number of interviewees are from the third generation, and at several instances, I have tried to understand why we may need some distance from the event of trauma to be able to understand or immerse ourselves within it. But despite the difficulty or ease with which the past is discussed amongst generations, it certainly changes some things — in many interviews, a colossal event felt suddenly intimate; or upon learning the struggles and sacrifices of an ancestor; an interviewee began to view them in a new light. Sometimes an ancestor's silence establishes the texture



FOR THE RECORD

of the past, the limits of what can be discussed; and other times, entire histories that interviewees may never have imagined are brought to the surface. In most circumstances, knowledge of the past changes how we live in the present and what we hope for in the future.

■ There is a recurring sense of longing that many inheritors express in the book for a homeland they never lived in. Why does this persist across generations?

This is the most poignant aspect raised by interviewees, irrespective of nationality, and perhaps it is because some fundamental part of their past remains inaccessible to them. But within subsequent generations, it may not be a sense of belonging in the same way as it is for their ancestors who left a homeland behind, but rather, longing to witness a place that is their origin. If I speak for myself, it is a desire to see my beginning, where generations of my grandparents' families were born and raised. I begin the book by saying that 'the memory of one's origin is never erased' and this statement finds resonance throughout the book.

■ Does the different nature of the two borders – India-Pakistan and India-Bangladesh – change how subsequent generations think about the other country?

On the western border with Pakistan, there was a single split in 1947, which was devastatingly violent, but ultimately the border was fortified and accepted, and the severance felt quite final. In speaking to both survivors and their descendants, there is an inaccessibility to the other side, given the hostile relationship between India and Pakistan over the last 75 years. Many Indians and Pakistanis can imagine travelling across the world, but to cross the border remains a hope, an aspiration. However, on the eastern side, be it East Pakistan or later Bangladesh, the divisions and subsequent migrations happened incrementally and the border remained quite porous. Survivors and their descendants did manage to travel back and forth, revisiting the lands of their birth. So, it is not always evoked with the same pain or inaccessibility as the western border.

■ It was interesting to read about inherited trauma in the midst of a pandemic. How do you see this kind of event affecting future generations?

I can imagine the pandemic one day leading to the formation of a unique archive. Maybe it is already underway, since we document our everyday lives on social media. This will no doubt shape future narratives — what we will remember, the stories we will tell, the memories of those we have lost, and the lessons we will carry forth. But I also worry, as with traumatic events of the past, if our impulse could be to forget, to move on, to not want to be reminded of the suffering each one of us has witnessed.

■ A question that many in the book keep coming back to is what the point of the Partition truly was. Is there something we can learn from its legacy, particularly amid greater religious intolerance?

I end the book by borrowing a quote from Kamleshwar's 'Kitne Pakistan', where he writes that 'history, which can provide remedial insight into the past, is often cast aside'. The legacy of violently dividing a subcontinent on the basis of religion must be to serve as a precedent for such an event to never be repeated again. The testimonies in this book are as much about a past we have not reckoned with, as they are about a future we hope to inhabit.

# BJP creates its narrative through mythology and movies rather than textbooks

## BY INVITATION



BADRI NARAYAN

Where does power lie? Does it lie in wealth, political office, police, and military? No, power lies in knowledge which by reshaping ways of thinking can allow the state, if it so chooses, to influence critical thinking and discourse. Of course, knowledge also makes people enlightened, alert and aware. So, it is an instrument, and it depends on who is using it for what purpose. For instance, The Guardian reported how Russia is rewriting curricula to justify its invasion of Ukraine and editing out any positive references to Ukraine in its schoolbooks. During the days of British rule in India, the power of the state was heavily based on politics of colonial knowledge production. The census, gazetteers, survey reports, data,

and various documentations produced by the colonial state helped them to rule Indian by entering our minds and reshaping our identity. We have not yet recovered fully from this colonial subjectivity created by colonial knowledge. This project is still ongoing.

In post-colonial India, the Congress, which was in power for a long time, influenced knowledge production based on its own ideology and understanding. Social science and history textbooks for schools were written to reflect Congress ideology which had moorings in the anti-colonial nationalistic movement. In fact, history appears to be simultaneously the most powerful as well the most vulnerable disciplines to "pedagogic recontextualising" to borrow a term coined by sociologist Basil Bernstein. It is powerful in creating memories among its readers, tellers and recipients but also vulnerable because every state wants to write its own history. In some states like Rajasthan, history changes depending on who is ruling the state.

The BJP, which replaced the Congress at the Centre, had its own ideology distinct from its predecessor. Over the years, it has faced several attacks for pushing its own version of history. The most recent is for dropping a poem by Faiz and a chapter on 'democracy and diversity' from Class 10 CBSE textbooks.

The CBSE says this happened due to rationalisation of the syllabus under post-Covid pedagogical constraints. But it is interesting to see how not only additions but also deletions and dropping of chapters are an important process in the politics of knowledge.

No one can deny that the knowledge circulated through school textbooks plays an important role in reframing the narrative in young minds. These subjectivities revolve around creating new memories but also forgetting. The BJP has focused more on the latter rather than doing a large-scale rewrite based on its ideological foundations even though some of its think tanks have often made such de-

mands. Even under NEP-2022, the BJP has focused on creating a bridge between tradition and modernity, the local and global while focusing on reform. These pedagogical interventions also don't seem associated with any particular ideology of the party, and more like requirements of the time. However, the guidelines about mother language/regional language instruction at the primary level have drawn protests from some states.

I feel the reason the BJP isn't too concerned about political use of ongoing school-based knowledge is because their ideological foundations already have a bigger reach than any government-led knowledge production. Its ideological foundations are being disseminated in public memories through epic narratives such as Ramayana, Mahabharata and various value-based narrative traditions such as keertan, bhajan, Indian katha traditions etc. The baudhikies (intellectual discourses) of Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh sakhas and textbooks of Sangh-

inspired schools have already evolved cultural narratives which influence a section of the Indian public. Some commentators have pointed out how even popular Hindi cinema is pushing the narrative through nationalist themes. Through these processes, a kind of memory is being produced, reproduced and circulated among the public. Such memories are successfully creating a cultural and civilisational discourse base for the BJP-led Hindutva politics. It is true that the knowledge produced by the state is powerful but socially produced knowledge can sometimes become more powerful than state-produced knowledge. This is especially true in a society like India where a kind of social knowledge also informs our public spheres. If certain politics finds its base in social knowledge, it can successfully create a political base much larger than any other political group which relies only on state-produced knowledge. ■

The writer is director, G B Pant Social Science Institute

# Does India really need a sovereign wealth fund?

## BY INVITATION



AJIT RANADE

India's foreign-exchange reserves have dropped to below \$600 billion, a 7% fall in just the past six months. The reason for the fall is either that people (both Indians and foreigners) are taking dollars out of India, or that the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has been selling dollars to "decrease" the pressure on a declining rupee.

Sharp rupee depreciation is bad news since it makes our imports expensive. Crude oil imports alone were \$120 billion during last fiscal year. If the rupee slides, crude oil becomes expensive, which affects domestic price of petrol and diesel, contributing to inflation. On the other hand, the rupee cannot be allowed to get too strong, because it will hurt our exports. The optimal level of the exchange rate is managed by the RBI. This dollar-rupee rate is the most important "price" which is managed in the economy. To manage the exchange rate the RBI needs to have some stock of foreign exchange, which is currently just below \$600 billion.

Is that too much? Strangely this question has been being asked for almost 15 years. Even when India's forex stock reached \$100 billion some people started asking whether it was excessive. One of the benchmarks used to measure whether forex is adequate or not is how many months of imports it can support. This past year our import bill was around \$620 billion. So, our current forex stock can pay for 12 months of imports. That seems like a safe stock.

Hence, some people have suggested that India should have its own sovereign wealth fund just like Abu Dhabi, Saudi Arabia, Norway, Singapore or China. All these countries have a very large stock of foreign exchange. But the first three of them are large oil exporters and have windfall gains from high oil prices, and their own domestic consumption of oil is very low. The last two, Singapore and China, are also major exporters and consistently have a current-account surplus, ie exports always exceed imports. India's case is very different. It does not have any windfall gains from oil or any other commodity exports. Secondly, it consistently has a current-account deficit, sometimes as high as 2% or 3% of GDP. So, India is constantly running short of dollars on its trade account. The reason that India has ample supply of dollars is because its trade deficit is financed by foreign investors via the capital account. This includes money flowing into the stock market, via foreign loans and by non-resident Indians keeping fixed deposits in Indian banks. And of course through foreign-direct investment (FDI) in projects, companies and start-ups.

However, everything except FDI is hot money. It can easily be reversed. There can be sudden stops to



LESSON TO LEARN: The Sri Lankan crisis underlines the need for having a large pile of forex

stock market inflows. It's a great testament to the confidence of foreign investors in India's prospects that for past more than three decades they have poured investment dollars, which has taken our forex stock from barely \$1 billion in 1991 to \$600 billion in 2022. The call for using some of India's forex stock to form an SWF is also because RBI earns barely 1% or 2% returns on its forex stock, which is mainly invested in the US and other sovereign bonds. By its charter, the RBI is not allowed to invest in any other asset, since it has to park the foreign exchange in only safe assets. On the other hand, other countries with large forex carve out a big fund into an SWF, which in turn is allowed to invest in more risky assets and earn a higher return.

There have been calls for India too to have its own SWF to use some of its own forex more productively. In a way we already have a SWF which is called The National Investment and Infrastructure Fund (NIIF), set up in 2016 and managed by a government-appointed team to leverage foreign investment into India. So far, its size is about \$4 billion and its investments, mainly in the form of equity, are across sectors including infrastructure, e-commerce and perhaps future unicorns. But, \$4 billion is but a drop out of \$600 billion. The main thing to realise is that India needs a largish pile of forex as insurance against sudden flight of foreign capital, which can leave us in the lurch. It happened in 1997 to East Asian countries like Thailand. Ever since then many developing countries started having their own dollar pile as self-insurance. Since Sri Lanka did not have adequate forex stock it has defaulted and is facing bankruptcy in foreign obligations. India does not have the luxury of being an oil exporter like Abu Dhabi nor does it have a current-account surplus like Singapore or China. If it wants to secure higher returns for its forex, it can diversify away from dollar assets to euro or other currencies. But as of now the dollar is king and our forex stock, safely managed by RBI is our insurance. In this coming year of high oil prices and inflation and slowing growth, it makes sense to conserve our forex. ■

The writer is an economist

## INBOX

### Why pension cuts only for military?

Apropos 'Four ways to stop pay...' (ATM, May 1) where the author suggested some methods to cut down expenditure in the defence budget by reducing pension of ex-servicemen, I would like to invite Mr Kotasthane to visit some of the places where we are deployed round the year. I am sure he may not be like there even for a day. Talking about reducing the pension of veterans, does he know the biggest burden on the taxpayer? It is our elected MLAs and MPs. Perhaps cuts should begin with politicians rather than defence folks.

Ashutosh Mathur, Baroda

**Scrap the sedition law**  
With reference to 'Can SC put an end...' (ATM, May 1), there is no legitimate reason for the sedition law to exist as it does in a democratic country. SC must amend this colonial era relic and save citizens from undue harassment. It would also prevent the lower judiciary from taking legal action against the innocent people and penalising them for exercising their constitutional rights.

P N Kumar, Gurugram

**Stop the book ban**  
This refers to 'Books behind bars...' (SS, May 1). Unless a book is offensive or objectionable, no one should be denied books. Books keep sanity, rationality and humanity intact in a person. Instead of denying books, inmates should be rewarded for good behaviour with books. If inmates are asking for reading material, it means they want to engage and improve themselves. As the saying goes, "an empty mind is the devil's workshop."

Parul Bhandari, Noida

Email your letters to the editor at [sunday.times@timesgroup.com](mailto:sunday.times@timesgroup.com) with 'Sunday Mailbox' in the subject line. Please mention your name and city

# UCC: How do we fabricate uniformity in such diversity?

## BY INVITATION



UPENDRA BAXI

While demands have been heard for a Uniform Civil Code (UCC) for years, and the BJP has adopted it as an integral part of its electoral manifesto, these have now acquired a bellicose urgency in some states such as Uttarakhand. However, the Constitution in Article 44 declares that the state shall endeavour to secure a UCC throughout the territory of India. Properly read, it does not indicate that "uniformity" can be achieved by state legislations though states may persuade the Centre to enact a UCC.

The learned dissent (by Chief Justice Kehar and Justice Abdul Nazeer) in Shayara Bano (2017) held that the practice of talaq-e-biddat is "a constituent of personal law" and it "has a statute equal to other fundamental rights". The practice cannot be set aside on the ground of constitutional morality, through judicial intervention. Urging "absolute" judicial self-restraint in essential religious practices, the Court added: "Unfortunately, the Union seeks at our hands, what truly falls in its own". The majority, however, invalidated both constitutionally and legally, such triple talak.

India has progressively proceeded in a piecemeal way towards UCC. Contract law and criminal law are uniform for all communities. So is facilitative law such as the Special Marriage Act, under which persons of any community may enter into civil marriage. The law of succession is to be governed by the Indian Succession Act of 1925. Thus, was taken, as the then law minister put it, the "first step towards a uniform civil code". But the step was optional. Now, the demand is for a binding one.

However, as Dr Tahir Mohamed, a former chair of the Minorities' Commission, has recently reiterated, a UCC must also remove some discriminatory features of this Act. For example, its "list of prohibited degrees in marriage (relatives one cannot marry)" is a carbon copy of that under the Hindu Marriage Act but, unlike that Act, it does not recognise the rule prohibiting marriages within the limits of sapinda relationship (covering distant cousins). So, a Hindu can freely marry a second cousin under the Act, though his religion prohibits it, but a Muslim cannot

# Eat less, eat worse: How food inflation hits the poor

Women who run the kitchen say they are having to make many compromises such as diluting milk with water to make it stretch further, eating vegetables on alternate days and giving up protein

Himanshi.Dhawan@timesgroup.com

**O**n Thursday night, Beena Devi had a tough choice to make. She could either buy medicine for her son who had been suffering from chronic ear pain or vegetables for their only meal of the day. She bought two painkillers and the family of six fell asleep after a meal of dry roti with salt in their one-room tenement in south Delhi's Jagdamba camp.

Just like Beena Devi, there are many families across the country who are making difficult choices as food inflation jumped to 7.68% in March. Meat, eggs and milk, once a regular part of diets, have become as elusive as rain in a parched desert. Pulses and green vegetables have become rare visitors to the dinner table and many lower income groups have reduced their meals from twice or thrice a day to just once.

Mumbai resident Afsana Idrisi was doing well till the sudden lockdown upturned her life. Her husband worked as a salesman in a cloth shop in Govandi and she earned

**We used to bring milk, chicken, eggs for children. Now everything is so expensive, we are lucky if we can give them dal. I borrowed money for Eid just so I could make them sevaiya (vermicelli).**

—AFSANA IDRISI | Mumbai homemaker

a small amount by giving tuitions to the neighbourhood kids. They were earning upwards of Rs 50,000 a month and had even saved a lakh. The couple are raising three daughters and are determined to give them a better life. But with the lockdown, Afsana's husband lost his job and she had to shut down her tuition work. She sees her future slipping away from her hands like sand. "We used to bring milk, chicken, eggs for children. Now everything so expensive, we are

Photo: Piyal Bhattacharjee



**HEAVY PRICE:** The recent spike in food prices has meant that Premlata Devi can barely manage one meal a day for her two sons including 9-year-old Lakan

lucky if we can give them dal. I borrowed money for Eid just so I could make them sevaiya (vermicelli) and some new clothes," she says. In the last two years Afsana has lost all her savings. Her husband sold fruit during Ramzan but has stopped that too. They are now living in debt, borrowing from kind-hearted neighbours and relatives to make ends meet.

Domestic worker Premlata Devi is in a similar situation. Before the lockdown she earned nearly Rs 10,000 by working in the Sheik Sarai 'kothis'. Now of the four homes she worked in, only one remains. Her husband who works as a contractual labourer also has uneven days leaving their family on financially uncertain ground.

Premlata has to think hard when she is asked about her last taste of chicken or egg. "We only make dinner. I go to work empty stomach and so does my husband. If we earn something, we make food at night for the children," she says. The family cooks a potato vegetable once every alternate day

to eat with roti at night.

When the children pester her too much, she buys a Rs 10 packet of milk and mixes it with water. "They want sugar with it too. Then I have to scold them and tell them to drink what they have. It breaks my heart but I have to do it," she says.

The Hunger Watch survey conducted by the Right To Food Campaign in association with the Centre for Equity Studies during December 2021-January 2022 found that during the pandemic, 79% of the households surveyed reported some form of food insecurity, and an alarmingly high 25% reported severe food insecurity. About 41% of households reported that the nutritional quality of their diet had deteriorated compared to pre-pandemic levels. Now food inflation is making things worse.

In Chhattarpur village of Jharkhand's Palamu district Prasad Paswan who worked as a labourer loading and unloading sacks of grains from trucks, didn't see much of that grain in his own home. Paswan died of

ill health earlier this week. His daughter Manju Devi says that the family's struggle began after Paswan lost his job during the first lockdown. Neither of her parents received an old age pension (Rs 1,000 per month) despite being eligible for it. "His health started failing as there was never enough to eat at home. My mother cleaned in a hotel kitchen and for the last two years now we have been dependent upon the leftover food she brings from there. There was no money to buy anything after the PDS ration ran out in two weeks."

Right to Food Campaign's Anjali Bhardwaj says that rising inflation, coupled with loss of livelihoods during the pandemic, has dealt a severe blow to the food consumption of the poor. "It is imperative that governments expand the food security net under the National Food Security Act (NFSAs) to ensure that no economically vulnerable family is left out. It has been a long-standing demand of the Right to Food Campaign that the food basket under the PDS be expanded to include dal, cooking oil, sugar etc. Mid-day meals must be made more nutritious with the inclusion of milk, eggs and fruit for children."

Public health and nutritional experts say that low food intake can lead to malnutrition and its long-term effects can mean disease and loss of livelihood opportunities. Dr Suparna Ghosh-Jerath, Professor and head of community nutrition at the Public Health Foundation of India says that a compromised dietary intake can lead to children suffering from stunting, poor learning ability and health. "The cognitive development is compromised which then affects overall economic productivity. Micronutrient deficiency in the form of hidden hunger may lead to poor physical as well as cognitive development of children and this has repercussions on their academic performance, work potential and economic productivity and hence perpetuates the cycle of poverty," she adds.

Despite the severe lack of resources, Afsana hopes that things will improve once her husband secures a job. Her fervent wish is to be able to buy chocolate flavoured milk for her girls. "When they ask me when they can buy chocolate milk, I just say when your father gets a job. I hope it happens soon," she says.

## Tel tales: How India lost its atmanirbharta in edible oil

The Vedic tradition of oil-pressing first lost out to vanaspati and then imported oils. Can our native oils make a comeback?

Vikram Doctor

**I**n the late 1930s excavations at Harappa uncovered "a quantity of lumped and burnt Sesamum", according to an account by archaeologist M S Vats. It was found in strata dated to 3050-3500 BCE, which makes it the earliest confirmed human use of sesame seed. It is not clear how it was used, but it is possible it was being crushed for oil, which would make it one of the earliest examples of edible oil production.

Later evidence of sesame oil-pressing is clear. "From Vedic times, the sesame seed was tila and sesame oil was taila, while tilaka signified oil or from tila. To these three words were attached suffixes to denote an oilpress, comprised of the three terms, pesharna (to grind), yantra (machine) and chakra (wheel)," writes food historian K T Achaya in 'Ghani', his study of the traditional Indian oil-press. Til gave us tel, meaning all edible oil.

This antiquity of ghanis shows how oil-pressing was possibly the earliest example of food production being outsourced. It was also one of the first foods to be traded. Achaya notes "repeated mentions of guilds of oil millers in the Buddhist canonical literature," dating to around 400 BCE. Olive oil was the foundation



References to sesame oil pressing have been found in Vedic texts

of fortunes in the Mediterranean world. Today, edible oil is key product for agribusiness giants, both foreign, like the ABCD companies (Archer-Daniels, Bunge, Cargill and Louis-Dreyfus) and Indian, like Adani-Wilmart.

From a consumer viewpoint, distancing from oil production made it easier to accept different oils, especially when marketed in skilful ways. The first really big food brand created for the Indian market was Hindustan Lever's Dalda vanaspati (now owned by Bunge), which was edible oil made solid through hydrogenation.

The crop failures of the 1960s took a toll on edible oil production, but the real problem came in the response to them. While the fail-

ures in rice and wheat production led to the breeding of new, resilient and higher producing crop varieties that are called the Green Revolution, oilseeds (and pulses) did not see such development. Prices started rising which led the government to allow import of palm oil, mainly for making vanaspati. Imports got a further boost as diets became more varied with economic development. People weren't just consuming more oil directly, but also in the form of products like biscuits, instant soups, etc (partly pre-cooked in oil) and crunchy deep-fried snacks.

The Indian government did try to increase oilseed production. Dr Verghese Kurien was roped in to replicate his success with milk with edible oil, which he did with the Dhara brand in the 1980s, even

as health issues associated with hydrogenation led to liquid oils becoming the larger category. Sam Pitroda was put in charge of the Technology Mission on Oilseeds, which boosted the area under oilseed cultivation. Attempts were made to develop new sources of edible oil, like sunflower and canola. Even niche alternatives traditional to India were examined like the use of tree-based sources of fats such as sal, kokum and mango kernel seeds which could substitute mainstream edible oils that were being used in products like soap.

India's self-sufficiency in edible oil increased again, until two events

in the 1990s reversed this. One was India's signing of the World Trade Organisation (WTO) agreement which reduced the government's scope to protect Indian products. Given a choice between rice, wheat and sugar, which were more emotive for consumers and important for farmers, and oilseeds (and pulses), which were less so, the latter were opened up for imports.

The second was an outbreak of severe health problems in 1998 linked to contamination of mustard oil. How this happened has never been clearly established, and allegations of conspiracy have been raised. It certainly greatly benefitted the new and usually imported types of oils being sold by large companies, like soybean and palm, with all their well-marketed claims of health.

This tipped the balance and from our earlier near self-sufficiency, India has become the world's largest importer of edible oil. The current crisis in edible oil prices has been predicted for years, and scepticism persists about how serious the government is about returning to self-sufficiency, especially when the means being promoted, like palm-oil production in the Northeast, comes with its own set of environmental problems.

Yet the role of consumers also matters. We need to stop considering edible oil only from the point of view of cost and dubious health claims and go back to properly produced ghanis oil for our personal consumption. Its higher cost can encourage more production, while also persuading us to use it more carefully. With their long history, better taste and traditional uses, India's ghanis-produced oils offer one way out of the current edible oil crisis.

### Two events in the '90s hit Indian oilseeds. One was the WTO signing and the second, a dropsey scare linked to mustard oil

## Why those adorable Insta-toddlers are making many moms anxious

Curated social media timelines with cute wonder kids are setting unachievable 'mommy goals'. This Mother's Day, Sunday Times speaks to mothers who are keeping it real

Neha Bhayana

**I**t was a Monday afternoon. Zenobia Panthaky (33) had wrapped up an important presentation, successfully fed her fussy two-year-old daughter Anaisha lunch and put her down for a nap. But instead of enjoying a leisurely lunch before returning to her work-from-home desk, the Pune-based business analyst pulled out a bunch of chart papers.

Panthaky was haunted by a reel she had seen on Instagram that morning. A girl the same age as her daughter was sorting and identifying blocks by colour while Anaisha could not even tell pink from blue. Consumed by the typical working-mom-guilt, Panthaky got to work cutting coloured squares and taping them to the floor. She then gathered toys and objects of the same shades, and put them in small baskets all ready for her daughter to sort. The hashtags she would use to share the pictures on her

Insta handle later were also mentally worked out.

But the plan flopped. "My daughter took one second to rip off the squares and another to upturn the basket," recalls Panthaky. "I was so heartbroken."

She is not alone. Seeing picture-perfect images of elegantly-dressed toddlers bent over innovative activities and watching videos of two year olds rattling off the names of the seven wonders on Instagram and Facebook, is making countless moms and dads feel like "failures".

A study by non-governmental organisation Home-Start in the UK found that six out of ten parents feel pressured by social media to be the 'perfect parent'. They admitted feeling daunted, and even depressed, when they couldn't live up to the 'mommy-goals' set by others. While no research has taken place in India, Insta parenting anxiety seems as rampant here.

"I feel like such a loser when I see



Zenobia Panthaky, mother of Anaisha, feels intimidated by influencer moms

### Tips to avoid falling into Insta-parent trap

#### Unfollow/Unfriend

You don't have to track the growth of every expectant celebrity mom's bump or chart the progress of every toddler's drawing skills. You're just not anyone good

#### Seek positivity

You may have shouted at your 4th grader but that does not mean you are a bad mom. Cut yourself some slack and follow 'real' mummies who make mistakes and own them

#### Find 'real' support

Plan playdates with mothers in your neighbourhood. While you bond, you will see that their kids throw tantrums, too

self she will stay off social media and not let it affect her "as every child is different". But she ends up logging in the next day and blaming herself all over again.

"When the Insta mums give their

children rolling pins, they get perfect rotis in return. When I give Veeara one, I get a headache because she starts banging it on the door grill to make music," she says.

One can't deny that online communities have emerged as a great information resource for moms as well as a space to vent. However, psychologists say the trouble lies in the unrealistic, glossy image of parenting they perpetuate. The new breed of momfluencers and mommy bloggers rarely show the messy, maddening and unglamorous side of parenting. They don't admit to hiding in the toilet to drown out the sound of their kids fighting or show their bub jumping on the sofa with a haldi-stained shirt while repeatedly dodging bites of bhindi-roti.

Did the three-year-old topple the tower made of plastic jars — each painted and numbered — which the mother had broadcast on FB with the caption #upcycling#diygames#gross-motor-skills#counting? barely a moment after the picture was clicked? Well, we will never know.

"What you see is not what you get on social media. Unfortunately, most people don't understand this," says psy-

chiatrist Dr Zirak Marker who has counselled numerous parents who suffer from "anxieties stemming from comparison". The Mumbai-based mental health therapist pointed out that moms "freak out" if their less than two-year-old child is not speaking sentences when the children showcased online are narrating stories and writing alphabets.

Author of the book 'Parenting in the age of anxiety', Dr Marker believes parents need to filter what they consume online. Ami Bhangali, an entrepreneur and mommy to two kids under four, does exactly that. "I follow only 'real' moms who create hilarious and honest reels. These moms admit our tummies don't snap back postpartum, curse loudly after school drop-off and buy cupcakes for breakfast on busy days."

Single mom Rushina Kapashi, too, consciously follows only child psychologists and parenting coaches. "I don't look at what the self-proclaimed supermoms are doing, nor do I care if their kids are making kaleidoscopes from toilet paper rolls. My two-year-old doesn't need to be part of the rat race," says the 38-year-old who believes in following "her instinct rather than Instagram".

## Five ways to stay sane in a chaotic world

Ravi Venkatesan

**E**ven if you are part of the fortunate minority whose life is personally pretty good, it's hard not to be buffeted by the turbulent world around us. Covid is in its endgame, but its effects are still reverberating particularly in the form of skyrocketing inflation. Then there is the bitter war in Ukraine with its graphic images of death and destruction. It remains unclear how this will end but what is certain is that it will further polarise the world, reverse globalisation and massively jack up prices of food, energy and commodities. Autocratic leaders are on the rise in many countries and with that, civil liberties and rights are in retreat everywhere. Inequality is rising sharply. Frustration at not being able to find decent work, more than half of all working-age Indians have stopped looking for a job. Indian billionaires grew their wealth by a third last year. Communal strife has reared its ugly head in Karnataka, MP, Rajasthan, Delhi, tearing our social fabric. Meanwhile, the world is heating up much faster than we expected... The list goes on and on. Of course, it's not all bad news but the sheer amount of bad news is staggering.

The point is this. We are living in a period where change is the only constant and uncertainty is

yourself with the greatest impact on your beliefs, your emotions and behaviours. So, you want to consciously be in the presence of people who are positive, generous, thoughtful and loving and avoid those who are filled with toxicity and negativity.

### MINDSET MATTERS

RAVI VENKATESAN

Nearly two years ago, I made a decision to stop watching TV and unplug from social media. Now I get what news and information I need from a set of newspapers and journals that I find to be largely objective and which I pay for.

**4 Meditate.** In these extraordinary times where everything stable around us seems to be melting, where events are unfolding with breath-taking speed, the key to staying sane and dealing with changes lies in being anchored internally. Philosopher Eckhard Tolle observes that the biggest barrier to happiness for most of us is identification with our thoughts and the constant chatter of the mind. Even my modest and

Chad Crowe



I agree with Eric Schmidt who once called social media an 'amplifier for idiots'. Nearly two years ago, I decided to unplug from it as well as TV. Now, I pay for a set of newspapers and journals that I find to be largely objective

uneven practice of meditation allows me to separate myself from my thoughts and see them as passing clouds instead of being thrown about by them.

**5 Finally, develop your spiritual life.** We are not human beings having a spiritual experience. We are spiritual beings having a human experience. From time to time we get a glimmer of something much bigger, a sense that we are an infinitesimal part of a bigger game. In that moment, all our challenges, all that is happening fades into insignificance. In that instant we "know" that this is all transient and everything will be alright. The trick is to be able to make these moments more frequent through whatever spiritual practices you find useful.

Venkatesan is a business leader, social entrepreneur and author of 'What the heck do I do with my life? How to flourish in a turbulent world'

Get The Economic Times to read ETPanache from Monday to Friday

# Eight tactics to break debt cycles on your credit card

To stay out of debt, it's important to evaluate your relationship with plastic money

**W**hile credit cards aren't ideal, they can aid your credit journey, if used responsibly. Here are a few strategies to avoid debt.

#### Audit your expenses and priorities

Start by tracking transactions dating back a week or more, says Julia Kramer, a financial behaviour and leadership consultant in the US. Add a plus sign next to those purchases you're willing to repeat and a minus sign next to those you're not. For obligatory purchases like petrol and groceries, add an equal sign. Note the date, the item purchased, the amount and the need the purchase met. This is key to identifying areas in your budget that are negotiable. For example, you may be more willing to choose budget-friendly food in order to keep a facial that meets an internal need for self-care, Kramer says.

For purchases that satisfy feelings like anxiousness or boredom, make a plan



ally three to six months of living expenses stowed in a savings account.

#### Don't store info on websites/apps

Convenient payment options can sometimes lead to mindless spending. By entering payment information into forms for every online purchase, you'll have more time to think through a purchase.

#### Find a friend

An accountability partner can be a sounding board that lets you listen out loud to your own justifications for financial decisions.

#### Update your strategy

As motivations and priorities change, so should your stay-out-of-debt plan. Continue revisiting credit card statements to identify the needs that are being met by purchases and which are most important. If you find yourself having frequent run-ins with debt, consider closing credit card accounts, even if it could negatively impact credit scores.

— AP

not to overspend by budgeting extra money or employing tricks like a credit card lock feature.

#### Use cash

If you want to reel in spending on categories like dining out or entertainment, for example, set aside physical cash to stay within budget. This can lead to more mindful spending.

**Track your spending**  
Create a tracking system that works for you, whether it's a spreadsheet, a bullet journal or a budgeting app. Setting up spending alerts on a credit card account can also notify you if purchases exceed a certain amount.

**Use credit cards for planned purchases only**  
Ease your way into credit

cards with small planned purchases, like a subscription service payment, that you can pay off in full each month to avoid interest charges.

**Keep an emergency fund**  
A small emergency fund for minor car or home repairs can keep debt off your credit cards. Start small and increase it over time — ideally three to six months of living expenses stowed in a savings account.

— AP

## How to avoid feeling sore after a gym workout

It's a common sentiment that soreness after a workout is a good sign. However, you don't necessarily need to feel sore to know whether it has been a good workout.

Delayed onset muscle soreness (DOMS) is the scientific term to describe the tender

feeling our muscles have after a workout. Typically, it happens after we've done particularly strenuous exercise, or if we perform routines we aren't used to.

DOMS can happen within hours of a workout, but it usually peaks about two days later, depending on the intensity and volume. Although DOMS is common, the reason it happens and how to minimise it remain poorly understood.

#### Exercise frequently

You're less likely to experience DOMS by working out again the next day, even if your muscles feel sore.

#### Progressive overload

Instead of feeling like you

If you're starting a new programme and your first workout is particularly intense, you're likely to face DOMS. But this doesn't necessarily mean you've had an effective session; it just means you did something with your muscles weren't used to.

So, one solution to minimise DOMS is by working out again the next day, even if your muscles feel sore.

#### Progressive overload

Instead of feeling like you

need to work out until you're sore, concentrate on a principle called 'progressive overload'.

This is where you gradually increase how much exercise you do each time — such as performing extra reps on an exercise, or adding additional weight. Not only is progressive overload shown to be an effective way to build muscle and strength, it may also decrease how often you experience DOMS.

— PTI

need to work out until you're sore, concentrate on a principle called 'progressive overload'.

This is where you gradually increase how much exercise you do each time — such as performing extra reps on an exercise, or adding additional weight. Not only is progressive overload shown to be an effective way to build muscle and strength, it may also decrease how often you experience DOMS.

Just as physical proximity doesn't guarantee smart

collaboration, it also fails to automatically lead to better mentoring. In a survey conducted before the pandemic, only about half of employees said they had ever had a mentor. And among those that did, not all benefited equally, as some mentors were in a stronger position to dole out plum assignments.

Using mentorship to lure employees back to the office is unlikely to persuade those who haven't experienced its benefits. Instead, bosses could deliver a more credible message if they acknowl-

edged that the old status quo left a lot of people out, and that they were committed to making the workplace more inclusive for all employees.

#### Mixed work arrangements

The big takeaway from two years of remote work: Everyone is different. Your best work arrangement may not be the same as mine.

A recent Harvard Business School study suggested that one or two days in the office each week is ideal.

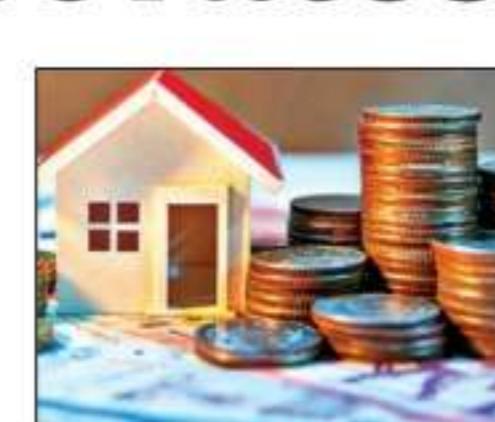
— BLOOMBERG



Pic: Getty Images

## HDFC raises home loan interest rates

TIMES NEWS NETWORK



#### POCKET PINCH

Mumbai: HDFC Bank has raised its retail prime lending rate by 30 basis points, increasing the cost of borrowing for all floating rate home loan customers. The hike, effective May 9, follows the RBI's pushing upon May 4 key policy rates by 40 basis points (100 basis points = 1%).

HDFC's interest rate for women borrowers on loans up to Rs 30 lakh will now stand revised at 7%, on loans between Rs 30 to Rs 75 lakh at 7.3%, and loans above Rs 75 lakh at 7.4%. The interest rate is five basis points higher for borrowings where a woman is not part of the loan agreement.

For banks, the interest rates on their home loan portfolio automatically rise with an increase in the repo rate. Almost all banks have linked their floating home loan rate to the RBI's repo rate. Older loans benchmarked to the marginal cost of lending rate are also rising, but more gradually as these are revised every

month. Canara Bank is the latest to announce a 10 basis points increase in its MCLR rates across maturities.

Punjab National Bank has increased its fixed deposit rates (for deposits below Rs 2 crore) by 10-20 basis points across maturities. In the case of deposits between Rs 2 crore to Rs 10 crore, the bank has increased interest rates on 30-45 FDs by 60 basis points to 3.5%.

HDFC's 30 basis points increase will result in the equated monthly instalment on 20-year home loans of Rs 1 crore going up by Rs 1,791. The latest revision marks an end to the sub-7% home loan rates that had been prevailing in the two years following the Covid-19 outbreak.

TOI

LINER OF NO CONTROL

SANDEEP ADHWARYU



## ED arrests CA amid searches tied to J'khand MGNREGA scam

Sanjay Sahay

Ranchi: The enforcement directorate (ED) arrested on Saturday chartered accountant Suman Kumar Singh, known to be close to Jharkhand mines secretary Pooja Singh who has been accused of having a hand in a MGNREGA funds scam in Khunti district. Around Rs 18.06 crore was allegedly embezzled between July 2006 and March 2010 in the district.

ED teams were searching properties of Singh and her associates across the country since Friday. Multiple searches were carried out at about 20 places in Jharkhand and other states.

The CA was picked up after the agency seized cash amounting to Rs 17.60 crore from his flat at Hanuman Nagar in Ranchi. Singh is the CA of Singh's husband Abhishek Jha.

A blame game has erupted between the opposition BJP and JMM following the ED's action in the MGNREGA scam that, according to documents assessed by TOI, happened in Khunti during a period of political instability when governments changed frequently in the state.

**Two killed after trolley collapses in HP tunnel**

Shimla: Two labourers were killed and three others seriously injured after they were trapped in an under-construction tunnel in Himachal's Kinnaur district on Saturday. According to sources, the five labourers were working at the 100 MW Tidong hydro power project when the trolley collapsed, trapping all of them.

Kinnaur deputy commissioner Abid Hussain Sadiq ordered a magisterial probe by the additional district magistrate of Pooh, Ashwani Kumar, and sought a comprehensive report in seven days. Sadiq said three injured were rescued and shifted to a hospital. TNM

## TIMES NATION

## What is causing my blurred vision?

**Symptoms** You were watching TV in dim light at night when your vision suddenly became blurred. Your eyes are now red and painful, and you've been sick.

**It could be** Acute glaucoma, often precipitated when watching television. Glaucoma, increased pressure in the eyeball, is called 'red eye' and is a medical emergency.

**Stop it** As the pressure in your eye is building up, you must immediately go see a doctor, so the pressure can be relieved. Without treatment, glaucoma can lead to blindness.



**It could be** Migraine, where the cause is unknown but it tends to run in families and quite often in people who have motion sickness.

**Stop it** Migraine sufferers tend to have their own treatment honed over the years, but it consists mainly of analgesics. There are specific migraine

preventatives and remedies you can have on prescription from your doctor.

**Symptoms** You're in your 60s and your eyesight has been getting progressively worse. Your optometrist said you have a condition at the back of your eye for which you must get medical treatment.

**It could be** Age-related macular degeneration with loss of central vision. The majority of cases are the dry form, one in 10 cases is the wet form, where there may be bleeding with dramatic and rapid loss of vision.

**Stop it** Dry and wet forms require different treatments, but there are new remedies available for both. Consult your doctor.

— DAILY MIRROR

## Want employees to return to the office? Don't overstate the benefits

Managers who would like remote workers to return to the office are stepping up to their critiques of work-from-home arrangements and have doubled down on pro-office evangelism. Yet they would be wise not to overstate their case for in-office work.

Pic: Getty Images



collaboration, it also fails to automatically lead to better mentoring. In a survey conducted before the pandemic, only about half of employees said they had ever had a mentor. And among those that did, not all benefited equally, as some mentors were in a stronger position to dole out plum assignments.

Using mentorship to lure employees back to the office is unlikely to persuade those who haven't experienced its benefits. Instead, bosses could deliver a more credible message if they acknowl-

## THE SPEAKING TREE

**T**o rationalists and some scientists, matter and intellect are paramount, but for those seeking higher truths, mind, spirit and consciousness may dominate. The mind-body relationship is the interplay between *saguna* nature of the brain made up of matter and *nirguna* nature of mind that is formless yet intrinsic to brain function. You can physically touch the brain but not the mind. Intellect is said to be the cognitive faculty, whereas mind is the ability for rational thought. But the mind is capable of irrational thought as well. Which is why these topics need to be studied in a dedicated school of consciousness.

'Mind over matter' means, with a strong will power, the mind can overcome physical pain, for instance; it can take control of the body. A positive outlook, tranquil disposition and healthy lifestyle can prevent occurrence or progress of many diseases. But this doesn't clarify if the mind can exist independently of the brain.

Where is the spirit located and where can one find consciousness? Scientists and sages are conducting experiments with scientific tools and through observation, computer simulation and deduction, trying to get to the bottom of this issue.

In 1987, the 14th Dalai Lama, scientist-philosopher Francisco Varela, and Adam Engle, a lawyer and entrepreneur, established the Mind-Life Institute to find ways to understand reality by combining scientific inquiry with compassionate wisdom, contemplative practices and introspective methods. The goal was to make science more humane, and ensure that its conclusions were far-reaching.

Each time we recollect the past, we tend to add or subtract from it, influenced by moods and by hearing another's version of the same event. We are confident of the brain's location, but when it comes to intellect, mind, consciousness

and spirit, we have no clue. Just as some rely on GPS to navigate the physical world, seekers need a spiritual compass, to navigate the world without form. And this could be spiritual practices like meditation, chanting, prayer and yoga, tools that can help centre the mind and reach a state of equanimity, to experience enlightenment, at least to some degree.

Where does religion figure here? The fish in a bowl

is metaphor for believers confined by their belief in a specific religion and its dogma. The bowl floats in a vast ocean of water with its own aquatic life; the ocean is metaphor for spirituality. Spirituality is vast, with infinite potential and possibilities whereas religion, with rigid interpretations, gets confined by dogma.

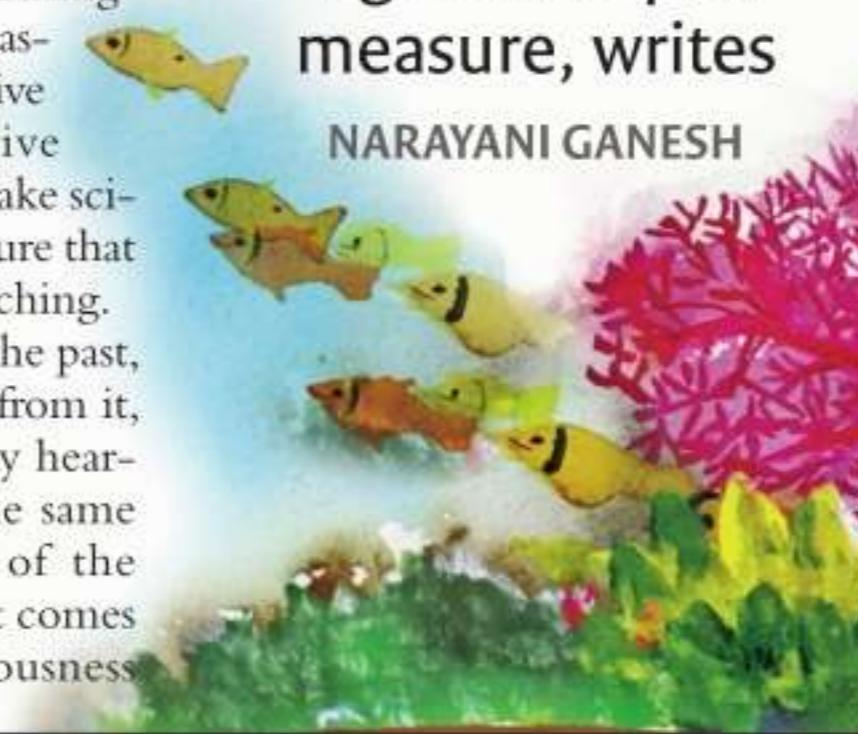
The jellyfish has survived for 650 million years without a brain. A basic neural network in their bodies acts as sensor, and they get by with this simple mechanism. These brainless creatures did have brains some millions of years ago, but they evolved over time to discard it to save energy, as the brain uses up a lot of energy. Their body sensors were sufficient to warn them of dangers or to guide them towards food.

But the human body is far more complex and a brain is required not only to coordinate its multiple functions but to also enable thoughts, reason, acquiring of knowledge, and to exercise will power. Then why, on the spiritual path, are we advised to train in no-mindfulness? To reach a state of no-mind is to become free of the past and future and live in the present moment, like the jellyfish does. To become full, you have to experience true emptiness.

This is possible in the no-mind state, for a person of equanimity. The *sthitapragna*, as Krishn puts it in the Bhagavad Gita. ■

From a talk at the 8th World Parliament of Science, Religion & Philosophy, April 3, Pune.

NARAYANI GANESH





CHELSEA MANAGER THOMAS TUCHEL WELCOMES NEWS OF CLUB BEING SOLD FOR \$5.2 BILLION

ANIRBAN LAHIRI HANDLES RAIN AND COLD TO RISE TO 10TH AT WELLS FARGO GOLF



Opener's 41-ball 68 Powers Rajasthan Chase In 6-Wkt Win Over Punjab

## JAI SWAL LEADS ROYALS REVIVAL

Tridib.Baparnash@timesgroup.com

Dropped after three failures in the initial stages of the IPL, Yashasvi Jaiswal was presented with one more opportunity to justify his selection. The young southpaw grabbed it with both hands, slamming a fiery half-century to almost single-handedly help Rajasthan Royals beat Punjab Kings by six wickets and arrest a two-match winless streak.

Rajasthan's chase of 190 got off to a flier with Jaiswal and Jos Buttler clobbering the new-ball duo of Sandeep Sharma and Kagiso Rabada for 46 runs off a mere 23 balls before being separated by the South African pacer.

Rabada brought the smiles back to the Punjab camp by packing Englishman Buttler for a 16-ball 30. But Jaiswal launched a counter-attack with a 41-ball 68 powered by nine hits to the fence and a couple into the Wankhede stands.

The 20-year-old knew he had one chance to impress the team management and with his skipper Sanju Samson at the other end, the stage was set for him to explode. The left-right duo added 39 runs for the second wicket before Samson once again wasted a decent start of 23 off 12 deliveries.



**2** Yuzvendra Chahal (22 wkts) has become the second bowler after Lasith Malinga to take 20 wickets or more in an IPL season 4 times: in 2015, 2016 and 2020 and now 2022.

After Arshdeep Singh got the dangerous Jaiswal caught at the long off boundary, West Indies import Shimron Hetmyer's 16-ball unbeaten 31 was enough for Rajasthan to record their first win while chasing this season.

Earlier, Punjab Kings skipper Mayank Agarwal's decision to sacrifice his opening position and promote Jonny Bairstow paid dividends as the Englishman finally dusted off his rusty patch.

For Royals, the star with the ball was Yuzvendra Chahal, who applied the brakes on the scoring with the wicket of Rajapaksha and also got Mayank and Bairstow in a span of three deliveries.

TEAM	M	W	L	N/R	PTS
LSG	11	8	3	0.703	<b>16</b>
GT	11	8	3	0.120	<b>16</b>
RR	11	7	4	0.326	<b>14</b>
RCB	11	6	5	-0.444	<b>12</b>
DC	10	5	5	0.641	<b>10</b>
SRH	10	5	5	0.325	<b>10</b>
PBKS	11	5	6	-0.231	<b>10</b>
KKR	11	4	7	-0.304	<b>8</b>
CSK	10	3	7	-0.431	<b>6</b>
MI	10	2	8	-0.725	<b>4</b>

(Updated till LSG vs KKR match)

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(Updated till LSG vs KKR match)

## Can DC stop CSK openers?

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A glance at the table may suggest that eight wins (16 points) is a minimum to qualify for the IPL playoffs. If that holds true, then Delhi Capitals with 10 from 10 are on a tight-rope walk and CSK (6 points from 10) are already playing for pride.

But strange things have happened in IPL before with everything going topsy-turvy towards the business end. That makes CSK believe that seven wins can still be enough for the fourth team to sneak through. Albeit mathematical, there's still a chance for CSK and that's what is going to make them a dangerous proposition for Delhi.

Ruturaj Gaikwad, after an indifferent start, has suddenly found form and he has got an able partner in Devon Conway. The success of the two openers is absolutely crucial for CSK as CSK and that's what is going to make them a dangerous proposition for Delhi.

Like SRH, RCB have their own worries and inconsistencies to deal with, but they will be upbeat going into this game after their 13-run win over CSK, with Harshal Patel being the standout performer.

While the openers are CSK's biggest hope going into this crucial match, Capitals' pace attack isn't the most potent either. South African Anrich Nortje is back after a long injury lay-off but he is still not at his very best. Khaleel Ahmed and Shardul Thakur are just about serviceable in the Powerplay overs and if Ruturaj and Conway get going, it can be a long day at the office for the Capitals.

Chinaman bowler Kuldeep Yadav has been in superb form but he doesn't have fond memories of playing CSK. If CSK get the start that they crave, asking Kuldeep to restrict CSK's old warriors could be tough.

However, just as the Capitals attack isn't the strongest, the CSK bowling too has looked toothless under pressure. Dwayne Bravo, who had missed the last couple of matches with injury, is back in training and is likely to be included in the XI.

But Bravo's role, more often than not, is at the back-end of the innings and it will be on DC opener David Warner to make the most of the inexperienced CSK pace attack upfront.

CSK, though, are likely to gamble with mystery spinner Mahesh Theekappa against Warner.



—Stats: Rajesh Kumar

## Focus on struggling Williamson, Kohli

JAC.Gladson@timesgroup.com

It's ironic that two of the best batsmen in modern times are struggling, and so are their teams, as they head into the last stages of the league phase in IPL.

Having followed a similar career trajectory since their junior days, Virat Kohli and Kane Williamson are both going through a lean patch, with Kohli at No. 32 in the batting charts with 216 runs from 11 outings, with a highest of 58, and Williamson at No. 34 with 199 from 10 innings with a highest of 57. Their teams have been up and down too.

Kohli, who relinquished charge ahead of the tournament to focus on his batting, and Williamson will be up against each other in the return leg on Sun-



day night at the Wankhede.

The high of a nine-wicket win in the first leg at Brabourne Stadium has been replaced by the low of three consecutive defeats in which Hyderabad were at the receiving end of their former players like Wriddhiman Saha, Rashid Khan and David Warner.

Like SRH, RCB have their own worries and inconsistencies to deal with, but they will be upbeat going into this game after their 13-run win over CSK, with Harshal Patel being the standout performer.

## GALLERY

### Sindhu, Lakshya lead India's charge at Thomas and Uber Cup Final

Bangkok: Focus will be on double Olympic medalist PV Sindhu and World Championships bronze winner Lakshya Sen as the Indian badminton contingent resumes its quest for a medal at the Thomas and Uber Cup Final beginning here on Sunday. No Indian men's team has ever won a medal in the Thomas Cup, having failed to reach the semifinal even once. But the women had two semifinal finishes in successive editions of the Uber Cup to clinch two bronze medals in 2014 and 2016. This time, India boasts of a strong men's team comprising world No. 9 Sen, world No. 11 Kidambi Srikanth and HS Prannoy, ranked 23rd in the world, in singles. The doubles will be led by world No. 9 pair of Satwiksairaj Rankireddy and Chirag Shetty, while the combination of MR Arjun and Dhruv Kapila, and that of Krishna Prasad Garaga and Vishnuvardhan Goud Panjala are also part of the team.

**Umran should be in India Test side immediately, says KP:** Former England cricketer Kevin Pietersen wants India to immediately bring back Indian Test side. "It's amazing to see such bold and exciting talent on display, and Umran has a perfect mentor at SRH in Dale Steyn. To me, there is no point waiting around. Malik should be in the reckoning for India's Test team, as well as white-ball sides. Nobody enjoys facing that kind of pace," he said.

AGENCIES

### ACTION TODAY

**BADMINTON:** Thomas Cup: Ind vs Ger, 7.30 am; Ina vs Sin, 12.30 pm; Uber Cup: Ind vs Can, 5.30 pm (Sports18)

**CRICKET:** IPL: SRH vs RCB, 3.30 pm; CSK vs DC, 7.30 pm (Star Network)

**FOOTBALL:** EPL: Arsenal vs Leeds, 6.30 pm; Man City vs Newcastle, 9 pm (Star Network)

**FI:** Miami GP, Main Race, 1 am Monday (SS Select 2)

**TENNIS:** ATP/WTA Tour: Madrid Open, 10 pm (Sports18)

## Chelsea held in front of Boehly; Watford relegated

London: Chelsea blew a two-goal lead in front of prospective owner Todd Boehly as Wolves snatched a dramatic 2-2 draw, while Watford were relegated from the Premier League after defeat at Crystal Palace on Saturday.

### EPL UPDATE

Roman Abramovich put the west London club on the market in early March, just days before he was sanctioned by the British government following Russia's invasion of Ukraine.

After a lengthy bidding process involving several groups, Boehly and his fellow investors were picked by Raine Group, the New York bank overseeing the sale.

Boehly's consortium includes a fellow co-owner of the Dodgers baseball franchise, Mark Walter, Swiss billionaire Hansjörg Wyss and US investment firm Clearlake Capital. They still need to satisfy the Premier League's owners' and directors' test and

gain approval from the UK government, but Chelsea expect the sale to be completed by the end of the month.

After fears for Chelsea's future were sparked by the protracted sale, Blues boss Thomas Tuchel welcomed the takeover, saying: "It gives us an outlook if terms are agreed and hopefully the process will be streamlined and go forward as soon as possible. Good news."

But Tuchel's third-placed team were unable to celebrate the deal with a victory as they squandered an opportunity to move closer to qualifying for next season's Champions League via a top-four finish.

Romelu Lukaku, who has endured a wretched season following his £97 million club record move from Inter Milan, converted a VAR-awarded penalty after he was fouled by Romain Saiss in the 56th minute.

The Chelsea striker followed his first Premier League goal since December 29 with another two minutes later. AFP

## Hamilton thumbs nose at piercing crackdown

Miami Gardens: Seven-time Formula One champion Lewis Hamilton protested the FIA's crackdown on body piercings by showing up at the Miami Grand Prix wearing every piece of jewelry he could fit on his body and suggesting he was willing to sit out races over the issue. Hamilton arrived in the paddock wearing an all-denim outfit with several open buttons on his long-sleeved shirt that showed at least four stacked necklaces. Hamilton was later seen wearing at least three watches and with four rings on each hand. He also has earrings and a nose ring.

"I couldn't get any more jewelry on today," he said.

The FIA on Thursday tightened its ban on non-regulatory undergarments and body piercings when new race director Niels Wittich issued a bulletin that makes the rule part of official scrutineering, meaning such choices are subject to review by race officials.

### Leclerc fastest in first Miami GP practice

Ferrari's world championship leader Charles Leclerc set the pace in first free practice at Formula One's newest track in Miami on Friday.

The Monegasque lapped 0.071 of a second faster than Mercedes' George Russell, the first out on track and setting a time that will raise his team's hopes. AGENCIES

## Farmer's son Sable sets 5k record

Eclipses Bahadur's 30-Year-Old National Mark In American Meet

Biju.BabuCyriac@timesgroup.com

Bengaluru: Ace middle distance runner Avinash Mukund Sable smashed the three-decade old national record in men's 5000m with a new mark of 13 minutes, 25.65 seconds at the JSerra Catholic HS meet at San Juan Capistrano in California, USA, on Friday.

Competing in a class field led by 1500m Olympic champion Jakob Ingebrigtsen of Norway, Army man Sable, a farmer's son from Beed in Maharashtra who holds the 3000m steeplechase national record, erased the 13:29.70s mark set by Bahadur Prasad in Birmingham way back in 1992 as he finished 12th. The World Athletics Continental Tour bronze event saw Inge-



Avinash Sable

brightsen take the top honours clocking 13:02.03s.

Sable, who will be gunning for his best performance in steeplechase at the Eugene World Championships in Oregon and Birmingham Commonwealth Games, also holds the half marathon (21.0975km) national record of 1:00:30s which he had set in 2020.

Sable's coach Amritpal Kumar said the record was on expected lines. "He called me a few days back and was con-

### Top 5 Indian times (5000m)

Avinash Sable - 13:25.65s -- 2022  
Bahadur Prasad - 13:29.70 -- 1992  
Lakshmanan G - 13:35.69 -- 2017  
Kham Ram - 13:37.40 -- 2014  
Surendra Singh -

## Lahiri rises to 10th at Wells Fargo

**Potomac:** India's Anirban Lahiri handled tough windy, cold and wet conditions well for 16 holes before dropping a double bogey to card 2-under 68 in the second round of the Wells Fargo Championship.

At 4-under, the Indian is T-10, up from overnight T-38, as he chases another good week on the PGA Tour. Lahiri, just four behind leader Jason Day at one stage, is now

six behind at the TPC Potomac at Avenel Farm.

### Tvesa lands two birdies to make cut in Spain

Tvesa pulled herself out of a tough situation with two birdies and seven pars on the back nine to squeeze inside the cut line at the Comunidad de Madrid Ladies Open. Tvesa shot 1-under 71 and at even par 144 for two days she is T-56.

### Sharma, Chawrasia miss cut at British Masters

Shubhankar Sharma and SSP Chawrasia made early exits from the Betfred British Masters golf tournament, after missing the cut by a fair margin. Sharma carded 73-74 and Chawrasia, a four-time winner on European Tour, shot 74-74. AGENCIES

and right on the cutline.

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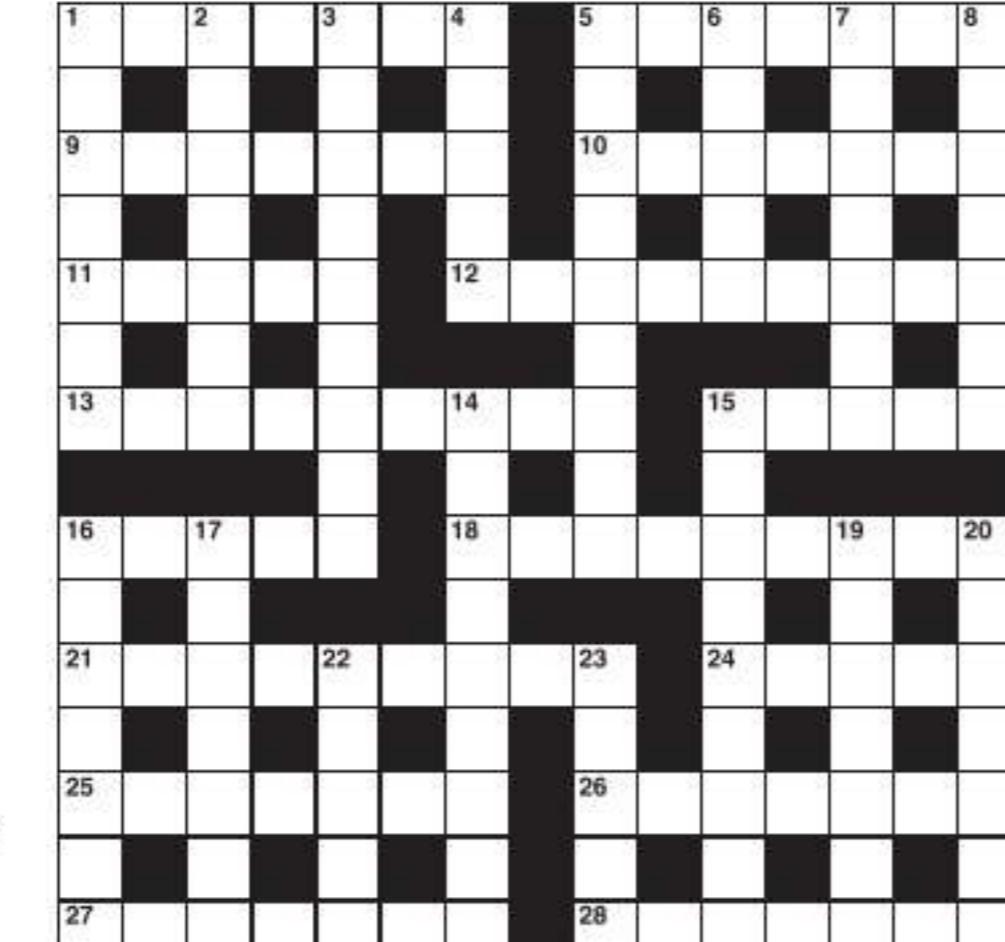
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PARTICIPANT'S NAME:  
(Only entries with correct names will qualify)

CROSSWORD No.  
TCC#0062



### CRYPTIC CLUES

#### Across

- Match-maker? (7)
- Cursed, having split the salt in bed (7)
- Angered by anagram (7)
- New act involves nude entertainment (7)
- Wants to sound negligent (5)
- After work, quiet or music is timely (9)
- Gathered what the man who kept his cool was? (9)
- Vegetables are running out of water, we hear (5)
- Took steps to help with training (5)
- Fling it up, wildly cheering (9)
- Litter that may be picked up (9)
- Locks are the key to its existence (5)
- Head off disaster and have a party with fruit (7)
- Reliable way to stop bleeding (7)
- Sneer at produce from the Orient (7)
- Retired from employment? (7)

#### Down

- Polish she has to ring up for (7)
- A cry I'll reproduce in poetic vein (7)
- Drugged with amphetamine, it's quick acting (4-5)
- Came on a horse with nothing on - a wild show! (5)
- Retract support on quiet deal that's been arranged (4-5)
- A shade of caution (5)
- Great pain taken to get at the truth? (7)
- Turns red; this shows uncertainty (7)
- Try to land (5,4)
- Long-term category of art students (4,5)
- Charge for delivering pages to be edited (7)
- One is supposed to look better for eating them (7)
- Games period (7)
- A celebration to be enjoyed for a night, we hear (7)
- Draw a small amount (5)
- Brought down to earth (5)

### QUICK CLUES

#### Across

- Eminent (7) **5** Affectionately grand (7)
- Small wild horse (7) **10** Story with a moral (7)
- Large wading bird (5) **12** Superfluous (9) **13** Dock worker (9) **15** Drink made from apples (5) **16** Point of view (5) **18** One's old school (4,5) **21** Lacking (9)
- Distant in manner (5) **25** Country of northeast Africa (7) **26** Loud enough to be heard (7) **27** To cloy (7)
- Plan (7)

#### SOLUTIONS TO LAST WEEK'S CROSSWORD

#### CRYPTIC

SAHARA	ACADEMIC
TOE	HATE
RENEGE	COMMERCE
LEIPWAGE	
KEYBOARD	ASCENT
EMNOSCA	RIOT
OAIERSD	AMATEURISH
BANANASKIN	TEAR
ONCALL	EN SNE
URYD	AGITATED
SCOTSMAN	DSAIH
EWTT	ORACLE
SIDESMEN	HEALED

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CRYPTIC	QUICK
FURORE	ACQUAINT
OEE	APPLY
UPPITY	ONTHEAIR
NUNA	APTTEPA
UAPTEPA	DOGFLIGHT
DOGFLIGHT	CANTON
CANTON	ELAPV
ELAPV	REAPINDISARRAY
REAPINDISARRAY	NRTOALLA
NRTOALLA	TOTHEPOINTLIMP
TOTHEPOINTLIMP	NMEAISO
NMEAISO	INLIEUDEADBEAT
INLIEUDEADBEAT	MIGBRRCT
MIGBRRCT	BEGLADEFHOMAGE
BEGLADEFHOMAGE	LHDU
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	\$1.4 bn
9	Miami Marlins
	\$1.2 bn
9	Seattle Mariners
	\$1.2 bn

Nos 2, 6, 9 are baseball teams; 3, 8 are American football teams; 4,5 are basketball teams

frozen UK bank account."

In addition, the new owners will commit £1.75 billion in further investment "for the benefit of the club". Chelsea boss Thomas Tuchel welcomed the sale news. AFP

ter and Hansjoerg Wyss, to acquire the club," they said in a statement.

"Of the total investment being made, £2.5 billion will be applied to purchase the shares in the club and such proceeds will be deposited into a frozen UK bank account with the intention to donate 100 percent to charitable causes as confirmed by Roman Abramovich. UK government approval will be required for the proceeds to be transferred from the

with the 11, but also the players on the bench. In the Champions League game, it was Rodrygo who came off the bench and scored twice. We have to fight from start to finish. We have to play this like a final," said Gimenez, one of the two survivors of the 2013-14 La Liga winning squad, alongside captain Koke.

Between 1999 and 2013, Atletico went 14 years without winning a game against Real Madrid. Then Simeone turned it around. They made life so difficult for their rivals that in one season, a strike force of Ronaldo, Karim Benzema and Gareth Bale could not score in four games. Now the boot is on the other foot: it's eight derbies without a win for Atletico.

"As I have said on many occasions, we have to know how to adapt to difficult situations," said Simeone. "This is a very rough patch. Everyone has to be calm and we have four games to do that."

While El Clasico – Real Madrid vs Barcelona – is arguably La Liga's biggest game internationally, for many at Real Madrid, the derby remains the most special. The legendary Alfredo Di Stefano, for example, once said "the team we wanted to beat, at all costs, was the neighbours."

With Atletico vulnerable, how Real Madrid would love to twist the knife in the heart of their eternal rivals. (THE WRITER IS IN MADRID ON AN INVITATION FROM LA LIGA)

## Real look to twist knife in Atletico's heart

Marcus.Mergulhao@timesgroup.com

**Madrid:** At the entrance to the impressive Metropolitano Stadium on the outskirts of the city, a huge banner tells the world that Atletico de Madrid are the 2020-21 La Liga champions.

Atletico sensationally won last season's title, finishing two points ahead of Real Madrid. Since then, Diego Simeone's side have endured a difficult time. They not just lost the title but also saw their eternal rivals wrap up the chase last week, with four games still left to be played.

As Real Madrid drive into Metropolitano on Sunday, never mind the absence of 'pasillo' or guard of honour, it will make Atletico squirm like never before. "We have to focus on ourselves," Atletico's Uruguayan defender Jose Maria Gimenez told TOI. "The derby is always special, (but) there is lot (more) at stake. We have to qualify for the (UEFA) Champions League."

Diego Simeone's side have only won one of their last four La Liga matches, failing to score in the other three games. Last week they were beaten 2-0 by Athletic Bilbao, leaving them in the final Champions League place and a precarious three-point lead to Real Betis. "A derby is always a derby, regardless of your place in the ranking," said Guti, who won three

Champions League and five La Liga titles with Real Madrid. "Preventing Atletico from qualifying for the Champions League is another motivation."

The pre-match hype for Sunday's derby has been all about the guard of honour, which Atletico won't give. Fans would rather enter the stadium late than see Real Madrid being honoured. As Gimenez told a group of select journalists from across the world, "we respect the sentiments of our fans."

In all this brouhaha, it shouldn't be lost that Atletico have still not won a derby at the Metropolitano, where they moved five seasons ago, leaving Vicente Calderon stadium, their home from 1966 to 2017.

Madrid would start favourites again, just like the first leg at home which they won 2-0 with goals from the unstoppable Karim Benzema and Marco Asensio. "Everyone knows of Real Madrid's strength, not just



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Twitter CEO Parag Agrawal's wife Vineeta is set to create a conflict of interest as she is part of a financing firm that is involved in Musk's \$44bn takeover deal, **INSIDE JACKET**



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# All women, children and elderly out of besieged Mariupol plant

**Kyiv Fears Russian Forces Want To Wipe Out Fighters Before Moscow's V-Day**

**Kyiv:** All women, children and elderly civilians have been evacuated from the Azovstal steel mill in Mariupol, Ukraine's deputy prime minister said on Saturday, despite what military officers said was an ongoing Russian assault at the plant. "This part of the Mariupol humanitarian operation is over," Deputy PM Iryna Vereshchuk wrote on Telegram.

The Soviet-era steel mill, the last holdout in Mariupol for Ukrainian forces, has emerged as a symbol of resistance to the wider Russian effort to capture swathes of eastern and southern Ukraine. Under bombardment, fighters and civilians have been trapped for weeks in deep bunkers and tunnels that criss-cross the site.

Earlier on Saturday, Moscow-backed separatists in Ukraine's Donetsk region said a total of 176 civilians had now been evacuated from the plant. The city's mayor estimated earlier this week that 200 civilians were trapped at



**MOSCOW UPS ATTACKS:** Russia's defence ministry on Saturday said high-precision missiles had destroyed Ukrainian aircraft at airfields in the Artsyz, Odesa and Voznesensk regions, and that its Iskander missiles had hit US and European equipment near Kharkiv

the plant. It was not clear after the deputy PM's statement if civilian men were still in the complex. Evacuations of civilians from the Azovstal plant brokered by the UN and the International Committee of the Red Cross — began last weekend. But they were halted during the week by fighting.

Russian forces backed by tanks and artillery tried again on Saturday to storm Azovstal, Ukraine's military commis-

and said, part of a ferocious assault to dislodge the last defenders in the strategic port city on the Azov Sea. The fighters have vowed not to surrender. Ukrainian officials fear Russian forces want to wipe them out by Monday, in time for Moscow's commemorations of the Soviet Union's victory over Nazi Germany in WWII.

Meanwhile, Russia's push to give its president a show-case victory in Ukraine appears

## 'Al-Qaida chief blames US for war'

**A**l-Qaida chief Ayman al-Zawahri made an appearance in a pre-recorded video to mark the 11th anniversary of the death of his predecessor Osama bin Laden. Al-Zawahri says in the video that "US weakness" was the reason that its ally Ukraine became "prey" for the Russian invasion. The 27-minute speech was released on Friday, according to the SITE Intelligence group, which monitors militant activity. AP

ed to face a new setback, as Ukrainian defenders chased the invaders back toward the northeast border and away from the city of Kharkiv, with the Russians blowing up bridges behind them. The Russians have been trying to advance in eastern Ukraine for the past few weeks and have been pushing especially hard as the Victory Day approaches. REUTERS

REUTERS

## 'EU seeking to sanction Putin's alleged GF'

**T**he EU has proposed sanctioning former Russian gymnast Alina Kabaeva for her role in Kremlin propaganda and close ties to Russian President Vladimir Putin, according to a document seen by AFP. The list of sanctions, which include a ban on Russian oil imports, were submitted on Wednesday by the EU executive to member states for approval, which requires unanimity among the 27 countries. If passed, Kabaeva would be hit by a ban on entry into the EU and an asset freeze. The proposal identifies Kabaeva as the chairwoman of the board of directors of the National Media Group, a holding company that holds significant shares in almost all major Russian state media. Kabaeva is rumoured to be Putin's girlfriend and mother to some of his children. AFP



Fuentes, said. In the 10 weeks since Russia invaded, the UNSC has tried to pass two resolutions condemning Russia's actions, demanding it withdraw troops and allow access for humanitarian aid and evacuation of civilians. But Russia, one of UNSC's five permanent members vetoed both.

Friday's statement, proposed by Mexico and Norway, says: "The council expresses de-

ep concern regarding the maintenance of peace and security of Ukraine. The UNSC recalls that all member states have undertaken, under the UN charter, the obligation to settle their international disputes by peaceful means." The statement then expressed "strong support" for the efforts by the UN secretary general, Antonio Guterres, to find a peaceful solution. NYT

## UNSC makes 1st unanimous statement on Ukraine war, with Russia's approval

### Italy seizes \$700m superyacht tied to Putin

**A**fter weeks of investigation, Italian authorities announced on Friday that they had impounded a nearly \$700 million superyacht, saying that its owner had "significant economic and business links" to "prominent elements of the Russian government". According to US officials, the prominent element is none other than Russian President Vladimir Putin. In recent days, the Scheherazade, as the ship is named, showed signs of readying to set sail, apparently aiming to leave before the Italian government could seize it. But on Friday, Italian police boarded the yacht and told the crew the ship was not going anywhere. The Italian finance ministry said a probe had established the ship's owner, whom it did not name, was an individual that "threatened international security" and that the individual's actions amounted to the "threatening the territorial integrity, sovereignty and independence of Ukraine". NYT

Fuentes, said. In the 10 weeks since Russia invaded, the UNSC has tried to pass two resolutions condemning Russia's actions, demanding it withdraw troops and allow access for humanitarian aid and evacuation of civilians. But Russia, one of UNSC's five permanent members vetoed both.

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termination to find a peaceful solution. NYT

"I think it's encouraging to see diplomacy is getting its place at the council, even though this is a very first initial step," Mexico's ambassador to the UN, Juan Ramon de la

Blame does not stick on Indian companies for sending West ware to Russia: Western officials

Naomi Canton

**London:** Western officials have played down reports that companies in India may be bypassing embargos and covertly supplying to Russia components for military equipment made in the West. Moscow is said to be using these in its invasion of Ukraine. The officials said it is unlikely Indian companies have breached international law because these hardware and software tend to be of dual-use technology and were probably shipped to Russia for a legitimate reason.

A source said: "...a whole load of dual-use components such as chips, processors co-

uld be bought for a particular purpose and then used in a range of military equipment. Whilst that would be a misuse by the purchaser, it would not necessarily be an illegal act by those companies to have supplied them with the intent of supplying them for uses outside of the military."

UK defence thinktank Royal United Services Institute (RUSI) produced a report this April that said almost all of Russia's modern military hardware is dependent upon complex electronics imported from US, UK, Germany, Netherlands, Japan, Israel, China and further afield. It said many computer components in

cruise and ballistic missiles were purchased for civilian use in Russia's space programme. "Russia's space agency ROSCOSMOS had been a means for Russia to obtain dual-use technologies for the military," the report said. This route has been blocked since the Russian invasion of Ukraine, but there "are myriad of companies based around the world, including in Turkey, India and China who will take considerable risks to meet Russian supply requirements".

The report said Russia is "prepared to use blackmail" to keep these channels open. It cited ROSCOSMOS head Dmitry Rogozin's recent warnin-

gs that Western sanctions against his organisation could lead to Russian satellites malfunctioning and damaging the International Space Station.

Western officials were of the view that the sanctions were having an impact. "It's clear that the Russians are currently struggling to replace some of their high-precision capabilities. And that is leading to a situation where we are seeing a variety of Russian weapon systems being used in non-traditional ways. Firing coastal defence cruise missiles in land attack mode to strike at buildings is sub-optimal use of that system," one of them said.

REUTERS

## At least 25 die in blast at iconic Cuba hotel; gas leak suspected

**Havana:** Rescuers in Cuba's capital searched on Saturday to find survivors of an explosion that killed at least 25 people and devastated a luxury hotel that once hosted dignitaries and celebrities, including Beyoncé and Jay-Z.

A natural gas leak was the apparent cause of Friday's blast at Havana's 96-room Hotel Saratoga. The 19th-century structure in the city's Old Havana neighbourhood did not have any guests at the time because it was undergoing renovations ahead of a planned Tuesday reopening after being closed.

The death toll rose to 25 on Saturday, according to Orestes Llanez, coordinator of the Havana city government. He said 22 had been identified, 18 residents of the capital and fo-

ur from elsewhere in Cuba.

Although no tourists were reported injured, the explosion is another blow to the country's crucial tourism industry. Dr Julio Guerra Izquierdo, chief of hospital services at the health ministry, said 74 people had been injured. Among them were 14 kids. AP



Rescuers searched on Saturday to find survivors at Havana's 96-room Hotel Saratoga that has hosted dignitaries and celebrities, including Beyoncé and Jay-Z, in the past. The hotel, which was undergoing renovations, did not have any guests at the time of the explosion

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The agency is calling "hepatitis of unknown cause". Dr Jay Butler, deputy director for infectious diseases at the CDC, said most of the children had fully recovered. But over 90% were hospitalized, 14% received liver transplants and more than half had adenovirus infections, he said.

The CDC said it was examining cases involving 109 children in 25 states and territories who had or have what

type of adenovirus, a common virus that causes intestinal symptoms like vomiting and diarrhoea, may be a factor in these cases. But the agency has not determined a cause for the cases or a common link among all of them, and it cautioned against drawing conclusions.

Butler called it "an evolving situation" in a news briefing on Friday. Later, he added,

The CDC and experts overseas are exploring whether a

otherwise healthy kids, and so far the actual number of hepatitis cases in the US is no more than the number usually seen.

The agency did not provide details about the children who died or where those deaths occurred. The UK is investigating a greater number — over 160 cases — of young children reported to have or had hepatitis recently. NYT

It's important to remember that severe hepatitis in children is rare even with the potential increase in cases that we are reporting today." Butler also said there was no evidence so far that either a Covid-19 infection or the Covid vaccine was linked to the US cases.

Hepatitis and liver failure are unusual occurrences in young children, especially in

# Taliban order women to wear burqa

**Kabul:** Afghanistan's Taliban rulers on Saturday ordered all Afghan women to wear head-to-toe clothing in public — a sharp, hard-line pivot that confirmed the worst fears of rights activists and was bound to further complicate Taliban dealings with an already distrustful international community.

Reuters/EP

The decree, which calls for women to only show eyes and recommends they wear the head-to-toe burqa in the public, was similar to restrictions on women during the Taliban's previous rule between 1996 and 2001.

The UN assistance mission in Afghanistan said it was concerned with what appeared to be a formal directive that would be implemented and enforced, adding that it would seek clarifications from Taliban about the decision. "This decision contradicts numerous assurances regarding respect for and protection of all Afghans' human rights, including those of women and girls, that

had been provided to the international community. But this decree does not have widespread support among a leadership that's divided between pragmatists and the hardliners.

"For all dignified Afghan women wearing Hijab is necessary and the best Hijab is chadori (the head-to-toe burqa) which is part of our tradition and is respectful," said Shir Mohammad, an official from the vice and virtue ministry. AP

Colombo: Sri Lanka's beleaguered PM Mahinda Rajapaksa, who has repeatedly defied calls to quit, has come under fresh pressure to resign at a special cabinet meeting held before a state of emergency was imposed by his younger brother and President Gotabaya Rajapaksa.

The special cabinet meeting was held on Friday as the country witnessed protests against the government over their inability to tackle the economic meltdown which has caused unprecedented hardships to the public.

"There were opinions during the cabinet, some even suggested the PM must resign. The president was keen to see an end to the political crisis even with the resignation of the prime minister," a ministerial source said.

The 72-year-old president for a few weeks now has been wanting the PM to resign in order to set up an all-party interim government. Although Mahinda said at the cabinet meeting that he would readily resign if the successor could resolve the current economic crisis, he did not categorically say he would



CALM BEFORE THE STORM?

## Re-elected deputy speaker 'quits' again

In another turn of events, new deputy speaker of parliament Ranjith Siyambalapitiya, who was elected on Thursday, offered his resignation again, saying he had taken a conscientious decision. Siyambalapitiya was elected with the government's backing. He had resigned following the decision by his political party SLFP to leave the government. PTI

resign, according to the source. Mahinda has previously emphasised that he would be the head of an interim government if there is one.

The government on Saturday defended imposing a state of emergency for the second time in over a month, saying it was needed to tackle the "worst economic crisis and political instability", even as the president faced flak from opposition and foreign envoys for the move. PTI

U.S. secretary of state Antony Blinken held a phone conversation with his Pakistani counterpart Bilawal Bhutto-Zardari, the first such high-level contact since a new government took over in the country, and exchanged views on aspects of bilateral ties. The conversation took place weeks after ousted PM Imran Khan alleged that the US was behind the "foreign conspiracy" to topple his government. During the call, Blinken expressed the desire to continue strengthening Pakistan-US ties. He also underscored the US-Pakistan commitment to combatting terrorism. PTI

remain as CEO under Twitter once Musk takes over, but Musk has previously said that he made his bid for Twitter in part because he didn't have faith in the current leadership.

Andreessen Horowitz is also one of the biggest backers of Facebook (now Meta). It has come under scrutiny for previous conflicts at Meta, such as investing in companies — including Oculus VR — that Facebook ended up buying. A representative for Andreessen said it planned to seek legal advice to ensure compliance with any rules around the sharing of Twitter information with the firm. IANS & BLOOMBERG

REUTERS

Vineeta Agarwala, the wife of Twitter CEO Parag Agrawal, has been making headlines amid Elon Musk's \$44 billion bid to take over the social media company. Her role as general partner at Andreessen Horowitz (a16z) — a top US venture capital firm which has agreed to pay \$400 million as part of Musk's new \$7.1 billion financing commitments — is raising questions regarding conflict of interest. As a general partner at Andreessen Horowitz, she leads investments for the firm's bio and health fund across therapeutics, life sciences tools/diagnostics, and digital health,

with a focus on companies leveraging unique datasets to improve drug development and patient care delivery.

It's unclear if Agrawal will

REUTERS

Parag's wife linked to Musk's Twitter bid: Report

## 'Musk aims to quintuple revenue by 2028'

Elon Musk is aiming to increase Twitter's annual revenue to \$26.4 billion by 2028, up from \$5 billion last year, New York Times reported on Friday, citing a pitch deck presented by the world's richest man to investors. Advertising will fall to 45% of total revenue under Musk, down from about 90% in 2020, generating \$12 billion in revenue in 2028, while subscriptions are expected to pull in another \$10 billion, according to the report. The Tesla CEO also aims to increase Twitter's cash flow to \$3.2 billion in 2025 and \$9.4 billion in 2028, the newspaper reported, citing the presentation. Musk clinched a deal last month to buy Twitter for \$44 billion in cash, in a move that will shift control of the social media platform populated by millions of users and global leaders to the Tesla Inc chief. REUTERS

REUTERS

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REUTERS

Parag's wife linked to Musk's Twitter bid: Report

## 'Nationalist Sinn Fein gets majority in N Ireland vote'

Belfast: Sinn Fein, the former political wing of the IRA, a paramilitary group that used bombs and bullets to try to take Northern Ireland out of UK rule, hailed its first election win in Northern Ireland's history as a "defining moment" for the British-controlled region and called for a debate on the creation of a united Ireland.

Sinn Fein secured 29% of first-preference votes for the regional parliament, official results showed. The Irish nationalist party secured 27 seats, three ahead of the pro-British Democratic Unionist Party with two seats left to declare.

"Today represents a very significant moment of change. It is a defining moment in our politics and for our people," the head of Sinn Fein in Northern Ireland, Michelle O'Neill, said.

She said there should now be a

"honest debate" around the party's goal of uniting the territory with Republic of Ireland.

The Sinn Fein win won't change the region's status, as the referendum required to leave UK is at the discretion of the British government and likely years away. But the symbolic importance is huge, ending a century of domination by pro-British parties, supported by the region's Protestant population.

Asked by a reporter if she expected to become the region's first Irish nationalist first minister, O'Neill said: "The people have spoken."

"