



Trump sets a new deadline of 10-12 days for Russia, asking it to either make progress towards ending the war in Ukraine in this period or face consequences, underscoring his frustration with Putin for over three-year-old conflict, P 18

8 pilgrims killed as vehicle falls into Pjb canal

Eight people died after an overloaded pick-up van carrying 25 pilgrims plunged into a canal in Ludhiana late Sunday. They were returning from Himachal's Naina Devi temple. The dead included four women and three kids. Some of the pilgrims managed to swim to safety. Another latched onto a tree branch as the vehicle swerved off a bridge and fell into the water. Police joined locals in rescue operations. Fourteen divers were deployed, and the search continued all night and into the morning. P 13

Cleric claims 'deal' to save Nimisha

Sunni cleric Kanthapuram SAP Aboobacker Musaliyar claimed Monday that an agreement had been reached to revoke Kerala nurse Nimisha Priya's death sentence in Yemen. The statement by the office of Kanthapuram, who had intervened in the matter, could mark a breakthrough in the efforts to save Nimisha. P 12

Gangster wanted in 24 cases shot dead

Dabboo Yadav (45), wanted in 24 criminal cases in Bihar and UP, was shot dead in an encounter with a team of UP STF and Bihar Police in Hazaribagh. The gangster fired at cops when cornered and was hit in the chest when they fired back. Yadav was the prime accused in the abduction and murder of a HAM neta this May. P 14

At 1.5%, IIP slows to 10-month low

Industrial output growth slowed to a 10-month low in June, pulled down by a contraction in mining and electricity sectors and sluggish capital goods and consumer durables segments. The index of industrial production rose an annual 1.5% in June, slower than the upwardly revised 1.9% in May and below 4.9% in June last year. P 19

Google executives appear before ED

Google officials appeared before ED on Monday with documents in an ongoing case against some betting websites and online shopping fraud. Meta, which is also being investigated, is yet to send its representatives. The betting sites have allegedly collected crores from Indian citizens by engaging in "illegal" activities. P 14

IIT doors opened for gurukul students

Students who have studied in traditional gurukuls, even without formal academic degrees, will now have the opportunity to earn recognised qualifications and receive scholarships for research at IITs. The move marks a major shift in India's education policy, opening up elite research pathways for scholars from non-formal backgrounds. P 12

India pioneers world's 1st int'l tiger rewilding

India is preparing to send around six wild tigers to Cambodia's Cardamom Mountains, where the species was declared extinct in 2016.

This marks the first international reintroduction of wild tigers and mirrors India's earlier success with Panna, where tigers were reintroduced in 2009 after extinction, reports P Naveen.

The project follows Indi-

SEE: FLAP OPP & P 22

EDIT PAGE: Bigger Meaning Of Being Divya

a's 2022 cheetah reintroduction from Africa, but experts say tigers require far more territorial stability and prey biomass. According to the MoU, India will provide Cambodia with technical expertise and financial support. P 16

Terrorist who led Pahalgam attack killed in J&K gunfight

2 Others Also Shot Dead In Op Near Srinagar

Bharti.Jain@timesofindia.com

Over three months after Pakistani terrorists gunned down 26 civilians, including 25 tourists, at Pahalgam, the Army's para commandos have killed Suleiman, believed to be the lead killer of the gang, in Dachigam forest area on the outskirts of Srinagar. Two other terrorists were also killed in a joint operation involving the Army, CRPF and JK police, though there was no clarity yet on their involvement in the Pahalgam massacre.

All the three terrorists killed on Monday in 'Operation

► Col remark: SC slams MP min for online apology, P 16

Mahadev' were Pakistani nationals and linked to Lashkar-e-Taiba and its offshoot The Resistance Front, as per sources. A source indicated that the two terrorists killed with Suleiman could be Abu Hamza and Yasir, but officials would run more checks before confirming their identity.

There was no official statement on Operation Mahadev. However, sources told TOI that Pahalgam has been avenged with the killing of Suleiman — a former Pakistani special forces commander who had trained at LeT Muridke hub in Pakistan's Punjab province before crossing the LoC in 2022 to enter Jammu region with his M-4 weapon — in the operation.

► Pak squad, P 16

'RESULTS MATTER, NOT WHETHER PENCIL BROKE, PEN LOST'

Before executing Operation Sindoor, our forces studied every aspect and chose the option that would cause maximum damage to terrorists while ensuring no harm to innocent civilians. **Operation Sindoor demonstrated that India will not remain silent if anyone harms its citizens...** In any exam, results matter, not whether the pencil broke or the pen was lost

— Rajnath Singh DEFENCE MINISTER

Trump has made the claim 26 times that he used the threat of trade to bring a ceasefire between India and Pakistan. He says **5-6 jets have been downed**. One jet is of crores and crores (of rupees). That is why we want to know from the defence minister, the country has the courage to listen to the truth, **he must answer as to how many fighter jets were downed**

— Gaurav Gogoi CONG DY LEADER IN LS

They (opppn) do not have faith in the minister of external affairs (S Jaishankar) who has taken oath as member of Indian govt (on his statement that Trump did not mediate the ceasefire). They trust some other country

— Amit Shah HOME MINISTER

...Have you ever heard that a player batting at 90 and heading towards a century, declares the innings. Only Modiji can do this (suspension of Op Sindoor), no one else...

— Kalyan Banerjee TRINAMOOL

The country was so angry (over Pahalgam attack) that by the third day, people wanted not Operation Sindoor, but Operation Tandoor... to throw terrorists into that tandoor... (but) op happened 17 days later — Ramashankar Rajbhar

Sindoor is not a success till you find those terrorists. Until you catch the terrorists, it cannot be celebrated

— Supriya Sule NCP(SP)

In LS, Rajnath, Jaishankar reject Trump mediation claim as Cong's Gogoi flags it

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

'Homegrown terror': PC draws BJP flak

BJP said Congress was speaking Pakistan's language after party veteran P Chidambaram said in an interview that "homegrown terrorists" could be involved in the Pahalgam attack, and that it was wrong to assume they were from Pakistan. P 9

for fighting a proxy war in the form of terrorism, and it has just been "paused", not ended. "If Pakistan again tries to carry out any nefarious act, we

are fully prepared for an even more intense and decisive action," he said. Claims of stopping the operation under pressure are "baseless", he said.

Flagging Trump's claim that he leveraged trade to impose a ceasefire on India and Pakistan, Congress' deputy leader in the House Gaurav Gogoi said, "Before whom did PM Narendra Modi surrender?"

Jaishankar said at no stage in any conversation with US were trade and Sindoor linked. The refutation comes at a time when talks with US over a trade deal are delicately poised, with 72 hours to go. P 9

Much confusion on who does what, even upkeep of drains: HC to Delhi govt

Abhinav.Garg@timesofindia.com

New Delhi: The time has come for Delhi govt to take a comprehensive decision on how civic services should be managed, the high court said Monday, citing the "enormous confusion" among various agencies, even on the key issue of controlling waterlogging. This, it said, had led to "passing the buck on most occasions".

It cited a "glaring example" of such confusion in the way stormwater drains fall under PWD, while sewage line maintenance is under MCD, lamenting that this has "led to non-maintenance of either of the lines, leading to excessive flooding in Delhi".

"Neither of these drain pipes is being properly managed by the respective agency, which seems to be passing the responsibility to the other agency," a special bench of Justices Prathiba M Singh and Manmee PS Arora noted.

In most colonies, it added, stormwater drains were also blocked by residents or constuctors, leaving them "perpetually clogged". Directing that its order be sent to the chief se-

IN THE COURTS

► Relief to Mamata govt as SC lifts HC's stay on implementation of new list of OBC sub-groups | P 11

► HC agrees to hear 'Udaipur Files' release case on July 30 after being told filmmakers are seeking re-certification after carrying out cuts | P 15

► Find out how many temples in India have been taken over by state govs, SC tells petitioner challenging UP ordinance for control of Banke Bihari in Vrindavan | P 15

► HC upholds removal of DU prof who challenged adverse findings of internal panel on allegations of sexual harassment against him | P 6

cretary, who in turn should place it before the highest functionaries of Delhi govt, the court said the authorities must decide on centralising the administration and management of drains. If required, the matter would be placed before Delhi's lieutenant governor, the court added.

► Multiplicity of agencies, P 4

From Sept 2, US visa interview waiver only in special cases

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

The US has further tightened its non-immigrant visa norms, including conditions for interview waivers. From Sept 2, all non-immigrant visa applicants, including applicants under 14 and those over 79, "will generally require an in-person interview with a consular officer", barring a few exceptions, the US state dept said in a July 25 update.

One exception includes "applicants renewing a full validity B-1, B-2, B1/B2 visa... within 12 months of the prior visa's expiration, and who were at least 18 years old at the time of the prior visa's issuance".

"To be eligible for an interview waiver (applicants renewing a full validity B-1, B-2, B1/B2 visa), applicants must also meet certain criteria, including that they (a) apply in their country of nationality or residence, (b) have never been refused a visa (unless such refusal was overcome or waived), and have no apparent or potential ineligibility," the update says. TNN

► In-person interview, P 17

Teen queen: Divya 1st Indian to win women's chess World Cup

4TH INDIAN WOMAN TO BECOME GM

► I need time to process it (win). I think it was fate — me getting GM title this way because before this (tournament) I didn't even have one (GM) norm earlier — Divya Deshmukh

► A great celebration of Indian chess — Viswanathan Anand

► Indian chess is just unbelievable — Judit Polgar, greatest-ever woman chess player

1 World Jr Rank 2478 Fide Live Rating

15 World Live Rank 24 Gold Medals For India

Divya Deshmukh in action on Monday

► On top of the world, P 22

► How India Got Tigers Back From Brink, P 21

► EDIT PAGE: Bigger Meaning Of Being Divya

► Old Koneru Humpy, 2.5-1.5. Divya took the rapid route to glory after drawing both her classical games with Humpy on Saturday and Sunday.

Divya, who was the world's youngest Woman Fide Master in 2013, also became only the fourth Indian woman to earn the

GM title after Humpy, R Vaishali and Harika Dronavalli.

With this win, Divya took her tally of international gold medals to 24 while representing India on 41 occasions. In her 14-year journey on the 64 squares, she has conque-

red the world on four occasions: In 2014, she won the under-10 world title before becoming U-12 world champion in '17. Last year, she was crowned world junior champ.

► On top of the world, P 22

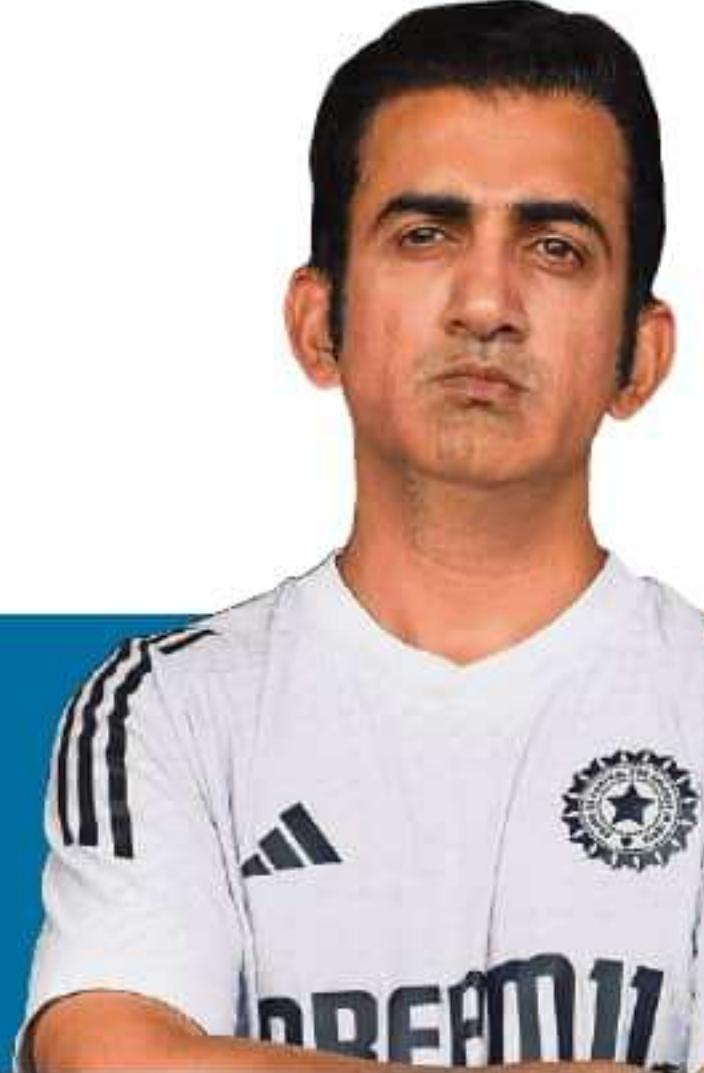
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INDIA'S LARGEST ENGLISH NEWSPAPER

INTERNATIONAL TIGER DAY

A gunman shot and killed five people at a popular fresh food market in the Thai capital before killing himself, police say, attributing the shooting to a personal grudge, P 18

Coach Gautam Gambhir says the team has not ruled out playing pace ace Jasprit Bumrah in the final Test against England at the Oval this week as India seek to avoid a series defeat, P 23



SIR in Bihar: Accept Aadhaar along with voter ID, SC tells EC

'Aim Should Be Mass Inclusion, Not Exclusion'

Dhananjay.Mahapatra@timesofindia.com

New Delhi: Supreme Court on Monday told the Election Commission to proceed to authenticate voters based on Aadhaar card and Electors Photo Identity Card (EPIC) and said that Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of electoral rolls in the state should be aimed at mass inclusion rather than mass exclusion.

A bench of Justices Surya Kant and Joymalya Bagchi turned down the plea for staying SIR. Instead, the court said it would hold day-to-day hearings to enable an expedited ruling on the issue.

To EC's argument that Aadhaar wasn't a conclusive proof of identity, the court asked which single document gave conclusive proof and

NO INTERIM STAY

Bench tells petitioners to give a schedule by today of the time likely to be taken by each counsel, to help court hear the case on day-to-day basis

► Any document can be forged, says SC on EC's apprehension of fake Aadhaar cards. Says EC can prosecute such individuals

► The earlier order is clear — there cannot be any interim order in this case; SC tells petitioners' advocate

EC red-faced as dog gets residence proof

A mid-SIR, EC officials were put out under the heading 'Electoral Roll of SIR 2002 (remaining ACs will be uploaded soon)'. The release coincided with the state-wide training of booth-level officers and their supervisors in Bengal, where polls are due next year. "This is an ongoing process. The electoral data of the remaining districts will be published on Tuesday, or at most in a couple of days," a senior EC official said. P 11

2 die of electrocution, 46 hurt at UP temple

Lucknow: Two devotees died of electrocution and 46 suffered minor injuries after an electric wire snapped and fell onto a tin shed on the premises of Shri Ausaneshwar Mahadev temple in Haldighat tehsil of UP's Barabanki district Monday.

The incident occurred during 'jlabhishek' rituals when the temple was teeming with devotees and led to a stampede-like situation, reports Pathikrit Chakraborty. However, the deaths and injuries weren't caused by the near-crush, DGP Rajeev Krishna said. The electric wi-

re broke after monkeys jumped on it, causing it to fall onto the shed, Barabanki DM Shashank Tripathi said.

► UP SC panel chief, P 13



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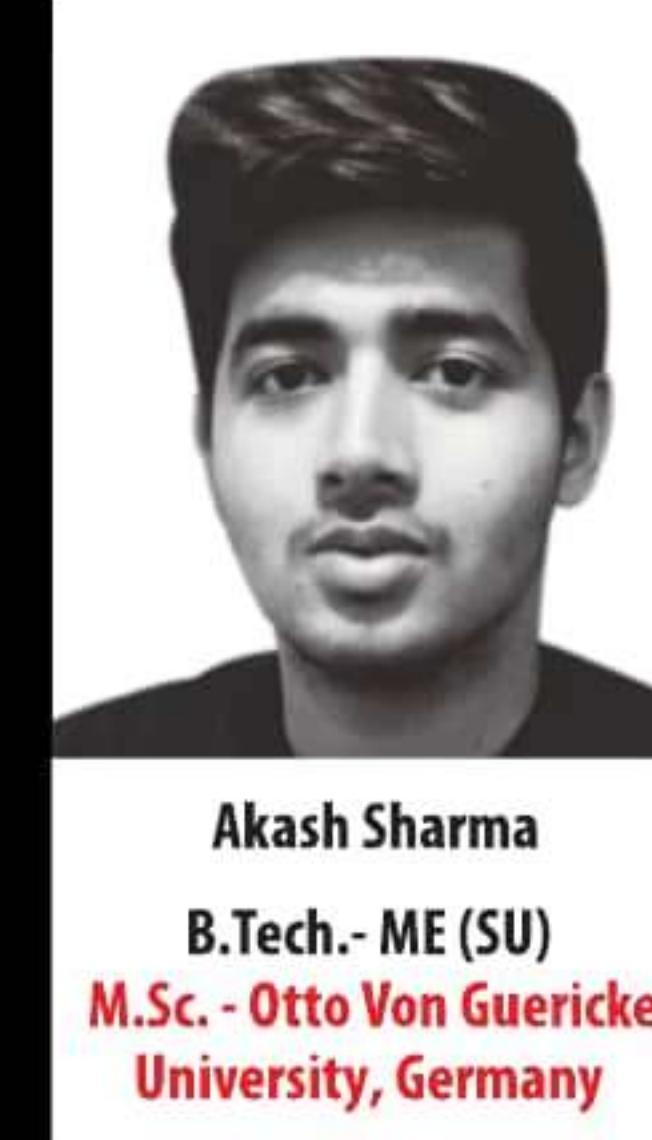
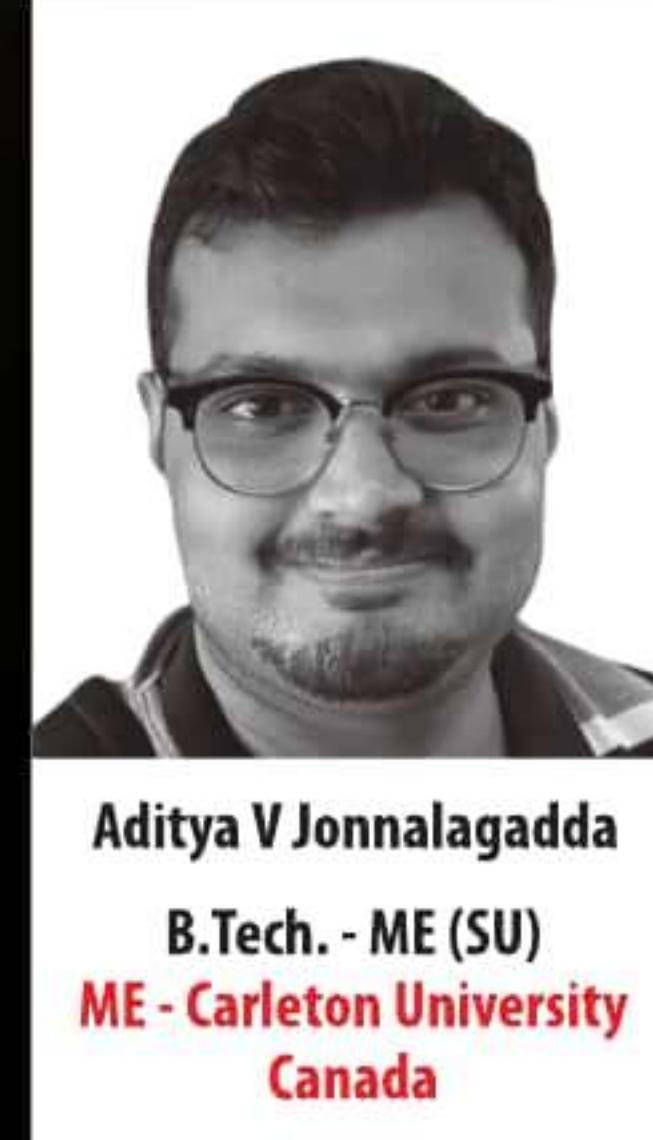
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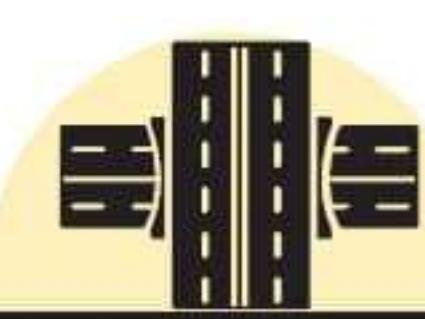
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SUNSET 7.14PM (TUE)

THE TIMES OF INDIA, NEW DELHI | TUESDAY, JULY 29, 2025



8 | 6

AQI IN DELHI
ON MONDAY
(SATISFACTORY)

Barapullah
elevated road:
ACB to probe
'gaps' | 4



SC Turns TOI Story On Strays Into PIL

Expresses Shock, Says Report
Is Disturbing And Alarming

MCD committee to meet to chalk out 'acceptable' plan

Vibha.Sharma
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New Delhi: The first meeting of the committee set up following the directive given by the chairman of the Municipal Corporation of Delhi's standing committee to address the growing stray dog problem in the city will convene on Wednesday. The nine-member panel, which includes the additional commissioner and veterinary director of the civic body, was tasked with overseeing the implementation of control measures and proposing necessary modifications to the Animal Birth Control Regulations, which will also be communicated to the central govt. The formation of the panel was prompted by several councillors reporting incidents of dog bites in their wards.

Sunder Singh Tanwar, BJP councillor from Bhati who heads the com-

mittee, said that details had been sought from the veterinary department on the number of sterilisation centres running under MCD's jurisdiction, their functioning status, their per-day sterilisation capacity and grey areas, if any. "We have also asked for details of NGOs and veterinary doctors associated with these centres, the last street dog census conducted by MCD and the status of the current plan to hold a fresh census of stray canines in the city," Tanwar said.

On the basis of this information, the committee will chalk out an action plan. "We will involve the residents' welfare associations, residents and dog lovers in the finalisation of the plan and its implementation to ensure an acceptable solution," said Tanwar. "We plan to identify the assembly constituencies where the action plan will be implemented on a pilot basis."

In the previous standing com-



LOOKING FOR A COMMON GROUND

cus on animal welfare but will also ensure that public safety, sanitation and health concerns arising from stray dogs are effectively addressed," Sharma had said.

The councillors had earlier expressed apprehension that the current ABC Regulations restricted the relocation of stray dogs because of which shifting some dogs to shelters would be difficult to implement. To this, Sharma said there was a need for an amendment to facilitate such a relocation. The committee was directed to examine this legal gap and recommend suitable policy changes.

MCD officials added that in their submission to Delhi govt's chief secretary, they had underlined the need for developing relocation centres where dogs reported to be habitual biters or furious in nature could be housed. "There already is a Delhi High Court direction to Delhi govt

to work on a policy on this matter," an official said. "The policy will require an amendment to the ABC Regulations because we can hold a dog for observation only for a maximum of 10 days. Since now certain dogs could be kept at relocation centres for their lifetime because of people's complaints, we will need changes in the norms."

MCD has 20 sterilisation centres and they are run by 13 NGOs, all registered with the Animal Welfare Control Board of India. "These NGOs have the capacity to sterilise and give anti-rabies vaccination to 10,000 dogs per day. Some of these centres are operational at Delhi govt's veterinary hospital," said an official. "We have floated plans to create additional kennels at some sites in Usmanpur, Rohini, etc., which will share the burden of the hospital centres. We are in the process of having the budgets for these sanctioned."

Timely intervention, says Goel; Karti highlights 'underreporting'

Vibha Sharma &
Koushiki Saha | TNN

New Delhi: The Supreme Court initiated suo motu proceedings on Monday after reviewing a TOI report about rabies cases resulting from dog bites. We take suo motu cognisance of this news item. Let the order be placed with the news report before the Hon'ble CJJ for appropriate directions," the bench stated.

TOI had reported on Sunday how the escalating threat of stray dog attacks in the capital had sparked public outrage following the tragic death of a six-year-old girl, Chavi Sharma, a Class I student, was attacked by a rabid stray dog on June 30 while on her way to visit her aunt. In a separate incident, four-year-old Abhishek Rai was attacked by a pack of stray dogs on July 23 in Alipur as he was returning from school. The dogs repeatedly pounced on his face, inflicting serious injuries. According to his family, this was the third such attack on the child.

Rule 11. A national census of stray canines is also a demand. Goel's campaign has taken on renewed urgency following two dog attacks in Narela and Pooth Kalan, the latter resulting in the death of a six-year-old girl, who succumbed to rabies. Expressing strong objection to ABC Rule 20, which gives RWAs the responsibility of feeding stray dogs within private societies, appealed for complete ban on street feeding — with legal consequences for violators.

"I'm trying to save both people and dogs from mutual hatred. If things continue this way, society will turn hostile towards animals," Goel said, responding to dog lovers who have allegedly threatened him online and branded him the 'enemy of animals'.

Appreciating the move of the apex court, Congress MP Karti P Chidambaram, who is actively pursuing the matter

with the central govt, posted on X, "Hope a holistic process is set into motion. Key asks: Enforce a no-dog-on-street policy, build shelters & house all strays. Vaccinate & neuter them, promote adoption with safety norms, ensure clear, humane & enforceable policy, hear & protect those who feel unsafe and fund authorities to act urgently & responsibly."

Chidambaram had even met PM Narendra Modi to discuss the problem on March 27. He claimed to have written to SP Singh Baghel, Union minister of state for animal husbandry and dairy, on July 24 regarding the review of ABC Rules and formulation of a national strategy to manage stray dogs. In his letter, he highlighted the underreporting of dog bite and rabies cases. "Your ministry has reported 3.7 million dog bites and only 54 suspected rabies deaths in 2024 as per National Centre for Disease Control

(NCDC) data. However, multiple independent bodies present contradictory evidence. For example, ICMR's national survey estimates 9 million animal bite incidents annually with up to 5,700 rabies deaths," he wrote. "While WHO maintains that India accounts for nearly 36% of global rabies mortality with 18,000-20,000 deaths annually. Furthermore, the health ministry's Integrated Disease Surveillance Programme (IDSP) (2023) reported 286 rabies deaths — a sharp contrast to NCDC's 2024 figure of 54."

The MP said that while ABC Rules might seem progressive in theory, it had "failed structurally and operationally". Chidambaram stated that sterilisation targets were routinely missed, and in most urban areas, they reached only 20-40%, far below the 70%+ required for an impact. "Municipalities suffer from severe manpower shortages, lack of coordination with NGOs and administrative paralysis. While the estimates suggest 6-10 dog bite incidents per minute, with serious injuries, the right of safety of citizens, especially children and the elderly, is being compromised," he maintained.

Nanita Sharma, Supreme Court lawyer, contended that modifications to ABC Rules would be ineffective without committed sterilisation and immunisation efforts.

The problem is that govt and agencies are hand in glove and none of the agencies are doing their job diligently," Sharma said. "Had the municipal authorities sterilised and immunised 70% of the strays regularly, then the street dog population would have been contained. Relocation will, in fact, make it difficult to cover all strays. There is a need also to act logically and humanely towards these animals to reduce man-animal conflict."

Recharging tourism: Guided tour of city on AC e-buses likely from Sept

Atul.Mathur@timesofindia.com

New Delhi: Delhi govt is going to expand its city tourism services by engaging two electric buses from Delhi Transport Corporation.

Officials said that these buses would start

from the Delhi Tourism's office at Baba Kharak Singh Marg and cover the city's popular tourist spots along with some new landmarks before dropping the passengers back from where it started. Delhi Tourism and Transportation Development Corporation has entered into an agreement with DTC to hire air-conditioned electric buses. "We hope to start the service by Sept 1 after getting the buses branded in special wrap promoting Delhi as a tourist destination, and training of guides," said a DTTDC official.

The buses will cover several destinations, including Connaught Place, Police Memorial, historical monuments, Pradhamantri Sangrahalaya and Dilli Haat. The buses will stop at certain destinations for a fixed time to allow the tourists to take a quick round. The propos-

ed ticket price is Rs 500 for adults and Rs 300 for children aged between 6 and 12.

Officials said that each bus will have a seating capacity of 32 passengers. There are also plans to introduce an audio translation service for which headsets with multiple language options will be provided.

DTTDC planned to start six theme-based tours covering Delhi's heritage monuments, food streets, markets, shopping malls and museums before the G20 Summit in Sept 2023. The plan, however, was shelved considering that not many tourists may be interested in theme-based circuits and would rather prefer one consolidated tour covering all important destinations.

A senior DTTDC official said that the department might consider expanding the service and engaging more buses to run on different circuits after evaluating the response to the soon-to-start city tours. Depending on the number of tourists booking for a city tour or for a trip outside Delhi, DTTDC provides cars as well as bigger vehicles on rent.

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Religious Buildings	R-03	C	20	1150	12.210	14,041,500	1,404,150
Religious Buildings	R-8-1	-	22A & 22D	1500	12.210	18,315,000	1,831,500
Religious Buildings	R-8-2	-	22A & 22D	1500	12.210	18,315,000	1,831,500
Old Age homes	OAH-1	-	22A & 22D	1000	12.210	12,210,000	1,221,000
Orphanages	OH-1	-	22A & 22D	2400	12.210	29,304,000	2,930,400
Socio-Cultural Centres	S.C.C.-1	-	17A	8000	17.155	137,240,000	13,724,000
Socio-Cultural Centres	S.C.C.-1	-	22E	8000	17.155	137,240,000	13,724,000



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CITY SHOT

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Think you know your city inside out? Take a hard look at photo below and scan the QR code to give a caption that brings out the chaos or the irony around us in the best possible words. One winner gets an Amazon voucher worth ₹500, every day!

Contest open till 3pm. *T&C apply | Photo: Anindya Chattopadhyay



"Making short work of traffic rules!" Scan the QR code and suggest another witty and hard-hitting caption to win the prize

Yesterday's answer: Vasudev Ghat

Winner: Mohd Ayaz Akhtar (Voucher will be sent by email)

Delhi Metro tests anti-drag system to avoid injuries

Priyangi Agarwal

@timesofindia.com

New Delhi: To prevent clothes and bags from getting stuck between the doors of Delhi Metro trains, Delhi Metro Rail Corporation (DMRC) has installed an anti-drag system in a train for testing purposes. The safety measure will automatically activate emergency brakes upon detecting pressure between the gates of the metro.

DMRC has stated that four more trains will be retrofitted with this feature and undergo testing for the next one-two years.

In Dec 2023, a 35-year-old woman died after her clothing got stuck in the metro door, and the train dragged her for several metres.

"DMRC has retrofitted one train with the anti-drag feature, which is under testing. Four more trains are also being fitted with the same. These trains will undergo detailed analysis and feedback, and based on the overall performance, the mechanism will be further explored for remaining trains or lines which may require the provision of this feature," a DMRC official said.

The anti-drag system is designed to prevent injuries caused by passengers or their belongings getting trapped inside the closing doors and subsequently getting dragged along a

moving train. It helps identify hazardous situations, such as obstructions or objects like belts, cloth, sarees and bag straps, when the door is already closed and subsequently prevents the train from moving.

The threshold of the doors to detect an obstruction between doors is usually 15mm, which was reduced further to 7mm. However, at present, obstruction is not detected if anything less than this thickness gets stuck between doors.

Vikas Kumar, managing director, DMRC, had earlier told TOI, "Anti-drag is an advanced feature in the trains. If someone or something is stuck between doors, and it senses pressure, it applies an emergency brake."

The anti-drag feature will be required only on old lines. "Something getting stuck between metro doors will not be an issue in the upcoming Phase IV corridors or the existing Pink and Magenta lines, as they have platform screen doors (PSDs). In the old lines, PSDs have been installed only on busy stations to control crowds," the official has said. In the upcoming corridors under Phase IV expansion, all stations will have PSDs.

TOI had earlier reported that DMRC has also been making announcements inside trains advising passengers to take care of sarees, dhotis, dupattas and bags while boarding and deboarding.

Al image



LG seeks simplification of business licensing in Delhi

Atul.Mathur@timesofindia.com

New Delhi: The office of the lieutenant governor has written to the chief secretary to examine how various sections of two municipal acts, which deal with granting licences to various establishments in MCD and NDMC areas, respectively, can be done away with and the system can be simplified.

The letter was sent following a communication from the deregulation cell of the Union Cabinet secretariat, asking LG to cut red tape and bring all permissions required to open a business in the capital under a single-window system. Acknowledging LG's push to ease the licensing framework, the cell advised doing away with health, trade, general, trade and factory licences issued under Delhi Municipal Corporation Act 1957. These, it said, can be eliminated through a simple notification by LG stating that registration under GST, Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) or Factories Act would suffice.

Since parts of the city fall under the jurisdiction of New Delhi Municipal Council, the deregulation cell recommended a similar notification under NDMC Act 1994 too.

With his communication to chief secretary Dharmendra, LG's principal secretary, Ashish Kundra also shared the letter received from the special secretary in the Cabinet secretariat, KK Pathak, asking the office of the lieutenant governor to roll out reforms to deregulate licensing requirements so that a single-window clearance system can be made to position Delhi as an "investment destination".

The lieutenant governor "has desired that the administrative department concerned may be directed that the matter be examined and draft notifications be sub-

mitted for consideration/approval of the competent authority within three days", the communication stated.

The deregulation cell recommended that businesses already registered under GST or FSSAI be exempted from registering separately under Shops and Establishment Act, which is administered by Delhi govt's labour department. It also pitched for bringing approvals from FSSAI, GST, Employees' State Insurance Corporation, fire department and Delhi Pollution Control Committee under a single-window system. The cell described

The deregulation cell recommended that businesses already registered under GST or FSSAI be exempted from registering separately under Shops and Establishment Act

these possible measures as "low-hanging fruits" that can be quickly "fructified" through executive orders or notifications, without the need to amend the existing laws.

The push came days after LG VK Saxena cleared a proposal withdrawing Delhi Police's powers to issue licences to seven categories of businesses—swimming pools, eateries, hotels, guesthouses, discotheques, video game parlours, amusement parks and auditoriums. Officials said the deregulation cell studied various laws and held rounds of meetings with officers from Delhi govt, MCD, NDMC, DDA, RERA and the Union housing and urban affairs ministry to map the regulatory maze caused by overlapping agency powers. The final recommendations were shaped by these deliberations and by looking at best practices in other states.

Groups clash, police probe firing reports

New Delhi: A police investigation is underway after an alleged firing incident in east Delhi's Mayur Vihar on Sunday. A caller told police that a group of men, allegedly led by an advocate, came to his residence and accused him of molesting the advocate's sister. The group reviewed CCTV footage at the caller's home before leaving. As neighbours gathered and began following the group, they allegedly tried to flee. One person from the group, while leaving in a Swift car, fired a shot, the complainant told police. "However, the local police and the crime team found no fired cartridge or bullet from the spot," a senior officer said. "Later, a young woman submitted a complaint of eve-teasing and stalking against the caller and his associates," the officer added. Police said FIRs were being registered. TNN

Multiplicity of agencies leads to passing of buck'

►Continued from P1

The high court was hearing two suo motu petitions dealing with waterlogging and rainwater harvesting, besides easing traffic jams in the national capital during the monsoon and at other times of the year.

In the pending petition, a fresh plea was filed by the Residents Welfare Association of Maharani Bagh, saying a new problem arose due to the action of the Delhi govt's public works department (PWD). The court has been examining various aspects related to the Taimur Nagar drain adjacent to Maharani Bagh colony and has been issuing directions from time to time.

During the latest hearing, the bench was informed that certain well marks or holes were made in the walls on the ring road through which water flowed into the Maharani Bagh colony, flooding the area. The PWD argued that these were not new holes but well marks that already existed and were blocked by the residents and had now been opened. The court was also informed that the road was earlier with the PWD and is now with the MCD.

The court noted that the residents' plea showed the apathy prevalent in Delhi due to multiple agencies functioning and pointed out that it has to summon agencies, including MCD, PWD, DBB, DDA, and the Irrigation and Flood Control Department, before it for a consensus to be arrived at, and for effective im-

plementation of its directions.

"Between these agencies, there is enormous confusion, which is caused due to improper delineation of responsibilities, leading to passing the buck on most occasions," the court said. On the Maharani Bagh issue, the bench directed the PWD and MCD to hold a meeting with the residents on Aug 2 after conducting a site inspection and file a joint status report on the efforts to solve the issue.

The high court also sought the presence of an official from AIIMS to answer why there was a delay in clearances relating to the laying down of a new sewer pipeline in the area.

Case filed over 'fake' permits for tree cutting

New Delhi: Delhi Police has registered a case based on a complaint from the forest department alleging that fake orders for cutting trees were being issued in its name.

The complaint, filed by the deputy conservator of forests (west), revealed that forged documents mimicking official tree-cutting permits were recovered from a person named Rakesh Kumar Sharma, a resident of south Delhi. The documents fraudulently bore the name of the deputy conservator's office.

"The issuance of fake permits severely undermines the govt's initiatives to protect and preserve Delhi's greenery," the deputy conservator stated in the complaint dated Dec 13 last year. "This illegal activity poses not only an environmental threat but also disrupts public order and trust," it added.

The deputy conservator urged immediate action to dismantle the network, apprehend the culprits and bring them to justice.

The Vasant Kunj south police station has registered a case under sections 8 and 24 of Delhi Preservation of Trees Act 1994. A senior police officer said they were investigating the matter. TNN

Police say Mamata's charge of assault on woman, kid baseless

New Delhi: Reacting to a social media post by West Bengal CM Mamata Banerjee, alleging that a Bengali-speaking woman and her child were assaulted by police in the capital, Delhi Police on Monday dismissed the claims as "baseless and motivated".

According to the police, the video was deliberately circulated to malign their reputation. "During the investigation, the woman admitted that her relative – a political worker from Maldia district in West Bengal – had asked her to create and share the video," said DCP (East) Abhishek Dhanja. Police said they launched an inquiry after receiving the complaint and identified the woman as Sajnur Parveen, a resident of West Vinod Nagar.

The family initially alleged that on July 25, four men in plain clothes visited their home for Aadhaar verification and accused them of being Bangladeshi nationals. The following day, Parveen claimed she and her two children were forcibly taken to a park near Manglam Hall Red Light, detained by the same individuals, and released only after a ransom of Rs 25,000 was paid. TNN

ACB To Probe 'Irregularities' In Barapullah Elevated Road Work

Payment Of ₹175cr In Arbitration To Contractor Also Under Lens, Says Govt

Atul.Mathur@timesofindia.com

New Delhi: The anti-corruption branch will investigate a case of "irregularities" in the construction of the Barapullah elevated road and the payment of Rs 175 crore in arbitration to its contractor, govt said in a statement on Monday.

While the elevated road was scheduled for completion in Oct 2017, it was repeatedly delayed and eventually went into arbitration. "The ruling favoured the contractor with an award of Rs 120 crore. When the payment was withheld, the company approached the high court, which, in May 2023, ordered the PWD to pay Rs 175 crore, including interest and GST. The sum was subsequently paid during the tenure of then PWD minister Atishi," govt said in the statement.

Officials said the chief minister slammed the previous AAP govt for neither filing a review petition nor acting against the officers responsible for the arbitration award, adding that the payout hampered other PWD schemes. "She also disclosed that the contractor initially offered to settle the dispute for Rs 35 crore, but the proposal was ignored, resulting in the escalation of the

BRIDGING THE GAP



PWD minister Parvez Verma recently reviewed the project

About Barapullah Elevated Road (Phase-III)	
Route Barapullah drain	Cabinet Approval
via Sarai Kale Khan	Sept 2011
Initial estimated Cost ₹964 crore	Work Commenced April 2015, with a 30-month deadline
Tendered cost ₹1,260.6 crore	Completion Status 87% complete
Revised Estimates due to delay ₹1,330 crore	FY 2025-26 Allocation ₹150 crore (₹86.4 crore spent till June 2025)
Expenditure So Far ₹1,238.7 crore	

matter to the high court," the statement read.

The minister also noted the possibility of PWD officials being complicit in the irregularities and said their actions would also be scrutinised under the vigilance inquiry. She, however, added that

the investigation would not hinder the project's progress and reiterated govt's commitment to completing it within the stipulated time frame.

While the project was planned in 2011, the tender was floated in 2014. The 3.5 km-long elevated road was initially held

due to the delays in acquiring land parcels along the Yamuna floodplain, which were under private control, and later for the want of permission to fell over 300 trees. Officials informed the chief minister that the project would gain pace soon, as the permission for the removal of trees was expected shortly. "The chief minister stressed that no further delays would be tolerated and assured adequate budgetary support to complete the project, which is expected to significantly ease traffic between south and east Delhi," govt statement read.

Sources said the directions were issued to the bureaucrats on Monday for submitting the monthly action taken and progress reports on various ongoing schemes and programmes. "This will help enhance the monitoring of important projects. The chief minister has been holding review meetings with her ministers every Monday to discuss the progress of various works. The new order takes the monitoring mechanism a step further," said an official, requesting anonymity.

The monthly reports sent to the chief minister's office by the 28th of every month will have the details of the department's programmes, schemes, and achievements to enable an assessment of progress. The department heads will also have to mention if a particular scheme or project requires any inter-department coordination and the details of both internal and external factors that are causing delays or obstructions.

"The CM holds regular meetings with officials to understand the progress of various schemes," said the official.

Another official said that the review meeting with the group of ministers every Monday would also help in taking into consideration everyone's views on various big-ticket projects and developing a consensus.

Delhi High Court has been examining various aspects related to the Taimur Nagar drain adjacent to Maharani Bagh colony and has been issuing directions from time to time

►Continued from P1

The high court was hearing two suo motu petitions dealing with waterlogging and rainwater harvesting, besides easing traffic jams in the national capital during the monsoon and at other times of the year.

In the pending petition, a fresh plea was filed by the Residents Welfare Association of Maharani Bagh, saying a new problem arose due to the action of the Delhi govt's public works department (PWD). The court has been examining various aspects related to the Taimur Nagar drain adjacent to Maharani Bagh colony and has been issuing directions from time to time.

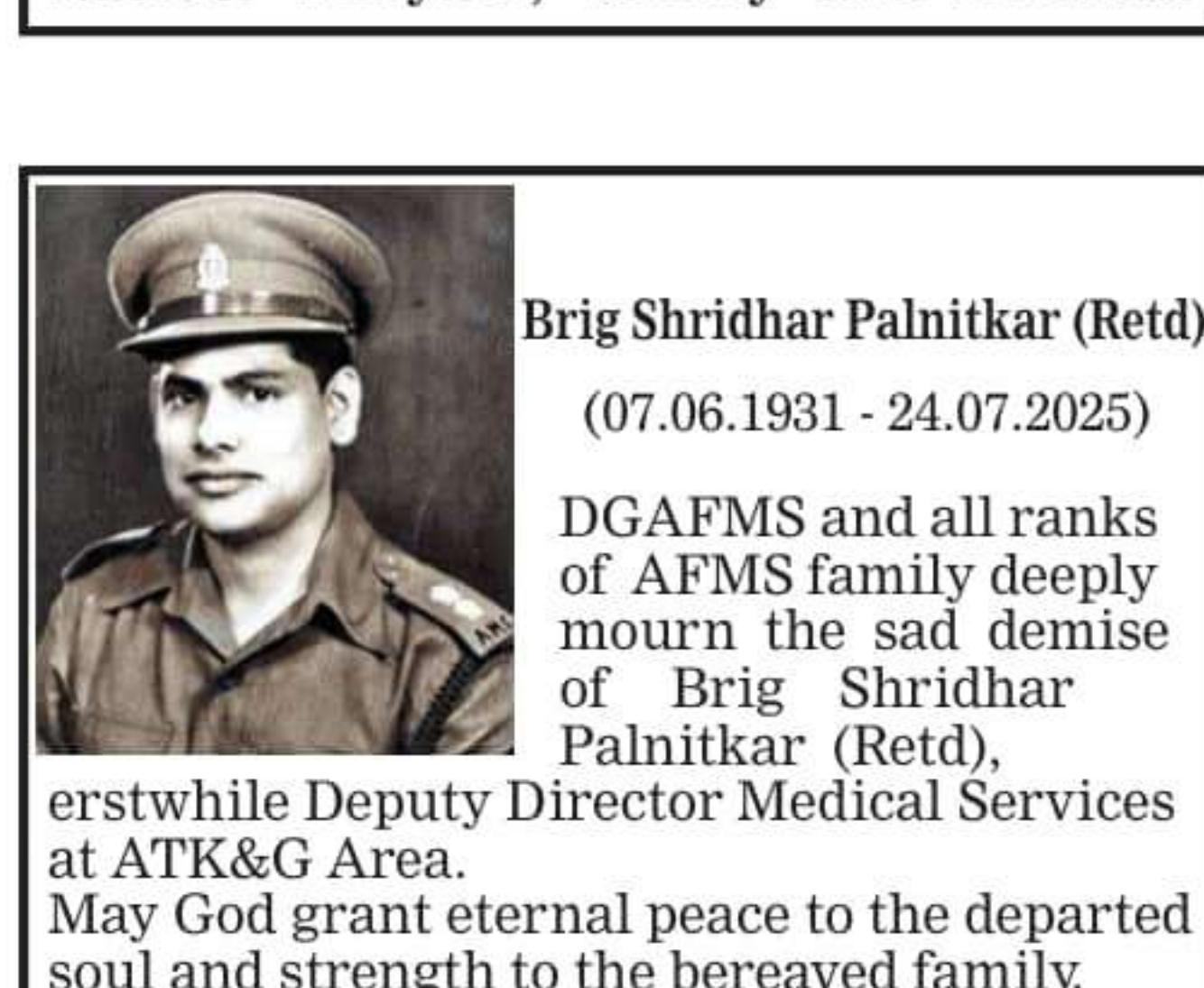
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The court noted that the residents' plea showed the apathy prevalent in Delhi due to multiple agencies functioning and pointed out that it has to summon agencies, including MCD, PWD, DBB, DDA, and the Irrigation and Flood Control Department, before it for a consensus to be arrived at, and for effective im-

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The high court also sought the presence of an official from AIIMS to answer why there was a delay in clearances relating to the laying down of a new sewer pipeline in the area.



Brig Shridhar Palnitkar (Retd)

(07.06.1931 - 24.07.2025)

DGAFFMS and all ranks of AFMS family deeply mourn the sad demise of

Brig Shridhar Palnitkar (Retd),

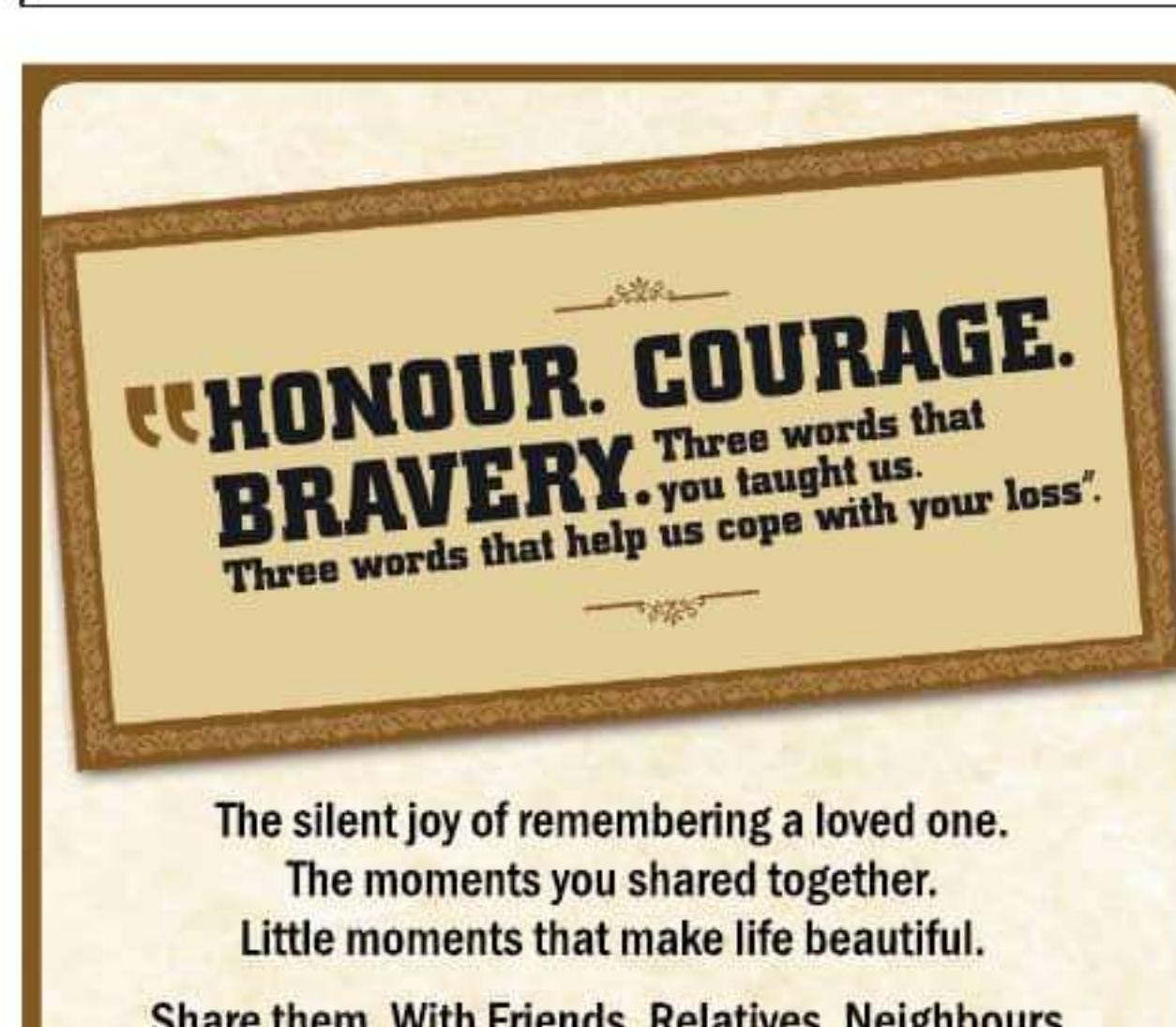
erstwhile Deputy Director Medical Services

at ATK&G Area.

May God grant eternal peace to the departed

soul and strength to the bereaved family.

Our Loving ZORI you live forever in our hearts and we cherish your fond memories praying for peace & happiness to you in heavens. Adorably remembered by K.S.S. Sarang, Gunwant, Gary, Ganeemat, Jugaad & Sifat.



The silent joy of remembering a loved one.

The moments you shared together.

Little moments that make life beautiful.

Share them. With Friends. Relatives. Neighbours.

Colleagues. With all those whose lives

the departed Soul has touched. Because while life goes on,

when you share memories, they stay on forever.

Total Outlay

The Times of India Delhi/NCR 5,600

TOI+NBT (Delhi/NCR) 8,800

Deadline Drift: Seven Key Projects Worth ₹700 Crore Caught In GRAP

Pollution Curbs, Poor Planning, Design Delays Hit Crucial Work Across City

ishita.Jairath@timesofindia.com

New Delhi: From critical road repairs to courtrooms, several infrastructure projects in the city totalling over Rs 700 crore in tendered costs have been moving in low gear for some time. One common retardant is the city's pollution control framework, which prohibits construction during high pollution, besides factors like design delays and weather-related disruptions.

At least seven projects overseen by the Public Works Department, ranging from road strengthening to the construction of district court complexes, reported delays. In four high-value roadworks, each with a tendered cost exceeding Rs 5 crore, progress was hampered by the restrictions under the Graded Response Action Plan and the weather. In fact, GRAP resulted in some projects commencing late as three months after their scheduled start.

An example is the Rs 5.39 crore project to strengthen a section of Guru Ravi Dass Marg from Maa Anandmayee Marg to Mehrauli-Badarpur Road. Originally scheduled to begin in Aug last year, work did not start until Dec. The revised completion date is set for July 31. Likewise, stretches such as Outer Ring Road from Modi Mill flyover to Chirag Dilli flyover and another extending to the IIT flyover, which involved cold milling and recycling processes. The combined tender value of these works exceeds Rs 19 crore. These projects were affected not only by GRAP, but also by delays in engineering approvals and planning clearances.

While the road projects are expected to meet their revised July 31 deadlines, far more substantial delays have plagued the three major court infrastructure developments at Shastri Park in northeast Delhi, Karkardooma in Shahdara,

4 key road projects are finally nearing completion, almost a year after they were set in motion

1 Outer Ring Road (Chirag Dilli to IIT flyover; other key stretches)

Tendered Amount **₹11.2 crore**

Start Date Nov 15, 2024

Expected Completion July 31, 2025

Reasons For Delay
GRAP restrictions, monsoon and climatic conditions

2 Outer Ring Road (Modi Mill flyover to Chirag Dilli - Both ways)

Tendered Amount **₹8.8 crore**

Start Date Aug 2, 2024

Actual Start Dec 1, 2024 | Expected Completion July 31, 2025

Reasons For Delay
GRAP restrictions, cold weather

3 Road No. 13A (South East Road Division)

Tendered Amount **₹4.5 crore**

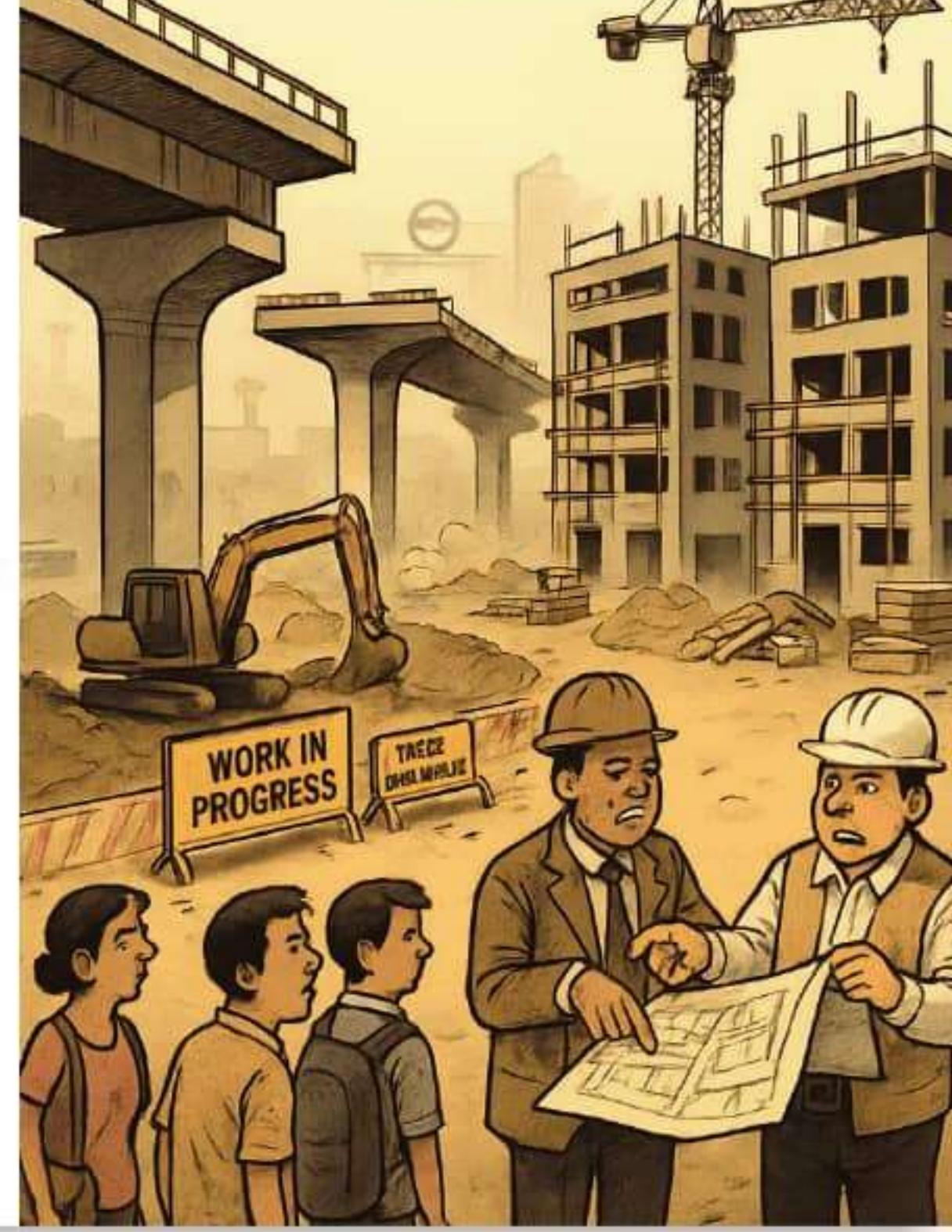
Start Date Dec 9, 2024

Actual Start Mar 8, 2025 | Expected Completion July 31, 2025

Reasons For Delay
GRAP restrictions, winter conditions

CLOCK TICKS AWAY AS DELHI WAITS

Seven infra projects, with a tendered amount of over ₹705 crore, have been delayed, with GRAP a common thread alongside other core causes



4 Guru Ravi Dass Marg (Maa Anandmayee Marg to MB Road)

Tendered Amount **₹5.4 crore**

Start Date Aug 2, 2024

Actual Start Dec 1, 2024 | Expected Completion July 31, 2025

Reasons For Delay
GRAP implementation, cold weather

3 Work on 3 court complexes is running way behind schedule

1 District Court Complex (Shastri Park)

Tendered Amount **₹120.53 crore**

Start Date June 10, 2024

Expected Completion Oct 31, 2026

Progress | 7%

Reasons For Delay

Structural drawing delays, GRAP restrictions

2 Additional Court (Karkardooma)

Tendered Amount **₹124 crore**

Start Date June 10, 2024

Expected Completion Oct 31, 2026

Progress | 7%

Reasons For Delay

Drawing submission delays, GRAP pauses

3 District Court Complex (Rohini, Sector 26)

Tendered Amount **₹430.6 crore**

Start Date June 10, 2024

Expected Completion Oct 31, 2026

Progress | 3%

Reasons For Delay

MoEFCC clearance pending, design delays, GRAP halts

ra, and Rohini in northwest Delhi. Originally targeted for completion by Jan 2026, all three are now projected to be delayed by 9-10 months until late 2026.

The Rs 120.5 crore district court complex at Shastri Park remains in its early stages, with only 7% of the work completed to date. This is despite the site receiving clearance for construction earlier in the year. Progress has been just slow (7% work completed) at Karkardooma, where the multi-storey court block is being constructed opposite the existing court building at a cost of Rs 124 crore. The reasons for the delay include late submission of structural drawings and persistently high groundwater levels at the site.

The most ambitious of the three court complexes is at Sector 26 in Rohini. This involves the construction of ba-

ments, a ground floor and two multi-storey towers, designed to accommodate many courtrooms and lawyers' chambers. Despite administrative approval and funding being sanctioned in Jan 2024, construction only began in June. As of now, only 3% of the work is completed. The original completion date of Feb next year has been put off to Oct 31. Sources said high water levels in the area impac-

ted the excavation for the foundation of the buildings.

Collectively, these delays reflect the multifaceted challenges faced by infrastructure projects in the city, where bureaucratic lag, regulatory constraints and seasonal pressures often converge. With over Rs 700 crore tied up in these seven projects, PWD faces mounting pressure to accelerate progress and prevent further slippage on sorely needed public facilities.

While the road projects are expected to meet their revised July 31 deadlines, far more substantial delays have plagued the three major court infrastructure developments at Shastri Park in northeast Delhi, Karkardooma in Shahda-

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The Rs 120.5 crore district court complex at Shastri Park remains in its early stages, with only 7% of the work completed to date. This is despite the site receiving clearance for construction earlier in the year. Progress has been just slow (7% work completed) at Karkardooma, where the multi-storey court block is being constructed opposite the existing court building at a cost of Rs 124 crore. The reasons for the delay include late submission of structural drawings and persistently high groundwater levels at the site.

The most ambitious of the three court complexes is at Sector 26 in Rohini. This involves the construction of ba-

gments, a ground floor and two multi-storey towers, designed to accommodate many courtrooms and lawyers' chambers. Despite administrative approval and funding being sanctioned in Jan 2024, construction only began in June. As of now, only 3% of the work is completed. The original completion date of Feb next year has been put off to Oct 31. Sources said high water levels in the area impac-

ted the excavation for the foundation of the buildings.

Collectively, these delays reflect the multifaceted challenges faced by infrastructure projects in the city, where bureaucratic lag, regulatory constraints and seasonal pressures often converge. With over Rs 700 crore tied up in these seven projects, PWD faces mounting pressure to accelerate progress and prevent further slippage on sorely needed public facilities.

While the road projects are expected to meet their revised July 31 deadlines, far more substantial delays have plagued the three major court infrastructure developments at Shastri Park in northeast Delhi, Karkardooma in Shahda-

Govt eyes elevated roads to ease traffic mess in south Delhi

Ashinav.Rajput
@timesofindia.com

New Delhi: Delhi govt has planned four elevated roads in south Delhi to accommodate the heavy traffic flow.

These include an extension between the main Chhattarpur road and SSN Marg; an elevated road from Chhattarpur's 100-Foot Road to Ignou Gate; another stretch on Ignou Road; and a route from Anuvrat Marg to Indira Gandhi International (IGI) Airport via INA Market. Public Works Department (PWD) has been told to carry out a feasibility study in a recent meeting, an official said.

According to senior officials, residents of several localities in south Delhi have been struggling with poor connectivity for years due to jams on the Ignou main road.

To reduce congestion, the department had earlier installed concrete barriers to separate incoming and outgoing traffic. However, the road still sees heavy traffic.

According to the PWD official, the department is now looking to find a permanent solution and exploring the option of elevated roads.

Ignou Road serves as a vital link between Indira Gandhi National Open University and Mehrauli-Badarpur Road, connecting residential areas such as Neb Sarai, Freedom Fighters Enclave, Paryavaran Complex and Saidulajab villa-

ments in Saket metro station.

However, shopkeepers and hawkers have encroached on the road, reducing available space and worsening traffic woes. The lack of designated alternative routes for commuters means this is the only option for the nearby residential colonies. This also ends up leaving the T-point at the Ignou Road-MD Road intersection and the area near Ambedkar Nagar depot prone to traffic jams.

Another proposal to decongest the area is a 2km elevated ro-

ad that will connect Chhattarpur's 100-Foot Road to Ignou. Of-

ficials said that the stretch will decongest the surrounding choked roads and divert traffic going towards Gurgaon and Qutub Minar. Currently, vehicles travelling from Chhattarpur to Ignou and vice-versa have to pass through Qutub Minar and Saket Metro station.

The department is also exploring the possibility of a flyover at the busy intersection of the main Chhattarpur Road and SSN Marg.

A feasibility study will be conducted to assess the benefits of a flyover and the flow of traffic, said the official.

The fourth project – an ele-

vated road from Anuvrat Marg to IGI Airport – entails a larger exercise. According to officials, it is at a preliminary stage, and the project's entry and exit points can be proposed after a feasibility report is prepared.

In a report dated July 3, the sub-divisional magistrate (Najafgarh) said that at present, the terminal stands on that land, and the recorded "johar", or village pond, is encroached upon by DTC. The subject land is recorded as "johar" in the revenue records under the ownership of the gram sabha. The land was urbanised in 1963 and later allotted by DDA to DTC. The construction on the said land appears to be carried out without obtaining the necessary environmental clearances, such as change of land use and forest NOC, in violation of Wetlands Rules, 2017," the SDM said in his report.

The NGT, in an order dated July 4, asked DTC not to carry out any fresh construction.

However, DTC, in a separate report dated July 22, claimed that the terminal was constructed over 20 years ago and the terminal's revamp was announced in 2019.

"The nearest wetland

to the Najafgarh Bus Terminal is behind the terminal and is under the ownership of the SDM (now MCD). It is prayed that the stay order dated July 2, 2025, be vacated," DTC said.

During a recent on-site inspection, it was found that the 100-Foot Road in Chhattarpur is 3km long, with a width ranging from 27 to 30 metres, said officials. Heavy traffic was observed on both sides of the road. On the complaint of the MLA from Chattarpur, Kartar Singh Tanwar, preliminary solutions proposed included a

Two held for beating man to death over 'stolen' auto

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi: Two auto rickshaw drivers have been arrested for allegedly fatally thrashing a man in south Delhi's RK Puram after he was caught driving an auto-rickshaw claimed to be stolen. Police said the accused wanted to "teach him a lesson."

According to police, information was received in early June regarding a man found in an unconscious state near Hanuman Mazdoor Camp, Sector-4, RK Puram.

A police team rushed to the spot and learned that the man had been severely beaten. He was later identified as Raj Kumar, 45, a resident of Madanpur Khadar, who was admitted to Safdarjung Hospital by his son. He succumbed to his injuries during treatment.

Investigations revealed that Kumar had been driving a stolen three-wheeler shared rickshaw that had gone missing from Sector-3, RK Puram on the night of May 30. An e-FIR was registered.

"On the night of June 1, an auto driver spotted the missing vehicle at a CNG pump in Sarojini Nagar, allegedly being driven by Raj Kumar. With the help of other drivers, he apprehended the victim and informed Sushil Kumar, the cousin of the vehicle owner. Sushil, along with his friend, Amit, then brought Raj Kumar to Hanuman Mazdoor Camp where he was allegedly beaten," DCP Amit Goel said.

Based on footage from various CCTV cameras, local intelligence and witness statements, four persons were first apprehended. They named Sushil (22) and Amit (19) as key perpetrators, following which both fled.

"A team was formed and, after weeks of surveillance, both were arrested from RK Puram on July 24. The stolen three-wheeler shared rickshaw was also recovered at Amit's instance," DCP Goel added.

Police said Raj Kumar had a criminal background and was listed as a "bad character" in the records of Badarpur police station.

A case under Section 105 (culpable homicide) of Bharatiya Nyaya Sahita (BNS) has been registered. Police have said that further investigation in the case is underway.

Ggn Staring At No Alerts, No Enforcement In Smog Season

'Info Gap Hits Public Awareness, Ability To Evaluate Policy Response'

►Continued from P1

The stations progressively went on the blink till the whole network went down on April 2.

On days when the IMD stations don't record air quality because of glitches or other reasons, the state has no pollution data. This happened in Gurgaon for several days this month when the IMD station in Gwalpahari wasn't working.

A tender floated in May 2025 for an operator drew only one bidder. The bid was automatically disqualified under govt's procurement rules that require at least two bidders for competitive selection. According to officials, the second round of tenders is still being prepared and is expected to be issued this week with a late-Aug deadline for submissions.

Once bids are received, a lengthy evaluation follows. The process involves technical scrutiny, financial review, clearance by a high-powered committee and finally approval from the chief minister's office. That, according to officials, could take 60 to 90 days. That means Haryana could enter peak smog season without real-time AQI data, without which there can be no alerts, no enforcement and no public warnings.

These are all critical to Grap (graded response action plan), which usually comes into force from Oct 15.

"There should have been a contingency plan. Even if you want to bring in a new vendor, you don't shut off surveillance entirely. That's like switching off CCTV in a high-crime zone because you are changing the camera vendor," a senior HSPC official admitted.

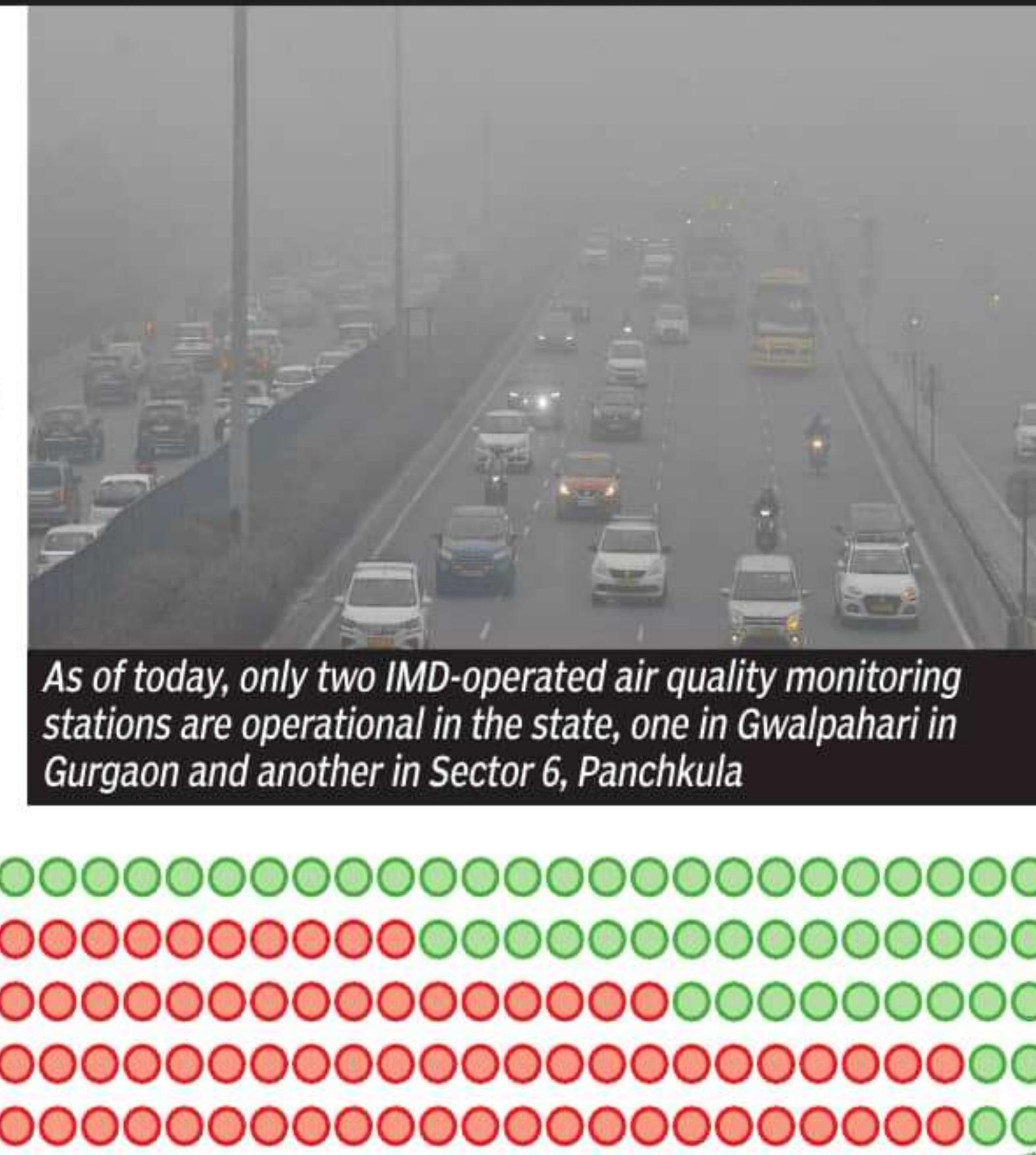
Sunil Dahiya, founder and lead analyst at Envirocatalysts, emphasised the importance of timely administrative decisions on bids for new contracts. "Decisions on opening bids for new contracts for govt services are usually planned well before the existing ones end, especially for maintaining such critical infrastructure as air quality monitoring in a state like Haryana, which lies in one of the most polluted areas. It's unfortunate that this happened, but it should serve as a reminder

AND THEN THERE WERE (ALMOST) NONE

The state has 31 air quality monitoring stations, 29 under HSPC and 2 operated by IMD

► The state has been pollution-blind for the last four months and could remain so when the annual peak phase of bad air begins during the winter

Oct 31, 2024
Dec 31, 2024
Feb 28, 2025
April 2, 2025
July 28, 2025



No. of **Inactive** air quality monitoring stations No. of **Active** air quality monitoring stations

to plan better for the future and for other states," he said.

Asked about it, HSPC chairman Vineet Garg said the board has changed certain conditions in the tender and will be floating it by the end of July.

While Grap's implementation is based on Delhi's AQI data, anti-pollution measures are enforced in all NCR cities after analysing indices recorded by local air monitors.

"This blackout is likely to have serious consequences. Winter is the most polluted time of year in Haryana, with air quality often slipping into 'very poor' or 'severe' category due to stagnant weather, crop residue burning and fossil fuel emissions. Without functioning monitors, district authorities can't track local AQI levels, identify pollution spikes, decide when to implement pollution curbs," said Shubhanshu Tiwari, research associate at Centre for Science and Environment (CSE), adding that the state would essentially be forced to rely on Delhi data.

The implication goes beyond Grap. Under National Clean Air Programme

(NCAP) and its state-specific pollution control action plans, govt must track, report and demonstrate year-on-year improvements in air quality, all of which are data-dependent.

Manoj Kumar, an analyst at Centre for Research on Energy and Clean Air (CREA),

On days when the IMD stations don't record air quality because of glitches or other reasons, the state has no pollution data. This happened in Gurgaon for several days this month when the IMD station in Gwalpahari wasn't working

said with the entire network rendered non-functional, there is growing concern about the progress, or lack thereof, made over the past six months. "In the absence of real-time data, it is tough to assess if efforts are underway to restore the monitoring system ahead of the upcoming peak pollution season. This gap in

information affects both public awareness and the ability to evaluate policy response," Kumar added.

The two monitors in Gurgaon and Panchkula cover just a fraction of the state's urban and industrial landscape. "You can't extrapolate Delhi's air to Karnal or Hisar," said a senior officer who is part of the clean air programme.

"The pollution sources, local weather patterns, and emissions vary. A single reading from Gurgaon tells you nothing about what's happening in Yamunanagar or Panipat," he said. For that matter, a station in one part of a large city won't even capture the picture in another part of it.

A study of the air quality data by CREA found that Jan 19, 2025, was Gurgaon's "overshoot day". By then, PM 2.5 concentration was already so high that even if levels were to drastically reduce to zero for the rest of the year, the city would still fail to meet the acceptable limit specified by World Health Organisation (WHO). The analysis ranked Gurgaon as the fifth most polluted Indian city in the first half of 2025.

20-year-old who slipped into coma after BMW hit-&-run dies

Aditya.Bahl@timesofindia.com

Noida: Two days after a five-year-old girl died after a BMW car, allegedly driven by a student under the influence of alcohol, crashed into a scooter near the Sector 30 govt hospital, her 20-year-old uncle succumbed to his injuries.

According to police, Raza suffered fractures to his head, leg and hands. He had slipped into a coma during treatment.

He was being treated at a private hospital in Ghaziabad since Saturday midnight after the accident. He died late on Sunday.

On Sunday, his five-year-old niece Ayaat had died in a hit-and-run incident before she could be taken to a hospital.

Her father Gul Mohammad, also

injured in the accident, continues to remain under observation at a private hospital in Sector 20.

The accident was reported a little after Saturday midnight, near gate number 3 of Child PGI Hospital. The child had complained of an earache and was nauseous earlier in the evening and was taken to the hospital for a checkup by her father and uncle.

The three were returning home around 12.20 am.

Police said that Gul, a plumber, approached a U-turn near the hospital from the wrong side of the road.

Passersby, who alerted cops on the emergency helpline number, had claimed the impact of the collision was so severe that the scooter was dragged for about 100 metres.

Driver held for hit & run that injured NSG man, had dozed off

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi: A 30-year-old driver has been arrested by Delhi Police in a hit-and-run case for allegedly seriously injuring a National Security Guard (NSG) personnel after dozing off at the wheel. The accused was apprehended from his residence in Rajokri.

According to police, a PCR call was received at 6 am on July 9 reporting that a man had been hit by a vehicle on the service road of RTR Marg in RK Puram.

The victim, identified as Narendra Singh, a serving NSG personnel, was on a morning walk when the incident occurred. He was rushed to AlIMS Trauma Centre with serious injuries.

An FIR was registered under Sections 281 (rash driving or riding on a public way) and 125 (act endangering life or personal safety of others) of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sahita (BNS), and a team was formed to investigate.

DCP (south-west) Amit Goel said CCTV footage helped trace the vehicle to Hapur, UP. The vehicle's owner informed police that he had given the car to his driver, identified as Pawan Kumar Chauhan.

Chauhan, a resident of Rajokri village in Vasant Kunj, initially went off the grid. His mobile phone was last active near Noida, and CCTV cameras later tracked the vehicle to Sector 67, Noida, after

which it became untraceable. Through sustained surveillance, photo circulation among informers, and technical tracking, police received a tip-off on July 24 and located Chauhan at his Rajokri residence. He was arrested along with the vehicle involved in the incident.

According to a senior police officer, the accused was returning from Haridwar with

A PCR call was received at 6 am on July 9 reporting that a man had been hit by a vehicle on the service road of RTR Marg in RK Puram. The victim was on a morning walk

his family and allegedly fell asleep while driving due to exhaustion. After hitting the NSG jawan, he panicked and fled the scene, ignoring his family's pleas to stop. He dropped his children off at Rajokri and fled to Noida in an attempt to evade arrest.

Since 2023, about 1,500 people have lost their lives in hit-and-run cases across the capital, revealed Delhi Police data. While 666 people were killed in 2023, the toll stood at 644 in 2024 and 190 till April 30, 2025. The data also showed that on a daily average, two persons were killed in 1,481 fatal crashes.

Minerva Natya Sanskriti Charcha Kendra
A State Level Repository of Information & Cultural Affairs Department
Government of West Bengal organizes

With the initiative of
Mamata Banerjee | 8th NATIONAL THEATRE FESTIVAL IN KOLKATA
Hon'ble Chief Minister West Bengal

CALL FOR ENTRIES

The 8th National Theatre Festival will be held in Kolkata from 4 -12 January 2026
to showcase the outstanding theatre productions of India.

Applications are invited from interested theatre groups (maximum no. of persons 25) in the prescribed proforma (available along with other details on the website- <https://www.wbciad.in> & www.minervatheatre.in) for full length theatre productions (minimum 80 minutes without interval) with the following rules and regulations:

- A clear recording of the production in pen drive only with subtitles in English must be attached
- only one entry from a group or from a director will be accepted
- Solo production will not be considered
- play staged earlier in this festival will not be considered.
- Decision of the Minerva Natya Sanskriti Charcha Kendra will be final and binding for all.

Last Date for receipt of applications : 20 August 2025

Applications must be addressed to:
The Secretary, Minerva Natya Sanskriti Charcha Kendra, 6, Utpal Dutta Sarani, Kolkata - 700006.

IC-A-N344(6)/2025

Delhi Tourism & Transportation Development Corporation Ltd.
18-A, DDA, SCO Complex, Defence Colony,
New Delhi-110 024

Tender Notice

Sealed quotations are invited from Nationalized Banks/Scheduled Commercial Banks for providing Cash Pick up Services from the Liquor Vends maintained by DTTDC. Notice inviting Proposals for providing Cash Pick up Services, Terms and Conditions of the contract can be downloaded from the website of DTTDC (delhitourism.gov.in), Pre Bid Meeting is on 01/08/2025 at 12.00 Noon at above mentioned address. The last date for submission of quotation is 18/08/2025 at 4.00 PM.

Dy. Manager (Finance)
DTTDC

DELHI TRANSPORT INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION LIMITED (AN ENTERPRISE OF GOVT. OF NCT OF DELHI)
2nd Floor: Maharan Pratap ISBT, I.S.B.T. KASHMERE GATE, DELHI

Sub: Recruitment for the Various posts on deputation / contract basis in DTIDC

DTIDC is an enterprise of Govt. of NCT of Delhi, having its office at 2nd Floor, Maharan Pratap ISBT, Kashmere Gate, Delhi. The primary function of the company is to manage and upgrade all ISBTs, BQSs and to cater the infrastructural needs of Transport Department of Govt. of NCT of Delhi invites applications for the following post:-

1. Assistant General Manager (Works-Civil)/ Executive Engineer (Civil) (Selection Post on deputation/ Contract) - 1 Post
2. Manager (Works - Elect.)/ Assistant Engineer (Elect.) (Selection Post on deputation/ Contract) - 1 Post

The last date of receipt of applications is 12.08.2025 Further details regarding eligibility, qualification and experience can be seen on the website of DTIDC i.e., www.dtidc.co.in. Further, duly filled application forms will be accepted through offline mode only till 12.08.2025 upto 05.00 PM only.

Sr. Manager (Admn.)
DTIDC

Central Council for Research in Yoga & Naturopathy
(Ministry of Ayush, Government of India)
61-65, Institutional Area, Opposite-D Block, Janakpuri, New Delhi-110058
Ph: 28520429, 31/32 Fax: 28520435
Website: www.naturopathyday.in Email: crcyn.go@gmail.com

Admission Notice - 2025-26

Treatment Assistant Training Course (TATC)

Applications are invited for admissions into **Treatment Assistant Training Course (TATC)** of one year duration at Naturopathy Hospital, Rohini, Delhi. **Academic Qualification:** 10th pass. **Number of Seats:** 20, **Last date for submission of Application:** on or before 30/08/2025.

Applications may send to the In-charge, Naturopathy Hospital, Sector-19, Opp. Rohini Jail, Outer Ring Road, Delhi-110085 along-with a Demand Draft Rs.200/- (Rupees Two Hundred only) drawn from any Nationalized Bank in favour of **Director, CCRYN payable at New Delhi**. For more details please visit Council's website www.naturopathyday.in. Any addendum/ corrigendum shall be posted only on Council's website.

Note: A monthly stipend of Rs. 8,000/- will be paid to the trainee/student for a period of 12 months, subject to approval of Ministry of Ayush, New Delhi.

Director, CCRYN



GAIL (India) Limited
(A Govt. of India Undertaking)

Fueling a Sustainable VIKSIT BHARAT



Extract from the Unaudited Standalone and Consolidated Financial Results for the Quarter Ended 30th June 2025

(₹ in crore unless otherwise stated)

Sl. No.	Particulars	Standalone		Consolidated	
		Quarter Ended	Financial year Ended	Quarter Ended	Financial year Ended
30 th June 2025	30 th June 2024	31 st March 2025	31 st March 2024	30	

GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL
OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER,
BANKURA DIVISION, P.H.E. DTE.
RABINDRA SARANI (NEAR JAIL ROAD)
DISTRICT BANKURA, PIN-722101

TENDER NOTICE

On behalf of the Governor of West Bengal under the Corrigendum Notice is invited for the work:- Executive Engineer, Bankura Division, P.H.E. Dte. (Circulated Memo No. 1663/ P.H.E. dt./ 24.07.2025) & Corrigendum-II of N.I.E.T No:- 17 of the FY 2025-2026 of the EE/BDA, P.H.E. Dte. (Circulated Memo No. 1668/BDA dt./ 24.07.2025). Details information can be seen in Office Notice Board & website www.wbtenders.gov.in Sd/- Executive Engineer, Bankura Division, P.H.E. Dte. ICA- T15974(3)/2025

GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL
NOTICE INVITING e-TENDER
[N.I.T. NO. 704-CME/17-3/25-26]
(Abridged e-Tender)

e-Tender, in prescribed from in two parts viz. Technical & Financial Bids are invited for the works :- Technical Maintenance (Preventive & Breakdown Maintenance) of A.C. and Non-A.C. buses placed with different depots under C.S.T.C. Tender ID:- 704-CME/17-3/25-26. Published on 29/07/2025 at 09.00 A.M. Please visit website: www.wbtenders.gov.in Sd/- Managing Director, For WBTC. ICA- T15949(3)/2025

GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL
Abridged e-Tender Notice
NoJ. WBFR/DKGKp/-07_2nd Call/P / KTN / 2025-26
Divisional Forest Officer, Kharagpur Division invites e-Tender from eligible Agencies/Firms/Companies/s/ Concerned for the works of similar type of works for Creation of QGS SB/Misc. Plantation at Kalakunda Range Jurisdictions under Kharagpur Division. For further details, please contact the Office of the undersigned, Phone No-03222-277269. Also visit the website www.wbtenders.gov.in Sd/- Manish Kumar Yadav, WBFS Divisional Forest Officer, Kharagpur Division. ICA- T15934(3)/2025

GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL
The West Bengal Small Industries Development Corporation Ltd.
(A Govt. of West Bengal Undertaking)
"Shilpa Bhawan", 31, Black Burn Lane, Kolkata - 700012
Notice
WBISIDL invites e-tender bearing no. N.I.T 12 of 2025-26 & N.I.T 13 of 2025-26 for 2 (Two) nos. small Works in the district Kolkata and Birbhum. 1) Last date of submission of Tenders are 04/08/2025 up to 2:00 p.m. & 11/08/2025 up to 2:00 p.m. respectively. For details, log on to https://wbtenders.gov.in & https://www.wbisdidl.gov.in Sd/- Executive Engineer. ICA- T15964(3)/2025

GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL
ABRIDGED TENDER NOTICE
e-N.I.T. No-WBIM/SDO/CTP/CNT/-03e/2025-26
On behalf of the Governor of West Bengal, e-Tender is invited by the undersigned for 12 (Twelve) nos. of works under Kangsabati Canals Sub-Division No.-X, Kotulpur, Bankura, I&W Division. Online bid submission closing date:- 07/08/2025 till 11.00 Hours IST. Other details may be seen in the website www.wbtenders.gov.in and www.wbwd.gov.in Sd/- Sub-Divisional Officer Kangsabati Canals Sub-Division No.-X Kotulpur, Bankura. ICA- T15948(2)/2025

GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL
NOTICE INVITING e-TENDER
[N.L.T. No.-WBIM/SDO/CDP/CNT/-03e/2025-26]
(A bridged e-Tender) e-Tender, in prescribed from in two parts viz. Technical & Financial Bids are invited for the work :- 1. BLOCK REPAIR AND PAINTING OF VESSEL M.V. SAKAL(LCT) Tender ID.: 2025_WBSC_881396_1 and Tender Ref. No: WBSTC/ JMD/ MARINE/NIT-12/e/25-26. To be Published on 29/07/2025 at 09.00 A.M. Please visit website: www.wbtenders.gov.in Sd/- Executive Engineer, WB S.T.C. Managing Director, For WB S.T.C. ICA- T15947(3)/2025

GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL
The Executive Engineer, Salt Lake Reclamation Division invites one no. online percentage rate basis e-tenders vide Tender ID No. 2025_UDD_881574_1_WBUD & MA/EE/SLRD/NIT-05/e/2025-26 of EE/SLRD/ NIT-05/e/2025-26. Value of work is Rs.22,41,361.00. Start and last date of submission of bid online are 29/07/2025 and 12/08/2025 up to 13:00 Hrs. respectively. All documents can be seen/obtained from the website https://wbtenders.gov.in Detailed information can also be seen in the website www.wburbansevices.gov.in and office Notice Board. ICA- T15934(3)/2025

GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL
OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT ESI HOSPITAL, DURGAPUR BIDHANNAGAR, DURGAPUR-132026 e-TENDER NOTICE

Medical Superintendent, Durgapur ESI Hospital invites e-tenders for (I) Supply of Medical & Surgical Disposables, (II) Supply of Stationary and Contingency Items, and (III) Canteen Service. The NIT documents and other details are available in the website: https://wbtenders.gov.in Sd/- SUPERINTENDENT, ESI HOSPITAL, DURGAPUR. ICA- T15933(3)/2025

GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL
Abridged Tender Notice
Tender No. 01/BTR/PTP/2025-26 (2nd Call)
The undersigned invites e-Tender for Hiring of 4 nos of 4 wheeler Maxi cab for patrolling and depreciation duty for 335 Days (May 2025-March 2026) (2nd Call) under Buxa Tiger Reserve (West) Division: Details also can be seen at the website: www.wbtenders.gov.in & www.westbengalforest.gov.in Last date of Bid submission : 05/08/2025 Up to 03:00 p.m. Sd/- Deputy Field Director, Buxa Tiger Reserve (West). ICA- T15938(2)/2025

GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL
NOTICE INVITING e-TENDER
Name of the work:- "Construction of 800m Black Top Road from House of Bhabatosh Bhadra to Paschim Chakdoba Primary School at Dharapura under Nadia Zilla RMC". Tender ID:- 2025_WBSMB-879127_1, Tender Amount- ₹15,75,289.00, Vide N.I.T. No:- WBSMB/ET/CE/06 (2nd Call)/04/2025-26, Dated - 14.07.2025, The last date for submission of Tender is on - 20.08.2025 up to 12.00 PM. The detailed information regarding e-NIT will be available on https://wbtenders.gov.in Sd/- Secretary, Nadia Zilla Regulated Market Committee ICA- T15958(3)/2025

GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL
NOTICE INVITING TENDER
Bid ref No.: WBMSCL/NI-37/2025, Date: 22/07/2025
West Bengal Medicines Services Corporation Ltd. is inviting online bids for "Repairing, Modification, Testing and Commissioning of the existing entire Fire Protection and Fire Detection System, Supply and delivery of fire hose pipe and hose, real at Jamipuri super speciality hospital, Murshidabad." Last date of submission of bid (online)- 18/08/2025, 12:00 PM. The tender document can be downloaded from www.wbtenders.gov.in or after 29/07/2025, 11:00 A.M. Clarification requests, if any may be sent to eewbmscl.krishna@gmail.com or contact Mr. Krishnajit Banerjee, Executive Engineer (Civil), WEST BENGAL MEDICAL CLINIC SERVICES CORPORATION LIMITED, Swasthya Sathi, GN-29, Sector-V, Salt Lake, Kolkata-700091, Land no: 033-40340359, Sd/- Managing Director, WBMSCL & Sr. Special Secretary, H&FWD, Govt. of West Bengal. ICA- T15944(3)/2025

GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL
e-Tender Notice
The Director, IPGM&R, Kolkata, having its office at 244, A.J.C. Bose Road, Kolkata-700020 is inviting e-tender for procuring of various items for Central Library for various sections of IPGM&R-SSKM Hospital (2nd call) from the bonafide bidders. Tender ID:- 2025_HFW_88153_1. For details log on to www.wbtenders.gov.in Sd/- Director, IPGM&R, Kol - 20 ICA- T15953(3)/2025

GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL
PWD TENDER NOTICE
Online bids are invited for the work under Tender ID : 2025_WBPWD_883494_1. Bid Submission end Date: 06.08.2025 (upto 15:00 Hrs.). For details please follow the website: www.wbtenders.gov.in Sd/- PWD, Malda Electrical Division ICA- T15989(2)/2025

West Bengal Tourism Development Corporation Limited (A Govt. of West Bengal Undertaking)

NOTICE INVITING e-Tender
NIT No. 40/WBTDCL OF 2025-26 (Technical)
Tender ID: 2025_WBTDCL_092723_1 WBTDCL invites e-Tender for the work: "Infrastructure development work at Sitala Mata Mandir at Banbarhat" from the reputed, bonafide and experienced agencies in similar works. Start date & time of documents download: 24.07.2025 15:30-18:30 Hrs. Last date & time of Bid Submission: 12.08.2025 - 16:00 Hrs. - Details are available in website : - www.wbtdcl.gov.in/wbtourism.gov.in/wbtenders.gov.in Sd/- Superintending Engineer, West Bengal Tourism Development Corporation Limited ICA- T15989(3)/2025

GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL
ABRIDGED NOTICE INVITING e-TENDER
WB/EU-EE/CDP/-NIT-11/e/2025-26
Executive Engineer-II, Canals Division, Sector-II, Kolkata-700106, invites online tender for 4 (Four) nos. urgent repairing and maintenance of damaged wooden bridge within Block - Kulpai, Mandir Bazar for amount put tender ranging from Rs.4.51 Lakh to Rs.12.44 Lakh. Tender forms and other details may be obtained from the departmental website www.wb-nic.in [direct site]. Last date of submission of bid (online)-18/08/2025, 12:00 PM. The tender document can be downloaded from www.wbmcl.gov.in and https://etender.wb-nic.in [direct site]. Last date of submission of e-bid online is 12.08.25 till 14:00 Hrs. (for SI No. 1) & 05.08.25 till 14:00 Hrs. (for SI No. 2 to 4) Sd/- Executive Engineer - II, Canals Division, I & W Directorate ICA- T15941(3)/2025

GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL
PWD TENDER NOTICE
Executive Engineer-I, Burdwan Division, PW.D. Directorate invites online e-Tender for 4 (Four) Nos. worldwide I.N.I.T. No: 11 of 2025 - 2026 . Tender ID : 2 0 2 5 - P W D - 8 8 3 3 6 9 - 1 2 0 2 5 - P W D - 8 8 3 3 6 9 - 2 2 0 2 5 - P W D - 8 8 3 3 6 9 - 3 2025_PWD_883369_4. Bid Submission Start Date [Online] : 29.07.2025 from 2:00 P.M. Bid Submission Closing Date [Online] : 06.08.2025 upto 2:00 P.M. Corrigendum if any will be published in website only. Details of N.I.E.T and Tender Documents may be downloaded from : https://wbtenders.gov.in Sd/- Executive Engineer-I, Burdwan Division, PW.Dte. ICA- T15979(2)/2025

GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL
e-NIT INVITING TENDER
e-NIT No. WBMSCL/NI-635/2025, Dated-22/07/2025
West Bengal Medical Services Corporation Ltd. is inviting online bids for "Terrier Floor Water Proofing at Barjara, SSH, Bankura". Last date of submission of bid (online)-18/08/2025, 12:00 PM. The tender document can be downloaded from www.wbmcl.gov.in and www.wbtenders.gov.in on or after 29/07/2025, 11:00 A.M. Clarification requests, if any may be sent to sewbmcl.krishna@gmail.com or contact with Sri Krishnajit Banerjee, Executive Engineer (Civil), WEST BENGAL MEDICAL SERVICES CORPORATION LIMITED, Swasthya Sathi, GN-29, Sector-V, Salt Lake, Kolkata-700091, Land no: 033-40340359, Sd/- Managing Director, WBMSCL & Sr. Special Secretary, H&FWD, Govt. of West Bengal. ICA- T15983(3)/2025

GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL
PWD e-TENDER NOTICE
Executive Engineer, PWD, Kolkata South Division invites e-Quotation for the work of (i) Up-keeping, day to day sweeping & cleaning of entire campus at premises 76, Dr. Deodar Rahaman Road, office of the EE South 24 Parganas Division, PWD, EKK, Kolkata South Division PWD & SE Southern Circle PWD" (ii) Engagement of Security Personnel at Kolkata South Sub-Division PWD, Tollygunge Sub-Division PWD and Rabindra Sub-Division PWD and Rob Building, Lake Garden and Kolkata South Division PWD. e-NIT No: EE/KSD/PWD/EE/NIQ/2025-26 (iii) Engagement of Security Personnel at Kolkata South Sub-Division PWD, Tollygunge Sub-Division PWD and Rob Building, Lake Garden and Kolkata South Division PWD. e-NIT No: EE/KSD/PWD/EE/NIQ/2025-26 (iv) Technical & financial bid proposal submission start date (Online) 30.07.2025 from 5:00 PM. For SI (i) Technical & financial bid proposal submission end date (Online): 08.08.2025 up to 1:00 PM. For SI (ii) Technical & financial bid proposal submission end date (Online): 14.08.2025 up to 1:00 PM. Details of e-NIQ and other documents may be downloaded from http://wbtenders.gov.in Sd/- Executive Engineer, PWD, Kolkata South Division. ICA- T15983(3)/2025

The West Bengal Power Development Corporation Limited
(A Govt. of West Bengal Enterprise)
Corporate Identity No. U41014WB1985SGC039154
Bakreswar Thermal Power Project
P.O. BKTPP, Dist.-Birbhum, Pin-731 104

Notice Inviting E-Tender
Ref No. WBPDCL/Tend-Adv/25-BKTPP/CC-3968. Dtd: 23/07/25
NIT No.: WBPDCL/BKTPP/NI/3812/25-26
E-Tenders in prescribed format are invited at https://wbtenders.gov.in by GENERAL MANAGER-BKTPP, WBPDCL from eligible Agencies / Companies in 2 Part bid system for "AMC FOR ISOKINETIC COAL SAMPLE COLLECTION FOR SIEVE ANALYSIS AND ASYLUMINUM TESTS" under the project titled "DETAILED DESIGN & CONSTRUCTION DEPTT. BKTP, FOR 2 YEARS". Tender Document Download Start Date: 19.08.2025 05:00 PM. Contact Person: Mr. Indranil Chakraborty, DGM-Engg.-CC/BKTPP/WBPDCL. Contact No.: 8370556084. E-mail: cc_bktp@wbpdccl.gov.in For details please visit: https://wbtenders.gov.in ICA- T15967(3)/2025

M.P. PASCHIM KSHETRA VIDYUT VITARAN COMPANY LIMITED
Office of The Chief Engineer (UR), Jyoti Nagar, Ujjain
Phone No. : 0734-2530157, FAX No. : 0734-2530149
E-mail : cempseb06purn@gmail.com
Ujjain, Date : 28.07.2025
E-NOTICE INVITING TENDER
Online tenders are invited for supply of following items as per tender Specification :
CE/PUR/25-26/T S No. Name of Items (Supply of) Quantity & Unit Tender Opening Date (Online)
TS-05 30 V 100 AH lead acid Battery Set in SAN container 126 Set 19.08.2025
TS-06 30 V-15 Amp. Battery Charger suitable for 30V 100 AH lead acid battery 175 Nos. 19.08.2025
TS-07 30V Lithium Ion Battery set 85 Nos. 20.08.2025
TS-08 GI PIPE 40 MM Light grade 46040 + 18594= 64634 Mtr. 20.08.2025
TS-09 Aluminum Lugs 70, 150 & 300 Sq mm 50000 Nos. 21.08.2025
TS-10 DO Fuse Element assorted ratings 670000 Nos. 21.08.2025
TS-11 PF Unit (Kilat) 200 Amp. & 300 Amp. 6000 Nos. 22.08.2025
TS-12 HRC Fuse Base 300 Amp. 3000 Nos. 22.08.2025
TS-13 Robust Fuse Unit 150 Amp. 22261 Nos. 25.08.2025
TS-14 JT Clamp for bus bar for dog to dog connection, Terminal Clamp for busbar for Panther Conductor 5019 Nos. 25.08.2025
TS-15 LED Light 90 Watt. With Fixtures for Substations 1578 Nos. 25.08.2025
TS-16 DC Distribution Board 180 Nos. 26.08.2025
TS-17 AC Distribution Board with MCB 36 Nos. 27.08.2025
TS-18 Bi-metallic clamps suitable for LV 1728-8264= 9992 Nos. 27.08.2025
TS-19 Bi-metallic clamps for VCB 3744 Nos. 28.08.2025
TS-20 Bi-metallic clamps for Transformer 1939 Nos. 28.08.2025
TS-21 HT Bi-Metallic Clamp for DTR 6198 Nos. 29.08.2025
For further information visit Website http://www.mppwz.co.in, http://www.mptenders.gov.in // SAVE ELECTRICITY // CHIEF ENGINEER (UR) ICA- T15967(3)/2025

GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL
PWD TENDER NOTICE
Executive Engineer, Bardhaman, PWD, Siliguri, on behalf of the Governor of West Bengal invites e-Tender for one no. work, details of which may be had from the office of the undersigned on working days during the office hours or on website: https://wbtenders.gov.in or at www.pwd-wb.in NIT Ref No: WB/PWD/EE/NBDCD/NI/13/2025-2026 Sd/- Executive Engineer, PWD, Siliguri, Bid submission End Date for the work:- 06.08.2025 upto 05:00 PM. Eligibility: Bonafide and Resourceful Contractors. Note:- Any subsequent corrigendum if necessary will be published on website only. Sd/- Executive Engineer (PWD), North Bengal Construction Division, Siliguri ICA- T15964(4)/2025

GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL
PWD TENDER NOTICE
Executive Engineer, PWD, Siliguri, on behalf of the Governor of West Bengal invites e-Tender for the work of:- Excise Office at Memari, Purba Bardhaman through PWD. e-NIT / No. WBPWD/EB/NIQ/2025-26 (2nd Call) under Buxa Tiger Reserve (West) Division: Details also can be seen at the website: www.wbtenders.gov.in & www.westbengalforest.gov.in Last date of Bid submission : 05/08/2025 Up to 03:00 p.m. Sd/- Deputy Field Director, Buxa Tiger Reserve (West). ICA- T15987(3)/2025

GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL
NOTICE INVITING e-TENDER
Name of the work:- "Construction of 800m Black Top Road from House of Bhabatosh Bhadra to Paschim Chakdoba Primary School at Dharapura under Nadia Zilla RMC". Tender ID:- 2025_WBSMB-879127_1, Tender Amount- ₹15,75,289.00, Vide N.I.T. No:- WBSMB/ET/CE/06 (2nd Call)/04/2025-26, Dated - 14.07.2025, The last date for submission of Tender is on - 20.08.2025 up to 12.00 PM. The detailed information regarding e-NIT will be available on https://wbtenders.gov.in Sd/- Secretary, Nadia Zilla Regulated Market Committee ICA- T15958(3)/2025

GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL
NOTICE INVITING TENDER
Bid ref No.: WBMSCL/NI-37/2025, Date: 22/07/2025
West Bengal Medicines Services Corporation Ltd. is inviting online bids for "Repairing, Modification, Testing and Commissioning of the existing entire Fire Protection and Fire Detection System, Supply and delivery of fire hose pipe and hose, real at Jamipuri super speciality hospital, Murshidabad." Last date of submission of bid (online)- 18/08/2025, 12:00 PM. The tender document can be downloaded from www.wbtenders.gov.in or after 29/07/2025, 11:00 A.M. Clarification requests, if any may be sent to eewbmscl.krishna@gmail.com or contact Mr. Krishnajit Banerjee, Executive Engineer (Civil), WEST BENGAL MEDICAL CLINIC SERVICES CORPORATION LIMITED, Swasthya Sathi, GN-29, Sector-V, Salt Lake, Kolkata-700091, Land no: 033-40340359, Sd/- Managing Director, WBMSCL & Sr. Special Secretary, H&FWD, Govt. of West Bengal. ICA- T15944(3)/2025

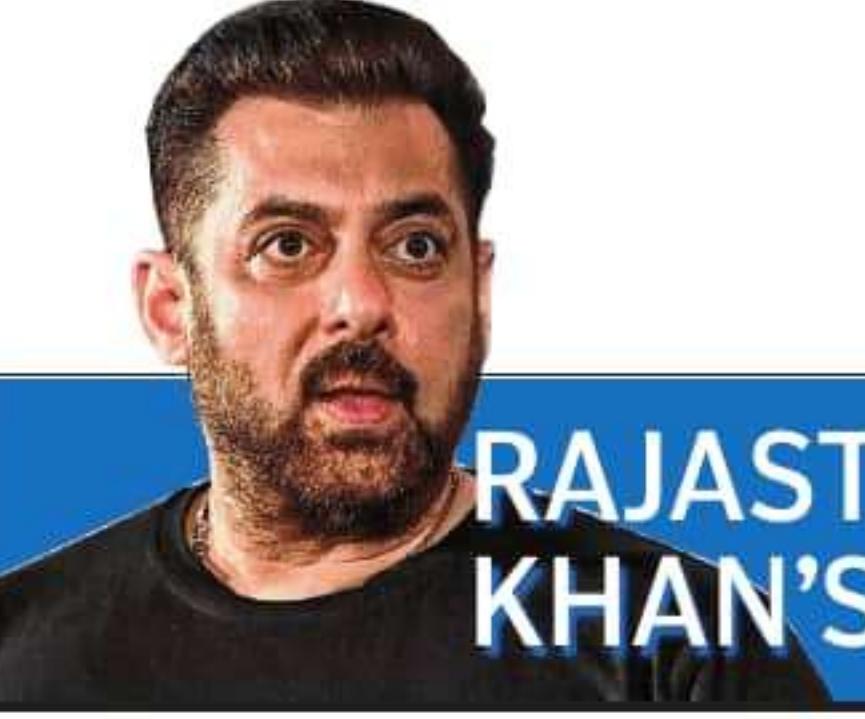
Advisory on mandatory CCTV unfair, say chemists

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi: Calling the recent "advisory" by Delhi govt mandating CCTV installation in all pharmacies by the end of July "arbitrary", chemists in the city have claimed that it unfairly targets small retailers.

Retail Distribution Chemists Alliance Delhi president Sandeep Nangia pointed out Monday that there was no legal framework to regulate online pharmacies in India, with thousands of them operating with impunity, selling medicines without prescriptions, licences or checks. "Yet the crack-down appears to be only on small chemists," he alleged.

"Rules should be applied equally. We are not against CCTV surveillance, but many small chemists earn just Rs 5,000



RAJASTHAN HC FIXES SEPT 22 TO HEAR SALMAN KHAN'S APPEAL IN BLACKBUCK POACHING CASE

ON PDP's 26TH FOUNDATION DAY, MUFTI SAYS PM CAN 'REWRITE J&K'S HISTORY' BY RESOLVING KASHMIR ISSUE



'Homegrown' ultras may be involved, says PC, sparks row

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi: A major political row erupted over Congress leader P Chidambaram's remarks that those behind the Pahalgam massacre could be "homegrown terrorists" and that it was wrong to assume that they were from Pakistan.



dering if the he was asking for proof about Pakistan's hand in the Pahalgam terror attack in J&K.

In the interview, Chidambaram had said, "...for all we know they could be homegrown terrorists, why do we assume they came from Pakistan."

Senior BJP functionaries hit out at the former home minister over his statements in a video interview, which was endorsed by a few others in Congress, with Union agriculture minister Shrikrishna Singh Chouhan accusing Congress and Chidambaram of "speaking the same language" as used by Pakistan.

Chidambaram, however, said his remarks had been taken out of context.

"Why is P Chidambaram saying this?" Chouhan asked. "The language in which Pakistan is speaking, the same language is being used by Chidambaram and Congress...The mask has been removed from the opposition's face," he said, won-

Rajnath: Sindoar achieved objective, was then 'paused'

How Is It A Success When You Say Pak Could Do It Again: Gogoi

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi: Defence minister Rajnath Singh on Monday said in the Lok Sabha that the overall "politico-military" objective of Operation Sindoar was to punish Pakistan, which is fighting a proxy war through terrorism, and the operation was just "paused" when armed forces achieved the desired objective.

The opposition, however, sought to corner him for abruptly ending the operation claiming it was done under US pressure and criticised govt for not sharing details of Indian jets that were downed during the conflict.

"The objective of Operation Sindoar was not to cross the border or capture territory, it was to eliminate terror nurseries which Pakistan had nurtured for years, and provide justice to the innocent families who lost their loved ones in cross-border attacks..."

RAJNATH SINGH
The objective of Operation Sindoar was not to cross the border or capture territory, it was to eliminate terror nurseries which Pakistan had nurtured for years, and provide justice to the innocent families who lost their loved ones in cross-border attacks...

Our objective was never to wage war but to compel the adversary to bow down through demonstrative use of force

Gaurav Gogoi
They themselves are saying our intention was not war, why was it not so? They say it was not to take territory, why was it not so? When will we take back Pakistan-occupied Kashmir, if not today, then when? The most horrendous terror attacks have happened under your govt... Why did India stop the war and under whose pressure?

Killing of terrorist who led Pahalgam strike blunts oppn's attack in House

It was just a coincidence but it definitely blunted what seemed set to be one of opposition's lines of attack during the debate on Operation Sindoar. During the build up to the debate, opposition had looked prepared to corner govt for failing to nab the terrorists who massacred 26 civilians in J&K's Pahalgam.

The killing of three alleged terrorists, including Suleiman, who is believed to have led the Pahalgam attack, in an encounter near Srinagar on Monday took the sting out of opposition's attack in the House. SP's Ramashankar Rajbhar, who had come prepared to question the govt on its "failure", did not drop the issue.

"Why have the terrorists responsible for this attack not been arrested yet?" he asked. He referred to Rajnath Singh's statement about 100 terrorists having been killed in J&K and asked whether the number included those responsible for Pahalgam.

The joy over the killing of Suleiman was articulated by BJP's Baijyant Panda. "As we are debating this issue, some of us must have seen in the news that Operation Mahadev is being conducted in J&K, targeted at terrorists and it appears that at least one of those eliminated today was involved in the Pahalgam attack."

operation was accepted with the caveat that it was only paused, and if there was any future misadventure on the part of Pakistan, it would lead to its resumption.

Speaking about the scale and extent of the operation, Singh said, "There were a number of options on the table, but we chose the option in which terrorists and their hideouts suffered maximum

damage and common citizens of Pakistan did not suffer any harm. According to an estimate, over 100 terrorists, their trainers, handlers and associates were killed in well-coordinated strikes by our forces at nine terror infrastructure targets in Pakistan and POK with precision."

"Our objective was never to wage war but to compel the adversary to bow down

through demonstrative use of force," Singh said, asserting that no soldier suffered any casualty.

Launching a blistering attack on govt, Congress' deputy leader in the House Gaurav Gogoi asked why India stopped the war and under whose pressure. Gogoi said home minister Amit Shah must take responsibility for the security lapses that led to the Pahalgam attack and asked govt to clarify how many Indian jets were downed during Operation Sindoar.

Referring to Singh's speech, Gogoi said the defence minister gave a lot of information but did not say how terrorists came to Pahalgam. "The country wants to know... 100 days have passed, but this govt has not brought terrorists to justice," he said.

"Who will take responsibility, the (J&K) LG? It is the home minister who must take responsibility. You cannot hide behind the LG. This govt is such a coward and is so weak that it even blamed our operators for the Pahalgam attack," Gogoi said.

He said the Prime Minister had been stating post-Uri and after the Pulwama attack that "humne ghar mein ghush ke mara" and "we destroyed terror infrastructure", and the PM is making the same remarks now.

"They are still saying that Operation Sindoar is incomplete and Pakistan can do this again, then how is this a success? They themselves are saying our intention was not war, why was it not so? They say it was not to take territory, why was it not so? When will we take back Pakistan-occupied Kashmir, if not today, then when? The most horrendous terror attacks have happened under your govt," Gogoi said.

At no stage of talks with US was trade tied to Sindoar: EAM

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Cong trusts US, but not EAM, says Shah

Home minister Amit Shah on Monday slammed Congress for not trusting Jaishankar's statement and instead believing President Trump, and said that was why it was sitting in the opposition and would remain there for 20 more years. Intervening in Lok Sabha as Opposition members interrupted

Jaishankar, Shah said, "I know the importance of foreign (opinion) in their party, but it does not mean that they should impose this view on Parliament." TN

Pahalgam attack resonated throughout the international community, adding that while there are 193 members of the United Nations, only three, apart from Pakistan, opposed India's strikes on terror camps in Pakistan.

Jaishankar also attacked Congress for agreeing with Pakistan that terrorism is a threat to both countries and accepting a reference to Balochistan in the Sharm El Sheikh joint statement, six months after the Mumbai attacks. The minister also defended his recent visit to China saying he went there to discuss de-escalation, trade restrictions and terrorism. "In 2004, China was designated as a Strategic Partner during Premier Wen Jiabao's visit to India. Strategic Partner! And there is a very famous concept called Chinadia. A belief that China and India have common interest," he said, while attacking Congress functionary Rahul Gandhi for getting a briefing from the Chinese ambassador while the Doklam crisis was still on.

**TIMES
wishlist**

TELL US YOUR WISHLIST.

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For a lot of people, the festive season means lots of shopping and a long wishlist. For us and our partners, it's helping people get what they want and shortening their wishlist, by getting them exciting offers on what they wish for. So, share your wishlist with us and stand a chance to not only fulfil it but also win exclusive gift vouchers.

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STAND A CHANCE TO WIN EXCLUSIVE GIFT VOUCHERS.

#SAVINGOURSTRIPES

STILL ROARING

BECAUSE WE CARE

This International Tiger Day, we renew a promise to care, to coexist, to conserve. From the forests of the Sundarbans to the hills of Wayanad, the tiger's echo reminds us of a fragile balance we must protect. The Tiger Anthem echoes once more. Join the chorus for coexistence.

TOI

Scan for the Tiger Anthem.

THE TIMES OF INDIA

THE ECONOMIC TIMES

Bombay Times

Mumbai Mirror

NBT

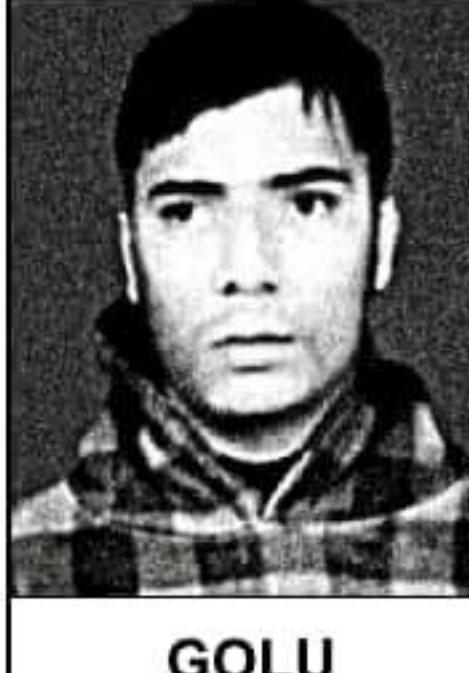
मुम्बई टाइम्स

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CHANGE Begins Here

THE TIMES OF INDIA

SEARCH FOR MISSING/KIDNAPPED



General public is hereby informed that this Male Person (depicted in the photo) namely **Golu S/o Azad R/o F-884, Mangolpuri, Delhi** has been missing from his home since **15.07.2025 at approx. 8.00 pm.** In this regard a DD No. **80A Dated 25.07.2025** has been registered at PS **Mangolpuri, Delhi.** Sincere efforts have been made by local police to trace out this male person but no clue has come to light so far.

His physical description is as under:-

Sex: Male, **Age:** 28 years, **Height:** 5' 5" ft., **Complexion:** Shallow, **Face:** Oval, **Built:** Thin, **Wearing:** Blue Colour Lining T-Shirt & Black Pant and Chappal in his feet.

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

SHO Website: <http://cbi.nic.in> **PS:** **Mangolpuri, Delhi** **Ph.:** 011-27922168 **E-mail:** cic@cbi.gov.in **Tel. No.:** 011-24368638/24368641 **Mobile:** 7065036122 **DP/9977/OD/2025 Fax No.:** 011-24368639

SEARCH FOR MISSING



General Public is hereby informed that one male Namely: **Deepak Pathak S/o: Bijender Pathak R/o: H. No. A-30 Rajan Vihar, Hauz Khas, New Delhi**

Sex: Male, Age: 25 Years, Height: 5'8", Complexion: Wheatish, Face: Round Built: Medium, Wearing: Black Colour T-Shirt, Blue Colour Jeans, Black Colour Scarf & Black Colour Shoes in feet,

has been missing since 22.07.2025 from H. No. A-30 Rajan Vihar, Hauz Khas, New Delhi from the Jurisdiction of Police Station Uttam Nagar, Dwarka New Delhi.

In this regard DD No. **0079A Date: 23.07.2025** has been registered at P.S.: **Uttam Nagar, Dwarka New Delhi** Sincere efforts have been made by local police to trace out the missing male but no clue has come to light so far. If anyone have any information about this missing male. Please inform to the following.

Website : <http://cbi.nic.in> **SHO E-Mail ID:** cic@cbi.gov.in **P.S.:** **Uttam Nagar, Dwarka New Delhi** **Mobile:** 9205634763, 8750871026 **DP/9900/DW/2025**

APPEAL FOR IDENTIFICATION



General public is hereby informed that one person (depicted in the photo) name **unknown**, residence and family is **unknown** age about **40 years** was found bare body at **Outside Gate No. 3, Dr. RML Hospital, New Delhi** on **07.07.2025**, is declared dead during treatment on **21.07.2025**. In this regard a DD No. **38A, Dated 21.07.2025** has been lodged at **PS North Avenue, Delhi.**

His physical description is as under:-

Sex: Male, Age: about 40 years, Height: 5' 6" ft., Complexion: Wheatish, Built: Slim, Face: Round.

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

SHO PS: North Avenue, Delhi Ph.: 011-23093040, 23093294 Mobile: 9873432659 DP/9797/NDD/2025

SEARCH FOR MISSING



General public is hereby informed that one female (depicted in the photo) Name: **Poonam, W/o: Vinod, R/o: H.No. B-77, Vijay Vihar Phase-I, Delhi** has been Missing from her house since **14.07.2025 at 6.00 P.M.** In this regard a missing report vide DD No. **107A dated 16.07.2025** has been lodged at P.S. **Vijay Vihar, Delhi-110086.**

Her Physical description is as under:-

Sex: Female, Age: 25 Years, Height: 5', Complexion: Wheatish, Built: Medium, Face: Round, Wearing: Purple Color Saree and Black Slippers in feet.

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

Phone No.: 011-24368638, 011-24368641 | Fax no.: : 011-24368639 | Email id: cic@cbi.nic.in | Website : <http://cbi.nic.in> SHO P.S - Vijay Vihar, Delhi DP/9728/RD/2025 Phone.: 011-27521294, 011-27521295

दक्षिणांचल विद्युत वितरण निगम लि०

अधीक्षण अभियन्ता, विद्युत वितरण मण्डल,
कानपुर नगर।

पत्रांक:-1919 / विभिन्नोंका/ दिनांक: 26.07.2025

ई-निविदा सूचना

निविदा सं० एवं कार्य का संक्षिप्त विवरण

1. **45/EDCK/2025-26** :- विद्युत वितरण खण्ड-चौबेपुर के अन्तर्गत पूर्ण जग्या योजना मर्द में मस्ताना-विद्युत आग अलिंगों 0 मर्द के किमी-०-२ (५००) से (६००) के चौड़ीकरण में बाधा ३३ कोंपों पर ११ कोंपों लाइनों को अन्यत्र शिप्ट करने का कार्य। (सेमी टर्नकी आधार पर।)

प्रपत्र शुल्क-३ ३,५४ धरोहर राशि-२ ४५,८६०

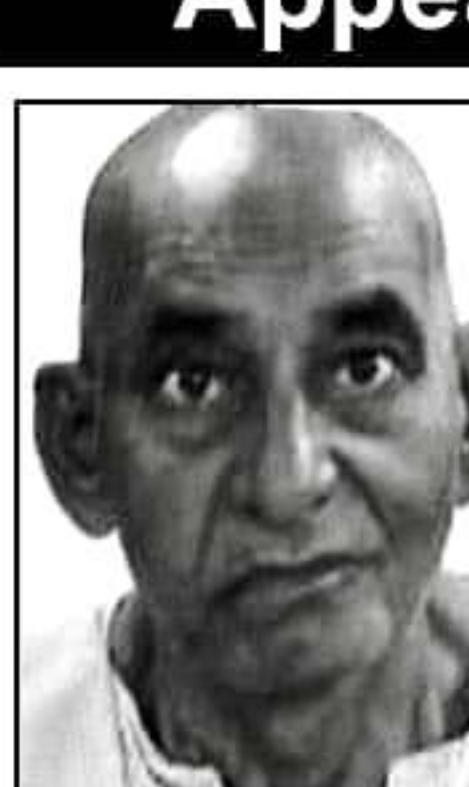
2. **46/EDCK/2025-26** :- विद्युत वितरण खण्ड-चौबेपुर के अन्तर्गत ३३/११ कोंपों विद्युत उत्केन्द्र-मस्ताना, दिक्करा, एसाई चौबेपुर से निम्न ११ कोंपों चूस्तीली, रेक्षेपुर, भागार पोखर को एन०-१०८-११ से मस्ताना दिक्करा हेतुरू दूल-मूल मार्द चौड़ीकरण के कार्य में बाधा ११ कोंपों पर ४८ एल०टी० विद्युत लाइनों को अन्यत्र शिप्ट करने का कार्य। (सेमी टर्नकी आधार पर।)

प्रपत्र शुल्क-३ ३,५० धरोहर राशि-२ ३९,९६०

ई-निविदा की अन्तिम तिथि : 11.08.2025, 01:00 बजे।

विस्तृत जानकारी एवं प्रपत्र वेबसाइट <https://etender.up.nic.in> पर उपलब्ध है। अंग्रेजी समस्त सूचनाएं वेबसाइट पर ही प्रदर्शित की जायेगी।

Appeal for Identification



General Public is hereby informed that a male dead body Name: **Unknown, S/o Unknown, R/o: Apna Ghar Ashram Pooth Khurd Delhi, Age: about 60 Yrs, Height: 5'4", Complexion: Shallow, Wearing: Sky Blue Lining Shirt and Sky Blue Pajama** He was Admitted in MV Hospital Pooth Khurd Delhi Vide MLC No.5122/25 where Doctor declared him Brought dead. In this regard, DD No. **80A Dated 25.07.2025** has been lodged at PS Bawana, Delhi.

Sincere efforts have been made by local police to trace out information about this male but no clue has come to light about the relatives of deceased so far. Any person having any information or clue about the relatives of deceased may kindly inform to the following.

SHO P.S., Bawana, Delhi Ph.: 011-27751949, 27756090 8448299619, 9540176468 DP/9996/ON/2025

आगेर विकास एवं प्रबन्धन प्राप्तिकरण
पुस्तक विकास नगर, बलाका के पास, लखनऊ, उत्तर प्रदेश - 0141-600032
ई-निविदा:- adma.jalpur@gmail.com
क्रमांक :- कार्यालय/उपकारा/वार्षा/2025-26/916
दिनांक :- 24/07/2025
वित्त मंत्रालय, भारत सरकार SASCI योजना में विद्युत कार्यों हेतु राज्य सरकारी/ राज्य सरकार/ नियमों में और सरकारी कार्यालयों में स्वामय विद्युत श्रेणी में पंजीकरण संसद्यों से द्विमात्रीय खुली विद्युत-प्रक्रिया के माध्यम से अंगूलाइन वेबसाइट http://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in पर आमंत्रित की जाती है जिसना विद्युत विवरण वेबसाइट http://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in पर उपलब्ध है।
NIB Code: ADA2526A009
विद्युत योगी एन. नंबर :- ADA2526WSOB00033
कार्यालय निविदाक

NIZAM'S INSTITUTE OF MEDICAL SCIENCES
(A University Established under State Act)
040-23489000/9244 040-23396552 Fax: 040-2310076 Panjagutta, Hyderabad - 500082, Telangana www.nims.edu.in
Recruitment Notice
Rc.No. HR1/2894/2025 Dt. 26.07.2025
Nizam's Institute of Medical Sciences (NIMS), Hyderabad invites applications for the post of Associate Professor in the Dept. of Plastic & Reconstructive Surgery. Candidates are requested to see the details of eligibility and application form at www.nims.edu.in For further information, Plz contact Ph. No. 040-23489353
Sd/-
DIPR R.O. No: 417-PP/CL/AGENCY/ADVT/1/2025-26 Date: 26-07-2025 Executive Registrar

The Andhra Pradesh Mineral Development Corporation Limited
Door No.294/1D, 100 Feet Road, (Tadigadapa to Enikapadu Road), Kanuru, Vijayawada-521137, Andhra Pradesh, India
Tel: +91-866-2429999, Fax: +91 866-2429977, Email: contracts-ho@apmdc.in
SHORT TENDER NOTICE
Tender No.: APMDC/HOP&Supply of Manpower at Sulyari Coal Mine Project/2025-II Date: 29-07-2025 APMDC invites Short Term e-Tender from reputed Agencies for "Selection of Agency for Supply of Manpower on Outsource basis at Sulyari Coal Mine Project, Singrauli District, Madhya Pradesh". For more information on the eligibility criteria, tender fees, timelines and other details, please visit e-procurement website of GoAP www.apmdc.ap.gov.in or APMDC website (www.apmdc.ap.gov.in). The Tender document is available for downloading from 29.07.2025 and the last date for bid submission is 08.08.2025 by 17:00 hrs.
Place: Vijaywada Date: 29.07.2025
Sd/- Managing Director The A. P. Mineral Development Corporation Limited
DIPR No.4297PP/CL/ADVT/1/1/2021-22 Dt.28/07/2025

उत्तर प्रदेश विद्युत वितरण निगमन लिमिटेड अधीक्षण अभियन्ता विद्युत पारेषण मण्डल-प्रथम, मुरादाबाद ई-निविदा सूचना: 11 ई०टी०सी०एम०/२०२५-२०२६, दिनांक-२८.०७.२०२५
कार्य का नाम: विद्युत पारेषण खण्ड-द्वितीय मुरादाबाद के अन्तर्गत रेल उपरिकालीन सेतु निर्माण हेतु १३२ कोंपी १०२०० मुरादाबाद-गुलाबाड़ी लाइन/१३२ कोंपी १०२०० मुरादाबाद-रामपुर सर्किंट-॥ लाईनों के टावर शिपिंग/डॉर्चर्स बदलने से सम्बन्धित कार्य।
ई-निविदा प्रपत्र शुल्क: रु. 590/- धरोहर राशि रु. 29500.00 हजार।
ई-निविदा की अन्तिम तिथि: 14.08.2025 : 15.00 बजे।
विस्तृत जानकारी एवं प्रपत्र वेबसाइट http://tender.up.nic.in पर उपलब्ध है। अंग्रेजी समस्त सूचनाएं वेबसाइट पर ही प्रदर्शित की जायेगी।
"राष्ट्रहित में विजली बचायें" RO-941/28.07.2025

OFFICE OF THE ADDITIONAL CHIEF ENGINEER, PHED, REGION AJMER Telephone No. 0145-2628475 Fax No. 0145-2970247 e-mail: aeregionajmer@gmail.com No. F.)/Ar.MP/2025-2026/ 8404-8408 Date: 21/7/25 DATE CORRIGENDUM-1 (NIT No. 03/2025-2026)
In continuation to this office NIT No. 03/2025-2026, issued vide this office letter No.6237-6266 dated 25.06.2025 for the work of "Water supply scheme Sarsai, Runiya Bara, Bhawanpura, RILCO Pipild and enroute, Nagar Palika area of Jaipur under CII Budget Announcement 2025-2026 (NIT No.03/2025-26 ; Estimated Cost Rs.217.73 Lacs).", following amendments are hereby notified:
As per Published Information Now amended as
Following bids are invited from interested bidders up to 21.07.2025 Other particulars of the Bid may be visited on the procurement portal (http://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in , http://spcp.raj.nic.in) of the state.
All other terms, conditions and stipulations of the original NIT shall remain unchanged.
(Ram Chandra Rar) Addl. Chief Engineer PHED, Region, Ajmer

APPEAL FOR IDENTIFICATION
General public is hereby informed that this person (depicted in the photo) Name: Unknown, S/o: Unknown, R/o: Unknown Age: 45 years, Sex: Male, Height: 5 feet 2 inch, Complexion: Dark, Wearing: Sky blue

Ahead of Bengal polls, EC releases 2002 SIR data, signals rolls revision

First Tranche
Covers 109 Of
294 Assembly
Segments

Debashis.Konar
@timesofindia.com

Kolkata: Election Commission (EC) published Monday data from a 2002 special intensive revision (SIR) of electoral rolls in West Bengal, tabling numbers from 11 districts covering 109 of the state's 294 assembly segments. The move is seen as the first step before a fresh SIR in the TMC-governed state where elections are due next year.

Bengal saw its last SIR in 2002 and the 23-year-old data was put out under the title, 'Electoral Roll of SIR 2002 (remaining ACs will be uploaded soon)'. "This is an ongoing process. The electoral data of the remaining districts will be published on Tuesday, or at most in a couple of days," a senior EC official said.

The first general election after SIR 2002 in Bengal was the 2004 Lok Sabha polls with 4.7 crore voters. A Jan-Feb 2025 special summary revision put Bengal voters at 7.6 crore. The districts covered on Monday included Cooch Behar, Jalpaiguri, Darjeeling, North Dinaj-



State CEO sought clarifications from assistant returning officers of few assembly segments over complaints of false voters in rolls

pur, South Dinajpur, Malda, Nadia, Howrah, Hooghly, Midnapore and Bankura.

The date release coincided with the state-wide training of BLOs and their supervisors. The process is likely to be completed this week.

On Monday, the state chief electoral officer (CEO) sought clarifications from assistant returning officers (AROs) in Mymensingh (East Midnapore), Baruipur (South 24 Parganas) and Rajarhat (North 24 Parganas) over complaints of false voters in rolls. EC, prima facie, was unsatisfied with the reasons given by the AROs and asked them to appear again Tuesday with proper documents. EC officials dubbed the exercise "routine". Among the three seats – BJP won Mymensingh, while TMC bagged Baruipur and Rajarhat. Bengal assembly speaker Biman Banerjee is the Baruipur MLA.

"Complaints from many more assembly segments have been received by EC. Those AROs will also be summoned for clarification over the week. The effort is to weed out false voters," the official said.

An ongoing hearing in SC on petitions against SIR in Bihar includes one plea by Trinamool MP Mahua Moitra. Moitra has expressed apprehension that the revisions would be replicated in Bengal from Aug 2025, "for which instructions have already been given to EROs".

TMC claims SIR will "disenfranchise" voters who were eligible to vote in 2024 Lok Sabha polls. It has argued that SIR mirrored section 3 of Citizenship Act, 1955, which deals with citizenship by birth, therefore making it an "NRC-like move", done not by MHA but by EC.

By contrast, BJP has consistently demanded SIR, claiming lakhs of Rohingya and Bangladeshi have sneaked into Bengal's voter rolls.

No document can give conclusive proof of identity: SC

► Continued from P 1

The court in its July 10 order said, "It would be in the interests of justice if EC also considers Aadhaar card; EPIC issued by EC, and ration card, as these documents would satisfy most of the voters."

Senior advocate Gopal Sankaranarayanan, arguing on behalf of petitioners, told a bench of Justices Sunya Kant and Joymalya Bagchi that EC is still not considering these documents to authenticate voters and that could lead to mass exclusion of names from voters list.

For EC, senior advocate Rakesh Dwivedi and Maninder Singh told SC EC had difficulty in accepting ration cards as proof of voters because of large-scale irregularities found earlier. "The revision forms given to people are pre-filled with their EPIC numbers. Since EPIC is not a conclusive proof, the voters must show some other document to authenticate names on the voter list."

Court said, "None of the documents can be said to be conclusive proof of identity. Which is that document giving conclusive proof? Why would you not accept Aadhaar as conclusive document alongside EPIC? Any document, including Aad-

haar can be forged. So, proceed with (SIR while accepting) Aadhaar and EPIC."

When Dwivedi raised apprehension that Aadhaar too can be forged, the bench said EC can prosecute individuals who attempt to authenticate their names as voters by providing forged documents. "An exercise of this nature cannot be for en masse exclusion. It should aim for en masse inclusion," the bench said.

Sankaranarayanan said till the time the issue of documents relating to SIR is decided by SC on adjudication of the petitions, EC should not proceed with the exercise. Justice Kant-led bench said, "The earlier order is clear – there cannot be any interim order in this case."

The senior counsel persisted for maintenance of status quo or a clarification that SIR would be subject to outcome of the petitions in SC. The bench said if it agreed with the petitioners, then it had the power to quash SIR entirely.

"For that, we need to hear the petitions as expeditiously as possible. By Tuesday morning, Counsel for petitioners must give a schedule detailing the time to be taken by each counsel. We will hear it on a day-to-day basis," it said.

SC lifts Cal HC's stay on new WB OBC subgroups list

Dhananjay.Mahapatra
@timesofindia.com

New Delhi: In a major relief to Mamata Banerjee govt, SC Monday lifted the Calcutta HC's stay on implementation of the new list of OBC subgroups, including 80 belonging to Muslim community, and said it is well settled that the executive can notify such a list without passing a legislation.

On June 17, HC stayed the new OBC list entitling to quota benefits 140 subgroups under OBC-A and OBC-B categories. The earlier list, which was struck down by HC, had 113 OBC subgroups, with 77 from Muslim community and 36 from others. The appeal of Bengal govt challenging quashing of the earlier list is still pending before SC.

Appearing for the state, senior advocate Kapil Sibal said the stay has put govt in a piquant position as it faces the task of recruiting 40,000 teachers and preparing a roster. A bench of Chief Justice B R Gayatri and Justices K Vinod Chan-

EC has become BJP agent, says Mamata

Dwaipayan Ghosh & S Boral | TNN

Kolkata/Bolpur: EC has become a "BJP agent to implement NRC", Bengal CM Mamata Banerjee alleged at the 'Bhasha Andolan' rally in Bolpur Monday. At an administrative meeting, the CM also reminded booth level officers (BLOs) that they are state govt employees and "should not unnecessarily harass people".

"Try deleting names of genuine voters here," Banerjee challenged the poll panel, adding, "From chhau to dhol to dhama to shankha, sob bajiye debo. Damama bajiye debo." The CM said she would not let anyone set up detention camps or implement NRC in Bengal as long as she lived. "I will have the power of people with me, I will not need any weapons. Is the country their (BJP's) zamin-dari?" she said.

Taking on EC, Banerjee said: "I respect the CEC. I hope you stay well. But you have become an agent of govt to implement NRC." "You are saying BLOs will go to a house once, they may or may not visit four times, it can even be on a single day. They may even choose not to go; then the name will be de-

leted... You were principal secretary in cooperative department of Centre & you are now consulting the double-engine govt to remove names so that your friend, the double-engine govt, can win," she alleged.

Questioning SIR, the CM said, "Even EPIC, Aadhaar and land deeds will not be enough to keep your name on the list. For every voter of Bengal, four from Gujarat will get included. I even know which agency is doing this (on behalf of BJP). They are asking for fresh documents, including birth certificates of parents. Do you have them yourself?"

"Suppose a man goes on a trip for four days after staying for years in Bengal, will you remove his name?", she added.

Advising district magistrates to "keep their eyes and ears open", the CM said: "DMs should be more vigilant. Often I see them delegating responsibilities to subordinates. They took 1,000 people to Delhi for training. The DMs should have informed me or the chief secretary, but they did not."

At an administrative meeting earlier in the day, Banerjee appealed to BLOs to not harass people.

No need to stay in Maha, UP or Raj: Mamata tells migrants

Dwaipayan Ghosh & S Boral | TNN

Kolkata/Bolpur: Bengal CM Mamata Banerjee Monday assured social security to all migrant workers willing to return to the state. "There's no need to stay in Mumbai, UP or Rajasthan. I may not be able to feed you 'pitha' or 'payesh' but, if we eat one roti, we will ensure you get one too. You can live here in peace," she said.

"You have the police help-line. Contact us, let us know when you wish to return. We will bring you back," she said, ahead of Trinamool's first 'Bhasha Andolan' march in Santiniketan.

The CM said around 22 lakh migrants from Bengal work in other states and promised them ration cards, health cards, and jobs. "We will give you social security and admit your kids to school," she said.

Banerjee told West Bengal Migrant Workers' Welfare Board chairperson Samir Islam, "Sit with the chief secretary, take state's law and labour minister Moloy Ghatak with you and formulate a scheme to bring the migrant workers back." The CM's statements came during an administrative meeting at Bolpur's Ganjali Stadium.

Following the meeting, she led 'Bhasha Andolan' march which covered a 3-km stretch. Claiming she could lay down her life for Bengal and Bengali 'asmita', the CM



WB migrants' livelihood at stake due to Rohingya: BJP

Kolkata: BJP Bengal unit chief Samik Bhattacharya on Monday praised migrant workers in other states for "helping local police identify and apprehend undocumented Rohingyas and Bangladeshis."

Alleging a bigger game plan she said, "Assam is sending NRC notices to a tribal family in Alipurduar. In Maharashtra, Matuas are being persecuted. I cannot even recognise this country anymore. The country I know sustains all people. My country keeps everyone happy. If they (BJP-governed states) continue like this, the country will get fragmented. This is their game plan."

She asked how Bengal residents were being pushed to Bangladesh despite having all relevant documents. "Those who ask as why Bengalis are working in other states should know that they get work because of their skills. There are 1.5 crore migrants from other states working here. We don't misbehave with them. Why should you?" she said.

Bhattacharya accused Bengal govt of turning a blind eye to infiltration issue.

SC lifts Cal HC's stay on new WB OBC subgroups list

Dhananjay.Mahapatra
@timesofindia.com

New Delhi: In a major relief to Mamata Banerjee govt, SC Monday lifted the Calcutta HC's stay on implementation of the new list of OBC subgroups, including 80 belonging to Muslim community, and said it is well settled that the executive can notify such a list without passing a legislation.

On June 17, HC stayed the new OBC list entitling to quota benefits 140 subgroups under OBC-A and OBC-B categories. The earlier list, which was struck down by HC, had 113 OBC subgroups, with 77 from Muslim community and 36 from others. The appeal of Bengal govt challenging quashing of the earlier list is still pending before SC.

Appearing for the state, senior advocate Kapil Sibal said the stay has put govt in a piquant position as it faces the task of recruiting 40,000 teachers and preparing a roster. A bench of Chief Justice B R Gayatri and Justices K Vinod Chan-

dran and N V Najaria said, "Prima facie the HC order is erroneous... How did the HC stay the notification without giving reasons? It is in the teeth of a constitution bench judgment of SC.

Appearing for the petitioners, senior advocates Ranjit Kumar and Guru Krishna Kumar said HC has not imposed any stay on the implementation of OBC reservations based on the list existing prior to 2010, which had 66 subgroups. "It is the state

RELIEF FOR GOVT

which has enacted legislation laying down the procedure for inclusion and exclusion of subgroups from OBC list. Once the procedure is laid down in law, it must be followed scrupulously, which the govt didn't, thus, inviting a stay from HC," they said.

Sibal, on the other hand, said a survey was done and 76 new subgroups were added to the earlier list. The petitioner had not challenged the survey conducted for this purpose, he said.

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Fear of electrocution initially stalled rescue op at Mansa Devi temple

People Pulled Out Only After Cop Proved Fear Was Unfounded

M S Nawaz | TNN



ger that slowed the rescue—it was the fear of it.

Constable Sanjay Kapoor, stationed around 30 metres from the spot, said the crowd had begun pressing in both directions at a sharp bend in the uphill lane. The pressure built quickly. Several people stumbled and fell, triggering panic. "Suddenly there was shouting—some said there was current in the bodies, and people stopped moving," Kapoor told TOI. "I had a stick, so I touched a young man on the ground with it. When nothing happened, we started pulling people out."

With help from nearby shopkeepers and a few pilgrims, Kapoor managed to move more than 15 people from the local youths waited with motorbikes to transport them to hospital. "I carried five people on my bike," said Baldev Saini. "We didn't stop to ask questions. We just took them as fast as we could."

A day after eight people were killed and over 20 injured in the temple stampede, Uttarakhand CM Dhami directed officials to take immediate steps to improve infrastructure and safety at major religious sites across the state

pie dead and at least 45 injured. Officials later ruled out any electric fault at the site.

But in those early minutes, it wasn't the presence of dan-

Haridwar: Moments after the crush near the rear gate of the Mansa Devi temple on Sunday morning, the crowd nearest to the dead and severely injured stood paralysed—not from confusion, but from fear. A rumour had spread that an electric current was running through the fallen pilgrims, and for several minutes, no one dared to touch the injured. It wasn't until a police constable used his stick to prod a body that the hesitation broke, and the first rescues began.

The stampede left eight peo-

UP SC panel chief triggers row with video of witnesses blaming home guard for tragedy

► Continued from P 1



Family members sit beside injured people undergoing treatment at a hospital

ter a video statement by UP Scheduled Caste Commission chairperson Bajnath Rawat was widely circulated. In the video, Rawat contradicted the official explanation, saying that eyewitnesses alleged a home guard had struck a baton near the corridor, causing the wire to snap and fall, leading to the elec-

"Almost all of the injured have been discharged from hospital after treatment. Some are under observation," DGP Krishna said.

The situation is under control, and devotees continue to offer prayers at the temple, he added.

A controversy erupted af-

Kin kill HIV+ man in K'taka

A 23-year-old HIV-positive man was allegedly murdered by his sister and brother-in-law at Dummilli village in Karnataka's Chitradurga, in what the couple claimed was a bid to protect 'family honour', given the patient's medical condition, reports Basavaraj Maralihalli.

Jagera (Ludhiana): Eight people—including four women and three children—died and two went missing after an overloaded pick-up van, carrying 25 pilgrims, plunged into Sihind canal in Ludhiana late Sunday.

The pilgrims were heading back after offering puja at Naina Devi temple in Himachal Pradesh.

According to the sarpanch, 26 people from Manakwal village, on the outskirts of Ludhiana, had set out on the 140km journey to the temple Saturday. Three hitchhikers had joined them on the way back. They were around 20km short of Manakwal when the vehicle swerved off Jagera bridge and fell into the canal.

Some of the occupants managed to swim to safety. Some were incredibly lucky. One of the survivors, Kaka Singh, who had taken a lift from near Rara Sahib, said he grabbed a tree branch and clung to it as the pickup fell into the canal. TNN

Two nuns held in C'garh over 'conversion bid'

Raipur: Three people, including two nuns, were arrested from Durg station in BJP-governed Chhattisgarh on charges of trafficking three tribal girls, all under 23, from Maoist-affected Narayanpur and attempting their religious conversion under the guise of giving them nursing jobs in Agra, reports Rashmi Drolia.

The arrests on July 25 followed a complaint from a Bajrang Dal worker, sparking a political storm with Congress alleging that minorities were being targeted under the BJP-led administration.

But CM Vishnu Deo Sai justified the action, claiming this was a case of "human trafficking under the guise of religious conversion".

Those arrested were identified as Sister Preeti Mary (45) and Sister Vandana Francis (50), both from a Kerala denomination, and Sukaman Mandavi (19) from Narayanpur. A GRP official claimed the tribal women were brought to Durg station without intimation to gram panchayat officials in their Narayanpur village and written consent from their parents.

trection. "This is a deeply unfortunate incident. The actual cause can only be confirmed through a thorough investigation," he said.

UP deputy CM Brajesh Pathak has ordered a high-level investigation. A report has been sought from the DM within 24 hours.

According to police, the incident occurred around 2.10 am when an electric current spread through the tinshed corridor erected for devotees performing Jalabhishek. According to temple management committee manager Vinod Giri, the temple doors were opened around 1 am, and devotees began entering through the corridor after bathing in the

nearby Gomti river. The rituals continued smoothly for over an hour before the corridor turned into a scene of chaos when several devotees collapsed upon coming in contact with an electrified metal pipe near the tin shed.

According to Gulshan (19) of Bhakosa village, "We came for Shiva's blessings, but

were met with terror. There was no proper wiring, no officials inside. Everyone was focused on managing the crowd outside. What about those inside?"

According to police, the incident occurred around 2.10 am when an electric current spread through the tinshed corridor erected for devotees performing Jalabhishek. According to temple management committee manager Vinod Giri, the temple doors were opened around 1 am, and devotees began entering through the corridor after bathing in the

nearby Gomti river. The rituals continued smoothly for over an hour before the corridor turned into a scene of chaos when several devotees collapsed upon coming in contact with an electrified metal pipe near the tin shed.

Principal Executive Director, Railway Stores (S), Ministry of Railways, Railway Board, Government of India invites e-tender for procurement of AR Standard Upgraded Class 'E'(6"x11") bearings used in freight stock to RDSO's Specification No. WD-63-MISC-2020 of October 2020 with latest amendments, if any through E-Reverse Auction.

2.0 The interested tenderers are advised to visit the website <http://ireps.gov.in> for details of the tender and submission of their e-bids.

3.0 No manual offers will be accepted against e-tender.

4.0 Tender will be closed at 15:00 hours on 28.08.2025.

5.0 Any corrigendum to this tender will be published on the website <http://ireps.gov.in> and not in print media.

Director, Railway Stores (W), Ministry of Railways, Railway Board, New Delhi, For and on behalf of the President of India

'Human rights override animal rights': HC on stray dog crisis

Kochi: Kerala high court described Monday the state's stray dog crisis as "very alarming" after reports of 16 deaths and over one lakh bite cases in past six months, and asked govt to consider bringing such attacks under the state disaster management act for compensation purposes.

"Humans and animals must coexist," the bench of Justice CS Dias said. "But a practical solution is essential. Human rights override animal rights," the court added. TNN

CRPF jawan home for kid's birth shot

his wife is still in hospital.

ACP-Gohana, Rishikant, said Krishna had gone to Haridwar on kanwar yatra on July 22 and had a confrontation with some youths from his own village during the journey. Police suspect this was the trigger for the attack. TNN

NORTHERN RAILWAY

3rd CORRIGENDUM

Date: 28.07.2025

No. 256-Sig/SPL/TKJ/PMPLS/2025
Sub: 3rd Corrigendum of e-Tender Notice no. 256-Sig-SPL-TKJ-234 dated: 05.06.2025 for the work "Provisioning of IP-MPLS network for Unified Communication Backbone and VOIP based control communication over Northern Railway."

The e-Tender Notice no. 256-Sig-SPL-TKJ-234 dated: 05.06.2025 published in all the important newspaper is modified as under:

Item Modified		
Critical Dates		
Field Name	Existing Value	Modified Value
Tender Closing Date Time	19.08.2025	02.09.2025
Bidding Start Date	05.08.2025	19.08.2025
Website address	www.ireps.gov.in	No change
All other terms and condition remain same.		

SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE

2304/25

NORTHERN RAILWAY

TENDER NOTICE

Tender Notice

The Dy. Chief Engineer/TMC/Line, Northern Railway, State Entry Road, New Delhi for and on behalf of the President of India invites Open E-tender under One Packet System for the under noted work:

Name of work	POH of UTV 2016, UTV-2030, 2040 & UTV-3011 and PBR-13 & location
Completion period of the work	12 Months

Earliest Money amount (to be deposited Online) ₹ 376400.00 Cost of Tender Document (to be deposited Online) Nil.

Date of work remain available on [IREPS website i.e. www.ireps.gov.in](http://IREPS.GOV.IN) from 29.07.2025 upto 15:00 Hrs. on 19.08.2025 Tender Bids may be uploaded from 05.08.2025 & upto 15:00 hrs on 19.08.2025 on IREPS website. The tender document will be opened soon after 15:00 hrs on 19.08.2025

SERVING CUSTOMER WITH A SMILE

2303/2025

SAINIK SCHOOL EAST SIANG, ARUNACHAL PRADESH

RECRUITMENT OF REGULAR VACANCIES OF PGT

(MATHEMATICS), ACCOUNTANT, UPPER DIVISION CLERK

AND CONTRACTUAL VACANCIES OF MEDICAL OFFICER, TGT (SCIENCE), TGT (ENGLISH), COUNSELLOR AND MESS MANAGER THROUGH DIRECT RECRUITMENT

Last date for submission of application through Speed Post is 27 August 2025. For detailed information and format of application visit www.sainikschools.org

SUPREME COURT OF INDIA

RECRUITMENT FOR VARIOUS POST IN THE REGISTRY OF SUPREME COURT OF INDIA

SUPREME COURT OF INDIA

Applications are invited to fill up five (05), one (01), two (02), and fourteen (14) vacancies for the posts of Assistant Editor, Supreme Court Reports; Assistant Director (Ex-cadre), Supreme Court Museum; Senior Court Assistant (Ex-cadre), Supreme Court Museum; and Assistant Librarian, respectively, in the Supreme Court of India. These posts are placed in Pay Levels 12, 11, 8 and 8, with initial basic pay of ₹ 78,800, ₹ 67,700, ₹ 47,600 and ₹ 47,600 respectively. For downloading Eligibility conditions, Pay level and detailed advertisement, please visit the website of the Supreme Court of India, www.sci.gov.in.

Sd/-

Place : New Delhi Date: 25.07.2025 (T.J. Rajput), Registrar (HR-II)

For detailed Recruitment Notification, please visit websites <http://icmr.gov.in> and [ICMR-NIN website](http://NIN.res.in) ([www.nin.res.in](http://NIN.res.in)). Link for submitting the online registration/applications: <https://joinicmr.in> is activated from 25-07-2025 (11:00 hrs) onwards and will be closed by 14-08-2025 (23:59 hrs).

Sd/- DIRECTOR, ICMR-NIN

Sd/- DIRECTOR, ICMR-NIN

ICMR-National Institute of Nutrition, Hyderabad functioning under the aegis of Department of Health Research, Ministry of Health & Family Welfare, GOI invites online applications from the eligible candidates for filling up of the post under Direct Recruitment as detailed under:

SI.No	Name of the Post	Pay Level	Age limit	No. of Posts
1	Assistant	Level: 6 - Rs.35400-112400	Not exceeding 30 years	4 (UR)

For detailed Recruitment Notification, please visit websites <http://icmr.gov.in> and [ICMR-NIN website](http://NIN.res.in) ([www.nin.res.in](http://NIN.res.in)). Link for submitting the online registration/applications: <https://joinicmr.in> is activated from 25-07-2025 (11:00 hrs) onwards and will be closed by 14-08-2025 (23:59 hrs).

Sd/- DIRECTOR, ICMR-NIN

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It is proposed to fill up 01 (one) post of Chief Estates Manager and Meeting Officer (General Central Service, Group 'A', Gazetted, Non-Ministerial) in Level 11 (Rs.67700-208700) of the Pay Matrix of 7th CPC by Deputation (ISTC) basis in the Office of UPSC.

2. The details like General conditions, Eligibility Criteria, Age limit, proforma of application form etc. are available on the website of UPSC, i.e. <http://www.upsc.gov.in/vacancy-circulars>.

Date: 18.07.2025

Date: 18.07.2025

It is proposed to fill up 01 (one) post of Chief Estates Manager and Meeting Officer (General Central Service, Group 'A', Gazetted, Non-Ministerial) in Level 11 (Rs.67700-208700) of the Pay Matrix of 7th CPC by Deputation (ISTC) basis in the Office of UPSC.

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Sd/- DIRECTOR, ICMR-NIN

Sd/- DIRECTOR, ICMR-NIN

No. A-35018/01/2

Google execs appear before ED in online betting case

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi: Officials of Google appeared before Enforcement Directorate (ED) Monday with documents in an ongoing money laundering case against some betting websites and online shopping fraud.

Meta, which is also being probed in the same case, is yet to send its representatives.

Both social media platforms are being investigated by ED for hosting advertisements on their platforms for illegal betting sites and online shopping frauds. They were to appear before the agency on July 21 but requested it to defer the proceedings by a week.

The betting sites, which are at the centre of the investigation, have allegedly collected hundreds of crores from Indian citizens by engaging in "illegal" activities.

In a statement in Jan, ED had said scammers post ads on platforms like Google, Facebook, Instagram and WhatsApp, inviting people to bet.

Earlier, the probe agency had attached assets worth Rs 337 crore in a crackdown on illegal betting related to the Lok Sabha results of 2024 and unauthorised broadcast of IPL cricket matches.

In online shopping fraud, scammers attract people with "offers of very cheap products found via Google or social media platforms like Facebook and Instagram. Victims receive a purchase link on WhatsApp, register, and pay for the item. The fraudsters then demand additional payments, citing reasons such as customs duties and delivery charges. In the end, the victim loses their money and never receives the purchased item".

Cong announces Aug 5 as 'Black Day' in J&K

Jammu: Demanding restoration of full statehood to Jammu and Kashmir, Congress will observe Aug 5 as Black Day. J&K Pradesh Congress Committee president Tariq Hameed Karra Monday said this will also mark "six years since the state was downgraded", reports Sanjay Kharuria. Peaceful sit-in protest will be held in Jammu's Maharaja Hari Singh statue park.

NMC curbs live surgeries, but no restraint on new procedures

Recordings Preferred For High-Risk Cases

DurgeshNandanJha
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New Delhi: The National Medical Commission (NMC) has clamped down on live surgeries, except those involving new procedures.

In its latest guideline on live surgeries, a copy of which is with TOI, the NMC — apex body for regulating medical education and profession in India — stated only new procedures should be broadcast live. For established procedures or high-risk cases, it said, recordings should be preferred.

The NMC has, however, effectively turned down demands to ban live surgeries which has been criticised by many as a tool that is used by surgeons to flaunt their skills and for companies to promote their products, all at the expense of patient safety.

A petition was also filed



Patients participating in live surgeries are not entitled to any financial incentive currently. The new guideline upholds this practice

in the matter in Supreme Court recently, which prompted the NMC to constitute a committee to give its recommendations on how to regulate the conducting of live surgery broadcasts. The NMC guideline has been prepared on the basis of the committee's report, officials said.

Patients participating in live surgeries are not entitled to any financial incentive currently. The new guideline upholds this practice. But it added such patients can be enrolled in insurance coverage to safeguard against any unforeseen incidents during live surgery/ procedures.

It said patients should not incur any charges related to the surgery or procedures, including implants, medications, disposables, and procedures, and surgery-related complications should also be managed free of cost.

Live surgery refers to real-time broadcasting of surgical procedures to an audience, typically for educational or training purposes.

The NMC accepted concerns raised by many questioning its utility. Live surgery, it noted, may seem valuable for experiential learning. However, it lacks concrete evidence supporting its educational effectiveness when compared to pre-

recorded surgical videos. "Pre-recorded videos offer better frame-by-frame analysis, video editing and labelling and, thus, enhancing the educational experience," it pointed out and recommended that promoting recorded video, wet lab, cadaveric and simulation-based surgeries/procedures as these entails no risk to the patient instead.

Proponents of live broadcasts of surgeries say it helps students and surgeons wanting to upskill, sitting in a remote location and watching highly magnified and high-resolution images of the nuances and intricacies of surgical techniques.

This is a globally accepted method of learning and because of this, surgeries which were available to only a few in top hospitals and teaching institutes in private or govt sectors are now being practiced in tier two and tier three towns, those supporting live surgeries say, and the same has been noted in the NMC guideline which essentially brings in stricter regulations while allowing it in a limited way.

UP SDM gets ₹15L ransom message and death threat

Harveer Dabas | TNN

Bijnor: Dhampur sub-divisional magistrate (SDM) Ritu Rani received a text message in which the sender demanded a ransom of Rs 15 lakh and threatened to kill her if she failed to pay up. The SDM's security has been tightened following the threat.

The sender also said the SDM would meet the same fate as that of NIA DSP Tanzeel Ahmed, who was shot dead by two bike-borne assailants while his two minor children watched in horror in April 2016.

Circle officer (CO) Abhay Kumar Pandey said a case has been registered against unidentified persons based on a complaint filed by the SDM. "A

The sender said the SDM would meet the same fate as that of NIA DSP Tanzeel Ahmed, who was shot in April 2016

joint team of Dhampur police and surveillance crew is investigating the matter," he added.

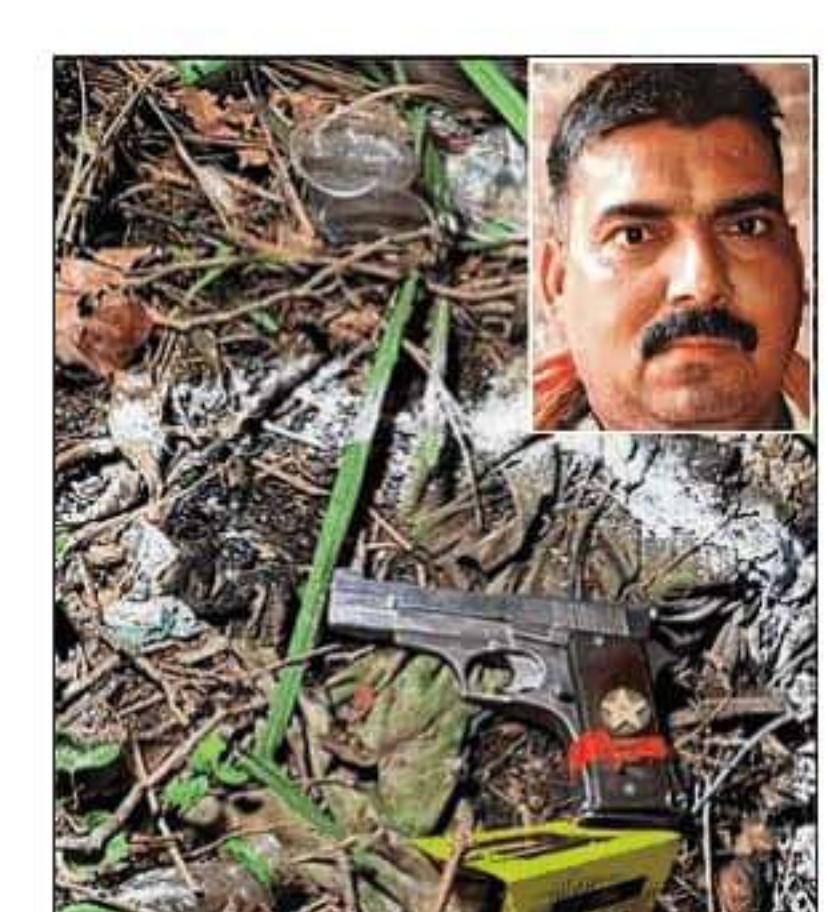
SDM Ritu Rani confirmed the incident and said, "On July 24 around 2:50 pm, I received a threat message on my closed user group (CUG) mobile number. The sender demanded a ransom of Rs 15 lakh, and warned of dire consequences if I failed to pay up. The sender also cited the DSP Tanzeel Ahmed murder case. Pressure was also put on me to make payment through a barcode. Multiple barcodes and mobile numbers were also shared for

Tanzeel Ahmad, who was probing terror cases related to the Indian Mujahideen, was returning home to Delhi on the night of April 2, 2016, when two bike-borne men stopped his car and shot him while his two children watched. His wife was also hit by bullets and she succumbed to injuries later. His neighbours, Munneer and Mohd Raiyan, were arrested later and were awarded death sentences by a court. Munneer died of a kidney infection in Sonbhadra jail three years ago.

Bihar goon wanted in 24 cases killed in UP encounter

Rahul.Singh1
@timesofindia.com

Meerut: Dreaded gangster, Dabloo Yadav, 45, wanted in nearly 24 criminal cases in Bihar and UP, including for the murder of a social worker, a court witness and for contract killings, was shot in a joint encounter with a team of UP Special Task Force's Noida unit and Bihar Police in Hazaribagh on Sunday night, police said. Yadav was the prime accused in the abduction and murder of Vikas Kumar, the Begusarai block president of Hindustani Awami Morcha (HAM), in May. In 2017, Yadav along with his aides had killed another person, Mahendra Yadav, for testifying against him in court.



One of the criminals was hit and collapsed while his accomplice fled under cover of darkness. The gangster was rushed to CHC Sikandra and later referred to Devnandini Hospital where he succumbed to injuries.

"They were possibly hiding there to commit a robbery. Fearing arrest, he opened fire. Efforts are on to arrest his accomplice," said SSP STF Sushil Ghule.

Yadav had 24 criminal cases lodged against him — two cases each for murder, robbery and extortion, six cases of attempted murder and one dacoity, among others — in Begusarai, Khagaria and Patna. He was declared a "history-steerer".

Monitor NDMA levels in antacid Ranitidine: Drugs body CDSCO

New Delhi: Drug controllers of all states and UTs have been asked by Central Drugs Standard Control Organisation (CDSCO) to direct manufacturers under their jurisdiction to monitor levels of NDMA in the active pharmaceutical ingredient or drug formulation of Ranitidine, a commonly used antacid. NDMA (N-nitrosodimethylamine) is a chemical which has been recognised as a probable carcinogen by International Agency for Research on Cancer (IARC), reports Durgesh Nandan Jha.

CDSCO's decision came after reports of NDMA impurity in the drug and, if required, take risk-based measures such as reducing the shelf life.

Rajasthan school infra in focus again as 7-year-old crushed in gate collapse

Vimal Bhatia | TNN



A book found in debris. Monday's incident comes after 7 students died in a school collapse on Friday

Jaisalmer: A seven-year-old boy was crushed to death Monday when the entrance pillar and gate of a govt-run girls' school collapsed in Poonam Nagar village, around 50km from Jaisalmer, intensifying public fury over unsafe school infrastructure in Rajasthan.

Rajasthan education minister Madan Dilawar called the collapse "unfortunate" and urged stepped-up inspections during the monsoon. Following the Jhalawar tragedy, orders were issued for urgent structural reviews in all state-run schools.

Rajasthan HC took suo motu cognisance of the deteriorating school infrastructure. Justice Anoop Dhand cited a survey that showed 22% of schools in 12 states, including Rajasthan, are in dilapidated condition, with cracks in 31% of buildings.

Opposition slammed the BJP-led govt. "His irresponsible statements are shameful. He should step down immediately," said Congress state president Govind Singh Dotsara, demanding Dilawar's resignation.

Rajasthan education minister Madan Dilawar called the collapse "unfortunate" and urged stepped-up inspections during the monsoon. Following the Jhalawar tragedy, orders were issued for urgent structural reviews in all state-run schools.

Student safety fears spiked in Udaipur district after three school buildings partially collapsed within 48 hours. Ceiling plaster fell during classes Monday in Naya Rajjura's govt school in Vallabh Nagar, forcing teachers to evacuate 64 students.

On Sunday, a wall collapsed at Rupawali and a ceiling gave way at Pandya Wada School in Rishabhdev. In Pali's Balebao village near Jodhpur, parents locked a govt primary school Monday, citing rain-induced wall damage. "We've submitted repair proposals for five years. All we get is assurance," said school committee head Gheesaram Gurjar.

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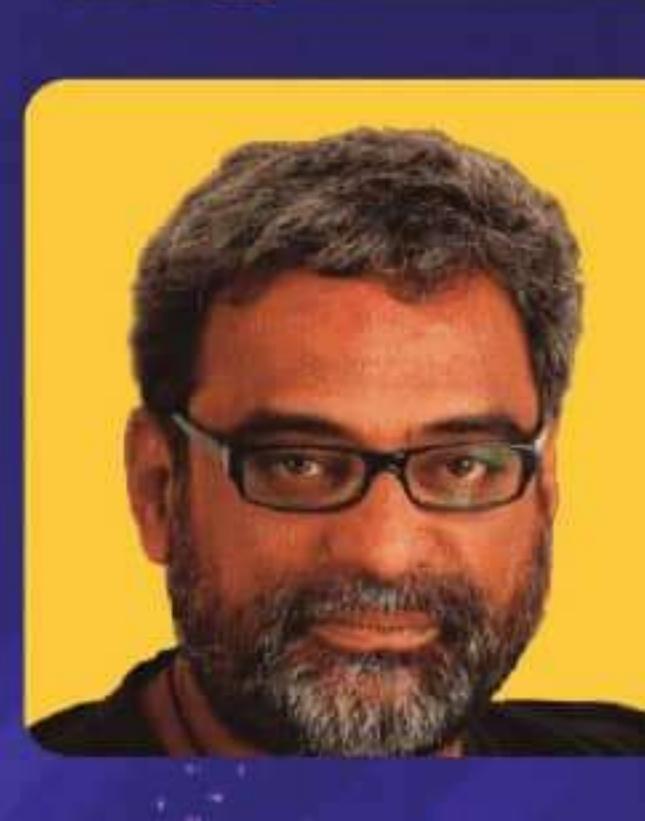
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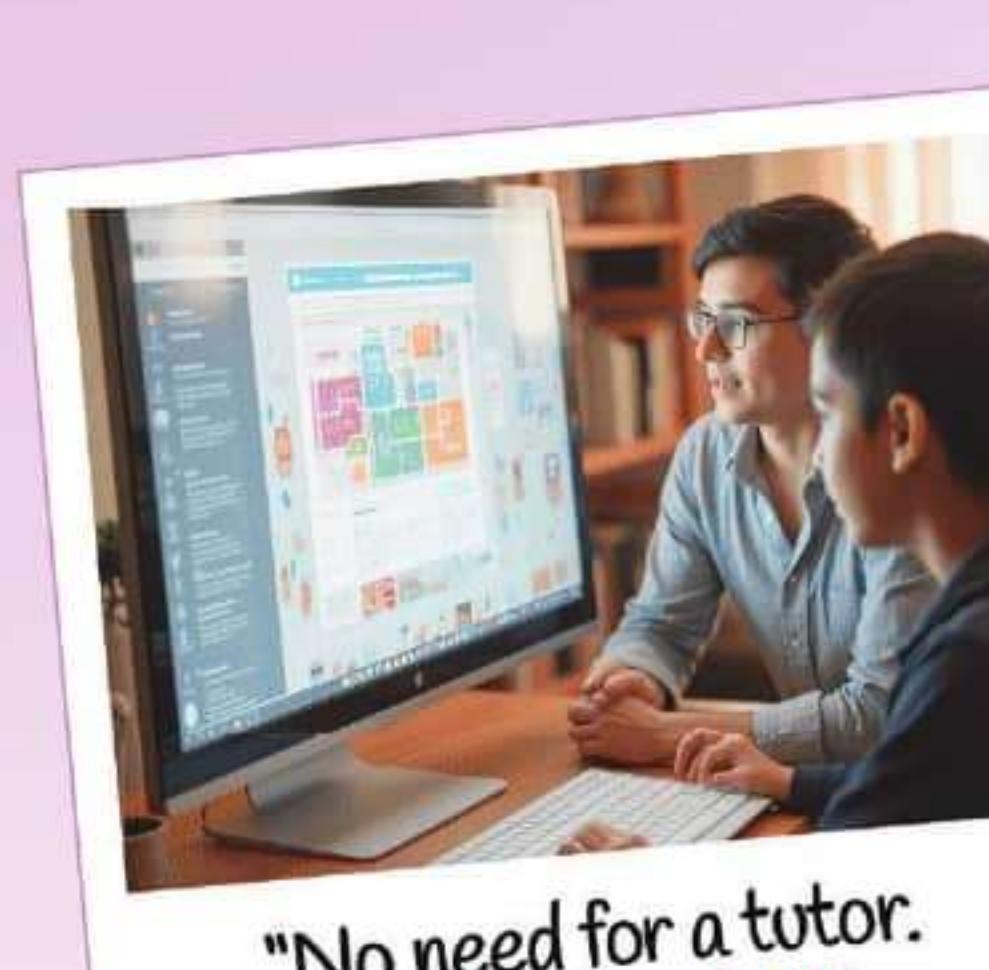
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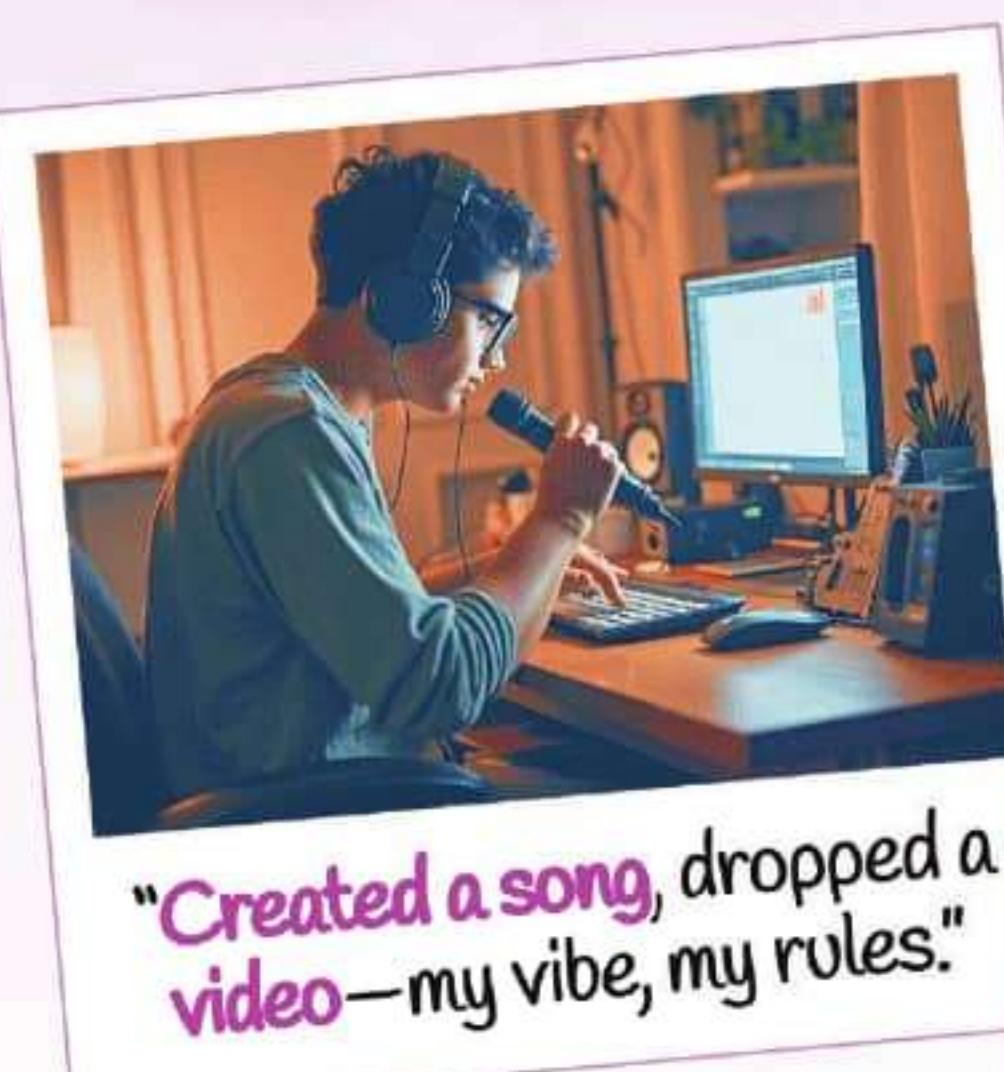


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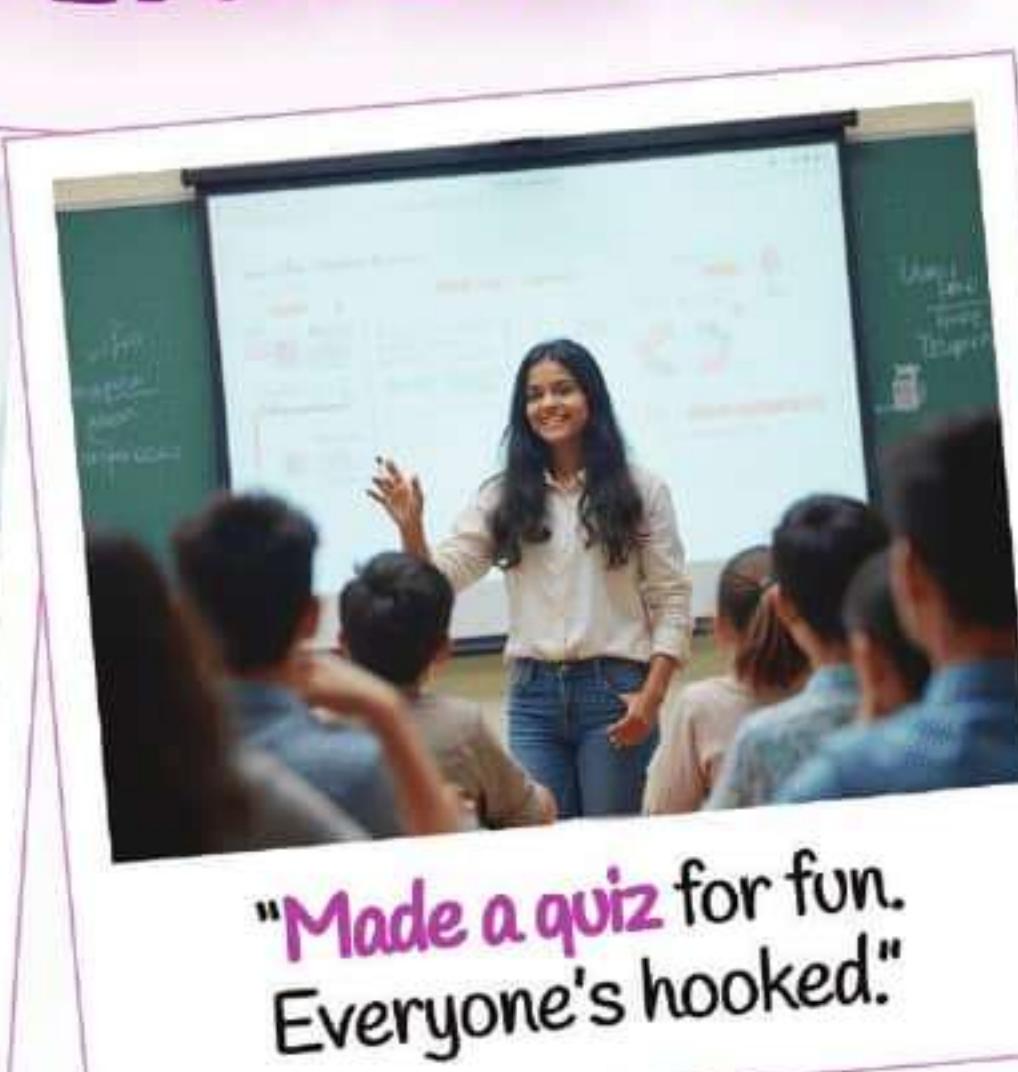
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CBI submits report on Mahua cash-for-query case to Lokpal

New Delhi: CBI is learnt to have submitted its report to the anti-corruption ombudsman Lokpal in connection with the cash-for-query case involving Lok Sabha MP **Mahua Moitra** and businessman Darshan Hiranandani.

The content of the report has not been disclosed yet. The Lokpal will study the findings of the investigation and give further directions to the agency. A charge sheet may be filed subsequently based on the findings of the report, officials explained.

Last year in March, CBI had registered an FIR against Moitra in connection with the case on the reference of the Lokpal. The Lokpal had issued instructions to CBI after receiving findings of the agency's preliminary inquiry into allegations made by BJP Lok Sabha member Nishikant Dubey against Moitra.

Moitra was accused of asking questions in the Lok Sabha in exchange for cash and gifts from Hiranandani to target industrialist Gautam Adani and PM Narendra Modi. The agency had subsequently examined businessman Darshan Hiranandani and a dozen others in the case. TNN

Govt to overhaul accreditation system, operationalise AI centre

Bhasha Tool To Bypass English As Mediator

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The shift comes as concerns rise over credibility and participation in the current accreditation regime

in the 2025 Union Budget.

These announcements are expected to be made on Tuesday at a national event commemorating the fifth anniversary of NEP-2020, in the presence of senior ministers, educationists and state representatives at the Bharat Mandapam here.

The new accreditation model aims at simplifying the process and encourage wider participation among higher education institutions (HEIs). Unlike the earlier framework, which graded institutions (A++, A, B, etc.), the new binary system

will require institutions to meet basic benchmarks to qualify as 'accredited'. A senior education ministry official said, "The change was designed to address the reluctance of many HEIs to apply for accreditation due to the effort involved and uncertainty about securing a favourable grade."

The shift comes in the wake of concerns over credibility and participation in the current accreditation regime, particularly following recent controversies around the functioning of the National Assessment and Accreditation Council (Naac). Inconsistent grading patterns and allegations of opacity had drawn criticism from academics and policy-makers, prompting a rethink of the process.

Elaborating on the new approach, the official said, "Under the new model, all institutions that meet benchmark standards will be treated equally in the first phase. Grading from 1 to 5 will follow in the second stage, expected to begin in the next five to six months. Institutions will climb the grading

ladder sequentially — starting from Grade 1 — based on verified performance data."

The data validation will rely on a triangulation method, using multiple sources and tools to ensure accuracy, and will exclude Naac's direct involvement. Instead, only govt agencies and Institutions of National Importance will be engaged for verification, and there will be no physical inspections.

The 'Bharatiya Bhasha' digital tool will allow seamless translations between Indian languages without routing through English — for instance, enabling direct translation from Assamese to Tamil. In higher education, the Centre of Excellence in AI in education is set to be formally launched to support research and integration of AI tools in teaching and learning.

For school education, announcements are expected on targeted infrastructure improvement and expansion of access, including new buildings for Kendriya Vidyalayas and Navodaya Vidyalayas, with corresponding funding support.

Find out how many temples have govs taken over: SC to petitioner

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SC was hearing a plea against the UP govt's ordinance to manage a private Vrindavan temple.

effectuate a forcible state takeover of a private temple.

"The temple is admittedly private in character as it is administered by a religious denomination and governed by a judicially sanctioned scheme of management dated June 11, 1939, under which hereditary 'shebait goswamis' alone are vested with the rights and duties of managing the religious and administrative affairs of the deity/temple," he said.

"There is no record or finding of mismanagement, fund misuse, or maladministration on the part of the existing 'shebait-led management. Throughout the years, no allegations of financial irregularity or misgovernance have been levelled," the petitioner said.

The impugned ordinance is a "veiled attempt by the state to commercialise and monetise the private temple under the pretext of providing 'world-class amenities' to devotees", he alleged. "The state's approach to the temple is purely utilitarian and economic, treating it as a revenue generating tourist centre rather than as a sacred spiritual institution governed by ancient religious traditions," the petitioner said.

NEP@5: More learners, women & languages, but can policy deliver on its full promise?

Manash.Gohain
@timesofindia.com

states, which have raised concerns over centralisation and language.

While 35 universities have begun transitioning into multidisciplinary institutions with central support, the uptake of reforms such as multiple entry-exit

EDUCATION SYSTEM

options remains limited — underlining both early momentum and implementation hurdles.

In schools, the biggest shift has been the integration of pre-school into the '5+3+3+3' structure'. As of 2024, more than 1.1 crore children are enrolled in 'Balvatikas', up from 50 lakh in 2018. Over 4.2 crore students across 8.9 lakh schools have participated in 'Vidya Pra-

vesh', a 12-week play-based module for Grade 1 readiness. With 496 Kendriya Vidyalayas now offering 'Balvatikas' and 121 multilingual primers developed, early education has gained structured support.

The Nipun Bharat Mission, launched in 2021 to improve foundational literacy and numeracy, is beginning to yield outcomes. ASER 2024 showed that 23.4% of Class III students in govt schools can now read a Grade II-level text — the highest since 2005 — up from 16.3% in 2022. Arithmetic scores have also improved — 27.6% of students can now perform basic subtraction, up from 20.2% in 2022. The Parakh national survey found rural students outperforming their urban counterparts in both reading and math.

More than 14 lakh teachers have been trained under the Nishttha foundational programme. The 'Jaadui Pitara' — a multilingual play-based teaching kit — has been distributed in 22 Indian languages. However, just over half of govt and aided schools offer preschool, and aligning curriculum with infrastructure remains a challenge.

In higher education, NEP's emphasis on flexibility is reflected in the rollout of the academic bank of credit (ABC), multiple entry-exit options and biannual admissions. As of July 2025, over 32 crore ABC IDs have been generated and 2,556 institutions onboarded. The new biannual admission cycle is expected to ease transitions and reduce dropouts.

Re-certification of 'Udaipur Files' pending, HC told

Maha bars staff from online criticism of govt

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@timesofindia.com

includes those doing contractual or outsourced jobs.

The govt resolution (GR) issued on Monday states that some dangers have been created by the use of social media, such as dissemination of confidential information, spreading of false information, and limits in withdrawal of wrong information.

Official

documents

cannot be shared without approval, and websites and apps banned by state and central govt cannot be used, said the guidelines. Violations will invite disciplinary action.

The guidelines, which were released on Monday, apply to state govt officers and employees and those in local self-govt bodies, boards, councils and public undertakings. This in-

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BJP targets Cong after Kharge recalls '99 CM 'missed chance'

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Bengaluru: Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge's revelation that he was "denied" the Karnataka chief minister's post in 1999 has reignited debate over Dalit representation in the state's politics and triggered a sharp political crossfire.

Kharge said Sunday at a public event in Dharwad that he was passed over for the top post despite leading Congress Party during the 1999 assembly elections. SM Krishna was chosen instead. Kharge's comment drew immediate backlash from BJP and cautious responses from his own party.

"Kharge has now demanded to be made chief minister to clear a debt owed to him," said BJP's R Ashoka. "He's timed it perfectly — like hitting a ripe mango with a stone." Ashoka also took a swipe at the Congress brass, especially the Gandhi family, for sidelining Dalit politicians, and pointed out that Siddaramaiah, a JDS import, was made chief minister while Kharge, a lifelong Congress loyalist, was not.

BJP state president BY Vijayendra said Kharge had publicly expressed his "pain and disappointment," and accused Congress and its brass of doing injustice to Dalits. "Kharge has worked for 40-50 years. His remarks show how Congress, the Gandhi family, and Siddaramaiah have sidelined SC/ST communities," Vijayendra said.

In a global first, India readies tiger transfer to Cambodia

P.Naveen@timesofindia.com

Bhopal: The Khmer striped spirit was lost about a decade ago, but "Baghoba" still watches over Indian forests and villages. Now, folklore meets future as real tigers may soon walk again in Cambodia's extinct wilderness — a world-first cross-border rewilding effort led by India.

Nearly three years after signing an agreement, India is preparing to send around six wild tigers to Cambodia's Cardamom Mountains, where the species was declared extinct in 2016. The move marks the first international reintroduction of wild tigers and mirrors India's earlier success with Panja, where tigers were reintroduced in 2009 after extinction.

Preparations have entered a critical phase. Wildlife scientists are evaluating landscapes in Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, and Karnataka. MP — home to 785 of India's 3,682 tigers, in accordance with the 2022 census — leads the shortlist, with its strong population and signature reserves such as Kanha, Bandhavgarh, and Pench.

The project follows India's 2022 cheetah reintroduction from Africa — but experts say tigers require far more territorial stability and prey biomass.

But with every tiger critical to fragile ecosystems, will states part with them? "The future of Cambodia's tiger revival depends entirely on choosing the right ones," said a senior wildlife official. Genetic profiling, behavioural traits, and ecological compatibility will guide the selection.

Modi Tamil Nadu visit boosts BJP-AIADMK alliance morale

Second-Rung Netas Given Prominence

Yazhiniyan & Deepak Karthik | TNN



Modi meeting AIADMK netas, including EPS, at Tiruchirappalli airport is seen as reaffirmation of BJP-AIADMK alliance amid recent public spats

Chennai/Trichy: Prime Minister Narendra Modi's two-day visit to Tamil Nadu has come as a morale booster not just for BJP workers but also for AIADMK rank and file.

His meeting with AIADMK netas, including Edappadi K Palaniswami, at the airport is being seen as a reaffirmation of the BJP-AIADMK alliance amid recent public disagreements over power-sharing. Modi's decision to not engage with O Panneerselvam has further reassured AIADMK cadres that BJP values its partnership ahead of the 2026 polls.

For BJP workers, Modi's participation in Aadi Thiruvizha festival, highlighting Chola glory, served as a cultural counterpoint to DMK's Keeladi narrative, which accuses BJP of trying to whitewash Tamil Nadu's rich past.

AIADMK is upbeat, especially since not only EPS but also second-rung netas like K P Munusamy, S P Velumani, and Thalaiav Sundaram were permitted to receive Modi at the airport. "By rejecting OPS's request, Modi has sent a signal — only those parties we are comfortable with will be part of alliance," said senior AIADMK neta S Semmalai.

BJP functionaries, too, say the visit has helped build a grassroots-level bond. Some AIADMK cadres who earlier felt EPS was being arm-twisted now see the partnership as voluntary and valued.

"AIADMK mobilised cadres for PM's Trichy roadshow, showing their commitment. We'll reciprocate in all ways possible," said Sriram Shankar, BJP's Trichy district chief. Netas say they are more cautious about their remarks, aware that their actions impact alliance chemistry.

Likewise, AIADMK workers in Trichy say their hesitations about working with BJP have eased after the visit. Many now want more such visits to smoothen ties. "We'll join BJP roadshows in future too," said one functionary.

To cement this rapport

DASH AND SPLASH

Kaushik Naik



RIDING THE PLOUGH, EYEING THE TROPHY: A farmer and his bulls take part in 'nangarni spardha' — a racing event — at Abitgaon village in Maharashtra's Ratnagiri. Over 100 bulls were part of this contest

NDA MPs slam SP silence over cleric's remark against Dimple

TIMES NEWS NETWORK



New Delhi: It was an unusual sight. Holding placards and shouting slogans, NDA MPs Monday staged a protest over All India Imam Association president Maulana Sajid Rashidi's objectionable remarks against opposition Samajwadi Party MP Dimple Yadav, with party chief Akhilesh Yadav criticising the cleric.

"Jo Lok Sabha mein parhen ke ayenge wohi humari har jagah dress ho gi (whatever I will wear to attend Lok Sabha, will be my dress for everywhere else)," Akhilesh said while responding to a media query over the issue.

MPs of governing NDA said the cleric's purported remark protesting against the SP MP for not fully covering herself during a recent visit to a mosque was an insult to women as a whole, and questioned the "silence" of the opposition.

Dimple, however, was not impressed and said it's good that action is being taken now but it would have been better if similar protests and

women is of utmost priority. Maulana Rashid had reportedly made misogynistic comments against Dimple in a TV debate and had praised another SP MP, Iqra Hasan, who had covered her head inside the mosque. The comments led to condemnation on social media and from women MPs, including BJP's Bansuri Swaraj and Congress's Renuka Chowdhury.

The NDA MPs, especially women members, held a protest near Makar Dwar in the Parliament House complex, raising slogans like 'Nari shakti ka apman, nari sahega Hindustan'.

Swaraj called the remarks "deeply shameful" and "unacceptable". "Does opposition agree with this indecent remark? It is deeply offensive, inflammatory, and anti-women remarks" that were "derogatory and misogynistic" and aimed at "inciting religious disharmony & communal tension".

Talking to reporters, LJP (R) MP Shambhavi Choudhary said that for NDA, the honour and prestige of

support had been visible when horrifying incidents like the one in Manipur came to light through footage on social media, she said.

In Lucknow, an FIR has been lodged based on a complaint by local resident Pravesh Yadav, who accused Rashidi of making "extremely offensive, inflammatory, and anti-women remarks" that were "derogatory and misogynistic" and aimed at "inciting religious disharmony & communal tension".

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She accused the opposition of prioritising "appeasement politics" over women's dignity and affirmed that the NDA would continue to raise its voice for every woman, including Dimple Yadav.

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Constitutional matter politicised, says Sibal

Dhananjay Mahapatra
@timesofindia.com



New Delhi: While arguing against 'public debate and media trial' over Justice Yashwant Varma, who has identified himself as 'XXX' in his petition before Supreme court, his counsel Kapil Sibal and other MPs have gone public on Allahabad HC's Justice Shekhar Yadav's controversial remark and have signed a notice of motion in Rajya Sabha seeking his removal.

Senior advocate Sibal said politics has been introduced into a purely constitutional matter by sending inquiry report by the then CJI to the President and PM with a recommendation to initiate removal motion against the judge. Justice Datta-led bench asked, "President is the appointing authority, and PM is the head of the executive on whose advice the President acts. Sending the report to them does not mean it amounted to influencing Parliament, where the process is independent of the in-

house inquiry report."

Sibal said, "How could the in-house inquiry committee conclude that it was a misbehaviour on my part when the cash was found in the outhouse? The committee did not find that the cash belonged to the judge. The judge's staff who were there were not told that the cash was found. The entire procedure of in-house inquiry was flawed and hence the report should be quashed."

Justice Datta said, "What is the worth of the in-house inquiry report. It is not going

₹16cr spent on drinking water survey in '23 but report still under wraps

Dipak Dash
@timesofindia.com

New Delhi: The govt had conducted a survey of the quality of drinking water across cities in 2023 but didn't release the report.

The ministry not releasing the survey findings has remained a mystery considering that govt holds similar surveys across sectors to ensure "healthy competition" among states and cities.

In a written reply to a question in Rajya Sabha on Monday, the housing and urban affairs ministry said that Ipsos Research Pvt Ltd, an agency, was engaged during 2022-23 to conduct Pej Jal Survekshan in 485 AMRUT cities "at a cost of Rs 16.96 crore", of which Rs 16.1 crore has been released.

Responding to whether the survey's findings have been released and govt has analysed the report for corrective measures, the ministry said, "The findings were communicated to the states/Union Territories

at the workshop held on Nov 22, in New Delhi. During the workshop, discussions were held and states/UTs were advised to take corrective measures".

The ministry not releasing the survey findings has remained a mystery considering that govt holds similar surveys across sectors to ensure "healthy competition" among states and cities.

Interestingly, on Feb 27, 2024, months after the workshop with states and UTs, the ministry had issued a detailed press release announcing that the "first Pej Jal Survekshan Awards" would be held on March 5, with President Droupadi Murmu scheduled to preside over the event. It said that cities and states would be honoured for excellence in the water sector. In all, 130 awards were to be bestowed, reflecting the accomplishments of cities and states under different categories: gold, silver, and bronze.

13-yr-old Punjab boy killed over 'pigeon theft'

Bathinda: A 13-year-old boy was allegedly stabbed to death by three men in Rordki village of Punjab's Mansa district over an unproven allegation that he stole a pigeon.

The victim, Raja Singh, was a Class VII student and lived in Rordki village, which is about 220km from Chandigarh. He went missing on Saturday evening, and his body — bearing multiple injuries from sharp-edged weapons — was found the next day outside the village.

Govt faced criticism not only from opposition parties but also on social media for ignoring the pending case and naming Barala as a law officer. Normally, those with affiliation to the governing party are appointed law officers,

Screening process under cloud as stalking case accused picked

► Continued from P 1

and their tenure is co-terminus with the party in power.

According to the complaint, on Aug 5, 2017, Barala and his friend Ashish allegedly followed the bureaucrat's daughter and tried to stop her car. She called Chandigarh police, who apprehended the youths and filed a case against them under IPC 354D (stalking) and the Motor Vehicle Act.

Later, police added two more sections for attempted kidnapping and arrested the two, who eventually made bail. Vikas's father was then state president of Haryana's BJP unit.

In-person interviews may still be held on a case-by-case basis: US

► Continued from P 1

Consular officers may still require in-person interviews on a case-by-case basis for any reason," the US state department update says.

Soon into President Donald Trump's second term in office, the US had this Feb reverted to the pre-Covid interview waiver condition of a same class visa expiring within 12 months of applying for the same.

In Nov 2022, when the wait time for B1/B2 (business and tourism visa) interview in India had crossed 999 days (touching almost three years), the US had increased the eligibility for same class drop box visa renewal — which does not require an interview — from 12

months to 48 months.

As of now, the state dept website shows the B1/B2 average interview wait time is 14 months in Chennai, 9.5 months in Mumbai; 8 months in Delhi, and 6 months in Kolkata.

Applicants should check embassy and consulate websites for more detailed information about visa application requirements & procedures, and to learn more about the embassy or consulate's operating status & services," the July 25 update adds.

Govt. of Bihar

JEEVIKA

Bihar Rural Livelihoods Promotion Society

State Rural Livelihoods Mission, Bihar

Add a mission to your career;

Join a team of 6000+ committed and passionate Development Professionals

Bihar Rural Livelihoods Promotion Society (BRLPS), an autonomous society under Rural Development Department, Govt. of Bihar has been designated as State Rural Livelihoods Mission by Rural Development Department, Government of Bihar to scale up the "JEEVIKA" model in all 534 Blocks of 38 Districts in Bihar under National Rural Livelihood Mission.

So far JEEVIKA has been able to reach out to nearly 1.29 Crore rural poor households by organizing them into 10.46 Lakh women Self Help Groups under 68650 Village Organizations and 1455 Cluster Level Federations. These institutions have generated nearly Rs. 10750 Crore as their own fund and have leveraged more than Rs. 29838 Crore from the Banks.

Block Project Implementation Unit

Sl.No.	Position	No. of Vacancy	Pay (Excluding other benefits)
1.	Block Project Manager	73	₹36101/-
2.	Livelihood Specialist	235	₹32458/-
3.	Area Coordinator	374	₹22662/-
4.	Accountant (BPIU / DPCU Level)	167	₹22662/-
5.	Office Assistant (BPIU / DPCU Level)	187	₹15990/-
6.	Community Coordinator	1177	₹15990/-
7.	Block IT Executive	534	₹22662/-

The link for receiving of application will be activated from 30.07.2025. The Last Date for receiving of application is 18.08.2025.

Note:
Official website <http://brlps.in> may be visited and click on "Career" to know eligibility criteria and other details in the detailed advertisement. All communication will be made through website only.

Disclaimers: Mere eligibility does not guarantee a job.

For further details please visit : www.state.bihar.gov.in/prdbihar Chief Executive Officer-cum-Mission Director, Bihar Rural Livelihoods Promotion Society

सुरक्षित जीवन अपनाओ, अपनी नियमित एच.आई.डी. जोग कराओ।

PR. No. 009926 (B&C) 2025-26



Applications are invited for the position under Bihar Rural Livelihoods Promotion Society (BRLPS)

NORTHERN RAILWAY

TENDER NOTICE

Invitation of Tender through E-Tendering (E-Procurement Systems)	
N.I.T. No.	19(A,B,C,D,E,F,G)/ 25-26/WE
Name of work with its location	(A) Repair to vacant flat of Anand Vihar Railway Colony in the S/o SSE/W/BH under ADEN/E-III. (B) Repair to vacant flats of College Lane, Tilak Bridge Railway Colony in section of SSE/W/BH under ADENE-III. (C) Repair to existing damages, strom water, Sewerage system and Road at Baroda House in the S/o SSE/W/BH under ADENE-III & Provision of Name plate, Signage Board of Annex-E, Annex-II of Baroda House in the S/o SSE/W/BH under ADENE-III. (D) Improvement of halls, Rooms of store department in Annex-E Building at Baroda House in the section of SSE/W/BH under ADEN/E-III. (E) Provision of toilet in outhouses and garage and other miscellaneous work of outhouse and garage and improvement to damaged service lane behind B.N.5 to B.N.20 and behind B.N.20 to B.N.25 including other miscellaneous works in the S/o SSE/W/P Marg under ADEN/E-III/LI (F) Improvement to toilet, bathroom, kitchen & provision of floor tiles in room/verandah, repair to damage sunshade, chajais, balcony, ceiling, SCI stack, bathroom and shaft portion with plastering of B.No. 202-224, 18-22 at DKZ Railway Colony in the s/o SSE/W/DKZ-I under ADEN/E-III/LI (G) Repair to roof, damage floors, transformer sheds and drainage system & other misc works of electric power house, pump house etc at Railway colony DKZ-I in the s/o SSE/W/DKZ-I under ADEN/E-III
Approx Cost of work	(A) Rs. 9999991.58 (B) Rs. 1199998.39 (C) Rs. 1999992.96 (D) Rs. 36404146.65 (E) Rs. 2199997.70 (F) Rs. 1499995.43 (G) Rs. 9499971.86
EMD amount	(A) Rs. 200000.00 (B) Rs. 210000.00 (C) Rs. 250000.00 (D) Rs. 332000.00 (E) Rs. 260000.00 (F) Rs. 225000.00 (G) Rs. 190000.00
Completion period of Work	(A) 06 Months (B) 06 Months (C) 06 Months (D) 06 Months (E) 06 Months (F) 06 Months (G) 06 Months
Date and time for submission of tender and opening of tender	Closing date of tender on 19.08.2025 at 15:00 hrs
Website particulars notice board location	Website particulars notice board location
Details of tender can be seen and address of the office from where the tender form can be purchased etc	Above tender available on website i.e. www.reps.gov.in

128-W/269/OET/25-26/WE/NIT/19 (A,B,C,D,E,F,G) Dated: 28.07.2025

SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE 2305/25

JEEVIKA

Rural Development Department

BIHAR RURAL LIVELIHOODS PROMOTION SOCIETY

STATE RURAL LIVELIHOODS MISSION, BIHAR

3rd Floor, Vidyut Bhawan-II Bailey Road, Patna - 021

Inviting Bid for Supply, Installation and Demonstration of Hardware and other IT Infrastructure for Bihar Rural Livelihoods Promotion Society (JEEVIKA) with Operation and Maintenance

(Two Envelope E-procurement)

BRPLS invites bids for Supply, Installation and Demonstration of Hardware and other IT infrastructure for Jeeviqa Command & Control Centre (JCC) with Centralized Grievance Redressal Management System (CGRMS). Interested bidders may download Request for Bid (RFB) document from <https://eproc2.bihar.gov.in>. The RFB can also be seen at www.brpls.in/procurement for reference purpose. Other information is as follows:

Date for start of downloading the Bid document	30/07/2025 through e-Procurement Portal https://eproc2.bihar.gov.in
Pre-Bid Meeting	12/08/2025 at 03:00 PM onwards at BRPLS Office, Patna, Bihar.
Last Date/Time for uploading the Bid (Technical and Financial)	25/08/2025 at 03:00 PM, on the e-Procurement Portal https://eproc2.bihar.gov.in
Date/Time for Opening the Technical Bid	25/08/2025 at 03:30 PM on the e-Procurement Portal https://eproc2.bihar.gov.in
Nodal Person from Client	State Project Manager – MIS Mobile - 7808920107

For support related to e-tendering process, bidders may contact at following address during working hours: 8AM to 7PM (All days in week except Sunday and few selected state holidays on "eProc 2.0 Help Desk Address: m-junction services limited RJ Complex, 2nd Floor, Canara Bank Campus, Khajuria, Ashiana Road, P.S. - Shastri Nagar, Patna 800 014, Bihar. Tollfree No: 1800 572 657 or may contact on Email Id: eproc2support@bihar.gov.in

PR. No. 009695 (B&C) 2025-26 (Chief Executive Officer cum Mission Director)

This information is available on website www.state.bihar.gov.in/prdbihar also

गर्भवत्या की पहली तिमाही में माँ की एच.आई.डी. और सिफलिस की जोग जरूर करायें।

बिहार सरकार

खान एवं भूतत्व विभाग

अपर निदेशक (खणिज विकास) एवं उप निदेशक (खणिज विकास) के पद पर प्रतिनियुक्ति के आधार पर नियुक्ति हेतु सूचना

खान एवं भूतत्व विभाग, विहार, पटना अन्तर्गत स्थीकृत / रिक्त अपर निदेशक (खणिज विकास) के 01 (एक) पद एवं उप निदेशक (खणिज विकास) के 01 (एक) पद पर प्रतिनियुक्ति के आधार पर नियुक्ति होंगी।

2. योग्यता/प्राप्ति—नियुक्ति कार्यालयों/ क्षेत्रों में कार्यरत पदाधिकारी प्रतिनियुक्ति के आधार पर नियुक्ति के लिए योग्य होंगे।

(क) i. खान एवं भूतत्व से जुड़े भारत सरकार एवं राज्य सरकार के खान एवं भूतत्व संवर्ग के पदाधिकारी।

ii. क्षेत्रों के लिए योग्य होंगे।

(ख) अपर निदेशक (खणिज विकास) पद हेतु वेतन स्टर-13 एवं समकक्ष के पदाधिकारी प्रतिनियुक्ति के आधार पर नियुक्ति के लिए योग्य होंगे।

3. वेतन—प्रतिनियुक्त पदाधिकारीयों के वेतन उनके मूल वेतन के आधार पर सभी अनुमान्य भत्तों सहित होंगे।

4. प्रतिनियुक्ति की अवधि—प्रतिनियुक्ति 03 वर्ष अथवा 59 वर्ष की आयु, जो भी पहले हो, तक के लिए होंगी। अवधिकारीयों की अवधि अपार्टमेंट/दुकान/पार्किंग/खानाघर/फौराख एवं सर्वेत वर्द्धी तथा कोई



CHRISTOPHER NOLAN IS CRITICISED FOR SHOOTING PART OF HIS ADAPTATION OF ODYSSEY IN A OCCUPIED WESTERN SAHARA CITY

Trump shortens deadline to 12 days for Russia to end war

Says Not Interested In Speaking Further With Putin, Eyes Sanctions & Tariffs On Moscow

Turkerry (Scotland): US President Donald Trump set a new deadline of 10 or 12 days for Russia to make progress toward ending the war in Ukraine or face consequences, underscoring frustration with Russian President Vladimir Putin that it remains committed to European security.

Trump has threatened both sanctions on Russia and buyers of its exports unless progress is made. Speaking in Scotland, where he is holding meetings with European leaders and playing golf, Trump said he was disappointed in Putin and shortening a 50-day deadline he had set on the issue earlier this month.

"I'm going to make a new deadline of about ... 10 or 12 days from today," Trump told reporters during a meeting with British PM Keir Starmer. "There's no reason in waiting... We just don't see any progress being made."

There was no immediate comment from the Kremlin.

Trump, who has expressed annoyance also with Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky, has not always followed up on his tough talk about Putin with action, citing what he deems a good relationship that the two men have had previously.



FRESH WARNING

On Monday, Trump indicated he was not interested in more talks with Putin. He said sanctions and tariffs would be used as penalties for Moscow if it did not meet Trump's demands. "If you know what the answer is going to be, why wait? And it would be sanctions and maybe tariffs, secondary tariffs," Trump said. "I don't want to do that to Russia. I love the Russian people."

"I'm disappointed in President Putin," Trump said. "I'm going to reduce that 50 days that I gave him to a lesser number because I think I already know the answer what's going to happen." White House had not named Russia when it imposed levies on a host of countries in April. And the threat to impose secondary tariffs could threaten trading partners like China and India that import Russian oil and gas. AGENCE

US likely moved N-arms to UK for first time since '08'

The US has likely stationed nuclear weapons in the UK for the first time since 2008, in a signal to Russian President Vladimir Putin that it remains committed to European security.

On July 16, a US military aircraft flew with its transponder on — making its identification and location publicly visible — from a US nuclear weapons depot in New Mexico to an airbase in the UK city of Lakenheath, according to defence analysts and open-source data.

The C-17 flight involved the US air force's Prime Nuclear Airlift Force, which transports nuclear weapons, and didn't fly over any other nation's territory, according to William Alberque, a Europe-based senior fellow at Pacific Forum. US and UK govts have longstanding policies of not commenting on status or location of their nuclear weapons.

The weapons the aircraft most likely delivered were the new B61-12 thermonuclear bombs, increasing the number of US tactical nuclear weapons in Europe for the first ti

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The move also signals that the US is committing more flexible nuclear capabilities to Europe, creating a wider range of options for its forces, said Sidharth Kaushal, a senior research fellow at the Royal United Services Institute.

"Capabilities such as the B61 can contribute to limiting the impact of Russia's large advantage in theater-level nonstrategic nuclear weapons," Kaushal said. BLOOMBERG

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This year, authorities switched off mobile internet in Moscow for a few days before the annual Victory Day parade in May, a major event for Putin, who was hosting several world leaders. That outage exposed Muscovites' reliance on apps for contactless payments, taxis, food delivery and shopping, but discontent was fairly muted.

The lack of protests gave regional authorities the signal that "you can just turn the internet off" without causing a backlash, a lawyer said. Kremlin spokesperson Dmitry Peskov said, "Everything that's linked to ensuring public safety is justified." NYT

Turnberry: US President Trump said he expected the US to set tariffs in the range of 15% to 20% for those countries that did not reach a negotiated trade agreement with Washington.

"I would say it'll be some where in the 15 to 20% range," Trump told reporters, sitting alongside British PM Keir Starmer at his golf resort in Turnberry, Scotland. "Probably one of those two numbers."

Trump has said his administration will send out letters soon to some 200 countries notifying them of their expected tariff rate on exports to the US. Trump imposed an additional 10% tariff on most countries from April, with many others slated to see their tariff rates rise from Aug 1. REUTERS

A satellite image shows a destroyed Tu-22 bomber after drone strike at Beloye air base in Russia on June 4

drones that use mobile connections for navigation. It is a big disruption in a country where smartphones provide the only online access for millions of people. The govt regularly puts an array of online services, including filing tax returns and applying for jobs, and President Putin claimed this year that Russia was "a step ahead of many other nations."

Even so, "they can turn off

the internet," said Katya. She described how the govt had encouraged reliance on apps and web services — and then exercised control over internet access — as a "digital gulag".

The Russian govt has a record of restricting online freedoms. But the mobile internet shutdowns are the collateral damage of war; a response to Ukraine's spectacular drone attacks on long-range bombers at Russian bases June 1.

Day-to-day orders to shut down the mobile internet come from regional officials responding to reported drone intrusions, rather than from Moscow. "The Kremlin has been asking regional authorities to put up a defence against the drones — there's nothing else they can do but turn the inter-

Thailand and Cambodia agree to immediate & unconditional truce

Putrajaya (Malaysia): Thailand and Cambodia have agreed to an "unconditional" ceasefire starting midnight, Malaysian PM Anwar Ibrahim said Monday, a significant breakthrough to resolve five days of deadly border clashes that have killed dozens and displaced tens of thousands of people.

Cambodian PM Hun Manet and Thai acting PM Phumtham Wechayachai hailed the outcome of the meeting and shook hands along with Anwar at the conclusion of the brief press conference in Malaysia.

The fighting began Thursday after a land mine explosion along the border wounded five Thai soldiers. Both sides blamed each other for starting the clashes, that have killed at least 35 people and displaced more than 260,000 people on both sides.

Hun Manet said he hoped that bilateral ties could return to normal soon so that some 300,000 villagers evacuated on



Displaced Thai people celebrate truce announcement in Sisaket

Pak forces kill 3 TTP militants, including man behind 2024 attack on Chinese

Karachi: Three TTP militants, including the mastermind behind an attack on Chinese engineers last year, were killed in an encounter in Karachi, officials said on Monday. Raja Umer Khattab, a counter-terrorism department (CTD) official, said the operation was carried out Sunday jointly by the CTD and personnel of intelligence agencies, Dawn reported.

"The teams raided a house in the Manghopir area in Karachi," he said. He said that terrorists opened fire when they spotted the police teams approaching them, triggering a gunfight that lasted over an hour. All three terrorists were killed during the operation, he said, adding that they belonged to the TTP. A suicide jacket, three grenades, a Kalashnikov rifle, two pistols and a large cache of ammunition were recovered from the site, he added. PNI

White House press secretary Karoline Leavitt posted news of the ceasefire on X and wrote: "President Trump made this happen. Give him the Nobel Peace Prize!" AGENCE

The EV market share in Nepal is now behind only those of a few countries, including Norway, Singapore and Ethiopia.

"For us, using EVs is a com-

mon sense," said Mahesh Bhattacharai, DG of Nepal's department of customs. "In the global market, Chinese EVs are

expanding. The same is hap-

pening in Nepal."

The effort stands in contrast to policies in the US and Europe, which have blocked Chinese EVs to protect their domestic auto industries.

And it carries hope for other developing countries that seek to

become wealthier without enduring the crucible of pollution from which many rich nations have already emerged.

"We're interested in making sure this rapid growth in these emerging markets doesn't follow the same trajectory as developed markets," said the head of sustainable transportation for UN Environment Program. But as Nepal has learned, there are obstacles. The count-

ries have spent heavily on subsidies, and getting rid of the support too quickly could derail the shift to battery power. Even if gas-powered passenger cars are phased out, cleaning the air will require public transportation to go electric as well.

Asian Development Bank

has been a key financier of Nepal's dams, transmission lines and charging networks. The head of ADB's resident mission in Nepal is cautious about the risk of backsliding. "Given the economic sense this EV conversa-

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Businesses and advocates are, however, concerned Nepal



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Cyberattack hits Aeroflot flights, pro-Ukrainian hackers take claim

Moscow: A cyberattack on Russian state-owned flagship carrier Aeroflot caused a mass outage to the company's computer systems Monday. Russia's prosecutor's office said, forcing the airline to cancel more than 100 flights and delay others.

Ukrainian hacker group Silent Crow and Belarusian hacker activist group the Belarus Cyber-Partisans, which opposes the rule of Belarusian President Alexander Lukashenko, claimed responsibility for the cyberattack. It is one of the most disruptive cyberattacks to hit Russia since the start of the full-scale invasion of Ukraine in Feb 2022.

Images shared on social media showed hundreds of delayed passengers crowding Moscow's Sheremetyevo airport, where Aeroflot is based. The outage also disrupted flights operated by Aeroflot's subsidiaries. While most of the flights affected were domestic, the disruption also led to cancellations for some flights to Belarus, Armenia and Uzbekistan.

Silent Crow said it had accessed Aeroflot's corporate network for a year, copying customer and internal data, including audio recordings of phone calls, data from the company's own surveillance on employees and other intercepted communications. The Belarus Cyber-Partisans said they had hoped to "deliver a crushing blow." AP

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A child waits to receive food from a charity kitchen in Gaza City

##

TIMES BUSINESS

THE TIMES OF INDIA, NEW DELHI | TUESDAY, JULY 29, 2025

India's GCCs Shift Focus

To High-End AI Talent

In the June quarter of this fiscal, GCC hiring rose by 8-10% sequentially, driven by growing demand for GenAI, cloud, and finops skills, signaling a shift in the tech talent landscape.

AI, platform engineering, and cloud security are key drivers of current talent demand.



Severe talent shortages widen

- AI & data roles face a 42% supply gap
- Platform engg shortfall: 38%
- FinOps shows the sharpest gap at 45%



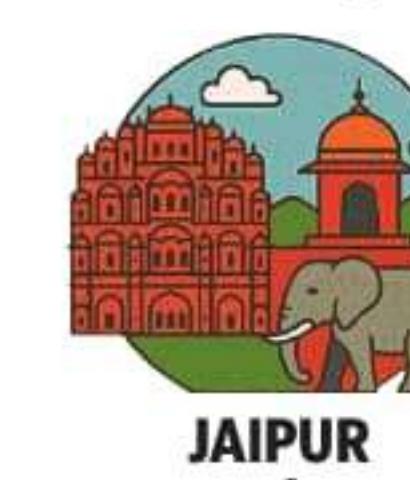
COIMBATORE



KOCHI



AHMEDABAD



JAIPUR

20-34% QoQ hiring growth



BENGALURU

Metros remain hubs for advanced tech

- Bengaluru leads in AI and product engineering
- GCC salaries for specialised roles in metros now surpass ₹50-60 lakh per annum

Source: Quess Corp

S'pore Air profit falls as Air India loss hits earnings

Singapore Airlines said it's upbeat about travel demand over the peak summer travel period, even as the carrier weathers a slump in profit due to losses at Air India. The airline's net income dropped 59% to \$145 million in the three months ended June 30, the carrier said in a statement on Monday. That was largely due to the results from Air India, in which it holds a 25.1% stake. Its performance wasn't part of Singapore Air's results last year. The investigation into the crash of AI 171 in June is ongoing and the fallout is likely to continue to weigh on Singapore Air's results. BLOOMBERG



Adani Total Gas June qtr net declines 8%

New Delhi: Adani Total Gas on Monday reported an 8% fall in its June quarter net profit after a cut in supply of cheaper domestically produced gas led to higher input prices. Net profit was Rs 162 crore compared with Rs 177 crore a year back, according to a company statement. AGENCIES

Mazagon Dock Q1 profit drops 35%

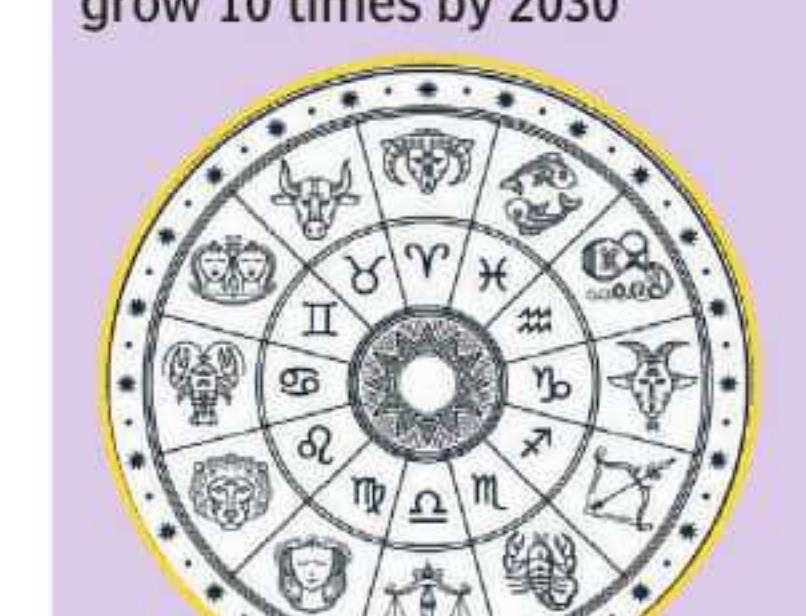
Mumbai: India's biggest warship builder Mazagon Dock Shipbuilders on Monday reported a 35% drop in its consolidated net profit for the June quarter to Rs 452 crore. It had posted a net profit of Rs 696 crore during Q1 of the previous fiscal. Revenue from operations increased by 11.4%. AGENCIES

GAIL profit falls 30% on lower margins

New Delhi: GAIL on Monday reported a 30% drop in first quarter net profit on widening losses on petrochemical business and a drop in gas marketing margins. Net profit was Rs 1,886 crore in April-June compared with Rs 2,724 crore in same period last year. AGENCIES

figure it out

\$7bn
is the estimated size of the astrology market in India. Its digital segment set to grow 10 times by 2030



Trade deal talks continue with India: USTR

Washington: The United States is still working on aspects of its EU trade deal, including steel and digital services taxes, even as it meets with China this week to push talks forward and continues negotiations with India, the US trade representative said on Monday.

"There are certainly areas to keep working on in different sectors," Jamieson Greer said in an interview to a TV channel, referring to the US-EU framework announced over the weekend.

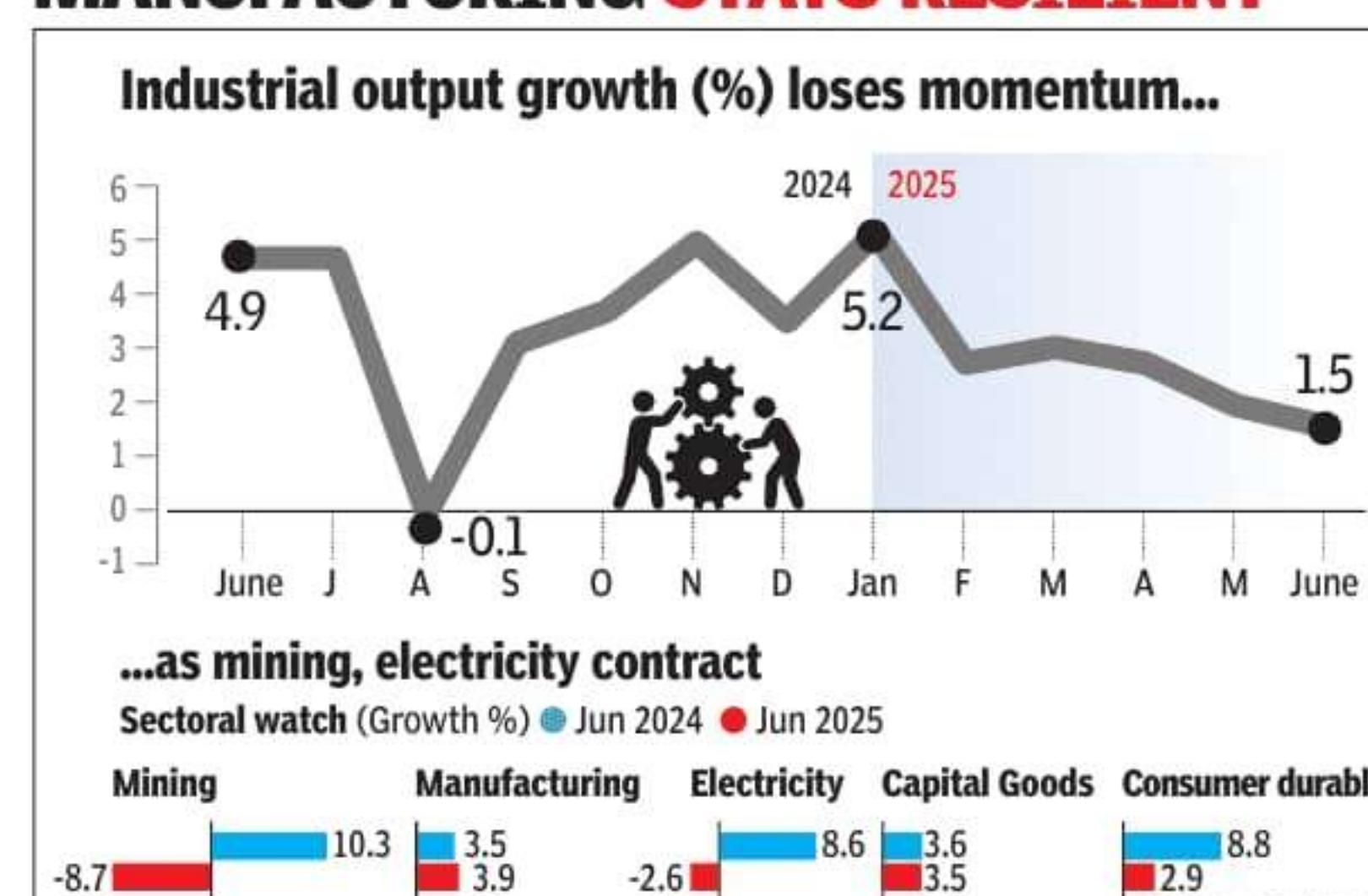
On China, he said: "I don't expect some kind of enormous breakthrough today. What I expect is continued monitoring and checking in on the implementation of our agreement thus far." REUTERS

At 1.5%, industrial growth slows to 10-mth low in June

Excess Rains Weigh On Mining & Electricity Sectors: Experts

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

MANUFACTURING STAYS RESILIENT



June last year:

Experts attributed the slowdown to excess rains which had weighed on mining and electricity sectors.

"Excess rains in the second half of June 2025 are likely to have weighed on mining output, while also leading to a contraction in electricity ge-

neration, although the extent of the same narrowed compared to the previous month. Encouragingly, the growth in manufacturing output improved to 3.9% in June 2025 from 3.2% in May 2025," said Aditi Nayar, chief economist at ratings agency Icra.

The data also showed we-

akness in other segments of the industrial sector. The capital goods sector, a key gauge of industrial activity, remained sluggish during the month, rising by 3.5% in June compared to a growth of 3.6% in June last year.

The consumer durables sector slowed in June, rising by 2.9% compared to a growth of 8.8% in June last year while the consumer non-durables sector contracted by 0.4% during the month compared to a decline of 1% in June last year.

"On the demand side, signals remain mixed. Output of consumer non-durables goods continued to remain weak, staying in the contractionary zone for five consecutive months, while output of consumer durable goods improved. Urban consumption, in particular, remains lagging," said Rajani Sinha, chief economist at ratings agency CareEdge.

WHAT REPORT SAYS

Positives	
Resilient domestic supply and demand fundamentals	
Inflation remaining within the target range	
Monsoon progress on track	

Downside Risks	
Global slowdown, particularly in the US (which shrank by 0.5% in Q1 2025), may dampen demand for Indian exports	
Uncertainty on the US tariff	
6.2-6.5% range.	

The report stated that despite monetary easing and a strong bank balance sheet, credit growth slowed, reflecting cautious borrower sentiment and possibly risk-averse lender behaviour. "A growing preference for bond markets, particularly commercial papers among corporates due to lower borrowing costs, may also explain the shift. Piggybacking on initiatives like the Employment

Linked Incentive (ELI) scheme, it is time for corporates to set the ball in motion," said the report.

The report also cautioned that despite the broadly positive outlook, downside risks remain. "While geopolitical tensions have not elevated further, the global slowdown, particularly in the US (which shrank by 0.5% in Q1 2025), could dampen further demand for Indian exports," said the report.

After receiving a satcom licence from DoT and satellite authorisation from ISRO, Starlink will now begin to build ground infrastructure. It is planning to import equipment for which it will approach DoT for permissions.

IndusInd Bank Q1 profit drops 72% to ₹604cr

Mumbai: IndusInd Bank returned to profit in Q1F25, although net profit fell sharply by 72.2% to ₹604.1 crore from ₹2,170.7 crore a year earlier. The decline was driven by higher provisions and a contraction in core lending profitability, even as other income more than tripled.

The bank had reported a loss of ₹2,329 crore in the preceding quarter after incurring losses on derivatives, which led to the managing director and deputy managing director stepping down. Total income slipped 3.8% to ₹14,420.8 crore, while interest earned declined 2.3% to ₹12,263.9 crore; interest expenses rose 6.8% to ₹7,624.1 crore. TNN

MS blocks access, Nayara moves HC

New Delhi: Nayara Energy has moved the Delhi high court against Microsoft for "unilaterally" blocking system access and its own data, a move the Rosneft-backed company described as a "dangerous corporate overreach...with serious implications for India's energy ecosystem".

Microsoft's move appears to have been prompted by its interpretation of the latest European Union (EU) sanctions on Nayara's refinery in Gujarat as part of the grouping's larger aim of throttling Russian oil exports, with the aim of weakening Moscow's war machine.

The refinery, with an annual capacity of processing 20 million tonnes of oil, is among the major buyers of

Russian crude in India. The company accounts for 8% of India's total refining capacity, 7% of fuel retail network with 6,750 petrol pumps and is on way to garnering 8% of polypropylene capacity.

"While the sanctions originate exclusively from the EU, Microsoft — a US-headquartered corporation — has chosen to withdraw services from Nayara Energy without any legal requirement to do so under US or Indian law," Nayara said on Monday. "This action has been taken unilaterally, without

Nayara to be sanctioned by

the EU. New Delhi had denounced the latest sanctions announced on July 19. "India does not subscribe to any unilateral sanction measures. We are a responsible actor and remain fully committed to legal obligations. Government of India considers the provision of energy security a paramount importance to meet the basic needs of its citizens. We would stress that there should be no double standards, especially when it comes to energy trade."

External affairs ministry spokesperson Randhir Jaiswal had said.

Nayara said all its operations are fully compliant with Indian laws and regulations.

"The company remains in regular engagement with Indian authorities to ensure transparency and accountability," it said.

How do you see India and US collaborating in development of AI and in creation of regulations around frontier technologies?

I think the US and India are natural partners in development of AI

Tech Turmoil: Indian Cos Mirror Global Trend

TCS's 12k job cuts spark fears of larger IT layoffs

Employees 'Unbilled' For 3-18 Months May Bear Brunt | Freshers, Lateral Hires Face Uncertainty

Veena Mani & Shilpa Phadnis | TNN

and unexpected exits.

Sudden Exits: Several employees who spoke to TOI on condition of anonymity said those impacted had been on the bench for anywhere between 3 and 18 months. In one case, an employee claimed she was called into a meeting where three HR representatives handed her a "discharge letter" and asked her to resign.

AI RESET TRIGGERS IT ANXIETY

AI disrupts workforce models: Broad-based hiring is giving way to leaner, skill-intensive structures—replacing volume with value, and billing based on niche expertise

Graduates struggle amid hiring slump: While a few students secure top offers, many—especially in tier 2/3 colleges—are left behind

Bench talent facing the axe: Employees idle for 3–18 months, despite years of experience, are being let go—raising fears of sudden, silent exits across firms

Urgent call to reimagine education: Experts warn that unless AI is embedded across disciplines, India risks a mismatch between graduate skills and future industry demands

Onboarding freeze fuels uncertainty: Lateral hires

while some students receive lucrative offers, many others are left without any. For computer science students, the future is deeply intertwined with AI, offering exciting opportunities but also demanding rapid adaptation.

Ramkumar Ramamoorthy, partner at tech growth advisory firm Catalines, said, "In the context of digital and AI, there is a crying need for India to reimagine its higher education to stay relevant. Beyond STEM programmes, we must integrate AI across disciplines — liberal arts, law, medicine, management, and social sciences. The only way to do this at scale is through collaboration with experts and practitioners. Otherwise, we risk producing graduates who are misaligned with market needs, potentially leading to serious social implications."

'India one of most critical mkts for Google globally'

Pankaj Doval
@timesofindia.com

Karan Bhatia is Google's global chief for govt affairs and public policy. Bhatia, who served as deputy US Trade Representative (USTR) between 2005 and 2007 and reports directly to CEO Sundar Pichai, says India is like a second home for the tech giant and stands as a "natural ally" to US when it comes to development of AI and subsequent regulations. He says Google's investments in India, including hiring and development of global solutions, will only strengthen with time. Excerpts from an interview given to TOI at Google's Washington office:

How critical is India when we look at Google's global ambitions?

If you look at growth and investments that Google has made in India, it does justify the statement that 'India is like our second home'. We have more than 13,000 employees in the country, we have five major office sites and have invested in creating substantial amounts of infrastructure... I think the future is quite optimistic and quite exciting. India is absolutely one of the most critical markets for Google globally. It's not just the scale, which obviously is huge, but it's also a very, very tech-savvy market.

How do you see India and US collaborating in development of AI and in creation of regulations around frontier technologies?

I think the US and India are natural partners in development of AI

15 years has been. Secondly, Google has been one of the great incubators of new businesses, startups, sometimes even competitors. And that's great.

What is your view on India's talent in IT. Why do you think India has not been able to produce a Google or a Microsoft or an OpenAI? Do you see that happening anytime soon?

The talent of the Indian IT workforce is well known globally and it's the reason why we and many other companies have a strong presence in India. On the question of why you don't have a Google or an Amazon born out of India, I feel India is a hotbed of great innovation and there are great companies in the IT and other space that continue to be born. I have no doubt that the future is going to see even more global IT powerhouses coming out of India.

First, I have never seen a sector that is more dynamic and more competitive than the technology sector. You just look back five years ago when companies like Ope-



A thought for today

Don't be seduced into thinking that that which does not make a profit is without value

ARTHUR MILLER

Keep UPI Free

It's a public good that's made India a digital economy. Charging a fee on transactions might scupper it

Thanks to UPI, India leads the world in instant digital payments. Last month, there were 1,840cr UPI transactions worth ₹24L cr. Behind this success lies a tweak that GOI made in Dec 2019. It removed all transaction fees – what banks call merchant discount rate or MDR – on UPI. Until then, banks had charged 0.25% for transactions up to ₹2,000, and 0.65% above. So, when you bought, say, milk worth ₹100 via UPI, your grocer lost ₹0.25. It doesn't seem like much, but on a low-margin product like milk – 2.5% dealer margin – it's a 10% hit to earnings. That's why UPI wasn't popular for daily needs back then. But with MDR gone, everyone loves UPI. Transaction volumes have jumped 14-fold in five years.

So, RBI governor's recent remark regarding UPI: "Some costs have to be paid... whether collectively or by the user," needs careful analysis. This isn't the first time the idea of reinstating UPI fees has been floated, but coming from the guy, it merits discussion, even though the finance ministry last month ruled out restoring MDR.

It was responding to media reports on restoration of MDR. North Block termed them "baseless and sensationalising speculations (that) cause needless uncertainty, fear and suspicion among our citizens."

Banks say they lose money on every UPI transaction because they get no return on the IT infra they maintain to process hundreds of millions of real-time payments every day. But the fact is, govt has been compensating banks for running UPI as a 'public good' these past five years. It paid a subsidy of 0.15% – 15 paise on ₹100 – on UPI transactions worth ₹2,000 or less last fiscal. Besides, if UPI is such a losing proposition, why has the number of participating banks jumped from 143 at the time of MDR's removal to 675 now? It's because banks use UPI to acquire customers for other lucrative products like loans and insurance.

Also, IT costs that banks complain about don't arise from UPI alone – the infra is shared across their services. Still, if RBI and GOI tomorrow agree that UPI hurts the bottom line of banks, they should consider increasing the subsidy to banks, because reinstating MDR would reduce the acceptability of UPI, and increase cash in circulation, which was already at a record high of ₹37L cr in March, and cost the govt ₹6,373cr in printing costs last fiscal.

Stoking The Game

England's cricket captain forgot the rules, was churlish, but some Indian fans read too much into it

In *The Godfather*, Don Corleone famously talks about an offer the other side cannot refuse. In the fading lights of Manchester, Ben Stokes made a cricket's version of that offer. The England skipper wanted to 'declare' India's innings. But the cessation of a Test cannot depend on the needs and desires of one captain. It must follow the Laws of Cricket, or, to be specific, ICC's match playing conditions, where Clause 12.7.6 clearly states: "On the final day, if both captains (the batsmen at the wicket may act for their captain) accept that there is no prospect of either side achieving a victory, they may agree to finish the match after." Simply put, calling off a game must be mutual. The consequent acts of petulance by Stokes and his teammates were downright unsportsmanlike. The match referee should look into it.

Such innocence about the game's laws has happened before. In Bangalore, 1983, Pakistan captain Zaheer Abbas and his side left the field, leaving Gavaskar stranded on 86. Umpires had to bring them back. Gavaskar scored his 28th century. In those pre-internet days, the incident didn't degenerate into an online scrap. Sunday night, some Indian fans saw evidence of colonial 'hangovers' in Stokes. Wrong. Stokes is a New Zealander by birth, and England's 'bazball' progenitor coach Brendon McCullum is a bona fide Kiwi. This was just an outburst born out of utter frustration of having drawn a game that was once firmly in England's grasp. The needless spat sadly took the focus away from a steely display by captain Shubman Gill's young India. That needs to be roundly applauded. With the series 2-1 in England's favour, Oval should see a cracker of a fifth Test.

Their museum, my sighs

When Clive of India was recently spotted in Wales

Gopinath Chandroth

Family holidays are invariably hard work for those with an archaeologist or historian in the family. There's no basking in the sun with a book and a Margarita, no lie-in or breakfast in bed. The days follow a regular 9-5 routine. Endless aisles of Louvre are navigated, shoes are worn out at Smithsonian, and the mummies of British Museum are practically on first-name terms.

There's always an exception to everything – something that breaks the pattern. A recent visit to Powis Castle in Wales to see the Clive Collection was one such outlier. Yes, Robert Clive – or *Clive of India* – who laid the foundation of the British East India Company's reign of Bengal. When he left India, it was with a cool personal fortune of £31mn (today's value), amassed at immeasurable human cost. That was just the cash and doesn't include the priceless artefacts that visitors are privileged to see.

An impressive collection of Mughal-era artefacts is on display at Powis. It assembles items amassed by two generations of the Clive family: his son Edward served as the governor of Madras. It's also a reminder of the stealth, guile and deceit of East India Company. But that is history and one shouldn't quarrel with history.

The most stunning display is one of the finials detached from the throne of Tipu Sultan of Mysore – a dazzlingly well-made tiger-head in solid gold, studded with diamonds, rubies and emeralds. Other objects that stand out include the ornately carved palanquin of Siraj ud-Daulah, the last Nawab of Bengal, and the elegant chintz cotton tent that Tipu used during his battles. The multitude of exquisite pieces, both on display and in storage, outnumbers any collection in national museums across South Asia.

Each object was examined with an intensity the visitors didn't know they possessed. It was as if their own history lay bare among the ivory-hilted daggers and swords, curved gold-brocaded shoes, and elaborate paintings. The experience was like peering into a time gone by – an epoch otherwise encountered only in school textbooks and dry, one-dimensional history lessons. The affinity they felt towards the objects was difficult to make sense of – like trying to remember the details of a vivid but elusive dream. Nevertheless, standing among Clive's loot that morning, they heard the echo of battle cries, the neigh of horses and the stomping of hooves. The Indian visitors left Powis with the spectre of Robert Clive trailing behind them.

Bigger Meaning Of Being Divya

The World Cup winner isn't from a traditional chess centre like Chennai, but from Nagpur. This is indicative of how deep the sport has taken root in India, even as its global centre is shifting to Asia

Devangshu Datta



The Women's Chess World Cup final turned into a fantastic fairy tale journey for 19-year-old Divya Deshmukh. She won the second-largest prize in women's chess, taking home \$50,000 as prize money and also achieved the Grandmaster title after three weeks of toil and strife.

The final was an all-Indian affair and a battle between generations at the same time. The woman Divya beat, Koneru Humpy, is literally twice her age at 38.

Both finalists qualify for the next women's Candidates and by winning the Cup, Divya should also automatically receive the Grandmaster title. She is the fourth Indian woman (and the 88th Indian in total) to make it to GM, along with Rameshbabu Vaishali, Humpy and Dronavalli Harika, whom Divya beat in the quarterfinals.

WWC is set up in a format similar to Wimbledon as a series of knock-out matches. Each match starts with two games played at a long time control, and if there's no decision, a string of tie-breaks is played at progressively shorter time controls, until there's a winner.

There's prize money for the winners and losers of every round, with the champion and the runners-up receiving \$50,000 and \$35,000 respectively. In addition, the finalists and the winner of the match for third and fourth places receive spots in the next Candidates tournament.

This means that one of them could be the next challenger for the world title, which is currently held by Ju Wenjun. The world champion is allowed to play the WC though Ju didn't. In case any of the top three are already qualified for the Candidates, the fourth semi-finalist qualifies. This is the case here since third-placed Tan Zhongyi (who Divya beat in the Semis) was Ju Wenjun's challenger in the last title match.

The scope of Divya's achievement has to be put into perspective, not only for her as an individual but also as

a leading light of India's chess squad. This young lady from Nagpur is a multiple world age-group champion, and an Olympiad gold medallist, as well as being the world's highest rated U-20 female player. She was also a key contributor to India's online Olympiad title in 2022.

The World Cup was a breakout event for Divya, propelling her into the ranks of the World Top 15 as well as fetching the GM title and the spot in the Candidates. She beat the World No. 4 and former world champion Tan Zhongyi, the World No. 5 Zhu Jiner, World No. 6 Humpy, and No. 12 Harika on her way to the title. Each time, she was an underdog and she won each of these matches in tie-breaks.

But here, in the quarterfinals in Batumi, Georgia, there were four Indians in Divya, Humpy, Harika and Vaishali and three Chinese in Tan, Yuxin Song and Lei Tingjie in the fray along with a lone Georgian in Nana Dzagnidze. That made it overwhelmingly likely that the two Asian giants would take the top honours.

The Indian and Chinese women's team have won multiple Olympiad medals in the last few cycles and of course, China has held the world title through Tan and Ju. India won golds in both Open and Women's category in the last Olympiad.

Humpy and Vaishali played in the 2024 Candidates as did Lei and Tan. Tan won that event, with Humpy and Vaishali sharing second to fourth place with Lei. India and China have also "traded" the Open world championship between Ding Liren and Gukesh.

A decade or 15 years ago, chess fans would have scoffed at the likelihood of any of these results and it looked as though the chances were remote Asia would produce a stream of serious contenders for chess titles.

Yes, there was an Anand, and China was developing into a significant chess power but nobody would have believed that the two Asian giants could both create this assembly line of "strength in depth". If you factor in the rising stars of Uzbekistan and Iran, the

balance has certainly shifted Eastwards. Divya doesn't hail from a traditional chess centre like Chennai. Nagpur has, however, started to produce strong players like her and Raunak Sadhwani and this is an indication of how deeply chess has taken root across India now.

She's also from a modestly middle-class family, which has had to come to terms with their daughter becoming a globe-trotter long before she was eligible to vote. If all goes well and she continues her meteoric rise, she could be on course to become the next challenger, or even, who knows, the next Champion.

The writer is a chess columnist and an internationally rated chess player



Multilingual, Inclusive Education Being Realised At Scale'

Marking five years of NEP, Union education minister argues its ideas, from language choice to stress on skills, have fundamentally changed classroom experience

Dharmendra Pradhan



In 2020, India more than just released a policy – it rekindled an ancient ideal. National Education Policy (NEP) placed learning at the heart of nation building, drawing from civilisational wisdom. Framed through one of the most participatory policy-making processes in history under late Kasturirangan's guidance, NEP 2020 was a visionary roadmap rooted in cultural values. It reimagined learning as a process free from confines of rote memorisation, rigid structures, and linguistic hierarchies. It set the stage for a holistic, inclusive and future-ready education system.

Five years on, NEP's impact is visible in policy corridors and classrooms. In early childhood classrooms, play-based learning is displacing rote memorisation; children read fluently in their mother tongue; Class 6 students explore hands-on skills in vocational labs. Its imprint is visible in research hubs where India's knowledge systems engage in dialogue with cutting-edge science. NEP's vision is reflected in the rise of women in STEM fields and in the growing global presence of Indian institutions.

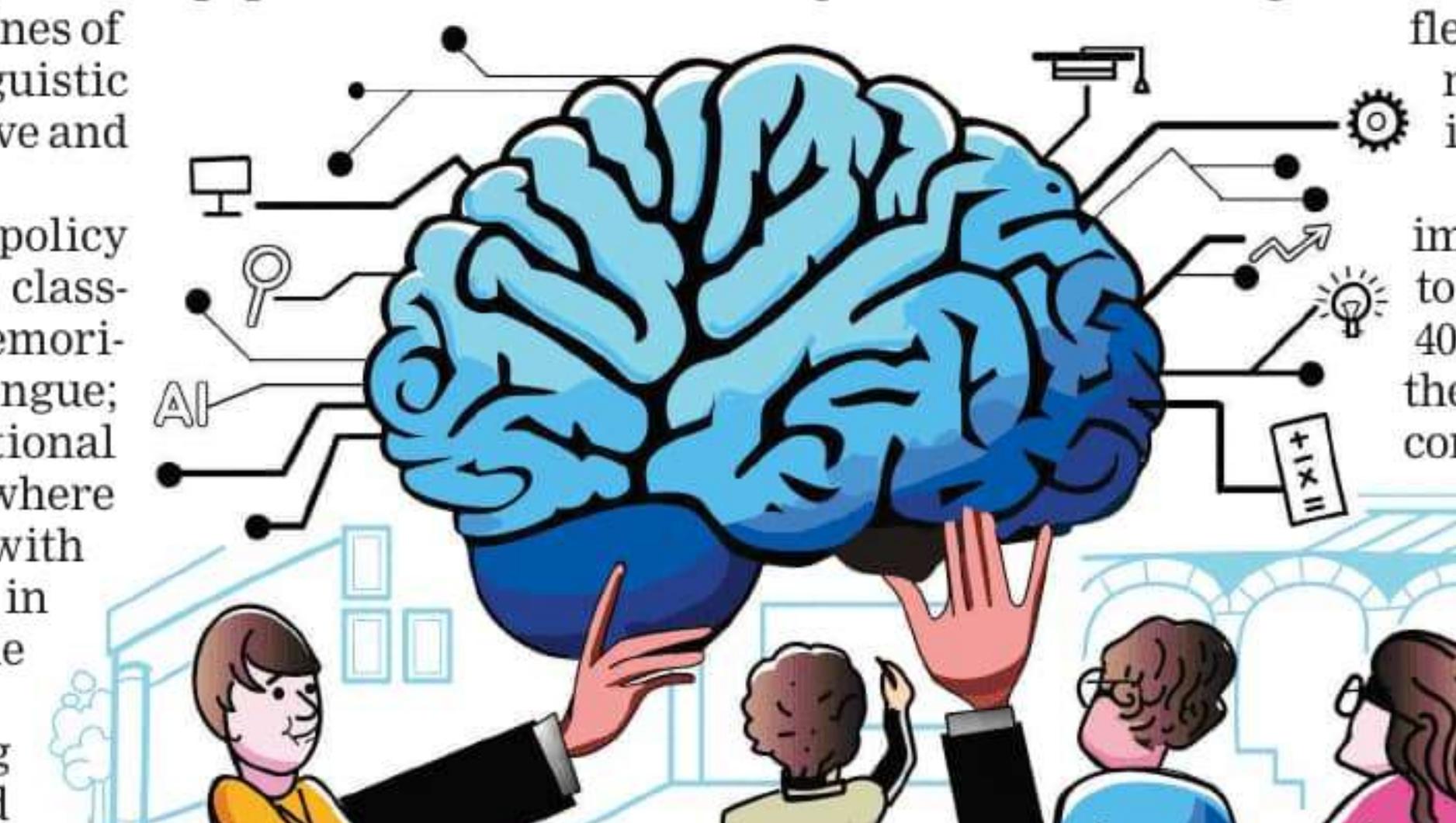
Nipun Bharat Mission has improved learning outcomes, ensuring foundational literacy and numeracy by Class 2. Nipun Bharat's success, reflected in Aser 2024 and Parakh Rashtriya Sarvekshan 2024, has made classrooms spaces of curiosity and comprehension. Initiatives like Vidya Pravesh and institutionalisation of Balvatikas will help integrate early childhood care and education. Add to this new-age textbooks and introduction of Jaadui Pitara and e-Jaadui Pitara in 22 Indian languages. Over 14L teachers have completed Nishtha training, and platforms like Diksha have expanded access to teaching resources.

NEP recognised language is not a hurdle but a powerful medium of empowerment. With 117 language primers developed and Indian Sign Language introduced as a subject, vision of multilingual, inclusive education is being realised at scale. Bhartiya Bhasha Pustak Yojana and National Digital Depository for Indian

Knowledge Systems will democratise access to linguistic and civilisational learning.

National Curriculum Framework for School Education and new textbooks for Classes 1 to 8 are in place. Prerna is a bridge programme to help curriculum transition and ensure students aren't overwhelmed but supported at each stage of their learning journey.

Centrally sponsored schemes like Samagra Shiksha and PM Poshan have helped achieve near-universal enrolment. NEP's reach has extended to underserved populations. More than 7.12L girls from disadvantaged



groups are enrolled in over 5,138 Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalayas. Over 490 hostels have been sanctioned for PVTG learners and 692 hostels under Dharti Aaba Janatiya Gram Utthan Abhiyan. Prashast, a programme that screens for disability, helps the schooling system become more resilient and inclusive.

A key driver of the transformation under NEP 2020 are 14,500 PM Shri schools. These modern, inclusive and green institutions are being developed as exemplary schools aligned with NEP's vision, redefining both infra and pedagogy. The Vidyanjali platform has connected over 8.2L schools with more than 5.3L volunteers and 2,000 CSR partners, directly benefitting 1.7cr students.

In higher education, total enrolment has risen from 3.42cr to 4.46cr, a 30.5% increase. Women now comprise nearly 48% of all students, and female PhD enrolment has more than doubled from 0.48L to 1.12L. This expansion in enrolment, especially for SC, ST, OBC, and minority students, marks a historic achievement for inclusivity in higher education. Female GER has surpassed male GER for six consecutive years.

Introducing Multiple Entry and Exit, Academic Bank of Credits with over 21.12cr APAAR IDs issued, and National Credit Framework have together provided flexibility and mobility. With 153 universities offering multiple entry and 74 multiple exit options, learning is not linear but modular and student-driven.

NEP's emphasis on research and innovation has improved India's Global Innovation Index rank from 81st to 39th. Over 18,000 startups have been incubated across 400 HEIs. Anusandhan NRF, revamped PMRF 2.0, and the 6k or One Nation One Subscription initiative show a commitment to decentralised access to research.

Tech platforms like Swayam and Swayam Plus have recorded over 5.3cr enrolments. Support of Diksha and PM e-Vidya with over 200 DTH channels ensures high-quality content is available countrywide. Digital learning ecosystem's success, including biannual admissions and dual degree regulations, has made higher education more inclusive, interdisciplinary, and industry-relevant. In QS World University Rankings 2026, 54 Indian institutions made the list, up from just 11 in 2014. Global universities Deakin, Wollongong, and Southampton have set up campuses in India.

The journey of transformation is being celebrated through Akhil Bharatiya Shiksha Samagam, but is being measured in the quiet confidence of learners, teachers, and parents. We must continue to green our campuses, expand critical research infra, and deepen learning outcomes. Under PM's leadership, education is not just policy but the greatest national investment. Where there is learning, there is progress. A billion minds unshackled and empowered aren't just a demographic dividend, but New India's supernova.

Views are personal

Sacredspace



Hope is the thing
with feathers
That perches
in the soul
And sings the
tune without
the words
And never stops
at all.

Emily Dickinson

Calvin & Hobbes



Narayani Ganesh

Bhanu Mushtaq's *Heart Lamp*, stories from the Muslim community in Karnataka, narrates heart-rending stories of women and children routinely treated as subhumans by patriarchal, insensitive men thriving on false interpretations of holy scriptures like the Quran and Hadiths to justify their dominating behaviour. But these holy books uphold the rights of women and respect them as valuable human beings.

Maa ke kadmon ke neeché Jannat hain – Paradise lies beneath the mother's feet – says a Hadith on mothers. Another says that while you are offering namaz, and your mother calls for you, you can pause your prayer and answer her first. In the short stories by Mushtaq, one is saddened that mothers and wives are ill-treated by their fathers, husbands and brothers, all citing justification from Islamic holy scriptures, keeping the women in

ignorance and terrorising them with their bullying, reducing them to chattels, enslaved and kept in deprivation, abused and discarded at will.

"As evening started to lose its light, lamps were lit around the house. But the lamp Mehrun's heart had been extinguished a long time ago. Who should she live for? What was the point? The walls, roof, plates, bowls, stove, bed, vessels, the rose plant in the front yard – none of these were able to answer her questions." Mehrun and her children, abandoned by her uncaring husband and dismissed by her maternal family, have nowhere to turn. In desperation, she wishes to end it all. Dare I try and answer her questions?

Mehrun, you should live for yourself first. Stoke the flame of your heart lamp gently every day; remind yourself you are a person in your own right, with

children to nurture, besides yourself. No one is worth destroying yourself for. No one should be given the power to extinguish your heart lamp. It is your pure, inner light that keeps your spirit alive; your source of self-inspiration and your sustainer, no matter how grave the challenges you face.

No one can make you feel inferior without your consent and submission, and no one can dare try to put out the flame in your heart. Keep the light aglow, find a way to survive despite all the humiliation and rejection. You will rise like a Phoenix from the ashes and overcome. And thrive.

When Aashraf, in another narrative, seeks justice from mosque officials following her husband Yakub abandoning her and the children once she had a third girl baby in succession, she is ignored and dismissed. With nothing to eat, she begins working at Zulekhा



THE SPEAKING TREE

Begum's house. Hearing her story, the Begum tries to educate her on the true import of Islamic teachings.

"The Prophet himself had only daughters. A son was born, but dies when he was still a child. Have you read about how much he loved his daughters? Bibi Fatima was his life. They were living proof of the bond that can exist between father and daughter." (*Prophet's son/sons all died young*). Aashraf did not understand a word. Kept in darkness about such matters, like the other women, she suffered indignities and humiliation at the hands of patriarchal misogynists who hijacked teachings and twisted them for their own convenience.

On International Tiger Day, A Look At What Makes India's Conservation Story A Success – And The Challenges Going Forward

Twist in tale: How India got tigers back from the brink

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In 2006, India had just 1,411 tigers left in the wild. By 2022, there were 3,682, almost 75% of the world's wild tiger population — a 161% jump in just 16 years.

More than 50 years since the launch of Project Tiger in 1973, the numbers tell a tale that's obvious: tiger conservation has been a roaring success. But challenges remain.

The numbers are significant, especially in the backdrop of a decline in tiger population in the 1980s, and a period of not-so-robust growth thereafter because of multiple factors, primarily poaching. By 2004, the situation had become so bad that tigers were on the brink of extinction at Rajasthan's Sariska Tiger Reserve.

The country's wildlife managers and biologists sensed the urgency and started taking multiple measures to protect the existing tiger population and increase the number of big cats.

But, in the journey from 1,411 in 2006 to 3,682 in 2022, many lessons have been learnt — primarily about human-tiger conflict and the lurking threat of poaching.

"The country has been a leader in tiger conservation," said Yadavendra V Jhala, a senior scientist at Tata Institute of Fundamental Research, and a former dean of Wildlife Institute of India (WII). But Jhala — who has been part of the journey to bring back tigers through policy intervention and management strategies, following the Sariska situation — cautions that the threat to tigers has never gone away.

"Though India now has approximately 3,700 tigers, they are still



A tiger in Corbett National Park, which has India's largest count of the big cat

vulnerable and can be decimated if poaching is left unchecked, as the market for illegal tiger parts and products still thrives outside India."

He also reminded that the tiger population increase had not been uniform, reserves such as Palamau (Jharkhand), Achanakmar (Chhattisgarh), Satkosia (Odisha), Damta (Mizoram) and Buxa (Bengal) have seen declines and localised extinctions.

On the other hand, big cat populations in Uttarakhand and eastern Maharashtra had increased so much that man-animal conflict has become an issue. "Also, Chhattisgarh, Odisha and Jharkhand have registered declines, though they have good habitats because of prey base depletion," Jhala said.

India began its efforts to protect

the tiger population when it launched Project Tiger as a centrally sponsored scheme in 1973 in nine reserves (Assam, Bihar, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Odisha, Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh and Bengal) over a 14,000sq km area.

Since then, project coverage has expanded to 58 tiger reserves, over more than 84,487sq km across 18 states, occupying nearly 2.5% of the country's total geographical area.

The numbers show that approximately 35% of our tiger reserves urgently require enhanced protection measures, such as habitat restoration, ungulate augmentation and subsequent tiger reintroduction.

"Tiger recovery is linked with rural community prosperity and law and order," Jhala said. "In the last 20 years,

wherever there has been extreme poverty and armed conflicts (Maoist activity or other law-and-order problems), we have seen tiger extinctions. Improving the livelihoods of forest communities, so that they do not have to rely on forest produce for a living, will reduce their negative impact on biodiversity."

He, however, stressed that India would need a strategy to manage the growing population of tigers. "If this is not done in time, there will likely be a severe backlash from local communities, and we stand to lose all we gained in the past 20 years."

The conflict has, indeed, taken a human toll. The environment ministry told Parliament on July 24 that 73 lives were lost in tiger attacks in 2024, with Maharashtra reporting the highest (42), followed by UP (10), MP (6), Uttarakhand (5) and Assam (4). There were 51 human lives lost in 2020, 59 in 2021, 110 in 2022 and 85 in 2023.

Indian Forest Service officer and Barabanki DFO Akash Deep Badhwan said during his tenure as DFO Katarinaghata Wildlife Sanctuary, Dudhwa Tiger Reserve, Bahraich, forest personnel grappled with a mix of threats: a 45km porous border with Nepal, with cross-border gangs and illegal wildlife trade putting staff at risk. Understaffing and resource shortages are another constraint. "Human-wildlife conflict fuels mistrust between communities and enforcement teams. Efforts to evict encroachments or set up fencing provoke resistance from villagers, compounding socio-political tension. Balancing legal constraints, regulatory delays, and ecological imperatives adds further administrative and ethical complexity."

GROWING FOOTPRINT

Project Tiger was launched in 1973 and has delivered remarkable results. Every three of four tigers in the wild are in India now

From 9 to 18
In 1973, an initial nine tiger reserves were designated across states. Now, 18 states have tiger reserves



MP Leads The Table
Top 5, State-wise tiger count

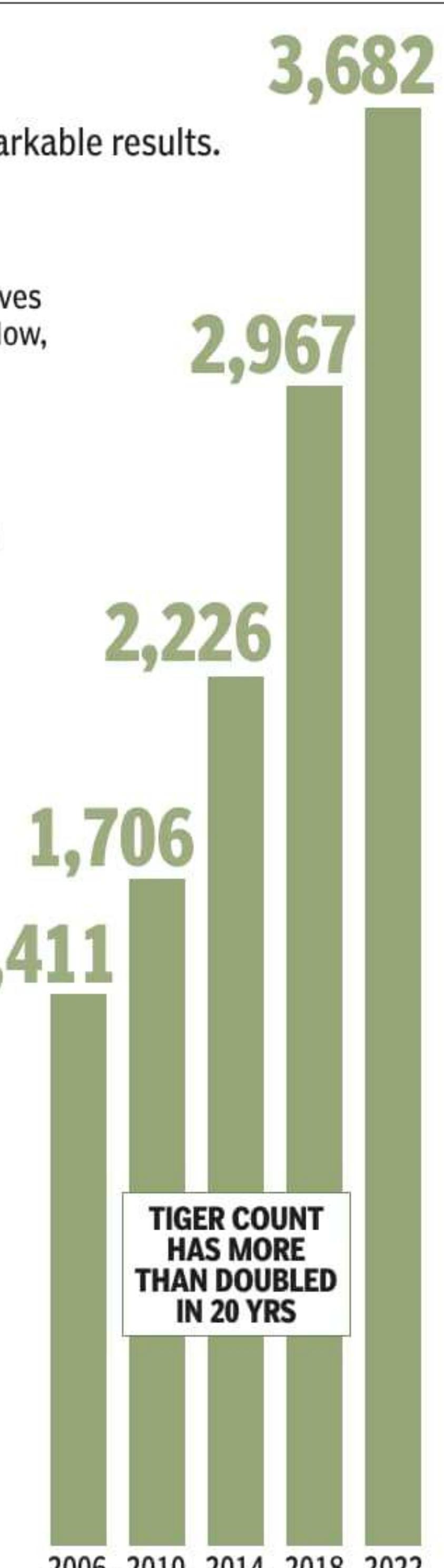
	Tiger Census 2022	Corbett Reserve Has Highest Popn
Madhya Pradesh	785	Corbett 260
Karnataka	563	Bandipur 150
Uttarakhand	560	Nagarhole 141
Maharashtra	444	Bandhavgarh 135
Tamil Nadu	306	Dudhwa 135

Corbett Reserve Has Highest Popn
Top 5, Tiger count within reserves

MP 58 Number of tiger reserves in India at present. MP has nine of these, the highest, followed by Maharashtra with 6. Karnataka, Rajasthan and Tamil Nadu have 5 reserves each

14,000sqkm
Total area under tiger reserves in 1973

84,000sqkm
Area under tiger reserves now, that's 2.5% of India's area



58
Number of tiger reserves in India at present. MP has nine of these, the highest, followed by Maharashtra with 6. Karnataka, Rajasthan and Tamil Nadu have 5 reserves each

Bhopal's 'urban tigers' & humans live and let live

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When night falls over Bhopal, the city belongs to the tigers. Unseen, yet ever-present, they prowl through the green corridors that cut across an urban sprawl of 2.4 million residents, leaving only paw prints and camera-trap images as proof. To protect this rare harmony, the MP forest department is rolling out AI-based camera traps and installing an extra e-eye tower to generate real-time alerts, blending technology with conservation.

Twenty-two tigers share the southern and eastern landscapes in and around the municipal limits, yet most people have never seen one. There have been no attacks, no conflicts. Officials say the big cats have become masters of camouflage, perfectly adapting to survive in an urban world.

Locals have internalised this coexistence. "When I was looking for a house on the southern side of Bhopal, a resident casually warned me, 'Tiger kabhi bhi aa jata hai yahan,'" a senior officer recalled. "That simple remark captures the unique reality of this city — people here have learned to live with tigers as silent neighbours."

"We are introducing AI-based camera traps to monitor tiger movement and installing an additional e-eye tower to generate instant alerts for our monitoring teams," said L Krishnamurtey, APCCF (wildlife).

What 'Operation Durga' Found
Though tigers had roamed the area for years, the city's extraordinary relationship with big cats first came to light in 2012, when a camera trap captured an image of a tiger mov-



A camera-trap image of a tiger on the southern fringes of Bhopal in July 2021, during a study conducted in collaboration with the MP forest department

ing along Bhopal's southern fringes. Alarmed, forest officials launched "Operation Durga," a large-scale effort to tranquilise and relocate what they believed was a lone predator near human settlements.

At the time, Krishnamurtey was posted as divisional forest officer in Bhopal and personally led the high-stakes operation. For 20 days, teams of guards, trackers, and elephants scoured the Kerwa-Kaliasot forests. Instead of finding one tiger, they discovered several quietly thriving in the city's fragmented green patches. These tigers were not aggressive; they were elusive, intelligent, and experts at staying out of sight.

Moved by their behaviour, forest guards and rangers requested their seniors to abandon the capture plan, assuring they could manage the

animals without disturbance. The operation was called off — and a silent, unspoken pact of coexistence was born. Today, more than a dozen tigers inhabit the forested corridors around Bhopal's southern boundary. Studies reveal they have adapted their movement patterns to avoid humans, mostly becoming active between 11pm and 6am.

"Operation Durga changed our understanding of urban wildlife," Krishnamurtey told TOI. "We realised these tigers were not intruders; they were residents who had learned to live alongside humans without conflict. That discovery reshaped our approach to conservation."

Delicate Balance Under Threat
Though Bhopal's tigers have coexisted peacefully with humans for over a decade, their rising numbers have caused tension in the bureaucracy. One faction pushes for urbanisation, while another stresses conservation. Under pressure from some senior bureaucrats, the Mad-

hya Pradesh wildlife headquarters, at one point, even questioned the presence of 22 tigers in and around the city. Field officers countered with a detailed dossier — complete with geo-tagged evidence, photographs, and behavioural data, establishing their existence.

We realised these tigers were not intruders; they were residents who had learned to live alongside humans without conflict. That discovery reshaped our approach to conservation

— L Krishnamurtey, APCCF (wildlife)

The report confirmed that six tigers had established territories within city limits, while others, including nine cubs, roam a 5km buffer. Officers argue these big cats have successfully adapted to the urban environment, making Bhopal a rare example of coexistence. However, they warn that unchecked development could upset this balance.

What do urban tigers eat? Bhopal DFO Lokpriya Bharti said though there have been no incidents of human-tiger conflict in the city for many years, cattle kills are reported occasionally. "We receive three-four cases a month, and provide compensation following norms," he added.

Conservationists also caution that harmony may not last unless wild corridors are protected. The tiger-friendly patches of Kerwa and Kaliasot face growing urban pressure. The challenge is not with people, but with land development, nightlife, and new construction threatening critical habitats. The report even highlights tiger cubs playing near restaurants — a sign of their adaptation, but also how close humans and tigers now live.

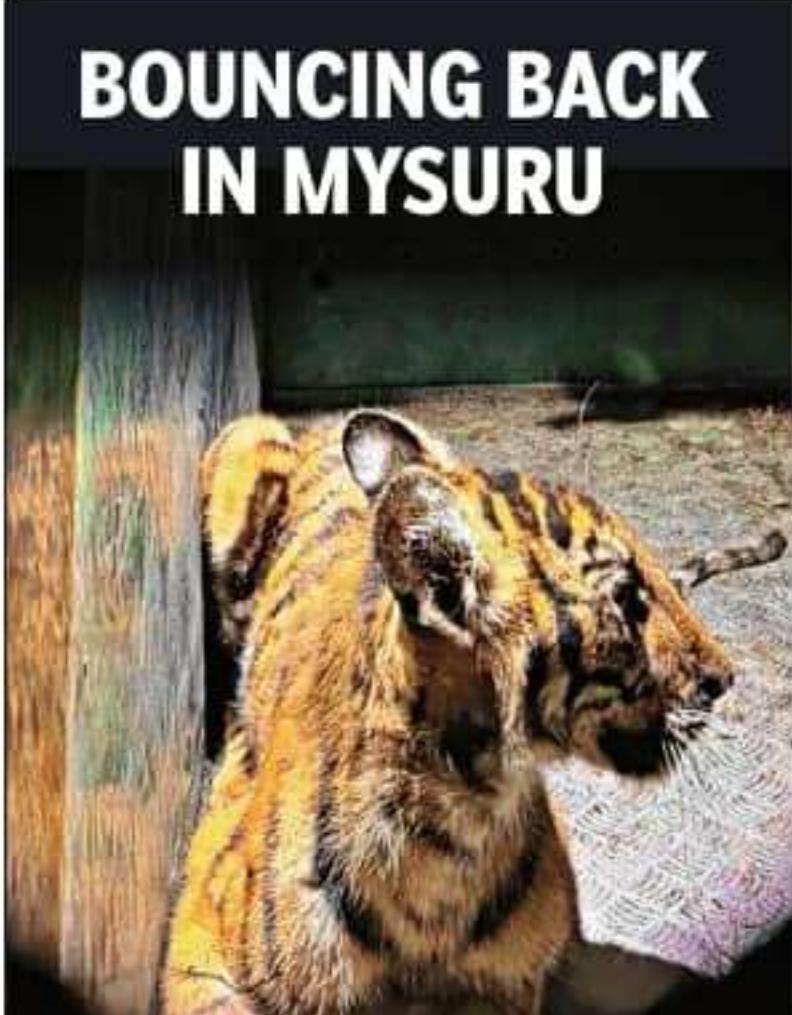
Expanding The Buffer Zone

Managing urban tigers also means navigating multiple stakeholders — businessmen, politicians and bureaucrats who own properties in the area. "As far as I know, the areas occupied by Bhopal's urban tigers fall outside the notified buffer. It would be wise to include Mendoria, Mendori, and Kaliasot in the Ratapani Tiger Reserve buffer and exclude them from incompatible development projects like roads, factories, mining, and urban expansion," said Sudhas Kumar, former principal chief conservator of forests, who spent 23 of his 35 years in service managing protected areas.

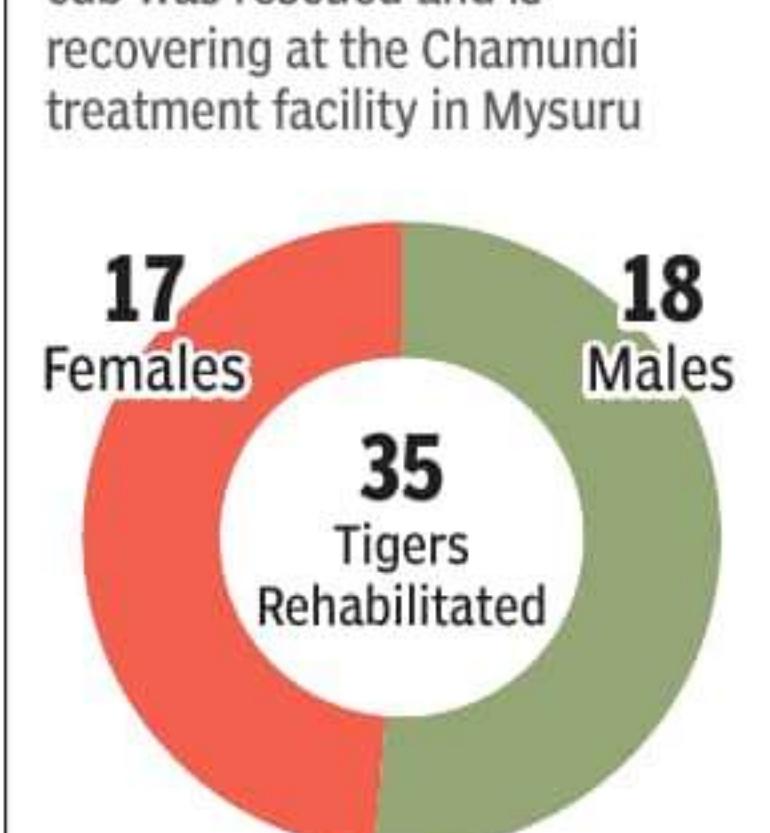
Wildlife activist Ajay Dubey has called for the creation of a conservation reserve under the Wildlife Act to safeguard Bhopal's urban tigers. His petition, filed after a tiger was trapped near the Agriculture Institute on Berasia Road, had been pending in court since 2015.

This rescue centre makes big cats fit to be wild again

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A six-month-old cub that fell into a disused open well near Mysuru, close to the Nagarhole Tiger Reserve, on July 9. The cub was rescued and is recovering at the Chamundi treatment facility in Mysuru



in a year. Earlier, a tigress was also released after rehabilitation. Both animals are being tracked with radio collars to ensure they don't stray into human settlements.

That possibility is grounded in experience. The Mysuru centre recently achieved a milestone by rewilding an injured adult tiger after nursing it back to health. Experts believe the cub — if he learns critical survival skills, such as hunting — could join Karnataka's dwindling wild tiger population.

Set up in 2012 across 113 acres, the Mysuru rescue centre was intended to care for old or injured animals from the 133-year-old Mysuru Zoo. But it has evolved into a critical conservation hub. So far, it has handled 35 tigers — some rehabilitated and rewilded, others moved to zoos or retained at the centre. Six tigers are now being cared for.

The young cub's journey began with a comprehensive medical examination upon arrival. Fortunately, he showed promising signs of resilience. Staff at the rescue centre noted that he was keen to explore his surroundings, was agile and displayed playful behaviour — and, crucially, had begun to eat meat. But G K Shashidhara, assistant director and veterinarian at the zoo, said each cub needed at least two years to learn essential hunting and learning skills.

Just two months ago, the team at the centre successfully rehabilitated and released another tiger rescued from the Nagarhole range.

"A tiger that was exhausted and remained confined to a place on the fringes of the Nagarhole range in the forest was shifted to the centre two months previously, and was treated before it was declared fit for release in the wild. Accordingly, it was radio-collared and released back into the forests," said P A Seema, director of Nagarhole Tiger Reserve.

This marked the second successful rewilling by the centre

How a Myanmar town became capital of trade in tiger parts



At Zokhawthar, where the shallow Tiu river demarcates the India-Myanmar border, smugglers drive vehicles across the shallow bed into Myanmar's Chin State

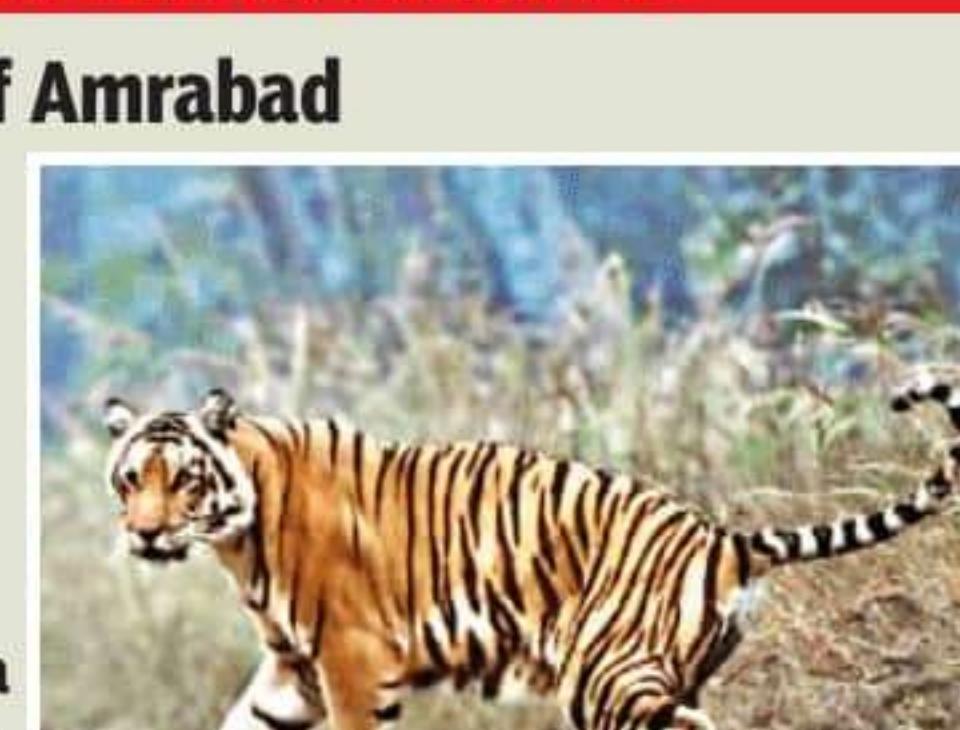
animosity to Myanmar.

"Today, one full tiger consignment is worth up to Rs 15 lakh — more than double its value in 2012. Payments are layered via online transactions of small values to avoid detection," a source said.

Traffic experts say, using encrypted calls, change SIMs and routes frequently, and even deploy counter-surveillance with poaching having evolved into a cross-border operation backed by militias, shielded by corrupt systems, and driven by lucrative overseas markets.

EARNING THEIR STRIPES

'SuperMomma' Of Amrabad



In 2018, Amrabad Tiger Reserve in Telangana was home to only seven tigers. It now has a thriving population of 36. At the heart of this resurgence is just one tigress: Farah, aka F6, aka "SuperMomma". Farah is the undisputed matriarch of the reserve that's spread over 2,611sqkm in Nagarkurnool and Nalgonda districts.

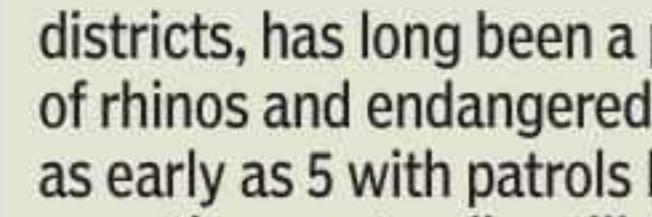
Since her first litter in 2019, she has had three more, with the latest — of three cubs — coming earlier this year, bringing up her cub count to around 10. Her bloodline now accounts for around half of the reserve's inhabitants. Forest officer Rohit Gopidi calls Farah the "cornerstone" of the big cat population at Amrabad.

But what about fears of inbreeding? The reserve has managed to maintain its genetic diversity through migrating male tigers from neighbouring Andhra Pradesh. — U Sudhakar Reddy

Kaziranga's Vanguard Against Poachers

They are named after Goddess Durga, and part of their duty involves protecting the animal that she sits astride. Meet the 'Van Durgas' of Kaziranga National Park and Tiger Reserve in Assam. Armed with SLRs, this unit of 113 women watch for snares, traps, suspicious activity, and the telltale marks of poachers.

Kaziranga, spanning over 2,600sqkm and spread across four districts, has long been a poaching target due to its populations of rhinos and endangered tigers. Van Durgas start their day as early as 5 with patrols lasting until late evening or night, sometimes extending till 10pm. If they suspect any illegal activity, they quickly alert forest rangers and support intelligence-gathering to disrupt poaching syndicates. — Kangkan Kalita



GALLERY

McIntosh wins 2nd gold, China prodigy Yu 4th

Singapore: Summer McIntosh, 18, won a second swimming world championships gold in as many days as she triumphed in the 200m medley on Monday. Twelve-year-old Chinese prodigy Yu Zidi was fourth.

Fernandez wins DC Open: Canada's Leylah Fernandez produced a dominant performance to defeat Russia's Anna Kalinskaya 6-1, 6-2 in straight sets and win the WTA Tour's DC Open.

AIFF to name head coach on Aug 1: The next head coach of the Indian men's football team is set to be announced on Aug 1 when executive committee of the national federation meets in New Delhi.

Diksha Dagar finishes strongly: Diksha Dagar finished strongly in the final round of Women's Scottish Open to give herself a boost for her next event, the AIG Women's Open. Diksha added a second straight 71 to finish with rounds of 69-76-71-71 for a tied-39th position.

Diamond Harbour beat Md Sp in Durand Cup: Debutants and I-League 2 champions Diamond Harbour FC rode on Slovenian poacher Luka Majcen's injury time winner to register a 2-1 win over Mohammedan Sporting in the first Group B clash of Durand Cup.

Atwal T-24th at Senior Open: Arjun Atwal sunk in six birdies but also gave away five bogeys, two of them in the last five holes, for a final round of 1-under 69 to finish tied-24th at the ISPS HANDA Senior Open in Sunningdale, UK. AGENCIES

ACTION TODAY

CRICKET: WI vs Aus, 5th T20I, 4.30 am (FanCode); **FOOTBALL:** Durand Cup, 3.30 pm & 7 pm (Sony); **TENNIS:** ATP Master 1000, 8.30 pm (Sony)

ON TOP OF THE WORLD

Divya Takes Control Of The Clock To Surprise Humpy & Become First Indian Woman World Cup Winner

►Continued from P1

Monday's win made Divya India's 88th and the world's 44th woman GM. Divya also became the third winner of the women's World Cup after Russian GMs Alexandra Kosteniuk (2021) and Aleksandra Goryachkina ('23). As stars would have it, both Kosteniuk and Goryachkina defeated China's Tan Zhongyi in the semifinals of the World Cup in 2021 and 2023 respectively. In Batumi, Divya, too, defeated Tan in the semis.

In the first game on Monday, Divya missed a trick of taking advantage with white pieces. A solid defensive play by Humpy denied Divya any opportunity to take advantage. The marathon opening game of Petrov's Defence with Classical Attack ended in an 81-move draw.

Divya's moment of history came in the second rapid game, playing with black pieces. Divya's preparations gave her control over the clock and she was eight minutes ahead of Humpy on the 13th move. Speaking exclusively with TOI after the triumph from Batumi, Divya said, "The second tiebreak was tense, but my preparations came in handy. Once I found that line and started making moves faster, it eventually helped me to take control of the clock. She came under time trouble and made a blunder, giving me an advantage."

Unlike what happened in their first classical game when veteran Humpy accepted the Queen's Gambit challenge of Divya, the 19-year-old declined it in their second rapid game to go a pawn up in the fourth move. When Divya made her first notable move on the ninth turn, Humpy was forced to change tactics. Despite being a pawn down, Humpy had control over the board, but time was running away from the 38-year-old.

The double rook endgame with an extra pawn for Divya saw back-to-back dubious moves by Humpy on the 40th and 41st turns. When Divya advanced her queen on the 41st turn, she was a couple of moves away from winning. Looking at Humpy's 40th move blunder, Anand said, "A totally self-inflicted collapse by Humpy. It's one of those situations where your nerves just get the better of you, and there's nothing you can do."

But when Divya made a mistake on the 42nd move, Humpy got her position back with the youngster still enjoying a slight edge. When the queens got exchanged on the 47th move, Divya was still a pawn up. Trying



DIVA! Divya during the tie-break games in Batumi, Georgia on Monday



CHEERS AND TEARS: Divya with her mother Namrata after the triumph

“I love playing long games and waiting for my opponents to make a mistake. Though I got success on many occasions, I have suffered losses too. I just love playing attacking chess with the aim to get decisive results.” —Divya

to convert the endgame, Divya sacrificed her pawn, and Humpy again blundered on the 54th move. Divya regained her pawn on the 71st move and ultimately converted the rook endgame into victory in the 75th move to win the title.

When Humpy resigned and stopped the clock with a handshake offer, Divya burst into tears and looked back as if searching for her mother. After completing the board formalities, Divya ran into the arms of her mother. Controlling her emotions, Divya later said, "I definitely need to learn endgames. I am pretty sure at some point I messed it up. Not sure how, but it should have been an easy win."

The greatest female chess player of all time, Judit Polgar congratulated Divya and said, "Indian chess is just unbelievable."

One of Divya's mentor, Abhijit Kunte, said, "When I saw her first time in coaching camp for the Asian Games in Kolkata, I realized she has a great talent and can develop a lot. From there she has traveled so fast. I hope the progress will just grow and she will become a first woman world champion from India."

As per the FIDE rules, winners of certain elite competitions can avoid the usual norm-and-rating route and can become GMs directly. The

From no norms to Grandmaster title

Divya Now India's 88th GM & 4th Among Indian Women

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Nagpur's International Master (IM) Divya Deshmukh took the shortest but strongest route to a Grandmaster (GM) title.

With an emphatic World Cup triumph in Batumi, the 19-year-old became India's 88th Grandmaster on Monday. The Grandmaster title is one of the toughest achievements in chess. To secure the top title awarded by the world chess federation (FIDE), a player needs to earn three GM norms from FIDE-approved tournaments and cross the rating of 2500 Elo.

Mostly, players achieve the norms to get the title. Divya cleared the rating criteria when she registered a peak rating of 2501 in October 2024. While Divya was trying hard to get the three norms, she came very close but missed it in many tournaments by a whisker. Her first norm came when she qualified for the World Cup final in Batumi.

As per the FIDE rules, winners of certain elite competitions can avoid the usual norm-and-rating route and can become GMs directly. The

Women's World Cup was one such event, and Divya earned the GM title by becoming the youngest World Cup winner.

On achieving her childhood dream, Divya said, "I think it is fate, getting the Grandmaster title this way, because I didn't even have one norm before coming to the World Cup. And all I was thinking of was 'Oh, when can I get my norm', and now I have a crown and Grandmaster title too."

Congratulating Divya on X, World No. 2 Hikaru Nakamura said, "Huge congratulations Divya for both winning the Women's World Cup but also going from no-norms to the GM title in one big jump! Indian chess is knocking it out of the park these days."

Three years after she started playing chess, Divya became the youngest Woman FIDE Master (WFM) in 2013. Five years later, she achieved the Woman International Master (WIM) title and in 2021 became the WGM. In 2023, Divya earned her highest title, International Master (IM).

Divya's inspiring performance took her live ranking to 15th in the world with 2478 Elo points.

ON THE PODIUM: Divya and Humpy



Hope this is just the start, says Divya

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coming here, I wasn't expecting that I could reach this far. Since I was in the bottom half and pitted against many strong opponents, I had to make my preparations stronger. I used to be on call for long hours with my trainers."

On defeating World No. 5 Humpy in the all-India final, Divya said, "I have so much respect for Humpy Akka. She is playing the best of the best at this age! It is something to learn from her, it is commendable. It definitely felt good to play against her in the final and I am happy to have beaten such a classy player like Humpy Akka. I think luck was on my side today."

After clinching the title, Divya said, "It's hard for me to speak right now. I am hoping this is just the start."

Reuters

I was never going to risk my frontline bowlers, says Stokes

OVERTON IN FOR 5TH TEST

Allrounder Jamie Overton has been recalled to England's 15-member squad for the final Test.

SQUAD: Ben Stokes (captain), Jofra Archer, Gus Atkinson, Jacob Bell, Harry Brook, Brydon Carse, Zak Crawley, Liam Dawson, Ben Duckett, Jamie Overton, Ollie Pope, Joe Root, Jamie Smith (wk), Josh Tongue, Chris Woakes.

do anything stupid."

Sundar and Jadeja received some verbal abuse from England fielders for carrying on towards the three-figure landmark, with Stokes telling reporters, "They played incredibly well and I don't think there would have been too much more satisfaction at walking off 100 not out than 80 or 90."

Ready to run through brick wall to feature in decider

Stokes proclaimed "pain is just an emotion" as he insisted he will do everything in his power to feature as a fully-fledged allrounder in next week's series decider.

Stokes expects to take the field at the Oval on Thursday. "Hopefully I will be all right going for the last one," he told reporters. "It's just a workload sort of thing. We got a fair amount of overs and everything starts creeping up on you. I'll keep trying, keep going and as I say to all the bowlers: pain is just an emotion."

Stokes, who said "I've physically been better," added, "I'll always try to run through a brick wall for the team. I don't want to eat my words but the possibility I won't play (at the Oval) is very unlikely." AGENCIES

‘When things don’t go England’s way, all of a sudden it’s everyone else’s problem’

“Have you heard the term double standards? They (India) played your bowlers all day, batted you out and suddenly when they’re nearing hundreds, you want to walk off? Why should they? They have played all your bowlers since morning and taken it to a draw. They have worked hard, and you want them to leave their hundred? If I was the Indian captain, I would have played the entire 15 overs.” —Ravichandran Ashwin

“I liked what India did. They earned the right to stay as long as they want. The batters had the right to make their hundreds. Just because it didn’t go England’s way and they didn’t get the result they want, all of a sudden they weren’t happy and started getting verbal. When things don’t go England’s way, all of sudden it’s everyone else’s problem. Well done to India.” —Brad Haddin

“Stokes didn’t have to bowl Brook and look silly at the end. We make far too much of these things. They played well and all credit to India.” —Nasser Hussain

“It was the right decision for India to carry on, for the momentum they’re getting from it. When you’re out in the field for 140 overs, you get frustrated. It’s a little bit of frustration for England, but I understand why India did it. Five years down the line, you look at the scorecard, you see two brilliant hundreds to save the game, plus obviously Shubman Gill’s as well, so all will be forgotten about Harry Brook’s 37-mile-an-hour ball.” —Alastair Cook

DOUBLE SCOOP

England Sink Spain On Penalties To Win Back-To-Back Euros

Basel: Chloe Kelly has written her name in the history books. Or perhaps that should be written.

Kelly was England's hero again at the Women's European Championship on Sunday, setting up the equalizer in the final before coolly firing home the winning spot kick in the shootout to seal victory over World Cup winner Spain.

The 27-year-old Kelly is establishing herself as one of the most clutch players around. "I just came on to the pitch and wanted to make something happen," Kelly said. "I actually missed three penalties in training yesterday."

"I'm really proud to be English right now."

It was back-to-back European trophies for England and yet another final that Kelly had a huge impact on after coming on as a substitute during the Euro 2022 trophy match and scoring the winner against Germany in extra



“IT WAS CRUEL. WE PLAYED BETTER BUT IN SOCCER SOMETIMES THAT’S NOT ENOUGH. IT ALL CAME DOWN TO THE PENALTIES. I’M SORRY FOR MY MISS.” —Aitana Bonmatí | SPAIN STAR

Chloe Kelly celebrates with teammates after England won the Euro 2025 trophy on Sunday

injury. And it was a Kelly cross from the left for Alessia Russo to head in the equalizer in the 57th minute.

The double joy of another European champion winner's medal as well as a Champions League one, won in May with Arsenal, has helped draw a line under a difficult period for Kelly.

Bronze played through pain

England defender Lucy Bronze revealed after Sunday's Euro 2025 final victory that she had played the entire tournament with a fractured tibia. AGENCIES

time to clinch a 2-1 victory.

Kelly has also been one of England's super subs at Euro 2025. It was a tense shootout, but Kelly showed nerves of steel with her hop, skip and thump penalty technique.

Kelly came on as an emergency substitute rather than an impact substitute, coming on in the 41st minute after Lauren James was forced off with

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When Zaheer Abbas-led Pak left Gavaskar stranded

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New Delhi: The Stokes-Jadeja controversy towards the end of the fourth Test in Manchester has led to fierce online debate. But far worse happened in the 1983 Bangalore Test against Pakistan when skipper Zaheer Abbas had arbitrarily left the field with his team on the last day, leaving opener Sunil Gavaskar stranded on 86.

TOI reported that play was interrupted for 27 minutes while Sandeep Patil wrote in his autobiography, 'Sandy Storm', that 'half an hour' was wasted. Gavaskar, who was suffering from 'bronchial infection' for the previous two days, his opening partner Anshuman Gaekwad and the two umpires, Madhav Gothsakar and Swaroop Kishen, stayed on the ground during this period.

In his book, 'Runs 'n' Ruins', Gavaskar vividly recreated the scene at the stadium. "The crowd was getting restive and impatient and had begun to boo and shout a little angrily now. The officials of the Karnataka State Cricket Association rushed to confer with both the umpires as well as the manager of the Pakistan team, Intikhab Alam."

The TOI report detailed what had led to the Pakistan team's exit. "Zaheer's contention was that Pakistan had completed their quota of 77 overs for the day.... there was a great deal of wrangling over the rules before wiser counsels prevailed on Zaheer and manager Intikhab Alam...he (Zaheer) relented when the umpires



Gavaskar gets 28th century after Zaheer brings team back

“Sunil Gavaskar reached his 28th century in



NAOMI OSAKA PARTS COMPANY WITH COACH MOURATOGLOU AFTER WASHINGTON OPEN EXIT

GENERATIONS WILL TALK ABOUT INJURED PANT'S BRAVERY, SAYS COACH GAMBHIR



LUXURY. FAST. FORWARD.
THE BMW 7 RANGE.

Will India stick to Bumrah's three-Test plan?

Coach Gambhir Says All Pacers Fit & Available For Series Decider As Debate Rages Over Star Pacer's Workload-Management Plans

THE TIMES OF INDIA
IN ENGLAND

Arani.Basu@timesofindia.com

Manchester: It's been over 50 days since the Indian team arrived here in England, and Jasprit Bumrah's workload has been the focal point of India's planning ahead of each Test. As India's batters were pulling off a fighting draw at Old Trafford, Bumrah's availability for the last Test - starting at Oval in London on Thursday — again became a point of discussion.

At the start of the tour, head coach Gautam Gambhir had confirmed that the team management had planned to play Bumrah in only three of the five Tests. India go to London 1-2 down in the series and Bumrah has already played his quota of three Tests. It's a tricky situation for both Bumrah and the team management. Will the team deviate from the three-Test plan regarding Bumrah's availability, since now there is a big opportunity to come out of the gruelling series with a 2-2 scoreline?

"There has been no talk about it (Bumrah playing at the Oval). And no such decision has been made on whether Bumrah (will) play in the last Test. Ultimately, whoever plays, they'll try and do the job for the country," Gambhir said after the fourth Test.

Bumrah's susceptibility to breaking down in the middle of a Test has given the caretakers of Indian cricket sleepless nights. The Indian cricket board (BCCI) doesn't want a repeat of the incident in the Sydney Test at the beginning of the year. In Australia, the medical team working on Bumrah believed that his long and intense spell in the Test in Melbourne may have triggered the back injury in Sydney. TOI understands that Bumrah is now advised to bowl 45-50 overs maximum per Test.

Bumrah bowled just 33 overs in the last Test in Manchester. This was after an eight-day break after the third Test at Lord's. TOI has learnt there have been murmurs in BCCI corridors around Bumrah's pick-and-choose policy in Test cricket. He was not given the Test captaincy only because he would not be available for every Test.

The BCCI is not comfortable with the selectors and the team management going into a series without knowing if Bumrah will be available for the entire series. It is being considered whether he should make himself available for an entire series, or not at all. Sources said that when the fourth Test began with Bumrah in the XI, it was almost certain that he will give the Oval Test a miss.

"All the fast bowlers are there. There is no injury scare," was Gambhir's curt reply to a query around the fitness of the pace attack. His speed, after all, had come down significantly on the third evening of the third Test, where he returned figures of 2/112, his poorest show in his seven-year-long Test career.

India's only win has come when Bumrah opted to sit out of the second Test at Edgbaston. It's not that the Indian bowling can't hold its own without him.

Gambhir asserted that he doesn't prefer the term 'transition' while discussing the Test team playing in England. He believes this team may be inexperienced, but it's the best team that India have. He doesn't like to hide behind the words 'transition' and 'inexperience'.

"You're asking someone who only believes in results. And I've always said that in the past as well, I believe in results. Yes, there is inexperience, but this is still the best Indian team right now. We're still down 1-2. Hopefully, we can try and make it 2-2. That's going to be a great achievement," Gambhir said.

It will be interesting to see if India risk Bumrah. His speed, after all, had come down significantly on the third evening of the third Test, where he returned figures of 2/112, his poorest show in his seven-year-long Test career.

No decision has been made on whether Bumrah will play or not. We haven't had any conversation around the combination for the last Test. Ultimately, whoever plays, they will try and do the job for the country. All the fast bowlers are fit. There are no injury concerns." —Gautam Gambhir | HEAD COACH

If Bumrah feels like he's available, it'll be a great deal. If not, we can still take 20 wickets."

—Shubman Gill

Versatile Washington shows he's the perfect fit

The Allrounder's Ability To Consistently Perform Different Roles, At Different Stages Of A Game, Makes Him Invaluable

Arani.Basu@timesofindia.com

Manchester: Three days before he was unexpectedly picked for India's home Test series against New Zealand last Oct., Washington Sundar scored a 152 for Tamil Nadu against Delhi in a Ranji Trophy match while batting at No. 3. "I consider myself to be a top-order batter," Washington had asserted at the end of the day's play. "I'm happy with the kind of opportunity I got batting at No. 3. I'll be batting regularly up the order in future. Hopefully, I can deliver such knocks consistently in future."

In the middle of a disastrous Test series against New Zealand on raging turners, a shaken team management and selection committee had picked Washington for his off-spinners. Soon, he was the lead spinner ahead of R Ashwin and Ravindra Jadeja when India took the field in Perth a month later.

In England, he was drafted into the playing XI in the second Test



WASHINGON
SUNDAR

purely on the basis of his ability to add batting strength to the lineup down the order. Calls for including a specialist spinner in Kuldeep grew louder but the team management kept backing Washington to be the second spinner.

On Sunday, he answered the call with the bat at No. 5 and saw to it that India came out of the fourth Test without losing the series.

Washington is now the second Indian to score his maiden Test century in Manchester; the first being Sachin Tendulkar in 1990.

Washington's composure at the crease, against a red-hot English attack on a pitch with disconcerting variable bounce, needs to be measured beyond the number of overs he has batted. It's not that he hasn't batted well for India before. He scored a half-century on debut at the Gabba in 2021 and also has an unbeaten 96 against England to his name. He averages in the upper 30s in Tests. But Sunday was a different kind of challenge.

He was asked to bat at a position

which is manned by Rishabh Pant, whose fractured foot left a gaping hole in the middle order. Washington had to prove he was a good enough batter to fill in for Pant, after having proved he is skillful enough with the ball to keep Kuldeep on the bench.

"Washington was in really good form. It's just that sometimes when you're playing seven or eight batters, sometimes it's difficult to accommodate someone. With Rishabh not being there, it was our opportunity to put Washy at five," Gambhir said on Sunday. "We always knew what kind of form he was in, after the way he was batting in the nets and even in the last couple of Tests," Gambhir added.

When he opened up the game by claiming four wickets in the second innings of the Lord's Test, Washington was asked if he was comfortable with the team management describing him as someone who can fill in as a second spinner and add a few important runs at No. 8. "This is a team sport. I want to contribute to the team differently in different passages of a match. I've been given different roles. That's what makes Test cricket exciting," he had said.

Washington is the quiet achiever of Indian cricket. He has already been a key part of some memorable Tests since his debut. He has just made it very difficult for India to leave him out of the XI.



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French PM Francois Bayrou calls trade deal between the US & EU a 'dark day' and says agreement amounts to 'submission', P 18

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ADITYA INFOTECH LIMITED



(Please scan the QR code to view the RHP)

Our Company was incorporated as 'Perfect Lucky Goldstar International Limited' at New Delhi, as a public limited company under the Companies Act, 1956, pursuant to a certificate of incorporation dated March 27, 1995 issued by the Registrar of Companies, Delhi and Haryana at New Delhi ('RoC') and commenced its business pursuant to a certificate for commencement of business dated April 21, 1995. Subsequently, pursuant to a resolution passed by our Shareholders in the annual general meeting held on August 6, 1997, the name of our Company was changed from 'Perfect Lucky Goldstar International Limited' to 'Aditya Infotech Limited', to reflect the main objects and activities of the Company more precisely, and consequently, a fresh certificate of incorporation dated September 11, 1997 was issued by the RoC to our Company. For further details on the changes in the name and registered office of our Company, see the "History and Certain Corporate Matters" section beginning on page 288 of the Red Herring Prospectus dated July 23, 2025 ("RHP" or "Red Herring Prospectus") filed with the RoC.

Registered Office: F-28, Okhla Industrial Area, Phase -1, New Delhi – 110 020, Delhi, India; Corporate Office: A-12, Sector 4, Noida – 201 301, Uttar Pradesh, India

Contact Person: Roshni Tandon, Company Secretary and Compliance Officer; Telephone: +91 120 4555 666; E-mail: companysecretary@adityagroup.com; Corporate identity number: U74899DL1995PLC066784; Website: www.adityagroup.com;

THE PROMOTERS OF OUR COMPANY ARE HARI SHANKER KHEMKA, ADITYA KHEMKA, ANANMAY KHEMKA, RISHI KHEMKA AND HARI KHEMKA BUSINESS FAMILY TRUST

INITIAL PUBLIC OFFERING OF UP TO [+] EQUITY SHARES OF FACE VALUE OF ₹1 EACH OF OUR COMPANY ("EQUITY SHARES") FOR CASH AT A PRICE OF ₹[+] PER EQUITY SHARE (INCLUDING A SHARE PREMIUM OF ₹[+] PER EQUITY SHARE) ("OFFER PRICE") AGGRGATING UP TO ₹13,000.00 MILLION ("OFFER"). THE OFFER COMPRSES A FRESH ISSUE OF UP TO [+] EQUITY SHARES OF FACE VALUE OF ₹1 EACH AGGRGATING UP TO ₹5,000.00 MILLION ("FRESH ISSUE") AND AN OFFER FOR SALE OF UP TO [+] EQUITY SHARES OF FACE VALUE OF ₹1 EACH ("OFFERED SHARES") AGGRGATING UP TO ₹8,000.00 MILLION. THIS OFFER INCLUDES A RESERVATION OF UP TO [+] EQUITY SHARES OF FACE VALUE OF ₹1 EACH AGGRGATING UP TO ₹60.00 MILLION (CONSTITUTING UP TO [+]% OF THE POST-OFFER PAID-UP EQUITY SHARE CAPITAL) FOR PURCHASE BY ELIGIBLE EMPLOYEES (THE "EMPLOYEE RESERVATION PORTION"). THE OFFER LESS THE EMPLOYEE RESERVATION PORTION IS HEREINAFTER REFERRED TO AS THE "NET OFFER". THE OFFER AND THE NET OFFER WOULD CONSTITUTE [+]% AND [+]%, RESPECTIVELY, OF OUR POST-OFFER PAID-UP EQUITY SHARE CAPITAL. OUR COMPANY, IN CONSULTATION WITH THE BRLMS, MAY OFFER A DISCOUNT OF UP TO [+]% (EQUIVALENT TO ₹60 PER EQUITY SHARE) TO THE OFFER PRICE TO ELIGIBLE EMPLOYEES BIDDING IN THE EMPLOYEE RESERVATION PORTION ("EMPLOYEE DISCOUNT").

NAME	TYPE	DETAILS OF THE OFFER FOR SALE BY THE SELLING SHAREHOLDERS NUMBER OF SHARES OFFERED / AMOUNT (₹ IN MILLION)	WEIGHTED AVERAGE COST OF ACQUISITION PER EQUITY SHARE (IN ₹)*
Aditya Khemka	Promoter	Up to [+] Equity Shares of face value of ₹1 each aggregating up to ₹5,240.04 million	0.10
Ananmay Khemka	Promoter	Up to [+] Equity Shares of face value of ₹1 each aggregating up to ₹123.16 million	Nil
Rishi Khemka	Promoter	Up to [+] Equity Shares of face value of ₹1 each aggregating up to ₹2,000.00 million	Nil
Hari Shanker Khemka (HUF)	Promoter Group	Up to [+] Equity Shares of face value of ₹1 each aggregating up to ₹426.40 million	0.20
Shradha Khemka	Promoter Group	Up to [+] Equity Shares of face value of ₹1 each aggregating up to ₹198.90 million	0.20
Aditya Khemka (HUF)	Promoter Group	Up to [+] Equity Shares of face value of ₹1 each aggregating up to ₹11.50 million	0.20

*As certified by RNBP & Co., Chartered Accountants, registered with the ICAI and bearing firm registration number 025519N, pursuant to their certificate dated July 23, 2025.

PRICE BAND: ₹640 TO ₹675 PER EQUITY SHARE OF FACE VALUE OF ₹1 EACH.

THE FLOOR PRICE IS 640 TIMES THE FACE VALUE OF THE EQUITY SHARES AND THE CAP PRICE IS 675 TIMES THE FACE VALUE OF THE EQUITY SHARES.

BIDS CAN BE MADE FOR A MINIMUM OF 22 EQUITY SHARES OF FACE VALUE OF ₹1 EACH AND IN MULTIPLES OF 22 EQUITY SHARES OF FACE VALUE OF ₹1 EACH THEREAFTER.

THE PRICE TO EARNINGS RATIO BASED ON DILUTED EPS FOR FISCAL 2025 AT THE UPPER END OF THE PRICE BAND IS 20.44 TIMES AND AT THE LOWER END OF THE PRICE BAND IS 19.38 TIMES.

A DISCOUNT OF ₹60 PER EQUITY SHARE IS BEING OFFERED TO ELIGIBLE EMPLOYEES BIDDING IN THE EMPLOYEE RESERVATION PORTION

WEIGHTED AVERAGE RETURN ON NETWORTH FOR LAST THREE FISCAL YEARS IS 32.11%.

Pursuant to a share purchase agreement dated July 10, 2025, one of our Promoters, Aditya Khemka transferred 248,138 Equity Shares of face value of ₹1 each, to certain Transferees, at a price of ₹675 per Equity Share aggregating to ₹167,493,150 on July 10, 2025 and July 11, 2025.

Further, pursuant to an inter-se agreement dated September 27, 2024, 19,719,150 Equity Shares of face value of ₹1 each were transferred to Hari Khemka Business Family Trust by Hari Shanker Khemka, 100 Equity Shares of face value of ₹1 each were transferred to Aditya Khemka Business Family Trust by Aditya Khemka, and 100 Equity Shares of face value of ₹1 each were transferred to ARK Business Prosperity Trust by Rishi Khemka, respectively, as gift on April 23, 2025. For further details see the "Capital Structure" section beginning on page 134 of the RHP and the Additional Information for Investors provided below in this advertisement.

BID/OFFER PROGRAMME

ANCHOR INVESTORS BIDDING DATE: MONDAY, JULY 28, 2025

BID/OFFER OPENS TODAY

BID/OFFER CLOSES ON THURSDAY, JULY 31, 2025*

*The UPI mandate end time and date shall be at 5:00 p.m. on the Bid/Offer Closing Date.

The Company offers a comprehensive range of advanced video security and surveillance products, technologies and solutions for enterprise and consumer segments under our 'CP PLUS' brand. We were assigned the 'CP PLUS' brand in 2014 with the aim of providing wider access to cost-effective security and surveillance products, solutions and services. We do not have any listed peers in India.

The Offer is being made through the Book Building Process in accordance with Regulation 6(2) of the SEBI ICDR Regulations.

QIB Portion: Not less than 75% of the Net Offer | Non-Institutional Investor Portion: Not more than 15% of the Net Offer | Retail Portion: Not more than 10% of the Net Offer

THE EQUITY SHARES OF OUR COMPANY WILL GET LISTED ON THE MAIN BOARD OF BSE AND NSE. NSE SHALL BE THE DESIGNATED STOCK EXCHANGE.

EMPLOYEE RESERVATION PORTION: UP TO [+] EQUITY SHARES AGGRGATING UP TO ₹60 MILLION

IN MAKING AN INVESTMENT DECISION, POTENTIAL INVESTORS MUST ONLY RELY ON THE INFORMATION INCLUDED IN THE RHP AND THE TERMS OF THE OFFER, INCLUDING THE MERITS AND RISKS INVOLVED AND NOT RELY ON ANY OTHER EXTERNAL SOURCES OF INFORMATION ABOUT THE OFFER AVAILABLE IN ANY MANNER. IN RELATION TO PRICE BAND, POTENTIAL INVESTORS SHOULD ONLY REFER TO THIS PRICE BAND ADVERTISEMENT FOR THE OFFER AND SHOULD NOT RELY ON ANY MEDIA ARTICLES/REPORTS IN RELATION TO THE VALUATION OF THE COMPANY AS THESE ARE NOT ENDORSED, PUBLISHED OR CONFIRMED EITHER BY THE COMPANY OR THE BRLMS.

In accordance with the recommendation of the Committee of Independent Directors of our Company, pursuant to their resolution dated July 23, 2025, the above provided price band is justified based on quantitative factors/ KPIs disclosed in the "Basis for Offer Price" section on page 163 of the RHP vis-a-vis the weighted average cost of acquisition ("WACA") of primary and secondary transaction(s) as applicable, disclosed in the "Basis for Offer Price" section on page 168 of the RHP and provided below in the advertisement.

RISK TO INVESTORS (For details refer to section titled "Risk Factors" on page 41 of the RHP)

- Business Risk:** Our financial performance is primarily dependent on the revenue from sale of closed circuit television cameras, network video recorders, digital video recorders and pan-tilt-zoom cameras which collectively contributed to 77.47% of our revenue from operations in Fiscal 2025. Variations in demand and changes in consumer preferences towards these products could adversely affect our operations. Further, if we are not able to adapt to changing technological trends, our surveillance devices may become obsolete and we may be subject to pricing pressure to write-off such inventory.
- Supplier Risk:** We depend on a limited number of suppliers for the procurement of parts and materials required for our manufacturing operations and products for sale to customers. Any interruption in the availability of parts, materials and products could adversely affect our business, results of operations, cash flows and financial condition. The table below sets forth details regarding supplies sourced from our largest supplier, top five suppliers and top 10 suppliers for the periods indicated:

Particulars	Fiscal 2025		Fiscal 2024		Fiscal 2023	
	Amount (₹ in million)	Percentage of cost of materials consumed (%)	Amount (₹ in million)	Percentage of cost of materials consumed (%)	Amount (₹ in million)	Percentage of cost of materials consumed (%)
Largest supplier	13,161.05	51.92	11,128.35	49.03	9,353.89	44.37
Top 5 suppliers	23,292.23	91.89	20,324.22	89.54	18,460.20	87.56
Total 10 suppliers	24,178.55	95.38	21,340.30	94.02	19,612.22	93.02

- Our Company will not receive any proceeds of the Offer for Sale by the Promoter Selling Shareholders:** The offer comprises the Fresh Issue and the Offer for Sale. The proceeds of the Offer for Sale aggregating up to ₹8,000.00 million which constitutes 61.54% of the proposed offer size, net of their share of Offer-related expenses will be paid to the Promoter Selling Shareholders and our Company will not receive any portion of the proceeds from the Offer for Sale. For further details, see "the Offer" and "Objects of the Offer" on pages 116 and 153, respectively of the RHP.
- Economic and Political Risk:** We import a portion of our parts and materials primarily from China. Any restrictions on imports or fluctuation in global commodity prices that affect our parts and materials could adversely affect our business, results of operations, cash flows and financial condition:

Set forth below is the country-wise breakdown of our total imports during the last three Fiscals.

Particulars	Fiscal		
	2025	2024	2023
(₹ in million)			
China	739.32	1,158.80	949.61
Hong Kong	246.21	355.25	1,038.37
Singapore	21.57	84.27	3.02
Denmark	-	26.99	-
Total	1,007.10	1,625.31	1,991.00

- Geographical Risk:** Our manufacturing facility is located in Andhra Pradesh, which exposes our operations to potential risks arising from local and regional factors such as adverse social and political events, weather conditions and natural disasters.
- Concentration Risk:** A significant portion of our revenue from operations is generated from sale of products supplied by Dahua which contributed to 24.65% of our revenue from operations in Fiscal 2025. Any disruption in the supply of such products from Dahua at commercially viable terms, or a decline in the demand for such products, may adversely affect our business, results of operations, cash flows and financial condition. Set forth below is the revenue generated from sale of products supplied by Dahua for the periods indicated:

Particulars	Fiscal 2025	Fiscal 2024	Fiscal 2023
Revenue from sale of products supplied by Dahua (₹ in million)	7,672.07	7,906.26	7,327.45
Revenue from sale of products supplied by Dahua, as a percentage of revenue from operations (%)	24.65	28.41	32.07

- The Price/Earnings Ratio based on diluted EPS for Financial Year 2025 for the Company at the upper end of the price band is 20.44. The Price/Earnings Ratio of Nifty 50 as of March 31, 2025 is 21.85.
- Weighted average Return on Net Worth for past three Financial Years i.e. 2025, 2024 and 2023 is 32.11%.
- Average cost of acquisition of equity shares for the Selling Shareholders in the IPO is Nil and Offer Price at upper end of the price band is ₹675.
- Details of weighted average cost of acquisition of all Equity Shares transacted in the last one year, eighteen months and three years preceding the date of the Red Herring Prospectus is as set out below:

Period	Weighted average cost of acquisition (in ₹) [^]	Cap Price is 'X
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16. The 2 BRLMs associated with the Offer have handled 79 public issues in the past three years, out of which 18 issues closed below the issue price on listing date:

Name of BRLMs	Total Issues	Issues closed below IPO Price as on listing date
ICICI Securities Limited	41	9
IIFL Capital Services Limited (formerly known as IIFL Securities Limited)	24	6
Common Issues of all BRLMs*	14	3
Total	79	18

*Issues handled where there were no common BRLMs.



BASIS FOR OFFER PRICE

The "Basis for Offer Price" section on page 163 of the RHP has been updated with the above price band.

Please refer to the websites of the BRLMs: www.icicisecurities.com and www.iiflcap.com for the Basis for Offer Price section updated with the above price band.

You may scan the QR code for accessing the website of ICICI Securities Limited.

Additional Information for Investors

1. Pre-IPO Placement - In the Draft Red Herring Prospectus, our Company had provided for an issue of specified securities as may be permitted in accordance with applicable law for an amount aggregating up to ₹1,000.00 million prior to filing of the Red Herring Prospectus. However, our Company has not undertaken and does not propose to undertake a Pre-IPO Placement.

2. Details of transaction of shares aggregating up to 1% or more of the paid-up Equity Share capital of the Company by Promoters from the DRHP till date are as stated below:

a. Pursuant to an agreement dated September 27, 2024 ("Inter-se Agreement"), entered amongst Aditya Khemka, Shradha Khemka, Ananmay Khemka, Aditya Khemka (HUF), Hari Khemka Business Family Trust, Hari Shanker Khemka, Hari Shanker Khemka (HUF), Rishi Khemka, Ruchi Khemka and ARK Business Prosperity Trust, Hari Shanker Khemka, Aditya Khemka and Rishi Khemka (collectively "Individual Promoters"), transferred 19,719,150 Equity Shares of face value of ₹1 each to Hari Khemka Business Family Trust, transferred 100 Equity Shares of face value of ₹1 each to Aditya Khemka Business Family Trust, and transferred 100 Equity Shares of face value of ₹1 each to ARK Business Prosperity Trust, respectively. The details of the transaction are:

Date of transaction	Name of the transferor (Collectively, "Transferors")	Name of transferee (Collectively, "Transferees")	Nature of transaction	Number of Equity Shares transferred	Transfer price per Equity Share (in ₹)	Consideration (in ₹)	Percentage of pre-Offer share capital of the Company on a fully diluted basis
April 23, 2025	Hari Shanker Khemka	Hari Khemka Business Family Trust	Gift	19,719,150	Nil	Nil	17.85
April 23, 2025	Aditya Khemka	Aditya Khemka Business Family Trust		100	Nil	Nil	Negligible
April 23, 2025	Rishi Khemka	ARK Business Prosperity Trust		100	Nil	Nil	Negligible

Except as disclosed below, the Transferors and the Transferees are not connected, in any manner, with our Company, our Promoters, members of our Promoter group, our Directors, our KMPs, our Subsidiaries, or our Group companies and their directors and KMPs:

- i. Hari Shanker Khemka is the father of Aditya Khemka and Rishi Khemka and is the grandfather of Ananmay Khemka.
- ii. Each of the Transferors are Promoters of our Company. Additionally, Hari Shanker Khemka and Aditya Khemka are Executive Directors and KMPs of our Company.
- iii. Hari Khemka Business Family Trust, one of the transferees, is a Promoter of our Company. Further, the remaining transferees, Aditya Khemka Business Family Trust and ARK Business Prosperity Trust, are members of our Promoter Group.
- iv. Each of the Transferors are directors on the board of one of our Group Companies, ARK Infosolutions Private Limited.
- v. Aditya Khemka is a director on the board of one of our Subsidiaries, All Dixon Technologies Private Limited.

b. Pursuant to the share purchase agreement dated July 10, 2025, entered amongst Aditya Khemka, Hemant Sachdev, Agarwal Family Trust, Gaurav Ghai, Arpit Goel,

Hemant Sachdev, Agarwal Family Trust, Gaurav Ghai, Arpit Goel, Namrata Goel, Chaitanya Sood, Aparna Siddharth Todi, Udyot Indian Ventures LLP, Rakhee Kohari, Rachna Gupta, Rahul Garg, Nishant Arya, Chandra Shekhar Mehta, Parshwa Kumar Daga, Aakash Chaudhry and Prateek Chotrani (collectively "Transferees" and individually "Transferee"), Aditya Khemka, transferred 248,138 Equity Shares of face value of ₹1 each to the Transferees at a transfer price of ₹675.00 per Equity Share for a total consideration of ₹167,493,150 and aggregating to 0.23% of the pre-Offer equity share capital of the Company, on a fully diluted basis. The details of the transaction are:

Date of transaction	Name of the transferor	Name of Transferee	Nature of transaction	Number of Equity Shares transferred	Transfer price per Equity Share (in ₹)	Consideration (in ₹)	Percentage of pre-Offer share capital of the Company on a fully diluted basis
July 10, 2025	Aditya Khemka	Hemant Sachdev	Secondary	29,629	19,999,575	0.03	
		Agarwal Family Trust		14,814	9,999,450	0.01	
		Gaurav Ghai		7,407	4,999,725	0.01	
		Arpit Goel		14,814	9,999,450	0.01	
		Namrata Goel		7,407	4,999,725	0.01	
		Aparna Siddharth Todi		7,407	4,999,725	0.01	
		Udyot Indian Ventures LLP		14,814	9,999,450	0.01	
		Rakhee Kohari		14,814	9,999,450	0.01	
		Rachna Gupta		22,222	14,999,850	0.02	
		Rahul Garg		14,814	9,999,450	0.01	
		Nishant Arya		29,629	19,999,575	0.03	
		Chandra Shekhar Mehta		14,814	9,999,450	0.01	
		Parshwa Kumar Daga		14,814	9,999,450	0.01	
		Aakash Chaudhry		29,629	19,999,575	0.03	
		Prateek Chotrani		7,407	4,999,725	0.01	
		Chaitanya Sood		3,703	2,099,525	Negligible	
		Total		248,138	167,493,150	0.23	

The Transferees are not connected, in any manner, with our Company, its Promoters, members of the Promoter Group, Directors, KMPs, Subsidiaries, or Group Companies and their directors and KMPs.

ASBA[#]

Simple, Safe,
Smart way of Application!!!



UPI - Now available in ASBA for Retail Individual Investors and Non-Institutional Investor applying in public issues where the application amount is up to ₹500,000, applying through Registered Brokers, Syndicate, CDPs & RTAs. Retail Individual Investors and Non-Institutional Investors also have the option to submit the application directly to the ASBA Bank (SCSBs) or to use the facility of linked online trading, demat and bank account. Investors are required to ensure that the bank account used for bidding is linked to their PAN. Bidders must ensure that their PAN is linked with Aadhaar and are in compliance with CBDT notification dated February 13, 2020 and press release dated June 25, 2021 read with press release dated September 17, 2021. CBDT circular no. 7 of 2022, dated March 30, 2022, read with press release dated March 28, 2023.

"Applications Supported by Blocked Amount ("ASBA") is a better way of applying to Issues by simply blocking the fund in the bank account. For further details, check section on ASBA."

Mandatory in public issues. No cheque will be accepted.

THE EQUITY SHARES OF OUR COMPANY WILL GET LISTED ON MAIN BOARD PLATFORM OF THE STOCK EXCHANGES.

In case of any revision in the Price Band, the Bid / Offer Period will be extended by at least three additional Working Days after such revision in the Price Band, subject to the Bid / Offer Period not exceeding 10 Working Days. In case of force majeure, banking strike or similar unforeseen circumstances, our Company may, in consultation with the BRLMs, for reasons to be recorded in writing, extend the Bid / Offer Period for a minimum of one Working Day, subject to the Bid / Offer Period not exceeding 10 Working Days. Any revision in the Price Band and the revised Bid / Offer Period, if applicable, shall be widely disseminated by notification to the Stock Exchanges, by issuing a public notice, and by indicating the change on the respective website of the BRLMs and at the terminals of the Syndicate Members and by intimation to Designated Intermediaries and the Sponsor Banks, as applicable. This Offer is being made through the Book Building Process, in terms of Rule 19(2)(b) of the Securities Contract (Regulation) Rules, 1957 ("SCR") read with Regulation 31 of the SEBI ICDR Regulations and in compliance with Regulation 6(2) of the SEBI ICDR Regulations wherein not less than 75% of the Net Offer shall be available for allocation on a proportionate basis to Qualified Institutional Buyers ("QIBs", and such portion, the "QIB Portion"), provided that our Company, in consultation with the BRLMs, may allocate up to 60% of the QIB Portion to Anchor Investors in our discretion (the "Anchor Investor Portion"). One-third of the Anchor Investor Portion shall be available for allocation to QIBs (other than Anchor Investors), in accordance with the SEBI ICDR Regulations. In the event of under-allocation or non-allocation in the Anchor Investor Portion, the balance Equity Shares shall be added to the QIB Portion (other than the Anchor Investor Portion) (the "Net QIB Portion"). Further, 5% of the Net QIB Portion shall be available for allocation on a proportionate basis to Mutual Funds only, subject to valid Bids being received at or above the Offer Price, and the remainder of the Net QIB Portion shall be available for allocation on a proportionate basis to QIBs (other than Anchor Investors), including Mutual Funds, subject to valid Bids being received at or above the Offer Price. Further, not more than 15% of the Net Offer shall be available for allocation to Non-Institutional Bidders (out of which one-third of the portion available to Non-Institutional Bidders shall be reserved for Bidders with an application size of more than ₹0.20 million and up to ₹1.00 million, and two-thirds shall be reserved for Bidders with an application size of more than ₹1.00 million, provided that the un-subscribed portion in either of the aforementioned sub-categories may be allocated to Bidders in the other sub-category) and not more than 10% of the Net Offer shall be available for allocation to Retail Individual Bidders, in accordance with the SEBI ICDR Regulations, subject to valid Bids being received from them at or above the Offer Price. Further, Equity Shares will be allocated on a proportionate basis to Eligible Employees applying under the Employee Reservation Portion, subject to valid Bids received from them at or above the Offer Price. All Bidders, other than Anchor Investors, are required to participate in the Offer by mandatorily utilising the Application Supported by Blocked Amount ("ASBA") process by providing details of their respective ASBA Account (as defined hereinafter) and UPI ID in case of UPI Bidders (as defined hereinafter), as applicable, pursuant to which their corresponding Bid Amounts will be blocked by the Self-Certified Syndicate Banks ("SCSBs") or by the Sponsor Banks under the UPI Mechanism, as the case may be, to the extent of respective Bid Amounts. Anchor

Investors are not permitted to participate in the Offer through the ASBA process. For further details, see the "Offer Procedure" section on page 477 of the RHP.

Bidders/Applicants should ensure that DP ID, PAN and the Client ID and UPI ID (for UPI Bidders bidding through UPI Mechanism) are correctly filled in the Bid cum Application Form. The DP ID, PAN and Client ID provided in the Bid cum Application Form should match with the DP ID, PAN, Client ID and UPI ID available (for UPI Bidders bidding through the UPI Mechanism) in the Depository database, otherwise, the Bid cum Application Form is liable to be rejected. Bidders/Applicants should ensure that the beneficiary account provided in the Bid cum Application Form is active. Bidders/Applicants should note that on the basis of the PAN, DP ID, Client ID and UPI ID (for RIBs and NILs bidding through the UPI mechanism) as provided in the Bid cum Application Form, the Bidder/Applicant may be deemed to have authorized the Depositories to provide to the Registrars to the Offer, any requested Demographic Details of the Bidder/Applicant as available on the records of the depositories. These Demographic Details may be used, among other things, for giving Allotment Advice or unblocking of ASBA Account or for other correspondence(s) related to the Offer. Bidders/Applicants are advised to update any changes to their Demographic Details as available in the records of the Depository Participant to ensure accuracy of records. Any delay resulting from failure to update the Demographic Details would be at the Bidders/Applicants' sole risk. Investors must ensure that their PAN is linked with Aadhaar and are in compliance with the notification issued by Central Board of Direct Taxes notification dated February 13, 2020 and read with press releases dated June 25, 2021, September 17, 2021 and CBDT circular no.7 of 2022, dated March 30, 2022 read with press release dated March 28, 2023 and any subsequent press releases in this regard.

CONTENTS OF THE MEMORANDUM OF ASSOCIATION OF OUR COMPANY AS REGARDS ITS OBJECTS: For information on the main objects of our Company, investors are requested to see the "History and Certain Corporate Matters" section beginning on page 288 of the RHP. The Memorandum of Association of our Company is a material document for inspection in relation to the Offer. For further details, see the "Material Contracts and Documents for Inspection" section beginning on page 527 of the RHP.

LIABILITY OF THE MEMBERS OF OUR COMPANY: Limited by shares.

AMOUNT OF SHARE CAPITAL OF OUR COMPANY AND CAPITAL STRUCTURE: As on the date of the RHP, the authorised share capital of our Company is ₹150,00,000 divided into 150,00,000 Equity Shares of face value of ₹1 each. The issued, subscribed and paid-up Equity share capital of our Company is ₹109,805,805 divided into 109,805,805 Equity Shares of face value of ₹1 each. For details of the capital structure of our Company, see the "Capital Structure" section beginning on page 134 of the RHP.

NAMES OF THE INITIAL SIGNATORIES TO THE MEMORANDUM OF ASSOCIATION OF OUR COMPANY AND THE NUMBER OF EQUITY SHARES SUBSCRIBED BY THEM: The names of the initial signatories of the

Memorandum of Association of our Company along with their allotment are: Allotment of 10 equity shares each of face value of ₹10 each to Hari Shanker Khemka, Govind Kumar Khemka, Surendra Kumar Khemka, Indu Khemka, Aditya Khemka, Urmila Khemka and Anand Kumar Khemka. For details of the share capital history and capital structure of our Company see the "Capital Structure" section beginning on page 134 of the RHP.

LISTING: The Equity Shares offered through the Red Herring Prospectus are proposed to be listed on the Stock Exchanges. Our Company has received 'in-principle' approvals from BSE and NSE for the listing of the Equity Shares pursuant to their respective letters each dated January 9, 2025, respectively. For the purposes of the Offer, NSE is the Designated Stock Exchange. A copy of the Red Herring Prospectus and the Prospectus shall be filed with the RoC in accordance with Sections 26(4) and 32 of the Companies Act, 2013. For details of the material contracts and documents available for inspection from the date of the Red Herring Prospectus until the Bid / Offer Closing Date, see the "Material Contracts and Documents for Inspection" section beginning on page 527 of the RHP.

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GENERAL RISK: Investments in equity and equity-related securities involve a degree of risk and investors should not invest any funds in the Offer unless they can afford to take the risk of losing their entire investment. Investors are advised to read the risk factors carefully before taking an investment decision in the Offer. For taking an investment decision, investors must rely on their own examination of our Company and the Offer, including the risks involved. The Equity Shares have not been recommended or approved by SEBI, nor does SEBI guarantee the accuracy or adequacy of the contents of the Red Herring Prospectus. Specific attention of the investors is invited to the "Risk Factors" section beginning on page 41 of the RHP.



US AND CHINESE OFFICIALS KICK OFF 2-DAY TALKS AIMED AT EXTENDING THEIR TARIFF TRUCE BEYOND A MID-AUG DEADLINE **P18**

SC acts on TOI report on strays, orders PIL regrn

The Supreme Court on Monday expressed suo motu cognisance of a TOI report on alarming figures for cases of stray dog bites in Delhi and decided to examine measures to address the growing menace. A bench comprising Justices J B Pardiwala and R Mahadevan remarked that the TOI report was deeply disturbing and directed the court registry to register a PIL based on it. According to the report, over 60,000 dog bite cases were recorded in Delhi in 2023—averaging more than 165 cases per day. **P3**

BMW hit-&-run: Dead girl's uncle also dies

Two days after a five-year-old girl died after a BMW car, allegedly driven by a student under the influence of alcohol, crashed into a scooter near the Noida Sector 30 govt hospital, her 20-year-old uncle succumbed to his injuries, reports Aditya Bahl. According to police, Raza suffered fractures to his head, leg and hands. He had slipped into a coma during treatment. He was being treated at a private hospital in Ghaziabad since Saturday midnight. Her father Gul Mohammad continues to remain under observation. **P7**

Drill to boost city's disaster preparedness

Delhi is set to host a drill aimed at bolstering emergency response for major calamities such as earthquakes and industrial chemical disasters, officials said. The field-level drill will mark the culmination of the multi-agency Exercise Suraksha Chakra, designed to enhance emergency response coordination in NCR, covering 18 districts across Delhi, Haryana, and UP. The exercise will begin on July 29 with a symposium on disaster risk and strategic preparedness. The full-scale drill on Aug 1 will be the final phase. **P3**

This plea shouldn't have been filed: SC to Varma

SC: If You Doubt In-House Procedure, Why Did You Join It?

Dhananjay Mahapatra
@timesofindia.com

New Delhi: The Supreme Court on Monday told Justice Yashwant Varma, facing removal motion in LS for discovery of sacks of currency notes at his residence premises on March 14 night, that he should not have filed the petition challenging the procedure adopted by the in-house committee after fully participating in it.

As senior advocate Kapil Sibal, appearing for Justice Varma, began his arguments asserting it is 'matters of moment', a bench of Justices Dipankar Datta & A G Masih said

"It is a matter of moment only for the benefit of lawyers who are involved in this petition. This petition must not have been filed." Sibal took the bench through several SC rulings that barred discussion in public and in Parliament of alle-

ged misconduct of a judge prior to the debate on the removal motion. He said by uploading video of burning currency notes and communications between the then CJI & Delhi HC CJ (related to Jus-

tice Varma's explanations) on SC website, the petitioner has been vilified, subjected to media trial & pronounced guilty without an inquiry.

► Constitutional matter, **P 17**

No pollution data from Haryana as all state AQI stns offline since April

Ipsita.Pati@timesofindia.com

Gurgaon: A large chunk of Delhi's neighbourhood has been pollution-blind since April and could remain so when toxic air over the region peaks in Oct-Nov, severely undermining mitigation strategies over India's most polluted airshed.

All 29 air quality monitoring stations in Haryana operated by state pollution control board (HSPCB) have been offline since April 2 this year. The state's pollution data, meanwhile, has been coming from just two stations of the India Meteorological Department, one in Gurgaon and the other in Panchkula.

HSPCB stations are offline because the board let the maintenance contract with the firm that had managed monitors for five years lapse without lining up a stopgap

► Govt slammed, **P 7**

Stalking case accused dropped from Haryana law officer post

Chandigarh: Ten days after naming Vikas Barala — an accused in a stalking case — as an assistant advocate general, the Nayab Singh Saini-led Haryana govt has dropped him from the appointment list, saying he did not report on joining day.

On July 18, govt had issued a list of 92 law officers, including Barala, who would represent the state before Punjab and Haryana HC at Chandigarh and Delhi. Barala's appointment triggered outrage, and a govt spokesperson confirmed Monday that his name had been dropped. Except for Barala, the rest of the law officers had joined duty, the official said. Barala is facing trial as an accused in stalking and attempted abduction of the daughter of a senior bureaucrat (since retired). **TNN**

► Govt slammed, **P 17**

Maha bars staff from online criticism of govt

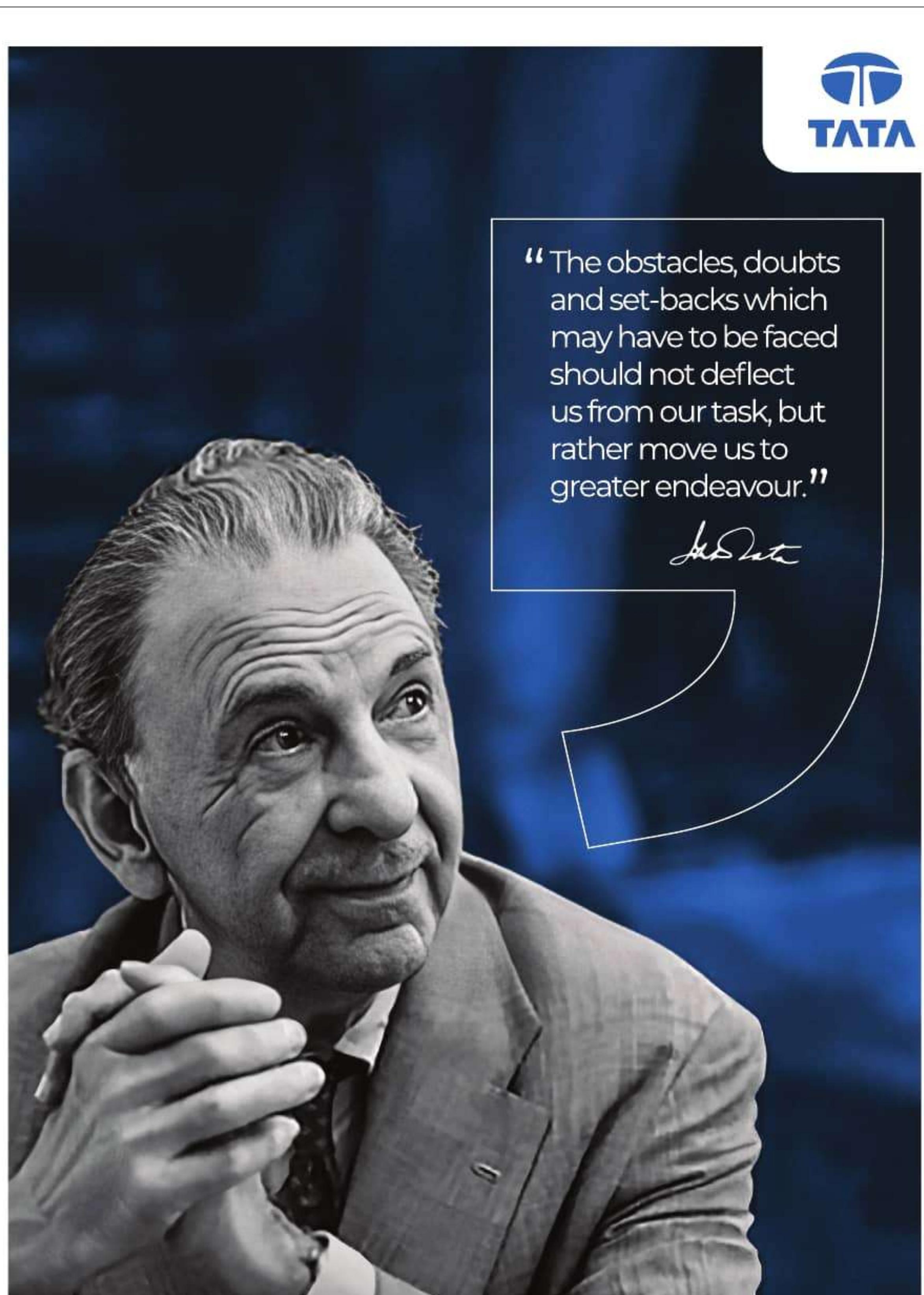
Flagging dangers of use of social media, Maharashtra govt has laid out guidelines for its use by state govt employees, which include a ban on criticism of govt policies. A GR issued Monday referred to misuse of social media by "giving adverse comments about govt policies or any political event or person in violation of the govt service rules". **P15**

Baby orphaned in HP floods now 'child of state'

Nikita, the 10-month-old who lost her parents and grandma in the flash floods in HP's Mandi, has been declared a "child of the state", with the state govt pledging to support all her expenses, including higher education and professional studies. Under the Mukhyamantri Sukh-Aashray Yojana, she will receive Rs 4,000 monthly till she turns 27. **FLAP INSIDE**

UP doc sleeps, man 'bleeds to death in hosp'

A junior resident doctor of Lala Lajpat Rai Memorial Medical College and hospital in Meerut was suspended on Monday for alleged negligence after a 30-year-old accident victim from a nearby village "bled to death when he was left unattended for hours at the emergency ward". In a video, the doctor could be seen sleeping in front of an AC. **P12**



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The royal game demystified: What you might not know about chess

Indian chess is having a golden run. From Gukesh D defeating world champion Magnus Carlsen, to Praggnanandhaa besting him twice, to India's men's and women's teams winning gold at the Chess Olympiad, the country has established itself as a global chess powerhouse. The latest triumph came as 19-year-old Divya Deshmukh defeated veteran Koneru Humpy in an all-India final to win the FIDE Women's World Cup. As chess becomes more popular, here's a quick explainer to help understand five basics of the game.

■ Is playing with Black a disadvantage? In chess, White always makes the first move. This gives White a tiny initial advantage, as they can immediately start developing pieces and dictating the flow of the game. Black, on the other hand, has to react to White's first move. While this "first-move advantage" is small at the grandmaster level and doesn't guarantee a win for White, statistically, White does win slightly more often than Black. Think of it like starting a race a fraction of a second before your opponent.

■ World Champion vs World Cup in chess: What's the difference? The World Champion is the undisputed, reigning champion of chess. To become the World Champion, a player must win a series of highly competitive matches leading up to a final match against the current champion. This title is held by only one person at a time and signifies being the very best player in the world. The FIDE (International Chess Federation) World Cup is a major knockout tournament. Players compete in a series of head-to-head matches,

with the loser being eliminated, until the winner remains. While winning the World Cup is a prestigious achievement and often signifies players for the World Championship cycle, it doesn't automatically make them the World Champion. Think of it like the difference between winning a major golf tournament (like The Masters) versus being ranked the No. 1 golfer in the world.

■ Why do women and men play separately when chess isn't a physical sport?

While chess is a mental sport, historically, there have been fewer women



playing chess professionally compared to men. This has led to the establishment of women-only tournaments and titles (like Woman Grandmaster) to encourage more female participation, provide more opportunities for women to compete for titles and prize money, and help bridge the gap in numbers. It's not about physical differences but about fostering growth and representation in the sport for women. Men are generally allowed to compete in women's tournaments, but it is rare. Conversely, women are allowed to compete in "open".

■ The significance of 'resigning' a game: Unlike many other games, in chess, it's common and considered good sportsmanship to "resign" a game before checkmate is delivered. A player resigns when they realise their position is hopeless and there's no way to avoid defeat. It saves time and acknowledges the opponent's superior play. Forcing an opponent to play out an already lost game until checkmate can sometimes be seen as disrespectful in high-level play.

■ The Elo rating system: How players are ranked: The Elo rating system is a method for calculating the relative skill levels of players in competitor-vs-competitor games like chess. After every rated game, a player's Elo rating changes based on the outcome of the game and the ratings of their opponent. Beating a much higher-rated player significantly boosts your rating, while losing to a much lower-rated player drops it considerably. It's a dynamic system that reflects a player's current strength.

Bar versus bench: Madras HC notice to lawyer sparks conflict

Ex-Judges Back Lawyer, HC Says 'Interference' In Judicial Process

Kaushik Kannan & K Sureshkumar | TNN

Madurai/Chennai: "You are a comedy piece, I don't know who called you a revolutionary," Justice G R Swaminathan of Madras HC told Madurai-based advocate S Vanchinathan, who had been summoned to court Monday.

Amidst protests from several bar associations against the notice or any contempt action against Vanchinathan, a division bench of Justices Swaminathan and K Rajasekar said it was not a contempt notice but only a "pre-cognisance notice".

Noting that the notice was sent for "a scandalising campaign" carried out by Vanchinathan on social media, the judges referred the matter to the Madras HC chief justice for further proceedings. The first bench of Justices Manindra Mohan Shrivastava and Sunder Mohan, before which the matter was mentioned on Monday, said the issue would be dealt with in the administrative side of HC.

On July 24, a division bench in Madurai had first

summoned Vanchinathan after he wrote a letter to the CJI, complaining about Justice Swaminathan's orders and conduct both inside and outside court. Taking exception to social media posts related to the issue, the judges asked Vanchinathan if he still stood by his allegations. To this, the advocate replied he would respond only if the query was given in writing. The judges then ordered the court registry to issue a questionnaire to Vanchinathan.

However, on July 26, seven former judges of Madras HC wrote a common representation seeking the withdrawal of proceedings against Vanchinathan. For their part, several bar associations had declared that they would hold protests in front of the principal bench as well

as the Madurai bench of HC, besides the district court in Madurai. Several political parties had also issued statements against initiating contempt against Vanchinathan. On Monday, there were protests at several courts.

The bench on Monday expressed dissatisfaction with the former judges who had signed the representation, and said: "We have to record our dismay as to how such interference with the judicial process can be made. Several assumptions, which have no factual basis, have been made. We characterise their approach as most unfortunate."

Vanchinathan has mobilised a group of lawyers and retired judges to rush to his rescue, they said, adding, "They have also passed reckless comments without waiting for

today's outcome. Gratuitous appeals and advice have poured forth. We ignore them with the contempt they deserve."

Cautions that communal campaigns on social media would eventually weaken the judicial system itself, the bench said: "The time has come to regulate the level of discourse on social media. In the name of freedom of speech and expression, one cannot condone acts of contempt... There is something called the Laxman Rekha, which, if crossed, must invite peril."

Lawyers and judges belong to one large family, said the bench, adding: "When a judge sits on the dais, he discharges his judicial duties as per his conscience and by strictly adhering to the judicial oath. He cannot be seen as carrying on his caste or religious labels while on the bench. If someone continues to have such a perception, he obviously has jaundiced eyes."

Baby orphaned in HP floods is now 'child of the state'

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Kullu: Ten-month-old Nikita, who was orphaned in the June 30 flash floods in Himachal's Mandi district, has been declared a "child of the state", with govt pledging to support her expenses, including higher education and professional studies.

Nikita was asleep when a flash flood struck in the dead of night and swept her parents, Ramesh and Radha Devi, and grandmother, Poorni, to their deaths in Talwara village. Her father's body was found, but there is still no sign of the women, who are presumed dead.

Orphaned, yet surrounded by love, Nikita was cared for by the village. Her relatives and Mandi district administration began receiving calls from couples, even from abroad, to adopt her. However, the family decided Nikita would be in the care of an aunt.

Now, the state govt has brought the baby under the Mukhyamantri Sukh-Aashray Yojana, rendering her eligible to receive Rs 4,000 monthly till she turns 27. Mandi deputy commissioner Apoorv Devgan said Rs 8,000 (for July and Aug) has already been credited to Nikita's savings bank account.

Devgan said children who lost their loved ones in the disaster would be provided support through welfare schemes.

Amid Bihar's SIR drive, a dog gets a residence certificate

Adwitiya Deb & Jainarain Pandey | TNN

Patna: Every dog has his day. In Bihar, some have Aadhaar-verified addresses when many voters are struggling to convince the poll panel about theirs. The claws are out after a residence e-certificate issued to a dog in Patna's Masaunhi area surfaced, listing one "Dog Babu" as the applicant, "Kutta Babu" as the father and "Kutiya Devi" as the mother.

The document was issued to an online applicant who apparently used others' Aadhaar details and remains untraced. It was issued on July 24 when EC's special intensive revision (SIR) of electoral rolls was on ahead of the assembly elections later this year.

The howler has sparked an outcry from the opposition that has already protested SIR in the NDA-governed state and led many to wonder whether Bihar's e-governance systems had gone walkies. Such residence certificates are among documents EC has been insisting on during the drive to "purge" the rolls of alleged bogus and illegal voters.

Masaunhi SDO Abhishek Kumar disclosed that the online application was "fraudulently" supported by an Aadhaar card of one Vibha Kumari with a Delhi address. "The applicant also used the Aadhaar of her husband Ajit Kumar, also with a Delhi address," the SDO said, adding an FIR had been filed against the unknown applicant, an IT assistant and a revenue officer who handled the matter.

For a certificate issued in Masaunhi, the documents should have reflected a local address, a basic criterion overlooked due to negligence. IT assistant Rakesh Kumar has been removed while revenue officer Murari Chauhan, who approved the application without verification, faces suspension, said Patna DM Thiagarajan Sam.

The bloopoer became a lightning rod for political outrage and mockery, with opposition parties slamming the Nitish Kumar-led NDA govt and EC. The row comes in the backdrop



The residence cert lists 'Dog Babu' as applicant, 'Kutta Babu' as father and 'Kutiya Devi' as mother.

of SC's observation that Aadhaar and EPIC (voter) cards should be valid for SIR.

RJD mascot and state leader of opposition Tejaswi Prasad Yadav took a biting swipe: "Nothing moves in Bihar without paying a bribe. Earlier, Aadhaar cards were made in the names of Sunny Leone and CM Nitish Kumar. The dog must have paid some bribe, too."

Tejaswi further said: "People can now understand how intensive this so-called revision was. What more proof does one need about the farcical nature of this exercise..."

Congress also reacted sharply, saying "it seems the votes of the people would be taken away and given to the dogs".

Purnia MP Rajesh Ranjan alias Pappu Yadav posted a copy of the certificate on social media platform X and wrote: "A dog is showing its residence certificate while human beings are unable to provide evidence." Activist and psephologist Yogendra Yadav echoed the concerns, saying, "This is the same certificate acceptable in SIR while Aadhaar and ration cards are being called fake."

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