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Maha, J'khand campaign ends, polling Nov 20

Campaign for the Maharashtra assembly polls and the final phase of Jharkhand elections came to a close Monday, with voting set to take place Nov 20. In Maharashtra, all 288 seats go to the polls, with the Shinde Sena and Sena (UBT) locked in straight contests in 46, while it is Pawar vs Pawar in 37. In Jharkhand, remaining 38 of 81 seats go to polls. Counting will take place Nov 23. **P 15**

CG rescues 7 fishermen from Pak vessel

The Coast Guard Monday said it had rescued seven Indian fishermen who were apprehended by a ship of Pakistan Maritime Security Agency near the maritime boundary. Around 3.30 pm Sunday, Coast Guard's ICGS Agrim on a patrol received a distress call from an Indian fishing boat. Coast Guard then intercepted the PMSA ship & persuaded them to release Indians. **P 9**

SpaceX rocket lifts off Isro's 4.7-ton sat

Elon Musk-owned SpaceX's Falcon-9 rocket early Tuesday successfully launched into space India's heavy-weight satellite Gsat-20 or Gsat-N2, weighing 4,700 kg from Cape Canaveral Space Force Station in Florida. The satellite will boost communication infra of India. **T 11**

City's 2nd-worst air day on record, SC says Grap-4 to go on till further orders

'Govts Must Quickly Take Call On 50% WFH, Closure Of Industries'

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New Delhi: With air pollution in Delhi reaching life-threatening 'severe plus' levels, Supreme Court on Monday directed Delhi and NCR states—UP, Haryana, Rajasthan and Punjab—to strictly enforce stage IV of the Graded Response Action Plan (Grap) and immediately take a call on measures such as closing schools for all classes, allowing govt and private employees to work from home and shutting industries.

It also ordered that these restrictions would continue till further orders from the court, even if AQI drops below 401, the 'severe' category threshold.

The judicial crackdown came on a day when Delhi suffered a dystopian nightmare with a thick layer of pungent smoke filling the air. The day's average AQI was 494 at the highest end of 'severe-plus', the worst in eight years and the second-worst on record. The 24-hour average AQI maxed out at 500 at 15 stations at 5pm and citizens were left coughing and teary-eyed even on short exposures to the toxic fumes.

The bench of Justices Ab-

hay S Oka and Augustine George Masih slammed the "wait and watch" approach of the Commission for Air Quality Management (CAQM) in enforcing Grap measures. Noting that grade III measures were enforced 48 hours after AQI level crossed 400 level, it directed that commensurate measures must be enforced immediately after the AQI level crosses the threshold and the commission should not wait for improvement in quality of air on the basis of the met department's forecast. SC administration also issued a circular in the evening advising all, including lawyers and judges to wear masks.

Pleading for closure of all classes in schools, senior advocate Gopal Sankaranarayanan brought to court's notice that Delhi govt was allowing physical classes for classes 10 and 12, and contended that same number of school buses were running on roads to ferry them. The court, thereafter, ordered, "States should take an immediate call to stop physical classes of all standards up to class 12."

Meanwhile, UP govt told the SC that it had invoked Grap-4 measures from 8am onwards on Monday.

► **Stringent actions, P 2**

AIRMERGENCY IN CAPITAL ON MANIC MONDAY

What SC said:
To NCR Govts | Strictly implement Grap-4 measures, appoint monitoring committees

To Centre, NCR Govts | Quickly take call on 50% WFH for govt & pvt offices; closure of educational institutions & non-essential commercial activities; odd-even traffic curbs

To CAQM | Commission's 'wait & watch' policy on rolling out Grap curbs 'is a completely wrong approach'

Smoke Screen



Kartavya Path on Monday

494 | Avg AQI in city on Monday, 2nd-highest on record after 497 logged on Nov 6, 2016

15 stations | maxed out at 5pm, with 24-hr avg AQI at 500

1,500+ | Delhi's AQI on apps like IQAir, which follow US model that has no upper limit. The Indian scale is capped at 500

All classes in NCR schools, DU go online

Physical classes for 10 and 12 in all Delhi schools stand suspended from Tuesday "till further orders", CM Atishi said, a day after announcing that rest of the classes would go online because of the pollution situation. DU classes have also shifted online till Nov 23. All physical classes in Gurgaon, Noida and Ghaziabad schools stand suspended as well. **P 4**

1 hr in smog can hit lung function, harm your heart

Even one hour of exposure to this foul air, warn doctors, can cause inflammation in lungs, leading to reduced functionality and heightened airway resistance. People with asthma or COPD face greater risks. The pollutants affect the cardiovascular system, causing elevated heart rate and BP due to greater strain on the heart and blood vessels. **P 3**

Punjab farm fire count at season's high of 1,251

On Monday, Punjab reported 1,251 new farm fires, making it the season's highest tally in a single day. The count was 639 in Madhya Pradesh, 152 in Rajasthan, 133 in UP and 36 in Haryana. The contribution of stubble burning to Delhi's PM2.5 was 25.1% on Saturday, but data was unavailable for Sunday and Monday. **P 2**

Anmol, brother of Lawrence Bishnoi, detained in US

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New Delhi: Anmol Bishnoi, younger brother of gangster Lawrence Bishnoi, is learnt to have been detained in Sacramento, US, early on Sunday. The FBI is learnt to be in the process of verifying his identity, possibly through a voice sample or a DNA match, sources said.

US agency officials, who earlier this month confirmed his presence in America, are in touch with Indian agencies for the follow-up processes, including his deportation. Anmol, who has a red notice issued against him by Interpol, is accused in several

₹10L REWARD

► Anmol has been accused of providing arms and logistical support to shooters of Sidhu Moosewala, who was killed in 2022

► NIA had declared reward of ₹10L on Anmol after he was accused of role in Baba Siddique's murder

► He had since been living in California along with aides

high-profile cases, including the recent murder of Baba Siddique and the firing outside Salman Khan's residence.

► **Faces 18 cases, P 20**

G20 will work to reform global institutions: Modi

New Delhi: Backing Brazil's initiative for a 'Global Alliance Against Hunger and Poverty' at the G20 summit in Rio, PM Modi underscored India's concerns for the developing world as he said that countries of the Global South are most adversely impacted by the food, fuel and fertiliser crisis caused by conflicts.

Speaking at the session titled 'Social Inclusion and the Fight Against Hunger and Poverty', the PM also drew attention to the need for reforms of global institu-



PM Modi with outgoing US Prez Joe Biden at G20 in Rio de Janeiro

tions saying the G20 will work towards achieving that objective. **T 11**

► **'Global South key', P 14**

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Toxic smog triggers health crisis in capital | 3

TIMES CITY 494
 DELHI AQI ON MONDAY (SEVERE CATEGORY)

TEMP ON MONDAY
 23.5° MAXIMUM 16.2° MINIMUM

FORECAST ▶ Dense fog likely. Max & min temperatures on Tuesday would be around 24°C and 15°C

MOONSET 11.17AM (WED) MOONRISE 8.38PM (TUE)
 SUNSET 5.26PM (TUE) SUNRISE 6.48AM (WED)

THE TIMES OF INDIA, NEW DELHI | TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 19, 2024



Pollution disrupts schools, online learning faces challenges | 4

DTC strike leaves commuters stranded | 7



Delhi's Question: To Breathe Or Not To Breathe

Punjab Fire Count At Season's High Of 1,251; Local Factors, Met Conditions Weigh

Priyangi Agarwal
 @timesofindia.com

New Delhi: It was a dreary day. Many people complained of a sharp and pungent smell in the air throughout the day. It was a day when Delhiites were compelled to breathe toxic air. Many of them complained that even short-term exposure to the air caused watery eyes and headaches. The AQI on Monday was 494 on a scale of 500 at 4pm, the worst reading this season and the second highest since AQI began to be recorded in 2015.

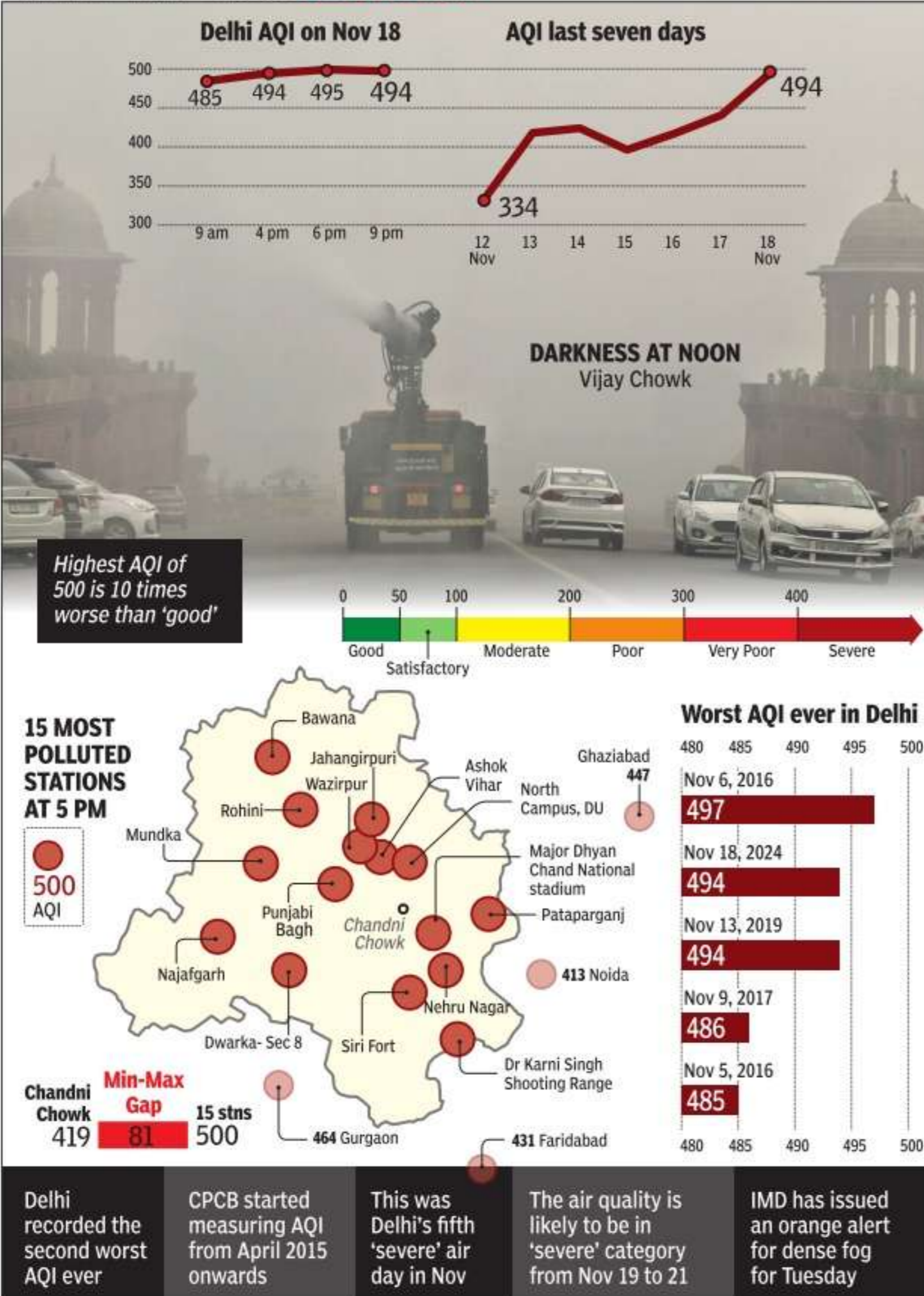
According to the Central Pollution Control Board's bulletin, Monday's 'severe plus' AQI was only lower than 497 logged on Nov 6, 2016, and identical to the reading of Nov 13, 2019.

As Delhiites stayed indoors or wore masks to avoid inhaling toxins, Dr Arvind Kumar, chest surgeon and founder of Lung Care Foundation and Doctors for Clean Air and Climate Action, India, warned, "Polluted air is an invisible killer. With every breath we take, it quietly wreaks havoc on our health. From triggering asthma attacks in children to fuelling heart disease, lung cancer and cognitive decline, the impact of emissions transcends generations, leaving vulnerable communities to bear the brunt."

Many described the day as "gloomy". With a grey haze hanging over the city, Delhi recorded poor visibility throughout the day. As the sun's rays were unable to penetrate the thick cover, the maximum temperature dropped to the season's lowest at 23.5 degrees Celsius, four below normal. It was also 3.7 degrees lower than Sunday's maximum. The minimum temperature stood at 16.2 degrees Celsius, four above normal.

There will be no sunny days for some time with the air quality likely to remain above

WHAT ARE YOU SMOKING?



400 till Nov 21. The Air Quality Early Warning System, the forecasting body under the Union ministry of earth sciences, has predicted that the

air quality is likely to be 'severe' till Nov 21. However, there was no clarity on whether AQI will be in the 'severe plus' level (AQI above 450).

CPCB's data shows that AQI, which was 441 at 4pm on Sunday, entered the 'severe plus' category at 6pm with a reading of 452. It surged to

468 at 10pm on Sunday and continued its upward trend, logging 485 at 9am on Monday and 495 at 7pm. AQI at 15 of the city's 36 air monitoring stations maxed out at 500, with the others also touching the extreme end of the scale.

Experts said a combination of factors — high local and regional pollution levels, harvest stubble fires, unfavourable meteorological conditions, including calm winds, dense fog, low temperature and inversion — caused AQI to spike. On Monday, Punjab reported 1,251 new farm fires, making it the season's highest tally in a single day. The count was 36 in Haryana, 133 in UP, 152 in Rajasthan and 639 in Madhya Pradesh. The contribution of stubble burning to Delhi's PM2.5 was 25.1% on Saturday, but data was unavailable for Sunday and Monday.

Anumita Roychowdhury, executive director, research and advocacy, Centre for Science and Environment, said, "The current situation, which is at a risk of building up to a severe air episode, is a result of a combination of elevated local and regional pollution aggravated by adverse meteorological conditions. The pollutants are trapped. We need more reliable forecasting systems to enable preventive measures. Also, durable and sustained action will require much stronger attention."

There was dense fog in the morning. Palam recorded the lowest visibility of 100-150 metres from 11pm on Sunday to 1am on Monday before improving to 900m at 5pm. Safdarjung, the city's base weather station, logged visibility of 150m on Monday morning. The best visibility of 200m was recorded at Safdarjung at 5pm. IMD has issued an 'orange' alert (be prepared) for dense fog for Tuesday, with 'yellow' (be aware) for Wednesday.

'Provide for more stringent actions under GRAP III, IV'



THE ANNUAL DISAPPEARING ACT: Anand Vihar engulfed in thick smog on Monday

Continued from P1

We direct all govts of NCR to strictly implement stage 4 of Grap. All states will immediately constitute teams for monitoring implementations of actions required under stage 4. NCR govts and the Centre will have to immediately take a call on actions provided in clauses 6 (allowing public, municipal and private offices to work on 50% strength and the rest to work from home), 7 (decision on permitting Central govt employee work from home) and 8 (closure of educational institutions, non-emergency commercial activities and plying of vehicles on odd-even basis etc) of stage 4 and place the decision taken on the record before the next date," the bench said.

CAQM to incorporate more stringent actions in stages 3 and 4 of Grap, and not leave its implementation to the discretion of the government or local authorities. SC said that



CAQM's should be preemptive and it should not wait to enforce measures, after senior advocate Aprajita Singh, who is assisting the court as amicus curiae, said that AQI had breached 400 in Nov 12 itself but Grap 3 measures were enforced after 48 hours. "From the submissions made across the bar and from minutes of the meeting dated

Nov 13, 2024, we find that the approach adopted by the sub-committee of the commission is contrary to what is observed in paragraph three of this court's order dated Oct 29, 2018. The direction was to EPCA to take preemptive steps under Grap. The approach adopted by the commission seems to be that they have decided to wait for improvement of AQI and therefore implementation of stage 3 and stage 4 was delayed. This is completely a wrong approach," the court said.

It also directed the states to create grievance redressal mechanisms to enable the citizens to lodge complaints of violation of actions under stage 4 and ordered them to file an affidavit on compliance of all its directions by Thursday and posted the case for further hearing on Nov 22.

500 and not counting — AQI maxes out at 15 stns

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 @timesofindia.com

New Delhi: The Air Quality Index at 15 air monitoring stations — Ashok Vihar, Bawana, Dr Karni Singh Shooting Range, Dwarka-Sec 8, Jahangirpuri, Mundka, Major Dhyan Chand National Stadium, Najafgarh, Nehru Nagar, North Campus in DU, Patparganj, Punjabi Bagh, Rohini, and Wazirpur — maxed out on Monday.

Data from the Central Pollution Control Board, which monitors AQI on a scale of 0-500, showed that 33 of the city's 36 stations logged AQI surpassing 490 at 33 stations. Even those that did not max out came close, with Mandir Marg, for instance, recording an AQI of 499.

Some stations such as RK Puram on Nov 3 last year, had seen AQI reaching the index max of 500 in previous years. However, the situation on Monday was grave as the majority of the stations showed AQI at 500 or were at the extreme end with an AQI around 498 or 499. The number of monitoring stations recording an AQI of 500 kept increasing throughout the day.

The station at Dwarka Sector 8 hit the max at 9am on Monday and recorded the same AQI for the entire day. Reena Yadav, who lives in Dwarka Sector 22, just around a kilometre from the station, said she felt a sudden deterioration in air quality on Sunday afternoon, which persisted on Monday. "The continuously worsening air causes a burning sensation in the eyes, persistent coughing and a constant headache. Breathing in this bad air has been impacting our health," said Yadav.

Several areas in Delhi recorded alarming levels of PM2.5 concentrations. The hourly PM2.5 levels shot up to 20 times over the daily national ambient air quality standard (NAAQS) of 60 micrograms per cubic metre at Mundka on Monday at 1pm with a concentration of 1,193 micrograms per cubic metre, according to data from the Delhi Pollution Control Com-

THE CHOKE'S ON YOU

Stations	AQI AT 5 PM	Highest hourly PM2.5 concentration
Ashok Vihar	500	1,083
Bawana	500	974
Dr Karni Singh Shooting Range	500	941
Dwarka- Sec 8	500	941
Jahangirpuri	500	879
Mundka	500	1,193
Major Dhyan Chand National Stadium	500	969
Najafgarh	500	1,117
Nehru Nagar	500	1,009
North Campus, DU	500	NA
Patparganj	500	735.2
Punjabi Bagh	500	1,038
Rohini	500	1,022
Siri Fort	500	NA
Wazirpur	500	957
Mandir Marg	499	996

Daily national ambient air quality standard: 60 micrograms per cubic metre
 Daily WHO guideline: 15 micrograms per cubic metre
 Highest hourly PM2.5 concentration in micrograms per cubic metre on Monday

AN EXPERT SAYS

The same raw data is used by both CPCB and IQAir for calculating AQI. However, they have different formulas and break-even points, leading to differences in AQI figures. For instance, the United States categorises the 'good' category when AQI is 0-9, while CPCB defines AQI of 0-50 as 'good'

mittie. It was 80 times higher than the WHO's daily safe guideline of 15 microgram per cubic metre.

Najafgarh, which recorded an AQI of 500 throughout the day, saw an hourly PM2.5 concentration of 1,117 micrograms per cubic metre at 2pm. This was 19 times higher than the national standard and 74 times higher than WHO's standard. The hourly PM2.5 levels rose to 1,083 micrograms per cubic metre at Ashok Vihar on Monday afternoon against the safe national norm of 60 and WHO's guideline of 15. Punjabi Bagh, Rohini and Nehru Nagar saw hourly PM2.5 concentrations of 1,038, 1,022 and 1,009 micrograms per cubic metre, respectively.

However, according to IQAir, which uses different parameters, AQI at Dwarka Sector 8 was 1927 at 12pm. Experts said IQAir's raw data on pollutant concentration is the same, but it uses a different formula and break-even point (the point for the shift from one pollution category to another).

Sunil Dahiya, founder and lead analyst, Envirocast, said, "The same raw data is used by both CPCB and IQAir for calculating AQI. However, they have different formulas and break-even points, leading to differences in AQI figures. For instance, the United States categorises the 'good' category when AQI is 0-9, while CPCB defines AQI of 0-50 as 'good'."

15 Delhi-bound flights diverted as visibility dips

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi: Dense fog at IGI Airport impacted flight operations on Monday. Fifteen Delhi-bound flights were diverted to Jaipur and Dehradun. According to Flightradar24, 349 flights were delayed on Monday.

According to the India Meteorological Department, the lowest visibility of 100 metres was recorded from 1am to 8am on Monday. "A total of 15 flights were diverted between 8.30 am and 3.30 pm on Monday. Of these, 13 were diverted to Jaipur and one each to Dehradun and Lucknow due to captain minima (an operating procedure used when low visibility conditions do not meet the criteria for landing)," said an official at Delhi Airport.

Though the visibility improved later in the day, several flights were delayed due to the cascading effect. The highest visibility at IGI Airport was recorded at 700 metres at 5pm.

NDMC to get 5 road sweeping machines

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi: Amid worsening pollution situation, New Delhi Municipal Council is planning to purchase five CNG-based mechanical road sweepers.

"Existing four mechanical road sweepers are used for sweeping all the avenue roads in two shifts. To ensure even more dedicated action, there is a plan to procure five more CNG-based mechanical road sweepers," said NDMC vice-chairman Kuljeet Chahal on Monday.

NDMC has constituted three teams with nine members each to report sources of pollution. "A team is also monitoring construction and demolition sites during the night hours. NDMC has imposed 50 challans of Rs 50,000 till date," said Chahal.

Further, 905 notices were issued for littering, 58 for single-use plastic, 34 for solid waste management, and two for open burning until Oct. "During Oct, 158 trees and 460 shrubs were also planted."

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Exposure To Even One Hour Of Toxic Smog May Cost You

Can Hit Lung Function, Cause Increased Strain On Heart: Docs

Anuja Jaiswal
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New Delhi: On Monday, Delhiites were thrust into a harrowing battle against the worst pollution this season, compelled to breathe air laden with dangerous contaminants and navigating a shroud of thick toxic smog.

Even one hour of exposure to high levels of particulate pollutants, warn medical experts, can trigger immediate negative health impacts. When these particles enter the respiratory system, they can cause inflammation in the lungs, leading to reduced lung functionality and heightened airway resistance within a brief timeframe.

People with existing respiratory ailments, such as asthma or chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD), face heightened risks as exposure can worsen their condition and necessitate treatment. Studies indicate that short-term contact with these pollutants affects the cardiovascular system, causing elevated heart rate and blood pressure due to increased strain on the heart and blood vessels.

Prof Dr G C Khilnani, chairman, PSRI Institute of Pulmonary, Critical Care and Sleep Medicine, and a member of WHO's Technical Advisory Group on Global Air Pollution and Health, told TOI that five consecutive patients in his OPD who were earlier stable recently showed new symptoms, such as cough, sore throat, chest tightness, runny nose, breathlessness and wheezing for four-five days. Notably, they showed no signs of fever, and their condition did not improve with increased use of an inhaler or a nebuliser.

Dr Khilnani also observed patients with no prior respiratory conditions who sought treatment for cough and breathlessness during the previous week. Their X-ray results appeared normal, and spirometry tests showed no new alterations in lung function.

Dr Arvind Kumar, chairman, lung transplant, Medanta, said particulate pollutants enter the respiratory system, settle in the lungs and travel throughout the body, affecting various organs—from the brain to the limbs. Children frequently develop breathing problems, persistent cough, allergies, asthma and pneumonia. Adults struggle with breathing difficulties, while the elderly are prone to pneumonia. The

DEALING WITH POOR AIR QUALITY

Practical Steps to Protect Yourself

Check Local AQI Daily
Winter inversions can trap pollutants near the ground



Limit Outdoor Activities
On high pollution days, reduce outdoor exposure and choose indoor alternatives



Use N95 Masks
These offer effective protection when stepping outside



WHO NEED EXTRA PRECAUTIONS?

WHO NEED EXTRA PRECAUTIONS?

> Children
Their developing lungs make them more vulnerable to respiratory problems caused by pollution



> Older Adults
Pre-existing conditions like heart disease or COPD can worsen with poor air quality



> Those with Health Conditions
People with asthma, COPD, cardiovascular diseases, or diabetes face higher risks from pollution exposure



> Pregnant Women
Poor air quality has been linked to low birth weight and developmental issues in children



> Outdoor Workers
Prolonged exposure due to work increases the likelihood of adverse health effects



Photo: Anindya Chattopadhyay

CONTROL VENTILATION AT HOME

Open windows only when the air outside is cleaner



Use exhaust fans when cooking to reduce indoor pollutants



Invest in Indoor Air Purifiers Choose HEPA filters designed to remove fine particles effectively

Avoid Polluting Heat Sources Minimise use of wood stoves or coal-burning heaters, which release harmful particulates

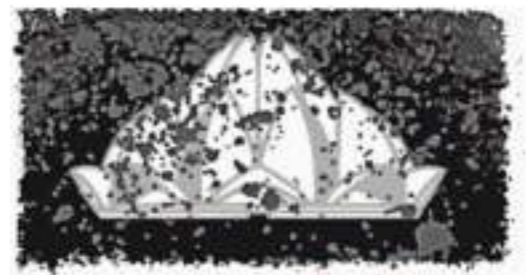


Adopt Cleaner Travel Habits Carpool, use public transit, or bike to reduce traffic-related emissions



range of respiratory ailments is extensive, including increased instances of tuberculosis and lung cancer.

Air pollution is associated with 25% of heart attacks and there is an increase in early-onset hypertension and car-



LET DELHI BREATHE

diac rhythm abnormalities, he added. The neurological effects include increased hyperactivity and reduced IQ levels in children. People exposed to pollution show higher occurrences of strokes.

Research indicates higher instances of dementia and Alzheimer's disease in pollution-exposed populations. Studies show exposure to polluted air is associated with nearly all known medical conditions, including liver and kidney disorders, fertility problems, diabetes, obesity and breast cancer.

Extended exposure to poor air with high concentra-

tions of PM2.5 and PM10 correlates with increased lung cancer risk. Dr Nikhil Modi, senior consultant, respiratory and critical care, Indra-prastha Apollo Hospitals, said, "Long-term inhalation of these fine particles contrib-

utes to carcinogenic processes within lung tissues due to their ability to penetrate deep into the lungs and enter systemic circulation."

The International Agency for Research on Cancer (IARC) categorises outdoor air pollution as a Group 1 carcinogen, supported by substantial evidence linking it to lung cancer development.

Some elements in particulate matter, including polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons and heavy metals, are established carcinogens that increase cellular damage progressively. Research also indicates people residing in highly polluted areas show significantly higher lung cancer rates compared to those in less polluted regions.

Dr Nitin Rathi, senior consultant, pulmonology, Dharamshila Narayana Hospital, underlined the need to cut exposure to polluted air

by staying indoors, particularly during poor air quality periods, and monitoring air quality indicators regularly.

He suggested protective measures like air purifiers and N95 masks.

Dr Arunesh Kumar, senior consultant, respiratory medicine, Paras Health, said following prescribed treatments is vital for protection and recommended seeking prompt medical attention if symptoms develop.

Dr Gyandeep Mangal, principal consultant in pulmonology, interventional pulmonology and sleep medicine, Sri Balaji Action Medical Institute, said short-term exposure to pollution can be equally detrimental as long-term exposure. Healthcare centres are witnessing an increase in patients seeking care for asthma, COPD and cardiac arrhythmias.

The elderly and those with pre-existing health conditions are particularly vulnerable. Studies have shown several air pollutants contain carcinogenic properties. He recommended maintaining a balanced diet rich in antioxidants and proper hydration.

Medical emergency 'AAP govt in denial mode on stubble burning in Punjab'

due to farm fires in 'BJP-led' states: CM

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi: Chief minister Atishi on Monday raised alarm over the severe air pollution engulfing a large swathe of north India, describing the situation as a medical emergency caused by rampant stubble burning in several "BJP-led" states. Instead of addressing the crisis, BJP-led central govt is focused on political blame games, she alleged.

Hitting back, Delhi BJP chief Virendra Sachdeva said, "On a day when Delhi expected drastic pollution relief measures, all CM did was a most irresponsible press conference on pollution to defend Punjab govt."

He added, "She should note that the total number of 1,655 stubble burning incidents were recorded in Punjab on Nov 17 and 18 alone."

Atishi alleged that north India was choking because of central govt's inaction. Stubble burning incidents escalated in the BJP-run states like Haryana, Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh, while AAP-governed Punjab registered a decline, she claimed.

Stating that the people of Delhi are in great distress and need help, CM said, "I received phone calls throughout last night. Some needed to admit their elderly parents to hospitals due to breathing difficulties while others had to rush to get asthma inhalers for their

young children late at night."

She claimed that the official data on the reduction in stubble burning in AAP-run Punjab highlighted effective governance, unlike the approach seen in the states governed by BJP.

Delhi's air quality worsened to the 'severe-plus' category on Monday, with the city recording an average air quality index of 484, accompanied by dense toxic smog that caused visibility to drop sharply through the day. The air quality is likely to stay 'severe' till Nov 21.

Criticising central govt's handling of the situation, Atishi said, "The people of Delhi are struggling to breathe, with the elderly and children requiring medical support due to the severe pollution. Instead of taking action, central govt is busy playing politics, pushing the entire region towards a health crisis."

She questioned why central govt had not taken steps similar to those implemented in Punjab. "If Punjab govt can reduce stubble burning, why can't BJP-run states do the same? The rising pollution levels across north India highlight the failure of central govt's policies," Atishi claimed.

In response, Sachdeva said the data on stubble burning clearly showed that as of now, Punjab was the biggest offender because its govt had not provided the machinery to farmers to help them alternatively clear the stubble from fields.

'AAP govt in denial mode on stubble burning in Punjab'

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi: With the city and the NCR struggling to breathe because of the surge in air pollution, the Centre has said the problem could have been mitigated to a considerable extent had Delhi govt under Arvind Kejriwal not chosen to be in denial about the continuing high level of stubble burning in AAP-governed Punjab.

Sources said AAP boss and former Delhi CM Arvind Kejriwal acknowledged the fact that Punjab was responsible for the largest number of stubble fires, almost one-third, but he made no effort to tackle the problem at its root after AAP formed the govt in the state. "Instead, the current CM Atishi made the astounding claim that the alarming decline in air quality was not because of farm fires in Punjab. She and her party are hiding their failure and trying to deflect attention from the critical issue because of political reasons and because of the coming elections," said a senior source, who insisted on anonymity.

"Why a clean chit to Punjab at the cost of the health of citizens of Delhi? Can the AAP govt explain its plan to address the worsening crisis beyond imposing an annual firecracker ban without scientific evidence and enforcing Stage IV measures under the Graded Response Action Plan (GRAP)?" the source asked.

Sources acknowledged that farm fires continued to be reported from BJP-governed Haryana as well, but said the state has managed to bring down the incidence substantially. "Between Sept 15 and Nov 17, there were over 8,400 instances of stubble burning in Punjab, whereas Haryana reported only 1,082 during the same period," the source said. Sources also said even UP had reported a drop in the number of farm fires—from over 8,700 in 2017 to 3,996 in 2023, a drop of 46%.

Sources agreed that farm fires had declined also in Punjab but underlined the need for the Bhagwant Singh Mann-led govt to do much more because of the sheer number of incidence in its jurisdiction.

"One important aspect of stubble management is selling stubble to contractors and private companies to be used in cattle feed. But whereas Haryana govt incentivised farmers to sell the stubble, Punjab govt did not take any effective step. Similarly, they promised to operate 38 compressed biogas plants but only five are operational," the source said.

Sources said the failure was reminiscent of the failure of Kejriwal who, while promising to solve the problem of air pollution, resorted to token measures like launch of Pusa bio-decompressor. "He spent Rs 68 lakh on spraying bio-decompressor and spent Rs 23 crore on advertising this project in 2020-22," the source said.

'Handle pollution-related health issues separately'

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi: Delhi environment minister Gopal Rai on Monday directed the health department to form a special task force to focus on treating patients with pollution-related illnesses and ailments.

Delhi govt on Monday said all Stage-IV measures under the Graded Response Action Plan (GRAP) were in force. Rai said restrictions have been imposed on all types of construction and demolition activity and the entry of large trucks into the capital.

The minister, who held a review meeting on Monday, said: "The health department has been directed to form a

special task force to ensure the treatment of pollution-related patients." He said the idea was to ensure pollution-related cases are handled separately.

Other restrictions put in place as part of GRAP Stage IV include a ban on light commercial vehicles registered outside Delhi from entering the capital and a ban on the plying of Delhi-registered BS IV and lower medium goods and heavy goods vehicles. Asked about the odd-even scheme, Rai said Delhi govt was taking all necessary steps at this level. "We are monitoring the situation closely. We will consult experts if additional measures are required," he said.

He also criticised the BJP-ruled Centre for failing to control pollution in north India. "The entire north India has now fallen into the grip of severe pollution. Elderly people are facing difficulty in breathing, and schools for children are being forced to close. People's lives are being continuously impacted negatively by this," Rai said.

He pointed out that despite AAP's consistent efforts, central govt's negligence was worsening the situation. "When half the country is suffering due to pollution, central govt should take the initiative, collaborate with all states, and act. The silence of the Union environment minister and the inaction of BJP government is extremely dangerous," he said.

'Move away from fossil fuels': Delhi pollution figures on COP29 sidelines

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Baku: The air pollution crisis in Delhi was discussed here on the sidelines of UN climate talks COP29 on Monday, with experts from the global health community urging India to chart a future that is not dependent on fossil fuels. They also called for reforms to ensure climate policies prioritise people, not polluters, by transitioning towards renewable energy and strengthening public transport infrastructure in cities.

In the context of vehicular pollution and emissions from coal-based power plants that pollute cities round-the-year, they underlined that there is broad consensus among health communities on the need to phase out fossil fuels sooner than later, redirect health-harming subsidies from the sector, and apply some of the lessons learnt from tobacco control to check fossil fuels use. They discussed the severe health impacts of fossil fuel pollution and emphasised the need for urgent policy changes.

Speaking about how fossil fuel use is escalating the air pollution crisis in many parts of the globe, Enkhun Byambadorj, co-founder, Breathe Mongolia, said, "The narrative in support of our young children and the future of everyone."

Aarti Khosla, director, Climate Trends, said, "We are all gathered here to talk about bigger issues that affect our climate and countries are dragging their feet so much when the lives and health of millions are at risk."



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AQI of 494 vs 1,600: Difference in Delhi's 2 readings explained



DIFFERENT NUMBERS, SAME PICTURE

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New Delhi: The average AQI in Delhi on Monday was 494, the second highest daily reading recorded by the Central Pollution Control Board since the measure was introduced in 2015. Yet, international apps such as IQAir were showing AQI readings of over 1,600 during the afternoon. Which of the two counts is correct?

The short answer is, both. India's AQI scale has been capped at 500. That doesn't mean higher values can't be calculated using the formula devised to convert concentrations of different pollutants in the air into a value that gives a sense of the overall air quality at that time.

"In our AQI scale, values from 451 to 500 fall in the 'severe plus' category, which is considered the highest level of air emergency and corresponds to the strictest anti-pollution measures envisaged so far," said Dipankar Saha, former head of CPCB's Air Laboratory Division.

When the index was being devised it was felt that having values above 500 couldn't be of practical use since health impacts plateau after a certain threshold, experts said.

However, on days such as Monday, when the 24-hour average (at 5pm) at as many as 15 stations in the city had maxed out at 500, perhaps there's a case for providing AQI scores above 500 for driving home the seriousness of the capital's air crisis.

IQAir's air quality index is based on the US model developed by country's Envi-

ronment Protection Agency. Values on the scale correspond to six different levels of air quality ranging from good to hazardous. Like the Indian index, the US AQI is generally considered to be a scale from zero to 500. But there's a difference. The highest level on the scale is 'hazardous', which is any value 301 and above. This means there's no upper limit and values beyond 500 can be shown.

Also, since the Indian and US scales use different formulae for calculating the AQI, the two will give different scores for the same input data of pollutants. In short, the two scales aren't strictly comparable.

When the Indian AQI was hovering around 490 on Monday, the IQAir's index showed values higher than 1,000. Both were depicting air quality that was very hazardous.

Saha said IQAir's AQI is sensor-based while the Indian one is analyser-based. "Analyser-based AQI is considered more accurate. Also, we don't entirely know how the IQAir AQIs are being calculated," he said.

Another set of pollution data that's often confused with AQI is the concentration of pollutants such as PM10 and PM2.5. As the name suggests, this is the absolute value of the pollutant in micrograms per cubic metre of air. This has no upper limit for this data. For instance, Delhi's 24-hour average PM2.5 concentration in the air had risen to 422.8 at 8pm on Monday, up from 305.5 at 10pm on the previous day.

As per Indian standards, the safe limit for PM2.5 is 60 microgram/cubic metre while WHO's limit is 15.

Schools Go Virtual, But Struggle Is Real

Teachers Say In-Person Learning Can't Be Replicated; For Parents Too, It's Not A Walk In Park

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New Delhi: Schools have moved to online classes because of pollution-related restrictions, but the change has its limitations.

Some have become accustomed to the new setup, but some teachers argue that the experience of in-person learning cannot be replicated in an online environment. Some schools are also struggling with infrastructure problems.

"Each class is conducted by a teacher, with a second teacher acting as a controller to ensure that the camera is on, students remain engaged, and their posture is correct, among other things. Our infrastructure is equipped to ensure that classes run smoothly," Ameta Mohan, principal of Amity International School in Push Vihar, said.

Mohan, however, acknowledged that online learning cannot fully replace in-person interactions. "We strive to make the online experience enriching for students by using various learning tools, such as Pear Deck and Word Wall," she said. "Teachers are attentive and ensure that every student participates by answering questions when prompted. We encourage peer learning in the virtual setting. One of the main challenges, however, is the increased screen time and the distractions that come with a home environment."

A teacher at DPS, RK Puram, noted that infrastructure was not an issue as every student has access to a phone, tablet or laptop. "However, to prevent students from relying on AI or other tools to answer questions during online classes, we make it a point to randomly select students and ask questions by name. This method ensures that they stay engaged and attentive throughout the lesson," she said.

Rooma Pathak, the principal of MM Public School in Pitampura, too emphasised that in-person learning cannot be fully replicated in a virtual setting. "When students attend school in person, they not only engage in academic lessons but also participate in activities like library sessions, computer classes and co-curricular programmes. This provides a more holistic approach to their development. In the online format, we

are limited to covering only the theoretical aspects of the syllabus," she said.

There are concerns about why teachers, as well as students in classes X and XII, are still required to attend school and expose themselves to the polluted air. "Students in classes X and XII are expected to be in school every day, along with the teachers. I'm concerned about how the exposure to pollution could im-

Toxic air: Classes X, XII also go online

New Delhi: Chief minister Atishi announced the suspension of in-person classes for all students in Delhi. This decision follows Delhi govt's announcement on Sunday, which initially suspended classes for all, except students in classes X and XII, due to the city's alarming pollution levels. "From tomorrow, physical classes shall be suspended for classes X and XII as well, and all studies will be shifted to online mode," Atishi wrote in a post on X.

Soon after, Directorate of Education (DoE) issued an order, stating "In view of the prevailing severe air quality and high AQI levels in Delhi, all heads of govt, govt-aided and unaided private recognised schools under DoE, MCD, NDMC and DCB are hereby directed to discontinue physical classes for all students of all classes, including Class X and Class XII until further orders". **TNN**

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pact them. The problem of pollution needs to be nipped in the bud. It is not like Covid, which was unpredictable. Something needs to be done about it," Pathak said.

The situation in govt schools is quite different. The institutions and their students often lack the necessary digital resources. "Only a handful of students have laptops, and many don't have access to phones or internet connectivity. Often, students and their parents struggle with technical issues and are unable to connect to classes, leading to a loss of interest over time," Sunita, the principal of Ravi Shankar SKV in Bawana, said.

Joginder Kumar, the principal of Government Co-Ed Sarvodaya Vidyalaya in Rohini, said that some classes are conducted in the evening. "Many students don't have laptops or phones and rely on their parents' devices. As a result, we sometimes have to

schedule classes late in the evening based on the availability of these devices," he said.

Geeta, a cook in Mayur Vihar, said she has stopped taking her phone to work as "my child can use it for her online classes. After she's done, my elder son uses it for his lessons. I'm without a phone during work hours... I can't be reached by residents."

Parents are also in a dilemma. "My son is in KG. With primary school children, one parent must sit with them during classes. This means I'm unable to focus on household chores for three hours every day. My child often gets distracted by the other activities around the house," said Mousumi Bhattacharya.

Although online learning is a response to current challenges, it is a temporary substitute for a holistic, interactive experience, underscoring the need for long-term solutions for reducing pollution and educational accessibility.

Like pollution, face mask prices hit upper end

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New Delhi: With the city enveloped in a haze, the demand for pollution aids is rising. According to chemists at Yusuf Sarai, Khan Market, Connaught Place and Khanna Market in various parts of the capital, the demand for N95 masks has gone up in the past few days. The sellers expect sales to increase in the coming days.

A shop in Connaught Place has placed fresh orders for N95 masks. "Although we have surgical masks in stock, buyers are seeking N95 masks," said a trader there.

However, many people are using surgical masks, made ubiquitous by the Covid pandemic, because it is very affordable though they aren't effective in shielding people against respirable pollutants. Opposite AIIMS at Safdarjung Medicos, shopkeeper Javed said. "People are opting for cheaper surgical masks. We don't recommend its use, but it is cheaper," the shopkeeper said. "More awareness about masks is requi-

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- Provide a higher level of protection

Cost | Starting at ₹ 100 at shops

Surgical/Cloth Masks

- Keep large particles out
- Prevent droplets from spreading
- Are typically made of loose-fitting, disposable material
- Provide a low level of protection

Cost | ₹ 5-10 at shops



Photo: Jatin Kumar

Other Types of Masks Available Online | N99, N100, and P95

Recommendation | N95 is recommended for general protection as it filters out 95% of airborne particles, including PM 2.5

red." Here, as on Aurobindo Marg, which is lined with chemist stores, the shop workers were all seen wearing

pollution masks. But demand for the N95 mask is slowly gathering strength. "Our supply is

short," admitted a salesman at Chawla Chemist in Yusuf Sarai, where medical shops abound due to the area's proximity to AIIMS and Safdarjung Hospital. "People are asking for N95 masks, but our stocks have been hit by the supplier having some problems. Some people are also bringing doctor-recommended prescriptions to fight pollution."

At Khan Market, catering to an upscale clientele, Ishwinder, owner of Preet Medicos, said "We have registered rising sales in masks for the last two to three days in tune with the pollution level soaring. We sell 25-30 masks every day and have ordered more N95 masks because we expect customers will want to buy them."

In the market, not everyone had their mouth and noses protected. "People are asking for allergy, cough and throat irritation medicines, but only the aware seem to also want to buy N95 masks," said Chandan at another chemist shop.

At Khanna Market, medicine sellers reported a pickup in sales of pollution masks. Mukesh Rawat, owner of MSP Pharmacy, said, "There is definitely a demand for masks. We are selling around 30 pieces a day at Rs 50. We also expect the demand to go up."

DDA launches anti-smog mist spray op in Dwarka

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New Delhi: In view of the city's worsening air quality, Delhi Development Authority (DDA) on Monday evening launched an anti-smog mist spray operation in Dwarka, covering a 550-metre stretch near the junction of sectors 6 and 7. Under the pilot project, 14 electricity poles on the central verge have been retrofitted with 30 nozzles each to spray mist for 24 hours on the stretch.

Lieutenant governor V K Saxena, who monitored the trial run, said if the operation proves to be effective, it will be replicated in four other places in the area, and he would also advise Delhi govt to adopt it in the entire city.

"Pollution is increasing in Delhi and people are very troubled by it. DDA has done a successful experiment. In the past three-four days of testing, I was informed pollution has reduced by 20-25%. If efforts are made to gradually install such systems in the entire city, there can be a lot of difference in the pollution levels," he said.

DDA official said the mist spray operation in Dwarka is Delhi's first 'static' anti-smog drive. "The comprehensive setup is designed to maximise pollutant reduction and enhance air quality in the area."

Four large water tanks, each with a capacity of 5,000 litres, have been installed to support the operation. The tanks supply RO-treated water to ensure purity of the mist generated. Additionally, the system incorporates sustainable practices by utilising the wastewater from the operation for roadside plantation efforts, contributing to the area's greenery.

"To evaluate the efficacy of the anti-smog system, DDA has roped in NEERI to conduct an in-depth study. It will assess the impact of the misting technology on the ambient air quality, providing valuable data to inform future environmental strategies and expansions across Delhi. The organisation will check the AQI level before and after the beginning of the mist operation to get comparative figures," said the official.

SC asks for Korean data as farmers 'dodge' NASA sats

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New Delhi: Seemingly to take a cue from the film *Parmanu* which showed scientists dodging US satellites while preparing for Pokhran 2 nuclear tests, farmers in Punjab are also alleged to pause stubble burning activities between 10:30 am to 2:30 pm when a NASA satellite passes over the area, resulting in images taken by it not giving the true picture of number of farm fire incidents.

Senior advocate Aparajita Singh, who is assisting the court as amicus, told a bench of Justices Abhay S Oka and Augustine George Masih that the data provided by ISRO on the basis of pictures taken by the NASA satellite did not give the entire picture of crop burning as farmers indulge in such activities after 2 pm. She alleged that even NASA scientist Hiren Jethva has raised the issue.

She submitted that the extent of stubble burning cases could be better projected by pictures taken by a stationary satellite. She pointed out that there was a Korean stationary satellite and data provided by it would be more reliable. Taking note of her submission, the court asked Centre and CAQM to make arrangements to get the pictures from the Korean satellite.

"A very disturbing feature is brought to the notice of this court. ISRO is getting data from NASA Satellite which passes over NCR regions at around 10:30 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. daily. Therefore instances of farm fires captured by the satellite are only for those periods. Based on information given by a senior scientist of NASA, learned amicus pointed out that a Korean satellite which is a stationary satellite has captured the farmfires. It is pointed out that there is a difference between data col-

lected by the stationary satellite and data collected by the polar orbiting NASA satellite," the bench said.

"We direct the Govt of India as well as Commission to make immediate arrangements for getting data either from Korean stationary satellites or any other stationary satellites so that data of farm fires throughout the day can be made available to the states to enable them to take immediate actions. Needless to add that the commission and the central govt will also involve ISRO in taking this step. The ultimate object should be to ensure that all instances of farm burning throughout the day can be reported to the concerned States so that prompt action can be taken by the states," it said.

The court posted the case for further hearing to Nov 22 and asked the govt to procure data from stationary satellites from the first of October of 2024 onwards.

Restaurants in a haze: Dining out hit as people forced to remain indoors

Amin Ali

New Delhi: The much-awaited onset of the festive season, usually the busiest time of the year for restaurants, is leaving a sour taste in the mouth and the reason is pollution. A restaurateur rued that the live singer he had booked for the weekend performed to an empty terrace. The show was sold out, but only a handful of diners turned up. Even they preferred to sit indoors.

The rising AQI has badly impacted the dining-out business. Restaurateur Priyank Sukhija said the industry was hoping for a good post-Diwali turnout. But with wedding dates coinciding with high pollution forecasts, he saw no respite for restaurants and bars, especially those with large outdoor seating. "You can't blame diners for not stepping out. We are losing business for no fault of ours," he sighed.

Sandeep Goyle, Delhi

chapter head of National Restaurant Association of India (NRAI), also observed how no one wanted to sit outside while visiting a restaurant. Varun Khara, Noida chapter head of NRAI, said the festive season has started on a dull note for the restaurant industry because most outlets with

alfresco diners reported low sales. Khara said while weekends still saw some turnout, Monday was very slow with many places reporting almost no-shows.

A few new projects expected to start this week have been pushed to later launches. A restaurateur said he was hoping


to open his terrace bar on Friday but has put it off for two weeks. He wonders how he will cover the losses arising from the rising pollution in the city. Restaurant staff and delivery riders are also reporting itchy eyes, headaches and flu symptoms due to prolonged exposure to the air.

Goumtesh Singh, Gurgaon chapter head of NRAI, said that while diners were avoiding leaving their houses due to the haze and with work from home recommended under GRAP IV, the footfall at eateries in corporate hubs would be adversely impacted. He said the industry is feeling the heat with very few families or professionals willing to take on the toxic air. Most restaurateurs TOI spoke to are bracing for a slow week ahead. Some have cancelled live music performances or special food or drinks promotions for the next few days apprehending low turnouts.

Rajesh Mehta



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	CITIZEN CHARTER	HEALTH ADVISORY
STAGE I	POOR AQI between 201-300	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Avoid outdoor physical activities
STAGE II	VERY POOR AQI between 301-400	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Avoid outdoor physical activities, especially during morning and late evening hours. • Remain indoor and keep activity levels low!
STAGE III	SEVERE AQI between 401-450	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Avoid outdoor physical activities. • Remain indoor and keep activity levels low!
STAGE IV	SEVERE+ AQI >450	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Children, elderly and those with respiratory, cardiovascular, cerebrovascular or other chronic diseases to avoid outdoor activities and stay indoors, as much as possible.

AQI can be seen at CPCB WEBSITE/SAMEER APP

* As per citizen charter of Commission for Air Quality Management in National Capital Region and Adjoining Areas.

For vulnerable population - Children under 5 year age, old age groups, pregnant women, predisposed health conditions ie illness of respiratory, cardiovascular and cerebrovascular systems, outdoor working people

Health advisory of Ministry of Health & Family Welfare, GoI is available at <https://ncdc.mohfw.gov.in/wp-content/uploads/2024/07/Enclosure-Air-Pollution-Health-Advisory-Oct-2023.pdf>

DPCC_pollution Member Secretary

Gahlot Joins BJP, Says Wasn't Under Pressure

Arrival A Turning Point Before Polls: Khattar

Abhinav Rajput
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New Delhi: Within 24 hours of quitting AAP on Saturday, Delhi's former transport minister Kailash Gahlot was at the BJP headquarters to join the rival party in the presence of Union ministers ML Khattar and Harsh Malhotra.

Inducting him into the party, Khattar said that Gahlot's arrival would prove to be a turning point before the Delhi assembly election.

Gahlot, speaking to the media, stressed that he had not taken the decision to leave the party under any "pressure", nor had he made the choice overnight. "Some people must be thinking that this decision was taken overnight and under someone's pressure. I want to tell them that I never did anything under anyone's pressure to date... I am hearing that an attempt is being made to build a narrative that it was done under the pressure of the Enforcement Directorate and the Central Bureau of Investigation. All this is wrong. Such a narrative is being built."

The switch by Gahlot, who was in charge of the portfolios of home, administrative reforms, IT, and women and child development, comes at a time when the party is gearing up for the Delhi Assembly polls, expected in Feb.

Gahlot said that it was not an easy decision for him to quit AAP. "I left my profession as a lawyer and joined since the time of the Anna Hazare agitation. Not just me, but many people left their jobs and got attached to a party because they saw hope in a party and a person," he said.



Kailash Gahlot said he had not made the decision overnight

In a jab at AAP, he said that people had joined the party with the hope of helping common people (aam aadmi). But "they (AAP) have become 'khas' (special) from 'aam' (ordinary)," he said. "The intent was just to work for the people but when we see in front of our eyes that values for which we joined AAP have been compromised,

He also said that one of the reasons for leaving AAP was that party's constant duel with central govt, thereby ignoring the development of Delhi

then it causes pain. These are not just my words but of lakhs of karyakartas. They feel that they do not see the same hope," he said.

He also said that one of the

Before polls, AAP picks another Jat to replace Gahlot

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New Delhi: A day after prominent minister Kailash Gahlot quit AAP, its Nangloi Jat MLA, Raghuvinder Shokeen, was chosen on Monday to be the new face in the Delhi cabinet. Shokeen, a Jat leader, comes from the same community as Gahlot and also from the same outer Delhi area.

The proposal to appoint him as the minister will be sent to Raj Niwas soon, said an official at the chief minister's office. Shokeen is likely to retain in the portfolios held by Gahlot, including home, information technology, transport, women and child development, and administrative reforms.

Announcing the move, AAP's senior functionary, Manish Sisodia, said, "We all know that Raghuvinder Shokeen is a popular leader from the Jat community and has done significant work in the field of education."

A civil engineer by education, Shokeen joined AAP from BJP in 2015 and this is his second term as an MLA from Nangloi Jat

A civil engineer by education, Shokeen joined AAP from BJP in 2015 and this is his second term as an MLA from Nangloi Jat. He was earlier a councillor at Municipal Corporation of Delhi, both as a BJP member and as an Independent.

"I am confident that he will serve the people of Delhi and fulfil all the responsibilities assigned to him with utmost dedication. Additionally, he will emerge as the voice of rural Delhi, the area he represents," asserted Sisodia.

Expressing his gratitude, Shokeen said, "I thank Arvind Kejriwal, Manish Sisodia and



Shokeen is likely to retain Gahlot's portfolios

the entire top leadership of the party for giving me this opportunity. AAP has always worked by including every section of society, while BJP has consistently worked against the Jat community, whether it was during the farmers' or wrestlers' protests, or the Haryana elections."

He claimed that BJP had won the Haryana elections by making it "Jats versus others". "Since the Hindu-Muslim divide does not work there, they divided Haryana through Jat-non Jat politics." Shokeen added, "The opportunity given to me by Arvind Kejriwal will enable me to work towards the better development of Delhi, and I also thank the people of Nangloi." BJP did not respond to his comments.

Explaining the choice, sources said AAP rushed to induct another Jat face in the cabinet to appease the community ahead of the assembly elections. Jats, though estimated to be just 5% of the total population in the city, are concentrated in outer Delhi and several villages like Lado Sarai and Katwaria Sarai.

"Jats may be numerically fewer in numbers, but being landholders and old-timers, they are an influential community, so they hold an important position in the polls," said an AAP functionary.

Former Congress MLA joins AAP, boost for party in rural Delhi areas

New Delhi: Former Congress MLA Sumesh Shokeen joined AAP in the presence of its national convener Arvind Kejriwal on Monday. Shokeen is a former MLA from Matiala, considered part of the Delhi-Dehat area. His joining comes a day after AAP's prominent Jat functionary and minister, Kailash Gahlot, resigned from the party.

Welcoming Shokeen, Kejriwal said the move would also boost the party in other parts of the city. Before AAP came to po-

wer, people living in Delhi-Dehat were neglected and cut off from the main city, Kejriwal alleged.

AAP govt improved connectivity, opened schools, hospitals, mohalla clinics and stadiums, and provided other facilities in outer Delhi, bringing it at par with other parts of the city, he claimed. "Our govt has set up sewage treatment plants, provided sewer connectivity, built roads, established outstanding schools, developed playgrounds, and constructed large stadiums

reasons for leaving AAP was its constant duel with central govt, thereby ignoring the development of Delhi. "If a govt is continuously engaged in a fight with central govt, whether it is ministers or the chief minister, then there cannot be development," he said.

When AAP functionary Manish Sisodia was asked about Gahlot, he said: "It is his decision and now elections are coming. We remained together for a long time and had dignified relations. If he wants to maintain the same dignity and work with the BJP, then it is his choice. It is his choice from where he wants to contest the election and which party he wants to go to."

When asked whether the party had planned to deny Gahlot a ticket, he said that these decisions would be taken when the time comes, but Gahlot has "our good wishes." Gahlot represents the Najafgarh Assembly seat, which he has held since 2015.

One dead after shop crashes down on workers

Advitya Bahl@timesofindia.com

Noida: A construction worker died and three others suffered grievous injuries after a barber shop collapsed on a group of daily wagers digging an adjacent plot in Behlolpur village on Monday evening. Two persons were taken into custody following the incident.

It was around 4.30pm that the shop came crashing down on the group of workers excavating the plot for the foundation of a building. A team from Sector 63 police station, led by DCP (central Noida) Shakti Mohan Avasthy, reached the spot and started rescue operations. Two workers were rescued from under the rubble, while a third was pulled out a little later. The three workers who were rushed to hospital for emergency treatment were Kalu (35) and Prashant (15) from Bahlolpur and Khoda resident Mayaram (22).

Initial investigation revealed that the excavation work on the adjacent plot had weakened the foundation of the shop.

DU shifts classes online as AQI dips

New Delhi: In response to the deteriorating air quality in Delhi, DU has announced that classes will be conducted online until Saturday. According to the notification, the decision was made with the health and safety of students across the university's colleges and departments in mind.

"AQI in Delhi & NCR has deteriorated to an alarmingly high level. In the larger interest of students of the colleges and departments of the University of Delhi, it has been decided that the classes shall be conducted in online mode till Saturday, Nov 23, 2024," the notification stated.

"Regular classes in physical mode to resume from Monday. The schedule of examinations and interviews shall remain unchanged," stated the notification issued by the DU registrar. TNN

Air in Noida, Gzb 'severe' for first time this year

Anjali Singh

Noida/Gurgaon: The Air Quality Index (AQI) worsened to severe, severe-plus and hazardous in different parts of Noida and Ghaziabad for the first time this season as Delhi-NCR woke up to a smoky, gloomy Monday morning.

In Noida, the average AQI deteriorated by more than 100 points to 423 from Sunday's 316. In Sector 62, which houses Electronic City and is home to many offices and industries off the busy Delhi-Meerut expressway, PM 2.5 levels reached 500 µg/m³ on Monday afternoon. To put into perspective,

the acceptable standard for PM2.5 is 40 µg/m³. Just across the expressway, Ghaziabad wasn't any better, with a 'severe' AQI of 438. Greater Noida, meanwhile, registered 'very poor' AQI at 372.

In Noida, the monitoring station in Sector 62 recorded a 'severe' AQI of 476, while Sector 1, which also covers several industrial sectors, was at 428. In sectors 116 and 125, the average AQI was 'very poor' at 398 and 391, respectively.

Pollution board officials in the three cities denied any lapses on their part to rein in violations at a time GRAP IV was in force across NCR.

"In the past three days, we received only three complaints related to pollution in Noida. But when our team went to check these locations, they found no violation. The major cause of pollution across NCR is mostly meteorological. Any work that can possibly lead to pollution has been stopped. So, there is nothing from our side that is spiking up the level of pollutants in the air," said Ut-sav Sharma, regional officer of the pollution board in Noida.

As air quality deteriorated, there was a marginal drop in temperature as well in the past 24 hours. While the minimum temperature in Noida was 16.2

degrees Celsius, it was 16 degrees in Ghaziabad.

The toxic air quality prompted an emergency meeting of the environment committee headed by Noida district magistrate Manish Kumar Verma. He asked officials to ensure restrictions under GRAP IV were being properly implemented.

"A joint task force of officials from various authorities, like the pollution control board, district administration and police will be formed to monitor if guidelines of GRAP IV are being followed or not. Instructions have been issued to conduct surprise

checks at construction sites and take appropriate legal action wherever necessary," said Verma.

In Greater Noida, Knowledge Park 3 recorded an AQI of 388, while Knowledge Park 5 logged 357, both in the 'very poor' category.

For the first time this winter season, Gurgaon's AQI dipped to the 'severe' category. The AQI was at 469 on Monday. It was 310 the day before. Meteorologists and pollution department officials said low wind speeds of up to 8 km/h on average allowed pollutants to remain suspended in the atmosphere.



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3 held for firing at petrol pump in Gokulpuri

TIMES NEWS NETWORK
New Delhi: Three days after four men fired 16 rounds at a petrol pump in northeast Delhi's Gokulpuri, injuring an employee, police arrested three individuals in the case on Monday. The main accused were identified as Ankit and Rukmesh, residents of Haryana and Uttar Pradesh,

respectively. Rukmesh's brother-in-law, Vinod Kasana, was arrested for helping him flee.

Anshul Rathee, the supervisor of the petrol pump, was injured in the incident. Subsequently, additional CP (Crime) Sanjay Bhatia formed two teams under the supervision of DCPs Sanjay Sain and Vikram Singh, which carried

out two operations to apprehend the accused.

"In the first operation, the team analysed over 100 CCTV footage recordings from the route and captured the registration number of one of the motorcycles used in the crime. The owner of the motorcycle, Lalit, was questioned and he disclosed that his friend, Rukmesh, borrowed the motorcy-

cle under the pretext of personal work and returned it with a broken, tampered number plate," an officer said.

Simultaneously, another team conducted raids in Uttar Pradesh and apprehended Ankit. Based on his information, Rukmesh was arrested.

Ankit was given the task by gangster Rahul. Further probe is on, the officer said.

Father, Family Joined Hands To Murder Newborn Twins

Delhi Police Unearths Conspiracy In 800-Page Chargesheet

Abhay
@timesofindia.com

New Delhi: A man and four of his family members, who were arrested for allegedly killing and burying his newborn twin daughters in Sultanpuri, have been charged with hatching a conspiracy to murder the infants by wilfully neglecting their care and subsequently burying them to conceal their heinous crime.

The gruesome case had come to light in June. The chargesheet, running into more than 800 pages, was filed by Delhi Police in August at Rohini Court. It named the father, Neeraj Solanki (30); his parents Vijender Solanki (60) and Chand Kaur (56); brother Dinesh (32) and Dinesh's wife Monika (37) as ac-

cused, charging them under sections related to murder, foeticide, infanticide, common intention and dowry.

The murder of the babies had taken place on June 1. Pooja, Neeraj's wife, had given birth to the twins on May 30 at a hospital in Rohtak Sector 36. However, Neeraj and his family were displeased with the birth of girls, according to police.

When Pooja was discharged from the hospital, her husband and in-laws arrived, took the infants away under the pretext of accompanying her to her parents' home in Ismaila, Rohtak, and diverted to Sultanpuri, where they allegedly murdered and buried the babies.

According to the chargesheet, the murder was premeditated and pre-planned. Neeraj's family conspired to end the lives of the infants, depriving them of essential nourishment and medical care, it said. The chargesheet noted that the family failed to provide any pre- or postnatal treatment to the babies.

The babies were killed in Sultanpuri on June 1. Pooja had given birth to the twins on May 30 at a hospital in Rohtak Sec-36. However, her husband and in-laws were displeased with the birth of the girls, said police

Further, to conceal their crime, the family buried the infants and destroyed any evidence that could expose their

actions, the chargesheet said. Neeraj, the main accused, neglected the newborns, murdered them and buried them without informing his wife. His father Vijender aided him in burying the infants while his mother Chand Kaur handed them over to her son, facilitating the burial, according to the chargesheet. Neeraj's brother Dinesh and sister-in-law Monika were also implicated in the murder.

Pooja, a BSc graduate, married Neeraj on Feb 2, 2022. She alleged that she was regularly harassed for dowry and that her husband's family wished for her to give birth to a son. She told police that during her pregnancy, she was even asked to undergo a sex determination test, which she refused, fearing the consequences.

'Cheating' case: Gambhir gets interim relief

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi: Providing interim relief to former cricketer and Indian team coach Gautam Gambhir, Delhi High Court on Monday stated that the proceedings in a cheating case against former cricketer and Indian coach Gautam Gambhir would remain stayed.

Justice Manoj Kumar Ohri passed the interim order on a plea by Gambhir challenging the sessions court verdict. The sessions court set aside a judicial magistrate's order that discharged him in the case in which some home buyers were

allegedly cheated.

The high court also sought a response from Delhi Police on his plea and listed the matter for further hearing on Jan 31, 2025. "In the meantime, the impugned order against the petitioner shall remain stayed," the judge said, adding that a detailed order will be passed.

Gambhir was represented by advocate Mukul Rohatgi.

In its Oct 29 order, the sessions court said the magisterial court's decision reflected "inadequate expression of mind" in deciding the allegations against Gambhir. "The

allegations also merit further investigation into the role of Gambhir," it said. The sessions court remanded the case back to the magisterial court, directing it to pass a detailed fresh order.

The cheating case was filed against real estate firms Rudra Buildwell Realty Pvt Ltd, HR Infracity Pvt Ltd, UM Architectures and Contractors Ltd, and Gambhir, who was a director and brand ambassador of the companies' joint venture. The accused reportedly jointly promoted and advertised an upcoming housing project in 2011, which

was renamed in 2013. However, even after the payments by complainants, no infrastructural or other significant development was made on the plot in question, and the land remained bereft of any progress till 2016, it added.

The sessions court said Gambhir was the only one who had a "direct interface with the investors" in his capacity as a brand ambassador, and though he was discharged, the magisterial court's order made no reference to him paying Rs 6 crore to Rudra Buildwell Realty Pvt Ltd and receiving Rs 4.8 crore from the company.

Ridge case: CJI recuses himself

New Delhi: CJI Sanjiv Khanna on Monday recused himself from hearing the contempt of court proceedings drawn against Delhi Development Authority for illegally cutting 1,600 trees in the Southern Ridge, in which the Supreme Court had sought LG V K Saxena's response as the ex-officio chairperson of DDA.

The case was referred to the CJI after two coordinate benches drew contempt of court proceedings one after the other on the issue of cutting down trees in the Ridge without the court's mandatory prior permission, and was last heard by a bench headed by then CJI D Y Chandrachud.

When the matter came up before the CJI-led bench, Justice Khanna said prior to becoming CJI and as National Legal Services Authority chairperson, he had visited Tihar jail for a certain programme and had gone around the prison along with Saxena.

It would not be proper on my part to hear the case, CJI Khanna said and told the lawyers that he would assign the hearing of the case to a three-judge bench. He scheduled the fresh hearing in the second week of December. **TNN**

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Deeply missed by all of us, his coursemates from **54 Regular and 38 Technical** courses of The Indian Military Academy.

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(23.01.1979 - 16.11.2024)

DGAFMS and all ranks of AFMS family deeply mourn the sad demise of Col Vinod Kumar, Commanding Officer, 4017 Field Hospital.

May God grant peace to the departed soul and give strength to the bereaved family.



IC-15158A
LT COL HARBHAJAN SINGH (RETD)
(01 Jun 1936 to 16 Nov 2024)

DG OS & Sr Col Comdt and all ranks of Army Ordnance Corps pray to the Almighty to grant peace to the departed soul & fortitude to the bereaved family to bear this irreparable loss. Cont:- Jaswinder Singh Bhullar (Son) 9838098098 Add:- F-404, Octa Crest Lokhandwala Township, Kandivali, Mumbai



LT COL A SUKUMAR
(02.07.1969 - 16.11.2024)

DGAFMS and all ranks of AFMS family deeply mourn the sad demise of Lt Col A Sukumar, Logistics Officer, Military Hospital Chennai.

May God grant peace to the departed soul and give strength to the bereaved family.



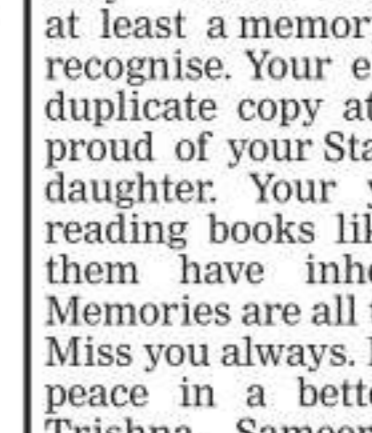
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Cdr. Subroto Guha

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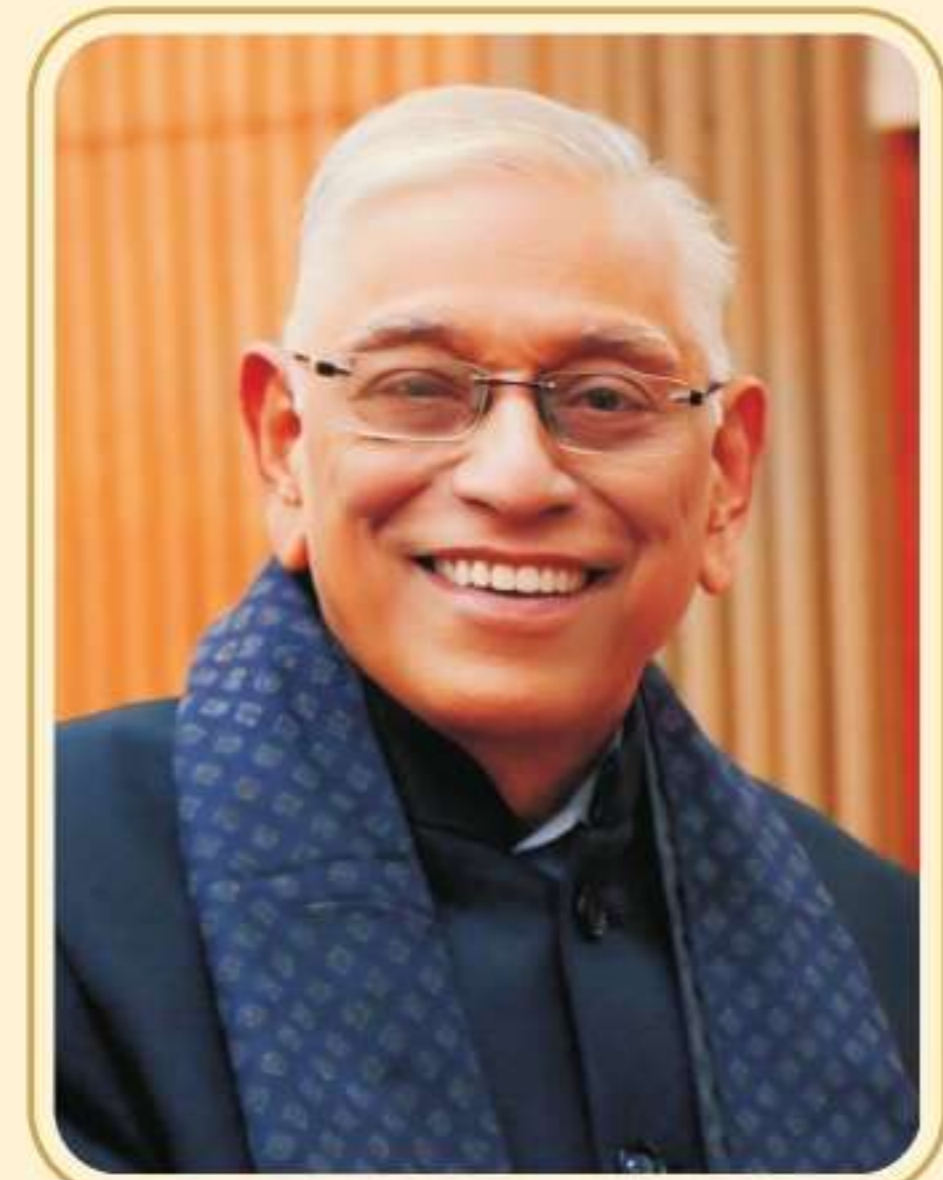
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DTC Staff Stay Away, Commuters Stranded

Auto fares Skyrocket, Metro Trains Packed

Devanshi Mehta & Abhinav Rajput | TNN

New Delhi: Chaotic scenes erupted across the capital on Monday as bus passengers found themselves stranded for hours, hobbled by the strike by Delhi Transport Corporation workers demanding wage parity, better workplace conditions, secure employment and regularisation of work. Nearly half of DTC's 30,000 workers serve on temporary contracts.

The strike began on Saturday at the launch of an all-woman bus depot at Sarojini Nagar. By Monday, the protesters' counterparts in other depots joined in.

No permanent vacancies have been filled in DTC since 2010, claimed bus driver Abita Mishra. "Our demand is for regularisation of our job. Why are we on contract and paid daily wages when we do the same amount of work as permanent drivers?" she asked. "We get Rs 842 per day, which works out to around Rs 21,000 a month since we get work for only 25 days. If we are late or fall sick, we also lose a day's salary. Permanent workers get Rs 50,000- Rs 60,000 and other allowances for doing the same work as us."

A DTC official said that the operations of around 100 buses were affected, but the protesters claimed the number affected was above 300. The DTC and Cluster Scheme fleets total 7,485 buses. Manoj Sharma, president, DTC Karamchahi Eka Union, declared, "We will not stop the protest till our demand for regularisation is met. More people will join us in the coming days."

Passengers had to bear the brunt of the strike on Monday. "I came to fill out some pension forms," said Sheela, a 60-year-old from Shahdara. "Despite my bad knees, I had no option but to walk from one bus stop to another, hoping to catch a ride back home. I had no idea there was a strike." Sheela, like many others, waited helplessly at ITO, for over two hours.

The strike, which paralysed bus services across the capital, left people scrambling for alternatives, often with little success. At major bus hubs, including IP depot, ITO, Anand Vihar, Sarojini Nagar and ISBT Kashmere Gate, TOI could see that people were frustrated and confused in equal measure and tensions ran high. "The autorickshaw fares have skyrocketed and Delhi Metro is packed beyond belief," a commuter groaned.

Many travellers said that though there were buses on the roads, they were refusing to pick up passengers or not taking their scheduled routes. Anju, 40, said, "My daughter is studying nursing — a

NOWHERE TO GO

Early morning classes are tough enough, but being stuck at ITO? These buses are my daily ticket home to Vasant Vihar. If I had known about the strike, I would've definitely stayed in bed!"

—Roshni Singh (20), DU student

Coming from Shahdara to file pension forms, and what do I get? Buses that won't stop, and auto-rickshaws charging triple the usual rate. From ₹70 to ₹350 — that's not a fare, that's daylight robbery!"

—Sheela (65), senior citizen

With a disabled son and a husband doing odd jobs, these buses are our lifeline. Without affordable public transport, how do ordinary people like us even survive?"

—Anju (40), daily commuter

I have been in these buses, seen the struggle up close as a bus conductor. These workers are underpaid and overworked. Their protest might inconvenience us, but sometimes you have to stand up for what is right!"

—Balwan Singh (70), retired DTC employee

Two-and-a-half-hours just wasted. I had a painting job in Uttam Nagar, which is now cancelled. I hopped on from one bus stop to another to go home... Just wasted more time!"

—Dinesh (23), painter



The strike began on Saturday at the launch of an all-woman bus depot

dream we've scraped together every penny for. We left home hoping to pay her college fees. The bus driver dropped us at the IP depot instead of taking its usual route apparently because of the strike. Now we have been waiting here for over an hour." She added, "With a disabled son at home and my husband plying a rickshaw, every rupee counts. Metro or auto? That's a luxury we just can't afford."

Inder Singh, 74, a retired DTC employee, said, "I've seen both sides of this story. Back in my time, we earned Rs 100 per shift. Now, these young drivers get Rs 800 — how can anyone survive on that? I understand their struggle. I've been waiting at the IP depot since morning, watching buses pass by, understanding their fight more than most."

Sangeeta, a 20-year-old student at Delhi University, wasn't feeling so charitable. "I was looking forward to resting after my morning clas-

ses, but now I'm just stuck and frustrated. What should have been a quick 30-minute trip home has turned into a nightmare. Not only are there no buses, but the extra traffic means I'll probably take over an hour to reach home," she grumbled. "For the last three years, buses have been my go-to transport to reach college. They stop conveniently right near my home. The metro? That's a complicated journey with multiple line changes."

Several areas, particularly those near major bus terminals at Kashmere Gate, Anand Vihar and Sarai Kale Khan, saw severe traffic jams.

A DTC official said that a committee of senior officers had been constituted to look into the demands of protesting staff. "Their demands have been taken down in writing through the depot manager. But the depot manager said the protesters have denied attending any resolution meeting," the official said.

BJP, AAP spar on settlements of Rohingya immigrants

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi: The leader of the opposition in Delhi Assembly, Vijender Gupta, wrote to CM Atishi, expressing concern over the alleged encroachment on city streets and public spaces by Rohingya immigrants and demanding immediate action for their removal.

Gupta alleged that AAP govt was providing support to illegal settlements of Rohingya immigrants. He further alleged that the immigrants were being issued voter identification cards based on forged documents.

The BJP functionary accused AAP of pursuing a calculated political strategy to appease a specific vote bank, ignoring the potential threats to national security. He claimed that BJP would vigorously oppose any attempts to provide legitimacy to illegal immigrants, vowing to raise the issue across legal, administrative, and public platforms.

The opposition leader urged Atishi to take immediate and decisive action against encroachments and halt any issuance of voter IDs to unauthorised individuals.

Gupta's letter follows a recent directive from lieutenant governor VK Saxena ordering a special drive to identify illegal immigrants in the city. Saxena also instructed civic agencies and the chief secretary of Delhi to be vigilant, noting concerns that these immigrants may attempt to obtain fake citizenship and election identity cards.

Hitting back at the allegations, AAP stated, "BJP merely uses the issue of illegal immigrants for political gains. A thorough investigation should be launched on how illegal immigrants are entering our country in the first place. For this, the direct responsibility lies with Amit Shah, and the Union Home ministry."

"If there are illegal immigrants, how many are there? This is a massive failure, and the lack of action on detentions highlights it further," alleged the party.

"On the one hand, BJP is granting citizenship to illegal immigrants, and on the other, it is staging a farce of an investigation. BJP must stop this hypocrisy and put a rest to its dirty politics," it added.

Man kills sister-in-law, infant days before flying to Dubai

Avishkek Kumar @timesofindia.com



LIFE CUT SHORT

Ghaziabad: A 28-year-old man, who was to fly to Dubai in a week, allegedly killed his sister-in-law and her three-month-old infant in front of the woman's three-year-old daughter following a dispute on Monday morning in Bamheta village.

Neighbours found the two bodies — the woman lying on the floor and the infant on a bed next to her — after the girl came crying out of the house.

The girl allegedly told her father Mohamad Burhaan, who was away at work at the time of the crime, that her uncle had assaulted her mother, Shaheen Parveen, first and then strangled her with a scarf. He then turned to the infant and killed her. The child claimed that her uncle did not harm her but left the house in a huff. Burhaan told cops that his brother Mohamad Zeeshan was visiting the family in Ghaziabad from Pune, where he worked as a welder, before heading off to Dubai. Zeeshan was to take up a job through a private contractor, but the agent was deferring the date of travel and wanted more money.

"Zeeshan was supposed to leave for Dubai on Nov 9 initially. However, the agent cited some problems and changed the date to Nov 16. A day before Zeeshan was to catch the flight, when we went to collect the tickets, the agent demanded another Rs 15,000 upfront. It led to an argument. By the end of it, the agent assured us he would put Zeeshan on a flight to Dubai next week," he said.

Burhaan works as a carpenter in Ghaziabad and has two more sons, both minors, who were at school at the time of the murder.

In his complaint, Burhaan claimed he left for work on Monday around 8 am. "Zeeshan was to meet his agent today. Around 10.45 am,

I received a call from a neighbour, who told me that my wife and three-month-old daughter had died. By the time I reached home Zeeshan was missing, and his phone was switched off," he added.

DCP (rural) Surendra Nath Tiwari said the forensics and dog squad rushed to the spot. The body was sent for autopsy and the report is awaited. An FIR was registered at Wave City police station against Zeeshan under BNS Section 103 (murder).

"During the investigation, neighbours told cops that they saw Zeeshan running out of the house with a bag. We have traced his last location near Lal Kuan bus stand. Three police teams have been formed to nab him. Cops are checking CCTV footage too," he said.

A senior police officer said it is suspected that Zeeshan needed more money to go to Dubai. He may have asked his brother or Shaheen for money, and on Monday, there might have been an argument between Zeeshan and Shaheen after Burhaan left for work. It is suspected that he may have assaulted Shaheen first and later killed her and the infant.

AAP mobilises cadre for Delhi assembly polls

New Delhi: With an eye on consolidating its grassroots strength, AAP has developed a strategy to mobilise its cadre and ensure outreach at every booth in Delhi. In a series of addresses to party workers and office bearers across east Delhi, south Delhi, and north-east Delhi on Monday, party national convener Arvind Kejriwal declared his confidence in the continued trust and support of the people.

He also highlighted the stark contrast between AAP's citizen-centric governance and BJP's attempts to undermine progress through divisive politics and neglect, calling on party workers to gear up for a "Dharm Yuddh".

Addressing party workers, Kejriwal said that BJP has administration, immense pools of money, and power. "A BJP insider revealed that they were supremely confident about winning the mayoral elections. BJP meticulously planned for it. Their top leaders stayed in the House until the last vote was counted, fully expecting victory. Preparations were in place for a rally from Civic Centre to BJP headquarters." BJP did not respond to it. TNN

Jan Aushadhi Kendras in city hospitals get HC's nod

Abhinav.Garg @timesofindia.com

New Delhi: Delhi High Court has backed the recommendation of a high-level expert panel of doctors for Jan Aushadhi Kendras in each hospital in the city, saying that there is no "reasonable ground" to object to such a proposal.

"The convenience of having a Jan Aushadhi Kendra in each hospital for patients and their caregivers requires no reiteration," the bench of Chief Justice Manohar and Justice Manmeet PS Arora said in their recent order, while reviewing steps taken by govt and other agencies in improving govt-run hospitals in Delhi.

The recommendation is from the Dr Sarin Committee. The court found that the proposal had a "sound basis" and directed Delhi govt to ensure that such centres are opened in each hospital in four weeks. "This issue is also connected with ensuring ready availability of medicines in hospitals," the court pointed out, adding that Delhi govt "should not re-open the finality of the decision to implement the Dr Sarin Committee

recommendations as this delays the process of implementation."

Regarding expansion of the Delhi Aarogya Kosh to non-trauma agencies, the court directed govt to ensure that all necessary approvals, along with criteria for granting such benefits within a period of two weeks, are documented and submitted to the director of AIIMS.

In its order passed last week, the court also asked Delhi govt to ensure that its 'brownfield' hospital projects, which are 80 per cent complete, are commissioned within three months and immediate steps are taken to recruit manpower. Emphasising that govt cannot "permit a stalemate," the court also directed the authorities to take a decision within two weeks on the issue of the model to be followed for operations of these hospitals, i.e., through a society or PPP model or others. The court passed the directions while dealing with a suo motu case it initiated in 2017 over the alleged lack of critical care in govt hospitals. It earlier directed AIIMS director to take over the responsibility of implementing the recommendations of the Dr SK Sarin Committee.

'Implement steps to check stray menace'

New Delhi: Delhi High Court on Monday directed the chief secretary to put in place a slew of measures recommended by the heads of various departments to deal with the menace of stray dogs and monkeys in the national capital.

"The chief secretary is directed to implement the short-term and long-term measures in accordance with law by issuing directions to specific authorities in a time-bound manner. The chief secretary shall ensure that Animal Birth Control Rules and Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Rules are also complied with," a bench of Chief Justice Manmohan and Justice Tushar Rao Gedela said.

The court was hearing a batch of pleas on stray dogs and monkeys attacking citizens, including differently-abled people, including one moved by NGO Dhananjay Sanjogta Foundation. HC earlier asked the chief secretary to convene a meeting with the heads of various authorities to take steps to make Delhi a safe place for children, differently-abled and elderly persons.

The meeting had deliberated on issues like animal control laws, registration of ABC centres, geo-tagging or micro-chipping animals, healthcare and veterinary support, public awareness, and protective measures for vulnerable groups. It decided that starting with hospitals, parks and schools, a safer environment can be created for vulnerable groups and pave the way for comprehensive stray animal management. TNN

NCRTC launches integrated QR ticketing for seamless travel in metro, Nammo Bharat

New Delhi: Commuters can now book tickets for Nammo Bharat and metro services simultaneously as NCRTC has launched an integrated QR-ticketing system on Monday. Commuters can now book Delhi Metro QR tickets through the 'RRTS Connect' app and Nammo Bharat QR tickets through the 'DMRC Momentum 2.0' app. This initiative aims to make travel across Delhi-NCR seamless and convenient for commuters, said officials.

"The integration of the RRTS and DMRC networks, supported by the newly launched QR-ticketing system, ensures a seamless travel experience across the NCR. The two systems complement each other, with regional transit provided by the Nammo Bharat and intra-city transit services offered by Delhi Metro, together creating a comprehensive and efficient commuting network for the community," said an NCRTC official. The official added that this multi-modal connectivity not only enhances commuter convenience but also encourages increased public transport use, contributing to the long-term sustainability of these essential transit projects.

"The integration represents a major leap forward in NCRTC's mission to provide an efficient, sustainable, and commuter-centric transport solution across Delhi-NCR. In line with govt's "One India-One Ticket" initiative, which aims to make inter-modal travel as convenient as possible for passengers, this initiative will simplify the ticketing process. TNN

Ethical Hacking

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REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL

Asian Development Bank (ADB) invites submissions in response to its Request for Proposal (RFP) on a non-committal basis from licensed Mechanical, Electrical and Plumbing (MEP) contractors for the supply, installation and commissioning of electrical, plumbing and firefighting services.

The works entail two phases: Phase 1 is a new construction of approximately 3,295 square meters on land at 5, Rizal Marg, Chanakyapuri, New Delhi, India allotted by the government. Phase 2 is the refurbishment of an existing office at 4, San Martin Marg, Chanakyapuri, New Delhi of approximately 2,791 square meters on land adjacent to the new building. Civil construction works have already commenced on phase 1 site. For MEP works, it is expected that the two phases will overlap and run concurrently, however this RFP is for Phase 1 only. Phase 2 will be issued as a variation to the current contract once the design and Bill of Quantities (BOQ) are finalized. Overall project completion is expected in 2027.

The RFP shall be conducted on ADB's electronic Procurement system, referred to as "eProc" (<https://eproc.adb.org>). Interested firms should visit the ADB website on the attached link [See below], register their interest and download the tender documentation. Proposals will be accepted for (i) mechanical services; (ii) electrical services; (iii) plumbing and fire services; or (iv) all or any group of services combined. Please note that ADB will only accept bids which are received through the eProc system.

This is a re-advertisement and a change in the scope of works. Previous bidders will need to resubmit bids, noting that the tender documents have been revised and updated since the last RFP. Interested companies should ensure they meet the following mandatory criteria:

- (i) Should be a registered firm with independent legal existence in India for a minimum of five(5) years. Joint Venture agreements are acceptable.
- (ii) Should have a permanent office in Delhi, India. If the firm does not have a permanent office, they must indicate their willingness to establish an office in Delhi, India for the duration of the project.
- (iii) Have past contract revenue of at least INR 30,000,000 (if bidding for either electrical or plumbing and firefighting works) and INR 50,000,000 (if bidding for both works) per year over the past three (3) years from 2021, 2022 and 2023.
- (iv) Hold relevant and current contractor trade licenses valid for a minimum of five (5) years from 1 July 2024.
- (v) The firm should not be under a declaration or record of ineligibility for corrupt and/or fraudulent practices issued by ADB; and has not been sanctioned nor be ineligible to enter into transactions with ADB or any other multilateral development bank or institution and along with its sub-contractors.

Please visit https://supplier.coupahost.com/quotes/public_events?customer=adb for registration and Tender documents.

F.NO.1-8/ANIIMS/Professor/2024/1608
OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR OF ANIIMS

ANDAMAN & NICOBAR ISLANDS INSTITUTE OF MEDICAL SCIENCES

ANDAMAN & NICOBAR ADMINISTRATION
Sri Vijaya Puram, Dated 18/11/2024

INTERVIEW

Andaman & Nicobar Islands Institute of Medical Sciences (ANIIMS), Sri Vijaya Puram will conduct an Online "Interview" for the post of Faculty & Senior Resident/Tutor recruitment for Broad Specialty & Super Specialty Subjects purely on CONTRACT BASIS.
For complete details of vacancy notice and application proforma, kindly visit the college website <http://andswi.and.nic.in/aniims> and Andaman & Nicobar Administration website <https://www.andaman.gov.in>

-sd-
DIRECTOR, ANIIMS

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GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL
Notice Inviting Tender
 e-NIT invited by the Executive Engineer, Mayurakshi & M Division, I & W D, Shri for 01 nos work e-NIT No. WB/W/EE/MEMD/e-NIT/2024-25. Tender ID: 2024_PWD_768939_1. Last date of bid submission: 23/11/2024 upto 17:00 Hrs. Detailed e-NIT may be seen at www.wbwd.gov.in and www.wbtenders.gov.in. For details please visit <https://www.wbwd.gov.in> and <https://www.wbtenders.gov.in>.
 ICN: 120629(2)/2024

GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL
Tender Inviting Notice
 The Commissioner of Police Howrah invites "Renovation of 3rd Floor outside portion of Bally PS under Howrah Police Commissionerate." All interested parties are requested to visit e-portal for Tender ID: 2024_HPC_768393_1. Sd/- H.I.J. Howrah, Dy. Commissioner of Police (H.I.J.) Howrah
 ICN: 120675(2)/2024

GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL
e-TENDER NOTICE
 N.I.Q. No. 03/WBP/HRD/2024-25
 E-Tender is invited for the bonafide Firms/Owners to provide (02 Two) Wooden Motor Launches for Purba Medinipur District Police on Hiring basis for the Financial Year 2024-25. Intending Firms/Owners are requested to submit the tender as instruction given in the Tender Notice. Tender paper can be downloaded from <https://wbtenders.gov.in>.
 Sd/- Superintendent of Police, Purba Medinipur
 ICN: 120673(2)/2024

GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL
PWD TENDER NOTICE
 GeM tender is invited by the undersigned for the work: "Proposed new integrated Science and Technology Campus of University of Calicut at Rurhat, Kolkata. Construction of G+7 Storiied Building (Tower 4) with the provision of G+15 Storiied foundation, Substation Building compound development (Partially and Construction of G+3 storiied New Building (Tower 3) with the provision of G+7 Storiied foundation----Supply, Installation, Testing & Commissioning 750 KVA Silent DG Set." Tender Reference No: GEM/2024/B/5595335 Dated: 14.11.2024. Bid Submission Closing Date: 04.12.2024. Opening Date: 04.12.2024. For details please visit <https://gem.gov.in> for details contact at the office of the undersigned. Corrigendum if any will be published online on the said website. Sd/- S. Bhaduri, Superintendent Engineer, PWD, Kolkata Elec. Circle
 ICN: 120656(2)/2024

GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL
THE DURGAPUR PROJECT LIMITED
 (A Govt. of West Bengal Enterprise)
 Corporate Identity No. U40104WB1985SGC039154
NOTICE INVITING TENDER
 NIT No. (1) WBDPL/DPPS/PUR/NIT/EE-1018/D/24/2024-25, Tender ID: 2024_DPL_767814_1 for Procurement of Refrigerant Gases. Bid submission end date: 22.11.2024. Bid Opening date: 29.11.2024. Date extension NIT No. (2) WBDPL/PP/T/GM/PP/1202018/17/2024/EMIP/EE/176 Dated: 01.10.2024. Tender ID: 2024_DPL_765023_1. Bid submission end date: 19.11.2024. Bid Opening date: 28.11.2024. (3) WBDPL/DPPS/PUR/NIT/EE-014/8P/250/2024-25, Tender ID: 2024_DPL_765523_3. (4) WBDPL/DPPS/PUR/NIT/EE-014/8P/250/2024-25, Tender ID: 2024_DPL_765839_1. NIT No. 38.4, Bid submission end date: 22.11.2024. Bid Opening date: 29.11.2024 respectively. (5) WBDPL/PP/71201416/3/2024/CP/EE/194 Dated: 18.11.2024. Tender ID: 2024_DPL_763489_1 (6) WBDPL/DPPS/PUR/NIT/EE-076/5R/271/2024-25, Tender ID: 2024_DPL_764034_1. NIT No. 58.6, Bid submission end date: 23.11.2024. Bid opening date: 27.11.2024 respectively. Visit: <https://wbtenders.gov.in/> or <http://www.dpl.net.in>
 ICN: 120630(2)/2024

GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL
HALDIA DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY
 City Centre, P.O. Debhong, Haldia Dist. Purba Medinipur, PIN-721657
 Toll Free No. 1800-345-3224
NOTICE INVITING TENDER
 E-NIT No. 10/HDA/EE-ELECT/2024-2025
 Online (E-tender) tender in a two bid system is hereby invited for "DISMANTLING OF 10M G.I. OCTAGONAL POLES, 12 MTR MINI MAST, LED STREET LIGHT FITTINGS, LED FLOOD LIGHT FITTINGS, FEEDER PILLAR ETC. FROM TALPURIKUR RAILWAY CROSSING TO NARAIKUR RAILWAY CROSSING FOR LAYING OF RAW WATER RISING WATER PIPE LINE AND RE-INSTALLATION OF THE POLES, LED LIGHT FITTINGS, SUPPLY AND LAYING OF CABLES ETC AT NANDAKUMAR BAZAR AREA AND PIYADA BAZAR UNDER NANDAKUMAR BLOCK." Estimated Cost of work: Rs. 26,38,359.00. Document downloading date: 20/11/2024 to 03/12/2024 upto 01:30 p.m. Starting date of bid submission: 23/11/2024 at 5:00 p.m. Last date of online bid submission: 03/12/2024 upto 01:30 p.m. For more information in details is available in the office and in the website of HDA: www.hda.gov.in. E-Tender can be seen at www.wbtenders.gov.in.
 Sd/- Chief Executive Officer, HDA.
 ICN: 120614(3)/2024

GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL
Office of the Controller of Vagrancy, West Bengal
 Purba Bhawan, Gr. Floor, Salt Lake, Kolkata-700091
 Ph. No. (033)237-0762, Fax: 2334-4522
 E-mail: cwstbengal@gmail.com
e-TENDER NOTICE
 The following E-Tenders are hereby invited from the bonafide resourceful Contractors, Firms, agencies and reputed Suppliers with good financial standing and having requisite credentials for three (03) different houses and five (05) different offices in Kolkata under control of the Controller of Vagrancy, West Bengal: 1) NIT No: CV/NIT-03/2024-25 dated 24/10/2024, 2) NIT No: CV/NIT-04/2024-25 dated 24/10/2024, 3) NIT No: CV/NIT-05/2024-25 dated 24/10/2024. The details of N.I.T. will be available at the websites <http://wbtenders.gov.in> and on <https://wcdsw.wb.gov.in/cv> and on 19.11.2024 at 14:00 hrs, 15:00 hrs & 16:00 hrs onwards respectively. Sd/- The Controller of Vagrancy, West Bengal. ICN: 120628(2)/2024

GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL
PWD TENDER NOTICE
 E-Tender is invited for the bonafide resourceful Contractors, Firms, agencies and reputed Suppliers with good financial standing and having requisite credentials for three (03) different houses and five (05) different offices in Kolkata under control of the Controller of Vagrancy, West Bengal: 1) NIT No: CV/NIT-03/2024-25 dated 24/10/2024, 2) NIT No: CV/NIT-04/2024-25 dated 24/10/2024, 3) NIT No: CV/NIT-05/2024-25 dated 24/10/2024. The details of N.I.T. will be available at the websites <http://wbtenders.gov.in> and on <https://wcdsw.wb.gov.in/cv> and on 19.11.2024 at 14:00 hrs, 15:00 hrs & 16:00 hrs onwards respectively. Sd/- The Controller of Vagrancy, West Bengal. ICN: 120628(2)/2024

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 E-Tender is invited for the bonafide resourceful Contractors, Firms, agencies and reputed Suppliers with good financial standing and having requisite credentials for three (03) different houses and five (05) different offices in Kolkata under control of the Controller of Vagrancy, West Bengal: 1) NIT No: CV/NIT-03/2024-25 dated 24/10/2024, 2) NIT No: CV/NIT-04/2024-25 dated 24/10/2024, 3) NIT No: CV/NIT-05/2024-25 dated 24/10/2024. The details of N.I.T. will be available at the websites <http://wbtenders.gov.in> and on <https://wcdsw.wb.gov.in/cv> and on 19.11.2024 at 14:00 hrs, 15:00 hrs & 16:00 hrs onwards respectively. Sd/- The Controller of Vagrancy, West Bengal. ICN: 120628(2)/2024

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 E-Tender is invited for the bonafide resourceful Contractors, Firms, agencies and reputed Suppliers with good financial standing and having requisite credentials for three (03) different houses and five (05) different offices in Kolkata under control of the Controller of Vagrancy, West Bengal: 1) NIT No: CV/NIT-03/2024-25 dated 24/10/2024, 2) NIT No: CV/NIT-04/2024-25 dated 24/10/2024, 3) NIT No: CV/NIT-05/2024-25 dated 24/10/2024. The details of N.I.T. will be available at the websites <http://wbtenders.gov.in> and on <https://wcdsw.wb.gov.in/cv> and on 19.11.2024 at 14:00 hrs, 15:00 hrs & 16:00 hrs onwards respectively. Sd/- The Controller of Vagrancy, West Bengal. ICN: 120628(2)/2024

GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL
e-TENDER NOTICE
 The Director General of Police, W.B. Police Telecommunication Department has uploaded e-NIT for the procurement of "Micro UAV, Day and Night payload, Battery, Controlling Hardware for GCS and Universal Battery Charger with two charging slots" Eligible bidders are requested to participate in the e-Tender ID: 2024_WBPT_768939_1 which has been uploaded on 13/11/2024 at 16:00 hrs. For details please visit <https://wbtenders.gov.in> and <https://www.wbptd.gov.in>.
 ICN: 120676(3)/2024

GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL
W.B. MINORITIES DEVELOPMENT & FINANCE CORPORATION
Notice Inviting e-Tender
 NIT No. "EV/MU-1 of 2024-25"
 WBMDFC invites e-tenders for the work of "Execution of various activities of NIT No. 03/WBP/HRD/2024-25 (Making Publicity, providing security guards mela ground with supplying logistic item at Parkour Maidan. The last date of submission of bid is 03.12.2024 up to 5:30 pm. Corrigendum or addendum, if any, will be uploaded only in the Corporation's website www.wbmdfc.org and <http://wbtenders.gov.in> Toll Free No. 1800-120-2130. Sd/- Managing Director
 ICN: 120623(2)/2024

GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL
ABRIDGED e-TENDER NOTICE
 WB/W/EE/MED/EE-EOI-03/2024-25
 On behalf of the Governor of West Bengal, online Expression of Interest is invited by the undersigned for 01 (one) no. of work under Metropolitan Electrical Division, I & W Dte., Govt. of West Bengal. Bid Submission End Date: 04.12.2024 upto 15:00 PM. For details will be available from the notice board of office of the undersigned on working days and also from website: www.wbwd.gov.in and <https://wbtenders.gov.in>. Sd/- Executive Engineer, Metropolitan Electrical Division, I & W Dte., Govt. of West Bengal.
 ICN: 120623(2)/2024

GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL
PWR/NIT TENDER NOTICE
 eNIT No. 16 of 2024-25 of EE/BHD-1/PWR/NIT Dte. for 01(One) No. Sandeshkhal IB Repair work and 1(One) No. Road Repairing work under Barasat Highway Division. NIT, inviting from bonafied bidders having credential for similar nature of work. Bid submission closing date (online) will be on 04/12/2024 upto 16:00 hrs. Tender ID: 2024_WB/PWD_76966_1/2. Other details may be seen from website <https://wbtenders.gov.in> and <http://wbpdw.gov.in>. Sd/- EE/BHD-1/PWR/NIT Dte.
 ICN: 120666(2)/2024

GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL
ABRIDGED e-TENDER NOTICE
 Executive Engineer, Nadia Irrigation Division, Krishnagar, Nadia invites e-Tender vide No. WB/W/EE/NID/NIT-05/EE/2024-25 for 1 no. of work under Nadia Irrigation Division. Amount put to tender Rs. 17,60,885.00. Last date & time for submission of e-bids online is on 03.12.2024 upto 17:30hrs. Other details may be published in the office on working days and also from the Departmental website: www.wbwd.gov.in. Sd/- Executive Engineer, Nadia Irrigation Division, Krishnagar, Nadia.
 ICN: 120615(2)/2024

GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL
PWD TENDER NOTICE
 Executive Engineer, P.W.D. Electrical Construction Division invites online e-Tender for the work of "Repairing and renovation of EI at different places of FCC Campus" e-NIT No. WBPWD/EE-EC/D-2024-25, Tender ID: 2024_WBPWD_769740_1. Bid submission start date (online): 22.11.2024 upto 1:00 P.M. Corrigendum if any will be published in website only. Details of N.I.T. and tender documents may be downloaded from: <http://wbtenders.gov.in>. Sd/- Karmakar, Executive Engineer, P.W.D., Electrical Construction Division
 ICN: 120670(2)/2024

GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL
Office of the Manager, Casual Vagrants' Home, 120, Andul Road, Howrah-711103
 Email id: cvhome120@gmail.com
e-TENDER NOTICE
 The following E-Tenders are hereby invited from the bonafide contractors/agencies for the Home for Casual Vagrants' Home, 120, Andul Road, Howrah-711103 : 1) NIT No.: CVH/NIT-01/2024-25 dated 06.11.2024, 2) NIT No.: CVH/NIT-02/2024-25 dated 06.11.2024. The details of e-NIT will be available in the website wbtenders.gov.in and on 19.11.2024, 3 p.m. onwards. Sd/- Manager, Casual Vagrants' Home, 120, Andul Road, Howrah-711103
 ICN: 120627(2)/2024

GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL
ABRIDGED NOTICE INVITING e-TENDER
 WB/W/SE/WC-III/NIT-02(e)/2024-25
 Superintending Engineer, Western Circle-III invites one tender for 01 (one) no. Works- "Resuscitation of Dunia Khal from Ch. 7.0 km to Ch. 12.0 km (length 5 km) within G.P. Kulbaria, Block and P.S.-Chandipur, Dist-Purba Medinipur" under this Circle. A.P.T. Rs. 113.86 lakh. Tender forms and other details may be obtained from departmental website: www.wbwd.gov.in and <https://wbtenders.gov.in> (direct site). Last date of submission of e-tender is 10.12.2024 upto 16:00 hrs. For details please visit <http://www.wbwd.gov.in> and on 19.11.2024, 3 p.m. onwards. Sd/- Manager, Casual Vagrants' Home, 120, Andul Road, Howrah-711103
 ICN: 120622(3)/2024

GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL
PWD TENDER NOTICE
 Executive Engineer Asansol Highway Division, P. W. (Roads) Directorate, World Bank N.H. Campus (Behind Asansol Girls' College) Asansol 713304, Publication of 1st Corrigendum against e-NIT No. 06 of 24-25 for the work of: Supply of Security Guards in different Stack yard, office, Inspection Bungalow, campus etc. for the period of 1 (one) year under Asansol Highway Division, P.W.(Roads) Direct. Paschim Burdhaman, during the FY 2024-25. Tender ID: 2024_SH_761980_1 Tender Ref. No. : WBPWR/Rds/EE/AHD/eN/Q-06/2024-25. Bid submission closing date (online) 25.11.2024 upto 14:00 PM. Details of 1st Corrigendum of N.I.T. and Tender documents may be download from: <http://wbpdw.gov.in/home/tender.html> Sd/- E.E., A.H.D., P.W.(RD), GOVT OF WB.
 ICN: 120655(2)/2024

GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL
e-NIT INVITING TENDER
 No. 16 of 2024-2025. Name of the work: SL No-1) Soil Testing of Berhampore Kandi-Sultanpur Road from chainage 19.00KM to 37.50KM related to the preparation of Detailed Project Report of the road under construction at Berhampore Division. P.W.D. (Estimated Amount : 2,30,471.00) SL No (2) Surfacing works of the approach road of S.P. Office Murshidabad P.D. under Berhampore Division No.-1, P.W.D during the year 2024-25. (Estimated Amount : 3,5,835.00) NIT-16/2024-2025/EE/PWD/BD 1. Tender ID: 2024_PWD_769635_1. Quotation from bonafide bidders as per GO are invited by the Executive Engineer, PWD, Berhampore Division-I. Details may be obtained from office during working hours and also from <http://www.pwdwb.in/> <http://wbtenders.gov.in> Bid submission starting date 21.11.2024 at 11:30AM (IST) and Bid Submission end date 21.11.2024 at 11:30AM (IST). Sd/- Executive Engineer, PWD Berhampore Division-I.
 ICN: 120657(3)/2024

NSUI to hold Parliament March:
 NSUI has announced to hold a "Parliament March" on Dec 5 to demand action on issues such as unemployment, recruitment delays, and funding cuts in education, claiming these are adversely affecting the students. PM

e-Tender Notice
 Hooghly Zilla R.M.C. invites e-Tender vide N.I.T.No. 08/HZMRC/2024-2025 & 09/HZMRC/2024-2025 Date: 18.11.2024. Last date of submission of Bid-27.11.2024 up to 1 P.M. The details of the e-Tenders are available on the website <https://www.wbtenders.gov.in>
 Sd/- Secretary Hooghly Zilla R.M.C.

The West Bengal Power Development Corporation Limited
 (A Govt. of West Bengal Enterprise)
 Corporate Identity No. U40104WB1985SGC039154
 Bakreswar Thermal Power Project
 P.O. BkTTP, Dist. - Birbhum, Pin - 731104
NOTICE INVITING E-TENDER
 Ref. No.: WBPDC/ Tend-Adv/24-25/BKTPP/CC-2634 Dated: 13.11.2024
 NIT No.: WBPDC/ BKTPP/NIT/EE3398/24-25
 E-Tenders in prescribed format are invited at <https://wbtenders.gov.in> by the General Manager - BKTPP, WBPDC from eligible Agencies/Companies in 2 Part bid system for work "Repairing Rostrium by replacing Colour Coated Sheet in place of Asbestos Sheet and Painting Structure Including Cleaning and Dressing and TIT-BIT repairing and painting work for Mela purpose for the year 2025." Tender Document Download Start Date: 14.11.2024 at 10:00 AM. Bid Submission End Date: 26.11.2024 at 04:00 PM. Contact Person: Mr. Indrani Chakraborty, Dy. General Manager - CC, BKTPP, WBPDC. Mobile : 837305564. E-mail: cc_bktp@wbpdcl.co.in / cc_bktp@gmail.com. For details please visit: <https://wbtenders.gov.in>
 ICN: 120636(2)/2024

The West Bengal Power Development Corporation Limited
 (A Govt. of West Bengal Enterprise)
 Corporate Identity No. U40104WB1985SGC039154
 Santaldih Thermal Power Station
 P.O. Santaldih Thermal Plant, Dist. - Purulia, Pin - 723146
Notice Inviting E-Tender
 Ref. No.: WBPDC/ Tend-Adv/24-25/STPS/CC-2638 Dated: 14.11.2024
 NIT No.: WBPDC/ STPS/NIT/EE3750/24-25
 E-Tenders in prescribed format are invited at <https://wbtenders.gov.in> by the General Manager, STPS, WBPDC from eligible Agencies/Companies in 2 Part bid system for "Procurement of Electric Hoist of Capacity 2 Ton for APH Overhauling under BMD, STPS". Tender Document Download Start Date: 19.11.2024 at 15:00 hrs. Bid Submission End Date: 28.11.2024 at 14:00 hrs. Contact Person: Mr. D. Biswas, Senior Manager (Purchase), STPS. Mobile No.: 8336904045. E-mail: dbiswas@wbpdcl.co.in. For details please visit: <https://wbtenders.gov.in>
 ICN: 120642(2)/2024

The West Bengal Power Development Corporation Limited
 (A Govt. of West Bengal Enterprise)
 Corporate Identity No. U40104WB1985SGC039154
 Sagardighi Thermal Power Project
 P.O. Monigram, P.S. Sagardighi, Dist. - Murshidabad, Pin - 742237
Notice Inviting E-Tender
 Ref. No.: WBPDC/ Tend-Adv/24-25/SGTTP/CC-2650 Dated: 14.11.2024
 NIT No.: WBPDC/ SGTTP/NIT/EE3703/24-25
 Dated: 01.09.2024
 E-Tenders in prescribed format are invited at <https://wbtenders.gov.in> by the General Manager, SGTTP, WBPDC from eligible Agencies/Companies in three (03) Part bid system for "Service Contract for Operation and Maintenance of Industrial Relation Software including Data Entry related to statutory compliance." Tender Document Download Start Date: From 19.11.2024 at 10:00 hrs. Bid Submission End Date: 12.12.2024 up to 15:00 hrs. Contact Person: Mr. Jaydeep Kundu. E-mail: j.kundu@wbpdcl.co.in. For details please visit: <https://wbtenders.gov.in>
 ICN: 120648(2)/2024

The West Bengal Power Development Corporation Limited
 (A Govt. of West Bengal Enterprise)
 Corporate Identity No. U40104WB1985SGC039154
 Santaldih Thermal Power Station
 P.O. Santaldih Thermal Plant, Dist. - Purulia, Pin - 723146
Notice Inviting E-Tender
 Ref. No.: WBPDC/ Tend-Adv/24-25/STPS/CC-2635 Dated: 14.11.2024
 NIT No.: WBPDC/ STPS/NIT/EE3758/24-25
 E-Tenders in prescribed format are invited at <https://wbtenders.gov.in> by the General Manager, STPS, WBPDC from eligible Agencies/Companies in 2 Part bid system for "Procurement of 132 KV CVT under EM-OPH Dept., Santaldih T.P.S., the WBPDC". Tender Document Download Start Date: 14.11.2024 at 15:00 hrs. Bid Submission End Date: 28.11.2024 at 15:00 hrs. Contact Person: Mr. D. Biswas, Dy. General Manager (Purchase), STPS. Tel. No.: 08336904045. E-mail: dbiswas@wbpdcl.co.in. For details please visit: <https://wbtenders.gov.in>
 ICN: 120638(2)/2024

The West Bengal Power Development Corporation Limited
 (A Govt. of West Bengal Enterprise)
 Corporate Identity No. U40104WB1985SGC039154
 Santaldih Thermal Power Station
 P.O. Santaldih Thermal Plant, Dist. - Purulia, Pin - 723146
Notice Inviting E-Tender
 Ref. No.: WBPDC/ Tend-Adv/24-25/STPS/CC-2641 Dated: 14.11.2024
 NIT No.: WBPDC/ STPS/NIT/EE3765/24-25
 E-Tenders in prescribed format are invited at <https://wbtenders.gov.in> by the General Manager, STPS, WBPDC from eligible Agencies/Companies in 2 Part bid system for "Two years Contract for Loading, Transportation, Unloading of Stone Boulders from different areas & removal of Coal/Coal Dust & Disposal to Designated Yards under CHP (O), STPS". Tender Document Download Start Date: 19.11.2024 from 10:00 hrs. Bid Submission End Date: 13.12.2024 within 16:00 hrs. Contact Person: Mr. G. C. Maji, AGM (M&C), Mobile No.: 8336903939. E-mail: gcmaji@wbpdcl.co.in. For details please visit: <https://wbtenders.gov.in>
 ICN: 120646(2)/2024

The West Bengal Power Development Corporation Limited
 (A Govt. of West Bengal Enterprise)
 Corporate Identity No. U40104WB1985SGC039154
 Santaldih Thermal Power Station
 P.O. Santaldih Thermal Plant, Dist. - Purulia, Pin - 723146
Notice Inviting E-Tender
 Ref. No.: WBPDC/ Tend-Adv/24-25/STPS/CC-2636 Dated: 14.11.2024
 NIT No.: WBPDC/ STPS/NIT/EE3763/24-25
 E-Tenders in prescribed format are invited at <https://wbtenders.gov.in> by the General Manager, STPS, WBPDC from eligible Agencies/Companies in 2 Part bid system for "Biennial Rate Contract for Online Steam / Water Leak Sealing job for Unit # 5 & 6 under TMD and BMD, STPS". Tender Document Download Start Date: 16.11.2024 from 11:00 hrs. Bid Submission End Date: 04.12.2024 within 16:00 hrs. Contact Person: Mr. G. C. Maji, Mobile : 8336903939. E-mail: gcmaji@wbpdcl.co.in / gcmaji@wbpdcl.co.in. For details please visit: <https://wbtenders.gov.in>
 ICN: 120641(2)/2024

West Bengal State AIDS PREVENTION & CONTROL SOCIETY
 Swasthya Bhawan, 1st Floor, Wing B, GN-29, Sector-V Salt Lake, Kolkata 700091
NOTICE
 Online BIDS are invited vide no. HFW-28016(12)/1/2019-IEC/NIT-13 dated: 18.11.2024 for supply & printing of Signages. The Tender documents and other details may be viewed at e-tender portal by opening E-procurement platform <https://wbtenders.gov.in>. As well as other amendments & corrigendum also available in above website.
 Sd/- Controller of Finance

WEST BENGAL STATE ELECTRICITY TRANSMISSION COMPANY LIMITED
 (A Government of West Bengal Enterprise)
 Registered Office: Vidyut Bhawan, Block-D1, Sector-1, Bidhanagar, Kolkata-700 091
 CN: U40104WB1985SGC039154
e-TENDER FOR THE FOLLOWING WORKS ARE INVITED:
 NIT No.: DGP/400KV/AD/Installation and erection of 09 nos. 50m height LM tower ELEC/2024-25/03 (narrow base) in complete with earthing of LM structure by Date: 19.11.2024 construction of 18 nos. new earth electrode and associated works including installation of flood light on LM with necessary connection with LDB by laying control cable etc. and dismantling of existing shield wire and 13 nos. earth mast in complete at Durgapur 220 KV sub-station.
 NIT No.: DGP/400KV/AD/Supply & delivery of 100 nos. 400W LED flood lights ELEC/2024-25/04 [in complete with all accessories (as per spec.)] at Durgapur 220KV sub-station.
 For above two NITs (03 and 04): bid submission starting date (online): 28.11.2024, 09:00 A.M. and closing date (online): 12.12.2024, 03:00 P.M.
 NIT No.: SE/DAO/Civil/Construction of foundation for 132 KV 2" main bus, bus coupler bay, 2 set of 132 KV PT bay, re-orientation of 132 KV switchyard isolator, shifting of LA and burnt oil tank at Bamunara 132 KV sub-station. Bid submission starting date (online): 29.11.2024, 09:00 A.M. and closing date (online): 16.12.2024, 03:00 P.M.
 Visit the following websites: www.wbtenders.gov.in and www.wbsetcl.in for details.

GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL
WEST BENGAL POLICE DIRECTORATE
 BHABANI BHAWAN, ALIPORE KOLKATA - 700027
 1. Applications are invited by the Commissioner of Police, Bidhannagar for engagement of 05 (five) numbers of Senior Legal Consultants for Bidhannagar Police Commissionerate on contractual basis.
 For further details and application proforma visit <https://wbpolice.gov.in>.
 2. The application along with relevant enclosures should be sent addressing to the Commissioner of Police, Bidhannagar through mail vide ID: ocelgalcelldbnpce@gmail.com or through speed post on or before 26.11.2024.
 Jt. Commissioner of Police (HQ)
 Bidhannagar Police Commissionerate
 ICN: N 5223(3)/2024

Student alleges casteist abuse and assault by principal of DU college; teachers join protest

Principal Arun Kumar Attri has termed the allegations "false and baseless," stating that "the student took these steps under the influence of a professor against whom an inquiry is going on for presenting fake certificates for appointment." "On Oct 25, a committee formed by the college scanned the phones of a few students, including the student in question, and found objectionable content on it. An inquiry was going on against him for circulating

obscene messages to teachers and students. He even admitted to it, but fearing rustication and under the guidance of a particular teacher, he retracted his statements. There are a few other teachers who supported him, and then he decided to make these false allegations against me," Attri said. The student submitted complaints to the university vice-chancellor and the National Commission for Scheduled Castes as well, stating the incident has affected him mentally. "We received a formal complaint from the student, and the matter is currently under inquiry," a police officer said.

In his complaint, the student said that on Oct 24, a classmate's phone was allegedly hacked, and objectionable content, including links to explicit videos, was shared in the department's WhatsApp group. The student further claimed in the letter that he "assisted in fixing the classmate's phone to prevent further misuse. However, during a preliminary investigation led by the principal, I was falsely accused by some students of being responsible for sending the messages."

The allegations led to protests by student groups at the college on Monday. The student who filed the complaint also addressed the protest gathering, stating that he was allegedly subjected to "torture for five hours and threatened of rustication".

All India Students' Association (AISA) has demanded the arrest of the principal. "AISA activists gheraoed the principal's office. The student, joined by AISA activists, other students of Bhagat Singh College, and JNUSU president Dhananjay, implemented a complete shutdown of the college and demanded the arrest of the principal," AISA said in a statement. Social Democratic Teachers Front also demanded Attri's removal.

GOVERNMENT OF MEGHALAYA
 Directorate of Tourism (DoT)
 No. M/D Tour/Tech/40/2024/25 Dated 14th November, 2024
 The Director of Tourism, Shillong, Meghalaya (India) (Authority) through the process of open tendering seeks proposals from eligible bidders for "Development, Operation and Maintenance of Luxury Cottages located at Sohra in Meghalaya under Design, Build, Finance, Operate and Transfer (DBFOT) Mode on Public Private Partnership" in the state of Meghalaya.

Project Location	Total Land Area
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BRS SOCIAL MEDIA CHIEF HELD OVER POSTS AGAINST T'GANA CM REVANTH, LATER FREED

STALIN BATS FOR 50% DEVOLUTION OF CENTRAL TAXES FOR STATES, SAYS CURRENT MODEL 'PENALISING' TN



Kalpana Chawla became the first Indian-born woman to go to space on this day in 1997

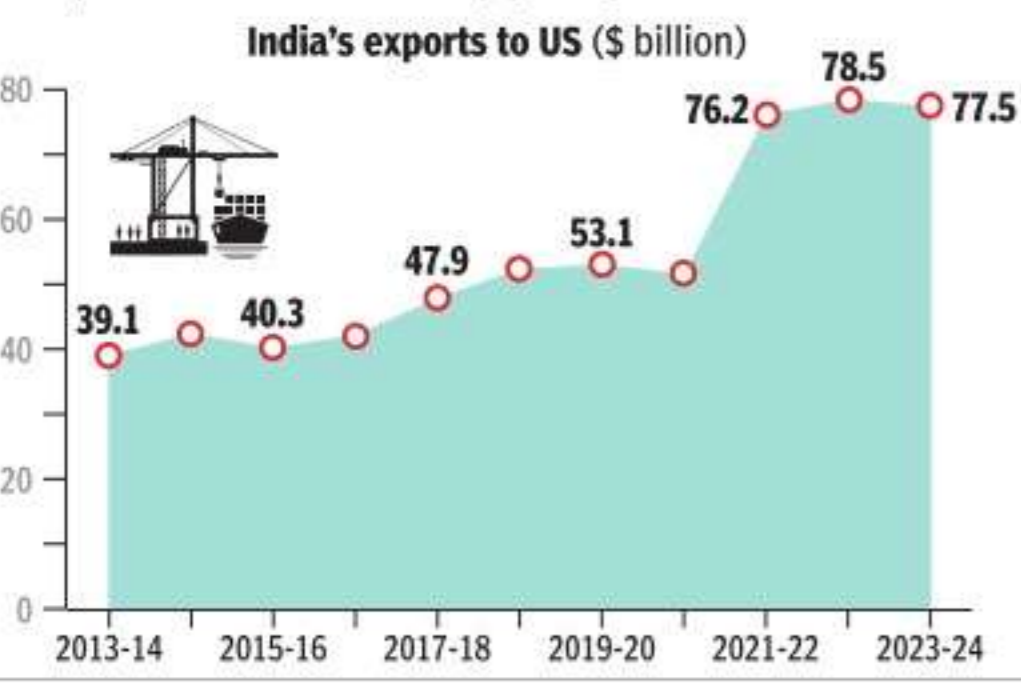
Looking for a mate, lovelorn tiger travels 300km from Maha to T'gana

Lovelnorn Johnny, a male tiger aged between six and eight, travelled over 300 km from Kinwat taluka in Maharashtra's Nanded to Utnoor in Telangana's Adilabad in search of a mate, reports U Sudhakarreddy. Initially spotted in the forests of Adilabad's Boath mandal, Johnny began moving through Kuntala, Sarangapur, Mamada, and Pembli mandals in Nirmal district in Oct before entering Utnoor, foresters said. It crossed Hyderabad-Nagpur NH-44 and is now reportedly heading toward Tiryani area. "Male tigers often embark on such long journeys during winter, which is the mating season, in search of a mate when they cannot find one in their territory," Adilabad district forest officer Prashanth Bajirao Patil said. Forest officials said male tigers can detect a special scent released by tigresses from up to 100 km away, guiding them to potential mates. However, forest officials assured that tigers searching for mates do not pose a threat to humans. Chief wildlife warden Elusing Meru suggested that Johnny might settle in Kawal Tiger Reserve (KTR).

STATISTICS A slice of life in numbers By Sayan Ghosh

India's exports to US doubled in 10 years

In the last 10 years, India's exports to the US showed a significant upward trend. Despite a slight dip in 2020-21 due to global disruptions, exports made a robust recovery, peaking at \$78.5 billion in 2022-23.



Take VRS or transfer, Tirumala trust tells non-Hindu staffers

TTD's Decision Is Backed By Article 16(5) Of The Constitution

Sandeep Raghavan
@timesofindia.com

Tirupati: The newly-formed Tirumala Tirupati Devasthanams (TTD) passed Monday a resolution requiring non-Hindus employed by the board to either take voluntary retirement or opt for a transfer to other govt departments in Andhra Pradesh. TTD is an independent govt trust that manages Tirumala Venkateswara temple in Tirupati — the world's richest Hindu shrine.

TTD chairman BR Naidu confirmed the decision but declined to reveal the exact number of non-Hindu employees. Sources said the move will affect about 300 of the board's 7,000 permanent employees. TTD also employs around 14,000 contract workers.

The decision has drawn support from various employee unions, which have stated that it aligns with the Andhra Pradesh Endowments Act and TTD Act.



The decision has drawn support from various employee unions, which have stated that it aligns with the Andhra Pradesh Endowments Act and TTD Act

"This should be enforced in totality," a union representative said. Upon his appointment as TTD chairman on Oct 31, Naidu had expressed his stand that only Hindus should run the temple.

Over the years, the TTD Act has been amended three times to stipulate that only Hindus should be employed by the temple board and its affiliated institutions. A govt order issued in 1989 also mandated that appointments to TTD-administered posts would be restricted to Hindus.

Despite these provisions, sources claimed that non-Hindus have continued to work within the organisation. Since the Chandrababu Naidu-led govt assumed office in June, complaints were reported

edly received from Hindu employees identifying their colleagues from other faiths.

TTD's decision comes shortly after Naidu's govt alleged that the previous YSRC administration had permitted the use of ghee with animal fat in the preparation of the temple's iconic Tirupati laddu, sparking a major controversy.

The decision is supported by Article 16(5) of the Constitution, which allows institutions of a religious or denominational nature to employ members of their own religion. Similarly, Rule 3 of the AP Charitable and Hindu Religious Institutions and Endowments Subordinate Service Rules states that employees of religious institutions must profess the Hindu faith.

This legal backing was reinforced in Nov 2023 by AP HC when it upheld Rule 3, confirming that trust boards are empowered to mandate service conditions, including the requirement that employees follow the Hindu religion.

'1 nation, 1 election' bills likely in winter session

New Delhi: Moving a step closer to synchronised polls to Parliament and all state assemblies in 2029, govt is likely to table enabling legislation on 'one nation, one election (ONOE)' in the winter session of Parliament starting Nov 25, report Pradeep Thakur & Akhilesh Singh.

Tabling of the bills will follow a bid to forge a consensus by talking to the opposition, particularly Congress. Support from opposition and non-NDA parties will be needed to push through constitutional amendments.

Sources hinted that the bills would be tabled along with the Ramnath Kovind-led panel's report that recommended ONOE. After introduction of the bills, govt will initiate a debate in Parliament but may defer voting till a broad consensus is reached.

Parliamentary affairs minister Kiren Rijiju indicated govt's intent on Monday by saying, "Modiji had insisted that for the development of the country, polls should be held simultaneously every five years. Based on his insistence, the Kovind panel was formed and the report submitted was approved by the Union cabinet. Now, we are



TIME FOR CHANGE?

ready to bring the related legislation in Parliament."

He said that though there was scope for opposition in a democracy, the bills should not be opposed for opposition's sake, adding that there should be a discussion to let the country know why polls should be held together.

The first proposed constitutional amendment bill requires insertions under Article 82A, by amending Article 83 (duration of LS), and Article 172 (duration of state assemblies). For this amendment, the Kovind panel said, ratification by states was not needed. To synchronise polls to local bodies with general elections, a constitutional amendment will be required to Article 324A by amending Article 325. This will require ratification by states.

Coast Guard rescues 7 Indian fishermen from Pak custody

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi: The Coast Guard on Monday said it had rescued seven Indian fishermen who were apprehended by a ship of the Pakistan Maritime Security Agency (PMSA) near the maritime boundary between the two countries.

Around 3.30pm on Sunday, Coast Guard ship ICGS Agrim on a patrol received a distress call from an Indian fishing boat operating near the No-Fishing Zone, an official said.

"The call reported that another Indian fishing boat, Kal Bhairav, had been intercepted by a PMSA vessel, with its seven crew members being apprehended. In response, ICGS

Agrim sailed to the location," he said. The Coast Guard vessel then intercepted the PMSA ship, identified as PMS Nusrat, and persuaded them to release the Indian fishermen. "The seven fishermen were found to be safe. Unfortunately, the fishing boat Kal Bhairav was reported to have sunk after being damaged during the incident," the official said.

ICGS Agrim then returned to the Okha Harbour on Monday, where a joint investigation involving the Coast Guard, police, intelligence agencies and fisheries authorities is being undertaken to investigate the circumstances leading to the collision and the subsequent rescue operation.

Domestic flyers cross 5 lakh in a day for first time ever

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi: Nov 17 turned out to a Super Sunday for Indian aviation with the number of domestic flyers in a day crossing the five-lakh mark for the first time ever.

Like last year, domestic air travel started picking up soon after Diwali (Oct 31) with the wedding season that started just before Nov 10. Since then about 4.9 lakh people were flying daily within the country till the five-lakh mark was breached on Nov 17.

An analyst said that with airlines adding capacity and airfares not very high at the moment, the numbers could rise further this winter. "Mid-



SUPER SUNDAY

Jan could be the peak of peaks with the marriage season, diaspora coming home during Christmas break, inflow of foreign tourists and domestic tourists taking to the skies," he said.

Sunday saw 3,173 domestic flights. IndiGo, Air India, SpiceJet and Akasa flew with over 90% occupancy.

Ex-PSC chief of Chhattisgarh arrested in ₹45 lakh bribe case

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi: CBI on Monday arrested Taman Singh Sonwani, former chairman of Chhattisgarh Public Service Commission, for allegedly taking a bribe of Rs 45 lakh from the director of a Raipur-based steel company for ensuring selection of latter's son and daughter-in-law as deputy collectors.

CBI also arrested Shrawan Kumar Goyal, director of Bajrang Power & Ispat Ltd, who allegedly paid the bribe through the Gramin Vikas Samiti, where Sonwani's relatives were members, in two installments of Rs 20 lakh and Rs 25 lakh.

The case pertains to complaints of irregularities in the selection of candidates for deputy collectors, DSPs, and other senior posts. CBI had registered an FIR against Sonwani and others in July this year on a reference from Chhattisgarh govt dated Feb 16.

The complaint, which is part of the CBI FIR, alleged, "The candidates who scored well in the examination are relatives of Public Service Commission officials, govt officials and politicians. It shows that the candidates were provided the examination paper in advance, enabling them to score well and get good ranks."

CORPORATE BUZZ

www.toi.in/psu

Steel secretary inaugurates Steel Pavilion at 43rd IITF

Sandeep Poundrik, IAS, Secretary, Ministry of Steel, inaugurated the Steel Pavilion at the 43rd India International Trade Fair (IITF) 2024 at Hall No. 4, Bharat Mandapam, Pragati Maidan, New Delhi. The event was attended by senior officers of Ministry of Steel. During his address, the secretary emphasised on the pivotal role of the steel industry in India's economic growth and the dedication of the government for creating a conducive



environment for the sector. The Steel Pavilions in Hall No. 4 and 5 showcase the resilience and innovation of the steel industry, with contributions from the Indian steel companies, CPSEs of Ministry of Steel and integrated steel producers in the private sector represented by their CMDs/CEOs. The event brought together key stakeholders, industry leaders, and government officials, exemplifying the collaborative environment fostered by the Government of India to promote growth through meaningful interactions and partnerships in the steel industry.

GAIL signs 10-year agreement with ADNOC Gas

GAIL (India) Limited signed a 10-year sales and purchase agreement (SPA) with ADNOC Gas for the delivery of up to 0.52 million metric



tonnes per annum (MMTPA) of LNG, starting in 2026. This is the first SPA of ADNOC Gas with an Indian buyer. The LNG will be delivered in six cargoes per year from ADNOC Gas' Das Island natural gas facility, which has an LNG processing capacity of 6.0 MMTPA. Sanjay Kumar, Director (Marketing), GAIL said, "GAIL plans to significantly increase its term LNG portfolio in the coming years to meet this rising demand. This SPA with ADNOC Gas is a crucial step in this direction, enabling GAIL to augment its existing LNG portfolio to better serve its diverse consumer base."

BIS conducts seminar on ABMS

Central Region (CRO) of Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) successfully conducted a seminar on the "Overview of Anti-Bribery Management System IS/ISO 37001:2016 (ABMS) and its Implementation." The event was organised in Delhi, specifically for vigilance officers of various central and state government organisations, as well as PSUs under the jurisdiction of CRO of BIS. The seminar was designed to introduce the participants to the importance of implementing an anti-bribery



management system (ABMS) as per IS/ISO 37001 standards, which provides a framework to assist organisations in combating bribery and fostering a culture of integrity. The event commenced with welcome address by Lalthan Pari, Director BIS. A special moment of recognition was observed when the Central Warehousing Corporation (CWC), the first recipient of the ABMS license under the jurisdiction of central region, was felicitated by Dr. R. K. Tyagi, Deputy Director General (Central), BIS. Aprajita Sharma, CVO of CWC, accepted the honour.

Parliamentary committee lauds ICG's role

A meeting of the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Defence was held in Chennai



on November 16, 2024, to review the working of the Indian Coast Guard (ICG) in ensuring coastal security along India's vast maritime boundaries. The delegation of Members of Parliament (MPs) was led by MP Radha Mohan Singh, who chaired the meeting. Senior officials from the Ministry of Defence (MoD) and ICG also attended the meeting. The ICG was represented by Director General S Paramesh, PTM, TM, Director General ICG, who provided a comprehensive overview of the ICG's operational capabilities, strategic initiatives, and preparedness to address the nation's coastal security challenges. The discussion focused on ICG's ongoing efforts to safeguard India's maritime interests, improve coordination with various stakeholders, and enhance response mechanisms for ensuring maritime safety and security. The committee members expressed their satisfaction with ICG's achievements and commended its proactive role in safeguarding India's coastline.

SW Dept hosts workshop

On November 13, 2024, the Department of Social Welfare, Government of NCT Delhi, organised a consultation workshop on the implementation of the Transgender Persons (Protection of Rights) Act, 2019. The workshop



brought together representatives from NGOs and district magistrate offices. Director of Social Welfare chaired the programme and outlined key departmental initiatives, like proposing dedicated toilets for transgender persons in government departments and the

creation of new ones, advocating for free sex reassignment surgeries, appointing complaint officers/nodal officers and expediting the process for transgender identity card applications. Dr. Aqsa Sheikh from Hamdard Institute of Medical Sciences & Research, along with representatives from TWEET Foundation, Mitra Trust, and EASE India, discussed ongoing challenges and stressed the importance of coordinated efforts to ensure the successful implementation of the Act and foster inclusivity in Delhi.

NHB organises workshop on PMAY-U 2.0

The National Housing Bank organised a national workshop and signing of MoUs on the Interest Subsidy Scheme (ISS) under the Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana - Urban 2.0 (PMAY-U 2.0). The occasion was graced by Manohar Lal, Union Minister of Housing & Urban Affairs and Power. Katikithala, Secretary, Ministry of Housing & Urban Affairs, GoI; Dr. M P Tangirala, Addl Secretary, Department of Financial Services, Ministry



of Finance; Kuldip Narayan, Joint Secretary (HFA), Ministry of Housing & Urban Affairs; and Sanjay Shukla, MD, NHB, also graced the event with their presence. The programme was attended by top officials of HFCs and banks as well as representatives of various state governments. During the course of the day, 116 primary lending institutions, including HFCs and banks entered into MoU with NHB for implementation of the scheme. Further, the Unified Web Portal - ISS was introduced by NIC and MoHUA during the programme.

CONCOR LNG station at Khatuwas inaugurated

Ravinder Goyal-Member Operations & Business Development, Railway Board, Govt of India, inaugurated state-of-the-art LNG station and flagged off 1st LNG powered road



trailer with container at CONCOR's Multimodal Logistics Park (MMLP) located on Western DFC at Khatuwas (Rajasthan) on November 14, 2024, in presence of Sanjay Swarup, CMD/CONCOR and other senior officers of Indian Railways and CONCOR. In order to promote environment-friendly logistics solutions in the country, CONCOR has commissioned in-house LNG station at MMLP Khatuwas, in collaboration with IOCL, to ensure uninterrupted supply of LNG to be used primarily for 1st/last mile services to customers on CONCOR-owned LNG-powered road trailers. This is first-of-its-kind facility at any MMLP in north India. On this occasion, Ravinder Goyal, MoDD, Railway Board, applauded CONCOR's commitment to sustainable logistics. Later, Goyal and Swarup participated in a tree plantation drive at MMLP Khatuwas.

Appointment



BVR Mohan assumes charge of Director (Projects), POWERGRID: Burra Vamsi Rama Mohan has assumed the charge of Director (Projects) of Power Grid Corporation of India Limited (POWERGRID) w.e.f. November 13, 2024. An engineering graduate with a PG Diploma in Management, Vamsi served as OSD (Projects) in POWERGRID. He has also completed the Harvard Management Mentor (HMM) Programme and has undertaken courses from ISB. With more than three decades of work experience in the power and telecom sectors, Vamsi has a distinct experience in project implementation and procurement management. He was the founding member of regulatory cell in POWERGRID. He has been CEO of POWERGRID Teleservices Limited and was instrumental in telecom business growth and kickstarting the works of the first data centre of POWERGRID.

यू.पी. प्रोजेक्ट्स कारपोरेशन लि.
(एनएच प्रोजेक्ट्स का उपक्रम)
CIN : U15209UP1976SGC004285
कार्यालय महाप्रबन्धक, जेन-2, 14-बन्दोबस्तकरनर कालोनी, तुला शेरपुर,
सोहनगंज बाईपास, बरेली-243122. ई-मेल : gm2.upprojctbly@gmail.com

पत्रांक : 339/पीसीएस/जी.एम./जेन-2/प्रकाशन दिनांक : 11.11.2024

अल्पकालीन ई-निविदा सूचना

जनपद सम्मिल नयीय राजकीय हाईस्कूल, असालतनगर जारड़, ब्लॉक बनियाखेड़ा के निर्माण कार्य हेतु अल्पकालीन ई-निविदा सूचना सं 09/PCL/GM/ZONE-2/BLW/2024-25 दिनांक 11.11.2024 आम्त्रित की जाती है। उक्त निविदा <http://etender.up.nic.in> की वेबसाइट पर दिनांक 18.11.2024 से दिनांक 27.11.2024 के अपराह्न 01:00 बजे तक डाउनलोड/अपलोड की जा सकती है। ई-निविदा से सम्बन्धित अन्य विवरण, नियम एवं शर्त कारपोरेशन की वेबसाइट www.upprojects.org पर दिनांक 18.11.2024 से देखी जा सकती है।

महाप्रबन्धक, जेन-2, बरेली

BANARAS LOCOMOTIVE WORKS, VARANASI - 221004

Bid No. E-62/2024-25 E-TENDERS Date: 16.11.2024

E-tenders is invited for & on behalf of the President of India for the supply of following items. Only E-offers will be accepted for which vendors must have Class III Digital Signature and registration on IREPS. The details of tenders are in the following sequence:- S.No. Tender No. (Due Date). Description and Quantity. S.N. 1. 04241668B, (16.12.2024). (1) E-Type coupler to PL No. 17451103, 150 Nos. (2) E-Type coupler to PL No. 17454505, 149 Nos., S.N. 2. 04241658A (e-RA Double Bit System), (05.12.2024). Long Life Loco Side Buffer to PL No. 11663236, 2624 Nos., S.N. 3. 10241803, (09.12.2024). Impeller to PL No. 16122008, 1779 Nos. Note: The details of above tenders are available in www.blw.indianrailways.gov.in and www.ireps.gov.in. Corrigendum Notice: S.N. 1, Bid Inv. No.: E-54, Rev. 03, Tender No.: 08241264, Existing Due Date: 14.11.2024, Revised Due Date: 28.11.2024. No.GT NOTICE/Corrigendum/IREPS/E-62/2024-25, Date: 14.11.2024, Corrigendum: S.N. 1, Bid No.: E-60, Global Tender No.: Tender No. 10231521A Ecotip Superstact Injector, Revision: 08, Details of Corrigendum: opened on 29.11.2024 instead of 14.11.2024, S.N. 2, Bid No.: E-60, Global Tender No.: Tender No. 10231224A Repair Kit for Injector Assembly, Revision: 07, Details of Corrigendum: opened on 29.11.2024, instead of 14.11.2024. Note: All other terms and conditions will remain unchanged for above Tenders.

PRO/BLWS-64 PCMM

[f @ /blwvaranasi](https://blwvaranasi) Website- blw.indianrailways.gov.in

SHRI SAIBABA SANSTHAN TRUST, SHIRDI.

At. Post. Shirdi, Tal- Rahata, Dist. A. Nagar - 423 109
Phone No. (02423) 258680, Fax No. (02423) 258870
Website - www.sai.org.in E-mail - hospital.bmw@sai.org.in

E-Tenders

E-Tenders are invited on outsource basis for Shri Saibaba Hospital, Shri Sainath Hospital and premises for the work of Mechanized Housekeeping including machinery etc. for the duration of 2024-25 (one year).

The tender details will be available on <https://mahatenders.gov.in> for downloading. For details and terms & conditions visit our website www.sai.org.in.

Tender submission Start Date : 19/11/2024 From 11:00 AM
Pre-Bid Meeting Date & Time : 25/11/2024 From 11:00 AM
Place of Pre-Bid Meeting : Meeting Hall, Near P.R.O. Office, Shirdi
Last Date for Online Submission : 05/12/2024 Up to 05:00 PM

(Goraksha Gadilkar, I.A.S.)
Chief Executive Officer,

SEARCH FOR MISSING

General public is hereby informed that a Girl namely Mansha Devi D/o Lt. Ram Ashish Sharma, R/o Jhuggi No. W-21/160, Phase-1 Mayapuri, Delhi has been missing since 09.11.24 from the area of P.S Mayapuri. In this regard FIR No. 386/24 Dated 10.11.24 has been Lodged at P.S. Mayapuri, Delhi. Sincere efforts have been made by the local police to trace the missing Girl, but no clue has come to light, so far. The description of the missing Girl is as under:

Name: Mansha Devi, Gender: Girl, Age: 15 years, Height: 4'5", Complexion: Wheatish, Face: Round, Built: Thin, Wearing: Pink Color Suit-Salwar and white & Black Color shoes in feet. If anyone has any information regarding this missing Girl, kindly inform SHO/ Mayapuri, Delhi.

E-mail : cic@cbi.gov.in SHO
Ph.: 011-24368638, 24368641 PS, Mayapuri, Delhi.
Fax : 011-24368639 DP/15125/WD/2024

Uttarakhand State Council for Science & Technology
Vigyan Dham, Jhajra, Chakrata Road, Dehradun - 248015 (Uttarakhand)

UCS&T/RSC/Al Lab/2023-24/01 Date: 16/11/2024

Tender for Supply, Installation, Commissioning and Training of Programmable Humanoid Robots and Programmable Drone Kit at Regional Science Centre, UCOST, Dehradun

Tenders are invited from competent agencies for Supply, Installation, Commissioning and Training of Programmable Humanoid Robots and Programmable Drone Kit at Regional Science Centre, UCOST, Dehradun. Agencies having proven competence, expertise, experience, infrastructure or manufacturing capability to provide such products & units may submit their offer in prescribed proforma along with company/agency profile. Specifications and conditions can be downloaded from our website: <https://ucost.uk.gov.in>. Tenders must be sent by speed post or registered post only. Last date for submission is 11/12/2024 by 11:00 hrs at the above address. The tenders received will be opened at 15:00 hrs the same day, i.e. 11/12/2024 in the presence of representatives of tenderers. The decision of the council will be final & binding on the selected agency. Director General, Uttarakhand Council for Science & Technology (UCOST), Dehradun reserves the right to cancel any or all tenders received without assigning any reason.

Officer-in-charge, Establishment

APPEAL FOR IDENTIFICATION

General public is hereby informed that one Boy (depicted in the photo) name unknown, residence and family is unknown age about 18 years was found dead body at Footpath, Rithala Metro Station, Near Metro Pillar No. 446, Sector-10, Rohini, Delhi on dated 16.11.2024 on 06:00 PM. In this regard a FIR No./DD No. 94-A, dated 16.11.2024 has been lodged at PS Prashant Vihar, Rohini Distt., Delhi. The dead body was preserved for 72 Hrs in BSA Hospital Mortuary. His physical description is as under:-

Sex: Male, Age: about 18 years, Height: 5' 2" feet, Complexion: Wheatish, Face: Oval, Built: Medium, Wearing: Green/grey colour Jersey and grey colour pant.

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: Prashant Vihar, Delhi
Ph.: 011-27557184
Tel. No.: 011-24368638/24368641 Mob. No: 8750870325
Fax No.: 011-24368639 DP/15270/RD/2024

SEARCH FOR MISSING

General public is hereby informed that a Male namely Naresh S/o Moolchand R/o VPO Kankariya Teh. Khetri, District Neem ka Thana (Rajasthan) has been missing from the area of his house. In this regard DD No. 109A Dated 11.11.2024 has been Lodged at P.S. Nangloi, Delhi. Sincere efforts have been made by the local police to trace the missing Male, but no clue has come to light, so far. The description of the missing Male is as under:

Name: Naresh, Gender: Male, Age: 27 years, Height: 5'6", Complexion: Wheatish, Built: Medium, Face: Long, Wearing: White T-Shirt & Blue Pant and White Shoes in Feet. If anyone has any information regarding this missing Male, kindly inform SHO/ Nangloi, Delhi.

E-mail : cic@cbi.gov.in SHO
Ph.: 011-24368638, 24368641 PS, Nangloi, Delhi
Fax : 011-24368639 DP/14997/OD/2024

फाइल सं: P-ESF011/1/2024-IT, E/669

राष्ट्रीय शर्करा संस्थान
आईएसओ 9001:2015 प्रमाणित संस्थान
उपभोक्ता मामले खाद्य एवं सार्वजनिक वितरण मंत्रालय
(खाद्य एवं सार्वजनिक वितरण विभाग)
(भारत सरकार)

कल्याणपुर, कानपुर
दिनांक 18.11.2024

सूचना

विषय: **Molasses Tank की निविदा प्रस्तुत करने की तिथि में विस्तार हेतु**

राष्ट्रीय शर्करा संस्थान में "Molasses Tank" के क्रय हेतु दिनांक 05.11.2024 को जारी निविदा को प्रस्तुत करने की तिथि 22.11.2024 तक विस्तारित की जा रही है। विस्तृत विवरण संस्थान की वेबसाइट www.nsi.gov.in पर उपलब्ध है। अन्य शर्त अपरिवर्तित रहेगी।

प्रशासनिक सह क्रय एवं विक्रय अधिकारी

ONGC ओएनजीसी

Expression of Interest (EOI)

Expression of Interest is invited from concerned agencies for hiring of 'Accommodation Work Barges (AWB)' on long term basis for providing accommodation and other construction support for carrying out various offshore jobs for new upcoming facilities as well as at existing facilities in Western Offshore.

- Date and Time of EOI Meeting : 29.11.2024 from 11.30 hrs. IST.
- Venue of EOI Meeting : 4th Floor, Conference Hall, ONGC, 11 High Building, Bandra-Sion Link Road, Mumbai-400017. Meeting can also be attended through online mode for which request for link may be raised.
- Submission of Expression of Interest : Interested agencies are requested to submit their response/presentation/documents through e-mail by 17.30 hrs. (IST) on 26.11.2024 through email to dzxini_nm@ongc.co.in, alternate dhakate_ks@ongc.co.in
- Last date for submission of participation in EOI is 26.11.2024.

For further details please visit ONGC e-portal : <https://tenders.ongc.co.in/>

SEARCH FOR MISSING

General public is hereby informed that a male namely Sunny Kumar S/o Ajay Singh R/o H. No.-88, Khasra No.-39/13, Rajendra Park Extension, Nangloi Delhi has been missing from the area of his house. In this regard DD No. 64A Dated 16.09.2024 has been Lodged at P.S Nangloi, Delhi. Sincere efforts have been made by the local police to trace the missing male, but no clue has come to light, so far. The description of the missing male is as under:

Name: Sunny Kumar, Gender: male, Age: 19 years, Height: 5'2", Complexion: Wheatish, Built: Medium, Face: long, Wearing: Blue Jeans & White T-Shirt and Black Color shoes in feet. If anyone has any information regarding this missing male, kindly inform SHO/ Nangloi, Delhi.

E-mail : cic@cbi.gov.in SHO
Ph.: 011-24368638, 24368641 PS, Nangloi, Delhi
Fax : 011-24368639 DP/14906/OD/2024

Inviting Online Bids

The Executive Engineer, Jal Shakti Division Larji invites online tenders on short time basis on behalf of Government of Himachal Pradesh from approved eligible contractors for the following works through e-tendering process:-

Job. No. :- 1 Name of Work :- Providing FPW Sharabai to Bajaura along river beas on both sides at various reaches in tehsil Bhunter Distt Kullu H.P. (SH- C/o Retaining wall with skin reinforcement LWSS Sharabai at Bajaura RD 0/0 to 150 and LWSS Lower piyashini RD 0/0 to 102 including designing & vetting) Job-II Estimated Cost :- 3,37,13,761/- EMD Cost of Tender :- 3,69,638/- Time of completion (months) :- Six Months Cost of form :- 2500

Job. No. :- 2 Name of Work :- Providing FPW Sharabai to Bajaura along river Beas on both sides at various reaches in tehsil Bhunter Distt Kullu H.P. (SH- C/o Retaining wall with skin-reinforcement and C/O wire crates and apron along the river Beas) Estimated Cost :- 3,09,18,632/- EMD Cost of Tender :- 3,41,696/- Time of completion (months) :- Six Months Cost of form :- 2500

Last date submission of tender :- 25-11-2024 upto 05:00 PM and opened on 26-11-2024 up to 11:30 AM.

The tender forms/NIT and other detailed conditions can be downloaded from the website www.hiphp.org or from office of the Executive Engineer upto date specified above.

Executive Engineer
Jal Shakti Division
Larji.

Adv. No. 3336/18.11.2024 HIM SUNCHINA AVAM JAN SAMPARK

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

No.KSMSCL/DRUGS/RETND/2022-23/AI/19/DRUGS/20/24-25 Dated: 14.11.2024

TENDER NOTIFICATION

Ref: 1. Tender Notification No: KSMSCL/DRUGS/RETND/NCD/GRIHA AROGYA/AMPLODIPINE TABLETS/31/2024-25 Dated: 14.11.2024 (IND-0172)

2. Tender Notification No: KSMSCL/DRUGS/RETND/NCD/GRIHA AROGYA/AMPLODIPINE TABLETS/32/2024-25 Dated: 14.11.2024 (IND-0173)

3. Tender Notification No: KSMSCL/DRUGS/RETND/NCD/GRIHA AROGYA/AMPLODIPINE TABLETS/33/2024-25 Dated: 14.11.2024 (IND-0174)

4. Tender Notification No: KSMSCL/DRUGS/RETND/NCD/GRIHA AROGYA/AMPLODIPINE TABLETS/34/2024-25 Dated: 14.11.2024 (IND-0175)

5. Tender Notification No: KSMSCL/DRUGS/RETND/2022-23 AI/19 DRUGS/20/24-25 Dated: 14.11.2024 (IND-0176)

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

- Re-tender for the Supply of Amplodipine Tablets under Griha Arogya Project 2023-24 (IND-0172).
- Re-tender for the Supply of Amplodipine Tablets under Griha Arogya Project 2023-24 (IND-0173).
- Re-tender for the Supply of Amplodipine Tablets under Griha Arogya Project 2023-24 (IND-0174).
- Re-tender for the Supply of Amplodipine Tablets under Griha Arogya Project 2023-24 (IND-0175)
- Re-tender for the supply of 19 Drugs under Annual Indent 2022-23 (IND-0176)

Details regarding EMD, Terms and Conditions and other information are available in the Tender Document, which can be downloaded from the website <https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in> from 14.11.2024. The eligible tenderers shall submit their e-tenders under e-procurement platform for above mentioned tenders. Further information if any may be obtained from this office.

Sd/- Managing Director,
KSMSCL, Bengaluru.

DIPR/CP/RO3222/AAPL/2024-25

INDIAN INSTITUTE OF ADVANCED STUDY
Rashtrapati Nivas, Shimla-171005

Advertisement No.: 006-2024-25

The Indian Institute of Advanced Study (IIAS), Shimla, an autonomous body under the Union Ministry of Education (MoE), has been running an Inter University Centre for Humanities and Social Sciences (IUHSS) under the aegis of University Grants Commission (UGC) from 1991. This Centre has a provision of hosting a faculty working in Universities/Colleges in India, as Associate for one month each for three years consecutively. The Institute invites applications for the selection of Associates. Interested faculty members may apply online by visiting the Institute website i.e. www.iias.ac.in by 31st December 2024.

Secretary, IIAS Shimla

UJVN LIMITED
H.O.: "UJWAL", Maharanji Bagh, GMS Road, Dehradun-248006,
Telephone: 0135-2763808 Fax- 0135-2763508
CIN No. U40101UR20015SGC02866, Website: www.ujvn.com

Ref. No.: 1023 e-TENDER Notice Dated: 18.11.2024

Office of the Executive Engineer (Galogi Complex), UJVN Ltd., Ganga Bhawan, Yamuna Colony, Dehradun, invites online bids from interested parties. Summary of tender is given below:

Tender No: 09/EE(GC)/2024-25: Electrical rewiring of different residential quarters of UJVN Ltd at Yamuna Colony, Dehradun.

Estimated cost: ₹ 26,62,013.00/- GST extra

Date of availability of bid document on website: 19.11.2024, 17:00 hrs. Last date for submission of tender on website: 13.12.2024 upto 17:00hrs. For fuller & further details, kindly visit e-procurement portal <http://uktenders.gov.in> Executive Engineer (GC)

"Avoid Wasteful use of Electricity"

SEARCH FOR MISSING PERSON

General public is hereby informed that this person namely Manjeet S/o Suresh Kumar R/o VPO Luksar Jhajjar, Haryana Age: 33 years, Height : 5'10", Face: Long, Built: Normal, Complexion : Fair, wearing brown colour T-shirt & black colour pant and shoes in feet has been missing from the area of P.S. Jaffarpur Kalan, Delhi. In this regard a DD No. 75A dated 15.11.2024 has been lodged at P.S. Jaffarpur Kalan, Delhi.

Any person having any information or clue about this missing person may kindly inform to the following.

E-mail: cic@cbi.gov.in SHO : P.S. Jaffarpur Kalan, New Delhi,
Website: <http://cbi.nic.in> Ph. : 9868835786
Fax: 24368639, 9599349932
Tel.: 24368638/24368641 DP/15219/DW/2024

SEARCH FOR MISSING/KIDNAPPED

General public is hereby informed that one female namely Khushi D/o Rajesh Kumar R/o C-145, Ram Pyari Camp, Chungi No.2, Lal Kuan, Prahlad Pur, New Delhi, has been missing/kidnapped from her house since: 05.11.2024. In this regard, a case FIR/DD No. 70A dt. 05.11.2024 has been registered at P.S. Pul Prahladpur, Delhi. The description of the missing female is as under.

Age: 14 years 5 months, Height: 4'5", Complexion: Shallow, Face: Round, Built: Thin, Wearing: Pink color Suit salwar and Black Color Shoes in feet. Sincere efforts have been made by the local police to trace out her but no clue has come to light so far. If anyone has any information about the missing female then please inform P.S. Pul Prahladpur, Delhi at following Tel No./ e-mail: cic@cbi.gov.in and Website: <http://cbi.nic.in>, providing clue about the person.

Ph: 011-24368638, 24368641 Sd/-S.H.O.
Fax No. 011-24368639 Pul Prahladpur, Delhi
DP/15085/SE/2024 Tel No. 8750870934

Uttarakhand Gramya Vikas Samiti (UGVS)

Rural Enterprise Acceleration Project (REAP)
216, Phase II, Panditwari, Dehradun,
Uttarakhand, Pin - 248007
Telephone: 0135 - 2773800

No. /RFP/Internal Audit/ REAP/2024 Dated: 18th November 2024

Request for Proposals for Hiring a Chartered Accountant Firm to conduct Internal Audit of UGVS-REAP Project for the Financial Year 2024-25

Detailed information regarding the above can be obtained on the websites: www.uktenders.gov.in and ugvs.in from 19.11.2024 at 3:00 PM. Pre-proposal meeting is scheduled on 25.11.2024 at 1:00 PM. Interested Bidders may seek clarification till 3:00 PM on 26.11.2024 through E-mail: procurement@ugvs.org. Any Addendum / Corrigendum including date extension will be uploaded only on the website www.uktenders.gov.in. Proposals must be submitted online only through www.uktenders.gov.in. The last date for submission of proposals is 18.12.2024 till 3:00 PM

Project Director,
UGVS-REAP

AGRA SMART CITY LIMITED
AGRA NAGAR NIGAM, AGRA

Advertisement No: 565/ASCL/2024-25 Dated: 18/11/2024

Agra Smart City Limited (ASCL) is seeking suitably qualified people to submit Expressions of Interest (EOI) for the following vacancy:

Designation	No. of Posts	Minimum Qualifications	Minimum Experience	Monthly Salary
Environmental & Social Safeguard Nodal Officer	01	Post graduate degree in Environmental Management/ Environmental Science/ Ecology & Biodiversity Management/ Environmental Engineering/ Sustainable Development or a related field from a recognized university or institute.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Minimum 5 years of professional experience with at least 3 years in the assessment and management of environmental and social impacts. Familiarity with tools and methodologies for environmental and social risk assessment in the context of project formulation, implementation and monitoring. Experience with environmental safeguarding and related aspects of the waste-to-energy/solid waste management sector is an added advantage. Understanding of World Bank E&S Standards (WB ESS) and applicable EHS Guidelines as well as National laws and regulations. Understanding of environmental & social safeguard policies and reporting systems of bilateral/multilateral development agencies such as World Bank, ADB, AFD, KfW. Ability to synthesize and analyse diverse E&S-related data and information and preparing high-quality, professional and timely reports. Self-driven with a high degree of responsiveness and proactivity. Excellent communication and interpersonal skills 	75K
Public Engagement Officer	01	Post graduate degree in mass communication/ journalism/social work/ development studies from a recognized university or institute	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Minimum 5 years of professional experience in public relations / corporate communication / Media Management / Journalism. Candidates having some experience of working with any government organization will be preferred. Experience of managing Social Media for any organization is essential. Ability to draft clearly and concisely, ideas and concepts in written and oral form; specific skills in writing press releases and articles/stories for print and electronic media; Ability to synthesize diverse information and preparing high quality, professional and timely reports; Self-driven with a high degree of responsiveness and proactivity Excellent communication and inter personal skills 	45K

HOW TO APPLY
Candidates fulfilling the above-mentioned criteria must:
1. Fill employment form along terms and conditions available on following link. <https://agrasmartcity.in/careers/>
2. Send fully filled employment form, complete CV and contact details to: growthmodeconsulting@gmail.com kalyani@growthmode.co.in mrk@growthmode.co.in agrasmartcitylimited@gmail.com

LAST DATE FOR SUBMITTING APPLICATIONS:
26th November 2024 by 5 p.m.

FOR FURTHER CLARIFICATIONS KINDLY CONTACT:
Growthmode Consulting Limited
+91 8008804997, +91 8008804991, +91 9346673068
General Manager (P)
Agra Smart City Limited
Agra

MUMBAI RAILWAY VIKAS CORPORATION LTD.
2nd Floor, Churchgate Station Building, Mumbai-400 020

Vacancy Notification No. MRVC/E/PE/1/2024
Dated 14.11.2024

Mumbai Railway Vikas Corporation Ltd. invites applications for filling up of 20 posts of **Project Engineer (Civil)** on contract basis. Last date for submission of application by mail is 13.12.2024. For further details, please visit website <https://mrvv.indianrailways.gov.in> Corrigendum, if any, will be posted on the website only.

INDIAN RAILWAYS
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA (BHARAT SARKAR)
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (RAIL MANTRALAYA)
(RAILWAY BOARD)

No. 2023/Track-III/MC/5 New Delhi, dated: 18.11.2024

CORRIGENDUM-XIII

Subject : E-Tender No. TM-2303 for procurement of Rail Borne Maintenance Vehicle "RBMV" for Indian Railways to be opened on 20.12.2024

The Corrigendum-XIII regarding replies to technical & commercial queries raised during 2nd pre bid meeting, corrigendum to commercial tender conditions & technical specifications and final tender document after 2nd pre bid meeting has been uploaded on website <http://ireps.gov.in>.

(Vijay Singh)
Executive Director/Track (M&M)
Railway Board
Tel: No. 011-47845531
E-mail: vijay.singh.2017@gov.in
3556/2024

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E-Procurement Notice INVITATION FOR BIDS (IFB)

The Executive Engineer, B&R Division, HPPWD, Solan, Distt. Solan (H.P.) on behalf of Governor of H.P. invites the percentage rate bids, in electronic tendering system, from the eligible class of contractors registered with HPPWD for the work as detailed in the table.

Sr. No. :- 1 Name of work :- Construction of Govt. Residential building of Distt. Welfare officer Solan (SH: C/o building portion including water supply and sanitary installation, C/o septic tank, soak pit, rain water harvesting tank and site development) Estimated cost (Rs.) :- 13809985/- Earnest Money :- 276300/- Time :- Twelve Months Starting Date for downloading Bid. :- 22.11.2024 at 4:00 PM Deadline for submission of Bid. :- 28.11.2024 at 11:00 AM

The bidders are advised to note other details of tenders from the department website [www.hptenders.gov.in](http://hptenders.gov.in)

Executive Engineer,
B&R Division,
HPPWD, Solan.
(On Behalf of Governor of Himachal Pradesh)
Adv. No.-3342/18/11/2024. HIM SUCHANA AVAM JAN SAMPARK

APPEAL FOR IDENTIFICATION

General public is hereby informed that this person (depicted in the photo) Name: Unknown, S/o: Unknown, R/o: Unknown, Age: 57 Years, Sex: Male, Height: 5 feet 6 inch, Built: Thin, Face: Long, Complexion: Wheatish, Wearing: Black Printed T-Shirts and Black Pant, was found dead at Tel Mandi, Near Hotel Nobel, Paharganj 16.11.2024

Under area of P.S. Paharganj, Delhi

In this regard a DD. No.21A, dated 16.11.2024, has been Lodged at P.S. Paharganj, Delhi.

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

SHO
PS. Paharganj, Delhi
DP/15287/CD/2024 Ph.: 91-11-23524746, 8750870427

BEFORE THE HON'BLE NATIONAL COMPANY LAW TRIBUNAL, AHMEDABAD BENCH C.P.(CAA)51/(AHM)2024 CONNECTED WITH C.A.(CAA)39/(AHM)2024

Havmor Ice Cream Private Limited
----- Petitioner Company 1/ Transferor Company
Lotte India Corporation Limited,
----- Petitioner Company 2/ Transferee Company
... Petitioner Company 1 and Petitioner Company 2 are collectively referred to as Petitioner Companies

NOTICE AND ADVERTISEMENT OF NOTICE OF HEARING OF COMPANY PETITION

The captioned Company Petition is filed on October 19, 2024, by the Petitioner Companies under Sections 230 to 232 and other applicable provisions of the Companies Act, 2013 read with Rules made thereunder, for the sanctioning of the Scheme of Arrangement between Havmor Ice Cream Private Limited and Lotte India Corporation Limited and their respective shareholders and creditors ("Scheme"). The said Company Scheme Petition is fixed for hearing before the Hon'ble National Company Law Tribunal, Ahmedabad Bench on January 02, 2025.

Any person desirous of supporting or opposing the captioned Company Scheme Petition should send a notice of such intentions, signed by him/ her or his/ her Advocate, with his/ her full name and address to the Advocate of the Petitioner Companies not later than 2 (two) days before the date fixed for hearing of the said Company Scheme Petition. Where he/she seeks to oppose the Company Scheme Petition, the grounds of opposition or a copy of his/her affidavit shall be furnished with such notice. A copy of the Company Scheme Petition will be furnished by the undersigned to any person requiring the same upon payment of the prescribed charges for the same.

THROUGH
Sd/-
Thakkar and Pahwa Advocate
Counsel for the Petitioner Companies
71, New York Tower-A, S.G. Highway, Thaltej,
Nr. Muktidham Derasar, Ahmedabad - 380 054
E-mail: ravi.pahwa@thakkarandpahwa.com

Place: Ahmedabad
Date: 18th November 2024

CM Biren holds talks with NDA allies, NPF reaffirms support

This Follows Withdrawal Of NPP's Support

Prabin.Kalita
@timesofindia.com

Guwahati: Embattled Manipur CM Biren Singh convened Monday a meeting with BJP MLAs and NDA allies to discuss the prevailing situation in the state amid NPP's withdrawal of support to the alliance.

In a demonstration of allegiance, BJP's other ally, Naga People's Front (NPF), proclaimed its continued support to the state government ahead of the meeting at the state secretariat in Imphal.

"We continue to be part of the coalition," NPF functionary and minister Awangbom Newmai said. NPF has five legislators in the 60-member House. Meghalaya chief minister Conrad Sangma's NPP is the second largest party with seven legislators. The BJP government has a comfortable majority alongside NPF, one JDU legislator,

TOI LINE OF NO CONTROL SANDEEP ADHWARYU



and three Independents. Last year, two MLAs of Kuki People's Alliance withdrew their support to Biren Singh government. The CM, a former footballer, has been facing flak from various quarters for his handling of the ethnic

5k more CAPF personnel sent to Manipur

New Delhi: Home minister Amit Shah Monday reviewed the situation in Manipur and took stock of deployment of security forces there, in the second round of deliberations over the past two days.

The review meeting came even as home ministry rushed another 5,000 CAPF personnel to handle the escalation in protests and ethnic violence. This is in addition to the 2,000 CAPF personnel sent to the state a few days ago.

Shah, as per sources, directed CAPF officials and the state police to take all possible steps to expeditiously restore peace and public order in the state. TNN

PM must visit Manipur before Parl's winter session: Cong

New Delhi: Congress Monday demanded that PM Narendra Modi visit Manipur before the start of Parliament's winter session on Nov 25 and criticised him for ignoring the state over the last 18 months.

The party reiterated its demand that CM Biren Singh be sacked, even as it questioned the absence of a full-time governor for nearly four months. Congress asked why the earlier governor (Anusuiya UIkey), an "eminent tribal woman", was removed midway through her term. It demanded home minister Amit Shah's resignation.

Manipur Congress president K Meghachandra, along with AICC in-charge Girish Chodankar and spokesperson Jairam Ramesh, said the violence has become intense, with even political netas' homes being attacked. Meghachandra said Modi should visit the state, but if he is unable to find time, he should give an appointment to an all-party delegation from Manipur so he can be apprised of the ground reality. He reminded that Modi on Feb 25, 2017 had told an election rally in Manipur that those who cannot maintain peace in the state have no right to be in power. TNN

Net curbs extended to 7 Manipur dists as protests intensify



Charred remains of Manipur minister Govindas Konthoujam's residence, which was set on fire by miscreants, in Bishnupur district on Monday

Continued from P1

Six bodies found, autopsies done

Sanjambam was previously attached to the Army's 21 Para (Special Forces) and led India's 2015 cross-border strike on insurgents in Myanmar. He was inducted into Manipur Police in Aug 2023 by a cabinet decision to bolster state forces amid escalating ethnic violence that claimed scores of lives over the previous two months. His brief was to oversee operations by police commandos.

As protests over the police firing in Jiribam mounted, the state govt extended the internet and mobile data blackout in seven districts of Imphal East, Imphal West, Bishnupur, Thoubal, Kakching, Kangpokpi and Churachandpur by two more days. Indefinite curfew, clamped Saturday after arson and vandalism targeting MLAs' homes across the valley districts, remained in force.

Coordinating Committee on Manipur Integrity (COCOMI), a forum of Meitei civil organisations, defied the curfew and locked the entrances to several central govt offices in Imphal West. The group, chanting slogans and demanding justice to the Meitei women and children whose bodies were found in the Barak river in Jiribam's Jiribhat last week, entered the office of the chief electoral officer at Lamphelpat and secured its entrance with chains and locks.

COCOMI members also locked the gates to the Institute of Bioresources and Sustainable Development at Takyel, the

2 engineering students found dead, drowning suspected

Mumbai: Two engineering students were found dead in a water body at Vasai between Friday and Saturday. Police are investigating a possible drowning case even as they await postmortem reports to eliminate suspicion of any foul play, reports Sandhya Nair.

Kurla's Pawan Bodke (19) had visited his classmate Tushar Bengude (21) in Nalasopara (west) on Friday, said police. Both third-year students of electrical engineering at a college in Vile Parle went for a motorcycle ride. When they did not return till evening, Bengude's father, Chandrakant, tried to contact them, but their cellphones were switched off. They got in touch with their friends but got no information of the whereabouts of the two.

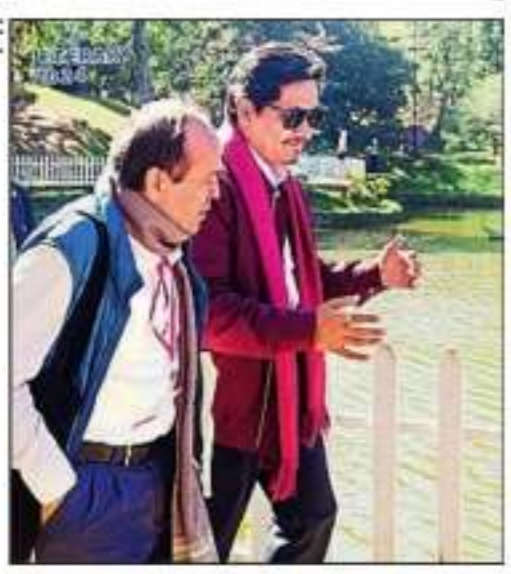
Subsequently, Bengude's family traced his 'last location' to Bhalivali village, Vasai (east). Bengude's motorcycle was spotted parked by a road. Bodke's body was recovered from the water on Friday and Bengude's the next day. Their clothes and possessions were not found.

Will review withdrawal of support to govt if Manipur CM is changed: NPP chief Sangma

Prabin.Kalita
@timesofindia.com

Guwahati: NDA ally NPP is open to reassessing its decision to quit the alliance in Manipur if there is change in the state leadership, party chief and Meghalaya CM Conrad Sangma clarified Monday, a day after withdrawing support to the N Biren Singh govt over the latter's failure to resolve the ethnic strife there.

"This (withdrawal of support) is specific to him (Biren Singh)... to the individual," Sangma said, suggesting that NPP would continue backing BJP as an NDA constituent elsewhere. "Specifically, it's the Biren Singh-led govt our party functionaries, MLAs in Manipur, and our state com-



Conrad K Sangma and author Vikram Seth during the Shillong Literary Festival on Monday

mittee have lost confidence in. Therefore, we have decided not to support his govt."

NPP pinning the blame on Biren Singh for the bloody internecine feuding since May 2023 coincided with office-bearers of BJP's Jiribam unit resigning en masse. In a joint statement to BJP national president J P Nadda, the group said they were giving up their party membership "seeing the present unwelcome/helpless situation of Jiribam as well as Manipur as a whole". Sangma said NPP would wait and watch the NDA brass's response before deciding whether it needs to revisit the question of rejoining the alliance. "Should we observe a change in leadership, witness positive progress, and recognise a strategic plan moving forward to find a resolution where we can constructively cooperate and contribute to ensuring peace and stability re-

turns, then we will gladly consider collaboration."

NPP has seven legislators in the 60-strong Manipur assembly. On paper, BJP remains unaffected by its withdrawal from NDA as the saffron party has a majority in the House with 32 MLAs, backed by five of the Naga People's Front and six from JDU.

Sangma, who wrote to Nadda Sunday explaining why his party was pulling out of NDA in the state, said NPP had long been stressing the need for "trust-building measures" by the Union and state govt to reconcile the warring sides. "That wasn't adequately accomplished. Despite maintaining optimism, we have witnessed further deterioration over the past week."

CPM: Centre must intervene to end violence

New Delhi: CPM on Monday expressed concern over the "deteriorating" situation in Manipur and demanded that the Union govt intervene to end the violence in the state.

Holding CM Biren Singh responsible, the Left party said a "grave situation has developed in Manipur with the intensification of violence due to killings and counter-killings on ethnic lines". "Right from the beginning, it was Singh who was responsible for the deteriorating situation, yet central govt and BJP, as governing party, refused to remove him and allowed him to continue," CPM said.

"(It govt) must also begin serious efforts for a political settlement that restores peace and safeguards the rights of all ethnic communities," it added. TNN

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Sh. Shantanu Thakur
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POSTGRADUATE INSTITUTE OF MEDICAL EDUCATION & RESEARCH CHANDIGARH
No. PGI-MA-2024-F10/1178 Dated: 18.11.2024

NOTICE

In continuation of Advertisement No. PGI-MA-2024-F10/772 Dated 30.07.2024 published in Tribune Chandigarh, Times of India, Punjab Kesri, Dainik Bhaskar & Employment News on 04.08.2024, applications are invited from eligible candidates for appointment of (01) Chief Legal Adviser for initial period of three (03) years at PGIMER, Chandigarh. The candidates who have already applied need not to apply again.

The prescribed proforma (Application-sum-consent for Chief Legal Adviser) and detailed information regarding eligibility criteria (essential qualification required), terms and conditions for appointment of Chief Legal Adviser etc. is available on the PGIMER website i.e. www.pgimer.edu.in. Last date of submission of application is 30th November, 2024.

DIRECTOR

उत्तर प्रदेश आर्युर्विज्ञान विश्वविद्यालय सैफई, इटावा (उप्र)
Uttar Pradesh University of Medical Sciences Saifai, Etawah - 206 130 (U.P.)
Multi-disciplinary Research Unit (MRU)
फोन नं: (05688) 276591 website: www.upums.ac.in

Advt No : 43 / UPUMS/ MRU/ 2024-25 Dated : 18 November, 2024

ADVERTISEMENT

Uttar Pradesh University of Medical Sciences, located in Saifai, Etawah, invites applications for one post of Research Scientist-I, (Scientist-B), purely on tenure basis for the project "Establishment of Multi-disciplinary Research Unit (MRU)", in the State Medical Colleges, Department of Health Research, Govt of India.

Last date for receipt of application is 10 Dec 2024. Applications should reach the Recruitment Cell, (MRU), UPUMS, Saifai, Etawah - 206130, (U.P.) till 5:00 PM on the said last dates through speed post or registered post only. For detailed information regarding qualifications, emoluments, and other general conditions, please visit the University website: www.upums.ac.in

(Registrar)

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

No. DPCC/(3)/(246)/Admn-19/ 1429 Dated: 11/11/24

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

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

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

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

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

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

Detailed information may be seen at the DPCC website www.dpcc.delhigovt.nic.in under the head "Office Order & Circulars". Applications (through proper channel) in the prescribed form available on the website may be submitted to the Administrative Officer, DPCC, 5th Floor, ISBT Building, Kashmere Gate, Delhi-110006. This is a Rolling Advertisement and will remain active as per the DPCC's requirement.

Sd/-
Member Secretary, DPCC

भारतीय वन्यजीव संस्थान
Wildlife Institute of India
(An Autonomous Institution of the Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change, Government of India)
Chandrabani, Dehra Dun - 248 001, INDIA
EPBAX: +91-135-2640114 to 2640115
E-MAIL: registrar@wii.gov.in, Web Site: www.wii.gov.in

NOTICE
Staff- Recruitment 2024
Advertisement No. WII/ADM/2024/07(1)

Applications are invited from eligible candidates for filling up the various posts (Technical Assistant (IT & RS/GIS), Technical Assistant (Engineering), Technical Assistant (Audio Visual), Technician (Field), Junior Stenographer, Assistant Grade-III, Driver (Ordinary Grade), Cook, Lab Attendant) in the Wildlife Institute of India, Dehradun. The detailed advertisement along with terms and conditions can be seen on the Institute's website www.wii.gov.in. The last date for receipt of application is 06.01.2025.

The Director, Wildlife Institute of India, Dehradun reserves the right to reject any or all applications without assigning any reason. **Registrar**
Wildlife Institute of India, Dehradun

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LODHI ROAD, NEW DELHI-110003

File No.:01-04001(02)/115/2024-HO - Personnel Division दिनांक:- 06.11.2024

SPORTS AUTHORITY OF INDIA INVITES APPLICATIONS FOR THE POST OF JUNIOR CONSULTANT (INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY) ON CONTRACT BASIS

Sports Authority of India (SAI), an autonomous organization under Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports, invites online applications from the eligible, qualified, and motivated Indian Citizens for appointment to the one post of Junior Consultant (Information Technology) on Contract Basis for maximum period of 4 years. The details of the post and other details is available on SAI website i.e. <http://sportsauthorityofindia.nic.in>. The schedule for applying online application is given below:-

(i) Date of opening of online registration - 08.11.2024 (10:00 AM)
(ii) Closing date for submission of online application - 30.11.2024 (05:00 PM)

DEPUTY DIRECTOR
RECRUITMENT CELL
SAI HEAD OFFICE
CBC 47103/12/0010/2425

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Headquarter: Gliders India Limited, G.T. Road, Kanpur (U.P.)-208013 Phone/फोन: (+91) 512-2984548
Fax/फैक्स: (+91) 512-2988487

CORRIGENDUM
No.GILHQ/CS/HR & No. GILHQ/IT Manager/HR Dt. 03.10.2024

Gliders India Limited invites application for 01 post (Advt No.01/2024) of Company Secretary (Full Time) on Contract basis & 01 post (Advt No.02/2024) of IT Manager (Full Time) on Contract basis. The last date of application is extended to 22.11.2024. For details please visit website <https://ddpdoc.gov.in> & <https://glidersindia.in>

SD/-
General Manager HR

Agnipath shadow over Army chief's visit to Nepal

New Delhi: Army chief General Uday Shankar Dwivedi will be on a four-day visit to Nepal this week to reinforce the deep-rooted bilateral military ties, which have come under a cloud after Kathmandu's refusal to allow its youth to join Indian armed forces under Agnipath scheme, even as China assiduously continues to make deep strategic inroads into the landlocked Himalayan nation, reports Rajat Pandit.

Gen Dwivedi will focus on further cranking up the long-standing close military collaboration between the two armies, ranging from combat exercises and training programmes to modernisation and capacity-building. This year alone, for instance, over 300 Nepal Army personnel have been trained in Indian military establishments, while New Delhi has also been supporting Kathmandu in its military modernisation by supplying hardware and software, including small arms, vehicles, and advanced training simulators.

The elephant in the room, however, will be the intractable differences over the recruitment of soldiers for just four years, without pension or ex-servicemen benefits, under the Agnipath scheme rolled out in June 2022.

After medical student's 'ragging' death, 15 seniors held

Ahmedabad: A day after alleged ragging disguised as an "introductory session" ended with the death of an 18-year-old student at Dharpur Medical College in Gujarat's Patan, 15 second-year MBBS students were arrested Monday on culpable homicide charges. "Preliminary findings suggest Anil Methaniya, who was exhausted, collapsed and suffered head injuries. Autopsy will reveal the cause," Patan DSP KK Pandya said. Following their arrest, the 15 students were suspended from all academic activities.

The seniors allegedly forced Methaniya and 11 other first-year students to sing lewd songs and perform vulgar dances late Saturday night, all the while subjecting them to beatings. The juniors were also allegedly compelled to drink excessive amounts of water and denied restroom access for three to four hours, a form of torture that left them physically distressed.

Meta flouting law to protect hold over online ad market: CCI

Continued from P1

Three years ago, WhatsApp, the dominant player among over-the-top (OTT) messaging platforms in the country, changed its 2016 policy on sharing data with Facebook, and removed the earlier option to opt out.

CCI said that the updated privacy policy was an abuse of dominant position by Meta, given its network effects, and lack of effective alternatives. It also said that sharing of WhatsApp user data by the social media giant — whose offerings include the hugely popular Facebook and Instagram — for purposes other than providing the messaging platform's services created an entry barrier for rivals, denying them access to the market for display advertisements.

Over the years, WhatsApp has argued that messages on its platform were encrypted and it denied access to govts even in cases of crises or law and order situations, but the CCI probe indicates that certain user information was being used to throw up ads while using Facebook.

The watchdog concluded further violations of the Competition Act as Meta was leveraging its dominant position among OTT messaging apps through smartphoned to protect its hold over the online display advertising market.

Earlier, CCI imposed penalty on Google in two cases, Rs 1,300 crore related to anti-competitive practices related to Android phones and Rs 936 crore for Play Store-related policies.

India opposes EU plan for border tax on carbon-intensive goods

'Bid To Shift Cost Of Mitigation To Poorer Nations'

Baku: With COP29 negotiations entering second week, India Monday opposed any unilateral trade barrier and pitched for "four important aspects of global climate action", saying the ambitious, action-oriented approach hinges on bold actions from countries (developed nations whose high historical emissions led to climate change) obligated to lead economy-wide emission reductions.

In a clear reference to EU's Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism (CBAM), New Delhi pointed out how some countries are shifting to "unilateral measures" resulting in shifting of financial burden of mitigation actions to developing nations. CBAM is a tool to put a price through imposing border tax on carbon intensive goods, like iron & steel, aluminium and cement, that are entering EU. Once it is implemented from 2026, it will put a tariff burden on such products of developing



EMISSION DEBATE

countries, including India and China, and impact their trade.

"There is a need to recognise the negative impacts on developing nations due to such unilateral trade measures in the context of climate change," said India's environment secretary and deputy leader of the country's delegation, Leena Nandan, while intervening during the high-level ministerial roundtable on pre-2030 ambition.

The four aspects of global climate action highlighted by India

include the need for scaling up innovative actions through "barrier and restrictions free" technology transfer; climate finance for enabling and implementing climate actions; enhancing international cooperation; and mutual trust.

India also underlined that the developing nations should not be burdened with the rich nations' failures on their pre-2020 mitigation targets, and developed countries should not put Intellectual Property Rights barriers to scal-

ing and transfer of technologies to the developing nations.

"New technologies and solutions are needed to drive the transition to a low-carbon economy. However, innovation in areas like clean energy, carbon removal, etc. is still in early stages and there are barriers to scaling and transfer to the developing nations," said the environment secretary.

Putting the responsibility of making COP29 a success on rich nations, Nandan said it is an opportunity for the developed countries to foster trust and realise important milestones in climate ambitions by 2030. "Achieving net-zero by the developed countries would set the foundation for a more sustainable and resilient world in this critical decade and the decades to come," she said.

On a critical issue of finance which is considered as the core of the ongoing negotiation process, the secretary said, "COP29 is a milestone COP for climate finance. It should ensure the long pending commitments from developed nations for providing substantial financial resources are made and that such climate finance is equitable and accessible."

K Sanjay Murthy appointed next CAG

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi: President Droupadi Murmu on Monday appointed higher education secretary K Sanjay Murthy as the next Comptroller and Auditor General. He will succeed incumbent G C Murmu, who retires on Thursday.

The appointment of the 1989-batch IAS officer, who is due to retire in little over a month, came as a surprise to many. A soft-spoken engineering graduate, Murthy is known as an officer who comes up with ideas and was in the thick of action as he was the secretary in-charge of the ministry that dealt with the National Testing Agency. The NTA made news for wrong reasons as it was found wanting in conducting crucial exams such as NEET-UG for medical college admissions and UGC-NET.

He comes with an extensive administrative experience having served as I&B secretary and as the MD of the National Industrial Corridor Development Corporation in the ministry of commerce and industry, implementing the govt's ambitious plan to build new



K Sanjay Murthy, with extensive administrative experience, served as the I&B secretary and in the commerce ministry, implementing the govt's plans to develop new industrial towns & cities.

Murthy also served as additional secretary in the ministry of housing and urban affairs, overseeing urban transport; Delhi Development Authority; and state-run NBCC. Murmu, a 1985-batch IAS officer, was appointed as CAG in Aug 2020 after serving as the J&K L.G. He was a trusted hand of PM Modi as he served in home dept of Gujarat govt when Modi was CM. After Modi became PM, Murmu moved into finance ministry.

Iconic Pather Panchali's Durga passes away at 83

Priyanka.Dasgupta@timesofindia.com

Kolkata: Uma Sen, whose poignant portrayal of Durga in Satyajit Ray's 'Pather Panchali' still moves audiences to tears, passed away in Kolkata on Monday. She was 83. The actor, who significantly contributed to Indian cinema's global recognition, never appeared in another film. Born on Sept 12, 1941, Uma used to participate in plays in her school. Ray's assistant, Ashish Burman, discovered her and informed the filmmaker, who promptly arranged a meeting with her father.

Naturally graceful and agile, Uma (then Dasgupta) lacked the rustic quality needed to portray Durga when she first appeared before Ray. Ray's wife, Bijoya, undertook the task of attiring her. In her 'Amader Katha', Bijoya noted that while dressing her up, she recognised Uma's suitability for the role. "Large beautiful eyes, nose & lips. She had intelligent looks," she wrote. Uma's remarkable resemblance to Karuna Banerjee, who was playing Durga's mother Sarbojaya, also proved significant. "This is Durga," Bijoya recalled Ray exclaiming at Uma's transformed appearance.

But Ray hadn't yet achieved legendary status and cinema wasn't considered a prestigious vocation for adolescent girls in conservative Bengali households. Uma's father gave



Uma Sen did not return to cinema after the Ray masterpiece, released in 1955

consent only after considerable persuasion. No monetary remuneration was accepted for the performance.

Director Sandip Ray told TOI his father was "very happy" with her performance. "She had amazing screen presence, personality and confidence. She hardly needed retakes. That meant the cost of film came down during financially trying times," he said. On Monday, as news of her demise spread, many reminisced about her heart-breaking death scene in 'Pather Panchali' with Apu's innocent query, "Didi humochohe (Is didi sleeping)?"

Uma never returned to cinema after 'Pather Panchali'. She studied economics at Calcutta University. "Her father was a veterinary surgeon, painter and a Mohun Bagan footballer. She was a teacher in Jadavpur Vidyapith till she retired," added her son-in-law.

Driving SUV, 'drunk' student, 17, hits auto in Pune, kills its driver

Pune: An SUV driven by an allegedly inebriated 17-year-old engineering student jumped a divider on Pune-Nashik highway Saturday night, fatally hitting an auto driver and injuring two motorcyclists, reports Mihir Tanksale.

The accident brought back memories of the May 19 Porsche crash when a minor son of a builder hit a motorcycle from the rear, killing two techies.

In the latest case, the SUV driver is 17 years and 10 months old and admitted during questioning that he was drunk at the time of crash, police said. The minor hails from Haryana and studies at an engineering college in Pune. His father is an Army staffer. Police identified the auto driver as Amod Kamble (27), a resident of Landewadi in Bhosari. He died on the spot.

The teenage driver and a 20-year-old friend, who owned the SUV, escaped with minor injuries. Cops detained the driver and invoked drunk driving and other charges against him. "During initial questioning, the minor admitted he was drunk," said a policeman.

1 dead as groom's party rams car into guests

Jaipur: A dispute over fireworks during a wedding turned deadly when a groom's baraat member allegedly ran over guests with a car, killing one and injuring several in Lalsot, Dausa, Sunday. The marriage was solemnised despite the mayhem, police said.

SHO (Lalsot) Ramniwas Meena said driver Dharmendra Kumar had been detained. The bride's relatives, in the FIR, claimed it was an accident, but the probe revealed Kumar deliberately ran over people after a dispute. Eight were injured, some critically, and taken to Jaipur for treatment. "One Golu Meena, 22, was killed," the SHO said.

The incident occurred at 9:30 pm in Ladpura village when baraat guests bursting firecrackers blocked the road. A dispute broke out when relatives of the bride, who were on their way home, asked guests to give way. Local tensions escalated, leading to the tragedy. TNN

योजना तथा वास्तुकला विद्यालय, नई दिल्ली
(संसद के अधिनियम के तहत राष्ट्रीय महत्व का संस्थान)
विद्या भवन, भारत सरकार

School of Planning and Architecture, New Delhi
(An Institution of National Importance enacted by an Act of Parliament, Ministry of Education, Government of India)

42nd CONVOCATION

The 42nd Convocation of the School of Planning and Architecture, New Delhi is scheduled to be held on **Wednesday, 04th December, 2024** in the **BHARAT MANDAPAM, New Delhi**. Students are requested to regularly visit the website **www.spa.ac.in** for instructions and updates related to the Convocation.

Sd/-
REGISTRAR

Bihar Gram Swaraj Yojna Society Panchayati Raj Department
Govt. of Bihar

4th floor, New secretariat, Vikas Bhawan, Patna - 800001 Tel: 0612-2219175
Email: spm.proc.bgsys@bihar.gov.in, Website: www.bgsys.bihar.gov.in & https://state.bihar.gov.in/biharprd/CitizenHome.html
Reference: BGSYS/Admin/HR/Accountant cum IT assistant/1092/2023/Part-2/834

Notice for Cancellation of RFP published for "Hiring of Outsourced manpower agency intended for Payroll Management of Outsourced Accountant Cum IT Assistant & Executive Assistant/DEO in all panchayats, blocks & districts across the Bihar State."

Tender Name: Online RFP through e-proc for Hiring of Outsourced manpower agency intended for Payroll Management of Outsourced Accountant Cum IT Assistant & Executive Assistant/DEO in all panchayats, blocks & districts across the Bihar State.
e-Proc Tender No. : 59442
e-tender (NIT) Ref. No : BGSYS/Admin/HR/Accountant cum IT assistant/1092/2023/Part-2/189
Published Date : 16th of March 2024, on Newspaper
Date of Issue of Tender: 15th of March 2024,

Notice for Cancellation

Due to unavoidable reason "RFP through e-proc for Hiring of Outsourced manpower agency intended for Payroll Management of Outsourced Accountant Cum IT Assistant & Executive Assistant/DEO in all panchayats, blocks & districts across the Bihar State" stands cancelled. The notice for cancellation may be seen on PRD website https://state.bihar.gov.in/biharprd/CitizenHome.html, e-Proc 0.2 portal https://www.eproc2.bihar.gov.in/BELTRON, & BGSYS website: www.bgsys.bihar.gov.in

PR. No.012697 (B&C) 2024-25 (State Project Manager- Procurement)
This information is available on website www.state.bihar.gov.in/prdbihar also

संपूर्ण सुखसा केन्द्र में आएँ, निःशुल्क एच.आई.वी. व यौन जनित रोग जाँच एवं उपचार पाएँ।

PSPCL Punjab State Power Corporation Limited
(Regd. Office : PSEB Head Office, The Mall, Patiala-147001)
Corporate Identity Number : U40109PB2010SGC033813
Website : www.pspcl.in Phone No. 01881-275289
E-mail : se-hq-ggssstp-ropr@pspccl.in

E-Tender Enq. No. 7627/P-3/EMP-12851 dated 14.11.24
Dy. Chief Engineer/Headquarter (Procurement Cell-3) GGSSTP, Roonpagar invites E-Tender ID No. 2024_POWER_129896_1 for Procurement of spares for ID Fans (Adjustable vanes and Exchangeable vanes). For detailed NIT & Tender Specification please refer to <https://eproc.punjab.gov.in> from 14.11.24/05.00 PM onwards.

Note :- Corrigendum & addendum, if any will be published online at <https://eproc.punjab.gov.in>
RTP-124/24, DPR/Pb. 76155/12/3640/2023/39106

ASSAM MEDICAL SERVICES CORPORATION LTD.

Tender No.: AMSC-EQUIOPROC/65/2024-EQUP PRO AMSC/ECF: 555426/2

NOTICE INVITING TENDER (NATIONAL COMPETITIVE BIDDING)

Assam Medical Services Corporation Ltd. (AMSC) invites e-Tender affixing court fee stamp of Rs. 8.25/- (for bidders within Assam) or IPO of Rs.10/- (for bidders outside Assam) from eligible manufacturers / authorised distributors / dealers for "Supply of ASHA Uniform". The complete e-tender documents may be obtained from the website- <http://assamtenders.gov.in> from 20.11.2024 till 30.11.2024.

Sd/- Managing Director, AMSC
Janasanyog/CF/2246/24/19-Nov-24

SEARCH FOR MISSING/KIDNAPPED

General public is hereby informed that one male namely **Rajnish Kharwar @ Rishu R/o Village Dharmoli, P.S. Thuthi Bari, Kotwali, District Maharajganj, U.P., Age: 24 years, Height: 5'7", Complexion: Shallow, ID Mark: Mole on face, wearing Cream colour T-Shirt and Blue colour Jeans, has been missing/kidnapped from 737, Hafiz Ki Tall, Gali Samosan, Ballimaran, Chandni Chowk, Delhi at 18:24 Hrs on 14.11.2024. In this regard a DD No. 52A, dated 14.11.2024 has been lodged at P.S. Lahori Gate, Delhi.**

Sincere efforts have been made by the local police to trace out the male but no clue has come to light so far. If any one having any information about him please inform undersigned.

Website : <http://cbi.nic.in>
E-mail : cic@cbi.gov.in
Fax: 011-24368639
Ph. No. : 011-24368638, 24368641

SHO
P.S. Lahori Gate, Delhi
DP/15209/N/2024 Ph.: 011-23953776, 9818167709

Odisha Police
Office of the D.G & I.G. of Police, Odisha, Cuttack
Tel.:0671-2304001, Website : www.odishapolice.gov.in,
Email: sphqrs.orpol@nic.in & aig-prov.dopol@gov.in

Online Bids through e-Tender Portal <https://tendersodisha.gov.in> are invited from the eligible bidders for Selection of an Agency for Deployment of Social Media Management & Content Generation for DGP Office, Bhubaneswar terms by Odisha Police during the current financial year 2024-25 as per the particulars mentioned below.

Sl. No.	Name of Item	RFP No. & Date	Quantity
1	Social Media Management and Content Generation	23-RFP- Social Media Management and Content Generation -2024-25	As per RFP

Sl. No.	Particulars	Date	Time
1	Date & Time of release of bid	18.11.2024	05:00PM
2	Last Date & Time of online bid submission	03.12.2024	05:00PM
3	Date & Time for online Technical bid opening	04.12.2024, 5:00 PM	
4	Date of presentation of solution of e-tender / Technical Bid evaluation	To be informed to the participated bidders	
5	Date of Price bid opening	To be informed to the qualified bidders.	
6	Venue	State Police Hdqrs., Cuttack, Buxi Bazar, Odisha	
7	Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) (Refundable)	50,000/- (Rupees Fifty Thousand) only (T) NEFT as per appendix-XIII clause-F.	

The bid document with all information relating to the bidding process including cost of bid document, Prequalification criteria and terms & conditions are available in the websites: <https://tendersodisha.gov.in>. The Authority reserves the right to accept / reject any part thereof or all the bids without assigning any reason thereof.

Sd/-
A.I.G. of Police (Provisioning),
Odisha, Cuttack.
(Tender Calling Authority)
OIPR-12029/11/003424-25

Govt. of Bihar

BIHAR STATE ROAD DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION LIMITED
(A Govt. of Bihar Undertaking)
Regd. Office:RCD Central Mechanical Workshop Campus, Near Patna Airport, Sheikhpura, Patna-800014

Tel: 0612-2226711 Fax: 0612-222672,
email-bsrdcltd@gmail.com, <http://bsrdcl.bihar.gov.in>

Letter No.-BSRDC Ltd-3865/2022 -2746

CORRIGENDUM TO NIT PUBLISHED THROUGH PR No. -10191(B&C) 2024-25 for Construction of ROB & its approaches in between (1) Mohamadpur&Kamtal Rly. Stations in lieu of LC No. 10 on SH-75 (Darbhanga-Kamtal Road) in Darbhanga District and (2) Darbhanga&Kusheshwar Rly. Stations in lieu of LC No. 25 Sp/3E on SH-56 (Darbhanga-Kusheshwar Road) in Darbhanga District.

1.	Period for downloading and uploading of Tender Document by bidder (From Website: www.eproc2.bihar.gov.in):	From 06.12.2024 to 04.01.2025 up to 15:00 hours
2.	Date, Time & Place of Pre-Bid meeting:	16.12.2024 at 15:00 hours at BSRDCL HQ
3.	Last Date & time for uploading & Submission of Tender Documents by Bidder:	04.01.2025 till 15:00 hours on www.eproc2.bihar.gov.in
4.	Last date, time and place for submission of Original Instrument of EMD:	07.01.2025 till 12:30 hours at BSRDCL HQ
5.	Date, time & Place of opening of Technical Bid:	03.01.2025 at 15:30 hours, at BSRDCL HQ through www.eproc2.bihar.gov.in

Rest all will remain the same.

PR- 12799 (B & C) 2024-25
नशे की मार, बर्बाद करे सुखी परिवार।

Chief General Manager
Bihar State Road Development Corporation Limited, Patna

Odisha Police
Office of the D.G & I.G. of Police, Odisha, Cuttack
Tel.:0671-2304001, Website : www.odishapolice.gov.in,
Email: sphqrs.orpol@nic.in & aig-prov.dopol@gov.in

Online Bids through e-Tender Portal <https://tendersodisha.gov.in> are invited from the eligible bidders for purchase of Governor Medal and DGP Disc Medal for State Police Headquarters by Odisha Police during the current financial year 2024-25 as per the particulars mentioned below.

Sl. No.	Name of Item	RFP No. & Date	Quantity
1	Governor Medal and DGP Disc	24-RFP-Governor Medal and DGP Disc- 2024-25 dttd. 18.11.2024	As per RFP

Sl. No.	Particulars	Date	Time
1	Date & Time of release of bid	18.11.2024	05:00 PM
2	Last Date & Time of online bid submission	03.12.2024	05:00 PM
3	Date & Time for online technical bid opening	04.12.2024, 5:00 PM	
4	Date of presentation of solution of e-tender / Technical Bid evaluation	To be informed to the participated bidders	
5	Date of Price bid opening	To be informed to the qualified bidders.	
6	Venue	State Police Hdqrs., Cuttack, Buxi Bazar, Odisha	
7	Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) (Refundable)	33,000/- (Rupees Thirtythree Thousand) only NEFT as per appendix-XIII clause-F.	

The bid document with all information relating to the bidding process including cost of bid document, Prequalification criteria and terms & conditions are available in the websites: <https://tendersodisha.gov.in>. The Authority reserves the right to accept / reject any part thereof or all the bids without assigning any reason thereof.

Sd/-
A.I.G. of Police (Provisioning),
Odisha, Cuttack.
(Tender Calling Authority)
OIPR-12029/11/003524-25

Govt. of Bihar

Bihar State Education Finance Corporation Limited
Annexe Building, Block-3, Main Secretariat Campus, Patna-800015
(A Govt. of Bihar Undertaking)
Notice Inviting Tender
NIT Number: BSEFCL/02/2024

Bihar State Education Finance Corporation Limited, Patna (BSEFCL) invites tender from eligible bidders in India for selection of "Financial Management and Technical Consultancy Services" to verify the payments made towards disbursement of Education Loan under Bihar Student Credit Card Scheme. Interested firms having adequate experience are required to download RFP document from website <https://eproc2.bihar.gov.in> after 18th November, 2024.

Last date of submission of tender is 18th December, 2024, 15:00 hrs

For any enquiry, please contact HELP DESK of e-Procurement system of GoB.

Mjunction Services Limited
RJ Complex, 2nd Floor, Canara Bank Campus, Khajpura, Ashiana Road, P.S. - Shastri Nagar,
Patna- 800 014
Toll Free No: 1800 572 6571
Email Id: eproc2support@bihar.gov.in
Web: <https://eproc2.bihar.gov.in>

* For any queries related to Tender please contact to Accounts Manager, BSEFCL, Patna on Mob: +91-8986596457

CEO-cum-MD of BSEFCL reserves the right to accept/reject any or all tenders without assigning any reason.

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

PR. No. 12730 (Finance) 2024-25 (CEO-cum-MD)
Bihar State Education Finance Corporation Limited

नशे की मार, बर्बाद करे सुखी परिवार।

Rishi Bharadwaj built 1st plane, flew over Chowpatty: UP gov

Mohita.Tewari@timesofindia.com

Lucknow: The first human flight was not achieved by Wright brothers, but by Vedic sage Bharadwaj who built and flew an airplane for 1km in Bombay's Chowpatty. The Pushpak Viman from Ramayana was an advanced invention that dated back 5,000 years; and Kumbhakarna was a "technocrat" who

created secret weapons.

Uttar Pradesh governor Anandiben Patel highlighted Monday her views on the underappreciated legacy of ancient Indian technological advancements during the ninth convocation ceremony of Lucknow's Khwaja Moinuddin Chishti Language University. "People came from abroad,



Uttar Pradesh Governor Anandiben Patel highlighted Monday her views on the underappreciated legacy of ancient Indian technological advancements during the ninth convocation ceremony of Lucknow's Khwaja Moinuddin Chishti Language University.

and took our technologies and ideas, studied, and invented many things. We should read and have the knowledge of our inventions," the former Gujarat CM said. However, her claim is at odds with a paper presented at 102nd Indian Science Congress in Mumbai in 2015 that claimed Shivkar Bapuji Talpade flew a

fly machine in 1895 over Bombay's Chowpatty. This was eight years before American siblings Orville and Wilbur Wright flew their airplane on Dec 17, 1903, at Kitty Hawk in North Carolina. The 83-year-old governor also shared her interpretation of Ravan's brother Kumbhakarna, labelling him a technocrat rather than the slothful figure portrayed in popular culture.

Farmers target fresh Delhi march on Dec 6

Bathinda: After waiting for over nine months for their demands to be met, farmers' forums Sanyukt Kisan Morcha (Non-Political) and Kisan Mazdoor Morcha will make their third push from Punjab towards Delhi on Dec 6. At the heart of their protest is the demand for a legal guarantee of a MSP for all crops, calculated using the 'comprehensive cost (C2) + 50% profit' formula. Haryana Police had twice thwarted efforts of farmers' to reach Delhi this year. A Feb 21 protest turned tragic when young farmer died on Punjab-Haryana border, in clashes between farmers and security men. Several others were injured. This time, farmers plan to ditch tractor trailers and instead march on foot. They have put in a request to authorities for permission to protest at New Delhi's Ramliya Maidan. TNN

Global South key to G20 success: Modi

Continued from P1

And just as we amplified the voice of the Global South by granting permanent membership of G20 to the African Union during the New Delhi Summit, we will reform institutions of global governance," said Modi, while stressing that G20 discussions can only be successful if challenges and priorities of the Global South are kept in mind. The G20 sessions on the first day of the summit were focused on fighting hunger and poverty and also on reforms of global institutions of governance. Modi said that the people-centric decisions taken at G20 Summit in New Delhi had been taken forward during Brazil's presidency and it was a matter of great satisfaction that G20 had prioritised SDG goals.

"We focused on inclusive development, women-led development, and youth power. And gave wings to the hopes and aspirations of Global South. It is clear that 'One Earth One Family One Future' is as relevant at this summit as it was last year," added the PM. Listing India's achievements in tackling poverty, Modi said in the past 10 years, India had lifted 250 million people out of poverty and over 800 million people are being given foodgrains free of cost. He said India is also contributing to global food security and has provided humanitarian assistance to Malawi, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

"Over 550 million are benefiting from world's biggest health insurance scheme. 60 million senior citizens, over 70, will also be able to benefit from free health insurance," he said. "Maintaining our focus on women-led development and social inclusion, over 300 million women micro entrepreneurs have been linked to banks and given access to credit," Modi added.

On the first day of the summit, Modi exchanged pleasantries with US President Joe Biden and Australian PM Anthony Albanese even though he didn't have a formal bilateral meeting with them. He is expected to meet President Emmanuel Macron of France Tuesday. TNN



PM with members of the Indian community in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, on Monday

Modi to hold meetings with heads of UK, Italy, Portugal & Indonesia

PM Narendra Modi was scheduled to have bilateral meetings on Monday with heads of UK, Norway, Italy, Indonesia and Portugal in Rio on the sidelines of the ongoing G20 summit, sources said. This will be his first bilateral meeting with UK PM Keir Starmer and Indonesian President Prabowo Subianto. Modi will also meet his Italian counterpart Giorgia Meloni.

Modi and Starmer are likely to reaffirm their commitment to working towards early conclusion of a mutually beneficial India-UK Free Trade Agreement in their meeting, while discussing ways to further strengthen the comprehensive strategic partnership. The meeting with Subianto is also significant as he is likely to be the chief guest at Republic Day parade next year.

On the first day of the summit, Modi exchanged pleasantries with US President Joe Biden and Australian PM Anthony Albanese even though he didn't have a formal bilateral meeting with them. He is expected to meet President Emmanuel Macron of France Tuesday. TNN

GOVERNMENT OF HARYANA TENDER NOTICE

Sl. No.	NAME OF BOARD/CORP./AUTH	NAME OF WORK NOTICE TENDER	OPENING DATE CLOSING DATE (TIME)	AMOUNT / END (APPROX.) IN RUPEES	WEBSITE OF THE BOARD CORP./AUTH	NODAL OFFICER/CONTACT DETAILS/EMAIL
1	HARYANA TOURISM CORPORATION LIMITED	RELEASE OF INDICATIVE ADVERTISEMENT FOR HIRING OF AGENCY FOR ORGANIZING THE COMPETITIONS FOR 38TH SURAJKIND INTERNATIONAL CRAFTS MELA-2025 AT SURAJKIND.	19.11.2024 26.11.2024	END 1 LACS	haryanaturism.gov.in	9417441127 haryanaturism@gmail.com

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION KINDLY VISIT : www.etenders.hry.nic.in RO 30556

BSES Rajdhani Power Limited, New Delhi

TENDER NOTICE Date: 19.11.2024.

Sealed tenders under two Bid System (Unpriced & Priced) is invited for following job from all bidders.

NIT No.	Brief Tender Description	Estimated Cost (₹)	Cost of EMD (₹)	Due Date & Time of Submission	Date & Time of Opening
NIT NO: CMC/BR/24-25/FK/PR/KB/1228	PROCUREMENT OF DESKTOPS AND LAPTOPS IN BRPL	3.95 Crore.	7.90 Lakhs	10.12.2024 15:00 HRS	10.12.2024 15:30 HRS

Cost of each Tender Document: ₹ 1180/- (Including GST)

For details in respect of Equipment/BOM/Services, Qualifying requirements, Terms & conditions, purchase/submission of tender documents etc. please visit our website www.bsesdelhi.com

Head (Contracts & Materials)

Regd. Off.: BSES Rajdhani Power Limited, BSES Bhawan, Nehru Place, New Delhi-110019 | Corporate Identification No.: U40109DL2001PLC111527
Telephone No.: +91 11 4910 7235 | Website: www.bsesdelhi.com

DELHI CANTONMENT BOARD TENDER NOTICE

Delhi Cantonment Board invites tenders from the Govt. approved contractors in appropriate category through e-tendering, for the following works as detailed below;

Date of release of tender through e-procurement : 20.11.2024 at 1700 hrs
Last date & time for downloading of tender documents : 11.12.2024 upto 1300 hrs
Last date and time submission of e-tenders : 11.12.2024 upto 1300 hrs
Date and time for opening of e-tenders : 12.12.2024 at 1330 hrs

Details of work

Sl. No.	Name of work	Amount of Contract	Earnest Money Deposit Amount
1.	Improvement to drainage system of the Cantt. to avoid over flooding of area near NH-8 Parade Road junction and on Parade road, Delhi Cantt.	Rs.2,00,00,000/-	Rs.2,75,000/-

The bidder may download the "Tender Document" and other terms and conditions as applicable including detailed NIT, terms & conditions, particular specifications, special conditions, signing of Integrity Pact, adherence to GFR 2017 provisions, applicability of Public Procurement (Preference to Make in India), Order 2017 etc as provided in the technical bid from web site of <http://defproc.gov.in> & www.delhi.cantt.gov.in.

Please note that any amendment, clarification, errata to tender documents shall be uploaded on website <http://defproc.gov.in> & Cantt Board website www.delhi.cantt.gov.in. All intending bidders are required to visit aforementioned websites to check for amendments, clarifications, errata etc prior to quoting their rates & no compensation whatsoever shall be admissible to the bidders for failure to register the same.

Telephone No.25695450
No. DCB/S/C-1/TN/2024-25/10
OFFICE OF THE CANTONMENT BOARD
Website : www.delhi.cantt.gov.in

Sd/-
Chief Executive Officer
Delhi Cantonment

KARNATAKA POWER TRANSMISSION CORPORATION LIMITED

CIN: U40109KA1999SGC025521

No. CEE/T&P/SEE-1/2/2024-25/5569-601 Date:16.11.2024

BRIEF TENDER NOTIFICATION
(THROUGH KARNATAKA PUBLIC PROCUREMENT PORTAL ONLY)

Karnataka Power Transmission Corporation Limited invites Bids on electronic mode for the following Works against following Enquiry Numbers on **Partial Turnkey** basis.

Sl. No.	Enquiry No. / Name of the Work
1.	KPTCL/2024-25/SS/WORK_INDENT1466 Establishing 2X20 MVA, 110/11kV Sub-station at Yagapur (Belagera) village and construction of 110kV LILo line using Lynx conductor from existing 110kV SC Nalwar-Yadgir (North) SC line to proposed 110/11 kV sub-station at Yagapur (Belagera) village for a distance of 15.68 km in Chittapura Taluk, Kalaburagi District.
2.	KPTCL/2024-25/SS/WORK_INDENT1468 Establishing 2x12.5 MVA, 66/11kV Sub-Station at Seeguru Gate (Manchadevanahalli) and Construction of Proposed 66kV LILo line on 110kV DC towers from Existing 66kV Beltadapura-Chunchanakatte-Kushalnagara DC line to the proposed 66/11kV substation at Seegurugate for a distance of 7.963 km in Periyapatna Taluk, Mysuru District.
3.	KPTCL/2024-25/SS/WORK_INDENT1470 Establishing 2x31.5 MVA, 66/11 kV GIS substation at Nagarur Village along with running of 66kV/1000 sqmm Double LILo UG cable from Existing 66kV Nelamangala-Widia SC line (Proposed for DC Drake Conversion) to proposed 66/11kV GIS substation at Nagarur village in Bangalore North Taluk, Bengaluru Urban District
4.	KPTCL/2024-25/SS/WORK_INDENT1474 Establishing 2x20MVA, 110/11kV Sub-Station at Ghonasagi in Tikota Taluk, Vijayapura District and construction of 110kV LILo line using Lynx conductor from proposed 110kV Kanamadi-Takkalaki SC line for a distance of 3.425km in Vijayapura District.
5.	KPTCL/2024-25/SS/WORK_INDENT1475 Establishing 2x20MVA, 110/11kV sub-station at Salapura and construction of 110 kV LILo Line using Lynx conductor from 110kV Salahalli-Lokapur SC line to the proposed 110 kV sub-station at Salapura for a distance of 4.9km in Ramadurga Taluk, Belagavi District.
6.	KPTCL/2024-25/SS/WORK_INDENT1476 Establishing 2X20MVA, 110/11kV Sub-Station at Tavaragera (Keroor) Village along with construction of 110kV LILo line using Lynx conductor from existing 110kV Kapnoor-Humnabad-I line to proposed 110/11kV Sub-Station at Tavaragera (Keroor) Village for a distance of 5.754km in Kalaburagi Taluk, Kalaburagi District
7.	KPTCL/2024-25/SS/WORK_INDENT1477 Establishing 2x12.5 MVA, 66/11kV Sub-station at G.Kodihalli and Construction of 66kV LILo line using Coyote conductor from existing 66kV Moragera-Tambrahalli SC line to proposed 66/11kV G.Kodihalli Sub-station for a distance of 2.91km in Hagari Bommanahalli Taluk, Vijayanagara District.
8.	KPTCL/2024-25/SS/WORK_INDENT1478 Establishing 2x12.5 MVA, 66/11kV Sub-Station at Thambihalli and Construction of 66kV LILo line from existing 66kV Kolar-Nangli SC line to the proposed 66/11 kV Thambihalli substation for a distance of 1.711 km in Kolar Taluk and District.
9.	KPTCL/2024-25/SS/WORK_INDENT1479 Establishing 2x12.5MVA, 66/11kV Sub-Station at Janagere and construction of 66kV DC line on 110kV DC towers with Panther Conductor from existing 66/11kV Jiddigere Sub-Station for a distance of about 7.562km in Tumakuru District along with construction of 1 No. of 66kV Terminal Bay at 66/11kV Jiddigere Sub-Station in Kunigal Taluk, Tumakuru District.
10.	KPTCL/2024-25/SS/WORK_INDENT1480 Establishing 2X12.5 MVA, 66/11kV Sub-Station at Mulluru along with Construction of 66kV LILo line from existing 66kV Beguru - Saraguru line to the proposed 66/11kV Mulluru Sub-station for a distance of 4.056 km in Saraguru Taluk, Mysuru District.

The bids will be received through electronic tendering mode only. The details regarding participation in the e-tendering process can be obtained by logging on to KPTCL website <https://kptcl.karnataka.gov.in> with hyperlink "E Procurement KPTCL" or <https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in> on or after 22.11.2024 @ 15:00hrs. Last date & time for receipt of Bids is 26.12.2024 @ 15:00hrs. Any extension of Due date for Bid submission will be intimated in the Karnataka Public Procurement portal. Any details required in this regard can also be had from the Office of the undersigned during Office hours.

All Corrigendum/Addendums shall be notified by the bidders before the last date of submission of the Bids.

Sd/- Chief Engineer, Electy., Tendering & Procurement,
KPTCL, Kaveri Bhavan, III Floor, Bengaluru - 560 009

GOVERNMENT OF ODISHA DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES OFFICE OF THE ADDITIONAL CHIEF ENGINEER CENTRAL IRRIGATION CIRCLE, BHUBANESWAR 'e' Procurement Notice No. ACECIC - 06/2024-25

Procurement Officer	Bid Identification No.	Name of Work	Cost of Work (Rs. in Lakhs)	Bid Security (Rs.) E.M.D.	Cost of Bid documents (Rs.)	Class of Contractor	Bid documents available online for bidding	Date of opening of Technical Bid	Period of completion of work
ACECIC, Bhubaneswar	PID-03/2024-25	Cement Concrete Lining of Buehangda Distributary from RD 7.500 Km to 15.00 Km.	815.76	815800/- (On Line)	10000/- (On Line)	'A' & 'Special' Class	From 21.11.2024 At 10.00 Hours To 05.12.2024 At 17.00 Hours	06.12.2024 At 11.00 Hours	12 (Twelve Calendar Month)
	KID-01/2024-25	Improvement of Left Main Canal from RD 0.0 Km to 6.650 Km & Barada Sub-Minor from 0.0 Km to 3.370 Km of Rajas (Dwarka War Project)	177.50	177600/- (On Line)	10000/- (On Line)	'B' & 'A' Class	From 21.11.2024 At 10.00 Hours To 05.12.2024 At 17.00 Hours	06.12.2024 At 11.00 Hours	11 (Eleven Calendar Month)

e-mail ID:- secic_dowr@yahoo.com
Further details conditions can be seen from Govt. website www.tenderorissa.gov.in

Sd/-
Additional Chief Engineer
Central Irrigation Circle
OIPR-32160/11/0006/24-25

BANGALORE WATER SUPPLY AND SEWERAGE BOARD INVITATION FOR TENDERS (Through KPP Portal Only)

BWSSB invites tenders in two stage tender system from eligible contractors for the following works.

Sl. No.	Name of the Works	Amount put to Tender
Office of The Chief Engineer (Design & QA), 9th Floor, Cauvery Bhavan, K.G. Road, Bangalore-560009		
IFT No.: BWSSB/CE(D&QA)/ACE(D)/TA/2347/2024-25 Dated:14.11.2024		
1	Construction of 12 Nos. of quarters (Still+GF+FF+SF) in front of Vidyanarayana Service Station, Bangalore.	Rs. 3,87,36,028/- Rs. 5,81,100/-
2	Providing cement concrete road at CJF premises, Malleswaram, Bangalore.	Rs. 1,25,82,617/- Rs. 2,00,000/-
3	Construction of Sub division office at Kethamaranahalli, Bengaluru.	Rs. 1,50,77,512/- Rs. 2,26,500/-
4	Construction of division office at Nandini layout, Bengaluru.	Rs. 1,50,77,512/- Rs. 2,26,500/-
5	Construction of NW-2 Division Office Building at HMT Layout, Bengaluru.	Rs. 1,77,06,170/- Rs. 2,65,600/-
6	Construction of Compound wall and Pre cast Compound wall and footpath to Anjanapura GLR AEES-1-3 Sub Division.	Rs. 1,12,45,844/- Rs. 2,00,000/-
For all the above works, Last date for receipt of tenders : 06.12.2024 upto 16:00 Hrs. The Technical bis will be opened on: 07.12.2024 at 16.00 Hrs.		
Sd/- Chief Engineer(Design & QA)		
Office of The Chief Engineer (East), 6th Floor, Cauvery Bhavan, K.G. Road, Bangalore-560009		
IFT No.: BWSSB/EIC(CE)/ACE(E)/DCE(M)/TA(E)/7666/2024-25 Dated:16.11.2024		
7	Providing and laying 300mm dia RCC line in place of 225mm dia SW silted up and damaged line with construction of new machine holes at MG road (RHS side) from Anil Kumble circle to Trinity circle for proposed White Topping work coming under CLR Service Station of AEE SE-1 Sub Division (3rd Call).	Rs. 134.05 lakhs Rs. 2,02,000/-
For all the above works, Last date for receipt of tenders : 26.11.2024 upto 16:00 Hrs. The Technical bis will be opened on: 27.11.2024 after 16.00 Hrs.		
Sd/- Chief Engineer(East)		
Office of The Chief Engineer (Project), 3rd Floor, Cauvery Bhavan, K.G. Road, Bangalore-560009		
IFT No.: BWSSB/CE(P)/ACE(Cst-DCW)/1592/2024-25 Dated:15.11.2024		
8	Shifting of existing UGD Utilities to facilitate the construction of Bangalore Suburban rail project in Corridor-4 at Yelahanka and Jakkur area BSRP and at Kenchenahalli under KRIDE.	Rs. 3,55,67,000/- Rs. 5.34 Lakhs
IFT No.: BWSSB/CE(P)/ACE(Cst-DCW)/1593/2024-25 Dated:15.11.2024		
9	Shifting of existing water supply line parallel to existing railway line near Hennur under pass to facilitate to lay proposed BSRP railway track under Corridor-4 project between Heelelgi to Rajanakunte under KRIDE.	Rs. 2,90,65,000/- Rs. 4.37 Lakhs
IFT No.: BWSSB/CE(P)/ACE(Cst-DCW)/1594/2024-25 Dated:15.11.2024		
10	Shifting of existing UGD Utilities to facilitate the construction of Bangalore Suburban rail project in corridor-4 at Kagadaspura BSRP Horamavu and near Horamavu under pass, Mahadevapura under KRIDE.	Rs. 3,09,29,000/- Rs. 4.64 Lakhs
IFT No.: BWSSB/CE(P)/ACE(Cst-DCW)/1595/2024-25 Dated:15.11.2024		
11	Shifting of existing water supply line parallel to existing railway line near Jakkur and Yelahanka to facilitate to lay proposed BSRP railway track near Ramamurthy nagar bridge, Horamavu LC under Corridor-4 project between to Rajanakunte under KRIDE.	Rs. 3,99,13,000/- Rs. 5.99 Lakhs
For all the above works, Last date for receipt of tenders : 26.11.2024 upto 13:00 Hrs. The Technical bis will be opened on: 27.11.2024 after 14.00 Hrs.		
Sd/- Chief Engineer(Project)		
The details regarding the tender and participation in the e-procurement process can be obtained by logging on to https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in For further details contact the above signed office during working hours.		
DIPR/CP/JA/3260/2024-25		

GOVERNMENT OF ODISHA OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER, P.H. DIVISION, BALASORE

Phone: 9438660004, e-mail: eepphbs@gmail.com

NATIONAL COMPETITIVE BIDDING THROUGH e-Procurement (Online Mode)
Invitation for Bids (IFB) dt.14.11.2024

The Superintending Engineer, P.H. Division, Balasore on behalf of Governor of Odisha, invites Item Rate bids in Double cover system in ONLINE mode only.

Sl. No.	Name of the Work	Bid-Identification No.	Value of Work (Rs. in Lakhs)	Class of Contractor	Period of Completion	Availability of bid documents for online bidding	Last date and time of seeking clarification	Date & Time of opening of technical bid
1	Supply of ISI Marked DI (K/7) Pipes for different Pipe Water Supply Projects under AMRUT 2.0 in Balasore Municipality.	SEPHBS-13 dt.14.11.2024	526.24	Manufacturer	90 (Ninety) Days	From 21.11.2024 At 11:00 Hrs. To 02.12.2024 At 17:00 Hrs.	02.12.2024 At 11:00 Hrs.	02.12.2024 At 11:00 Hrs.
2	Supply of ISI Marked DI (K/8) Pipes for the work laying main DI KG to all zonal reservoirs of Balasore Municipality from MBR	SEPHBS-14 dt.14.11.2024	596.77	Manufacturer	90 (Ninety) Days	From 21.11.2024 At 11:00 Hrs. To 02.12.2024 At 17:00 Hrs.	02.12.2024 At 11:00 Hrs.	02.12.2024 At 11:00 Hrs.

The bidders shall have to participate in ONLINE bidding only. Further details can be seen from the website: <http://tendersodisha.gov.in>. Any addendum/corrigendum/cancellation of tender can also be seen in the said website. The authority reserves the right to reject any or all bids without assigning any reason therefor.

Name and Address of the officer inviting bid :- The Superintending Engineer, P.H. Division, Balasore-756056, Odisha, Phone: 9438660004

Sd/-
Superintending Engineer,
P.H. Division, Balasore,
OIPR-1365/11/0001/24-25

GOVERNMENT OF ODISHA OFFICE OF THE CHIEF CONSTRUCTION ENGINEER, ANANDAPUR BARRAGE PROJECT, SALAPADA
(E-mail id: ceabp@gmail.com)

E-procurement Notice No. CCEABP-05 of 2024-25

E-Procurement Officer	Name of the work	Bid Id No	Tender cost in Lakhs (Appx)	Bid security (Online)	Cost of Bid Document (Online)	Class of contractor	Period of completion	Availability of tender on line for bidding		Date of opening of technical Bid (Cover-1)
								From	To	
Chief Construction Engineer A.G Project Salapada	Protection to eroded slope of left bank at the US of Anandapur Barrage near Village Sadang and bank protection near Padmapur and restoration of disturbed protected banks on both sides.	ABP-ABP-0105 of 2024-25	4568.00	45,68,000/-	10,000/-	Spl & Super Class	12 calendar months	21.11.24 11.30 AM	11.12.24 5.00 PM	12.12.24 11.30 AM

Further details can be seen from the Govt. website www.tendersorissa.gov.in or www.dowrodisha.gov.in. Addendum/ corrigendum/ cancellation if any required will be published in Govt. website only.

Sd/-
Chief Construction Engineer,
Anandapur Barrage Project,
Salapada,
OIPR-32068/11/0006/24-25

Not releasing caste survey data in 2011 was UPA mistake: Rahul

'Committed To Breaking 50% Quota Ceiling Based On Data'

ASRP Mukesh
@timesofindia.com

Ranchi: Congress member Rahul Gandhi admitted on Monday that it was a mistake that a caste census policy, the brainchild of the UPA government, was not implemented in 2011 and no data of the caste elements collected during the national socio-economic survey was released to the public. Gandhi, however, stressed that a fresh caste census is a prerequisite to decide the future paradigm of the nation and its progress while brushing aside BJP charges against him and Congress that they divide people on caste lines for "vote-bank politics".



He also blamed BJP for the violence in Manipur and criticised PM Narendra Modi and Union home minister Amit Shah for not talking about the northeastern state and failing to rein in the violence.

Responding to a TOI query during a press conference here, Gandhi said, "A fresh caste census is vital for the right preparation of plans and policies besides making equitable distribution of the country's resources among the deserving."



Rahul Gandhi at a press conference in Mumbai on Monday

'Ek hain toh safe hain coined for Modi-Adani'

Targeting PM Narendra Modi's slogan 'Ek Hain Toh Safe Hain,' leader of opposition in the Lok Sabha Rahul Gandhi displayed a safe at a press conference on Monday along with a picture of Modi with industrialist Gautam Adani and said the slogan has been exclusively coined for the Modi-Adani duo, reports Prafulla Marpakwar. "Both Modi and Adani are 'ek hain.' With the tacit support of the Prime Minister, the Mahayuti govt has transferred Dharavi land worth Rs one lakh crore to the industrialist, and the entire govt worked overtime to ensure that the land transfer is hassle-free and smooth. In my opinion, the assembly election in Maharashtra is between a billionaire and poor people," Rahul said.

On BJP's charge that Congress has no blueprint for such a census, he said, "We have a blueprint ready on ways to conduct the caste census and implement its findings. Today, data is everything... call it a goldmine. Through the caste census, our idea is to conduct an X-ray of all those inhabiting the country to work towards their better inclusion in all streams and not just restrict the country's resources to a few capitalists, which is happening currently under the NDA regime." Gandhi said, "I personally believe that the UPA govt should have implemented its brainchild — a caste census. It was indeed a mistake on our part then."

Reject netas who took bribes to switch sides: Kharage to voters

Mumbai: Congress president Mallikarjun Kharage on Monday urged voters in state to defeat leaders who he alleged had accepted substantial bribes to change allegiance, referring to them as "50 kholke".

The term "50 kholke" (cash boxes) was used after CM Eknath Shinde defected from the undivided Shiv Sena to form a government with BJP in 2022. Speaking at a rally for candidates of the Maha Vikas Aghadi (MVA) in Vasai near Mumbai, Kharage, without taking names of MLAs who supported Shinde, claimed each person was offered Rs 50 crore to switch allegiance and urged voters to send a clear message in the Nov 20 elections.

Polling will take place on Nov 20 in 288 assembly constituencies in Maharashtra, and votes will be counted on Nov 23. He criticised the BJP-led Mahayuti for indulging in divisive politics through its slogans "batenge toh katenge" (divided, we shall perish) and "ek hain toh safe hai" (we are safe if we are one).

Seizures in J'khand, Maharashtra, bypoll seats breach ₹1,000cr mark

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi: The value of poll-related seizures in Maharashtra and Jharkhand as well in the ongoing bypolls have breached the Rs 1,000-crore mark this time.

The Election Commission on Monday shared that the combined seizures in Maharashtra and Jharkhand — at Rs 858 crore — were valued at almost seven times the seizures made during the 2019 assembly polls.

With the campaign having concluded on Monday, chief election commissioner Rajiv Kumar directed all enforcement agencies working under EC's supervision to be extra vigilant over the next couple of days.

Of the total Rs 1,082-crore seizures made between the announcement of polls on Oct 16 and Nov 18, Rs 354.8 crore were in freebies, Rs 302 crore in precious metals, Rs 182 crore in cash, Rs 123.6 crore in drugs, and Rs 119.9 crore in liquor.

While Maharashtra recorded seizures worth over Rs 660 crore this time as compared to Rs 103.6 crore in the latest round of polls, the figure for Jharkhand was Rs 198 crore, up from Rs 18.8 crore in

EC gives BJP, Congress time till Nov 25 to reply to complaints against each other

Election Commission has granted BJP and Congress an additional week to submit their respective comments on complaints filed against one another relating to statements made by their leaders allegedly in violation of the poll code and other laws. The extension of the original Nov 18, 1 pm, deadline comes as per requests received by the poll panel from both the parties, possibly in view of their preoccupation with assembly polls in Jharkhand and Maharashtra as well as bypolls. While the campaigning for current round of polls ended on Monday, polling is set to be held on Wednesday, followed by counting of Saturday.

This means that by the time the parties' replies land at EC's door, the assembly polls and bypolls would already be over, leaving no scope for any election curbs. It remains to be seen if EC will deem the violations serious enough to warrant an FIR.

2019. With a worth of Rs 282.5 crore, metals accounted for the highest value of seizures in Maharashtra, followed by illegal cash at Rs 153.5 crore. In Jharkhand, the biggest poll inducements in terms of value were freebies (Rs 152 crore), making up almost 80% of the state's total seizures worth Rs 198 crore.

In the bypolls too, freebies accounted for the highest seizures at Rs 121.6 crore. During review meetings with enforcement agencies and central observers, EC had consistently listed curbing the role of money power in the elections as a priority.

In Maharashtra, seizures were recorded in all cohorts across all districts. A few noteworthy operations included seizure of Rs 3.7 crore in cash from a suspicious car in Palghar district, 4,500 kg of marijuana worth Rs 4.5 crore from Buldhana district and silver bars worth Rs 5.2 crore in Raigad.

Jharkhand also witnessed record seizures and the focus this time was on curbing illicit mining activities. In an incident, Rs 2.3 crore worth of illegal mining material was seized in Sahibganj. In Daltonganj, 687 kg of poppy straw was seized, while in Hazaribagh 48.2 kg of marijuana was seized.

'People have made up their mind for Mahayuti'

Union commerce & industry minister Piyush Goyal, MP from Mumbai and a key BJP functionary, is confident of the Mahayuti winning the Maharashtra polls. People will vote for a coalition that has delivered, he tells TOI's Sidhartha. Excerpts:

How do you see the prospects in the election? Given the churn isn't the voter confused between MVA and Mahayuti and their candidates?

The writing on the wall is very clear, voters have made up their mind for continuity, whether it is in Marathwada, western Maharashtra, Mumbai. The mood is for a govt that delivers. They recognise that they want to have a govt that works closely in alignment with the central govt. They have experienced two and a half years of a non-performing govt under Mr Uddhav Thackeray... the CM didn't even go to office. They have seen the way PM Modi, in the first term Fdnavis govt, and then the Shinde-Fdnavis-Ajit Dada govt delivered on infrastructure, slum rehabilitation, and on providing a better quality of life.

TOI INTERVIEW

There is a feeling among voters that a local party which was in power was ousted. That was the problem of Congress and not of BJP or Mahayuti. Mahayuti is united very strongly, we had no issues with seat transfer, save a few minor issues. But MVA (Maha Vikas Aghadi) seems to be a pretty discontent grouping, with no ideological moorings. Mr Uddhav Thackeray who once stood for Hindutva has completely given up the ideology of Balasaheb



Piyush Goyal with Amit Shah

Thackeray and gone and sat in the lap of Sharad Pawar and Congress. Here, we see the pitiable state in which Uddhav Thackeray is in, having to even accept in writing conditionalities of support demanded by the Ulemas. The shameful demands have been accepted even by Sharad Pawar and Congress, which has hurt the people of Maharashtra, and they have made up their mind to teach a lesson to MVA.

Given the stand taken by Ajit Pawar on some of the issues, including the "batenge to kitenge" slogan, doesn't that make him sound like not such a reliable partner?

Not at all, the understanding among coalition partners is very strong. His line is no different from the line of all the partners. We may have differences on one or two candidates.

So the statements including the one on the meeting between Sharad Pawar and Amit Shah in 2019...

I don't think so. The PM is on record to say

Gandhis fixated on 'tjori', looted India's treasury for years: BJP

New Delhi: BJP on Monday criticised Congress MP Rahul Gandhi, accusing him and his family of being fixated on the concept of a "tjori," which they equated with a safe, in contrast to how the PM uses "safe" in his slogan "Ek Hain Toh Safe Hain."

"The press conference conducted by Congress leader and Lok Sabha leader of opposition Rahul Gandhi was unbecoming. It's not fitting for Rahul Gandhi and Congress to use a 'tjori' as a prop for drama... 'Chota popat' ne kiya hai Congress chopat... Late Balasaheb Thackeray had once referred to Rahul Gandhi as 'Popat' in an interview," said BJP spokesperson Sambit Patra.

Patra further said, "Those who have been plundering the treasury for years now equate 'tjori' with safety... The Gandhi family has looted India's treasury through numerous scams... The mother (accused no.1) and son (accused no.2) are currently out on bail."

BJP also slammed Congress president Mallikarjun Kharage over his "poisonous snakes should be killed" barb, saying it shows the party's Emergency mindset which likens rivals to snakes and incites violence against them.

Patra asserted that Gandhi and the Congress will get a befitting reply from people on November 23.

Hindu seers oppose Ulema appeal, endorse 'ek hai...' call

Akhilesh.Singh
@timesofindia.com

New Delhi: The National Ulema Council and All India Muslim Personal Law Board member Sajjad Nomani, in their bids to sway the political tide, recently urged the Muslim community to rally behind the Maha Vikas Aghadi (MVA), promising unity and representation.

Their appeals, however, did not go unchallenged. Several Hindu seers on Monday came out in its opposition, seeing this as a call to division rather than unity.

Mahamandaleswar Swami Hansraj Udasin of Sanatan Mandir reminded his followers of the "ek hain to safe hain" slogan championed by PM Modi.

He stressed the importance of Hindu unity, suggesting that standing together was not just about political allegiance but about safeguarding their cultural identity. "When we stand as one, we are safe," he declared and urged Hindu voters to remain united and vote for the BJP, which, he suggested, was pertinent to safeguard the Sanatan Tradition.

The political landscape became more charged recently when Islamic scholar Sajjad Nomani introduced the concept of "vote Jihad," threatening a boycott of those who did not vote for the MVA.

This statement stirred the pot further, prompting Mahant Durgadas, a spokesperson for the Bharatiya Akhada Parishad, to voice his disapproval. "Such divisive tactics are an affront to the principles of democracy," he condemned, emphasizing the need for elections to be free and fair without coercion or fear.

The Hindu seers' remarks are in line with several BJP leaders' remarks against the call given by the Muslim clerics. Maharashtra deputy CM Devendra Fadnis recently dubbed it a "vote jihad" which has been amplified by many of his party colleagues.

Anil Deshmukh injured as car is stoned; 'stunt', says BJP

Soumitra.Bose
@timesofindia.com

Nagpur: Former Maharashtra home minister Anil Deshmukh suffered serious head wounds Monday after his vehicle was attacked with stones and boulders on Katol-Jalalkheda road while returning from a campaign in Narkhed for his son Salil Deshmukh, who is contesting the assembly elections on an NCP (Sharad Pawar) ticket. Deshmukh was rushed to



Deshmukh was returning from the last lap of campaign for his son Salil in Maharashtra's Narkhed when the attack took place

a local hospital in Katol, considered his bastion, before being shifted to a private facility in Nagpur for further treatment.

Eyewitnesses reported that attackers threw stones at the vehicle while shouting political slogans. A boulder was found on the bonnet and another stone recovered from under the driver's seat, next to where Deshmukh was seated. The windscreen was shattered.

Sources said Deshmukh's security team was trailing

him in a separate vehicle and was unable to respond immediately. The attack has sparked tensions in Katol, with the video of a bleeding Deshmukh going viral. Supporters of the former minister gathered at Katol police station, demanding immediate arrest of the attackers.

NCP (Sharad Pawar) MP Supriya Sule condemned the attack on social media. She wrote: "In the past, Maharashtra has never witnessed such attacks during election times, as we value democratic principles. However, in BJP's tenure, law and order in the state, particularly in Nagpur district, has deteriorated, and

goons are roaming freely..." State Congress chief Nana Patole indirectly blamed BJP for the attack. "BJP is getting apprehensive of losing the elections and is resorting to such tactics. However, MVA (Maha Vikas Aghadi) candidates won't get bogged down by such threats," Patole said.

BJP dismissed the attack as a staged political stunt. "It was a fake attack perpetrated by his supporters to win sympathy as they knew they were starting at a defeat. We condemn such activity to defame BJP workers, who were engaged in booth management," Katol assembly in-charge Avinash Thakre said.

Campaign ends in Maha, J'khand; Results set to shape NDA, INDIA bloc narratives

Akhilesh.Singh@timesofindia.com

New Delhi: Campaigning came to a halt on Monday for high-stakes assembly polls in Maharashtra and the second phase in Jharkhand on Nov 20, the two states being more than just electoral battles for BJP and Congress, leaders of their respective alliances, with results poised to shape their political narrative and future trajectory. The match-up follows BJP's stunning come-from-behind victory in Haryana and has increased the stake for Congress and its allies to win the two battles in order to regain the momentum they seemed to have after paring down BJP's Lok Sabha tally.

BJP obviously wants to build on the advantage it grabbed in Haryana.

In Maharashtra, BJP, through its Mahayuti alliance with Shiv Sena (Shinde faction) and NCP (Ajit Pawar faction), is aiming to hold on

to the state. The state had witnessed significant political realignments, with splits within its major political entities, creating a complex chessboard for parties to manoeuvre.

BJP has highlighted its governance through development projects and economic policies. The 'Ladki Bahin' scheme was a centrepiece, promising financial assistance to women, aiming to capture the support of this significant voter demographic.

In Jharkhand, BJP's approach was tailored to the state's unique socio-political fabric. The 'Gogo Didi' initiative was launched to appeal directly to tribal women, promising monthly financial aid. This was part of a broader strategy to safeguard tribal identity and counter allegations of neglect from previous BJP-led govt. The party made corruption the focal point of its campaign, targeting the incumbent govt, particularly CM Hemant Soren.

Take down objectionable clip, EC tells J'khand BJP

New Delhi: Taking serious note of complaints from JMM and Congress against a "misleading and malicious" video posted by the Jharkhand BJP on its social media platforms, the Election Commission has asked the state's poll chief to immediately direct the Jharkhand BJP to take down the post.

EC also directed the Jharkhand chief electoral officer to seek an explanation from BJP on the alleged violation of the Model Code of Conduct because of the post, EC sources said.

Ahead of Nov 20 second phase of Jharkhand assembly polls, JMM and Congress in their complaint to EC Sunday had objected to the video, terming it "misleading & divisive".

The CEO has been directed to take action under IT Act's section 79(3)(b) to get "objectionable" post removed. In the video, people from a particular community are seen entering a JMM supporter's house with the intention of residing there. There was banner put up at the house that read "JMM Party" & a poster with a photo of a person who resembled Hemant Soren, and captioned "poore Jharkhand ka kaya palat kar-denge".

S. E. RAILWAY - TENDER

e-Tender Notice No. 0102-RNC-DCE-C-SER-02-2024. For & on behalf of President of India, Chief Engineer (CON)/Garden Reach invites e-tender for the following work: Following tender has been uploaded on website www.ireps.gov.in. The tender will be closed at 12:00 hrs. on due date. **Brief Description of Works:** Supply & Plantation in Railway Land along the Track within Railway Boundary, wherever Adequate Land Width is available in connection with Hatia-Bondamunda doubling project under jurisdiction of Dy Chief Engineer (Con), Ranchi, S.E. Railway. **Approx. Cost:** ₹ 2.28 Crore, **Bid Security:** ₹ 2,64,000/-, **Completion Period:** 6 months, **Maintenance Period:** 36 months. **Closing Date:** 29.11.2024. Interested tenderers may visit website www.ireps.gov.in for full details/description/specification of the tenders and submit their bids online. In no case manual tenders for these items will be accepted. **NB:** "Prospective Bidders may regularly visit www.ireps.gov.in to participate in all other tenders." (PR-800)

S. E. RAILWAY - TENDER

e-Tender Notice No. 4538-GRC-CE-C-HQ-65-2024. For & on behalf of President of India, Chief Engineer (CON)/HQ/GRC invites e-tender for the following work: Following tender has been uploaded on website www.ireps.gov.in. The tender will be closed at 12:00 hrs. on due date. **Brief Description of Works:** Request for Proposal (RFP) for Appointment of Project Supervision Services Agency (PSSA) for Providing Project Supervision Services at Various Construction Sites/Sections in the jurisdiction of Deputy Chief Engineer Construction Garden Reach under Construction Organisation, South Eastern Railway. **Approx. Cost:** ₹ 8.64 Crore, **Bid Security:** ₹ 5,82,200/-. **Estimated period for completion of services:** 24 months of Construction Period over various projects and 6 months of Defects Liability Period. **Closing Date:** By 12:00 hrs. (IST) on 31.12.2024. **Pre Bid Meeting:** 29.11.2024, Time: 12:00 hrs. Venue: Office of the Chief Administrative Officer (Con), 11, Garden Reach Road, Kolkata-700043. Interested tenderers may visit website www.ireps.gov.in for full details/description/specification of the tenders and submit their bids online. In no case manual tenders for these items will be accepted. **NB:** "Prospective Bidders may regularly visit www.ireps.gov.in to participate in all other tenders." (PR-795)

Govt. of Bihar
Panta Municipal Corporation, Patna
CORRIGENDUM -01
03/E/PCD/2024-25

Road Restoration/Construction of Damaged Road in Different Ward Under Patna City Anchal (package-1)

The following changes are made in the above mentioned NIT No. 03/E/PCD/2024-25 dated on 26.10.2024 that P.R. No-011272 (B&C) 2024-25 Bidders are requested to take note of the changes made given hereunder:-

Particulars	Previous Date	Revised Date
Period for download of Tender Document	12-11-2024 (10.00 AM) to 28-11-2024 (03.00PM)	19-11-2024 (10.00 AM) to 02-12-2024 (03.00PM)
Date, Time & Place of Pre Bid meeting	13-11-2024	20-11-2024
Last Date of uploading tender documents by bidder	28-11-2024 (03.00 PM)	02-12-2024 (03.00 PM)
Date, time and place for submission of Original Instrument of EMD (In the case of BG)	29-11-2024 (03-00PM)	03-12-2024 (03.00 PM)
Opening of Technical Bid - Patna City Division	29-11-2024 (04.00PM)	04-12-2024 (04.00PM)

Other terms and conditions will remain unchanged. This information is available on www.state.bihar.gov.in/prdbihar

Executive Engineer,
Urban Development Division, Patna City
Patna Municipal Corporation, Patna
PR. No.012569 (B&C) 2024-25
नशामुक्त हो जाए बिहार, सुरक्षित रहे घर परिवार।

Govt. of Bihar
Cabinet Secretariat Department
(Directorate of Flying Training) TEL. No:- 0612-2225659, 2224423
Patna Airport, Patna - 800014. Fax 0612 2224614
e-mail-cadbihar@bihar.gov.in

Govt. of Bihar
Letter No. 0103/20 (शं) 01-11/2011 Part-1

Tender Notice

Sealed tenders are invited from Manufacturer, their authorized dealers', DGCA approved Companies/ Firms/ Public Enterprises for Purchase on Standard Exchange Basis of three Brand new engines (not overhauled nor rebuilt) Lycoming 10-360-12A fitted in Cessna-172 R.

- The tender must reach the Director, Directorate of Flying Training, Patna Airport, Patna on or before 10.12.2024 at 05:00PM.
- Bidders shall submit their offer in two separate sealed envelopes labeled as Technical Bid and Financial Bid. These two bids shall be kept in another big envelope which should be sealed and subscribed, 'Tender for Purchase of Cessna-172 R aircraft engines'.
- Technical Bid should contain specification of engines, authorization certificate from manufacturer company/DGCA, Certificate that the Company has not been black listed by Government Organization/ DGCA. Income Tax Return of previous three years. A Bank Draft of Rs 50,000/- (Rs. Fifty thousand) as security money payable to Bihar Flying Inst. C.A.D, Cabinet Secretariat Department, Patna.
- Financial Bid should contain the door delivery (at Patna BFI Hangar) charges of per engine inclusive of all taxes and transportation charges of the Core exchange item from Patna to manufacturer company. Financial bid will be opened only of those tenderer whose technical bid will be found in order.
- Security money of Unsuccessful bidders will be refunded immediately after final selection.
- The Technical bid and Financial bid of the tender will be opened on 11.12.2024 at 03:00 PM, before the committee headed by Principal Secretary, Cabinet Secretariat Department, Bihar, Patna at his official chamber or by an officer/committee so authorized by him before bidders/authorized representatives.
- The successful bidder will have to sign an agreement as per financial rule and will have to deposit Performance Guarantee @ 5% of the total amount of the order in the shape of Bank Guarantee from Scheduled Commercial Bank or A/c payee Demand Draft prior to issuance of purchase order.
- The Additional Chief Secretary, Cabinet Secretariat Department, Bihar reserves the right to reject/cancel any/all tenders without assigning any reason thereof.
- The tender notice can also be seen on the Department's website <http://state.bihar.gov.in/csd>.

For further details please visit : www.state.bihar.gov.in/prdbihar

Director
PR- 012689 (Cabinet) 2024-25
Directorate of Flying Training
नरो से बचने का है एक ही उपाय, दृढ़ संकल्प और परिवार से प्यार।



A thought for today

Effective leadership in the digital age is pointing to the growing use of emojis in the virtual workplace as an alternative to physical cues

- TOMOKO YOKOI & JENNIFER JORDAN (HBR)

Lung Term Problem

Over time, govts' failure to improve Delhi's air quality is bound to impact its economic primacy

About three weeks ago, Delhi govt told NGT it was implementing its 21-point winter action plan involving about 30 govt depts to mitigate air pollution. It would be laughable were the situation not so serious. Yesterday, Delhi's AQI shot to over 490 on a scale of 500 at 26 of Delhi's 37 monitoring stations – even though personal diesel vehicles were off the road, ordinary residents' construction works were halted, and schools were in from-home mode. Discomfort even inside houses – air filters gave up – and rising hospital admissions of respiratory distress cases nailed Delhi-NCR authorities' false promises. Or, perhaps, no solution's working. Given NCR's suffering year after year going into decades, what's clear is world's fifth largest economy's capital is slow-motion self-destructing. All thanks to petty politics, fragmented authority and even an identity crisis as national capital region. 'NCR', is an urban broth with many cooks.



Pollution is an NCR problem – three state govts, one UT govt, and the Centre via LG cannot work together to get a handle on the issue. Year after year, we get granular data on air toxins, fights and claims and counterclaims on causes and so-called solutions. When govts choose to be blind to ordinary citizens' misery, they should know that as Delhi rapidly becomes unliveable, the infra push for more industry, investment, more airports, more 'prosperity' can quickly turn unviable.

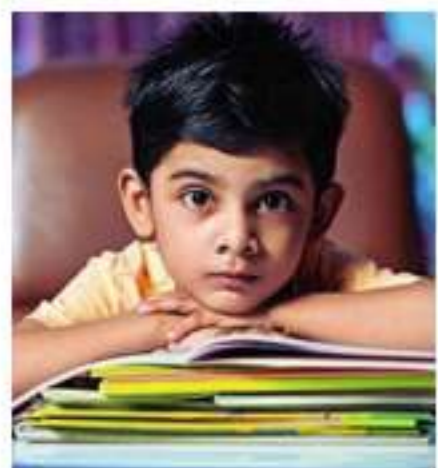
Delhi-NCR is India's most prosperous. Its per capita is 2.5 times higher than the rest of India. A WRI-India report cites its credit deposit ratio (0.86), higher than rest of India's (0.76) in 2019-20 to talk of Delhi-NCR's economic primacy. Per capita credit advanced in Delhi-NCR increased from ₹0.4mn (2001-02) to ₹2.5mn (2011-12) to ₹3.4mn (2019-20). But, prosperity brings with it a demand for quality of life. Moderate and better air days were barely 200 in 2023.

Pollution-related sickness impacts every industry and workforce – of all collars, white to blue and everything in-between. Professionals may soon see Delhi as punishment posting – because here, being better off on average than the rest of the country comes at the cost of chronic illnesses. COPD and other respiratory illnesses are soaring, particularly impacting children. Already, per World Bank, air pollution is costing India's tourism sector \$1.7bn every year. Govts should know clean air is an integral cost of doing business. Normalising Delhi's air pollution as a seasonal issue can lead to flight of professionals, and capital.



The headline, explained: We are amused, perplexed, little scared at Kochi schools' idea of grading with emojis

Emojis originated in a 1980s foreshadowing that in the computer age, conveying human emotions would somehow become harder than it had been for millennia. Internet, smartphone and AI later, they may be the fastest growing language. Young Indians are second to none in 'speaking' it. Adults with any interest in effective communication with junior gens keep up, no matter how many tuition classes it takes. For the subcategory of teachers, it's become a basic job requirement. In Kochi, they have gone further. CBSE schools are junking grades, and assessing tests in emojis or stars. So far this experiment is exclusively for kindergarten to Class II. But senior students are hopeful it will reach them too, as surely as emoticons evolved into Face with Tears of Joy. Stranger things have already happened. Like *Emoji Dick*, a line by line translation of the Melville classic – *Moby Dick*, for those who think books are passé. One critic called the project astoundingly useless.



So, emoji grades...thumbs up or thumbs down are obvious responses. A range of others is possible – red heart, mending heart, skull, eyes. The thing is some people use folded hands to say high five, others to say namaste, still others sorry. So, emoji grading is spooking some parents.

Some parents want students to leave schools with traditional writing skills, instead of just SMS language. Others would love to see their kids hunch over JEE and NEET in the future. Well, MTFBY (adults, that means 'may the force be with you'). Meanwhile, more info is awaited on how exactly the emoji is being calibrated A+ down to F. After teachers, students and parents will also have to be schooled in the gradations of smileyness and frowniness. In times to come, will this need standardising school by school, state by state, worldwide? Applying for a bachelor's in Australia? Write an essay, in emojis.

Above all else

Here's the X factor Americans look for in Potus

Jairam N Menon



Perhaps the White House has high shelves or hard-to-reach corners. How else can one explain its obsession with the height of those who come to camp there? Both the outgoing president and his predecessor were six-footers. The president-elect is a self-proclaimed 6'3". But given his track record of telling tall stories nobody took him at his word, and they sought independent confirmation. As luck would have it, he has emerged unscathed from the inquiries, as indeed he has from other, more ominous investigations.

What do the American people look for in a Potus prospect? I grant that they do not wish to have a leader who is palpably past the 'best before' date. But an occasional brain fade and the mix-up of his deputy's names with that of his arch rival's can happen irrespective of your height.

One of history's most celebrated leaders, Napoleon attained undesired notoriety as 'le petit corporal'. Apparently, he was 'as petit as his critics made him out to be, but the image stuck. It gave rise to the 'Napoleon syndrome' – the theory that short people tend to get more aggressive since they feel compelled to compensate for their lack of physical elevation. And the question on everyone's mind is why the president-to-be is so unabashedly aggressive. Unless...there is some other shortcoming he is not telling us about.

Those who believe that 'height is might' do not understand power politics. It's not as if a diminutive stature comes in the way of a commanding presence. Putin is 5'7" – the same as our Modi. Mao – the man who in his time commanded a thousand flowers to bloom – was under six feet. All of them, in their different ways, have made short shrift of much taller opponents.

There is only one consolation to be derived from all this. America's voters and all those around the world who were surprised that Kamala Harris was bested at the elections, will be happy to know the real reason for her defeat. She did not lose because she joined the race too late or because she laughed incessantly and inexplicably. Actually, she missed being president by inches.

Looking to the future, Trump's 6'9" son Barron dwarfs everyone in sight. At some point in time, that could be yet another reason to make America gloat again.

Don Rose As Capitalism Broke

For most Americans, US economy looks like a state-funded spoils system for the rich. Their anger powered the Trump wave. Similar anger is at work in other developed Western democracies

Ruchir Sharma



Columnist based in New York

Having turned the vote his way in just about every corner of the 50 states in America, Donald Trump's victory in the race for the White House appears to reflect a sweeping turn to the populist right, across all demographics. But US is just another country where the protest vote – not necessarily on the right or left – has become the new majority.

Widespread talk of a "global" anti-incumbency wave misses one important distinction. This year, in the 50 most populous democracies, incumbents have won 14% of the elections in developed countries, compared with 73% in developing countries. Surveys show the same stark gap.

In large developed countries leaders have an average approval rating of barely over 30%, way below the norm; in large developing countries they have an average rating of 54%, just above the norm. The wave is not global, it is a revolt against long-term rot in post-capitalist economies, of which America is the leading example.

For the first time since the late 1800s, the party in power has lost three US presidential elections in a row (including Trump's defeat in 2020). With anti-incumbent hostility so high, it's too early for triumphal conclusions about the strength of his mandate, or the durability of his majority.

The natural election advantages once enjoyed by incumbents are gone. A century of expanding govt has twisted capitalism into a system of state support for everyone, but it has lavished far greater benefits on the rich and powerful than on the average American, so their revolt should be no surprise.

Protest votes used to be cast for outsiders just to send an angry message to the establishment; now they have become large enough to hand real power to outsiders.

In Europe, the rise of "insurgent parties" has seen significant gains for the populist right in Germany, France, Italy, and Netherlands. But the left holds power in UK and Spain, has made gains in Germany and Denmark, and delivered setbacks to the incumbent far-right in Hungary and Poland. UK's moderate Labour administration senses the mood and speaks of reigning as an "insurgent government".

The key word is insurgent, not ideology. Trump follows a long line of anti-establishment and anti-global American populists that dates back to President William McKinley in the 1890s and runs through the

radio priest Charles "Father" Coughlin in the 1930s, senator Joe McCarthy in the 1950s, and presidential candidates of more recent decades such as Barry Goldwater, Ross Perot and Sarah Palin.

But Trump is the first to reach the White House since McKinley, suggesting populist frustration is at its highest level since the 19th century.

Many explanations for Trump's win cite recent campaign events – his courage in the face of a would-be

assassin, Kamala Harris's failure to present herself as a credible agent of "change", and the price of eggs.

The eggs are indeed significant. For those of us who have covered Indian elections for decades it has long been clear that for incumbents, rapid growth may or may not lead to victory, but high inflation almost always leads to defeat.

Yet it's likely the Democrats would have lost even if inflation had not surged under Joe Biden, and he had been replaced earlier by a fresher candidate. What's fuelling the protest vote is an erosion of faith in the economic future. Nine in 10 Americans born in the 1940s grew up to earn more than their parents; today fewer than one in four say they expect to achieve the same progress.

Since the 1960s, median home prices have risen much faster than the median wage, making homes less affordable than at any time in living memory. Trust in many institutions is at or near all-time lows, with trust in the presidency in the low-20s and in big business in the mid-tens.

Antipathy to big govt and big business and the nexus between them have helped spur the rise of what might be called a third force in US politics. While they were a distinct minority as recently as the late 1990s, voters who say they are "independent" now represent a strong 37% plurality, consistently outnumbering Democrats and Republicans, according to Gallup.

Still, there is no question that Trump-style populism taps a yearning for some ill-defined past, before globalisation unleashed a flow of jobs to China and illegal immigrants into US, and before the unprecedented expansion of govt under Biden. Now Trump needs to address the passions he has unleashed.

Despite his radical attacks on the "deep state", Trump's plans threaten to deliver more of the same in one key respect. Built on crowd-pleasing tax cuts, his fiscal strategy promises more govt money coursing through the system and into financial markets, mainly to the benefit, again, of big corporations and billionaires.

For all the parsing of specific new "Trump trades", US asset prices are surging in basically the same way they did under Biden. For the Republicans to break the pattern of anti-incumbency in the next round of elections, Trump needs to be a true disrupter and shift the balance of power away from the big corporations and the established rich.

The mandate should be interpreted as just what it is – a firm protest vote.



Manipur's Who's Who Must Forget Who Votes For Whom

Sharp uptick in violence is a grim reminder to GOI & other players that any solution will have to rise above ethnicity-based power politics

Keshav Pradhan



Predicting the past is always easy. It becomes easier when one doesn't want to move ahead in time and space. This is exactly what India's decision-makers and politicians seem to be doing in Manipur. They appear to raise too much dust about who did what and what should have been done in the past, instead of helping Manipur return to peace.

With the return of violence last week centred around Jiribam district, Manipur is now both a subject of power struggle at home and of election campaigns in distant Maharashtra and Jharkhand.

What has caused uncertainty over the fate of NDA govt in Manipur is the withdrawal of support by National People's Party (NPP) and the alleged growing resentment within BJP against CM Biren Singh.

With seven legislators in the 60-member assembly, NPP is upset over Singh's failure to end the violence that began in the spring of 2023. There are religious and ethnic dynamics at play. NPP is led by Conrad Sangma, CM of Christian-majority Meghalaya. Mizoram, a predominantly Christian state, is also concerned about the situation in Manipur because of ethnic ties between Mizos and Kukis.

NPP's pullout coincided with people violently turning against elected representatives. Houses of BJP, Congress and Independent legislators were attacked or burned by protesters. Singh's ancestral house too wasn't spared.

All eyes are on how the 10 Kuki MLAs will respond to the fast-changing political situation in the state, tucked between India and Myanmar. Centre has also blamed 'migrants' from Buddhist Myanmar, which itself is caught in civil strife since 2021, for the unrest in Manipur.

Naga People's Front, another NDA constituent, has until now been more or less restrained in its views on the conflict. Manipur's Nagas, who profess Christianity, also have a long history of violent clashes with Kukis in the state.

Congress, which managed to wrest the Imphal parliamentary seat in the last election, is firm on its demand of Singh's removal as CM. Congress is, however, against the imposition of central rule in the state. In 2017, Singh managed to form a ruling alliance on behalf of NDA by breaking other parties. One big question that Congress often throws at NDA is why Modi hasn't visited Manipur even once since the outbreak of violence there last year.

Handling Manipur is tough for BJP not only because of the ever-worsening situation but also because of the state's ethnic and religious composition. Forty of the 60 assembly seats are dominated by the majority Meitei community, who are mainly Vedic adherents and inhabit the Imphal Valley area. Of the remaining 20 seats, 10 each belong to the hill tribes, both of whom are Christian. This is one reason why BJP leadership is believed to have gone soft on Singh, who hails from the majority community.

What Manipur is now desperately looking for is lasting peace and tranquillity, not a bitter race for power. It's a state torn apart, both physically and

psychologically. This can be possible only if an environment for dialogue between the two communities in conflict is created. Tough administrative actions can bring peace, but for a short while. For Manipur has numerous underground outfits belonging to almost all ethnic groups that can easily foil peace attempts at the drop of a hat.

Another factor that may keep peace at bay for a longer time is the use or misuse of religion in the Manipur conflict. Attacks on places of worship have become quite common in the state. Politicians belonging to both governing and opposition parties have had a hand in adding a religious colour to what was a conflict that first began over the dispute over land rights and Scheduled Tribe status.

How things will develop in the next few weeks depends on the nature of collaboration between Centre and governing and opposition parties in Manipur. Soon after the withdrawal of support by NPP and attacks on elected representatives, Union home minister Amit Shah cut short his Maharashtra poll campaign and held a meeting in New Delhi to finalise his govt's strategy in Manipur.

As a first step, Centre ordered an NIA probe into the three cases of violence and deaths that sparked the latest conflagration. It's to be seen how NDA deals with the future of Singh's govt. At the moment, Manipur has only losers, no winners.



Calvin & Hobbes



Sacredspace

Enlightened leadership is spiritual if we understand spirituality not as some kind of religious dogma or ideology but as the domain of awareness where we experience values like truth, goodness, beauty, love and compassion, and also intuition, creativity, insight and focused attention.

Deepak Chopra

The Art Of Redundant Leadership

Jug Suraiya

According to the libertarian saying, That govt governs best which governs least. By the same token, is that leader best who leads the least?

Most conventional ideas of leadership – be it in the context of a nation, or a company, or an extended family – are based on a top-down concept. A strong leader lays down the law, which all subordinates are enjoined to obey without question.

This model of leadership paves the way for authoritarianism, the antithesis of democratic equality. The alternatives to strong, top-down leaders are leaders who see that their primary job is to make themselves redundant as quickly and efficiently as possible.

Several descriptive terms have been given to what might be called the art of redundant leadership. One of

the earliest examples of this, in the context of Western philosophical tradition, is that of the fourth century BCE Greek thinker, Socrates, and his dialectical method based on question-and-answer, whereby pupils would arrive at the solution to a problem through their own reasoning, with only minimal guidance from the teacher.

The Socratic method – which is sometimes subsumed under the term heuristics derived from the Greek term 'heuristic', to find – is often referred to as the 'Slave Boy Demonstration'.

Asked to prove his statement that "All knowledge is recollection", which he based on a belief in reincarnation, Socrates sent for a young slave.

Having ascertained that the boy had no knowledge of mathematics, Socrates drew a square on the ground

and asked the boy how its area could be doubled. The boy said it could be doubled by doubling the lengths of the four sides.

Socrates pointed out that this would quadruple the square. The boy attempted several solutions until, learning not from the answers Socrates gave him, but by the questions he asked, the boy arrived at the correct conclusion: to make a diagonal of the square the base for a new square.

Socrates sought to show that the ability to arrive at the right answer, is innate; all that is needed is a mentor who asks more questions than hands out answers till a solution is reached, making the role of the mentor redundant.

"Do not come to me to show you the path. You must find your own path, your own way," Jiddu Krishnamurti would repeatedly exhort the acolytes

who would flock to him.

Zen masters chart a similar journey of self-discovery which makes the tutor irrelevant.

Zen uses the Koan to help the seeker achieve Satori or Kensho. Ken means Seeing and Sho means Essence. Kensho, or Satori, is the experience of enlightenment derived from seeing within.

The Koan is a paradox which defeats rational thought to achieve a salience of non-sense, that which is beyond the snare of self-perception.

There are said to be some 1,700 Koans in all, developed by masters with the aim of making the role of masters superfluous.

The most famous Koan is "What is the sound of one hand clapping?" The question has no right or wrong answer. No master or pupil, no Socrates or slave, no leader or the led. Just the silent resonance of singularity.



THE SPEAKING TREE

Gold will rally to a record next year on central-bank buying and US interest rate cuts, according to Goldman Sachs, which listed it among top commodity trades for 2025 and said prices could extend gains during Donald Trump's presidency. It has set a target of \$3,000 an ounce by Dec 2025

Source: Bloomberg, Refinitiv



Gold has staged a powerful rally this year, hitting successive records, before pulling back in the immediate aftermath of Trump's White House win, which boosted the dollar

Emerging Market Focus fund settles with Sebi for ₹64L

Mumbai: Emerging India Focus Funds, a foreign portfolio investor, settled with Sebi for Rs 64.4 lakh following an investigation into alleged regulatory violations. The violations pertained to FPI eligibility, requiring a diversified portfolio, restrictions on certain sector investments, and maintaining confidentiality of client data. The fund applied for a settlement without admitting or denying charges. Sebi clarified that the settlement does not prevent future actions if the fund fails to provide full disclosures. TNN



Apollo arm buys UK group's radiology wing

New Delhi: Apollo Radiology International, a unit of Apollo Hospitals, said it has acquired radiology reporting wing of UK's InHealth Group. The acquisition solidifies the company's commitment to addressing the critical shortage of radiologists worldwide. AGENCIES

Nifty falls for 7th day on selling in IT, oil

Mumbai: The sensex declined by 241 points while Nifty fell for the seventh session in a row on Monday following a sell-off in IT and oil shares amid unabated FPI outflows and weak leads from US markets. The sensex registered fourth day of decline. AGENCIES

Adani lines up \$35bn solar investment

Mumbai: Adani Group will invest about \$35 billion over the next five years to set up large-scale solar, wind and hybrid plants across different parts of the country, Adani Green Energy executive director Sagar Adani said on Monday. AGENCIES

Spirit Airline files for bankruptcy in US

Spirit Airlines has filed for bankruptcy protection after a long run of quarterly losses, failed merger attempts and looming debt maturities. It expects to continue operating business as normal through the proceedings. REUTERS

figure it out

Over 3X is the expected increase in proportion of loans disbursed through digital channels in personal and consumer segment from 12% in 2022 to 37% in 2030

Indian pharma cos may benefit under Trump 2.0

Rupali Mukherjee @timesofindia.com

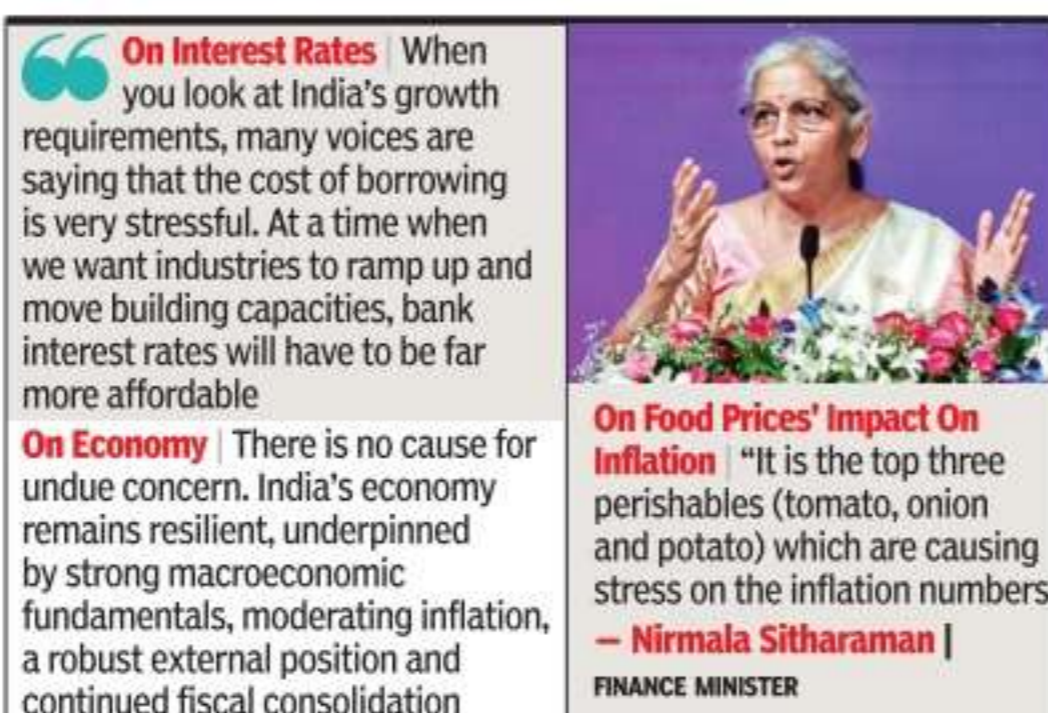
New Delhi: The Trump 2.0 agenda, with its likely focus on China plus 1 strategy for pharmaceutical manufacturing and supply chain diversification, provides an incremental opportunity for Indian drug companies. Additionally, higher tariffs on Chinese goods could open new avenues for Indian pharma players to fill the supply gap in the US generic drug market, experts say. The US remains a key market for Indian pharma, accounting for around 30% of total sales, and a 40% of volume market share. While there are potential risks associated with changes in duty structures and

Interest rates need to be 'far more affordable': FM

Says Several People Find Borrowing Costs 'Very Stressful'

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Mumbai: Finance minister Nirmala Sitharaman on Monday called for bank interest rates to be "far more affordable", arguing that several people found the cost of borrowing "very stressful". Making a case for lower lending rates, she said that India required its businesses to ramp up and invest in new facilities so that the goal of "Viksit Bharat" can be achieved. "When you look at India's growth requirements, many voices are saying that the cost of borrowing is very stressful. At a time when we want industries to ramp up and move building capacities, bank interest rates will have to be far more affordable. So, we need to have a lot more conversation on this," Sitharaman said at the SBI Conclave on Monday. She also called for more discussion on using interest rates to control food prices and sought to comfort the market by stating that govt was taking measures to address food supply issues to prevent price spikes. "It is the top three perishables (tomato, onion and potato) which are causing



stress on the inflation numbers, while for the others, the numbers are the low 4s (percentage points) or the higher end of 3s. I do not want to get into this debate of whether perishables should be part of the inflation measure index and whether it is just a supply chain or demand-supply problem," she said. However, she went on to add that there are periodic and cyclical spikes causing volatility to inflation. The FM's statement comes days after commerce and industry minister Piyush Goyal stated that targeting food prices through interest rates was an "absolutely flawed theory". With Oct's inflation reading coming in at 6.2% — outside RBI's comfort zone — most analysts have ruled out a rate cut in Dec. The comments also coincide with concerns among companies that high interest rates and a squeeze on lending by NBFCs had slowed consumer demand. Sitharaman sought to address the slowdown concerns arising from recent signs of moderation in some economic indicators. "There is no cause for undue concern. India's economy remains resilient, underpinned

by strong macroeconomic fundamentals, moderating inflation, a robust external position and continued fiscal consolidation," she said. She also flagged the issue of mis-selling of insurance by banks, adding that they should focus on their core business of raising deposits and lending. Sitharaman said that mis-selling contributed in indirect ways to increased consumer borrowing costs. Sitharaman's comments come at a time when banks are struggling to grow their deposits at the same pace as credit. There is a lot of commentary on the shift of the customer focus from being a saver to an investor. In recent years, banks have been pushing insurance investment products, encouraging customers to buy policies as the commission was much higher than the margin that banks would earn if the funds were parked with the banks as deposits. Despite banks emerging as the biggest distributors of insurance policies, there has not been a single case of a bank being penalised for mis-selling of insurance.

Pvt banks misreporting complaints as queries: Das

Urges Lenders To Be Transparent, Not Treat Service Charges & Penalties As Profit Avenues

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Mumbai: RBI Governor Shaktikanta Das has criticised private banks for mis-handling customer grievances, flagging a concerning trend of misclassifying complaints as mere queries. "It is disheartening to see complaints being misclassified, which undermines the very foundation of customer trust," Das said at the Conference of Directors of Private Sector Banks in Mumbai. He urged banks to ensure that grievances are properly addressed and escalated to internal ombudsmen when necessary, highlighting the importance of robust redress mechanisms. "We have come across instances of rejected grievances not being escalated to the internal ombudsman of banks. I would like to urge the boards and their customer service committees to closely look into these aspects to ensure that banks have a genuine commitment to customer centricity." Das emphasised that banks must adopt a genuine customer-centric approach and move beyond profit-driven motives. "Boards should give a close look at service charges and penalties when



critical to protecting customers' interests," Das said. The governor noted that issues like forced bundling of products and non-transparent service charges need immediate attention from the board-level committees. "Service charges and penalties should not be treated as avenues of profit," he cautioned, stressing the need for fair-lending practices. RBI, on Monday, held its second annual conference with over 200 directors from private banks, including

On Customer Trust | We have come across instances of rejected grievances not being escalated to the internal ombudsman of banks. I would like to urge the boards and their customer service committees to closely look into these aspects to ensure that banks have a genuine commitment to customer centricity

On Moving Beyond Profits | Boards should give a close look at service charges and penalties when they are treated as avenues of profit or when forced bundling of products is done, or when disclosures to customers are non-transparent or selective

Punit Goenka quits as Zee MD, will continue as CEO

Reeba Zachariah @timesofindia.com

Mumbai: Punit Goenka, MD and CEO of Zee Entertainment Enterprises, has resigned from his position as MD but will continue as CEO of the company. The decision comes just 10 days ahead of the shareholders' meeting where he was due to seek approval for another five-year term as MD and CEO, starting from Jan 1, 2025 to Dec 31, 2029. According to Zee, Goenka will stay on the board, pending shareholders' approval of his appointment as an executive director at the annual general meeting on Nov 28. The appointment falls under ordinary resolution, requiring more votes cast in favour than against.

Goenka and his family own just 4% of Zee, a company founded by his father Subhash Chandra in 1992. Public shareholders hold the remaining 96%, with LIC holding the largest stake of about 5% and FPI Government Pension Fund Global owning around 4%. Mutual funds — HDFC and ICICI Prudential — hold 3.71% and 3% respectively as of Sept 30. If Goenka does not receive majority shareholder approval, he will not be able to remain on the board, where he was initially appointed on Jan 1, 2005, according to BSE data. Legal experts say though the CEO is a key management personnel, shareholder approval is not required to continue as one. However, to continue on the board as an executive director, shareholder approval is required, with Goenka's previous responsibilities as an MD now being diluted. In a regulatory filing, Zee said Goenka has resigned from the MD's position on Monday to "entirely focus on his operational responsibilities". He has been appointed as CEO of the company, adding that the variable portion of his salary (40%) will be paid to him only on achievement of certain milestones, subject to a maximum cap as defined by the board. In April, Goenka had said that he would take a 20% cut in his remuneration. In FY23, Goenka's remuneration was Rs 35 crore, including Rs 21 crore in salary and allowances, Rs 9 crore in variable pay and Rs 5 crore as a one-time payment. Zee further said that it has promoted CFO Mukund Galgali as deputy CEO of the company.

Insolvency: SpiceJet faces 2 more pleas

New Delhi: Two more insolvency petitions were filed by Sabarmati Aviation and JetAir 17 against budget carrier SpiceJet at the NCLT on Monday.

The NCLT issued a notice to the airline over the plea by operational creditor Sabarmati Aviation while asking another complainant, JetAir 17, to file additional documents in support of its claims of \$27 million. During the proceedings, senior advocate Krishnendu Datta representing SpiceJet submitted that a reply would be filed over the plea of Sabarmati Aviation. He, however, opposed JetAir 17's plea of contending that their claims as an operational creditor are disputed. In the matter of JetAir 17, the NCLT asked the company to file additional documents to support its claims as SpiceJet contended that it has not entered into a lease agreement with it. AGENCIES

Indians to pip Chinese as top travellers: Hilton

Saurabh Sinha @timesofindia.com

New Delhi: Post Covid, Indians have emerged as the fastest growing outbound travellers globally and in coming decades they will overtake the Chinese — currently the largest in movement of people from a country — in real numbers too. And, hoteliers will have to keep in mind the characteristics of the desi globetrotter, while designing properties, Alan Watts, Hilton (Asia Pacific) president, told TOI on Monday. "Indian outbound is becoming a travelling force to reckon with, in line with economic growth of India. Wherever you end up with a dominance of travel, it will impact hotel design and cuisine. Young Indian couples are travelling with their parents and children. This three-generation travel is quite unique to Indian travellers. This means when you're designing a hotel, you need more than connecting rooms. You need flexible rooms, closed door corridors to create an apartment style at the end of a hallway for a travelling Indian family"



In 2023, 2.72 crore Indians travelled abroad, more than the 2.69 crore in pre-pandemic 2019. On the other hand, 15.5 crore Chinese tourists travelled abroad in 2019. While in absolute numbers Chinese are the single biggest source of international tourists, this is set to change in a not so distant future. India recently overtook China as the most populous nation in the world. "India has a younger population, higher birth rates and a stronger GDP growth. As increase disposable income levels and the rising middle class continue to fuel travel, India will become the third largest lodging market in the world. And then in the fullness of time, India has the potential to be the largest travelling population in the world. Which is why everybody in travel and tourism, whether cruise liners, airlines, tour companies or hotels, should be focused on the potential of India for the future," Watts said. Hilton has 29 properties in India, with 24 in the pipeline which will open in three years. It has now signed a strategic licensing agreement with Olive by Embassy to open 150 "Spark by Hilton" in India over the next decade. This is a premium economy brand with daily tariffs in Rs 4,000-6,000 range and all these properties will come up in south India. Asked if 200-odd properties in India for the world's second largest hotel company are enough, Watts said: "This is one announcement. Over the coming months, you will hear from us about several other things. I don't want to give a number of hotels we see having in India over the coming years, but it is going to be sizeable."

BIS bans 2 Chinese cos for sub-standard Li-ion cells

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New Delhi: Cracking down on sub-standard goods supplied by two Chinese companies — Guangdong Cvasun New Energy Technology Co and Ganzhou Novel Battery Technology Co, the Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) has cancelled their registration. The move follows complaints registered by the ministry of electronics and information technology (MeitY) after it found that the companies were not complying with the standards for sealed secondary portable lithium

system cells. Some of these cells were used in power banks, lithium ion batteries, wearables and laptops. Amid surging imports from China, some of which were of poor quality, govt has moved in with new standards and quality control orders that are meant to improve the overall consumer experience, both for domestic and imported products. Electronics is one of the segments that is closely watched, more so with production linked incentives thrown in to promote domestic manufacturing. At least one of the battery companies was found to be supplying cells below the prescribed rating and passing them off as compliant with Indian standards. Govt agencies took test samples of the products supplied by the two companies and they failed to meet the norms related to Indian safety standards for these categories. MeitY had taken up the issue with BIS several weeks ago and BIS last week issued the orders. The move also sets a precedent for other govt agencies to take up similar cases with BIS so that there is compliance with Indian regulations.

₹22L cr tax target will be crossed: CBDT

New Delhi: Govt will exceed the Rs 22.1 lakh crore direct tax collection target set for the current fiscal, Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT) chairman Ravi Agarwal said on Monday.

Agarwal also said that taxpayers who have not disclosed their foreign income or assets in their ITRs have time till Dec 31 to file their revised return for the 2023-24 fiscal. The tax department is in the process of sending SMS and emails to those assesses who have not disclosed high-value assets. "We are hopeful and we believe that we will exceed the budget target for tax collection," Agarwal told reporters. AGENCIES

Govt revises norms linked to dividend payment for PSUs

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi: The Centre on Monday unveiled revised guidelines for state-run firms linked to dividend payment, buyback of shares, issue of bonus shares and splitting of shares and the measures are aimed at creating value in PSUs to maximise returns for govt and other shareholders. The Department of Investment and Public Asset Management (DIPAM) released the revised guidelines, amending its earlier 2016 rules, to better reflect market realities. The objectives of the revised guidelines include enhancing value of the CPSE and total returns for the shareholders, improving performance and efficiency of these entities by providing them more operational and financial flexibility. These are also aimed at enabling CPSEs to play an effective role in economic growth of the country and ensure more investors participate in the

value creation by CPSEs. "These guidelines have been done keeping in mind the realities of the market and are forward looking. They will also help PSUs to push capex and provide them flexibility," said Tuhin Kanta Pandey, secretary DIPAM. Under the revised guidelines every CPSE would pay a minimum annual dividend of 30% of profit after tax (PAT) or 4% of the networth, whichever is higher subject to the limit, if any, under an extant legal provision. Earlier the limit was 5% of net worth. Financial sector CPSEs like NBFCs may pay a minimum annual dividend of 30% of PAT subject to the limit. The new guidelines say that unlisted CPSEs may pay a dividend once in a year as final dividend based on previous year audited financials. The guidelines says that CPSEs, whose market price of the share is less than the book value consistently for

the last six months, and having net-worth of at least Rs. 3000 crore and cash and bank balance of over Rs.1500 crore may consider the option to buy-back their shares. Under the new guidelines, every CPSE may consider the issue of bonus shares when their defined reserves and surplus are equal to or more than 20 times of its paid-up equity share capital. With regard to splitting of shares, the revised guidelines stipulate a listed CPSE where market price exceeds 150 times of its face value consistently for the last six months may consider a split-off of its shares. There should be a cooling off period of at least three years between two successive share splits. These guidelines don't apply to PSBs, insurance companies and also to any entity which is prohibited from distribution of profits and companies set up under section 8 of the Companies Act, 2013.

MAY GAIN FROM CHINA+1 STRATEGY

- US accounts for nearly 30% of Indian pharma's total sales, and a 40% of volume market share
- Proposed US Biosecure Act is expected to benefit Indian contract development and manufacturing organisations
- Indian pharma players may gain from higher US tariffs on Chinese goods
- India's established strength in global generic drug market positions it well to benefit from shifts in US trade and supply chain strategies, experts say

broader geopolitical dynamics, India's established strength in the global generic drug market positions it well to benefit from shifts in US trade and supply chain strategies, they added. Sujay Shetty, global health industries advisory leader, PwC India, told TOI: "Given the 'America first', low taxes and lowering inflation agenda of the incoming Trump administration, Indian companies should look for opportunities in the supply chain, given the Biosecure Act, potential pricing pressures and potential localisation rules around manufacturing. ...It appears to be a mixed bag. We need to wait and

watch for clarity." Though Trump's agenda for second term will become clearer over the next few weeks, but there are key themes that have emerged from his previous presidency, including 'America First' trade policy, protectionism and reducing dependency on foreign imports, especially from China. Indian pharma companies have already witnessed considerable increase in contract manufacturing opportunities from established global pharma majors. The proposed US Biosecure Act could benefit Indian CDMOs (contract development and manufacturing organisations). "These companies are also likely to make further invest-

ments in regulatorily compliant manufacturing facilities and advanced technologies, to capitalise on the demand. It will also create higher opportunities for strategic alliances with US based innovator pharma companies," Kinjal Shah, senior VP & co-group head — corporate ratings, ICRA, said. Krishnanath Munde, associate director, India Ratings & Research feels, "If there's implementation of a 10% tariff on goods imported into the US, then it would be a negative for Indian pharma export-oriented companies. Overall, even if there is to be slight disruption, China plus 1 strategy and US BioSecure Act will provide bigger benefits to Indian pharma companies in medium term."



HUGH GRANT SCOURS THE INTERNET FOR NEGATIVE REVIEWS, AND MOSTLY AGREES WITH THEM: 'JUST DRAWN TO DARK SIDE OF LIFE'

PAUL MESCAL-STARRER 'GLADIATOR II' EARNS \$87M IN GLOBAL B.O. DEBUT, BIGGEST START FOR A RIDLEY SCOTT-DIRECTED FILM



Ukraine: Will Hit Russia Soon, Without Warning

Zelensky's Warning Comes As Biden Allows Deep Strikes Into Russia With US Arms; Kremlin Accuses US Of Adding 'Fuel To Fire', Calls It Step Towards Conflict With Nato

Andrew E Kramer, Marc Santora and Anatoly Kurmanav

225 MILITARY OBJECTS IN RANGE OF FIRE



Ukraine on Monday welcomed a decision by the Biden administration to allow long-range strikes inside Russia with American-provided missiles, with President Volodymyr Zelensky suggesting that the first launches would come soon and without warning.

Ukraine has long argued that firing at targets deeper inside Russia would allow its military to fight with hands untied, and has positioned it as a just response to years of Russian bombardments. Ukraine is now facing a combined Russian and North Korean offensive against its troops in territory it captured in the Kursk region of southern Russia over the summer, and the addition of troops from Pyongyang appeared to be the development that persuaded the White House to shift its stance on long-range missiles. The North Korean deployment alarmed the US and European nations, as a widening of the war and by drawing Russian allies directly into the ground combat.

Zelensky, speaking in his address to the nation Sunday, suggested there would be no

warning of the first launches. "Blows are not inflicted with words," he said. "Such things are not announced. The rockets will speak for themselves."

In Moscow, the Kremlin said the US decision to allow Ukrainian forces to strike targets in Russia was a major step toward a direct confrontation between Russia and Nato and adds "fuel to the fire". "This escalates tensions to a qualitatively new level," the Kremlin's spo-

kesman, Dmitri Peskov, said Monday. The decision represented "a qualitatively new situation in terms of the US' involvement in this conflict," he added, referring to the war in Ukraine.

The shift in the White House stance will allow Ukraine to use a ballistic missile system called ATACMS, an abbreviation for Army Tactical Missile System. With a range of 300km, these missiles would allow Ukraine to strike military targets

that it says would degrade Russia's military, such as garrisons, logistical hubs and munitions depots that are beyond the reach of its conventional weapons. Calling these installations fair targets by the laws of war, the Zelensky gov had for months asked for broad leeway in hitting these sites, but the Biden administration resisted. The arrival of North Korean troops apparently tipped the scales in favour of approval.

The Institute for the Study of War, a Washington-based research organisation, released a map plotting 225 military installations within the range of ATACMS, including missile brigades, storage facilities, radar installations, airfields used to stage attack helicopters, repair depots, ammunition warehouses and logistics hubs.

The Biden gov agreed last year to supply several hundred ATACMS to the Ukrainians for use on Ukraine's own territory, including the Russian-occupied Crimean Peninsula. The Ukrainian military has since used many of these missiles in a campaign of strikes on military targets in Crimea and it is unclear how many missiles remain in Ukraine's arsenal. **NVT**

Trump 2.0 looms. So, what does Biden decision mean?

Kyiv: The US will allow Ukraine to use American-supplied longer-range weapons to conduct strikes inside Russian territory, a long-sought request by Kyiv. The decision on Ukraine's use of the Army Tactical Missile System (ATACMS) comes in the waning days of Joe Biden's presidency, before President-elect Donald Trump, who has said he would bring about a swift end to the war that many fear could force unpalatable concessions from Kyiv, assumes office.

The longer-range missiles are likely to be used in response to North Korea's decision to send troops to support Kremlin forces, according to one of the people familiar with the development. Pyongyang's troops are apparently being deployed to help the Russian army drive Ukrainian forces out of Russia's Kursk region, where they launched an incursion in Aug.

Military analysts said the impact on the battlefield, where Ukraine has been on the back foot for months, would depend on what limits remained. But while the shift may shore up the Kursk operation, it was unlikely to be a gamechanger overall.



TOO LATE TO BE GAMECHANGER?

There also is no way to know how long the new policy will last. It was criticised by Richard Grenell, one of the closest foreign policy advisers of Trump.

The effect depends on the rules set for the weapons' use. If strikes are allowed across all of Russia, they could significantly complicate Moscow's ability to respond to battlefield demands. If strikes are limited to the Kursk, Russia could relocate its command centres and air units to nearby regions. That would also mean many of the valuable targets Ukrainian officials have expressed desire to hit may still be beyond reach. Also, the supply of ATACMS is short. However, the decision may encourage the UK and France to allow Ukraine to use Storm Shadow missiles, aka SCALP missiles, with range of 250km. **AP, REUTERS**

Trump confirms he will declare emergency, use military for deportation

425k Illegals With Criminal Records Will Be Ousted, Legal Immigrants Safe: Border Czar

Chidanand Rajghatta | TNN

Washington: US President-elect Donald Trump confirmed on Monday that his administration will declare a national emergency and use military assets in a mass deportation programme to "reverse the Biden invasion".

Trump responded with a single word response ("True") to a week-old post from a right-wing commentator who said there are reports to this effect, even as the president-elect's putative border czar Tom Homan warned Democratic-governed states that have said they will not cooperate with the deportation programme to "get the hell out of our way".

"All this crap ends on January 20...Federal law trumps state law every single time," Homan said in a podcast in a warning to Democrat governors of California, Illinois, and Massachusetts who have suggested they will resist the incoming administration's mass deportation plans.

Promising "shock and awe" from day one, Homan said the Trump administration will prioritise public safety and national security to first deport 4.25 million illegal immigrants with criminal records. Asserting that there were millions of deserving immigrants and asylum seekers who had been pushed to the back of the line by the invasion of illegals, he said immigrants will get due process in court of law, and if they lose, they will have to return to the country in a separate appearance on Fox Business, Homan said. "Legal immigrants are perfectly safe."

Describing his personal experience on the border, Homan said he resented the fact that border patrol agents who are mandated to stop the illegal invasion have been turned into "travel agents" tasked with processing illegal immigrants and putting them on onward flights into the US, giving them free airline tickets, free hotel stay, and free health care at taxpayer expense while millions of Americans were suffering.

Illegal immigration, along with inflation and price rise, were among the key factors that powered Trump's return to the White House for a second term, and the President-elect appears on track to make good his mass deportation pledge amid doubts about the feasibility of sending back upwards of 10 million illegals, many of whom are seasonal



Tom Homan warned Democratic-governed states that have said they will not cooperate with the deportation programme to 'get the hell out of our way'

agricultural workers. Liberal activists have warned that turfing them out could result in a hike in grocery prices. More extreme scenarios paint a picture of economic collapse even as some think tanks have estimated it would cost upward of \$300 billion to illegally import to get all the illegal immigrants out of the country - which is considered impossible.

"Mass deportations would cause significant labour shocks across multiple key industries, with especially acute impact on construction, agriculture, and the hospitality sector," American Immigration Council (AIC) has warned, estimating that nearly 14 percent of people employed in the construction industry are undocumented. "Removing that labour would disrupt all forms of construction across the nation, from homes to businesses to basic infrastructure. As industries suffer, hundreds of thousands of US-born workers could lose their jobs," it said.

In an Oct 2024 report, AIC estimated that mass deportation would reduce the US GDP by 4.2 to 6.8 percent. It would also result in significant reduction in tax revenues for the US gov. In 2022 alone, undocumented immigrant households paid \$46.8 billion in federal taxes and \$29.3 billion in state and local taxes and contributed \$22.6 billion to Social Security and \$5.7 billion to Medicare.

These numbers, AIC said, do not even come close to capturing the human cost of mass deportation: About 5.1 million US citizen children live with an undocumented family member. "Separating family members would lead to tremendous emotional stress and could also cause economic hardship for many of these mixed-status families who might lose their breadwinners, jeopardising their economic and social well-being," it cautioned.

US correspondent for TOI

IN THE OTHER WAR

Nearly 100 aid trucks lost to looters in Gaza: UNRWA

A large convoy of trucks carrying aid was "violently looted" in Gaza Strip over the weekend and its drivers forced at gunpoint to unload food supplies, the UNRWA said. The convoy of 109 trucks had been driving from the Kerem Shalom border crossing in southern Gaza when it was looted on Saturday. Ninety-eight trucks were lost and members of the convoy suffered unspecified injuries, the agency said.

The convoy had been scheduled to enter Gaza on Sunday, UNRWA said, but the Israeli military instructed it to leave a day earlier "at short notice via an alternate, unfamiliar route." **NVT**

Israel strikes Beirut near gov buildings, embassies

Two Israeli missiles late on Monday slammed into a densely populated residential area in Beirut close to the UN HQ, parliament, the PM's office and several embassies. The strike co-

Kin of US victims of Oct 7 attack sue Iran

Families of American victims of the Oct 7, 2023, Hamas attack and those killed fighting in Gaza sued Iran on Sunday, accusing it of supporting the single deadliest massacre of Jews since the Holocaust. The lawsuit was filed in district court in Washington. Plaintiffs appear to have obtained original documents that refer to a secret meeting of Hamas' leaders in Dec 2022. During the meeting, the then leader Yahya Sinwar requested an additional \$7 million a month from Iran's Revolutionary Guard to fund the attack on Oct. 7, known as the "big project". **NVT**

mes following reports that the US envoy has delayed his visit for ceasefire talks. Ambulance sirens echoed through the area, but no official casualty figures have been released. The target of the hit remains unclear. **AP**

B'desh tribunal to investigate: End probe into Hasina case by Dec 17

Ahsan Tasnim

Dhaka: The International Crimes Tribunal (Bangladesh), a domestic war crimes body, directed the prosecution on Monday to complete its investigation against ousted PM Sheikh Hasina and 13 others in a genocide case by Dec 17. They face charges of crimes against humanity related to the July-Aug uprising that resulted in hundreds of deaths. The three-member ICT, led by Justice Md Golam Mortuza Mozumder, had issued an arrest warrant for Hasina on Oct 17 in connection with her alleged role in "crimes against humanity" and "genocide". Chief prosecutor Muhammad Tajul Islam stated that Hasina "had superior command responsibility" over numerous killings, acts of genocide, and crimes against humanity committed in the country over the past 16.5 years of her tenure.

Authorities have been unable to execute the arrest warrant as Hasina "fled the country". Tajul said, "We have pleaded for the issuance of an Interpol red notice against her. We have learned that she is in India, and our gov will request her repatriation in accordance with the bilateral agreement. The process is underway."

UK hunts for PIO man suspected of killing wife

Naomi Canton

London: An international manhunt has been launched for an Indian-origin man accused of murdering his Indian wife and leaving her dead body inside the boot of a car in London before fleeing Britain.

On Sunday, Northamptonshire police named Pankaj Lamba (23) as the prime suspect in the murder of his 24-year-old wife, Harshita Brela. The couple were married at a Hindu ceremony in Delhi a few months ago. The "Daily Mail" published on Monday a video of their wedding ceremony in Delhi. But the couple had been living in separate houses in Corby.

She had been living in Corby, Northamptonshire, when her body was discovered inside the boot of a car in Ilford, East London, in the early hours of Nov 14. A murder investigation was then launched.

Neighbours said they had heard shouting, banging and furniture being thrown last Wednesday at the house of multiple occupation where Brela lived, and that "a woman sounded scared". Police

Lanka prez keeps finance portfolio; Harini Amarasuriya reappointed as PM

Omer Farooq Khan | TNN

Colombo: Sri Lankan President Anura Kumara Dissanayake retained the key finance minister portfolio and reappointed Harini Amarasuriya as PM on Monday as the Indian Ocean island nation targets stronger recovery from a draining financial crisis.

Dissanayake, whose leftist coalition won a record 159 seats in the 225-member parliament in a general election last week, also reappointed veteran legislator Vijitha Herath to helm the foreign affairs ministry. Dissanayake, who has held the key finance minister portfolio since he was elected in September, will continue in that role, two party sources told Reuters.

The new parliament will meet on Thursday. **REUTERS**

Dissanayake to visit India in Dec: Dissanayake will visit India at the invitation of the Indian gov in mid-Dec, Herath said Monday. He will call on PM Narendra Modi. EAM S Jaishankar who became the first foreign dignitary to call on Dissanayake in Sept had extended the invitation. **PTI**

Extortions bleed Pak's terror-stalked northwest

Omer Farooq Khan | TNN

Islamabad: Surging terror and extortions have endangered public safety in Pakistan's restive northwestern Khyber Pakhtunkhwa province, where militants in several districts run a parallel shadow administration.

The southern districts of the province have almost become no-go areas even for law-enforcers. In the evening, militants are seen patrolling streets and setting up checkpoints in Bannu, North and South Waziristan, Tank, Lakki Marwat, and Dera Ismail Khan.

While these districts remain at mercy of militants from evening to morning, well-off people in other districts of the province frequently receive threatening WhatsApp texts and letters from Pakistani Taliban - or Tehreek-e-Taliban Pakistan (TTP) - with demands to pay or face attacks. The ones who refuse to pay ransom are often targeted with grenade attacks at their homes, shops and warehouses, apparently to show the group was serious about its threats. Faisal Khan, a lawyer in in

Sweden, Finland urge residents to be ready for war

Omer Farooq Khan | TNN

Stockholm: Sweden Monday began sending millions of pamphlets advising residents how to prepare for possible war and Finland launched a new website, as Ukraine fights the grinding 3-year Russian invasion.

"The security situation is serious and we all need to strengthen our resilience to face various crises and ultimately war," said Mikael Frisell, the director of the Swedish Civil Contingencies Agency (MSB) which sent out the brochures. The 32-page booklet "If Crisis or War Comes" contains information about how to prepare for war, natural disasters and cyber or terror attacks. It is an updated version of a pamphlet that Sweden has issued five times since WWII. The new version doesn't mention Russia, Ukraine or other country by name.

Meanwhile, in a separate move, the gov in Finland launched a website gathering information on preparedness for different crises. Finland shares a 1,340km border with Russia. **AFP**

BNP unhappy over no talk on poll timeline by Yunus

Bangladesh Nationalist Party expressed disappointment over interim gov chief adviser Muhammad Yunus's address to the nation, saying he had failed to give a "clear outline" for upcoming elections. BNP secretary general Mirza Fakhrul Islam Alamgir said his party had expected Yunus to identify key problems and propose a roadmap for elections that "would reflect the people's aspirations".

Trump picks Big Tech critic who wrote 'Project 2025' chapter to lead FCC

Cecilia Kang

President-elect Donald Trump on Sunday chose Brendan Carr to be chair of the Federal Communications Commission, nominating a veteran Republican regulator who has publicly agreed with the incoming administration's promises to slash regulation, go after Big Tech and punish TV networks for political bias.

Carr, who currently sits on the commission, is expected to shake up a quiet agency that li-

ceses airwaves for radio and TV, regulates phone costs, and promotes the spread of home internet. Before election, Trump indicated he wanted the agency to strip broadcasters such as NBC and CBS of their licensing for unfair coverage.

Carr, 45, was the author of a chapter on the FCC in the conservative Project 2025 planning document, in which he argued that the agency should also regulate the largest tech companies, such as Apple, Meta, Google and Microsoft. "The cen-

expanding its mandate and wielding it as a political weapon for the right, telecommunications attorneys and analysts said. They predicted Carr would test the legal limits of the agency's power by pushing to oversee companies such as Meta and Google, setting up a fierce battle with Silicon Valley.

Carr won't have free rein to make changes. The Federal Trade Commission and the department of justice have taken on the biggest roles in regulating tech. Congress oversees

the FCC's budget, and it would probably take new legislation to expand the agency's regulatory oversight over companies such as Google and Meta, which are not defined as communications services, legal experts said. The FCC is also prohibited from punishing television and radio stations for editorial decisions. Still, Carr could use the bully pulpit of the agency to pressure companies, the experts added. He could also threaten to block mergers or probe regulatory failures. **NVT**

Two masked men broke into Britain's royal Windsor Castle estate on Oct 13 before midnight and stole two vehicles from a barn. Sun newspaper reported Monday. King Charles and wife Camilla were not in the estate at the time of the incident but Prince William and his family were believed to be at Adelaide Cottage, part of the Windsor Castle estate. Sun reported. The men used a stolen truck to break through a security gate at night and then scaled a six-foot fence, the paper said. No arrests have been made yet and an investigation is ongoing.

DAILY PLANET



McAMERICA: US Prez-elect Donald Trump's pick for health secretary, Robert F. Kennedy Jr, has been pictured sharing a McDonald's meal with his future boss, days after they promised to "make America healthy again". Kennedy flew with Trump aboard his plane to a UFC bout in NYC on Saturday along with Elon Musk

and Donald Trump Jr. The pic was posted by Donald Jr which he jokingly captioned: "Make America Healthy Again starts TOMORROW". RfK Jr has long campaigned for reducing processed food in US diet. In a podcast posted last week, he was scathing about Trump's diet, saying "stuff he eats is really bad"

Masked men broke into Windsor Castle estate in UK: Report

Two masked men broke into Britain's royal Windsor Castle estate on Oct 13 before midnight and stole two vehicles from a barn. Sun newspaper reported Monday. King Charles and wife Camilla were not in the estate at the time of the incident but Prince William and his family were believed to be at Adelaide Cottage, part of the Windsor Castle estate. Sun reported. The men used a stolen truck to break through a security gate at night and then scaled a six-foot fence, the paper said. No arrests have been made yet and an investigation is ongoing.

Quincy Jones awarded posthumous Oscar

The late Quincy Jones was posthumously awarded an honorary Oscar at a star-packed Hollywood gala Sunday that also handed golden statuettes to the producers of James Bond. US music industry titan Jones died from pancreatic cancer at the age of 91 just two weeks ago.

AROUND THE WORLD

The first recorded labour strike took place in ancient Egypt in 1156 BCE when tomb builders protested against delayed wages

The Times of India is the world's largest-selling English daily



DOUG BRACEWELL, FORMER NEW ZEALAND FAST BOWLER, SERVES 1-MONTH COCAINE BAN

SPURS' BENTANCUR BANNED FOR 7 GAMES OVER OFFENSIVE COMMENT ON SOUTH KOREANS



TIME TO RECLAIM HIS AURA

Virat Kohli Is Back Where It All Began. It Was In Perth In 2012 That The World Woke Up To The Feisty Batting Legend. Now, Older & Less Prolific, He Is Back In Perth As India Look To Set The Tone In Australia. Can Kohli Script One Final Masterpiece In The Land That Forged His Legend?

Nitin.Naik@timesofindia.com

I don't know why people were after me. I don't know why people have been questioning my technique or temperament so much." With eyes that were holding back tears that could flood the Pacific, this was 23-year-old Virat Kohli speaking to the media in Perth in Jan 2012. He had just top-scored with 44 on a bouncy WACA pitch in a sham-bolic Indian innings of 161 on Day One of the third Test during a series that resembled a horror show for India.

Kohli's emotional burst was in response to a tweet by a former cricketer who had posted on Test-eve, "Give Kohli another game just to be sure he does not belong here." Perth showed that Kohli belonged. He top-scored with 75 in the second innings too as India were dismissed for 171 to lose by an innings and plenty during a 4-0 shellacking.

Cut to 2024. The Indian great is back at the venue where he first established his credentials as a Test batter. Can the WACA, where the Team India is camping for match simulation and preparing for the opening contest of the Border Gavaskar Trophy at the nearby Optus Stadium from Friday, be the venue for his renaissance too?

A look at the Australian media, which often doesn't hesitate to play 12th man for the team, makes you believe so. India's arrival in Australia was announced with glowing full-page write-ups on Kohli in some of the leading Australian publications with Hindi and Punjabi headlines. So what if he has scored only two centuries in the last five years and his average, once a proud 55, has plummeted to 47.83?

Ironically, the same media had painted him as a villain when the batter flicked the ball at a section of a raucous Sydney crowd which was giving him grief on the boundary. The prickly 23-year-old was mercilessly sledged by the Aussie players too during his maiden Test hundred in Adelaide in the fourth Test. "To give it back verbally and then score a hundred is even better," he said in the presser after his 116.

In the same interaction, he slammed the SCG crowd too.



"Don't get drunk and abuse players." Touche. Perth and Adelaide 2012 had given Kohli his passport to stardom. Adelaide 2014, though, was a visa to greatness. Leading India for the first time, he struck a hundred in each innings. (115, 141). The second ton was a clinic in mastering spinning conditions.

It also offered fans a window into his captaincy style: "Play to win." India made a spirited dash at the target of 364 and fell 48 short. The crowds lapped up Kohli's spunk. The spicy duels with Mitchell Johnson, especially during his 169 in the Boxing Day Test at MCG, were peak cinema. At one point he drove Johnson straight, only to see the bowler stop the ball in his follow through and hurl it back to hit him. Kohli followed up by drilling Johnson through cover and blowing a kiss.

A Kohli press conference was the place to be at after such antics. Sample this: "There's no good reason that I should respect some people when they are not respect-

ing me." Or this: "They were calling me a spoilt brat, and I said, 'That's the way I am. You guys hate me. I like that.'"

More? "I like playing against Australia because it is very hard for them to stay calm. I don't mind an argument. They don't seem to be learning the lesson."

Kohli was all passion and fire in 2014. Four years later, he married maturity with those traits. Already the world's premier attacking batter across formats, Kohli showed how much he could romance struggle in the second Test as he compiled 123 off 257 balls at the Optus in hellish batting conditions. After driving Mitchell Starc down the ground to reach three figures, he pointed to the bat, opened and closed his fist to say, "My bat talks now."

India lost the Test but won the 2018 series 2-1. Ex-players had begun to hail Kohli as the ideal brand ambassador for Test cricket when it was being challenged by shorter formats. When Aus-



LONGING AND BELONGING: (Left) A 23-year-old Virat Kohli announced his arrival on the world stage with a fighting 44 at Perth in Jan 2012. (Right) Two years later, in Adelaide 2014, his first Test as stand-in captain, he reaffirmed his standing as the world's premier batsman with a century in each innings

VIRAT KOHLI VS AUSTRALIA IN TESTS

	T	I	NO	Runs	HS	Ave	100	50	SR
vs Australia	25	44	1	2042	186	47.48	8	5	52.41
in Australia	13	25	0	1352	169	54.08	6	4	53.14

KOHLI AND HIS CONTEMPORARIES IN AUSTRALIA

Batter	Team	Span	T	Runs	HS	Ave	100	50
Steve Smith	Aus	2010-2024	53	4701	239	62.88	16	19
Virat Kohli	Ind	2011-2024	13	1352	169	54.08	6	4
Joe Root	Eng	2013-2022	14	892	89	35.68	0	9
Kane Williamson	NZ	2011-2019	7	557	166	42.84	2	1

BATTERS WITH 6 OR MORE TONS AND AN AVERAGE OF 50-PLUS IN AUSTRALIA

Batter	Team	Span	T	Runs	HS	Ave	100	50
Jack Hobbs	Eng	1908-1929	24	2493	187	57.97	9	9
Wally Hammond	Eng	1928-1947	19	1981	251	61.90	7	4
Virat Kohli	Ind	2011-2024	13	1352	169	54.08	6	4
Herbert Sutcliffe	Eng	1924-1933	14	1529	194	63.70	6	7
Sachin Tendulkar	Ind	1991-2012	20	1809	241*	53.20	6	7

tralia welcomed him again at the height of the Covid pandemic in Dec 2020, it was already announced that Kohli would play only the first Test, the pink ball D/N fixture at Adelaide.

Interestingly, his favourite venue had even offered to host his wedding in 2017. Kohli produced yet another defensive classic, a solid 74 off 180 balls before a misunderstanding with Ajinkya Rahane saw him get run out and limit India's first innings total. India were infamously bowled out for 36 in the second innings to lose that Test. And though under Rahane, they won an epic series 2-1, Kohli had nothing to do with that triumph. He was in India for the birth of his first child.

In the twilight of his career now, and with peers going past him in the quest for batting immortality, can Kohli summon one last effort and reclaim his aura in the land where he earned it first. Now, only if the Aussies stopped being so nice to him.

We got what we wanted from match simulation: Nayar

Perth: The centre-wicket match simulation at WACA ground has served its purpose as the Indian team got what it wanted ahead of the opening Test against Australia, said Abhishek Nayar and Morne Morkel, the two lieutenants of head coach Gautam Gambhir. The focus was on getting acclimatised to the conditions after the visitors had decided to scrap the intra-squad game with India 'A' team at the expense of match simulation. "Just before we came to Australia, Gautam Gambhir and Rohit Sharma discussed with us what we wanted out of these three days, and the idea was to try and make sure that one, for the younger guys and also the experienced guys, to give them a lot of time in the centre to adapt, to understand conditions," Nayar said in a BCCI video.

"We are coming and playing Test cricket (here) after, you know, four years. So initially, we got the guys to come in and had it like a game where you got out, if you got out, you got out. But then, we tried to give them another chance, and we felt that second time around, the guys adapted better, they understood the conditions better, and were a lot more comfortable. We got what we wanted out of it," Nayar said.

"We're very happy with how the bowlers went. They summed up conditions very well. I think we're on track. Another three training sessions left," bowling coach Morne Morkel said.

Ex-Eng skipper Vaughan shocked by India's call to skip warm-up matches

Sydney: Former England captain Michael Vaughan has raised concerns about how the tourists will get into a "competitive mindset" without match practice. "I can't get my head around India only wanting to play an intra-squad game leading into a series against Australia in their own backyard," Vaughan told Fox Cricket. "I just can't see how you get yourself in that competitive mindset by playing an intra-squad game. Time will tell." AGENCIES

'HUNGRY' VIRAT'S RECORD IN OZ WILL GIVE HIM CONFIDENCE: GAVASKAR

New Delhi: Virat Kohli will be "very, very hungry" for runs following his lean patch against New Zealand, says Sunil Gavaskar. "Because he hasn't scored runs against New Zealand, he'll be very, very hungry," Gavaskar told Star Sports. "Even in Adelaide, where India were bowled out for 36 in the second innings, Kohli scored 70-plus runs in the first innings before being run out," he added. Despite these recent struggles, Kohli has an outstanding record in Australia.

"He has consistently performed in Adelaide, a ground he knows well. Before Adelaide, it's Perth, where Kohli played one of his finest Test centuries in the 2018-19 series, a terrific hundred. Having performed on these grounds, he'll feel an extra bit of confidence. Of course, you need a bit of luck at the start."

In his last 60 Test innings, Kohli has managed just two centuries and 11 half-centuries. This year, he has averaged only 22.72 across six Tests, and in the three games against New Zealand, he could manage only 93 runs. PTI

STARS RISING DOWN UNDER

Tours to Australia have always produced new heroes for India

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A tour of Australia is often the toughest challenge in world cricket, testing players with world-class opposition, rock-hard pitches, sprawling outfields, hostile crowds and an unrelenting media. Yet, some Indian players have come through the test of fire and emerged with flying colours. TOI takes a look...

Sachin Tendulkar & Javagal Srinath (1991-92): India's five-Test series in Australia was a forgettable 4-0 thrashing. Yet, it unearthed two stars legends. Sachin Tendulkar, an 18-year-old prodigy, announced himself with a stellar unbeaten 148 in Sydney and a brave 114 on the bouncy Perth track. His 368 runs were the highest for India in the series.

Srinath bowled with pace and bounce, showing immense promise. Though his 10 wickets at 55.30 didn't reflect his impact, he displayed the raw talent that would make him India's pace spearhead.

VVS Laxman (1999-2000): Amid a disappointing series, VVS Laxman carved out one of his finest knocks. His scintillating 167 off 198 balls at the SCG stood out for its elegance and dominance against a formidable Australian attack. It was a counter-attacking masterpiece that earned him respect from fans and foes.

Irfan Pathan (2003-04): At just 19, Irfan Pathan made his debut in the second Test in Adelaide on the 2003-04 tour. Bowling with reverse swing and precision, he dismissed legends like Steve Waugh and Adam Gilchrist,

hinting at his immense potential despite modest returns (4 wickets at 66.50).

Virender Sehwag (2003-04): Known for his audacious strokeplay, Sehwag lit up the MCG with a swashbuckling 195 off 233 balls. Though he missed a double ton, his knock left an indelible mark, cementing his reputation as a fearless opener.

Ishant Sharma (2007-08): Ishant Sharma, all of 19, produced one of the most memorable spells at the WACA, tormenting Ricky Ponting with pace, bounce, and relentless accuracy and eventually dismissing the Australian skipper in both innings. This fiery spell not only helped India win the Test but also changed Ishant's career trajectory.

Cheteshwar Pujara (2018-19): Pujara was the cornerstone of India's historic

first series win in Australia. Scoring 521 at 74.42 with three centuries and facing 1258 deliveries, Pujara's marathon knocks blunted Australia's attack, frustrated bowlers and helped India achieve a landmark 2-1 victory. During the 2020-21, Pujara was again his resolute self, scoring three half-centuries to play a key role in India's 2-1 triumph. Overall, the No. 3 batsman has made 993 runs in 11 Tests across three tours, facing a total of 2657 balls!

Virat Kohli (2011-12 and 2013-14): In the 2011-12 tour, a young Virat Kohli stood tall amidst India's 4-0 whitewash, scoring his maiden Test hundred (116) in Adelaide. It was a gallant knock that showcased his grit and determination. By the 2013-14 series, Kohli had evolved into a leader and batting maestro. As captain, he led with intent, scoring 692 runs at 86.50, including four centuries.

Rishabh Pant (2018-19 and 2020-21): Touring Australia for the first time, Rishabh Pant impressed with 350 runs,

including a brilliant 159* at the SCG. In 2020-21, Pant became a phenomenon. His heroic 97 in Sydney saved a Test, while his unbeaten 89 in Brisbane helped Ajinkya Rahane & Co. pull off an incredible heist — a 329-run chase on the fifth and final day as Australia lost a Test at the Gabba for the first time since 1988. India won the series 2-1.

Mohammed Siraj & Shubman Gill (2020-21): Mohammed Siraj, shouldering the pace attack amid injuries, took 13 wickets, including a five-wicket haul (5/73) in Brisbane, despite grappling with personal tragedy. Shubman Gill, making his Test debut, scored 259 runs at 51.80. While many remember Pant for the Gabba heist, Gill's 91 while opening the innings was equally crucial.

'SMART' ASHWIN HAS TAUGHT ME A LOT: LYON

Perth: Veteran Australia spinner Nathan Lyon believes that rival players often serve as the "best coaches", acknowledging that Ravichandran Ashwin has "taught" him a great deal through their faceoffs since 2011-12. "Ashwin is an incredible bowler. I've gone head-to-head with him for basically my whole career, so I've learned a lot from Ash," Lyon told Fox Cricket.

"He's an incredibly smart bowler, and he's able to learn and adapt very quickly. The best bowlers in the world are able to do that. He used his skills to benefit himself and his team. You've got to give credit where credit's due, he was the best bowler (in 2020-21). So, hats off to Ash."

It will be Ashwin's fifth Test tour of Australia, where he has claimed 39 wickets in 10 Tests at an average of 42.15. Lyon further admitted to having studied Ashwin's bowling closely, especially before Australia toured India. "He's taught me a lot," Lyon said. "I'm a big believer in the players that you play against are your best coaches that you eventually come across. I've watched a lot of his footage heading over to India, the way he goes about it here in Australia, see if I can pick up anything. There's so much for me to learn from Ash." PTI

STOINIS BLITZES WOBBLY PAKISTAN

Hobart: Marcus Stoinis slammed five huge sixes in an unbeaten 61 as Australia crushed Pakistan by seven wickets in Hobart on Monday to secure a 3-0 T20 series whitewash.

Chasing a meagre 118, the hosts hit the target in the 12th over to hand Pakistan a reality check after the visitors won the preceding ODI series 2-1.

Stoinis was unstoppable once he got going, also blasting five fours in his 27-ball masterclass.

"It's really nice to get another win and go 3-0 up," said Australia skipper Josh Inglis. "When he's going like that, it's really hard to stop," he added to Stoinis. "One of those sixes was probably the biggest I've seen." The match at Bellerive Oval was a dead rubber after Australia won a rain-hit match in Brisbane by 29 runs and then in Sydney by 13 runs. AFP

Brief scores: Pakistan 117 all out in 18.1 overs (Babar Azam 41; Spencer Johnson 2-24, Adam Zampa 2-11, Aaron Hardie 3-21) lost to Australia 118/3 in 11.2 overs (Josh Inglis 27, Marcus Stoinis 61) by 7 wickets.

In-form India eye encore of group-stage win vs Japan

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Rajgir: After some early hiccups, the Indian women's hockey team has been able to dominate their opponents on way to the Asian Champions Trophy semifinal, where they face Japan at the Rajgir Sports Complex on Tuesday evening.

It has been quite a show from Salima Tete and Co. as they scored a staggering 26 goals in five matches and finished top of the table with 15 points. But as coach Harendra Singh said during a virtual press conference on Monday, the players can score more.

"We are going too close to the baseline, especially in the first quarter, and forcing ourselves to score the goals from there. As a result, in every match, we are making a hero out of the opponent's goalkeeper. We must avoid that," said the coach. "Goalkeepers of Asian and Latin American countries have a habit of leaving their goalpost to get close to the ball, leaving the goal open. We have



IN FORM: India skipper Salima Tete (right) is leading from the front

to take advantage of that."

The team has also been defensively solid, conceding just two goals against South Korea and a total of three penalty corners. Although they were at their best against Thailand, scoring 13 goals, it was their performance against China and Japan on consecutive days that showed what the team is capable of.

Both teams have come to India without most of their

regular players who played at the Paris Olympics but India's performance should, in no way, be undermined. They have also been wasteful at times but they haven't given up. One of the reasons making it possible is possibly the freedom that coach Harendra Singh has given the players to play give-and-go hockey.

Meanwhile, in the other semifinal, China will face off against Malaysia.

Salima thriving on new-found freedom

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Rajgir: There's a huge mural of Salima Tete in all her glory here. In full cry, ball glued to stick, eyes focused, it adorns the outer wall of the hockey stadium at the Rajgir Sports Complex. It's unlikely that you would find such a huge artwork of a hockey player — man, woman, Indian or otherwise — anywhere else in the country. Mention that bit to her and the idea leaves the captain of the Indian women's hockey team staggered.

"This picture is a huge motivation," Salima tells TOI. "It brings out something special that helps me play with more freedom." Salima has been playing at a high level at the ongoing Asian Champions Trophy. The Indian team's recent appointment has also been constantly communicating and rallying her players. But it is the willingness to track back to defend whenever the need arises, that has caught everyone's attention.

ing hockey is part of coach Harendra Singh's plan — each player can play in any position they want. "The coach has given us a lot of freedom," she says. "Earlier, we'd stick to our positions and play in certain areas. But now we can play anywhere we want. So, Sharmila knows what to do at the centre, and I know how to play in the back. Nobody has any fixed position now, everybody is striker, defender and midfielder." This new approach has worked well so far and is expected to continue in the knockouts as well.

The Rajgir assignment is Salima's first proper outing as captain and she wants to finish on a high. "It's important to do well here to get the confidence to perform better against other top teams in the future."

She attributes much of her team's resurgence to improved mental strength, an area that Harendra focused on after taking over in May and consequently made them go through an intensive training session at the Indian Naval Academy in Kannur in July. Explains Salima: "In the match against Japan (Sunday group game), we missed some chances in the first two quarters but were confident that we would get the goals eventually. We kept going for it and finally, we got it."

The mentality has surely changed," she reminds us, "We are always on the lookout for the next goal..."

Satwik-Chirag back on circuit

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Hyderabad: Physically hurt and psychologically bruised after the upset at the Olympics, Satwiksairaj Rankireddy and Chirag Shetty will end their three-month sabbatical with the China Masters which begins in Shenzhen on Tuesday.

The duo returned empty-handed from Paris Olympics and skipped all the tournaments in the last three months. Though Satwik had a shoulder injury, the main reason was that the pair needed time to recover from the loss and did not have a coach as Mathias Boe left after the Olympics.

Despite being No.1 for many weeks, they may not qualify for next month's year end BWF Tour Finals. Before their new coach arrives, the duo decided to take part in the China Masters. They got a decent draw and will face Yang Po-Hsuan and Lee Jhe-Huei of Chinese Taipei first.

"They are in good shape now and are eager to win as many tournaments as possible. What happened has happened and they still have a long career ahead," said chief coach Pullela Gopichand.

GALLERY

Jyothi, Abhishek bag medals in indoor series

Compound archers Jyothi Surekha Vennam and Abhishek Verma bagged gold and silver in the GT Open, the second leg of this season's Indoor Archery World Series in Strassen, Luxembourg, on Sunday. The success comes weeks after Atanu Das claimed bronze in the men's recurve category in the first stage of the series, the Swiss Open in Lausanne. **reports Archiman Bhaduri.**

SL beat NZ to clinch another home series:

Kusal Mendis hit a patient unbeaten 74 as Sri Lanka beat New Zealand by three wickets under the DLS method with six balls remaining in the rain-hit second ODI. Sri Lanka took an unassailable 2-0 lead in the three-match series. It was Sri Lanka's fifth ODI series win at home in 2024.

Salvi named RCB's bowling coach:

Royal Challengers Bengaluru have roped in current Mumbai head coach Omkar Salvi, under whom the domestic giants clinched the Ranji Trophy and Irani Trophy titles last season, as their fast bowling coach for the 2025 IPL. **reports Gaurav Gupta.**

Britain beat holders Canada:

Britain dispatched defending champions Canada 2-0 to advance to the Billie Jean King Cup semis following straight-sets singles wins from Emma Raducanu and Katie Boulter. **AGENCIES**

ACTION TODAY

CRICKET: SL vs NZ, 3rd ODI, 2.30 pm (Sony); **FOOTBALL:** Nations League, Hungary vs Germany; Montenegro vs Turkey; Wales vs Iceland, 1.30 am Wednesday (Sony); **HOCKEY:** ACT, Semis, China vs Malaysia, 2.30 pm; India vs Japan, 5 pm (Sony); **TENNIS:** Davis Cup Finals, Quarters, Netherlands vs Spain, 9.30 am (Sony)



THE LAST SERVICE: Spain's Nadal speaks ahead of the Davis Cup finals in Malaga. This is his farewell tournament

"I am not here for retiring. I'm here to try to help the team. It's going to be my last week on the tour, but at the end, we are here in a teams competition. The emotions are going to be for the end."

"I achieved the most important thing for me, because I am in peace that I gave all that I had."

"(I will miss) the feeling of competition, (to) go on court and see the fans out there, the atmosphere when you play big matches. And at the end of the day, (it) is about the adrenaline that you feel before, at the end, and during the match."

"That's a question for the Spain captain (whether he will play)."
—Rafael Nadal

SINNER CROWNS SEASON WITH ATP FINALS TRIUMPH

Turin: World No. 1 Jannik Sinner became the first Italian to win the ATP Finals title following a dominant 6-4 6-4 victory over American Taylor Fritz in a rematch of this year's US Open final. Sinner, who lost last year's final to Novak Djokovic, did not put a foot wrong as he finished undefeated and without dropping a set to earn \$4,881,500 in prize money. The 23-year-old Sinner's stupendous year may have been clouded by an anti-doping controversy but on the court, he won 26 of his last 27 matches and eight titles. **REUTERS**



WCC: Has charm of dethroning a world champ reduced?

Gukesh Deserving Challenger Despite Carlsen's Absence & Ding's Problems

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Magnus Carlsen continues to prove — partly due to a FIDE rating system that doesn't punish inactivity — that he is the best player in the world. Now, it's up to both challenger D Gukesh and reigning champion Ding Liren to prove that theirs is the real World Championship Match that starts in Singapore on Nov 25. Former world champion Garry Kasparov — world No. 1 for nearly two decades — was most forthright claiming recently that the tradition of finding a real world champion had ended after Carlsen's withdrawal from the cycle in June 2022 when the Norwegian vacated the throne that he held since 2013.

"I would disagree with Kasparov," GM and elite player Levon Aronian told TOI. "It is still a World Championship match. It can't change just because somebody withdrew. That would be like saying that Anatoly Karpov was not the world champion in 1975 because Bobby Fischer withdrew."

India rally to hold Malaysia

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Hyderabad: India's poor form continued and they ended the year without a win as the FIFA friendly against Malaysia ended in a 1-1 draw at the GMC Balayogi stadium.

After the visitors took lead in the 19th minute, courtesy a goalkeeping blunder, Rahul Bheke's equaliser in the 39th minute salvaged some pride for the hosts.

India, under the guidance of Manolo Marquez, began in aggressive fashion, restricting the action to the Malaysian half for the most part. They pressed hard for the

Perhaps, but there is a slight difference between 1975 and 2024. Fischer quit the sport itself in 1975 and Karpov defeated challenger Viktor Korchnoi in 1978 and 1981 to prove his undoubted supremacy. Here, Carlsen continues to dominate and add layers to his legend. And importantly, Ding Liren — being as low as world No. 23 — wears the look of challenger rather than a champion. It is a blow to the claims about the match being between the two best chess players on the planet.

"For all practical purposes, Magnus has also quit regular chess. He plays rarely in standard time control tournaments and that is just for fun," Aronian pointed out.

Like Karpov in the mid-1970s, Gukesh too is the most deserving challenger; thanks to his convincing all-round superiority over the board in various tournaments, Olympiads and Candidates.

Last year's Championship match between Ding and Ian Nepomniachtchi broke the tradition of a new champion needing to dethrone the reigning champ. The onus is now on Ding and Gukesh to restore the charm in Singapore. That can happen if they offer exhilarating positions over the board that would force even Artificial Intelligence-backed followers of the sport to marvel at the beauty of cerebral battle.

THE MOUNTAIN AND THE MAN

Nadal's record is testimony to his tennis and temperament, but his legend is more than the inimitable craft. It's also his character

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Rafael Nadal of the iron-clad routines — the placement of his drink bottles, the way he wears his socks or why he wipes his forehead with his forearm before he serves — is a personality like no other on the sporting planet.

Nadal's numbers are the mountain, but there's also the man. The 38-year-old is the winner of 22 Grand Slam titles, including a record 14 French Opens. He has 92 Tour level titles, 209 weeks as No.1, finishing year-end No.1 five times. Nadal is one of three men to

complete a career Golden Slam in singles, owns the longest single-surface win streak in the Open era in men's singles, 81 wins on clay from 2005 to 07.

The Spaniard will look to supplement that in the Davis Cup Finals, starting Tuesday, which he has already won four times. Nadal will maybe play singles, likely only doubles, in what'll be his farewell tournament, but there won't be a dry eye in Malaga this week.

The Spaniard's record is testimony to his tennis and temperament, but his legend is more than just the inimitable craft — guts and guile, ripper forehand and tireless legs in

knickerbocker shorts. It's the character, not just how he competed, but the way he did. He's respectful of opponents, his coaching box and equipment. Old-school manners and new age sensibilities. He's a favourite with tournament staff and enjoys a huge locker-room presence.

There was a moment in Shanghai, some seven-eight years ago. It was early in the evening, on one side of the door of the luxury hotel was Nadal with his team, and on the other side was a senior Spanish journalist trying to make his way in. The journalist was quick to spot his celebrated compatriot

and immediately pulled back to merge with the crowd of autograph hunters. Nadal held the door for his senior countryman and waved him in. "You don't get the door for me, I get it for you," Nadal told him.

"I feel proud that I leave a positive legacy ... also as a human," he said at Roland Garros in May. "That's more important than any result. You can fake the crowd, you can fake the people who don't know you on a daily basis, you can create an image, but you can't create an image with all the people working on the Tour."

Nadal's rivalry with Federer that started in March 2004, five months before the Olympic Games would return to Athens for the first time since 1896, and will far outlive their on-court rivalry that ended in 2019, before the onset of the pandemic.

Nadal leads that head-to-head 24-16 despite Federer winning seven of the duo's last-eight meetings. On many counts that rivalry was the glue that not only held the men's game together, it gave the sport a wholesome new order.

That despite Novak Djokovic leaving the duo behind to wear the crown of the greatest ever. The Spaniard even called the Serb his biggest rival, but it is with Federer that Nadal shares a visceral connection.

"I think we enjoy each other's company," Federer said of Nadal. "I always feel like an evening we ever spent together we never have enough time." Nadal picked up the baton. "On court we have completely opposite styles that's what makes our matches and rivalry one of the biggest and most interesting," he said. "But we approach life not in a different way, that's why we can trust each other, we're able to speak freely, confidently."

Their relationship, creamed with healthy respect, is as deep as familial ties. When Federer laced up for the Laver Cup two years ago, a bruised and battered Nadal arrived to play partner. That's where the rivalry ended, on the same side of the net.

Who says love means nothing in tennis? Not Rafael Nadal. Not Malaga.

Belgium's slump continues

Budapest: Belgium's 0-1 defeat by Israel in the Nations League on Sunday has ramped up the pressure on Domenico Tedesco but the coach still believes he is the right man for the job.

Belgium have won just two of their last 10 internationals and only avoided bottom place in their group, and relegation, because of better head-to-head results against the Israelis.

The 39-year-old has come under scrutiny since Belgium's disap-

pointing exit at the European Championship. Belgium's timid tactics have been criticised throughout the six-game campaign despite Tedesco promising a more adventurous approach after they limped out to France in the last 16 at Euro 2024 in July.

"After the Euros I told you that we have to change something in some games, we missed intensity, and that we have to try new players," Tedesco said. "This campaign was different because of many, many injuries."

England back in top tier

Harry Kane's 69th international goal sparked a second-half scoring spree that fired England back to the top tier. In Lee Carsley's final game in charge, England won their group with a 5-0 win against Ireland.

France clinch top spot with Italy win

Adrien Rabot and Lucas Digne combined perfectly to celebrate their 50th international caps to give France a 3-1 win in Italy as they finished top of Group A2. **REUTERS**

TIMES NATION

Ex-jawan shot at students when they tried to aid delivery agent

Continued from P 1

When the students saw the commotion and stopped the bus to try and help the delivery agent, a furious Nitin Sirohi turned on them, forcing his way into the bus, smashing his glass and brandishing his weapon.

A video shot by one of the terrified students purportedly shows shattered windowpanes and bloodstains on a seat. There are sounds of frantic screaming and cries for help in the background.

"Our attempt to help the food delivery boy enraged him. He aimed his pistol at us and we rushed back into the bus for safety. But he followed us, broke all the windows and fired shots, one of which hit our classmate Hriday Gupta," said Vansh Maheshwari, a BBA student. Gupta, who was treated for his injuries, is out of danger.

A video shot by a student purportedly shows shattered windows, bloodstains on a seat; there are sounds of frantic screaming and cries for help in the background

Another student, Harsh Singh Rajput, said, "Sirohi hit several of us. I sustained a minor head injury."

SP (city) Ayush Vikram said, "We have arrested the ex-soldier and a case has been registered against him under BNS Sections 109 (attempt to murder), 115(2) (voluntarily causing hurt), 352 (intentional insult), 324(4) (wrongful loss and damage) and relevant sections of Arms Act."

Meanwhile, a senior official from KCC Institute of Management and Technology, Greater Noida, who did not wish to be named, said: "It was not an official college trip which typically involves multiple vehicles and staff supervision. This seems to have been a personal outing organised by the students, about which the college is unaware."

US made \$50bn from int'l pupils in 2023, 20% of it from Indians

India, China Made Up 54% Of Foreign Students

Continued from P 1

Most Indian students (64.5%) enrolled in public institutions, while the remaining 35.5% attended private universities.

As per the global trends in international enrolment, US hosted an all-time high of over 11 lakh international students in 2023-24, a seven percent increase from the previous year.

India and China together accounted for over half (54%) of this total. However, while India's numbers surged, China's enrolment declined by four percent to 2.7 lakh students.

Indian students' contribution to the US economy in 2023 was significant, generating \$11.8 billion, as per the International Student Economic Impact 2023.

The percentage of Indian students pursuing mathematics/computer science as per the latest report is 42.9%, followed by 24.5% studying engineering, and 11.2% studying business/management. There are 5.4% of Indian students pursuing physical/life science programmes.

Across all international students in the US, 56% pursued STEM fields, with mathematics and computer science (25%) and engineering (19%) being the most popular disciplines. Business and management (14%) and physical and life sciences (8%) follow.

International students were distributed across 44 states, with the largest populations in California, New York and Texas. States like Missouri (+35%), Michigan (+14%), and Illinois (+13%) saw the highest growth in student numbers. For Indi-

ENROLMENT TREND IN US

Year	Total international students	Total US enrolment	% International students	% of change from previous year
2023-24	11,26,690	1,89,39,568	5.9	6.6
2022-23	10,57,188	1,89,61,280	5.6	11.5
2021-22	9,48,519	2,03,27,000	4.7	3.8
2020-21*	9,14,095	1,97,44,000	4.6	-15
2019-20	10,75,496	1,97,20,000	5.5	-1.8
2018-19	10,95,299	1,98,28,000	5.5	0.1

* International students studying online from outside the US were counted 2020/21-2022/23

Graduate: 5,02,291 international graduate students pursued studies in the United States in 2023/2024, an 8% increase and an all-time high

OPT: The number of international students who remained in the United States to gain practical work experience through Optional Practical Training reached a record high of 2,42,782 students, an increase of 22% from the prior year

Undergraduate: The number of international undergraduates remained stable at 3,42,875, decreasing by a moderate one percent from 2022/2023

Non-Degree: After robust increases last year of 28%, the number of non-degree students in programmes, such as intensive English programmes or exchange programmes, stabilised, with a 12% decline to 38,742

INDIA: STUDENT MOBILITY FACTS AND FIGURES 2024

Year	Total Indian students in the US	Chinese students in the US
2023-24	3,31,602	2,77,398
2022-23	2,68,923	2,89,526
2021-22	1,99,182	2,90,086
2020-21	1,67,582	3,17,299
2019-20	1,93,124	3,72,532
2018-19	2,02,014	3,69,548

India became the leading place of origin with 3,31,602 international students in the United States in 2023/2024, reflecting a 23% increase from the prior year. India enrolments increased primarily at the graduate (1,96,567; +19%) and Optional Practical Training (OPT) academic levels (97,556; +41%)

India is the top-sending country for the first time since 2009

China was the second leading place of origin, despite a 4% decline to 2,77,398 students. It remained the top-sending country for undergraduates and non-degree students, sending 87,551 and 5,517, respectively. Chinese students pursuing OPT increased by 12% to 61,552

at students, Texas, New York, California, Massachusetts and Illinois were the top destinations.

In 2023, international students made up six percent of the total US higher education population and contributed over \$50 billion to the US economy.

Sub-Saharan Africa recorded the highest growth rate among all regions, increasing by 13% for the second consecutive year. Among the top 25 countries sending students to US, eight reached record highs — Bangladesh, Colombia, Ghana, India, Italy, Nepal, Pakistan and Spain.

Scott Weinhold, senior bureau official for the US state department's bureau of educational and cultural affairs, emphasised the broader impact of international education: "The experience of studying in the United States not only shapes the lives of individuals but also the future of our interconnected world."

"The ties formed between the US and international students today are the basis for future business, trade, science, innovation and govt relations."

In 2023-24, over half a million graduate students (5,02,291) studied in the US,

SG assured SC he would brief it on Centre's Rajoana stand

Continued from P 1

Later in the day, Tushar Mehta requested the court not to pass any order and assured that he would brief the court on Centre's stand. Allowing his plea, the court posted the matter to Nov 25.

Balwant Singh Rajoana was convicted for assassinating Beant Singh, then Punjab CM, in 1995 and has been in jail for 29 years. He was sentenced to death in 2007 by a trial court but he, unlike other convicts, did not challenge his conviction in the HC or SC. Mercy petition for commutation of his death sentence to life imprisonment was filed by Shiromani Gurdwara Parbandhak Committee on his behalf and has been pending for more than eight years.

Home ministry had on Sept 27, 2019, written to Punjab chief secretary to propose special remission and release of prisoners on the occasion of 50th birth anniversary of Guru Nanak in which his name was also there. But his name was not sent in view of pending appeals of the co-accused in SC.

Jawan shot at by Maoists in MP will now have to live with bullet in skull

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Bhopal: A Hawk Force jawan, who was critically injured Sunday during a Maoist search operation in Kundul forest area of Balaghat district in Madhya Pradesh, will have to live with a bullet lodged deep inside his skull.

Shivkumar Sharma was immediately evacuated from the region when joint forces of Hawk Force and police came under heavy fire from Maoists. He was rushed to a medical facility in Gondia, Maharashtra, where doctors are working to manage the swelling in his brain. His condition is stable, and doctors have advised against removing the bullet as any surgical intervention could put his life at risk.

Anmol faces 18 cases, named in 2 NIA chargesheets

Continued from P 1

A Facebook account purportedly belonging to Anmol Bishnoi's had in April this year claimed responsibility for the shooting incident outside Salman Khan's residence. Subsequently, cops chanced upon an audio recording of a conversation purportedly between Anmol and Vicky Gupta, one of the shooters involved in the incident.

Anmol has also been accused of providing arms and logistical support to the shooters of late Punjabi singer Sidhu Moosewala who was killed on May 29, 2022. Anmol had left the country on a forged passport in April, 2022, a month before the singer was targeted. He had since been living in California along with his associates Golby Brar and others.

National Investigation Agency (NIA) had in Oct announced a reward of Rs 10 lakh on Anmol, shortly after his alleged role emerged in

Baba Siddique's murder. Mumbai police has approached the court to initiate the process for Anmol's extradition and also sent a communication to ministry of external affairs through MHA. Anmol's notoriety extends to a litany of crimes, with a staggering 18 cases registered against him for a range of offenses, including extortion — the long sheet underscoring his reputation as a formidable figure in the underworld.

Anmol aka Bhanu, a resident of Fazilka in Punjab, is named in two chargesheets filed by NIA in cases registered in 2022. Last year, NIA had filed a chargesheet against almost a dozen individuals, including Lawrence and Anmol. The chargesheet had alleged that the accused were part of a larger criminal conspiracy aimed at unleashing a reign of terror and carrying out targeted assassinations of prominent social and religious heads, film personalities, singers and businessmen.

Following the attack, additional security forces were deployed to intensify search operations in the region to track down the Maoists involved

Doctors said, Sharma was unconscious when he reached the hospital. "The bullet is lodged in a critical area and attempting to remove it could result in severe complications. We are closely monitoring his condition." Siazay KM, Commandant Hawk Force told TOI. Balaghat SP Nagendra Singh said his condition is stable, but it will take a couple of months for him to recover.

CM Mohan Yadav spoke to the doctors to receive updates on Sharma's condition and promised all necessary support to the jawan and his family. He said state will cover the jawan's medical expenses. Sharma was injured in an encounter that took place after intelligence reports indicated the presence of Maoists from BNS division. Hawk Force team launched a search operation near Songudda outpost. As the team advanced, they came face-to-face with 12 to 15 armed Maoists, who opened fire. This prompted security forces to return fire. Following the attack, additional security forces have been deployed to intensify search operations in the region to track down the Maoists involved.

Former Maharashtra home minister Anil Deshmukh suffers head injuries after his vehicle is attacked with stones in Nagpur, P 15

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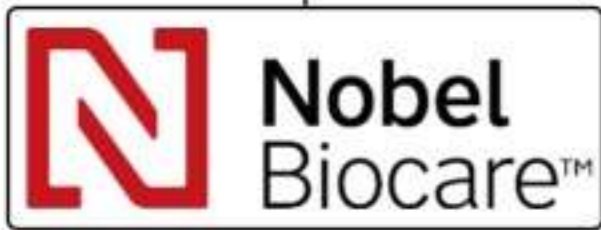
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PREZ-ELECT TRUMP CONFIRMS THAT HIS ADMIN WILL DECLARE NATIONAL EMERGENCY & USE MILITARY ASSETS IN A MASS DEPORTATION PROGRAMME TO 'REVERSE BIDEN INVASION' 18

Police firing kills one, sparks protests in Manipur, Assam

Ex-Army Officer Who Led Cops Suspended

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Manipur govt suspended Monday a decorated ex-Army officer who was pulled out of retirement last year to head state police's combat wing after commandos led by him fired at a mob in troubled Jiribam late Sunday, killing a 23-year-old protester and wounding another.

Secret Of Biren Singh's Staying Power, FLAP INSIDE
EDIT PAGE: Must Forget Who Votes For Whom

Khundrakpam Athouba Singh was part of a demonstration against the suspected abduction and murder of three displaced Meitei women and as many children reported missing since Nov 11. Fel-



Assam Rifles personnel in Churachandpur district's Lailophai Monday

low protester Keisam Benson, 30, is being treated in a Silchar hospital for gunshot wounds.

Khundrakpam's death sparked more protests in Meitei-inhabited areas of Manipur and Silchar in neighbouring south Assam's Cachar district, dragged into the ethnic conflict after the bodies of 10 Hmar "militants" killed by CRPF in Jiribam last week were sent to Silchar Medi-

cal College for autopsy.

The N Biren Singh govt, already under the pump, responded by instituting an inquiry by a two-member team headed by IGP (intelligence) K Kabib and ordering the immediate suspension of SSP (combat) Nectar Sanjenbam, the retired Army Colonel and Kirti Chakra winner.

Net curbs extended, P 11

Shah rushes 5k more CAPF personnel

Home minister Amit Shah held the second review meeting on Manipur Monday and rushed 5,000 more central armed police forces personnel to the state. MHA deployed 2,000 personnel a few days ago. Shah, sources said, told CAPF officers and police to take steps to expeditiously restore peace and public order. **P 11**

Biren calls meet, ally NPF backs him

M N Biren Singh Monday met NDA netas amid NPF's withdrawal of support to his govt. NPF, BJP's other ally, proclaimed its support to govt. The 26 MLAs who attended the meet adopted a resolution calling for a "mass campaign against Kuki militants" and gave an ultimatum to the Centre to resolve the conflict. **P 11**

Delhiites stranded as 50% of DTC staff go on strike

A DTC strike for wage parity, better work conditions and secure employment by nearly half the workforce left Delhiites stranded across parts of the capital on Monday. A section of workers began the strike on Saturday and several of their counterparts joined in as the week began. DTC has around 30,000 staff, more than half of whom have been hired on a temporary basis. **P 7**

Farmers to march again to Delhi Dec 6

After being thwarted twice earlier this year, farmer forums SKM (Non-Political) and Kisan Mazdoor Morcha will make their third push towards Delhi on Dec 6. Their main demand is a legal guarantee of MSP for crops. **P 14**

2 elephants, calf electrocuted

Two female elephants and a calf were electrocuted Monday by a live wire trap allegedly set by poachers in Odisha's Sambalpur. Preliminary examination revealed the females were 30 years old, while the calf was three. **P 12**

K Sanjay Murthy appointed next CAG

President Droupadi Murmu has appointed K Sanjay Murthy, an IAS officer of the 1989 batch, as the new CAG. Murthy, who will succeed G C Murmu, is currently secretary, Department of Higher Education. **P 13**

Tirumala wants non-Hindu staff out

The newly formed Tirumala Tirupati Devasthanams passed a resolution Monday requiring non-Hindu staff to take voluntary retirement or a transfer. The decision is backed by Art 16 (5) of the Constitution. **P 9**

CCI slaps ₹213cr fine on Meta, orders WA to stop sharing data with sis cos

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi: In its first action of this kind against a social media platform, Competition Commission of India (CCI) on Monday ordered WhatsApp to stop sharing user data with other companies within the fold of its parent Meta, which has been slapped a fine of Rs 213 crore for abusing its "dominant position" following changes to the messaging platform's privacy policy in 2021.

WhatsApp, which can challenge the order, has been directed to change its policies and ensure users are given the choice to opt out of the data-sharing arrangement. It has also been asked to give users an option — through a prominent tab — to review and modify their choice. "The commission has concluded the 2021 policy update by WhatsApp

'ABUSE OF POSITION'

> WhatsApp has been directed to change its policies & ensure users are given the choice to opt out of data-sharing arrangement

> 3 yrs ago, WA changed its 2016 policy on sharing data with Facebook, and removed the earlier option to opt out

> CCI says updated privacy policy is an abuse of dominant position by Meta

on a 'take-it-or-leave-it' basis constitutes an imposition of unfair condition under the (Competition) Act, as it compels all users to accept expanded data collection terms & sharing of data within Meta Group without any opt out," CCI said in a statement.

Meta flouting law, P 13

SC asks Prez to decide on Rajoana's mercy plea, then puts it on hold

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi: Within hours of passing an order requesting the President to decide Beant Singh murder convict Balwant Singh Rajoana's mercy plea, Supreme Court withdrew its order after solicitor general Tushar Mehta assured that he would brief the court on the Centre's stand.

A bench of Justices B R Gavai, Prashant Kumar Mishra and K V Viswanathan had passed the order in the morning while observing that no one had appeared for the Centre to assist the court in deciding the case. It had directed the President's secretary to place Rajoana's file before her with a request to decide it in two weeks.

SG assured SC, P 20

IN THE COURTS

> CJJ Sanjiv Khanna recuses from Ridge tree-felling case, says he had gone on a Tihar prison tour with LG Saxena during an event | **P 6**

> SC sets up three-member SIT to investigate Sept 29 sexual assault of a 10-yr-old in Chennai | **P 12**

> SC collegium seeks to elevate Madras HC judge D Krishnakumar as chief justice of Manipur HC | **P 11**

> SC reprimands K'taka for challenging increased compensation for acquisition of farmers' lands, says allow them to survive | **P 12**

> In relief to Gambhir, Delhi HC says proceedings in cheating case against him to remain stayed | **P 6**

Kailash Gahlot joins BJP a day after leaving AAP

A day after dealing a blow to AAP by quitting the Kejriwal govt and the party, Kailash Gahlot joined BJP, denying that he switched because of the fear of being framed in corruption cases. The ex-AAP minister inten-

Shokeen will now be part of Atishi cabinet, P 5

sified his attack on the Kejriwal govt for constantly fighting with the Centre and over "Sheesh Mahal". "They have become 'khas' from 'aam'," he said. **P 5**

Bank rates must be 'far more affordable': FM

Finance minister Nirmala Sitharaman on Monday called for bank interest rates to be "far more affordable", arguing that several people found the cost of borro-

Pvt banks misreporting plights: RBI gov, P 17

wing "very stressful". Making a case for lower lending rates, she said India required its businesses to ramp up and invest in new facilities so that the goal of 'Viksit Bharat' can be achieved. **P 17**

Super Sunday: Domestic flyers top 5L first time

Nov 17 turned out to be a Super Sunday for Indian aviation with the number of domestic flyers in a day crossing the 5-lakh mark for the first time. Like last year, domestic air travel this time started picking up soon after Diwali (Oct 31) with the wedding season that started just before Nov 10. Sanjay Kumar, a veteran of Indian aviation, said with airlines adding capacity and fares being not very high, the numbers will rise even further this winter. **P 9**

Ex-fauji motorist attacks biker, fires at students

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Meerut: A retired Armyman has been charged with 'attempt to murder' and under Arms Act for allegedly whipping out his gun and shooting at a minibus carrying 18 students from KCC Institute of Management and Technology in Greater Noida. He injured one of them when a bullet gra-

Baraati runs over bride's kin, 1 dead, P 13

zed the student's stomach. The group was returning from a trip to Mussoorie when the incident took place on NH58 on Sunday night.

It all started when food delivery rider Anirudh Sharma confronted accused Nitin Siro-

17-yr-old's SUV hits 3 vehicles, 1 dead

An SUV driven by a student from a central govt-run residential engineering college in Dighi jumped a divider on Pune-Nashik highway and fatally hit an autorickshaw driver and injured two motorcyclists late Saturday night. The driver is 17+ & admits that he was drunk. **P 13**

hi (40), currently employed as a guard, for driving recklessly. "But he pulled out his pistol & began assaulting me," Sharma told TOI. Sirohi even tried to throw Sharma off a bridge.

Shot at students, P 20

India No. 1 source of int'l students in US after 15 yrs

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New Delhi: After a 15-year gap, India has reclaimed its position as the leading source of international students in the United States for the 2023-24 academic year, surpassing China. According to the Open Doors Report on International Educational Exchange 2024 report released on Monday, India registered a 23% year-on-year increase, sending over 3.3 lakh students to the US.

The development mirrors India's performance in UK, where it became the top source of non-European Union students in 2022-23, with a 39% increase to 1.7 lakh stu-

RECLAIMS TOP SPOT AFTER 2008-09

Year	Indian Students	Chinese Students
2023-24	3,31,602	2,77,398
2022-23	2,68,923	2,89,526
2021-22	1,99,182	2,90,086
2020-21	1,67,582	3,17,299
2019-20	1,93,124	3,72,532

dents, surpassing China. The growth in Indian students in the US is most notable in graduate programmes, which saw a 19% increase to almost two lakh students, and in optional practical training participation, which surged by 41% to over 97,000.

US made \$50bn, P 20

