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Union minister & LJP (RV) chief Chirag Paswan calls on Bihar CM Nitish Kumar at his Patna residence & endorses him, saying, 'There is no vacancy for the CM's post in the state, as of now'

Days after calling Indus Waters Treaty a 'historic mistake', Union agriculture minister **Shivraj Singh Chauhan meets farmer groups and says Nehru govt not only gave extra water to Pak at India's cost through treaty** but also gave it ₹83cr, which is now valued at around ₹5,500cr, **P 8**

Surgeons in Southern California have performed first human bladder transplant, introducing a new, potentially life-changing procedure for people with debilitating bladder conditions, **INSIDE JACKET**

Former US President Joe Biden has been diagnosed with an 'aggressive form' of prostate cancer that has spread to his bones, his office says in a statement, **INSIDE JACKET**

Sebi warning to 2 funds for not sharing details of Adani holdings

Sebi has warned Elara India Opportunities Fund and Vespera Fund, two Mauritius-based funds with investments in Adani Group, that they could face penalties and cancellation of licences for not sharing shareholding details despite repeated requests over two years. Adani Group and its 13 offshore investors have been facing a Sebi probe since Hindenburg Research in 2023 alleged improper use of tax havens by the group, which has denied wrongdoing. The two funds have applied to Sebi to settle the matter without admitting guilt and by paying a fine, said two sources. **P 13**

City man murdered in 'revenge attack'

A man, 29, was stabbed to death while his sister and another person were critically injured after being attacked by two minors in west Delhi's Khyala Sunday. Police suspect it to be a revenge attack over a previous confrontation following the alleged harassment of the sister by one of the accused. One of the minors was detained. **P 7**

2 of a family drown after ash immersion

Two members of a family from Rajasthan were swept away by the Ganga while taking a dip after the immersion of ashes of a relative in UP's Budaun on Monday. A rescue operation was immediately initiated by police with the support of local divers who managed to rescue four others of the family. Their condition is stable. **P 8**

6 die as car plunges into Maha river

Six people were killed after the MUV they were in plunged 100 feet from a bridge into a river on Mumbai-Goa highway in Maharashtra's Ratnagiri. They were headed to a funeral when the driver dozed off at a curve, resulting in the MUV barreling into the other carriageway before crashing through the river bridge. **P 8**

Doon DJ killed in accidental firing

Five close friends were having a party in Dehradun when one of them accidentaly fired a bullet at another while toying with an unlicensed pistol after removing its magazine, unaware that a round was still in the chamber. The victim, a DJ, was rushed to hospital where doctors declared him dead. TNN

Hyd fire: Cousins died in rescue bid

Cousins Pankaj (37) and Abhishek (31) were among the first to have responded to the deadly fire that claimed 17 lives of a jeweller's family in their three-storey building in Hyderabad's Gulzar Houz on Sunday morning. However, the two perished in their bid to rescue loved ones trapped in the inferno. **P 10**

'Croc tears': SC slams MP mantri in Col Qureshi row

Sets Up SIT, Seeks Report By May 28, But Stays Arrest

Dhananjay.Mahapatra @timesofindia.com

> If this is your apology, it is rejected outright. It (Operation Sindoor) was such an emotive & uniting issue... & you made such remarks... You made the crass comments on May 12, today is May 19. **What prevented you from making a sincere apology till now?** You are a representative of the people, yet you hurt the sentiments of millions. **The standards of responsibility for elected representatives are much higher**
>
> —Justices Surya Kant & N Kotiswar Singh to MP minister Vijay Shah

Shah (L) & Col Sofiya Qureshi

New Delhi: Trashing Madhya Pradesh minister Vijay Shah's "facade of an apology for the crass comments" aimed at Col Sofiya Qureshi, who briefed the media on Operation Sindoor, Supreme Court on Monday turned the heat on him by constituting an SIT of senior IPS officers, sought a probe status report by May 28, but stayed his arrest.

The minister's "if anyone is hurt" conditional apology riled a bench of Justices Surya Kant and N Kotiswar Singh, which referred to the video of his speech and said, "You were about to use some abusive language but could not as the words failed you. We know how to deal with people like you. You cannot say anything and when called out, attempt to wriggle out by tendering a facade of an apology which is akin to shedding crocodile tears."

The bench asked the Madhya Pradesh DGP to constitute the SIT by 10.30am Tuesday. It said members of the team should be senior IPS officers of MP cadre from outside the state, and one of them should be a woman. "We would like to keep a close watch on the probe, though we will not be monitoring it. The SIT will submit a report to us by May 28," it said. The court said one IPS officer would be of IGP rank while the other two would be of SP rank.

SC ordered that the FIR registered on the suo motu directions of MP high court be entrusted to the SIT. "The petitioner (minister) is directed to join the investigation and fully cooperate with it. Subject to that, as of now, his arrest will be stayed. We are not inclined to monitor the investigation."

▶ **'You're public figure', P 11**

2 held in Punjab, 1 in Haryana on charges of 'spying' for Pak

Three people — two from Punjab and one from Haryana — were arrested for allegedly spying for Pakistan on Monday, **report Manvir Saini and Yudhvir Rana**.

Haryana police's Mewat unit arrested Mohammad Tareef of Kangarka village, and said he "confessed" to sharing sensitive information about military and other agencies with two Pak high commission officials. Police alleged that he got cash and other facilities in exchange for the information. Tareef is the fifth person from Haryana to be held for spying in recent times, and the second from Nuh.

The Punjab DGP posted on X that Sukhpreet and Karanbir were apprehended after credible inputs on May 15 revealed that the two were allegedly engaged in sharing classified details related to Op Sindoor, including troop movements and key strategic locationswith ISI. **P 5, 18**

Govt to HC: Turkish co's security clearance pulled on intel inputs

Submits These In Sealed Cover, Says Can't Be Revealed

Abhinav.Garg@timesofindia.com

New Delhi: Better to be safe than sorry, the Delhi high court remarked Monday while hearing a plea by Turkish firm Celebi Airport Services India Pvt Ltd against revocation of its security clearance by the central govt. Opposing the plea, solicitor general Tushar Mehta told the court that the decision was taken in the interest of national security following certain intelligence inputs that it would be "hazardous" to permit the company to continue ground handling operations at nine airports in the country.

The senior law officer shared the inputs with the court in a sealed cover, telling Justice Sachin Datta that disclosing them would be counterproductive and affect national interest and security.

Senior advocate Mukul Rohatgi, appearing for Celebi, said the company has been operating in India for 17 years and had 14,000 employees.

'IT MATTERS WHO CONTROLS'

- **On May 15,** Bureau of Civil Aviation Security **revoked Celebi's security clearance** citing 'national security'
- SG Tushar Mehta says **'doctrine of proportionality' doesn't apply** in matters of national security
- Celebi argues that it **employs Indian citizens to handle services** across nine airports; SG says 'who controls and who gives instructions, that matters'

▶ **'Nat'l security', P 11**

HC upholds trial court order, backs Sambhal mosque survey

Prayagraj: Allahabad high court dismissed on Monday the Sambhal Shahi Jama Masjid committee's petition challenging a Nov 19, 2024 trial court order directing an advocate commissioner to survey the structure, the subject of a suit claiming that the mosque was built in 1526 after demolishing a temple, **reports Rajesh Kumar Pandey**.

While upholding the trial court's survey order, Justice Rohit Ranjan Agarwal vacated the interim stay on the Hindu plaintiffs' suit. The mosque committee had asked for the suit to be dismissed on the ground that the Hindu side's claim to the site was prima facie barred under the Places of Worship Act, 1991. The legislation prohibits conversion of any place of worship and mandates maintaining the religious character of any such site that existed on Aug 15, 1947.

▶ **'Plantiffs', P 11**

SC agrees to hear Ashoka prof's plea against arrest today or tomorrow

New Delhi: Supreme Court Monday agreed to list on Tuesday or Wednesday a petition challenging Ashoka University associate professor Ali Khan Mahmudabad's arrest by Haryana Police for his posts on Operation Sindoor. Senior advocate Kapil Sibal had requested a bench of CJI B R Gavai and Justice A G Masih for an urgent hearing, saying the professor was being prosecuted for his "patriotic statements".

Mahmudabad was picked up by police, who have lodged two FIRs against him based on complaints by Renu Bhatia, chairperson of Haryana State Commission for Women, and Yogesh Jatheri, sarpanch of Jatheri village and a general secretary of BJP's Yuva Morcha. They alleged that the professor had disparaged women officers and attempted to fan communal disharmony. TNN

▶ **Profs keep vigil; students ask univ to back him, P 4**
▶ **EDIT: Arresting Moment**

Faiz recited at event, FIR against Maha actor's wife

Nagpur: A case of 'endangering the nation's sovereignty and integrity' was registered against the wife of Marathi actor-poet Veera Sathidar for organising an event here last week where Pakistani poet Faiz Ahmed Faiz's nazm 'Hum Dekhenge' was recited, **reports Soumitra Bose**.

Pushpa Sathidar held the event in memory of her late husband, an Ambedkarite who played a stellar role in Marathi film 'Court' — India's official Oscar entry in 2016. The FIR followed a plaint by right-wing activist Dattatreya Shirke, accusing Pushpa and others of indulging in anti-national activities, reciting anti-establishment verses to target the govt and trigger strife in society.

▶ **'Under watch', P 11**

Pause call was bilateral, no Trump role: Misri to panel

New Delhi: Foreign secretary Vikram Misri Monday quipped that President Trump did not seek his permission to speak in the media about the Pakistan conflict, as he sought to lighten up the mood in the parliamentary committee on foreign affairs meeting where he briefed about the face-off, **report Subodh Ghildiyal & Akhilesh Singh.** But while the quip elicited guffaws, Misri categorically stated that call for pause was a bilateral affair, rebutting Trump's claims.

▶ **EDIT PAGE: Their Eyes Remain On Kashmir**
▶ **Beating Retreat restarts today at checkposts, P 8**
▶ **'Normalcy...', P 18**

Pak targeted Golden Temple: Army

Pakistan fired drones and missiles targeting Golden Temple, but India's preparedness and head granthi's decision to allow army to deploy air defence guns within the shrine thwarted attacks, Maj Gen Kartik C Seshadri said. **P 8**

Mamata slams Centre over TMC MP choice for foreign mission

Kolkata: Bengal CM Mamata Banerjee criticised Monday the central govt's decision to select MPs for diplomatic missions without consulting their parties, while reaffirming TMC's full backing on matters of national interest, **report Tamaghna Banerjee & Debashis Konar**.

She questioned the process used by the Centre in choosing TMC MP Yusuf Pathan for an all-party delegation countering Pakistani narrative abroad after Operation Sindoor.

Banerjee said: "No request came to us. We can, of course, consider it when it does. We are totally committed to the country's best interests." Banerjee stressed the difference between objecting to procedural lapses and rejecting the mission. "It is not that we are boycotting or not going. That is a wrong notion. But they need to inform the party. They cannot decide the member's name on their own. It is the party's choice."

▶ **'Not for govt...,' P 18**

Illegal migrants: US bans errant travel agencies

The Trump administration on Monday slapped a visa ban on errant Indian travel agencies and their owners who facilitated illegal immigration to the country. US statement said it's taking steps to impose visa curbs on owners, executives and senior officials of travel agencies for knowingly facilitating illegal immigration to US. Following Trump's crackdown on illegal migration, between Jan & early April , 682 Indian nationals had been deported from the US. **P 10**

Kyiv, Moscow to start truce talks: Trump after Putin call

US President Donald Trump said on Monday that Russia and Ukraine "will immediately start negotiations" toward a ceasefire and an end to their three-year-old war, speaking after he held a call with Russia's President Vladimir Putin.

Trump's announcement came in a Truth Social post after an over two-hour-long call with Putin, reports Reuters.

After the call, Putin said efforts to end the war were "generally on the right track" and that Moscow was ready to work with Ukraine on a potential peace deal. "We have agreed with the president of the United States that Russia will propose and is ready to work with the Ukrainian side on a memorandum on a possible future peace accord," Putin told reporters near the Black Sea resort of Sochi.

▶ **Report, INSIDE JACKET**

'Judges also human': Oka admits error in judgment

New Delhi: Judges are also human and they can make mistakes while judging, Justice Abhay S Oka said Monday while admitting that he committed a mistake in deciding a case as a Bombay HC judge in 2016 relating to interpretation of the Domestic Violence Act and said it was a continuous learning process for judges, **reports Amit Anand Choudhary**.

While holding that HCs have jurisdiction under Section 482 of CrPC to quash proceedings of an application filed under Section 12(1) of DV Act, which says an aggrieved woman may approach a magistrate for relief such as payment of compensation, Justice Oka, who penned the verdict for the bench comprising himself and Justice Ujjal Bhuyan, said as an HC judge, he had taken a contrary view on the issue.

> Before we part with this judgment, we must mention here that one of us (Abhay S Oka) is a party to a judgment... of Bombay HC in which the view taken is that remedy under Sec 482 of CrPC is not available for quashing proceedings under Section 12(1) of DV Act. This view was found to be incorrect by a full bench of the same HC. **As judges, we are duty-bound to correct our mistakes... Even for judges, the learning process always continues**
>
> —Justices Abhay Oka & Ujjal Bhuyan

SC said that HCs must keep in mind that DV Act is a welfare legislation specially enacted to give justice to women who suffer from domestic violence.

▶ **'Learning process', P 11**

'No evidence': SC acquits man sent to gallows by HC

New Delhi: The tendency of probe agencies to somehow crack a sensational case and the "overzealous approach" of courts to convict someone to impart justice sent a man to the gallows in a 2013 rape-cum-murder case of a four-year-old girl in Thane in Maharashtra. The Supreme Court held there was nothing to even cast a minimal suspicion against the man and acquitted him, but not before he had spent 12 years in jail, **reports Amit Anand Choudhary**.

A bench of Justices Vikram Nath, Sanjay Karol and Sandeep Mehta said the flawed and tainted probe led to the failure of the prosecution case involving the gruesome rape-cum-murder of the child and the accused was convicted and sentenced by the courts despite there being hardly any reliable evidence. It said witnesses were created to add "padding" to the case.

> Despite the shabby probe, the **overzealous approach of courts** to impart justice... led to conviction of the appellant, who was a young man aged 25 at the time of the incident and has remained **incarcerated for more than 12 years** with the Damocles' sword of impending **death penalty** hanging over his head for over 6 years —SC BENCH

▶ **'Overzealous stand', P 11**

HC frees jailed man, says prosecution framed him

Ashutosh Shukla & Siddharth Pandey | TNN

Bhopal/Jabalpur: Madhya Pradesh high court recently set aside a sessions court conviction in a Pocso case, holding that the prosecution tried to falsely implicate the accused to save the actual culprit, who may be a close relative of the survivor. HC allowed the accused to file a case of 'malicious prosecution' and seek compensation. The man had been sentenced to 20 years' rigorous imprisonment on charges of raping a six-year-old child.

The bench of Justices Vivek Agarwal and D N Mishra pointed out contradictions in statements of key witnesses — including the survivor, her mother and uncle, and the doctor who examined her. HC also noted that the DNA report, which was presented to the court as 'positive', was not so.

> There appears to be a **gross injustice being done to the appellant** by the trial court in not appreciating the evidence from the correct perspective. It appears that the prosecution not only tried to falsely implicate the appellant, but they are **trying to save the actual culprit**, who may be a close family relative
>
> —Madhya Pradesh HC

▶ **'Bid to save culprit', P 11**

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Revamped Ambedkar Stadium to be ready for action soon | 5

TIMES CITY

THE TIMES OF INDIA, NEW DELHI | TUESDAY, MAY 20, 2025

TEMP ON MONDAY
40.8° MAXIMUM | 28.7° MINIMUM

FORECAST Partly cloudy sky. Max and min temperatures on Tuesday would be around 39°C and 28°C

MOONSET 11.53AM (TUE) SUNSET 7.08PM (TUE) MOONRISE 1.20AM (WED) SUNRISE 5.28AM (WED)

201 AQI IN DELHI ON MONDAY (POOR)

High court reserves verdict on plea against DPS students' expulsion | 7

AIIMS denied fire safety certificate renewal due to violations | 3

Delhi's First Double-Decker Viaduct Is Ready — But Isn't

Green Nod Holds Up Construction Of Ramp Linking Road To Flyover

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New Delhi: Delhi's first double-decker viaduct between Bhajanpura and Yamuna Vihar on the upcoming Maujpur to Majlis Park corridor is almost ready. However, the ramp connecting the road with the flyover is yet to be constructed due to pending tree-cutting permission.

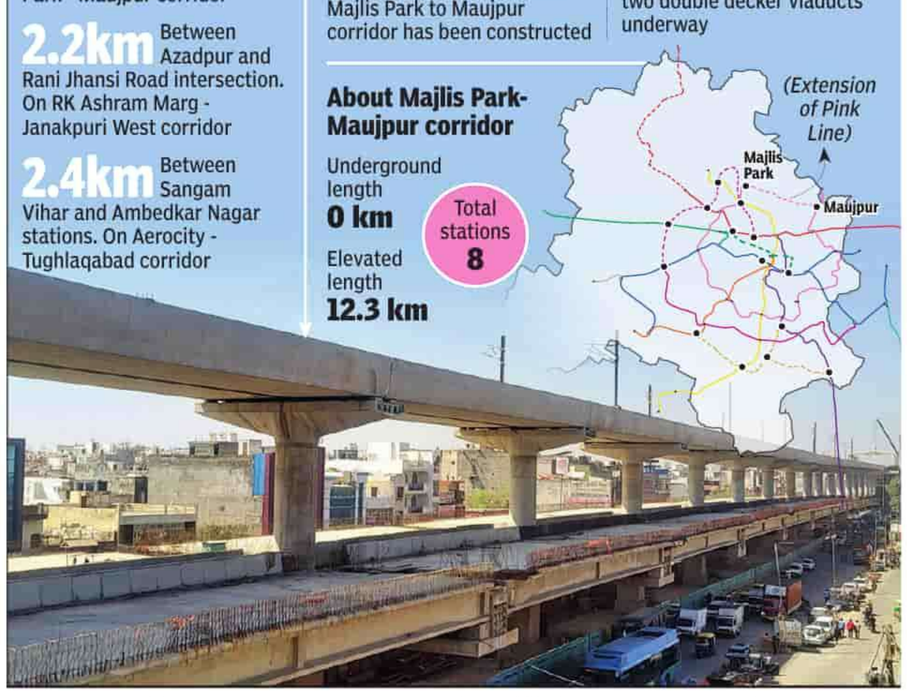
Announced by Delhi Metro Rail Corporation in 2021, the structure is among the three double-decker viaducts being constructed as part of Delhi Metro's phase IV, where trains will move on the upper deck and vehicles on the lower deck.

The 1.4km-long double-decker viaduct, situated on the central verge of Bhajanpura Road, is transforming the landscape of northeast Delhi while traversing densely populated neighbourhoods. It is part of the 12.32km-long corridor, which will be an extension of Pink Line.

"The viaduct for through movement of metro trains is already constructed for the entire corridor, and the section is expected to open for passenger services within this year," said Anuj Dayal, principal executive director of corporate communications at DMRC.

He added that the lower deck—four-lane PWD flyover—was almost ready. "However, the ramp needed for road connectivity to the flyover portion of the double-decker structure is not yet constructed due to the unavailability of tree-cutting permissions. Once the necessary permissions are received, the construction of the ramp portion shall also be completed," said Dayal.

Sources said some trees were situated on the ramp and the modalities for the same were being worked out in liaison with the appropriate authorities to expedite the matter.



Among the three double-decker viaducts, the 2.4km-long facility between Sangam Vihar and Ambedkar Nagar stations on the Aerocity-Tughlaqabad corridor will be the longest. The viaduct between Azadpur and Rani Jhansi Road intersection on the RK Ashram Marg-Janakpuri West corridor will be about 2.2km long. Both are under construction.

Though the Majlis Park-Maujpur corridor is likely to open this year, the other two corridors, RK Ashram Marg-Janakpuri West and Aerocity-Tughlaqabad, are expected to become operational by 2026. The Janakpuri West-RK Ashram corridor is an extension of Magenta Line while Aerocity-Tughlaqabad is the new Golden Line.

Three more new corridors were approved last year as part of the phase-IV expansion: Lajpat Nagar to Saket G Block (extension of Golden Line), Inderlok to Indraprastha (extension of Green Line), and Rithala-Narela-Kundli (extension of Red Line). In total, DMRC is constructing about 112km of new lines as part of its phase-IV expansion across the national capital.

DMRC had earlier said over 70% of the civil work was completed in the three priority corridors: Majlis Park-Maujpur, RK Ashram-Janakpuri West and Tughlaqabad-Aerocity.

Why 39.2°C feels like 48.5°C: Capital braves high humidity; air turns poor

Times News Network

New Delhi: Delhiites experienced a sultry Monday as high humidity made the outdoors uncomfortable. However, India Meteorological Department said there were chances of rain accompanied by thunderstorms and dust-raising winds up to 50-60km per hour throughout the week.

The maximum temperature on Monday was 40.8 degrees Celsius at Safdarjung, which is the city's base station, against 41.4 degrees Celsius a day earlier. The relative humidity levels fluctuated between 44% and 74%.

At 2.30pm, when the humidity registered 44% and the air temperature reached 39.2 degrees Celsius, Delhi recorded a heat index or 'feel-like' temperature of 48.5 degrees Celsius. The heat index is the apparent temperature felt outside, considering the impact of humidity along with the temperature. It is an indication to determine the human discomfort caused due to high temperature and humidity.

However, no rainfall was recorded at any weather station in Delhi from 8.30am to 5.30pm on Monday. "There is a possibility of very light to light rain along with thunderstorms, lightning and gusty winds (speed 30-40kmph) temporarily reaching 50kmph during thunderstorms with dust-raising winds till May 25," said a Met official.

Though IMD has not issued any colour-coded warning for rain and thunderstorms from May 20 to 25, the showers are likely to keep the mercury in check. The maximum temperature is predicted to dip to 38-40 degrees Celsius on Tuesday and may further drop to 37-39 degrees Celsius on Wednesday. "Heatwave conditions are unlikely during the next seven days," said an IMD official.

Rajesh Mehta

SEEKING ESCAPE! The relative humidity levels fluctuated between 44% and 74% on Monday

In May so far, Safdarjung has already logged 92.7mm of rainfall against the entire month's normal of 30.7mm.

However, a day after Commission for Air Quality Management (CAQM) revoked stage I of Graded Response Action Plan, Delhi's air quality again deteriorated to the 'poor' category. The air quality index was 201 on Monday compared to 179 the previous day at 4pm when Central Pollution Control Board released its 24-hour average AQI bulletin. However, AQI again turned moderate at 186 at 7pm.

"Given that Delhi's daily average AQI has since shown a consistent declining trend, with AQI improving to 191 at 6pm and further to 186 at 7pm on Monday, the sub-committee opined that invoking stage I of GRAP may not be necessary at this stage," said CAQM.

The commission said the dynamic model and forecasts for meteorological conditions and air quality index by IMD/IITM also indicated the overall AQI of Delhi to stay in the moderate category in the coming days with a likelihood of light rain and thunderstorms, accompanied by strong surface winds.

The measures under stage I are preventive and focus on the stringent enforcement of existing guidelines.

7,265MW: Peak power demand at new high

Times News Network

New Delhi: The peak power demand of Delhi on Monday was the highest for the May 1-19 period in the past four years, discom officials said. The state load dispatch centre recorded it at 7,265 MW at 3.29 pm. The peak power demand of Delhi for the May 1-19 period was 7,174 MW in 2024, 5,953 MW in 2023 and 7,070 MW in 2022, officials said.

The BSES discoms, BRPL and BYPL, met the peak power demand of 3,227 MW and 1,596 MW, respectively, in their areas, said a spokesperson of the company.

According to a Tata Power Delhi Distribution Limited statement, the peak power demand of 7,265 MW on May 19 was the highest on the day in the last five years. It was 7,164 MW on May 19, 2024; 5,518 MW on May 19, 2023; 7,070 MW on May 19, 2022 and 3,266 MW on May 19, 2021, it explained.

The discom successfully met its peak demand of 2,136 MW on Monday, the highest of this season so far, without any network constraints or supply disruptions, despite the ongoing hot weather, it said. The discom is fully prepared to ensure uninterrupted, quality power supply to the consumers through a multi-layered power procurement strategy comprising long-term bilateral agreements, reserve shutdown capacity, and dynamic participation on the power exchange, it added.

The BSES discoms are geared up to ensure reliable power supply to meet the power demand of more than 50 lakh consumers in South, West, East and Central Delhi, said the spokesperson. These arrangements include long-term power purchase agreements and banking arrangements with other states and deployment of the latest technologies for predicting power demand accurately, he added.

The scorching temperatures in Delhi last year also led to an unprecedented peak power demand, crossing 8,000 MW on several occasions. He said high power demand could be attributed to weather conditions that led residents to use more air conditioning and coolers, leading to an increase in electricity consumption. ACs alone contribute to 30-50% of a household's or company's yearly energy expense, according to discom estimates.

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100 Days In Office: CM Seeks Report On Work Done From Her Ministers

Delhi Govt Likely To Share Roadmap For Next Year, Says Party Functionary

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Now that the party has completed three months in office, sources said the ministers had started documenting all the projects they initiated, along with the timeline of achieving tangible results

New Delhi: With BJP govt in Delhi completing 100 days in office next week, chief minister Rekha Gupta has asked the ministers for a report on the work done by them so far.

Sources said the senior BJP leadership had also sought information from the state unit of the party on the performance of the ministers.

BJP came out with a huge manifesto ahead of the Feb assembly polls, promising a number of new schemes and projects targeting every section of society. Following BJP's victory, the city bureaucrats, on the directions of the chief secretary, prepared a 100-day action plan in line with Viksit Delhi Sankalp Patra 2025, or the manifesto, of the new govt.

Immediately after forming the govt, chief minister Gupta also asked all departments and state agencies to submit a plan of works to be carried out in the next 100 days, six months, nine months and one year.

Now that the party has completed three months in office, sources said the ministers had started documenting all the projects they managed to initiate in the departments they run, along with the timeline of achieving tangible results on them.

Among the prominent issues that CM promised to tackle within the first 100 days of her tenure to show "visible results" to the people of the national capital were the rollout of the Ayushman Bharat health insurance scheme, the cleaning of the Yamuna, desilting of drains and cleaning of sewers ahead of the monsoon, a large-scale sanitation effort to remove garbage from the city's streets and corners, and repair of roads.

"We have made substantial progress to achieve the targets fixed for 100 days in the administration. We have documented this in the report being sent to chief minister. Similarly, we have held a number of meetings with officials and taken several policy decisions for the welfare of the public. All those initiatives are also being mentioned in the report," said a close aide of one of the ministers.

A senior BJP functionary said Delhi govt might organise a function on May 30 or 31 to celebrate the completion of 100 days in office and present a report card of its works to the people of Delhi. "The govt may also make a couple of big announcements apart from sharing the roadmap for the next year with the public," the functionary said.

A similar report of the works done by the elected dispensation, besides a report on the feedback from the public on the performance of govt and their expectations, is also being prepared by the state unit of the party, which will be sent to the senior leadership, said a source.

BJP women's wing salutes soldiers for Op Sindoor

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Delhi BJP president Virendra Sachdeva, BJP MP Kamaljeet Sehrawat, former Union minister Smriti Irani and CM Rekha Gupta participated in the march

CM SAYS

The terrorists were given a befitting reply, and we bow in front of the soldiers. We thank them from the bottom of our hearts

New Delhi: Women turned out in big numbers for BJP's Sindoor Yatra in central Delhi's Connaught Place on Monday to laud the armed forces' recent incursions into Pakistan and the destruction of terror camps there.

Chief minister Rekha Gupta, former Union minister Smriti Irani, BJP MP Kamaljeet Sehrawat, and Delhi BJP president Virendra Sachdeva participated in the march organised by the BJP Mahila Morcha.

The march was taken out amid heavy security. Songs such as 'Mera Rang De Basanti Chola' and 'Meri Jaan Tiranga Hai' played.

"Operation Sindoor is our nation's symbol and commitment. It is not a mission but a message to terrorists that if you cast an evil eye at our daughters, the Indian armed forces are there to protect them. We bow down to those women whose husbands and sons are safeguarding our borders and ensuring our safety. We bow to the armed forces. Our Prime Minister took a vow that he won't let the country break or kowtow to anayone," Irani said.

Gupta said that through Operation Sindoor, the armed forces had protected the dignity of women in this country. "The terrorists were given a befitting reply, and we bow in front of them (the soldiers). We thank them from the bottom of our hearts," she said.

The forces carried out missile strikes early on May 7 at nine terror targets in Pakistan and Pakistan-Occupied Kashmir (PoK). The strikes, called Operation Sindoor, happened two weeks after the killing of 26 tourists in Pahalgam.

Gupta said the Sindoor Yatra was far more than a ceremonial event. "It is a powerful and heartfelt tribute from the women of the nation to our armed forces." She said that through Operation Sindoor, India's brave soldiers have valiantly safeguarded the honour and pride of the country's daughters and sisters, an achievement that fills the entire nation with pride.

"Under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, govt and armed forces launched a bold and decisive strike against terrorism in Pakistan, successfully dismantling every terrorist base," CM said. "On behalf of all the women of India, I offer my heartfelt gratitude to our armed forces," she said.

Irani said Operation Sindoor was not just a campaign but a symbol of the nation's pride and commitment. "It sends a strong message to terrorists that whenever they look towards the women of this country, they will find the entire nation, Govt of India, and our armed forces standing in defence of every daughter and mother."

She said the nation also bowed to PM Modi. "Today, India's army and the nation together have given a strong reply to Pakistan: we will not rest until every terrorist camp is destroyed," she said.

DFS denies fire safety certificate renewal to AIIMS after violations

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi: Delhi Fire Services (DFS) has declined to renew fire safety certificates for two prominent hospitals in the city — AIIMS and Bhagwan Mahavir Hospital — following several violations discovered during inspections.

Fire officials reported that at the AIIMS convergence block, they found locked basement escape stairs, corridors blocked by storage cabinets, and improperly sealed electrical shafts. Moreover, missing lift signage and accumulated waste materials on the terrace were identified as safety risks.

In a correspondence dated May 6 to the AIIMS administration, DFS director Atul Garg detailed violations in the dining block, including unsealed electrical shafts, non-functioning basement smoke exhaust systems, inoperable first-aid hose reels, faulty automatic fire detection systems, non-operational manual electrical call points, and incomplete sprinkler coverage. The inspection also revealed missing hoses in internal and external hydrant boxes, alongside ongoing lift installation work.

Based on the findings, the fire department rejected the renewal application and instructed the institute to address these deficiencies before further consideration.

"All requisite inspections, checks and compliances for renewal of the safety certificate have been completed. We expect to receive the renewed fire safety certificate within this week," said AIIMS chief security officer Digvijay Singh.

Prof Rima Dada, in-charge, AIIMS media cell, said, "All these procedures take time and we should be getting the clearance very soon."

At Bhagwan Mahavir Hospital, Pitampura, run by Delhi govt, inspectors found lift lobby pressurisation systems had been removed and fresh air fans and ducts dismantled. Officials warned that operating without proper fire safety measures would be at the owner's risk and liability. Fire authorities stressed that operations should cease until all deficiencies are corrected and safety measures are properly restored.

AIIMS chief security officer said 'all requisite inspections and compliances for renewal of the safety certificate have been completed. We expect to receive the renewed certificate within this week'

Dr Manoj Kumar, medical superintendent, Bhagwan Mahavir Hospital, said he had sought a report regarding fire safety issues, and assured swift implementation of safety arrangements.

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AMITY UNIVERSITY

Ahead of DU executive council meet, concerns raised at proposed uniform seniority policy

New Delhi: Ahead of the Delhi University Executive Council (EC) meeting, a proposed uniform policy to determine the seniority of college teachers has evoked a mixed response from members of the Executive and Academic Councils.

Executive Council member Aman Kumar echoed some of these concerns.

The proposal will be placed for final approval at the upcoming council meeting scheduled for May 23.

According to the proposed policy, the department whose appointments happened first will be treated senior to the other departments.

However, Prof Maya John, a member of the DU Academic Council and of the committee that framed the policy, has raised serious concerns.

John warned that the policy's limitations — such as restricting review of seniority to appointments made after April 2022 and its refusal to use the reservation roster to calculate inter se seniority — would deepen discontent among DU faculty.

However, defending the draft policy, Prof Harendra Tiwari, also an EC member and part of the committee, said the guidelines were formulated in line with those issued by the Department of Personnel and Training (DoPT). PTI

THE GOLD STANDARD OF MILK

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Land hurdle cleared for Sarai Kale Khan bus terminal revamp

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi: A major hurdle in the redevelopment of the inter-state bus terminal at Sarai Kale Khan and its integration with the Rapid Rail network was removed on Monday with lieutenant governor VK Saxena granting a no-objection certificate to the National Capital Region Transport Corporation (NCRTC) for the allotment of a land parcel.

According to officials, the NOC pertained to a land parcel measuring 2.5 acres (10,430 square metres) owned by the Delhi Urban Shelter Improvement Board (DUSIB). The land was required not only for the redevelopment of the ISBT but also to create associated passenger infrastructure and amenities. During the redevelopment, permanent night shelters will also be built for the homeless.

The LG office, in a statement, said that once redeveloped and integrated, Sarai Kale Khan would emerge as one of Delhi's largest multi-modal transit hubs and the ISBT, Delhi Metro, Indian Railway, and the RRTS Network will be converging, providing lakhs of commuters, including inter-state passengers, with seamless connectivity and enhanced amenities.

Officials said the request for this land was made by the Delhi Transport Infrastructure Development Corporation in Feb 2024. Currently, under the possession of DUSIB, the said parcel of land is free from encroachments. DUSIB also confirmed to the LG that there were no pending court cases or litigation concerning this land.

"DUSIB submitted that three night shelters exist on the said land parcel, which, as per a Supreme Court order dated May 9, 2023, cannot be removed without its approval. It has been agreed upon that DUSIB would approach the Supreme Court seeking its permission to shift the night shelters and the inmates to a nearby location," said an official. "DTIDC has also confirmed that the proposed ISBT redevelopment works would include creating permanent structures for the night shelters," the official added.

Verbal abuse ends up in 26-year-old's death

New Delhi: A 26-year-old man was shot dead following an altercation over verbal abuse in southeast Delhi's Sunlight Colony. Police have apprehended three individuals in connection with the incident and recovered the weapon used in the crime.

Around 3 am on Sunday, police received a PCR call reporting that someone had shot the caller's brother in the head near in the locality. The victim was rushed to a nearby hospital, where he was declared dead upon arrival. The deceased was identified as Adil, a resident of Kilokri village.

"The suspect claimed Adil verbally abused him the day before, which allegedly provoked the confrontation," an officer stated. "However, the facts are still under verification and we are looking into all possible angles." TNN

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Registrar

Balyan seeks bail in MCOCA case

New Delhi: Former Aam Aadmi Party MLA Naresh Balyan on Monday submitted in a Delhi court that keeping him in custody any further in the MCOCA case against him would serve no purpose.

The submissions were made on his behalf by advocate MS Khan. The court of special judge Dig Vinay Singh was hearing Balyan's bail application in the case related to an investigation into an organised crime syndicate.

Khan stated that Delhi Police had filed a chargesheet, indicating the culmination of the investigation. He further added that Balyan would abide by any condition imposed by the court if granted the reprieve. TNN

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GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL
e-TENDER NOTICE
NIeT No. 06 of 2025-26 Circulated vide Memo No. 1391/SMD Dt- 16-05-2025
On behalf of the Governor of W.B. e-Tenders are invited in W.B.F. No. 2911 by the Executive Engineer, South 24 Pgs Mechanical Division PHE Dte. [2025_PHED_847608_1 to 9]. Bid proposal submission end date 10.06.2025 upto 02.00 P.M. Other details information/download/upload will be available from the website: www.wbtenders.gov.in Sd/- Executive Engineer, South 24 Pgs Mechanical Division, PHE Dte.
ICA- T9925(3)/2025

GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL
PWD TENDER NOTICE
Executive Engineer, Western Highway Planning Division-I, P.W. (Roads) Dte. Invites NOTICE INVITING QUOTATION No - 01/ EE/WHPD-I of 2025-2026 for the works:- Supply of Labour, Vehicle and all other related accessories including collection of field data and all other related Survey works for Western Highway Planning Division-I, P.W. (Roads) Directorate, under State Highway Planning Circle, P.W.(Roads) Directorate, Govt. of West Bengal during the year 2025-26. Bid submission Starting date:-28.05.2025 & Bid Submission closing date 29.05.2025 at 03.00 P.M. may be seen & downloaded from the official website of P.W.D https://wbpwd.gov.in Sd/- Executive Engineer Western Highway Planning Division-I, P.W. (Roads) Directorate
ICA- T9909(3)/2025

GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL
ABRIDGED NOTICE INVITING TENDER
e-TENDER NO.-WBIW/EE/CDOD/ e-NIT NO 05 OF 2025-26
e-Tender (online) is hereby invited by the undersigned for 1 (One) no. work **Construction of steel foot bridge at Ch. 30.00 m. of dry weather flow channel** under CDOD and amount approx Rs. 25.85 Lakh. Document Download start date is **30.05.2025 at 11:00 hrs,** Bid submission start date at **30.05.2025 at 11:00 hrs** & Bid submission end date is at **30.05.2025 till 11:00 hrs.** For details please visit website: **www.wbtenders.gov.in** Sd/- Executive Engineer, Calcutta Drainage Outfall Division, Jalasampad Bhawan,6th. Floor Salt Lake, Kolkata-700091 Tel. No.: 033-23217298 Email-eecdod@gmail.com
ICA- T9883(3)/2025

GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL
ABRIDGED TENDER NOTICE
WBIW/EE/MED/e-NIT-08/2025-2026 (SL NO 01 TO SL NO 5) & WBIW/EE/MED/e-NIT-09/2025-2026
On behalf of the Governor of West Bengal, online tender is invited by the undersigned for 6 (Six) nos. of works under Metropolitan Electrical Division, I&W Dte., Govt. of West Bengal. Bid Submission End Date: 03.06.2025 at 10:00 P.M. for WBIW/EE/MED/e-NIT-08/2025-2026 and WBIW/EE/MED/e-NIT-09/2025-2026. Other details will be available from the notice board of office of the undersigned on working days and also from website www.wbiwd.gov.in and https://wbtenders.gov.in Sd/- Executive Engineer, Metropolitan Electrical Division, Jalasampad Bhawan (4th floor), Bidhannagar, Salt Lake City, Kolkata-91
ICA- T9881(3)/2025

GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL
TENDER NOTICE
e-N.I.T No- WBIW/EE/MDD/e-NIT-03(e)/2025-26
On behalf of the Governor, West Bengal e-tenders are invited by the Executive Engineer, Mograhat Drainage Division from the reliable bonafide and resourceful contractors for 03 nos. Maintenance and repairing work under Mograhat Drainage Division. Details may be had from the office of the undersigned on working days during office hours or on website https://wbtenders.gov.in & www.wbiwd.gov.in Publishing date: 20.05.2025. Sd/- Executive Engineer, Mograhat Drainage Division, Baruipur, South 24 Parganas.
ICA- T9885(3)/2025

GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL
TENDER NOTICE
On behalf of the Governor of West Bengal, E-Tender is invited by the Chief Medical Officer of Health, Diamond Harbour Health District, South 24 Parganas, Pin-743331 for e-Tender for Construction of Harbal Garden at Purandarpur PHC, Mathurapur-II Block under DHHD, from resourceful eligible agency having experience in similar nature of works. Technical & Financial Bid Submission Closing Date: 27/05/2025 at 5:00 P.M. For Detail, Please visit the website www.wbtenders.gov.in or the Office of the Undersigned. Sd/- CMOH, DHHD.
ICA- T9893(2)/2025

GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL
TENDER NOTICE
Online Tenders for Repair & renovation work of Sub Centers (Ayrani Chithalia, Chilakhana, Jaigir Chilakhana, Kajeepara, Kamat Fulbari) under Tufanganj-I Block in Coochbehar District, vide Tender ref no: DHFWS/CBR/NIeT/CIV/25-26/03/01 to 05 in Coochbehar district are hereby invited by the undersigned. For details please visit the website **www.wbtenders.gov.in** and **www.coochbehar.nic.in** and **www.wbhealth.gov.in** Any corrigendum will published in website only. Sd/- CMOH, Cooch Behar.
ICA- T9892(4)/2025

GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL
NOTICE INVITING e-TENDER
WBIW/CTU/CE(S) e-NIT-03(e)/2025-26, Sl. No-01 Tender Id: 2025_IWD_839174_1 under Central Tender Unit, Irrigation & Waterways Directorate, Following change is to be made for Bid submission end date.- **26.05.2025 at 14:00 Hours.** Instead of **17.05.2025 up to 17:00 Hours** and Technical Bid opening date **26.05.2025 at 17:00 Hours** Instead of **19.05.2025 at 15:00 Hours.** All other terms and conditions will remain unchanged. All necessary details may be obtained from West Bengal Government e-tender portal **wbtenders.gov.in** Sd/- Superintending Engineer, Central Tender Unit, I & W Dte.
ICA- T9903(3)/2025

GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL
Tender Notice
Online e-tender is invited by the office of the Executive Engineer, Electrical Division No. I, Housing Directorate:-eNIT No: **WBHD/EE/ED-1/ eNIT-12/2025-26**, Tender id **2025_HSD_847682_1**, Name of work:-"Renovation and Repairing work of internal Electrical Installation work in residential accommodation of 14 nos. Flats (1 no. B-Type-D1, 4 nos. C-Type-E-1, O-3, R-7, S-5, 9 nos. D Type-G-16, H-17, H-13, H-16, 1-11, K-7, K-11, L-15, L-16) of Baburam Ghosh Road Govt. Housing Estate under Tollygunge Electrical Section (H.Dte.)."Bid Submission start date: 16.05.2025 Bid Submission end date: 26.05.2025 upto 12 P.M, Tender Opening Date: 28.05.2025 after 12 P.M, Website-wbtenders.gov.in, Tender Location-Tollygunge Kolkata, Kolkata -700040. Tender details may be obtained from Office of the Executive Engineer, Electrical Division No. I, Housing Directorate,New Secretariat Building, "B", Block Room No.1 Ground Floor 1,K.S Roy Road, Kolkata700001 on all office days during office hours.
ICA- T9900(2)/2025

GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL
PWD TENDER NOTICE
The Executive Engineer, Bidhannagar East Division, PWDte., invites tender bearing NIeT No. WBPWD/EE/BNED/NIeT-07 of 2025-26 for percentage rate basis for the work of i) Annual maintenance of Sanitary & plumbing works for the (B+G+XIV) storied 2 nos Academic Block for Presidency University at Plot No DG/02/02 premises no. 14-0358, Newtown in the District of North 24 Parganas, Kolkata under Bidhannagar East Division. Tender documents download start date (online): 17/05/2025 from 11:00 A.M. (b) Bid proposal submission start date (online): 17/05/2025 from 11:00 A.M. (c) Technical & Financial Bid proposal Submission end date (online): 26/05/2025 upto 01:00 P.M. (d) All documents can be seen / obtained from the wbtenders.gov.in Sd/- EE/BNED/ PWDte., Govt. of West Bengal
ICA- T9913(2)/2025

GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL
Irrigation & Waterways Directorate
ABRIDGED NOTICE INVITING TENDER
e-N.I.T No.-WBIW/SE/NIC-I/NIT-05(e)/2025-26 Circulated vide T.O. Memo No-3T-8/994/1(14), Date-16.05.2025
The Superintending Engineer, North Irrigation Circle-I, Green Park, Malda, I & W. Dte. on behalf of Hon'ble Governor of West Bengal, invites online tender from eligible bonafide contractors having requisite credential and turnover for 1 (One) no. Protection work under CSDS. **Amount put to tender : Sl. No.-1 Rs. 4,28,07,749.00 Start date and time of submission of Technical & Financial bid (online) – 20.05.2025 upto 11:00 Hrs. Last date and time of submission of Technical & Financial bid (online)– 11.06.2025 upto 11:00 Hrs.** The tender forms and other details can be obtained from the website: **www.wbiwd.gov.in** & URL **https://wbtenders.gov.in** Sd/- P. Bhattcharya, Superintending Engineer, North Irrigation Circle-I, Green Park, Malda.
ICA- T9896(4)/2025

GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL
ABRIDGED TENDER NOTICE
Tender Reference No. WBPHED/EE/MAAD/NIeT_03 of 2025-2026
Tender ID- 2025_PHED_847638_1 to 2025_PHED_847638_3
Last date for submission of Technical and Financial Bid (online):- 09/06/2025 upto 04:00 P.M. Tender invited by the undersigned for Three nos. works under Malda Arsenic Area W/S Division, P.H.E. Dte. All details available in website http://wbtenders.gov.in & www.wbphed.gov.in Sd/- Executive Engineer, Malda Arsenic Area W/S Division, P.H.E. Dte.
ICA- T9924(2)/2025

GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL
PWD TENDER NOTICE
N.I.T. NO. WBPWD/SS/EE/ASND/NIT_ 01/2025-2026
E.E., Asansol Divn., Social Sector, P.W.Dte. Asansol invites online e-tender for the work of Repair & Renovation of Hospital Building of Ballavpur RH Raniganj, Paschim Bardhaman. (Civil Work), Project ID- HF2425319165000. Fund Estimated Amount Rs. 48,16,850/- e-NIT No. 01 of 2025-2026, Tender ID No. 2025_WBPWD_847563_1. Bid submission start date (online): 22.05.2025 from 2.00 PM. Bid submission closing date 11.06.2025 upto 4.00 PM. 1st Corrigendum will be published in website only. Details of NIT & tender documents may be download from : http://wbtenders.gov.in Sd/- EE, Asansol Divn., SS, P.W.Dte.
ICA- T9915(3)/2025

GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL
PWD TENDER NOTICE
Executive Engineer, Bankura Division, P.W. Directorate Invites online e-tender from the Resourceful and Bonafide contractor having credential as per G.O No.- 04-A/PW/0/10C-02/14, dated-18.03.2015. Tender ref. No. WBPWD/EE/BANKURA DIVISION / eNIT-01/ 2025-2026 & Tender ID: [2025_WBPWD_847611] for 08 (Eight) nos. of works under Bankura Division, P.W.D. circulated vide this office memo no. 394 dated, 16.05.2025. Bid submission start date (online): 22.05.2025 at 12.00 Hrs. IST .Bid submission closing date (online): 05.06.2025 at 12.00 Hrs. IST. Corrigendum if any will be published in website only The details of NIT & Tender document may be downloaded from: http://wbetenders.gov.in. Sd/-Executive Engineer, Bankura Division, P.W. Directorate.
ICA- T9921(3)/2025

GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL
TENDER NOTICE
Superintending Engineer, Southern Highway Circle, Block-I, 2nd floor,WRITERS' BUILDINGS Kolkata 700001 e-NIT No 05 of 2025-26(Sl no.01&02) of SE/SHC, PWRD Invites nline e-Tender for the work of Sl. no.01)Permanent Restoration Work of breached portions during flood 2024 at Km 21.200 km, 22.200 km, 22.600 km and repairing of flexible pavement in stretches in part width damaged due to flood 2024 from Km 14.00 kmp to 22.850 km of Amta-Rajapur-Dihibhurshut Road under Howrah Highway Division in the District of Howrah.. Estimated cost Rs4,67,62,411.00 Tender ID : 2025_SH_846825_1 Sl. No.02) Permanent Protection Work of Breached portions during flood 2024 from Km 3.540 to Km 3.600 and Km 3.615 to Km 3.950 of Singti-Pancharul Road under Howrah Highway Division in the District of Howrah. Estimated cost Rs 3,37,48,266.00 Tender ID : 2025_SH_846825_2. Bid submission start date (online) 17.05.2025 from 3.00pm Bid submission end date (online) 11.06.2025 upto 2:00 PM Corrigendum if any will be published in the website. Details of NIT and tender documents may be downloaded from : https://wbtenders.gov.in & Office Notice Board. Sd/-SE/SHC P.W.(Roads) Dte
ICA- T9920(3)/2025

GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL
PWD TENDER NOTICE
WB/PWD/EE/NBD/SS/NIT No. 2 of 2025-2026 EE, NBD, SS, P.W. Dte. invites e-Tender for the works of :- 1. Urgent maintenance work of LT- I,II,III, IV at NBMCandH in the district of Darjeeling. (Civil Work) Tender Id:- 2025_WBPWD_847396_1 2. Emergency Minor repair work, along with newly creation of sample collection and reception room with some sanitary work at Microbiology Departmental Room portion at North Bengal Medical College and Hospital, Darjeeling under North Bengal Division, Social Sector, P.W.Dte. (Civil Work) Tender Id:- 2025_WBPWD_847396_2. 3. External repair works at lass III, Hospital Quarter Block E at North Bengal Medical College and Hospital, Sushrutanagar in the district of Darjeeling. (Civil Work Tender Id:-2025_WBPWD_847396_3 4.Repair and renovation of Old Record Room of NBMC and H in the district of Darjeeling. Tender Id:- 2025_WBPWD_847396_4. 5.Painting works of 11 Nos water tank retaining structures at different location of North Bengal Medical College and Hospital in the District of Darjeeling. (Civil Work) Tender Id:- 2025_WBPWD_847396_5. Bid submission start date (online) 21 May-2025 12:00 PM Bid submission closing date (online) 28-May-2025 12:00 PM Corrigendum if any will be published in website only. Details of NIT & tender documents may be downloaded from http://wbtenders.gov.in Sd/- EE, NBD, SS, P.W. Dte., Siliguri, Govt. of WB
ICA- T9919(2)/2025

GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL
KMDA TENDER NOTICE
e-RfP No: 02/SE(Plg)/SWM/KMDA of 2025-2026
Online e-RfP in two part system is invited by the Superintending Engineer, Planning Circle, SWM Sector, KMDA, Unnayan Bhavan, 6th Floor, Block-A, Salt Lake, Kolkata-700091, from reliable, resourceful, bonafide and experienced firms / companies / Individual contractors / Special Purpose Vehicle / Joint Ventures, for the work, **Name of Work:** Selection of Concessionaire for Establishment of Permanent Fresh Municipal Solid Waste Processing Plant, along with its operation and complete maintenance for a period of 15 (fifteen) years from the Commercial Operation Date (COD), strictly complying the Solid Waste Management Rules, 2016, at Sarengabad Dumpsite under Maheshtala Municipality in West Bengal on DESIGN, BUILD, OPERATE AND TRANSFER (DBOT) BASIS (2nd Call)., **Estimated Value of the work: For fresh waste:** per MT of input fresh waste, **Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) / Bid Security:** Rs.10,00,000/-, **Concession Period:** 16 years & 4 month (196 months)., **Last date & time for submission of RfP through online:** 13.06.2025 up to 15:55 hrs., for details contact the above office or visit both websites. **(KMDA-150)**
www.kmda.wb.gov.in
www.wbtenders.gov.in
ICA- T9895(3)/2025

GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL
PWD TENDER NOTICE
EE, JCD, PWD, Jalpaiguri, invites e-Tender for the work of 'Repair and Rehabilitation of left side of main hospital building (G+2 story) at DH campus of Jalpaiguri Govt. Medical College and Hospital, Jalpaiguri under Jalpaiguri Construction Division, PWD, Jalpaiguri (Civil work).' Estimated Amount put to Tender Rs. 3472113.00. Tender Id: 2025_PWD_847790_1. Bid submission start date (online) 19.05.25. from 11.00 A.M., Bid submission closing date (online) 02.06.25. up to 11.00 A.M.. Corrigendum if any will be published in website only. Details of NIT & tender documents may be downloaded from http://wbtenders.gov.in Sd/- EE, JCD, PWD, Jalpaiguri.
ICA- T9923(4)/2025

GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL
PWD TENDER NOTICE
Executive Engineer, P.W.Dte . Electrical Construction Division invites online e-Tender for the work of "Construction of a new G+IV storied building in the premises of Kalighat Fire Station--- Electrical Works (External, AC Machine, Lift, Lightning arrester, service connection etc. and allied infrastructure)------ SITC of AC machines." eNIQ No.- WBPWD/EE-ECD/e-NIT 3/2025-2. 6Tender ID: 2025_WBPWD_847769_1. Bid submission start date(online): 24.05.2025 from 01.00 P.M. Bid submission closing date(online): 02.06.2025 upto 01.00 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/- S.Karmakar. Executive Engineer, P.W.Dte. Electrical Construction Division
ICA- T9922(2)/2025

Jamia's undertaking requires parents of new students to take responsibility for 'conduct and character' of wards

Sugandha.Jha@timesofindia.com

New Delhi: Jamia Millia Islamia has included a parental undertaking in its admission process, requiring parents or local guardians of newly admitted students to take responsibility for the "conduct and character" of their wards — a provision not seen in other central universities in Delhi.

The undertaking is part of a Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) approved for admissions in April last year. According to an official document, the SOP was recommended by a committee constituted for the adoption and implementation of uniform guidelines to be followed by departments, faculties, and centres during the admission process. The recommendation was duly approved by the vice-chancellor in April last year.

In addition to the student's own declaration, the SOP includes a "Declaration by the Father/Local Guardian of the Student," which reads: "I hereby declare that I take full responsibility of his/her conduct and character as a student of Jamia Millia Islamia. I shall make myself available to the university whenever required."

While undertakings from parents on anti-ragging norms are standard across Indian universities, Jamia's broader clause placing overall responsibility for a student's conduct on the parent or guardian is uncommon.

The requirement comes against the backdrop of heightened administrative focus on discipline. In Feb,

SOME STUDENTS CRY FOUL

students held a sit-in protest near the central canteen of the university, demanding the revocation of disciplinary action against their peers. Following this, the university filed a police complaint, and several students later alleged that police officials contacted their parents, asking them to ensure their wards left the protest site. During this time, students claimed that their personal details, including home addresses, were released by the university and pasted at the main entrance putting them under suspension — a charge the university later denied.

"Instead of talking to us, they contacted our parents and made them feel like we were causing trouble," said a second-year student who participated in the protest. "Now, they have come up with a parental undertaking to suppress any attempts of protest."

Jamia has banned protests on campus since the anti-CAA movement in 2019. Notices warning students against "unauthorised gatherings" have increased since early 2024.

TOI reached out to Jamia media cordinator Saima Saeed for a comment but did not receive any response.

A university faculty member, who did not wish to be named, said the parental undertaking was a "preventive measure" aimed at maintaining discipline and ensuring accountability from the start of a student's academic journey.

On other campuses, such as Delhi University and Jawaharlal Nehru University, parental declarations are limited to anti-ragging compliance and do not make guardians responsible for general behaviour of the student.

When asked about the presence of such an undertaking at their institutions, officials from these universities stated that they do not require parents or local guardians of students to submit any such declaration.

Prof In Lockup, Ashoka Colleagues Keep Vigil At Police Station In Shifts

Local Court To Hold Hearing Today

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Rai (Sonipat): Colleagues of Ali Khan Mahmudabad are keeping him company in "rotating shifts" at Rai police station's lockup in Sonipat, where he has spent a night since his arrest on Sunday morning and will spend another before the local court hears the case again on Tuesday afternoon.

The court has, meanwhile, instructed police to fully cooperate in case of any medical emergency with Mahmudabad's wife in an advanced stage of pregnancy. Colleagues have decided they will ensure the 42-year-old professor is not alone for a moment while he is incarcerated.

"We're coming here in shifts to ensure someone from the university is always with him. Around 10 faculty members have come to the police station to ensure Mahmudabad has access to basics like food and diabetes medicines. He wears a glucose monitor. The police are slow to respond to requests but are taking care of his medical needs. There has been no mistreatment," Aalok Thakkar, assistant professor at the department of computer science in Ashoka, told **TOI** on Monday.

Mahmudabad was arrested after police cited a complaint by Haryana State Women's Commission chairperson Renu Bhatia to file an FIR under various sections of BNS, including "endangering India's sovereignty" for his comments on Operation Sindoor. The police complaint followed a summons from the panel that Mahmudabad – associate professor who heads the political science department – skipped, though he issued an elaborate clarification that the panel had completely misunderstood his comments that were made in a social media post on May 9.

The Ashoka University faculty association on Sunday condemned the arrest and described it as "calculated harassment", with several of Mahmudabad's colleagues – besides many other voices in and beyond academia that have since come out in Mahmudabad's support – pointing out that his post had, in fact, praised the Indian Army, denounced warmongering by a section of people, and supported govt's actions against Pakistan. They have found his arrest confounding.

"The comments made by Prof Ali, while seen as inappropriate by the complainant, do not warrant arrest in a democratic country. It is completely

IN THE EYE OF A STORM

disproportionate to the alleged offence," a faculty member told **TOI**.

In her police complaint, Bhatia alleged that when the commission visited the university on May 15 – after Mahmudabad skipped the May 14 summons – they could not find him because "the professor was believed to have been sent away or hidden". She also alleged university officials did not cooperate.

Faculty members **TOI** spoke to said the commission's visit coincided with the end of the university semester. At this time, after completing grading, professors are typically away from campus, travelling for research or visiting family. In any case, Mahmudabad lives off-campus in Delhi and commutes daily. His absence from campus was "normal for the end of the semester", the faculty members said, adding should the commission have wanted to meet any other professor, it's likely they too would have been away. Mahmudabad's absence, explained a faculty member, was purely due to the academic calendar, and was in no way an intentional attempt to evade the commission.

Kapil Dev Balyan, one of Mahmudabad's lawyers, told **TOI** arguments on Sunday at the local Sonipat court where the associate professor was produced lasted for almost five hours. Police sources had earlier told **TOI** they had sought remand for five days. The court granted two. "The police proposed investigating the matter in the professor's local area of Lucknow, which the defence opposed," Balyan said. "There are two FIRs against the professor, number 146 and 147. FIR 146 stems from a complaint filed by Yogesh Jatheri, a village sarpanch. While details are mentioned in the FIR, the story was manipulated and presented differently. As the matter is now sub judice, further comments on the specifics would be inappropriate," he added.

Renu Bhatia: Women's panel head & BJP member for 36 years in prof arrest row

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Gurgaon: Renu Bhatia, the 57-year-old chairperson of Haryana State Women's Commission who issued a summons last week to Ashoka University associate professor Ali Khan Mahmudabad for his post on Operation Sindoor and filed the police complaint that led to his arrest on Sunday, says she is doing her job.

Bhatia, who idolises Sushma Swaraj and refers to the BJP veteran and former Union minister who passed away in 2019 as "my beloved leader", has been in BJP for nearly four decades, since she was just 21, and takes pride in being called "Bhajpa ki Benazir".

"Sushma Swaraj used to call me Bhajpa ki Benazir. This is my 36th year in BJP, and given a chance, I would love to contest as an MLA or MP candidate from the party. Anyway, there is so much politics surrounding me now!" Bhatia told **TOI** on Monday. The provenance of the moniker, she explains, is her enactment of former Pakistan PM Benazir Bhutto in a documentary, "due to my resemblance".

Renu Bhatia

A resident of Faridabad and a two-term councillor, Renu is a former deputy mayor and a close confidant of Faridabad MP Krishan Pal Gurjar and an aide of Union minister and former Haryana CM Manohar Lal Khattar.

A Punjabi Kashmiri, Bhatia was born in Srinagar. "My house was near Dal Gate and you have seen the atrocities against Kashmiri Pandits. I am from those families who were killed, murdered during 1947 and again in 1948 and then troubled in the 90s in Kashmir. If something happens in Kashmir, it touches me," she says, insisting her reaction to Mahmudabad's post – which has come under criticism with many pointing out there was nothing offensive about the professor's post – has nothing to do with her background and she did so in her capacity as chairperson of the commission.

A student of Presentation Convent in Srinagar, she moved to Dehra Dun before settling in Faridabad after she got married. She briefly worked as an anchor in Doordarshan in 1992. "It was destiny that brought me into politics in 2000 because women thought I could raise their issues. I have been a party spokesperson for several years. None from my family is in politics," she says.

BJP 'fearful' of opinions it doesn't like: Congress

New Delhi: Congress on Monday condemned the arrest of Ashoka University professor Ali Khan Mahmudabad, saying this shows how "fearful" BJP was of any opinion that it dislikes. The arrest follows a chain reaction which began from "targeting the grieving widow of our martyred Naval officer, our foreign secretary and his daughter, and the deplorable disparaging comments made by a BJP minister from Madhya Pradesh for a serving colonel in the army", party president Mallikarjun Kharge said.

On X, Kharge said Congress stood with the armed forces, bureaucrats, academicians, intellectuals and their families. "I condemn any character assassination, vilification, trolling, harassment, unlawful arrest of any individual and vandalism of any business entity, either through fringe elements or through official state machinery," he added. "Instead of sacking their own Madhya Pradesh's deputy CM and minister, who made disgusting statements against our valiant armed forces, BJP-RSS is hellbent in casting a narrative that anybody who represents pluralism, questions the govt or simply performs his professional duty in the service of the nation, is a threat to its existence," Kharge alleged. TNN

Students rally behind prof, ask university to back him

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Gurgaon: Support poured in on Monday for Ali Khan Mahmudabad from his university, with his students joining calls for his release after the faculty association's unequivocal backing on Sunday. The students also released a note demanding that "Ashoka University stand with our professor".

The university had distanced itself from Mahmudabad's May 9 post on Operation Sindoor for which the associate professor was arrested on Sunday after Haryana Women's Commission chairperson Renu Bhatia filed a police complaint, alleging the post maligned the military and disparaged women in the forces.

On Monday, as more and more people questioned what was offensive about his post – and pointed out that it had, in fact, praised the Indian Army and backed govt's actions against Pakistan – Mahmudabad's students who are taking his 'Banish the Poets course wrote in a statement he had "throughout the course, lectured on love, consistently emphasising secular values such as reason, compassion, justice, and freedom of thought as the foundation of meaningful dialogue".

"His wrongful arrest is a stark violation of not just academic freedom, but of the very principles he taught us and stands for," they added. One of the students said the joint statement "highlights the professor's impact in the classroom". According to the students, Mahmudabad taught them the passion of the written word and encouraged them "to speak, to share our truths, and to hold space for each other".

Woman dies day after inhaling smoke during fire

New Delhi: A day after a fire was reported in Shahdara's Farsh Bazar, a woman succumbed to asphyxiation. According to police, the fire started due to a short circuit in an e-rickshaw on the ground floor of a house on Sunday morning. Smoke filled the rooms, trapping six family members inside. The deceased was identified as 32-year-old Jyoti. TNN

DIPLOMAT AT ISLAMABAD MISSION WAS CONVICTED OF SHARING SENSITIVE INFO

Long before Jyoti, Pak had honey-trapped Madhuri: Held in 2010, found guilty in 2018

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New Delhi: The arrest of Jyoti Malhotra, the face behind popular YouTube channel 'Travel with Jo', for allegedly sharing sensitive military information with Pakistan came as a chilling reminder of a similar case involving another woman, Madhuri Gupta, who stood accused of secretly serving Pakistan's interests.

The difference between the two women is that Gupta wasn't an influencer but a diplomat who held the position of second secretary (press & information) at the Indian high commission in Islamabad. Gupta was done in by a complex honeytrap when a Pakistani intelligence official, Jamshed, wooed her with promises of eternal love, cleverly manipulating her emotions to further his agenda.

It was in the spring of 2010 that Delhi Police's Special Cell arrested Gupta under the Official Secrets Act for passing on sensitive information pertaining to defence to Pakistan's ISI spy agency. The probe revealed that two Pakistani intelligence officials — Mudassar Raza Rana and Jamshed — liaised with her. The two men got in touch with her through a woman journalist and helped her get a book she was searching for, the one written by Jaish-e-Mohammed chief Maulana Masood Azhar. This marked the beginning of a dangerous friendship.

The probe revealed that Gupta, then 52, stayed in touch with Jamshed — who had the code name Jim — half her age, and Rana using the computer installed at her residence in Islamabad and a Blackberry phone. She was so infatuated with Jim that she allegedly wanted to convert to Islam, marry him, and go on a trip to Istanbul, the probe revealed. Her conversations with Jim involved her work and were often about Sufism, Rumi and the Urdu language, which she was fluent in.

Around six dozen mails were retrieved from the IDs **lastrao@gmail.com and **arao@gmail.com, both of which the Pakistani agents had created for her. The transcripts revealed a chilling strategy: Jamshed and his superior Rana, a batchmate of Pakistan's then-interior minister Rahman Malik, skilfully exploited Gupta's professional grievances, manipulating her emotions to compromise her loyalty. She claimed before her interrogators that she bore a grudge with the Indian govt because her sabbatical of two years hadn't been given approval and her pay was withheld.

The police report also said that Gupta visited Jammu and Kashmir in March 2010 on Rana's instructions apparently to procure the Annual Plan Report of that state. Rana, it was alleged, also wanted information on the proposed 310MW hydroelectric power project to be set up in the state by 2020.

The diplomat attracted the attention of her seniors in Islamabad when she started showing interest in matters outside her domain. This, coupled with inputs of an Indian intelligence mole in the high commission probing a domestic plot there, sounded an alert. Gupta was abruptly recalled to Delhi on the pretext of needing her assistance in the preparations for the SAARC summit and arrested after the suspicions were corroborated.

In 2018, a city court convicted Gupta under Section 3 and 5 of the Official Secrets Act, noting that the emails "passed on by the accused were categorically sensitive information which could have been useful to the enemy country, which were strategically very important for the foreign policy of the country and its secrecy was of utmost importance".

After her conviction, Gupta lived a life of seclusion, residing alone in Bhiwadi in Rajasthan when out on bail. She died in Oct 2021 at the age of 64 years. She had appealed against her conviction and it was pending in Delhi High Court at the time of her death.

ANOTHER 'SPY STORY'

- Former diplomat Madhuri Gupta was arrested on April 22, 2010, by Delhi Police's special cell for passing sensitive information to Pakistani officials
- Gupta served as second secretary (press & information) at Indian High Commission in Islamabad
- She was accused of spying for two ISI officials, Mubshar Raza Rana and Jamshed
- In May 2018, a Delhi court convicted Gupta under Sections 3 and 5 of Official Secrets Act for compromising national interest
- Gupta was sentenced to three years imprisonment and fined
- She passed away in 2021 at the age of 64

No Ethics Here: Hacker Drives Trading Scam

IIT-Trained Man, Friend Held For Racket Linked With Cambodia-Based Cybercrime Network

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi: For an 'ethical hacker' who completed a course from an Indian Institute of Technology, Girish Pandey could have had a brighter future. Instead, he allegedly teamed up with his friend Avinash, a physics graduate, and started working for a Cambodia-based international cybercrime network having Chinese handlers.

In the past few months, their accounts were credited with more than Rs 5 crore -- mostly the proceeds of crime, according to police. Their run was short-lived, however, as cops tracked them down and busted their module. The duo was arrested along with three others, including the alleged conduit between cybercriminals and the Cambodia-based kingpins.

Confirming the arrests, special commissioner Ravindra Yadav said efforts were underway to identify and nab more members of the network.

The accused were allegedly involved in a fake stock trading scheme, duping victims through WhatsApp and other chat platforms. The group came under the scanner after a resident of Karawal Nagar complained that he was duped of Rs 32 lakh through an investment fraud scheme, following which the Cyber Crime Unit of Northeast Delhi district started analysing his bank transactions.

The accused told police they would add potential targets to fake advisory groups and collect money through fake companies, cooperative banks, offline RTGS and cryptocurrency

The accused were subsequently arrested during raids in Delhi, Aligarh, Udham Singh Nagar (Uttarakhand), Basti and Kanpur. They were identified as Pandey (31), Suraj Chaudhary (26), Vicky Bora (27), Avinash Kumar (34) and Makkhan (32). Police seized two mobile phones, bank records and digital evidence, uncovering a money trail of over Rs 5 crore.

Revealing their modus operandi, the accused told police they would add potential targets to fake advisory groups and collect money through fake companies, cooperative banks, offline RTGS and cryptocurrency (USDT). The victims would be lured into investing in Indian as well as US stocks and IPOs through a fake platform, and promised huge profits.

Initially, the victims were shown profits, but later, when they demanded their money back, their accounts would be frozen, citing 'penalties', and they would be forced to invest more. The investigation revealed international connections, with Chinese operators and Cambodian associates involved in the transactions, said police.

"Chaudhary provided an IDFC bank account to Bora for a 10% commission, while Bora was the mastermind linked to Chinese operator 'Nio' and coordinating with a Cambodian network. Pandey was involved in money laundering through a fake company, Travelese Bird Technology Pvt Ltd. Kumar was a partner in transactions worth Rs 9 lakh while Makkhan was an intermediary between shell account holders in India and Cambodia," a senior police officer said.

Nuh resident held for spying for Pak, sharing Sirsa airbase details

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Gurgaon: A resident of Nuh was arrested for allegedly sharing sensitive details about Indian Air Force with people in Pakistan in exchange for money. The arrest of Mohammad Tarif, a quack in Kangarka in Tauru Sadar, is the 13th on charges of alleged espionage since India launched Operation Sindoor and the second from Nuh.

The FIR filed by Nuh police also names two staffers of Pakistan High Commission, who are identified as Asim Baloch and Zafar. The name of another Pakistani official posted in India, Ehsan-ur-Rahim alias Danish, had come up in another case of alleged espionage in which Hisar-based YouTuber Jyoti Malhotra was accused of spying for Pakistan and arrested last week.

Police said Tarif had in his confession said he was in touch with Baloch and Zafar and shared the location, videos and photos of the IAF station in Sirsa with Zafar, who sent those details to people in Pakistan. Incidentally, a Pakistani missile was intercepted over Sirsa during the recent India-Pakistan military confrontation.

"Both Nuh police and central agencies received inputs about Tarif that he was sharing sensitive information on the country with Pakistan and provided SIMs to Pak officials in lieu of money. We arrested him and produced him in a local court, which sent him to police custody for seven days. A detailed investigation is under way," DSP (headquarters, Nuh) Harinder Kumar said.

Tarif, according to investigators, claimed when he first went to the Pakistan High Commission for his visa in 2018, he met Baloch, who interviewed him. "Asim returned my passport and took my contact number. He told me he would update me over the phone about my visa status and assured me assistance. After four days, Asim called me and asked me to arrange two SIM cards in exchange for the visa," Tarif is believed to have told police.

After providing the SIM cards, Tarif received his visa and travelled to Pakistan in 2018. When he returned to India, Baloch allegedly contacted him again. "He asked me to send him the files of Pakistan visa aspirants and offered me a commission. I referred 8-10 people to him. We shared the commission equally. I again secured a visa through him in 2021 to travel to Pakistan. Baloch contacted me in 2024 again and introduced me to Zafar, who replaced him at the high commission. I exchanged contact with Zafar and arranged two SIMs for him too. And then I again started referring visa aspirants to him and continued to be paid by the commission. Zafar helped me secure a Pakistani visa in 2024, following which I again went there for the third time," Tarif was quoted by police as saying.

After his third Pakistan visit in 2024, Zafar allegedly offered him money for information on Sirsa IAF station. Police said Tarif attempted to remove certain chat records from his phone before his arrest.

Back in play: Upgraded Ambedkar Stadium to be ready for a fresh kick-off by middle of June

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New Delhi: An upgraded Ambedkar Stadium, once the beating heart of football in the capital, is ready for a kick-off again. "The last renovation of the stadium took place before the Commonwealth Games in 2010. A revamp was pending for a long time," an official of the Municipal Corporation of Delhi said on Monday.

The official said that many spots in the stadium showed wear and tear. The spectator tiers along Bahadur Shah Zafar Marg were falling apart and iron bars had been exposed in many places. The railings and glass windows on the staircases were also damaged in some areas. "The repairs are complete now," he said.

In addition to repairs, which cost around Rs 6 crore, there now are new gender-segregated changing areas for players, toilets on different floors, a fresh façade, improved drainage, air-conditioned media centre and a VIP lounge. The construction of a cafeteria is also under way. The renovation includes restructuring entry gates 4 and 5 and electrical system upgrades.

"The repair and renovation are 95% complete. The stadium should be fully operational by June 15," the MCD official said. The municipal corporation is responsible for the operation and maintenance of the stadium. "The main building's façade has been given aluminium louvres for an aesthetic look. The stadium will also offer additional toilet facilities for spectators," he said.

The renovation began last year, though it was used for a few tournaments. MCD had earlier improved the drainage system to ensure quick removal of accumulated rainwater from the ground. The horticulture division also levelled the field and planted new grass.

The arena, inaugurated in 1960, was first known as Delhi Gate Stadium before being renamed after Dr BR Ambedkar. With a seating capacity of 20,000, the stadium has hosted major national and international tournaments, including matches of the 1982 Asian Games. It was also the venue of the annual Nehru Cup matches. It was here in 2007 that India overcame Syria 1-0 before a packed stadium to lift the cup.

For several decades, Ambedkar Stadium hosted the prestigious DCM Cup and Durand Trophy tournaments. In the 1980s and 1990s, top teams participating in the tournament stayed at Daryaganj hotels and gorged on food from the famous Jama Masjid restaurants. Subroto Cup, the national junior football tournament, continues to be hosted at the stadium.

The stadium also serves as a venue for MCD functions and leisure activities, including Bal Diwas, which sees the participation of thousands of students from MCD schools. There are some municipal offices on the eastern side of the complex. "They do not interfere with the play area and have a separate entry. They will continue to function," the official added.

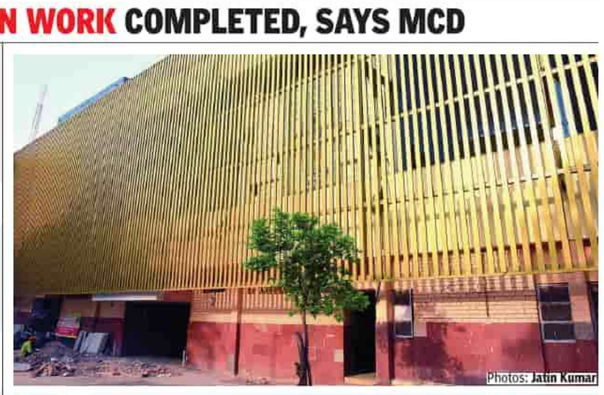
In the 1980s and earlier, Delhi club football was peppered with foreign players from Iran to Thailand to Yugoslavia. Few know that Nigerian footballer Emeka Ezeugo, who played in the 1994 World Cup, briefly turned out for the city's Indian Nationals during his student days in Chandigarh. As did India's top striker Sunil Chhetri, who played for City FC.

95% OF RENOVATION WORK COMPLETED, SAYS MCD

Project cost: ₹5.9 crore; renovation began early last year

Upgrades include

- Gender-segregated changing rooms with toilets across multiple floors
- Additional toilets for spectators
- Fully air-conditioned media centre with Wi-Fi
- Air-conditioned VIP lounge
- Comprehensive structural and interior repairs
- Cafeteria with expanded seating capacity under progress
- Front façade upgraded with aluminium louvers
- Football lawn being revived
- Finishing touches ongoing at gates No. 4, 5, 6, and 7



Photos: Jatin Kumar

Man dies after friends insert pipe in body, 2 held

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Faridabad: A 35-year-old man died on Saturday after two persons inserted a water pipe into his private parts.

Both men were arrested on Sunday. The incident took place on May 17 at a park behind a waste disposal site in Faridabad's Sector 58, police said on Monday, adding that Manoj succumbed to injuries during treatment.

Sandeep and Rahul alias Kabootar — residents of Sanjay Colony in Faridabad — were arrested on Sunday. Manoj, their friend and a daily-wage worker, is survived by his wife and two children. Police charged the accused under BNS sections 105 (culpable homicide not amounting to murder) and 3(5) (act done by several persons).

A police officer said, "The accused were friends and did not intend to kill the victim but as the water went inside his body with pressure, he could not survive." The officer said the prank proved "fatal".

According to a complaint lodged by Manoj's brother Anand Chauhan, the victim's friends Atindra, Kartik, Sandeep and Rahul took him for a swim in a tubewell pool early Saturday. They brought him home at 9am, saying he was "unwell".

Anand rushed his brother to a hospital, where Manoj spoke about the "assault with a water pipe connected to a submersible pump". On being informed by the medical staff, police arrested Sandeep and Rahul within 24 hours. The suspects were also neighbours.

Police said that on May 17 morning, the accused took Manoj to bathe. Sandeep restrained Manoj and Rahul inserted the pipe and activated the motor, causing fatal internal injuries.

MCD picks June 2 as new date to hold ward committee elections

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New Delhi: Municipal Corporation of Delhi on Monday announced June 2 as the new date for holding the ward committee elections in its 12 zones. On the same day, the election for two standing committee members from South and City Sadar-Paharganj zones will also take place.

According to an MCD notification, "As per Section 51 read with Section 47 of Delhi Municipal Corporation Act, the ward committee shall at its first meeting each year elect one of its members (who is a councillor) as chairman and another member as deputy chairman. The election will be held in accordance with the procedure laid down in DMC Act."

Nominations can be filed until May 27 and withdrawn before the commencement of the election proceedings, it added. Due to the India-Pakistan tension, the elections, which were to be held on May 22, were postponed.

The standing committee seats were vacated after AAP councillors Purandeep Sawhney from Chandni Chowk and Prem Chauhan from Ambedkar Nagar won the assembly elections in Feb. The last date for filing the nominations is May 27.

Of the 12 zones, seven have chairmen from BJP, including Shahdara South, Shahdara North, Narela, Najafgarh, Keshavpuram, Civil Lines and Central. The remaining five—City Sadar-Paharganj, South, Karol Bagh, West and Rohini—have chairmen from AAP.

Even when AAP lost the majority prior to the last mayoral elections in April and its number of councillors reduced from 132 in Sept 2024 to 113 in April 2025, the party maintained a majority in the above five zones and the gap was huge. But now, with 15 of its councillors forming a new party, this gap has reduced drastically in South, West and Rohini zones.

The election to fill another vacant position in the standing committee is likely on June 3 during a house meeting.

Out of the 15 elected members in the 18-member standing committee, BJP has nine while AAP has six members.

Once these elections are completed, MCD will work towards constituting the standing committee and conducting its chairman's poll, possibly in June, said officials.

Programmes in villages to boost kharif crop output

New Delhi: Delhi govt will organise 36 programmes covering 87 villages in the capital under the "Viksit Krishi Sankalp Abhiyan" to boost Kharif crop production and ensure fair prices for farmers during the nationwide initiative between May 29 and June 12.

Development minister Kapil Mishra said on Monday that a virtual meeting was held under the chairmanship of Union agriculture minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan to review preparations and ensure coordination for the upcoming 'Viksit Krishi Sankalp Abhiyan'.

"The campaign will be conducted with the goal of delivering modern techniques, scientific knowledge, and welfare schemes of the Central and state govts to farmers. In Delhi, the campaign will cover 87 villages and include 36 programmes," Mishra said. "Special emphasis will be placed on the implementation of schemes to enhance the production and productivity of Kharif crops in Delhi, ensuring farmers receive fair prices for their produce. Through these programmes, natural farming will also be promoted under the National Mission on Natural Farming Scheme, with a particular focus on improving soil fertility and health," the minister added.

Mishra also held a meeting of the Delhi Agricultural Marketing Board (DAMB) where he directed the officials to fill the long-pending vacancies. He emphasised ensuring transparency in the e-auction process for shops in different mandis. He also stressed the need to develop a system for regular and scientific waste removal from mandis. TNN

DRS of different kind! How cops are using face recognition technology to secure IPL matches

Abhay@timesofindia.com

New Delhi: To ensure orderly conduct of the IPL cricket matches in the capital and to prevent any security incidents, Delhi Police are now utilising face recognition system (FRS) to detect potential troublemakers. The cops have deployed two buses equipped with FRS at the Arun Jaitley Stadium.

This initiative is particularly important in the backdrop of a threat email received by the Delhi and District Cricket Association about the stadium being bombed. The heightened security measures are also a response to the ongoing tensions between India and Pakistan, which have raised concerns about potential security risks.

According to police, the two FRS-equipped buses have been strategically stationed at two main entry points to the stadium. One is sited on Bahadur Shah Zafar Marg and the other on Jawaharlal Nehru Marg. These locations are important, being the busiest routes leading to the stadium. The placement of the buses ensures that security is tightly managed at these key access points.

Two FRS-equipped buses have been strategically stationed

Each bus is fitted with two cameras that are connected to the FRS technology which facilitates the scanning and identification of individuals based on facial recognition. Inside the buses, four police personnel are stationed, two to continuously monitor the FRS system and raise alerts if suspects are detected and the other two to interrogate individuals flagged by the system, particularly those with criminal backgrounds. This dual approach enhances the likelihood of identifying and apprehending potential threats before they enter the stadium, a police officer said.

The FRS system uses a comprehensive database that includes dossiers of known criminals in the National Crime Records Bureau as well as in the police database. This allows for swift identification and verification of individuals passing through the entry points. To further ensure the effectiveness of the system, the cops periodically send dummy officers to test the real-time functionality of the FRS buses.

M. Harsha Vardhan, DCP (Central), formed several teams under Rajeev Kumar Vats, the station house officer of Indraprastha police station, to oversee the security arrangements.

In addition to using FRS, plainclothes officers have been posted outside the stadium to check sale of tickets in the black. Posing as fans at the stadium, they apprehend unscrupulous elements out to make illegal money. On April 28, with an IPL match scheduled the next day, a 35-year-old man from Jharkhand was arrested for scalping and 10 tickets were recovered from his possession. A day earlier, on match day between Delhi Capitals and Royal Challengers Bengaluru, two men were caught with seven tickets. Police also dismantled betting rackets and arrested six individuals in two separate cases, recovering over Rs 20 lakh in the process.

Multi-state insurance scam: HC notices to MCD, govt over issue of fake death certs

Sandeep.Rai@timesofindia.com

Meerut: Delhi High Court has issued notices to Municipal Corporation of Delhi (MCD) and Delhi govt via chief secretary over alleged lapses in issuance of death certificates without proper verification protocols. The move follows a plea filed by Noida-based advocate Praveen Pathak, who cited **TOI** reports highlighting a large-scale life insurance scam spanning at least 12 states.

A division bench comprising Chief Justice Devendra Kumar Upadhyaya and Justice Tushar Rao Gedela, on May 14, directed MCD and Delhi govt to file a counter-affidavit "within four weeks". The high court bench also instructed the respondents to address each paragraph of the writ petition and clarify whether a statutory mechanism is in place for issuing death certificates. The matter is scheduled for next hearing on Sept 24.

The plea cites a more disturbing national scam, now under the Enforcement Directorate (ED) lens. The scam first came to light on Jan 17, when Sambhal police intercepted an SUV carrying large amounts of cash and forged papers. Taking cognisance of the huge scam, ED's Lucknow unit, last week, registered a money laundering case against a criminal syndicate allegedly involved in fraudulent life and vehicle insurance policies amounting to over Rs 500 crore. The gang has been accused not only of fabricating policies and documentation but also of orchestrating murders to claim insurance payouts.

Notably, a **TOI** report in Feb revealed how the MCD issued two death certificates for the same individual, Trilok Kumar — first in June 2024 (his actual death) and again in Dec the same year. The second certificate was allegedly used by fraudsters to claim insurance worth Rs 22 lakh. The policies were bought three months after Kumar passed away.

Noida-based advocate and petitioner in this matter, Praveen Pathak, said: "Due to gross negligence by MCD, accused persons fraudulently claimed insurance payouts using forged death certificates. In many cases, policies were issued in the names of the dead, and fake certificates were obtained later to support the claims. This is not just a procedural lapse — it's a constitutional violation of the rights of those affected. Besides, crores of rupees have been siphoned off through meticulously planned and fabricated claims in a fraud running unhindered in 12 states -- which is disturbing -- and hence the PIL."

Pathak added that loopholes in schemes like the Pradhan Mantri Jeevan Jyoti Bima Yojana —which does not require extensive verification beyond a death certificate — make such frauds easier. "The absence of a mandatory Aadhaar or unique ID check allows civic bodies to issue incorrect certificates without scrutiny," he said.

After the Jan 17 episode, subsequent investigations revealed the racket's operations across multiple states and involved a disturbing pattern — targeting terminally-ill and vulnerable individuals to obtain insurance policies under false pretences.

'Alternative politics': AAP to relaunch student wing

Times News Network

New Delhi: With the Chhatra Yuva Sangharsh Samiti (CYSS) experiencing little success in its 10 years of existence, Aam Aadmi Party has decided to relaunch its student wing and strengthen its base among the student community.

A senior party functionary said the new student wing will be named the Association of Students for Alternative Politics (ASAP). With the launch of ASAP, AAP national convener and former Delhi chief minister Arvind Kejriwal will again become active in Delhi politics.

"It is a strategic step towards reinvigorating the party's presence on the ground, especially in Delhi, with former CM Arvind Kejriwal expected to take a visibly active role in state politics," said a senior party functionary. "It will be a more assertive and organised version of the party's youth outreach. With ASAP, AAP aims to build a network of five lakh 'patriotic' student volunteers across 50,000 colleges nationwide, positioning the student body as a foundation for alternative politics in India," he added.

The relaunch will also include a social wing within the student organisation, designed to increase student participation in social service and community engagement. ASAP is expected to contest the upcoming Delhi University Student Union (DUSU) elections in Sept this year, signalling a serious foray into campus politics.

CYSS, which was launched in Sept 2014, fought student union elections in several universities but could not replicate the success of AAP.

Man who jumped parole rearrested

New Delhi: Saheeb Khan, alias Bunty, along with his associates, killed Bahujan Samaj Party (BSP) functionary Chaudhary Munawwar Hassan, his wife, and four children. He was rearrested after jumping parole. Khan, a resident of Akbarpur Mazra in north-west Delhi, was granted parole in Sept 2024 on personal grounds, with instructions to surrender by Oct 2024. However, Khan absconded, prompting the issuance of non-bailable warrants against him. In 2017, Khan, a business partner of Hassan, orchestrated the brutal murders to seize Hassan's disputed properties, worth Rs 5-6 crore in Burari. Khan hired contract killers to carry out the killings.

Following the murders, Khan and his accomplices were arrested, and the investigation revealed the extent of the conspiracy. TNN

Seat Belt Failure Led To Amusement Park Death

A Month On, Mechanical Report Submitted

Abhay@timesofindia.com

New Delhi: A seat belt malfunction caused the tragic death of 25-year-old Priyanka after she fell from the Top Spin ride at an amusement park near Kapashera last month, a mechanical inspection report of Municipal Corporation of Delhi (MCD) has revealed.

According to a senior police officer, in its report submitted to Delhi Police, the civic body stated that the seat belt failed to secure the rider properly. The mechanical flaw turned what should have been a thrilling experience into a fatal plunge from nearly 20 feet.

Following the findings, three people were 'bound down' for negligence: Lalit, the ride operator; Dharambir, the supervisor on duty; and Jagjeet Singh, the park's operations manager. 'Bound down' means that a person is required to appear before the investigating officer whenever asked to join the investigation, and must inform the police if they are leaving the city.

There was no immediate response from officials of the amusement park.

VICTIM: Priyanka (25)

The tragedy took place on April 3. Priyanka, who lived with her family in domestic staff quarters in Chanakyapuri and worked as a relationship manager with an insurance company, was visiting the park with her fiancé Nikhil Singh. What began as a joyful day ended in a nightmare.

"We left her home around 12.15pm and reached the amusement park by 1pm. After spending the afternoon on water rides, we went to the Top Spin at around 6.15 pm. We were seated next to each other, and as the ride started, she suddenly fell. I couldn't do anything," Nikhil said in his official complaint.

"It happened within 15 seconds. Before the ride started, the operator assured me everything was fine. Others asked him the same question, but the operator told us he had 18 years of experience," Nikhil had stated.

Police were informed by the hospital, where Priyanka was declared dead on arrival. Her medical report cited severe injuries — laceration and puncture wounds on her legs, and multiple abrasions on her arms and knees.

Investigators said Priyanka was among 17 people on the ride at the time. No one else was injured. The ride was immediately shut down and remains non-operational. A case under BNS sections 289 (negligent conduct with respect to machinery) and 106 (causing death by negligence) was registered.

Priyanka was set to get married next Feb. She had bought jewellery and planned to buy a house for her parents. The sole breadwinner of her family, Priyanka earned Rs 22,000 a month. Her family's financial condition had spurred her to start working after completing Class 12. Her father said they had taken a loan for the elder daughter's wedding and Priyanka was helping repay the debt.

Why pvt hosps are hesitant in joining cashless health scheme

Anuja.Jaiswal @timesofindia.com

New Delhi: More than 50 private and 15 Delhi govt hospitals have enrolled under the State Health Authority (SHA) to provide cashless treatment to patients under Ayushman Bharat Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana (AB-PMJAY). However, many private facilities are reluctant to join the scheme over concerns of low rates being offered by govt.

Most private healthcare facilities previously registered with AB-PMJAY through the National Health Authority (NHA) during the previous AAP regime were automatically transferred to city authority oversight. However, several prominent private hospitals raised issues regarding AB-PMJAY reimbursement rates, stating these do not adequately cover treatment expenses and could lead to financial deficits.

While smaller healthcare facilities might find the scheme workable, larger hospitals consider it financially unviable due to substantial operational expenses, including infrastructure and advanced medical equipment.

Clarifying why corporate and larger hospitals are reluctant to participate, Dr Sunil K Khetarpal, director, Association of Healthcare Providers India (AHPI), cited inadequate package rates for advanced medical procedures. He also highlighted concerns about delayed payments reported in some states implementing this scheme.

AHPI, representing about 15,000 private hospitals, including Fortis, Max Healthcare, Manipal, Medanta, Narayana and Apollo, has sought discussions with Delhi govt to address these concerns.

Girdhar J Gyani, AHPI's director general, has written to chief minister Rekha Gupta, stressing the necessity of establishing a dedicated grievance redressal system and accelerating reimbursements process under Delhi's recent inclusion in AB-PMJAY.

Dr Narin Sehgal, medical director, Sehgal Neo Hospital, and AHPI secretary, Delhi, acknowledged the scheme's significance as the largest health insurance programme. He noted widespread hesitation in enrolment and suggested reconsideration of rates by govt and timely payments, citing issues with similar schemes, like CGHS. Despite AHPI's intervention and NHA's promises to revise the rates, the adjustments remained selective and insufficient, said Dr Sehgal.

On April 5, Delhi govt entered an agreement with the Centre to implement AB-PMJAY, with card distribution beginning April 10. Very few private hospitals joined afterwards. CM Gupta said Delhi govt will cover 2,35,000 families in the first phase.

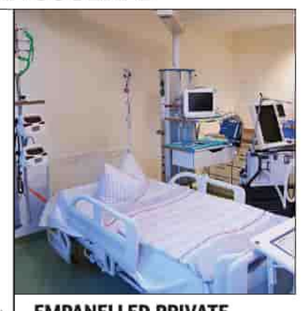
Currently, 67 out of over 1,000 Delhi hospitals are participating in the scheme. Govt facilities include Lok Nayak, Deep Chand Bandhu Hospital, Rajiv Gandhi Super Specialty Hospital and Delhi State Cancer Institute while private participants include Dharamshila Narayana Superspeciality Hospital, Metro Hospital & Cancer Institute and Sri Balaji Action Medical Institute. Most of the empanelled private hospitals are in New Delhi district and are dedicated to eye care, general surgery, oncology, obstetrics and gynaecology.

The scheme offers free treatment covering 1,961 medical procedures across 27 specialities, including medicines, diagnostics, hospitalisation, ICU care and surgeries.

WHICH HOSPITALS ARE COVERED

EMPANELLED GOVT HOSPITALS INCLUDE

1. Pt Madan Mohan Malviya Hospital
2. Institute of Liver and Biliary Sciences
3. Chacha Nehru Bal Chikitsalaya
4. Janakpuri Super Speciality hospital
5. Lok Nayak Hospital
6. Deep Chand Bandhu Hospital
7. Satyavadi Raja Harish Chandra Hospital
8. Rajiv Gandhi Super Speciality Hospital
9. Delhi State Cancer Institute
10. Dr Baba Saheb Ambedkar Hospital
11. Sardar Vallabh Bhai Patel Hospital
12. Babu Jagjivan Ram Memorial Hospital



EMPANELLED PRIVATE HOSPITALS

1. Action Cancer Hospital
2. Sri Balaji Action Medical Institute
3. Dharamshila Narayana Superspeciality Hospital
4. National Heart Institute
5. Synergy Eye Care
6. Metro Hospital And Cancer Institute
7. Gandhi Hospital

Teacher arrested for sexual assault on girl

New Delhi: A primary school teacher allegedly sexually assaulted a 15-year-old girl in south Delhi on Saturday, said police.

According to police, the incident occurred around 6 pm when the girl was on her way to a market to purchase a register. "The teacher, who works in an MCD school and lives in the same neighbourhood, allegedly spotted her and invited her to his residence, stating he had new extra copybooks that she could take from him," a police officer said, adding, "Trusting the teacher, the girl accompanied him to his house. Once inside, she was allegedly assaulted sexually."

Meanwhile, the teen's parents got worried when she did not return home for over two hours and started searching for her. After some time, they allegedly found her in a distressed state near a roadside. According to police, the girl then confided in her parents about the assault, after which the family approached the cops. The girl was counselled, her statement was recorded, and a case was registered under sections of POCSO and 64 (rape) and 351 (criminal intimidation) of BNS. The accused was arrested the following day, police said.

The day MCD receives the copy of FIR, the person will be considered as 'deemed suspended', MCD said

When **TOI** approached MCD regarding the teacher's arrest, an MCD official said, "The day MCD receives the copy of FIR, the person will be considered as 'deemed suspended'. However, police investigation is underway and therefore, no separate investigation will be done by us." TNN

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Late Smt. Uma Rani Narang

Sons and Daughters-in-law
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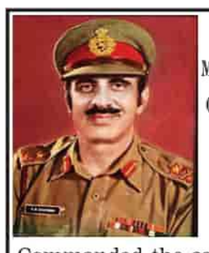
Sandeep & Sarika Narang

Daughters & Sons-in-law
Indu & Vipin Mehra
Pinky & Moninder Dhingra
Chanchal & Arun Birla
Harsh & Dinesh Sehgal

Grandchildren & Great Grandchildren

REMEMBRANCE
SHARING MEMORIES



MAJOR GENERAL PR DHAWAN (RETIRED)
(17 Mar1926 to 9 May 2025)

Major General PR Dhawan was commissioned on 21 December 1947 into 44 Field Regiment and Commanded the same. The General Officer was a dedicated soldier, whose demise on 09 May 2025 has left an irreparable void in the Gunner Fraternity. We salute his immense contribution and offer sincere condolences to the bereaved family. **Director General & All Ranks Regiment of Artillery.**

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15.10.1938 - 20.05.2017

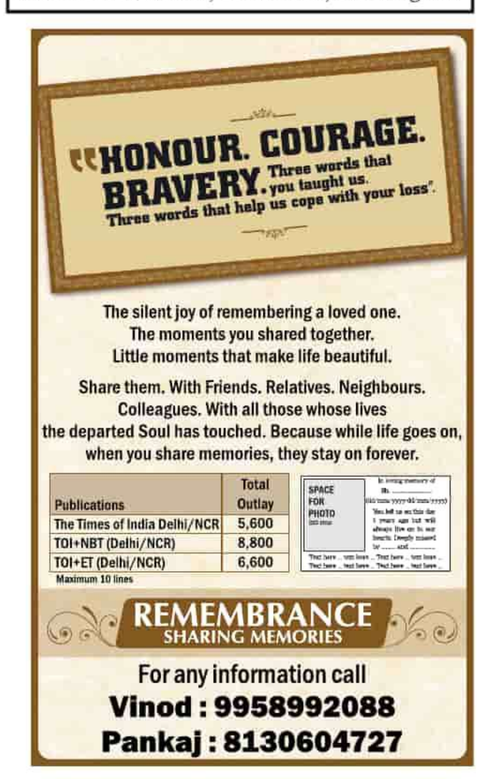
You were a precious gift from God, so much love beauty, grace & patience personified. You touched our hearts in so many ways, your strength and smile even on dark days made us realize we had an angel beside us. Rajkumar, Rajeev, Rashmi, Ashish, Tanvir, Tusshar, Tulika, Raunaq & Kanishk

DR. K.P. KAMPANI

3 years have gone by DADDY.....
Remembering you is easy, we do it every day. Missing you is heartache that never goes away. Love you DAD.
Geetika-Vishal, Sujata, Mini-Mukesh, Neelu-Sunil All Grand and Great Grand Children.

IC-5140W
Brig KPS DHILLON (Retd)
(18 Jun1928 to 25 May2025)

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. Contact:- Mrs Rajpal Dhillon (Wife) Mobile No. 9876101028. Add:- House No 840, Sector-34D, Chandigarh.



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OBITUARY

SAD DEMISE

With deep sorrow, we announce the passing of **Mr. Autar Krishan Ambardar** S/o Late Shri L.P. Ambardar & Smt. Ratan Rani Ambardar and husband of Mrs. Sarla Ambardar, on 14th May 2025. Tenth day ceremony: 11:30 AM, 23rd May at Villa A-9, RPS Omaxe Green Valley, Sector 42, Faridabad.
Deeply Mourned by :
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Dahars
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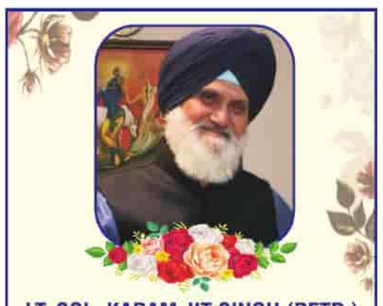

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Rishi - Vijaya
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Relatives & Friends

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One minor held, another on the run after man stabbed to death

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi: A 29-year-old man was stabbed to death while his sister and another person were critically injured after they were attacked by two minors in west Delhi's Khyala on Sunday night. Police suspect it to be a revenge attack over a previous confrontation following the alleged harassment of the victim's sister by one of the accused.

Additional DCP (west) Piyush Jain said one of the minors was apprehended while the other was absconding.

Police were informed about the incident around 3.15am by a govt hospital in Raghubir Nagar, where three injured were brought in. "Police found that one of the victims, a 29-year-old man, succumbed to multiple stab wounds during the treatment. His 23-year-old sister and a 47-year-old man who tried to intervene were also admitted with serious injuries and are undergoing treatment," said a senior officer.

In her statement, the victim's sister said the attackers repeatedly stabbed her brother with a knife. When she tried to intervene, the attackers turned on her and the bystander who tried to stop them. Both were also stabbed before the attackers fled in the direction of a nearby gurdwara.

Following her statement, a murder case was registered under Section 103 of Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita at Khyala police station, and an investigation is underway.

Police said that four months ago, the victim confronted one of the minors for allegedly harassing and abusing his sister. During that confrontation, he reportedly slapped the boy, who later narrated the incident to his friend. Together, the two allegedly plotted the revenge attack.

"On the night of the incident, the two juveniles allegedly went to the victim's fourth-floor residence, called him outside and stabbed him multiple times. Though bleeding and seriously injured, he managed to run down the stairs before collapsing on the road. His family lives on the third floor of the same building," an officer said.

The victim used to work as a delivery company executive and was the sole breadwinner of his family.

ALL IN A DAY: FROM THE COURTS

HC reserves verdict on plea against DPS students' expulsion

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi: Delhi High Court on Monday reserved its verdict on a plea against the expulsion of over 30 students by Delhi Public School, Dwarka, over a fee dispute.

Justice Sachin Datta wrapped up proceedings after hearing submissions from the counsel representing the school and the aggrieved parents, who moved court against the expulsion by the school earlier this week.

Their application was filed in a pending case of the school. On its part, the school on Monday informed the high court that of the 32 aggrieved students, one took a transfer to another school. Rebutting allegations of profiteering, the school's lawyer argued the institution was running at a deficit and due notices were sent to the parents. He said the school has a deficit of Rs 31 crore accumulated over the last 10 years.

"There was a deficit in my salaries and expenditure. How do I operate?... Rs 42 lakh is due from these students," the school's counsel said. He also highlighted that parents filed a separate petition for relief, which is pending before another bench that has reserved orders.

The counsel for the parents reiterated that the school acted in contravention of previous administrative and judicial orders prohibiting an increase in fees. They alleged that many of the expelled students had already begun preparations for crucial examinations, making their mid-year removal damaging to their education. The parents also claimed that their wards were mistreated, threatened by security personnel, and confined to a bus for two hours before being sent home.

HC allows govt to withdraw plea on prosecutors

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi: Delhi High Court on Monday allowed Delhi's BJP-led govt to withdraw a plea against the lieutenant governor, allowing Delhi Police to choose special public prosecutors for the Feb 2020 riots and the 2021 Republic Day violence cases.

A bench of Chief Justice DK Upadhyaya and Justice Tushar Rao Gedela agreed to allow the application and said: "The petition is dismissed as withdrawn."

The court passed the order after the lieutenant governor's counsel did not object to the plea, which was pending for a few years.

The erstwhile AAP govt challenged the LG's decision on the grounds that it wouldn't be in the interest of a fair trial to have Delhi Police choose lawyers as special public prosecutors in cases related to the farmers' protests on Jan 26, 2021, and the Delhi riots.

It argued that the appointment of special public prosecutors was a routine matter and not an exceptional one requiring a reference to the President.

The LG had "no sound reason" for referring the matter to the President when govt had agreed to appoint independent special public prosecutors. It maintained that the special public prosecutors chosen by Delhi Police were in "serious conflict of interest".

Fraud charges to be framed against bank officials

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi: A Delhi court recently ordered the framing of charges for the offences of corruption and cheating against four people, including two senior officials of a bank. It observed that the prosecution was not under any obligation to prove that each of the accused met each other to charge them with being part of the conspiracy to cheat the bank.

The court of special judge Sunena Sharma directed the framing of charges for offences of cheating, corruption and criminal conspiracy against Delhi Corporation Bank's chief manager Pavan Arya, deputy general manager ARK Prasad and valuer BP Singh. The court also directed the framing of charges for offences of cheating and criminal conspiracy against Rajnish Gupta, part owner of a private firm.

Three other accused, including an empanelled advocate of the bank, were discharged in the matter from all offences.

According to the prosecution, a businessman approached the bank for a loan of Rs 3.9 crore, which was granted to him in connivance with the bank officials of the branch and zonal office on the basis of forged title deeds of the properties mortgaged, documents bearing false, incomplete signatures of the borrower as well as the guarantor, a forged electricity bill, a forged PAN card, and a false due diligence report.

Fake govt jobs racket busted

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi: A fake govt job racket operating under the name "National Rural Development and Recreation Mission", a fictitious body claiming affiliation with the ministry of rural development, was busted on Sunday. Two men were arrested from Laxmi Nagar.

The case came to light after the ministry filed a police complaint on March 22. According to the complaint, fake websites carrying images of union ministers and senior bureaucrats were luring job seekers with fake advertisements and demanding Rs 299 to Rs 399 as a registration fee. An FIR was registered the next day at the cyber police station in New Delhi District.

"The funds were routed through multiple accounts and withdrawn via ATMs. Over a hundred CCTV footage of ATM withdrawals were obtained and analysed, eventually tracing one suspect to Laxmi Nagar," said DCP (New Delhi) Devesh Mahla.

A police team conducted a raid on May 18 and arrested a man, Ikbal Hussain. Later, the mastermind, Rashid Choudhury, was arrested from a nearby flat.

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Glitch? Wrongly failed in taxation law paper, claim several fifth-semester students at DU

Sugandha.Jha@timesofindia.com

New Delhi: A large number of fifth-semester students at Delhi University's Campus Law Centre have failed in the taxation law paper allegedly due to a technical glitch in the result processing system. The students, whose results were declared after an unusual delay of about four months on May 13, claim that they have been marked failed in consecutive sequence of their roll numbers and name initials, suggesting an error in the tabulation or evaluation process.

With the final examinations scheduled to begin on May 27, students have expressed concerns that the delay in rectifying the error could impact their final clearance or result in a backlog, potentially delaying the completion of their degree on time.

File photo

DU's Law Centre

A student, who wished to remain anonymous, said, "We waited for four months, and when the results came, we were shocked. I failed just one subject – taxation law – while clearing all other subjects with decent scores. The strange part is that nearly 50 of my batchmates, with roll numbers close to mine, also failed in the same subject."

Another student stated, "My name starts with 'K' and my roll number is among the early ones. I know for a fact that I attempted the paper well and performed better than in some of my other papers in which I passed. This must be a technical glitch."

Several affected students have formally written to the Faculty of Law administration, requesting an urgent review of the results.

In a letter addressed to dean Anju Vali Tikoo, students highlighted the "unusual pattern" of mass failures among those with similar roll numbers and names starting with specific letters. "We request that a fair review be conducted to save students from academic delays, postgraduate admission issues and significant emotional stress," they stated.

The dean, however, stated that she was not aware of the matter and declined to comment.

The **TOI** reached out to the controller of examination, Prof GS Tuteja, who stated that necessary steps would be taken once the matter was brought to the attention of the faculty.

This is not the first time Delhi University has faced issues with result discrepancies. In 2022, students of the School of Open Learning reported similar problems, with many being marked absent or failed due to data mismatches. Additionally, in 2021, law students had raised complaints about incorrect marks being uploaded for internal assessments.

ASI found dead with bullet injury in E Delhi

New Delhi: An assistant sub inspector (ASI) was found dead with a bullet injury at his residence in east Delhi. Police suspect foul play. The deceased was posted at Usmanpur police station and lived with his family and two children. The incident took place on Monday when his wife went to drop off children to school. Upon returning home, she found him in a pool of blood with his govt pistol nearby. The room was locked from the inside. The injured was taken to the hospital, where he was declared dead. He was suffering from depression for the past 2-3 years, police said. TNN

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Time to tee off! DDA invites applications for tenure memberships at Dwarka Golf Course

Vibha.Sharma@timesofindia.com

New Delhi: Delhi Development Authority (DDA) has invited applications for tenure memberships, ranging from three to five years, at its newly-constructed golf course in Dwarka Sector 24.

After the 18-hole public championship golf course was inaugurated in Dec last year, the authority had offered about 2,000 playing rights in various categories. These included senior govt officials, applicants with golf handicap certificate, general applicants, PSUs and corporates, among others.

According to officials, while some categories saw applications for memberships, others remained vacant. "We have uploaded the details on the DDA website specifying the process to apply for membership as well as the circular specifying categories, fees, tenure and other highlights," said an official.

The entire process of application and payment of entry fees will be online, stated DDA. The entry fee and monthly subscription, excluding GST, for three- and five-year tenure playing rights in govt and non-govt categories range from Rs 3 lakh to Rs 9 lakh, with a monthly subscription between Rs 1,500 and Rs 2,200.

For private individuals, a five-year membership requires an initial payment of Rs 9 lakh as entry charges, plus a monthly subscription of Rs 2,200. People opting for a three-year membership will need to pay Rs 6 lakh as entry charges, along with identical monthly fees.

Govt employees can avail special rates, with an entry fee of Rs 3 lakh for five years and Rs 2 lakh for three years, accompanied by a reduced monthly fee of Rs 1,500. Out of 2,000 memberships, 200 are reserved for govt employees.

"Spouse and dependent children (from five to 21 years) can be added in the playing rights of individuals whose playing rights are approved. Dependents with playing rights would need to pay monthly subscription, as applicable. They are entitled to play on the golf course, driving range and utilise the club facilities. Non-playing dependents are not required to pay monthly subscription and are not entitled to play on the golf course, though they can utilise the facilities of the club house," according to an official document.

In separate road accidents, two men lose lives in city

New Delhi: Two men lost their lives in separate road accidents in the capital, one involving a roadways bus in Mahipalpur and the other a tractor-trailer in Alipur.

In the first incident on May 14, Nain Singh, 46, was crushed under the rear wheels of a Rajasthan Roadways bus while attempting to alight near the Mahipalpur flyover in south-west Delhi. He died on the spot. The driver was arrested but later released on bail. In another incident on Sunday, Wazid, 44, died after being trapped under a tractor-trailer that overturned in Alipur, north-west Delhi. He succumbed to his injuries. Police said the driver was apprehended. TNN

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TIMES NATION

* THE TIMES OF INDIA, NEW DELHI | TUESDAY, MAY 20, 2025

NEW E-ZERO FIR INITIATIVE TO CRACK DOWN ON CYBERFRAUD, SPEED UP PROBES, SAYS SHAH | 9

US SLAPS VISA BAN ON INDIAN TRAVEL AGENCIES & OWNERS WHO AIDED ILLEGAL IMMIGRATION | 10

Beating Retreat restarts today at Punjab border check posts

The 'beating Retreat' ceremonies will resume at Amritsar's Attari, Ferozepur's Hussainiwala, and Fazilka's Sadiqi border check posts along Pakistan on Tuesday, 10 days after the cessation of aerial warfare following Operation Sindoor.

The flag-lowering ceremonies would resume at 6pm on Tuesday, said BSF IG of Punjab Frontier Atul Fulzele. The gates will remain closed, and BSF jawans will not shake hands with their Pakistan Rangers' counterparts, he added.

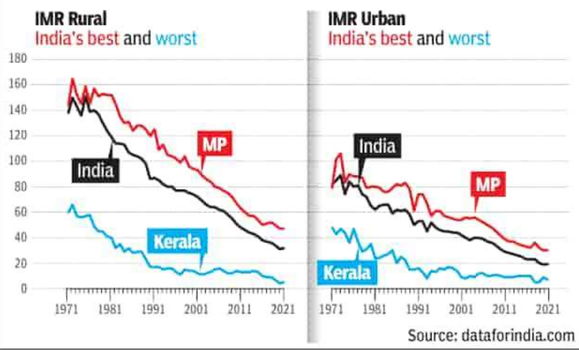
The decision has sparked hope among tourists. "We are lucky that BSF resumed the daily parade, and we will be able to see it and call it a complete Amritsar trip," said Bhavini Sen, a tourist from Gujarat.

The local taxi and auto drivers, whose daily earnings depend heavily on the footfall at Attari, are equally happy. "For over a week, I barely earned anything because there were no visitors to Attari," said Arman, a taxi driver. "But I believe things are now returning to normal." TNN

STATISTICS A slice of life in numbers

MP's at level of sub-Saharan Africa, while Kerala is better than US

Infant Mortality Rate (IMR) is the number of deaths of children below one year per 1,000 live births. It's an indicator of challenges of poverty, sanitation, nutrition, healthcare and education in a society



Source: dataforindia.com

Pak targeted Golden Temple but evil designs foiled: Army

SGPC Official Rubbishes 'Political' Claim

Yudhvir.Rana
@timesofindia.com

Head granthi allowed gun deployment, said Army's air defence in-charge

Amritsar: Pakistan fired drones and missiles targeting Amritsar's Golden Temple in retaliation to Operation Sindoor aimed at terrorist sites within its territory, but India's air-defence preparedness and the head granthi's decision to allow the military to deploy air defence guns within the shrine ensured these "nefarious designs" were thwarted, the Indian Army said on Monday.

"On May 8, in the hours of darkness, Pakistan carried out a massive air assault with unmanned aerial weapons, primarily drones and long-range missiles. We were fully prepared since we had anticipated this, and our brave-heart and alert Army air defence gunners shot down all drones and missiles targeted at the Golden Temple. Thus, not allowing even a scratch to come on our holy Golden Temple," Maj Gen Kartik C Seshadri, GOC of the 15 Infantry Division, told ANI.

Lt Gen Sumer Ivan D'Cunha, the Army's in-charge of air defence, said in a separate interview to the same news agency that this was made possible by the Golden Temple authorities offering to help in whatever way needed to safeguard the shrine from potential drone and missile attacks by Pakistan.

"It was very nice that the head granthi of the Golden Temple allowed us to deploy our guns. It is possibly for the first time in many years that they switched off the Golden Temple lights so that we could see the drones coming," ANI quoted Lt Gen D'Cunha as saying.

Major Gen Seshadri said knowing that the Pakistan Army did not have any "legitimate targets", the Indian armed forces anticipated they would target military installations, civilian targets and religious places.

"Of these, the Golden Temple, a veritable symbol of the nation's syncretic faith, appeared to be the most prominent. We mobilised additional modern air defence assets to give a holistic air defence umbrella cover to the Golden Temple," he said.

Shiromani Gurdwara Parbandhak Committee (SGPC) chief secretary Kulwant Singh Mannan dismissed the possibility of the Golden Temple being under threat from Pakistan, while president Harjinder Singh Dhami declined comment.

"Whether it's the Indian or Pakistani Army, these are political agendas at play. No Army commander could conceive of attacking the Golden Temple," Mannan said.

He stressed the spiritual significance of the Golden Temple, calling it a place of peace, where millions come seeking solace. "This sacred place is where countless lives are spiritually transformed. Guru Ram Das blesses devotees with peace and tranquility," Mannan said. "Even today, the sangat comes with full faith. No one should spread confusion or doubt."

Hours later, Mannan clarified that his views were personal and that he didn't specifically respond to the Indian Army's statement that the Golden Temple had been targeted by Pakistan. "It is my belief, and my heart is convinced, that no person of any faith could ever think of causing harm to the sacred shrine of Guru Ram Das, which stands for the message of Sarbat Da Bhala (welfare of all)," he said.

India, Pak both key neighbours, will help keep peace: China

Times News Network

New Delhi: China is willing to maintain communication with both India and Pakistan and play a constructive role in achieving a full and lasting ceasefire, as well as in maintaining regional peace and stability, the Chinese foreign ministry said on Monday.

Spokesperson Mao Ning's remarks came in response to queries about the Beijing visit of Pakistan foreign minister Ishaq Dar — the first high-level Pakistani official to be in China after the Islamabad's military tensions with New Delhi — and China's position on the conflict.

Asked about reports that China may have provided satellite and air defence support to Pakistan during the conflict, the official said that since tensions started to increase between India and Pakistan, China followed an "objective and just position, urged the two countries to exercise calm and restraint, and avoid escalation".

"Both India and Pakistan are China's important neighbours. China attaches high importance to its ties with both, and is committed to fostering an amicable, secure and prosperous neighborhood, the principle of amity, sincerity, mutual benefit and inclusiveness and the vision of a shared future..." Mao said.

Dar, who arrived in Beijing on Monday, is also expected to brief China about Pakistan's position on India's decision to put the Indus Waters Treaty in abeyance.

On a question about China's military aid to Pakistan during the conflict, the official said that the query should be directed to competent authorities in the country. Mao gave a similar answer when asked if replenishment of the Chinese weapons system would be discussed during Dar's visit. The Chinese air force has denied reports that it is sending weapon supplies to Pakistan in a cargo plane.

PTI

BJP workers join a Tiranga Yatra in Moradabad on Monday to celebrate the Indian armed forces for Operation Sindoor

China speeds up construction of dam in Pak

Beijing: China has announced plans to accelerate work on a "flagship" dam in Pakistan to ease pressure on its all-weather ally, weeks after India placed the 1960 Indus Waters Treaty (IWT) in abeyance following the Pahalgam terror attack, according to a media report.

The state-owned China Energy Engineering Corporation has been working on the Mohmand Hydropower Project in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa province in northwestern Pakistan since 2019. The project was scheduled to be completed next year.

On Saturday, state broadcaster CCTV reported that concrete filling on the dam had started, marking "a critical construction milestone and a phase of accelerated development for this national flagship project of Pakistan", the Hong Kong-based South China Morning Post reported.

The Mohmand dam is designed to serve as a multipurpose facility for power generation, flood control, irrigation and water supply and is designed to generate an estimated 800MW of hydropower and supply 300 million gallons a day of drinking water to Peshawar, the capital and largest city of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa. PTI

Nehru gave Pak not only water but also money, Shivraj tells farmers in govt outreach on IWT

Vishwa.Mohan
@timesofindia.com

ANI

'We had been giving water to Pakistan at the cost of our farmers' interest, but the neighbouring country has been responsible for producing terrorists,' said Shivraj

New Delhi: Govt has started rallying public opinion against the Indus Waters Treaty (IWT), the suspension of which by India following the Pahalgam terror attack has been termed by Pakistan "an act of war".

Days after calling the 1960 treaty a "historic mistake", Union agriculture minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan on Monday met farmers organisations and explained to them how the then PM Jawaharlal Nehru signed the treaty despite opposition from experts.

He said that Nehru not only agreed to give water to Pakistan at the cost of India but also gave Rs 83 crore to the neighbouring country, whose value now amounts to Rs 5,500 crore.

Chouhan was referring to the amount that India gave to Pakistan to help build replacement canals from the western rivers of the Indus system.

"We had been giving waters to Pakistan at the cost of our farmers' interest, but the neighbouring country has been responsible for producing terrorists," said Chouhan, adding that even former PM Atal Bihari Vajpayee had opposed the Indus Waters Treaty in Parliament.

Referring to Nehru's remarks where he reportedly said that India bought peace by extending financial assistance to Pakistan, Chouhan said, "What kind of peace was that? We lost water as well as money."

Explaining the rationale behind keeping the treaty in abeyance, Chouhan said, "Waters of Indus river system will now be used for India and its farmers." Representatives of several organisations, including Samyukta Kisan Morcha and Bharatiya Kisan Union (non-political), attended the meeting. They supported govt's move on the treaty and even demanded that it be abrogated.

CDS, Army chief review operational situation along Pak border in Guj, Raj

Times News Network

New Delhi: The operational situation along the border with Pakistan in Rajasthan and Kutch region was reviewed on Monday by Chief of Defence Staff General Anil Chauhan and Army chief Gen Upendra Dwivedi, who also took stock of the air defence systems deployed under 'Operation Sindoor' in forward areas.

Gen Chauhan visited the Suratgarh military station and Naliya air force station, while Gen Dwivedi was at Longewala and other forward areas under Army's 12 Konark Corps in the desert sector.

PTI

Army Chief Gen Dwivedi congratulates troops for Op Sindoor in Longewala Monday

"In his interaction with troops, the CDS emphasised the importance of maintaining high operational readiness and resilience in the face of evolving security challenges. He said they must remain ever prepared for responding to any challenge with decisive force," an officer said.

Gen Dwivedi, taking stock of the joint actions taken by Army in close coordination with IAF and BSF in the desert sector, in turn, also praised the troops for their vigilance, including the successful neutralisation of enemy drone incursions, which effectively prevented any misadventure by the adversary in the region.

"Gen Dwivedi commended the commanders and units for their professionalism, high morale, and integrated execution of operational plans," the officer added.

Bhujbal may be sworn in as Maha minister today

Mumbai: NCP MLA and OBC leader Chhagan Bhujbal is likely to be sworn in as cabinet minister in the Devendra Fadnavis-led Mahayuti govt on Tuesday morning at Raj Bhavan, reports **Clara Lewis**.

Bhujbal is set to replace NCP's Dhananjay Munde, who was forced to resign in March over the alleged role of his aide in the murder of sarpanch Santosh Deshmukh. The swearing-in ceremony is likely to be at 10am and a cabinet meeting would be slated for 11am at Mantralaya, sources said.

Bhujbal is likely to be given the food and civil supplies portfolio which he had held earlier. Bhujbal being made a minister at this juncture could benefit Mahayuti and NCP as he is one of the most influential OBC politicians in the state.

Bhujbal secured a major win for OBCs after he filed a petition in SC under the aegis of Akhil Bharatiya Mahatma Phule Samata Parishad for OBC electoral reservation. The reservation for OBCs has been upheld by the apex court.

With local body elections due in the next few months, Bhujbal would play a crucial role and could boost the chances of NCP.

RAJENDRA INSTITUTE OF MEDICAL SCIENCES
(An Autonomous Institute under Govt. of Jharkhand)
Ranchi- 834009(Jharkhand)
Email : rimsranchi@rediffmail.com

NIT No : 2012 Dated : 16.05.2025

E-TENDER NOTICE FOR OUTSOURCING OF AGENCY FOR COMPLETE SANITATION AND HOUSE KEEPING WITH COLLECTION, SEGREGATION, STORAGE AND SAFE TRANSPORTATION OF MUNICIPAL WASTE & HANDLING BIOMEDICAL WASTE SEPARATELY IN RIMS, RANCHI

E-Tender are invited for outsourcing of agency for complete sanitation and house keeping with collection, segregation, storage and safe transportation of municipal waste& handling Biomedical waste separately as per norms of CPCB (Central Pollution Control Board) and JSPCB (Jharkhand State Pollution Control Board) through e-tender process. For details, please visit Jharkhand Government Tender Portal – https://jharkhandtenders.gov.in/ from 19.05.2025

Bid Submission End Date: 20.06.2025

PR 352900 Rajendra Institute of Medical Sciences (25-26)_D

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BSES BSES Rajdhani Power Limited, New Delhi

TENDER NOTICE Date: - 19.05.2025

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NIT No.	Brief Item Description	Due Date & Time of Submission	Date & Time of Opening
CMC/BR/25-26/FK/CR/SL/1285	COMPREHENSIVE OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE CONTRACT PROVIDING AMC and RETROFITTING SERVICES TO OPTIMIZE PLANT HEALTH AND ENSURE EFFICIENT GENERATION FROM ROOFTOP SOLOR INSTALLATIONS OF BRPL CONSUMERS.	26.05.2025 15:00 HRS	26.05.2025 15:45 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

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Office Of Superintending Engineer
Irrigation Works Circle, Srinagar (Garhwal)

पत्रांक : 902 / सिं0का0ग0श्री0 / निविदा / 02 / अघी0 अभि0 / 2025–26 दिनांक: 19.05.2025

E-Tender Notice

E-Tender Notcie No. 02/S.E./2025-26 Dated 19-05-2025

On behalf of Honorable Governor of Uttarakhand, Superintending Engineer, Irrigation Works Circle, Srinagar (Garhwal) invites tender through E-Tendering (Two bid system) for following work.

Sr. No.	Name Of Work	Earnest Money @2% (₹ In Lac)	Cost Of Bidding Documents (In ₹)	Validity of tender (in Days)	Time Of Completion of Work (in Month)	Contractor's category
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1	Flood Protection Work Scheme (Part-02) for Gabbar Singh (V.C.) Army Camp located on the right bank of the Kho River in Kotdwar area, Dugadda Development Block, District Pauri Garhwal **Reach: 50.00 to 325.00 M D/S from R/W**	**11.25**	5000.00 + 900.00 (18% GST)	120	09	Registered as "A" Category in Uttarakhand Irrigation Deptt. or equivalent or higher category
2	Flood Protection Work Scheme (Part-02) for Gabbar Singh (V.C.) Army Camp located on the right bank of the Kho River in Kotdwar area, Dugadda Development Block, District Pauri Garhwal **Reach: 0.00 to 125.00 M U/S from R/W & 0.00 to 50 M D/S from R/W**	**07.07**	5000.00 + 900.00 (18% GST)	120	09	Registered as "A" Category in Uttarakhand Irrigation Deptt. or equivalent or higher category

All other tender related information will be available from date 20-05-2025 Time 17:00 Hrs. onwards at **https://uktenders.gov.in**

(H.C.Singh)
Superintending Engineer

B-137 OFFICE OF THE ENGINEER-IN-CHIEF (CIVIL), ODISHA
NIRMAN SOUDHA, KESHARI NAGAR, UNIT- V, BHUBANESWAR - 751 001

1st corrigendum to RFP Identification No. CE-BRIDGES-01/2025-26
File No- PIM - Misc.- 10/2008 (Pt)

Following changes are made to the Invitation for qualification / proposal for the work "Construction of H. L. Bridge over river Luna near Pubansa at 3rd km on Katikata - Jaypur road in the District of Cuttack under State Plan" through EPC mode of Contract" vide RFP Identification No. CE- BRIDGES - 01/2025-26. The option button of EMD exemption allowed is revised as follow

- The Last date of submission of RFP Application is extended upto **5.00 PM of dt.03.06.2025.**
- The application received online shall be opened at **3.00 PM on 04.06.2025.**

All other terms and conditions remain unchanged

Sd/- **Chief Engineer, Bridges**
Odisha, Bhubaneswar
OIPR-34174/11/0043/25-26

A-201

GOVERNMENT OF ODISHA
DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES
OFFICE OF THE ADDITIONAL CHIEF ENGINEER
CENTRAL IRRIGATION CIRCLE, BHUBANESWAR
'e' Procurement Notice No. ACECIC - 02/ 2025-26

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 From	Bid documents available online for bidding To	Date of opening of Technical Bid	Period of completion of work
ACE, CIC, Bhubaneswar	NGR-02/ 2025-26	Flood Protection Work on river Brutang Left Bank to Protect Khordha-Balangir Railway Line near Village Gopalpur of Takera GP under Daspalla Block of Nayagarh District.	790.92	791000/- (On Line)	10000/- (On Line)	"A" & "Special" Class	22.05.2025 At 10.00 Hours	05.06.2025 At 17.00 Hours	06.06.2025 At.11.00 Hours	18 (Eighteen Calendar Month)
	KID-01/ 2025-26	Improvement to Mahanadi Right Embankment from Sunadei Hill to Harirajpur	380.85	380900/- (On Line)	10000/- (On Line)	"A" Class	22.05.2025 At 10.00 Hours	05.06.2025 At 17.00 Hours	06.06.2025 At.11.00 Hours	08 (Eight Calendar Month)
	KID-02/ 2025-26	Improvement to Malaguni Left Embankment from Golabai to Atharabatia (Working RD.0.0 Km to 3.25 Km)	465.02	465100/- (On Line)	10000/- (On Line)	"A" Class	22.05.2025 At 10.00 Hours	05.06.2025 At 17.00 Hours	06.06.2025 At.11.00 Hours	08 (Eight Calendar Month)

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Further details conditions can be seen from Govt. website **www.tenderorissa.gov.in**

Sd/-
Additional Chief Engineer
Central Irrigation Circle
OIPR-32160/11/0027/25-26

2 feared drowned in Ganga during ash immersion

Bareilly: Two members of a family were feared drowned in the Ganga when they were taking holy dip after the immersion of ashes ritual at Kachhla Ghat in Ujhanib area of Budaun on Monday, reports **Kanwardeep Singh**. Divers managed to rescue four others of the family, while a search operation was on for the remaining two, said police.

Amrish Singh, a resident of Bharatpur district in Rajasthan, died two days ago. On Monday, 35 of his family members arrived at Kachhla Ghat for 'ashthi visarjan'. After the ritual, all of them entered the river to take holy dip. Soon, Sumit Singh (17), Sumer (16), Diwan (20), Monu (18), Gaurav (21) and a woman named Neetu Singh cried for help after they entered deep water.

> **Divers managed to rescue four others of the family, while a search operation was on for the remaining two, said police**

Divers present nearby jumped into the river and rescued four people, but Sumit and Sumir were swept away. Diwan, Monu, Gaurav and the woman were rushed to hospital.

Ujhani SHO Neeraj Kumar Singh said, "A rescue operation was immediately initiated by police. The condition of the survivors is stable."

6 going to funeral killed after car falls into river

Navi Mumbai: Tragedy struck early Monday when six members of three families were killed after the multipurpose vehicle they were travelling in plunged 100 feet from a bridge into the Jagbudi river on the Mumbai-Goa highway stretch of the Khed taluka in Ratnagiri, reports **Umesh K Parida**. They were headed to their native place in Devrukh to attend the funeral of the father of two of the victims when the driver dozed off at a sharp curve, causing the mishap around 5am.

The car swung from the left lane of the Goa-bound carriageway to the right lane before plunging into a dried-up stretch of the river.

Khed police and rescuers joined the over three-hour-long operation with multiple challenges. The carriageway was shut to press the crane into service to pull out the car. Then the car was taken to a nearest traffic-free area space where the victims were pulled out of the damaged car by the rescuers. They were put on stretchers and taken to a hospital in ambulances.

Khed police inspector Nitin Bhoyar said, "Six people have died in the mishap. We have been identifying the victims and tracing their relatives. The driver lost control after being on the road for long hours while suddenly coming across a sharp curvature."

Shah: E-zero FIRs set to speed up cyberscam probes

The initiative will automatically convert all cybercrime complaints filed through the national portal or cybercrime helpline '1930' to FIRs

Bharti.Jain@timesofindia.com

New Delhi: Citizens who fall victim to cyber fraud will soon save valuable time spent in figuring out how and where to file an FIR, enabling law enforcement to quickly track down the fraudsters and recover the siphoned money.

Home minister Amit Shah Monday said the Indian Cyber Crime Coordination Centre (I4C) has introduced the new e-Zero FIR initiative, which will automatically convert all complaints of cyber financial crimes filed through the national cybercrime reporting portal (NCRP) or national cybercrime helpline '1930', to FIRs.

Shah, in a post on X, said the new system, launched as a pilot project for Delhi, will "drive investigations, swiftly cracking down on cybercriminals" and "will soon be extended to the entire nation".

While initially, the automatic FIR will be filed in cases with cyber frauds involving a threshold limit of Rs 10 lakh, it will eventually be expanded to cover all such FIRs.

Shah had given instructions for implementation of e-zero FIR initiative in a review meet pertaining to I4C, keeping in view difficulties faced by victims of cyber crimes in recovery of the money lost.

Revamped portal launched for OCIs

Home minister Amit Shah Monday launched the revamped portal for overseas citizens of India, which will offer the existing five million OCI cardholders as well as fresh applicants a user-friendly experience in accessing services and facilitating their stay in India. PM Modi on X hailed the initiative, saying that "with enhanced features and improved functionality, the new OCI portal marks a step forward in boosting citizen-friendly digital governance".

Speaking at the launch event in Delhi, Shah said India is continuously striving to provide world-class immigration facilities to its OCI cardholders. The revamped portal will have an updated user interface to simplify the registration process for OCIs, Shah said. TNN

Guj mantri's 2nd son also held in MGNREGS scam

Vadodara: Gujarat minister of state for agriculture and panchayat Bachu Khabad's second son, Kiran Khabad (39), was arrested Monday in connection with a Rs 71 crore MGNREGS scam in Dahod. Three others, including Khabad's nephew Dilip Chauhan, were also arrested, taking the total number of arrests to 11.

Kiran's elder brother Balwant Khabad (43) was arrested Saturday. Both are linked to firms that supplied materials for MGNREGS projects in Devgadhbaria and Dhanpur talukas without qualifying through the mandatory bidding process. Police said these firms received funds despite not securing any contracts.

A probe by District Rural Development Agency flagged 32 firms. Balwant is tied to Shri Raj Construction Co, which received Rs 82 lakh, while Kiran's Shri Raj Traders was paid over Rs 30 crore — more than 40% of the total funds siphoned off in scam.

DRDA's inquiry found that much of the sanctioned roadwork was never executed, with payments made based on falsified progress between 2021–22 and 2023–24. TNN

60 houses of 'history-sheeters' razed in Guj

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Rajkot: Authorities in Gujarat's Rajkot Monday pulled down over 60 properties linked to 38 "history-sheeters", describing them as unauthorised as they stood on govt land.

The demolitions came over seven months after SC last Nov imposed a pan-India ban on "bulldozer justice". The court held that such demolition of a citizen's house without following due process of law, merely because he is a suspect or even a convict, will be "totally unconstitutional".

SC had laid down elaborate procedure for razing illegal structures, including a 15-day notice sent by post and pasted on outer walls of such houses. The court held that govt could not breach a family's right to shelter only because one of its members is accused of a heinous crime.

Authorities said the houses were unauthorised as they stood on govt land

In Rajkot, police said the occupants had been served two notices a month ago. Most of accused whose homes were pulled down faced cases of murder, theft and prohibition violations. "We vacated 2,610sq m of govt land valued at Rs 6.52 crore," DCP (Zone II) Jagdish Bangarwa said.

Other officials stressed the action was part of a larger ongoing drive against such illegal structures. Gujarat home minister Harsh Sanghavi reaffirmed the govt's commitment to action against those who occupied govt land and engaged in crimes. "State govt and police have clear resolution that if anyone commits a crime and occupies state land, we will not let it happen... All places in Rajkot that have been a hub for illegal activities will be demolished," said Sanghavi.

CENTRAL COUNCIL FOR RESEARCH IN UNANI MEDICINE

(Ministry of AYUSH, Govt. of India)
Jawahar Lal Nehru Bhartiya Chikitsa Avum Homeopathy Anusandhan Bhawan,
61-65, Institutional Area, Opp. D-Block, Janakpuri, New Delhi-110058

Invites Research Proposals Under Expression of Interest (EOI) Scheme 2025-26

Central Council for Research in Unani Medicine (CCRUM), an autonomous body under the Ministry of Ayush, Government of India, has implemented the **Expression of Interest (EOI) Scheme 2025-26**, through which financial support is provided to institutions for collaborative research. Applications are invited from eligible investigators/institutions in the priority areas of collaborative research (details available on the website: **www.ccrum.res.in**) for the year 2025-26.

Details of the scheme and application format are available on the website. Proposals must strictly adhere to the guidelines outlined in the **CCRUM Research Policy 2025**. Proposals must be submitted in both hard copies (5 sets) and soft copy, along with a concise presentation (not more than 10-12 slides) covering the title, objectives, methodology, translational value, novelty and rationale of the study. All necessary enclosures may also be included in hard copy.

The proposals should be submitted to:
The Director General, Central Council for Research in Unani Medicine (CCRUM),
61-65, Institutional Area, Opp. D-Block, Janakpuri, New Delhi -110058
Email: **unanimedicine@gmail.com; eoi.ccrum@gmail.com**
The last date for submission is within one month from the date of publication of this notice

Assistant Director (Unani & Technical Head)
***for* Director General**

रजिस्ट्री सं० डी०एल० – 33004/99 REGD.NO.D.L.-33004/99

भारत का राजपत्र
The Gazette of India

सी.जी.-डी.एल.-अ.-16052025-263142
CG-DL-E-16052025-263142

असाधारण
EXTRAORDINARY
भाग II—खण्ड 3—उप—खण्ड (ii)
PART II – Section 3 – Sub-section (ii)
प्राधिकार से प्रकाशित
PUBLISHED BY AUTHORITY

सं. 2121] नई दिल्ली, बृहस्पतिवार, मई 15, 2025/वैशाख 25, 1947
No. 2121] NEW DELHI, THURSDAY, MAY 15, 2025/VAISAKHA 25, 1947

MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS
(Northern Railway)
[CONSTRUCTION ORGANIZATION]

NOTIFICATION

New Delhi, 28th April, 2025

S.O. 2171(E).- The Central Government, in exercise of the powers conferred by Section 20A (1) of the Railways Act, 1989 (24 of 1989), as amended by the Railways (Amendment) Act, 2008, hereby declares its intention to acquire the land specified in the Schedule annexed hereto for the public purpose, namely for the execution, maintenance, management and operation of the special railway project, Y Connection at Garhi Harsaru to avoid reversal at Garhi Harsuru (NEW LINE) (2.50 Km)" in village **wazirpur** of Tehsil **Harsaru** in district **Gurugram** of Haryana state required for the special railway project, ".

Any person interested in the said land may, within 30 days from the date of publication of this notification, object to the acquisition of the land for the purposes mentioned above, as provided under sub-section (1) of Section 20D of the Railways Act, 1989.

Every objection shall be made to the Competent Authority, namely the **Sub Divisional officer (Civil) Gurugram,** in writing, and shall state the grounds of objection and the interest of the objector in the land. The competent authority shall give the objector an opportunity of being heard, either in person or by a legal practitioner, and may, after hearing all such objections and after making such further inquiry, if any, as it thinks necessary, by order, either allow or disallow the objections.

Any order made by the competent authority under sub-section (2) of Section 20D of the Railways Act, 1989 shall be final.

The land plans and other details of the land covered under this notification are available in the office of the competent authority for inspection by the interested persons.

SCHEDULE

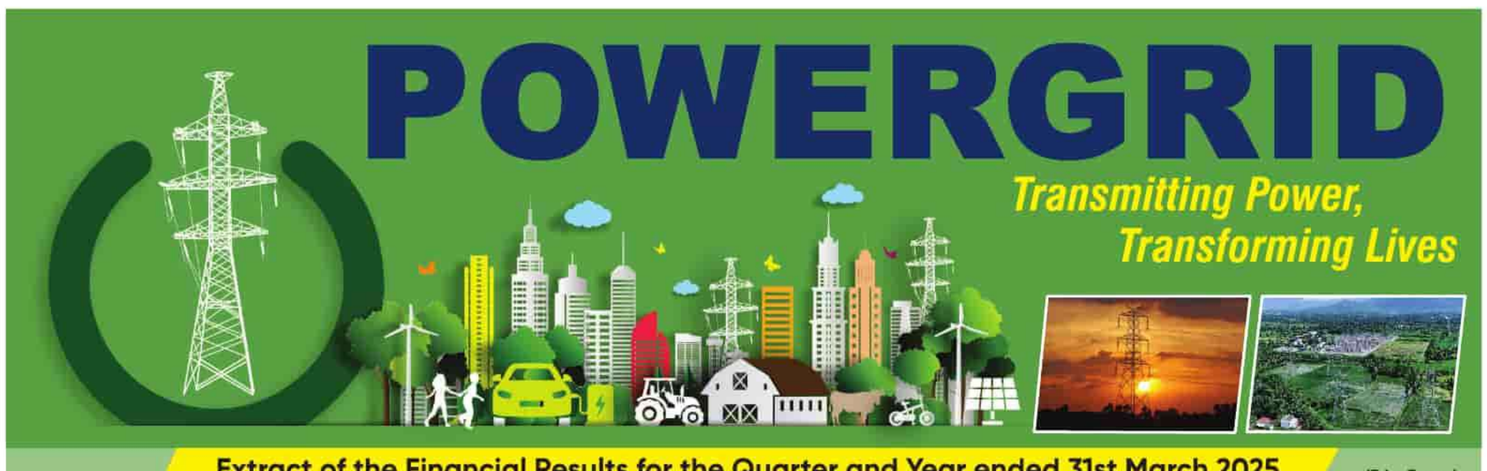
A brief description of the land to be acquired with or without structures for the special Railway Project namely Y Connection at Garhi Harsaru to avoid reversal at Garhi Harsaru (NEW LINE) (2.50 Km)". in village wazirpur of Tehsil Harsaru in district Gurugram of Haryana state.

1	Name of District	Gurugram
2	Name of Tehsil	Harsaru
3	Name of Village	Wazirpur

Sr. No.	Survey No./ Rect. No./ Field No.	Nature of Land	Type of Land	Area		
				Hectares	KANAL	MARLA
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)
1	16//8/2	Chahi	Private	0.0278	0	11
2	16//13/1	Chahi	Private	0.1265	2	10
3	19//3	Chahi	Private	0.1366	2	14
4	19//8	Chahi	Private	0.0379	0	15
5	16//2	Chahi	Private	0.2074	4	2
6	16//9/2	Chahi	Private	0.0405	0	16
7	16//12	Chahi	Private	0.1265	2	10
8	16//19	Chahi	Private	0.0658	1	6
9	16//22	Chahi	Private	0.0607	1	4
10	19//2	Chahi	Private	0.1062	2	2
11	19//9	Chahi	Private	0.2049	4	1
12	19//12	Chahi	Private	0.2580	5	2
13	19//19	Chahi	Private	0.1088	2	3
14	7//21	Chahi	Government	0.1846	3	13
15	16//1	Chahi	Private	0.0253	0	10
16	19//11	Chahi	Private	0.0101	0	4
17	19//20	Chahi	Private	0.2125	4	4
18	8//16	b. Kadeem	Private	0.0405	0	16
19	8//25	Chahi	Government	0.0025	0	1
20	20//25	Chahi	Private	0.0835	1	13
21	16//23/1	Chahi	Private	0.1821	3	12
22	16//18/3	Chahi	Private	0.1821	3	12
23	16//9/1	Chahi	Private	0.1897	3	15
24	28//4	Chahi	Private	0.0126	0	5
25	19//21	Chahi	Private	0.0885	1	15
26	111	Chahi	Government	0.0228	0	9
				2.7443	**54**	**5**

[F. No. 168-W/Land/Garhi Harsaru]
SHYAM SINGH, Chief Admn. Officer/Construction-II

1465/25



Extract of the Financial Results for the Quarter and Year ended 31st March 2025

(₹ in Crore)

S. No.	Particulars	Standalone				Consolidated			
		Quarter ended		Year ended		Quarter ended		Year ended	
		31.03.2025 (Unaudited)	31.03.2024 (Unaudited)	31.03.2025 (Audited)	31.03.2024 (Audited)	31.03.2025 (Unaudited)	31.03.2024 (Unaudited)	31.03.2025 (Audited)	31.03.2024 (Audited)
1	Total Income from Continuing Operations	12,482.39	12,253.72	46,325.32	45,815.37	12,590.80	12,305.39	47,459.38	46,913.12
2	Net Profit before Tax from Continuing Operations [including Regulatory Deferral Account Balances (net of tax)]	5,142.51	5,033.80	18,619.43	18,009.46	5,061.69	5,124.80	19,294.20	18,513.95
3	Net Profit after Tax from Continuing Operations	4,336.17	4,127.77	15,353.57	15,377.48	4,142.87	4,166.33	15,521.44	15,573.16
4	Net Profit after Tax from Discontinued Operations	-	-	-	97.13	-	-	-	-
5	Net Profit after Tax for the period	4,336.17	4,127.77	15,353.57	15,474.61	4,142.87	4,166.33	15,521.44	15,573.16
6	Total Comprehensive Income comprising Net Profit after Tax and Other Comprehensive Income	4,254.45	4,099.98	15,114.24	15,241.72	4,065.38	4,137.21	15,285.16	15,338.55
7	Paid up Equity Share Capital (Face value of share: ₹10/- each)	9,300.60	9,300.60	9,300.60	9,300.60	9,300.60	9,300.60	9,300.60	9,300.60
8	Reserves (excluding Revaluation Reserve) as shown in the Balance sheet	82,915.05	77,566.45	82,915.05	77,566.45	83,362.21	77,844.51	83,362.21	77,844.51
9	Securities Premium Account	5,509.28	5,509.28	5,509.28	5,509.28	5,509.28	5,509.28	5,509.28	5,509.28
10	Net worth	92,215.65	86,867.05	92,215.65	86,867.05	92,662.81	87,145.11	92,662.81	87,145.11
11	Total Borrowings	130,964.96	123,448.62	130,964.96	123,448.62	130,964.96	123,448.62	130,964.96	123,448.62
12	Debt Equity Ratio	1.42	1.42	1.42	1.42	1.41	1.42	1.41	1.42
13	Earnings per equity share from continuing and discontinued operations including movement in Regulatory Deferral Account Balances (Face value of ₹10/- each): Basic and Diluted (in ₹)	4.66	4.44	16.51	16.64	4.46	4.48	16.69	16.74
14	Earnings per equity share from continuing and discontinued operations excluding movement in Regulatory Deferral Account Balances (Face value of ₹10/- each): Basic and Diluted (in ₹)	4.61	4.63	16.21	17.25	4.40	4.67	16.39	17.36
15	Bonds Redemption Reserve	3,193.24	4,064.11	3,193.24	4,064.11	3,193.24	4,064.11	3,193.24	4,064.11
16	Debt Service Coverage Ratio	1.55	2.26	1.48	1.65	1.57	2.33	1.53	1.69
17	Interest Service Coverage Ratio	3.83	4.61	3.94	4.10	4.16	4.88	4.28	4.27

Notes :

1. The above is an extract of the Financial Results filed with the Stock Exchanges under Regulations 33 and 52 of the SEBI (Listing Obligations and Disclosure Requirements) Regulations, 2015. The Complete Financial Results are available on the Investors section of our website **https://www.powergrid.in** and under Corporates Section of BSE Limited & National Stock Exchange of India Limited at **https://www.bseindia.com** and **https://www.nseindia.com** respectively. These can also be accessed by scanning Quick Response Code:
2. Previous periods figures have been rearranged/reclassified wherever considered necessary.

For and on behalf of POWER GRID CORPORATION OF INDIA LTD.
G Ravisankar
Director (Finance)
DIN: 08816101

Place : Gurugram
Date : 19 May 2025

पावरग्रिड POWERGRID
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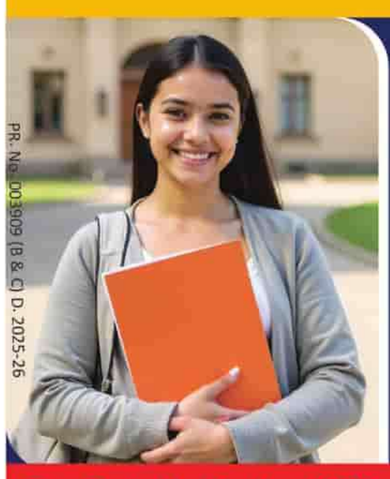

PR. No. 003909 (B & C) D. 2025-26

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Cousins walked back into death trap to rescue loved ones from Hyd fire

Ajay.Tomar@timesofindia.com

Hyderabad: At least two members of jeweller Prahlad Modi's family might have lived had they not stepped back into their burning home in Hyderabad's Gulzar Houz Sunday morning to rescue loved ones trapped inside. They were among the 17 victims in the blaze that turned a weekend family get-together into a tragedy.

Cousins Pankaj (37) and Abhishek (31) were among the first to have responded to the fire that started on ground floor of the three-storey building built over a century ago.

"They had stepped out of the house to probably check the extent of the fire that originated in the main electrical panel," said Mukesh Kumar, an employee. "Just as they stepped back in to alert others, the compressor unit of an AC exploded. Within minutes, the entire house was up in flames."

Realising that several members of the family were trapped inside the house, including his wife and three children, Pankaj scurried back into the building to rescue them. Abhishek followed. Hours later, when rescuers scoured the gutted building for survivors, both were found alive but barely hanging on. The cousins died while being taken to hospital, relatives said.

Pankaj was Prahlad's son and Abhishek the son of one of the patriarch's younger brothers. The body of Pankaj's 35-year-old wife Varsha was found with her arms around four child victims. "She was possibly trying to shield the kids," said Muhammad Athar, another employee.

Prahlad Modi and his wife Munni occupied the upper floors along with members of the extended family. Some of their sons, daughters and grandchildren had come visiting for the weekend when tragedy struck.

US slaps visa ban on agencies facilitating illegal immigration

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi: The US on Monday imposed a visa ban on errant Indian travel agencies and their owners who facilitate illegal immigration to the country. US State Department's statement on Monday said it's taking steps to impose visa restrictions on owners, executives and senior officials of travel agencies, based and operating in India, for knowingly facilitating illegal immigration to the US.

"Mission India's consular affairs and diplomatic security service work every day across our embassies and consulates to actively identify and target those engaged in facilitating illegal immigration and human smuggling and trafficking operations. We will continue to take steps to impose visa restrictions against owners, executives and senior officials of travel agencies to cut off alien smuggling networks," said the department, adding that US immigration policy aims to inform foreign nationals about dangers of illegal immigration and to hold accountable individuals who violate US laws. Following President Donald Trump's crackdown on illegal immigration, between Jan and early April this year, 682 Indian nationals had been deported to India. The vast majority of these deportees had attempted to enter the country illegally, but were apprehended at the US border itself.

Centre told Parliament last month that it has been working with US authorities to promote mutually advantageous & secure mobility frameworks that allow for streamlining avenues for legal mobility of students and professionals. Govt has also been working to address illegal immigration and human trafficking by taking action illegal immigration networks. Ministry of external affairs, till Feb this year, had notified 3,281 illegal agents for facilitating illegal immigration and human trafficking.

US embassy in New Delhi too has been alerting Indian nationals visiting the US not to overstay their authorised period of stay in the country, warning they will face deportation and a permanent ban from entering the country for doing so.

Bihar Medical Services & Infrastructure Corporation Limited
2nd & 3rd Floor, Swasthya Bhawan, Behind IGIMS, Sheikhpura, Adjacent to State Health Society, Patna- 800014, Bihar
Phone/Fax: +91612 2283287,+ 91612 2283289
Govt. of Bihar

(Notice Inviting E-Bids)

Tender for Supply, Installation & Commissioning of Medical Equipments on Turnkey Basis for Loknayak Jaiprakash Narayan Hospital (LNJP), Rajbanshi Nagar, Patna, Bihar.

Notice Inviting Tender No.-BMSICL/2025-26/ME-417

(Only through E- Tender on website:- https://eproc2.bihar.gov.in)

The Bihar Medical Services and Infrastructure Corporation Limited, Patna invites e-bids from interested parties for supply, installation & commissioning of Medical Equipment on Turnkey Basis for **Loknayak Jaiprakash Narayan Hospital (LNJP), Rajbanshi Nagar, Patna, Bihar.**

Tender Schedule

Tender Reference No.	**BMSICL/2025-26/ME-417**
Date of Pre- Bid Meeting and Submission of Pre-bid queries	21st May 2025 at 15:00 Hrs in Conference hall of BMSICL, 3rd Floor, Swasthya Bhawan, Behind IGIMS, Sheikhpura, Adjacent to State Health Society, Bihar. All pre-bid queries **(as per form-16, Section –IV of bid document)** to be submitted through e-mail on bmsicltenderequipment@gmail.com upto **23rd May 2025 till 15:00 Hrs** **(Note:-** No pre-bid queries would be entertained after the above mentioned dead line**)**
Last date and time of submission of online bids	19th June 2025 up to 17:00 Hrs.
Last date and time for submission of original documents of EMD	20th June 2025 till 14:00 Hrs.
Date, Time and Place of opening of Technical Bid	20th June 2025 (at 15:00 Hrs.) on the website of https://eproc2.bihar.gov.in in the office of BMSICL
Date and time of opening of financial Bids	To be announced later on https://eproc2.bihar.gov.in
Validity of Tender	180 Days
Cost of the tender document	Rs.11,800 /- (Eleven Thousand Eight Hundred only) Non- refundable.
Tender Processing Fee	Rs 590/- (on the website of **https://eproc2.bihar.gov.in)**

1. To participate in E-Tendering the tenderer will have to be registered with E-Tendering service provider. For this, help desk – mjunction services limited RJ complex, 2nd Floor, Canara Bank, Campus, khajpura, Ashiana road, P.S –Shastri Nagar, Patna-800014, Toll Free No.-18005726571, Email-ID: eproc2support@bihar.gov.in can be approached.
2. Any queries and questions regarding the tender should be addressed to MD BMSICL (either through letter or through e-mail:- md-bmsicl-bih@nic.in and/or bmsicl.equipment@gmail.com or contact no. 0612-2219634/35) up to 7 days before of closing of online bid registration.

GM (Procurement)
BMSICL, Patna

PR. No. 003648 (B&C) 2025-26

For further details please visit : **www.state.bihar.gov.in/prdbihar**

गर्भावस्था की पहली तिमाही में माँ की एच.आई.वी. और सिफलिस की जाँच जरूर करायें।

Centre for Railway Information Systems
Chanakyapuri, New Delhi-110021
Tel : 011-24106717, 24104525

Registration Open on IRePS Website for Participation in E-Tender (For Rate of Interest on FDR) by Nationalised Banks

Centre for Railway Information Systems, New Delhi is going to invite online quotations (e-tender) from Nationalized Banks for best possible rate of interest on investment for Fixed Deposits for a period of 01 year.

All the interested Nationalised Banks are requested to register themselves on IRePS website (**www.ireps.gov.in**) at the earliest before submitting their best possible rate of interest for FDR.

For any queries please contact Shri Sandeep Kumar Karn, Accounts Officer on mobile No. 8368030959 or mail at **karn.sandeep@cris.org.in**

General Manager/Finance
Centre for Railway Information Systems

Himachal Pradesh Public Works Department
Ph. No. 01905-243262
E-mail : eepwd-nerchowk-hp@nic.in

INVITATION FOR BIDS (IFB)

The Executive Engineer, HPPWD Division Nerchowk, Distt. Mandi (HP) 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 works detailed in the table.

Sr. No. :- 1 **Name of work :-** Construction of Tanda-Kohla Tikkari-Kawalkot-Sidhkothi (Via Baba Balak Nath Mandir) Thapla Gobhal Galoo road KM 0/0 to 5/150 (Portion Km. 0/0 to 1/300) under NABARD RIDF-XXVI, Distt. Mandi (HP). (SH:- C/o Formation cutting 5/7 mtr. wide, Dumping sites, Retaining walls, Breast walls, Cross-drainage work and Road side Katcha drain etc.). **Estimated cost (in Rs.) :-** 1,26,28,696/- **Starting date for downloading Bid :-** 20.05.2025 **Earnest Money (in Rs.) :-** 2,52,600 **Deadline for submission of Bid. :-** 30.05.2025

The bidders are advised to note other details of the tenders from the department website www.hptenders.gov.in.

Executive Engineer,
Nerchowk Division,
HPPWD Nerchowk
On behalf of Governor of Himachal Pradesh

HIM SUCHANA AVAM JAN SAMPARK
Advt.No.: 0669/19/05/2025

कार्यालय, नगर निगम, मुरादाबाद।

पत्रांक : 25/प०प्र०नि०/न०नि०मु०/2025 दिनांक: 19/05/2025

ई-निविदा सूचना

पथ प्रकाश विभाग, नगर निगम, मुरादाबाद में अवस्थापना निधि के अन्तर्गत ई-निविदा प्रणाली से विभिन्न कार्यों के लिये ई-निविदायें दिनांक 08/06/25 को सायं 5:00 बजे तक Online आमंत्रित की जाती है, जो दिनांक 19/05/25 से 08/06/25 तक ऑन लाइन अपलोड की जा सकेगी। निविदा दिनांक 9/6/25 को सांय 4:00 बजे अपर नगर आयुक्त/वरिष्ठ प्रभारी प्रकाश के कार्यालय में खोली जायेगी। कार्यों की विस्तृत सूचना एवं निविदा शर्तें बेबसाइट **https://etender.up.nic.in** एवं **www.nagarnigammoradabad.in** पर देखी जा सकती है।

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EMRI GREEN HEALTH SERVICES GVK Enterprise — **TENDER NOTICE** — 108 EMERGENCY

EMRI GHS invites Tenders as per below for Supply & Works of following items. Interested Bidders are requested to log on to www.tender.nprocure.com for downloading e-Tenders from 20th May 2025.

Sr. No.	Online Tender for
1	Refurbishment of Karuna Ambulance (RT)
2	Supply of Medical Consumable for Veterinary (UT)
3	Supply of Exterior Graphics Stickers

Any amendments / further notice will not be published in newspaper and will only be uploaded on website, if any.

EMRI GHS is in process to float bid for Courier Services on GeM portal. Courier Service providers are invited to remain present for pre-bid meeting to be held on Dt.22.05.2025, 2pm at below mentioned address.

EMRI GHS, Gujarat-108 EMC, Naroda-Kathwada Road, Ahmedabad-382330.
Tel: 079-22814896, **www.emri.in**
Contact Person: Mr. Ashish Muley. Contact No: 9727714818 Supply Chain Management.
INF/ABD/294/2025

NORTHERN RAILWAY

OPEN-E- TENDER NOTICE

No. 128-W/280/e Tender Notice/ NIT-06, 17, 19 & 20-25-26-W-II Dated :- 19.05.2025

The Sr. Divisional Engineer-II, Northern Railway, Delhi Division invites E-Tender for the following work.

1	NIT -06	**Name of work:-** Construction of minor bridge aside existing bridge no.98 in MTC yard in KM 67/45-47 on GZB-SRE section under ADEN/MUT jurisdiction of Sr. DEN-II/DLI. **Approx cost of work:-** As per NIT or IREPS **Earnest Money to be deposited:-** As per NIT or IREPS
2	NIT -17	**Name of work:-** Annual zone for repair and maintenance of staff quarters and service buildings at GZB in the section of SSE/W/M/GZB under ADEN/GZB for the year 2025-26 in the jurisdiction of Sr. DEN-II/DLI. **Approx cost of work:-** As per NIT or IREPS **Earnest Money to be deposited:-** As per NIT or IREPS
3	NIT -19	**Name of work:-** Annual zone for repair and maintenance of staff quarters and service buildings at GZB, SBB & DSA in the section of SSE/W/M/GZB under ADEN/GZB for the year 2025-26 jurisdiction of Sr. DEN-II/DLI. **Approx cost of work:-** As per NIT or IREPS **Earnest Money to be deposited:-** As per NIT or IREPS
4	NIT -20	**Name of work:-** Provision of complete Divyangjan facilities (7 nos stations) at railway stations under ADEN/GZB jurisdiction of Sr.DEN-II. **Approx cost of work:-** As per NIT or IREPS **Earnest Money to be deposited:-** As per NIT or IREPS
5	Date & Time of opening of tender	13.06.2025 15:00 hrs.
6	Website particulars where complete details of tender documents can be seen	**www.ireps.gov.in**

• The tenderer/s must be registered on the Indian Railway E-Procurement system (IREPS) site i.e. **www.ireps.gov.in** for participating in the e-tender system. • For all terms and conditions please refer tender document. • No manual offers are acceptable. • Cost of tender document and Earnest money will be acceptable through net banking or payment gateway only.

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tender & notices

PUBLIC NOTICE

Public Notice

It is hereby notified to the general public that a person named Jayant Sinha had taken the Board of Directors of Jani Firefox Media Pvt Ltd into confidence and had given them his proposal to sign a deal with Netflix for a web series project. In this regard, taking financial advantage from Jani Firefox Media Pvt Ltd, the said person provided some offer letters and agreement letters to the company, on investigation of which it was found that all the documents were forged. The signatures used on them and the company logo/letter head were all fake. A complaint letter has been filed by Jani Firefox Media Pvt. Ltd. with the Noida Police for legal action in this regard. Without verifying the authenticity of the documents, the company had earlier shared the same with other parties from a business point of view. The company apologizes to Netflix for the information shared and informs the general public that if any person from the company shows any agreement between Jani Firefox and Netflix in future, then do not believe it to be true. Jani Firefox has made an error in judgement. We are committed to ensure that the incident that has happened this time is not repeated in future.

Amit Jani (Director)
Jani Firefox Media Pvt Ltd
318, Web Silver Tower Sector-18, Noida

PUBLIC NOTICE

I, Sharad Patel & my wife Daksha Patel R/o 7/3,Block 41, Singh Sabha Road, Shakti Nagar, Delhi - 110007 cause this notice to the general public that we debarred and disowned my son namely KARAN FALDU from all our moveable and immovable through out in India. Now, we don't have any concern with him in any manner.
If any person deals with said KARAN FALDU, in any way, in any case of business, police, court, etc we are not responsible

Mr. Sharad Patel

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RBO – 3, First Floor, SBI CRM Campus 2 Plot No 79, Sec tor 18, Gurugram-122015

GOLD VALUER
Requirement of Gold Valuer/ Appraiser at Gurgaon

State Bank of India Gurugram invite offers for **Empanelment of Gold Valuer /Appraiser** in State Bank of India for valuation of Gold ornaments pledged for Gold Loan in Branches under control of RBO -3.
Interested valuers/ appraisers can send application at the above address.
Last date of receipt of applications is **27 May 2025 upto 3 pm.**

Regional Manager, RBO 3

TENDERS

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Hamdard Nagar, New Delhi - 110062

NOTICE INVITING TENDER

Sealed tenders are invited in two bid system from reputed contractors registered with Govt., Semi Govt. or State Govt. organization or worked/working in reputed institutions for **Repair & Servicing of LG make 162HP-VRF AC Units installed at 2nd & 3rd Floor of Nano Building.** Interested bidders may obtain the tender documents from the Website **www.jamiahamdard.ac.in** Detailed specifications, terms & conditions are given in the tender documents. Pre bid meeting will be held on **27.05.2025 at 3:30 PM** in the Office of the Executive Engineer. **Last date for submission of Bids is 02.06.2025 up to 3:00 P.M.**

Registrar

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PUBLIC NOTICE

THE DELHI GOLF CLUB
Dr. Zakir Hussain Road,New Delhi-03

Sealed bids are invited for **"Purchase of Toro Machine Spare parts with Engine"** at the Delhi Golf Club. Detailed RFP and Annexures can be downloaded from DGC website http://delhigolfclub.org/tendernotice/ Sealed Bids mentioning the heading on the sealed envelope must reach us before 1600 Hrs. on 24th May 2025. Tender box is placed in the Main office of DGC.

Secretary,
The Delhi Golf Club

COURT NOTICE

In the Court of Sh. Bhupesh Kumar, District Judge (Comm. Court-05) Room No. 22, 4th Floor, Block-I, South-East District, Saket Courts, New Delhi
Notice for Publication
(Order 5, Rule 20 of the CPC.)
CS DJ No.: 156/2020
ARBIN TALAT AND ORS.....Plaintiff
Vs. BLOOMING PRINCESS HOLIDAYS (OPC) PVT. LTD.....Defendant

To,
D-1. Blooming Princess Holidays (OPC) Pvt. Ltd. through its Directors Tarannum Banu R/o M-98B, 4th Floor, Abul Fazal Enclave, Jamia Nagar, Okhla, New Delhi - 110025.
Shahbaz Khan R/o. M-98B, 4th Floor, Abul Fazal Enclave, Jamia Nagar, Okhla, New Delhi - 110025.
Email: tarannmum.khan2feb@gmail.com, Princessholidays1@gmail.com
Whatsapp Contact Numbers: 9711073574, 9319391308, 8510807634, 7428074119, 7053712660, 8743006330, 9953234916.
Whereas plaintiff has instituted that above Suit For Recovery against the defendants. You are hereby summoned to appear in this Court in person or by a pleader on the 04th day of June, 2025, at 10:00 O'clock, to answer the same, failing which the Suit will be disposed of ex-parte.
Given under my hand and seal of the Court, this 02nd May, 2025 to be published in English Newspaper 'The Times of India'.
Note: Defendant is informed to file WS within a period of 30 days from the date of receipt of summons with advance copy to the plaintiff and filling of WS in commercial suit in 120 days period is mandatory and no extension can be granted.

Seal
DISTRICT JUDGE (COMMERICAL COURT)-05 SOUTH EAST, SAKET, NEW DELHI

personal

CHANGE OF NAME

I, Ashu W/o Chandan Singh R/o B2-502, Cherry County, Tech Zone IV, Greater Noida, Gautam Budh Nagar, U.P have changed my name to Ashu Dua

I, ANJALI W/O SAURABH BANSAL R/O H NO-C-11/121, SECTOR-03, ROHINI, NORTH WEST DELHI, DELHI-110085 have changed my name to ANJALI BANSAL.

I Deepika Budiyal W/O Alok Mehta R/O Delhi Cantt have changed my name from Deepika Mehta to Deepika Budiyal for all future purposes.

I Kamlesh Devi w/o Anil kumar R/0 8 Jaat Mohalla near Shyam mandir Dhoolsiras Village New Delhi -110077 have changed my name Kamlesh to Kamlesh Devi for all future purposes

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Applications are invited from Indian male/ female candidates for Polytechnic Diploma Courses. The courses are in Self Financial mode, Affiliated to State Board of Technical Education and Approved by All India Council for Technical Education, Government of India (AICTE). Reservation Policy will be followed strictly as per Government norms. The details of three years Post Matric courses are :

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- CIVIL ENGINEERING
- AUTOMOBILE ENGINEERING

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You're a public figure, show restraint and be responsible: SC to MP minister

▶Continued from P 1

The SC bench did not let senior advocate Vivek Tankha intervene in the proceedings on behalf of a Congress functionary from Madhya Pradesh.

"Let us not politicise it. There is no politics in it. Somebody has made crass comments. He is facing and he must face consequences. We are a nation governed by rule of law, which applies with the same rigour to the highest, and to the lowest," it said.

When senior advocate Maninder Singh, who appeared for Vijay Shah, said the minister had tendered an apology and felt remorse for his comments, Justice Kant said, "What kind of apology have you tendered? There is some meaning of apology."

"If this is your apology, it is rejected outright. It (Operation Sindoor) was such an emotive and uniting issue.

We are proud of our armed forces. They are in the frontline. Least we can do is to support them, Justice Kant said

Every citizen was standing in support of the armed forces, and you made such remarks. We are proud of our armed forces. They are in the frontline. Least we can do is to support them."

Singh said the minister was ready to apologise again without any condition. The bench was in a caustic mood and said, "Tomorrow you want to give the impression that I apologised again because the court asked me to do so. You made the crass comments on May 12 and today is May 19. What prevented you from making a sincere apology till now?"

"You are a representative of the people, yet you hurt the sentiments of millions of citizens. You are a public figure. You must display some restraint and be responsible. The standards of responsibility for elected representatives are much higher. You should lead by example."

While posting the matter for further hearing on May 28, the SC bench told the minister to think of ways to redeem himself from the ignominious statement that shamed the entire nation

While posting the matter for further hearing on May 28, the bench told the minister to think of ways to redeem himself from the ignominious statement that shamed the entire nation.

SC slams HC's 'overzealous' approach in awarding death

'Entire Events Narrated By Witnesses Unbelievable'

▶Continued from P 1

Justice Sandeep Mehta, who penned the judgment, began the verdict by saying the case was yet another example of shabby and perfunctory investigation leading to failure of the prosecution case. He questioned the trial court and Bombay high court for their "overzealous approach" in convicting the man and awarding death sentence when there was no evidence.

"Despite the shabby investigation, the overzealous approach of the courts below to impart justice, in a sense that someone must be held responsible for the crime, has led to the conviction of the appellant herein, who was a young man aged about 25 years at the time of the incident and has remained incarcerated for more than 12 years with the Damocles' sword of impending death penalty hanging over his head for more than six years," the bench said.

In this case, the girl went missing in Sept 2013 and her body was found after three days and the man was picked up a day later. There were no eyewitnesses in the case which was based entirely on circumstantial evidence. The man was convicted and sentenced to death in 2019.

Setting aside the conviction order, the bench said, "Upon an overall appreciation of the evidence of the two investigating officers and the witnesses of the last seen theory and also the sole witness of extra-judicial confession, we are convinced that the entire sequence of events narrated by these witnesses is unreliable and unbelievable. It is clearly a case of concocted depositions secured by the prosecuting agency by way of padding so as to fasten the guilt of this heinous crime on the accused and thereby lay a claim to have solved the case."

The court further added that the findings recorded in the judgments of the trial court and the high court were based on conjectures and surmises and were unsustainable on the face of record.

"The DNA analysis report remains inconclusive and does not implicate the accused appellant. Neither the trial court nor the high court placed reliance on these reports for recording a finding against the accused," it said.

The court said that the only incriminating material against the man was that the soil on his shoes was from the pond where the girl's body was found, which was just an indication of the fact that the accused may have visited the area.

"This, by itself, would not incriminate the accused in any manner... the evidence of the witnesses of last seen circumstance is vacillating, shaky and tainted with wholesale improvements and, hence, unworthy of credence," the bench said, directing that the man be released forthwith.

'Even for judges, learning process always continues'

▶Continued from P 1

Therefore, while exercising jurisdiction under Section 482 for quashing proceedings under Section 12(1), the high court should be very slow and circumspect. Interference can be made only when the case is clearly of gross illegality or gross abuse of the process of law, the bench said.

Generally, the high court must adopt a hands-off approach while dealing with proceedings under Section 482 for quashing an application under Section 12(1). Unless high courts show restraint... the very object of enacting the Domestic Violence Act, 2005 will be defeated, the bench added.

Justice Abhay S Oka, who penned the verdict for the bench, said: "Before we part with this judgment, we must mention here that one of us (Abhay S Oka) is a party to a judgment dated Oct 27, 2016, of Bombay high court (HC) in writ petition 2473 of 2016 in which the view taken is that remedy under Section 482 of Code of Criminal Procedure (CrPC) is not available for quashing the proceedings under Section 12(1) of DV Act, 2005."

"This view was found to be incorrect by a full bench of the same high court. As judges, we are duty-bound to correct our mistakes in properly constituted proceedings. Even for judges, the learning process always continues," he said.

We are duty-bound to correct our mistakes in properly constituted proceedings, Justice Oka said

"There are decisions of high courts taking a view that the jurisdiction under Section 482 of CrPC is not available to quash proceedings... under Section 12(1) of Domestic Violence Act. The decisions are primarily based on the premise that the proceedings... predominantly of a civil nature. The said view is not correct for the reasons set out earlier," Justice Oka said while correcting the orders of high courts and also correcting his stand taken as an HC judge nine years ago.

Prosecution appears to be trying to save culprit: Court

▶Continued from P 1

There appears to be a gross injustice being done to the appellant by the trial court in not appreciating the evidence from the correct perspective. It appears that the prosecution not only tried to falsely implicate the appellant, but they are trying to save the actual culprit, who may be a close family relative, HC said in its recent order, adding that the DNA report of the girl revealed that it had "uninterpretable low male DNA".

The defence counsel said that during cross-examination, the girl's mother said that her brother-in-law and mother-in-law were instrumental in sending the appellant to jail and that the brother-in-law had forced blood out of the child so that they could file a complaint of sexual abuse. The doctor said that the injury to her private parts could not have been more than two-three hours old. The girl had said she had changed clothes and taken a bath, and "had no definite opinion" regarding commission of rape, the defence said.

REVENGE PLOY

The counsel pointed out that the doctor had examined the victim at 3.30pm on June 23, 2020, while the sexual assault had allegedly taken place the previous night, so the charge is not medically corroborated either. The govt counsel, on the other hand, submitted that the survivor has supported the prosecution, hence the conviction should be maintained.

After hearing both sides, HC pointed out that while the material available claims the girl was playing on the roof of her uncle's house and her mother was cooking when she went crying to her to say the accused had 'taken off her clothes and raped her', the FIR says that the girl's uncle informed the mother that the accused sexually abused the girl after which she called her to ask what had happened.

HC further said that the survivor's mother had admitted during cross-examination that the child's uncle had an old rivalry with the accused and he had "put his finger in the girl's private parts to draw blood before lodging the FIR".

Referring to the survivor's statement, HC noted that she had admitted that the accused had gone out to sell 'fulki' when the alleged crime took place. In reply to a question, she also said "nothing happened on the roof". "It is evident that when evidence of the victim and that of her mother Is read together, then it is in fact her uncle, who was responsible for causing injury to the victim so as to take revenge on the accused," the court said, and set aside the conviction.

Cop: Accused in Faiz recital case have been under watch

▶Continued from P 1

The complaint said that one of the participants of Samta Kala Manch, a socio-cultural platform, recited Pakistani poet Faiz Ahmed Faiz's iconic nazm 'Hum Dekhenge'. Following this, another woman came on stage and said that such "songs were required in the contemporary society, which is under an oppressive rule".

The FIR was filed against Pushpa and two other women under BNS sections 152 (endangering sovereignty and integrity of the nation) and 196 (fomenting communal disharmony) on May 14 at Sitalbudi police station. Pushpa had organised the event under the banner of Veera Sathidar Smruti Sammanyay Samiti.

The FIR was filed against Pushpa and two other women. Police said that statements in this case will be recorded soon. No arrests have been made yet

Sitabuldi senior inspector Vithal Singh Rajput told **TOI** that statements in this case will be recorded soon. No arrests have been made yet. A senior police officer said that the three accused "have been under watch" for their activities. "Section 152 of BNS was invoked as activities of the three persons tantamount to sedition under Section 124A of the erstwhile INdian Penal Code (IPC)," he added. The event drew members of left organisations and socio-cultural platforms engaged in championing the rights of the oppressed.

Faiz's nazm of dissent and resistance

Written by renowned Pakistani poet Faiz Ahmad Faiz in 1979, just two years after the country came under martial law under Gen Zia-ul-Haq, 'Hum Dekhenge (We shall see)' is often used in anti-establishment protests both in India and Pakistan. The nazm of dissent and resistance gained larger recognition after singer Iqbal Bano defied the law and delivered a public rendition in Lahore in 1986. In India, 'Hum Dekhenge' has been especially popular with cultural activists and Left groups. At one point, the poem goes, "Sab taaj uchhaley jayenge/ Sab takht giraye jayenge (Every crown will be flung/ Each throne brought down)." During the anti-CAA protests in 2019, some professors in IIT Kanpur claimed that the song had anti-Hindu references. The probe was later closed. TNN

HC: Plaintiffs only seeking right to access to Sambhal site

▶Continued from P 1

This is not a case where any conversion of place of worship is taking place or the religious character is being changed. The plaintiffs have only sought right to access to a protected monument, declared in 1920 under Section 18 of Ancient Monument and Archaeological Sites and Remains Act, 1958, the 45-page judgment states. In its petition, the mosque committee contended that the civil judge (junior division) ordered the survey "hastily" and "without issuing notice". Based on the Nov 19 directive, a survey was conducted that very day and another one on Nov 24.

Later that month, SC stayed proceedings in the trial court until the mosque committee's petition against the survey order was heard by an HC bench.

Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) said in its submission to the bench that the mosque had been designated as a protected monument under the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Sites and Remains Act, 1958. This effectively means that its status is governed by preservation laws rather than religious classification. ASI also mentioned that nowhere in official records was the mosque described as a religious place.

The Hindu plaintiffs contend that the disputed Sambhal mosque stands at what used to be site of an ancient Harihar temple dedicated to Kalki, last avatar of Vishnu. The suit claims in 1526, on orders of Mughal emperor Babar, the temple was partially demolished and a mosque built over it.

Civil aviation & nat'l security intertwined, SG Mehta tells HC

▶Continued from P 1

Solicitor general Tushar Mehta argued civil aviation and national security are interdependent. Senior advocate Mukul Rohatgi contended Centre acted "because of public perception due to shareholding of the company by Turkish nationals" but pointed out that it is "an Indian company with Indian employees", adding "we are not a rogue company". The security clearance, he said, was revoked without any opportunity for a hearing or reason.

"The enemy can try 10 times and succeed once; the country has to succeed all the time... in cases of civil aviation and national security, there cannot be a doctrine of proportionality," Mehta countered. He said airport handling and cargo handling are "extremely sensitive operations: where personnel know and have access to "every nook and cranny of the airport".

Mehta said the case involved passenger and cargo handling contracts, noting intelligence inputs indicate that, given the prevailing security climate, allowing Celebi to continue operating poses significant risks. Rohatgi, however, insisted that govt must provide concrete evidence to substantiate its allegations, adding Celebi's airport ground handling operations in India are independent and professionally managed.

Justice Datta wondered if such a decision is even amenable to being heard in appeal by the court and if serving a prior notice was mandatory under such conditions, before posting the matter for further hearing on May 21. The security clearance of the firms was revoked by BCAS days after Turkiye backed Pakistan and condemned India's strikes on terror camps in the neighbouring country.

Release accused within a week, SC directs ED

▶Continued from P 1

The court said trial in the case was not going to wind up in the near future as there were more than 450 witnesses in the predicate offence. The counsel, however, insisted that the accused was a politically connected and influential person and his bail would hamper the trial. The court did not accept his submission and granted Anwar Dhebar bail. It asked the trial court to release the accused within a week on terms and conditions fixed by the special court.

SC had said on Jan 17 that in cases where an accused has spent one year in jail and the charges against them in a money laundering case have not yet been framed, they could be considered for bail.

The apex court has been granting bail to various accused in money laundering cases after reading down the stringent bail provisions of PMLA by ruling that delay in trial and long incarceration could be grounds to release accused on bail. However, on Jan 17, it had for the first time said that if an accused has spent one year in custody and charges have not been framed, bail can be granted.

A Lankan has a right to life but not the right to residence in India: SC

▶Continued from P 1

On Monday, the Sri Lankan national's lawyer pleaded that his wife and children have settled in India and that he, too, wished to be in India as he has already served seven years in prison. He also said that the Sri Lankan had a right to life and right to move freely.

A bench of Justices Dipankar Datta and K Vinod Chandran disagreed and said the Lankan had the right to life but not the right to residence or settle in India. "Is India a 'dharamshala' to host refugees from all over the world?" it said.

When the petitioner's counsel said his life would be endangered if he is deported to Sri Lanka as he was part of LTTE, the bench suggested that he could move to some other country. "What is your right to settle here," Justice Datta asked.

On May 8, a three-judge bench of Justices Surya Kant, Datta and N Kotiswar Singh had raised similar queries when senior advocates Colin Gonsalves and Prashant Bhushan had pleaded for a stay on deportation of Rohingya to Myanmar by India. The bench had questioned their right to settle in India. "Right to residence is only for Indian citizens. It is not available to foreigners," the bench had said.

When the petitioner's counsel said his life would be endangered if he is deported to Sri Lanka as he was part of LTTE, the SC bench suggested that he could move to some other country

Assets acquired through shell cos have been identified: ED

▶Continued from P 1

Properties acquired through the shell companies have been identified," the Enforcement Directorate (ED) said.

It conducted searches on the premises of Subodh Goel, retired chairman and MD of UCO Bank, and his associates on April 22, when it seized details of these companies.

"These entities are beneficially owned or controlled by Goel and his kin," the agency said. "The source of funds of these entities is linked to Concast Steel & Power Ltd (CSPL)," Enforcement Directorate added.

The agency further claimed that evidence of use of accommodation entries and structured layering of funds through front companies for settlement of bribes.

Shirui Lily fest set to return after 2 yrs amid tight security in restive Manipur

Guwahati: Manipur's Shirui Lily fest is set to return Tuesday after a two-year pause, signalling efforts toward peace in a state scarred by ethnic unrest, reports **Kangkan Kalita**.

The fest, set from May 20-24, celebrates the state flower Shirui Lily found only in Shirui Hills of Tangkhul Naga-majority Ukhrul district.

The fest marks the 75th anniversary of Lilium mackliniae's (Shirui Lily) recognition by Royal Horticultural Society London. It also serves as a litmus test for security in a region under President's rule.

Roughly 2,000 security personnel have been deployed, covering six venues across four villages, with multi-layered protection along the route passing through Kuki areas. Police launched heightened security measures after Meiteis planning to attend reported online threats from accounts allegedly linked to Kuki groups.

U.P. Small Industries Corporation Ltd.
(A State Government Undertaking)
110, Industrial Estate, Fazalganj, Kanpur-208012 (UP) • Ph. : 0512-3500891, 3500892
www.upsic.in • E-mail : hqupsic@upsic.in

Latter No. : 55 / UPSIC/RAMP/2025-26 Date : 19.05.2025

Expression Of Interest

UPSIC invites Expression of Interest for selection of agency for providing Business Development Services under RAMP programme. The EoI details and documents can be downloaded from.....Qualified firms are requested to submit their respective Expression of Interest before 26.05.2025

Email : ramp@upsic.in *Managing Director*

NORTHERN RAILWAY
OPEN-E-TENDER NOTICE

The Sr. Divisional Engineer-II, Northern Railway, Delhi Division invites E-Tender for the following work.

NIT - 21	**Name of work**:- 1. New Signalling lab in STTC School GZB in connection with supply and installation gears for testing and fault identification in STTC GZB under ADEN/GZB & 2. Construction of relay hut no. 3 for the work of Electronic interlocking of Ghaziabad under ADEN/GZB jurisdiction of Sr. DEN-II. **Approx cost of work:- As per NIT or IREPS Earnest Money to be deposited:- As per NIT or IREPS**
Date & Time of opening of tender.	10.06.2025 15:00 Hrs.
Website particulars where complete details of tender documents can be seen.	**www.ireps.gov.in**

• The tenderer/s must be registered on the Indian Railway E-Procurement system (**IREPS**) site i.e. **www.ireps.gov.in** for participating in the e-tender system. • For all terms and conditions please refer tender document. • No manual offers are acceptable. • Cost of tender document and Earnest money will be acceptable through net banking or payment gateway only.

No. 128-W/280/e Tender Notice/ NIT-21-25-26-W-II Dated:- 19.05.2025

SERVING CUSTOMER WITH A SMILE 1462/2025

NORTHERN RAILWAY
Open e-TENDER NOTICE

Name of work: Special repair and maintenance works to residential, official, service buildings and ORH's (SVDK,MCTM,JAT & Patnitop) etc., Construction of new structures and other miscellaneous & allied works between Km.25 to Km.30 as per CRS compliance under the jurisdiction of Dy.Chief Engineer/Const./USBRL/Jammu in Katra-Banihal section of USBRL project.	
Approx. cost: Rs.4,65,57,535.92 (Rs. Four crore sixty five lacs fifty seven thousand five hundred thirty five and paisa ninety two). only)	
Completion period: 12 (Twelve) Months	
Bid Security amount: Rs.3,82,800/- (Three lacs eighty two thousand eight hundred only)	
Date & Time for submission of E-tender and opening of tender: Tender May be uploaded upto 11.30 hrs on date 20.06.2025 on IREPS web site i.e. **www.ireps.gov.in** The bidders can participate in e-tender, the tender will be opened soon thereafter at 11.30 hrs on 20.06.2025.	
Last date/Time of upload of tenders: 20.06.2025 upto 11.30 hours. Tender documents can be uploaded by the tenderer on IREPS web site w.e.f. 06.06.2025 to 20.06.2025 upto 11.30 hrs.	
Detailed Tender Notice & Tender Document: Above tender document will be available on IREPS website i.e. **www.ireps.gov.in** from 24.05.2025 to 20.06.2025 upto 11.30 hrs and for submission from 06.06.2025 to 20.06.2025 upto 11.30 hrs. The bidders who desire to participate against e-tenders are advised to electronically register themselves on the above website for which, they would require to obtain class-III digital certificate (if already not obtained) issued by CCA under IT Act-2000. All other terms and conditions in respect of above tender are given in tender document. The detailed tender notice also can be seen on the notice board of the above office.	

Tender Notice No.4-W/DYCE/C/JAT/01/2025-26 Dated : 19.05.2025 1468/2025

SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE

NORTHERN RAILWAY
TENDER NOTICE
Invitation of Tenders through E- Tendering (E-Procurement System)

S N	Tender Notice No. & Date	Name of work with its location	Approx. Cost of work	Amount of Earnest Money
1.	32-W-BR-73-53-SIDEPATHWAY Dt. 19.05.25	Provision side pathway of Br.No - 53 SL-(1x18.30 m), Br. No, -73 SL (8x18.30m), Br.No -73 SL (1x18.30 m) ,Br. No-87 SL (4x18.30m), Br. No 89 SL (3x18.30m), Br.No.-90 SL (5x18.30m) Br.No.- 91 SL (4x18.30m) Br.No-92 SL (8x18.30m) Br. No-93 SL (4x18.30m) Br.No - 96 SL (3x18.30m) Br. No-98 SL (3x18.30 + 2x9.15m) & Br. No - 99 SL (3x18.30m), Br.No - 155 SL (1x45.70 m) (BE-ALJN) section over MB Division under AXEN/BL/MB.	₹ 29866583.93	₹ 299300/-
Completion Period of the work	(08) Eight Months	**Date & time for submission of tender & opening of tender**	Upto 15:00 hrs on 13.06.2025 Opening of tender after 15.00 hrs on same day	

Note: Above tenders is available on website, IREPS site i.e **www.ireps.gov.in,** where complete details of Tender can be seen & downloaded.

SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE 1466/25

BIHAR STATE POWER (HOLDING) COMPANY LIMITED
(A Govt. of Bihar Undertaking)
(Department of General Administration)
GST Number : 10AAFCB2394A2ZD, CIN Number : U40102BR2012SGC018495
Govt. of Bihar

Job Contract Notice No. – 11/2025 (Contract)
WALK-IN-INTERVIEW

Bihar State Power (Holding) Company Ltd. invites application for one no. of post of GM (HR & Adm.).

Walk-In-Interview is scheduled to be held on 29.05.2025 (Thursday) at 12:30 PM in BSPHCL, Vidyut Bhawan, Jawaharlal Nehru Marg, Patna.

For application format & details kindly visit the company website : www.bsphcl.co.in.

PR. No. 003806 (B&C) 2025-26 **GM (HR & Adm.)**

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

सुरक्षित जीवन अपनाओ, अपनी नियमित एच.आई.वी. जाँच कराओ।

MUNICIPAL CORPORATION CHANDIGARH
E-TENDER NOTICE

Sr. No.	Name of Work	Bid Submission Schedule (Online)	Opening Technical Bid (Online)
EXECUTIVE ENGINEER - M.C.P.H. Division No. 3			
1.	Providing, Installing and Commissioning of Modular Type Sewage Treatment Plant for treatment of Waste water generated from village Faidan, Chandigarh (Phase-I for site No.2) Ch. To :- Capital work under Sewerage / STP/ Ring fenced account & O&M under Revenue Head (Ringfenced account). (Re-invited) Est. Cost : Rs.1,09,15,055/- EMD : Rs. 2,18,306/- Tender Fee : Rs. 3,000/- Time Limit : 06 Months for capital part & 12 Months for O&M after trial run.	21-05-2025 To 30-05-2025 upto 01:00 P.M.	30-05-2025 at 03.00 P.M.

Note :- 1) Tender Notice alongwith detailed terms and conditions is available/uploaded on website at www.chandigarh.gov.in or etenders.chd.nic.in

NODAL OFFICER-CUM-EXECUTIVE ENGINEER
M.C.P.H. Divn.No.3, Room No.1, Water Works, Sector-37, Chandigarh

SEARCH FOR MISSING GIRL

Kajal

General Public is hereby informed that one girl (depicted in the photo) namely Kajal **D/o** Ram Asre **R/o** H.No.RZ-352, Gali No. 06, Karan Vihar, Part 1st, Near Sanjay Atta Chakki, Kirari, Delhi **Aged**- 16 Years has been reported missing since 28.04.2025 at about 6 PM from her residence vide **FIR No.280/2025 Dated 29.04.2025 u/s 137(2) BNS** registered at Police Station Aman Vihar, Delhi. Her physical description is as under:-

Complexion: Wheatish, **Height:** 5', **Face:** Round, **Built** Medium, **Hair:** Black & Long, **Clothing:** Black Coloured Jeans and Sky Blue Coloured T-Shirt.

If anyone gets any information or clue about the missing girl, please contact the below mentioned :-

SHO, Aman Vihar, Delhi
Tel.: 011-27581812, 27581223
8750870321

E-mail: cic@cbi.gov.in
Website: http://cbi.nic.in
Fax: 24368639
Tel.: 24368638/24368641

DP/5601/RD/2025

APPEAL FOR IDENTIFICATION

General public is hereby informed that a person (depicted in the photo) name **unknown,** residence and family is **unknown** age about **35 years** was found dead at **On Footpath in Opposite Side of Bharat Petrolium, Sector-10, Rohini, Delhi** on **17.05.2025 at 9.36 am.** In this regard a **DD No. 17A Dated 17.05.2025** has been lodged at **PS Prashant Vihar, Delhi.** The dead body has been preserved for 72 hours at BSA Hospital Mortuary, Rohini, Delhi.

His physical description is as under:-

Sex: Male, **Age:** about 35 years, **Height:** 5' 8" ft. approx., **Complexion:** Blackish, **Identification Mark:** Tatoo Mark "B.S" in Right Hand, **Wearing:** Grey & Multi Colour T-Shirt and Grey 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
Mob.: 8750870325

DP/6206/RD/2025
(UIDB)

SEARCH FOR MISSING WOMAN

General public is here by informed that this woman (depicted in the Photo) **Namely:** Muskan **W/o:** Aman, **R/o:** E-47, Ground Floor, Shaheen Bagh, New Delhi, **Age:** 23 Years, **Height:** 5 feet 3 inch, **Face:** Round, **Complexion:** Fair, **Built:** Medium, **Wearing:** Pink suit, black salwar & black burka, has been missing since **16.05.2025** at about 01:00 pm from her home under area of **P.S. Shaheen Bagh, New Delhi.**

In this regard a **DD No. 3A, dated 18.05.2025** has been lodged at **P.S. Shaheen Bagh, New Delhi.**

Sincere efforts have been made by local police to trace out information about this woman but no clue has come to light so far.

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

SHO
E-Mail: cic@cbi.gov.in
Website: http://cbi.nic.in
Fax: 011-24368639
Ph: 011-24368638, 24368641
P.S.- Shaheen Bagh, New Delhi
Ph. 011-26940693, 8750870926
DP/6280/SE/2025

SEARCH FOR MISSING

Usha Kumar

General public is hereby informed that a female namely **Usha Kumar, D/o Azad Singh, R/o H. No. D-1/30, Budh Vihar, Phase-1, Delhi has been missing since 01.05.2025 at about 12:00 PM from her home.** In this regard **DD No. 124 A, Dated 02.05.2025** has been lodged at Police Station Vijay Vihar, Delhi. The description of missing female is as under:

Name: Usha Kumar, Age: 44 Years, Height: 5', Complexion: Wheatish, Built: Thin, Face: Round, Wearing: Green Colour Suit and Raber Chappal in Feet.

If anyone has any information about this missing female please inform P.S. Vijay Vihar, Delhi.

Web: http://cbi.nic.in, E-mail: cic@cbi.gov.in
Ph.: 011-24368638/24368641, Fax: 011-24368639

SHO
Police Station Vijay Vihar, Delhi
Ph: 011-27521295, 8750870329

DP/6157/RD/2025

ADVERTISEMENT CANCELLATION NOTICE

It is intimated that selection process initiated vide advertisement dated 23.01.2025 published in 'The Tribune' and 'Dainik Bhaskar' for recruitment of Director, Social Audit Unit (SAU) stands cancelled due to administrative reasons.

https://hppanchayat.nic.in/ ,**Contact no- 0177-2623822, 2623800.**

Sd/-
Director
Rural Development Department,
Himachal Pradesh

Advt. No. 0276/19.05.2025

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Contact Person: Chandan Chatterjee
(Grant Thornton Bharat LLP)
Email ID: Chandan.chatterjee@in.gt.com
Mobile No. 8104435576

SEARCH FOR MISSING

Mohini

General public is hereby informed that one girl (depicted in the photo) Namely: **Mohini, D/o Sonu, R/o: B-139, Gali No. 8, Sushila Garden, Mandoli, Delhi-110093** has been Missing/ kidnapped from her home since **04.05.2025 at 4.00 P.M.** In this regard a missing report case vide **FIR No. 272/25 U/S 137(2) BNS dated 04.05.2025** has been lodged at **P.S Harsh Vihar , Delhi.**

Her Physical description is as under:-

Sex: Female, **Age:** 16 Years, **Height:** 5'7", **Complexion:** Fair, **Wearing:** Gulabi T Shirt, Black Jeans and Gulabi Slippers.

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

Phone No.: 011-24368638, 011-24368641 | Fax no.: 011-24368639
Email id : cic@cbi.nic.in | Website : http://cbi.nic.in

SHO
P.S – Harsh Vihar, Delhi
Phone : 9953786288, 9667047721

DP/6214/NE/2025

APPEAL FOR IDENTIFICATION

General public is hereby informed that an unidentified dead body of a unknown male **Age:** 40 years, **Height:** 5'7", **Complexion:** Fair, **ID Mark:** Mole on Chest & Mole on right side of abdomen, was wearing White colour T-Shirt and Dark colour Pant, was found at Bhikaji Cama Place, near Ansul Chamber, Delhi at 6:10 AM. In this regard a **DD No. 16A, dated 11.05.2025, has been lodged at P.S. R.K. Puram, New Delhi.**

Any person having any information or clue about the deceased may kindly inform to the undersigned on the following address or telephone nos.

SHO
P.S. R.K. Puram, New Delhi
Ph.: 011-26185222, 8168022439

DP/6289/SW/2025

SEARCH FOR MISSING

PRIYA

General Public is hereby informed that one Girl **Namely: Priya C/o Atar Kali, R/o:** A-1/412, Nand Nagri, Delhi, **Sex:** Female, **Age:** 12 Years, **Height:** 4' 5", **Complexion:** Wheatish, **Built:** Medium, **Face:** Oval, **Wearing:** Yellow colour T-Shirt, White colour Pent and Chappal in feet has been missing/ kidnapped from her house since 15.05.2025. In this regard **FIR No. 289/2025, U/s 137(2) BNS, Dated: 16.05.2025,** has been registered at **P.S.: Nand Nagri, Delhi.**

Sincere efforts have been made by local Police to trace out the missing/kidnapped girl but no clue has come to light so far. If anyone have any information about this the missing/kidnapped girl, please inform to the following.

E-mail: cic@cbi.gov.in
Website: http://cbi.nic.in
Fax: 011-24368639
Ph: 011-24368638, 24368641
DP/6249/NE/2025

SHO
P.S: Nand Nagri, Delhi,
Ph. : 011-22583307, 8750870733

SEARCH FOR MISSING

Baliram Kumar

General Public is hereby informed that a male namely **Baliram Kumar S/o Vindeshwar Ray R/o** H.No. A-24, Gali No.12/1 Meethapur Extn. Sindhu Farm Road New Delhi has been missing since 28.04.2025 from his house the jurisdiction of PS Jaitpur, South-East District, New Delhi. In this regard a **DD No. 60A** dated **30.04.2025** has been lodged at PS, Jaitpur, South-East District, N. Delhi. The description of missing male is as under : **Name:** Baliram Kumar, **Age :** 28 Years, **Height :** 5'7", **Complexion :** Fair, **Built :** Normal, **Face:** Ovel, **Wearing** : Red Color T-Shirt & Black Color Lower and Black Color Sandal in feet.

If anyone having any clue/information, kindly inform the undersigned at following phone numbers.

Website : http://cbi.nic.in
e-mail : cic@cbi.gov.in
Fax : 011-24368639
Ph. : 011-24368638, 24368641
DP/6177/SE/2025

SHO
P.S., Jaitpur,
New Delhi
Ph. : 011-26666410,8750870961

SEARCH FOR MISSING

Usha Kumar

General public is hereby informed that a female namely **Usha Kumar, D/o Azad Singh, R/o H. No. D-1/30, Budh Vihar, Phase-1, Delhi has been missing since 01.05.2025 at about 12:00 PM from her home.** In this regard **DD No. 124 A, Dated 02.05.2025** has been lodged at Police Station Vijay Vihar, Delhi. The description of missing female is as under:

Name: Usha Kumar, Age: 44 Years, Height: 5', Complexion: Wheatish, Built: Thin, Face: Round, Wearing: Green Colour Suit and Raber Chappal in Feet.

If anyone has any information about this missing female please inform P.S. Vijay Vihar, Delhi.

Web: http://cbi.nic.in, E-mail: cic@cbi.gov.in
Ph.: 011-24368638/24368641, Fax: 011-24368639

SHO
Police Station Vijay Vihar, Delhi
Ph: 011-27521295, 8750870329

DP/6157/RD/2025

SEARCH FOR MISSING

Seema

General public is hereby informed that one girl (depicted in the photo) Namely: **Seema, D/o. Sh. Charan Singh (R/o Permanent address: Vill. Chainpura, PO. & PS-Dhanori, Distt. Sambhal UP) and currently residing in- Farm No 1, Kukreja Farm, Dera Mandi Road, Mandi Village, Delhi** has been Missing/kidnapped from her home since **13.05.2025** at **06:30 P.M.** In this regard a missing report case vide **FIR No./GD No. 343/2025, u/s 137(2) BNS dated 14.05.2025** has been lodged at **P.S Fatehpur Beri, South Delhi.**

Her Physical description is as under:-

Sex: Female, **Age:** 17 Years, **Height:** 5'.3", **Complexion:** Dusky, **Built:** Slim **Face:** Oval, **Wearing:** White Colour T-Shirt & Blue Colour Jeans & Slippers In Feet

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

Phone No.: 011-24368638, 011-24368641 | Fax no.: 011-24368639
Email id : cic@cbi.nic.in | Website : http://cbi.nic.in

SHO
P.S – Fatehpur Beri, South Delhi
Phone: 7065569296, 8750870826

DP/6223/SD/2025

JHARKHAND MEDICAL & HEALTH INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT & PROCUREMENT CORPORATION LTD.

MCH BUILDING, RCH CAMPUS, NAMKUM, RANCHI – 834010.
(CIN – U855100JH2013SGC001276)E-mail:jmhidpc2014@gmail.com
Website: https://jmhidpcl.jharkhand.gov.in/
GST NO: 20AADCJ4293L2ZH, PAN NO: AADCJ4293L

Bid Ref. No.JMC/NIT-25/HHXM/07 **Date: 09.05.2025**

Tender for Supply of Portable Handheld X-ray Machine.

The **Managing Director, Jharkhand Medical & Health Infrastructure Development &Procurement Corporation Limited (JMHIDPCL), Ranchi** hereby invites separate **Technical Bid** and **Financial Bid** (two envelope system) through e-procurement from eligible Manufacturer/ their Authorized Dealer /Distributors/ Authorized Stockiest for health facilities of the State of Jharkhand.

The Bid documents with detailed conditions can be viewed and downloaded through website http://jharkhand tenders.gov.in and should be submitted through e-procurement system only. The eligible Bidder(s) willing to participate must be registered in e-procurement portal.

Particulars	Date & Time
Time of Completion	Within 60 days after issue of work order
Date of Publication of Bid	**22-05-2025**
Bid Submission Start Date	**6-06-2025**
Bid Submission Closing Date & Time	**12-06-2025 05:00 PM**
Bid Opening Date for Technical Proposal	**13-06-2025 05:00 PM**
Earnest Money Deposit	**Rs 500,000/-** (Online Payment Gateway)
Contact/ Helpline No. of E-Procurement Cell	**+91-8709368893**
Pre-bid meeting Date & Time	**28.05.2025 at 03:00 PM**

Note: *The above dates may change due to declaration of holidays. In the event of any of the dates being declared as a holiday for the office of the JMHIDPCL, the Bids will be opened on the next working day at the appointed time.*

JMHIDPCL reserves the right to amend or withdraw any of the terms and conditions contained in the Bid document including quantity/ number of items to be supplied or to reject any or all Bids without giving any notice or assigning any reason. The decision of the Managing Director, JMHIDPCL in this regard shall be final.

Sd/-
Managing Director JMHIDPCL

PR.NO.352966 Jharkhand Medical & Health Infrastructure Dev & Procurement Corp Ltd(25-26):D

Ghaziabad Development Authority

VIKAS PATH, GHAZIABAD
(ISO 9001 : 2015 & ISO 14001 : 2015 certified organization)

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL

Ghaziabad Development Authority (GDA) Reinvite proposal under two-bid system (Technical and Financial) for below mention works-

1. "Development of the Ramayan based Theme park and Operation and Maintenance (O&M) for 10 years" at Koyal Enclave Scheme, Ghaziabad Development Authority, Ghaziabad.

2. Request for Proposal (RFP) for Planning, Design, Engineering, Development of the Sanskriti, Darshan Park (Hathi Park/Rani Avanti Bai Park) and Greenwood Park (Nimbu Park) and Operation and Maintenance for 20 Years at Ghaziabad.

Details of RFP can be downloaded from the website https://etender.up.nic.in from **21.04.2025.**

Last date of uploading of e-Bid: - 28.05.2025
Date of Opening of Technical Bid: - 30.05.2025
Date of Opening of Financial Bid: - To Be Informed Later

Further enquiry for Ramayan Based Theme Park can be made from Executive Engineer (EE Zone-8) on mobile no 9568006414 and for Sankriti Darshan Park Executive Engineer/Horticulture Incharge on mobile no-9012590000 during office hours (10:00 AM To 5:00 PM).

Chief Engineer

ई-मेल : **helplinegda@gmail.com,@Gda Ghaziabad : gdagzb**
हेल्पलाईन नं: **0120-4418384** व्हाट्सएप :**9990988004,**वेबसाईट : **www.gdaghaziabad.in**

एक सुन्दर शहर ..... हमारा संकल्प

NORTHERN RAILWAY

Invitation of Tenders through E-procurement system

Principal chief materials manager, Northern Railway, New Delhi - 110001, for and on behalf of the President of India, invites e-tenders through e-procurement system for supply of the following items:-

S. No.	Tender No.	Brief description	Qty.	Closing date
1	82245049A	Flexible Video Laryngo - Pharyngo Bronchoscope With Early Cancer Detection System for NRCH (detailed specification as per pdf attached)	1	12.06.2025

Note :- 1. Vendors may visit the IREPS websites i.e. **www.ireps.gov.in** for details. 2. No Manual offer will be entertained. **Tender Notice No. 82245049A/Med/Part-II Date: 19.05.2025** **1463/2025**

SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE

NBCC (INDIA) LIMITED

एन बी सी सी NBCC *A Navratna CPSE*

CIN: L74899DL1960GOI003335
NBCC Bhawan, Lodhi Road,
New Delhi-110 003

NOTICE INVITING E-TENDER

NBCC invites Request for Proposal (RFP) for selection of O&M Agency on annual license fee basis for Operation, Maintenance and management of Bharat Vandana Park being developed by the Delhi Development Authority (DDA) at Dwarka Sector-20, Delhi. Interested agencies, may visit the website https://nbcc.enivida.com (or) www.eprocure.gov.in for detailed NIT and terms and conditions. Corrigendum/Addendum, if any, would appear only on above websites and not to be published in any Newspaper.

CGM, SBG (UP/BVP)

MUNICIPAL BOARD, NATHDWARA DIST.- RAJSAMAND

S.No./M.B.Nath/Nirman/2025/1867 Date: 15.05.2015

Notice Inviting Bid

Bids for different works Nit No. 13/2025-26 of Municipal Board Nathdwara are invited from interested bidders up to date 26.05.2025 on 18:00 Hours. Other particulars of the bid may be visited on the procurement portal (**http://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in, http://sppp.raj.nic.in**) of the state govt.

UBN No. – DLB2526WSRC05093, DLB2526WSRC05104, DLB2526WSRC05105, DLB2526WSRC05106, DLB2526WSRC05107, DLB2526WSRC05108

Commissioner,
Municipal Board Nathdwara

Raj Samwad/C/25/2538

noida

New Okhla Industrial Development Authority
Administrative Building, Sector-6, Noida, G.B. Nagar (U.P.)
Website : www.noidaauthorityonline.in

E-TENDER NOTICE

E-Tenders are invited from eligible contractors/firm for the following jobs against which bids can be uploaded and same shall be opened/downloaded as per schedule mentioned. The details and conditions of all tenders are available on Noida Authority's official website: **www.noidaauthorityonline.in** & **https://etender.up.nic.in**. Please ensure to see these websites for any changes/amendments & corrigendum etc.

A) Fresh-Tender Work

S. No.	Job Number	Name of the Work	Tender Amount (₹ Lacs)
1	05/DGM/ SM/(WC-5)/ 2025-26	D/o Village (Laying of C.C. and repair of drain in Old Streets in Village-Gijhore), Noida.	₹165.87

The above tenders can be uploaded by dated **03.06.2025 upto 5.00 PM**. Pre-qualification shall be opened/downloaded on dated **04.06.2025 at 11.00 AM**.

***महत्वपूर्ण सूचना–**

नवीन ओखला औद्योगिक विकास प्राधिकरण के अधिसूचित क्षेत्र में शासन से स्वीकृत मास्टर प्लान एवं उत्तर प्रदेश औद्योगिक क्षेत्र विकास अधिनियम, 1976 के विपरीत प्लॉटिंग या किसी भी प्रकार का अन्य निर्माण पूरी तरह अवैध है। जनसामान्य को आगाह किया जाता है कि इस प्रकार की अवैध कॉलोनियों एवं अवैध निर्मित भवनों में भूखण्डों/अपार्टमेंट/दुकान/ गोडाऊन/फार्महाउस की खरीद–फरोख्त से पूर्णतः सचेत रहें तथा कॉलोनाईजर के लुभावने एवं भ्रामक विज्ञापनों से बचे। साथ ही नौएडा अधिसूचित क्षेत्र के हिण्डन एवं यमुना नदियों के डूब क्षेत्र (Flood Plain Zone) में अनधिकृत/अवैध प्लॉट एवं फार्म हाऊसों के कारोबार में संलिप्त भूमाफियाओं के चंगुल में न फंसे।"

Dy. General Manager (Civil)
NOIDA

CLEAN, GREEN, SAFE & SECURE NOIDA

Office of the Additional Chief Engineer, PWD, Zone, Ajmer

No.: - ACE/AJ/TECH/F2(30A-Ajmer)/D-365 Date: -05.05.2025
NIB No.:-PWD2526A0411

Notice Inviting Bid No. 04/2025-2026

Bids for 04 No. Work are invited from interested bidders **upto 5.00 P.M. on Thursday 05 June 2025.** Other particulars of the bid may be visited on the procurement portal (http://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in, http://sppp.raj.nic.in) of the State; and DIPR departmental website. The approximate value of the procurement is **Rs. 14379.27 Lacs.**
UBN No.:-PWD2526WLOB01263 to PWD2526WLOB01266

(E Sign),
Additional Chief Engineer,
PWD, Zone, Ajmer.

DIPR/C/6155/2025

APPEAL FOR IDENTIFICATION

General Public is hereby informed that an unidentified male namely **Unknown, S/o:** Unknown, **R/o:** Unknown, was found at Mall Road, Vishwavidyalaya Metro Station, opp. Croma Showroom. He was hit by an unknown vehicle on 16.05.2025 at 09.30 PM and was taken to the Trauma Center Civil Line in PCR vehicle, where he was declared brought dead by the doctor. In this regard **FIR No.: 141/2025, U/S 281/106 BNS Dated 17.05.2025,** has been lodged at **Police Station Maurice Nagar, North Distt., Delhi-07.** Identification of unidentified dead body of male is as under:

Sex: Male, **Age:** 35 years, **Height :** 5'6", **Complexion:** Wheatish, **Wearing:** Blue Pant & Check Shirt Black. The dead body of deceased preserved for 72 hours in Sabzi Mandi Hospital Mortuary for identification.

If any one having any information or clue about this male deceased may kindly be informed undersigned.

SHO
Police Station Maurice Nagar,
North Distt., Delhi-110007
Ph.: 9911401489, 8750870128

DP/6244/N/2025

PIMPRI CHINCHWAD MUNICIPAL CORPORATION

CIVIL ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT

TENDER NOTICE No: - CIVIL/C HO/02/2025-2026

Offers by way of e-tendering (Percentage) are invited by the City Engineer, Pimpri Chinchwad Municipal Corporation from contractors in e-tendering system for following works.

1) The contractor shall quote his Percentage offer on the Cost of work excluding material testing charges as mentioned below.
2) The offer for work shall be exclusive of GST. The GST at the applicable rate shall be paid separately by PCMC for work
3) Regarding the Royalty, the policy that the corporation determines will be binding on you.

Sr. No	Name of work	Estimated cost put to the Tender (Rs) (4+6)	Cost of Work excluding Material testing Charges (Rs)	Royalty (Rs)	Material Testing Charges (Rs)	Earnest money (Rs)	Security Deposit (Rs)	Time limit in calendar Months	Cost of Tender Document + with GST (Non refundable) (Rs.)
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1	"Proposed Construction of Fire Station At Plot No F-II/P-2 Pimpri Industrial Area, MIDC Bhosari"	228475576	228110476	560257	365100	1142378	11423780	24	37460

Time table for the tenders shall be as follows:

Online sale of tenders	:-	Date- 20/05/2025 to Date 27/05/2025
Last date of submission of tenders	:-	Date - 27/05/2025 up to 3.00 pm
Pre Bid Meeting Date and Time	:-	Date - 23/05/2025 at 3.00 pm
Place of Pre Bid Meeting	:-	City Engineer, 1st Floor, PCMC Main Building Pimpri, Pune - 411018
Date of opening of tenders	:-	Date - 29/05/2025 at 3.00 pm (if possible)

The Municipal Commissioner PCMC reserves the right to accept or reject any tender partially or completely without any reason thereof. The details of above works, such as Security Deposit, Earnest Money Deposit, Terms & Conditions of the Tender and Schedule of works, are available on web site http://mahatenders.gov.in. In case of any technical problem related to the tender document, the same can be referred to the NIC email support at eproc@nic.in or on telephone numbers 0120-4200462, 0120-4001002, 0120-4001005,0120-627787.

ADVT No: 45
No: ENGG/KAVI/15/C HO/384/2025
Date :- 19/05/2025

SD/-
City Engineer,
Pimpri Chinchwad Municipal Corporation,
Pimpri - 411 018.

PUNE MUNICIPAL CORPORATION

E Tender

Tender Advertisement-New Works (B1 Type)

Tender sale Dt. 20/05/2025 to Dt. 17/06/2025, Tue. Up to 14.30Hrs
Acceptance Period: Dt. 30/05/2025 to Dt. 17/06/2025, Tue. Up to 14.30Hrs
Pre Bid meefing-27/05/2025, 11.00 a.m.

Technical Tender to open process Dt. 18/06/2025 on 15.00Hrs

Tender No.	Department Name	Name of work name/Complete Details	Tenure Set Form Fee Rs.	Estimated Cost	EARNEST MONEY	Tenure	Tender type	In case of any difficulty, details of the engineer to contact
PMC/WATER SUPPLY/2025/ 62	Water Supply (Pune Municipal Corporation)	"Under Central Government Sponsored Amrut 2.0 Program Pune Municipal Corporation invites e-Tender for the work of Construction of 125 MLD Capacity Water Treatment Plant (Phase 3) with Operation & Maintenance of the WTP for 7 Years at Vadgaon, Pune".	59,179/-	188,47,99,091.00 (Plus GST)	94,23,950/-	30 months (Execution) +84 Months (O&M)	B1 tender method as per item rate	Mr. Bhimrao Pawar 9689931804 Bhavana jadkar 9689931271 Mr. Ankush Gawade 9689901823

A) Tender terms/conditions regarding the said works. All the details are mentioned in the tender package and the tender package for the said work is **www.mahatender.gov.in** This website available for viewing. From the said site E-Tenders are to be submitted through tendering mechanism.
B) If the set is not received by the last day of sale of tenders and if the acceptance is not presented online on the last day tenderer will be fully responsible forthis.
C) The information regarding tender will be available online on water department PMC.
D) Acceptance of earnest moneycan be done through the facility of Office Order No. Atima (vi) / 32 Dt. 22/04/2016 As on 22/04/2016 by ECS/RTGS/NEFT.
E) Earnest money shall be paid by the contractor against the quoted amount as per prevailing practice of the department for the said tender, the tender will be disqualified if the amount is not paid by the contractor.

sd/-
(Nandkishor Jagtap), Chief Engineer,
Water Supply Department,
Pune Municipal Corporation.

Advt No. 3/155,. Dt/ 19/05/2025

TIMES BUSINESS

THE TIMES OF INDIA, NEW DELHI | TUESDAY, MAY 20, 2025

Global oil demand will rise at a slower rate for the remainder of 2025 due to economic headwinds, combined with record sales of electric vehicles, the International Energy Agency (IEA) has said. Rising supply from planned OPEC+ output hikes will keep the market in surplus

Adjusts 2025 global demand growth forecast higher by **20,000 bpd**

Hikes 2025 global supply growth forecast by **380,000 bpd**

Expects lower oil prices to hit US shale oil output growth

Source: Reuters

In 2026, the IEA sees demand growth averaging **760,000 bpd**

Rasna buys Jumpin, expands into 'ready to drink' category

Mumbai: Instant beverage maker Rasna on Monday announced that it has acquired the brand Jumpin from Hershey's India for expanding into the ready-to-drink category. Rasna did not disclose the amount it has paid for the 100% acquisition of the brand. However, it indicated that independent agencies have valued the brand at Rs 350 crore. Piruz Khambatta, Rasna's chairman, said the company has acquired only the brand from Hershey's and not the manufacturing asset. It will be using the same manufacturing facility going ahead. AGENCIES

DLF net profit rises 39% to ₹1,282cr in Q4

New Delhi: DLF on Friday reported a 39% increase in its consolidated net profit to Rs 1,282 crore in Q4 of the last fiscal. Its net profit stood at Rs 920 crore in the year-ago period. Total income rose to Rs 3,348 crore in Jan-March of 2024-25 fiscal from Rs 2,317 crore in the corresponding period of preceding year. AGENCIES

Rate contracts, global tendering in GeM soon

New Delhi: Govt e-Marketplace (GeM) is working to soon include rate contract and global tendering functionalities on the public procurement portal in a bid to enhance its flexibility and competitiveness, a senior official said on Monday. At present, these features are not on the GeM portal. AGENCIES

Startups bring IPOs back on table as mkts rebound

Cos Accelerate DRHP Filings On Easing Global Trade Tensions

Asmita.Dey@timesofindia.com

Mumbai: After a lull lasting 4-5 months, the IPO window may be opening up for startups and a broader set of companies amid a bounce back in local markets and relative easing of global geopolitical tensions. Firms have begun active discussions on listings and are expediting IPO filings to make most of the time, investment bankers told **TOI**.

Startups are even feeling more confident in terms of setting valuation expectations, after a clutch of firms like Ather Energy readjusted their issue size and valuations to get more investor participation amid a weak market. Over 80 companies are at different stages of approval for IPOs, about a fourth of which are in new age sectors, according to data shared by IIFL Capital.

"With the recent ceasefire and signs of progress between the US and China on tariffs, the (market) tone has become more constructive. That's reflected in the strength of last week's block deals, which were well absorbed by the market. We are also seeing companies look at primary issuance more actively to take advantage of the current window," said Kailash Soni, head of India equity capital markets (ECM) at Goldman Sachs. Not to say that there will be a flurry of IPOs immediately given that it takes longer to launch IPOs but the momentum is back.

"The stability we are now seeing has certainly renewed interest—we expect to see meaningful activity in the second half of the (calendar) year particularly from companies that had previously put plans on hold," Soni added. The sensex, from an all-time high of nearly 86K mark in late Sept 2024, had lost nearly 15% to 73K by early April this year. Since then it has gained, accompanied by intermittent spells of high volatility, to around 82K level now, down just about 4% from its lifetime high level nearly eight months ago. Companies like LG Electronics' India arm had paused IPO plans amid market volatility.

Zepto, PineLabs, Lenskart, Groww and PhonePe are among startups that are preparing for IPO while some like Urban Company and PhysicsWallah have already filed their draft IPO papers with SEBI.

"A lot of new age companies are accelerating the filing of DRHPs. If the markets remain stable, we will see more new age firms launching IPOs this year compared to traditional companies. The markets now are in a risk on mode," said Gaurav Sood, managing director and head, ECM at Avendus Capital.

CONFIDENCE BACK, TALKS BEGIN

Startups preparing for IPO

Zepto
Groww
Lenskart
PhysicsWallah
Urban Company
PhonePe
Infra.Market
OfBusiness
Boat
Pine Labs

How some new-age stocks have fared in the last one month

Source: ETIG

Mehul Choksi gets ₹2.1cr Sebi notice

New Delhi: Sebi has sent a notice to absconding diamantaire Mehul Choksi asking him to pay Rs 2.1 crore in a case of violation of insider trading rules in the shares of Gitanjali Gems and warned of attachment of assets as well as bank accounts if he fails to make the payment within 15 days.

The demand notice came after Choksi failed to pay the fine imposed by Sebi in Jan 2022. Choksi, who was CMD and part of promoter group of Gitanjali Gems, is the maternal uncle of Nirav Modi. Both are facing charges of defrauding PNB of more than Rs 14,000 crore. Choksi and Modi fled India after PNB scam came to light in early 2018. AGENCIES

SBI
The banker to every Indian

TIMELESS TREASURES OF SBI

Non-Resident Indians (NRIs) have always been an important constituent of SBI's huge customer base. To cater to the special needs of these customers, SBI opened its first dedicated, fully computerised NRI branch in Bombay in November 1988. A year later, a branch with similar functions was opened in Delhi. By March 1996, 7 more NRI branches were opened in different parts of the country.

SBI 70th SAAT DASHAK DESH KE SAATH

Continuing 219 years of legacy

Brokers can now set up arms, invest in new biz

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Mumbai: The govt on Monday amended the Securities Contracts (Regulation) Rule, which will now allow brokers to use their own funds to invest in businesses outside their own area. However, they will not be allowed to use clients' funds to invest in those businesses. They will also not be allowed to borrow funds to invest in other businesses. Brokers said they will now wait for Sebi's rules on the same.

Till now, brokers were not allowed to float subsidiaries. The changed rules will allow that, top officials at broking houses said. "Given the growth in the scale and interconnectedness of the financial sector and the evolution of the nature of business of brokers with time, the DEA (Dept of Economic Affairs) felt it necessary to review the appropriateness of safeguards embedded in the rules so that the intent of the rules is served without constraining activities of the stakeholders," the govt said through a release on Monday.

The amendment to SCRR will allow brokers to use own funds to invest in businesses in financial services and outside. It will also allow them to invest in group arms

Broking house officials feel this amendment to SCRR is an important shift in regulatory approach. Till now, stock brokers were not allowed to make investments in any business other than securities and commodity derivatives, said leading broker Motilal Oswal. "This amendment would now allow stock brokers to make investments in any type of business, provided it is not out of client funds or client securities and also it should not create financial liability on the broker."

This change also opens avenues for brokers to make strategic investments. "Stockbrokers have always been allowed to use their own funds for day-to-day operations within the securities and commodities business. This change potentially allows for strategic investments outside these core areas, offering greater capital flexibility," said Pranav Haridasan, MD and CEO, Axis Securities.

Sebi warns 2 funds holding Adani shares with penalties

Mumbai: Sebi has threatened two Mauritus-based funds with investments in the Adani Group that they could face penalties and cancellation of licences for not sharing shareholding details despite repeated requests over two years, according to a document reviewed by Reuters.

The Adani Group and its 13 offshore investors have been facing an investigation by the Sebi, since Hindenburg Research in 2023 alleged improper use of tax havens by the group, triggering a stock sell-off. The group has repeatedly denied wrongdoing, and its shares have since recovered.

Regulations require at least 25% of shares of listed companies be held by public shareholders, but Hindenburg alleged the Adani Group breached those rules since some offshore funds with Adani company holdings were related to the conglomerate.

Two Mauritius-based Elara funds — Elara India Opportunities Fund and Vespera Fund — had been asked since 2023 to provide granular disclosures of all their shareholders. REUTERS

Starlink set to get final nod for services

Pankaj.Doval
@timesofindia.com

New Delhi: Elon Musk's Starlink looks set to clear the final regulatory hurdle for beginning satcom services in India. IN-SPACe, the nodal agency under the department of space (DoS), is likely to grant approval to the company for launching commercial satellite broadband services.

The inter-ministerial standing committee of IN-SPACe (Indian National Space Promotion and Authorisation Centre), which includes members from the DoS, I&B, DoT, MHA, MEA, and commerce and industry ministries, will be taking up Starlink's agenda in its next meeting.

"Broadly, the approval for satellite will be given to Starlink as the ministries of home and external affairs — which are the key decision-makers on matters of security and geopolitical situation — have already approved the company's proposal at the department of telecom (DoT)," a top source told **TOI**.

The DoT issued a letter of intent (LoI) to Starlink on May 7, finally approving its application for a Global Mobile Personal Communication by Satellite (GMPCS) licence.

"DoT's LoI means that any concerns around security and other strategic matters have already been addressed by the company and vetted by key agencies. We thus expect the IN-SPACe approval to come very soon, over the coming weeks," the source said.

IN-SPACe, is a single-window, independent, nodal agency that functions as an autonomous agency in the department of space.

While Starlink comes close to getting all regulatory approvals, govt has kick-started process of allotting spectrum to satcom companies, which include satcom JVs and investments of local Reliance Jio and Airtel.

CLOSER TO LAUNCH

- Inter-ministerial standing committee of IN-SPACe (Indian National Space Promotion and Authorisation Centre) will take up Starlink's agenda in next meeting
- Broadly, approval for satellite will be given to Starlink as ministries of home and external affairs have approved the proposal at DoT — A SOURCE

RBI nod for Emirates NBD for subsidiary

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Mumbai: The RBI granted in-principle approval to Emirates NBD to convert its Indian branches into a wholly owned subsidiary (WOS), reinforcing the Dubai-based lender's commitment to India.

Emirates NBD, among the largest banking groups in the Middle East and North Africa, currently operates in India through branches in Mumbai, Gurugram, and Chennai. A shift to the WOS structure will give the bank greater operational flexibility and place it under tighter regulatory oversight, in line with RBI guidelines for foreign banks with long-term plans in India.

India introduced the WOS framework in 2013 to encourage foreign banks to localise operations. A WOS must bring in at least Rs 500 crore in capital, comply with Basel III norms from inception, and meet stringent governance, localisation, and prudential norms. Only DBS Bank of Singapore and SBM Bank of Mauritius currently operate as WOSs in India.

FirstRand Bank of South Africa planned to set up a WOS but exited full-scale banking operations in India in 2021. As of March 2025, Emirates NBD reported assets of $272 billion and a customer base of over 9 million. The bank supports Indian companies in sectors such as petrochemicals, pharma, IT, and financial services.

'No' to Currant Sea nominee on IDFC Bk board

Mumbai: IDFC First Bank shareholders rejected a proposal to amend the bank's Articles of Association, which would have allowed Currant Sea Investments BV, a Warburg Pincus affiliate, to nominate a non-retiring, non-executive director to the bank's board. The resolution failed to secure the required 75% approval, receiving only 64.1% of votes in favour, with strong opposition from institutional investors.

The proposal was part of a broader investment move, where Warburg Pincus, through Currant Sea, sought CCI clearance to acquire a 9.99% stake in the bank by subscribing to compulsorily convertible cumulative preference shares. Alongside Currant Sea, Platinum Invictus B 2025 RSC, a wholly owned arm of ADIA, is set to buy a 5.1% stake. TNN

SBI cuts FD rates again, biz loans may get cheaper

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Mumbai: State Bank of India has cut fixed deposit rates by 20 basis points across all tenors for both the general public and senior citizens from May 16. The move follows a 25 bps repo rate cut by RBI in April and comes ahead of another expected cut in June. RBI also infused nearly Rs 5 lakh crore of liquidity into the system, lowering funding costs. HDFC Bank already reduced rates, and SBI's move is expected to prompt more lenders to follow.

This is the second deposit rate revision by SBI during the current fiscal. The country's largest bank cut its deposit (fixed deposit) rates first on April 15 by up to 25 basis points.

LOSING INTEREST

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For the general public, SBI's FD rates now range from 3.3% for 7–45 days (earlier 3.5%) to 6.3% for 5–10 years (earlier 6.5%). Senior citizen rates similarly dropped, with the highest now at 7.3% for 5–10 years, including the SBI We-care premium (earlier 7.5%).

In the Rs 1.01 cr–Rs 3 cr non-callable category, 1- and 2-year FDs now offer 6.8% and 7.1% for the public, and 7.3% and 7.6% for senior citizens. The Amrit Vrishti (444-day) scheme rate was cut from 7.05% to 6.85%. Super senior citizens continue to get 10 bps over the senior rate. Revised rates exclude products like recurring deposits, MODS, and Green Rupee Term Deposits.

SBI's home loan rates already came down in line with the repo rate reduction. Now, with the reduction in deposit rates, loans to businesses are expected to get cheaper as these are linked to the marginal cost of lending rate.

Insider trading: 6 IndusInd officials under Sebi lens

Mumbai: Sebi is investigating six IndusInd Bank officials for insider trading to determine if they sold stock options while being aware of accounting lapses at bank before these were publicly disclosed, two sources with direct knowledge of the matter said.

Sebi is examining the timing of trades by these six officials to ascertain whether the sales violated regulations and the internal code of conduct of India's fifth-largest lender, they said. REUTERS

Won't come in way if govt bails out affected telcos: SC

▶ From P 1

Really disturbed (by these petitions). It is not expected of a multinational company. We will dismiss it," the bench told senior advocate Mukul Rohatgi, appearing for Vodafone Idea.

The bench, however, made it clear it would not come in the way if the Centre decides to provide any bailout package to the affected companies.

The court passed the observation after Rohatgi said the Centre now owned almost 50% of Vodafone Idea and govt had to intervene or the company would collapse.

Telecom companies appear to have exhausted all legal remedies against the 2019 verdict. Earlier, the court had dismissed their curative petitions, which was the last legal option through which they raised their grievance in the court in Sept 2024.

However, the court had extended some relief to the companies earlier in terms of payment schedules. In Sept 2020, it had granted the affected telecom companies 10 years to clear the AGR dues. The court had set a deadline of March 31, 2031, for the companies to pay the amount in annual instalments and the first instalment of 10% of dues was to be paid by March 31, 2021.

While Airtel has managed to regain its financial muscle amid strengthening of operations, Vodafone is still grappling with a pile of debt and losses. Its cumulative debt is over Rs 2 lakh crore, while its operations bleed heavily every quarter. The company struggles to even pay statutory dues to the govt, which saw the department of telecom pick equity in the telco to make up for the dues.

Ikea looking at India to boost global play

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Mumbai: At a time when companies worldwide are rethinking their supply chain strategies amid threats of disruption posed by tariff uncertainty, Swedish home décor and furniture retailer Ikea is bolstering its bets on India as a sourcing market for its global and local operations. The company, which has a network of about 40 home furnishing suppliers in the country, is trying to increase sourcing from India "wherever it can" and is looking to add new suppliers as it scouts for more opportunities, said Christina Niemela Strom, (global) head of sustainability for supply, Inter Ikea Group.

In an interview with **TOI** on Monday, Strom said that Ikea's plan to boost local sourcing in India from 30% to 50% by 2030 also opens up scope for the company to expand global sourcing from the country. "Our supply footprint has to be resilient for what happens, and we see that India has to play a big role in that as well. We are here for the long term. The goal spoken (50% target) is for local produce, but that will for sure also bring in opportunities for going global," Strom explained.

Ikea's purchases from India stand at around 400 million Euros in 2024, and global sourcing makes up a big part of it, given that it started retail operations in India only in 2018, Strom said.

The company has been sourcing from India for close to 50 years, and it already counts India as among its top 10 global sourcing markets.

Ikea largely ships out ready-made goods from India, which include curtains, rugs, and bed linen. "We are monitoring the US-India FTA developments closely. Trade has an influence, and we try to make the most of it," Strom insisted.

Beyond sourcing, Ikea could also look at introducing new product segments in India and then take them global. "Made in India is good," Strom said while talking about the appeal of Indian-made goods in global markets.

Ikea started retail operations in India with its first store in Hyderabad in 2018 and is currently present in more than 10 cities through a mix of offline and online stores. Europe is Ikea's biggest supply region, followed by Asia and the Americas. Most of what Ikea sells in the US is manufactured in other countries, including China. Despite high commodity inflation in India over the past few quarters, Ikea didn't raise product prices in the country, Strom said.

"Given the broader slowdown we have seen, home furnishing is not the first thing buyers will think of, and so we have to make sure we remain affordable. Value for money is important to us, and we have rolled back the price hikes we took during Covid," Strom added.

Co to increase sourcing from India

- Ikea will increase sourcing from India wherever it can, said **Christina Niemela Strom**, (global) head of sustainability for supply
- The company's plan to boost local sourcing in India from 30% to 50% by 2030 also opens up scope for it to expand global sourcing from the country
- Ikea's purchases from India stand at around 400 million Euros in 2024, and global sourcing makes up a big part of it, given that it started retail operations in India only in 2018

Apple supplier Hon Hai commits $1.5bn

Hon Hai Precision Industry Co., the main manufacturer of Apple Inc.'s iPhones, will inject $1.5 billion into its India unit as production shifts away from China.

INDIA CALLING

The Taiwan-based company said in an exchange filing on Monday that it had made the investment through its Singaporean subsidiary. Hon Hai, which is building new plants and adding production capacity in southern India, didn't immediately respond to an emailed request for comment. Apple is looking to import most of the iPhones it sells in the US from India by the end of next year, drawing the wrath of US President Donald Trump, who said last week he'd asked Apple CEO Tim Cook to stop building plants there.

Trump's comments accelerate a shift beyond China to mitigate risks related to tariffs and geopolitical tensions. Apple makes most of its iPhones in China and has no smartphone production in the US — though it's promised to hire more workers at home and pledged to spend $500 billion domestically over the next four years. Hon Hai is also increasing its investments in the US. BLOOMBERG

Protean misses PAN 2.0 project, shares slide

Mumbai: Shares of Protean eGov Technologies fell 20% on Monday to Rs 1,143 after the company said it was not shortlisted for the Income Tax department's PAN 2.0 project.

In a filing with the BSE and NSE, the company said it participated in the bid for the revamp of PAN services under the PAN 2.0 initiative but was not considered favourably for the next round of selection by the Income Tax department.

PAN 2.0 is a Rs 1,435 crore upgrade of India's Permanent Account Number system, launched in late 2024 to enhance digital infrastructure, improve security, and streamline taxpayer services. The initiative is aligned with the govt's Digital India programme. TNN

A thought for today

Home life ceases to be free and beautiful as soon as it is founded on borrowing and debt

HENRIK IBSEN

Saving America

US just lost its last AAA rating to its debt problem, but any loss of confidence in US will be bad for all

For the first time in 100 years, America is without an AAA credit rating. It's easy to blame Trump, his tariff mess, and his planned tax cuts, for the loss, but this downgrade was a long time coming. S&P, one of the big three rating agencies, had downgraded US in 2011, under Obama. Fitch followed in 2023, under Biden, and Moody's did so on Friday. While presidents and policies have changed, America's underlying problem of too much debt has only grown. So the lower ratings inform lenders that lending to Uncle Sam for the long term isn't as safe as they think.

That's not to say US will default on treasury bills due next week, or even T-notes due over the next few years, but the long-term picture isn't rosy. In 2024, US govt spent $1.8tn more than its revenues. This year, the deficit could touch $2tn. Over the years, cumulative govt debt has crossed $36tn, and is at 125% of GDP. But there are no free lunches even for govts, so US pays close to $1tn as interest on its borrowings, which is more than its defence expenditure, or its health budget.

To get back to an AAA rating, US would need to raise revenues – by increasing taxes, for example – or cut expenditure. And Trump was expected to do the latter. Setting up a department of govt efficiency, or DOGE, under Elon Musk was expected to trim govt departments, staff strength and costs. So far, DOGE claims to have saved $160bn, but it can't go on slashing departments forever. On the other hand, Trump's tax cuts could add up to $5tn to the deficit over a decade.

So if US govt debt goes on increasing, at some point not just rating agencies but also investors will get wary. Demand for US bonds, and their prices, will dip, pushing up yields – this is already apparent. If bond yields stay up, other borrowers – both govt agencies and private sector – will need to pay more interest to borrow. That will slow down growth globally. Trump's tariffs have already imperilled global growth. Some analysts say he's counting on a slowdown to lower interest rates, so that US can refinance its debt cheaply. But rising inflation due to tariffs would put paid to that. Trump didn't create America's debt problem, but he's in the White House now, and it's his job to steer US towards a more fiscally prudent course.

An Arresting Moment

Police action against Prof Khan shows little logic & raises several larger questions

Today, the Supreme Court will hear the appeal against the arrest of Prof Ali Khan Mahmudabad of Ashoka University. That the original complainants were a Haryana govt appointee and a BJP sarpanch shouldn't have made any difference to local police's response. But Khan was taken into custody for a social media post that contrasted "rightwing commentators'" praise for Col Qureshi with their stand on "lynchings, arbitrary bulldozing…". Let's assume that some can disagree with him. Or that some may even hold the view that Khan's argument was ill-timed. But can anyone seriously argue that Khan allegedly committed the following crimes – "sow communal divisions", "endanger India's sovereignty and unity" and insulted "the modesty of women"? Yet these were the crimes Haryana police charged him with. Among the provisions used was BNS Section 152, which bears a striking resemblance to IPC's sedition provision. A local court promptly sent Khan to 48 hours police custody. Khan's attempts to clarify his post after he received the Women's Commission's summons didn't make a difference. The Ashoka University faculty association's statement that the arrest was "calculated harassment" was spot on.

Many larger questions come up via this case. First, is there any application of mind by local police when complaints are made by those associated with governing parties in various states? Second, isn't it now clear that BNS Section 152 is as much a blunt instrument as the sedition provision was? Third, is criticism protected by free speech? For police and some politicians, the answer seems no. Recall here what SC had said when it quashed the case against Imran Pratapgarhi, who had posted a Faiz poem – the court said standards of free speech can't be decided by those "who always perceive criticism as a threat…", that those taking objection should respond by "counter-speech", not by demanding police action.

But as SC yet again hears a case that should never have seen the light of day, all thinking Indians must also ask why a professor who praised, logically and cohesively, GOI's military response to Pahalgam found himself behind bars.

A botanical serial killer

What Lady Hastings sowed, Powai Lake is reaping

Jairam N Menon

Powai Lake in central Mumbai has a migrant problem. The migrants are from faraway South America. And having arrived over two centuries ago, the water hyacinths are in no mood to relocate. They sprawl across the still waters. When in bloom, their pretty purple flowers and thick leaves make a trendy green statement. Legend has it that Lady Hastings, wife of India's first governor-general, was among those seduced by the floating emerald isles. She rather fancied she could improve the aesthetics of lakes in India, and in a move fraught with historical repercussions, gifted the water hyacinth to our land.

Little did she realise that she was unlatching the gates to the world's most invasive aquatic species. The water hyacinth is the botanical equivalent of a serial killer – stealthy, swift and pitiless. It overwhelms other plants by outpacing and outgrowing them. It sucks oxygen out of the water and rings the death knell for fish.

In dealing with unwanted plant and unloved flower, Powai Lake is not alone.

Water bodies around the globe are similarly swamped, and authorities are testing out one desperate solution after another. In Kenya's Lake Victoria, they tried to convert the plant to biofuel. In America, a political leader (no, not The Don) came up with the somewhat offbeat suggestion that hippopotamus be imported from Africa and prodded to eat the proliferating plant.

It's not as if Powai is short of ideas. The lake is fringed with hot talent. A premier institute of technology is located on its banks, and on the other side is a company providing high-tech solutions to the nation's key problems. But the lake's woes remain intractable. Undeterred, Mumbai's civic officials are waging an epic battle in the water. Last year municipal authorities claim they cleared nearly 6,000 metric tonnes of the plant through physical removal. Chemical solutions have also been tried, with no sustainable success. It's not just a moving target that rescue teams are facing, but also a doubling one – plant population can increase hundred-fold within a month. Days after the crew heaves a sigh of relief at wrapping up a strenuous eviction campaign, hyacinths reappear as before. They smile brightly at the sun, serenely oblivious to all attempts at assassination. Phew, if only Lady Hastings had stuck to roses and crocuses.

Their Eyes Remain On Kashmir

This is where it started and where vulnerability remains greatest. Remember the viciousness Pakistan rustled up after 1971. It will be desperate again to weaken Indian resolve on this side of LoC

Syed Ata Hasnain

While the India-Pak military conflict is on pause, the likelihood of sporadic high-impact attacks remains. After all, the windows of terror infiltration and recruitment still remain open, albeit under much stronger surveillance and deterrence. But a return to the 1990s is unlikely.

First, Kashmiri society, particularly the younger generation, is showing signs of disengagement from violent extremism. Job aspirations, digital connectivity, and tourism have altered the local incentive structures.

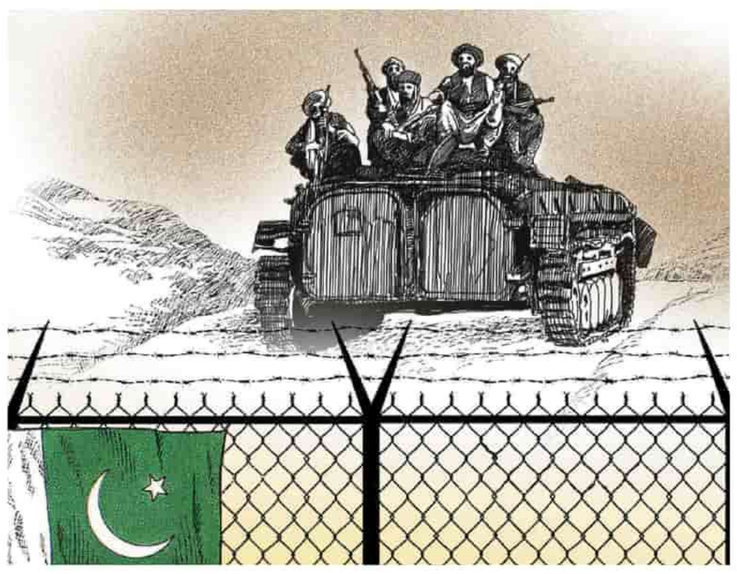
Second, there is no ambiguity in govt about its long-term objective: irreversible integration of Kashmiri society through a mix of security controls, economic development, and information dominance. This doctrine must stay the course, especially since democracy has been successfully returned to the Union Territory, and return to statehood will follow in due course. Today's govt has been instrumental in maintaining the required calm in the face of crisis.

All this said, there are at least six areas where India faces significant challenges, and needs to do focused work.

- Preventing hyphenation of any kind between India and Pakistan even while keeping the PoJK narrative intact. Pakistan will try to revive expired matters such as a plebiscite, and this effort will have to be resisted worldwide.
- Maintaining an undiluted security grid, until such time when we have proof that terror threats have actually receded.
- Promoting tourism and all kinds of modern infra projects, which will progressively transform lives – and hearts and minds.
- Letting the Indian army return to lead status within the Unified Command. Experiments with its conflict termination status, if any, are premature and should be shelved. 'Holding the periphery' is the doctrine that needs to be understood and followed.
- Evolving a focused strategic communication doctrine with a post Op Sindoor orientation. Let patriotic clergy be a part of this.
- Developing AI-powered surveillance and intelligence well beyond the generation of equipment and capability demonstrated by terrorists. It is a field awaiting major transformation.

When the news of the April 22 Pahalgam terror attack broke, it felt like a jarring rewind to a past that India had hoped it had moved beyond. It was executed by a shadowy proxy linked to Pakistan's deep state, as a follow-up to Asim Munir's invocation of the Two Nation Theory to Pak diaspora audience. Pahalgam was a statement that the doctrine of 'thousand cuts' was seeking relevance all over again.

It had festered beneath the calm established after the abrogation of Article 370. In late March, during a visit to the Valley, I had sensed full sincerity in the way the new narrative of integration was progressing. It is also then that I sensed danger. Surely, Pakistan could not allow such normalcy, with 93 commercial flights a day at Srinagar airport. Kashmir was getting integrated faster than anyone expected. So Pahalgam happened. But the response that came, was not from the India of yesteryears.



While surgical examination of the details is in progress, it's now important to take note of the effect of Operation Sindoor on the core domain from where it all started, J&K.

Conventional or near-conventional victories sometimes have a nasty way of upsetting the applecart of stability in the sub-conventional domain. The latter is a strange phenomenon within the spectrum of conflict; many times, it is least affected by success elsewhere. Establishment of military superiority with a technical edge over the adversary is important, but ideological campaigns designed to spew hatred can remain unaffected; the loser's advantage, so to say.

Pakistan is not a nation that will give up its vicious bent. On being halved in 1971 it came back at us with viciousness, using the sub-conventional as a force multiplier. This is a model that it could attempt to repeat, although it will not succeed.

Recapturing the Kashmiri Muslim's mind space is important for Pakistan. It's the fight between economic prosperity and ideological mindset; also, between the pull of the Ummah and the pull of Indian patriotism. In both the post Pahalgam and post Op Sindoor periods a positive and patriotic sentiment has been witnessed among Kashmir's public. Can that last against an inevitable onslaught that a desperate Pakistan is likely to deploy to change this mind space?

The Op Sindoor hangover is complex but not regressive. Unlike during past flare-ups, civilian life continued without a negative halt, except in the LoC belt, where notably the sentiment against Pakistan remains at the maximum. However, even without a surge of radical sentiment, the risk of terror escalation remains.

Pak army, battling its own crises – from economic turmoil to domestic political fracturing – may lean even more on asymmetric warfare to maintain its relevance. ISI's decades-old strategy of keeping Kashmir 'on the boil' is too embedded to be abandoned without a fight. Pahalgam may have been an attempt to test India's resolve, but it also served as a probe – to assess India's red lines and thresholds post-2019. Op Sindoor would have sent the answers Pakistan's way but self-delusional perceptions of victory could always bring a repeat of its old ways.

The surgical strikes and Balakot of 2016 and 2019 respectively, were both strategic messages of intent by India. Op Sindoor has gone well beyond, to convey deterrence. But the sub-conventional domain is extremely tricky to tie down. Deterrence here is difficult to determine.

As India recalibrates its strategic posture in Kashmir, the playbook has indeed changed. The next chapter will not be written in blood, but in ballots, bandwidth, and bridges – both literal and symbolic. Yet, the sword must always remain sharp for moments when the eyes blur and fatigue tends to overtake.

The writer is a former commander of the Srinagar-based Chinar Corps

Tharoor In The World & His Party In A Funk

Once again Congress took a BJP bait. But this time, its 48-hour overreaction may have done it extra damage. One refrain within the party is, why let anger get the better of judgement?

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Congress's two-day slugfest with GOI was two days too long. After all, veteran Shashi Tharoor's selection to participate in India's all-party international outreach post the India-Pak military faceoff was, as insiders pointed out quickly enough, a wrong battle to pick, even if not entirely a 'non-battle'.

The standoff surprised many within Congress. When GOI contacted four Congress veterans – Tharoor, Salman Khurshid, Manish Tewari and Amar Singh – to be part of the delegation on Friday, all of them informed the leadership of the development, with two also conveying they would do as the party wished. And when parliamentary affairs minister Kiren Rijiju spoke to Kharge and Rahul Gandhi to seek their nominees, they immediately replied with four names.

Trouble started on Saturday when GOI – having decided to do its own thing regardless of what its minister had conveyed to Congress – started announcing its seven delegation heads. One of them was Tharoor.

Congress spokesman Jairam Ramesh accused govt of playing "cheap politics" and said the party had not nominated the diplomat-turned-MP. Rather, it had chosen Anand Sharma, Gaurav Gogoi, Naseer Hussain and Raja Warring. Tharoor promptly said he would "not be found wanting" in national service. That was throwing a gauntlet at a party already irked by the Kerala MP's recent defence of Modi govt, especially with reference to Trump's role in the India-Pak ceasefire.

Congress found itself staring at more defiance – only two others, Khurshid and Amar Singh, were ready to go by party directive. As the lists became public at midnight, govt had only picked Anand Sharma from Congress's list, and stuck to the four it had earlier contacted.

As an insider noted, Congress gained an extra fifth berth, but was left licking its wounds. It finally ended Saturday by addressing all as "honourable MPs and leaders" and welcoming their travel with good wishes to the delegates – capping a day that left the party bruised, and gave it advance estimates of estrangement from some key partymen.

It was clear fairly early on that Congress was not riled so much by the *shortlist* of names, as by BJP govt's decision to *bypass* Congress brass to contact its members. It was seen as a bid to again undermine the principal rival BJP never passes up a chance to ridicule. It was a genuine objection against BJP's continuous and consistent personalised targeting of Rahul Gandhi. But it is choosing this moment to flag the issue – and failing to read govt's gameplan – that has invited questions within the party.

"Tharoor was an obvious choice in normal times. He is our MP, a known secular leader, nominated to chair the parliamentary standing committee on foreign affairs. We just had to welcome his name. Why let anger get the better of judgement?" was one refrain. Even when Tharoor went against Congress (and govt's) view on Russia's invasion of Ukraine, he was allowed to speak in Lok Sabha.

Khurshid and Amar Singh are old loyalists. And Tewari, prone to an independent streak (as seen on issues such as Russia's war in Ukraine, Agnipath and the recent US ceasefire mediation), was gifted his long-sought seat of Chandigarh by Congress, which he won against all odds in 2024 LS elections. "Where was the need to throw a fit?" goes another refrain.

The optics didn't go down well either. Congress complained about procedure while fellow travellers DMK, NCP, SP, JMM, CPM, NC and UBT Sena expressed national solidarity. Ironically, this has for long also been Congress's line, which has held through three CWCs since Pahalgam, and sought action against Pakistan – before getting stuck in a battle over naming veterans.

There are those who fear Congress rises to BJP's bait too easily, its aggressive politics is turning predictable. Govt actions through Friday and Saturday could also be seen as BJP "toying" with Congress, releasing names in parts, dragging both the suspense – and the agony.

BJP has, for all purposes, bought a fortnight-long peace from political rivals on the Pakistan ceasefire matter. What Congress does in the period before and during the delegations' international outreach should be watched.

The next tricky slope for GOP will be how it accommodates its veterans on their return, especially those who have shown their independence but are also visible names and active parliamentarians. Congress, since its relegation to the opposition in 2014, has seen big names and small choose to defect. But even many of those who remain are perpetually disgruntled. The threat of further "brain drain" is real. Well-wishers are now advising that the party should not come across as forcing a loyalty test on the loyalists.

Calvin & Hobbes

Sacred*space*

If we are attuned to God, our perception is limitless, pervading everywhere in the oceanic flow of the Divine Presence. When the Spirit is known, and when we know ourselves as Spirit, there is no land or sea, no earth or sky – all is He.

Paramahansa Yogananda

Plato, Vedanta And Quantum Physics

Ganesh Kolambakar

What is reality? Why does everything appear fragmented and separate if it is one and made of energy? Why do we each perceive it differently?

For millennia, across cultures and civilisations, sages and philosophers have sensed that the world we perceive through our senses is not the whole truth. Beneath the visible lies the invisible. Behind the transient is the eternal. Beyond form and change, there is an unchanging essence. From philosophical insights of Plato to the spiritual revelations of Vedantic sages, and now discoveries of quantum physics, a striking convergence emerges. What appears as reality is only a projection, not the ultimate truth.

Plato, philosopher of ideals, viewed the physical world as a shadow of a higher, perfect realm of Forms. Everything we encounter, trees, animals, human actions – is, in his view, an imperfect reflection of an ideal Form that exists beyond the material plane. There is a Form of Beauty in which all beautiful things participate, and a Form of Justice behind every just action. At the heart of this metaphysical vision is the Form of the Good, the ultimate source of all truth, existence, and intelligibility.

The Chandogya Upanishad declares, *Sarvam khalvidam Brahmn* – all this is indeed Brahmn. It is described as the indivisible, undifferentiated, infinite essence that underlies everything. It is not a being among other beings. It is Being itself. Pure, formless, and beyond all categories, Brahmn is the ground of all reality.

But if all is Brahmn, why do we experience the world as fragmented, diverse, and ever-changing? The upanishad explains that although Brahmn is one and without division, we overlay distinctions upon it through nama, name; rupa, form; vyavahara, transactional experience. We name, shape, and engage with this undivided reality as if it were many. The world appears broken into parts because our perception is conditioned by duality. Vedanta teaches that this illusion, called maya, is born of ignorance, resulting from our reliance on limited senses and ego-mind. The goal is not to escape the world but to see through it and recognise unity in diversity.

THE SPEAKING TREE

Modern science, through quantum physics, now reveals similar truths in its language. At the subatomic level, particles do not behave like solid objects but exist as waves of probability, fields of potential that remain undefined until observed. What we experience as a fixed, concrete world arises from something fluid, indefinite, and unseen. Just as Vedanta teaches that nama and rupa are superimposed upon Brahmn, quantum physics shows that the solid world manifests something more fundamental, an underlying field of pure potential.

In both quantum theory and Vedanta, the observer plays a crucial role. In physics, the act of observation collapses a wave into a particle. Until then, it exists in superposition, a state of multiple possibilities. Vedanta, too, insists that perception is subjective. What we see, hear, or touch depends on the observer. Liberation lies in shifting the observer from conditioned, ego-bound self to witnessing awareness, Atman, which is Brahmn itself.

Plato also called for this inward shift. In his allegory of the cave, he describes prisoners mistaking shadows on the wall for reality. Only by turning inward and moving beyond appearances can one see truth of Forms and, ultimately, the Form of the Good.

On **World Bee Day**, A Look At What Makes The Insect So Sought-After On Farms And Orchards And How The Job Is Not Without Risks

Why Renting Bees Is New Agri Buzzword

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If the bee disappeared off the surface of the globe, then man would only have four years of life left." Often attributed to Albert Einstein but probably apocryphal, this quote is a reminder of the critical importance of bees as pollinators. And now that there's been a significant decline in the population of honeybees because of various factors — habitat loss, pesticide use, climate change, disease and parasites — bad fruiting in orchards has become a more frequent phenomenon.

"How to pollinate?" For an increasing number of farmers, that's the biggest question.

If you don't have them, hire them. It was this answer to the farmers' big question that turned scientist-turned-apiarist Nitin Kumar Singh of Barabanki, Uttar Pradesh, into a bee-entrepreneur. Now, Nitin's stash of 600 boxes — each containing over 1,25,000 bees — travels across the country to help out whoever needs them. From litchi growers in Bihar's Muzaffarpur to sun-kissed apple orchards in Himachal Pradesh's Kinnaur, Nitin's bees bring a promise of good harvest wherever they go.

For, these bees help out with pollination, which can boost crop yields. The practice, known as 'rent-a-bee' or 'pollinator rental', is a godsend in areas where natural bee populations are insufficient to pollinate crops effectively. And it's not just about the money. Nitin, who has published over 30 peer-reviewed research papers in international journals such as Nature, Elsevier and PLOS One, says his main motivation is to save the environment.

Bees are unmatched as pollinators, but a general decline in their population means farmers are increasingly turning to apiarists with an eye on landing a good harvest

The 42-year-old PhD in environmental biotechnology used to work as a research fellow at Integrated Functional Genomics at University of Munster in Germany, and as a postdoctoral researcher at the Agricultural Research Organisation in Israel, before he moved to India and began renting out his bees.

"Bees are our allies," he says. "Without them, there will be no us. We just have to understand them better and let them do their job."

Geetanjali Misra, a zoology professor at Lucknow University, says India has seen a 20% decline in bee population in recent years. In some regions, such as Odisha, the drop is by nearly 80%. This, she says, can be attributed to factors like lack of pollen and nectar sources, pesticides and climate change.

Lack of pollen and nectar sources have affected bee health and survival while fluctuations in temperature and rainfall patterns have also disrupted their foraging and nesting behaviour, she explains.

Misra says that given their role in pollination, a decline in the bee population can lead to reduced crop yields and potential food security issues along with a reduction in plant biodiversity since many species depend on bees for pollination.

Nitin's apiary in Barabanki's Damaura village, nearly 27km from Lucknow, is a riot of colour: bright sunflowers, ripe red tomatoes, a crop of millets, patches of mustard and mint, a distant treeline of tall mango trees. The soundtrack to this vista is provided by the constant hum of bees.

Bees, says Nitin, need fresh nectar to stay healthy. There are no high-tension cables or phone towers nearby, nor is any pesticide used in the apiary, he adds.

Nitin's bees have travelled to almost every part of the country, from Manipur to Maharashtra, on mission pollination. "My bees are basically tourists," Nitin says. "Depending on the month and cropping season, they have to travel as and when they are hired. There's little demand among locals, but there's a huge demand of bees from apple orchards in Himachal. Similarly, we also rent bees to orange growers in Nagpur."

Most of the bees are of Italian origin, Apis mellifera ligustica. "When we give bees on rent to other states, we make sure that they travel only between sunset and sunrise because bees have their own inviolable routine," Nitin says.

Bees leave their boxes — also called moveable-comb hive or Newton hive — at sunrise to collect nectar from surrounding areas and return to it at sunset. Farmers who hire the bees don't need to do anything special. They just place the boxes in their farms or orchards; the bees go out when the sun rises and return to their boxes by sunset, after collecting nectar and performing pollination.

One bee box costs Rs 2,500 a month. "An area of 15,000 sqft requires around 10-20 boxes for pollination," says Nitin. "The price of these boxes depends on the time of the year. For example, Oct to May is the season for beekeepers to harvest a hive. During this period, the price of bee boxes is higher, compared with the June-Sept period."

The bee-renting business, however, is far from easy. Akhilesh Kumar from Lucknow's Gomtinagar, who runs Bhavana Agrotech, told **TOI** that he had to eventually discontinue his business, thanks to the many challenges that kept cropping up.

"There are only a few players in this business due to a lack of awareness about its benefits," says Rajasthan-based apiarist Ram Kishor Yadav, who runs his venture, 'Shahadwale', from Behror district. "Bees are usually hired by companies that are into seed production, or by advanced farmers." Yadav says seed-production firms rely on honeybees primarily for pollination as bee pollination can improve the quality of seeds and the overall yield of some crops. "Bees are also used by advanced farmers, who take help from scientists — especially apple and pomegranate growers. Bee pollination can increase crop yields by 20% to 35%," he explains.

Nitin Kumar Singh

A LOT GOING ON IN THAT BOX

A 'bee box', also called a hive, has around 10 frames hung parallel to each other. These are made of wood with a wax foundation on which bees draw out the comb

Each box has around **1,25,000 bees** and one queen bee

Each box costs a farmer **₹2,500** a month to rent

An area of **15,000 sqft** needs 10-20 boxes for pollination

Photos: Ajay Kumar

But it's not always good for bees

Joeanna Rebello Fernandes

Ashuram Godara, a pomegranate farmer from Palana in Bikaner, Rajasthan, spends up to Rs 50,000 a year on rented bees. Fifteen to 20 hives truck into his 22-acre farm when the crop flowers, and return to Kalki Agro Foods, the bee rental company in Behror, when the fruits appear. Despite the cost incurred, the farmer prefers to rent rather than maintain hives of his own because the pesticides he sprays on his fruit can harm resident bees, while itinerant bees can be dispatched to the safety of their home base.

In fact, bee rental companies cite exposure to pesticides as one of the chief reasons for bee deaths on farms. They penalise farmers for colony losses, with some like Kalki Agro Foods charging them for every compromised frame, while others, like Sridhar Industries in Bengaluru, withholding the deposit on the beehive unit itself. Before renting out their hives, pollination rentals caution farmers against using pesticides on their crops — particularly the neonicotinoid class of pesticides — when bees are in residence. Neonicotinoids impair the nervous system of insects and can cause a range of negative impacts, from weakened immunity, loss of navigational abilities to death.

However, renter-farmers and agri-businesses can't always prevent bee deaths even if they themselves practise organic agriculture, because toxic chemicals can arrive downwind from surrounding farms.

"The govt can help mitigate this problem by listing all the molecules used in pesticide formulae. It doesn't do this because all the new and old molecules used in pesticides are all bee-killing chemicals," says Apoorva BV, owner of Shridhar Industries, a beekeeping business that offers hive rental services as a small part of its portfolio. Apoorva is also the co-founder of The Hive, a trust dedicated to bee education and conservation. "You can't promote natural pollination without first addressing this issue. The growth of insect pollination services is directly proportional to farmer awareness," he says. At the same time, pollination services can help farmers appreciate the role that insects play in agro-ecosystems. When farmers understand insects, they'll avoid pesticide overuse and adopt natural approaches to biocontrol balance, which is essentially the predator-prey balance. "Pesticides will ruin this dynamic," warns Apoorva. "They will kill both pests and biocontrol agents indiscriminately. If the govt ignores this risk, we stand to lose all insect biomass in India." He believes that the economic value of pollination also needs to be surveyed by state and crop. Accurate projections can help farmers assess future earnings from bee colonies and seek them out proactively.

Apiarists say pesticides are among the chief hazards facing bees on farms

Even as some farmers have been making a beeline for pollination services, conservationists warn of the risks posed by this growing market. One of these is the consequence of exposing bees consistently to a limited range of crops.

"Pollen provides bees with proteins, minerals, and other nutrients. Just like humans need a varied diet, so do bees," says Shiny Mariam Rehel, senior programme coordinator for biodiversity conservation at Keystone Foundation, which supports conservation and community development in the Nilgiri Biosphere Reserve. The nonprofit is also a member of the Indian Pollinator Initiative, a consortium of conservationists and academics dedicated to developing research and guiding policy.

"Exposure to only one or two kinds of pollen may impact the insects' immunity and egg-laying pattern," says Rehel. There are other concerns. Contract bees, airdropped from other areas, may deprive local bee species of available food resources and eventually displace the few that are left. The absence of local pollinators could further imperil the area's biodiversity.

It's a concern shared by Narsanna Koppula, co-founder of Aranya Agricultural Alternatives, which endorses permaculture and sustainable agriculture. Kopulla worries that changes in temperature, climate, and humidity that bees experience when they're taken to new and unfamiliar places can affect their survival rate.

"By making honey-producing bee species the mainstay of their pollination rental services, companies may end up driving non-honey producing bees, such as carpenter, blue orchard, and bumblebees, to the sidelines. If we focus on the commercial aspect alone, biodiversity will take a backseat," he says. "We need to think of bees not only for furthering business, but also for strengthening ecosystems."

OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR INSTRUCTIONS
Rajmata VijayarajeScindiaKrishi Vishwa Vidyalaya
Raja Pancham Singh Marg, Behind LNUPE, Gwalior - 474002 (M.P.)
Tel fax: 0751-2970517 (0) I E-mail dirvskvvgwl@gmail.com

No./IPRO/DI/2025-26/403 Dated : 19/05/2025

ADMISSION NOTICE (2025-26)

Admission to Master and Ph.D. degree programme (2025-26) of Rajmata Vijayaraje Scindia Krishi Vishwa Vidyalaya, Gwalior and Jawaharlal Nehru Krishi Vishwa Vidyalaya, Jabalpur will be through an Online Joint Entrance Examination to be conducted on 28.06.2025 by MP Online Limited, Bhopal. Candidates may apply online w.e.f. 20.05.2025. **Details are available on www.rvskvv.net, www.jnkvv.org and kvv.mponline.gov.in**

Director Instructions

योजना तथा वास्तुकला विद्यालय: दिल्ली
SCHOOL OF PLANNING AND ARCHITECTURE:DELHI
संसद के अधिनियम के तहत "राष्ट्रीय महत्व का संस्थान"
An "Institution of National Importance" under an Act of Parliament
(शिक्षा मंत्रालय, भारत सरकार)/
(Ministry of Education, Govt. of India)
4- ब्लाक- बी, इंद्रप्रस्थ एस्टेट, नई दिल्ली / 4, Block-B, Indraprastha Estate, New Delhi – 110002 Contact at email ID: trectestt@spa.ac.in.

CONTRACT FACULTY APPOINTMENTS

Applications are invited from Indian Nationals below the age of 64 years for engagement as **Assistant Professors (on contract basis)** in various Departments, on consolidated emoluments.
Appointment shall be valid for eleven months.
Further details are available on our website: **www.spa.ac.in** under careers tab.
Last Date of submission of application is 6th June, 2025.

REGISTRAR

OIL AND NATURAL GAS CORPORATION LIMITED
PROCUREMENT AND CONTRACT CELL
ONGC OFFSHORE LOGISTICS GROUP

EXPRESSION OF INTEREST (EOI)

ONGC Offshore Logistics Group, Oil and Natural Gas Corporation Limited, Mumbai invites Expression of Interests (EOI) from eligible and interested firms/vendors for Hiring of small fixed-wing aircraft services for passenger charter operations between Port Blair airport and Car Nicobar / Great Nicobar Islands.
Last date for Submission of EOI: On or before 06.06.2025 by 1700Hrs.
Details including EOI document can be downloaded from the website **https://tenders.ongc.co.in** and GePNIC-CPPP portal (**https://etenders.gov.in**).

VALLABHBHAI PATEL CHEST INSTITUTE
UNIVERSITY OF DELHI, DELHI-110007
Tel.: 011-27402400, 27667102,
Fax. No. 011-27666549

Applications are invited for the following temporary post to be engaged on contract basis for a period of one year (extendable upto 1 years or co-terminus of the project, whichever is earlier, based on requirement & satisfactory performance) in ICMR research project an urgent-treat to public health" under Prof Anuradha Chowdhary, Medical Mycology Unit, Department of Microbiology, V.P. Chest Institute, University of Delhi:

Post	No. of posts	Remuneration Per month	Age Limit
Project Technical Support-II (Non-Medical)	01	Rs 67,000/- +27% HRA	40 years
Project Research Scientist-II	01	Rs.20,000/- +27% HRA	30 years

Eligible & interested candidates may submit their application along with the recent bio-data with self-attested photocopies of all certificates/documents in support of qualifications and experience, within 2 weeks from the date of advertisement on email: **projectapplication54@gmail.com**

For details, please visit Institute's website: **www.vpci.org.in**. Any further addendum/corrigendum shall be uploaded in the Institute's website only.

CBC 17169/12/0003/2526

Prof. Anuradha Chowdhary
Principal Investigator

छत्तीसगढ़ पर्यावरण संरक्षण मंडल
पर्यावास भवन, सेक्टर-19, नवा रायपुर अटल नगर, जिला- रायपुर (छ.ग.)

// सर्व संबंधित को सूचना //

भारत सरकार, पर्यावरण, वन एवं जलवायु परिवर्तन मंत्रालय द्वारा जारी ई.आई.ए. नोटिफिकेशन, 2006 (यथा- संशोधित) के तहत् सर्व संबंधित को सूचित किया जाता है कि मेसर्स नलवा स्टील एण्ड पॉवर लिमिटेड, ग्राम- पचरी, छोड़िया, अलेसुर, मघईपुर एवं मोतिमपुर खुर्द, तहसील - खरोरा, जिला - रायपुर (छ.ग.) में प्रस्तावित नहरडीह - मघईपुर लाईमस्टोन ब्लॉक ऑफ लाईमस्टोन प्रोडक्शन क्षमता - 1.5 मिलियन टन / वर्ष, टॉपशॉईल क्षमता - 0.075 मिलियन टन / वर्ष, ओवर बर्डन क्षमता - 0.88 मिलियन टन/ वर्ष (टोटल एक्सकवेसन क्षमता - 2.45 मिलियन टन / वर्ष) एलांग विथ मोबाईल क्रशर ऑफ 400 टन / घंटा इन माईन लीज एरिया ऑफ 365.252 हेक्टेयर के पर्यावरणीय स्वीकृति बाबत् **लोक सुनवाई दिनांक 20/05/2025 को प्रातः 11:00 बजे से स्थल - ग्राम मोतिमपुर खुर्द, तहसील - खरोरा, जिला - रायपुर (छ.ग.) स्थित परियोजना के अधिग्रहित रिक्त भूखण्ड खसरा नंबर 45, छड़िया - मघईपुर रोड में नियत की गई थी।** जिसे कार्यालय कलेक्टर एवं जिला दण्डाधिकारी, रायपुर (छ.ग.) का पत्र क्रमांक 28/ अ.जि.द./स्टेनो /2025 रायपुर, दिनांक 15/05/2025 के अनुक्रम में अपरिहार्य कारणों से आगामी आदेश पर्यन्त तक स्थगित किया जाता है।

सदस्य सचिव
छत्तीसगढ़ पर्यावरण संरक्षण मंडल,
नवा रायपुर अटल नगर, रायपुर (छ.ग.)

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

No: KSMSCL/DRUGS/RETND/2022-23 Al/Tab.Azithromycin 500mg/08/2025-26 Dated:19.05.2025

TENDER NOTIFICATION

Ref: 1) Tender Notification No: KSMSCL/DRUGS/RETND/2022-23 Al/Tab.Azithromycin 500mg/08/2025-26, Dated: 19.05.2025 (IND-0235).
2)Tender Notification No: KSMSCL/DRUGS/RETND/PRGM/SBC/ICA/07/2025-26, Dated: 19.05.2025 (IND-0236).

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

1) Re-tender for the supply of Azithromycin Tablets IP 500mg for various Health Institutions across Karnataka under Annual Indent 2022-23 (IND-0235).

2) Re-tender for the supply of Iron Chelating Agents for State Blood Cell Programme under NHM Budget FY 2024-25 (IND-0236).

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 **19.05.2025**. 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.

DIPR/CP/JA/741/2025-26 Sd/- Managing Director

OFFICE OF THE ADDITIONAL CHIEF ENGINEER
WATER RESOURCES ZONE, JAIPUR
Sinchai Bhavan, J.L.N. marg, Malviya Nagar, Jaipur, E.-mail-accjpr.wr@gmail.com

No.-F (378)/ACE/JPR/Acctts/2025-26/ 434 Date: 30/04/2025

e-NIB No -04/2025-26

On behalf of the Governor of Rajasthan, bids are invited from eligible bidders for the work of - Construction of Common Intake for Jaipur, Ajmer and Tonk districts and laying of the raw water main pipeline under the Bisalpur Jaipur water supply project. Stage-II Phase-II (Name of Subwork- Construction of 1000 MLD Intake Pump House for Jaipur and Ajmer Drinking water Supply Project Phase-II at Bisalpur Dam)
Type of Bid- EPC Basis- Single Responsibility Turn-Key project.
Estimated value of work is Rs. **12267.00** Lac.
Last date of submission of Bid is **11/06/2025.** Detailed Bid & Bid document can be seen on & downloaded from official website (http://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in, & http://sppp.raj.nic.in)
NIB Code No.:-WRD2526A0068
UBN No.:- WRD2526WLOB00142

Sd/-
Additional Chief Engineer
WRD, Zone Jaipur

DIPR/C/6200/2025

IN THE HIGH COURT OF DELHI AT NEW DELHI
F.No.649-B/DHC/IT/DA-2/No. 26
Dated: 16.05.25

SHORT TENDER NOTICE

High Court of Delhi is calling quotations from the firms/vendors authorized by OEM for purchase of L-2 Switches, L-3 Switches & its passive network components, Router with 5 years on-site comprehensive warranty and award of AMC of existing 1611 nos. of LAN points, 37 Nos. Rack with power strip, FAN along with one technician to manage these hardwares in High Court of Delhi at New Delhi.

Detailed Tender Notice is available under "Public Notices" column of the official website of High Court of Delhi i.e. "**www.delhihighcourt.nic.in**". Last date for submission of quotation is 06/06/25

Yours Truly,
Sd/- (AJAI KUMAR RANA)
Assistant Registrar (IT)
for Registrar General

Uttar Pradesh Electricity Regulatory Commission
Vidyut Niyamak Bhawan, Vibhuti Khand, Gomti Nagar, Lucknow-226010. Ph: 0522-2720426, Fax: 0522-2720423, E-mail: secretary@uperc.org, Website: www.uperc.org

Ref: UPERC/D(T&S)JD(T)/167-214 Dated: May 19th, 2025

PUBLIC NOTICE

The Commission has framed draft UPERC (Fees & Charges of State Load Despatch Centre and other related matters) Regulations 2025 along with its conspectus, which is available on the Commission's website **www.uperc.org**. The Commission hereby invites written suggestions and/or objection from all stakeholder/public on draft UPERC (Fees & Charges of State Load Despatch Centre and other related matters) Regulations,2025, which may be sent to the Secretary, Uttar Pradesh Electricity Regulatory Commission formally by post or through e-mail at **secretary@uperc.org on or before 12.06.2025.**
The Commission shall hold **"Public Hearing" on 16.06.2025 at 11:00 Hrs** in the office of the Commission. All the suggestions and/or objections received **on or before 12.06.2025** shall be considered by the Commission.

Secretary

Karnataka Renewable Energy Development Limited
(A Government of Karnataka Undertaking)
#6/13/1, 10th Block, 2nd Stage, Nagarabhavi, Bengaluru - 560072. Ph-080-22257399
E-mail:kredlmd@gmail.com

No: KREDL/07/SG-1854/2025-26 Date: 20.05.2025

INVITATION FOR BIDS

Karnataka Renewable Energy Development Limited hereby invites bids for Selection of Solar Power Developer through Tariff Based Competitive Bidding (TBCB) process for establishing grid connected 250MW Solar Plant with 1100 MWhr BESS at Ryapte duly interconnecting to existing 220/66kV KSPDCL Sub Station No: 6 in Pavagada Solar Park, Tumakuru District, Karnataka on "Build-Own-Operate" basis for procurement of Peak Power by ESCOMs. Bid documents will be available in the Bharat Electronic Tender Portal (**https://www.bharat-electronictender.com**) **on or after 22.05.2025.** Details are also available in KREDL website. Further amendments if any, shall only be notified in the portal.

Note: KREDL reserves the right to annul the bidding process and invite fresh bids without liability or obligation for such invitation and without assigning any reasons.

Sd/- Managing Director, KREDL

INDIAN COUNCIL OF AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH
Krishi Bhawan, Dr. Rajendra Prasad Road, New Delhi-110001

Applications are invited for filling up the posts in Legal Cadre on Deputation /Contractual basis in Indian Council of Agricultural Research Hqrs. and its Research Institutes. The application form and detailed terms and conditions may be downloaded from the website:

https://icar.org.in/sites/default/files/Circulars/Vacancy%20Circular_30042025%20%281%29.pdf

CBC 01303/12/0001/2526

NORTH CENTRAL RAILWAY
No.-P/Agra/settlement/Pension Adalat/16 June 2025 Date-19.05.2025

Pension Adalat-June 2025

NOTIFICATION

Pension Adalat to be conducted by North Central Railway, Agra

As per the guidelines issued by Railway Board and HQ office, Prayagraj, Pension Adalat will be organised by Agra Division, North Central Railwey on 16th June 2025 (Monday) at 11:00 o'Clock. The Pensioner / Family pensioners retired wef December 2003 only from Agra division may submit their grievances if any, related to pension or settlement payment in the given format, latest by 05.06.2025 at the following address:-

Address for application	Venue of pension adalat
Sr.Divisional Personnel Officer (settlement) North Central Railwey Agra	Govardhan Meeting Hall, DRM office building North Central Railway Agra (From: 11:00 hrs)

Format of Application:- 01. Name of the applicant :- 02. Name of the Ex. Employee :- 03 Designation & last place of posting :- 04. Relation of the applicant with Ex. Employee :- 05. Present postal address :- 06. Date of retirement :- 07. Nature of retirement (Normal / VR/CR) :- 08.P.P.O. No. (Photocopy to be enclosed) :- 09. Last pay drawn and scale of pay :- 10.Mobile No. and email id :- 11.Grievance in detail :-
Note :- Please mention "Pension Adalat 16 June 2025" on the top of the envelope.

859/25(DG)

North central railways @CPRONCR www.ncr.indianrailways.gov.in

POWER TRANSMISSION CORPORATION OF UTTARAKHAND LTD.
(A Govt. of Uttarakhand Enterprise)
Office of The Chief Engineer (operation & Maintenance) Garhwal Zone, 26-Civil Lines, Roorkee Telephone No.01332-272256, Fax No.01332-272315 Email: ce_oandmg_@ptcul.org

E-TENDER CORRIGENDUM

Shifting of 66 KV Karanprayag - Kothiyalsain Transmission Line from Landslide zone near Nandprayag"againste-tender specification No.CE/GZR-03/2025-26 is hereby extended. The last date of submission of online offline e-tender is **29.05.2025** upto **15:00** hrs which shall be opened on **30.05.2025** at **15:00 hrs**. Details of e-tender can be obtained from e-tender website **www.uktenders.gov.in** and information of e-tender can be seen from PTCUL website **www.ptcul.org**. All other terms and conditions shall remain same. For any assistance one-tendering, please contact on Mb.No.+91-8899890000.

No. 515/CE(O&M)/GZR/Advt. Dated: 19/05/2025 CHIEF ENGINEER (O&M)

"SAVE ELECTRICITY IN THE INTEREST OF NATION"

GOVERNMENT OF NATIONAL CAPITAL TERRIORTY OF DELHI
DEPATMENT OF TRAINING AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION
MUNI MAYA RAM MARG,
PITAMPURA, DELHI-110034
(SECRETARIAT BRANCH)

Applications are hereby invited for the post of Controller of Finance, in Netaji Subhas University of Technology, Delhi in PB-IV(37400-67000) with Grade Pay of Rs.10,000/-(Pre-revised)/ Level-14(as per 7th CPC) on deputation basis. Applicants should be serving Government servant from organized group "A" service viz. Delhi Accounts Service/Indian Civil Accounts Service/ Indian Revenue Service/the Indian Railway Accounts Service/the Indian Defence Accounts/ Indian Audit Accounts. For further details refer **www.tte.delhigovt.nic.in**.

Sd/- **Deputy Director (Sectt. Branch)**
Department of Training and Tech. Education
DIP/Shabdarth/Classified/0050/25-26

Scottie, you beauty!

AFP

LETTING GO! The normally calm Scheffler ferociously slammed his cap to the turf after winning his **third Major (after the 2022 and 2024 Masters)**

$3.42m The prize money Scheffler took home from a $19m purse

3 Dating to 1950, Scheffler is the 3rd-fastest player to go from one to 15 tour wins, behind only Tiger Woods and Jack Nicklaus.

5 Scheffler came into the PGA Championship off an eight-shot victory in the CJ Cup Byron Nelson. And then he won a Major by five. It was the first time since Woods in 2000 that a player won consecutive PGA Tour starts by five shots or more in the same season.

3 Scheffler is also the first player since Seve Ballesteros more than four decades ago to win his first three Majors by at least three shots.

Scheffler had every reason to worry the PGA Championship was slipping away. A 5-shot lead on the front-9 was gone in 4 holes. Jon Rahm was tracking him down. And that's when he showed why he has been golf's No. 1 for two years...

Charlotte: Everything Scottie Scheffler did Sunday was expected.

When the pressure was on, he hit the fairways he needed to hit. He landed the approach shots he needed to land. And, of course, he made clutch putts he needed to make.

It's what everyone has come to depend on from the world's No. 1 player, a fine-tuned, almost mechanical approach to the game. It was all expected, even predictable — right up until the celebration.

That's when Scheffler, in a rare display of pure emotion, took off his hat and slammed it into the green on the 18th hole after winning the PGA Championship by five shots over Bryson DeChambeau, Harry English and Davis Riley at Quail Hollow. Jon Rahm finished tied-8th after losing 5 strokes on the last three holes for his 73.

He followed with a hard slap of hands with his caddie and a quick hug, reminiscent of a hoopster enjoying a high-flying dunk. A short while later Scheffler was asked to hoist the 27-pound Wanamaker Trophy and he thrust it so hard in the air that the top started to fly off.

So much for Scottie Scheffler being a robot.

The raw emotion he displayed Sunday reflects the burning competitiveness that resides within his built-for-golf 6-foot-3, 200-pound frame.

When asked afterward if he views himself as having a competitive fire, Scheffler laughed and said, "Yeah."

The calm, even-keeled demeanour on the course has often overshadowed hidden that part of him, that burning fire within that has driven the Texan to greatness. Scheffler has never been known as being intense.

Even when he was falsely arrested at last year's PGA Championship at Valhalla, he didn't lash out at the police. He accepted what happened as a misunderstanding in the heat of a very confusing moment — in a situation in which other athletes might have fiercely sought to protect their image.

That's why the ferocity with which he spiked his hat on 18, and the intense facial expressions stood out. Maybe it was the culmination of battling back from puncturing the palm in his right hand while making ravioli last Christmas.

One thing for sure, Sunday wasn't par for the course for Scheffler.

He didn't swing the club all that well for the first 2 1/2 days in Charlotte. But he played the back nine on Saturday and Sunday just about as well as anyone has.

On Saturday, Scheffler went 5-under par on the final five holes to take control of the tournament and carried a three-shot lead into the final round. Most probably thought it was over. But Scheffler struggled with his swing and made three uncharacteristic bogeys on the front nine Sunday, allowing two-time major champion Jon Rahm to pull into a tie at 9 under.

It didn't last long.

By the time he walked up the 18th fairway he was leading by six shots before closing with a safe bogey on the 18th for the five-shot win. "The last five holes (Saturday), that's where I really kind of put myself ahead in the tournament," Scheffler said. AP

> "Finishing off a Major is always difficult. This back nine will be one that I remember for a long time. It was a grind out there. (I feel) just a lot of happiness. Just maybe thankful as well. I felt like this was as hard as I battled for a tournament in my career." —Scheffler

AFP

Like Rory, winner's driver didn't pass inspection

For all the attention Rory McIlroy received for his driver failing to pass inspection, Scheffler added a surprising wrinkle after he won. His driver failed the test, too. It added to context badly missing in the original report. The PGA of America said it routinely and randomly asks the USGA to test driver heads to make sure the constant shots have not made the faces too thin to exceed limits of a trampoline effect.

> "Am I embarrassed a little bit about how I finished today? Yeah. But I just need to get over it. It's not the end of the world. The only times I think I've been in the lead in a Major on a Sunday, I've been able to close it out, and this is a very different situation." Jon Rahm, FORMER WORLD NO.1, TWO-TIME MAJOR WINNER

MCILROY EXITS, OVER PAR AND UNDERWHELMED

Rory McIlroy left the PGA Championship without a single word to the media, leaving the golf world none the wiser as to the details of the reported failure of his driver to pass a conforming test. It was the first time veteran British and Irish reporters could remember McIlroy remaining silent after all four rounds.His body language did the talking en route to a 1-over-par 72. He departed the premises within minutes of signing for a 3-over 287 total for T-47th. It was a far cry from the scenes at Augusta only five weeks ago. REUTERS

72-72 It was Rory's lowest 72-hole finish in 4 years in the Majors.

Villarreal loss dampens Barca party; Mbappe takes tally to 29

Reuters

SPOILS OF THE SEASON: Barcelona players pose with the Copa del Rey, LaLiga and the Supercopa de Espana trophies on Sunday

Madrid: Villarreal dampened Barcelona's title celebrations by handing the Catalan club its first defeat of 2025 in the Spanish league on Sunday.

Barcelona, who clinched their 28th league title midweek, presented the trophy to their fans in the team's final home match of the season at Montjuic stadium. Players were announced one by one after the game, that Villarreal won 3-2, before lifting the trophy.

"We can be proud of this team for winning these titles and for how it did it," Barcelona goalkeeper Marc-Andre ter Stegen said. "We had a great season."

LA LIGA

Real Madrid won 2-0 at nine-man Sevilla, with Kylian Mbappe extending his league-leading tally to 29 goals with one round to go. Jude Bellingham also scored. Madrid reached 81 points, four fewer than Barcelona.

Villarreal's victory secured their return to the Champions League for the first time since reaching the semifinals in 2022. They will join Barcelona, Madrid, Atletico Madrid and Athletic Bilbao in Champions League next season. Real Betis clinched one of the Europa League spots. Celta Vigo, Rayo Vallecano and Osasuna will be chasing the final Europa League place and the Conference League spot.

Leganes and Espanyol will try to avoid the last relegation spot in the final round.

All 10 games were played at the same time on Sunday.

Ayoze Perez put Villarreal ahead four minutes into the match. The hosts equalized when Lamine Yamal scored with yet another beautiful goal, curling in a left-footed shot from outside the area.

Fermin Lopez put Barcelona ahead, but Santiago Comesana scored for Villarreal and Tajon Buchanan netted the winner.

It was likely the last match Barcelona played at Montjuic stadium. AP

LINEKER TO STEP DOWN FROM BBC AFTER OUTCRY OVER SOCIAL MEDIA POST

London: Gary Lineker, the former England soccer player and now a media celebrity, will leave his role as a BBC presenter after facing criticism for reposting an Instagram story about Zionism which featured a picture of a rat. Lineker said on Monday he would depart after Sunday's final matches of the season. He apologised 'unreservedly' after sharing online material that criticised Zionism and featured a picture of a rat, historically used as an insult against Jews.

OSIMHEN GUIDES GALATASARAY TO 25TH TURKISH LEAGUE TITLE

Istanbul: Victor Osimhen scored to help Galatasaray claim their 25th Turkish league title on Sunday, consigning Jose Mourinho's Fenerbahce to the runners-up spot for the fourth straight season. Galatasaray swept aside Kayserispor 3-0 with Osimhen opening the scoring to move eight points clear of Fenerbahce with two rounds remaining. Galatasaray goalkeeper Fernando Muslera scored a late penalty to wrap up the win.

Serie A: Napoli, Inter Milan coaches to miss title-deciders

Milan: A quarter of Serie A coaches will be missing from the dugout for their teams' final matches of the season, including title hopefuls Antonio Conte and Simone Inzaghi.

Napoli coach Conte and Inter Milan counterpart Inzaghi will have to watch from the stands as their teams fight for the Serie A title on Friday.

Napoli have a one-point lead over Inter and hosts Cagliari in the final round, while defending champion Inter visits Como. If they finish level on points, a playoff will be needed to decide the destination of the league title.

Conte was dismissed in the final minute of Napoli's 0-0 draw at Parma on Sunday after he angrily confronted the opposition bench. Parma coach Cristian Chivu was also sent off for his reaction.

Inzaghi and Lazio coach Marco Baroni were shown red cards two minutes from the end of Inter's 2-2 draw against Lazio for dissent.

AC Milan coach Sergio Conceicao was also dismissed right at the end of his side's 3-1 loss at Roma and will miss what could be his last match in charge.

The Lega Serie A confirmed on Monday that all five coaches have been handed a one-match ban. All of them apart from Chivu have also been fined 5,000 euros ($5,600). AP

GALLERY

Alcaraz expects French Open threat from Sinner

Rome: Carlos Alcaraz won the Italian Open on Sunday after beating Jannik Sinner in straight sets but expects his rival to be "really dangerous" at Roland Garros as he steps up his return from a three-month doping ban. "The level he has played in this tournament is insane after three months without playing, without any tournament," said Alcaraz. "I mean, what he has done, it's amazing. I mean, it's something that I have to have respect on that," he added.

Ghorpade-Chitale pair enters pre-quarters: Indian women's doubles pair of Yashaswini Ghorpade and Diya Chitale advanced to pre-quarters but their compatriots Sutirtha Mukherjee and Ayhika Mukherjee were knocked out of the World Table Tennis Championships in Doha on Monday. Chitale and Ghorpade beat the Singaporean duo of Zeng Jian and Ser Lin Qian 6-11, 11-6, 11-6, 11-9 in their round-of-32 clash.

Narang says Neeraj free to push his limits: The 90-metre "mental barrier" broken, Neeraj Chopra will now strive to push the limits to attempt tasks that were previously considered out of reach, said Olympic medallist shooter Gagan Narang. "The monkey is off his back and he is now free to push his limits," Narang said.

Diksha finishes tied-9th at Dutch Ladies: Indian golfer Diksha Dagar came up with steady 71 in the final round to finish tied-9th with an overall score of 4-under 212 in the Dutch Ladies Open, a part of the Ladies European Tour,in Hilversum.

Stokes quits alcohol to aid injury rehabilitation: England's Test captain Ben Stokes has quit drinking alcohol during his ongoing hamstring injury rehabilitation in an effort to be battle-ready for the Ashes series against Australia. "I've not had a drink since Jan 2. Not until I finish my rehab," he said. AGENCIES

BATTLE OF THE LAGGARDS

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Rajesh Mehta

MS Dhoni bats at the nets on Monday

New Delhi: As the IPL's long summer winds towards its conclusion, the Arun Jaitley Stadium is set to host a face-off between two storied but struggling franchises, Chennai Super Kings and Rajasthan Royals.

The match on Tuesday evening may lack playoff implications, with both teams languishing at the foot of the table, but pride, future prospects, and the desire to end on a high note remain potent motivators for both sides.

Chennai Super Kings, five-time champions and perennial heavyweights, have endured a rare bad season. With only three wins from 12 matches, their campaign has been defined by a revolving door of personnel and the absence of performance from their overseas stars.

The team's traditional reliance on experienced players, often dubbed the 'dad's army', has come under scrutiny this season. Despite the team's struggles, head coach Stephen Fleming has reiterated his commitment to this philosophy, emphasizing the value of experience over age.

"I don't care how old the players are. The experience has served us really well over the grand years that we have had. It hasn't worked out quite well for us this year. The fact that we have been so consistent over a number of years to have a poor year has shaken everybody. It is understandable given the excellence in which the franchises are operating," Fleming said.

"I am a fan of experience, experience wins tournaments. But the youth and talent in this country is something you can't ignore," he added.

Despite Fleming's words, it's a group of youngsters who have shone for CSK this season. Ayush Mhatre and Dewald Brevis have displayed potential and hold the promise for delivering for the franchise in coming seasons.

In the bowling front, the emergence of Noor Ahmad has been a silver lining. The young Afghan spinner has impressed with his wicket-taking abilities and economy rate. Alongside him, Matheesha Pathirana has shown promise. Overall, though, CSK's bowling unit has lacked consistency.

For Rajasthan Royals, this fixture marks the end of a disappointing campaign. Injuries, inconsistency, and the absence of key overseas stars have left them ninth on the points table, with just three wins, a record matched only by their opponents. CSK are 10th by virtue of a lower net run-rate.

The Royals' most recent heartbreak came in a narrow 10-run loss to Punjab Kings, a result emblematic of their season — flashes of brilliance undermined by lapses under pressure. Yashasvi Jaiswal and Vaibhav Sooryavanshi have been the bright spots, with their 166-run stand against Gujarat Titans earlier this season highlighting their potential. Jaiswal has been a consistent force, blending aggression with composure. Sooryavanshi, the teen wonder, has shown flashes of brilliance, and the match against CSK offers him another chance to cement his reputation on the big stage.

FACE-OFF

CSK vs RR

TV TIME: 7.30PM

STAR SPORTS

JIOSTAR

HEAD TO HEAD

CSK	RR
16	14

LAST FIVE MATCHES

CSK	W	L	L	L	L
RR	L	L	L	W	L

VENUE: DELHI

WEATHER 29°C

ODDS

CSK	RR
7/10	11/10

1 CSK's Ravindra Jadeja is the only bowler to produce two four-wicket hauls vs Rajasthan Royals in the history of the IPL.

Stats: Rajesh Kumar

Sindhu & Prannoy look for turnaround

Kuala Lumpur: Indian shuttlers **P V Sindhu** and H S Prannoy will look to script a turnaround in fortunes when they lead the country's campaign at the $ 475,000 Malaysia Masters Super 500 tournament beginning here on Tuesday.

Both Sindhu and Prannoy have endured a tough phase of late, struggling with form and fitness. The duo lost their respective matches against Indonesia and Denmark in the Sudirman Cup last month. With a two-week break under their belt, the experienced shuttlers will now be eager to rediscover their rhythm at the Axiata Arena.

MALAYSIA MASTERS

Two-time Olympic medallist Sindhu, currently ranked world number 16, will open her campaign against Japan's Natsuki Nidaira, ranked 20th in the world. Prannoy, who has slipped to world number 35, faces a tough opener against fifth seed Kenta Nishimoto of Japan.

In women's singles, 2024 Hylo Open runner-up Malvika Bansod will take on Chiu Pin-Chian of Chinese Taipei, while Unnati Hooda — a semifinalist at the Taipei Open Super 300 — will face compatriot Lin Hsiang Ti. Aakarshi Kashyap has drawn eighth seed Putri Kusuma Wardani of Indonesia.

In men's singles, Sathish Karunakaran will take on top seed Anders Antonsen of Denmark. World junior championships bronze medallist Ayush Shetty will face Canada's Brian Yang, while Priyanshu Rajawat opens against Singapore's Jia Jason Teh.

In mixed doubles, world number 19 Dhruv Kapila and Tanisha Crasto will face a qualifier. Rohan Kapoor and Ruthvika Shivani Gadde will begin against Chinese pair Guo Xin Wa and Chen Fang Hui. PTI

Sudharsan shines with bat and belief

Gujarat Titans' southpaw opener Sai Sudharsan, the current Orange Cap holder in the IPL with 617 runs, is being hailed as the next big thing in Indian cricket. Yet, there's an amusing backstory to his journey — he was a product of the Chennai Super Kings academy, the Junior Super Kings. Mentored by Ambati Rayudu in his early days, Sudharsan's rise includes a curious case: His IPL contract in 2022 was worth Rs 20 lakh, less than the sum he was picked up for by TNPL franchise Lyca Kovai Kings. In fact, he was the highest-paid player in the TNPL that year at Rs 21.60 lakh.

His 362 runs in his second IPL season in 2023 included a breathtaking 96 in the final—ironically, against CSK. The fastest Indian to reach 1,000 IPL runs, Sudharsan was retained by Gujarat Titans at the same Rs 20 lakh price tag in 2024. That season, he logged 527 runs. The Titans retained him for Rs 8.6 crore ahead of the latest auction.

Despite his impressive numbers, Sudharsan remains focused on growth. "There's a bit of joy when you finish games for the team," Sudharsan told the broadcasters on Sunday after scoring a century against DC. "During the break we got (post Operation Sindoor), I was thinking about finishing games a bit more."

Sudharsan believes his mental strength is what's evolved most over the last few seasons, enabling him to bat with more freedom. TNN

Fleming says no to full reset of CSK

Coach Stresses Young Blood, Old Guard Must Co-Exist

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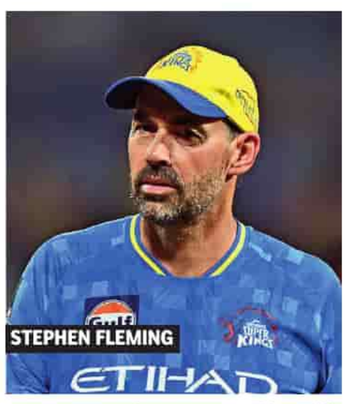

New Delhi: After a season that has left Chennai Super Kings' loyal fanbase stunned, head coach Stephen Fleming stands at a crossroads, needing to make important choices for the future of the franchise.

The IPL-2025 campaign has been, by CSK's own lofty standards, a disaster: just three wins in 12 games, a bottom-of-the-table finish looming and the 'Dad's Army' philosophy — so often their secret weapon — suddenly under siege.

Yet, as Fleming surveys the wreckage, his vision for the franchise's future remains as nuanced and steadfast as ever, rooted in a belief in experience, but now increasingly open to the promise of youth.

Fleming's coaching style has been defined by calm, clarity and continuity. The former New Zealand captain is not one for knee-jerk reactions or sweeping changes, even in the face of adversity. This philosophy of trusting seasoned campaigners to deliver under pressure has been the backbone of CSK's five IPL titles and 12 playoff appearances.

However, the 2025 season has forced Fleming and CSK's management to confront uncomfortable truths. The collective failure of senior players — Devon Conway, Vijay Shankar, Rahul Tripathi, R Ashwin, Deepak Hooda and the talismanic MS Dhoni among them — left the team off the pace early in the season. Injuries and loss of form exposed the limitations of relying solely on the old guard.

Fleming, ever pragmatic, acknowledged the need for introspection. "The challenge for us now is to make sure out of this that we do go over everything that we are doing now and have done in the past, to make sure we are keeping up with the philosophies (of the team), but also identify talent for the future," the New Zealander said.

This season, perhaps more than any other, has compelled Fleming to accelerate CSK's gradual transition. The introduction of young, swashbuckling batters like Ayush Mhatre and Dewald Brevis, as well as Afghan leggie Noor Ahmad, has not just been a necessity but a glimpse into the franchise's future.

Fleming's assessment of the impact the youngsters have had was unequivocal. "They have certainly had an impact, which is positive from a season that has been a challenge. But, we realised early on that we were off pace. So, to be able to introduce these players.... they are definitely in line for the future as we regenerate the team and redevelop or reconfirm our philosophy of how we want to play," Fleming said, signaling a willingness to evolve without abandoning the core principles.

"It's one thing to say we want a team full of young players, but you've got to find them. So, it's identifying talent and making sure they fit in. My point has always been a mixture of youth and experience."

Thunder, Knicks, Wolves & Pacers eye title glory

The parity era continues in the NBA. The New York Knicks haven't won an NBA championship since 1973. The Indiana Pacers won their most recent title that year — in the ABA. The Oklahoma City Thunder franchise has one title in its history, that coming in 1979 when the team called Seattle home. And the Minnesota Timberwolves have never even been to the NBA Finals.

NBA FINALS

Meet the NBA's final four.

When Commissioner Adam Silver hands one of those teams the Larry O'Brien Trophy next month, it'll mark a league first — seven championship franchises in a seven-year span. There hasn't been a back-to-back NBA champion since Golden State in 2017 and 2018. From there, the list of champions goes like this: Toronto in 2019, the Los Angeles Lakers in 2020, Milwaukee in 2021, Golden State in 2022, Denver in 2023 and Boston last season.

It's the longest such run of different champions in NBA history; Major League Baseball, the NHL and the NFL have all had longer ones. But for the NBA, this is different. The league wanted unpredictability, especially after four consecutive Cleveland-vs.-Golden State title matchups from 2015 through 2018.

And things have been highly unpredictable since. No matter what the Finals matchup is this year, the NBA will be seeing 11 conference-champion franchises in the span of seven seasons. "We've still got eight more wins to achieve our ultimate goal," Minnesota coach Chris Finch said. "We've still got two more series. We're only halfway there."

The season is over for 26 of the NBA's 30 clubs. Conference finals start TuesdayThe Western Conference finals — No. 6 seed Minnesota vs. No. 1 seed Oklahoma City — begin Tuesday night in Oklahoma. AP

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THE TIMES OF INDIA, NEW DELHI | TUESDAY, MAY 20, 2025

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OPENING STATEMENT

Abhishek Sharma's 20-ball 59 At The Top Of The Order Sets Up SRH Win, Knocks Out LSG

Sunil Kumar

295 Abhishek Sharma's strike rate while scoring 59 off 20 balls, his highest in an innings of 50-plus in the IPL. This was his second half-century vs LSG and his ninth IPL fifty.

Lucknow: Abhishek Sharma smashed half a dozen sixes in his 20-ball 59 to ensure a convincing six-wicket win for Sunrisers Hyderabad (SRH) which knocked Lucknow Super Giants (LSG) out of the IPL playoffs race here on Monday.

For LSG, Mitchell Marsh (65 off 39) and Aiden Markram (61 off 38) struck high quality fifties before SRH stemmed the flow of runs to limit the hosts to 205/7. In the absence of his unwell opening partner Travis Head, Abhishek took the onus on himself to provide a perfect launch pad before Heinrich Klaasen (47 off 28) and Kamindu Mendis (32 off 21) calmly did the rest.

SRH were already out of the competition and LSG needed a win on Monday night to stay alive. The loss marked an ordinary season for LSG and their new captain Rishabh Pant, who could not live up to his record Rs 27 crore price tag.

Both LSG and SRH still have two more games to play this season. The highlight of SRH's run chase was Abhishek milking leg-spinner Ravi Bishnoi for four consecutive sixes, with three of them coming down the ground. In the bowling department, the sole bright spot for LSG was leg-spinner Digvesh Rathi, who has had a stellar debut season.

Heated exchange

When Rathi had Abhishek caught in the deep in the eighth over, his trademark notebook celebration followed, but seconds later the two found themselves in a heated exchange that prompted quick intervention from the umpires.

Earlier, Marsh and Markram were simply sublime in the powerplay, taking LSG to 69 for no loss. Marsh began with a crisp pull for a six off his Australian captain Pat Cummins while Markram targeted the straight boundary against debutant left-arm spinner Harsh Dubey in second over of the innings.

Dubey, a record wicket-taker in the latest Ranji Trophy season, was introduced rather early and the LSG openers made a conscious effort to target the rookie. Marsh cleared his left leg to dispatch Dubey for a six over long-on in the second ball of his opening over before Markram collected his first maximum of the match with another straight off the left-arm spinner in his following over.

Markram was dropped in the ninth over, making life tougher for the visiting team. But SRH finally got the breakthrough in the 11th over when Dubey returned to have Marsh caught at short third man, giving the 22-year-old his maiden IPL wicket. Rishabh Pant came in ahead of Nicholas Pooran but once again struggled before offering a catch to pacer Eshan Malinga. PTI

12.27 Rishabh Pant's average while aggregating 135 runs in 11 innings, the worst by an Indian captain (among batters from No. 1-7) in an IPL season (minimum 8 inn).

117 Matches taken by Harshal Patel to get to 150 IPL wickets, the quickest among Indians and the second quickest overall behind Lasith Malinga's 105 matches.

65 Mitchell Marsh's eighth IPL fifty is his third in succession vs SRH — 63 in Delhi on April 29, 2023, 52 in Hyderabad on March 27 and 65 in Lucknow on May 19 (both in 2025).

443 Marsh's run-aggregate at 40.27, including 5 fifties in 11 innings, is his first instance of scoring 400-plus in an IPL season.

455 Runs tally at an average of 41.36 in 12 innings by Nicholas Pooran, the highest by an LSG batter this season.

—**Stats:** Rajesh Kumar

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HOW THEY STAND

TEAM	M	W	L	NR	NRR	PTS
GT	12	9	3	0	0.795	18
RCB	12	8	3	1	0.482	17
PBKS	12	8	3	1	0.389	17
MI	12	7	5	0	1.156	14
DC	12	6	5	1	0.260	13
KKR	13	5	6	2	0.193	12
LSG	12	5	7	0	-0.506	10
SRH	12	4	7	1	-1.005	9
RR	13	3	10	0	-0.701	6
CSK	12	3	9	0	-0.992	6

SCOREBOARD

LSG: M Marsh c Malinga b Dubey 65, A Markram b Patel 61, R Pant c & b Malinga 7, N Pooran run out 45, A Badoni c Reddy b Malinga 3, A Samad b Reddy 3, S Thakur run out 4, R Bishnoi not out 0, A Deep not out 6; **Extras (nb2, w9): 11; Total (20 ov; RR: 10.25): 205/7; FoW:** 1-115, 2-124, 3-159, 4-169, 5-194, 6-199, 7-199; **Bowling:** Pat Cummins 4-0-34-0, Harsh Dubey 4-0-44-1, Harshal Patel 4-0-49-1, Eshan Malinga 4-0-28-2, Zeeshan Ansari 2-0-22-0, Nitish Kumar Reddy 2-0-28-1

SRH: A Taide c Rathi b O'Rourke 13, A Sharma c Thakur b Rathi 59, I Kishan b Rathi 35, H Klaasen c Pant b Thakur 47, K Mendis retired hurt 32, A Verma not out 5, NK Reddy not out 5; **Extras (lb1, w9): 10; Total (18.2 ov; RR: 11.23): 206/4; FoW:** 1-17, 2-99, 3-140, 4-195, 4-197* (retired out); **Bowling:** Akash Deep 3-0-33-0, Will O'Rourke 2.2-0-31-1, Digvesh Rathi 4-0-37-2, Avesh Khan 3-0-25-0, Ravi Bishnoi 1-0-26-0, Aiden Markram 1-0-14-0, Shardul Thakur 4-0-39-1

Result: **SRH won by 6 wickets** (with 10 balls remaining)

BCCI denies reports India will snub ACC, boycott Asia Cup

Gaurav.Gupta@timesofindia.com

Mumbai: Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) secretary Devajit Saikia has denied a media report claiming the BCCI has decided to withdraw from all tournaments organized by the Asian Cricket Council (ACC) in an attempt to isolate Pakistan amid rising tensions.

In a statement to **TOI** on Monday, Saikia said: "Since this morning, it has come to our notice that some news items are circulating about the BCCI's decision not to participate in the Asia Cup and the Women's Emerging Teams Asia Cup, both ACC events. Such news is devoid of any truth, as the BCCI has neither discussed nor taken any such step regarding upcoming ACC events, let alone communicated anything to the ACC.

"At this stage, our prime focus is on the ongoing IPL and the subsequent England series, both for the men's and women's teams. The Asia Cup or any other ACC event has not come up for discussion at any level. Hence, any such reports are purely speculative and imaginary.

"It may be said that if and when any discussion on ACC events takes place and any important decision is reached, the same will be announced through the media."

Sections of the media had claimed BCCI had already informed the ACC of its decision to withdraw from the Women's Emerging Teams Asia Cup, scheduled to be held next month in Sri Lanka, and the Men's Asia Cup, scheduled in Sept with India as designated host.

Reports also claimed that a key reason behind the alleged move was the ACC being currently chaired by Mohsin Naqvi, the Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB) chairman who is also the interior minister of Pakistan. India is expected to host the Men's Asia Cup in Sept, but the tournament's status could come under doubt if India were to withdraw.

The tournament will lose its significance without an India–Pakistan clash. In 2024, Sony Pictures Networks India (SPNI) secured media rights for the Asia Cup in a deal worth $170 million over the next eight years, a figure that underscores the commercial importance of matches between India and Pakistan.

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MORE STARS MORE SAVINGS

No restoration of normalcy with Pak in near future: FS

Subodh Ghildiyal & Akhilesh Singh | TNN

Indian Army soldiers during a drill along the LoC in Kashmir on Monday

New Delhi: Foreign secretary Vikram Misri, during a meeting of the parliamentary committee on foreign affairs, categorically stated that the call for pause in Indo-Pakistan hostilities was taken after DGMO-to-DGMO talks, rebutting Trump's claims about brokering the end of hostilities on May 10 — the subject making for animated questions from MPs, who questioned why did the govt allow Trump to take centre stage and did not officially contradict his claims.

Misri is learnt to have added that Trump made his claims about "ceasefire" on social media, and not through any official channel, where India could have put its point across. At the same time, the top official underlined that Trump had since modified his statement on "mediation" by toning it down to "help". MEA also said no other country has any locus standi to comment on issues of J&K.

Significantly, the over two-hour-long in-camera session saw the foreign secretary ruling out restoration of normalcy with Pakistan in near future.

Questioned repeatedly, Misri informed panel members that Pakistan's DGMO Maj Gen Kashif Abdullah made the first attempt to establish contact with his Indian counterpart at 9.15 am on May 10. However, Indian DGMO Lt Gen Rajiv Ghai was by that time in a huddle with top officials and could not take the call. Shortly afterwards, officials from the Pakistan high commission reached out to MEA to inform it of the Pakistani DGMO's attempt to reach Ghai, after which the two had a brief, first, conversation at 1.15 pm. The first round in which the Pakistan DGMO conveyed willingness to cease hostilities was followed by a formal conversation at 3.30 pm, leading to an understanding on the pause.

The timeline provided by foreign secretary corroborated the report previously published by **TOI** in this regard.

The parliamentary panel is headed by Congress MP Shashi Tharoor and comprises Ravi Shankar Prasad, Asaduddin Owaisi, Sudhanshu Trivedi Abhishek Banerjee, Sagarika Ghose, Rajeev Shukla, John Brittas, Aparajita Sarangi, AD Singh, Deepender Singh Hooda. A record 24 members, including the chairperson, attended the meet.

Misri also told the panel that the conflict had completely remained in the conventional domain, and there was no nuclear signalling from Pakistan, sources said — a contradiction of the reports that Pakistan had brandished nuclear threat during the face-off, with some even claiming that the threat had led to the US to intervene.

To questions about Pakistan using Chinese weapons, Misri said India had hammered nine Pakistani air bases, and the platforms Pakistan used to launch weapons were immaterial.

The meeting witnessed a lot of queries about Turkiye coming out in support of Pakistan, with a senior member stating that India had old relations with Turkey. But Misri responded that Turkiye had traditionally not been a supporter of India. He also denied that India was diplomatically isolated during the conflict.

Meanwhile, MEA told MPs that Pakistan has been making "baseless allegations" of India sponsoring terrorism and carrying out extra-judicial killings in Pakistan. "These allegations are intended to draw a false equivalence between India and Pakistan as both being victims of cross-border terrorism, which was not the case. Pakistan's track record as a terror sanctuary is well-established and rooted in solid facts and evidence," it said.

Misri denied that foreign minister S Jaishankar had informed Pakistan about India's attack, as has been made out from his video comment. He said the minister was referring to just after the first phase of 'Operation Sindoor' when India had carried out attacks on Pakistan terror bases.

Parl panel condemns online attacks against Misri

New Delhi: Parliament's standing committee on external affairs Monday unanimously expressed solidarity with foreign secretary **Vikram Misri** and condemned his trolling along with his daughter and praised him for his professional conduct. The panel, chaired by MP Shashi Tharoor, wanted to pass a resolution but was requested by Misri not to do so, sources said.

The members also unanimously applauded Misri, Colonel Sofia Qureshi and Wing Commander Vyomika Singh, as well as DGMO Lt Gen Rajiv Ghai, Air Marshal A K Bharti and Admiral A N Pramod for effective communication through the military campaign.

After the three-hour meet attended by a record 24 members, Tharoor told reporters that the panel unanimously expressed solidarity with Misri in the face of "unwarranted attacks" he had faced online. TNN

130mm rainfall in 12 hours brings B'luru to its knees

3 Dead, 500 Homes Flooded, 20+ Lakes Overflow

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

ANI

Cops use an earthmover to evacuate people in Bengaluru on Monday

Bengaluru: Battered by 130mm rainfall in about 12 hours from Sunday evening till dawn on Monday, Bengaluru is scrambling to count its losses: Three dead, 500 homes flooded, 20-plus lakes ready to overflow, dozens of streets in tony areas reduced to waterways, flooded underpasses and flyovers closed to traffic, vehicular movement suffering miles-long disruption for hours and public bus services sputtering to a halt in several areas of the city.

Heavy rain—triggered by convergence of two low-pressure systems and accompanied by intense thunderstorms—pounded south, north and eastern parts of the city. IMD has forecast more heavy rainfall for the next five days.

As distraught citizens picked up the pieces to start a fresh week, Greater Bengaluru Municipal Corporation chief commissioner Maheshwar Rao termed it the second-highest rainfall in a decade and said, "Sometimes, things get out of hand — we are working on it."

Shashikala D, 32, working as a sweeper in a private company in Whitefield, died after the compound wall of the building that housed their office collapsed. A 63-year-old man and 12-year-old boy were electrocuted when they tried to pump out water from the portico in their south Bengaluru house. Several tech corridors in South Bengaluru, including Koramangala, BTM Layout, HSR Layout and Marathahalli came to a standstill due to flooding.

"Deeply concerned by rain havoc and I've been in constant touch with officers. The issues we face today have been ignored for years, across govts and administrations. The only difference now is we are working to solve them. Not with temporary fixes but with long-term, sustainable solutions," said deputy CM and city's development minister DK Shivakumar.

TMC: Not for govt to decide on delegates unilaterally

▶Continued from P 1

West Bengal chief minister **Mamata Banerjee** said while Trinamool Congress's parliamentary party is informed, the parent party remains in the dark. "The parliamentary party functions only when the house is in session; it cannot take policy decisions," she said.

Trinamool national general secretary Abhishek Banerjee echoed the Bengal CM's stand, saying the party supports all measures to safeguard sovereignty and fight terrorism, but demanded respect for party authority in such matters.

"We stand with the Centre in any decision aimed at curbing terrorism and protecting national sovereignty. But selecting a delegation member without consulting the party is unacceptable," the Diamond Harbour Lok Sabha MP said before heading to New Delhi for a standing committee meeting on external affairs. "The party nominated me to this committee. The Centre cannot decide unilaterally who will represent which political party."

Calling for inclusive discussions, Abhishek said: "The Centre should have invited us to nominate representatives. We would have complied. But how can they decide? These MPs were elected on Trinamool's symbol." He rejected any notion of non-cooperation. "I am putting this on record—Trinamool has not politicised this issue. Some in the governing dispensation and a few opposition parties have. I condemn that. There is no place for politics when the country is at stake," he added.

EAM's silence on planes India 'lost' damning: Rahul

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi: Rahul Gandhi Monday launched a fresh attack on EAM S Jaishankar, saying his silence on number of aircraft India "lost" after Pakistan was "informed" about the military action under 'Operation Sindoor' is "damning".

The Congress neta made the fresh remarks even though the MEA had Saturday refuted his charge that Jaishankar had "informed" Pakistan about targeting of terror infrastructure as part of the operation.

"EAM Jaishankar's silence isn't just telling—it's damning. So, I'll ask again: How many Indian aircraft did we lose because Pakistan knew? This wasn't a lapse. It was a crime. And, the nation deserves the truth," Rahul said on X.

At presser, Congress spokesperson Pawan Khera said, "If we have forewarned Pakistan, then most of the terrorists must have escaped. Why did we allow that? The PM and the minister must open their mouths and come out clean," he said.

Rahul also reposted on X his Saturday post that has an undated clip of Jaishankar and the Congress neta saying, "Informing Pakistan at the start of our attack was a crime. EAM has publicly admitted that GoI did it." "Who authorised it? How many aircraft did our air force lose as a result," he had asked.

In a statement, MEA had said the minister had "stated that we had warned Pakistan at the start, which is clearly the early phase after 'Operation Sindoor's' commencement". "This is being falsely represented as being before the commencement. This utter misrepresentation of facts is being called out," it had said.

Rahul speaking Pak language, daftness is sinister: BJP

BJP Monday accused Rahul Gandhi of speaking the "language of Pakistan" and questioned if his party was serious about supporting the nation. This came after Rahul attacked EAM S Jaishankar for his silence on number of fighter jets India "lost" after Pakistan was "informed" about military action under 'Op Sindoor,' calling it "damning."

"Rahul Gandhi's daftness is sinister. He is speaking the language of Pakistan" and should stop "distorting facts," BJP IT head Amit Malviya said on X. "For India's benefit and to expose the LoP's intent, I repost DGMO Lt Gen Rajiv Ghai's statement dated 11.05.2025 — '...we tried to communicate our need to strike terror to my counterpart right after 'Operation Sindoor,' but the request was brusquely turned down with a warning of severe response. We were prepared...'," Malviya said.

He added Lt Gen Ghai's remarks align with the EAM's — India warned Pakistan early during 'Op Sindoor.' "This is being misrepresented as if warning came before the operation began," he said. TNN

Centre rejects Mufti's objection to deployment of veterans in J&K

Srinagar: Union govt has rejected PDP chief Mehbooba Mufti's objection to J&K govt approving the mobilisation of 4,000 ex-servicemen to guard vital infrastructure across the UT, saying retired Army personnel are highly trained and in the best position to carry out this task, reports **Naseer Ganai**. Mehbooba had asked the J&K govt to rethink the initiative and recruit locals instead.

In a letter to CM Omar Abdullah, Mehbooba said while the service of military veterans is respected, static guard duties do not require military expertise and could be effectively handled by trained local youth. "Such employment could be a vital lifeline for educated but jobless youth in J&K. Prioritising retired servicemen, many of whom already receive pensions, over unemployed young people risks deepening the sense of alienation," Mehbooba's letter read.

Governing National Conference said the issue was beyond the UT govt's jurisdiction.

BJP spokesman Arun Gupta rejected Mufti's opposition. He said Army has shaped these men into highly capable soldiers trained to meet any eventuality. "We are extremely fortunate as a nation to have such manpower at our disposal. We must recognise the unmatched training and discipline these personnel possess. Their deployment in sensitive civil installations is not just logical, it's essential. Security today is not about hardware alone; it's about the right people with the right experience." Gupta also said the initiative wasn't rolled out overnight. "It took three years of careful planning, clearances, and evaluation. Govt has acted with deliberation and responsibility. The outcome reflects a strategic approach," he said.

UK prof accused of speeches that 'target' India

▶Continued from P 1

Know that arresting academics in India for speaking against hate is closely tied to removing access to country and family for academics outside India," British Kashmiri professor Kaul said.

Under CI rules stipulated by high commission of India in London, the govt of India can cancel an OCI registration of any individual on certain specific grounds including "if it is satisfied... the overseas citizen of India has shown disaffection towards the Constitution of India as established by law".

In an excerpt of the cancellation document purportedly received from the govt of India, Kaul has been accused of "numerous inimical writings, speeches and journalistic activities at various international forums and on social media platforms" that target "India and its institutions on the matters of India's sovereignty". PTI

3 more arrested for 'spying' for Pakistan

Manvir Saini & Yudhvir Rana

Chandigarh/Gurdaspur: Haryana police arrested Monday a fifth person for allegedly spying for Pakistan, while Punjab DGP Gaurav Yadav said they had arrested two people — Sukhpreet Singh and Karanbir Singh — in Gurdaspur for allegedly supplying sensitive information related to Operation Sindoor to Pakistan's ISI.

Besides naming Mohammad Tareef, a resident of Kangarka village of Tauru, Mewat, Haryana police also named two Pakistan high commission officials, Aasif Balauch and Zaffar, as accused in the case.

The Punjab DGP posted on X that Sukhpreet and Karanbir were apprehended after credible inputs on May 15 revealed that the two were allegedly engaged in sharing classified details related to Op Sindoor, including troop movements and key strategic locations in Punjab, Himachal Pradesh, and J&K, with the ISI. Three mobile phones and eight live .30 cartridges were recovered from them. Forensic examination of their mobile phones confirmed the intelligence received, the DGP said.

CRACKING DOWN

In Haryana, following court orders, Tareef is currently in police custody. Police said they had recovered a mobile phone from him. Tareef is the second person from Nuh district to be arrested. The others accused include YouTuber Jyoti Malhotra from Hisar, Nauman Elahi from Panipat, Devender Dhillon from Kaithal, and Armaan of Rajaka village, Nuh.

MP govt official rapes woman inside car, held

Jabalpur: A 32-year-old govt official was arrested for allegedly raping a 35-year-old woman — a mother of two — in a car in Madhya Pradesh's Jabalpur after luring her there on the pretext of giving her a job.

The accused, Pankaj Singh Parihar, is an assistant engineer with the panchayat department, and is posted in Samnapur block of Dindori district.

According to additional SP (rural) Suryakant Sharma, the woman works at a private hospital and became acquainted with Parihar on a phone call. He told her about a vacancy in the health department and claimed he could help her bag the job if she could travel to Dindori to meet an official.

On Saturday, the woman travelled to Dindori (140km away) by bus without informing her family. Parihar took her in his car to Amarkantak, ostensibly to meet the official. On the way back, he allegedly raped her inside the vehicle. TNN

Meet The Jury On Mission #Unstoppable21

Each of them is a legend in their field. And they're helping **TOI** identify the 21 young talents who will shape the country's future

Sudha Ragunathan

The prominent Carnatic vocalist, Padma Bhushan and Sangeet Natak Akademi awardee returns as a jury member for the second edition of the #Unstoppable21 campaign. Trained under the legendary and influential Padma Bhushan-awardee Dr ML Vasanthakumari, Ragunathan is known for her unique singing style. Captured in over 200 CDs, her music covers a wide range of compositions in a variety of languages and genres. Ragunathan is also known for her philanthropy through the Samudhaaya Foundation, which she set up in 1999.

Chetan Bhagat

Serial bestseller author and one of the most well-known novelists at the moment in India, Bhagat again takes his seat among the #Unstoppable21 jury members this year. Several of Bhagat's novels have been adapted into blockbuster Bollywood films, including the comedy, '3 Idiots', which takes off from his novel 'Five Point Someone'. Bhagat is also a columnist with The Times of India and a motivational speaker.

Rohan Verma

Just like the talent he's helping highlight for the second year running, Verma has charted out an 'unstoppable' career graph since when he was a teenager. At 19, he got involved with his family's mapping and technology business in India, leading to the launch of MapMyIndia. The company, under CEO Verma, is making strides in a market dominated by GoogleMaps. MapMyIndia today boasts millions of users with its product featuring additional functions such as 3D junction views with lane guidance, speed limit alerts, trip toll, fuel cost estimates, etc.

Ashish Dhawan

Founder and CEO of the Convergence Foundation (TCF), which is focused on accelerating India's economic growth and development, Dhawan comes on board as an #Unstoppable21 jury member this year. He is also the chairperson of Ashoka University and Central Square Foundation, a nonprofit working to improve the quality of education for children in India. Before his second career as a philanthropist, Dhawan was among India's most successful private equity investors who founded and ran ChrysCapital. He is also on the India Advisory Board of Harvard and a member of Yale's Development Council.

Prof Govindan Rangarajan

Respected academic and director of the Indian Institute of Science (IISc), Bengaluru, Prof Rangarajan has been part of its department of mathematics since 1992. A member of the last edition of #Unstoppable21 jury, he is a JC Bose National Fellow, Fellow of the Indian Academy of Sciences and the National Academy of Sciences, and a Homi Bhabha Fellow, he is a recipient of the Chevalier dans l'Ordre des Palmes Academiques (Knight of the Order of Academic Palms) awarded by the French govt.

Reliance Foundation presents

#Unstoppable21 2nd Edition

THE TIMES OF INDIA CHANGE Begins Here

Pullela Gopichand

Legendary shuttler, coach and mentor, Gopichand's legacy lies not just in winning titles but in building a culture of excellence and discipline. He is joining as a jury member of #Unstoppable21 for the first time. He is the chief national coach for the Indian badminton team. Gopichand has been instrumental in guiding players like Saina Nehwal, PV Sindhu, Kidambi Srikanth, and others to national and international success. He has been honoured with Padma Shri, Padma Bhushan, and the Dronacharya and Arjuna awards.

When Mahesh Bhatt fell for naysayers, wept buckets & later got ₹300 for it

Avijit.Ghosh@timesofindia.com

New Delhi: In the winter of 1969, a tornado named Rajesh Khanna barrelled through India. Two films created Hindi cinema's first superstar: Shakti Samanta's 'Aradhana', shortly followed by Raj Khosla's 'Do Raaste'.

But the first few days of 'Do Raaste' were uncertain at the box-office. Mahesh Bhatt, a young "production hand" in the film, wept bitterly over the film's grim prognosis, says a forthcoming biography of Raj Khosla, whose 100th birth anniversary falls on May 31.

Khosla had already delivered superhits in a variety of genres: thriller 'CID' (1956), suspenseful 'Woh Kaun Thi?' (1964) and romantic drama 'Do Badan' (1966) underlining his ability as an all-rounder. But his previous two ventures, 'Anita' (1967) and 'Chirag (1969)', hadn't fared well. Debtors were at the door.

'Do Raaste' ran for over 50 weeks at Opera House in Bombay

Do Raaste, which he produced and directed, was based on Marathi writer Chandrakant Kakodkar's novel, 'Nilambari'. When the film opened at Bombay's Royal Opera House on Dec 5, 1969, editor Waman Bhonsle and Bhatt were at the theatre.

Biographer Amborish Roychoudhury writes in the book, "A manager by the name of Desai, came to Bhatt and Bhonsle and said, "Saamne woh Shakti ki picture chal rahi hai 'Aradhana', woh advance mein housefull hai. Yahan par log nahin aate. Picture doobegi." (Shakti's film 'Aradhana', playing across the road, is running to full house in advance booking. No one is coming here. This film will flop.)

"When he heard this, Bhatt broke down. Bhonsle had seen it all before, but the young Bhatt, all of 20, was emotionally attached to the film," says the book, co-authored by Anita Khosla and Uma Khosla Kapur, both director's daughters.

The book titled, "Raj Khosla: The Authorized Biography," also says that the film originally ended with some "touching lines about mother-son relationship" which wasn't working too well with the audience.

Khosla reached out to heroine Sadhana, with whom he had worked in four films. "Over the years, she had become a confidante and a sounding board. He showed her his films, and she told him what she felt," writes Roychoudhury.

Sadhana suggested ending the film with a clip of the track, 'Bindiya Chamkegi', which was to become radio countdown show, Binaca Geetmala's No 1 song of 1971. Khosla carried out the change.

'Do Raaste' "ran for more than 50 weeks at the same Opera House where the staff had written the film off." Debtors were paid. Khosla announced a bonus for some staff members. Bhatt's bonus was Rs 300, equivalent to a month's wage. "He gave me 300 bucks extra to me for shedding tears!," the biography quotes Bhatt as saying. Khosla passed away in 1991. In the foreword, Bhatt describes him as "My mentor. My master."

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Heads of Britain, France & Canada warn that their nations will take action if Israel doesn't stop renewed military offensive in Gaza, **INSIDE JACKET**

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TIMES GLOBAL

THE TIMES OF INDIA, NEW DELHI | TUESDAY, MAY 20, 2025

IF OPPORTUNITY DOESN'T KNOCK, BUILD A DOOR — MILTON BERLE

KEVIN SPACEY TO GET LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD FROM A CHARITY IN CANNES DESPITE NEW MISCONDUCT CASE

JENNIFER LAWRENCE AND ROBERT PATTINSON-STARRER 'DIE MY LOVE' GETS 9-MIN OVATION AFTER CANNES PREMIER

Want meeting of Ukraine with Russia, US, EU & UK: Zelensky

Trump Says Vatican Interested In Hosting Peace Negotiations

President Volodymyr Zelensky said on Monday that Kyiv and its partners were considering setting up a meeting of the leaders of Ukraine, Russia, the US, EU countries and Britain as part of a push to end Moscow's war in Ukraine. Speaking to reporters in Kyiv after holding two phone calls on Monday with US President Donald Trump, the Ukrainian president said he hoped the meeting could happen as soon as possible and that it could be hosted by Turkiye, the Vatican or Switzerland.

A source familiar with the matter earlier said Zelensky spoke "for a few minutes" with Trump before the US president's call with Russian President Vladimir Putin. Kyiv has said it is ready for a ceasefire now while Moscow has said conditions must be met first.

In his social media post, Trump said the Vatican, "as represented by the Pope, has stated that it would be very interested in hosting the negotiations. Let the process begin!"

Reuters/File

Putin and Trump spoke on phone after direct talks last week in Turkiye between Moscow and Kyiv, the first since 2022

European leaders welcomed Pope Leo XIV's readiness to host the talks at the Vatican, Italian PM Giorgia Meloni said on Monday. Meloni's office said Zelensky, French President Macron and German Chancellor Merz, spoke to Trump after his call with Putin. "Work is underway to immediately start negotiations between the parties that can lead to a ceasefire as soon as possible and build the conditions for a just and lasting peace in Ukraine," Meloni's office said in a statement. "In this regard, the Holy Father's willingness to host the talks at the Vatican was considered positive. Italy is ready to do its part to facilitate contacts and work for peace," the statement added.

Putin and Trump spoke after direct talks last week in Turkiye between Moscow and Kyiv, the first since 2022 in the early monthsof Russia's invasion of Ukraine. Talks last week failed to agree on a truce.

US vice-president JD Vance earlier repeated a warning that Washington could walk away from the peace process.

Putin said the memorandum would define "a number of positions, such as, for example, the principles of settlement, the timing of a possible peace agreement". He said that if appropriate agreements were reached, there could be a ceasefire, adding that direct talks between Russia and Ukraine gave "reason to believe that we are generally on the right track." "The main thing for us is to eliminate the root causes of this crisis," Putin said. "We just need to determine the most effective ways to move towards peace."

He thanked Trump for supporting the resumption of direct talks between Moscow and Kyiv and said Trump noted Russia's support forpeace, though the key question was how to move towards peace. Trump, who has promised to bring a swift end to Europe's deadliest war since WWII, has repeatedly called for a ceasefire after three years when Washington joined other Western countries in arming Ukraine. REUTERS

Actor who played Hasina in a film by Benegal jailed

Ahsan Tasnim | TNN

Nusraat Faria

Dhaka: Bangladesh's leading actress Nusraat Faria, who portrayed former PM Sheikh Hasina in a Mujib biopic directed by renowned Indian filmmaker Shyam Benegal, was sent to jail on Monday in connection with an attempt to murder case linked to last year's anti-govt protests. A day ago, Faria was detained at Dhaka airport while attempting to travel to Thailand. She was sent to jail on a court order.

Seventeen actors, including Faria, were named in an attempt to murder case filed April 29.

"Our team went to the airport based on information from immigration police," said inspector Sujan Haque. Amid widespread criticism of the Muhammad Yunus govt over the arrest, cultural affairs adviser Mostofa Sarwar Farooki called it an "embarrassing incident". He said such actions must be taken with greater caution. "I believe Faria will receive legal remedy through due process". He said govt's stated policy is to avoid arbitrary arrests in broad cases, particularly where preliminary probe does not indicate an individual's involvement.

Bibi acknowledges pressure from allies in resuming aid to Gaza

Tel Aviv: The first few aid trucks have entered Gaza following nearly three months of Israel's complete blockade of food, medicine and other supplies, Israel and the UN said on Monday, as Israel acknowledged pressure from allies.

Five trucks carrying baby food and other desperately needed aid entered the territory of over 2 million Palestinians via the Kerem Shalom crossing, according to the Israeli defence body in charge of coordinating aid to Gaza, COGAT.

The UN called it a "welcome development" but said far more aid is needed. Food security experts last week warned of famine in Gaza. During the latest ceasefire that Israel ended in March, some 600 aid trucks entered Gaza each day.

Israeli PM Netanyahu said his decision to resume limited, "basic" aid to Gaza came after allies said they couldn't support Israel's renewed military offensive if there are "images of hunger" coming from the territory. The UN humanitarian chief, Tom Fletcher, said the first few trucks were a "drop in the ocean of what is urgently needed." He said four more UN trucks were cleared to enter Gaza.

Israel over the weekend launched a new wave of air and ground operations across Gaza, and the army ordered the evacuation of its second-largest city, Khan Younis, where Israel carried out a massive operation earlier.

Netanyahu said Monday Israel plans on "taking control of all of Gaza," as well as establishing a new system to distribute aid that circumvents Hamas. He has said Israel also will encourage what he describes as the voluntary emigration of much of Gaza's population to other countries. He said Israel's "greatest friends in the world" had told him, "We cannot accept images of hunger, mass hunger." Netanyahu said the situation was approaching a "red line" and a "dangerous point," but it was not clear if he was referring to the crisis in Gaza or the potential loss of support from allies. The statement appeared aimed at pacifying anger in his nationalist base at the decision to resume aid. AP

AP

Palestinians fight for donated food at a community kitchen in Jabalia

UK, France and Canada threaten action against Israel if Gaza offensive carries on

The leaders of Britain, France and Canada warned on Monday that their countries would take action if Israel does not stop a renewed military offensive in Gaza and lift aid restrictions. "The Israeli govt's denial of essential humanitarian assistance to the civilian population is unacceptable and risks breaching International humanitarian law," a joint statement released by the British govt said. "We oppose any attempt to expand settlements in the West Bank ... We will not hesitate to take further action, including targeted sanctions." AGENCIES

UK strikes EU trade and defence reset in 'new era' for relations

London/Brussels: Britain agreed the most significant reset of defence and trade ties with the European Union since Brexit on Monday after US President Donald Trump's upending of the global order pushed the two sides to move on from their acrimonious divorce.

Nearly nine years after it voted to leave the bloc, Britain reached a wide-ranging deal with the EU, including a security and defence pact, fewer restrictions on British food exporters and visitors, and a contentious new fishing agreement.

British PM Keir Starmer, who backed remaining in the EU in the Brexit referendum, also bet that offering benefits to Britons such as the use of faster e-gates at EU airports will drown out the cries of "betrayal" from Brexit campaigner Nigel Farage. Flanked by EU Commission president Ursula von der Leyen and European Council president Antonio Costa at London's Lancaster House, Starmer said the deal marked "a new era in our relationship". Britain said the reset would reduce red tape for agricultural producers — making food cheaper — improve energy security and, by 2040, add nearly 9 billion pounds ($12.1 billion) to the economy, which is about 2.6 trillion pounds in size.

It is the third deal Britain has struck this month, after agreements with India and the US, and while it is unlikely to lead to an immediate economic boost, it could lift business confidence, drawing much-needed investment. At the heart of the reset is a defence and security pact that will let Britain be part of any joint procurement and pave the way for British companies to take part in a 150 billion euro ($167 billion) programme to rearm Europe.

AFP

UK PM Keir Starmer with European Commission prez Ursula von der Leyen

On fishing, British and EU vessels will have access to each other's waters for 12 years in return for a permanent reduction in paperwork and border checks that had prevented small food producers from exporting to Europe. In return, Britain has agreed to the outline of a limited scheme to let young EU and British people live and work in each others' territories for periods. Farage, head of the right-wing Reform UK party, called the deal an "abject surrender — the end of the fishing industry". REUTERS

SC: US can lift deportation protections for Venezuelans

Washington: The Supreme Court on Monday let the Trump administration, for now, remove protections from nearly 350,000 Venezuelan immigrants who had been allowed to remain in the US without risk of deportation under a programme known as Temporary Protected Status (TPS).

The brief order was unsigned and gave no reasons, which is typical when the justices rule on emergency applications. No vote count was listed, although justice Ketanji Brown Jackson noted she would deny the administration's request. The justices said they would allow the Trump administration to end the protections pending appeal of the case, potentially allowing the administration to move ahead with deportations. The justices also clarified, however, they would preserve the ability of individual immigrants to bring some legal challenges if govt tried to cancel their work permits or remove them from the country.

The court has been inundated with applications arising from President Trump's blitz of executive orders, many of them seeking to pause or limit trial court rulings blocking govt's agenda, notably in immigration. This case started in Feb, when homeland security secretary **Kristi Noem** terminated an 18-month extension of TPS that had been granted to Venezuelans by Biden administration. People affected by the change sued, saying the move violated administrative procedures.

The TPS programme, signed into law by President George HW Bush, allows migrants from nations that have experienced national disasters, armed conflicts or other extraordinary instabilities to live and work legally in the US. NYT

California surgeons perform first human bladder transplant

Los Angeles: Surgeons in southern California have performed the first human bladder transplant, introducing a new, potentially life-changing procedure for people with debilitating bladder conditions.

The operation was performed this month by a pair of surgeons from UCLA and the University of Southern California on a 41-year-old man who had lost much of his bladder capacity from treatments for a rare form of bladder cancer. "I was a ticking time bomb," the patient, Oscar Larrainzar, said on Thursday during a follow-up appointment with his doctors. "But now I have hope."

The doctors plan to perform bladder transplants in four more patients as part of a clinical trial before pursuing a larger trial.

Dr Inderbir Gill, who performed the surgery along with Dr Nima Nassiri, called it "the realisation of a dream" for treating thousands of patients with crippling pelvic pain, inflammation and recurrent infections. "There is no question: A potential door has been opened for these people that did not exist earlier," said Gill, chair of the urology department at USC.

Until now, most patients who undergo a bladder removal have a portion of their intestine repurposed to help them pass urine. But bowel tissue, riddled with bacteria, is "inherently contaminated," Gill said, and introducing it to the "inherently sterile" urinary tract leads to complications in up to 80% of patients.

Larrainzar, whose kidneys had both been removed almost four years earlier, also received a kidney transplant. Nassiri said that kidney transplants can sometimes take up to a week to process urine, but that when the kidney and bladder were connected inside Larrainzar, there was "immediate output," and his creatinine level, which measures kidney function, started to improve immediately. The biggest risks of organ transplantation are the body's potential rejection of the organ and the side effects caused by the immune-suppressing drugs given to prevent organ rejection. That is why, for Dr Rachel Forbes, a transplant surgeon at Vanderbilt University Medical Center who was not involved in the procedure, the excitement is more tempered. NYT

Joe Biden diagnosed with 'aggressive' prostate cancer

Former US President Joe Biden has been diagnosed with an "aggressive form" of prostate cancer that has spread to his bones, his office said in a statement on Sunday. Biden, 82, was diagnosed on Friday after experiencing urinary symptoms, and he and his family are reviewing treatment options with doctors, according to the statement. "Cancer touches us all. Like so many of you, Jill and I have learned that we are strongest in the broken places. Thank you for lifting us up with love and support," Biden said in an X post early on Monday.

Cancers that have spread, or metastasized, are considered Stage 4, the most advanced. Most prostate cancers are detected at an earlier stage. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, of the 236,659 cases of prostate cancer diagnosed in 2021, 70% were diagnosed before the cancer had spread beyond the prostate. About 8% of new prostate cancer diagnoses that year involved advanced-stage disease.

"While this represents a more aggressive form of the disease, the cancer appears to be hormone-sensitive which allows for effective management," Biden's office said on Sunday. Biden's physical health and mental acuity drew scrutiny during his 2021-2025 presidency. He abruptly ended his bid for re-election last July, weeks after a halting performance during a debate against Republican Donald Trump prompted panic among his fellow Democrats.

President Trump, who has repeatedly berated Biden since taking office in Jan, expressed sympathy on Sunday for Biden and his wife, Jill, in a post on his social media platform Truth Social. "Melania and I are saddened to hear about Joe Biden's recent medical diagnosis," he wrote. "We extend our warmest and best wishes to Jill and the family, and we wish Joe a fast and successful recovery." REUTERS

Romania & Poland halt hard-right breakthroughs

Bucharest: Presidential elections on Sunday in Romania and Poland — the two most populous countries on Europe's formerly communist eastern fringe — halted, or at least slowed, a hard-right breakthrough that many liberals had feared.

In Romania, a centrist mayor who campaigned as an independent untainted by close ties to two long-dominant mainstream parties — widely viewed as corrupt — defeated another outsider, a hard-line nationalist who aligned himself with US President Trump and had been seen as the front-runner.

Nicusor Dan, the mayor of Romania's capital, Bucharest, won a decisive victory over George Simion in a runoff for Romania's presidency, confounding expectations of a sharp turn to the right in the first round of presidential race.

Nicusor Dan (L) won a decisive victory over George Simion in a runoff for Romania's presidency, confounding expectations of a sharp turn to the right

Rafal Trzaskowski (L), the liberal mayor of Warsaw and an ally of Poland PM Donald Tusk, won himself a slot in a runoff June 1 against nationalist Karol Nawrocki (R)

Simion, who Sunday responded to early results that showed him losing with cries of fraud and Trump-like vows to "stop the steal," curbed his fury early Monday, conceding defeat and dropping complaints of irregularities in a video address. "We may have lost a battle, but we will certainly not lose the war," he said on the social platform X. "We will continue our fight for freedom and our great values along with other patriots, sovereigntists and conservatives all over the world."

Poland delivered a far less emphatic rebuff to EU-skeptic nationalism, with hard-right candidates taking second, third and fourth places in the first round of presidential race.

Rafal Trzaskowski, the liberal mayor of Warsaw, Poland, and an ally of PM Donald Tusk, still came in first. That secured him a slot in a runoff June 1 against the second-place finisher, Karol Nawrocki, a nationalist historian backed by Poland's previous governing party, Law and Justice. But the margin of his victory — 31.3% of the vote to Nawrocki's 29.5%, according to the official count — was so small and support for hard-right candidates so strong that a repeat win for Trzaskowski in the runoff is far from certain.

Like Simion in Romania, Nawrocki positioned himself during the campaign as part of an unstoppable global movement, visiting Washington in early May for a meeting in the White House with Trump, who gave him a thumbs-up. NYT

Portugal's far-right surges as ruling party misses majority

Portugal's far-right Chega won a record vote share in Sunday's snap election and was vying to become the main opposition party as the governing centre-right Democratic Alliance (AD) again fell short of a majority. PM Luis Montenegro hailed the result as a vote of confidence in AD which won most seats in parliament. However, with votes from abroad still to be counted, Chega could supplant Socialists as leader of opposition, ending five decades of dominance by the two parties. "We've done what no other party has ever achieved," said Chega's Andre Ventura. "Nothing will be as it was," he said, highlighting how Chega, which he founded six years ago, proved most opinion polls wrong. Chega gained eight seats for a total of 58 in the 230-seat parliament, winning a record 1.34 million votes. Chega, which has allied with Europe's hard-right parties, has proposed tougher sentences for criminals, including chemical castration for repeat rapists. It has also called for an end to "open doors" immigration. REUTERS

Study casts doubt on water flows as cause of streaks on Martian slopes

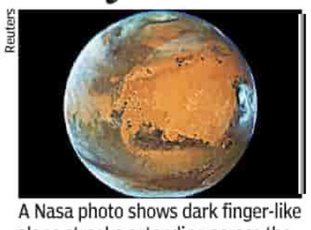
Washington: Images taken of Mars from orbit dating back as far as the 1970s have captured curious dark streaks running down the sides of cliffs and crater walls that some scientists have construed as possible evidence of flows of liquid water, suggesting that the planet harbours environments suitable for living organisms.

A new study casts doubt on that interpretation. Examining about 500,000 of these sinewy features spotted in satellite images, researchers concluded they were created probably through dry processes that left the superficial appearance of liquid flows, underscoring the view of Mars as a desert planet currently inhospitable to life — at least on its surface. The data indicated that formation of these streaks is driven by the accumulation of fine-grain dust from the Martian atmosphere on sloped terrain that is then knocked down the slopes by triggers such as wind gusts, meteorite impacts and marsquakes.

"The tiny dust particles can create flow-like patterns without liquid. This phenomenon occurs because extremely fine dust can behave similarly to a liquid when disturbed," said Adomas Valantinas, co-leader of the study published on Monday in the journal Nature Communications. "It's similar to how dry sand can flow like water when poured. But on Mars, the ultra-fine particles and low gravity enhance these fluid-like properties, creating features that might be mistaken for water flows." The study examined about 87,000 satellite images, including those obtained between 2006 and 2020 of slope streaks, which form suddenly and fade over a period of years.

It remains possible that small amounts of water could mix with enough salt in the ground to create a flow even on Mars.

That raises the possibility the slope streaks, if caused by wet conditions, could be habitable niches. "It all comes back to habitability... If slope streaks and recurring slope lineae (shorter-lived features) would really be driven by liquid water or brines, they could create a niche for life. However, if they are not tied to wet processes, this allows us to focus our attention on other, more promising locations," said study co-leader Valentin Bickel. REUTERS



Reuters

A Nasa photo shows dark finger-like slope streaks extending across the dusty Martian surface in a region called Arabia Terra (R)

Reuters

DAILY PLANET

Reuters

VANCE INVITES POPE LEO: US V-P JD Vance met Pope Leo XIV, an American, on Monday at the Vatican and extended an invitation for Leo to make an official visit home. Vance gave Leo a letter he said was from US President Trump 'inviting you to come'. Leo took the letter and was heard to say 'at some point', according to video provided by Vatican

Jim Morrison bust found in France, 37 years after theft

AFP

French police have recovered by chance the long-lost bust of American singer Jim Morrison that once adorned the grave of the iconic frontman of The Doors, 37 years after it was stolen from a Paris cemetery. The sculpture, missing since 1988, was found during a search tied to a fraud case led by the Paris public prosecutor's office, a source close to the investigation said. Nostalgic rock fans still flock to Morrison's grave at Paris's Pere Lachaise cemetery, where he was buried after his death in the French capital in 1971 at the age of 27. The sculpture, by Croatian artist Mladen Mikulin, had been placed at the grave to mark the 10th anniversary of Morrison's death.

Man who tried to sell stolen $6.4m gold toilet spared jail

A man who tried to help a burglar cash in from the theft of a golden toilet worth £4.74 million ($6.4 million) was spared jail on Monday after a British judge said he had been taken advantage of by the thieves. Frederick Doe, 37, was given a suspended sentence at Oxford Crown Court. The 18-carat gold fully functioning toilet was taken in 2019 from Blenheim Palace — the mansion where Winston Churchill was born.

Spain asks Airbnb to remove over 65k tourist rental ads

Spain's leftist govt on Monday said it had ordered Airbnb to take down more than 65,000 illegal adverts as it tries to balance the flourishing sector against a housing crisis. The world's second most-visited country hosted a record 94 million tourists in 2024. But residents of tourist hotspots have blamed short-term rentals for scarce & unaffordable housing.

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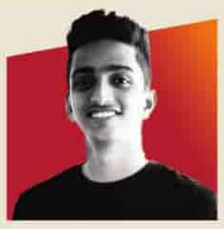
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INCLUSIVE OF DELHI TIMES (CIRCULATED ONLY IN DELHI NCR) |

EX-SOCCER CAPTAIN GARY LINEKER WILL LEAVE BBC AFTER APOLOGISING FOR SHARING A POST ABOUT ZIONISM THAT DREW PLAINTS OVER ANTISEMITISM 16

ED arrests retd UCO Bk CMD in loan fraud case

'Took Bribes To Disburse ₹6.2K Cr To Private Firm'

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi: Enforcement Directorate (ED) on Saturday arrested Subodh Goel, retired chairman and MD of UCO Bank, from his residence here for allegedly taking bribes to sanction loans of more than Rs 6,200 crore.

Goel, who had been appointed to the post under the UPA govt, was produced before a special court in Kolkata, which remanded him to ED custody until Wednesday.

"Investigation revealed that during the tenure of Goel as CMD, large credit facilities were sanctioned to Concast Steel & Power Ltd, which were subsequently diverted and siphoned off by the borrower. In turn, Goel received substantial illegal gratifications from CSPL," ED claimed.

The agency has already attached properties worth Rs 510 crore of CSPL linked to its promoter, Sanjay Surekha. He was arrested on Dec 18 last year and continues to be in judicial custody. ED filed a chargesheet in the case on Feb 15.

ED claimed illegal gratification was layered and channelled through various entities to give it a "facade" of legitimacy. "Goel received cash, properties, luxury goods, etc routed through shell companies, dummy persons and family members to conceal the origin of the money," ED said.

▶ 'Shell cos', P 11

BANK CHIEFS ARRESTED IN PAST

S K Jain, ex-CMD of Syndicate Bank, for alleged bribery in 2014

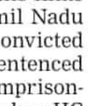
Shyamal Acharya, former dy MD of SBI, also arrested in a bribery case the same year

Yogesh Agarwal, IDBI ex-chairman, arrested in '17 for 'irregularities' in extending loans to Kingfisher Airlines

Ravindra Marathe, former CEO of Bank of Maharashtra, arrested in '18 in DSK fraud case

Pratip Chaudhuri, SBI ex-chairman, held in '21 over bank's sale of a defaulter's assets to an ARC

Rana Kapoor, YES Bank founder, arrested in '20 in money laundering case



Chanda Kochhar, ICICI Bk ex-CEO, held in 2023 for alleged graft. Now on bail & under trial

60 houses linked to Guj 'history sheeters' razed

Authorities in Gujarat's Rajkot Monday demolished over 60 properties linked to 38 "history sheeters", describing the structures as unauthorised and claiming they stood on govt land. Last Nov, Supreme Court imposed a pan-India ban on "bulldozer justice" and called it "totally unconstitutional".

Rajkot police said the occupants had been served two notices a month ago. Most of the accused whose homes were pulled down faced cases of murder, theft and prohibition violations in dry Gujarat. State home minister Harsh Sanghavi reaffirmed his govt's commitment to action against those who occupied govt land and engaged in crimes. P 9

Romanian centrist beats far-right in prez polls

The centrist mayor of Bucharest won Romania's presidential runoff on Sunday, quashing the ambitions of a far-right Trump loyalist as voters backed pro-European Union politicians in three key elections across the bloc. Nicusor Dan, an independent and one-time math prodigy, beat George Simion, of the far-right Alliance for the Unity of Romanians, by 54% to 46%, according to final results by Romania's election authority. In **Poland**, Warsaw's mayor edged out his rival from the populist right in first round of voting. **Portugal**'s center-right PM, Luis Montenegro, boosted support though he's set to lead a minority govt. INSIDE JACKET

Bhujbal may take oath as min today

NCP MLA and OBC neta Chhagan Bhujbal is likely to be sworn in as cabinet minister in the Fadnavis-led Mahayuti govt on Tuesday. Bhujbal is set to replace NCP's Dhananjay Munde, who was forced to resign in March over alleged role of his aide in the murder of sarpanch Santosh Deshmukh. The ceremony is likely to be at 10 am, sources said. TNN

MP govt official rapes woman in car

A 32-year-old govt official was arrested for allegedly raping a 35-year-old mother of two in a car in MP's Jabalpur Saturday after luring her there on the pretext of giving her a job in the health department. The accused, Pankaj Singh Parihar, is an assistant engineer in the panchayat department. He allegedly threatened to kill her if she told anyone. P 18

Guj mantri's 2nd son held in ₹71cr scam

Another son of Gujarat minister of state for agriculture and panchayat Bachu Khabad was arrested Monday in connection with a Rs 71-crore MGNREGS scam in Dahod district. Kiran Khabad, 39, was taken into custody along with three others, two days after the arrest of his elder sibling Balwant. The minister's nephew was also arrested. P 9

1-yr jail not a prerequisite for bail to accused in laundering case: SC to ED

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New Delhi: The Supreme Court on Monday said there was no "rule" that an accused in a money laundering case had to spend at least a year in jail before being granted bail, and gave relief to one of the accused in the Chhattisgarh liquor scam who had spent over nine months in custody.

As the counsel appearing for the Enforcement Directorate took the stand that bail could not be granted to the accused as he was arrested in Aug last year and had not completed a year behind bars, a bench of Justices Abhay S Oka and Ujjal Bhuyan said it was not a "rule" to be in custody for a year to get bail.

The ED counsel said SC had been following the one-year custody "benchmark" to grant bail in various cases, including that of former Tamil Nadu minister V Senthil Balaji, and argued that the yardstick be followed in the case of liquor scam accused Anwar Dhebar's bail plea too.

The bench then asked the ED counsel whether he wanted the accused to spend seven years in jail which is the maximum sentence.

▶ 'Release in a wk', P 11

THE 1-YR QUESTION

- In **Senthil Balaji's case**, SC held in **Sept 2024** that the TN minister had spent 15 mths in jail and there can't be long incarceration without trial
- On **Jan 17, 2025**, on bail plea of an accused in C'garh excise case, SC said **if accused had spent 1 year in custody and charges not framed, bail can be granted**
- In March, it granted bail to the accused, saying he had **spent 11 months in custody**

'Misconceived': SC junks pleas by Airtel, Vodafone for waiver of AGR dues

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@timesofindia.com

New Delhi: In a setback to Airtel and Vodafone Idea, Supreme Court on Monday dismissed their plea for waiver of interest and penalty relating to adjusted gross revenue (AGR) dues, which are to the tune of Rs 80,000 crore.

The order will also impact Tata Teleservices.

The outstanding AGR following the original SC ruling in 2019 to recover dues from the industry stands at a little under Rs 1.5 lakh crore. Only Reliance Jio came out near-safe as it ventured into telecom in 2016 and had a small exposure to past dues and adjustments.

Though the companies sought an adjournment, a bench of Justices J B Pardiwala and R Mahadevan turned down their plea and dismissed their petitions, which it said were "shocking and misconceived". The court also asked how multinational companies had filed petitions under Article 32 (seeking remedies for enforcement of rights).

▶ 'Won't come in way,' P 13

IN THE COURTS

- **SC applies OROP to retd HC judges.** Uniform ₹13.5L/yr pension. Rtd CJs to get ₹15L | INSIDE FLAP
- SC upholds life sentence to advocate who threw acid on woman | INSIDE FLAP
- Court seeks **police response on interim bail plea of** Tasleem Ahmed, a **Delhi riots accused**
- Delhi HC reserves verdict on **plea against expulsion of DPS students** | P 7

India is not a dharamshala: SC to Lankan

New Delhi: Days after rebuffing a plea against deportation of Rohingya, Supreme Court rejected on Monday a Sri Lankan national's petition to settle in India after completing his seven-year prison sentence under the anti-terror law UAPA and said a country struggling with a 140 crore population cannot be a 'dharamshala (free shelter)' for foreign nationals, **reports Dhananjay Mahapatra**.

The Sri Lankan was arrested in 2015 for his links with LTTE. A Tamil Nadu trial court had convicted him in 2018 and sentenced him to 10 years' imprisonment. However, Madras HC in 2022 had reduced his sentence to seven years and ordered that he must stay in a Tamil refugee camp after completion of the prison term and be deported as soon as possible.

▶ 'Right to life but...', P 11

Brit Indian prof barred in Feb says OCI nixed

London: A British Kashmiri professor of Politics and International Relations at London's University of Westminster has claimed her Overseas Citizenship of India (OCI) has been cancelled over her alleged "anti-India activities".

Nitasha Kaul took to social media Sunday to post details of the communication which accuses her of being motivated by "malice and complete disregard for facts or history". It follows her previous posts from Feb when she had hit back on being denied entry to India for a conference in Bengaluru.

"Idea is to send a signal — don't dare challenge us within...don't dare analyse what is going on to convey to audiences outside," she said. PTI

▶ 'Targeted India,' P 18

Photo: IANS

Rainwater enters the premises of a charitable centre in Bengaluru on Monday after heavy rain through the night

B'LURU BUCKLES UNDER 130MM RAIN IN 12 HRS

- **3 dead, 500 homes flooded, and 20+ lakes** set to overflow after Bengaluru received 130mm rain over 12 hrs from Sunday evening. **Heavy rain forecast for next five days**
- 27 trees were uprooted, and branches fell from 43 more. **South, north and eastern parts of city** bear brunt. State Disaster Response Force **deployed boats to evacuate people**
- **Public transport services were badly hit** as one bus depot was flooded, halting operations. Waterlogged underpasses and flyovers were closed to traffic, causing long snarls

P18

Undertaking by parents must for Jamia admission

In an unheard-of proviso for a central varsity in Delhi, Jamia Millia Islamia has sought an undertaking from parents or local guardians of newly admitted students that they would take responsibility for the "conduct and character" of their wards, **reports Sugandha Jha**.

The undertaking is part of an SOP approved for admissions and cleared by the vice-chancellor. While undertakings from parents on anti-ragging norms are standard across Indian universities, Jamia's broader clause placing overall responsibility for a student's conduct on the parent or guardian is uncommon. P 4

Less water, more rice: Why gene editing may be a game changer

With drought-tolerant, climate-resilient rice just two years away from Indian farms, gene editing could change how the country grows its staple. But questions around safety, regulation, and adoption still remain

Vishwa.Mohan@timesofindia.com

Two varieties of rice — 'DRR Dhan 100 (Kamala)' and 'Pusa DST Rice 1', developed by ICAR and its institutes — are the world's first genome-edited varieties, and promise to be a game-changer in sustainable agriculture.

Scientists say these two varieties, when cultivated on 5 million hectares, can produce 4.5 million tonnes of additional paddy and save a total of 7,500 million cubic metres of irrigation water. And, apart from a yield advantage of 20%-30%, these climate-resilient varieties could reduce methane emissions by 20%, the scientists claim.

This could go a long way towards solving one of the biggest problems in cultivating rice, a staple for about 800 million Indians: its resource-heaviness. Each kilo of traditional rice requires, on average, 2,500 litres of water, and its cultivation consumes more than 50% of the irrigation water available to the country's agriculture sector.

What Is Genome Editing?

Genome editing enables scientists to make targeted changes in the native genes of living organisms, creating new and desirable traits without introducing foreign DNA. It involves adding, removing or modifying DNA sequences at specific locations in the genome. This technology has applications in various fields, including medicine, agriculture and basic research.

Why Do We Need Genome-Edited Rice?

Because rice is such a resource-guzzler, ICAR's National Rice Research Institute (NRRI), which scientifically calculated the amount of water needed to produce 1kg of rice, noted that a major impact of climate change would be visible in the form of water stress, and that rice cultivation was likely to be most affected.

"In the next two decades, there's a need to produce around 25% more from 10%-15% reduced share of water," said ICAR-NRRI in a research paper on managing water for rice-production systems.

Genome editing allows the development of drought-tolerant rice varieties that have a low water requirement.

Better Yield, Climate-Resistant

ICAR (Indian Council of Agricultural Research) had launched a genome-editing research project in rice in 2018 and selected two widely cultivated mega rice varieties — 'Samba Mahsuri (BPT5204)' and 'MTU1010 (Cottondora Sannalu)' — to enhance their qualities through tech interventions.

Scientists enhanced these rice varieties with better stress tolerance, improved yield and climate adaptability without compromising on their existing strengths as they developed the two new genome-edited varieties.

PUSA DST RICE 1

- Developed by **ICAR-Indian Agricultural Research Institute (ICAR-IARI), New Delhi**
- Enhanced tolerance to **salinity and drought**
- Particularly suitable for farmers in areas affected by **saline & alkaline soils**
- Demonstrated remarkable **improvements in yield performance** under various stress conditions
- Yield advantage of nearly **10%** in inland salinity conditions, nearly **15%** in alkaline soils, and **30%** in coastal salinity conditions

DRR DHAN 100 (KAMALA)

- Developed by **ICAR-Indian Institute of Rice Research (ICAR-IIRR),** Hyderabad
- Matured in around **130 days,** 20 days less than its parent variety
- Early maturity helps **conserve water**
- **19% yield improvement** over Samba Mahsuri, average yield of **5.4 tonnes per hectare**
- Under optimal conditions, potential yield of up to **9 tonnes per hectare**

Genome-edited varieties are, however, suitable for only those states/UTs for which the parent varieties are recommended: Tamil Nadu, Karnaktaka, Puducherry, Chhattisgarh, Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, Odisha, Maharashtra, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Bengal, Bihar, Jharkhand and (eastern) UP.

ICAR is now accessing intellectual property rights before the newly developed genome-edited varieties are made available to farmers. Seeds for commercial cultivation are expected to reach farmers within two years.

Can It Harm Humans?

The Coalition for a GM-Free India — a network of organisations and individuals advocating for a GM-free India — has demanded that govt immediately withdraw the two genome-edited rice varieties and bring them under the purview of rigorous regulation. They claim the two varieties have the potential to harm humans and cause irreversible damage to the environment, apart from threatening the country's seed sovereignty.

'No Health Or Environmental Concerns'

Since the genome-edited line contains no foreign DNA, it makes it comparable to conventionally bred varieties.

Two key approaches — Site Directed Nuclease 1 (SDN1) and Site Directed Nuclease 2 (SDN2) — produce genetically edited organisms that are considered "indistinguishable from naturally occurring or conventionally bred mutants". As such, they are exempt from stringent bio-safety regulations under Rules 7-11 of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986.

The Institutional Bio-safety Committee (IBC) of ICAR institutes approved the lines, and the Review Committee on Genetic Manipulation (RCGM) granted clearance on May 31, 2023, for classification under India's relaxed regulatory framework for SDN1 and SDN2 genome edits.

Viswanathan Chinnusamy, lead developer of the genome-edited rice and joint director (research), IARI, said plants with genome-edited seed varieties do not contain 'exogenous' (foreign) DNA, unlike genetically modified crops.

He also dispelled health fears with gene-edited rice varieties, saying the genome-edited variety is equivalent to a mutant variety developed by a conventional approach.

"Hence, it has no health or environmental concerns," he said.

SC removes disparity, tells govt to apply OROP to ex-HC judges

'Source Of Entry & Number Of Years Served Should Not Matter'

Dhananjay.Mahapatra
@timesofindia.com

'When all judges of HC when in office are entitled to the same salary, perks and benefits, any discrimination amongst them on ground of their source of entry would be patently discriminatory and violative of Article 14,' CJI said

New Delhi: Cheering most senior court judges who retire into a quiet life, Supreme Court on Monday ordered that all retired HC judges, irrespective of their source of recruitment — whether from the district judiciary or the bar — would be entitled to a uniform basic pension of Rs 13.5 lakh per annum.

Six months ago on Dec 17, a bench headed by Justice B R Gavai had termed it "pitiable" that some retired HC judges are being paid a pension of Rs 10,000 and Rs 15,000 per month and had sought attorney general R Venkataramani's intervention to sort this out for a dignified retired life of HC judges.

Delivering the judgment, Chief Justice B R Gavai and Justices A G Mashih and K Vinod Chandran rectified the brazen disparity in pension of retired HC judges owing to their source of recruitment. It said the district judges, appointed as HC judges, on retirement cannot be given much lower pension by discounting their prior judicial service.

Writing the judgment, CJI Gavai said, "We direct that the Union of India shall follow the principle of 'One Rank, One Pension' (OROP) to all retired HC judges irrespective of their source of entry i.e., district judiciary or the bar, and irrespective of number of years that they have served either as a district judge or a HC judge and all of them shall be paid full pension."

"When all the judges of HC, when in office, are entitled to the same salary, perks and benefits, any discrimination amongst them on the ground of their source of entry, in our view, would be patently discriminatory and violative of Article 14 of the Constitution," he said.

"We, therefore, hold that all retired HC judges irrespective of the date on which they were appointed would be entitled to receive the full pension at the rate of Rs 13.5 lakh as basic pension per annum," the bench said, and erased the pension disparity from state to state, an issue which was flagged by the AG. A retired CJ of a HC would get a pension of Rs 15 lakh a year.

The district judges, who were covered under the contributory new pension scheme, would be entitled to get back the amounts contributed by them with dividends, SC said. As far as family pension, paid to relatives of a judge dying in harness, the bench said there cannot be any distinction between an ad hoc judge and a permanent judge and that widows of both categories of HC judges would also get identical amounts.

SC upholds life for advocate in acid attack case

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New Delhi: SC Monday confirmed the life sentence and Rs 1 lakh fine imposed on an advocate found guilty of throwing acid on a woman, but reduced the sentence of his 73-year-old army officer father to 10 years' imprisonment, given his age and illness.

Giving final verdict on a 2014 incident that took place in Govind Nagar Police Station area of Mathura, a bench of Justices A S Oka and A G Masih said the advocate convict, Umesh, "was not only well read in law but owed a duty to the court being its officer requiring him to conduct with dignity, respect law and fellow beings. Having let down the community, we are not inclined to interfere with the sentence awarded to him".

"The convict was not only well read in law but owed a duty to the court being its officer requiring him to conduct with dignity, respect law and fellow beings
SUPREME COURT

The trial court had said that the father-son duo, Hakim and Umesh, one being a retired army personnel and the other an advocate, had aggravated their sentence resulting in life imprisonment with fine. On the other hand, the third accused, 19 years old at the time of the incident, was awarded 10 years' imprisonment with the hope that he had a chance for reformation. While the father-son duo was fined Rs 1 lakh each, the 19-year-old was ordered to pay Rs 50,000.

They had attacked the woman for lodging a complaint against them with the police by waylaying her. After the acid attack on the woman, her family was threatened by the accused, because of which they had to leave Mathura to save and protect themselves apart from getting treatment for the injured woman.

Repelling the doubts over the veracity of statements of witnesses, the bench said, "A witness cannot be expected to have a photographic memory or recall every detail, as the mind does not function like a video recorder. Witnesses are often overtaken by unforeseen events, and their faculties may not register all particulars."