



THE TIMES OF INDIA

INCLUSIVE OF DELHI TIMES (CIRCULATED ONLY IN DELHI NCR) | *APPLICABLE ONLY ON MONTHLY PURCHASE (IN DELHI NCR)

INDIA'S LARGEST ENGLISH NEWSPAPER

Rahul Gandhi expresses regret, Shivraj Singh Chouhan's son accepts apology; MP high court closes the defamation case, P 8

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Javelin, bulky sports gear to be allowed on trains

Sportspersons will now be allowed to carry javelins and bulky sports equipment on trains even if they exceed the prescribed dimensions. However, vaulting poles have been excluded from the relaxation. Sports equipment can be booked and carried in the luggage space of trains on a priority basis, says a circular. **P 22**

Toddler bites another 25 times

A 23-month-old child was allegedly bitten 25 times by another toddler inside a private daycare centre in Chhatrapati Sambhajinagar after a staff member locked three kids in a room and left them unattended. An FIR has now been registered against the principal, CEO, owner, and others at the centre. **TNN**

Desi AEW&CS now ready for combat

Indigenously built Netra airborne early warning and control system, India's 'eye in the sky', is fully combat-ready after completing all trials. DRDO has handed over final operational clearance certificate to IAF. **P 17**

Pandian's wife Sujata joins BJD

Ending months of speculation, former IAS officer Sujata Rout Karthikeyan, wife of ex-bureaucrat V K Pandian, joined BJD on Thursday. Pandian was BJD's key strategist in the last two polls in Odisha. **P 13**

3 electrocuted in MP during procession

Three people died and several others sustained burn injuries after a tazia reportedly came in contact with a high-tension power line during a Muharram procession in MP's Ratlam district late Thursday. **P 10**

INQUIZITIVE

Our weekly quiz will now appear every Friday. For today's Inquizitive, turn to **P 17**

Mahesh Dixit to be new IB chief

IPS officer Mahesh Dixit has been cleared to take over as the next IB chief. Sources said he played a critical role during Op Sindoor last year, in which crucial intelligence led to destruction of terror camps. **P 13**

Man gets 40 yrs in jail for raping toddler

After 8 witnesses testified, a special Pcoso court in AP sentenced a 32-year-old man to 40 years of rigorous imprisonment and imposed a fine of Rs 50,000 after finding him guilty of raping his two-year-old niece in '24. **TNN**

'Beaten with rods, pit bulls kept to scare us', recall rescued labourers

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Days after 12 bonded labourers were rescued from a factory in Muzaffarnagar's Mandi village, survivors told police and doctors that they were confined for months, beaten with iron rods and spear-like tools as ferocious pit bull dogs guarded them lest they try to escape.

The workers, rescued during a police operation at the factory under Titiwal police station limits, are undergoing medical treatment and psychological counselling. Police are also probing their allegation that a 13th labourer, Arjun, was killed in Nov 2025 and



Many had visible injury marks, while some appeared malnourished

his body dumped. Reports said the case came to light after a labourer from Rajasthan's Jodhpur district managed to escape by scaling the boundary wall and reached police.

They told cops they were brought with promises of

jobs, wages, food and accommodation, but once inside the factory, their phones were taken away, identity documents destroyed and contact with families cut off for months.

Judicial custody, P 14

'Dead' Gzb man returns home day after terhvi

Ghaziabad: On Wednesday, Girdhar Bishri's family gathered to perform his terhvi — the Hindu ritual held on the 13th day after death. By Thursday morning, the man they had believed to have been murdered by seven people was back at his doorstep, reports Advitya Bahl.

His sudden return has thrown police a fresh mystery that if Bishri (40) is alive, whose body was cremated. Bishri reached his Vaisnava home nearly five weeks after he went missing and 13 days after a body pulled out of Masuri canal was identified by his family as his.

Fresh probe, P 5

Govt restores commercial LPG supply to pre-war level

All Sectoral Restrictions Off As Crisis Ebbs

Atul Mathur@timesofindia.com

New Delhi: Extending major relief to commercial and industrial LPG consumers, govt on Thursday removed all sectoral restrictions on the supply of non-domestic packed liquefied petroleum gas and restored supplies to the levels prevailing before the West Asia conflict began.

Govt has also relaxed the supply of bulk LPG, which had been suspended at the onset of the crisis, to 50% of pre-crisis consumption levels. Officials said the restoration follows the recent improvement in the supply situation. Petroleum secretary Neeraj Mittal has written to the chief

CARGO SHIP STRUCK IN HORMUZ

Indian crude prices return to pre-conflict levels, with basket priced at \$70.71/barrel. It rose to \$113.49 in March and softened to \$106.23 in May

Oil minister Hardeep Puri discusses enhanced cooperation in hydrocarbons with Iranian counterpart Mohsen Paknejad

UN agency pauses evacuation of ships through Hormuz after cargo ship hit by

secretaries of all states and Union territories to ensure smooth implementation of the revised supply arrangements, govt said.

The decision indicates that the energy market is now getting back to normalcy, with the price pressure also easing for companies, which are still saddled with losses. Following the disruption

projectile following passage of several tankers. **US officials claim Iran fired at the vessel**

Iraq steps up push for bigger Opec production quotas as it seeks to recoup oil sales, raises prospect that it could consider exit in future

US wants to reach a deal with Iran but won't do so 'at any price', secretary of state Marco Rubio says, adds tolls in Hormuz are unacceptable

in energy supplies through the Strait of Hormuz amid the conflict in West Asia, govt restricted commercial LPG supplies to just 20% of pre-conflict levels and accorded the highest priority to ensuring uninterrupted availability of cooking gas to domestic consumers across the country.

Availability, P 9

2 quakes jolt Venezuela: Official toll 188, thousands feared dead

Caracas: Thousands of Venezuelans were feared dead on Thursday after two powerful earthquakes wreaked havoc in and around capital Caracas, trapping people beneath the rubble of collapsed buildings and setting off powerful aftershocks.

A magnitude 7.2 earthquake hit about 160km west of Caracas Wednesday afternoon, followed less than a minute later by a magnitude 7.5 tremor, according to the US Geological Survey. The agency called it a "seismic doublet" — two earthquakes of similar magnitude striking the same region in close succession.

Quake warning tech for Himalayas, P 9
7.2-quake hits northern Japan, P 20

Many Venezuelans were at home when the quakes struck during a public holiday.

President of Venezuela's national assembly Jorge Rodriguez said at least 188 people had been killed, and 1,520 injured. Interim president Delcy Rodriguez, who took over after Trump ordered the capture of President Nicolas Maduro in a raid in Jan, said the govt was working with businesses to deploy heavy machinery to help those trapped. La Guaira state, near Caracas



The body of a man buried under debris in La Guaira on the country's central coast, which bore the brunt

and home to the city's airport, was worst affected. Witnesses' footage showed scenes of panic as ceilings came down in the airport and rubble from destroyed buildings lined the seafloor.

"We are carrying out very intense rescue efforts to save as many lives as God allows us to," the interim president said on state TV, declaring a state of emergency. **AGENCIES**

US model estimates toll in thousands, P 20

US tariffs may go back up, warns Bessent

US treasury secretary Scott Bessent has said that tariffs could return to their previous levels if the Section 301 investigations being conducted by the US trade representative result in fresh levies. "Right now, we have something called Section 122 tariffs, which is a 10% global tariff," Bessent said. The law allows US administration to impose Section 122 tariffs for 150 days and they will expire July 24.

USTR has proposed 12.5% additional tariff on India for alleged failure to crack down on imports using forced labor. The results of the second probe on structural excess capacity in 15 countries, including India, are awaited. **P 19**

Killing of 6 Nagas 'grave mistake': Kuki Zo Council

Guwahati: Kuki Zo Council in Manipur publicly apologised Thursday on the community's behalf for the killing of six Naga men taken hostage by an armed Kuki group on May 13, calling it a "grave mistake" driven by emotion, reports Prabir Kalita.

The apology, a first by any of the communities since the state lapsed into ethnic bloodletting in May 2023, came with a request for forgiveness from the Naga side, which had freed the last of Kuki villagers held captive days before the six bodies were found June 10 near a Kuki-Zo village. "Yes, I agree that Kuki-Zo (people) made a grave mistake in killing the six Naga civilians..." KZC chief Henliethang Thanglet said.

'Very sorry', P 14

Mann: Not me in video, it's an actor in a mask

Chandigarh: Punjab CM Bhagwant Mann Thursday again rejected a controversial video, saying it was an impostor in a customised mask, reports Vibhor Mohan.

Addressing a presser in Mohali, Mann said the "mastermind" behind the video was Jagman Samra, who has a criminal record and allegedly escaped a Punjab prison and reached Canada. Mann said Samra procured a customised mask, placed it on an actor and filmed the video in Abbotsford, Canada, around 2018-19 to falsely portray him in an intoxicated state. In a late-night video posted online, Samra denied Mann's allegations.

'Scar not visible', P 14

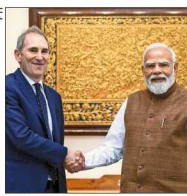
Amazon to ramp up India investment to record \$48bn by '30

Commits Fresh \$13bn For AI & Cloud Businesses

New Delhi: Amazon on Thursday announced fresh investment of \$13 billion, which will largely go towards AI and cloud businesses, taking its recent commitment to \$48 billion by 2030 and making it the largest overseas investor in the country.

FULL Q&A: P 19

"If you look at the combination of the \$40 billion since 2010 and the incremental \$48 billion through 2030, the largest absolute amount of it is still in our marketplace business. But increasingly we are investing very substantial amounts of it in our AWS (Amazon Web Services) and our cloud and AI businesses,"



Amazon CEO Andy Jassy called on PM Modi in New Delhi

Amazon president and CEO Andy Jassy told TOI, adding that investment in the cloud and AI business will total around \$21 billion.

Welcoming the investment, PM Modi posted: "This will create new opportunities for our youth. At the same time, it shows the growing interest across the world to invest in India!" **TNN**

\$95bn over 4-5 yrs, P 19

CBSE students already in Std 7-9 with fgn language can keep combo till 10th

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New Delhi: In what is going to make millions of them breathe easy, students returning to schools after the summer break in July will not be forced into an abrupt language switch midway through schooling. Union education minister Dharmendra Pradhan on Thursday backed the move, saying future generations must know the "dark deeds" of that period. **P 12**

This means students who had opted for two foreign

Pradhan backs Emergency lessons

A day after TOI first reported that NCERT had introduced the 1975-77 Emergency in the Class 9 social science textbook, Union education minister Dharmendra Pradhan on Thursday backed the move, saying future generations must know the "dark deeds" of that period. **P 12**

languages under the existing system can continue with their current combination until their Class 10 board examination, which for Class 7 would be in 2030 and for Class 9 in 2028.

Amended orders, P 14

Colonel, Major among 30 named in FIR for 'assault, rioting' at J&K police stn

Naseer Ganaei & Sanjay Khajuria

Srinagar/Jammu: The commanding officer of 17 Rashtriya Rifles and a Major were among 30-odd Army personnel named in an FIR Thursday, accusing them of storming a police station in J&K's Kishtwar, assaulting cops on duty and damaging govt property after a military vehicle was intercepted for allegedly obstructing the deputy commissioner's convoy on a narrow stretch of road.

The FIR against CO Colonel N Arun Gandhi, Major Vikas Sharma and others at Atholi police station invokes, among other charges, attempt to murder (Section

'ARMED GROUP'

Maj Sharma & Naib Subedar S Gurkhe had allegedly led 30 personnel from 17 RR camp at Kijayee to police station previous day, scaled main gate and the boundary wall

Army group was armed with sticks, iron rods and service weapons, complaint states

It all started after a military vehicle was intercepted for 'obstructing' dy commissioner's convoy on a narrow road

109 of BNS) and vandalism (Section 30) of the Prevention of Damage to Public Property Act).

Vehicle seizure, P 17

Passport was not citizenship proof even in 1967 Act: MEA

New Delhi: Buried under the heap of comments regarding Wednesday's clarification by MEA officials that a passport is not proof of Indian citizenship lies the fact that the statement was merely a reiteration of what has been followed by the authorities over last several decades. Official sources said as much on Thursday.

"It was not decided yesterday that the passport is not proof of citizenship. It was not even decided in the last 12 years. The passport has never been a proof of citizenship. Passports Act 1967 says that passports can be given to non-citizens. Judgments of Bombay HC from 2013 have also made it clear a passport is not proof of citizenship," an official said. **TNN**

Govt notifies steep hike in passport fee, P 14

terday that the passport is not proof of citizenship. It was not even decided in the last 12 years. The passport has never been a proof of citizenship. Passports Act 1967 says that passports can be given to non-citizens. Judgments of Bombay HC from 2013 have also made it clear a passport is not proof of citizenship," an official said. **TNN**

'Legally correct', P 14

8 detained after FIR in Ram temple donations case

Lucknow: Two days after an SIT submitted its preliminary report to UP CM Yogi Adityanath on alleged embezzlement of donations at Ayodhya's Ram Temple, eight people, including the person in charge of counting cash at the temple's pilgrim facilitation centre, were detained Thursday after an FIR was registered against them, report Pat-hikrit Chakraborty and Arshad Afzal Khan.

Subhash Srivastava was in charge of counting cash after donations collected from devotees in 40 boxes reached the centre. Investigators are examining his alleged role, along with seven others, in the suspected diversion of temple funds.

'Embezzled', P 14

2 teens held for killing man after row over DJ song

Two men, just over 18, have been arrested for allegedly stabbing one person to death and injuring another following a dispute with a DJ over not playing a song of their choice at a bar in outer Delhi's Shahbad Daultpur.

The incident happened on June 18. Police said the argument escalated into a fight, after which the accused left but later returned with knives and associates. They allegedly attacked two men they believed were involved in the earlier assault. One victim later died during treatment.

The suspects were arrested in Pitampura after a manhunt. Police are continuing investigations to locate other individuals. **P 4**

₹100 compensation: UP villagers fume after JCB damages graves

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Mathura: A Muslim graveyard committee in Mathura has questioned an official assessment of Rs 100 for each of nine graves damaged by a municipal earthmover, calling the compensation "an insult to the dead". The graves were damaged after an earthmover attached to Mathura-Vrindavan Nagar Nigam allegedly entered the waqf graveyard in April.

The incident took place on the night of April 26, when the earthmover allegedly entered the 117-year-old Kabristan Ahle Muslimeen in Mathura's Manoharpura area while working near a govt water tank on the western side of the premises. The machine belonged to Nature Green Tools and Machines Private Limited and is attached to the Nagar Nigam.

Shakir Hussain, the secretary of the graveyard committee, said the official response was beyond belief. "The administration gave Rs 100 per grave, Rs 100 per tree and Rs 100 per concrete



Kabristan secretary Shakir Hussain shows one of the nine damaged graves

pillar," Hussain told TOI on Thursday. "Families saw graves crushed, burial shrouds come out of the earth and skeletal remains become visible. Yet the official valuation was just Rs 100 per grave. Is this what the dignity of the dead is worth in govt records?" he asked.

'Backdrop of waqf issues', P 14

70-yr case, older than its judges, finally decided

New Delhi: A unique land dispute that dragged through the tenures of all past PMs was finally decided by a Supreme Court bench of Justices Prashant Kumar Mishra and N V Anjaria — both of whom were not born when the case originated from a 1957 sale deed, reports Dhananjay Mahapatra.

The 70-year-old dispute was over 15.5 bighas in Narsipura Kalan village of Haridwar, bought by predecessors of appellant Sarafat Ali through the sale deed of June 4, 1957. SC set aside concurrent findings of trial court and HC and held the deed valid.

4 generations, P 14



Noida airport gears up to triple flights from July 1 | 3

TEMP ON THURSDAY

38.8°

MAXIMUM

TEMP ON THURSDAY

25.2°

MINIMUM

FORECAST

Partly cloudy sky. Max & min temperatures on Friday would be around 40°C and 27°C

MOONSET 2.53AM (SAT)

SUNSET 7.23PM (FRI)

MOONRISE 4.30PM (FRI)

SUNRISE 5.26AM (SAT)

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New 3.9km Kalindi Kunj-Tughlaqabad corridor set to boost connectivity along Yamuna | 4

130

AQI IN DELHI ON THURSDAY (MODERATE)

With Rs 153 crore jump, capital gets excise revenue high | 5



GoM Divided Over Subsidies For Hybrid Vehicles; EV Policy Stuck

BONE OF CONTENTION: Proposal To Offer 50% Waiver On Road Tax, Registration

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New Delhi: Varying views within Delhi govt's Group of Ministers (GoM) over whether strong hybrid vehicles should be eligible for incentives has emerged as a key sticking point in the finalisation of EV Policy 2.0, according to sources.

The sources indicate that while some members see strong hybrids as a useful transition technology towards cleaner mobility, others favour directing incentives exclusively towards battery-electric vehicles that produce zero tailpipe emissions.

The debate centres on a proposal in the new draft policy to offer a 50% waiver on road tax and registration fees for strong hybrid vehicles priced up to Rs 30 lakh.

The current Delhi EV Policy is set to expire on June 30, 2026, and govt is expected to transition immediately to EV Policy 2.0, which will remain in force until 2030. The new policy is awaiting Cabinet approval.

Hybrid vehicles have emerged as Delhi's second-largest powertrain category after petrol. Official registration data shows hybrids accounted for nearly 11% of vehicle registrations till June 12 this year, marginally ahead of EVs at 10.3% and well above diesel vehicles at 5%.

Hybrid vehicle adoption has grown steadily over the past five years. Market share increased from 4.5% in 2021 to nearly 11% in 2026, while re-

HYBRID ADOPTION HAS MORE THAN DOUBLED IN 5 YEARS

Different Kinds Of EV Hybrids

Mild Hybrids

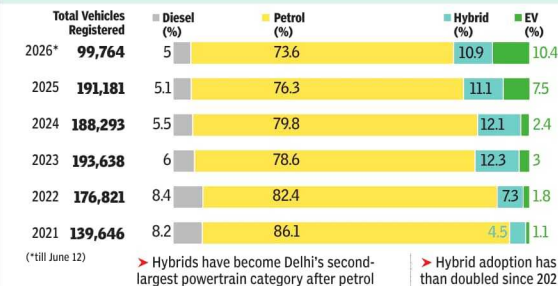
- Use compact battery, electric motor, generator to support petrol engine
- Improves fuel efficiency by up to 10%
- Makes driving in congested traffic smoother

Strong Hybrids

- The vehicle can run on engine, electric motor, or a combination of both
- Offers high fuel efficiency, especially in urban conditions
- Does not require external charging infrastructure

Plug-in Hybrids

- Combine hybrid technology with a significantly larger battery
- Suitable for long-distance travel thanks to the backup petrol engine
- Still limited in the mass-market passenger vehicle segment



maining consistently within the 7.3%-12.3% range since 2022. EVs have also witnessed significant growth, rising from 1.1% of registrations in 2021 to over 10% this year.

Experts backing an EV-only incentive framework argue Delhi should now focus entire-

ly on zero-emission technologies. Amit Bhatt, International Council on Clean Transportation's managing director for India, said, "During FAME I, govt provided incentives for hybrid vehicles, which were withdrawn under FAME II. Five-six years ago, supporting hybrids

as a transitional technology made sense, but today the priority should be a complete shift to zero-emission mobility."

"In India, most petrol hybrids sold are strong hybrids. They are not EVs but rather more efficient internal combustion engine (ICE) vehicles.

Similarly, ICCT's research in Europe has shown plug-in hybrids are often not charged as frequently as anticipated, meaning they operate much like conventional ICE vehicles in real-world conditions," he added.

Bhatt said providing financial incentives for hybrids today could reduce the urgency of transitioning to fully electric mobility. "Public funds would be better directed toward accelerating battery innovation, expanding charging infrastructure, and supporting other technologies that are essential for achieving India's long-term sustainable mobility goals."

Explaining the reason for hybrid subsidy in the draft policy, a senior govt official said strong hybrid vehicles can act as an effective transitional technology for consumers hesitant about fully electric cars due to concerns over driving range and higher purchase costs.

"They provide a balanced alternative as charging infrastructure continues to mature," he said, adding, "By improving fuel efficiency and reducing dependence on conventional fuels, hybrids can deliver meaningful reductions in fuel consumption and vehicular emissions compared to traditional ICE-powered vehicles."

Also, since hybrids combine an electric motor with a conventional engine, they are not heavily reliant on public charging networks. "This makes them a viable option in areas where EV charging infrastructure is limited," he said.

Expect rain relief to continue for next 7 days

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi: Some areas of the city recorded rain on Thursday. IMD said rain is likely to continue in parts of the city over the next seven days.

According to the Met department, Safdarjung, which is the city's base station, did not receive any rain till 5.30 pm. However, between 8.30 am and 5.30 pm, Aya Nagar in south-west Delhi logged 9.2 mm of rainfall.

The maximum temperature on Thursday was recorded at 38.8 degrees Celsius, two degrees above normal. It was 39.3 degrees Celsius a day earlier. The heat index or feels like temperature settled at 43.3 degrees Celsius at 2.30 pm on Thursday.

The day temperature is predicted to stay between 39 and 41 degrees Celsius over the next two days. "No large change in the maximum temperatures likely during the next four days. It may fall by 3-4 degrees Celsius thereafter," said a Met official.

The minimum temperature was reported at 25.2 degrees Celsius, three degrees below normal. It is expected to stay around 27 degrees Celsius on Friday.

Meanwhile, Delhi's air quality continued to remain in the moderate range with an AQI of 130. The AQI was 127 on Wednesday, 142 on Tuesday and 228 on Monday.

In June so far, Safdarjung has logged 41.8 mm of rainfall as against the entire month's normal of 74.1 mm. In June last year, the base station received 107.1 mm of rainfall, an excess of 45%.

MCD to streamline vehicle flow at 154 border toll plazas

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New Delhi: Municipal Corporation of Delhi on Thursday approved the amended draft bye-laws which will bring a toll collection system to Delhi that will depend on minimum human intervention, track default vehicles and fine their owners heavily.

The Multi-Lane Free Flow (MLFF) toll system, which is in line with Supreme Court's directives, will be implemented at all 154 border checkpoints of Delhi by the end of Dec. The Delhi Municipal Corporation (Toll Tax) Amendment Bye-Laws, 2026, has a strict penalty regime. Offenders may have to pay penalties as high as five times the applicable toll tax for each instance of wrongful entry.

Authorities can intercept vehicles anywhere in Delhi, verify documents and toll payment status, and ask for the dues to be paid on the spot. Vehicles may be detained or impounded if the payment is not made.

Vehicle owners will be issued notices specifying outstanding toll dues that must be cleared within 72 hours. A failure may lead to a warrant of distress, followed by actions such as vehicle interception, detention or impounding.

Officials said the framework allows digital tracking of vehicles through toll records, CCTV footage, Automatic Number Plate Recognition (ANPR) cameras, RFID and FASTag data. These can become evidence against a vehicle in case of default.

The MCD commissioner or an authorised officer will de-

Authorities can intercept vehicles anywhere, verify documents and payment status, and ask for dues to be paid on the spot

termine the unpaid toll amounts and examine cases of wrongful entry, repeated defaults, and misuse of exemptions or deliberate evasion.

The bye-laws have a provision for recovery of costs for any damage to toll collection infrastructure. MCD can also recover unpaid toll tax and penalties through the auction of vehicles or property. Repeat offenders could be blacklisted.

House Ruckus

On Thursday, a heated debate erupted in the MCD House after the civic body's additional commissioner told members that 22 incidents, including building collapses and fire accidents, were reported across five zones between May 22 and June 24. The official clarified that none of these involved MCD-owned properties.

AAP councillors accused the civic body of hiding facts and failing to strengthen civic infrastructure. Leader of Opposition Anshu Narang alleged the 22 incidents highlighted serious lapses.

Mukesh Goyal, leader of the Indraprastha Vikas Party, said that MCD could not be absolved of responsibility because no accidents happened on MCD property.

Mayor Praveesh Wahi said that accountability will be fixed on officials in the event of waterlogging.

Digital arrest scam: CBI teams raid 80 locations in 16 states, arrest key agents

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi: These 'digital arrest' scammers did not just stop at using fake police station backdrops on video calls—they went as far as creating a fraudulent web portal deceptively mirroring the official website of Supreme Court of India to dupe unsuspecting victims.

Acting on a complaint from the SC Registry, CBI registered an FIR and launched Operation Chakra-VI to dismantle the underlying criminal infrastructure. Sixty special teams executed coordinated searches across more than 80 locations in 16 states, including Delhi, Maharashtra, Tamil Nadu, West Bengal and Gujarat. Multiple operatives have been apprehended. Two key players, who incorporated shell companies and managed mule bank accounts to launder nearly Rs 2 crore, have been arrested.

The targeted network is allegedly linked to over 200 cases of digital arrest scams across the country, said the agency.

CBI investigators revealed that the syndicate deployed advanced technical infrastructure to upload forged court orders

CBI has also uncovered evidence suggesting that the network's reach extended beyond borders, victimising foreigners as well. Consequently, the agency is alerting international law enforcement partners as investigations continue to completely dismantle the criminal apparatus

and fabricated law enforcement documents, creating a false sense of legitimacy to terrify and extort victims. The multistate searches yielded a significant haul of incriminating documents, mobile phones and digital devices, all of which have been sent for detailed forensic analysis.

CBI has also uncovered evidence suggesting that the network's reach extended beyond borders, victimising foreigners as well. Consequently, the agency is alerting international law enforcement partners as investigations continue to completely dismantle the criminal apparatus.

Officials reiterated that there was no

such thing as a 'digital arrest'. "It's a highly coercive form of cyber fraud that weaponises psychological terror and social engineering," said an officer. "It typically begins with an unexpected phone call or automated message claiming that the victim's Aadhaar card, passport or a courier parcel has been linked to severe criminal activities like drug trafficking, money laundering or terror financing," he pointed out.

The scammers then get on a video call with the target where they are dressed in realistic police uniforms and sit in front of AI-generated or physical backdrops staged to look like authentic police stations or CBI offices. Under the guise of a 'digital arrest', the perpetrators place the victim under strict virtual custody, forbidding them from disconnecting the call, contacting family or leaving the room for hours or even days.

Once the victim is isolated and terrified by fabricated arrest warrants and official-looking court orders, the scammers offer a 'fake' way out, pressuring them into transferring their entire life savings into their mule bank accounts, claiming that the funds will be refunded after clearance.

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New Delhi: A scene of complete commotion unfolded at Yamuna Bazaar near Nigambodh Ghat on Thursday as Delhi Development Authority (DDA), along with multiple agencies, intensified its demolition drive, deploying several bulldozers and personnel in a bid to raze all 32 ghats in a single day.

The action continued even as power discom teams were disconnecting and gathering electricity meters in a corner, while residents hurriedly salvaged iron doors, window grills and other belongings from their single-room dwellings to minimise losses.

By around 3.30 pm, bulldozers had already reached Ghats 23 and 24, while some families at Ghat 25 were still in the process of vacating despite repeated warnings from authorities. Concerned DDA officials could be seen urging residents to remove their belongings quickly and directing junior staff to ensure no one remained inside the structures. Power discom staff, meanwhile, cautioned people about cables lying amid the debris.

Amid thick clouds of dust generated by the demolition, scrap dealers silently surveyed abandoned structures and searched through rubble for recyclable metal. Crows gathered behind a wall separating the settlement from the main road, watching the operation unfold as police personnel repeatedly asked onlookers to maintain a safe distance.

In one corner, Sharda (name changed), visibly distressed and searching for her son to help remove household belongings, struggled to make herself heard over the noise of the machines. When asked why she had not left earlier like many of her neighbours, she remained silent.

Moments later, a neighbour explained the hesitation. "We were still hoping the drive would be halted midway as had happened during previous demolition attempts. We are poor people and barely earn enough to feed our families. The cost of moving to rented accommodation has only increased our worries. Even though it



The demolition follows directions of Delhi High Court and National Green Tribunal mandating the removal of encroachments from the ecologically sensitive O-Zone floodplain

was just a single room, we spent our hard-earned money over five decades building this house for our large family today, everything has come to square one and we are back on the road. We may have to spend the night on the roadside," she said.

The demolition follows directions of Delhi High Court and National Green Tribunal mandating the removal of encroachments from the ecologically sensitive O-Zone floodplain to aid river restoration and reduce urban flooding risks.

In a public notice issued on June 23, DDA asked residents of the "illegal" settlements to vacate voluntarily, warning encroachments would otherwise be removed. The authority also offered temporary accommodation at DUSIB night shelters located at Raja Garden-II, Saraswati Park in RK Puram, A-Block JRR Colony in Sultanpuri, and Geeta Colony near Ambekar Institute of Advanced Communication Technologies.

However, many residents were reluctant to move to the shelters. "These places are unsafe and unhygienic. The question

of shifting there with our family, especially women members, does not arise. I would rather spend a day or two on the roadside before finding rented accommodation," said a local woman.

Suresh Sharma, 70, a resident of Kashmiri Ghat who was born and raised in the area, said the settlement had long served families performing last rites according to Kashmiri traditions.

"People from across the city came here for cremation rituals. But the loss of our case by the Panda Association and misuse of the area by some people invited action from the authorities. In 2006, residents were offered 40-square-yard plots, but many neither relocated nor pursued the matter. Today, when bulldozers have arrived, everyone is demanding rehabilitation," he said.

A DDA official said, "We have decided to continue the demolition till 10 pm as police personnel will not be available Friday because of Muharram duties. All precautions have been taken to ensure the drive is carried out smoothly."

Rape case: Cops get cabbie's ID blocked

►Continued from P1

Clothes recovered during the probe have also been sent for testing. "The car and the crime spot were examined using chemicals to detect traces of substances and bodily fluids," a source said, adding that investigators are awaiting the laboratory reports. Sources said bloodstains were also found at the spot where the body was dumped.

A towel suspected to have been used to strangle the mi-

nor, along with the stones allegedly used in the attack, were also seized from the spot. Police said they have obtained two-day custody of the accused and may take him for reconstruction of the crime scene.

During interrogation, Singh claimed he rolled up the car windows immediately after the kidnapping so her screams wouldn't be heard. However, police suspect he may have slapped and threatened her into silence. Officials said the girl had visible

injuries on her chest, allegedly caused by being struck with large stones.

Police have blocked Singh's cab aggregator ID as part of the probe and have written to the cab aggregator seeking details about his enrolment and the screening process followed during his onboarding.

Investigators further found that Singh had been involved in a road accident in another state days before the crime. His brother said, on June 19, Singh had briefly

dozed off while driving the cab and woke up to find a truck approaching. To avoid a collision, he swerved the vehicle, damaging one of its doors.

The vehicle will now be sent to the Central Forensic Science Laboratory (CFSL) for a detailed forensic examination.

Earlier, it was reported that the accused had appeared for police recruitment examinations in Bihar. During interrogation, he also told police that he had aspired to become a police officer.

Advanced radars to AI forensics: Expo showcases future of security

Khushi.Bhuta@timesofindia.com



Photos: Khushi Bhuta

Visitors found themselves starstruck by the weapon displays, with Jyoti Rani (26) calling her experience handling a .300 Blackout rifle exciting

A bike ambulance with an in-built stretcher to navigate narrow, congested lanes where conventional ambulances often struggle to reach in time



Emergency response vans packed with first-aid equipment and essential disaster-relief tools, functioning as hospitals on wheels



New Delhi: From radars capable of detecting human presence beneath rubble and bike ambulances designed to navigate congested streets to AI-powered cybersecurity and forensic tools, the International Police Expo 2026 showcased technologies aimed at tackling both emergencies like building collapses and landslides as well as evolving security threats such as bomb blasts and riots.

Among the exhibits drawing the crowds were India's first indigenous sniper rifle, a close-quarter battle carbine, a 9x19 mm machine pistol and a joint-venture protective carbine. Also on display were advanced radar systems designed to detect human activity behind concrete structures and under debris.

Army engineer Venkatesh, 32, explained that different radar systems serve different operational needs. "Some are designed to penetrate deeper and

can help agencies like NDRF locate people trapped under rubble after disasters. Others are lighter and more mobile, making them useful for detecting militants hiding in conflict zones," he said.

The focus of the two-day event extended beyond border security and counterterrorism to practical solutions for police forces, forensic experts and disaster-response teams. Police vans equipped with first-aid facilities, emergency lighting and protective equipment were displayed alongside specialised motorcycles designed for rapid response. One of the most talked-about exhibits was a bike ambulance fitted with an in-built stretcher and developed to transport injured people through narrow and heavily congested lanes where larger ambulances struggle to reach.

For many visitors, the emphasis on indigenous innovation stood out as much as the technology itself. Jyoti Rani (26), a cyber vigilance professional

from Ludhiana, said the growing focus on 'Make in India' was one of the highlights of the event. "I found it particularly exciting that technologies I had earlier seen abroad are now being developed in India as well," she said.

For Akash Raj S, an 18-year-old IIT Delhi intern attending the event with a focus on drone technology, the expo offered a broader perspective. "We came here for the drones since that is what our internship is based on. Being here has helped us understand that there is so much more room for development in every sector," he said.

The adjoining Drone International Expo and Homeland Security Expo highlighted the expanding role of unmanned systems in surveillance, reconnaissance and disaster response. Exhibits ranged from high-altitude unmanned aerial vehicles and advanced surveillance drones to India's first coherence-based acoustic drone detector

and the country's first AI-powered anti-drone patrol vehicle, reflecting advances in both drone technology and counter-drone systems.

Artificial intelligence emerged as a recurring theme across sectors. Officials from forensic science laboratories pointed to AI applications in voice analysis, video tampering detection and other processes that are currently labour-intensive. "We will assess the products and decide which ones to pitch to our seniors based on effectiveness," an FSL official said.

Cybersecurity displays featured deepfake detection platforms, analytics systems, real-time surveillance solutions and AI-driven security tools. While some visitors noted that several products remain in the development stage, many also acknowledged the rapid growth of indigenous capabilities and their potential for real-world deployment in the years ahead.

Noida Airport Gears Up To Triple Flights And Network From July 1

‘Soon, It Will Be Connected To 16-17 Destinations With About 40 Daily Flights’

Saurabh Sinha
@timesofindia.com

New Delhi: Noida International Airport (NIA) is going to triple its network and flights starting next month, after stabilizing operations by overcoming both expected and unexpected teething troubles in the last 10 days since launch on June 15. While external challenges like Noida/Dilli abhi door hai with expensive cab rides and airlines cutting flights during the current turbulent times remain, the operator remains confident about the India growth story which it says will provide it the required tailwinds. Industry sources say the local traffic is yet to pick up due to connectivity issues with affordable ways of getting to and from the airport yet to be provided by govt..

In its launch phase that saw Air India Express pull out due to the parent AI Group's mounting losses, the airport currently has 12 daily flights (six arrivals and as many departures) by IndiGo and Akasa to and from five cities - Navi Mumbai, Jammu, Amritsar, Hyderabad and Bengaluru. The first arrival is at 8 am and the last departure of the day is 12 hours later.

Speaking exclusively to TOI Thursday, NIA VC Christoph Schnellmann said: "By and large we are very pleased with the first 10 days of operations. There are issues we continue to work on but have been able to deliver the airport experience to passengers that we were hoping to do so. We got time to stabilise operations by

AIRLINES' PLANS

INDIGO

Currently operates 56 weekly flights between NIA and Hyderabad, Bengaluru, Amritsar and Jammu. From July 1, IndiGo says it will "progressively scale up and add connectivity to 12 more destinations across India, including Mumbai and tier 2 / tier 3 cities such as Bareilly, Bhopal, Chandigarh, Dharamshala, Jaipur, Srinagar, Lucknow among others"

AKASA

Did not share plans for NIA

AIR INDIA EXPRESS

Has pulled out of NIA for now due to mounting losses of parent Air India group

This will increase our operations to over 240 weekly flights to and from the airport by mid-July 2026. NIA is a strategic addition to our growing network. With its modern infrastructure, operational efficiency and passenger-centric design, we expect the airport to drive faster turnarounds, seamless processes, and an elevated travel experience for our customers in the region.

IndiGo spokesperson

using the infra in a real-life scenario and are now looking forward to July 1 to step up operations when we get connected to 16 to 17 destinations with about 40-45 daily flights."

From next month, NIA will start having direct flights to and from places like Mumbai, Srinagar, Jammu, Bareilly, Bhopal, Dehradun, Dharamshala, Chandigarh, Jaipur, Jodhpur, Kishanagar, Lucknow and Pantnagar. The first flight will then land before 6 pm and last one depart late at night.

Asked about the terminal not seeming to be fully ready despite the delay in operational, he said: "That process will continue for the next weeks and

months. That's a normal process of taking this type of large and complex infrastructure online. All things considered, we can be really pleased and proud about what used to be farm land six years ago is now a state of the art airport," he said.

Many passengers who have flown to and from NIA complained of connectivity issues and high cab fares — something that is not in the domain of the airport operator but has to be provided by govt. Schnellmann, however, said that is not an issue as the airport is connected to a six-lane E-way and has affordable AC e-bus services by YEIDA to Noida with fares capped at Rs 50. App-based cab fares to Bo-

tanical Graden in Noida start at Rs 600. "On Day One, Google Location was not working was some inter-connecting roads were not shown as open. That issue was resolved."

Similarly, he exuded confidence about getting traction with airlines with more carriers going to start more flights and did not see AI Express, one of the three launch airlines, pulling out as a setback. "We are in touch with both Indian (including AI Group) and foreign airlines and hope to see many of them. We're confident they're looking at Noida airport as an important point for their network. There is continued interest among airlines and we see a strong

growth throughout our long term view of the 40 years we hope to be here for," said the India veteran of Zurich Airports. NIA expects to have the infra for international flights like customs and immigration ready by the end of this year.

As of now, NIA has seven food and beverage outlets operational along with other retail stores. The teething troubles seen in the first 10 days include technical issues with systems like e-gates taking a little longer than expected time to open after scanning boarding cards, DigiYatra accessibility and AC systems. The first fortnight with limited operations were used to stabilise all these expected hiccups.

The biggest difference between NIA and almost all other airports in India is the fact that you don't drive right in front of departure area where the entry gate is just a short walk away. And ditto on the way back. Here, one has to walk for about 100 metres after getting dropped from the bus/cab/car to enter the terminal or reach car park after exiting the same. Asked if the terminal will get an elevated road to departure level when it is expanded from current 1.2 crore capacity annually (CPA) to 3 CPA, he said that decision will be taken at the design stage for the same.

Work for the expansion will start when the existing terminal handles 80% of its capacity, or 96 lakh passengers in a year. Given the current global uncertainty, Schnellmann did not give a timeline as to when he sees that happen.

Five rescued after staircase collapse

New Delhi: Four women, a five-month-old infant and a pet dog were rescued after the staircase of a two-storey house collapsed in north Delhi's Sabzi Mandi area Thursday afternoon.

According to Delhi Fire Services, the incident was reported around 1.33pm from House No. 2088 near Tilak Chowk. DFS officials said the staircase connecting the building's first and second floors suddenly gave way, leaving the occupants stranded on the upper floor with no safe means of escape.

Shortly after reaching the site, the fire department team informed the control room that several people were trapped on the second floor and requested additional manpower and safety

equipment, including safety belts, to carry out the rescue operation. Additional rescue teams were then deployed to the building. Using safety gear and manual rescue techniques, firefighters safely evacuated everyone trapped inside.

The rescued occupants were identified as Mansi (45), her daughter Anjali (24), Kavita (40), who is specially abled, her daughter Payal (21), and Kavita's five-month-old child, Niru. The family's pet dog was also brought to safety.

Senior fire officials said no casualties were reported. The rescued residents were escorted out of the building as a precaution. Officials said the cause of the collapse is yet to be ascertained. **TNN**

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SUV runs over dog; man arrested: A man was arrested after he allegedly ran over a community dog, which later died, with his SUV in east Delhi's Jagatpuri last week. According to the police, a complaint was received from a resident, who also had CCTV footage of the incident. Cops took the dog to a hospital, where it died. **TNN**

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AIIMS cracks down on illegal social media use

Anuja Jaiswal
@timesofindia.com

New Delhi: In a move aimed at protecting its brand image and safeguarding patient confidentiality, AIIMS Delhi has issued comprehensive social media guidelines barring students, resident doctors, employees and affiliated bodies from using the institute's name, logo or official branding without prior approval.

The office memorandum, issued this week and effective immediately, applies to undergraduate and postgraduate students, resident doctors, faculty members, researchers, administrative staff, student associations, departments and even third-party collaborators associated with the country's premier medical institute.

Under the new rules, no individual or organisation affiliated with AIIMS can use the institute's name, logo, emblem or branding in any digital or print material without written permission from the concerned department. The restriction extends to event posters, banners, social media posts, blogs, videos, reels and social media handles that could create

WHAT AIIMS HAS BARRED

- > No use of AIIMS name or logo without prior approval
- > No patient photographs or case details on social media
- > No unofficial social media handles posing as AIIMS
- > No sharing of exam papers or confidential academic material
- > No political, religious, defamatory or hate content on official accounts
- > Sponsored posts and brand collaborations require prior clearance

the impression of being official AIIMS accounts.

The guidelines also prohibit disclosure of patient information, images or case details on social media, even if the patient is not identifiable. The document cites legal obligations under medical ethics regulations and Digital Personal Data Protection Act, 2023.

AIIMS has also warned against sharing copyrighted material without authorisation, posting defamatory, obscene or hate content, or circulating confidential academic material such as exami-

nation papers and answer keys. Students and employees have been directed not to engage in plagiarism or academic dishonesty on social media platforms.

For departments and student bodies operating official social media accounts, AIIMS has laid down a governance framework. Such accounts must be registered with the department concerned, provide details of administrators using institutional email IDs, appoint a media coordinator for content approval, and clearly state whether the content is student-generated or department-generated.

The guidelines further direct account administrators to avoid political, religious or defamatory content; maintain a professional tone aligned with AIIMS values, and obtain special clearance before entering into sponsored content or brand collaborations.

The institute said the guidelines have been framed to prevent reputational damage, legal complications and misuse of AIIMS branding while ensuring responsible use of social media by all those associated with the institution.

Drug trafficker detained in city

New Delhi: Delhi Police has detained a 31-year-old alleged drug trafficker under Prevention of Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances (PITNDPS) Act as part of its anti-narcotics drive.

The accused, Ujma, was apprehended from Raghunagar Nagar on June 24 and is being shifted to Chanchalguda Central Jail in Hyderabad to prevent her from operating drug trafficking network from behind bars. She has been involved in six cases under the NDPS Act.

DCP (crime) Harsh Indora said the crime branch prepared a proposal for her preventive detention and forwarded it to PITNDPS division ministry of finance. **TNN**

Valuables worth ₹1 crore stolen

New Delhi: Thieves decamped with valuables worth nearly Rs 1 crore from a wholesale mobile phone shop in Karol Bagh Wednesday. Within 24 hours, police have arrested four men, including 24-year-old Ravi, a trusted employee of the store who allegedly emerged as the mastermind behind the heist.

Police identified Ravi's associates as Ansh (22), Manish (22) and Dipanshu (23), who were traced to outer Delhi's Mangolpuri, where all three resided. Raids led to the apprehension of Ansh and three bags containing Rs 84 lakh in stolen cash were recovered from him. The other three were also nabbed. **TNN**

Two arrested in gym firing case

New Delhi: Two members of Lawrence Bishnoi Gang were arrested in connection with the firing outside a gym allegedly owned by a singer June 11.

The accused were identified as Hakikat and Sagar. Sources said a special cell team had received information about their movement in west Delhi area and laid a trap. They were intercepted, and on spotting the police team, allegedly opened fire. Police retaliated, and both sustained bullet injuries in their legs during the exchange before being overpowered. Weapons were recovered from their possession, police said.

Earlier, police had arrested Arman (19) and Tushar (21), both residents of Gohana, in connection with the case. **TNN**

Metro Corridor Set To Boost Connectivity Along Yamuna

Kalindi Kunj, Tughlaqabad To Become Interchange Stations

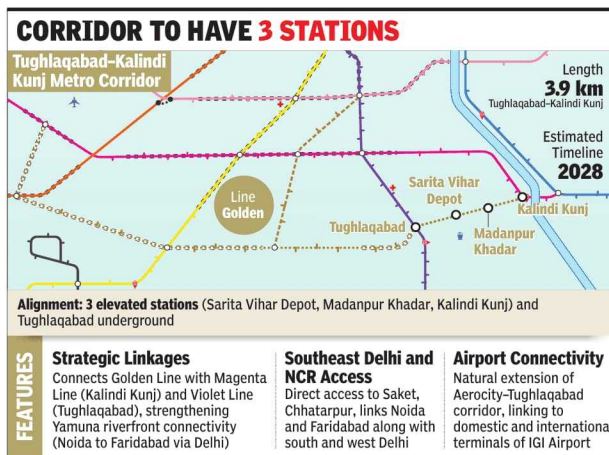
Priyangi Agarwal
@timesofindia.com

New Delhi: The new 3.9km Kalindi Kunj-Tughlaqabad corridor, an extension of Golden Line, will connect the Magenta and Violet lines and strengthen connectivity along the Yamuna riverfront - Noida to Faridabad via Delhi.

Of the four stations on this corridor, three will be elevated - Sarita Vihar Depot, Madanpur Khadar and Kalindi Kunj - while Tughlaqabad will be an underground station. Of these, Kalindi Kunj will turn into an interchange station connecting the Golden and Magenta lines. Tughlaqabad will be another interchange station linking the Golden and Violet lines.

"This new corridor will strengthen the Yamuna riverfront connectivity and ensure the Noida-Faridabad connectivity via Delhi," said a senior official of Delhi Metro Rail Corporation (DMRC). He added that it would strengthen integration with the existing metro corridors.

Magenta Line currently runs from Botanical Garden in Noida to Krishna Park Extension and another stretch from Deepali Chowk to Majlis Park. While Violet Line is operational from Kashmere Gate to Raja Nahar Singh (Ballabgarh) in Haryana. The 8.4km-long new corridor of Golden Line from Lajpat Nagar to Saket G block



is under construction. Another corridor of Golden Line, from Aerocity to IGI Airport Terminal 1, has been approved.

"This corridor will boost connectivity for residential clusters and emerging industrial pockets in southeast Delhi. It will create direct access to residential areas like Saket and Chhatrapur and will link Noida and Faridabad along with south and west Delhi," said the official. "Since this corridor is an extension of the Aerocity-

Tughlaqabad corridor, it will link domestic and international terminals of IGI Airport," he added.

The corridor will reduce road congestion and emission on the Noida-Faridabad link and on roads connecting to the airport, he pointed out.

The Kalindi Kunj-Tughlaqabad corridor, an expansion of DMRC's Phase V(A), is expected to be ready by late 2028. The two other approved corridors are Tughlaqabad to Kalindi Kunj, an extension of

Golden Line, and RK Ashram Marg to Indraprastha (Central Vista corridor), an extension of Magenta Line.

DMRC is currently constructing five corridors as part of its Phase IV expansion. This includes Krishna Park Extension to Deepali Chowk and Indorok to Indraprastha, which are extensions of Magenta Line. The construction of two corridors of Golden Line is underway while Rithala-Kundli, extension of Red Line, is also progressing.

Fight over music leads to murder, two held

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi: Two men, both only a few months over the age of 18, have been apprehended for allegedly murdering one person and injuring another after a dispute over music with a DJ at a bar in outer Delhi's Shabbad Daulatpur escalated into a revenge attack outside the bar hours later.

According to police, information regarding a violent altercation outside a lodge and bar was received in the early hours of June 18. Upon reaching the spot, officers found two men with serious stab injuries. Both victims were rushed to the hospital for treatment, but one of them succumbed to his injuries Tuesday during treatment.

"A tip-off was received regarding the whereabouts of one of the accused," said DCP (crime) Harsh Indora. "Acting swiftly on the information, a raid was conducted, and the accused were apprehended from Pitampura Wednesday."

The accused have been identified as Abhishek (18 years and 7 months) and Ashwin (18 years and 3 months). During interrogation, the duo allegedly disclosed that they had visited the establishment to smoke hookah when an argument broke out with the DJ operator after he refused to play a song of their choice.

Police said the disagreement soon escalated into a physical confrontation, during which the accused were allegedly assaulted by several people present at the venue.

Nursing a grudge over the incident, they left the premises and returned to Mangolpuri. There, they allegedly arranged additional associates and armed themselves with knives before returning to the area.

Investigators said the accused then targeted two men whom they believed had participated in the earlier assault and allegedly stabbed them repeatedly before fleeing the scene. A manhunt was subsequently launched, leading to their apprehension.

A case has been registered at Shabbad Dairy police station under Sections 103 (murder), 109 (attempt to murder), and 3(5) (common intention) of BNS. Police said further investigation is under way to identify and trace the other associates involved in the attack.

**GOVERNMENT OF TELANGANA
PUBLIC HEALTH AND MUNICIPAL ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT**
NIT No. 543/D/BSM/2.0/44 ULS/2026-27 Dt: 25.06.2026
Name of the Work: Sewerage Projects in 44 ULS under SBM 2.0 under the jurisdiction of Sangareddy, Rangareddy, Nizamabad & Mahabubnagar PH Divisions (Package-II) under L3 contract system with Hybrid Annuity Model. Total Cost: Rs. 1548.89 Crores; Bid Download Start Date: 01.07.2026 @ 11:00 AM; Pre-Bid Meeting Date: 06.07.2026 @ 11:00 AM; Conference Hall, 7th floor, O/o ENC (PH), Hyderabad; Bid Submission Start Date: 09.07.2026 @ 11:00 AM; Bid Submission Closing Date: 27.07.2026 @ 04:30 PM. For details visit <https://tender.telangana.gov.in>. Contact No:-040-23252843, 9154298724
Sd/-Superintending Engineer (PH) West Circle, Hyderabad
R.O. No. : 4919-PP/CL/ADVT/2026-27

**NORTHERN RAILWAY
NOTICE INVITING TENDER**

Name of work and its location	92-SRDEE-G-DU-2026-27 Operation, Maintenance and Repair of Electrical assets at Abhinandan Rest House, Tiak Bridge New Delhi (For Three Years)
Approx. cost of the works in	Rs. 16013669.44
Address of the office	Sr. Div. Elect. Engineer/General, DRM Office, Delhi Division, Northern Railway, State Entry Road, New Delhi, 110055
Earnest Money	Rs. 3230300.00
Last Date & time of submission of tender	15/07/2026, 13.00 Hrs
Opening of tender	15/07/2026, 13.00 Hrs.
Website & notice board	www.ireps.gov.in & Sr. Div. Elect. Engineer/General, New Delhi.

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NOTICE INVITING TENDER No. 1283 (PM-JANMAN) (Batch-IV, Year-2024-25)
No./6155/22/D-12/MPRDA/2026 Bhopal, Dated : 25.06.2026
Online Tenders for Construction of Rural Roads/CDs with 5 years maintenance are invited on the E-Procurement System portal <https://www.pmsgsynders.gov.in> as detailed below :
● Name of Work - Construction/Up-gradation of Rural Roads under PMGSY including maintenance for Five year after construction.
● SSR Applicable - SSR issued by M.P. Rural Road Development Authority, effective from 01.01.2024 and amended up issue date of NIT.
● PM-JANMAN-Batch-IV, Year-2024-25

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1	Anuppur	1	1	0.80	4646000/-
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1. Availability of Bid Documents and mode of submission: The bid document is available online and should be submitted online in www.pmsgsynders.gov.in. The bidder would be required to register in the website which is free of cost. For submission of the bids, the bidder is required to have a valid Digital Signature Certificate (DSC) from one of the authorized Certifying Authorities.

2. Bid document may be purchased online from 03.07.2026 (17:30 hrs) and last date for online bid submission is 20.07.2026 (17:00 hrs.)

3. Other Critical dates and details can be viewed in the detailed N.I.T. and SBD for PMGSY Works (June-2020) on the above-mentioned portal and concerned PIU.

CHIEF GENERAL MANAGER (TENDER)
M.P. Madhyam/126568/2026

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Tender No.	Material Description	Due date
262713 001835	Procurement of Filler grade Precipitated Calcium Carbonate (in Jumbo Bag) for Unit-1	07.07.2026
262713 002002	Supply of 11kV Switchgear panels for replacement of DBB #2 in RSPS #2 at TNPL Unit-1. Bid issue date : 30.06.2026 Email : pmd1@tnpl.co.in	21.07.2026
262713 001993	Procurement of Heavy Duty LDPE Shrink Film 80/90 Microns of various sizes	07.07.2026
262713 001994	Procurement of Laminated Wrapper Reel of various sizes (Base 100 GSM with 15 Micron BOPP).	07.07.2026
262713 002037	Procurement of Stretch Film 50 Microns 50 CM Width 5024 CM DIA	07.07.2026
262713 002024	Sodium Soap (Imported/Indigenous) required for Deinking Plant.	09.07.2026

Corrigendum if any will be issued in TNPL Website and NIC Portal only. For further details, please visit websites : www.tnpl.com / <https://tntenders.gov.in/nicgeapp>

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NOTICE INVITING TENDER

Madhya Pradesh Building Development Corporation Limited (MPBDC) Bhopal invites online tenders for the following works:

1. Construction of Composite District Office Building Mandla M.P. PAC Rs. 2,497.45 Lakhs
2. Construction of Government college at Shahpur Dist. Sagar M.P. PAC Rs. 1,291.59 Lakhs
3. Construction of new College of Nursing (CON) at Dist Mandla M.P. PAC Rs. 1,183.03 Lakhs
4. Construction work of District Institute of Education and Training COE at Dist. Vidisha M.P. PAC Rs. 1,026.49 Lakhs
5. Construction work of District Institute of Education and Training COE at Dist. Ujjain M.P. PAC Rs. 993.19 Lakhs
6. Construction work of District Institute of Education and Training COE at Dist. Shahpur M.P. PAC Rs. 953.75 Lakhs
7. Construction work of District Institute of Education and Training COE at Dist. Shahdol M.P. PAC Rs. 930.92 Lakhs
8. Construction work of District Institute of Education and Training COE at Dist. Narsinghpur M.P. PAC Rs. 851.29 Lakhs
9. Construction work of District Institute of Education and Training COE at Dist. Umaria M.P. PAC Rs. 826.19 Lakhs
10. Construction of Sports complex at Dist. Neemuch M.P. PAC Rs. 530.61 Lakhs
11. Construction of Regional Office in Govt. Arts and Commerce College Campus at Sagar (M.P.). PAC Rs. 338.53 Lakhs
12. Construction of Volleyball and Tn shed at Govt. School of Excellence Dist. Narsinghpur M.P. PAC Rs. 86.48 Lakhs
13. New Furniture for MPBDC office at Second Floor and Third Floor of CEDMAP Building Arera Hills, Bhopal. (2nd Call) PAC Rs. 104.75 Lakhs
14. Demolition of the old government residential and non-residential buildings at proposed site of upcoming project of Snyamshan Medical College Rewa, M.P. (2nd Call) PAC Rs. 58.93 Lakhs
15. Dismantling of Hostel in Govt. Mahakoshal College, Jabalpur (M.P.). PAC Rs. 0.00 Lakhs
16. Dismantling of Old Hostel Building in the Teshil Campus at Anuppur (M.P.). PAC Rs. 0.85 Lakhs
17. Dismantling of The Existing Dilapidated Buildings at the Site of Sandipani school Karondhi Gram, Jabalpur, Madhya Pradesh. PAC Rs. 0.00 Lakhs
18. Sanctioning of Old Government Residential Quarters and Non-Residential Buildings at K.E.H. Compound, Indore for Construction of 1450-Bedded MY Hospital and Multi-Level Parking at Indore. PAC Rs. 6.78 Lakhs

Detailed NIT and tender documents can be viewed, downloaded and purchased online from (01.07.2026 at 18:00 hrs. to 22.07.2026 at 15:30 hrs. for S. No. 1 to 12), (06.07.2026 at 18:00 hrs. to 13.07.2026 at 15:30 hrs. for S. No. 13), (06.07.2026 at 18:00 hrs. to 13.07.2026 at 15:30 hrs. for S. No. 14), (01.07.2026 at 18:00 hrs. to 08.07.2026 at 15:30 hrs. for S. No. 15 to 18) from Website www.mptenders.gov.in The bidders have to submit the Bids online only from website www.mptenders.gov.in. PAC can vary at the time of uploading of tender document. Any amendment/corrigendum 'if any' will be published on website only, will not be published on newspapers.

M.P. Madhyam/126574/2026 MANAGING DIRECTOR

कार्यालय अतिरिक्त मुख्य अभियंता, सा.चि.वि., संभाग द्वितीय उद्यमपुर, बॉसबाड़ा
क्रमांक : डी-253 दिनांक : 18.06.2026

निविदा सूचना संख्या - 05/2026-27
NIB Code :- PWD2627A1246

सड़क निर्माण कार्य हेतु इच्छुक सर्वेको से अनिवार्य मायम से निम्न 24.06.2026 से दिनांक 15.07.2026, सायं 06.00 बजे तक निविदा आमंत्रित की जाती है। निविदा का अन्व विवरण वेबसाइट (<http://www.eproc.rajasthan.gov.in>) और <http://www.sppp.rajasthan.gov.in> पर देखा जा सकता है। उम्मीद की कूल अनुमानित लागत राशि रु. 2062.91 लाख है।
UBN-PWD2627WLOB05295 and PWD2627WLOB05296

आतिरिक्त मुख्य अभियंता, सा.चि.वि. संभाग द्वितीय उद्यमपुर, बॉसबाड़ा

DIPR/C/11099/2026

IndianOil
CIN:L23201MH1999GOI01138

Expression of Interest (EOI)

Indian Oil Corporation Limited invites Expression of Interest from parties for partnering in Development, Operation and Maintenance of MOTEL FACILITIES at Wayside Amenity Sites on the Delhi-Mumbai Expressway (National Expressway-4).

Interested Parties may refer to EOI Document Ref: IOCLNFR/HO/IME/ MOTEL/ 2026-27/01 (e-Tender Id: 2026_MKTHO_190348_1) available on the IOCL website www.iocl.com/suppliers/notices or IOCL e-Tender Portal <https://iocltenders.nic.in/nicgeapp> for more details. The Last date for submission of response is 22/07/2026 at 17:00 HRS.

NORTH CENTRAL RAILWAY
E-Procurement Tender Notice No. 22/2026 Dated 24.06.2026
E-Procurement Tender Notice

On behalf of President of India, Sr. Divisional Materials Manager, North Central Railway, Prayagraj invites the E-Procurement tenders:

Tender No. : 19265739A Qty. : 01 Nos. EMD (Rs.) : 1,91,040/-
Description : Battery Operated Rail Cum Road Vehicle
Tender Opening Date : 27.07.2026
Tender No. : 19265755A Qty. : 01 Set. EMD (Rs.) : 4,64,000/-
Description : Data Monitoring System for Traction Converter Test Facility
Tender Opening Date : 28.07.2026

Note: 1. The complete information of above E-Procurement Tender is available on IREPS website i.e. <http://www.ireps.gov.in> 2. Bids other than in the form of E-Bids shall not be accepted against Tender, for this purpose, Vendors are required to get themselves registered with IREPS website under with Class III digital Signature certificates issued by CCA under IT Act-2000. 3. Rates entered into financial rate page and duly signed digitally shall only be considered. Rates and any other financial entry in any other form/letter head if attached by vendor shall be straight away ignored and shall not be considered. 4. Documents being attached should be signed on their body. 5. The above tender notice has been uploaded on <http://www.ncr.indianrailways.gov.in>. In case of any difficulty helpdesk available on the IREPS website may be approached. 1451/26 (AS)

North central railways @ www.ncr.indianrailways.gov.in @ CPNCR

NORTH CENTRAL RAILWAY
Tender Notice No. DY, CEE-PRYJUP262702 Date: 24.06.2026
E-TENDER NOTICE

PCEE/Construction for Electrical Project Unit acting for and on behalf of The President of India invites following E-Tender, the detail of the tender is as under:-
T. No.: PRYJUP262702

Description of work : Leftover work for Supply, erection, testing and commissioning of 132kV double circuit transmission line between Ramna GSS and existing Naini-Sarsaul 132kV D/C Transmission Line over PRYJ Division of NCR Railway

Advertised value: Rs. 136090216.04 Bid Security: Rs. 2721800.00

Period of Completion : 06 Months Bidding system: Two Packet System

Tender Closing date & Time: 16.07.2026 & 15:00 Hrs

Tender opening date & Time: 16.07.2026 & 15:30 Hrs

Allocation	Capital	UWID	060237171001
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Note: (1) The complete information along with tender document of above E-Tenders shall be available on Website www.ireps.gov.in 21 days prior to the date of opening of the tender. (2) Bids other than in the form of E-Bids shall not be accepted against above tenders. For this purpose, vendors are required to get themselves registered with IREPS website along with Digital Signature Certificate. (3) In case of any difficulty helpdesk available on the website of IREPS may be approached. 1456/26 (D)

North central railways @ www.ncr.indianrailways.gov.in @ CPNCR

**GOVERNMENT OF TELANGANA
PUBLIC HEALTH AND MUNICIPAL ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT**
NIT No. 02/SEPH/VHGL/BSM 2.0/30 ULS/2026-27/455 Dt: 25.06.2026
Name of the Work: Sewerage Projects in 30 ULS under SBM 2.0 under the jurisdiction of Adilabad, Karimnagar and Warangal PH Divisions (Package-I) under L3 contract system with Hybrid Annuity Model. Total Cost: Rs. 1276.04 Crores; Bid Download Start Date: 01.07.2026 @ 11:00 AM; Pre-Bid Meeting Date: 06.07.2026 @ 11:00 AM; Conference Hall, 7th floor, O/o ENC (PH), Hyderabad; Bid Submission Start Date: 09.07.2026 @ 11:00 AM; Bid Submission Closing Date: 27.07.2026 @ 04:30 PM. For details visit <https://tender.telangana.gov.in>. Contact No:-040-23252843, 9154298724
Sd/-Superintending Engineer (PH) Public Health Circle, Warangal
R.O. No. : 4994-PP/CL/ADVT/2026-27

UJVN LIMITED
H.O.: "UJJWAL", Maharani Bagh, G.M.S. Road, Dehradun-249006
Telephones: 0135-2763808, Fax: 0135-2763598
CIN No. U40101UR2001SGC025866 Website: www.ujvn.com

Letter No: 531 Date: 25/06/2026

TENDER NOTICE

Office of the Executive Engineer (E&M) SHP, UJVN Ltd., Rishikesh, invites sealed tenders from interested parties. Brief summary of tender is given below:

Tender No. 01/EE(E&M)/SHP/Rishikesh/2026-27: "Repair and Maintenance works of Unit-1 at Pilangad SHP (2X1125 kW) in District Uttaraksh".

Estimated cost:- Rs. 24,91,500.00/- (excluding GST)

Date of availability of bid document on website- 25.06.2026 from 16:00 hrs.

Last date for submission of tender- 20.07.2026 up to 16:00 hrs.

For fuller & further details, kindly visit our website. The tender document can be downloaded from the Nigam's website "www.ujvn.com"

Executive Engineer (E&M)(SHP), Rishikesh

"AVOID WASTEFUL USE OF ELECTRICITY"

**NORTHERN RAILWAY
E-TENDER NOTICE**

Sr. Divisional Electrical Engineer/Traction Distribution, DRMO's Office, State Entry Road, New Delhi for & on behalf of President of India, invites open e-tender for the under noted work:-

Name of Work	Part-B: Provision of separate circuit breakers for sidings and branch lines in DUK section in connection with improvement of sectioning and feeding arrangement by shilling of insulated overlaps.
Location	Provision of separate CB and re-profiling of masts at curve loc.
2	Approx. Cost of work Rs. 5,16,48,422.76/-
3	Earnest Money Deposit Rs. 10,33,000/-
4	E-Tender Bid Online Submission Period 06.07.2026 (00.00 Hrs.) to 20.07.2026 (15.00 Hrs.)
5	E-Tender Bid Submission End Date & E-Tender Open Date & Time 20.07.2026 (15:00 hrs.)
6	Fund Allocation RRSK (PH-36)
7	Website particulars where complete details of tender documents can be seen www.ireps.gov.in

E-Tender No. 12/TRD-NOLDS-2026-27 Dated: 25.06.2026 2199/2026

SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE

BANARAS LOCOMOTIVE WORKS, VARANASI-221004
Bid No. E-12/2026-27 Date: 25/06/2026

E-Tenders are invited for & on behalf of the President of India for the supply of following items. Only offer will be accepted for which vendors must have Class III Digital Signature and registration on IREPS. The details of tenders are in the following sequence S.No., Tender No. (Due Date), Description and Quantity.

01, 0465039 (13.07.2026) Floor Frame Assy as per Drg. No. 11537747 and 5 Nos. 02, 04261155 (10.07.2026) Twin Tower Heat Less Regenerating Air Dryer to Pl. No. 11810725 and 61 Nos. 03, 05265058A (13.07.2026) Supply, Testing, Installation & Commissioning EOT crane 25 Ton and 01 Nos. 04, 10261354 (08.07.2026) DETECTOR REPAIR includes CRANKCASE AND LOW WATER KIT, 16020501 and 760 Nos. 05, 10260083 (13.07.2026) GEAR ASM-ACC DRIVE, 16050010 AND 54 Nos. 06, 11265158 (13.07.2026) 820102540016, Insulin DEGLUCD/INSULIN ASPART (HML OF SOLUTION CONTAINS 100 UNITS OF INSULIN DEGLUCD 70% & 30 % insulin aspart and 1000 Nos. 10124179, INJ INSULIN DEGLUCD 100 IU/ML IN 3ML PFS and 1100 Nos.

The details of above tenders are available on www.bwl.indianrailways.gov.in and www.ireps.gov.in. Corrigendum: 07. Bid No. E-09, Tender No. 02261393 Kit of HHP Turbo Hardware Part No. 19840639s, Revision 1, Details of Correction: Existing Due Date - 22.06.2026, Revised Due Date - 06.07.2026, 08. Bid No. E-09, Tender No. 09265004 Supply, Retro-fitting and Commissioning of BRUSHLESS DC CAB MOUNTED COMPACT HVAC COOLING CAPACITY 75 TR) OR DIESEL ELECTRIC LOCOMOTIVE TO PL. No. 18050116, Revision 1, Description of Correction: Existing Due Date - 24/06/2026, Revised Due Date - 01/07/2026. Note: All other terms and conditions will remain unchanged for above tenders.

PROB/LWS-13 Senior Material Manager/Shell

@ @ /b/waranasl Website: bwl.indianrailways.gov.in

With ₹153cr jump, Delhi gets excise revenue high



AlokKNMishra
@timesofindia.com

New Delhi: Delhi's excise revenue saw a jump of Rs 153 crore in April and May this year compared with the corresponding period last year.

Officials and industry representatives attributed the growth to a combination of factors, including greater policy stability, stricter checks on brand pushing in govt-run liquor stores, the resurgence of national brands and the expansion of large walk-in outlets across the city among others.

According to govt data, excise collections from liquor sales in April and May 2026 stood at Rs1,038 crore, compared with Rs 885 crore in the same period of 2025.

The rise comes as Delhi govt has set an excise revenue target of Rs 7,200 crore for 2026-27, slightly above the Rs 7,148 crore collected in the previous financial year.

Industry data also points to a significant shift in consumer preferences. National liquor brands, which had steadily lost market share after Delhi, reverted to a govt-run retail model in 2022, regained leadership in May 2026. Their share of liquor sales volume rose to 54%, up from 24% in May 2025.

Vinod Giri, director-general of the Brewers' Association of India, said the share of national brands in Delhi was around 80% when both private and govt-run liquor stores operated before the excise policy rollback. He said the market share of established brands declined sharply after private retail was scrapped and govt stores became the sole retail channel.

"Unwarranted trade practices and brand pushing of lesser-known labels in some outlets made business difficult for established companies with high compliance standards. The collective share of leading national beer brands fell to just 24% in May 2025 but recovered to 54% this May. Greater vigilance by the department appears to have helped," Giri said.

Fresh probe to identify man found dead

►Continued from P1

He came home, paid the auto driver, and then froze when he saw his garlanded portrait," a neighbour said. Within minutes, word spread across the colony. Neighbours rushed out, some stunned, some convinced they were seeing a ghost.

The story began on May 16. Police said Bisht got into a violent altercation with three brothers — Sunil, Shailesh and Dhamendra — who run an automobile repair shop near his society. During the fight, he allegedly hit Shailesh with a hammer, leaving him bleeding profusely. He was arrested the next day under preventive

sections for breach of peace and sent to Dasna jail.

Bisht's family said he had a history of mental illness and erratic behaviour. His mother, Devki Devi, visited him twice in jail. On May 21, during her second visit, she was told he had been released on a personal bond.

But Bisht never reached home. The family claimed they were not informed of his release and filed a missing person complaint.

Then, on June 12, police recovered an unidentified body from Nahal Jhal stretch of Masuri canal. Bisht's relatives were informed and they identified the body as his.

Suspecting murder, they accused seven men of assaulting him

and got a case registered under charges of murder, criminal conspiracy and destruction of evidence.

The body underwent two autopsies after the family alleged Bisht had been beaten to death. But doctors found no external injuries. The medical report pointed to drowning. The viscera samples were, however, preserved.

Still, the family went ahead with the cremation. This Wednesday, they held the terhvi.

By next morning, Bisht was back home.

Now, police have filed a final report in the murder case and started a fresh investigation — this time to identify the dead man whose funeral was performed in Bisht's name.

Sanjay Lake restoration likely by May next year

Vibha.Sharma@timesofindia.com

New Delhi: Delhi Development Authority (DDA) has planned to complete key restoration and rejuvenation works of east Delhi's 52-acre Sanjay Lake in phases by next May.

DDA announced the timeline Thursday following a visit by lieutenant governor TS Sandhu, who inspected the ongoing works and took note of the reports highlighting the lake's deteriorating condition due to disrupted water supply, silt accumulation, sewage inflow and garbage deposition. He directed officials to undertake the rejuvenation project in mission mode.

Located inside a 165-acre protected forest area, Sanjay Lake is one of east Delhi's most prominent recreational spaces, bordered by Kalyanpuri and Trilokpur on one side and Mayur Vihar Phase II on the other.

Officials informed LG that the lake was fed by rainwater and treated water from the Dallupura sewage treatment plant (STP). In 2023, DJB started dredging the lake to increase its water-holding capacity and laid a two-foot-diameter pipeline to supply treated water from the STP. However, the water inflow has since been disrupted due to leakages in the pipeline, which is under repair.

Sandhu directed DJB to expedite the repair and restore treated water supply at the earliest to maintain optimal water levels and ensure the lake's long-term sustainability as a resilient blue-green asset, said officials.

DDA officials also briefed LG on the ongoing restoration efforts, including continuous de-weeding, algae removal and strengthening of embankment slopes through geo-textile technology to prevent soil erosion and excessive runoff. Sandhu instructed officials to ensure these maintenance works are completed without delay.

He also directed authorities to strictly adhere to timelines for chan-



LG inspected ongoing work at the lake

nelling stagnant water and installing bioswales to enhance groundwater recharge and protect walking pathways. Sandhu also stressed the need for comprehensive bioremediation measures and installation of aerators and fountains to improve dissolved oxygen levels and overall water quality.

The works already underway include de-weeding and algae removal, slope protection, geo-textile application on embankments and repair of damaged boundary walls.

Under the next phase, targeted for completion by Aug, DDA will undertake channelling stagnant water at multiple locations, installation of additional bioswales, pathway repairs, routine maintenance and removal of grass from the lake bed.

In Phase II, slated for completion by May 2027, the authority plans to expand water channelling systems, increase bioswale coverage, undertake bioremediation of the waterbody and install aerators and fountains to improve water quality and aesthetics.

To further enhance the ecological value of the area, LG directed officials to undertake the planting of 5,000 native trees. The forest area was originally planted with eucalyptus during 1977-78 to improve poor soil conditions. With soil health having improved over the years, the area now supports a diverse mix of species, including neem, arjun, papri, ashoka, pilkhan, chandni and hibiscus.

Govt holds workshop to boost cyber security measures

New Delhi: Delhi's cyber security preparedness received a fresh push Thursday as the IT department of Delhi govt, in collaboration with National e-Governance Division under the ministry of electronics and information technology, organised a state-level consultative workshop on cyber security for state data at Delhi Secretariat.

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SPOTLIGHT

NPS Insights

Is withdrawal permitted from Tier-I account of NPS during the accumulated phase?

A subscriber becomes eligible to apply for partial withdrawal after completion of three years from the date of subscription to the pension scheme. A subscriber may withdraw up to 25% of own contributions, excluding any appreciation or returns thereon.

How many times partial withdrawal subscriber can avail ?

- Before attaining 60 years: Up to four times with a minimum interval of four years between two partial withdrawals.
- After attaining 60 years: Can be availed any number of times till 85 years of age with a minimum interval of three years between two partial withdrawals.

What are the purposes under which partial withdrawal can be exercised?

- For higher education
- For the marriage
- One-time for the purchase or construction of a residential house or flat
- For medical treatment or hospitalization
- To meet medical and incidental expenses arising out of the disability or incapacitation
- Towards settlement of a financial obligation

Money Ram says....
#Zaruri Hai

Subscriber Education and Protection Fund (SEPF) Initiative, by Pension Fund Regulatory and Development Authority

श्री हरि

OBITUARY & TRIBUTE

नेनं छिन्दन्ति शस्त्राणि नेनं दहति पावकः ।
न चैनं क्लेदयन्त्यापो न शोषयति मारुतः ॥

IN REVERENT MEMORY OF

Shri Vinod Kumar Agarwal

Promoter & Chairman Emeritus
G R Infraprojects Limited

His Vision Built an Institution. His Values Built a Legacy. His Memory Will Inspire Forever.

With profound grief and deep sorrow, we bid farewell to
Shri Vinod Kumar Agarwal.

27th August 1959 – 25th June 2026

A visionary entrepreneur, respected leader, and an institutional builder, he dedicated his life to excellence, integrity and nation-building. Under his leadership, G R Infraprojects Limited emerged as one of India's leading infrastructure company. His vision, values, and enduring legacy will continue to inspire generations to come.

He will be deeply mourned and fondly remembered by his loving family and all those whose lives he touched.

BEREAVED FAMILY

WIFE
Suman Agarwal

SON & DAUGHTER-IN-LAW
Ashwin & Khyati Agarwal

SISTER & BROTHER-IN-LAW
Shakuntala Devi Gupta & Hanuman Prasad Gupta

BROTHERS
Devkinandan Agarwal, Mahendra Agarwal,
Ajendra Agarwal, Harish Agarwal, Purshottam Agarwal

PRAYER MEETINGS

4:00 PM – 5:00 PM
Sunday, 28th June 2026

• Wednesday, 1st July 2026 – Udaipur & Jodhpur
• Friday, 3rd July 2026 – Sahawa, Rajasthan

Orana Conventions, Sector 64,
Golf Course Extension
Road, Gurugram, Haryana

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Woman kills self, FIR filed against hubby

Devanshi Mehta
@timesofindia.com

New Delhi: A 26-year-old woman allegedly died by suicide at her home in Nanlot Extension, west Delhi, on Tuesday, and police have registered a case of abetment to suicide against her husband.

Videos supposedly recorded by the woman, Tina, before her death have surfaced on social media. In the video, she is seen addressing her father, saying: "Papa, main jaa rahi hon." She also asks her family to take care of her one-and-a-half-year-old daughter and alleges mistreatment by her husband. Police said information re-

garding the woman came to them at 11.09 am. Tina lived on the first floor of a rented house with her husband Rohit and their daughter. The family had moved in about 3-4 months ago.

Rohit allegedly found the house locked from inside. After repeated knocks went unanswered, he tried to look inside through a window opening towards the staircase.

Deepak Kashyap, a neighbour, told TOI: "I was going to work around 8-9 am when I found her husband banging on the door repeatedly asking for help.... We could hear the daughter crying inside."



Tina

He said neighbours helped the husband gain access into the house. "He along with the neighbours broke open the window and saw the woman dead inside," Kashyap said.

Another neighbour said: "We saw the child at her mother's feet, trying to wake her up."

A senior police officer said the woman's mother said before the SDM that Rohit used to assault Tina when drunk. During the inquiry, family members submitted two videos purportedly by Tina. "The videos reflect intense psychological distress," a se-

nior police officer said. The officer added, "Rohit is under treatment for a head injury caused from an accident a few months ago and as per his doctor, he is not likely to survive beyond 2-3 years."

Police said the case against him is under section 80 (husband subjecting wife to cruelty) and 108 (abetment of suicide) of BNS.

In another incident, a 24-year-old woman was found dead in a rented room in west Delhi's Raghuraj Nagar on Tuesday. The SDM recorded the statements of her family who alleged cruelty by her in-laws.

A case has been registered under valid BNS sections.

Delhi govt transfers four minister secys, 56 other IAS & DANICS officers

Alok K Mishra
@timesofindia.com

New Delhi: Delhi govt, which Thursday carried out a large-scale administrative shuffle, transferred four secretaries to four cabinet ministers along with 56 other IAS and DANICS cadre officials. The secretaries had served relatively short tenures before they were moved.

Ankur Meshram (DANICS 2014) has been posted as secretary to social welfare minister Ravinder Singh Indraj. He replaced Karanjit Vadodaria. Vinay Kumar Jindal, who was the secretary to law minister Kapil Mishra, has been shifted to DJB, and Ranjeet Kumar Singh will take over the role.

Health minister Pankaj Singh's secretary, Vaibhav Rikhari has been transferred to DJB too. Mukesh Rajora will replace him. Rajesh Chaudhary has been appointed secretary to industries and environment minister Manjinder Singh Sirsa. He replaces Mohit Mishra.

The services department's orders said Bipul Pathak of the 1992 batch of the AGMUT cadre, who is the additional chief secretary of the social welfare department, has been given the additional charge of the women and child development department.

Among senior-level changes, Navin Chaudhary (AGMUT 1994), currently additional chi-

ef secretary in the irrigation and flood control department, has been assigned additional responsibility of the general administration department after the release of Pandurang Pole, a 2004 batch IAS officer, from the post. Pole will now serve as secretary of the land and building department, while also holding additional charge of the labour and cooperation departments.

Sandeep Kumar Singh (AGMUT 2011), the special secretary in the CMO, has been given an additional responsibility as managing director of the Shahjahanabad Redevelopment Corporation.

Sachin Rana (AGMUT 2014), the special secretary (home), will also oversee urban development as a special secretary and function as the principal director of Delhi Fire Services.

Santosh Kumar Rai has been appointed special CEO of the Delhi Disaster Management Authority and will additionally serve as special secretary (home).

The shuffle also affected district administrations. South West Delhi district magistrate Mekala Chaitanya Prasad has been moved as special secretary (health), while KK Lakshman has been posted as the district magistrate of South West Delhi.

East Delhi DM Anmol Srivastava has been appointed special commissioner (transport). The transfers take effect immediately.

GOVERNMENT OF PUDUCHERRY
PROJECT MANAGEMENT UNIT - EAP
SUBASH CHANDRA BOSE STREET, 1ST FLOOR
P.W.D., PUDUCHERRY
No. 114/PW/PMU-ADB/F.No.26/2026-27 Pudukcherry, dt. 25.06.2026
Notice Inviting e-Tender
The Project Manager-cum-Executive Engineer (Designs), PMU-ADB, PWD, Pudukcherry, on behalf of the President of India, invites online proposals through a Request for Proposal (RFP) for the following Consultancy Services proposed under the external funding agencies (ADB/WB) loan:

1. Tender Reference no: 09/PWD/ADB/PDY/2026-27	Consultancy Services for Preparation of Detailed Project Report (DPR) for Interception, Diversion, Rehabilitation & Beautification of Grand Canal in Pudukcherry
2. Tender Reference no: 10/PWD/ADB/PDY/2026-27	Consultancy Services for Preparation of Detailed Project Report (DPR) for Seafront Development, Beautification, Upgradation and Extension of Beach Promenade from Lok Nivas to Pandy Marina, Pudukcherry

For further details, please visit www.pudutenders.gov.in.
No. 092/DIP/AD/PRESS/2026-27 Project Manager (PMU-EAP)

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- Minimum 50% marks in English in 10th / 12th / Degree examination.
- 5% relaxation in eligibility marks for SC / ST candidates (Not applicable to marks in English).

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HACK OF THE DAY

VERIFY INSURANCE AGENT BEFORE BUYING ANY POLICY

WHAT IT SOLVES: Avoids fake agents selling invalid policies or collecting premiums outside authorised channels

WHAT TO DO: Use IRDAI Agent Locator to confirm licence, insurer and insurance type first

STEPS:

1 Ask for licence number or IRDA URN

2 Open IRDAI Agent Locator online

3 Enter name, licence number, state or insurer

4 Match agent details with the policy offer

5 Pay only through insurer-approved channels

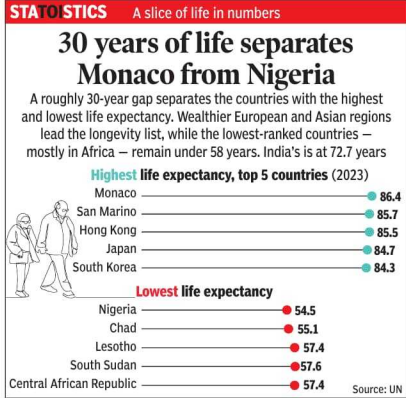
NOTE: Do not share OTPs or pay personal accounts; verify corporate agents separately

Source: IRDAI Agent Locator and policyholder guidance. Check official websites & updated rules.

SCAN FOR MORE HACKS

22-yr-old bride rejects drunk groom, becomes face of anti-drug campaign

When a heavily drunk groom arrived with his wedding procession in Chhattisgarh's Janjig-Champa district on June 23, 22-year-old Muskan Pradhan refused to marry him, saying she did not want a life shaped by alcoholism. Despite pressure from the groom's side and police intervention, she stood by her decision and sent the baraat back, reports **Rashmi Drolia**. Within 48 hours, Muskan was felicitated by the district administration, named youth icon of police's anti-drug campaign and appointed a counsellor with an honorarium of Rs 5,000 a month. Authorities also promised support for her education and livelihood.



Airbag opens in parked car, kills man in Mum suburb

Mumbai: A 25-year-old man died in a freak accident in Mira Road Wednesday after the airbag of a parked car allegedly deployed without warning and struck him in the neck, police said, reports **Manthan K Mehta**. The victim, identified as Mohit Soni, lived at Tiara Hills in Kashimira. He was inside a Honda car, registration number MH01AL6301, parked along a road on Wednesday afternoon when the steering wheel airbag allegedly triggered unexpectedly. According to sources, the plastic casing covering the airbag flew off with great force and hit Soni on the right side of his neck, causing a deep injury and heavy bleeding inside the vehicle. Soni was taken to Pandit Bhimsen Joshi Government Hospital in Bhayandar, where doctors examined him and declared him dead before admission. Kashimira police have registered an accidental death report and begun an inquiry into the suspected technical failure. Initial inspection of the car from all sides showed no visible signs of an external collision or recent accident. Police said the vehicle is about 15 years old but had a valid fitness certificate.

‘Are we guinea pigs?’ FDA officials question VIP food-tasting duty

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Mumbai: Before the guests even reach the venue, all major VIP events have two permanent invitees in common, both tasked with tasting the food for safety prior to the elites and political class feasting on it: food inspectors from the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and police constables from the local jurisdiction. The recent wedding of NCP SP MP Supriya Sule's daughter Revati to Sarang Lakhani was no exception. The FDA inspectors had to taste every item on the menu. Once this was done, food samples had to be collected, sealed and kept in police records for 72 hours. This standard protocol,

mandated first by the General Administration Department and then by the Ministry of Protocol, frequently pulls food inspectors away for VIP duties for up to half the week. To taste or not to taste is a question

Until 3 months ago, doctors from state-run hospitals were part of the food-tasting team but withdrew, citing patient care responsibilities

troubling FDA officials, as a single VIP assignment for an inspector can sometimes last as long as 13 days. One senior food department official went so far as to ask, ‘Are we guinea pigs to be experimented on?’

There are no travel arrangements made for us either.”

The political spectrum covered under this protocol is vast, including everyone from opposition members who hold public office, such as MP Rahul Gandhi, to RSS chief Mohan Bhagwat, who does not hold any public office.

Until three months ago, the team of food tasters had a third member: doctors from state-run hospitals such as JJ or St George's. However, the medical teams resisted and pulled out, arguing that their primary responsibility is patient care, not tasting food.

The official written order, says Sanjay Surase, medical superintendent at JJ Hospital in Byculla, came in just over a week ago. ‘We should have done it a long

AT ALL EVENTS & EVEN AIRPORT LOUNGES

- ▶ FDA staff have to be present for food tasting at events of ministers, senior Oppn netas and other VIPs
- ▶ Have to taste not only every item on menu, but also all packaged items at venue meant for distribution
- ▶ Often get barely a few days' notice to cover events like weddings, arrivals & departures at airport's VIP lounge
- ▶ VIP duty frequently takes way staff for up to half week, sometimes up to 13 days



time ago, but better late than never,” he says.

With just a few days of planning, deployments cover not only grand events like high-profile weddings, but also routine arrivals and departures at the airport's VIP lounge.

“Four inspectors are unavailable for three to four

days a week. It delays our routine work, but we make the reasons (VIP duties) clear to seniors,” says a food safety officer who oversees the assignment of inspectors to VIPs.

FDA officials noted that when Prime Minister Narendra Modi or home minister Amit Shah visit, their

own internal security teams conduct cyanide tests as part of their protocol.

Officials must also check all packaged items at the venue. One food inspector recalled a moment after Bhagwat's event in Mumbai when they disallowed the distribution of laddoos. “He likes to distribute sweets after an event. But the laddoos were near their expiry date, so we told them they could not be eaten.”

FDA Commissioner Tukaram Mundhe said, “They have to act as per protocols set by the govt,” adding that, so far, no official representation on the issue has reached him from his officers. Secretary for Protocol Rajesh Gawande did not respond to press queries on who is eligible for the ‘food-tasting’ privileges.

Rajnath's son, SP ‘rebel’ MLA among UP BJP VPs

48-Member Team Set Up Ahead Of Polls

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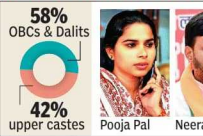
Lucknow: Defence minister Rajnath Singh's younger son Neeraj Singh and ‘rebel’ SP MLA Pooja Pal made it to the list of BJP state organisational office-bearers announced Thursday, ending days of speculation. The two are among 19 vice-presidents appointed along with eight general secretaries and 19 secretaries, who will steer the party's poll prospects in the high-stakes UP Assembly elections next year.

The list comes nearly six months after Union minister Pankaj Chaudhary took charge as Uttar Pradesh BJP chief in Dec last year. The team, comprising 48 members (including Chaudhary and state general secretary-organisation Dharampal Singh), is bigger than the previous 43-member team.

Among the vice-presidents, only four have been retained. Apart from Neeraj Singh and Pooja Pal, former minister Suresh Rana is a prominent inclusion. Neeraj has replaced his elder brother and Noida MLA Pankaj Singh. Pooja Pal's appointment has raised curiosity as she remains an SP member in Vidhan Sabha records.

Among state general secretaries, only Ram Pratap Singh Chauhan and Sanjay

KEY TAKEAWAYS



- ▶ All regional presidents replaced
- ▶ Strong OBC-Dalit outreach push
- ▶ Upper caste balance maintained
- ▶ Focus on social engineering ahead of UP elections

Rai have been retained, while Priyanka Singh Rawat has been shifted as state vice-president and Abhijat Mishra promoted from state secretary. Ankur Sharma from Bundelkhand, who is considered close to Union home minister Amit Shah, has made it to the list as one of the 16 secretaries. BJP has sought to strike a caste balance while ensuring representation for different social groups. Of the 46 newly appointed office-bearers, 20 are OBCs (eight vice-presidents, four general secretaries and eight secretaries), while six are from the SC community. Together, OBC and SC

▶ Team Nabin, P11

adherers account for over 58% of the state unit, a move seen as a counter to SP's Pichda, Dalit, Alankarhyak (PDA) poll narrative that is believed to have hurt BJP in the 2024 Lok Sabha elections, bringing its tally down from 62 to 33.

At the same time, the party has ensured representation for upper castes, its traditional support base. Of the 46 office-bearers, seven are Brahmins, six Thakurs and seven belong to Vaishya, Bhumihar and Kayastha commu-

Rahul tenders apology, HC closes Chouhan defamation case

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Bhopal/Jabalpur: The Madhya Pradesh high court on Thursday decided to close proceedings against Congress MP **Rahul Gandhi** in a special court in Bhopal and Gandhi's plea in the HC in connection with a defamation suit filed by Kartikey Singh Chouhan, son of Union agriculture minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan, for linking him with the “Panama Papers”. Gandhi had tendered an unconditional apology on Wednesday.

Gandhi also said in his written expression of regret that after realising his mistake he had publicly clarified the very next day that the statement at a public meeting on Oct 29, 2018 was about the then Chhattisgarh chief minister's son, and not Kartikey. Counsel for Gandhi said in the court of Justice Pramod Kumar Agrawal that in view of his client's statement it would be in the interest of justice if the case was closed and proceedings against the applicant are dropped.

A written reply filed on behalf of Kartikey Singh in the high court on Thursday said he did not intend to escalate the issue further after Gandhi had expressed regret and that proceedings in HC and the trial court be closed after making Gandhi's statement part of the court's final order. The high court then disposed of the petition.

Suvendu govt to present UCC bill in House on Mon

Stringent Law To Fight Crime Also On Agenda

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Kolkata: The Bengal govt is likely to introduce a bill on Uniform Civil Code (UCC) in the assembly Monday after circulating the draft to MLAs.

If passed, West Bengal will join Gujarat, Uttarakhand and Assam in having a common set of personal laws for all communities. BJP had pledged to implement UCC in Bengal within six months of coming to office.

Along with the UCC bill, BJP govt will table the West Bengal Public Safety and Control of Anti-Social Activities Bill, 2026, allowing up to 12 months of preventive detention and empowering senior district and police officers to issue externment orders. The bill draws heavily from Gujarat's PASA Act.

Bengal's UCC bill is likely to be modelled on Assam's. The UCCs in all three states ban polygamy, establish a uniform marriage age, mandate registration of live-in relationships and ensure gender-equal inheritance rights, while exempting Scheduled Tribes.

The proposed anti-social activities bill defines “gondola” as a person involved in anti-social activities or

NIA arrests Congress neta in Malda siege

NIA has arrested Congress zilla parishad member Sayem Choudhury in connection with the Mithabari violence case, in which judicial officers were detained for hours by a mob during an electoral roll revision exercise ahead of the state assembly elections, reports **Subhro Maitra**. Choudhury was summoned to the NIA's Kolkata office on Wednesday and arrested after questioning. He had earlier been interrogated and released.

On April 4, a mob gheraoed the Mithabari BDO office, where judicial officers conducting electoral roll revision were held until late at night before being rescued by police. SC later transferred the probe to the NIA.

Chargesheeted under BNS Sections 111 or 112, or implicated under the Arms Act, NDPS Act, Explosive Substances Act or Immoral Traffic (Prevention) Act.

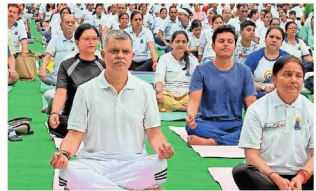
If an advisory board headed by a sitting or retired high court judge confirms a detention order, a person can be detained for up to 12 months.

The bill also empowers a district magistrate, police commissioner or officer not below DIG rank to issue externment orders for up to one year. Violating such orders can attract up to three years' imprisonment, while harbouring such a person can invite up to two years in jail.

CORPORATE BUZZ

HUDCO marks Yoga Day

Housing and Urban Development Corporation Ltd. (HUDCO) celebrated the 12th International Yoga Day with great enthusiasm across its offices nationwide. The main event was



organised by the Ministry of Ayush, Government of India, in association with the Morarji Desai National Institute of Yoga, Delhi Development Authority (DDA), Aadya Kaushal Trust, and Samarpan Sewa Trust at Ansal Plaza Park, HUDCO Place, New Delhi. The programme was graced by Sanjay Kulshrestha, CMD; M Nagaraj, DCP; Daljeet Singh Khatri, Director (Finance); and Vineet Gupta, CVO, who inspired employees through their active participation in the yoga session and reaffirmed the importance of adopting yoga as a way of life.

HURL celebrates Foundation Day

Hindustan Urvarak & Rasayan Limited (HURL) celebrated its 11th Foundation Day at Barauni with great enthusiasm, marking eleven years of growth, innovation, and commitment to India's agricultural progress. The celebrations were graced by Virendra Malik, Chairman, HURL; Dr Siba Prasad



Mohanty, Managing Director, HURL; Members of the Board of Directors; senior officials, employees, and their families. The day commenced with a presentation by the Business Unit Head, HURL Barauni, highlighting the unit's achievements in production, operational excellence, safety, energy efficiency, sustainability initiatives, and future growth plans. The dignitaries also participated in a Tree Plantation Drive, reaffirming HURL's commitment to environmental stewardship and sustainable development.

Kharif strategy in focus

With the possibility of El Niño and a weak or uncertain monsoon this year, the Central Government has intensified its preparedness for the Kharif season. Union Minister for Agriculture & Farmers Welfare and Rural



Development Shivraj Singh Chouhan chaired a high-level virtual meeting with Agriculture Ministers of states, senior officials, District Collectors, experts from ICAR, ICAR-CRIDA and the India Meteorological Department to review the situation across the country. He assured farmers that the Centre and state governments are jointly undertaking all necessary measures to address any challenge. Addressing a press conference after the meeting, Chouhan said that the southwest monsoon is significantly delayed this year and rainfall so far has been around 43 per cent below normal.

A global milestone

Power Finance Corporation Ltd (PFC) becomes the first Central Public Sector Undertaking (CPSU) and the first in NBFC space to

successfully tap the international bond market following the announcement of Swap facility by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) in its latest Monetary Policy Statement. PFC, a Maharashtra CPSU and India's leading NBFC in the power sector, has successfully raised USD 300 million Senior Unsecured USD-denominated Bond issuance under the Reg S route with a tenor of 5 years, priced at 105 basis points over the benchmark five-year US Treasury for a fixed coupon of 5.32 per cent p.a. The issue saw a strong investor demand, attracting active and wide participation from investors across European and Asian markets.

Building dairy expertise

NIFTEM-T organised a Three-Day Hands-on Training Programme on “Dairy Processing and Value Addition” for PMFME Beneficiaries of Tamil Nadu state at Thanjavur Campus to enhance their knowledge and skills in milk processing, quality management and value-added product preparation. Totally 25 PMFME beneficiaries from 10 districts of TN have participated in the training program. Training



was inaugurated by Prof V Palanimuthu, Director, NIFTEM-T in presence of the Officers of the Institute and PMFME Coordinator. This training is a mixture of theory and hands on practical sessions to improve their entrepreneurial capabilities.

Infrastructure in focus

Union Minister for Road Transport and Highways, Nitin Gadkari, reviewed the quality, maintenance, and progress of National Highway projects covering 4,931 km in Telangana, 2,035 km in the Union Territory of Jammu & Kashmir, and 804 km in the Union Territory of Ladakh during separate review meetings held in New Delhi. Minister of State



for Road Transport and Highways, Harsh Malhotra, was also present during the review. The reviews were undertaken based on feedback received through media reports, social media platforms, and inputs from officials of the Ministry of Road Transport & Highways (MoRTH), the National Highways Authority of India (NHAI), the National Highways & Infrastructure Development Corporation Limited (NHIDCL), and project contractors.

Textiles Summit 2026

The Ministry of Textiles successfully concluded the two-day Textiles Summit 2026. The summit brought together representatives from State Governments, industry, and academia, fostering collaborative dialogue on the sector's growth and future roadmap. Union Minister of Textiles, Giriraj Singh in his concluding remarks stated that the time was for executing the District and State plans with a proactive mindset. Emphasis was laid on appropriate product-market mix, value addition, compliance with sustainability and environmental standards, leveraging FTAs and focus on niche products. Secretary, Ministry of Textiles, Neelam Shami Rao in her closing



remarks, emphasised that the deliberations at the Summit mark a decisive step towards transitioning from dialogue to action.

Clean coal technologies

The Ministry of Coal organised a BRICS Side Event on Clean Coal Technologies, with a focus on Coal Gasification, bringing together senior government officials, representatives from public sector enterprises, industry, technology providers, and a BRICS delegation from Russia, Ethiopia and the United Arab Emirates



(UAE). Delivering the keynote address, Sanjay Kumar Jha, Additional Secretary, Ministry of Coal, highlighted the role of coal gasification in strengthening India's energy security and supporting industrial development. He stated that coal gasification enables the conversion of coal into syngas, which can be used for the production of ammonia, methanol, hydrogen, synthetic fuels, DRI and other value-added products. He noted that the technology has the potential to reduce import dependence while promoting the efficient utilisation of domestic coal resources.

APPOINTMENT:

Yugesh Kumar Dixit assumed charge as Executive Director, Northern Region-I of POWERGRID at the Regional Headquarters: Yugesh Kumar Dixit assumed charge as Executive Director, Northern Region-I of Power Grid Corporation of India Limited (POWERGRID) at the Regional Headquarters, Faridabad. Prior to this, he was serving as Executive Director, Northern Region-III in the organisation.

Indian basket crude prices return to pre-conflict levels

Drop May Not Reflect In Retail Fuel Rates Soon

Atul.Mathur@timesofindia.com

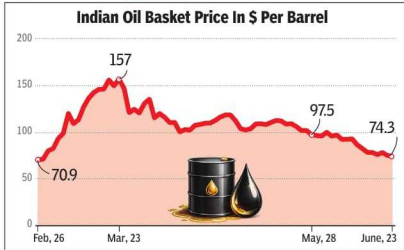
New Delhi: Indian basket crude prices returned to pre-conflict levels Wednesday, with the basket priced at \$70.71 per barrel, reducing the import bill, easing inflationary pressures and improving the financial position of the Centre and oil marketing companies.

The Indian basket of crude oil is a derived basket comprising the sweet grade of Brent Dated and the sour grade Oman and Dubai average, imported by refineries each month. It averaged \$69.01 per barrel in Feb but rose to \$113.49 in March and \$114.48 in April before softening marginally in May. The basket has averaged \$86.31 per barrel in June so far. Global benchmark Brent crude, which had touched \$120 per barrel at the peak of the West Asia conflict, is hovering around \$74 per barrel, its lowest level since the outbreak of the conflict.

While official data were not available, govt had earlier this month estimated daily losses at around Rs 700 crore.

The softening in crude prices is unlikely to be reflected in retail fuel prices anytime soon, as international FOB (free on board) prices of petrol and diesel continue to average around \$110 and \$123 per barrel, respectively, this month.

RETURN TO BASE



Iran oil mantri in Delhi amid 60-day US sanctions waiver

Atul.Mathur@timesofindia.com

New Delhi: Amid easing of sanctions on Iran, India and Tehran on Thursday discussed enhanced cooperation in the hydrocarbon sector.

Oil minister Hardeep Singh Puri met his Iranian counterpart Mohsen Paknejad days after the US-Iran MoU to end the West Asia conflict and amid the possibility of Iranian crude returning to the market following a 60-day easing of US sanctions.

"We explored opportunities to cooperate in the energy sector. India remains committed to enhancing energy security through dialogue, partnership and mutually beneficial engagement," Puri said after a meeting with the Iranian oil minister.

The embassy of Iran also posted on X that the two sides emphasised the importance of expanding bilateral cooperation in the oil, gas and energy sectors and explored ways to further strengthen energy ties between Tehran and New Delhi.

India stopped crude purchases from Iran in 2019 after the US imposed sanctions on Tehran. At its peak, Iranian crude accounted for over 11% of India's total imports.

As per data, Indian refiners purchased 5 lakh tonnes of crude from Iran in April after a gap of nearly seven years, following a 30-day US sanctions waiver that lapsed on April 19.

Govt to maintain domestic LPG availability

Continued from P1

Govt also issued orders under the Essential Commodities Act directing oil refiners to divert C3-C4 streams from petrochemical and other downstream uses and use them exclusively for LPG production. Indigenous LPG production was increased from nearly 30% to almost 50%. As domestic production increased and demand stabilised, the govt raised LPG allocation to commercial users to up to 70%.

Taking note of improved indigenous LPG production and the projected availability of imported cargos, govt also decided to reduce the diversion of C3-C4 streams to the LPG pool. "The enhanced allocation of C3-C4 streams for non-LPG uses will be implemented while ensuring that domestic LPG availability remains unaffected and aggregate indigenous LPG production is maintained at not less than 40,000 tonnes per day," the petroleum ministry said.

Commercial and bulk consumers who have already shifted to piped natural gas will continue to remain on PNG. Other LPG consumers with access to a PNG network will be progressively transitioned to piped gas in coordination with city gas distributors.

India has quake warning system for Himalayan region

Vishwa.Mohan@timesofindia.com

New Delhi: India, like any other country, does not have scientifically proven earthquake prediction technology, but it does have seismic monitoring networks and regional earthquake early warning (EEW) systems in the Himalayan region that can provide a few seconds of advance notice just after an earthquake starts.

The most successful efforts in extending EEW have been made by the IIT Roorkee in collaboration with the Uttarakhand govt to develop a cutting-edge earthquake early warning app, BhuDEV, which leverages technology to ensure the safety and resilience of residents in the face of seismic threats.

"A real-time seismic network dedicated to EEW has been initiated across the Himalayan region. Concurrently, the National Centre for Seismology (NCS) is actively developing and testing prototype EEW algorithms for reliable P-wave detection, rapid magnitude estimation and

early shaking prediction, using regional data sets," govt had told Parliament in Dec.

When a quake occurs, it produces P-waves (primary waves), which travel fastest and usually cause less damage. An EEW system detects the first P-waves near the epicentre and sends alerts to locations farther off before the stronger waves arrive, giving a few precious seconds to authorities and citizens to quickly act and press emergency alarm. The available warning time, however, depends on the distance

of a place from the epicentre. It means little or no warning near the epicentre but allows a margin of a few seconds if the distance is hundreds or thousands of kilometres.

In India, sensor networks are primarily installed in Garhwal and Kumaon regions. The sensors are placed close to active fault zones. When these sensors detect P-waves, alerts can be sent to downstream cities before stronger tremors arrive. Japan, Taiwan and the US have some of the most advanced EEW systems.

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1. FEES	2. PRE-BID MEETING	3. DUE DATES & TIME	4. CONTACT PERSONS
1. Registration Charges: Rs. 2,500/- (Non-refundable) for E-procurement portal of RLDA. 2. Tender Processing Fee: Rs. 5,000/- + GST @ 18% i.e. Total Rs. 5,900/- (Non-refundable). 3. Bid Document Fee: Rs. 50,000/- + GST @ 18% i.e. Total Rs. 58,000/- (Rupees Fifty Nine Thousand Only) non-refundable. 4. Bid Security: Rs. 5.00 Cr. (Rupees Five Crore only) in the manner as prescribed in Bid Document.	Date: 30.06.2026 Time: 11:00 hrs. Venue: Meeting Hall, "Vasundhara", RLDA HQ office, New Delhi. Online meeting link will be shared one day before.	1. Last date of receiving of queries: 04.07.2026 upto 18:00 hrs. 2. Reply to queries, uploading of Amendment to e-Bid on website, if any: 10.07.2026. 3. Last date of downloading of e-bid Document for participation/ submission online: 30.07.2026 upto 23:59 hrs. 4. e-Bid Due Date/ last date of submission of e-bid (the "e-bid Submission Date"): 31.07.2026 upto 15:00 hrs. 5. Opening of e-Bids: 31.07.2026 at 16:30 hrs.	1. Chief Project Manager/Chandigarh e-mail: cgmrladdc@gmail.com Mob: +918727971000 2. Joint General Manager/P/Exp/CDG e-mail: jgmrladdc@gmail.com Mob: +91828866399 3. Joint General Manager/Expert/ Tender e-mail: jgm.expert@rlda.railnet.gov.in Mobile: 9711305031 4. General Consultant: M/E&EY e-mail: paras.sahni@in.ey.com Mobile: 9711856526 5. For e-bid queries: Mr. Mayank Singh e-mail: mayank.s@etenderwizard.com Mob: 8800115628

NOTE

- Bidders have to download the Bid documents from the e-procurement portal i.e. <https://www.tenderwizard.in/RLDA> after registering themselves on portal and after payment of Tender Processing Fee & Bid Document Fee before last date & time of downloading the e-bids online.
- All Bidders are advised to see Amendments to RFP, if any, before submission of the e-bids. In case the bidder does not submit the amended bids/amendments, it will be presumed that bidder has seen the amendments/ Amended bids and e-bid will be evaluated accordingly. The decision of RLDA shall be final and binding.
- Any Corrigendum/Addendum to this RFP Notice, if any, would appear only on above mentioned websites and will not be published in newspapers.

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3 dead in MP as tazia touches high tension line

Karishma Kotwal
@timesofindia.com

Indore: Three people died and several others sustained burn injuries after a tazia reportedly came in contact with a high-tension power line during a Muharram procession in Hatnara village under Piploda in Ratlam district late night on Friday.

According to initial in-

formation, the incident occurred while the tazia was being taken through the village. It is suspected that the structure touched an overhead high-tension electricity line, causing a powerful electric shock. Panic gripped the area as several people collapsed after being electrocuted, while others suffered burn injuries.

Local residents rushed

the injured to nearby hospitals as police and administrative officials reached the spot. The exact number of casualties and injuries is yet to be officially confirmed.

DIG Nimish Agarwal said that they were assessing the situation. "Ten people have been rushed to the hospital," he added. Authorities are assessing the situation. Further details are awaited.

Lucknow fire: Artist's anniversary sketch reaches parents after his death

Pathikrit Chakraborty
@timesofindia.com

Lucknow: For weeks, 24-year-old 3D artist Nilesh Kumar had quietly worked on a surprise he never got to deliver. Tucked away inside a notebook in his room was a hand-drawn sketch of his parents — Shatruhan Lal (70) and Santosh Kumari (60) — he had planned to gift them on their

wedding anniversary in July. It reached them only after they had lit their son's pyre.

Nilesh was among the 15 people killed in the devastating Aliganj fire. In the days that followed, as Nilesh's grief-stricken family gathered his belongings, they came across the carefully preserved sketch. The portrait, intended to celebrate his parents' lifelong companionship,



Nilesh's family found the sketch preserved in his belongings

has now become the family's most cherished possession. Santosh Kumari sits for

hours holding the drawing against her chest, running her fingers over the pencil lines. Shatruhan Lal, who retired from the electricity department, stays quiet for most of the day. "He wanted to hand it to them himself," Nilesh's elder brother Abhishek Kumar told TOI.

Abhishek said Nilesh took to sketching when he was 13 or 14 years old. "By the time he

was 16, he decided to make a career in animation," he said. Nilesh spent the past three to four years establishing himself as a 3D artist.

The brothers' last conversation now haunts the family. "He was checking flight tickets to Kolkata for Durga Puja in Oct. We never imagined those would be the last words we would ever exchange," Abhishek said.

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Team Nabin getting final touches

Move Comes Amid Cabinet Revamp Buzz

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi: Amid growing indications that a reshuffle in the Union Cabinet can go in tandem with BJP's organisational changes, party president Nitin Nabin is learnt to be giving the final touches to his team of office-bearers.

BJP sources had earlier indicated the organisational overhaul would be done by month-end, with changes likely to bear relation to the reshuffle that may happen in the



Speculation about a reshuffle spiked Thursday following party president Nitin Nabin's consultations with a couple of ministers of state

central ministry. The speculation about reshuffle spiked Thursday following Nabin's consultations with a couple of ministers of state.

Party circles feel the organisational reshuffle will follow the declaration of its Uttar Pradesh unit of office-bearers, which was done Thursday. The drastic overhaul in the UP team with focus on relatively younger faces and representation of a wide array

of OBC castes — being seen as a counter to Samajwadi Party's PDA (pichhda, dalit, alpasankhyak) pitch in the state — has given rise to the view that a similar composition may be reflected in BJP's national team as the party seeks to deepen its roots in key caste demographics, besides youth and women.

With PM Modi known for keeping the exercise for changes in govt under wraps

until the last minute, sources said a studied silence over the issue, but the shift of some ministers to organisational duties and resignation of minister George Kurian after his Rajya Sabha membership was not renewed have fuelled the buzz of reshuffle, more so as govt is now into its third year without any rejig.

Though the defection of 20 rebel TMC MPs to NDA camp and six Shiv Sena (UBT) MPs joining Shiv Sena (UBT) led by Eknath Shinde have lent credence to the reshuffle possibility, this, however, also means that it may happen only after L.S. Speaker Om Birla decides on the MPs' move as their parent parties have called their shift as illegal.

Is MVA really united, wonders Sena UBT chief

Mumbai: Days after the defection of six Shiv Sena (UBT) MPs, the Maha Vikas Aghadi (MVA) held a dinner meeting late Wednesday in a show of unity. While NCP (SP) supremo Sharad Pawar skipped the meeting, Sena (UBT) chief Uddhav Thackeray was present with state Congress chief Harshwardhan Sapkal, state NCP (SP) chief Shashikant Shinde and Congress MLC Satej Patil.

Uddhav is said to have raised serious questions about MVA unity. "We say we are together, but are we really together?" Uddhav said, adding he was wondering if MVA was actually putting up a united front and raising issues together. The

Cong plan for pre-poll reshuffle in Punjab unit fuels factionalism

Subodh Ghildiyal
@timesofindia.com

New Delhi: Congress's decision to take a fresh look at the composition of its Punjab leadership in the run-up to assembly polls seems to have sown confusion rather than settle the prevailing factionalism.

The flurry of review meetings and interviews of senior state functionaries has opened the idea of a change of team at the top, with the rank and file again appearing to be divided according to their loyalties. Party functionaries said this was the very development that they were seeking to avoid in the recent months because the-

re is little time for an overhaul of the famously factionalised party branch.

Congress formed a committee to look into the Punjab unit and is set to take a decision on its recommendations. The key reason for the final relook at the unit is seemingly its lopsided nature — with both the posts of LoP and state chief with one community (Sikh Jatt) — a result of the hasty appointments done after the 2022 AAP landslide that reduced Congress to just 18 MLAs out of 117.

Traditionally, Congress's organisation has also accommodated Dalit and Hindu faces as a signal to the influential so-

cial blocs of Punjab.

But, according to insiders, the exercise is too delayed now because the option of changing the state brass could lead to a disconnect with the office-bearers down the line who are likely to be loyal to the leadership of the last four years.

A change may affect the unity of the ranks, which many believe is what can take Congress over the line in its battle against AAP.

However, if the party sticks to the present leadership, it may end up accentuating the perception of social disbalance. "That is why this issue should never have been opened in public," a member said.

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NB: Any corrigendum/modification etc. will be posted only on these websites.

कार्यालय नगर निगम, बरेली
पत्रांक: 271/प्र0अचि/लि0वे0/2026-27 दिनांक: 25 जून 2026
TENDER NOTICE (EOI - cum-RFP)
Bareilly Municipal Corporation Invites Engagement of Agency for Third Party Audit and Performance Evaluation of Bio-Remediation of Wastewater in Major Drains (Nallah) of Bareilly City.

Work Description	Tender & EMD Fee
Selection of Agency for Third Party Audit and Performance Evaluation of Bio-Remediation of Wastewater in Major Drains (Nallah) of Bareilly City.	The EMD is INR 20,000.00 Lakh & Tender Fee INR 1100.00 + 18% GST shall be submitted online in the account mentioned below. EMD / TENDER FEE Online Payment- Website: https://bareilly-tender.com/

Event of Calendar:

Sl. No.	Events	Date & Time
01.	Date of downloading EOI document	29.06.2026 from 12.00 PM
02.	Last date for seeking clarifications	01.07.2026 up to 02.00 PM
03.	Pre - Bid Meeting	03.07.2026 from 02.00 PM Venue: 3rd Floor, Conference Room, Smart City Building, Bareilly Nagar Nigam, Opp. Bareilly College, Civil Lines, Bareilly (U.P.)
04.	Start Date for uploading proposals	05.07.2026 from 02:00 PM
05.	Last Date for uploading proposals	14.07.2026 up to 04:00 PM
06.	Time and date of opening of Technical proposals	14.07.2026 at 05:00 PM
07.	Time and date of opening of Financial proposals	To be intimated later

The tender document can be downloaded from <https://etender.up.nic.in>. "Corrigendum if any. Would appear only on the <https://etender.up.nic.in> site and not to be published in any News Paper."

प्रभारी अधिकारी (लि0वे0ने0) नगर निगम, बरेली

यमुना एक्सप्रेसवे औद्योगिक विकास प्राधिकरण
ग्रथम तल, कॉर्पोरेट कॉम्प्लेक्स, पी-2, सेक्टर-1, ग्रेटर नोएडा, जनपद गौतमबुद्धनगर-201308 (उ.प्र.)
Toll Free No. 18001808296 वेबसाइट: www.yamunaexpresswayauthority.com
पत्रांक-वाई.ई.ए./भूलेख/685/2026 दिनांक: 19.06.2026
सार्वजनिक सूचना
यमुना एक्सप्रेसवे औद्योगिक विकास प्राधिकरण द्वारा सेक्टर-7 ग्राम कानपुर के अन्तर्गत आने वाली भूमि का सुनियोजित विकास हेतु सम्बन्धित कृषकों द्वारा दी गई सहमति की दर र. 3808/- प्रति वर्गमीटर से प्राधिकरण द्वारा शासनादेश संख्या-314/77-3-163एम, दिनांक 23.02.2016 में तय प्रक्रियानुसार निम्नानुसार क्रय किया जाना प्रस्तावित है :-

क्रमांक	सेक्टर/ग्राम का नाम	खाता संख्या	खसरा संख्या	खसरे का कुल क्षेत्रफल (हे. मै.)	तहसील के तहत रिपोर्ट के आधार पर कासकार का हिस्सा	कासकार का क्षेत्रफल (हे. मै.)
1.	सेक्टर-07 (कानपुर)	अजयपाल पुत्र उदय सिंह, निवासी ग्राम कानपुर, तहसील जेवर	140	477	0.6320	में से 0.0526
			140	483	0.1520	में से 0.0126
			219	476	0.4430	में से 0.0185
			219	478	0.4240	में से 0.0176
			219	498	0.2400	में से 0.0100
			219	499	0.0630	में से 0.0021
2.	सेक्टर-07 (कानपुर)	अजयपाल पुत्र उदय सिंह, निवासी ग्राम कानपुर, तहसील जेवर	219	500	0.1680	में से 0.0070
			140	477	0.6320	में से 0.0527
			140	483	0.1520	में से 0.0127
			219	476	0.4430	में से 0.0184
			219	478	0.4240	में से 0.0177
			219	498	0.2400	में से 0.0100
3.	सेक्टर-07 (कानपुर)	अजयपाल पुत्र उदय सिंह, निवासी ग्राम कानपुर, तहसील जेवर	219	499	0.0630	में से 0.0021
			219	500	0.1680	में से 0.0070
			140	477	0.6320	में से 0.0527
			140	483	0.1520	में से 0.0127
			219	476	0.4430	में से 0.0185
			219	478	0.4240	में से 0.0177
4.	सेक्टर-07 (कानपुर)	धर्मसिंह पुत्र चैनसुख, निवासी हल्दीना, तुंगलपुर, तहसील व जिला-गौतमबुद्धनगर	35	351	1.1630	1/6 भाग 0.0930
			94	400	0.1140	में से 0.0142
			94	401	0.2400	में से 0.0300
			94	402	0.4430	में से 0.0554
			94	396	0.5310	में से 0.0664
			94	400	0.1140	में से 0.0285
5.	सेक्टर-07 (कानपुर)	बदन सिंह पुत्र डबबर सिंह, निवासी कानपुर, तहसील जेवर, जिला-गौतमबुद्धनगर	94	401	0.2400	में से 0.0600
			94	402	0.4430	में से 0.1108
			94	396	0.5310	में से 0.1327
			94	400	0.1140	में से 0.0285
			94	401	0.2400	में से 0.0600
			94	402	0.4430	में से 0.1108

उपरोक्त भूमि क्रय किए जाने में यदि किसी व्यक्ति को कोई आपत्ति है तो वह लिखित रूप में 15 दिन के अन्दर अधिकारक्षेत्री को अपनी आपत्ति प्रस्तुत कर सकता है।

उप जिलाधिकारी/यमुना एक्सप्रेसवे औद्योगिक विकास प्राधिकरण
यमुना एक्सप्रेसवे औद्योगिक विकास प्राधिकरण के अधिसूचित क्षेत्र में प्राधिकरण द्वारा स्वीकृत मास्टर प्लान के अतिरिक्त प्लानिंग/हाउसिंग। कॉलोनी या किसी भी प्रकार का अन्य निर्माण पूरी तरह से अस्वीकार है। सामान्यजन इस प्रकार की खरीदफरोख्त से पूर्णतः सचेत रहें तथा कॉलोनी/इंजर् के ग्रामक विज्ञापन से बचें। अधिक जानकारी के लिए प्राधिकरण की वेबसाइट www.yamunaexpresswayauthority.com देखें।

MUNICIPAL CORPORATION CHANDIGARH
TENDER NOTICE

Sl. No.	Name of Work	Bid Submission Schedule (Online)	Opening Technical Bid (Online)
EXECUTIVE ENGINEER - M.C.P.H. Division No. 1			
1.	Strengthening of existing water supply distribution system by providing, laying, jointing, testing and commissioning of 4" I/d and 6" I/d DI pipe line in Phiri Road, near Shiv Mandir, Ravidas Mohalla, Vainik Mohalla, Gopi Attaa Chakki, Kesho Ram Complex, etc. in village Burali to avoid contamination of water under the jurisdiction of SDE MCPH-17, Chandigarh (Ch. To Capital Head :- Village Development Fund). (Re-invited) Amount : Rs. 1,65,81,880/- Time Limit : 06 Months	25.06.2026 To 01.07.2026 at 11:00 AM	01.07.2026 at 11:30 AM
EXECUTIVE ENGINEER - Roads Division No. 2			
2.	Revamp of flooring by providing High Density Chequered Tiles in front of Market / Showrooms / Booths and refixing paver blocks backside SCO in Market SCO No. 1 to 2 and 35 to 46 and around the Car Bazar Sector 13, Marimajra Chandigarh. Earnest Money : Rs. 1,50,748/- Time Limit : 03 Months	23.06.2026 To 29.06.2026 upto 12.00 noon	29.06.2026 at 12.00 pm
3.	Re-grading of Brick Flooring, Construction of Surface Drainage System and Repair of Existing Sheds and Corridors including Planting Works in New Cattle pond near MRF Centre, Industrial Area, Phase-4, Chandigarh. Est. Cost: Rs. 130.37 Lacs Time Limit: 04 Months	22.06.2026 To 29.06.2026 upto 12.00 noon	29.06.2026 at 12.00 pm
EXECUTIVE ENGINEER - Roads Division No. 3			
4.	Reconstruction of damaged footpath in Dadumajra, Chandigarh. Capital Head : Improvement of Road, Parking Places & Infrastructure Facilities. Est. Cost: Rs. 112.41 Lacs Time Limit: 04 Months	24.06.2026 To 01.07.2026 upto 12.00 noon	01.07.2026 at 15.00 PM

Note:- All other terms and conditions and complete DNIT are uploaded on website <https://etenders.chd.nic.in>

EXECUTIVE ENGINEER
M.C.P.H. Division No. 1, Near Kanana Sadan, Sector -11, Chandigarh, Roads Division No. 2, Room No.304, M.C. Chandigarh, Roads Division No.3, Room No.311, M.C. Chandigarh. (O) 0172-5021482 xenroads3.mcc@chd.nic.in

कार्यालय नगर निगम, बरेली
पत्रांक: 270/प्र0अचि/लि0वे0/2026-27 दिनांक: 25 जून 2026
TENDER NOTICE (EOI - cum-RFP)
Bareilly Municipal Corporation Invites Engagement of Agency for Third Party Audit and Performance Evaluation of Bio- Mining and Bio-Remediation of Legacy Waste at Bakarganj Dumpsite, Bareilly.

Work Description	Tender & EMD Fee
Selection of agency for Third Party Audit and Performance Evaluation of Bio-Mining and Bio- Remediation of Legacy Waste at Bakarganj Dumpsite, Bareilly.	The EMD is INR 30,000.00 Lakh & Tender Fee INR 5000.00 + 18% GST shall be submitted online in the account mentioned below. EMD / TENDER FEE Online Payment- Website: https://bareilly-tender.com/

Event of Calendar:

Sl. No.	Events	Date & Time
01.	Date of downloading EOI document	29.06.2026 from 12.00 PM
02.	Last date for seeking clarifications	01.07.2026 up to 02.00 PM
03.	Pre - Bid Meeting	03.07.2026 from 02.00 PM Venue: 3rd Floor, Conference Room, Smart City Building, Bareilly Nagar Nigam, Opp. Bareilly College, Civil Lines, Bareilly (U.P.)
04.	Start Date for uploading proposals	05.07.2026 from 02:00 PM
05.	Last Date for uploading proposals	14.07.2026 up to 04:00 PM
06.	Time and date of opening of Technical proposals	14.07.2026 at 05:00 PM
07.	Time and date of opening of Financial proposals	To be intimated later

The tender document can be downloaded from <https://etender.up.nic.in>. "Corrigendum if any. Would appear only on the <https://etender.up.nic.in> site and not to be published in any News Paper."

(प्रभारी अधिकारी) नगर निगम, बरेली

Lion cub bludgeoned to death: Gujarat forest department Thursday identified a man suspected of bludgeoning a lion cub to death in Junagadh, an exceptionally brutal case in the Asiatic lion habitat. TN

कार्यालय परियोजना प्रबंधक, सुनिट-02
कन्स्ट्रक्शन एण्ड डिजाइन सर्विसेज
उत्तर प्रदेश जल निगम (नगरिय)
(उप सरकारी का अंगण)
आई.एस.सी. 9001:2015 प्रमाणित संस्था
7- सरस्वती इन्डस्ट्रियल, बस्ती रोड,
जोगीवाला, देहरादून-248005
प्रमाण कार्यालय: टी.सी.-38-बी, विभिन्न
प्लॉट, जोगीवाला, देहरादून-226010
Visit us at www.cduspn.org
Mob- 9897591777
e-mail: pmunit2@cduspn.org

NIT No.-501/Karya-79/79
Date: 23.06.2026

ई-निविदा सूचना

उत्तर प्रदेश जल निगम (नगरिय), की ओर से अधोःस्तरीय द्वारा **CONSTRUCTION OF BS TERMINAL AND BUS DEPOT AT DISTRICT Pilibhit**, U.P. के कार्य अंगानित लागत ₹ 1161.32 लाख (लेबर सेस सहित एवं जी.एस.टी. सहित) हेतु निवेदन 24.07.2026 अगस्त 05:00 बजे तक ई-निविदा आमन्त्रित की जाती है। उक्त कार्य हेतु ई-निविदा प्रारंभ दिनांक 24.06.2026 से निवेदन 24.07.2026 के मध्य उत्तर प्रदेश सरकार की e-procurement वेबसाइट <https://etender.up.nic.in> से डाउनलोड किये जा सकते हैं तथा ई-निविदा दिनांक 25.07.2026 को अगस्त 13:30 बजे कार्यालय परियोजना प्रबंधक सुनिट-02, सी. एच.डी.एस., उ.प्र. जल निगम (नगरिय), देहरादून में कोटी जायेगी। ई-निविदा प्रारंभ का मूल्य ₹ 23600.00 (₹ 20000.00+ GST (18%)) देया जाय। निविदा से सम्बन्धित विस्तृत विवरण निगम की वेबसाइट www.cduspn.org पर <https://etender.up.nic.in> पर उपलब्ध है। समस्त सुविधा (Corrigendum) <https://etender.up.nic.in> पर ही उपलब्ध किये जायेंगे, इन्का प्रयुक्त से कोई प्रकाशन नहीं किया जायेगा। निविदादाताओं को सलाह दी जाती है कि वे उक्त वेबसाइट का समय-समय पर अवलोकन करते रहें।

CBI draws HC fire for 'copy-paste' RG Kar job

Subrata Chattaraj
& Srishruti Lakhotia | TNN

Kolkata: Calcutta HC Thursday pulled up CBI over its progress in probing into the alleged "larger conspiracy" behind the RG Kar rape-murder, describing a report filed by its SIT as a "copy-paste" of its earlier submissions and questioning if the central agency should continue the investigation.

A special division bench was hearing a plea by the victim's parents, who have alleged a larger conspiracy behind the crime remain uninvestigated. Appearing for the parents, senior advocate Jayanta Narayan Chatterjee submitted the probe should be handed over to CID if CBI was unable to make progress. CBI, however, told HC there had been a mistake in understanding HC's earlier directions.

In a two-page order, the bench said it was "not satisfied" with the report submitted by SIT, headed by CBI's joint director (eastern zone). It questioned what information and documents had been collected by the

agency during the investigation and noted that while the phrase "larger conspiracy" had been repeatedly cited, the report offered little beyond that assertion.

CBI's counsel submitted that the investigation was continuing and all aspects of the case would be examined. "The investigation has been continuing from Oct 2024 and we expect a final shape to the investigation should be granted forthwith. To that effect, all materials collected shall be submitted before this court on the next date, in a sealed cover," HC said.

The case will be heard again on Aug 6. In a May 21 order, HC relieved investigating officer Seema Pahuja of the assignment and directed SIT to examine all circumstances surrounding the night of the crime—from the victim's dinner with colleagues to her cremation. It had also directed SIT to revisit the parents' grievances and question them, if required.

On Thursday, the high court reiterated, "We are not satisfied with the report filed before us."

**GOVERNMENT OF TELANGANA
PUBLIC HEALTH AND MUNICIPAL ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT**
NITS: 01/TUFIDC/UNIT-1/ISBM 2.0/27JUL26/2026 Dt: 25.06.2026
Name of the Work: Sewerage Projects in 27 ULBs under SBM 2.0 under jurisdiction of Nalgonda and Khammam PH Divisions (Package-II) under LS contract system with Hybrid Annuity Model, Total Cost: Rs. 880.02 Crores, Bid Download Start Date: 01.07.2026 at 11:00 AM, Pre-Bid Meeting Date: 06.07.2026 at 11:00 AM @ Conference Hall, 7th floor, O/o, ENC (PH), Hyderabad; Bid Submission Start Date: 09.07.2026 at 11:00 AM; Bid Submission Closing Date: 27.07.2026 at 04:30 PM. For details visit <https://tender.telangana.gov.in>. Contact No: 9878261291, 916042233.
Sd/-Superintending Engineer (PH) TUFIDC, UNIT-1, NALGONDA
R.O. No.: 4933-PC/UPJADVT/2026-27

GREATER VISAKHAPATNAM MUNICIPAL CORPORATION
RFP Tender Notice No.11/2026-27/SE/Works-V&P&C/EE(West_Pendurthi)/DB/GVMC. Dt:25-06-2026
Number of Work : 01
Value of Work : RFP Tender
Tender Starting Date : 27.06.2026 at 5.00 PM
Closing Date : 13.07.2026 at 4.00 PM
Note: Further details at <http://tender.aeprocurement.gov.in> O/o the SE (P&C) Cell No: 9951532876 Sd/-Commissioner, GVMC

U.P. COOPERATIVE SUGAR FACTORIES FEDERATION LTD
9-A, RANA PRATAP MARG, LUCKNOW-226001
Tel No. (0522) 240230, (0522) 240231, Fax (0522) 240294
Email: upsugarfed@yahoo.co.in | Website: www.upsugarfed.org
Dated 25.06.2026
Corrigendum Notice
Please refer to GeM Tender Notice for Mema Project: GEM/2026/B/7529323 dated 14/05/2026 & Bagmati Project: GEM/2026/B/7529501 dated 14/05/2026. After the Pre-Bid meeting dated 22.06.2026, necessary Corrigendum has been uploaded vide revised Tender Document, which can be viewed on GeM portal: <http://gem.gov.in/>
MANAGING DIRECTOR

U.P. POWER TRANSMISSION CORPORATION LIMITED
Electy, Substation Design, Circle-I,
13th Floor, Shakti Bhawan Extension,
Lucknow

INVITES OPEN TENDER (E-TENDER)
"Engineering, Supply, Erection and Commissioning of 02 Nos. 220KV GIS Feeder Bay at Existing 220KV HGIS Substation Jewar, Noida on Turn-Key Basis against E-Tender Specification No. SD-1033."
Tender ID: 2026_PTRCL_1164036_1
Bid Portal (Download & Submission): www.etender.up.nic.in
Mode of Bidding : Open E-tender
EMD: RS. 11.62 Lakh
KEY DATES:
• Online Bid Submission Start: 25.06.2026, 17:00 Hrs.
• Online Bid Submission Closing: 25.07.2026, 15:30 Hrs.
• Technical Bid Opening: 27.07.2026, 15:30 Hrs. onwards
Note :- Bidders are advised to visit the e-portal regularly for amendments/corrigenda, if any.
E-mail: seeds1@upptcl.org
Contact No.: +91 9415220628
RO. No. 109
Dated : 25.06.2026
"Save Electricity for Nation"

SEARCH FOR MISSING

Guddi
General Public is hereby informed that one girl namely Guddi W/o Sunni Kumar Mahto R/o 126, Gali No. 2, JJ Camp, Anand Vihar, Delhi Age: 20 Years, Height: 5', Complexion: Fair, wearing Suit & Salwar, has been missing from her house since 12.06.2026. In this regard a DD No. 68A dated 12.06.2026 has been lodged at P.S. Anand Vihar, Delhi.
Sincere efforts have been made by the local police to trace out the girl but no clue has come to light so far. If anyone having any information about her please inform to the undersigned,
Website : <http://cbi.nic.in>
E-mail : cic@cbi.gov.in
Ph. No. : 011-24368639, 24368641
DP/8586/SHD/2026
SHO
P.S. Anand Vihar, Delhi
Ph.: 8595888677, 9690128001

SEARCH FOR MISSING

Madhu
General Public is hereby informed that one Girl Namely: Madhu D/o Ramesh Chander R/o Mahender Narwal Ka Makan Near Bus Stand Sannoth Village Delhi Sex: Female, Age: 18 Years, 6 Month Height: 5'2", Complexion: Fair, Face: Round, Built: Thin, Wearing: Mehru Colour Suit and Leg, has been missing since 19.06.2026 from Mahender Narwal Ka Makan Near Bus Stand Sannoth Village Delhi From The Jurisdiction of Police Station Narela Industrial Area, Delhi.
In this regard DD No. 59A, Dated 20.06.2026 has been registered at PS: Narela Industrial Area, Delhi. 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 missing Girl Please inform to the following.
Website : <http://cbi.nic.in>
E-Mail ID: cic@cbi.gov.in
Fax: 011-24368639
DP/8598/ON/2026
P.S.: Narela Industrial Area, Delhi
Mobile: 9717177251, 7065036324
SHO
S.H.O. Narela, Delhi
Tel.: 9315759395, 8800023577

SHO, K.N. Katju Marg, Delhi
Tel.: 011-27571162, 27571171
8750870327
DP/8481/RD/2026

NORTHERN RAILWAY TENDER NOTICE
For and on behalf of the President of India, the Deputy Chief Mechanical Engineer (Train Set), Northern Railway Charbagh Workshop, Lucknow invites following e-tender from reputed firms for works as given below: **Tender No.: W-CB-T09-SUNKAP-2026; Name of Work: Comprehensive Annual Maintenance Contract (CANC) of CNC Axle Turning Lathe machine S1. No. - SM - 204, SUNKAP - Make at NR Charbagh Workshop, Lucknow for period of 03 years; Estimated Cost of Work: ₹ 19,44,149.76; Earnest Money/Bid Security: ₹ 38,90,00/- only; Cost of Tender Form: Rs. 0/- only; Period of Contract: 36 Months; Date & Time for Submission of Tender: from 03.07.2026 to 17.07.2026 up to 15:00 Hrs. Date & Time for Opening of Tender: after 15:15 Hrs. on 17.07.2026. The tender form may be submitted on the website www.ireps.gov.in from 03.07.2026 to 17.07.2026 (up to 15:00 Hrs.).** • Manual offers are not allowed against this tender, any such manual offer received shall be ignored. • Contractors are allowed to make payment against this tender towards tender document cost and Earnest Money/Bid security only cash through e-payment gateway or submitted as Bank Guarantee bond from a scheduled Commercial bank of India or as mentioned in tender documents. • The tender will be opened on specified date and time as above. In case the above date is a holiday the tender opening would be conducted at the same time on the next working day. • No post tender correspondence for submission of additional documents shall be entertained after opening the technical & commercial offers. Even suo-moto post letter of the tender shall be treated as NULL & Void. **Tender Notice No: W-CB-T09-SUNKAP-2026** Date: 25.06.2026
SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE 2209/26

SEARCH FOR MISSING/KIDNAPPED
General public is hereby informed that one female namely **Anisha Kumari W/o Saroj R/o E-319 Kusumpur Pahadi, Vasant Kunj, Delhi**, has been missing/kidnapped from in front of Parking No. 2, Subzi Mandi Road near EDM Mall Gazipur, Delhi since: 21.06.2026. In this regard, a case DD No. 37A Dt. 22.06.2026, has been registered at PS: Patparganj Ind. Area, Delhi. The description of the missing female is as under:
Age: 18 Years, Height: 4'0", Complexion: Fair, Built: Thin, Face: Oval, Wearing: Green colour Suit Salwar and Chappal in feet. Sincere efforts have been made by the local police to trace out her but no clue has come to light so far. If anyone has any information about the missing female then please inform PS: Patparganj Ind. Area, Delhi at following Tel No./ e-mail: cic@cbi.gov.in and Website: <http://cbi.nic.in>, providing clue about the person.
Ph: 011-24368638, 24368641 Sd/-
Fax No. 011-24368639 SHO: Patparganj Ind. Area, Delhi
DP/8604/ED/2026 Tel.: 8750870626, 9911602883

SEARCH FOR MISSING
General public is hereby informed that a Girl namely **Munni Dhami D/o Sh. Gopal Singh Dhami R/o H. No. 44, Gali No. 12, 3rd Floor, Jamarudpur, New Delhi** has been missing since 08.06.2026 from Amar Colony. In this regard FIR No. 234/2026 Dated 19.06.2026 has been Lodged at PS Amar Colony, New Delhi. Sincere efforts have been made by the local police to trace out the Missing Girl, but no clue has come to light so far. The description of the Missing Girl is as under:
Name: Munni Dhami, Gender: Girl, Age: 16 years, Height: 5'1" ft, Complexion: Fair, Built: Thin, Face: Long, Identification: Burn Mark on her left hand. If anyone has any information regarding this Missing Girl, kindly inform SHO/ Amar Colony, New Delhi.
E-mail : cic@cbi.gov.in SHO
Ph.: 011-24368638, 24368641 PS, Amar Colony, New Delhi
Fax : 011-24368639 Ph. No. 8750870931, 011-26825821, DP/8537/SE/2026 011-26825825, 9868426060

SEARCH FOR MISSING MALE
General Public is hereby informed that one male (depicted in the photo) namely **Rahul Maan S/o Sh. Sukhdev R/o H. No.610, Khara Khurd (Near PNB Bank), Delhi Aged-32 Years** has been reported missing since 17.06.2026 at about 5:05 PM from Mother Dairy, G Block, Sec-16, Rohini, Delhi vide DD No. 64A Dated 20.06.2026 registered at Police Station K.N. Katju Marg, Delhi. His physical description is as under:-
Complexion: Fair, Height: 5'7", Face: Round, Built: Thin, Beard: Light, Hair: Black, Clothing: Black Coloured T-Shirt-Lower and Slipper in feet.
If anyone gets any information or clue about the missing male, please contact the below mentioned :-
SHO, K.N. Katju Marg, Delhi
Tel.: 011-27571162, 27571171
8750870327
DP/8481/RD/2026

On Emergency's anniv, Modi slams Cong 'attack on statute'

BJP Stresses Irony Of Cong's 'Fight To Uphold Constitution'

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi: PM Narendra Modi Thursday led NDA's attack on Congress on the Emergency's 51st anniversary, slamming the measure as an assault on the Constitution and emphasising his govt's commitment to constitutional values.

Several other members of the BJP-led governing alliance contrasted the irony of Congress championing the cause of Constitution while accusing govt of undermining its principles, with its trampling of civil rights and erosion of democratic institutions during the 21-month Emergency imposed by then PM Indira Gandhi.

Home minister Amit Shah said govt's decision to commemorate June 25 as "samvidhan hatya diwas" is aimed at keeping the memory of this black chapter alive in the nation's memory so that Congress never dares to repeat the similar attack on democracy and Constitution.

Modi said, "Today, we pay homage to all those who steadfastly defended democratic values during one of the darkest chapters in India's history... The Emergen-



'We pay homage to all those who steadfastly defended democratic values during the Emergency,' Modi said

cy was a direct assault on our Constitution. It witnessed the suspension of civil liberties, curbs on freedom of expression, arrests of political leaders, journalists, social workers and an assault on institutions that are the bedrock of our democracy." BJP president Nitin Nabin said Congress invokes Constitution today but has never tendered an unconditional apology for Emergency. Culture minister Gajendra Singh Shekhawat recalled how the numerous leaders who showed courage to protest were put in jails and "right to dissent" was declared to be a crime.

Pradhan backs NCERT, says kids must know of Emergency 'dark deeds'

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi/Bengaluru: Union education minister Dharmendra Pradhan Thursday justified the inclusion of a chapter on the 1975-77 Emergency in the NCERT class IX social science textbook, saying future generations must know the "dark deeds" of that period.

Speaking in Chandigarh on the inclusion of the Emergency section, Pradhan asserted, "... NCERT has done the right thing. Future generations should know and understand the dark deeds of the Emergency so that such a situation does not arise again..."

The inclusion of Emergency was exclusively reported by TOI on Wednesday in the social science textbook 'Understanding Society: India and Beyond'. The section places the 1975-77 period among the major challenges faced by the Indian democracy, referring to the suspension of fundamental rights, press censorship and arrests of opposition leaders

during the Indira Gandhi-led Congress govt.

The council, meanwhile, issued a separate clarification rejecting allegations of religious and dietary bias in its class VI Kannada language (R3) under the three-language policy textbook, titled "Krishna". The NCERT said that the title "Krishna" referred to the Krishna river, not a religious figure. "NCERT has named its language textbooks, after rivers of India," it said. It added that the Hindi textbook was named "Ganga", English "Kaveri", Urdu "Jamuna" (Yamuna), and Kannada "Krishna", after one of Karnataka's major rivers.

On allegations that the book promoted vegetarianism, NCERT said a balanced diet was covered in chapter 6 and under a separate heading, "Balanced Diet", on page 63. It said the illustrative image on the page included both vegetarian and non-vegetarian food items, and that the chapter linked healthy food with India's food diversity.

BMC staffer's fall 'fishy', says Mumbai mayor, seeks probe

Richa.Pinto@timesofindia.com

Mumbai: A day after a BMC staffer fell waist-deep into a rainwater-filled open drain, a few feet away from mayor Ritu Tawde when she was inspecting the flooded King Circle's Gandhi Market area, she termed the incident "fishy" and sought a detailed inquiry from the BMC administration.

Baban Jadhav, a mukadam attached to BMC's solid waste management department, however, denied that he had purposefully fallen into the drain.

Speaking to TOI on Thursday, Tawde said, "A passerby walked safely along the edge of the barricaded open drain. Then how did a civic staffer, who knew the drain was open, end up falling into it? I find this all very fishy and have asked the BMC administration to investigate the matter and submit a report. The administration has assured me that an inquiry will be conducted."

Tawde added that on Wednesday, she inspected various low-lying, chronic flooding spots, including Gandhi Market area, to monitor the situation after the season's first heavy showers and give directions to the BMC administration. On Thursday, the local ward officer, along with other staff, visited the Gandhi Market site and conducted a preliminary inquiry. Civic officials said statements have been recorded from the staff, including Jadhav.

NORTHERN RAILWAY TENDER NOTICE
For and on behalf of the President of India, the Deputy Chief Mechanical Engineer (Train Set), Northern Railway Charbagh Workshop, Lucknow invites following e-tender from reputed firms for works as given below: **Tender No.: W-CB-T07-AUXMACHINE-2026; Name of Work: Rewinding/ Repair/ overhauling of auxiliary Motors/battery chargers of MEMU Motor Coaches as per scope of work. Estimated Cost of Work: ₹ 67,92,280.08; Earnest Money/Bid Security: ₹ 1,35,900/- only; Cost of Tender Form: Rs. 0/- only; Period of Contract: 24 Months; Date & Time for Submission of Tender: from 03.07.2026 to 17.07.2026 up to 15:00 Hrs. Date & Time for Opening of Tender: after 15:15 Hrs. on 17.07.2026. The tender form may be submitted on the website www.ireps.gov.in from 03.07.2026 to 17.07.2026 (up to 15:00 Hrs.).** • Manual offers are not allowed against this tender, any such manual offer received shall be ignored. • Contractors are allowed to make payment against this tender towards tender document cost and Earnest Money/Bid security only cash through e-payment gateway or submitted as Bank Guarantee bond from a scheduled commercial bank of India or as mentioned in tender documents. • The tender will be opened on specified date and time as above. In case the above date is a holiday the tender opening would be conducted at the same time on the next working day. • No post tender correspondence for submission of additional documents shall be entertained after opening the technical & commercial offers. Even suo-moto post letter of the tender shall be treated as NULL & Void. **Tender Notice No: W-CB-T07-AUXMACHINE-2026** Date: 25.06.2026
SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE 2210/26

APPEAL FOR IDENTIFICATION
General public is hereby informed that one unidentified dead body of male **Namely: Unknown, S/o: Unknown, R/o Unknown, Age: about 45 Years, Height: 5'5", Complexion: Brown, Face: Long, Built: Thin, Wearing: White colour T-shirt & Black colour Pant, who was found at near Metro Gate No-06, Kashmere Gate, Delhi**, In this regard a case DD No. 66A Dt. 22.06.2026, has been registered at PS: Kashmere Gate, Delhi.
Any person having any information or clue about the above deceased may kindly inform to the undersigned on the following address or telephone nos.
DP/8529/N/2026 (UIDB) PS: Kashmere Gate, Delhi Tel. 8750870123, 789171579 Sd/- SHO

SEARCH FOR MISSING/KIDNAPPED
General public is hereby informed that one person (depicted in the photo) namely **Raj Singh S/o Ramesh Singh R/o H.No. K-298, Gali No. 07, Saurabh Vihar, Jaitpur, New Delhi** has been missing/kidnapped from his residence since 20.06.2026 at 01:00 PM. In this regard a FIR No./DD No. 100A, Dated 20.06.2026 has been lodged at PS Jaitpur, South-East Distt., New Delhi. Sincere efforts have been made by local police to trace out this person but no clue has come to light so far. His physical description is as under:-
Sex: Male, Age: 25 years, Height: 5'6" ft, Complexion: Shallow, Face: Long, Built: Thin, Wearing: White colour T-Shirt and grey colour pant.
If any person is having information or clue about this missing boy may kindly inform to the following telephones numbers:-
Website: <http://cbi.nic.in> PS Jaitpur, Delhi
E-mail: cic@cbi.gov.in Ph.: 011-26666410, 26666412
Tel. No.: 011-24368638/24368641 Mobile: 8750871645
Fax No.: 011-24368639 DP/8561/SE/2026

APPEAL FOR IDENTIFICATION
The general public is hereby informed that a Female whose name, residence and family is unknown, whose age was about 55 years was found in unconscious state at Main Hall AG Side, New Delhi Railway Station. The unknown person was sent to LHMC Hospital, where Dr. declared her brought dead. The Dead Body of the Deceased Person has been preserved at LHMC Hospital Mortuary for 72 hours for PM and Identification. In this regard, an information has been lodged vide DD No. 39A Dated 23.06.2026 at PS New Delhi Railway Station, Delhi. Sincere efforts have been made by the local police to identify the deceased person, but no clue has come to light, so far. The description of the UDB is as under:
Sex: Female, Age: 55 Years, Height: 5'0" ft, Complexion: Shallow, Built: Thin, Face: Long, Wearing: Green Color Suit-Salwar, Identification: Tattoo on Right forearm. If anyone has any information about her relatives, kindly inform the SHO/ New Delhi Railway Station, Delhi.
SHO
PS, New Delhi Railway Station, Delhi
Ph. No. 011-23744073, 8750871305, 9717129741
DP/8567/RLY/2026

JAIPUR VIDYUT VITRAN NIGAM LIMITED
OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER (MM-II) MM Building, Old Power House Premises, Near Ram Mandir, Banipur, Jaipur-302006 Website: www.energy-rajasthan.gov.in/jvnl Email: jaipur@energyraajasthan.gov.in
E-PROCUREMENT SHORT-TERM TENDER NOTICE
Short term e-tender are invited for purchase of 11 KV CT-PT Sets of 15/5 Amp. ratio (TN-3017, UBN- VVN2627GLOB00204). All the details regarding tenders are available at web site www.energy.rajasthan.gov.in/jvnl and www.sppp.rajasthan.gov.in and www.eproc.rajasthan.gov.in. In future, corrigendum/ extension, if any, shall be published only at above web sites.
Raj.Samvad/C/26/5678 JPR-3177 (2026) SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER (MM-II)
For Electricity Complaints Toll Free No. 1800 180 6507

Rajasthan State Mines & Minerals Limited
Detailed Notice Inviting Tender Date: 24/06/2026
NIT No. & Date Description of Work
e-tender no. RSM/M/CO/GEM/2026-27 Cont:10/2026-27 dated 23.06.2026 UBN No. MM126275LOB00072
"Loading of limestone gits of various sizes into trippers/dumpers from crusher hopper (s) and/or different stockpiles at company's Sanu Limestone mines (Sanu-1 & Sanu-2), Distt. Jaisalmer. Its transportation from mines to railway siding at sanu railway station, and its unloading, stacking, watch & ward and mechanized loading of limestone gits into railway wagons using front end loaders etc. contract value Rs. 100.00 Cr., EMD in Rs. 2.00 Cr. D.D./B.G. Tender Fees Rs. 4720/-"
Other terms & conditions have been given in detailed tender for which please visit at our website www.rsmm.com or www.sppp.rajasthan.gov.in or www.eproc.rajasthan.gov.in or to Manager (Contract) on above address.
Raj.Samvad/C/26/5686 DGM (P&A)

UJJAIN SMART CITY LIMITED
Mela Office, Kothi Road, Ujjain (M.P.) 456001 Ph. 0734-2525856
USCL/437 Tender ID: 2026_UAD_517421_1 date 24/06/2026
Ujjain Smart City Limited invites online bids from eligible bidders -
NOTICE INVITING TENDER
"Conducting Maa Kshirpa Aarti at Ujjain- 3rd call."
Interested bidders may purchase and submit their proposals online at www.mptenders.gov.in.
Earnest Money Deposit Rs. 1,00,000 /-
Cost of Tender Document Rs. 15,000/-
Purchase of Tender Start Date 24/06/2026
Pre-bid Meeting 02/07/2026 15:00 hrs
Last date for submission of Technical and Financial Bid (Online) 16/07/2026 upto 17:00 hrs
Note: In case of any mismatch in key dates, key dates showing on e-portal shall be final. For more details, please refer to e-procurement website: www.mptenders.gov.in. Corrigendum or amendments, if any, shall be uploaded on this website only.
For, Ujjain Smart City Limited

SEARCH FOR MISSING/KIDNAPPED
General public is hereby informed that one male namely **Viren @ Bobby S/o Rakesh R/o H.No. 6408, Gali Satyanarayan Mandir, Nari Karim, Delhi**, has been missing/kidnapped from his house since: 23.05.2026. In this regard, a case DD No. 37A Dt. 23.05.2026, has been registered at PS: Nari Karim, Delhi. The description of the missing male is as under:
Age: 35 Years, Height: 5'0", Complexion: Fair, Built: Strong, Face: Round, Wearing: Gray colour T-Shirt & Half Lower and Slipper in feet. Sincere efforts have been made by the local police to trace out his but no clue has come to light so far. If anyone has any information about the missing male then please inform PS: Nari Karim, Delhi at following Tel No./ e-mail: cic@cbi.gov.in and Website: <http://cbi.nic.in>, providing clue about the person.
Ph: 011-24368638, 24368641 Sd/-
Fax No. 011-24368639 SHO: Nari Karim, Delhi
DP/8574/CD/2026 Tel.: 9649361129

SEARCH FOR MISSING/KIDNAPPED
General public is hereby informed that one female namely **Priya W/o Ashish R/o H. No. 233, Nai Basti, Banker Narela, Delhi**, has been missing/kidnapped from her house since: 15.06.2026. In this regard, a case DD No. 98A Dt. 19.06.2026, has been registered at PS: Narela, Delhi. The description of the missing female is as under:
Age: 31 Years, Height: 5'2", Complexion: Fair, Built: Medium, Face: Round, Wearing: Blue colour Suit Salwar and Chappal in feet. ID: 'DIL' tattoo on left hand. Sincere efforts have been made by the local police to trace out her but no clue has come to light so far. If anyone has any information about the missing female then please inform PS: Narela, Delhi at following Tel No./ e-mail: cic@cbi.gov.in and Website: <http://cbi.nic.in>, providing clue about the person.
Ph: 011-24368638, 24368641 Sd/-
Fax No. 011-24368639 S.H.O. Narela, Delhi
DP/8559/ON/2026 Tel.: 9315759395, 8800023577

Govt gives envoy to B'desh status of Cabinet minister

Underscores Importance Of Ties With Dhaka

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi/Dhaka: In a decision that underscores the importance New Delhi attaches to its diplomatic engagement with Dhaka, India's new high commissioner to Bangladesh Dinesh Trivedi has been accorded status equivalent to Union cabinet minister.

Soon after presenting his credentials to President Mohammed Shahabuddin on Thursday, Trivedi—the first politician to serve in this position—announced resumption of travel visas for Bangladeshi nationals from all five



Soon after presenting his credentials to Bangladesh president, Dinesh Trivedi (L) announced resumption of travel visas for B'deshi nationals, which had been halted nearly 2 years ago amid deteriorating ties during the Yunus-led interim regime

visa application centres — Dhaka, Rajshahi, Chittagong, Sylhet and Khulna. It was halted nearly two years ago amid deteriorating ties and the security situation during the Muhammad Yunus-led interim regime, which came into being after Sheikh Hasina's ouster as PM in 2024.

In an office memorandum, dated June 24, the home ministry said Trivedi "has been assigned the equivalent status of Union cabinet Minister in the Table of Precedence (ToP)

as a measure personal to him, without amending the Table of Precedence". ToP determines hierarchy for constitutional authorities, ministers, judges, diplomats and officials during state and ceremonial functions. The order clarified the status is meant "for ceremonial functions only".

The status — first for an envoy to Bangladesh — was earlier accorded to I K Gujral (USSR), Karan Singh (US) and Triloki Kaul (USSR) as ambassadors. Trivedi—a former

Union minister and BJP veteran — succeeds Pranay Verma, a 1994-batch IFS officer.

Briefing reporters after the presenting of credentials, Bangladesh President's press secretary Md Sarwar Alam said Shahabuddin expressed hope that Trivedi's tenure will further strengthen and deepen the mutually beneficial and people-centric relations between Bangladesh and India. In response, Trivedi said it is natural for the two sovereign nations to enjoy friendly and cordial relations, reflecting the long-standing bonds between the two countries.

New Delhi's decision to send the veteran politician to Dhaka comes at a time when both sides are looking at repairing the bilateral ties that came under severe strain after the 2024 developments.

Sujata, ex-IAS officer & Pandian's wife, joins BJD

Bhubaneswar: Ending months of speculation, former IAS officer Sujata Rout Karthikeyan, 51, wife of ex-bureaucrat V K Pandian, joined BJD Thursday in the presence of party chief Naveen Patnaik.

Sujata, a 2000-batch IAS officer who took voluntary retirement in March 2025, touched the feet of the former CM after he welcomed her to the party. Given that she is married to BJD's key strategist in the last two simultaneous LS and assembly elections and a

close confidant of Patnaik, her entry had sparked speculation about her role in the party. But Patnaik quelled all talk of a leadership change.

"I would like to welcome Sujata to BJD," he said, adding that her administrative experience would help people, particularly women. "I'll be leading BJD in the next polls," Patnaik said.

Sujata said she felt "fortunate" to have worked under Patnaik and was "blessed" to get an opportunity to serve Odisha. — Ashok Pradhan



CJI says nine centuries before Magna Carta, Arthashastra conceptualised 'equality'

Dhananjay Mahapatra

@timesofindia.com

Giving an interesting twist to the popular belief that 13th century Magna Carta articulated the concept of equality, Chief Justice Surya Kant Thursday said he personally believed that 'Arthashastra', authored by legendary 4th century administrator, strategist and thinker Kautilya, conceptualised equality and gave it the foundational value for civilisation.

Speaking at St Petersburg International Legal Forum, CJI Kant said, "... the birthplace of Equality was not necessarily the Magna Carta in 1215. Rather, my own personal belief is that its roots are traceable to Kautilya's Arthashastra, which belongs to the Indian subcontinent and pro-

pounded the theory of Equality in the fourth century."

Quoting Arthashastra, he said, "The text states in no uncertain terms that a King who does not hold himself subject to dharma, to law, ceases to be a King, whether morally or actually." He said several civilisations simultaneously in myriad ways contributed in expanding the concept of equality and its cardinal role in an orderly society.

"Equality before the law was not a privilege to be dispensed by the powerful to those they deemed deserving. It has always been the grammar of legality itself. Without it, what we call law — is merely the organised will of the stronger party," he said and questioned whether the term and concept of

equality applied in letter and spirit to international law.

This question is appropriate as increasingly one witnesses bigger and powerful nations bending international law as it suited them and subjecting the smaller or less powerful countries to the rigour of sanctions and tariffs.

CJI Kant said despite the formation of the United Nations and the refining and development of international law, the question still being asked is — "Whether international law is a privilege of the few or a law among equals." He said the fact that the question is still being asked, is an indictment in itself.

"The honest answer lies not in the architecture of treaties nor in the composition of international organisations,

but in a single, humbler, and far more urgent test: whether every sovereign state, and every human being within it, is empowered to access the law and obtain the desired remedy?" said CJI Kant, who signed an MoU with SC of Russian Federation two days ago.

As head of "the world's largest and most complex judicial systems", he said equality begins with equal access to the law. Such access, the CJI said, must confer actual rights and not remain a procedural formality or hollow statutory declaration.

CJI Kant said the international legal order continues to face the challenge of ensuring equal access to legal remedies for all countries irrespective of the past grand declarations about its role in maintaining the world order.



'93-batch IPS officer Dixit to be IB chief

New Delhi: Mahesh Dixit, a 1993-batch IPS officer, was appointed as the next chief of the Intelligence Bureau (IB) on Thursday. He will succeed Tapan Deba who's extension ends in June. The Appointments Committee of the Cabinet chaired by PM Modi cleared his appointment for a tenure of two years from the date of assumption of charge of the post.

A seasoned officer with an established track record in handling national security and counter-terrorism issues, Dixit is known for his decision-making abilities within the agency. A Telangana cadre officer, he has spent most of his career in the IB and was serving as its special director. As J&K State Intelligence Bureau chief, he played a key role during the post-Article 370 period, sources said. He also played a critical role during Operation Sindoor, during which crucial intelligence led to the destruction of terror camps in PoK and Pakistan. Sources said Dixit had been handling key responsibilities within IB for two years. **TNN**

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(AN INSTITUTE OF NATIONAL IMPORTANCE)

The last date for admission to BTech (FTM), BTech-MBA, MBA and E-MBA has been extended. Please visit www.niftem.ac.in for further details

POST GRADUATE INSTITUTE OF CHILD HEALTH
Sector-30, Noida, 201303
www.pgich.edu.in, msspghc@gmail.com
Advt.No.PGICH, Noida/Tender/Electrical & Civil/2026/23
Date-25.06.2026
Bid No. _____ Tender Name _____
Facility Management Services - LumpSum Based - Healthcare;
O&M of Mechanical Electrical; Electronics & Civil Work;
Cost of consumable to be reimbursed to service provider on actual
Details available on GeM Portal www.gem.gov.in and on website www.pgich.edu.in
The Director reserves the right to accept or reject any tender partially or fully without assigning any reason.
Tel.: 0120-2455561, 2456728

Tender Ref No: AMSC-ITOPROC/11/2025-ITLOG-AMSC/39351
NOTICE INVITING TENDER
e-Tenders in Two Bid System affixing court fee stamp of Rs. 8.25 or IPO of Rs. 10/- only, are invited by Assam Medical Services Corporation Ltd. from reputed Service Provider/ Agency for Facilitation of Statutory Approvals, Licenses, Registrations and Clearances for Healthcare Infrastructure Development and Operational Licensing in the State of Assam.
The complete e-tender documents may be obtained from the website-<http://assamtenders.gov.in> from 24/06/2026 to 14/07/2026.
Sd/-
Managing Director, AMSC

DIPR/CF/TOI/590/26-Jun-26

राष्ट्रीय ध्रुवीय एवं समुद्री अनुसंधान केन्द्र
NATIONAL CENTRE FOR POLAR AND OCEAN RESEARCH
Vasco-da-Gama, Goa-403804

WALK-IN-INTERVIEW

The Director, NCPOR invites eligible and prospective Indian Nationals for filling up the position of Junior Research Fellow /Senior Research Fellow at NCPOR on temporary contract basis under project mode through walk-in-interview on **09th July 2026 (Thursday) at 08:30 AM (onwards)** at NCPOR. For detailed advertisement, terms and conditions and instructions visit our website www.ncpor.res.in.

Sd/

रिज्ञापन सं: NCPOR/2026/05

Senior Manager – Head (Admin)

30001/50/2627

ODISHA MINING CORPORATION LIMITED
OMC House, Bhubaneswar-751001, Odisha
CIN: U13100OR1956GCO00313, www.omcltd.in
Tel : 0674 2377436, 2377488

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Bid document No.: OMC/E-PROC/C&P/021/2026-27 Dated: 25/06/2026

1	Name of the Work /Service	Techno-Economic Feasibility Study for capacity enhancement of Bangur Chromite Mine (UG)
2	Availability of tender documents	Date: 26.06.2026
3	Pre-bid meeting	Date: 10.07.2026; Time: 3.30 PM; Venue: Through VC
4	Bid due date	Date: 28.07.2026 up to Time: 3.00 PM

All other details can be seen from the Tender Document available on the e-procurement portal of the Government of Odisha (www.tendersodisha.gov.in) and on the website of OMC (www.omcltd.in). OMC reserves the right to reject any or all bids without assigning any reason thereof.

Sd/

Head(C&P)

OIPR-30001/300051/26-27/0045

11001/154/2627

BIJU PATNAIK UNIVERSITY OF TECHNOLOGY, ODISHA RAURKELA

Date : 24.06.2026

TENDER CALL NOTICE

Sealed Tender (two bid system) are invited from the reputed and experienced agencies/ Firms for the following tender. The detail Tender available in the website i.e www.bput.ac.in.

Sl	Name of the Tender	Tender Notice No. & Date	Last Date of Receipt of Tender
1	Tender for Supply of Equipment for Material Testing Lab	BP/UT/XII/CUPGS/11 3/2024/4650, dated 24.06.2026	27.07.2026 by 5.00 PM
2	Tender for Supply of Equipment for Transportation Engg Lab	BP/UT/XII/CUPGS/01 7/2024/4651, dated 24.06.2026	27.07.2026 by 5.00 PM
3	Tender for Supply and Installation of Equipments of Power Electronics Lab of Electrical Engg Department	BP/UT/XII/CUPGS/05 3/2024/4652, dated 24.06.2026	27.07.2026 by 5.00 PM
4	Tender for Supply and Installation of Equipments for Electrical Engg Department	BP/UT/XII/CUPGS/06 7/2024/4653, dated 24.06.2026	27.07.2026 by 5.00 PM
5	Tender for Supply and Installation of Equipments for Electrical Machine Lab of Electrical Engg Department	BP/UT/XII/CUPGS/05 4/2024/4654, dated 24.06.2026	27.07.2026 by 5.00 PM
6	Tender for Supply and Installation of Equipments for Power System Lab of Electrical Engg Department	BP/UT/XII/CUPGS/05 5/2024/4655, dated 24.06.2026	27.07.2026 by 5.00 PM

The University reserves right to reject any Tender without assigning any reason thereof. The receiving of sealed Tender by Speed Post addressing to the "Registrar, Biju Patnaik University of Technology, Chhend, Raurkela - 769015. The tender received beyond the due date and time shall be rejected summarily.

Sd/-

REGISTRAR

OIPR - 11001/110591/26-27/0007

GeM bid no. GEM/2026/B/7706124

NOTICE INVITING TENDER (NATIONAL COMPETITIVE BIDDING)

Assam Medical Services Corporation Ltd. (AMSC) invites GeM Tender in Two Bid System from manufacturers/ Authorized distributors/dealers for "Supply of Hemoglobin Test Strips (Q2) (PAC Only)". The complete GeM bid may be obtained from the website-<https://gem.gov.in> with GeM bid no. GEM/2026/B/7706124 from 24.06.2026 till 04.07.2026.
Sd/-
Managing Director, AMSC

DIPR/CF/TOI/587/26-Jun-26

TIMES ascent
Catapult your career

RKDF UNIVERSITY, BHOPAL
(NAAC A+ Accredited University)

APPOINTMENT OF VICE-CHANCELLOR

- Applications are invited from eligible candidates for the post of Vice - Chancellor, RKDF University, Bhopal.
- Qualification, Experience and Salary shall be as per UGC norms.
- Interested candidates may send their application with in 30 days from the date of publication of advertisement through speed post to: THE Registrar, RKDF University Airport Bypass Road, Gandhinagar, Bhopal (M.P.)-462033
- For details, visit : www.rkdf.ac.in

REGISTRAR

RECRUITMENT ADDENDUM NOTICE (IN CONTINUATION OF ADVERTISEMENT NO. BOB/HRM/REC/ADVT/2025/15, DATED 10.11.2025)

Bank of Baroda invites reference to Advertisement No. BOB/HRM/REC/ADVT/2025/15 dated 10.11.2025 published for recruitment of Professionals on Contractual Basis. It is hereby notified that the online application window is being re-opened for submission of fresh applications for the following positions:

Sl.	Name of the Post	Vacancy
1	Dy. Chief Technology Officer (Dy. CTO)	1
2	Dy. Chief Financial Officer (Dy. CFO)	1
3	Dy. Chief Digital Officer (Dy. CDO)	1
4	Dy. Chief Information Security Officer (Dy. CISO)	1
5	Senior Vice President – Bulk Retail	1
6	Dy. Vice President – Bulk Retail	3

The eligibility criteria, job description, selection process, application fee and all other terms & conditions shall remain the same as prescribed in Advertisement No. BOB/HRM/REC/ADVT/2025/15, dated 10.11.2025.

Interested candidates are advised to visit the Bank's website <https://bankofbaroda.bank> Career Page Current Opportunities Recruitment of Senior Positions on Contractual Basis in various Departments Advt No. BOB/HRM/REC/ADVT/2025/15.

Candidates who have applied earlier need not to apply again.

Candidates are advised to go through the detailed advertisement, ensuring their eligibility and other details before applying.

Any addendum / corrigendum / modification shall be notified only on the Bank's website

Date for filling Online Application: 26.06.2026 to 05.07.2026 (23:59 hours).

Place: Mumbai CHIEF GENERAL MANAGER (HRM & MARKETING)
Date: 26th June 2026

TIMES ascent
Catapult your career

LIC **LIFE INSURANCE CORPORATION OF INDIA**
Central Office, Yogakshema, Jeevan Bima Marg, Mumbai 400 021.

Engagement of 'CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER' in LIC of India
Life Insurance Corporation of India, invites application from eligible finance professionals for engagement as "Chief Financial Officer" on contract basis.

Interested result-oriented and goal driven domain experts may send their resume with documents to: co_ecb@licindia.com on or before **15.07.2026** with subject as "Application for Chief Financial Officer-On Contract basis". Detailed information on Eligibility, Selection Procedure, Role Responsibility etc., is available at www.licindia.in under "careers".

Date: 25.06.2026

Executive Director (Personnel)

भारतीय रिज़र्व बैंक सर्विसेज़ बोर्ड
RESERVE BANK OF INDIA SERVICES BOARD
Advt. No. RBISB/BA/02/2026-27

Lateral Recruitment of Site Engineers on Full-Time Contract Basis in Reserve Bank of India (RBI)

Applications are invited for Lateral Recruitment of Site Engineers on Full-Time Contract Basis to the following posts in the Reserve Bank of India:

Name of Department - Premises Department, Central Office			
Sr. No.	Name of the Post	Level (Equivalent Grade)	Vacancies
1	Consultant Site Engineer (Civil)	Level - 2 (Grade 'B')	1
2	Consultant Site Engineer (Civil)	Level - 3 (Grade 'C')	6
3	Consultant Site Engineer (Electrical)	Level - 3 (Grade 'C')	1
Total	-	-	8

* The selected candidates would be liable to be posted to any of the Bank's projects as per the Bank's requirements, irrespective of the candidates' preference of job location.

- For all other details such as eligibility criteria, reservation of vacancies, scheme of selection, submission of online applications and other instructions, please refer to the detailed advertisement to be published on the Bank's website (www.rbi.org.in) on June 29, 2026. Candidates can apply for the aforementioned posts only by online mode through the Bank's website.
- Window for Online Registration of Applications and June 29, 2026 to July 20, 2026 Payment of Application Fees/ Intimation Charges (till 06:00 PM)

Note:
(i) The Board reserves the right to make any changes in the above dates.
(ii) Corrigendum/ Addendum, if any, issued on the above advertisement will be published only on the Bank's website (www.rbi.org.in).

Rashtriya Chemicals and Fertilizers Limited
(A Government of India Undertaking)
Administrative Bldg, Chembur, Mumbai - 400 074.
CIN : L24110MH1978GOI020185, Advt No. 18032026

SPECIAL RECRUITMENT DRIVE FOR BACKLOG VACANCIES FOR THE POST OF OFFICER (FINANCE) – 2 POSTS, OFFICER (HR) – 1 POST, OFFICER (MEDICAL) – 2 POSTS, SENIOR MANAGER (CC LAB) – 1 POST AND OFFICER (LEGAL) – 1 POST FOR TROMBAY/THAL/ AREA OFFICES PAN INDIA AND RECRUITMENT FOR OTHER VACANCIES FOR VARIOUS POSTS FOR TROMBAY/THAL/ AREA OFFICES PAN INDIA

RECRUITMENT FOR TROMBAY/THAL/ AREA OFFICES PAN INDIA
Rashtriya Chemicals and Fertilizers Limited (RCF Ltd) is a leading profit making "Navratna" company in the business of manufacturing and marketing of Fertilizers and Industrial Chemicals having revenues from operation of around Rs. 18690.90 crores. The Manufacturing units are in Maharashtra (at Thal - Dist. Raigad and at Trombay - Chembur, Mumbai) with National Level Marketing Network. Company provides excellent career growth opportunities. Company intends to recruit:

Sl. No.	POST CODE	NAME OF THE POST & DISCIPLINE	Vacancies
1	E1FN/032026	Officer (Finance) E1 Grade	5 (includes backlog positions)
2	E1HR/032026	Officer (HR) E1 Grade	1 (Backlog)
3	E1MED/032026	Officer (Medical) E1 Grade	2 (Backlog)
4	E5CCLAB/032026	Sr. Manager (CC Lab) E5 Grade	1 (Backlog)
5	E1LEGAL/032026	Officer (Legal) E1 Grade	1 (Backlog)
6	E0ASSTLE/032026	Assistant Engineer (Electrical) E0 Grade	5
7	E1ELE/032026	Engineer (Electrical) E1 Grade	5
8	E2ELE/032026	Sr. Engineer (Electrical) E2 Grade	5
9	E3ELE/032026	Dy. Manager (Electrical) E3 Grade	3
10	E1CIVIL/032026	Engineer (Civil) E1 Grade	2
11	E2CIVIL/032026	Sr. Engineer (Civil) E2 Grade	2

Interested Candidates may refer to the 'Recruitment' section of the Company's Website at www.rcfltd.com for further details.

Executive Director (HR)

Let us grow together

Bank of Maharashtra
Your opportunity to shine!
Join a legacy of excellence at Bank of Maharashtra

Recruitment of Economists

Bank of Maharashtra one of the leading Public Sector Bank is expanding its national footprint and have gone global with its Gift City presence. To support the growth journey, Bank requires self motivated professionals for its Economic Cell at Corporate Office Pune/Mumbai

Post	Employment Type
Chief Economist	- Contractual
Chief Manager – Economist	- Permanent
Senior Manager – Economist	- Permanent

Last date to apply

Mode of Application

For details please visit

10.07.26

Online

www.bankofmaharashtra.bank.in/current-openings

Contact for Details- 020-71658612/5

General Manager (HRM)

Corporate Office: Montclair, 134/1, Baner- Pashan Link Road, Pashan, Pune 411021



SCAN TO KNOW MORE

Former law secretary and expert on constitutional law P K Malhotra emphasised that since courts have specifically ruled that Aadhaar, EPIC, ration card, etc. are documents that prove only identity of a person and are not conclusive evidence of citizenship, it is high time govt came up with a document which conclusively proves Indian citizenship. "This will obviate the fear in the minds of citizens about harassment by certain public authorities," he added.

The Passports Act, 1967 notified during tenure of PM Indira Gandhi, specified the law was enacted for issuance of "passports, travel documents, to regulate the departure from India of citizens of India and other persons".

	NATIONAL SCHOOL OF DRAMA NEW DELHI- 110001 (An autonomous Institution of Ministry of Culture, Govt. of India)	
CALL FOR ENTRIES		
26th BHARAT RANG MAHOTSAV, 2027 (INTERNATIONAL THEATRE FESTIVAL OF INDIA)		
National School of Drama invites proposals for participation in the 26th Bharat Rang Mahotsav 2027 -International Theatre Festival of India (World's Largest Theatre Festival) which will be held in New Delhi and other cities of the country and Abroad in January, 2027. Applications are invited online only from interested Theatre Groups, Drama Institutions, Theatre Companies, and Theatre Directors from both India and abroad. For detailed information and application form please visit NSD website www.nsd.gov.in. (Link will be activated w.e.f. 27th June, 2026). Last date of submission of application is 27th August, 2026. • Application Fee- INR 250/- for India and SAARC countries INR 500/- for others. Enquiry: Phone: 011- 23073647, 011- 23031116 Website: www.nsd.gov.in CBC 0913011/0004/2627		



CONTRAPUNTO

In this world, shipmates, sin that pays its way can travel freely, and without passport; whereas virtue, if a pauper, is stopped at all frontiers

-HERMAN MELVILLE

Indian? Prove It

Yes, passports alone don't prove citizenship. But govt must understand why there's general anxiety

An MEA official's response that an Indian passport is not proof of citizenship, to a question on a passport-holder's exclusion from SIR, has created both uncertainty and anxiety. Understandably so – there's been a lot of chatter about the citizenship issue. What the official said is correct – the passport is the primary document for international travel. And, yes, there are various categories of passports, one of which may be issued to non-Indians in select cases. Also true: Bombay HC's 2013 judgment was clear that a passport by itself is not proof of citizenship.

The fact is India has no single document for citizenship. And attempts at building a National Register of Citizens have, unsurprisingly, faltered. Proving citizenship through documents is a complicated affair. This is not only because India is a document-scarce country, but also because *how* citizenship should be determined was mostly allowed to be a flexible process. This was by design, given the range of peoples that call India home. The original idea of citizenship presumed most people residing in this country are citizens, unless there was clear and present evidence to suggest otherwise. But, for some time now, this view hasn't found favour with the official approach.

There's a problem with that. In the accelerated push for document-based determination of citizenship, and with the relevant law going through multiple amendments, in 2003, 2015, 2019, and 2025, citizenship has become a status that depends not only on *possessing* documents but on possessing the *right* documents that fit changing legal criteria. One of these is legacy documents. For example, can proof of birth in India be considered evidence of citizenship, without proof that one of our parents was also born in India? If the answer is no, then the sarkari solution will be: get proof that your mum and dad were India-born. But even many well-to-do people may not possess these documents, far less hundreds of millions of poorer residents of this country. And woe betide anyone who's lost their birth certificate – getting it out of the relevant municipal authority is a Kafkaesque ordeal. And, as some have pointed out, what's to prevent an official from asking where your grandad and grannie were born?

None of this is happening now. Neither was MEA wrong. But govt must ask itself why many people who call themselves Indians in utterly good faith, are getting increasingly apprehensive about the citizenship question.

Good Governance 101

Babus should pay attention to cabinet secy's note on need for gradual and regular improvement

India's top civil servant has sterling advice for officers on lower branches. To summarise: when they look back on their careers, at the end of their service, they should see 30 years of learning and improvement, not one year's experience repeated 30 times. Though the idea is not original, as a reminder it is timely. The civil service, after all, is still India's "steel frame". When it refuses to grow with time, it hinders the nation's development. And India is a country held back by old ideas, policies, and its bureaucracy's reluctance to adapt. But change need not be sudden or dramatic. Officers anyway can't make tectonic moves. So the cabinet secretary's note stresses on the importance of routine things, and recommends getting them right, day after day, year after year.

That is nothing but 'Kaizen', the Japanese philosophy that made Toyota the world's biggest carmaker, by sales. Kaizen literally means "good change". Practically, it requires gradual and continuous improvement. For example, if the same exam suffers paper leaks twice, there's no Kaizen in the system. And where there's no Kaizen, the people in charge aren't asking, "How can we do this better, at a lower cost?" There's something else they're probably not doing: 'Gemba', or going and seeing with their own eyes. How Mumbai's suburban commuters hang out of trains, and how getting a bucket of water consumes hours of poor women's lives.

We can all use Kaizen in our lives, at work and at home, and the cabinet secretary's advice on keeping meetings short and purposeful, is important too. Business leaders like Jeff Bezos have their meeting hacks, like the two-pizza rule – call no more staff than can be fed on two pizzas. And civil servants should be equally economical, because they operate on the public's time and funds.

Writefully yours

Like restaurant waiters who get tips, pen-pushers should get baksheesh from readers

Jug Suraiya

Somerset Maugham floated the idea that, just as servers in restaurants are traditionally given as a token of appreciation for an enjoyable repast a gratuity called a tip – which according to urban lore is an acronym for "To insure privilege" – above and beyond the bill presented by the establishment, authors ought to receive a bonus from readers who have found the writer's literary food for thought agreeable and to their satisfaction.

Maugham, whose prolific output had gained him critical acclaim as well as a more than comfortable source of income, lamented that authors, while hoping for the moon, had to make do with sumpence, to paraphrase a title of one of the famed novelist's works, by way of sales-based royalties received.

Maugham reasoned that with the spread of lending libraries in Britain, a single sold copy of a book might well be read and appreciated by dozens of readers but would fetch the writer a fraction of royalties that would have accrued with wider sales, if each of the readers had bought a copy for themselves.

To pinch two more of Maugham's book titles, life was not all cakes and ale for several famous writers, including Edgar Allan Poe and Herman Melville, who faced the razor's edge of penury in their declining years.

Owing to a loophole in copyright laws at the time, British author Jerome K Jerome's immortal comedic classic, *Three Men in a Boat, Not to Mention the Dog*, by most accounts one of the funniest books ever written in the English language, didn't earn him a single penny though its sales in US were over a million copies, bought by readers who displayed a voracious appetite for it, causing the publisher to comment that "I often think the public must eat them."

Today, with AI threatening to hijack the job of writers and put them out to pasture in human bondage, to use another Maughamian, perhaps like World Wildlife Fund, another WWF, the World Writers Fund, should be established to protect this endangered species.

Who'd fund such a fund? Readers, of course, who for the benefit of their favourite pen-pushers would do the write thing by them.

The Irony Of Zion

Israel is living as a sentinel state, swamped in the very anxieties it was created to escape from

Nirupama Rao

Reading some of the rhetoric emerging from Israel today, one is reminded not so much of military campaigns or diplomatic manoeuvres, as of a deeper historical irony.

Israel's founders didn't set out merely to build a state. After centuries of exile, persecution, and exclusion, culminating in the unspeakable catastrophe of the Holocaust, the Zionist project represented a determination that Jewish people would no longer live at the mercy of others. It was the promise of a home. Or a nation like other nations.

But, more than 75 years after its creation, Israel remains a country profoundly shaped by the very anxieties it sought to escape. Fear still occupies a central place in its national consciousness. Existential insecurity continues to define much of its strategic thinking. Military preparedness remains woven into the fabric of everyday life. The sense of living under siege, of standing watch against ever-present dangers, has never entirely receded.

There is a paradox here. The state created to provide refuge from insecurity has itself become inseparable from a condition of permanent vigilance. To say this is not to dismiss Israel's security concerns. Few countries have lived through the experiences it's endured: Wars with neighbouring states, terrorism, rocket attacks, suicide bombings, and the horrors of Oct 7. The fear felt by Israelis isn't imagined. It's rooted in memory, experience, history.

Nor can the wider context of West Asia be ignored, where Israel's adversaries have often questioned its legitimacy and, in some cases, openly sought its destruction. Acknowledging these truths doesn't preclude another question, which grows more pressing with every passing conflict. Can overwhelming military superiority deliver the peace that Israel ultimately seeks?

The modern Israeli state has demonstrated extraordinary military effectiveness. It possesses capabilities few nations



can match. Its intelligence services are admired and feared in equal measure. Its technological prowess is widely recognised. Yet, history suggests that military power, however overwhelming, encounters limits when it confronts questions of identity, memory, and belonging. These can survive even after an army is defeated, a militia dismantled, infrastructure destroyed, leaders eliminated.

The twentieth century offers many lessons in this regard. Empires discovered they could occupy territory, without winning allegiance. Colonial powers discovered force could suppress resistance, without extinguishing nationalism. Movements survived defeat because the ideas that animated them remained alive, among those who carried their memories forward.

Political conflict's sustained by narratives, accumulated grievances, historical wounds, competing visions of justice. These aren't easily neutralised by military means. This doesn't mean that states should abandon the responsibility to defend themselves. Security is indispensable. No govt can ask its citizens to live unprotected, in the face of violence. But security and peace aren't identical concepts. The first can sometimes be imposed. The second ultimately requires accommodation with realities that can't simply be wished away.

One analyst's recent observation that you cannot bomb an idea out of existence, captures a truth that extends far

Games Within Games: Business, identity politics, technology & quiet playmakers

What World Cup Tells Us About The World

Ali Aslan

Halfway through the FIFA World Cup, the tournament has already delivered what football's greatest spectacle invariably promises: drama, surprises, heartbreaks, and a revealing glimpse into the state of the world beyond sport. The scorelines may dominate headlines, but World Cups have always been political and cultural mirrors, as much as sporting contests.

The good news is football itself remains gloriously unpredictable. Pre-tournament favourites such as Spain have, at times, looked listless. In some matches, traditional powerhouses like Brazil and Portugal have discovered that rankings and reputations mean little once the whistle blows. Smaller nations like Cape Verde have arrived not merely to participate, but to compete. Several of the tournament's early surprises have reinforced a trend developing for years: the gap between football's established elite and the rest of the world continues to narrow.

For decades, the World Cup was largely a contest among a handful of European and South American nations. Today, teams from Africa, Asia, and smaller footballing regions, display tactical sophistication, technical quality and physical intensity that have significantly reduced historical disparities.

The tournament has also showcased the enduring power of football as a universal language. In a world fractured by wars, trade disputes, ideological divisions, and increasingly bitter domestic politics, millions continue to gather around a shared sporting narrative. For 90 minutes, citizens who agree on little else can still share the same argument about a referee's decision or a missed chance.

Yet, the tournament has also exposed the less attractive realities surrounding modern football. The most obvious concern remains the tournament's growing commercialisation. Every World Cup seems larger, more aggressively monetised,

and more expensive to attend than the one before. The competition has evolved into a vast commercial ecosystem, in which broadcasting rights, sponsorship agreements, and marketing opportunities shape decision-making.

Then there's the politics. Every World Cup generates debate about nationalism. It thrives on patriotic emotion. Yet, it also reveals how differently countries understand national identity. Teams increasingly reflect multicultural societies. Squads contain players with family roots across continents – majority of Morocco's players were born outside the country. Fans celebrate diversity in victory and, regrettably, question belonging in defeat.

The tournament so far has demonstrated how quickly sporting narratives become political. Spain's performance against Cape Verde sparked a debate about the absence of Real Madrid players in the squad, while featuring a Barcelona-heavy roster. Another curiosity has been the growing influence of tech. Video reviews continue to improve decision-making, but also alter the emotional rhythm of matches. Goals are celebrated, then suspended pending verification – like it happened for Uzbekistan in their match against Portugal. Moments of spontaneous joy become legal proceedings, sacrificing some of football's organic chaos.

Meanwhile, social media has transformed the World Cup experience. Matches no longer exist only within stadiums or television broadcasts. Players now perform in two arenas simultaneously: the pitch and the digital public square.

But World Cup's broader significance is already visible. The tournament continues to reflect a world undergoing profound change. Power's becoming more distributed. Traditional hierarchies face new challengers. Tech shapes public life. National identities are being renegotiated. Commercial interests exert influence over global institutions. Thus, World Cup remains what it has always been: far more than football and a commentary about the societies watching.

Calvin & Hobbes



Abdul Majid Hakeem Ilahi

More than thirteen centuries have passed since the tragedy of Karbala, yet the sacrifice of Imam Husain ibn Ali, the grandson of Prophet Muhammad, continues to inspire hearts and consciences across nations, cultures, and faiths.

Ashura is the remembrance of a choice. It is the story of a man who stood before overwhelming power and refused to surrender his principles. The man who chose dignity over submission, truth over expediency, and justice over fear. For this reason, Karbala has never belonged exclusively to a single community. Its message transcends geography, ethnicity, and religion. Wherever people struggle against oppression, seek justice, or defend their dignity, the spirit of Karbala finds renewed expression.

Power can compel obedience, but it cannot command legitimacy. Weapons can

kill, but they cannot extinguish principles and ideas. Political authority may dominate for a while, but moral authority endures across generations. This is why Imam Husain's stand continues to resonate in every age.

The modern world, despite its technological progress and unprecedented inter-dependence, continues to confront many of the same moral challenges that existed centuries ago. People endure occupation and aggression, as we keep seeing in the news every other day. International relations are too often governed by calculations of hard power rather than commitments to justice. In such circumstances, the message of Ashura becomes extremely relevant.

This year's commemoration comes in the aftermath of an unprovoked US-Israeli attack on Iran. Resistance, as taught by

Imam Husain, is not a pursuit of conflict. It is not an ideology of war. It is the determination to remain steadfast when circumstances encourage submission. For this reason, language of resistance should not be misunderstood. It is, at its heart, a moral concept before it is a political one.

The purpose of resistance is not endless confrontation. Its purpose is to preserve justice, safeguard dignity, and create conditions in which peace can be based upon mutual respect rather than domination.

Sustainable peace cannot be imposed through force alone. Lasting peace emerges when justice becomes the foundation of international relations.

For the past year, I have extensively travelled across the length and breadth of India and realised that the remembrance of Muharram occupies a unique place in India's civilisational landscape. The story

of Karbala has inspired Muslims and non-Muslims alike. It has been commemorated in villages and cities, among people of diverse traditions who recognised in Imam Husain a universal symbol of courage and sacrifice.

MK Gandhi drew inspiration from Imam Husain's example. Gandhi understood that moral courage possesses a power greater than violence and that enduring change is achieved through steadfastness to truth. Although their historical contexts differed, both Gandhi and Imam Husain demonstrated that the force of conscience ultimately outlives the force of coercion.

In every generation, there are new forms of oppression and new tests of conscience. Circumstances change, but the moral choice remains the same: whether to submit to injustice or stand for principle. That is why Ashura continues to inspire millions.

The writer is representative of supreme leader of Iran in India
Ashura is on June 26

The Spanish Star No One Talks About

Javier Dale

In his football career, Mikel Oyarzabal (born in the Basque town of Eibar) has worn only two shirts: that of Real Sociedad of Donostia-San Sebastián, and that of the Spanish national team. Until last summer, his La Liga career ran in parallel with that of Imanol Alguacil, who coached him in Real Sociedad B, popularly known as 'Sanse', Imanol, a Basque born in Orrio, played for Real Sociedad for eight years.

At international level – with the U19s, U21s, the Olympic team and the senior side – Oyarzabal has been the favourite player of Luis de la Fuente, Spain's current manager, who was born in La Rioja but historically an Athletic Bilbao player – the club that embodies the essence of Basque football. It was Oyarzabal's goal that secured Euro 2024 for Spain.

Oyarzabal began 2026 World Cup amid criticism. During the first 30 minutes against Cape Verde, the striker didn't touch the ball even once. His response came against Saudi Arabia: he needed only 24 minutes to score twice and provide the assist for Yamal's goal. Those two strikes took his tally for La Roja to 27 goals in 55 appearances. At age 29, he is already the eighth-highest scorer in the history of the Spanish national team, ahead of legends such as Emilio Butragueño, level with Fernando Morientes, and only two goals behind Fernando Hierro, and sixth place on the all-time list.

And yet Oyarzabal does not play for Real Madrid. Nor for FC Barcelona. Nor for historic giants such as Liverpool or Manchester United. He plays for Real Sociedad, a club that hasn't won the Spanish league since 1982, that has reached Champions League only once in the past 20 years, and whose greatest recent achievements are two Copa del Rey titles, in 2020 and this year.

And yet that is precisely why he plays for Real Sociedad.

To a fan unfamiliar with Spanish football, Oyarzabal's career choices may seem incomprehensible. To anyone who knows the game in Spain, they seem perfectly logical. Oyarzabal is a Basque player representing the Basque club of his own province. Basque children do not dream of wearing colours other than those of Athletic Bilbao's 'Leones' or the 'xuri-urdin' (white and blue in Euskera, the Basque language) of Real Sociedad.

How important is Basque football to the history of Spanish football? Spanish newspaper *Marca* presents trophies for La Liga's top scorer and highest-scoring Spanish player, named after two Basque icons: Pichichi and Zarra.

Pichichi, born Rafael Moreno Aranzadi, was Basque football's first great star. His bust stands at Athletic Bilbao's San Mamés stadium. Zarra was Spain's first great goal-scorer, scoring 251 La Liga goals before retiring in 1955. His record stood for nearly six decades, until Messi surpassed it in Nov 2014.

The two major Basque clubs, Athletic Bilbao and Real Sociedad, share an intense but sporting rivalry, as well as distinctive recruitment policies supported by the region's nationalist sentiment. Athletic signs only players born in Basque Country or neighbouring Navarre, or at least players with roots there. Sociedad does recruit international players, but the team's backbone comes from local talent: from 'Sanse', from the club's academy, and from the small but historic football clubs of Gipuzkoa province.

For years, Basque football was the finest in Spain. Johan Cruyff's Dream Team at FC Barcelona: Zubizarreta, Bakero, Begiristain, Julio Salinas, Valverde, Goikoetxea, López Rekarte... all came from Real Sociedad or Athletic Bilbao.

Basque football appeared to decline during La Roja's golden era, when Spain won two European Championships and World Cup in succession. Yet the metronome of that team was Basque player Xabi Alonso, a product of Real Sociedad's academy. Similarly, the decisive edge in today's Spanish team bears the name of Oyarzabal. The ultimate one-club man. Heir to the history of Basque football.

Sacred space



It is the law of love that rules mankind. Had violence i.e. hate ruled us, we should have become extinct long ago. Mankind has to get out of violence only through nonviolence. Hatred can be overcome only by love.

MK Gandhi

Ashura: Remembrance Of A Choice



THE SPEAKING TREE

As temps soar, a closer look at Paris's 'cold' reputation

Paris is among the world's most visited cities and one of its most complained-about. After years of returning to cover Roland Garros, Prajwal Hegde examines whether the city's reputation for coldness reflects reality — or a cultural misunderstanding

Few cities carry expectations quite like Paris. It is the capital of fashion, a perennial honeymoon destination, and a historic centre of Western culture. For centuries, it has served as a hub of artistic, literary, and philosophical exchange, a place where every street corner seems to promise a postcard moment.

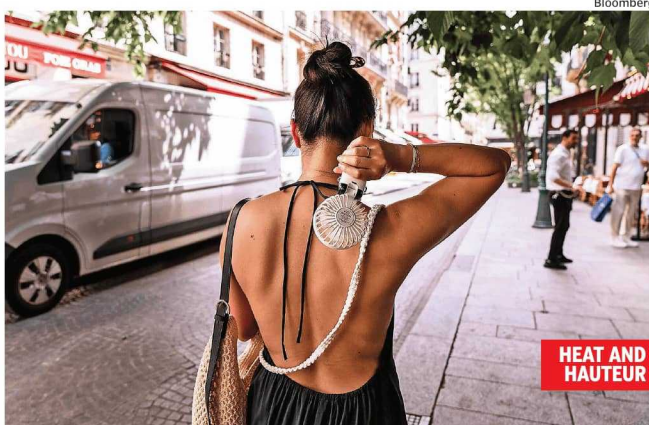
Those expectations are reinforced by the sheer number of people who visit France each year. Home to a population of around 69 million, the country has welcomed roughly 90 to 100 million international visitors annually in recent years, cementing its status as the world's most visited destination. Its capital remains one of the planet's biggest tourist magnets. In 2024, boosted by the Paris Olympics and Paralympics, France surpassed the 100 million visitor mark.

Yet many travellers leave with the complaint that Paris is indeed beautiful, but it does not always feel welcoming. Is there a gap then between the city's image and the reality when experiencing it?

Understanding any city often means looking beyond the popular and paying attention to its everyday rituals.

It is a typical spring morning in Paris. The sky is blue, the sun making a tentative attempt at brightness. A perfectly turned-out Parisian steps off the kerb in the 16th arrondissement. Her cropped jeans skim her ankles, a tan leather bag hangs diagonally across her body. As she crosses at a pedestrian signal, a minivan turning into the street brakes abruptly, stopping just short of her path.

Her head doesn't turn, nor does she quicken her stride, but the corners of her mouth lift into a reluctant half-smile at the cluster of tourists watching the scene unfold.



Home to around 69 million people, France welcomes roughly 100 million international visitors each year, many of them drawn to the iconic capital, Paris

The pedestrian light is green. She knows she has the right of way she won't be pushed or rushed.

Mathilde Rinchet sips tea as she reflects on the Parisian vibe at the end of a long day at Sciences Po, the Paris Institute of Political Studies, where she is pursuing a master's degree in media studies.

"There is a difference between Paris and the rest of France; Parisians are known as a bit rude. We have a bad reputation in the country itself," she says, her English shaped by a French accent.

For many visitors, language is the first barrier they encounter in France, a country often perceived as stubbornly monolingual. In other places, like Japan or China, locals bridge communication gaps with animated gestures or translation apps. In Paris, a question in English may be met with a chilly response.

Rinchet, dressed in her grandmother's black Celine jacket, acknowledges that language plays a part, but argues that the issue runs deeper. She points to her grandmother's generation, who are often frustrated by noise, particularly the din of large tour groups dragging suitcases through residential neighbourhoods at ungodly hours.

"Sometimes Parisians don't like people who make super-fast visits, they don't even try to learn the culture," she says. "They don't like people who are so entitled, they don't even try to speak a few words of French. At a cafe not far from here, an American girl wanted to be

seated outside, but all the tables outside were full. She was making such a scandal, talking super loud, being really vocal about it. Sometimes there is nothing you can do."

Rinchet, like a lot of the city's youth, understands the importance of tourism and its impact on the economy.

At an Algerian restaurant in Boulogne-Billancourt, language



A meme that captures expectation versus reality in Paris

proves no barrier to hospitality. The visitors speak no French, but the owner needs little more than gestures and smiles before serving generous plates of food. Later, she settles in alongside a group of twenty-somethings to watch football on television.

Sowjanya Kashyap, an Indian tourist, receives an impromptu grammar lesson in a Paris cafe when a friendly server corrects her French. Kashyap literally translates "for a week" to "pour une semaine", when she ought to have said "...pendant une semaine."

The tone is encouraging. A few days later, at a premier department store, she is praised for her French by a sales assistant. The 24-year-old, who learned English from watching serials on her phone, says many young Parisians now speak English.

At Roland Garros, also known as the French Open, one of France's biggest annual sporting events held in Paris each May and June, volunteers respond in English across the grounds. That was not common even in 2020. Almost everywhere, visitors are asked, "Do you speak English?" before directions are offered.

The shift accelerated as the city prepared for the Paris Olympics two years ago and has only improved since. Still, there remain pockets where no amount of French or cultural deference seems to soften the response. At a boulangerie near the Parc des Princes, home of European champions Paris Saint-Germain, an order is placed down without ceremony, the expression as cold as the drink in the paper cup.

In the metro, failure to observe the unwritten rule of right of way is met with an immediate correction. "PARDON!" lands with a harder, more guttural edge, which roughly trans-

lates to, 'Get out of my way'.

Rinchet, who is in the process of getting her driving licence, recently spoke to her father, who is from the French Alps, about driving in Paris. He reassured her, asking her not to worry, despite the constant honking. "Parisians are always in a rush," she says with a smile.

Rinchet uses the word *blasé* to describe Parisians.

"When you use public transportation, you'll see that no one smiles, even around a fellow Parisian," she says. "That's a shame because when you travel to other parts of France people are talking to each other in the street or while commuting. I would like to think that it is slowly changing in some of the suburbs, people are chatting, sharing a beer, dancing around the Seine."

Ultimately, Paris is neither the effortlessly welcoming postcard of tourist imagination nor the uniformly cold metropolis of cliché. Instead, it exists in the



There is a difference between Paris and the rest of France; Parisians are known as a bit rude. We have a bad reputation in the country itself

— Mathilde Rinchet
MASTER'S STUDENT AT PARIS INSTITUTE OF POLITICAL STUDIES

tension between the two, where a corrected preposition in a cafe, a frosty transaction in a boulangerie, and a knowing smile at a pedestrian crossing all belong to the same urban grammar.

For some that grammar feels intimidating, for others, it is precisely what gives the city its character. Paris doesn't soften for visitors, but it does not entirely close itself off either. It asks, instead, for attention to its rhythms, its rules, and its silences.

As the Paris Saint-Germain slogan goes, *Ici, c'est Paris*. This is Paris.

INQUIZITIVE

JOY BHATTACHARJYA

1 In the 2026 World Cup, Michel Nkaka Mboladinga is a national fan famous for standing motionless while saluting throughout the matches his team plays. It is a tribute to a famous national leader, Patrice Lumumba, who was assassinated in 1961. Which country does Mboladinga support?



2 The order of precedence of any nation is a list in which the functionaries, dignitaries, and officials are listed for ceremonial purposes. If the Speaker of the House of Representatives is third in the order of precedence in the USA, who is third in the order of precedence in India?

3 When Madame Bhikaji Cama created the first "tiranga" version of India's national flag and unfurled it in Stuttgart, Germany, in 1907, which two words were written on it?

4 Which ornamental tree, the state tree of Delhi, with the scientific name *Delonix regia*, is known as Krishna Chura in Bengal and Assam?

5 Which story relates in flashback the life journey of 95-year-old Ishar Singh Grewal (Shah), who has suffered a stroke and is on his deathbed?

6 What has India done only twice in its history — on 18 May 1974 and on 11 and 13 May 1998?

7 Manpreet Singh has become the most-capped Indian player in a particular sport, having played over 400 international matches. In which sport does he represent the nation?

8 If Ahmedabad and Gandhinagar, and Kochi and Ernakulam are twin cities, which city is the twin of Pimpri-Chinchwad?

9 Which performer was born with the name John Prakash Rao Janumala and got his stage name after impressing his seniors and colleagues in the FMCG company in which he originally worked?

10 The Sachertorte is a dense, rich chocolate cake consisting of two layers of sponge cake with a thin layer of apricot jam in the middle, coated in dark chocolate icing. In which country does this dessert originate?

ANSWERS

- 1 | Democratic Republic of Congo
- 2 | The Prime Minister
- 3 | Tested a nuclear weapon
- 4 | Hockey
- 5 | Johnny Lever
- 6 | Gande Metaram
- 7 | Austria
- 8 | The Sachertorte
- 9 | Mumbai
- 10 | Pune

Attack followed cops' seizure of Army vehicle for blocking road

►Continued from P 1

Maj Sharma and Naib Subedar Shankar Gurkhe had allegedly led at least 30 personnel from 17 RR camp at Kijavee to the police station the previous day and scaled the main gate and the boundary wall to start what the FIR calls a planned attack. The group was armed with sticks, iron rods and service weapons, the complaint states.

Sources said this was soon after a military vehicle had been seized and brought to Atholi police station for allegedly blocking the DC's convoy en route to an official event. The Army said the matter was under examination through relevant institutional mechanisms involving both sides. "The Army will extend full cooperation in the legal process. Appropriate actions will be taken based on the outcome of the joint investigation," Jammu-based defence PRO Lt Col Suneel Bartsal said.

The station house officer of Atholi, who was at an event at the BDO office in Paddar when the alleged intrusion occurred, said he was informed about it over the phone. The FIR alleges that when he reached the station, Army personnel assaulted him and tore his shirt. SDO Atholi Vijay Kumar Bhagat was allegedly attacked too. SPO Suresh Kumar and some other cops were injured, the FIR states.

DIG (Doda-Kishtwar-Ramban range) Sargun Shukla and IGP (Jammu) Bhim Sen Tuti declined to comment on the allegations. Kishtwar DC Panikaj Kumar Sharma did not respond to calls from TOI. Although police can register an FIR against Army personnel, prosecution requires prior sanction under Armed Forces (Special Powers) Act, which remains in force in J&K.

After a civilian was killed in Army firing in Shopian district in 2018, J&K Police had told Supreme Court through an affidavit that CrPc called for compulsory registration of FIRs in cognisable offences.

Netra, IAF's 'eye in the sky', cleared for full combat role

Will Detect Aerial Threats, Guide Own Jets

Chethan Kumar & Surendra Singh | TNN

Bengaluru/New Delhi: The indigenously developed Netra Airborne Early Warning and Control (AEW&C) system, which is India's specialised "eye in the sky", achieved a huge milestone Thursday when DRDO handed over the final operational clearance (FOC) certificate to IAF. FOC means the system is fully combat-ready after completing all trials and validations.

Netra AEW&C is a specialised airborne radar and command centre designed to detect incoming projectiles, ships and aircraft at long ranges, differentiate friend from foe and direct friendly fighters in real time.

It offers real-time battle-

field management, 250-500+ km detection ranges and 300° to 360° radar coverage to track hostile aircraft, drones and missiles.



Indigenously developed Netra was a celebration of the unique partnership between IAF and the scientific community, Air Marshal AK Bharti said

Netra AEW&C uses the Brazilian Embraer EMB-145 aircraft as its platform, on which is mounted an active electronically scanned array radar in its dorsal fin.

Three such aircraft were earlier delivered to IAF with an initial operation clearance and had played a key role as the operational brain guiding IAF during the 2019 Balakot airstrikes.

Defence minister Rajnath Singh said the FOC marked "not only a technological milestone, but also a strategic advancement in strengthening India's airborne surveillance and command-and-control capabilities". Defence secretary and DRDO chairman Rajesh Kumar Singh also congratulated DG

(aero) and Team AEW&C. Air Marshal Awarshah Kumar Bharti, deputy chief of the air staff, who was present at the ceremony in Bengaluru, said: "It's a proud moment. This isn't merely the culmination of an indigenous technology programme, but a celebration of the unique partnership between IAF and the scientific community in fulfilling India's quest for Atmanirbharta."

In a video message, Air Marshal Ashutosh Dixit, CIDS, said the achievement assumed greater significance amid a rapidly changing geopolitical environment. He also welcomed the planned expansion of Netra programme through the induction of six additional aircraft.

FOC dedicated to 8 who died in 1999 crash

Bengaluru: DRDO and IAF Thursday dedicated Netra's final operational clearance to eight personnel who lost their lives in the crash of India's first Airborne Surveillance Platform aircraft in Jan 1999, reports Chethan Kumar. The dedication was announced at Centre for Airborne Systems in Bengaluru. Under Project Guardian, a team of DRDO scientists and IAF officers designed and developed the Airborne Surveillance Platform (ASP) on a modified HS-748 Avro aircraft fitted with a rotodome. "The ASP was the pride of India," DRDO Aeronautics Cluster DG K Raja-lakshmi Menon said. The aircraft crashed in Tamil Nadu during a test flight, killing four DRDO scientists and four IAF personnel.

"Today, I salute the personnel... Their sacrifice has not gone in vain. Their names have now been written in golden words," Menon said.

Knife was bought online on day of train killing, say cops

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Mumbai: A 30-year-old man who stabbed a co-passenger to death in a Nalasopara-bound train's first class coach late Tuesday told investigators that he had disposed of the murder weapon around the railway premises after the crime.

Police have searched the area in and outside Borivli West station and have gone through CCTV footage but haven't yet found the knife.

Roshan Suvarna was produced before a magistrate court in Borivli Thursday and remanded in police custody till June 30.

According to police, Suvarna had bought the knife on an e-commerce platform Tuesday itself and put it in his bag to give it to a friend. Suvarna removed the packaging before attacking Mayank Lohar (21).

Witnesses told police things happened too quickly for them to react.

In court, GRP senior inspector Dattatreya Khupkar said the severity of Lohar's injuries showed that Suvarna intended to cause harm. Police also said they needed to probe Suvarna's antecedents, search his hou-



Roshan Suvarna was remanded in police custody till June 30

se and find out whether he was acquainted with Lohar. Suvarna's advocates, Surendra Landge and Azad Gupta, told the court the murder was not premeditated and was a result of an argument over rainwater entering the coach. His advocates told mediapersons that Suvarna was man-handled by a few passengers, including Lohar, leaving him with an injury near his eye.

Suvarna and Lohar were at the door of the Nalasopara-bound fast local when they had an altercation over shutting the door to keep rainwater out. After commuters separated the two and sent them to different exits, Suvarna allegedly came after Lohar and knifed him three to four times.

He wept after coming home: Attacker's kin

Mumbai: The family of murder accused Roshan Suvarna said he cried after coming home at night and told them about the crime the next morning.

They also said Suvarna was drunk at the time. Police are ascertaining the veracity of this claim. According to the family, Suvarna had downed drinks after work Tuesday — he runs a small business making barcodes. "He took the train because he couldn't find a taxi," said his brother.

"Typically, he travelled in air-conditioned locals as they are not as crowded as non-AC trains." On Tuesday night, Suvarna boarded a non-AC Nalasopara-bound fast local. A friend said Suvarna wanted to get wet in the rain and stood at the door of the first-class compartment. "He told us there was an altercation over keeping the door shut, following which a few passengers, reportedly including Lohar, man-handled him and he sustained an injury near his eye." TNN

FCRA rules not to regulate but strangle: Cong

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi: Describing the amendments to FCRA rules as designed "not to regulate but to strangle" independent civil society, Congress neta KC Venugopal Thursday wrote to PM Narendra Modi demanding that they be withdrawn.



Venugopal called the recently notified rules an "overt and systemic assault on India's civil society", warning that they would financially and operationally cripple NGOs that render critical services to marginalised communities.

Amendments suspicious: Kerala church

Kottayam: Kerala's Malankara Orthodox Syrian Church has decried the Centre's latest amendments to FCRA as "suspicious, an intrusion into fundamental rights" and an indirect warning that accounts may be frozen if govts are criticised. The church's main objections pertain to disclosure requirements that include details of social media accounts, approved activities and geographical areas of operation for foreign-funded NGOs and associations. The church's media division head, Yuhanon Mar Diascoros Metropolitan, bemoaned the lack of consultations with stakeholders. TNN

CPM MP John Brittas wrote to Union home minister Amit Shah demanding that the rules be withdrawn. Venugopal said the rules had been amended to make up for withdrawal of the FCRA bill in Budget session

of Parliament. "If accepted, they will convert independent civil society into a terrified govt-controlled echo chamber," he added.

The Congress MP particularly criticised the rules that require NGOs to select their activities from a rigid, gov-

mandated list and restrict their operational geography. He said levying a separate fee for every additional state or category was "nothing short of an administrative toll tax designed to discourage pan-India social work".

Brittas objected to the introduction of the term "proselytisation" in the schedule related to religious activities, saying it was not defined in FCRA or the amended rules.

He slammed the expansion in disclosure requirements for FCRA-registered organisations which will go beyond financial accountability and create an "extensive compliance and surveillance architecture"

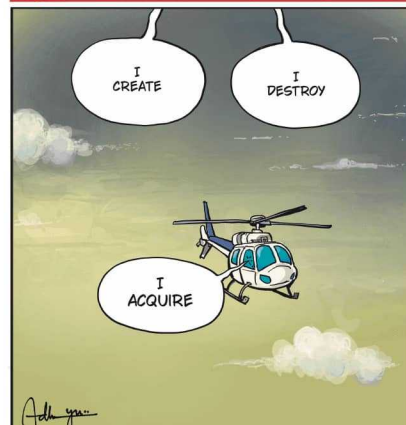
IRCTC fines food vendor ₹1L for fly in veg biryani

New Delhi: Indian Railway Catering and Tourism Corporation has imposed a Rs 1 lakh penalty and slapped a show-cause notice for termination of the licence of a food vendor after a passenger alleged a fly was found in the veg biryani served on Tejas Express.

Officials said he was attended to immediately by the train captain and the catering manager. The staff apologised and the food was replaced.

According to officials, the vendor has been instructed to ensure procurement of fresh raw materials with adequate shelf life and to verify the quality of all ingredients. TNN

TOI LINE OF NO CONTROL SANDEEP ADHWARYU



कार्यालय नगर निगम, बरेली
ई-निविदा आमन्त्रण सूचना

पत्रांक: 269/ग0अचि0/(न0सीए0पी0)/2026-27 दिनांक: 25 जून 2026

ई-निविदा सूचना शासनदेश सं0- 3890/सी-5-149ग/2019 नगर विकास अनुभाग-05 3090 शासन लखनऊ दिनांक 20 फ़रवरी 2019 के अनुपालन में केन्दरीय से निगम कार्य हेतु निविदाएं दू बिदा पद्धति (तकनीकी एवं वित्तीय) के माध्यम से प्रिक्क प्रकार से आमंत्रित की जाती है। निविदा खोलने जाने की तिथि में यदि अवकाश होगा तो निविदाएं अगले कार्य दिवस में खोली जायेंगी। ई-निविदा से सम्बन्धित प्रश्न उत्तर प्रदेश की ई-प्रक्रायेलेट की वेबसाइट <http://etender.up.nic.in> व नगर निगम की वेबसाइट www.nagamnigambareilly.com पर देखी जा सकती है।

नेशनल क्लीन एयर प्रोग्राम (N-CAP) के अन्तर्गत ई-निविदा क्रमांक संख्या 01 से 06 तक

ई-निविदा डाउनलोड प्रारम्भ की तिथि/समय 29.06.2026 (03:00 PM)

ई-निविदा अपलोड की प्रारम्भ तिथि/समय 29.06.2026 (04:00 PM)

ई-निविदा अपलोड की अन्तिम तिथि/समय 09.07.2026 (03:00 PM)

ई-निविदा खोली जाने की तिथि/समय 09.07.2026 (04:00 PM)

फाईनेशियल ई-निविदा खोली जाने हेतु After Technical Evaluation

कार्य का विवरण, नियम व शर्तें नगर निगम बरेली के वेबसाइट www.nagamnigambareilly.com पर ई-निविदा लिंक एवं ई-पोर्टल <http://etender.up.nic.in> पर उपलब्ध है। किसी परिवर्तन, संशोधन व अतिरिक्त सूचनाओं के लिये उक्त वेबसाइट पर देखी जा सकती है।

(राजीव कुमार खत्री)
प्रमारी अधिकारी (NCAP)
नगर निगम, बरेली

NOTICE INVITING TENDER
JEWAR TRANSMISSION LIMITED
2nd Floor, Niryat Bhawan, Rao Tularam Marg, Vasant Vihar, Opp. Army Hospital & Referral, New Delhi - 110057Tel: +91-9676520044

No: JTL/TBGB/JEWAR/26-27/220KV_Bay_Extn/EPC-1 Date: 26-06-2026

Siddhi Consulting Engineers Pvt. Ltd., Plot No. 35, Vijetha Green Homes, Nizampet Road, Hyderabad - 500 072, (India) for and on behalf of M/s. Jewar Transmission Limited (hereafter referred as JTL), 2nd Floor, Niryat Bhawan, Rao Tularam Marg, Vasant Vihar, Opp. Army Hospital & Referral, New Delhi-110057 invites tenders under two bid system, from registered / approved and eligible contractors/Agencies of PGCIL, Central Utilities and State Utilities for "Construction of 1 No. 220KV GIS Bay for NIAL at Existing 400KV GIS Substation at Jewar under Turnkey Basis".

**On remittance of Tender fee can share the payment details to info@siddhi.asia / info@jtl.in for obtaining the tender details as well as tender documents.

**Tender fee Rs. 5,000+GST. Account Details: Jewar Transmission Limited, A/c. No: 054805001663 IFSC: ICIC0000008 Branch: Khairatabad, Hyderabad or submit Cheque/Demand Draft in favor of "Jewar Transmission Limited" payable at Hyderabad.

Sl. No.	Name of Tender	Earnest Money Deposit (INR)	Document download/clarification start/sale start date	Document download/sale end date	Prebid Meeting date	Bid (soft) Submission Start & End Date	Bid (Hardcopy) Submission Date	Bid Opening Date & time
01	Construction of 1 No. 220KV GIS Bay for NIAL at Existing 400KV GIS Substation at Jewar under Turnkey Basis.	Refer the "Format of the Bid Security Declaration"	29-06-2026 12:00 Hrs.	06-07-2026 14:00 Hrs.	01-07-2026 12:30 Hrs.	Start: 04-07-2026 11:00 Hrs. End: 06-07-2026 16:00 Hrs.	Start: 07-07-2026 11:00 Hrs. End: 07-07-2026 15:00 Hrs.	07-07-2026 16:30 Hrs.

-Sd-
Director

Place: New Delhi Jewar Transmission Limited

यमुना एक्सप्रेसवे औद्योगिक विकास प्राधिकरण
यमुना एक्सप्रेसवे औद्योगिक विकास प्राधिकरण ग्राम थोरा सैक्टर 8डी, ग्राम कलपुरा, सैक्टर 5ए के अन्तर्गत आने वाली भूमि का सुविधायित विकास हेतु सम्बन्धित कृषकों द्वारा दी गयी सहमति की दर र. 3808/- प्रति वर्गमीटर से प्राधिकरण द्वारा शासनदेश संख्या-314 / 77-3-163एम, दिनांक 23.02.2016 में तय प्रक्रियानुसार निम्नानुसार क्रय किया जाना प्रस्तावित है-

क्रमांक	सैक्टर / ग्राम का नाम	खाला संख्या	खसरा संख्या	खसरे का कुल क्षेत्रफल (है. मे.)	खातेदार का नाम व पता	तहसील से प्राप्त रिपोर्ट के आधार पर कार्रवार का हिससा	कार्रवार का क्रय हेतु क्षेत्रफल (है. मे.)
1.	सैक्टर 8डी थोरा	856 855	1002 1003 1004 1005 1044 1060 1106 1108 1165 1236 1240	0.6830 0.0850 0.0850 0.1700 1.2480 1.0820 0.4140 0.1900 0.2080 0.2080 0.5750	सिताबा खॉ पुत्र युसुफ अली निग ग्राम थोरा।	में से	0.0455 0.0056 0.0056 0.0113 0.0555 0.0721 0.0276 0.0063 0.0139 0.0139 0.0383
2.	सैक्टर 8डी थोरा	856 855	1002 1003 1004 1005 1044 1060 1106 1108 1165 1236 1240	0.6830 0.0850 0.0850 0.1700 1.2480 1.0820 0.4140 0.1900 0.2080 0.2080 0.5750	आरिफ खॉ पुत्र युसुफ अली निग ग्राम थोरा।	में से	0.0455 0.0057 0.0056 0.0113 0.0555 0.0721 0.0276 0.0063 0.0139 0.0139 0.0383
3.	सैक्टर 8डी थोरा	856 855	1002 1003 1004 1005 1044 1060 1106 1108 1165 1236 1240	0.6830 0.0850 0.0850 0.1700 1.2480 1.0820 0.4140 0.1900 0.2080 0.2080 0.5750	आरिफ खॉ पुत्र युसुफ अली निग ग्राम थोरा।	में से	0.0455 0.0057 0.0056 0.0113 0.0555 0.0721 0.0276 0.0063 0.0139 0.0139 0.0383
4.	सैक्टर 8डी थोरा	856 855	1002 1003 1004 1005 1044 1060 1106 1108 1165 1236 1240	0.6830 0.0850 0.0850 0.1700 1.2480 1.0820 0.4140 0.1900 0.2080 0.2080 0.5750	इशरा खॉ पुत्र युसुफ अली निग ग्राम थोरा।	में से	0.0455 0.0056 0.0056 0.0113 0.0556 0.0721 0.0276 0.0063 0.0139 0.0139 0.0383
5.	सैक्टर 8डी थोरा	247	1016/2	0.8510	अभिषेक पुत्र संदीप सिंह निग ग्राम थोरा।	में से	0.0473
6.	सैक्टर 8डी थोरा	247	1016/2	0.8510	अमन पुत्र संदीप सिंह निग ग्राम थोरा।	में से	0.0473
7.	सैक्टर 8डी थोरा	247	1016/2	0.8510	लवकुश सिंह पुत्र भीकम सिंह निग ग्राम थोरा।	में से	0.0418
8.	सैक्टर 8डी थोरा	247	1016/2	0.8510	रमिता देवी पत्नी भीकम सिंह निग ग्राम थोरा।	में से	0.0418
9.	सैक्टर 8डी थोरा	247	1016/2	0.8510	लक्ष्मी कुमारी पुत्री श्याम सिंह निग ग्राम थोरा।	में से	0.0355
10.	सैक्टर 8डी थोरा	496	996	1.0580	सोमन अग्रवाल पत्नी पुनीत अग्रवाल निग दिल्ली।	में से	0.0843
11.	सैक्टर 8डी थोरा	245	949	2.3120	ब्रजमोहन पुत्र रामप्रकाश निग ग्राम थोरा।	में से	0.1265
12.	सैक्टर 8डी दयौरा	388	398घ	0.2530	कुमुदम शंख पत्नी सुशील कुमार निग हाण्डा।	में से	0.0554
13.	सैक्टर 8डी दयौरा	364	399	0.7210	तुषार अग्रवाल पुत्र अजय अग्रवाल निग कानपुर।	में से	0.1802
14.	सैक्टर 5ए कलपुरा	218	998	0.7760	धर्मवीर पत्नी विवेक निग ग्राम कलपुरा पशु व तहो जेवर जिला गौतमबुद्धनगर।	1/6	0.1293
15.	सैक्टर 5ए कलपुरा	463 234 167	234 452म 0.0380	रोजनेन्द्र पुत्र हर्षप्रसाद निग ग्राम कलपुरा पशु व तहो जेवर जिला गौतमबुद्धनगर।	1/2 1/2		0.0630 0.0180
16.	सैक्टर 5ए कलपुरा	463 234 167	234 452म 0.0380	विजेन्द्र पुत्र हर्षप्रसाद निग ग्राम कलपुरा पशु व तहो जेवर जिला गौतमबुद्धनगर।	1/2 1/2		0.0630 0.0180

उपरोक्त भूमि क्रय किया जाने में यदि किसी व्यक्ति को कोई आपत्ति है तो वह लिखित रूप में 15 दिन के अन्दर अधोस्ताहरी को अपनी आपत्ति प्रस्तुत कर सकता है।

यमुना एक्सप्रेसवे औद्योगिक विकास प्राधिकरण

यमुना एक्सप्रेसवे औद्योगिक विकास प्राधिकरण के अधिसूचित क्षेत्र में प्राधिकरण द्वारा स्वीकृत मास्टर प्लान के अतिरिक्त प्लॉटिंग/हाउसिंग/कोलोनी या किसी भी प्रकार का अन्य निर्माण पूरी तरह से अवैध है। सामान्यतः इस प्रकार की खरीदफरोख्त से प्राप्त संपत्ति एवं तथा कोलोनीअन्तर्गत के ग्रामिक विभागों से बचे। अधिक जानकारी के लिए प्राधिकरण की वेबसाइट www.yamunaxpresswayauthority.com देखें।

11001/158/2627

GOVERNMENT OF ODISHA
HIGHER EDUCATION DEPARTMENT
Lokseva Bhawan, Sachivalaya Marg, Bhubaneswar-751001
PT4-HE-IT-MISC-0016-2023-3457/HE, Bhubaneswar, Dated : 25.06.2026
Corrigendum

DEVELOPMENT OF 83 DIGITAL APPLICATION MODULES UNDER THE COMPREHENSIVE DIGITAL GOVERNANCE PLATFORM ALONG WITH RESOURCE EMPLOYMENT COMPONENT AND TO INTEGRATE IT WITH EXISTING ERP OF HIGHER EDUCATION DEPARTMENT.

Sl. No.	Reference	Description	Date
1	Bid Submission Deadline	Last Date & Time for Submission of Proposal	The last date & time for submission of RFP proposals is hereby extended. The revised deadline for submission of Bids : 03.07.2026, 05:00 PM for wider participation of PSUs.

Sd/-
Deputy Secretary to Government
OIPR-11001/11001/1/26-27/0019

13001/986/2627

Government of Odisha
Housing & Urban Development Department
Odisha Urban Housing Mission (OUHM)
(WATCO Building, 3rd Floor, Keshari Nagar, Bhubaneswar-751001)
E-mail-ouhmodisha@gmail.com, phone-0674-2534432
Website: www.urban.odisha.gov.in

ADVERTISEMENT

File No. HUD-HU-ADM-0006-2017 No: 759 Date: 25.06.2026

Applications are invited for appointment to the post of Member (One) in the Odisha Real Estate Regulatory Authority (ORERA) to be appointed in accordance with the provisions of Sections 20,21,22,23 & 24 of the Real Estate (Regulation and Development) Act, 2016 and Rule 18 & 19 of the Odisha Real Estate (Regulation & Development) Rules, 2017.

The Member of the Odisha Real Estate Regulatory Authority (ORERA) shall hold office for a term not exceeding 5 (five) years from the date on which he/she enters upon his/her office, or until he/she attains the age of 65 (Sixty-Five) years, whichever is earlier and shall not be eligible for reappointment. The Member of the ORERA shall perform such duties and functions and exercise such powers as provided under the Real Estate (Regulation and Development) Act, 2016, and the Odisha Real Estate (Regulation and Development) Rules, 2017, made thereunder. The Head Office of the Authority will be at Bhubaneswar.

For complete information on qualification, eligibility criteria, application form and other details, the interested persons may visit and download the same from the Department's website <https://www.urban.odisha.gov.in> or <https://era.odisha.gov.in>. The last date for receipt of applications complete in all respects is by 03.00 PM of Dt. 15.07.2026.

Sd/-
(Usha Padhee, IAS)
Additional Chief Secretary
OIPR - 13001/13284/1/26-27/0001

13001/995/2627

OFFICE OF THE ROURKELA MUNICIPAL CORPORATION: ROURKELA
INVITATION FOR BID
No.8017 Dated 23/06/26
Bid Identification No. :- MC/RMC/47/2026

The Municipal Commissioner, Rourkela Municipal Corporation on behalf of Rourkela Municipal Corporation invites bids for works on percentage rate basis in double cover on online Mode. Bid Identification No. MC/RMC/47/2026 for 01 no. Civil work with value of Rs. 58.14 Lakh.

- Bid documents will be available in website www.tendersorissa.gov.in from 23.06.2026.
- Bids must be submitted on "online" on or before 04.07.2026 by 17.00 hours.
- Bids shall be opened at 11.00 hours on 06.07.2026 in the office of the undersigned in the presence of the bidders or their authorized agents.
- Other details will be available in the web site tendersorissa.gov.in

Sd/-
Municipal Commissioner,
Rourkela Municipal Corporation
OIPR-13001/13131/1/26-27/0015

16001/23/2627

ODISHA COMPUTER APPLICATION CENTRE
REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL
Enq.No.-OCAC-FITP-PROP-0009-2026-26040

Odisha Computer Application Centre (OCAC) invites Request for Proposal (RFP) for Empanelment of Artificial Intelligence (AI) Model Developers / Technology Companies for Development and Implementation of AI Solutions for Government of Odisha. For details please visit websites www.ocac.in & www.odisha.gov.in.

The bid shall be submitted in electronic mode only in the portal <https://enivida.odisha.gov.in> latest by 13.07.2026, 3:00 P.M. OCAC reserves the right to accept/ reject any/ all bids without assigning any reason thereof.

General Manager(Admin), OCAC, Plot No.-N-1/7-D, Acharya Vihar, P.O.-RRL, Bhubaneswar-751013, Ph.-2567280/ 2567064/ 2567295
OIPR-16001/16003/1/26-27/0015

OFFICE OF THE PROGRAM MANAGER
PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION UNIT-PWD
Uttarakhand Disaster Preparedness and Resilience Project (U-PREPARE) 5th Floor, USDMA Building, 16, TI Park, Sahasrabudh Road, Dehradun-Uttarakhand
E-mail: piupwd@ukdisasterrecovery.in

REFERENCE No. 617/CERCJU-PREPARE/2026 Date: 25/06/2026

NOTICE FOR INVITING BIDS

The Government of Uttarakhand with assistance from Govt. of India has received financing from the World Bank towards the cost of the U-PREPARE Project under CERC and intends to apply part of the proceeds for following packages of goods. Hence, bids are invited for the following packages. The complete set of bid documents with BOQ in English and all information's regarding bid will be available on the website <https://uktdenders.gov.in> from below mention dates.

Sr. No.	Package Number	Name of Package	Qty.	Proposed Selection Method	Bid Document Available Date
1.	01/CERC/PIU/PWD/UPREPARE/2026	Supply of Excavator Backhoe Loader	25 Nos.	RFB (Request for Bids) Single Stage Two Bid System	29.06.2026
2.	02/CERC/PIU/PWD/UPREPARE/2026	Supply of Skid Steer Loader	20 Nos.		
3.	03/CERC/PIU/PWD/UPREPARE/2026	Supply of Tipper	30 Nos.		
4.	04/CERC/PIU/PWD/UPREPARE/2026	Supply of Utility Vehicle	50 Nos.	RFB (Request for Bids) Single Stage Two Bid System	08.07.2026
5.	05/CERC/PIU/PWD/UPREPARE/2026	Supply of Tandem Vibratory Walk Behind Roller	25 Nos.		
6.	06/CERC/PIU/PWD/UPREPARE/2026	Supply, Installation, Testing & Commissioning of Hot Mix Plant	04 Nos.		
7.	07/CERC/PIU/PWD/UPREPARE/2026	Supply of Sensor Paver Machine	04 Nos.	RFB (Request for Bids) Single Stage Two Bid System	16.07.2026
8.	09/CERC/PIU/PWD/UPREPARE/2026	Supply of Static Roller	08 Nos.		
9.	11/CERC/PIU/PWD/UPREPARE/2026	Supply of 160 KVADG Set	04 Nos.		
		Supply of 05 KVADG Set	04 Nos.		

Notes:-

- The corrigendum/addendum for the above package will be uploaded on website <https://uktdenders.gov.in>
- Email id piupwd@ukdisasterrecovery.in may be contacted for any information related to the bids or bidders may visit office during working hours for any clarification.
- The tenders may be found under the organization name: PM (Project Implementation Unit-PWD) U-PREPARE-World Bank on the website www.uktdenders.gov.in

Program Manager
PIU-PWD
U-PREPARE

बिहार सरकार

अधीक्षक का कार्यालय: पटना चिकित्सा महाविद्यालय अस्पताल, पटना

अल्पकालिन निविदा सूचना

गोआरखंग-004509(स्वास्थ्य)2026-27 द्वारा पटना चिकित्सा महाविद्यालय अस्पताल, पटना के रेडियोलॉजि विभाग में अधिष्ठात कोबाल्ट मशीन (Cobalt Theratron 780E) के साथ रेडियोएक्टिव सोर्स कोबाल्ट-60 के विच्छेदन (Decommissioning) एवं डिस्पोजल (Disposal) कार्य हेतु भारत सरकार के परमाणु ऊर्जा नियामक परिषद (AERB) से निवेद्य एजेंसीज से सम्पूर्ण टैक्निकल मुहूर्त निविदा निम्नलिखित डाक/ स्वीच पोस्ट के माध्यम आमंत्रित की गई थी। बिहार चित निगमावली के अनुसार निविदा प्राप्त नहीं करने के कारण पुनः अल्पकालिन निविदा आमंत्रित की जाती है।

निविदा दो भागों में होगी। प्रथम निविदा भाग तकनीकी निविदा एवं दूसरा भाग वित्तीय निविदा होगी। तकनीकी निविदा एवं वित्तीय निविदा दोनों अलग-अलग लिफाफे में मुहूर्त होयें तथा दोनों लिफाफों (तकनीकी एवं वित्तीय) एक बड़े लिफाफे में मुहूर्तव किया जायेगा। प्रत्येक लिफाफे पर स्पष्ट "कोबाल्ट मशीन के विच्छेदन (Decommissioning) एवं डिस्पोजल (Disposal) की निविदा" तथा निविदा गीताखंगोल लिखा जाना अनिवार्य होगा।

इस सम्बन्ध में विस्तृत जानकारी वास्तविक अधीक्षक कार्यालय, पटना चिकित्सा महाविद्यालय अस्पताल, पटना से निविदा प्रकाशन के परम्परा सम्पन्न-सम्पन्न स्थापित कार्यालय-दिवसों में कार्यालय अथवा के बीच प्राप्त किया जा सकता है। निविदा संबंधित सभी जानकारी वेबसाइट www.state.bihar.gov.in/prdbihar पर भी देखा एवं डाउनलोड किया जा सकता है।

Tender Reference no. : PMCH/Cobalt/PR...../2026

Last date and time for receipt of tender : 11-07-2026 up to 5.00 PM

Place of submission of Tender : Superintendent, Patna Medical College Hospital, Ashok Raj Path, Patna-800004

Time and date of opening of Tender : 13-07-2026 at 12.30 PM in the Chamber of Superintendent, PMCH, Patna

अधीक्षक,
पटना चिकित्सा महाविद्यालय अस्पताल, पटना

PR-006476 (HEALTH) 2026-27

नरो की मार, बर्बाद करे सुखी परिवार।

30001/49/2627

ODISHA MINING CORPORATION LIMITED
OMC House, Bhubaneswar-751001, Odisha
CIN: U13100OR1956SGC000313, www.omcltd.in

E-PROCUREMENT NOTICE

Sl. No.	NIT No.	Job Description	Availability of Tender Document	Bid Due Date
1	OMC/E-PROC/C&P/01/7/2026-27 Dated: 24/06/2026	Operation & Maintenance of all Hardware & Software Components and Cloud Hosting for Logistics Management System at Daitari Mines of OMC Ltd. for 5 years.	25.06.2026	23.07.2026 at 3.00 PM
2	OMC/E-PROC/C&P/01/8/2026-27 Dated: 24/06/2026	Design, Engineering, Supply, Erection, Testing and Commissioning 9 MVA Shell Type Furnace Transformer for Sub Merged Electric Arc Furnace of Ferrochrome Plant OMC at Jajpur Road.	29-06-2026	29-07-2026 at 3.00 PM
3	OMC/E-PROC/C&P/01/9/2026-27 Dated: 24/06/2026	Supply, Installation and Commissioning of 12 sets of Twin start spiral concentrator for Chrome Ore Beneficiation Plant, South Kallapani, Jajpur, Odisha.	29-06-2026	24-07-2026 at 3.00 PM
4	OMC/E-PROC/C&P/02/0/2026-27 Dated: 24/06/2026	Supply, Installation, Testing & Commissioning of 4 MVA 33/11 kV Transformer at Daitari Mines of OMC.	25-06-2026	21-07-2026 at 3.00 PM

All other details can be seen from the Tender Document available on the e-procurement portal of the Government of Odisha (www.tendersodisha.gov.in) and on the website of OMC (www.omcltd.in). OMC reserves the right to reject any/all the bids or to annul the bidding process without assigning any reason thereof.

Sd/-
Head (C&P)

OIPR-30001/30005/1/26-27/0044

UNION TERRITORY OF JAMMU & KASHMIR
OFFICE THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER PWD (R&B) DIVISION JAMMU EAST

SHORT NOTICE INVITING TENDER
Short e-NIT No. 26 of 2026-2027/Jammu East Dated 23-06-2026

For and on behalf of the Lieutenant Governor, Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir e-tenders are invited on percentage basis from approved and eligible Contractors registered with the Union Territory of J&K, CPWD, Railways, MES and other State / Central Govt. for each of the following works :

S. No	Name of Work	Name of Division	Advertised Cost (Rs. Lakh)	Cost of document (in Rs.)	Earnest Money (in Rs.)	Time Allowed for complete-on	Time and date of opening of tender	Class of Contractor
1	Macadamization of Roads in Dhok Paloura near Tiny Tots Higher Secondary School including links towards Shiv Mandir, adjoining Talab, Bata Nagar Paloura road near Surayanshi JDA Park and allied links & Road from JA main road to Gujjar Basti Upper Paloura.	PWD (R&B) Division Jammu East	40.00	600	2% of Advertised Cost	01 Month	(1300 Hrs) on or after 03-07-2026	A&B
2	Macadamization of Main Bakshi Nagar, Gurha Bakshi Nagar and allied links including Rajput Mohalla.	PWD (R&B) Division Jammu East	40.00	600	2% of Advertised Cost	01 Month	(1300 Hrs) on or after 03-07-2026	A&B
3	Macadamization of Road from Graveyard to Sarwal hospital	PWD (R&B) Division Jammu East	20.00	600	2% of Advertised Cost	01 Month	(1300 Hrs) on or after 03-07-2026	A, B & C
4	Macadamization of Indira Chowk to Toph bridge and adjoining lanes in ward no. 24/25 & 839	PWD (R&B) Division Jammu East	40.00	600	2% of Advertised Cost	01 Month	(1300 Hrs) on or after 03-07-2026	A&B
5	Macadamization of Road from Subash Nagar to Jagat resor & Subash nagar Masjid to Cremation Ground including glass factory Thather	PWD (R&B) Division Jammu East	40.00	600	2% of Advertised Cost	01 Month	(1300 Hrs) on or after 03-07-2026	A&B
6	Macadamization of road from link road Sukhi Nehar to Gujjar Mohalla, road from Patoli Brahmana Bridge to Sukhi Nehar via IMS collage & road from link road Sukhi near to JMC Dumping Yard Bantialab	PWD (R&B) Division Jammu East	30.00	600	2% of Advertised Cost	01 Month	(1300 Hrs) on or after 03-07-2026	A&B
7	Macadamization of road from JA main road to Keran Durga Mata Mandir.	PWD (R&B) Division Jammu East	30.00	600	2% of Advertised Cost	01 Month	(1300 Hrs) on or after 03-07-2026	A&B
8	Macadamization of road from JA main road to Kailash Ashram Chinore & road from GMS to ST Mohalla	PWD (R&B) Division Jammu East	40.00	600	2% of Advertised Cost	01 Month	(1300 Hrs) on or after 03-07-2026	A&B

Position of AAA : Accorded (under City & Town Programme 2026-2027)

The Bidding documents Consisting of qualifying information, eligibility criteria, specifications, Drawings, bill of quantities (B.O.Q), Set of terms and conditions of contract and other details can be seen / downloaded from the departmental website <http://jktenders.gov.in> as per below schedule :

1	Date of Issue of Tender Notice	23-06-2026
2	Period of downloading of bidding documents	From 23-06-2026 to 02-07-2026 upto 1800 Hrs
3	Date, Time and place of pre-bid meeting	30-06-2026 at 1200Hrs. in the Office of Executive Engineer PWD (R&B) Division Jammu East
4	Bid submission Start Date	23-06-2026
5	Bid Submission End Date	02-07-2026 upto 1800 Hrs
6	Date & time of opening of Technical Bids (Online)	03-07-2026 on or after 1300 Hrs in the Office of Executive Engineer PWD (R&B) Division Jammu East
7	Date & time of opening of Financial Bids	To be notified after technical bid evaluation is completed

- Bids must be accompanied with cost of Tender document in shape of e-challan through Treasury indicating Treasury Voucher No. & date, e-NIT No. and name of work duly crediting to MH 0059 (Revenue) favoring Executive Engineer PWD (R&B) Division Jammu East and upload the same i.e treasury challan / receipt, Earnest money/Bid security in shape of CDR/FR/BG pledged to Executive Engineer PWD (R&B) Division Jammu East. The CDR/FR/BG shall be valid for 45 Days beyond the bid validity

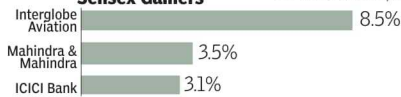
The Week That Was...
Oil Slide Helps Equity Indices
Log Third Straight Weekly Gain
Sensex and Nifty had their longest winning streak in seven months, as crude oil prices fell to pre-iran-war levels. Sensex gained 0.4% to reach 77,100 and Nifty 50 rose about 0.2% to 24,056. Measures to support the rupee and attract overseas inflows also lifted sentiment

TIMES BUSINESS

THE TIMES OF INDIA, NEW DELHI | FRIDAY, JUNE 26, 2026

Sensex
0.4%

Sensex Gainers



Laggards



0.5%
Was the growth in the core sector in May, the slowest pace since last Oct. Only three of the eight sectors showed higher output

Source: BSE, Reuters, screener.in

Micron stock rallies over AI-led forecast, big tech shares fall

A selloff in technology megacaps weighed on Wall Street trading. All shares in the so-called 'magnificent seven' group retreated, with Apple Inc leading the charge after a decision to raise prices of Macs and iPads as a memory crunch is boosting costs. Those losses sent the S&P 500 wavering even as most of its firms rose. A rebound in chipmakers also buoyed investor sentiment after Micron Technology Inc.'s blowout outlook lifted the shares by about 17%. **BLOOMBERG**



Gold rises on weaker dollar, lower yields

Gold prices edged higher after a US inflation reading came largely in line with expectations, easing some concerns about imminent Federal Reserve rate hikes and pushing the dollar and Treasury yields lower. Spot gold was up 0.2% at \$4,008/oz after falling 1% earlier in the session. US gold futures for Aug delivery rose 0.3% to \$4,021 per oz. **REUTERS**

Telecom subscriber base rises to 134cr

New Delhi: Telecom subscriber base grew to 134.3 crore in May, driven by net additions on the Bharti Airtel and Reliance Jio networks, according to Trai data released on Thursday. Airtel led the growth with net addition of 29.8 lakh subscribers over the month of April. **AGENCIES**

AllHome raises ₹200cr, startup valued at ₹2k cr

Bengaluru: AllHome, a startup founded by the founders of PharmEasy, has raised Rs 200 crore from Bessemer Venture Partners, valuing the company at Rs 2,000 crore. The round also saw participation from Strides and several family offices. The fresh capital will be deployed to strengthen the company's technology platform, expand its experience centres and scale manufacturing capabilities. Founded in 2024 by PharmEasy co-founders Dhaval Shah, Dharmil Sheth, Hardik Dhedhia and Siddharth Shah, AllHome operates in the home interiors and architectural products market, spanning categories such as surfaces, bath fittings, facades, windows, hardware and lighting. The company currently operates across 14 product categories. —**Supriya Roy**

MacBook, iPad to be costlier by up to ₹70k

Aabhas Sharma
@timesofindia.com

New Delhi: Apple's sharp increase in MacBook and iPad prices in India may be an early sign of broader price increases across the PC industry as the global artificial intelligence boom drives up memory and storage costs. The company on Thursday raised prices across much of its Mac and iPad portfolio, citing an unprecedented surge in component costs. The base 14-inch MacBook Pro with the M5 chip is now Rs 70,000 more expensive than its launch price, while several MacBook Air and iPad models have also seen significant increases. "We have never seen a component price increase this much, this quickly," Apple told **TOI**. "We have shielded our customers from these

Old tariffs may return if 301 probe 'successful': Bessent

Need Comparative Advantage For India In Deal, Says Goyal

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi: US treasury secretary Scott Bessent said tariffs could return to their previous levels if the Section 301 investigations being conducted by the US trade representative result in fresh reviews.

"Right now, we have something called Section 122 tariffs, which is a 10% global tariff. Currently, USTR, ambassador Jameson Greer, is doing studies for Section 301. And if those studies are successful... then the tariff rates are going to go back to exactly where they were," Bessent said.

The law allows the US administration to impose Section 122 tariffs for 150 days and they are due to expire by July 24. In its interim findings, the USTR has proposed 12.5% additional tariff on imports from India and over 50 other countries for their alleged failure to crack down on imports using forced labour. The re-

2ND PROBE RESULTS AWAITED

► Under Section 122, US has imposed 10% global tariff for 150 days that are due to expire by July 24

► In interim findings, USTR has proposed 12.5% additional tariff on imports from India and over 50 other countries for alleged failure to crack down on imports using forced labour

► Findings of second probe on structural excess capacity in 15 countries, including India, are awaited

"Right now, we have something called Section 122 tariffs, which is a 10% global tariff. Currently, USTR, ambassador Jameson Greer, is doing studies for Section 301. And if those studies are successful... then the tariff rates are going to go back to exactly where they were

Scott Bessent
US TREASURY SECRETARY

that the Section 301 outcomes also seeks to achieve.

While India and the US have been engaged in talks to finalise a trade deal, commerce and industry minister Piyush Goyal reiterated the need to ensure comparative advantage for India.

"We had negotiated that

deal on bringing down 50% tariff to 18%. The whole deal was centred around the competitive advantage over our neighbours and other competing countries. We were lower than all our neighbouring countries, all the Asian countries, other than Singapore. That is why the deal was attractive.

"We have to have some reason to be able to enter into force the agreement that we have and to ensure that we get a competitive advantage over countries in the same stage of development or same cost structures as India, whether it's Vietnam, Thailand, the Philippines, Indonesia, Malaysia, China apart from Bangladesh, Sri Lanka and all our neighbours. Until that framework of getting that competitive advantage can be finalised, we can't enter into force a US deal. That's broadly the discussion," Goyal said in London.

Bigger play for corporates in debt & money markets

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Mumbai: RBI has proposed sweeping changes to deepen debt markets, allowing corporate bodies to lend in the term money segment — long dominated by banks and primary dealers — while widening their access to govt securities market. It has also introduced total return swaps in credit derivatives, which transfer a bond's entire return to the buyer, unlike default swaps that only insure against default.

The draft norms released on Thursday mark a shift away from the tightly controlled framework of 2021, under which call, notice and term money markets were largely the preserve of banks and primary dealers operating under a uniform set of rules. The new approach fragments this structure, se-

Export reps meet RBI guv Malhotra

Mumbai: RBI governor Sanjay Malhotra met representatives of export federations, export promotion councils, CII's export committee and FEDAI here, with deputy governors in attendance. Malhotra noted exporters' role in India's economic transformation and praised their resilience amid global trade uncertainty and geopolitical challenges, while stressing the need for continued stakeholder engagement to shape policy. Discussions covered FEMA-related export rules, export credit, letters of credit and procedural issues, with participants sharing feedback on policy and operational concerns. **TNN**

lectively widening access to the term segment — defined as unsecured borrowing beyond 14 days and up to one year — while retaining tighter controls over overnight markets. RBI has hiked primary dealers' borrowing cap to 400% of net owned funds, from 225%, clubbing term money and inter-corporate deposits. It has also stretched trading hours to match global clocks and extended call,

notice and term market windows to 7pm from 5pm. Banks/AIFs/NBFCs can lend to non-banks under standard loan norms

In a first RBI has proposed the entry of non-bank financial actors into the term money market. All India financial institutions and non-banking financial companies will now be permitted to both borrow and lend in this segment.

Adani Airports to develop aerocities, invest ₹20k cr

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi: Adani Airports will invest Rs 20,000 crore in developing aerocities in the six places where it operates hubs — Mumbai, Navi Mumbai, Ahmedabad, Lucknow, Jaipur and Guwahati. The phase I of this monetisation of land bank at this capex will see 2.2 crore square feet being developed across these places.

The development will span over 655 acres in these five states, including nearly 440 acres in Mumbai and Navi Mumbai. The proposed "integrated airport cities" will have hospitality, retail, entertainment, convention and commercial infrastructure within walkable urban districts.

Adani Airport Holdings (AAHL) director Jeet Adani said: "The most successful airport districts have become centres of commerce, tourism and urban growth. As India's aviation market expands, airports have an opportunity to create value far beyond aviation. We are creating integrated urban destinations where airports become catalysts for investment, employment, better passenger experiences and long-term growth of the cities they serve."

AAHL says the project is inspired by "globally successful airport districts Singapore's Changi and Dubai International, bringing airport-led development model to India's rapidly expanding aviation market."

TaMo targets wider reach with €3.8bn Iveco deal

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Chennai: Tata Motors expects significant sourcing efficiencies and new product opportunities from its €3.8bn acquisition of Italian truck and bus maker Iveco, with the transaction on track for completion in the second quarter of FY27.

Iveco sold about 1,40,000 vehicles and reported revenue of €13.4bn in 2025. As Tata Motors prepares to integrate the business, it has identified three major areas of synergy: revenue growth, operating cost savings and capital expenditure optimisation.

According to Girish Wagh, MD & CEO of Tata Motors Commercial Vehicles, the two companies' product portfolios and geographic footprints are largely complementary rather than overlapping. While Tata Motors has a strong presence in India, South Asia, the Middle East, Africa and Southeast Asia, Iveco has a significant foothold in Europe and Latin America.

'Excited about growth of quick comm here'

Increasingly Investing Substantial Amounts In AWS, Cloud & AI Biz: Amazon CEO Jassy

Sidhartha@timesofindia.com

Amazon CEO Andy Jassy has been with the company since 1997 and moved into his current role five years ago. On his first visit to India as chief executive, Jassy announced a further scale up in its investment and a ramp up of the quick commerce business to 300 cities. He also took time out for an interview with **TOI**. Excerpts:

How have things moved in India for you since you took charge five years ago? What is the strategy going forward?

It's very exciting what's been happening in India over the last five years as a country in general and then for us as a company investing in India. We've invested over \$40 billion in India since 2010 and we'll invest an additional \$48 billion by 2030, including \$13 billion we're announcing now. We're making a very substantial investment in India because we see our marketplace business continuing to grow at a very rapid rate. One of the things we've been excited about is the growth of quick commerce here, which has doubled every quarter. Prime members who use quick commerce are shopping three times as frequently as before they started using it. We're also very encouraged by what we're seeing in our AWS (Amazon Web Services) business. We have two regions, Mumbai and Hyderabad, and hundreds of thousands of customers in India. AI is growing very quickly, which is one of the reasons we just announced incremental investment. We're increasing the amount of infrastructure and AI capabilities we have in India because it's growing so quickly.

Can you help us understand how this \$48 billion is going to be allocated across business segments?

If you look at the combination of the \$40 billion since 2010 and the incremental \$48 billion through 2030, the largest absolute amount is still in our marketplace business. But, increasingly we're investing very substantial amounts in AWS, cloud and AI businesses. Most of the incremental \$13 billion is for our AI and cloud investments. That will bring our total investment in cloud and AI up to \$21 billion in India by 2030.

You are a late entrant to quick commerce. Did you miss the consumer pulse and will the quick ramp-up involve a lot of cash burn?

If you look across our marketplace business, we have an unusual offering. We have focused really hard on having the broadest selection of items that get to people in the fastest amount of time. We also have a membership programme in Prime. If you look at the set of benefits, it's a very differentiated offering. We started experimenting a few years ago with different forms of

In your letter to shareholders, you spoke about exploring plans to sell chips to third parties. What is the status? Also, given govt's push towards semiconductors, does Amazon see a role in that space in India?

For about 12 years, we've been designing our own chips. We did that because our customers are always demanding better prices and performance. Several years ago, we started designing our own custom silicon for AI, which we call Trainium, and it has about 30% better price



Most of the incremental \$13 billion is for AI and cloud investments. That will bring our total investment in cloud and AI up to \$21 billion in India by 2030

We're expanding quick commerce to over 300 cities in India

AI is the most transformative technology of our lifetime... Almost all our jobs will be transformed in some way... We also end up with new jobs that we'd never imagined before... While there will be changes in nature of what people do, there are going to be plenty of jobs for people in long-term

—ANDY JASSY | CEO, AMAZON

quick commerce. But a year ago, we found a format that really had resonance with customers. We have expanded it very quickly and just announced that we're expanding quick commerce to over 300 cities in India.

TOI INTERVIEW

There's this question of AI impacting jobs, especially in a country like India. How do you see that playing out, along with its impact on productivity?

AI is the most transformative technology of our lifetime, which is saying a lot, given we've lived through the internet, mobile and cloud. Every customer experience we know will be changed by AI. Almost all our jobs will be transformed in some way and it can't help but improve the productivity of virtually every job in virtually every country. What happens when you have these big transformative technology shifts is that the nature of what people spend their time on changes. We also end up with new jobs that we'd never imagined before. Fifteen to 20 years ago there was no such thing as a cloud architect and now you have tens of thousands of cloud architects. While there will be changes in the nature of what people do, there are going to be plenty of jobs for people in the long-term.

performance than comparable AI accelerators. It's now a \$20-billion-plus annual revenue run-rate business. Most of the way we monetise our chips is by selling them as part of our compute offerings. If we sold all the chips to Amazon or third parties, it would be a \$50-billion annual revenue run-rate business. The largest AI labs in the world, Anthropic and OpenAI, have made multi-year, multi-gigawatt commitments to our chips. We expect a lot of customers in India that consume those chips.

There are reports about Amazon's or your discomfort with the Anthropic models and your discussions with authorities in the US. Are they true?

We're at a stage in AI right now where the models are improving by such leaps and bounds and becoming so powerful that it's natural that at different stages you may have some starts and stops. Model creators, infrastructure providers, cloud providers and all the companies want to have great models that allow them to change customer experiences and do so in a way that's secure and cost-effective. Along the way, there are going to be different times where you keep adjusting what the guidelines are and how you operate with these models. But I'm very optimistic about it moving forward.

Global majors commit \$95bn over 4-5 years

► From P 1

Apart from Amazon, global giants — from **Google (\$15 billion to Air Trunk (\$30 billion), Saint Gobain (\$1.1 billion) and Canada Pension Plan Investment Board (\$700 million)** — have announced investment plans in the last few months, which cumulatively add up to \$95 billion over the next four to five years. A large

Amazon pledged to support over 3.8mn jobs, enable \$80bn in e-commerce exports and bring benefits of AI to 15mn small businesses

part of this money will flow into data centres and tech-related initiatives.

"Message is clear: global CEOs see India as the next big growth engine and they are getting in early and investing heavily," said a govt official. The investment announcements come amid the global uncertainty caused by tension in West Asia and the tariff related concerns that are expected to flare up in the coming weeks as the Trump administration announces a fresh strategy.

'AI to be great leveller for small biz'

Mumbai: IDFC First Bank MD & CEO V Vaidyanathan has said that AI will be a great leveller for small businesses, enabling firms without dedicated staff to market on the fly.

In a conversation with ET-NOW Leaders of Tomorrow, Vaidyanathan warned India's MSMEs that "if we are not digitised and not using the full power of AI, we are going to miss big opportunities."

Kicking off this year's event themed "Emerging Businesses: The India Advantage", Vaidyanathan framed the 'India Advantage' as demand, digitisation, and entrepreneurship. Speaking as a long-time MSME-focused voice, he flagged a mindset shift from local-only to national/global play. "Earlier, firms stayed local, now they scale national — some go global." Tracing the arc of Indian business — from traditional dal and flour mills to digital-first D2C companies — he called the offline-to-online pivot a big deal. He also highlighted the challenges faced by MSMEs. "Out of 100 entrepreneurs, VCs invest in maybe three or four. What about the balance 97? They don't get equity — and without equity, you don't get debt."

The show highlights opportunities driving India's startup and MSME ecosystem and will feature top voices in industry, govt and academia. **TNN**

COMPONENT COSTS A CONCERN

► We have never seen a component price increase this much, this quickly, says Apple

► Apple's move to raise price in India may be an early sign of broader price increases across PC industry

► AI boom is driving up memory and storage costs



If memory prices remain elevated, more brands will have to pass on at least part of increase to consumers

—AN OFFICIAL

increases so far, but we have now reached a point where we need to begin raising prices on a number of products."

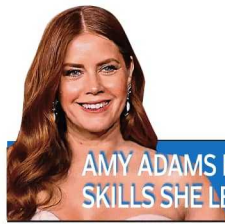
Industry executives and analysts say the same pressures are affecting PC makers worldwide as demand from AI infrastructure consumes growing volumes of memory and storage components.

"Demand from AI servers is soaking up DRAM and advanced memory capacity, leaving PC and device makers to compete for supply," said Prabhu Ram, vice-president, Industry Research Group, CyberMedia Research (CMR). "What we're seeing with Apple is unlikely to be an isolated case. If memory prices remain elevated, more

brands will eventually have to pass on at least part of the increase to consumers."

Asus, which has implemented price increases in several markets this year, said the issue is industry-wide rather than specific to any single company. "The current pricing environment reflects broader supply-demand imbalances rather than brand-specific decisions," Asus told **TOI**. "Memory and storage are foundational components across all notebooks and PCs, so the impact is visible across categories and industry. Devices with higher RAM and SSD capacities naturally experience a more direct effect," the company added.

Tarun Pathak, research director at Counterpoint Research, said AI-driven demand has fundamentally altered the memory market.



AMY ADAMS REVEALS SHE ONCE SAVED A STABBING VICTIM WITH SKILLS SHE LEARNED FROM PLAYING A NURSE ON DRAMA 'DR VEGAS'



BENNY BLANCO SAYS HIS MOM TOLD HIM TO MARRY SELENA GOMEZ YEARS BEFORE THE COUPLE TIED THE KNOT: 'SHE PLANTED THE SEED'

Tankers use US-backed route through Hormuz

UK Says Cargo Ship Struck, Iran Terms New Route 'Unacceptable'

Dubai: Several tankers made their way out of the Strait of Hormuz on Thursday using a new route promoted by a UN maritime agency. Iran has threatened vessels using the path, which runs along the coast of Oman. The opening of an alternative passage through the vital waterway would relieve pressure on the world economy and remove Iran's main source of leverage in ongoing peace talks with the UN. Secretary of state Marco Rubio, on a visit to Gulf to reassure American allies, said Washington was committed to the new route.

The oil tankers, led by the Stoic Warrior vessel, sailed along the coast of the UAE and then Oman early Thursday, passing by Oman's Musandam Peninsula fairly close to the shore. The route was laid out by Oman and the International Maritime Organisation, a UN agency. Iran said it mined that passage after the US and Israel attacked it on Feb 28, and at least one mine has been sighted there. A cargo ship, meanwhile, travelling through the new route was hit by a projectile on Thursday, the British military said. The UK Maritime Trade Operations said there were no casualties. The naval arm of the Re-



A displaced Lebanese man picks up the pieces of his life after his house was destroyed in an Israeli strike

'Israel hasn't withdrawn from southern Lebanon'

Israeli defence minister Israel Katz said on Thursday that Israel opposed withdrawing from the "security zone" in Lebanon despite pressure to do so, adding that the military would remain in what he called "security zones" in Lebanon, Syria and Gaza as long as necessary. Israel and Lebanon have been discussing a US-backed proposal for Israeli forces to transfer some of the Lebanese territory invaded in their war with Hezbollah to Lebanon's military. REUTERS

volutionary Guard, apparently reacting to the new shipping route and increased traffic, issued a warning on Thursday, carried by Iran's state-run IRNA news agency. It said the new route was established "without notice or coordination with the Isla-

Iraq says it might leave OPEC if production quota not raised: Report

Baghdad: Iraq has considered leaving OPEC if the oil producer group does not allow Baghdad to significantly increase oil production, sources with knowledge of the matter told Reuters. The prospect of Iraq leaving would be a serious blow to the Organisation of the Petroleum Exporting Countries, which saw the UAE walk away less than two months ago. Iraq is the group's second-largest producer after Saudi Arabia.

The country relies on oil for the bulk of its income, which has been slashed since the Iran war effectively blocked exports. Govt is grappling with a financial crisis as a result of the war and a significant rise in its OPEC quota should be treated seriously, a senior Iraqi oil ministry official said. Iraq's quota for July is 4.378 million barrels per day though current output is significantly below this because of Hormuz disruption. REUTERS

mic Republic of Iran," calling it "unacceptable and completely dangerous." "The only authorised route for passing through the Strait of Hormuz is the one declared by the Islamic Republic of Iran," the Iranian naval force said. REUTERS

Teesta twist: B'desh-China water pact signals potential friction for New Delhi

Beijing: Dhaka and Beijing Thursday agreed to strengthen cooperation on the management of the Teesta and other rivers and signed 13 agreements to bolster bilateral ties following talks between Bangladesh PM Tarique Rahman and Chinese Premier Li Qiang. The understanding on cooperation relating to the Teesta may have implications for Dhaka-New Delhi ties given India's sensitivity over the Teesta water-sharing issue.

The understanding was reached at a meeting between Rahman, who is currently in

Beijing, and Chinese water resources minister Li Guoying, spokesman of the Bangladesh prime minister's office Mahdi Amin told reporters.

The two sides also reached a consensus on expanding cooperation in areas such as the Teesta Master Plan, river management, flood-risk mitigation, river dredging, erosion control, irrigation and inland navigation, the state-run Bangladesh Sangbad Sangstha (BSS) news agency quoted him as saying.

During Thursday's meeting with Li Guoying, Rahman

highlighted Bangladesh's ongoing river excavation programme aimed at reducing flood risks, protecting the environment, and ensuring the proper management of water resources and sought China's assistance, the BSS reported.

Teesta River flows from the eastern Himalayas through Sikkim and West Bengal before entering Bangladesh. China has for years shown interest in developing the Teesta River Comprehensive Management and Restoration Project, located near India's sensitive Siliguri Corridor. PTI

DEVASTATION



7.2 magnitude quake strikes off Japan, no tsunami warning issued

Tokyo: A powerful earthquake struck off the northern coast of Japan during rush hour on Thursday morning, but the country's meteorological agency said there was no danger of a tsunami and no serious injuries were reported. The tremor shook dozens of towns across northeastern Japan and was even mildly felt in the capital, Tokyo. It hit in an area where strong earthquakes have repeatedly been reported in recent months, including one that triggered a week-long mega-quake caution advisory in Dec.

Eight people were injured in northern prefectures of Aomori and Iwate, the fire and disaster management agency said. Media had no report of life-threatening injuries and the injuries that were reported were mainly from falling or being hit by falling objects.

Quake hits rural California

A rural area of Northern California experienced its strongest earthquake since 1940 on Wednesday, causing some injuries but no immediate reports of major damage, officials said. The epicentre of the quake, with a preliminary magnitude of 5.6, was about 12 kilometres northwest of the agricultural town of Willits, according to the US Geological Survey. It was widely felt, including in the coastal city of Port Bragg. AGENCIES

USGS model estimates quake toll in thousands

Continued from P1

TEN WORST EARTHQUAKES

In terms of magnitude			
Year	Place (Country)	Magnitude	Casualties/Damages
1960	Biobio, Chile	9.5	1,655 deaths
1964	Alaska, USA	9.2	130
2004	Sumatra, Indonesia	9.1	280,000+
2011	Tohoku, Japan	9.1	15,000+
1952	Kamchatka, Russia	9	Over \$1m damages
2025	Kamchatka, Russia	8.8	1 dead
2010	Biobio, Chile	8.8	523 deaths
1906	Esmeraldas, Ecuador	8.8	1,500
1965	Rat Islands, USA	8.7	\$10,000+ damages
1950	Arunachal Pradesh / Tibet	8.6	780 deaths

from that building, I only saw that one family got out."

Houses collapsed near the quake's epicentre in Moron, a small seaside town in the state of Carabobo, where there was no water or electricity. Three children were among at least eight killed in the area, mayor

Emily Riera said.

The US Geological Survey, using predictive modeling to estimate the death toll, said it would most likely run into the thousands, with a substantial probability of exceeding 10,000. A website set up to track missing people by leaders from the

country's opposition, many of whom are outside Venezuela, listed more than 24,000 people as unaccounted for at 10.40am local time. Rodriguez said rescue crews from other countries would arrive soon and thanked leaders, including US President Trump and Russian President Putin. US secretary of state Marco Rubio said rescue teams were being deployed and the Pentagon would send assets to the damaged airport.

Other cities and towns close to Caracas affected by the quake, including El Junquito and La Guaira, remained without power on Thursday morning, increasing the challenge. The UN's Venezuela human rights mission urged the govt to lift restrictions on social media, saying it was a "matter of life and death". Access became available in some areas of the country, where cell services are unreliable. Residents across Caracas,

where infrastructure was already crumbling due to lack of investment, rushed to evacuate as buildings shook. Buildings were evacuated as far away as Brazil's Amazon, about 1,700km from Caracas. Maria Romero, an 80-year-old pensioner in southern Caracas, said police helped her out of her home. "This earthquake was horrible, even worse than the one in 1967," she said, referring to a magnitude 6.3 quake that the USGS said killed 240 people. In La Guaira, a man wearing only shorts climbed down the face of an apartment building tilted at a dangerous angle as a crowd watched.

Venezuela lies in a seismically active zone where the Caribbean Plate meets the South American Plate. An estimated 30,000 people were killed when a quake caused widespread destruction in Merida and Caracas in 1812, according to the USGS. AGENCIES

DAILY PLANET



A public outdoor sprinkler system at work in Cologne on Thursday to alleviate high temperatures amid a heatwave in Germany

Spice Girls' debut 'Wannabe' turns 30, amid reunion talk



The Spice Girls burst onto the music scene with the release of their infectious debut "Wannabe" 30 years ago on Friday, carving a place in pop history championing Girl Power, and leaving their mark on fashion and global culture. The British group of five young women formed in 1994, and the irrepressibly catchy "Wannabe" was released on June 26, 1996, initially in Asia. It shot swiftly up the charts to number one in Britain, the US and dozens of other countries. "They weren't just a throwaway pop band," Dominic Mohan, a former editor of The Sun tabloid who covered the British music scene at the time, told AFP. "They were very spirited and they had quite strong messages as

well, about feminism and about girl power and about being who you are." And he said of "Wannabe": "It's one of those records, as soon as you hear it you realise that it's going to go down in history."

Swedish minister brings baby to talks in Brussels
Sweden's environment minister Romina Pourmokhtari brought her baby to an EU meeting Thursday, in a barrier-breaking move she said showed it was possible to be both "a present minister and a present mother". "Happy also to be an example of not having to choose between being a present minister and a present mother," the 30-year-old said as Adam rested on her chest. Her French colleague Monique Barbut promptly gave her a baby gift. An EU official said it was thought to be the first time a baby was brought to one of the bloc's ministerial meetings.



Parents file suit after minor raped by Snapchat 'friend'

Missouri (US): The parents of a girl who was raped when she was 12 years old by an adult stranger she met on Snapchat have sued its parent company, Snap, and the attacker in Missouri state court. The lawsuit filed Wednesday claims the social media company has refused to disable dangerous features in its app or warn parents about potential harms it may cause.

According to the lawsuit, the girl began using Snapchat in 2021 when she was 11 without her parents' knowledge. While the app requires users to be 13 to sign up, the lawsuit says the girl does not remember what birth date she entered and that children knew they could easily bypass the minimum-age requirement. About a year after she began using Snapchat, the lawsuit says the app recommended her and teen girls from nearby schools as friends

to defendant Gabriel Joel Valentin-Rios, an adult who had no real-life connections to them. It did not warn the children that connecting to strangers might be dangerous.

After the girl and Valentin-Rios connected, Valentin-Rios began sending her unsolicited nude photos, the lawsuit says. The girl "did not want these photographs and, at first, did not reciprocate but Snapchat's product design made it impossible for (her) to avoid such explicit content," it says. As part of its Snap Maps feature, the app also provided Valentin-Rios with the girl's home address without her knowledge. Valentin-Rios then groomed the girl, convincing her that he was a 17-year-old local high school boy, not a 25-year-old man. Eventually he got her to meet him in person and raped her. Valentin-Rios pleaded guilty to statutory rape and is

currently serving an 18-year prison sentence in Missouri.

The lawsuit claims Snapchat knew that Valentin-Rios had multiple accounts—even though it is against the app's policies—including one he used to lure teen girls. Snap did not immediately respond to a message for comment Wednesday afternoon. The girl has been diagnosed with PTSD, anxiety and depression, according to the lawsuit.

This is not the first such lawsuit against Snap. New Mexico sued the company in 2024, saying the platform's design features fostered sexual abuse and unwanted contact from adults to minors. There are also individual lawsuits pending against the company, including one in Vermont on behalf of two 12-year-old girls who were sexually assaulted by an adult they met on Snapchat. AP

Russia denies it is pressuring Belarus to widen conflict

Moscow: The Kremlin on Thursday denied a Wall Street Journal report that it is pressuring Belarus to support an expansion of Russia's war in Ukraine. WSJ reported on Wednesday that Russia wanted to use Belarus as a springboard to step up attacks on Ukraine. Kremlin spokesman Dmitry Peskov said the report "does not correspond to reality" and that Belarus was "our closest ally".

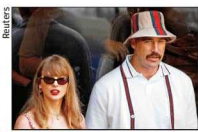
Belarusian President Alexander Lukashenko said on Thursday he had warned Ukraine not to try to drag his country into war. Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky has alleged that Moscow wants to get Belarus more involved on the Russian side. "I told them bluntly: Tell your president: if he thinks he can talk to us like that - and drag us into a war - then he must understand that the nature of the war would change," he said. AGENCIES

Taylor Swift to marry? Clues point to wedding next week

Los Angeles: Ready for it? Permits and sources suggest Taylor Swift and Travis Kelce will be married in New York City next week, New York Times reported on Wednesday. Swift, one of the most successful musicians of all time, and three-time Super Bowl champion Kelce announced their engagement in Aug.

A permit was filed with New York City to close the streets around Madison Square Garden from July 2 to Sunday July 4 for an event on July 3, NYT said, citing three people with knowledge of the matter. City Hall spokesperson Dora Pecek confirmed to Reuters that a permit with those details had been filed.

Several members of Kelce's football team, the Kansas City Chiefs, have booked hotel rooms for dates around July 3 at the Marriott Marquis hotel in Times Square, the paper said. Two sources told the paper



Taylor Swift and Travis Kelce

the plan called for an intimate gathering of about 100 people at the Garden on July 2, and about 1,000 on July 3 for a "splashes celebration, with possible stage appearances."

Reuters could not immediately confirm that the wedding would take place in July. Representatives for Swift, Madison Square Garden and Wick did not respond to a request for comment. Last week, New York Mayor Zohran Mamdani suggested Swift's wedding would take place soon. He mentioned the singer's nuptials while speaking about the soccer World Cup. REUTERS

Discount diplomacy: Usha Vance's \$8.7 maternity dress delivers a priceless message

Chidanand Rajghatta | TNN

Washington: In a city where political leanings are routinely gleaned from coffee orders and canine ownership, America has now arrived at the logical next frontier of cultural analysis: the symbolism of an \$8.7 maternity dress from Old Navy, a family-oriented retailer which is said to have democratised fashion.

The garment in question, a coral-coloured stretch dress worn by Second Lady Usha Vance during a Father's Day reading video with her husband Vice President J D Vance, has unexpectedly become the hottest item in Washington since Epstein files and tariff rates,

resulting in the politics of pregnancy meeting the economics of discount shopping.

The spark came courtesy of a NYT article examining what it called "The Politics and Power of the Pregnancy Image", a meditation on the visible baby bumps in a bevy of women in Trump-world, including Usha Vance, White House press secretary Karoline Leavitt, and former Trump adviser Katie Miller, wife of Trump aide Stephen Miller. The article suggested that these highly visible pregnancies carried political resonance in an administration that openly celebrates the virtues of bigger families and higher birth rates. For most Americans, the dress appeared



The garment in question, a coral-coloured stretch dress worn by Second Lady Usha Vance during a Father's Day reading video

to communicate a simpler message: "I'm pregnant." For some others, the coral fabric seemed to possess the semiotic complexity of the Dead Sea Scrolls.

Certainly not for Usha Vance: A Yale-educated lawyer, former corporate litigator, mot-

her of three and soon to be four, she responded with the kind of dry humour that can only come from someone who has spent nights reading legal briefs while doing the desk thing during the day—a bargain shopping.

"Now that we know the political significance of my \$8.7 coral maternity dress from Old Navy, can't wait to hear what the NYT has to say about my elastic-waistband pants and compression socks!" she posted on X, following it up with a coup de grace: A receipt that showed the dress was originally priced at \$49.9, reduced through the miracle of markdowns, discounts, and coupons to a final cost of \$8.7, less than the cost of a gingerbread latte in nearby Ge-

orgetown. In one screenshot, Usha Vance nee Chilkurri managed to accomplish something that Republican consultants have spent years trying to do: make conservatism look less like a country club affiliation with Mar-a-Lago, and more like a suburban mom triumphantly discovering an extra 40% off at checkout. Social media, predictably, loved it. Supporters hailed her as relatable and someone willing to laugh at herself and even some critics grudgingly acknowledged the effectiveness of the response. After all, there is something inherently funny about a political culture capable of transforming a clearance sale purchase into an ideological battlefield.

The episode also reinforced a reputation that has steadily followed the Second Lady since arriving in Washington. Unlike many political spouses who carefully cultivate public personas, Usha Vance often comes across as an independent-minded individual. Rather than complain about media scrutiny, she turned the spotlight back on her critics and invited everyone else to share the joke.

While the fashion world will continue to search for hidden messages written into political wardrobes, the rest of America saw in the dress a universal truth: when you find an extra 40% off coupon, you don't think about politics, you just hit "Add to Cart".

The Brazilian Winger's Goals Have Powered The Selecao, But It Is His Composure & Maturity Under Ancelotti That May Matter More



W LORD'S

Yippee!

PRESENTS

LORD'S

QUIZ CHALLENGE

IN ASSOCIATION WITH


 THE TIMES OF INDIA

4 KIDS WIN THE CHANCE TO FLY TO LONDON TO WATCH

INDIA v ENGLAND

AT LORD'S ON THE 19TH JULY 2026

PROTECT THE PLANET. PROTECT THE GAME



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DAILY PRIZES TO WIN

**SCAN FOR A
CHANCE TO WIN!**

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WHO ADVANCES FROM GROUPS G, H, I

Round of 32 is taking shape and it's clear that **three points may be enough for a third-placed team** – provided it has a decent goal difference – to advance. After the first six groups are out of the way, now is the turn of **G, H and I**, which involves teams like controversial Iran, surprise pack **Cabo Verde** and big boys **France**. **TOI** takes a look at the possibilities...

GROUP G

TEAM	MP	W	D	L	GF	GA	GD	PTS
Egypt	2	1	1	0	4	2	2	4
Iran	2	0	2	0	2	2	0	2
Belgium	2	0	2	0	1	1	0	2
New Zealand	2	0	1	1	3	5	-2	1

> Egypt will finish top with a win against Iran. Even a draw will take them through

> Iran need a draw to stay alive for 3rd place. Win assures top-2 finish

> Kevin de Bruyne's Belgium need to beat NZ and finish in the top 2 but a draw will leave them hanging. Loss will send them home

> Outsiders NZ will also have a big chance if they beat the Belgians

GROUP H

TEAM	MP	W	D	L	GF	GA	GD	PTS
Spain	2	1	1	0	4	0	4	4
Uruguay	2	0	2	0	3	3	0	2
Cabo Verde	2	0	2	0	2	2	0	2
Saudi Arabia	2	0	1	1	1	5	-4	1

> Spain vs Uruguay – a draw should be enough for La Roja, with a superior GD, to top group

> Draw will keep

Uruguay alive, but a win will take them through

> Little-known Cabo Verde can be part of 32 with win against

Saudi Arabia, a draw keeps them in the hunt

> The Saudis need a win to stay alive in the WC

GROUP I

TEAM	MP	W	D	L	GF	GA	GD	PTS
France	2	2	0	0	6	1	5	6
Norway	2	2	0	0	7	3	4	6
Senegal	2	0	0	2	3	6	-3	0
Iraq	2	0	0	2	1	7	-6	0

> France and Norway have qualified. A draw for two-time champs France will

ensure top spot.

> Haaland's boys can claim top spot with a win

> Senegal and Iraq need wins to stay alive. Any other result spells doom for them

MERLIN THE DUCK VISITS STADIUM, BUT FIFA RULES KEEP HIM OUT OF MATCH

Mexico City: One of the biggest folk heroes of this World Cup, Merlin the duck arrived outside the Azteca on Wednesday to great fanfare – but was ultimately told he could not remain for Mexico's match against Czechia.

Supporters had launched an effort urging organisers to allow the beloved bird to attend the match alongside his family. In less than two weeks, Merlin went from waddling through the streets of Mexico City during Mexico's opening victory to visiting the presidential palace. But on Wednesday, his proverbial flight was cut short.



BEAK TIME: A Mexican fan turns up as Merlin the duck in Los Angeles. (Inset) the real one in Mexico City

Merlin was granted access to the Azteca Stadium grounds to film a segment with Televisa. However, FIFA regulations prohibit animals from entering venues in order to safeguard their well-being. AP

SPAIN'S CONTROL VS URUGUAY'S GRIT



It's going to be Spain's flair versus Uruguay's resilience in the last league match for these teams. Without getting into predictions, I am tempted to say my country seems to hold an edge heading into this fixture.

This assumption is based on two facts. Spain made a strong comeback after the stalemate against Cabo Verde by showing enterprise and scoring finesse in the 4-0 win against Saudi Arabia. Uruguay were patchy in the draws against these two teams. The European champions will be a different test altogether.

Spain would still be cautious. On paper, Uruguay is the second-strongest team in Group H. This lot is low on quality compared to the previous generation and more physical. Their style doesn't conform with coach Marcelo Bielsa's possession-based pressing method. But their direct approach can disrupt the rhythm of players who like holding the ball.

That's where I see a clash of styles. The Spaniards keep possession and make their way through the opposition half by playing short and quick passes. They rely more on touch and precision than power. It's pleasing on the eye. Uruguay prefer chaos. They don't mind if the process looks ugly. Luis de la Fuente would still be the less worried of the two coaches.

Lamine Yamal's return to the XI brought back the spark missing in the first match. The teenager wasted no time in making his presence felt and was a constant threat down the right.

It's A Clash Of Styles At Estadio Guadalajara

COLD AND BOLD: Spain need Lamine Yamal to stay calm as the Uruguay players will come hard at him



Group H
URUGUAY VS SPAIN
CABO VERDE VS SAUDI ARABIA

5:30 am (Sat) Live on Zee5 and

Unité8 Sports

The Uruguayans will come hard at him. They will choke him for space and try other methods.

Yamal was not the lone bright spot for Spain in that game. The cutting edge not seen against Cabo Verde was visible once again. Against a mercurial side like Uruguay, this is a dangerous attack.

Mikel Oyarzabal was lively with his swift movements. Other than scoring ability, Uruguay will also be wary of his diagonal runs and pin-point passes.

What Spain have to be careful of is their own defence. This department wasn't tested in the first two games. In a tournament as big as this, it's important to be on your toes from the beginning. With due respect to Cabo Verde and Saudi

Arabia, their forwards didn't pose the threat that Uruguay do.

Solid at the back and looking for counterattacks is expected to be the Uruguayan play. Real Madrid's Federico Valverde can be a handful in such scenarios with his pace and shooting abilities. His battle with Rodri for midfield supremacy should be interesting. With a goal in each match so far, Maximiliano Araujo is another player to watch. Although Spain are ahead at the moment, the points table can be misleading. Mathematically and otherwise, several possibilities are open. Three teams have a chance of topping the group. So it's important to control what you can. Spain must first ensure things are compact at the back. Once they do that, there is ammunition to trouble any side. PMA

France eye top spot against Haaland & Co.

Boston: France can secure a more comfortable route through the World Cup when they face Norway in their final Group I match on Friday, though finishing top could leave them facing one of the toughest roads to the trophy.

Assured of a place in the round of 32 after victories over Senegal and Iraq, France need only a draw to finish first thanks to their superior goal difference. Doing so would allow the 2018 champions to remain in Northeastern United States until the quarterfinals rather than embark on a cross-country journey through Dallas, Miami and Atlanta.



Group I
NORWAY VS FRANCE
SENEGAL VS IRAQ

12:30 am (Saturday) Live on Zee5 and Unité8 Sports

Finishing first would likely avoid an early collision with the likes of Brazil, England and Portugal while reducing travel, but it could place them on a path that could include Germany in the round of 16 and European champions Spain in the semifinals.

France are nevertheless expected to make changes. Didier Deschamps, who returned home following the death of his mother, used all five substitutions during Monday's 3-0 win over Iraq. Assistant coach Guy Stephan will oversee the team from the touchline in Boston.

Norway's synchronised rowing celebration has won admirers around the world and victories over Iraq and Senegal have secured their place in the knockout rounds.

Coach Stale Solbakken's side arrive full of confidence after their 3-2 victory over Senegal, but the physical toll of that game could prompt rotation against France. Solbakken said Norway would do all they can to help Erling Haaland claim the Golden Boot, with the striker on four goals, but he may be reluctant to risk his biggest stars with qualification guaranteed. REUTERS

BELGIUM NEED TO FIND QUICK SCORING FIX

Vancouver: Belgium come into their final World Cup Group G game against New Zealand on Friday knowing they have to hit the ground running after two underwhelming displays.

Striker Romelu Lukaku has struggled for form and fitness, while Jeremy Doku has just returned from England after

the birth of his first child.

Belgium opened their campaign with a 1-1 draw with Egypt in which they created plenty of chances but struggled to get them on target. The alarm bells really started ringing with Lukaku leading the line as they were held to a 0-0 draw by Iran when they had 23 chances, with seven on target.

Winger Doku skipped the Iran game after having breathing issues in training and used the time to be with his wife, who

gave birth to a boy on Monday.

Belgium go into their final group game against the Kiwis in third place with two points, trailing leaders Egypt, who have four, and Iran on two but are second on goal difference. New Zealand are bottom on one point. REUTERS

Group G
NEW ZEALAND VS BELGIUM
EGYPT VS IRAN

8:30 am (Saturday) Live on Zee5 and Unité8 Sports

US OFFICIALS CAUSE PROBLEMS FOR TAREMI, ASST COACH: IRAN

Seattle: US host officials "caused problems" for Iran forward Mehdi Taremi and assistant coach Saad Alhoei, delaying their delegation as they travelled to Seattle for the World Cup match against Egypt, Iran's football federation said on Wednesday.

Iran's ISNA news agency, citing the federation, said

team members were waiting for Taremi and Alhoei to re-join the group.

The reported incident comes days after US authorities eased travel restrictions on Iran's World Cup delegation following complaints from Tehran and the team that strict entry rules were disrupting preparations.

FIFA gives green light for rainbow flags at Egypt v Iran

Fans will be allowed to bring rainbow flags when Egypt face Iran in Seattle's designated "Pride Match" at the World Cup. FIFA said on Thursday, setting up an awkward collision between local celebrations and two nations where homosexuality is criminalised. Friday's group game falls on Seattle's Pride weekend, a scheduling quirk that emerged only after Dec's draw. REUTERS

Need our Norwegian salmon, but US oranges are fine!

Norway Ship In Own Food, But Not Because They Distrust American Produce

New York: As Norway excel in their first World Cup appearance since 1998, false claims about what the team is eating are also grabbing attention online.

The allegations focus on the quality of American food - more specifically that the Norwegians distrust it so much that they brought food from home. Norway's team is based in Greensboro, North Carolina.

It's true that the team shipped certain products from Norway for

the World Cup, but the reason has nothing to do with concerns about quality. "When athletes are competing at the highest level, consistency is important," head chef Aron Espeland said. "The players are used to certain products and flavours, and familiar foods can contribute both to nutrition and overall well-being during a demanding tournament."

He continued: "We have had access to high-quality local ingredients, and our approach has

been to combine those with a selection of Norwegian products."

The team, whose support staff includes three chefs, did not bring oranges from Norway, despite social media posts claiming otherwise. Espeland said that players are served freshly squeezed orange juice every morning, made from oranges sourced locally in the US.

Plenty of other teams travel with their own chef and have taken their own food to past

World Cups. Such practices are not unusual for elite athletes, according to experts. The reasons include maintaining routine and consistency, reducing risk of adverse reactions, providing cultural familiarity and accommodating personal preferences.

Amy Goodson, a sports dietitian who has worked with the Dallas Cowboys and the Texas Rangers, explained that it is more about "control, consistency and performance" rather than distrust. AP

WHAT THE VIKINGS BROUGHT FROM ACROSS THE ATLANTIC
Many of the claims spreading online say the team brought in 1,000 kgs of food from Norway for the World Cup. The amount is actually about 580 kgs. That consists of:
● 300 kgs of Norwegian salmon and trout ● 100 kgs of halibut ● 80 kgs of Norwegian brown cheese ● 100 kgs of Jarlsberg cheese.

In the past, Argentina and Uruguay each brought thousands of pounds of meat to Qatar in 2022. The US squad travelled to Brazil in 2014 with oatmeal, Cheerios, peanut butter and A1 Steak Sauce.



GALLERY

Wimbledon upset at players' protest plan

London: Wimbledon organisers say they are "surprised and disappointed" that leading players are planning to continue prize money protest at this year's tournament. A record year-on-year 20% rise in total prize money was announced by Wimbledon to £64.2 million, less than the £70 million the players had asked for.

Sudharsan ton powers India 'A' against Sri Lanka 'A': Sai Sudharsan's 132 and unbeaten fifties from Dhruv Jurel (68) and Shaik Rasheed (53) helped India 'A' post 333/4 on Day 1 of the first unofficial Test against Sri Lanka 'A' in Galle.

Ministry upholds selection policy, refuses Asiad clearance for taekwondo pair: The sports ministry has taken clear stance for the inclusion of taekwondo athletes Kashish Malik and Aranya Thakur in India's contingent for Asian Games, citing non-fulfilment of the prescribed eligibility criteria, reports Sabi Hussain.

Tanvi, Srikanth advance: Shuttlers Tanvi Sharma and Kidambi Srikanth began their US Open campaign with wins. Tanvi defeated Yvonne Li 23-21, 21-16 and Srikanth defeated D Saneeth 21-14, 21-12.

Sooryavanshi's brother Ashirvad hits another ton: Vaibhav Sooryavanshi's younger brother Ashirvad scored a 119-ball 168 with 19 fours and 6 sixes, playing for Rishabh XI against Raushan XI in a local match in Samastipur, Bihar.

Arif, Lundup to get IOC's \$10K Olympic grant: Skiers Arif Mohammad Khan and Stanzin Lundup will be the first Indian beneficiaries of International Olympic Committee's \$10,000 grant for Olympians, since they were part of this year's Milan Cortina Winter Games.

ITF is changing its name to World Tennis: The International Tennis Federation is changing its name to World Tennis. The organisation oversees the Davis Cup and Billie Jean King Cup as well as tennis at Olympics and Paralympics. AGENCIES

ACTION TODAY

CRICKET: Ireland vs India, 1st T20I, 6 pm (Sony); England vs New Zealand, 3rd Test, Day 2, 3:30 pm (Sony); **HOCKEY:** FIH Men's Pro League, India vs Pakistan, 7 pm (Star).

Scratchy India beat Bangladesh

Shafali's Half-Century Helps Team Keep Semifinal Hopes Alive

Manuja.Veerappa@timesofindia.com

The good news is that India are still in the hunt for a semifinal berth in the ICC Women's T20 World Cup with a five-wicket victory over Bangladesh in Manchester on Thursday.

But they probably got lucky on the day. A lacklustre performance like this could prove costly against Australia, who they face on Sunday in their last league game.

Four dropped catches inside the Powerplay and 10 extras, including seven wides, don't make for attributes of a clinical side. The reigning ODI champions were unbearably sloppy on the field.

Spinner Shree Charani (2/21) bore the brunt of her teammates' lapses, with three catches going down off her bowling. Juairiya Ferdous was handed three reprieves, one each by Yastika Bhatia, Radha Yadav and Nandani Sharma. Nandani

later also dropped Sobhana Mostary. Additionally, Nandani was warned twice for running on the pitch. The dropped catches allowed Bangladesh to post 136/8.

Radha, who replaced Prema Rawat in the playing XI, made amends for the dropped catch by claiming three wickets. Renuka Singh, brought in for Arundhati Reddy, provided the first breakthrough when Dilara Akter pulled a short ball straight



TOP-NOTCH: Shafali Verma plays a cover drive during her 34-ball 53

later also dropped Sobhana Mostary. Additionally, Nandani was warned twice for running on the pitch.

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right to Shree Charani in the deep. Juairiya (33), Sobhana Mostary (22) and captain Nigar Sultana (32) all got starts but failed to convert them. India's chase began in a contrasting fashion. Smriti Mandhana (8) departed in the third over. Shafali Verma, who survived a dropped chance in the opening over, responded with an innings packed with power and backed by placement.

Her 53-ball 34 set the tone with a flurry of boundaries and topped it with a massive six off Shanjida Akter over the long-on boundary. Her innings ended against the run of play when she lost balance and wicketkeeper Sultana was quick with the stumping off Nahida Akter's bowling. However, the middle-order's familiar inconsistencies resurfaced as Yastika Bhatia and Richa Ghosh departed in successive overs. Jemimah Rodrigues made 26. Deepti Sharma finally completed the chase with a boundary.

England storm into semis

England became the first into the semifinals of the tournament as they beat the West Indies by 38 runs at Lord's on Wednesday.

Brief scores: India 139/5 in 16.5 overs (S Verma 53, J Rodrigues 26; R Moni 2/29) beat Bangladesh: 136/8 (J Ferdous 33; R Yadav 3/28, S Charani 2/21)

NZ opener break record against England

Nottingham: New Zealand took control of the third Test at Trent Bridge with Tom Latham and Devon Conway setting a record partnership for the Kiwis against England on Thursday.

The duo eclipsed the mark of 276 set by Jackie Mills and Stewie Dempster in 1930 with an opening stand of 317 as England were made to suffer in the sunshine. The home side fought back well with two wickets in the last two overs of the day, but New Zealand still closed day one of the decider in the series on a commanding 361-4. It made for a punishing return for Ben Stokes and Gus Atkinson who were back after being made unavailable for the second Test at The Oval following an incident at a London nightclub. It was Stokes, the England captain, who finally made the breakthrough in the 73rd over as Latham edged to wicketkeeper Jamie Smith to depart for 151. REUTERS

Brief scores: New Zealand 316/4 (D Conway 154, T Latham 151) vs England

1st T20I: Vaibhav dilemma for team

Belfast: Accommodating teenage sensation Vaibhav Sooryavanshi in the starting XI will be the toughest riddle for the team management when India step into a new T20 era under Shreyas Iyer in the first of a two-match series against Ireland here on Friday.

There is heightened interest surrounding Sooryavanshi's possible international debut. But according to the popular demand will not be easy for the team tank. Currently, India's top three are: Sanju Samson, Abhishek Sharma and Ishan Kishan. Samson, Abhishek and Kishan made fifties in

the ICC T20 World Cup final win over New Zealand. AGENCIES

INDIA VS IRELAND

TODAY, 5:30 PM

SONY SPORTS 1 SONY SPORTS 2 liv

भारत

Sindhushree breaks pole vault record

Arnab.Seal@timesofindia.com

Bhubaneswar: There seems to be no stopping India's pole vaulters. After Dev Meena broke the men's national record on Tuesday, Karnataka's Sindhushree G rewrote the women's mark on the second day of the National Inter-State Senior Athletics Championships at the Kalinga Stadium here on Thursday.

The diminutive athlete, who stands just 156cm tall, cleared 4.25m to better the previous national record of 4.23m held by Baranika Elangovan. In the process, she also qualified for Asian Games, having comfortably surpassed the qualifying mark of 4.10m. Baranika settled for silver with a best effort of 4.20m.

Madhya Pradesh's Nitika Akare finished third and also achieved the qualifying standard of 4.10m.

Meena's target is to breach 5.5m at Asiad

Arnab.Seal@timesofindia.com

Bhubaneswar: Pole vaulter Dev Meena has been on a roll this year. After making the cut for the Commonwealth Games with a record-breaking show at Federation Cup in Ranchi, the athlete from Madhya Pradesh bettered the national record again to win the title at the Inter-State Athletics Championships here on Tuesday.

"The main goal today was to qualify for the Asian Games, and I'm happy that I was able to do that while also setting the national record," Meena said on Wednesday.

Meena first broke the national record with a 5.32m clearance at 2025 National Games before improving it to 5.35m and then 5.4m later that year. This season, Meena raised the mark to 5.42m and then 5.45m in Ranchi before clearing 5.46m in Bhubaneswar. "This is going to be my first Asian Games, and the target now is to clear 5.5m," said Meena.

DELHI'S SKATERS ARE ROLLING INTO THE WEEKEND ON WHEELS

DelhiTimes

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OF INDIA

HOT TAKES



Kick flip, fall, get back up, repeat. These Delhi skaters have made their Sunday morning meet-ups non-negotiable. From startup founders to students, they are rolling into their weekends with a hobby that's part workout, part therapy and absolute fun!

P4

Buzzstop

JACQUELINE WITHDRAWS SC PLEA IN ₹200CR MONEY LAUNDERING CASE



The Supreme Court on Thursday permitted **Jacqueline Fernandez** to withdraw her plea challenging a Delhi court order to frame charges against her in a ₹200-crore money laundering case. "Counsel for the petitioner (Fernandez) has sought permission to withdraw this special leave petition with liberty to avail appropriate remedy in accordance with law," a bench of Justices B V Nagarathna and Joymalya Bagchi said. A Delhi court on May 30 ordered framing of charges against the actor, alleged conman Sukesh Chandrashekar and 15 others in the case. The actor had moved the top court against the order.

PTI

SAMANTHA RUTH PRABHU

'I'm looking forward to my maternity break'

Samantha, who recently announced her first pregnancy, opens up about her battle with myositis, the perspective it has brought to her life, and her return to the big screen after a three-year hiatus

Onkar Kulkarni

Samantha is embracing a season of new beginnings after a transformative chapter in her life. Diagnosed with myositis in 2022, the autoimmune condition compelled the actress to slow down, reassess her priorities and rebuild both personally and professionally. Fresh off the release of *Maa Inti Bangaram*, which marks her return to the big screen after a three-year hiatus, Samantha reflects on living with myositis, the lessons it taught her and a new personal milestone — expecting her first child with filmmaker husband Raj Nidimoru.

CONTINUED ON P3

'There is this tiny fear about not having enough energy to make it through the day'

Samantha says life after myositis has fundamentally altered her relationship with work and with her own body. "Every day I wake up and pray that there is no trigger, and that I have the energy and strength to shoot through the day. There is this tiny fear about not having enough energy to make it through the day. When I was first offered *Maa Inti Bangaram*, I was petrified. I didn't know if I would be able to do it or if my body would allow it. When you have certain restrictions and constraints, you make the most of every single day." Crediting Raj for the film's success, she adds, "If today this is being called my film, it is because Raj crafted and created the story to fit my strengths and help me shine."

'In the age of AI, your identity is your IP'

Cate Blanchett and Steven Soderbergh took their fight for stronger AI safeguards to Europe this week. Speaking at the European Parliament in Brussels on Tuesday, Blanchett announced the launch of the Human Consent Registry, a free tool that allows people to decide how AI companies can use their image and identity.

The registry, launched by RSL Media, the non-profit organisation co-founded by Blanchett, gives users three choices: allow AI use, allow it with specific conditions, or prohibit it altogether.

"Your identity is your IP (intellectual property) in the age of AI, and every person deserves the right to decide how AI can or cannot use it," Blanchett said in a statement.

Agencies



I am thankful the industry kept us relevant for 50 years: Kamal Haasan

After months of speculation and multiple changes behind the scenes, it is now official that Rajinikanth's next film has been titled *Dharmam*. Produced by Kamal Haasan, the film will be directed by Ashwath Marimuthu. At the launch of the film, the two stars Kamal Haasan and Rajinikanth shared memories from the past and spoke about the iconic collaboration.

We are proud that two youngsters who once sat under a neem tree in AVM have come this far: Kamal Haasan



Kamal Haasan and Rajinikanth at the film's launch event

Kamal sir is a legend who gave me full responsibility for the film: Rajinikanth

Addressing Kamal Haasan, Rajinikanth said, "What can I say about Kamal sir? The help, encouragement and support he has given me over the years are immeasurable. When I entered the industry, he was already a big star. Kamal was the one who insisted that I do *Ilamai Oonjal Aadukirathu* (1978), and he also encouraged me during *Aadu Puli Attam* (1977). For this project, Kamal sir told me, 'Rajini, I will not listen to the story or get involved. I leave everything to you. You decide.' He is a legend who gave me full responsibility."

Speaking at the event, Kamal Haasan said, "I am thankful to the industry for keeping Rajini and me relevant for 50 years. In the '70s, while acting together, we decided during a flight to Bombay to make a film with either him or me producing it. Years later, during the opening of my Chennai office, we finalised plans to do two films. *Dharmam* is one, and there will be another. We are proud that two youngsters who once sat under a neem tree in AVM have come this far. We never imagined this journey and will always be grateful to those who made it possible."

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Your number please? The answer is a firm NO

POV We have all been there. You hesitate at the retail billing counter, feel the pressure, and eventually blurt out your mobile number assuming it is mandatory. But recent viral stand-offs – from clothing outlets to cafes hiding menus behind digital walls – have squarely put the spotlight on this relentless data trap.

Cashiers claim they need your number to generate invoices, track loyalty points, or process exchanges. (Restaurants insist a QR-code scan requires it just to view food prices.) Let's be clear, this is illegal. On May 26, 2023, the Department of Consumer Affairs classified forced data collection as an "unfair and restrictive trade practice." Furthermore, under the Digital Personal Data Protection (DPDP) Act, denying standard service over data refusal is strictly barred.

Yet, businesses seamlessly bypass the law by hiding behind "software constraints." Point of Sale (POS) programmes are coded with mandatory phone fields. When you put your foot down, the staff digs in, claiming the system won't allow a paperless transaction without a number. With a long, irritable queue building behind you, you surrender your privacy just to escape checkout friction.

However, savvy shoppers are fighting back. Some deploy the 'International Tour-



ist' alibi, claiming they lack an active Indian SIM to force a manual guest bypass. Others demand physical menus to skip the QR-code trap, or calmly recite a dummy sequence like 9999999999 to clear the screen.

Perhaps the key to a seamless, pleasant shopping experience lies in the self-checkout model, which is increasingly the norm worldwide. Culturally, we are far more comfortable with human interactions during monetary transactions. But when choosing between a serious breach of privacy and a tech-aided checkout, there is merit in opting for the latter.

At a time when our phone numbers hold the key to our lives, privacy relies entirely on our willingness to say no.

Agree? Disagree? Got a POV idea? Write to us at: pow@timesofindia.com

Varsity aims to build work-ready grads through global mentorship



Students at the university

Combining academic excellence with industry engagement, entrepreneurship and practical learning, the University of Southampton Delhi is now accepting admissions for a range of undergraduate and postgraduate programmes. Based in Gurgaon, the university's India campus offers research-led teaching, an internationally aligned curriculum and strong pathways to future careers. Students graduate with the same UK-awarded degree as those studying at the university's UK campuses.

Programmes currently on offer include undergraduate honours degrees in Accounting and Finance, Business Management, Computer Science, Creative Computing, Economics and Software Engineering, alongside MSc programmes in Data Science, Economics, Finance and International Management.

According to the university team, employability is embedded throughout the student experience. They explain, "Through the university's award-winning Successful Futures programme, each degree is mapped against a research-led 14-skills framework aligned to recruiter expectations." The university's E-Mentoring pro-



Agastya Bhargava



Ayaan Jain

gramme further supports career development by connecting students with alumni mentors worldwide, providing industry insights, professional guidance and networking opportunities. "Our first postgraduate cohort has benefited from global mentoring and industry expertise," the team adds.

Agastya Bhargava, an MSc Finance student now placed at Investec Global Services, says, "The programme provides valuable opportunities to apply financial concepts through course-work, case studies and real-world projects. These experiences have helped me strengthen my analytical, problem-solving and communication skills while gaining practical in-

sights into the financial industry."

The team further explains, "Industry engagement begins from day one. During Induction Week, students engage with industry experts and alumni, gaining insights into career pathways, workplace expectations and professional development. Throughout their studies, students participate in career bootcamps, workshops and networking events such as the Talent Bridge Summit. Regular Industry Connect sessions with organisations including Deloitte, HSBC, JLL, Comviva, Zomato, Investec, Niva Bupa, Hero MotoCorp, Ambit Global, LinkedIn and others provide practical insights into market dynamics. These initiatives have

already delivered strong outcomes as students have secured opportunities with organisations including HSBC, Investec, Transbnk, ICICI Bank, Grant Thornton, Incedo, Zomato, JLL, LEK Consulting, and Oxford International."

Ayaan Jain, a BSc (Hons) Accounting and Finance student and co-founder of FareX Rides, says, "The university has broadened my perspective through interactions with industry leaders, investors and entrepreneurs. Combined with the support of global mentors, these experiences have strengthened my entrepreneurial mindset and inspired me to create solutions with meaningful impact."

GALLERIA

TIMESinteract

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LEISURE

SUDOKU CHALLENGE

Level: Medium

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

HOW TO PLAY

Fill in the grid so that every horizontal row, every vertical column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9, without repeating the numbers in the same row, column or box. You can't change the digits already given in the grid. Every puzzle has one solution.

TIMES HITORI

HOW TO PLAY

1. A number may appear just once in each row or column. Eliminate repeat numbers by darkening cells. (see example)
2. Darkened cells must never be adjacent in a row or column.
3. Unmarked cells must create a single continuous area, undivided by darkened cells.
4. Every time you darken a cell, you can automatically circle its vertical and horizontal neighbours, which means they cannot be eliminated.
5. Any cell "sandwiched" between neighbours of the same value can be circled. (e.g. 6 8 6)
6. A "triple" is a special case of sandwich. Circle the centre cells, and darken the ends. (e.g. 6 6 6)

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

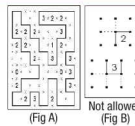
8	5	6	7	3	5	4	6
4	5	1	6	7	6	5	2
2	5	7	1	5	4	6	8
6	5	2	4	3	7	6	3
1	6	6	4	6	3	5	7
7	8	4	6	2	3	9	7
8	4	5	2	3	5	7	1

Example

LOOP THE LOOP

RULES

- Connect adjacent dots with vertical or horizontal lines, creating a single loop (Fig A).
- Crossovers or branches are not allowed (As shown by dotted lines in Fig B).
- Numbers in the puzzle indicate the number of lines that should surround it, while empty cells may be surrounded by any number of lines.
- You can't draw lines around zeroes.
- Each puzzle has just one unique solution.



HOW TO BEGIN:

Example (Fig A) – Begin with the zero next to 3. Since no lines can be drawn around zero, mark crosses around it, as shown. Now there is a cross in one space around 3. So we know the three lines of 3 can only be drawn in the remaining three spaces. Next, these lines can only be extended in one direction each. Continue, using the same logic.

Hints: Keep eliminating possibilities by marking crosses in spaces between dots where a line isn't possible. I.e., if you have already completed required lines or where a line extension may create a branch or cause a deadend (Fig B).

THE DAILY CROSSWORD

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14												
17												
20												
23												
26												
29												
32												
35												
38												
41												
44												
47												
50												
53												
56												
59												
62												
65												

By Patti Varol

26/06/2026

ACROSS

- Unaccounted-for period
- Six-time WNBA All-Star
- Thomas
- Textspeak qualifier
- 14 Timeable abbr.
- Talked up
- "I'm going to eat you!"
- Encouragement to a writer who shows an early penchant for rhyme?
- Singer Jason with the album "Love Is a Four Letter Word"
- Core muscles
- Ga. capital
- Shadow
- Carefully evaluate pasta?
- Quartz suffix
- Much star music
- Access Russo
- Gardener who only plants the most exquisite ivy?
- Pop duo ... & Him
- Scale intervals
- Cry of frustration
- Waze tech
- Anthem for a Colorado ski resort?
- Taylor, to Swifties
- Actor Vaughn
- Compass dir.
- Weapon wielded by a particularly dangerous snake?
- Punxsutawney figure
- Individual
- Small battery
- Experts
- Safes made in the Volunteer State?
- Lake into which the Cuyahoga empties
- "A Real Pain" Oscar winner Cukin
- Mama deer
- Heap affection (on)

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25/06/2026

Thursday's Puzzle Solved

A	S	P	I	C	P	E	W	S	H	O	C
R	E	E	D	E	E	T	R	I	T	E	O
L	A	T	E	C	H	A	R	G	E	S	R
O	N	S	A	L	E	W	I	T	S	E	W
T	E	A	M	M	A	N	A	G	E	R	S
R	A	B	E	R	O	A	M	T	I	S	
U	S	E	D	S	O	D	R	E	S	E	N
N	I	L	R	A	R	E	G	A	S	N	O
G	A	L	L	E	Y	P	A	T	E	S	T
R	E	S	M	A	R	R	V	E	E	P	
W	R	I	S	T	C	O	R	S	A	G	E
E	O	N	O	O	H	C	A	R	H	O	P
E	G	G	C	H	A	N	G	E	G	E	A
D	E	E	K	E	V	I	N	E	S	T	E
S	T	R	N	E	A	P	S	T	E	N	T

GARFIELD!

DID YOU EAT THE WHOLE BOX OF SUGAR BLAST CEREAL?

M-N-M-MAYBE

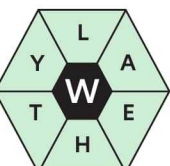
ARCHIE

I HAVE A SPECIAL TREAT FOR YOU, HOT DOG! I PUT A RAW EGG IN YOUR FOOD TO MAKE YOUR COAT SHINY!

GREAT, AND I WAS REALLY HUNGRY, TOO.

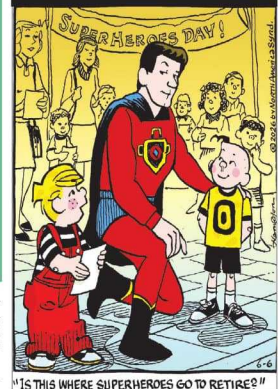
SPELLATHON

Today's Ratings:
09-average | 10-good | 12-outstanding



How many words of four or more letters can you make from the letters shown in today's puzzle? In making a word, a letter can be used as many times as it appears in the puzzle. Each word must contain the central letter. There should be at least one seven letter word. Plurals, foreign words and proper names are not allowed. British English Dictionary is used as reference.

DENNIS THE MENACE



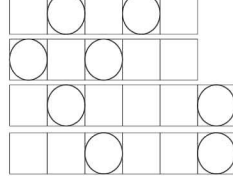
SCRAMBLE

Rearrange the letters in the four word jumbles, one letter to each square/circle, to make four ordinary words

HOW TO PLAY

Now arrange the letters in the circles to form the answer to the riddle or to fill in the missing word as indicated

CMMII



ERUNT

EEMSHN

AINWKG

Reading furnishes the mind only with materials of knowledge; it is ___ that makes what we read ours. - John Locke (8)

ARIES: Pay attention when working with subordinates. Respecting others' ideas will improve productivity. Your confidence encourages you to try new approaches and can lead to some achievements.

TAURUS: This is a time for independence and exploring new ideas. Exciting news may be encouraging, but avoid making rash decisions. Your innovative ideas are likely to earn recognition from seniors.

GEMINI: Support from loved ones can provide comfort today. New challenges may bring a degree of uncertainty. Avoid taking criticism personally and base decisions on reality. This is a period for personal growth and transformation.

CANCER: You can bring about positive changes with relative ease. Your imagination is especially strong, helping you to see beyond the ordinary. You may also feel a stronger connection with the people around you.

LEO: Stay grounded and avoid losing touch with your true priorities. Conversations with innovative thinkers can be highly stimulating. This is an excellent time to broaden your outlook.

FINOLEX FORTUNE

Book Anupam V Kapil for app/written predictions: 9822042295 or anupamkapil@gmail.com.

See what the stars have in store for you – according to your moon sign.

your goals. Business meetings are likely to be most productive earlier in the day. While responsibilities may feel demanding, your optimism helps you maintain confidence.

SCORPIO: A positive atmosphere encourages progress and innovation. Before taking action, spend some time addressing unresolved issues. This is an excellent period for refining major plans and bringing projects closer to completion.

SAGITTARIUS: Maintaining harmony in business partnerships requires patience and diplomacy. Avoid letting frustration affect your personal relationships. You may be successful, especially when making important professional decisions. Stay focused.

CAPRICORN: Compromise may feel difficult today, and interactions with others could require extra effort. Unresolved issues from the past may surface, offering a chance for resolution.

AQUARIUS: This is the time to clear up misunderstandings. Life feels fast and can bring opportunities for change. Emotions may influence decision-making, so avoid being hasty.

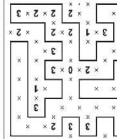
PISCES: You may express your feelings openly today. Friends may encourage positive changes in your daily routine. Letting go of unrealistic expectations can create space for genuine happiness. Appreciation and emotional connection will be highlighted today.

SOLUTIONS TO GAMES/PUZZLES

TIMES SUDOKU

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

LOOP THE LOOP



TIMES HITORI

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

SPELLATHON

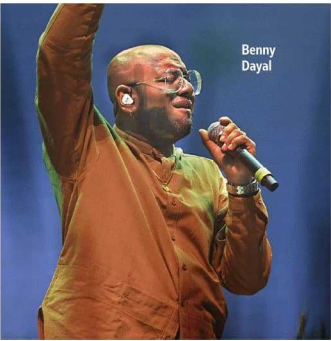
What we read ours, it is ___ that makes what we read ours. - John Locke

SCRAMBLE

Words: Mince, burner, earnest, waking



Sundeep Bhutoria felicitates Gulzar with a portrait of Rabindranath Tagore at the event

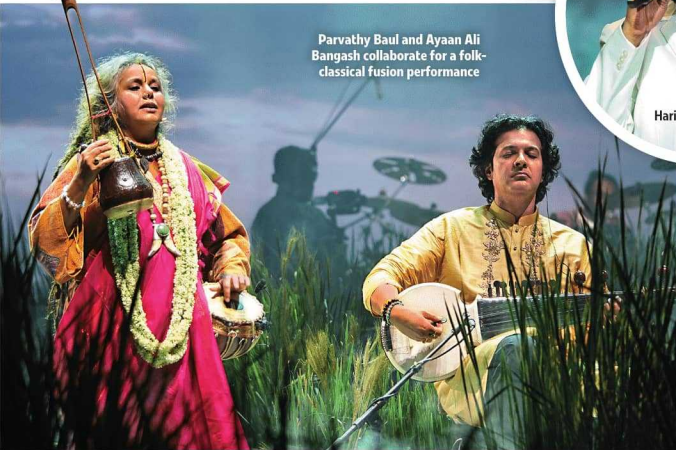


Benny Dayal

Performers Ayaan Ali Bangash, Sourendro Mallick, Nikhita Gandhi, Harshvardhan Neotia, Rekha Bhardwaj, Soumyojit Das, Gulzar, Kalpana Patowary, Vishwa Mohan Bhatt, Parvathy Baul, Hariharan, Vishal Bhardwaj and Shankar Mahadevan during the finale singing an original composition celebrating India's diversity

A stellar line-up of musicians collaborated at Netaji Indoor Stadium on Sunday as Sourendro-Soumyojit marked World Music Day with a concert celebrating India's diverse independent and folk music culture. Inspired by folk traditions from across the country, the evening featured original compositions by Hariharan, Shankar Mahadevan, Vishwa Mohan Bhatt, Vishal Bhardwaj, Shilpa Rao, Benny Dayal, Anupam Roy, Nikhita Gandhi, and others. Unlike concerts built around familiar hits, the focus was on new music, with every composition created exclusively for the occasion. Gulzar received a standing ovation as he took the stage, adding gravitas to the evening.

- Torna Chakraborty



Parvathy Baul and Ayaan Ali Bangash collaborate for a folk-classical fusion performance



Rekha Bhardwaj immersed in a soulful performance of Rajasthani Kajri



Hariharan



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Nikhita Gandhi sings an original composition titled Zindagi

Our annual celebration has become a national platform for independent artistes, and the response is overwhelming each year

- Soumyojit Das



Vishal Bhardwaj

What started as an idea has grown into a celebration that brings musicians and audiences together from across the world

- Sourendro Mullick



Anupam Roy

When you have certain physical restrictions, you make the most of every single day: Samantha



There's this tiny fear about not having enough energy to make it through the day. When I was first offered Maa Inti Bangaram, I was petrified. I didn't know if my body would allow it

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

'THIS IS A REALLY GREAT PHASE OF MY LIFE'
While she is high on the success of her recent release, what is occupying Samantha's mind space now is her pregnancy. She confirms that she is preparing to step away from work for a while. "This is a really great phase of my life and I'm looking forward to a maternity break." She adds, "While I might not be seen on screen for a while, I have many films to produce and other businesses that I need to take care of. So in that sense, I'm not entirely taking a break from work."
'YOU CAN BE ON TOP OF THE WORLD ONE DAY AND DOWN THE NEXT'
In a recent interview, *The Family Man* actress also reflected on how fame and success once changed her, admitting that she had become "egoistic" at a certain point in her career. Her battle with myositis and the forced pause that followed, helped her get a fresh perspective.
"In this industry, you can be down in the dumps one day and on top of the world another day. So, it is very important to remember the days - the good days and the dark days - while you bask in this success. Remember how hard it has been to get there and remember it can also go all away one Friday. For me, the success and validation that has come with this film has given me renewed strength to keep going forward."

TIMES HOLIDAYGUIDE

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SUNGLASSES AVAILABLE AT : TOMMY HILFIGER EXCLUSIVE STORES, CENTRO, LIFESTYLE, PANTLOONS, SHOPPERS STOP AND ALL LEADING OPTICIANS ACROSS INDIA

Pics: Lokesh Kashyap

Subway surfers, Delhi edition: From dodging e-ricks to railings

Shivika Manchanda

Did you see? I just landed a kickflip for the first time!" exclaimed a skateboarder gliding through Central Park last Sunday as skating communities across NCR marked Go Skate Day during their weekly meet-ups. For many participants, these sessions are more than a nostalgic return to a childhood hobby. They have become a form of self-care, offering a break from work routines and screen-heavy lifestyles.

"Streets are our only practice ground," says skateboarder Rakshit Verma, adding that skating communities in NCR are beginner friendly



'Our Sundays are reserved for skating'

Skating sessions have become a way for many to build friendships, unwind and reconnect. Nishchal Singh, founder of Delhi Skating Community (DSC), says, "Our Sunday mornings are reserved for skating. It has become a non-negotiable for many in the community. Every Sunday, new people join in, and some are absolute beginners. After the session, we all jam to some music, and some members volunteer to teach skating at NGOs. The community aspect allows beginners to learn without fear and judgement. It is a platform where we learn skills from each other."

Karolina Bamotra, a Polish native now based in Delhi, recently joined the DSC. "I used to skateboard back in Poland. My children are seven and four, and this is one of the few activities they happily wake up early for on a Sunday," she says.



Skateboarding has evolved into much more than a sport. It is a form of street culture that brings together people through skating, art, music, photography, fashion, and creativity

-Siddhant Dhankar, founder of Backyard Skatepark

'Skateparks would make skating safe'

Shashwat Sunil, who co-founded Mandi Monkeys, a group of skateboarders who skate at Mandi House metro station every evening, shares, "Skateboarding has united a lot of us from completely different fields - artists, musicians, theatre people, corporate workers. A skateboard is what connects us. It was never about competition. It was about the fun of skateboarding and the people it brings together."

Talking about skating in public spaces, Siddhant Dhankar, founder of Backyard Skatepark says, "The need for public skateparks has still

not received adequate attention. Most skaters in Delhi rely on private facilities, streets, parking lots, plazas and improvised spots. A public skatepark would make the sport far more accessible, fun and safe. It will allow more young people to participate regardless of their background or financial means. A public skatepark would make the sport far more accessible, fun and safe." Shashwat adds, "What's more important than learning tricks is learning how to fall. We don't really have enough spaces, so we've learnt to make the city our skate park."

DelhiTimes

LIFEStyledCLUB

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SMALLWORLD

Presents

SPEED Dating

Icebreakers

1 on 1 chats

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Cafe Pink, Hauz khas village

5pm

4th July

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How to: Turn your garden staples into vibrant botanical ink

Ever looked at a vibrant beet or berries and thought, "I wish I could paint with that"? You absolutely can! Botanical ink making is the alchemical journey that turns your kitchen scraps into art.

FORAGE YOUR PALETTE

Start by hunting for pigment-rich materials. Think dark berries, onion skins, black walnut hulls, or even the remnants of your morning avocado pit.

SIMMER AND SETTLE

Place your foraged goods into a pot of water and let them simmer. Once the hue is deep and rich, strain out the solids. To turn this into ink, add a small splash of vinegar (for preservation) and a pinch of gum arabic - this gives the ink that perfect, smooth flow across your paper.



Ditch the store-bought supplies - you can craft beautiful, botanical inks using common fruits and vegetables

CREATE YOUR MASTERPIECE

Let your ink cool, pour it into a jar, and grab a brush. There is something profoundly satisfying about drawing with a colour you made yourself.

DelhiTimes Weekend Planner



Want your event to be featured? Email us at tims.delhitimes@timesofindia.com

DIL DA MAMLA: GURDAS MAAN LIVE

Where: Taj Palace Hotel

When: **Sat**

Time: 8pm

HARIHARAN LIVE

Where: Taj Palace Hotel

When: **Sat**

Time: 8pm

TAWAIF, THUMRI AUR TEHZEEB

(An evening of music & conversations around the courtesans, hosted by DelhiByFoot)

Where: 8ByTheLotus, East of Kailash

When: **Sat**

Time: 5.30pm

If you're into music

Cassettes and CDs Nostalgia

(Performance by Avinash Gupta)

Where: Kedarnath Sahni Auditorium

When: **Sat**

Time: 7pm

Jamming Night

Where: Bira 91 Taproom, Gurgaon

When: **Sat**

Time: 8pm onwards

Speed Friending

Where: ShellBeacon Cafe & Bar, HKV

When: **Sat**

Time: 6pm onwards

Gourmet Cinema: In Mood For Love

(An experience by Sunset Cinema Club)

Where: The Piano Man, Eldico Centre

When: **Sat**

Time: Noon

Train To Pakistan

(Hindi stage adaptation of Khushwant Singh's Train to Pakistan)

Where: LTG Auditorium, Mandi House

When: **Sun**

Time: 4.30pm

Mithyasur

(Hindi period drama that explores the interplay between truth, illusion, and state power. Directed by Ajeet Singh Pallawa)

Where: Shri Ram Centre, Mandi House

When: **Sun**

Time: 5pm, 7.30pm

Bound

(Dramatised & directed by Feisal Alkazi. A real life medieval Chinese story of a doctor)

Where: Museo Camera, Gurgaon

When: **Sat**

Time: 7pm

Bar Takeover Night

Where: Moets Since 1965, Gurgaon

When: **Sat**

Time: 8pm

Board Game Sunday

Where: Unlocked, Sec 15, Gurgaon

When: **Sun**

Time: 4pm - 7pm

Laughter Yoga Facilitator Certification

Where: Wishtown Oasis, Sector 131, Noida

When: **Sat**

Time: 9am - 6pm

Austria Grand Prix Party

Where: Upgrade Kitchen & Bar, New Friends Colony

When: **Sun**

Time: 5.30pm

Ultimate Frisbee Club

(Hosted by South Delhi Meetup Community)

Where: DDA Park, Hauz Khas

When: **Sat - Sun**

Time: 6am - 8am

Delhi Skating Meetup

(Hosted by Delhi Skating Community)

Where: Kartavya Path

When: **Sun**

Time: 6am

Handloom Expo

Where: Handloom Haat, Janpath

When: **Till Wed**

Time: 11am - 8pm

Singles Meet

Where: Swan, Mehrauli

When: **Sun**

Time: 4pm - 7pm

B3D Reading Meet

Where: Brew IQ Coffee Co

When: **Sat**

Time: 12.30pm

Pride Month Special

PRIDE FAIR 2026

Where: Depot 48, GK 2

When: **Sun**

Time: 2pm - 8pm

DRAG ATTACK: PRIDE PARTY

Where: Auro Kitchen & Bar, Aurobindo Market

When: **Sun**

Time: 9pm - 1am

CLAY DATE

(Pop-up by Bizyheart Studio)

Where: Cafe Calido, Gurgaon

When: **Sat & Sun**

Time: 9am - 9pm

TERRACOTTA PLATE MAKING

Where: Chalkboard, Hauz Khas Village

When: **Sat**

Time: 11.30am

MOTANKA DOLL MAKING WORKSHOP

Where: Triveni Kala Sangam

When: **Sat**

Time: 2.30pm - 5pm

LOVE & REVOLUTION (2023)

Where: Instituto Cervantes, Connaught Place

When: **Fri**

Time: 6pm

OASIS OF SCENTS

(Artisanal perfume making by Trove Experiences)

Where: Kiara Soul Kitchen, GK2

When: **Sat**

Time: 4pm - 6pm

If you're into workshops

CLAY DATE

(Pop-up by Bizyheart Studio)

Where: Cafe Calido, Gurgaon

When: **Sat & Sun**

Time: 9am - 9pm

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When: **Sat**

Time: 4pm - 6pm

If you like experiences

FISH AQUARIUM IMMERSIVE SHOW

Where: Delhi Art Centre, Lado Sarai

When: **Fri - Sun**

Time: Noon - 8pm

THE HIMALAYAN HARVEST

(A pop-up by chef Rajendra Prasad)

Where: The Leela Ambience Gurgaon

When: **Fri - Sat**

Time: All day

CAN AI UNDERSTAND TASTE?

(A bar lecture by Ganesh Bagler; hosted by Brydige)

Where: Siyah Art House, Saket

When: **Sun**

Time: 4pm - 6pm

FLICKS AND FRAMES

(A short film showcase)

Where: NIV Art Centre, Neb Sarai

When: **Sun**

Time: 5.30pm

RUHAANI RAATEIN

(A walk by Enroute Indian History)

Where: Mehrauli Archaeological Park

When: **Sat**

Time: 5pm - 6.30pm

DISCOVERING LAYERS OF HISTORY

(A walk by INTACH)

Where: Mehrauli Archaeological Park

When: **Sat**

Time: 4.30pm

NIGHT HERITAGE WALK

(A walk by Darwesh Talewavers & Sabhyata Foundation)

Meeting Point: Humayun's Tomb Museum

When: **Sat**

Time: 7pm - 9pm

If you're into walks

DISCOVERING LAYERS OF HISTORY

(A walk by INTACH)

Where: Mehrauli Archaeological Park

When: **Sat**

Time: 4.30pm

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(A walk by Enroute Indian History)

Where: Mehrauli Archaeological Park

When: **Sat**

Time: 5pm - 6.30pm

The only thing hotter than the front row? Paris itself

As Europe sizzles under a record-breaking heat wave, fashion's biggest names are rewriting the runway rulebook



The heat isn't just on the runway

Beyond fashion, the extreme weather has disrupted daily life, with temperatures soaring past 40°C. The heat has forced early closures of landmarks such as the Eiffel Tower and the Louvre, disrupted transport services, and triggered health alerts across the region.



Dior's early morning debut

Jonathan Anderson's much-anticipated Dior Men's debut, held on Wednesday, was moved from its original 2:30 pm slot to 9 am (local Paris time) to avoid peak temperatures. Despite the early start, the collection's disco-inspired energy ensured a memorable debut.

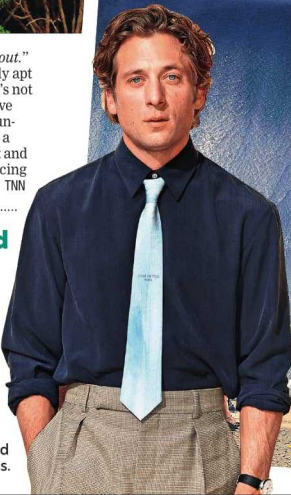
Late nights in the middle of June... Heat waves been fakin' me out." The lyric from Glass Animals' hit *Heat Waves* feels especially apt for Paris Men's Fashion Week this season. Only this time, it's not heartbreak that's throwing everyone off, but a relentless heat wave forcing fashion houses to rethink show schedules, venues and runway logistics. This season, the hottest thing on the runway isn't a trend – it's the weather. With France under a red heat wave alert and temperatures soaring past 40°C, the fashion capital is experiencing one of its hottest Junes on record.

Rick Owens' runway reshuffle

Known for his dramatic outdoor presentations, Rick Owens moved today's show from 12:30pm to 10am to avoid the extreme Parisian heat.

Keeping cool behind the scenes

Water bottles have become as essential as designer handbags. The Fédération de la Haute Couture et de la Mode rolled out heatwave guidelines encouraging extra hydration, adjusted work schedules, and additional protection for models, backstage crews, and guests. Labour inspections also increased to ensure safe working conditions.

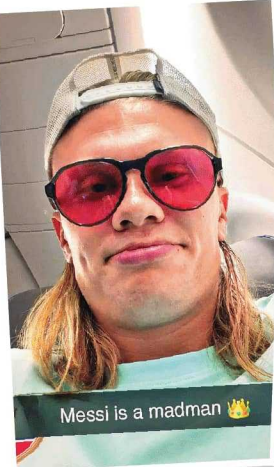


Louis Vuitton goes coastal

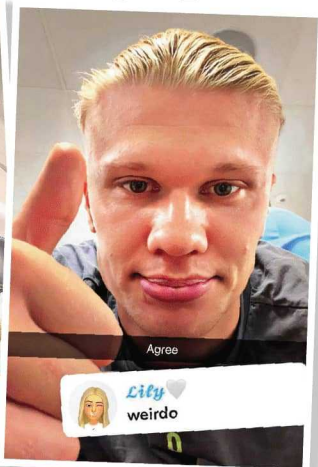
Pharrell Williams opened the week with a surf-inspired Louis Vuitton collection, bringing beach vibes to Paris. Ironically, the ocean theme offered little relief as guests sat through sweltering temperatures. The star-studded show drew familiar faces including Jeremy Allen White, Jackson Wang and BTS star J-Hope, adding extra buzz to the opening day of Paris Men's Fashion Week.



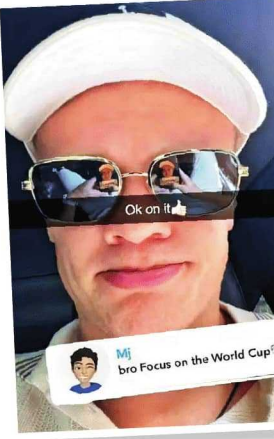
Haaland's unfiltered Snapchat is giving fans a backstage pass



Despite scoring twice for Norway, Haaland called Lionel Messi a "madman" on Snapchat after the Argentine's historic hat-trick against Algeria



Many have affectionately described him as "weird" in the best possible way, saying his offbeat Snapchat updates are what make him so entertaining and reliable

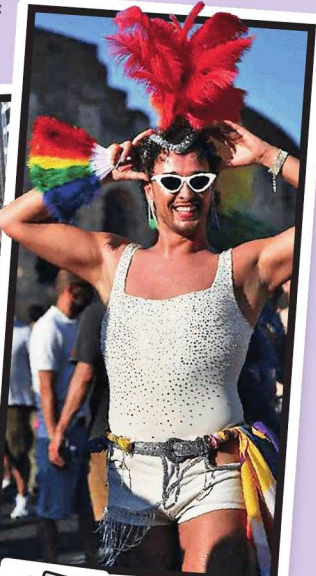


Erling Haaland is making headlines for more than just his goals. As Norway enjoys a dream run at the 2026 FIFA World Cup, the Manchester City striker's Snapchat stories have unexpectedly become one of the tournament's biggest online attractions. Rather than sticking to polished Instagram posts, Haaland has embraced Snapchat's casual vibe. His stories feature everything – from locker-room celebrations and travel moments to training sessions, teammate banter and everyday life with Norway's squad – giving fans an unfiltered look at the tournament. The candid clips have struck a chord online, with fans praising Haaland's sense of humour and authenticity. Many have even joked that the striker has done the impossible by making Snapchat relevant again.

Others jokingly said he should spend less time on Snapchat and more time focusing on playing football at the World Cup

Around the world, Pride marches on

From Rome to Washington, city streets burst into rainbow hues as members of the LGBTQ+ community turned out in full force for Pride parades, celebrating identity, inclusivity, and self-expression in their most vibrant ensembles



A reveller showed a sign in Portuguese that reads, "LGBTQ families occupy" during SAO PAULO's annual Pride Parade on June 7

GALLERY

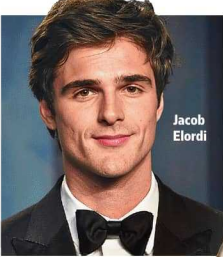
People walk near the Colosseum during ROME's annual LGBTQ+ Pride parade as a severe heatwave gripped Europe on June 20

Crowds marched through WASHINGTON during the city's Pride Parade on June 20

Rainbow flags filled the streets as participants march in the 2026 Pristina Pride Parade in KOSOVO on June 5



Academy invites 529 new members, including Elordi, Lakhani, Ortega



Jacob Elordi



Eka Lakhani

The Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences (AMPAS) has invited 529 artists and executives from across the global film industry to join its ranks as official Oscar voters. This year's class includes 95 Oscar nominees and 21 Academy Award winners, among them music composer Vishal Bhardwaj, costume designer Eka Lakhani, and film editor Deepa Bhatia.

In Hollywood, the new members include Jacob Elordi, Jenna Ortega, Teyana Taylor, Josh Safdie, Inga Ibsdotter Lilleaas, Tig Notaro, plus a number of crafts and other category winners including K-Pop Demon Hunters animated feature directors Maggie Kang and Chris Appelhans, and Golden Globe Best Song winners Ejae and Mark Sonnenblick.

What AMPAS membership means

AMPAS members will be eligible to nominate and vote in the upcoming 99th Oscars in 2027. Most categories are nominated by the members of the corresponding branch - actors nominate actors, film editors nominate film editors, etc. All voting members are eligible to select the Best Picture nominees.



Yolanda Hadid

Yolanda Hadid is once again engaged

Randall Kendrick



The former *Real Housewives of Beverly Hills* star and mom to Gigi and Bella, Yolanda, is set to wed real estate developer Randall Kendrick, founder and CEO of Xebec, TMZ reports. The pair had kept their romance largely private - making the news all

the more surprising. The engagement comes more than a year after Yolanda ended things with fiancé Joseph Jingoli. She was previously married twice, to Mohamed Hadid and David Foster. Agencies

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