FRIDAY, AUGUST 1, 2025, NEW DELHI, LATE CITY, 20 PAGES

JOURNALISM OF COURAGE

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PIYUSH GOYAL STATEMENT IN PARLIAMENT

US tariff: India bright spot in global economy ...will protect national interest, says Govt

HARIKISHAN SHARMA NEW DELHI, JULY 31

A DAY after US President Donald Trump announced a 25 per cent tariff on Indian goods from August 1, with an additional but unspecified "penalty" for its defence and energy imports from Russia, Union Commerce and Industry Minister Piyush Goyal said on Thursday that while the government was "examining the implications", it would take "all necessary steps to safeguard and promote national interest".

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2



Union Minister Piyush Goyal in Lok Sabha. PTI

ECONOMY

U.S. SANCTIONS EIGHT INDIAN FIRMS. FIVE INDIANS PAGE 13

Sense in Govt: Stay calm amid headwinds, not get pushed into 'bad deal'

ANIL SASI NEW DELHI, JULY 31

AMID THE upheaval in Donald Trump's tariff blitzkrieg, there are certain assumptions New Delhi had factored in: that a bilateral trade deal, like all deals, would involve some give and take: that Washington DC will maintain a substantial differential in tariffs between China and India; and that the American side would be cognizant of redlines that have endured for decades, including concerns over genetically modified crops and safeguards for the vast CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

INDIA, RUSSIA DEAD **ECONOMIES: TRUMP**

"I don't care what India does with Russia. They can take their dead economies down together, for all I care"

US-PAK TRADE DEAL

"Pakistan, US will work together on developing their massive oil reserves... maybe they will be selling oil to India



2008 BLAST KILLED 6, INJURED NEARLY 100

'Strong suspicion, no proof': Court acquits Malegaon blast accused

SINCE 1932

Former BJP MP Pragya Thakur among 7 acquitted

SADAF MODAK MUMBAI, JULY 31

OBSERVING THAT there was "strong suspicion" about their role in the 2008 Malegaon blast but that cannot be a substitute for "legal proof", a special court Thursday acquitted all the seven accused in the case, including former BJP MP Pragya Singh Thakur and Lt Col Prasad Purohit.

Delivering the verdict, Special Judge AK Lahoti said that while it was proven that a bomb blast had taken place, the prosecution failed to provide reliable evidence to prove that the seven accused were behind it.

The case relates to the blast that occurred on September 29. 2008, in Malegaon, about 100 km northeast of Nashik in CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

Former BJP MP Pragya Singh Thakur leaves the Mumbai court after acquittal, Thursday. Express **FULL COVERAGE, PAGE 7**

Congress should apologise, conspiracy decimated: BJP

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE MUMBAI. NEW DELHI. JULY 31

FOLLOWING THE acquittal of all seven accused in the 2008 Malegaon blast case, the BJP Thursday demanded a public apology from Congress, including

As next phase starts, EC may deploy its

officers to help voters get documents

BIHAR SPECIAL INTENSIVE REVISION: DRAFT ROLL TODAY

its leaders Sonia and Rahul Gandhi, for "conspiring" to impose a narrative of "saffron terror".

"Terrorism was not, is not, and will never be saffron. The Congress must seek forgiveness from the entire Hindu community. The Congress-led UPA CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

victims' homes: 'Hopes of justice are shattered'

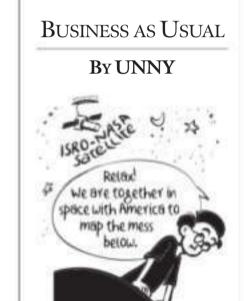
Chorus from

ZEESHAN SHAIKH MALEGAON, JULY 31

SOME OF them had clung to the hope of getting justice for their loved ones; some had moved on, trying to forget the two-decadeold trauma and rebuild their lives. But Thursday's verdict by a Mumbai court, acquitting all seven accused in the 2008 Malegaon bomb blast case, has come as a shock for all of them.

Among the hardest hit was Nisar Bilal, whose 19-year-old son Azhar was among the six people killed on September 29, 2008, after a bomb placed inside a motorcycle exploded at the bustling Bhikhu Chowk in Malegaon, injuring over a hundred others.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2





Desh ke har Mukh pe

Kal Penn, actor and

activist, is guest at

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE NEW DELHI, JULY 31

KAL PENN wears many hats actor, author, TV show host, producer and former White House staffer. Most recently, he has been making headlines for reprising the role of Kumar in the upcoming fourth installment in the Harold and Kumar franchise and for the fact that his name for the role of Gogol in Mira Nair's adaptation of Jhumpa Lahiri's The Namesake (2006) was suggested by New York City's mayoral candidate and Nair's son Zohran Mamdani.

Penn will be the guest at Express Adda in Mumbai on Friday. He will be in conversation with Anant Goenka, Executive Director, The Indian Express

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2



Penn backed Kamala Harris for post of US President



WITH A minority of the 7.23 **US PRESIDENT**

crore applicants submitting documents to prove their eligibility so far, and Bihar's draft electoral roll set to go live Friday, the Election Commission (EC) is

DAMINI NATH

NEW DELHI, JULY 31



weighing a new plan — deploying its own machinery to help issue the necessary papers, *The Indian Express* has learnt.

District Magistrates, who are also District Election Officers (DEOs), to get Assistant Electoral Registration Officers — usually **CONTINUED ON PAGE 2**

The poll watchdog has asked





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ing as AEROs — to use existing government databases to verify eligibility and issue documents, sources said. Specifically, officials will be Bihar Mahadalit Vikas Mission

directed to refer to the Vikas Register maintained under the which contains household-level details of Scheduled Caste families. This register will be used to issue caste certificates to all members of a family. In addition, land ownership records, or khatiyan, will be used to issue residence or identity certificates for entire families. Caste certificates are among the 11 documents listed by the EC that electors can submit to prove their eligibility (age and citizenship) for inclusion in the final electoral roll. While the residence certificate is not listed by the EC, Booth Level Officers have been asking electors to have them made for the SIR drive. The EC order says the list is indicative, not exhaus-

Camps will be held at the offices of Block Development Officers (BDOs) to facilitate electors in getting documents made using existing records, according to EC and state government officials who spoke on condition of anonymity. Apart from that, the EC has already announced that volunteers would be deployed to help electors obtain the docu-

According to sources, the EC expects that of the 7.23 crore people who have submitted enumeration forms, about half will fall under the exemption granted to electors listed on the 2003 electoral roll. Under this exemption, voters who figured on the 2003 rolls are not required to submit documentary proof of eligibility and their children can submit that extract as proof for their parents, but would have to submit a document for themselves. The year 2003 has been designated in Bihar as "probative evidence of eligibility", meaning those on the roll that year, when the last intensive revision was conducted, will be presumed to be Indian citizens unless proven otherwise.

For the remaining applicants, the EC hopes to include them in the final electoral roll — scheduled to be published on September 30 — through these special measures being planned to expedite the issuance of doc-In a message to Bihar electors

shared on social media on Thursday, Chief Election Commissioner Gyanesh Kumar said the draft roll would be published online and given to all recognised parties on Friday. "The CEO of Bihar and 243 EROs will also be inviting any elector of that Assembly constituency or any recognised political party in Bihar to come forward and give claims and objections from August 1 to September 1, 2025, for adding names of any missing eligible elector, removing names of any ineligible elector or correction of any entry in the draft electoral rolls." he said.

On June 24, the EC had passed an order to conduct a Special Intensive Revision for the country, starting with Bihar, where Assembly elections are due by November. As opposed to the usual annual Special Summary Revision and pre-election revisions, this time the EC



AFTER THE draft electoral roll is published on Friday, the next phase of the **Special Intensive Revision** begins. From August 1 to September 1, officials must verify submitted documents and collect pending ones. They have till September 25 to dispose of the claims and objections. With the EC, for the first time, requiring even existing post-2003 electors to submit proof, this phase is expected to be challenging, involving an unusually large-scale verification effort by field officers.

ordered the rolls to be prepared afresh — all existing 7.89 crore electors were required to submit new enumeration forms by July 25 in order to make it to the draft roll. For those who became electors after January 1, 2003, when the last intensive revision was carried out, the EC has asked for additional documents from a list of 11 to establish the date and/or place of birth of the electors and one or both of their parents, for those born after July 1, 1987.

For those on the 2003 electoral roll, an extract of that roll would suffice as proof. For those added after 2003, if their parents were on the 2003 roll, they can submit that extract as proof for their parents but would have to submit a document for themselves. The 11 documents listed by the EC include birth certificate, caste certificate, passport, educational certificate, family register, and land/ house allotment certificate issued by the government. The SIR order has been chal-

lenged in the Supreme Court through a batch of petitions filed by activists and Opposition leaders. The court had asked the EC to consider allowing Aadhaar, ration card, and its own Voter ID card as documentary proof, but the Commission has not accepted the suggestion. The matter is scheduled to be heard on August 12 and 13, after the publication of the draft roll but before the scheduled publication of the final roll on September 30.

At the close of the first phase of the SIR, the EC said on July 27 that 7.23 crore forms had been received out of the total 7.89 crore electors and around 65 lakh names were set to be removed from the rolls, as the electors were found to have died permanently shifted, registered in more than one place, or untraceable.

The Commission had said that 22 lakh electors were found to be deceased, 36 lakh had permanently shifted or were not found by the BLOs, and 7 lakh were enrolled in multiple places However, the Commission said the "exact status of these electors will be known after scrutiny of these forms by ERO/AERO by August 1, 2025. However, genuine electors can still be added back in electoral rolls during the claims and objection period from August 1 to September 1 2025. The name of the electors found enrolled at multiple places in electoral rolls will be retained only at one place."

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FROM PAGE ONE

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Court acquits Malegaon blast accused

Maharashtra. The blast, which took place during Ramzan in an area with a sizable Muslim population, killed six people and injured nearly 100 others.

"I am fully aware of the degree of agony, frustration and trauma caused to society at large, more particularly the family of victims, by the fact that (a) heinous crime of this nature has gone unpunished. However, law does not permit the court to convict the accused solely on the basis of moral conviction or suspicion," Special Judge Lahoti said.

"Terrorism has no religion because no religion in the world preaches violence. The court of law is not supposed to proceed based on popular or predominant public perceptions about the matter," the Special Judge said.

The court said the more serious the offence, higher the degree of proof needed to convict, and evidence beyond reasonable doubt was not available in this case. The court, however, ordered compensation of Rs 2 lakh to the families of the victims, and Rs 50,000 to the injured to be given by the state government.

Apart from Thakur and Purohit, the other accused include Major Ramesh Upadhyay (retired), Ajay Rahirkar, Sameer Kulkarni, Sudhakar Chaturvedi and Sudhakar Dhardwivedi. They were cleared of all charges, including criminal conspiracy and murder under the IPC and sec-

That day, Azhar took a de-

tour from the local mosque on

his way home — a decision that

proved fatal as flying shrapnel

from the bomb killed him on

the spot. "My intent as an inter-

vener in this case was to ensure

that people in our city would

not lose hope, that we could still

get justice, if not today, then

hopefully tomorrow. Today's

verdict has shattered that con-

viction," 75-year-old Bilal, who

terventions in various courts af-

ter bail was granted to the 11

accused who were initially

booked by the Maharashtra

ATS. Over the years, he re-

mained one of the few be-

reaved family members who

kept track of the legal proceed-

ings and made multiple trips to

in the case is Liyakat Shaikh, 67,

the father of the youngest vic-

Another persistent activist

Mumbai to follow the case.

Bilal had filed multiple in-

is hearing impaired, said.

• 'Hopes of justice are shattered'

tions of the anti-terror Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act.

Most of the accused were out on bail from 2017, after being arrested in 2008 by the Maharashtra Anti-Terrorism Squad (ATS). Rahirkar was granted bail in 2011 by the Bombay High Court. The National Investigation Agency (NIA) took over the probe in 2016.

Following the verdict, Special Public Prosecutor Avinash Rasal, representing the NIA, said that a decision on filing an appeal will be taken after the judgment copy is studied. Advocate Shahid Nadeem,

representing Nisar Ahmed Haji Sayyed Bilal who lost his son in the blast, said the case highlights "significant failures" on the part of the NIA. "Witnesses turned hostile during the trial yet the NIA did not pursue perjury charges against any of them despite requests from the victims. The victims will pursue legal remedies by filing an independent appeal in the Bombay High Court after reviewing the judgment," Nadeem said.

The acquitted accused told the court that they had suffered for 17 years and their reputations were tarnished due to the allegations. "I was summoned and I went to the ATS as I respect the law. I was detained illegally for 13 days and tortured. I was living my life as a *sanyasi* and was labelled a terrorist." Thakur told the court.

tim of the blast, 10-year-old

Farheen Shaikh, who had

stepped out to buy snacks

when the bomb exploded. Over

the last two decades, Shaikh

has made numerous trips to

Mumbai and participated in

countless sit-ins seeking justice

nearly a quarter of his body

weight following open-heart

surgery last year. The need for

closure is what prompted the

Shaikh family to move away

from their old residence in

Nayapura, just a stone's throw

from the blast site that claimed

granddaughters, Liyakat said

the verdict has left him heart-

broken. "The news has made us

despondent. I am at the fag end

of my life. With decisions like

these, I sometimes feel I will

While Shaikh and Bilal were

never find peace," he said.

Surrounded by his young

The former driver has lost

for his daughter.

their daughter.

Lt Col Purohit thanked the court for giving him "an opportunity to serve my organisation and my nation with the same conviction as I was serving before my ar-

In its order, the court said, "The testimony of the prosecution witnesses is riddled with material inconsistencies and contradictions. Such discrepancies undermine the credibility of the prosecution case. Though there was strong suspicion on the accused, it cannot take the place of legal proof."

The NIA did not provide evidence to prove that the accused were part of conspiracy meetings as material witnesses did not support its case, the court said. The investigators had alleged

that in meetings held in Faridabad, Bhopal, Ujjain and other locations, the accused had participated in discussions on planning a "revenge" attack and the formation of a "Hindu rashtra" with a separate Constitution and flag, with a "government in exile" either in Israel or Thailand.

None of these allegations were proven in court.

Of the 323 witnesses examined, 39 turned hostile, mostly related to the alleged conspiracy meetings. "The witnesses have retracted from their earlier statements given to the ATS. Therefore, neither conspiracy nor the meetings are proved," the court said. The witnesses had told court

loss they had suffered two

decades ago as "fate" and pri-

They include Rehan Shaikh

(38), whose father Shaikh Rafig

Brace (42), was among the vic-

tims. Rehan said the void left by

his father's absence and his

mother's illness forced him to

start working early. Now a bus

conductor on the Malegaon-

Mumbai-Malegaon route,

Rehan says his "carefree life"

was overturned by his father's

death, who was killed while

stepping out to eat paan after

dinner. "Our relatives aban-

doned us after my father's

death, and I had to care for my

ailing mother and maternal

grandparents. I barely had time

to follow the case," Rehan said.

that of 23-year-old Irfan Khan,

an auto driver. His uncle,

Usman Khan, who runs a

power loom, said that while

Irfan's loss had devastated the

Another affected family was

oritised "daily survival".

that they were coerced into giving false statements by ATS officers. During further probe, the NIA had re-recorded statements of some of the witnesses, pointing to contradictions in the ATS

The court also said there were two sanctions obtained to charge the accused under UAPA but both were "defective and invalid" as there was no "application of judicious mind". The ATS had suspected that an

improvised explosive device had been planted on an LML Freedom motorcycle to cause the blast. According to the court, while it was proved that the explosive was "placed on" the motorcycle, the prosecution failed to establish that the bomb was "fitted" inside the two-wheeler. It also said the prosecution could not prove that the motorcycle belonged to Thakur or was in her possession or used by her, as she had become a "sanyasi" two years before the blast and had "renounced the material world".

The court also said that other evidence, including intercepted calls and electronic gadgets of the accused, did not prove the conspiracy as proper procedure was not followed. The ATS had claimed that Purohit had founded an organisation named Abhinav Bharat, from where funds were collected for terrorist activity. The court said there was no proof of this claim, either.

deeply invested in the case, the family, survival took preceleft us deeply disheartened."

> Usman's words echoed at the house of the oldest victim. 60-year-old Harun Shah, who was working as a labourer. Two decades later, his son and grandsons make a living selling sandwiches outside a school in Malegaon. The need to survive saw then-14-year-old Aamin Shah care for his injured grandfather while his father Hussain worked as a handyman.

"My grandfather died in

other families had accepted the dence. "My nephew died after two days of agony. Of course, we want those responsible to suffer for what they did. We may not have followed the trial every day, but the verdict has

agony. Except for a small patch covered by his beard, his entire body was burned. I actually fell ill on the 12th day due to the nauseating smell of burned skin while taking care of him. I had hoped those responsible for this would be brought to justice," said Aamin.

ing willing to "go to any extent for its votebank", Prasad said then Union Home Minister P Chidambaram had pressured the Home Secretary at the time to "not term her (Ishrat) a Lashkare-Taiba (LeT) agent in the government's affidavit when LeT itself had claimed she had been one". He accused Chidambaram of "calculatedly raking up the issue of 'saffron terror' and sought to peddle a new narrative of conspiracy in the country, misusing the entire government machinery to implicate people in it ... The BJP demands that Sonia Gandhi and Rahul Gandhi apologise to the na-

tion". The RSS, too, weighed in, with its publicity chief Sunil Ambekar saying that some individuals had attempted to link Hindus to terrorism for personal gain. Senior Sangh leader Indresh Kumar said those behind the "conspiracy"

need to be "exposed".

Sense in govt

subsistence-level manufacturing

base that has an oversized contri-

bution to labour-intensive exports. Some of these assumptions are now under a cloud, as the government grapples with Trump's 25 per cent tariff on goods from August 1, alongside an additional but unspecified "penalty" for defence and energy imports from Russia. On the face of it, the Commerce and Industry Ministry said it had taken note of Trump's statement and was "studying its implications". It also reiterated continuing engagement aimed at concluding "a fair, balanced and mutually beneficial bilateral trade agreement", which placed importance on "protecting and promoting the welfare of India's farmers, entrepreneurs, and MSMEs".

In private, a senior government official did concede that some of what Trump announced was expected, given that the tariff comes close to the original reciprocal tariff of 26 per cent. If some of the concessions currently available for sectors such as handset exports are factored in, the effective average rate comes down to around 20 per cent, or thereabouts. Also, Trump's high tariffs are being read in sections of India's policy circles as a negotiating tactic that Trump has used multiple times with other countries to get them back to the negotiating table. Another official said trade negotiations cannot be held at gunpoint. There is a realisation in Delhi's policy circles that Trump had factored in an early deal with India, and the delays in wrapping up the interim deal have been a cause of angst in Washington DC.

What is concerning is that Trump's latest statement triggers more confusion than providing clarity, especially over the additional penalties and the cumulative impact of all of these other sectoral tariffs, over and above the specified headline tariff. Threats of a penalty too can be somewhat fickle, given how the American President has been blowing hot and cold on the Russia issue, an official indicated

"We would prefer to wait it out

for an equitable deal that does not negatively impact our farmers and small enterprises. No deal is better than a bad deal," an official said. There is, however, a degree of discomfort over the US-Pakistan deal Trump announced Thursday to tap Pakistan's "massive oil reserves", coming in the wake of a similar crypto deal signed earlier by Islamabad. "It is for countries to decide what to give and what to take (in a negotiation)... There are limits to which India is willing to go to extract concessions. Others might not have such limitations," the official said.

"We are striving for an equitable deal. And we are invested in that effort. Till the time that happens, we might have to bear the impact of these temporary tariffs. There will be an impact on our exports, but all that will be a thing of the past once a deal is achieved. Enduring some short-term pain is better than suffering in the longterm," the official said. Another official said the Indian industry segments, including pharma and IT services, are resilient enough to bear a high tariff burden till the time a deal is finalised.

Deal with the US

What complicates the equation for India is that the Chinese are at an advanced stage of negotiations towards a deal, which could have a favourable tariff rate and potential waivers on secondary tariffs, including that on account of Russian oil imports and the proposed 10 per cent BRICS tariff. China is currently faced with a 30 per cent tariff.

From India's perspective, a deal needs to be clinched precisely for ensuring the gap in tariffs between India and China is maintained, even with a limited earlyharvest type of deal. But given how talks between Indian and US negotiators have proceeded, an interim deal is unlikely to be clinched before September, with October a possible outer deadline

Without the BRICS levy and the Russian oil penalty, India's 25 per cent compares reasonably well with countries such as Indonesia (19 per cent) and Vietnam (20-40 per cent) that have wrapped up deals, and could have had an advantage over the current levels of tariffs faced by China (30-34 per cent) and Bangladesh (35 per cent). The equation changes when the additional levies are factored in, especially the one triggered by Russian purchase. There is no clarity yet on how that will be applied.

Once the interim deal is clinched, if the final US headline tariff on India ends up between 10 per cent and 15 per cent, the tariff points offered to the UK and Japan respectively, New Delhi would have reasons to be satisfied. The advantage starts to taper off once the tariff goes over 15 per cent and inches up closer to 20 per cent, as was offered to Vietnam. A transshipment clause, of the kind slapped on Vietnam which levies an extra 20 per cent tariff, could be a problem for India too, given that a lot of Indian exports have inputs and intermediate goods in sectors such as pharma, engineering goods and electronics coming in from outside, including China.

Sanctity of deals

There are also question marks about the sanctity of any trade deal that this US administration was to sign. A new BRICS tariff proposed on a whim, or fresh copper and pharma tariffs, high duties on strategic partners like Japan and South Korea or Trump now reneging on the terms of the USMCA deal that he signed with Canada and Mexico in his last term: they're all indicative of the fickleness of any agreement signed by this administration.

New Delhi is closely tracking the final US duty offer on China given its belief that Trump will maintain a tariff differential. US and Chinese officials wrapped up two days of discussions in Stockholm on Tuesday, with no breakthrough announced. China's top trade negotiator Li Chenggang only said that both sides agreed to push for an extension of a 90-day tariff truce struck in mid-May.

The effective duty on Chinese products on a landed basis across US ports in commodity categories where Indian producers are reasonably competitive is being tracked constantly. The net tariff differential with India, and how that curve continues to move, is of interest here, given the belief that Washington DC would ensure a reasonable tariff differential between China and India. Officials said a 10-20 per cent differential is expected to tide over some of India's structural downsides — infrastructural bottlenecks, logistics woes, high interest cost, the cost

of doing business, corruption, etc.

Once the official level discus-

sions wrap up by mid-August there is a sense that a final call on the deal could come down to a conversation between PM Narendra Modi and Trump. This is especially so since it is Trump who is the trade negotiator-inchief. For India, the best-case scenario would be to get a deal of some sort now, and then build on that in the future negotiations that could run into 2026, experts said. With Trump announcing the tariffs and penalties on India, that phone call could come in sooner

Congress should apologise, conspiracy decimated: BJP Shankar Prasad said the court had that even walking was difficult for

government set a false narrative about Hindu terrorism to appease the minorities during the elections. The verdict has badly exposed the Congress and shows to what extent it indulged in a fake narrative for politics. The court has outright rejected the conspiracy theory, which the Congress regime had widely propagated," said Maharashtra Chief Minister

Devendra Fadnavis. He said police were under "tremendous pressure" from the Congress and "cannot be blamed". "They were forced to weave a false conspiracy theory about the role of Hindu terror in the blast, which was baseless. After 9/11, there was a talk of Islamic terror globally. To counter this, the UPA government came out with the narrative on Hindu terror."

BJP national spokesperson and former Union Minister Ravi

"decimated a calculated conspiracy" to "peddle a narrative around 'saffron terror' across the country". He said the Congress, which was in power at the Centre at the time, hatched it for the sake of "votebank politics".

Referring to former BJP MP Pragya Singh Thakur and former Army officer Lt Col Prasad Purohit, he demanded restitution for the attempt to taint the "image of a sage and a decorated Indian Army veteran". "Lt Col Purohit, a highly decorated Army officer who had waged a big battle against terrorism in Kashmir, was implicated in it; RDX was (allegedly) recovered from his house... Pragya Thakur, a very good 'sadhvi' leader; it was said that from her motorcycle, a

"For 10 to 12 days, she (Pragya

bomb was brought," he said.

Thakur) was tortured so severely

her later on; you all have seen that, and other Army officials, too, were implicated. It was a well-calculated conspiracy of the Congress party for sheer votebank politics," said Prasad.

The BJP leader also referred to the 2004 Ishrat Jahan encounter case, alleging that Union Home Minister Amit Shah, who was then a minister in Guiarat, was "implicated" on the testimony of "two sold-out witnesses" and had to spend months behind bars.

"Possibly for over a year (Shah remained in prison) and when he got bail, the Supreme Court made him dar badar (exiled) from Gujarat ... That judgment of the Supreme Court was wrong; I have examined it legally as per my exagainst Amit Shah," he said.

perience, there was no evidence Accusing the Congress of be-

• India bright spot in global economy, will protect national interest: Govt

both Houses of Parliament, Goyal

their feedback. "The implications of the re-

cent development are being ex-

Sabha too. Goyal's remarks are significant as India has been resisting giving duty concessions to the US on agriculture and dairy sectors — a key US demand in the trade

talks with India.

ating a bilateral trade agreement (BTA) since March with an aim to more than double the bilateral trade in goods and services to US\$ 500 billion by 2030 from the current US\$ 191 billion. Several rounds of talks have been completed; the US team is visiting

tiations from August 25. Giving details of the negotiations, Goyal said: "India and the US entered into negotiations for a fair, balanced and mutually beneficial bilateral trade agreement (BTA) in March 2025 with a target to complete the first tranche of the agreement by Fall of 2025. The two sides finalised the detailed Terms of Reference (ToR) to enter into negotiations of the BTA on March 29, 2025, during the first physical round of discussions held at New Delhi."

"Thereafter, four physical rounds of negotiations have taken place between both sides, in New Delhi and Washington DC, to work towards finalisation of the BTA in accordance with the agreed ToR. In addition, there have been many virtual meetings between the two sides," he said.

Giving the chronology of the

negotiations, Goyal said: "On April 2, 2025, the US President had issued an executive order on reciprocal tariffs imposing additional duties ranging from 10% to 50% on imports from its trading partners. A baseline duty of 10% has been effective from April 5, India for the next round of nego-2025. The additional duty on India was announced at 26%, including baseline tariff of 10%. Originally, the full country-specific additional duty was to be effective from April 9, 2025, but was

> tended up to August 1, 2025." "In an increasingly protectionist world, India has done mutually beneficial trade agreements with the UAE, UK, Australia and EFTA (European Free Trade Association comprising Switzerland, Iceland, Norway and Liechtenstein). We are also committed to similar trade agreements with other countries,

postponed initially for 90 days on

April 10, 2025, and further ex-

Goyal said. "We are consistently working for the welfare of the farmers and Indian agriculture, to promote prosperity and ensure food security. The government is confident that we will continue our fastpaced journey of inclusive growth and sustainable development towards the goal of Viksit Bharat 2047," he said.

The minister also said that India has rapidly transformed from being one of the "Fragile 5" to the fastest growing major economy in the world in just over a decade.

"We have risen from the 11th

largest economy to one of the top 5 economies, driven by our reforms, hard work of our farmers. MSMEs and entrepreneurs. It is also widely expected that we will become the third largest economy in a few years. Today, international institutions and economists see India as the bright spot in the global economy. India is contributing to almost 16% of global growth," he said.

ernment has taken transformative measures to promote India as the manufacturing hub of the world, driven by the Make in India initiative. India's young, skilled and talented workforce is driving innovation and competitiveness of Indian industry. Our exports have steadily increased during the last 11 years," he said.

"In the last decade, the gov-

Express Adda

Penn began his acting career in 1998 with Express: Aisle to Glory, but his breakthrough role came only six years later with *Harold* and Kumar Go to White Castle. Since then, he has been part of close to 100 productions — films, TV shows and as a host — through which he has consistently made a case for, and broken stereotypes about, South Asian representation in Hollywood. Noteworthy parts include those in *House* (2004) where he plays Dr Lawrence Kutner, whose identity went beyond his ethnicity, and in Designated Survivor (2016), where he plays the White House Press Secretary Seth Wright. He also starred in the immigration sitcom Sunnyside (2019) which he co-created, and Clarice (2021), the sequel to the 1991 classic thriller The Silence of the Lambs. Interestingly, for Designated

Survivor, he had first-hand experience to borrow from. After advocating for Barack Obama's presidential campaign in 2007-2008, he went on to become the Associate Director of the White House Office of Public Engagement and Intergovernmental

Affairs. As the President's Liaison

to Young Americans, Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders. and the Arts community, he worked on issues like repeal of 'Don't Ask, Don't Tell', the Affordable Care Act, Pell Grants, arts and culture programmes, the DREAM Act and rapid response to the BP Oil Spill and earthquake in Haiti.

He returned later that year as the national co-chair for the Obama/ Biden re-election campaign in 2012 and served on the President's Committee for the Arts and Humanities, focusing on arts education and cultural diplomacy. During his second stint at the

White House, where he served for nearly seven years, he campaigned for both Bernie Sanders and Hillary Clinton, finally resigning in 2017. He also supported 2024 Presidential candidate Kamala Harris.

As someone who has always had one foot in acting and the other in activism — he has a double major in films and sociology from UCLA – Penn left the White House in 2010 to film A Very Harold and Kumar 3D Christmas.

The Express Adda is a series of informal interactions organised by The Indian Express Group and features those at the centre of change.

In a suo motu statement in

said the government is engaging with all stakeholders, including exporters and industry bodies, for

amined by the government... The Ministry of Commerce and Industry is engaging with all stakeholders, including exporters and industry, for taking feedback of their assessment of the situation. The government attaches the utmost importance to protecting and promoting the welfare of our farmers, workers, entrepreneurs, exporters, MSMEs and all sections of industry. We will take all necessary steps to safeguard and promote our national interest," Goyal said in Lok Sabha soon after the House reassembled at 4 pm. He later made a similar statement in Rajya

The two countries are negoti-

S B K Singh new Delhi top cop

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE NEW DELHI, JULY 31

SENIOR IPS officer Shashi Bhushan Kumar Singh took charge as Delhi's new Police Commissioner, Thursday evening. The 59-year-old is a 1988-batch officer of the AGMUT (Arunachal Pradesh-Goa-Mizoram and Union Territories) cadre.

Currently, the Director General of Home Guards, he has been given additional charge as Delhi Police chief following the retirement of outgoing police chief Sanjay Arora.

Singh arrived at the Delhi Police Headquarters a little after 4 pm, received the guard of honour and went to his office on the 17th floor, where Arora handed over the reins.

Singh is Arora's batchmate and the voungest officer in his batch. He is set to retire on January 31, 2026.

The previous two police chiefs were from outside the AGMUT cadre — Arora is from the Tamil Nadu cadre, while his predecessor, Rakesh Asthana, belonged to the Gujarat cadre.

With an illustrious career spanning over 36 years, Singh has held several pivotal positions in the Delhi Police and also served as the head of police forces in



SBKSingh receives the guard of honour Thursday. Tashi Tobgyal

Mizoram and Arunachal Pradesh. An alumnus of Delhi University's St Stephen's College, where he studied Physics (Honours), Singh joined the Indian Police Service after graduation in 1986. He also pursued an MBA degree with a specialisation in Human Resource Management from IGNOU.

He started his career as an Assistant Commissioner of Police in the Central District before moving to Arunachal Pradesh as a Superintendent of Police in 1992. He swiftly rose up the ranks,

serving in key positions in the Delhi Police, and has led and supervised several high-profile investigations during his career. Among the most prominent were the Uphaar cinema fire tragedy, during which he was posted as Additional DCP, South. He also probed the Ponty Chadha murder case and the Hansie Cronie match-fixing case.

He has been DCP of two districts in Delhi (Central and Northeast).

As Special Commissioner of Police, Technology and Project Implementation Division, he contributed to making significant progress in the Safe City Project and the Intelligent Traffic Monitoring System. He also introduced a QR-code-based feedback system for visitors to police stations and signed an MoU with IIT-Delhi for the Digital Trucking Radio System.

He served as Special CP, Law and Order (North), and launched the 'Public Facilitation Desk'.

As Special CP (Security), he played an instrumental role in handling security for the highprofile visit of then US President Barack Obama during Republic Day in 2015 and the Indo-Africa Summit attended by Heads of State and Governments of 54

He was also posted as Special CP(Intelligence).

countries.

Singh was also the Joint Commissioner (Crime Branch) and developed and launched the award-winning 'Lost Report' app. He also worked with the RBI to control circulation of fake currency notes and the security of ATMs.

As head of the Economic

Offences Wing, he supervised an investigation on various land scams, bank frauds and cybercrime cases. He also worked with banks to introduce the OTP system to contain fraud. During his tenure as DG Home

Guard, he introduced a Rs 50 lakh insurance cover in cases of accidental deaths of volunteers. He further modernised the Home Guard recruitment system by introducing online application and RFID tests (computer-based written tests).

His wife, Sushi Singh, was part of the Police Welfare Society and headed several initiatives. They have two daughters, who are both based in the US.

Singh also authors a blog, ti-

tled 'Spiritual Policeman', offering

tive on law enforcement.

insights into his unique perspec-

RAIN TO CONTINUE IN COMING DAYS

This July coolest in 13 years, air quality best in decade, beats lockdown records

SOPHIYA MATHEW NEW DELHI. JULY 31

JULY BROUGHT Delhi a rare double dose of relief — cooler weather and cleaner air. With frequent spells of rain, below-normal temperatures, and the best air quality in a decade, the city recorded its coolest July since 2011 and its cleanest since 2015, even outper-

forming the 2020 lockdown year. According to the India Meteorological Department (IMD), the Capital's base weather station at Safdarjung recorded 16.6 mm of rain by 5.30 pm on Thursday. Other parts of the city saw heavier rainfall, with Palam receiving 79 mm, Najafgarh 61 mm, and Ayanagar 51.1 mm during the same period.

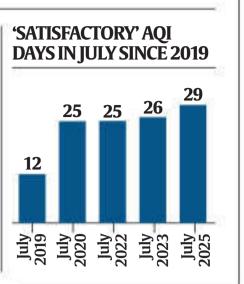
The IMD has not issued any alerts for the coming week but has forecast very light to light rain, accompanied by thunderstorms or lightning and generally cloudy skies. Winds are expected to blow at speeds between 10 and 15 kmph, and temperatures are likely to remain close to normal, ranging from 23 to 35 degrees Celsius, according to the IMD.

On Thursday, the maximum temperature in Delhi was 29.9 de**HOW JULY FARED**

■ Coldest since 2011 ■ City saw average

maximum temperature of 34.5 degrees Celsius and average minimum of 26.1 degrees Celsius

■ The maximum was similar to that in July 2016, but this year's minimum was lower than the 27.2 degrees Celsius reported in that year



grees Celsius, about four degrees below normal. The minimum was 24.7 degrees Celsius, 2.4 degrees below the seasonal average.

A chilly month

This July was the coolest in Delhi since 2011. The city recorded an average maximum temperature of 34.5 degrees Celsius and an average minimum of 26.1 degrees Celsius. The maximum was similar to that in July 2016, but this year's minimum was lower than the 27.2 degrees Celsius reported in that year.

In 2015, the average maximum temperature was 34.7 degrees Celsius, while the minimum

stood at 26 degrees Celsius.

Rainfall across Northwest India has been well above normal this monsoon. The IMD said the region received 337.7 mm of rain between June 1 and July 30 about 20% higher than the long-

term average of 280.8 mm. The extended range forecast indicates below-normal temperatures over much of the region in the second week of August. Isolated heavy to very heavy rainfall is likely in parts of Rajasthan, Punjab, Haryana, and Uttar Pradesh between July 31 and August 6, as per IMD.

AQI improves

On Delhi's improvement in air quality, the Commission for Air Quality Management (CAQM) reported that the average Air Quality Index(AQI) for this July stood at 78, in the 'satisfactory' category. This was the best July average since 2015. The CAQM said the month also saw the highest number of 'satisfactory' AQI days in eight years, with 29 such days. (see box)

Air quality has also improved across the broader January to July period. Delhi recorded an average AQI of 184 during this time, down from 204 in 2024 and 209 in 2022

No day in 2025 so far has recorded an AOI above 400, a mark that indicates 'Severe' or 'Severe+' pollution. By contrast there were three such days last year and six in 2018 and 2021.

The particulate matter pollution (PM 2.5 and PM 10 concentrations) has also dropped. From January to July, the running average of PM 2.5 was $79 \mu g/m3$, the lowest for the period since 2018, except for the lockdown year. Last year, the PM 2.5 average was 94. PM 10 levels followed a similar trend, with an average of 180 ug/m3 in 2025, compared to 209 in 2024 and 218 in 2022.

CEC's daughter is first woman DM of Gautam Buddh Nagar

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE NOIDA, JULY 31

MEDHA ROOPAM, a 2014 batch IAS officer, has been appointed as the first woman District Magistrate (DM) of Gautam Buddh Nagar. She took charge of the Collectorate Office in Greater Noida's Suraipur on Wednesday.

Her father Gyanesh Kumar, a retired IAS officer of the Kerala cadre, is the Chief Election Commissioner

Her appointment came after the UP government on Monday ordered the transfer of 23 IAS officers. including DMs of Ghaziabad and Prayagraj, among others. She succeeds Manish Kumar Verma, who has been transferred to Prayagraj in the same role.

Her husband, Manish Bansal, is also a 2014-batch IAS officer serving in Saharanpur.

Roopam was born on October 21, 1990, in Agra. She finished her schooling in Kerala and graduated from St Stephen's College with a degree in Economics. She is also a national-level rifle shooter and holds a state record in the 10 m air-ri-

fle event. Following her selection in the administrative service, she began as an

Medha Assistant Roopam Magistrate in Bareilly until June

On October 23, 2016, she was transferred to Meerut as Joint Magistrate and later served in Unnao in a similar position. Roopam also served as Joint Director of UP-AAM (UP Academy of Administration & Management) in Lucknow, Special Secretary for the Women's Welfare Department, and Chief Development Officer of Barabanki.

4,2015.

Her first posting as DM was at Hapur. Within a year, she was promoted as the Assistant Chief Executive Officer of Greater Noida. In June 2023, she was transferred to Kasganj as DM.

Despite multiple attempts, Roopam could not be reached for comment.

Motherhood is a blessing

Missed meals at student mess? IIT Delhi wants to know if you are okay

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE NEW DELHI, JULY 31

THE INDIAN Institute of Technology

Delhi (IIT Delhi) on Thursday said it has implemented QR code and biometric-based attendance systems across its student messes. Maintaining that the initiative

aims to ensure greater transparency in meal consumption and monitor student well-being, Dean of Student Affairs BK Panigrahi told mediapersons, "We have introduced a new QR code system to keep track of the students' attendance in the mess. This will help us track if a student has missed a meal for a day or consecutively."

The system replaces the traditional mess card method. "Students now give their biometrics and then enter the mess," a resident of Dronagiri hostel said. "It's also to ensure that the student belonging to a hostel can eat only in that mess."

In another student-focused policy, the IIT announced that those unable to secure hostel accommodation will now be allowed to stay temporarily on campus for 10-15 days while searching for alternatives. "This is to ensure that students have time and space to settle in,"

Internship

offers

Panigrahi said.

The announcement came ahead of the IIT's 56th convocation ceremony, to be held on August 2.

Prof Rangan Banerjee, IIT Delhi Director, told mediapersons, "Over 2,750 students, including 530 PhDs scholars – the highest ever – will be awarded degrees and diplomas."

The institute will also mark a milestone with several programmes witnessing the graduation of first batches. "We will see our first graduates in the UG BTech course in Energy Engineering and three PG courses – Interdisciplinary MTech in Robotics, MSc by Research in VLSI Design, Tools and Technology, and MSc by Research in Artificial Intelligence," said Banerjee.

Meanwhile, in line with improving student support, IIT Delhi has significantly ramped up mental health and wellness services, said officials. "The strength of the counselling team has increased to 14. We now offer immediate psychiatric support and have tied up with several hospitals," Panigrahi told mediapersons. Initiatives also include a new 'Buddy Programme', academic mentorship, and wellness workshops — all part of what Panigrahi described as "a culture of care and accountability".

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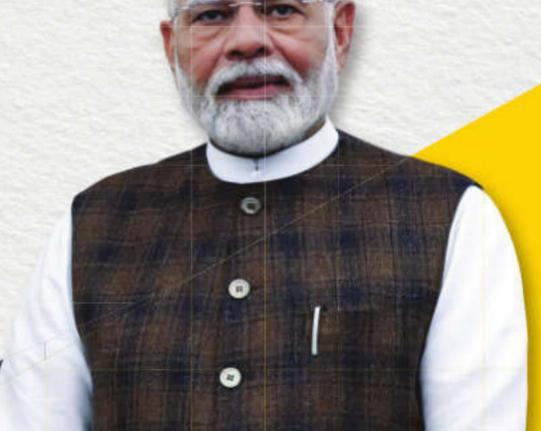
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Mystery of African Mahogany G20 sapling solved — it's a substitute

SOPHIYA MATHEW NEW DELHI, JULY 31

THE SAPLING currently standing at the site marked for Nigeria in the G20 ceremonial plantation spot at Nehru Park is a substitute sapling — and not the original African Mahogany — government sources told The Indian Express.

According to sources, the original sapling, gifted by Nigeria during India's G20 presidency in 2023, failed after being planted. Following this, sources said, the Jamun, a common Indian species, was temporarily planted to maintain the aesthetics of the ceremonial zone.

Sources added that a replacement African Mahogany sapling has now been sourced and is ex-

pected to arrive in the national capital shortly. It will be planted at the designated site, replacing the current one.

The clarification comes days after a post on social media platform *X*, by citizen-led handle DelhiTrees, flagged the tree labelled as African Mahogany as resembling a Jamun. The post received over 28 lakh views, prompting questions about how the mismatch occurred and whether due diligence was carried out.

The Indian Express on July 31 had reported that officials in the New Delhi Municipal Council (NDMC), which facilitated logistics for the ceremonial plantation event, said that confirmation of plant species would require expert verification and that they had referred the matter to the Ministry of External Affairs, which had coordinated the drive.

The ceremonial plantation, which took place in September 2023, involved planting live saplings received as gifts from G20 member countries and invited international organisations.

As per government sources, some of these plants were sent to India by participating countries, while others were locally procured in mutual consultation. The selection of species was made with expert guidance to increase the survivability of saplings in Indian conditions.

For plants brought from abroad, sources said, the required quarantine period was completed at the ICAR-National



Bureau of Plant Genetic Resources (NBPGR) in Pusa, Delhi, before plantation.

Following the Summit, the ambassadors and representatives from each country or organisation planted their respective saplings at a designated area in Nehru Park, which had been prepared in advance by horticulture officials. Sources said it was antici-

pated that some saplings might not survive after being planted in a new climate. To prepare for this, alternate saplings of local Indian varieties, such as mango Jamun, a common Indian

species, was temporarily planted to maintain the aesthetics of the ceremonial **zone.** Express

or jamun, had been identified and kept ready. These were to be used in case of any losses, until the original species could be sourced again.

According to the sources, the saplings presented by South Korea and South Africa also did not survive post-plantation. This, they said, was within expected parameters.

In such cases, embassies were approached to provide suitable replacements — either from their own country or procured locally with their approval. In the interim, substitute Indian tree saplings were planted to keep the plantation site visually consistent.

The South Korean Embassy has already provided a replacement of the original species, and that tree was replanted before the onset of the monsoon, sources said. The South African High

Commission is also in the process of securing its replacement sapling, which will be planted once available.

The G20 ceremonial plantation featured 17 trees representing participating countries and organisations, selected for their symbolism and environmental significance. These included Olive trees from Turkey, Spain and Italy; Real Yellowwood from South Africa: Silver Tree from South Korea; Date Palm from Egypt and Saudi Arabia: Teak from Indonesia; Camphor Laurel from China; and the Sausage Tree and Red Frangipani from the African Union.

Siblings die of electrocution because of faulty wiring inside house, father critical

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE NEW DELHI, JULY 31

TWO SIBLINGS in Outer Delhi's Begumpur area died of electrocution on Wednesday night after allegedly coming into contact with an iron gate that had an electric current running through it due to a faulty wiring system, police said.

Their father, Kalicharan, 65, was critically injured in the incident reported around 11 pm.

The deceased have been identified as Vivek, 26, and his sister Anju, 28.

Police said residents of the locality rushed all three victims to Agrasen Hospital.

Upon inspection, the Tata Power DDL team — the power distributor in the region — and the police team found that the wiring of the house was dangerously wrapped around the iron grill of a staircase, posing a major safety hazard.

Police said the Begumpur police station received a PCR call at 10.56 pm asking them to cut off the electricity supply in the area due to a suspected electrocution incident.

According to police, the incident occurred when Vivek allegedly came into contact with an iron door, which had an electric current running through it due to the faulty wiring, while heading upstairs.

"Hearing his cries, Kalicharan rushed to save him and was electrocuted. In a desperate attempt to rescue her father and brother, Anju intervened and was also electrocuted," said a senior police officer.

Although they were rushed to the hospital, Vivek and Anju were declared dead, while Kalicharan remains hospitalised in critical condition.

The bodies of the siblings were shifted to Sanjay Gandhi Hospital for further legal and medical procedures, the officer added.

Vivek was unmarried and worked as a welding labourer along with his father, while Anju was a homemaker who had been married just three months ago, police said.

ALONG LINES OF CENTRE'S GPRA PROJECT

Delhi govt plans to revamp its housing colonies on PPP model

GAYATHRI MANI NEW DELHI, JULY 31

ON THE lines of the Centre's Pool Residential Accommodation(GPRA) project, the Delhi government is planning to redevelop its housing colonies on a Public-Private Partnership (PPP) model, officials said. According to a senior official,

Chief Minister Rekha Gupta discussed the matter in a recent meeting with Public Works Department (PWD) officials.

Under the GPRA project, existing government residential colonies in Delhi are redeveloped under the PPP model, primarily to modernise the houses and optimise land use.

"The Delhi government plans to redevelop housing colonies under the PPP model and recover the cost of the project by using the land space for commercial purposes... like building offices and retail spaces, or by selling land parcels to private developers or constructing housing units and selling them...," said the senior official.

"The matter was taken up in the department's last meeting with the CM... The department has been asked to explore the possibility and appoint a consultant who will study the number of government colonies that can be redeveloped, how much space is



Officials said the government is exclusively using Nauroji Nagar for commercial activities, where the World Trade **Centre is coming up.** Archive

available to build multi-storey buildings, and if there is space for commercial activities as well... The consultant will submit a detailed project report," the official added.

Officials said that while the plan is at a nascent stage, the tendering process will start so that a consultant can be appointed. At present, houses are allotted

to Delhi government officials at 57 localities, including Daryagani, Rajpur Road, Alipur Road, Satya Sadan, Shamnath Marg, Mayur Vihar, Commonwealth Games Village, and Vasant Kunj, among others. The allotment is done through the sarkari-awas portal.

Officials said that most houses allotted to Delhi government employees — from senior

bureaucrats to ministers and the CM – come under the PWD pool and are managed by the department. They added the key aim is to redevelop old and dilapidated government houses and replace them with modern and sustainable infrastructure, creating selfsustaining urban space.

"Currently, most of these colonies are two- or three-floor towers or buildings... After conducting a feasibility study, a plan will be made for land utilisation so that multi-storey towers, having modern features like rainwater harvesting systems, among others, can be constructed. This will also help the government to meet its housing requirement and help save the cost of repair

and maintenance... Further, the wait period for government staff to get a house will come down," said the senior official.

In 2016, the Centre had approved the redevelopment of seven GPRA colonies in South Delhi — Sarojini Nagar, Nauroji Nagar, Kasturba Nagar, Netaji Nagar, Sriniwaspuri, Mohammadpur and Thyagraj Nagar — to meet the housing requirement of central government employees.

"As these are big-ticket projects and cannot be constructed solely through public funds, the government has brought in the PPP model, where it gives contracts to private companies that will construct the houses and use the space available for official or commercial activities to generate revenue," a senior PWD official said.

"Some land parcels were also sold for commercial purposes so the money could be used to construct the houses in other areas... For instance, while work at Thyagraj Nagar Mohammadpur have been completed, no space is being used for commercial purposes. At the same time, as of now, the government is exclusively using Nauroji Nagar for commercial activities, where the World Trade Centre is coming up... This will ensure that while project cost is recovered, houses are also constructed," the official added.

CBI catches PWD engineer taking bribe, recovers Rs 1.6 crore

NIRBHAY THAKUR NEW DELHI, JULY 31

ON JULY 26, contractor Dinesh Sharma, working in Delhi's Tis Hazari Court, approached the CBI alleging that a senior PWD official had demanded a commission of 3% for clearing his bills.

Immediately, the CBI lodged an FIR against Kalu Ram Meena (57), an Executive Engineer in the PWD's Judiciary Civil Division — a unit that handles construction and maintenance work for trial courts — at the Rouse Avenue District Court

Around 11.45 pm on July 28, Meena was arrested, caught

"red-handed" accepting a bribe of Rs 30,000 from Sharma for allegedly signing three completion certificates in connection with a construction project at the trial court.

He was produced before Special Judge Sanjay Khanagwal of Rouse Avenue Court. Meena spent two days in CBI custody before being sent to judicial custody until August 13 on Wednesday.

In its remand application, the CBI stated that it has recovered Rs 40 lakh from Meena's house in Delhi. Another Rs 1.2 crore was recovered from his Jaipur house, the CBI claimed, alleging that it has voice call recordings between the complainant and the accused.

Ramjas College shuts hostels over safety issues, student groups protest

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE NEW DELHI, JULY 31

DELHI UNIVERSITY'S Ramias College has announced that its boys' and girls' hostels will remain closed for the upcoming academic session — a decision that has drawn sharp criticism from student groups and raised fresh questions about the state of infrastructure at the varsity.

The two hostels have a capacity to house approximately 150 students. Principal Ajay Arora told The Indian Express that the college had not created a new merit list for hostel admissions this year. citing structural concerns.

"Last year, the roof of a hostel room collapsed," Arora said. "There is also a dent on the side of one of the buildings. After the exams ended, we vacated the hostels immediately. We want to approach a government agency to get a safety audit done. Only after we get clearance will we prepare a fresh merit list for accommodation. For now, we are not willing to risk any student's life."

On Wednesday, members of the All India Students' Association (AISA) staged a protest against the move. In a



capacity to house around **150 students.** *Archive*

memorandum submitted to the principal, AISA demanded the immediate reopening of hostels and accused the administration of failing to invest in safe and accessible student housing.

"What's happening at Ramjas is not new," said Anjali, AISA's DU secretary. "It's part of a disturbing pattern across DU... Just as freshers arrive, Ramjas locks its doors."

"Hostels are not a luxury." With lakhs of students arriving from all over the country, they have a right. We will fight tooth and nail to defend that right," AISA said in a statement.

College authorities maintained that the decision to close the hostels is based on safety considerations and is temporary.

Now, MCD can use CM & MLA development funds for infra projects

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE NEW DELHI, JULY 31

TO FAST track infrastructure projects, enhance transparency and eliminate financial hurdles the Delhi government has introduced key reforms in schemes like the Chief Minister Development Fund (CMDF) and MLA Local Area Development (MLALAD) Fund, Chief Minister Rekha Gupta said on Thursday.

Now, the Municipal Corporation of Delhi (MCD) can use CMDF and MLALAD fund to carry out development works. Earlier, such projects could only be executed through the Irrigation and Flood Control Department (I&FC) or the Delhi State Industrial and Infrastructure Development Corporation (DSIIDC), she added.

"This often caused delays in completing smaller projects, as these departments prioritised larger works. With this change minor development works will now be handled more swiftly by the municipal corporation, Gupta said in a statement.

She added that changes have also been introduced in releasing payment for these projects. "The first instalment, amounting to 10% of the estimated cost, will be released to executing agencies at the time of project approval. The second instalment, which along with the first instalment will make up 50% of the tender amount, will be released upon submission of the required documents." The remaining 50% will be released on completion of work, said officials.

Gupta emphasised that this reform will significantly reduce delays in payments to construction companies and contractors.

Boy falls into open sewer, yet to be traced

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE NEW DELHI, JULY 31

into an open sewer in Southwest Delhi's Rajokri, Thursday afternoon. Police received news of the incident at 1.24 pm, after which police personnel and emergency responders rushed to the scene.

A MINOR boy purportedly fell

According to police, some local children had witnessed the boy falling into the open drain.

An earthmover was called to remove the sewage material and clear the sewage chamber. The Delhi Fire Services, too, responded to the emergency by sending one fire tender and four fire staff members.

Α Delhi Disaster Management Authority (DDMA) team, including a person incharge and three divers, also reached the spot to assist in the rescue operations. Additionally, MCD personnel, along with four sanitation workers, were deployed to help.

However, seven hours after the PCR call was made, the boy remained untraced. "As of now, the identity of the

child or his parents/guardians could not be ascertained. No missing report has been lodged so far. The incident occurred near the Shiv Mandir in Rajokri village, close to the MCD School. The sewer belongs to the MCD and was found open from the side," said a police officer.

friend for honking at Dwarka market a worker. This allegedly enraged beer bottle, it added. **EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE** two men sitting in a nearby Thar, The accused, allegedly in the who started hurling abuses at 20-25 age group, then took NEW DELHI, JULY 31

Five men beat up Rohini court clerk, his

FIVE MEN travelling in a Thar and a BMW allegedly beat up a Rohini court clerk and his friend for honking at a Dwarka market early Sunday, police said.

The incident allegedly took

place around 2.30 am, when Manoj Kumar (34) reached Dwarka's Sector 10 market in his Swift accompanied by three friends. The police said they arrived at a night kitchen, Hash Tag, in the market and honked to call Manoj and his friends.

According to the FIR, lodged on the basis of a police complaint filed by Manoj, when he went to speak to the men in the Thar, two persons came out and started throwing punches at him.

The FIR stated that as the fight escalated, three to four men from a nearby BMW arrived and started beating Manoj and his friend, Kunal. One of the men from the BMW allegedly hit Manoj and Kunal on the head with an empty stones and smashed the windows of the Swift. The FIR said when Kunal made a PCR call, the accused fled.

In another incident, two men who had allegedly opened fire after a woman, who was travelling with her husband on a bike, objected to them obstructing their way, have been arrested from Central Delhi's Kamla Market area on July 28, said police.

The incident took place on July 25 near Mohalla Nihariyan

Chowk in Ajmeri Gate. The husband has alleged that while he was on way to his in-laws' house with his wife and children on a motorcycle, two men on a scooter came in their way. When his wife asked them why they did not honk, the scooter rider abused them and the pillion rider opened fire before fleeing.

DCP (Central) Nidhin Valsan identified the accused as Mohammad Amaan alias Tota (19) and Noman (19). While the scooter was recovered from Amaan, a pistol was recovered from Noman, the DCP added.

ONCE A HUB FOR MOMOS, LEATHER GOODS

Washrooms locked, parking shut: Complaints at Yashwant Place double-storey parking space is here... Workers who sleep inside

DRISHTIJAIN

NEW DELHI, JULY 31

AS YOU climb up the staircase leading to the food court, a vibrant scene unfolds — towering peepal trees sway overhead, while colorful signboards of restaurants peek invitingly

through the lush canopy. Take another step, and the charm begins to fade. The view is quickly overshadowed by broken cement benches, exposed tree pits, and waterlogged mud and debris scattered at regular intervals.

This is Yashwant Place, one of Delhi's oldest markets, in the upscale diplomatic enclave of Chanakyapuri.

Established in 1969, it was once a go-to destination for

leather goods — with shops selling jackets, boots, bags, and jewellery dotting the first floor and basement. Many of these are family-run businesses, passed down through three generations.

The complex is also famously known as 'Momo Market.' drawing crowds of dumpling lovers to its 31 eateries each evening, according to restaurant owners. These small establishments now operate across two levels.

Despite renovation work undertaken by New Delhi Municipal Council (NDMC) in 2021-2022, the complex — located next to the towering Chanakya Mall — shows signs of neglect.

On May 17, work began afresh to spruce up the complex — a pergola was to come up in the food court, among other renovations.

When contacted, an NDMC official said, "The project will be completed in the next 30 days."

According to shopkeepers, the NDMC installed poles in the food court to set up canopies. In the process, parts of tree pits were broken in some spots, while floor tiles were removed in others. Now, the construction debris — soaked by the recent rain — lies unattended, leaving the area a slippery mess.

While NDMC officials say the debris will be cleared soon, shopkeepers are sceptical.

"The NDMC always starts projects without consulting us... Earlier, it had installed slippery tiles, and we had to raise complaints," says a shopkeeper.

Another shopkeeper complains about installations like a water ATM in the market. "What



epaper.indianexpress.com

Work underway at Yashwant Place. Abhinav Saha

is the use of this? Will customers eat in the restaurants and then go out to buy water? They should have asked us about the

inconveniences that we and our customers face instead." An employee who works in a

ago, says, "There are around 100nearby office complains that the 120 workers like me who work

rooms had begun seven months ago, none are functional. Mohan, who migrated from Bihar in search of work 15 years

space has been shut due to ad-

conveniencing us."

ministrative reasons".

restaurants at night are forced to shut for "beautification purposes", with only the ground relieve themselves in the open floor operational. "The civic body spaces near the washrooms...The wants to close all open spaces in food court sees a footfall of the name of beautification, inaround 700-800 every day, but there is no functional washroom." A civic body official main-Asked about this, an official from NDMC said the "parking

tains that the washrooms will be opened for the public after completion of electrical works. For owners who have shops

According to shopkeepers, the complex lacks another basic underground, the monsoon amenity — washrooms. Not bebrings additional challenges. cause they have not been con-Deepak Jain, owner of a

structed, but because they rejewellery shop that has been operating since 1969, says the main locked. Shopkeepers say that while work on new washbasement gets waterlogged during rain as there is no proper drainage system. "When we raise complaints, NDMC sends four employees with a bucket to remove the water," he adds.



buildings in Noida

buildings in Noida".

Last date for Submission

18.08.2025 before 18:00 hrs (IST).

& Navjyoti family.

Publishing of Bid

of pre-bid queries

Opening of Bid

Job No. 01/Planning/2025

ARMY INSTITUTE OF NURSING **GUWAHATI**

Appointment of Director

Army Institute of Nursing, Guwahati invites application for the post of Director on contractual basis. For eligibility and other details please visit institute Website:www.ainguwahati.org. Eligible interested candidates may apply by Registered Post to the Chairman, Army Institute of Nursing, Guwahati, C/o HQ 51 Sub Area, PIN-908651, C/o 99 APO. Last date for submission of application is 25 Aug, 2025 (till 1200 hours). Contact @6901299910 Email ID: ain@awesindia.edu.in

New Okhla Industrial Development Authority

Administrative Building, Sector-6, Noida, (U.P.)

Website: www.noidaauthorityonline.in

RFP for Empanelment of Consultants for

Preliminary Structural Safety Audit of Multi-storey

New Okhla Industrial Development Authority (NOIDA)

invites "RFP for Empanelment of Consultants for

Preliminary Structural Safety Audit of Multi-storey

Last date of bid submission 18.08.2025 before 18:00 Hrs (IST

Interested eligible bidders can submit the bid along

with the mentioned documents. RFP can be downloaded

from the Website: www.noidaauthorityonline.in

& https://etender.up.nic.in. Last date of bid submission is

CLEAN, GREEN, SAFE & SECURE NOIDA

01.08.2025

07.08.2025 upto 18:00 Hrs (IST

19.08.2025 at 11:00 Hrs (IST)

Planning Department, Noida

AVM S.C. Gupta (retd.)

11.12.1930-01.08.2004

In loving memory of a

wonderful and inspirational

being, remembered fondly

by: Asha, Nikesh, Amit,

General Manager

BrahMos Aerospace Private Limited TENDER NOTICE

BrahMos Aerospace, a Joint Venture (JV) of Ministry of Defence Invites INVITATION OF BIDS FOR PROCUREMENT OF HARDWARE AND SOFTWARE FOR DATA CENTRE.

Interested Parties are requested to visit our website: www.brahmos.com for further details. The Bid Documents should be downloaded from website only. Any clarifications only need to be mailed to tenders@brahmos.com

> **HoD Commercial** On Behalf of CEO & MD BrahMos Aerospace



INDIA EXPOSITION MART LTD.

Read. Office: Plot No. 1; 210 - Atlantic Plaza, 2" Floor, Local Shopping Centre, Mayur Vihar Phase-I, Delhi - 110091 Tel.:+91-120-2328011-20, Fax: +91-120-2328010 Email id: cs@indiaexpocentre.com, Website: www.indiaexpomart.com

NOTICE TO SHAREHOLDERS

TRANSFER OF UNCLAIMED DIVIDEND & EQUITY SHARES TO THE NVESTOR EDUCATION AND PROTECTION FUND AUTHORITY ('IEPF'

Shareholders of the company are hereby informed that in terms of the requirements of Section 124(6) of the Companies Act, 2013 read with the Investor Education and Protection Fund Authority (Accounting, Audit, Transfer and Refund) Rules, 2016, as amended from time to time, the Dividend declared for the financial year 2017-18, which remained unclaimed for a period of seven years will be credited to the IEPF within 30 days from the due date i.e., Monday, November 3, 2025. The corresponding shares on which dividends were unclaimed for seven consecutive years will also be transferred as per the procedures set out in the Rules.

The company has sent individual notices to all the shareholders concerned whose shares are liable to be transferred to IEPF as per the aforesaid Rules. The details of such shareholders have also been uploaded on the Company's website at www.indiaexpomart.com under the tab "Investor Relation".

In this connection, please note that for shares held in physical form, duplicate share certificate(s) will be issued and transferred to IEPF. The original share certificate which is registered in your name(s) for the shares held by you will stand automatically cancelled.

In the event the valid claim is not received on or before Saturday, November 1, 2025, the Company shall proceed to transfer the liable dividend, and corresponding equity shares to the IEPF without any further notice. Please note that after such transfer, shareholders/claimants can claim the transferred shares along with dividend from the IEPF Authority for which details are available at www.lepf.gov.in, subject to obtaining "Entitlement Letter" from the Company. No claim shall lie against the Company in respect of unpaid/ unclaimed dividend and shares transferred to IEPF pursuant to the said Rules.

In case of any clarification/ assistance in this regard, the concerned shareholder(s) may write to the Company at its corporate office at India Exposition Mart Ltd. Plot No. 23 -25 & 27- 29, Knowledge Park - II, Gautam Budh Nagar, Greater Noida- 201306 or by sending an email to the Company at cs@indiaexpocentre.com.

For India Exposition Mart Ltd

August 1, 2025 Anupam Sharma Company Secretary & Compliance Officer Delhi



RAIL VIKAS NIGAM LIMITED

(A Government of India Enterprise) Registered office: 1st Floor, August Kranti Bhawan, Bhikaji Cama Place, R. K. Puram, New Delhi, South Delhi -110066, CIN: L74999DL2003G0I118633, E-mail: investors@rvnl.org Website: www.rvnl.org, Phone No.: 011-26738299, Fax: 011-26182957

NOTICE TO THE SHAREHOLDERS FOR 22ND ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

- NOTICE is hereby given that the 22rd Annual General Meeting (AGM) of the members of Rail Vikas Nigam Limited will be held on Thursday, 28th August, 2025 at 11:30 AM (IST) through Video Conferencing ("VC") /Other Audio Visual Means ("OAVM") to transact the business as set out in the Notice of AGM, being circulated separately. In Compliance with the Ministry of Corporate Affairs (MCA) General Circular No. 09/2024 dated September 19, 2024 and the circular issued earlier in this regard (collectively referred to as 'MCA Circulars') read with SEBI/HO/CFD/CFD-PoD-2/P/CIR/2024/133 dated October 03, 2024 issued by the Securities and Exchange Board of India and in compliance with the provisions of the Act and the SEBI (Listing Obligations and Disclosure Requirements) Regulations, 2015 ["SEBI (LODR) Regulations"], the 22rd AGM of the Company is being held through VC / OAVM.
- 2. In Compliance with the aforesaid circulars, Notice of the AGM along with the Annual Report 2024-25, will be sent by electronic mode. The aforesaid documents will also be available on the Company's website at www.rvnl.org, the website of the Stock Exchanges at www.bseindia.com and www.nseindia.com, website of CDSL (agency for providing e-voting/remote e-voting facility) i.e. www.evotingindia.com.

Manner of registering / updating email addresses

- a) Members who have not registered their email address are requested to register the same in respect of shares held in electronic form with the depository through their depository participant(s) and in respect of shares held in physical form by writing to the company's Registrar and Share Transfer Agent, Alankit Assignments Limited, 205-208, Anarkali Complex, Jhandewalan Extension, New Delhi- 110055 or by email to virenders@alankit.com.
- b) Shareholders who have not registered their email address with the depository participants may procure user id and password in the manner as
- In case shares are held in physical mode, please provide Folio No., Name of Shareholder, Scanned Copy of the Share Certificate (Front & Back), PAN (selfattested scanned copy of PAN Card), AADHAR (self-attested scanned copy of Aadhar Card) by email to virenders@alankit.com.
- ii) In case of shares are held in Demat Mode, please provide DP ID & Client ID (16 digit DP ID+Client ID or 16 digit Beneficiary ID), Name, Client Master or copy of Consolidated Account Statement, PAN (self-attested scanned copy of PAN Card) AADHAR (self-attested scanned copy of Aadhar Card) by email to virenders@alankit.com. If you are an individual shareholder holding securities in Demat mode, please refer to the login method explained in the notice of AGM.
- c) Alternatively, shareholders /members may send a request to www.evotingindia.com for procuring user ID & password for e-voting by providing the abovementioned documents.

Manner of casting vote(s) through Remote e-voting /e-voting at AGM

- (a) Members will have the opportunity to cast their vote (s) on the business as set out in the Notice of the AGM through electronic voting system ("e-voting"). (b) The manner of voting remotely ("remote e-voting") by members holding shares in dematerialized mode, physical mode and for members who have not registered their email addresses has been provided in the Notice of AGM. The details will also be available on the website of Company at www.rvnl.org and on the website of CDSL www.cdslindia.com
- (c) The facility of voting through electronic voting system will also be made available at the AGM and Members attending AGM who have not cast their
- vote(s) by remote e-voting will be able to vote at the AGM. (d) The login credentials for casting votes through e-voting shall be made available to all members through email. Members who do not receive email or whose email addresses are not registered with the Company/ Alankit Assignments/ Depository Participants may generate login credentials by following

Manner of registering mandate for receiving dividend

instructions given in the Notes to Notice of AGM.

- a) Payment of Dividend shall be made through electronic mode to the shareholders who have updated their bank account details. Dividend warrant/Demand Drafts will be dispatched to the registered address of the shareholders who have not updated their bank account details.
- b) For payment of Dividend electronically, members who have not opted for Electronic Clearing System (ECS) facility earlier are requested to fill up ECS mandate form and submit it directly to their depository participants (DP) to avail the ECS facility. Those holding shares in physical form may send the ECS mandate form to Alankit Assignments Limited ("RTA"). The shareholders who hold shares in physical form & who do not wish to opt for ECS facility may please email their bankers' name, branch address & account number to the RTA to enable them to print these details on the dividend warrants.
- 6. Members are requested to carefully read all the Notes set out in the Notice of the AGM and in particular instructions to register / update e-mail id, for joining AGM, manner of casting votes through remote e-voting or voting at AGM and Dividend related information.

For Rail Vikas Nigam Limited Sd/-

Place: New Delhi Kalpana Dubey Dated: 31-07-2025

Company Secretary & Compliance Officer

GOVERNMENT OF NATIONAL CAPITAL TERRITORY OF DELHI

(REVENUE DEPARTMENT)

OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT MAGISTRATE (SOUTH-EAST) OLD GARGI COLLEGE BUILDING, BEHIND LSR COLLEGE LAJPAT NAGAR-IV, NEW DELHI-110024

Public Notice under Section 21 of the RECTLARR Act, 2013

F.No.ADM/LAC/SE/2023/05/KH. No.221/Part-II/691-700

|Sumita, Milan, Neil & Kavin. AAROH

Date: 31/07/2025

Whereas, Hon'ble Supreme Court of India vide order dated 17.05.2024 directed that fresh acquisition to be re-initiated under RFCTLARR Act, 2013 for the land bearing Khasra No. 291(4-16), 292(2-4), 293(1-12), 293/1(0-6), 294(4-16), 295(4-16), 306(4-16), 307(4-18) 308(4-10) of village Aali, Sub Division Sarita Vihar, District South East and also directed that preliminary notification under section 11(1) of the Right to Fair Compensation and Transparency in Land Acquisition, Rehabilitation and Resettlement Act, 2013 shall be deemed to have been published as on 01.01.2014.

Whereas, Khasra No. 291(4-16), 292(2-4), 293(1-12), 293/1(0-6), 294(4-16), 295(4-16), 306(4-16), 307(4-18) 308(4-10) were acquired vide award No. 3/97-98 of village Jasola. The mentioned Kharsa No.'s were notified vide notification u/s 4 of LA, Act, 1894 dated 06.04.1964. Possession of land was taken on 26.05.1998.

Accordingly, in accordance with section 21 of RFCTLARR Act 2013, notice is being issued to intimate all concerned that the Government intends to initiate fresh acquisition proceedings for the land mentioned above is to be acquired for "public purpose" and that claims to compensations in above land may be made by all interested by appearing personally or by agent or advocate stating the nature of their respective interests in the land and the amount and particulars of their claims to compensation for such interests. along with their objections if any, before the DM/Collector(SE) on 01 September, 2025 at 11.30 AM in the Conference Hall of the office of District Magistrate (South East).

> SD/-(SUNNY KUMAR SINGH) **Collector and District Magistrate** (South East Delhi)

DIP/Shabdarth/Classified/0165/25-26

GOVERNMENT OF NATIONAL CAPITAL TERRITORY OF DELHI

(REVENUE DEPARTMENT) OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT MAGISTRATE (SOUTH-EAST) OLD GARGI COLLEGE BUILDING, BEHIND LSR COLLEGE LAJPAT NAGAR-IV, NEW DELHI-110024

F.No.ADM/LAC/SE/2023/05/KH. No. 221/Part-II 681-690

Date: 31/07/2025

Public Notice under Section 21 of the RECTLARR Act, 2013

Whereas, Hon'ble Supreme Court of India vide order dated 17.05.2024 directed that fresh acquisition to be re-initiated under RFCTLARR Act, 2013 for the land bearing Khasra No. 662/293 (04-01) and 300 (07-11) of village Jasola, Sub Division Sarita Vihar, District South East and also directed that preliminary notification under section 11(1) of the Right to Fair Compensation and Transparency in Land Acquisition, Rehabilitation and Resettlement Act, 2013 shall be deemed to have been published as on 01.01.2014.

Whereas, Khasra No. 662/293 (04-01) and 300 (07-11) were acquired vide award No. 6E/1992-93, of village Jasola. The mentioned Kharsa No.'s were notified vide notification u/s 4 of LA, Act, 1894 dated 06.04.1964. Possession of land was taken on 28.08.1992.

Accordingly, in accordance with section 21 of RFCTLARR Act 2013, notice is being issued to intimate all concerned that the Government intends to initiate fresh acquisition proceedings for the land mentioned above is to be acquired for "public" purpose" and that claims to compensations in above land may be made by all interested by appearing personally or by agent or advocate stating the nature of their respective interests in the land and the amount and particulars of their claims to compensation for such interests, along with their objections if any, before the DM/Collector(SE) on 01 September, 2025 at 11.30 AM in the Conference Hall of the office of District Magistrate (South East). Sd/-

(SUNNY KUMAR SINGH)

Collector and District Magistrate (South East Delhi) DIP/Shabdarth/Classified/0164/25-26.

DIP 12 X15hPRN(36)

GOVERNMENT OF NATIONAL CAPITAL TERRITORY OF DELHI (REVENUE DEPARTMENT)

OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT MAGISTRATE (SOUTH-EAST) OLD GARGI COLLEGE BUILDING, BEHIND LSR COLLEGE LAJPAT NAGAR-IV, NEW DELHI-110024

F.No.ADM/LAC/SE/2023/05/KH. No. 221/Part-II/701-710 Date: 31/07/2025 Public Notice under Section 21 of the RECTLARR Act, 2013

Whereas, Hon'ble Supreme Court of India vide order dated 17.05.2024 directed that fresh acquisition to be re-initiated under RFCTLARR Act, 2013 for the land bearing Khasra No. 707/233(1-07), 708/233(1-04), 709/233/(1-07), 493/234(1-03) of village Jasola, Sub Division Sarita Vihar, District South East and also directed that preliminary notification under section 11(1) of the Right to Fair Compensation and Transparency in Land Acquisition, Rehabilitation and Resettlement Act, 2013 shall be deemed to have been published as on 01.01.2014.

Whereas, Khasra No. 707/233(1-07), 708/233(1-04), 709/233/(1-07), 493/234(1-03) were acquired vide award No. 6-D/Suppl./1986-87 of village Jasola. The mentioned Kharsa No.'s were notified vide notification u/s 4 of LA, Act, 1894 No. F.4(9)/64/L&H dated 06.06.1964 and notification u/s 6 of LA, Act, 1894 No. F.4(9)/64/L&H dated 07.12.1966. Possession of land was taken on 19.08.1997.

Accordingly, in accordance with section 21 of RFCTLARR Act 2013, notice is being issued to intimate all concerned that the Government intends to initiate fresh acquisition proceedings for the land mentioned above is to be acquired for "public purpose" and that claims to compensations in above land may be made by all interested by appearing personally or by agent or advocate stating the nature of their respective interests in the land and the amount and particulars of their claims to compensation for such interests, along with their objections if any, before the DM/Collector(SE) on 01 September, 2025 at 11.30 AM in the Conference Hall of the office of District Magistrate (South East).

(SUNNY KUMAR SINGH)

Collector and District Magistrate (South East Delhi)

DIP/Shabdarth/Classified/0166/25-26

GOVERNMENT OF NATIONAL

CAPITAL TERRITORY OF DELHI (REVENUE DEPARTMENT) **OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT MAGISTRATE (SOUTH-EAST)** OLD GARGI COLLEGE BUILDING, BEHIND LSR COLLEGE LAJPAT NAGAR-IV, NEW DELHI-110024

F.No.ADM/LAC/SE/2023/05/KH. No.221/Part-II/711-720

Date:31/07/2025

Public Notice under Section 21 of the RECTLARR Act, 2013

Whereas, Hon'ble Supreme Court of India vide order dated 17.05.2024 directed that fresh acquisition to be re-initiated under RFCTLARR Act, 2013 for the land bearing Khasra No. 739(22-16), 4024/740(00-15), 4025/740(00-06), 4026/740(00-16) of village Tughlakabad, Sub Division, Kalka Ji, District South East and also directed that preliminary notification under section 11(1) of the Right to Fair Compensation and Transparency in Land Acquisition, Rehabilitation and Resettlement Act, 2013 shall be deemed to have been published as on 01.01.2014.

Whereas, Khasra No. 739(22-16), 4024/740(00-15), 4025/740(00-06), 4026/740(00-16) were acquired vide award No. 50-A/Suppl./1969-70 village Tughlakabad for DDA(PDD). The mentioned Kharsa No.'s were notified vide notification u/s 4 of LA, Act, 1894 No. F.4(2)/65-L&H dated 23.01.1965 and notification u/s 6 of LA, Act, 1894 No. F.4(2)/65-L&H dated 13.01.1969. Possession of the Kharsa No. 739 min(8-4) was taken on 02.09.2006 and Kharsa No. 739 min(14-12), 4024/740(00-15), 4025/740(00-06), 4026/740(00-16) was taken on 23.11.1981.

Accordingly, in accordance with section 21 of RFCTLARR Act 2013, notice is being issued to intimate all concerned that the Government intends to initiate fresh acquisition proceedings for the land mentioned above is to be acquired for "public purpose" and that claims to compensations in above land may be made by all interested by appearing personally or by agent or advocate stating the nature of their respective interests in the land and the amount and particulars of their claims to compensation for such interests, along with their objections if any, before the DM/Collector(SE) on 01 September, 2025 at 11.30 AM in the Conference Hall of the office of District Magistrate (South East). Sd/-

Collector and District Magistrate

Date: 31.07.2025 Place: New Delhi

THE WEST BENGAL NATIONAL UNIVERSITY OF JURIDICAL SCIENCES 12 LB Block, Sector -III, Salt Lake City, Kolkata -700 106 **INVITES APPLICATIONS FOR THE POST OF**

VICE CHANCELLOR The Vice Chancellor, being an academic as well as

administrative head, is expected to be a visionary with proven leadership qualities, administrative capabilities as well as teaching and research credentials, should also have outstanding academic record throughout with a minimum of 10 years' experience as a Professor of Law in a University or in an equivalent position in reputed research and/or academic administrative organization.

The detailed advertisement can be downloaded from the University website www.nujs.edu on the following page http://nujs.edu/careers.html

Last date of receipt of applications: 31.08.2025 Sd/- Registrar

NTPC Limited (A Govt. of India Enterprise)

Corporate Identification Number: L40101DL1975G0I007966 Regd. Office: NTPC Bhawan, Core-7, SCOPE Complex, 7, Institutional Area, Lodi Road, New Delhi -110003 Tel.: 011-24360959, Fax No.: 011-24360241 Email: csntpc@ntpc.co.in, Website: www.ntpc.co.in

NTIMATION REGARDING 49[™] ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING (AGM) AND RECORD

DATE FOR PAYMENT OF FINAL DIVIDEND It is hereby informed that the 49th Annual General Meeting ("AGM") of NTPC Limited will be held on Friday, 29th August 2025 at 10.30 A.M. (IST) through

Video Conferencing (VC) or Other Audio Visual Means (OAVM) in line with the applicable provisions of the Companies Act, 2013 and rules made thereunder read with General Circulars dated 8th April , 2020, 13th April, 2020, 5th May, 2020, and other relevant circulars including circular dated 19th September 2024 issued by the Ministry of Corporate Affairs ('MCA'). In accordance with aforesaid MCA Circulars and SEBI circular dated 5th June 2025, the Annual Report along with the Notice of 49th AGM will be sent only through electronic mode to those shareholders whose email addresses are registered with the Company/ depository participant/depository.

The Notice and Integrated Annual Report 2024-25 will also be made available on the Company's website www.ntpc.co.in and websites of the Stock Exchanges. .e., BSE Limited and National Stock Exchange of India Limited at <u>www.bseindia.com</u> and <u>www.nseindia.com</u> respectively.

Manner of casting vote(s) through e-voting: In terms of Section 108 of the Companies Act, 2013 read with Rule 20 of the Companies (Management and Administration) Rules, 2014, the Resolutions for consideration at the 49th AGM will be transacted through remote e-voting and e-voting during the AGM. The Company has engaged services of National Securities Depository Limited (NSDL) for facilitating voting through electronic means. Shareholders who hold shares in physical form or who have not registered their e-mail address and wish to participate in the AGM or cast their votes through remote e-voting or e-voting during the meeting may participate in the AGM by following instructions given in

Manner of registering / updating email ID & Bank Details: Shareholders who have not registered their email IDs and Bank Account details are hereby

equested to register the same in following manner: For share holders Shareholders holding shares in physical form, who have not holding shares in registered/updated their email address(es) with the **Physical Mode** Company may obtain the Notice and/or login details to cast

their vote through Remote e-Voting facility or for receiving any future communication by the Company, by sending following documents via email to beetelrta@gmail.com followed by sending the physical copy of the same through post at the Registered Office of the Company or to the RTA of the Company by post at Beetal Financial & Computer Services Pvt. Ltd. at 3rd Floor, Beetal House, 99, Madangir,

Duly filled and signed request letter in Form ISR-1, which is available on website of the Company: Self-attested scanned copy of the PAN Card linked

with Aadhaar, and Self-attested scanned copy of any document in support of the address (such as Aadhaar Card, Driving Licence, Election Identity Card, Passport) of the shareholder and such other documents as prescribed

in the Form ISR-1. For share holders Shareholders can update email IDs, mobile numbers and holding shares in Bank Account details by contacting their respective Depository Participants as per the process advised by

Record Date for Payment of Final Dividend

Notice is hereby given that the Company has fixed Thursday, 4th September 2025 as Record date for the purpose of payment of final dividend for the financial year 2024-25, if approved by the Shareholders in the upcoming AGM of the Company.

Shareholders may note that in terms of the provisions of the Income Tax Act, 1961 ("the Act") as amended by the Finance Act, 2020, dividend paid or distributed by a Company on or after 1st April, 2020 is taxable in the hands of the Shareholders. The Company shall, therefore, required to deduct tax at source ('TDS') at the time of payment of dividend to the Shareholders. In order to enable us to determine the appropriate TDS rate, as applicable, Shareholders are requested to submit necessary forms/documents in accordance with the provisions of the Income Tax Act upto Thursday, 11th September 2025, 17:00 Hours (IST). The necessary documents, as applicable, are required to be emailed at tdsdiv@ntpc.co.in and dividend.ntpc@taxcpc.com to enable the Company to determine the appropriate TDS rates. For the detailed process, please visit website of the Company https://www.ntpc.co.in/investor-updates/dividendtds-communication.

In case of any further assistance in this regard, Shareholders may contact RTA or he Company at above mentioned email/address.

> Ritu Arora **Company Secretary**

For NTPC Limited

Leading the Power Sector

DIP/Shabdarth/Glassified/0167/25/29ess.com

(South East Delhi)

(SUNNY KUMAR SINGH)

6 IN PARLIAMENT MONSOON SESSION



Union Minister Kiren Rijiju speaks in the Rajya Sabha. PTI

In The House

4.4L out of 6.6L grievances redressed: Govt

OUT OF more than 6.6 lakh public grievances received between April and July 24 this year, 4.47 lakh have been redressed, the Rajya Sabha was informed on Thursday. Department Administrative Reforms and Public Grievances conducts monthly review meetings with all the ministries/departments and states/UTs to ensure timely disposal of grievances, Union Minister of State for Personnel, Jitendra Singh, said in a written reply in the Upper House. To independently assess citizen satisfaction, a feedback call centre has been made operational since July 2022, he said.

78,000 ha forest land diverted from 2021 to 25

THE CENTRE on Thursday informed Rajya Sabha that over 78,100 hectares of forest land have been approved for diversion across the country in the last four years for various projects. In a written reply, Union minister Kirti Vardhan Singh also said that the government approved diversion

of 12,324.32 ha of forest land in the first half of 2025. Madhya Pradesh accounted for the highest area of forest land approved for diversion at 17,393.65 hectares, followed by Odisha with 11,033.08 hectares, Arunachal Pradesh with 6561.47 hectares, Uttar Pradesh with 5480.43 hectares and Chhattisgarh with 4,092.01 hectares. Gujarat reported diversion of 4,959 hectares of forest land, while Jharkhand saw 4,431.91 hectares being approved for non-forest purposes. Rajasthan diverted

'India always supported 2-state solution'

INDIA HAS always supported

"a negotiated two-state solu-

4,180.06 hectares.

tion" that would see the establishment of a sovereign, independent and viable State of Palestine within secure and recognised borders, living side by side in peace with Israel, the government told the Rajya Sabha on Thursday. The Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) was asked whether India's support for the Palestinian cause has been an "integral part of our foreign policy".

Opp protests over SIR, PM reply continue, both Houses adjourned

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE NEW DELHI. JULY 31

THE RAJYA Sabha was adjourned for the day on Thursday after repeated disruptions by Opposition members over the issue of revision of electoral rolls in Bihar.

The House was adjourned soon after Commerce Minister Piyush Goyal made a suo motu statement on the imposition of 25% tariff by the US, asserting that India will take all steps necessary to protect its national interest.

Proceedings in the Lok Sabha too were adjourned for the day soon after Goyal made a statement on the US tariff announcement amid Opposition's protest against the Special Intensive Revision (SIR) exercise in Bihar.

The Upper House, earlier in the day, witnessed three adjournments amid uproar by Opposition MPs over no reply by Prime Minister Narendra Modi to the debate on Operation Sindoor in the House; they also raised the SIR issue.

The first adjournment happened soon after the proceedings began at 11 am; the second one when the House met at 12 noon; and the third when the House met again at 2 pm. The Chair ad- through the House. The Home

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE

THE ELECTION Commission in-

formed the Rajya Sabha, through

the Law Ministry, on Thursday

that there is no category of "sus-

picious voters" under the law,

when asked whether any such

voters had cast their votes in the

when the EC is conducting a

Special Intensive Revision (SIR)

The reply comes at a time

last Lok Sabha elections.

NEW DELHI, JULY 31



Opposition members protest in Rajya Sabha on Thursday. PTI

journed the proceedings till 4.30 pm as Opposition members continued their noisy protests.

Parliamentary Affairs Minister Kiren Rijiju said Opposition MPs had raised slogans demanding the Prime Minister come to the House, triggering uproar from Trinamool Congress MPs.

"The behaviour of TMC MPs is not right... The way Derek O'Brien is behaving is not right," Rijiju said. He said PM Modi had already

replied to the debate in the Lok Sabha for one hour and 42 minutes on Tuesday. "He (PM) presented all the facts to the nation

of electoral rolls in Bihar. One of

the reasons cited for the exercise,

according to the Commission's

June 24 statement, is the "inclu-

sion of the names of foreign ille-

gal immigrants" over the years.

Samajwadi Party MP Ramji Lal

Suman on whether it was a fact

that "suspicious voters" had voted

in the last Lok Sabha elections,

Minister of State (Independent

Charge) for Law and Justice Arjun

Ram Meghwal, in a written reply,

said: "The Election Commission

Responding to a question by

Minister (Amit Shah) is capable of replying to the debate," Rijiju said. He said the government has a collective responsibility, and the Opposition does not get to decide

finished his statement, the Chair

adjourned the House till 4.30 pm.

When the House met again at 4.30 pm, Goyal made his statement amid sloganeering by Opposition members. "The government attaches the utmost importance to protecting and promoting the welfare of our farmers, workers, entrepreneurs, ex-

of India (ECI) has informed that

there is no category of suspicious

voters as per the Representation

tion posed by RJD MP Manoj

Kumar Jha, the ECI said — again

through Meghwal — that the

"linking of Aadhaar with the

Election Photo Identity Card

that following a 2021 amend-

ment to the RP Act, 1950, it

launched a programme to collect

The Commission also said

(EPIC) has not yet started".

In response to another ques-

of the People Act, 1951."

who will speak. As soon as Rijiju

porters, MSMEs and all sections of industry. We will take all neces-

sary steps to secure and advance our national interest," he said.

The Opposition members continued raising slogans against the SIR and demanding that the Prime Minister come to the House, following which the House was adjourned for the day.

In the Lok Sabha, Speaker Om Birla tried to take up Zero Hour but the Opposition members continued to raise slogans. Birla then adjourned the House till 2 pm. When the Lok Sabha reassembled at 2 pm, it could function for only a few minutes. Amid sloganeering by the Opposition members, papers were laid in the House. Samaiwadi Party MP

Awadhesh Prasad, who was in the Chair, urged the members to go back to their seats. When the protests continued, he adjourned the proceedings till 4 pm. Soon after the House met at 4 pm, Birla called for Goyal to make his statement. As soon as the statement got over, the Opposition MPs rushed to the Well and raised slogans. The Speaker then adjourned the House for the day.

The House, meanwhile, congratulated the scientists for the successful launch of the GSLV rocket that placed an Earth observation satellite, jointly developed

No category of 'suspicious voters' under law: EC to RS Aadhaar numbers of existing and prospective electors on a volun-

> This response comes four months after the EC announced that the Aadhaar-linking process would begin soon. In a press release dated March 18, the Commission said Chief Election Commissioner Gyanesh Kumar and Election Commissioners Sukhbir Singh Sandhu and Vivek Joshi had met the Union Home Secretary, Legislative Secretary, and UIDAI CEO.

tary basis from August 1, 2022.

Rahul backs Trump jibe: 'Only PM, FM don't know Indian economy is dead'

BJP calls his statement 'shameful insult' to aspirations of people

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE NEW DELHI, JULY 31

LEADER OF Opposition in Lok Sabha Rahul Gandhi Thursday said US President Donald Trump was right in calling India's economy "dead" and accused the government under Prime Minister Narenedra Modi of "destroying" the country's economic, defence and foreign policies.

After imposing a 25% tariff on imports from India, along with a penalty for procuring military equipment and energy from Russia, Trump on Wednesday hit out at India and Russia, saying the two "can take their dead economies down together". Asked about Trump's claim,

Gandhi said, "He is right, everybody knows this, except the Prime Minister (Narendra Modi) and the Finance Minister (Nirmala Sitharaman). Everybody knows that the Indian economy is a dead economy. I am glad that President Trump has stated a fact."

On the India-US trade deal being negotiated, Gandhi said it will happen and President Trump will define how it will happen. "Modi will do what Trump tells him to do," he said.

Talking about PM Modi's speech in Lok Sabha on Tuesday, Gandhi said the PM mentioned neither Trump nor China's name. The Congress leader also said the BJP has destroyed the Indian economy in order to help billionaire Gautam Adani.

After his remarks, Gandhi, in a post on X, said, "The Indian Economy is dead. Modi killed it.



LoP in the Lok Sabha Rahul Gandhi with MP Priyanka Gandhi Vadra outside Parliament Thursday. PTI



SCANTO WATCH THE LS LoP'S **FULL SPEECH**

1.Adani-Modi partnership. 2 Demonetisation and a flawed GST 3. Failed 'Assemble in India 4. MSMEs wiped out.5. Farmers crushed." He also said Modi destroyed the future of India's youth because there are no jobs. Reacting to Gandhi's state-

ment, BJP MP Anurag Thakur said making anti-India statements has become his "mentality". "Whenever anyone makes an anti-India statement in the world, he grabs it," he said.

BJP's IT department head Amit Malviya said in a post on X: "Rahul Gandhi has hit a new low by echoing 'dead economy' jibe — a shameful insult to the aspirations, achievements, and wellbeing of the Indian people." "But let's be honest — the only thing truly 'dead' here is Rahu Gandhi's own political credibility and legacy," he said.

The TMC too launched a scathing attack on the Centre over the US's tariff decision.

Amid Trump tirade, can Delhi stand its ground?

SHUBHAJIT ROY NEW DELHI, JULY 31

A STUNNED South Block was grappling for a response on Thursday as US President Donald Trump's tirade lasted over 12 hours after announcing a 25% tariff against India, plus a "penalty" for its trade with Russia, from August 1. The sharp words on India

where President Trump lashed out at New Delhi's close ties with Russia — "I don't care what India does with Russia. They can take their dead economies down together, for all I care" — was seen as offensive by many. While his criticism of India

putting high tariffs has been a pet grievance from his first term, when he had called India a "tariff king", the US President's latest statement described India's trade policies as "most strenuous and obnoxious". Trump also said that although

India is America's friend, "we have, over the years, done relatively little business with them because their (India) tariffs are far too high, among the highest in the world, and they have the most strenuous and obnoxious non-monetary trade barriers of any country". He said India has always purchased a significant amount of military equipment and energy products from Russia at a time when everyone wants Moscow to stop the "killing" in Ukraine.

What added insult to injury was that Trump announced sealing a trade deal with Pakistan and said Washington will work with Islamabad to develop what he described as the South Asian nation's "massive oil reserves".

In a social media post, the US President also wondered if Pakistan could sell oil to India "some day". "We are in the process of choosing the oil company that will lead this (US-Pakistan) partnership. Who knows, maybe they'll be selling oil to India some day!" he said in a post on Truth Social on

Wednesday. There has been no official re-

There are two possible impulses that guide Trump's responses, according to Delhi's analysis.

ment after the barrage of posts.

First, his negotiating style to browbeat and bully the adversary by imposing high tariffs. This has been seen with China, where he imposed 145% tariffs and then dialled down to 35%. The dialing down of tariffs took place after

their talks in Geneva.

Second, some in the Indian establishment feel that the US President has not taken very kindly to Delhi fact-checking Trump's claims on brokering a ceasefire between India and Pakistan. Not only has Prime Minister Narendra Modi conveyed this in the phone call with President Trump on June 17, but Indian ministers and officials have repeatedly denied the US President's claim. RED

New Delhi feels that Trump's words now threaten to undo the hard work that had made the two countries "strategic partners" and had been framed as the "defin-

ing partnership of the 21st century" by US President Barack Obama.

Veteran Indian diplomats recall how India and the US were estranged during the Cold War era, and India had faced sanctions from the US, especially after the Pokhran nuclear tests in 1998.

The turnaround in the relationship took place with President George W Bush agreeing with Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee to turn the corner and work on the Next Steps of Strategic Partnership. That laid the foundation for the Indo-US nuclear deal under Prime Minister Dr Manmohan Singh, and later Prime Minister Narendra Modi built on the foundation to move the relations to higher levels — from Quad leaders' summit to Major Defence partnership.

Trump, in the first term, had also supported India against China during the border standoffs in Doklam in 2017 and eastern Ladakh since 2020. He also sponse from the Indian governconveyed full-fledged support after the 2019 Pulwama terror at-

In fact, he was the first foreign leader to call PM Modi in Jeddah after the Pahalgam terror attack on April 22. The US also listed The Resistance Front as a foreign terrorist outfit. But, Pakistan's outreach to the Trump family and the inner circle through investments in the crypto-currency business, Delhi feels, seems to have tilted the scales in its favour.

Over the last few months, business deals and fawning praise for Trump, including recommending his name for the Nobel peace prize for stopping the India-Pakistan military confrontation, also seem to have brought Islamabad closer to Washington DC. The icing on the cake was Trump hosting Pakistan Army Chief Field Marshal Asim Munir for lunch at the White

> Now, Pakistan's oil deal with the US has cemented the belief in Delhi that the Trump-Munir lunch had much more on the menu than

derstood. Pakistan has long claimed to have large oil deposits along its coast, but no progress has been made to tap those deposits.

was previously known and un-

Pakistan's Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif took to social media on Thursday to thank President Trump over the "historic" trade agreement. "This landmark deal will enhance our growing cooperation so as to expand the frontiers of our enduring partnership in days to come," he wrote on X..

While the Indian government's Commerce Ministry said it has "taken note" of Trump's statement on bilateral trade and the government is studying its implications, sources said that any response has to be shorn of emotion and calculated.

The diplomatic challenge is three-fold: how long can Delhi stand its ground against the US, whether India can engage with Trump's inner circle and whether they can overcome the distrust fuelled by the US President's comments in the long term.

THE SUDDEN announcement of President Donald Trump's 25%

tariffs on Indian goods from August 1, with an additional but unspecified "penalty" for its defence and energy imports from Russia has put a lot of stress on the Narendra Modi government. Former Union Minister and

senior Congress leader **P CHIDAMBARAM**, who has served as Finance minister for four terms and was also the Commerce and Industry minister, talks to The Indian Express of the tightrope that India must now walk on the negotiations. Excerpts:

How do you see President Trump's tariffs and penalty on certain imports from Russia?

He (Trump) has set August 1 as a deadline. What I gather is the negotiations are not going forward in the way that we expect. But he is a very impulsive President. Therefore, he announced it two days before the August 1 deadline. Be that as it may... I just read that in the last few hours, he has said 'Whether we will charge the tariff that I announced' and 'We will let you know by this week'... Whatever he meant by that. Therefore, although he has announced a 25% tariff, whether he will stick to that, I cannot say.

How does India navigate ties with a President who you call impulsive?

France, the UK and some Latin American countries are dealing with President Trump and the United States. They do not take a defiant attitude. At the same time, they do not bend over. We have to maintain our position and tell the United States that we are willing to negotiate.

Negotiating a trade agreement with the United States is not easy. It is painstaking. The big obstacle is that we had — and in many cases still have — is high tax. As a result of that, the trade balance between the United States and India is almost \$45 billion in our favour. We can say the same thing about our trade with other countries, where the trade balances in favor of the other coun-

(to US)... it's difficult but we must persevere' try. But that is part of the world of commerce... We will have to deal with it. We do not have to bend over. At the same time, we do not

Japan and Korea have trade deals with the US. Is that the best way to navigate the situation?

have to be defiant.

There is a difference. Japan is a developed country. South Korea is a developed country. They have a wider basket of exports. They have also freed imports to a large extent.

Therefore, it is easier for them to open up a little more in exchange for the United States opening up a little more. We were a closed economy. In fact, when I took over as Commerce minister, we were completely closed. We have opened it significantly but not to the extent of developed countries.

It is more difficult for us to enter into a trade agreement with the United States than Japan and South Korea. There are other countries in the same league as India. They will also find it difficult to enter into trade agreements with the United States. But we have to persevere, and we have to go through the exercise.

Some countries have announced reciprocal tariffs.

Those are bargaining chips. China has done it. That is a kind of a bluff or bravado which President Trump also indulges in.

Should India avoid that route? No, we are not in the position to do that. We have to negotiate. We have to make it plain that we

will negotiate. Coming to the debate in **Parliament on Operation**

Sindoor and its aftermath... How do you see the discourse? And are there unanswered questions after three days of debate? The unanswered question is:

Why did we accept the ceasefire immediately and without conditions? See the Armed forces have made sacrifices, fought bravely and made sacrifices. They may not have lost any lives,



We do not have to bend over or be defiant



P CHIDAMBARAM CONGRESS LEADER AND FORMER UNION MINISTER

but they have lost military hardware. If the Armed forces made some military gains, no doubt about it. I acknowledged it in my intervention in Parliament... But if you accepted a ceasefire — let us assume voluntarily — why did you accept it immediately and without conditions? That is the question I would ask.

What conditions?

I do not know. The military must be involved. The Foreign Ministry must be involved. The Home Ministry must be involved. And the Water Ministry must be involved. And we should have made a list of demands and told Pakistan 'you indicate whether these demands can be met partially or wholly, and then we will agree to a ceasefire'. But without being in government... How can I spell out the conditions...

But an unconditional ceasefire and an immediate ceasefire... Seems to me, we are frittering away the military gains.

The Opposition alleges US President played a role in bringing about a ceasefire?

That is a separate question. I do not want to jump to that conclusion, but that is a separate question. Here is a President of the United States saying — for the 31st time today — that he is the one who brought about the end of the war and the ceasefire.

Now, the government rebukes the Opposition. I do not want you to rebuke President Trump, at least rebut him. This is the demand. Stand up in Parliament and say 'President Trump did not speak to me, did not mediate, did not bring about a ceasefire. It is our decision, one we took voluntarily'.

Of course, President Trump will say something after that, but at least for Indian parliament and Indian public opinion, that statement must be made. So, Mr Rahul Gandhi is absolutely right. He is saying that it should be said in Parliament. That is all.

In LS, Home Minister Amit Shah referred to an interview you gave to *The Quint* in which you said the BJP administration was giving a clean chit to Pak. You said Pahalgam attackers could be homegrown terrorists.

What did I say? What has the NIA (National Investigation Agency) investigation revealed? They are unwilling to disclose what the NIA has done all these weeks. Have they identified the terrorists? And I said give us what the NIA has found.

That is not doubting the NIA... Just asking for information. I know — and I believe that there are infiltrating terrorists. I said so in the Rajya Sabha. There are Pakistani infiltrating terrorists, but they are also Indiaterrorists. Pahalgam... On April 26, the J&K administration demolished a number of houses on the ground that were owned by terrorists.

Now, who are those terrorists? If they own houses in India, they must be India-based terrorists. Secondly, in June, the NIA arrested two people. The names have come out today... On the ground, they were harboring the three suspected infiltrating terrorists. Who are those two guys? They are India-based terrorists. or India based extremists.

The Mumbai Suburban train attack (in 2006)... Who committed that? India-based militants.

Mumbai Zaveri Bazaar (blast) in 2011 was India-based terrorists. Therefore, I maintain that there are infiltrating terrorists as well as India-based terrorists. Just tell us what the NIA has found. The government has now neutralised three people, and the Home Minister announced it in Parliament. I accepted.

During the debate in both the Houses, senior ministers hit out at the Congress to argue that the party had always been soft on Pakistan and terrorism. How do you see that kind of a counter attack?

This is not a counter attack For the people of India, these are completely irrelevant. You start from 1947 and say Congress gave away Pakistan. Anybody who makes that statement has no idea of the historical events between 1942 to 1947. Then, you say we gave away PoK.

At the end of this three-day debate on Operation Sindoor, is the Opposition satisfied? As many members have

said... Not only the Congress, but the DMK, TMC, CPM, AAP, RJD.. They have asked a number of questions, and according to them, they have not been answered satisfactorily.

This week, there were acquittals in 2 terror cases — Mumbai train bombings and Malegaon bomb blast. It was under your tenure as Home Minister that NIA was set up. How do you see the challenge when high-profile terror cases fall like this in courts.

Because I was in the Home ministry, I have said that no political comment is required in a criminal court proceeding. I am a trained lawyer. I believe that the judiciary is independent. The prosecution is independent. The investigating officer is independent. In these cases, the cases were registered and investigated initially by the Maharashtra police. think one case was transferred to the NIA. So, where is the political comment on the criminal court proceeding or the outcome of the criminal court case?

MALEGAON BLAST VERDICT

SPECIAL COURT FLAGS PROCEDURAL LAPSES, NIA'S DROPPING OF MCOCA THAT RENDERED CONFESSIONS INADMISSIBLE

Hostile witnesses, unreliable proof: How case fell

SADAF MODAK & OMKAR GOKHALE MUMBAI, JULY 31

KEY WITNESS statements on conspiracy meetings did not support the prosecution; contents of an accused's laptop cannot be relied on; fingerprints or DNA samples were not collected from the site; procedure adopted to record voice samples of accused was "not free from doubt" — these were some of the observations of the special court in Mumbai which acquitted the seven accused booked in the 2008 Malegaon blast case on Thursday.

The case, which was initially probed by the Maharashtra Anti-Terrorism Squad (ATS) was transferred to the National Investigation Agency (NIA) in 2011, which was the prosecuting agency in the trial. This is what the court said:

Conspiracy meetings

The ATS had claimed that the accused held conspiracy meetings in Faridabad, Nashik and Bhopal between 2007 and 2008.

The ATS mainly relied on the statements of witnesses, registers of halls where these meetings were held or registers of places where the accused stayed to prove their presence. But the NIA said there were inconsistencies in the statements and recorded them again.

Most of the witnesses who turned hostile had testified on conspiracy meetings. In 2016, a theft of documents was reported, which included statements of 13 persons. Most of the 13 turned hostile and the prosecution was unable to confront them as they are missing. About the meetings, special judge AK Lahoti said statements of main witnesses had not supported the prosecution and the testimonies of others were not reliable or acceptable.

Recordings on accused's laptop

A key piece of evidence the ATS and the NIA relied on was audio and video recordings on the laptop of accused Sudhakar Dhar Dwivedi. The accused in their final submissions claimed these recordings cannot be relied on. The court observed that there were procedural flaws in the arrest and the seizure of articles from the accused. About the laptop, the court said that it was not sealed on the spot and remained open in the custody of the investigating officers for more than 24 hours.

Intercepted calls

SUNANDA MEHTA

ROHINI SALIAN, the former spe-

cial public prosecutor of the

Malegaon blast case who had al-

leged in 2015 that the govern-

ment had, through the National

Investigation Agency (NIA), put

pressure on her to "go soft" on the

accused, said Thursday that she

"It was known this would

happen. What else is expected if

you don't lay out the true evidence? I was not the prosecutor

who presented the evidence to

the court finally. I was out since

2017, and before that, I had pre-

sented plenty of evidence and the

Supreme Court had upheld it all.

Where did it all vanish?" Salian

told The Indian Express from

Mangalore, where she now lives.

since a long time — if you lay out

different evidence than what was

first recorded, anything can hap-

pen. According to the NIA, the ear-

lier evidence was false, so they

reinvestigated the case, re-

recorded the witnesses' state-

ments, which apparently were

contrary to the 164 recorded ear-

lier by the ATS. The new evidence

was what was presented to the

court, and the judgment was

with the verdict because this has

"I am not even disappointed

based on that," she said.

"I was expecting this verdict

was expecting the acquittal.

PUNE, JULY 31

Another crucial link between

FORMER SPL PUBLIC PROSECUTOR SPEAKS

can happen if you give

'Expected... anything

different evidence'

the accused, which the ATS and NIA relied on, were intercepted conversations. It was claimed that after the first arrest in the case, of Pragya Singh Thakur, there were calls between the coaccused which show their complicity in the crime. The court said the procedure adopted for voice samples of accused was "not free from doubt" and was not authorised.

LML motorcycle

The ATS had claimed that an LML Freedom motorcycle was the key evidence linking the accused to the blast. It said Thakur was the owner of the motorcycle and was linked to the execution of the blast. It said the forensic analysis pointed towards use of RDX. The court said that while it was proved that a blast had taken place, it was not proved that the explosive was planted inside the motorcycle and could have been placed on it "from the outside". It said there was no proper identification of the motorcycle. The court said a mob of

15,000 people had assembled at the spot after the blast. Due to this the spot was not barricaded immediately and there was contamination of the articles sent for forensic analysis. It said the ATS had not collected any fingerprints or DNA samples from the site.

The bomb

The ATS had alleged that the explosive used in the bomb was RDX and claimed that it was procured by Lt Col Prasad Purohit from his posting in the Army at Jammu & Kashmir. The court said that there is no evidence on the point of the source of the explosive, or any proof on how it was procured and transported.

Abhinav Bharat

The ATS and NIA had claimed that the organisation Abhinav Bharat founded by Prasad Purohit was linked to the conspiracy of the blast and that funds given to the organisation was used by the accused. "But, there was no evidence that the said amount was used for terrorist activities," the court said.

Confessions and MCOCA

The ATS rested its probe on the aspect that the accused had participated in conspiracy meetings. Its main evidence was the confessions of some of the accused recorded under the Maharashtra Control of Organised Crime Act. The MCOCA was dropped in 2016 as the NIA said that there were shortcomings in how the Act was invoked. The court said the confessions were thus not considered.

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elected, and they will govern the

Indian Express that as special pub-

lic prosecutor, she had allegedly

been under pressure from the

NIA to go "soft" on the accused

ever since "the new government

(NDA) came to power" at the

Centre. She had claimed that she

got a call from one of the officers

of the NIA asking to come over to

speak with her. "He didn't want

to talk over the phone. He came

and said to me that there is a

message that I should go soft.'

fore one of the regular hearings

in the case in the Sessions Court,

she claimed she was told that

"higher-ups" did not want her to

appear in the court for the State

Earlier that month, just be-

Salian had claimed.

of Maharashtra.

In June 2015, Salian had, in an

way they need to," she said.

truth to come

out. We work

very hard, but

Rohini Salian

How NIA probe contradicted ATS

SADAF MODAK

MUMBAI, JULY 31

& OMKAR GOKHALE

The site of the

September 29,

2008 blast that

and injured

over 100. File

killed six persons

THE PROBE into the Malegaon 2008 blast case by both the Maharashtra Anti-Terrorism Squad (ATS) and the National Investigation Agency (NIA), which took over the probe in 2011, was slammed by the special court in Mumbai while acquitting all seven booked in the case.

ATS chargesheet

The ATS, then led by IPS officer Hemant Karkare, investigated the case first. Karkare was killed in the Mumbai terror attack on November 26, 2008, days after the first arrest in the case. The ATS filed a chargesheet in the case in January 2009, naming 11 accused, citing conspiracy meetings in Faridabad, Ujjain, Nashik, Bhopal. It said that witnesses included persons who were in the meetings and who had heard the accused discussing the attack in a Muslim-populated area. It had also said that three of the accused had given confessions under the MCOCA. It claimed that the accused were linked through the Abhinav Bharat organisation, "an

MANOJCG

NEW DELHI. JULY 31

THE ACQUITTAL of all the accused,

including former BJP MP Pragya

Singh Thakur and Lt Col Prasad

Purohit, in the 2008 Malegaon

blast case has given the BJP fresh

ammunition to target the

Congress, which has been grop-

ing in the dark against the ruling

party's charge against it of being a

"pro-Muslim" and – by extension

central leadership maintained a

telling silence in the wake of the

blamed on accused with links to

Hindutva groups, was preceded

days earlier by the Batla House en-

counter, in which alleged terror-

ists linked to Indian Mujahideen

were killed. Two months later fol-

lowed the 26/11 Mumbai terror

On Thursday, the Congress's's

The 2008 Malegaon blasts,

– an "anti-Hindu" party.

Malegaon judgment.



(Clockwise) Nisar Bilal who lost his son; the oldest victim's son Hussain & grandson Aamin Shah; Rehan Shaikh whose father was killed; Liyakat Shaikh, father of youngest victim, a 10-year-old girl.

organised crime syndicate".

NIA probe

The NIA took over the case in 2011 and it filed a supplementary chargesheet in 2016, in which it criticised the ATS probe, even while saying that there was sufficient evidence to proceed against six of the accused, including Lt Col Prasad Purohit.

The NIA's chargesheet stated clearly that it had not been able to collect any additional evidence from the scene of crime, blaming the time-lag. The NIA chargesheet did not include any

Statements by Congress

leaders around 2008 blasts

helped BJP's narrative of it

being a 'pro-Muslim' party

attacks, one of the worst the coun-

with the attacks, statements by

several Congress leaders in their

wake landed the UPA govern-

ment in a sticky situation.

Digvijaya Singh, the Congress

general secretary, raised doubts

over the Batla House encounter,

Even as the government dealt

new witnesses, but instead rerecorded statements of some of those who had given statements before the magistrate in 2008-09, who then denied their previous statements.

How did NIA differ?

The NIA claimed that MCOCA could not be invoked as ATS had not followed proper procedure in invoking the Act. It rendered all confessions, which the accused had claimed were made under coercion, inadmissible.

The NIA said that there was no evidence to show that accused

suggesting it was "fake". In the

wake of the 26/11 attacks, he said

he had spoken to Maharashtra

ATS chief Hemant Karkare hours

earlier, and that Karkare had told

him he was receiving threats

Minister P Chidambaram first

used the word "saffron terror".

Addressing an annual conference

of DGPs and IGPs, he said: "...There

is the recently uncovered phe-

nomenon of saffron terrorism that

has been implicated in many

bomb blasts of the past." The

Congress distanced itself from

Chidambaram's remarks then,

saying "terrorism does not have

cret diplomatic cables released by

WikiLeaks quoted Rahul Gandhi

as telling then US Ambassador to

India Timothy Roemer in 2009

that "the bigger threat (than out-

fits such as LeT) may be the

The same year, one of the se-

any colour other than black".

In 2010, then Union Home

from Hindu extremists.

the LML motorcycle linked to the blast, even as ATS had arrested her claiming that she had provided the motorcycle for the crime and had also introduced two wanted accused to the other co-accused. The NIA recommended dropping Thakur as an accused but the special court refused and she faced the trial.

Pragya Singh Thakur was using

The NIA also re-recorded some statements of witnesses claiming 'contradictions' in the ATS statements. It said that a witness had told them that 'lies were dictated' to him.

Hands burnt earlier, Cong leaders pick silence

growth of radicalised Hindu groups, which create religious tensions and political confrontations

with the Muslim community". In 2012, then Union Law Minister Salman Khurshid sparked a row when he said Sonia Gandhi "wept bitterly" when she was shown images of the Batla House encounter. Then, at a Congress Chintan Shivir in 2013, Home Minister Union Sushilkumar Shinde, said: "Reports have come during investigation that the BJP and RSS conduct terror training camps to spread terrorism... Bombs were planted on the Samjhauta Express (to Pakistan), at Mecca Masjid (in Hyderabad), and a blast was carried out in Malegaon. We will have

to think about it seriously.' Asked about the Malegaon verdict Thursday, Shinde refused to comment. Digivijaya said terrorism should not be associated with any religion.

The seven who were acquitted

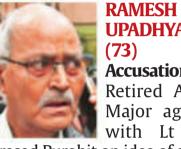


THAKUR (55) **Accusation:** ATS claimed an LML bike, on

which the ex-

plosive device was planted, belonged to her. ATS accused her of having participated in conspiracy meetings, where she was alleged to have agreed to provide the individuals who would be needed to execute the plan. The NIA sought that she be dropped as accused but the court said that she will have to face trial.

What court said: No proof to show Thakur was bike owner. Investigators did not conduct proper identification of bike, serial number was incomplete.



UPADHYAY Accusation:

Major agreed Prasad Purohit on idea of separate constitution for a "Hindu Rashtra", according to ATS. ATS claimed Upadhyay was working president of the Abhinav Bharat organisation. NIA said there was sufficient evidence to prosecute him and proof of his role in the form of "legally intercepted

calls" among the co-accused. What court said: Conspiracy meetings not proved as witnesses hadn't supported the prosecution's case. Calls intercepted without authorisation so cannot be relied on.



PRASAD PUROHIT (53) Accusation: ATS claimed

serving Army

officer had role in founding Abhinav Bharat in 2006, through which funds were allegedly collected and the conspiracy planned. ATS claimed he participated in conspiracy meetings. It claimed he procured RDX during posting in J&K.

What court said: No evidence RDX was procured by Purohit or was stored at his residence. Transactions showed funds for Abhinav Bharat were utilised for personal use but no proof of group's link to terror activity.



RAHIRKAR **Accusation:** ATS said Pune

Abhinav Bharat, and organisation was formed in Pune in 2006 at his address. He was booked for allegedly collecting funds for Abhinav Bharat and disbursing them to procure weapons on the directions of Purohit. The Bombay HC granted bail to Rahirkar two years after he was arrested on November 9, 2011. What the court said: No evidence that Abhinav Bharat funds used for terrorist activities.

SUDHAKAR DHAR DWIVEDI (56)

Accusation: ATS claimed laptop seized from him had audio and video clips of some conspiracy

ROAD TO ACQUITTAL

SEP 29, 2008: Blast near Bhiku Chowk in Malegaon at about 9.35 pm, killing six persons, injuring over 100 **OCT 23, 2008:** Pragya Singh Thakur arrested,

used was registered in her name **NOV 5, 2008:** Lt Col **Prasad Purohit arrested** from Army headquarters

ATS claims motorcycle

in Mumbai **NOV 26, 2008:** Then ATS chief Hemant Karkare. who was leading probe,

killed in Mumbai terror attack **APR 1, 2011:** Case transferred to NIA **MAY 13, 2016:** NIA files

chargesheet, drops MCOCA, says no evidence against six accused, including Thakur. **APR 25, 2017:** Bombay **HC grants bail to Thakur:** other accused get bail **August-October 2017 DEC 27, 2017: Special** trial court drops MCOCA but says seven will face trial under UAPA and other charges, rejects

NIA's claim of no evidence against Thakur. **DEC 3, 2018:** Trial begins in special court, Mumbai **JUL 31, 2025:** Special Court acquits all 7 accused.

meetings. It also recorded voice samples of the accused and a witness to confirm their presence in the meetings.

What court said: Laptop unsealed in custody of investigators for over 24 hours before being contents can't be relied upon.





ficials of Army. ATS claimed he was working full-time with Abhinav Bharat. It claimed traces of RDX were found at his home What court said: The court said based on statements of two Army officers who said they spotted an ATS officer in his home in November 2008, days before claim that traces of RDX were



found, house search was not reli-

able as evidence.

accused on the formation of "Aryawrat" and had participated in discussions in conspiracy meetings. What court said: Conspiracy

meetings not proved.

Will again be able to serve nation as Army officer: Lt Col Purohit

SUSHANT KULKARNI& exclusive interview, told *The* **CHANDAN HAYGUNDE** PUNE, JULY 31

> LIEUTENANT-COLONEL Prasad Purohit, one of the seven Malegaon blast accused who were acquitted on Thursday, thanked the judiciary as well as his lawyers, including Harish Salve and Mukul Rohatgi, who he said appeared for him in the case without taking any fee.

> Speaking to The Indian Express on the phone, Lt Col Purohit said, "I am choosing not to talk specifics about the past 17 years and the case. But I want to say that I am thankful to the judiciary and to all my lawyers... All the lawyers fought pro bono for me... I am grateful to late advocate Shrikant

Shivade, Sadanand Phadke, senior counsel Harish Salve and Mukul Rohatgi, and my young lawyers Viral Babar and Yasir Khan. They have put in their blood and sweat in this," he said.

"When wrong people rise to the position of power, national institutions get contaminated. Then the nation suffers, people like us suffer, and the common man suffers. And healthy organisations like the Army also suffer. When we suffer, the adversary gets the benefit," Lt Col Purohit said.

He said he wants to serve the country again as an Army officer. "I am extremely grateful to my motherland for having given me the opportunity to serve her... I will again be able to serve my nation as a free man and an Army officer. I am also a believer in service beyond my service in uniform. So whenever I retire, I will keep serving my motherland," he said.

"The Army has always supported me... I never got a feeling that I was not being looked after. The Intelligence Corps and my parent regiment, Maratha Light Infantry, have taken care of me like a child in the family." His wife Aparna Purohit said:

"I can only say that I am relieved. I guess I will take some more time to gather my thoughts." Lt Col Purohit has been posted

with an Army formation in Mumbai since he was granted bail by the Supreme Court in 2017. When the Maharashtra ATS arrested him after the blast, Lt Col Purohit was stationed at MP's Pachmarhi, undergoing training in the Arabic language at the Army

Education Corps Training College and Centre.

Major Ramesh Upadhyay (retired), the other acquitted accused with an Army background, thanked late Shiv Sena founder Bal Thackeray, besides his lawyers. "Balasaheb Thackeray stood by us. All allegations against me are proved false," Upadhyay, 73, told The Indian Express.

Now residing in Pune, Upadhyay is a native of UP's Ballia district. The ATS arrested him in 2008 and he got bail in 2017.

Upadhyay contested the Lok Sabha elections in 2019 in Ballia as an Independent candidate. Earlier, he contested the UP Assembly elections from Bairia in Ballia on a Hindu Mahasabha ticket in 2012 with permission from the court.

In 2020, he joined the Janata Dal (United), headed by Bihar Chief Minister Nitish Kumar. The JD (U) then appointed Upadhyay as the state convener for its ex-servicemen cell in UP. "I have left politics now. I would spend my life in social work," he said.

Sameer Kulkarni, a Hindutva activist from Pune, said he lost valuable years of his life after being arrested in the 2008 Malegaon bomb blast case, but was happy that finally justice had been delivered after the special NIA court acquitted him in the case. He had been out on bail since 2019.

Kulkarni was a resident of the Pimpri-Chinchwad area. He was a member of the Vishwa Hindu Parishad in the past. Investigators alleged that he was an active member of the secretive Abhinav

Bharat outfit and was involved in the bomb blast conspiracy

In a press conference in Pune in April 2019, Kulkarni claimed that former ATS chief Hemant Karkare believed he was innocent and would have removed his name from the case, but was killed in the 26/11 Mumbai terror attack

Pune based lawyer Nita

Dhawade, whose brother Rakesh was also arrested in the blast case and discharged in 2018, said she was extremely happy about the acquittal of all other accused. Nita said the bomb blast probe hampered the life of her brother, an expert in traditional arms and armoury, who had worked with actor Aamir Khan, "His arrest shattered his career," she said. Nita had provided legal help to Rakesh and other accused in this case.

EXPRESS NETWORK



DELHI CONFIDENTIAL



Fresh Move

BSP CHIEF Mayawati's decision in May to move out of the government bungalow allotted to her last year left everyone scratching their heads. She had moved into the bungalow — 35, Lodhi Estate — after extensive renovations about a year ago. But in a sudden move, she handed the keys back to the government without any explanation. It is learnt that the government has got a request for allotting another house to her. As president of a national party, she is entitled to a government residence in Delhi.

BAR ON ENTRY

WITH LAWYERS raising concerns about congestion and overcrowding in Supreme Court courtrooms, the apex court has now restricted the entry of law interns on certain days to ease the pressure. The move comes after a lawyer on Wednesday reportedly pleaded with a bench of Justices Dipankar Datta and AG Masih to pass over his matter as he was unable to enter the courtroom due to overcrowding. It is learned that the Supreme Court has accepted the Bar Association's request and restricted interns from entering the courtrooms on Mondays, Tuesdays and Fridays when footfall is typically higher.

United Front

AS INDIA bloc MPs continue to raise the Bihar SIR issue in Parliament, the Opposition parties want a united front outside the House too "to put pressure on the government". During a meeting of INDIA bloc floor leaders, it is learnt, the parties planned to hold a march to the Election Commission office in the Capital on August 6 or August 7. Members from all INDIA bloc parties are expected to take part in the march.

JDU flags quibbles at meeting with EC ahead of Bihar polls

SANTOSH SINGH PATNA, JULY 31

suggestions.

WITH THE Election Commission of India set to publish Bihar's electoral roll draft today, a twomember JD(U) delegation met a five-member ECI team, headed by Chief Election Commissioner Gyanesh Kumar, yesterday to submit some observations and

The ECI team is learnt to have told the JD(U) that "Bihar was chosen to begin the Special Intensive Revision(SIR) for its symbolic importance of Vaishali being the first seat of the Republic". The ECI also sought the cooperation of Bihar MPs to make SIR a success.

In the JD(U) delegation were its national general secretary Aafague Ahmad Khan and former Rajya Sabha MP Anil Hegde. The ECI has been meeting representatives of each political party to discuss SIR.

In a letter addressed to the CEC, Khan wrote, "Our party would like to make the following observations based on feedback received from the ground. Our party has come across several instances wherein members

belonging to the same family, living in the same house, have been registered as voters not only in two different booths two kilometres apart, but in two different Assembly constituencies, causing inconvenience particularly on the day of election... We understand that, in the absence of an option for the elector in Form 6 to opt for a particular pooling booth, the officials concerned mostly fail to get members of the same family registered in the same polling booth."

"One other point we want to

bring to your kind consideration is for the increase in permission for the number of vehicles to office bearers of political parties at the state and district level during the period of election, once the model code of conduct is in force. Presently, the ECI has made provision of permission for one vehicle each for a maximum of five office bearers at the state level, and one vehicle at the district level. We request you to kindly increase the same to 20 and 5, respectively."

A JD(U) leader said it was a "coincidence that we were given time by the ECI a day before the draft roll publication".

10 BRS MLAs' disqualification: SC gives Speaker 3 months to decide

ANANTHAKRISHNANG NEW DELHI, JULY 31

DIRECTING THE Speaker of the Telangana Assembly to decide within three months petitions seeking disqualification of 10 BRS MLAs who had switched to Congress following the November 2023 elections, the Supreme Court Thursday called upon Parliament "to consider whether the mechanism of entrusting the Speaker/Chairman the important task of deciding the issue of disqualification on the ground of defection, is serving the purpose of effectively combating political defections or not".

A bench of CJI B R Gavai and Justice A G Masih said, "Parliament decided to entrust the important question of adjudication of disqualification petitions... to the Speaker/Chairman expecting him to decide them fearlessly and expeditiously... Parliament was conscious of the potential long delays that could arise if the petitions were left to be decided through court proceedings."

"With the experience of over 30 years of working of the Tenth

Schedule (dealing with the antidefection law) to the Constitution, the question that we will have to ask ourselves is as to whether the trust which Parliament entrusted in the high office of the Speaker or the Chairman of avoiding delays in deciding the issue with regard to disqualification has been adhered to by the incumbents... or not?"

Recounting the various cases that have come up before it challenging the delay by the Speaker/Chairman in deciding disqualification petitions, the bench said, "We need not answer this question, since the facts of the various cases we have referred to... themselves provide the answer."

The CJI said, "Though, we do not possess any advisory jurisdiction, it is for Parliament to consider whether the mechanism of entrusting the Speaker/Chairman the important task of deciding the issue of disqualification on the ground of defection, is serving the purpose of effectively combating political defections or not? If the very foundation of our democracy and the principles that sustain it are to be safeguarded, it will have to be examined whether the

present mechanism is sufficient or not. However, at the cost of repetition, we observe that it is for the Parliament to take a call on that."

In the Telengana matter, the court said, "The Speaker did not even find it necessary to issue notices in the petitions filed by the... petitioners for a period of more than seven months and only after the proceedings were filed before this court, did the Speaker find it necessary to issue notice." This, it added, "cannot by any stretch be envisaged as acting in an expeditious manner". Given the facts of the matter, it

said, "failure to issue any direction to the Speaker, in our view, would frustrate the very purpose for which the Tenth Schedule has been brought in the Constitution" and "amount to permitting the Speaker to repeat the widely criticised situation of 'operation successful, patient died".

The BRS had initially moved the Telangana High Court, where a single-judge bench gave the Speaker four weeks to fix a schedule for hearing the disqualification petitions. On appeal by the Secretary of the Telangana Assembly, a division bench on

November 22, 2024, set aside the single-judge order and asked the Speaker to decide the petitions in a reasonable time.

Setting aside the division bench's order, the Supreme Court said that "the division bench... erred in interfering with the order of the... single judge..."

Directing the Speaker to decide the disqualification petitions expeditiously, within a maximum of three months, the court asked the Speaker not to permit any of the MLAs who are sought to be disqualified to protract the proceedings. "In the event, any of such MLAs attempts to protract the proceedings, the Speaker would draw an adverse inference against such of the MLAs," the court said.

The BRS filed the disqualification pleas before the Speaker in March-April 2024. This was after Danam Nagender, Kadiyam Srihari, Tellam Venkat Rao, Pocharam Srinivas Reddy, Kale Yadaiah, M Sanjay Kumar, Krishnamohan Reddy, Mahipal Reddy, Prakash Goud, and Arekapudi Gandhi, who were elected on BRS tickets in the 2023 Assembly polls, switched to the Congress.

OPERATION MAHADEV

Pahalgam terrorists' communication sets, cellphone data hold key to Pak link

DEEPTIMANTIWARY NEW DELHI, JULY 31

AT LEAST three mobile phones and two LoRa (long range) communication sets recovered from Pahalgam attackers killed in Operation Mahadev are learnt to have thrown up considerable data, including photos of two Pakistani NADRA (National Database and Registration Authority) cards, the security establishment sources told The Indian Express.

The phones are currently being examined by the National Technical Research Organisation (NTRO) for retrieval of data. It is also examining the LoRa communication sets for any stamps of Pakistan.

Among other things recovered by the security forces after Operation Mahadev are a GoPro harness, a 28-watt solar charger, three mobile chargers, one Swiss Military power bank, needle and threads, medicines, a stove, dry ration and a lot of tea. This is in addition to the arms and ammunition recovered from their bodies apart from two Aadhaar cards in the name of two local residents of Ganderbal and Srinagar.

Sources said it is normal for Pakistan terrorists infiltrating India to procure Aadhaar cards as it helps them move around without being detected at police checkposts. The Aadhaar cards are typically procured through over ground workers or may belong to them.

It is through the mobile phones and LoRa sets, however, that the security agencies aim to pin Pakistan down. Sources said the phones have a few documents and photos apart from details of local contacts, which are likely to lead to further arrests and unravelling of the logistical support the terrorists may have got over the past couple of years in the Valley.

The recovery from the phones include NADRA card details of the terrorists. NADRA cards are computerised national identity cards issued by the National Database and Registration Authority, a Pakistan government agency. It's the primary identity document for Pakistani citizens, both within the country and overseas.

The LoRa sets are expected to throw up data that may help the security agencies trace the movement of the terrorists over the past few months apart from the location where the devices were manufactured or assembled.

LoRa sets refer to long-range radio communication technology. These devices are increasingly being used by terrorists and cross-border infiltrators, especially in border areas, as they can facilitate secure communi cation over long distances without relying on cellular networks or the Internet. Unlike satellite phones, which are vulnerable to interception, LoRa sets do not need to connect to a satellite.

Indian intelligence and security agencies have in recent years intercepted or recovered LoRa sets from terrorists and infiltrators in I&K. These devices have been linked to Pakistan-based handlers coordinating movements or attacks. They are sometimes used in custom-built encrypted radios or even embedded in seemingly innocuous hardware. The terrorists who killed over 50 Army personnel in Poonch-Rajouri sector over the past couple of years have also been found to be using LoRa sets.

While their messages cannot be intercepted, there is technology to determine their approximate location when they are switched on. However, the approximation can be in the range of a radius of 3-5 km, making it hard to detect the exact location in a forested area, said sources.

Snubbed OPS makes it formal, exits NDA in Tamil Nadu; Vijay's party may be next halt

ARUN JANARDHANAN CHENNAI, JULY 31

FORMER TAMIL Nadu chief minister and AIADMK rebel O Panneerselvam Thursday formally announced his exit from the BJP-led NDA, ending a strained and often ambiguous relationship with the coalition.

The move came after what Panneerselvam supporters, known as OPS, described as months of humiliation and political neglect by the BJP's Central leadership, with Prime Minister Narendra Modi denying him an audience during his visit to the state.

The announcement that OPS's outfit AIADMK Cadres' Rights Retrieval Committee was leaving the NDA was made by the ex-CM's aide Panruti S Ramachandran at a press meet in Chennai Thursday. After declaring that the Committee was leaving the NDA for "reasons that are well-known to everyone", Ramachandran said OPS would not be aligning with any other party for now and would soon embark on a statewide tour.

OPS, who was present at the press meet, chose not to speak, directing all questions to Panruti.

Sources close to OPS said the decision to break away from the NDA was brewing for weeks. "He felt completely dejected," said a source. "He expected that the PM would at least meet him during the recent visit."

OPS requested to be part of the group who received Modi at the airport in Chennai. However, he was not included, even as leaders like G K Vasan of NDA ally Tamil Maanila Congress were invited to meet Modi.

A confidant of OPS said the former CM felt "used" by the Sangh Parivar, alleging that his rebellion against EPS (Edappadi K Palaniswami) in the AIADMK was "on the advice of BJP and RSS



leaders". "But eventually, the BJP

embraced EPS... He felt betrayed.' On OPS's next move, a close

aide confirmed that discussions with actor Vijay's Tamilaga Vettri Kazhagam (TVK) were underway. "There are only two real options - the DMK or TVK," the aide said. He said OPS may bring along

rebel, TTV Dhinakaran, which would mark a consolidation of influence across southern TN. A senior TVK leader also said, "We have no reason to reject him.

another influential AIADMK

He is a former CM. His camp includes an ex-minister and four former MLAs. OPS still holds ground in parts of the state." The DMK was tight-lipped on OPS though, with both camps dis-

missing speculation that the former CM's decision to leave the NDA had followed a meeting with Stalin during their morning walk. "They may have crossed paths during walks at the Theosophical Society," a senior DMK leader said. "But that means nothing."

As for the NDA, OPS's departure further tethers the BIP's for tunes in TN to the EPS-led AIADMK, though legal battles over the party's control are not over yet. A senior AIADMK leader who

was with OPS at the peak of his internal party revolt in 2017 suggested that the leader was left with few choices. "...OPS once believed the BJP would restore his power; instead, he lost his CM post, his party post, his party itself, and his people – and now, even their pretence of support.

The leader alleged that this was a script that was not new for the BIP - "forcefully own a leader, make him do the worst, drain him, and discard him".



A vehicle carrying items comes out from former CJI Justice D Y Chandrachud's official residence on 5 Krishna Menon Marg in

Afzal execution **EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE**

CONGRESS LEADER P Chidambaram Thursday slammed Union Home Minister Amit Shah's claim of a delay in the execution of Parliament attack convict Afzal Guru as a "lie and distortion".

MOVING OUT

Chidambaram

slams Shah for

NEW DELHI, JULY 31

claim on delay in

Shah claimed in Rajya Sabha a day earlier that the death sentence could not be carried out for as long as Chidambaram was home minister.

The Congress leader said Shah's statement was a mixture of insinuation, lie and distortion. "The statement is a mixture of insinuation, lie and distortion. After the conviction and sentence by the Courts, Afzal Guru's wife filed, on his behalf, a mercy petition to the President of India in October 2006."

rail expansion plans

DHEERAJ MISHRA NEW DELHI, JULY 31

THE UNION Cabinet Thursday approved four railway expansion projects including a multitracking project near the strategic Siliguri corridor, another in one of India's highest steel production areas and one that will make up a part of the Delhi-

Chennai high-density network. These new projects, spanning a cumulative 574 km across 13 districts of six states, are estimated to cost ₹11,168 crore.

They involve the construction of the third and fourth lines between Aluabari Road and New Jalpaiguri (near the so-called chicken's neck), a fourth line between Itarsi and Nagpur which is part of the Delhi-Chennai network, and the third and fourth lines from Dangoaposi to Jaroli

in an iron and steel belt. The fourth project is the doubling of the Aurangabad (Chhatrapati Sambhajinagar)-Parbhani line.

The 297-km line between Itarsi and Nagpur will intersect with the Mumbai-Howrah network at Nagpur. The 57-km Aluabari-New Jalpaiguri third and fourth lines are of strategic importance as they are near the only route to the North-East from the rest of India.

The 43-km Dangoaposi-Jaroli project will connect Odisha's Kendujhar with Jharkhand's West Singhbhum district, one of India's highest steel production areas.

The 177-km Chhatrapati Sambhajinagar-Parbhani doubling project in Maharashtra will connect the Jalna dry port and goods sheds at Dinagaon and Daulatabad, besides supporting the upcoming Aurangabad Industrial City.

list for V-P polls to be notified soon, says EC **EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE**

Electoral college

NEW DELHI, JULY 31

TEN DAYS after then Vice-President Jagdeep Dhankhar resigned, the Election Commission on Thursday said it had compiled the electoral college list for the election to the post of V-P that would be notified soon.

The EC said that it is mandated to prepare and maintain an updated list of the members of the electoral college which are the members of the Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha.

"Accordingly, the Commission has finalised the Electoral College list... list will be available for purchase at a counter set up in the Election Commission of India from the date of notification, which is likely to be announced soon," it said.

'Can't transfer officials, supari against me': UP minister lashes out

BHUPENDRA PANDEY LUCKNOW, JULY 31

UTTAR PRADESH Energy Minister A K Sharma feels "powerless". Two months after he first expressed his frustration publicly at being "ignored" by officials, Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath took a review meeting of the department last week. Now, Sharma has put out a post on his official X account alleging a threat to his life.

There have been reports of friction between ministers and MLAs of the BIP and officials in the state. However, the face-off between Sharma and his officials is striking – with the employee union of his department seeking his removal as Energy Minister.

A Gujarat-cadre IAS officer of the 1998 batch, seen as one of Narendra Modi's most trusted bureaucrats, Sharma joined the PMO as Joint Secretary after Modi became Prime Minister. He was in the PMO till 2020, when

he took VRS. In January 2021, he joined the BJP and, soon after, was elected as an MLC and made the UP BJP vice-president. After the BIP returned to

power in UP in the 2022 Assembly polls, Sharma was sworn in as minister and given the two significant portfolios of Energy and Urban Development. On Monday, a message

posted on Sharma's official X account as minister described several power employees in the state as "anti-social" elements in reality, who had taken out a "supari (contract)" against him. "Those who have (taken) supari of Energy Minister AK Sharma... are upset since (the) Energy Minister does not bow before them."

The Energy Department employees were protesting over plans to privatise power supply distribution across the state on the lines of Agra, where distribution was handed over to Torrent, under Mayawati as CM, in 2009. The decision was announced a



A K Sharma, Uttar Pradesh **Energy Minister**

few months ago, with a task force set up under the Chief Secretary.

With the employees protesting and holding several strikes over the issue, fearing a loss of jobs in case of privatisation, no headway has been made on the move.

In recent days, what has added to Sharma's woes are reports from across the state of power outages, trippings, and failing transformers. The Opposition led by SP chief Akhilesh Yadav has been criticising the government, especially Sharma, over this.

On July 25, with the Assembly session approaching. Aditvanath held a rare review meeting of the Energy Department, joined by Sharma virtually, where officials were warned about "recurrent" electricity tripping, over-billing and unscheduled outages.

The CM said the government allocated a "record-breaking budget" to strengthen electricity generation and distribution. "In such a scenario, any form of negligence will not be tolerated. Accountability must be fixed..."

The post on Sharma's official account, which went up Monday, questioned protests against him over the privatisation plans, pointing out that the decision was "taken by the task force formed under the chairmanship of the chief secretary" and after "high-level government nod".

The post said that the employees knew well that "major decision of privatisation cannot be taken alone (by him)". "When the Energy Minister cannot transfer

even a JE (Junior Engineer), when the functioning of the UPPCL (Uttar Pradesh Power Corporation Limited) is independent, then how could (the) Energy Minister take such a big decision?... jealous with A K Sharma have come together. But, God and public are with AK Sharma.'

The post also said: "During AK Sharma's three years' tenure, they (power employees) have gone on strike four times. Why (is) there no strike in other departments?... Or are there no issues there?"The post also accused protesting employees of "indecent acts" outside Sharma's residence, and of using "uncivilised language" against the minister and his family.

The post alleged that the Agra privatisation move under Mayawati government had also drawn "no protests" despite the union members being the same, as "some big employee union leaders went on foreign tourism".

A senior leader of the Energy Department employees' union, accosting him in districts. epaper.indianexpress.com

Shailendra Dubey, said, "Whatever he (Sharma) is speaking these days shows his frustration since he is not able to enforce the privatisation programme, for which he was sent to Uttar Pradesh." On his allegations about a for-

eign tour by them in 2010, Dubey

said: "Girish Pandey, On Prakash

Pandey and I went to Mauritius

to meet its then prime minister. The Bhojpuri Samaj organised the trip, for which we paid." He also challenged Sharma's claim that they had not raised any objections to Torrent taking over power distribution in Agra, saying their protest against it has

been on since then. Two months ago, while addressing a public meet at his home town Mau in May, Sharma first spoke out against officials of his department, saying those not listening to his instructions would face stern action. This followed attacks against him on social media, with some protesters

EXPRESSO

'If India's capital looks like a slum, how are you going to project it?'

Delhi L-G VK SAXENA and former NITI Aayog CEO AMITABH KANT talk about the challenges of urbanisation, making Delhi a world-class national capital and inculcating cultural literacy in the country. They were in conversation with VANDITA MISHRA, National Opinion Editor, The Indian Express

Vandita Mishra: Mr Kant, you just hung up your government boots after 45 years, you've resigned as the G20 Sherpa. How are you looking at the road ahead, the next 45 years?

AMITABH KANT: I'm moving from the government to free enterprise. Because I'm trying to reinvent myself after nearly 47 years in government, it was important that I had worked in the state government, the Central government, done Make in India, done God's Own Country and Incredible India.

Mr Saxena, your office has been in the spotlight since you took over as the L-G. How are you coping with the fact that it has now shifted, there's now a BJP chief minister in place in Delhi?

VKSAXENA: What you mentioned about the BIP government coming to power and me not being visible — I don't agree with that. I was visible on the roads before and am so even now. In the last three years, I've done about 1,100 site visits within Delhi. The real Delhi is away from the NDMC area, places where there aren't proper roads and sidewalks... dust everywhere and sewer lines overflowing. My effort will be to work with the current government to improve things. That's my goal.

AMITABH KANT: Just last week the L-G's office did something revolutionary. If anyone wanted to open a restaurant, they had to run around the Delhi Police offices to get licences. It used to take a whole year. For the first time in 45 years, all the police clearances have been removed. All state governments should follow this.

Mr Saxena, recently, the speculation was that you might be going to Kashmir.

VK SAXENA: You should never pay attention to rumours. As long as I'm here, I will keep serving Delhi. I endorse Mr Kant's views. There's a real need to improve the ease of doing business. I had already approved 24x7 hotels last year for three-star, four-star and fivestar categories. We will change Delhi soon.

You came in as an outsider, moving from the corporate to the NGO sector, then the Khadi Commission, and now the L-G.

VK SAXENA: I'm not an outsider, I am an Indian.

Mr Kant's journey, for example, is the traditional insider's path — St Stephen's, then JNU, and civil services. Do you think that as you rise through the ranks in the system, you are better able to bring about change? Or does coming into the system from outside let you see things with fresh eyes and do more?

VK SAXENA: Every bureaucrat should spend at least six months in a corporate house. There, decisions involving crores are made in seconds. The focus is on quality and timely execution. Unfortunately, in the government it is a system of L1, where cost matters most, quality has no value. I have been pushing to prioritise quality over money.

Mr Kant, you were a district collector in Calicut. Now, when you look back, 45 years later, are there learnings that you carried with you from your time there?

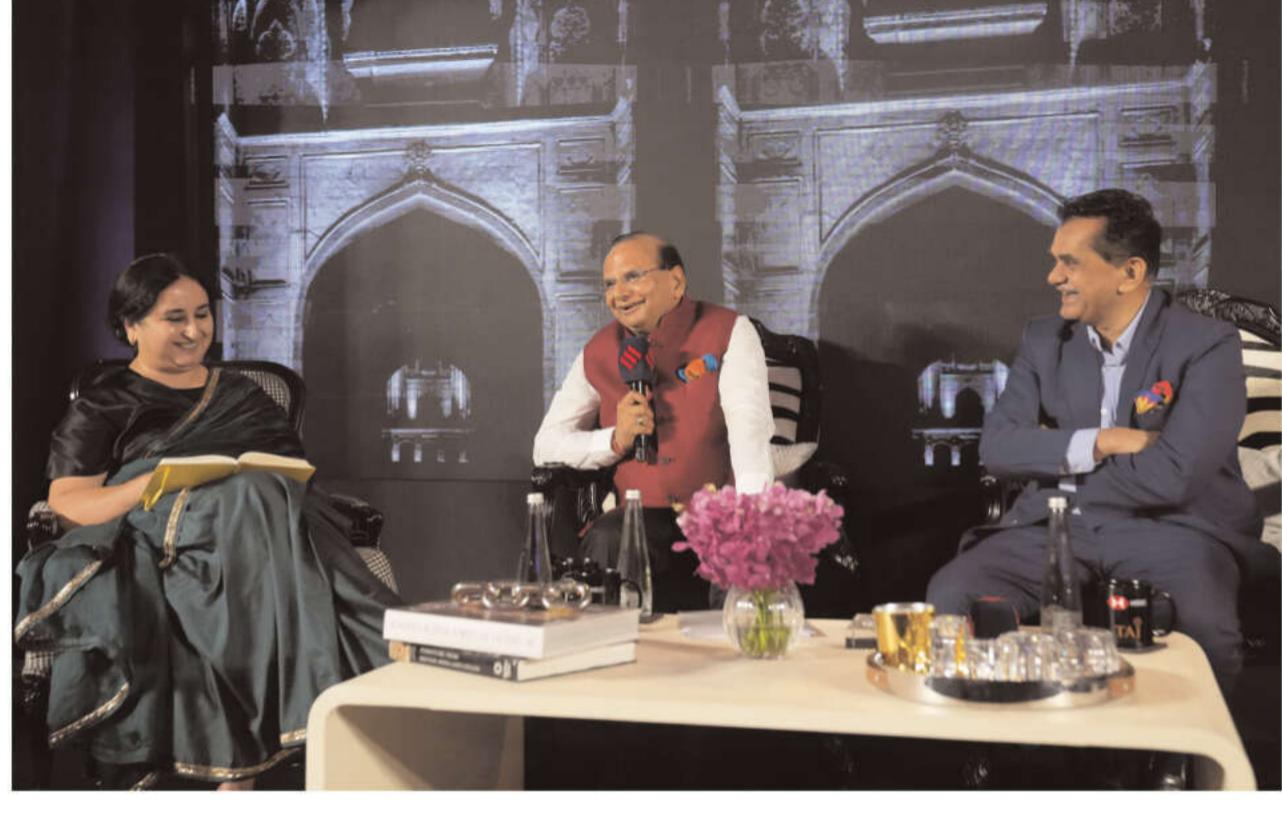
AMITABH KANT: Calicut was the place where Vasco da Gama landed and discovered India. And they said if Vasco da Gama were to come back, he would find Calicut exactly the same. I demolished over 1.200 encroachments. built 26 roads and tore down five hotels. I faced 18 contempt of court cases. Vasco da Gama will never be able to say this is the same district, but I suffered for it. I did not get a posting for about 11 months. As a punishment posting, they made me secretary for tourism. Back then, nobody used to visit Kerala. I saw it as an opportunity to develop its backwaters, Ayurveda, boat rides and cultural art forms. So, every crisis was an opportunity for me and I used it to build God's Own Country.

In 1992, the Babri Masjid was demolished and you organised a painting event as the District Collector, inviting painters to paint on the theme of communal harmony, and MF Husain joined in. Please tell us that story.

AMITABH KANT: Calicut's population is 40 per cent Muslims, 40 per cent Hindus and the rest are Christians. It was a tense situation. The best way to change the atmosphere was to do something big. So, we got a 100-metre canvas in the heart of Calicut and all the top artists from Kerala to paint on communal harmony. That was a Sunday. On Friday, I called up MF Husain. I requested him to come and do the 10-metre stretch at the centre stage. He electrified the atmosphere. There were about 1,200 artists working on the canvas but there were like five lakh people sitting and watching. Everyone just forgot all the negativity.

Vandita Mishra: Mr Saxena, when you took oath as the L-G, you recited a poem about communal harmony. What was

that poem? **VK SAXENA:** As far as I remember, it was: 'Duniya mein andhera hai chirag ek jala do, sote huye Bharat ko utho phir se jaga do, Hindu hai na Muslim hai na Sikh Isaai, shaidaan hain



(From L-R) Vandita Mishra, National Opinion Editor, The Indian Express, with Delhi LG VK Saxena and former NITI Aayog CEO Amitabh Kant Abhinav Saha

Every bureaucrat should spend at least six months in a corporate house... Unfortunately, in the government, cost matters most, quality has no value. I have been pushing to prioritise quality over money

VK SAXENA, L-G, DELHI

one's city.

Anant Goenka: One thing I find

is no awareness of the culture of

common across India is that there

AMITABH KANT: The people of Delhi

are the most culturally illiterate people.

We need to create museums and let

young students go, learn and educate

themselves. And the wealthy people in

Delhi will have to play an important role

ital of heritage. More than 10,000 heritage buildings in Delhi are lying in bad shape. I

visited Mehrauli October 2022 and saw di-

lapidated structures. I asked the DDA to

start restoring it. Today at least 2-3 thou-

sand people come daily. We have drifted

away from our heritage. We need to bring

Suhel Seth: Why don't you take over

Gurugram? Just take it over in a non-

hostile way so there's some form of

Minister who's useless. A municipal

commissioner who's absent. If you

want Brand India to succeed, every

AMITABH KANT: Gurgaon today pays

more taxes to Haryana than all the other

cities combined. And if you can't manage

Gurgaon properly, it shows a huge failure

part of Brand India has to work.

governance. You've got a Chief

people closer to it.

of governance.

VK SAXENA: Delhi can become a cap-

If India wants to become a \$35 trillion economy by 2047, your GDP has to grow about 12 times, per capita income has to grow 11 times and manufacturing has to grow 18 times

AMITABH KANT, FORMER CEO, NITI AAYOG

AUDIENCE QUESTIONS =







(Clockwise from above right) Avantika Dalmia, Chairperson, Avanee Foundation; Suhel Seth, Entrepreneur & Columnist; (L-R) Sunil Kant Munjal, Chairman, Hero Enterprise; Harsh Pati Singhania, Chairman & MD, JK Paper Ltd; Dr Ambrish Mithal, Chairman & Head - Endocrinology & Diabetes, Max Healthcare

Sonia Bhutani: What do you both like

to do besides work? **AMITABH KANT:** I believe in working out from 7 to 8.30 am, sweating it out five days a week. I play golf two days a week. I believe in art and culture and think it's im-

portant to keep myself culturally alive. VK SAXENA: When the workload gets too much or things get tough, my favourite thing is to listen to old songs.

Dr Sanjeev Bagai: The biggest problem

in India, especially in Delhi-NCR, is air pollution. Why don't we have a separate ministry dedicated to this?

AMITABH KANT: What is needed is a multidisciplinary approach. The Central Air Quality Monitoring Mechanism was set up specifically for this purpose. What we need is tough, ruthless action. A big part of that is making sure that firewood burning during winters is replaced with gas. You need to shut down brick kiln factories outside Delhi. Delhi needs to switch to 100 per cent electric vehicles. All industrial units in and around Delhi should be made to switch over to gas. It is not just the pollution from Haryana and Punjab. There are many hard actions needed around Delhi.

VKSAXENA: It is basically impossible to get anything done in Delhi because so many agencies, ministries and departments are handling every little thing. Until we fix that, we just can't move forward.

Mumbai Industrial Corridor. I met with all the

CMs and told them to give us about 150-200

sq km to build new cities but every CM refused.

I went to Mr Modi and he said, 'What will you

do with just 150? I will give you 750 sq km.'

Now Dholera City is being turned into a semi-

conductor city. India's 15 major cities make up

almost 35 per cent of its GDP. You improve the

You paint cities as hubs of innovation and

language in Mumbai, a shocking murder

in Patna and a rape incident in Kolkata.

Urbanisation might not be the silver

cities and the GDP will get a big boost.

growth but there's violence over

Mr Saxena, how do we build that civic

culture in Delhi?

LIAC Homes

CHAMBERS OF KARTIK SETH

KASHMIR LOOM

VK SAXENA: Dwarka is thriving after it was redeveloped. We need to build new cities the same way. I am trying to turn Narela into an education hub. We have also identified 75 acres for a world-class sports complex. The DDA has been told to acquire the land and develop a new city in relation to the UAR2. Right now, there are places where unauthorised constructions have already happened and you cannot just demolish them. Just last week I made a decision. Now, whenever DDA land is allocated, the fees charged will be one per cent instead of the earlier 10 per cent to attract maximum investment. Similarly, commercial rates that used to double are now 1.5 times.

How do you build a brand for a country where women's labour participation rate is one of the lowest in the world?

AMITABH KANT: The latest survey shows the women labour participation ratio has gone up. In 2015, only 18 per cent of women had bank accounts. Today, 90 per cent of women have bank accounts. Around 70 per cent of the Mudra loans have gone to women. We provided 30 million electric connections to households and 120 million women who used to cook on firewood are now cooking on gas. All these household water connections have been made in the name of women.

VK SAXENA: When I was the chairman of the Khadi Commission, 90 per cent of the workforce was women and the turnover reached Rs 15.000 crore.

Mr Kant, you spoke about how states must compete... there should be data and naming and shaming. But not all states are equal. Don't you think cooperation is needed more than competition?

AMITABH KANT: We have had cooperation for the last 75 years, we need brutal competition... among big states, among small states. When I was an officer, I did not know if my district was improving because data used to come six years later. Today, data is available in real-time. You can eliminate corruption, focus on outcomes, put the results out in the public domain and hold those who are not performing accountable.

There are three subjects under the L-G's control – land, public order and the police. The previous L-Gs mostly stuck to these three areas but you moved into other domains as well.

VKSAXENA: I am not just the L-G of Delhi I am also the city's administrator. If the Yamuna is dirty, it is my responsibility to ensure it is clean. It is my duty to get the Najafgarh drain cleaned. I started cleaning it. Unfortunately, my role was stayed when the CM went to the Supreme Court. If any positive work is happening, it should be supported, not opposed.

watan par duniya ko dikha do, aapas mein lade khoon il bahaya hai bohot, par jo kuch bhi huya hai, usse accha hai bhula do'.

Delhi is the first state where Eid prayers are no longer held on the streets. I remember inviting about 60 religious scholars, Ulemas, to Raj Niwas and asking why the Eid prayers happened in places that were dirty. I said, 'You can only pray when you are clean and pure. That is what the Quran says.' None of them had an answer. Since the Eid prayer only takes about four minutes, I suggested they split the time between 7 and 9 pm at the Eidgah. Things can also be solved through discussions. It's not necessary to use force.

But there was not much discussion between you and the Aam Aadmi Party.

VK SAXENA: Mr Kejriwal and I have had long discussions; more than 65 times. The media has portrayed us as enemies. Our views might differ, but that did not mean there was no communication. I wanted development in Delhi but their mindset was different.

How do you assess AAP's work? **VKSAXENA:** If they really wanted, Delhi's face could have changed.

Mr Kant, you talk about cities as the drivers of growth but cities have problems – unclear lines of responsibility, accountability and lack of coordination between agencies.

AMITABH KANT: If India wants to become a \$35 trillion economy by 2047, your GDP has to grow about 12 times, per capita income has to grow 11 times and manufacturing has to grow 18 times. Cities are at the heart of all innovation, growth, progress and prosperity. India is about to see 500 million people moving into urban areas over the next four decades. India needs to focus on strong, wellplanned and sustainable urban development.

Mr Saxena, Delhi is a city of migrants. Yet when the pandemic hit, we saw them walk back to their villages on highways. Is like COVID strikes again? **VK SAXENA:** The government will be able

to handle it. Around 24 hospitals are under construction. But the problem is that there was no planning about the budget for equipment or manpower. Even after four years, some hospitals are only about 20-40 per cent complete. Maybe five or six hospitals are over 90 per cent done. The (previous) government should have been better prepared.

Delhi is also the national capital. And this is not how a national capital should be. Most people living here are from the labour class because things like electricity and water are free. There is nothing wrong with that. But India is a powerful country and if its capital looks like a slum city, how are you going to project it?

Mr Kant, you were the CEO of NITI Aayog. Do you think our chief ministers recognise the importance and challenges of urbanisation?

AMITABH KANT: Before I became the CEO of NITI Aayog, I was the CEO of the Delhi

bullet solution. **AMITABH KANT:** I agree with you. You need an open-minded approach. We have to create a culture of bonhomie. Indian men need to learn to respect both Indian and for-

eign women. We need a lot more private en-Museum and Kiran Nadar is creating a world-

trepreneurs. Sunil Munjal is building the Brij class museum here.

Delhi better prepared now if something epaper.indianexpress.com

THE INDIAN EXPRESS, FRIDAY, AUGUST 1, 2025 THE INDIAN EXPRESS, FRIDAY, AUGUST 1, 2025 THE INDIAN EXPRESS, FRIDAY, AUGUST 1, 2025

WORDLY WISE

WE MUST LIVE TOGETHER AS BROTHERS OR PERISH TOGETHER AS FOOLS.

— MARTIN LUTHER KING JR

The Indian EXPRESS

∽ FOUNDED BY ∽

RAMNATH GOENKA

BECAUSE THE TRUTH INVOLVES US ALL

FOCUS ON BIG PICTURE

Trump's 25 per cent tariff and penalty raise stakes for India. It also presents a moment to seize the initiative, do the right thing

S PRESIDENT DONALD Trump's announcement of a 25 per cent tariff on Indian imports, along with a penalty for procuring energy and military equipment from Russia, is a shocker at first sight. But, it also presents a moment for India to seize the initiative and do what is right without losing any more time. A free trade agreement that allows greater access for Indian products to the world's largest market and, at the same time, opens up its economy to American goods and services, is a win-win for both sides. India's exports to the US, at \$86.5 billion in 2024-25 (April-March), were higher than those to any other country. Imports from the US, at \$45.7 billion, were below only those from China (\$113.5 billion), Russia (\$63.8 billion) and the UAE (\$63.4 billion). A no-deal, simply put, is not in India's interest. The effort should be to not just preserve, but enhance the gains from trade.

Trump, no doubt, has overturned the predictable rules and principles governing the global trading order that delivered high growth and lifted the fortunes of millions across countries. His latest unilateral measure, subjecting India to a higher tariff than the UK (10 per cent), the European Union, Japan and Korea (15 per cent), Indonesia (19 per cent) or Vietnam (20 per cent), runs counter to the larger story of growing cooperation between the two countries. The last couple of years alone have seen significant movement towards the signing of a new 10-year defence partnership framework, an MoU to expand and diversify critical mineral supply chains and proposed amendments to India's nuclear liability law. For all the jarring notes in Trump's imperious actions and pronouncements, India must not lose sight of the big picture. If anything, it must hasten the process of clinching a long-delayed agreement that will also give a push to much-needed domestic economic reforms. And the approach should be based on export proactiveness rather than import defensiveness — as was evident in the recent India-UK Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement.

While Trump's 25 per cent import levy may be a pressure tactic for forcing India to lower both duties and non-tariff barriers on American products, his threatening to impose an additional "penalty" for the country buying Russian oil and defence hardware is unacceptable. Just as signing a trade deal with the US is in India's interest, securing the energy needs of its population — including by sourcing oil from any country offering crude at discounted prices — is non-negotiable. It is possible this may entail a cost in the form of secondary sanctions linked to Russian supplies, which India will have to factor in going ahead. Recognising this cost is as important as converting the Trump threat into an opportunity to be seized.

RULE OF THE MOB

Chhattisgarh conversion row, violence on Pune family, frame a disturbing tendency — police taking their cue from vigilantes

WO INCIDENTS, A day apart, show the police in two states, Chhattisgarh and Maharashtra, in poor light. They failed to uphold a basic precept of modern governance — only law enforcement agencies have the power to detain and question suspects and investigate crime, and they must also do so only according to due process. Last week, policemen in these two states appear to have acted at the behest of the mob. On July 25, the Chhattisgarh police arrested three people, including two nuns, on charges of forced conversion and human trafficking. Reports in this paper have raised questions about the neutrality of the law enforcers in a situation rife with tension. Instead of calming tempers and probing the charges, the Chhattisgarh police drew up their FIR almost entirely on the basis of statements of Bajrang Dal members. One of the women at the centre of the row later admitted she was coerced by a member of a right-wing outfit to give a statement against the accused. A day after the Chhattisgarh arrests, a group of around 60-70 people, several of them allegedly belonging to the Bajrang Dal, barged into the house of a Kargil War veteran's relative in Pune, demanded identity proofs from the family, and called them Bangladeshis. The police personnel present at the site participated in the humiliation of the family by taking them to a police station in the dead of the night.

The Supreme Court has, on several occasions, underlined the dangers of mob vigilantism. But whether in cow protection cases or in matters related to religious conversion, or now in the increasingly contentious issue of illegal migration, law enforcement agencies show a disturbing tendency to let self-proclaimed community leaders take over. The Pune incident reportedly occurred after a "tip-off" about Bangladeshis in the city. The role of the Bajrang Dal in this episode — as well as in the conversion-related arrests in Chhattisgarh — points to the same worrying tendency of the state law enforcement apparatus ceding vital space to vigilantes.

On more than one occasion, including in December last year, Prime Minister Narendra Modi has underlined the contributions of the Catholic community in social welfare. Instances such as the episode in Chhattisgarh pose question marks on that outreach. It's also a cruel irony that at a time when members of all political parties are applauding the valour of the armed forces in Operation Sindoor, a war veteran's relatives were targeted with impunity. The police in Chhattisgarh and Maharashtra have much to answer for.

RETURN OF MR DARCY

'Pride and Prejudice' is set for another reboot. Two centuries on, it's still Austen's world

T IS A truth generationally acknowledged that Jane Austen remains one of literature's most enduring influencers. As things go, most people are fools in love. And so, the idea of vicariously participating in other people's romantic misadventures through her work — if only to gauge one's own missteps — holds a timeless appeal. Perhaps that is what explains the periodic resurgence of her classic *Pride and Prejudice* on screen: It is set to be repackaged as a Netflix series. In the meantime, the writer's 250th birth anniversary is being marked by a nostalgia-laden return to theatres of the 2005 adaptation featuring Keira Knightley.

Austen's staying power, however, runs deeper than costume drama and clever repartee. Her genius lies in dissecting how people perform identity — through class, courtship, marriage and conversation — and how frequently they misjudge one another in the process. The charming narcissist, the ambitious social climber, the well-meaning sibling who cannot keep a secret, the distant father, remain familiar tropes. If anything, in a modern retelling, Lizzie Bennet might host a podcast on dating red flags, and unpack her romantic patterns in therapy. Austen's world is specific, but her insights remain universal,

which is why her stories keep finding new forms, and new audiences. Still, the proliferation of adaptations does invite scepticism. At a time when new voices struggle to break through, the constant tilling of old soil can feel like creative fatigue masquerading as homage. Does the industry's fixation on Austen reflect a reluctance to move beyond the literary canon or are her themes — pride, perception, emotional cluelessness - simply more resonant than ever? After all, whether in bonnets or bustiers, misreading the room is as much hardwired into modern DNA as it was in the 19th century. Two centuries on, Austen still sees young people — and yes, she's still smirking.

On tariffs, a what-if story



Could Prime Minister Modi have handled President Trump differently?

Sanjaya Baru

AFTER SEALING A deal with the European Union and Japan, agreeing to a 15 per cent tariff in the case of these developed industrial economies, and even as he strings China along, United States President Donald Trump has shocked India, a low-middle-income developing economy, imposing a 25 per cent tariff. Till recently, the official Indian briefing to the media was that discussions were still on and India may get a couple of weeks' reprieve in August to strike a deal.

Hours after the Lok Sabha saw Prime Minister Narendra Modi unwilling to give any credit to President Trump for the pause in Operation Sindoor, the latter hit hard. Even after the PM and foreign minister's statements in Parliament, President Trump tweeted for the nth time his claim that he had stopped the war. He had always linked that to trade. There's more to the Trump action than just trade and tariffs.

Never since 1971 has India found both the United States and China on the same side on a matter concerning Pakistan, while at the same time having to defend its relationship with Russia. This is perhaps the lowest point for Indian foreign policy, which has consistently endeavoured for three decades to keep the US on the Indian side while having to deal with the China-Pakistan alliance. Parliament must undertake a comprehensive review of Indian foreign policy.

India is now stuck in a Catch-22. Damned if he will, damned if he won't, Prime Minister Modi will not admit that US intervention played a role. If the issue was only about how the war ended, the matter would have rested there. After all, even in the past, the US did play a role in sorting out issues between India and Pakistan, even with India consistently maintaining that all disputes between neighbours can only be settled bilaterally. No US President has made a big deal of it in the past.

This time it's different. Not only has President Trump made a big deal of his intervention, explicitly seeking credit for it, he has gone a step further and linked this to the outcome of the trade and tariffs negotiations. While the EU and Japan are relatively happy with the outcome of tariff negotiations, making promises on investment, and China is working its way through Washington DC's

Worse, as one longstanding watcher of US-India relations said on a social media post, Trump has rubbed salt into Indian wounds by striking a deal with Pakistan, "whereby Pakistan and the United States will work together on developing their massive oil reserves".

corridors of power, India has been hit.

Could Prime Minister Modi have handled President Trump differently?

The problem goes all the way back to Indian expectations about a second Trump presidency. Even as Prime Minister Modi tried to remain neutral between Trump and Kamala Harris in the run-up to the presidential elections, many in India and many Indians in the US continued to assume that Trump would be better for US-India relations. When Trump chose to invite President Xi Jinping of China to his inauguration in January without extending such an invitation to Modi, alarm bells would have sounded in New Delhi's South Block.

Both the PM and the External Affairs Minister worked overtime to reach out to President Trump and retrieve ground. It is possible that after this initial shock, the Prime Minister and his diplomatic team may have reassessed the status of US-India relations. The earlier assumption that President Biden was unfriendly towards India, and in fact friendly towards Pakistan, while President Trump would rebalance the equation ought to have been dismissed and a new assessment made about what lies ahead. It appears Pakistan made such a re-assessment and quickly invested in the Trump entourage, buying up support.

When President Trump unveiled his trade and tariff policy, he repeatedly named India a "tariff king" and as a target for action. Perhaps the Modi government had hoped that by buying more defence equipment from the US, showing how it is contributing to the US economy, Trump could be appeased. The government even proposed a bilateral free trade agreement and hoped the negotiating process would get India off the hook. There was considerable optimism within the Union commerce ministry on this count even as late as April this year. Matters, however, had not been sorted out.

Caught in this trade trap, the Modi government had a fantastic opportunity to feed

President Trump's ego and vanity by thanking him for his role in the declaration of the ceasefire. Of course, it would be argued that Prime Minister Modi would not have wanted to depart from India's longstanding diplomatic posture of denying any role to the US or any other country in settling a bilateral dispute

with Pakistan. But there was a way out. After ceasefire was declared, Prime Minister Modi could have called President Trump, referred to the conversations he had with Vice President JD Vance, and the foreign minister had with his counterpart, and thanked Trump for his interest in ending wars and maintaining peace around the world and then added a line about how India-Pakistan issues can only be settled bilaterally. By linking his role in terminating Operation Sindoor to a trade deal, Trump appeared to be seeking a quid pro quo — credit for his role in exchange for concessions on trade.

The official Indian position could have been, "Yes, President Trump was concerned about the situation getting out of hand. He reached out to both sides. We thanked him for his concern. But, we declared ceasefire only after our objectives were met." End of story. Modi would have acknowledged Trump's role without giving him credit for the final decision and sticking to the standard Indian position that India-Pakistan disputes will only be settled bilaterally.

Whatever happened on those four fateful days in May this year, the government was clearly not prepared to deal with the larger challenge of the Trump presidency — that of pandering to and appeasing Trump's ego. The present Indian leadership does not have the toolkit to deal with egos as big as their own.

This is all the more surprising given that few heads of government around the world had established a better equation with President Trump than Prime Minister Modi. The government and foreign affairs scholars owe an explanation to the lay public as to why US-India relations have deteriorated to the point we find ourselves in today.

The writer was member, National Security Advisory Board of India, 1999-2001 and media advisor to the Prime Minister of India, 2004-08

STEADY HAND IN STORMY WATERS

US tariffs, global volatility can cause short-term shocks, must be handled with care

GOURAV VALLABH

US-INDIA TRADE RELATIONS — anchored in democratic values and strategic convergence - have entered a more challenging phase. The recent imposition of 25 per cent-plus tariffs on Indian exports by the US adds stress to trade negotiations. The core of the dispute lies not just in tariffs or market access. While India's prudent refusal to open its agricultural and dairy markets remains a sticking point for Washington, a deeper unease stems from India's energy and defence ties with Russia. India expanded its crude oil imports from Russia — from around 2 per cent of total imports in FY22 to 36 per cent in FY25 — largely due to wartime discounts. With those discounts now shrinking, India has fresh room to diversify its sources — including LNG and crude from the US — potentially turning friction into an opportunity.

The impact of tariffs cannot be ignored. Indian exports to the US constitute just over 2 per cent of GDP but their composition matters. Sectors such as textiles, chemicals, pharmaceuticals and auto components will face the brunt. The tariff shock could cost India up to \$30 billion in export earnings, affecting supply chains, employment and GDP momentum in the short term. Yet India's economic structure — rooted in strong domestic consumption — offers it a cushion.

Still, the broader global environment remains volatile. A slowdown in emerging markets, ongoing capital outflows and ris-

Despite near-term volatility, India's market fundamentals remain sound. Key drivers such as financial services, consumer goods and technology are relatively insulated from trade tensions. However, shortterm market volatility is inevitable, driven by high valuations and policy uncertainty. Sectors like auto components could even gain, as US tariffs on Chinese and Mexican parts create demand for alternatives.

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to short-term pressures. July saw foreign portfolio investors pull more than \$1.4 billion from Indian markets, and the Rupee weakened nearly 2 per cent, ranking among the weaker emerging market currencies in the month. A depreciating currency feeds into imported inflation, raises the cost of foreign debt and adds complexity to monetary policymaking.

ing financial uncertainty are contributing

This leaves RBI with a delicate balancing act. Inflation is benign — expected at around 3 per cent in FY26 – but the case for rate cuts is not straightforward. RBI must weigh global interest rate trajectories, volatile capital flows and exchange rate dynamics while ensuring domestic growth remains on track. In this climate, its credibility and consistency become as important as its policy tools.

While Washington's growing dissatisfaction with India's defence procurement — still dominated by Russian-origin systems — is understandable, India's position is pragmatic. Legacy dependence is being addressed through increased indigenous production, joint ventures and expanded purchases from Western partners, including the US. This evolving defence landscape can, in fact, serve as a strategic bridge rather than a barrier.

India is not alone in facing US tariff actions. Even close allies such as the UK, EU, Japan, and Vietnam have faced similar measures. The pattern suggests a larger trend - count deficit through selective protectionism and reduced import dependence. Economic diplomacy is becoming more tactical than rule-based. India's approach must be anchored in smart bargaining. Any "mini-deal" will have to go beyond symbolic relief to address structural irritants across agriculture, energy access, and technology transfer.

Washington's push to narrow its current ac-

India's market fundamentals remain sound. Key drivers such as financial services, consumer goods and technology are relatively insulated from trade tensions. However, shortterm market volatility is inevitable, driven by high valuations and policy uncertainty. Sectors like auto components could even gain, as US tariffs on Chinese and Mexican parts create demand for alternatives. Pharmaceuticals and electronics — so far exempt from US tariffs also continue to perform well.

India's lower export dependency gives it strategic room but it must not foster complacency. By carefully balancing its energy sources, defence partnerships and trade positions, India can emerge as a resilient economy and a shaping force in the global order. India's steady hand and long-term vision are not only essential for its own growth but increasingly important for global economic stability.

> The writer is part-time member, PM's Economic Advisory Council



AUGUST 1, 1985, FORTY YEARS AGO

LALIT MAKEN KILLED

LALIT MAKEN. PROMINENT trade union leader and Congress (I) MP from South Delhi, and his wife, Geentanjali, along with a visitor, Balkrishan Khanna, were shot dead in their Kirti Nagar house by two unidentified youths. A Congress (I) worker of the area, Suresh Malik, who used to drive Maken's car, was also shot in the shoulder. He is out of danger. The assailants, it appears, were aware of Maken's programme.

'GAS LEAK SABOTAGE'

THE UNION CARBIDE Corporation has ruled out everything but sabotage as the cause of last year's chemical disaster in Bhopal, the company

lawyer, Bud G Holman, said. His comments went further than any previous statement by Union Carbide on the cause of the gas leak that reportedly killed 2,000 people and injured 2,00,000. A company spokesperson, Ed Vand Name Le, said later that the lawyer's statement should have been that the UCC has "all but ruled out everything but sabotage". He left open the possibility that the gas leak was accidental.

MAKEN MURDER: 3 HELD

THREE PERSONS HAVE been detained in connection with the gruesome murder of Lalit Maken, his wife and a visitor to their house, the commissioner of police, Ved Marwah told a press conference. The three have been detained on the basis of information collected from the five eye witnesses to the crime, he said. All three were residents of South Delhi, Marwah added The police commissioner promised a reward of Rs 1 lakh to any person giving clues leading to the arrest of Maken's assailants.

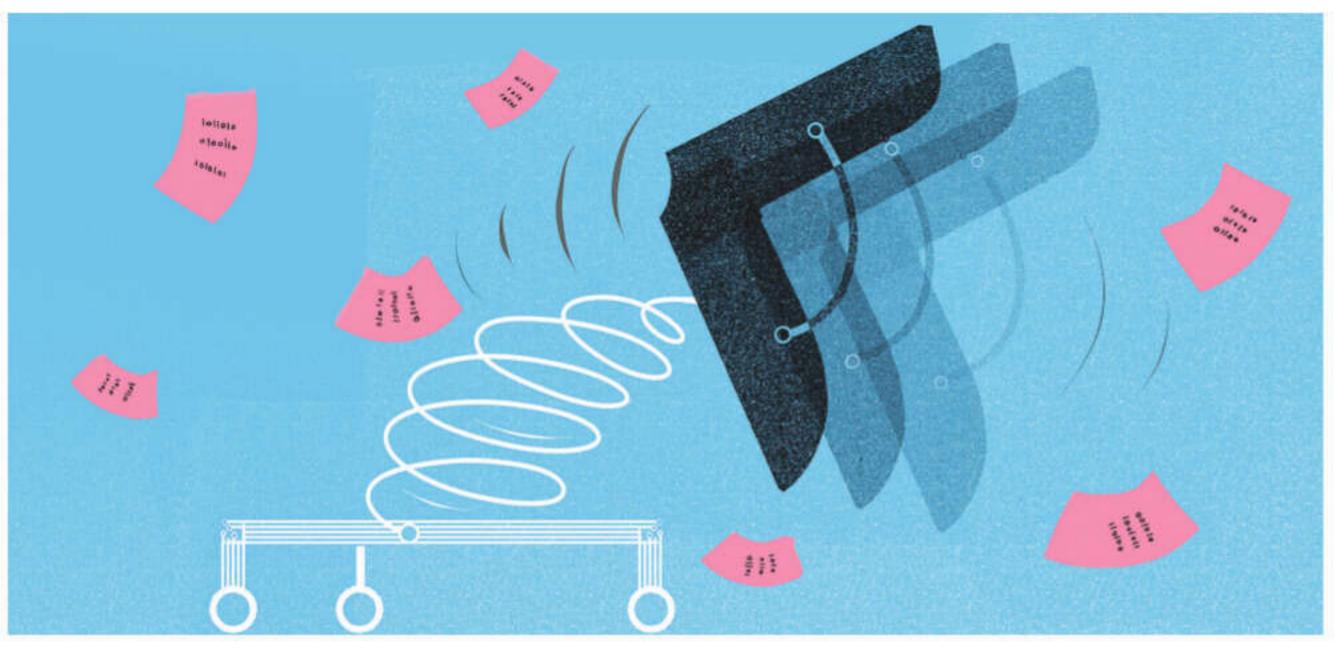
PARLIAMENT ADJOURNED

A STUNNED AND grieved Parliament adjourned as news of Congress (I) MP Lalit Maken's killing came in. Speaker Balram Jakhar, PM Rajiv Gandhi and Opposition leaders paid tributes in the Lok Sabha prior to adjournment In the Rajya Sabha, chairman R Venkataraman broke the news to a shocked House soon after Question Hour and adjourned the proceedings.

THE IDEAS PAGE

DIS/AGREE THE BEST OF BOTH SIDES

A weekly column, which offers not this-versus-that, but the best of both sides, to inform the debate



C R Sasikumar

In the wake of the TCS layoffs, a question: In the age of AI, is India's IT sector still a beacon of opportunity?

India's IT story isn't over

The real test is not AI, but how swiftly Indian tech can build its next competitive moat

Remember that the

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SRINATH SRIDHARAN

FROM THE PRINTING press to the steam engine, from electricity to the internet, every wave of technology has made societies fret and question old certainties, rethink economic models and invent new financial and social ideas. Yet through every industrial revolution, humans adapted, adopted and ultimately thrived. Today's AI wave is different in its speed and breadth, and disruptions like it will become the norm in this century.

For decades, the Indian IT-ITeS sector has been the ladder to the middle class and above, a steady recruiter of young graduates, a constant on equities markets and a quiet assertion of India's competence on the global stage. Yet, its traditional pyramid model of mass entry-level hiring is giving way to a diamond-shaped structure built around midlevel specialists and deeper expertise.

Since TCS announced plans to lay off up to 12,000 employees, the anxiety has been palpable. While TCS cites skill mismatch and denies AI is the cause, Infosys is instead doubling down on campus hiring and retraining over two lakh staff in AI and cloud. What it really signals is that the first moat the industry built – cost, process discipline and scale - has served its purpose and is now being overtaken by new forces, especially AI.

Yet, the sector does not face this transition emptyhanded. Decades of serving

demanding global clients have given Indian IT some of the highest corporate governance standards among emerging markets, and competitive ability to navigate complex business demands worldwide. The real question is whether they can now build a second moat: Wider, deeper and harder to breach, based on skill, IP and product leadership.

To see why this is not a simple story of decline, it helps to look back. The IT-ITES industry became a global force by offering reliable, standardised services at a fraction of global cost, powered by an English-speaking coding and software talent pool and disciplined delivery.

Even before AI's surge, this model had begun to plateau. Net hiring slowed, global clients shifted from volume to value, and industry starting salaries barely changed over a decade. The arrival of commercially usable AI has simply made the need for reinvention impossible to ignore. It is, in a way, like the moment every Indian child knows too well: When the report card brings home bad marks, and a tough conversation with parents becomes the trigger to study harder for the next quarterly exam.

AI need not kill the Indian tech sector. Global demand is rising for cybersecurity specialists, AI operations experts, data engineers and cloud architects. These roles will not hire tens of thousands of freshers each year, but they will pay better, demand deeper expertise and be harder to automate. Instead, by embedding AI literacy (right from middle school) and advanced skills across its workforce, the industry can go beyond cost arbitrage and build higher-value, globally respected services. This evolution comes with trade-offs.

Not everyone in today's workforce can be retrained for specialised roles, which is exactly what TCS has boldly announced. It is neither practical nor wise to force companies to keep every worker purely as a political or policy gesture. These firms are accountable to shareholders, and long-term strength will come from better returns through innovation.

So what must India do next? First, we must stop measuring the sector's health purely by the number of freshers it hires. The signs of resilience will now be revenue per employee, the share of digital and consulting in revenue and the creation of homegrown intellectual property.

> Second, remember that the sector has rebuilt itself before. From Y2K to ERP, from outsourcing to digital, Indian IT has pivoted repeatedly. What makes AI different is the speed and depth of its impact. This time, it will test whether industry, academia and policy can move together.

Now is the time to invest at scale in skill transformation. This means completely redesigning curricula right from middle school to higher graduate degrees, especially across AI, cybersecurity, chip design and data engineering; funding industry-aligned re-

search; and making lifelong learning real. We need genuine co-creation (and not just collaboration) between industry and academia, teaching problem-solving and interdisciplinary thinking. There is little sense in building new education campuses if what is taught inside is outdated.

And both the Union and state governments must see the merit in the National Education Policy not as a political contest, but as a chance to modernise upskilling and multi-skilling at scale. The goal must be to help the next generation become global citizens, fluent in technology and resilient across domains. India's demographic dividend still exists, though not forever.

AI will reshape the global economy whether we wish it or not. India already enjoys a reputation as a disciplined, trusted technology hub. It is a strength we can extend to AI by investing in agile regulations on data and ethics, and positioning ourselves as a global centre for "responsible AI".

> The writer is a corporate advisor and author of Family and Dhanda

No more mass hiring in tech

AI can already do nearly everything fresh hires are expected to do

fact that quality

employment

India's youth

epaper.indianexpress.com



SHASHANK REDDY

TATA CONSULTANCY SERVICES' (TCS) recent announcement that it will be laying off 12,000 employees, amounting to 2 per cent of its global workforce, has begun to cause significant hand-wringing about the impact of AI on India's labour market. The clarification from K Kirthivasan, the company's CEO, that the layoffs are because of "skill mismatch" and not AI, however, is unlikely to quell growing unease within the country, as the IT sector has had an outsized impact on India's economic story. It employed just over five million people in 2024 but contributed around 7 per cent of GDP and accounted for 50 per cent of India's services exports.

Unsurprisingly, therefore, the IT sector has traditionally been the most straightforward and sought-after path to upward economic mobility and prosperity for India's le-

gions of engineering graduates, and any dip in the employment prospects of this sector is likely to have significant ripple effects on India's economy and politics. Coupled with several other, more bombastic statements by global giants like Meta and Salesforce on the reduced need for entry-level engineers and a turbulent business outlook for India's IT sector, an anxiety-inducing cocktail is born. In this context, there are three key takeaways from TCS layoffs

to keep in mind. First, it is of course entirely likely that these layoffs are not caused by AI. Net hiring by India's IT giants has been going down for several quarters, partly to balance the aggressive hiring spree in the aftermath of the Covid pandemic, and partly due to a more volatile global economy, which has reduced spending by potential clients. This slowdown in hiring is not limited to the IT sector. That said, there are also other emerging industries, particularly global capability centres (GCCs), which now employ nearly 2 million, and the start-up ecosystem, which are fast becoming an attractive alternative employment pathway for young engineers. We are not even sure what the actual impact of AI on employment and labour force participation globally has been so far, so it might be a little premature to lay the blame for these cuts at AI's feet.

Second, this does not mean that AI will not have an impact on India's IT sector. Historically, our IT giants have based their offerings on India's labour cost advantage, relying on the hundreds of thousands of engineers who graduate every year to pro-

vide standardised, relatively low-skilled services mostly in support functions at a fraction of global costs, best exemplified by the fact that starting salaries in the IT industry have not changed in a decade. AI can already do nearly everything that fresh hires in the sector are expected to do, and if the cost structures allow, there is very little reason for IT companies to keep hiring tens of thousands of fresh graduates each year. It can be reasonably expected that net hiring in these companies will no longer reach the levels seen in the last couple of decades, and any excess workforce, the socalled "bench" in IT HR parlance, will be systematically trimmed.

Third, the anxiety surrounding a single company's layoff decision is indicative of a much larger issue in the Indian economy – the fact that quality employment opportunities have not kept pace with economic growth rates and the growing aspirations of India's youth. Low wage levels in the private sector and growing living costs have made India's middle class more precariously placed than ever before, indicated by the rapidly expanding use of personal debt for consumption and basic necessities.

The advent and increased use of AI will also change the nature of jobs that are likely

to remain relevant. Demand, even within the IT space, is shifting from The anxiety surrounding entry-level testing and a single company's layoff support work to domain decision is indicative of a specialists in areas like cymuch larger issue in the bersecurity, cloud computing, full-stack capabilities Indian economy—the and AI itself. There is also growing demand for personnel in sectors like data opportunities have not centre management and chip design. While these kept pace with economic jobs are likely to be highgrowth rates and the paying, they will require growing aspirations of significant investments in education and can never reach the employment numbers of the IT sector. With manufacturing not

taking off as expected and the narrowing opportunities in IT, fresh graduates, particularly from Tier-II and Tier-III colleges, might increasingly feel bleak about their employment opportunities.

The anxiety around TCS layoffs should be seen in the larger context of the structural issues within the Indian economy. Mitigation of any potential negative fallout due to widespread AI adoption on an already stressed workforce will require a multipronged approach, including a rapid, affordable skilling programme, a complete overhaul of India's higher education system, and policy incentives to boost other sectors, particularly emerging areas like biotech, pharmaceuticals and advanced manufacturing. No longer can one sector take on the burden of upholding India's middle class and economic prospects the way that IT has in the past. More diversified, well-paying employment opportunities will only strengthen the Indian economy during an uncertain time.

> The writer is managing partner, Evam Law & Policy

WHAT THE OTHERS SAY

"Sir Keir Starmer's declaration on Palestinian statehood sends a welcome signal for the future. But more pressure is needed if a humanitarian catastrophe is to -THE GUARDIAN be averted."

Dear Vice President

Eight suggestions for the new incumbent, whoever that may be



BY DEREK O'BRIEN

THE BEST TIME to give advice is to speak to a chair in front of you with nobody sitting on it. Empty chairs have arms. No ears, no minds, no conscience. Tell an empty chair anything and it will listen. And that's precisely what I have planned to do in this column – give gyan to an empty chair. There is a vacant seat to be filled. The chair of India's second-highest constitutional office will have a new occupant soon. The Vice President of India, as we learnt in civics books in school, chairs the Council of States. Before the monsoon recedes, we will have a new full-time presiding officer seated in the Rajya Sabha.

As a student of parliamentary democracy, let me – you guessed it – offer some suggestions to an empty chair. (Will be filled on the election of the 15th Vice President of India.)

Take 'Notice' of the Opposition

An important tool that enables MPs in the Opposition to hold the Union government accountable is to submit Notices seeking discussions on important issues. There has been a steep decline in the number of notices being accepted and then discussed on the floor of Parliament. In the eight years between 2009 and 2016. 110 notices were admitted into the Rajya Sabha for discussions. In the next eight years, between 2017 and 2024, that number dropped to an abysmal 36.

Rule 267 of the Rajya Sabha states that a member may ask the Chair to suspend the business listed for the day, and instead take up a discussion on an issue of urgent national importance. Under the watch of Venkaiah Naidu and Jagdeep Dhankar, in eight years, not even one discussion was allowed under this rule.

Stop mass suspension of MPs

In December 2023, 146 MPs were suspended from Parliament, 100 of these were from the Lok Sabha. A dubious record. For context, during the 10 years of UPA I and UPA II, a total of 50 MPs were suspended.

This mass suspension in 2023 was because Opposition MPs were demanding a statement from the Home Minister on the security breach in Parliament.

Choosing Vice Chairs

The Chairperson has the prerogative to nominate six members as Vice Chair to preside over the Rajya Sabha in the absence of the Chair or Deputy Chair. In the last two years, about 30 MPs were included in the panel to perform this duty. This must not be looked at as a perk. Nor

can it be a game of musical chairs. Two suggestions here. (i) Only those MPs with considerable experience should be chosen to perform this duty. (ii) The political party they are in needs to be (informally) consulted before names are announced.

Do not censor protests by the Opposition

Visuals of Opposition MPs protesting inside Parliament are not shown on the government-run Sansad TV. Cameras and online edits of the proceedings only show the Treasury Benches. Is this fair?

Ensure more Bills are sent for scrutiny

When a Bill is referred to a parliamentary committee, it goes through critical examination with stakeholders and experts being consulted. This scrutiny often helps improve the quality of legislation.

In the 14th Lok Sabha (2004-09), six out of 10 bills were sent to various committees for scrutiny. In the 15th Lok Sabha, it was seven out of 10. In the 16th Lok Sabha this number fell to around three out of ten. In the 17th Lok Sabha (2019-24), only two out of 10 Bills were examined by a parliamentary committee.

Let MPs exercise constitutional rights

When a bill is being passed in Parliament, each Member can move amendments to the Bill. When the amendments are being moved in the House, the Member has an absolute right to ask for "division" (electronic voting). In the last few years, there are multiple examples of members being denied this right. Several MPs, including your columnist, asked for division during the passing of the contentious farm bills. The right was denied.

Must accept points of order

A point of order can be raised by any member when she feels that there has been a transgression of any rule in the House which the Chair has not taken cognisance of. The rules state that whenever such instances occur, members "can and should" bring such instances to the notice of the Chair.

Raising a point of order is a legitimate parliamentary tactic. The Chair cannot, and must not, look away.

Do away with birthday greetings

Not long ago, the Chairman of the Rajya Sabha introduced the practice of wishing MPs on their birthdays. Good thought or an avoidable self-indulgence?

Wishing 200 plus members every year, at two minutes a member, adds up to over 400 minutes. Maybe this time can be used by Parliament to discuss important issues facing the nation.

These are eight suggestions to an empty Chair, expectantly waiting for somebody to sit on it.

The writer is MP and leader, All India Trinamool Congress Parliamentary Party. Research credit: Ayashman Dey, Chahat Mangtani

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

A FURIOUS DEBATE

THIS REFERS TO the editorial, 'Debate must go on' (IE, July 31). After a prolonged silence, Parliament has rediscovered its voice, and what a chorus it was! Operation Sindoor, catalysed by the tragedy in Pahalgam, finally received the scrutiny it deserved, bringing overdue clarity and catharsis. The twin developments, surgical precision in Dachigam and a diplomatic nod at the UNSC, offer India both closure and clout. Yet, amid the sound and fury, some members mistook debate for a duel. Name-calling and national interest are uneasy bedfellows, and using Parliament as a partisan stage weakens what should be a unified front.

K Chidanand Kumar, Bengaluru

THIS REFERS TO the editorial, 'Debate must go on' (IE, July 31). The most important pillar of democracy was indeed up and about after a long time. The debate on Op Sindoor raised a number of important issues relating to strategy, diplomacy, deterrence and the India-Pakistan ceasefire. The government stooped lower than the Opposition in its attempts to dodge pointed questions. The Opposition's challenge at times appeared bellicose and immature, but the government's stubborn stand, too, was unparliamentary. The most important question, whether our forces are ready and fully equipped for modern warfare with unfriendly neighbours, was missing in the debate.

Vasant Nalawade, Satara

BEYOND STATEHOOD

THIS REFERS TO the editorial, 'Moving the needle' (IE, July 31). The UK and France, being old-world colonial

powers with pockets in West Asia, retreated wilfully decades ago, abandoning their responsibilities towards the UN-proposed two-state solution. After all this delay, we can be forgiven for thinking that the current line seems rhetorical. The crisis is above and beyond statehood now. It is, at the moment, more of a humanitarian issue, and only solid action will have a lasting impact on the ground. Our own stance at the UN and at world forums should make the needle tick.

Abhinav Shah, *Lucknow*

CAMPUS MOTHERS

THIS REFERS TO the article, 'The politics of care' (IE, July 31). Though it is correct that caregiving is the job of the community and not solely the job of "mothers" who may have their own struggles, the idea of "campus mothers" should not be rejected in its totality. The intent behind the idea must also be preserved. An informed discussion, supported by data, whereby the success and limitations of the initiative are assessed, may be the way forward. Until then, we can have additional support groups where caregiving and receiving is a mutual, two-way process. Activities like art therapy, music, and mediation can help build mutual care.

Aerika Singh, Chandigarh

#ExpressExplained

If there are questions of current or contemporary relevance that you would like explained, please write to explained@indianexpress.com

Why Mussoorie hotels must now register guests on govt portal

AISWARYA RAJ DEHRADUN, JULY 31

OWNERS OF hotels, guesthouses, and homestays in Mussoorie will now have to register their guests on an Internet portal run by the Uttarakhand Department of Tourism as part of measures to ensure that the fragile ecology of the region is not burdened beyond its 'carrying capacity' — which refers to the maximum number of individuals an ecosystem or specific area can sustainably support without degrading natural resources or causing significant environmental damage.

This directive is part of a suite of 19 preventive and remedial measures recommended in a 2023 report by a committee appointed by

the National Green Tribunal (NGT) to protect the environment of the tourist destination.

On May 8, the Tribunal took note of the action taken based on the report in an affidavit by the state government, and pressed the state to expedite the implementation of these steps.

Process of registration

"Registration of tourists should be done according to the carrying capacity of the area, especially the available parking space, guest room availability, etc. Tourists can be charged for visiting the Mussoorie area, and the payment can be utilised for managing waste and cleanliness," the 2023 report had said.

After dragging its feet for some time, the state Tourism Department began trials on the registration of tourists, which was one of the

19 recommendations, on Wednesday. A meeting was convened to apprise owners of hotels and homestays of the order, district tourism

real time when visitors check in," Pandey said.

Tourist arrivals in Mussoorie, which is around 320 km from Delhi and well connected by road and rail (till Dehradun), have been increasing steadily. From an estimated 1.5 lakh in 1958, the number of tourists reached 3 lakh in 1966, and 8.5 lakh by 2000. In 2019, the last year before the Covid-19 pandemic, more than

30 lakh tourists visited the hill station.

The rush of tourists has put great pressure on Mussoorie's physical infrastructure. As of 2023, the registered accommodation in the area included 303 hotels, 201 homestays, and six dharamshalas. All public and private parking together had space for only 1,240 vehicles, and the committee had suggested in 2023 that the number of tourist vehicles should be limited to this number.

The 2011 Census recorded the resident population of Mussoorie at 30,118. The 2023 report estimated this number would increase by 23% by 2037 and 52% by 2052. The hill station already suffers from a shortage of water — the 7.69 million litres per day supply from six pumping stations and six gravity

to be augmented by water from the Yamuna Water Supply Scheme.

Fragile Himalayan zone

IV, one step below the most active Zone V.

jointed, fractured, and weathered carbonate rock mass, and the steep slopes and high water percolation into them, create ideal conditions for slope instability in the area. Many buildings stand on slopes steeper than 40 degrees, and many are taller than the 12-metre height permissible under the Uttarakhand Building By-Laws and Regulation, 2001.

The NGT had earlier cited a report by the

Lal Bahadur Shastri National Academy of Administration on Mussoorie's carrying capacity in 2001, which had concluded that no further constructions were viable. Dr Vikram Gupta of Dehradun's Wadia Institute of Himalayan Geology had backed this finding,

sidence incident, the NGT had flagged similar risks to Mussoorie and surrounding areas.

The proposed tunnel below Mussoorie is dangerous. So is the proposed ropeway from Dehradun to Mussoorie. The ropeway and tunnel have damaged Joshimath... Excessive building activities are beyond the capacity of Mussoorie," it had said.

EXPLAINED GLOBAL

HOW A DOOMSDAY CULT IN KENYA LEFT AT LEAST 400 PEOPLE DEAD

A COURT IN Kenya has ordered the exhumation of around 400 bodies suspected to be of people who starved themselves to death in a cult ritual two years ago. These bodies are believed to have been buried in shallow graves on the outskirts of Malindi, Reuters reported.

Mackenzie & his church

At the centre of the scandal is Paul Mackenzie, a taxi driver turned evangelist who has been a religious leader for two decades.

Unlike the Roman Catholic or Anglican churches, which are governed by hierarchies and rules, many evangelical churches in Kenya are "run by independent preachers who have no oversight", according to a 2023 report by *The* New York Times. Mackenzie's Good News International, with its sprawling campus in the Shakahola forests near Malindi, was one such church.

According to the church's website, it was established "to nurture the faithful holistically in all matters of Christian spirituality as we prepare for the second coming of Jesus Christ through teaching and evangelism".

Its TV show, titled End Time Messages, would broadcast "God's word based teachings, preaching and prophecy on end times...to bring the Gospel of our LORD Jesus Christ which is free of deceit and man's intellect," the website said.

A deadly plan

Mackenzie gained a cult following on the back of his TV show and YouTube videos. And with that, his message became increasingly deadly. In early 2023,

he told his followers that the world was going to end by August, and that Satan would rule for the next 1,000 years. Subsequently, he ordered them to starve themselves and their children to death so they could meet Jesus in heaven instead.

According to police, Mackenzie is said to have had a three-stage plan: first to be killed would be the children, followed by the women, and then he himself would die with the men. He was able to make headway in his plan by brainwashing his followers, and cutting them off from their families and society. "Education is evil... Children are being taught lesbianism and gayism in school curriculums," he said in one video in 2023.

In March 2023, a resident of the area told police that his brother and sister-inlaw had starved their children to death in the forest on Mackenzie's orders. Officers searched and found the bodies, after which Mackenzie was arrested. But a magistrate freed him, after which he returned to the forest and speeded up his plans.

He was arrested again after another tip-off in April. A search of the 800-acre Shakahola campus led to the discovery of around 80 bodies, most showing signs of death by starvation, and some by asphyxiation. Mackenzie, who now faces charges of murder and terrorism, denies the accusations against him.

Kenya's President William Ruto had said the government would form a judicial commission of inquiry to establish why Mackenzie's alleged activities were not detected earlier. The President has faced strong criticism for his handling of the incident.

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE

'BABY TALK' MAY HAVE HELPED IN **EVOLUTION OF LANGUAGE: STUDY**

IF YOU'VE ever cooed at a baby, you have participated in a special experience. Whereas humans constantly chatter to their infants, other apes hardly ever do so, a new study published in Science reveals. "It's a new feature that has

evolved and massively expanded in our species," said Johanna Schick, a linguist at the University of Zurich and

an author of the study. That expansion, Schick and her colleagues argue, may have been crucial to the evolution of language.

Other mammals can bark, meow, roar and hoot. But no other species can use a set of sounds to produce words, or build sentences with those words to convey an infinite variety of meaning.

The study makes a crucial discovery:



'infant-directed communication' or 'baby talk' from the adult apes around them. But humans engage in baby talk, featuring repeated words, an exaggerated stress on syllables and a high, singsong tone, all the time. This means that human children have a profoundly different experience

young apes hardly ever heard

with language. The researchers speculated that young apes learned how to make calls by listening to adults. That was enough for a relatively simple system of sounds. But when early humans began gaining a complex language, children needed more help. Talking to them a lot before they could speak may have enabled them to master the spoken word. THE NEW YORK TIMES development officer Brijendra Pandey said.

"We have given a live demo to the managers and owners on how to register their units in the system and fill in the data of the tourists. This registration will be carried out in

Rising tourism pressure

sources by the Mussoorie Nagar Palika has

The hill station, located at an altitude of 2,005 metres above sea level in the foothills of the Garhwal Himalayas, is in Seismic Zone

A 2007 study had concluded that the highly

saying that the limestone in Mussoorie was weak with microcracks. In 2023, following the Joshimath land sub-"Over-concretisation leads to landslides

EXPLAINED HISTORY

Language & division of states

TN Governor RN Ravi has criticised the linguistic division of states. But language was not the only basis of reorganisation in 1956. Scholars have long argued that linguistic states helped ensure India's unity

SHYAMLAL YADAV

NEW DELHI, JULY 31

AMID A resurgence of language politics in the country, Tamil Nadu Governor R N Ravi on Tuesday stirred up a fresh controversy by criticising the linguistic division of states which, he said, had turned a large section of the population into "second-class citizens".

"Within a decade of our Independence, there had to be a linguistic reorganisation of Bharat... When we created linguistic states, a large population became second-class citizens...," Ravi said at an event in Gandhinagar.

Scholars have long argued that the linguistic organisation of states has been critical in ensuring India's continued unity and integrity. Here's a brief history.

Before first reorganisation

The British had administered India with two systems running in parallel — a system of direct control in its provinces, and a system of indirect control across 565 princely states. The provincial boundaries India inherited in 1947 were thus products of colonial administrative exigencies and the historical process of integration of erstwhile principalities and kingdoms into the Empire.

The Constitution, which came into force on January 26, 1950, declared India to be a "Union of States". The country at the time was divided into 28 states under four categories.

■ There were nine Part A states (governors' provinces in British India), which were ruled by elected legislatures;

■ There were eight Part B states (former princely states or groups of princely states), which were ruled by elected legislatures and a rajpramukh; ■ The 10 Part C states included both the

former chief commissioners' provinces and some princely states, and were governed by a chief commissioner appointed by the President.

■ There was only one Part D state, the Andaman and Nicobar Islands, which was governed by a lieutenant governor appointed by the President.

The reorganisation of 1956

Pre-Independence, the Congress had supported the formation of linguistic provinces. But after witnessing Partition, the government was not keen on immediately creating further linguistic divisions. The socalled JVP committee set up in 1949, comprising Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru, head of the States Ministry Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel, and Congress president Pattabhi Sittaramaya, cautioned against the "disintegrative effects of reorganisation".

But by the early 1950s, there was momentum in many regions for the creation of linguistic states. On October 19, 1952, Potti

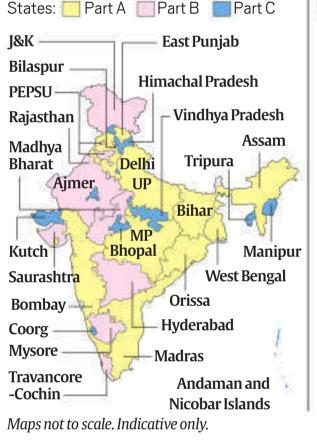
RAVI'S CRITICISM OF LINGUISTIC STATES



"In my own state Tamil Nadu... people of different languages — Telugu, Tamil, Kannada, Gujarati, Marathi, Hindi... they all live together but the moment it became a linguistic state, one third of the population became a second-class citizen. It happened in other parts also."

R N RAVI, GOVERNOR OF TAMIL NADU

ON JANUARY 26, 1950 AFTER 1956 REORGANISATION





Sriramulu, a 51-year-old railway engineer, went on a hunger strike demanding the creation of a Telugu-speaking Andhra state. His death, after a 58-day-long fast, triggered widespread public outcry and protests. Two days later, on December 17, Nehru announced the creation of Andhra, which would officially become a state on October 1, 1953.

Less than three months later, the Centre set up the States Reorganisation Commission (SRC) under Justice Fazl Ali. "The greater development of political consciousness among the people and the growing importance of the great regional languages led gradually to demands for the formation of certain States on a linguistic basis. Each such separate problem was however closely interrelated with other problems, and any formation of a new state necessarily affected a number of other States. It thus became increasingly difficult to consider any such problem in isolation...," the Centre said in its resolution to create the SRC.

Justice Ali submitted its report on September 30, 1955. Based on the SRC's recommendations, the political map of India was redrawn to comprise 14 states and six Union Territories (UTs).

Language not the only criteria

In its December 1953 resolution on the SRC in Parliament, the Centre had made it clear that language would not be the only criterion for the reorganisation of states.

"The language and culture of an area have an undoubted importance as they represent a pattern of living which is common in that area...[but] there are other important factors which have also to be borne in mind. The first essential consideration is the preservation and strengthening of the unity and security of India," it had said.

The final report too reflected this sentiment. "... After a full consideration of the problem in all its aspects, we have come to

desirable to reorganise States on the basis of the single test of either language or culture, but that a balanced approach to the whole problem is necessary in the interests of our national unity," the SRC report stated. Most of the criticism directed at the SRC and the Centre was that it was not doing

the conclusion that it is neither possible nor

enough to recognise linguistic demands. For instance, the SRC recommended the creation of a bilingual Bombay state that stretched from Kutch in the northwest to

Vidarbha in the east, and bordered Goa in the south. This was in spite of their being vibrant movements, which could be traced to well before Independence, for both a Marathiand a Gujarati-speaking state. On the other hand, the Centre rejected the SRC's recommendation of bifurcating the

Punjab, primarily to strengthen the border state that had already been split by the Partition less than a decade ago. Bombay and Punjab thus saw continued protests, often violent, for linguistic division.

Punjabi- and Hindi-speaking regions of

While the Centre would eventually cave to these demands, Nehru more than once expressed his displeasure with the principle of unilingualism. "We do not stand for this principle of unilingualism... Language should not be con-

fused with the boundaries of a State. It may be that sometimes the boundaries may be linguistic... [But] we can never function in this country unless we cooperate with each other, unless the Tamil cooperates with the Telugu and the Kannada, the Malayalee and the Marathi and the Gujarati and the Bengali and the Punjabi and so on," he said on August 10, 1956, while the States Reorganisation Bill was being debated.

A success story Historian Ramachandra Guha wrote in

India After Gandhi (2007): "Some Western observers...believed that [the] profusion of tongues would be the undoing of India... Linguistic states they regarded as a grievous error...that would further divide the states from each other [and] heighten the impulse toward secession".

But quite the opposite has happened. As Guha put it, "the sustenance of linguistic pluralism has worked to tame and domesticate secessionist tendencies." This is in stark contrast to India's immediate neighbours Pakistan and Sri Lanka where the imposition of a single language has been a cause for division and deadly conflict rather than unity.

The Second Administrative Reforms Commission (ARC) report of 2008 stated: "The resolution of linguistic conflicts was one of the major achievements after Independence.. Continuance of a common language has provided the basis for administrative unity and efficiency within the State."

Before the Supreme Court, questions over the age cap in surrogacy law

AMAAL SHEIKH NEW DELHI, JULY 31

THE SUPREME Court this week reserved its verdict in a clutch of petitions challenging the age cap for couples seeking to have a child through surrogacy, especially those couples who had started the process before the current law on this matter was enacted by Parliament.

The Assisted Reproductive Technology (Regulation) Act, 2021 and the Surrogacy (Regulation) Act, 2021, prescribe the legal framework for surrogacy.

Together, these laws lay down age limits on those intending to have a child through surrogacy. The intending woman, if married, must be between 23 and 50 years of age; fathers must be between 26 and 55, and single women must be between the ages of 35 and 45 years.

The case before SC

Several writ petitions have been filed

before the Supreme Court by couples who find themselves stuck in the process due to a change in the law on surrogacy. Essentially, they had begun their treatment before the enactment of the law, but the new law's age limits make them ineligible

A Supreme Court Bench comprising Justices B V Nagarathna and K V Viswanathan heard three petitions filed by couples requesting eligibility certificates under the Surrogacy Act, arguing that they had initiated the process before the Act was brought in.

In one of the petitions, the husband is 62 years old, while the wife is about 56 years old. The couple lost their only child in 2018 and, desirous of having another child, began fertility procedures in 2019. After facing delays due to the disrup-

they were able to eventually arrange for an embryo transfer in early 2022. The petition states that their pregnancy was unsuccessful — and by the time they

tions induced by the COVID-19 pandemic,

sought to proceed with another transfer, they had crossed the age limit laid down by the surrogacy law. The petitioners argued that the retro-

unreasonable, especially when medical procedures were already underway at the time the Act **EXPLAINED** came into force. LAW They also submitted that

the age limit created an unreasonable classification, violating Article 14 of the Constitution, and also interfered with reproductive autonomy, which is a facet of Article 21, which protects personal liberty.

Regulatory laws usually offer transitional safeguards for those navigating compliance during a legislative shift. These provisions are called "grandfather clauses", which "grandfather in" certain existing situations. The Surrogacy Act has no such transitional clauses.

The petitioner's challenge also raised broader concerns, including the right of sin-

gle, unmarried women to pursue parenthood through surrogacy, a choice that the current law does not accommodate.

Provisions of the law spective application of these conditions was The Surrogacy (Regulation) Act, 2021,

and the Assisted Reproductive Technology (Regulation) Act, 2021, enacted in January 2022, together ban commercial surrogacy and allow only

altruistic surrogacy. According to the government, this change in law was intended to prevent the commodification of reproductive labour and to impose procedural safeguards to ensure that surrogacy is used only in cases of

medical necessity. The Surrogacy (Regulation) Act lays down eligibility conditions for couples intending to seek surrogacy. The law states that for intending couples, the woman must be between 23 and 50 years of age, and the man between 26 and 55 years.

The process requires the couple to ob-

tain a certificate of essentiality, which includes proof of infertility, a court order establishing parentage and custody, and insurance for the surrogate.

Single women are eligible only if they are widows or divorcees between the ages of 35 to 45. This is under challenge before the SC on the grounds that the definition of single women excluding unmarried women is arbitrary and violative of Articles 14 and 21 of the Constitution.

The SC has not taken up this issue in the current batch of petitions for adjudication.

Court's questions

The government has defended the age restrictions on grounds of medical safety. It has said that the statutory age caps are based on recommendations from medical experts, and align with practices in reproductive health.

Additional Solicitor General (ASG) Aishwarya Bhati argued that the age limits align with natural reproductive timelines, which she said is necessary for protecting the welface of the child.

When the ASG mentioned the risks associated with geriatric pregnancies, Justice Nagarathna pointed out that some couples "will take the risk" anyway. Essentially, the Bench asked why surrogacy as an option must be outlawed for an older couple when natural geriatric pregnancies are not outlawed.

The ASG responded that advanced parental age influences both an unborn child's health through genetic and epigenetic changes, and also the filial love that a child requires for 20 years of their life.

"Rational nexus to the object of the Act is absent by having this age bar, especially as there is a void regarding not taking care of the couples who have already commenced. Genuine intending couples who had commenced surrogacy, the Act doesn't care for them and puts an embargo. Stop, no children! Look how harsh it is," Justice Nagarathna said, emphasising that the Surrogacy Act's intent is to prevent commercial surrogacy, not genuine parenthood.

13 ECONOMY

SUKALPSHARMA

NEW DELHI. JULY 31

this partnership with Pakistan is

Deal with the Country of Pakistan,

whereby Pakistan and the United

States will work together on de-

veloping their massive Oil

Reserves. We are in the process of

choosing the Oil Company that

will lead this Partnership. Who

knows, maybe they'll be selling Oil

to India some day!"Trump said in

largest consumer of crude oil and

depends on imports to meet

around 88 per cent of its require-

ment of the commodity. Pakistan

is also heavily reliant on energy

imports, with little domestic

crude oil production. Currently,

India is the world's third-

a post on Truth Social.

SUKALPSHARMA

NEW DELHI, JULY 31

WITH THE West's effort to target

Russia's oil revenue gathering

steam over the past few weeks,

India's significant Russian oil im-

ports are now being subjected to

a more aggressive stance by

Western powers. After threaten-

ing "biting" secondary tariffs of

100 per cent on buyers of Russian

exports, US President Donald

Trump on Wednesday an-

nounced a 25 per cent tariff on

Indian goods from August 1,

alongside an additional but un-

specified "penalty" for India's de-

fence and oil imports from Russia.

Union announced a sanctions

package, widely seen as the most

comprehensive effort yet by the

EU to restrict Russia's revenue

stream, placing a ban on import of

fuels into Europe if made from

Russian oil in third countries like

India. Among other steps, the EU

also sanctioned Russian oil giant

Rosneft-backed Nayara Energy

that operates the 20-million-

tonnes-per-annum Vadinar refin-

ery in Gujarat. A few weeks ago,

concerns surfaced in India over a

controversial bill in the US that

proposes 500 per cent tariffs on

countries that continue to trade

with Russia. NATO Secretary

General Mark Rutte had also said

that countries like India, China, and

Brazil could be hit very hard by sec-

ondary sanctions if they continued

the West — exerting pressure on

Russia's top trade partners to cut

These renewed efforts from

to do business with Russia.

Earlier in July, the European

"We have just concluded a

underway.

USD RATE

Trump announces 'deal'

with Islamabad to develop

Says maybe Pakistan will 'be selling oil to India some day'

SILVER

⊘ ₹1,12,000 ₹98,020 **⊘** ₹87.60 \$74.77 Note: Gold, silver rates at Delhi spot market, gold per 10g, silver per 1 kg; Crude oil (Indian basket) per barrel as of July 30

SENSEX: 81,185.58 ▼ 296.28 (0.36%) NIFTY: 24,768.35 ▼ 86.70 (0.35%) NIKKEI: 41,069.82 ▲ 415.12 HANG SENG: 24,773.33 ▼ 403.60 FTSE: 9,174.02 ▲ 37.08 DAX: 24,220.27 ▼ 41.95

EIGHT INDIA-BASED COMPAINIES, FIVE NATIONALS SANCTIONED

Indian firms, nationals in US sanctions list over Iran oil trade, shipping network Pakistan's oil reserves

SUKALPSHARMA

NEW DELHI. JULY 31

THE UNITED States has sanctioned eight India-based companies and five Indian nationals as part of its latest Iran-related sanctions action targeting entities engaged in trade of Iranian oil, petroleum products and petrochemicals, and those identified as part of a shipping empire controlled by Mohammad Hossein Shamkhani, the son of Ali Shamkhani, a top political advisor to Iranian Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei.

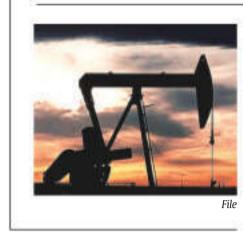
In the latest action, announced Wednesday, the US Department of State imposed sanctions on 20 entities and identified 10 vessels as blocked property. Simultaneously, the US Department of the Treasury's Office of Foreign Assets Control (OFAC) designated over 50 individuals and entities and identified over 50 vessels that are part of Hossein Shamkhani's network.

Six Indian companies are part of the State Department as well as the OFAC sanctions lists. These include Chennai-based Kanchan Polymers and five Mumbaibased firms — Alchemical Solutions (also known as Chemform Trading), Ramniklal S Gosalia and Company, Jupiter Dye Global Industrial Chemicals and Persistent Petrochem.

According to the State Department, these companies imported Iranian-origin petrochemicals — which are under US sanctions — worth millions of

operation

PART OF US's 'MAXIMUM PRESSURE CAMPAIGN' ON IRAN



IN THE latest action, the **US Department of** State imposed sanctions on 20 entities and identified 10 vessels as blocked property **ACTION PART** of the US's "maximum pressure campaign" on Iran

work companies.

dollars. Two more Indian companies — Mumbai-based Ensa Ship Management and Surat-based Shreeji Gems — feature in the OFAC's designations over their alleged connections with Hossein Shamkhani's network.

The five Indian nationals designated by the OFAC are Mohamed Rafeek Habibullah, Jacob Kurian, Anil Kumar Panackal Narayanan Nair, Pankaj Nagjibhai Patel, and Elyas Jafer Tambe.

UAE-based Habibullah has been designated by the OFAC for "operating in the petroleum sector of the Iranian economy", while Nigeria-based Kurian and Indiabased Nair were identified as shareholders and directors of Marshall Islands-based Neo Shipping, which owned a vessel "managed on behalf of Hossein's network". According to the OFAC, UAE-based Patel "has served as an executive on several shipping companies in Hossein's network"; Patel is a director of Shreeji Gems. Tambe – also based in the UAE – has been associated with several shipping companies "tied

to Hossein's network" and held various roles with multiple net-

Meanwhile, the Embassy of Iran in India hit out at the US, accusing it of weaponising the economy and using sanctions as tools to dictate its will on other countries. "The United States continues to weaponise the economy and use sanctions as tools to dictate its will on independent nations such as Iran and India and impede their growth and development. These coercive discriminatory actions violate the principles of international law and national sovereignty, representing a modern form of economic imperialism. Resisting such policies is a stand for a more powerful emerging non Western-led multilateral world order and a stronger Global South," the Iranian Embassy in India said in a post on X.

The latest action by Washington is part of the Donald Trump administration's "maximum pressure campaign" on Iran, which has now seen multiple rounds of sanctions against in-

dividuals and firms over the past few months. Indian nationals and firms have featured on the list of sanctioned individuals and entities in earlier rounds as well. For instance, a UAE-based Indian national, Jugwinder Singh Brar, and four of his firms were sanctioned by the US for operating "shadow fleet" vessels that transported "Iranian oil on behalf of the National Iranian Oil Company (NIOC) and the Iranian military", according to the OFAC.

Even prior to the Trump administration's campaign against Iran's oil and petroleum products trade, a few Indian companies had been placed under sanctions by the previous US administration for involvement in energy transportation and trade through the so-called shadow fleet of tankers. Last October, India-based Gabbaro Ship Services was sanctioned for alleged involvement in transportation of Iranian oil. In August and September last year, three India-registered shipping firms were sanctioned by the US over their alleged involvement in transporting liquefied natural gas (LNG) from Russia's Arctic LNG 2 project, which is under American

Most of the Indian companies that have been sanctioned by the US over purported violations of energy sector-related sanctions appear to be small and hitherto little-known entities set up in recent years. To be sure, India does not import any crude or petroleum fuels from Iran, given that Tehran's oil and gas sector is under sanctions imposed by Washington during the first Trump administration. On the latest sanctions action. the US State Department said, "The Iranian regime continues to fuel conflict in the Middle East to fund its destabilising activities. Today, the United States is taking action to stem the flow of revenue that the regime uses to support terrorism abroad, as well as to oppress its own people. The Department of State is imposing sanctions on 20 entities engaged in Iranian petroleum, petroleum products, or petrochemical trade and is identifying 10 vessels as blocked property".

Commenting on the action by

the OFAC, US Treasury Secretary Scott Bessent said, "The Shamkhani family's shipping empire highlights how the Iranian regime elites leverage their positions to accrue massive wealth and fund the regime's dangerous behaviour... The over 115 sanctions issued today are the largest to date since the Trump Administration implemented our campaign of maximum pressure on Iran. These actions put America first by targeting regime elites that profit while Tehran threatens the safety of the United States." The OFAC alleged that Hossein Shamkhani "leverages corruption through his father's political influence at the highest levels of the Iranian regime to build and operate a massive fleet of tankers and containerships". This network transports oil and petroleum products from Iran and Russia, as well as other cargo, to buvers around the world, generating tens of billions of dollars in profit, it added.

JUST HOURS after announcing 25 per cent tariffs with an unspecified additional penalty on India for its import of Russian oil and defence equipment, US President Donald Trump said that Pakistan and the US have concluded a deal to develop Pakistan's oil reserves, adding that "maybe" Islamabad will sell oil to New Delhi "some day". According to the US US President Donald Trump at the White House on President, the process of select-Wednesday. ing an American oil company for

Russia is India's biggest source of

oil with a share of around 40 per cent in India's crude oil imports, followed by West Asian majors like Iraq, Saudi Arabia, and the United Arab Emirates. The US is also among the top five suppliers of crude oil to India. Over the past few weeks, Trump has been saying that Russia's trade partners will be slapped with hefty secondary tariffs from the US, something that experts see as part of his effort to force Moscow to end the Russia-Ukraine war.

Hours before his post announcing the "deal" with Pakistan. Trump announced a 25 per cent tariff on Indian goods from August 1, with an additional but unspec-

The Russian 'penalty': India's

oil from Russia faces scrutiny

move to tank up on discounted

ified "penalty" for India's energy and defence imports from Russia even as Washington and New Delhi are in the midst of negotiating a trade deal. Trump's announcements also come amid heightened tension between India and Pakistan following a military conflagration between the South Asian neighbours in May due to the Pahalgam terror attack by Pakistan-backed terrorists. Trump has repeatedly claimed that he brokered the ceasefire between New Delhi and Pakistan while India has maintained that there was no mediation by any other country.

> **FULL REPORT ON** www.indianexpress.com

Surprise 25%+ US tariff could pull Jane Street case: IT Dept's survey against Nuvama

SIDDHARTH UPASANI

NEW DELHI, JULY 31

Mumbai: The Income Tax Department on Thursday conducted a survey operation at the premises of brokerage firm Nuvama Wealth Management as part of an alleged tax evasion probe against Jane Street, the USbased proprietary trading firm accused of market manipulation, official sources said. Sources stated the department is undertaking a "verification" exercise in the backdrop of a recent Sebi action against Jane Street. Nuvama, Jane Street's domestic trading partner, confirmed the IT action

BRIEFLY

in a regulatory filing.

HUL Q1 profit rises 6%

New Delhi: Hindustan Unilever Ltd (HUL) has reported a 5.97 per cent rise in its consolidated net profit to Rs 2,768 crore for the June quarter of FY26. **PTI**

Maruti Q1 profit rises marginally

New Delhi: Maruti Suzuki India has posted a marginal increase in consolidated net profit to Rs 3,792 crore for the June quarter, with robust overseas shipments.

JLR says CEO to step down

London: The chief executive of Jaguar Land Rover, Adrian Mardell, will step down after more than three decades at the company, a spokesperson for the automaker said on Thursday. **REUTERS**

US SEC lays out crypto plans

New York: The head of the US securities regulator unveiled sweeping plans to overhaul capital markets regulations to accommodate cryptocurrencies and blockchain-based trading. US Securities and **Exchange Commission Chair** Paul Atkins said that he has directed staff to craft guidelines to determine when a crypto token is a security. **REUTERS**

down India's GDP growth below 6%

THE INDIAN economy could end up growing by less than 6 per cent in the current fiscal if US President Donald Trump's surprise tariff of at least 25 per cent on Indian goods remains in place for the rest of the year, with most economists predicting a hit of 20-40 basis points (bps) to the growth rate.

According to ANZ economists Dhiraj Nim and Sanjay Mathur, if the US' 25 per cent tariff on India remains in place for the remainder of 2025-26, "it could subtract 40 bps from GDP growth", although the duo added that the impact could be lower as India's rivals are also facing higher tariffs than before.

ANZ currently expects India's GDP to expand by 6.1 per cent in the current fiscal, lower than the Reserve Bank of India's (RBI) forecast of 6.5 per cent and the finance ministry's 6.3-6.8 per cent projection range.

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU

TATA MOTORS on Thursday an-

nounced plans to raise around

euro 1 billion (approximately

\$1.14 billion or Rs 10,000 crore) in

equity to help repay the loan used

for its euro 3.8 billion (Rs 38,000

crore) acquisition of Iveco's trucks

vehicles in India and Tata vehi-

cles in markets where Iveco has

Tata Motors' largest since its \$2.3

billion purchase of Jaguar Land

Rover in 2008 — excludes Iveco's

defence operations. It will be

funded initially through a euro 3.8

billion bridge loan committed by

Morgan Stanley and MUFG. Tata

Motors aims to repay the debt

over four years, using a mix of in-

ternal cash flows, proceeds from

a potential euro 1 billion equity

raise (via rights issue or QIP) and

monetisation of its stake in Tata

Capital. "We plan to refinance the

The proposed acquisition —

The company also hinted at the possibility of launching Iveco

MUMBAI.JULY 31

and bus business.

a strong presence.

Tata Motors plans

\$1.14-bn equity raise to

fund Iveco acquisition



IFTHE surprise US tariff of at least 25% remains in place for the rest of the year, most economists predict a hit of 20-40 basis points to the growth rate.

Late Wednesday, Trump said that starting August 1, Indian goods would face a 25 per cent tariff when being imported into the US as well as an additional but unspecified "penalty" for purchasing energy and defence equipment from Russia. In a post on social media platform Truth Social, Trump said India has "the most strenuous and obnoxious non-monetary Trade Barriers of any Country". The Indian government, on its part, responded by saying that it's studying the implications of Trump's statement and remains committed to arriving at a "fair,

The company also

of launching Iveco

where Iveco has a

strong presence

vehicles in India and

hinted at the possibility

Tata vehicles in markets

bridge loan with a mix of long-

term debt and equity within 12 to

18 months after the deal closes,"

PB Balaji, CFO of Tata Motors, said

in a conference call. "We are tar-

geting to repay the entire acquisi-

tion debt over a four-year period."

to be earnings accretive from the

second year onwards, driven by

cost synergies and the relatively

Girish Wagh said the product

portfolios of Tata Motors and Iveco

complement each other in both

www.indianexpress.com

FULL REPORT ON

Tata Motors executive director

low acquisition multiple.

pricing and capability.

Tata Motors expects the deal

balanced and mutually beneficial" trade agreement.

Early Thursday, Trump said on Truth Social that he didn't "care what India does with Russia. They can take their dead economies down together, for all I care".

Slowing growth

After clocking an unexpectedly high GDP growth rate of 7.4 per cent in the final quarter of 2024-25, the Indian economy is widely expected to have slowed down in April-June, with the RBI itself having predicted in June that growth would slow down to 6.5 per cent in the first quarter of 2025-26. The statistics ministry will release GDP data for April-

June at the end of August. Economists have widely been of the opinion that the RBI's forecast of 6.5 per cent for 2025-26 is a tad optimistic, with the Indian central bank aggressively cutting interest rates over the last few minutes to support economic activity in the face of multi-year low inflation.

Trump's tariff shock, however puts a spanner in the works.

"At these tariff rates, if the burden of higher tariffs is equally split between Indian producers and US consumers, it could directly shave off 0.3 ppt (percentage points) from India's GDP growth," HSBC economists Pranjul Bhandari and Aayushi Chaudhary, who currently forecast a growth rate of 6.3 per cent for 2025-26, said in a note on Thursday. "The penalty rate, if levied, would shave off further from growth, and there could be an indirect growth drag as well, led by lower capital inflows, investment, and suchlike," they added. One percentage point is equal to 100 bps. A hit of 30 bps to this year's growth rate was echoed by Barclays, while Nomura economists estimated a slightly lower impact of 20 bps from their current forecast of 6.2 per cent. The RBI's Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) is set to

terest rates. **FULL REPORTON** www.indianexpress.com

meet next week to decide on in-

After steel and aluminium, US imposes 50% tariff on copper products from Aug 1

AGGAM WALIA NEW DELHI, JULY 31

US PRESIDENT Donald Trump on

Wednesday issued a proclamation to impose a 50 per cent universal tariff on semi-finished and derivative copper imports starting from August 1. The move comes after tariffs on other metals, namely steel and aluminium, were increased from 25 per cent to 50 per cent earlier in June.

The imposition of a 50 per cent duty on copper tubes, pipes, wires, rods, and sheets — to be levied separately from reciprocal tariffs follows an investigation into copper imports on national security grounds Trump had ordered in February. The 50 per cent tariff will not cover copper input materials like ores, concentrates, and cathodes, which are also exempt from reciprocal tariffs, the White

House said in a statement. This is significant for India, which exported \$2 billion worth of copper and copper products globally in 2024-25, with the US accounting for \$360 million, or 17 per cent, of that total. Copper ex-



Molten copper at Anglo Americans smelter in Chagres, Chile. Reuters

ports to the US include other articles of copper (\$125 million), tubes and pipes (\$63 million), plates and sheets (\$48 million), and bars (\$28 million).

Trade data showed that the US is India's third-largest copper export market, after Saudi Arabia (26 per cent) and China (18 per cent). However, given copper's status as a critical mineral and its extensive use across infrastructure, energy, and manufacturing, India's domestic industry is likely to absorb any decline in US demand resultor 86.7 points, to end at 24,768.35. ing from the 50 per cent tariff be-

FULL REPORT ON



Crude oil tanker Nevskiy Prospect, owned by Russia's tanker group Sovcomflot. File

down on imports from the country — are clearly targetted at forcing the Kremlin's hand into ending the war in Ukraine. For Trump, who wants the three-year-old Russia-Ukraine war to end within days, this is an opportune time to pressurise countries like India and China over their Russian imports, given the sensitive trade negotiations that these countries are holding with the US.

Trump's threat? Over the past nearly threeand-a-half years, India has openly defended its higher purchases of Russian crude, arguing the primacy of its critical energy needs in its priority. India depends on imports to meet around 88 per cent of its crude oil needs, and Russia has been the mainstay of India's oil imports for nearly three years now. Russian oil flows to India have so far remained robust, despite criticism from sections of the West and actions by US and its allies against Russia's oil trade.

New Delhi: Indian state refiners have stopped buying Russian oil in the past week as discounts narrowed this month and US President Donald Trump warned countries not to purchase oil from Moscow, industry sources said. The country's state refiners — Indian Oil Corp, Hindu-

'State refiners

pause Russian

oil purchases'

stan Petroleum Corp, Bharat Petroleum Corp and Mangalore Refinery Petrochemical Ltd — have not sought Russian crude in the past week or so, four sources told Reuters. IOC, BPCL, HPCL, MRPL and the oil ministry did not immediately respond to *Reuters'* requests for comment. REUTERS

How credible is

India has, time and again, main-

tained that it is willing to buy oil from whoever offers a good price, as long as the oil is not under sanctions. Russia has been offering discounts on its oil, its crude is not technically under sanctions, and is only subject to a price cap imposed by the G7 countries and their allies. This time, however, with a mercurial Trump administration visibly frustrated with Moscow, the threat of an additional tariff component as a penalty for India's booming trade with Russia could potentially lead

> **FULL REPORT ON** www.indianexpress.com

to a dampening of Russian oil sup-

plies to India.

Sensex, Nifty drop on Trump's tariff jitters

HITESH VYAS MUMBALJULY 31

Sensex and Nifty, ended marginally lower in a volatile session on Thursday, following US President Donald Trump's announcement to slap a 25 per cent tariff on goods imported from India, starting August 1, along with an unspecified penalty for importing energy and defence goods from Russia. The BSE's 30-share Sensex declined 0.36 per cent, or 296.28 points, to close at 81,185.58. The broader Nifty slipped 0.35 per cent,

DOMESTIC BENCHMARK indices,

Rupee settles at an all-time low of 87.60 paise to close at an all-time low of 87.60 against the US dollar amid concerns over the imposition of higher tariffs by the US on India. The currency had previously ended at a record low of 87.58 on February 6, 2025. The rupee

87.42. It touched an intraday high of 87.51 and a low of 87.73. **FULL REPORT ON** www.indianexpress.com

opened at 87.71 on Thursday, compared to the previous close of

Fiscal deficit in Q1 at 17.9% of full-year target

New Delhi: The Centre's fiscal deficit stood at 17.9 per cent of the full-year target at the end of June, according to data released by the Controller General of Accounts (CGA) on Thursday.

It was at 8.4 per cent of Budget Estimates (BE) of 2024-25 in the first three months of the previous financial year. In absolute terms, the fiscal deficit, or gap between the government's expenditure and revenue, was Rs 2,80,732 crore in the April-June period of the 2025-26 fiscal year.

The Centre estimates the fiscal deficit during 2025-26 at 4.4 per cent of the GDP, or Rs 15.69 lakh crore. The Government of India has received Rs 9.41 lakh crore (26.9 per cent of corresponding BE 2025-26 of the total receipts) up to June, 2025.

The rupee depreciated 18

epaper.indianexpress.com

ginning tomorrow.

www.indianexpress.com

An international crew of four astronauts had their planned launch to the International Space Station from Florida Thursday postponed over bad weather, delaying a mission that had been watched by a rare gathering of senior Russian space officials in town for a meeting with NASA's acting chief. Two NASA astronauts, a Russian cosmonaut and a Japanese astronaut were to be launched to the ISS.

TOPOFTHE WORLD



President Joseph Aoun

LEBANON President calls on Hezbollah to disarm

Beirut: Lebanese President Joseph Aoun stepped up his calls for Hezbollah to disarm on Thursday, suggesting failure to do so would give Israel an excuse to continue attacks and saying the issue would be on the agenda of a cabinet meeting next week. The comments reflect mounting pressure over the issue of Hezbollah's arms, which has loomed over Lebanon since the Iran-aligned group was pummeled in a war with Israel last year. The US wants Hezbollah disarmed - a demand echoed by the government as it aims to establish a monopoly on weapons. Hezbollah leader Naim Qassem said in a speech Wednesday that calls for its disarmament served only

PAKISTAN

Court orders

PTI members

10-yr jail for 166

Lahore: A Pakistan court on

Thursday handed down 10-

year jail term each to 166

members, including some

lawmakers, of incarcerated

former prime minister

Imran Khan party in connec-

tion with the May 9, 2023 at-

tack on ISI building and

other military installations

in Punjab province. The sen-

tencing of leaders of Khan's

Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) –including opposition

leaders in the National

Assembly and Senate and

several other lawmakers --

has come just a week before

the proposed launch of 'Free

Imran Khan Movement'

PM steps down

after probes into

Vilnius: Lithuanian Prime

Minister Gintautas Paluckas

stepped down Thursday, fol-

lowing investigations into

his business dealings that

prompted protests calling

for his resignation. Paluckas,

a newly established leader

of the centre-left Social

Democrats, ascended to the

role late last year after a

formed following a parlia-

mentary election in October

in Lithuania. His entire

Cabinet is also expected to

resign, leaving the country

without an effective govern-

ment weeks before Russia

holds joint military exercises

coalition

three-party

with Belarus.

business deals

from August 5th.

LITHUANIA

REUTERS

ISRAEL ALLOWED CATASTROPHE TO UNFOLD IN GAZA: CARNEY

Canada plans to recognise Palestine, Trump steps up trade war over move

REUTERS

OTTAWA, JERUSALEM, JULY 31

CANADA PLANS to recognize the State of Palestine at a meeting of the United Nations in September, Prime Minister Mark Carney announced on Wednesday, ratcheting up pressure on Israel as starvation spreads in Gaza.

The announcement came after France said last week it would recognize a Palestinian state and a day after Britain said it would recognize the state at September's U.N. General Assembly meeting if the fighting in Gaza, part of the Palestinian territories occupied by Israel, had not stopped by then.

Carney told reporters that the reality on the ground, including starvation of people in Gaza, meant "the prospect of a Palestinian state is literally receding before our eyes."

"Canada condemns the fact that the Israeli government has allowed a catastrophe to unfold in Gaza," he said. Carney said the planned recognition was based in part on repeated assurances from the Palestinian Authority, which represents the State of Palestine at the UN, that it was reforming its governance and is willing to hold general elections in 2026 in which Hamas "can play no part."



Palestinians rush to collect aid airdropped into Zawaida in central Gaza on Thursday. AP

The announcements by some of Israel's closest allies reflect growing international outrage over Israel's restrictions on food and other aid to Gaza in its war against Hamas militants, and the dire humanitarian crisis there. A global hunger monitor has warned that a worst-case scenario of famine is unfolding in Gaza.

US President Donald Trump intensified his trade war with Canada a day ahead of his August

1 deadline for a tariff agreement, saying it would be "very hard" to make a deal with Canada after it gave its support to Palestinian statehood. "Wow! Canada has iust announced that it is backing statehood for Palestine. That will make it very hard for us to make a Trade Deal with them," Trump said on Truth Social

Canada Prime Minister Mark Carney previously said tariff negotiations with Washington had

been constructive, but the talks may not conclude by the deadline. Talks between the two countries were at an intense phase, he added, but a deal that would remove all US tariffs was unlikely.

Meanwhile, Portugal's government will consult political parties and conservative President Marcelo Rebelo de Sousa about the potential recognition of a Palestinian state, Prime Minister Luis Montenegro said Thursday.

US envoy meets Netanyahu for Gaza food aid, ceasefire push

Jerusalem: US special envoy Steve Witkoff met Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu on Thursday in a bid to salvage Gaza truce talks and tackle a humanitarian crisis in the enclave, where a global hunger monitor has warned that famine is unfolding.

Shortly after Witkoff's arrival, President Donald Trump posted on his Truth Social network: "The fastest way to end the Humanitarian Crises in Gaza is for Hamas to SURRENDER AND RELEASE THE HOSTAGES!!"

Indirect ceasefire talks between Israel and Palestinian Islamist group Hamas in Doha ended in deadlock last week with the sides trading blame for the impasse and gaps lingering over issues including the extent of an Israeli military withdrawal.

Witkoff arrived with Israel facing mounting international pressure over the widespread destruction of Gaza and constraints on aid in the territory. with Canada the latest Western power to say it will recognise a Palestinian state. **REUTERS**



Rescuers at the site of a Russian attack in Kyiv on Thursday. AP

12 killed, over 130 injured as Russia launches missiles, drones on Kyiv

REUTERS KYIV, JULY 31

RUSSIA LAUNCHED waves of missiles and drones on Kyiv before dawn on Thursday, killing 12 people including a six-year-old boy, and wounding 135 others, officials in the Ukrainian capital said. Over 1,200 police and rescuers dealt with the consequences of the attack and the Interior Ministry said that searches for people buried under

rubble continued past 4:30 pm. Volodymyr President Zelenskyy said Russia launched more than 300 drones and eight missiles. City authorities announced a day of mourning to be held on Friday for the victims.

Russia's Defence Ministry said it targeted and hit Ukrainian military airfields and ammunition depots as well as businesses linked to Kyiv's "military-industrial complex." Ukraine's Interior Ministry said 11 children were wounded, the largest number hurt in a single attack on the city.

Kyiv and Moscow have held three rounds of talks in Istanbul this year that yielded exchanges of prisoners and bodies, but no breakthrough to defuse the war.

Tell him to watch his words: Trump, Medvedev clash on social media

Moscow: Former President Dmitry Medvedev on Thursday told U.S. President Donald Trump to remember that Moscow possessed Soviet-era nuclear strike capabilities of last resort after Trump told Medvedev to "watch his words".

Trump, in a post Thursday, singled out Medvedey, who is deputy chairman of Russia's Security Council, for sharp criticism after Medvedev said that Trump's threat of hitting Russia and buyers of its oil with punitive tariffs was "a game of ultimatums" and a step closer towards a war be-

tween Russia and the US. "Tell Medvedev, the failed former President of Russia, who thinks he's still President, to watch his words. He's entering very dangerous territory!,

Trump wrote. Medvedev said that Trump's statement showed that Russia should continue on its current policy course.

Iran on verge of dire water crisis: President

Manage consumption or will run out of water in 2-3 months: Pezeshkian

REUTERS

DUBAI, JULY 31

IRAN'S PRESIDENT Masoud Pezeshkian warned against excessive water consumption which he said was untenable for the country and could leave Tehran facing severe shortages by September, semi-official Tasnim news agency reported on Thursday.

Faced with resource mismanagement and over-consumption, Iran has faced recurrent electricity, gas and water shortages during peak demand months. "In Tehran, if we cannot manage and people do not cooperate in controlling consumption, there won't be any water in dams by September or October,"

The country has faced



Iran President Masoud

tor of the Environmental **Protection Organisation Sheena** Ansari and the Meteorological Organisation recorded a 40% drop in rainfall over the last four months compared to a long-

ELECTIONS LIKELY IN DECEMBER

Myanmar ends state of emergency, junta chief takes charge as head of interim govt

Top general will exercise more power as acting President under new setup

ASSOCIATED PRESS JULY 31

MYANMAR'S MILITARY government announced Thursday it was ending the state of emergency it first declared after seizing power 4 1/2 years ago and restructuring its administrative bodies to prepare for a new election at the end of the year.

The plans for the polls on an unspecificed date in December face serious obstacles, including a civil war raging over most of the country and vows by opponents of military rule to derail the election because they believe it can be neither free nor fair.

Under the restructuring, the head of the military government, Senior Gen Min Aung Hlaing, gives up two posts but will serve in other positions that keep him at the centre of power. The joint announcements came as the last of seven consecutive six-month, emergency-rule decrees was set to expire Thursday at midnight.

The military imposed emergency rule and created new administrative structures after it ousted the elected government of Aung San Suu Kyi on February 1, 2021, arresting her and members of her ruling National League for Democracy party. The military



Myanmar Senior General Min Aung Hlaing. Reuters file

said Suu Kyi's government failed to address fraud claims in the 2020 polls, though observers did not find irregularities.

The emergency decree empowered the military to assume all government functions, giving legislative, judicial and executive powers to Min Aung Hlaing as head of the ruling military council, formally called the State Administration Council.

Despite losing his post as chief of the now-dissolved council and relinguishing the job of prime minister to his advisor, Gen Nyo Saw, Min Aung Hlaing will exercise more influence as Myanmar's acting president with increased

authority under the restructuring. Maj Gen Zaw Min Tun, the military's spokesperson, said elections will be held within six

Thailand and Cambodia to hold border visits for foreign diplomats

A road damaged by flood in the outskirts of Beijing on Wednesday. Extreme rain and floods

across northern China have killed 60 people, more than half of them at a care home for the

elderly in a suburb of Beijing, which has grappled with its deadliest flood disaster in years. AP

HEAVY RAIN KILLS 60 IN CHINA

ASSOCIATED PRESS BANGKOK, JULY 31

THAILAND AND Cambodia separately planned border visits for foreign diplomats to observe damages from the nearly weeklong clash, as violence that continued after a ceasefire appears

to have eased. The ceasefire reached in Malaysia was supposed to take effect at midnight Monday, but it was quickly tested as Thailand

and Cambodia continued to accuse each other of violating the truce agreements. Thailand's Ministry of Foreign Affairs said Thursday it is organising a trip to the border for military attachés of foreign missions and the media on Friday to show the impact

of the clashes on the ground. Cambodia is also organising a border visit for foreign diplomats on the same day. It held a similar trip on Wednesday attended by representatives from 13 countries, including the US

and China. Thailand's government spokesperson Jirayu Houngsub said Thursday that there had been no new clashes

reported overnight Wednesday. But tensions on other fronts continue to simmer. Officials in Thailand's border province of Surin, one of the critical locations of the conflict, on Thursday cautioned evacuees against returning home as they were surveying affected areas for any ammunition that might still pose a risk.

Pezeshkian

Pezeshkian said on Thursday.

drought conditions for the last five years according to the directerm average. "Neglecting sustainable development has led to the fact

that we are now facing numerous environmental problems like water stress," Ansari told state media on Thursday.

CRITICS SEE 'GENES-JEANS' WORDPLAY AS NOD — EITHER UNINTENTIONAL OR DELIBERATE — TO EUGENICS

American Eagle's 'good jeans' ads with Sydney Sweeney spark debate on race, beauty

ANNE D'INNOCENZIO NEW YORK, JULY 31

US FASHION retailer American Eagle Outfitters wanted to make a splash with its new advertising campaign starring 27-year-old actor Sydney Sweeney. The ad blitz included "clever, even provocative" language" and was "definitely going to push buttons," the company's chief marketing officer told trade media outlets.

It has. The question now is whether some of the public reactions the fall denim campaign produced is what American Eagle intended. Titled "Sydney Sweeney has great jeans," the

campaign sparked a debate about race, Western beauty standards, and the backlash to "woke" American politics and culture. Most of the negative reception focused on videos that used the word "genes" instead of "jeans" when discussing the blonde-haired, blue-eyed actor known for the HBO series Euphoria and White Lotus.

Some critics saw the wordplay as a nod, either unintentional or deliberate, to eugenics, a discredited theory that held humanity could be improved through selective breeding for certain traits. Marcus Collins, an assistant professor of marketing at the University of Michigan's

Ross School of Business, said the criticism could have been avoided if the ads showed models of various races making the "genes" pun.

"You can either say this was ignorance, or this was laziness. or say that this is intentional," Collins said. "Either one of the three aren't good."

Other commenters accused detractors of reading too much into the campaign's message. "I love how the leftist meltdown over the Sydney Sweeney ad has only resulted in a beautiful white blonde girl with blue eyes getting 1000x the exposure for her 'good genes," former Fox News host Megyn Kelly wrote Tuesday on X.



In one ad, Sweeney walks toward a billboard that says 'Sydney Sweeney has great genes' to replace it with 'jeans'

American Eagle didn't respond to requests for comment from The Associated Press.

Like many trendy clothing brands, American Eagle has to differentiate itself from other mid-priced chains with a famous face or by saying something edgy, according to Alan Adamson, co-founder of marketing consultancy Metaforce.

"It's the same playbook: a very hot model saying provocative things shot in an interesting way," Adamson said.

Jeans, genes and their many meanings

In one video, Sweeney walks toward an American Eagle bill-

"Sydney Sweeney has great genes." She crosses out "genes" and replaces it with "jeans."

board of her and the tagline

But what critics found the most troubling was a teaser video in which Sweeney says, "Genes are passed down from parents to offspring, often determining traits like hair color, personality and even eye color. My jeans are blue." The video appeared on American Eagle's Facebook page and other social media channels

but is not part of the campaign. While remarking that someone has good genes is sometimes used as a compliment, the phrase also has sinister connotations. Eugenics gained popularity in

Nazi Germany embraced it to carry out Adolf Hitler's plan for an Aryan master race. Civil rights activists have

early 20th century America, and

noted signs of eugenics regaining a foothold through the far right's promotion of the "great replacement theory," a racist ideology that alleges a conspiracy to diminish the influence of white people. Shalini Shankar, a cultural

and linguistic anthropologist at Northwestern University in Evanston, Illinois, said she had problems with American Eagle's "genes" versus "jeans" because it exacerbates a limited concept of beauty.

इस कार्यालय के पत्रांक 875 दिनांक 09.06.2025 द्वारा आमंत्रित उक्त निविदा में अपरिहार्य कारणों से निम्नानुसार संशोधन

पूर्व में नियत तिथी

06:00 बजे तक

PWD2526WSOB04120

PWD2526WSOB04125

PWD2526WSOB04128

PWD2526WSOB04141

निविदा प्रपत्र डाउनलॉड करने व दिनांक 13.06.25 प्रातः 09:30 दिनांक 13.06.25 प्रातः 09:30 बजे से

आनॅलाईन निविदा खोलने की दिनांक 22.07.25 को प्रातः 11:00 दिनांक 07.08.25 को प्रातः 11:00 बजे से

PWD2526WSOB04095

PWD2526WSOB04122

PWD2526WSOB04126

PWD2526WSOB04139

PWD2526WSOB04142

PWD2526WSOB04145

Classifieds

PERSONAL

I, I.M.Naidu S/o I.Prahlad Rao R/o 541, Type-4, Sector-3, Near Water Tank, R.K.Puram, Delhi have changed my name to I. Markandeya Naidu 0040802626-1

I, Rajeshwari alias Raje shri W/o Komal singh R/o Titarwata, Bijnor, Mandawar, Uttar Pradesh -245721, have changed my name to Rajeshwari. 0050271194-1

I, Jareena W/o Mr. Firoz Khan R/o RZ G -192, Gali no.10, SitaPuri Part-2, Palam Village New Delhi-110045, inform that Jareena & Zarina Bano both are one & the 0050271193-1

same person. **It** is, for general

information,that I,Umesh Kumar.S/o-Banwari Lal.R/o-H.No.138.Gali No.3.Gautam Colony, Narela, Delhi-110040, declare that, name of

mine, has been, wrongly written, as Umesh in my minor, daughter Parisy Kaushik aged-17, year in her schoolrecord.& Aadhar-card. The actual, name of mine, is Umesh Kumar respectively, which may be, amended-accordingly.

0040802710-5

I,VIKAS S/O ANIL KUMAR R/O H-19 BLOCK-H BUDH VIHAR PHASE-1 DELHI-110086.HAVE CHANGED MY NAME TO VIKAS GUPTA. 0040802706-1

I,VANDANA KUMARI,W/o LATE KAMAL KUMAR, R/o-House No.B-358 1st-Floor Dhakka Extn.Bhai Parmanand Colony, Delhi-110009, have changed my name to VANDANA. 0040802702-5 I,Usha Devi Alias Moorti Devi

D/o Ratan Pal Sharma W/o Ranveer R/o 89, E-Block, Mavai, Ghaziabad, PO. Vijai Nagar, Uttar Pradesh -201009 have changed my name to Moorti Devi for all purposes.

0070981584-1

I,Sarvjeet Singh Chawla,s/o-Late Sh.Ajit Singh, R/o-KG-II/63.Vikaspuri.Delhi-110018, have changed my name to Sarvjeet Singh permanently.

Sethi R/o-Tower No-17..Flat no-

0040802706-3 **I,Saloni** Kashiwal,w/o Rishabh

903, Sunshine County Ansals near Village Badhkhalsa, Sonipat, Harvana-131029, have changed my name to Saloni 0040802708-2 I,SURESH DEVIMOTHER

OF.KARMPAL SINGH PRESENTLY. RESIDING AT VILL-MANDHAYA KHURD, P.O.-D.G.PURA, DISTT-REWARI, HARYANA-123401,HAVE CHANGED MY NAME, FROM SURESH DEVI TO SURESH, VIDE-AFFIDAVIT DATED.31-JUL-25.

0040802706-11

I, Vandhan Mittal, S/o Sh. Rajesh Kumar Mittal, Resident ofhouse.No.1694,Sector-23,Eastpocket, Gurgaon-122017, Haryana, have changed my name to Vandan Mittal with immediate effect for, all future purposes 0040802620-2

I,SHWETA SACHDEVA,W/O TAPAN TANEJA R/O 403/2A RANG RASAYAN APARTMENT SECTOR-13 ROHINI DELHI-110085.HAVE CHANGED MY NAME TO SHWETA TANEJA.

0040802702-2

I,SHAKIBA SEKH,R/O RZH-81, GROUND-FLOOR OLDNO.62 KHASRANO.77/6 NIHAL VIHAR NANGLOI, DELHI-110041. HAVE CHANGED MY CHILD NAME MAHAMMAD ZOHAIB SEKH TO MD ZOHAIB SK.

0040802703-3

I,SHAFAQUE PARVEEN,W/O ISHTKHAR AHMED.H.NO-98F,DDA,FLAT, POCKET-8, JASOLA, DELHI-110025, have changed my name to SHAFAOUE PARWEEN.for all. future purpose.

0040802702-4

I,SANJUL MAHANDRU, w/o. KAMALDEEP SINGH R/o. 653, 5th floor,6th Tower,plot#2, Rama Apartment, Sector-11, Dwarka, Delhi-110075, have changed my name to SANJUL **KAMALDEEP SINGH** 0040802706-4 permanently.

I,Rajesh Mittal,S/o Late Sh.Laxmi Chand Mittal. Resident of-house. No.1694, Sector-23, East-pocket, Gurgaon-122017, Haryana, have changed my name to Rajesh Kumar Mittal with immediate effect.for all future purposes

0040802620-3

I,RAJAN S/O PRITHI PAL AWASTHI.R/O.B-33.B.K DUTT-COLONY LODHI-ROAD NEW-DELHI-110003, have changed my name to RAJAN AWASTHI for all future purposes.

0040802706-6 I.PRANSHI SHARMA..DAUGHTER OF SANJAI SHARMA, AGED **ABOUT 25-YEARS, CURRENTLY** R/o-E/1101,PARISHKAR PHASE-2, MANINAGAR (EAST), KHOKHRA, AHMEDABAD CITY, AHMEDABAD, GUJARAT-380008. inform that my, father's name Sanjai Sharma and Sanjay Kumar Sharma, both are same person.My father correct name Sanjai Sharma, for all purpose. 0040802703-6

I, Bhaskar Yeshuraj S/o Arokiam Swamy R/o 1/6, Pocket-12, Sector-82, Noida, UP-201304 declares that name of mine and my wife wrongly updated as BHASKAR YESURAJ and LOURD MARY. A in my minor daughter's KRITIKA YESURAJ school records and birth certificate instead BHASKAR YESHURAJ and LOURD MARY, amend accordingly.

0070981614-1

I.Omita Sharma, W/o Mayank Sharma R/o-WZ-1569 Rani Bagh Delhi-110034, have changed my name to Omita Nanda, Permanently.

0040802620-1

I,NISHA W/O RAJAN AWASTHI,R/O B-33 B.K **DUTT.COLONY LODHI-ROAD** NEW-DELHI 110003,HAVE CHANGED NAME TO NISHA AWASTHI, for all, future 0040802706-7 purposes.

I,N CHANDRA KUMAR NATESAN, FATHER OF, HARISH C PRESENTLY RESIDING AT.NO.2/460,4TH-STREET, VENKATESAPURAM, VA NDALUR, KANCHEEPURAM DISTRICT.TAMILNADU PIN-600048, HAVE CHANGED MY NAME, FROM N CHANDRA **KUMAR NATESAN TO** CHANDRAKUMAR NADESAN VIDE-AFFIDAVIT, DATED-31.07.2025. 0040802703-10

I,MAHAMMAD EQBAL SEKH,S/O-SK RAMJAN ALI,R/O RZH-81 G/F OLDNO.62 KHASRANO.77/6 NIHAL VIHAR, NANGLOI, DELHI-110041.HAVE CHANGED MY NAME TO MD EQBAL SK.

0040802706-2

I,Kusum Lata W/O. Late.Sh.Sunil Rastogi R/O.D-72,1st Floor, Gali No-3.Laxmi Nagar, Delhi-110092, have changed my name Kusum Rastogi for all future 0040802702-7 purpose.

I,Khurshid Anwar Khan alias Shamim Khan S/o Samiur Rahman,R/o WZ-573,Tihad Village, Tilak-Nagar-S.O., Dist: West-Delhi, Delhi-110018, have changed my name to Shamim Khan for all purposes.

0040802603-2

0040802702-3

I,DHRUV S/o Virender Pahwa R/o F-4/32-33 GF Sector-16, Rohini North West Delhi-110089, have changed my name to DHRUV PAHWA.

I,KUNAL S/O SATISH KUMAR,R/O E-3/7, Block-E-3, Shiv Ram Park Village, Nangoli, Nilothi, Delhi-110041, have changed my name

to KUNAL KUMAR.

0040802710-4

I,KAWALJIT SINGH MAKAN,S/O,MAHINDER SINGH MAKAN,R/O,301,GROUND-FLOOR OPP-MODEL TOWN-1 TAGORE-PARK EXTN TAGORE PARK NORTH WEST-DELHI-110009, have changed my name to KANWALJIT SINGH MAKAN.

0040802702-6

I.Harpreet Kaur W/o Amandeep Singh R/o H.No.-E-250, 1st Floor Amar Colony, Lajpat Nagar-4, N.D.-24, have changed my name to Harprit Kaur Anand for all future purposes.

0040802652-1

I,Gopi Nathan Kunnathat S/o Raman Nair R/o, Flat-No-191, Ekta-Apartment Pocket-1 & 2 Sector-3, Dwarka Delhi-110075, have changed my-name to Gopi Nathan Nair.

0040802710-1

I,GURMUKH SINGH S/O HAKAM SINGH,R/o-WZ-106/3, Ground-Floor, Rajouri Garden-Extn., Tagore-Garden, West-Delhi, Delhi-110027, have changed my-minor son's name **GURSHAN SINGH CHANNI to GURSHAN SINGH. aged-15-**0040802710-3 years.

I,GAURAV VERMA,S/O-DINESH KUMAR VERMA, H.NO-674,75,76,WARD NO-31,NEAR-KILE WALA, PARK-HOUSING BOARD COLONY, PALWAL, HARYANA-121102.have changed my name to GOURAV

> VERMA, for all, future purposes. 0040802703-4

I,C TAMIL SELVI CHANDRA KUMAR, MOTHER OF, HARISH C PRESENTLY RESIDING AT,NO.2/460,4TH STREET.VENKATESAPURAM.VA NDALUR, KANCHEEPURAM DISTRICT, TAMILNADU PIN-600048, HAVE CHANGED MY NAME, FROM C-TAMIL SELVI CHANDRA KUMAR TO TAMILSELVI CHANDRAKUMAR. VIDE-AFFIDAVIT, DATED-

31.07.2025. 0040802703-9 I,Bethala Sueresh,S/o Poul,R/o 2-216, Hraijan Wada, Beside, Welding Shop, Beach Road, Kotha Patnam, Andhra Pradesh-523286, Changed my name to Suresh Bethala.

0040802719-2

I.Bethala Siva Leela.W/o Suresh Bethala R/o 2-216, Hraijan Wada, Beside, Welding Shop. Beach Road, Kotha Patnam, Andhra Pradesh-523286, Changed my name to Siva Leela Bethala. 0040802719-1

I,BHAWNA RANI GUPTA W/O SANJAY KUMAR GUPTA R/O HNO.60 BLOCK-FU PITAMPURA DELHI-110088.HAVE CHANGED MY NAME TO BHAWNA GUPTA.

0040802703-2

I,BALJEET SINGH,FATHER OF, KARMPAL SINGH, PRESENTLY RESIDING AT, VILL-MANDHAYA KHURD, P.O.- D.G. PURA, DISTT-REWARI, HARYANA-123401, HAVE CHANGED MY NAME, FROM BALJEET SINGH TO BALJEET. VIDE-AFFIDAVIT DATED.31-JUL-0040802706-10 25.

I.Ashok Kumar S/o Ramjee Dubey, R/o-Village-Akhar, PO-Akhar, Ballia, Uttar-Pradesh-277001, have changed my name to Ashok Dubey for all official purposes

0040802703-5

I,Ankit Verma,S/o-Dinesh Chand Verma, R/o-K-2/44, Krishan Vihar, Delhi-110086, in my school documents my father name is wrongly mentioned as Dinesh Verma but his correct name is Dinesh Chand Verma.Dinesh Verma and Dinesh Chand Verms both are one and same Person.

0040802708-1

I.Amit Kumar S/O Babu Lal, Address-Flat No.19,C-75 JVTS Garden Chattarpur Extn, New

name to Amit Kumar Dewan. 0040802702-1 I,Ajay Kumar S/o Rampat Sharma R/o-47, QP-Block Second-Floor Pitampura Delhi-110034, have changed my name to Ajay Sharma 0040802706-5

Delhi-110074, have changed my

I, Aashima Aggarwal D/o, Anil Aggarwal R/o-79-80, Osho-Maikada, Lakkad-Ghat Road, Birpur-Khurd, Nirmal Block-C, Rishikesh, Dehradun, Uttarakhand-249204, have changed my-name to Aashima Jindal. 0040802710-2

I, Uma Shankar S/o Shiv Narayan Singh R/o House No. a+122, Gali No. 4, Pratap Vihar Part -1. Kirari Suleman Nagar. North West Delhi, Delhi-110086 have changed my name from Uma Shankar Singh to Uma Shankar for all future 0040802618-1 purposes.

I, Sarfraz S/o Shamshad khan R/o 1/15,Kamal Vihar,Kamal Pur, Burari, Delhi-110084 have changed my name from Sarfraz Khan to Sarfraz for all 0040802608-1 purposes.

I, SIYA ANAND, W/O RAVENTH CHADHA, R/O C-2/37, ASHOK VIHAR PHASE-2, ASHOK VIHAR, NORTH WEST DELHI, DELHI-110052, have changed my name to SIYA CHADHA for all future 0070981543-1 purposes.

I, Preeti Ojha W/o Pawan Kumar Ojha R/o B-186, Sector-55, Noida, UP-201301 have changed my name to PRITI OJHA for all future purposes.

0070981576-1

I, Natasha Pillai, D/O Mr. Victor Theophilus Pillai, R/O G-55A, 2nd Floor, G Block Kalkaji, Delhi - 110019. Have changed my name to Natasha Avril Pillai 0070981553-1

I. Natasha Avril Pillai, D/O Mr. Victor Theophilus Pillai, R/O G-55A, 2nd Floor, G Block Kalkaji, Delhi - 110019. Have changed my minor daughters name from Amelia to Amelia Clare Mishra

I. Kishore Kumar S/o Lal Chand

R/o 503-C, Regent, Shipra Sun

City, Indirapuram, Ghaziabad,

Uttar Pradesh-201014, have

0070981544-1

changed my name KishoreMendiratta to Kishore Kumar for all future purposes. 0040802627-1 I, KAPTAN SINGH S/O SURAT SINGH R/O 231, GHUMAN HERA, SOUTH WEST DELHI, DELHI-110073 declare that name of my wife has been wrongly written as MURTI DEVI in my Service

I, Jyoti Prasad S/o Sh. Ram Kishan, R/o A-835, Janata Flate, Pkt.-00, Sector-2, Rohini, Delhi-85 have been changed my name to Sachin Goyal for all future purposes. That Jyoti Prasad and Sachin Goyal is the

one and same person.

Record. The actual name of

wife is RAJWANTI 0070981542-1

0040802696-1 I, Ethan, S/O Mr. Shashikant

Mishra, R/O G-55A, 2nd Floor, G Block Kalkaji, Delhi - 110019. Have changed my name to Ethan Joshua Mishra 0070981550-1 I Suresh Chander Alias Suresh Chand S/o Pan Dev Joshi R/o 150 G/F, Gali No-4, Sarpanch Ka Bada, Shankar Public School,

110092, have changed my name

to Suresh Chander Joshi 0070981593-1 I Suman Tandon W/O, Anil Kumar Tandon R/o 2140, Housing Board Colony Sector-28 Faridabad, Haryana 121008 have changed my name to

Mandawali Fazalpur, Delhi -

Suman Bala. 0040802699-1 I Santosh Sharma D/o Jagdish Prasad and W/o Late Ram Avtar R/o RZ-1152, Gali No-14/6, Sadh Nagar, Palam Colony, South West Delhi, Delhi-110045, have changed my name to Santosh Devi 0070981540-1

I. PRATAP, S/O RAGHUBEER SINGH, R/O 1294/3/5, PATEL NAGAR, GURGAON, HARYANA-122001, have changed my name to PRATAP SINGH for all future purposes.

0070981589-1

I Maya Ganesh W/O, Ganesh K R/o B-431, 1st Floor (backside), Greenfield Colony, Faridabad, Haryana. have changed my name to Maya A V.

0040802700-1 I Ganesh K Nair S/O, M K Sankara

Narayanan R/o B-431, 1st Floor (backside), Greenfield Colony, Faridabad, Haryana. have changed my name to Ganesh K.

0040802701-1 I MINATI ROY W/O AMIT ROY,

ADDRESS: K-2085, CHITTARANJAN PARK.NEW DELHI 110019, CHANGED MY NAME TO MINOTI ROY

0040802703-1 'I, Raghav Kumar S/o Hansraj

Singh R/o A3/1501 Centurion Park, Terrace Home's Techzone, Greater Noida West, UP have changed my minor daughter's name from JAISH YADAV to JAISHKA YADAV for all future purposes.

I Rekha Kasana W/O, Rakesh Kumar R/o 3/22 Gokalpur ,North East Delhi-110094 have changed my name to Rekha for all purposes

0070981588-1

0040802698-1

I, Keshaw Singh F/O Naveen Singh R/O P-58/4 VRC, Shankar Vihar, Delhi Cantt have changed my name to Keshab Singh Rawat

0130054588-1

LOST & FOUND

LOST-Original Allotment-cum-Demand Letter, Bank Challan, DDA-Possession, Site Possession etc.bearing Property-Nos.46,61,62 & 115 Transport Centre-Rohtak Road Punjabi-Bagh, New-Delhi-110035 in the name of Sh.-Charanjit Grover.Finder Contact Prachi Grover, D/o-Charanjit Grover at above Address or Mob.8860616037.

0040802703-11

I,ASHA SHARMA W/o Late Sh. R.K.Sharma, R/o A-32,S. Delhi, Police Employees Cooperative Group Housing Society Ltd,I have lost the original Share Certificate with Membership No-1251 for Flat-A-32, S Delhi, Police Employees Co-operative Group Housing Society Ltd. 0040802603-1

PROPERTY

PROPERTY FOR SALE

Platinum-9 World Tower, Wakad. Pune's Tallest Commercial, Iconic Award Winning Project & India's 1st 3 Level 360° Revolving Restaurant. Dream Investment in **Premium Showrooms, Retail** Shops, Food Court, Smart **Corporate Offices & Multipurpose** Spaces 15Ft. Height, Your Legacy Starts Here-Once in a Lifetime **Opportunity. Contact-**7205970999. 0090379661-1

PUBLIC NOTICE

PUBLIC NOTICE Bhagwan Sharma S/o Late Sh. Juga Kishore R/o Society Flat No.C-14 Ordinance CGHS Ltd Ordinance Apartments, Block-H. Vikas Puri, Nev Delhi-110018. The Original Property ocuments i.e. Possession Letter espect of Society Flat No.C-14, Ordinanc GHS Ltd Ordinance Apartments, Block-H /ikas Puri, New Delhi-110018 has bee ost. An FIR to this effect has been lodge n Police Station, Vide NCR/LF No.3058036/2025 dated: 29/07/2025. An Person(s) claiming any right, interest having any objection or found possession of original document ma rite/contact with above named person a above address within 15 days From the date of publication of this notice. Sd/- B.B.N. DEO, Advocate S.R.IInd,B Coumpus,Janak Puri,NewDelhi-58

PUBLIC NOTICE e it known to the general public that m

lients Shri Rajender Chhabra, S/o. M Ram Pyara Chhabra and Mrs. Urmila Chhabra, W/o. Shri Rajender Chhabra esidents of H.No. 6, Ram Nagar Extn. I Krishna Nagar, Delhi 110051 have severe ll their relations with their son Mr. Hunn Chhabra and daughter in law Mrs. Neet Chhabra both residents of B-57, Phool Wali Gali, Ram Nagar, Krishna Naga rom the date of publication. My aforesai ients also debar their above son an aughter in law from all movable and novable properties as they are out of and attitude towards my clients is ver nuch rude, unwanted and cruel. As such my clients are not interested to have any ations with their above son and daughte n law. Whoever deals with them shall b loing so at his/her/ their own risk, costs and sequences and my aforesaid clients shal not be responsible in any manne

> SHIVAM BEDI Ch. No. 157, Block-L Delhi High Court, New Delhi-03

PUBLIC NOTICE To be known to all that , I Dharam Vir Mehra S/o Sh. P.D.Mehra R/o LIG Flat

No. 709, Pocket-B, Group-I, on Ground loor, Hastsal Village, New Delh 110059.The original Propert documents i.e. Water and Electrici NOC in respect of LIG Flat No. 709 Pocket-B. Group-I. on Ground Floor Hastsal Village, New Delhi-11005 nas been lost. An NCR to this effect ha oeen lodged online NCR/LF No.3058551/2025 dated 29/07/2025 Any person(s) claiming any right nterest having any objection or found in possession of original documents, may rite/contact with above named persor at above Address within 15 days from the date of publication of this notice. The person claiming any right, interes can personally inform or write to Deputy Director (LAB) or Dir.(H)-II, D-Block, 3rd Floor, Vikas Sadan, INA New Delhi, S.R.IInd, B Coumpus, Janak Puri, ND-58

PUBLIC NOTICE

The General Public is hereby informed by way of the present public notice that m lient Mr. Santosh Mandal, S/o Sh. Waki Mandal R/o- B-84, Parvesh Naga Reliance Network, Shukr Bazar Mubarakpur Dabas, New Delhi-110086 nas severed all his relationship, disowned and disinherited his son Monu from all his ovable and immovable properties due to he fact that his son has made my client' and his wife's life miserable by deliberately reating scenes and quarrelling with m client. Anybody dealing with the abovesa Monu. shall do so at his/her/their own risl and responsibilities and that my client wil not be responsible for any acts, deed or dealing done by them.

> YOGESH KUMAR (Advocate Ch. No. C-144-A, 1st Floor C. L. Joseph Block

PUBLIC NOTICE nt. Usha Wio Late Sh. Nepal Singh R/o /3886. Bhagwan Pur Kheda Loni Road Delhi-110032 has completely severed he relation with her Son namely Ravi Kuma and his wife Amrita Mehta D/o Late Sh Vinod Kumar Mehta they are out of contro my Clientess. My clientess also discovned and debarred them from all he movable and immovable properties. My clientess shuld not be responsible for an act & activity of her son Ravi Kumar Kadam and his Wife Amrita in future in any manner and if anybody deals with them. heishe will do on his own risk and

responsibility. Akshat Aggarwal Advocate, D-4383/2020 F-618, Karkardooma, Delhi-110092 Mob.: 9911441868

PUBLIC NOTICE My client Smt. Surjit Kaur, W/o Lt. Sh Balbir Singh, R/o B - 1/9 - A. Rajour Garden, New Delhi-110027, severed all he social relations with her grand-daughter Ishleen Kaur, D/o Lt. Parvinder Singh due to her, cruel and disobedient behavior and lso she is working against the family's vill/wish. My client has disowned her from all her movable and immovable properties My client and her family shall not be esponsible for any act and conduct done by said Ishleen Kaur in any manner.

> Advocat Ch. No. 395, Civil Wing,

PUBLIC NOTICE

RAJEEV KUMAR TEWARI

SELLAMMAL SHEKHAR W/O LATE SHRI . SHEKHAR R/O M-6, GROUND FLOOR, GREEN ARK EXTENSION NEW DELHI-110016, is the e/owner of SFS DDA FLAT NO. 9090, ON 2ND LOOR, SECTOR-C. POCKET-9, VASANT UNJ, NEW DELHI-110070, VIDE DDA FILE NO. 125(5312)83/SFS/VKII. The original docu iginal NOC FOR WATER AND ELECTRICITY and Original POSSESSION SLIP of the above sai ceable in spite of my best efforts. An F.I.R./NCR to anch, Delhi (LR No.3061638/2025 Dated ction or found in possession of original docume

write/contact with above named person at abo Address/Phone No. 9999641089, within 15 days fro date of publication of this notice. The pers ming any right, interest, objection with respect is property, can personally inform or write to Depu irector (LAB Housing) SFS or Director (Housing D Block, Vikas Sadan, New Delhi. MOHIT TIWARI

Ch. No. 394-395 Civil Wings

epaper.indianexpress.com

PUBLIC NOTICE

My Client Sheela Devi W/o Late Prem Nath Jarang resident of House No. 12, F.F. New Lava Residing at H.No.-G-164, Pur Extn, Delhi-110051 and (2) Asha Arora wif Old Seemapuri, East Delhi, Delhi-110095, and have severed all relations and debarred their son Vikas Jha and daughter in law Priya from their entire immovable property due to cruel My clients shall not be responsible for any acts, debts and deeds in future. Kamalakant Jha (Advocate) Off. 688, Nawada Village, Delhi-59 **PUBLIC NOTICE**

Kishore R/o Society Flat No.C-14 Ordinance CGHS Ltd Ordinanc Apartments, Block-H, Vikas Puri, Nev Delhi-110018. The Original Property respect of Society Flat No.C-14, Ordinand CGHS Ltd Ordinance Apartments, Block-H Vikas Puri, New Delhi-110018 has bee Lost. An FIR to this effect has been lodg n Police Station, Vide NCR/LF No.3058036/2025 dated: 29/07/2025. Any Person(s) claiming any right, interest having any objection or found i possession of original document may write/contact with above named person a above address within 15 days From the Sd/- B.B.N. DEO, Advocate

Bhagwan Sharma S/o Late Sh. Juga

moveable

behavior.

PUBLIC NOTICE Virender Kumar Jain, S/o Late St Khub Chand Jain, R/o 351/36, Bank

Colony, Nanak Madar, Ajmer, Rajasthan - 305001, have lost my bag containing important personal docum ents on 22nd June 2025 at around 3:45 PM near Vijaya Bullding, Barakhamba Road, Connaught Place, New Delhi. Despite all efforts, the bag could not be found. The lost bag contains my original PAN Card No. AGGPK6669R original Aadhaar Card No.59462 7493525, & property-related docum ents pertaining to property at D-1/41 Rewari Lane, Mayapuri Industrial Lane, Phase-II, Delhi - 110064, which include the Allotment Letter, Possession Letter, Demand Letter, Payment Receipt Perpetual Lease Deed, GPA Agreement to Sale, Will, other paymen receipts, and supporting propert documents. These documents are o great personal and legal significance. request that if anyone finds them, Necessary steps are being taken with the concerned authorities to prevent any misuse, kindly contact me at the earliest on 9414106817 / 9711116122.

PUBLIC NOTICE To be known to all that , I RAJINDER KUMAR DHAWAN SON OF SHRI G.L.

DHAWAN, owner of FREEHOLD PROPERTYNO C-3/1 JANAK PURI NEW DELHI-110058. The original Property documents i.e. ALLOTMENT CUM DEMAND LETTER FITTER SITE POSSESSION SLIP 3/1 JANAK PURI NEW DEI HI-110058 has been lost. An NCR to this effect has bee lodged online NCR/LR No.3046124/202 dated 25/07/2025. Any person(s) claimin any right, interest having any objection of found in possession of original document nay write/contact with above named pers at above Address/Phone No.981875552 within 15 days from the date of publication this notice. The person claiming any right interest objection with respect to thi property, can personally inform or write t Deputy Director (LAB)R or Director (Land) C-Block, 3rd Floor, DDA Vikas Sadan, Nev Sd/- B.B.N.DEO, Advocate

S.R.IInd, B Coumpus, Janak Puri, ND-58

PUBLIC NOTICE Virendra Kumar, S/o Shri Vijay Kumar, R/o Flat: S-3, Plot: 906, Maneel Apartm-ent, Shalimar Garder Extension-1. Sahibabad, Ghaziabad have lost the following documents Original Registered Deed of Flat S-3 Plot: 906, Maneet Apartment Shallmar Garden Extension-Sahibabad, Ghaziabad; IndusInd Bani Cheque Book, Original PAN Card NO. ALTPK6811F: Original Aadhaar Card No-500770955108; Original Passpo No-R7450847: Home Loan Closure NOC (HDFC Bank); and HDFC Bank Statement, If found, kindly contact at: 9250902235

PUBLIC NOTICE Transfer of Membership

Agrasen CGHS Ltd.

It is hereby notified to the general

public that Sh. Dharmendra Nigam S/o Late Sh. A. S. Nigam and Sh. Rahul Nigam S/o Sh. Dharmendra Nigam, have applied to Agrasen Co-operative Group Housing Society Ltd., 66, I.P. Extension, Delhi- 110092, for transfer of membership in respect of Flat No. Y-114, Yamuna Block in the name of Sh. Dharmendra Nigam and Sh. Rahul Nigam on the basis of succession and

registered relinquishment deeds executed in their favour. If any person(s), bank(s), institution(s) or authority(ies) have any claim, lien, objection, or interest in the said flat or have any reason to oppose the proposed transfer of membership. they are requested to submit their objection(s), along with documentary proof, in writing to the undersigned at the office of the Society within 15 days of publication of this notice, failing which the Society shall proceed with the transfer as per the

applicable rules and bye-laws. Gen. Secretary Agrasen CGHS Ltd. 66, I.P. Extension, Delhi-110092 Email: agrasencghs@gmail.com

Cadre

Principal

Assistant Professor

Assistant Professor

Assistant Professor

Librarian

to that particular category only.

any in their academic career.

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advertisement.

Cell/ICC/2019-20/05 dated 05th July, 2019.

Candidates having knowledge of Marathi will be preferred.

Sr.

No.

OM VIDYALANKAR SHIKSHAN SANSTHA'S

ASMITA COLLEGE OF LAW

Kannamwar Nagar 2, Vikhroli (East), Mumbai - 400083.

APPLICATIONS ARE INVITED FOR THE FOLLOWING

POSTS FROM THE ACADEMIC YEAR 2025-26.

UN-AIDED

Law

English

Political

Science

The posts for the reserved category candidates will be filled in by the

same category candidates (Domicile of State of Maharashtra) belonging

Reservation for women will be as per University Circular No.

BCC/16/74/1998 dated 10th March, 1998. 4% reservation shall be for

the persons with disability as per University Circular No. Special

"Qualification, Pay Scales and other requirement are as prescribed

by the UGC Notification dated 18th July, 2018, Government of

Maharashtra Resolution No. Misc-2018/C.R.56/18/UNI-1, dated 8th

March, 2019 and University circular No. TAAS/(CT)/ICD/2018-

19/1241, dated 26th March, 2019 and revised from time to time" The

Government Resolution & Circular are available on the website

Applicants who are already employed must send their application

through proper channel. Applicants are required to account for breaks, if

Applications with full details should reach to the CHAIRMAN, Om

Vidyalankar Shikshan Sanstha's, Asmita College of Law, Kannamwar

Nagar 2, Vikhroli (E), Mumbai -400083. Within 15 days from the date of

publication of this advertisement. This is University approved

Subject Total No. Post Reserved

01 - OPEN

01 - SC/ST,

01 - DT(A).

01 - OBC.

01 - SEBC/EWS

02 - OPEN.

01 - OPEN

01 - OPEN

01 - OPEN

CHAIRMAN

of Posts

01

06

01

01

01

PUBLIC NOTICE VE, (1) Suman Rani wife of Sh. Roshan Dee

क्रमांक :

किया जाता है

तिथी

य.बी.एन नं :-

निविदा की शेष शर्ते यथावत रहेगी।

PWD2526WSOB04076

PWD2526WSOB04079

PWD2526WSOB04118

PWD2526WSOB04124

PWD2526WSOB04127

PWD2526WSOB04140

DIPR/c/10509/2025

कार्य का नाम

जमा कराने की अतिम तिथी

कार्य का एन.आई.बी.नं.:- PWD2526A1192

PWD2526WSOB04143 PWD2526WSOB04144

PWD2526WSOB04146 PWD2526WSOB04147

क्रमांक :- ACE/NIT/2025-26/D-279

क्र.स

of Sh. Surender Kumar resident of H.No.A-810 treet No.8 Kaithwara Seelampur Delhi-11005 tate that WE are the owners of THIRD FLOOR WITH ROOF RIGHTS OF PROPERTY BEARING NO.109, AREA MEASURING 4 SQ, YDS., RAM NAGAR EXTN, DELHI-51 Some Previous Title Documents such as (i) Sa Deed dtd 25.02.2012 duly regd as Docume No.3216, Vol. No. 6123 on pages 108-115 in th office of S.R. VIII, Delhi, (ii)IGPA dt 1.06.2010 along with supporting Document iii) Sale Deed dtd 26.09.1995 duly regd Occument No.4169, Vol.No.2737 on pages 19n the office of S.R. IV Seelampur, Delhi, (iv)GPA dtd 10.01.1995 along with supporting Document v)Will dtd 22.02.1978 (vi) Sale Deed dt 26.03.1966 duly regd as Document No.6939, Vo No.1581 on pages 16-17 in the office of S.R. Delhi and (vii) Sale Deed dtd 11.12.1956 du egd as Document No.1388, Vol.No.3025 pages 356-358 in the office of S.R. I Kashn Gate, Delhi in respect of the above said Proper mation Report on 12.07.2025 vide LI No.2999639/2025. The said property is absolu property, she/he is requested to forward the aim/s along with the relevant documents to

Enrl.No.D/626-A/02

SANJEEV KUMAR

COURT OF CITY JUDGE/JMIC SRINAGAR Case No. 848/2024 CNR No. JKSG030562902024

Date of Institution: 29.10.2024

COURT NOTICE

vithin 7 days of this public notice. If no claim

ceived, it shall be presumed after 7 days that it i

Date of Order: 03.07.2025 In the Case of: M/S K. Sons through Shabir Ahmad Koul S/o Nazir Ahmad Koul R/o Gunz Khud, Nawabazar, Srinagar

Cell No. 8082480060

Harvana Pin 124507

JK00197)

Through: Ms. Beenish Nazir, (Adv). Rakesh Pahuja S/o Din Dayal Pahuja Prop. New Look Leathers Situated at 2445, MIE Part-A Bahadurga

Pillar No. 801 Cell No. 9810062563 Through Nemo. In the matter of:- Complaint under Section 138 N.I. Act. CORAM: Abdul Bari (J.O. Code

PROCLAMATION REQUIREING THE APPERANCE OF ACCUSED Thereas a complaint under Section N.I. Act has been presented in this Court of 29-10-2024 stating that the accused h nitted the offence under Section 13 N.I. Act and it has been returned to warrant of arrest thereupon issued that the said accused cannot be found and whereas i has been shown to my satisfaction that the said accused has/have concealed himself/themselves in order to avoid th service of said warrant:

Proclamation is hereby made and published in Daily Newspaper (Times of India) and (Indian Express) that the accused above named is required to appear before this Court to answer the said complaint on 18-08-2025 at 10:00 Issued under my hand and seal of this

City Judge Srinagar

'IMPORTANT''

(Abdul Bari)

Whilst care is taken prior to acceptance of advertising copy, it is not possible to verify its contents. The Indian Express (P) Limited cannot be held responsible for such contents, nor for any loss or damage incurred as a result of transactions with companies, associations or individuals advertising in its newspapers or Publications. We therefore recommend that readers make necessary inquiries before sending any monies or entering into any

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U.P.JAL NIGAM (URBAN)

Email-dwsupjn@gmail.com Letter No.: 736/Nivida/75

Date: 29.07.2025 **SHORT TERM NOTICE INVITING TENDER (NIT)** U.P. Jal Nigam (Urban) offline tenders are invited for "Repair of

Surface and Joints of 3250 mm dia RC pipe externally near chainage 14.60 km (Hindon Bridge) under Maintenance of 270 cusec Scheme for DJB." under Deposit Program. Bids are invited in two bid system on percentage rate basis from eligible reputed and experienced bidders. Tender documents will be available for sale from **29.07.2025** from **10:00** Hrs. onwards. Bids can be submitted till **13.08.2025** up to **15:00 Hrs.** and technical bid shall be opened on 13.08.2025 up to 15:30 Hrs. in the office of The Executive Engineer, Delhi Water Supply Maintenance Unit, U.P. Jal Nigam (Urban), Ghaziabad in presence of contractor or their authorized representative. Tender Cost is Rs. 1000.00+GST @ 18%. Details are available on U.P. Jal Nigam (Urban) website www.jn.upsdc.gov.in.

करने की तारीख

निविदा की कुल लागत ऑनलाईन निविदा आवेदन डाउनलोड एवं अपलोड 24.07.2025 प्रातः 9:30 बजे से 25.08.2025 सांय 6.00 बजे तक ऑनलाईन निविदा खोलने की तारीख 27.08.2025 सांय 4.00 बजे से निविदा से सम्बन्धित विवरण वेब साईट http://dipr.rajasthan.gov.in, http://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in व

sppp.rajasthan.gov.in पर देखा जा सकता है। सम्पूर्ण निविदा प्रक्रिया http://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in प

ऑनलाइन सम्पादित की जावेगी। NIB-PWD2526A2114 **UBN-**PWD2526WLOB07648

DIPR/C/10505/2025

R

KRCL has published Employment Notification for following posts in Engineering

Notification

UR EWS OBC SC ST Total Date of Name of No. Walk in No. of Post Interview Posts JTA Signal 0 1 0 0 4 05.08.2025 /Telecommunication Technician Signal 12 2 3 6 24 07.08.2025 Telecommunication JE/USFD 2 0 0 0 2 04.08.2025 Keyman (TSM) 3 13 2 7 4 28 11.08.2025

NORTHERN RAILWAY

Name of work Repairing of Hydraulic Pumps & Motors of Track Machines as per schedule of work. and location

Approx. cost of work Rs. 48,70,165.00 Earnest Money amount (to be deposited Online) Rs. 97,400.00 Cost of Tender Document (to be deposited Online)

of E-tender and opening of tender

Date & Time

Notice &

for submission

Current Notification and apply accordingly

The detailed tender document is available on www.ireps.gov.in. Above tender document will be available for online submission of offer on IREPS website i.e. www.ireps.gov.in from 31.07.2025 to 22.08.2025. All other terms and conditions in respect of above tenders are given in tender document. The detailed tender notice also can be seen on the Notice Board of

Tender Notice No.: 1-W-Dy-CETMCL-07-25-26 Dated: 31.07.2025 2340/2025

BRUHAT BENGALURU MAHANAGARA PALIKE Senior Assistant Director of Horticulture (West) BBMP,

No-98, 8th Cross, Malleshwaram, Bangalore-560003

A) The Senior Assistant Director of Horticulture (West), (Referred to as Employer in these documents) invites tenders to Implement in accordance with KTPP rules 2000, from eligible and experienced Person/Agencies / Firms (Referred to as Tenderers in these documents) registered in Labour department for Providing Security for Parks. B) The tenderers are advised to note the minimum qualification criteria specified in the Clause 3 of the instructions to tenderers to qualify for award of the contract (standard tender document KW-3)

SI. No. Name of the Works/Estimate Cost Rs./EMD Amount Rs/Category.

2,00,000/-. Category: Others. (3rd Call)

Calender of events as follows: (1) Date of Notification: 31.07.2025, (2) Tender can be downloaded from: 02.08.2025, (3) Pre bid Meeting: 04.08.2025 at 11.30 AM (4) Tender Closing Date: 11.08.2025 at 4.30 PM, (5) Technical bid opening date: 13.08.2025 at 11.30 AM, (6) Financial bid opening date: After Approval of Technical bid

Sd/- Senior Assistant Director of Horticulture, (West Zone), BBMP.

उक्त के सन्दर्भ में विभिन्न गाडियों में एसएलआर और वीपीय लीजिंग एवं विभिन्न स्टेशनों पर एम. पी. एस (MPS) / विज्ञापन – ग्लो बॉल टॉवर (GBT) / विज्ञापन– (OOH) / विज्ञापन के साथ बैटरी ऑपरेटेंड कार्ट्स (BCA) / MSS- इंटीग्रेटेड कॉन्ट्रैक्ट / पार्सल स्कैनर मशीन के ठेके हेत् ई–ऑक्शन आमंत्रित की गई है। कैटलॉग IREPS वेबसाइट पर प्रकाशित किए जा चुके हैं।

1. कार्य का (1) जोधपुर मंडल के विभिन्न स्टेशनों पर एम.पी.एस (MPS) के ठेके हेत ई-ऑक्शन (2) जोधपुर मंडल के स्टेशन पर वाणिज्यिक विज्ञापन ग्लो बॉल टॉवर (GBT) के ठेंके हेत् आदि का ई-ऑक्शन (3) जोधपुर मंडल के विभिन्न स्टेशनो पर वाणिज्यिक विज्ञापन के ठेके हेत् आउट ऑफ होम (OOH) आदि का ई-ऑक्शन (4) जोधपुर मंडल के स्टेशन पर विज्ञापन के साथ बैटरी ऑपरेटेड काटर्स (BCA) के ठेके हेतु ई-ऑक्शन (5) जोधपुर मंडल से संचालित गाडियों के एसएलआर और वीपीय लीजिंग में स्थान लीज पर माल पार्सल की लोडिंग हेतु ई–ऑक्शन (6) जोघपुर मंडल के स्टेशन पर MSS- इंटीग्रेटेड कॉन्ट्रैक्ट के

2. कार्य की (1) एम.पी.एस (MPS): 5 वर्ष (2) विज्ञापन (Glow Ball Tower): 3 वर्ष (3) विज्ञापन (आउट ऑफ होम): 3 वर्ष / 5 वर्ष (4) विज्ञापन के साथ बैटरी ऑपरेटेड कार्ट्स (BCA): 3 वर्ष (5) एसएलआर और वीपीय लीजिंग: 2 वर्ष (6) MSS- इंटीग्रेटेड कॉन्ट्रैक्ट: 5 वर्ष (७) पार्सल स्कैनर मशीन : 5 वर्ष ।

MSS-PSM-JU-05 दिनांक 16.08.2025 को 12:00 बजे से 4 वेबसाइट जहाँ से लॉट वाइज

945-AN/25

वर्तमान में संशोधित तिथी

कार्यालय अधीक्षण अभियन्ता सार्वजनिक निर्माण विभाग वत्त श्रीगांनगर निविदा संशोधन सूचना संख्या 02/2025-26

बजे से दिनांक 21.07.2025 सायं दिनांक 6.08.2025 सायं 06:00 बजे तक

अधीक्षण अभियन्ता सानिवि वृत्त श्रीगंगानगर

(भीमसैन स्वामी)

कार्यालय अतिरिक्त मुख्य अभियन्ता

सार्वजनिक निर्माण विभाग संभाग-प्रथम, उदयपुर दिनांक: 21.07.2025 निविदा संख्या 09/2025-26

राजस्थान के राज्यपाल महोदय की ओर से सडक निर्माण कार्य हेतु उपयुक्त श्रेणी में सार्वजनिक निर्माण विभाग राजस्थान में पंजीकृत संवेदकों एवं राज्य सरकार / केन्द्र सरकार के अधिकृत संगठनों / केन्द्रीय लोक निर्माण विभाग / डाक एवं दूर संचार विभाग / रेल्वे इत्यादि में पंजीकृत संवेदकों, जो कि राजस्थान सरकार के ए. एए श्रेणी के संवेदकों के समकक्ष हो, से निर्धारित प्रपत्र मे सडक निर्माण कार्य के लिए ई- प्रोक्युरमेन्ट प्रक्रिया से ऑन लाईन निविदायें आमंत्रित की जाती हैं। कल 1 (एक) कार्य

राशि रु. 5883.00 लाख

सा.नि.वि. सम्भाग-प्रथम उदयपुर

KONKAN RAILWAY CORPORATION LIMITED (A Government of India Undertaking) **EMPLOYMENT NOTIFICATION**

and Signal & Telecommnication Department on fixed term Contract basis through walk-in-interview. Details are as under:

No1. CO/P-R/3C/2025, dated 21.07.2025 No2. CO/P-R/4C/2025 dated 21.07.2025 No3. CO/P-R/5C/2025, dated 25.07.2025

Candidates may see the details of notification, eligibility criteria, etc. on the KRCL's website www.konkanrailway.com at the link → Recruitment →

TENDER NOTICE The Dy. Chief Engineer/TMC/Line, Northern Railway, State Entry Road, New Delhi

for and on behalf of the President of India invites Open E-tender under One Packet System for the under noted work:-

on 22.08.2025. Tender

Tender Document the above office.

SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE

LETTER OF INVITATION FOR TENDER (IFT) (SHORT TERM) (TWO COVER SYSTEM) (Through GOK KPP Portal only)

e-Procurement website https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in/#/portal/portalhome under login for Contractors. Providing Security to Parks in Govindarajanagara Assembly

NORTH WESTERN RAILWAY

3 लॉट के

तिथि व समय

Date: 30-07-2025

ठेके हेत् ई-ऑक्शन।

प्रारंभ की 13:00 बजे से (3) ADVT: OOH-JU-59 दिनांक 08:08:2025 को 14:00 बजे से (4) Battery Operated Carts with Advert-: BOV-REN-21 दिनांक 11.08.25 को 11:00 बजे से (5) SLRs & VPU: Parcel-JU-104 दिनांक 12.08.25 को 11:00 बजे से (6) MSS-Integrated Contract: DSO-Integr-25-1 दिनांक 14.08.25 को 11:00 बजे से (7) Parcel Scanner Machine:

प्राप्त की जा सकती है।

www.ireps.gov.in from 31.07.2025 upto 15:00 Hrs. on 22:08:2025. Tender Bids may be uploaded from

No. SADH(W)TENDER/PR/06/2025-26

ई-आक्शन आमंत्रित करने की सूचना No-Comml/E-auction/2025/34

(1) MPS: MPS-JU-34 दिनांक 08.08.2025 को 11:00 बजे से (2)

ई-ऑक्शन के सम्बन्ध में जानकारी www.ireps.gov.in

Chief Personnel Officer

Completion period of the work 03 Months

Tender document remain available on IREPS website i.e.

08.08.2025 & upto 15:00 hrs on 22.08.2025 on IREPS website. The tender will be opened soon after 15:00 hrs

Date: 31.07.2025

C) Tender documents may be downloaded from Government of Karnataka

Constituency parks. Estimate Cost :Rs. 1,00,00,000/-, EMD Amount

ठेके हेतु ई–ऑक्शन (7) जोधपुर मंडल के स्टेशन पर पार्सल स्कैनर मशीन के

ई- आक्शन ADVT(Glow Ball Tower): GBT-ADVT-25-09 दिनांक 08.08.2025 को

Please join us on 🕞 🕾 🖲 / NWRailways

(अति अल्पकालीन सूचना) ज्ञापांक-1121/न्या0म०नि० गया सर्वसाधरण को सूचित किया जाता है कि बिहार मद्यनिषंध और उत्पाद अधिनियम 2016 यथासंशोधित 2022 के अंतर्गत अवैध शराब को ढोने में प्रयुक्त वाहन को समाहर्त्ता–सह–जिला दण्डाधिकारी के द्वारा अधिहत किया जाना प्रावधानित है।

बिहार मद्यनिषेघ और उत्पाद (संशोधन) नियामावली, 2022 के नियम 13 'क' के अनुसार अधिहरण प्राधिकारी द्वारा वाहन जप्ती के 30 दिनों के अंदर अधिहरण की कार्यवाही प्रारम्भ करने एवं 90 दिनों के अंदर वाहन स्वामी / दावेदार को सुनवाई का समुचित अवसर देते हुए वाहन अधिहरण के संबंध में निर्णय लिया जाना प्रावधानित है।

बिहार मद्यनिषेध अधिनियम के अंतर्गत जप्त निम्नांकित सारणी में अंकित वाहनों की जप्ती के 30 दिन हो चुके हैं एवं वाहन को पेनाल्टी पर मुक्त कराने हेत् वाहन मालिक या अन्य कोई दावेदार उपस्थित नहीं हुआ है।

वाहन मालिक / वाहन की जानकारी रखने वाले कोई व्यक्ति सूची में अंकित वाहनों के संबंध में यदि कोई सूचना देना चाहते हो या दावा करना चाहते हो तो सहायक आयुक्त मद्यनिषेध के न्यायालय में दिनांक 18.08.2025 को उपस्थित होकर 03:00 PM अपना पक्ष रख सकते हैं।

क. संव	पार्टी का नाम	अधिहरण बाद संख्या	थाना कांब संo	वाहन प्रकार	पंजी. संव	ईंजन संव	चेचिस सं0	अभियुवित
1	विद्यार सरकार बनाम विक्री कृमार पिता-यद् नंदन, साठ-एल-1 ए. 33/18 बुद्ध बाजार, विद्यार युव्या महान, दिल्ली 110062	287/25	फतेहपुर 54./25	भारती सुनुवरी कार	DL2CAK- 4089	F10DN33 5639	MA3EM D81500 221998	
2	विद्यार सरकार बनाम् मोशित नाल पिता-अभित लाल सात-R1-306 Gali No-016 Tughi Extenston Kalkaja, Dist-South State, Delhi Pin No 110019	295/25	सिधुगद 08./ 25	MAHINDRA XUV-500	DL3CAS- 4359	MA1YL2H JU66D826 790	HJC4D2 5559	
3	किहार सरकार बनाम मो० काशिफ, पिता-मो० इम्राहिल सा-A-227 BLOCK-Aअपुल फाजल, पार्ट-2 शाहिन बाग, चिल्ली, 110028	350/25	बोचिकिगडा 12 / 25	MAHINDRA XUV-500	DL12CA- 3923	MA1YL2H JUD6A14 878	HJD4A1 2404	
4	विहार शरकार बनाम नीची आगर पिटा- सुरेश डागर, साठ-परिचम पिटार तिमारपुर H NO-66GF STATE/FLAT NO -828	173/25	मोहसपुर 206/23	होन्छा सीटी सर्व	DL4CAH -3658	MAKGD8 5287N36	L15A30 109590	

यदि निर्धारित तिथि को वाहन का मालिक या अन्य कोई दावेदार या कोई सूचक निर्धारित तिथि को न्यायालय में उपस्थित होकर (क) अपना पक्ष नहीं रखते हैं (ख) कोई दावा नहीं करते हैं (ग) पेनाल्टी देकर छोड़ने हेतु आवेदन नहीं देते हैं एवं वाहन के संबंध में कोई सूचना प्राप्त नहीं होती है तो अधिहरण प्राधिकार द्वारा उपर्युक्त वाहन के अधिहरण के संबंध में एकपक्षीय आदेश पारित किया जा सकता

मोदरसर्द्धकिस

DL35AT- 05H09C2 05HC8M

3509

यदि उपर्युक्त वाहनों से संबंधित कोई वाद/अपील/पुनरीक्षण वाद किसी न्यायालय में दायर किया गया हो या विचाराधीन हो तो इस संबंध में वाहन मालिक / संबंधित पक्ष किसी भी कार्य दिवस को संबंधित अधिहरण न्यायालय में उपस्थित होकर सूचना दे सकते हैं। सहायक आयुक्त मद्यनिषेध, उक्त सूचना state.bihar.gov.in/prdbihar पर भी देखी जा सकती है। PR- 010148 (Excise) 2025-26

नशे से बचने का है एक ही उपचार, दृढ़ संकल्प और परिवार से प्यार

GOVERNMENT OF NATIONAL CAPITAL TERRITORY OF DELHI

(REVENUE DEPARTMENT) **OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT MAGISTRATE (SOUTH-EAST)** OLD GARGI COLLEGE BUILDING, BEHIND LSR COLLEGE LAJPAT NAGAR-IV. NEW DELHI-110024

F.No.ADM/LAC/SE/2023/05/KH. No. 221/Part-II/731-740

DOUE धाना-विल्ली, पिन

विद्यार सरवार बनाम अझात

Date: 31/07/2025

Public Notice under Section 21 of the RECTLARR Act, 2013

Whereas, Hon'ble Supreme Court of India vide order dated 17.05.2024 directed that fresh acquisition to be re-initiated under RFCTLARR Act, 2013 for the land bearing Khasra No. 1279/1203(2-17), 1277/1203(1-11) and 1202/1194(03-03) of village Kilokari, Sub Division Defence Colony, District South East and also directed that preliminary notification under section 11(1) of the Right to Fair Compensation and Transparency in Land Acquisition, Rehabilitation and Resettlement Act, 2013 shall be deemed to have been published as on 01.01.2014.

Whereas, Khasra No. 1279/1203(2-17), 1277/1203/1(1-11) were acquired vide award No. 223/1986-87 of village Kilokari and Khasra No. 1202/1194(03-03) acquired vide award No. 221/1986-87 of village Kilokari,. The mentioned Kharsa No.'s were notified vide notification u/s 4 of LA, Act, 1894 No. F.15(III)/59/LSG dated 13.11.1959 and notification u/s 6 of LA, Act, 1894 No. F.7(34)/61/L&H(II) dated 06.01.1969. Possession of land not taken.

Accordingly, in accordance with section 21 of RFCTLARR Act 2013, notice is being issued to intimate all concerned that the Government intends to initiate fresh acquisition proceedings for the land mentioned above is to be acquired for "public purpose" and that claims to compensations in above land may be made by all interested by appearing personally or by agent or advocate stating the nature of their respective interests in the land and the amount and particulars of their claims to compensation for such interests, along with their objections if any, before the DM/Collector(SE) on 01 September, 2025 at 11.30 AM in the Conference Hall of the office of District Magistrate (South East).

> Sd/-(SUNNY KUMAR SINGH)

Collector and District Magistrate (South East Delhi) DIP/Shabdarth/Classified/0169/25-26.

Government of Jammu & Kashmir Mission Directorate, HADP/JKCIP Narwal, Jammu/Rajbagh, Srinagar

ADVERTISEMENT NOTICE

The Project Director, 'Competitiveness Improvement of Agriculture and Allied Sectors Project (JKCIP)', under the Agriculture Production Department, Government of J&K, invites applications for the following positions under JKCIP, an IFAD-funded project: Position Details

Position	Minimum Qualification	Experience	Salary (pm)
Agriculture Specialist	Bachelor's degree in agriculture with a postgraduate degree in Agriculture or postgraduation in Agri Business Management/Rural Management	Minimum 20 years of experience,	1.75 lac pm
Procurement Specialist	Graduate in commerce, business, finance, engineering or management	Post qualification minimum ten (10) years,	1.75 lac pm
Procurement Officer	Graduate Degree in Commerce/Business/Finance/Manage ment	Post qualification e minimum 5 years of demonstrated managerial experience in procurement in the organization with complete understanding and experience on national procurement procedure.	0:80 lac pm
Manager MIS & IT	Bachelor's degree in computer engineering, Electronics and Communication Engineering from a recognized university/college.	5 years' experience in software development.	1.25 lac pm
Manager Business Development	Postgraduate degree in Business Administration/Rural Management/ Agricultural Business Management	10 years of total experience covering business development, enterprise creation, operations and supply chain in agriculture or allied areas.	1.25 lac pm
Manager Finance	Post-graduate Degree in Commerce/Chartered Accountant (Member of the ICAI)	About 10 years of experience in the financial accounting of a project/company for candidates with post-graduation in commerce. A minimum of 3 years' experience for qualified Chartered Accountants.	1.25 lac pm
		5 years of experience in financial accounting of projects/company for candidates with post- graduation in commerce and 7 years' experience for candidates with graduation in commerce.	
		10 years of relevant experience in implementing gender and youth-related interventions	1.25 lac pm
		At least 5 years of professional experience in supporting safeguards implementation, with a focus on climate change adaptation and mitigation, in rural development projects	ENGAGING CENTAGOS

Key Information

Engagement Basis: Contructual and co-terminus with the project.

nitial Duration: One year, extendable based on performance and project requirements. Project Duration: 7 years

Location: J&K (Jammu/Srinagar)

DIP NO.: DIP/J-1527-P/25 DATE: 31.07.2025

Important: Eligible candidates can apply by or before 21/08/2025 For more details (TOR), visit www.jkcip.jk.gov.in

Interested candidates must submit their applications, CVs, and supporting documents via email and hard copies both to:

Project Director

HADP/JKCIP Kisan Ghar, Narwal, Jammu - 180006 Rajbagh, Srinagar - 190008 Email: hadp-apd@jk.gov.in

Telephone: 0191-3511630, 0194-3520224

ANDHRA PRADESH LIMITED

TRANSMISSION CORPORATION OF

The APTRANSCO invites on-line bids for Spec No.PMM23-e-26/2025 for "Supply of 18 Nos 0MVA 220/33kV PTRs (Lot-1-:8Nos. Lot-2-10Nos.) for utilization in BESS & Construction works n various substations of APTRANSCO. Date and time of availability of tender 01.08.2025 by 17:00 Hrs. Further details can be seen in website(s): www.eprocurement.gov.in

TENDER NOTICE

For further details Contact No: 9491045249 No.: 4304PP/CL/ADVT/1/1/2021-22 Dt: 31/07/2025 CHIEF ENGINEER/TRANSMISSION

संचालनालय, आयुर्वेद योग एवं प्राकृतिक चिकित्सा, यूनानी सिद्ध एवं होम्योपैथी, (आयुष) छत्तीसगढ

ब्लॉक-1, तृतीय तल. इन्द्रावती भवन, नवा रायपुर अटल नगर ४९२००२ फोन नं. (0771) 2221640, फैक्स - 2221641, ईमेल - cgayush@gmail.com नवा रायपुर, दिनांक 25 JUL 2025 क्रमांक / महा./प्रदेश / स्नातक/2025-26/3504

// आवश्यक सूचना //

सर्व साधारण को सुचित किया जाता है कि राज्य के सभी शासकीय एवं निजी आयुष महाविद्यालयों के आयुष स्नातक (बी.ए.एम.एस./ बी.एच.एम.एस./बी.एन.वाय.एस.) पाठ्यक्रमों में प्रवेश की कार्यवाही ''छत्तीसगढ़ आयुष स्नातक पाठ्यक्रम प्रवेश नियम, 2023'' में निहित प्रावधान अनुसार संचालनालय द्वारा गठित राज्य काउंसिलिंग समिति द्वारा किया जावेगा। अतः किसी व्यक्ति/संस्था/एजेंसी के प्रलोभन में न फसें।

> हस्ता./-संयुक्त संचालक

आयुर्वेद, योग एवं प्राकृतिक चिकित्सा, यूनानी, सिद्ध एवं होम्योपैथी (आयुष) छत्तीसगढ़ R.O.NO 2526024426/3

भारत सरकार/ GOVERNMENT OF INDIA डाँ राम मनोहर लोहिया अस्पताल अटल बिहारी वाजपेयी आयुर्विज्ञान संस्थान, नर्ड दिल्ली



DR. RAM MANOHAR LOHIA HOSPITAL ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE INSTUTITE OF MEDICAL **SCIENCES, NEW DELHI-110001**

No. HA-II-11022/1/2023-HA-II Section-Dr. RMLH/

Recruitment Notice for the post of Senior Resident (Non-Academic)

The Medical Superintendent, Dr. Ram Manohar Lohia Hospital & ABVIMS, New Delhi invites applications from Indian National in the prescribed form available on website rmlh.nic.in for the posts of Senior Resident (Non- Academic) on regular basis.

The detailed advertisement, numbers of posts, eligibility conditions, pay structure, age criteria, application form and other details can be seen in the full advertisement on the website **www.rmlh.nic.in**. Any corrigendum/ modification order regarding this advertisement will be issued on the hospital website only. Candidates are advised to visit hospital website www.rmlh.nic.in regularly for this purpose. Last date for submission of application is 19/08/2025 till 03:00 PM.

CBC17147/12/0006/2526

Administrative Officer HA-II Section

GOVERNMENT OF HARYANA EXCISE & TAXATION DEPARTMENT

PUBLIC NOTICE

NOTICE FOR INVITING APPLICATIONS FOR THE ALLOTMENT OF WHOLESALE LICENSES OF IMFL (L-1) AND COUNTRY LIQUOR (L-13) FOR THE POLICY YEAR 2025-27 IN ALL THE DISTRICTS OF THE STATE

The applications are hereby invited for grant of wholesale licenses of IMFL in the form of L-1 and wholesale license of Country Liquor in form of L-13 for all the excise districts in the State. The Wholesale icenses of IMFL (L-1) and Country Liquor (L-13) shall be granted to the applicant amongst the retail outlet allottees/licensees of Indian Made foreign Liquor (L-2) and Country Liquor (L-14A) respectively. The L-1 and L-13 licenses shall be granted on the basis of quota contribution of Indian Made foreign Liquor (L-2) and Country Liquor (L-14A) (of the policy year 2025-27), amongst the applicant allottees/licensees of retail zones within an Excise district The quota contribution for the purpose of grant of L-1 & L-13 icenses shall be calculated on the basis of retail liquor zones allotted as on 06.08.2025 for receiving such applications for grant of L-1 L-13. The L-1/L-13 license(s) shall be granted only to those eligible applicants who apply for the License(s) within the date fixed/extended by the Excise and Taxation Commissioner, Haryana The Excise Policy provides that the Excise and Taxation Commissioner may invite applications for such number of L-1/L-13 icenses as he may deem fit. The Excise and Taxation Commissioner may also conduct the process of allotment in multiple rounds of nviting applications. Next round of allotment of L-1 and L-13 Licenses will be initiated after the completion of 6th round.

The number of wholesale licenses of IMFL (L-1) and Country Liquor (L-13) in the district for which the applications are being nvited in 6th round shall be as under:-

St. No.	Districts	Number of L-1 (s) to be granted	Number of L-13 (s) to be granted
I.	Ambula	1.	2
2.	Bhiwani	1.	1
3.	Faridahod	3.	2
4	Fatchahad	1	1
5	Gurugram (East)	5	3
6	Gurugram (West)	3	3
7	Hisar	0	J.
8	Jagadhri	2	2
9.	Jhajjar	2	2
10.	Jind	2	2
11	Kaithal	1	1
12	Kamal	2	2
13	Kurukshetra	2	2
14.	Mewat	1	1
15.	Namaul	1	1
16.	Palwal	2	2
17	Panchkula	1	1
18.	Panipat	E	1
19	Revari	0	3
20	Robtak.	1	1
21	Sirsa	3	1
22	Sonepat	2	4
	TOTAL	37	39

The licenses for wholesale outlets of IMFL (L-1) and Country Liquor (L-13) shall be granted in accordance with the provisions of Haryana Excise Act, 1914, rules framed thereunder and as per the Excise Policy for the year 2025-27. The Excise Policy for the year 2025-27 is available on the official website of the department www.harvanatax.gov.in. The application may be submitted in the office of the DETC

Excise) concerned on or before 06.08.2025, 05.00 P.M. The application shall be forwarded by the DETC (Excise) alongwith his recommendation to the Excise and Taxation Commissioner Haryana, immediately.

The quota contribution shall be taken up to 06.08.2025.

No. 37197/HRY

VINAY PRATAP SINGH, IAS Excise and Taxation Commissioner, Haryana, Panchkula. epaper.indianexpress.com

00K 2 512 vertisement 99-

S. Date & time

No. of e-Auction

NORTH CENTRAL RAILWAY L.No. JHS/Catg/e-Auction/2025 Date: 30.07.2025 E-Auction Notice On Behalf of The President Of India, The Divisional Railway Manager, Commercial) Jhansi invites e-auction as per categories given as under:-Asset Details **PMBJK** Maintenence & Operation of Pradhan Mantri Bhartiya Catalogue No. Janaushadhi Kendra (PMBJK) at Virangana Lakshmibai Jhansi Railway Station for a period of Three Years.

Auction Start: 18.08.2025 At 10:30 Hrs | Auction End: 18.08.2025 At 11:00 Hrs Note: Prospective bidders are requested to visit e-Auction Leasing module on REPS website (www.ireps.gov.in). The Lot-wise details are available therein under the above mentioned Catalogue Number.

मध्यप्रदेश राज्य पर्यटन विकास निगम मर्या. पर्यटन भवन, भदभदा रोड, भोपाल-462003

फोन: +91 755 4027100, 2774340/42, www.mpstdc.com क्रमांक 277/यांत्रिकी/पविनि/25 दिनांक : 29.07.2025

Notice inviting Tender 127/2025_STDC_441270_1

MPSTDC, invites RFP for reputed Artist/sculptor for Designing, supplying and erection of Late prime minister shri Atal Bihari Vajpaye ji Statues (01 no) on the hillock of Sirol Pahadi Gwalior. For any other information contact Mr. Arun Gupta, EE Mob.No. 9424796802 or E-mail at arungupta@mpstdc.com. Last date and Time for Online Tender Purchase is 29 Aug 2025 Time 05:00 PM. The detailed terms & conditions can be downloaded from website https://mptenders.gov.in **EXECUTIVE ENGINEER** M.P. Madhyam/121353/2025

NORTHERN RAILWAY

OPEN E-TENDER NOTICE No. 128-W/280/e Tender Notice/NIT/23/2025-26/W-3 Dated :- 31.07.2025

The Sr. Divisional Engineer-III, Northern Railway, Delhi Division invites E-Tender for the following work. Renovations of different toilet complex at stations building premises i.e. upper class waiting hall ladies and gents, sleeper class waiting hall

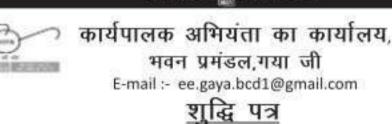
ladies and gents, RPF lobby ground floor ladies and gents, booking hall ladies and gents and near GRP staircase first floor, ladies and gents including upgradation of upper class and sleeper class waiting hall area at ANVT in the section SSE/W/ANVT under ADEN/NDLS. ₹ 99,99,674,62 (Rupees Ninety Nine Lakh Ninety Nine Approx cost of work

Thousand Six Hundred Seventy Four and Sixty Two Paise Only) 3 Earnest Money to be ₹ 2,00,000/- (Rupees Two Lakh Only) deposited

Cost of tender document ₹ 0.00/-Date & Time of submission of tender 22.08.2025 at 15:00 Hrs. bid and opening of tender Website particulars where complete details of tender documents can be seen

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

सरकार



एतद द्वारा सर्वसाधारण को सुचित किया जाता है कि इस कार्यालय के पत्रांक - 1120 दिनांक - 22.04.2025 द्वारा आमंत्रित ई0- निविदा आमंत्रण सूचना सं0-02/SBD/ET/BCD/Gaya/2025-26 जिसका PR NO -008405 (BCD) 2025-26 हैं, जो विभिन्न समाचार पत्रों में प्रकाशित हुआ है के क्रमांक - 09, 10, 13 एवं 14 को निम्न रूपेण विस्तारित किया जाता है। एक संबोधित तिथि एवं एक संबोधित तिथि एवं क्रिक्स विवरणा

N/U ()	1447-1	समय	समय
1	निविदा कागजात प्राप्त करने (डाउनलोड करने) की अंतिम तिथि एवं समय	अंतिम तिथि— 06.08.2025 के 15:00 बजे तक	अंतिम तिथि— 11.08.2025 के 15:00 बजे तक
2	निविदा प्राप्ति (अपलोड) करने	दिनांक — 07.08.2025 के	दिनांक — 12.08.2025 के
	की तिथि एवं समय	15:00 बजे तक	15:00 बजे तक
3	निविदा खोलने की तिथि एवं	दिनांक — 08.08.2025 को	दिनांक — 13.08.2025 को
	समय (तकनीकी बीड)	15:30 बजे	15:30 बजे

1825.15 m' के स्थान पर 946.19 m' पढ़ा जाय। इसे हद तक संशोधित समझा जाय। शेष शर्ते यथावत रहेंगी। कार्यपालक अभियंता.

भवन प्रमण्डल, गया जी PR. No. 010118 (BCD) 25-26 नशामुक्त हो जाए बिहार, सुरक्षित रहे घर परिवार।

NORTHERN RAILWAY NOTICE FOR E-AUCTION

Senior Divisional Commercial Manager/Freight, Delhi Division, Northern Railway, in terms of Railway Board letter no 2022/TC(FM)/10/04 dated 13.06.2022 and Railway Board's letter no. 2024/RS(G)/779/7(E3471089) dated 13.08.2024, invites bids through e-Auction (www.ireps.gov.in) for leasing of parcel space of SLR compartments and VPs (on round trip basis) for a period of two years as per detail and schedule given below:

Assets to be auctioned

01 LVPH (24 tonnes) on round trip basis in each train - 12454/12453, 20408/20407 06.08.25 at 10:30 am 03256 (F1), 12034 (F1), 12457 (F1, F2 & R1), 12497 (F1), 12820 (F1), 12874 (F1), 12876 (F1), 12878 (F1), 12963 (F1), 14164 (F1), 14507 (F1, F2 & R1), 14679 (F1), 14681 (F1), 22429 (F1) 12002 (F1), 12005 (F1), 12011(F1), 12013 (F1), 12017 (F1), 12040 (F1), 12057 (F1), 12191 (F1, F2), 12215 (F1), 12455 (F1), 12481 (F1), 12816 (F1), 12818 (F1), 12826 (F1), 14053 (F2 & R1), 22421 (F1, F2 & R1) 12015 (F1), 12428 (F1), 12448 (F1), 12524 (F1), 12802 (F1), 14087 (F1, F2 & R1), 14731 (F1), 20452 at 10:30 am (F1), 20958 (F1), 22210 (F1), 22472 (F1, F2 & R1)

Important notes: 1. For more information, requirement and various aspects regarding these e-Auctions, interested bidders are advised to visit https://www.ireps.gov.in/html/helpdesk/learning_centre.html. (e-Auction leasing section). 2. Railway Administration reserves the full and absolute rights to short terminate these contracts at any point of time and/ or for taking any decision regarding the discontinuation / continuation of these contracts with modified/additional terms and conditions depending upon the continuation discontinuation of these trains or commencement of new train services. SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE

GOVERNMENT OF NATIONAL CAPITAL TERRITORY OF DELHI (REVENUE DEPARTMENT)

OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT MAGISTRATE (SOUTH-EAST) OLD GARGI COLLEGE BUILDING, BEHIND LSR COLLEGE LAJPAT NAGAR-IV, NEW DELHI-110024

F.No.ADM/LAC/SE/2023/05/KH. No. 221/Part-II/721-730 Date: 31/07/2025 Public Notice under Section 21 of the RECTLARR Act, 2013

Whereas, Hon'ble Supreme Court of India vide order dated 17.05.2024 directed that fresh acquisition to be re-initiated under RFCTLARR Act, 2013 for the land bearing Khasra No. 751(4-14) of village Tughlakabad, Sub Division Kalka Ji, District South East and also directed that preliminary notification under section 11(1) of the Right to Fair Compensation and Transparency in Land Acquisition, Rehabilitation and Resettlement Act, 2013 shall be deemed to have been published as on 01.01.2014.

Whereas, Khasra No. 751(4-14) was acquired vide award No. 50-A/Suppl./1969-70 village Tughlakabad for DDA(PDD). The mentioned Kharsa No.'s were notified vide notification |u/s 4 of LA, Act, 1894 No. F.4(2)/65-L&H dated 23.01.1965 and notification u/s 6 of LA, Act, 1894 No. F.4(2)/65-L&H dated 13.01.1969. Possession of the Kharsa No. 751 min (02-14) was taken on 02.09.2006 and Kharsa No. 751 min(02-00) could not be taken due to |built up.

Accordingly, in accordance with section 21 of RFCTLARR Act 2013, notice is being issued to intimate all concerned that the Government intends to initiate fresh acquisition proceedings for the land mentioned above is to be acquired for "public purpose" and that claims to compensations in above land may be made by all interested by appearing personally or by agent or advocate stating the nature of their respective interests in the land and the amount and particulars of their claims to compensation for such interests, along with their objections if any, before the DM/Collector(SE) on 01 September, 2025 at 11.30 AM in the Conference Hall of the office of District Magistrate (South East).

(SUNNY KUMAR SINGH)

Sd/-

Collector and District Magistrate (South East Delhi)

DIP/Shabdarth/Classified/0168/25-26

SALUTE THE SOLDIER EIGHTEENTH BALIDAN DIWAS (POSTHUMOUS)

COLONEL VASANTH V. ASHOK CHAKRA 25 March 1967 - 31 July 2007 In fond memory of our gallant Commanding Officer who made the supreme sacrifice in service to the

nation at Uri (J&K) on this day. You will forever

Colonel Jacob Panicker, Commanding Officer and All Ranks of 9 MARATHA LI (NASHAK NAUVVI), ASHOK CHAKRA BATTALION.

remain in our hearts.



LNK SHASHIKANT BACHHAV, SHAURYA **CHAKRA (POSTHUMOUS)** 01 June 1979 - 31 July 2007

In fond remembrance of our valiant soldier who laid down his life in the line of duty at Uri (J&K) on this day. We salute you and pledge never to let your sacrifice go in vain.

01 August, 2025

Colonel Jacob Panicker, Commanding Officer and All Ranks of 9 MARATHA LI (NASHAK NAUVVI), ASHOK CHAKRA BATTALION. **INDO-TIBETAN BORDER POILCE (ITBP)**



ITBP salutes its braveheart Constable Rajnish **Kumar** of 10th Battalion, who laid down his life in the line of duty on this day in Arunachal Pradesh in 2017. Resident of : Vill.- Uthra Gram, Distt.- Kangra (Himachal Pradesh)

CENTRAL RESERVE POLICE FORCE 1 August 1991



Constable Three companies of 58 battalion were Nani Gopal stationed at Ikhwan hotel. On 1 August 1991 when jawans were having their lunch a grenade was thrown into their 11-6-1966 To mess which exploded immediately 1-8-1991 causing severe injuries to many personnel including Constable Nani Gopal Roy. All were evacuated to hospital where Constable Nani Gopal Roy attained martyrdom.

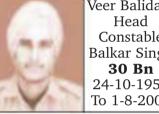
28 July 1990



Veer Balidani 75 Bn was deployed in Tarn Taran district Constable of Punjab for carrying out antiterrorist Barmeshwar operations. On 28 July 1990, a platoon was detailed to carry out combing operations in a village Jhabal Mannan in 6-1-1961 To Tarn Taran. As the platoon laid the cordon 1-8-1990 of the village, terrorists hiding in a field opened fire on the troops. The platoon immediately took position and

responded to the militant's fire. The exchange of fire carried on intermittently. But taking cover of the fields the terrorists managed to escape. Constable K. Mani and Constable Barmeshwar Singh sustained bullet injuries in the encounter. Constable K. Mani attained martyrdom immediately and Constable Barmeshwar Singh succumbed to his injuries on 1st of August 1990.

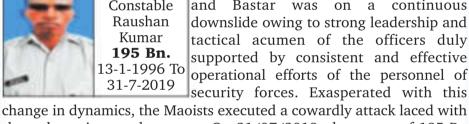
24 July 2001



Veer Balidani Shopian town in Pulwama district of Jammu and Kashmir was the most Constable affected area of militancy due to presence Balkar Singh of large number of sympathizers and its **30 Bn** dense population. The sympathizers were 24-10-1952 all eager to attack the Indian Armed To 1-8-2001 Forces deployed in the area. On 24 July 2001, the Company Commander of 30 Bn CRPF was visiting his posts

to check the deployment. As his vehicles were passing through the congested and crowded market, some militant taking advantage of the situation hurled a grenade at the vehicle. Due to the blast of the grenade, Head Constable Balkar Singh sustained injuries. The area was immediately cordoned followed by a search operation but the culprit could not be nabbed. Later Head Constable Balkar Singh succumbed to his injuries on the 1st of August 2001 during the treatment.

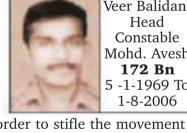
31-07-2019



Veer Balidani The influence of Maoists in Dantewada Constable and Bastar was on a continuous downslide owing to strong leadership and tactical acumen of the officers duly supported by consistent and effective operational efforts of the personnel of 31-7-2019 security forces. Exasperated with this

sheer deception on the troops. On 31/07/2019, the troops of 195 Bn launched an area domination operation in the nearby jungle area of Pushpal, Mardum. When the well briefed and fully equipped troops were returning back to camp tactically following the planned route, unfortunately, Constable Raushan Kumar stepped on an IED, probably of pressure mechanism, which exploded, stunning the troops. He sustained grievous injuries and was forthwith evacuated to nearby hospital for treatment where he succumbed to his injuries, and made supreme sacrifice at the altar of duty. The nation will forever remain indebted to him and his family.

1 August 2006



Veer Balidani Mohd. Avesh



In order to stifle the movement of the terrorists in the Dalgate area in Srinagar district, 172 Bn of CRPF laid a Naka near Bachwara Market. Head Constable Mohd. Avesh and Constable Kapil Kumar Yadav while securing vehicles, saw some suspected movement in a by lane. To ascertain that all was Ok they went a few yards into the by lane but were fired upon from close range and were critically injured. Militants escaped using civilian cover and our personnel couldn't respond effectively due to fear of collateral damage as there was heavy rush of civilians. They were immediately evacuated to the hospital but they attained martyrdom en-route. Such saga of selfless sacrifice would be always remembered by the Nation.

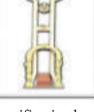


BORDER SECURITY FORCE CONSTABLE BIKRAM MINZ 25.01.1971-31.07.1998

Director General and all Ranks of Border Security

Force remember its gallant Jawan Constable Bikram Minz on his Balidan Diwas. On this day, he made ultimate sacrifice while on operational duty in Kupwara area, J&K.

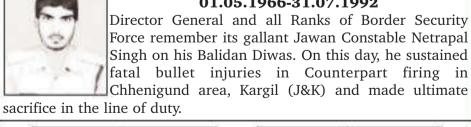
CONSTABLE ASHOK KUMAR 06.04.1964-31.07.1992



Director General and all Ranks of Border Security Force remember its gallant Jawan Constable Ashok Kumar on his Balidan Diwas. On this day, he sustained fatal injuries in a grenade blast triggered by militants in Lal Bazar area, Srinagar (J&K) and made ultimate

01.05.1966 - 31.07.1992

sacrifice in the line of duty. **CONSTABLE NETRAPAL SINGH**



Force remember its gallant Jawan Constable Netrapal Singh on his Balidan Diwas. On this day, he sustained fatal bullet injuries in Counterpart firing in Chhenigund area, Kargil (J&K) and made ultimate

01.11.1958 20.06.1984 -01.08.2006 01.08.2006 Director General and all Ranks of Border Security Force remember its



HEAD CONSTABLE RAM AVTAR **BATHAM**



gallant Jawans Head Constable Ram Avtar Batham and Constable Jadhav Sanjay Basnilal on his Balidan Diwas. On this day, they made ultimate sacrifice while on operational duty in Karan nagar area, Srinagar (J&K).



CONSTABLE MUKESH B MARAK 10.05.1968-01.08.1992

Director General and all Ranks of Border Security Force remember its gallant Jawan Constable Mukesh B Marak on his Balidan Diwas. On this day, he sustained fatal bullet injury while fighting with militants in Srinagar area, J&K and made ultimate sacrifice in the



TENDER NOTICE Date: 01.08.2025 Bids are invited from the eligible bidders for the following tenders

Tender Enquiry	Tender Description	EMD	Due Date & Time of		
No.		(in Lakhs)	Bid Submission		
CPDL/FY25-	Meter Reading & Bill Distribution at	5.0	22.08.2025,		
26/MRBD/012	CPDL, Chandigarh		Up to 17:00 Hr		

For tender details and further amendment/corrigendum, please visit our website www.chandigarhpower.com->Tenders Manager (CMM)

10.00 X 20-16PR Radial Tyre with 2025 KSRTC 780782 11.08.2025 06.00 PM Tube and Flap Automatic Bus Washing System 12.08.2025, 2025_KSRTC_769002_3 06.00 PM with Water Recycling Plant e-Tender Cum e-Auction for the 06.08.2025, 2025_KSRTC_767172_2 sale of Scrap Tyres, Buffing 06.00 PM

powder and other Rubber items For the detailed tender document visit: www.etenders.kerala.gov.in,

Name of Item

NDIAN RAILWAY CATERING AND TOURISM CORPORATION LTD.
(A Government of India Enterprise - Navratna)

CIN: L74899DL1999GOI101707

1. Open E-tender No. 2025/IRCTC/Catg./Refreshment Room/Sep/25 cum

E-Auction Bid Document for provision of catering services in refreshment

rooms for a period of 5 years. AF(A)=114.89 sqm. Pre-bid meeting: 08.08.2025

2. Open E-Tender for removal of empty and waste items (i.e. empty corrugated

boxes, empty polyethylene bags, waste plastics etc.) from IRCTC, Rail Neer

For details visit www.irctc.com and www.tenderwizard.com/IRCTC

Document downloading and participation can only be done or

In case of any corrigendum/addendum issued on the above advertisement, it w

IRCTC Ltd. 4th Floor, Tower-D, World Trade Centre, Nauroji Nagar, New Delhi-110029

NORTHERN RAILWAY

work and its | Electrical work in connection with Repairing & Rewinding of

Rs. 7666420

Rs. 153300

NORTHERN RAILWAY

TENDER NOTICE (Through e-tendering)

Name of work with its location: Provision of Telecom facilities in c/w Improvement

Address of the office: Senior Divisional Signal & Telecom Engineer-C, Northern

Date & Time for upload the tender / closing of tender : Tender uploading

Website particular & notice board location where complete details of the tender

can be seen etc. : See the Northern Railway website www.ireps.gov.in & Notice

board at S&T branch, 3rd Floor, DRM office, State Entry Road, New Delhi-110055.

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www.ireps.gov.in &

Sr. Divil Elect. Engineer/General, New Delhi.

26.08.2025, 16.00 Hrs.

26.08.2025, 16.00 Hrs.

Sr. Divl. Elect. Engineer/General, New Delhi.

2335/2025

2339/2025

JHARKHAND URBAN INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT COMPANY LIMITED

(Govt. of Jharkhand Undertaking)

JUIDCO Bhawan, Kutchery Chowk, Ranchi-834001, Jharkhand.

Ph No.: +91-651-2225878; e-mail Id-; pdt.juidco@gmail.com

CIN: U45200JH2013SGC001752 CIN: U45200JH2013SGC001752

Corrigendum - 8

mentioned above regarding the project "Selection of Agency for GIS Survey & Mapping of

properties for Ranchi, Dhanbad and Giridih Urban Local Bodies (ULBs) of Jharkhand". The

Note: Corrigendum- 08 can be referred from the e-tender site of Govt. of Jharkhand i.e.,

KERALA STATE ROAD TRANSPORT CORPORATION

Transport Bhavan , Fort P.O, Thiruvananthapuram-695023

E-TENDER NOTICE

bidders are advised to consider the same before submission of their bids against the tender.

All bidders are hereby informed that Corrigendum - 8 has been released for tender having details as

Project Name: Selection of Agency for GIS Survey & Mapping of properties for Ranchi, Dhanbad and

Borewell & Monoblock submersible Pumps.

SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE

of Traffic Accounts Building at State Entry Road, New Delhi.

Railway, 3rd Floor, Annexe-1, DRM Office, New Delhi-110055.

App. Cost of the work: Rs. 47,51,774.84/- only.

closing date & time- 25.08.2025 up to 15.00 hrs.

No.: 558-Sig-16-Tele-OT-1018 Dated: 31.07.2025

Giridih Urban Local Bodies (ULBs) of Jharkhand

Tender ID: 2025_UDD_101576_1

(https://jharkhandtenders.gov.in)

PR 358691 Urban Development(25-26)D

NIT No: JUIDCO/NIT/GIS Survey & Mapping/656

Earnest Money Deposit: Rs. 95,000/- only.

NOTICE INVITING TENDER

30-Elect-18-T-2025-26-E3

Last Date & time of submission of tender :-

be published only on www.irctc.com and www.tenderwizard.com/IRCTC.

Plant, Nangloi, New Delhi, Last date of submission: 26.08.2025 till 15:00 hrs.

at 11:00 hrs. Last date of submission: 01.09.2025 till 15:00 hrs.

IRCTC invites:-

www.tenderwizard.com/IRCTC.

Approx cost of the works in :-

Address of the office :-

Earnest Money:-

Opening of tender :-

PR No.: 353778

Website & notice board :-

sd/-**Chairman & Managing Director** 31.07.2025 www.keralartc.com/tenders/purchase, e-mail: sr@kerala.gov.in

e-Tender ID

कार्यपालक अभियंता का कार्यालय ग्रामीण विकास विशेष प्रमंडल, बोकारो

ई-निविदा आमंत्रण सूचना

ई-पुनर्निविदा सूचना संख्या - RDD/SD/BOKARO/53/2024-25/3" Call 1 कार्य की विस्तृत विवरणी

क्र० संo	कार्य का नाम	प्राक्कलित राशि	अग्रधन की राशि	परिमाण विपन्न का मूल्य	कार्य पूर्ण करने की अवधि
1	बोकारो जिला अंतर्गत चास प्रखण्ड के तेतुलिया मौजा एवं एन०एच०–23 बारी को–ऑपरेटिव मोड़ के बीच गरगा नदी पर पुराने पुल के बगल में उच्चस्तरीय पुल निर्माण। (लम्बाई 76.18 मी०)	40755600.00	815500.00	10000.00	18 माह

2 वेबसाइट में निविदा प्रकाशन की तिथि – 08.08.2025

3. ई-निविदा प्राप्ति की तिथि एवं समय - दिनांक 08.08.2025 से दिनांक 22.08.2025 को अपराहन 5:00 बजे तक ई-निविदा खोलने का स्थान – कार्यपालक अभियंता का कार्यालय, ग्रामीण विकास विशेष प्रमण्डल, बोकारो ।

5. ई-निविदा खोलने की तिथि एवं समय - 25.08.2025 अपराहृन 02:00 बजे

 ई-निविदा आमंत्रित करने वाले पदाधिकारी का नाम एवं पता :- कार्यपालक अभियंता, ग्रामीण विकास विशेष प्रमंडल. 7. ई-निविदा प्रकोष्ठ का दूरभाष सं० - 06542 291060 (संबंधित कार्यपालक अभियंता का दूरभाष नम्बर)

 परिमाण विपत्र की राशि घट—बढ़ सकती है तद्नुसार अग्रधन की राशि देय होगी। 9. निविदा शुल्क एवं अग्रधन की राशि केवल Online Mode द्वारा स्वीकार्य होगी।

10. निविदा शुल्क एवं अग्रधन की राशि का ई—भुगतान जिस खाता से किया जायेगा, उसी खाते में अग्रधन की राशि वापस होगी अगर खाता को बंद कर दिया जाता है तो उसकी सारी जवाबदेही आपकी होगी।

विस्तृत जानकारी के लिये वेबसाईट www.jharkhandtenders.gov.in एवं कार्यालय की सूचना पट्ट पर देखा जा सकता है।

PR 358679 Rural Development(25-26)#D



कार्यपालक अभियंता ग्रामीण विकास विशेष प्रमंडल, बोकारो



(A/c No.) L9001060139174038

Indra Pal (Borrower), Kiran (Co-

(A/c No.) L9001060124807621

Heir of Late Shri Sunder Kumar -

Borrower),

Place: Bulandshahr

Smt.Sangita Devi (Co-Borrower & Legal

AU SMALL FINANCE BANK LIMITED

(A SCHEDULED COMMERCIAL BANK)

Regd. Office: 19-A, Dhuleshwar Garden, Ajmer Road, Jaipur - 302001 (CIN:L36911RJ1996PLC011381)

APPENDIX IV [SEE RULE 8(I)] POSSESSION NOTICE

Whereas, The undersigned being the Authorized Officer of the AU Small Finance Bank Limited (A Scheduled Commercial Bank) under the "Securitization and powers conferred under section 13 (12) read with rule 3

orcement of Security Interest [Act, 2002 es, 2002 issued demand notice on the da	경기가 있으면 가는 이 나는 아이들이 살아 보면 보다 하는데 하는데 이번 사람이 되었다면 하는데 살아 있다. 그는데 이번 기를 받는데 하는데 하는데 하는데 하는데 하는데 하는데 하는데 하는데 하는데 하
e of receipt of the said notice as per the d	NOTES :

18-Apr-25

Rs. 1052077/-

of the upon the borrowers to repay the amount mentioned in the sai Date of Name of Borrower/Co-Borrower/ 13(2) Notice Date & Amount Description of Mortgaged Property Mortgagor/Guarantor / Loan A/c No.

orrower), Sumit (Co-Borrower)	Rs. Ten Lac Fifty-Two Thousand Seventy-Seven Only 15-Apr-25	56, Village- AGWANA, PARGANA AND TEHSIL -SIKNDRABAD, Distt- Bulandshahr, Uttar Pradesh Admeasuring 284.56 Sqmtr. East: HOUSE OF JUGENDRA, West: HOUSE OF BHARAMPAL, North: RASTA, South: RASTA
L/c No.) L9001060142499332 tendra Singh (Borrower), Smt.Sawatri evi (Co-Borrower),	17-Mar-25 Rs. 1562424/- Rs. Fifteen Lac Sixty-Two Thousand	All that part and parcel of residential/commercial property Land/Building/ Structure and fixtures Property Situated At- Khasra No159, Village- Derveshpur Pargana, Shiv Mindir, Tehsil- Shikarpur, District- Bulandshahr, Uttar Pradesh Admeasuring 342 Sovd East: RASTA 2.43 MTR, West: H/O

12-Mar-25

18-Mar-25

Rs. 834623/-

Rs. Eight Lac Thirty-Four Thousand Six

Hundred Twenty-Three Only

18-Mar-25

Date: 31 July 2025

ential/commercial property Land/Building/ 26-Jul-25 erty Situated At- Khasra No159, Villagedir, Tehsil- Shikarpur, District- Bulandshahr, 342 Sqyd East: RASTA 2.43 MTR, West: H/O MR. AJAYVEER SINGH, North: RASTA 6.092 MTR, South: H/O KANCHAN

(1) All that part and parcel of residential/commercial property Land/ 26-Jul-25 Building/ Structure and fixtures Property Situated At- Gata No 2239M, Mohalla Sarai Jhaihan, New Abadi Kasba , TH - Sikandrabad, DIST-Bulandshahr, Uttar Pradesh Admeasuring 62.88 Square Yard East: PLOT OF OTHER OWENR, West : PLOT OF SANGEETA DEVI, North: RASTA, South: AHATA PREM SINGH (2) All that part and parcel of residential/commercial property Land/ Building/ Structure and fixtures Property Situated At- Gata No 2239M,

All that part and parcel of residential/commercial property Land/Building/ 26-Jul-25

Structure and fixtures Property Situated At- Out Of Gata No 195, House No

Mohalla Sarai Jhajhan, New Abadi Kasba , TH - Sikandrabad, DIST-Bulandshahr, Uttar Pradesh Admeasuring 68 Square Yard East: PLOT OF OTHER OWNER, West : PLOT HARVEER, North: RASTA, South: AHATA PREM SINGH

The borrower having failed to repay the amount, therefore notice is hereby given to the borrower and the public in general that the undersigned has taken possession of the property described herein above mentioned table in exercise of powers conferred on him/her under section 13(4) of the said (Act-2002) read with Rule 8 of the said rule on the date mentioned in the above table. "The borrower's attention is Invited to provisions of sub section (8) of section 13 of the Act read with rule 8 (6), in respect of time available, i.e., 30 days from this intimation, to redeem the secured assets." The borrower in particular and the public in general is hereby cautioned not to deal with the property and any dealings with the property will be subject to the charge of the AU Small Finance Bank Limited (A Scheduled Commercial Bank) for the amount and interest thereon mentioned in the above table.

epaper.indianexpress.com

Authorised Officer AU Small Finance Bank Limited

CHITTARANJAN LOCOMOTIVE WORKS Open GEM Tender

NORTH WESTERN RAILWAY

OPEN E-TENDER

DRM (Electrical) Jaipur, for and on

the behalf of President of Union of

India, invites e-tenders for following

works: Sn.1 NIT No.: EL-JP-37-

2025-26: Name of work: JP Gen.

Provision of Power Supply at Halt

stations and way side stations.. NIT

Cost: 9817572.62/-; Earnest

Money: 196400/-; Tender opening:

26.08.25; Sn.2 NIT No.: EL-JP-38-

2025-26; Name of work

Strengthening & Augmentation of

power supply system over Jaipur

division NIT Cost: 20855709.60/-

Earnest Money: 254300/-; Tender

opening: 26.08.25; Sn.3 NIT No.:

EL-JP-39-2025-26; Name of work:

JP Gen: Rewiring of staff quarter on

age cum condition basis over Jaipur

division; NIT Cost: 20760008.74/-

Earnest Money: 253800/-; Tender

opening: 27.08.25; Note: Date &

time of closing of e-tenders: On

tender opening date Upto 15.00

hours; Date & time of e-tender

opening: On tender opening date

after 15.00 hours; Complete details

of tender can be seen on website:

http://www.ireps.gov.in 946-AN/25

Please join us on (*) 1889 / NWRailways

Project Director (Technical) JUIDCO Ltd., Ranchi

Last Date of Bid

submission

Hipco

18:30:00.

The following e-Tenders can be accessed under the link www.gem.gov.in. Offers for such e-Tender can be submitted only electronically by accessing the above mentioned website - login. Vendors may also contact the following officials to obtain clarification regarding particular tender or related information if any, Dy.CMM/M-II/CLW/Chittaranjan, Mobile no. 9163340726.[A] No. COS/CRJ/PUB/ e-Tender/19/0162, Date: 28/07/2025, SL No.: [1]. Tender No./GEM BID No.: GEM/2025/B/6413150, Brief Description of Item: Aerial Bunched Cables as per IS 14255 (Q3).[XLPE insulated 1100V grade Aerial Bunch Cable of size 3C x 95 + 1C x 70 + 1C x 16 sq. mm., conforming to 1S:7098(Pt.2)] (As per Gem Bid No. GEM/2025/B/6413150 dt. 26-07-2025). Quantity:114000 meter. Earnest Money Deposit (Rupees):₹ 1482000.00. Tender Closing Date & Time (IST):18-08-2025 at 13:30. [B] No. COS/CRJ/PUB/ e-Tender/19/0162, Date: 28/07/2025, SL No.:[1].Tender No./GEM BID No.: GEM/2025/B/6483304. Brief Description of Item: XLPE Cable for Working Voltages up to and Including 1.1 KV as per IS 7098 (Part 1) (Q2), XLPE Cables for Working Voltages From 3.3 KV up to and Including 33 KV as per 1S 7098 (Part 2) (Q3).(1) XLPE Cable For Working Voltages Up To And Including 1.1 KV As Per IS 7098 (Part 1) (78480 meter),(2) XLPE Cable Fo Working Voltages Up To And Including 1.1 KV As Per IS 7098 (Part 1) (90000 meter),(3) XLPE Cables For Working Voltages From 3.3 KV Up To And Including 33 KV As Per IS 7098 (Part 2) (3000 meter). As per Gem Bid No. GEM/2025/B/ 6483304 dt. 26-07-2025).Quantity:171480Meter.Earnest Money Deposit (Rupees) : Schedule 1: ₹ 172660.00, Schedule 2 = ₹ 95400.00, Schedule 3 = ₹ 74090.00.Tender Closing Date & Time (IST): 18-08-2025 at

PR6/158 PCMM/CLW/Chittaranjan. Visit us on: www.facebook.com/clwrailways

U.P. RAJYA VIDYUT UTPADAN NIGAM LTD.

MALAWAN-ETAH PUBLICATION OF E-TENDER NOTICE (IN/OUT OF STATE)

Short Term E-Tender No. ET-12/EPD-I/EMCC-VII/JTPP/2025 Online bids are invited for the "Procurement of Hydrazine hydrate (N, H, · H, O) for WTP for 2X660 MW, JTPP Malawan, Etah". E-Tender has been uploaded on https://etender.up.nic.in on dated 24.07.2025. The Estimated cost of e-Tender: Rs. 1,60,200.00 + GST Extra and Tender Cost Rs. 1,180.00 (Including GST), E.M.D. Cost Rs. 2,000.00. Last date of tender 08.08.2025 at 11.00 hrs.

Total quantity of supply, tender specification & other terms & condition is as per tender documents available on the e-tender portal. Undersigned reserves the right to cancel the e-bids without assigning any reason. Corrigendum, Addendum, Extension if any shall be uploaded only on the above website. Bidders are advised to visit the website regularly for updated information from time to time. SE, (HQ.)

पत्रांकः 60 / अधी०अभि०(मृ०) / 2X660 मेवा / जा०ता०प० "Save Electricity for Nation"

दिनाक = 30 / 07 / 2025

U.P. RAJYA VIDYUT UTPADAN NIGAM LTD. PARICHHA THERMAL POWER PROJECT **PARICHHA JHANSI**

E- TENDER NOTICE

1. E-Tender- N-PAR/B/MMC1/PD01/6000008712 "Supply of Energy Meter, Fans and Air Coolers in PTPP, Parichha, Jhansi." Estimated Cost Rs. 2,28,000.00 EMD Rs. 3,000.00 e-bid Submission dt.: 09.08.2025 up to 09:00 AM.

2. E-Tender- N-PAR/B/MMC1/PD01/6000008811 "Supply of various types of Logbooks, Registers and stationary items for various divisions of PTPP Parichha." Estimated Cost Rs. 3,60,263.00 EMD Rs. 7,000.00 e-bid Submission dt.: 04.08.2025 up to 04:00 PM.

E-Tender- N-PAR/B/MMC1/PD01/6000007770 "Supply of

Spring Charging motor 6.6 KV VCB in PTPP, Parichha, Jhansi (UP- 284305, make Agni Motors, Magna, schneider, CGL." Estimated Cost Rs. 3,27,000.00 EMD Rs. 6,000.00 e-bid Submission dt.: 11.08.2025 up to 09:00 AM. NOTE: Total Quality of work, tender specification and other

terms & conditions is as per tender document available on the e-tender portal our website www.etender.up.nic.in & uprvunl.org. Bidders are advised to visit the website regularly for updated information from time to time.

संव 195 / टीवएसवडीव-प्रव / पीटीपीपी / दिनाक : 28.07.2025

"Save Electricity for Nation"

GOVERNMENT OF ODISHA

OFFICE OF THE ADDITIONAL CHIEF ENGINEER. PUBLIC HEALTH CIRCLE, BERHAMPUR C-750 E-Mail ID-acephebam@gmail.com

Sl. No.	Name of Work	Bid Identifiention	Estimated Cost (Rs. in	Period of Completion	Availability of for Onlin	Name & Address of	
		No.	Lakhs)		From	То	Officer Inviting Bi
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1	Laying of CWRM in connection with improvement of water supply to Kodala NAC under AMRUT 2.0, (SWAP-III)	Identification No. ACEPHCBAM 08/2025-26 Dt. 25.07.2025	636.07	12 (Twelve) Calendar Months	11.00 Hrs. of 05.08.2025	17.30 Hrs. of 20.08.2025	Chief Engineer, P.H. Circle Berhampu

The technical bid shall be opened on dt. 26.08.2025 at 12.30 P.M

Further details can be seen from the e-Procurement portal http://tendersodisha.gov.in OIPR-13004/11/0021/2526 **CHIEF ENGINEER (PH)**



Zonal Office: 9B, Pusa Road, Rajendra Place, New Delhi, Pincode-10060

Registered Office: Utkarsh Tower, NH - 31 (Airport Road), Sehmalpur, Kazi Sarai, Harhua, Varanasi, UP - 221 105. (Appendix IV) POSSESSION NOTICE FOR IMMOVABLE PROPERTY [under rule 8(1)]

Notice is hereby given under the securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and enforcement (Security) interest Act, 2002 and in exercise of powers conferred under 13(12) read with rule 3 of Security interest (enforcement) rules 2002, the authorised officer issued a Demand notice on the dates notes against each account as mentioned hereinafter, calling them to repay the amount within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said notice. The borrowers having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the under noted borrowers and the public in general that the undersigned has taken **Possession** of the properties described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on him/her under section 13(4) of the said act read with rule 8 of the said rules on the dates mentioned against each account. The borrower in particular and the public in general is hereby cautioned not to deal with the properties and any dealing with the properties will be subject to the charge of UTKARSH SMALL FINANCE BANK

LIMITED for the amounts and interests thereon mentioned against each account herein below: The attention of the borrowers detailed hereunder is invited to the provisions of subsection (8) of the section 13 of the Act, in

respect of the time available, to redeem the secured assets. Name of the Name of the Date of Name of the Borrower/ Date of **Amount Outstanding** Branch Account Guarantor Demand **Possession** as on the date of (Owner of the Property) **Notice** notice **Demand Notice** Client Name -M/s Nawab & Co Through 06-05-2025 30-07-2025 Najfagarh ₹ 1,93,86,927/-M/S NAWAB & CO Its Propriter(Co-Borrower) Mr. Shoaib Nawab Khan Account Number -1359060000 S/o Mr. Nawab Saifi 006060 (co-Borrower/Mortgager) Mr. Nawab Saife S/o

Mr. Masitullah Saife

(Co-Borrower) Description of Property/ies (all the part & parcel of the property consisting of): All that part and parcel of the Residential Property Entire Third Floor with roof right Built on Property No- A-31/135 & A- 31/139, with roof rights, area measuring 300Sq Yards i.e 250.83Sq. Meters, covered rea 167.22Sq Meters out of Khasra No- 340,341& 345, situated at in the area of Village Maujpur in the abadi of Puri Gali No-2, Gurudwara Mohalla, Maujpur, illaga Shahdara Delhi- 110053 Property Bounded by- East: Plot No A- 31/136-A North: Bhagwati Devi West: Other Property South: Gali

Date: 01-08-2025 Place: Delhi

(Authorized Officer) (Anil Kumar Sharma)

कार्यालय अधीक्षण अभियन्ता, सार्वजनिक निर्माण विभाग, वृत्त-प्रतापगढ़ Email: sepratap@gmail.com संशोधन निविदा सूचना संख्या 05/2025-26 NIB code PWD2526A1458 इस कार्यालय के क्रमांक 249 दिनांक 19/06/2025 द्वारा जारी निविदा सूचना संख्या 05/2025–26 में में निम्नांकित

संशोधन किये जाते है: पूर्व में दिनांक संशोधित दिनांक

olia	GOVERNMENT OF	ODISHA
DIPR/C/10513/20	25	हस्ता.∕-अधीक्षण अभियन्त सा.नि.वि. वृत्त प्रतापगत
आन लाइन निवदा खालन तारीख	की दिनांक 22/07/2025 को प्रातः 11:00 बजे	दिनांक 14/08/2025 को प्रातः 11:00 बजे
कराने तारीख	21/07/2025 को सायं 6.00 बजे तक	से 13/08/2025 को सायं 6.00 बजे तक
	जमा दिनांक 20/06/2025 को प्रातः 9.30 बजे से	
	21/07/2025 को सायं 6.00 बजे तक	से 13/08/2025 को सायं 6.00 बजे तक
ऑन लाईन निविदा	कार्म दिनांक 20/06/2025 को प्रातः 9.30 बर्ज से	दिनांक 20/06/2025 को प्रातः 9.30 बर्ज



"e"-PROCUREMENT NOTICE

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF CONSTRUCTION ENGINEER, KHORDHA (R&B) CIRCLE, KHORDHA WORKS DEPARTMENT **Tender call Notice**

E-mail- rbcirclekhurda@gmail.com Bid Identification No. CCE-Khordha (R&B) Circle-05/2025-26 Memo No-2037

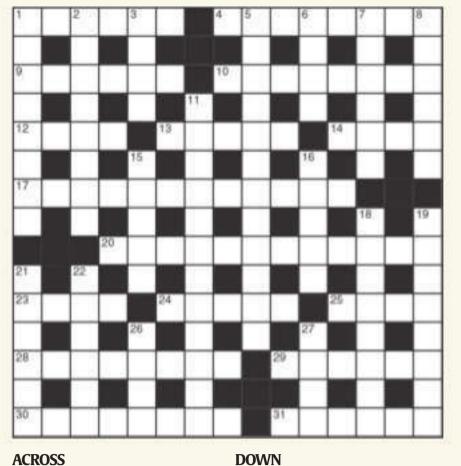
The Chief Construction Engineer, Khordha (R&B) Circle, Khordha on behalf of Governor of Odisha inviting percentage rate bid in double cover system in ONLINE **MODE** from eligible contractors for Buildings works as detailed in the table below:

- : Building Works 1. Nature of Work 2. No. of Work : 2 Nos
- 3. Tender Cost : Rs. 10000.00 (On-Line) 4. Class of Contractor : A Class & B Class
- 5. Available of Bid document in: From 10.00 AM of Dt. 07.08.2025 up to 05.00 PM of Dt.21.08.2025 up to 5.00 PM the Website
- 5. Date of opening of Bid : Dt 22.08.2025 at 11.30 AM
- . The Bidders have to participate in **ONLINE** bidding only. Further details can be seen from the Website: https://tenderodisha.gov.in. Any Addendum Corrigendum / Cancellation of tender can also be seen in the said website.

Sd/ Chief Construction Engineer, Khordha (R&B) Circle, Khordha (OIPR-34127/11/0043/2526)

18 CALENDAR

CROSSWORD 5743



1 A medley it's cheap

3 Stake one's fortune?

5 Best seller? (7,5) 6 See fine sight (4) 7 Inferior work turns up

and is put in the shade

in what one wears (6)

example of it (6,2,4)15 Fast, nothing! It's slow

a complaint (8)

bicycle (6)

that's clear (4) **27** Akin to lòvé (4)

8 Pressure to appear posh

11 Holing in one may be an

(5) **16** Girl likely to give Rex the quick run around (5)

18 Said and done in making

19 Let the worker go without

guidance (4,4) 21 Met up and accepted a

22 Foreign city songwriter

(6) **26** A highlight of the night

food(8)

(3-3)

to compose (8)

2 Neat language for describing

ACROSS 1 It helps an actor to have fun in a small part (6) 4 Ring in wrong details and get cut off (8) **9** Pay the bill for some furniture

10 No chores are undone in this vessel(8) 12 The same pubs are found in north and south (4)
13 It's much inclined to bathe

in water (5)**14** Stud manager (4) **17** Those desiring a new occupation will look for it (5,3,4) **20** He deals openly with his clients (6,6) 23 A word of approval for those

in favour (4)24 A point about wood for burning(5) **25** Joint manipulation of king's first-born (4) 28 Not a sound to arouse one's

interest? (4,4) 29 Note article cannot be reduced (6) 30 Male bird and plant (8) 31 Let out the smallest amount say (6)

Solutions Crossword 5742 Across: 1 Blimp, 4 Rarebit, 8 Vie, 9 Lady's maid, 10 Refuses, 11 Local, 13 Albums, 15 Brenda, 18 Abeam, 19 Washout, 21 Ordinance, 23 Ada, 24 Apology, 25 Spent Down: 1 Bavaria, 2 Ineffable, 3 Piles, 4 Radish, 5 Rustler, 6 Boa, 7 Tidal, 12 Cannonade, 14 Memento, 16 Attract, 17 Twenty, 18 Aroma, 20 Seems, 22 Duo

OVER THE HEDGE by Michael Fry & T Lewis

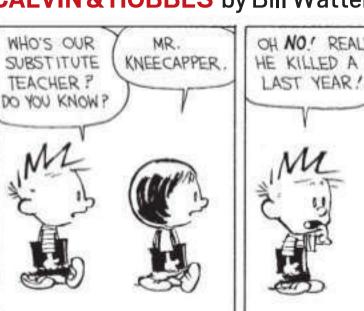


YOU'RE STUPID AND USELESS. USELESS ?? ... WHEN YOU DIE, WHO'LL LAY EGGS ON YOUR CORPSE SO MY LARVAE CAN TURN IT INTO FERTILIZER ??





CALVIN & HOBBES by Bill Watterson



OH NO! REALLY? I HEARD HE KILLED A KID WHAT ?

YEAH, SOME KID WAS TALKING IN CLASS, SO MR. KNEECAPPER TOOK HIM OUT IN THE HALL AND THERE WERE STRANGE LUMPS IN THE CAFETERIA MEATLOAF THAT AFTERNOON!



pamper yourself.



LEO (July 24 - Aug 23) A number of



under increased scrutiny, but that's no reason to walk out on a responsibility. It may be more useful to you to stick around for a while. Stay with it and you'll eventually come up trumps.

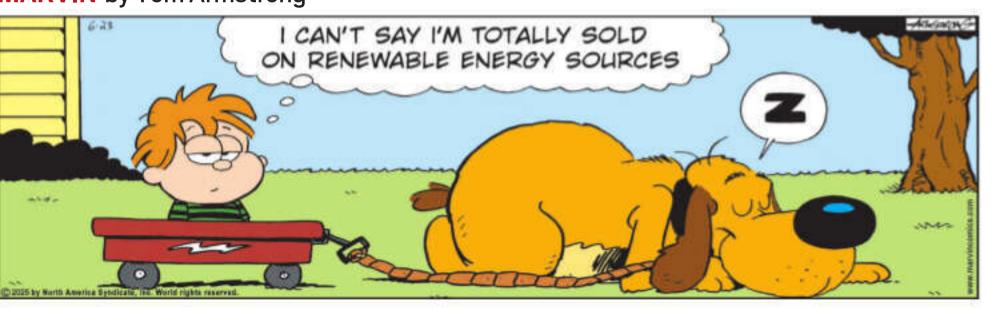
VIRGO (Aug 24 - Sep 23) Mercury is still exerting a powerful pull over your sign, and will do so for another eight weeks. This is an indication of celestial protection which should

see you recover from current

battles and pass unscathed

through the next two months' worth of ups and downs. meaning.

MARVIN by Tom Armstrong



JUMBLED WORDS

Given below are four jumbled words. Solve the jumbles to make proper words and move them to the respective squares below. Select the letters in the shaded squares and jumble them to get the answer for the given quip.

I suppose your security is your success and your key to success is your _____. - Gordon Ramsay (4,6)

WVAEE CMOULN **ITAAW IORTFP**

palate. - Gordon Ramsay Answer: I suppose your security is your success and your key to success is your fine Solution: WEAVE, AWAIT, COLUMN, PROFIT

PROCLAMATION REQUIRING THE

APPEARANCE OF ACCUSED PERSON

(See Section 82 Cr.PC)

Whereas complaint has been made before me that accused

Rinku Sheikh S/o Khalik Sheikh R/o H.No. 245/38, Gali

No.2, Allah Colony, Mandawali, Delhi-92, Also at

Bhabanipur, English Bazar, Malda, West Bengal-732209

has committed (or is suspected to have committed) the

offence in FIR No.371/2020 u/s 392/411/34 IPC, P.S

Kotwali, Delhi and it has been returned to a warrant of

arrest thereupon issued that the said accused Rinku

Sheikh cannot be found and whereas it has been shown to

my satisfaction that the said accused Rinku Sheikh has

absconded (or is concealing himself to avoid the service of

Proclamation is hereby made that the said accused Rinku

Sheikh of FIR No.371/2020 u/s 392/411/34 IPC, P.S.

Kotwali, Delhi is required to appear before this Court to

PROCLAMATION REQUIRING THE APPEARANCE

OF ACCUSED PERSON

See Section 82 Cr.P.C.

Whereas complaint has been made before me that the accused

persons Namely Kamal Kishroe Verma, Proprietor M/s Hari Oma

Collections 385/A/12, Krishna Colony, Near New Colony

Gurgaon has committed (or is suspected to have committed)

the offence in CC No. 538602/16 U/s 138 NI Act PS: Desh

Bandhu Gupta Road, Delhi and it has been returned to a

warrant of arrest thereupon issued that the said accused Kamal

Kishroe Verma, cannot be found and whereas it has been

shown to my satisfaction that the said accused Kamal Kishroe

Verma, has absconded (or is concealing himself to avoid the

Proclamation is hereby made that the said Kamal Kishroe Verma,

accused of CC No. 538602/16 U/s 138 NI Act PS: Desh

Bandhu Gupta Road, Delhi is required to appear before this

HIGH COURT OF HIMACHAL

PRADESH, SHIMLA- 171 001.

"ADVERTISEMENT NOTICE"

The High Court of HP invites Online Recruitment

Applications (ORA) from all the eligible desirous candidates

for filling-up one post (01-UR) of Jr. Scale Stenographer on

For more information and detailed advertisement notice

Last date of receipt of Online Recruitment Application

kindly visit our website i.e., https://highcourt.hp.gov.in

Court to answer the said complaint on or before 03.09.2025.

Judicial Magistrate First Class-08, Room No.272

answer the said complaint on or before 01.09.2025.

the said warrant).

DP/10085/N/2025

service of the said warrant).

DP/10111/CD/2025

No.HHC/Recruit/HC/Steno/2025-1

Recruitment Application :

Website/ Recruitment portal for Online

the Establishment of HP High Court.

(ORA) is 31.08,2025 till 11:59 P.M.

(Court Matter)

To solve a Sudoku puzzle, every digit from 1 to 9 must appear in each of the nine vertical columns, in each of the nine horizonta rows and in each of the SUDOKU nine boxes.

Instructions

Difficulty Level 2s

Difficulty Level 1s = Very easy; 2s = Easy; 3s = Medium: 4s = Hard: 5s = Very Hard; 6s = Genius

		2					6	8
8	1			5			4	
						5		7
	7				6	3		4
			2		9			
5		6	3				9	
9		8						
	3			7			1	6
7	6					9		

32	3	7	8	4	9	2	1	5	6
9	2	4	6	7	1	5	9	8	3
OKU	9	5	1	8	6	3	2	7	4
8	6	2	9	1	3	8	5	4	7
SUD	5	1	4	2	7	6	3	9	8
Z	8	3	7	9	5	4	6	2	1
OT O	7	8	3	6	2	9	4	1	5
	4	9	5	3	8	1	7	6	2
SO	1	6	2	5	4	7	8	3	9

PROCLAMATION REQUIRING THE APPEARANCE OF ACCUSED PERSON

See Section 82 Cr. P.C

Whereas complaint has been made before me that accused Amit, S/o. Prem Nath, R/o.: B-188, Gali No.4, Balbir Vihar, Sultanpuri, Delhi has committed (or is suspected to have committed) the offence in a case vide FIR No.33/2009 U/S 279/338 IPC registered at P.S Begumpur, Delhi and it has been returned on a warrant of arrest thereupon issued stating that the said accused Amit could not be found and whereas it has been shown to my satisfaction that accused Amit is absconded (or is concealing himself to avoid the service of the said warrant).

Proclamation is hereby made that the said Amit, accused of FIR No.33/2009 U/S 279/338 IPC, P.S Begumpur, Delhi is required to appear before the court to answer the said complaint on or before 06.09.2025.

DP/10020/RD/2025 (Court Matter)

By Order

By Order

Sd/

Sh. Arvind Tomar

JMFC-07, Room No 507

Tis Hazari Courts, Delhi

Dated, the 28th July, 2025.

https://highcourt.hp.gov.in/

https://www.hphcrecruitment.in/login

Registrar (Recruitment)

Ms. Sayesha Chadha

Tis Hazari Courts, Delhi

By Order, Deepak Vats Addl. Chief Judicial Magistrate North West District, Court No.101 First Floor, Rohini Courts, Delhi

PROCLAMATION REQUIRING THE APPEARANCE OF ACCUSED PERSON

See Section 82 Cr.P.C.

Whereas complaint has been made before me that accused Dharmender@Golu, S/o: Pritam Singh, R/o: Jhuggi No. Y-142, Mangolpuri, Delhi has committed (or is suspected to has committed) the offence in FIR No. 455/2019, U/s: 25 Arms Act, Police Station Mangolpuri, Delhi and it has been returned to a warrant of arrest thereupon issued that the said accused Dharmender@Golu cannot be found and whereas it has been shown to my satisfaction that the said accused Dharmender@Golu has absconded (or is concealing himself to avoid the service of the said warrant).

Proclamation is here by made that the said accused Dharmender@Golu of Police Station Mangolpuri, **Delhi** is required to appear before this Court to answer the said complaint on or before 03.09.2025. By Order Ms. Reetika Jain,

JMFC-05, North-West, Room No. 105 Rohini Courts, Delhi DP/10109/OD/2025

PROCLAMATION REQUIRING THE APPEARANCE OF ACCUSED PERSON

See Section 82 CrPC

Whereas complaint has been made before me that accused Amil Rizal S/o Shambhu Rizal, R/o E-162, Gali No.70, Mahaveer Enclave Part III, Veer Bazar Road, New Delhi has committed (or is suspected to have committed) the offence in case registered vide FIR No. 82/2021, U/S 457/380/411 IPC, P.S. Sagar Pur, New Delhi and it has been returned to a warrant of arrest there upon issued that the said accused Amil Rizal can not be found and whereas it has been shown to my satisfaction that the said Amil Rizal has absconded (or is concealing himself to avoid the service of the said warrant).

Proclamation is hereby made that the said accused Amil Rizal of FIR No. 82/2021, U/S 457/380/411 IPC, P.S. Sagar Pur, New Delhi is required to appear before this court (or before me) to answer the complaint on or before the day of 08.09.2025. By Order

Ms. Isha Singh Judicial Magistrate First Class-03 18, First Floor, Main Building DP/10121/SW/2025(Court Matter) Patiala House Courts, New Delhi

PROCLAMATION REQUIRING THE APPEARANCE OF ACCUSED PERSON

Whereas complaint has been made before me that accused

See Section 82 Cr.P.C.

Naway Maharaj, R/o: D-142, Bharola Gany, Azadpur Mandi, Rhamani Masjid, Adarsh Nagar, Shanjanpur, Delhi has committed (or is suspected to has committed) the offence in CC Case No. 3750/17, U/s: 138 NI Act, Police Station Rajinder Nagar, Delhi and it has been returned to a warrant of arrest thereupon issued that the said accused Nawav Maharaj cannot be found and whereas it has been shown to my satisfaction that the said accused Naway Maharaj has absconded (or is concealing himself to avoid the service of the said warrant). Proclamation is here by made that the said accused Naway

Maharaj of Police Station Rajinder Nagar, Delhi is required to appear before this Court to answer the said complaint on or before 01.09.2025. By Order

Sh. Arvind Tomar JMFC(NI Act)-07, Central, Room No. 507 DP/10094/CD/2025 Tis Hazari Courts, Delhi

PROCLAMATION REQUIRING THE **APPEARANCE OF ACCUSED PERSON**

See Section 84 Bhartiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita-2023

Whereas complaint has been made before me that accused Sankalp Kumar, S/o Jaidev Tiwari, R/o H. No. 3, Gali No. 1, Back Side of Guruji Wali Gali, Village Dhakvali, Asola, Fatehpur Beri, New Delhi, Permanent Address: Quarter No. 33, Gurudwara Mohalla, Naya Nagar, Barkana, Distt. Ramgarh, Jharkhand has committed (or is suspected to have committed) the offence in case FIR No. 96/2023, U/s 33 Delhi Excise Act, P.S. Fatehpur Beri, New Delhi and it has been returned to a warrant of arrest thereupon issued that the said Sankalp Kumar cannot be found and whereas it has been shown to my satisfaction that the said Sankalp Kumar has absconded (or is concealing himself to avoid the service of the said warrant). Proclamation is hereby made that the said Sankalp Kumar accused of FIR No. 96/2023, U/s 33 Delhi Excise Act, P.S. Fatehpur Beri, New Delhi is required to appear before this Court to answer the said complaint on or before 02.09.2025.

Sh. Ashish Kumar Meena Judicial Magistrate First Class-01 DP/10103/SD/2025

PROCLAMATION REQUIRING THE APPEARANCE OF ACCUSED PERSON

See Section 82 Cr.P.C.

Whereas complaint has been made before me that accused 1.Naseem, W/o: Mohd. Chand, R/o: Satsang Wali Gali, Rajeev Nagar, Bhalswa Dairy, Delhi, 2. Sahin, D/o: Mohd. Chand, R/o: Satsang Wali Gali, C-Block, Bhalswa Dairy, **Delhi** have committed (or are suspected to have committed) the offence in FIR No. 123/2012, U/s: 451/323/354/34 IPC, Police Station Bhalswa Dairy, Delhi and it has been returned to a warrant of arrest thereupon issued that the said accused 1.Naseem, 2. Sahin cannot be found and whereas it has been shown to my satisfaction that the said accused 1. Naseem, 2.Sahin have absconded (or are concealing themself to avoid the service of the said warrant).

Proclamation is here by made that the said accused 1. Naseem, 2. Sahin of Police Station Bhalswa Dairy, Delhi are required to appear before this Court to answer the said complaint on or before 01.09.2025. By Order Ms. Aishwarya Sharma,

JMFC (Mahila Court) - 01, North-West, 1st Floor, Room No. 106 Rohini Courts, Delhi

UPTRON POWERTRONICS LIMITED

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(Bid Ref.: UPL/Empl/2025-26/SU, Tender ID: 2025 UPPOW 1055639 1) he last date for submission of e-bids is 07.08.2025 upto 3.00 pm. The bids shall be

pened next working day at 3:00 p.m. The complete bid document can be downloaded rom the e-procurement website https://etender.up.nic.in. The Uptron Powertronics Limited reserves the right to cancel any or all the e-bids/annul the bidding process without assigning any reason. MANAGING DIRECTOR

PROCLAMATION REQUIRING THE APPEARANCE OF ACCUSED PERSON

See Section 82 Cr. P.C. Whereas complaint has been made before me that accused

person(s) Amit, S/o: Bageshwar Mandal, R/o: Jhuggi No.127, Nirman Camp, Haiderpur, Delhi has committed (or is suspected to have committed) the offence in FIR No. 92/17; U/s: 356/379/411 IPC, P.S.: Shalimar Bagh, Delhi and it has been returned to a warrant of arrest thereupon issued that the said accused person(s) Amit, cannot be found and whereas it has been shown to my satisfaction that the said accused person(s) Amit, has absconded (or is concealing himself to avoid the service of the said warrant). Proclamation is hereby made that the said accused person(s) Amit, of FIR No. 92/17; U/s: 356/379/411 IPC, P.S.: Shalimar Bagh, Delhi is required to appear before this Court to answer the said complaint on or before 01.09.2025.

By Order Gauray Katariya Judicial Magistrate First Class-07

(Court Matter)

DP/10144/NW/2025

Global Tender.

North-West, Court No. 208, 2nd Floor Rohini Court, Delhi NORTH EASTERN RAILWAY TENDER NOTICE NO-9 Dt.-28/07/2025

Email-dycmmgkpd@gmail.com, Website:www.ner.indianrailways.gov.in & www.tenders.gov.in Invitation of Tenders through E-Procurement system Dy. Chief Material Manager/North Eastern Railway/Gorakhpur and on behalf

of the President of India, invites Tenders through e-procurement system for the supply of the following items. Complete description of the item and other condition are available on www.ner.indianrailways.gov.in &

Sr. No.	Tender No & Due Date	Brief Description of stores	Qty Required	Earnest Money(Rs)
1	10257484	Set of Pedestal, Boom Rest Locking	126	7,58,270/-
	Dt-27/08/25	Box & Control Panel etc.	Set	
2	10239302	Supply, Installation and Commissioning	01	2,27,370/-
	Dt-26/08/25	of CNC Flame & Plasma Cutting Machine etc	Set	
3	10245423	Radial Drilling Machine without AMC,	03	1,58,070/-
	Dt-26/08/25	Arm Length 2350 MM etc	Set	

1- Above Tenders are available on IREPS site ie http://www.ireps.gov.in the firm desirous in participating against e-tender are advised to electronically regd. Themselves on the above website for which they would required to obtain class-III digital certificate (if already not obtain) from certifying agencies authorized under govt. of India IT Act 2000. Manual offers will not be accepted. 2-Advertised tender and bulletin tenders of Dy.CMM/Depot Office/NER are being opened through EPS (E-Procurement system) only. Firms desiring to participate in Dy.CMM/Depot. Tenders should obtain necessary digital certificate and get themselves registered with CRIS/New Delhi Necessary details in this regard can be obtained from the website http://www.ireps.gov.in 3-In case of difference between English and Hindi version of the Tender notice the English version shall prevail. 4-Head of allocation towards, SD Money in 00844517 & Earnest Money s 00084506. 5-The tender cost & EMD will be accepted through On-

CPRO/S-32 Dy. Chief Material Manager/Depot, Gorakhpur Never travel on roof and foot boards.

Line payment on IREPS Portal only for the tender published on or after

01.09.2016, against all the Dy.CMM/ Depot/NER/GKP tenders except

South, Room No. 214 Saket Courts, New Delhi DP/10157/ON/2025

By Order

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DAY TODAY

You could feel

of home and

family affairs

more in control

ARIES (Mar 21 - Apr 20)

than may have been the

although financial matters

TAURUS (Apr 21 - May 21)

This is a time to behave

Taurean — resolute,

like a true

case in the recent past,

remain dodgy. But I am

sure you can live with a

responsible and keen to

retain all that is best from

the past. However, please

be aware that at particular

Don't worry - it shouldn't hurt.

There seems

that emotional

strain will have

to be a real chance

GEMINI (May 22 - June 21)

an adverse effect on your

astrology deals with

health. Bearing in mind that

prevention rather than cure,

don't let this week's stress get

to you. Take some time off to

moments you will be

obliged to compromise.

little uncertainty.

LIBRA (Sep 24 - Oct 23)

BY PETER VIDAL

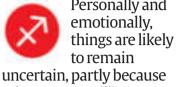
Although the celestial challenge from Mars to the Sun is placing

you under personal pressure, others are barking up the wrong tree if they imagine they can out-manoeuvre vou. Conciliation is the key and that's no trouble for someone like you.

SCORPIO (Oct 24 - Nov 23) A family or domestic matter may be

settling down but professional Scorpios are not out of the woods just yet. Pick your ground, choose your time and don't make a move until you're ready.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov 24 - Dec 22) Personally and



others are unwilling to make a commitment. Even those who do are liable to break them. You'll have to make allowances for unreliable friends.

CAPRICORN (Dec 23 - Jan 20) Using finances

as a bait could be risky. Either other people may accept you at face value or you may let yourself in for commitments you can't keep. You will put family first and build your life on firm foundations.

AQUARIUS (Jan 21 - Feb 19) Venus is



relationships. You should feel only optimism for the future, no matter what current events suggest. You're probably more popular than you imagine.

PISCES (Feb 20 - Mar 20) Self-knowledge is a Piscean speciality, and you have a rare understanding of what

must be done. Deep down you know that the time has come to sever one particular tie or association and concentrate on another which seems to have more

Corp. Off.: G. F., Uptron Building, Gomti Barrage, Lucknow-226010 (U.P.) Phone No.-0522-351288

■ England vs India, 5th Test, Day 2; Live on JioHotstar and Sony Sports Network; 3:30 pm onwards

ANDERSON-TENDULKAR TROPHY: FIFTH TEST, DAY 1

One more chance, taken

Karun's defiant 52 not out shores up India's batting effort on a day of rain and ruins when skipper Gill threw his wicket away



EXPRESS IN ENGLAND

SANDEEP DWIVEDI LONDON, JULY 31

ITWAS for a day like this India has been overloading its playing eleven with batsmen. The extra batsman embedded in the middle order came in handy as India endured their first real English day of the tour in the final Test of this close to two-month long tour.

Karun Nair's inclusion, in place of allrounder Shardul Thakur, increased India's bat-count to 8 and also helped India's to reach 204/6, a respectable score in these challenging conditions. The day's top scorer was Nair on an unbeaten 52 and giving him company was the ever-reliable Washington Sundar on 19.

Batting at No.5, Nair played an exceptional knock as he countered the swing and seam movement. He scored his runs in the final session that was played under lights and cloud cover. He would leave the length ball and wait for the short ones to punch to cover.

There was also a Nair straight drive that went onto hurt England the most. Chasing the ball, Chris Woakes tumbled across the fence and hurt his shoulder. Him using his sweater as a harness to his shoulder wasn't a great sight. It looks unlikely that the England all-rounder would take any part in this Test. Thus, England had a chance to nose ahead in the Test but they failed.

The Test had started with Oval exhibiting everything that touring batsmen from the subcontinent hate. The pitching had green shoots and life, there were intermittent showers and England had drafted for this Test three tall grizzly pacer in Gus Atkinson, Josh Tongue and Jamie Overton to bowl with senior pace pro Chris Woakes.

This was England's chance to engineer a collapse, blow away the Indian batting lineup. Maybe, carried away by the easily available swing and seam moment, they couldn't find their range and target.

Erratic England

In the first session, an erratic England bowling attack failed to take advantage of the murkiness in the air. The first three wickets to fall had hardly anything to do with the conditions. Yashasvi Jaiswal got out to an incoming ball, the kind a new ball bowler bowls all the time, regardless of the temperature and moisture in the air. KL Rahul tried cutting a ball that was too close to him and was out played on.

And when Shubman was run out, paying for his misjudgment of a quick single, India were 83/3. England would have smelled a collapse but their bowlers weren't that disciplined.

Oval today came to know that there are two ways of bowling on a pace-friendly track. One is the tried and tested Glenn McGrath method – pitching the ball on the handkerchief size square outside the offstump and making the ball move both ways. Then there is the Josh Tongue 'don't try it home' formula.

This is how it is done. Spray the ball all over the pitch, bowl a few atrocious wides



Karun Nair scored an unbeaten half-century under challenging conditions at The Oval in London on Thursday. AP

and don't allow a batsman to get into a rhythm. And in between come up sharp incoming balls. In a spell where he toggled between sublime and ridiculous, Overton got the crucial wickets of the best batsman keeps repeating the mistake. on the day, Sai Sudharsan, and the hardest to dismiss batsman in this series, Ravindra

Both were foxed by the 'blow cold for all day, blow hot for a few balls' Tongue. Jadeja and Sudharsan looked good till they got those unplayable balls.

Jadeja.

All through his 108-balls stay, Sudharsan showed a tight technique when dealing with the moving ball. Against the right-handed English pacers, bowling round the wicket to the left-hander, he had a nice tight plan.

Standing on the middle-leg stump, he took a tiny stride forward, moved his left-leg forward and across and placed it exactly in line with the off-stump. That front-foot was his marker, the gatekeeper for the down-

Sudharsan would hide his bat behind the right-leg and react to the trajectory of the ball. In case the ball was headed towards his front foot, which also meant in line of the stumps, the bat instinctually came down to meet the ball.

If the ball was outside the line of the rightleg, planted in the line of the off-stump, Sudharsan would withdraw his bat gracefully, like the swing of a pendulum. The foot planted on the off-stump has its pitfalls. Batsmen tend to overbalance when dealing with full balls. This happened to Sudharsan once as he stumbled over while digging out a vorker by Overton.

This off-side commitment also can result in the batsman edging the balls to leg-slip. England have got him out in that fashion in this series and they continue to hope he

At Oval, Sudharsan was out edging a ball to the slips. His 'front foot' had perfectly guided him to decide which ball to play or leave but the error was committed in dealing with the ball that came in sharply. Sudharsan was watchful, he had his head over the ball but the conditions were making the ball fly at speed that it was not easy to keep middling

the ball at Oval on Day 1. Jadeja too employs the same method as Sudharsan. He too withdrew his bat from the line of the ball with the same grace. He also got out in a similar fashion. He too was judging the line of the ball expertly and also not

missing a chance to score runs. When Overton bowled a short ball, he ramped it over the slips to score a boundary. But the very next ball, he would get an unplayable ball. Jadeja couldn't have left the ball since the nip-backer was headed to the stumps. However, once again it was difficult to ride the bounce and tap it to the feet. The ball rose sharply and touched the shoulder of the bat and landed in the hands of the

wicket-keeper. Jadeja was going out and walking in was Washington - one Manchester hero being replaced by another. He and Nair forged an unbeaten 51-run partnership and take India past 200. India were going from a respectable total to a challenging one. This unputdownable team keeps finding new heroes and bouncing back.

Kuldeep should've played earlier in series: Ganguly

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE JULY 31

ner at The Oval.

FORMER CAPTAIN Sourav Ganguly on Thursday said India may have missed a trick by not playing Kuldeep Yadav at Lord's and Manchester, but cited England's decision to not include a frontline tweaker in their XI for the final Test as a possible reason for why India opted against playing the wrist-spin-

"England have gone on with four pacers and no spinners. It could be that they have left a bit more grass on it than the normal surface and that's why India have not gone with a third spinner because they have Ravindra Jadeja and Washington Sundar," Ganguly told reporters in Kolkata.

Kuldeep hasn't got a single game in the five-match Test series against England. "I wish Kuldeep had played in Manchester, had played at Lord's and even in Birmingham, because without quality spin, you would find it hard to get teams out on days four and five of a Test. You saw what happened to England when India batted on a pitch which had a bit of rough and a bit of turn - there wasn't a quality spinner so England could not get 20 wickets. In the past, great sides had great spinners.'

The Indian Express had reported earlier on Thursday that India were likely to leave out Kuldeep again, having decided to go with batsman Karun Nair in place of all-rounder Shardul Thakur.

SCORECARD

ENGLAND vs INDIA

THE OVAL

Toss: England, chose to bowl

SSudharsan c Smith b Tongue 38 (108b, 6x4)

■ FoW: 1-10 (Yashasvi Jaiswal, 3.1 ov), 2-38 (KL

(Sai Sudharsan, 35.4 ov), 5-123 (Ravindra Jadeja,

39.3 ov), 6-153 (Dhruv Jurel, 49.3 ov).

Rahul, 15.1 ov), 3-83 (Shubman Gill, 27.2 ov), 4-101

■Bowling: Chris Woakes 14-1-46-1, Gus Atkinson

NUMBER PLATE

England in December 2016, more

than 3000 days later, Karun Nair

registered his 2nd 50+ score in Test

Chris Woakes has dismissed

KL Rahul four times in Test

matches, including thrice in

the ongoing series. It's the most

often he's dismissed any Indian

batter in the format.

7 For the first time since his triple

century against

19-7-31-2, Josh Tongue 13-3-47-2, Jamie

Overton 16-0-66-0, Jacob Bethell 2-1-4-0.

2 (9b)

14 (40b, 1x4)

21(35b, 4x4)

52 (98b, 7x4)

9 (13b, 1x4)

19 (40b, 2x4)

19 (45b, 2x4)

204/6

Y Jaiswal Ibw Atkinson

SGill (c) run out (Atkinson)

R Jadeja c Smith b Tongue

D Jurel + c Brook b Atkinson

■ Extras (b4, lb 6, w 16, nb 4)

KL Rahul b Woakes

K Nair batting

W Sundar batting

■ Total (64 overs)

cricket.

The pace department also saw a couple of changes. Jasprit Bumrah and Anshul Kamboj made way for Akash Deep and Prasidh Krishna, with Mohammed Siraj being the pace spearhead. Meanwhile, Dhruv Jurel replaced injured wicket-keeper Rishabh Pant.

With the pitch having a layer of grass, leftarm wrist spinner Kuldeep once again failed to make the cut. That is also the reason India bolstered their batting line-up. On match eve, there was a point of view that Bumrah might play his fourth Test of the series at The Oval despite the team management's workload considerations and the pre-decided policy to play him in just three Tests. That was not to be.

After the team management resisted the temptation to play Bumrah, they threw their weight behind the youngish pace attack led by Siraj. Nair's inclusion was the most interesting selection choice. With India going with five bowlers – three specialists and two allrounders in Jadeja and Washington - they will have their work out. No bowler can have an off day. The rationale of bringing Nair in the team was Shardul's lacklustre bowling.

At home ground, late England batter Thorpe remembered

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE NEW DELHI, JULY 31

IN AN emotional interview to The Telegraph, **Graham Thorpe's** father Geoff says often watches footage of his son's knocks. "I watch the shots: the cover drives, the pulls – it's a nice feeling," he said.

In a century of Tests and 82 ODIs, the left-handed middle order batsman, who took his life last year after prolonged bouts with depression, was England's Mr Dependable during a rocky phase for English cricket



"I've got one video where he got a hundred in the Benson & Hedges Cup. David Lloyd was commentating and he said, 'Watch his eyes - he's looking at the gaps'. You watch and think, 'Yes, that's where the ball went',' he remembered.

"I have a lot of pride in what he did. You can't take it away. It's just a shame that he couldn't cope with his mental health. When he died, I received a lot of letters. This suicide... this mental health... it's a big, big problem. It smothers you if you don't talk," he said. He sometimes visits his son's grave. "I

go to his grave occasionally. You have your moments of grief. But you try to find something to do very quickly. We all grieve differently. Sometimes us chaps are a little bit macho. We think we can cope. In fact we can't," reflected. Recollecting his son's childhood, he said

how he became a left-handed batsman. "Initially he picked it up right-handed – the same as he used to bowl and write – but then he found that he could score easier in the garden left-handed," said Geoff.

"You scored more runs that way than the flowers in the other direction. The garden was on a slope – and the rhododendron basically was the bowling crease. We played to win. No one went easy on Graham because he was the youngest brother," he said.

Thorpe was such a natural athlete that he was an international schoolboy footballer, and county-level long jumper. He quit football after he was sent off during a match where he was horribly tackled.

Thorpe would have turned 56 this Friday. On that day, the Oval, his home ground would commemorate him with 'A Day for Thorpey'. Headbands sold to raise funds for the charity Mind. His eldest daughter Kitty remembers her best friend and soulmate. "He was just a joy – he lived life but he got very ill He was kind, caring, fun and taught me how to treat people with kindness and respect".

"He made sure we were humble and grounded, and would tell us stories of the things he'd see and people he'd meet on tour. He'd see various ways of living and always remind us to be grateful for what we had. He taught me that life can have its challenges. He told me to never lose perspective: Zoom out and look at the bigger picture and will it matter in five years' time? He taught me to make the most of every opportunity. I love and miss him so much but I'm so grateful to have grown up with him and will take his wisdom and advice with me forever," she added.

Emma chimed in: "My dad was quite a private person, so for us to share his and our experience is important to help other people who have gone through similar things to start a conversation, to reduce the shame and stigma there are."

QUIET PLEASE

Are chess players ready for in-arena audience that cheers and shouts

AMIT KAMATH MUMBAI, JULY 31

A LOUD gasp reverberated around the playing hall which was created in Las Vegas' Wynn as the game between Magnus Carlsen and Wesley So entered the end game and the world no 1 made a blunder with his rook that allowed him to be checkmated in a few moves. The gasp from the fans was so loud that it was even audible on the live broadcast.

Carlsen at that stage was wearing noise cancellation headphones. So wasn't Wesley. These were unique quirks of the recently-

concluded Las Vegas leg of the Freestyle Chess Grand Slam Tour: live audiences in the arena who had access both to live commentary and to the eval bar and players wearing noise cancellation headphones. Thanks to the first quirk, some nuances of games — like the fact that checkmate was inevitable in a few moves that probably would have been lost on the chess-following folks was now apparent.

That access to information for fans led to plenty of criticism of the Freestyle Chess Grand Slam event by players like Fabiano Caruana, who unlike players like Carlsen and Hikaru Nakamura are much more measured in their opinions. But so incensed was Caruana by the fact that fans were allowed to hear commentary and see the eval bar in real-time and were reacting loudly like at any other sports event, that he criticised the or-



R Praggnanandhaa (L) and Magnus Carlsen wearing noise-cancellation headphones during the Freestyle Chess Grand Slam Tour in Las Vegas. Freestyle Chess

ganisers in an interview to their own social media handle after the event was over.

Caruana complained that in his critical game with Nakamura later on in the tournament — by then organisers had made the wearing of noise-cancelling headphones mandatory — he could hear the audience's re-

actions despite wearing the headphones. "In the match (against Nakamura which he lost), I started to get very annoyed at the whole tournament. I don't think it should come down to outside interference. Not to make excuses, but I mean, the spectators are basically just yelling when we have five seconds each. Hikaru was crushing me and then, he probably had some mating chances, but it wasn't easy. He had 5 seconds. He went back with the queen. I was back in the game. And around this moment there was just yelling (from the fans). I mean like very (loud

There is a reason why chess tournaments have not tried to make it a spectator sport and why they have people assigned to remind fans walking into the playing hall that they need to keep their phones tucked away.

yelling). I'm not exaggerating at all. It was just screaming in the audience and you can't play (like that) with five seconds. So we both blundered. I could basically have mated him and also won his queen on two different occasions. It just leaves a bad taste," Caruana had told the media team of Freestyle Chess after the tournament ended.

This issue was such a sticking point that it was debated extensively for during the players' meeting before the Las Vegas tournament started, where multiple players raised the issue. Allowing in-arena fans this crucial piece of insight during a game is a debate that is likely to rage louder in the coming days, especially with chess also embracing itself as an esport: the world's top players are currently in Riyadh playing at the Esports World Cup, where the noise cancelling headphones are back as players play in front of a much bigger arena filled with fans.

Allowing access for fans to commentary epaper.indianexpress.com

and the eval bar in the playing hall was an attempt from Freestyle Chess to make the game much more accessible. And interesting. To make a spectator sport out of chess. Because that opens the doors to invite a wider cross-section of fans into the arena and make them understand the drama that's happening on the chess board. After all, that's eventually how you can raise some money from ticket sales as well.

But the ploy seems to have backfired.

Walk into a playing hall during games of a chess tournament — almost every chess tournament from Norway Chess to the Tata Steel Rapid and Blitz event in Kolkata — and you will be greeted with pin-drop silence. Try as much as whispering something into the ear of the person sitting next to you, and you will have stern librarian looks thrown at you. Try and peek at your mobile phone during a game, and chances are you will be politely asked to leave.

There is a reason why chess tournaments have not tried to make it a spectator sport and why they have people assigned to remind fans walking into the playing hall that they need to keep their phones tucked away into their pockets at all times.

As Caruana pointed out on his own podcast later, unlike a tennis tournament where chair umpires also frown upon fans shouting in the middle of points — a shout or a loud gasp at a chess tournament can hand a player a key piece of information that could be the difference between winning and losing. A gasp from the audience could alert a player that their opponent had blundered.

"They didn't take the security as seriously as it should have been," Caruana added.

If this seems like regular chess grandmaster paranoia, it might be crucial to remember that at a previous Chess Olympiad, one player had cheated just by having their team captain standing at a different spot to view the game which would send a signal to the man on the board that he had to move a particular piece on the next move.

It's absurd to have players be put through stringent fairplay safety checks before the games start only to have neutral fans hooting and gasping during games, which is almost like allowing the players to get a peek at the eval bar themselves. This is why at the World Championship events — the most prestigious tournament in chess with millions of dollars at stake — the players are behind sound-proof and one-way glass rooms.

Caruana said that while he was all for chess tournaments trying to monetise viewing experiences, this was not the way to do it.

"Let's say you want to make chess a business, I'm not an expert, but I can't imagine that the way towards that is live ticket sales. I just don't see it. I think if you want to make chess a business, you have to sell it to Amazon Prime or Netflix," Caruana said.

The noise from the chesshall is clear: stay quiet or go home.

Restarting from start

Training under Owens and S&C expert Woolley, sprinter Kujur spends time working on his starts, block angles, fitness to get faster

PRITISH RAJ

NEW DELHI, JULY 31

ANIMESH KUJUR has been on a record-breaking run. He was part of the team that breached the 4x100m national mark. He broke the 200m national record twice. Then, earlier this month, he shattered the 100m mark too.

But Animesh, the 22-year-old sprinter, knows the importance of getting faster than he already is. So, he and his coach Martin Owens shifted base to Europe last month, where he trained and competed. The plan worked.

In Geneva last month, Animesh ran the 200m in 20.27 seconds, the fastest-ever time by an Indian in the race. However, it didn't make it to the record books because of a wind assistance of +2.3 m/s. Days later, in Athens, he broke the national record, clocking 10.18s. It was his first international 100m race.

As much as these runs have been fast, in an Indian context, it was a fifth-place finish that gave him a proper insight as to where he actually stands. At the Under-23 race of the Monaco Diamond League, Animesh lined up alongside Australian teen sensation Gout Gout, who is being compared to a young Usain Bolt. Animesh clocked 20.55m and finished fourth; Gout Gout won with 20.10 in a race with a strong headwind.

Animesh's coach Owens said the race gave them a lot to ponder. "It is going to be a gradual improvement for him, and we need to be patient with that. When I saw the splits from the Monaco Diamond League race, Gout Gout was quicker every 10 metres. He started well and accelerated till 40 metres, kept his pace uniform and then after 130m raced to his victory. This is something we have to work on. I want Animesh to be quicker every 10m section he crosses," Owens said.

To bridge this gap, the coach-athlete duo moved their base to the Swiss Olympic Medical Centre in the quaint village of Magglingen, where Europe's elite athletes train. And they began right from the start, under the watchful eyes of Bobsleigh strength and conditioning coach Chris Woolley.

Working on first two strides

The first thing Animesh worked on during his time with Woolley was the first two



Animesh Kujur holds the 100m and 200m NR. (R) With coach Martin Owens. RFYS

strides he took and the placement of the starting blocks. Measuring 6 feet and two inches, relatively tall for a sprinter like Bolt, a good start has not been his strong suit. The starting blocks for a sprinter are like a launchpad for a rocket. He has made a major change, too.

"I have changed the angle of the blocks; it is angled a little towards the inward track, and this results in me getting off much better," Animesh said. Woolley also helped him to improve his start. "He (Woolley) worked on my body mechanics, which resulted in giving me a better, more explosive start," Animesh added.

Explaining the importance of the first two strides, Owens said, "The initial strides set him up for a better race. The first couple of strides aren't always as fast as they can be, but they are better mechanically for setting him up for the race. So, we have worked on those first two strides," Owens said.

Animesh also had other areas to improve, like trying to reduce the tightening of the hamstrings and lower back, which can reduce speed.

"When I came here, Chris assessed me first. He asked me to do multiple exercises in different positions and took note of where the problem lies. His assessment said that my hamstrings and lower back are tight while running, which leads to a poor start and acceleration," Animesh said.

Woolley focused on movement patterns and exercises to loosen him up, like dynamic hamstring leg swings and cat-cow stretch. "This helps in activating the hamstring dynamically," Animesh explained. "I did these exercises continuously for one week. After one week, I could see the difference in my start. There were subtle improvements of 0.1 and 0.05 seconds." Animesh said.

The equipment at the Swiss Olympic centre further helped Animesh to gauge his progress, technically speaking, in both 200m and 100m. "We were spoiled for choice here in Magglingen with machines like 1080 sprint and Kaiser gears. The 1080 machine helped him with resistance (like running



against a pulling force) and assistance (like being pulled forward) running training. It offered detailed feedback on each step to us, leading to further, more insightful improvement," the sprinter added.

Twin sprint races

Animesh holds the national record in both 100m(10.18s) and 200m(20.32s). But 200m has been the favourite event of the sprinter from Chhattisgarh since the beginning. "I just do the 100m for explosive starts because if I implement the 100m start in the 200m, it immediately improves my timing," he guipped.

Records broken by Kujur in 2025

- 200m National Record (NR): 20.40s at Federation Cup, Kochi
- 4*100m NR: 38.69s at National
- Open Relay, Chandigarh ■ 200m NR: 20.32s at Asian
- Athletics Championships, S Korea ■ 200m fastest timing: 20.27s at Geneva Athletics (not ratified)
- 100m NR: 10.18s at Dromia **International Sprint, Athens**

While both 100m and 200m are counted as sprints, the technical difference between the execution of both races is huge. Explaining what the difference is, Animesh said, "The basic difference is that 100m is all about power while 200m is all about speed and endurance. Since I run 200m, 100m is very easy for me as compared to the 100m sprinters. I can easily maintain my shape and endure the finish. In 200m, the last 20m is extremely difficult."

200m has a very important element of the curve. In 100m, the athletes start and finish in a straight line, while in 200m, they start from a curve and finish in a straight line. "The bend is extremely crucial in 200m, but as far as I'm concerned, if there is a good start, the bend doesn't matter much. Anyway, I prefer the fourth or fifth lanes because they give me the scope to take advantage of my height and overtake the field," Animesh said.

Coach Owens wants him to keep running in both the sprint events. 'The 100m helps him in getting explosive starts for the 200m while the endurance of the 200m helps him finish better in the 100m race," Owens said while emphasising the link between the two races.

Animesh's next stop is the World Athletics Continental Tour Event in Bhubaneswar on 10th August where he will be running on his home turf in the Kalinga Stadium. But he has set his sights on bigger targets. "I have improved from last year, and the season is still in front of me. My target is to qualify for the World Championships and achieve a direct qualification," Animesh said.

BRIEFLY —

McIntosh, Marchand shine at Worlds

Singapore: Summer McIntosh came within a whisker of breaking a longstanding world record and Leon Marchand failed to improve on a new mark he set just a night earlier, but both young guns won gold medals at the World Championships. The 200 butterfly world record of 2:01.81 set by China's Liu Zige in 2009 is the last surviving mark from the supersuit era in women's swimming — and McIntosh all but took it down. She stormed to her third individual gold medal of the meet in 2:01.99, the second-fastest swim of all time. Marchand celebrated a world record on in the but ended up nearly a second short in the final to win the gold, with a time of 1:53.68.

National Squash in Delhi from Aug 23

New Delhi: New Delhi: The Senior National Squash Championship will be held in New Delhi from August 23 to 28, the Squash Rackets Federation of India (SRFI) announced on Thursday. The SRFI, in collaboration with tech giant HCL, also launched the HCL India Squash Tour. The Professional Squash Association (PSA) Tour, now expanded to six cities, will bring in international calibre competition to Indian soil, offering PSA ranking points and enhanced cash prize.

PKL to be held in four cities from Aug 29

Mumbai: The 12th season of the Pro Kabaddi League will be held across Visakhapatnam, Jaipur, Chennai and New Delhi from August 29. The season will begin in Visakhapatnam before moving to Jaipur on September 12. The third leg will be held at the SDAT Multipurpose Indoor Stadium in Chennai from September 29 while the fourth and final leg will be at New Delhi's Thyagaraj Stadium from October 13. The schedule for playoffs will be announced later.

PTI & REUTERS

Leaner, meaner and stronger, Tharun knocks out top seed at Macau Open

VINAYAKK MOHANARANGAN JULY 31

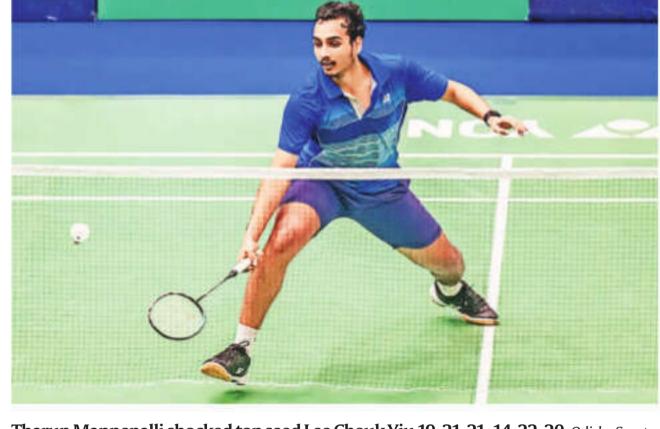
AS THE warmups were done and the players got ready, the sleeveless shirt-clad Tharun Mannepalli's presence on court – seen from the zoomed-out view of the single-camera broadcast in place for the early rounds of a Super 300 event that is Macau Open – is unmissable. At 23, Tharun is not exactly the youngest shuttler breaking through at the international stage, he has had to bide his time to make his presence felt on the tour, but on Thursday, he pulled off the biggest win of his career yet, as he beat top seed Lee Cheuk Yiu 19-21, 21-14, 22-20 in a one-hour thriller. Tharun's broad shoulders and strong

lower body help him with the power game. But the result in Macau – and a collection of few more impressive wins in the last few months – have been possible because of a dedicated program to become leaner to improve his speed on court as well as improving his shot repertoire. "This is big for Tharun to beat somebody

like a Lee Cheuk Yiu, who's top 15 in the world, a tricky player who can actually trouble anybody in the world, he has been in the circuit for a long time. For Tarun to beat a player like him, who has been playing well, I think that's a very big positive and I felt Tarun needed this kind of a breakthrough. And thankfully, it happened soon," former India player Guru Sai Dutt, who was on coaching duties for the match along with Rahul Yadav, told *The Indian* Express from Macau.

Starting off as an 8-year-old in Khammam, Tharun moved to Hyderabad to pursue badminton along with studies after Class X. He enrolled at the Pullela Gopichand Academy about four years back. "This is my biggest win," Tharun said, adding with a chuckle. "And 23 is not late, I think. I was on the circuit for a while, but I didn't always have sponsors to participate internationally. But over the last year and a half, things have changed. Guru bhai, (Parupalli) Kashyap bhai have helped me a lot with coaching and Gopi bhai helped me to get OGQ sponsorship. I started playing internationally more, and results started coming. I started playing senior-level events (internationally) only after I came out of the U19 age group. That was one of the issues; it's taken me a while."

Guru went on to explain the work Tharun had to put in to finally start seeing the results. "For the body type and the strokes that he has, he was a little limited. He's not a very naturally strokey player, you know. He's a bit heavy-set. So, he had to work a lot on his body... to cut down his weight, to improve his agility to cover the court better, and be freer with his movement. He worked a lot on this along with his trainers and us coaches. He has been



Tharun Mannepalli shocked top seed Lee Cheuk Yiu 19-21, 21-14, 22-20. Odisha Sports

Sat-Chi, Lakshya advance to QF

New Delhi: Second seeds Satwiksairaj Rankireddy and Chirag Shetty survived a massive scare against world No 89 Kakeru Kumagai and Hiroki Nishi, saving a match point after dropping the opening game to win 10-21, 22-20, 21-16 in 61 minutes on Thursday to seal their place in the quarterfinals of the Macau Open Super 300.

In men's singles, Lakshya Sen also joined Tharun Mannepalli in the quarterfinal. The second seed was also pushed to three games as he fought past Chico Aura Dwi Wardoyo of Indonesia 21-14, 14-21, 21-17 to enter the last-eight stage. Both the Indians face Chinese opponents, with Lakshya facing Zhu Xuan Chen and Tharun taking on Hu Zhe'an, the reigning Junior World Champion.

very consistent in training actually, over the last two years, putting in a lot of work. That's why it has taken him a while."

Improved shot-making

Guru also said his shot-making has improved significantly even within the last few tournaments he has played. Before, he was dependent largely on the physical aspect of the game, waiting for errors from his opponents rather than making openings himself.

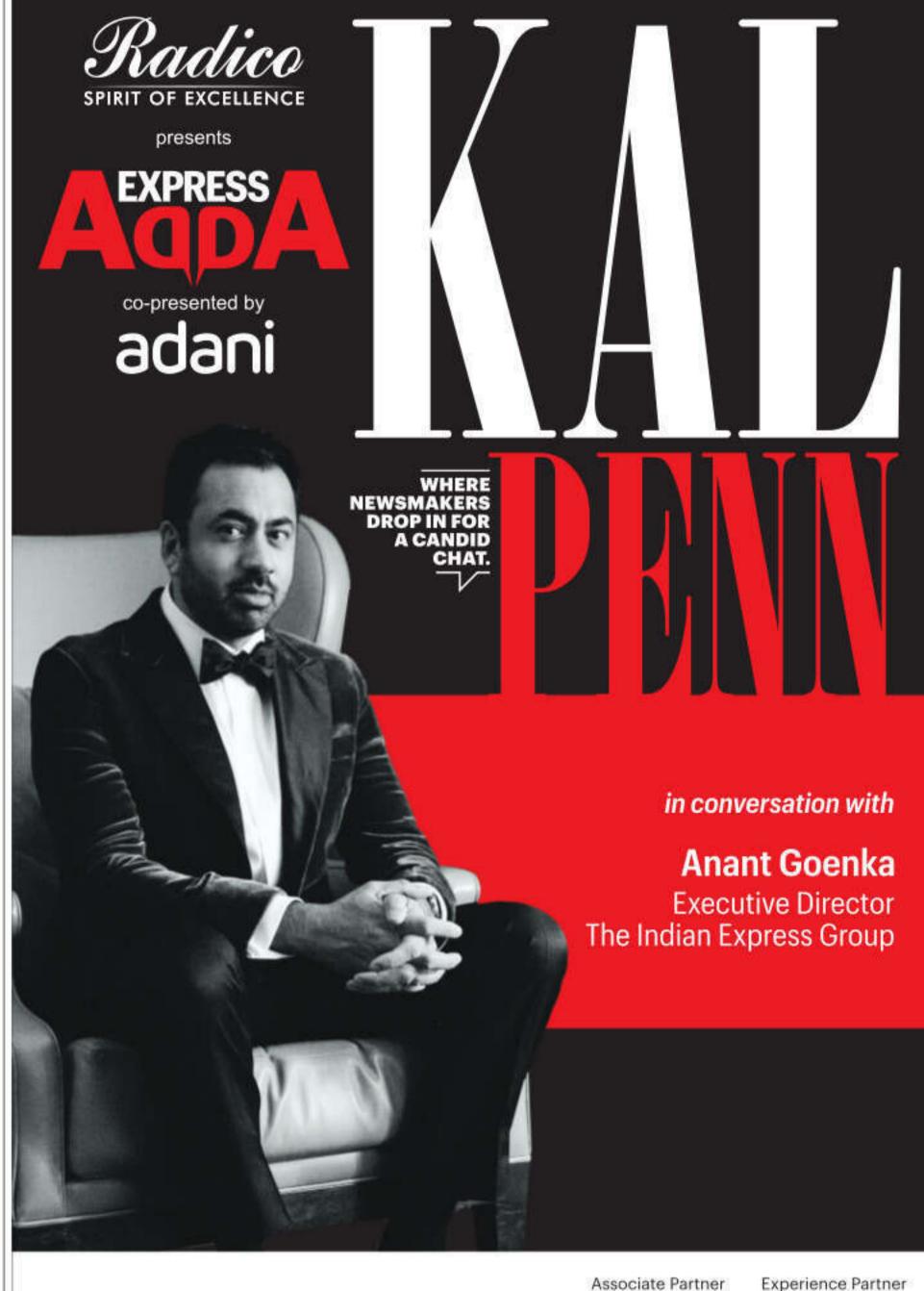
As he opened up a 7-1 lead in the opening game against Lee, Tharun was letting Lee know about the easy power he pos-

sessed in his smashes and lifts, getting good distance on defence and a steep downward trajectory on his attempted winners.

Lee, a technically sound shuttler, did start to figure out the angles soon and began to close the gap down with his change of pace, closing down to 9-9. Lee, a twotime runner-up over the last couple of years at India Open, started taking charge at the net while Tharun started spraying the shuttles wide on either flank. The Indian saved a handful of game points but Lee's lead was eventually good enough to give him the opener.

Having switched over the better side, Tharun opened up a 11-5 lead in Game 2 and this time around he ensured he didn't Lee force his way back. In the decider. Tharun needed not to concede too much ground in the first half, and the Indian not just managed to stay in touch but even inch ahead of Lee at 9-8 with another one of those effortless-looking crosscourt smashes that his opponent was too late to react to. Another big smash after the change of ends gave him a 14-10 lead. The match was still not over; a stunning fulllength forward dive and retrieve was not quite enough to win Tharun the point, helping Lee close the gap to 17-18. Another sideways diving get wasn't enough as it soon became 19-19, but even in those moments, the Indian kept a level head.

Guru stressed that these one-off wins are good but not the end goal. But added: "Gopi sir has been putting in a lot of effort to make him more flexible and make the movements easier. Kashyap was constantly at him to make him physically fit. We have tried to make him understand what his strengths are, what he can achieve. And he is showing us the progress now. He is constantly showing us results step-by-step."







Associate Partner





