

BUSINESS AS USUAL

By UNNY



Loan 'fraud': ED summons Anil Ambani on Aug 5, issues look-out notice



The ED had searched 35 locations linked to the industrialist on July 24

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE NEW DELHI, AUGUST 1

SEVEN DAYS after searching multiple locations in Mumbai linked to Anil Ambani, the Enforcement Directorate (ED) has summoned the industrialist on August 5 to join the investigation into a money laundering case linked to a multi-crore bank loan fraud involving companies of the Reliance Anil Dhirubhai Ambani Group. The ED has also issued a Look-out Circular (LOC) to prevent him from travelling abroad, officials said Friday.

The ED is investigating allegations of illegal diversion of loans worth around Rs 3,000 crore disbursed by Yes Bank to the group's companies between 2017 and 2019. The probe agency is also examining whether there was a quid pro quo involved in the loan — specifically, if bribes were paid to bank officials, including Yes Bank promoters.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

GOVT & POLITICS



DAYS AFTER DHANKHAR EXIT, EC SETS SEPT 9 DATE FOR V-P ELECTION PAGE 14

'MARKETS, GLOBAL CIRCUMSTANCES GUIDE ENERGY PURCHASES'

MEA dials down Trump noise: India, US weathered challenges, focus on future

On swipe against India-Russia, says: Bilateral ties not through third country prism

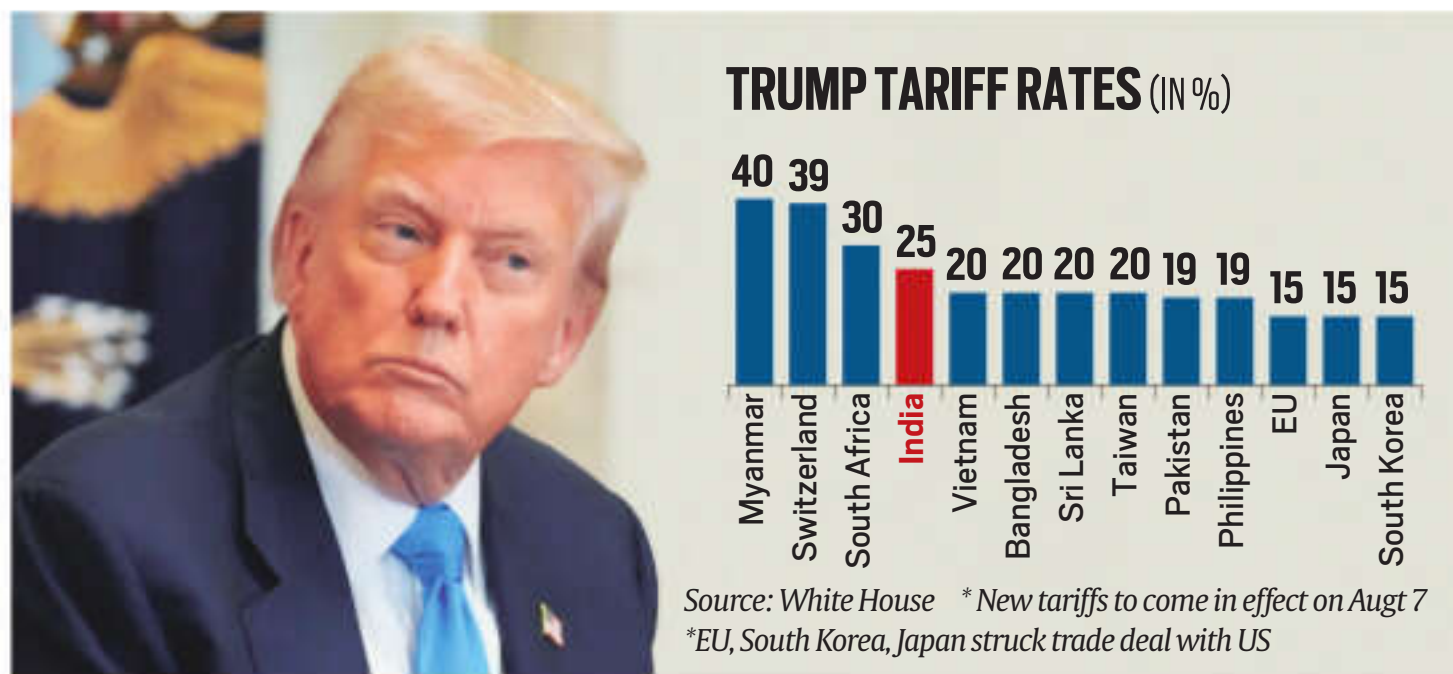
SHUBHAJIT ROY
NEW DELHI, AUGUST 1

OVER 30 remarks crediting himself for the India-Pakistan ceasefire, referring to India as a "dead economy," dropping the 25% tariff bombshell and a Russia penalty even as talks are on — US President Donald Trump's diatribe was met Friday by diplomatic pragmatism from the Ministry of External Affairs.

Underlining that the India-US partnership has "weathered several transitions and challenges," the MEA said that New Delhi will remain "focused on the substantive agenda" even as it flagged that its friendship with Russia was "time-tested."

This response came the day Trump unveiled sweeping new tariffs on dozens of countries including 25 per cent for goods from India.

Responding to a question, **CONTINUED ON PAGE 2**



ECONOMY 50 COUNTRIES WITH LOWER U.S. TARIFFS **PAGE 21**

EXPLAINED HEALTH OF INDIA'S ECONOMY **PAGE 24**

Why Trump talk of Pak's 'massive oil reserves' is hot air — not much else

SUKALP SHARMA
NEW DELHI, AUGUST 1

US PRESIDENT Donald Trump's announcement on Thursday that America will work with Pakistan to develop the latter's "massive" oil reserves came as a bit of a surprise, as Pakistan is not exactly a country synonymous with oil exploration and production, unlike

Saudi Arabia, Iraq or Venezuela. In fact, Islamabad depends heavily on energy imports, has dwindling hydrocarbon production, and a rather inconsistent and uninspiring record of oil and gas exploration.

There have been a few preliminary studies and reports of potential reserves over the years, but they have re-

mained inconclusive, and the world's oil majors have so far largely steered clear of hydrocarbon exploration in Pakistan.

But Trump went to the extent of saying that "maybe" Pakistan will be "selling oil to India some day", a remark that many have interpreted as a veiled jibe **CONTINUED ON PAGE 2**



Actor and activist Kal Penn in conversation with Anant Goenka, Executive Director, The Indian Express Group, at Express Adda in Mumbai on Friday. *Narendra Vaskar*

AN ADDA WITH KAL PENN



Case 1 of 3: Former JDS MP Prajwal Revanna found guilty of rape

**EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
BENGALURU, AUGUST 1**

A SPECIAL court for elected representatives in Bengaluru on Friday pronounced former Janata Dal Secular MP Prajwal Revanna, 34, guilty in one of the three rape cases registered against him in Karnataka's Hassan district last year. The quantum of the sentence will be declared on Saturday.

The conviction will attract a sentence of 10-14 years in prison for the grandson of former prime minister H D Deve Gowda, son of Karnataka ex-minister H D Revanna and nephew of Union Minister H D Kumaraswamy. Following the verdict, Prajwal



Former JD(S) MP Prajwal Revanna at the court in Bengaluru on Friday. *PTI*

was seen in tears as he was escorted out of the court hall. He is also facing a fourth case related to charges of alleged sexual harassment.

"Acting under Sec 235(2) of **CONTINUED ON PAGE 2**

MALEGAON BLAST: EX-ATS OFFICER MADE CLAIM IN ANOTHER COURT

Claim of order to arrest Bhagwat: Court says can't take as evidence

SADAF MODAK & MOHAMED THAYER
MUMBAI, AUGUST 1

A DAY after the Special Court acquitted seven accused in the 2008 Malegaon blast case, allegations by a former Anti Terrorism Squad (ATS) officer that he was asked to arrest RSS chief Mohan Bhagwat found mention in the detailed judgment, a copy of which was made available on Friday. The court, however, said that since he was



**RSS chief
Mohan
Bhagwat**

not examined as a witness in the case, and his statement was made before a Solapur court, it cannot be construed as evidence.

The order, which has a separate section titled "Directions to arrest RSS chief", states that the lawyer of one of the accused,

Sudhakar Dhar Dwivedi, had, during the trial, brought a statement made by the former ATS officer, Mehboob Mujawar, in a Solapur court which said: "The senior ATS officers had given directions to him (Mujawar) to arrest Mr Mohan Bhagwat (RSS chief) by taking him in custody."

According to the statement, **CONTINUED ON PAGE 2**

COURT: NO EVIDENCE ON PRAGYA'S CLAIMS OF TORTURE **PAGE 18**

BIG PICTURE PAGE 23

'DRIVEN OUT LIKE CATTLE'



Panic as drive against illegal Bangladeshi migrants sets off a wave of detentions of migrant workers from Bengal

63-yr-old woman sent to Pak after Pahalgam to return to J&K family

ARUN SHARMA
JAMMU, AUGUST 1

THREE MONTHS after revoking all short-duration visas issued to Pakistani nationals and deporting nearly 60 individuals to the neighbouring country, the Government of India has decided to issue a visitor's visa to 63-year-old Rakshanda Rashid, the wife of a retired government official, so that she can return from across the border and rejoin her family in Jammu and Kashmir.

The woman, a resident of

Jammu's Talab Khatikan area, was deported to Pakistan on April 29 via the Atari-Wagah border in the aftermath of the Pahalgam terror attack. Her husband, Sheikh Zahoor Ahmed, and four grown-up children continue to stay in J&K since they are Indian nationals.

The matter came up in the Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh High Court on July 30, with the Solicitor General of India, Tushar Mehta, saying that "after much deliberations and considering the peculiarity of facts and unusual factual position obtaining in the mater, an in-principle de-

cision is taken by the authority to grant a visitor's visa to the respondent".

"Thereafter, she may even, if so advised, pursue the two applications that are purportedly moved by her and pending with the respective authority as regards acquiring Indian citizenship as also the long-term visa," he said.

Mehta had hinted on July 22 that there could be a reconsideration at the Centre's level, as he had requested the court to defer the proceedings to enable him to explore if the respondent could **CONTINUED ON PAGE 2**

PAGE 1 ANCHOR

AKRAM M
DHARMASTHALA, AUGUST 1

SINCE TUESDAY, July 29, in the forests along the banks of the Netravati in Karnataka's Dakshina Kannada district, police officers, a few workers, a small earthmover and a masked man have been part of an unusual exercise: turning the wet earth inside out to see if it holds secrets — and skeletons.

With Dharmasthala in the grip of hysteria around rumours and allegations by a former sanitation worker, identified on social media by the pseudonym

'Bheema', the Special Investigation Team (SIT) set up by the Karnataka government has identified 13 locations that will be dug up to look for possible human remains.

These are locations identified by the sanitation worker — who was once employed at Dharmasthala — as spots where, between 1995 and 2014, he allegedly secretly buried bodies of victims of assaults and murders in the region. The burials, he alleged, were carried out at the behest of an influential family in the temple town.

While the first two days of the SIT investigation yielded lit-

tle, on July 31, Day 3 of the exercise, parts of a human skeleton were collected from one of the spots.

"He has not mentioned the exact number of bodies he has buried. Even if his allegations are true, the police have to verify everything before going forward," said Dakshina Kannada Superintendent of Police Dr K Arun who supervised the investigation before the SIT took over.

The discovery of these remains has given a fresh momentum to the allegations levelled by the sanitation worker. Amid rumours that his allegations might trigger more revelations came a



One of the 13 locations in Dharmasthala that is being dug up for possible human remains. (Right) The sanitation worker who has alleged that he secretly buried bodies. *Express*



complaint filed on July 15 by a 60-year-old woman, Sujatha Bhat, who earlier worked as a stenographer in the CBI. Bhat alleged that her daughter, a first-year medical student at a college in Manipal went missing at Dharmasthala in 2003, and that she wasn't allowed to file an FIR then. She has now sought a search for her

daughter's remains.

A police complaint has not yet been registered in the case, with police still verifying Bhat's allegations. "Her request relies on the assumption that one of the bodies (claimed to have been buried by the sanitation worker), if exhumed, will turn out to be her daughter's, which has to be verified by DNA testing," said SP Arun.

Dharmasthala Grama Panchayat vice president Srinivas Rao dismissed the sanitation worker's allegations as "purely imaginary". He said the administration has had an arrangement with the gram

panchayat since 1986-87 to dispose of unknown bodies. "This is done only with police clearances after a post-mortem is conducted. The body is buried by the Health Department or the Grama Panchayat," Rao said.

On an average, 10-12 unclaimed bodies are buried annually in the region after following all procedures and conducting a panchnama. The administration is in the process of compiling the list of all bodies buried so that unverified claims can be put to rest, he said.

Dharmasthala, nestled in the foothills of the Western Ghats in **CONTINUED ON PAGE 15**

EC publishes draft electoral rolls in Bihar, objections allowed until Sept 1

HIMANSHU HARSH
PATNA, AUGUST 1

THE ELECTION Commission (EC) on Friday announced the publication of Bihar's draft electoral rolls, compiled as part of the Special Intensive Revision (SIR) exercise. The Commission said the lists are now available for download on its portal and are being distributed in both physical and digital formats to all recognised political parties across the state's 38 districts.

Data released by the EC showed that while over 7.24 crore enumeration forms were successfully received and incorporated, more than 65 lakh were not received.

The EC said the Chief Electoral Officer (CEO) of Bihar and all 243 electoral registration officers (EROs) are now inviting claims and objections from electors and political parties to be submitted between August 1 and September 1.

"Any elector from an Assembly constituency or any recognised political party may submit claims to include missing eligible electors, remove ineligible names, or correct any inaccuracies in the draft rolls," Bihar CEO Vinod Singh Gunjyal said.

Throughout the one-month claims period, electors and polit-



'ATOM BOMB' PROOF AGAINST EC: RAHUL

CONGRESS LEADER Rahul Gandhi claimed his party has an "atom bomb" of evidence to prove "vote theft" by the EC for the BJP.

THE EC said it "ignores baseless allegations".

REPORT, PAGE 11

ical parties can file the relevant forms with the EROs. The process will be overseen by 243 EROs and 2,976 assistant electoral registration officers (AEROs) stationed across the state.

The EC clarified that under SIR guidelines, "no name can be deleted" from the published **CONTINUED ON PAGE 2**

Passenger's big headload fell on others, led to stampede in Delhi: Vaishnav

DHEERAJ MISHRA
NEW DELHI, AUGUST 1

A BIG headload being carried by a passenger fell on others, causing the stampede at the New Delhi Railway Station on February 15 in which 18 people were killed, Railway Minister Ashwini Vaishnav informed the Rajya Sabha Friday, citing a probe report.

He said that a high-level inquiry committee constituted to examine the circumstances leading to the stampede has submitted its report.

"As per the findings of the report, an unfortunate incident on 15.02.25 happened on Foot Over Bridge (FOB)-3 stairs connecting Platform 14/15 at New Delhi Railway Station. On the day of the incident, sufficient crowd management protocols were in place to handle the overall volume of passengers at the station. There was a gradual increase of passenger density on the FOB after 20.15 hrs," said Vaishnav in a written reply to questions asked by Samajwadi Party MP Ramji Lal Suman.

Passengers were trying to board Prayagraj-bound trains for the Mahakumbh when the incident occurred.

Sharing the findings of the probe report, Vaishnav said, "Many of the passengers were carrying big headloads affecting smooth movement on the FOB. There was a big headload falling from one of the passengers and the pressure was passed on to **CONTINUED ON PAGE 2**

● Loan ‘fraud’: ED summons Anil Ambani on August 5 to join probe

Sources said the ED has summoned Anil Ambani at its Delhi headquarters on August 5 for questioning. “We have also opened a LoC of Anil Ambani as a precautionary measure so that he would not travel abroad,” a source said.

On July 24, multiple teams of ED carried out searches at over 35 locations in Mumbai, and concluded their investigation on July 27.

While there was no response to the ED summons to Anil Ambani, a spokesperson for Reliance Power had earlier said in a statement, “The action by ED has concluded at all locations. The company and all its officials have fully cooperated and will continue to cooperate with the authority. Action by ED has no impact on the business operations, financial performance, shareholders, employees, or any other stakeholders of the company. The same appears to pertain to allegations concerning transactions of Reliance Communications Limited (RCOM) or Reliance Home Finance Limited (RHFL), which are over 10 years old.”

“Reliance Power is a separate and independent listed entity with no business or financial linkage to RCOM or RHFL. RCOM has been undergoing the Corporate Insolvency Resolution Process as per the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code, 2016, for over six years. RHFL has been fully resolved pursuant to the judgment of the Hon’ble Supreme Court of India. Mr Anil D. Ambani is not on the Board of Reliance Power. Accordingly, any action taken against RCOM or RHFL has no bearing or impact on the governance, management, or opera-

tions of Reliance Power,” said the statement on July 27.

The ED probe has found alleged violations in Yes Bank’s loan approvals to the group’s companies, including backdated credit approval memorandums and proposals for investments made without any due diligence or credit analysis — violations of the bank’s credit policy, among other issues.

The ED has also alleged that Reliance Mutual Fund invested around Rs 2,850 crore in AT1 bonds of Yes Bank in a suspected quid pro quo arrangement. “These bonds were eventually written down, and money was siphoned off. This was the money of the public — the mutual fund investors,” a source alleged, adding that the CBI is also investigating the matter.

The money laundering case stems from at least two FIRs filed by the CBI and reports shared by the National Housing Bank, Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI), the National Financial Reporting Authority (NFRA), and Bank of Baroda with ED, sources said.

Last year, SEBI banned Anil Ambani and 24 other entities, including former key managerial personnel of RHFL, from the securities market for five years for alleged diversion of funds from the company. The regulator also slapped a Rs 25 crore fine on Anil Ambani for allegedly orchestrating a fraudulent scheme that adversely affected RHFL’s stakeholders, as well as confidence in the integrity of governance structures in regulated financial sector entities. The total penalty imposed on Anil Ambani and the other 24 entities works out to over Rs 625 crore.

FROM PAGE ONE
MEAs dial down Trump noise

MEA’s official spokesperson Randhir Jaiswal said Friday: “India and the United States share a comprehensive global strategic partnership anchored in shared interests, democratic values, and robust people-to-people ties. This partnership has weathered several transitions and challenges. We remain focused on the substantive agenda that our two countries have committed to and are confident that the relationship will continue to move forward.”

Asked about India-US defence ties in the wake of reports of India refusing to consider F-35 fighter jets, the MEA spokesperson said, “We have a strong defence partnership with the US, which has been strengthening over the last several years. There is potential for this partnership to grow further under the India-US COM-PACT for the 21st century.”

Responding to Trump’s talk of a penalty on India for buying energy from Russia, Jaiswal said: “In securing our energy needs, we are guided by what is on offer in the markets, and by the prevailing global circumstances.”

Incidentally, this has been Delhi’s position for the last three years, since the war in Ukraine broke out after the Russian invasion in February 2022.

On Trump’s tirade against India-Russia ties and that they are both “dead economies”, the MEA

spokesperson said: “Our bilateral relationships with various countries stand on their own merit and should not be seen from the prism of a third country. India and Russia have a steady and time-tested partnership.” On Trump’s anger at India buying Russian defence equipment, he said, “The sourcing of our defence requirements is determined solely by our national security imperatives and strategic assessments.”

While India does depend on Russia for the defence supplies, much of it is because of the legacy from the Soviet Union era. Although the dependency is about 60 to 70 per cent, India has, in the past few years, steadily diversified its defence purchases from countries including the US.

Yet, the framing by Trump — “I don’t care what India does with Russia. They can take their dead economies down together, for all I care” — has been seen as offensive by many.

While his criticism of India putting high tariffs has been a pet grievance from his first term — when he called India a “tariff king” — the US President’s latest statement described India’s trade policies as “most strenuous and obnoxious”.

Trump’s remarks deepen Delhi’s diplomatic challenge when India and the US are negotiating a bilateral trade deal.

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

First, his negotiating style to browbeat and bully the adversary by imposing high tariffs and try and get the deal on his own terms. This has been seen with China, where he imposed 145 per cent tariffs and then dialled down to 35 — after 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. Not only has PM Narendra Modi conveyed this in the phone call with Trump on June 17, but Indian ministers and officials have repeatedly denied the claim.

Despite not stating that President Trump is a “liar” — as demanded by Congress leader and Leader of Opposition Rahul Gandhi — the Indian government has forcefully contradicted the US President.

But New Delhi feels that Trump’s remarks threaten to undo the hard work made by the two countries as “strategic partners” in a relationship that was framed as the “defining partnership of the 21st century” by US President Barack Obama.

South Block is, however, trying to not get drawn into an emo-

tional and angry response, and is projecting restraint amid the US President’s verbal tirade and social media blitzkrieg of epithets directed at India.

While the 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 had to be shorn of emotion.

“India and the US have been engaged in negotiations on concluding a fair, balanced and mutually beneficial bilateral trade agreement over the last few months. We remain committed to that objective,” the Commerce ministry statement had said.

Sources said that negotiators from both sides are in touch and they have to be immune from the noise.

The diplomatic challenge is three-fold, sources said: 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 Trump’s comments in the long term.

“We will not get drawn into the tit-for-tat response with the US President, and our negotiators have been asked to not pay attention to Trump’s unique style of public negotiations. Those are best left to be done away from the public gaze,” a source said.

● Why Trump talk of Pak’s ‘massive oil reserves’ is hot air — not much else

at New Delhi over its heavy imports of Russian oil, which has surfaced as an irritant in the India-US relationship.

The backdrop also features the heightened tension between India and Pakistan following their military conflagration in May after the Pahalgam terror attack. Trump has repeatedly claimed that he brokered the ceasefire between the two countries, while India has maintained that there was no mediation by any third country. To be sure, Pakistan’s proven recoverable conventional crude oil reserves are pegged at 234-353 million barrels by various estimates, while India’s proven reserves are estimated at 4.8-5 billion barrels, or nearly 14 times of Pakistan’s. Going by proven oil reserves, Pakistan is ranked between 50 and 55 in the world, compared to India’s ranking in the early 20s.

As for natural gas, OPEC’s latest annual statistical bulletin pegs India’s proven reserves at 1.15 billion cubic metres (bcm), 2.7 times of Pakistan’s 0.43 bcm. Pakistan’s oil production is estimated at around 60,000 barrels per day, only about a tenth of India’s domestic oil output of over 580,000 barrels per day. Both Pakistan and

India are heavily reliant on energy imports to meet domestic demand, and oil is among the top imports for both in value terms.

Exploration efforts in Pakistan have yielded very limited success so far. So what is the source of this hypothesis that Pakistan is sitting on “massive” oil reserves? The basis of this assessment may lie in a decade-old report.

In 2015, the US Energy Information Administration (EIA) released a report that estimated around 9.1 billion barrels of “technically recoverable” shale oil resources in Pakistan, based on available data and technical analysis, but without any exploratory effort. The same report pegged India’s technically recoverable shale oil resources at 3.8 billion barrels. These estimates, however, cannot be equated to proven reserves. In fact, only a fraction of such technically recoverable estimates may eventually be produced, if at all, according to experts.

Technically recoverable resources refer to the oil and gas that can, theoretically, be produced based on current technology, industry practice and geologic knowledge. A much smaller subset of these are what are known

as “economically recoverable resources”, or oil and gas that could be produced without incurring a loss. Again, not all of these estimated economically recoverable resources may actually be produced due to various technical and economic considerations. A much smaller subset of these resources is what are known as proven or proved reserves — “the most certain oil and gas resource category”.

“Proved reserves are volumes of oil and natural gas that geologic and engineering data demonstrate with reasonable certainty to be recoverable in future years from known reservoirs under existing economic and operating conditions,” the EIA said in the 2015 report. Notably, the US agency also said that the recoverability of shale oil was quite low — ranging from 3 per cent to 7 per cent of the oil in-place, with exceptional cases being as high as 10 per cent or as low as 1 per cent.

Also, given that all the assessments were based largely on available geological data and without any real exploratory data or exploration effort, it is anybody’s guess how much shale oil production may actually be economically viable and feasible for

Pakistan. Experts believe it is highly improbable that Islamabad will win an oil lottery big enough to offset its own oil imports and be left with excess volumes to export to India, the world’s third-largest consumer of crude oil.

A few reports of hydrocarbon discoveries have appeared in the Pakistani press over the past couple of years, but there is little data available in the public domain to back those claims made by officials. And again, much of the claims are reported to have been based on surveys and studies, without any significant exploratory effort.

It is also worth noting that hydrocarbon exploration itself is an extremely expensive and long-gestation endeavour that could last multiple years, which is usually followed by another years-long development phase, before commercial production can start. For Pakistan, this would mean a significant lead time before any of its potential oil reserves can be tapped into, apart from billions of dollars worth of investments that its fragile economy may not be able to afford. Perhaps that is where one or more of the American oil majors may come in with their deep pockets.

● With US their key market, worried apparel exporters seek Govt help

Textile Industry (CITI), New Delhi based-industry chambers of the textile and clothing sector, also said that the latest US tariff announcement has added to the challenges that India’s textile and apparel exporters were already grappling with.

“The latest US tariff announcement, following which the tariff rates have been substantially reduced for many countries including Bangladesh, against whom we are competing for a larger share of the US market, will compound the difficulties for India’s textile and apparel exporters as we will be handicapped by a severe duty disadvantage,” CITI Chairman Rakesh Mehra said.

Seeking government intervention for easier availability of raw materials, CITI said while the tariff rate for India has been set at 25 per cent, the rate for competing countries such as Bangladesh is 20 per cent, Indonesia and

Cambodia are 19 per cent each and Vietnam is 20 per cent.

India’s market share rising

While China continues to be the top exporter of textile and apparel items in the US, its market share has come down from 27.4 per cent in 2020 to 21.9 per cent in 2024. However, India’s market share has been rising.

The US is a key market for Indian Ready-Made Garments (RMG) exports; its share in India’s total garment exports in 2024 stood at 33 per cent, AEPC said. India’s presence in the US garment import market increased from 4.5 per cent in 2020 to 5.8 per cent in 2024. India ranks fourth among the top RMG exporters to the US, it said.

“Top three most exported products by India to US: cotton T-shirts (9.71 per cent); women’s or girls’ dresses of cotton (6.52 per cent); babies’ garments of cotton (5.46 per cent), etc. The top three

exports of India to the US hold 10, 36, and 20 per cent share, respectively, in the US total imports of these products globally,” the export promotion council said.

Capacity building efforts

The Ministry of Textiles on Friday said that the overall exports from the sectors including handicrafts has grown 5 per cent during FY25, at \$37.7 billion, compared to \$35.8 billion during the previous financial year. The Ministry also said that it has implemented the Scheme for Integrated Textile Park (SITP) to provide support for setting up textile parks with world-class, state-of-the-art infrastructure in textile hubs across the country.

The government has finalised setting up of PM Mega Integrated Textile Region and Apparel (PM-MITRA) parks at seven sites — Tamil Nadu (Virudhnagar), Telangana (Warangal), Gujarat (Navasari), Karnataka

(Kalaburagi), Madhya Pradesh (Dhar), Uttar Pradesh (Lucknow) and Maharashtra (Amravati) with an outlay of Rs 4,445 crore for a period of seven years up to 2027-28.

Negotiations stuck over agriculture

While the in-person India-US trade negotiations are expected to continue after the second half of August, the deal is stuck over sensitive sectors such as agriculture and automobiles. *The Indian Express* had reported last week that India is unlikely to agree to the US demands to accept genetically modified (GM) agricultural products such as corn and soya.

This assumes significance as agriculture remains one of the contentious issues between the two countries, and the United States Trade Representative (USTR) has previously flagged restrictions on its GM products by countries as discriminatory.

● 63-yr-old woman sent to Pak after Pahalgam set to return to J&K family

be helped in any manner.

In response to Mehta’s statement before the Bench, advocates Ankur Sharma and Himani Khajuria, the counsel for the respondent, submitted that she is agreeable to the course suggested by the Solicitor General of India.

“In principle decision taken by the authorities centred upon the peculiar facts and circumstances of the present case shall not constitute a precedent in any manner,” the Bench said. As per court records, Rakshanda, who lived in Islamabad, entered India on February 10, 1990, via Attari on a visitor’s visa for 14 days to visit Jammu, but continued to stay owing to a long-term visa (LTV) granted by the authorities on a year-to-year basis.

During her stay, she married an Indian national. Her LTV was

valid up to January 13, 2025, and she applied for an extension on January 4, which was not granted.

Following the Pahalgam attack, the competent authority issued an order on April 25, revoking all existing valid visas with immediate effect.

On April 28, Rakshanda was served with a Leave India Notice by the Criminal Investigation Department (Special Branch Jammu). She approached the Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh High Court vide a writ petition and prayed for a stay of the order. However, she was issued an exit permit and was escorted to the Attari Wagha Border, Amritsar, by the authorities. She crossed over to Pakistan on April 29 at 4:30 pm.

On June 6, Justice Rahul Bharti ordered the Central government to “retrieve” Rakshanda. While

passing the order, Justice Bharti observed, “This court is bearing in mind the background reference that the petitioner was having LTV status at relevant point of time which per-se may not have warranted her deportation, but without examining her case in better perspective and coming up with a proper order with respect to her deportation from the authorities concerned, still she came to be forced out.”

“Human rights are the most sacrosanct component of a human life,” observed Justice Bharti, who also referred to the statement of Rakshanda’s husband Sheikh Zahoor Ahmed that “his wife has no one in Pakistan for her care and custody, particularly when she is suffering from multiple ailments and that her health and life is at risk with each pass-

ing day and (she is) left to fend for herself as abandoned”.

There are occasions when “a constitutional court is supposed to come up with SOS like indulgence notwithstanding the merits and demerits of a case which can be adjudicated only upon in due course of time”, the judge observed. “Therefore, this court is coming up with a direction to the Ministry of Home Affairs, Government of India, to bring back the petitioner from her deportation.”

Speaking to *The Indian Express* earlier, her husband had said the children were worried about Rakshanda. He said though she had taken Rs 50,000 in Indian currency, she was running short of money to sustain, as a tray of eggs apparently cost Rs 600 and 1 kg atta cost Rs 250 in Pakistan.

● Prajwal Revanna found guilty of rape

CrPC, the accused Prajwal Revanna is hereby convicted for committing the offences punishable under Sec 376(2)(k), 376(2)(n), 354-A, 354-B, 354-C, 506, 201 of Indian Penal Code and under Sec 66(E) of Information Technology Act 2008. To hear on quantum of sentence, jail authorities are hereby directed to produce accused physically before the court on the next date of hearing,” Special Sessions Court judge Santhosh Gajanan Bhat said in his brief order.

Prajwal was charged with raping a domestic worker, a middle-aged woman, at a farmhouse owned by his family. He was accused of rape while “being in a position of control or dominance” under IPC section 376(2)(k) related to sexual harassment and criminal intimidation.

The former Hassan MP has been in jail since May 31, 2024, when he was arrested on his return from Germany where he had fled after the emergence of explicit videos of sexual attacks on women that were recorded by him on his mobile phone. The videos were leaked ahead of the April 26, 2024 Lok Sabha election in Hassan where Prajwal was the candidate for the JDS-BJP Alliance. He lost the seat to the Congress.

Apart from the videos, a Special Investigation Team (SIT) of Karnataka police constituted to probe the charges was helped by a DNA analysis report of hair follicles and residual body fluids found

on a garment worn by the victim on the day of assault. A match was found between the DNA samples collected from the ex-MP and traces found on the garment.

Prajwal’s conviction came at the end of a trial that began on May 2 with the recording of the statement of the rape survivor. The chargesheet, which was backed by 113 witnesses, was filed by the SIT in December 2024 and charges were framed on April 3, 2025. The case was registered on the basis of a complaint filed by the victim on May 8, 2024, three days after she was rescued from a farmhouse near Mysuru where she was allegedly confined after being identified in the videos.

A former driver of Prajwal was the whistleblower who facilitated the initiation of multiple cases of rape and sexual harassment against the JDS leader. The driver, Karthik N(34), testified during the trial that he found over 2,000 explicit pictures and 40-50 videos of sexual incidents on the phone of the then MP.

The trial in a second case, where Prajwal is accused of repeatedly assaulting a former JDS zilla panchayat worker with threats and coercion, is currently underway with the husband of the victim, also a JDS worker, recording his statement recently. Prajwal is also accused in another case of sexual assault, on a cook who worked for the Revanna family, and the alleged sexual harassment of the cook’s daughter.

● New Delhi station stampede

the stairs of PF 14/15 stairs resulting in the tripping of passengers on the stairs. This led to an incident at 20:48 hrs on FOB-3, which was limited to the stairs of FOB. Consequently, passengers fell on each other. In the incident, 18 people lost their lives and 15 others were injured.”

In March this year, the Railway Minister had told the Lok Sabha that on the day of the stampede the total ticket sold was 49,000 – 13,000 more than the daily average tickets sold over the previous six months.

Of the 18 people who died in the stampede, 11 were women and four children. Eyewitnesses had alleged that the stampede had taken place because of “lack of crowd management”. Following the incident, five senior officers

were transferred.

In his written reply on Friday, Vaishnav said that several measures have been taken after the incident to handle heavy rush at the stations. A total of 73 stations have been identified where permanent holding areas will be created. Pilot projects have started at New Delhi, Anand Vihar, Varanasi, Ayodhya, and Ghaziabad stations.

“Two new designs of 12-metre wide (40 feet) and 6 metre wide (20 feet) standard FOB have been developed. These wide FOBs with ramps were very effective in crowd management during Mahakumbh. These new standard wide FOBs will be installed in all the stations. All major stations will have a senior officer as Station Director,” the minister said.

● Malegaon blast case verdict

Mujawar denied Bhagwat’s role and declined to arrest him. A false case was then allegedly filed by the ATS against Mujawar, who was later acquitted.

The court observed that the NIA had already inquired with the former ATS officer on his allegations.

On Thursday, Mujawar repeated these claims before the media. He named an IPS officer, who, he claimed, had asked him to arrest Bhagwat. He alleged that since he did not arrest Bhagwat, a false case under the Arms Act was registered against him (Mujawar) at the officer’s behest and he was suspended. Mujawar claimed that a Solapur court later acquitted him in the case.

The officer against whom the allegation was made did not respond.

Posting a video clip of Mujawar’s statement, the BJP said on X: “This is not just a scandal, it is an abuse of power, a conspiracy against the nation, and a sinister plot to malign nationalists. Who were the higher authorities? Who has the political cover for this witch-hunt? Who tried to falsely frame the RSS chief?”

In its order, the court said: “The PW-320 (ACP Mohan Kulkarni, ATS chief investigating officer) had denied the suggestion given in his cross examination that Mehboob Mujawar was sent by them to bring one senior officer-bearer of RSS. But admitted that he was sent to find out / trace out AA-1 (absconding accused Ramji Kalsangra) and AA-2 (absconding

accused Sandeep Dange). He also denied the suggestion that Mehboob Mujawar publicly declared that the ATS shot dead two persons and hence, his name was not included in the list of witness filed with chargesheet.”

The order also refers to the deposition of Anil Dubey, NIA’s investigating officer, who said that Mujawar was called to the agency’s office and they inquired with him about his statements in the media about the deaths of Kalsangra and Dange.

In 2016, Mujawar had claimed that he was “witness to their killings and the disposal of their bodies as victims of 26/11 terror attacks”. He claimed that the duo had been shot dead in custody by the ATS, and he was later asked to lead attempts to look for them. The two wanted accused have not been traced till date.

The court said Mujawar was not listed as a witness, nor was he examined as a witness by either the prosecution or the defence. On the documents containing Mujawar’s allegations mentioned in the Solapur court, the court said: “The statement recorded u/s 313 of CrPC (Criminal Procedure Code, statement of accused) cannot be construed as evidence on the counts that the statement is not recorded before this court and in support of those documents, he is not examined as a witness before this court. So, merely placing some documents is not sufficient. It must be proved through the cogent and reliable testimony of the concerned witness.”

● EC publishes draft electoral rolls

draft rolls without due notice and a speaking order from the ERO or AERO concerned. “If an elector is dissatisfied with an ERO’s decision, they may appeal to the District Magistrate or the Chief Electoral Officer,” the CEO said.

Volunteers have been trained to assist citizens in filing such appeals. The commission urged political parties to meticulously review the draft rolls. “Parties have been asked to meticulously review the draft rolls published on August 1 and assist in filing claims and objections where necessary,” the CEO said.

The EC said that the published draft rolls include all eligible voters who submitted enumeration forms. Lists of deceased voters, those who migrated, and individ-

uals who could not be traced have been shared with all 12 recognised political parties for review.

Officials said approximately 22 lakh deceased electors, 7 lakh duplicate entries, and 36 lakh voters who have either migrated permanently or were untraceable were identified. Patna was the district with the highest number of pending enumeration forms, with 3,95,500 yet to be received. Madhubani came next with 3,52,545. Other districts with high pendency include Gopalganj (3,10,363), Purvi Champaran (3,16,793), Samastipur (2,83,955), and Muzaffarpur (2,82,845). Districts with the lowest number of pending enumeration forms were Sheikhpura (26,256), Sheohar (28,166), and Arwal (30,180).

CBI books Lok Nayak Hospital’s ex-medical director, ex-CMO, 2 firms in corruption case

EXPRESSNEWSERVICE
NEW DELHI, AUGUST 1

THE CBI has registered an FIR against the former Medical Director and former CMO of Lok Nayak Hospital (LNH) and two private companies in connection with a corruption case related to the procurement of medicine and surgical consumables.

The central agency lodged the FIR on July 30 after conducting a preliminary enquiry based on information from its sources.

“The FIR has named: Dr Suresh Kumar, the then MD, LNH; Dr Hem Prakash, then

Procurement Officer, CMO, LNH; Suresh Kumar Chaudhary, Proprietor of M/s Adison Equipment Company; and Mayank Parashar, Proprietor of M/s S R Surgical. They have been booked on charges of conspiracy and breach of trust for causing loss of crores of rupees to the government,” an official claimed.

“A preliminary enquiry... revealed that local authorised chemist, S R Surgical, in connivance with Dr Hr Hem Prakash, caused loss to the government exchequer to the tune of several crores by demanding and supplying branded medicine instead of generic ones though there was no

specific demand for branded medicine from particular wards/departments of LNH between 2018 and 2021,” the agency alleged in the FIR.

It also alleged that a probe revealed that an open tender was floated on May 31, 2017, on the Delhi government’s tendering site for procurement of general store sanitation consumable and non-consumable items, including macerators. “Five firms, including Adison Equipment Company and Faith Biotech Pvt. Ltd, had participated in the tender... Adison Equipment was selected as L-1 for supplying most of the items, including macerators... Faith Biotech

was also selected as L-1 by the LNH authority on January 27, 2018. After that, LNH authority issued a Rate Contract to Adison Equipment and Faith Biotech... valid from January 29, 2018, to January 28, 2020,” the FIR said.

“Enquiry has further revealed that on the expiry of the validity of the above rate contract on January 29, 2020, the same was extended from time to time till July 13, 2021, in favour of Adison Equipment... no fresh open tender was floated during the same period...”

The CBI claimed in its FIR that no reason has been given by the LNH authority with regard to not inviting a fresh tender.

GHAZIABAD INTERFAITH COUPLE: POLICE SEND WOMAN TO PARENTS’ HOME

Man held for wife’s ‘abduction’ — second time in two months

NEETIKA JHA
GHAZIABAD, AUGUST 1

A MAN was arrested in Ghaziabad on Friday for the second time for allegedly abducting his 25-year-old wife, despite the woman maintaining that they had gotten married under the Special Marriage Act and she had left her parents’ home on her own will. The police later in the day sent the woman to stay with her parents.

On July 30, the father of the woman, Sonika Chauhan, had filed a complaint at the Indirapuram police station, alleging that she had been kidnapped by her in-laws and husband Akbar Khan (29).

Minutes later, a purported video had surfaced in which Sonika had claimed that she had

left her home on July 30 to be with Akbar. “I, Sonika, on July 30, around 2 pm, left my house as per my wish... Since last two months, my parents and some other people, including Meena Bhandari, Harish Karakoti, Kapil Tyagi, my maternal uncle Vikram Rawat and my paternal uncle Jagdish Singh Chauhan, had been torturing me physically and mentally... they wanted me to give a statement against Akbar in court and frame him under POCSO (Act) and put him behind bars. But I protested... I will only tell the truth,” she is heard saying in the video.

This was not the first time that Sonika’s family had accused Akbar of abducting her.

On May 25, Sonika’s father Laxman Singh Chauhan had filed a complaint with the Indirapuram police station, accusing Akbar of

kidnapping her a day earlier. Sonika had later clarified that she had left home on her own.

The Ghaziabad Police had then raided Akbar’s home in Indirapuram and “handed over” Sonika to her parents. Following this, the police had arrested Akbar, his two sisters, sister-in-law, and a neighbour. A group of around 60 men had also attacked Akbar’s shop and vandalised it.

A purported video had surfaced before Akbar’s arrest in May, in which Sonika could be heard saying that she wanted to stay with him and that they had secretly gotten married at a Delhi SDM office under the Special Marriage Act, 1954 in August 2022. Akbar was released on bail on June 8.

Ghaziabad Commissioner of Police J Ravinder Gaud said Akbar


was arrested in the fresh case of abduction. “The woman was sent to stay with her family after we took an undertaking from her parents,” he told *The Indian Express*.

Asked why she was sent to stay with her family when she had maintained that she was mentally tortured at her parents’ home, Gaud said he would check if she wished to stay at a One Stop Centre, set up to support women affected by violence. “Her safety is our priority and we will record her statement on Saturday before the magistrate,” he added.

Laxman Singh, in his July 31 complaint had alleged that Sonika was abducted in the middle of the night by Akbar and his accomplices. He also alleged that Akbar’s family had been threatening his family in the days leading up to Sonika’s “abduction on May 24”.

SALUTE THE SOLDIER


CENTRAL RESERVE POLICE FORCE
2 August 2005



Veer Balidani
Head Constable
Sukhvinder Singh
39 Bn
12-10-1965 To 2-8-2005

On 2 August 2005, troops of 39 Bn CRPF launched an area domination patrol in the general area under PS Sadiya, Dist. Tinsukia. During the operation, taking advantage of the darkness, the insurgents opened indiscriminate fire at them in the area of Moria Gaon. The troops immediately launched a counter-attack but the insurgents were well entrenched inside the thick jungle and in a tactically advantageous position. Without caring for their lives, the troops advanced towards the enemy using tactics of fire and move. The bold and courageous response from the troopers forced the insurgents to flee from the area. During the counter-attack, Head Constable Sukhvinder Singh received severe bullet injuries. Despite sustaining injuries he fought from the front and inflicted heavy losses on the enemy. The braveheart later succumbed to his injuries and attained martyrdom.


2 August 1992



Veer Balidani
Constable
Lakhwinder Singh
87 Bn
15-12-1969 To 2-8-1992

87 Bn of CRPF was deployed in Punjab for anti-terrorist operations. On 2 August 1992 when its troops were carrying out area domination in Amritsar, the militants waiting in an ambush opened indiscriminate fire at the troops. The troops immediately took positions and retaliated. In the fierce encounter Constable Lakhwinder Singh received severe injuries while fighting from the front and had charged bravely at the militants. Despite sustaining injuries he fought valiantly and laid down his life for the nation. His gallant action stands out as the shining example of courage, leadership and selfless devotion in the best traditions of CRPF.


13 July 1989



Veer Balidani
Constable
Narpendra Kumar
79 Bn
3-8-1967 To 2-8-1989

In 1989, the seeds of militancy had been sown and signs of militancy in the state of Jammu and Kashmir had started emerging. It was under this situation that 79 Bn had been deployed in Srinagar, Jammu and Kashmir. On the eve of the Muslim festival of Eid in the first organised attack on the Paramilitary Forces of its kind, the militants attacked the party of 79 Bn deployed for law and order duties by firing indiscriminately. The armed attack, the first of its kind took the troops by surprise. The troops could not respond fearing collateral damage. Constable Bhopal Singh, Constable Narpendra Kumar and Constable K Shankaran sustained bullet injuries in the attack. Constable Bhopal Singh and Constable K Shankaran succumbed to their injuries same day. Constable Narpendra Kumar succumbed to his injuries on 2 August 1989.


2 August 1992



Veer Balidani
Inspector
Giri Raj Prasad
60 Bn
15-11-1943 To 2-8-1992

60 Bn of CRPF was deployed in Srinagar city when the city was reeling under the constant threat of militancy. On 2 August 1992, its troops had a chance encounter with terrorists during an area domination patrol. Militants opened indiscriminate fire at the troops. The troops immediately took positions and retaliated. In the first onslaught Inspector Giri raj Prasad received severe injuries. Despite sustaining injuries he led his men from the front and laid down his life for the nation. His valiant sacrifice has made the Force proud.


30 July 2010



Veer Balidani
Constable
Manoranjan Bora
12 Bn
30-4-1976 To 2-8-2010

On 30 July 2010, troops of 12 Bn CRPF were moving in a convoy to the firing range at Rangarah (Dakurbhita) after completion of their training under 11 Mt. Brigade. As this convoy was between Agiya and Goalpara on Solmari Goalpara road, PS- Goalpara, District Goalpara, the insurgents waiting in an ambush blasted an IED followed by indiscriminate firing. One of the vehicles came under the impact of the blast and its occupants sustained serious injuries. The insurgents then advanced using indiscriminate fire for the final kill and looting of the weapons. The CRPF troopers retaliated the fire even in the state of injury. Their grit and determination forced the insurgents to abort their plan and flee from the area. In the incident five brave troopers namely Head Constable Punam Chand, Head Constable M Venkatachalam, Lance Naik T Nageshwara Rao, Constable Randhir Singh and Constable Mangal Layek laid down their lives same day and Constable Manoranjan Bora attained martyrdom on 2 August 2010.


2 August 1994



Veer Balidani
Naik/Driver
Abdul Quadir
127 Bn
1-2-1960 To 2-8-1994

On 2 August 1994, three vehicles of 127 battalion of CRPF were en route from Moidanpok to Langring for a special operation when insurgents ambushed them. The initial burst of bullets hit Naik/Driver Abdul Quadir, wounding him. Despite his injuries, he continued driving to move the vehicle out of the ambush zone until he fell unconscious. The troops immediately dismounted and launched a counter-attack, forcing the insurgents to flee. Naik/Driver Abdul Quadir was evacuated to hospital, where he succumbed to his injuries, laying down his life for the honour and integrity of the uniformed service.


2 August 2006




Veer Balidani
Constable
P Udaya
51 Bn
28-4-1973 To 2-8-2006

There were intelligence inputs regarding presence of a large number of Maoists in the general area of villages Acheli, Pedka and Arampur under PS Kirandul of Dantewada district. While troops of 51 Bn CRPF were combing the general area, a series of IED blasts took place followed by firing. The impact of IED blasts was so powerful that nine personnel got injured. Constable P Udaya, despite being injured, fired towards the Maoists positions. The strong and swift retaliatory action by Constable P Udaya forced the Maoists to retreat and saved the lives and weapons of the other eight injured CRPF men. He was immediately evacuated to the hospital but he attained martyrdom on the way.

2 August 1969



Veer Balidani
Naik
P Krishnan
36 Bn
1-7-1943 To 2-8-1969




Veer Balidani
Lance Naik
Gokal Dev
36 Bn
17-1-1943 To 2-8-1969

Lance Naik Gokal Dev and Naik P Krishnan were posted in 36 Bn, deployed in present Manipur (then part of Assam) for counter-insurgency duties. On 2 August 1969, while deployed for counter-insurgency duties, Lance Naik Gokal Dev and Naik P Krishnan made supreme sacrifice in the line of duty when the Naga hostiles ambushed their party resulting in a fierce encounter. Both the men exhibited highest degree of valour, commitment and unflinching devotion to duties before laying down their lives for a greater cause.


SALUTE THE SOLDIER

LNK SHUBHAM
30 JUL 1998 TO 02 AUG 2024
‘Fabulous Fourteen’ family fondly remembers **LNK Shubham** who made the supreme sacrifice in Nyoma (Eastern Ladakh) on this day of 02 Aug 2024.
COMMANDING OFFICER & ALL RANKS
14 DOGRA



BORDER SECURITY FORCE
CONSTABLE TANURAM NARZARY
24.07.1962-02.08.1995

Director General and all Ranks of Border Security Force remember its gallant Jawan Constable Tanuram Narzary on his Balidan Diwas. On this day, he sustained fatal bullet injuries while fighting with militants in Munawarabad Seed Factory, Srinagar (J&K) and made ultimate sacrifice in the line of duty.




HEAD CONSTABLE SUDARSHAN SHARMA
14.04.1945-02.08.1995

Director General and all Ranks of Border Security Force remember its gallant Jawan Head Constable Sudarshan Sharma on his Balidan Diwas. On this day, he sustained fatal injuries in an IED blast triggered by militants in area of Saligram, Anantnag (J&K) and made ultimate sacrifice in the line of duty.




LANCE/NAIK RAMGATI RAM
30.06.1967-02.08.2000

Director General and all Ranks of Border Security Force remember its gallant Jawan Lance/Naik Ramgati Ram on his Balidan Diwas. On this day, he made ultimate sacrifice while on operational duty in area of BOP Boltala, Kolkata (West Bengal).




CONSTABLE HABIBUR RAHMAN
28.10.1968-02.08.1995

Director General and all Ranks of Border Security Force remember its gallant Jawan Constable Habibur Rahman 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 line of duty.



SHRI V P PUROHIT,
COMDT, KIRTI CHAKRA, PPMG
28.12.1958 – 02.08.2002



HEAD CONSTABLE
K K HOODA,
PPMG
12.08.1958 – 02.08.2002

Director General and all Ranks of Border Security Force remember its gallant officer Shri V P Purohit, Commandant, Kirti Chakra, PPMG and Head Constable K K HOODA, PPMG on their Balidan Diwas. On this day, they sustained bullet injuries while fighting with militants in Malpura area, Budgam (J&K) and later succumbed to their injuries.



TRAFFIC

DELHI PREMIER LEAGUE T20

02.08.2025 to 31.08.2025



ADVISORY

1:30 PM TO 11:30 PM





TRAFFIC POLICE DELHI

DELHI PREMIER LEAGUE T20
02.08.2025 to 31.08.2025

1:30 PM TO 11:30 PM

ARUN JAITLEY STADIUM, FIROZESHAN KOTLA GROUND, NEW DELHI

DIVERSION / RESTRICTION (AS AND WHEN REQUIRED)

There will diversion of traffic for half and hour after conclusion of the match. No heavy vehicles and buses shall be allowed on Bahadurshah Zafar Marg, Delhi Gate to J.L.N. Marg, from Darya Ganj to Bahadurshah Zafar Marg and from Guru Nanak Chowk to Asaf Ali Road, People are requested to avoid following roads from 5:00 PM to 11:30 PM and 12:00 PM to 11:00PM on the day when there are two matches on the match day respectively when the spectators would be coming to the stadium and congestion is expected.

Raj Ghat to JLN Marg.

Asaf Ali Road from Turkman Gate to Delhi Gate.

Bahadurshah Zafar Marg from ITO Chowk to Delhi Gate

ENTRY TO THE STADIUM

(I) Gate No. 1 to 8 are located on the southern side of the Stadium & entry to these enclosures are from Bahadurshah Zafar Marg.

(II) Gate No. 10 to 15 are located on the Eastern side of the Stadium on the road and entry is from J.L.N. Marg next to Ambedkar Stadium Bus Terminal.

(III) Gate No. 16, 17 & 18 are located on the Western side of the Stadium & entry is from Bahadurshah Zafar Marg Near Petrol Pump.

PARKING

Labeled Vehicles

free parking for vehical is available on Mata Sundri Road, Rajghat Power House Road Velodrome Road and free park & ride and shutter bus service also available. Limited parking is available for labeled vehicales in the proximity of the stadium. Display of car parking label on windscreen is mandatory. Vehical number must be written on the parking label. Those who do not display parking label with vehical number will not be allowed in the proximity of the stadium.

Car parking label holders are advised are to take Ring Road, J.L.N. Marg, Asaf Ali Road or Bahadurshah Zafar Marg. 'U' turn at Delhi Gate is allowed. Entry to parking lots P1, P2, & P3 shall be from Bahadurshah Zafar Marg only from near the Vikram Nagar Cut, Shaheed Path.

General Vehicles

No vehicle shall be allowed to be parked on Bahadurshah Zafar Marg, Jawaharlal Nehru Marg & Ring Road from Rajghat to L.P. Flyover (both the carriageways) on the match day. Vehicles parked on these roads shall be towed away and prosecuted as per law.

FREE PARKING

• Mata Sundri Road • Rajghat Power House Road • Under Velodrome Road

SECURITY INSTRUCTIONS: Spectators visiting the stadium are requested not to bring the following prohibited items:

Laptop Camera Helmet Backpack Eatables Water Bottles Power Bank Lighter & Match Box Knives & Arms

24 Hours Traffic Helpline: 011-25844444 / 1095

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Advt. No.: CUH/2025/estt.sec./T/632 Date: 01.08.2025

EMPLOYMENT NOTICE
WALK-IN-INTERVIEW

The eligible candidates are invited to appear for the Walk-In-Interview for **Guest Faculty positions in various departments** at the Central University of Haryana, Mahendergarh. Eligible Candidates shall appear before selection Committee along with application and supporting documents on the date and place notified on the University Website. For Application Form and other related details please visit University website i.e. www.cuh.ac.in
REGISTRAR

Office of The General Manager, Haryana Roadways, Bhiwani.

To
The Director General,
Information, Public Relations & Languages Department,
CO No-23, Sec-7, Haryana, Chandigarh

Memo No..... /SPA/CSK Dated...../...../.....
Subject: Advertisement of Quotation Notice for purchase of Store petty items.
Please find enclosed herewith two copies of quotation Notice for getting it advertising in leading newspaper i.e. two Nos. English Newspapers and two Nos. Hindi News paper vide circulation in Haryana and NCT Delhi for wide publicity of various store petty items. The quotation notice should appear in the News paper on or before **04.08.2025**.
So, you are requested to send the copies of the News paper in which quotation notice has been advertised immediately.

Sd/- General Manager,
Haryana Roadways, Bhiwani

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REGISTRAR


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**AADHAAR**

Vacancy circular for filling up the posts of Technical Officer on deputation basis (on Foreign Service terms) in Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI), Data Centre at Manesar (Gurugram).
The Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI) invites applications on deputation basis (on Foreign Service terms) for two posts of Technical Officer at the Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI), Data Centre at Manesar (Gurugram).
The application may be furnished in the prescribed proforma and forwarded to the Director (HR), Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI), Data Centre, Technology Centre-Office Complex Plot No. 1, Sector-M2, IMT Manesar, (Gurugram) 122 050. The last date for receipt of applications complete in all respects is 26.8.2025. Since these vacancies are to be filled up on deputation basis, Private candidates are not eligible.
Applications received after the last date or otherwise found incomplete shall not be considered. Further details, including the terms and conditions of deputation and application procedure, are available on the Authority's website at https://uidai.gov.in/images/VC_101_2025.pdf.
CBC - 54103/11/0068/2526 **Director (HR)**
Now Aadhaar Enrolment & Update Facilities can also be availed at Aadhaar Seva Kendra (ASK). To locate one near you, visit uidai.gov.in or call 1947

EXPRESS

Careers

**Nashik Shikshan Prasarak Mandal, Nashik**
Late Bindu Ramrao Deshmukh
Arts, Commerce & Science Mahila Mahavidyalaya, Nashik Road (0253-2465967)
WANTED

Applications are invited from eligible candidates for the following post.

Sr.No	Designation	Total Post	Category
1	Principal	01	Open to All

Condition:
1) Educational Qualifications & other essential requirements, Pay Scale and Service conditions are as prescribed by the UGC, New Delhi. Government of Maharashtra and Savitribai Phule Pune University, Pune and L.B.R.D. Arts Commerce and Science Mahila Mahavidyalaya Nashik road, Nashik.
2) Associate Professor/Professor with the total experience of 15 years in teaching/research/ administration in universities, colleges and other institutions of Higher Education.
3) candidate should submit their API Score record as per UGC norms.
4) This recruitment procedure is subject to decision by Hon. Bombay High Court, Aurangabad Bench on Writ Petition No.12051/2015 and 15737/2019 filed in Aurangabad bench Mumbai High court & supreme court respectively.
5) Appointment for the said post will be for tenure of five years from the date of appointment or up to the attainment of the age of superannuation of the candidate, whichever is earlier.
6) Those who are already in service should apply through proper channel.
7) All attested Xerox Copies of certificates, other relevant documents related to API score should be attached to the application form.
8) No TA/DA will paid.
9) Incomplete application will not be entertained.
10) Eligible candidates should submit their application form with all the necessary documents within Thirty (30) days from the date of Publication of this advertisement to the following address personally or by registered post.
11) Kindly send a demand draft of Rs. 200/- for Candidates who belong to Reserve category & Rs. 400/- for candidates of Open Category alongwith application form in favour of " The Secretary, Nashik Shikshan Prasarak Mandal, Nashik." Payable at Nashik.
12) Parallel reservation for women and differently disable (divyang) shall be applicable as per norms of Government of Maharashtra.
Note*: Those who have applied with reference to advertise published on date 08/08/2024 need not to apply again as their applications have been considered.
Address -
The Secretary, Nashik Shikshan Prasarak Mandal, Nashik.
c/o. J.S. Rungta Highschool, Ashok Stambh,
Gharpure Ghat, Nashik. Pin.422002.
SECRETARY
Place : Nashik Nashik Shikshan Prasarak Mandal, Nashik
Date 02.08.2025 Website : nspmandal.org

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Today, the 20th instalment of more than ₹20,500 crore is to be Directly Transferred in the account of 9 crore 70 lakh farmers

by

Shri Narendra Modi

Prime Minister



 02 August, 2025

 11:00 AM

 Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh

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**More than 5 times increase in agriculture budget in last 11 years from ₹22 thousand crore to ₹1.27 lakh crore**

**In past 11 years, production of food grain increased from 246 million tons to 354 million tons and the production of horticultural crops increased from 280 million tons to 362 million tons**

**More than 25 crore Soil Health Cards distributed to farmers to enhance soil fertility and judicious use of fertilizer**

**Under PM Fasal Beema Yojana, ₹1.83 lakh crore paid to farmers to compensate losses due to natural calamities**

**Procurement of wheat, paddy, cotton, pulses and oilseeds crops at MSP against payment of more than ₹23 lakh crore in past 11 years**

**Fertiliser subsidy of ₹14 lakh crore in past 11 years and timely supply of fertiliser to farmers at affordable prices**

**1522 agricultural mandis connected to e-NAM platform; Facilitated transactions of more than ₹4.20 lakh crore**

**'Per Drop More Crop' - Micro Irrigation coverage increased from 42 lakh hectares to 100 lakh hectares**

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CBC 01102/13/0002/2526

BLOCKING OF TWO DOORS AND FITMENT OF REMAINING TWO MODIFIED DOORS DIAGONALLY
Tender Notice No. : M-249-RSP-2025-26-DRG-11. Dated: 28-07-2025; E-Tender are invited by the undersigned for the following work; Name of Work: Blocking of two doors and fitment of remaining two modified doors (with reduced height) diagonally in 600 Nos. BOXN Wagons at C&W Workshop, N.F. Railway, New Bongaigaon. Approximate cost of the work: ₹2,79,04,260/-; Earnest Money: ₹2,89,500/-; Date & time of closing of tender at 15:00 hrs. on 19-08-2025. For complete information above e-tender will be available in website <http://www.irops.gov.in> .
CWM, New Bongaigaon
NORTHEAST FRONTIER RAILWAY
Serving Customers With A Smile

**EAST CENTRAL RAILWAY**
E-TENDER NOTICE
E-Tender Notice No. SnT-C-DHN-25
CSTE/CON/ECR/Mahendrugat/
Patna for & on behalf of president of India are invited Open online E-Tender.
E-Tender NO. : SnT-C-DHN-25. Name of work : Utility Shifting of signaling cables, location boxes, quad, OFC etc. at/in between Gomoh-PKA, GMO-CRP-JNN, PTRU-TKS, KUJU-RRME, PKA-PEH, KQR-ARGD or any other locations under Dy. CSTE/CON/DHN in connection with Engineering construction work in Dhanbad Division of East Central Railway. Approximate cost : Rs. 12,80,22,840.69. Earnest Money : Rs. 7,90,100.00. Cost of Tender document : Nil. Completion Period : 12 Months, Last Date & Time of submission of online E-Tender : 21/08/2025; 15:30 Hrs.
For details information, may kindly see the tender notice and tender documents which are available at Indian Railways website <http://www.irops.gov.in>
Dy. Chief Sig. & Tele. Engineer/Construction
East Central Railway, Dhanbad
PR/0710/CON/DHN/S&T/T/25-26/32

**GOVERNMENT OF NATIONAL CAPITAL TERRITORY OF DELHI OFFICE OF THE LAND ACQUISITION COLLECTOR (SOUTH-WEST) OLD TERMINAL TAX BUILDING, KAPASHERA, NEW DELHI-37**

No. ADM/LAC/SW/2025-26/54649 **Dated 31/7/2025**

Public Notice under Section 21 of the RECTLARR Act, 2013

Whereas, a request was received from DDA through the Land and Building Department vide letter dated 25.07.2025 to re-initiate acquisition in terms of the liberty granted to DDA by the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India order 17.05.2024 in the batch matters titled as Govt. of NCT of Delhi Through the Secretary, Land and Building Department & Another Vs M/s. K.L... Rathi Steels Limited and others, DDA vs Tejpal and Ors and GNCTD and anr. Vs M/s BSK Realtors LLP & Anr.
In terms of the request of the DDA, acquisition of the land, mentioned below which was subject of the litigation titled as GNCTD & Anr. Vs Ved Prakash & Ors. and which were notified and acquired as per the details mentioned below, is to be re-initiated. Further, as per the order of the Hon'ble Supreme Court 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.

Khasra No	Village /Award	Notification u/s 4 of LA act 1894	Notification u/s 6 of LA act 1834
20/19 (4-16), 19//6 min (2-8), 10 (4-16), 7. min (0-4), 13//23min (2-0), 23min (0-7), 24 min(0-5), 7//11min (2-0), 11min(0-11), 11min (0-13)	Bamnoli 01/2007-08	F.9(50)/2004/L&B/LA/13211 dated 04.11.2004	F.9(50)/2004/L&B/LA/9450 dated 31.10.2005

Whereas, the Hon'ble Supreme Court in its judgement dated 17.05.2024 has dispensed with the compliance of the provisions of the Chapter II and III along with Section 13,14 and 16 to 20 of the acts.
Accordingly, in accordance with section 21 of RFCTLARR Act 2013, notice is being issued to intimates all concerned that the Government intends to jeitlate fresh acquisition proceedings for the land mentioned in the above table which is required 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, in writing, signed by themselves or their authorised agents, before the Collector(SW) on or before 01st September, 2025 at 11.30 AM in the Conference Hall of the office of District Magistrate (South West).
If any person fails to appear and submit claims as above, the Collector will proceed to make an award based on available information and such person may be bound by the award under the law.

Sd/-
(Mekala Chaitanya Prasad, IAS)
Collector and District Magistrate South West Delhi

DIP/Shabdarth/Classified/0171/25-26

epaper.indianexpress.com

Delhi Police chief reviews security prep ahead of I-Day

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, AUGUST 1

A DAY after taking charge as the Delhi Police Commissioner, S B K Singh on Friday held a series of meetings with senior officers to assess the security arrangements in the Capital ahead of Independence Day.

The meeting, which went on for almost two hours, was attended by district deputy commissioners, range joint commissioners and special commissioners. An officer said emphasis was given on intensifying surveillance in sensitive areas, as well as increasing patrolling and vigilance.

The CP reviewed the arrangements for the Independence Day function at the Red Fort and other venues where public gatherings are expected. Senior officers were asked to personally supervise security drills and verify the deployment of quick reaction teams, bomb disposal squads, and sniffer dog units.

Further, a crime review meeting with DCPs of all 15 districts was also held to ensure foolproof law and order arrangements in the city.

Singh directed all DCPs to intensify night patrolling and



Police chief S B K Singh

maintain additional vigil across Delhi, especially in areas bordering neighbouring states. He instructed that barricading and random checking should be strengthened at all entry points to the city to prevent the movement of suspicious elements and illegal arms, officers said.

Singh directed that strict checking should be carried out at hotels, guest houses, bus terminals, railway and metro stations, malls and high-footfall markets.

"The CP focused heavily on anti-terror measures being intensified before Independence Day. He also instructed that a close watch be kept on groups that may try to sabotage the celebrations..." said an officer.

Further, the police will be keeping an eye on social media to detect suspicious communications or plans of mobilisation, he added.

Odisha girl, set on fire, undergoes surgery at AIIMS

New Delhi: The 15-year-old girl, who was set on fire by miscreants in Odisha's Puri district, has undergone a skin grafting surgery and is now recovering, doctors at AIIMS-Delhi said Friday.

The girl was admitted to the Burn ICU of the Burn and Plastic Surgery Department on July 20 in a critical condition. She was airlifted to Delhi.

According to doctors, she is stable, conscious, oriented, and on oxygen support. "She is taking oral feed, which is being supplemented by Ryle's Tube feeding. She has undergone five surgical procedures so far and Cadaveric skin bank was used to cover parts of her burn injuries," said doctors at AIIMS.

The incident took place on July 19. Three unidentified miscreants allegedly abducted her, took her to a secluded place near Bhargavi river, poured an inflammable substance on her and set her on fire. **ENS**

Boy sparks 24-hour search after falling into sewer — turns out he got out within 10 minutes, walked home

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, AUGUST 1

ON THURSDAY afternoon, a seven-year-old boy was reported missing in South Delhi's Vasant Kunj. He was last seen by children from a nearby school — dressed in a pair of shorts and running across a road with his friend in Rajokri village.

Police were alerted at 1.24 pm. "The children told us he fell into the sewer while playing in the rain and hadn't been seen since," a police officer said.

A hectic search operation en-

Russian woman leaves India with child: SC pulls up Delhi Police for 'sheer negligence'

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, AUGUST 1

HEARING A child custody dispute between a Russian woman and her Indian husband, the Supreme Court on Friday said that she has left the country with the minor child due to the "sheer negligence" of the Delhi Police. It also urged the authorities to get in touch with the Indian Embassy in Moscow to bring the minor back.

"At the outset, we are constrained to observe that the incident of taking away the child by the petitioner has happened apparently due to sheer negligence and failure of the Delhi Police in performing its duties in terms of the direction contained in... our order dated May 22, 2025," a bench of Justices Surya Kant and Joyimalya Bagchi said.

BIG ANNOUNCEMENT AMID BACKLASH FROM OPP, PARTY

CM: No slum will be demolished, govt open to amending policy

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, AUGUST 1

FACING FIRE from the Opposition and dissent within party ranks over the ongoing slum demolitions in the Capital, Delhi Chief Minister Rekha Gupta Friday said her government is open to amending Delhi's slum policy — countering claims that the BJP is renegeing on its promises to the urban poor.

Calling slum dwellers the "backbone of Delhi's working class," Gupta announced a halt on all demolitions unless alternative housing is provided in advance.

The Delhi government has also made it clear that no slum will be removed in the Capital. Gupta directed land-owning agencies like the Railways, Delhi Development Authority, and other departments to "immediately cease" any eviction drives and warned that her government would approach the courts if necessary.

Her statement comes weeks after eviction notices were served to residents of a jhuggi cluster in R K Puram, an area where Prime Minister Narendra Modi had earlier assured slum



CM Rekha Gupta sweeps an area with a broom during the launch of a month-long cleanliness campaign, Friday. *PTI*

dwellers that "no jhuggi would be demolished".

The BJP has also faced internal criticism from its MLAs and booth workers, who had campaigned extensively in slums with the slogan "jahan jhuggi, wahan makan".

Since the BJP government has taken charge in Delhi, major slums have been demolished over the past few months: Madraasi Camp (340 structures demolished), Bhoomiheen Camp (344 structures demolished), Jailer Wala Bagh (300 structures) and Taimoor Nagar

(100 structures).

Criticising both AAP and Congress, accusing them of historic neglect and using slum residents merely as "vote banks", Gupta said: "The Congress named colonies after their leaders but gave nothing. The AAP promised the world, but didn't even ensure clean drinking water or drainage. They pushed these communities into neglect and addiction."

She also announced that 50,000 unallotted flats in Outer Delhi — long left in disrepair — will be renovated under the

PMAY-Urban and handed over to slum dwellers. The Centre has allowed Rs 732 crore, previously underutilised under Jawaharlal Nehru National Urban Renewal Mission, to be repurposed for this housing initiative.

In response to Gupta, AAP's Delhi unit chief Saurabh Bharadwaj said, "Rekha Gupta and her party have been bluffing to the poor residents of Delhi for many months now. If Rekha Gupta is actually serious about what she is saying, then she should ask the central government and its agencies — DDA, Railways, and L&DO — to withdraw cases against these JJ clusters in the High Court and the Supreme Court."

Attempting to reframe the demolition narrative, Gupta claimed the BJP is the first government to pair evictions with actual housing handovers, unlike her predecessors. "Previous governments simply watched slums grow. We are finally giving people homes — and dignity," she said.

She said slums are an inseparable part of the national capital and asserted that her government is making sincere efforts to ensure their rightful recognition as residents of Delhi.



Multi-agency disaster management mock drill in progress in Delhi, Friday. *Praveen Khanna*

In Delhi-NCR mock drills, the Indian Army is the latest addition

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, AUGUST 1

AHEAD OF Independence Day, a massive anti-terror mock drill exercise held in Delhi last month saw a new participant — the Indian Army.

With the support of the Army's Ghatak Brigade, the Delhi Police, along with over 20 government departments and units, conducted the two-day drill at more than 10 key locations across the Capital on July 17 and 18. Soldiers from two brigades based in Shankar Vihar participated in the exercises held at key locations such as the Lotus Temple, Hotel Claridges, and Delhi University's Hindu College.

A senior government official said similar drills have been organised over the past three years ahead of Independence Day, but the Army had never been involved until now. "This was nec-

Govt to scout sites for new Secretariat: CM

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, AUGUST 1

CHIEF MINISTER Rekha Gupta Friday announced that the Delhi government will identify locations to build a new Secretariat, allowing all departments to operate under one roof.

While launching the 'Delhi Ko Koode Se Azaadi' campaign from the premises of the Women and Child Development (WCD) department at Kashmere Gate, Gupta expressed displeasure over the dilapidated condition of the office.

"Witnessing the state of the building has left me extremely distressed. The time has come to construct a new, well-organised, and integrated secretariat for all departments of Delhi," she said.

"We will take steps in this direction starting today. A suitable location will be identified where the new Delhi Secretariat can be established, enabling all departments to function under one roof. We cannot leave our officials to work in such miserable conditions any longer," she added.

Currently, the CM, ministers and top bureaucrats handling charges of departments like Finance, Transport, Environment, Home, Education and others, operate from the Secretariat located near Indira Gandhi Stadium in Indraprastha Estate.

It was called the Players'

Building and was built as a hotel to accommodate the players participating in the 1982 Asian Games. The building was found to be "seismically unsafe" in 2023 in a study conducted by the PWD.

Looking at the condition of the WCD office, Gupta said, "It's shocking to think how officials entrusted with ensuring good governance in Delhi can work effectively in such deplorable circumstances. The ceilings are leaking, the furniture is broken, there are no proper chairs to sit on, cupboards are damaged, and the fans are in such poor condition that they could fall at any moment."

She expressed concern that the building, which suffered a fire in 2021, has still not been fully repaired to date. "Are we forcing our officials to work while putting their lives at risk?" she asked.

Attacking the AAP government, Gupta said, "Those who called themselves an educated government were busy building lavish offices for themselves, but failed to provide even basic facilities essential for the working of our officials. The ones who spent Rs 70 crore on their own office couldn't spend even a few crores on these departments."

The AAP government had proposed to build a new secretariat in 2021. It had proposed to demolish the PWD and GST buildings as well as Vikas Sadan at ITO and construct twin 35-storey towers.

situations — were generated during these exercises on July 17 and 18. These calls were promptly responded to, and mock operations were carried out swiftly. A colonel-level officer of the Army led the operations, he added.

Other agencies that participate in such mock drill exercises include local police, Delhi Fire Services, Delhi Metro, CISF, NDRF, DDMA, CATS ambulances, hospitals, bomb detection teams, bomb disposal squads, dog squads, Crime Branch, Delhi Police Special Cell and Special Branch.

Meanwhile, a field-level, multi-agency disaster management mock drill was carried out at 55 locations across Delhi and some NCR districts Friday to assess response preparedness in case of earthquake or industrial accidents. Officers of the Western Command of the Army also participated in the drill, named 'Exercise Suraksha Chakra'.

MCD ANNUAL SURVEY

'Can raze illegal parts, won't leave': Residents of homes touted as 'dangerous'

DRISHTI JAIN
NEW DELHI, AUGUST 1

AS OF July 14, the Municipal Corporation of Delhi (MCD), as part of its annual survey across its 12 zones in the Capital, has declared 22 houses as "dangerous" and 320 "in need of repair". However, despite being issued evacuation notices, residents of several such "dangerous" houses continue to stay on, refusing to vacate the premises.

These "dangerous" structures are located in areas like Kotla Mubarakpur, Okhla village, Sahyog Vihar, Seelampur, Dariba Kalan, Rohini, Burari, and Jahangirpuri, among others.

The Indian Express visited a few

such houses, where many residents have refused to leave.

At Keshavpuram Zone in Shalimar Bagh in Northwest Delhi, four lower income group flats in a building constructed by the Delhi Development Authority in BB Block have been declared dangerous by the MCD. All the four flats are occupied, with one resident claiming he has a "stability certificate" issued by a "structure engineer".

Visible cracks run along the pillars of the building — which has 18 flats — while swollen walls do not allow any door to be shut.

A resident of one of the four flats said that several parts of the building have been constructed illegally. "Two years ago, I had written to various authorities stating

that the house has developed cracks... the ceiling of rooms and washrooms have fallen multiple times. They conducted a survey and said either to vacate the house or demolish the illegal parts."

The last evacuation notice was received by the resident on May 22, asking him to vacate the premises within 24 hours. "But since then no one has come here to check... We are ready to demolish unauthorised constructions but not vacate the flat," he added.

A resident who stays in a flat on the first floor — also in the list of four dangerous houses — said he had taken the flat on rent in 2009. "After the building was declared dangerous, we got a survey done by structure engineers, who said the building is safe. Now, we will



One of the buildings in Garhi village, East Of Kailash. *Amit Mehra*

go and meet the authorities."

Over 17 km away, a narrow road covered with silt and flooded with rainwater leads to an old red-

coloured building with visible cracks in the plaster. Located near Playao Chowk in Garhi village in East Of Kailash, houses, along with

shops in the building, have been declared dangerous. The ground floor houses three shops — a pharmacy, a mobile store, and a shop selling bags. Residents live on the above three floors.

The pharmacy owner said he did not know that the building has been categorised as dangerous. However, tenants, who have been staying on the second floor for over a year and paying a rent of Rs 10,000, said the notice came two-three months ago. Following this, they were told by the owner that the building has been repaired, they claimed. The owner of the building could not be contacted for a comment.

At 766, Chabi Ganj in Kashmere Gate, a two-storey building — housing six-seven flats

-- stands with half demolished walls, mattresses and toilet seats buried under the debris.

According to the residents, they were issued a notice of evacuation on June 2. Two weeks later, the houses were demolished.

Local residents claimed most of the occupants were either given money or land by the builder to vacate the premises. One of the residents, Bharat Kumar, claimed that the building had not been surveyed by the civic authorities.

The MCD study, being conducted for over five months now, has surveyed 98.35% or 30,93,678 houses that fall under the civic body's limits. While nine zones have been examined, surveys at Shahdara (North), City-SP and Karol zones are yet to be com-

pleted, said officials.

An official from MCD said that once a house is declared dangerous after a survey conducted by a local junior engineer (JE), a "vacation notice" is served to the occupants as well as the local police. "The police have to ensure that the building is vacated," the official said, adding that this should usually happen within a day or sometimes within a week.

The official further said that if residents of a "dangerous" building ask for time to get the premises repaired, the JE has to take a call on this. "If permission is granted, repair work has to start within a few hours... following which a structure engineer will survey the work and submit a report to the MCD for approval."



“ Har Ghar Tiranga Abhiyan has become
a unique festival in upholding the glory
of the Tricolour ”

-Narendra Modi
Prime Minister



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 **EAST CENTRAL RAILWAY** 

E-TENDER NOTICE
E-Tender No ECR-CAO-RGD-
ETEN-02-25-26

e-tender is invited on behalf of the
President of India for the under mentioned
work:-

**SN:- 1., E-Tender No.:- ECR-CAO-RGD-
ETEN-02-25-26 in Single Packet System,
Name of work:- Construction of Type V
Quarter at Raigir for Dy. Chief Engineer
Construction Raigir in Danapur Division of
ECR, Approx. Cost of the work in (Rs.):-
60,65,748.00, Bid Security (Rs.):-
1,21,300.00, Period of work completion:-
6 months**

**Date and Time of closing of tender:-
20.08.2025 upto to 12:30 hrs**

Any e-tenders which is sent by Post/Courier/
Fax or by hand will not be accepted, All
such manual submission of tender even if it
is on firm's letter pad or received in time
will not be accepted. The above e-tender
document along with full information is
available on website <http://www.iरेps.gov.in>.

Note: In case of any discrepancies found in
tender notice, English version will be final.
Tenders are requested to visit the website
<http://www.iरेps.gov.in> at least 15 days
before last date of Bidding Start Date, for
latest corrigendum/corrections etc in
connection with this e-tender.

**Dy. Chief Engineer/Cons/RGD/
PR/0704/CON RGD/ENGG/T/25-26/40**

AISWARYA RAJ
DEHRADUN, AUGUST 1



Uttarakhand Congress leaders celebrate in Dehradun on Friday. ANI

BOTH THE BJP and the Congress claimed victory as the results of the panchayat election in Uttarakhand were declared late Friday evening. While the saffron party claimed bagging 127 seats of the 315 it contested, Congress said 138 out of the 198 candidates won the election this time.

In the election across 12 districts (except Haridwar), the polls were conducted for 358 zila panchayat members, 2,974 block development council members, and 7,499 panchayat heads.

The BJP claimed the victory of 58 rebel candidates, who were not given the party ticket and eventu-

ally ended up winning on an independent symbol.

The party's performance in districts like Chamoli, four of 26, left much to be desired. Moreover, Nainital MLA Sarita Arva's son, Rohit

**MANRAJ GREWAL
SHARMA**
CHANDIGARH AUGUST 1

THE PUNJAB and Haryana High Court Friday dismissed a petition filed by actor and BJP MP Kangana Ranaut seeking quashing of summons issued to her by a court in Bathinda in a defamation complaint. Ranaut will now stand trial in the defamation case before the Judicial Magistrate in Bathinda.

The case is based on complaint against Kangana filed by Mahinder Kaur (73) of Bahadurgarh Jandian village in Punjab's Bathinda district in 2021. Mahinder Kaur, who had been protesting against the now repealed three farm laws, had alleged that the actor defamed her in a retweet she shared on the Twitter (now X) by identifying her wrongly as Bilkis Bano of Shaheen Bagh fame.

Quashing the petition, Justice Tribhuvan Dahiya said that there are specific allegations against Ranaut that “false and defamatory imputations by her in the retweet have dented the respondent’s reputation and lowered her in her own estimation, as also in the eyes of others”.

The bench specifically noted the absence of any apology from Ranaut. "It is evident from the evidence led by the complainant that the accused made the impugned defamatory remarks without going into the truthfulness thereof and furthermore, she even failed to tender any apology to the complainant after knowing the truth," the court held.

Kaur had filed criminal complaint before the Judicial Magistrate First Class in Bathinda on January 5, 2021. The controversy centers on a retweet by Ranaut of a post originally made by Advocate Gautam Yadav, which included a picture of Kaur accompanied by the remark, "is available in 100 rupees." Ranaut shared the tweet alleging that the 'Shaheen Bagh dad' also joined the farmers' agitation at various border points of the national capital. The retweet, which reached Ranaut's millions of followers, was deemed defamatory by Kaur, who argued it tarnished her reputation and character;

Following the recording of preliminary evidence, the Magistrate issued a summoning order on February 22, 2022, directing Ranaut to face trial for the alleged offense. Ranaut filed a plea before the high court, under Section 482 of the Code of Criminal Procedure, seeking quashing of complaint and also the summoning order issued by the lower court, arguing procedural irregularities and lack of intent to defame.




Dismissing Ranaut's plea, Justice Dahiya held that the summoning order was "well-reasoned" and based on sufficient prima facie evidence establishing the ingredients of defamation under Sections 499 and 500 IPC. The court found that the retweet, which contained "serious allegations against the person and character of the complainant," met these criteria. It further noted that Ranaut, as a public figure with a substantial social media following, had "extra responsibility on her shoulders to verify the truthfulness of the remarks made by her."

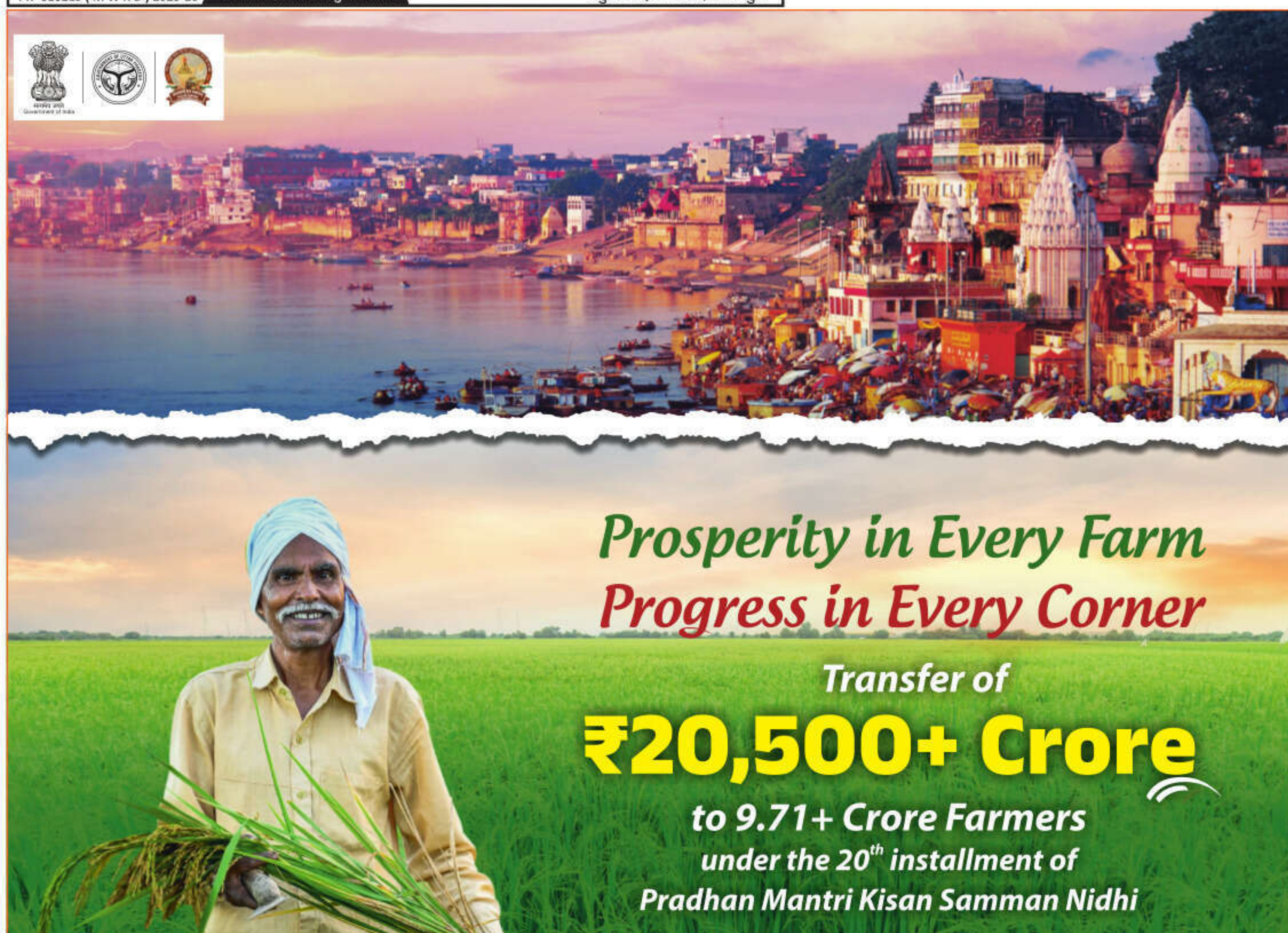
The judgment highlighted that Ranaut “failed to tender any apology to the complainant after knowing the truth,” reinforcing the Magistrate’s decision to proceed with the case.

New Delhi: Science and Technology Minister Jitendra Singh on Friday said that a fund of ₹1 lakh crore will boost the private sector to drive India's sovereign technology ambitions.



Singh made these remarks while addressing the ASSOCHAM Conference on "Sovereign Tech for India's Digital Transformation".

He said the government has launched the ambitious Research, Development, and Innovation (RDI) Scheme to transform private sector R&D, particularly in sunrise and strategic sectors. Singh said the scheme will provide long-term, low-interest loans and risk capital to support deep-tech, critical technologies, and transformative projects. PTI



Prosperity in Every Farm
Progress in Every Corner
Transfer of
₹20,500+ Crore
to 9.71+ Crore Farmers
under the 20th installment of
Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Nidhi





Inauguration/Foundation Stone Laying of
52 Development Projects worth ₹2,200 Crore
for upgrading civic amenities in Kashi


Distribution of assistive aids to
2,000+ Divyangjan and Senior Citizens

Launch of Kashi Sansad Pratiyogita
Registration Portal, Website and QR code

— by —



Narendra Modi
Prime Minister



Yogi Adityanath
Chief Minister, Uttar Pradesh

Dr. Virendra Kumar
Minister, Social Justice and Empowerment, Govt. of India

Keshav Prasad Maurya
Deputy Chief Minister, Uttar Pradesh

Brajesh Pathak
Deputy Chief Minister, Uttar Pradesh

Suresh Kumar Khanna
Minister, Finance and Parliamentary Affairs, Uttar Pradesh

Surya Pratap Shahi
Minister, Agriculture, Agricultural Education and Agricultural Research, Uttar Pradesh

Anil Rajbhar
Minister, Labor and Employment, Co-ordination, Uttar Pradesh

Ravindra Jaiswal
Minister of State (Independent Charge), Stamp and Court Fee, Registration, Uttar Pradesh

Dr. Dayashankar Mishra 'Dayalu'
Minister of State (Independent Charge), Ayush, Food Security and Drug Administration (MOS), Uttar Pradesh

— and other dignitaries —

Date : 2nd August, 2025 | Time : 10:00 AM | Venue : Gram Sabha-Banauli (Kalika Dham) Sewapuri, Varanasi




— Major Projects for Inauguration —

- Widening and strengthening of Varanasi-Bhadohi road to 4 lanes
- Clean drinking water projects in 47 Gram Panchayats under Jal Jeevan Mission
- 2-lane railway overbridge on Mohansarai-Adalpura Road near Hardattpur Railway Station
- Redevelopment of 8 kutcha ghats along the Ganga River through CSR initiatives
- Installation of robotic surgery unit, 2 radiation machines and a CT scan machine at Homi Bhabha Cancer Hospital and Mahamana Pandit Madan Mohan Malaviya Cancer Centre

— Major Projects for Foundation Stone Laying —

- Widening and strengthening of Dalmandi Road
- Government Homeopathic Medical College & Hospital
- Railway overbridge at Level Crossing No. 22C on Phulpur-Sindhora Road near Khalispur Yard on Varanasi-Zafarabad Rail Section
- Road from Kachhwa Road via Kapsethi-Babatpur to Chaubepur
- Widening and strengthening of the road from Chhitampur to Rajwadi via Dhaurahara


Kaam Damdaar- Double Engine Sarkar

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epaper.indianexpress.com

Information & Public Relations Department, Uttar Pradesh



GOVERNMENT OF NATIONAL CAPITAL TERRITORY OF DELHI
OFFICE OF THE LAND ACQUISITION COLLECTOR (SOUTH-WEST)
OLD TERMINAL TAX BUILDING, KAPASHERA, NEW DELHI-37

No. ADM/LAC/SW/2025-26/57656**Dated 31/7/2025**

Public Notice under Section 21 of the RECTLARR Act, 2013

Whereas, a request was received from DDA through the Land and Building Department vide letter dated 25.07.2025 to re-initiate acquisition in terms of the liberty granted to DDA by the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India order 17.05.2024 in the batch matters titled as Govt. of NCT of Delhi Through the Secretary, Land and Building Department & Another Vs M/s. K.L. Rathi Steels Limited and others, DDA vs Tejpal and Ors and GNCTD and anr. Vs M/s BSK Realtors LLP & Anr.

In terms of the request of the DDA, acquisition of the land, mentioned below which was subject of the litigation titled as GNCTD & anr. Vs Geeta Gulati & Ors. and which were notified and acquired as per the details mentioned below, is to be re-initiated. Further, as per the order of the Hon'ble Supreme Court 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.

Khasra Nos	Village /Award	Notification u/s 4 of LA act 1894	Notification u/s 6 of LA act 1894
52//3(4-15), 8(2-16)	Amberhai 48/1986-87	No. F.9(16)/84-L&B dated 27.01.1984	No. 10(20)/84-L&B dated 24.09.1984


Whereas, the Hon'ble Supreme Court in its judgement dated 17.05.2024 has dispensed with the compliance of the provisions of the Chapter II and III along with Section 13,14 and 16 to 20 of the act.

Accordingly, in accordance with section 21 of RFCTLARR Act 2013, notice is being issued to intimates all concerned that the Government intends to initiate fresh acquisition proceedings for the land mentioned in the above table which is required 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, in writing, signed by themselves or their authorised agents, before the Collector(SW) on or before 01st September, 2025 at 11.30 AM in the Conference Hall of the office of District Magistrate (South West).

If any person fails to appear and submit claims as above, the Collector will proceed to make an award based on available information and such person may be bound by the award under the law.

Sd/-
(Mekala Chaitanya Prasad, IAS)
Collector and District Magistrate South West Delhi

DIP/Shabdarth/Classified/0176/25-26.



GOVERNMENT OF NATIONAL CAPITAL TERRITORY OF DELHI
OFFICE OF THE LAND ACQUISITION COLLECTOR (SOUTH-WEST)
OLD TERMINAL TAX BUILDING, KAPASHERA, NEW DELHI-37

No. ADM/LAC/SW/2025-26/57657**Dated: 31/7/2025**

Public Notice under Section 21 of the RECTLARR Act, 2013

Whereas, a request was received from DDA through the Land and Building Department vide letter dated 25.07.2025 to re-initiate acquisition in terms of the liberty granted to DDA by the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India order 17.05.2024 in the batch matters titled as Govt. of NCT of Delhi Through the Secretary, Land and Building Department & Another Vs M/s. K.L. Rathi Steels Limited and others, DDA vs Tejpal and Ors and GNCTD and anr. Vs M/s BSK Realtors LLP & Anr:

In terms of the request of the DDA, acquisition of the land, mentioned below which was subject of the litigation titled as GNCTD & anr. Vs Kusham Jain & Ors. and which were notified and acquired as per the details mentioned below, is to be re-initiated. Further, as per the order of the Hon'ble Supreme Court 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.

Khasra Nos.	Village /Award	Notification u/s 4 of LA act 1894	Notification u/s 6 of LA act 1894
89//23/2 (1-04)	Palam 48/1986-87	No. F.9(16)/84-L&B dated 27.01.1984	F.9(16)/84-L&B dated 26.09.1984


Whereas, the Hon'ble Supreme Court in its judgement dated 17.05.2024 has dispensed with the compliance of the provisions of the Chapter II and III along with Section 13,14 and 16 to 20 of the act.

Accordingly, in accordance with section 21 of RFCTLARR Act 2013, notice is being issued to intimates all concerned that the Government intends to initiate fresh acquisition proceedings for the land mentioned in the above table which is required 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, in writing, signed by themselves or their authorised agents, before the Collector(SW) on or before 01st September, 2025 at 11.30 AM in the Conference Hall of the office of District Magistrate (South West).

If any person fails to appear and submit claims as above, the Collector will proceed to make an award based on available information and such person may be bound by the award under the law.

Sd/-
(Mekala Chaitanya Prasad, IAS)
Collector and District Magistrate South West Delhi

DIP/Shabdarth/Classified/0177/25-26



GOVERNMENT OF NATIONAL CAPITAL TERRITORY OF DELHI
OFFICE OF THE LAND ACQUISITION COLLECTOR (SOUTH-WEST)
OLD TERMINAL TAX BUILDING, KAPASHERA, NEW DELHI-37

No. ADM/LAC/SW/2025-26/57648**Dated 31/7/2025**

Public Notice under Section 21 of the RECTLARR Act, 2013

Whereas, a request was received from DDA through the Land and Building Department vide letter dated 25.07.2025 to re-initiate acquisition in terms of the liberty granted to DDA by the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India order 17.05.2024 in the batch matters titled as Govt. of NCT of Delhi Through the Secretary, Land and Building Department & Another Vs M/s. K.L. Rathi Steels Limited and others, DDA vs Tejpal and Ors and GNCTD and anr. Vs M/s BSK Realtors LLP & Anr.

In terms of the request of the DDA, acquisition of the land, mentioned below which was subject of the litigation titled as DDA vs Chander Lekha Solomon and which were notified and acquired as per the details mentioned below, is to be re-initiated. Further, as per the order of the Hon'ble Supreme Court 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.

Khasra No	Village /Award	Notification u/s 4 of LA act 1894	Notification u/s 6 of LA act 1834
26//2(4-16), 9(4-16), 10(4-16) , 11(4-16), 20(4-16), 21/2(0-7), 37/1/2(0-7), 10/2(0-7) 11/2(0-6)	Bamnoli 01/2007-08	F.9(50)/2004/L&B/LA/13211 dated 04.11.2004	F.9(50)/2004/L&B/LA/9450 dated 31.10.2005

Whereas, the Hon'ble Supreme Court in its judgement daned 17.05.2024 han dispensed with the compliance of the provisions of the Chapter II and III along with Section 13,14 and 16 to 20 of the acts

Accordingly, in accordance with section 21 of RFCTLARR Aut 2013, notice is being leased to intimates all concerned that the Government legends initiate, fresh soquisition proceedings for the land mentioned in the above table which is required 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 in writing, signed by themselves or their authorised agents, before the Collector(SW) on or before 01st September, 2025 at 11.30 AM in the Conference Hall of the office of District Magistrate (South West).

If any person fails to appear and submit claims as above, the Collector will proceed to make an award based on available information and such person may be bound by the award under the law.

Sd/-
(Mekala Chaitanya Prasad, IAS)
Collector and District Magistrate South West Delhi

DIP/Shabdarth/Classified/0170/25-26



MUNICIPAL CORPORATION FARIDABAD
B.K.CHOWK, FARIDABAD,HARYANA , 121001

PUBLIC NOTICE

Invitation for Innovative Technology & Proven Solutions from Individuals, Startups, and Companies

Municipal Corporation Faridabad (MCF) invites individuals, startups and established companies to collaborate on newage , innovative smart technology & proven solutions across the following key thematic areas:

• Solid Waste Management	• Sanitation & Public Health
• Water Supply & Wastewater Management	• Urban Governance & Citizen Engagement
• Air Quality Management	• Affordable Housing & Urban Planning
• Urban Mobility & Transport	• Disaster Risk Reduction & Emergency Response
• Energy Efficiency & Renewable Energy	• Digital Infrastructure & Smart Technologies
• Climate Resilience & Urban Environment	• Any other smart & proven solutions for enhancing urban services

Interested entities with relevant expertise and proven solutions are encouraged to submit expressions of interest (EOI) along with work profile and solution.

- Last Date for Submission by Email: *15th August 2025*
- Email ID: *cmcfaridabad@ulbharyana.gov.in, mcfchiefengineer@gmail.com, mc2swmsbm@gmail.com, mcfamrut1@gmail.com*
- Contact No.- +918750551500

Let's work together to build a smarter, greener, and more sustainable Faridabad

Sd /-
Commissioner
Municipal Corporation Faridabad

No.37217/HRY



CHENNAI METRO RAIL LIMITED
(A Joint Venture of Govt. of India & Govt. of Tamil Nadu)
(ISO 9001:2015 AND ISO 14001:2015 CERTIFIED)
METROS, Anna Salai, Nandanam, Chennai - 600 035

Tender Notice
NIT No: CMRL/SIG&PSD/SIG-01/2025
e-procurement tender
National Competitive Bidding

CMRL invites digitally signed tender through e-procurement portal from reputed, experienced, financially sound, eligible applicants, who fulfill the qualification criteria as mentioned in the tender through National Competitive Bidding under Single Stage Two Envelope (Technical & Financial) system for the works as detailed below:

Providing Maintenance Services for Signalling & Train Control Systems at Stations, Admin Building, OCC, Viaduct, Tunnel, Trains, Depots and other related premises of CMRL-Corridor 1 & Corridor 2.

Bid Submission End Date: 30/08/2025 up to 12:00 hrs
Bid Opening Date: 30/08/2025 at 12:30 hrs

For further details, please visit e-procurement website:
http://eprocure.gov.in/eprocure/app
www.chennaietrorail.org

For Managing Director
Director (Systems & Operations)
Chennai Metro Rail Limited

DIPRI/4030/Tender/2025



प्राचार्य का कार्यालय
राजकीय पोलिटेकनिक, अरवल

Letter no- NIT No. 17/2025-26
Notice Inviting Tenders

1. GOVERNMENT POLYTECHNIC ARWAL has been constituted under the Department of Science, Technology and Technical Education, Government of Bihar to cater to the needs of technical education. The GOVERNMENT POLYTECHNIC ARWAL intendent to invite bids from eligible entities for Quotation for Machines and laboratory Equipment's for Electrical Engineering for GOVERNMENT POLYTECHNIC ARWAL in the tender document.
2. The contract will be signed between GOVERNMENT POLYTECHNIC ARWAL and the successful agency/bidder.
3. To participate in the e-tendering process, the bidder/agency are required to get themselves registered with eproc2.bihar.gov.in.
4. **Schedule of Events:**

Sl.	Event Description	Timeline
4.1	Last date & time of downloading the RFP.	Till 20.08.2025 up to 05:00 PM , on eproc2.bihar.gov.in
4.2	Pre-bid meeting	08.08.2025 at 11:00. AM
4.3	Submission (upload) of online bidding document.	Till 20.08.2025 up to 05:00 PM , on eproc2.bihar.gov.in
4.4	Submission of EMD	EMD MUST be submitted in Offline Mode, Till 20.08.2025 up to 05:00 PM , on eproc2.bihar.gov.in and Hard Copy Must be Submitted in College
4.5	Opening of Technical Bid	21.08.2025 at 04:00 PM on the eproc2.bihar.gov.in
4.6	Opening of Financial Bid	After technical Evaluation
4.7	Pre- bid meeting venue	GOVT POLYTECHNIC ARWAL DHAMAUL KINJAR ARWAL BIHAR-804423
4.8	Contact person	Principal GOVERNMENT POLYTECHNIC DHAMAUL KINJAR ARWAL BIHAR-804423 Mobil no :8827210677 Email ID: principalgparwal@gmail.com
4.9	Method of Selection	Least Cost Method

Principal
GOVERNMENT POLYTECHNIC, ARWAL

PR. No. 010064 (Sci.&Tech.) 2025-26

उक्त सूचना www.state.bihar.gov.in/prdbihar पर भी देखी जा सकती है।

अपने जीवन साथी के प्रति वफादार रहें,
किसी अनजान स्त्री/पुरुष से असुरक्षित यौन संबंध से बचें।

Office of the Director,
Ground Water Department,U.P.
State Ground Water Informatics Centre (Bhujal Bhawan),
Village-Hariharpur, Near Delhi Public School,
Shahidpath, Lucknow-226002
Phone: (Office) 0522-2287068, (Office) 0522-2287233
Fax: (Office) 0522-2286471, E-mail: upgwd.in@gmail.com
Website- <http://upgwd.gov.in>

No. 561/GWD/A-7 (DWLR) /2025-26**Dated: 28.07.2025**

E-TENDER NOTICE NO: 01/GWD/DWLR/2025-26

The The Director Ground Water Department, Uttar Pradesh, on behalf of Governor of Uttar Pradesh, invites online bids from eligible bidders/firms (eligibility conditions detailed in Bid Document) through E-Tendering in two envelop system for the work as detailed below:-:

S. No	Tender Notice No.	Name & Description of Work	Estimated Cost (without GST) (Rs. in Lakh)	Completion Period of Work	EMD/ Bid Security Amount (Rs. in Lakh)	Cost of Bid Document (Rs.)
1.	01/GWD/ DWLR/ 2025-26	Supply, Installation, Testing and Commissioning of 700 Digital Water Level Recorder (DWLR) (Non-Vented pressure type) with Telemetry, including fencing and establishment of Data Acquisition system along with its maintenance for Real Time Ground Water level Monitoring System	790.59	04 Month	15.82	5000+GST @18% Total 5900.00




1. The Bid Document shall be available online on E-Tender portal <https://www.etender.up.nic.in> from Dated **11-08-2025 at 14:00 hours** to Dated **25-08-2025 at 10:00 hours**. The last date of online submission of bid document through ETender portal is Dated **25-08-2025 at 10:00 hours**. The Technical Part of Bid shall be opened on Dated **25-08-2025 at 13:00 hours** at office of the Director, Ground Water Department UP by the Tender Committee..
2. For submission & other Tender details, please refer NIT available on website E-Tender portal <https://www.etender.up.nic.in>. The Bid Document and other details are also available on GWD, UP website <http://upgwd.gov.in>. The corrigendum/amendments etc., if any, will be notified on these websites only and separate advertisements will not be publish for the same.
3. Ground Water Department, U.P. reserves the right to accept or reject any bid without assigning any reason or incurring any liability whatsoever.

UPID-236488 Dt. 31.07.2025
www.upidadv.gov.in

(Sunil Kumar Verma)
Director

NORTH WESTERN RAILWAY



Notice of Invitation E-Tender
Divisional Railway Manager, N.W. Rly. Bikaner for and on behalf of President of India invites sealed open tender for the following works on the date shown as below; **Tender No:** S&T-BKN/ 25-26/11; **Name of Work with its Location:** "Provision of CCTV system along with extension of Railnet at various location of C&W i.e. washing line, Sick line, admin office and C&W points at BKN, BNW, SGNR, HSR, LGH, HMH, CUR, SOG stations over BKN division." **Approx Cost of Work:** 22469067.54; **Bid Security Amount (in Rs.):** 262400.00 ; **Date & Time for submission of Tender & opening of tender:** Up to 15:00 Hrs. of 25.08.2025 **Website from Which complete Tender details can be seen & download:** www.ireps.gov.in 956-AN/25

Please join us on    /NWRRailways

OVERHAULING OF BIO TANKS DURING POH AT DIBRUGARH WORKSHOP

E-Tender Notice No.: DBWS-NIET-21-2025-26 Dated: 29-07-2025. E-Tenders are invited by the undersigned for the following works: **Name of work:** Overhauling of Bio tanks during POH at Dibrugarh Workshop for a period of 2 years. **Approximate Cost of the work :** ₹3,58,04,880/-. Inclusive of GST @ 18%. **Earnest Money: ₹3,29,000/-** **Date & Time of closing of tender: 15:00 hrs. of 20-08-2025 & opening at 15.30 hrs. of 20-08-2025** at Mechanical Workshop, Dibrugarh-786001. The complete information with the tender document of above e-tender will be available upto **15.00 hrs. of 20-08-2025** in website www.ireps.gov.in **CWM, Mechanical Workshop, Dibrugarh**

 **NORTHEAST FRONTIER RAILWAY**
Serving Customers With A Smile

 **EAST CENTRAL RAILWAY** 

E-TENDER NOTICE

DRM (Electrical)/ECR/ Dhanbad for and behalf of the President of India invites e-Tender for execution of the following works. **e-Tender No:** EL/25/OPEN/2025-26, Name of work with location and Completion of work : Provision of roof top solar plant on Railway ORH buildings, DHN & Gati Shakti Building at DRM office in Dhanbad division (Completion period: 12 Months). Approx. cost of the work : ₹25,94,893.77, Bid Security to be deposited : ₹51,900/-, Bid Evaluation System : Single Packet. **e-Tender No:** EL/26/OPEN/2025-26, Name of work with location and Completion of work : (A) Electrical (G) work in connection with Paharpur--Augmentation and upgradation of OHE depot and Tower wagon shed at Paharpur depot in Dhanbad Division (B) Provision of APFC Panel at various pump houses over Dhanbad division. (Completion period: 12 Months). Approx. cost of the work : ₹22,33,718.21, Bid Security to be deposited : ₹44,700/-, Bid Evaluation System : Single Packet. **e-Tender No:** EL/27/OPEN/2025-26, Name of work with location and Completion of work : Electrical work in connection with (A) Electronic Interlocking in place of PI at PKA, TET & DLW station (B) Provision of power supply to Private Electronic Inmotion Weighbridge on Railway land in Line no. 10 at KSNL siding at Khajuri Station(C) Multi section digital axle counter (MSDAC) in Mahadiya (MHDA) yard under dhanbad division.(D) Proposal for Installation of Railway owned Electronic In Motion Weighbridge at Katkamsandi (KKAS) Station(E) Supply Installation & commissioning of Pittless Electronics in Bridge motion Railway Weigh Bridge (EIMWB) for KUMH in Dhanbad Division. Qty-01 nos. (Completion period:12 Months). Approx. cost of the work : ₹25,60,581.07, Bid Security to be deposited : ₹51,200/-, Bid Evaluation System : Single Packet. Date & Time for submission of closing and opening of e-Tender : Closing of Bid On 21.08.2025 at 11:00 Hrs. Opening of Bid On 21.08.2025 after 11:30 Hrs. Website particulars : WEBSITE : www.ireps.gov.in. Manual offers are not allowed against e-Tender. **Divisional Railway Manager (Elect.)/ ECR/Dhanbad** **PR/0700/DHN/ELECT/T/25-26/68**

"IMPORTANT"

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[illegible]



Telangana Tourism Development Corporation LTD

"Tourism House" # 3-5-891, Himayathnagar, Hyderabad-500029

e-Procurement Tender Notice No. TGTDG/PRJ/02/08/2025-26, Dated:01.08.2025

Sl.No.	Name of the work	Bid Downloading Start Date	Bid submission Last Date
1	2	3	4
1	Expression of Interest (EOI) for Empanelment of Tourism Master Planning Consultants for Development of Special Tourism Areas (STAs) in Telangana State	02.08.2025	18.08.2025

Bids are invited on e-Procurement platform from eligible contractors. Further details can be seen @ e-procurement market place www.tender.telangana.gov.in

Sd/- General Manager (Projects)
TGTDG, Hyderabad

DIPR R.O.No. 444-PP/CL-AGENCY/ADVT/1/2025-26 Dt:01.08.2025

GVK Power (Goindwal Sahib) Limited
 Regd. Office: Plot No. 10, Paigah Colony, Sardar Patel Road, Secunderabad- 500003,
 Telangana, India CIN:U40109TG1997PLC028483
 (A wholly owned subsidiary of Gurgaon Amar Thermal Power Limited, GATPL)
 (A step down wholly owned subsidiary of Punjab State Power Corporation Limited, PSPCL)

1. Tender Enquiry No. 05/3/GATP/MECH/CHP/20017739 dated 01/08/2025
 "Procurement of Impact Idlers for conveyor system at CHP Area of 2 x 270 MW Thermal Power Plant GATP, Goindwal Sahib"
 at 2X270 MW Guru Amaradas Thermal Plant (GATP), Goindwal Sahib, Dist.: Tarn Taran, Punjab as per details given in the tender specifications.'

For detailed NIT & tender specifications, please refer to <https://eproc.punjab.gov.in> from 01/08/2025 from 17:00 Hrs, onwards.

Note: Corrigendum and addendum, if any, will be published online at <https://eproc.punjab.gov.in>

NATIONAL COMPETITIVE BIDDING GREATER HYDERABAD MUNICIPAL CORPORATION O/o The Superintending Engineer (Projects-C, N&EZ), GHMC, Hyderabad		GATP/2025
Tender Notice No. 04/SE (P-C,N&EZ)/GHMC/2025-26, D-31-07-2025		
Item No.	Name of Work	IBM Value
1.	Construction of alternate roads around AOC centre under Engineering Procurement and Construction (EPC)/Turnkey Basis	Rs. 3070.74 Lakhs

S.No.	Events	Date and Time
1.	Start date	04-08-2025 from 04.00 PM
2.	Pre-Bid Meeting	12-08-2025 at 03.00 PM Location: O/o Chief Engineer (Projects), GHMC 6th Floor, GHMC Head Office Tank Bund, Hyderabad
3.	Last Date & Time for Receipts of Bids	22-08-2025 upto 03.00 PM
4.	Opening of Technical bid	22-08-2025 after 04.00 PM
5.	Opening of Price bid	22-08-2025 after 04.00 PM

Note: The Bidders are advised to visit www.tender.telangana.gov.in to download Bid Document and EPC project Tender Drawings. Any Queries can be addressed to sprojectnctz@gmail.com.
 Address of the officer concerned Sri P. Mohan Reddy, SEP-C,N&EZ, 9989930369, Superintending Engineer (P-C,N&EZ), Greater Hyderabad Municipal Corporation, Tank Bund Road, Hyderabad. Further details can be seen at e-Procurement (tender.telangana.gov.in).

Sd/-
Superintending Engineer (Projects-P-C,N&EZ) GHMC

R.O. No. : 5893-PP/CL/ADVT/11-2025-26/Date: 01-08-2025

STORES E-PROCUREMENT

E-Tender are invited by the undersigned for the following work.

1. Tender No.: NB255617; **Dtd.:** 29-07-2025 **Item Description**
BODY SIDE STANCHION (LENGTH-650MM) TO DRG NO SCR/C&W/-SK-1238 & PROVISION OF OUTER HOLES FOR STANCHION FROM CENTRE LINE OF STANCHION AS PER DRG NO RYPS/SCR/C& W/SK-1019, (REF. DRG NO WD-09034-S-17, ALT-5) AND CONFIRMING TO RDSO SPECIFICATION WD-01-CRF- 12 (REV-1) OF JAN- 2016, TO SCR DRG NO : SCR/C&W/-SK-1238 ALT-NIL & RYPS/SCR/ C&W/SK-1019 ALT-NIL [Warranty Period: 30 Months after the date of delivery]. **Total Quantity:** 1000.00 Nos. **PL Code (Group):** 38408508; **Earnest Money :** ₹1,01,480/-; **Date & time of closing of tenders at 14:30 Hrs. on 18-08-2025.**

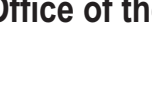
2. Tender No.: NB255627; **Dtd.:** 29-07-2025 **Item Description**
SWITCH BOARD CABINET FOR LHB AC POWER CAR 2X500KVA DA SET AS PER DRG. NO. EDTS-103, REV-D, AM-7, COR-1, 2 & 3 WITH HRC COMPLIANT INTEGRATED TYPE WITH 125A/1000V HRC FUSES. MAKE: ANY RDSO's APPROVED VENDOR. [Warranty Period: 30 Months after the date of delivery]. **Total Quantity:** 02 Nos. **PL Code (Group):** 335801140016; **Earnest Money :** ₹77,410/-; **Date & time of closing of tenders at 14:30 Hrs. on 18-08-2025.**

NOTE :- For details please visit in website www.ireps.gov.in

Dy. CMM/D, New Bongaigaon

NORTHEAST FRONTIER RAILWAY

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KRISHNA BHAGYA JALA NIGAMA LIMITED

(A GOVERNMENT OF KARNATAKA UNDERTAKING)

Office of the Executive Engineer, KBJNL, Dam Division, Narayanpur-585219, Taluk-Hunasagi, Dist-Yadagiri

IFT No KBJNL/DDN/PB/DRIP-II/P-IV/2025-26/447 Dated: 01.08.2025

NATIONAL OPEN COMPETITIVE PROCUREMENT TENDER NOTIFICATION

(ONLY THROUGH E PROCUREMENT SYSTEM)

National Open Competitive Procurement Tender in electronic mode on Item rate basis is invited from the eligible tenderers vide this office tender notification No: KBJNL/NCB/EE/DDN/DRIP-II/P-4/Call-1/TENDER/2025-26/428 Dated: 29.07.2025 by the undersigned on behalf of Managing Director, KBJNL, Bangalore. The tender will be offered through e-procurement system only and will be in two covers system viz Technical Bid and Financial Bid. The tenderers can access e tender document through website: www.kppp.karnataka.gov.in and can be submitted through electronic mode only.

The details of work put to tender and the category of contractors eligible is as under

No.	Name of Work	Approximate amount put to tender (Rs.in lakhs)	Bid Security (Rs.in Lakhs)	Transaction fee Rs.	Stipulated period for completion of Work	Category/Class of Contractor eligible
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1	Improvements to Narayanpur Dam internal roads, Rectification of sunk rip rap of earthen embankment of RBED & Dyke & providing parapet wall on LBED & RBED of Narayanpur Dam (Package-IV) under DRIP-II (Indent No. KBJNL/2025-26/RD/WORK_INDENT2193)	734.55	7.35	As Per E-Procurement	18 Months (including monsoon season)	Bidders from India should be registered with the Government of India or other State Governments/Government of India, or State/Central Government Undertaking

The intending bidders are requested to submit any queries not later than 08-08-2025 upto 5.00 pm through the e-procurement portal only or raise enquiries during the Pre-Bid meeting. All the queries will be answered in the Pre-Bid meeting.

The Calendar of Events of bidding process is as under:

Sl.No.	Calendar of events	Dates
1	The contractor can access to the e-tender document, i.e. the tender schedules, hid documents and other documents, in the web site http://kppp.karnataka.gov.in on payment of transaction fee (non refundable) from	From 01.08.2025 To 10.09.2025 up to 5.00 PM
2	Last date & time for tender quarries/ clarification	08.08.2025 up to 5.00 PM
3	Pre bid meeting will be held at O/o Executive Engineer, KBJNL, Dam Division, Narayanpur-585219, Taluk-Hunasagi, Dist-Yadagir	11.08.2025 @ 11:30 AM
4	The last date for submission of completed tender documents (Cover-1 & Cover-2) through e-portal.	10.09.2025 up to 5:00 PM
5	Date & time of opening of Technical Bid (Cover —I) at the O/o. Executive Engineer, KBJNL, Dam Division, Narayanpur	12.09.2025 @ 11:00 AM
6	Date of Opening of financial bid at the O/o. Executive Engineer, KBJNL, Dam Division, Narayanpur	16.09.2025 at 11.00 AM (Tentative) However the technically qualified bidders Will be intimated about the exact date of opening of financial bid after approval to the Technical bid from the competent authority

Further information can be had from the office of the under signed during office hours

राजस्थान सरकार
कार्यालय अधीक्षण अभियंता सार्वजनिक निर्माण विभाग वृत्त अलवर
 सा.नि.वि. परिसर, अजोरा चौकी के पास, बचवटी रोड, अलवर
 फोन:- 0144-2737038, E-mail:- sealw.pwd@rajasthan.gov.in

क्रमांक 1256 **दिनांक 23-07-25**

CORRIGENDUM NIT NO 05/2025-26

Bids for Construction of 2 CC&BT Road at Division Rajgarh and 1 Building Construction at Division Ramgarh are invited from interested bidder from 19-06-2025 02:00pm up to 23-07-2025 06:00 PM. Now as per the corrigendum in the public date, the last date for its receipt is 04-08-2025. Other particulars of the bid may be visited on the procurement portal (<http://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in> and <http://sppp.rajsin.nic.in> of the state and <http://pwd.rajasthan.gov.in> in departmental website. The approximate value of the procurements is 649.13 /- Lacs.

UBN No:- 1 PWD2526WSOB04964, 2. PWD2526WSOB04967, 3. PWD2526WSOB05010

Sd/- Superintending Engineer
PWD Circle Alwar

DIPR/C/10691/2025

MUTHOOT MICROFIN LTD. | GOLD AUCTION NOTICE

Assam Integrated River Basin Management Project (AIRBMP)
Assam State Disaster Management Authority (ASDMA)
 04th Floor, Monal Tower, GS Road, Dispur, Guwahati-781006, Assam, India
 E-mail: airbmipasdmapiu@gmail.com

i b 6 12ML(34)

कार्यपालक अभियंता का कार्यालय
ग्रामीण विकास विशेष प्रमंडल, देवघर

पुनः अल्पकालीन ई-निविदा आमंत्रण सूचना

पुनः ई- निविदा सूचना संख्या – RDD/SD/DEOGHAR/13/RE/1/2025-26 (3rd Call)

1. कार्य की विस्तृत विवरणी :

क्र० सं०	कार्य का नाम	प्राक्कलित राशि (रूपये में)	अग्रघन की राशि (रूपये में)	परिमाण विपत्र का मूल्य (रूपये में)	कार्य पूर्ण करने की अवधि
1	देवघर जिला के मारगोमुण्डा प्रखंड अन्तर्गत ग्राम कारुडीह में बलया जोरिया पर पुल निर्माण।	18157800.00	363200.00	10000.00	15 माह

2. वेबसाइट में निविदा प्रकाशन की तिथि – 06.08.2025

3. ई-निविदा प्राप्ति की तिथि एवं समय – दिनांक 08.08.2025 से दिनांक 23.08.2025 को अपराह्न 5:00 बजे तक

4. ई-निविदा खोलने का स्थान – कार्यपालक अभियंता का कार्यालय, ग्रामीण विकास विशेष प्रमंडल, देवघर

5. ई-निविदा खोलने की तिथि एवं समय – 25.08.2025 अपराह्न 2:00 बजे

6. ई-निविदा आमंत्रित करने वाले पदाधिकारी का नाम एवं पता :- कार्यपालक अभियंता, ग्रामीण विकास विशेष प्रमंडल, देवघर

7. ई-निविदा प्रकोष्ठ का दूरभाष सं० – 8887483459 (संबंधित कार्यपालक अभियंता का दूरभाष नम्बर)

8. परिमाण विपत्र की राशि घट-बढ़ सकती है तदनुसार अग्रघन की राशि देय होगी।

9. निविदा शुल्क एवं अग्रघन की राशि केवल **Online Mode** द्वारा स्वीकार्य होगी।

10. निविदा शुल्क एवं अग्रघन की राशि का ई-मुद्रातन जिस खाता से किया जायेगा, उसी खाते में अग्रघन की राशि वापस होगी। अगर खाता को बंद कर दिया जाता है तो उसकी सारी जवाबदेही आपकी होगी। विस्तृत जानकारी के लिये वेबसाइट www.jharkhandtenders.gov.in एवं कार्यालय की सूचना पट्ट पर देखा जा सकता है।

कार्यपालक अभियंता
ग्रामीण विकास विशेष प्रमंडल, देवघर

NORTH WESTERN RAILWAY
ई-निविदा आमंत्रण सूचना
 मंडल रेल-प्रविधक, इंजीनियरिंग, उत्तर पश्चिम रेलवे, जोधपुर द्वारा भारत के राष्ट्रीयता के लिये एवं उनकी ओर से ई-निविदा के माध्यम से प्रविधित निर्माण के अन्तर्गत निम्नलिखित प्रयोजन में निम्नलिखित निम्न कार्य के लिए क्रानुसार आमंत्रित की जाती है। ई-निविदा सूचना सं० 880/2025-26; कार्य का नाम व स्थान: Improvements to maintenance facilities for various type of rolling stocks in coaching depot Jodhpur; अनुमानित लागत रुपये: 3,65,26,076.52; बयाने की राशि रुपये: 3,32,600.00; ई-निविदा सूचना सं० 890/2025-26; कार्य का नाम व स्थान: Extension of Bay No. 3A & 3B (Basni end) for Electric loco jacking point in Diesel Shed at BGKT; अनुमानित लागत रुपये: 1,86,05,847.44; बयाने की राशि रुपये: 2,43,000.00; ई-निविदा सूचना सं० 900/2025-26; कार्य का नाम व स्थान: Construction of new Staff Quarters of TYPEII (OSN-2Nos, MWT- 2 Nos , STSN- 2Nos, RDRA- 4Nos, POK- 4Nos) Total 14 no & Type III (MMY- 1Nos, MWT-1Nos, PLCJ-3Nos, RDRA- 2Nos, POK-1Nos) Total -08 Nos in Rai Ka Bagh -Jaisalmer section.; अनुमानित लागत रुपये: 4,31,10,534.44; बयाने की राशि रुपये: 3,65,600.00; निविदा सूचना सं. 910/2025-26; कार्य का नाम व स्थान: Replacement of old corroded steel over head tank by RCC O/H Tank along with water supply system at Kairla, Bhagat Ki Kothi, Jodhpur, Degana stations (Jodhpur Division). अनुमानित लागत रुपये: 1,03,54,150.01; बयाने की राशि रुपये: 2,01,800.00; निविदा सूचना सं. 920/2025-26; कार्य का नाम व स्थान: Complete track renewal (CTR) 74.659 Km of existing 52kg track by PORS along with cesser repair, sleeper fencing, transportation of P way material and other ancillary works in Merita road - Bikaner section. अनुमानित लागत रुपये: 25,05,34,971.08; बयाने की राशि रुपये: 14,02,700.00; निविदा सूचना संख्या 880/2025-26, 890/2025-26, 900/2025-26, 910/2025-26, 920/2025-26 निविदा प्रस्तुत करने की तिथि 20.08.2025, 21.08.2025, 22.08.2025, 25.08.2025, 26.08.2025 को 15:00 बजे तक है। निवेदाओं का विवरण जहाँ पर ई-निविदा देखी व भरी जा सकती है
www.reps.gov.in 944-AN/25
 Please join us on     NWR/Railway



Aeronautical Development Agency
(Ministry of Defence, Govt. of India)
PB No. 1718, Vimanapura Post, Bangalore-560017



CORRIGENDUM-1

Eol for Development of Advanced Medium Combat Aircraft (AMCA)

ADA/AMCA/FSED/EOI/01-2025

Date: 31st Jul 2025

Eol No.	Brief Description	Corrigendum	Existing Due Date and Time	Revised Due Date and Time
ADA/AMCA/FSED/EOI/01-2025, dated 18 th June 2025	Eol for Development of Advanced Medium Combat Aircraft (AMCA)	Sections 2.1,2.2, 6 and associated annexures amended	16 th August 2025, 5:00 PM	31 st August 2025, 5:00 PM

Response to be submitted in hardcopy only, either to be deposited in the tender box at ADA or to be sent by Speed Post only to address below. The responses received after the due date & time will be treated as late submission and will not be considered.

Director (Materials Management)
Aeronautical Development Agency,
P.B. No. 1718, Vimanapura Post, Bangalore - 560017.

महानिदेशक एवं पुलिस महानिरीक्षक का कार्यालय, झारखण्ड, राँची

सूचना पट्ट निविदा आमंत्रण सूचना सं०- 12/2025-26

Prodder Metallic / Non-Metallic – 25 Nos. की आपूर्ति हेतु GST निबंधित फर्म से दिनांक-11.08.2025 को समय-16:00 बजे तक मुहरबन्द निविदाएं आमंत्रित की जाती हैं।—

नियम एवं शर्तें :

1. ईच्छुक फर्म अपने लेटर पैड पर निविदा दो भागों – तकनीकी एवं वित्तीय भाग में देंगे। तकनीकी भाग में GST, पैन नम्बर तथा पूर्व में किसी सरकारी संस्थानों में समान/ समरूप उपकरण की आपूर्ति संबंधी प्रमाण-पत्र की छाया प्रति संलग्न करना अनिवार्य होगा।
2. **परिशिष्ट-01** के रूप में संलग्न विहित पात्र के अनुसार वित्तीय भाग संपर्पित करेंगे। वित्तीय भाग में अंकित दर अंको/ अक्षरों में होगी और उसमें कोई कटींग अथवा ओभर राईटींग मान्य नहीं होगा। ऐसी निविदा को अस्वीकृत कर दिया जायेगा।
- 3- **Prodder Metallic / Non-Metallic का Specifications** **परिशिष्ट-02** के रूप में संलग्न है। उक्त Specifications के अनुसार सामग्रियों की आपूर्ति करना अनिवार्य होगा। Specifications के अनुसार सामग्रियों की आपूर्ति नहीं करने पर आवेष्टित स्वीकार नहीं किया जायेगा। Prodder Metallic / Non-Metallic का Warranty कम से कम एक वर्ष का देना अनिवार्य होगा।
4. क्रयदेश निर्गत करने से पूर्व **Procurement Committee** आवश्यकतानुसार नमूना की माँग कर सकती है।
- 5- **Prodder Metallic / Non-Metallic** की आपूर्ति केन्द्रीय भण्डार, होटवार, राँची में करना अनिवार्य होगा।
6. निविदा के दोनों भाग (तकनीकी एवं वित्तीय) को अलग-अलग लिफाफों में सील कर दोनों के उपर अलग-अलग यथा "तकनीकी भाग" एवं "वित्तीय भाग" लिख कर एक अलग लिफाफा में डालकर और उसे भी सील कर अधोहस्ताक्षरी के पदनाम से भेजना होगा। लिफाफा के उपर फर्म का नाम लिखा रहना अनिवार्य होगा।
7. निविदा का तकनीकी भाग एवं वित्तीय भाग दिनांक - 12.08.2025 को समय- 12:00 बजे **Procurement Committee** के समक्ष अधोहस्ताक्षरी के कार्यालय कक्ष में खोली जायेगी। निविदा खुलने के समय निविदादाता या उनके प्रतिनिधि उपस्थित रह सकते हैं। जिस निविदादाता का तकनीकी भाग सही पाया जायेगा, केवल उन्हीं का वित्तीय भाग **Procurement Committee** के समक्ष खोली जायेगी।
8. निविदा संपर्पित करने के पश्चात् निविदा से संबंधित किसी प्रकार का कागजात स्वीकार नहीं किया जायेगा।
9. महानिदेशक एवं पुलिस महानिरीक्षक, झारखण्ड, राँची को यह अधिकार सुरक्षित होगा कि बिना कारण बताये निविदा को रद्द कर सकेंगे।
10. सम्पूर्ण निविदा दस्तावेज (परिशिष्ट –01 एवं 02 सहित) झारखण्ड पुलिस के वेबसाईट www.jhpolice.gov.in पर उपलब्ध है। कार्यालय दिवस के दौरान पुलिस मुख्यालय, झारखण्ड, राँची से भी सम्पूर्ण निविदा दस्तावेज प्राप्त कर सकते हैं।

MORADABAD MUNICIPAL CORPORATION

Pili Kothi, Jalkal Compound, Moradabad-244001 (U.P.)

E-Procurement Tender Notice

Ref. No : 99/ST/ANA/NNM/2025-26

Date: 01-08-2025

Reference	67/ST/ANA/NNM/2025-26 Date 09-07-2025		
Name of Work	Bid Security/ EMD (In Rs.)	Project Duration	RFP Document Fee
"Door to Door Waste Collection, Transportation upto Secondary Collection Point, Mechanical Sweeping of Roads and User Fee Collection from 20 Wards of Moradabad Municipal Corporation"	10 Lacs	(05+02) Years	Rs. 11,800.00

Key Dates:-

S.No.	Description	Date and Time
1.	Start date for Purchase of Tender (Online)	02/08/2025 at 10.00 AM
2.	Last Date for submission of Tender (Online)	11/08/2025 at 04.00 PM
3.	Technical bid opening (Online)	11/08/2025 at 05.00 PM

Note:-

1. Tender Document and other details shall be available on Website <https://etender.up.nic.in>
2. Amendment to NIT, if any would be published only on website <https://etender.up.nic.in>
3. Bank Details for online payment-
A/C Holder Name - NAGAR NIGAM MORADABAD E-TENDERING
A/c No - 27050100020717
Bank Name - Bank of Baroda
Bank IFSC code - BARB0BLYMOR (5th Character is Zero)
4. Document Fee Rs. 11,800/- (Eleven Thousand Eight Hundred Only) has to be paid through **FDR/NSC/RTGS/NEFT** during the Downloading of RFP Document & Payment of RFP Document Fee in favour of "Municipal Commissioner, Moradabad Municipal Corporation".
5. The NIT may be postponed or cancelled at any time due to administrative reasons and no claim shall be entertained of this account.
6. All the documents are to be submitted online.

The details can be viewed and downloaded online directly from the Government of Uttar Pradesh e-Procurement Portal <https://etender.up.nic.in> from **02/08/2025 at 10:00 Hours (IST)** onwards. Online bids are invited for the following works up to **11/08/2025 at 16:00 hours**. **Technical Bid will be opened on same day at 17:00 hours at Office of the Municipal Commissioner, Nagar Nigam, Pili Kothi, Moradabad.**

For more details on the tender and bidding process you may please visit the above mentioned portal.

**Additional Municipal Commissioner
Nagar Nigam Moradabad**



GOVERNMENT OF JAMMU & KASHMIR

OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER JAL SHAKTI (PHE) DIVISION AWANTIPORA

email: phedivisionawantipora@gmail.com

NOTICE INVITING TENDER

Freshe-NITNo. 11/ of 2025-26 Dated:01/08/2025

For and on behalf of Lt. Governor/ UT of J&K, Executive Engineer Jal Shakti (PHE) Division invites e-tenders from reputed and resourceful Bidders/ Firms/Companies/Consortiums between bidder/ firm/and Financier of "A& ABOVE Class" registered in JKPWD/CPWD/Railways/MES or any other state Government For "AUGMENTATION OF WSS KHANKAABHAGH FOR PROVIDING OF WATER SUPPLY FACILITIES TO ESTATE QUARTERS SEMPORA/PAMPORE". UNDER DEPOSIT CONTRIBUTION (UT CAPEX)

The bidding process shall be completed online on www.jktenders.gov.in into covcersvz. Cover 1st consisting of Pre- Qualification Criteria, General Terms and Conditions, Scope of work and Technical Specifications and Cover 2nd consisting of Financial Bid on percentage basis, in the prescribed BOQ.

Sr No.	Particulars of the work	Estimated Cost (Lacs)	Tender fee (inINR)	Earnest money Deposit in INR	Bid Validity	Time of Completion of work (month)
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1.	AUGMENTATION OF WSS KHANKAABHAGH FOR PROVIDING OF WATER SUPPLY FACILITIES TO ESTATE QUARTERS SEMPORA/PAMPORE" Under Depositcontribution (UT Capex)	Rs 757.73	Rs.8500/-	2% of Estimated Cost	180 days	(6 months)

Position of funds: Approved Under Deposit Contribution UTC apex
Position of AAA: Accorded vide Govt. Order No: 61-Est-KMR of 2025 Dated: 14-07-2025.
Position of T.S: Under Process.

The tender inviting authority is Executive Engineer, JalShakti (PHE) Division Awantipora

Critical Dates:

i Publish Date	01-08-2025 (03:00 PM)
ii Document Download/sale start Date	02-08-2025 (12:00 PM)
iii Bid submission start date	02-08-2025 (12:00 PM)
iv Pre-Bid Meeting date	04-08-2025 (11:00 AM)
v Bid submission end date	12-08-2025 (03:00 PM)
vi Date and time of Bid opening	13-08-2025 (02:00 PM)

1. Bid documents can be accessed and downloaded from the website www.jktenders.gov.in
2. The pre-bid meeting will be held in the office chamber of the worthy Chief Engineer (JSD) Kashmir PHE Department Srinagar through virtual/ offline mode.
3. The whole bidding process shall be completed online on tender portal www.jktenders.gov.in. The intending bidders can download the bid document from the tender portal and can submit their bids by uploading them on the tender portal.
4. The valid bids received shall be opened online in the office of the Executive Engineer, Jal Shakti (PHE) Division Awantipora Bids must be accompanied by EMD and cost of Tender Documents specified in column 4 & 5 of the table and shall be payable at Kashmir.
5. The cost of tender documents should be in the form of Tr/C Challan in favour of the Executive Engineer, Division Awantipora.
6. The hard copies of cost of tender document in shape of Tr/C-Challan, Earnest money insnape of CDR/FDR/ BG and other relevant documents shall be obtained from the bidder who is declared as LI after opening of financial cover.
7. The bid shall remain valid for a period of 180 days from the last date of submission of bids. If any bidder with draws his bid before the said period or makes any modifications in the terms and conditions of the bid, the same shall be considered to be in violation of bid security declaration and shall be dealt with accordingly and the bid shall be declared non- responsive.
8. Other details can be seen in the bidding documents from the website. www.jktenders.gov.in.
9. Queries by email if any should be made at phedivisionawantipora@gmail.com

No: AWP/PHE/1489-1504

Date: 01/08/2025

DIPK-462935-DATE 01 AUG 2025

Sd/-

Executive Engineer

Jal Shakti (PHE) Division

awantipora

Mirwaiz offers rare praise to J&K MPs over Sindoor debate

BASHAARAT MASOOD
SRINAGAR, AUGUST 1

THE DEBATE on Operation Sindoor in Parliament found a mention in the sermon of Mirwaiz Umar Farooq on Friday, with the Hurriyat Conference chief offering rare praise for the speeches made by three MPs from Jammu and Kashmir during it.

National Conference MPs Mian Altaf Ahmad (Anantnag-Rajouri) and Aga Ruhullah Mehdi (Srinagar) were among those who spoke during the debate, as was Independent MP Engineer Sheikh Rashid (Baramulla), jailed in Tihar on UAPA charges, Rashid got permission from court to attend the House proceedings.

Mirwaiz Farooq commended the three MPs, saying they spoke “with passion and pain about the disempowerment and dispossession” of the people of J&K.

“A few days back in Parliament, there was a debate on the India-Pakistan war after the heinous Pahalgaon incident, and different views by different political parties of India with regard to the war, its purpose, success or failure were put forward,” Mirwaiz, who is the Valley’s chief cleric, said. “Mian Altaf Sahib, Engineer Rashid Sahib, and Aga Ruhullah Sahib were the only ones to highlight the deep concerns and plight of the people at the epicentre of the basic problem and the current debate.”

Separatist leaders are mostly critical of mainstream politics and politicians, and boycott elections held for Parliament and the Assembly in Kashmir.

Mirwaiz said he could only hope that what the Kashmiri parliamentarians said was heard by those in power in New Delhi, and that if they really wanted to lessen “*dil ki doori*” (the gap between the hearts of the people of Kashmir and other parts of India), they must pay heed to it.

At a rally in Srinagar in 2024, Prime Minister Narendra Modi had said he, his government and party were working to remove both “*dil ki doori*” and “*Dilli se doori*” (the distance between Delhi and Kashmir)”.

India rejects UK report alleging ‘transnational repression’

New Delhi: India Friday categorically rejected as “baseless” a British parliamentary report that named it among countries engaged in “transnational repression” in the UK.

The Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) said the allegations stemmed from “unverified” and “dubious sources” predominantly linked to proscribed entities and individuals.

“We have seen the references to India in the report and categorically reject these baseless allegations,” said MEA spokesperson Randhir Jaiswal.

The report by the British Parliament’s Joint Committee on Human Rights listed India along with China, Egypt, Eritrea, Iran, Pakistan, Russia, Bahrain, Rwanda, Saudi Arabia, Turkey and the UAE as countries engaging in “transnational repression” in the UK.

The report was made public on July 30. Some of the details related to India were provided by Sikhs for Justice, a pro-Khalistan organisation banned in India under the UAPA, and other UK-based Sikh groups.

Defamation case against Tharoor: SC extends stay on proceedings

New Delhi: The Supreme Court Friday indicated that it intended to end the proceedings in the criminal defamation case against Lok Sabha MP Shashi Tharoor’s “scorpion sitting on a shiving” remark on Prime Minister Narendra Modi, and directed that the stay on proceedings ordered last year will continue.

Justice MM Sundresh, presiding over a two-judge bench, told complainant Rajeev Babbar’s counsel, who urged the court to hear the matter on a non-miscellaneous day: “What non-miscellaneous day? Let us close this. Why do you want to be touchy about all this? Let us close all this.” The bench, also comprising Justice N K Singh, nevertheless agreed to hear the matter.

EC is stealing votes for BJP, Congress has ‘atom bomb’ of proof, says Rahul

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, AUGUST 1

LEADER OF Opposition (LoP) Rahul Gandhi said Friday the Congress had an “atom bomb” of proof that the Election Commission (EC) was “stealing votes” for the BJP and when the matter comes to light, the poll panel will have “no place to hide”. Responding to him, the EC said it “ignores such baseless allegations being made on a daily basis” while the BJP criticised the Congress leader’s “undemocratic and undignified” language.

Asked about the Special Intensive Revision (SIR) in Bihar, which Opposition parties have been protesting, Gandhi told reporters at Parliament complex, “I have said ‘vote chori (stealing of votes)’ is happening and now we have open-and-shut proof that the Election Commission is involved in ‘vote chori’.”

“I am not saying this lightly. I am saying this with 100% proof. As soon as we release it, the whole country will know that EC is indulging in ‘vote chori’. It is doing it for the BJP ... We believe that vote theft has happened at the state level (in



Leader of Opposition in Lok Sabha Rahul Gandhi, Congress MPs Priyanka Gandhi Vadra and Selja Kumari, NCP-SP MP Supriya Sule and others in Parliament. PTI

Maharashtra). Voter revision happened, and a crore voters were added. Then we went into detail, seeing that the EC is not helping, and decided to dig deep into this. We got our investigation done, it took six months, and what we have found is an atom bomb. When it explodes,

the EC will have no place to hide anywhere in the country,” Gandhi said.

He warned that EC officials “involved” in this would not be spared. “This is treason, nothing less than that. You may have retired, you may be anywhere, we will find you.”

The Congress leader’s remarks came after he and other Opposition leaders wrote to Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla, urging him to schedule a special discussion on the ongoing voter list revision in Bihar. The Opposition has alleged the SIR exercise is aimed at “disenfranchising voters” ahead of the Bihar Assembly elections and has been demanding a discussion on the issue in both Houses.

On Thursday, the Congress claimed that on August 5, it would expose the “outrageous rigging of voter rolls” by the State Election Commission in Karnataka and would not allow electoral “malpractices” to go unchecked.

EC, BJP respond

Responding to Gandhi, the EC said in a statement: “The Election Commission ignores such baseless allegations being made on a daily basis and despite the daily threats being given, asks all election officials to ignore such irresponsible statements and work in a fair and transparent manner.”

The poll panel said it had sent Gandhi an email on June 12, inviting him to meet its officials, but the

LoP did not respond. The Congress leader, the EC said, had never written to it to raise any of the issues he has publicly spoken about.

Targeting Gandhi, the BJP said the Congress leader should “flow like water” instead of “exploding like a bomb”. Targeting the LoP for using “undemocratic and undignified” language to target the EC, it added, “If they will explode a bomb, we will save the Constitution.” Accusing the Congress of having no faith in democracy, BJP MP Sambit Patra told reporters, “Will Rahul Gandhi explode like a bomb? What do you think? Their job is to explode. They have no other work to do ... Think what kind of language this is: I (Gandhi) will explode on the Election Commission.”

“You say ‘I will go to the Supreme Court against the Election Commission’ or ‘I will protest against it in a democratic manner’, but ‘exploding like a bomb’? The language (of Gandhi) itself is undemocratic and undignified,” he added.



WATCH GANDHI & KIREN RIJJU’S STATEMENTS

1,703 Indian nationals deported by US in 2025, Lok Sabha told

New Delhi: The US government has deported 1,703 Indian nationals, including 141 women, so far in 2025, the government informed Parliament on Friday.

Minister of State for External Affairs Kirti Vardhan Singh, in a response to another query, told Lok Sabha that the number of Indian nationals deported from the US between 2020 and 2024 was 5,541. The number of Indians deported from the UK from 2020

to 2024 is 311. In 2025 (till date), the number is 131, he said.

“The actual numbers may vary for two reasons — those illegal Indian immigrants in possession of valid travel documents are deported directly by the government of the UK. Further, the Emergency Travel Documents issued to illegal Indian immigrants may not be fully utilised as the individuals may appeal against their deportation,” the MoS said.

Kharge says personnel in Well stopping MPs; Chair takes call on security, replies Rijiju

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, AUGUST 1

RAJYA SABHA Leader of Opposition Mallikarjun Kharge Friday objected to the presence of security personnel in the well of the House, alleging that Opposition MPs were being prevented from raising issues.

Parliamentary Affairs Minister Kiren Rijiju said that some MPs moved “aggressively” to prevent its proceedings, prompting marshals to prevent them and underlined that “Parliament security is a serious issue overseen by the Chair and not government”.

In his letter on behalf of the Opposition to Rajya Sabha Deputy Chairman Harivansh, Kharge said that “we are astonished and shocked at the manner in which CISF personnel are made to run into the well of the House when the members are exercising their democratic rights of protest”.

Condemning the move as “objectionable”, he said, “We saw this yesterday and we saw this today as well. Has our Parliament been reduced to such a level?”

“We expect that in future CISF personnel will not come trooping in the well of the House when members are raising important issues of public concern,” Kharge said.

Congress general secretary, communications and party’s chief whip in RS, Jairam Ramesh said, “After the sudden and unprecedented resignation of the Chairman of the Rajya Sabha (Jagdeep Dhankhar), we are now seeing the takeover of the chamber of the Council of States by the personnel of the CISF”.

Calling the incident “unprecedented”, TMC’s RS member



RS Opp leader Mallikarjun Kharge; Parliamentary Affairs Minister Kiren Rijiju

Derek O’Brien accused the NDA government of being “scared” of discussing in the House Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of electoral rolls in poll-bound Bihar.

“Marshals (or CISF personnel) preemptively barricade Well. AITC, DMK & AAP MPs barred from entering the Well. Never seen anything like this before,” he said. Responding to the issue flagged by the Opposition members, Rijiju said that some MPs moved “aggressively” in RS to prevent its proceedings, prompting marshals to prevent them as he asserted that it is not the government but for the respective Chair of the two Houses to take measures he deems fit.

Rijiju said CISF personnel are part of the security apparatus after the incident of two intruders jumping into Lok Sabha and opening smoke canisters, adding that there have been cases of MPs even jumping over the secretariat table within the House.

He said he is eliciting information from RS as to what happened exactly and assured the Opposition that he will consult the Chair if they have any issue.

Nothing will be done that comes in the way of MPs using their privilege or taking up issues, he said. But he added that they have no right to prevent others from speaking.

ED took up 5,892 PMLA cases since 2015, got convictions of 15: Govt to RS

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, AUGUST 1

THE FINANCE Ministry has informed Rajya Sabha that the Enforcement Directorate (ED) took up 5,892 cases under the Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA) since 2015 and secured the conviction of 15 people from these cases during the period.

Union Minister of State for Finance Pankaj Chaudhary said in a written reply: “In these cases, 1,398 Prosecution Complaints (PCs), including 353 Supplementary PCs have been filed before the respective Special

Courts under PMLA. Out of which, so far, the Special Courts have framed charges in 300 Prosecution Complaints including 66 Supplementary PCs and the PMLA Special Courts have convicted 15 persons in eight conviction orders in these cases till June 30.”

The minister said that the ED has filed closure reports before the special PMLA court in 49 of the total cases.

In an annual report 2024-25, ED Director Rahul Navin said: “In the early years of administering PMLA, most cases pertained to drug-related offences. Till March 2014, only 1,883 Enforcement Case Information Reports

(ECIRs) had been registered — averaging fewer than 200 annually — and just 84 Prosecution Complaints (PCs) were filed, with assets under attachment only Rs 5,171.32 crore.”

“Between April 2014 and March 2024, there has been a significant scale-up in enforcement activity, with 5,113 PMLA investigations initiated — averaging 511 ECIRs annually — and 1,332 PCs filed. I am pleased to report that building on this momentum, in FY- 2024-25, 775 new PMLA investigations were launched, 333 PCs were filed, and notably, 34 individuals were convicted,” he said.

NTPC Green Energy Limited
(A subsidiary of NTPC Limited)

CIN: L40100DL2022GOI396282
Regd. Office: NTPC Bhawan, SCOPE Complex, 7, Institutional Area, Lodi Road, New Delhi-110 003
Tel. no.: 011-24362577 Fax: 011-24360241 Email: ngel@ntpc.co.in Website: www.ngel.in

Intimation regarding 3rd Annual General Meeting (AGM)

It is hereby informed to shareholders that the 3rd Annual General Meeting (AGM) of NTPC Green Energy Limited (hereinafter mentioned as “the Company”) will be held on **Thursday, 28th 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 line with aforesaid MCA Circulars and SEBI circular dated 5th June 2025, Annual Report along with notice of 3rd AGM will be sent only through electronic mode to those shareholders whose email addresses are registered with the Company/ depository participant/depository.

Notice and Annual Report for 2024-25 will also be made available on the Company’s website www.ngel.in and websites of the Stock Exchanges, i.e., BSE Limited and National Stock Exchange of India Limited at www.bseindia.com and www.nseindia.com 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 3rd 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 addresses 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 the Notice of AGM.

Manner of registering/updating email ID & Bank Details: Shareholders who have not registered their email IDs and Bank Account details are hereby requested to register the same in following manner;

For shareholders holding shares in Physical Mode	Send duly filled in Form ISR-1 to the Registrar & Transfer Agent (RTA) Kfin Technologies Limited at Selenium Tower B, Plot 31-32, Financial District, Nanakramguda, Gachibowli, Hyderabad – 500 032, Telangana or through email at einward.ris@kfintech.com with following details/ documents:
For updating email ID	For updating Bank account
1. Folio No.	In addition to details required for updating email, following details/documents are required:
2. Name of Shareholder	1. Bank Account details like Bank Account number, Name of the Bank & Branch, MICR Code/ IFSC Code,
3. Scanned copy of share certificate (front and back)	2. Cancelled Cheque bearing the name of the Member or first holder, in case shares are held jointly
4. Self-attested copy PAN	
5. Self attested copy of AADHAR/Driving License/Voter Card/Passport	
(Signature should match with the specimen signature available with the Company/RTA)	
For shareholders holding shares in Demat Mode	Shareholders can register/update email IDs, mobile numbers and Bank Account details by contacting their respective Depository Participants as per the process advised by them.

In case of any further assistance in this regard, Shareholders may contact RTA or Company at above mentioned email/address i.e. einward.ris@kfintech.com or ngel@ntpc.co.in respectively.

For NTPC Green Energy Limited

Sd/-
Manish Kumar
Company Secretary

Date: **01.08.2025**
Place: **New Delhi**

MANEKSHAW CENTRE PARADE ROAD, DELHI CANTT-10

NOTICE INVITING TENDER

1. ADG, Adm & Coord invites sealed tender from OEM/ authorised distributors/vendors for **Procurement and Installation of Pneumatic Capsule Lift** alongwith all required accessories at Manekshaw Centre, Parade Road, Delhi Cantt-10th as per the terms and conditions given in the RFP.

2 The tender documents (RFP) may be collected from Main Office, Manekshaw Centre, Delhi Cantt-10 between 1000hrs to 1700 hrs wef 04 Aug 2025 to 14 Aug 2025 on every working day against submission of tender documents fee of Rs 1500/- in the form of Bank Draft in favour of **Manekshaw Centre Main Acct'** or cash.

3. Sealed tender documents as per RFP will be dropped in the tender box placed at the Main Office of Manekshaw Centre by 1600hrs on **28 Aug 2025**.

TATA POWER

The Tata Power Company Limited

Bombay House, 24 Homi Mody Street, Mumbai 400 001
CIN : L28920MH1919PLC000567; Tel: (91 22) 6665 8282; e-mail : tatapower@tatapower.com; Website: www.tatapower.com

EXTRACT OF CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL RESULTS FOR THE QUARTER ENDED 30th JUNE, 2025

Sr. No.	Particulars	₹ crore			
		30-Jun-25 (Unaudited)	31-Mar-25 (Audited)	30-Jun-24 (Unaudited)	31-Mar-25 (Audited)
a.	Total Income from Operations	18,035.07	17,095.88	17,293.62	65,478.24
b.	Profit / (Loss) before Exceptional items and tax	1,619.46	1,581.74	1,490.34	6,441.67
c.	Profit / (Loss) before Tax	1,619.46	1,599.69	1,490.34	6,319.62
d.	Net Profit / (Loss) for the period / year	1,262.32	1,306.09	1,188.63	4,775.37
e.	Total Comprehensive Income	1,421.87	1,246.95	1,182.24	4,910.21
f.	Paid-up Equity Share Capital (Face Value: ₹ 1/- per share)	319.56	319.56	319.56	319.56
g.	Reserves (excluding Revaluation Reserve)	36,528.07	35,294.08	32,782.85	35,294.08
h.	Securities Premium Account	3,107.54	3,107.54	3,107.54	3,107.54
i.	Net worth	39,102.77	37,842.96	34,867.48	37,842.96
j.	Capital Redemption Reserve	514.47	514.47	514.47	514.47
k.	Debenture Redemption Reserve	198.78	198.78	363.81	198.78
l.	Outstanding Debt	65,552.75	63,461.09	57,206.07	63,461.09
m.	Earnings Per Equity Share (of ₹ 1/- each) (₹) (not annualised)				
(i)	Before Net Movement in Regulatory Deferral Balances				
	Basic	4.26	3.17	3.90	14.64
	Diluted	4.26	3.17	3.89	14.63
(ii)	After Net Movement in Regulatory Deferral Balances				
	Basic	3.31	3.26	3.04	12.42
	Diluted	3.31	3.26	3.03	12.41
n.	Debt Equity Ratio (in times)	1.49	1.49	1.45	1.49
o.	Debt Service Coverage Ratio (in times) (not annualised)	1.60	1.03	1.29	1.29
p.	Interest Service Coverage Ratio (in times)	2.36	2.39	2.37	2.48
q.	Current Ratio (in times)	0.82	0.72	0.78	0.72
r.	Long Term Debt to Working Capital (in times)	23.97	(26.14)	(56.54)	(26.14)
s.	Bad Debts to Account Receivable Ratio (%) (not annualised)	0.80%	0.83%	1.57%	6.42%
t.	Current Liability Ratio (in times)	0.36	0.40	0.41	0.40
u.	Total Debts to Total Assets (in times)	0.41	0.40	0.40	0.40
v.	Debtors' Turnover Ratio (in number of days)	67	67	70	69
w.	Inventory Turnover Ratio (in number of days)	55	61	63	69
x.	Operating Margin (%)	15%	14%	14%	15%
y.	Net Profit Margin (%) including exceptional item	7%	8%	7%	7%

Notes:

- The above results were reviewed by the Audit Committee and approved by the Board of Directors at its meeting held on 1st August, 2025.
- Standalone Financial Information of the Company, pursuant to Regulation 47(1)(b) of SEBI (LODR):

Sr. No.	Particulars	₹ crore			
		30-Jun-25 (Audited)	31-Mar-25 (Audited)	30-Jun-24 (Audited)	31-Mar-25 (Audited)
a.	Total Income from Operations	5,285.20	5,964.88	5,774.12	22,359.44
b.	Profit / (Loss) before Tax	668.81	408.86	951.84	3,615.32
c.	Net Profit / (Loss) for the period / year	520.09	409.11	737.04	3,132.68


3. The above is an extract of the detailed format of Quarterly Consolidated Financial Results filed with the Stock Exchanges under Regulation 33 and 52 of the SEBI (Listing and Other Disclosure Requirements) Regulations, 2015. The full format of the Quarterly Consolidated and Standalone Financial Results is available on the Stock Exchange websites www.bseindia.com and www.nseindia.com and on the Company's website www.tatapower.com. The same can be accessed by scanning the QR code provided below.

4. The figures of the quarter ended 31st March, 2025 are the balancing figures between audited figures in respect of the full financial year ended 31st March 2025 and the unaudited/audited year-to-date figures upto 31st December 2024 for which were subjected to limited review/audited.

For and on behalf of the Board of THE TATA POWER COMPANY LIMITED

PRAVEER SINHA
CEO & MANAGING DIRECTOR
DIN 01785164

Date: 1st August, 2025
Place: Mumbai



GOVERNMENT OF NATIONAL CAPITAL TERRITORY OF DELHI
OFFICE OF THE LAND ACQUISITION COLLECTOR (SOUTH-WEST)
OLD TERMINAL TAX BUILDING, KAPASHERA, NEW DELHI-37

No. ADM/LAC/SW/2025-26/57656

Dated 31/7/2025

Public Notice under Section 21 of the RECTLARR Act, 2013

Whereas, a request was received from DDA through the Land and Building Department vide letter dated 25.07.2025 to re-initiate acquisition in terms of the liberty granted to DDA by the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India order 17.05.2024 in the batch matters titled as Govt. of NCT of Delhi Through the Secretary, Land and Building Department & Another Vs M/s. K.L. Rath Steel Limited and others, DDA vs Tejpal and Ors and GNCTD and anr. Vs M/s BSK Realtors LLP & Anr.

In terms of the request of the DDA, acquisition of the land, mentioned below which was subject of the litigation titled as DDA Vs Rajiv Choudhary (HUF) & Ors. and which were notified and acquired as per the details mentioned below, is to be re-initiated. Further, as per the order of the Hon'ble Supreme Court 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.

Khasra Nos	Village /Award	Notification u/s 4 of LA act 1894	Notification u/s 6 of LA act 1894
27/19 (4-16), 12 (4-16), 19 (4-16), 22 (4-16), 36//2 (4-16), 9(3-00)	Bamnoli 01/2007-08	F.9(50)/2004/L&B/LA/13211 dated 04.11.2004	F.9(50)/2004/L&B/LA/9450 dated 31.10.2005


Whereas, the Hon'ble Supreme Court in its judgement dated 17.05.2024 has dispensed with the compliance of the provisions of the Chapter II and III along with Section 13,14 and 16 to 20 of the acts.

Accordingly, in accordance with section 21 of RFCTLARR Act 2013, notice is being issued to intimates all concerned that the Government intends to initiate fresh acquisition proceedings for the land mentioned in the above table which is required 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, in writing, signed by themselves or their authorised agents, before the Collector(SW) on or before 01st September, 2025 at 11.30 AM in the Conference Hall of the office of District Magistrate (South West).

If any person fails to appear and submit claims as above, the Collector will proceed to make an award based on available information and such person may be bound by the award under the law.

Sd/-
(Mekala Chaitanya Prasad, IAS)
Collector and District Magistrate South West Delhi

DIP/Shabdarth/Classified/0172/25-26.



GOVERNMENT OF NATIONAL CAPITAL TERRITORY OF DELHI
OFFICE OF THE LAND ACQUISITION COLLECTOR (SOUTH-WEST)
OLD TERMINAL TAX BUILDING, KAPASHERA, NEW DELHI-37

No. ADM/LAC/SW/2025-26/57651

Dated 31/7/2025

Public Notice under Section 21 of the RECTLARR Act, 2013

Whereas, a request was received from DDA through the Land and Building Department vide letter dated 25.07.2025 to re-initiate acquisition in terms of the liberty granted to DDA by the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India order 17.05.2024 in the batch matters titled as Govt. of NCT of Delhi Through the Secretary; Land and Building Department & Another Vs M/s. K.L. Rath Steel Limited and others, DDA vs Tejpal and Ors and GNCTD and anr. Vs M/s BSK Realtors LLP & Anr.

In terms of the request of the DDA, acquisition of the land, mentioned below which was subject of the litigation titled as GNCTD vs Jagbir, and which were notified and acquired as per the details mentioned below, is to be re-initiated. Further, as per the order of the Hon'ble Supreme Court 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.

Khasra Nos	Village /Award	Notification u/s 4 of LA act 1894	Notification u/s 6 of LA act 1894
36//1min (3-12)	Bamnoli 01/2007-08	F.9(50)/2004/L&B/LA/13211 dated 04.11.2004	F.9(50)/2004/L&B/LA/9450 dated 31.10.2005


Whereas, the Hon'ble Supreme Court in its judgement dated 17.05.2024 has dispensed with the compliance of the provisions of the Chapter II and III along with Section 13.14 and 16 to 20 of the acts.

Accordingly, in accordance with section 21 of RFCTLARR Act 2013, notice is being issued to intimates all concerned that the Government intends to initiate fresh acquisition proceedings for the land mentioned in the above table which is required 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, in writing, signed by themselves or their authorised agents, before the Collector (SW) on or before 01st September, 2025 at 11.30 AM in the Conference Hall of the office of District Magistrate (South West).

If any person fails to appear and submit claims as above, the Collector will proceed to make an award based on available information and such person may be bound by the award under the law.

Sd/-
(Mekala Chaitanya Prasad, IAS)
Collector and District Magistrate South West Delhi

DIP/Shabdarth/Classified/0173/25-26.



GOVERNMENT OF NATIONAL CAPITAL TERRITORY OF DELHI
OFFICE OF THE LAND ACQUISITION COLLECTOR (SOUTH-WEST)
OLD TERMINAL TAX BUILDING, KAPASHERA, NEW DELHI-37

No. ADM/LAC/SW/2025-26/57652

Dated 31/7/2025

Public Notice under Section 21 of the RECTLARR Act, 2013

Whereas, a request was received from DDA through the Land and Building Department vide letter dated 25.07.2025 to re-initiate acquisition in terms of the liberty granted to DDA by the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India order 17.05.2024 in the batch matters titled as Govt. of NCT of Delhi Through the Secretary, Land and Building Department & Another Vs M/s. K.L. Rath Steel Limited and others, DDA vs Tejpal and Ors and GNCTD and anr. Vs M/s BSK Realtors LLP & Anr.

In terms of the request of the DDA, acquisition of the land, mentioned below which was subject of the litigation titled as DDA vs Luv Malhotra & Ors. and which were notified and acquired as per the details mentioned below, is to be re-initiated. Further, as per the order of the Hon'ble Supreme Court 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.

Khasra Nos	Village /Award	Notification u/s 4 of LA act 1894	Notification u/s 6 of LA act 1894
Khasra Nos. 19//17(4-16), 24(4-16), 30//4(4-16), 7(4+16), 6/1(0-06), 15/(0-07)	Bamnoli 01/2007-08	F9(50)/2004/L&B/LA/13211 dated 04.11.2004	F.9(50)/2004/L&B/LA/9450 dated 31.10.2005

Whereas, the Hon'ble Supreme Court in its judgement dated 17.05.2024 has dispensed with the compliance of the provisions of the Chapter II and III along with Section 13,14 and 16 to 20 of the acts.

Accordingly, in accordance with section 21 of RFCTLARR Act 2013, notice is being issued to intimates all concerned that the Government intends to initiate fresh acquisition proceedings for the land mentioned in the above table which is required 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, in writing, signed by themselves or their authorised agents, before the Collector(SW) on or before 01st September, 2025 at 11.30 AM in the Conference Hall of the office of District Magistrate (South West).

If any person fails to appear and submit claims as above, the Collector will proceed to make an award based on available information and such person may be bound by the award under the law.

Sd/-
(Mekala Chaitanya Prasad, IAS)
Collector and District Magistrate South West Delhi


DIP/Shabdarth/Classified/0174/25-26.



GOVERNMENT OF HARYANA
TENDER NOTICE

Sr. No.	NAME OF BOARD/CORP./AUTH	NAME OF WORK NOTICE TENDER	OPENING DATE CLOSING DATE (TIME)	AMOUNT / END (APPROX.) IN RUPEES	WEBSITE OF THE BOARD CORP./AUTH	NODAL OFFICER/CONTACT DETAILS/EMAIL
1	MUNICIPAL CORPORATION, ROHTAK	REPLACEMENT OF EXISTING CONVENTIONAL STREET LIGHTS, INSTALLATION OF NEW LED STREET LIGHTS AND CCMS UNDER THE JURISDICTION OF MC ROHTAK - + 2 WORKS	30.07.2025 07.08.2025	RS. 32,38,21,870/-	https://etenders.hry.nic.in	999183888 xennrohtak@gmail.com
2	MUNICIPAL CORPORATION, ROHTAK	DEVELOPMENT OF STADIUM IN BOHAR, ROHTAK (RE-CALL)	30.07.2025 16.08.2025	RS. 8,47,95,965/-	https://etenders.hry.nic.in	9467283967 xennrohtak@gmail.com


FOR FURTHER INFORMATION KINDLY VISIT : www.haryanaeprocurement.gov.in or www.etenders.hry.nic.in **No.** 37237/HRV



GOVERNMENT OF HARYANA
TENDER NOTICE

Sr. No.	NAME OF BOARD/CORP./AUTH	NAME OF WORK NOTICE TENDER	OPENING DATE CLOSING DATE (TIME)	AMOUNT / END (APPROX.) IN RUPEES	WEBSITE OF THE BOARD CORP./AUTH	NODAL OFFICER/CONTACT DETAILS/EMAIL
1	HSIIDC	CLEANING AND SWEEPING OF METALED ROADS, BERMS AND DISPOSED OFF SOLID WASTE COLLECTED FROM INTERNAL ROADS AT HSIIDC, SECTOR-49, IMT FARIDABAD.	01.08.2025 07.08.2025	9.11 LACS	https://etenders.hry.nic.in	9818320496 ia.faridabad@hoidc.org.in

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION KINDLY VISIT : www.haryanaeprocurement.gov.in or www.etenders.hry.nic.in **No.** 37245/HRV



कार्यालय जिलाधीश, पश्चिमी दिल्ली
OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT MAGISTRATE, WEST
प्लॉट नंबर 3, शिवाजी प्लेस, राजा गार्डन,
नई दिल्ली-110027
Ph: 011-25107118, E-Mail: dcwest@nic.in Web:- <https://revenue.delhi.gov.in>

PUBLIC NOTICE


Subject: Issuance of Public Notice u/s 21(1) of the RFCTLARR Act, 2013.

The General public and interested parties are hereby informed that public notice u/s 21(1) of the RFCTLARR Act, 2013 has issued on 31.07.2025 in terms of Hon'ble Supreme Court order dated 17.05.2024 in the matter of DDA Vs Tejpal & Ors. and GNCTD & Ors. Vs M/S B.S.K relators LLP & Anr. in respect of Khasra number 2144/2 (4-00) of village Tihar, Sub Division Rajouri Garden, District West.

The public notice U/S 21(1) of RFCTLARR Act has also been uploaded on the website of District West. All persons having interest in the said land, whether as landowners, tenants, sharecroppers or any other right holders, are required to submit their claims on 16.09.2025 at 03:00 PM with supporting documents and details of their interest, failing which their claims may not be entertained.

Sd/
(Vandana Rao IAS)
District Collector/DM/LAC
District-West, GNCTD

DIP/Shabdarth/Classified/0181/25-26.



कार्यालय जिलाधीश, पश्चिमी दिल्ली
OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT MAGISTRATE, WEST
प्लॉट नंबर 3, शिवाजी प्लेस, राजा गार्डन,
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Sd/
(Vandana Rao IAS)
District Collector/DM/LAC
District-West, GNCTD

DIP/Shabdarth/Classified/0180/25-26.



कार्यालय जिलाधीश, पश्चिमी दिल्ली
OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT MAGISTRATE, WEST
प्लॉट नंबर 3, शिवाजी प्लेस, राजा गार्डन,
नई दिल्ली-110027
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PUBLIC NOTICE

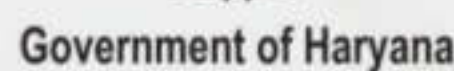
Subject: Issuance of Public Notice u/s 21(1) of the RFCTLARR Act, 2013.

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The public notice U/S 21(1) of RFCTLARR Act has also been uploaded on the website of District West. All persons having interest in the said land, whether as landowners, tenants, sharecroppers or any other right holders, are required to submit their claims on 16.09.2025 at 03:00 PM with supporting documents and details of their interest, failing which their claims may not be entertained.

Sd/-
(Vandana Rao IAS)
District Collector/DM/LAC
District-West, GNCTD

DIP/Shabdarth/Classified/0182/25-26.



असरदार सरकार - सुशासन ही आधार

State Level Induction Programme of Newly Appointed Government Employees of Group 'D'

August 2, 2025 | 12 PM
Indradhanush Auditorium, Sector-5, Panchkula

Chief Guest

Sh. Nayab Singh Saini

Chief Minister, Haryana

- During the tenure of the present Government, **about 1.75 lakh youth have been given Government jobs** on the basis of transparency and merit
- **Job of contractual employees has been secured till retirement;** contractual employees who have completed 5 years will be benefitted by the policy
- **About 23,000 youth have been given jobs** through HKRNL
- **Interviews abolished** in recruitments of Group 'C' and 'D'
- **Common Eligibility Test (CET)** to get rid of repeated competitive examinations
- **Establishment of Overseas Placement Cell** to send youth abroad

You are cordially invited

Scan the QR code
to join the program



Scan the QR code to join the
Whatsapp channel of Information,
Public Relations and
Languages Department, Haryana

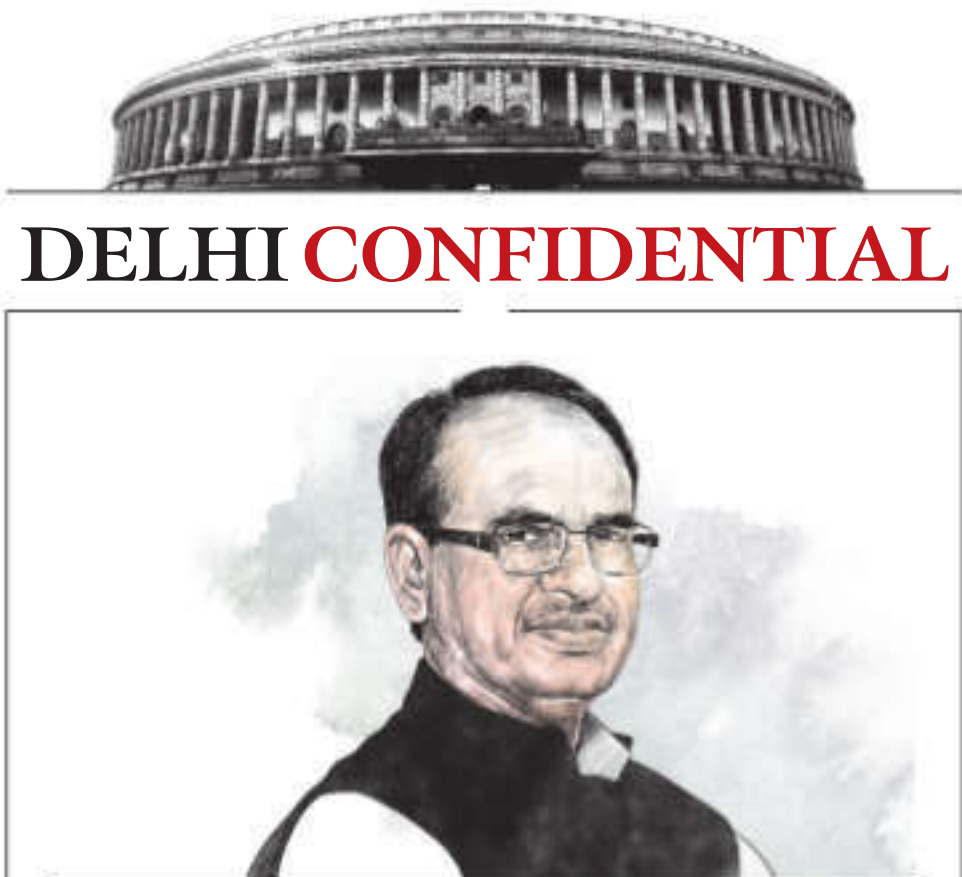


Information, Public Relations and Languages Department, Haryana

www.prharyana.gov.in | Follow us on @diprharyana

epaper.indianexpress.com

14 Govt & Politics



New Assignment

PRIME MINISTER Narendra Modi will release the 20th installment of the PM-Kisan scheme from his constituency Varanasi on Saturday. Union Agriculture Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan, however, will not join the PM at the event as he has been asked to attend the programme in poll-bound Bihar. Chouhan will attend the function via videoconferencing from Patna. This is the first time since Chouhan took charge as the Agriculture Minister in June 2024 that he won't share the stage with PM Modi during the PM-Kisan installment release event. He has attended all three previous functions — at Varanasi (June 2024), Washim (October 2024) and Bhagalpur (February 2025) — in person.

Pledge To Protect

A RECENT DRIVE showed that the Indian Armed Forces continue to be one of the biggest supporters of the country's organ donation initiatives. Since rolling out an Aadhaar-enabled digital database of organ donors, NOTTO, the country's apex organ donation regulator, has been conducting drives to get more and more people to sign up. In one such drive, the Indian Army, Mumbai recorded the highest number of pledges with nearly 26,000 Army personnel signing up for organ donation.

On Back Burner Again

PREPARATIONS FOR the BJP's annual Tiranga Yatra seem to have put a halt on the party's organisational elections in states such as UP and Gujarat, which, many within the BJP believe, is causing further delay in the process to elect the next national party president. BJP insiders say organisational activities around the programme have pushed the internal elections beyond "at least August 15".

TDP rolls out one more 'Super Six' promise, Annadata Sukhibhava to be launched today

REENIVAS JANYALA
HYDERABAD, AUGUST 1

The TDP-led NDA government in Andhra Pradesh is set to roll out its Annadata Sukhibhava scheme aimed at farmers from Saturday. A part of the 'Super Six' promises guaranteed by the TDP in its election manifesto, the scheme promises to give ₹20,000 per year to farmers in the state, with support from the Centre.

CM N Chandrababu Naidu will launch the scheme at Veerayapalem in Prakasam district on Saturday, and 46,85,838 farmers in the state are expected to benefit from it.

Naidu said that the coalition government's promise of ₹20,000 per year per farming family will be fulfilled through the Annadata Sukhibhava and PM Kisan schemes. Along with an annual aid of ₹6,000 from the Centre, the state government will provide an additional ₹14,000.

In the first phase, the state government will directly deposit ₹5,000 into each farmer's account, amounting to a total outlay of ₹2,342.92 crore. The Centre will contribute ₹2,000 per farmer in the first phase, amounting to ₹831.51 crore. Thus, ₹7,000 will be credited to each farmer on Saturday. The money is expected



Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu travels to an event venue in an auto in YSR Kadapa district on Friday. ANI

to help farmers purchase raw materials ahead of the sowing season. The government will release ₹5,000 in the second phase, and ₹4,000 in the third.

Meanwhile, 59,750 grievances were registered under the Annadata Sukhibhava scheme, of which 58,464 have been resolved. A toll-free number, 155251, has been issued to resolve queries, officials said.

"We are fulfilling our promises to farmers by launching Annadata Sukhibhava. Politicians may frame policies, but officials are the ones who implement them. Everyone in the system must act with accountability. Intimation messages must reach beneficiary farmers a day in advance through Manamitra," Naidu said.

12th Fail is best film; SRK, Vikrant Massey, Rani win best actor awards

TRISHA MUKHERJEE
NEW DELHI, AUGUST 1

VIDHU VINOD Chopra's *12th Fail*, which captures a young man's journey to become an IPS officer, was adjudged the best feature film at the 71st National Film Awards for 2023 announced on Friday.

The film's lead actor, Vikrant Massey, shared the best actor award with Shah Rukh Khan, who won for his double role of a father and a son in the action film *Jawan*. This is Shah Rukh's first National Award in his glittering multi-decade career.

"Thank you for honouring me with the National Award. Thanks to the jury, the I&B ministry... *Iss samman ke liye Bharat Sarkar ka dhanyawaad*. Overwhelmed with the love showered upon me. Half a hug to everyone today...." Khan wrote on X.


The award for the best actress in a leading role went to Rani Mukerji for her portrayal of a mother fighting for her children in *Mrs. Chatterjee Vs Norway*. This is the prolific veteran's first National Award as well.

Mukerji, 47, said: " For me, this award is also a validation of my 30-year body of work, my dedication to my craft with which I feel a deeply spiritual connection...."

The jury, headed by filmmaker Ashutosh Gowariker, praised Massey's performance as one with "raw honesty and emotional depth". Gowariker also said Shah Rukh's first national award "after such a long and prolific career" was "historic".

Massey, 38, said it was a dream come true moment for him. "It is a privilege to be sharing my first National Award with an icon like Shah Rukh Khan," he said.

While best direction went to Sudipto Sen for *The Kerala Story*, Karan Johar took home the award for 'best popular film providing wholesome entertainment' for *Rocky Aur Rani Kii Prem Kahaani*. Asked about the award for *The Kerala Story*, which had sparked controversy, Gowariker said: "It's a difficult topic, and to convey that with this kind of

71st NATIONAL FILM AWARDS (FEATURE)	
<p>■ Best feature film: <i>12th Fail</i> by Vidhu Vinod Chopra</p> <p>■ Best debut film of a director: Ashish Bende (<i>Aatnapamphlet</i>)</p> <p>■ Best popular film providing wholesome entertainment: <i>Rocky Aur Rani Kii Prem Kahaani</i> by Karan Johar</p> <p>■ Best feature film promoting national, social, and environmental values: Sam Bahadur by Meghna Gulzar</p> <p>■ Best direction: The Kerala Story by Sudipto Sen</p> <p>■ Best actor in a supporting role: Vijayaraghavan (<i>Pookkaalam</i>) & Muthupettai</p>	 <p>■ Best actor in a leading Role: Shah Rukh Khan (<i>Jawan</i>) & Vikrant Massey (<i>12th Fail</i>)</p> <p>■ Best actress in a leading role: Rani Mukerji (<i>Mrs. Chatterjee Vs Norway</i>)</p> <p>Somu Bhaskar (<i>Parking</i>)</p> <p>■ Best actress in a supporting role: Urvashi (<i>Ullozhukku</i>) & Janki Bodiwala (<i>Vash</i>)</p> <p>■ Best male playback singer: P V N S Rohit for Baby (<i>Premisthuma</i>)</p> <p>■ Best female playback singer: Shilpa Rao for <i>Jawan</i> (<i>Chaliya</i>)</p> <p>■ Best cinematography: Prasantanu Mohapatra (<i>The Kerala Story</i>)</p> <p>■ Best screenplay: Sai Rajesh Neelam (<i>Baby</i>), Ramkumar Balakrishnan (<i>Parking</i>) & Deepak Kingrani (<i>Sirf Ek Bandaa Kaafi Hai</i>)</p> <p>■ Best non-feature film: Flowering Man by Soumyajit Ghosh Dastidar</p> <p>■ Best documentary (non-feature): God Vulture and Human by Rishiraj Agarwal</p>



SCAN TO CHECK THE FULL LIST OF AWARDS

clarity is something that we as a jury felt was the need to applaud."

The Sanya Malhotra-starrer comedy *Kathal: A Jackfruit Mystery* won best feature in Hindi language. The Telugu film *Hanu-Man*, a pan-Indian hit, bagged the awards in the best film in AVCC (animation, visual effects, gaming & comic) and best action direction categories.

The awards for the supporting roles, both actor and actress, were swept by non-Hindi cinema. While the former was shared by Vijayaraghavan for *Pookkaalam* (Malayalam) and M S Bhaskar for *Parking* (Tamil), the latter went to both Urvashi for *Ullozhukku* (Malayalam) and Janki Bodiwala for *Vash* (Gujarati).

The winners were chosen from a total of 332 feature film entries, 115 non-feature film entries, 27 book entries, and 16 critics' entries.

Amarnath Yatra suspended for route maintenance after rain

BASHAARAT MASOOD
SRINAGAR, AUGUST 1

THE ANNUAL Amarnath pilgrimage to the Himalayan cave shrine in south Kashmir has been suspended, with the government taking up "maintenance works of urgent nature" on both routes to the shrine "following heavy rain".

Divisional Commissioner Kashmir VK Bhiduri said the annual pilgrimage, scheduled to end on August 9, has been suspended along both the Sonamarg-Baltal and Pahalgam-Chandwanri routes.

"There have been recent heavy rains in the Shri Amarnathji Yatra area on both Pahalgam and Baltal axis. Maintenance works of urgent nature are required to be carried out..." Divisional Commissioner Bhiduri said in a statement.

He said that the "repair and maintenance works are already being carried out" on the Pahalgam route of the Yatra. "Due to the recent heavy rain, re-



At Sangam Top in Anantnag district on Friday. PTI

pair and maintenance works are required to be undertaken on the Baltal Axis of Shri Amarnath Ji Yatra route. In the interest of safety of the yatriis, no yatra will be allowed on August 3 from the Baltal route also. Further updates will be issued in due course of

time," he said. Officials said yatra convoys from Jammu's Bhagwati Nagar towards the Valley have been stopped.

Bhiduri said more than 4.05 lakh yatriis "have paid obeisance at the Holy Cave of Shri Amarnathji this year".

record of invoices, and duplicate tags allotted to sheep units.

The ACB also took note of allegations that sheep units were allotted to families that did not exist, or were allotted in the name of a deceased head of a family.

Kalyan Kumar and Ramchander Naik, former CEO of Animal Development Corporation and former MD of the State Sheep and Goat Development Association; D Ravi Kumar and M Aditya Keshav Sai, two former assistant directors from the state animal husbandry department; and 11 others have been arrested in this case.

ED crackdown

The ACB passed on the probe

should raise their voice against this injustice. We have to rally against the politics that is converting art into a weapon to promote communalism," he said.

Opposition Leader V D Satheesan said Kerala Story was given awards aimed at spreading religious hatred. "We cannot agree with that. The BJP's agenda behind film awards is a hate campaign. The Sangh Parivar and the BJP government, which are leading the Christian hunt, have politicised the national film awards. BJP and Sangh Parivar, which are implementing divisive politics, are trying to make political gains by spreading false information about Kerala," he said.

Education Minister V Sivankutty said the award given to *Kerala Story* takes the sheen out of the other awards bagged by the Malayalam films.

SGPC removes V-C from panel days after his interaction with RSS chief

KAMALDEEP SINGH BRAR
AMRITSAR, AUGUST 1

THE SHIROMANI Gurdwara Parbandhak Committee Friday removed Guru Nanak Dev University (GNDU) Vice-Chancellor Dr Karamjit Singh from the committee formed to frame service norms for the Akal Takht's Jathedar, days after he made some comments during a discussion with RSS chief Mohan Bhagwat which have been perceived as offensive to the sentiments of the Sikh community.

"A video circulating on social media shows Dr Karamjit Singh expressing views aligned with an anti-Sikh ideology during his conversation with the head of the RSS," SGPC secretary Partap Singh said. "In light of objections raised by the community, SGPC president Harjinder Singh Dhani has taken the step to remove Dr Karamjit Singh from the aforementioned panel," he added.

details to ED, saying there was money laundering involved. Based on the CAG report that around ₹253 crore was allegedly misappropriated and the money laundering spanned seven districts of Telangana, the ED determined that the alleged scam involved total money laundering to the tune of ₹1,000 crore, which prompted its own investigation, resulting in Wednesday's raids in Hyderabad.

In a separate case, former OSD Kalyan and three aides were accused of breaking into the Animal Husbandry Department on December 10, three days after the Congress government came to power, and destroying documents, damaging computer hard

Days after exit of Dhankhar, EC sets V-P poll date: Sept 9

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, AUGUST 1

THE ELECTION Commission (EC) on Friday announced that the election for the post of Vice-President, which fell vacant with the sudden resignation of Jagdeep Dhankhar on July 21, would be held on September 9.

According to the schedule announced by the EC, the notification would be issued on August 7, starting the period for filing nominations. The last date for filing nominations is August 21. The polling and counting would be held on September 9.

"As per Rule 8 of the Presidential and Vice-Presidential Elections Rules, 1974, poll for the election will be taken in the Parliament House. The polling, if required, shall take place at Room No. F-101, Vasudha, First Floor, Parliament House, New Delhi," the EC said in its press release. The EC had appointed Rajya Sabha Secretary General PC Mody as the Returning Officer for the election on July 25.

The electoral college for the election will comprise 782 members of Parliament -- 233 elected members of Rajya Sabha (five seats are currently vacant), 12 nominated members of Rajya Sabha and 542 elected members of Lok Sabha (one seat is vacant), the EC said.

Voting is held by secret ballot, using the system of proportional representation with a sin-

SC refuses to entertain petition to apply POSH Act to political parties

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, AUGUST 1

THE SUPREME Court on Friday refused to entertain a petition seeking application of the Sexual Harassment of Women at Workplace (Prevention, Prohibition and Redressal) Act, 2013, known as the POSH Act, to political parties, saying it falls in the domain of the policymakers.

"The prayer made in the petition is exclusively within the competence of the legislature or within the domain of policy of the executive. As such, we are not inclined to entertain," CJ B R Gavai, presiding over a two-judge bench, told senior advocate Rekha Gupta, who pressed for the court's intervention.

The counsel told the bench, also comprising Justice K Vinod Chandran, that "an important issue like this, they (legislators) are not acting upon, the vacuum is still continuing".

The CJJ suggested, "There must be not less than 25-30 MPs who are women. Ask them to present a private Bill."

The counsel said that she was not seeking a direction to Parliament to legislate but only interpretation as to what constitutes "workplace, employer and employee" under the Act because a Kerala High Court judgment says

drives, and deleting CCTV data.

On Wednesday, at least eight places in the city related to the beneficiaries and alleged middlemen involved in the case were raided by the ED under the PMLA.

KCR had launched the sheep distribution scheme in June 2017, aiming to provide for over 7.30 lakh shepherd families, belonging to Yadava and Kurma communities in the state, to revive and encourage caste-based occupation and livelihood.

The total budget for this scheme during the BRS regime was around ₹12,000 crore in two phases, and over 1.5 crore sheep were distributed. The animals were procured from Andhra, Karnataka and Maharashtra.

While the scheme was run-

gle transferable vote. Each MP casts a vote by ranking candidates in order of preference. All votes carry equal value.

To be declared elected, a candidate must reach a required minimum number of votes — called the quota. This is calculated by dividing the total number of valid votes by two and adding one (fractions, if any, are ignored). If no candidate crosses the quota in the first round, the one with the fewest first-preference votes is eliminated, and their votes are transferred to the remaining candidates based on second preferences. The process continues until one candidate crosses the quota.

Dhankhar's surprise resignation came just hours after he presided over the proceedings of the Rajya Sabha. He submitted his letter to resignation to President Droupadi Murmu, citing health reasons.

While the government and BJP have remained quiet over the episode, sources say the government was taken aback by his decision to accept an Opposition-backed impeachment motion against Justice Yashwant Varma even as the BJP was planning on bringing one in the Lok Sabha.

The Home Ministry notified his resignation on July 22 and Prime Minister Narendra Modi said on X: "Shri Jagdeep Dhankhar ji has got many opportunities to serve our country in various capacities, including as the Vice President of India. Wishing him good health."

it will not apply to political parties.

The court said, in that case, she should challenge the high court order. The counsel said she would do so and sought permission to withdraw her petition.

The court allowed this and gave her "further liberty to take such steps as are advisable in law".

The POSH Act requires both public and private workplaces to set up an Internal Complaints Committee (ICC) to hear complaints of sexual harassment. The plea contended that when it comes to political parties, "the presence of Internal Complaints Committees (ICCs) to address sexual harassment is inconsistent".

The petition said that despite the expansive definitions of "employee" and "workplace" in the Act, women engaged in political work, particularly at the grassroots, continue to face rampant sexual harassment with no structured mechanism in place to address this. Citing UN Women (2013) and the Inter-Parliamentary Union (2016) studies, it said psychological and sexual harassment in political spaces is not isolated but systemic. It added that political work is a form of employment or engagement and must be recognised as such under the Act to ensure protection and accountability.

ning successfully, with the beneficiaries able to increase their income, alleged irregularities crept in. As per the ACB, some sheep trading agents and government officials involved in the scheme allegedly contacted the beneficiaries with offers to purchase the sheep. Many beneficiaries who were already in alternative professions and did not know how to tend to their flock sold the sheep to make easy money.

The agents took back the sheep to the same markets from where Telangana government had earlier purchased and resold them to the government, often with the knowledge of officials of Animal Husbandry Department and the State Sheep and Goat Development Association, it is alleged.



After PM-Carney meeting, Canada appoints new Consul General in Mumbai

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
OTTAWA, AUGUST 1

CANADA HAS named Jeff David as Consul General in Mumbai, its first diplomatic appointment to India since New Delhi recalled its envoy and five other diplomats and expelled an equal number of Canadian diplomats in October last year.

David will become Consul General in Mumbai, Canadian Foreign Minister Anita Anand announced on Wednesday.

David, who has served in Afghanistan and China, will replace Diedrah Kelly, who left India in 2023.

The development comes weeks after PM Narendra Modi met with his Canadian counterpart Mark Carney on the sidelines of the G7 summit in Kananaskis, Alberta, in June. It was the first meeting between the two leaders since Carney assumed office in May 2025.

The two leaders agreed to designate new high commissioners, with a view to returning to regular services to citizens and businesses in both countries.

The ties between India and Canada strained after the then-PM Justin Trudeau's allegations in September 2023 of a "potential" involvement of Indian agents in Sikh extremist Hardeep Singh Nijjar's killing outside a gurdwara in Surrey city on June 18, 2023.

India, which had designated Nijjar as a terrorist in 2020, had strongly rejected Trudeau's allegations as "absurd" and "motivated." In October last year, India expelled six Canadian diplomats and announced it was withdrawing its High Commissioner Sanjay Verma and other "targeted" officials from Canada after strongly dismissing Ottawa's allegations linking the envoy to a probe into the killing of Nijjar.

Will take a fresh decision on Udaipur Files, Centre tells HC

SOHINI GHOSH
NEW DELHI, AUGUST 1

THE CENTRE Friday submitted before the Delhi HC that it was withdrawing its decision granting nod to release of 'Udaipur Files' and would make a fresh decision after the court orally opined that the government had exceeded its revisional jurisdiction while recommending six cuts to the film.

The Centre made the submission while considering a plea by Mohd Javed, an accused in the murder of tailor Kanhaiya Lal, the 2022 incident on which the film is purportedly based.

The division bench of Chief Justice DK Upadhyaya and Justice Tushar Rao Gedela, recording the Centre's submission that it will withdraw its recommendation dated July 21, directed the government to hear parties on August 4 and take a final call by August 6. It that no adjournment shall be sought on the day of the hearing.

The bench had questioned the government as to under what authority it directed 6 cuts when the Centre's revisional powers over CBCF's certification can only be limited to either deeming the film to be an uncertified film in the whole or any part of India, or change certification rating, or may suspend the film's exhibition.

'Entire Himachal may vanish': SC sounds environment alarm

ANANTHAKRISHNAN G
NEW DELHI, AUGUST 1

"THE DAY is not far when the entire state of Himachal Pradesh may vanish," said the Supreme Court Friday as it sounded the alarm on the deteriorating environmental situation in the state that has frequently borne the brunt of natural disasters.

Flagging a range of issues in the ecologically sensitive region, a bench of justices J B Pardiwala and R Mahadevan directed the registration of a case in the public interest and sought the Himachal Pradesh government's response within four weeks.

The bench was hearing a hotel group's challenge to a Himachal Pradesh High Court order that restricted constructions in an area declared as a green zone by the state's Town and Country Planning Department in June.

Refusing to interfere with the High Court's decision, the top court said it "would like to say something in the larger interest of the state of Himachal Pradesh and its inhabitants".

"...We are afraid to say that it is too late in the day for the state to issue such notifications and try to save the situation. The situation in the state of Himachal Pradesh has gone from bad to worse. The severe ecological im-



A landslide blocks a road at Samletu in Himachal Pradesh's Bilaspur district on Friday. PTI

balance and other environmental conditions have led to serious natural calamities over a period of years. This year also hundreds of people perished in the floods and landslides & thousands of properties got destroyed," it said.

According to the State Emergency Operation Centre, Himachal Pradesh has suffered losses to the tune of ₹1,539 crore since the onset of monsoon on June 20. So far, 94 people have died and 36 are missing in rain-related incidents while 1,352 houses have been fully or partially damaged.

The court went on to list a number of serious concerns in the Himalayan state — the "visible" and "alarming" impact of climate change; deforestation; hydropower projects reportedly

causing water shortages and landslides; unchecked tourism affecting the ecological balance and straining resources; and relentless construction of four-lane roads, tunnels and multi-storey buildings to cater to the increasing footfall.

Communities living near hydro-electric projects frequently report water scarcity, landslides, and even structural cracks in their homes, the bench said, adding: "Apparently, the mini-mum outflow of water, as is contractually mandated, is not being adhered to by the project proponents, resulting in the vanishing of aquatic life. In fact, the mighty trans Himalayan river Sutlej stands reduced to a rivulet."

"During peak seasons, the influx of tourists results in traffic

congestion, waste generation, noise pollution, overuse of water resources, and encroachment into ecologically sensitive areas. Hill towns often struggle with waste disposal and water shortages during tourist seasons. Every step of the waste management process presents difficulties for the state," it said.

"The danger to the state's natural richness is growing as a result of human greed and apathy," it said, calling for immediate, sustainable planning and conservation measures.

The bench said all Himalayan states need to collate resources and expertise to ensure their development plans are cognisant of environmental challenges.

"All that we want to convey today is that it is high time that the state pays attention to what we have observed and starts taking necessary action at the earliest in the right direction. The Union of India also owes an obligation to see that the ecological imbalance in the state does not get further disturbed and natural calamities do not occur." "We want to impress upon the State Government and Union of India respectively that earning revenue is not everything. If things proceed the way they are as on date, then the day is not far when the entire state of HP may vanish in thin air from the map of the country," it said.

Ex-CJI Khanna to appear before joint polls House panel on Aug 19

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, AUGUST 1

FORMER CJI Sanjiv Khanna is scheduled to interact with the Joint Committee of Parliament on the 'One Nation, One Election' (ONOE) Bill, on August 19, according to the meeting notice issued on Thursday.

The committee, chaired by BJP MP P P Chaudhary, has held nine meetings so far. Former CJs D Y Chandrachud, J S Khehar and U U Lalit have already interacted with the committee.

As per the notice, the committee will hold a meeting on August 11 and interact with political scientists and experts and then hold the meeting with ex-CJI Khanna. If passed, the Bills would pave the way for simultaneous elections to the Lok Sabha and State/UT Assemblies in 2034.

ARUN JANARDHANAN
CHENNAI, AUGUST 1

THE MADRAS HC Friday restrained the Tamil Nadu government from naming any new or rebranded schemes after living persons. The court also barred use of portraits of ideological figures or former CMs, and any insignia or emblem of the ruling DMK, in government advertisements promoting such schemes.

The First Division Bench, comprising Chief Justice Manindra Mohan Shrivastava and Justice Sunder Mohan, delivered the order while hearing

claims to have been followers of the Heggade family until they decided to cut ties following a murder in 1986.

The founders of the trust, K Somanath Nayak and Ranjan Rao Yerdoor, have been waging legal battles against alleged injustices in the town. Nayak spent three months in jail in 2021 after a Belthangady court held him guilty of violating an injunction and "indulging in malicious propaganda" against temple-run institutions and members of Heggade family.

Even those critical of the administration of the temple and the town, however, consider the allegations as far-fetched and excessive. "Earlier, no one dared talk

NIA court to pronounce order on bail plea of Kerala nuns today

JAYPRAKASH SNAIDU
RAIPUR, AUGUST 1

A NIA court in Chhattisgarh's Bilaspur district Friday reserved its order for Saturday on a bail application filed by three persons, including two nuns from Kerala, who were arrested on July 25 for allegedly trafficking and forcibly converting three women from the state's Narayanpur district.

Nuns Preethi Mary and Vandana Francis along with another person Sukaman Mandavi were arrested at Durg railway station on July 25 following a complaint by a local Bajrang Dal functionary, who accused them of forcibly converting three women from Narayanpur and trafficking them.

On Thursday, a sessions court in Durg district had disposed of bail plea of two Kerala nuns, saying that the matter should be heard by an NIA court. The matter was heard by Principal District and Sessions Judge (NIA court) Sirajuddin Qureshi on Friday.

Amrito Das, one of the lawyers of the accused, told *The Indian Express*, "Our prime thrust was three women victims' parents clearly said they have been following Christianity for years now and there is no question of forcible conversion. All 3 women are adults. Nothing in the (case) diary said they (victims) were assaulted (by the accused). There are no ingredients for human trafficking or forcible conversion in the FIR or case diary... We argued that the nuns are aged, do not have criminal records and there was no element for registering an offense."

GRP counsel Dauram Chandravanshi told the media, "The case diary was presented in the court... From the government's side, we argued investigations are in the initial stage and hence we are opposing their bail."

Nuns will get bail soon: Kerala BJP chief

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
THRISSUR, AUGUST 1

BJP STATE chief Rajeev Chandrasekhar on Friday said the arrest of two nuns in Chhattisgarh over allegations of human trafficking and forced conversion was due to a "misunderstanding" and that they will be released on bail soon. Chandrasekhar remarks came after meeting with Archbishop of Trichur Andrews Thazhath, the president of the Catholic Bishops Conference of India (CBCI), to brief him that PM Narendra Modi and Union Home Minister Amit Shah have assured the nuns would be released on bail.

a PIL petition filed by AIADMK MP C Ve Shanmugam.

The petitioner had sought a ban on the state's use of CM M K Stalin's name in public outreach programmes such as Ungaludan Stalin (With You, Stalin) and Mudhalvarin Mugavari (Chief Minister's Address), which he claimed violated judicial guidelines and the EC's code.

Shanmugam's counsel, senior advocate Vijay Narayan, argued that these government-funded welfare programmes featured "the name of the incumbent Chief Minister in the nomenclature of the scheme" and included "pictorial representations/photographs

against the town or the family of the Heggades," says the editor of a newspaper in the region, referring to social media campaigns seeking the reopening of old cases that have followed the sanitation worker's claims. "But now, judgment in the case, it appears, has already been passed (by the public)," he says.

Many residents of Dharmasthala are vehement in their defence of the temple authorities. There are also those who see the current controversy as a ploy by right-wing organisations to take control of the temple from the Jain family.

"Bodies being found around the forests of the town is not new," says a resident of the

Their arrests 'case of harassment': Sangma to Chhattisgarh CM

SUKRITA BARUAH
GUWAHATI, AUGUST 1

MEGHALAYA CM Conrad Sangma has written to his Chhattisgarh counterpart, Vishnu Deo Sai, raising concern over the arrest of two nuns from Kerala by the Chhattisgarh Police.

The NPP president, whose coalition government in Christian-majority Meghalaya also includes BJP, wrote that the party believes this to be a "case of harassment and false allegations". The letter asked the Chhattisgarh government to consider revoking the case against the nuns.

The two nuns, Preeti Marry and Vandana Francis, and another person, Sukhman Mandavi, were arrested last Friday at Durg railway station in Chhattisgarh. The FIR, registered under sections of the Chhattisgarh Religious Freedom Act and the Immoral Traffic (Prevention) Act, was based on a complaint by a local Bajrang Dal worker. The complaint alleged that they converted three women from Narayanpur and were attempting to traffic them.

One of the three women had earlier told *The Indian Express* that she was threatened and assaulted by a woman associated with a right-wing outfit and forced to change her statement.

In his letter, Sangma wrote that the nuns were arrested "under allegedly false charges and pressure from right-wing groups".

"The situation arose when the nuns were accompanying three girls from Chhattisgarh to



Rajeev Chandrasekhar

He said both Modi and Shah assured him that the state government will not oppose the bail pleas. "We are not seeing it as politics. We are only trying to help the people. This was a misunderstanding," he said. He said there is a law regulating private placement agencies in Chhattisgarh which requires that young women moving from one district to another for jobs have to register on a portal. "That was not

CM SAI: SENSITIVE ISSUE BEING GIVEN 'POLITICAL COLOUR'

New Delhi: Chhattisgarh CM Vishnu Deo Sai Friday lashed out at those giving a "political colour" to the arrest of two nuns from Kerala on charges of human trafficking and forced religious conversion, saying the matter is subjudice. The CM claimed the girls, who were promised nursing training and subsequent job placements, were "handed over" at the railway station by a man from Narayanpur to the nuns, who were allegedly taking them to Agra. Sai said it is alleged this was an attempt at "human trafficking and religious conversion through inducement". "It is extremely unfortunate that a sensitive issue related to the safety of our daughters from Bastar is being given a political colour," he said. PTI

Agra. A TTE questioned the girls, who said they didn't have tickets and were travelling at the nuns' request. The TTE alerted local activists, who then alleged the nuns were attempting to take the girls for forced religious conversion. This claim sparked a protest, and the police detained the nuns and girls based on the activists' complaint," Sangma wrote.

He urged Sai to ensure a fair probe and safeguard rights of religious minorities in Chhattisgarh.

done. Hence, the misunderstanding and the police action."

He also termed as a "political drama" the recent protests outside the Durg sessions court in Chhattisgarh and the jail where the nuns were kept. Archbishop Thazhath, after meeting Chandrasekhar, said it was "painful" to hear about the action taken against the nuns. He also said he informed Chandrasekhar about increasing attacks on the Christian community in the country.

Meanwhile, Congress MP Shashi Tharoor said in Delhi that the arrests were "gross injustice" and added that "I met 2 BJP ministers, and they said they will look into it, but nothing has been done."

JUMP FREEZE

A man jumps into the swollen river in Prayagraj as people sit on a partially-submerged structure after water levels rose in Ganga and Yamuna on Friday. PTI

AIIMS Patna resident docs accuse MLA, wife of assault, go on strike

HIMANSHU HARSH
PATNA, AUGUST 1

Resident doctors at AIIMS Patna have launched an indefinite protest against MLA from Sheohar, Chetan Anand, accusing him, his wife Dr Ayushi Singh, and their armed guards of forcibly entering the hospital premises and assaulting security personnel and threatening resident doctors.

In a letter to Medical Superintendent on July 31, the Resident Doctors Association (RDA) announced the immediate shutdown of all elective services by

resident doctors. At 9 am on Friday, they proceeded with the "complete shutdown of all emergency services" in response to alleged inaction on their demands.

According to the RDA, JD(U) leader Anand, his wife and their armed guards forcibly entered the Trauma Centre around 11 pm on July 30 and the group "physically assaulted hospital security staff, brandished a firearm within hospital grounds, and threatened resident doctors with death".

They alleged that a security guard was "struck with the butt of a firearm", leading to injuries. Resident doctors also said they were subjected to "abuse and

threats" while on duty.

"... There has been no FIR filed, and the administration has taken no decisive legal or institutional action," read the letter.

Earlier, Anand, an RJD-turned-JD(U) legislator, had told PTI: "My wife and I had gone to see one of my supporters admitted at AIIMS Wednesday night. I was not allowed to enter the hospital with my security guard. This prompted my wife to intervene," he said. "At that moment, other staff members started misbehaving with my wife. They literally thrashed her. I had to intervene. My wife sustained injuries to her wrist and back," he alleged. (PTI INPUTS)

FROM PAGE ONE

•A Karnataka temple town in the grip of hysteria

Dakshina Kannada district, is home to the Sree Manjunatheshwara Temple. The temple has, over the years, emerged as one of the foremost religious destinations in the state.

Dharmasthala's identity as a religious town is closely linked to the authority of the temple administrators, who have over the last century assumed larger-than-life roles in the lives of the people, with their influence extending over everything from education to healthcare, rural development to women's empowerment.

Until the end of the 17th century, the region and the privately managed temple were

under the control of feudal lords of the Sthanik Brahmin community before it shifted to the Jain Bunts during the Anglo-Mysore wars, making it a unique religious institution — a Shiva temple administered by a Jain family with rituals conducted by Brahmin priests.

Male heirs of the Pergade family, a Jain-Bunt community, have been chief administrators or the 'dharmadhikaris' of the temple and town for 21 generations -- starting with Varmanna Heggade to Veerendra Heggade, 76, a BJP-linked Rajya MP and a Padma Vibhushan awardee for social work, who has been dharmad-

hikari since 1968.

People have over the years deferred to the religious and feudal authority that governed their lives. Yet, rumours and murmurs of highhandedness by 'powerful forces' have floated in the temple town for decades.

The first public outrage occurred in the aftermath of the 2012 rape and murder of college student Sowjanya, 17. While Santosh Rao, a 34-year-old homeless man, was arrested in the case, a CBI investigation did not find evidence to nail anyone for the rape and murder of the 17-year-old student.

On June 16, 2023, a special

CBI court, while acquitting Santosh, recommended action against officials who allegedly botched up the investigation in the early stages.

Over two decades later, the memory of the crime and its injustice continues to linger in the town.

With the recent allegations, Sowjanya's family has called for the SIT probing the secret burials to revisit the rape and murder case. There are similar demands for revisiting other unresolved cases in the town, some going as far back as 1979.

Key members of the Nagarika Seva Trust, a resistance group which has emerged to challenge the authority of the temple administration,

claims to have been followers of the Heggade family until they decided to cut ties following a murder in 1986.

The founders of the trust, K Somanath Nayak and Ranjan Rao Yerdoor, have been waging legal battles against alleged injustices in the town. Nayak spent three months in jail in 2021 after a Belthangady court held him guilty of violating an injunction and "indulging in malicious propaganda" against temple-run institutions and members of Heggade family.

Even those critical of the administration of the temple and the town, however, consider the allegations as far-fetched and excessive.

"Earlier, no one dared talk

temple town. "I have seen bodies of people who hanged themselves to death owing to the belief that they will achieve eternal bliss by dying at a religious place like Dharmasthala." Dismissing rumours against the temple administrators, he says, "You cannot find one family that has not benefited from the Dhani (benevolent landlord)."

Justifying an ex parte injunction granted by a Bengaluru court to "delete/de-index" 8,812 links across media platforms related to news coverage of the Dharmasthala secret burials, he says the campaign against the temple administration was "orchestrated" to defame the town and, by extension, the Heggade

family.

In Kanyadi, a village that borders Dharmasthala, a resident says, "Ask us how many people have received subsidised education? How many couples were married, with the temple incurring all expenses? How many poor people are offered free or subsidised medicine in hospitals run under Shri Kshetra Dharmasthala?"

"This is a classic case where those who cannot tolerate the fame achieved by a person ultimately tries to besmirch him. You can either do better work than him or drag him down by incessant personal attacks. Lord Manjunatha does not spare such people," says a resident of Dharmasthala.



The Indian EXPRESS

FOUNDED BY

RAMNATH GOENKA

BECAUSE THE TRUTH INVOLVES US ALL

THE CRUDE FACT

How much India should trade with any country must be guided by its own national interest, not Western diktat

BETWEEN 2020-21 AND 2024-25, India's imports from Russia have soared from \$5.5 billion to \$63.8 billion, much of it on account of mineral fuels (\$2.1 billion to \$56.9 billion). Out of the 244.5 million tonnes (mt) of crude petroleum that India imported last fiscal, Russia's share was over 87.5 mt, making it the country's top supplier. It's this trade that US President Donald Trump is now targeting by threatening to levy a "penalty", on top of the 25 per cent general tariff on Indian goods imports that he announced on Wednesday. By not specifying how much that additional penalty would be, he is basically nudging India to cut down, if not stop, energy (and defence) purchases from Russia. This comes just over two weeks after NATO Secretary General Mark Rutte warned India, China and Brazil of secondary sanctions if they continued to do business with Russia and help sustain its current war spending against Ukraine.

Whatever be the quantum, if at all, of the penalty — a new bill introduced in the US Congress seeks to impose a 500 per cent duty on all goods and services imports from countries "that knowingly engage in the exchange of Russian-origin uranium and petroleum products" — one thing is certain: The Western sanctions noose is tightening. For India, too, buying Russian oil cannot be business as before. The Narendra Modi government has so far — rightly — not been defensive over massively stepping up sourcing of Russian crude that is available at a discount relative to global benchmark prices. It has cited both the need to prioritise the energy security of India's people as well as the fact that the ban on imports of Russian oil by the US or European Union is not covered under any United Nations sanctions. That argument — about the purchase of this oil being well within India's legitimate and moral rights — still holds.

Pragmatic and matter-of-fact considerations have informed its expanding trade with Russia, even at the risk of Western displeasure, but at the same time, there are geopolitical costs. Those costs could significantly go up, as the EU and US (the Trump administration seems to have closed ranks) increasingly strike at Russia's war machine by targeting its energy revenue streams. That nearly 36 per cent of India's crude imports come from a single country isn't good in the best and safest of times. Prudence demands — and this is important from the standpoint of securing the country's long-term energy security — that costs beyond the immediate also be factored in. That would mean diversifying the sources of oil supply, similar to de-risking trade with China. Whether and how much India should trade with any country must be guided by its own national interest.

HERE COMES NISAR

The satellite, which could be a game-changer, is a reminder that high science requires global collaborations

THE LAUNCH OF the world's first remote sensing satellite, Sputnik 1, heralded the era of remote sensing. Since that epic moment in 1957, hundreds of Earth observation satellites have enhanced the understanding of the planet. The NISAR satellite, launched on Wednesday, will capture details on the Earth's surface, which are stunning even by the high standards set in remote sensing in the past 68 years. The satellite, jointly operated by India's premier space research agency ISRO and NASA, will generate 80 TB of data every day, three times more than any other existing Earth observation systems. It will enhance the understanding of ecosystems and enable the study of natural hazards such as earthquakes and landslides at a time when the chances of such environmental threats are much higher compared to any other period in recent human history. NISAR's radar systems will scan nearly all the planet's land and ice surfaces twice every 12 days, tracking shifts as slight as a centimetre. The satellite will be able to see through clouds, smoke, and even thick vegetation, both during the day and at night, in all weather conditions. The information is likely to be available in a matter of hours, enabling governments and even local communities to frame urgent responses during extreme weather events such as floods and storms. NISAR, therefore, promises to be a game-changer in disaster management.

The satellite's power comes from its two synthetic aperture radars (SARs), which are designed to capture complementary sets of images for the same location at the same time. This will provide a much more detailed view of the Earth compared to what has been possible so far. One of the radars can capture minute details, including the planet's undulations, and study trees even in dense forests — this can help estimate carbon stocks. The other SAR, which has a shorter wavelength, is equipped to capture features such as water bodies or fields and provide data on soil moisture and the maturity stages of crops. This could help agriculture research agencies pass on crucial information to farming communities.

Placing two SARs on one satellite was a major engineering challenge. That's one reason NISAR was more than 15 years in the making. The project was initiated by NASA in 2008. ISRO joined the endeavour four years later. The Indian space agency's contribution was crucial to the mission. It designed and built one of the radar systems, created the data handling and downlinking systems and provided NISAR's launch vehicle, the GSLV-F16. The collaboration was spared the funding cuts inflicted on NASA by the Trump administration. Its success is a message to the US President that high science is almost impossible without meaningful partnerships between nations.

SOMETHING ABOUT JEANS

American Eagle ads tried to fit in with the kids — till they didn't

WHAT DO THE biggest corporations in the world and that annoying uncle/aunt in every family have in common? They're both try-hards — attempting "coolness" to fit in with the kids. The latest desperate attempt at this "coolness" comes from clothing and accessories retailer American Eagle through a series of advertisements starring Sydney Sweeney. Unfortunately for the company, these have backfired and received widespread flak for "pandering to the male and White gaze." One of them has a lingering close-up of Sweeney's chest, another features her pasting a poster that reads: "Sydney Sweeney has great genes jeans." An ad that has been taken down by the company — it has been criticised as eugenics-speak — has Sweeney saying, "Genes are passed down from parents to offspring, often determining traits like hair colour, personality, and even eye colour. My jeans are blue."

From the woke moment half a decade ago to today, companies have made attempts, often clumsily, to tap into the political zeitgeist. At a time when the dominant political force in the US is rooting for "traditional" gender roles, and flirting with White supremacy, the American Eagle ad evidently attempted to reap the cultural moment. For companies looking for opportunities to balloon their profit margins, this is par for the course. Except when it runs into controversy. Remember the 2017 Pepsi commercial starring Kendall Jenner? When the Black Lives Matter movement was at the centre of the news cycle following incidents of police brutality and the acquittal of the alleged killers of Philando Castile, the ad featured Jenner walking up to a policeman, Pepsi in hand, while participating in a nondescript protest. Needless to say, it was ill received.

At the heart of it is a bottom line: If companies like American Eagle and Pepsi have one cause, it is to never lose a customer (read: Profit). A boycott, outrage and a half-hearted apology later, Pepsi learnt the lesson American Eagle might now wake up to. It goes something like this: Dear companies, a sure-shot way to avoid hot water? Stop trying so hard to play "cool".



RAJAT KATHURIA

TWO DECADES AGO, the idea of a trade deal between India and the US seemed pure fantasy. After all, the divide between the two on tariffs, standards and double standards, to be mischievous, seemed irreconcilable. Two decades, however, is a significant period in economic development — and an eternity in politics. Today, change is so rapid that what looked impractical just yesterday appeared to be within the realm of possibility. Or so it seemed.

How did we even get here? India's recent shift in trade diplomacy, moving from a cautious approach to actively pursuing free trade agreements, reflects a strategic imperative to diversify trade partnerships and enhance its position in global supply chains. It is also a reflection of the need to explore alternatives to trade liberalisation, albeit guardedly, to the multilateral system, currently in an extended coma. This pivot is therefore driven by self-interest, the desire to expand exports, attract investment and counter potential geopolitical headwinds.

For President Donald Trump, trade diplomacy is the equivalent of levying punitive import tariffs on those countries that he believes have free-ridden on the open US market for decades. The script aimed at the MAGA constituency is irresistible: Use tariffs as a negotiating tool to extract concessions from "errant" trading partners, bump up government revenues, reduce, or better, eliminate trade deficits and bring manufacturing back home to America. The fact that none of this, except strong-arming the EU, Japan, Vietnam, Indonesia, South Korea and perhaps India into concessions, will work does not restrain the President and his advisors for too long and need not detain us either. Trade deficits and limited but key manufacturing are manifestations of structural features of the US economy, but let that be a topic for another day.

For now, POTUS has announced a significant hardening of the trade stance against India, declaring a 25 per cent tariff on Indian exports effective August 1. The mini trade deal between India and US that was to be agreed upon after being deferred to August 1 is deferred again, but hopefully not abandoned. The 25 per cent threat, almost the same as the

Donald Trump's latest salvo is a negotiating strategy. The India-US trade talks will go on

What, then, could have been the sticking point? Perhaps agriculture and dairy. It is no secret that US lobbies are looking to sell more cheese, milk, maize, soy, corn, and other similar GM products. Throw in nuts and some fruits and you have the makings of a potential disruptor to the vast agriculture, including the dairy sector, in India, that accounts for roughly 45 per cent of employment. For India, this has been a red line due to the overwhelming number of small farmers, not to speak of potentially damaging political consequences.

unenforced April 2 "Liberation Day" tariff of 26 per cent, is accompanied by an additional, as-yet-unspecified "penalty" for India's continued substantial purchases of crude oil and defence equipment from Russia. The official justifications are India's "far too high" tariffs, its "most strenuous and obnoxious non-monetary trade barriers", and its strong energy and military ties with Russia. The fact that the President described India as a "friend" in the same breath softens the blow, leaving the door ajar for further negotiations, but does nothing to alleviate his transactional nature, disregarding the harsh asymmetries in levels of development between India and the US. Thus, restoring the Generalised System of Preferences (GSP) under which India gets non-reciprocal, duty-free treatment for several products to push development, while on the negotiating table, looks improbable even if US per capita income at \$90,000 is 30 times that of India. Even if it were on the table, it is unlikely to have been a sticking point. A fallout of that is a dubious but de facto acknowledgement of the blunt narrative that India is the fastest-growing emerging market and soon to be fourth-largest global economy. In private, I think all negotiators will admit it is not a match of equals. In the parlance of golf, a handicap such as the GSP is justified.

What, then, could have been the sticking point? Perhaps agriculture and dairy. It is no secret that US lobbies are looking to sell more cheese, milk, maize, soy, corn, and other similar GM products. Throw in nuts and some fruits and you have the makings of a potential disruptor to the vast agriculture, including the dairy sector, in India, that accounts for roughly 45 per cent of employment. For India, this has been a red line due to the overwhelming number of small farmers, not to speak of potentially damaging political consequences.

Allowing highly subsidised US farm produce would spell political disaster. Especially, when the government has had to face severe criticism on the unsuccessful doubling of farmer income policy. Besides, the infamous farm laws had to be withdrawn and farmer protests managed. In this background, even a nuanced and limited opening of agriculture that protects small

farmer interest, as some have argued, would fall prey to a carefully constructed narrative of the deal being anti-farmer, and therefore, against national interest. For this reason, India has maintained this stance in recent FTAs with Australia and the UK.

The US negotiators perhaps already know this only too well. President Trump's latest salvo is no doubt a negotiating strategy, buoyed in part by the success of similar threats to other countries. For example, the US signed a significant agreement in July with the European Union (EU), where the EU agreed to a 15 per cent tariff on most European goods, down from a threatened 30 per cent. Ditto for Vietnam (from 46 per cent to 20 per cent), Indonesia (from 32 per cent to 19 per cent) and Japan (from 25 per cent to 15 per cent).

Some of these countries are our competitors for labour-intensive products such as jewellery, textiles, footwear, leather, toys and handicrafts and will have cheaper access into the US market, at least for now. Coercion has been defined as success in the US and countries have caved in to mitigate the risk of even greater economic disruption to their economies. India might be willing to give concessions in areas like data localisation requirements, digital services taxes and even digital trade rules. It should be noted that India abolished the Equalisation Levy, aka the "Google Tax", in 2024. It was a tax measure on digital transactions by non-resident companies earning revenue from users in India without a physical presence. Agriculture, however, is a different kettle of fish.

What a difference a few weeks has made. From being "very close" to being completed, the India-US mini deal hangs in the balance, although it is by no means dead. Scarlett O'Hara's line from *Gone with the Wind* — "tomorrow is another day" — captures the enduring optimism, but in the present, it reflects a capricious and fragile global state in which uncertainty reigns supreme and the exercise of discretion is a crafty manifestation of power.

The writer is dean, School of Humanities and Social Sciences, and professor of Economics at Shiv Nadar University. Views are personal



SHALINI LANGER

LOVE CAN STRIKE you across a room, a glance that parts a crowd; or it can hang as a question mark at the end of an incomplete encounter. More often than one likes to admit, though, love is what cannot be.

The best of love stories capture this yearning, this gap between probability and impossibility.

So, in the absence of obstacles, can there be a great love, one that makes it to stories?

Or, can you only have a *Saiyara*, a product of our times where every gratification is a phone click away — even Alzheimer's, a convenient inconvenience driving this story's plot?

But what is writer-director Mohit Suri to do, when nothing such as caste, class, religion, parents, society, even unsatiated raging hormones, seem now to stand in the way?

Whither the meaningless bus or auto rides just to hold hands? Whither the notes to be exchanged which could catch the wrong eyes? Whither the public places and the watchful unapproving glares? Whither the small salaries and unaffordable restaurants? Whither the long periods of not seeing, not hearing, not knowing? Whither that sudden sense of a presence, the tingle at the back of your neck or in the pit of your stomach? Whither even the lovers' tiffs that were waged only to be resolved?

Whither, whither, whither... However, as one raised on Shah Rukh Khan, and one raising two youngsters who

NOT LOVE, ACTUALLY

We need a new love story for the new age. 'Saiyyara' is not that

purportedly inhabit the *Saiyara* world, let's give it to Gen Z that they deserve more credit than the film gives its two leads.

Just past 20 and getting married, in court? Getting dumped even as you are writing ever more love ditties into a notebook with seemingly endless pages? Falling for, and being whizzed around town helmetlessly and recklessly, by a guy with anger issues? Watching gooey-eyed as the guy barges into a newspaper office and bashes up a journalist over an article, and walks away unscathed? Picking fights with your friends and being generally a jerk, and being taken back by them, again and again?

Interning in the hope of a job and spending barely any time in the office? Getting record deals and tours, and having money and success fall into your lap as you sulk and skulk your way through life? Having a curfew hour of 8.30 pm on one hand, while aspiring to be a journalist, and then enjoying days of unencumbered bliss in a seaside, wind-swept cottage with a guy, on the other? Disappearing into an internet black hole so as to nurse your Alzheimer's in private, leaving your loved ones in the dark? And reappearing with not a hair harmed, or life interrupted for a second, out of an ashram in the hills?

As any adult would tell you, uh uh, that's not how it works.

As any parent would tell you, even Gen Z knows that. As self-centred or myopic as their universe seems — or maybe because it

is so — the young now are more preternaturally attuned against such self-destructiveness. Love may seem overwhelmingly blinding in these show-all, tell-all times, but love-blind our young are not.

And that's not the only problem with *Saiyara*. There still are love stories to be told reflecting new tensions of the new age, even on Bollywood's slickly flattened canvas. *Badhaai Do* (2022), for example, about two homosexual individuals bound in a heterosexual marriage, conveyed more sizzle in just one person nudging the other with a shoe.

Plus, a better love story lies on the other side of where *Saiyara* ends. Of two people living together, as one loses his or her memory — though even that is a story that has been told before (*50 First Dates* springs to mind, for starters).

So all the young out there, take this from a wiser, older romantic: Accept *Saiyara* for what it is, a film that needs an IV shot of hype to give it a life, and not the last word on modern love.

Some things need not be "made new" after all — two people, one umbrella and a rain-soaked night; two people, mustard fields and a mandolin; or as Ahmad Faraz wrote for the ages, "*maana ke mohabbat ka chhupana hai mohabbat... chupke se kisi roz jataane ke liye aa* (Granted that love is all about hiding love... one day, even if silently, come show me)".

shalini.langer@expressindia.com

AUGUST 2, 1985, FORTY YEARS AGO

WHO KILLED MAKENS

LALIT MAKEN AND his wife, Geetanjali, were in all probability victims of terrorist bullets, police sources said. According to the sources, all the leads uncovered so far seem to indicate the involvement of terrorists rather than trade union or political rivals — particularly the sophisticated weapons used and the modus operandi of the killers. Although they are still trying to confirm whether the weapons were Sten guns or semi-automatic Mauser pistols, police suspicions are on the latter.

CHINKS IN SECURITY

HOME MINISTER S B Chavan's statement and

replies in both houses of Parliament on Thursday over the assassination of Lok Sabha member Lalit Maken and his wife, while failing to quench the anguish and concern being felt by members both inside and outside the houses, also laid bare the bureaucratic and procedural loopholes in the intelligence and law-and-order machinery in the capital. One question that was agitating the members was why Maken's security guard was withdrawn just two days before the assassination.

INDO-PAK TALKS

INDIA IS UNDERSTOOD to have again conveyed to Pakistan during the current round of talks between the foreign secretaries of the two

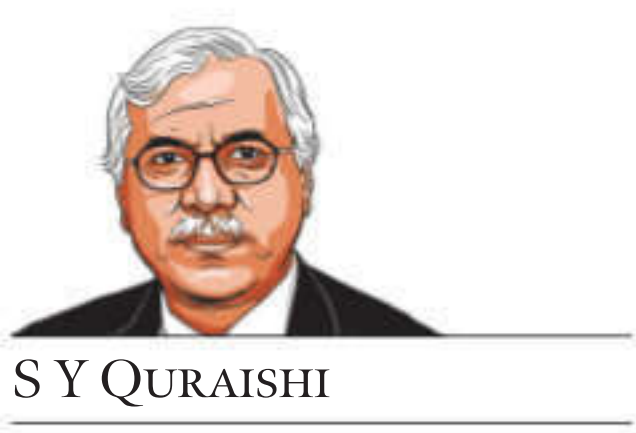
countries its grave concern about the assistance that the terrorists had been getting from across the border. It is understood that the concern was also about Pakistan's nuclear programme.

SHARING GANGA WATERS

INDIA MADE A gesture of goodwill towards Bangladesh when it reportedly agreed to sign a fresh agreement on sharing of Ganga waters. Sources close to the Bangladesh Foreign Ministry said Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi's special envoy, Shiv Shankar, during a meeting with President Ershad indicated the country's willingness to renew the agreement, which expired on January 31 this year. It may be made functional for three to five years.

A democracy grown at home

In referring to elections under the Cholas, PM invoked a historical truth, of indigenous traditions of collective decision-making, anchored in ethics, equity, and participation



S Y QURAISHI

WHEN PRIME MINISTER Narendra Modi stood in the ancient temple town of Gangaikonda Cholapuram on July 27 and declared that Indian democracy predated the Magna Carta, he was not engaging in rhetoric — he was invoking a historical truth that has too often been forgotten.

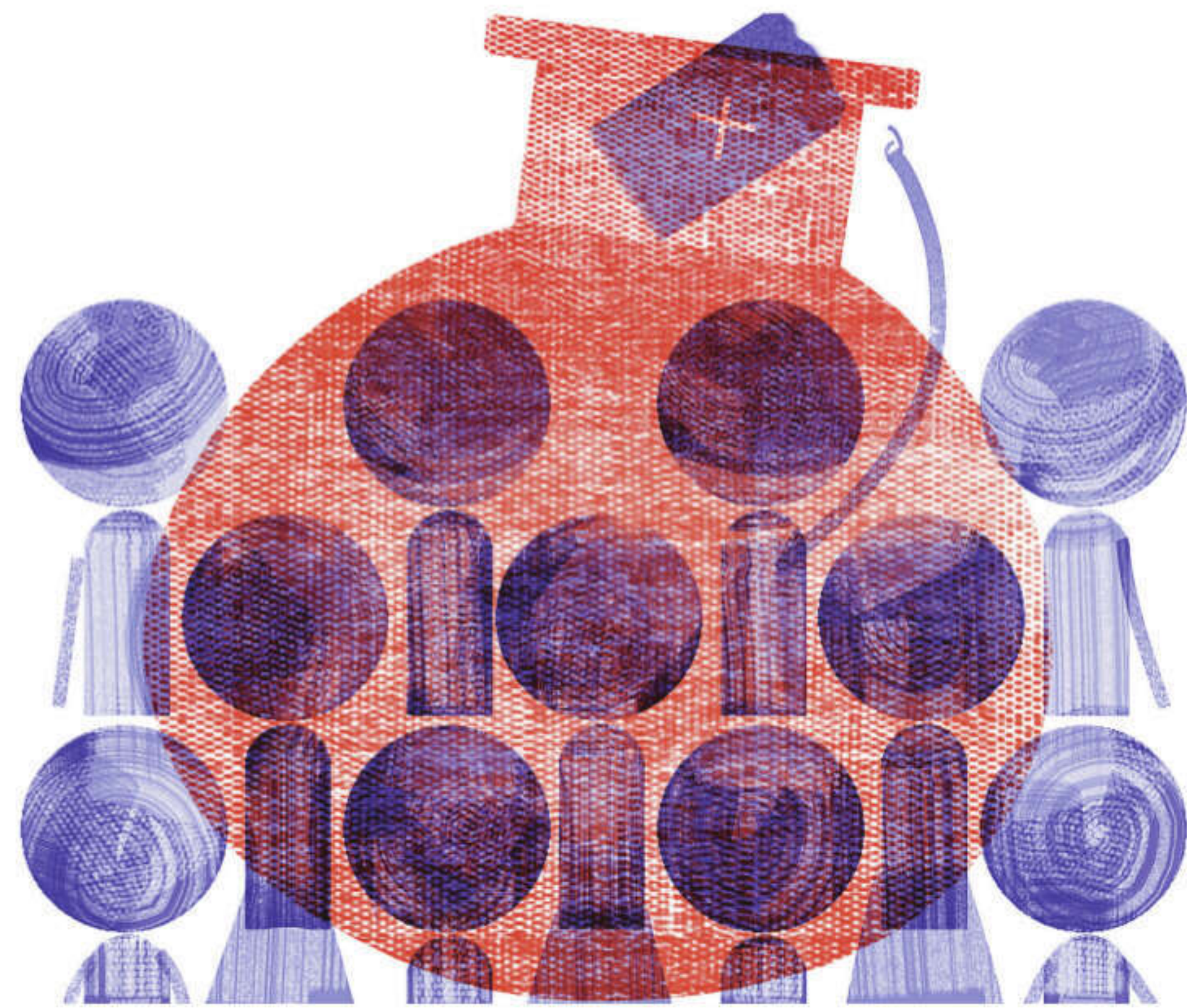
The *Indian Express* the next day carried a striking headline: ‘Long before Magna Carta, Cholas had ‘ballot pots’: What is the ancient voting system PM Modi lauded?’ The story detailed the astonishing sophistication of local elections held over 1,000 years ago in Tamil Nadu under the Chola dynasty, particularly in the village of Uthiramerur in Kancheepuram district. But the deeper message was one of reclaiming pride in a democratic legacy that is indigenous, ancient, and rigorously codified.

A decade ago, I had written about this in my book, *An Undocumented Wonder – The Making of the Great Indian Election* (2014). India was not entirely new to the concept of democracy as there is credible evidence that it existed in the country in various forms as early as the fifth century BCE. In small communities, villages and tribal societies, participation in decision-making through discussions was the normal practice.

Kautilya also describes, in his *Arthashastra*, the role of *samghas* or local unions and how the state can rule more efficiently through these structures. It is interesting to note that property and education were considered essential qualifications for a candidate. There was a maximum age limit of 70 years for contesting elections. Those deemed corrupt, tainted or guilty of moral turpitude were disqualified, as were their close relatives.

An inscription in Vaikuntaperumal temple in Uthiramerur, dated around 920 AD, during the reign of Parantaka Chola, gives astonishing details about the constitution of wards, the qualification of candidates standing for elections, of disqualification norms, the mode of election, the constitution of committees with elected members, the functions of these committees, the power to remove the wrongdoers etc. The villagers even had the right to recall the elected representatives if they failed in their duty. There were not just consultations of elders or feudal councils — they were genuine self-governing village republics, electing representatives through a system that is uncannily reminiscent of modern democratic principles.

The electoral process used in Uthiramerur was called the *kudavolai* system, or “ballot pot”. Names of eligible candidates were inscribed on palm leaves and placed into an earthen pot. A young, impartial boy — untainted by local politics — was chosen to draw the slips in public view. This ensured both transparency and neutrality. The selected members served for fixed one-year terms, after which the process was repeated.



C R Sasikumar

But the real marvel was not just in the voting method. It was in the comprehensive model code of conduct that governed who could contest, how they could be removed, and what moral standards were expected. To stand for election, a candidate had to be between 35 and 70 years of age, own tax-paying land, reside in a house built on that land and be well-versed in sacred texts or administrative procedures.

Those who had defaulted on debts, consumed alcohol, committed moral transgressions, or failed to present accounts from earlier office were automatically disqualified. What’s more, even close relatives of such individuals were ineligible. The idea was to purify public life — to ensure that those in power were beyond reproach.

There were also strict provisions for removal and disqualification. Anyone found guilty of embezzlement or dereliction of duty was not only removed from office but also barred from standing for re-election — sometimes for up to seven generations. Compare that to today’s politics, where convicted politicians return to the electoral fray with impunity, and the contrast is striking.

These ancient village republics represent a remarkably advanced model of participatory democracy. The elections were not just rituals; they were mechanisms of civic accountability backed by enforceable codes. The resonance with the Chola code is more than symbolic. It affirms that India’s democratic ethos has been shaped not only by its Constitution but by its civilisational DNA.

An inscription in Vaikuntaperumal temple in Uthiramerur, dated around 920 AD, in the reign of Parantaka Chola, gives astonishing details about the constitution of wards, the qualification of candidates standing for elections, of the disqualification norms, the mode of election, the constitution of committees with elected members, the functions of these committees, the power to remove the wrongdoers etc.

This is not to deny the contributions of British parliamentary traditions or the American Bill of Rights. But India’s democratic spirit did not begin in 1947, 1935, or even 1919. It stretches back to Vaishali, one of the world’s first known republics, and flourishes in the inscriptions of Uthiramerur, where the ideals of transparency, eligibility, accountability, and citizen participation were inscribed in stone — literally.

The Prime Minister’s invocation of this legacy is both timely and necessary. At a moment when democracy across the world is under pressure — from authoritarian populism, money power, disinformation, and shrinking civic space — it is vital to remind ourselves that India’s democracy is not a borrowed robe. It is rooted in indigenous traditions of collective decision-making, anchored in values of ethics, equity, and participation.

As the custodian of the world’s largest electoral exercise, the Election Commission of India must draw confidence not just from contemporary jurisprudence but from our own history.

Far from being a borrowed idea, democracy was homegrown, deeply institutionalised, and ethically bound, I had written in my book. It would be foolhardy to deny that India is the mother of democracy worldwide.

The writer is former Chief Election Commissioner of India and the author of An Undocumented Wonder – The Making of the Great Indian Election

WHAT THE OTHERS SAY

“In securing a 20 percent tariff rate from Washington, Dhaka has navigated a perilous new era of US trade diplomacy.” — THE DAILY STAR, BANGLADESH

Operation Sindoor loose ends

It saw the readiness and capability of our armed forces. But even after the Parliament debate, there are lingering questions



NIRUPAMA RAO

IN THE AFTERMATH of the Pahalgam terror attack, Operation Sindoor was executed with admirable precision and purpose. The nation witnessed the readiness of our armed forces, the speed of response, and the confidence with which cross-border strikes were conducted. These are not small achievements. They reflect an India that no longer hesitates to act in defence of its people and territory.

Yet, amid the expressions of solidarity and triumph, a set of questions still lingers — questions that were not answered in Parliament, nor addressed in the official statements that followed. As someone who has served within the machinery of the Indian state, I believe these questions deserve not only to be asked, but to be sustained in the national memory. For, a nation’s strength is not merely defined by its ability to retaliate, but by its commitment to learning from what precedes the need for retaliation.

The first duty of the state is to prevent. That a group of terrorists could infiltrate and carry out a devastating attack in one of Kashmir’s most surveilled and strategically vital regions signals a breach not only of physical security, but of institutional coordination.

Where was the lapse? Was it a failure of intelligence collection, analysis, or dissemination? Were inter-agency protocols followed — or bypassed? What assessment has been made of the local support structures that enabled such movement? These are not peripheral queries. They go to the core of whether our deterrence posture is genuinely effective or primarily reactive.

The recent parliamentary debate was a welcome recognition that national security cannot be left to press briefings alone. But even as it brought key voices to the fore, the tenor of the conversation — on both sides — often veered toward performance rather than policy.

The Prime Minister was emphatic in defending the government’s response and underlined the support India received globally. Yet, one sensed a reluctance to dwell on the preceding failures that made a response necessary in the first place. That is the space Parliament is meant to occupy — not to second-guess real-time decisions, but to seek clarity about the frameworks that produced those decisions.

One is reminded that in parliamentary democracies, asking difficult questions is not defiance; it is duty. The absence of candour in response to such questions may win applause in the moment, but it leaves our systems unexamined and untested.

Among the more troubling loose ends is the claim by US President Donald Trump that he played a role in mediating a ceasefire during the standoff. While such assertions may not always be grounded in precise fact, the absence of a firm, official

rebuttal has only allowed ambiguity to grow. India has long prided itself on strategic autonomy. Our ability to act — and be seen to act — without external pressure is fundamental to the credibility of our security doctrine. To leave that credibility open to reinterpretation is to invite misperception not only among adversaries but also among allies.

Silence, in such cases, is not strategic restraint. It can be construed as tacit consent — or worse, uncertainty.

India’s deterrence posture has evolved in practice, but it remains largely undefined in principle. Repeatedly, we have responded forcefully to provocations — from Uri to Balakot to Pahalgam — but the absence of a clear, publicly articulated doctrine invites strategic ambiguity. At some stage, ambiguity begins to undercut deterrence.

Do we have a threshold doctrine that governs responses? What are the escalatory contours we are prepared to manage? How do we plan for hybrid threats that combine kinetic violence with digital disruption? These questions merit a formal treatment — not in partisan debate, but through institutional policy articulation.

There is a growing tendency in our political culture to view national security through a personal lens: The Prime Minister’s resolve, the Opposition’s tone, the media’s narrative. But true national security lies beyond personalities. It lies in systems that function regardless of who is in office, in doctrines that endure, and in institutions that are empowered to question, correct, and reform.

To that end, it is concerning that after such a significant breach and the massive deployment of military assets, we have not heard of any institutional accountability being established, any resignations considered, or any operational audits made public. Transparency in such cases is not a sign of weakness; it is the very basis of democratic strength.

Operation Sindoor may stand as an example of India’s military responsiveness. But it should also serve as a reminder that vigilance, not retaliation, is the first responsibility of the state. When Parliament gathers, when the public listens, and when leaders speak, the goal must not only be to project unity, but to preserve credibility.

In the long run, India’s greatest strength will not lie in its ability to respond — but in its ability to anticipate, to prepare, and to self-correct without waiting for crisis.

And perhaps, most importantly, we must never lose sight of the cost of our lapses. The train of innocent lives lost — stretching back from the 1993 Mumbai serial blasts, through the horror of 26/11, to countless attacks in Kashmir, Delhi, and elsewhere — remains an open wound on the national conscience. Each act of terror that slips through the net of prevention leaves behind not just grief but a moral reckoning.

The lives lost in Pahalgam are not isolated tragedies. They join the unbroken line of innocents who have paid with their lives for our failures of anticipation. We must allow that reality to haunt us — not in despair, but as a driving force for better vigilance, stronger systems, and an uncompromising pursuit of security.

The writer is a former foreign secretary



RAM RAJYA

BY RAM MADHAV

Bangladesh, a year later

Ahead of 2026 elections, political space in the country is letting in fresh players

REPORTS IN THE Bangladesh media state that Muhammad Yunus, the chief adviser to the government, indicated recently that parliamentary elections will take place in February next year. August 5 marks one year since the ouster of an elected government led by Sheikh Hasina. Weeks of protests led by students and youth in July last year culminated in the Hasina government’s collapse. She was forced to flee the country on August 5. Ever since, she has been in exile while Bangladesh has been administered by Yunus, with the help of a group of student leaders and former bureaucrats.

What began as an interim arrangement is likely to continue until a new democratically elected government is put in place. While the installation of this non-elected arrangement in a country of 175 million people can rightly or wrongly be attributed to some outside authority, its continuance without much resistance for more than a year needs to be understood. Politics in Bangladesh was dominated for five decades by two major parties — the Awami League (AL) led by Sheikh Hasina, and the Bangladesh Nationalist Party (BNP) led by Khaleda Zia. Both parties have a dominant presence not only in the political arena but also among students, youth, women, farmers and factory workers through various party wings. The question is: How has Yunus’s administration continued to govern without any major challenge from the supporters of these two parties, which have ruled the country without interruption in the last three decades? In a country where massive street protests are not

uncommon, why have these two parties been unable to mobilise any resistance to the unelected regime and to push for early elections? Therein lies an important message for India and the world.

The immediate trigger for the protests against the Hasina government was its decision to reserve 30 per cent of government jobs for children of “freedom fighters”. In a country with a massive youth population and relatively high unemployment rates, this decision, which took the total reservation to 56 per cent, was bound to create unrest. In fact, bowing to a similar student agitation in 2018, the Hasina government had revoked the move for the same 30 per cent quota. At the time, many saw the policy as a means to fill government posts with AL supporters. The matter returned to haunt her again through a Bangladesh High Court ruling annulling her 2018 decision and reinstating the quota.

As an astute politician, having experienced the mood of the people on that issue six years before the protests last year, Hasina should have found better ways of dealing with the court ruling and adopted conciliatory measures. Sadly, when protests broke out at the country’s public universities in Dhaka, Rajshahi, Jahangirnagar and Chittagong, Hasina decided to respond with force.

The worst provocation came on July 14 when she allegedly commented at a press conference that “if the grandchildren of freedom fighters do not receive benefits, should the grandchildren of Razakars receive them in-

stead?” In Bangladesh, people who collaborated with Pakistan at the time of its freedom struggle are called Razakars. Equating the entire agitating student community with Razakars was an avoidable mistake. Hasina’s statement brought an important twist to the agitation. Not only did the agitation spread to private universities, but it also brought students of madrasas into it. Rough estimates put the number of madrasa students in Bangladesh at around three million. This marked an important dimension of the student movement — the entry of the Jamaat-e-Islami Bangladesh.

Jamaat and the AL have had a chequered relationship throughout. Bangabandhu Mujibur Rahman viewed the Jamaat as a collaborator during the freedom movement and banned it in 1972. General Ziaur Rahman, who succeeded Bangabandhu through a coup in 1975, lifted the ban, and Jamaat became a partner of the BNP in later decades, even joining the coalition government in 2001. After the Hasina government came to power in 2009, it went after the Jamaat leadership and prosecuted a number of its leaders for war crimes during the freedom struggle. The country’s Supreme Court had cancelled the Jamaat’s registration as a political party in 2013. Dormant since then, the Jamaat found an opportunity to return in strength through the largely apolitical student movement. The Hasina government banned it again on August 1, 2024, but this did not have much effect.

Two forces that have sustained the Yunus administration are the students and the

Jamaat. Whenever elections are held, it is these two forces that will play a crucial role. The Yunus administration banned the AL in May this year using a “fact-finding report” by the UN Human Rights Commissioner’s office on “violations and abuses related to the protests of July and August 2024 in Bangladesh”. The report’s findings, widely published in Bangladesh, were a damning indictment of Hasina’s regime. It alleged that upwards of 1,400 civilians, a large number of whom were students, were killed during the protests at the hands not only of the Bangladesh police but also the youth and student wings of the AL.

With the AL banned, the political space in Bangladesh remains open for new players in the coming elections. While the BNP remains the main contender, the rise of others, including the Jamaat, cannot be ruled out. Contemporary politics in South Asia is largely youth-led, and we have seen the decline of traditional parties and the rise of new ones that offered fresh hope in countries like Sri Lanka and Pakistan.

India is the only successful democracy in the region and an inspiration to all its neighbours. It always acted not as a Big Brother trying to pick and choose leaders in the neighbourhood but as an elder brother trying to help strengthen democratic systems. As Bangladesh prepares for its elections, India’s role cannot be anything more than that.

The writer, president, India Foundation, is with the BJP. Views are personal

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

PRESSURE TACTIC

THIS REFERS TO the editorial ‘Focus on big picture’ (IE, August 1) and related news reports. These articles highlight that the Trump administration’s announcement of a 25 per cent tariff on Indian imports, along with penalties related to Russia, is primarily a pressure tactic aimed at forcing India to agree to more favourable trade terms. However, the Indian economy is fundamentally strong, and its robust growth trajectory will enable it to withstand these pressures. The government’s strategy appears to be a combination of firm diplomacy and a focus on economic resilience.

Krishan Kumar Chug, New Delhi

BUNGLED PROBE

THIS REFERS TO the report, ‘Strong suspicion, no proof’: Court acquits Malegaon blast accused’ (IE, August 1). The verdict makes clear the prosecution’s bungling of the investigation. It dents the NIA’s credibility and rekindles communal tensions. It needs to be stated in this context that the NIA had, as early as 2016, filed a chargesheet stating that it could not find sufficient evidence against Pragya Thakur and three others and had recommended dropping the charges against them. Civil rights activists raised concerns about communal bias in probes. India must reform its anti-terror framework.

SS Paul, Nadia

NEED FOR SCRUTINY

THIS REFERS TO the article, ‘Dear Vice President’ (IE, August 1). The decreased number of bills being referred to parliamentary committees is worrisome. The purpose of parliamentary scrutiny, which generally slows down the legislative journey of a bill, is not to weaken or criticise the government, but to strengthen it by investing it with more meaningful support. A robust lawmaking process should not be impacted by strength of numbers or political agreement on issues. Thus, there is a need to strengthen these mechanisms, ensuring that all bills passed by Parliament go through a well-laid-out process of debate after proper scrutiny.

Vaibhav Goyal, Chandigarh

THIS REFERS TO the article ‘Dear Vice President’ (IE, August 1). As Chairman of Rajya Sabha, the Vice President should run the house in an orderly and efficient manner. A frequent grouse of the Opposition is that they are not given sufficient time to speak or raise questions. The V-P can address this by reducing time in observing many redundant formalities and by not adjourning the House for trivial reasons. A split video can be enabled to show both sides together on live TV. The V-P should also exercise caution about speaking on political issues outside the House.

Kamal Laddha, Bengaluru

epaper.indianexpress.com

Classifieds

PERSONAL

It is for general informaton that I,Kamruddin,S/o-Shamsuddin,Residing at,E-2/1180,Gali No.18/2,Nehru Vihar,Dayalpur,P.O.,Dayalpur, Dist.,North-East Delhi, Delhi-110094,declare that name of mine and my wife has been wrongly written as Munna and Hashmi in my minor son namely Adil-Aged-16Years in his School Record.The actual name of mine and my wife are Kamruddin and Hasima Respectively,which may be amended accordingly

0040802975-5

I,hitherto known as Sameer kutiyal,s/o.shri Ravinder Kumar,R/o,WZ-557,Village Dasghara,New-Delhi-110012,have changed my name and shall hereafter be known as Sameer kutniyal.

0040802889-7

I,hitherto know as SONU CHAUDHARY son of PRATAP SINGH permanent resident of Bhagosa,Mathura,Bhagosa,Utt ar-Pradesh-281502,and presently residing at C/o Santosh Kumar Rai s/o Mahant Rai,H.No.29,Sainik Enclave,Opposite CRPF,Near Hanuman Mandir,Nazafgarh,New-Delhi-110043,have changed my name and shall hereafter be known as SONPAL. Certified that I have complied with other legal requirements in this connection.

0040802893-1

I,Vinod Goyal,S/o Sh.Ram Chander Goel,R/o B-6,Upper Ground Floor, Pushpanjali Enclave, Pitampura, Delhi-110034, have changed my name Vinod Goel,for all Purposes.

0040802980-8

I,Radha Raman,alias Raman Koushal,S/o-Late Inderjit Kaushal,R/o-57/2,Church Road,Bhogal Jangpura,New Delhi-110014,have changed my name,from Radha Raman,alias Raman Koushal,to Raman Kaushal,for all purposes.

0040802975-7

I,Tarun Jain S/o.Late Sunil Jain,R/o A-35/FF, S.R.computers, Brij-Vihar, Chander-Vihar,Ghaziabad,U.P.-201011, that my -father's name is wrongly-mentioned as Sunil Kumar Jain in my-Passport No.N4294546,But my-father's correct name is Sunil Jain.

0040802975-1

I,TAHIRA W/O MOHAMMAD SHAKIL R/O HNO.60 RAGHUVeer ENCLAVE PASONDA GHAZIABAD UTTAR PRADESH-201005.HAVE CHANGED MY NAME TO TAHIRA PARVEEN.

0040802953-1

I,Seema Uppal,W/o Omesh Nagarwal,R/o H.No.1012, Sector-6,Bahadurgarh Distt-Jhajjar (Haryana)-124507,have changed my name to Seema,for all, future purposes.

0040802980-1

I,Seema Goyal W/o Sh. Vinod Goel,R/o B-6,Upper Ground Floor,Pushpanjali-Enclave, Pitampura, Delhi-110034,have changed my name to Seema Goel.

0040802980-7

I,Sarita Rani,D/o-Rabindra Prasad,R/o B4/87,UDAP Colony,Nehru-Nagar, Sirinivaspuri, South, Delhi-110065,have changed the name of my-minor son Arnav age-13-years and he shall hereafter be known as Arnav Om.

0040802953-6

I,Santosh Kumar Pal,S/o-Ganga Ram,R/o P/O-Bahava Kusami,Distt-Mirzapur Uttar Pradesh-231304,have changed my minor son name Abhi Pal to Aayush,for all purposes.

0040802953-9

I,Sangeeta,D/O Subhash Chandra Kapurchandara Sharma,resident of Block-B-1,Flat No-204,Olive County,Sector 5,Vasundhra,PO:Vasundhra,DIS T:Ghaziabad,Uttar Pradesh-201012, have changed my name from Sangeeta to Sangeetaben Goswami.Henceforth I would be known by the name of Sangeetaben Goswami,for all future purposes.

0040802959-12

I,SURESH YADAV,S/O-SURAJ BHAN,R/O,HOUSE.No-116,SECTOR-21,NEAR HUDA MARKET,GURGAON HARYANA-122016 CHANGE MY NAME TO SURESH KUMAR.

0040802953-10

I,SUBHASH CHANDRA SALUJA,S/O INDER JIT LALL,R/O-D-41, FIRST FLOOR, GULMOHAR PARK, DELHI-110049,HAVE CHANGED MY NAME TO SUBHASH SALUJA

0040802889-1

I,SHEHNAZ BEGUM,W/O-MEER MOHAMMED,R/O L-1-2381 GALI NO.15,SANGAM VIHAR,NEW DELHI-110062,HAVE CHANGED MY NAME TO SHANAZ

0040802889-5

I, Kapish Kashyap S/o Dibakor Boruah R/O Harmati Gaon, Harmoti Gaon, Harmoti Merbil, Bihpuria, Lakhimpur, Assam - 784160, declare that my father's and mother's name has been wrongly written as Dibakor Baruah and Priti Rani Baruah in educational documents. My father's and mother's actual name are Dibakor Boruah and Pritirani Boruah respectively which may be amended accordingly.

0040802945-2

I,SHABINA ARIF,W/o-MOHD ARIF,R/O-E-3,SECOND-FLOOR LEFT SIDE,MAIN ROAD,OKHLA VIHAR,JAMIA NAGAR,NEW DELHI-110025,inform that SHABEENA and SHABINA ARIF,both names are same person.My correct name SHABINA ARIF,for all,future purposes.

0040802958-10

I,SANJAY KUMAR,S/O Panchu Ram R/o H.No.-6,Gali.No-4,Himgiri Enclave,Burari,Delhi-110084,have changed my name to SANJAY KUMAR VERMA for all future purposes.

0040802959-2

I,Richa Vora,R/o,H.No.203-204,Second Floor,C-9, Sector-7,Rohini,Delhi-110085,have changed my-Minor Daughter Name,from Hiya Namit Vora to Hiya Vora.

0040802980-3

I,Rajesh Kumar S/O Dhan Raj R/o H.No.-32, Anaj Mandi, Bahadurgarh Distt Jhajjar (Haryana)-124507,have changed my name to Rajesh Goel.

0040802980-4

I,RAHUL MITRA,S/O SUBHASH MITTRA,R/O J-9/1 First Floor,Rajouri Garden,New Delhi-110027,have changed my name to RAHUL MITTRA for all purposes

0040802953-8

I,Parveen Kumar Jain S/o-Daulat Ram Jain, H-181,First Floor,Phase-I,Ashok Vihar,North West Delhi -110052,have changed my name to Parveen Jain.

0040802980-5

I,Palak,D/o Jayesh Goswami,resident of Block-B-1,Flat No-204,Olive County,Sector-5,Vasundhra,PO:Vasundhra,DIS T:Ghaziabad,Uttar Pradesh-201012,have changed my name from Palak to Palak Goswami.Henceforth I would be known by the name of Palak Goswami,for all future purposes.

0040802959-10

I,PUNAM RANI W/O-RAMESH CHAND R/O-H.NO.-257/8, OPPOSITE M.C.PARK,KRISHNA COLONY, BHIWANI,HARYANA-127021 HAVE CHANGED MY NAME TO POONAM RANI.

0040802959-5

I,POONAM D/O-DAWAN SINGH YADAV,R/O-FLAT.NO-1601 TOWER-14 VALLEY VIEW ESTATE GUAL PAHARI,GURGAON HARYANA-122003,HAVE CHANGED MY NAME TO POONAM YADAV,FOR ALL PURPOSES

0040802889-2

I,Nitu Kapoor W/o Rajiv Gulati,H.No.WZ-1677,Upper Second Floor,Rani Bagh,North West Delhi-110034,have changed my name to Neetu Gulati.

0040802980-2

I,Mohd. Rafiq,S/o-Rehwal Ullah,R/o Plot.No.A-395A, Khasra No.-131,Min Additional-Floor Portion,3rd-Floor Amina Masjid Wali gali,Village-Wazirabad,Burari,North Delhi-110084, have changed my name to Mo.Rafeeq.

0040802980-10

I,Mohd. Rafiq,S/o-Rehwal Ullah,R/o Plot No.-A-395A,Khasra.No.-131,Min Additional-Floor Portion,3rd Floor Amina-Masjid Wali Gali,Village-Wazirabad,Burari,North-Delhi-110084, have changed my name to Mo. Rafeeq.

0040802980-6

I,Manpreet Singh S/o Paramjeet Singh R/o Q-408, Sector-21, Noida(U.P), have changed my name to Manpreet Singh Kapoor for all future purposes.

0040802884-1

I,MOHAMMAD JAWED,S/O MD HABIBULLAH,R/O-88, AUBOROIND APARTMENT,DDA FLATS, ADHCINI,NEW DELHI-110017,have changed my name to MOHD JAVED,S/O MOHD HABIBULLAH,for all, future purposes.

0040802889-8

I,MEER MOHAMMAD,S/O RAMZANI,R/O L-1-2381,GALI.NO 15,SANGAM VIHAR,NEW-DELHI 110062,HAVE CHANGED MY NAME TO MEER MOHAMMED.

0040802889-4

I,MANOJ GAUR,S/O Hari Kishan R/o Plot.No.E-212,Sec-9,Ghaziabad,Uttar Pradesh-201009 have changed my name to MANOJ KUMAR GAUR for all future purposes.

0040802959-4

I,KUSUM CHAUHAN,W/o Abhishek Kumar,R/o D-47,New Police Line,Kingsway Camp,Delhi-110009,have changed my name to KUSUM for all future purposes.

0040802959-1

I,Jayeshkumar Suryakumar Goswami,S/o Suryakumar Goswami,resident of Block-B-1,Flat No-204,Olive County,Sector 5,Vasundhra,PO:Vasundhra,DIS T:Ghaziabad,Uttar Pradesh,201012,have changed my name from Jayeshkumar Suryakumar Goswami to Jayesh Goswami.Henceforth I would be known by the name of Jayesh Goswami,for all future purposes.

0040802959-11

I,GURVINDER SINGH,S/O-HARI SINGH BHATIA,R/O-186,VINOBA PURI,LAJPAT NAGAR-II,NEW DELHI-110024,have changed my name,from GURVINDER SINGH,to GURVINDER SINGH BHATIA,for all purposes.

0040802975-8

I,Geetika W/o-AMIT KUMAR,R/o-2078,Katra Gokul Shah,Sita Ram Bazar,Delhi,inform thatDeepika & Geetika both are one & the same person.

0040802958-1

I,Hemika Ranga,W/o Vishal Salaria,R/O H.No.-716,Sector-9A, Gurgaon (Haryana), have changed my name to Hemika Salaria.

0040802980-9

I,GOURAV MALHOTRA,S/O-SHRI GULSHAN RAI MALHOTRA,R/O-NA 149 VISHNU GARDEN,DELHI-110018,have Changed my name TO GAURAV MALHOTRA

0040802953-5

I,GAYATRI MITRA W/O SUBHASH MITRA R/O J-9/1 First Floor,Rajouri Garden,New Delhi-110027,have changed my name to GAYATRI MITTRA,for all purposes.

0040802953-7

I,Deepak S/o Jagdish Kumar D-6/146/1,Sector -6,Rohini,North West,Delhi-110085,have changed my name to Deepak Kumar.

0040802953-4

I,Daulat Singh Negi alias Daulat Singh,S/o Khushal Singh,R/o-D-3/Kh-40/7/8/G-4, Block-B,Indraprastha Colony,Burari,Delhi-110084,have changed my name to Daulat Singh Negi.

0040802975-6

I,DHAWAN SINGH,S/O-BALVIR SINGH YADAV R/O-FLAT.NO-1601 TOWER-14,VALLEY VIEW-ESTATE GUAL-PAHARI,GURGAON HARYANA-122003,HAVE CHANGED MY NAME TO DAWAN SINGH YADAV,FOR ALL PURPOSES.

0040802889-3

I,DEVENDER KUMAR,S/O KALI RAM,R/O E-12/1,Khajoori Khas,Delhi-110094,have changed my name to DEVENDER KUMAR TOMAR,for all future purposes.

0040802959-3

I,BULBUL,W/O-JATIN KUMAR,R/O F-190A,FIRST-FLOOR.GALI.NO-2 LAXMI-NAGAR EAST DELHI-110092,THAT INSTEAD OF MY-NAME IN PASSPORT(73494967),MENTIONED AS "BULBUL KAPOOR"BEFORE MARRIAGE WHEREAS AFTER-MARRIAGE MY NAME IS"BULBUL" WHICH IS MENTIONED IN AADHAR CARD(U.I.D.NO.2935-6349-3478),FOR ALL,FUTURE PURPOSE,THAT"BULBUL KAPOOR AND BULBUL"BOTH NAME ARE THE SAME-PERSON.

0040802980-11

I,LALREMMAWII,D/O KAWLLIANHNUNA FANAI R/O L-BLOCK MAHIPALPUR,VILLAGE MAHIPALPUR,DELHI-110037.HAVE CHANGED MY NAME TO LALREMMAWII FANAI,for ALL,FUTURE PURPOSES.

0040802889-6

I,Savita, W/o Samandar Sen, R/o S-342, School Block,Shakarpur, Delhi-110092,have Changed my name to SAVITA BIRLA, for all purposes.

0040802953-2

I,BHUPINDER KAUR,W/O-GURVINDER SINGH BHATIA,R/O-186,VINOBA PURI,LAJPAT NAGAR-II,NEW DELHI-110024,have changed my name,from BHUPINDER KAUR,to BHUPINDER KAUR BHATIA,for all purposes.

0040802975-9

I,Asha Khanna,Asha Rani & Asha Rani Khanna are name of one and Same person,I should be known as Asha Khanna,W/O-Satish Chandra Khanna,R/O-37G,Jaipuria Enclave,Behind EDM Mall,Kaushambi, Ghaziabad,U.P.

0040802980-13

I,Anil Kumar S/o Sita Ram R/o B-27, Double-Storey, Ramesh-Nagar, Delhi-110015,have changed my name to Anil Kumar Bhatia for all-purposes.

0040802975-4

I,Amaresh Kumar Dhankhar,S/O Mohinder Singh Dhankhar R/O,Amber-111, First-Floor, Emerald Hills, Sec-65,Gurgaon,Haryana-122101,have changed my-minor daughter's name Anaya Dhankhar to Anaya.

0040802975-2

I,Amarareesh Dhankhar S/o Mohinder Singh Dhankhar R/o Amber-111, First-Floor, Emerald Hills, Sec-65,Gurgaon, Haryana-122101,have changed my name to Amaresh Kumar Dhankhar.

0040802975-3

I,AMRITA SETHI,W/O-ROOPESH HANDA,R/O-B-5/59,SECTOR-18,ROHINI SECTOR-15,DELHI-110089 have changed my name to AMRITA HANDA,for all future purposes.

0040802953-3

I, VIDHI D/O HARSH SAHU R/O H.No. 24-A, GALI NO. 3, LAXMAN PARK, EAST CHANDER NAGAR, VTC: KRISHNA NAGAR, PO: KRISHNA NAGAR, EAST DELHI, DELHI-110051 declare that name of my father has been wrongly written as HARSH KUMAR in my 10th class educational documents. The actual name of my father is HARSH SAHU

0070981848-1

I, Reetu Chhipa D/o Ramesh Chand Chhipa R/o P No- 352, Rani Sati Nagar, Ajmer Road, Jaipur, Rajasthan - 302019, hereby undertake that I, Reetu Chhipa want to change my name to Rhythmraj and gender as MALE

0070981928-1

I,Parvez,S/o Chhuttan Khan,R/o D-349, Gali No.6,Shri Ram Colony, Delhi-110094,have changed my name to Parvez Alam.

0040802959-9

I, Brijesh Saini S/o R.P. Saini R/o WZ-500, Gali No.26, Shiv Nagar, Janakpuri, New Delhi-110058, have changed my name to BRIJESH KUMAR SAINI for all future purpose.

0040802922-1

I, Neelam W/o Mr. Narender Singh R/o A-5/501, Centurian Park TerraceHomes, Tech Zone IV, Greater Noida West (UP) do hereby inform that I haveadded "Singh"with my name and henceforth I will be known as Neelam Singhfor all future purposes.

0040802862-2

I, Neelam W/o Mr. Narender Singh R/o A-5/501, Centurian Park TerraceHomes, Tech Zone IV, Greater Noida West (UP) do hereby inform that I haveadded "Singh"with my name and henceforth I will be known as Neelam Singhfor all future purposes.

0040802862-2

I, Nadeem,S/o Nasiruddin,R/o-F-197-198, new Seemapuri Delhi-110095,have changed my name to Nadeem Ahmed

0040802959-8

I, Meesam Abbas R/o E-49/C-372, Old K-167, Janta Mzdoor Colony, Delhi-110053 have changed my name to Misam Ali

0070981890-1

I, Manish S/o Dhanna Lal R/o D-48, Gali No-1, Sangam Vihar, Delhi-62 have changed my name to Manish Singh

0070981917-1

I, Jatin Kumar,S/o-Jagan Nath Banga R/o-156/Top floor,new rajdhani enclave Delhi-110092,have changed my name to Jatin Banga

0040802959-7

I, Jaspal Singh Guliani S/o Amar Singh R/o WZ-203, Gali No-4, Krishna Park, Tilak Nagar, Delhi-18 have changed my name to Jaspal Singh

0070981921-1

I, Devendra Tyagi, S/O Sudhakar Singh Tyagi, R/O C-227, Gamma 1 G, Noida, G.B. Nagar (U.P.) – 201308, hereby declare that the correct date of birth of my minor son, Parth Tyagi, is 11/11/2021. The date mentioned as 11/11/2020 is incorrect. This correction is being made for all future purposes.

0070981845-1

I, Chandresh Kumar Rathii S/O Prembir Singh R/O KA-241, 2nd Floor, Pratapvihar, Vijaynagar, Ghaziabad, Near Gangajal Water Treatment Plant, 201009, have change my name to Chandresh Kumar for all future purposes

0070981911-1

I,Shri Parkash S/o Late Hari Singh R/o 112, Kassara, VTC-5342, School Block,Shakarpur, Delhi-110092,have Changed my name to SAVITA BIRLA, for all purposes.

0040802858-1

I, Uday Chander Sharma, S/O Late Shri J.C.Sharma, R/o-471, Sec-47, South-City-2,Gurgaon, Haryana-122018, have changed my name to Uday Chandra Sharma.

0040802939-1

I, Suresh Dangi C/o Thagai Yadav R/o-Noniyapatti, Vishnupura Buijurg, Kinner Patti, Kushinagar, Uttar Pradesh-274304 have changed my name to Suresh Yadav

0070981915-1

I, Shikha Ghosh, D/o Dhruv Lal Gupta, W/o S.K Ghosh, R/o-K.G-2,H.No.326,L.I.G Flat, Vikaspuri, Tilak Nagar,West-Delhi,Delhi-110018, declare that my date of birth has been wrongly-written as-10.05.1067 in Pan-Card.No.BDAPG0541A,the correct-date of birth is my-10.05.1954

0040802939-2

I, Sarabhjit Singh Saini S/o Sewa Singh Saini R/o A-11, 3rd Floor, Dayanand Colony, Lajpat Nagar-4, Delhi-24 have changed my name to Sarabjeet Singh Saini

0070981919-1

I, Sapnali Chetia W/o Jitin Luthra R/o D-612 Plot 13 New Arohi Apartments Sector 12 Dwarka New Delhi 110075, have changed my name to Sapnali Luthra

0070981913-1

I,Reji Sebastian D/o Sabastin Varkey W/o Podiyam Kulangara Joy, R/o RZ -G/1-12, Second Floor, Mandir Marg, Mahavir Enclave, Palam, New Delhi -110045 have changed my name to Reji Joy for all purposes

0040802858-2

I, Nagu Suman S/o Nagu Sudhakar R/o C-3-59, Srinagar, Mallarnelly, Po- Mallarnelly, Dist- Warangal, Telangana - 506349, have changed my name to Nagu Nagaraju

0070981886-1

I Mamta Rani D/o Rajinder Kumar and W/o Manoj Kumar R/o H.No-A-18, S-Block, Chander Vihar, Mandawali, East Delhi - 110092, have changed my name to Mamta Sharma

0070981910-1

I MANJU BALA W/O VIKAS KHATRI RESIDENT HOUSE NO- 6/237,MAHAVIR COLONY,SONIPAT,HARYANA HAVE CHANGED MY NAME TO MANJU KHATRI.

0040802959-6

I Kushi M Alias M Kushi D/o Ajampur Swamy Mahesha R/o C-203, KSR Green Valley, Substation Road, Visakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh-530018, have changed my name to Kushi Mahesha

0070981927-1

I Shyam Vir S/O, Sh. Rampal R/o Hno 221 Haddu Mohalla Madanpur Khadar Sarita Vihar New Delhi 110076 have changed my name to Shyambir.

0040802868-1

I Chandrakala JV Alias J V Chandrakala Alias Javarnahalli VishakantaGowda Chandrakala D/o Vishakante Gowda and W/o Ajampur Swamy Mahesha R/O-C-203, KSR Green Valley, Substation Road, Visakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh-530018, have changed my name to Javarnahalli Vishakanta Gowda Chandrakala

0070981925-1

I Bikram S/o Mathura R/o Ward No-13, Nawa Tola, Marwahi, VTC-Lohari, PO- Marwahi, District- Bilaspur, Chhattisgarh -495118, have changed my name to Ramadhin

0070981883-1

I, ASHA SHARMA W/o Late Sh.R.K. Sharma, R/O A-32, S Delhi Police Employees Co-operative 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. If found, kindly contact 9953100494

0040802603-1

PUBLIC NOTICE

My Client Shri Rajpal Jain son of Late Shri Chagji Ram Jain R/o D-2, Panchvat, Delhi-110033, Mob: 9871934041, has agreed to purchase ground floor and first floor portions, built on a plot of land measuring 83.61 Sq. Mtrs., bearing property No. B-253A, out of Kharsa No-456 fitted with water and electricity situated in Village Ghonda, Gajan Khadar in the abadi of Main Rubber Factory Road, North Ghonda, Vihar, Ghaziabad, Delhi-110053, from Mr. Vipin Tyagi son of Shri Vijendra R/o H.No.279, Mandola, Ghaziabad, UP-201002.

Any person has any interest or right in the aforesaid property can file objections before the undersigned at Phone No.9810029034, within 15 days.

Sd/-
MADAN GOPAL VACHER
Advocate
Ch. No. 234, Civil Wing,
Tis Hazari Courts, Delhi-54

PUBLIC NOTICE

I, Krishan Kumar (Army Service No. 15481425W) (LD-MACP DFR) S/o Sh. Bir Singh resident of Village Bhatnaha, Gulawathi Rural Nathnagar, Bilaspur, Gwalathi, Uttar Pradesh-245101 do hereby solemnly affirm and declare that the full name of my son Sahil (DOB: 21.07.2008) is SAHIL TEOTIA, which is correctly written in his all educational Certificates and his Aadhaar Card, but in my noted above Army Service Records his short name SAHIL is written advertently. I also declare and certify that SAHIL TEOTIA and SAHIL is the name of same person, who is my son. It is my true and correct statement. God help me.

PUBLIC NOTICE

TOP OF THE WORLD



Ghislaine Maxwell. File

UNITED STATES
Ghislaine Maxwell moved to lower-security facility in Texas

JEFFREY EPSTEIN'S former girlfriend, Ghislaine Maxwell, has been moved from a federal prison in Florida to a lower-security prison camp in Texas as her criminal case generates renewed public attention. The federal Bureau of Prisons said Friday that Maxwell had been transferred to Bryan, Texas. Her attorney confirmed the move but also declined to discuss the reasons for it. Maxwell was convicted in 2021 of helping Epstein sexually abuse underage girls and was sentenced to 20 years in prison. She had been held at a prison in Tallahassee, Florida, until her transfer to the camp in Texas. **AP**

ITALY

EU court rules against Albania migrant plan

Rome: Judges at the EU's top court ruled Friday that Italy can fast-track deportations of migrants to countries designated as "safe," but with limits. The Court of Justice of the European Union was asked if an accelerated asylum procedure, allowing officials to quickly return migrants from countries not facing war or significant crises, was permissible. Two Bangladeshi nationals were taken to a detention centre in Albania. Because Bangladesh is on a list of countries Italy considers safe, their claim for asylum was given a speedy assessment. **AP**

INDONESIA

Prabowo to free hundreds from country's prisons

Jakarta: Indonesia is set to begin releasing hundreds of convicts from its notoriously overcrowded prisons after parliament approved the first stage of President Prabowo Subianto's wide-ranging clemency plan. The first group of 1,116 will begin leaving prisons next week, and include prominent rivals of previous President Joko Widodo who were jailed during his term, as well as Papuan independence activists. The announcement was made late Thursday by the House of Representatives Deputy Speaker Sufmi Dasco Ahmad and Law Minister Supratman Andi Agtas. **AP**

NEW ZEALAND

FBI opens new office to 'counter China's sway'

Wellington: FBI Director Kash Patel provoked diplomatic discomfort in New Zealand by suggesting the opening of a new office in the capital aims to counter China's influence, drawing polite dismissals from Wellington and ire from Beijing. Patel was in Wellington on Thursday to open the FBI's first stand-alone office in New Zealand and to meet senior officials. The arrangement aligns New Zealand with FBI missions in other Five Eyes intelligence-sharing nations, which also include the United States, Australia, Canada and the United Kingdom. **AP**

PRESIDENT SAYS 'HIGHLY PROVOCATIVE STATEMENTS' TRIGGERED MOVE

Trump deploys nuclear submarines near Russia over war of words with Medvedev

WILL WEISSERT
WASHINGTON, AUGUST 1

IN A warning to Russia, President Donald Trump said Friday he's ordering the repositioning of two US nuclear submarines "based on the highly provocative statements" of the country's former president Dmitry Medvedev.

Trump posted on his social media site that based on the "highly provocative statements" from Medvedev he had "ordered two Nuclear Submarines to be positioned in the appropriate regions, just in case these foolish and inflammatory statements are more than just that." Trump added, "Words are very important, and can often lead to unintended consequences, I hope this will not be one of those instances."

It wasn't immediately clear what impact Trump's order would have on US nuclear subs, which are routinely on patrol in the world's hotspots, but it comes at a delicate moment in the US's relations with Moscow.

Trump has said that special envoy Steve Witkoff is heading to Russia to push Moscow to agree to a ceasefire in its war with Ukraine and has threatened new economic sanctions if progress is not made. He cut his 50-day deadline for action to 10 days, with that window set to expire next week.

The post about the sub repositioning came after Trump, in the



MEANWHILE, IN UKRAINE: The site of a Russian strike in Donetsk region, Thursday. Reuters

wee hours of Thursday morning, had posted that Medvedev was a "failed former President of Russia" and warned him to "watch his words." Medvedev responded hours later by writing, "Russia is right on everything and will continue to go its own way."

Medvedev was president from 2008 to 2012 while Putin was barred from seeking a second consecutive term but stepped aside to let him run again. Now deputy chairman of Russia's National Security Council, which Putin chairs,

Medvedev has been known for his provocative and inflammatory statements since the start of the war in 2022, a U-turn from his presidency, when he was seen as liberal and progressive.

On July 15, after Trump announced plans to supply Ukraine with more weapons via its NATO allies and threatened additional tariffs against Moscow, Medvedev posted, "Trump issued a theatrical ultimatum to the Kremlin. The world shuddered, expecting the consequences. Belligerent Europe was

disappointed. Russia didn't care."

Earlier this week, he wrote, "Trump's playing the ultimatum game with Russia: 50 days or 10" and added, "He should remember 2 things: 1. Russia isn't Israel or even Iran. 2. Each new ultimatum is a threat and a step towards war. Not between Russia and Ukraine, but with his own country."

President Putin, meanwhile, said Friday that Moscow hoped for more peace talks with Ukraine but that the momentum of the war was in its favour, signalling no shift in his stance despite a loom-

EXPLAINED
Rare even for Trump

This is the first time President Donald Trump has referenced the US nuclear arsenal in his confrontation with Russia over Ukraine — a slow shift toward a more antagonistic stance toward Russia. Public flexing of nuclear muscles is rare even for Trump, who last made explicit threats to North Korea in 2018. The US has never responded to such threats from Moscow, even when they came from President Vladimir Putin.

ing sanctions deadline from Washington. Putin said three sessions of peace talks with Ukraine had yielded some positive results, and Russia was expecting negotiations to continue.

"As for any disappointments... all disappointments arise from inflated expectations," he said. "But in order to approach the issue peacefully, it is necessary to conduct detailed conversations. And not in public, but this must be done calmly, in the quiet of the negotiation process." **AP WITH REUTERS INPUTS**

Thailand returns two Cambodian troops, both conduct border tours for observers

SOPHRNG CHEANG & JINTAMAS SAKSORNCHAI
PHNOM PENH, AUGUST 1

CAMBODIA ON Friday welcomed the return of two wounded soldiers who had been captured by the Thai army after the two sides had already implemented a ceasefire to end five days of combat over competing territorial claims.

Their repatriation comes amid accusations and bickering over whether either side had targeted civilians and breached the laws of war, and sharp nationalist feuding on social media.

The rest of a 20-member group of Cambodian soldiers captured on Tuesday in one of the disputed pockets of land over



Foreign military attachés at a shop hit by an artillery shell on July 24, in Sisaket province, Thailand, on Friday. Reuters

which the two sides were fighting remain in Thai hands, and Cambodian officials are de-

manding their release. The two countries have given differing accounts of the circum-

stances of the capture. Cambodian officials say their soldiers approached the Thai position with friendly intentions to offer post-fighting greetings, while Thai officials said the Cambodians appeared to have hostile intent and entered what it considers its territory, so were taken prisoner.

There were other peaceful activities on Friday on both sides of the border as both countries staged tours of the former battle areas for foreign diplomats and other observers, highlighting damage allegedly caused by the other side. The two countries continue to accuse each other of having violated the laws of war with attacks on civilians and the illegal use of weapons. More than three dozen people were killed in the fighting. **AP**

El Salvador extends presidential term to 6 years, clears indefinite reelection

ASSOCIATED PRESS
SAN SALVADOR, AUGUST 1

THE PARTY of El Salvador President Nayib Bukele approved constitutional changes in the National Assembly Thursday that will allow indefinite presidential reelection and extend presidential terms to six years.

Lawmaker Ana Figueroa from the New Ideas party had proposed the changes to five articles of the constitution. The proposal also included eliminating the second round of the election where the two top vote-getters from the first round face off.

New Ideas and its allies in the National Assembly quickly ap-



El Salvador President Nayib Bukele. AP file

proved the proposals with the supermajority they hold. The vote passed with 57 against 3 votes.

Bukele overwhelmingly won reelection last year despite a constitutional ban, after Supreme Court justices selected by his party

ruled in 2021 that it allowed reelection to a second term.

Figueroa argued Thursday that lawmakers and mayors can already seek reelection as many times as they want.

She also proposed that Bukele's current term, scheduled to end June 1, 2029, instead finish June 1, 2027, to put presidential and congressional elections on the same schedule.

It would also allow Bukele to seek reelection to a longer term two years earlier.

Suecy Callejas, the assembly's vice president, said that "power has returned to the only place that it truly belongs ... to the Salvadoran people." Bukele did not immediately comment.

S Korea's Yoon lay on floor, refused to be questioned, say prosecutors

JU-MIN PARK
SEOUL, AUGUST 1

SOUTH KOREA'S ousted President Yoon Suk Yeol, who is in detention while on trial and facing various criminal probes, lay on the floor of his cell on Friday and refused to leave it for questioning, a spokesperson for a special prosecutor said.

Yoon was removed from office in April by the Constitutional Court over his botched attempt last year to declare martial law and is now being investigated by a special prosecution team formed under President Lee Jae Myung.

Prosecutors investigating influence-peddling allegations



Palestinians carry aid in Gaza's Beit Lahia on Friday. Reuters

Trump envoy visits aid site in Gaza as hunger crisis worsens

Supplies getting into enclave far lower than what is needed, say aid groups

WAFAA SHURAF & MELANIE LIDMAN
DEIR AL-BALAH, AUGUST 1

US PRESIDENT Donald Trump's special envoy Steve Witkoff visited southern Gaza on Friday during international outrage over starvation, shortages and deadly chaos near aid distribution sites.

Witkoff and US Ambassador to Israel Mike Huckabee toured one of Gaza Humanitarian Foundation's distribution sites in Rafah, Gaza's southernmost city, according to an official involved with the visit. The official requested anonymity.

All four of the group's distribution sites are in zones controlled by the Israeli military and throughout their months in operation have become flashpoints of desperation, where starving people scramble for scarce aid. Hundreds have been killed by either gunfire or trampling.

The Israeli military says it has only fired warning shots at people who approach its forces, and GHF says its armed contractors have only used pepper spray or fired warning shots to prevent deadly crowding. Witkoff's visit comes a week after US officials walked away from ceasefire talks in Qatar, blaming Hamas and pledging to seek other ways to rescue Israeli hostages and make Gaza safe.

White House press secretary Karoline Leavitt said Thursday that he was sent to craft a plan to boost food and aid deliveries as part of an effort "to save lives and end this crisis," while Trump said the fastest way to end the crisis would be for Hamas to surrender and release hostages.

Aid organisations have said Gaza has been on the brink of famine for the past two years. The Integrated Food Security Phase Classification, the leading international authority on food crises, said recent developments, including a complete blockade on aid for 2 1/2 months, mean the "worst-case scenario of famine is currently playing out in Gaza."

Though the flow of aid has resumed, including via airdrops, the amount getting into Gaza remains far lower than what aid organisations say is needed. A security breakdown in the territory has made it nearly impossible to safely deliver food to starving Palestinians, much of the limited aid entering is hoarded and later sold at exorbitant prices.

In a report issued Friday, Human Rights Watch called it "a flawed, militarised aid distribution system that has turned aid distributions into regular bloodbaths." Israeli military and prime minister's office did not respond to request for comment.

A July 30 video posted Thursday by the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs showed an aid convoy driving past a border crossing as gunfire ricocheted off the ground near where crowds congregated. **AP**

South Korea former President Yoon Suk Yeol. File

connected to Yoon and his wife had tried to get him to comply with an arrest warrant and attempted questioning voluntarily, a spokesperson for the special prosecution said. "But the suspect stubbornly refused to do so,

while lying on the ground, not dressed in a prison uniform," Oh Jung-hee told a news briefing.

Yoon was dressed only in his undershirt and underwear when prosecutors came to his cell, the *Yonhap* News Agency reported. Yu Jeong-hwa, one of Yoon's lawyers, told Reuters that bringing up what he was wearing in a small space where the temperature was close to 40 degrees Celsius was an insult to his dignity.

The former president was put back in a solitary cell at the Seoul Detention Center in July, as prosecutors investigating his short-lived declaration of martial law in December sought additional charges against him. **REUTERS**

TOWN OFFICIALS HAVE ISSUED FINES TO TEN TOURISTS AS EUROPEAN VACATION TOWNS GRAPPLE WITH INCREASED FOOTFALL

A French beach town's plea to tourists: Don't wander in just your swimwear

JENNY GROSS
LES SABLES D'OLONNE, AUG 1

A SEASIDE town in France is clamping down on tourists who venture beyond the sand in their swimsuits.

"A little restraint, please!" Yannick Moreau, the mayor of Les Sables d'Olonne, pleaded on social media last week to the flocks of mostly French tourists who visit each summer.

Moreau said in an interview that the behavior had become more prevalent in recent years: Visitors leave the beach and walk

into the town's markets, grocery stores and restaurants in their bathing suits. He has seen enough.

"If you go to a market to buy local food — fruits, vegetables, meat — you cannot be half-naked with hair falling onto vegetables," he said, adding, "It's a matter of decency."

In July, officials in the resort town have issued fines to 10 people — all French tourists — of up to 150 euros, or about \$171. That's the most fines handed out for the offense in July since the rule was introduced in 2020, Moreau said.



La Grande Plage, the beach in Les Sables d'Olonne, in 2021. NYT

"I don't know if it's a reflex to show one's muscles," he said. "Or to tan more quickly, and not lose an hour of sunlight."

Les Sables d'Olonne, which Moreau said was one of the first seaside resorts in France, sits on the country's western coast and has miles of beaches. "It offers a huge space to be half-naked if you want," he said. Or fully naked, since Sables d'Olonne has a nudist beach, too.

Many cities have put similar rules in place in recent years, as European vacation towns grapple with a surge in visitors, including scantily clad ones. In

some parts of Spain, it is illegal to wear just swimwear even on seafrost promenades and adjacent streets, and fines can be hundreds of euros. On Thursday, the tourism board in Málaga took to social media to remind tourists of the rules, urging them to "dress completely."

In parts of Italy, including Sorrento, on the Amalfi Coast, tourists can be fined hundreds of euros for walking around shirtless to curb what the mayor described as "widespread indecorous behavior." In Dubrovnik, Croatia, officials in 2018 issued a notice to tourists that they could not wan-

der around the city in swimwear. The rule is about respect and hygiene, Moreau said. When you're shoulder to shoulder with others on the bus to the beach, "you do not want to be in contact with your neighbor's skin," he said. Despite his frustration, Moreau was hopeful that the publicity from his campaign would help turn the town into a more popular destination for visitors.

"Les Sables d'Olonne deserves to be better known," he said. "Come see us, we'll be happy to welcome you." If you're wearing enough clothes. **NYT**

Sebi chief tells CAs to spot anomalies early

Mumbai: Sebi chief Tuhin Kanta Pandey on Friday urged chartered accountants to develop the ability to detect anomalies early on, making it clear that forensic accounting should not be treated as a post-fraud tool only.

Addressing an ICAI event here, Pandey said the “collective ability” to anticipate risks and early detection of anomalies will determine the future of financial governance.

“Forensic accounting should not be treated as a post-fraud tool only. Rather, it needs to evolve into a proactive discipline embedded within the structure of corporate controls,” he added. Pandey said Sebi has “consistently demonstrated” its commitment to strengthening market integrity, enhancing disclosure standards and using technology to uncover complex financial frauds, but added that regulations alone are not enough in this aspect.

There is a need for Sebi’s efforts to be supported by collective wisdom and coordination of all stakeholders, he said, adding that the competence, vigilance and professional integrity are very important aspects to tackle fraud.

ENSECONOMIC BUREAU

NEW DELHI, AUGUST 1

THE GOVERNMENT is working towards inviting financial bids for strategic stake sale in IDBI Bank by December with interested buyers having completed due diligence and data room norms, Arunish Chawla, Secretary, Department of Investment and Public Asset Management (DIPAM) said on Friday. The successful bidder will be announced by March 2026, he added.

The long-pending stake sale process of IDBI Bank will be closely eyed as the government kickstarts the disinvestment process for the bank after being in the works for close to three years.

“Due diligence and data room protocols have been completed for all the interested parties. Also, formal consultations have been completed with qualified interested parties. We hope to invite financial bids in the third quarter of this financial year,” Chawla said, adding that once the financial bids come in and a successful bidder is selected, it will be sent to the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) for final “fit and proper” clearance.

The prospective buyer of IDBI

‘UNDERTAKING WEEKLY CAPEX REVIEW OF PSUs’

New Delhi: The Department of Investment and Public Asset Management (DIPAM) is undertaking weekly review of capital expenditure of all public sector undertakings (PSU) and is working on strategies that can insulate them from geopolitical risks, Secretary Arunish Chawla said on Friday. He said public sector enterprises now account for almost

15 per cent of the total market capitalisation and the government is confident they will continue with their capital expenditure.

“We are doing capital review of all public sector undertakings on a weekly basis and we are working on strategies that can insulate our economy from geopolitical risks,” Chawla told reporters. **PTI**

Bank has already been granted security clearance by the Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) and cleared fit and proper evaluation by the RBI. Along with the Life Insurance Corporation (LIC), the government had in October 2022, invited expression of interest (Eoi) from investors for privatising IDBI Bank by selling a total of 60.72 per cent stake. This includes a 30.48 per cent stake of the Government of India and 30.24 per cent of LIC. In January 2023, it received multiple Eois for IDBI Bank. On Friday, shares of IDBI Bank ended at Rs 90.17 on Friday, down 2.68 per cent from the previous close on the BSE.

For the other major pending disinvestment proposal for LIC which also has been in the pipeline, Chawla said the government has appointed merchant bankers and legal advisors for minority stake sale in LIC, and other public sector financial institutions.

“As far as LIC is concerned, we have completed the RFP (request for proposal) process. The process for appointment of merchant bankers and legal advisors has been completed,” Chawla said.

Earlier this year, in February, DIPAM had invited bids from merchant bankers and legal firms to assist the government in

divesting its stake in public sector banks and listed financial institutions. As per the two RFPs (request for proposal) floated by DIPAM, the merchant bankers and legal advisors would be empanelled for a period of three years, which could be extended by one more year. “Individual transactions can happen anytime over the next 3 years,” Chawla said.

The government currently holds 96.5 per cent stake in LIC. It had sold 3.5 per cent through an initial public offering in May 2022 at a price band of Rs 902-949 a share that yielded around Rs 21,000 crore. The government needs to offload another 6.5 per cent stake in the public sector life insurer to meet the mandated 10 per cent public shareholding requirement by May 16, 2027.

Banks and financial institutions need to meet the minimum 25 per cent public shareholding norm as mandated by the market regulator Sebi. Five PSU banks are yet to meet the minimum public shareholding norm. The government has set August 1, 2026 as the deadline for such non-compliant entities to reduce government holding and meet public float norms.

Pak, Bangladesh among 50 countries now with lower US tariffs than India

RAVI DUTTA MISHRA

NEW DELHI, AUGUST 1

AFTER SECURING trade deals on his terms with partners such as the European Union, Japan and South Korea, US President Donald Trump has ramped up pressure on India by imposing lower tariffs on more than 50 countries including Pakistan and Bangladesh, compared to the 25 per cent levied on India, a new set of reciprocal tariffs released on Friday showed.

The US has set lower tariffs on several competitors in the American market, which could hurt Indian exports, especially in the labour-intensive and high-value electronics sectors. Even without a trade deal, the US has announced 20 per cent tariffs on Bangladesh — a key competitor in the readymade garments (RMG) category not just in the US but also in several Western markets.

The new tariffs are set to come into effect on August 7.

Even Pakistan, with whom the US has announced a trade deal, will have lower tariffs set at 19 per cent. Trump had said that Pakistan and the US would work together on developing large Pakistani oil reserves. However, Pakistan has seen a number of unsuccessful oil exploration attempts.

Moreover, Vietnam at 20 per cent, and Malaysia, Indonesia and the Philippines at 19 per cent each, are Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) countries that have also been assigned lower tariffs, potentially giving them better market access in the US in the electrical and electronics sectors compared to India.

While lower duties on Bangladesh and Pakistan could impact India’s readymade garments exports to the US, a beneficial duty structure for Vietnam and Malaysia is expected to hurt India’s fast growing non-leather footwear manufacturing along with the electronics manufacturing sector.

This comes after White House economic adviser Kevin Hassett on Wednesday said Trump has been frustrated with



US President Donald Trump speaks during an event for the signing of an executive order on Thursday in the Roosevelt Room of the White House in Washington. **AP**

EXPLAINED India's high job creation sector may take a hit

WHILE LOWER duties on Bangladesh and Pakistan could impact India’s RMG exports to the US, a beneficial duty structure for Vietnam and Malaysia is expected to hurt India’s fast growing non-leather footwear manufacturing along with the electronics manufacturing sector

agree to US demands during the ongoing trade negotiations to accept genetically modified (GM) agricultural products such as corn and soya.

This assumes significance as agriculture remains one of the contentious issues between the two countries, and the United States Trade Representative (USTR) has previously flagged restrictions on its GM products by countries as discriminatory.

“The Food Safety and Standards Act of 2006 includes specific provisions for regulating food products derived from genetically engineered (GE) sources; however, as of 31 December 2024, the FSSAI was still in the process of establishing its regulations,” according to the USTR report.

India’s biotechnology approval processes are slow, opaque, and subject to political influences, and do not appear to take into account science-based approval processes for GE products in exporting countries,” the USTR report earlier this year had said.

While India is seeking greater market access for its textiles, leather and footwear, the US is pushing for access to India’s agricultural and dairy markets — a major hurdle, as Indian farmers often operate on small land parcels with limited technological support.

In contrast, the United States has demanded that India drop its genetically modified regulation.

Real estate, infra short of 20 lakh skilled workers, says Hiranandani

AGGAM WALIA

NEW DELHI, AUGUST 1

THE REAL estate and infrastructure sectors are currently short of 20 lakh skilled workers — a gap that could widen to 50 lakh over the next five years, according to Niranjn Hiranandani, chairman of the Hiranandani Group. Speaking at an industry event on Friday, Hiranandani also flagged declining sales in the affordable housing segment, adding that high land costs around city centres must be addressed for developers to build such housing.

“In real estate and infrastructure, we are 20 lakh skilled workers short in India today... On one side we have unemployment, on the other side we have no skilled workers,” he said at a National Real Estate Development Council (NAREDCO) gathering. Hiranandani is also NAREDCO’s chairman. “This is going to grow in the next five years because of real estate and infrastructure growth — the gap will go to 5 million skilled workers. This is (a) disaster because neither the private sector nor the government sector has been able to fulfill (the demand),” Hiranandani added.

Earlier, in June, Larsen & Toubro (L&T) chairman S N Subrahmanyan had said the group’s construction business is facing a shortage of 25,000-30,000 labourers.

‘Affordable housing hit by high costs’

While he remains bullish on the real estate sector, which he claimed grew by 10 per cent in 2024-25, Hiranandani flagged a dip in affordable housing sales. “In the affordable housing segment, for the first time in my 45 years in real estate, sales have decreased by 15 per cent. I am talking about



NAREDCO chairman Niranjn Hiranandani (left) addresses a seminar during the 17th NAREDCO National Convention on Friday in the presence of Delhi Minister Kapil Mishra, Delhi Chief Minister Rekha Gupta (second from right) and Unity group co-founder Harsh Vardhan Bansal. **ANI**

“...with inflation in the cost of construction, the tax rates which are there, stamp duty rate, GST rate, local authority rates, etc. You cannot make affordable housing close to the city centre where employment opportunities exist”

— NIRANJAN HIRANANDANI
CHAIRMAN, NAREDCO

the whole country, not just Delhi and Mumbai. This is a big problem that is to be sorted out,” he said.

Since 2020, the Indian real estate market has seen rapid premiumisation, with the share of supply priced below Rs 40 lakh shrinking across key cities and most new launches priced above Rs 80 lakh — driven largely by demand for luxury homes above Rs 1.5 crore. Hiranandani said while the PM Awas Yojana 2.0 will provide interest subsidy for 1 crore homes in urban areas, building af-

fordable housing near city centres is difficult due to rising circle rates. “How do you match rising land prices and giving affordable housing? It is not possible today with inflation in the cost of construction, the tax rates which are there, stamp duty rate, GST rate, local authority rates, etc. You cannot make affordable housing close to the city centre where employment opportunities exist,” he told *The Indian Express*, calling for the government and local authorities to intervene.

Anarock data shows that in India’s top seven residential markets — Delhi-NCR, Mumbai, Bangalore, Pune, Hyderabad, Chennai, and Kolkata — overall sales dropped by 3.5 per cent year-on-year in 2024. In the first half of 2025, sales fell 24.3 per cent. Hiranandani said there has been no dip in housing sales pan-India. “If you look at the national level, real housing growth has been more than 10 per cent (in 2024-25). On an annualised basis, it will go up by more than 15 per cent (this fiscal). So it will probably be one of the highest growth years ever,” he said.

SUCCESSFUL BIDDER TO BE ANNOUNCED BY MARCH 2026

To invite financial bids for IDBI stake sale by Dec: DIPAM Secy

ENSECONOMIC BUREAU

NEW DELHI, AUGUST 1

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The prospective buyer of IDBI

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Earlier this year, in February, DIPAM had invited bids from merchant bankers and legal firms to assist the government in

Signs of loan growth picking up in June as banks pass on RBI’s big-bang rate cut

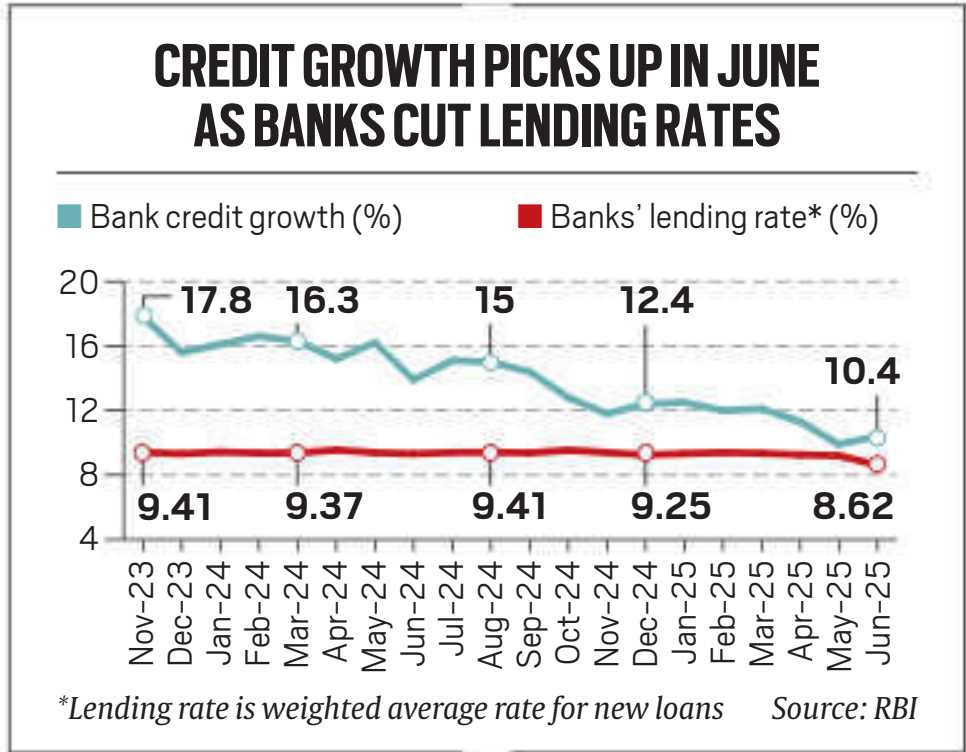
SIDDHARTH UPASANI

NEW DELHI, AUGUST 1

LENDING By Indian banks picked up some pace in June after the Reserve Bank of India’s (RBI) surprise 50-basis-point (bps) rate cut early in the month was fully passed on to borrowers, according to latest data from the Indian central bank.

As per data released on Thursday by the RBI, new loans given by Indian banks in June were priced 58 bps cheaper compared to May at 8.62 per cent on a weighted average basis. This indicates that the RBI’s larger-than-expected interest rate cut — which saw the Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) bring down the policy repo rate to 5.5 per cent on June 6 — was passed on, or transmitted, completely to prospective borrowers.

The transmission of the June rate cut was far greater than in previous months. In the current easing cycle, the MPC first cut interest rates in February, bringing down the repo rate by 25 bps to 6.25 per cent. This was followed by another similar cut in April. However, in response to that cumulative 50 bps reduction in the policy rate, banks reduced the weighted average lending rate on new loans by just 13 bps — from 9.33 per cent in January to 9.2 per cent in May — despite the central bank infusing record amounts of liquidity to help lubricate the



monetary transmission.

The passage of reduced policy rates to borrowers has been a key concern for policymakers. In an interview to *The Indian Express* in late June, Nagesh Kumar — one of the three external members on the RBI’s MPC — had said transmission of the 25 bps rate cuts had been “a bit slow”. Two weeks later, Confederation of Indian Industry President Rajiv Memani told this paper the RBI had done its job and that availability of capital was not an issue for industry anymore.

Loan growth picks up

The reduction in banks’ lending rates has seemingly found some takers, with separate data released by the RBI on Thursday showing credit growth picked up some pace in June as loans given

rose 10.4 per cent year-on-year (y-o-y) as on June 27, after excluding the impact of the July 2023 merger between HDFC Bank and the Housing Development Finance Corporation. At 10.4 per cent, the latest loan growth figure is higher than the 9.9 per cent recorded at the end of May 2025. In their monthly State of the Economy article published on July 23, RBI economists had noted that the rise in credit growth to 10.4 per cent was primarily due to a “strong momentum effect”.

To be sure, at 13.9 per cent, loan growth was higher in June 2024. Furthermore, policymakers will want to see durable signs of loan growth picking up. However, credit growth by banks has been steadily weakening since November 2023, when it stood at 17.8 per

TCS: ‘Delay in onboarding lateral hires due to market conditions, will honour offers’

ENSECONOMIC BUREAU

NEW DELHI, AUGUST 1

SKIPPING AN in-person meeting with the Chief Labour Commissioner (CLC) on the delay in onboarding lateral hires and its recent layoffs, IT services company Tata Consultancy Services (TCS) instead communicated via an email Friday that it will honour all the offer letters it has issued, and that such defections are a common industry practice, depending on project timelines.

On August 1, the CLC held a meeting to discuss the recent lay-off of more than 12,000 TCS workers, and a delay by the company in onboarding over 600 lateral hires. The meeting was sought by the Nascent Information Technology Employees Senate (NITES), which represents workers in the IT services sector. While a representative from the union was present, TCS skipped the meeting, NITES said in a press statement.

NITES said TCS in its email to the CLC outlined that deferment was temporary, owing to prevail-

ing market conditions, that it was attempting to keep the delay as minimum as possible, and the positions the company had offered had not been withdrawn. It also added that NITES had no locus standi to intervene in the matter.

While TCS reiterated its intention to eventually honour the offers, it failed to provide any clear onboarding schedule, offer compensation for the delay, or propose any support mechanism for the affected employees, many of whom remain unemployed, financially strained, and emotionally distressed, NITES said in its statement.

TCS did not respond to an immediate request for comment. Last month, India’s largest IT services firm, undertook the first major layoff in the Indian IT sector, slashing 2 per cent of its global workforce — roughly 12,200 jobs. Framed as a push toward building a “future-ready generation” through “skilling and redeployment,” the move is, in effect, a sweeping cost-cutting exercise.

FULL REPORT ON
www.indianexpress.com

Gross GST collections up 7.5% to ₹1.96 lakh cr in July

New Delhi: Gross Goods and Services Tax (GST) collections rose 7.5 per cent year-on-year (y-o-y) to Rs 1.96 lakh crore in July (for sales in June), showed government data released on Friday.

While the pace of growth in gross GST collections rose to 7.5 per cent in July from 6.2 per cent, this is the second consecutive month wherein the growth rate has been in single digits and much lower after posting double-digit growth in the first two months of FY26. Net GST collections, after accounting for refunds, took a hit by growing by just 1.7 per cent to Rs 1.69 lakh crore in July as refunds jumped sharply by 66.8 per cent, the data showed. In June, net GST collections had risen 3.3 per cent.


Total refunds stood at Rs 27,147 crore in July, sharply up by 66.8 per cent y-o-y. While domestic refunds grew 117.6 per cent y-o-y to Rs 16,983 crore in July, refunds for imports were up 20 per cent to Rs 10,164 crore. In June, total refunds had risen 28.4 per cent to Rs 25,491 crore, with domestic refunds rising 14.1 per cent y-o-y to Rs 12,643 crore, while refunds on imports rose 46.4 per cent y-o-y to Rs 12,848 crore.

Total refunds stood at ₹27,147 crore in July, sharply up by 66.8% YoY

GST collections from imports rose 9.7 per cent year-on-year to Rs 52,712 crore in July as against 11.4 per cent growth seen in June at Rs 45,690 crore.

The revenue collections were better on the domestic front, with GST collections rising 6.7 per cent to Rs 1.43 lakh crore in July, up from 4.6 per cent growth at Rs 1.39 lakh crore in the previous month.

MS Mani, partner, Deloitte India, said, “While GST revenues for the past few months have been on an upward trajectory, the muted increase of 1.7 per cent in the net GST collections for the month and 8.4 per cent during this year can be attributed to the increased refunds. During the month, domestic refunds have more than doubled compared to the same month last year and during the current year refunds have increased by 46 per cent. This increase in refunds augers well for businesses.” **ENS**



GOVERNMENT OF NATIONAL CAPITAL TERRITORY OF DELHI
OFFICE OF THE LAND ACQUISITION COLLECTOR (SOUTH-WEST)
OLD TERMINAL TAX BUILDING, KAPASHERA, NEW DELHI-37

No. ADM/LAC/SW/2025-26/57653

Dated 31/7/2025

Public Notice under Section 21 of the RECTLARR Act, 2013

Whereas, a request was received from DDA through the Land and Building Department vide letter dated 25.07.2025 to re-initiate acquisition in terms of the liberty granted to DDA by the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India order 17.05.2024 in the batch matters titled as Govt. of NCT of Delhi Through the Secretary, Land and Building Department & Another Vs M/s. K.L. Rathi Steels Limited and others, DDA vs Tejpal and Ors and GNCTD and anr. Vs M/s BSK Realtors LLP & Anr.

In terms of the request of the DDA, acquisition of the land, mentioned below which was subject of the litigation titled as DDA vs Ashish Paul, and which were notified and acquired as per the details mentioned below, is to be re-initiated. Further, as per the order of the Hon'ble Supreme Court 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.

Khasra Nos	Village /Award	Notification u/s 4 of LA act 1894	Notification u/s 6 of LA act 1894
40//18/2/2 (0-17), 19/2(3-06), 20(4-8), 41//16(4-8)	Bharthal 26/2002-03	F.10(30)/96/L&B/LA/13417 dated 13.12.2000	F.10(30)/96/L&B/LA/14062 dated 07.12.2001

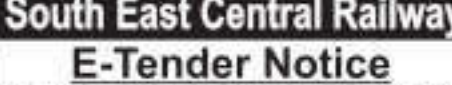
Whereas, the Hon'ble Supreme Court in its judgement dated 17.05.2024 has dispensed with the compliance of the provisions of the Chapter II and III along with Section 13.14 and 16 to 20 of the act.



Accordingly, in accordance with section 21 of RFCTLARR Act 2013, notice is being issued to intimates all concerned that the Government intends to initiate fresh acquisition. proceedings for the land mentioned in the above table which is required 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, in writing, signed by themselves or their authorisedagents, before the Collector(SW) on or before 01st September, 2025 at 11.30 AM in the Conference Hall of the office of District Magistrate (South West).


If any person fails to appear and submit claims as above, the Collector will proceed to make an award based on available information and such person may be bound by the award under the law.

Sd/-
(Mekala Chaitanya Prasad, IAS)
Collector and District Magistrate South West Delhi


DIP/Shabdarth/Classified/0175/25-26.



South East Central Railway
E-Tender Notice
TENDER NOTICE NO: CAO/C/BSP/25-26/10, **Dated:** 26.07.2025 (Open Tender) (Single Packet System)
Name of Work: Balance work of Conducting Land acquisition, preparation of Land plan, preparation of L-section, fixing of land boundary and Geo-Tech Work etc. in connection with "Construction of new Railway line between Rowghat-Jagdalpur (140Km)". **Tender Value:** Rs. 1,90,15,566.20. **EMD:** Rs. 2,45,100.00.
Cost of Tender Document: NIL.
Completion period of Work: 08(Eight) months, from the date of acceptance letter.
Date & Time of Tender Closing: Up to 15:00 Hours on 22.08.2025. **Date & Time of Tender Opening:** 15:30 Hrs. on 22.08.2025. For further details related to tender document eligibility criteria and the complete details for the above work please contract office of the Chief Administrative Officer/Con/S.E.C.R/ Bilaspur, Pin - 495004 or Dy. Chief Engineer/Con/S.E.C.Railway/Bilaspur- Pin - 495004 or Dy. Chief Engineer Con/ S.E.C.Railway/Raipur Pin-492009, Chief Project Manager/West/Construction/ South East Central Railway, Nagpur - Pin - 440001 or refer on our website www.ireps.gov.in
Dy. Chief Engineer/Con
CPR/10/PR/205 S.E.C.Railway, Bilaspur
 South East Central Railway  @seccrail



EAST CENTRAL RAILWAY
OPEN E-TENDER NOTICE
OPEN E-Tender Notice No.
SEE 25-26 (104 & 107)
The DRM (Engg.)/SEE for and on behalf of the President of India invites Open E-Tenders for the following works. The last date of online E-tendering is 20.08.2025 upto 17:30 hrs. All information and tender documents related to E-tender is available on website -www.ireps.gov.in.
Name of works:- 104. Refurbishing of existing station building and balance work of ABSS Phase-1 work of HJP station. **Approx Cost (In Rs.) :** 1,69,61,358.72. **Earnest Money (In Rs.) :** 2,34,800.00
Name of works:- 107. At Sonpur: Comprehensive Upgradation and Refurbishment of Passenger Amenities, Civil, Electrical, Accessibility, Aesthetic Works and Provision of Furniture at Sonpur Railway Station. **Approx Cost (In Rs.) :** 1,80,43,469.46. **Earnest Money (In Rs.) :** 2,40,200.00
The above tender notice is available on website www.ireps.gov.in. **RIGHT OF RAILWAY TO DEAL WITH TENDER:** Railway Administration reserves the right to postpone /modify or to cancel any one or all the tenders without assigning any reasons.
Divisional Railway Manager/Engg. Sonpur
PR/0706/SEE/ELECT/T/25-26/36



Section - I: Notice Inviting Teder (NIT)
Selection of Agency for the Preparation of Concept plan for Theme-based Greenfield City - Sitamarhi.
Urban Development and Housing Department, Govt. of Bihar
1st Floor, Vikas Bhawan, New Secretariat, Patna-800015
(Tel:0612-2215580,2215385;Fax:2217059,2231566;
Email: urbansec-bih@nic.in,
Website:<https://state.bihar.gov.in/urban>
Empanelment for Manufacturer of Water Treatment Unit

File No:- 09 / नवविमानांलन-23 / 2024 / 8457


- Urban Development & Housing Department, Gov. of Bihar, invites proposals from eligible firms to select a consultant for Preparation of Preparation of Concept plan for Theme-based Greenfield City - Sitamarhi.
- Interested Consultancy Firms may download the complete Request for Proposals (RFP) Document, from website: <https://eproc2.bihar.gov.in> or <https://state.bihar.gov.in/urban>.

SN	PARTICULARS	DETAILS
1	Website for submission of proposal	www.eproc2.bihar.gov.in/
2	Mode of Submission	Online submission through eproc2 portal (www.eproc2.bihar.gov.in) and at the same time submission of Hard copies of Tender fee, Bid Security, payment proof, original copy of affidavit, declaration regarding Blacklisting and Power of Attorney as per RF P document at UD&HD office at Vikas Bhawan Patna
3	Last date and time for Submission of Technical Proposal on www.eproc2.bihar.gov.in	25-08 -2025 up to 05:00 PM
4	Date and time of Pre bid meeting	12-08-2025 by 12:30AM Urban Development and Housing Department, Govt. of Bihar, 1st Floor, Vikas Bhawan, New Secretariat, Patna – 800015
5	Last date and time for Submission of Hard Copies (Tender fee, payment proof, original copy of affidavit, Blacklisting and Power of Attorney as per RFP document)	27-08-2025 up to 03:00 PM Urban Development and Housing Department, Govt. of Bihar,1st Floor, Vikas Bhawan, New Secretariat, Patna – 800015
6	Date and time of opening of Technical Bids	27-08-2025 at 03:30 PM
7	Date and time of opening of Financial Bids	Will be intimated later to successful bidders
8	Method of Selection	QCBS method of evaluation (weightage 70:30)

1. Agencies/ Firms may download the complete Request for Proposal (RFP) Document, from website: <https://eproc2.bihar.gov.in> or <https://state.bihar.gov.in/urban>.

For further details please visit : www.state.bihar.gov.in/prdbihar Additional Secretary
PR-010383 (Urban Development) 2025-26 Urban Development and Housing Department

नरो से बचने का है एक ही उपचार, दृढ़ संकल्प और परिवार से प्यार



GOVERNMENT OF NATIONAL CAPITAL TERRITORY OF DELHI
OFFICE OF THE LAND ACQUISITION COLLECTOR (SOUTH-WEST)
OLD TERMINAL TAX BUILDING, KAPASHERA, NEW DELHI-37

No. ADM/LAC/SW/2025-26/57658

Dated 31/7/2025

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Whereas, a request was received from DDA through the Land and Building Department vide letter dated 25.07.2025 to re-initiate acquisition in terms of the liberty granted to DDA by the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India order 17.05.2024 in the batch matters titled as Govt. of NCT of Delhi Through the Secretary, Land and Building Department & Another Vs M/s. K.L. Rathi Steels Limited and others, DDA vs Tejpal and Ors and GNCTD and anr. Vs M/s BSK Realtors LLP & Anr.

In terms of the request of the DDA, acquisition of the land, mentioned below which was subject of the litigation titled as GNCTD through the Secretary and Anr. Vs Mange ram & Ors. and which were notified and acquired as per the details mentioned below, is to be re-initiated. Further, as per the order of the Hon'ble Supreme Court 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.

Khasra No	Village / Award	Notification u/s 4 of LA act 1894	Notification u/s 6 & of LA act 1894
5//9 min (0-10), 12min (1-04),13/1min (2-14)	Loharhedi 161/1986-97	No. F.9(16)/84-L&B dated 27.01.1984	F.10(8)/84-L&B dated 20.09.1984


Whereas, the Hon'ble Supreme Court in its judgement dated 17.05.2024 has dispensed with the compliance of the provisions of the Chapter II and III along with Section 13,14 and 16 to 20 of the act.

Accordingly, in accordance with section 21 of RFCTLARR Act 2013, notice is being issued to intimates all concerned that the Government intends to initiate fresh acquisition proceedings for the land mentioned in the above table which is required 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, in writing, signed by themselves or their authorised agents, before the Collector(SW) on or before 01st September, 2025 at 11.30 AM in the Conference Hall of the office of District Magistrate (South West).

If any person fails to appear and submit claims as above, the Collector will proceed to make an award based on available information and such person may be bound by the award under the law.

Sd/-
(Mekala Chaitanya Prasad, IAS)
Collector and District Magistrate South West Delhi

DIP/Shabdarth/Classified/0178/25-26



GOVERNMENT OF NATIONAL CAPITAL TERRITORY OF DELHI
OFFICE OF THE LAND ACQUISITION COLLECTOR (SOUTH-WEST)
OLD TERMINAL TAX BUILDING, KAPASHERA, NEW DELHI-37

No. ADM/LAC/SW/2025-26/57659

Dated 31/7/2025

Public Notice under Section 21 of the RECTLARR Act, 2013

Whereas, a request was received from DDA through the Land and Building Department vide letter dated 25.07.2025 to re-initiate acquisition in terms of the liberty granted to DDA by the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India order 17.05.2024 in the batch matters titled as Govt. of NCT of Delhi Through the Secretary, Land and Building Department & Another Vs M/s. K.L. Rathi Steels Limited and others, DDA vs Tejpal and Ors and GNCTD and anr. Vs M/s BSK Realtors LLP & Anr.

In terms of the request of the DDA, acquisition of the land, mentioned below which was subject of the litigation titled as DDA Vs KL Rathi Steels Ltd and Ors. and which were notified and acquired as per the details mentioned below, is to be re-initiated. Further, as per the order of the Hon'ble Supreme Court 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.

Khasra No	Village / Award	Notification u/s 4 of LA act 1894	Notification u/s 6 of LA act 1894
345(4 - 16), 346(4 - 16)	Masoodabad	F.10(49)/02/L&B/LA/8508 dated 29.08.2006	F.10(49)/02/L&B/LA/10983 dated 12.10.2006
347(4 - 10), 348(4 - 10)	02/2007-08/		
349(0 - 03), 350(4 - 13)	Distt./SW		
351(4 - 16), 354/2 (1 - 0)			
356/2 (0 - 15 - 5)			


Whereas, the Hon'ble Supreme Court in its judgement dated 17.05.2024 has dispensed with the compliance of the provisions of the Chapter II and III along with Section 13,14 and 16 to 20 of the act.

Accordingly, in accordance with section 21 of RFCTLARR Act 2013, notice is being issued to intimates all concerned that the Government intends to initiate fresh acquisition proceedings for the land mentioned in the above table which is required 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, in writing, signed by themselves or their authorised agents, before the Collector(SW) on or before 01st September, 2025 at 11.30 AM in the Conference Hall of the office of District Magistrate (South West).

If any person fails to appear and submit claims as above, the Collector will proceed to make an award based on available information and such person may be bound by the award under the law.

Sd/-
(Mekala Chaitanya Prasad, IAS)
Collector and District Magistrate South West Delhi

DIP/Shabdarth/Classified/0178/25-26



यमुना एक्सप्रेसवे औद्योगिक विकास प्राधिकरण
द्वितीय तल, कामेश्विल, सेक्टर ओमेगा, (पी-2) ग्रेटर नोएडा, गौतमबुद्धनगर(उ०प्र०)
दूरभाष न० 0120-2395151, फ़ैक्स न० 0120-2395150

पत्रांक: वाई०ई०ए०/GM(P)/2025/398

दिनांक 01.08.2025

निम्नलिखित कार्य हेतु केन्द्र सरकार/ राज्य सरकार/केन्द्र शासित /अर्द्धशासित / सार्वजनिक उपक्रमों के कार्यों का कम से कम चार वर्ष का अनुभव रखने वाले ठेकेदारों/फर्मों से ई-निविदाये आमन्त्रित की जाती है। ई-प्रोक्योरमेंट सोल्यूशन द्वारा निविदाये द्विस्तरीय पद्धति से खोली जायेगी।

कार्यालय आदेश संख्या : वाईई.ए./GM (P)/2025/397 दिनांक 01.08.2025 के अनुपालन में यमुना एक्सप्रेसवे औद्योगिक विकास प्राधिकरण की कार्यों में संविदाकार द्वारा बिल ऑफ क्वान्टिटी (बी०ओ०क्व्यू०) पर डाले गये 10 प्रतिशत कम दरों तक 0.5 प्रतिशत प्रति एक प्रतिशत कम दर पर तथा उसके पश्चात 10 प्रतिशत से अधिक कम दरों पर 1.00 प्रतिशत प्रति एक प्रतिशत कम दर पर सिक्वोरिटी /परफॉर्मैन्स गारन्टी प्राप्त की जायेगी तथा परफॉर्मैन्स गारन्टी एफ०डी०आर०/सी०डी०आर० /बैंक गारन्टी / एन०एस०सी० के रूप में न्यूनतम संविदाकार द्वारा अनुबन्ध गमन से पूर्व देनी होगी, जो कार्य के अन्तिम बीजक होने के बाद वापिस होगी।

क्रम सं०	कार्य का नाम /वर्क सर्फिल	अनुमानित लागत
1	Maintenance work of 45mtr&100mtr wide road in sector -24 YEA. WC-04	रु० 28.34 लाख
2	Construction of E-library room in village Jaitpur, YEA. WC-06	रु० 32.33 लाख
3	Repair of health home center (PHS&CHS) in zone -07 YEIDA. (village - sabota mustafabad . Ahmadpur choroli & dayanalpur. WC-06	रु० 41.38 लाख
4	Providing and fixing interlocking tiles work in village-neemka shahpur YEA(including construction of drain). WC-06	रु० 58.50 लाख
5	C/o drain slab of 60mtr and 45mtr wide road in sec -20 pocket -A,B and D YEA. WC-02	रु० 82.23 लाख

जिन्हें दिनांक 04.08.2025 से 13.08.2025 को 5.00 बजे तक अपलोड किया जा सकता है। प्राप्त ई-निविदाओं की प्री-क्वालीफिकेशन दिनांक 14.08.2025 को प्रातः 11.00 बजे खोली जायेगी।

कार्यालय आदेश संख्या : वाईई.ए./GM (P)/2025/397 दिनांक 01.08.2025 के अनुपालन में यमुना एक्सप्रेसवे औद्योगिक विकास प्राधिकरण की कार्यों में संविदाकार द्वारा बिल ऑफ क्वान्टिटी (बी०ओ०क्व्यू०) पर डाले गये 10 प्रतिशत कम दरों तक 0.5 प्रतिशत प्रति एक प्रतिशत कम दर पर तथा उसके पश्चात 10 प्रतिशत से अधिक कम दरों पर 1.00 प्रतिशत प्रति एक प्रतिशत कम दर पर सिक्वोरिटी /परफॉर्मैन्स गारन्टी प्राप्त की जायेगी तथा परफॉर्मैन्स गारन्टी एफ०डी०आर०/सी०डी०आर० /बैंक गारन्टी / एन०एस०सी० के रूप में न्यूनतम संविदाकार द्वारा अनुबन्ध गमन से पूर्व देनी होगी, जो कार्य के अन्तिम बीजक होने के बाद वापिस होगी।

क्रम सं०	कार्य का नाम /वर्क सर्फिल	अनुमानित लागत
6	Resurfacing work of 60mtr wide road both side carriageway and service road of 60 mtr & 45 mtr wide road along pocket A, B,C,D in sector-20, YEA (including 5 year maintenance) WC-02	रु० 664.92 लाख
7.	Resurfacing of 100mtr .wide (road no.-14) between sector -32 & 29,YEIDA. WC-03	रु० 646.84 लाख
8	Construction of balance internal roads and balance sewerage system in sector-32, YEIDA. wc-03	रु० 776.67 लाख

जिन्हें दिनांक 05.08.2025 से 18.08.2025 को 5.00 बजे तक अपलोड किया जा सकता है। प्राप्त ई-निविदाओं की प्री-क्वालीफिकेशन दिनांक 19.08.2025 को प्रातः 11.00 बजे खोली जायेगी।

कार्यालय आदेश संख्या : वाईई.ए./GM (P)/2025/397 दिनांक 01.08.2025 के अनुपालन में यमुना एक्सप्रेसवे औद्योगिक विकास प्राधिकरण की कार्यों में संविदाकार द्वारा बिल ऑफ क्वान्टिटी (बी०ओ०क्व्यू०) पर डाले गये 10 प्रतिशत कम दरों तक 0.5 प्रतिशत प्रति एक प्रतिशत कम दर पर तथा उसके पश्चात 10 प्रतिशत से अधिक कम दरों पर 1.00 प्रतिशत प्रति एक प्रतिशत कम दर पर सिक्वोरिटी /परफॉर्मैन्स गारन्टी प्राप्त की जायेगी तथा परफॉर्मैन्स गारन्टी एफ०डी०आर०/सी०डी०आर० /बैंक गारन्टी / एन०एस०सी० के रूप में न्यूनतम संविदाकार द्वारा अनुबन्ध गमन से पूर्व देनी होगी, जो कार्य के अन्तिम बीजक होने के बाद वापिस होगी।

क्रम सं०	कार्य का नाम /वर्क सर्फिल	अनुमानित लागत
9	Resurfacing work on 45mtr wide road both side carragway (part-B) in sector -24 YEIDA. WC-04	रु० 353.04 लाख
10	Providing and laying internal water supply system for sector - 22E YEA WC-02	रु० 412.10 लाख
11	Construction of 1400kl capacity and 22 mtr staging over head tank in sector 18 zone II in pocket 6 and 7C Yamuna Expressway. WC-01	रु० 222.60 लाख
12	Providing and laying DBM and BC work over 45mtr wide road left and right side carriageway around pocket -U in sector -20 YEA. WC-02	रु० 305.48 लाख
13	Construction of balance 30 mtr wide road both side carriageway in sector -17.YEA WC-04	रु० 319.34 लाख
14	C/o 24 and 45m(both carrlageway) wide road for approach of film city in sector-21 YEA(including 5 years maintenance) WC-02	रु० 318.90 लाख
15	Providing and laying water supply system for industrial sector -29 (part-B) Yeida. WC-04	रु० 573.82 लाख
16	Development work of sector-18 (Road,sewer, Drain & water supply) Pocket 2A&2C(balance work) in YEA. WC-01	रु० 926.58 लाख
17	Construction and Development of common infrastructure facility food court + Bank+Recreational area+Gym and public utilites in medical device park at sector 28,YEIDA.WC-04	रु० 1424.52 लाख
18	Internal Development for plot no- 12A to 12L and 16A to 18 in sector 24. YEA WC-04	रु० 1404.05 लाख
19	C/o Main Carriageway (both side) of 100mtr wide road between Sce-21- and 34,35 yea (including 5 year Maintenance) WC-02	रु० 2023.49 लाख

जिन्हें दिनांक 06.08.2025 से 19.08.2025 को 5.00 बजे तक अपलोड किया जा सकता है। प्राप्त ई-निविदाओं की प्री-क्वालीफिकेशन दिनांक 21.08.2025 को प्रातः 11.00 बजे खोली जायेगी।

निविदा प्रपत्र उत्तर प्रदेश इलेक्ट्रानिक्स कारपोरेशन, की वेबसाइट <http://etender.up.nic.in> पर देखे जा सकते हैं। इच्छुक ठेकेदारों से अनुरोध है कि वे नियमित रूप से उक्त वेबसाइटों को देखते रहें क्योंकि निविदाओं के सम्बन्ध में कोई बदलाव अथवा अतिरिक्त सूचना वेबसाइट पर ही उपलब्ध करायी जायेगी।

महाप्रबन्धक (परियोजना)

epaper.indianexpress.com

23 Big Picture

RAVIK BHATTACHARYA
& ATRI MITRA

I CAN'T wait to get back to Mumbai," says Mostafa Kamal Sheikh, 52, his grey T-shirt blending into the grey of the unpainted walls behind him. "Mumbai never sleeps. I used to work from 3 pm to 1 am at night. There is money and there is life. Here in the village, everything shuts down by 6 pm and then it gets all dark," he says, sitting at his sister's home in Baghra village in West Bengal's Purba Bardhaman district.

Kamal's longing for Mumbai — the city where he has made a living since 1999, first as a dockyard worker and then as a 'jhal muri' vendor in Nalasopara — is as strong as his memory of a recent nightmare: of being detained by the Mumbai Police, tagged as an illegal Bangladeshi resident, handed over to the Border Security Force (BSF) and finally driven like cattle across the barbed-wire fencing at the border.

The nights he spent on the no-man's land across the border with Bangladesh were long — and much darker than his village at night.

When he finally got home on June 17 — after the "babus" had verified and established that he was who he claimed to be — Kamal was tired and broken.

Panic over detentions

Kamal is among the thousands of migrant workers from West Bengal who have over the last few months been detained and, in some cases like Kamal's, pushed into the neighboring country as part of an ongoing drive against illegal Bangladeshis.

In March, *The Indian Express* had reported how more than 2,000 alleged illegal Bangladeshi immigrants were estimated to have been "pushed back" across the border by Indian authorities since Operation Sindoor began in the early hours of May 7. During this period, sources said, a similar number of immigrants showed up near the India-Bangladesh border voluntarily to cross over.

While the drive against alleged illegal migrants intensified post Pahalgam, reports of detentions had been coming in even earlier from across the country — from Gurgaon, where the Haryana government demolished slums in March, to similar drives in Assam and Gujarat.

With the drive focused on alleged "illegal Bangladeshis", it's the Bengali-speaking migrant workers in these cities who have borne the brunt, with some of them packing their bags and returning to their home state.

More detentions followed — in Gujarat and Rajasthan in May, followed by Maharashtra (Mumbai) and Odisha in June, and Delhi and Gurgaon in July. At Jharsuguda in Odisha, 444 Bengali-speaking migrant workers were kept in a detention centre before they were finally released.

Back in West Bengal, which is heading into an election year in a few months, the detentions have turned into a hot-button issue. Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee has initiated a 'Bhasa Andolan', calling the drive against illegal Bangladeshi migrants a move by BJP-ruled states to "terrorise Bengali-speaking people". While the ruling Trinamool and non-NDA parties such as CPI(M) and Congress have taken to the streets in protest, the BJP has accused Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee and her party of indulging in appeasement and vote bank politics.

According to the state government, around 22 lakh migrant workers from West

Kamal with his mother Karima Khatun Sheikh at Baghra village in West Bengal's Purba Bardhaman district.

Partha Paul



‘DRIVEN OUT LIKE CATTLE’

Across states, a drive against illegal Bangladeshi migrants has set off a wave of detentions of migrant workers from Bengal and instances of people being pushed into the neighbouring country. Trapped in a grey zone, with questions raised over their identity, some of them are now back home in Bengal. But as Mostafa Kamal Sheikh says, "For how long?"

Bengal work outside the state.

"This is an invisible but huge workforce. We had earlier demanded identity cards for our migrant workers. On April 26, we started a helpline as complaints started to pour in of people being harassed and wrongly detained. We coordinated with the administration and police as they visited houses for verification," says Asif Faruk, state secretary of the Paschim Banga Parijayi Ayikka Mancha (Unified Forum for Migrants).

Samirul Islam, TMC Rajya Sabha member and chairman of the West Bengal Migrant

Labour Welfare Board, says, "We have no objection if the police detain and deport illegal Bangladeshi citizens. But thousands of residents of Bengal are being detained and harassed. Some have been pushed into Bangladesh. This is unacceptable."

"Also, the police in these states have not been sharing any data or details with our state government of those they are detaining. We get to know of the detentions from family members and then, our police and administration visit their houses and verify



WEST BENGAL

their papers. If the papers are in order, we send a report along with the documents to our counterparts in different states seeking the release of the migrants," he says.

Kamal and others who were detained say that police often asked them to make a quick call to their families seeking land records, school certificates and birth certificates, before taking away their phones. Delay in submitting these documents often meant long detentions or worse — pushbacks across the border, like in Kamal's case.

‘Where are the jobs?’

It was an SOS video that Kamal and others sent out — recorded on the phones of Bangladeshi citizens in areas near the border — that highlighted their plight and got the state government to verify their documents and intimate the BSF about their legal status.

This was followed by a flag meeting between the BSF and BDR, after which they were finally handed over to the Indian side.

Recalling the nightmarish events of June 9, when he was picked up by the Mumbai

Police from his Nalasopara room on suspicion of being a Bangladeshi citizen, he says, "I had come back from the *jhal muri* stall and was eating my dinner at 3 am, when police raided my room. I gave them all the documents they asked for, but they did not listen and took me away. They did not allow me to finish my dinner."

Kamal says he and a few others were detained for some days, after which his photograph and fingerprint were taken and the group sent to Pune, where they were handed over to the BSF.

"From there, we were taken to Agartala (Tripura). By then, there were over a 100 of us. From there, we were put into buses and taken to a BSF border camp, where we were divided into groups of four and taken to the border. Around 3 am on June 14, we were herded like cattle and told to pass through a small gate at the barbed wire fencing. Each of us were given 300 Bangladeshi taka and told to run. We pleaded with them, saying we are Indians, but we were caned. So we started running," says Kamal.

By sunrise, he says, personnel of the Bangladesh Rifles (BDR) spotted them, after which they were told to sit in a spot on the no-man's land at the border. "Bangladeshi villagers gave us food and water. After two nights there, we were handed over to the BSF first and then to the West Bengal police at Mekhlighunj police station (Cooch Behar). Finally, from Berhampore, we returned home," says Kamal.

Despite a lingering fear, many of his relatives, including his wife and son and nephew Yasir Sheikh, continue to stay in Mumbai.

Kamal's sister Tahamina Sheikh, 53, says, "After Bakhri Eid, Yasir went back to Mumbai (where he works in a brokerage firm). We don't know if he will be harassed, but he had no choice but to go because where are the jobs here? Every day I call him just to find out if he is safe."

Dabbing her moist eyes, Kamal's mother Karima Khatun Sheikh, 68, says, "Two of my sons and grandson are in Mumbai. When I heard about Kamal's situation, I thought I had lost him. It is Allah's blessings that have brought him back. Why did they have to beat him like that? He could have died. I wake up in the middle of every night wondering how my children are doing in Mumbai. And then, I can't go back to sleep. I keep worrying."

‘I'll leave for Mumbai’

Mounds of sand and bricks lie on the road outside Kamal's sister's home in Baghra village. The house is under construction, like many others in the village.

Villagers say every second home has youngsters working outside the state, some as construction workers, others as welders, painters, goldsmiths.

"You ask me why we go outside to work? All this construction and building activity that you see in the village will answer your question. There is money there. More than double of what we can earn anywhere in West Bengal. We work and stay in hovels in Mumbai, Delhi, Rajasthan and Haryana so that our families back home can stay in concrete homes, so that our children can go to good schools and get private tuitions," says Kamal.

Kamal is now waiting for the "*kagaz*" that will, once again, establish his identity, before he leaves for Mumbai. "All my documents were seized when I was detained. I got my SIM card re-issued and thereafter, I got back my Aadhaar and E-Shram card. I am still waiting for my PAN card and my voter ID card. Once I get it, I will leave for Mumbai. How long can I stay home?," says Kamal.



With many leaving for West Bengal, the Gurgaon slum is deserted. Abhinav Saha

In slums near upscale societies, no city for Bengali migrants

ABHIMANYU HAZARIKA & DRISHTI JAIN

ON A rainy afternoon, Sanju Bibi's one-room shanty in a slum behind DPS International School in Gurgaon is filled with the aroma of the chicken curry she is making for her husband and herself.

Till mid-July — around the time that hundreds of Bengali migrants from this slum started rushing back to their villages — Sanju, 36, a resident of West Bengal's Malda, worked as a cook in several houses in nearby upscale housing societies. Since then, she has been home, waiting for her monthly wages so she can go back home to Malda and get her documents verified by the police.

With a person from a nearby slum picked up during the verification drive, Sanju is afraid the police will come knocking on her doors.

"*Damr ka mahaul hain tabse, tabhi toh koi nahin ruka hain yahan* (Everyone is scared

since the detentions started, which is why many have left)," she says.

In May, the Union Home Ministry had issued a letter directing states to prepare a standard operating procedure to deport "in sufficient numbers" Bangladeshis and Rohingyas found staying in India illegally.

"... if any illegal foreign national is found living in any state/district, he will be detained and kept in a Special Holding Centre... the police is conducting special search operations for illegal foreign nationals to maintain law and order and peace in district Gurugram," reads a July 22 District Magistrate order.

The fear among Gurgaon's Bengali-speaking migrants at present is reminiscent of the situation two years ago, in the aftermath of the violence in Nuh that had spilled over to the city. On their part, the local police had on July 26 said they were only rounding up "confirmed Bangladeshis" as part of their verification drive.



A resident of Paldi Meena shows her family's identity cards. Hamza Khan

Verification drive sends wave of fear in Jaipur settlement

HAMZA KHAN

AROUND 5 am in the first week of May, nearly 10 days after the April 22 Pahalgam attack, several police vehicles and at least one empty police bus arrived at Paldi Meena, an 'illegal' settlement on the outskirts of Jaipur. Knocking on the doors, the police asked the residents to step out with their documents.

The locality houses mostly Muslim and some Hindu families living in small houses with bare minimum necessities. Just outside the settlement, garbage and scraps are strewn around.

On April 30, the Rajasthan Chief Minister had directed the police to identify and deport illegal Bangladeshi nationals living in the state.

On that May morning, batons striking the front doors sent a wave of fear in the settlement. One of the residents, in her mid-40s, says around 25 women and a few

dozen men were rounded up for verification. "We were loaded on the police bus like cattle."

From beneath a pile of clothes in a makeshift almira in the wall, she brings out two pouches, fishes out their contents, and displays them on the bed: her family's Aadhaar cards, PAN cards, Jan Aadhaar cards, ration cards, voter ID cards (both old and new), *mazdoor* diary, etc.

Another resident, in his 50s, claims most families moved to the settlement, which falls under the Jaipur Development Authority (JDA), over the last

two decades. A senior government official said that Rajasthan started acting against Bangladesh and Myanmar nationals residing illegally in the state in late April and early May, following instructions from the Home Affairs Ministry. A senior police official said over 1,000 Bangladeshis were deported after being picked up from Jaipur, Sikar, Alwar and surrounding areas.



RAJASTHAN



A migrant at work in Ahmedabad's Walled City, Brendan Dabhi

Our dialect is our identity, say workers in Gujarat's migrant hub

BRENDAN DABHI

"ONLY BENGALIS can truly detect the subtle difference in dialect between the Bengali we speak and the one spoken in Bangladesh," says Sujeet Banerjee, the vice-president of the Samast Bengali Samaj Association, a workers' collective.

To weed out illegal Bangladeshis living in Gujarat, since May, the police have been verifying the identity papers of thousands of migrants engaged in jewellery making at KT Plaza and Sahajanand Complex at Ratanpole in Ahmedabad's Walled City and hundreds of smaller units across the city since April.

According to the Samast Bengali Samaj Association, nearly 1.5 lakh Bengali migrants are currently engaged in gold, silver and imitation jewellery units, and in the garment sector in the city.

In bigger cities like Ahmedabad, Vadodara and Surat, verification drives

started in April, after the terror attack in Pahalgam. In Ahmedabad, the police launched a crackdown in the area around Chandola lake at 3 am on April 26. The police detained 890 people.

On August 1, DCP (Crime Branch) Ajit Rajian told *The Indian Express*, "All illegal immigrants were found living in the Chandola lake area itself... After the initial drive (on April 26), following which we detained 209 people, 56 people who had fled from Chandola during the demolitions were detained."

Even as the raid was on at Chandola lake, the jewellery units at Ratanpole received verification requests from the police. Vishakha Dabral, DCP, Zone 3, says, "No illegal immigrants were found at these units."

The manager of a jewellery making unit adds, "The matter in Chandola was completely different since Bangladeshis were detained there. But here, in the gold market, that (being a foreigner) is simply impossible since this business runs on trust."



GUJARAT



Why Arya Samaj marriages are under the scanner of courts

AMAAL SHEIKH & VINEET BHALLA
NEW DELHI, AUGUST 1

THE ALLAHABAD High Court last week directed the Uttar Pradesh government to investigate how “fake Arya Samaj Societies” that solemnise marriages without verifying the age of the bride and the groom, and in violation of the state’s anti-conversion law, “have flourished throughout the State”. While hearing a case in which a Muslim man is accused of kidnapping, forcibly marrying, and committing statutory rape on a minor Hindu girl, Justice Prashant Kumar said that many marriages in the state, including those officiated by the Arya Samaj, bypass mandatory procedures under the UP anti-conversion law and marriage registration rules. The accused had claimed to have got married at an Arya Samaj temple. The Allahabad HC’s directives are the latest in a series of judicial orders that have called for a scrutiny of marriages solemnised by the Arya Samaj. Such weddings are granted legal sanction under the 88-year-old

Arya Marriage Validation Act. **What is an Arya Samaj marriage?** The Arya Samaj was formally established by Swami Dayanand Saraswati in 1875 as a Hindu revivalist movement. It gained prominence in northern India, especially Punjab (including present-day Pakistan), in the late 19th century. Among other things, the Arya Samaj made the very first attempts to convert persons from other faiths or ideologies to its version of Vedic, monotheistic Hinduism through a process it called “*shuddhi*” (purification). One of the ways it facilitated this was by having a progressive view of inter-caste and even interfaith marriages. In effect, till the Special Marriage Act, 1954 came into force, the Arya Samaj provided the only way for a Hindu to marry out of caste or religion and to still retain their caste. In 1937, the Arya Marriage Validation Act was passed to “remove doubts” and recognise the validity of Arya Samaj marriages. These weddings take place as per a specific set of Hindu rituals, but only require the bride and groom to be of marriageable age and de-

clare themselves to be Arya Samajis — regardless of their caste or religion. The 1937 law states: “Notwithstanding any provision of Hindu Law, usage or custom to the contrary, no marriage contracted whether before or after the commencement of this Act between two persons being at the time of the marriage Arya Samajists shall be invalid or shall be deemed over to have been invalid by reason only of the fact that the parties at any time belonged to different castes or different sub-castes of Hindus or that either or both of the parties at any time before the marriage belonged to a religion other than Hinduism.” **Why do eloping couples often prefer Arya Samaj weddings?** The Hindu Marriage Act, 1955 — which covers not just Hindus but also Buddhists, Jains and Sikhs — recognises Arya Samaj marriages. Those belonging to other religions simply need to convert to Hinduism before the wedding. However, several Arya Samaj organisations complete this conversion ritual expe-

ditiously. This means that Arya Samaj weddings are fast, often not taking more than a couple of hours. This, along with the ease of paperwork and relaxed requirements, make Arya Samaj weddings popular among eloping or runaway couples, who often belong to different castes or religions. Interfaith couples also have the option to marry under the SMA, which allows marriage without the couple having to give up their faith. However, under the SMA, couples must give a 30-day public notice before they marry, leaving them vulnerable to harassment from their families or the authorities. **Why have questions been raised on Arya Samaj marriages?** A petition on whether Arya Samaj marriages must comply with the requirements of the Special Marriage Act has been pending before the Supreme Court since 2022. However, since a number of BJP-ruled states have passed stringent anti-conversion laws over the last 10 years, several HCs have raised questions on the validity of Arya Samaj

marriages. This is because the anti-conversion laws bar alternative legal processes for marriage involving religious conversion. For instance, in Uttar Pradesh, Section 6 of the UP Prohibition of Unlawful Conversion of Religion Act, 2021 renders void any marriage that is preceded by an unlawful or procedurally non-compliant religious conversion. Sections 8 and 9 of the law require both a pre-conversion declaration 60 days before marriage and a post-conversion declaration within a specified timeframe to the district magistrate. The law also mandates an inquiry to verify the voluntariness and legality of the conversion process. Section 12 of the Act places the burden of proof on an accused to demonstrate that their spouse’s consent for conversion was not obtained illegally. The default legal assumption, thus, is that marriages through conversion are illegal and non-consensual. This puts Arya Samaj marriages at odds with the UP anti-conversion law. The *shuddhi* performed before most interfaith Arya Samaj marriages does not comply with the onerous process for conversion prescribed in the anti-conversion law.

Courts have, over the last few years, expressed concern over the mass-scale solemnisation of marriages by Arya Samaj organisations without sticking to lawful conversion practices or verifying marriage eligibility conditions. The Allahabad HC and Madhya Pradesh HC have ordered police investigations into instances where these organisations allegedly married minors using forged documents, and facilitated conversions without following procedures mandated by the anti-conversion laws of these states. In 2022, the Supreme Court orally observed that the Arya Samaj has “no business” issuing marriage certificates, while the Delhi High Court last year directed an Arya Samaj temple to use verified witnesses to ensure that marriages performed by the temple were genuine. Justice Kumar referred to one such judgment by the Allahabad HC from May in his order on Thursday. He observed that the marriage between the Muslim man and the Hindu girl would be invalid because the girl was a minor and the man did not convert as per the UP anti-conversion law.

EXPLAINED
LAW

EXPLAINED CULTURE

PUBLIC-PRIVATE PARTNERSHIP: HOW PIPRAHWA GEMS RETURNED TO INDIA

DIVYAA
NEW DELHI, AUGUST 1

THE PIPRAHWA Gems, Buddhist relics which in 1898 were taken by an Englishman from their resting place in India, have been brought back to the country, the Ministry of Culture announced on Wednesday. This return was made possible by “an exemplary case of public-private partnership.” Culture Minister Gajendra Singh Shekhawat said on Wednesday. Here’s the story



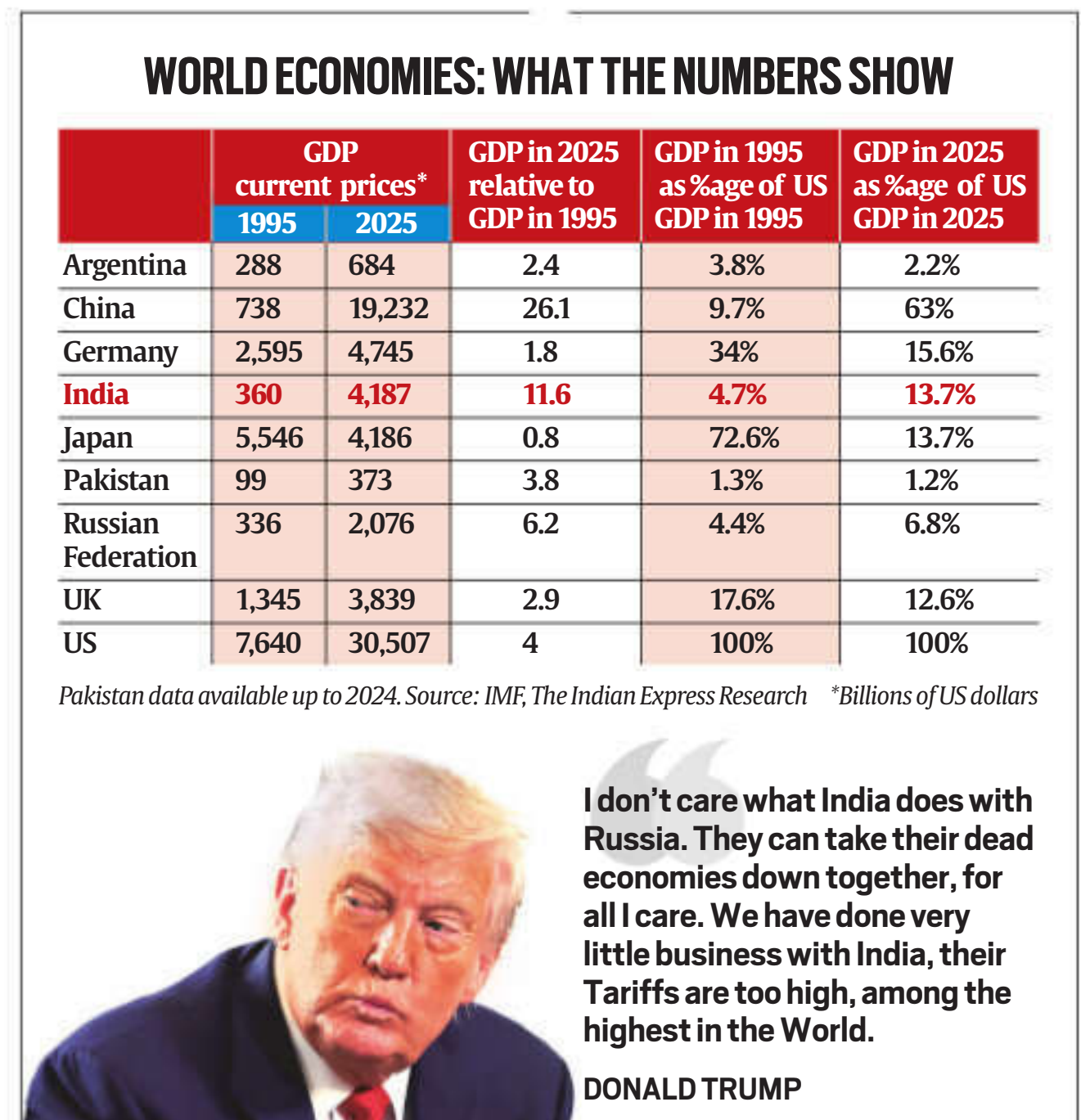
The Piprahwa Gems were put up for auction in May. *Sotheby's*

The collection In May, a collection of 349 gemstones came up for auction at Sotheby’s Hong Kong. These were a part of a larger collection of antiquities unearthed in 1898 by William Claxton Peppé, an English estate manager, at a Buddhist stupa in Piprahwa, a village in UP’s Siddharthnagar district, near the border of Nepal. Viceroy Elgin donated the sacred bones and ashes in the collection, believed to be of Lord Buddha himself, to Siamese King Rama V. Much of the remaining collection, including caskets, a coffer, and various jewels, were sent to the Imperial Museum (now Indian Museum) in Kolkata, where they remain till date. But a part of the collection was passed down for generations in the Peppé family. In 2013, they came in possession of Chris Peppé who decided to put the antiquities up for auction. Sotheby’s listed an estimated selling price of over \$100 million. **Pressure from New Delhi** On May 5, the Ministry of Culture served a legal notice to Sotheby’s and the Peppé family, demanding the “immediate cessation” of the auction, and repatriation of the relics to India. The Archaeological Survey of India too requested the Consulate General of Hong Kong to immediately stop the auction.



UDIT MISRA

ON JULY 30, United States President Donald Trump announced 25% tariffs on India, as well as an unspecified “penalty” for buying military equipment and energy from Russia. A day later, Trump posted on social media that he did not care if India and Russia “take their dead economies down together”. Asked about Trump’s description of India as a “dead” economy, Leader of Opposition in Lok Sabha Rahul Gandhi said: “Yes, he (Trump) is right... Everybody knows this except the Prime Minister and the Finance Minister. I am glad President Trump has stated a fact... The whole world knows that India is a dead economy and that the BJP has killed it...” Union Minister of Commerce & Industry Piyush Goyal pushed back, saying that India had rapidly transformed from being one of the ‘fragile five’ 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 five... 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 the global growth,” Goyal said in a statement to Parliament. “In the last decade, the government has taken transformative measures to promote India as the manufacturing hub of the world... 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.



economic growth. The *Table* alongside contains data for gross domestic product (GDP) from the International Monetary Fund (IMF) for a selection of countries over the past 30 years from 1995. They have been selected in the context of Trump’s comments, and the recent trade pacts signed between his administration and countries such as Pakistan, the UK, and the EU (of which Germany is the biggest economy). Japan has been included because it is one of the world’s biggest economies. The data throw up a picture that is obviously contrary to Trump’s contention that India, or even Russia, are “dead” economies. *Column 3* shows the number of times the GDP of each country has grown over the past 30 years. The top three countries are China, India, and Russia in that order. While the US has now become four times its 1995 size, its closest trade partners like the United Kingdom have grown by less than 3 times, and Germany has failed to even double its economy. Japan’s GDP in 2025 is lower than what it was in 1995, which would, by this metric, qualify it to be not just a “dead” but perhaps a decaying economy. In contrast, India’s economy is today almost 12 times its size in 1995. **Comparison with US** There is another way to look at these numbers: how did these economies grow relative to the US? *Columns 4 and 5* show there are only three economies that have grown in size relative to the US: China, India, and Russia. India was less than 5% the size of the US economy in 1995, but in 2025 it is almost 14%. By contrast, all of America’s friends and trading partners have shrunk in size relative to the US.

China brings new childcare subsidy: can it increase country’s fertility rate?

RISHIKA SINGH
NEW DELHI, AUGUST 1

CHINA’S GOVERNMENT this week announced a childcare subsidy of 3,600 yuan (about Rs 44,000) per year for every child under the age of three. *The People’s Daily*, the Chinese Communist Party’s newspaper, described it as a way of “supporting fertility”. China has previously tried similar measures locally, but the policy announced on July 29 was the first time it was rolled out nationwide. The population of China, the world’s second most populous country (after India), has been contracting in recent years. There have been fewer Chinese births than deaths for three consecutive years since 2022. In fact, most parts of the world are grappling with declining Total Fertility Rates (TFR), which is the average number of children a woman is likely to bear in her lifetime. What explains this trend? Can subsidies

encourage people to have more children? **What is the problem with declining fertility rates?** The Global Burden of Disease, Injuries and Risk Factors Study (GBD)—2021 estimated that globally, TFR more than halved from around 5 in 1950 to 2.2 in 2021. This signals better education and financial independence for more women, and greater agency in making reproductive choices. However, an extremely low TFR can have long-term consequences for societies, including labour shortages, high dependency ratios (basically a product of an ageing population), higher taxation to fund the cost of healthcare for the large numbers of the elderly, and changes in social structures and relationships. India’s overall TFR stood at 1.91 in 2021. This is less than the ‘replacement level’ — the number of children that a woman would need to have to replace herself and her partner in the next generation — of 2.1. (This figure assumes there will be no in- or

out-migration, which is not the case in reality.) India’s lowered TFR is the result of decades of government investment in family planning, changing social attitudes about family sizes, rising costs of raising children, and improvements in the education of women. Many of these factors are common to other countries that have seen a decline in TFR. The only major region in the world with a high TFR today is sub-Saharan Africa, where medical advances have reduced child mortality, but fertility remains high due to cultural reasons, poverty, and the lack of decision-making powers for women. **To what extent have subsidies and tax credits helped?** As countries around the world grapple with declining fertility rates, many, like China, have introduced subsidies and tax incentives to encourage couples to have more children. One reason for this is the understanding

that rising cost of living is a major deterrent to parenthood. Almost 4 in 10 respondents in an online survey of more than 14,000 adults in 14 countries carried out by the United Nations Population Fund and YouGov in June said financial limitations were stopping them from having the families they wanted. But these measures have had only a limited impact. The Center for Strategic and International Studies noted in a 2023 article that “Representative studies on the expansion of financial assistance show that the effects are positive but limited.” The article cited a 2013 study that reported that child allowances, even if doubled, lead to the probability of childbirth increasing by only 19.2%. In 2006, demographer Peter McDonald identified two reasons for the decline in TFRs. **ONE**, rising social liberalism, in which individuals in modern societies were re-examining social norms and institutions, and increasingly focusing on individual aspirations.

EXPLAINED
GLOBAL

TWO, the withdrawal of the welfare state in major Western economies in the 1980s and 1990s, which led to “loss of trust in others, loss of a sense of the value of service (altruism), decline of community... and fear of failure or of being left behind”. Both processes deprioritised having children as a mandate for living a good life, McDonald concluded. “The solution... lies in providing a greater sense of assurance to young women and young men that, if they marry and have children, they will be supported by the society in this socially and individually important decision,” he wrote. McDonald argued that incentivising policies have failed in countries like Japan and Singapore because they targeted particular types of women (like high earners) rather than reforming societal institutions.

related policies regarding childcare, education, employment, taxation and housing”, *Xinhua* reported. Supporting childbirth requires a comprehensive policy package, including financial support, parental leave, and cultural measures, Guo said. Anne Gauthier, professor of comparative family studies at the University of Groningen in the Netherlands, told the *BBC* that behind the higher-than-European-average TFR of France could be the generous social policies followed by the French Ministry of Families over the decades. However, countries such as Finland, which have some of the most progressive policies for parental leave after childbirth, as well as subsidies, continue to see low TFRs. While the specific context may be different in each country, it would seem that throwing money at the problem of falling TFRs can only do so much. Accompanying changes in how society treats the raising of children, and how people see work and fulfillment, are important as well.

DHADAK 2 ★★★

Director: Shazia Iqbal **Cast:** Triptii Dimri, Siddhant Chaturvedi, Saad Bilgrami, Aditya Thakare, Harish Khanna, Zakir Hussain, Vipin Sharma, Deeksha Joshi, Manjari Pupala, Saurabh Sachdeva, Anubha Fatehpura, Abhay Joshi

Two Steps Forward, One Step Back

SHUBHRA GUPTA

A LITTLE group, sitting outside their tiny homes, is swapping stories. The tone is civil, but the matter at hand, clearly hypothetical, is deadly serious — about a group of starving humans turning into cannibals and a victim who gets devoured. Someone says, ‘*agar Dalit hota toh bach jaata, koi chhoota tak nahin*’ (If he was a Dalit, no one would have touched him).

This line hits hard. Or, it should have. But it stays a throw-away and we don't really feel the impact as much as we should have. That single dialogue encapsulates centuries of caste-discrimination and exploitation and the almost inhuman resilience that a group of Indian citizens have been forced to live with. But in Shazia Iqbal's *Dhadak 2*, we hear it and before we could absorb the enormous weight of it, it's gone.

I felt similarly torn while I watched the film (a spiritual sequel of the 2018 Ishaan Khatter-Janhvi Kapoor *Dhadak*), where it can be seen reaching for emotional highs and you will it with all your might to get there, and then along comes another speech-to-camera, another declarative dive, which undermines the moment and the cumulative drama.

It is in the in-between moments that this adaptation of Mari Selvaraj's *Pariyerum Perumal* comes alive. Set in a city which looks like Bhopal but is never named, a law college becomes the site of the conflict, just the way it did in the 2018 original. Neelesh (Siddhant Chaturvedi) and Vidhi (Triptii Dimri) are students in the same class but there's an invisible hawser-like line which divides them: he cannot even pronounce his surname 'Ahiwar' out loud because he will be 'found out' as lower caste, whereas she never has to, as she belongs to an 'upper caste Brahmin' family.

The film doesn't draw back from scenes



set in squalor, even if those visuals come wrapped in Neelesh's outburst as he 'introduces' Vidhi to his lived reality — look, that neighbour is a sweeper in homes, that one cleans gutters. We aren't shown the people up close; they are blurs in the distance. The Tamil original would have stayed on those faces till their outlines became clear but the Dharma production's focus is the attractive lead pair, artfully made up to look unmade: is that a slight hint of brownface on Neelesh?

A romance flowers between the two but the passion feels a trifle performative. Coming off from *Saiyaara*, where the

two young lovers burn up the screen, about the only really effective thing about that film, you feel this even more intensely. Individually though, both make us watch, and in some places, Dimri more than Chaturvedi.

Does the clearly 'privileged' Vidhi (yes, writers Iqbal and Rahul Badwelkar make her use that word for herself) not realise the differences herself? There's a lot of tell underlining the show: Neelesh's initial helplessness at the constant gross humiliation heaped upon him — people literally pissing on him, muck being thrown at him — turn-

ing into the mantra of *maaro ya maro*, which finally becomes his only recourse.

The instinct for survival kicking in, and the struggle for ceded space, is a reflection of the sentiments coursing through the veins of his mother (an effective Anubha Fatehpura) and college principal (Zakir Hussain). And Neelesh BA LLB, at last, finds himself arrayed on the side of his people, shown the way by a fighting-for-the-cause senior student, one spot on a front class bench, one push back at a time.

A couple of other threads crop up, crowding the canvas. A vigilante (Saurabh

Sachdeva), who goes about 'eliminating' the 'gandagi' from the *samaaj* is hard at work and turns into one of Neelesh's roadblocks, along with Vidhi's violent cousin, hate-filled *chacha* and a newly-married sister (Deeksha Joshi) who is there to tell us that compromise and good matches go hand in hand: providing *garum* puris will always be the domain of the *bahu*. Neelesh's father (Vipin Sharma), whose job as a cross-dresser dancer is also his vocation, is a matter of shame, which needs to be addressed.

This is a film which is clearly on the right side of many of the hot-button issues we need to be pressing: casteism, classism, feminism, gender identities. While at it, you can see an awareness of the wrongs and injustices which have made and continue to make headlines. A student suicide on campus after his fellowship is stopped because of his 'activism', reminds us of the Rohith Vemula case. Vidhi talks of 'noodles and jeans and cellphones' as things 'good girls shouldn't have'. Her uncle talks of the danger of *padhi likhi ladkiyaan*, and her father (Harish Khanna) is shown as weak, unable to take a clear stand, like so many of us. When Neelesh cries out, 'can't you see how things are', he is not just calling out Vidhi's blindness — '*mujhe laga yeh sab gaon mein hota hai, yahan nahin*' — it is all of ours.

Even though the film is never as searing as it could have been, it is miles ahead of the original *Dhadak*, which in turn was an adaptation of Nagraj Manjule's *Sairat*, a blockbuster which redefined the contemporary young love story in Indian cinema. Maybe it is us, the audience which refuses to be repelled, which is to blame, with filmmakers shying away from showing the true depths of discrimination. But it is still important and timely and as political as a mainstream film is allowed to be in these times, opening with the famous line 'when injustice becomes law, resistance becomes duty'.

BAD GUYS 2 ★★★

Directors: Pierre Perifel, J P Sars**Voices of:** Sam Rockwell, Marc Maron, Craig Robinson, Anthony Ramos, Awkwafina, Zazie Beetz, Alex Borstein, Danielle Brooks, Natasha Lyonne

A Smooth Landing



SHALINI LANGER

A MOONX launch, a billionaire wedding, a metal called 'Macguffinite' that attracts gold, a rocket, a space station, etc etc. As Mr Wolf (Rockwell) says in *Bad Guys 2*, the trick lies "not in the action, but the distraction". And distract, this breezy sequel to the 2022 *Bad Guys* does very, very well.

Starting with Wolf, this is a bunch of ultra-smooth, ultra-likeable, ultra-witty former "bad guys" trying to be good — and finding the going tough. It's not easy to land a job when the qualification in your resume is, say, picking a lock.

With that as the premise, and some dishy romance thrown in, *Bad Guys 2* ensures audiences across ages will be entertained. If Rockwell, in his superbly tailored suits, is the standout as the leader of the gang, Maron as the amorous Mr Snake, Ramos as Mr Piranha with the farting problem, Robinson as the panicky Mr

Shark and, of course, Awkwafina as Ms Tarantula, with her eight legs all the better to hack with, are sporting company.

Beetz is the sexy fox, Diane, the city's Governor with a secret past and a present (and future) with Mr Wolf. Borstein, as the Commissioner with a soft corner for the Bad Guys gang, is equally smooth.

When you think this DreamWorks Animation can't do better, Brooks as Kitty Kat, the really bad snow leopard, lifts the film several notches up. As her sidekick and Mr Snake's crush, Susan aka Doom, Lyonne is a tantalising shape-shifter.

The plot that focuses on its interesting characters and keeps it pleasingly simple gets unnecessarily twisted when the story heads into space — a frontier where every Hollywood film seems to be headed these days.

However, at all times, the paws and claws of its good-bad or bad-good guys are firmly planted on Earth. If they drink kombucha, they also love their lollipops.



Just Not Enough Laughs

SHUBHRA GUPTA

I HAD nearly, and happily, forgotten most of the first *Son Of Sardaar*. Only when I saw Ajay Devgn in a nicely-tied turban looking lost in a *yeh kya ho raha hai* manner, and the late Mukul Dev (this is his last film) and Vindu Singh roaming about aimlessly, that I had a flashback of the original.

I wasn't a fan of the first one. Part 2, with these three reprising their roles, accompanied by some new faces, strains to be a little better. But only just.

Two elements have been added to the plot-what's-that proceedings. One is a running India-Pakistan gag, in which a few characters are Pakistani, and they are not all 'soorma-eyed' terrorists (gasp). The other is a wonderful actor who should basically be given all the awards: a nearly-unrecognisable Deepak Dobriyal playing a trans person with brio, nearly runs away with the film. Or would have, if his character was given half a chance to do more than the all-

SON OF SARDAAR 2 ★★

Director: Vijay Kumar Arora**Cast:** Ajay Devgn, Mrunal Thakur, Deepak Dobriyal, Ravi Kishan, Kubbra Sait, Roshni Walia, Sahil Mehta, Chunki Panday, Vindu Singh, Mukul Dev, Ashwini Kalsekar, Neeru Bajwa, Dolly Ahluwalia, Sharat Saxena, Sanjay Mishra

over-the-place script allows him to.

What of Devgn, the hero who leads this enterprise which wants to be a laugh-a-minute, madcap caper, but keeps slackening? His *bhola*-Sardar Jassi Randhawa, having left behind his loving *bebey* (Dolly Ahluwalia) in the '*pind*', fetches up in Scotland, there to toggle between affront (wifey played by Neeru Bajwa, has turned out to be a *bewafa*), and all-round befuddlement.

Can't blame him, because all around him tumble an array of disconnected threads, led by lovely dancer-by-profession Rabiya (Mrunal Thakur, showing an unexpected gift for comedy) who just hap-

pens to be Pakistani. Rabiya's young daughter (Roshni Walia) is in love with a guy whose rich sheep-farmer father (Ravi Kishan) hates Pakistanis.

Got that? No? Never mind. There's more. Chunky Panday and Kubbra Sait, also part of the dance troupe, are also, yikes, from that enemy country. He is a serial adulterer, she is, well, just, around, to watch over mismatched couple Jassi and Rabiya come closer. Older hero, much younger heroine, cringe max, or Bollywood as usual? Chunks of 1997 war film *Border* are regurgitated for laughs. A tank is rolled in. An old Sardar (Sharat Saxena) goes through multiple women of different nationalities; racism rears up and it's meant to be funny.

I love broad laughs and hare-brained comedies as much as the next person but whatever happened to keeping it crisp and connected? Bring back Dobriyal and give him and Sait something to do. Pair Devgn with an age-appropriate leading lady and give him a few chuckle-worthy lines. Can't be that hard, can it?



THE NAKED GUN ★★★

Director: Akiva Schaffer **Cast:** Liam Neeson, Pamela Anderson, Danny Huston, Paul Walter Hauser, CCH Pounder

Blast from the Past

SHALINI LANGER

LIAM NEESON is Liam Neeson-lite, Danny Huston is Danny Huston repeat and Pamela Anderson is Kim Basinger-esque in this did-it-really-take-this-long return to *The Naked Gun* franchise.

The third in the series was 31 years ago, in 1994, and there has been a TV series too. For this 2025 re-up, Neeson replaces the late Leslie Nielsen, who had made the role of Frank Drebin his own. Neeson is the son, Frank Drebin Jr, who like his father is stum-

bling his way through the police force and, somehow, saving the day — every time.

The danger this time comes from the kind of billionaire who makes his money in tech, has now embraced green energy and believes the world needs to be rid of people who are less than equal to "men of action" like him. This billionaire, Richard Cane, is played in his usual oily indolent way by Huston.

Drebin Jr catches on to Cane fairly quickly, but, of course, must jump the hoops of a Naked Gun to finally get there. While Neeson throws himself sportingly into what

is a spoof of the many roles he has done of well-minded men of violence, Anderson is a scene-stealer whenever she appears. Of course, we are meant to be stunned, but her Beth is all woman and not just a *Baywatch* bod.

Fans of *The Naked Gun* will go back happy, and those missing the kind of crude, unsanitised humour that it revels in, would be gratified to see Neeson lending his weight to it.

Plus who doesn't want to take a swing at a world where "powerful, righteous" — and rich — men seem to have it all?

STREAMING WATCH LIST

BY ALAKA SAHANI



BAKAITI

ZEE5

THIS SLICE-OF-LIFE web series featuring Sheeba Chaddha and Rajesh Tailang captures the essence of a middle-class family where bickering, banter and blowups are just another way of saying 'I love you'. Set in old Ghaziabad, *Bakaiti* follows the story of the close-knit Kataria *parivaar*. As the family grapples with rising expenses and difficult decisions, tensions flare across generations.



MY OXFORD YEAR

NETFLIX

ANNA (SOFIA Carson), an American woman, sets out for the University of Oxford to fulfill a childhood dream. There she meets a charming local, Jamie (Corey Mylchreest), who alters both their lives. The film is based on a novel by Julia Whelan, which was adapted from Allison Burnett's original screenplay. Carson says, "It was an honour and joy to... study the great poets that walked the halls of Oxford."



WAR OF THE WORLDS

PRIME VIDEO

THIS SCREEN-LIFE science-fiction thriller is based on HG Wells's *The War of the Worlds*. The 1898 novel revolves around an attempted invasion of Earth by aliens. Directed by Rich Lee, it features Eva Longoria, Ice Cube, Michael O'Neill and Iman Benson. It promises to be an out-of-this-world adventure filled with present-day themes of technology, surveillance and privacy.



CODE OF SILENCE

LIONSGATE PLAY

AT THE heart of this new British crime drama is Alison Brooks, played by hearing-impaired actress Rose Ayling-Ellis. Brooks is a canteen worker whose life takes an extraordinary turn when her lip-reading skills thrust her into a high-stakes police investigation targeting a dangerous criminal gang. As Brooks navigates a perilous world of lies, her life becomes a tangle of danger, deception and discovery.

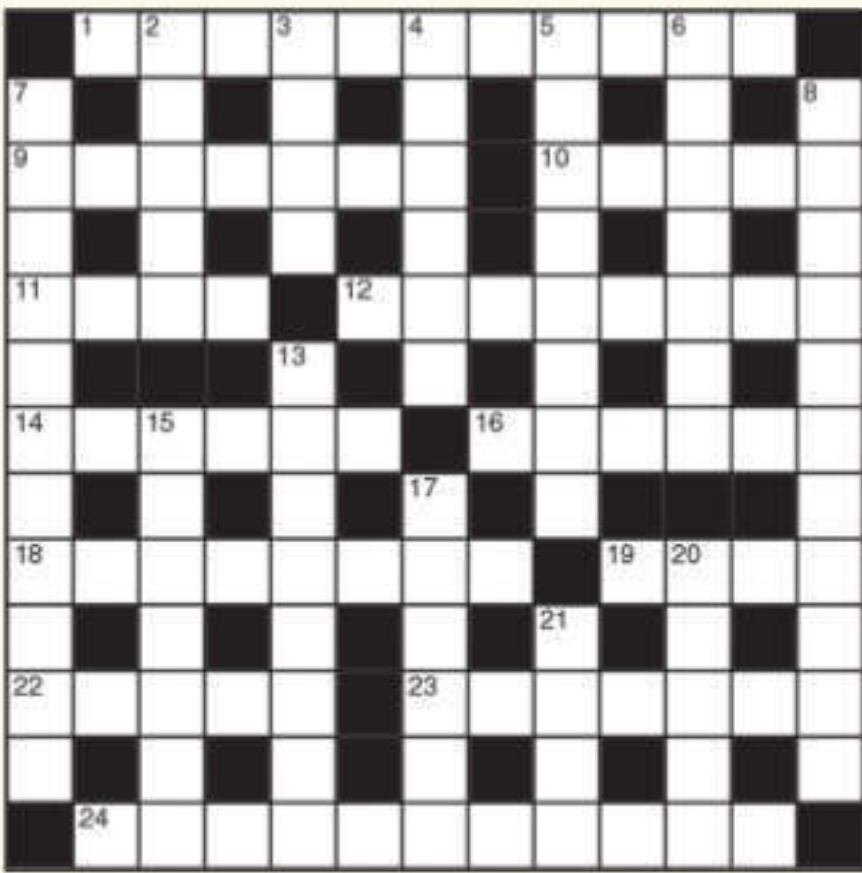


EIGHT POSTCARDS FROM UTOPIA

MUBI

THIS SATIRICAL documentary revisits Romanian television commercials from the post-Communist era, blending national nostalgia with sharp cultural critique. In these commercials, "viewers were sold on visions of Romania's glorious past and gilded future—including get-rich-quick schemes, shiny new toys, and economic shock therapy".

CROSSWORD 5744



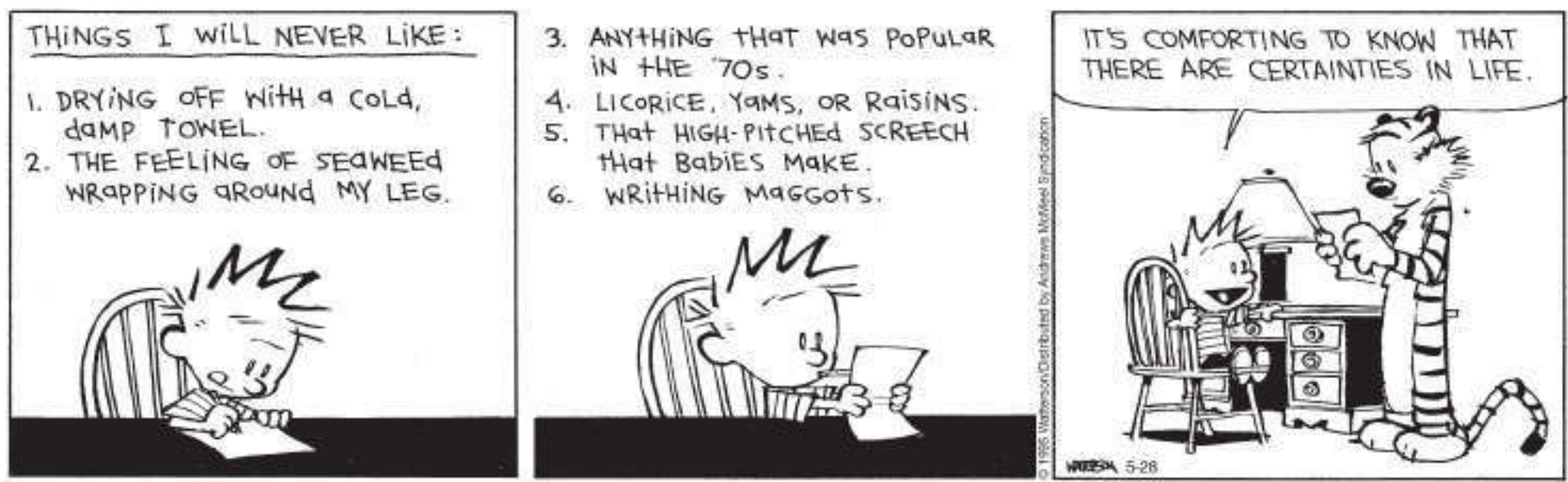
- ACROSS**
1 Orders translation of rousing tale (11)
9 In and out of work - it's not right (7)
10 Previous head of a religious body (5)
11 I'd look around for bathing facilities (4)
12 One metal fused into many (8)
14 Pinched but made quick getaway (6)
16 The spirit of Switzerland (6)
18 What scores of young people are in? (8)
19 Drink: knock it back as a starter (4)
22 Many a song has a girl's name (5)
23 Fight and beat a tough guy (7)
24 Hailing distance? (6,5)
- DOWN**
2 Aim to include me? Correct (5)
3 Erect as a tree (4)
4 Be there at the start and finish (6)
5 I'm married and somewhat the worse for wear (8)
6 First officer has a quantity that's unpleasant (7)
7 Hunting season problem for the easily bored? (7,4)
8 Provisional allowances for serving men (4,7)
13 The others have sound rule for control (8)
15 Report rewritten about one entertainer (7)
17 Those doing it are out for the count (6)
20 Ready to fight (3-2)
21 Reheated food in the mess (4)

Solutions Crossword 5743 Across: 1 Prompt, 4 Isolated, 9 Settle, 10 Schooner, 12 Inns, 13 Steep, 14 Boss, 17 House for sale, 20 Street trader, 23 Ayes, 24 Afire, 25 Knee, 28 Dull thud, 29 Minima, 30 Mandrake, 31 Leased Down: 1 Pastiche, 2 Oxtongue, 3 Pile, 5 Success story, 6 Look, 7 Tin-pot, 8 Duress, 11 Stroke of luck, 15 Lento, 16 Flirt, 18 Adenoids, 19 Free hand, 21 Tandem, 22 Berlin, 26 Star, 27 Like

OVER THE HEDGE by Michael Fry & T Lewis



CALVIN & HOBBS by Bill Watterson



MARVIN by Tom Armstrong



DAY TODAY

BY PETER VIDAL

ARIES (Mar 21 - Apr 20)

Passionate Arians should aim for family gatherings. Those planning decorations or even dreaming of a move of home should be able to take your plans one major step forward. You should also be able to benefit from a little extra cash.

LIBRA (Sep 24 - Oct 23)

This is bound to be one of those times when you don't see eye to eye with partners and loved ones, especially if money is involved. Spending plans could provide the catalyst for a lively exchange of views or an argument. And that's putting it mildly.

TAURUS (Apr 21 - May 21)

There's still no let-up from planetary pressures. However, if you talk about personal feelings, you may find that the old adage, 'a problem shared is a problem halved', is more true now than ever. Friends may even be glad that you've talked to them.

SCORPIO (Oct 24 - Nov 23)

What a dull old world it would be if everyone agreed all the time. A frank exchange of views is inevitable but try not to fly off the handle or take everything too personally. You're accident-prone, so please watch out over the priceless porcelain.

GEMINI (May 22 - June 21)

Chance encounters will lead to a more fulfilling lifestyle for you and your loved ones. Yet, I can't pretend that everything will be easy and some people you encounter may try your patience to the limit. I don't think this will be a problem though.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov 24 - Dec 22)

It's not always been an easy year, as you know. You have waited too long for the rewards you deserve but you may have realised that you won't get anything you haven't worked for. Take steps to get your physical well-being into tip-top form.

CANCER (June 22 - July 23)

Shopping trips are bound to involve higher costs. Almost every area of life is certain to work out more expensive than you hoped. Talk about your problems, otherwise you'll have to accept the sole blame for any mistakes and errors.

CAPRICORN (Dec 23 - Jan 20)

Those pursuing romantic adventures may be swept off your feet. In spite of an argumentative atmosphere, the chances of a pleasurable windfall are much higher then average, though it may come in the form of welcome news.

LEO (July 24 - Aug 23)

A relationship between the Sun and a series of other planets places hurdles in your path. Life is like an obstacle-course featuring traps for the unwary but big prizes for the winners. Long-distance journeys are strongly signified by the Moon.

AQUARIUS (Jan 21 - Feb 19)

Your energy could be tailing off, which means you're lined up for a rest. As far as family members may be concerned, causes of discontent are alive. This is a time when one major financial or personal obstacle can be surmounted.

VIRGO (Aug 24 - Sep 23)

Some astrologers carry on about your inability to express your emotions but they're missing the point. Your strength at the moment lies in repairing the trail of destruction left by people who have no control over their feelings. Be kind, though. Perhaps they couldn't help it.

PISCES (Feb 20 - Mar 20)

There are many ways for the typical Piscean to work off frustration. Window-shopping and casual spending is one. Indeed, it's probably the best if you want to avoid continued personal turmoil. You don't know yet what sort of secrets you'll reveal once emotional issues are raised.

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. Silence is ___ than ___. - Epictetus (5,6)

RVEEE

IRYCPS

HTARS

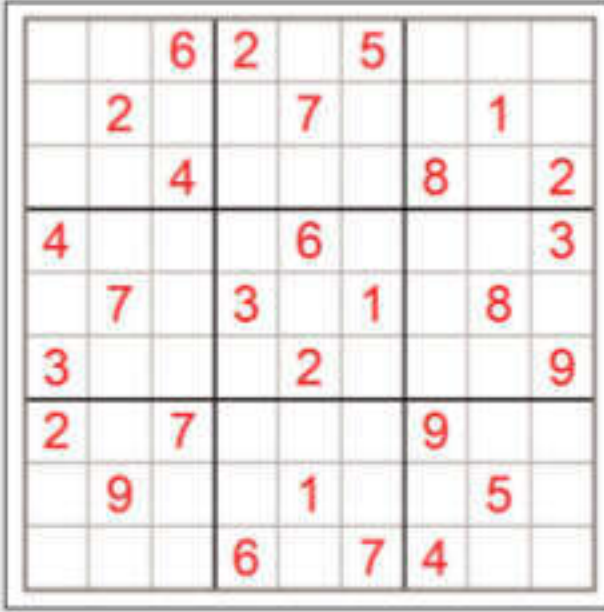
EEIRH

Solution: REVE, TRASH, CRISPY, HEIFER
Answer: Silence is safer than speech. - Epictetus

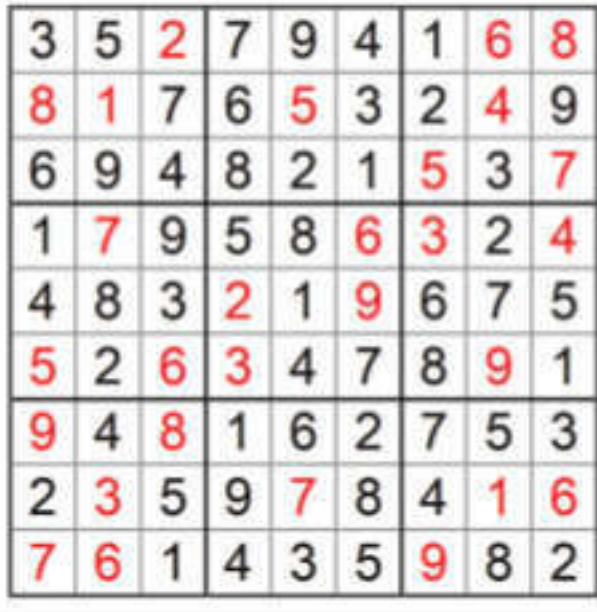
SUDOKU 6034

Difficulty Level 3s
Instructions
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 horizontal rows and in each of the nine boxes.

Difficulty Level
1s = Very easy; 2s = Easy; 3s = Medium; 4s = Hard; 5s = Very Hard; 6s = Genius



SOLUTION SUDOKU 6033



GOVERNMENT OF INDIA | MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS
WESTERN RAILWAY
RAILWAY RECRUITMENT CELL
Parcel Depot, Alibhai Premji Road, Grant Road (East), Mumbai – 400 007.
Website : <https://www.rrc-wr.com>

INDICATIVE NOTIFICATION FOR RECRUITMENT AGAINST SPORTS QUOTA FOR THE YEAR 2025-2026 IN WESTERN RAILWAY

Notification No. RRC/WR/01/2025 Sports Quota, Dated 29.07.2025

Opening Date and Time for online Application	30.07.2025 at 10.00 Hrs
Closing Date and Time of online Applications	29.08.2025 at 18.00 Hrs

1. **Western Railway invites ONLINE applications** from the eligible **Sports persons** for recruitment against Sports Quota for filling up **21** posts of group 'C' and **43** (erstwhile Group 'D') posts in the following Disciplines/Pay Level through Open Advertisement under the jurisdiction of Western Railway for the year **2025-2026**.

BREAK-UP OF POSTS – DISCIPLINE WISE

(A) Level 5/4 (7th PC)

Discipline	Event/ Proficiency/ Weight Category	Posts
Cricket (M)	Opening Batsman, Fast Bowler, Spinner, All Rounder Spin, Fast Bowler All Rounder	1
Cricket (W)	Batswomen, All Rounder, Spin bowler	1
Kabaddi (M)	Left Corner, Right Corner, All Rounder	1
Kabaddi (W)	Left Raider cum Left Cover, Left Raider, Right Cover cum Right Corner	1
Wrestling (M) Free Style	61Kg, 79Kg, 125Kg	1
TOTAL		05

(B) level 3/2 (7th PC)

Discipline	Event/ Proficiency/ Weight Category	Posts
Basketball (M)	Shooting Gard, Center (Post player)	2
Cricket (M)	Opening Batsman, Fast Bowler, Spinner, All Rounder Spin, Fast Bowler All Rounder	2
Cricket (W)	Batswomen, All Rounder, Spin bowler	2
Handball (M)	Left Back, Centre Back, Right Wing, Goal Keeper	2
Kabaddi (M)	Left Corner, Right Corner, All Rounder	1
Kabaddi (W)	Left Raider cum Left Cover, Left Raider, Right Cover cum Right Corner	1
Powerlifting (M)	66Kg, 83Kg, 93Kg, 120Kg, Above +120Kg	2
Table Tennis (W)	Single, Double, Team	1
Wrestling (W) Free Style	55Kg, 68Kg, 72Kg	1

Discipline	Event/ Proficiency/ Weight Category	Posts
Wrestling (M) Free Style	61Kg, 79Kg, 125Kg	1
Weightlifting (W)	59Kg, 64Kg, 71Kg (In New Weight Category 58Kg, 63Kg, 77Kg)	1
TOTAL		16

(C) Level 1 (7th PC)

Discipline	Event/ Proficiency/ Weight Category	Posts
Athletics (M)	400m, 400m Hurdles, 800m, 5000m, Decathlon	2
Athletics (W)	400m Hurdles, Long Jump, Triple Jump, Javeline Throw	3
Basketball (W)	All rounder	2
Body Building (M)	55Kg, 60Kg, 65Kg, 85Kg, 90Kg, Above 100Kg	3
Cycling (Men)	40Km Individual Time Trial, 120Km Individual Road Race	3
Gymnastics (M)	All Rounder, Floor Exercise, Pommel Horse, Still Rings, Vault, Parallel Bars, Horizontal Bar	2
Football (M)	Goalkeeper, Defender, Midfielder, Striker	3
Hockey (M)	Defender, Midfielder, Forward	2
Hockey (W)	Striker, Midfielder, All Rounder	2
Handball (W)	Right Back, Center Back, Left Wing, Pivot, All Rounder	4
Kho-Kho (M)	All-Rounder	2
Kho-Kho (W)	All-Rounder	4
Powerlifting (W)	52Kg, 63Kg, 84Kg, Above +84Kg	2
Volleyball (W)	Setter, Blocker, Libero, Attacker, All-Rounder	3
Swimming (M)	200 mts Butterfly, 200 mts Individual Medley, 400 mts Individual Medley, 100 mts Freestyle	2
Water Polo (M)	Centre Back, Centre Forward	2
Weightlifting (M)	73Kg, 81Kg, 102Kg (In New Weight Category 71Kg, 79Kg, 98Kg)	1
TOTAL		43

2. Sports Achievements: Only those sportspersons who have acquired the above sports achievement eligibility norms in the championship from **01.04.2023** and are active, will be eligible to apply for appointment against above posts under Sports Quota.

3. Applications complete in all respect should be submitted online by **18.00 hrs. On 29.08.2025**.

4. For detailed Notification, log on to RRC-WR's Website <https://www.rrc-wr.com>

WESTERN RAILWAY
wr.indianrailways.gov.in
0450

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NORTH WESTERN RAILWAY**INDIAN RAILWAY**
PROFORMA-10.01
Notice is hereby given to all users of Railway lines and premises situated on the completed section of the under noted section of the Jaipur Division of North Western Railway that the Over Head traction wires will be energized (with feeder wire as per 2x25 kV Traction System) on 25 KV AC on or after date 31.07.2025 On and from the same date, the overhead traction line shall be treated as live at all times and no unauthorized person shall approach or work in the proximity of the said overhead line.
Section:
KUND (Incl.) - AEL (Incl.) section
DN line From Km. 21/556.50 (Loc. 21/22) to Km. 38/157.00
(Loc. 38/06) of Jaipur Division.
Date:
31.07.2025

PROFORMA 10-02
"WARNING TO ROAD USERS"
It is notified for information of the public that the overhead traction wire will energize on 25 KV on or after 31.07.2025 over the section **DN line From Km. 21/556.50 (Loc. 21/22) to Km. 38/157.00 (Loc. 38/06)** of Jaipur Division of North Western Railway. Height gauges have been erected at all the level crossings with **clear height 5.48 mtr to 5.5 Mtr** above road level with a view to prevent loads of excessive height from coming into contact or dangerous proximity to live traction wires (**contact wire**), **which shall be at a height of minimum 7.184 Mtr above the rail level at level crossings**.
Public are hereby notified to observe that height specified above for the purpose of loading vehicles and to see that the loads carried in road vehicles do not infringe the height gauges under any circumstances.
The dangers of a load of excessive height are as follow: -
1. Danger to the height gauge and consequent obstruction to the road as well as the Railway lines.
2. Danger to the materials or equipment carried or the vehicles itself.
3. Danger of fire and risk of life due to contact with or dangerous proximity to the conductors.
Deputy Chief Electrical Engineer Construction, Jaipur
942-PS/25
Follow us at [NWRailways](https://www.nwrailways.gov.in) [NWRailways](https://www.nwrailways.gov.in)

BANARAS LOCOMOTIVE WORKS, VARANASI-221004
Bid No.: E-25/2025-26**Date: 29.07.2025**
E-TENDERS
E-Tenders are invited for & on behalf of the President of India for supply of following items. Only e-offer will be accepted for which vendors must have Class III Digital Signature and registration on IREPS. The details of tenders are in the following sequence S.No. - Tender No. (Due Date), Description and Quantity.
S.No.: 1. 08251040, Open Tender, (18.08.2025), T.M. AIR DUCT ASSLY as per Drg.No. 40058521 ALT h specn: DLW/DES/MISC-417 Rev-Nil, (PL No. 17031904), Qty. 831 Nos., **2.** 08251051, Open Tender, (18.08.2025), PAD ASM - LAT THRUST THIS IS A SAFETY ITEM, as per Drg.No. 40074617 ALT g specn: RDSO Spec. No. MP.0.49.00.20 (Rev. - 00) Purchase Spec. No. Misc- 765 (Rev-Nil), (PL No. 17020244), Qty. 5023 Nos., **3.** 08251046, Open Tender, (25.08.2025), HORIZONTAL DAMPER SECONDARY YAW THIS IS A SAFETY ITEM as per Drg. No. 40057722 ALT j specn: RDSO SPEC NO. MP.0.40.99.03 (Rev-05), (PL No. 17452855), Qty. 1963 Nos., **4.** 08251048, Open Tender, (25.08.2025), Draft Gear & Yoke ASM P4 (THIS IS A SAFETY ITEM) as per Drg. No. 8439090 ALT Bb specn: AS PER DRG., (PL No.17454530), Qty. 76 Nos., **5.** 08251055, Open Tender, (25.08.2025), Core & Header Asm. as per Drg. No. 9514842 ALT Ca, (PL No. 17453252), Qty. 120 Nos., **6.** 08251117, Open Tender, (25.08.2025), LUBE OIL COOLER ASSEMBLY as per Drg.No. 9560308 ALT Ga specn: Specn. No. DLW/DES/Misc-253 Rev-R2, (PL No.17050534), Qty. 50 Nos., **7.** 08251070, Open Tender, (01.09.2025), SPRING SINGLE COIL THIS IS A SAFETY ITEM as per Drg. No. 40075318 ALT j specn: EDPS-108, (PL No.17410060), Qty. 3721 Nos., **8.** 06251861 (28.08.2025), Tender for purchase of 2x500 Kva IGBT Based Hotel Load Converter, (PL No. 29741087) (HLC), Qty. 248 Set & 3 Year AMC of the same after the warranty period, PL No. 29748239 (AMC), Qty. 248 Nos., **9.** 07245638C (18.08.2025), Non-stock item Supply & installation/Commissioning, Qty. 01 Set, **10.** 03251035A, (18.08.2025), Cab Assly complete, PL No. 29170953, 138 set, **11.** 03251029A (01.09.2025), Rear Wall Secondary members, PL No. 29179403, Qty. 106 Set & 29179415, Qty. 123 Set, **12.** 03251042 (06.08.2025), Reservoir, PL No. 29162105, Qty. 137 Set. The complete details of above tenders are available on www.blw.indianrailways.gov.in and www.ireps.gov.in. **CORRIGENDUM : 13.** Bid No. 23, Tender No.: 03251063, Tendered qty. is increased upto 15196, 22575, 15478 Mtr respectively for PL No. 29170096, 29170114, 29170321, **14.** Bid No. 22, Tender No.: 03251039, Tendered qty. is increased upto 149 Set, **15.** Bid No. 21, Tender No.: 03251036C, Tendered qty. is increased upto 123 Set, **17.** Bid No. 13, Tender No.: 03251033A, Tendered qty. is increased upto 131 Set, **18.** Bid Inv. No. E-23, Rev. -01, Tender No.: 08251050, Existing Due Date : 12.08.2025, Revised Due Date : 19.08.2025, **19.** Bid Inv. No. E-21, Tender No.: 08251027, Existing Qty. 55 Nos., Revised Qty. 75 Nos., **20.** Bid Inv. No. E-07/2025-26, Tender No.: 09251026, Rev. -01, Existing Due Date: 06.08.2025, Revised Due Date : 11.09.2025, **21.** Bid Inv. No. E-22/2025-26, dated 19.07.2025, Tender No.: 07250069, Existing Due Date: 11.08.2025, Revised Due Date : 19.08.2025, **22.** Bid Inv. No. E-20/2025-26, dated 09.07.2025, Tender No.: 07250184, Existing Due Date: 11.08.2025, Revised Due Date : 02.09.2025, **23.** Bid Inv. No. E-17, 23/2025-26, Tender No.: 08251049, Existing Due Date: 30.07.2025, Revised Due Date : 05.08.2025. **NOTE:** All other terms and conditions will remain unchanged for above tenders.
PR/BLWS-26**PRINCIPAL CHIEF MATERIAL MANAGER**
 [/blwvaranasi](https://blwvaranasi) "Website : <http://blw.indianrailways.gov.in>"

ANDERSON-TENDULKAR TROPHY: FIFTH TEST, DAY 2

Behind fightback, Siraj’s art & heart

Spirited pacer inspires a turnaround and emphasises his importance before Jaiswal counterpunches; India hold a lead of 52 runs with eight wickets in hand



EXPRESS IN ENGLAND

SANDEEP DWIVEDI
LONDON, AUGUST 1

THERE WAS this nice little moment after Mohammed Siraj, in his follow through, had failed to hold on to a booming straight drive by Harry Brook just after tea. Siraj seemed hurt as he tried to shake-off the pain by jerking his hand.

A worried captain Shubman Gill, from mid-on, ran towards his injured bowler and accompanied him till his run-up. He walked with him, held his hand and massaged his fingers. No one knows the importance of Siraj to this side more than the skipper. On his hand depended India's fortunes and it was the magic in those long skilful fingers that kept India in the game and could help the skipper write a new chapter in Indian cricket.

The pace spearhead and the world's best new-ball bowler Jasprit Bumrah had sat out of this Test. The BCCI, this morning, informed that he was released from the squad. But there was Siraj around, bowling his heart out, to ensure that his senior wasn't missed. In an inspired spell around mid-day, he cherry-picked England's two most solid batsmen and put them on his plate. The wickets of Ollie Pope (22) and Joe Root (29)—the two seasoned hands with a reputation of being game-changers in low-scoring games—went a long way in restricting England.

When Root was around, England were within touching distance of the Indian score. At 175/4, India's 224 didn't look too far. Siraj ensured it was, England finished at 247, getting a 23-run lead. Prasidh Krishna put in a commendable shift too, registering his best figures (4/62) under intense scrutiny. This was followed by a bizarre phase of play. India batted for 18 overs and scored 75/2 runs, mustering a lead of 52 runs. Yashasvi Jaiswal (unbeaten 51) was dropped twice and Sai Sudharsan (11) once. No such favour was extended to KL Rahul, who was caught in slips (7).

Recurring themes

There have been a couple of recurring themes from this Test series. Whenever a team seems to be running away with the game, it gets religiously dragged back. However big a star one were, the Indian team hasn't missed them. Virat Kohli, Rohit Sharma and now Bumrah. On a day of 16 wickets, the pendulum keeps swinging either side but keeps coming back to the state of equilibrium and new leaders keep emerging.

After the Indians had finally seen the backs of the two England openers Ben Duckett and Zak Crawley – their 'hit some, miss some' ending in around 20 overs – England were again regrouping.

On the lively pitch, Duckett and Crawley would have known that they don't have the patience or skills to last long. But Pope and Root were equipped to play for long, bat India out of the game. Enter Siraj who pushed England's top two out off their perch and dragged India back in the game. He didn't have a fiver to his name but his 4/86 would get ranked among his best.

Siraj is a bowler that is difficult to straight-jacket. Is he a seam or swing bowler? His big wicket-taking ball is the nip-backer that got him the wickets of Pope and Root. But his other two wickets on the day—Jacob Bethell and Brook—were because of that big banana swing he is blessed with.

The swinging yorker that got all-rounder Bethell, the dangerous floater with reputed

SCORECARD	
ENGLAND vs INDIA	
THE OVAL	
Toss: England, chose to bowl	
INDIA 1ST INNINGS (0/N):	204/6
K Nair lbw b Tongue	57 (109b, 8x4)
W Sundar c Overton b Atkinson	26 (55b, 3x4)
A Deep not out	0 (7b)
M Siraj b Atkinson	0 (4b)
P Krishna c †Smith b Atkinson	0 (2b)
■ Extras (b4, lb 6, w 16, nb 4)	30
■ Total (all out: 69.4 Ov; RR: 3.21)	224
■ FoW: 7-218 (Karun Nair, 66.5 ov), 8-220 (Washington Sundar, 67.4 ov), 9-224 (Mohammed Siraj, 69.2 ov), 10-224 (Prasidh Krishna, 69.4 ov).	
■ Bowling: Chris Woakes 14-1-46-1, Gus Atkinson 21.4-8-33-5, Josh Tongue 16-4-57-3, Jamie Overton 16-0-66-0, Jacob Bethell 2-1-4-0.	
ENGLAND 1ST INNINGS	
Z Crawley c Jadeja b Krishna	64 (57b, 14x4)
B Duckett c †Jurel b A Deep	43 (38b, 5x4, 2x6)
O Pope lbw b Siraj	22 (44b, 4x4)
J Root lbw b Siraj	29 (45b, 6x4)
H Brook b Siraj	53 (64b, 5x4, 1x6)
J Bethell lbw b Siraj	6 (14b, 1x4)
J Smith c Rahul b Krishna	8 (22b, 1x4)
J Overton lbw b Krishna	0 (4b)
G Atkinson c A Deep b Krishna	11 (16b, 2x4)
J Tongue not out	0 (7b)
C Woakes absent hurt	
■ Extras (b 6, lb 2, nb 3)	11
■ Total (all out: 51.2 Ov; RR: 4.81)	247
■ FoW: 1-92 (Ben Duckett, 12.5 ov), 2-129 (Zak Crawley, 21.1 ov), 3-142 (Ollie Pope, 24.4 ov), 4-175 (Joe Root, 32.6 ov), 5-195 (Jacob Bethell, 36.4 ov), 6-215 (Jamie Smith, 42.1 ov), 7-215 (Jamie Overton, 42.5 ov), 8-235 (Gus Atkinson, 46.5 ov), 8-235 (Gus Atkinson, 46.5 ov), 9-247 (Harry Brook, 51.2 ov).	
■ Bowling: Mohammed Siraj 16.2-1-86-4, Akash Deep 17-0-80-1, Prasidh Krishna 16-1-62-4, Ravindra Jadeja 2-0-11-0.	
INDIA 2ND INNINGS	
Y Jaiswal batting	51 (49b, 7x4, 2x6)
KL Rahul c Root b Tongue	7 (28b, 1x4)
S Sudharsan lbw b Atkinson	11 (29b, 1x4)
A Deep batting	4 (2b, 1x4)
■ Extras (lb 2)	2
■ Total (18 overs; RR: 4.16)	75/2
■ FoW: 1-46 (KL Rahul, 9.5 ov), 2-70 (Sai Sudharsan, 17.2 ov).	
■ Bowling: Gus Atkinson 6-2-26-1, Josh Tongue 7-1-25-1, Jamie Overton 5-1-22-0.	

T20 credentials and Bazball bravado, could well go down as the 'ball of the match'. It might not have the speed of a Waqar Younis special that damages the toe but it has the late tailing movement that does the same.

The sting of a real yorker can be measured by how far the bat is from the ball when it hits the pad. In Bethell's case it was quite far. It was a clear indicator that the ball had moved in too sharply and deviously late.

Siraj dismissed Brook too with a swinging ball that hit the bottom part of the bat and stung the stumps. His final wicket came late but it was his second session spell that turned the game one more time in this topsy-turvy series. Siraj had a nightmarish first spell. Openers Duckett and Crawley were slamming and slapping his balls for four and even scooping for a six. He went for 31 runs in four overs. It was Duckett's scoop six that made Shubman take him off the attack. Siraj returned to bowl once the openers had returned to the pavilion.

Never say die

In the first spell, he didn't seem to have any rhythm. But there is something enduring about Siraj's attitude. Even on his worst days, he doesn't give up. The 20 overs, fielding on the fence, something stirred in Siraj. His big spell was about those 'effort balls'. There are subtle signs that a deadly punch is on the



Mohammed Siraj appeals successfully for the crucial wicket of Joe Root, one of his four scalps that spurred the Indian bowling attack's charge on Friday.

AP



Prasidh Krishna also took four wickets as India came back fighting in the second session on Friday.

AP

Zak and Ben: Agents of demolition

SANDEEP DWIVEDI
LONDON, AUGUST 1

AKASH DEEP had just conceded three boundaries in an over, England had reached 84/0 in 11 overs. The pacer stood stunned on his bowling run-up. It was only when wicket-keeper Dhruv Jurel and the entire slip cordon, having walked from the other end, started to take their position around him that he realised he needed to walk back to his field-position at fine leg. The English openers Ben Duckett and Zak Crawley were responsible for the Indian team's collective 13-over long brain freeze. The frame Akash Deep staring blankly into nothingness captured it.

The skipper had changed Akash Deep's end, the bowler had made a conscious effort to alter his length. He was largely short in his spell from the other end where Duckett had treated him like a club bowler. In one over, he charged down the pitch, made room by moving towards the square and slammed him on the off-side to hit a couple of fours. It was a flat hit with a horizontal bat, bringing to mind Jannik Sinner.

In the same over, he had even flicked him for a four. And when Akash Deep, from a changed end, was bowling full on the off-side it was Crawley who was treating him with disdain. He was driving him through cover with brutal power, hitting him over the extra-covers head and slamming him past mid-off.

After Gus Atkinson's deadly morning spell, where he bowled full, giving the ball enough air time to swing and hit the wicket consistently to complete a fiver, hopes were raised at The Oval that Akash Deep, man of the match in Birmingham, could reproduce a similar feat. But that proved to be wishful thinking.

Duckett and Crawley are not only skilled and brave to score quick runs by playing their daring brand of cricket, but they also shake the confidence of the bowlers, creating doubts and making the rival captain look more clueless than he actually is.

During the England opener's wild run, the camera would focus on Shubman Gill's face.



Ben Duckett (L) and Zak Crawley put on a 92-run partnership in 13 overs.

AP/PTI

He looked puzzled and at times even bemused. In between their dominating assault on the Indian bowlers, Duckett and Crawley would be barely surviving. There would be play and misses, and edges from the swinging bat would fly over the slips. It can be argued that Shubman didn't change his plan, he didn't even come up with funky field placements. He didn't even go on the defensive. But he couldn't have.

When Crawley and Duckett are on the field, there needs to be fielders in catching position. Earlier in the series, India had committed the mistake of sending fielders to the fence to stop the run flow but that meant playing into their hands. Even with the field spread, Crawley and Duckett can score freely and fetch the ball to the boundary. The range of unconventional strokes they have, they can send the ball to the perennially ungarded areas of the ground.

It repeatedly happened during Duckett's short but seemingly game-changing innings. There was a Siraj ball that was pitched outside off-stump, a drive through covers was easily the percentage-shot for the ball. But it seemed the diminutive England opener had pre-decided that he would be playing a reverse scoop on the ball.

So he would virtually cover the breadth of the pitch before the ball reached him. By doing so, the ball pitched on the off-stump was

now on his legs. This risky one-two with his fleet feet would put Duckett in a position to guide the ball over over the wicket keeper and slip cordon's heads for a six. Against Akash Deep he came up with a reverse ramp that went for a six, once again the bowler had a dazed look and the captain visibly clueless.

During the Duckett and Crawley partnership, there was a nice breeze blowing across the field. Occasionally there was cloud cover and the pitch was greenish too. But somehow it felt that this was a T20 game on a dead track on a hot humid day. On their day, rather in their hour, they can negate the conditions and make a Test match look like a white-ball slug fest.

Bowling to this left-right opening pair with a significant height difference too is a big challenge for the bowlers. Duckett had once explained why they are difficult to bowl at. "There is the obvious height difference; he's so much taller than me that the bowlers' lengths have to be very different to both of us," he had said. "We both want to play a similar style. It might mean we are 10/2 occasionally and other times we are 50/0 off not many (overs) and the bowlers are panicking a bit."

On Friday, it wasn't just a 50/0 kind of day, it was a 92/0. Duckett and Crawley are an odd couple against whom it's extremely odd to bowl. Shubman and his boys were caught in a revolving door called Duckett and Crawley.

McGrath on Bumrah: ‘He needs an off-season to manage workload’

VENKATA KRISHNAB
CHENNAI, AUGUST 1

IN AN era where packed schedules and juggling between formats is leading to frequent injury breakdowns among pacers, fast bowling great Glenn McGrath said he was of the firm view that '99.9 per cent bowlers need an off-season to get strong again'. Speaking at the MRF Pace Foundation, McGrath added that India's premier pacer Jasprit Bumrah, who could only play three Tests on the England tour because of medical advice, needs an off-season to manage his workload.

In the ongoing Anderson-Tendulkar Trophy, both India and England have taken the field at the Oval for the series decider without their premier pacers. In the case of India, who need to win the Test to square the series, Bumrah had to sit out, rested keeping his long-standing back injury in mind. "His whole action is different to a lot of fast bowlers. He's got a slow run-up and the last few steps just really accelerate him through the crease. He's got hyperextension, and he's just got a great wrist. And the way he releases it is a fair bit closer to the batsman because of his technique than all other bowlers. So,

there's a lot that's unique about him, but when he gets it right, it just all comes together well. He's found what's worked for him," McGrath said.

McGrath went on to explain why Bumrah frequently suffers from injury. "Unfortunately, what he does is pretty tough on the body. Especially when you're playing a lot of cricket, there's no time to have an off-season. He really needs to get a lot stronger physically and fitter to put up with the stresses of fast bowling. And he needs an off-season. It will get him strong through the season," he said.

Given Bumrah's injury concerns, talks of India over-using him in Australia earlier this year – which ruled him out of action till mid-IPL – continue to occupy air space. Even in the series against England, where he was able to play only three Tests, he ended up bowling a lot before struggling in Manchester. When asked if India could manage him any differently in the Tests he plays to ensure he plays more matches, McGrath said he needs help from the rest of the pace pack.


"You want your best bowler bowling. And he'll want to bowl all the time. If he's just bowling in short spells, then the batting team know they just can get through the three or four overs and then they're away. So it de-



Jasprit Bumrah only played three Tests of the ongoing five-match series. Reuters

pends a lot on the other bowlers. You need another group of fast bowlers coming through to balance it out so that he doesn't have to bowl long spells. You've got other bowlers bowling equally as well to carry the workload. You look at Bumrah, he's so effec-

Unfortunately, what he (Bumrah) does is pretty tough on the body. Especially when you're playing a lot of cricket. He really needs to get a lot stronger physically and fitter to put up with the stresses of fast bowling. And he needs an off-season."



GLENN MCGRATH
FORMER AUSTRALIA FAST BOWLER

tive in ODI and T20 cricket. To limit himself to Test cricket would be a shame. But, he's got to work out what's best for him," McGrath said.

England captain Ben Stokes, who is the leading wicket-taker in the series, is also not featuring at the Oval Test because of a shoulder injury. Ahead of the Test, Stokes pointed out the short turnaround between the fourth and fifth Test, with just three days in between, which didn't give any room for recovery. India have had to rotate their seam attack with Mohammed Siraj being the lone

exception to play all five Tests.

"Well, it's important for a fast bowler to have an off-season," McGrath, who picked up 563 Test wickets, said. "If you just keep playing year in, year out, I always say it's like driving a car. And you don't fill it up with fuel. But you keep driving it. Sooner or later, you're going to run out of fuel, and things will happen. It's the nature of the beast. Being a fast bowler, we put a lot of stress on our bodies," McGrath said.

The former Australian pacer, who won three World Cups in ODIs, then went on to list what he did to keep himself injury-free despite facing a severe back injury during his initial years. "Three things that I felt held me in good stead. One was I had a pretty good action, short delivery strides, so I wasn't putting the stress on my body that other bowlers would. So I had a good action. Good genetics also helped. My bone density is really high, so that probably held me in good stead as well. And then work ethic off the field. Courtney Walsh played 21 years straight. Bowling, 21 years straight! Absolutely unbelievable. So, you've got to know yourself well and know what you need to do. But 99.9 per cent of fast bowlers need an off-season to get strong again, to get them through the next season,"

the 55-year-old who now coaches at MRF Pace Foundation said.

As McGrath was listing out the work he put in behind the scenes, Kevin Chevell, who trained the Australian pacer through his career and is now part of the foundation, weighed in with his thoughts. "Ideally, you need 8 weeks. With Glenn, after the session when he joined the team, I knew I wouldn't be seeing him for the next 15-18 months. You need to give the body the break it deserves. It is what the likes of Starc do it," Chevell said.

The pitches in the Anderson-Tendulkar Trophy have been batting-friendly with bowlers from both sides having to toil hard for wickets. But each of the four Tests have gone into the final session and McGrath said he didn't have any issues with the pitches that are used for Bazball. "It's been quite high scoring, which is a little unusual in English conditions with the Duke cricket ball. So it hasn't been a one-sided affair. It's been good, solid test cricket. It's been enjoyable. It's close. Obviously, they want the game to last as long as possible. I don't mind if the pitches are a little flat, as long as there's got to be something in it for the bowler. And if the game's coming right down the wire on the fifth day, then it's perfect, isn't it?" he added.

Lakshya and Tharun enter semis

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
AUGUST 1

DEVENDRA PANDEY
MUMBAI, AUGUST 1

COME WINTER, Lionel Messi might trade his football studs for cricket spikes and instead of a football at his feet, the Argentine legend may have a cricket bat in his hand. And, if all goes to plan, it could well be Messi vs MS Dhoni and Virat Kohli at the Wankhede Stadium in a seven-a-side cricket match on December 14.



INDIA HAVE looked to the Netherlands, England, Croatia, the Czech Republic, Uzbekistan and, very briefly and rather disastrously, Spain to lead their national men's football team in the last three decades. Only twice have the powers that be looked within the nation for someone to fill that role in this period - Sukhwinder Singh (2005) and Savio Medeira (2011/12); and Armando Colaco in 2011 on an interim basis. Khalid Jamil has now become the third man, and the fourth if one counts Colaco, to take over that role with the All India Football Federation (AIFF) confirming his appointment.

Colaco was among those who contributed to the decision-making process that ended with Jamil's name being finalised. "Our Indian coaches know the players, the culture, the strong and weak points of the players. So let's try, give him a chance and wish him all the very best," Colaco told the Indian Express. Long an advocate for Indian coaches to be given the big roles in the country, Colaco hoped Jamil's appointment would open the doors for others. However, to think that being Indian is the only qualification that was needed for Jamil to take the top job would be a mistake. "He has gone to different clubs and has proved himself. That is one criterion which forced us to give him a chance," said Colaco.

During his brief visit, likely from December 13 to 15, Messi is expected to visit New Delhi and Kolkata too. It will be Messi's second visit to India and the first in 14 years after the Argentine World Cup-winner travelled to play an international friendly against Venezuela at Kolkata's Salt Lake Stadium in 2011.

Earlier, there were reports that the Argentina national football team, including Messi, would visit India for a friendly in October. This was revealed by Kerala's Sports Minister V Abdurahiman, after the state government reached an agreement with the Argentina Football Association (AFA) to host two games involving La Albiceleste in Kerala.

However, that plan has been put on hold, it is learnt. Messi, 38, currently plays for Major League Soccer club Inter Miami and is eyeing to play in the FIFA World Cup for one last time next year, after leading Argentina's march to the title in 2022, when the tournament will be held in the USA.

Jamil is known for the sheer passion he



exudes on the touchline, and the fact that he seems to hardly have anything to say off it. One-word answers are a common feature of his post-match interviews in the Indian Super League (ISL) as NorthEast United and later Jamshedpur FC boss, and Menezes says that this was true of him back then as well.

"When he gets on the ground, he is a different animal. When he is outside the ground, he is the shiest person on earth. He has got two different characters like that, and that is something we picked. When he gets to the ground, he is very aggressive and authoritative," says Menezes.

Jamil went on to take the reins of the senior team at Mumbai FC. It was a team often built on a shoestring budget and filled with

KNOW THE MAN IN CHARGE

BORN IN 1977 in Kuwait City, came to India during Gulf War

PLAYED AS a midfielder for the national team as well as Mahindra United, Air India and Mumbai FC.

HOLDS THE rare honour of winning the top division as player and coach - with Mahindra United in 2005 as a player and leading Aizawl to the I-League title as manager in 2017

HAS COACHED Mumbai FC, Aizawl, Mohun Bagan, East Bengal, NorthEast United and Jamshedpur FC

WON THE AIFF Men's Coach of the Year Award on two occasions -- 2023-24 and 2024-25

unheralded players, but Jamil squeezed results out of them year after year. Survival was the only expectation they had, but Jamil even led them close to top-five finishes on occasion.

Incredibly, though, the powers that be at the club, long after the departure of the likes of Menezes, decided that Jamil deserved the sack for these great escapes instead of credit. "It felt like I was removed from my home," Jamil had said in 2017. "It was painful."

Obsessed with football

The next step in Jamil's career took him to Aizawl, a city that had absolutely nothing in common with Mumbai. Evidently, though, shifting from the seaside to a place nearly 4000 feet above sea level made little difference to him from a footballing perspective. If anything, his stock rose towards the end of that season far more than his distance from the Arabian Sea. "He will eat, drink and sleep football," is what Menezes said about Jamil.

Jamil had helped Mumbai avoid relegation season after season. Aizawl also had only similar expectations, and he helped them do that in his first season in charge – by winning

the I-League altogether. A dogged defence is what defined his football with Mumbai. With Aizawl, he balanced that up with a higher concentration on attack. Aizawl beat Kolkata giants Mohun Bagan and East Bengal to the title in 2017, while Mumbai were relegated. A few months later, Jamil's former club ceased to exist.

Then came two rather unimpressive stints with Bagan and East Bengal, followed by a stint as the assistant coach of the ISL club NorthEast United in 2019. Jamil went on to become the first Indian to be a permanent head coach of an ISL club in 2021 when NorthEast promoted him to that role.

Jamil is currently the head coach of Jamshedpur FC, and it has yet to be revealed whether he will leave that role to take over as India's head coach, with the AIFF still to complete the hiring process formally. Neither Jamshedpur nor NorthEast are among the big boys of the ISL in terms of budgets, but Jamil has led both teams to semifinal appearances. "He has a knack for getting the best out of young players, and that is exactly what India needs today," Jamshedpur FC CEO Mukul Choudhary told this paper.

Getting the best out of players often means pulling them out of their comfort zones, which is exactly where a number of those playing for the Indian team in the recent forgettable months seem to be stuck in. What is guaranteed is that under Jamil, the players would know that not working hard is simply not an option. "He is the kind of person who has that knack of getting things done (his way)," said Choudhary.

What remains to be seen now, apart from the details of his contract, is whether Jamil would be afforded the kind of patience that some of his foreign predecessors enjoyed from the AIFC. He has a tough run of matches to start off with - India face the likes of Iran, Tajikistan and Afghanistan in the CAFA Nations Cup later this month. That will be followed by the all-important double-header against Singapore in the AFC Asian Cup qualifiers in October.

"If he has earned this place, it is because of his own work. Nobody else has pushed him up," said Menezes. "Now, the federation has to help him. Whenever there is an Indian coach at the top, I understand that there is a little less freedom (for them to work with). That should be kept aside."

STAR INDIAN shuttler Lakshya Sen and promising Tharun Manneppalli advanced to the men's singles semifinals of the Macau Open Super 300 badminton tournament after registering hard-fought wins here Friday.

Taking the court first, the 23-year-old Mannepalli, ranked 47th in the world, showcased speed and a versatile shot selection to edge out China's 87th ranked Hu Zhe 21-12 13-21 21-18 in a 75-minute battle.

Later in the day, Lakshya eked out a tough 21-14 18-21 21-14 victory over Xuan Chen Zhu of China in his quarterfinal that lasted one hour and three minutes.

Lakshya will be up against fifth seed Alwi Farhan of Indonesia while Mannepalli will take on Malaysia's Justin Hoh in the last-four round. This marks Mannepalli's maiden semi-final appearance at a BWF Super 300 event. He had reached the quarterfinals at the German open in February. However, Satwiksairaj Rankireddy and Chirag Shetty bowed out of the tournament after losing 14-21 21-13 20-22 to Malaysian combination of Choong Hon Jian and Haikal Muhammad.

Mannepalli, who joined the Pullala Gopichand Academy four years ago, has focused on improving his fitness, agility, and movement over the past two years. His hard work paid off this week as he also stunned top seed Lee Cheuk Yiu of Hong Kong in the last eight. The Indian, who won gold at the 37th National Games, was trailing 4-7 in the first game before rallying to 12-9. He then took control and scored six straight points from 15-11 to seal the game.

After the change of ends, Hu played with greater intent, leading 6-2 and extending the lead to 15-6. Mannepalli couldn't close the gap as the Chinese player dominated the second game.

In the decider, Mannepanalli surged to a 5-0 lead and maintained a healthy advantage up to 19-15. It got tense towards finish as he squandered three points, with Hu sending two returns on his forehand corner. However, Mannepanalli stayed composed and landed a timely body smash to earn two match points. He secured the win with a precise push to Hu's backhand corner celebration.

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