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११ अगस्त | सुबह ११:३० बजे

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4 अगस्त | सुबह 8:00 बजे

# **Drishti IAS**

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**Election**, counting of votes scheduled for September 9



Centre's July GST revenue rises to ₹1.96 lakh crore

**BUSINESS** » PAGE 11

# Draft poll roll for Bihar is out, voters dip by 65 lakh

EC publishes list after end of first phase of SIR; Patna draft roll has 3.95 lakh fewer voters than the list from January; many on the draft list may still be deprived of voting rights, says INDIA bloc

**Sreeparna Chakrabarty** Amit Bhelari NEW DELHI/PATNA

he number of voters in Bihar has dropped by 65 lakh, according to Bihar's draft electoral roll, which was published by the Election Commission on Friday after the completion of the first phase of its Special Intensive Revision exercise.

More than 7.24 crore electors in the State filled up enumeration forms and have been included in the draft roll, the EC said in a statement. There were 7.89 crore voters registered in the 2025 electoral list before the SIR exercise. The EC has said that most of these 65 lakh "missing" voters have died, registered in two locations, permanently migrated out of Bi-



**Next steps:** EC has asked voters whose names are not on the draft list to submit a Form 6 along with other required documents. ANI

har, or are untraceable.

Leaders of the Opposition INDIA bloc in the State said the EC failed to answer their queries about the names left out in the draft

According to data shared by the office of Bihar's Chief Electoral Officer (CEO) Vinod Singh Gunjiyal, the State capital Patna has the highest number of 3.95 lakh voters not included in the list. There are over three lakh voters missing from the draft roll in each of the three districts of East Champaran, Madhubani and Gopalganj. Another 10 districts have seen a drop of two lakh voters each, while 13 districts

saw a decline of over one

lakh voters in the draft roll.

**Claims and objections** The EC appealed to all eligible voters to check their names in the draft list, which is available on its portal. If their names are not on the list, they have been asked to submit Form 6 along with the declaration form specified in the SIR instructions. First-time voters, who have completed 18 years on July 1 or are going to turn 18 by October

1, should also get their names added by submitting Form 6. Over the next month, the EC will invite claims and objections by voters on exclusions and inclusions in the list.

**CONTINUED ON** » PAGE 8 MORE REPORTS

# Prajwal Revanna convicted of rape; sentencing today

The Hindu Bureau BENGALURU

A special court in Bengaluru on Friday convicted former Janata Dal (Secular) MP Prajwal Revanna of rape. The quantum of sentence is likely to be an nounced on Saturday.

Prajwal is the grandson of former Prime Minister H.D. Deve Gowda and son of former Karnataka Minister H.D. Revanna. The JD (S) had suspended Prajwal, its former Hassan MP, in the wake of several rape allegations against him.

Friday's conviction came on the first of the four rape and sexual harassment cases against Prajwal. The case pertains to the family's then domestic help who said Prajwal raped her twice in 2021, and recorded the act on his mobile. While the trial in another rape case, involving a local politician, is on-



Praiwal Revanna

going, trials in two other cases are yet to begin.

Prajwal was present in the Special Court of Sessions for criminal cases against former and present MPs and MLAs when the verdict was read out by judge Santosh Gajanan Bhat. Notably, the trial in the present case was completed and the accused convicted in just over a vear after the FIR was filed.

**CONTINUED ON** » PAGE 8

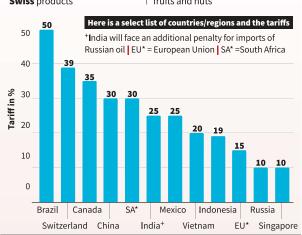


## NIA court order in arrested nuns' bail plea today

A special NIA court will deliver its order on a bail plea filed by three persons, including two nuns from Kerala, on Saturday. The defence lawvers have argued that the charges of human trafficking or forcible religious conversion have not been made out. » Page 4



#### **Trade walls** thicken ■ A presidential executive order ■ The U.S. has been pressing India set duties of 35% on man to open its markets to a **wide** Canadian, 50% on Brazilian, range of American products 25% on Indian, 20% on including dairy, poultry, corn. soybeans, rice, wheat, ethanol **Swiss** products fruits and nuts 50 <sup>+</sup>India will face an additional penalty for imports of Russian oil | EU\* = European Union | SA\* = South Africa 40



# Source: Reuters, AF India-U.S. ties 'weathered several challenges', will

'move forward', says MEA

#### Kallol Bhattacherjee NEW DELHI

The India-U.S. relationship has "weathered several transitions and challenges", and the bilateral ties will "move forward", said a senior official of the Ministry of External Affairs against the backdrop of comments from U.S. President Donald Trump, who, on Wednesday, cited India's purchase of military hardware and energy from Russia and announced 25% tariffs on Indian imports "plus a penalty".

"India and the United States share a comprehensive global strategic part-



Randhir Jaiswal

anchored in nership 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 coun-

tries have committed to and are confident that the relationship will continue to move forward," said Randhir Jaiswal, official spokesperson of the Ministry of External Affairs, during Friday's weekly press briefing. Officials clarified that

the India-U.S. relationship has come a long way and expressed confidence that it will overcome the latest challenges in the way that India dealt with the sanctions that the U.S. had imposed after India tested nuclear weapons in May 1998.

**CONTINUED ON** » PAGE 8

# After HC rules on naming of schemes, T.N. govt. seeks clarification

Mohamed Imranullah S. CHENNAI

After the Madras High Court restrained the Tamil Nadu government from using the name of any living personality for new or rebranded public schemes to be introduced in the future, the government approached the court, urging it to clarify that its interim order would not be applicable to the 'Ungaludan Stalin' and 'Nalam Kakkum Stalin' schemes.

# Set for launch today

The First Division Bench of Chief Justice Manindra Mohan Shrivastava and Justice Sunder Mohan on Friday accepted a request made by Advocate-General P.S. Raman for an early hearing of the modification petition since 'Nalam Kakkum Stalin' is set to be launched on Saturday.

The judges said the plea, if filed by Friday, would be taken up for hearing on Monday. Within a couple of hours, the government filed a modification plea, along with a detailed affidavit by Public Department Secretary Reeta Harish Thakkar.

The affidavit stated that the public outreach drive, 'Ungaludan Stalin', had been in operation for quite some time now and even PIL petitioner C.Ve. Shanmugam, on whose plea the High Court passed the interim order, had not sought any ex parte interim order against that scheme.

Ms. Thakkar said enormous efforts made to launch the scheme on Saturday would go to waste if the prohibitory interim order was applied to it.

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#### The Hindu Bureau

NEW DELHI

Chief Minister Rekha Gupta on Friday said the time had come for the Capital to have a new integrated Secretariat to house all government departments under one roof as she launched a month-long cleanliness campaign.

Addressing officials at the Department of Women and Child Development in Kashmere Gate, Ms. Gupta expressed strong displeasure over the dilapidated condition of the building. "The ceilings are leaking,



CM Rekha Gupta while launching the 'Dilli Ko Koode Se Azadi' campaign in New Delhi on Friday. SUSHIL KUMAR VERMA

furniture is broken, cupboards are damaged, and fans are in such poor condition that they could fall at any moment," she said, questioning how governance could be delivered effectively in such an environment.

"We will take steps in

this direction. A suitable location will be identified for the new Delhi Secretariat. Our officials cannot be left to work in such miserable conditions any longer," Ms. Gupta said.

#### **Housing promise**

CM announces Secretariat revamp, 50,000 flats for poor

The CM's remarks came after launching the 'Dilli Ko Koode Se Azadi' (freedom from garbage for Delhi) campaign, which will run from August 1 to 31. It aims at making the city cleaner, greener, and garbage-free, with coordination among multiple agencies and active citizen participation.

Ms. Gupta also announced that around 50,000 flats, built more than a decade ago in the outer areas of the city under the Jawaharlal Nehru National Urban Renewal Mission, will be renovated and handed over to slum dwellers.

"The previous governments never bothered to allocate these flats, despite claiming to work for the poor. As a result, the units became uninhabitable over time," Ms. Gupta said, adding that these flats will now be provided to eligible slum dwellers under the Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana -Urban.

ments like the Delhi Urban Shelter Improvement Board and the Delhi State Industrial and Infrastructure Development Corporation had been allocated over ₹700 crore for the project, but the funds went unused and were nearly returned to the Centre. "The Centre has now approved their use for the renovation of these flats. Our government will ensure rehabilitation of eligible slum dwellers so that they can be participants in Delhi's growth story," she said.

The CM said depart-

# HC warns of severe action for cybercrimes targeting children

#### The Hindu Bureau NEW DELHI

Underscoring the seriousness of cyber offences targeting children, the Delhi High Court has said that such crimes will attract severe consequences reflecting the grave psychological impact on victims.

While upholding the conviction of a man in a cyberbullying case involving a minor, Justice Swarana Kanta Sharma, in a judgment delivered on July 28, stated that digital abuse, though often faceless and silent, can be as

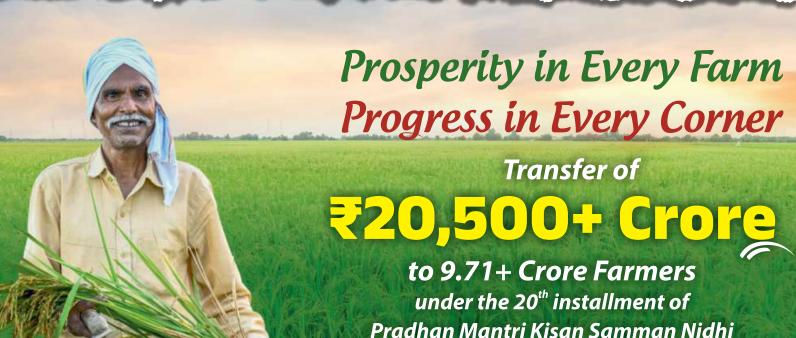
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mentally scarring as physical violence.

The court was hearing a 2016 case of a 14-yearold Class IX student who received a morphed nude image with her face superimposed on another person's body, accompanied by a threatening message of posting it on Facebook.

"Such conduct, in the virtual world, has devastating consequences in the real world," the judge said, adding that the psychological impact of a minor is difficult to quantify in words in a judgment.







**Suresh Kumar Khanna** 

Minister, Finance and

Parliamentary Affairs,

**Uttar Pradesh** 

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



# Narendra Modi

Prime Minister

 $\Rightarrow$  In the august presence of eq

**Yogi Adityanath** Chief Minister, Uttar Pradesh

**Keshav Prasad Maurya** 

**Deputy Chief Minister, Uttar Pradesh** 

Dr. Virendra Kumar

Minister, Social Justice and Empowerment, Govt. of India

Surya Pratap Shahi Minister, Agriculture, Agricultural

**Education and Agricultural Research,** 

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

Ravindra Jaiswal Stamp and Court Fee, Registration,

Minister of State (Independent Charge),

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

and other dignitaries Date: 2<sup>nd</sup> 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
 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**



**Brajesh Pathak** 

**Deputy Chief Minister, Uttar Pradesh** 





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# Gurugram launches drive against stray cattle

The Hindu Bureau GURUGRAM

The Municipal Corporation of Gurugram (MCG) on Friday launched a special campaign to address the growing issue of stray cattle in the city.

Cattle roaming on roads, streets, and markets are being rounded up and sent to cow shelters as part of the drive. The initiative follows an intensive cleanliness campaign that began on July 28 after a high-level meeting chaired by the Commissioner and Secretary of the Urban Local Bodies Department, Vikas Gupta, to review Gurugram's sanitation measures.

On the first day of the stray cattle drive, MCG teams conducted inspections in areas such as Sector-15 Part-2, DLF Phase-5, and Sector-42.

A total of seven animals were caught - two from Sector-15 Part-2, three from DLF Phase-5, and two from Sector-42 - and transported to MCG-run cow shelters.

The special drive was initiated after residents, including prominent citizens, took to social media to criticise the MCG for the civic mess.

# HC: consider relocating burial site of Bhopal toxic residue

**The Hindu Bureau** 

The Madhya Pradesh High Court has directed the State government to consider relocating the burial site for residue generated from the incineration of toxic waste from the Union Carbide factory in Bhopal to a location far from human habitation, and to submit a plan in this regard.

A Division Bench of Jusces Atul Sreedharan and Anuradha Shukla issued the directions on July 31 while hearing a batch of pleas filed by activists.

# attendance among fourth-Timings

gradually."

**DELHI** SATURDAY, AUG. 02 RISE 05:44 SET 19:11

Ashna Butani

UP) students.

[third-year]

Delhi University (DU) on

Friday commenced its new

academic session and wel-

comed the first batch of

last vear Four-Year Under-

graduate Programme (FY-

30,014 students [45%] have

opted out of the fourth

year," DU Vice-Chancellor

Yogesh Singh told The Hin-

du. On concerns over the

lack of infrastructure and

staff for fourth-year FYUP

students, the V-C said,

"Everything is sorted now,

and if there are any issues,

we will resolve them

Teachers reported low

"Of the 66,000 FYUP

students,

NEW DELHI

► RISE 13:29 SET 00:00 SUNDAY, AUG. 03 RISE 05:44 SET 19:11 RISE 14:25 SET 00:02 MONDAY, AUG. 04 RISE 05:45 SET 19:10

New beginnings: First-year undergraduate students at Delhi

University's Miranda House on Friday. SHIV KUMAR PUSHPAKAR

DU begins new session,

year students, but they ex-

pect a good turnout on

The university notified on

Thursday that it has ad-

vised colleges to extend

their timings. "The Execu-

tive Council noted that the

university has already ad-

vised the colleges/institu-

tions to function from 8

a.m. to 8 p.m. for optimal

utilisation of the available

resources." the notice read.

cation, Mithuraaj Dhusiya,

a professor and Executive

Council member, said,

"The extended timings

pose significant safety risks

to students and teachers.

Moreover, making students

stay for long hours is neith-

er feasible nor practical."

Objecting to the notifi-

**Extended timings** 

55% of FYUP students

opt for fourth year

Delhi Weather	max	min
Delhi City	30	25
Safdarjang	30	25
Palam	29	24

RISE 15:23 SET 00:42

**Delhi Palam Today** 

32°C The weather will be little warm. Night will be pleasant. Spell of moderate rain and thundershower to occur

**Delhi Palam Tomorrow** 33°C Morning will be pleasant. moderate rain and thundershower with gusty winds will occur.

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	F&A/2025/	of tea and coffee vending machine and					
	636	supply of Consumables Materials at					
		MPSEDC Offices.					
2	MPSEDC/	RFP for Providing fully furnished Plug-and-					
	HR/2025-26/	Play Office Space on lease for Establishing					
	637	Development Centre of MPSEDC at Noida					
		(Third Call).					
Ear	latailad aaana	of work torms and conditions places refer					

For detailed scope of work, terms and conditions please refer to the respective bid document available on MP Tender Portal (www.mptenders.gov.in).

M.P. Madhyam/121376/2025 **CHIEF GENERAL MANAGER** 

# Rajasthan to raze 2,699 unsafe buildings

Govt. embarks on drive to prevent disasters; all dangerous buildings to be marked with warning boards as part of monsoon safety preparedness; 8 children were killed last week in separate incidents after portions of school buildings collapsed

The Hindu Bureau JAIPUR

ollowing the collapse of some portions of school buildings at several places, the Rajasthan government has identified as many as 2,699 dilapidated structures across the State, which are in a state of disrepair, decay, or ruin, and initiated the process for their sealing and demolition. The exercise forms part of the Statewide drive to prevent accidents.

Local Self-Government Department Secretary Ravi Iain said here on Friday that a comprehensive review of building safety and



Locals helping in rescue work after a government school building collapsed in Rajasthan's Jhalawar district. FILE PHOTO

disaster preparedness was in progress during the ongoing monsoon season. The move comes amid growing concerns over the

vulnerability of school infrastructure.

Seven children were killed in Jhalawar district and one in Jaisalmer last

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

week when some portions of school buildings caved in under the impact of continuous rain. The roofs and walls of some schools also collapsed in a few other districts, though no one was injured because of holiday or forced closure.

#### High alert

Mr. Jain asked the civic officials to remain on high alert and act swiftly to ensure public safety during the drive. "All dangerous buildings will be marked with clear warning boards to alert the residents and prevent any untoward incident," he said.

Mr. Jain said the regular on-site inspections would help expedite the demolition of unsafe structures and ensure the safety of ci-

Laying emphasis on identifying the electrical hazards, he said the local bodies would coordinate with the engineers of power discoms to fix loose or exposed wiring near roads, poles, transformer boxes, and switchboards.

The Education Department has also launched a series of urgent measures, including closure and demolition of unsafe school buildings, GIS-mapping of all vulnerable structures, and the use of artificial intelligence to monitor structural safety.

#### 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 Disaster Risk Reduction & Emergency Response Urban Mobility & Transport 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 cmcfaridabad@ulbharyana.gov.in, mcfchiefengineer@gmail.com,mc2swmsbm@gmail.com Commissioner

# GOVERNMENT OF TAMIL NADU FISHERIES AND FISHERMEN WELFARE DEPARTMENT FISHING HARBOUR PROJECT CIRCLE, CHENNAI - 600 035. E-TENDER FOR CONTRACT: RATE TENDER SYSTEM - LUMPSUM CONTRACT (TWO COVER SYSTEM

mcfamrut1@gmail.com

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E-Tender Notice No:10/DB/F.114N/2025, Dated: 29.07.2025

arbour Project Circle, Fisheries and Fishermen Welfare Department, Chennai from the eligible Registere Contractors of Water Resources Department and Public Works Department for Six works through online ) Tender Documents available at website upto 08.09.2025, 03.00 PM The Last date for submission of tender through online at 08.09.2025, 03.00 PM

Date and Time of Opening of the E-Tender 09.09.2025, 03.30 PM

The tender documents, Approximate value of work, EMD details, Period of contract, Eligibility of contract nd other details will be available through online in the Government website https://tntenders.gov.in and i an be downloaded at free of cost. For further details and in case of any Changes / Corrections/Amendment r/tender notice will be intimated in the above website only.

DIPR/**4053**/Tender/2025

Chief Engineer, Fishing Harbour Project Circle Chennai-600035

#### Government of Jammu & Kashmir DIRECTORATE OF FLORICULTURE (G&P) KASHMIR Tel-0194-2474234 Fax -2482032-Email:kash.flori@jk.gov.in

GIST of e- Tender Notice No.25 of 2025

Dated:- 30/07/2025

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	S.No.	Contract	(In Rs.)	Deposit (EMD) @ 10 % (in Rs.)	of Demand Draft (Non- Refundable) (In Rs.)	Contract		
П	1	2	3	4	5	6		
	01.	Outsourcing of entry ticketing System of Ashmuqam Park Pahalgam	3,08,550.00	30,855.00	500/-	One (1) year from the date of award of contract		
ŀ	The bidding document(s) consisting of qualifying information, eligibility criteria, BOQ (Bill of quantity) terms and conditions and other details can be seen/downloaded through the website <a href="www.iktenders.gov.in">www.iktenders.gov.in</a> as per schedule of date given below:-							
11								

30.07.2025 from 03:00 PM to Period of downloading of bidding document 19.08.2025 up to 02:00 PM 30.07.2025 from 03:30 PM Bid submission Start Date 19.08.2025 up to 02:00 PM Bid submission End date Date and time of Opening of Tenders (Online)

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Accounts Officer Floriculture Departmen

#### **GOVERNMENT OF ASSAM** OFFICE OF THE CHIEF ENGINEER (HEALTH & EDUCATION) PW(H&E) DEPTT., CHANDMARI: GUWAHATI-3

No. CE/TB-VI/T/RIDF- XXX/27/2025/17

PRESS NOTICE (RE-TENDER)

In continuation of the tender cancellation notice vide no. CE/TB-VI/T/RIDF-XXX/27/2025/16 Dated Guwahati the 1st August, 2025 for the work, "Construction of 126 Secondary School in 35 Districts of Assam under RIDF-XXX (2024-25) for (i) Bokata Nemuguri Higher Secondary School, Sivsagar, under Sivsagar DTBD (ii) Konwerpur Higher Secondary School, Sivasagar under Sivasagar DTBD (Gr 57) the Chief Engineer (Health & Education), P.W. (H&E) Deptt., Chandmari, Guwahati-3 on behalf of the Governor of Assam, again re-invites resh bid only for the above said work of (Phase-II) in online EPC Mode-I e-tenders in two bid system (Eligibility and Financial) on Engineering, Procurement and Construction (EPC) Mode-1 basis from eligible firms / contractors of repute having experience in similar nature of work for

Details of the bid may be seen at e-procurement website i.e. www.assamtenders.gov.in. The bidders must be enrolled with e-tendering web-portal www.assamtenders.gov.in.

All terms and conditions will be as per the Bidding Documents. The Press Notice will be a part

of th	of the Bidding Documents.							
SI.	Package	Name of work	Bid Value	Completion	Bid Security	Cost of Bid		
No.	No.		(Rs. in Lakh)	Period				
1	Gr-57 (A)	Construction of 126	Rs. 721.85	3+21 (Twenty	2% of Bid	Rs.		
		Secondary Schools in 35		Four) months	value for	14500.00		
		Districts of Assam under			General, 1%			
		RIDF-XXX (2024-25) for (i)			of Bid Value			
		Bokata Nemuguri Higher			for Reserve			
		Secondary School, Sivsagar,			category			
		under Sivsagar DTBD under						
		Sivasagar DTBD						
2	Gr-57 (B)	Construction of 126	Rs. 721.85	3+21 (Twenty	2% of Bid	Rs.		
		Secondary Schools in		Four) months	value for	14500.00		
		35 Districts of Assam			General, 1%			
		under RIDF-XXX (2024-			of Bid Value			
		25) for (i) Konwerpur			for Reserve			
		Higher Secondary School,			category			
		Sivasagar under Sivasagar						
		DTBD						
The	Bid price r	nay vary at the time of detail	tendering for	which no clai	m will be adm	nissible.		

The Work will be allotted only after receiving Government approval.

Chief Engineer (Health & Education), DIPR /C/HIND/ 230/ 2-Aug-25 PW(H&E) Deptt.)., Chandmari, Guwahati-3

#### Government of UT of Jammu & Kash Office of the Superintending Engineer PMGSY (JKRRDA) Circle Srinagar Kashmir NOTICE INVITING TENDERS (NIT) e-NIT NO:- 03/SE/PMGSY/S/E-TENDERING-OF 2025-26 Dated:- 29-07-2025

Superintending Engineer PMGSY Circle Srinagar, on behalf of the Government of UT of Jammu & Kashmir, invite online percentage rat

Superintending Engineer Process an again an area overriment of or our Jaminus Assimiri, multi-ordinar percentage rate tenders on e-procurement portal http://pmgsytendersjk.gov.in from the Contractors registered in appropriate class/category with State PW.D. or Contractors of equivalent categories registered with other States/ Central Government, Departments, Institutions, Undertakings and Authorities on standard schedule of rate given below for the packages shown in the column 2 of table, for Initial Rectification (IR) / Periodic Renewal (PR)/ Routine maintenance(RM) of the Rural Roads/CDs for five years after completion of Renewal Work on roads, constructed under Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana. Contractors not registered with State PWD will have to get themselves registered with them before signing the agreement. constituted under Fradian Maint Grain Sauk Tojana. Contractors not registered with State PVD with have to get themselves register with them before signing the agreement. SOR Applicable :- SOR issued by Jammu & Kashmir State Rural Road Development Authority, (JKRRDA) effective from 2023 at amendments up to issue date of NIT

					트	Esti	mated	Cost (in l	₹s,)				_ ~	, c	- L	
S. No.	Package Number	Name of District	Name of PIU	No. of Roads	Total length of Roads ( KMs.)	Initial Rehabilita- tion works (IR)	Routine Mainten ance	Renewal of Bitu- minous Surf ace	Emergency Works	Total Estimated cost (In Rs.)		Completion Period of Initial rectification	(IR), Periodic Renewal (PR), Routine Maintenance (RM) and	Emergency Repairs (in Days)	Cost of Tender Docum ent including 18% GST	Whet her First Call?
	_				Tota	Part-I	Part-	Part -III	Part- IV	Τ		0 5	<u> </u>	Ē	Co	<
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
											IR	PR	RM	Emergency Repairs		
10	Jk10-160	Pulwama	PIU Pulwama	akpora to Pakher Pora (Kakpora & Rehmoo Kamrazpora	11.85	335.63	52.22	147.89	Ì	535.74	90 days (3 Months)	2 Years*	5 years (60 months)*	As and when required	0009	1ST

1. Date of Issue of Notice Inviting Bid , Date-Month-Year 29-07-2025
2. Period of availability of Bidding Documents on website
www.pmgsytenders.gov.in Date-Month-Year From 30-07-2025, 9:00 AM
Date-Month-Year, Time Upto To 09-08-2025 Time: 4:30 PM
5. Time, Date and Place of Pre-bid Meeting, Date-Month-Year Date: 04-08-2025 Time: 11:30 AM
Time-Hours, Place, (if so required) Place: Office of Superintending Engineer PMGSY Circle Srinagar

Kashmir. Engineering Complex Raibagh.

1.1 Deadline for receiving Bids online, including on line payment of bid, security and cost of bid document from a scheduled, Date-Month-Year 09-08-2025 Time: 4:30 PM commercial bank and scanned copy of affidavits, (Time Upto)
The on line payment of Bid security and cost of Bid document is to be done simultaneously

The on line payment of Bid security and cost of Bid document is to be done simultaneously on e- tendering website along with the submission of Bids 6.2 Date of submission of original affidavit. (This Date should be no later than three working days after the submission of Technical Qualification part of the bid). The cost of bid document and Bid security is to be paid on line along with bid submission as mentioned in clause 6.1 above. As such no other document is required to be submitted. Date-Month-Year, 12-08-2025
Till the online payment system is made functional, following Clauses shall be applicable for off-line submission, clause 6.1, 6.2 is deemed to be replaced as 6.1 (a), 6.2 (a)
6.1 (a) Deadline for Receiving Bids online, including Scanned copy of demand Date-Month-Year 09-08-2025 draft of Bid Security and of Demand Time Upto, Hours: 04:30 PM Draft towards cost of Bid Document from a Scheduled Commercial Bank and scanned copy of Affidavit.
6.2 (a) Date of Submission of original documents such as Date-Month-Year 12-08-2025 Bid Security, Cost of Bid document and Affidavit (this date should be no later than three working days after the submission of Technical Qualification part of the bid)

DIPK-4625/25

inagar, Engineering Complex Rajbagh,



JHARKHAND URJA SANCHARAN NIGAM LIMITED (CIN No.:U40108JH2013SGC001704) Regd. Office: 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, JUSNL (SLDC) Building Kusai Colony, Doranda, Ranchi - 834002 Fax No.:0651-2400123 (E-mail:cetjusnl@gmail.com)

e-TENDER NOTICE

E-tender in two parts i.e. Technical (Part-I) and Financial (Part - II) is invited from reputed, capable, experienced and financially sound firm for the following works: -

NIT No.	Name of the works		Estimated cost (In Rs.)	Earnest money online mode (In Rs.)	Cost of BOQ (Non Refundable) onlin mode (in Rs.)		
298/PR/JUSNL/ 2025-26	Design, Engineering, Supply of Mate Equipments, Erection, Testing and Commissioning of 02 nos. additional kV Line bay at GSS, Bhawanathpur (Nagaruntari) on turnkey basis.		7,80,88,005.48	15,61,800.00	10,000.00 + GST		
299/PR/JUSNL/ 2025-26	Design, Engineering, Supply of Mate Equipments, Erection, Testing and Commissioning of 02 nos. additional kV Line bay at GSS, Japla on turnkey	132	8,75,19,375.00	17,50,400.00	10,000.00 + GST		
300/PR/JUSNL/ 2025-26	Design, Engineering, Supply of Materials/ Equipments, Erection, Testing and Commissioning of 132 kV D/C 3ph Muhammadganj TSS – 132/33 kV GSS, Japla Transmission Line on turnkey basis.		21,02,88,234.00	42,05,800.00	15,000.00 + GST		
Japia Tinsinssion Line on turney of Design, Engineering, Supply of Mater Equipments, Erection, Testing and Commissioning of 132 kV D/C 3ph Nagaruntari TSS – 132/33 kV GSS, Bhawnathpur (Nagaruntari) Transmiss Line on turnkey basis.			20,41,14,285.00	40,82,300.00	15,000.00 + GST		
	of Download the Tender Documents	08.08.2025 at 11:00 AM					
Start Date and time		08.08.2025 at 11:00 AM					
End date and time of upload of BID			28.08.2025 upto 04:00 PM				
BID Opening date for technical part BID Opening date for price part				1.2025 at 04:00 PN			
	er and address for communication	Will be communicated  General Manager, C&M (NWBP), 2 <sup>nd</sup> Floor, JUSNL (SLDC)  Building, Kusai Colony, Doranda, Ranchi – 834002					

website https://jharkhandtenders.gov.in. Any details required in this regard can also be had from the office of the undersigned (6202162568) during office hours.

The bids will be received through electronic tendering mode only. No claim shall be entertained on account of disruption of internet services being used by bidders. Bidders are advised to upload their bids well in advance to avoid last minute technical snag.

को 18003456570 (कॉल सेन्टर) पर दर्ज करायें। Sd/-General Manager C&M (NWBP) PR 358778 Jharkhand Urja Sancharan Nigam Ltd (25-26)\_D



# Mock drill held in Delhi-NCR to assess disaster preparedness

A multi-agency mock drill was conducted at 55 locations across Delhi-NCR on Friday to assess preparedness in case of an earthquake or industrial accidents like chemical and gas leaks. The Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of Delhi Disaster Management Authority, Krishan Kumar, said, "The mock drill went smoothly at all the locations. A feedback of some gaps was received. We hope to resolve them soon." The CEO said Yamuna floodplains and the Ridge areas are highly critical zones requiring an enhanced level of preparation. The drill also aimed to improve coordination and communication between local authorities during a disaster.

# MGNREGS vet to resume in W.B. despite HC order: workers

Despite an order by the Calcutta High Court to resume MGNREGS in West Bengal from August 1, there has been no resumption of 100 days work, Paschim Banga Khet Majoor Samity (PBKMS), a union of agricultural workers, said on Friday. "Even after this landmark victory for rural workers, both the Central and State governments have chosen to brazenly defy the court's order. Instead of preparing for the resumption of work, block offices in multiple districts are refusing to even accept job applications. This is a deliberate attack on the right to work of the State's poorest," a press statement by PBKMS said.

# **Durg arrests: NIA court** reserves verdict in nuns' bail plea; order today

Lawyers for Preethi Mary, Vandana Francis and Narayanpur resident Sukaman Mandavi argue in court that there was no material evidence to suggest human trafficking or forcible conversion

Shubhomoy Sikdar RAIPUR

special NIA court in Chhattisgarh's Bilaspur district on Friday reserved its order on a bail application filed by three persons, including two nuns from Kerala, after their lawyers argued that there was no material evidence to suggest that charges of either human trafficking or forcible religious conversion was made out.

While the prosecution's main thrust behind the formal objection was the preliminary stage of investigation, a team of lawyers representing complainant and Bajrang Dal member Ravi Nigam strongly objected to granting bail, said defence lawyer Amrito Das. The order will be deli-

vered on Saturday. Nuns Preethi Mary and Vandana Francis, along with Narayanpur resident Sukaman Mandavi, have been in jail since July 25 when they were arrested by the railway police at the

Durg railway station after



nuns in Chhattisgarh, at Kozhikode in Kerala on Friday. PTI

Mr. Nigam, joined by fellow Bajrang Dal members, accused them of forcibly converting three girls from Narayanpur and trafficking them. Their plea for bail moved to the NIA court in Bilaspur after a sessions court in Durg raised a jurisdictional dispute, acceding to the state's argument for the case to be taken to a special court.

During the arguments before Principal District and Sessions Judge (NIA court) Sirajuddin Qureshi, the defence pleaded that both the nurses were 55year-olds who are in social service and not criminals,

said Mr. Das. "We also argued that there was nothing to suggest that the three women from Narayanpur were already Christians and there was no force used to compel them to travel with the nurses," said Mr. Das.

The court asked the defence if the statements of the parents of the tribal women were available, to which the counsel replied that the case diary was with the prosecution. "The court read the parents' statement aloud that they have been following Christianity for the past four to five years. It added that the parents were aware that the women were going with the nurses for work and they themselves had sent them," he said.

"We also pointed out that the case was based on suspicion after the women and nuns were seen together. The women are major and there was no medical test to prove any assault. So the ingredients of the allegations levelled against them did not exist," he said.

The arguments concluded around late afternoon.

#### Prosecution's take

"The prosecution opposed the bail plea, submitting that the case is in its initial stage of investigation. The court has reserved its order till tomorrow [Saturday] after hearing both the parties," public prosecutor Dau Ram Chandravanshi told reporters.

The issue of the nuns' arrest was raised by Opposition parties in Parliament earlier this week. A delegation of the All India Congress Committee from Kerala arrived in Raipur on Friday to meet the nuns.

odds over arrests Kerala BJP chief says the Chhattisgarh govt. will not oppose the bail applications of the arrested nuns

BJP's Chhattisgarh,

Kerala units at

The Hindu Bureau

The recent arrest of two

Catholic nuns from Kerala

on charges of human traf-

ficking and forced reli-

gious conversion in BIP-

ruled Chhattisgarh has led

to a disagreement bet-

ween the party's units in

the State and Kerala,

prompting the senior lea-

dership to step in and facil-

On Friday, Kerala BJP

chief Rajeev Chandrasek-

har said the Chhattisgarh

government would not op-

pose the bail applications

of the two nuns who were

arrested at the Durg rail-

bail in the coming days be-

cause the State govern-

ment has agreed not to op-

pose their bail," he said,

adding that both Prime Mi-

nister Narendra Modi and

Union Home Minister Amit

Shah had clearly said that

justice would be given to

As voices grew stronger

demanding the release of

the nuns, the matter drew

wider attention. Chhattis-

garh Chief Minister Vishnu

Deo Sai on July 28 – via his

X handle – said that

"through inducement, an

attempt was being made to

the nuns.

"We hope that they get

way station on July 25.

itate a resolution.

NEW DELHI

engage in human trafficking and conversion" and that it was "a serious matter related to women's sa-

Hours later, Mr. Chandrasekhar termed the arrests a case of "misunderstanding", stating that the unit had contacted the Home Minister of Chhattisgarh and the State government, and the Union Home Ministry. "We received tremendous support from the authorities... the accompanying girls are adults, and they had pa-

rental consent..," he said. "While Chhattisgarh, being a tribal state, has an anti-conversion law in place, we are convinced that the allegations of conversion against the Malayali nuns are not true," posted Mr. Chandrasekhar on

However, the next day, BJP MP from Durg, Vijay Baghel, spoke during Zero Hour in Lok Sabha on the issue. He came out in support of the Chhattisgarh government for arresting

# Sonowal: ports embracing sustainable practices

<u>The Hindu Bureau</u> THOOTHUKUDI

Union Minister of Ports, Shipping and Waterways Sarbananda Sonowal on Friday said the Indian maritime sector is undergoing a transformational shift, not just as a gateway for commerce but also as a champion of climate resilience.

Addressing an event organised by the V.O. Chidambaranar Port Authority in Thoothukudi, Mr. Sonowal said the country's ports are embracing sustainable practices globally.

VOC Port chairman Sushanta Kumar Purohit said, "We aim to build momentum and foster collaborations that will save India's maritime future." Addressing the media later, Mr. Purohit said Thoothukudi has become the first Indian port to successfully produce green hydrogen and achieve over 1 MW of rooftop power generation.

# Bhagwat over Malegaon blast case, claims former policeman

Vinaya Deshpande Pandit

On Friday, a day after a special court acquitted all the accused in the 2008 Malegaon blast case, a former policeman, who was with Maharashtra Police's Anti Terrorism Squad (ATS) at the time, claimed that he was asked to arrest Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS) chief Mohan Bhagwat for "saffron terror".

"They told me that the accused persons had met Bhagwat before committing the crime. There was pressure on me. But I did not act on their instructions. They talked about 'saffron terror'. But how could I do something that was wrong?" claimed Mehboob Mujawar, the former policeman.

The remark prompted Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis to claim that the Congress, which was then



RSS chief Mohan Bhagwat. FILE PHOTO

in power at the Centre, had made a "failed attempt" to implicate RSS and right-wing Hindu leaders on fake charges of "saffron terror".

"There was no saffron terror or Hindu terror or Sanatana terror. They don't exist," he said.

When asked about Mr. Mujawar's claim about the instructions to arrest Mr. Bhagwat, the Chief Minister said: "The Congress's Hindu terror narrative has been busted by the Malegaon verdict."

Addressing a press conference on the issue in New Delhi, BJP spokesperson Sambit Patra claimed, "Individuals associated with the BIP, followers of Hinduism, and senior RSS functionaries were deliberately humiliated, arrested, and targeted for personal revenge. The Congress was operating in a completely retaliatory mode, and all of this was happening at the behest of the Gandhi

# Was instructed to arrest Mohan | In Malegaon judgment, court rapped NIA over the 'inadmissible evidence'

Purnima Sah

In a 1,036-page judgment acquitting all seven accused in the 2008 Malegaon blast case delivered on Thursday and made available a day later, Special Judge A.K. Lahoti criticised the National Investigation Agency (NIA) for presenting what it called "inconclusive", "unreliable" and "legally inadmissible" evidence.

Flags inconsistencies

"Upon a comprehensive evaluation of the entire evidence available on record. I am of the considered view that the prosecution has failed to adduce cogent, reliable, and legally acceptable evidence. The testimony of prosecution witnesses is riddled with material inconsistencies and contradictions. Such discrepancies undermine the credibility of the prosecution's case and fall short



City Civil and Sessions Court in Mumbai ahead of the NIA special court's verdict in the Malegaon blast case. FILE PHOTO

of establishing the guilt of the accused beyond reasonable doubt," the order said.

The prosecution examined a total of 323 witnesses over the course of the trial. The investigation spanned across three agencies over the years: the local Crime Branch, Nashik Gramin, in coordination with Azad Nagar police station, Malegaon; the Anti-Terrorism Squad based in Mumbai; and later, the NIA in New Delhi, which took over the case in 2011.

The judge, while pronouncing his verdict, said, "I have gone through written notes of arguments, chargesheets and the entire evidence on record in the form of oral and documentary. In the backdrop of the facts, it is also necessary to mention that the evidence on record creates grave suspicion against the accused but on mere suspicion there cannot be a conviction. Hence, I am extending the benefit of

'Suspicion not enough'

Special Judge Lahoti acknowledged the agony, frustration, and trauma caused by the fact that a heinous crime of this nature has gone unpunished. "However, the law does not permit courts to convict an accused solely on the basis of moral conviction or suspicion... The more serious offence, the higher standard of proof required for conviction. Admittedly, in the present case there is no reliable, cogent and acceptable evidence on record... to warrant the conviction," he said.

The court noted that most witnesses turned hostile, stating during their testimony that their earlier voluntarily but were dictated under coercion by ATS

The court noted that the prosecution failed to examine several material witnesses whose names were referenced in specific portions of the judgment. "While it is the prosecutor's discretion to decide which witnesses to present, this discretion must be exercised fairly and in the interest of justice. The prosecution must not withhold witnesses merely because their testimony may weaken its case," the court

# Panneerselvam sets out to do what other AIADMK leaders failed to

**NEWS ANALYSIS** 

T. Ramakrishnan

Can former Tamil Nadu Chief Minister and expelled AIADMK coordinator O. Panneerselvam, who is inching closer to the DMK, defy the trend of AIADMK leaders failing to make a mark after aligning themselves with the DMK?

The earliest case of a senior AIADMK leader turning a critic of the party was S.D. Somasundaram, who was Minister for Revenue, Commercial Taxes and Food in the Cabinet headed by M.G. Ramachandran during 1978-84, according to a perusal of materials available with The Hindu archives. When he began openly accusing MGR of corruption, Somasunda-



O. Panneerselvam calling on T.N. Chief Minister M.K. Stalin at his residence on Thursday. The Panneerselvam-led AIADMK Cadres Rights Retrieval Committee walked out of the BJP-led NDA a year after joining the bloc. PTI

ram, also called SDS, was dismissed from the Cabinet and expelled from the AIADMK. In the 1984 Lok Sabha and Assembly elections, he tried to strike a deal with the DMK, but the talks failed. SDS's party, Namadhu Kazhagam, fielded candidates in 150 Assembly constituencies and 15 Lok Sabha constituencies, but

its performance was disastrous. SDS himself lost the deposit in his home constituency of Pattukottai, from where he was elected in 1980 on the AIADMK ticket. In 1986, he returned to his parent party. After the Dravidian major's defeat in the 1996 poll, SDS briefly aligned himself with rebels. Again, he led a party, Puratchi Thalaivar Anna Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam, which merged with the AIADMK after his death in

Thirunavukkarasar [earlier known as S. Thirunavukkarasu], once a close aide of Jayalalithaa, fell out of favour with her on two occasions. Between 1988 and 1997, he was shown the door by her thrice. His expulsion in 1990 forced him to launch a party, Anna Puratchi Thalaivar Tamizhaga Kazhagam Munnetra (APTTMK), along with his colleagues including K.K.S.S.R. Ramachandran, now with the DMK and serving as Revenue Minister. In the 1991 Assembly poll, the APTTMK clinched a tie-up with the DMK and won two out of the nine seats it contested. Considering that the election took place against the backdrop of Rajiv Gandhi's assassination, the APTTMK's performance was considered impressive. Mr. Thirunavukkarasar, currently with the Congress, later renamed his party as MGR ADMK. After a brief reunion with Jayalalithaa during 1996-97, he revived his party and contested the 1998 Lok Sabha election as an ally of the Congress. In the now-abolished Pudukottai constituency, he finished third but polled about 2.26 lakh votes with a vote share of 29.28%. The following year, he was part of the DMK-led front and bagged the seat. However, he could not run his party for long, and merged it with the BJP a few years

R.M. Veerappan, once a powerful Minister in the MGR Cabinet, found himself on the wrong side when he was in the AIADMK led by Jayalalithaa. During her first innings as Chief Minister (1991-96), Veerappan was dropped in September 1995 from the Cabinet in the wake of a controversy over what the party considered his silence when the film actor Rajinikanth, in his presence, talked of the "bomb culture" in the State at a function. Though he launched MGR Kazhagam in January 1996, his party had remained an ally of the DMK and largely refrained itself from putting up candidates in the elections. A veteran political lead-

er, who was with the AIADMK, says it is the party name and symbol that matter more than anything else and this is why those who leave the party, for one reason or the other, fade away gradually.

# M.P. Minister faces Oppn. heat in Assembly over remarks on Colonel Sofiya

Mehul Malpani BHOPAL

The Madhya Pradesh Assembly on Friday witnessed an uproar after the Opposition MLAs demanded the removal of Minister Vijay Shah for his remarks on Indian Army officer Colonel Sofiya Qureshi.

During the Question Hour, Mr. Shah, who holds the Bhopal Gas Tragedy Relief and Rehabilitation portfolio among others, rose to respond to a question from Congress MLA from Bhopal Madhya (Central) Arif Masood regarding the victims of the 1984 tragedy. The Congress legislators, however, began to protest and trooped into the well of the House seeking Mr. Shah's resignation or dismissal from the post.

The renewed demand from the Congress came days after the Supreme Court pulled up Mr. Shah over the nature of apology he had issued.

As the Opposition MLAs continued their chants demanding his sacking, the BJP MLAs accused the Congress of disrespecting the Armed Forces. Sloganeering from both the Treasury and Opposition benches prompted Speaker Narendra Singh Tomar to adjourn the House proceedings briefly. However, the protest by Congress MLAs continued when the proceedings resumed, after which Mr. Tomar adjourned House for the day.

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# Two held over murder of 13-year-old in Bengaluru

The Hindu Bureau BENGALURU

Hours after finding the half-burnt body of a 13year-old, who was reportedly kidnapped for ransom of ₹5 lakh in the Bannerghatta forest in Bengaluru on July 31, the police arrested two kidnapper-killers on Friday.

The arrested have been identified as Shivaprakash, 25, and Gopi, 27. Shivaprakash was reportedly working as a driver earlier and is known to the boy, Nishchith A., and his parents.

Shivaprakash first befriended the boy's mother and through her got to know the victim as well. The boy went missing on the night of July 30 while returning home from his tuition classes.

The police found CCTV footage of the boy riding pillion on a bike with one of the accused.

# Governor picks 2 interim VCs amid Kerala govt's objection

Kerala CM says the appointments violate university laws; Minister calls it 'open challenge' to an SC order; Governor's decision likely to undermine State government's reconciliation attempts

THIRUVANANTHAPURAM

erala Governor Rajendra Vishwanath Arlekar reappointed Ciza Thomas and K. Sivaprasad as interim Vice-Chancellors of Digital University Kerala (DUK) and APJ Abdul Kalam Technological University (KTU) on Friday.

The reappointments appear to undermine the government's attempts to ease the growing tensions with the Governor, who, in his capacity as Chancellor of State-run universities, has been at odds with the administrative dispensation over various is-

appointments come in the wake of a Supreme Court judgment which, the government



A file photo of Rajendra Vishwanath Arlekar being escorted out of University of Kerala amid student protests in June, NIRMAL HARINDRAN

ed are not from the official

panels of nominees sub-

mitted by the government.

told the media that the

move amounts to an "open

challenge" to the top

court's judgment. He said

the government would ap-

prise the Supreme Court of

Law Minister P. Rajeeve

firmly believes, mandates that the Chancellor should consult the government before appointing V-Cs.

Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan flagged the appointments as a violation of the university laws in a letter sent to the Governor. He said that those appoint-

its apprehensions.

Raj Bhavan's stance However, the Raj Bhavan has maintained that the reappointments comply with the court's directive and the relevant provisions of the laws governing the universities. According to the Raj Bhavan notification, the interim V-Cs will hold office for six months or until regular appointments are made.

However, this marks the second time Raj Bhavan has disregarded the government's recommendations, the first instance being when Ms. Thomas and Mr. Sivaprasad were initially appointed on November last year. In turn, Higher Education Minister R. Bindu accused the government of undermining the government's authority.

# Bulandshahr violence: five awarded life term, 7-year jail term for 33

<u>Ishita Mishra</u> NEW DELHI

Six and a half years after Inspector Subodh Kumar and a civilian were killed in the violence over alleged cow slaughter in Siyana village of Bulandshahr, Uttar Pradesh, a local court on Friday sentenced five persons to life imprisonment for murder and 33 to seven years of rigorous imprisonment for attempt to murder and rioting.

Those convicted of murder are Prashant Nat, Rahul, David, Lokendra Singh and Johnny, said special government counsel Yashpal Singh Raghav.

The court, however, did not find two persons whom the police had booked as "key conspirators" - Yogesh Raj, a Bajrang Dal leader, and Jeetendra Malik, a former Rashtriya Rifles jawan guilty of murder.

**Inspector Subodh** Kumar and a civilian were killed by a mob enraged over alleged 'cow slaughter'

On December 3, 2018, a

mob in Siyana launched a protest against "cow slaughter" after having claimed to have found a cow carcass. They placed the "carcass" on a tractor and blocked the highway outside the Chingravati police outpost in Siyana. Inspector Subodh, posted at the police station, reached the spot and tried to pacify the mob. However, the mob started pelting stones at the police personnel and set the police outpost on fire. Some among the mob also fired a few rounds at the police. The Inspector and a 20-yearold civilian, Sumit Kumar, died of bullet injuries.

# Dharmasthala case: court lifts media gag order

The Hindu Bureau BENGALURU

Setting aside a John Doe order passed by a civil court restraining even "unknown persons" from publishing defamatory content against Harshendra Kumar D., his family members, in connection with "mass burial" case, the High Court of Karnataka on Friday directed the civil court to pass a fresh order on a defamation suit filed by Mr. Kumar.

The High Court saidthe temporary injunction "is unsustainable, as the order passed which has sweeping effect, on all 338 defendants could not have been passed as an interim measure, by an ex-parte interim injunction.

Meanwhile, the Special Investigation Team found no remains in spots 7 and 8 of the temple on day 4 of the exhumation operation.

#### THE HINDU

# **TO ADVERTISE PLEASE CONTACT**

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**Government of Arunachal Pradesh Arunachal State Rural Livelihoods** Mission Itanagar-791111

Email: srlmcco@gmail.com/ cooskills.arsrlm@gmail.com

Website: srlm.arunachal.gov.in

File No.: ArSRLM-15021(11)/5/2025-ArSRLM-ASRLM, E-Comp. No.: 245891/25611-17

Dated: Itanagar, 1st August 2025 Corrigendum-II: Notice inviting Expression of Interest (EoI)

ArSRLM-15021(11)/5/2025-ArSRLM-ASRLM, E-Comp No. 245891/21223-28 dated 28.05.2025

ArSRLM-15021(11)/5/2025-ArSRLM-ASRLM, No.:245891/23618-23 dated 30.06.2025

In inviting reference to the Expression of Interest (EoI) issued by this office vide No: ArSRLM-15021(11)/5/2025-ArSRLM-ASRLM, E-Comp No.245891/21223-28 dated 28,05,2025 for the empanelment of Project Implementing Agencies under the DDU-GKY 2.0 and Captive Employment Projects in the State of Arunachal Pradesh, it is to inform the prospective applicants that due to unavoidable technical and administrative reasons, the last date of project proposal submission in the integrated ERP/ MIS portal (https://kaushal.rural.gov.in) has been extended upto 30th August 2025 (Saturday). All other terms and conditions of the original Eol shall remain unchanged.

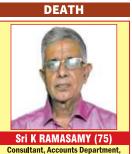
The interested agencies may visit kaushal.rural.gov.in. The detailed Eol is uploaded in the portal.

> (Sangeeta Yirang) APCS (AG) CEO-cum-SMD

**Arunachal State Rural Livelihoods Mission** DIPR /RO-0075-76 Government of Arunachal Pradesh

**OBITUARY &** REMEMBRANCE

M MANI (84), Retired Supervisor (Comp News), The Hindu, Chennai passed away on 01-August-2025. Address: 18/39, Poes Road, Teynamet, Chennai-600018.Contact: 9841119952



The Hindu, Chennai passed away or 01-08-2025





Government of Haryana

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# असरदार सरकार - सुशासन ही आधार

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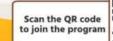
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Chief Minister, Harvana

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# **Editorial**



# **House of wars**

Attacking political rivals cannot be a way to evade responsibility

he government and the Opposition crossed swords in Parliament during a discussion on Operation Sindoor this week. There was unanimity in praising India's armed forces, but there was little common ground beyond that. Operation Sindoor was India's military response to the terrorist attack in Pahalgam, on April 22, 2025, which claimed 26 lives. The elimination of three terrorists behind the attack, just before the parliamentary debate, helped the government's case. It told Parliament that these terrorists were Lashkar-e-Taiba members from Pakistan. The Narendra Modi government's strident approach seeks to change the behaviour of Pakistan and reassure its domestic audience. The success of this approach is debatable and the Opposition sought to put the government on the spot on both counts. A demonstrated willingness to use force against Pakistan in the event of a terrorism incident is a definitive turn in India's strategy, and the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) takes pride in that. But there is no evidence yet that it is working though there has been chest thumping around it by the ruling party. The discussion in Parliament barely addressed the implications of this approach, which is being touted as the new normal. The Opposition and the government agreed on the need to punish Pakistan, and also disagreed on who would do it better.

The government claimed success in meeting its objectives of launching a military operation and denied that it had acted under pressure in ending the war. Leader of Opposition in the Lok Sabha Rahul Gandhi demanded a pointed response to repeated claims by U.S. President Donald Trump that he mediated the ceasefire but the Prime Minister evaded a direct response on it. The government contradicts itself when it says that the operation was a success, and that it is continuing. It is also exasperating to hear a party that is now in its eleventh year of uninterrupted power, blame people who passed away decades ago for any challenge that India faces now. There was little self-reflection regarding the lapses that led to the terrorism incident, and whether and how the government plans to address them. The government had sent joint teams including several MPs from the Opposition abroad to garner support for India in the aftermath of the operation, but that sign of statesmanship was a short-lived aberration, as it turns out. The world is changing rapidly and India's capacity to navigate those changes will be largely determined by its own character. Questioning the patriotism of political opponents is an easy route to take to evade tough questions, but the BJP must realise that such an approach has diminishing returns.

# **Deep ties**

India needs to engage its neighbours more closely

rime Minister Narendra Modi's visit to the Maldives last week, after an invitation by Maldives President Mohamed Muizzu to be a special guest for the country's 60th Independence Day, signalled the full return of relations to the closeness they held during the previous Ibrahim Solih government. Although the two leaders had not gotten off to the best start in 2023, after Mr. Muizzu's surprise win, backed by an "India Out" campaign – this was followed by a "Boycott Maldives" social media campaign in India – they have been on the mend for the past year. During Mr. Muizzu's 2024 state visit to India, India had announced measures including lines of credit and a currency swap arrangement to support the Maldives during its economic troubles. Mr. Muizzu reflected gratitude when he described India's role in the Maldives as "pivotal" and Mr. Modi reciprocated the warmth. India announced a line of credit worth \$565 million (₹4,850 crore) and reduced the annual debt burden for Maldives on previous Indian lines of credit by 40%. There was also the launch of India-Maldives Free Trade Agreement negotiations, which will be a significant driver of future engagement. There was the signing too of MoUs for cooperation in fisheries, meteorological sciences, digital solutions and pharma, as well as a digital and rupee-rufiyaa national currency payments agreement. Over the past six decades, India has cultivated a strong security partnership with the Maldives, including trilateral national security consultations with Sri Lanka, and it is significant that after Mr. Modi's visit, Mr. Muizzu welcomed Sri Lankan President Anura Kumara Dissanayake for a state visit.

The Maldives visit was also a reaffirmation of the importance of India's "Neighbourhood First" policy, at a time when Indian foreign policy is facing headwinds linked to the U.S.'s trade tariffs and the conflicts in Ukraine and Gaza. The conflict with Pakistan after the Pahalgam attacks, and tensions with Bangladesh have engaged the government's attention. New Delhi has also been preoccupied with reaching out to different countries, following Operation Sindoor, but did not send delegations to neighbouring countries. It is heartening that New Delhi is preparing to welcome Nepal Prime Minister K.P. Sharma Oli, who has not been invited to India since he took office a year ago. A commemorative stamp by the Maldives for its national day celebrations showed traditional Indian and Maldives boats, which Mr. Modi described as a reflection of India and the Maldives being not just neighbours "but also fellow voyagers on a shared journey". In a time of global economic turmoil, a closer engagement with the neighbours – one that shores up their economic needs and supports their plans for development where possible – is essential.

# What has been missed is India's digital sovereignty

he India-United Kingdom Free Trade Agreement (FTA), called the Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement (CETA), has been lauded by the Union Commerce and Industry Minister. Piyush Goyal, as the 'gold standard' for all India's trade deals. Mr. Goyal has asserted that no compromise was made in any sensitive sector. Evidently, the Minister seemed to be counting only agriculture and labour-intensive manufacturing as sensitive sectors – which they are. But remarkably, despite the wide coverage the FTA has received, the impact on India's other, highly sensitive digital sector, which permeates every sphere of national activity and holds the key to our future, has gone without official comment or media scrutiny.

We argue that the compromises made in the digital sector through the India-U.K. FTA have profound consequences for India's digital sovereignty - a term frequently invoked in high-level political discourse. India has completely flipped on several core positions that it has long maintained at global forums, including at the World Trade Organization (WTO).

#### Source code disclosure

The most surprising giveaway is on India's sovereign right to seek ex ante access to the source code for foreign digital goods or services, even for those deemed sensitive. This is very different from getting source code ex post for a specific investigation or remedy, which is allowed under the agreement. Regulators in different sectors often have strict disclosure rules, such as for food and medicine ingredients. Software now permeates nearly every product, including telecom, Artificial Intelligence (AI) and health applications, whereby it may be crucial for the regulators to be able to 'look under the hood' of software, for safety, security and general compliance requirements, and to enable urgent, real-time upgrades.

Giving up this right is a 180-degree turn from India's steadfast stand at the WTO and other forums. Even the United States, which first included source code related prohibitions in its FTAs and at the WTO, withdrew this formulation last year, recognising its domestic regulatory, law enforcement and security imperatives. In the U.S. driven Comprehensive and Progressive Agreement for Trans-Pacific Partnership (CPTPP),



**Purushottam** is India's former Ambassador

to Switzerland



Parminder Jeet <u>Singh</u>

is a Delhi-based digital society researcher

The compromises that India made in the digital sector through the India-U.K. Free Trade Agreement will have profound consequences for India's digital sovereignty

the 'source code disclosure' provision applied only to mass-market software such as Microsoft's operating systems – meaning not to niche and custom-made software. It specifically excluded software for critical infrastructure. In the U.K. FTA text, the prohibition applies to all software. Businesses are always free to enter, or avoid, transactions requiring disclosure of source code. What is sacrificed here are India's regulatory rights in this regard, for all times to come, in a sector that has just begun to take shape.

## Surrendering a critical national resource

Granting equal and non-discriminatory access for U.K. parties to 'Open Government Data' – a term from the pre-digital era which then meant government transparency, and access to its statistics - constitutes another major giveaway. This is because data is not what it used to be. Today, it has acquired an entirely new avatar, being the digital era's most valuable resource. AI, where heated competition for global mastery is raging, is but patterns derived from data, which is why data is deemed to be priceless.

This concession is very significant, even though this provision is yet at a 'best endeavour' level, and non-binding. It is incomprehensible why India (where the intention to be an AI superpower is a staple of top-level political rhetoric), has conceded that national data held by the government is not a sovereign resource but an international free for all. Facilitating foreign access to such data poses risks of eroding India's competitive advantage in using India's own data to create Indian AI products, and also serious security risks as national data can be weaponised.

The most contested issues in digital trade are the 'free flow of data' and 'data localisation'. While India seems to have largely stood its ground on these issues, its commitment to "enter into consultations to extend appropriate equivalent disciplines" to the U.K. if India agrees to any concessions with another country, denotes a dangerous regress, and visible vulnerability, with regard to India's long-held positions on these key issues.

This matter links to the one above on India's data being an important national economic resource as well as the need to safeguard it from a security point of view. Again, last year, owing to similar considerations, the U.S., the original proponent of 'free flow of data' and 'prohibition

on data localisation', withdrew from these stances at the WTO.

It is difficult to understand how Indian negotiators could be so naive or negligent in agreeing to the above concessions. Digital trade concessions are not like those on commodities, where tariffs can be applied one day and removed on another.

Digital trade texts are essentially about rule making for a new global digital order. We either fully opt into western, Big Tech -oriented, digital architectures, or we maintain sufficient autonomy and sovereignty. This is because once the digital rules and systems are set, they are almost impossible to roll back. India's digital concessions are thus buttressing a set of rules for a global digital ecosystem from which India cannot extricate itself later. And India is doing all this in a reactive mode without a clear road map of its own.

It seems that the U.K. was able to extract all the above concessions, the absolute opposite to what India has stood for till now, because, unlike manufacturing and agriculture, there is no specific political 'constituency' for digital sovereignty. But it is perhaps an even more important issue in the mid to long term. We may be seeing a repeat of how India lost out on early industrialisation and had to suffer grievous colonial exploitation, causing a loss of wealth and independence. In making these digital concessions, we may be giving up our digital future, independence and prosperity.

#### India must act quickly

India needs to develop and negotiate towards a global digital architecture that protects and furthers its digital sovereignty. As a late starter in 'digital industrialisation', it should create the space required for India to become a digital superpower and not a digital colony.

For this, India needs to urgently formulate a full-fledged digital sovereignty and 'digital industrialisation' policy which should then inform and guide its trade negotiations. Our negotiators must be accompanied by digital sovereignty experts with access to the top political leadership, which has the core responsibility for safeguarding India's long-term digital interests. These interests are often not so visible, and, therefore, tend to get by-passed and not fought for.

# The fact is mangroves drive business

angroves have, historically, been on the margins of planning and policy priorities in spite of their vital role in anchoring coastal economies and protecting millions from climate extremes. Their loss is not just an environmental concern. Their loss erodes natural infrastructure that acts as a buffer for urban coastlines, underpins fisheries, and quietly contributes billions in ecosystem services and avoided damages.

As the world grapples with extreme weather evels, blue carbo ecosystems such as mangroves are critical to climate and economic resilience. Yet, their value rarely features in balance sheets or policy frameworks. How can businesses, governments, and communities reimagine these ecosystems as active drivers of sustainable growth and security? Three pillars of our work through the Mangrove Coalition offer ideas for the path forward.

# Mapping with technology

First, embracing technology can help us better understand the value of "Natural Capital". Satellite and drone data with advanced geospatial Artificial Intelligence algorithms have improved accurate mangrove mapping and blue carbon quantification. This is crucial for informing policies and restoration efforts. The economic and ecosystem services valuation of mangroves ranges from ₹3,535 million in Pichavaram (Tamil Nadu) to ₹664 billion in the Sundarbans (West Bengal). Carbon sequestration alone is valued at ₹462 million per year in the Sundarbans, reflecting the ecological and economic importance of this habitat. Communities that possess deep knowledge of mangrove ecosystems

# **Madhav Pai**

is the CEO of WRI India

# **Swaminathan**

is the Chair of the M.S. Swaminathan Research Foundation

# Sejal Worah

is the Programme Director of WWF India

It is unfortunate that the value of blue carbon ecosystems such as mangroves rarely features in balance sheets or policy frameworks

and rely on them for their livelihoods, must be prioritised and equitably benefited - socially and economically.

# **Involving communities**

Second, community-led conservation efforts are key to strengthening symbiotic and mutually respectful relationships of people and nature. Fisherfolk especially value the role of mangroves as nurseries for juvenile fish. Healthy mangroves often translate into robust fish stocks, ensuring sustainable catch. The livelihoods of these coast communities are intrinsically linked to the quality of mangrove and estuarine systems.

In dense urban settings such as Mumbai and Chennai, mangroves are often distressed, polluted and degraded. Since they are unable to support flourishing biodiversity, coastal livelihoods and socio-cultural interdependencies are compromised. However, when communities directly experience the benefits (more fish, cleaner air, protected homes) and are empowered to make decisions about their local environment, they become effective and enduring stewards. Mangroves and other coastal ecosystems can also create opportunities for alternative livelihoods such as aquaculture, beekeeping and eco-tourism. Integrated ownership models such as Eco-Development Committees (EDCs) or Joint Forest Management Committees (JFMCs) can be translated for urban mangroves.

Third, citizen science can engage stakeholders to generate wonder and investment in this undervalued ecosystem and mobilise collective action for conservation. When community members from varied backgrounds are skilled to

understand and monitor ecosystems, this can either supplement existing assessment efforts or substitute for formal monitoring. Mangrove health is intertwined with the vitality of associated ecosystems and wetlands, and the health of rivers from source to the sea, as they contribute freshwater, sediments and biota. Regular monitoring can provide a good indication of how the system is faring.

# Platforms can play a pivotal role

should include indicators around changes in mangrove area; quantity, quality and timing of freshwater flows; avian, floral, molluscan and fish diversity; and, crucially, community dependence and a perception of the ecosystem services. Such assessments can provide key insights to support management actions. Engagement platforms such as "Mangrove Mitras" or Friends of Mangroves can open avenues for urban citizens and local communities to engage constructively in the conservation of mangroves. This could help to rebuild a people-wetland-river-mangrove connection through an immersive experience on the magical value of mangroves.

Sustainable stewardship is not a top-down mandate but a symbiotic relationship where mangrove health and people's well-being are mutually reinforcing. Policymakers and businesses must recognise mangroves as vital climate and economic infrastructure rather than mere biodiversity zones. Protecting and restoring these ecosystems demands a coalition where science, business and community voices work in harmony – each bringing unique strengths to secure their future.

# LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

# **Misplaced remark**

U.S. President Donald Trump's remark, calling India a "dead economy", is both inaccurate and disappointing, especially when leading global institutions continue to recognise India as among the fastest-growing major economies. That the International Monetary Fund, the World Bank and the Asian Development Bank have all projected India's economic stability is a clear indication of economic vitality, not decline. With a young and dynamic population — in sharp contrast to aging demographics and slowing growth in many advanced economies, India's demographic strength, combined with prudent macroeconomic policies and digital advancement, positions it as a key driver

of future global growth. Mr. Trump's comments appear to be politically charged rather than fact-based. Rukma Sharma, Jalandhar, Punjab

What is odious is that Mr.

Trump did not stop with just announcing tariffs. He has revived the U.S's old myopic game of trying to maintain a geo-political strategic balance in South Asia by supporting Pakistan, India's war-happy neighbour. One cannot but notice the fact that Mr Trump has been upping the ante against India ever since it successfully carried out post-Pahalgam retaliatory strikes against Pakistan's terror infrastructure. That India proved its military prowess with minimum collateral damage and the

use of indigenous armaments has not gone down well with the Trump administration. Nalini Vijayaraghavan, Thiruvananthapuram

The cartoon (Inside pages 'On the draw' August 1), on Mr. Trump's decision, may be a correct portrayal. The U.S. President is publicity savvy and wants to take the credit when it comes to all major global events. He wants the Nobel Prize and has shamelessly expressed his desire. He is just another politician and not a statesman. Imposing shockingly high tariffs will hurt the business of the exporters to the United States of America, which will, in turn, affect the economies of many countries. Mr. Trump does not care one bit about the sufferings of others. He is

whimsical, which is a bad trait for anyone in power. Here is an elected leader who is an example of how one should not be. V. Lakshmanan. Tirupur, Tamil Nadu

One cannot help notice these contrasts - ISRO and NASA have successfully launched their NISAR satellite into orbit, which highlights the power of science and cooperation, but the U.S. President seems intent on giving pinpricks to India and the Indian government. One wonders how things will play out. Dhanaraj S.,

Bodinayakanur, Tamil Nadu

The debate in Parliament The parliamentary debate on Operation Sindoor unfolded as expected, with few surprises. The ruling

#### party remained determined **Civic responsibility** India-Bangladesh relations to portray the operation as an unqualified success, may be strained but there while key questions raised are areas of policy in that by the Opposition were left country which may be worth considering in India. I unanswered. Vital issues recently came across a

deserving serious deliberation such as Mr. Trump's repeated claims of brokering a ceasefire, and the alarming security lapses in Pahalgam were largely ignored.

From the outset, the ruling party's reluctance to engage in a substantive debate was unmistakable. Repeated references to events under the past dispensation did little more than deflect attention from the core concerns. One can only hope that future parliamentary discussions will rise above partisan posturing and offer genuine, meaningful exchanges. **V. Nagarajan**,

Chennai

Clean (bdclean.org). It is a platform of 50,000 volunteers who work with the aim of ensuring a clean Bangladesh and bringing about a change in mentality in the disposal of garbage. The transformation in the country has been spectacular with heavily polluted areas undergoing remarkable transformations. It is an idea that is worth emulating in Indian cities and towns. V. Subramaniam, Chennai

video on YouTube, on an

organisation called BD

Letters emailed to letters@thehindu.co.in must carry the postal address.

# GROUND ZERO



Billboards advertise fertility centres in Hyderabad. The city, along with Secunderabad, is a significant hub for medical tourism in India. G. RAMAKRISHNA

# The business of selling babies

In August 2024, a couple from Rajasthan travelled to Secunderabad for an IVF procedure. A doctor at a clinic they approached convinced them to opt for surrogacy instead. After paying ₹30 lakh and getting a baby a year later, the couple realised through DNA testing that the child was not theirs. **Serish Nanisetti** and **Siddharth Kumar Singh** report on the surrogacy scam in Telangana

he Secunderabad railway station in Telangana is a noisy transit hub. Thousands of people enter and exit the concourse every day. Ad jingles in Hindi, Telugu, English, and Bengali, about the various medical procedures offered by hospitals across the city, blare over the din. Billboards outside the station feature smiling couples with babies. The city, along with Hyderabad, is a significant hub for medical tourism in India.

In August 2024, after having done some research, Sonam Singh and her husband Akshay travelled to Secunderabad from Kuharwas village near Jhunjhunu in Rajasthan for an in vitro fertilisation (IVF) procedure. They rented a house near the railway station and began searching on the Internet for hospitals nearby.

Near the railway station, they found the Universal Srushti Fertility Centre, which promised them an 85% success rate for an IVF procedure. The hopeful couple met the owner, Pachipala Namratha aka Athaluri Namratha, 64.

"The test results showed that we were medically fit to conceive," says Sonam, speaking over the phone from Kuharwas.

"But the doctor insisted that we opt for surrogacy. She told us that it was safer and more reliable. She also assured us that the clinic would use our sperm and egg, and also handle all the paperwork and legalities."

elangana 🛊

While an IVF procedure can cost anywhere between ₹2 lakh and ₹6 lakh per cycle, Namratha told the couple that surrogacy would cost them ₹30 lakh. She asked Sonam and Akshay to transfer half the amount through their bank account and pay the remaining in cash, supposedly for the surrogate. Convinced, the couple made their first payment on August 16, 2024. According to the First Information Report filed by Akshay, Namratha also promised the couple that "a healthy child [would be] delivered... after DNA confirmation."

Nearly a year later, on June 5, Sonam and Akshay were handed a baby at Lotus Hospital in Visakhapatnam. However, the couple grew suspicious when Namratha's clinic refused to perform the DNA test. They took the infant to the DNA Forensics Laboratory in Vasant Kunj, Delhi. To their shock, the results showed that the baby was not theirs. When they returned to Secunderabad to confront Namratha, she had disappeared.

Sonam and Akshay approached the Gopalpuram police in Secunderabad, which investigated the matter and uncovered a baby-selling racket. The police booked Namratha under Sections 61, 316, 335, 336, and 340 of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita Act, 2023, which deal with criminal conspiracy, criminal breach of trust by carriers, forgery of documents, and related offences. They also booked her under Sections 38, 39, and 40 of the Surrogacy (Regulation) Act, 2021, which deal with prohibitions, punishments, and penalties related to surrogacy practices.

# **Sourcing surrogates**

According to the Gopalapuram police, Universal Srushti Fertility Centre has cheated at least 15



couples. Promising these couples a baby through surrogacy, it has charged them between ₹20 lakh and ₹30 lakh each, and handed them babies not related to them. It has also furnished falsified documents, say the police. An investigation has revealed that the clinic paid commissions to smaller centres for referrals of potential surrogate mothers and women who wanted to undergo abortions, forged medical reports, and operated without proper licensing.

According to the police, an agent called Dhanasri Santoshi struck a deal between a couple from Assam and the clinic. They say the Assamese couple's baby was given to the couple from Rajasthan. The police have arrested the couple from Assam on charges of selling their baby.

"Instead of getting ₹15 lakh, the couple from Assam got ₹90,000 for selling their baby," says a police officer. The baby has been moved to foster care at Shishu Vihar, a childcare centre under the Women and Child Welfare Department.

The police add that they have discovered a disturbing pattern in how surrogates are sourced. The sealed medical facility in Secunderabad is surrounded by lodges and bed-and-breakfast rooms. These lodging facilities were used to house women. A police officer says, "The agents would approach vulnerable women, particularly those seeking abortions, and offer them money to continue their pregnancy so that they could take the baby later. These newborns would then be passed off as children conceived through surrogacy. This is how people were misled into believing that the babies were biologically theirs." In at least four known cases in Telangana, women were not paid at all and completely abandoned post-delivery, the officer adds.

On November 26, 2024, a woman engaged as a surrogate by a couple died after falling from the ninth floor of a building in Raidurgam in the western part of Hyderabad. According to the police, the victim and her husband, both natives of Odisha, were given accommodation by Rajesh Babu and his wife at their residence. When Rajesh allegedly tried to sexually assault the 26-year-old woman, she tried to escape through the balcony and slipped and died. She was purportedly brought to the city through middlemen for

RUSH 14

aya ay engi de boed

A view of the Srushti Fertility Centre in Secunderabad. G. RAMAKRISHNA

surrogacy for ₹10 lakh, say police reports.

#### Donors in queue

As the police widened their probe, they raided a facility operating under the name, Indian Sperm Tech, near Secunderabad East Metro Station, located about 400 metres away from the fertility clinic. They found 17 sperm donors and 11 egg donors waiting in queue at the facility.

"The women donors were brought from Delhi, and the men from Andhra Pradesh and other parts of Telangana. The sperm donors, mostly aged between 22 and 30, were paid ₹1,000-₹1,500 per sample. The men were in need of quick cash," says a police officer who led the raid.

L. Shiva was among the people arrested by the police in the midnight raid. Shiva, 35, from Vizianagaram, brought egg and sperm donors and connected them to the hospital. Another broker who was arrested hails from Indore in Madhya Pradesh. One of the egg donors caught in the raid was a 30-year-old resident from Baksa, Assam.

Indian Sperm Tech, reportedly headquartered in Ahmedabad, had allegedly set up the sperm collection unit in Secunderabad without a valid license. "It is a diagnostic centre," says an officer from the District Medical and Health Officer's office. "They collect sperm samples, freeze them, and send them to Ahmedabad. The processed samples (isolated and concentrated to select the healthiest sperm) are then returned with reports and sold to clinics across Telangana, Andhra Pradesh, and Chhattisgarh. The place has been operating for two years without registration."

# In trouble before

It is a typically busy weekday afternoon on St. Johns Road in Secunderabad. But just a short turn away from this arterial road, the noise fades. A narrow bylane, about 20 feet wide, is almost hidden in plain sight. Two old gates, one swung wide open and the other barely ajar, lead into it. Two policemen sit here, silent witnesses to what the North Zone police uncovered.

The building of Namratha's clinic has been sealed and the clinic shut down, following an investigation that exposed the baby-selling racket running under the guise of fertility treatments. "The hospital operated only on the first two floors. The rest were empty," says one constable. The two floors were filled with equipment required for childcare and fertility treatment.

Rajesh Ravi lived here for 16 years before moving closer to the city centre. He is shocked by the revelations. "You live somewhere for over a decade and you think you know your neighbourhood. I found nothing suspicious. The only time we were mildly inconvenienced was when too many patients came and there would be many cars on the street," he says.

Rajesh says there was a police case involving the same place about 10 years ago. "No one talked about it much because back then, news on social media did not reach us as fast as it does now," he says.

"We knew what was happening here," says Manu, a lawyer who lives across the street of the four-storied Rushi Test Tube Bab Cent. While the name in English has missing letters, the name in Telugu etched beneath it reveals the complete name – Srusthi Test Tube Baby Centre. "This place was sealed five times earlier. But eventually things got back to 'normal'. This time I think it is serious and she (Namratha) will not be allowed to carry on the business."

The Telangana Medical Council says Namratha was involved in a surrogacy scandal in 2016. A U.S.-based couple, who had used the clinic's services, had discovered that the child born to them through a surrogate was not biologically related to them. "Following a police case and court hearings, we suspended the doctor's license for five years, with a lifetime ban on conducting surrogacy procedures," says Dr. G Srinivas, Vice-Chairman of the Council.

Yet, when the suspension period ended, the doctor returned, seeking to have her license rein-



This place was sealed five times. But things got back to 'normal'. This time I think it is serious and Namratha will not be allowed to carry on the business

MANU

stated. "We refused. She was still involved in a court case, and our rules are clear on that," Dr. Srinivas adds.

# A stringent law

As surrogacy has become an increasingly popular option for couples grappling with infertility, Indian law has become more stringent to ensure that the practice remains ethical and free from commercial exploitation. What once operated in legal grey zones is now bound by clear rules, thanks to the Surrogacy (Regulation) Act, 2021.

Under the Act, only altruistic surrogacy is permitted in India. This means a surrogate mother cannot be paid for carrying a child, except for her medical expenses and insurance coverage. Commercial surrogacy, any arrangement involving monetary compensation or profit, is banned and is a punishable offence.

According to the Act, all surrogacy procedures must take place at clinics registered under the Act and authorised by the office officially designated as the State Appropriate Authority.

. These clinics must comply with strict medical standards and ethical norms. Any attempt to bypass the law, whether through brokers, unregistered clinics, or financial inducements, is considered a criminal offence, punishable with imprisonment of up to 10 years and fines reaching ₹10 lakh.

Fertility specialists say the Assisted Reproductive Technology (ART) Regulation Act, 2021, and the Surrogacy (Regulation) Act, 2021, have brought much-needed order to what was once a loosely regulated and, at times, opaque system.

Dr. Preethi Dayal, who runs the Preethi Fertility Centre in Jangaon district, says prior to the enforcement of the ART law in January 2023, "many centres operated without oversight. You could bring in any random donor, collect the sample, and proceed with checks or documentation. But we are now bound by very strict protocols. Every donor must be sourced only through a registered ART bank, which keeps Aadhaar-linked records of every sample, though the identity is never disclosed to either doctors or patients." She adds that the new law mandates comprehensive screening of all donors, including genetic testing, and imposes tight eligibility criteria based on age and health. "There is no room for ambiguity now. Everything has to be documented and traceable."

Dr. Preethi also points out that, legally and ethically, all third-party donor procedures must be conducted with confidentiality. "Patients are never informed about the identity of the donor. The child born through surrogacy belongs legally and emotionally to the intended parents. That is the framework we follow," Dr. Preethi says.

To reduce the risk of human error, the doctor says many IVF clinics have now adopted the RI Witness system, a high-tech safety protocol that tracks every sample using barcode verification. "Every patient is given a barcode-linked card. Before processing a sample, we scan the card in the system. If there is any mismatch, the entire hospital is alerted," she says.

While many corporate hospitals have already adopted this system, Dr. Preethi says smaller or less-regulated clinics may not yet have the infrastructure or the will to comply. "Some centres are still conducting 10 to 15 IVF cycles a day. Without safeguards like the RI Witness system, the chances of mix-ups increase," she says.

Additional reporting by Naveen Kumar Names have been changed to protect privacy

A ND-NDE

# From Page One

# Bihar's draft voter rolls: voters dip by 65 lakh

"In the one-month period from August 1 to September 1, any elector or political party can file claims and objections in a prescribed form before the ERO to add the name of any eligible elector or to delete the name of any ineligible one," the EC statement said.

No State-wide compiled list was made available, but booth-wise lists of all the 90,712 polling booths of all 243 Assembly constituencies have been shared with all political parties by the State's 38 Deputy Electoral Officers (DEO).

However, the voters included in the draft list are still required to submit proof of residence and birth unless they have already done so, using the list of 11 documents which the EC had listed in the SIR rules. Neither Aadhaar nor voter ID cards are in the list of eligible documents.

Opposition parties have dubbed the SIR as an effort to bring in the National Register of Citizens (NRC) through a "backdoor" process. They have approached the Supreme Court in the matter, along with several civil society groups.

The top court had suggested to the EC, that it consider Aadhaar and Voter ID cards as proof as well. The next date of hearing has been fixed for August 12.

# Prajwal Revanna convicted of rape

Special Public Prosecutor (SPP) Ashok Navak said they were happy that they could get justice for the victim. The case, speedy trial, and conviction were like a "lesson" to others, he said and thanked the Special Investigation Team (SIT) chief B.K. Singh and other officers for it.

Another SPP B.N. Jagadeesha said the court that began the trial in the case on May 2, and held daily hearings as per the guidelines by the Supreme Court in cases against MLAs and MPs.

He pointed out that the accused changed lawyers midway, approached the High Court twice, which he described as "delay tactics", but said that did not work, and the trial was completed on July 18, and an order issued on Friday.

#### Forensic proof

Of the four cases, this case had the strongest evidence. The survivor, 48, was raped once in the family's residence in Hassan and again in the family's home in Basavanagudi, Bengaluru, in 2021. Prajwal recorded the act on his mobile in the first instance. In the video, the victim is seen pleading with him to spare her.

Forensic reports indicated that the man in the video is Prajwal. The victim had kept her saris in a wardrobe where she was working, and DNA analysis found Prajwal's DNA on one of them. These, apart from the victim's testimony, formed key evidence in the trial. The SIT had filed a 1,632-page chargesheet with 118 witnesses in the case in Sep-

The victim was also allegedly abducted at the behest of Prajwal's parents, H.D. Revanna and Bhavani Revanna, to prevent her from testifying and was rescued from a farmhouse. The SIT has also filed a chargesheet against them for abduction. The trial in that case is yet to begin.

Hundreds of explicit videos of many women, allegedly recorded by Praiwal, were leaked in Hassan in the last week of April 2024, ahead of the 2024 Lok Sabha election.

A Special Investigation Team (SIT) probe, headed by Mr. Singh, Additional Director General of Police, Criminal Investigation Department, led to four cases against Prajwal - three rape cases and one sexual harassment case.

# **India-U.S. ties will 'move** forward', says MEA

On Wednesday, Mr. Trump had placed the trade relationship within the context of his ongoing efforts to bring Russia to the negotiating table regarding the Ukraine crisis and said on social media platform Truth Social, "Remember, while India is our friend, we have, over the years, done relatively little business with them because their Tariffs are.. among the highest in the World, and they have the most strenuous and obnoxious nonmonetary Trade Barriers of any Country. Also, they have always bought a vast majority of their military equipment from Russia, and are Russia's largest buyer of ENERGY, along with China..."

Apart from targeting India for sourcing energy, and military hardware from Russia, President Trump had slammed the BRICS grouping where India and Russia have been the founding members. "You know, they have BRICS, which is basically a group of countries that are anti the United States, and India is a member of that..," Mr. Trump told the media on Wednesday.

Responding to this, Mr. Jaiswal 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." He further highlighted the "strong defence partnership with the U.S." that India has developed over the past years and mentioned the decisions taken during Mr. Trump's February 13 meeting with Prime Minister Modi in Washington D.C. which had led to the new initiative named "U.S.-India COMPACT (Catalyzing Opportunities for Military Partnership, Accelerated Commerce & Technology) for the 21st Century".

# India's fuel exports going on without import duty in U.S.

The U.S. President had announced plans to impose penalty on India over Delhi's ties with Moscow; but the order Trump signed excludes petroleum products from the 25% tariff on Indian goods

**Press Trust of India** NEW DELHI

ndia's exports of peproducts such as diesel and jet fuel to the U.S. continue to be exempted from the levy of any import duty or tariff, and President Donald Trump has, for now, not indicated the penalty he plans to impose to deter New Delhi's energy trade with Russia.

On Wednesday, Mr. Trump had announced plans to impose a 25% tariff on India, along with an additional penalty, citing concerns over the country's energy and defence ties with Russia, as well as existing trade barriers.

However, the executive order he signed thereafter only gives effect to the 25% tariff on Indian goods coming to the U.S. Even this has an exclusion list that includes finished pharmaceutical products (tablets, injectables and syrups), active pharmaceutical ingredients, electronics and ICT goods (semiconductors,



Pharmaceutical products and electronics have also been excluded from the 25% tariff on Indian goods. FILE PHOTO

smartphones, SSDs and computers), and petroleum products (crude oil, LNG, refined fuels, electricity and coal).

The executive order also does not indicate any penalty that is to be levied for Russian trade.

According to official data, India exported 4.86 million tonnes of petroleum products to the U.S. in fiscal year 2024-25 for over \$4 billion. Reliance Industries Ltd. is the biggest exporter of fuel to the U.S.

With fuel exports continuing to be on the exemption list, it means business as usual for India and companies such as Reliance, analysts said.

#### Big relief

Also, a relief would be if no penalty is imposed to punish India for its oil imports from Russia, they said, adding that for now, the U.S. administration has not indicated any penalty. "For now, there is nothing but you never know," an analyst said.

From just 0.2% before the Russia-Ukraine war to now accounting for 35-40% of total crude imports, India's reliance on

Russian oil has surged drawing fresh scrutiny with Mr. Trump announcing a penalty on top of a 25% tariff, or tax, on all goods going to the U.S.

India historically bought most of its oil from the Middle East, including Iraq and Saudi Arabia. However, things changed when Russia invaded Ukraine in February 2022.

India, the world's thirdlargest crude importer after China and the U.S., began snapping up Russian oil that was available at a discount after some in the West shunned it as a means to punish Moscow for its invasion of Ukraine.

From a market share of iust 0.2% in India's import basket before the start of the Russia-Ukraine conflict, Russia overtook Iraq and Saudi Arabia to become India's No.1 supplier, with a share as high as 40% at one point of time.

This month, Russia supplied 36% of all crude oil, which is converted into fuels like petrol and diesel, that India imported.

# Anil Ambani gets ED summons in loan fraud case

The Hindu Bureau NEW DELHI

The Enforcement Directorate has summoned Reliance ADA Group chairman Anil Ambani for recording his statement under the Prevention of Money Laundering Act on August 5 in connection with a bank loan fraud

Mr. Ambani has been

asked to join the investigating team at the ED headquarters in Delhi. Some functionaries of the group entities have also been summoned. The summonses follow the agency's searches at 35 locations of 50 companies and 25 individuals launched last week. In a statement, Reliance Infrastructure said the issue pertained to an over 10-year-old matter regarding alleged diversion of ₹10,000 crore to an undisclosed related party, when the exposure as per the disclosures in the company's financial statements was around ₹6,500 crore.

"In this connection, attention is invited that Reliance Infrastructure had publicly disclosed this mat-



ter on February 9, nearly six months ago. Reliance Infrastructure Limited had a net exposure of ₹6,500 crore which was duly disclosed in its financial statements for four years. Reliance Infrastructure diligently pursued recovery of its dues in this matter," the statement said.

"Through mandatory mediation proceedings conducted by a retired Supreme Court Judge and the mediation award filed before the Bombay High Court, Reliance Infrastructure arrived at a settlement to recover its 100% exposure of ₹6,500 crore," said the company, adding that Mr. Ambani was not on the Board of Reliance Infrastructure since March 2022.

# Amid trade turmoil, U.S. to send White House adviser Ricky Gill to Delhi for IMEC conference

Suhasini Haidar NEW DELHI

Amidst turmoil over the Bilateral Trade Agreement (BTA) and impending 25% tariffs on U.S. imports of Indian goods, U.S. President Donald Trump's most senior point-person for the region will lead a delegation to Delhi next week.

Ricky Gill, who is the Special Assistant to the U.S. President for National Security Affairs and the U.S. National Security Council's Senior Director for South and Central Asia, has been invited by India's National Security Council Secretariat (NSCS) to discuss the future of the longdelayed India-Middle East-Europe Economic Corridor (IMEC) on August 5



Critical dialogue: Ricky Gill and the U.S. delegation are expected to hold talks with MEA officials during their visit to New Delhi. X/USIBC

Officials of the NSCS, which is led by National Security Adviser (NSA) Ajit Doval, did not respond to requests for details of the conference. According to sources, a number of countries involved in the project have been invited to attend apart from the U.S.

While the IMEC was

launched on the sidelines of the G-20 in September 2023, it has not made much progress since, due to the October 7 terror attacks in Israel, and Israel's bombardment of Gaza in which more than 60,000 people have been killed. The Israeli port of Haifa is a key part of the original IMEC project, although scholars have suggested alternative considering alignments.

# **Sanctions impact**

During their stay in Delhi, Mr. Gill and the U.S. delegation are also expected to hold talks with MEA offi-"The visit underscores the United States' continued commitment to advancing regional connectivity and infrastructure cooperation with key partners across South Asia, the Middle East and the Mediterranean," the U.S. Embassy spokesperson told The Hindu.

Officials said the visit had been planned several weeks in advance and is not connected to the current trade issues between the two countries. Howevperience in the U.S. NSC working on Russian and Iranian sanctions, both of which are now being imposed on Indian entities, and these might come up during talks.

er, Mr. Gill has previous ex-

On Thursday, the U.S. State Department sanctioned eight Indian entities and five Indian nationals for their alleged engagement in the oil trade with Iran.

announced that, in addition to the 25% reciprocal tariffs that would be imposed on Indian exports from August 7, Indian goods would face added 'penalties" due to India's import of Russian oil, purchase of Russian military hardware, and membership in BRICS grouping.

The Hindu Bureau

Telangana Chief Minister

and Congress leader A. Re-

vanth Reddy has under-

lined the need for further

strengthening the coopera-

tion between the Congress

and the Left parties, as the

understanding between

the two will help in serving

The Chief Minister re-

called the role played by

Communists in helping the

Congress come to power in

the past as well as present,

and said that the coordina-

tion should continue in fu-

ture too. He was speaking

at the anniversary celebra-

tions of Telugu daily Nava

Telangana, which is

backed by the CPI (Mar-

xist), in Hyderabad on

HYDERABAD

people.

Friday.

Congress, Left parties

should strengthen

ties: Telangana CM

# 'Trump must receive Nobel Peace Prize'

**Press Trust of India** NEW YORK/WASHINGTON

U.S. President Donald Trump should be awarded the Nobel Peace Prize, White House Press Secretary Karoline Leavitt has said, claiming that the U.S. President ended several conflicts around the world including the one between India and Pakistan.

At a White House press briefing on Thursday, she said Mr. Trump brokered, ceasefire per month during his six months in office.

Since May 10, when he announced that India and Pakistan agreed to a ceasefire after talks mediated by Washington, he has repeated his claim on several occasions that he helped settle the tensions between the two countries.

# Woman deported to Pakistan after Pahalgam attack to get visitor's visa

Vijaita Singh NEW DELHI

The Centre has informed the Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh High Court that it has decided to grant a visitor's visa to a 62-yearold homemaker who was deported to Pakistan post-Pahalgam terror attack. The court said the particular case should not set a precedent in any manner.

The petitioner, Rakshanda Rashid, a Pakistani citizen married to an Indian, had been living in Jammu for the past 38 years on a long-term visa (LTV), which was annually renewed. She had applied for a citizenship in 1996 but the request is yet to be processed.

After the terror attack on April 22, the Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) cancelled the visas of all Pakistani citizens and asked them to leave the country by April 29. Ms. Rashid was deported despite the MHA directive that Muslim women who are married to Indian citizens and who



Rakshanda Rashid

have applied for LTVs are not required to leave the country. At the time of her deportation, her LTV application was pending with the Ministry. Solicitor-General (SG)

Tushar Mehta, appearing for the MHA, informed the court on July 30 that "after much deliberations and considering the peculiarity of the facts and unusual factual position in the matter, an in-principle decision is taken by the authority to grant a visitor's visa to the respondent."

Visitor's visas are only granted to Pakistan nationals to visit relatives or for other legitimate any purpose.

The SG said the respondent could also pursue the two pending applications – to acquire Indian citizenship and also the LTV with

The Hindu was the first to report about Ms. Rashid's case on June 23.

# In distress

Ms. Rashid's daughter, Fatima Sheikh, had told The Hindu that her mother had no relatives in Pakistan, and for the past three months she had been living alone in a small hotel and had run out of money. Ankur Sharma, Ms.

Rashid's counsel, told The Hindu that they had appealed to the court for a remedy and did not want to take an adversarial position against the government. "The writ petition has been withdrawn and we welcome the court's order. Ms. Rashid will have to apply for a visa at the Indian High Commission in Islamabad," Mr. Sharma

said. The woman's family moved the court in May. On June 6, Judge Rahul Bharti directed the Union Home Secretary to bring back the petitioner from Pakistan in 10 days. On June 29, the MHA appealed against the order stating that "judiciary should not override" the executive's decision to deport a foreign national. It added that the High Court order is constitutionally impermissible and unsustainable, as it directs the enforcement of a judicial writ bevond the sovereign territory of India to Pakistan, where she was deported and was thus ultra vires.

The July 30 order by the Division Bench of Chief Justice Arun Palli and Justice Rajnesh Oswal said, "The Solicitor General of India submits that once an inprinciple decision is taken by the competent authority, there is hardly a room for any doubt that post compliance of the requisite procedure and formalities, the authority would not process and accord a visitor's visa to the respondent

at the earliest."

'Created awareness'

The dailies backed by the Left parties especially strove to create awareness among people on social evils or stigmas and Nava Telangana was one among

Revanth said some newspapers are trying to 'hide the mistakes' of the parties that are promoting them

them, Mr. Revanth said. "Parties of the yesteryears used dailies to spread their ideology," he recalled.

However, Mr. Reddy expressed concern that newspapers, those launched with political motivation in particular, were working to protect their monetary interests as well as hide the mistakes of the parties promoting them. "People should keenly observe the behaviour of some political dailies which are trying to influence them in the garb of journalism," he said.

Added to this was the influence of the social media allowing unqualified people to masquerade as journalists. "The time has come when genuine journalists are forced to define the meaning of journalism holding seminars," he said.

# Tamil Nadu's engine of progress: education for all

As the State proudly sends off another batch of students from the most disadvantaged backgrounds to the most prestigious educational institutions in the country, one must look back at Tamil Nadu's legacy in pushing to make education accessible to all; the success stories are not isolated, they reflect a systemic change



Chief Minister of

here are many reasons for Tamil Nadu's tremendous economic and social progress over the last century, but if I had to choose just one, it would be education. If social justice is our ideology, then education is its most effective instrument to carry it forward. Education for all, not just those who can afford it or have the "merit" for it, is an equaliser and an enabler. It is the foundation upon which we continue to build an equitable Tamil society

The seeds of this vision were sown more than a century ago. In the year 1920, a school in Thousand Lights area under the then Municipal Corporation of Madras became the first in India to serve mid-day meals to its students. The initiative, approved by the then Madras Corporation Council and inspired by Justice Party leader P. Theagaraya Chetty, was a pioneer ing act of both compassion and

Today, that idea has evolved into one of the largest and most effective school meal programmes in the world, topped up with the Breakfast Scheme which was launched in 2022 by this government. It is one of many reforms that illustrate how Tamil Nadu has used its education policy not just to improve learning outcomes, but to bring about equality in society.

Recently, we witnessed another powerful expression of that vision in action. A total of 135 students from Adi Dravidar and Tribal Welfare Schools have secured admission to some of India's most presti-

higher educational institutions like the Indian Institutes of Technology, the National Institutes of Technology, the National Institutes of Fashion Technology, the National Law Universities, Miranda House and other leading colleges of the University of Delhi, and more. Further, all the six seats reserved for Scheduled Tribes students at the Rajiv Gandhi National Aviation University were bagged by students from Tamil Nadu through the national counselling process.

This is the outcome of consistent, targeted and well-implemented policy. These students, most of whom studied in government schools from Class 6 to 12, were felicitated by the Government of Tamil Nadu with laptops and certificates of appreciation. Each of these students has achieved something remarkable not just in the context of their personal journey, but in the context of Tamil Nadu's long-standing goals of equity and access.

These successes are the result of carefully designed support systems. The students received focused training in exams for admissions into various reputed institutions. We have built a strong support system to ensure that Adi Dravidar and tribal students are not left behind in their pursuit of

At every stage, from primary school to research, students receive scholarships that ease the financial pressures and help them stay in school. Free education, textbooks and uniforms further re-



Step by step: The Tamil Nadu government's breakfast scheme is among the many measures taken to improve access to education for the marginalised. FILE PHOTO

duce the cost of learning, making it easier for families to keep their children in classrooms rather than

For students from remote areas, the government provides safe hostels with food and accommodation, removing the daily struggle of travel or lack of basic facilities. Alongside academic support, skill training programmes are conducted to prepare students for realworld employment. To ensure these students do not face entry barriers, the government also offers fee waivers and concessions for entrance exams to top institutions.

Together, these measures create a support ecosystem that extends beyond classrooms. These are efforts rooted in evidence and guided by principles of equality, beginning early and continuing throughout the student's educational journey. The impact of these efforts is visible in the increasing number of students from marginalised backgrounds securing seats in top institutions. In recent years, Tamil Nadu has consistently produced one of the most inclusive higher education landscapes in In-

Tamil Nadu's Gross Enrolment Ratio (GER) in higher education stands at 47%, while the national average is 28.4%. Among women, Tamil Nadu's GER is 47.3%, against the national figure of 28.5%. These figures are the result of a political movement that placed social equity at the heart of governance, and an administrative system that has pursued that goal with seriousness and clarity.

The roots of this achievement lie in the social justice movement and the educational reforms initiated by the Justice Party and later institutionalised by the Dravidian movement.

In the year 1921, the Justice Party passed the historic Government

Order, which came to be known as

the Communal GO, that ensured access to education for children from all communities, particularly the marginalised.

Such early interventions laid the foundation for today's system. The governments formed by the DMK since 1967, built upon this legacy with transformative policies and schemes. These moves were not without resistance, but the party held firm to the belief that educational opportunity is a fundamental right for all, not only for a privileged few.

Our government continues to innovate. Schemes such as the Pudhumai Penn Thittam, which offers ₹1,000 per month as stipend to girl students from government or aided schools pursuing college education, are making a measurable impact in promoting higher education among women. The Illam Thedi Kalvi initiative, launched in the wake of the CO-VID-19 pandemic, has helped ensure educational continuity, bridglearning gaps among vulnerable communities. The free breakfast scheme for primary school students has improved attendance and nutrition, especially in rural and disadvantaged areas. Taken together, these schemes have contributed to the growing pipeline of students from disadvantaged backgrounds who are excelling in competitive environments. Importantly, these are not isolated success stories. They reflect a systemic change.

When students from disadvantaged sections of society make it to institutions of eminence, it reaffirms our core belief that excellence in education is not the preserve of the privileged, but the natural outcome of providing equal opportunity and support.

The 135 students we felicitated on July 31, 2025, represent more than individual achievement. They remind us that the governance model of Tamil Nadu, built on social justice, inclusivity and rational planning, works, and works well.

Their success is a collective one. It belongs to the families who supported them, to the teachers who guided them and to this government which designed and implemented the schemes that enabled them.

As we send them off to embark on the next stage of their academic journeys, we do so with pride and hope. We are confident that they will succeed in their chosen fields of study and become bright professionals in their future careers. Inspired by them, many more will follow in their footsteps, turning these few success stories into a wave of prosperity and upliftment.

We are aware that there are still inequalities to correct and challenges to be met, but we are cleareyed about the path forward and the steps we need to take. The government will keep investing in schemes that unlock the potential of those who need them the most. We will ensure equal opportunities for all, guided by our cherished principles of social justice. We will empower our people through education, so we can keep building a Tamil Nadu that is just, prosperous and humane.

# Congress has 'atom bomb' of evidence against EC, says Rahul; panel calls it 'wild allegation'

Alleging 'vote theft' by the poll body at the behest of the BJP, the Congress leader warns officials that they won't be spared for being 'involved' in such manipulation; EC says it is 'deplorable' that its staff are being threatened; Parliament disrupted over Bihar SIR, INDIA demands discussion on the issue

The Hindu Bureau

ccusing the Election Commission of being involved in "vote chori" (vote theft), Leader of the Opposition in the Lok Sabha Rahul Gandhi on Friday said that his party had discovered evidence that would leave the poll body with "no place to hide". He compared the evidence in their possession to an "atom bomb".

Responding to Mr. Gandhi, the EC accused him of making "wild allegations" and said it was "deplorable" that the Opposition leader had started threatening the poll panel and its staff.

Mr. Gandhi asserted that it was an "open and shut case", and accused the poll panel of "stealing votes for the BJP". He also held out a warning to EC officials that they will not be spared as they were working against the country.

"I want to say that the persons in the EC doing this – right from the top to the bottom – we won't spare. You are working against India and this is treason. No matter where you are, retired or otherwise, we will find you," the Congress leader said.

"We believe that vote theft has happened at the State level [in Maharashtra]. Voter revision had happened and one crore voters were added. Then



Matter of discussion: Mallikarjun Kharge, Priyanka Gandhi and other leaders protesting on Parliament premises on Friday. ANI

we went into detail, and with the EC not helping, decided to dig deep into

this," he said. "We got our own investigation done, it took six months and what we found is an atom bomb. When it explodes, the EC would have no place to hide anywhere in the country," he added.

A senior EC official said: "The Election Commission ignores such baseless allegations being made on a daily threats being given, asks all election officials to ignore such irresponsible statements and work in a fair and transparent man-The exchanges came on

daily basis, and despite the

a day when leaders of the INDIA bloc submitted a joint letter to Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla demanding a discussion on the special intensive revision (SIR) of electoral rolls in Bihar.

The issue also forced multiple disruptions in the Lok Sabha as Opposition members trooped into the well of the House with placards in their hands. Eventually, the House was ad-

journed for the day. "I have said vote *chori* is happening and now we

have open-and-shut proof that the EC is involved in vote chori. I am saying this with 100% proof. As soon as we release it, the whole country would know that the EC is indulging in vote chori. It is doing it for the

BJP," Mr. Gandhi alleged. On a day when the EC published its draft electoral rolls for Bihar, the Opposition intensified its campaign against the SIR, alleging the EC's exercise was aimed at "disenfranchising voters" ahead of the Assembly election.

The INDIA bloc leaders protested outside Parliament and wrote to the Lok Sabha Speaker, urging him to schedule a special discussion without any further delay.

# Vice-Presidential poll to be held on Sept. 9; counting same day

**Sreeparna Chakrabarty** 

The election to the post of Vice-President will be held on September 9, and the counting of votes will take place the same day, the Election Commission (EC) announced on Friday.

The notification will be issued on August 7, and the last date for filing nomination papers will be August 21. The date for the scrutiny of nominations will be August 22 and the last date for withdrawal of candidatures is August 25.

September 9 is the date on which polling, if necessary, will be held, the EC said in a statement. The polling shall take place in Room No. F-101, Vasudha, First Floor, Parliament

House, New Delhi. The election has been

Deletion of 65 lakh names

just a beginning: Yogendra

necessitated due to the sudden resignation of Jagdeep Dhankhar on July 21.

The Vice-President is elected by the members of an electoral college consisting of the members of Parliament.

For the year, which would be the Vice-Presidential polls, the electoral college consists of 233 elected members of the Rajya Sabha (five seats are now vacant), 12 nominated members of the Rajya Sabha, and 543 elected members of the Lok Sabha (one seat is vacant).

The electoral college comprises a total of 788 members, out of which 782 will be able to vote. Since all the electors are members of Parliament, the value of the vote of each MP would be the same: one.

# Opposition protest over Bihar electoral roll revision stalls Rajya Sabha proceedings

The Hindu Bureau NEW DELHI

The Rajya Sabha failed to function on Friday, as the Opposition intensified its protest demanding a discussion on the ongoing special intensive revision (SIR) of electoral rolls in

At 11 a.m., following the laying of papers, Deputy Chairman Harivansh informed the House that he had received 30 notices for adjournment motions, of which 21 were related to the SIR in Bihar. Citing precedents, he rejected the motions, which led to an uproar from the Opposition benches.

Rashtriya Janata Dal leader Manoj Kumar Jha urged the Chair to allow a discussion on the issue.

"This is a *sub judice* mat-



conducts proceedings in the House amid protest on Friday. ANI

ter and the rules of this House are very clear. I cannot allow [a discussion]," he said, urging the protesting members to return to their seats. The House was then adjourned till noon.

When the House reconvened, Opposition members resumed their protest. Trinamool Congress Parliamentary Party leader Derek O'Brien, DMK floor leader Tiruchi Siva, and Aam Aadmi Party leader Sanjay Singh attempted to enter the well of the House. They were initially stopped by marshals but eventually pushed past the blockade, following which the House was adjourned

for the day. Minutes after this, the

Leader of the Opposition and Congress president, Mallikarjun Kharge, wrote to Mr. Harivansh, objecting to the deployment of security personnel. He said he was "shocked and astonished" to see CISF personnel being made to run inside the House.

Sharing the letter on X, Congress chief whip Jairam Ramesh said, "After the sudden and unprecedented resignation of the Chairman of the Rajya Sabha, we are now seeing the takeover of the chamber of the Council of States by the personnel of the CISF."

Mr. O'Brien also criticised the government, stating: "Ten sittings of the monsoon session have gone by, we have been asking since Day One that we want a debate on SIR... But instead of listening to our

demand, the government is continuing to disrupt Parliament. What we witnessed today has never happened in the history of the Rajya Sabha."

**Government response** Parliamentary Affairs Minister Kiren Rijiju denied the Opposition's allegations. He said it was the MPs themselves who had demanded increased security, which led to the deployment personnel.

malicious," he said.

"Members have sometimes physically taken a stand atop the treasury table and near the well. Security has been deployed to stop them from doing this. Marshals and security inside the House will not Hindu. take any action till the time MPs indulge in something

# Yadav on draft voter list The Hindu Bureau

Yogendra Yadav, political analyst and founder of Swaraj Abhiyan, on Friday said that though the overall number of 7.24 crore voters on the draft voter list released by the Election Commission was not surprising, it was disappointing that the poll panel had not yet released the 65 lakh names that had been removed.

He said Bihar had 8.18 crore adults, according to the Census, but the draft rolls had only 7.24 crore names. "The EC is not even ashamed of it," he told *The* 

Mr. Yadav said, "The real game begins now." The category called "not

recommended by the booth-level officer" would come up for special scrutiny, and the names in that category were likely to become the first candidates for deletion, he said, adding that those who failed to submit documents in the next month could also face deletion.

"The numbers could be huge," Mr. Yadav said, and added that, if anyone made objections, a lot of other voters could also find their names deleted from the "On these three grounds, people may still be eliminated. So 65 lakh is just the beginning," he

'Where is the list?' "The EC has been proclaiming from the rooftop that they have made these deleted names available to the political parties. Where is the list? Sadly, the EC has not released that list and the format in which the EC has released the information today makes it virtually impossible to compare it with the previous list," he added. "It is virtually impossible to extract that information, and that is not befitting a constitutional authority like the EC. The list conceals more than it reveals," he said.

Mr. Yadav urged that the special intensive revision exercise should scrapped. "This is not just an exercise for revision of electoral roll. It is an exercise for changing the architecture of India's universal adult franchise," he said.



# Vice-Admiral Sanjay Vatsayan takes charge as Navy vice-chief

Vice-Admiral Sanjay Vatsayan assumed charge as the Vice-Chief of the Naval Staff (VCNS) on Friday. Upon assuming office, he paid homage to fallen personnel who made the supreme sacrifice in service of the nation by laying a wreath at the National War Memorial in New Delhi. The Indian Navy stated that Vice-Admiral Vatsayan is a specialist in gunnery and missile systems, and has held a broad spectrum of command, operational and staff appointments over a distinguished naval career spanning more than three decades. At sea, he has served aboard several frontline warships, including the guided missile destroyer INS Mysore and INS Nishank.

# Indian naval ships arrive in Manila to strengthen ties

Indian Navy's Eastern Fleet arrived in Manila with INS Delhi, Shakti, and Kiltan, reaffirming maritime ties with the Philippines and commitment to the Indo-Pacific. The Navy said that as part of its ongoing operational deployment to Southeast Asia, the ships of the Eastern Fleet, commanded by Rear Admiral Susheel Menon, Flag Officer Commanding, Eastern Fleet, arrived at Manila. The ships were welcomed by personnel of the Philippine Navy. The visit is a testimony to Indian Navy's commitment to strengthening partnerships in the Indo-Pacific.

# SC extends stay on defamation case against Shashi Tharoor

The Supreme Court on Friday asked why the complainant who initiated defamation proceedings against Congress MP Shashi Tharoor for his alleged "scorpion on Shivling" remark targeting Prime Minister Narendra Modi is being "so touchy" and remarked there is hardly a case. "Why do you want to be so touchy about all this? Let us close all this," Justice M.M. Sundresh addressed BIP leader Rajeev Babbar's counsel. The court continued to extend the stay on the defamation proceedings in the trial court. The stay was originally granted in September 2024. On Friday, the court posted the case next for September 15. The case is based on a complaint filed by Mr. Babbar against Mr. Tharoor in 2018.

# Centre halts order granting release of film *Udaipur Files*

The Centre on Friday informed the Delhi High Court that it was withdrawing its decision granting nod to the release of the film Udaipur Files - Kanhaiya Lal Tailor Murder, and will take a decision on the revision petitions "afresh". The court, which was hearing two pleas challenging the Centre's decision allowing the release of the movie, directed the parties to appear before the government on August 4 and make their submissions. The court was informed by counsel for the film's producer that the movie was scheduled to be released on August 8 and they would take some time for making arrangements for releasing it by engaging the theatres.

Across

8 Toneless singer at seaside town (4)

12 Mum's taking in tough dogs (8)

13 One on the Rolls, perhaps? (8)

11 Believe director lost gold when travelling (6)

9 Place for heartbreak? (5)

# 12th Fail named best film; Shah Rukh, Vikrant Massey, and Rani best actors

71st National Film Awards announced; best male actor award for a supporting role shared by Vijayaraghavan and Muthupettai Somu Bhaskar; Urvashi and Janki Bodiwala share best female actor award in the same category

#### The Hindu Bureau

NEW DELHI

he best male actor award was shared by Shah Rukh Khan for Jawan and Vikrant Massey for 12th Fail, which won the best feature film award at the 71st National Film Awards announced on Friday. Rani Mukerji was adjudged the best female actor for her role in Mrs Chatterjee vs Norway. This year, a total of 332 feature films, 115 non-feature films, 27 books, and 16 critics came for selection for the awards for 2023. Mr. Khan and Ms. Mukerji, senior artists, won the best actor awards for the first time.

The best male actor award for a supporting role was shared by Vijayaraghavan for Pookkaalam (Malavalam) and Muthupettai Somu Bhaskar for Parking (Tamil); Urvashi won the best female actor award for a supporting role for Ullozhukku (Malayalam) along with Janki Bodiwala for Vash (Gujarati). The best child artist award went to Sukriti Veni Bandreddi; Kabir Khandare; and Treesha Thosar, Shrinivas Pokale and Bhargav Jagtap, for Gandhi Tatha Chettu (Telu-

#### The credits roll...



gu), Gypsy (Marathi), and Naal 2, respectively. The best direction

Kaafi Hai (Hindi)

award went to Sudipto Sen for The Kerala Story (Hindi), which was also recognised for best cinematogra-(Prasantanu Mohapatra). PVNS Rohit was adjudged the best male singer for the song Premisthunna in the film Baby (Telugu), which also won for the best screenplay (Sai Rajesh Neelam). Shilpa Rao won the title of best female

singer for Chaleya in Jawan

(Hindi).

tion, visual effects, gaming The award for best debut film was bagged by Ashish Bende for Aatmapamphlet (Marathi), and design were bagged by Ani-

by Meghna Gulzar, was recognised as the best film promoting national, social, and environmental values. Naal 2 (Marathi), directed by Sudhakar Reddy Yakkanti, topped the best children's film category, while

Hanu-Man (Telugu) won

for be best film in anima-

the best popular film by

Rocky Aur Rani Kii Prem Ka-

haani directed by Karan Jo-

har. Sam Bahadur, directed

and comic category. The awards for sound

Kahaani (Hindi)

mal (Hindi) (Sachin Sudhakaran and Hariharan Muralidharan); for editing by Midhun Murali in Pookkaalam; production design by Mohandas in 2018: Everyone Is A Hero (Malayalam), music direction by G.V. Prakash Kumar in Vaathi (Tamil) and Harshavardhan Rameshwar in Animal; and lyrics by Karsarla Shyam in Balagam (Ooru Palleturu - Telugu).

The best choreography award went to Vaibhavi Merchant for Rocky Aur Rani Kii Prem Kahaani (Dhindhora Baje Re); and the best action direction award (stunt choreography) to Nandu Prudhvi for Hanu-Man. Sam Bahadur, a biopic on Field Marshal Sam Manekshaw, was named in categories for make-up and costume, while Sanya Malhotra-starrer Kathal: A Jackfruit Mystery was adjudged the best Hindi film.

Deepak Kingrani was recognised as the best dialogue writer for the Hindi film Sirf Ek Bandaa Kaafi Hai. Rongatapu 1982 (Assamese), Deep Fridge (Bengali), Parking, Kandeelu (Kan-Shyamchi nada), (Marathi), Pushkara (Odia), Godday Godday Chaa (Punjabi), and Bhagavanth Kesari (Telugu) won in the lan-

guage film categories. The Hindi film *Flowering* Man won for the best nonfeature film. The best documentary award went to God Vulture and Human; the best director award to Piyush Thakur for *The First* Film; and the best script award was bagged by Kannada short film *Sunflowers* were the First Ones to Know by Chidananda Nayak.

# Whole nation fights war, not just military: Rajnath Singh

Saurabh Trivedi NEW DELHI

Calling for an enhanced civil-military synergy, Defence Minister Rajnath Singh said on Friday that war was not fought by the military alone, but by the whole nation.

Mr. Singh was addressing the 84th Armed Forces Headquarters (AFHQ) Civilian Services Day at DRDO Bhavan, where he said that in the "rapidly changing security scenario, there is a need to move ahead with dynamism and innovative spirit while making constant improvements according to the evolving needs", said a statement from the government.

The Minister said the "exceptional back-end support" provided by different departments of the Ministry of Defence to the Armed Forces was key to the success of Operation Sindoor.

"AFHQ Services acts as an institutional memory for the Ministry of Defence (MoD). It provides consistency, domain expertise and uniformity in the administration, while playing a key role in policy continuity and establishing civilmilitary synergy. It is a strong pillar of a modern and integrated national defence system," he said.

# 'Report on failure analysis of PSLV-C61/EOS-09 mission to be submitted to PM soon'

# <u>Tiki Rajwi</u>

THIRUVANANTHAPURAM

The failure analysis committee has pinpointed the problem that caused the failure of the Polar Satellite Launch Vehicle-C61/Earth Observation Satellite-09 (PSLV-C61/EOS-09) mission in May, V. Narayanan, Chairman, Indian Space Research Organisation (IS-RO), said on Friday.

The analysis is over and the committee's report will shortly be handed over to Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Mr. Naravanan said on the sidelines of a programme here.

Mr. Narayanan described the problem as a "small" one, but said he could reveal the details only after the report is submitted to the Prime Minister.



The ISRO had said the PSLV-C61 performance was normal till Stage 2, but due to a snag in the third stage, the mission failed. PTI

The PSLV-C61/EOS-09 had a perfect lift-off from the Satish Dhawan Space Centre, Sriharikota, on May 18. The mission's objective was to place the EOS-09 satellite in a sunsynchronous polar orbit. The mission failed to achieve its objective, causing an unusual setback for

the space agency with the PSLV, often described as its trusted workhorse for its reliability. Immediately afterwards, the ISRO had stated that the "PSLV-C61 performance was normal till second stage. Due to an observation in the third stage, the mission could not be accomplished."

# ISRO gearing up for next U.S. collaboration with BlueBird communications satellite

The Hindu Bureau THIRUVANANTHAPURAM

The Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) is hoping to launch the Block 2 BlueBird communications satellite developed by the U.S.-based AST bile in three or four months, Chairman of the space agency V. Narayanan said here on Friday.

This Indo-U.S. collaboration follows the NASA IS-RO Synthetic Aperture Radar Mission (NISAR) which the ISRO successfully launched on July 30 using the Geosynchronous Satellite Launch Vehicle (GSLV). The BlueBird satellite will be launched from the Satish Dhawan Space Centre, Sriharikota, aboard LVM3, ISRO's heftiest launch vehicle which was formerly known as the GSLV-Mk III,



V. Narayanan

he said.

The BlueBird satellite, weighing around 6,500 kg, is expected to arrive in India in September. Work is also progressing on the mission launch vehicle.

On whether U.S. President Donald Trump's trade policies would affect collaboration in science and technology, Mr. Narayanan said he "fully believes that whatever technology contracts that India has signed will be executed".

Mr. Narayanan reiterated ISRO's plans to have the first of three uncrewed missions planned ahead of the Gaganyaan human space flight in December 2025. The remaining two uncrewed missions are expected in 2026.

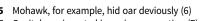
The ISRO had earlier announced plans to have the crewed mission in the first quarter of 2027. This schedule will be kept after studying the performance of the uncrewed missions.

On the development of the Gaganyaan programme, he said the human-rating of the launch vehicle has been completed. The development of the orbital module is in an "advanced stage", he said, adding the development of the crew escape system is nearing completion.

# TH CROSSWORD+14553

@ https://qrgo.page.link/jjpTn 15 Mohawk, for example, hid oar deviously (6)





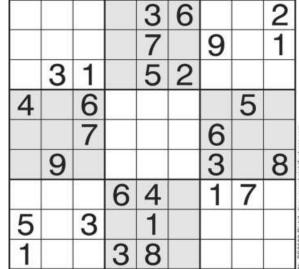
Capital one invested in casino renovation (7) Military unit starts to battle desperate extremists around

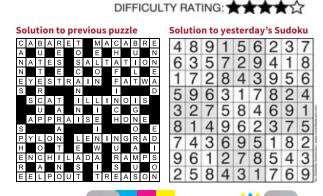
To solve this puzzle online,

get across to our crossword site.

- country capital (7) Women's rowing team's tonnage, perhaps (6)
- Sailor boy in enclosure gets a bit of salad vegetables (8) Badly hated fight in part of prison holding inmates awaiting
- execution (5.3)
- Measure of volume of ship having no energy source (6)
- This, for example: "Caught girl leaving glue" (4)
- Guide cattle (5)
- 32 Military organisation running amok in the middle of mutiny? (4)
- 1 Couple's normal around 1 (4) 2 Before John, Virginia consumes Indian dish (8)
- Southern gate guard (6)
- Instrument got from alien following president (7)
- Luminous substance produced when developing photographs not having tag (8)
- Celestial twins's jewel in India (6)
- See a female kill time (4)
- Ms West travels across Indiana state (5)
- Avoid admitting director in Department of Government Efficiency at first (5)
- What an uncle might want to collect unreasonably? (8)
- Cad following aim put in full effort (2,3,3)
- Animal in vehicle glared (7)
- Drain person disembowelling carcass (6)
- Garbo went around with model actor (6) General returned with small fishes (4)
- 29 Drop ring at premier technical institution (4)

# SUDOKU





# Bhakta Ramadasu

God does not forsake anyone during difficult times; on the contrary, He comes closer to the devotee who is beseeching Him for divine grace, said Suchithra Balasubramanian.

The devotion of Bhadrachala Ramadasu is a case in point. An ardent devotee of Rama, who gets initiated into Rama mantra, he falls upon bad times and is unable to conduct Rama Navami festivities. On the advice of his wife, he approaches his uncles who are high officials in the Moghul court. Rather than giving a handout, the uncles get the ruler to appoint him as tax collector of Bhadrachalam. An ecstatic Ramadasu proceeds there, only to find the temple in a dilapidated condition. With tacit agreement from the residents, he uses the money collected as tax to renovate the temple, hoping to replace the same once the harvest is done. However, the ruler notices the absence of tax money and Ramadasu is summoned. He tries to explain to the ruler that he had diverted the funds for a noble cause, but the ruler is firm. Ramadasu is sent on solitary confinement for 12 years; he is also caned. The poet composes numerous kritis, alternatively beseeching Rama for His forgiveness, pleading with Him, and even getting angry with Him. Ramadasu asks, "These hands which served you are beaten with rods. Who else will I tell all this to, Rama? You have a title that says you will save those who surrender to You," he reminds the Lord in his compositions. Rama and Lakshmana appear in a dream to the ruler, wherein Lakshmana gently pulls a thread from a piece of fabric belonging to Sita, and the exact amount of gold coins fall next to the ruler, as settlement of dues and Ramadasu is freed.



# NSE pays SEBI \$4.6 mn to settle data sharing case

The National Stock Exchange of India has paid ₹403.5 million (\$4.6 million) to the markets regulator to settle a case involving the indirect sharing of confidential information on listed companies with a third-party vendor. India's largest bourse operator shared the information with its unit NSE Data and Analytics Limited (NDAL) "for onward distribution to a 3rd party vendor, without having any legally binding agreement in place," SEBI said in its order. REUTERS

# Volvo Car India introduces refreshed XC60 at ₹71.9 lakh

Volvo Car India on Friday introduced the refreshed XC60 Mild Hybrid SUV at an ex-showroom price of ₹71.9 lakh. "The XC60 has consistently been one of our most successful models globally. With the latest refreshed XC60, we are elevating the user experience to the next level, from a new-generation infotainment system and enhanced safety features to a contemporary Scandinavian design language," said Jyoti Malhotra, MD, Volvo Car India.

# BIAL completes private placement of ₹9,000 cr. NCDs

Bangalore International Airport Limited (BIAL), the JV firm operating Bengaluru Airport, on Friday said it has completed the issuance of unlisted non-convertible debentures (NCDs) worth ₹9,000 crore. The transaction is being undertaken in two tranches – ₹4,362 crore completed on July 25 and ₹4,638 crore scheduled for early October this year – BIAL said. With a 15-year tenure, the refinancing allows the company to conserve capital, it said. PTI

# 'Suggest tough F&O entry barriers for retail clients'

Ashokamithran T. MUMBAI

The Association of National Exchanges Members of India (ANMI) recommended raising entry barriers for futures and options (F&O) trade to make cash markets attractive to retail participants, amid charges of market manipulation by U.S.' Jane Street.

President of the association K. Suresh suggested the conduct of an exam by bodies such as National Institute of Securities Market (NISM) or stipulating minimum net worth to enter futures and options.

NISM certification is already mandatory for research advisors and stock brokers among others.

As per SEBI, 9 out of 10 players lose money in derivatives market dominated by large traders and firms using algorithms to process and execute trades in seconds, a facility that is often not available to the average retail participant.

# Maruti, M&M, Toyota sales rise, Hyundai, Tata Motors decline

Country's largest automaker posts marginal growth in total vehicle sales at 1.8 lakh units in July; SUVs contribute 71% to HMIL's domestic sales

The Hindu Bureau MUMBAI

aruti Suzuki India reported growth in total vehicles sales at 1,80,526 units in July 2025, compared with 1,75,041 units in the year-ago period, amid softening demand in the domestic market.

The total sales in the month included domestic sales of 1,40,570 units, sales of 8,211 units to other original equipment manufacturers (OEM) and exports of 31,745 units.

Hyundai Motor India Ltd., (HMIL) achieved total domestic sales of 43,973 units during the month and exported 16,100 units compared with domestic sales of 49,013 units and export of 15,550 units in



On a slow lane: Tata Motors' total PV dispatches in the domestic market declined 12% year-on-year to 39,521 units. REUTERS

the year-ago period.

Thus, total sales declined 7% to 60,073 units as compared with 64,563 units a year ago. SUVs contributed 71.8% to HMIL's monthly domestic sales in July 2025, the highest ever since inception, the company said. Tata Motors during the month reported

12% year-on-year (YoY) decline in passenger vehicle (PV) sales at 39,521 units. Toyota Kirloskar Motor saw sales volume grow 3% YoY to 32,575 units.

Mahindra & Mahindra Ltd.'s overall auto sales stood at 83,691 vehicles, a growth of 26%, including exports.

# **'U.S. sanctions** force vessels with Russian oil to divert'

Reuters

NEW DELHI/MOSCOW

At least two vessels loaded with Russian oil bound for refiners in India have diverted to other destinations following new U.S. sanctions, trade sources said and LSEG trade flows showed.

The U.S. Treasury Department this week imposed sanctions on more than 115 Iran-linked individuals, entities, and ships, some of which are involved in transporting Russian oil.

U.S. President Donald Trump has urged countries to halt purchases of oil from Moscow, threatening 100% tariffs unless Russia agrees to a significant peace deal with Ukraine.

Meanwhile, another report said Indian state refiners stopped buying Russian oil in the past week as discounts narrowed this month and Mr. Trump warned countries not to purchase oil from Moscow, industry sources said.

NIFTY 50

IARKET WATCH				
	FRIDAY	% CHANGE		
ensex	80,600	-0.72		
IS Dollar	87.18	0.53		
	97,620			
rent oil	69.50	-4.19		

2350.90.

dani Ports		
pollo Hosp	7351.50	146.50
sian Paints	2431.00	34.90
xis Bank	1062.40	-6.00
ajaj Auto	8044.50	36.50
ajaj Finserv	1916.30	31.70
ajaj Finance	875.60	5.60
harat Elec	377.20	-5.90
harti Airtel	1884.40	29.90
ipla	1502.80	51.80
oal India	372.50	3.85
r Reddys Lab	1220.60	49.70
icher Motors	5528.00	59.50
ternal Ltd.	304.75	3.05
rasim Ind	2722.20	24.20
ICL Tech	1452.10	15.80
IDFC Bank	2012.20	-6.00
IDFC Life	741.70	13.80
lero MotoCorp	4311.60	50.90
Iindalco	672.45	10.60
Iind Unilever	2553.70	32.50
CICI Bank	1471.60	9.80
ndusInd Bank	783.70	15.20
nfosys	1469.60	39.40
гс	416.45	4.50
io Financial Servic-		
s Ltd.	329.50	0.25
SW Steel	1027.80	20.50
otak Bank	1992.40	13.80
&T	3587.30	49.20
1&M	3159.30	43.80
laruti Suzuki	.12302.00	306.00
lestleIndia	2276.50	28.80
ITPC	330.90	3.35
NGC		
owerGrid Corp		
eliance Ind		
BI Life	1796.20	44.50
tate Bank	794.00	-2.55
hriram Finance		
td	614.20	16.65
un Pharma	1629.70	77.00
ataConsumerPro-		
uct		
ata Motors		
ata Steel		
CS	3003.00	33.80

#### **EXCHANGE RATES**

Trent Ltd.

Indicative direct rates in rupees a unit except yen at p.m. on August 01					
CURRENCY	TT BUY	TT SELL			
US Dollar	87.34	87.66			
Euro	99.60	99.97			
British Pound	114.95	115.38			
Japanese Yen (100)	58.04	58.25			
Chinese Yuan	12.11	12.16			
Swiss Franc	106.98	107.38			
Singapore Dollar	67.24	67.50			
Canadian Dollar	62.95	63.18			
Malaysian Ringitt	20.40	20.53			
Acceptable and Dellaw	FC 10	FC 22			

.1438.80.

.5180.00.

# July GST revenue up 7.5% to ₹1.96 lakh cr.

**The Hindu Bureau** NEW DELHI

The Central Government's gross revenue from Goods and Services Tax (GST) grew to ₹1.96 lakh crore in July, up 7.5% from the collections in July last year, and 6% higher than the collections in June 2025.

Refunds however, surged by nearly 67% to ₹27,147 crore in July 2025 compared with July last year. "It's heartening to see GST refunds picking up, not just for exports but also for domestic supplies," said Abhishek Jain, Indirect Tax Head and Partner

# Renault buys Nissan's remaining 51% stake in joint unit in Chennai

The Hindu Bureau

Renault Group on Friday said it had acquired Nissan's remaining 51% stake in Renault Nissan Automotive India Private Ltd. (RNAIPL), their joint plant in Chennai, thus becoming

the sole owner. Renault Group now fully owns its Chennai plant and the strategic move strengthens the group's ambition to make India a key pillar of its international growth, the company said. Meanwhile, Stéphane Deblaise has been appointed as CEO of Renault Group in India, effective September 1. "With full ownership of

our plant in Chennai, we now have all the means to accelerate in India," said François Provost, CEO Renault Group.

Mr. Deblaise joined Renault Group in 2000.

# Apple says it incurred tariff-related

**Aroon Deep** NEW DELHI

Karnataka does not need to give away land for cheap to attract IT and technology industry firms as the State "incentivised IT as a sunrise industry 30 years back," while others are "incentivising it now," the

State's Minister for Electronics, Information Technology & Biotechnology and Rural Development & Panchayat Raj Priyank Kharge told The Hindu in an interview. Mr. Kharge was speaking at the sidelines of an event in the capital to promote the Bengaluru Tech Summit, due to

be held in November.

'No need for Karnataka to give land for cheap to IT firms'

"If my counterpart in another State is giving large tracts of land for free, that doesn't mean that I need to do that too." Mr. Kharge said, arguing that due to Karnataka and par-Bengaluru's ticularly strong presence in the IT sector, such sops were not

"Competition needed. with other countries and States [in IT and electronics] has always been there," Mr. Kharge said.

"We compete with Ta mil Nadu on manufacturing, Telangana and Andhra Pradesh on ITES, and Maharashtra for FDI. We're also extremely competitive

with countries like Indonesia and Vietnam, where there is potential for smaller hubs of manufacturing and technology firms. This constant competition is what keeps us ahead of the curve for reskilling, pushing for better policies, and better infrastructure," Mr. Kharge said.

# Mini Tejaswi

Tech major Apple said it incurred a tariff-related cost of \$800 million in Q3 of FY2025 and that it estimates the impact to add about \$1.1 billion to costs in

MANAGING DIRECTOR

the September quarter.

costs of \$800 mn in Q3 of FY25

For the June quarter, Apple incurred approximately \$800 million of tariff-related costs, CEO Tim Cook said in the company's Q3 earnings announcement. "The June quarter saw a tariff-related cost of

GREATER HYDERABAD MUNICIPAL CORPORATION

O/o The Superintending Engineer. (Projects-C.N&EZ) GHMC Hyd

3. Last Date & Time for Receipts of Bids | 22-08-2025 upto 03.00 PM

be seen at 'e' Procurement https://tender.telangana.gov.in.

Tender Notice No. 04//SE (P-C,N&EZ)/GHMC/2025-26,

Events

Start date

Pre-Bid Meeting

4. Opening of Technical bid

Opening of Price bid

DIPR/C/10543/2025

**NATIONAL COMPETITIVE BIDDING** 

Name of Work: Construction of alternate roads around AOC centre under Engineering

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 seprojectsnez@gmail.com. Address of the officer concerned Sri P.Mohar Reddy, SE(P-C,N&EZ), 9989930369. Superintending Engineer (P-C,N&EZ), Greate Hyderabad Municipal Corporation, Tank Bund Road, Hyderabad. Further details car

DIPR R.O.No.5893-PP/CL/ADVT/1/2025-26 Dt. 01.08.2025 (Projects-C,N&EZ), GHMC

कार्यालय अधीक्षण अभियन्ता, सार्वजनिक निर्माण विभाग, वृत्त-धौलपुर

निविदा सूचना संख्याः 07/2025-26

राजस्थान के राज्यपाल महोदय की ओर से जिला धौलपुर में बजट वर्ष 2025-26 के अंतर्गत वृत

ocurement and Construction (EPC) / Turnkey Basis. IBM Value: Rs. 30700.74 Lakhs

\$800 million. For September quarter, we estimated impact to be \$1.1 billion. So, about \$2 billion will be the the cost impact from April to September, a six month period," the company said in response to a query from The Hindu.

Date and Time

Chief Engineer (Projects), GHMC 6th Floo GHMC Head Office Tank Bund, Hyderabad

Sd/- Executive Engine

सा.नि.वि. वृत्त धौलपुर

A ND-NDE

12-08-2025 at 03.00 PM Location: O/o

22-08-2025 after 04.00 PM



# ALL INDIA INSTITUTE OF MEDICAL SCIENCES VIJAYPUR, JAMMU - 181134

(A Central Autonomous Body under PMSSY, MoH&FW, Government of India)

Employment Notification No. 12/2025

All India Institute of Medical Sciences, Vijaypur, Jammu invites online applications for the following non-faculty posts on contract basis.

S.No	Name of Post	No. of Vacancy			
1	Perfusionist	01			
2.	Radiotherapy Technician Grade-II	01			
3.	Endoscopy Technician	01			
	Important Dates.				

Opening date of online Application forms/Job portal

Last date of filling up online application form

Last date of submit hard copy of Application form 18.08.2025 (Monday) lmportant:- For further details like Essential Qualification, Experience, Upper Age limit, Terms 8 Conditions etc., Please visit AIIMS Jammu website <u>www.aiimsjammu.edu.in</u> under Recruitmen > Open Job.

Registrar

30.07.2025 (Wednesday)

13.08.2025 (Wednesday)

For & on bahalf of ED & CEO, AllMS, Vijaypur, Jammu

#### **TENDER NOTICE** Sealed item rate tenders are invited from reputed contractors / firms for the below mentioned works of Cochin International Aviation Services Ltd. a wholly owned subsidiary of Cochin International Airport Limited. Name of Work 1 SITC OF ELV Works of New Hangar 37.64 Lakhs 1 Lakh 6 Months 2 SITC OF Electrical Works of New Hangar 83.3 Lakhs 2 Lakhs 6 Months 3 SITC OF Fire Protection Works of New Hangar 187 Lakhs 4 Lakhs 6 Months For more details visit our website www.ciasl.aero or www.cial.aero Ph: 0484-2611785, +91 9567621210, Email: civil@ciasl.in

COCHIN INTERNATIONAL AVIATION SERVICES LTD.

कार्यालय अतिरिक्त मुख्य अभियन्ता, सार्वजनिक निर्माण विभाग, संभाग, अजमेर क्रमांकः- अमअ/अज./तक./एफ-२( ३०ए )निविदा/डी-१४३३ NIB No .: - PWD2526A2124

राजस्थान के राज्यपाल महोदय की ओर से सीआरआईएफ योजनान्तर्गत वर्ष 2025-26 वे तहत चार सड़क कार्यों के लिए उपयुक्त श्रेणी में सार्वजनिक निर्माण विभाग राजस्थान में पंजीकृत संवेदकों एवं केन्द्रीय/राज्य सरकार व उनके अधिकृत संगठनों/केन्द्रीय लोक निर्माण विभाग/डाव एवं दूर संचार विभाग/रेल्वे इत्यादि में पंजीकृत संवेदकों, जो कि राजस्थान सरकार के एए श्रेणी के संवेदकों के समकक्ष हो, से निर्धारित प्रपत्र में कुल 04 कार्यों जिसकी लागत राशि रू 16300.18 लाख है, के लिए टेण्डरिंग प्रक्रिया हेर्तु ऑनलाईन निविदायें आमंत्रित की जाती हैं।

निविदा फार्म डाउनलोड एवं अपलोड बुधवार 23 जुलाई, 2025 प्रात: 9.30 बजे से गुरूवार 21 अगस्त, 2025 सायं 6.00 बजे तक करने की तारीख एवं समय

निविदा से सम्बन्धित समस्त विवरण वेबसाईट www.dipronline.org पर एवं निविदा दस्तावेज का विवरण वेबसाईट http://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in एवं sppp.raj.nic.in प देखा जा सकता है। सम्पूर्ण निविदा प्रक्रिया http://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in पर ऑनलाई-

UBN No.:- PWD2526WLOB07673 to PWD2526WLOB07676 अतिरिक्त मुख्य अभियन्ता,

DIPR/C/10510/2025 सा.नि.वि., संभाग, अजमेर

THE HUTTI GOLD MINES COMPANY LIMITED (A Government of Karnataka Undertaking) Hutti - 584 115, Raichur Dist., Karnataka State. Ph: (08537)276339/275463 e-Mail: material276339@gmail.com website: www.huttigold.karnataka.gov.ir

TENDER NOTIFICATION NO. 09/25-26 DT: 02.08.2025 (Through KPP Portal only) Tender is invited by "The Senior Manager (Materials)" for the following Tenders as detailed

טושט	w.	
SI. No.	Description	EMD in Rs.
1	Hiring of Project Management Consultant (PMC) for Providing Water Supply Scheme to Hutti Gold Mines in Lingsugur Taluk of Raichur District from Rasaya Sagar Reservoir at Narayannur. <b>HGML/2025-26/SE0056</b>	

Calendar of Events: (1) Pre-Bid Meetings (Zoom): 08.08.2025 at 10.30 AM. (2) Last date for receipt of tender: 16.08.2025 at 4.00 P.M. (3) Opening of Technical Bid on: 18.08.2025 at 10.00 A.M. For further details interested bidders are advised to log on to website https://www.kppp karnataka.gov.in or contact the office of undersigned during working hours. For participating in the above tender bidder needs to be registered in KPP Portal.

> Sd/-Senior Manager (Materials) **LEADING GOLD PRODUCER IN INDIA**

**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 Existing Due Date Revised Due Date Corrigendum and Time and Time ADA/AMCA/FSED/ EoI for Development of Sections 2.1,2.2, 2025, 5:00 PM EOI/01-2025. Advanced Medium 6 and associated 5:00 PM Combat Aircraft (AMCA) annexures June 2025 amended

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

Aeronautical Development Agenc P.B. No. 1718, Vimanapura Post, Bangalore - 560017



# World

THE HINDU

#### BEIRUT

At least four killed in Israeli strikes on southern and eastern Lebanon



A series of Israeli air strikes killed four in south and east Lebanon, the Health Ministry said on Friday, referring to strikes that occurred the previous evening. The Israeli military said it targeted Hezbollah "infrastructure that was used for producing and storing strategic weapons" in south Lebanon and the eastern Bekaa Valley, AFP

#### **QUETTA**

Afghans throng border as Pakistan issues a new call for them to leave



Pakistan issued a new call on Friday for Afghans living in the southwest to leave the country, triggering thousands to rush to the border. A deportation drive first launched in 2023 was renewed in April when Pakistan's government rescinded thousands of permits for Afghans, threatening to arrest anyone who did not leave. AFP

#### **BOGOTA**

Colombian former President Uribe sentenced to 12-year house arrest



A Colombian judge on Friday sentenced still-powerful former president Alvaro Uribe to 12 years of house arrest, capping a long and contentious career that defined Colombian politics for a generation. Mr. Uribe, aged 73, received the maximum possible sentence after being found guilty of witness tampering. AFP

#### **SWEIDA**

Protesters in Syria's Druze locality demand that govt. forces withdraw



Hundreds gathered in Syria's Druze heartland on Friday to demand the withdrawal of government forces after deadly sectarian violence last month and the opening of an aid corridor from Jordan. Sweida has seen tough humanitarian conditions since week-long clashes killed around 1.400 last month, according to a war monitor, AFP

# Trump to deploy nuclear submarines in response to Medvedev's comments

Words are important, and can often lead to unintended consequences, says U.S. President; he does not specify if he meant nuclear-powered or nuclear-armed submarines; neither does he elaborate on the locations, kept secret by the U.S. military

**Agence France-Presse** WASHINGTON

S. President Donald Trump said on Friday that he had ordered the deployment of two nuclear submarines in response to "highly provocative" comments by a senior Russian official.

"Based on the highly provocative statements of the Former President of Russia, Dmitry Medvedev..., I have ordered two Nuclear Submarines to be positioned in the appropriate regions, just in case these foolish and inflammatory statements are more than just that," Mr.



The U.S. keeps nuclear-armed submarines on patrol as part of its nuclear triad of land, sea and air-launched weapons. REUTERS

Trump posted on his Truth

Social platform. "Words are very impor-

tant, and can often lead to unintended consequences, I hope this will not be one of those instances.'

Mr. Trump did not say whether he meant nuclearpowered or nuclear-armed not elaborate on the locations, which are kept secret by the U.S. military.

The United States and Russia control the vast majority of the world's nuclear weaponry, and Washnuclear-armed submarines

on patrol as part of its socalled nuclear triad of land, sea and air-launched weapons.

Mr. Trump did not refer specifically to what Mr. Medvedev had said to prompt the highly unusual public display of nuclear saber-rattling.

However, Mr. Medvedev posted criticism on Thurs-

day of Mr. Trump on his Telegram account and alluded to the "fabled 'Dead Hand" - a reference to a highly secret automated system put in place during the Cold War to control the country's nuclear

weapons. This came after Mr. Trump had lashed out at what he called the "dead economies" of Russia and India.

Mr. Medvedev is currently deputy chairman of Russia's Security Council and a vocal proponent of President Vladimir Putin's war in Ukraine - and generally antagonistic relations with the West.

# Pakistan hails 19% tariffs under U.S. trade deal

**Press Trust of India** ISLAMABAD

Pakistan on Friday announced that the U.S. has imposed a 19% tariff on its exports and termed the step as a "balanced and forward-looking" that enhances the country's competitiveness in the American market. The new rate is down from the previous 29% tariff announced by U.S. President Donald Trump.

Welcoming the "successful conclusion" of the tariff-related discussions with the U.S., the Ministry of Foreign Affairs said, "As per the outcome of these talks, a tariff of 19% will be applicable for Pakistani exports to the U.S. market."

# Trump unveils slew of new tariffs while punishing Canada

Agence France-Presse WASHINGTON

U.S. President Donald Trump unveiled new tariffs Thursday on nearly 70 countries - including a blistering 35% on neighbour Canada – as he seeks to reshape global trade to benefit the U.S. economy.

However, in a minor reprieve that opens the door to further negotiations, the White House said the measures will take effect in a week for most countries, not Friday as previously expected.

Mr. Trump raised duties on nearly 70 economies, from a current 10% level imposed in April when he unleashed "reciprocal" tariffs citing unfair trade practices.

#### Varying by partner The new, steeper levels list-

ed in an executive order vary by trading partner and go as high as 41%.

goods "transshipped" through other jurisdictions to avoid U.S. du-



**Donald Trump** 

ties would be hit with an additional 40% tariff, the order said.

The American leader separately hiked tariffs on Canadian goods from 25% to 35% - starting on Friday.

Mr. Trump gave more time to neighbour and major trading partner Mexico, delaying for 90 days a threat to increase tariffs from 25% to 30%, after holding talks with President Claudia Sheinbaum.

Exemptions remain, however, for a wide range of Canadian and Mexican goods entering the U.S. under a North American trade pact.

# <sub>+</sub> Israel has killed more than 1,300 Gazans while seeking aid: UN

Agence France-Presse

Israeli forces have killed hundreds of hungry Palestinians waiting for aid outside U.S.-backed food distribution points, the UN's rights office said on Friday.

The UN's rights office in the Palestinian territories said at least 1,373 people had been killed seeking aid in Gaza since May 27 – 105 of them in the past two

"Most of these killings were committed by the Israeli military," the office said, breaking down the death toll into 859 killed near the U.S.-backed food sites and 514 along routes used by UN and aid agency convoys.

"These victims, the majority of whom appear to be young men and boys,

are not just numbers," the office said.

Gaza's agency said 22 persons were killed by Israeli fire and air strikes on Friday, including two who were waiting near an aid distribution site run by the U.S.and Israeli-backed Gaza **Humanitarian Foundation** (GHF).

# Daily killings

In its report on the GHF centres on Friday, Human Rights Watch accused the Israeli military of illegally using starvation as a weapon of war. "Israeli forces are not only deliberately starving Palestinian civilians, but they are now gunning them down almost every day," said Belkis Wille, associate crisis and conflict director at Human Rights Watch.

# Toll from Russian air strike on Ukraine capital reaches 31; at least 159 injured

Ukrainian rescuers recovered more than a dozen more bodies from the rubble of a collapsed apartment block in Kyiv overnight, bringing the death toll from Russia's worst air strike of the year on Ukraine's capital to 31.

A two-year-old was among the five children found dead after Thursday's sweeping Russian drone and missile attack, President Volodymyr Zelenskyy said on Friday, announcing the end of a more than 24-hour-long

rescue operation. A total of 159 people were wounded in the multi-wave strike, in which Russia launched more than 300 drones and eight missiles early on Thursday, the latest in a campaign of fierce strikes on Ukrainian



Women cry in front of a residential building in Kyiv on Friday, that was destroyed in a Russian strike in the previous morning. AFP

towns and cities.

The worst damage was to an apartment building that partially collapsed in the Sviatoshyn district in western Kyiv. Damage was also reported in at least three other districts of the capital.

U.S. President Donald Trump on Thursday sharply criticised Russia's "disgusting" behaviour against

Ukraine, while saying he was not sure whether sanctions would deter Russia. He has given President Vladimir Putin until August 8 to make a deal or else he will respond with econom-

ic pressure. Natalia Matviyenko, 65, sitting near the damaged apartment building, said she did not place much faith in the U.S. President's

"Trump just says, 'I'm upset with President Putin's behaviour.' And what?

The U.S. leader, who returned to power on a pledge to swiftly end the war, has in recent weeks rolled back his earlier conciliatory approach toward Moscow and signalled arming openness to Ukraine.

# Intense strikes

Kyiv's air force said on Friday that Ukrainian air defences had destroyed more than 6,000 drones and missiles across the country in July alone.

"The world possesses every instrument required to ensure Russia is brought to justice," Prime Minister Yulia Svyrydenko wrote on X on Friday. "What is lacking is not power – but will," he added.



Date

इंटरनेशनल एडवांस्ड रिसर्च सेंटर फॉर पाउडर मेटलर्जी **International Advanced Research Centre** for Powder Metallurgy & New Materials (ARCI)

विज्ञापन संख्या/Advt . No.: ARCI/HRD/Projects/1/2025 वॉक-इन इंटरव्यू /WALK-IN INTERVIEWS परियोजना एसोसिएट/तकनीकी सहायक/तकनीशियन

एआरसीआई वॉक-इन इंटरव्यू के माध्यम द्वारा निम्नलिखित परियोजना स्टाफ को नियोजित करना चाहता हैं Associate II Assistan No. of Posts Fixed salar 35.000/- or 31.000/- or 27.000/- or 27.000/- + HRA 28,000/- + HRA 25,000/- + HRA 25,000/- or Rs.

20,000/- + HRA

August, 2025

ऑनलाइन आवेदन प्रस्तुत करने की अंतिम तिथि 06.08.2025 है ast Date for submission of Online Applications is 06.08.2025

2025

पूरी जानकारी के लिए लॉग ऑन करें/For complete details, log on to: https://www.arci.res.in/careers.html

2025

## Office of the Medical Superintendent RUHS Hospital of Medical Sciences, Jaipur Sector-11, Kumbha Marg, Pratap Nagar, Tonk Road, Jaipur-302033(Raj.) 2010: 0141-2795577, Email: supdt.hms@ruhsraj.org, ruhshmstore@ruhsraj.or No. :- F. ( ) RUHS HMS/Store/2025-26/7501 Notice Inviting e-Bids Single Stage Two envelope Online bids (e-bids) are invited up to 02.00 pm of

8-08-2025 for Supply and Installation of Various Equipment/Items at Dept. of Ophthalmology, RUHS Hospital of Medical Sciences, Jaipur. (Total Est. Cost R 6,17,00,000.00). Details may be seen in the Bidding Documents at the Website sppp.raj.nic.in, or eproc.rajasthan.gov.in. UBN: CMS2526GLOB00064-68 71-72, 75-77, CMS2526GSOB00069-70, 73-74 Medical Superintenden

Raj.Samwad/C/25/7349 RUHS Hospital of Medical Sciences, Jaipu

#### Office of the Additional Chief Engineer (Project) PHED Bharatpur E mail: aceproj.bha.phed@rajasthan.gov.in, acepbpr@gmail.com

Notice Inviting Bid No. 04/2024-25 & 05/2024-25, Corrigendum No. 08 Due to unavoidable circumstances bid submission date of this office NIT no 04/2024-25 & 05/2024-25 has extended and last date of submission has been made as date 08.09.2025. Other terms and conditions will remain as per Tende

NIT 04/2025-25 NIT 05/2025-25 UBN No: PHE2425WLOB07192 NIB Code: PHE2425A3390 UBN No: PHE2425WLOB07193 NIB Code: PHE2425A3391

DIPR/C/10594/2025

(Surendra Sharma PHED Bharatpur, Rajasthai



Kolkata Municipal Corporation Sustainability, Hygiene and Resilience Project



"Design, Development and Implementation of Online Project Management System (PMS) For Billing & Accounting under ADB Contract Package No. KMC-SHARP/KCS/06/2025-26" Intending firms/companies are requested to submit Expression of Interest in ADB CMS Portal https://csrn.adb.org within 01.09.2025. Details of tender can be obtained from ADB CMS Portal www.keiip.in and www.kmcgov.in

RDSS-8856/24, ED1-4028/25, ED1-4029/25, DSMCell-4072/16-Vol-II Dated: 30.07.2025

THRISSUR CORPORATION **ELECTRICITY DEPARTMENT** Re-e-TENDER NOTICE RDSS-8856/24 - Supply of Web Cam & Micro

Phone, DSMCell-4072/16-Supply & Installation of 50 KW 3ph Solar Invertor, ED1-4028/25-Supply of Steel Posts, ED1–4029/25–Supply A type Steel Posts visit us: www.tced.in

log on to www.etenders.kerala.gov.in **Assistant Secretary** Electricity Department, Thrissur Municipal Corporation



#### OFFICE OF THE CHIEF ENGINEER IGNP BIKANER Ph.: 0151-2226401, Email: cei.gnp.bkn@rajasthan.gov.ir Date: 21.08.2025 E-NIT 02/2025-26 Bid for the following work are invited from interested bidders upto 6:00 PM dated 21.08.2025 Estimated Cost of work (Rs. In lacs) S. NO. Name of work Renovation of Khidrat distributary 2496.00

Renovation of Kolayat distributary 3496.00 Other particulars of bid may be visited on the procurement portal http://eproc

sthan.gov.in & http://sppp.raj.nic.in, www.dipronline.org. NIB CODE: IGB2526A0041 UBN No.: IGB2526WLOB00144, UBN No.: IGB2526WLOB00145 अतिरिक्त मुख्य अभियन्त

# **GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL**

West Bengal Housing Infrastructure Development Corporation Limited (A Govt. of West Bengal Undertaking) HIDCO BHABAN, Premises No. 35-1111, Biswa Bangla Sarani, 3rd Rotary, New Town, Kolkata-700156

Memo No. C-229/1/HIDCO/Admn-4206/2024 Date 30.07.2025 Abridged Notice for e-Auction E-AUCTION FOR ALLOTMENT OF 5.97 ACRES (24160 Sg. Mtr) OF LAND IN PLOT NO. IIF/12 & IIIF/15 IN ACTION AREA III OF NEW TOWN, KOLKATA ON FREEHOLD BASIS OR "EDUCATIONAL / INSTITUTIONAL" PURPOSE. (2nd Call)

[e-Auction ID: 2025\_WB\_4912] dtd. 30.07.2025 PLOT E-AUCTION LAST DATE OF PLOT NO.IIIF/12 & IIIF/15 IN ACTION 01.09.2025 upto 08.09.2025 AREA III OF NEW TOWN, KOLKATA Acres For details, please visit https://eauction.gov.in or www.wbhidcoltd.com Contact no :- 2324-6032/6037/6038



# The summer of McIntosh: when an 18-year-old comes for Ledecky's crown

Summer McIntosh is in the fast lane to greatness. A three-time Olympic champion, the Canadian teen has already beaten Katie Ledecky at the ongoing World Championships. She is hoping for an encore in the 800m freestyle, an event the reigning queen has kept a tight grip on



**Agence France-Presse** 

and 22 world titles.

rowing up in Toronto, Summer McIntosh chose her idols well. She named the family cat, an orange tabby, Mikey, for Michael Phelps, the most decorated swimmer of all time. McIntosh's bedroom wall was covered with photos and inspirational quotes from Katie Ledecky, swimming's dominant queen with nine Olympic

At 18, she is well on her way to joining them in the sport's pantheon – indeed, at the ongoing World Championships in Singapore, she is look-



brings the best out of me. Which is why I'm never nervous to race her

ing to equal a Phelps record and has already defeated Ledecky over 400 metres in the freestyle

Phelps is the only swimmer to have won five individual gold medals in a single edition of the World Championships. McIntosh, who hopes to compete in five individual events at the 2028 Los Angeles Games, is using this year's championships as something of a test run!

"I'm trying to see if I can do five events individually and how well I can do in them and how I can manage it... doing that run through now, three years out, is definitely something that will give me lots of confidence," she said ahead of the Worlds' swimming portion, which began on July

McIntosh arrived in Singapore after completing one of the greatest weeks in swimming history with a hat-trick of world records in June, becoming the first to set three different individual long-course records in one meet since Phelps in 2008. At the Canadian trials, she broke the world marks in the 200m and 400m individual medleys (IM), as well as the 400m freestyle.

Despite owning the 400 free world record, McIntosh had failed to win gold in the event at the Olympics or previous Worlds. She remedied that in ominous fashion, launching her packed programme with a statement win. The highly anticipated battle between McIntosh and Ledecky an appetiser to the 800m freestyle – failed to materialise, as the Canadian led from start to finish and the American took bronze.

McIntosh had little time to savour her first major 400m triumph. The teen sensation exited quickly to prepare for the 200m IM semifinals, where she was again in a class of her own.

"While preparing mentally, I thought this was my biggest night of the whole meet," she said. "I've never done a double like that. And the 400m free, at past World Championships and Olympics, I haven't been where I wanted to be. So I'm really happy."

Her joy doubled a day later, when she bagged a second gold, in the 200m IM. On Thursday, she completed a hat-trick of triumphs, clinching the 200m butterfly. The events remaining in her bid to equal Phelps will be swum this weekend: Saturday's 800m free and Sunday's 400m IM.

It's a gruelling schedule, especially when you add all the heats and semifinals. "It means 14 or 15 races in eight days, demanding races," Canada's head coach Iain McDonald said. Which of those races is her best event? "She's such a versatile athlete, it's kind of tough to nail what her best events are," McDonald said. "She's pretty good right across the spectrum."

# **Blockbuster main-event**

There are no doubts, however, about which event the world is waiting for. McIntosh is coming for Ledecky's 800m crown, which the American has kept a tight grip on. In addition to four Olympic wins, Ledecky is hoping to become the first swimmer to claim seven world titles in a single event. In May, Ledecky improbably took down her nine-year-old world record from the 2016 Rio Olympics. But McIntosh represents a clear and present danger.

The 18-year-old came within two seconds of



SUMMER MCINTOSH

the 28-year-old's mark recently, signalling the chance that fans could soon see a changing of the guard. McIntosh famously ended Ledecky's 13year unbeaten streak in the event in 2024, when she bested the American by nearly six seconds at a sectionals meeting in Orlando, Florida.

What's more, the rivalry doesn't faze her. "Katie always brings the best out of me," McIntosh said. "Which is why I'm never nervous to race

Ledecky, who won the 1500m freestyle gold in Singapore on Tuesday, is aware of the contender's prowess, but has been mentally preparing to meet an equal for years. "I've always approached each race with a mindset that something like that could happen," Ledecky once said. "Even as that didn't happen for many, many years, I still maintain that approach."

### **Learning opportunity**

Irrespective of how the race goes, what is certain is that McIntosh will look at it as another learning opportunity. It's this desire to constantly improve, a trait common to great athletes, that has lifted her to soaring heights in a short career. She is never satisfied.

After winning three gold medals at the Paris Olympics, McIntosh felt there was room for growth. Her attitude after breaking three world records in June was similar, "Absolutely wild." she said of the accomplishment, before promptly pointing to a litany of things she could improve on in each race, saying the self-criticism is part of her mission to keep testing the boundaries of her sport. "I don't think there is such a thing as a perfect race, at least I haven't done it yet," she said. "I always want more. And I'm also still so young, I know I can get so much stronger."

That competitive spirit runs deep in the McIntosh family. Her mother Jill competed at the 1984 Los Angeles Olympics in swimming and older sis-



SUMMER MCINTOSH AND KATIE LEDECKY



I don't think there is such a thing as a perfect race, at least I haven't done it yet. I always want more

ter Brooke is a top pairs figure skater. "We knew even at seven or eight years old that she was going to be an exceptional swimmer... beating 10 and 12-year-olds by a pool length," her father Greg McIntosh said. "She is a force of nature. She has been since she was a child."

McIntosh's rapid journey to the pinnacle of swimming has taken her from Canada to Florida, where she trained with the Sarasota Sharks from 2022 and through the Paris Games. After the World Championships, she will begin training with Phelps' mentor Bob Bowman in Texas, as she builds to the 2028 Los Angeles Olympics.

# **Hunter and hunted**

But even as she is hurtling towards greatness, McIntosh knows the wheel of sport will turn. Just as she is hunting down Ledecky, others will soon pursue her. In Singapore, a pre-teen Chinese swimmer showed she could be nipping at McIntosh's heels. Just 12, Yu Zidi created a sensation at the Worlds after missing the podium by only 0.06 seconds in the 200 IM.

Yu is recording faster times than McIntosh did as a 12-year-old, but the Canadian looks at it as further motivation. "World records are made to be broken. So by the time I leave this sport, I want to make sure that [my] records are as fast as possible," she said.

"I know there's always going to be the next generation of kids growing up, and they're going to be chasing the record. So I've got to give them my best effort to see how long it can stand."

# STACKING UP



ATI	P Men's Top 15			
#	Player	Age	Points	Events
1	Jannik Sinner	23	12,030	16
2	Carlos Alcaraz	22	8,600	20
3	Alexander Zverev	28	6,030	23
4	Taylor Fritz	27	5,135	22
5	Jack Draper	23	4,650	17
6	Novak Djokovic	38	4,130	19
7	Ben Shelton	22	3,520	24
8	Alex de Minaur	26	3,335	23
9	Holger Rune	22	3,250	22
10	Lorenzo Musetti	23	3,195	20
11	Andrey Rublev	27	3,110	29
12	Frances Tiafoe	27	2,990	25
13	Casper Ruud	26	2,905	23
14	Daniil Medvedev	29	2,720	22
15	Tommy Paul	28	2,620	21









WTA Women's Top 15				
#	Player	Age	Points	Events
1	Aryna Sabalenka	27	12,420	19
2	Coco Gauff	21	7,669	19
3	Iga Swiatek	24	6,813	16
4	Jessica Pegula	31	6,423	22
5	Mirra Andreeva	18	4,914	18
6	Qinwen Zheng	22	4,553	18
7	Amanda Anisimova	23	4,470	22
8	Madison Keys	30	4,374	19
9	Jasmine Paolini	29	3,576	19
10	Paula Badosa	27	3,454	22
11	Emma Navarro	24	3,420	26
12	Elena Rybakina	26	2,893	21
13	Elina Svitolina	30	2,794	16
14	Karolina Muchova	28	2,718	16







#	Driver	Team	Points	Wins
1	Oscar Piastri	McLaren	266	6
2	Lando Norris	McLaren	250	4
3	Max Verstappen	Red Bull	185	2
4	George Russell	Mercedes	157	1
5	Charles Leclerc	Ferrari	139	0
6	Lewis Hamilton	Ferrari	109	0
7	Kimi Antonelli	Mercedes	63	0
8	Alexander Albon	Williams	54	0
9	Nico Hulkenberg	Sauber	37	0
10	Esteban Ocon	Haas	27	0
11	lsack Hadjar	Racing Bulls	22	0
12	Pierre Gasly	Alpine	20	0
13	Lance Stroll	Aston Martin	20	0
14	Fernando Alonso	Aston Martin	16	0
15	Carlos Sainz	Williams	16	0
16	Liam Lawson	Racing Bulls	16	0
17	Yuki Tsunoda	Red Bull	10	0
18	Oliver Bearman	Haas	8	0
19	Gabriel Bortoleto	Sauber	6	0





20 Franco Colapinto Alpine

F1 Constructors' standings				
Pos	Team	Points	Wins	
1	McLaren	516	10	
2	Ferrari	248	0	
3	Mercedes	220	1	
4	Red Bull	192	2	
5	Williams	70	0	
6	Kick Sauber	43	0	
7	RB	41	0	
8	Aston Martin	36	0	
9	Haas	35	0	

# **Badminton Men's ranking**

"	i layer	1 011165	LVCIICO
1	Shi Yu Qi	1,02,317	13
2	Kunlavut Vitidsarn	95,079	19
3	Anders Antonsen	94,353	17
4	Li Shi Feng	81,078	19
5	Chou Tien Chen	78,769	24
6	Jonatan Christie	76,514	17
7	Alex Lanier	67,821	15
8	Loh Kean Yew	66,719	17
9	Viktor Axelsen	66,140	9
10	Kodai Naraoka	65,094	20
11	Christo Popov	62,217	18
12	Lu Guang Zu	61,860	18
13	Kenta Nishimoto	58,442	23
14	Lin Chun-Yi	57,340	16
15	Lee Cheuk Yiu	57,192	20









# **Badminton Women's ranking**

#	Player	Points	Events
1	An Se Young	1,15,270	13
2	Wang Zhi Yi	1,06,862	17
3	Han Yue	91,000	17
4	Akane Yamaguchi	83,064	14
5	Chen Yu Fei	81,385	12
6	Gregoria Mariska Tunjung	73,860	14
7	Pornpawee Chochuwong	69,708	21
8	Tomoka Miyazaki	65,364	22
9	Ratchanok Intanon	64,144	20
10	Putri Kusuma Wardani	63,600	19
11	Supanida Katethong	62,207	14
12	Gao Fang Jie	60,130	13
13	Yeo Jia Min	59,223	16
14	Sim Yu Jin	58,309	16









# **Test Batting**

#	riayei	Katilig	Career be
1	Joe Root	904	932
2	Kane Williamson	867	919
3	Harry Brook	834	898
4	Steve Smith	816	947
5	Temba Bavuma	790	806
6	Kamindu Mendis	781	784
7	Rishabh Pant	776	801
8	Yashasvi Jaiswal	769	858
9	Shubman Gill	754	807

	,		
1	Jasprit Bumrah	898	908
2	Kagiso Rabada	851	902
3	Pat Cummins	838	914
4	Josh Hazlewood	815	864
5	Noman Ali	806	806
6	Scott Boland	784	784
7	Matt Henry	782	782
8	Nathan Lyon	769	812
9	Marco Jansen	767	803
10	Mitchell Starc	766	807

644

637

616

614

# **ODI Batting**

10 Ben Duckett

#	Player	Rating	Career best
1	Shubman Gill	784	847
2	Babar Azam	766	898
3	Rohit Sharma	756	882
4	Virat Kohli	736	909
5	Daryl Mitchell	720	751
6	Charith Asalanka	719	725
7	Harry Tector	708	767
8	Shreyas Iyer	704	710
9	Ibrahim Zadran	676	693
10	Kusal Mendis	669	802

#### **ODI Bowling** # Player

	Shubman Gill	784	847	1	Maheesh Theekshana
	Babar Azam	766	898	2	Kuldeep Yadav
	Rohit Sharma	756	882	3	Keshav Maharaj
	Virat Kohli	736	909	4	Bernard Scholtz
	Daryl Mitchell	720	751	5	Rashid Khan
	Charith Asalanka	719	725	6	Mitchell Santner
	Harry Tector	708	767	7	Matt Henry
	Shreyas lyer	704	710	8	Wanindu Hasaranga
	Ibrahim Zadran	676	693	9	Ravindra Jadeja
0	Kusal Mendis	669	802	10	Adam Zampa

# **T20I Bowling**

	1201 Butting						
#	Player	Rating	Career best				
1	Abhishek Sharma	829	829				
2	Travis Head	814	885				
3	Tilak Varma	804	845				
4	Philip Salt	791	881				
5	Jos Buttler	772	774				
6	Suryakumar Yadav	739	912				
7	Pathum Nissanka	736	736				
8	Tim Seifert	725	727				
9	Josh Inglis	717	781				
10	Shai Hope	690	712				

# # Player

1	Jacob Duffy	717	723
2	Adil Rashid	710	747
3	Varun Chakravarthy	706	706
4	Akeal Hosein	701	714
5	Adam Zampa	694	746
6	Wanindu Hasaranga	679	809
7	Ravi Bishnoi	674	707
8	Rashid Khan	664	828
8	Nathan Ellis	664	664
10	A le el Ci le	CEO	670



# **Weekend Sport**



# Echoes of Moregard & Kohli: meet disruptive TT prodigy Ankur Bhattacharjee

The 18-year-old paddler's ability to disconcert quality players has catapulted him to the top of 'the next big thing' stakes in India, where the men's game is at a crossroads. But how well will his unconventional style — richly successful at the junior level — translate to the big stage?

#### Amol Karhadkar

sions of Virat Kohli. So do more than the dozen tattoos he sports.
His unconventional technique reminds you of Truls Moregard, the Swede who stormed into the men's singles final at the Paris Olympics. And he worships Grand Slam winner Zhang Jike.

is aggression at the table evokes vi-

# Creating a stir

But, amidst all this, there are a few who wonder whether he can translate his exploits at the junior level to the open category. The house is definitely divided on how to bill Ankur Bhattacharjee, the teenager from Kolkata who has created a stir in the world of table tennis.

More than his consistent top-five Under-19 World ranking, it's his uncanny ability to force formidable opponents onto the back foot that has catapulted him to the top of 'the next big thing' ladder in Indian table tennis.

The men's game in the country finds itself at a crossroads. A. Sharath Kamal – the flagbearer for two decades – has hung up his boots. Harmeet Desai and G. Sathiyan are in the latter half of their careers. Manush Shah and Manav Thakkar, the



Since 2017,
I have heard
that you can't
have your
backhand as
your main
weapon.
First of all, I
don't think
of myself as a
backhand-only
player. And I
work on my
overall

technique

anyway

spectacled duo, have been close to cementing themselves at the top of the Indian charts.

Against this backdrop, Ankur's rise from sa-

pling to slowly spreading banyan offers hope.

His achievements at 18 have rarely been matched even by the best at this age. Unbeaten in

matched even by the best at this age. Unbeaten in age-group categories on the domestic circuit for three years, he has already tasted success in Senior National Ranking events. He broke into the national squad for the World Championships earlier this year.

On the world circuit, Ankur – he is coached by father Anshuman; mother Kuntali is also a former paddler – is placed at No. 3. He has not left the top-10 since February 2025

Despite Ankur having excelled at various levels, many believe he is far from being the finished product. One of them is Jorg Bitzigeio, the German coach with whom Ankur spent three weeks training earlier this year. Much of the scepticism has to do with the Indian's maverick technique.

While table tennis is a forehand-dominant sport, with the backhand playing the supporting role, Ankur is an exception. He covers most of the ta-

ble with his backhand, producing both top-spin and rocket winners that breach even the best defence. His wrong-footed stance leaves his extreme forehand corner vulnerable, but he compensates with his ability to surprise opponents.

He uses the jab effectively, imparts side-spin from various angles and is super-agile, reaching virtually every possible ball. The combination makes Ankur an effective, watchable proposition.

#### Justifying the faith

This was on display time and again during Ultimate Table Tennis' sixth edition, where he justified the faith shown in him by his home franchise Kolkata ThunderBlades. For the second year in succession, he was among the leading Indians, accounting for fancied opponents.

As a result, while Indian table tennis is divided over Ankur's ability and his backhand-oriented technique, he isn't rattled by it.

"Since 2017, I have been hearing that you can't have your backhand as your main weapon. First of all, I don't think of myself as a backhand-only player. And I have been working on my game over the last two years," Ankur told *The Hindu* during LITT

"No player is perfect and everyone has a stronger flank. There is no harm in having your backhand as your strong suit, but I am working on my overall technique anyway."

For the last two years, Ankur



All I need to do is to keep improving. If I can do that, I know I will achieve much more than what I have. The goals can keep getting revised, I am only starting now. There's a long way to go

and Anshuman have been focusing on improving his efficiency in the forehand corner without sacrificing the backhand as his USP. It's his ability to execute unimaginable backhand strokes that has drawn comparisons with Moregard.

"I have heard this a lot – rather overheard it – that he can be India's Truls, but I know I have a long way to go. Playing the men's World Championships is just the start."

Had it not been for a parental push, though, Ankur could well have followed in the footsteps of his sporting idol – Kohli. Sensing that cricket is an expensive sport even for beginners, his paddler parents directed him to a table. In less than two years after first gripping a racquet, Ankur became India No. 2 in the cadet category. There has been no looking back.

Ankur's day in Kolkata, when he is not travelling the world, is consumed with table tennis.

"The day starts with fitness training from 8 to 10 a.m. Then a half-hour break. From 10.30 to 3 o'clock, I practise, and again in the evening from 6 to 9, I am back at the table," he says. Mental training? "Nothing formal yet, but I have found my own little techniques that help me."

One recent method is listening to the Hanuman Chalisa, a devotional hymn. Early in 2025, he was feeling low at the start of a WTT event in Cappadocia, Turkey. "I wasn't playing well. Before the first match over there, I listened to it by accident and won.

"I kept on playing it before every match that week and went on to win the U-19 title, beating Benyamin Faraji [a top junior], who had entered the tournament on a high, beating a men's top-30 player in the earlier week. Since then, I play Hanuman Chalisa before every match."

It doesn't take much time to figure out that Ankur is a religious youngster. After all, his first tattoo was a depiction of "Lord Shiva, since I am a Shiv-bhakt". "They have started calling me a Bengal tiger, so I recently got a tiger tattooed as well," he says, with a sheepish smile.

God-fearing and soft-spoken in general, he turns into a livewire at the table, even rubbing his opponents the wrong way. "Being aggressive comes naturally to me. In fact, it spurs me on. Sometimes I need that adrenaline rush, so I don't mind being ultra-aggressive," Ankur says.

Perhaps it's a trait he has imbibed from Kohli. He can't choose among Kohli, Hardik Pandya and Zhang, should he be given the opportunity to meet one. "I am in awe of all of them. When I am not playing table tennis, I am either watching cricket or a Zhang Jike match," he says.

During the IPL, when Punjab Kings checked into the same hotel as the UTT entourage, Ankur had hoped for Royal Challengers Bengaluru to join them in the final. But Kohli & Co. were in another hotel and Ankur's demanding schedule meant he could neither seek an audience with his hero nor watch him in action.

# **Keeping it simple**

But he knows he has plenty of time to fulfil his wish-list of meeting the trio. And he realises that rather than trying to make it happen – or spell out his aspirations of winning an Olympic or a Commonwealth medal – he wants to keep it simple.

"All I need to do is to keep improving and working harder with every passing day," he says. "If I can do that, I know I will achieve much more than what I have. The goals can keep getting revised, I am only starting now. There's a long way to go."

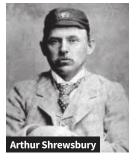
# **GAME THEORY**

# Line of succession: from Bannerman to Tendulkar

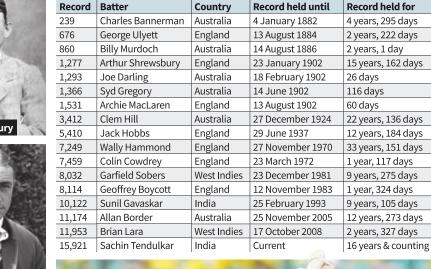
**MOST TEST RUNS: RECORD PROGRESSION** 

With Joe Root in pursuit of Sachin Tendulkar's tally for the most Test runs, we look at the batters who have held the prestigious record. Charles Bannerman claimed it first. Arthur Shrewsbury became the first to take it past the 1,000-run mark and keep it for more than decade. Wally Hammond owned it longest. Sunil Gavaskar advanced the record into the 10,000-run territory and Tendulkar lifted it over 15,000.

.....











# **PICTURE THIS**



# Touche!

Fencing — as this photograph from the FISU World University Games in Essen, Germany, shows — demands skill, agility, cat-like reflexes and quick thinking. Often described as 'highspeed chess', the discipline trac-

combat. Its evolution as a sport appears to have begun in the mid-18th century in London, where Italian sword-master Domenico Angelo set up a fencing school.

es its origins to sword-fighting in

The military art became all the rage among the aristocracy, developing into a fashionable

pastime that helped cultivate health and grace. It's no surprise then that honour and etiquette continue to be prized in the sport.

Fencing has three primary competitive categories: foil, epee, and sabre. Each has its own blade and set of rules. The foil, seen in this picture, is a

light, thrusting weapon that targets the torso, not the arms and legs. Touches are scored only with the tip.

Given the dangers involved, the protective clothing must satisfy stringent safety requirements and incorporates ballistic fabrics that resist punctures, such as Kevlar and Dyneema.

#### **FOCUS ON PROCESS**

I've been picked because I can do the job for the team, says Prasidh



Prasidh Krishna returned to India's final XI after two games, and claimed four wickets. "I have been picked here because I can do the job. Not playing games can make me go to the drawing board," he said. "I'm here to do the job for the team. It's the process, and not performance for me," he added.

#### **RUNNING RIOT**

Atkinson has second-best figures by a pacer versus India at The Oval



England pacer Gus Atkinson secured his fourth Test five-wicket haul during the fifth Test against India, securing the second-best bowling figures (five for 33) by a seamer against India at The Oval. Gubby Allen (seven for 80, 1936) holds the record for the best bowling performance by a speedster against the Indians at this venue.

#### **OPENING SALVO**

Duckett-Crawley duo has most 50-plus stands against India



England's Zak Crawley and Ben Duckett stitched together their eighth fifty-plus partnership against India in the fifth Test at The Oval. The duo now has the most half-century partnerships against the Indians in Tests among openers. Crawley and Duckett also went past other pairs, including Alastair Cook and Andrew Strauss.

#### **MAJOR SETBACK**

Injured Woakes will take no further part in Oval Test



England seamer Chris Woakes has been ruled out for the rest of the final Test against India after injuring his shoulder. Woakes slipped and fell while fielding on the first day at The Oval and left the field in pain with his arm tucked into his sweater for support. His injury leaves England short of a fast bowler and a lower-order batter.

# Prasidh and Siraj lead India's spirited fightback

The two combine to bowl England out for 247 after a breezy opening partnership; Jaiswal's fifty helps the visitors erase the slender lead and finish 52 runs ahead with eight wickets in hand

INDIA IN ENGLAND

Shayan Acharya

LONDON

riday afternoon at The Oval epitomised the ebbs and flows that have come to define the game's longest format in recent times.

Just like the fickle English weather, India's fast bowlers bounced back after a jaded first session, where Zak Crawley (64, 57b, 14x4) and Ben Duckett (43, 38b, 5x4, 2x6) added 92 inside 13 overs.

England went to lunch at 109 for one. However, things changed drastically Mohammed Siraj's eight-over spell got him three wickets after the break and helped India restrict the home side to

In the final session, Yashasvi Jaiswal's whirlwind unbeaten 51 off 49 guided India to 75 for two, a lead of 52 runs. Making the most of a couple of reprieves, Jaiswal found his rhythm after a string of low scores.

# Falling like nine pins

On a surface, where 15 ckets fell in a day K I Rahul looked jittery before falling to Joe Root at slips. B. Sai Sudharsan, too, could not last long as he was trapped leg-before by Gus Atkinson in what turned out to be the final over of the day.

Earlier, in the opening session, India folded up for 224, adding just 20 runs to its overnight tally and losing the last four wickets. The England openers came up with a whirlwind reply, where they took the Indian seamers to the cleaners

The Indian bowlers desperately needed to make some adjustments. As Akash Deep and Prasidh Krishna pitched the ball a bit fuller and also bowled straighter, England even-







Stellar show: Prasidh and Siraj scalped four each to bring India back into the contest while Jaiswal rode his luck to smash a quick-fire half-century in the second innings. GETTY IMAGES, AP & PTI

tually fell into the trap as it lost its last eight wickets for 118 runs.

# Vital strike

Prasidh, coming in as a replacement for Jasprit Bumrah, struck in his first over of the post-lunch session, tempting Crawley to miscue a pull and the resultant top edge was snapped up by Ravindra Jadeja. Back into the attack, Siraj had an immediate impact as he trapped Ollie Pope in front with a sharp in-ducker, off his fourth ball.

England panicked as Joe Root, after looking uncomfortable and getting into a war of words with Prasidh,

was trapped leg-before. Siraj struck Jacob Bethell plumb in front with an inswinging yorker.

Shrugging off the disappointment of a forgettable first session, Siraj, who has played in all five Tests, looked rejuvenated as his second spell not only brought India back into the

game, but also inspired his teammates. Prasidh took a cue from Siraj and ensured that Jamie Smith edged one to K.L. Rahul at second slip as the wicketkeeper-batter failed to adjust to the length delivery. From cruising at one point in time, it suddenly looked that England would con-

cede a first-innings lead, but Harry Brook's 53 ensured the hosts a slender lead of 23 runs. Both Siraj and Prasidh scalped four

Earlier, India lost its last four wickets in 29 minutes, with Atkinson completing

his five-wicket haul. Karun Nair, who scored a fifty on the opening day, was lbw to Josh Tongue for 57 while Washington Sundar fell to the short-ball

And as none of the tailenders could step up, the Indian innings ended up with a whimper before the stirring fightback by Siraj

and Prasidh.

INDIA — 1ST INNINGS

Yashasyi Jaiswal Ibw b Atkinson 2 (9b), K.L. Rahul b Woakes 14 (40b, 1x4), B. Sai Sudharsan c Smith b Tongue 38 (108b, 6x4), Shubman Gill run out 21 (35b, 4x4), Karun Nair lbw b Tongue 57 (109b, 8x4), Ravindra Jadeja c Smith b Tongue 9 (13b, 1x4), Dhruv Jurel c Brook b Atkinson 19 (40b, 2x4), Washington Sundar c Overton b Atkinson 26 (55b, 3x4), Akash Deep (not out) 0 (7b), Mohammed Sirai b Atkinson 0 (4b), Prasidh Krishna c Smith b Atkinson 0 (2b): Extras (b-12, lb-6, nb-4, w-16): 38; Total (in 69.4 overs): 224.

#### **FALL OF WICKETS**

1-10 (Jaiswal, 3.1 overs), 2-38 (Rahul, 15.1), 3-83 (Gill, 27.2), 4-101 (Sai Sudharsan, 35.4), 5-123 (Jadeja, 39.3), 6-153 (Jurel, 49.3), 7-218 (Karun, 66.5), 8-220 (Washington, 67.4), 9-224 (Siraj,

**ENGLAND BOWLING** Woakes 14-1-46-1, Atkinson 21.4-8-33-5, Tongue 16-4-57-3, Overton 16-0-66-0, Bethell

ENGLAND — 1ST INNINGS Zak Crawley c Jadeja b Prasidh 64 (57b, 14x4), Ben Duckett c Jurel b Akash 43 (38b, 5x4, 2x6), Ollie

Pope lbw b Siraj 22 (44b, 4x4), Joe Root lbw b Sirai 29 (45b. 6x4). Harry Brook b Siraj 53 (64b, 5x4, 1x6), Jacob Bethell lbw b Siraj 6 (14b, 1x4), Jamie Smith c Rahul b Prasidh 8 (22b, 1x4), Jamie Overton lbw b Prasidh 0 (4b), Gus Atkinson c Akash b Prasidh 11 (16b, 2x4), Josh Tongue (not out) 0 (7b), Chris Woakes absent hurt; Extras (b-6, lb-2, nb-3): 11; Tota (in 51.2 overs): 247.

#### **FALL OF WICKETS** 1-92 (Duckett, 12.5 overs), 2-129

(Crawley, 21.1), 3-142 (Pope, 24.4), 4-175 (Root, 32.6), 5-195 (Bethell, 36.4), 6-215 (Smith, 42.1), 7-215 (Overton, 42.5), 8-235 (Atkinson, 46.5), 9-247 (Brook

INDIA BOWLING Siraj 16.2-1-86-4, Akash 17-0-80-1, Prasidh 16-1-62-4, Jadeja

INDIA — 2ND INNINGS Jaiswal (batting) 51 (49b, 7x4, 2x6), Rahul c Root b Tongue 7 (28b, 1x4), Sai Sudharsan lbw b Atkinson 11 (29b, 1x4), Akash (batting) 4 (2b, 1x4); Extras (lb-2):

2; Total (for two wkts. in 18 overs):

**FALL OF WICKETS** 1-46 (Rahul, 9.5), 2-70 (Sai Sudharsan, 17.2).

**ENGLAND BOWLING** Atkinson 6-2-26-1, Tongue

7-1-25-1, Overton 5-1-22-0.

# A day for Thorpey: remembering Graham on his birth anniversary

**Shayan Acharya** LONDON

The England cricketers and fans remembered Graham Thorpe on his 56th birth anniversary on Fri-

The former England batter passed away last August in Surrey, with a coroner ruling the death a suicide.

It was indeed a 'A Day for Thorpey' at The Oval, as his friends and teammates paid tribute to the left-hander, who scored 6,744 Test runs at an average of 44.66 in 100 match-

es from 1993 to 2005. The players wore headbands, with a silhouette of



ring the bell ahead of the second day's play at The Oval. REUTERS

Thorpe and his initials, during the training.

His wife Amanda and daughter Emma were present to ring the bell ahead

of the second day's play. Ben Stokes recalled the impact Thorpe had on his career and the team.

"Thorpey has been a very

influential character as a player and a coach in English cricket.

"A few of us in that dressing room spent a lot of time with him coming through the ranks and, as we got into the main (England) team, Thorpey spent a lot of years around us," Stokes said.

Surrey, the club that represented Thorpe throughout his career, also honoured his legacy with a mural outside the ground.

(Assistance for overcoming suicidal thoughts is available on Tele-MANAS 14416 and Sneha's suicide prevention helpline 044-24640050).

# double as McLaren dominates FORMULA ONE

Reuters

BUDAPEST

Lando Norris completed a Hungarian Grand Prix practice double on Friday as runaway leader McLaren dominated both sessions while leaving something in reserve and almost colliding at the end.

Norris was top of the time sheets in both sessions at the Hungaroring, with Formula One leader Oscar Piastri second and Ferrari's Charles Leclerc emerging as McLaren's closest rival.

The Briton was 0.291



Norris completes Hungarian practice

Narrow margins: Norris was 0.291 of a second faster than teammate Piastri. AFP

quicker in the late afternoon when he set a best lap of 1m 15.624s. Leclerc was third fastest

ing Bulls' French rookie Isack Hadjar fourth in the opening one but Aston Martin coming on strong in in both sessions, with Racthe second with Lance

Stroll fourth and Fernando Alonso fifth. Double world champion Alonso had missed prac-

with Brazilian reserve Felipe Drugovich standing in for him. Lewis Hamilton was

tice one due to back pain,

fifth and sixth on his return with Ferrari. George Russell ended

with seventh, and Italian rookie Kimi Antonelli 10th.

Red Bull's reigning champion Max Verstappen was ninth and 14th respectively in the sessions, with Japanese teammate Yuki Tsunoda 17th and ninth.

Sunday's race is the last before Formula One's August break.



# Skipper Santner to the fore as New Zealand canters to win

New Zealand captain Mitchell Santner took four wickets with his left-arm spin as the Black Caps completed a nine-wicket win on the third day of the first Test against Zimbabwe on Friday. Zimbabwe managed to avoid an innings defeat but New Zealand needed only eight runs to win. The two-match series is not part of the World Test Championship.

The scores: Zimbabwe 149 & 165 in 67.1 overs (Williams 49, Santner 4/27) lost to New Zealand 307 & 8/1 in 2.2 overs. PoM:

# Saim shines as Pakistan beats West Indies in first T20I

Pakistan beat the West Indies by 14 runs in the opening T20 International at Lauderhill, USA, on Thursday. The Pakistani spinners put the brakes on the West Indies in its chase of 179. Earlier, Saim Ayub posted a half-century as Pakistan posted 178 for six. It was the sixth successive T20I loss for the Caribbean side. The second game of the three-match series will be played at the same venue on Saturday.

The scores: Pakistan 178/6 in 20 overs (Saim Ayub 57, Shamar Joseph 3/30) bt West Indies 164/7 in 20 overs (Johnson Charles 35, Jewel Andrew 35, Jason Holder 30 n.o., Mohammad Nawaz 3/23, Saim Ayub 2/20). Toss: West Indies; PoM: Saim.

# India racks up medals in World u-17 wrestling c'ships

Following Rachana (43kg), Ashvini Vishnoi (65kg) added another gold medal to India's kitty in the women's section at the World under-17 wrestling championships in Athens. Moni (57kg) and Kajal (73kg) took silver medals. Freestyle wrestler Lacky (110kg) produced some dominating performances to reach the gold-medal match.

#### LIVE TELECAST

England vs India: 5th Test, day 3, Sony Sports Ten 1 (SD & HD) & JioHotstar, 3.30 p.m.

Football: Durand Cup, Sony Sports Ten 2 (SD & HD) & LIV, 4 &

Formula One: Hungarian GP (Qualifying), F1 TV, F1 TV Pro

App & FanCode, 7.30 p.m. Tennis: ATP Masters, Sony Sports Ten 2 (SD & HD) & LIV, 10

p.m.& 4.30 a.m. (Sunday) WI vs Pakistan: 2nd T20I, FanCode, 5.30 a.m. (Sunday)

# Lakshya, Tharun enter the semifinals; Satwik and Chirag duo bows out

The former will be up against fifth seed Indonesian Alwi, while the latter will take on Malaysia's Hoh in the last-four round at the Macau Open

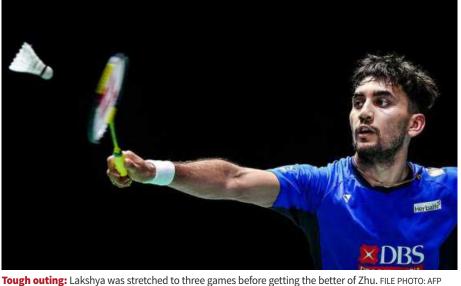
#### **BADMINTON**

**Press Trust of India** MACAU

akshya Sen and M. Tharun advanced to the men's singles semifinals of the Macau Open Super 300 badminton tournament after registering hard-fought wins here on Friday.

Taking the court first, the 23-year-old Tharun, 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, a Commonwealth Games gold medallist and second seed here, 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 Tharun will take on Malay-

sia's Justin Hoh in the lastfour round.

This marks Tharun's maiden semifinal 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 the Malaysian combination of Choong Hon Jian and Haikal Muhammad in the quarterfinals.

Tharun, who joined the Pullela Gopichand Academy four years ago, has focused on improving his fitagility, ness, 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.

Lakshya had to work hard to get past World No. 77 Xuan.

The Indian produced a dominating show in the opening game, building on an early 9-4 lead to quickly move to 15-8 and pocketing the game.

However, Xuan made a spirited comeback in the second game, erasing a 5-10 and 14-17 deficit to take the match to the decider.

Lakshya got back his bearing in the third game, surging to 7-1 early on and even though Xuan made it 9-11, the Indian managed to stay ahead to come up trumps.

The results (quarterfinals): Men: Lakshya Sen bt Xuan Chen Zhu 21-14, 18-21, 21-14; M. Tharun bt Hu Zhe 21-12, 13-21,

**Doubles:** Choong Hon Jian & Haikal Muhammad bt Satwiksairaj Rankireddy & Chirag Shetty 21-14, 13-21, 22-20.

# SAI felicitates young medal-winning archers Jadhav and Bhardwaj

**Sports Bureau** KOLKATA

World University Games champion archer Sahil Jadhav said coach Rahul Banerjee's pep talk helped him clinch the gold medal in the keenly-contested compound men's individual final in Essen, Germany, recently.

On his maiden international trip, Jadhav, who has not won an individual medal at the National level, was delighted after defeating his compatriot Kushal Dalal in the semifinals.

"I was happy to have secured an individual medal. But Rahul bhaiya said, 'If you want to be a champion, you should not nurture such a mindset.' His words inspired me for the final" said Jadhay who pipped Great Britain's Ajay Scott 149-148 in the title



**Proud marksmen:** Bhardwaj, left, and Jadhav show off their recent prizes. SAI MEDIA

clash, at a felicitation function organised by the Sports Authority of India (SAI) regional centre here

on Friday. "I have gone through so many trials and competitions without any success. When I got the opportunity, I wanted to make it

Coming from a humble background in Satara district, Maharashtra, the 24year-old, who was trained by Pravin Sawant before being coached by SAI's Haresh Kumar, has overcome a phase of frustration to dream big. "I want to go step-by-step, but the ultimate goal is the Olympics,"

said Jadhav.

Hailing from East Singhbhum, Jharkhand, 22-year-old recurve archer Shrey Bhardwaj, claimed gold medals in outdoor, 3D and field archery at the World Police and Fire Games (WPFG) in Birmingham, USA, said the SAI centre's support played a crucial role in his

"I trained during the day and in the evenings and put rocks on the ground to prepare for different formats of the WPFG," said Bhardwaj, proving that switching from cricket to archery was the correct decision for him.

SAI National Centre of Excellence Regional Director-in-charge Amar Jyoti lauded the archers for carrying forward the legacy of

# SNAPSHOTS

#### Indian teams qualify for **2026 WTTC**

The Indian men's and women's table tennis teams have booked their places for the World Table Tennis Championships (WTTC) in London after a stellar show at the 2025 South Asia regional championships held in Kathmandu. Both teams emerged undefeated in the five-nation round-robin format with 3-0 wins in all matches.

#### **Shanker and Sahira** triumph

Qualifier Shanker Heisnam beat top seed Sarthak Suden in the final of the HPCL Mittal ₹200,000 AITA-ranking tennis tournament at the CLTA Complex in Chandigarh on Friday. Shanker led 6-3 when Sarthak retired. Ton seed Sahira Singh battled hard to beat second seed Tejasvi Dabas

7-5, 7-6(2) for the girls title.

The results (finals): Men: Shanker Heisnam bt Sarthan Suden 6-3 (retd.). Women: Sahira Singh bt Tejasvi Dabas 7-5, 7-6(2).

#### Shardul to lead **West Zone**

India all-rounder Shardul Thakur has been appointed the West Zone captain for the Duleep Trophy, to be played in Bengaluru from September 4.

The squad: Shardul Thakur

(Capt.), Yashasvi Jaiswal, Shreyas lyer, Sarfaraz Khan, Shams Mulani, Tanush Kotian, Tushar Deshpande (all Mumbai), Aarva Desai, Jaymeet Patel, Manan Hingrajia, Arzan Nagwaswalla (all Gujarat), Ruturaj Gaikwad, Saurabh Nawale (wk, both Maharashtra), Harvik Desai (wk) and Dharmendra Jadeia (both Saurashtra). Stand-bys: Mahesh Pithiya, Shivalik Shama (both Baroda), Mukesh Choudhary (Maharashtra), Siddharath Desai Chintan Gaja, Urvil Patel (all Gujarat), and Musheer Khan (Mumbai).

# Fresh notice issued for BFI elections

**Sports Bureau** KOLKATA

While its previous election process stands paused since March last, the Boxing Federation of India (BFI) has issued a fresh notification for holding its polls in Delhi-NCR on August 21.

Following World Boxing's ultimatum to hold BFI's long overdue elections by August 31, the interim committee (IC), which is running the national federation and is headed by BFI's outgoing president Ajay Singh, had assured to stick to the deadline while underlining that ongoing legal proceedings posed challenges.

As per the fresh notification, issued on Thursday, the member units should send names of two of their representatives "as per the provisions of BFI's constitution as approved by WB" by Monday.

Former BFI vice-president Rajesh Bhandari objected to a new notice. "When the election is paused, how can the IC issue a fresh notification?," asked Bhandari, while raising questions over the WBapproved BFI constitution (dated May 18, 2025) since the BFI general house had not met in recent times.

# Rahil snatches pole position from Chiranth



Stellar drive: Rahil produced a late lap of 1:10.972s. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

# **MOTORSPORTS**

**Sports Bureau** 

Rahil Pillarisetty (RACR Castrol Power1) produced a stunning lap (1:10.972s) late in the qualifying session to snatch the pole position from Chiranth Vishwanath (Petronas TVS Racing, 1:11.249s) in the premier Pro-Stock 301-400cc Open category, kickstarting his campaign in the Rolon Round of the MRF MMSC FMSCI Indian National Motorcycle Racing Championship 2025 at the Kari Motor Speedway in Coimbatore on Friday.

Kumar (Motul Sparks Racing) in Super Stock 165cc Intermediate, Mohamed Mikail (Mad Rabbit Racing) in Stock 301-400cc (Novice), and Charu Sreekara Kedarnadh (Motul KTM Gusto Racing India) in Stock 165cc (Novice) secured pole positions in their respective catego-

Raivat Dhar starts at pole in the Idemitsu Honda India Talent Cup (Honda CB300F), while in the Petronas TVS India One-Make Championship, Mohan Babu (Expert) and Jagathishree Kumaresan (Women's) claimed pole positions in their respective classes.

The results: Provisional results (Qualifying - top 3 best laps): National Championship: Pro-Stock 301-400cc Open: 1.

Rahil Pillarisetty (RACR Castrol Power1) 1:10.972s; Chiranth Vishwanath (Petronas TVS Racing) 1:11.249; Sarthak Chavan (Petronas TVS Racing) 1:11.262.

Super Stock 165cc Intermediate: Raj Kumar (Motul Sparks Racing) 1:23.303;

Mohammed Samrul Zubair (Motul Sparks Racing) 1:24.517; Kamal Navas (Rockers Racing)

Stock 301-400cc (Novice): Mohamed Mikail (Mad Rabbit Racing) 1:18.533; Varun Patil (Mad Rabbit Racing) 1:19.447; Jagadeesh Nagaraj (Motul Sparks Racing) 1:19.703.

Stock 165cc (Novice): Charu Sreekara Kedarnadh (Motul KTM Gusto Racing India) 1:27.101; Tejash B.A. (Mad Rabbit Racing) 1:27.428; Rajender Beedani (MAI Racing) 1:27.433. **Petronas TVS India One-Make** 

Championship: Expert (Apache RR 310): P. Mohan Babu 1:16.625; Siddesh Sawant 1:17.099; Abdul Basim 1:17:310. Women (Apache RTR 200):

Jagathishree Kumaresan

Elakiya Ravi 1:28.580. Idemitsu Honda India Talent Cup: Honda CB300F: Raivat Dhar 1:23.424; B.A. Tejash

1:24.022; Amit Prasad 1:24.175.

1:27.718: 2. S.P. Shuria 1:28.185:

# Positano obliges in the Governor's Cup

BENGALURU: S. Attaollahitrained Positano (Trevor up) won the Governor's Cup (2,400m), the chief event of the concluding day races held here on Friday (August 1). The winner is owned by M/s. DT Racing & Breeding LLP, Mr. Mukul A. Sonawala, Mr. S.R. Sanas & Mr. Rama Seshu Eyunni.

& Mr. Rama Sesnu Eyunni. LEADING INDIVIDUAL OWNER: Five Stars Shipping Co. Pvt. Ltd. (prize money: ₹1,30,48,464) LEADING JOINT OWNERS: Five Stars Shipping Co. Pvt. Ltd., Mr. Vispi R. Patel & Miss Anita J. Cap-tain's (prize money: ₹1,90, 62,

LEADING STUD FARM: Usha (23 wins). CHAMPION TRAINER: Attaollahi (17 CHAMPION JOCKEY: P. Trevor (25

CHAMPION JOCKEY CLAIMING AL-LOWANCE: Ramswarup (3 wins, 8 seconds). CHAMPION HORSE: (₹1,90,62,998). HORSE OF THE SEASON: Mayne

Magic (3 starts, 3 wins). THE RESULTS:

1. CHAMPION TRAINER CUP (1,600M): TOLKIEN (Antony) 1, Andre' (Trevor) 2, Pristine Glory (Sandesh) 3 and Star Studded (Suraj) 4. Shd, 2-1/2 and 6. Im, 37.51s. ₹65 (w), 20 and 18 (p), SHP: 35, THP: 35, FP: 288, Q: 107,

Trinella: 476/288, Exacta: 1,183/

466. Favourite: Cigar Galaxy. Owner: Sarainaga Racing Pvt Ltd. Trainer: Darius R Byramji. 2. SAYONARA PLATE (1,600M): SEA DIAMOND (Asirvatham) 1, Pettes Love (Sai Kiran) 2, Double Scotch (Antony) 3 and Wakizashi (B. Dharshan) 4. 4-1/2, 2-1/4 and 7. 1m, 40.39s. ₹26 (w), 10, 17 and 12 (p), SHP: 42, THP: 54, FP: 216, Q: 140,

Trinella: 209/50, Exacta: 4,085/4,902. Favourite: Double Scotch. Owners: Mr. M. Sridhar & M/S. Seabliss Racing LLP. Trainer: Umar Shariff S.

3. RACING OFFICIALS CUP (1,400M): EL ALAMEIN (G. Vivek) 1, Able One (Asirvatham) 2, Double Vision (G. Pakhar) 2, and (bicon) Vision (R. Robert) 3 and Chisox (G. Praveen) 4. Not run: Augusto. 2-1/2. 3 and Lnk. 1m, 26.57s. ₹29 2-1/2, 3 and Link. IIII, 26.578. (29 (w), 15, 15 and 18 (p), SHP: 47, THP: 58, FP: 120, Q: 71, Trinella: 238/114, Exacta: 6,907/6,660. Favourite: El Alamein. Owners: Mrs.

Kokila. E & Mr. Arun Kumar K.N.

4. CHAMPION JOCKEY CUP (DIV. I),

Trainer: Faraz Arshad.

(1,200M): BASILICA (Trevor) 1, Carat Love (Neeraj) 2, Eclipse Pulse (G. Vivek) 3 and Bellavita (Srinath) 4. 3-1/4, 1/2 and 1-1/2. 1m, 12.71s. ₹37 (w), 17, 33 and 18 (p), SHP: 104, THP: 42, FP: 363, Q: 202, Trinella: 801/378, Exacta: 1,900/814. Favourite: IL Volo. Owners: Mr. C. Aryama Sundaram. Trainer: S. Attaollahi.
5. LEADING STUD CUP (1,400M): MANDARINO (Arvind K) 1, Champions Way (Suraj) 2, Global Influence (Aleemuddin) 3 and Kalamitsi (Trevor) 4. Not run: Never Give In. 1-1/2, 1 and 3-1/2. 1m, 23.85s. ₹25 (w), 12, 11 and 58 (p), SHP: 30, THP: 89, FP: 53, Q: 25, Trinella: 616/740, Exacta: 1,909/346. Favourite: Champions Way. Owners: Mr. Francis Arun Kumar, Mr. J.

Ramesh & Mr. M.V. Balaji. Trainer Irfan Ghatala. 6. GOVERNOR'S CUP (2,400M): POSITANO (Trevor) 1, Rise And Reign (Neeraj) 2, Queen Of Kings (Antony) 3 and Victor Hugo (G. (Antony) 3 and victor rango (3. Vivek) 4. 1/2, 2-1/4 and 4. 2m, 33.81s. ₹15 (w), 14 and 46 (p), SHP: 61, THP: 40, FP: 130, Q: 100, Trinella: 440/165, Exacta: 999/ 278. Favourite: Positano. Owners M/s. DT Racing & Breeding LLP. Mr. Mukul A. Sonawala, Mr. S.R. Sanas & Mr. Rama Seshu Eyunni. Trainer: S. Attaollahi.

7. LEADING OWNER CUP (1,200M): BEZAWADA SULTAN (J. Chinoy) 1, Aherne (Antony) 2, Wellington (Trevor) 3 and Agera (G. Vivek) 4. 1/2, 1/2 and Hd. 1m, 13.07s. ₹41 (w). 13, 22 and 17 (p), SHP: 53, THP: 66, FP: 498, Q: 203, Trinella: 750/190, Exacta: 1,192/738. Favourite: Wellington. Owner: Mr. Mohammad Abdul Raheem. Trainer: Joseph B.

8. CHAMPION JOCKEY CUP (DIV. II), (1,200M): SMALL DREAMS (Akshay K) 1, Divo (Vinod Shinde) 2, Honest Desire (Aleemuddin) 3 and Honest Desire (Aleemuddin) 3 and Mehra (Srinath) 4. Nk, 2-1/4 and 3-1/2. Im, 13.24s. ₹38 (w), 15, 41 and 35 (p), SHP: 115, THP: 92, FP: 640, Q: 773, Trinella: 5,155/2,762, Exacta: 13,899/4,964. Favourite: LG's Star. Owners: Mr. Vikram Sreeram, Mrs. Sandhya Sreeram, Mr. Sandeep C Raghuram, Mr. V. Srinivasa Murthy, Mr. Kiran Gowda, Mr. C.N. Shashikiran, Dr. T.S. Ravindra & M/S. Cherie Sports T.S. Ravindra & M/S. Cherie Sports Pvt Ltd. Trainer: M.P. Vishesh. Jackpot: ₹5,630 (97 tkts.); Runner up: 282 (831 tkts.); Treble (i): 581 (20 tkts.); (ii): 492 (44 tkts.).

# **Sports Minister** fetes Divya



Divya and Mandaviya at the felicitation. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

# **CHESS**

**Sports Bureau** NEW DELHI

The newly-crowned women's chess World Cup champion, 19-year-old Divya Deshmukh, was felicitated by the Union Sports Minister Mansukh Mandaviya on Fridav.

Grandmaster Koneru Humpy, who finished runner-up to Divya, joined online from her home for the felicitation.

"Grandmasters like you serve as inspiration for the new generation. More youngsters will take to sports, especially a mind game like chess," said the Sports Minister.

Applauding Humpy on her long innings in the game, Mandaviya said, "I have read about Humpy and know that she has inspired many in her journey. I remember going home and watching her games with my children."

The 19-year-old Divya, who hails from Nagpur, said, "I am very happy that the title has come to India. Humpy played very well, but I was lucky.

"Today, I feel very happy to be felicitated by the Sports Minister. This motivates athletes and gives voungsters the message that they have the support of the country."

"It was a long and exhausting tournament. I am happy that I was able to play till the end. With two players of different generations competing in the final from India, we ensured that the title for our country," said Humpy.

# Jamil pips Constantine and Tarkovic, gets the nod to coach Indian football team

He becomes the first Indian after 13 years to coach the national side; the 48-year-old will succeed Spaniard Marquez; his first task at hand will be the CAFA Nations Cup from August 29

Press Trust of India
NEW DELHI

halid Jamil became the first Indian to be appointed as the head coach of national football team in 13 years as he pipped Stephen Constantine and Stefan Tarkovic to grab the coveted post.

The last Indian to serve as the head coach of the national men's team was Savio Medeira, who held the position from 2011 to 2012.

#### Tenure not decided

"The AIFF Executive Committee has picked Khalid Jamil as the new head coach but his tenure has not yet been decided.

"It will be a long-term tenure, may be two or three years, and performancebased," said AIFF president Kalyan Chaubey.

Constantine was a former India head coach while Tarkovic has managed the Slovakia national team in the past.

The 48-year-old Jamil had guided the unheralded Aizawl Football Club to a famous I-League title in 2017. Jamil has long been a trailblazer in Indian football.

A former India international and currently in charge of Indian Super League side Jamshedpur FC, Jamil was selected by

> CM YK ■



In the hot seat: Jamil has the tough job of driving Indian football forward. ISL

the All India Football Federation's (AIFF) executive committee. An AFC Pro Licence Diploma holder, Jamil will succeed Spaniard Manolo Marquez, who parted ways with the AIFF last month following India's recent struggles.

The AIFF president also made it clear that Jamil will be a full-time national team head coach and will not be associated with any other club unlike his predecessor Manolo who played a dual role during his one year tenure, taking charge of ISL side FC Goa. He will have the tough task of reversing India's poor performances in recent past.

After losing 0-1 to lowerranked Hong Kong in an away match of the AFC Asian Cup qualifiers on June 10, the country has been left in danger of missing out on qualifying for the continental showpiece in 2027.

Jamil's first assignment

The last eight years has been nothing less than ex-

in his new role will be the

Central Asian Football As-

sociation (CAFA) Nations

Cup, to be held in Tajikis-

tan and Uzbekistan start-

Cup, India will play AFC

round games on October 9

the frontrunner even be-

fore his appointment.

Jamil was considered

He got support from Vi-

jayan and Ali, Technical Committee chairperson

and vice chairperson respectively and former India

Colaco and Ali also pitched

in for an Indian head

expressed their views that

the AIFF should prioritise

selecting an Indian coach

for the senior men's na-

tional team during their

respective coaching ca-

tional team experience.

However, they believe that

Indian coaches need to be

given a fair chance to prove

themselves," the AIFF said.

and current executive

committee members Pinky

Bompal Magar, Thongam

Tababi Devi and Climax

Lawrence also supported

giving an opportunity to an

Indian coach.

Former India players

"They, too, had no na-

"Mr. Colaco and Mr. Ali

coach Armando Colaco.

Other contenders

coach.

and 14 against Singapore.

After the CAFA Nations

qualifying

ing from August 29.

Asian Cup

NEW DELHI

been nothing less than extraordinary for Khalid Jamil. In the summer of 2008, he was reluctant to coach the under-19 team in Mumbai FC. On August 1, once an accidental coach is now at helm of country's national team.

Press Trust of India

From carrying Aizawl FC to an emotional I-League triumph which was a shot in the arm for football in the north east to facing immense pressure while coaching Kolkata giants East Bengal and Mohun Bagan, Jamil has earned his stripes through

the bump and grind of Indian football.

Jamil is also the AIFF 'Coach of the Year' in the last two seasons. The unassuming Mumbaikar is a quintessential hard-worker known for meticulous planning before matches. His philosophy has been 'train hard and play harder'.

Originally born in Kuwait his family shifted to Mumbai after the Gulf War. While studying he made it to the university team. He later played for Mahindra United, Air India and Mumbai FC for major part of his club career.

"I always liked football from childhood, but when



'Accidental coach' Jamil's rise to the top

I always liked football from childhood, but when I started, I didn't play the sport thinking of it as a profession KHALIDJAMIL

I started, I didn't play the sport thinking of it as a profession," he had said.

#### Initial days

India head coach

The 48-year-old made his national team debut in 1997 in a SAFF Cup match against Bangladesh.

He played 15 matches till his retirement in 2006 due to injuries.

While playing for the Mumbai FC senior team, he was asked to coach the junior side in 2008 and he reluctantly did that, and that changed his life.

that changed his life.
"The u-19 team did very well, won the league. Since David Booth has left the senior team, I was asked to

take charge."
At just 33, he became the youngest coach in the I-League.

Jamil will have the tough task of reversing India's poor performances in recent past.

Jamil has spoken about allowing his players the freedom to express themselves while maintaining defensive discipline.

# Diamond Harbour FC thrashes BSF; Indian Navy edges out Real Kashmir

#### **DURAND CUP**

#### Sports Bureau KOLKATA

Debutant Diamond Harbour FC (DHFC) announced its arrival in style, outclassing Border Security Force (BSF) 8-1 in a Group-B league match of the 134th Durand Cup at the Kishore Bharati Stadium here on Friday.

Brazilian forward Clayton DaSilva scored four goals to lead Diamond Harbour's demolition.

Slovenian forward Luka Majcen found the net twice while Paul Ramfangzauva and Jobby Justin scored one each to complete the rout. Kishori scored BSF's solitary goal in the final mi-



**On the rampage:** Clayton starred for Diamond Harbour FC with a four-goal effort. DEBASISH BHADURI

nute. The win took DHFC to the top of the group standings with six points from successive wins. It will meet ISL champion in its concl match on Au cide the group Earlier, started its care.

Mohun Bagan Super Giant

:::

in its concluding league match on August 9 to de-

cide the group topper.
Earlier, Indian Navy
started its campaign on a

winning note as it beat the

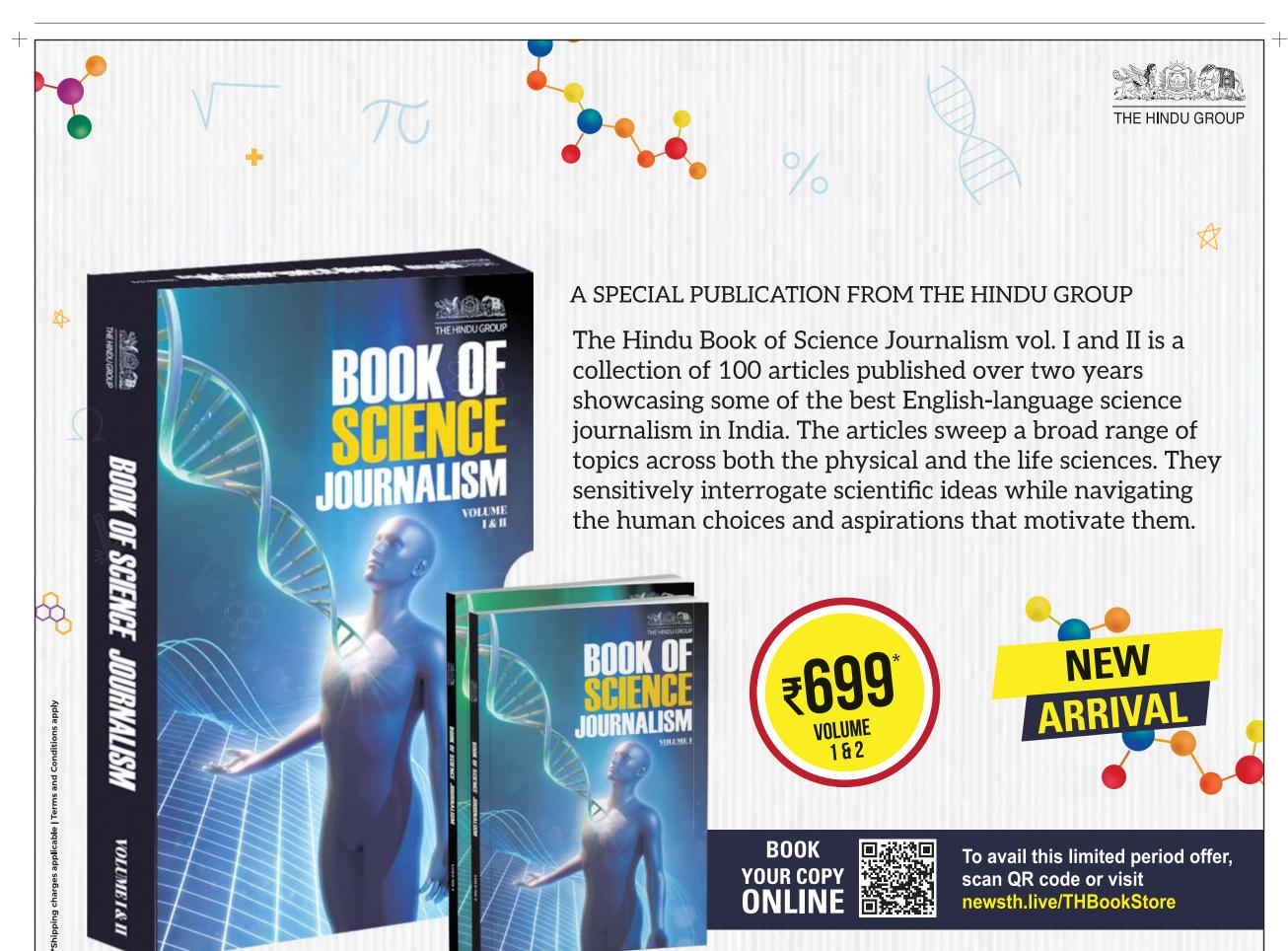
I-League side Real Kashmir FC (RKFC) 2-1 in a Group-F league encounter at the Khuman Lampak Stadium in Imphal.

Vijay Marandi put the sailors ahead early in the sixth minute before Franck William Sessegnon's restored parity for Real Kashmir in the 64th minute. Sreyas V.G. finished with a nice angular effort in the 70th minute to ensure Navy earned its first win in the competition since 2021.

#### The results: Group-B

(Kolkata): Diamond Harbour FC 8 (Clayton DaSilva 1, 35, 71, 90+2, Luka Majcen 7, 39, Paul 53, Jobby Justin 67) bt BSF 1 (Kishori 90).

**Group-F (Imphal):** Indian Navy 2 (Vijay Marandi 6, Sreyas V.G. 70) bt Real Kashmir FC 1 (Franck Sessegnon 64).



# **Sport**

# Indian hoopsters have their task cut out in FIBA Asia Cup

<u>Coach Fleming feels that it will be a 'huge challenge'</u> against China, Jordan and Saudi Arabia which are better ranked; skipper Muin says the team is aiming to spring a surprise or two

BASKETBALL

K. Keerthivasan

cott Fleming, Indian men's basketball team head coach said the teams in Group 'C' in the FIBA Asia Cup beginning in Jeddah on August 5, are all higher ranked than India (Asia ranked 15) and it won't be easy at all to reach the knock-outs, but exuded cautious optimism.

"Yes, China (Asia ranking 6), Jordan (8) and Saudi Arabia (10) are better ranked than us. It's a huge challenge. But we will go for upsets," said Fleming in a chat with *The Hindu* over phone on Friday.

On aspects that the team focused on its training sessions at the National Sports Centre at Panaiyur here, Fleming said, "We are good in perimeter shooting. We will continue to do that. We are streng-



**Pep talk:** Coach Fleming will be keen to get the best out of the players for the tough assignment.

thening our defence. We have been inconsistent so far," he said.

Qualifying for the Asia Cup has been made tougher in the last two years unlike in the past, Fleming said. "Earlier we used to beat weaker teams such as Bangladesh. Now it has become tough. We had to beat Kazakhstan and Bahrain to qualify this time," he said. India captain Muin Bek said the team was aiming to surprise Jordan and Saudi Arabia. "One of Jordan's best players, Ahmad

Al Dwairi (centre), is not playing. And in Saudi Arabia, there are no prominent imports," said the captain, while adding that the two away matches (July 8 and 15) the team played against Qatar had boosted its confidence.

# 'I was worried that Test cricket was struggling a bit, but now...'

CRICKET

S. Prasanna Venkatesan CHENNAI

Australia pace bowling legend Glenn McGrath on Friday noted the uncommon English conditions in the ongoing India-England series, but said that the series, along with the 2024-25 Border-Gavaskar Trophy, has restored his confidence that Test cricket is "alive and well."

"It's been quite highscoring... a little unusual English conditions with the Dukes cricket ball. But it hasn't been a one-sided affair. It's been good, solid Test cricket. It's been en-

joyable. It's close.
"I was worried that Test cricket was struggling a bit. But after watching the Australia-India and the England-India series, I think Test cricket is alive and



one-sided affair and it has been good, solid Test cricket. R. RAGU

well, especially in those three countries.

"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 something in it for the bowler. And if the game's coming right down to the wire on the fifth day, then it's perfect, isn't it? When we saw that last game (at Old Trafford), there was a chance of a result, but India batted well and held on. Everyone's been interested and watching. I think they're getting good crowds. They haven't been slow, boring matches," he said at the MRF-Pachaiyappa's ground here.

e-Auction

will be

held on :

06.08.2025

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Asked if India should ration the volume of overs that Jasprit Bumrah bowls to allow him to play more Tests, he said: "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 depends a lot on the other bowlers. I've watched Prasidh Krishna bowl in the IPL, and I've always been a big fan of him. Unfortunately, he didn't get more opportunities in Australia. But yes, you need another group of fast bowlers coming through to balance it out so that he doesn't have to bowl long spells."

On whether Bumrah should consider staying away from white-ball formats, he said: "He's so effective in one-day and T20 cricket. To limit himself to Test cricket would be a shame".

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# Dhakshineswar in Challenger quarters

Sports Bureau NEW DELHI

Qualifier Dhakshineswar Suresh fought his way past Mark Lajal 6-7(4), 6-4, 6-4 in the pre-quarterfinals of the \$100,000 Challenger tennis tournament in Lexington, USA.

Yuki Bhambri and Michael Venus of New Zealand were beaten 6-4, 3-6, [12-10] in the doubles first round by John Peers and

Jan Zielinski in the \$9,193,540 tournament in Toronto.

Other results: €91,250 Challenger, Hagen, Germany: Singles (pre-quarterfinals): Niels Mcdonald (Ger) bt Sumit Nagal 6-2, 4-6, 6-4.

\$100,000 Challenger, Lexington, USA: Singles (pre-quarterfinals): Doubles (quarterfinals): Anirudh Chandrasekar &

Ramkumar Ramanathan bt

Zachary Fuchs & Wally Thayne

ne (USA) 7-6(5), 6-3.

\$60,000 Challenger, Astana, Kazakhstan: Singles (quarterfinals): Alexandr Binda (Ita) bt Karan Singh 6-4, 6-4. \$30,000 ITF men, Brazzaville, Congo: Singles (quarterfinals):

Florent Bax (Fra) bt Digvijay

Pratap Singh 7-5, 6-3; Dev Javia bt Reda Bennani (Mar) 6-4, 6-4. **Doubles (quarterfinals):** Chinmaya Dev Chauhan & Dev

Chinmaya Dev Chauhan & Dev Javia bt Vatsal Manikantan & Julappagari Reddy 6-4, 7-5; Matteo Covato (Ita) & Digvijay Pratap Singh w.o. Bor Artnak (Slo) & Stefan Vujic (Aus).

\$15,000 ITF men, Nakhon Pathom, Thailand: Singles (quarterfinals): Soonwoo Kwon (Kor) bt Sidharth Rwat 6-0, 6-1.

Tunisia: Doubles (quarterfinals): Valeria Bhunu (Zim) & Tanisha Kashyap bt Georgina Hays (GBR) & Sarah Nita (Cuw) 6-4, 6-2.

\$15,000 ITF women, Monastir,

\$15,000 ITF women, Huamantla, Mexico: Singles (pre-quarterfinals): Raphaelle Leroux (Can) bt Saumya Vig 7-6(6), 6-4.

# HIMACHAL PRADESH PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT Tel. No. 01799-221023 e-Procurement Notice INVESTMENT CONTROL PROCUEED TO STATE OF THE PROCULE OF

The Executive Engineer HPPWD Rajgarh Distt Sirmour H.P on behalf of Governor of H.P invites percentage rate, bids, in electronic tendering system, from the eligible class of

COIII	contractor/ impregistered with in 1 wb for the works as detailed in the tables.					
Sr. No.	Name of the work	Estimated Cost (Rs. Lakh) (including all Taxes and GST)		Total Cost (Rs. Lakh)		
		Construction (Initial Rectification+ Periodical Renewals)	Routine Maintenance	(including all Taxes and GST)		
1.	Periodical renewal on Kalyon	20467248/-	11149620/-	31616868/-		
	Pab Leo Nana road Km 0/0 to 15/0 under PMGSY incentive Post DLP					

Pab Leo Nana road Km 0/0 to 15/0 under PMGSY incentive Post DLP maintenance for the year 2025-26 (SH:- Pre-maintenance of Kalyon Pab Leo Nana road Patch work in Km 7/500 to 15/0 & providing and laying 25mm thick Bitumen concrete in Km 0/0 to 15/0 and five years maintenance after completion)

Starting date for downloading bid : 02.08.2025, Earnest money :-632600/-Deadline for submission of bid.:- 11.08.2025.

The Bidders are advised to note other details for tenders from the department website <a href="www.hptenders.gov.in">www.hptenders.gov.in</a>. Executive Engineer

HPPWD Division Rajgarh Distt Sirmour HP on behalf of Governor of Himachal Pradesh

HP / 2175/25-26 HIM SUCHANA AVAM JAN SAMPARK

छत्तीसगढ़ पर्यावरण संरक्षण मंडल पर्यावास भवन, सेक्टर-19, नवा रायपुर अटल नगर, जिला- रायपुर (छ.ग.)

<u>// सर्व संबंधित को सूचना //</u>

भारत सरकार, पर्यावरण, वन और जलवाय परिवर्तन मंत्रालय की ई.आई.ए. अधिसूचन दिनांक 14/09/2006 (यथा संशोधित) के अंतर्गत सर्व संबंधित को सचित किया जाता है कि मेसर्स व्रजेश स्टील्स प्राईवेट लिमिटेड, ग्राम-कोहडिया, तहसील-भिंभौरी, जिला-बेमेतरा (छ.ग.) ਸੇਂ Establishment of Greenfield Steel Plant comprising of DRI Kilns (Sponge Iron- 4,29,000 TPA), Induction Furnaces with LRF & CCM (Ho Billets / MS Billets / Ingots- 4,15,800 TPA), Rolling Mills (TMT bars Structural Steel / Wire rod / Strips) (85% Hot charging with Hot Billets and remaining 15% through RHF with Producer Gasifier as fuel) - 2,64,000 TPA), Gasifier for Reheating Furnace- (1 x 5000 NM3/Hr.), Ferro Alloy Unit 3 x 9 MVA (FeSi -21,000 TPA / FeMn 60,000 TPA / SiMn- 42,000 TPA / FeCr- 45,000 TPA / Pig Iron -72,000 TPA), WHRB based Power Plant 1x18 MW & 2x10 MW, FBC based Power Plant-1x18 MW, Briquetting Plant (300 Kg/Hr.) & Brick Manufacturing unit (45,000 Bricks/Day) के पर्यावरणीय स्वीकृति हेतु लोक सुनवाई बाबत छत्तीसगढ़ पर्यावरण संरक्षण मंडल, नवा रायपर में आवेदन प्रस्तत किया गयाँ है। उक्त परियोजना के संबंध में आपत्ति / सझाव / विचार / टीका टिप्पणी, इस सूँचना के जारी होने के दिनांक से 15 दिवस के अंदर क्षेत्रीय अधिकारी छत्तीसगढ पर्यावरण संरक्षण मंडल. 5/32 बंगला. भिलाई. जिला-दर्ग के कार्यालय में मौखिव अथवा लिखित रूप से कार्यालयीन समय में प्रस्तत की जा सकती है। इस परियोजना के लिये लोक सनवाई दिनांक 21/08/2025 को समय प्रातः 11:00 बजे. स्थान-शासकीय भूमि खसरा नम्बर 851 एवं 852 का भाग (प्रस्तावित स्थल के उत्तर में शासकीय भूमि खसरा नम्बर 852, दक्षिण में शासकीय भूमि खसरा नम्बर 851, 852 का भाग बाद कोहड़िया से गुधेली मार्ग, पूर्व में शासकीय भूमि खसरा नम्बर 852, पश्चिम में शासकीय भिम 851, 852 का भाग बाद खगारपाट से कोहड़िया मार्ग) ग्राम-कोहड़िया, तहसील भिभौरी, जिला-बेमेतरा (छ.ग.) में नियत की गई है। यह भी सूचित हो कि:

 लोक सुनवाई के दौरान सम्मिलित होने वाले व्यक्तियों को फिजिकल / सोशल डिस्टेंसिंग का पालन करना अनिवार्य होगा।

2. लोक सुनवाई में सम्मिलित होने वाले व्यक्तियों द्वारा मास्क का उपयोग किया जावेगा तथा समय समय पर सेनेटाईजर का उपयोग किया जाना अनिवार्य होगा।

3. लोक सुनवाई स्थल पर सम्मिलित होने वाले व्यक्तियों की बैठक व्यवस्था कम से कम 02 मीटर की दूरी रखना अनिवार्य होगा।

4. कोरोना वायरस के नियंत्रण एवं रोकथाम हेतु शासन द्वारा जारी समस्त दिशा-निर्देशों क अक्षरश: पालन किया जाना अनिवार्य होगा।

ई.आई.ए. नोटिफिकेशन 14 सितम्बर 2006 (यथा-संशोधित) के अनुसार संबंधित व्यक्तियों के अवलोकन / पठन हेतु ड्राफ्ट ई.आई.ए. रिपोर्ट, कार्यपालक सार हिन्दी एवं अंग्रेजी भाषा तथा सी.डी. (साफ्ट कॉपी) डायरेक्टर, पर्यावरण, वन और जलवायु परिवर्तन मंत्रालय, भारत सरकार, इंदिरा पर्यावरण भवन, जोर बाग रोड, नई दिल्ली, क्षेत्रीय अधिकारी, एकीकृत क्षेत्रीय कार्यालय, पर्यावरण, वन और जलवायु परिवर्तन मंत्रालय, भारत सरकार, अरण्य भवन, नार्थ ब्लॉक, सेक्टर-19, नवा रायपर, अटल नगर, रायपर, छत्तीसगढ,

एकीकृत क्षेत्रीय कार्यालय, पर्यावरण, वन और जलवायु परिवर्तन मंत्रालय, भारत सरकार अरण्य भवन, नार्थ ब्लॉक, सेक्टर-19, नवा रायपुर, अटल नगर, रायपुर, छत्तीसगढ़ कलेक्टर, कार्यालय कलेक्टर, बेमेतरा, जिला-बेमेतरा, मुख्य कार्यपालन अधिकारी, जिल पंचायत, बेमेतरा, जिला-बेमेतरा, महाप्रबंधक, जिला व्यापार एवं उद्योग केन्द्र, बेमेतरा जिला-बेमेतरा, सरपंच / सचिव, ग्राम पंचायत कोहड़िया, तहसील-भिभीरी, जिला- बेमेतरा क्षेत्रीय कार्यालय, छत्तीसगढ़ पर्यावरण संरक्षण मंडल, 5/32 बंगला, भिलाई, जिला-दुर्ग एव मुख्यालय, छत्तीसगढ़ पर्यावरण संरक्षण मंडल, पर्यावास भवन, सेक्टर-19, नवा रायपु अटल नगर, रायपुर में रखी गई है।

छत्तीसगढ़ पर्यावरण संरक्षण मंडल, नवा रायपुर अटल नगर, जिला-रायपुर ( छ.ग. )

#### HIMACHAL PRADESH PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT "CORRIGENDUM"

The tenders invited through e-Purucurement vide this Office NIT No. PW/NLD/CB/Tender- Publication/2025-26-3109-13 dated 30-07-2025 for Job No. 1 for the C/O Baddi Sheetalpur to Jagatkhana via Dasomajra road from km 0/0 to 23/550 (SH F.C, Filling, R/ wall, B/wall, MT U and V shape Drain, parapets and Kilometer stone etc) UNDER NABARD RIDF-XXX and was schedule to be opened on 12-08-2025 at 11:30 AM, The tender fee amount has been enhanced by the HP Govt.vide secretary ( PW) HP Shimla office letter No. PWD-B-F0(1)/2025-255228 dated 6-05-2025. The tender fee amount may be read as 60,000/- insteated of Rs 5000/
Executive Engineer, Nalagarh Division.

HP PWD Nalagarh.
25-26 HIM SUCHANA AVAM JAN SAMPARK



Jammu and Kashmir Bank Ltd Technology & Devlopment, Fifth Floor Corporate Headquaters M.A.Road Srinagar,190001,J&K

Online Request for Proposal (e-RFP) For Centralized Service Desk (CSD) operations for J&K Bank

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e-RFP Ref No. JKB/CHQ/T&D/CSD-Operations/2025-1480 Dated: 31-07-2025

Registered office : Corporate Headquarters, M.A.Road, Srinagar 190001, Kashmir, India CIN: L65110JK1938SGC000048 ; T : +91 (0)194 2481 930-35 ; F : +91 (0)194 248 1928; E : info@jkbmail.com ; W : www.jkbank.com



No: EE/Lakes/East&KRPC/TN-06/2025-26 Date:

INVITATION FOR TENDER (IFT)
(Through GOK Karnataka Public Procurement Portal only)

Tenders on item rate basis are invited by the Executive Engineer, Lakes (East Zone & KRPC), BBMP, Bengaluru for the work mentioned below from the registered Contractors of BBMP or equivalent registration with CPWD / KPWD / Railways / MES or any State Government Organizations.

Name of the Work / Category

Providing Chain Link Fencing at Horamavu Jayanthi, K.R. Puram. (General) - Amount of Work (Rs. in Lakhs): 100.00, EMD Amount (in Rs.): 2,00,000.00

Providing Chain Link Fencing at Bhattarahalli Lake, K.R. Puram. (General) - Amount of Work (Rs. in Lakhs): 100.00, EMD Amount (in Rs.): 2,00,000.00

Providing Chain Link Fencing at Kowdenahalli Lake,

K.R. Puram. (General) - Amount of Work (Rs. in Lakhs):
100.00, EMD Amount (in Rs.): 2,00,000.00

Calendar of Events: 1) Tender Documents can be

downloaded from GOK Karnataka Public Procurement Portal Website: https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in from 02-08-2025 after 16.00 Hours. 2) Date of Pre Bid Meeting will be held on 07-08-2025 at 15.00 Hours in the Office of the Chief Engineer, FECC, No. 308, 3rd Floor, Annex-2 Building, BBMP Head Office, N.R. Square, Bengaluru - 560002. 3) Last Date and Time for Receipt of Tenders: 18-08-2025 upto 15.00 Hours. 4) Date of Opening of Technical Bid: 19-08-2025 at 15.30 Hours. 5) Date of Opening of Financial Bid: After Approval of Technical Bid. Further details can be had from the above office.

Sd/- Executive Engineer Lakes (East Zone & K.R. Puram Constituency), BBMP.

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# Chahal recalls battling mental health issues following his divorce

Press Trust of India
NEW DELHI

Indian leg-spinner Yuzvendra Chahal has opened up about his struggles with mental health issues following his divorce from Dhanashree Verma, revealing that he was wrongly labelled as a "cheater" and battled suicidal thoughts during the tumultuous period.

"After my divorce, I was called a cheater. But I have never cheated in my life. I'm extremely loyal – probably more than most. For my loved ones, I've always thought from the heart," Chahal said on *Raj Shamani Podcast*.

The 34-year-old said he was emotionally distressed following the separation.

"I had suicidal thoughts. I was tired of my life. I would cry for two hours a day, sleep just two hours. This went on for over 40 days. I had anxiety attacks, depression.



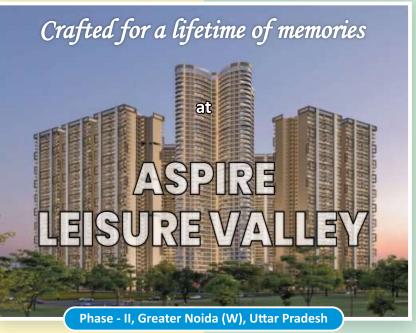
Chahal. FILE PHOTO: SHIV KUMAR PUSHPAKAR

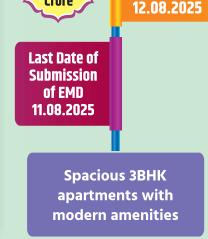
Only those close to me knew what I was going through," Chahal said.

Chahal also shared that he considered taking a break from cricket. He said the growing professional commitments on both sides played a role in the eventual separation. "A relationship requires compromise – if both people are always busy, there's bound to be distance," he said.

(Assistance for overcoming suicidal thoughts is available on Tele-MANAS 14416 and Sneha's suicide prevention haloline 044-24640050)







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helpline 044-24640050).