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# India win squash gold in thriller with Pak, stun China in table tennis doubles

**EXPRESS AT ASIAN GAMES**  
**MIHIR VASVADA**  
HANGZHOU, SEPTEMBER 30



Indian squash players after winning gold at the Asian Games. PTI  
FULL ASIAN GAMES COVERAGE, PAGES 19, 20

"12-10 IN the fifth, in the decider of the Asian Games gold medal match, India vs Pakistan, how do you write it!" gasped Abhay Singh. "How do you write it?" India's man of the moment, who nearly quit the sport two years ago, captured the emotions best. Where to even begin to describe the relentless drama, the unbearable tension and the astonishing fightback that ultimately led to a squash gold medal with a 11-7, 9-11, 8-11, 11-9, 12-10 victory? With the bickering start to what turned out to be one of the all-time classic India-Pakistan matches? Or the cold-blooded, thoroughly professional exhibition by veteran Sourav Ghosal, which brought India back into the mix?  
CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

**INDIA'S MEDAL HAUL ON SATURDAY**

**GOLD: 2**

- Squash (Men's Team)
- Tennis (Mixed Doubles)

**SILVER: 2**

- Shooting (Mixed team 10m Air Pistol)
- Athletics (Men's 10,000m)

**BRONZE: 1**

- Athletics (Men's 10,000m)

**OPINION**  
PAGE 15



BY RAHUL GANDHI  
**Satyam Shivam Sundaram**

Hinduism is how we mitigate and understand our relationship with our fears. It is a path towards the realisation of truth... open to anyone who chooses to walk on it

**THE WORLD**

**MALDIVES: PRO-CHINA CANDIDATE SET TO WIN PRESIDENCY**  
PAGE 16

## Plugging the gap: EV sales surge, start-ups launch on-demand, doorstep charging

**AGGAM WALIA**  
NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 30

WHEN DHEERAJ SINGH bought a Tata Nexon EV (electric vehicle) earlier this year, he did not install the charging kit since he planned to move out of his Noida apartment within months. Instead, he discovered Hopcharge, a Gurgaon-based start-up that provides door-to-door EV fast charging services. With a Hopcharge subscription, Singh can order a van equipped with lithium-ion power banks at an hour's notice and get his EV charged anywhere in the National Capital Region.

In India, where there is just one charging point for 164 EVs (compared to the global average of 15.9 EVs), a handful of start-ups such as Hopcharge are vying to plug themselves in by providing door-to-door fast charging services and similar solutions. Noida-based Mobec, which launched its door-to-door charging service to beta users two months ago, is also coming up with a mobile fast-charging station for commercial parking

**POWER POINTS**

Region	Vehicle-charging point ratio
India	164:1
Delhi	72:1
Maharashtra	72:1
Karnataka	148:1
Uttar Pradesh	675:1
Rajasthan	287:1
USA	18:1
Germany	26:1
China	7:1

(Ratio shows the number of vehicles per charging point)

spaces. It raised \$1 million earlier this year from Purple Stone Consulting, a Singapore-based firm. GoFuel, a pan-India doorstep diesel delivery company, is in the final stages of R&D for its planned door-to-door EV charging services and has tied up with an oil marketing company to set up public charging stations. Hopcharge, which started commercial operations in April 2022, offers a convenient solution for EV owners who do not have home chargers installed or face  
CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

## How childhood friends outplayed champions on way to medal-sealing win

**MIHIR VASAVDA**  
HANGZHOU, SEPTEMBER 30

THEY SAY, half-jokingly, around these parts that the egg-shaped table tennis arena is plated in gold because the fans here settle for nothing less. Everyday, before the action begins, they even project a minute-long movie on the show courts, celebrating China's unparalleled history in Asian

Games table tennis. The message of that short clip is simple: You can't beat China in this sport. It's not hollow nationalism and chest-thumping. In every edition since 1974 Asiad, China has topped the TT medals tally; its gold count of 66 is nearly twice more than the combined tally of everyone else. And the last time they hosted the Asian Games, China had a clean sweep of gold medals.  
CONTINUED ON PAGE 2



Sutirtha Mukherjee (right) and Ayhika Mukherjee after winning the women's doubles quarterfinal against China. PTI

**FIRST-OF-ITS-KIND OFFERING BY AN IIT**

## Two years after its launch, IIT Bombay's blended arts-science degree yet to take off

**RAUNAQ SARASWAT**  
NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 30

ON JUNE 28, 2021, IIT Bombay had announced a "completely new and novel type of undergraduate programme," focused on "student choice and interdisciplinary studies." The Liberal Arts-Sciences-Engineering (LASE) programme, with 30 seats, would provide students the opportunity to customise their coursework according to their interests and graduate with a Bachelor of Sciences or BS de-

**EXPLAINED**  
**BS vs BTech: Brand equity**  
NUDGED BY the Union government and the emphasis on interdisciplinarity laid out in the National Education Policy 2020, IIT Bombay launched a liberal arts-science undergraduate programme, a first by any IIT, in 2021. Two years later, the institute has realised the considerable distance to cover in terms of gaining acceptance for such flexibility.

gree. It was a "liberal arts style offering in STEM" — a first in India. Two years later, it hasn't started — it couldn't get even the minimum requirement of 10 students of a class of over 1,000 to sign up. Behind this disinterest is a

"lack of acceptance" and wariness over securing a degree other than the tried and tested IIT B.Tech, say faculty and students. Traditionally, IIT students, regardless of their engineering branch, take courses from different departments, including Humanities and Social Sciences, during their four years at the institute. However, the number of non-core courses is often limited by their core branch's curriculum requirements. In contrast, LASE promises students the flexibility to select  
CONTINUED ON PAGE 2



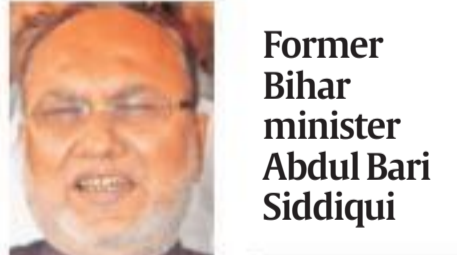
**'NITISH WAS IN TOUCH WITH ME... WE WERE PLANNING A JANATA FEDERAL FRONT'**

**H D DEVE GOWDA**  
JANATA DAL (SECULAR) CHIEF

## RJD's Abdul Bari kicks up a row: Quota only for women with 'lipstick, bob-cut'

**SANTOSH SINGH**  
PATNA, SEPTEMBER 30

DAYS AFTER the RJD joined all parties in Parliament's unanimous approval of the Bill granting 33% reservation to women in seats of Lok Sabha and state Assemblies — only two members of the AIMIM in Lok Sabha opposed the Bill which received Presidential assent Friday — RJD senior leader and former Bihar



minister Abdul Bari Siddiqui has kicked up a row with his remark that the quota, in its present form, would only benefit women with "lipstick and bob-cut" hairstyle.

Speaking at an awareness programme organised by the EBC wing of the RJD in Muzaffarpur Friday, Siddiqui said, "If benefits of women's reservation go to EBC and OBC women, it will work fine. Otherwise, women with lipstick and bob-cut hair will take quota away." He said there was a need for greater awareness on women's quota. As the remarks drew criticism from different quarters, the  
CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

**INCIDENT DISGRACEFUL: DELHI**

## Envoy stopped from entering gurdwara: India takes up with UK

**Jaishankar on Canada: 'Let's not normalise... freedom of speech can't extend to incitement, violence'**

**SHUBHAJIT ROY**  
NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 30

AMID THE Delhi-Ottawa stand-off over the killing of a Canada-based Khalistan separatist, Indian High Commissioner to the UK, Vikram Doraiswami, was stopped by three persons from entering a gurdwara in Glasgow while on a visit to Scotland.

Calling the incident "disgraceful", the Indian High Commission has taken it up with the UK Foreign Office. In a statement Saturday, the Indian High Commission in London said three persons from outside Scotland "deliberately disrupted" the visit Friday evening and one even attempted to violently force open the diplomatic vehicle as senior diplomats arrived at the Glasgow Gurdwara Guru Granth Sahib on Albert Drive. As they hurled threats and abuses, the High Commissioner and Consul General of India de-



High Commissioner Vikram Doraiswami was stopped by three persons in Glasgow

cided to leave the premises to avert an altercation. "On September 29, 2023, three persons — all from areas outside Scotland — disrupted a planned interaction organised by the Gurdwara Committee for the community, the High Commissioner (HC) and the Consul General of India (CG)," the Indian High Commission said. "This interaction was to discuss community and consular issues. The organisers included senior community leaders,  
CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

## In Chhattisgarh, PM says Cong abuses Modi to abuse OBCs

Tells BJP workers: Focus on party's symbol, not leadership or candidate

**VIKAS PATHAK**  
BILASPUR, SEPTEMBER 30

LAUNCHING A fierce attack on Congress, Prime Minister Narendra Modi Saturday said it hated him because despite being an OBC (Other Backward Class) he became the Prime Minister, a post the Opposition party thought was reserved for it. "They abuse Modi, using it as an excuse to abuse all OBCs. They hate OBCs," Modi told a large crowd at the 'Parivartan Mahasankalp' rally in Bilaspur to mark the conclusion of BJP's outreach campaign in the poll-bound state. "They cannot tolerate the rise of the poor, Dalits, Adivasis and OBCs. In the Congress, only those who bow before a family rise," he said.

Modi said the Congress party had opposed the candidature of Ram Nath Kovind, a Dalit, for the post of President of India, and also opposed the candidature of the first tribal woman President. He claimed this wasn't an ideological opposition to the BJP, since they had fielded an "old BJP leader" — referring to Yashwant Sinha — for the post. Claiming credit for the passage of the Constitutional (Amendment) Bill to pave the way for women's reservation in the Lok Sabha and state legislative assemblies, he said, the Opposition supported the law reluctantly only out of fear of angering women voters. "Now they are playing a new game. They are trying to divide women on the basis of caste," Modi said, referring to the Congress demand for  
CONTINUED ON PAGE 2



PM Narendra Modi in Bilaspur on Saturday. PTI

## Behind tin sheets, three sculptors in secretive race for 'best Ram Lalla idol'

**PAGE 1 ANCHOR**

**LALMANI VERMA**  
AYODHYA, SEPTEMBER 30

SEVERAL TIMES over the past month, a snowy-haired octogenarian has made rounds of a tin-sheet structure in Ayodhya's Ramsevak Puram, about 1.5 km from the Ram temple site. Drawn to the structure by the "khat-khat aur machine ki awaaz" (the sound of chisels and machines), Shanti Singh's attempts to sneak a peek at the Ram Lalla

idol which she has heard is being sculpted inside have so far come to naught. Turned away by the armed UP Police personnel and the private security guard deployed at the site, the Ghazipur resident rued, "Maine kaha ek baar darshan kar lena do, pata nahi dobara aana ho paye ya nahin, marg police wale bole gupt hai (I requested the security to let me get one glimpse of the statue since I don't know if I will be able to come back again, but they turned me away saying it was a secret)." Sources said three Ram Lalla idols are currently being made

in three workshops, each by a different sculptor, and that the "best of the three" idols would be installed in the temple's sanctum sanctorum during the pran pratistha (consecration) ceremony, which is expected to be held in January 2024 in the presence of Prime Minister Narendra Modi. Temple construction committee chairperson Nripendra Mishra had said earlier this week that the consecration is expected on January 22 and a final date is yet to be communicated by the Prime Minister's Office. While the Shri Ram Janmabhoomi Teerth Kshetra Trust, set up by the Centre to



One of three reported workshops in Ayodhya where a statue of Ram Lalla is being carved. Lalmani Verma

build the Ram temple, refused to share information on the sculptors or the three workshops, sources confirmed that three tin structures, metres apart in Ramsevak Puram and each identical to the one outside which Shanti Singh stood, is where the idols are being sculpted. All the three workshops, set up on land under the control of the Vishwa Hindu Parishad (VHP), are rectangular structures, their nearly 15-foot-high walls and roof made of corrugated tin sheets and with a wrap-around grill between the wall and the ceiling for ventilation. The workshops are guarded

24/7 by armed personnel belonging to the state police and private security guards. In an earlier interview to *The Indian Express*, Misra had said a 51-inch idol, depicting Lord Ram as a child — a 4- to 5-year-old Ram Lalla — standing on a lotus, would be installed. Misra had said, "The sanctum sanctorum or the garbha griha is on the ground floor. This is where the Lord will be in standing pose, 51 inches, roughly 4-5 years in age, on a lotus, with something in a manner that attains the height of 8 feet... work is being done to bring the light being funnelled such that it falls on

the Lord's forehead on Ram Navmi day. So, experts are (working out the parameters) factoring in the movement of the Earth around the Sun for 19 years. This will ensure that we can modulate, manually, so that on Ram Navmi day, the sunlight actually falls on the Lord's forehead at 12 noon. This is being worked out by experts at Central Building Research Institute and the astronomical institute in Pune." Sources at Ramsevak Puram said that the idols are "taking time" since the sculptors are aiming for perfection.  
CONTINUED ON PAGE 2



# No fault on part of cops in killing of Atiq, Ashraf: UP to SC

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE  
NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 30

THE UTTAR Pradesh government has informed the Supreme Court that an inquiry into encounters in the state has found "no fault... on the part of the police" and that it is "leaving no stone unturned to ensure a fair and impartial investigation" into the killing of gangster-turned politician Atiq Ahmed and his brother Ashraf in April 2023.

The state said this in a status report filed in response to the SC's August 11 direction, asking it to file affidavits "indicating the stage of the investigation or the trial" in seven instances highlighted in a petition that raised the issue of "encounter killings" by the police in UP and the extent to which the state has complied with past recommendations and directions given by the court and various commissions.

The court was seized of two petitions — one by Advocate Vishal Tiwari, raising questions on the deaths of gangster Vikas Dubey and his gang members as well as the killings of Atiq, Ashraf, Atiq's son Asad and gang member Mohd Ghulam, and the other by Atiq's sister Aisha Noori, seeking court-monitored probe into the killing of her brothers. Rejecting the allegations against the state police, the UP government affidavit said, "It is submitted that each of the seven incidents highlighted by the petitioner in his pleadings have been thoroughly investigated by the State, in accordance with the directions/guidelines issued by this Hon'ble court in various decisions, and where the investigations are complete, no fault has been found on the part of the police."

Tiwari's petition "specifically raised grievances against the report of Justice (retired) B S Chauhan Commission, which the state said, "categorically found no

fault with the actions of the police in the cases of the deaths of the members of Vikas Dubey's gang". The UP government pointed out that the petitioner had raised objections even to the constitution of the Justice Chauhan Commission, which were rejected by the SC. The state added that the final report of the panel was placed before the SC, which "directed" it "to take appropriate action on the recommendations submitted by the... commission".

Outlining action taken in the case of encounter deaths of Vikas Dubey and his gang members, including the details of the magisterial inquiry, the status report said, "Thus... apart from the Justice B S Chauhan Commission's report finding no fault with the actions of the state, even the criminal inquiries, magisterial inquiries and human rights commission have not found fault with the State."

On the death of Asad and Mohd Ghulam, the state said further probe and magisterial inquiry had found no fault of the police and that "inquiry by the" two-member judicial "commission" headed by former Allahabad High Court judge Justice Rajeev Lochan Mehrotra "is presently underway". The state said a three-member SIT, headed by Additional DCP, crime, was constituted to probe the killing of Atiq and Ashraf and that it is further being supervised by a three-member supervision team under the chairmanship of ADG, Prayagraj zone.

Three were arrested during the probe and chargesheet filed against them under various provisions of the IPC, Arms and Criminal Law Amendment Act, 1932, it said, adding that "investigation is partially ongoing to collect evidence on some other points".

A five-member commission under the chairmanship of former Allahabad HC Chief Justice Dilip Babasabeh Bhonsle is also looking into the matter, the state said.

# Tension in Jaipur over road rage killing

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE  
JAIPUR, SEPTEMBER 30

TENSION PREVAILED in the old city of Jaipur on Saturday following the alleged murder of a 17-year-old youth in what police claimed was a misunderstanding following a road rage.

Jaipur Police Commissioner Biju George Joseph said the incident took place under Subhash Chowk police station limits late on Friday.

"Two motorcycles had collided and (one of the) two persons, who had stopped to see it, was assaulted by the locals. There was no motive, it was just some misunderstanding," he said. As per police, Iqbal had reportedly stopped to help the bike-riders after their fall.

Manak Chowk SHO Bhupendra Singh said, "There was some argument between the two who had collided but it was resolved and they had left."

# Social media post sparks protests across Goa

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE  
PANAJI, SEPTEMBER 30

Tension prevailed in Goa on Saturday after people protested and filed complaints at multiple police stations seeking strict action against an unidentified person who had posted an allegedly objectionable comment on the Prophet on social media.

Police said a cyber team has been constituted to investigate the alleged defamatory post on Instagram. Police sources said one person was detained from Valpoi in connection with the case on Saturday evening.

According to sources, after the

However, Iqbal, who was on the spot, allegedly got into an argument with a local from another community. Following this, some locals assaulted Iqbal with sticks and rods. Iqbal collapsed and was rushed to SMS Hospital where he succumbed to his injuries late on Friday during treatment.

Police Commissioner Joseph said an FIR has been lodged in this connection and most of the persons involved in the murder have been picked up.

As per a statement issued by the office of the Director General of Police, police have detained about 15 persons.

On Saturday morning, angry locals gathered to protest and shut shops in parts of Subhash Chowk and Ramganj, while also blocking the roads. Additional police had to be deployed to maintain law and order while local MLAs Amiz Kagzi and Rafeek Khan were also tasked with calming the tempers.

purported objectionable post was shared on Instagram, a group of around 100 people staged a protest at South Goa's Margao police station on Friday night. Police said the protesters dispersed after getting assurances from police that an enquiry would be conducted. On Saturday, protests were held at police stations in Panaji, Ponda, Mapusa and Margao.

A senior police officer said, "An FIR has been registered at Ponda against unknown accused under sections 295 A and 505 (ii) of the Indian Penal Code. After the incident was reported, the ID from which the purported social media comments were posted was blocked."

# Abdul Bari: Quota for women with 'lipstick, bob-cut'

BJP slammed not just the RJD "mindset" but also targeted the Congress and other parties of the Opposition INDIA bloc for not speaking out. BJP national spokesperson Guru Prakash Paswan said, "Siddiqui's remarks reflect the patriarchal, archaic and medieval mindset of the RJD. Why has the RJD failed to create a good woman leader all these years?" Shehzad Poonawalla, also a BJP national spokesperson, slammed the INDIA bloc, saying

Siddiqui's remarks show the "thought process" of the Opposition parties.

Siddiqui's remarks are being compared with what the late Sharad Yadav, as Janata Dal MP, had said in Parliament in 1997 about only "par-kati" standing to benefit from reservation for women — the "par-kati" barb meant to imply urban, largely upper caste and upper class women.

RJD spokesperson Subodh Kumar said: "Siddiqui was ad-

# FROM PAGE ONE Indian envoy stopped from entering gurdwara

FULL REPORT ON  
WWW.INDIANEXPRESS.COM

ladies and Committee members, and a member of (the) Scottish Parliament. They were threatened and abused by these elements. In an effort to prevent any potential altercation, the HC and CG decided to leave the premises shortly upon their arrival," it said.

It said that one of three persons attempted to "violently force open the HC's car door", which will require suitable police consideration.

"It was due to the quick reaction of one of the organisers, who physically intervened at the car door, that a bigger incident was avoided. The High Commission of India has reported this disgraceful incident to the Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office (FCDO) and the Metropolitan Police," the statement said.

The Indian envoy was visiting Scotland to meet with the local authorities, university students, diaspora and members of the Scottish society.

## Concerned: UK Minister

The FCDO Minister for Indo-Pacific, Anne-Marie Trevelyan, in a post on X, said she was "concerned to see" that the High Commissioner had been stopped from meeting the gurdwara committee in Glasgow. "The safety and security of foreign diplomats is of utmost importance, and our places of worship in the UK must be open to all," she said.

## Childhood friends advance to TT semifinal

It won't be the case this time. And the reason is the unheralded Indian pair of Suthirtha Mukherjee and Ayhika Mukherjee.

The childhood friends from Naihati began playing table tennis because their mothers introduced them to the sport. Far away from the West Bengal town, at one of the most intimidating venues of the Hangzhou Asiad, where loud and partisan crowds tower over the field of play, they combined on Saturday to script one of the major upsets of these games.

The Mukherjees, not related to each other, defeated reigning world champions and world No. 2 Chinese duo of Chen Meng and Wang Yidi in the quarterfinals, a win that assured them of a historic medal — India's first in women's doubles at the Asian Games.

The result is stunning, the margin even more so. The Indians, who will take on the North Korean pair of Cha Suyong and Pak Sugyong in the semifinals on Monday, defeated their much-fancied opponents without having to go all the way. They needed only four games to win 11-5, 11-5, 5-11 and 11-9.

"We were not scared at all,"

## IIT Bombay's arts-science degree yet to take off

courses from any department and design a multi-disciplinary degree without constraints.

As per the programme design, students admitted to LASE, in their second year at IIT Bombay, have to study five courses including modern South Asian history, history of science, inequality and society, analytical reading and writing, and digital lives.

The remaining courses can be from any department of the institute. At the end of four years, a LASE student graduates with a BS degree in one of the following: Natural Sciences; Engineering Sciences; Social Sciences; Art and Design. The institute promised to assign each student with a faculty advisor to help them choose and customise their coursework.

In 2022, three students entering second year made the cut for LASE and just six in 2023. The shortfall this year was despite reducing entry barriers for the programme by removing the Statement of Purpose (SoP) and interview requirements.

Last year, when three students made the cut, applicants had to write an entrance test, submit an SoP, and take an interview. Only the CGPA of a student was used for admission this year, in what was an attempt to widen the pool of applicants, said Anush Kapadia,

who teaches Political Economy at IIT Bombay and is a member of the 12-member core committee driving LASE. Students who spoke to the Indian Express said many were apprehensive about receiving a BS degree instead of B.Tech after four years. While some acknowledged the benefits of aligning their curriculum with their goals, others were concerned about the degree and lack of placement statistics. "One of the major hesitations was this is something new. People are generally very risk-averse. Another thing was that they were providing a BS degree, and in IIT students come for B.Tech," said a third-year student, who applied for LASE in her second year in 2022. "We were aware the BS vs. B.Tech thing would happen, and we kind of anticipated it, but we were not sure of the magnitude with which it would come," said Anurag Mehra, a professor at IIT Bombay's Chemical Engineering department who spearheads LASE and is head of the 12-member committee. "The brand equity of the B.Tech is too well-established," he said. My one strong learning from this whole thing is that this whole BS thing is very deeply entrenched. And no amount of ra-

problem with Canada and the Canadian government for some years now. The ongoing problem really revolves around the permissiveness to terrorism, extremism and violence. This permissiveness is also reflected in the fact that some important extradition requests have not been responded to from their side," he said.

"We have had smoke bombs thrown at the mission, we have had violence in front of consulates, there are posters put up. Do you consider this normal? If this had happened to any other country, how would they react? Let's not normalise what is happening in Canada. It is important to call out what is happening there," Jaishankar said.

"What is happening in Canada, had it happened anywhere else, do you think the world would've taken it with equanimity?" he asked.

He also said that it was not acceptable to make threats and intimidate diplomats in the name of freedom of speech.

"We don't need to learn from other people what freedom of speech is about. But we can tell people this. We don't think freedom of speech extends to incitement, to violence. That to us is a misuse of freedom," he said.

He said the entire debate should focus not just on Issue One but also on Issue Two and the bigger picture, a very serious picture.

"After all, I was thinking... When was the last time that any of

our missions was intimidated to a point where it could not continue with its normal function? I will have to think back. And if someone says this could happen in a G7 country, in a Commonwealth country, it gives you a lot to think about," Jaishankar said.

On Trudeau's allegations, he said India has already pointed out to Canada that this is not the Government of India's policy.

"But if they are prepared to share with us specifics and anything relevant, we are also open to looking at it. So in that sense, that's where the matter stands," he said.

## Targeting of Mission

Besides having ignited the diplomatic row with Canada, the issue of Khalistan supporters has become an irritant in India-UK ties as well — protests have been staged outside the Indian High Commission and consulates in the UK. Early this year, a group vandalised the Indian High Commission in London and tried to bring down the Indian flag at the premises. New Delhi has consistently asked for security of its diplomats based in the UK.

Earlier this month, *The Indian Express* reported that the National Investigation Agency had identified 15 of the 45 people involved in the London incident and was preparing to send their details to the immigration department to issue lookout circulars against them.

## Chhattisgarh: PM says Cong abuses Modi to abuse OBCs

OBC sub-quota in women's reservation. He asked the women not to be "deceived" by the Opposition.

Modi also said he was dedicated to Chhattisgarh's development. "No matter how much I try from Delhi to ensure that development reaches you, the Congress government here keeps trying to disrupt it. In the last five years, Chhattisgarh has received thousands of crores of rupees from the Centre for development works. There is no shortage of money for the state, and I am not saying this but deputy Chief Minister (TS Singh Deo) of Chhattisgarh has said this in a public programme," he said.

This statement, the Prime Minister said, angered people in the Congress. He accused the Congress government in the state of going slow on Central schemes for political reasons.

Modi accused the Congress government in Chhattisgarh of being steeped in corruption and misrule. "There is a scam in every scheme in the state..." he said, hitting out at the Bhupesh Baghel government over alleged scams in ration distribution, liquor trade, Public Service Commission recruitment, District Mineral Foundation (DMF) fund utilisation and cow dung procurement.

Exhorting party workers to ensure victory at every booth, Modi said they should not think of the Assembly polls in terms of leadership and candidates. "You have only one leader, the lotus (the BJP's party symbol), and only one candidate, the lotus," he said.

Former Chief Minister Raman Singh was present on the dais but did not speak. While state party chief and Bilaspur MP Arun Sao spoke in the local dialect after Modi arrived, Rajya Sabha MP Saroj Pandey too addressed the crowd. Modi, however, made references to Raman Singh's tenure as Chief Minister, naming him more than once.

Modi said he drew energy from the satisfaction of poor people who benefitted from Central schemes. He said the Centre distributed free ration and also purchased the produce of paddy farmers in the state. He promised that if BJP comes to power, the first Cabinet decision of the next state government would be to expedite the construction of pucca houses for the state's poor people.

## India win squash gold after thriller

Perhaps, it's best to start at the end of this titanic clash that transformed from ugly to sublime to compelling. With the hysterical scenes at the end of an adrenaline-fuelled gold medal match. A rhapsodic Abhay flinging his racket so far into the packed stands that it landed in the row in front of the referee's table; his opponent, Pakistan's Noor Zaman, burying his head in his hands and bolting out of the arena, unable to fathom what had just happened; his teammate Harinder Pal Sandhu, unable to control his emotions, climbing to the top of the court.

Seconds ago, Abhay and Zaman were locked inside the cage like prizefighters as the capacity crowd roared in delight and shock, taking turns to chant names of both the countries. And the 25-year-old Indian, on whose shoulders rested the gold medal hopes, looked dead and buried.

Down two match points in the deciding game, Abhay's shoulders dropped, the Indian bench went silent and the momentum was firmly with Pakistan. "In your head, you have lost," Abhay said.

From that hopeless position, Abhay resurrected himself with courageous stroke-play to win four consecutive points, clinch the tie and lead India to a thrilling 2-1 win over Pakistan, an erstwhile squash powerhouse, and claim the team gold medal.

It was India's second gold medal of the day, after Rohan Bopanna and Rutuja Bhosale won the tennis mixed doubles title, and just before the historic triumph of the women's doubles table tennis team of Suthirtha Mukherjee and Ayhika Mukherjee stunning Chinese world champions and world number 2 pair Chen Meng and Yidi Wang to enter the semifinals and assure themselves a medal.

But on a day when India's athletes won big across sports — from tennis to table tennis to track and field — the squash gold will not be forgotten any time soon for its unrelenting drama and the sensational comeback.

The victory was even sweeter for India as this was a grudge match, having lost to Pakistan in the preliminary round just three days ago. And more so for Abhay, who had suffered a humbling de-

feat at the hands of Zaman.

Sparks flew throughout this three-match tie, just like it did when the two teams met Wednesday. After India lost that encounter 2-1, veteran player Ghosal got his younger teammate, Abhay and Mahesh Mangaonkar, together for a briefing.

"Both Abhay and Mahesh got very, very emotionally charged. It's my belief that's not the way to play them (Pakistan)," Ghosal said. "I told them yesterday you almost have to be robots. Literally, like no emotions. No emotion is more powerful than any other outward thing you can show."

If staying bereft of emotions was the game plan, India did not begin well. The opening match between Mangaonkar and Nasir Iqbal turned into an unpleasant brawl with both players colliding into each other — sometimes inadvertently, at times strategically — and then complaining to the umpire, alleging interference.

The antics seemed to backfire on the Indian, who got increasingly frustrated when the referee did not listen to his pleas.

Iqbal won the opener in straight games, putting the onus on Ghosal — India's No. 1 player for 860 consecutive weeks.

Digging into his decades of experience and showing impenetrable calmness, Ghosal made short work of Muhammad Asim Khan, allowing the Pakistani player just nine points across three games to force the gold medal match into a decider.

Ghosal may have wrapped up his contest in exactly half an hour but he was deeply involved all through the two hours the tie lasted. Before the decider between Abhay and Zaman, Ghosal and coach Christopher Walker sat Abhay down and went over the strategy.

Abhay entered the court to play what turned out to be a match of great deception, artistry and gamesmanship. He seemed headed for a straightforward win after wrapping up the first game in no time and racing to a 7-4 lead in the second. But Zaman made a strong comeback with a flurry of cross-court hits. Abhay stayed alive in the match with athleticism and stubbornness. Eventually, he did just enough to deny Pakistan a gold.

## Start-ups launch doorstep charging

difficulties in accessing a public charging point. "It's not just about the convenience but also the reliability of getting your EV charged. Once you have booked a slot with us, charging is guaranteed unlike at public charging points where you may have to wait for users who arrived before you to finish," says Arun Rana, co-founder and Chief Business Officer, Hopcharge.

Customers like Singh use Hopcharge's mobile app to get their EV fast charged within 45 minutes of the charging van's arrival, regardless of whether the car is parked in his apartment complex or the office parking lot.

"So far, EV adoption has been faster for those who can install a charger in their independent homes. People living in flats and societies, however, face difficulties in installing one," Rana said. For instance, you need a 7KW load for a home charging station, which is difficult since most flats have a sanctioned load of 7-9KW in NCR. The electricity grid and related local infrastructure needs major upgrades to support widespread EV adoption, he pointed out.

When a user signs up on the Hopcharge app, she can select the EV make from a list of 15 pre-listed auto companies including Tata Motors, MG Motor, Mahindra, Hyundai, and Kia. There are many subscription plans ranging from Rs 4,499 per year to Rs 49,900 per year. The most premium Hopcharge 'Z' plan allows a subscriber to get her EV fast charged up to 80 per cent 210 times a year. Hopcharge has 18 charging vans operating in NCR, with plans to deploy 10 more by year end.

## EV sales up, charging infra yet to catch up

India's EV charging infrastructure remains a sticking point in mass electric vehicle adoption, said a Tata Motors executive, who did not wish to be named. Despite

various states offering incentives for the setting up of such infrastructure, the number of public charging stations set up by PSUs increased by only 39 per cent whereas EV sales jumped 168 per cent, a recent report by Customised Energy Solutions said. EV sales in India are surging with the number of vehicle registrations crossing the 1 million mark in the first nine months of 2023, according to data from the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways; 1.04 million EVs were registered with regional transport offices up to September 20.

## Tech used by start-ups

Hopcharge's proprietary technology, for which it received a patent in 2021, analyses real time data and considers "factors such as battery temperature, state of charge, state of health, and more to determine the optimal charge rate in the most suitable manner" as per documents filed with India's patent authority.

On the energy source for charging power banks, Rana claims they are working on sourcing some portion of their electricity supply from renewable energy. "We want everything to be clean, but we also don't see any point in delaying operations as we move towards a perfect solution. For instance, we can get energy from a solar farm but a public charger can't do that as it is connected to the grid. We can do renewable energy much better than other charging options," he says.

The company manufactures its own battery chargers in Manesar and has tied up with Mahindra & Mahindra. "The EV ecosystem is realising that production of EVs and charging goes hand-in-hand. Our partnership with original equipment manufacturers like Mahindra gives customers a full stack option for e-mobility," Rana says.

## Behind tin-sheets, three sculptors in secretive race

Jaipur. They avoid interacting with the locals. They have been strictly prohibited from sharing details of the idols they are working on.

A police officer at one of the sites refused to speak. Sources said police and security guards have standing instructions to keep all unauthorised persons out. "Only Trust office-bearers, sculptors and supporting artisans are permitted to enter the workshops, which are always locked from inside," they added.

Adjacent to the first workshop stands another tin structure, called Ram Katha Kunj. A CCTV camera installed at the entrance of the Ram Katha Kunj keeps an eye on the workshop. At Ram Katha Kunj, the VHP has commissioned sculptor Ranjeet Mandal to make 151 sculptures depicting various phases of Lord Ram's life, from Ayodhya to Lanka.

"I have only heard from others that a Ram idol is being made inside the workshop next door. I

"According to shastras, the idol of Ram Lalla should be beautiful and appear like his incarnation. The arms should be ajanubahu (reaches the knees), the eyes and ears attractive in shape and size, and the cheeks must appear soft. That is why it is taking time to make these idols," a source said, adding that October is the deadline for completing the three idols.

A source said, "The sculptors are from Bengaluru, Mysore and

have never gone inside. No one is allowed (to go in there), except the sculptor," Mandal said.

A source said, "The sculptor has placed a photograph of Lord Ram on a table in the workshop, but the idol is being carved under another layer of cover."

Barely 150 metres from this workshop is the second tin-sheet structure where, sources said, the second idol was being made.

The sources said that the sculptor at this workshop has put up over two dozen photographs of "healthy and good-looking children aged between 4 and 5

years for inspiration". About 200 metres from the second workshop is a similar corrugated tin-sheet structure, where the third idol is being carved.

To a query on the idols, Trust general-secretary Champat Rai said: "Work is on. The three murtikars (sculptors) are working on them at undisclosed locations in Ayodhya. No one is allowed to see these workshops."

Trust member Anil Mishra said: "The final decision on the idol will be taken by a committee under Trust treasurer Swami Govind Dev Giri ji Maharaj."



# Doc stabbed outside her clinic in West Delhi

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE  
NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 30

A 40-YEAR-OLD doctor was stabbed on the stairs of a building, where she runs a clinic, in West Delhi's Tagore Garden Saturday. Police said they received information of the incident at Rajpur Garden police station.

"It was found that Dr Sangay Bhutia, who runs Hair and Senses, a hair transplantation clinic, in Tagore Garden Extension, was attacked on Saturday afternoon with a knife by an unidentified person on the staircase of the building. Her clinic is on the ground floor and her residence on the upper floor," DCP (West) Vichitra Veer said.

A case under the IPC section pertaining to murder has been lodged and teams have been formed to nab the accused, who fled from the spot. The DCP said that prima facie, no angle of robbery has been found and the attacker appears to be someone known. "However, this is subject to investigation," he said, adding that the identity of the accused is yet to be ascertained.

A relative of the victim told *The Indian Express* that she is currently in the ICU.

"She has received multiple stab injuries. Personal enmity seems to be the motive behind the incident. The building is owned by the clinic and the victim was stabbed on the stairs leading to the second floor," said an officer.

# CITY SEES SECOND-BEST AQI DURING JAN-SEPT IN 6 YEARS

# Southwest monsoon bids adieu to Delhi

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE  
NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 30

THE SOUTHWEST monsoon withdrew from Delhi Saturday, leaving behind a deficit in rain for September. The capital, however, experienced 'normal' rainfall this season. The Safdarjung weather station, the city's base observatory, recorded 660.8 mm of rainfall this season, which is close to the normal of 640.4 mm till September 30, going by data with the IMD department.

Safdarjung recorded deficits in rainfall in August and September, while June and July saw an excess. In September, only 82.7 mm of rainfall was recorded over 10 rainy days, which is 33% short of the normal of 123.5 mm. August and September did not experience heavy rainfall.

According to IMD scientist Kuldeep Srivastava, a western disturbance, easterly winds associated with the monsoon trough and a cyclonic circulation contributed to some rainfall in September, but beyond that, there was very little activity.

The IMD Saturday said the southwest monsoon has withdrawn from all of Punjab, Chandigarh, Haryana and Delhi, and some parts of Jammu & Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh,

Uttarakhand, Western UP, Western MP and Eastern Rajasthan.

The withdrawal of monsoon from the national capital this year is a little after the normal date of September 25. The city as a whole, from June 1 to September 30, recorded 542.2 mm of rainfall, which is close to the normal of 544.3 mm for this period. This is more than the 451.4 mm of rainfall in 2022 monsoon, and 467.7 mm in 2020. In 2021, Delhi saw a lot more rain — 744 mm.

Of the nine districts the IMD considers in the city, West and Northeast Delhi saw deficits in rainfall this season, while Central Delhi experienced an excess. All other districts — East, North, Northwest, South, Southwest and New Delhi — recorded rainfall in the normal range.

A drier-than-usual September also meant that the average maximum temperature was 35.6 degrees Celsius, which is more than the 34.3 degrees recorded last September, and average of 33.2 degrees in September 2021. The mercury hit a high of 40.1 degrees Celsius this September.

Meanwhile, the Commission for Air Quality Management Saturday said the AQI in Delhi from January to September this year has been the best in the last six years, except for 2020. The daily average AQI was 167 in 2023,

## RAINFALL OVER LAST FOUR MONTHS

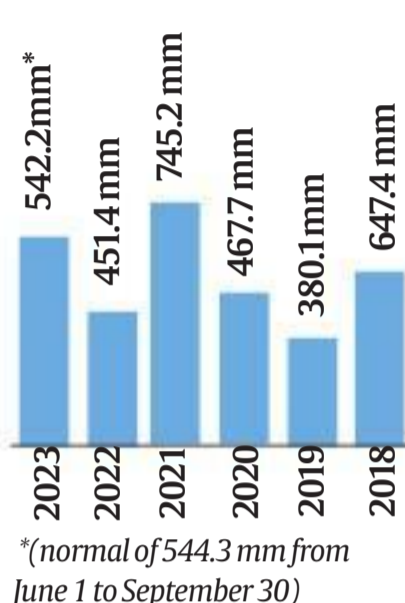


The withdrawal of the monsoon from Delhi this year is a little after the normal date of September 25. Archive

## SEPTEMBER RAINFALL (Safdarjung readings)

2023	82.7 mm
2022	164.5 mm
2021	413.3 mm
2020	20.9 mm
2019	74.1 mm
2018	237.8 mm

## MONSOON RAINFALL FOR DELHI (OVERALL)



\* (normal of 544.3 mm from June 1 to September 30)

(Safdarjung is the primary weather station of Delhi) (Data from IMD)

## SAFDARJUNG THIS YEAR

101.7 mm  
June (37% above normal)

384.6 mm  
July (83% above normal)

91.8 mm  
Aug (61% below normal)

82.7 mm  
Sept (33% below normal)

CAQM said "favourable meteorological conditions, monitoring," ensured better air quality this year.

which is better than the 184 recorded in 2022, 180 in 2021, 188 in 2019 and 193 in 2018. The

# Work to clear Bhalswa landfill on track, says CM; BJP hits out

SAMAN HUSAIN  
NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 30

THE AAP and BJP found themselves at loggerheads once again over clearing the capital's three landfills Saturday.

Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal visited the Bhalswa landfill and announced that work to eliminate it was progressing 20% faster than the set target. This, even as a BJP delegation led by state unit president Virender Sachdeva visited Ghazipur landfill following which he alleged that garbage disposal at the site had not only come to a standstill, but a new mountain of garbage was taking shape at it.

The Delhi government had set deadlines for clearing the three landfills — December 2023 for Okhla, March 2024 for Bhalswa, and December 2024 for Ghazipur — in its 2022 MCD poll manifesto. According to the AAP-run MCD, 18.13 lakh tonnes of waste have been disposed of at the Bhalswa landfill site out of the set target of 30 lakh tonnes.

"At this pace, the target will be achieved before March 2024," Kejriwal said, interacting with



Kejriwal at Bhalswa landfill, Saturday. Prem Nath Pandey

the press at the site. He also said 45 lakh tonnes of garbage will be disposed of by May 15 next year.

To achieve this, garbage disposal targets have been set by the MCD and the process has been divided into six quarters. "A goal was set to dispose of 18 lakh metric tonnes by November 15, but 18.13 lakh tonnes has already been disposed of which means the MCD is currently running one-and-a-half months ahead of the set target," Kejriwal said.

Residents around the area, meanwhile, had mixed responses on whether the size of the landfill had reduced. Sunaina Srivastava said, "It has significantly reduced... I was passing by

the area at night once and noticed work was taking place even at 3 am." Amit Meena differed: "I'm sure work is taking place but fresh garbage continues to be dumped here... I've personally not noticed a huge difference."

Kejriwal said: "... if work continues at the same pace, we should be able to reduce the targeted 30 lakh tonnes of garbage by January 2024." Sachdeva accused Kejriwal of seeking to take credit for the pace of garbage disposal at Bhalswa despite having no role to play in it: "Tender for disposal work was done by the Special Officer before November 2022 and DDA is working with MCD on disposal."

# Three recon trips, carrying nuts for 18-hr op: How Delhi heist accused planned burglary down to the T

ARNABJIT SUR  
NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 30

THREE VISITS to Delhi to carry out a 'recon' of his target store, carrying a packet of cashews and almonds to ensure he doesn't go hungry on 'D-day' -- Lokesh Shrivastava had planned his latest burglary with military precision.

The 31-year-old infamous jewel thief was arrested in Chhattisgarh Friday after he allegedly pulled off Delhi's biggest heist — a Rs 25 crore theft from a jewellery shop in Southeast Delhi's Bhogal — by himself over an 18-hour period last weekend.

According to the probe, police said he visited Delhi thrice during which he used to stay at guesthouses. Officers said that

on September 9, Shrivastava first visited Delhi and carried out a recon at Jangpura at 11.13 am. Said DCP (Southeast) Rajesh Deo, "From September 10-12, the accused stayed at Chandni Chowk. On September 12, he took a train to Mathura-Vrindavan."

Police said at Chandni Chowk, Shrivastava stayed at Rajdhani guest house.

The DCP added that Shrivastava came back to Delhi on September 15 and stayed till September 17. "He then left Delhi for Madhya Pradesh via bus from Kashmir Gate," he said.

On September 21 at 7.33 pm, he came to Sarai Kale Khan through NH-2 and at 9.18 pm, he went to Jangpura for another recon of the shop.

The theft took place on the in-



Accused Lokesh Shrivastava (centre)

tervening night of September 24-25. The officer added that on September 25, after carrying out the robbery, Shrivastava left the city at 9.01 pm on a bus from Kashmir Gate to Sagar in Madhya Pradesh. Police said Shrivastava bought a disc cutter machine from GB

Road for Rs 1,300 and a hammer from a patri market in Chandni Chowk. "He got a screwdriver and pliers from his home in Chhattisgarh," said the DCP.

A senior police officer said Shrivastava was also carrying a packet of cashews and almonds for consumption inside the jewellery shop as he knew he had to stay there for more than 18 hours.

On Saturday, Lokesh was produced before a local court in Chhattisgarh where the Delhi Police moved an application for handing over custody of the stolen property and his transit remand, while the Bilaspur Police moved a five-day police custody remand.

After hearing arguments from both sides, Chief Judicial Magistrate Manish Kumar Dubey granted Bilaspur Police

three-day custody of Lokesh, where he is accused in as many as six theft cases. The court further sought the response of the SHO of Civil Lines in Bilaspur regarding handing over stolen property to Delhi Police.

# New building at Lady Hardinge hospital finally opens its doors

ANKITA UPADHYAY  
NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 30

LYING UNUTILISED for a year after it was inaugurated, the new building at Lady Hardinge Medical College (LHMC) has finally been made functional. Built as part of a project worth Rs 703 crore and completed two years ago, the building has two blocks — one for its In-Patient Department (IPD) and the other housing the Emergency, Medicine and Accident wards — that are connected by a ramp.

According to Medical Director Dr Subhash Giri, except for the gynecology department, all departments have been shifted to the new building.

He said the Accident and Emergency block has 30 beds for observation, 8 beds for triage, and 6 ICU beds. Two emergency operation theatres have also been added, along with 30 beds that are allotted to Medicine, Surgery and Orthopaedics departments.

The IPD block has 600 beds, out of which 240 each have been added to Medicine and Surgery departments, and 120 beds to the Orthopaedics department.

Over the last six to seven months, all clinics and in-patient services at LHMC have moved to two seven-storey blocks that were inaugurated by Union Health Minister Mansukh Mandaviya last year. Earlier, the hospital functioned out of a hundred-year-old dilapidated building with narrow, crowded corridors. With the new blocks, all patient services — consultation, diagnostic, and pharmacy —



It was lying unutilised for a year after it was inaugurated

will be under one roof. The blocks also have wide corridors with large waiting areas, and are centrally air-conditioned.

"The Central lab at the IPD has several facilities — biochemical, hormonal, genetic disorder, haematology, bio-molecular and pathological tests; emergency ultrasound; a digital 1000MA machine; and a new MRI machine worth Rs 1 crore," said Dr Giri, adding that Brachytherapy, a type of radiotherapy used to treat certain types of cancer and other conditions, is also available.

Dr Giri said that earlier, only OPD-based treatment was available for cancer patients, but a Linac Machine will be made available in some time.

The hospital has also procured a New Medical Gas Pipeline System along with a gas pipeline connected to 930 beds. 30 KL LMO tanks have been installed for uninterrupted oxygen supply to more than 900 beds.

The two hospitals associated with the college, Sucheta Kriplani and Kalawati Saran, see around 3,000-4,000 patients in the outpatient clinics daily. LHMC sees patients mostly from Central Delhi, Haryana, Rajasthan and UP.

Rajasthan State Road Development And Construction Corporation Ltd., JAIPUR.  
राजस्थान राज्य सड़क विकास एवं निर्माण निगम लिमिटेड, जयपुर  
No. B/2(III)/Part/18796-802 Date: 29.09.2023

**नियुक्ति**

आर.एस.आर.डी.सी. जो कि राजस्थान सरकार का उपक्रम है, में निम्नांकित पद पर सौंपी गयी हेतु ई-मेल के माध्यम से आवेदन पत्र आमंत्रित किए जाते हैं। अर्थात् ई-मेल पर प्रेषित आवेदन-पत्र मध्य सलन दस्तावेजों की प्रति भी व्यक्ति: रजिस्टर्ड ए.डी./सीड पोस्ट के माध्यम से आर.एस.आर.डी.सी. मुख्यालय में भी भिजवाना सुनिश्चित करें। रिक्त पद का विवरण निम्नानुसार है:-

क्र. सं.	पद का नाम	वेतनमान	पदों की संख्या	वर्ग	शैक्षणिक योग्यताएं, अनुभव एवं पात्रता
1.	कम्पनी सचिव (Company Secretary)	₹ 16 (₹ बैंड 15600-39100 ग्रेड पे 6600)	01	अनारक्षित	Graduate with Associate Membership of Institute of Company Secretaries of India & working experience of five years.

आवेदन तिथि :- आवेदन दिनांक 03.10.2023 से 17.10.2023 तक 6.00 बजे तक के मध्य ई-मेल gmrsrdc@rajasthan.gov.in के माध्यम से प्रस्तुत किये जा सकेंगे।  
आवेदन की प्रक्रिया :- इस संबंध में विस्तृत जानकारी आर.एस.आर.डी.सी. की वेबसाइट <http://roads.rajasthan.gov.in/rsrdc> पर उपलब्ध है।  
अन्य विन्दु व सूचना :- आवेदन-सूक्त, आवेदन प्रक्रिया, शैक्षणिक योग्यता एवं अन्य अतिरिक्त प्रमाण पत्र एवं साक्षात्कार से संबंधित अन्य सूचनाओं की जानकारी आर.एस.आर.डी.सी.लि. की उपरीक वेबसाइट पर आवेदनक रूप से कर सके तथा नियुक्तियों की प्रक्रिया, अद्यतन जानकारी प्राप्त करने के लिये आर.एस.आर.डी.सी.लि. की वेबसाइट नियमित रूप से देखें। किसी भी प्रकार की भूल या समझौथा व्यतीत हो जाने पर आर.एस.आर.डी.सी.लि. जिम्मेदार नहीं होगा। इसके अतिरिक्त किसी भी प्रकार की जानकारी/सूचना स्पष्टीकरण हेतु कार्यालय समय में व्यक्ति: सम्पर्क करें।  
हस्ताक्षर/नामक

**भारतीय सूचना प्रौद्योगिकी संस्थान, पुणे**  
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(An Institute of National Importance, by an Act of Parliament)  
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Indian Institute of Information Technology (IIIT) Pune is an Institute of National Importance, established under Public-Private-Partnership (PPP) mode under an Act of Parliament, Ministry of Education (MoE), Government of India. Applications are invited from eligible candidates against the following advertisements.

S. No.	Advertisement No.	Details	Remarks
1	IIITP/AAP/Faculty/Adv/4251 Dated: 29th Sep 2023	Adjunct Assistant Professor (AAP) in ● Computer Science and Engineering – 2 Nos ● Electronics and Communication Engineering – 2 Nos ● Humanities and Social Sciences – 1 No	Recruitment through IIIT Pune (contract for 11 months)
2	Date: 29th Sep 2023	Junior Engineer (Civil) – 1 No	Recruitment through m/s Vishal Expert Services Pvt Ltd, Pune (outsourcing agency)

Detailed advertisements are available on the Institute website "www.iiit.ac.in". Any updates or amendments will be published on the Institute website only.  
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**NATIONAL LOK ADALAT**

08<sup>th</sup> OCTOBER, 2023 (SUNDAY) FROM 10:00 A.M. TO 04:00 P.M.

**FOR SETTLEMENT OF COMPOUNDABLE TRAFFIC CHALLANS OF ALL TYPES OF VEHICLES (Including Commercial Vehicles) ON SPOT CHALLANS AND NOTICES PENDING AT THE DELHI TRAFFIC POLICE PORTAL TILL 30.06.2023 AT THE COURT COMPLEXES OF DWARKA, KARKARDOOMA, PATIALA HOUSE, ROHINI, ROUSE AVENUE, SAKET & TIS HAZARI.**

Note: 1. In order to take up the maximum Challans/Notices in the Lok Adalat, it was decided that only Compoundable Traffic Challans/Notices pending on Delhi Traffic Police portal till 30.06.2023 will be taken up in this Lok Adalat.  
2. Only 1000 Challans/ Notices shall be taken up for disposal by each Bench in all 170 Lok Adalat Benches. Total 1,70,000 Challans/Notices shall be disposed off on 08.10.2023 (Sunday), in all above Court Complexes.  
3. All the notices/challans are to be downloaded from Delhi Traffic Police Website. It is mandatory to carry a print out of the Notices/Challans. There will not be any facility of print out in the Court Complexes.

To download and take print out of the Notices/Challans log on the Delhi Traffic Police Website  
<https://traffic.delhipolice.gov.in/notice/lokadalat>  
THIS LINK WILL BE ACTIVATED FROM 04 OCTOBER, 2023 AT 10:00 AM, TILL THE LIMIT OF CHALLANS/NOTICES GET EXHAUSTED.

VISIT COURT MENTIONED IN YOUR CHALLANS/NOTICES AT PRESCRIBED TIME. PLEASE CARRY PRINT OUT OF CHALLAN/NOTICE TO THE LOK ADALAT BENCH FOR DISPOSAL.

Note: • Step by step guide for downloading challan slip can be seen by scanning QR code No.1.  
• Challans/Notices slips can be downloaded by litigants directly through the above mentioned link by scanning QR code No.2.

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Rouse Avenue District Court  
3rd Floor, Pandit Deen Dayal Upadhyay Marg, New Delhi-110002; Help Line: 1516

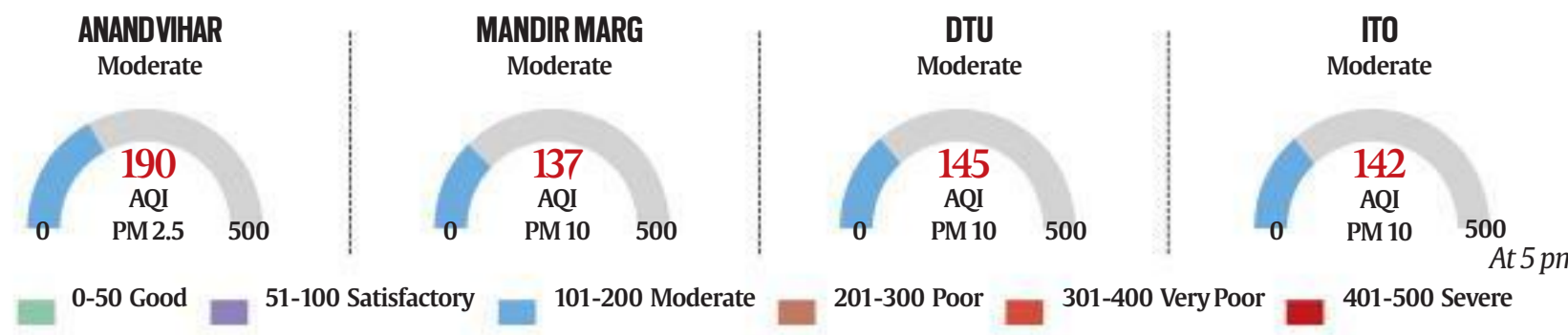
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**SKYWATCH**  
**FORECAST: October 1**  
 Mainly clear sky. Mist in the morning.  
**MAX: 35** | **MIN: 22**  
 0.3°C above normal | 1.3°C below normal

**HARDLOOK**

## Over halfway mark



Over 50% of work is complete on the upcoming Noida International Airport in Jewar, expected to be among India's largest airports after its complete expansion. With the deadline for Phase 1 set for November 2024, *The Indian Express* visits the site to take stock

**DHEERAJ MISHRA**  
 NOIDA, SEPTEMBER 30

FOR CIVIL engineer Harpal Singh, airport terminals, albeit those in different stages of construction, now feel like second homes. The 48-year-old was part of the team that constructed Terminals 1 and 3 of Delhi's Indira Gandhi International Airport. Now, nearly a hundred kilometres away, he faces what he calls the toughest challenge of his life so far — making sure the international airport in Jewar, NCR's second, is on track.

The urgency now betrays the lull for months after Zurich Airport International AG won the bid to develop the airport, as things ground to a halt after Covid hit. While the Switzerland-based company won the bid in November 2019, it was not till October 2020 that the concessionaire agreement was signed with the Uttar Pradesh government.



**"I am available on site from 8.30 am till 8.30 pm, through the week. This is my third airport project. Before Jewar, I worked on construction of Terminals 1 and 3 of Delhi Airport. My first big project was construction of the Parliament library in 1996."**

**HARPAL SINGH,**  
 CIVIL ENGINEER

Now, the deadline to complete the first phase is just over a year away — November 24, 2024 — and work to build the runway, the security perimeter, as well as developing a hotels' hub and transit system is on at a feverish pace. The airport was recently granted its unique three-letter international identification code — DNX — by the International Air Transport Association (IATA).

Speaking to *The Indian Express*, Singh said, "I am available on site from 8.30 am till 8.30 pm, through the week. This is my third airport project. Before Jewar, I worked on the construction of Terminals 1 and 3 of Delhi Airport. My first big project was the construction of the Parliament library in 1996."

After a degree in civil engineering from Delhi College of Engineering, now Delhi

Technological University, in 1996, Singh landed a job at Larsen & Toubro where he worked for around 26 years. In 2022, he was hired by TATA Projects for the position of General Manager (projects) just for this project.

"I always liked challenging work, that's why I chose this profession. It (Jewar airport) will be one of the world's fastest projects," he added.

According to Christoph Schnellmann, CEO, Noida International Airport, the situation now is similar to what it was pre-Covid. "So far (the big challenge), of course, was Covid in 2020 and its world-wide impact till 2021. But I am pleased to say that we have managed to develop the airport with the government through ups and downs. Now we have put Covid

behind and the situations in India and at the international level have reached the pre-Covid period. The demand for air travel continues to rise," he said.

Like Singh, 22-year-old Arif Pathan, a labourer, is also working round the clock on the project. "We work around 12 hours daily, with an hour's break for lunch. I do shutter work that gives support to the concrete before it becomes solid," said Pathan, who lives 24 km away in Jewar's Chanchali village.

Singh and Pathan are among around 7,000-odd people, the maximum capacity of the workforce, working on the site to make one runway and one terminal operational by the end of 2024.

Spread across 1,334 hectares, the Noida International Airport (NIA) at Jewar is being developed by Yamuna International Airport Private Limited (YIAPL), which is a subsidiary of Zurich Airport International AG. Once its expansion is complete and its six proposed runways are operational,

it is expected to be among India's biggest airports. Prime Minister Narendra Modi laid the foundation stone of the airport on November 25, 2021.

The site is strategically connected to NCR and Western UP: It is 72 km from IGI Airport, 40 km from Noida, and 130 km from Agra. It is also about 30 km from State Highway 22A (which connects Palwal and Aligarh) and 700 metres from the Yamuna Expressway. In addition, the 100-metre-wide Eastern Peripheral Expressway, passing through Yamuna Expressway at the Formula One Track, connects the site to Palwal, Manesar, Ghaziabad, Bhagpat and Meerut.

### Coming up under Phase I (by Nov 24, 2024)

<b>RUNWAY</b> 3.9 km Length	<b>CAPACITY TO HANDLE</b> 45 m Width 12 million Passengers per annum	<b>AIR TRAFFIC CONTROL</b> 40 m Height
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**FEATURES**

- Taxiway with two rapid exits conforming to Code F and Cat III requirements
- Fire Station
- Isolation Bay
- Operational Wall
- Cargo Terminal Building
- Maintenance Building
- Management Building
- Security Staff Building
- Energy Building
- Power House
- Electrical sub-station
- Distribution sub-station
- According to YIAPL, floor plate for the passenger terminal is 34,000 sqm equivalent to four football fields
- Stairs to the outer court of this terminal are inspired by the ghats of Varanasi and

**Haridwar**

- Fresh air and sunlight would enter the terminal building through a courtyard
- The ceiling, which will be white, translucent, and undulating, will create the effect of a flowing river.
- Passenger terminal will have fine-art lattice screens inspired by Indian architecture, it added



The site is strategically connected to NCR and Western Uttar Pradesh. *Express*

**WHAT'S BEING USED TO BUILD THE AIRPORT\***

- 1,88,620 kg: Admixture
- 24,049 metric tonnes: Cement
- 16,124 metric tonnes: Steel
- 8,668 metric tonnes: Fly ash
- 2,60,777 metric tonnes: TMT Bars (20 mm & 10 mm)
- 1,50,000 metric tonnes: Sand (approx)

(\*Construction material received as of May 2023)

**KEY DATES**

- Signing of concession agreement: **Oct 7, 2020**
- Consent to establish (by UPPCB): **July 30, 2021**
- Financial Close: **August 10, 2021**
- Approval of Master plan: **August 17, 2021**
- DGCA approval for construction: **November 18, 2021**
- 2021 CNS/ATM (Air Traffic Movement) agreement: **Feb 28, 2022**
- Approval of development plan: **April 18, 2022**

**COMMERCIAL OPERATION DATE: DECEMBER 28, 2024**

Over the next few months, passenger terminal buildings, office blocks, and electrical substations are scheduled to come up. Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of the Yamuna Expressway Industrial Development Authority (YEIDA) Dr Arun Vir Singh is confident that construction will be completed before the scheduled date. "We have successfully completed more than 50% of the first phase. There are some minor delays in a few sectors, but we will be back on track by the next JCC (airport's joint coordination committee meeting)," he said.

Keeping in mind the location of the project, the focus at present is on building connectivity. "Currently, we are working on providing all-round connectivity to the airport via pod taxi, mono rail and rapid rail. These will connect Greater Noida, Noida and Delhi to Jewar Airport. We have already provided office spaces to all on the airport premises. We will also provide residential accommodation and parking to designated Government of India agencies," said the YEIDA CEO.

He added, "More than Rs 2,700 crore has been spent so far on construction. While helping decongest IGIA, the Noida airport will bring economic prosperity and excellent connectivity to the region. You will see improved industrialisation in the area, which would integrate the industries in the hinterland into the global value chains. It will also boost tourism."

**On the ground**

The latest progress report for the development of the Noida



Over the next few months, passenger terminal buildings, office blocks, and electrical substations are scheduled to come up. *Prem Nath Pandey*

International Airport, as of August 31, 2023, accessed by *The Indian Express*, says that overall, about 50% of the work on the ground is complete.

**PASSENGER TERMINAL BUILDING:** It is divided into five zones — two Pier Areas, two Head House Areas and a Forecourt Area, all of which are in different stages of completion.

**THE AIRSIDE:** Part of an airport nearest to the aircraft, the boundary of which is the security check, customs, passport control, etc. It consists of important structures such as the Air Traffic Control (ATC), Airport Rescue & Firefighting (ARFF) services, Runway, Taxiway, among others.

**AIR TRAFFIC CONTROL:** In late stages of completion, the raft of Aircraft Rescue and Fire Fighting services has been completed.

**RUNWAY:** The foundation of the runway is complete for 3.7 km out of the total length of 3.9 km. Cement Treated Aggregate Permeable Base (CTPB), which is the final work for a runway, is completed for 500 metres. Drain work has also started between the runway and taxiway.

**TAXIWAY:** Work on the embankment top is complete for 3.7 km out of 3.9 km.

Work on the main receiving sub-station (MRSS) for power supply is also on track, as per

the report.

**Status Report**

During the last review meeting of the JCC on June 14, headed by UP Chief Secretary Durga Shanker Mishra, it was highlighted that while most of the work is on track, some things are lagging.

■ For instance, the Airports Authority of India (AAI) was to complete the development of Concept of Operations — a blueprint for the operation of the airport — by the fourth quarter of 2022, but it is pending.

■ Bureau of Immigration said the integrated security check proposal is under discussion. The report notes that "concurrency to the same to be communicated expeditiously".

■ The presentation also notes that space allocation has been agreed upon with the customs department and detailing of furniture requirements and workstations for each room is in progress.

The Bureau of Civil Aviation Security (BCAS) said approval for security vetting was received on May 18 and a preliminary survey of Central Industrial Security Force (CISF) manpower has been completed. BCAS's next plan is to develop a strategy for compliance with the mandate to deploy CTX (Computer Tomography X-Ray, a device to detect explosives) at passenger screening points.

As far as CISF is concerned, the report notes that procurement and field trials of special CISF vehicles and equipment such as bullet-proof vehicles, threat containment vehicles, and bomb detection and disposal squad vehicles have been initiated. Work on the allocation of space for plant and animal quarantine is ongoing.

At the JCC meeting, the India Meteorological Department (IMD) also said space planning is complete and IMD equipment and its location for the NIA are finalised. Equipment delivery at the site is to be completed by the fourth quarter of 2023 and installation and commissioning is expected to be completed by the first quarter of 2024.

The project is expected to cost Rs Rs 15,754 crore divided into four construction phases. The estimated cost for Phase 1 is Rs 5,730 crore.

### FORMER DUTA PRESIDENT, TAUGHT MATHS AT ST STEPHEN'S COLLEGE

## Beloved teacher, activist: Nandita Narain calls it a day after 42 yrs at DU

**ABHINAYA HARIGOVIND**  
 NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 30

WITH A placard or a raised fist, speaking or singing at a protest, or a Mathematics class in places other than the classroom itself — after 42 long years of teaching Mathematics at St Stephen's College, when Nandita Narain retired on Saturday, her time in college and outside it can be remembered in several ways.

On her last day, she taught three classes. "It is an emotional moment as it's difficult to conceive of life without classes. I have grown up here...I've been here for 42 years as a teacher and five years before that as a student at St

Stephen's College. Students have been a source of great joy and sustenance for me. It has kept me going through all kinds of ups and downs," said Narain, who served two terms as DUTA President.

Her teaching career also saw several strikes, protests, and agitations. "As a teacher, I got pulled into the teachers' movement through a very long strike — 109 days — in 1982-83. We taught in public spaces as a form of protest. We had classes on the Boat Club lawns and Rajghat to highlight the issue of teachers not having promotions in their lifetime, which was an economic issue. We tried different ways of protesting and involving students so they could be equal stakehold-

ers. Students were also involved in the agitation against FYUP in 2014. These democratic spaces to freely express views and counter-views are important in universities, as this is where society learns to have a dialogue with itself," said Narain, who started teaching in 1981, soon after her MA. When she joined college in 1976, she was in the second batch of women admitted to St Stephen's.

There were also the conversations in class that had nothing to do with Mathematics. "When the semester system came in, we haven't had the time to do this, but otherwise we would have long discussions, along with teaching, on issues of importance, whether it was the 1984 anti-Sikh pogrom,



Narain was also a student at St Stephen's. *Express*

the Iraq War, or anti-Mandal agitations," said Narain, who joined the Left-affiliated Democratic Teachers' Front in 1985.

Sanjay Sane, professor at the National Centre for Biological Sciences, who was a BSc student at St Stephen's from 1988-1991, said, "Those were somewhat tumultuous years. Our final year was

somewhat disrupted because of anti-Mandal agitations. The thing I vividly recall is most classes weren't being held, but she (Narain) continued to hold classes through it all. She was very dedicated. We were less aware, at least then, of her more activist side, which over the years I've come to know more about and admire. In college, there was a sense we were aloof, since we were not part of any of the politics of DU. But at the same time, college threatened to become an ivory tower. One of the people who kept us connected with what was going on was her. In hindsight, I realise this."

While colleagues and former students pointed to her energy, with DUTA, activism, teaching and

family, Narain said, "At the end of it, I'd come home and collapse. Even when you're at home, you're thinking about the next thing. That's the price we need to pay."

"I was able to manage. After my teaching, I would be out visiting colleges. I took Sunday classes sometimes at the DUTA office. We would sit in a circle and order *mathri* and *chai*," she added.

Siva Athreya, Professor at the International Centre for Theoretical Sciences-TIFR, and Indian Statistical Institute, Bangalore Centre, who was at St Stephen's from 1988 to 1991 and did Mathematics (Hons), said, "She not only taught me the fundamentals of the subject but also how to study and understand

mathematics. I recall the negation exercises she gave the first day of class; I still use those as a basic starting worksheet in many of the classes I teach at the undergraduate level. She also used to bring samosas to class and engage with us while solving analysis problems. This aspect I have tried to emulate... However, I think I'm a distant second in engaging with my students academically when I compare myself to Nandita."

DUTA and activism came from wanting to have a voice and the importance of an organisational effort, Narain said. And that continues. "They've thrown out teachers with long years of service... Of course, the rest of us are going to continue to resist..." she added.





# 3rd Foundation Day

ADVERTORIAL

## Munitions India Limited, A Government Of India Enterprise, Ministry Of Defence

### From The Desk Of Chairman & Managing Director, Munitions India Limited

**Q 1 Concerning the seven defence public sector undertakings, which include Munitions India Limited (MIL), created through the restructuring of the Ordnance Factory Board (OFB), PM Modi had remarked that these will help develop India into a military-industrial power, which is self-reliant in developing and manufacturing strategic weapons and platforms. Please share the journey of Munitions India Limited in furthering this vision.**

As a result of restructuring of Ordnance Factory Board, the responsibility of manufacturing of ammunition & explosive was given to Munitions India Ltd. (MIL) which is the largest of 7 DPSUs. This landmark decision of restructuring has accrued lot of benefits like improved efficiency due to better management with greater autonomy in its operations, financial independence, export impetus, better quality and delivery of products, flexibility to co-produce and co-sale products having niche technologies. The indigenization content for MIL products is currently around 95% and we are trying to increase it further in next two to three years, thereby achieving the highest level of self-reliance in developing and manufacturing

ammunition. MIL has received export order over Rs. 5000 Crores since its inception. We are also negotiating setting up manufacturing facilities for ammunition production in friendly foreign countries against their requirements.

**Q 2 MIL is India's biggest manufacturer of an extensive range of ammunition & explosives for the Indian Army, Navy, Air Force and paramilitary forces and a market leader in the same. Please talk us through MIL's units and its products that are transforming the future of ammunition.**

MIL has 12 manufacturing units located in Maharashtra, MP, Odisha, Bihar and Tamil Nadu. These are producing propellants, artillery ammunition, tank ammunition, small arms ammunition, naval ammunition, aerial bombs, various types of aviation power cartridges for life saving, smoke and pyrotechnique products etc. We have recently come up with new products like Variants of 40 mm and 30 mm Grenades, 7.62 mm amn with higher muzzle velocity (suitable for AK-203), 500 kg GP Bombs, 76/62 SRGM HEDA amn, 12.7 mm API amn, PINAKA DPICM and Extended Range version, 105 mm blank amn, Drone Delivered amn etc. In order to meet



#### Awards & Accolades

the futuristic demand we are planning capacity augmentation and modernization of infrastructure for explosives & propellant manufacturing.

**Q 3 PM Modi stated in October 2021, "Our defence export has increased by 325% in the last five years." What have been the milestone of MIL that have accelerated the growth trajec-**

**tory of defence exports since then?** Export is the thrust area of MIL. MIL has prepared a Country-Product matrix to have focused approach for expansion of geographical base and exportable product base. MIL is in discussion with major OEMs for becoming part of their International Supply Chain of Ammunition Components, Explosives and Sub-assemblies. MIL has

appointed multiple Channel partners across the globe for marketing of MIL products and services. The results have been highly encouraging. We received Raksha Mantri's Award for Excellence "Raksha Niryat Ratn" during the DEFEXPO 2022 for achievements in export in first six months of operation under category - Large Scale Enterprises. In the current year, we are targeting export sales of over Rs. 1000 Cr which is substantially higher than the previous year.

**Q 4 With the Prime Minister urging the Indian state-owned defence companies to "take a lead in developing future technologies" alongside focusing on research and innovation and adopting industry best practices, how is MIL faring in its research and development initiatives?**

MIL has been carved out of erstwhile OFB. R&D has never been a forte of OFB as the onus of research and development was with DRDO. However, after starting its business as a company, MIL has amplified its focus on R&D. We are planning to spend more than Rs. 300 Crores in R&D during next three years. Every production unit of MIL has got a dedicated R&D Centre. MIL has collaborated with IIT Madras to conduct M.

Tech course in Ammunition Technology exclusively for MIL technical experts. The three year course has started in 2022, and is first of its kind in India. MIL is also collaborating with other academic institutes in the country for developing new ammunition and explosives.

**Q 5 As the Chairman and Managing Director of MIL, what are your plans for MIL in light of its vision encompassing providing a competitive edge to the Armed Forces by equipping them with modern and quality battlefield ammunition and its mission of being a prominent patron of Atma Nirbhar Bharat Abhiyan and Make in India Initiative in the ammunition sector?**

Our vision is to become a major player in global supply chain of ammunition and explosive and to maintain the leadership in Indian ammunition and explosives industry. Through in-house R&D and collaboration with industry and academia, we are planning to develop new ammunition using niche technologies. Under Atma Nirbhar Bharat, MIL has been collaborating with Indian Industry through various platforms like Srijan Portal, IDEX etc. to increase self-reliance in defence and substitute imports.

#### CHAIRMAN & MANAGING DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

**I**n an era marked by technological advancement and a relentless pursuit of excellence, Munitions India Limited (MIL) stands at the forefront, poised for a bright and dynamic future. Anchored by a combination of cutting-edge technology and a robust infrastructure in the field of Ammunition & Explosives, the company envisions a path of progress and growth that promises to redefine itself and leave an indelible mark on the global stage.

At the heart of MIL's success lies an unwavering commitment to meeting and exceeding customer requirements. The company's dedicated teams, driven by a passion for excellence, consistently deliver products that not only meet industry standards but also surpass expectations. This commitment is the cornerstone upon which MIL builds its reputation for reliability and innovation.

The availability of a robust infrastructure further fortifies MIL's position in the industry. This foundation provides the necessary support for seamless development, production, and supply of their cutting-edge explosives. With this solid groundwork in place, MIL confidently strides forward, poised to capitalize on emerging opportunities and navigate challenges with unmatched resilience.

A culture of unity permeates throughout MIL's operations. By fostering a spirit of teamwork and maintaining close interaction with customers, the company ensures that goals are not only met but exceeded. This collaborative approach not only enhances efficiency but also facilitates a deeper understanding of customer needs, allowing MIL to tailor their offerings to specific requirements.

MIL's vision for the future is encapsulated in the phrase, "The only way to achieve the impossible is to believe it is possible." This belief in the potential of what can be achieved fuels the company's drive for continuous improvement and innovation. It serves as a guiding principle, propelling MIL towards groundbreaking achievements and pushing the boundaries of what is conceivable.

I am delighted to announce that during fiscal year, 2022-23, we have achieved a historic milestone in the company's financial performance. We have witnessed a remarkable growth of 40% compared to the previous year. This outstanding financial performance is a testament to our revised strategies in manufacturing, marketing, and project management.

As of today, we have an impressive order



book of over Rs. 24000 Crore. MIL since its inception in Oct 2021 has bagged Export orders worth over Rs. 5000 Crore. The company aims to maintain the similar growth in the financial year 2023-24 also. These figures depict the excellent performance of the company and the promising future that lies ahead.

Yet, as challenges arise, so must our determination, to overcome them. The company is actively working on enhancing its production capacity in line with the 'Atmanirbhar Bharat Abhiyan' announced by our Honorable Prime Minister. Various projects for the production of ammunition stores and explosives are in the pipeline. It is imperative that we address our shortcomings, meet our targets, optimize costs, uphold quality standards, and establish Standard Operating Procedures in strategic areas.

A robust modernization plan is pivotal in today's rapidly evolving business landscape. It empowers enterprises to remain competitive, enhance efficiency, and stay relevant. At MIL, we recognize that modernization is the compass guiding us toward sustainable growth.

To realize our modernization goals, MIL has embarked on various initiatives, including the expansion of our capacity for the manufacture of Tank and Artillery ammunition. To ensure Atma Nirbharta in defence production we are in the process of augmenting the production capacities of various explosives & propellants.

As 1st October 2023 dawns, MIL extends warm wishes to all, hoping for blessed and exceptional days ahead. The company expresses heartfelt gratitude to each member of the MIL family, recognizing their invaluable contributions to this inspiring journey. Together, we will forge a path towards a future defined by limitless possibilities and unprecedented achievements.

In the wake of these aspirations, MIL emerges as a beacon of progress, with its sights set on transforming production, pioneering innovations, and leaving an indelible mark on the global stage. With unwavering commitment, cutting-edge technology, and a united team, the company is poised for a future that holds the promise of greatness.

JAI HIND  
**Ravi Kant, IOFS**  
Chairman and Managing Director  
Munitions India Limited

#### DIRECTOR/HR's MESSAGE

**T**ODAY, we mark a remarkable milestone - our 3rd Foundation Day. Two years ago, we began a journey filled with dreams, united by a vision to make a difference. As we look back on our journey, embracing the progress made, conquering the challenges and celebrating success we are filled with immense and uplifting sense of pride.

This day isn't just for celebration but it's a time to appreciate hard work by each team member, reflect on our achievements, and recommit to our values. Our commitment to excellence, innovation, and integrity has driven us forward, shaping us into an inclusive, impactful organization. Towards our commitment we have framed our new HR policies which will keep us together by maintaining the synergy amongst all team members. Considering current scenario, it is very important to develop a skill amongst employees accordingly a MOU has been signed between MIL & IIT -Madras for M-Tech in Ammunition Technology, National Academy of Defence Production (NADP) a unit of MIL has obtained AICTE approval and conducting post graduate Diploma in Management (PGDM) with focus on Defence Management & Defence Industry.

Our employees are the heart and soul of organisation. Passion, resilience, and dedication of each team member has brought us here. As we celebrate, let's express gratitude to each other and the organization.

While we've achieved substantially, greater heights await. Let's face the future with the same determination and enthusiasm. I'm deeply grateful for dedication and commitment of each team member of MIL. I convey my greetings and best wishes for this foundation day and wish more success, growth and prosperity for future.

JAI HIND  
**Debashish Banerjee, IOFS**  
Director / Human Resources, Munitions India Limited.



#### DIRECTOR/FINANCE & CFO's MESSAGE

**T**ODAY marks the significant milestone of our journey 3rd MIL foundation day. It is a day to reflect to our beginning our achievement and remarkable path that has brought us to where we stand today.

As Finance Director and Chief Financial Officer of MIL, I am honoured to be the part of this incredible journey. Our success is a testimony of our hard work, dedication, unwavering commitment of our team "MILekars"

We have travelled our untreaded path during the last two years. We have seen favourable outcome of our efforts in expanding both our customer base and our product portfolio in the domestic and international market. MIL has ventured in a big way in international market with an explosive growth. We have grown not just size significantly, but also in our impact on the industry and stakeholders we serve.

We look ahead with determination and enthusiasm for a robust growth path with sustained profitability and maintain our leadership position in the segment we operate. We pledge to embrace the core values of integrity, transparency, excellence and teamwork and make strives towarded sustainable and superior financial performance and aspiration for a bright future.

I convey my greetings and best wishes on this Foundation Day.  
JAI HIND  
**Prakash Agarwala, IOFS**  
Director Finance & CFO, Munitions India Limited.



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# 6 GOVT & POLITICS

## BJP not giving OBCs real power: Rahul in poll-bound MP

ANAND MOHAN J  
BHOPAL, SEPTEMBER 30

MAKING HIS first appearance on the campaign trail in poll-bound Madhya Pradesh, Congress leader Rahul Gandhi accused the BJP of not giving "real power" to OBC communities, and said his party would conduct a caste census if voted to power at the Centre.

Speaking at a public meeting in Shajapur as part of the Congress's Jan Akrosh Yatra, Rahul criticised the central government for not including OBC reservation within the Women's Reservation Bill that provides 33 per cent reservation for women in Parliament and state legislatures.

The Congress's focus on social justice and OBC consolidation is being seen as its answer to the BJP's Hindutva plank and Prime Minister Narendra Modi's appeal as an OBC leader.

"Narendra Modi, you claim to work for OBCs and that you are their leader. Then why haven't you included OBC reservation within women's reservation?" Rahul asked.

He said that the central government was run by 90 secretaries, and that only three of them were from OBC communities.

"These 90 people decide where the money will go and how much will be allocated... If Narendra Modi ji genuinely worked for OBCs, how can only



Congress leader Rahul Gandhi speaks at a rally in Shajapur district, Madhya Pradesh, on Saturday. PPT

three officers out of 90 be OBCs? Three to four years ago, there was not a single OBC officer

among the 90," he said. Rahul also stressed on the need for a caste census.

"When I raise this question [in Parliament], BJP members start interrupting. Narendra Modi ji leaves, Amit Shah ji says something else, trying to spread hatred between Hindus and Muslims. Brothers and sisters, the biggest issue before India is caste census. The biggest question facing India is how many OBCs there are and what their representation should be," he said.

He added that while the BJP got OBC people to sit in assemblies, these people are then kept silent. "We want everyone to have representation. India is not for just two or three industrialists. That is why our first step will be a caste census," Rahul said.

He also targeted the BJP, alleging that under the party's

government, Madhya Pradesh was the epicentre of corruption.

"They have embezzled funds meant for children, such as those for the Mid-Day Meal Scheme and school uniforms. In the Mahakal Corridor, BJP has been involved in financial embezzlement," Rahul said.

Pitting the contest between Congress and the BJP as a fight between two ideologies, he said, "On one side, the Congress party - on the other, the RSS and BJP. On one side [Mahatma] Gandhi - on the other, [Nathuram] Godse. On one side, hatred, violence and arrogance - on the other, love, unity, and brotherhood. Now wherever we go, we see the seeds of hatred and anger being sown."



PM Narendra Modi during the launch of a programme for Aspirational Blocks, in New Delhi on Saturday. PPT

## PM to local body leaders: I'll be back next year to take stock

HARIKISHAN SHARMA  
NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 30

EXPRESSING CONFIDENCE he will return to power in the 2024 Lok Sabha elections, Prime Minister Narendra Modi Saturday told a gathering of elected representatives of panchayats and blocks covered under the Aspirational Blocks Programme (ABP) that he would meet them again in October-November next year to take stock of the programme's progress.

The ABP, launched earlier this year on January 7, is to be implemented in 500 blocks across 329 districts which are lagging in various development parameters. With a Rs 100-crore budget for 2023-24, it aims to improve governance at the block level and enhance the quality of life of citizens.

Addressing the gathering at the launch of a week-long 'Sankalp Saptaha' programme (October 3-9) at Bharat Mandapam in Delhi, Modi said, "Doston, main abhi se aapko kehta hun; 2024 mein hum fir October-November me milenge, physically milenge aur hum iska lekhka jokka karenge. Aur main us samay yahan audience me baithkar aap mein se dus logon ki safalata ki baatein sunna chahunga. Fir mujhe jo kuch kehna hai wo agle saal 2024 October ya November me aap se baat karunga. (Friends, I am telling you now; we will meet again in October-November 2024, we will meet physically and we will take stock. Then, sitting in the audience, I would like to listen to the success stories of 10 people among you. Whatever I have to say, I will speak to you next year in October or November)."

Modi also underlined the need for "equal distribution of resources" as well as "need-based

allocation". "Pushing resources into abundance leads to wastage, while if it is given to the areas of needs, utilisation is much better. Resources should be distributed equally with a special focus on the needy areas," he said.

He asked the officials to set targets to improve the conditions of their respective blocks on at least five parameters in the next three months. "112 districts that were Aspirational Districts have now become aspirational districts. I am sure within a year at least 100 aspirational blocks will become aspirational blocks," he said.

Observing that the Aspirational District programme has transformed the lives of about 25 crore people in 112 districts, Modi said, "In any list of the top 10 programmes of Independent India, the Aspirational District Programme will figure in golden letters." The success of this programme became the basis of the Aspirational Blocks programme, he said. He asked Central ministers and secretaries present in the event to identify 100 blocks in their respective departments that were lagging behind and work towards improving the conditions.

Modi also said the venue - Bharat Mandapam and the gathering - people taking care of development in the far-flung areas, "is an indication of the government's thinking that such a gathering is taking place at the venue of the G20 summit".

The PM also interacted with three Block Level Officers - Ranjana Agarwal, a school teacher from UP's Baheri; Dr. Sajid Ahmed, Veterinary Assistant Surgeon from J&K's Mankote; and Mikehenchard Ch Momin, Junior Rural Development Officer from Meghalaya's Resubelpara.

## Medical colleges to face Rs 1 crore fine for violating norms

ANONNA DUTT  
NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 30

THE NATIONAL Medical Commission (NMC) has introduced a penalty of Rs 1 crore for medical colleges failing to comply with course norms - statutory provisions, regulations, and minimum standards - set by the apex medical education regulator.

Additionally, doctors, department heads or institute heads could face penalties of up to Rs 5 lakh for submitting false documents, reads the latest notification 'Maintenance of Standards of Medical Education Regulations, 2023'.

"The regulator has introduced such a monetary penalty for the first time. The move is likely to ensure better compliance with norms as several government and private colleges have been facing a faculty shortage. Several government-run colleges, established over the last few years, also do not comply with these norms," said Dr M C Misra, former director of All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS), New Delhi.

Under the new regulations, strict action would be taken against violators, such as withholding accreditation of medical colleges, withdrawing accreditation up to five years, and halting admission to one or more courses. The National Medical Commission or autonomous boards could also initiate criminal proceedings for furnishing false information or documents.

"Any attempt to pressurise UG (undergraduate)/PG (postgraduate) board or NMC through individuals or agencies concerned would lead to an immediate halt

EXPLAINED  
Course correction

WITH THE number of medical colleges on the rise in the country, and fewer physical inspections, experts say the provisions for monetary penalty will help in increasing compliance to norms of the number of faculty members required, number of patients required, and proper physical infrastructure.

of the processing of all applications / requests by the medical institution," reads the regulation, adding that action would be initiated after medical institutions are given "reasonable opportunity to rectify their deficiencies".

Authorities of all the medical colleges have been asked to provide the annual disclosure report (ADR) and other documents required by boards to verify whether colleges are following the norms.

The central government has also introduced a command centre to keep a tab on faculty members, their attendance, patients at outpatient clinics as well as undergoing surgeries. This centre uses a network of CCTV cameras that each medical college has to install at key points such as OPD (outpatient department) entrance, data from hospital information management system, and Aadhaar-based biometric attendance system for the staff to check all the requirements. **FULL REPORT ON**

[www.indianexpress.com](http://www.indianexpress.com)

## Train cancelled, TMC takes buses for protest in Delhi

RAVIK BHATTACHARYA & ATRI MITRA  
KOLKATA, SEPTEMBER 30

THE SPECIAL train they were hoping to catch to Delhi cancelled, Trinamool Congress workers, office-bearers and MNREGS job card holders from Bengal, now headed by road to the Capital as part of a TMC protest against the Centre, have one thing weighing on their minds: the passage through BJP-ruled Uttar Pradesh.

As per the original plan, the TMC protest was to begin at Raj Ghat on Gandhi Jayanti, October 2, and move on to Krishi Bhawan, housing the Rural Development Ministry which governs the MNREGS. Now, with all the buses carrying the protesters only leaving at different times on Saturday, it is a race against time.

The journey from Kolkata to Delhi is over 1,500 km by road. The 50-odd private buses hurriedly arranged by the TMC to carry a caravan of around 2,500 people - the party says it is 5,000 - would take at least two-and-a-half days to cover the distance. This means only the top leaders, including MPs, ministers and TMC all-India general secretary and No. 2 Abhishek Banerjee, who have left or are leaving for Delhi either by the Rajdhani or flights, might make it to the Raj Ghat on Gandhi Jayanti.

The next day, by which time the others will reach, the TMC has planned a grand protest at Jantar Mantar. A delegation would try to meet Union Rural Development Minister Giriraj Singh.

From Saturday morning, the Netaji Indoor Stadium in Kolkata where those selected for the journey were assembled was buzzing. By evening, the buses



MGNREGA job card holders and others wait at Netaji Indoor Stadium, before leaving for New Delhi to take part in a protest by TMC, in Kolkata on Saturday. Partha Paul

STOP TMC MOVEMENT IF YOU CAN: ABHISHEK BANERJEE DARES BJP

Kolkata: TMC national general secretary Abhishek Banerjee on Saturday hit out at the BJP-led government at the Centre for making "all possible attempts" to stop their protest movements in New Delhi on October 2 and 3. He dared the BJP to stop the TMC movement if it can and vowed not to bow down before "pressure". In a virtual address, he also warned them "be ready to face the consequences" if any party members were "targeted". **ENS**

had left with those assembled at the stadium, while others had set off from districts.

Marking this, the TMC posted: "Despite the @BJP4India-led Central Government's refusal to provide the promised special train, our determination remains unshaken. Buses are now on their way to the capital, and we shall

ensure that justice prevails!"

Some TMC leaders, like MPs Derek O'Brien and Kakoli Ghosh Dastidar, claimed some flights their leaders were meant to take had also got cancelled.

Earlier, Madan Shaw, the 62-year-old driver of the first bus to arrive at the Kolkata stadium, calculated that the journey would not take less than 60 hours. While it was just a job for the tourist bus driver from Barasat in North 24 Parganas, Shaw was aware of the politics at play. "I just pray that the police from other states, especially BJP-ruled states, do not create hassles for us," he said.

Inside the stadium, the biggest source of anxiety was charging mobile phones, said Dharam Mahali, 34, a TMC worker and MNREGS card holder from Kalchini in North Bengal.

As for the arrangements, those gathered at the Netaji Indoor Stadium had no complaints. "The party is taking care of us, serving breakfast, lunch and dinner".

A senior TMC leader said they had planned several halts. "The passengers will be given necessary refreshments and food."

Shanth Kumar of Deccan Herald is PTI Chairman

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA  
NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 30

K N SHANTH Kumar of The Printers (Mysore) Pvt. Ltd was on Friday elected Chairman of the Press Trust of India's Board of Directors for a one-year term.

Shanth Kumar's election took place at a meeting of PTI's Board of Directors following their Annual General Meeting at the news agency's headquarters in New Delhi.

The Board also elected Praveen Someshwar, the CEO of Hindustan Times, as the Vice-Chairman. Shanth Kumar replaces Aavek Sarkar, who was Chairman for two consecutive terms.

"It is a privilege to be at the helm of PTI at a time when it is going through an exciting transformation, particularly after it recently launched the video service," said Shanth Kumar.

Shanth Kumar, 62, has been involved in the management of The Printers (Mysore) Pvt. Ltd in various roles since 1983. He was also Chairman of the Audit Bureau of Circulation (ABC), a member of the Executive Committee of the Indian Newspaper Society (INS) for more than 20 years. This is the second time that he is serving as the Chairman of the Board of PTI, the last time being 2013 to 2014.

Besides Shanth Kumar, Someshwar and Sarkar, the 16-member PTI Board also includes Viveck Goenka (the Express Group), along with Vineet Jain (Times of India), N. Ravi (The Hindu), Mahendra Mohan Gupta (Dainik Jagran), Riyad Mathew (Malayala Manorama), M.V. Shreyams Kumar (Mathrubhumi), L. Adimoolam (Dinamalar), and Hormusji N. Cama (Bombay Samachar) among others.

IN RESPONSE TO PM'S COMMENTS

## Will take action if irregularities found in Chhattisgarh PSC selection: Baghel

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE,  
RAIPUR, SEPTEMBER 30

AFTER BEING criticised by the Prime Minister in his speech in Bilaspur Saturday over the alleged irregularities in selection of candidates in the Chhattisgarh PSC examination, Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel said that an inquiry will be initiated if the aggrieved students file a complaint



Chhattisgarh CM Bhupesh Baghel. File

and also added that politics was being played over the issue.

Modi in his speech said that the CPSC scam is a huge betrayal for the youth and unfair to those who were (wrongly) rejected.

Reacting to the PM's com-

ments, Baghel said, "...any guilty person will be punished... let me receive a complaint from students. Right now it's just paper work and politics is being played... If you are a deserving candidate, you must be selected... PSC results came long ago but no complaints... were received. There have been claims that sons and daughters of officers have been selected... if there is irregularity found in their selection, action shall be taken."

## 'OUR DEMANDS WERE NOT MET BY CONGRESS, BJP IN THE LAST 20 YEARS' Chhattisgarh tribal body registers new party

JAYPRAKASH SNAIDU  
RAIPUR, SEPTEMBER 30

CHHATTISGARH'S SARVA Adivasi Samaj (SAS), an umbrella organisation of tribal groups in the state, announced on Saturday that it has registered a political party named Hamar Raj.

"Hamar Raj (Our Rule) party is now a political platform, and it will function under the instructions of Sarva Adivasi

Samaj, which follows tribal rules, culture and traditions. The RSS has 50-odd independent groups under it, including BJP... We wanted a similar formation for our Adivasi Samaj," SAS president Arvind Netam, a former Union minister under the Indira Gandhi government, said at a press conference in Raipur city.

Netam (81) said the Adivasi Samaj was "forced" to form a party because neither the BJP nor the Congress - the only two par-

ties to come to power in Chhattisgarh since the state's formation - worked on the issues affecting tribal communities.

"Our 23 demands were not met by the Congress or the BJP in the last 20 years. In fact, this government has weakened the provisions of the Panchayats (Extension to the Scheduled Areas) Act (PESA). This is the most worrying factor. Our fight is not a political one, it is a fight for our identity, for the Constitution

and for PESA," Netam said. He said even though there was pressure on the Hamar Raj party to tie up with other parties, like the BSP, the Janta Congress Chhattisgarh-Jogi, and the AAP, "We do not want to dilute our political movement, so there will be no tie-ups. We will go slow, so that the samaj will slowly show trust".

The party has plans to contest 50 seats, including 29 tribal reserved seats and one seat reserved for SC. Netam said the

party would welcome people from all communities. Party general secretary Vinod Nagvanshi said, "The party will put their weight behind candidates from small groups and independent candidates if they want it help".

The president of the party, Akbar Ram Korram, a retired DIG, said, "Both BJP and Congress are exposing each other on corruption and tribal people are fed up with them."

## As AIADMK breaks away, why BJP needs to look beyond numbers to the bigger whole

Modi can take cue from earlier Prime Ministers V P Singh, Gujral, Vajpayee on the value of allies, particularly when navigating fraught territory in the South



Weekly insight into what's changing in national politics - and why

THE POLITICAL season is well and truly here. Old alliances are cracking up, new tie-ups are being forged.

The AIADMK has ended its alliance with the BJP at a time when the Prime Minister was specially reaching out to the people of Tamil Nadu, with the Adheenams and Sengol taking a pride of place at the inauguration of the new Parliament building.

The AIADMK's exit is more than just another ally walking

out of the NDA. It makes political sense for the party to do so at this juncture for, like its rival DMK, it too is eyeing 2026 (when state polls are due). And the repositioning it wants to do cannot be left till the last moment.

With Udhayanidhi Stalin's repeated attacks against Sanatan Dharma (identified with upper castes), the DMK is bringing the focus back to its anti-Brahminical Dravidian roots, grounded in the self-respect movement of E V Ramaswamy or Periyar. This has made it more difficult for the AIADMK to stay on with the BJP. Former CM Edappadi Palanisami (EPS), who has a grip over the AIADMK's organisation, has been reaching out to the DMK's smaller allies, like Dalit outfits, offering them more seats than the DMK.

But, while the AIADMK has a

reason to walk away, it makes less sense for the BJP to let it go, and that too just before the 2024 national elections. The BJP has endorsed Sanatan Dharma, against what Udhayanidhi has said, and done it aggressively, in the hope of consolidating Hindus behind it. It has also allowed its rising star, and Tamil Nadu chief, K Annamalai, to take on the AIADMK frontally. Nor did the Central leadership go out of its way to woo the AIADMK when things started to sour.

It is true that Tamil Nadu is not very important for the BJP electorally, not having yielded many seats for the party. And the party's calculation may be that it could tie up with either of the two Dravidian parties after the 2024 elections, depending on the situation. That aside, Sanatan Dharma has helped the BJP play

to the Hindu gallery, and created discomfort among DMK allies in the Opposition's INDIA bloc. The DMK has reasons to be worried too given the sword of Enforcement Directorate probes hanging over the heads of its leaders, and threatening to touch supremo and CM Stalin's house.

In the larger picture, the AIADMK's exit reinforces the impression that the BJP does not care much about its allies. PM Modi has been saying at rallies that "khichdi (coalition) governments are weak, and that only a "strong" government like his could have got the women's reservation Bill passed. The BJP can be expected to showcase its "stable government" and "strong leader", helming India's rise in the global arena, in the elections. In 2014, when Narendra

Modi first came to power, he chose to rule through the NDA, with 29 allies, even though he did not need them to run a government. He also called the SAARC leaders for his swearing-in ceremony, an imaginative move that represented a new outreach to India's neighbours. In his first speech after taking over, he talked about reaching out to the "poor", indicating that the party had to widen its base.

VP Singh, who was the PM for 11 months in 1989-90, used to say that he considered the inclusion of regional parties in his National Front government one of his most important contributions. He felt it gave the regional parties a stake in national politics, and would help curb fissiparous tendencies in the country. He also included the DMK in his ministry even though

it had not won a single seat in the 1989 winter general elections.

IK Gujral preferred to let his government go in 1997 than dump DMK ministers, as demanded by the Congress, which supported his government, after the Jain Commission Report indicted the DMK for the LTTE's activities, which led to the assassination of Rajiv Gandhi. Gujral felt giving the DMK the marching orders would create problems of a different kind.

Atal Bihari Vajpayee kept the Akali Dal by his side not just for the numbers they added to the NDA kitty, but also for the Hindu-Sikh unity the alliance represented in the border state of Punjab, which had seen a movement for a separate Khalistan.

Apart from the imperatives of survival, these leaders were

conscious of the fragility of our federal structure, so critical for keeping the country together, and the need to make it work.

As it is, the southern states are agitated about the impending delimitation exercise due in 2026, as it is expected to see a rise in the number of Lok Sabha seats in the North owing to the greater population increase there.

Many feel that delimitation is a ticking time bomb, and has to be defused. Earlier this week, I sat up when a former Union minister from Tamil Nadu told me, "With the number of Lok Sabha seats coming down in Tamil Nadu, do you think we will allow the delimitation to take place?"

The AIADMK's walkout therefore has implications which go beyond the exit of an ally. The BJP, having a shot at a third term

in power, has lost an ally in the South, where the party is anyway weak, and which might have helped it navigate the challenges that lie ahead.

At the end of the day - and we cannot forget this - India is a coalition, a kaleidoscope of races, languages, religions, castes, ethnic groups, North and South, East and West. And it should be ruled like a coalition, whether it is by a brute majority government, or by a simple majority rule, or by an alliance of many parties.

For, a consensual approach ensures that everyone's voice is heard - even if not always heeded. *Neerja Chowdhury, Contributing Editor, The Indian Express, has covered the last 10 Lok Sabha elections. She is the author of the recently published How Prime Ministers Decide*



# 7 EXPRESS NETWORK

**'Kept in dark': Senior JD(S) leader over tie-up with BJP**

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE  
BENGALURU, SEPTEMBER 30

IN A sign of unhappiness over the recent alliance of the JD(S) with the BJP, its Karnataka president C M Ibrahim said Saturday that he had not been kept in the loop on the tie-up. The JD(S) leader added that he would be assessing his options at a meeting with well-wishers on October 16.

The former Union minister, who joined the JD(S) from the Congress last year, is the most well-known Muslim leader in the party. Asserting that he was hurt at party chief H D Deve Gowda and son H D Kumaraswamy keeping him in the dark over the alliance with the BJP, Ibrahim claimed that Congress leaders as well as other INDIA partners such as Sharad Pawar of the NCP and Nitish Kumar of the JD(U) were in touch with him.

"Deve Gowda is like a father and Kumaraswamy is my brother. I have affection for them. But what has hurt me is that I am the party president and you have gone to Delhi without saying a word to me. You have not told me about the discussions," Ibrahim said.

JD(S) vice-president Shafiqullah Baig, among those to have already quit the party, said: "Not only minority leaders, all leaders who follow secular principles are unhappy about the decision."

**'Nitish and us were planning a Janata Federal Front. I even said would endorse him as PM'**

'If INDIA parties have to do well, it'll be at Cong's cost. Will it allow it? My INDIA friends must think'

JANATA DAL (Secular) supremo **H D DEVE GOWDA**, once seen as opposed to the BJP due to his die-hard socialist and secular credentials, has given his approval to the party's tie-up with the BJP-led NDA for the 2024 Lok Sabha polls. The change of heart comes as the former prime minister, who is 91, battles health issues, and the party he founded tries to recover from its biggest poll loss. Deve Gowda talks to **JOHNSON T A** about the tie-up, the realisation of women's quota that he first envisaged, and the INDIA coalition. Excerpts:

Nearly 27 years after you as PM first introduced a Bill to provide reservation to women, it has been passed by Parliament. You were present in Rajya Sabha to vote for it. How did it feel?

Naturally, I feel very happy that the Bill was passed. It was an idea whose time came a long time ago. I had studied the women's reservation issue since as early as 1991, and in 1995, when I got the chance to introduce it at the panchayat level as the CM of Karnataka, I took it. Since I had a good relationship with Prime Minister Narasimha Rao, I also tried to convince him to introduce the quota in Assemblies and Parliament... I even sent an all-woman delegation to him in 1995. At that point, I did not know I would myself become the PM in

1996. In 1996, when I introduced the Bill, I was running a 13-party coalition, I did not have much support. But I brought it in the Lok Sabha fighting my own colleagues. I also impressed upon PM Modi to introduce the Bill a few times. In April 2023, when the inauguration of the new Parliament was announced, just before the Karnataka elections, I wrote a long letter to him... I am grateful that Modi took it up. I congratulate him.

**Did the idea of a women's reservation Bill come to you from what you had observed after such a quota was introduced in local bodies?**

I do not want to say retrospectively now that I had great vision. It was plain common sense. You could not ignore half your population... It was not urban women who were in my mind when I thought of this legislation. I knew this would do wonderful things in rural areas... Women education and health were my priority areas since the early 1970s when I was the Opposition leader in the Devaraj Urs government... In 1996 this Bill also suited the progressive agenda of the United Front government.

**The JD(S) decision to align with the BJP is being seen as a major departure for you, particularly given your focus on a secular im-**



THE EXPRESS  
**INTERVIEW**  
WITH  
**H D DEVE GOWDA**  
JD(S) PRESIDENT

**age post-Babri demolition.**

I have reiterated this many times — "nothing changes". My secular values and my secular principles remain the same. My commitment to all sections of society, including the minorities, is intact. The Congress has a way of making everybody look bad except themselves. I have been long enough in public life to tell you what their true colour is. The kind of compromises they have made to remain in power...

Don't I know how many Congress leaders are directly and

indirectly in touch with the present government?

**You have said that Nitish Kumar wanted the JD(S) to be a part of the Opposition INDIA bloc, but that local Congress leaders in Karnataka opposed it. Did the exclusion of the JD(S) from INDIA play a part in the decision to ally with the BJP?**

Yes, that is correct. Nitish was in touch with me from October-November 2022. We were planning some kind of a Janata Federal Front. I had even said I would endorse Nitish Kumar as PM candidate. Nitish wanted a merger with my party... I only said I cannot think of a merger given the Karnataka elections in April-May 2023... but that we can all cooperate. After the Karnataka polls, due to pressure from certain Congress leaders, my party was unilaterally dropped from the alliance they were building. I was not invited to the Patna meeting. Do you think I should suffer this humiliation at my age?

Nitish is still my good friend... The Congress has destroyed secular coalitions right from the beginning, to serve its own ends. See how they destabilised secular coalitions, including my government... They pretend to be progressive. They are not.

**Do you see the BJP alliance as key to long-term survival of the JD(S)**

**after the defeat in the 2023 Karnataka elections?**

Nobody is talking of survival here. We are an independent political party and this is a strategic alliance... Those who are ruling in Karnataka were groomed by me. Their arrogance may not allow them to acknowledge this. These people who crossed over from my party for the sake of power have finished the original Congress. Has Mallikarjun Kharge not suffered because of Siddaramaiah? What is happening to BK Hariprasad (an OBC leader seen as sidelined in the Karnataka government)? I have always fought and survived. I will continue to do so.

**You have suggested that parties like the NCP and JD(U) could be in the NDA fold after the Lok Sabha polls. How strong is their commitment to 'secular democracy', as they call it?**

The INDIA alliance is unstable. The electoral interests and agendas of the parties do not match... If this alliance has to do well, it will be at the cost of the Congress. Will the Congress allow it? The Congress has now suddenly woken up to the OBC reservation agenda. Are they trying to do this out of commitment or to finish Mandal parties in INDIA? My friends there should answer.

FULL INTERVIEW ON  
[www.indianexpress.com](http://www.indianexpress.com)

**TWO ARRESTS MADE SO FAR**

**NIA: Bangladesh, Myanmar terror groups abetting Manipur clashes**

**MAHENDER SINGH MANRAL**  
NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 30

A WEEK after arresting a trained operative of separatist group People's Liberation Army of Manipur, the National Investigation Agency (NIA) on Saturday made a second arrest and found that apart from Myanmar-based militant group, a Bangladesh-based militant group has also entered into a conspiracy with a section of militant leaders in India to indulge in incidents of violence with an intention to drive a wedge between different ethnic groups in the state and to wage war against the country.

"We have arrested Seiminlun Gange in a case related to a transnational conspiracy by Myanmar and Bangladesh based terror outfits to wage war against the Central government by exploiting the current ethnic unrest in Manipur. The case was registered suo-moto by the NIA on July 19. Gange has been brought to Delhi after his arrest and will be produced before the concerned court," an NIA spokesperson said.

On September 16, the NIA had arrested PLA operative Moirangthem Anand Singh (45), along with four men, from Konga near Meitei Mayek School in Imphal East for allegedly wearing a camouflage uniform and possessing an INSAS rifle, an SLR, two 0.303 rifles, and magazines and ammunition. Based on disclosures made by Singh, who was supplying the looted arms, the investigating agency has been conducting searches in the state to track and link the whole chain, a source said.

The NIA spokesperson added that the militant organizations based in Myanmar are recruiting workers to carry out attacks on security forces and members of opposing ethnic groups in Manipur. "Investigation so far has revealed

**'PEOPLE ANGRY': STATE BJP UNIT WRITES TO NADDA**

Imphal: BJP's Manipur unit has told its national president JP Nadda that "people were angry as the state government has so far failed to contain the ethnic strife".

A letter signed by party's state unit president Sharda Devi, vice president Ch Chidananda Singh, and six others told Nadda that "public anger and protest are slowly turning the tide, putting the sole onus of this prolonged disturbance into the failure of the government in dealing with the situation".

They demanded immediate re-settlement of the displaced people in their "original places of residence" and the compensation to people who lost their houses, and ex-gratia to affected families. PTI

**IMD: Despite El Nino, 73% areas received normal rain in June-Sept**

ANJALI MARAR  
BENGALURU, SEPTEMBER 30

THE INDIA Meteorological Department (IMD) on Saturday said the country recorded normal rainfall, despite El Nino, during June to September. With the end of the southwest monsoon season, quantitatively, the all-India rainfall was 94.4 per cent of the Long Period Average (LPA).

Though the year began with the emergence of El Nino conditions — the abnormal warming of the equatorial Pacific Ocean and linked to causing subdued rainfall over large parts of India — and its rapid intensification between March and May, there were multiple other factors that countered the likely adversity posed by El Nino, IMD officials said. "The favourable phase — the Madden Julian Oscillation (MJO), the positive phase of the Indian Ocean Dipole (IOD) and higher than normal number of low pressure systems and their movement — helped counter the effect of El Nino," said Mrutyunjay Mohapatra, Director General, IMD.

In July, a weak El Nino prevailed, which later intensified into the moderate category during August and September, the IMD said. According to the Met Department's data, there were 15

**'NORMAL RAINFALL DURING NORTHEAST MONSOON SEASON'**

THE COUNTRY is most likely to receive normal rainfall during the upcoming northeast monsoon season, the IMD said on Saturday. Quantitatively, it could range from 88-112 per cent of the Long Period Average. This winter monsoon is largely beneficial for the southern peninsular India. "This year, the rainfall deficient states can make up during the upcoming season," said IMD DG Mrutyunjay Mohapatra.

low-pressure systems, against a normal of 13, that formed during June to September. As a result, there were 65 days when the country remained under the influence of low-pressure systems whereas the normal is 55 days.

"Most of these systems developed during July and September in the Bay of Bengal, during which the country's rainfall over large parts were above normal," said the IMD chief. This season, nearly 73 per cent of the country's geographical area, or 26 meteorological subdivisions, recorded normal rainfall.

Whereas, about 9 per cent geographical area, largely over Rajasthan and Gujarat, recorded excess rainfall during the past four months. Regions covering Kerala, south Karnataka, Nagaland, Mizoram, Tripura, Gangetic West Bengal, Bihar, Jharkhand and eastern Uttar Pradesh — measuring about 18 per cent of the country's geographical area — ended with significant rainfall deficiency.

Northeast India recorded normal rainfall (+2 per cent) only in August, whereas during the rest of the months the rainfall deficiency ranged from -15 per cent (June), -22 per cent (September) and -32 per cent (July). Similarly, the southern peninsular India's monthly rainfall was -45 per cent (June), +45 per cent (July), -60 per cent (August) and +24 per cent (September). Manipur (-46 per cent) and Kerala (-36 per cent) ended up being two of the most rain-deficient states.

Kerala suffered mainly due to an inactive Arabian Sea, explained Mohapatra. Among the other rainfall-deficit states were Mizoram (-28 per cent), Bihar and Jharkhand (-26 per cent each) and Assam (-20 per cent). This year, August (-36 per cent) fared as the worst rainfall month, the driest since 1901.

"This was a historic deficiency ever experienced by the country," said the Met Department chief.



**FARMERS' RAIL ROKO PROTEST ENDS**

Members of Bhatari Kalan Bhartiya Kisan Union (Ekta) protest on a railway track in Patiala. The three-day agitation, which ended on Saturday, hit the movement of nearly 600 trains. PTI

**41-yr-old held for 'sending' threat letters to writers in Bengaluru**

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE  
BENGALURU, SEPTEMBER 30

ASPECIAL Investigation Team (SIT) of the Bengaluru police arrested a 41-year-old Davangere-based activist of right-wing Hindu Jagarana Vedike (HJV) for allegedly sending "anonymous threat letters" to several writers and scholars in the state over the last two years.

The Bengaluru police constituted the SIT on the directions of the state police chief Alok Mohan after writers approached Chief Minister Siddaramaiah over several of them receiving anonymous, threatening and abusive letters. Seven police complaints had been filed by renowned writers, the CM was told. The SIT, Central Crime Branch announced on Saturday that they had traced, arrested the person who had been writing the threat letters, on September 28. "The suspect has been identified as Shivaji Rao Jadhav, 41, a school dropout," police sources said.

Jadhav was a Davangere region office bearer of the HJV, and targeted progressive writers for their criticism of superstitious practices and irrational customs in the Hindu religion, police said.

**NIA files chargesheet against sole accused in Kerala train arson case**

SHAJU PHILIP  
THIRUVANANTHAPURAM,  
SEPTEMBER 30

THE NATIONAL Investigation Agency (NIA) on Friday chargesheeted the sole accused in the Kozhikode train arson case, in which three passengers, including a child, were killed and nine others injured. The charge sheet was submitted in the special court in Kochi.

The NIA, in an official release, said the alleged accused Sharukh alias Sharukh Saifi, 27, has been charged under various sections of IPC, UA(P), Railways Act and PDP Act. The incident happened on April 2, while Alappuzha-Kannur Executive Express was running between Kozhikode and Kannur. The accused had thrown and sprinkled fuel on the passengers of a coach and set the bogey on fire with a lighter.

The three passengers died while they jumped out of the train after the floor of the coach caught fire. NIA said probes show that Saifi had chosen Kerala for the act involving terror and arson as he wanted to commit the act of ter-

ror in a location where he would not be recognised. He had intended to return to normal life after the commission of the act, aimed at creating terror in the minds of the general public.

The accused purchased petrol from a petrol bunk in Shoranur and a lighter from a nearby store at Shoranur railway station. It said "the accused was self-radicalised through online propaganda material available on social media in favour of violent extremism and Jihad, as propagated by radical Islamic preachers of Indian and foreign nationalities... He had committed the arson as a jihadi terror act in pursuance of the online radicalisation." A resident of Shaheen Bagh in New Delhi, Saifi had boarded the moving Alappuzha-Kannur Executive Express, committed the terror act, and continued to travel in the same train till Kannur, before escaping to Ratnagiri, Maharashtra, from where he was eventually arrested.

The case was initially registered at Kozhikode railway police station. Later, the NIA took over the case. During investigations, NIA searched 10 locations in New Delhi and seized digital devices.

**Terror suspect attended Delhi Police 'deradicalisation programme' in 2018**

Rizwan Ali's father says he is being framed in 'Pune ISIS module case'

MAHENDER SINGH MANRAL  
NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 30

RIZWAN ALI, a second-year dropout from Jamia Millia Islamia, against whom the National Investigation Agency (NIA) had announced a reward of Rs 3 lakh earlier this month for his alleged involvement with the "Pune ISIS module case", had attended a "deradicalisation programme" of Delhi Police when he was picked by intelligence agencies and the special cell in 2018, but was let off.

On September 12, the NIA had announced a reward of Rs 3 lakh each for information on the four alleged terror suspects — Mohammed Shahnawaz Shafiuzzama Alam alias Shafi alias Abdulla of Jharkhand, Talha Liyakat Khan of Pune, Rizwan Abdul Haji Ali and Abdulla Faiyaz Shaikh alias Daiperwalla, both from Delhi — in connection with the "Pune ISIS module case".

Rizwan's house is located in central Delhi and he has four siblings — two younger brothers and

two sisters. His father Abdul Haji is a retired librarian from JMI. "I retired in 2017. We were staying happily as a family when one day in 2018 the police knocked on my door and picked up my two sons — Rizwan and his younger brother. They alleged that my sons were involved in some wrongful activity, but released them after some days. Both my sons had attended their 'deradicalisation programme'," Haji told *The Sunday Express*.

A source in the Central intelligence agency said they got some leads in 2018 about six youths planning to join ISIS and frequently active with their handlers. "Six persons, including Rizwan and his younger brother, were picked up, but there was not enough evidence against them. It was decided to leave them after getting them to attend the 'deradicalisation programme'," said the source.

Haji said that after some months, his son left his studies and decided to start a business of selling women's handbags. "Rizwan moved to Okhla, but his business did not work well and around two years ago, he moved to Pune. He



(Clockwise, from top left) NIA released photos of the four suspects — Mohammed Shahnawaz Shafiuzzama Alam, Rizwan Abdul Haji Ali, Talha Liyakat Khan and Abdulla Faiyaz Shaikh.

also got married and started staying with his wife in Pune only. My second son moved to Shaheen Bagh where he started his property dealing business," said Haji, who met with an accident two weeks ago outside his house and is now recovering at home. "I was in constant touch with

him (Rizwan) for the last two years and he told me that he was working in a computer-related business. He did not visit this house after moving to Pune but six months ago, I got unwell and asked him to stay with me. Rizwan and his wife moved here. Two months ago, he left the house with his wife and after that police again started knocking on my door. They are again claiming that he was involved in some wrongful activity," he said.

Haji alleged that police are framing his innocent son. "Two years ago, they did not get anything against him, and now again, we are hoping that we will get justice." According to the NIA, their search began when one of the four suspects — Alam — was nabbed along with Mohammed Yusuf Khan (23) and Mohammed Yunus Mohammed Yakub Saki (24), both residents of Ratlam in Madhya Pradesh, by the Pune city police while they were allegedly trying to steal a vehicle from Kothrud area in on July 18 this year.

FULL REPORT ON  
[www.indianexpress.com](http://www.indianexpress.com)

**Nuh violence: Cong MLA gets bail in 2 cases, to remain in jail in other cases**

Nuh (Haryana): Congress MLA Mammen Khan, who was arrested in connection with the July 31 Nuh violence, was granted bail in two cases by a court in Nuh on Saturday, police said. However, Khan will remain in jail as he is yet to get bail in two other cases related to the Nuh violence.

The court has fixed October 3 as the next date of hearing on his bail plea, they added. After hearing the arguments of both sides, Additional Sessions Judge Sandeep Duggal reserved his order on the bail plea of the Congress MLA from Ferozpur Jhirka till 4 pm. The court has granted bail to the Congress leader in FIR numbers 149, 150, but Khan has not yet got bail in FIRs 137, 148 of Nagina police station.

"...He will have to be in jail and the next hearing on the bail is fixed for October 3," said Khan's counsel Tahir Hussain Dewla. Khan was arrested on September 15. A religious procession led by the Vishva Hindu Parishad was attacked by mobs in Nuh on July 31. Six persons were killed in the incident, and a cleric was killed in an attack on a mosque in Gurugram. PTI



Classifieds

PERSONAL

VIJAY ARORA S/O RAJ PAL, R/O B-130, GURJANWALA TOWN PART-I, DELHI-110009, have changed my name to VIJAY KUMAR for all purposes

VARSHA ISSAR S/O VIKRAM ISSAR, R/O 24/8, S.F. ASHOK NAGAR, DELHI, have changed my name to VERSHA ISSAR for all purposes

For general information that I, Rakesh S/o Hari Chand Chaurasiya R/O House No-09, Block-EE, Swami Shrdhanand Colony, Bhalswa Dairy, Libas Pur, Delhi-110042, declare that name of my father has been wrongly written as Harichand Chaurasiya in my 10th Class School Certificate cum Marksheet. The actual name of my father is Hari Chand Chaurasiya, which may be amended accordingly.

VINAY NAGAR S/O, BRAJ LAL NAGAR R/O, A-40, Chander-Nagar, Ghaziabad, U.P.-201011, that name of my father has been wrongly written as BRIJ LAL NAGAR in my Passport No. L9151576. The actual name of my father is BRAJ LAL NAGAR.

Surinder Singh Kalsi S/O. Balbir Singh Kalsi R/O.1A-89, FF, Block-A, NIT-1, Faridabad, Haryana-121001, have changed my name to Surinder Jeet Singh Kalsi & inform that both are name of same person.

Sanjay Kumar alias Sanjay Bhatija, S/o Din Dayal Bhatija, R/O H-148, Vikas Puri, New Delhi-18, have changed my name, from Sanjay Kumar alias Sanjay Bhatija to Sanjay Kumar Bhatija, S/o Din Dayal Bhatija, for all purpose and my name as Sanjay Kumar or Sanjay Bhatija shall be referred to as Sanjay Kumar Bhatija in all existing documents.

Sandeep Kumar, S/O Pawan Kumar, R/O 165-166, Pocket-11, Sector-24, Rohini, Delhi-110085, have changed my minor daughter's name, from Divya Agarwal, to Divya Goyal

Samarth Arora S/o Pradeep Kumar Arora R/O A-108, Black, Gold Apartment Sector, Omega-1, Greater, Noida, Gautam Budh Nagar UP-201310, changed my name to Anam Samarth

SYED ZAFAR JAMAL, S/O SYED MUZAFFAR HUSSAIN, R/O-84/4, HAUZ RANI MALVIYA NAGAR, NEW DELHI-110017, CHANGED MY NAME TO ZAFAR JAMAL.

SAVARIMUTHU ANTHONY, S/O. SAVARIMUTHU, ADD-120-DDA, JANTA FLATS-NASIRPUR DWARKA, SOUTH WEST, DELHI-110045, changed my name to M S ANTHONY, for all, future purposes.

Raj Bala Sharma, W/o-Sunil Kaushik, R/O-351 First-Floor, Parshuram Chowk, Anaj Mandi, Chhota Bazaar, Shahdara Delhi-110032, have changed my name to Rajbala Kaushik, for all, future purposes.

ROHIT KUMAR SINGH, S/O DAYA SHANKAR SINGH, R/O D-12B-1, MOLARBAND, ROAD, VISHWAKARMA COLONY, SOUTH EAST-DELHI-110044, changed my name to ROHIT SINGH, for all, future purposes.

RAJANI CHARNALIA W/o Sh. Sunil Kumar Charnalia, R/O-J-5/23, Rajouri Garden, New Delhi-110027, have changed my name to Rajni Prabha.

RAHUL S/O PRAMOD LAL, R/O E-128 GROUND-FLOOR NEAR-GURUNANK PROPERTY JEEWAN PARK, DELHI-110059, changed my Name to RAHUL MALIK.

Pradeep Arora S/O Bhagwan Das Kamal R/O A-108 Black Gold Apartments Sector Omega-1, Greater Noida, Gautam, Budh Nagar UP-201310, changed my name to Pradeep Kumar Arora.

PIYUSH MAJI, S/O Late Sh. Binanda Mohan Maji, R/O A-1, WZ-9, Third-Floor, Tihar Village, New Delhi-110018, have changed my name to PIJUSH MAJI.

Nirmala Chachan, W/o-Shiv Chachan Residing at AQ-14, Kalakunj Society, Shalimar Bagh, Delhi-110088, have changed my name to Nirmala Chachan.

Mohammed Gulfam, S/O Ismail R/O E-382, Gali, No.12, Shastri Park, Delhi-110053, have changed my Name To Gulfam, For All Purposes.

Mohammad Sahim, S/o Mohammad Saheed R/O-3176 Kucha Tara Chand Darya Ganj Delhi-110002, have changed my name to Mohd Saim.

Mohammad Hafeez Khan, S/O-Puttan Khan, R/O, House, No.C-51/A, Tigri-Extension, Khanpur Puspaha-Bhawan South-Delhi-110062, have changed my name, from Mohammad Hafeez Khan to Hafiz Khan, for future purposes.

Mehfugh Ali Khan/Mahphooj Ali Khan, S/O Mehmood Khan, R/O Sihali-Jageer, Hasanpur, Amroha, 242421, Uttar-Pradesh Have changed my name to Mehfooz Ali Khan.

Manju Yadav, W/o Pravin Kumar Yadav, R/O-85, 3rd-floor, Pocket-1, Sector-20, Rohini Delhi-110086, have changed my name to Manju Bala

MANISH S/O, KISHAN VAGHELA, 95/24, VADHIYARANAGAR-ROAD, NEAR KAILASHDHAM-SOCIETY JAGESHWARIROAD AMRAIWADI, AHMEDABAD ACITY AHMEDABAD, GUJARAT-380026, HAVE CHANGED MY NAME TO MANISH KISHAN VAGHELA.

Harpreet Kaur Chawla, W/o-Ayush Dewan Residing at 468, Nimri Colony, Ashok vihar, Phase-4, Delhi-110052, have changed my name to Harpreet Dewan.

BASHRUDDIN, S/O Sattar Ahmed, R/O, C-20, Defence Colony, Bhopura, Sahibabad, Ghaziabad, Uttar-Pradesh-201005, have changed my name to BASRUDDIN KHAN.

ARIF, O/IRFAN, R/O C-2/217, New Ashok Nagar, Vasundhara Enclave East, Delhi-110096, Have Changed my Name to Mohd Arif Salmani.

Anil Saini, S/O-Hukam Singh, R/O, B-286-287 Palam-Extn, Part-1, Sector-7, Dwarka, Raji Nagar-II, South West Delhi, Delhi-110077, have changed my name to Anil Kumar Saini, S/O-Hukam Singh Saini, permanently.

Yusra Ansari D/o Mohammad. Shah Nawaz Ansari R/O 1853, Lal Darwaza, Bazar Sirki Walian, Lal Kuan, Delhi-110006 hereby declare that on dated-27/09/2023 through affidavit I have changed my name from Yusra Nawaz Ansari to Yusra Ansari. Both Yusra Nawaz Ansari and Yusra Ansari are same Woman. For all future purpose my name will be used as Yusra Ansari.

Umakant Vasant Hulyalkar R/O Jaypee Greens Moon Court-2 1401, Surajpur Kasna Road, Greater Noida U.P., have changed my name to Umakant Hulyalkar for all future purposes.

Subhash Chand Garg S/O Sh. Raj Narayan, R/O H.No. B-333, Sector-1, Avantika, Rohini, Delhi-85, have changed my name to Subhash Garg for all future purposes.

Sidra Ansari D/o Mohammad. Shah Nawaz Ansari R/O 1853, Lal Darwaza, Bazar Sirki Walian, Lal Kuan, Delhi-110006 hereby declare that on dated-27/09/2023 through affidavit I have changed my name from Sidra Nawaz Ansari to Sidra Ansari. Both Sidra Nawaz Ansari and Sidra Ansari are same Woman. For all future purpose my name will be used as Sidra Ansari.

Shobhit Kishor Saxena S/O Ray Bahadur Saxena R/O 11-A, Shastri Nagar, Izzat Nagar, Bareilly have changed my name to Shobhit Saxena.

Shiva W/o Jitendra Tiwari R/O 1101, S-2, Shakti Khand-4, Indrapuram Shipra Suncity Ghaziabad have changed my name to Shiva Tiwari.

Shiv Kumar Sharma S/O Mangat Ram Vasudev R/O B-3205, Brij-Vihar, Ghaziabad, U.P.-201115, have changed my name to Shiv Kumar Vasudev.

Shilpa Gupta D/o Anjani Kumar Kandoi R/O G-155, First-Floor, Block-G, Kalkaji, Delhi-110019, have changed my name to Shilpa Kandoi.

Manoj Kumar Singhal S/O Rmdyal Singhal RZ-4/5, Indra Park, Uttam Nagar, Delhi have changed my name to Manoj Singhal.

Shardha Kukreja W/o Shanti Swarop Kukreja, R/O House No. 66, Maulana Azad C H B S, Lotus Enclave, Pitampura, Delhi-110034 have changed my name to Shrdha Kukreja.

SHABANA NAVID W/O SHAMS NAVID KHAN R/O N-49, Block-N, Batta House, Okhla, Delhi-110025 have changed my minor son's name MOHD SOMAN to MOHAMMAD SOMAN permanently.

Renu W/o Manoj Kumar, R/O 16/1411-E, Padam Singh Road, Bapa Nagar, Karol Bagh Delhi-5, changed my name to Renu Kumar after marriage.

RAJAT S/o Satendra Singh R/O 2-E/92, Sector-2, Vaishali, Ghaziabad, Have Change my Name Rajat Singh Sengar S/o Satender Singh Sengar To Rajat S/o Satendra Singh for all future purposes.

Pushpa Rani Mandat, D/o Ramji Mandal and W/o Vikas Kumar, R/o MCF-3453, Gali No.15, Sanjay Colony, Sector-23, faridabad Haryana-121005 have changed my name to Pushpa Mandal.

Puran Lal S/o Karam Chand R/O 177 near Shiv mandir dhankot gurgaon haryana-122505 have changed my name to Puran Lal Adlakra

PRIYA GUPTA W/O VIKUL GARG R/O F-151, Main Market, Laxmi Nagar, Delhi-110092 have changed my name to PRIYA GARG permanently

Navdeep Madan S/O Sh. Ved Prakash Madan R/O E-204, Jasmine, Nimri Scottish Garden, Ahinsa Khand-2, Indrapuram, Ghaziabad, Uttar Pradesh-201014 have changed the name of my minor daughter Aditi aged 11 Years and she shall hereafter be known as Aditi Madan.

Jasvinder Kaur W/O Sh. Balbir Singh R/O H.No. B1/3-4, Malka Ganj, Delhi-110007, have changed my name to Jasvinder Kaur.

Hem Lata W/o Harish Sati R/O A-80, Ground-Floor, Brij Vihar, Ghaziabad, U.P.-201011, have changed my name to Hemlata Sati.

Harish Kumar S/O Kewala Nand R/O A-80, Ground-Floor, Brij Vihar, Ghaziabad, U.P.-201011, have changed my name to Harish Sati.

Dev Kumari Kaushik W/o Arvind Kumar Sen R/O 1/4954, Gali-4, Balbir Nagar Ext. Shahdara Delhi have changed my name to Dev Kumari Sen.

Deepak S/O Bijender Kumar R/O Plot-No.582, FF, Park-Avenue Society, Sector-4, Vaishali, Ghaziabad, UP-201010, have changed my name to Deepak Sharma.

Bitan Lal S/O Govardhan Lal R/O A1505 Aarcity, Gendya Park Gaur City-2, G.Noida changed my name to Bittan Lal.

Bimla Devi Wadhwa W/O, Subhash Chander Wadhwa R/O 40/2, 1st Floor, East Patel Nagar, New Delhi-110008 have changed my name to Bimla Wadhwa for all purposes.

Arti Aggarwal D/O Harish Aggarwal R/O O-2801 16 14th Avenue, Gaur City-2, G.Noida changed my name to Aarti Aggarwal.

Bathula Rangaswamy S/O Balalal R/O 8-71, Dwarakacheria, Rajpalem, prakasam, Andhra Pradesh-523369, my son document mentioned name as RANJIT BHARGHAV, have changed that's his name from BATHULA RANJIT BHARGHAV for all future purposes.

Ankit Chaturvedi S/O Hirday Chaturvedi R/O Harsh Nagar Naurangabad, Rtawah, UP-206001, confirm that in my Star Health Policy My Son name & DOB has been wrongly written as Shivay Chaturvedi (DOB-05.08.2020). Correct Name & DOB is Granth Chaturvedi (DOB-05.08.2021).

Abhishek Mishra S/O Dilip Mishra R/O F.No-203, Unione Residency, Bahrapur Ghaziabad U.P., 201009, have changed my name to ABHISHEK KUMAR MISHRA for all future purposes.

Perkulia Gupta D/o Manoj Gupta R/O I 139, Phase I, Ashok Vihar, North West Delhi-110052, have changed my name to Poorvi Gupta

Mano Kanika, S/O-Rang Nath, R/O-Flat No.147, Pocket-3, Sector-2, Rohini, Delhi-110085 have changed my name to Mano Kanika Tiwari for-all purposes. That Manokanika & Mano Kanika Tiwari both-are same-and one-person.

DDEEPTI W/O JITENDER KUMAR, R/O 1546, OUTRAM LINES, KINGSWAY CAMP, GURU TEG BAHADUR NAGAR, DELHI-110009 HAVE CHANGED MY NAME TO DEEPTI BUDHIRAJA.

Ashish Atri S/O Devender Singh R/O C-22, Upper Ground Floor, Acharya Kripalani Road, Near Jyoti Model School, Adarsh Nagar, Delhi-110033, have changed my name to Ashish Atri for all future purposes

Client Mohd. Rais S/O Sh. Mohammad Alaudin R/O H. No. B-53, Thokar no. 7, Abul Fazel Enclave Part-2, Jamia Nagar, Shaheen Bagh, New Delhi-110062, has severed his all relation and disowned/debarred his elder son Mansoor Alain from his all moveable-immovable properties and assets. My client shall not be responsible for any acts and deeds done by him.

SHABANA NAVID W/O SHAMS NAVID KHAN R/O N-49, Block-N, Batta House, Okhla, Delhi-110025 have changed my minor son's name MOHD SOMAN to MOHAMMAD SOMAN permanently.

Renu W/o Manoj Kumar, R/O 16/1411-E, Padam Singh Road, Bapa Nagar, Karol Bagh Delhi-5, changed my name to Renu Kumar after marriage.

Ananta W/o Pradeep Kumar Arora R/O A-108 Black Gold Apartment Sector Omega-1, Greater Noida, Gautam Budh Nagar UP-201310, changed my name to Ananta Geetye Uppal

Kabir Bhatt S/O A.S. Bhatt, R/O A-1936, Green Field Colony, Faridabad, Haryana, do hereby declare that I am the owner and in actual possession of Flat No.718, Hemkunt Chambers, 89 Nehru Place, New Delhi-110019. The complete file of documents including Flat Buyer Agreement regarding the said flat issued from the Builder Skipper Sales Private Limited, has actually been lost and not traceable till date. Finder call :- 9810005761.

Contract for SECURITY HORTICULTURE AND HOUSEKEEPING, ELECTRICAL CALL FOR TENDER FORM NBT. 9855728773

Under instructions from and on behalf of my clients, General Public is informed that RANJAL, S/o Sh. Prakash Singh, R/O T-594A-1, First Floor, Near Shiv Mandir, Bajpet Nagar, New Delhi-110008, has departed his son DEEPAK & his wife NEHA, both residents of T-594A-1, Third Floor, Near Shiv Mandir, Bajpet Nagar, New Delhi-110008, from all his immovable properties and Movable assets, as he has become unfaithful, dishonest, disobedient & bad behaviour towards my client. My client has severed his relation with SAID DOCUMENTS KINDLY INFORM AT THE ABOVE ADDRESS OR CALL AT MOBILE NO.9810992373.

That my client Rahul Dahiya S/O Late Sh. Partap Singh Dahiya @ P S Dahiya/ R/O CW-43, Second Floor, Malibu Towne, Sohna Road, Gurgaon-122018, is the sole and exclusive legal heir of Late Mrs. Neelam Dahiya w/o Late Sh. Partap Singh Dahiya @ P. S. Dahiya and there are no other legal heirs of Late Mrs. Neelam Dahiya. In case, anyone claims to be the legal heirs of deceased Neelam Dahiya, she/he/she is required to come up with their claim to the within 15 days. Dated this 29th day of September 2023 For R N Yadav & Co. Advocates & Solicitors, 163 south city 1, Gurugram Email: myc.nrg@gmail.com

That my client Rahul Dahiya S/O Late Sh. Partap Singh Dahiya @ P S Dahiya/ R/O CW-43, Second Floor, Malibu Towne, Sohna Road, Gurgaon-122018, is the sole and exclusive legal heir of Late Mrs. Neelam Dahiya w/o Late Sh. Partap Singh Dahiya @ P. S. Dahiya and there are no other legal heirs of Late Mrs. Neelam Dahiya. In case, anyone claims to be the legal heirs of deceased Neelam Dahiya, she/he/she is required to come up with their claim to the within 15 days. Dated this 29th day of September 2023 For R N Yadav & Co. Advocates & Solicitors, 163 south city 1, Gurugram Email: myc.nrg@gmail.com

Notice is hereby given that share certificate(s) no 131 for 650 equity shares of Rs.1/- (Rupee One) each each bearing distinctive nos 156292435-156293084 folio no 00008163 of Kajaria Ceramics Limited, Registered in the name of Iqbal Singh and having share lost has/have applied to the company to issue duplicate certificate(s). Any person who has/have any claim in respect of the said shares (Certificate) should immediately come forward with their claim with the company at its registered office SF-11, Second Floor, JMD Regent Plaza, Mehrauli Gurgaon Road, Village Sikanderpur Ghosi, Gurgaon 122001, within 15 days from the publication of this notice, after which no claim will be entertained and the company will proceed to issue duplicate share certificate(s).

This is to inform General Public that my client Shri Ajit Singh S/o Shri Bhagwan Singh R/O 139, Upper Ground Floor, Ashok Vihar, Phase-1, New Delhi-110008, who is one of the purchaser is intending to purchase flat share in property bearing No.XV1235, measuring 55 sq yards situated in Gali No.66, Shamsli Lane, Joshi Road, Karol Bagh, New Delhi-110005 from late Mr. Hari Chand Jain S/o Shri S.D. Jain R/O 65/1, New Rohtak Road, New Delhi-110051. Anybody having objections to the above deal or interest in the above said property or the property is mortgaged with somebody, then they may lodge their objections to the office of undersigned within five days and further some of the original title deeds of the property are not traceable/ in possession of the vendor and anybody in possession of the same, may also inform me, the undersigned within five days of this publication.

To be known to all that, Tushar Shungli son of Late Gopal Kishan Shungli resident of Flat No.129-A, Block-AD, Pitampura, Delhi-110034, Owner of Flat No.129-A, Block-AD, Pitampura, Delhi-110034, the Original Allotment Cum Demand Letter, All Payment Receipt, Allotment Letter, DDA Possession Letter, Site Possession, and NEC Electric & Water, has been lost. Somewhere, I have logged an FIR (LR No. 673523/2023) in the police station crime branch Delhi on dated 12/06/2023. Any person claiming any right, interest, having any objection or found of original documents may write/contact with the above named person at above address/ Phone no. 9876544626, within 15 days from the date of Publication of this notice.

To be known to all that, Tushar Shungli son of Late Gopal Kishan Shungli resident of Flat No.129-A, Block-AD, Pitampura, Delhi-110034, Owner of Flat No.129-A, Block-AD, Pitampura, Delhi-110034, the Original Allotment Cum Demand Letter, All Payment Receipt, Allotment Letter, DDA Possession Letter, Site Possession, and NEC Electric & Water, has been lost. Somewhere, I have logged an FIR (LR No. 673523/2023) in the police station crime branch Delhi on dated 12/06/2023. Any person claiming any right, interest, having any objection or found of original documents may write/contact with the above named person at above address/ Phone no. 9876544626, within 15 days from the date of Publication of this notice.

To be known to all that, I, Sunita Gupta wife of Shri Naresh Kumar Gupta resident of Flat No.79-A, Delhi NWS CHS Ltd., Plot No.30/2, Sector-13, Rohini, Delhi-110085, the Original Allotment Letter & Possession Letter, has been lost. Somewhere, I have logged an FIR (LR No. 673523/2023) in the police station crime branch Delhi on dated 19/07/2023. Any person claiming any right, interest, having any objection or found of original documents may write/contact with the above named person at above address/ Phone no. 9876544626, within 15 days from the date of Publication of this notice.

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# Aditya L1 exits Earth's sphere of influence: ISRO

**EXPRESSNEWSERVICE**  
NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 30

AFTER BIDDING adieu to Earth's orbit 11 days ago, India's solar mission Aditya L1 has now left the Earth's sphere of influence — the

region up to which our planet's gravitational pull can impact a satellite, the Indian Space Research Organisation said on Saturday. The satellite left the Earth's orbit on September 19. The spacecraft has travelled 0.92 million kilometres with a nearly 100-day

journey ahead to reach the Lagrangian (L1) point 1 between the Sun and the Earth. "This is the second time in succession that ISRO could send a spacecraft outside the sphere of influence of the Earth, the first time being the Mars Orbiter Mission," it said on X.

The L1 point lies at only 1 per cent of the distance between the Earth and the Sun. This specific point has been selected as it allows an unobstructed view of the Sun with no celestial body or atmospheric dust and magnetic fields causing any hindrances.

Dr Sanaka Subramanian, the scientist leading the Aditya L1 mission, said that at the time when the mission was conceived it was ensured that it would provide a unique set of data that has not been provided by any other mission so far.

**CHANDANHAYGUNDE**  
PUNE, SEPTEMBER 30

THE PUNE rural police on Saturday claimed to have busted a gang of robbers who allegedly looted and stripped tourists in Lonavala, a popular tourist town.

Police have rescued a woman and a girl, who were allegedly kidnapped from Lonavala railway station and raped by the gang. A boy who was allegedly kidnapped by the gang was rescued. Police have so far nabbed four persons from the 10-member gang. Two arrested accused — Raj

Siddheshwar Shinde and Dnyaneshwar Rambhau Lokare — were remanded in police custody by a local court. The other two accused, being minors, have been detained at the observation home in Yerwada, police said. Some of them are criminals on police record, police said.

## NORTHERN RAILWAY TIME-TABLE 2023-24

It is notified for the information of general public that Northern Railway's New Time-Table shall be effective from 01.10.2023. The following are some of the major salient features of the Northern Railway's Time-Table 2023-24:-

INTRODUCTION OF TRAINS		
Train No. & Name	Frequency	Date (w.e.f)
20657/20658 Hubballi Jn.-Hazrat Nizamuddin-Hubballi Jn. Superfast Express	Weekly	14.10.2022
22447/22448 New Delhi-Amb Andaura-New Delhi Vande Bharat Express	6 Days a week	19.10.2022
20172/20171 Hazrat Nizamuddin-Rani Kamalapati-Hazrat Nizamuddin Vande Bharat Express	6 Days a week	02.04.2023
20978/20977 Delhi Cantt.-Ajmer-Delhi Cantt. Vande Bharat Express	6 Days a week	13.04.2023
14527/14528 Bathinda-Sri Ganganagar-Bathinda Express	6 Days a week	15.04.2023
22458/22457 Dehradun-Anand Vihar(T.)-Dehradun Vande Bharat Express	6 Days a week	29.05.2023
22549/22550 Gorakhpur-Lucknow-Gorakhpur Vande Bharat Express	6 Days a week	09.07.2023
19271/19272 Bhavnagar-Haridwar-Bhavnagar Express	Weekly	06.09.2023
20973 Firozpur Cantt.-Rameshwaram Express	Weekly	07.10.2023
20974 Rameshwaram-Firozpur Cantt. Express	Weekly	03.10.2023
14719/14720 Bikaner Jn.-Amritsar-Bikaner Jn. Express	Weekly	w.e.f.
04689 Ambala-Jalandhar City DMU Special	Daily	23.10.2022

EXTENSION OF TRAINS			
Train No. & Name	Extended		Date (w.e.f)
	From	To	
14265/14266 Varanasi-Dehradun-Varanasi Express	Varanasi	Banaras	10.10.2022
22407/22408 Varanasi-Anand Vihar(T.)-Varanasi Express	Varanasi	Banaras	13.10.2022
14854/14853 Jodhpur-Varanasi-Jodhpur Express	Varanasi	Banaras	21.10.2022
14864/14863 Jodhpur-Varanasi-Jodhpur Express	Varanasi	Banaras	21.10.2022
14866/14865 Jodhpur-Varanasi-Jodhpur Express	Varanasi	Banaras	21.10.2022
06951/06952/74907/74906 Jammu Tawi-MCTM-Jammu Tawi Passenger	Jammu Tawi	Pathankot	23.10.2022
64912/64915 Rohtak-New Delhi-Rohtak Passenger	Rohtak	Jind	23.10.2022
64932/64931 Rohtak-New Delhi-Rohtak Passenger	Rohtak	Jind	23.10.2022
19167/19168 Ahmedabad-Varanasi-Ahmedabad Express	Varanasi	Banaras	12.12.2022
14712/14711 Sriganaganagar-Haridwar-Sriganaganagar Express	Haridwar	Rishikesh	01.03.2023
12538/12537 Banaras-Muzaffarpur-Banaras Express	Banaras	Prayagraj Rambag	01.03.2023
14624/14623 Firozpur Cantt.-Chhindwara-Firozpur Cantt. Express	Chhindwara	Seoni	27.04.2023
14259/14260 Lucknow-Pt. Deen Dayal Upadhyaya Jn.-Lucknow Express	Pt. Deen Dayal Upadhyaya Jn.	Gaya	29.04.2023
14261/14262 Lucknow-Pt. Deen Dayal Upadhyaya Jn.-Lucknow Express	Pt. Deen Dayal Upadhyaya Jn.	Gaya	27.04.2023
54703/54704/09603/09604 Jaipur-Loharu Jn.-Jaipur Passenger	Loharu Jn.	Bathinda	11.05.2023
14310/14309 Dehradun-Ujjain-Dehradun Express	Ujjain	Laxmibai Nagar	31.05.2023
04108/04107/64282/64281 Utraltia-Sultanpur-Utraltia Express	Sultanpur	Shivpur	05.06.2023
14724/14723 Bhiwani-Kanpur-Bhiwani Kalindi Express	Kanpur	Prayagraj	04.08.2023
12494/12493 Hazrat Nizamuddin-Pune-Hazrat Nizamuddin Darshan Express	Pune	Miraj	04.08.2023
22129/22130 Lokmanya Tilak(T.)-Prayagraj-Lokmanya Tilak(T.) Tulsi Express	Prayagraj	Ayodhya Cantt.	27.08.2023
14011 / 14012 Hoshiar Pur-Delhi Jn.- Hoshiar Pur Express	Delhi	Agra Cantt	26.08.2023
12057 New Delhi-Una Himachal Express	Una Himachal	Daulatpur Chowk	25.08.2023
12058 Una Himachal-New Delhi Express	Una Himachal	Daulatpur Chowk	26.08.2023
12549/12550 Durg-Jammu Tawi-Durg Express	Jammu Tawi	MCTM	29.08.2023
14734/14733 Jaipur Jn.-Hoshiar Pur - Jaipur Jn. Express	Jaipur Jn.	Bathinda	13.09.2023

INCREASE IN FREQUENCY OF TRAINS			
Train No. & Name	Frequency Increase		Date (w.e.f)
	From	To	
15211/15212 Darbhanga-Amritsar-Darbhanga Jannayak Express	Tri-weekly	Daily	03.03.2023
22435/22436 Varanasi-New Delhi-Varanasi Vande Bharat Express	05 days a week	06 days a week	20.03.2023
04295/04298/64211/64212 Lucknow-Kanpur Central-Lucknow Express	05 days a week	daily	24.06.2023
04129/04130/64593/64594 Fatehpur-Kanpur Central-Fatehpur Express	05 days a week	daily	24.06.2023
19307/19308 Indore-Chandigarh-Indore Express	Weekly	Bi-weekly	04.08.2023

TERMINAL CHANGE OF TRAINS				
Train No. & Name	Existing Terminal	Revised Terminal	Days of Departure	Date (w.e.f)
14854/14853 Jodhpur-Varanasi-Jodhpur Marudhar Express	Varanasi	Varanasi City	Tri-weekly	21.10.2022
14864/14863 Jodhpur-Varanasi-Jodhpur Marudhar Express	Varanasi	Varanasi City	Tri-weekly	21.10.2022
14866/14865 Jodhpur-Varanasi-Jodhpur Marudhar Express	Varanasi	Varanasi City	Weekly	21.10.2022
19167/19168 Ahmedabad-Varanasi-Ahmedabad Sabarmati Express	Varanasi	Varanasi City	4 days a week	12.12.2022
14309/14310 Laxmibai Nagar-Dehradun-Laxmibai Nagar Ujjaini Exp.	Dehradun	Yog Nagari Rishikesh	Bi-weekly	02.01.2024
14317/14318 Indore-Dehradun-Indore Express	Dehradun	Yog Nagari Rishikesh	Bi-weekly	05.01.2024
14265/14266 Varanasi-Dehradun-Varanasi Express	Varanasi	Banaras	Daily	10.10.2022
22407/22408 Varanasi-Anand Vihar(T.)-Varanasi Express	Varanasi	Banaras	Bi-Weekly	13.10.2022

CHANGE IN TRAIN NO. (MAIL/EXPRESS) TRAINS			
Train No. & Name	Revised Train No.	Date (w.e.f)	
20407 Banaras-Anand Vihar Terminus	22541	09.02.2023	
20408 Anand Vihar Terminus-Banaras	22542	10.02.2023	
14811 / 14812 Sikar Jn.-Delhi Sarai Rohilla-Sikar Jn. Express	14713 / 14714	04.10.2023	
14711 / 14712 Rishikesh-Sriganaga Nagar-Rishikesh Express	14816 / 14815	01.10.2023	
14012 Hoshiarpur-Agra Cantt. Express	11906	28.12.2023	
14011 Agra Cantt.-Hoshiarpur Express	11905	27.12.2023	
14723 / 14724 Pryagraj Jn.-Bhiwani Jn.-Pryagraj Jn. Express	14117 / 14118	02.12.2023	
14265 / 14266 Varanasi-Dehradun-Varanasi Express	15119 / 15120	01.02.2023	
14553 / 14554 Delhi Jn.-Daulatpur Chowk-Delhi Jn. Express	14053 / 14054	12.01.2024	
19791 Jaipur Jn.-Bathinda Jn. Express	14733	13.09.2023	
14825 Bathinda Jn.-Jaipur Jn. Express	14734	13.09.2023	
09603/09604 Jaipur-Bathinda Jn.-Jaipur Express	04704 / 04703	w.e.f	
01625/01626 Dhuri Jn.-Bathinda Jn.-Dhuri Jn. Express	04765 / 04766	w.e.f	

DIVERSION OF TRAINS			
Train No. & Name	Frequency	Existing Route	Revised Route
12209/12210 Kanpur Central-Kathgodam-Kanpur Central Express	Weekly	Alamnagar-Bareilly Jn.	Alamnagar-Bareilly Jn.-Rampur Jn.

CHANGE IN STATION NAME	
Existing Name	New Name
Udhampur (UHP)	Martyr Captain Tushar Mahajan (MCTM)

CHANGE IN TRAIN NAME	
Existing Name	New Name
14205/14206 Ayodhya Cantt.-Delhi Express	14205/14206 Ayodhya Cantt. - Delhi Ayodhya Exp.

LIST OF TRAINS PREPONED											
Train No.	Station	Old Timings		New Timings		Train No.	Station	Old Timings		New Timings	
		Arr.	Dep.	Arr.	Dep.			Arr.	Dep.	Arr.	Dep.
14649	Lucknow	00:45	00:55	00:40	00:50	22541	Lucknow	01:00	01:10	00:55	01:05
14673	Lucknow	00:45	00:55	00:40	00:50	12371	Lucknow	01:00	01:10	00:55	01:05
15624	Lucknow	01:00	01:10	00:55	01:05	12353	Lucknow	01:00	01:10	00:55	01:05
						14230	Lucknow	01:35	01:45	01:30	01:40

## LIST OF TRAINS PREPONED

Train No.	Station	Old Timings		New Timings		Train No.	Station	Old Timings		New Timings	
		Arr.	Dep.	Arr.	Dep.			Arr.	Dep.	Arr.	Dep.
13257	Lucknow	02:00	02:10	01:50	02:00	14234	Ayodhya Cantt.	04:05	04:15	04:02	04:12
15903	Lucknow	02:15	02:25	02:10	02:20	19054	Ayodhya Cantt.	06:33	06:41	06:00	06:05
19616	Lucknow	02:15	02:25	02:10	02:20	13151	Ayodhya Cantt.	07:50	07:58	07:25	07:30
15057	Lucknow	02:15	02:25	02:10	02:20	14650	Ayodhya Cantt.	08:30	08:35	08:23	08:31
15909	Lucknow	05:10	05:20	05:00	05:10	13238	Ayodhya Cantt.	09:35	09:40	09:25	09:30
12212	Lucknow	05:20	05:35	05:15	05:25	13307	Ayodhya Cantt.	11:05	11:13	10:30	10:35
15716	Lucknow	05:25	05:35	05:15	05:25	15023	Ayodhya Cantt.	12:10	12:15	12:05	12:10
19269	Lucknow	05:25	05:35	05:15	05:25	15668	Ayodhya Cantt.	13:25	13:27	13:18	13:20
13167	Lucknow	05:25	05:35	05:20	05:30	15636	Ayodhya Cantt.	13:25	13:27	13:18	13:20
12174	Lucknow	05:25	05:35	05:20	05:30	13009	Ayodhya Cantt.	14:25	14:30	14:20	14:25
12183	Lucknow	05:35	05:45	05:25	05:35	18205	Ayodhya Cantt.	15:25	15:35	14:50	15:00
19313	Lucknow	05:35	05:45	05:25	05:35	15623	Ayodhya Cantt.	16:30	16:35	16:20	16:30
19305	Lucknow	05:35	05:45	05:25	05:35	19053	Ayodhya Cantt.	16:30	16:35	16:20	16:30
14307	Lucknow	06:20	06:30	06:15	06:25	19615	Ayodhya Cantt.	16:30	16:35	16:20	16:30
12144	Lucknow	06:40	06:50	06:30	06:40	19322	Ayodhya Cantt.	19:08	19:10	19:05	19:10
14123	Lucknow	07:40	07:55	07:45	07:50	13237	Ayodhya Cantt.	20:15	20:20	20:10	20:20
15075	Lucknow	08:00	08:10	07:55	08:05	14853	Ayodhya Cantt.	20:55	21:00	20:48	20:56
15073	Lucknow	08:00	08:10	07:55	08:05	15624	Ayodhya Cantt.	22:20	22:25	22:15	22:20
19615	Lucknow	13:50	14:00	13:30	13:40	14649	Ayodhya Cantt.	22:20	22:25	22:15	22:20
18103	Lucknow	15:05	15:15	15:00	15:10	15084	Ayodhya Cantt.	22:50	22:55	22:45	22:50
13307	Lucknow	15:25	15:35	15:20	15:30	15102	Ayodhya Cantt.	23:00	23:10	22:10	22:20
13005	Lucknow	15:40	15:50	15:35	15:45	15128	Pratapgarh Jn.	00:55	01:00	00:50	00:55
15023	Lucknow	15:50	16:00	15:45	15:55	14229	Pratapgarh Jn.	01:03	01:08	01:00	01:05
22200	Lucknow	15:50	16:00	15:45	15:55	14230	Pratapgarh Jn.	04:55	05:00	04:45	04:50
15076	Lucknow	16:00	16:10	15:55	16:05	22183	Pratapgarh Jn.	05:41	05:46	05:35	05:40
15074	Lucknow	16:00	16:10	15:55	16:05	13430	Pratapgarh Jn.	06:12	06:17	05:50	05:55
15668	Lucknow	17:00	17:10	16:50	17:00	12539	Pratapgarh Jn.	06:25	06:30	06:15	06:20
15636	Lucknow	17:00	17:10	16:50	17:00	14234	Pratapgarh Jn.	07:00	07:07	06:25	06:30
14611	Lucknow	17:15	17:25	17:10	17:20	04381	Pratapgarh Jn.	08:23	08:28	08:20	08:25
12355	Lucknow	17:15	17:25	17:10	17:20	14204	Pratapgarh Jn.	09:48	09:50	09:45	09:47
12237	Lucknow	17:35	17:45	17:30	17:40	12875	Pratapgarh Jn.	09:46	09:51	09:43	09:48
13009	Lucknow	17:50	18:00	17:45	17:55	22129	Pratapgarh Jn.	10:14	10:16	10:12	10:14
04297	Lucknow	18:10	18:20	17:55	18:05	04256	Pratapgarh Jn.	10:55	11:00	10:40	10:45
15025	Lucknow	18:40	18:50	18:30	18:40	13005	Pratapgarh Jn.	1			



# MP Revolutionises Farm Mechanization



## 1200 Farmers Operating CHCs, Other States Follow MP Example

### 3467 CHCs serving Small, Marginal Farmers

Madhya Pradesh has undergone an overhauling transformation in mechanising the farm sector by building up an impressive network of Custom Hiring Centers (CHC) with as many as 3467 CHCs operative currently. Farmers have purchased 1.23 lakh tractors during 2022-23 indicating their increasing preference for farm mechanization.

The State Government is promoting the Custom Hiring Centers (CHC) network, operated by Cooperative Societies, Self Help Groups and private/rural entrepreneur for enabling easy availability of farm machineries to the Small & Marginal farmers.

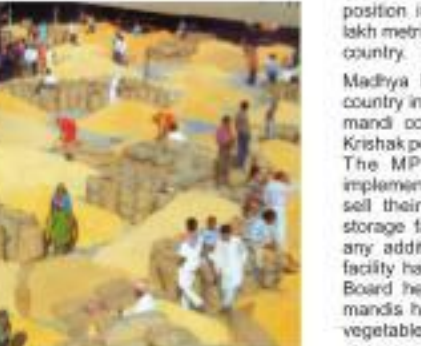
The CHCs are designed and developed to cover around 300 farmers in a radius of 10 kilometres. The government limits the number of centres to keep the venture profitable. Over 1,205 farmers are currently running such centres in Madhya Pradesh and similar models are being tried and tested in other states including Tamil Nadu, Odisha and Uttar Pradesh.

The CHCs allow farmers to hire machinery on a rental basis, that requires



## Agri-Malls To Be Set Up in Mandi complexes

### Farmers To Have Direct Access Farm Inputs At Fair Prices.



The mandi complexes will soon have Agri-Malls to provide farmers a direct access to fertilizers, seeds, agricultural equipment, and other useful items at fair prices. Plans are being finalized for this. There is also a plan to establish Atal Clinics in mandi complexes providing high-quality medical facilities to farmers, labourers, traders, and the general public.

In order to give direct access of farmers to big markets at national level, the Mandi-farm produce trading yards have been equipped with modern facilities. A total of 22 new mandis and 47 sub-mandis have been established to maximise facilities to farmers. These have been properly manned skilled staff.

The "National Agricultural Market" (e-NAM) now covers these Mandis and the process of connecting 56 new mandis to e-NAM is going on.

As many as 28 medicinal crops have been notified for mandi regulation and 30 mandis are being developed as High-Tech mandis. As many as 35 mandi complexes are being re-developed under the PPP model under the Re-identification Project.

## Gwalior to have India's first aeroponic technology lab for virus-free potato

India's first aeroponic technology lab to prepare virus-free potato seeds is coming up at Gwalior with the technological support of Central Potato Research Institute, Shimla. The State Government has signed a MoU with the CRI Shimla according to which seed potatoes through aeroponic method would be available.

The Central Potato Research Institute, Shimla in the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) has developed this unique technique of air potato seed production.

This new technology will help meet the requirement

of virus-free potato seeds. It will increase the production of potato. The potato is the world's most important non-cereal crop, with an important role in the global food system.

This technology will play an effective role in doubling the income of the farmers. Madhya Pradesh is the fifth largest producer of potato. Malwa region plays an important role in potato production. Madhya Pradesh has emerged as an ideal state for potato processing. Potato has become a commercial crop. Currently production has reached 40 lac metric tonne from 31.45 lac metric tonne in 2017-18.



## How CHCs hiring centres help



The CHCs buy equipment with assistance from the state government and make it available for small farmers in their area. For handling accounts and equipment, the centres hire youth from the village. This provides employment opportunity to local youth. Availability of machines reduces the farmer's dependence on traditional farming practices and manual labour. Mechanisation lowers the cost of cultivation and increases farm productivity. These factors, in turn, increase the farmer's profit.

Rural youth with an undergraduate degree can apply for grants under the scheme. While a total investment of Rs 25 lakh is what it takes, the applicant is only required to place margin money of Rs 5 lakh. The government subsidises 40% of the total cost, to a maximum amount of 10 lakh, and bank loans are provided to cover the remaining cost.

around 4800 rural youth have been trained.

That farm mechanisation helps in increasing production, profitability and productivity is now a reality. An ill-founded perception that mechanisation reduces employment opportunity for skilled and unskilled labour has gone out as new opportunities are available.

In an attempt to make costly farm equipment available to small farmers, the state government has been helping rural youth in setting up equipment hiring centres. The initiative is in line with Prime Minister Narendra Modi's 'per drop, more crop' initiative for increasing productivity.



## M.P. Emerges as the Wheat State of India Shares 45% of India's wheat export

Madhya Pradesh has emerged as the Wheat State of India in last one and half decade producing 352.73 lac metric tons. It was 73.64 lac metric ton in 2002-03. Madhya Pradesh shares 45% of India's wheat export and occupies top position among wheat growing states. The achievement is attributed to enterprise of farmers and the forward looking farm policies guided by the Chief Minister Shrivraj Singh Chouhan.

The wheat story of Madhya Pradesh is truly inspiring. Madhya Pradesh contributes immensely to India's wheat production by sharing 18.05% of country's wheat production. The wheat of Madhya Pradesh has become a visible brand in the international market. The global demand of Sharbati and durum wheat has increased due to its natural sweetness. Many countries like Germany, USA, Italy, United Kingdom, UAE, South Africa are importing wheat from Madhya Pradesh. Its export is steadily increasing.

### How It Became Wheat State?

Madhya Pradesh has surpassed the traditional wheat producing states like Punjab and Haryana. Production of wheat is continuously increasing for the last 10 years. Encouraged by the State Government's farmer-friendly policies and schemes, the farmers are enthusiastically inclined

towards wheat production. The high wheat output can be attributed to broadly seven factors. Electricity, irrigation, Credit Facility, Fertilizers and Seeds, Storage Capacity, Railton crop loss and excellent Procurement arrangements.

Farmers are getting 10-hour uninterrupted power supply. Irrigation water has reached almost all fields. Strategic measures like



### Why MP Wheat is so popular?

As many as 7,777 wheat samples were collected recently from Punjab and Haryana and Madhya Pradesh. Of them, about ten thousand were from Madhya Pradesh. After scientific examining and analysis of content, it was found that the rate of floor extraction was 70.7 per cent in the wheat of State, which is the highest in the country.

### How production increased?

Madhya Pradesh has witnessed an enviable increase in wheat production in the last one decade or so. In 2004-2005, the wheat acreage was only 42 lakh hectares and production was just 73.27 lakh metric tons. The average productivity of wheat was only 1821 kg per hectare.

Today, the area under wheat has increased to 64.22 lakh hectares and production has reached 219.18 lakh metric tonnes. Productivity has also increased to 3502 kg per hectare.

In 2005-06, the wheat acreage was reported 37.85 lakh hectares for various reasons and the production was only 62 lakh metric tons. The wheat acreage continued to grow by 2010-11 and reached 52.61 lakh hectares in 2011-12 and production increased to 148.44 lakh

metric tons in 2011-12. The productivity also increased to 2764 kg per hectare. After this, the wheat acreage is constantly increasing. Electronic payment system has proved a great relief. Farmers receive payments in their respective accounts without any hassle. Information Technology based procurement system has been put in place.

### 51 varieties of wheat development

Four of five varieties of wheat recommended for use in nutritious food items, have been developed in Madhya Pradesh. They include MPD 1215, M.P. 3211, M.P. 1202 and M.P. 4010.

### Excellent Wheat Procurement

Keeping in view, the increasing wheat production, excellent procurement arrangements have been made. They have been judged as the best in the country. Many states have

studied the procurement arrangements and practices for adoption in their respective states. Now it is easier for the farmers to get payments electronically. This saves their precious time. Payments go direct in their accounts. The time in selling their produce is saved so that they utilize in preparations. Madhya Pradesh has the country's first most comprehensive computerized transparent procurement system. It has won many national awards and recognitions. The E-payment has proved a boon for farmers.

### Roadmap for doubling farm income

A comprehensive roadmap has been chalked out for doubling the income of farmers. Five tasks have been urgently taken up - Reducing the cost of cultivation, increasing production and productivity, Diversification of crops, Remunerative prices of value of farm products and Protecting farmers from natural calamities. Roadmaps for each block are being drawn out incorporating insights of farming community keeping in view the climate change and other specific conditions.

### Self-sufficiency in seed production

Madhya Pradesh is the country's largest producer of certified seeds. Certified seed production in cooperative sector has made the State self-reliance. More than three lakh farmers are engaged in farmers' seed production companies. These companies are now getting involved in storage, marketing and food processing. Farmers' producer companies are being made more powerful.

### Excellent Wheat Procurement

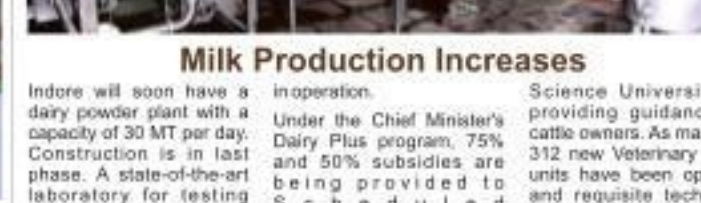
Keeping in view, the increasing wheat production, excellent procurement arrangements have been made. They have been judged as the best in the country. Many states have

## Balaghat Chinnor Becomes MP's First Agri-Produce Having Geographical Indication Tag



The GI product 'Balaghat Chinnor' rice is a unique farm produce. The aroma of cooked and uncooked rice is strongly scented. The cooked grains are soft, shiny after cooling and slightly sticky in nature. The shape of the apex of grain of Chinnor is similar to the tip of a sword. Taste is very unique. The Kheer made by Balaghat Chinnor rice has creamy texture with a peculiar rice flavour. It takes lesser time for cooking. Currently, 7000 acres of land is being cultivated by about 5000 farmers. The export prospects of 'Balaghat Chinnor' are bright. There are enough records proving antiquity of 'Balaghat Chinnor'. According to the old folklore 'Suras'Faag' written in 1946, rice variety 'Chinnor' was grown in the 'Kadi' village of the Balaghat district in 1974, the famous rice germplasm collector of India, Dr. R.H. Richharia called 'Chinnor' from the Kadi village. He later published the rice collection in 1977 in his book 'A Strategy for Rice Production to Ensure Sustained

## MP Sets Example In Cattle Care



Indore will soon have a dairy powder plant with a capacity of 30 MT per day. Construction is in last phase. A state-of-the-art laboratory for testing quality of milk and dairy products at a cost of Rs. 3 crores in MPCCDF is also in progress. Madhya Pradesh has gone tremendous change in animal husbandry sector causing a positive impact on dairy sector. The per capita milk availability in the state in 2021-22 was 816 grams per day, higher than the national average of 591 grams per day. State's milk production in 2021-22 was 19024 tons, which is 8.60% of the country's milk production with third rank. Milk Processing Units with capacities of 40,000 liters in Sandwa, 25,000 liters in Khandwa, 1,00,000 liters in Rewa and Sagar, and 20,000 liters in Shivpuri are in operation. Under the Chief Minister's Dairy Plus program, 75% and 50% subsidies are being provided to Scheduled Caste/Scheduled Tribe and General/Other Backward Class beneficiaries, respectively, in selected districts for the purchase of two Murrah buffaloes each. Besides, 90% subsidy is being provided for milk-producing animals to special backward castes, Sahariya, and Bharia tribal communities. As many as 1827 Gau-Shalas - cow shelters have been set up. They receive grant for cattle feed. Great Concern for Cattle Care A number of steps have been taken for cattle care. A Cow Sanctuary in Susner in Shajapur district has already been established. Naranji Deshmukh Veterinary Science University is providing guidance to cattle owners. As many as 312 new Veterinary Care units have been opened and requisite technical staff has been employed. Recently, 406 Mobile Veterinary Units have been launched. The Bundelkhand Dairy Cooperatives has been established to meet the demands of dairy farmers. In order to conserve and develop indigenous cattle breeds of cows and buffaloes, country's second National Kamdhenu Breeding Center (N.K.B.C.) has been opened at Itarsi in Narmadapuram district. Under the K.C.C. scheme, as many as 3,98,533 cases for interest-free short term loans have been approved in the state making it the first state in the country.

## 70.61 lakh farmers get Rs. 26 thousand 94 crore 02 lakh - A Great Relief



Rs. 1 lakh 49 thousand 300 crore interest-free crop loans in 3 crore cases. As many as 70.61 lakh farmers have received Rs. 26 thousand 94 crore 02 lakh under Prime Minister Kisan Samman Nidhi and Chief Minister Kisan Kalyan Yojana. The Prime Minister Kisan Samman Nidhi Yojana became operative from 2018. So far, a total of 14,305 crore 20 lakh has been transferred to the accounts of 88.14 lakh farmers. As many as 70.61 lakh farmers have benefited from the 12th installment of the scheme. The Chief Minister Kisan Kalyan Yojana launched in 2020, every farmer receives a total of Rs. 6,000 per year. So far, a total of 7,059 crore 40 lakh has been transferred to the accounts of 88.14 lakh farmers. In the year 2021-22, a provision of Rs. 3,200 crore has been made for 70.61 lakh farmers. As many as 70.61 lakh farmers have benefited from the 12th installment of the scheme. The Chief Minister Kisan Kalyan Yojana launched in 2020, every farmer receives a total of Rs. 6,000 per year. 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**GOVERNMENT OF CHHATTISGARH WATER RESOURCES DEPARTMENT**  
**OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER**  
 KHARUNG WATER RESOURCES DIVISION, BILASPUR  
 DISTT. BILASPLTR (C.G.)

**CORRIGENDUM No.1**

The following corrigendum has been issued to Notice Inviting Tender No. 06/SAC/2023-24, Dated 04.09.2023 System Tender No. 146177, POND BRANCH CANAL OF KHARUNG RESERVOIR.

S. Item No.	Previous issue	Amendment
1. Bid Due date & time	Date 25/09/23 (Time 17:30)	Date 03/10/23 (Time 17:30)
2. Bid Open, Start date & time	Date 26/09/23 (Time 11:30)	Date 04/10/23 (Time 11:30)

All other terms and conditions of NIT are remain unchanged.

sd/-  
 Executive Engineer  
 Kharung Water Resources Division  
 Bilaspur (C.G.)

05762

**SEARCH FOR MISSING MALE**

General Public is hereby informed that one male (depicted in the photo) namely Naresh Kumar S/o Ganga Prasad R/o H.No.9135, Gali Zameer Wali, Nawab Ganj, Delhi Aged-52 Years has been reported missing since 22.09.2023 at about 4 PM from Deputy Ganj Market, Delhi-06 vide DD No.42A Dated 23.09.2023 registered at Police Station Bara Hindu Rao, Delhi. His physical description is as under:-

**Complexion:** Shallow, **Height:** 5'7", **Face:** Round, **Built:** Strong, **Beard:** Grey, **Hair:** short Grey, **Clothing:** Blue coloured T-shirt with Boro Sil written on it, Black coloured pant and Green coloured shoes in feet.

Any person having any information/Clue about this missing male, may inform SHO, Bara Hindu Rao, Delhi at E-mail : [cic@cbi.gov.in](mailto:cic@cbi.gov.in) or website : <http://cbi.nic.in>

sd/-  
 Executive Engineer  
 Kharung Water Resources Division  
 Bilaspur (C.G.)

05762

**Gandhinagar Railway and Urban Development Corporation Limited (GARUD)**  
 iNDEXtB Computer Centre, Block No. 15, 1st Floor, Udyog Bhavan, Sector 11, Gandhinagar 382 010.

**Online Tender Notice No. 750 of 2023-2024**

On behalf of Gandhinagar Railway and Urban Development Corporation (GARUD), the Managing Director, GARUD, invites online tender for selection of Agency for Supply, Installation, Testing & Commissioning of in-house Glass Bottling Plant at The Leela Gandhinagar, above Gandhinagar Capital Railway Station, Gandhinagar.

Please visit [www.garud.org.in](http://www.garud.org.in) (Tender) & [www.nprocure.com](http://www.nprocure.com) for eligibility criteria, applying / downloading the tender document and for more details. The last date of submission of tender will be 16.10.2023 upto 1400 Hrs.

Date : 30.09.2023 Email: [garud.gandhinagar@gmail.com](mailto:garud.gandhinagar@gmail.com)

**UTTARAKHAND POWER CORPORATION LIMITED**  
 (A Govt. of Uttarakhand Undertaking)  
 Corporate Identity No. U40109UR2001SGC0258672358  
 Victoria Cross, Vijaaya Gaba, Singh Urja Bhawan, Kamwali Road, Dehradun, Telephone:-(0135) 276367-76, Fax:-(0135) 2760289

**E-TENDER DATE EXTENSION NOTICE**

E-tender Specification No. CCP-I/34/2023-2024 invited by this office for supply of Revenue Receipt Book, are hereby extended due to unavoidable reasons. E-Bid documents will be purchased and submitted upto 17:00 hrs. of 12.10.2023. Part-I of the e-tender shall be opened on 13.10.2023 at 15:30 hrs.

Other terms & conditions will remain same as per original tender notice. For further details, please visit our website [www.uktenders.gov.in](http://www.uktenders.gov.in).

No.:- 431/EE(CM)/UPCL/A-2 SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER  
 Date:- 30.09.2023 CORPORATE (C&P-I)

SAVE ELECTRICITY IN THE INTEREST OF THE NATION. Use LED Bulb, Save Electricity (Toll Free No. 1912) "Pay Electricity bill online 24x7 from [www.upcl.org](http://www.upcl.org)." (For information on Electricity theft, Informer may report to Toll Free No. 18001804185/Fax No. 0135-2760911)

**U.P. RAJYA VIDYUT UTPADAN NIGAM LTD**  
 HARDUAGANJ THERMAL POWER STATION,  
 KASIMPUR (ALIGARH)

**E-Tender Notice**

Superintending Engineer, Coal Handling Circle, Kasimpur (Aligarh):

1. Tender No. ET-07/CHC/CHD-ID'TPS/HTPS/2023-24, In Coal Handling Division-I 'D' TPS, HTPS "Operation & Day to day and routine maintenance of departmental Bull-Dozers". Period for the work of one year. The same will Upload on e-procurement system of UP Government <https://etender.up.nic.in> on dated 03.10.2023, Estimated cost Rs. 12.59 Lacs. Earnest Money Rs. 25200.00, Last date of E-bid Submission 03.11.2023 up to 14:00 Hrs.

**SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER, OPERATION & MAINTENANCE CIRCLE-I, D'TPS, KASIMPUR**

2. ET-01/O&MC-I/AHD/DTPS/HTPS/2023-2024, (Tender ID: 2023\_RVUNL\_841982\_1) Online e-bids are invited for the work of "Round the Clock Operation, Routine, Preventive Breakdown Mechanical Maintenance Works of Ash Handling Plant of Unit No. 08 09 of 2x250 MW, HTPS, Kasimpur, Aligarh" E-Tender has been uploaded on 22.09.2023 on <http://etender.up.nic.in>, Estimated Cost Rs. 2,07,94,444.00, Time period- Two years, E.M.D. cost Rs. 2,10,000.00. Last date of Tender 23.10.2023 at 14:00Hrs.

3. Short Term E-Tender No.-SET 82/MMC/EPD/DTPS/HTPS/2023, Online e-bids were invited for the "Procurement of Spares for cooling tower installed at Unit No. 8 & 9t No. 8&9, HTPS, Kasimpur (Aligarh), Uttar Pradesh" E-Tender will be uploaded on dated 03.10.2023 on <https://etender.up.nic.in>, Estimated Cost of Material Supply is Rs. 8,26,000.00, Earnest Money is Rs. 14,000.00, Last date of bid submission 18.10.2023 (16:00 Hrs)

4. E-Tender No.-ET 87/MMC/EPD/DTPS/HTPS/2023, Online e-bids were invited for the "Supply of MS ERW pipe of various sizes for O&M of Ash Handling Plant, 1x660MW, HTPS, Kasimpur (Aligarh), Uttar Pradesh" E-Tender will be uploaded on dated 03.10.2023 on <https://etender.up.nic.in>, Estimated Cost Rs. 22,36,000.00, Earnest Money Rs. 44,000.00, Last date of bid submission 03.11.2023 (11:00 Hrs)

5. E-Tender No.-ET 88/MMC/EPD/DTPS/HTPS/2023, Online e-bids were invited for the "Supply and Refilling of Hydrogen Gas Cylinders for the Generator of 1x660MW for O&M of ETPS, HTPS, Kasimpur (Aligarh), Uttar Pradesh" E-Tender will be uploaded on dated 03.10.2023 on <https://etender.up.nic.in>, Estimated Cost Rs. 15,20,400.00, Earnest Money Rs. 30,000.00, Last date of bid submission 03.11.2023 (11:00 Hrs)

6. E-Tender No.-ET 89/MMC/EPD/DTPS/HTPS/2023, Online e-bids were invited for the "Supply of spares of Oil Gun Assembly for O&M Main Boiler of 1x660MW ETPS, HTPS, Kasimpur (Aligarh), Uttar Pradesh" E-Tender will be uploaded on dated 03.10.2023 on <https://etender.up.nic.in>, Estimated Cost Rs. 4,33,800.00, Earnest Money Rs. 8,500.00, Last date of bid submission 03.11.2023 (11:00 Hrs)

7. E-Tender No.-ET 90/MMC/EPD/DTPS/HTPS/2023, Online e-bids were invited for the "Procurement of Carbon Composite BA Set and other item for CISF Fire Unit of HTPS, Kasimpur (Aligarh), Uttar Pradesh" E-Tender will be uploaded on dated 03.10.2023 on <https://etender.up.nic.in>, Estimated Cost Rs. 7,54,900.00, Earnest Money Rs. 14,000.00, Last date of bid submission 03.11.2023 (16:00 Hrs)

8. E-Tender No.-ET 91/MMC/EPD/DTPS/HTPS/2023, Online e-bids were invited for the "Supply of Portable Type Filtration/Oil Purification Unit (Supply, Installation & Commissioning) for O&M of Unit No. 10, ETPS HTPS, Kasimpur (Aligarh), Uttar Pradesh" E-Tender will be uploaded on dated 03.10.2023 on <https://etender.up.nic.in>, Estimated Cost Rs. 16,00,000.00, Earnest Money is Rs. 30,000.00, Last date of bid submission 03.11.2023 (11:00 Hrs)

9. E-Tender No: ET-88/MMC/PD/ETPS/HTPS/2023, online bids are invited for "Procurement of T/TPals to cover the spares kept in open yard & semi open locations of 1X660 MW & Different consumables of milling system for 2X250 MW, HTPS, Kasimpur, Aligarh. Tender will be uploaded on 03.10.2023 on 18:00 on portal [www.uprvnl.org/etender.up.nic.in](http://www.uprvnl.org/etender.up.nic.in). Estimated cost Rs 2,66,296.00, Earnest money Rs. 4500.00. The bid online submission End date is: 25.10.2023 (14:00)

10. E-Tender No: ET-84/MMC/PD/ETPS/HTPS/2023, online bids are invited for "Procurement of Various types of consumables are required for safe and smooth operation of the boiler, AHD & Main Turbine and associated auxiliaries of 1X660 MW, HTPS, Kasimpur Tender will be uploaded on 03.10.2023 on 18:00 on portal [www.uprvnl.org/etender.up.nic.in](http://www.uprvnl.org/etender.up.nic.in). Estimated cost Rs 17,34,600.00 only. Earnest money Rs. 29000.00. The bid online submission End date is: 25.10.2023 (14:00)

11. E-Tender No: ET-85/MMC/PD/ETPS/HTPS/2023, online bids are invited for "Procurement of Materials for SSF&WTP of 1X660 MW, HTPS, Kasimpur, Aligarh. Tender will be uploaded on 03.10.2023 on 18:00 on portal [www.uprvnl.org/etender.up.nic.in](http://www.uprvnl.org/etender.up.nic.in). Estimated cost Rs 17,34,600.00 only. Earnest money Rs. 29000.00. The bid online submission End date is: 25.10.2023 (14:00)

**Note-** Tender SET-82/ET-83/ET-84/ET-85/ET-87/ET-88/ET-89/ET-90/ET-91 Eligibility Conditions: Only reputed Manufacturers/their Authorized Dealer can participate in this tender.

**Note-** Total quantity of work, tender specification and other terms & condition is as per tender documents available on the e-portal. Corrigendum, Addendum, Extension if any shall be uploaded only on the above website. Bidders are advised to visit the website regularly for updated information from time to time. Part-I shall contain Tender Cost/Earnest money and other necessary documents as per pre-qualifying conditions and Part-II will contain price bid as per-bid of quantity. Tender specification may be downloaded from the website (<http://etender.up.nic.in>) and other specification details can be seen on Nigam website [www.uprvnl.org](http://www.uprvnl.org). The contractors have to submit the hard copy before the schedule date/time in the concern office in sealed envelope containing details of the tender mentioned on the envelope. Tenders are advised to send their hard copy directly to the concerned tendering authority of the Circles/Division. Who reserve the right to unaccept/cancel any or all the tenders without assigning any reason there of.

Superintending Engineer (H.Q.)  
 पत्रांक : 41/अधीनस्थ(पु)/विज्ञापन/कैम्प-1(34)/23 दिनांक 30.09.2023

"Save Electricity Enhance National Productivity"

**NORTH CENTRAL RAILWAY**

**E-Procurement Tender Notice No. 23/2023 dated. 26.09.2023**

On behalf of the President of India, Sr. Divisional Materials Manager, North Central Railway, Prayagraj invites the E-procurement tender.

S.N.	Tender No.	Description	Qty.	EMD (₹)
1.	19236701	Stainless Steel Heavy Duty Industrial Racks	05 Nos.	₹26800/-

Tender Opening Date: 26.10.2023

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

1578/23 (ADM)

**OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER**  
 WATER RESOURCES & CANAL  
 CONSTRUCTION CIRCLE BANSWARA

No./Aett/2023-24/49 Dated:- 22.09.2023

**SHORT TERM E-NIT No. 08/2023-24**

Under this Office Bids for the following works are invited from interested bidders upto 6:00 PM dated 03.10.2023

S. No.	Name of Work	Estimated Cost (in Lacs)	UBN No.
1.	Construction of Govepada (Vovindpura) anicut Tehsil Arbhuna District Banswara	436.40	WRD2324WSOB01472
2.	Construction of Chap Nadi-Par Kheda anicut Tehsil Garhi District Banswara	603.23	WRD2324WSOB01473

Other particulars of bid may be visited on the Procurement portal <http://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in>, <http://sppp.rajasthan.gov.in>, <http://dipr.rajasthan.gov.in> & [www.rajasthan.gov.in](http://www.rajasthan.gov.in)

sd/-  
 Superintending Engineer  
 Water Resources & Canal Construction Circle, Banswara

DIPR/C/14522/2023

**UJVN Limited**  
 H.O. : "UJJWAL", Mahanagar, Bagh, GMS Road, Dehradun-248006  
 Telephone: 0135-2763808, Fax No. : 0135-2763508  
 CIN No. U40101UR2001SGC025866 Website: [www.ujvn.com](http://www.ujvn.com)

**R.O. No. 943 Short Term e-Tender Notice Dated 30.09.2023**

Office of the Executive Engineer, (M&G) Patthri Power House, Bahadradab, Haridwar invites online bids from interested parties. Brief summary of tender is given below:-

1. Tender No: 28/EE(Patthri)/2023-24 - Procurement of Miscellaneous consumable items for Patthri Power House. Estimated Cost: Rs. 5,40,600/- (GST extra)

Date of availability of bid document on website : 03-10-2023  
 Last date for submission of bids on website : 17-10-2023  
 For fuller & further details, kindly visit e-procurement portal "https://uktenders.gov.in"

**EXECUTIVE ENGINEER (M&G)**

"Avoid wasteful use of Electricity"

**WEST CENTRAL RAILWAY**

**KOTA DIVISION-TENDER NOTICE**  
 NIT No. EL-TKD-11-2023/0.8MWP  
 rooftop solar plant Date: 26.09.2023

Sr. Divisional Electric Engineer/ TRS/Electric Loco Shed, Tughlakabad, New Delhi-44, acting for and on behalf of The President of India, invites E-Tenders against the following Tenders, with the closing date 25.10.2023 at 15:00 Hrs. Bidders will be able to submit their original/revised bids up to closing date and time only. **TENDER/BID NO.-EL-TKD-11-2023/0.8MWP** rooftop solar plant. **NAME OF WORK AND STATION.** Implementation of rooftop/solar PV system having an aggregated capacity of 800 kWp (0.8MWP) through public-private partnership ("PPP") on design, build, finance, operate and transfer ("DBFOT") basis. STATION: ELSTUGLAKABAD, New Delhi-110044, W C Rly. Kota Division. QTY.-800 KWp (0.8MWP) Capacity. **ESTIMATED COST (IN RS.)-3,12,64,000/-, COST OF TENDER FORM (IN RS.)-34,810/-, EARNEST MONEY (IN RS.)-10.68 Lakh/MWP, COMPLETION PERIOD-09 Months, LAST DT. & TIME OF SUBMISSION OF TENDER- 25.10.2023, at 15:00 Hrs. Note:-**1. E-Tender document and details of E-tender will be available on website <https://www.bharat-electronicstender.com>. 2. The bidders have to submit Technical bid in Sealed Envelop-1 and financial bid in Sealed Envelop-2 in this office also before opening of e-tender. 3. For any correction in this tender, corrigendum will be up-loaded on website, which may be seen up-to-the date of tender opening. 4. Tender must have class-III, digital signature certificate and will have to register on IREPS/bharat-electronicstender.com portal.

For Sr. DEE (TRS)  
**ELECTRIC LOCO SHED, WCR TUGHALAKABAD, NEW DELHI, 110044**

संरक्षित आर अतिरिक्त, एक काल व्यवस्था की ओर

**CENTRAL RAILWAY**

**PROCUREMENT OF SIDE BUFFER ARRANGEMENT WITH FACE PLATE**  
 Dy. Chief Material Manager's Office, Matunga, Mumbai-400 019. **Tender No.:** 85236020. **Item Description:** Side Buffer Arrangement with Face Plate Revitted to Drg. No. ICFSTD-2-2-009 col.1 ALT J. **Quantity:** 100 NOS. **Due Date for Opening:** 23-Oct-2023. Complete Details of Tender are available at Central Railway's Official website [www.ireps.gov.in](http://www.ireps.gov.in) The complete documents can be downloaded from the website. **Tender Notice No. CWE/MTN/85236020/2023**

Download UTS APP for Tickets

**UJJAIN SMART CITY LIMITED**  
 उत्कृष्ट उन्नत उज्जैन, उज्जैन

Mela Office, Kothi Road, Ujjain (M.P) 456001 Ph. 0734-2525856

**NOTICE INVITING TENDER**

**No.UJCL/262 Tender ID: 2023\_UAD\_313620\_1 Date: 30/09/2023**

Ujjain Smart City Limited invites interested parties for "Construction of Boundary Wall at Parking Area, Shed, and Railing for Crowd Management at Plaza area of Kalbhairav Temple, Ujjain-2nd call". Interested bidders may purchase and submit their proposals online at [www.mptenders.gov.in](http://www.mptenders.gov.in).

Item	Amount
Earnest Money Deposit	3,68,886/-
Cost of Document	15,000/-
Probable amount of Contract	3,68,88,611/-
Purchase of Tender Start Date	30/09/2023
Last date for submission of Technical and Financial Bid (Online)	16/10/2023 up to 17:00 hrs

For more details, please visit <https://www.mptenders.gov.in>. Any Corrigendum or amendments shall be published on this website only.

For, Ujjain Smart City Limited

**NORTH CENTRAL RAILWAY**

Notice No. TMC/CPOH/PRYJ/23-24/03 Date: 29.09.2023

**E-TENDER NOTICE**

Dy. CE/CPOH/ Workshop / North Central Railway / Prayagraj for and on behalf of the President of India, invites "Open" E-Tender on prescribed form for the following work up to 15:00 hrs. on 23.10.2023. The details of the Tender are as under:-

SN	Tender No.	Name of Work: Repairing of Track Machines by replacing hydraulic hoses, hydraulic cylinders and sub-assemblies as per schedule of work at CPOH/PRYJ
1	TMC-CPOH-PRYJ-07-23-24	

Approx. Cost (₹)	Earnest Money (₹)	Cost of Tender From (₹)	Completion Period: 24 Months
10029931.09	200200.00	Nil	Date of Opening of tender: 23.10.2023

Eligibility: Any repairing/replacement of hydraulic hoses, hydraulic cylinders work at shop floor on any type of Track machines or any work involving hydraulic commissioning of Track Machines.

**Note:** (1) The complete information along with tender document of above E-Tenders are available on Website [www.ireps.gov.in](http://www.ireps.gov.in) up to 15:00 hrs. on the due date of tender opening. (2) Bids other than in the form of E-Bids shall not be accepted against above tenders. For this purpose, vendors are required to get themselves registered with IREPS website along with Digital Signature Certificate issued by CCA under IT Act-2000. (3) Rates entered into Financial Rate page and duly signed digitally shall be considered. Rates and any other financial entity in any other form/letter head, if attached by vendors shall be straightway ignored and shall not be considered. (4) The supplier / contractor of goods and/or services would be subject to GST Act and Rules as applicable from time to time. (5) Document being attached should be signed by the tenderer on its body. (6) This tender notice has also been uploaded on [www.ncr.indianrailways.gov.in](http://www.ncr.indianrailways.gov.in). (7) Payment of Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) in respect of e-tendering shall be accepted through net banking or payment gateway only or as per provision stipulated in applicable G.C. (8) In case of any difficulty, helpdesk available on the website of IREPS may be approached. (9) Tender online can be submitted up to 15:00 hrs. on 23.10.2023. 1586/23 (ADM)

**उपग्रह जल विद्युत निगम लि**  
 ई-निविदा सूचना

इस खण्ड के अन्तर्गत निम्नलिखित कार्य हेतु अनुभवी/प्रतिष्ठित ठेकेदारों, जो सम्बन्धित कार्य का अनुभव रखते हों, से निम्नलिखित ई-निविदाएं दो मांग में आमंत्रित की जाती हैं-

1. निविदा सं: T-19/EGD/Mzn/2023-24. ऊपरी गंग नहर पर स्थित विद्युत गृहों एवं खारा विद्युत गृह हेतु स्लैक तैलों की आपूर्ति। घरोहर राशि रु 60,000.00 (RTGS/NEFT के रूप में) निविदा शुल्क 3,540.00 जीएसटीएल सम्मिलित (RTGS/NEFT के रूप में)।

2. वेबसाइट पर ई-निविदा स्वीकार करने तथा डाउनलोड करने की अंतिम तिथि/समय : 10-10-2023/16:00 बजे तक।

3. ई-निविदा का प्रथम मांग खुलने की तिथि/समय : 11-10-2023/12:00 बजे तक।

**नोट-** निविदा सम्बन्धित समस्त जानकारी, विवरण/डाउनलोड/निविदा में पंक्तिमांगिता हेतु, वेबसाइट [www.etender.up.nic.in](http://www.etender.up.nic.in) पर लागू इन करें। किसी भी प्रकार के संशोधन/विसरार की सूचना उल्लिखित वेबसाइट पर दी जायेगी। सभी जानकारी उपग्रह जल विद्युत निगम लि की वेबसाइट [www.upjvn.org](http://www.upjvn.org) पर भी उपलब्ध रहेगी। अधिशासी अभियन्ता, जल विद्युत उत्पादन खण्ड, मुजफ्फरनगर के भारतीय स्टेट बैंक, नैन मार्केट, मुजफ्फरनगर के खाता संख्या 33722690590 एंव IFSC Code SBIN0002412 में RTGS/NEFT के द्वारा वांछित घरोहर राशि/निविदा शुल्क जमा कराना होगा। इच्छुक निविदाकार, निविदा खुलने की तिथि से पूर्व, किसी भी कार्य विवरण में अनुमति उपरान्त, विद्युत गृहों में कार्य जाने वाले सम्बन्धित कार्यों का निरीक्षण कर सकते हैं। निविदा के प्रथम मांग की विवेचना एवं अनुमोदन पश्चात्, निविदा का द्वितीय मांग खोलने की तिथि सूचित की जायेगी। अधिशासी अभियन्ता द्वारा बिना कारण बताये निविदा को निरस्त करने का अधिकार सुरक्षित है।

अधिशासी अभियन्ता, विद्युत उत्पादन खण्ड, नई मण्डी, मुजफ्फरनगर।

"संरक्षित में कर्जा बचाये"

**NORTH EASTERN RAILWAY**

**E-Tender Notice**

On Line Bid based open E-Tenders are invited by Sr. D.M.E/C&W/N.E. Railway Lucknow for and on behalf of the President of India for the following works. **Tender Notice No. & Description of works: Tender Notice No-08-2023-CW "Eddy Current Array Testing of LHB Wheel Disc and Cleaning of Axles in D3 Schedule at Coaching Depot GKP for One Year."** **Approx Value (In ₹): ₹ 48,22,977.20. E.M.D. Money (In ₹): ₹ 96,500.00. Contract period: 01 Year. Note:** • E-Tender can be uploaded by tenderer, up to 15:00 Hrs. on 25.10.2023 and will be opened after 15:00 Hrs on 25.10.2023. • Detailed information, minimum eligibility criteria, Terms and conditions regarding this e-tender are available at website [www.ireps.gov.in](http://www.ireps.gov.in). • Tenderer should check any correction/corrigendum related to this e-tender notice on web site before uploading their offer.

Assistant Divisional Mechanical Engineer/Coaching Lucknow  
 CPRO/Mech-68  
 "DO NOT TRAVEL WITH INFLAMMABLE ARTICLE IN TRAIN"

**WESTERN RAILWAY**

**E-PROCUREMENT TENDER NOTICE No. S/27/2023 Date : 29.09.2023**

Sr.No.	Short Description of Item	Quantity	T.O.D
580	AMALGAMATED TRANSFORMER RECTIFIER	27 Nos	09-Oct-23
581	EOT CRANE 10 T	2 Nos	12-Oct-23
582	EOT crane 5 T (As per attached specifications) (on turn key basis)	2 Nos	12-Oct-23
583	INTRA AORTIC BALLON PUMP	1 Nos	12-Oct-23
584	Brushless Alternator	76 Nos	20-Oct-23
585	CONDENSER BUSHING COMPLETE	10 Nos	20-Oct-23
586	Air Brake Hose Coupling Support	17588 Nos	20-Oct-23
587	Traction Motor Speed Sensor	20 Nos	26-Oct-23
588	FINISH MACHINED REAR COVER FOR AXLE BOX ROLLER BEARING.	2465 Nos	27-Oct-23
589	Lavatory Door Complete	162 Nos	27-Oct-23
590	Procurement of various of Rail profile measuring equipment	5 Set	30-Oct-23
591	Procurement of Various type of Pump, Motor and Valve for Track Machine	16 Nos	02-Nov-23
592	KUCKLE PIVOT PIN WITH WASHER FOR UPGRADED HIGH TENSILE CBC.	17490 Nos	16-Nov-23

**Reverse Auction**

Sl.No.	Short Description of Item	Quantity	T.O.D
47	COPPER CATENARY WIRE (19/2.1 MM)	597200 Mtr	13-Oct-23
48	COPPER CONTACT WIRE, JOINTLESS, 107 SO MM	241550 Mtr	26-Oct-23

Regarding detailed notice, EMD, Purchase restrictions and detailed tender conditions, please visit website [www.ireps.gov.in](http://www.ireps.gov.in) and [www.wr.indianrailways.gov.in](http://www.wr.indianrailways.gov.in).

For Principal Chief Materials Manager  
 0687

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**U.P. RAJYA VIDYUT UTPADAN NIGAM LTD.**  
 Anpara Thermal power project

**E-Tender Notice**

1. E-Tender Notice No.08/TMD/BTSP/2023-24, Online e-Bids are invited for the Work of "Attending feed water leakage in HP heater's of unit 5, 2x500MW, BTSP, Anpara." E-Tender Has been uploaded on 20.09.2023 on <http://etender.up.nic.in>, Estimated cost: **Rs. 3.60 Lacs only, Period: 12 Months, E.M.D cost: Rs. 7,200.00**, Last date of Tender: **16.10.2023 at 16:00 Hrs.**

2. E-Tender Notice No. 02/BMD-IDTPP/2023-24, Online e-Bids are invited for the work of "Mechanical maintenance of APH, ESP and various Ducts & dampers installed in BMD-1, DTPS, Anpara along with external cleaning of boiler platforms of both the units of 2x500MW, DTPS, Anpara." E-Tender Has been uploaded on 21.09.2023 on <http://etender.up.nic.in>, Estimated cost: **Rs. 69,07,494.00 only, Period: 730 Days, E.M.D cost: Rs. 69,500.00**, Last date of Tender: **16.10.2023 at 13:00 Hrs.**

3. E-Tender Notice No. 04/BMD-IDTPP/2023-24, Online e-Bids are invited for the work of "Insitu repairing of valves & reclamation of spares for different H.P. valves of boiler of unit#6&7 of DTPS, Anpara." E-Tender Has been uploaded on 22.09.2023 on <http://etender.up.nic.in>, Estimated cost: **Rs. 8,19,400.00 only, Period: 60 Days, E.M.D cost: Rs. 8,200.00**, Last date of Tender: **16.10.2023 at 13:00 Hrs.**

4. E-Tender Notice No. 52/CF-211/PD-I/ABTSP/ANP/2023-24, Online e-Bids are invited for "Supply of mechanical seal for 2x500MW, DTPS, Anpara." E-Tender Has been uploaded on 23.09.2023 on <http://etender.up.nic.in>, Estimated cost: **Rs. 2,00,000.00 only, E.M.D cost: Rs. 2000.00**, Last date of Tender: **24.10.2023 at 14:00 Hrs.**

5. Short Term E-Tender Notice No. 54/CF-237/PD-I/ABTSP/ANP/2023-24, Online e-Bids are invited for "Supply of spares of HDP for 2x500MW, BTSP, Anpara." E-Tender Has been uploaded on 27.09.2023 on <http://etender.up.nic.in>, Estimated cost: **Rs. 19,00 Lakh only, E.M.D cost: Rs. 19,000.00**, Last date of Tender: **12.10.2023 at 14:00 Hrs.**

6. E-Tender Notice No. ANP/A/BMD/1/6000003605, Online e-Bids are invited for the Work of Replacement of SADC assembly during overhauling of unit#2 of 3x210MW, ATPS, Anpara." E-Tender Has been uploaded on 26.09.2023 on <http://etender.up.nic.in>, Estimated cost: **Rs. 95,393.00 only, Period: 30 Days, E.M.D cost: Rs. 1200.00**, Last date of Tender: **03.10.2023 at 18:00 Hrs.**

7. E-Tender Notice No. 02/CMD-IV/ATP/2023-24, Online e-Bids are invited for the "Annual M&R of wood works in Type-II/III/IV/V/G-Type quarters, project, Hospital, Temp. colony of ATP Anpara." E-Tender Has been uploaded on 26.09.2023 on <http://etender.up.nic.in>, Estimated cost: **Rs. 61,18,631.00 only, Period: 24 Months, E.M.D cost: Rs. 1,22,500.00**, Last date of Tender: **17.10.2023 at 16:00 Hrs.**

8. Short Term E-Tender Notice No.12/SE/OG/DTPS/2023-24, Online e-Bids are invited for the "Round the clock assistance work in operation of manual valves & preventive/Breakdown maintenance of chemical dosing system." E-Tender Has been uploaded on 30.09.2023 on <http://etender.up.nic.in>, Estimated cost: **Rs. 66,40,**



**समाह्वरणगत गया**  
(जिला स्थाना राखा)  
**COURT NOTICE**  
SLP No. 27312 of 2018

**The Supreme Court of India**  
Civil Appellate Jurisdiction

The State of Bihar and others ..... Petitioner/Appellant  
**Versus**  
Ashok Kumar and others ..... Respondents/Respondents,

1. Dinesh Paswan S/O Durga Paswan, resident of Village/Moh. Salempur, P.O. Buniyadganj, P.S. Mofassil, Manpur, District- Gaya  
2. Awadesh Prasad son of Late Jagdish Prasad Resident of Mohalla Shahmeer Takiya, P.S. Chand Chaura, P.S. Civil Lines, Distt. & Town- Gaya

WHEREAS the petition for Special Leave to Appeal with prayer for interim relief along with application for CONDONATION OF DELAY IN FILING, APPLICATION FOR SUBSTITUTION, EXEMPTION FROM FILING O.T., above mentioned filed in the Registry by Mrs. NIRANJANA SINGH, Advocate on behalf of the Petitioner(s) above named, was listed for hearing before this court on 13<sup>th</sup> August, 2018, when the Court was pleased to pass the following order:-  
"Application for exemption from filing O.T. is allowed.  
Issue notice on the applications for condonation of delay, substitution as well as on the special leave petition.  
In the meantime, the operation of the impugned judgment/order(s) passed by the High Court, shall remain stayed"  
AND, the I.A. No. 65515 of 2023 in the matter above mentioned was listed before Hon'ble Court (In Chambers) on 13<sup>th</sup> July, 2023, when the following order was passed:  
"Issue notice on the application for condonation of delay in filing substitution.  
IA No. 65515 OF 2023- APPLICATION FOR SUBSTITUTED SERVICE UPON RESPONDENT"  
The application for substituted service is allowed.  
Let necessary steps be taken by the petitioner(s) within six weeks.  
List thereafter"  
NOW, THEREFORE, TAKE NOTICE that the above petition with prayer for interim relief along with application for CONDONATION OF DELAY IN FILING, APPLICATION FOR SUBSTITUTION, APPROPRIATE ORDERS/DIRECTIONS, PERMISSION TO FILE ADDITIONAL DOCUETS/FACTS /ANNEXURES, EXEMPTION FROM FILING O.T., APPLICATION FOR SUBSTITUTION, CONDONATION OF DELAY IN FILING SUBSTITUTION APLN.SETTING ASIDE AN ABATEEMNT, EXEMPTION FROM FILING O.T. will be posted for hearing before this Court in the course, and you may enter appearance before this Court either to person or through an Advocate on Record of this Court duly appointed by you in that behalf, within 30 days from the date of service of notice. You may thereafter show cause to the court on the day that may subsequently be specified as to why delay in filing SLP be not condoned and Special Leave Petition and interim relief as prayed be not granted and the resultant appeal be not allowed.  
You may file your affidavit in opposition to the petitions provided under Rule 14(1) of Order XXI, S.C.R. 2013 within 30 days from the date of receipt of notice or not later than 2 weeks before the date appointed for hearing, whichever be earlier, but shall do so only by setting out the grounds in opposition to the questions of law or grounds set out in the SLPs and may produce such pleadings and documents filed before the Court/Tribunal against whose order the SLP is filed and shall also set out the grounds for not granting interim order or for vacating interim order if already granted.  
TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that if you fail to enter appearance as aforesaid, no further notice shall be given to you even after the grant of special leave for hearing of the resultant appeal, and the matter above mentioned, shall be disposed of in your absence.  
Dated .....  
**PR. No. 009632 (District) 2023-24**  
**BY ORDER**  
**ASSISTANT REGISTRAR**  
This information is available on website [state.bihar.gov.in/prdbihar](http://state.bihar.gov.in/prdbihar) also

**नशे से बचने का है एक ही उपचार, दृढ़ संकल्प और परिवार से प्यार।**

**GOVERNMENT OF ODISHA**  
**OFFICE OF THE CHIEF**  
**CONSTRUCTION ENGINEER RURAL**  
**WORKS CIRCLE: SUNDARGARH**  
Near Bana Durga Temple, Sankara, Sundargarh,  
Dist: Sundargarh PIN-770020, Email: [serw\\_sundargarh@yahoo.com](mailto:serw_sundargarh@yahoo.com)

Office Order No 2758 Date 29.09.2023

**1st Corrigendum**

The Last date of Availability of tender / date of seeking clarification/ date of opening of tender for the works invited under NIT Letter No: 2665 dtd 15.09.2023 vide Bid Identification No: Online - RWCCSNG-32 of 2023-24 are hereby modified as follows:

Procurement Officer	Bid Identification No.	Last Date & Time of Availability of Tender	Last Date & Time of Seeking Tender Clarification.	Technical Bid Opening	Financial Bid Opening
Chief Construction Engineer, Rural Works Circle, Sundargarh	RWCCSNG-32 of 2023-24	09:10:2023 5:00 PM	07:10:2023 5:00 PM	10:10:2023 11:00 AM	Will be intimated separately

Sd/-  
**Chief Construction Engineer,**  
Rural Works Circle, Sundargarh  
(OIPR-25133/11/0046/2324)

**GOVERNMENT OF ODISHA**  
**OFFICE OF THE CHIEF**  
**ENGINEER**  
**RURAL WORKS CIRCLE, CUTTACK**  
e-mail- [serw\\_ctc@yahoo.com](mailto:serw_ctc@yahoo.com)  
No- Tender Online RWC- 2423 Letter No. - 3431 Date- 26.09.2023

**e-Procurement NOTICE**

1. Name of the work Construction of Building & Bridges works.  
2. Class of Contractor  
c) Estimated cost more than Rs. 6.00 Crore & upto Rs. 50.00 Crore : Special Class (of Odisha PWD) & relevant class of other licensing authorities.  
d) Estimated cost more than Rs. 1.00 Crore & upto Rs. 20.00 Crore : A Class (of Odisha PWD) & relevant class of other licensing authorities.  
e) Estimated cost more than Rs. 20.00 Lakh & upto Rs. 3.00 Crore : B Class (of Odisha PWD) & relevant class of other licensing authorities.  
3. Time for Completion : As specified in the Column-7 of the Annexure.  
4. Detail Projects As per Annexure attached  
5. Other Details

Procurement Officer	Bid Identification No.	Availability of Tender On-line for bidding	Last date & time of seeking tender clarification	Date & Time of opening of tender
Chief Construction Engineer, Rural Works Circle, Cuttack	Tender Online RWC- 2423	03:10:2023 at 11:30 A.M. to 17:10:2023 at 5:00 PM	17:10:2023 up to 02:00 PM	18:10:2023 at 11:00 A.M. Will be intimated later

Further details can be seen from the website [www.tendersodisha.gov.in](http://www.tendersodisha.gov.in)  
Sd/-  
**Chief Construction Engineer,**  
(OIPR-25097/11/0026/2324)

**PROCLAMATION REQUIRING THE APPEARANCE OF ACCUSED PERSON**  
See Section 82 Cr.P.C.  
Whereas complaint has been made before me that accused person namely **Laxman, S/o. Ram Jatan, R/o. B-8, Sharma Enclave, Mubarakpur Dabas, Delhi,** has committed (or is suspected to have committed) the offence in case **FIR No. 326/2017 dated 23.03.2017 U/s 279/338 IPC** registered at P.S. Aman Vihar, Delhi and it has been returned to a warrant of arrest there upon issued that the said **Laxman** cannot be found and whereas it has been shown to my satisfaction that the said **Laxman** has absconded (or is concealing himself to avoid the service of the said warrant). Proclamation is hereby made that the said **Laxman** accused of **FIR No. 326/2017 dated 23.03.2017 U/s 279/338 IPC** P.S. Aman Vihar, Delhi is required to appear before this Court to answer the said complaint on or before **06.11.2023**  
By Order  
**Sh. Navdeep Gupta**  
Metropolitan Magistrate-06,  
North - West, Room No. 109, 1st Floor,  
Rohini Courts, Delhi  
DP/9778/RD/2023

**GOVERNMENT OF ODISHA**  
**OFFICE OF THE ENGINEER-IN-CHIEF**  
**RURAL WORKS, ODISHA, BHUBANESWAR**  
Letter No: Dated. Email i.d.: [crew\\_bbsr@yahoo.com](mailto:crew_bbsr@yahoo.com)  
Notice inviting request for proposal from consultant (RFP-Online - CE (Buildings & Bridges)- 06/2023-24 dt. 26.09.2023)

1. Name of the work Construction of H.L. Bridge over Chitropala river at 0.00km on Bandhpur Balamapur PMGSY road in the District of Cuttack under Biju Setu Yojana.  
2. Total No. of works 01 (One) no  
3. Period of completion 30 (Thirty) Calendar Months  
4. Other details [www.tendersodisha.gov.in](http://www.tendersodisha.gov.in)

Procurement Officer	Bid Identification No.	No. of bridge works	Availability of tender On-line for bidding	
			From	To
Chief Engineer, Buildings & Bridges, Rural Works, Odisha, Bhubaneswar	RFP - Online - CE-Buildings & Bridges-06 (Bridge) / 2023-24	01 (One) No	16.10.2023 at 10.00 A.M.	31.10.2023 Up to 5.00 P.M.

Other details can be seen in the bidding documents, which will be available in website [www.tendersorissa.gov.in](http://www.tendersorissa.gov.in)  
Sd/-  
**Chief Engineer (Buildings & Bridges),**  
Rural Works, Odisha, Bhubaneswar  
(OIPR-25123/11/0028/2324)

**Purvanchal Vidyut Vitaran Nigam Limited**  
**Vidut Nagar, P.O.- BLW Varanasi-221 004 E-Tender Notice Corrigendum** E- tender are invited for the following material. The tenderer will be accepted up to at 15.00 hrs. Please visit website [www.etender.up.in](http://www.etender.up.in) for details/ download and for any other corrections/ amendments/modifications/ extensions till the date of submission of bids.  
**Date of Publication reference: 2516 Dt. 26.09.2023**  
**Description of E-Tender: Full Term E-Tender Notice-** Last date & Time for online submission of tender document 26.10.2023 15.00 Hrs.  
**Description of E-Tender:** Full Term E-Tender Notice- Date & Time for online opening of tender part-1 27.10.2023 15.00 Hrs.  
**Revised Description of E-Tender Short Term E-Tender Notice-** Last date & Time for online submission of tender document 06.10.2023 15.00 Hrs.  
**Revised Description of E-Tender Short Term E-Tender Notice** Date & Time for online opening of tender part-1 07.10.2023 15.00 Hrs. Sd/-  
**SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER (MM-I) "Save Electricity in the interest of Nation"** पत्रांक: 2585/पू.वि.वि.नि.लि. (वा.)/सा.प्र.-I/विज्ञापन दिनांक: 30.09.2023

सुपु संख्या	जिला का नाम	प्रखण्ड का नाम	कार्य का नाम	परिमाण विवरण की राशि (लाख ₹ में)	अग्रगण्य की राशि (ऑन लाईन मोड या ऑफ लाईन मोड में केवल B.G. के रूप में) (लाख ₹ में)	परिमाण- विवरण का मूल्य (अप्रत्यक्षीय केवल ऑनलाइन मोड में मुगतान) (रुपये में)	बीड प्रोसेसिंग शुल्क (अप्रत्यक्षीय केवल ऑनलाइन मोड में मुगतान) (रुपये में)	कार्य पूर्ण करने की अवधि (माह में)
01	गोपालगंज	विजयीपुर	विजयीपुर प्रखण्ड के चौमुखा पंचायत अंतर्गत पंचायत सरकार भवन का निर्माण कार्य।	265.024	5.301	10000	5900	18 माह
2	गोपालगंज	विजयीपुर	विजयीपुर प्रखण्ड के अहियापुर पंचायत अंतर्गत पंचायत सरकार भवन का निर्माण कार्य।	264.805	5.297	10000	5900	18 माह
3	गोपालगंज	विजयीपुर	विजयीपुर प्रखण्ड के नौतन पंचायत अंतर्गत पंचायत सरकार भवन का निर्माण कार्य।	266.337	5.327	10000	5900	18 माह
4	गोपालगंज	विजयीपुर	विजयीपुर प्रखण्ड के जगदीशपुर पंचायत अंतर्गत पंचायत सरकार भवन का निर्माण कार्य।	266.556	5.332	10000	5900	18 माह
5	गोपालगंज	विजयीपुर	विजयीपुर प्रखण्ड के सरुपाई पंचायत अंतर्गत पंचायत सरकार भवन का निर्माण कार्य।	265.480	5.310	10000	5900	18 माह
6	गोपालगंज	विजयीपुर	विजयीपुर प्रखण्ड के कुटिया पंचायत अंतर्गत पंचायत सरकार भवन का निर्माण कार्य।	264.367	5.288	10000	5900	18 माह
7	गोपालगंज	विजयीपुर	विजयीपुर प्रखण्ड के पगरा पंचायत अंतर्गत पंचायत सरकार भवन पगरा का निर्माण कार्य।	266.356	5.328	10000	5900	18 माह
8	गोपालगंज	भोरे	भोरे प्रखण्ड के छटियाव पंचायत अंतर्गत पंचायत सरकार भवन छटियाव का निर्माण कार्य।	261.540	5.231	10000	5900	18 माह
9	गोपालगंज	भोरे	भोरे प्रखण्ड के कल्याणपुर पंचायत में पंचायत सरकार भवन का निर्माण कार्य।	262.416	5.249	10000	5900	18 माह
10	गोपालगंज	भोरे	भोरे प्रखण्ड के जगतौली पंचायत में पंचायत सरकार भवन का निर्माण कार्य।	261.321	5.227	10000	5900	18 माह
11	गोपालगंज	भोरे	भोरे प्रखण्ड के हरदिया पंचायत में पंचायत सरकार भवन का निर्माण कार्य।	262.635	5.253	10000	5900	18 माह
12	गोपालगंज	भोरे	भोरे प्रखण्ड के चकरवा खास पंचायत अंतर्गत पंचायत सरकार भवन का निर्माण कार्य।	262.853	5.258	10000	5900	18 माह
13	गोपालगंज	भोरे	भोरे प्रखण्ड के सिसई पंचायत में पंचायत सरकार भवन का निर्माण कार्य।	261.540	5.231	10000	5900	18 माह
14	गोपालगंज	भोरे	भोरे प्रखण्ड के हुस्सेपुर पंचायत में पंचायत सरकार भवन का निर्माण कार्य।	260.883	5.218	10000	5900	18 माह
15	गोपालगंज	भोरे	भोरे प्रखण्ड के खदही पंचायत अंतर्गत पंचायत सरकार भवन का निर्माण कार्य।	261.102	5.223	10000	5900	18 माह
16	गोपालगंज	बरौली	बरौली प्रखण्ड के खजुरिया पंचायत में पंचायत सरकार भवन का निर्माण कार्य।	302.453	6.050	10000	5900	18 माह
17	गोपालगंज	बरौली	बरौली प्रखण्ड के कहला पंचायत अंतर्गत पंचायत सरकार भवन का निर्माण कार्य।	307.412	6.149	10000	5900	18 माह
18	गोपालगंज	बरौली	बैकुण्ठपुर प्रखण्ड के परसौनी पंचायत अंतर्गत पंचायत सरकार भवन का निर्माण कार्य।	306.615	6.133	10000	5900	18 माह
19	गोपालगंज	बैकुण्ठपुर	बैकुण्ठपुर प्रखण्ड के गम्हारी पंचायत अंतर्गत पंचायत सरकार भवन का निर्माण कार्य।	304.886	6.098	10000	5900	18 माह
20	गोपालगंज	बैकुण्ठपुर	बैकुण्ठपुर प्रखण्ड के अजबीनगर पंचायत में पंचायत सरकार भवन का निर्माण कार्य।	305.950	6.119	10000	5900	18 माह
21	गोपालगंज	बैकुण्ठपुर	बैकुण्ठपुर प्रखण्ड के फंजुल्लाहपुर पंचायत में पंचायत सरकार भवन का निर्माण कार्य।	304.766	6.096	10000	5900	18 माह
22	गोपालगंज	बैकुण्ठपुर	बैकुण्ठपुर प्रखण्ड के दिघवा दक्षिण पंचायत अंतर्गत पंचायत सरकार भवन का निर्माण कार्य।	305.950	6.119	10000	5900	18 माह
23	गोपालगंज	कुचायकोट	कुचायकोट प्रखण्ड के उचकागाँव पंचायत अंतर्गत पंचायत सरकार भवन का निर्माण कार्य।	308.727	6.175	10000	5900	18 माह
24	गोपालगंज	कुचायकोट	कुचायकोट प्रखण्ड के रामपुर माधो पंचायत में पंचायत सरकार भवन का निर्माण कार्य।	308.914	6.179	10000	5900	18 माह
25	गोपालगंज	कुचायकोट	कुचायकोट प्रखण्ड के सलेहपुर पंचायत में पंचायत सरकार भवन का निर्माण कार्य।	311.028	6.221	10000	5900	18 माह
26	गोपालगंज	कुचायकोट	कुचायकोट प्रखण्ड के खजुरी पंचायत में पंचायत सरकार भवन का निर्माण कार्य।	308.116	6.163	10000	5900	18 माह
27	गोपालगंज	कुचायकोट	कुचायकोट प्रखण्ड के मटिहनिया दुर्ग पंचायत में पंचायत सरकार भवन का निर्माण कार्य।	309.765	6.196	10000	5900	18 माह
28	गोपालगंज	कटेया	कटेया प्रखण्ड के बेलही खास पंचायत अंतर्गत पंचायत सरकार भवन का निर्माण कार्य।	265.261	5.306	10000	5900	18 माह
29	गोपालगंज	कटेया	कटेया प्रखण्ड के अमैया पंचायत अंतर्गत पंचायत सरकार भवन का निर्माण कार्य।	263.510	5.271	10000	5900	18 माह

30	कटेया	कटेया प्रखण्ड के करकटहों खास पंचायत अंतर्गत पंचायत सरकार भवन का निर्माण कार्य।	263.291	5.266	10000	5900	18 माह
31	मांझा	मांझा प्रखण्ड के गौसिया पंचायत अंतर्गत पंचायत सरकार भवन का निर्माण कार्य।	308.130	6.163	10000	5900	18 माह
32	मांझा	मांझा प्रखण्ड के अदमापुर पंचायत अंतर्गत पंचायत सरकार भवन का निर्माण कार्य।	307.452	6.150	10000	5900	18 माह
33	मांझा	मांझा प्रखण्ड के सिपाह खास पंचायत में पंचायत सरकार भवन का निर्माण कार्य।	306.362	6.128	10000	5900	18 माह
34	मांझा	मांझा प्रखण्ड के निमुइया पंचायत अंतर्गत पंचायत सरकार भवन का निर्माण कार्य।	310.191	6.204	10000	5900	18 माह
35	मांझा	मांझा प्रखण्ड के प्रतापपुर पंचायत में पंचायत सरकार भवन का निर्माण कार्य।	305.471	6.111	10000	5900	18 माह
36	थावे	थावे प्रखण्ड के जगमलवा पंचायत में पंचायत सरकार भवन का निर्माण कार्य।	258.913	5.179	10000	5900	18 माह
37	सिधवलिया	सिधवलिया प्रखण्ड के काशी टेंगराही पंचायत अंतर्गत पंचायत सरकार भवन काशी टेंगराही का निर्माण कार्य।	308.676	6.174	10000	5900	18 माह
38	सिधवलिया	सिधवलिया प्रखण्ड के कुषहर पंचायत में पंचायत सरकार भवन का निर्माण कार्य।	308.464	6.170	10000	5900	18 माह
39	सिधवलिया	सिधवलिया प्रखण्ड के सुपौली पंचायत में पंचायत सरकार भवन का निर्माण कार्य।	308.343	6.167	10000	5900	18 माह
40	हथुआ	हथुआ प्रखण्ड के चैनपुर पंचायत में पंचायत सरकार भवन का निर्माण कार्य।	258.532	5.171	10000	5900	18 माह
41	हथुआ	हथुआ प्रखण्ड के खैरटिया पंचायत में पंचायत सरकार भवन का निर्माण कार्य।	260.802	5.217	10000	5900	18 माह
42	हथुआ	हथुआ प्रखण्ड के सेमराव पंचायत में पंचायत सरकार भवन का निर्माण कार्य।	258.838	5.177	10000	5900	18 माह
43	हथुआ	हथुआ प्रखण्ड के सवरेजी पंचायत में पंचायत सरकार भवन का निर्माण कार्य।	256.424	5.129	10000	5900	18 माह
44	हथुआ	हथुआ प्रखण्ड के फतेहपुर पंचायत में पंचायत सरकार भवन का निर्माण कार्य।	258.157	5.164	10000	5900	18 माह
45	हथुआ	हथुआ प्रखण्ड के काभगोपी पंचायत में पंचायत सरकार भवन का निर्माण कार्य।	257.481	5.15	10000	5900	18 माह
46	पंचदेवरी	पंचदेवरी प्रखण्ड के सेमरिया पंचायत में पंचायत सरकार भवन का निर्माण कार्य।	262.516	5.251	10000	5900	18 माह
47	पंचदेवरी	पंचदेवरी प्रखण्ड के बनकटिया पंचायत में पंचायत सरकार भवन का निर्माण कार्य।	261.859	5.238	10000	5900	18 माह
48	उचकागाँव	उचकागाँव प्रखण्ड के उचकागाँव पंचायत में पंचायत सरकार भवन का निर्माण कार्य।	259.013	5.181	10000	5900	18 माह
49	उचकागाँव	उचकागाँव प्रखण्ड के छोटका साखे पंचायत में पंचायत सरकार भवन का निर्माण कार्य।	259.889	5.198	10000	5900	18 माह
50	उचकागाँव	उचकागाँव प्रखण्ड के त्रिलोकपुर पंचायत में पंचायत सरकार भवन का निर्माण कार्य।	258.019	5.161	10000	5900	18 माह
51	उचकागाँव	उचकागाँव प्रखण्ड के लुहसी पंचायत में पंचायत सरकार भवन का निर्माण कार्य।	261.746	5.235	10000	5900	18 माह
52	उचकागाँव	उचकागाँव प्रखण्ड के हरपुर पंचायत में पंचायत सरकार भवन का निर्माण कार्य।	260.446	5.209	10000	5900	18 माह

- विज्ञापन निर्गत करने की तिथि : दिनांक 27-09-2023
  - निविदा कागजात अपलोड करने की प्रारम्भिक की तिथि एवं समय : दिनांक 16-10-2023 को 10.00 बजे पूर्वाह्न से। (सिर्फ वेबसाइट [www.eproc2.bihar.gov.in](http://www.eproc2.bihar.gov.in) पर)
  - प्री-बीड मीटिंग का समय, स्थान एवं तिथि : दिनांक 11-10-2023 समय 03:30 बजे, अपराह्न मुख्य अभियंता का कार्यालय, स्थानीय क्षेत्र अभियंत्रण संगठन, विरवेश्वरैया भवन, चतुर्थ तल, कमरा नं-423, बेली रोड, पटना-800015
  - निविदा अपलोड करने की अंतिम तिथि एवं समय : दिनांक 25-10-2023 समय 3.00 बजे अपराह्न तक। (सिर्फ वेबसाइट [www.eproc2.bihar.gov.in](http://www.eproc2.bihar.gov.in) पर)
  - तकनीकी बीड खोलने की तिथि एवं समय : दिनांक 28-10-2023 समय 3.30 बजे अपराह्न से। (कंडिका 5 में उल्लेखित अंतिम तिथि से दो कार्य दिवस के पश्चात् की तिथि)। (सिर्फ वेबसाइट [www.eproc2.bihar.gov.in](http://www.eproc2.bihar.gov.in) पर)
  - वित्तीय बीड खोलने की तिथि एवं समय : सक्षम पदाधिकारी द्वारा बाद में घोषित की जायेगी। (सिर्फ वेबसाइट [www.eproc2.bihar.gov.in](http://www.eproc2.bihar.gov.in) पर )
  - निविदा खोलने का स्थान : [www.eproc2.bihar.gov.in](http://www.eproc2.bihar.gov.in) पर
  - निविदा की वैधता अवधि : 120 दिन( निविदा प्राप्ति की अंतिम तिथि के बाद )
  - विज्ञापनदाता का पदनाम एवं पता : कार्यपालक अभियंता, स्थानीय क्षेत्र अभियंत्रण संगठन प्रमण्डल, कार्य प्रमंडल.....
- कार्यपालक अभियंता  
स्थानीय क्षेत्र अभियंत्रण संगठन,  
कार्य प्रमंडल, गोपालगंज
- विरस्तुत जानकारी [state.bihar.gov.in/prdbihar](http://state.bihar.gov.in/prdbihar) से प्राप्त की जा सकती है।
- PR- 009452( Planning ) 2023-24
- नशे से बचने का है एक ही उपचार, दृढ़ संकल्प और परिवार से प्यार।**



Across THE AISLE



**PCHIDAMBARAM**  
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Twitter: @Pchidambaram\_IN

IF AN English teacher wished to explain to her class the word 'hyperbole' and give an illustration, she cannot do better than cite the following sentence from RBI's Bulletin for September 2023:

*"In September 2023, the earth's centre of gravity shifted to India as leaders of the most powerful nations, country groupings and international organisations converged to New Delhi."*

According to the RBI, the earth's centre of gravity shifted from Rome (2021) to Bali (2022) to New Delhi (2023) and will shift to Rio de Janeiro in 2024. Because the centre of gravity shifted to New Delhi, we felt the tremors: the Manipur fire started on May 3, 2023 and continues to burn; there are repeated terrorist attacks in Kashmir; landslides and floods have ravaged Himachal Pradesh and some other states; and the AIADMK unceremoniously jettisoned the BJP from its alliance in Tamil Nadu!

**JUMLA PARADE**

As a result of the shift in the centre of gravity, we can expect more announcements and events. One event occurred on September 20-21: the Women's Reservation Jumlā Bill was passed in Parliament. It may be implemented in the elections held after 2029. Other *jumlās* that are in the making are One Nation One Election and Uniform Civil Code.

The Modi government has miserably failed in the top three people-centred tests – unemployment, prices and inflation, and household finances. Not since 1977 have the battle lines been so sharply drawn

# The battle lines are drawn

There is intense competition for ownership of the ONOE plan (Kovind Committee vs Law Commission) and the UCC draft (Uttarakhand vs Assam vs Madhya Pradesh).

Meanwhile, Mr Mohan Bhagwat, the *sarsanghchalak* (leader) of the RSS, has expressed concern over growing incidents of 'conversion' and 'love jihad' and asked RSS members to counter these "aggressively". Therefore, brace yourself for attacks on churches, priests, missionaries and Christian prayer meetings. Young inter-faith couples should beware of moral-religious brigades swooping on them to protect the 'honour' of Hindu girls. (I wonder who will protect the 'honour' of Hindu boys who are found in the company of non-Hindu girls?).

**GIVE EVIDENCE**

I am shocked by these unsubstantiated charges of conversion and love *jihad*. Please ask the thousands of children who attend Christian-run schools and colleges (because they are among the best), how many of them have faced attempts to convert them to Christianity? Please ask yourself how many inter-faith marriages have taken place in the last year in your town or village? Mr Narayana Murthy once famously said, "In God I trust; for everything else bring me data". Will the RSS chief give us data on

conversions and love *jihad*?

The Hon'ble Prime Minister has entered the battlefield. He has said that *Sanatan Dharma* is under attack. Mr Bhagwat has taken 'conversion' and 'love *jihad*' from the RSS armoury. The Women's Reservation Bill will be presented as a 'gift' from the prime minister (while, actually, it is a post-dated cheque on a failing bank). G20 videos and photographs will be liberally and mandatorily telecast on visual and social media platforms to buttress the claim that India is the *Vishwaguru* to the world.

**UNITY & AGENDA**

On the opposite side, the partners of I.N.D.I.A. are preparing to take up issues they consider are relevant and affect the lives of the people. Among them are inflation, unemployment, ethnic and communal conflicts, hate speeches and hate crimes, curbing of freedoms including liberty and free speech, encroachment on states' rights, erosion of federalism, assault on the Constitution, undermining the courts of justice, Chinese incursions, terrorist incidents, slowing economic growth, widening inequalities, crony capitalism, reduction of welfare measures, increase in national debt, misuse of intelligence and investigating agencies, belittling of parliamentary institutions and conventions, and grow-

ing centralism and the cult of personality. The BJP hopes to blunt the Opposition's attacks through the power of money, muscle and the misuse of the law.

Let's focus on the charges that the economy is showing signs of distress and is being mismanaged.

**Unemployment:** The unemployment rate in August 2023 was 8.1 per cent. Youth unemployment (15-24 years) in 2022 was 23.22 per cent. Among graduates, it is 42 per cent according to the State of Working India 2023 report. In August 2023, 1,91,60,000 families demanded work under MGNREGS.

**Prices and inflation:** According to the RBI's bulletin, on August 23, CPI inflation was 6.8 per cent, fuel and light inflation 4.3 per cent and food inflation 9.2 per cent. Since February 2022, CPI inflation has been above the tolerance limit of 6 per cent.

**Household finances:** Household financial assets, as a percentage of GDP, declined from 15.4 per cent (in 2020-21) to 10.9 per cent (in 2022-23). During the same period, household financial liabilities increased from 3.9 per cent to 5.8 per cent. Net financial assets plummeted from 11.5 per cent to 5.1 per cent.

The Modi government has miserably failed in the top three people-centred tests. Not since 1977 have the battle lines been so sharply drawn.

Fifth COLUMN

**TAVLEEN SINGH**  
Twitter: @tavleen\_singh



# Of cabbages and kings

THIS COLUMN is being written hours after landing in the 'mother of democracy' from the most powerful democratic country in the world. I am obliged to travel to New York at least once a year to see my exiled son and every time I return from there, I am startled by how little we in India really know about democracy. This struck me strongly this time. I landed in Mumbai on the last day of the Ganesh festival and was obliged to wait in endless traffic jams as Ganapati was bid farewell with flashing lights, music, and dancing. This offered the chance to gaze upon the omnipresent face of our Home Minister as it smiled out of posters pasted on walls and electric poles.

It occurred to me that in the ten days I spent in the United States, I did not see a single poster of a politician. In real democracies, politicians are not shown adulation of this kind. Nor are they treated like gods in the way that we treat them in this 'mother of democracy'. They are held responsible for all things that go wrong and remain under constant scrutiny. Most of this scrutiny comes from the media. As someone who has worked in the media for decades, it shames me to admit that in India the media is no longer performing this role.

It is true that it has been emasculated by a government that takes crippling action against those who dare to ask questions, but it is also true that some of my comrades have willingly become government spokespersons. A weird mixture of belligerent nationalism and cringing sycophancy have reduced good journalists to cheerleaders. Manipur has been burning for nearly six months now, and you can count on the fingers of one hand the number of journalists who have gone there to report what is really happening. There was a time when ethnic violence was reported by reporters who travelled to where it happened to become eyewitnesses for that first draft of history that journalism is meant to be. This no longer happens.

While in New York, I spent a whole morning watching the Attorney General, Merrick Garland, being interrogated by a House Judiciary Committee, in which Republican Congressmen charged him with unfairly targeting Donald Trump. He stood his ground and said he would not be intimidated, but the tone in which they asked their questions reminded me that this would never happen in our own ancient democracy. Which brings us to the role Parliament has played in recent years.

It is true that it is primarily the responsibility of the government to ensure that it functions properly, but the opposition is much to blame for constantly disrupting every session. Instead of storming out of the house and protesting under Gandhiji's statue in the garden, they would have done better to register their dissidence inside the house. It is because they did not do this that the government has managed to pass laws simply by using its brute majority as a sledgehammer.

It is because the media and our legislators have both failed to raise real issues that the government has got away with setting precedents that are truly dangerous for democracy. The rule of law is essential in democracies. Today it is routinely disrespected by BJP chief ministers who demolish the homes of people they label as criminals without feeling the need to prove this in a court of law. Meanwhile the man seen as the main challenger to Narendra Modi is to be seen these days learning about the lives of coolies, carpenters, mechanics, and truck drivers. It certainly shows that he has an enhanced idea of noblesse oblige, but it also shows that he is not doing his real job.

Sycophancy has been a ubiquitous element in Indian politics since that time when a Congress President declared that 'Indira is India and India is Indira', but it has lately got completely out of hand. I cannot remember the last time that a minister of the Government of India made a speech in which he did not say that it was the 'visionary' leadership of Narendra Modi that had made it possible for him to do whatever he was doing. It seems that none of our politicians remember those 'visionary' words of Acharya Kripalani when the Emergency ended. He said at a public meeting outside the Red Fort that politicians had feet of clay and must never be treated as gods.

In this land officially declared as the 'mother of democracy' can we hope that some understanding of real democracy returns someday soon. We could begin by urging our politicians to stop defacing the walls of our cities with huge posters of their usually unattractive faces. In Mumbai, despite being home to Bollywood, there are more posters of politicians than movie stars, and at least movie stars are easy on the eye. We have much to learn about democracy from countries who we believe have learned about democracy from us.

If we are indeed the mother of democracy, we must urge our political leaders to stop behaving like potentates and kings, and more like real servants of the people. That is what they are supposed to be. It would be particularly wise for them to remember this now. Soon, these potentates and kings will have to answer in the court of the people.

# Finding peace and Dhamma in Sri Lanka

Dalitality

**SURAJ YENGDE**  
Twitter: @Surajyengde

AS MANY of you may know by now, I have been on a trip to the places where Buddha's Dhamma has originated, made an impact or is preserved and worshipped. In India, I spent days exploring the caves in the Western Ghats, in Bihar, and in Lumbini.

But what I experienced in the past 10 days in Sri Lanka was stupendously surprising. I had heard about Sri Lanka through the stories of Samrat Ashok and Sri Lankan monks who visited Nanded and nearby places preaching the word of Lord Buddha. Sri Lanka also featured as a nation of cricketing geniuses. But nothing prepared me for the cleanliness on the streets, beaches, and religious sites, and the kindness in hearts that is indoctrinated into the life of Sri Lankans. They are poor people but prideful and honourable.

I have not travelled extensively through the nooks and corners and certainly cannot validate the many political and internal matters of the country. But whatever I experienced left me with a feeling of pleasant disbelief. Can people be so kind without reason? Is there a certain unsaid expectation?

I was always on guard for potential scamsters and about 90 per cent of the time, I was proved wrong. I am used to regular businesspeople, taxis, auto drivers – pretty much anyone in the industry affiliated with serving tourists – as scamsters. Not that such was absent in Sri Lanka, but people here dealt with grace.

They did not impose by invading my privacy and making me uncomfortable. As soon as I landed in Colombo, beautiful smiling faces greeted me. But I was still unsure if this was a gesture or part of the job.

Everywhere I went, the Sri Lankans welcomed me. After realising that I was Indian and not Sinhalese, the signature smile extended. They were even happier to know that I had a Buddhist background.

The sites where relics of the Buddha remain are the ones that are most revered.

Like Indians, Sri Lankans seem to be cognisant of the many invasions that happened in South India and how Hinduism was brought in to challenge Buddhism. They also faced the desecration of their sacred sites in the past and during the civil

war. The history is visible in the ruins. But they did not hold contempt.

Despite the chequered role of India in their civil war, they did not hold that against me. The civil war was another of the grotesque episodes witnessed in countries with a colonial past across Asia, Africa and Latin America.

The force of colonial powers, partnered with Brahmins and the dogma of ancient histories, culminated in the creation of a violent reaction. The majority-minority question has degraded most societies. Sri Lanka is no exception. The common roots for all are the shrines of Buddhist reverence present across Sri Lanka and Tamil Nadu. The greatest Tamil Buddhist of the modern era, Iyothee Thass, also received ordination in the neighbouring island.

I wondered what was the reason for the generosity, donation, kindness, and happiness among Sri Lankans. I couldn't help but think about the immense influence of Dhamma in the life of the people. It has become their lifestyle even without having to think of it as a deliberate act.

Certainly, I was told that certain sections of monkhood were corruptible and how robed men act to draw political power. Such pontiffs are the bane of society elsewhere in the world too.

This was a trip to the Dhamma land, which Indian Buddhists of the 4th century BCE chose as one that would preserve Buddha's relics and uphold Buddha's Dhamma. Samrat Ashok had sent his two precious children – Mahindra and Sanghamitra – to the land to spread Dhamma. I almost choked with emotion when I saw the place where Theri (nun) Sanghamitra stayed and the site of her cremation, where devotees now offered their prayers.

We bring back this great history by reviving, popularising, and claiming Samrat Ashoka as one of our own. Starting September 30, the Buddhist Fraternity Council is carrying out the "Ashoka Ambedkar Dhamma Yatra" through six states. The statue of Ashoka and a unique copy of the Buddha and His Dhamma authored by Dr Ambedkar will be gifted to viharas and devotees on the way to Nagpur.

One Thero (monk) pointed out that we have to know the "right Buddhism" and bring it into our lives. It must be the way out of our current dystopia and inequality.

(Suraj Yengde, author of Caste Matters, curates Dalitality and is currently at Oxford University)

# Satyam Shivam Sundaram



CR Sasikumar



**RAHUL GANDHI**

IMAGINE LIFE as swimming through a vast ocean of joy, love and fear. We live together in its beautiful but frightening depths, trying to survive its many powerful and constantly changing currents. There is love, connection and immense happiness in the ocean. But there is also fear. Fear of death, hunger, loss, as well as fear of pain, insignificance, and failure. Life is our collective journey through this beautiful ocean. We are all swimming together. It is beautiful, but it is also frightening because nobody has ever survived this vast ocean we call life. And nobody ever will.

A person who has the courage to overcome her own fear so that she may observe the ocean truthfully is a Hindu. To call Hinduism a set of cultural norms is to misunderstand it. To bind it to a particular nation or geography is to limit it. Hinduism is how we mitigate and understand our relationship with our fears. It is a path towards the realisation of truth and though it belongs to no one, it is open

To call Hinduism a set of cultural norms is to misunderstand it. To bind it to a geography is to limit it. Hinduism is how we understand our relationship with our fears

to anyone who chooses to walk on it.

A Hindu looks at herself and everyone in this ocean of life with love, compassion and respect because she understands we are all swimming and drowning in exactly the same waters. She reaches out and protects all the beings around her who are

struggling to swim. She is alert to even the most quiet anxiety, the most silent scream. This action and duty to defend others, especially the weak, is what a Hindu calls her Dharma. Listening for and acting on behalf of the world's invisible worries through the prisms of truth and non-violence.

A Hindu has the courage to look deeply into her own fear and to embrace it. She learns to turn her fear from an enemy into an intimate friend that guides and accompanies her through life. She is not a victim. And never ever allows her fear to capture her and turn her into a vehicle for anger, hatred or violence.

A Hindu knows that whatever knowledge exists, springs from the collective will of the ocean. It is not her property alone. She knows things are constantly evolving in the currents and that nothing ever stands still. She is bestowed with a deep sense of curiosity, one that ensures she never closes her mind to understanding. A Hindu is humble and is always ready to listen and learn from any being that swims in the great ocean.

She loves all living beings and accepts that each one of them has the right to choose their own path to navigate and understand the ocean. She loves, respects and accepts all paths as if they are her own.

The writer is a senior member of the Congress Working Committee

On the LOOSE

**LEHER KALA**  
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ANYONE WITH a social media presence is bound to have stumbled on the quietly powerful handle @humansofnewyork that features stories of grit and resilience of ordinary people. It's a format that's wondrously simple: a series of images of a person out in the street going about their regular day with the blurb alongside documenting details of their turbulent lives. People talk about overcoming failure, divorces and abusive parents. The overarching theme being that geography notwithstanding, our hopes and desires remain largely the same. Unsurprisingly, the HoNY page has been appropriated all over the world. In a somewhat bizarre turn of events, the

# Lies, damned lies and a tell-all

creator of HoNY called out Humans of Bombay for suing a similar platform—People of India—for copyright infringement.

The irony, of one entrepreneur blatantly plagiarising an international business model and then suing another for copying them is cynically hilarious and entirely in keeping with the confusion of our era: that there is no longer any specific kind of life to live by. In certain situations, the human ideal extends to an acceptance of open deception.

"You can't be suing people for what I've forgiven you for," said Brandon Stanton, creator of HoNY on X, adding a criticism on the practice of charging money for posts. "In 13 years I haven't received a penny for a single story told on HoNY despite many millions offered," posted Stanton. By all accounts, Humans of Bombay is a success-

fully monetised website that earned over 6 crores in revenue last year. Reports on social media suggest they charge over Rs 2 lakh per social media post.

This HoNY format, known as "empathetic storytelling", is a genre suddenly visible everywhere, in the personal essay, in podcasts on Spotify, where everyone's examining themselves and revealing the harrowing dramas that spoil so much of our lives. The idea, that through your tragic story, I come to see my own, appeals to a generation that's so me of age on Twitter and Instagram. There's no getting around the fact that talking about oneself, if cleverly orchestrated, can become a lucrative career. However, it's impossible to miss the inherent contradictions in "paid features" of alleged greatness. It's one thing to spend money on advertising when there's a prod-

uct involved like chocolate sauce or jackets; and indeed, one may forgive a narrator for exaggerating or waxing eloquent about the style or taste of something, to encourage buyers. But surely, the fact that somebody is paying for their story of struggle and redemption to be covered — with the aim to receive accolades—is a serious red flag?

It's time that social media starts playing by the advertising rules followed by traditional platforms like TV, radio and print, where disclaimers differentiate between news and paid posts. Influencers, everywhere, are feeling the heat for charging money and posting for products camouflaged as genuine recommendations. It's not a big ask to put out #ad or #paidpartnership since all the research suggests consumers set much more store by an influencer's validation than a direct campaign.

Pretending a post isn't sponsored is especially misleading when Humans of Bombay describes their site as "Cataloging the beat of humanity... one story at a time". Any creative endeavour needs to make money—but to maintain credibility, profit and art need to be carefully balanced and scrupulously disclosed to a discerning public.

No doubt, we're still hung up on the stereotype of the starving artist, deeply romanticised throughout history, which is why we're instantly suspicious of HoB's modus operandi. We expect artists to be passionate and disdainful of profit but the fact is, it's only by selling art that they can continue to make it. There's no such thing as art for art's sake; but when someone's cashing in on the tensions and contradictions in someone's life story, it's vital that it be true.

The writer is director, Hutkay Films



# 16 THE WORLD

## TOP OF THE WORLD



Pope Francis blesses a new Cardinal at Saint Peter's square at the Vatican. Reuters

### VATICAN

#### Pope Francis appoints 21 new cardinals

Vatican City: Pope Francis created 21 new Cardinals at a ritual-filled ceremony on Saturday, including key figures at the Vatican and in the field who will help enact his reforms and cement his legacy. On a crisp sunny day filled with cheers from St. Peter's Square, Francis further expanded his influence on the College of Cardinals who will one day elect his successor. Among the new cardinals were the controversial new head of the Vatican's doctrine office, Victor Manuel Fernandez, and the Chicago-born Robert Prevost. AP

### PAKISTAN

#### Toll in twin suicide attacks rises to 60

Karachi: The death toll in the two suicide attacks in Pakistan's restive Balochistan and Khyber Pakhtunkhwa provinces has risen to 60 even as counter-terrorism authorities said they have registered a first information report in connection with the Balochistan blast on Saturday. A total of 55 people were killed and more than 60 others were injured in a grisly suicide blast on Friday in Balochistan that targeted a procession to celebrate Prophet Muhammad's birthday near the Madina Masjid at a place called Mastung, Dawn News reported. PTI

#### Imran, Qureshi guilty in cipher case, says FIA

Islamabad: Pakistan's top investigation agency on Saturday declared former prime minister Imran Khan and ex-foreign minister Shah Mahmood Qureshi guilty in a case related to the alleged disclosure of state secrets, popularly known as the cipher case. The Federal Investigation Agency (FIA) submitted the charge sheet against Khan, the chairman of the Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) party and his deputy Qureshi, both currently detained in jail on judicial remand, to a special court established under the Official Secrets Act, the Pakistan Observer website reported. Khan, 70, was arrested last month in the case. PTI

#### Italy Flight services to Libya resume after 10 years

Cairo: Italy and war-torn Libya on Saturday resumed commercial flights for the first time in a decade, authorities in the Libyan capital said. Flight MT522, operated by the Libyan carrier Medsky Airways, departed Mitiga International Airport in Tripoli for Rome's Leonardo da Vinci-Fiumicino Airport, according to Libyan airport authorities. A return flight was scheduled to land in Tripoli on Saturday. AP

## HE ENTERED FRAY AFTER SC PREVENTED ABDULLA YAMEEN FROM CONTESTING

# In a shift closer to China, Opp candidate projected to win Maldives presidency

Polls became a referendum on which regional power — India or China — will have biggest say

ASSOCIATED PRESS  
MALE, SEPTEMBER 30

**OPPOSITION CANDIDATE**  
Mohamed Muizzu appeared to be headed for a win in the Maldives presidential runoff on Saturday, securing more than 53% of the vote after almost all the ballots were counted, local media reported.

The election has turned into a virtual referendum on which regional power — India or China — will have the biggest influence in the Indian Ocean archipelago nation. *Mihaaru News* reported that incumbent President Ibrahim Mohamed Solih had received 46% of the vote and Muizzu was leading by 17,000 votes, with only 11,000 votes still to be counted.

Official results are expected later on Saturday. It would be a



Mohamed Muizzu, candidate of the opposition party, Peoples National Congress, during the second round of a presidential election in Male on Saturday. Reuters

surprise win for Muizzu, who entered the fray as an underdog and was named only as a fallback can-

didate closer to the nomination deadline after the Supreme Court prevented his party's leader and

**EXPLAINED**  
**E** Mohamed Muizzu's stand against India

Solih championed an 'India first' policy during his time in power. The coalition backing Muizzu by contrast launched an "India out" campaign, promising to remove a small Indian military presence of several surveillance aircraft and some 75 personnel. Muizzu entered the fray with support from pro-China former President Abdulla Yameen.

former President Abdulla Yameen from contesting because he is serving a prison sentence for

money laundering and corruption.

Neither Muizzu nor Solih got more than 50% in the first round of voting earlier in September. Solih, who was first elected president in 2018, was battling allegations by Muizzu that he had allowed India an unchecked presence in the country. Muizzu's party, the People's National Congress, is viewed as heavily pro-China.

Solih suffered a setback closer to the election when Mohamed Nasheed, a charismatic former president, broke away from his Maldivian Democratic Party and fielded his own candidate in the first round. He decided to remain neutral in the second round.

Yameen, leader of the People's National Congress, made the Maldives a part of China's Belt and Road initiative during his presidency from 2013 to 2018.

## STUDY ON SPEED INDEX DHAKA SLOWEST CITY IN WORLD

Dhaka, the capital of Bangladesh, is the slowest city in the world while the fastest city on the speed index is Flint in the US state of Michigan, says a study done by US-based National Bureau of Economic Research.



US House Speaker Kevin McCarthy speaks with reporters after a House Republican conference meeting in Washington on Saturday. Reuters

# On brink of US govt shutdown, McCarthy pivots to a 45-day plan

ASSOCIATED PRESS  
WASHINGTON, SEPTEMBER 30

ON THE brink of a federal government shutdown, Speaker Kevin McCarthy announced a dramatic pivot Saturday, trying to push a 45-day funding bill through the House with Democratic help — a move that could keep government open but most certainly risks his job.

Republican lawmakers met behind closed doors early in the morning with hours to go before the midnight deadline needed to fund government operations or face a disruptive federal closure. The new approach would leave behind aid to Ukraine, a White House priority opposed by a growing number of GOP lawmakers, but the plan would increase federal disaster assistance by \$16 billion, meeting President Joe Biden's full request.

The House was preparing for a quick vote Saturday on the plan, but Democrats hit the brakes, seeking time so they could read the 71-page bill.

Across the Capitol, the Senate was opening a rare weekend session and hoping to advance its own stopgap plan, but with money for Ukraine. "We're going to do our job," McCarthy said after the morning meeting.

With no deal in place before Sunday, federal workers will face furloughs, more than 2 million active-duty and reserve military troops will work without pay and programs and services that Americans rely on from coast to coast will begin to face shutdown disruptions.

The sudden House action would fund government at current 2023 levels for 45 days, through Nov. 17.

McCarthy was setting up a process for voting that will require a two-thirds supermajority, about 290 votes in the 435-member House for passage. Republicans hold a 221-212 majority, with two vacancies. Relying on Democratic votes and leaving his right-flank behind is something that the hard-right lawmakers have warned will risk McCarthy's job as speaker. They are almost certain to quickly file a motion to try to remove McCarthy from that office, though it is not at all certain there would be enough votes to topple the speaker.

The quick pivot comes after the collapse Friday of McCarthy's earlier plan to pass a Republican-only bill with steep spending cuts up to 30% to most government agencies that the White House and Democrats rejected as too extreme.

## Almost all from Karabakh reach Armenia: Govt

ASSOCIATED PRESS  
YEREVAN, SEPTEMBER 30

AN ETHNIC Armenian exodus has nearly emptied Nagorno-Karabakh of residents since Azerbaijan attacked and ordered the breakaway region's militants to disarm, the Armenian government said Saturday.

Nazeli Baghdasaryan, the press secretary to Armenian Prime Minister Nikol Pashinyan, said that 100,480 people had arrived in Armenia from Nagorno-Karabakh, which had a population of around 120,000 before Azerbaijan reclaimed the region in a lightning offensive last week.

A total of 21,076 vehicles had crossed the Hakari Bridge, which links Armenia to Nagorno-Karabakh, since last week, Baghdasaryan said. Some lined up for days because the winding mountain road that is the only route to Armenia became jammed.



An ethnic Armenian family from Nagorno-Karabakh at Goris in Syunik region, Armenia, on Saturday. As many as 1,00,417 people had arrived in Armenia. Nagorno-Karabakh had a population over 1,20,000 before the exodus began. AP

## China visit historic, successful: Nepal PM

YUBARAJ GHIMIRE  
KATHMANDU, SEPTEMBER 30

NEPAL PRIME Minister Pushpa Kamal Dahal on Saturday said his eight-day official trip to China was "historic and successful" but he could produce little evidence to substantiate it.

A 17-page statement distributed to the media after he returned from China was more of a plethora of claims than concrete bilateral agreements between the two sides. Notably, there is no mention of the Belt and Road Initiative in the statement although the joint communiqué issued on the third day of his visit had said that the two sides would soon hold consultations to "finalise the text for BRI implementation plan at an early date."

He said at the airport that the



first high-level visit to China after president Xi Jinping's visit to Kathmandu in 2019 has strengthened the atmosphere of trust between Kathmandu and Beijing and further deepened the historic relations existing between the two neighbours.

China has agreed to open all checkpoints opened during pre-COVID-19 phase and undertake Hilsa-simikot road as well as Nepal-China power grid construction. Similarly, Korala pass connecting Mustang and Tibet along the border and Kimathanka-Olangchung road will also be opened soon.

## Pro-Russian former PM Fico or pro-Western liberals? Slovaks vote

REUTERS  
BRATISLAVA, SEPTEMBER 30

SLOVAKS WERE voting on Saturday in a parliamentary election closely fought between former leftist Prime Minister Robert Fico, who wants to end military aid for neighbouring Ukraine, and pro-Western liberals.

Final opinion polls showed Fico's SMER-SSD (Direction-Slovak Social Democracy) party neck and neck with Progressive Slovakia (PS), with the winner expected to get the first chance to try to form a government to replace the caretaker administration running the country of 5.5 million since May.

A government led by Fico would mean Slovakia joining Hungary in challenging the European Union's consensus on



A young girl casts a vote for her mother at a polling station in Bratislava, Slovakia, on Saturday. AP

support for Ukraine, just as the bloc looks to keep unity in opposing Russia's invasion.

It would also bolster a group of eastern ex-Communist states with governments publicly hostile to liberalism. They also include Poland's ruling nationalist PiS party, which also faces an election

next month, though it remains pro-Ukrainian. A PS government would stay the course on foreign policy, maintaining the country's strong backing for Ukraine and following a liberal line on issues such as majority voting to make the bloc more flexible, green policies and LGBTQ+ rights.

## Sri Lankan President orders probe into judge's resignation over threat

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA  
COLOMBO, SEPTEMBER 30

SRI LANKAN President Ranil Wickremesinghe has ordered a probe into the resignation of a district judge in the Tamil-majority Northern province's Mullaithivu over threats to his life, officials said on Saturday.

T Saravananarajah tendered his resignation to the Judicial Service Commission on September 23, claiming threats to his life and reportedly left the country.

Among the various cases presided over by the judge, he had ruled against the building of a Buddhist shrine at a disputed archaeological site. The legal proceedings over the digging of an alleged mass grave in the same area were also presided over by

Saravananarajah. According to informed officials, President Wickremesinghe directed the Secretary to the President to probe the circumstances of Saravananarajah's resignation, as the judge hadn't lodged any complaints on the alleged threat to his life previously.

As the district judge of the northern region of Mullaithivu, Saravananarajah had ruled against the building of a Buddhist shrine at Kurunthamale, a disputed archaeological site.

The Tamils in the region had protested against what they claimed were land grants by the state for Buddhist archaeological excavations. Saravananarajah also presided over the legal proceedings at the digging of an alleged mass grave in the same area. In June, "mass grave" was accidentally discovered.

## IN A SMALL VILLAGE, JEWS AND ARABS HAVE CHOSEN TO LIVE SIDE BY SIDE, BUT AGONIES OF CONFLICT CAN'T BE ESCAPED

# In an Israeli oasis, a model for peace, if messy and imperfect

HIBA YAZBEK  
NEVE SHALOM/WAHAT  
AL-SALAM (ISRAEL), SEPT 30

FROM A distance, the cemetery looks much like any other in Israel, but examine the tombs closely and a startling fact is revealed: Here are buried Jews, Muslims and Christians.

The graveyard lies in the Oasis of Peace, a small village off the main highway between Tel Aviv and Jerusalem, and home to some 70 Arab and Jewish families — all citizens of Israel — who have moved here from across the country with the intention of creating

a shared life, side by side. In this village, children learn both Arabic and Hebrew in school, and celebrate Hanukkah, Ramadan and Christmas.

"I had a beautiful childhood here," said Nur Najjar, 34, who was born in the village to the community's first Arab family. "I felt completely free, which is a rare thing as an Arab girl living in Israel."

The school's principal is a Palestinian citizen of Israel, as the village's Arab residents prefer to be called. The manager of its spiritual center — a domed prayer and meditation room for all residents, regardless of faith — is Jewish. After a recent election, the head of



Nur Najjar (centre) at an ummer pool party. "I had a beautiful childhood here," she said. "I felt completely free, which is a rare thing as an Arab girl living in Israel." NYT

the local council is Jewish; his predecessor was Palestinian.

This balance of powers stands out at a time when Israel is more divided than ever and the prospects for resolving the conflict between Israelis and Palestinians seem to be fading.

Although the village's population is a minuscule fraction of Israel's total — and is composed only of people who have consciously sought out this level of co-existence — the residents here still hope it can model for a different kind of future.

"When you live here, being racist is unnatural," said Amit Kitain, 40, whose family was

among the village's first Jewish residents. "The fact that you're growing up together makes a huge difference."

The village — known in Israel by its Hebrew-Arabic bilingual name, Neve Shalom/Wahat al-Salam — was founded by Bruno Hussar, a monk, born in Egypt to a Jewish family, who later converted to Christianity. In 1972, he approached a monastery in a depopulated Palestinian village and pitched an idea he'd been mulling for years: building a place where Christians, Jews and Muslims could live together.

The monks leased him land on a nearby barren hill. Father Hussar

then moved there alone, converting a bus into his new home, and set about promoting his vision.

During its founding years, the village lacked basic necessities. Some of the first arrivals didn't last, but others were willing to swap comfortable homes for candlelit tin shacks and started families here. In 1994, the village gained official governmental recognition, and with that came water and electricity.

Over time, the village garnered a reputation as a pit stop for leaders who wanted to burnish their credentials as global peacemakers — among them the Dalai Lama and Hillary Clinton. NYT



# 17 ECONOMY

## CRUDE WATCH

### OIL SETTLES LOWER

Oil prices settled 1% lower on Friday due to macroeconomic concerns and profit taking, but rose about 30% in the quarter as OPEC+ production cuts squeezed global crude supply. **REUTERS**

## REINSURANCE COSTS, INFLATION HAVE ADDED TO COSTS FOR INSURERS

# Insurance premium likely to undergo price correction, rise by 15-20%

GEORGE MATHEW  
MUMBAI, SEPTEMBER 30

GENERAL INSURANCE premium is expected to rise by 15-20 per cent in the coming months as part of the risk management by the insurers, especially in the wake of the anticipated increase in reinsurance costs.

Indian general insurance market may see further hardening of premiums going ahead as reinsurance prices may get costlier, Devesh Srivastav, Chairman and MD of public sector GIC Re has cautioned. Health and motor are the two major insurance segments in India with the non-life general insurance clocking a premium of Rs 1.02 lakh crore in the first five months of FY2024. "We are putting our pricing approach on more sound technical basis and have tried pricing correction wherever we feel it is warranted. Restructuring is underway in terms of business portfolio composition and achieving pricing adequacy at contract level. The measures so far have focused on property and agriculture and in the next renewal, we are also touching upon other classes," Srivastav said. The rate increases in the in-



Combined ratio for the health segment has moderated to 92-156 per cent in FY2023 across players. *File*

ternational market have been unprecedented and has acted as a boon to GIC Re's bottom line focussed approach. GIC Re will continue its profitability with growth approach and ensure price sufficiency in all its underwritings, Srivastav said. Srivastav, who is ending his four-year stint at the third largest Asian reinsurer with a market share of 70 per cent this month end, said, "It is important that we write only keeping a bottom-line focus. A consistent endeavour has been made to improve the solvency ratio, loss ratio, combined ratio, increasing customer satisfaction and retention."

"Our prime focus is to mitigate the underwriting losses and maintain the underwriting discipline. We are focussing on bottom line and the mantra going forward will be profitable growth," GIC Re chief said. Further, the rise in retail inflation has added to the overall costs for the insurers. Health expenses have also shot up with medical inflation rising across the board. Claims due to natural calamities have shot up globally, including India, in the last one year. Globally there is a churn following record level catastrophic losses during last 3-4 years and the situation was exacerbated by the pandemic. It is ex-

pected that the hardening rates witnessed during last couple of years will sustain for at least for some time, he said.

"GIC Re has done exceedingly well in restoring the solvency and to protect the balance sheet and shareholder's fund. Its solvency today is 2.88 which gave me a sigh of relief. Our main objective is to maintain the solvency and control underwriting losses thereby improving our rating," he said.

GIC Re has implemented the ambitious 'Project Parivartan', which will be a game changer for HR transformation. Similarly, the reinsurer is also going with full steam ahead for the Project SAP Hana, which will assist its operations vastly.

"A paperless GIC Re is our commitment to the environment, while also leaving a clear audit trail and making our operations more transparent," he said.

Speaking about the competition in the Indian reinsurance market after entry of over 10 global reinsurers which have set up branches in the country, Srivastav said the Indian market is big enough for all the players. "With just one per cent penetration, we have only scratched the surface," he said.

GIC Re, with a global pre-

mium of \$4.5 billion in FY2022-23, has a long-term vision to maintain a ratio of 50:50 between its Indian and international business. "Today, we are 70:30. We will look to grow our international book with caution ensuring price sufficiency," he said.

According to a Kotak Securities report, fire and other commercial lines are more profitable, especially for the larger players, due to pricing discipline enforced by reinsurers. Motor OD combined ratio has increased for most players in FY2023. The pricing pressure in the segment has not waned and in Q1 of FY24 as well, the trends are mixed. Motor TP (third party) combined ratio is lower than the OD segment for most players in FY2023. Motor TP combined ratio has dropped during FY2018-20 due to hike in TP tariffs. Combined ratio for the health segment has moderated to 92-156 per cent in FY2023 across players, likely due to pricing action taken by most insurers.

The impact of Covid-related claims inflation followed by high medical inflation led to gradual increase in combined ratio -- up to 113-233 per cent in FY2022 from 54-187 per cent in FY2019).

## GAMING FEDERATION WRITES MISSIVE TO FIN MIN

# Amended norms for 28% GST on e-gaming kick in; companies raise concerns

SOUMYARENDRA BARIK & ANANCHAL MAGAZINE  
NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 30

AMENDED LEGAL provisions and rules are set to kick in for online gaming, horse racing and casinos from Sunday (October 1), bringing into effect the 28 per cent tax at face value at entry level under the Goods and Services Tax (GST) regime and mandatory registration for offshore online gaming companies in India. Industry players and experts have, however, raised concerns about compliance and the applicability of the amended legal provisions as some states are still in the process of clearing the amendments for their respective State GST (SGST) laws.

On Saturday, in a letter written by All India Gaming Federation (AIGF) to Ministry of Finance, a copy of which has been seen by *The Indian Express*, online gaming companies have asked the government to reconsider the amendments, citing the fact that around 15 states are yet to make changes to their respective GST statutes.

Government officials, however, emphasised that all states are on board for the amended rules and provisions, even though some states may face delay in passing their amendments/ordinances. "A few states may be late but all states are on board. Some have amended and others are in process. But all states are on board," a top government official told *The Indian Express*.

The official further said that gaming companies are mainly located in Bengaluru, Karnataka and Mumbai, Maharashtra and both states have already passed the amendments for casinos, online gaming and horse racing. States like Goa, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra had earlier cleared the amendment, while Karnataka promulgated the ordinance on Friday.

The GST Council is slated to meet next on October 7, wherein an update is expected to be taken on the rollout of the online gaming provisions across states.

Industry and tax experts said compliance will be a huge burden for online gaming companies. With the recent spate of notices to these companies, the change to



Government officials emphasised that all states are on board for the amended rules and provisions. *File*

the revised regime is already building apprehensions of further such legal notices from the GST authorities in the future.

"...this may open floodgates of unilateral actions in future by various states in various other aspects of GST thereby tearing apart the fabric of GST so carefully stitched together through a painstakingly built consensus between Center and the States," the AIGF, which represents companies like MPL, WinZO and Zube, said in its letter.

"With around 15 States yet to make changes to their respective State GST laws, what would be the GST treatment that ought to be adopted by online gaming companies registered in those States in relation to deposits received from players of those States," the AIGF said.

"Since the amendments to the SGST laws are yet to be passed, the online gaming companies cannot charge SGST and can only charge CGST," he added. "Going forward, will the online gaming companies be penalised for not being able to charge the appropriate GST," they asked.

The top government official cited above stated that both CGST and IGST have become applicable. "Only if both the company and the user are located in states which have not passed the amendment, it will not be applicable," the official said.

A senior gaming company executive said that the Centre's notification "appears to be a move to push the States to pass their respective amendments at the earliest and till that happens, there will clearly be an anomaly".

"To illustrate -- Haryana has issued an ordinance to amend its

SGST law but Delhi has not. Operators with registration in Delhi will not be liable to SGST but will be liable to CGST for deposits from customers located in Delhi. However, IGST will be applicable for all deposits from customers located outside Delhi. Whereas operators in Haryana will have to charge full tax rate for all customer deposits irrespective of whether the customer is within or outside Haryana," they said, requesting anonymity.

The AIGF, while requesting the government to suspend the amendments until all states make their respective legal changes, said that for their members to align their business practices with the framework will require back-end modifications and alignment so that appropriate GST is charged.

"In a scenario where there is complete confusion, it will be a massive challenge for the online gaming companies to operationally adapt to these large-scale changes when there is no uniformity in the statutory framework," they said in the letter.

Tax experts said the non-uniform rollout of the provisions for online gaming leaves space for ambiguity for classification of supplies made among others. Abhishek Jain, Indirect Tax Head & Partner, KPMG said, "While most provisions for the revised taxability have been notified, ambiguity on certain matters continue including classification of the supplies made, time of supply, transition provisions, etc."

Companies will need to work on their compliance requirements, experts said.

FULL REPORT ON [www.indianexpress.com](http://www.indianexpress.com)

## Timeline to deposit ₹2,000 currency notes extended till October 7

ENSECONOMIC BUREAU  
MUMBAI, SEPTEMBER 30

THE RESERVE Bank of India (RBI) on Saturday extended the date to exchange or deposit Rs 2,000 banknotes, which were withdrawn from circulation in May this year, till October 7, even as Rs 14,000 crore of notes are yet to be returned. The RBI said Rs 2,000 banknotes will continue to be legal tender.

The central bank said of the total value of Rs 3.56 lakh crore of Rs 2000 banknotes in circulation as on May 19, 2023, Rs 3.42 lakh crore has been received, leaving only Rs 14,000 crore in circulation as at the close of business on September 29, 2023. The earlier deadline to deposit or exchange these notes was September 30.

"...96 per cent of the Rs 2,000 banknotes in circulation as on May 19, 2023 has since been returned," the RBI said in a release.

According to banking sources, a significant portion of unreturned notes could be unaccounted money and those lying with non-resident Indians. There are still people who are ignorant about the RBI decision to withdraw the notes.

The central bank said from October 8, the procedure for deposit or exchange of Rs 2,000 banknotes at bank branches will be stopped.

It said Rs 2,000 banknotes can continue to be exchanged by individuals or entities at the 19 RBI Issue Offices up to a limit of Rs 20,000 at a time. Individuals or entities can tender Rs 2000 banknotes at these RBI Issue Offices for credit to their bank accounts in India for any amount. Individuals or entities from within the country can also send Rs 2,000 notes through India Post, addressed to any of the 19 RBI Issue Offices for credit to their bank accounts in the country.

## DEMONETISATION IN NOV 2016

■ In the previous round of demonetisation, of the Rs 15.41 lakh crore worth Rs 500 and Rs 1,000 notes in circulation on November 8, 2016, notes worth Rs 15.31 lakh crore were returned, as per RBI

"Such exchange or credit shall be subject to relevant RBI/government regulations, submission of valid identity documents and due diligence as deemed fit by RBI," the release said.

Courts, law enforcement agencies, government departments or any other public authority involved in investigation proceedings or enforcement, may, as and when required, deposit or exchange Rs 2000 banknotes at any of the 19 RBI Issue Offices without any limit, the RBI said. The RBI has asked banks to ensure that Rs 2,000 banknotes collected by their branches till October 7, are deposited at currency chests on or before October 13.

The above facility for deposit or exchange of Rs 2000 banknotes at the 19 RBI Issue Offices will be available till further advice, the release said.

The 19 RBI Issue Offices are Ahmedabad, Bangalore, Belapur, Bhopal, Bhubaneswar, Chandigarh, Chennai, Guwahati, Hyderabad, Jaipur, Jammu, Kanpur, Kolkata, Lucknow, Mumbai, Nagpur, New Delhi, Patna and Thiruvananthapuram.

The RBI also advised the public to deposit or exchange the Rs 2000 banknotes without any further delay.

## 'Office space leasing up in July-Sep across six cities'

Gross leasing of office space was driven by sharp increase in demand in Hyderabad, as per Colliers India



"With strong domestic macro-economic indicators backing the demand for office space, the momentum is likely to continue in the last quarter of the year," Peush Jain, Managing Director, Office Services, India at Colliers, said.

## Four factors why bank credit growth is expected to moderate in FY24

HITESH VYAS  
MUMBAI, SEPTEMBER 30

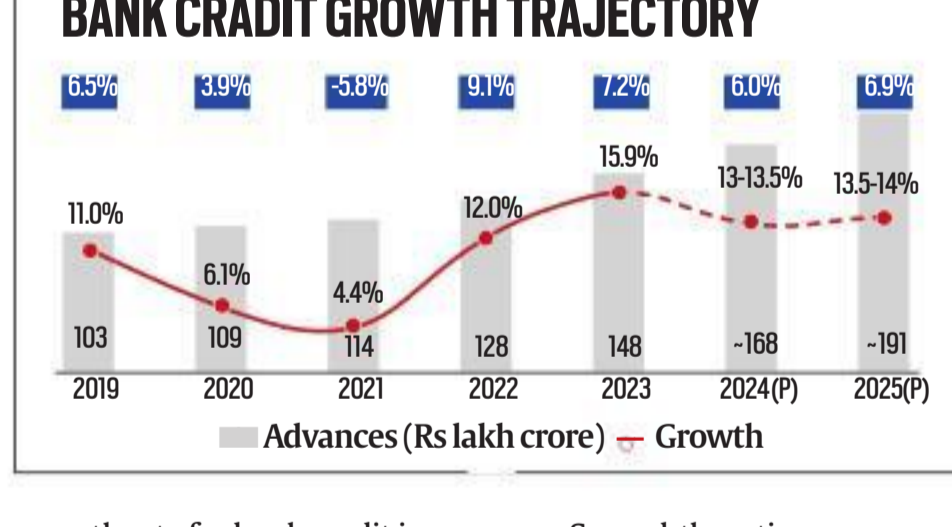
BANKING SECTOR credit growth is likely to be lower at 13-13.5 per cent in fiscal 2023-24 compared to around 16 per cent in the previous fiscal. The factors that will lead to lower loan growth in this fiscal include an expected fall in gross domestic product (GDP) in FY24, lower demand for working capital loan and high-base effect.

### What is the credit growth expectation for FY2024?

The domestic rating agency Crisil Ratings believes bank credit growth is likely to moderate to 13-13.5 per cent in the current fiscal. This expectation comes after bank credit clocked a robust 15.9 per cent in fiscal 2022-23 driven by a broad-based economic recovery, stronger, cleaner balance sheets and the lower base of the preceding two fiscals.

This credit growth estimate, however, excludes the impact of the merger of HDFC Ltd with HDFC Bank in fiscal 2024.

Care Ratings in a report earlier this month said the projected



growth rate for bank credit is expected to be at 13-13.5 per cent for FY24, excluding the merger's impact.

### Why is credit growth expected to moderate in FY24?

Crisil said moderation in bank credit will be on account of four factors-

One, gross domestic product (GDP) growth is expected to decline to 6 per cent on-year in FY24 from 7.2 per cent in the last fiscal. This lower GDP growth will have an impact on the overall credit growth of banks. Crisil's GDP growth estimate is lower than the Reserve Bank of India's (RBI) real GDP growth projection of 6.5 per cent.

Second, the rating agency sees inflation easing in this fiscal due to some softening in commodity prices, which will reduce the overall demand for working capital loans. In FY2023, a significant part of the growth in wholesale credit (comprising corporates and micro, small and medium enterprises, or MSMEs) was driven by higher working capital demand in a high-inflation environment. As per the RBI, consumer price index (CPI) based inflation is projected at 5.4 per cent for 2023-24 compared to 6.7 per cent in 2022-23.

Third, bond market issuances

have been robust in the first half of FY2023 with the change in interest rate environment. Consequently, bank credit's substitution of debt capital markets, which also supported wholesale credit growth last year, especially in the first half, is not being seen to the same extent this year, Crisil said.

The fourth factor for lower bank credit growth will be the high-base effect due to the strong credit growth in fiscal 2023, especially in the second half. Within overall bank credit, growth in wholesale credit (nearly 60 per cent of overall credit) is likely to slow to 11-11.5 per cent this fiscal from a decade high of 15 per cent. On the other hand, retail credit (which is nearly 28 per cent of overall credit), is expected to continue to grow at a healthy clip of 19-20 per cent in this fiscal, similar to last fiscal.

In a recent interview to *The Indian Express*, Federal Bank's Managing Director and CEO Shyam Srinivasan said he expects the banking system's credit growth to grow between 13 and 14 per cent in FY2024.

### How has been the growth in the banking system's credit so far in FY24?

As of September 8, 2023, bank credit grew by 19.81 per cent on a year-on-year basis to Rs 150.38 lakh crore, according to the RBI data. The number includes the impact of the merger of HDFC Ltd with HDFC Bank. Post-merger, the loan portfolio of the mortgage lender has become part of the banking system. However, excluding the impact of the merger, bank credit has grown by 15.08 per cent.

On a year-to-date basis, bank credit (including the impact of the merger) has risen by 8.6 per cent as of September 8, the RBI data showed. In the first quarter of this fiscal, personal loans (housing and non-housing), which have supported overall credit expansion in recent years, recorded some deceleration but continue to grow well above the headline credit growth, the RBI's recent State of the Economy report said.

FULL REPORT ON [www.indianexpress.com](http://www.indianexpress.com)

## BRIEFLY

### TRAI imposes over ₹1 crore penalty on Vodafone Idea

Mumbai: Telecom regulator TRAI has imposed over Rs 1 crore penalty on Vodafone Idea for failure to curb pesky calls and SMS, the company said on Friday. The telecom regulator levied the fine on September 28, Vodafone Idea said in a regulatory filing on Friday. *PTI*

## Govt has allocated ₹100 cr for Aspirational Blocks Programme this fiscal

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA  
NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 30

THE GOVERNMENT in this financial year has allocated Rs 100 crore for the Aspirational Blocks Programme (ABP), which aims to improve governance at the block level, in order to enhance the quality of life of citizens, a top government official said on Saturday.

The Aspirational Blocks

Programme is being implemented in 500 aspirational blocks across 329 districts in the country. Prime Minister Narendra Modi launched the nationwide programme on January 7. "The government has allocated Rs 100 crore for the Aspirational Blocks Programme in 2023-24... We expect that all 500 backward blocks will reach the state average in terms of development," the official said on the condition of anonymity.

**THE NATIONAL SMALL INDUSTRIES CORPORATION LTD.**  
(Govt. of India Enterprise)  
**TECHNICAL SERVICES CENTRE,**  
Japani Gate, Balitkuri, Howrah-711 113  
Ph.: 033-29790304/8606, 7983985314/8017310953, Email: ntschow@nsic.co.in

**NOTICE INVITING TENDER**

The National Small Industries Corporation (NSIC), Technical services centre, Howrah invites online bid through GeM portal from eligible bidders for Supply, Installation and commissioning of following items at their office:

Sl. no.	Items	BID NO.	LAST DATE & TIME
1.	Refrigeration & Air-conditioning items	GEM/2023/B/3984826	11.10.2023 & 13:00:00
2.	Fire & safety items	GEM/2023/B/3951621	04.10.2023 & 12:00:00
3.	Loading Unloading System (Gantry Crane)	GEM/2023/B/3984180	11.10.2023 & 19:00:00
4.	Temperature Data Logger	GEM/2023/B/3993877	17.10.2023 & 18:00:00
5.	Operation suite Simulator (Power Plant), Gas Plant, Boiler Plant, Turbine etc.)	GEM/2023/B/3917050	05.10.2023 & 16:00:00

For details, please visit GeM portal.

**Senior General Manager**

**KERALA WATER AUTHORITY e-Tender Notice**  
Tender No : 108/2023-24/KWA/PHC/D2/TVM/R72  
JJM-Kulathoor GP-Construction of 15LL OHSR at Kunnumpuram and providing transmission main from Charottukonam to Kunnumpuram EMD: Rs. 200000/- Tender fee: Rs. 13,010/- Last Date for submitting Tender: 26-10-2023 03:00:pm  
Phone: 04712322303 Website: [www.kwa.kerala.gov.in](http://www.kwa.kerala.gov.in) [www.etenders.kerala.gov.in](http://www.etenders.kerala.gov.in)  
Superintending Engineer PH Circle Thiruvananthapuram

**JODHPUR VIDYUT VITARAN NIGAM LIMITED, JODHPUR**  
(MATERIAL MANAGEMENT & CONTRACT WING)  
NEW POWER HOUSE, INDUSTRIAL AREA, JODHPUR-342003  
PHONE: (0291) 2742223 FAX: (0291) 2746539  
**E-PROCUREMENT TENDER NOTICE**  
E-Procurement Tender is invited for purchase of Fully Automatic Meter Testing Bench under TN-1951 (UBN JV2324GLOB00571), 9.0 M Long (400 Kg) PCC Poles under TN-1937 (UBN JV2324GLOB00561) and Safety Helmet Mounted with Electronic Induction Tester under TN-1955 (UBN JV2324GLOB00570).  
Details regarding Quantity, Tender cost, Bid Security, Processing Fees and Schedule date of tender opening for aforesaid tenders are available on our website at <http://energy.rajasthan.gov.in/jdvnrl> and also at <http://sppp.rajasthan.gov.in>  
SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER (MM&C)  
Raj.Sanwad/C2319357 विजली संचयी शिकायतों के लिए टोल फ्री नम्बर 1800 180 6045

**JODHPUR VIDYUT VITARAN NIGAM LIMITED, JODHPUR**  
(MATERIAL MANAGEMENT & CONTRACT WING)  
NEW POWER HOUSE, INDUSTRIAL AREA, JODHPUR-342003  
PHONE: (0291) 2742223 FAX: (0291) 2746539  
**E-PROCUREMENT TENDER NOTICE**  
E-Procurement Tender is invited for purchase of 11/V3 KV 240 V 25 KVA Rating EEL-1, outdoor type completely self-protected single phase Aluminium wound Distribution Transformers with inbuilt Circuit Breaker (IS: 1180-1:2014+4 Amendment) under TN-1956 (UBN JV2324GLOB00509), 11/0.433 KV, 16 KVA Three phase Aluminium wound EEL-1 (IS: 1180-1:2014+4 Amendment) Star-1 Rating Completely Self Protected (CSP) Distribution Transformers with having provision of LV Bushing Box under TN-1957 (UBN JV2324GLOB00510) and 11/0.433KV, 100 KV Three Phase Star 1 Energy Efficiency Level-1, Aluminium Wound Distribution Transformers along with Meter and Protection Box unit under TN-1958 (UBN JV2324GLOB00508).  
Details regarding Quantity, Tender cost, Bid Security, Processing Fees and Schedule date of tender opening for aforesaid tenders are available on our website at <http://energy.rajasthan.gov.in/jdvnrl> and also at <http://sppp.rajasthan.gov.in>  
SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER (MM&C)  
Raj.Sanwad/C2319355 विजली संचयी शिकायतों के लिए टोल फ्री नम्बर 1800 180 6045



BRIDGE

Bridge hand diagram showing North and South hands with cards and suits.

East has a boring seven-count and the opponents reaching game is no surprise. West leads the ace of diamonds...

The West hand: S-3H-10864 D-AK876C-652 The South hand: S-Q7652 H-99D-J4 C-AKJ10

One thing East should have noted early is that he has two spade winners on defense. There is no way for declarer to avoid losing two tricks.

East plays the ten of diamonds at trick one. West will interpret this as showing two diamonds and West will lead the king next...

Bridge hand diagram showing North and South hands with cards and suits.

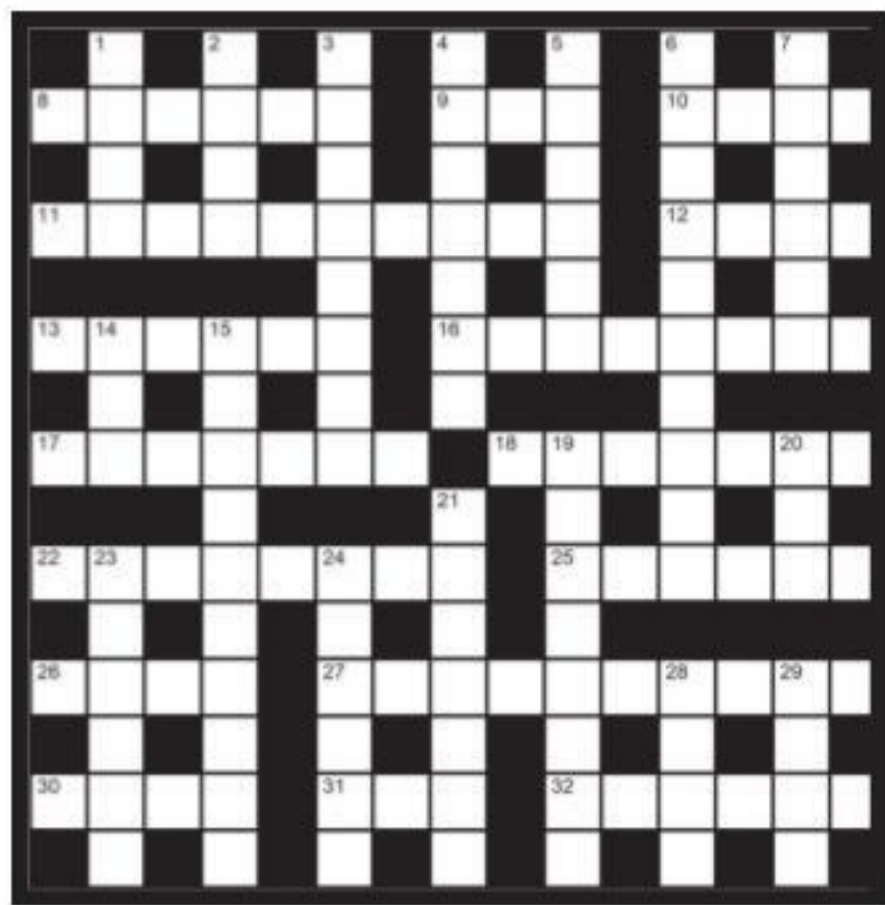
Bridge hand diagram showing West, North, East, and South hands with cards and suits.

West leads the jack of spades to dummy's queen. East's king, and South's ace. South then leads the nine of diamonds to dummy's ace...

SUNDAY CROSSWORD 2445

QUICK CLUES

- ACROSS: 8. Hindu Preserver (6), 9. Actress Merkel (3), 10. Slant (4), 11. Negligent (10), 12. Hay stack (4), 13. A religious holiday (6), 16. Came up or showed up (8), 17. Remains aloft? (5,2), 18. Unfamiliar (7), 22. Not my...: not something to my liking? (3,2,3), 25. Consisting of nine (6), 26. Put down (4), 27. Opposing progress (10), 30. Make-of-break time (1-3), 31. Part of many German names (3), 32. Angola's capital (6)



DOWN

- 1. Rub dry with a cloth (4), 2. Ex-English spinner Edmonds (4), 3. The Karate sticks? (8), 4. Peevish (7), 5. Turnkey (6), 6. Begin a fresh, recommence (5,5), 7. An overused expression (6), 14. First in short (3), 15. Bid adieu? (3,4-3), 19. With loving gentleness (8), 20. Gujarat's Sasan \_\_\_ (3), 21. Suspended (7), 23. Republic in E Africa (6), 24. Prosper (6), 28. Wet thoroughly (4), 29. Footnote word (4)

CRYPTIC CLUES

- ACROSS: 8. Scott's heroine wore an unusual fashion (6), 9. Bring music into the open? (3), 10. Source of some nonsense with nothing in it (4), 11. Informal neckwear injured people (10), 12. Said differently when belonging to the girl? (4), 13. Rally point dropped in a German city (6), 16. Hack at and slice clumsily the protective layers (8), 17. Columnist has aerated Tony on buzzer (7), 18. What activity traps family in foul air? (7), 20. One having daylight cast on coin collection in Paraguay's capital (8), 25. Wise old Greek term's new composition (6)

- 26. Swallow up a lot of water in Mexico? (4), 27. Old actor to caress Her Maj with a five dollar bill before church (5,5), 30. In America, the heartless teacher used to be behind the iron curtain (4), 31. Attractive leg partially from a Greek character? (3), 32. From the vehicle, his bits and pieces disappear (6)

Solutions to 2444

- QUICK CLUES Across: 8 Glob, 9 Sawto, 10 Oslo, 11 Tivoli, 12 Largesse, 13 Accredited, 15 Visage, 17 Gradual, 19 Sarcofus, 22 Typing, 24 Enormity, 26 Abnormal, 28 Skopje, 30 Fond, 31 Nodes, 32 Elba Down: 1 MLI, 2 Abnered, 3 Espied, 4 Twelfth, 5 Menorah, 6 Vowels, 7 Alms, 14 Corny, 16 Grunt, 18 Argus, 20 Commoner, 21 Seclude, 23 Isolate, 25 Obesses, 27 Buoy, 29 Jibs CRYPTIC CLUES Across: 8 Pour, 9 Nawab, 10 Ida's, 11 Barnes, 12 Federate, 13 Promisee, 15 Arcade, 17 Flat-top, 19 Kit-bags, 22 Peapod, 24 Rub along, 26 Agitated, 28 Not any, 30 Drug, 31 Clews, 32 Lij Down: 1 Rota, 2 Transist, 3 Oruses, 4 Swifter, 5 Abu Dhabi, 6 Critic, 7 Fat, 14 R Lee, 16 Digin, 18 Old stock, 20 Beltline, 21 Bridled, 23 Potage, 25 Banish, 27 Gary, 29 Nile

If it's your Birthday

Sunday October 1

Every relationship comes with a price tag. It's an enjoyable rather than a profitable moment, with plenty of interest in your affairs from people close to you.

Monday October 2

Indecision is inevitable, even desirable. You're still dwelling on financial questions. Do you have enough money? If so, how should you spend it?

Tuesday October 3

You can afford to consider some of the more adventurous options which come your way over the next few months. You might receive offers to travel, but the best ones will have an element of surprise.

Wednesday October 4

Your annual cycles are helpful, giving a positive gloss to short-term patterns. Your monthly cycle highlights personal matters, and you reach a minor peak.

Thursday October 5

If we look over the coming year, it seems that you will very soon enter a period of potential surprises. If you get your act together, all will be okay.

Friday October 6

You've got a wonderfully sharp mind and deep insights into what's really going on, but whether you tell other people what you are thinking is up to you.

Saturday October 7

A far-sighted Moon adds all the support that's needed to your Sun today. If you plan a trip, preferably a long journey, now, you will thank yourself later on.

YOUR WEEK AHEAD

ARIES (Mar 21 - Apr 20)

Give yourself the same support you normally give to others. You see, now that creative and individualistic influences in your chart are so strong, it's important that you stand out from the herd and insist on independence.

TAURUS (Apr 21 - May 21)

You may long to let up and lounge in a back seat while others take responsibility. Yet with the Sun, Moon, Mars and Pluto all lined up in significant sectors of your chart, you may have no choice but to gird your loins and stand up for yourself once again.

GEMINI (May 22 - June 21)

Venus and Jupiter are an absolutely splendid combination of planets. In fact, rarely have your stars been so inherently prosperous. But unless you keep your eyes open, the opportunities may pass you by.

CANCER (June 22 - July 23)

Some of your planets remain resolutely romantic, dreamy, imaginative, sensitive and, above all, fortunate in love. There'll be moments when artistic and creative Crabs will be on top of the world, perhaps because there really does seem to be the chance of a breakthrough.

LEO (July 24 - Aug 23)

You are bound to be caught up in events outside your control and you may as well accept that certain plans are bound to be postponed or delayed. No matter. The vacuum could be filled by excitement, drama and adventure beyond your wildest dreams.

VirGO (Aug 24 - Sep 23)

You don't usually let the world see how astute you are, but your management of family members and younger relatives is to be admired. Now that other people are in such an emotional mood, they'll look for your help.

LIBRA (Sep 24 - Oct 23)

You may be tired of being singled out as the peacemaker, yet it's partly for your own peace of mind that you try to bring rivals and enemies together. This is a time of potential misunderstandings when it will be up to you to explain the truth.

SCORPIO (Oct 24 - Nov 23)

Emotional turbulence is being whipped up by some stormy and very rare celestial alignments. You would be advised to devote a great deal of attention to all secret activities, and to encourage people who rarely express their emotions to speak their minds.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov 24 - Dec 23)

You may keep travel plans to a minimum, fulfilling only long-term arrangements. For some reason, work or even health questions, may cause you to change your ideas. Important decisions are due to arise from serious and emotionally-charged discussions, and a loved one can help look for the answers.

CAPRICORN (Dec 23 - Jan 20)

What a week this is, with all the planets at sixes and sevens. For once, though, your sign is steering clear of the celestial shock waves. You stand to benefit from gifts and generosity to an unprecedented degree. Romantic Goats can expect their dreams to be fulfilled.

AQUARIUS (Jan 21 - Feb 19)

There is everything to be gained from bending in the wind and much to be risked from refusing to compromise. Only if you are ready for anything, should you follow the impulsive path which seems to be such an obvious option. Remember that special people are depending on you.

PISCES (Feb 20 - Mar 20)

Fight for your principles, but not at the cost of alienating those whose support and sympathy are so important to you. Also, check all travel plans and be ready for the unexpected. Your romantic stars are excellent, and rapidly getting better, but you need to forget old fears, and stop worrying so much.

JUMBLED WORDS

Given below are four jumbled words. Solve the jumbles to make proper words and move them to the respective squares below. Select the letters in the shaded squares and jumble them to get the answer for the given quip.

A compliment is something like a \_\_\_ through a \_\_\_. - Victor Hugo (4,\_,4)

Word puzzle grid with letters and shaded squares. Includes words FKNEI, LRWIS, AHPSLS, EILNKV and their solutions: KNIFE, SWIRL, SPLASH, KEVIN.

Difficulty Level 2s

Instructions To solve a Sudoku puzzle, every digit from 1 to 9 must appear in each of the nine vertical columns, in each of the nine horizontal rows and in each of the nine boxes.

Difficulty Level

1s = Very easy; 2s = Easy; 3s = Medium; 4s = Hard; 5s = Very Hard; 6s = Genius



SOLUTION SUDOKU 5336



POLICE HEADQUARTERS, CHHATTISGARH, ATAL NAGAR , NAVA RAIPUR (1 ST CALL)

NOTICE INVITING TENDER No. PHQ/P&P/Sec-10/Kit-Cl/14/4088/2023 Raipur, Dated :- 27/09/2023

Table with 4 columns: Sl. No., Name of Item, Qty., EMD in Rs. Item: COMBAT CLOTH (STF PATTERN), Qty: 7400 Mtr., EMD: 44,000/-

Note - Quantity will be variable. The tender offer in the prescribed tender form along with all the relevant documents sealed and completed in all the respect, must be submitted as per the schedule below -

SCHEDULE FOR TENDER Table with 2 columns: Address for submission of Tender Document, Last Date and Time of Submission on Bids, Place, Time and Date of opening Technical Bid, Place, Time and Date of opening Financial Bid, Date till which the Bid to remain valid.

Note:- 1. In case of tender opening date being declared as holiday, tenders will be extended with working day. 2. Tender documents can be downloaded from our website www.cgpolice.gov.in and at the time of submission of bid tender fee of Rs. 3000/- will be paid in the form of DD of State Bank of India/Scheduled Bank (other than Cooperative Bank) payable at Raipur in favor of Director General of Police, Chhattisgarh, Police Headquarters, Atal Nagar Raipur Or State Govt. Challan of Rs. 3000/- to be deposited in the Head of A/c- 0055-Police- 800/- other receipt. Tender fee is non refundable and can't be exempted in any condition.

झारखंड सरकार कार्यपालक अभियंता का कार्यालय, ग्रामीण कार्य विभाग, कार्य प्रमण्डल, गुमला

ई- निविदा आमंत्रण सूचना ई-निविदा संख्या:- 07/2023-24/RWD/W/EE/GUMLA दिनांक :- 30.09.2023

कार्यपालक अभियंता, ग्रामीण कार्य विभाग, कार्य प्रमण्डल, गुमला द्वारा निम्न विवरण के अनुसार e-procurement पद्धति से निविदा आमंत्रित की जाती है।

Table with 6 columns: आई.एन.डी. फिकेशन संख्या/ पैकेज संख्या, प्रखण्ड क्र. सं, कार्य का नाम, लम्बाई किमी, प्राकृतिक राशि अक में (लाख), अक्षर में, कार्य समाप्ति की अवधि।

- 2. वेबसाइट में निविदा प्रकाशन की तिथि:- 09.10.2023 3. ई-निविदा प्रारंभ की अंतिम तिथि एवं समय:- 18.10.2023 अपराह्न 5.00 बजे तक। 4. (क) मुख्य अभियंता का कार्यालय, ग्रामीण कार्य विभाग, झारखण्ड, राँची (ख) जिला नियंत्रण कक्ष, राँची एवं (ग) जिला नियंत्रण कक्ष, गुमला में से किसी भी कार्यालय में निविदा शुल्क एवं अग्रपंजी की राशि जमा करने की अंतिम तिथि एवं समय 19.10.2023 अपराह्न 3.00 बजे तक। 5. निविदा शुल्क एवं अग्रपंजी की राशि स्प्रीड पोस्ट के माध्यम से मुख्य अभियंता, ग्रामीण कार्य विभाग, झारखण्ड, राँची को भेजा जा सकता है। यह निविदाकार की जिम्मेवारी होगी कि स्प्रीड पोस्ट के माध्यम से भेजा जाने वाला निविदा शुल्क एवं अग्रपंजी की राशि निर्धारित तिथि एवं समय (19.10.2023 अपराह्न 3.00 बजे तक) से पूर्व प्राप्त हो जाय। अंतिम तिथि एवं समय से पूर्व प्राप्त निविदा शुल्क एवं अग्रपंजी की राशि पर ही विचार किया जायेगा। 6. निविदा खोलने की तिथि एवं समय - 20.10.2023 अपराह्न 3.00 बजे। 7. निविदा आमंत्रित करने वाले पदाधिकारी का नाम एवं पता:- कार्यपालक अभियंता, ग्रामीण कार्य, विभाग कार्य प्रमण्डल, गुमला, झारखण्ड, पिन- 835207 8. ई-निविदा प्रकोष्ठ का दूरभाष सं- 8292435100. 9. निविदा शुल्क झारखण्ड राज्य में अवस्थित भारतीय स्टेट बैंक/राष्ट्रीयकृत बैंक/अनुसूचित बैंक द्वारा निर्गत बैंक ड्राफ्ट के रूप में जो कार्यपालक अभियंता, ग्रामीण कार्य विभाग, कार्य प्रमण्डल, गुमला के पक्ष में भूतरेते होगा जो लौटाया नहीं जायेगा। विस्तृत जानकारी के लिए वेबसाइट jharkhandtenders.gov.in में देखा जा सकता है।

कार्यपालक अभियंता ग्रामीण कार्य विभाग, कार्य प्रमण्डल, गुमला PR 308073 Rural Work Department(23-24).D

GOVERNMENT OF ASSAM OFFICE OF THE CHIEF ENGINEER: PWD: BUILDING: ASSAM: CHANDMARI: GUWAHATI-3

No. T/TB-1/33/2023/21 PRESS NOTICE (Re-Tender)

The Chief Engineer, P.W.D. (Bldg.), Assam on behalf of the Governor of Assam invites bids for the following work under P.W.D. (Bldg.), Assam from eligible contractors having requisite experience in similar nature of work. Details of the bid may be seen at e-procurement portal website www.assamtenders.gov.in

Table with 5 columns: Sl No., Name of Work, Approx. Value of work (lakh), Time of completion, Bid security, Tender Cost (Rs.). Item: Construction of Mini Sports Stadium at Bongshar, Kamrup.

Note:- 1. Value of work may vary during uploading of DNIT for which no claim will be entertained. 2. The Press Notice will form a part of the Bidding Document.

Sd/- Chief Engineer, P.W.D.(Bldg.), Assam, Chandmari, Guwahati-3 Janasanyog/C/10536/23/01-Oct-23

GOVERNMENT OF ASSAM OFFICE OF THE CHIEF ENGINEER: PWD: BUILDING: ASSAM: CHANDMARI: GUWAHATI-3

No. TECH.II/148/2023/4 PRESS NOTICE

The Spl. Chief Engineer, P.W.D. (Bldg.) (Health & Education) Assam, Guwahati-3, on behalf of the Governor of Assam invites fresh bids for the following works from eligible contractors having experience in similar nature of work. Details of bids may be seen at e-procurement portal website i.e. www.assamtenders.gov.in and also in the office of the undersigned during office hours. The bidders must be enrolled in www.assamtenders.gov.in

Table with 5 columns: SL Package No., Name of Work, Tender Value (Rs. in lakh), Bid security, Time of completion, Tender cost. Item: Construction of Model Secondary Schools in the Tea Garden Areas, Assam at Kaberi T.E. Dist: Dibrugarh.

Sd/- Spl. Chief Engineer, P.W.D.(Bldg.), Assam (Health & Education), Chandmari, Guwahati-3 Janasanyog/C/10561/23/01-Oct-23

DIRECTORATE OF TECHNICAL EDUCATION, CHHATTISGARH

Indrawati Bhavan, Block-3, 3rd/4th Floor, Nawa Raipur, Atal Nagar, Dist Raipur 492002 इन्द्रावती भवन, ब्लॉक-3, तृतीय/चतुर्थ मंज, नवा रायपुर अटल नगर, जिला-रायपुर-492002 Phone: 0771-2331331, 2221376, Fax: 0771-2253629 Website: http://www.cgdterapur.ac.in

// विज्ञापन //

छत्तीसगढ़ राज्य से बाहर मान्यता प्राप्त इंजीनियरिंग महाविद्यालयों में B.E./B.Tech पाठ्यक्रम में अध्ययनरत छात्र-छात्राओं को दी जाने वाली छात्रवृत्ति सं 2023-24 छात्रवृत्ति शासन, तकनीकी शिक्षा विभाग की अधिसूचना 21 जून 2013 को राजपत्र में 24 जून 2013 को प्रकाशित किये गये प्रावधानों के अनुसार छात्रवृत्ति वन में स्वयंसेवक छात्र-छात्राओं को अन्य रूपों में अर्जित शालीय प्रौद्योगिकी संस्थान (IITS) राष्ट्रीय प्रौद्योगिकी संस्थान (NITS) शालीय विज्ञान-शिक्षा संस्थाओं (IIS-C) तथा अन्य अर्जित शालीय तकनीकी शिक्षा पध्दत (AICTE) से मान्यता प्राप्त उच्च तकनीकी संस्थाओं में इंजीनियरिंग प्रौद्योगिकी (B.E./B.Tech.) अध्यापक पदक में प्रथम वर्ष में अध्ययनरत छात्र-छात्राओं के लिए 08 नवंबर छात्रवृत्ति वन रु. 2000/- प्रदान (अर्थ में - रु. दो हजार मात्र) हेतु आवेदन आमंत्रित किये जाते हैं। छात्रवृत्ति के लिए अर्हताएं पेशवा 12 वीं में कम से कम 60 प्रतिशत अंक प्राप्त करने वाले उम्मीदवार ही छात्रवृत्ति के लिए पत्र होंगे। अभ्यर्थी का स्वयं अर्हताओं से जांच किया गया छात्रवृत्ति का मूल विवरण प्रमाण-पत्र हीन अतिवर्ष है। आवेदन पत्र संचालनालय, तकनीकी शिक्षा, इन्द्रावती भवन, ब्लॉक-3, तृतीय / चतुर्थ मंज, नवा रायपुर, अटल नगर, जिला - रायपुर, छत्तीसगढ़ से निरालुक प्राप्त किया जा सकता है। आवेदन पत्र के साथ 12 वीं की अंकों की एवं छात्रवृत्ति वन का स्वयंसेवक संस्था AICTE से मान्यता प्राप्त होने संबंधी प्रमाण पत्र का छात्रवृत्ति संलग्न करना अनिवार्य है। छात्रवृत्ति प्राप्त करने हेतु आवेदन संबंधित संस्था प्रमुख से अनुमति प्राप्त अनिवार्य है। आवेदन पत्र संचालनालय में प्राप्त होने की अंतिम तिथि 30.10.2023 सं 5.00 बजे तक है। निर्धारित तिथि के पश्चात प्राप्त आवेदन पर विचार नहीं किया जायेगा। निर्धारित तिथि के बाद प्राप्त आवेदन पत्रों को केंद्रों / अभ्यासकेन्द्र वन नहीं किया जायेगा। पाठ्यक्रम वित्त उपविभाग को संचालनालय तकनीकी शिक्षा, रायपुर द्वारा निर्देशित छात्रवृत्ति वन को जांचने का उपविभाग को छात्रवृत्ति की वन का पुराना करने हेतु संचालनालय तकनीकी शिक्षा द्वारा वन के अंत में छात्रवृत्ति की वन संस्था प्रमुख को भेजी जायेगी। संस्था प्रमुख द्वारा निर्धारित वन को भेजने पर छात्रवृत्ति वन का पुराना किया जायेगा। छात्रवृत्ति की वन प्राप्त होने पर इन आवेदन का स्वयं प्रस्तुत करना होगा कि उन्हें संचालनालय तकनीकी शिक्षा, रायपुर, अटल नगर द्वारा स्वीकृत की जा सकेगी। संस्था प्रमुख से छात्रवृत्ति की वन हेतु। स्वयं प्राप्त होने के पश्चात ही अपरिपक्व नवीनीकरण हेतु निगरानुसार छात्रवृत्ति स्वीकृत की जा सकेगी। निम्न छात्रों को पूर्व में किसी वर्ष के अपने संचालनालय तकनीकी शिक्षा द्वारा छात्रवृत्ति स्वीकृत की जा चुकी है, वे छात्र-छात्राओं को अपने वर्ष के नवीनीकरण हेतु आवेदन के साथ पिछले वर्ष की अर्हता अर्हता का संचालनालय द्वारा पूर्व वर्षों में स्वीकृत छात्रवृत्ति की राशि रुपये 20,000/- की राशि निर्धारित कर छात्रवृत्ति वन से कि संस्था प्रमुख के माध्यम से छात्रवृत्ति की राशि प्राप्त हो गई है, संचालनालय संबंधित संस्था प्रमुख से अनुमति कक्षाक अतिवर्ष रूप से आवेदन पत्र के साथ प्रस्तुत करें। स्वीकृत आवेदन पत्र के साथ स्वयं प्राप्त होने पर ही नवीनीकरण की कार्यवाही की जा सकेगी। छात्रवृत्ति शासन, तकनीकी शिक्षा विभाग की अधिसूचना 21 जून 2013 को राजपत्र में 24 जून 2013 को प्रकाशित किये गये प्रावधानों के अनुसार छात्रवृत्ति की वन मंजुरी के विना कोई भी छात्र वन प्रमुख में एक से अधिक छात्रवृत्ति प्राप्त नहीं करेगा।

संचालक तकनीकी शिक्षा, छत्तीसगढ़ 05798

OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER, P.W.D., CIRCLE-JHALAWAR

Room No. -158, Ground Floor (Public Works Department), Mini Secretariat, Jhalawar E-mail:-piu.jhalawar@rediffmail.com/sewar:pwd@raisthan.gov.in Phone No. :- 07432-233336 S. No. :- 744 Date :- 21.09.2023

Short Term NIT No. 06/2023-24 Notice Inviting Bid NIB No. PWD2324A3313

Bids for "Construction of 2 Court Building for POCSON HQ & 2. Jhalawar & Construction of 08 type 1st residences for Judicial Officers at Jhalawar HQ" in District Jhalawar (Raj.) are invited from interested bidders upto 6.00 PM, Dated 02.10.2023 Other particulars of the bid may be visited on the procurement portal (http://erp.rajasthan.gov.in, http://sppp.raj.nic.in) of the Rajasthan and http://pwd.rajasthan.gov.in website. The approximate value of the procurement is Rs. 661.60 Lacs. (2 No. work)

Table with 4 columns: S.No., UBN No., S.No., UBN No. Item: PWD2324WSOB14550, PWD2324WSOB14552

Sd/- (R. B. Tiwari) Superintendent Engineer Public Works Department Circle-Jhalawar DIPRC/14156/2023

कार्यालय अतिरिक्त मुख्य अभियंता, जन स्वां अभि विभाग, जयपुर क्षेत्र-द्वितीय, गांधी नगर, जयपुर

ई-मेल :- ace.region2jaipur@yahoo.com फोन नं :- 0141-2702700 क्रमंक :- अ.मु.अ. क्षे-2/2023-24/8541-8570 दिनांक :- 21.09.2023

अल्पकालीन ई-निविदा सूचना राज्यस्तर के राज्यपाल महोदय की ओर से Work of Reorganization of UWSS Goshala area (Ward no. 95) Sanganeer under Jurisdiction of City Div-IV (South) Jaipur कार्य हेतु जन स्वास्थ्य अभियांत्रिकी विभाग एवं राज्य सरकार/केन्द्र सरकार के अधिकृत संगठन/केन्द्रीय लोक निर्माण विभाग/दाक एवं दूरसंचार विभाग/रेल्वे इत्यादि में उष्णक क्षेत्रों में संजीकृत संवेदकों से निर्धारित प्रपत्र में ई-प्रोक्यूरमेंट प्रक्रिया द्वारा निविदाएं आमंत्रित की जाती हैं। विस्तृत निविदा एवं निविदा प्रपत्र www.sppp.rajasthan.gov.in एवं www.eproc.rajasthan.gov.in पर उपलब्ध हैं।

Table with 4 columns: क्रम संख्या, एन. आई. वी. कोड, यू.सी. एन कोड, निविदा संख्या. Item: PHE2324A3870, PHE2324WSOB0892, 124/2023-24

DIPRC/14810/2023

कार्यालय अतिरिक्त मुख्य अभियंता, जन स्वां अभि विभाग, जयपुर क्षेत्र द्वितीय गांधी नगर, जयपुर

ई-मेल:- ace.region2jaipur@yahoo.com फोन नं :- 0141-2702700 क्रमंक:- अमुज/जव/क्षेत्र द्वितीय/2023-24/8732-8759 दिनांक 22-09-23

Short Term eNIT NO.118-123/2023.24

Online bids are invited on behalf of the Governor of Rajasthan from eligible enlisted in appropriate class contractors of PHED, Rajasthan and meeting eligibility criteria. Contractors enlisted with other departments of Government of Rajasthan and enlisted with CPWD/ Postal/ Telecom/ Railways/ MES/other State Government/Central government undertakings/organization in equivalent class of Rajasthan and meeting prescribed eligibility criteria may also apply after depositing prescribed Earnest Money. Details of this Bid notification and pre-qualification criteria can also be seen in NIB exhibited on website http://sppp.rajasthan.gov.in and http://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in. NIB NO :- PHE2324A3941

UBIN ID :- PHE2324WSOB09089, PHE2324WSOB09090, PHE2324WSOB09091, PHE2324WSOB09092, PHE2384WSOB09093, PHE2324WSOB09094

Sd/- Additional Chief Engineer PHED Jaipur Region-II Jaipur DIPRC/14889/2023

OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER PWD DIVISION SHIM, RAJSAMAND

File No. 1159 Date : 20-09-2023

Short Term Notice Inviting Bid

Bids for Short Term NIT No. 04/2023-24, (Road works) 2 Package, are invited from interested bidders upto Date 03.10.2023, (06.00) P.M. Other particulars of the bid may be visited on the procurement portal (http://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in, http://sppp.raj.nic.in) of the state, and departmental website. The approximate value of the procurement is Rs. 494.36 Lacs.

Table with 4 columns: NIB No., UBN No., S.No., UBN No. Item: PWD2324WSOB14324, PWD2324WSOB14326

Sd/- (Navneet Kumar) Executive Engineer PWD Division Bhim DIPRC/14777/2023





## SHORT TAKES



Mitchell Starc during Australia's warm up game on Saturday. AP

## WARM-UP GAMES

## Smith, Starc star before rain ends Aus-Ned

Australia batsman Steve Smith scored a half-century before pacer Mitchell Starc bagged a hat-trick to rip through the Netherlands top order in a rain-affected warm-up game in Thiruvananthapuram on Saturday ahead of the 50-over World Cup. In a clash delayed due to a wet outfield and reduced to 23 overs per side, Australia rode on opener Smith's 55 to post 166-7. **Brief scores:** Australia 166 for 7 (Smith 55, van der Merwe 2-12) vs Netherlands 84 for 6 (Ackermann 31\*, Starc 3-18). REUTERS

## Rain washes out match between India, England

Persistent rain on Saturday washed out the World Cup warm-up match between India and England at the Barsapara Cricket Stadium here. It began raining a little before the start of the match on Saturday afternoon, which resulted in the toss being delayed but later in the evening the umpires decided to abandon the contest, a little before 6pm local time owing to inclement weather. PTI

## GEARING UP

## PCB wants ICC to expedite visa process for media, fans

The Pakistan Cricket Board on Saturday wrote to the sport's governing body, the International Cricket Council (ICC) for expediting the visa process for journalists and fans who wish to travel to India for the World Cup beginning October 5. Pakistan, who are based here in the run-up to the mega event, play their tournament opener against the Netherlands on October 6. The PCB, which had written to the ICC over the visa delay for the players earlier this month, highlighted its concerns over visas for Pakistan fans and media on this occasion. PTI

## Kuldeep best spinner at World Cup: Intikhab Alam

Kuldeep Yadav is the best spinner going into the World Cup and will give India a distinct advantage in the middle overs through the course of the 50-over showpiece, reckons former Pakistan captain Intikhab Alam. "The way India played in Asia Cup and played the final (decimating Sri Lanka). They look like the team to beat. Their spin attack stands out. Kuldeep is going to play a major role in the tournament. He will test the batters of all teams," Alam said. PTI

As the World Cup caravan is set to roll, a question arises: **How does a place and its social milieu shape a cricketer and influence their game?** Could Virat Kohli have been the same player were he born in Guwahati East and not in West Delhi? Or what would have happened to Kuldeep Yadav had he been from Colaba in Mumbai? We find out over the next few days



Illustration: Suvajit Dey

# Hardik's Maximum City

A melting pot, Baroda's cosmopolitan ways and rich legacy of the sport prepped the all-rounder for international cricket

## SANDEEP DWIVEDI

IN THE late 90s, a father in Surat faced a dilemma. Baroda or Mumbai? He wanted his two sons to chase their sporting dreams and for that he was willing to start afresh in a city with a cricketing culture. Eventually, he decided to make Baroda his new home.

That one decision that Hardik Pandya's father Himanshu took changed the fortunes of his family forever. Baroda would go on to shape the pace all-rounder India had longed for since Kapil Dev. The Atlas on whose shoulder rests the hopes and dreams of billions at this World Cup has a 'Made in Baroda' stamp on him.

If not for Baroda, the Hardik story would have unfolded differently. Mumbai does have its fair share of migrant success stories but cricket hasn't been truly representative of its myriad milieu. Baroda, on the other hand, has historically welcomed, nurtured and empowered outsiders.

Back in the day, when Vijay Hazare moved from Maharashtra; Baroda gave him respect, a bungalow and the honorable title of ADC to Maharaja Pratapsinhrao Gaekwad. This tradition would even survive the political integration of the princely states post-independence.

So when Zaheer Khan wasn't getting a break in Mumbai or when Ambati Rayudu had problems with cricket officials in Hyderabad, they flew to Baroda. For the

Pandyas, a Gujarati family with modest means, cost of living and language were the practical middle-class reasons for preferring Baroda over Mumbai. Little did they know that history too, nodded vigorously at their decision.

Back in the day, Baroda's erstwhile rulers, the Gaekwads promoted and played the game. The present day Maharaj is a first-class cricketer. While in his teens Samarjeetsinh Gaekwad got picked for the India camp for the country's top juniors that had a young Anil Kumble. He couldn't benefit from the big break since his school didn't grant leave.

His home is the city's stunning showpiece - the 100-room Laxmivilas palace that has a golf course and the Motibaug cricket ground. A Doon School alumni, Samarjeet is urbane and articulate. He weighs his words, speaks in a measured tone. His cricketing heart is in the right place. He travels to England to watch Test cricket, is puzzled by the power of the turbo-charged modern-day bats and is pained by the quality of pitches.

He isn't prone to exaggeration and sticks to facts when he speaks about his forefathers who founded and funded the BCCI.

Samarjeet gets the drift of the story, he calls Baroda a melting pot, a Gujarati city with

Maharashtrian royalty. MS University, oil PSUs and other heavy industries would bring in new settlers. Nayan Mongia would inadvertently give his city's famed cultural diversity the loudest big shout out. When he kept for India, the stump microphone would catch his 'Aai ga' every time the ball missed the edge. A Punjabi from Gujarat instantly breaking into Marathi - that's Baroda. Over the years, the inclusiveness of the cricket-crazy city has reflected on the Baroda score sheet that has names like More, Gaekwad, Singh, Narula, Hooda, Mongia, Patel, Pathan, Khan, Kumar, Sharma and Pandya.

Samarjeet gives the context: "Baroda is the most cosmopolitan city in Gujarat, even more than Ahmedabad. It has always attracted talent. Since early times a lot of eminent people moved here. This was a state that was professionally managed by a Diwan, a highly educated person with experience in governance. Baroda has been progressive and forward-looking. There were land reforms, courts and libraries."

This city with a rainbow hue would turn a shy boy into a confident motor mouth, inspirational captain, brand and youth icon. His exposure to new dialects, languages, tastes, habits and lifestyles in Baroda opened his mind. This went a long way in him adapting to the multi-national Mumbai Indians dressing room where he flowered and bloomed. Like most young Indian cricketers he didn't just hang around other domestic players, stay put in his hotel room, order Indian food and watch Bollywood songs. Among his best friends at MI were the boys from the West Indies. He borrowed their fashion ideas, accent and also the Calypso brand of cricket. Along with loose cargos,

chunky gold chains; he also adopted the cool temperament and powerful stroke play.

Samarjeet says Hardik has a "personality" and how unrelenting hard work and T20 cricket fast-tracked him. Ask him to describe a typical Baroda cricketer and he gives an apt answer. "Baroda cricket has become more flamboyant now. They leave a mark on the side," he says. The nail has been hit powerfully on the head. Atul Bedade, Yusuf Pathan, Hardik Pandya - the country's greatest modern day big hitters had the Baroda flamboyance. There can't be a better man than Bedade, the Baroda Buccaneers pioneer to talk about Hardik.

These days, Bedade is the coach of Baroda's Under-19 team. When you call, he has just returned from a game. The Buccaneer has truly retired. These days he tells youngsters to avoid playing in the air. Before finishing his sentence, he breaks into a laugh. The joke would be lost on those who haven't followed his career. Built like a boxer, the south-paw had great hands but limited footwork. Once in 1994, he played a game at Sharjah against Pakistan and hit four towering sixes. India lost the game but the fans fell for Bedade. He didn't last long but for the children of the 90s he became the mythical superhero who appeared on the horizon and soon disappeared.

He talks about how Hardik benefitted from the "big city" cricketing facilities within this "small city". That's what Samarjeet had also hinted at when he spoke about Baroda's

10 to 12 quality grounds, great pitches, year-long camps, endless tournaments and many experienced cricketers with eye to spot talent.

Bedade, from his own experience, adds: "Baroda shows patience too. Just today I told my Under-19 team, toh pura season kheloge, jao maaro (you will play the entire season, go and hit out). That's the support Hardik got, I got and even Yusuf got."

Baroda has been progressive with its cricket too. Back in the 80s, it was first to innovate with a single-wicket tournament.

"There was good money in those tournaments. The public would give money for a six hit or after that game a senior cricketer would hand the star striker of the day Rs 100 to 200 in a cover," he says. You would have made a killing? Bedade skirt the questions. "That was big money. Petrol was 10 ka litre that time, gold Rs 4,000 ka tola tha," he says. Hardik's single-wicket tournament is the IPL now. Like Bedade he too got money but now the covers have gone fatter.

The license to play freely and incentive to hit sixes gives Hardik the courage to play a fearless brand of cricket. "There is something in the water here that makes us fearless," says Bedade referring to Baroda's Vishwamati river that is home of many Mugger crocodiles that enter residential areas during monsoon flooding. "We live with crocodiles, as kids we shoot them away with a stick. Mugger se nahi darr lagta, toh bowler se kya lagega," he says. It takes a city like Baroda, and its crocodiles, to make a fearless cricketer like Hardik.

**Baroda is the most cosmopolitan city in Gujarat, even more than Ahmedabad. It has always attracted talent. Since early times a lot of eminent people moved here."**

**SAMARJEETSINGHGAEKWAD**  
HEAD OF BARODA ROYAL FAMILY



## Army-trained Kartik's journey from village grounds to Asian Games silver

## NITIN SHARMA

CHANDIGARH, SEPTEMBER 30

VEER SINGH still remembers how his second-eldest son, Kartik Kumar, would run at the 200m sand track at the Maharana Pratap Inter College grounds at their village Shimlana, 30 km from Saharanpur, to prepare for the Army recruitment rallies in 2015.

While Kumar would not be eligible for the recruitment due to his young age, he would run 40 laps of the 200m track along with other army aspirants.

On Saturday evening, 24-year-old Kartik ran his personal best with a timing of 28 minutes and 15.38 seconds followed by his teammate, 25-year-old Gulveer Singh, who clocked his personal best with a timing of 28 minutes and 17.21 seconds to hand India a historic silver in the men's 10,000m at the Hangzhou Olympics Centre Stadium at the Asian Games. It was India's first medal in men's 10,000m since Gulab Chand's bronze medal in 1988.

"Daudne ka itna junoon tha ki kabhi kabhi toh ladka bheje Kartik ko wapis bulana padhta tha running se (Kartik had so much passion for running that sometimes

we would have to send somebody to bring him back from the school track). The only thing on his mind was how to cross the timing for the run during the Army recruitment rally once he was eligible. To win the silver for India will make Kartik remember all those runs today," says father Veer Singh while talking with *The Indian Express*.

While he would occasionally train at the Dr Ambedkar Stadium in Saharanpur to prepare for long-distance races, it was not until 2016 that the young Kartik gained recognition on the national circuit. A 3000m silver medal in the Junior Nationals at Kozhikode led to a path to the Indian junior team.

Kartik would win a bronze medal in the 10,000m event in the Asian Junior Championship with a timing of 30 minutes and 5.30 seconds before finishing 12th in the World U-20 Championships in 2018.

"Prior to him making it to the Indian junior team, Kartik would always train at the village with Goldstar and Rasics shoes costing Rs 700-800. At that time, it was tough to manage the shoes for our father since Kartik would tear down his shoes in a very short time. Once he got into the Indian team and Indian Army, he did not have to worry about shoes," says elder



Kartik Kumar (right) and Gulveer Singh after winning the silver and bronze medal respectively in the men's 10,000m at Hangzhou on Saturday. PTI

brother Sonu Kumar.

In 2019, Kartik was spotted by Amrish Kumar, the Indian Army's chief running coach, at the Federation Cup in Patiala.

Kartik had then given his personal best timing of 29 minutes and 51.28 seconds to finish sixth in the 10,000m event. The next three years saw him returning with his

then-personal best timing of 29 minutes and 42.63 seconds in 2021 apart from winning the gold at this year's Federation Cup with a timing of 29 minutes and 20.21 seconds and his personal best of 28 minutes and 55 seconds at the National Games in Gujarat.

"Initially when he started training under us, we would make him and Gulveer run 120 km per week, and increase that to 150 km per week. Once they understood the importance of setting the right pace, we also worked on the other technical aspects of long-distance running."

"They would always have a time of 3.8 minutes per km for some time before they broke the 3.2 minutes per km mark. But to develop the race strategies according to the runners took some time."

"They have trained at Pune, Ooty, Hyderabad, and recently in Colorado, and running in different conditions and with different runners has helped them," shares Kumar.

Prior to the race on Saturday, Kartik had his personal best of 28 minutes and 55 seconds and Singh had his personal best of 28 minutes and 54.29 seconds. The Indian duo remained on the sixth-seventh spot for the major part of the race before a fall by

Japanese Shiojiri Kazuya and two other runners in the top six in the penultimate lap.

As the other Japanese Ren Tazawa fell behind, Kartik overtook Singh in the last 50m to win the silver medal behind Balew Yemataw of Bahrain.

Kartik was also in praise for Aligarh-born Grenadier Singh apart from Jat Regiment's Kumar. "They maintained their tempo according to their strength till the first 22 laps. Both of them know each other and train together so they also take advantage of running alongside each other."

"When the Japanese fell, they made sure that they didn't tumble or it came in their way and once they were in the top four, it was only a matter of who managed to pick the pace in the end. Kartik's finishing is very strong and he displayed that today and Gulveer too did not let the other Japanese cross him," says Kumar.

Father Veer Singh knows what his Subedar Major son will bring for the village on his return from China.

"Kartik spends his time at the village track when he comes home. He will be bringing some shoes and other kits for the village kids to celebrate his medal with them," says Singh.



# India thrash Pak 10-2, record biggest-ever win against arch-rivals

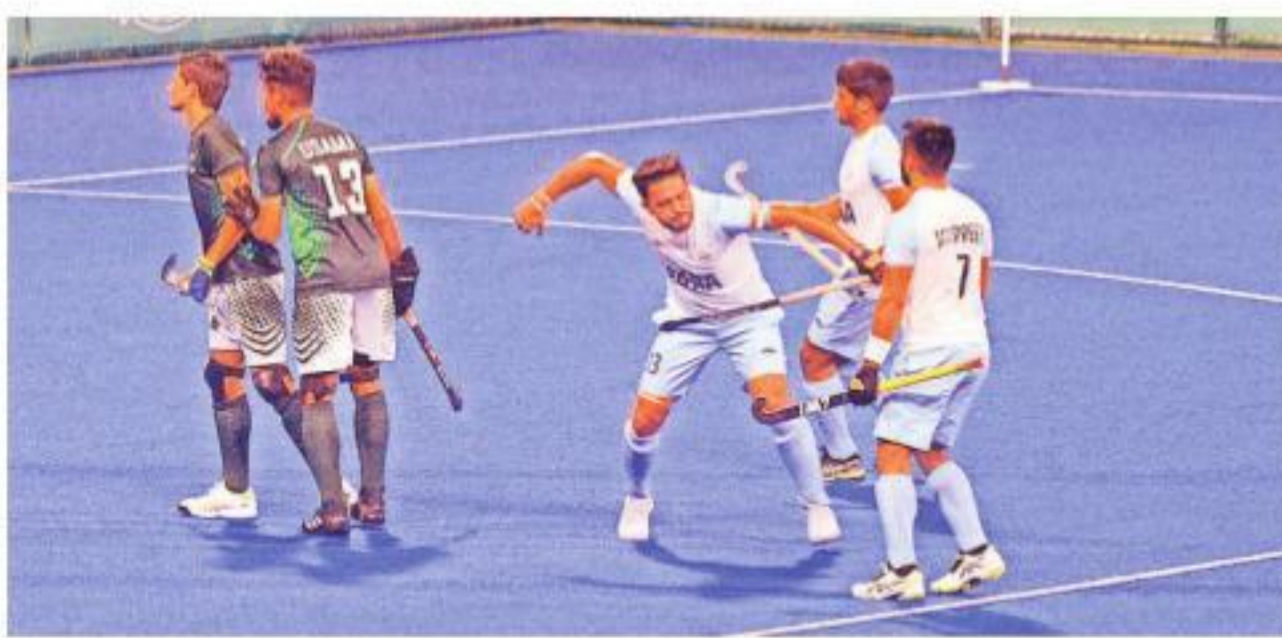
EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE  
SEPTEMBER 30

PAKISTAN'S 7-1 victory over India in the men's hockey final of the 1982 Delhi Asian Games is considered a seminal moment in the storied rivalry between the two neighbours. It shows how far the team from across the border has fallen in the sport that they once dominated for decades that the 10-2 hammering they suffered at Hangzhou on Saturday won't necessarily be talked about in those terms.

It was India's biggest win over Pakistan, but it almost seemed routine, such has been the one-sided nature of the rivalry in recent times. On several occasions during the contest, if at all it could be called that, it played out as men versus boys. India seemingly able to score whenever they ventured into the opposition circle, earning penalty corners and even penalty strokes whenever they wished.

For the record, skipper Harmanpreet helped himself to four goals, while Varun Kumar struck twice. Mandeep Singh, Sumit, Shamsheer Singh and Lalit Kumar Upadhyay also got on the score sheet. Pakistan reduced the margin somewhat through goals by Muhammad Khan and Abdul Rana.

In the bigger picture, India - whose main aim at these Games is to seal an automatic



India captain Harmanpreet Singh scored four goals against Pakistan.

birth at next year's Paris Olympics by clinching the gold medal - set down a marker for the matches to come. They play Bangladesh in their final Pool A game, before the more serious stuff of knockout matches.

Anything other than a comprehensive Indian victory would have been quite an unexpected result, and the contrasting trajectories hockey has taken in the two countries suggest that such a lopsided scoreline wasn't the greatest of surprises, regardless of how oldtimers and hockey romantics reminisce about the golden age of subcontinental

hockey. The sport in Pakistan has suffered over the last several years, both on and off the turf, to such an extent that they miss out on qualification for the Olympics and World Cups, titles they have won three and four times respectively.

The Pakistan Hockey Federation has been known more for financial mismanagement and administrative wrangling, with teams often reliant on largesse of the government, other entities and Good Samaritans to even participate in overseas tournaments.

On Saturday, India didn't have to wait

## SCORELINE

**INDIA : 10**

Harmanpreet Singh: 11', 17', 33', 34'  
Mandeep Singh: 8'  
Sumit: 30'  
Varun Kumar: 41', 54'  
Shamsheer Singh: 46'  
Lalit Kumar Upadhyay: 49'

**PAKISTAN : 2**

Muhammad Khan: 38'  
Abdul Rana: 45'

long to open the scoring. The match was only eight minutes old when Abhishek made a fine run and entered the striking circle from the left side. His pass was deflected into the goal by Mandeep.

India chose to start Krishan Bahadur Pathak in goal, instead of the more acclaimed PR Sreejesh, but he thwarted Pakistan when they had a penalty corner soon after going behind.

And the save proved to be significant as India doubled their lead almost immediately afterwards when Pakistan custodian Akmal

Hussain conceded a penalty stroke for Harmanpreet to convert.

Harmanpreet, the team's chief drag-flicker, then added a third, his sixth goal of the tournament, in the 17th minute via India's first penalty corner of the match.

Pakistan's attacking forays didn't get much joy with the Indian defence holding firm. The team coached by Muhammad Saad Khan hardly got a clear shot at the Indian goal in open play.

Sreejesh was brought on a bit later and was on hand to save another penalty corner. And when Sumit scored with a reverse hit just moments before half-time to make it 4-0, the match was effectively over as a contest with the margin of the Indian victory becoming the main point of interest.

Things went from bad to worse for Pakistan in the second half when they conceded another penalty stroke, which was calmly converted by Harmanpreet. The skipper soon made it four goals on the night with another drag-flick to make it half a dozen. Pakistan pulled one back but Varun struck soon afterwards to recreate the iconic 7-1 scoreline from 1982, also the previous biggest margin of victory for India over their arch rivals.

But it wasn't the end of the agony for a thoroughly outclassed Pakistan as their pain entered double digits soon afterwards.

# Srikanth takes India to golden cusp

Starting in shaky fashion in semifinal decider, he gets into groove when needed most to set up China clash

SHIVANI NAIK  
SEPTEMBER 30

HS PRANNOY played like a seasoned Top Ten who lifts his level and brings out the assertive smashes when closing out a game against a lower-ranked opponent. Lakshya Sen played like a fearless sophomore with an impressive freshman year behind him, who he can stub out an upstart and pack him back to oblivion with a searingly one-sided scoreline.

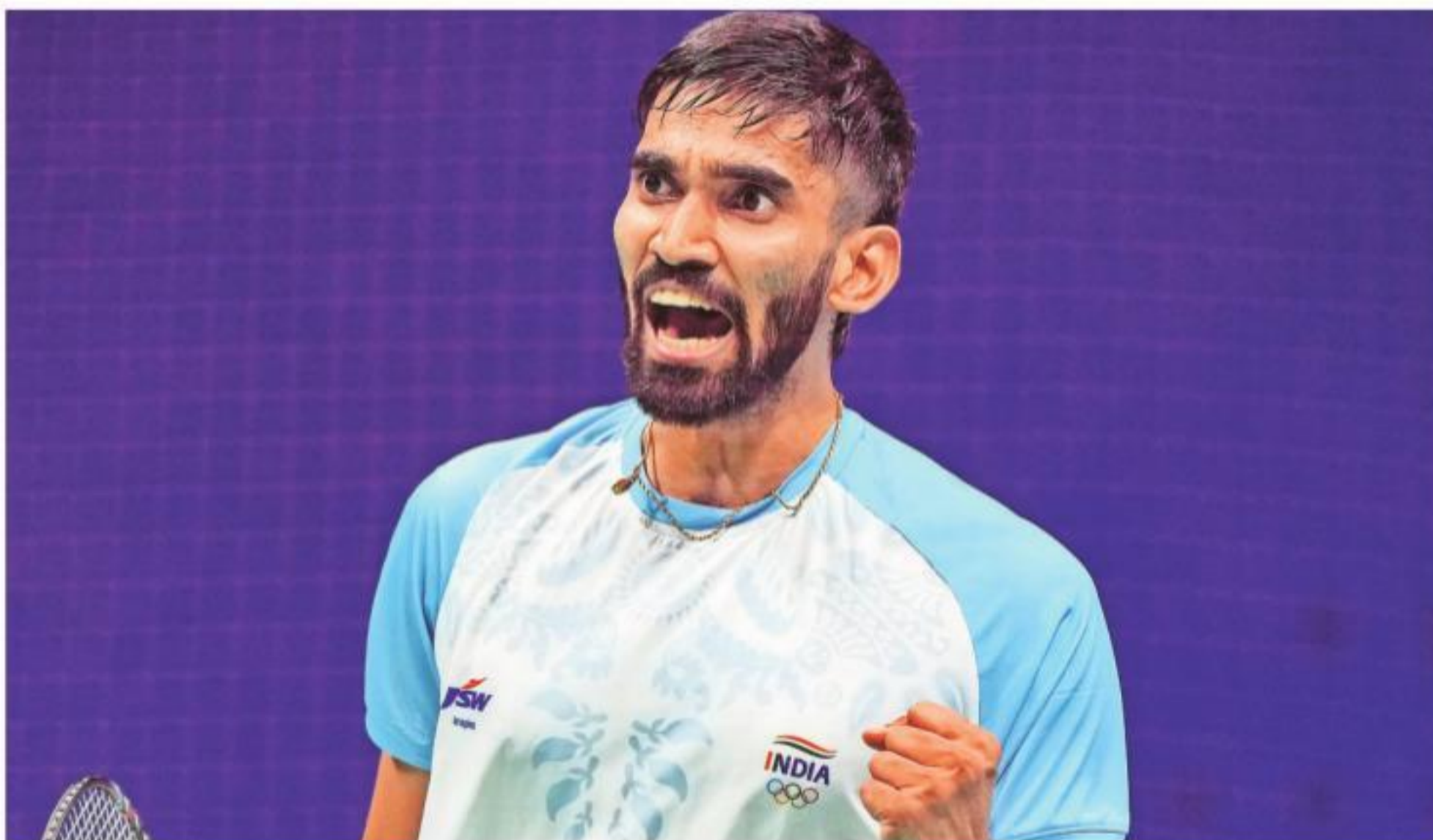
Kidambi Srikanth played like Kidambi Srikanth - the genre involves a generous chunk of errors, an ashen coaching bench that has horror writ large on their faces, a legion of followers questioning their life-choices, cursing their favourite shuttle player and in poor cardiac health. And it involves Srikanth playing some of badminton's most beautiful strokes as if none of these things are happening around him, that make the whole torture endurable.

On Saturday, he bounced back to beat little-known Korean Cho Geonyeop 12-21, 21-16, 21-14 to put India into the men's team badminton gold medal match at the Hangzhou Asian Games. Not many trust Srikanth to beat a World No.169, such is the long litany of his losses against obscure players. But playing a deciding match for a place in the final of the Asian Games, knowing he'd have to carry the burdensome guilt of putting gold out of India's reach all his life, Srikanth backed himself. And played 21 points of the final game like Kidambi Srikanth of the 2014 vintage, when he left Chinese shores having scalped Lin Dan and had the world's attention as the most promising 21-year-old.

Srikanth's game resembles a broken promise now, so Cho wouldn't be faulted for fancying his chances. The team tie score was 2-2; both singles to India, both doubles to Korea. The lack of faith in Srikanth might be a tad harsh, given he delivered the second singles wins in the 2022 Thomas Cup. But in Saturday's semifinals, he promptly lost the opener 21-12. This broken tape includes smashes whacked wide, net dribbles deathknelled into the meshing and against Cho, a flank defence of the Korean's hits that was non-existent.

Perhaps it was the repeated sight of Cho charging the net for the scything cross-kill follow-up - a mirror image of what Srikanth plays - that he felt the copyright of his patent shot being infringed, which stirred him awake. He first wanted the umpire to penalise Cho for clipping the net. But eventually, his ego steered him towards playing that gorgeous net stomp of his own.

Starting the second game, Srikanth tethered his attack to the plausible and cut down



Srikanth beat Korea's Cho Geonyeop 12-21 21-16 21-14 to seal India's place in the summit clash.

## China a wall too high?

China's top singles player, the once formidable Shi Yuqi, has been having a torrid time at the team event of the Asian Games in Hangzhou and lost to Chou Tien Chen of Chinese Taipei and Kenta Nishimoto of Japan. One could call him Kidambi Srikanth minus the wins. And it is quite possible that China will take a major punt and drop him for the final, though that'll be quite drastic.

But in case they don't jettison him for Li Shifeng, he will line up against Prannoy in the final on Sunday, which will open up the chance of Lakshya Sen playing Li, both having earlier met in global junior finals. Srikanth in the third singles enjoys half a dozen wins against Lu Guangzu, the slated third sin-

gles player, through his career, though he should be prepared for the deceptively powerful Weng Hong Yang, the Australia Open winner who could get drafted in by China. India will expect Satwik-Chirag to pull up their socks and go in with a little more solidity against Liang-Wang, China's much touted and dependable pair. The Chinese duo revels under pressure. But the Indians, who faltered in the semis, would want to take that early point for the team and reduce the pressure on Sen, who will inevitably play and be expected to win, whether India is 2-0 up or 0-2 down. Dhruv-Arjun have been quiet for a few months, but should expect a load of expectations coming their way.

on reckless errors to bag a lead. His net accuracy improved, the defensive resilience in long rallies got sturdier, and he looked like someone who would give himself a chance in the rally to play his wonderful strokes, by staying alive in it.

Cho's resolve broke in both the second and third games, when Srikanth expanded

the lead. But it was hard work and retrieving before he could charge the net and dangle the dribble and scoop with the fist facing upwards, the shuttle perfectly hairpinning over the tape. Srikanth can lord over the net, it's the sign of his confidence. But he allowed a lot of imperfections and warts in his game to be magnified before he prevailed.

Much of the chatter around Asian Games badminton is about why Srikanth will play the individual event, and why not Sen who lost a fair trial to the former. Sen was a picture of perfection, downing Lee Yungyu 21-7, 21-9 to put India 2-1 ahead and offer a contrast to Srikanth. Sen literally had time on his hands to choose a spot to land his round-the-head smashes, as he rendered Lee immobile. The Korean had come into the tie as a giant-killer, claiming Tze Yong and Jonathan Christie, to send out Malaysia and Indonesia. Sen couldn't be bothered, as his attack tied a strangely unmoving Lee in tangles.

Things got dramatic because Satwiksairaj Rankireddy and Chirag Shetty went down 21-13, 26-24 to world champs Seo-Kang, as India stared at a 1-1 scoreline, knowing doubles wasn't yielding a point on the day. Dhruv-Arjun couldn't win the second doubles making it 2-2.

Korea prides itself on staying competitive in team events with two assured doubles points, where their singles exponents play out of their skins and win them the third point. And in four of the five matches, their shuttlers seriously troubled Indians.

Prannoy too had lost the opening game like Srikanth against Jeon Hyeokjin, but he's known to get a read on opponents in the opener, and then dissect them clinically, as he did to win 18-21, 21-16, 21-19.

# Mirabai misses out on medal, gets injured

MIHIR VASAVDA  
HANGZHOU, SEPTEMBER 30

MIRABAI CHANU came to China hoping to win the only medal missing from her cabinet. She returns to India in 'deep pain', another injury and more questions than answers over her Paris Olympics prospects.



With only two successful lifts in her six attempts, the Tokyo Olympics silver medalist finished fourth with a total of 191 kg (83 kg in snatch, 108 kg in clean and jerk). Chanu can take heart from the fact that she went for a medal despite an injury.

But that's the only takeaway. The Asian Games weightlifting competition offered a new hierarchy in the 49 kg weight class, one in which the Chinese aren't at the top and where Chanu isn't in the top three. It's an unusual situation for the Indian who has been second or third best in her category for the last couple of years. But the return of the North Korean and Thai lifters after years in exile has changed the landscape.

On Saturday, North Korea's Ri Songgum set a world record in her first major competition in three years, with a combined lift of 216 kg (92 kg in snatch, 124 kg in clean and jerk). She finished ahead of the home favourite Jiang Huihua, who lifted a total of 213 kg, and Thailand's Thanayathon Sukcharoen, who was third with 199 kg.

When Chanu won the Tokyo silver, neither the North Korean nor Thai players were in the mix. While Thailand's lifters were axed from international competition due to doping offences, North Korea's strict Covid-19 policies meant all their athletes were in self-imposed exile.

Lack of dope tests during their time away from sport means that Songgum and other lifters from North Korea will not be eligible for the Paris Olympics. But that won't make Chanu's task easier since there are lifters from outside Asia who are closing in on the 200-kg mark, considered to be a sure-shot total for a podium finish. Chanu's concerns, however, won't be her competitors as much as her body itself. On Saturday, as she went all out for a medal, she hurt her hip, with the extent of the injury still not known. The frequent injuries have dented Chanu's hopes of breaching the 90 kg mark in the snatch category, which she has been eyeing to increase her total score. Chanu said her coach Vijay Sharma advised against lifting heavier weights but claimed she 'wanted the medal badly and did everything possible'.

## TODAY'S SCHEDULE INDIA WATCH FOR DAY 8

### BADMINTON: INDIA-CHINA CLASH FOR GOLD

Thomas Cup champions vs powerhouses of badminton in their own backyard. It doesn't get much bigger than that. HS Prannoy and Co will be looking to go one step further from their superb semifinal win but China will be no pushovers.

MEN'S TEAM FINAL VS CHINA (2:30 PM)

### SHOOTING: LAST DAY OF ACTION

The shooting contingent has rung in the medals so far with 19 in all, and Sunday will draw curtains on this sport in Hangzhou. Trap shooters are in focus, and after a good first day, watch out for the men's team.

### SHOOTING (MEDAL ROUNDS LATER):

WOMEN'S TRAP QUALIFICATION - MANISHA KEER, PREETIRAJAK, RAJESHWARI KUMARI (6:30 AM)  
MEN'S TRAP QUALIFICATION - PRITHVIRAJ TONDAIMAN, DARIUS CHENAI AND ZORAVAR SANDHU (6:30 AM)

### ATHLETICS: FINALS GALORE

Avinash Sable, Jyothi Yarraji and Sreeshankar Murali will be in medal contention.



**GOLF (ROUND 4 - MEDAL ROUNDS, INDIVIDUAL AND TEAM):**  
ADITI ASHOK, AVANI PRASHANTH, PRANAVI URS (4:00 AM ONWARDS), ANIRBAN LAHIRI, SHUBHANKAR SHARMA, SHIV CHAWRASIA, KHALIL JOSHI (7:30 AM ONWARDS)

**WOMEN'S VOLLEYBALL:**  
INDIA VS CHINA, PRELIMINARY ROUND POOL A (4:30 PM)

### WOMEN'S BASKETBALL:

INDIA VS CHINA GROUP PHASE 5:30 PM

### SEPAKTAKRAW:

WOMEN'S & MEN'S QUADRANT GROUP STAGE (07:30 ONWARDS)

### KURASH:

ADITYA DHOPAKAR (TBD)

### CHESS:

MEN'S AND WOMEN'S TEAM EVENTS (ROUND 3 FROM 12:30 PM)

### EQUESTRIAN:

EVENTING CROSSCOUNTRY AND INDIVIDUAL (5:30 AM ONWARDS)

### SQUASH:

MIXED DOUBLES POOL STAGES AND MEN'S SINGLES ACTION BEGIN

### BRIDGE:

### ROUND-ROBIN STAGES CONTINUE

### KAYAKING & CANOEING:

MEGHA PRADEEP & SONIYA DEVI (FROM 12:30 PM ONWARDS)

### ARCHERY:

COMPOUND WOMEN QUALIFICATION - JYOTI SUREKHA VENNAM, ADITI GOPICHAND SWAMY, PARNEET KAUR, AVNEET KAUR (06:30 AM ONWARDS);  
RECURVE MEN QUALIFICATION - ATANU DAS, DHIRAJ BOMMADEVARA, MRINAL CHAUHAN, TUSHAR PRABHAKAR SHELKE (06:30 AM ONWARDS);  
RECURVE WOMEN QUALIFICATION - ANKITA BHAKAT, BHAJAN KAUR, SIMRANJEET KAUR, PRACHI SINGH (11:50 AM ONWARDS);  
COMPOUND MEN QUALIFICATION - ABHISHEK VERMA, RAJAT CHAUHAN, PRATHMESH SAMADHAN JAWKAR, QJAR PRAVIN DEOTALE (11:50 AM ONWARDS)

		Zonal Office, Gaya(e-AB), South Bihar Talab Road, Gaya, Bihar-823001
<b>{ Rule-8(1) }</b> <b>POSSESSION NOTICE (For Immovable Property)</b>		
Where as, The undersigned being the Authorized Officer of the Indian Bank under the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act 2002 and in exercise of powers conferred under Section 13 (12) read with rule 8 and 9 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 issued a demand notice u/s 13(2) on the date noted against the account as mentioned hereinafter calling upon the borrower(s) to repay the amount mentioned in the notice within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said notice. The Borrower(s) having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the borrower(s) and the public in general that the undersigned has taken possession of the property described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on him/her under Section 13(4) of the said Act read with rule 8 and 9 of the said rules. The borrower in particular and the public in general is hereby cautioned not to deal with the property and any dealings with the property will be subject to the charge of the Indian Bank or an amount and interest thereon. Along with legal expenses and other expenses already incurred/to be incurred by the bank.		
1.Name of the Branch Name of the Accounts/ Borrower	BIHARSHARIF AMBER (1) M/s Jeevan Jyoti Enterprises, At Meharpar, Near Sogra College, Biharsharif, Dist-Nalanda, Bihar-803101, (2) Smt. Ravindra Kumar Singh and Sri Arun Kumar Singh Both S/o Bindeshwari Prasad, AT Professor Colony, Dhaneshwarhat, Biharsharif, Dist- Nalanda, Bihar-803101	
Name of the Proprietor/ Guarantor/Mortgagor	(1) Sri Ravindra Kumar Singh and Sri Arun Kumar Singh Both S/o Bindeshwari Prasad, AT- Professor Colony, Dhaneshwarhat, Biharsharif, Dist- Nalanda, Bihar-803101, (2) Smt. Archana Devi W/o Sri Dayanand Prasad, at Professor Colony, Dhaneshwarhat, Biharsharif, Dist- Nalanda, Bihar-803101, (3) Smt. Sudha Devi W/o Sri Ravindra Kumar Singh, at Professor Colony, Dhaneshwarhat, Biharsharif, Dist- Nalanda, Bihar-803101.	
Date of Demand Notice	17-06-2023	Date of Possession Notice
Amount Outstanding as on the demand notice:	Rs.1,30,78,929/- (Rupees One Crore Thirty Lakhs Seventy Eight Thousand Nine Hundred Twenty Nine Only) as on 17-06-2023 along with legal and other expenses incurred & to be incurred by the bank.	
Detailed description of the Property	Equitable mortgage of Residential Land along with building constructed thereon in the name of Sri Ravindra Kumar Singh and Sri Arun Kumar Singh both son of Sri Bindeshwari Prasad located at Mauza- Kohnasarai, Mohalia- Meharpar, Thana No-123, Town + PO- Biharsharif, PS- Lahari, Dist- Nalanda, Bihar Bounded:North: Sadak, South: Prameshwar Singh, East: Plot No 803, West: H No Haza Mithilesh Kumar.	
Date :- 01.10.2023 Place :- Gaya	Sd/-Authorized Officer, (Indian Bank)	



# eye



POINT OF VIEW, PAGE 2

## A Sword over the Head

In her recent performance, theatre artiste Maya Krishna Rao drove her body to depict the darkness of death-row cells



SPOTLIGHT, PAGE 3

## The Body of a Nation

Delhi-based contemporary artist Gigi Scaria looks at Gandhi beyond nationalism and social memory



AMITCHAKRAVARTY

Amit Kamath & Shivani Naik

# On Top of His Game

*A swanky flat in Bandra, 5.45 million subscribers on YouTube, earnings up to a crore in a good month, and fans seeking selfies. The rise of 21-year-old Jonathan Amaral, a new-age star in a modern-day sport that is now a medal event at the Asian Games in Hangzhou, mirrors the rise of esports in India*

JONATHAN AMARAL'S new apartment in Bandra offers him a panoramic view of the tony Mumbai suburb and all its scenery, from the vast expanse of sea to the Bandra-Worli Sea Link jutting out of it. But more than those views, what convinced the 21-year-old to splurge Rs 7.5 crore on the house on the ninth floor of a Bandra high-rise was that it gave him an unhindered view of his humble one-BHK childhood home on Hill Road.

For Jonathan, the view of his old home that his new house offers is a way of staying connected to his roots. It's also a reminder, his way of never losing sight of where he started from.

"When we look at the old house from this one, it shows us where we were, right down, and how Jonathan has been climbing, climbing, climbing. He's gone way above," says Jonathan's father, Jude.

The boy from Bandra is now one of the most recognised faces in the Indian esports ecosystem; a new-age star in a modern-day sport that is now a medal event at the Asian Games in Hangzhou. The rise of esports — particularly BGMI (Battlegrounds Mobile India), the sport that Jonathan competes in for a team called GodLike Esports — can be documented by the fact that since last year, Star Sports has been broadcasting the BGMI Masters Series on multiple channels. Jio Cinema jumped in on the bandwagon this year and streamed a different event, called the Battlegrounds Mobile India Series (BGIS). BGMI is said to have over 100 million users in the country. The Asian Games version of PUBG (PlayerUnknown's Battlegrounds) is banned in India because of its Chinese source, so Jonathan finds himself not in Hangzhou.

"From being nothing to this, till now the journey has been quite impressive," says Jonathan, talking about his career, but he may well have been talking about the rise of esports as well.

You can take one cursory glance at the thick gold chains jangling around his neck and wrist to get a measure of his "quite impressive" journey. Or the Mustang parked in the garage. Or the BMW car he gifted his father last year. Or you could look at the 5.45 million subscribers he gained on YouTube in five years of starting the account. Or the Bandra house he has bought. Any Mumbaier will tell you that owning a home in Bandra West is a status symbol. It's the pin code that houses bluebloods of super-stardom such as Sachin Tendulkar, Shah Rukh Khan, Ranbir Kapoor and Salman Khan.

But for Jonathan, the new house is not about bragging rights.

"I don't want to forget my roots. Where I came from matters to me. It was just a one-BHK house where it all started for me. I don't come from a rich family. When I was looking to buy a house, my parents said they wanted to live in the same area they had grown up in.

You know how parents are. That's why I bought a house here," says Jonathan.

At his old house, where the family is still living while the new house gets refurbished, Jude, who is an internet-and-cable provider in Bandra, set up four WiFi connections a few years ago as his son's career was taking off. "Mera YouTube pe livestream band nai hona chahiye, iske liye (So that my YouTube livestreams don't face a lag)," says Jonathan, in his *Bambaiya* best. Jonathan's career owes a great debt to his parents, primarily because they were not the kind to impose their expectations on their son as he was growing up.

Jonathan likes to tell the story of how he got one of his first phones — an iPhone X. That iPhone X is still somewhere in the old house, preserved as a keepsake even though it stopped working many years ago. He likes the story, and the old phone, not just because it was his first real step to the top, but because it also shows the role that his parents played in his career.

"Who I am today is because of them. If my parents had not bought that device back then and done all they have for me, I would not be here," he says. "Back in the day, when I used to play and get four kills in a game, my dad would tell me, 'What is this? Just four? Kill more!' That's where the hunger comes from. People know me for my kills, that's credit to my dad. He has shaped me into the guy I am today."

Not just his hunger, there were many things he inherited from Jude, who used to play sports of every hue back for St Stanislaus, an educational institution with a proven pedigree on the school sports circuit in Mumbai. Jonathan also went to the same school, where he would play football and hockey, usually on the right flank as a forward.

"Sports is in the family blood," says Jude. But a bout of dengue, and some incessant mocking from his classmates due to his height, made Jonathan drift away. The void was soon filled by PUBG (which is an early iteration of BGMI, before it was banned in India).

"Kids would call him 'aye tingu, aye tingu' in school. He used to be sad about that. I used to push the coaches in school to stop that. Now those same kids come home asking for his autograph. They will come with requests that he make an appearance at their college fests,"



KNOWN FOR THEIR KILL

(Top) Jonathan Amaral's Bandra West high-rise overlooks his childhood neighbourhood on Hill Road, where he lived in a 1BHK; an esports team at the Asian Games in China

## Esports at Hangzhou

**FIFTEEN ESPORTS ATHLETES FROM INDIA** are competing at the Hangzhou Asian Games, the first time it's a medal sport at the continental event. The event will take place in a glitzy arena, built specially for the Games like a spaceship. Korea and China have some of the top names in the sport

**THE SEVEN OFFICIAL ESPORTS EVENTS AT THE TOURNAMENT ARE:** Arena of Valor Asian Games Version, Dota 2, Dream Three Kingdoms 2, FIFA Online 4, League of Legends, Peace Elite Asian Games Version (a rebranded version of PUBG Mobile) and Street Fighter V;

Champion Edition

**INDIANS PARTICIPATED IN FOUR OF THE SEVEN TITLES:** DOTA 2 (Darshan Bata captains the Indian team, which also has Krish Gupta, Abhishek Yadav, Ketan Goyal, and Shubham Goli); FIFA Online 4 (Charanjot Singh and Karman Singh Tikka); League of Legends (Akshaj Shenoy led the Indian team which also had Samarth Arvind Trivedi, Mihir Ranjan, Aditya Selvaraj, Aakash Shandilya and Sanindhya Malik); Street Fighter V: Champion Edition (Mayank Prajapati and Ayan Biswas). India finished fifth in League of Legends on Wednesday

## WINNING EDGE

When Jonathan plays, he holds the screen perilously close to his face. He uses just his two thumbs to manoeuvre, evade returning fire and shoot. Jonathan's two-thumb style is popular with beginners but most top players in the world turn their hands into claws, using three,

four — or even five — fingers to play. The four-finger claw technique helps a player multi-task in the game.

The buttons and controls are also invisible on Jonathan's screen, meaning he is pressing commands based on pure muscle memory.

says Jude. "From Day 1, when he started playing PUBG, we were monitoring his gaming. You can say we were studying the game along with him. I tried playing the game once or twice. I still have it downloaded on my mobile right now. I used to play Clash of Clans," he says.

But it's his wife Leticia who is fanatical about Jonathan's gaming career. "My wife writes down all the things about his tournament and results in a long notebook even now. She keeps track of his standing in every tournament. When Jonathan plays, she will be glued to the stream. She is very active here behind the scenes. She won't get up for anything. Anybody comes, anybody goes in our home, she's not interested. By now she must have discarded at least 20 to 25 logbooks with notes about his gameplay. If his team doesn't perform well, she will start cursing at the TV," says Jude, with a chuckle.

In a still young career, Jonathan has experienced heady highs but also moments that would have left anyone else disoriented. One of them was when PUBG was banned in 2020. The game made a comeback as BGMI in July 2021, but was again banned temporarily last year for 10 months due to concerns about data sharing with China.

But the biggest — and the most personal — setback was when many of his rival teams wrote to game developers asking them to bar him for being a 'hacker'.

"A lot of other teams ganged up against him and wrote an email to Tencent Games, the game publisher back when it was PUBG, that he's a hacker and that he should be banned. I have never seen him more demotivated in life than that moment," says Abhijeet "Ghatak" Andhare, who has known Jonathan since the early days — the grind days, as they like to call it — of his career. Ghatak is not only one of Jonathan's closest friends, but is also the coach of the GodLike Esports team.

Downcast due to the allegations, he fought them in the only way he could think of: showing his skills on a livestream to prove there was nothing amiss.

"I was just a newbie back then. So I was feeling low. But now I feel proud, that even back then I was playing at a level that others thought I was hacking. That was one of my

first streams," says Jonathan, whose 418 videos on YouTube have racked up over 512 million views.

He shut up his detractors with that one stream, and also embraced a new catchphrase: 'Hacker or what'.

BGMI, like every other esports, is the playground of the young and the restless. There is plenty of money to be made as well, especially for the players at the top.

When a teenage player joins an esports team, usually the only source of income they have is the salary they get from the team. The lowest salary could be Rs 25,000 to Rs 30,000 per month. Salaries can rise to Rs 4 lakh to Rs 5 lakh per month. Money depends on the player's popularity as well.

There are wild figures quoted when talk turns to how much money the truly top stars like Mortal, Scout and Jonathan make.

"Depending on how good the player is and how much demand there is, a top athlete can make up to Rs 30 to 40 lakh a month. There are players like Jonathan, Scout and Mortal who have the power to make a crore in a month," says Ghatak, who goes on to add that there have been months Jonathan has ended up pocketing a crore in a month.

An esports athlete, particularly in a popular game like BGMI, has multiple avenues to make money. While top players like Jonathan are paid a monthly salary by their team as part of their contract, they also earn sizeable moolah each month from YouTube or other streaming services. Then there are the brand tie-ups or the long-term endorsement deals, says Hardik Shankar Meena, who is responsible for brand partnerships at Numen eSports and Gaming, the talent management and partnerships agency of GodLike Esports.

Not just the money, there is plenty of fame on offer as well. Jonathan remembers a time when he was playing in a tournament in Malaysia, when a fan turned up begging for his jersey. Another time at another event abroad, two pilots from Karachi had sought him out just for a selfie.

"In the last five years, I have seen way too many players who had the calibre to be the best. But there are distractions in this profession that take you away from the sport. Your priorities change," says Ghatak, who adds that Jonathan has not changed too much despite all the trappings that success has brought him.

"Jonathan has spent plenty of money over the past few months, sure. But you look at all the things he has bought with his money, they are all investments," says Hardik, who guides the youngster in matters of finances.

"I never look at my bank statement. I focus on my roots and the game," says Jonathan. "My father had the dream of purchasing a BMW car and he once told me he cannot afford it. So I bought it for him. The things that my parents couldn't purchase back in the day, now I can give them. Whatever they want."

Ahmedabad



# A Sword over the Head

In her recent performance, theatre artiste Maya Krishna Rao drove her body to depict the darkness of death-row cells

Dipanita Nath

FOR THE first time in her 50 years of performing on stage, Maya Krishna Rao, 70, felt unsettled before a show. She felt it was because she was talking about bodies that are on death row but not yet dead, and her body had to be a conveyor of this state.

The performance, *You Really Want to Know My Story?*, which was recently staged in New Delhi, revolved around death row prisoners and was based on real stories. The central protagonists included a bus driver, who had mowed down 10 people, and a migrant worker, convicted of rape and murder. The piece also inaugurated an online exhibition, 'Capital Letters: From Death Row, India', organised by the National Law University, with ReFrame, an initiative that responds to contemporary challenges through art. Comprising letters from death row prisoners, the exhibition gives a glimpse of the space where the living wait for the end.

"Usually, when you conceive a performance, you are worried if the camera will work, if the musician will pick up the note or if you will remember the text. In the case of this particular performance, it was a very strange sense of will I arrive? I didn't even know where it is that I wanted to arrive," says Bengaluru-based Rao, a Sangeet Natak Akademi Award winner. She had returned the award in 2015 to draw attention to the killings of Md Akhlaq in Dadri, Narendra Dabholkar in Pune and Govind Pansare in Kolhapur.

Rao, who had started with street theatre in the 1970s and moved to the proscenium for 25 years after that, is today identified as one of the most powerful artistic voices on protest platforms. She is a solo performer, whose works have questioned governments and demanded answers, be it in the aftermath of the Delhi gang rape in 2012 or the farmer's movement in 2020-2021.

It has become easy to forget that Rao likes to make her audience laugh and has created endearing comedies, such as *Quality Street* (2017), about a mother and a daughter. Her last play was *Loose Woman* (2018), which showed the free spirit of women straining against conventions and had lines, such as "I want to dance, slow motion, I want to send ar-



STRIKING A BALANCE

Rao during the performance of *You Really Want to Know My Story?* in New Delhi

rows, arrows, arrows, arrows, slow motion". One of the finalists at the competitive Mahindra Excellence in Theatre Awards in 2019, *Loose Woman* was travelling right up to February 2020, before the lockdown was announced.

With *You Really Want to Know My Story?*, her first research-based solo performance, Rao reels off statistics that she never knew had existed — there are more than 50 types of crimes for which the law can sentence a person to be hanged. We like to believe that the death sentence is reserved for the most heinous cases, but the truth is that there were 730 people sent to the gallows in the last five years. "That is one person every 2.5 days. Once they are picked up and locked away, we know nothing about them. The more pressing point is that we don't seek to know. It is only while going through the death row cases that you realise

that the inmates' true stories rarely come out because their legal representation is weak as they cannot afford lawyers," she says.

Unlike any other play, Rao spent two hours in the mornings before the show of *You Really Want to Know My Story?* preparing, wondering what she should be eating, how she ought to breathe and exercising in ways she never had before. She wanted her body tightly wound to depict prisoners who are being tortured every day. A special aspect of her theatre has been working with musicians and, for this play, it is Goa-based Vishesh Kalimero. As Rao worked online with Vishesh, she found that her speech was going into all sorts of sounds, from breathing to semi-words, half-sentences to growling and singing, though she is not a singer. The spoken text emerged really fast and Rao maintained the tempo, though it was hard for her body to keep up.

People in India are divided about the death penalty, with eminent lawyer Indira Jaising even asking the mother of the Delhi gang rape victim to forgive the rapists. Rao has always maintained that the rapists "absolutely needed to be punished but I did not believe that they should be given the death penalty". "I never stopped thinking about who they were and how they ended up becoming these kinds of men. It made me think about the modes of violence happening in private bedrooms. We felt okay when the five men were hanged as it made us breathe a little relief but it shut our eyes to how rampant violence in every form is," she says.

Her show finally has been about giving the audience an experience about what it is like to be picked up for a crime, to have a sword hanging on the head and a noose in the future.

## DOWN IN JUNGLELAND



RANJIT LAL Author, environmentalist and bird watcher



OWLS IN THE FAMILY

Masterful hunters, they dine off small birds, rodents, insects, frogs and lizards

## Why owls are all-time favourites

They can smooch, cuddle, are great hunters and on a cloudy day, they may just spend the day outdoors

GENERALLY KEEP AN ear and eye out for all the local birds that have made the adjoining Nicholson Cemetery, their home for generations. It's astonishing to think how many fledglings have flown the nest from here over the years. This year too, I kind of took attendance and most (of them) signalled their presence. The grey hornbills nested in the big neem, along with brown-headed barbets and copper-smiths. The black-rumped woodpecker (nee golden-backed woodpecker) signalled its presence by its ringing laugh, the white-throated kingfishers flashed to and fro like electric short-circuits.

All of these were lorded over by the resident flock of peafowl, the cocks displaying magnificently and the hens proudly teaching their chicks how to raid your garden without being detected.

bat, before disappearing into the tree again. Now bats, with their sophisticated radar are not the easiest of prey to catch on the wing, but this one had no chance. Perhaps it was because the owl swooped up from behind and below, while the bat's radar squeaks are emitted from its front end — its mouth.

Obviously aware of its hunting skills, other diurnal birds, like babblers and mynas will harry and heckle an owl if they spot one forcing it to spend the day indoors — in its hole or hollow — which is why owlets usually only emerge at dusk or before dawn. It's said that if you knock politely, on the trunk of a tree housing an owl, it will come to the door and check if you are delivering the bandicoot it ordered from Amazon... so if you must knock on its door, do take a dead bandicoot along!

Apart from small birds and rodents, it dines off insects, frogs and lizards, and suchlike fare. Owlets even might deign to spend the day outdoors if it is over-cast. On one such day, years ago, a spotted owl spent the entire day in front of my bedroom balcony, on a (now long dead) Persian lilac tree and allowed me to get to hand-shaking distance from it. It bobbed its head comically from side to side as if not believing what it was seeing before it finally left around 7 pm.

On a trip to the Gir a few years ago, I remember keeping more of a lookout for owlets rather than for lions! And they did not disappoint. Every morning we would find a couple, or small family, sitting outside their home, gilded by the sun, and doing what owlets do best: cuddling and smooching! Surely a wonderful way to begin one's day, or for that matter to end it, and a lesson for all of us!

So, you can understand why I got a little concerned by the AWOL behaviour of the owlets next door. Until recently, when I heard their querulous chattering again. This morning while on my way to the pool, I heard them again, from pretty close by and they seemed to be in good form. Hopefully, they will breed this winter (between February and April) as they have been doing here for so many generations.

If you knock politely, on the trunk of a tree housing the spotted owl, it will come to the door and check if you are delivering the bandicoot it ordered from Amazon

So, I became a little concerned when I realised that till late I had not seen nor heard anything from, one of my all-time favourites — the spotted owl. Had some terrible fate befallen them? Had the monkeys driven them away? Even last winter (which is when they breed) they kept a low profile. They are dumpy little birds (around myna-sized), dressed in grey-brown, with a talcum-powder dusting of white on their round heads. Their enormous forward-facing eyes are golden-yellow, and gaze at you unwaveringly. If there's one bird that I would like on my shoulder (provided it doesn't take my ear off), it would be the spotted owl. Spotted owlets can screw their heads right around and look at you over their shoulders, all of 270 degrees, which would be so useful to us!

They are masterful hunters. I remember watching one emerge from a neem tree at twilight, and fly straight up, and unerringly take down a fast, flickering

Utsa Sarmin

A CITY with no crime, no death and no suffering and no men. They are relegated to *mandanas*, a feminist equivalent of a *zenana*. Women rule Ladyland, an alternate world, where they move freely, without a *purdah*.

These are some of the scenes from *Sultana's Dream*, a feminist utopia by Bengali writer-activist Rokeya Sakhawat Hossain, first published in 1905 in the English periodical, *The Indian Ladies' Magazine*. Nearly a century later, a feminist utopia by Bengali writer-activist Rokeya Sakhawat Hossain, first published in 1905 in the English periodical, *The Indian Ladies' Magazine*. Nearly a century later, a feminist utopia by Bengali writer-activist Rokeya Sakhawat Hossain, first published in 1905 in the English periodical, *The Indian Ladies' Magazine*. Nearly a century later, a feminist utopia by Bengali writer-activist Rokeya Sakhawat Hossain, first published in 1905 in the English periodical, *The Indian Ladies' Magazine*.

"I'm excited and honoured. We started this project more than 10 years ago," says Herguera, who has been visiting India since 2005 to conduct workshops and co-produce films with Indian filmmakers. It was on one of those trips in 2012 she saw a book in an art gallery that caught her attention. "Its red cover depicted a woman piloting a spaceship."

When she flipped the book, the writer's bio surprised her. Born in 1880, in undivided Bengal, Rokeya Khatun had an unquenchable thirst for knowledge. She would secretly take

## For Those Who Dream

A Spanish animation film celebrates a century-old story of Bengali writer-activist Rokeya Hossain



A FREE WORLD

A still from filmmaker Isabel Herguera's *El Sueño de la Sultana* (Sultana's Dream)

lessons from her brother Ibrahim Shaab. After her marriage to Sakhawat Hossain at the age of 16, Rokeya finally started studying and soon started a school for Muslim girls, and began

writing both fiction and non-fiction. She became a staunch advocate of women's rights, their economic independence and challenged the idea that a woman is only born to be a wife,

mother, daughter. "A woman from a conservative Muslim family, who did not get any formal education, she was still able to envision and have such a radical posture in 1905," says Herguera.

The movie is divided into three parts — *Sultana's Dream*, Rokeya's life, and a journey of a Spanish girl who discovers the book. Artists from all over India collaborated to bring Herguera's visions to fruition. The three stories use three different types of art — *mehendi* technique, shadow puppetry and 2D animation for which Herguera sought help from the renowned Indian animator Upamanyu Bhattacharya. The film's soundtrack brought together musicians like Tajdar Junaid and Moushumi Bhowmik.

Herguera's film comes amidst a wave of renewed interest in Rokeya's works among Indian artists. Hina Saiyada, a Mumbai-based film editor and producer is working on developing a video game based on this utopia. "Her text is so futuristic, scientific, multi-layered and compassionate. She was not blinkered by the reality that surrounded her. A linear approach towards it would have been a disservice," says Saiyada. Her work "Kai's Dream" takes a player to Ladyland through an immersive experience. "She was one of the first sci-fi writers. She wrote as a woman. Not as a Muslim woman," says Saiyada.

## Acceptance of the Unknown

How a song became an anthem for life itself

THE EARLIEST lyric in my memoryscape in English is *Que Sera, Sera, what will be, will be*. It isn't Doris Day that I remember; my memory connects me to my papa and my mum singing this and to the energy that it created, the life that they blessed us with, how they navigated the world where we came of age, and how we are today. "What will be, will be" — this is the mantra that got etched permanently into my psyche and stares me in the face whenever I am confronted with tough questions and dire circumstances.

My earliest memories also take me to the passing of my paternal grandfather, Bade Papaji. When I close my eyes, I see a handsomely attired man who spoke impeccably, in a firm yet warm cadence. A man who was strict, yet kind enough to give me a single cookie if I touched his feet and received his blessings first thing in the mornings. He had a walking stick and I remember his larger-than-life glasses that made his eyes seem bigger than big to me, a kid barely a handful of years old. His death is a flurry of details and a mashing of geographies, interlaced with images of my father and mother, my gorgeous Bua and my Papa's only sibling and sister, Deepa. Yet, it isn't mourning and loss that I remember vividly. It is the *bhandara*, the offering of food and the non-stop singing of devotional hymns by relatives, especially Munni Mausiji, my pa-



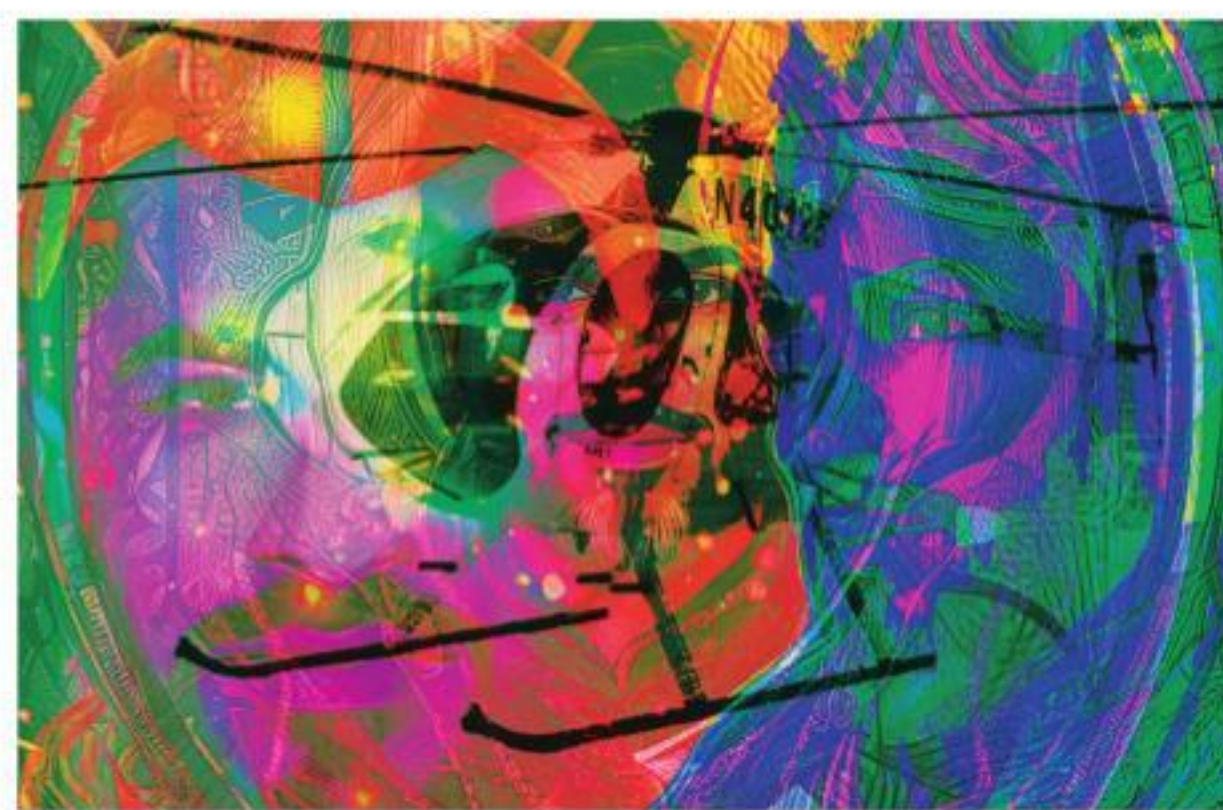
Suvir Saran is a chef, author, educator and world traveller

ternal grandmother's youngest sister, that have remained the clarion image from that moment of sombre, heartfelt despair. Between the food and the singing, I managed to believe

the words of the song my parents sang about making one's peace with what will be.

Life continued, with photographs of Bade Papaji becoming part of our life and a Radha Soami satsang — a prayer meeting with hymns sung in his memory. Dadi, my paternal grandmother, would have foods cooked that he loved; her older sister Vimla Bahadur — Mausiji to us kids — would be the only relative other than my Bua and her three kids and Hargobind Prasad Bhatnagar, her husband, who would be at this prayer ceremony. These prayer meetings were an annual ritual to remember our beloved ancestor and through that also connect with our families' traditions and goings on. When Vimla Mausiji lost Nagendra Mausiji and her children moved away, she would come alone and spend time at our home. I have letters she wrote to me when I moved to Mumbai to go to school, and then to NYC, and hers was love given to me for who I was in relationship to her, unfettered and never judging, pure and forever welcoming, full of hope, unafraid to give, and disinterested in worry about what will be.

I have always had the mind, heart, and soul of an artist, they tell me, even though I have never labelled myself anything other than human — a person with a ticking heart, a thinking brain, a feeling soul. I realised at a young age that my nighttime dreams were not only



QUE SERA, SERA

In life, having outcomes held in abeyance is more thrilling than knowing all the answers

dark, but prophetic. Too many sicknesses and deaths in our circle of relatives and friends had been part of my dreamscapes, and so early in my teen years, I taught myself to wake up and not allow dreams to take me in their grip.

But man must dream, so I began dreaming while awake. Circumstance and my age had me working a full-time job and going to school full-time in New York City. Hungry to grow, eager for adventure, masterful with my tactile hands, and blessed with the gift of gab, I found myself sailing with the wind towards new ports and, in doing so, facing both storms

and still moments with alacrity and fortitude. My mother had always advised me to welcome and accept failure and pain as readily as I did successes and victories, and so when things got tough, I found my calling to accept each moment and live knowing what will be, to focus on the here and now and give it my best.

Unexpectedly dark and treacherous storms brought me back to India a few years ago. Barely functional, visibly gaunt, inhabiting the world of the blind for a flash, I fought to escape a zombie world where fact and fic-

tion, dreams and reality, Delhi and New York, life and death melded together in ways that broke me apart, tore me into shreds, and thrashed around in my brain like helicopter blades with a fury of sounds and motion that was only heard and felt by me. When I managed to get relief from the helicopter, a scorpion would take its place, scratching desperately to get out of my skull and piercing my eyes to get out of the cage that was my body.

In that 21-month period, *Que Sera, Sera*, was once again the song that I was making peace with. Unable to communicate with clarity, rendered useless by life and circumstance, and losing everything tangible that was of significance to me and brought me comfort, I learned to cry, and cry freely, for the first time. Tears gave me strength. They were the only expression I had when at a loss for words and voice, sight, and sound. When doctors didn't have happy answers, I heard again in my mom's repeated pleas the call to accept what was and to leave the rest to life and happenstance.

*The Man Who Knew Too Much* is an Alfred Hitchcock classic (1956) that has Doris Day singing *Que Sera, Sera* at its climax. Through this song, the Master of Suspense taught us that in life, as in good literature, films and drama, having outcomes held in abeyance is more thrilling than knowing all the answers ahead of time. Starting a new life in India at 50, having to prove my culinary chops to a new nation where I am once again setting up home, being single and ready to mingle but having my age pose an uphill challenge, I smile readily and heartily because I truly believe that "the future's not ours to see." *Que sera, sera!*



OCTOBER 1, 2023

# THE BODY OF A NATION

Ahead of Gandhi Jayanti, looking at Gandhi beyond nationalism and social memory



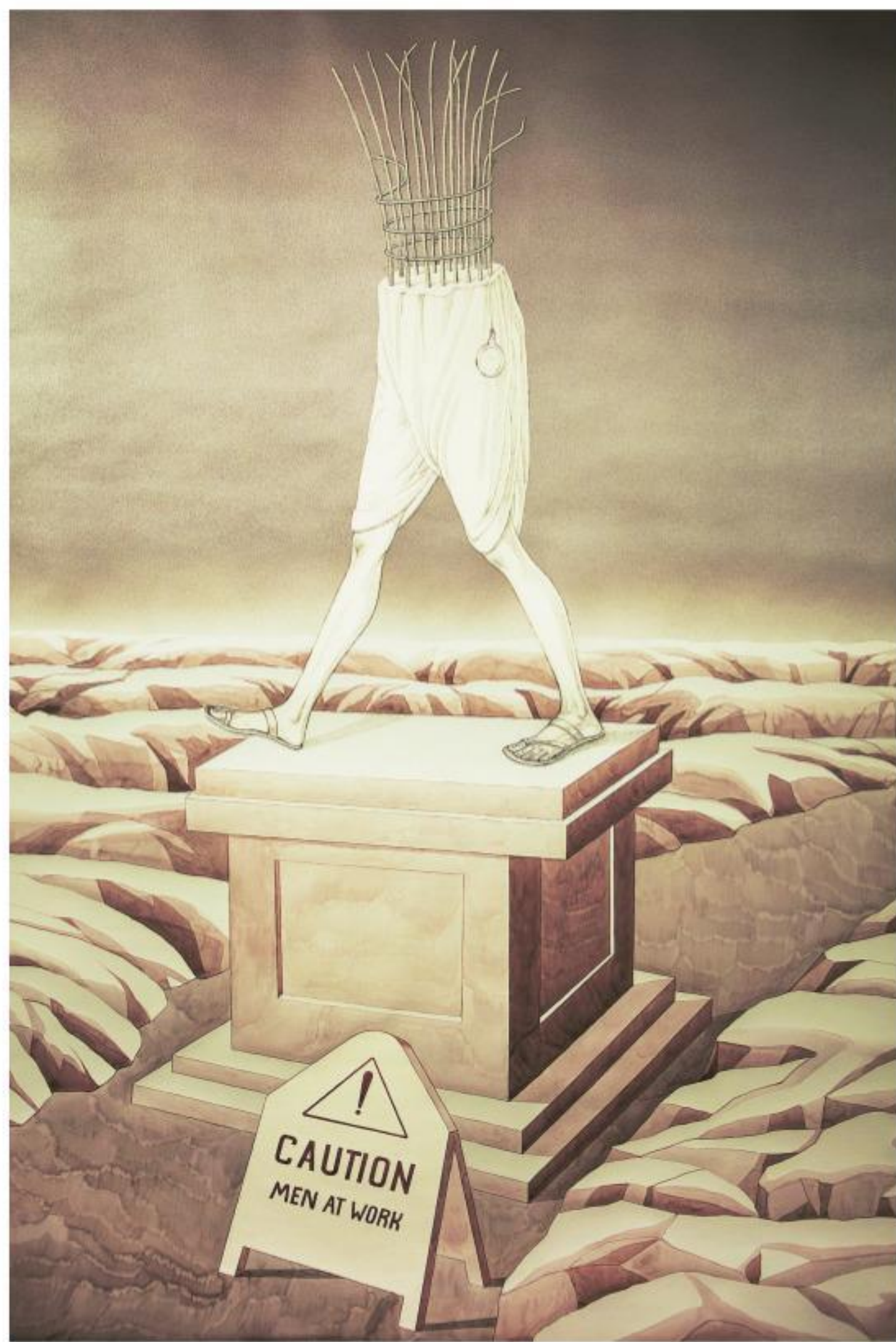
BY GIGI SCARIA

OVER THE last 20 years, I have been engaged with Mohandas Karamchand Gandhi, his complex life and philosophy and his activities that influenced the world's view on politics and human rights. Growing up in the 1980s in Kerala, I had a very different perspective about him. I have read literature that criticised the political incorrectness of the Congress party and Gandhi himself. Over time, I began observing the many factors that probably layered one's perspective on truth, and that it cannot be characterised as a single entity but is dynamic.

While moving from a small town to a mega city, my internal rhythm of absorbing realities and critical rejections went through a massive shuffle. My viewpoints were coloured by different sentiments and I started looking at Gandhi more like a political saint whose rigidity with truth and his values had no parallel in the political history of the world. His 'militant nature' in keeping to a non-violent resistance was as dangerous as it was to stand in the middle of a battlefield unprotected. I was fascinated by the errors he committed, the belief systems he was glued to, and the contradictions that nurtured his philosophy.

More importantly, the last few years of his life were a test of his own experiments and their effectiveness. According to him, he failed miserably because the nation witnessed massive massacres and unparalleled cruelty. For me, it is interesting to 'reinvent' Gandhi through my art, at a time when his vision is being abandoned by the state and his image is protected as a religious icon. India's openness to the global market and a rampant capitalist makeover that shook and uprooted most of the small-scale industry and farming sector was only a starting point. Growing religious fundamentalism, communal-based polarisation and violence were to follow.

I remember visiting Porbandar, Dandi and Sabarmati. It was more than 15 years ago. I was searching for the presence of Gandhi in these places, in the narrow alleys of Porbandar, where he spent his childhood. But I felt Porbandar has always stood like this for centuries. It really doesn't matter to the city who was born here or who died. Perhaps, this is true of many places in the world. Individual efforts merge into social memory and that social memory survives only in the individual



self without leaving a mark on the place where that individual lived. Does Gandhi remain as an undaunted social memory where his own ideas about change dissipate into thin air in the place where he was born?

In Ahmedabad, I arrived early in the morning at Sabarmati Ashram. It was alive with people and nature. I went inside the house in which most of the important political decisions regarding India were made for more than a decade. I spent hours inside and outside the building. It is a simple house with thatch-tiled roof. But the house looks really big and has a solid structure. It reminded me of the body of Gandhi, his broad shoulders and strong features. Unlike Porbandar, in Sabarmati, I felt the social memory catching up with the present time. I observed hundreds of visitors walk around the house, spending

## MYTH OR MYSTERY

(Above left) Gigi Scaria's *Caution! Men At Work*; *Flyover*

time inside the airy rooms and in the little backyard. Sabarmati Ashram stood as a metaphor for the political consciousness of this country. And at the same time, it also demands a fresh reading of its historical context. Gandhi left this house on March 12, 1930, with 79 residents from the ashram to Dandi, recalling Buddha's renunciation, with a vow not to return to this place till India got its freedom. And history proves that he never returned to Sabarmati. The determination of leaving this place was for Gandhi as important as the intention of making it.

I have observed a similar situation in our neighbouring country, China, where the father of the nation has been transformed into yet another icon and the country is moving towards a systematically organised capitalist mode while asserting its militant communist posi-

## DRAWING FROM GANDHI

**PORBANDAR (2008):** In this series, Gigi Scaria travels through Porbandar to photograph the overlooked aspects of Gandhi's birthplace

**WHO DEVIATED FIRST? (2010):** Alluding to Devi Prasad's Martyrs Memorial in New Delhi, in Scaria's inkjet on archival paper Gandhi walks ahead while his followers alter their path and choose the other direction

**IN SEARCH OF SALT (2010):** In this work, Scaria reminds his audience of the relevance of seemingly small acts as Gandhi continues to stride forward surrounded with concrete and small heaps of salt, symbolic of the Dandi march

**CAUTION! MEN AT WORK (2015):** With a half-complete figure of Gandhi, Scaria comments on creation and destruction, the tendency to erect and abandon Gandhi statues, even as 'caution' is advised

**FLYOVER (2011):** Created as part of an exhibition in New Delhi to mark the hundredth anniversary of the founding of Tolstoy Farm on the outskirts of Johannesburg, South Africa, Scaria here places Gandhi's Sabarmati Ashram under the shadow of a concrete overpass as the symbol of new India



tion. To my mind, the principles on which a nation is built are collapsing daily. This makes me look back and forth to the very idea of a nation. And here, I wish to raise a fundamental question: Would fathers of any nation have imagined a nation in the manner in which its people carry their vision forward? How and when do the raw materials that build a nation change its property? When do the politically engaged visionaries of the world become mere creators of a gigantic myth called 'nation'?

Growing intolerance over the idea of a nation and who is a nationalist has become the debate of the hour. I believe Gandhi offers more clues on this debate than anyone else. Gandhi is the body of a nation who was shot thrice in the wake of its own freedom.

Gigi Scaria is a Delhi-based contemporary artist



## 'Social media can be a tool for Gandhigiri'

Filmmaker Imtiaz Ali on slowing down, using the camera responsibly and capturing coincidences

Rinku Ghosh

IN A world that's spinning on reels and images are a flood, filmmaker Imtiaz Ali has learnt to take a "digital pause" and redefine storytelling the way it should — as an observer, with a simple camera, absorbing life as it happens, unfiltered by judgement or embellishment. Ali didn't set out to be a filmmaker. Growing up on haunting images of photojournalists, he realised the power of distant observation in shaping narratives, a skill that he honed while travelling as a student on trains.

In fact, it has been during his train travels and bus rides that he found characters who people his cult films. Now, he is exploring the expansive space of OTT and helping build a photographers' community that can document the real India with some help from National Geographic. The initiative is called #NoFilter by Indigo. "The visual narrative of stills by a curious mind behind the lens continues to be the best way to uphold the truth and focus on the significance of a moment in time. That agency is akin to *Gandhigiri* of our times," says the 52-year-old filmmaker.

### Can unfiltered photography change storytelling?

It's most important now when every narrative is being manipulated, viewpoints are crowding out each other and AI (artificial intelligence) is creating a parallel universe. We need to press the pause button, de-plug ourselves from devices, sit under a tree and just talk to people passing by. As a content creator, this is a relieving experience because you are allowed to do something the way you see it, which is not post-produced or coloured. Technology should be allowed to better an image in its raw form.

### Sadly, the independent photojournalist, who may walk into a conflict or riot zone, is also under threat these days for countering prevalent narrative...

I admit that many photojournalists are risking their lives. But these challenges also help them refine their craft and find smart ways to say what they want to say. Most social media is in the visual format which allows for individual storytelling. That is a great opportunity to reach out to the masses, a tool for *Gandhigiri*. If the photographer doesn't know what he wants to say or hear his voice over existing perceptions, then he would have lost his art of storytelling forever. I think your camera is a weapon that you must own and use responsibly. Your image has to come from that place of responsibility. Sometime you know how a certain image can provoke a certain reaction. It is your job to use that image in the most constructive way possible. I have myself grown up on news photographs which left a deep impression on my mind about how to build a visual narrative. They inform my body of work.

### Since we mentioned *Gandhigiri*, do you feel what Gandhi stood for is lost somewhere?

I admire Mahatma Gandhi and don't have as much regard for any other political figure. If he could come back through Rajkumar Hirani's successful *Munna Bhai* franchise, then you must know that he will tower over every new structure that is built in this country. Very few world leaders have been as revolutionary, worked for the enhancement of humanity or gone beyond political agenda. He will be alive in every person, in small and big ways. I had mentioned in another interview about my favourite line from *Tamasha* (2015), "Apni kahaani mujhse pooch raha hai? Kaayur. Kis se darta hai? Hain kaun yahaan? Tu bataa kya hota hai aage? Bataa. Bol apni kahaani. (Why are you asking me about your own story. Who do you fear? There's nobody here. You decide and tell your own story.)"

### Does censorship impact your filmmaking?

No creative person likes to be reined in but there will always be censorship regardless of establishment. Iranian filmmakers work under so much censorship, yet they tell the most universal story of human relationships. They can't show a woman without a headscarf, yet they make the most romantic films possible. The true creative artist will try harder and find a way.

### What about unfiltered moments in your work?

So many times in my films, the coincidental has become a part of the organic whole. That's because we were alive and agile in that impromptu moment. For example, in *Jab We Met* (2007), where Geet is perched on the haystack and talking to Anshuman, a train raced past behind. The camera kept rolling, we added sound effects and it became a metaphor for their relationship. In *Tamasha*, the *gullies* of Haaz Khas, with their graffiti, became the aesthetic and shaped the characters in the film. A good frame is what you can take in that quadrangle in that moment.

### As a balladeer of Delhi, what inspires you?

Delhi is so co-optive, it cannot be captured in its entirety ever. A 100-year-old monument sits with a glass façade. In 40 years, both would be old but would have aged differently. And that panorama you won't get anywhere. It is a city with the strongest cross-cultural currents; communities affect the city and the city makes them their own. Everybody is "Delhi-ised" and develops a new identity.

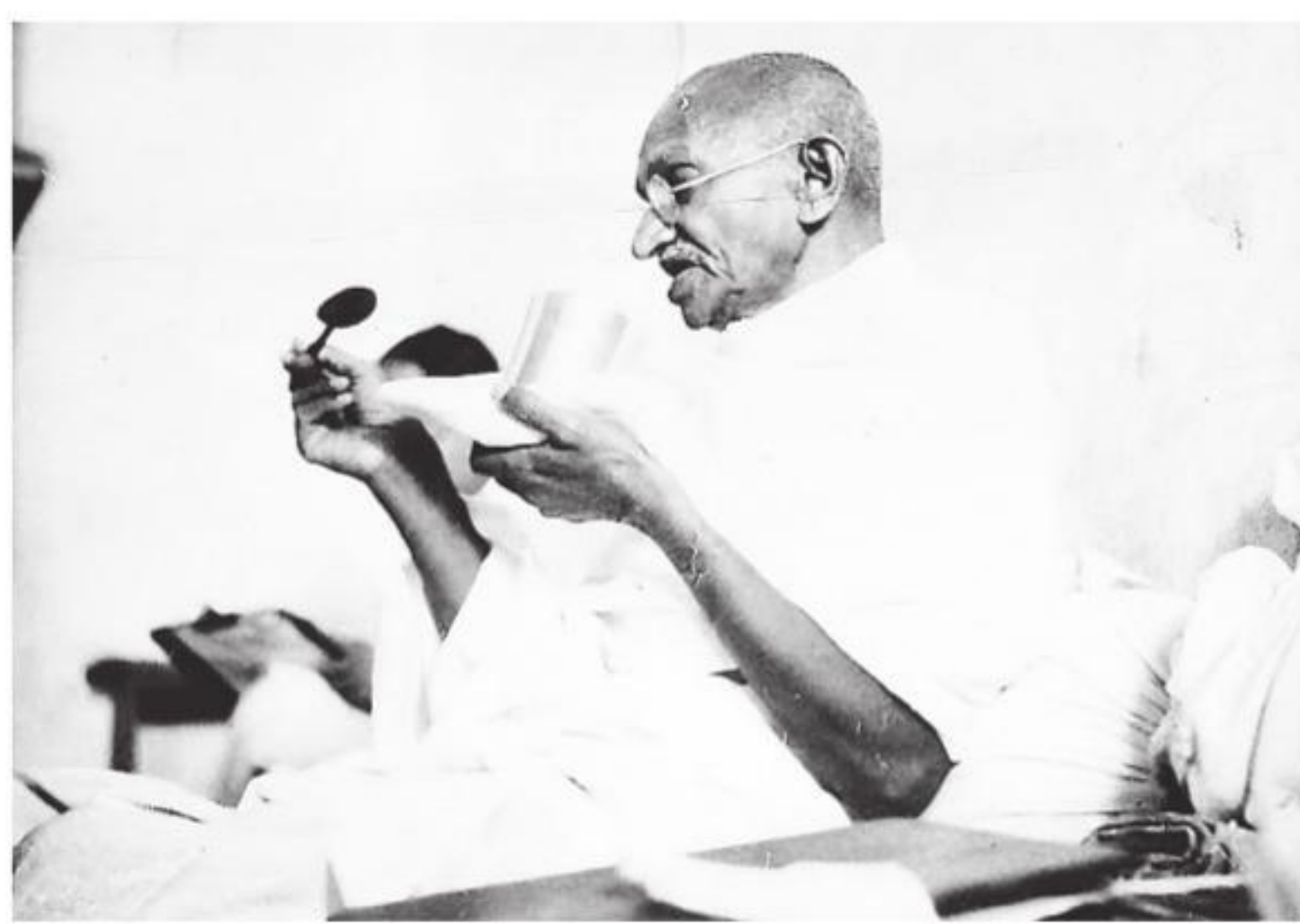
## The Gandhian Diet

Gandhi's experiments with food were as much science as a way of life

Rinku Ghosh

I SHALL content myself with merely declaring my firm conviction that... restraint in diet, both as to quantity and quality, is as essential as restraint in thought and speech," wrote Mahatma Gandhi, as he experimented with food in his quest to find a sustainable way of living with nature, keep Indians away from colonial impositions and ensure every man and woman was fit enough for their many marches and movements. He was not a nutritionist but in evolving a regime for himself, he tried out concepts that have relevance now.

He advocated fasting to give the body a break, detoxify and repair itself. He followed a plant-based, no-salt, largely lactose-free and sometimes a raw food diet that's a precursor to veganism as we know it. Yet, what we call a Gandhian diet is more conceptual than definitive. "The Gandhian diet includes both what the Mahatma consumed, changing the menu from time to time and what he prescribed to his compatriots. He was a vegetarian by birth but became an evangelical vegetarian only in England. What he suggested was also not informed by a deep knowledge of Indian reality, poverty of farmers and regional variations in foods of communities and social classes. He was dogmatic about his own prescriptions. Despite this, his concern for a balanced diet is laudable," says food historian Pushpesh Pant. And some of it has held good. **The no-salt diet:** Gandhi began a salt-free diet in 1911 but resumed salt consumption in the late 1920s following his doctors' advice.



"He would have probably preferred the rock salt, which has a lower sodium concentration than table salt and has naturally occurring minerals like iron, potassium, magnesium, and calcium. Now Indians are being prescribed low salt intake to control their hypertension," says food researcher Madhulika Dash. He did not take sugar either, choosing fruits instead, mangoes being his favourite. Today, we are told a low-sugar, low-salt diet after 40 is good for the liver.

**Raw diet:** As a 24-year-old lawyer from India, who was suddenly thrown into racist and elitist attacks in South Africa, food became a tool of Gandhi's fightback strategy. He would soak wheat, rice and peas overnight. The science was right. Soaking wheat, rice and peas would change their molecular composition, leach out the anti-nutrients and starch and make a fibre-rich meal. While fruits take four-and-a-half and six hours to digest, uncooked wheat and rice would not digest easily. That's why he gave up the extreme regime and though he didn't abandon cooked food, he tried uncooked food in many formats. There were some practical reasons too. "Chief among them was that he could carry his own

### FIGHTING FIT

He advocated intermittent fasting. He followed a plant-based, no-salt, largely lactose-free and sometimes a raw food diet that's a precursor to veganism

food wherever he went, the nutrients could not be lost during cooking, particularly vitamin A in leafy vegetables and germinated grains. Most importantly, it would free women from the kitchen to do more constructive work for the community and expand their role in the freedom movement. He even wrote, "Women will be set free from the prison-house of the kitchen." That's why he suggested milk (he himself had goat milk though), ghee, fruits and nuts, particularly hot milk at night for proper sleep. While travelling, he would carry butterfruit, apple, banana and at his halts, would have porridge, khichdi and pulses," says Dash. Boiled brinjal, beetroot and radish without salt and oil featured in his menu too. Besides, he felt a raw diet could help common people save up costs of cooking in oil and ghee.

**Eat local, grow local:** Gandhi made a conscious attempt to avoid foods that had been brought in by the British, namely potatoes and tomatoes. Instead he propagated the use of elephant's foot or yam, which is being revived today as it lowers cholesterol and blood sugar. He popularised the Kesri dal, which did not use tomatoes. "In fact, *imli* as a flavouring agent died out primarily because of the introduc-

## SOUL FOOD

Holistic health expert Mickey Mehta on the Gandhian diet:

**1** Start the day by drinking warm water for circulation. Include ginger, herbal and green tea.

**2** Have high-fibre and antioxidant-rich fruits like pomegranates, honey dew melon, muskmelon, apple and pears.

**3** Have a bowl of salad 20 minutes before lunch.

**4** Include dal (moong, masoor, kulith), a millet-based roti, a good serving of vegetables (bottle gourd, pumpkin, greens like spinach, methi, amaranth, beans, cauliflower, radish or anything seasonal and regional). Rice alternatives can be kodo millet or foxtail millet. Include dahi.

**5** Sprouts, *makhana*, seeds and nuts for snacks.

**6** For dinner, a vegetable, lentil-based soup, with moong or sweet potato chilla.

tion of tomatoes and their comforting taste to our gravies. Besides, the butter chicken legitimised their dominance," says Dash.

Disregarding criticism, Gandhi did not eat potatoes during the Bengal famine, even though it was cheap nutrition. He encouraged seasonal foods and while not advocating regional cuisine as such, he did have jowar, pulses, nuts, raisins, sweet pulao and other local foods during his travels.

**Intermittent fasting:** Gandhi never believed in food as enjoyment but as a source of sustenance. He had two proper meals a day, the first at 11 am, the second at 6.15 pm. "The only thing touched by fire is water. I take in the morning and once more during the day boiling water, lemon and honey," he wrote. That would make for a body cleanse routine as we know it today.



# How cardiologists practise what they preach

Running between critical surgeries and OPDs, given the burden of heart disease in the country, the cardiologist has one of the most stressful professions. Three big names share their mantra of keeping it together



## Dr Rakesh Yadav, 55

Professor of Cardiology, AIIMS, Delhi

**D**EALING WITH hundreds of heart patients in clinics during the day and attending to emergencies at night, Dr Rakesh Yadav hardly has the time to exercise regularly. "Doctors often cannot practise what they preach. The kind of emergencies that we deal with require immediate attention whether it is day or night," he says, having rushed to hospital from his home on campus within 10 minutes to save a patient.

Still he wakes up at 6 am regardless of the time he turns in for the night. The days it is possible, he sleeps by 11 pm. The first thing he does after waking up is make himself a cup of tea with very little milk, light and refreshing. Then it's time for stretches and some yoga.

By 8 am, he is at the breakfast table, eating his usual eggs and oats. "I like to have a heavy breakfast of around 500 calories. I eat light the rest of the day," he says. He may miss out on his morning routine some days but that does not stop him from walking 10,000 steps a day, a number he tracks on his smartwatch. "AIIMS is a fairly expansive hospital. I walk from the outpatient clinics to my chambers to the emergency department. I try to get in the steps whenever I can, wherever I can. Maximise my in-between time," adds Dr Yadav.

For lunch, he has some fibre-rich fruits and very light food to keep sleepiness at bay. Just like all of us, he too has phases when he eats very few carbs or goes off them for dinner. When it comes to diet, he is neither harsh on himself or his patients. "I have parathas and whole eggs too. Portion control is the key. I do not overeat regardless of how delicious the meal might be," he says.

Relief from a high-strung life comes in the form of his work on patient welfare. After a hectic day at work, he likes to have a cup of tea and discuss and debate the latest

research with his peers from the hospital. "I am an old-school activist and love discussing ways to ease patient troubles. I have been assigned the task of ensuring a smoother flow of patients at the emergency department. So, in my free time I like working on this aspect," he says.

It is through these interactions that Dr Yadav keeps his stress levels under control, so that he can give 100 per cent to his patients. "When I am relaxed, I can be more polite, I can work harder. Like I tell my patients, stress takes away 10 years of your life," he adds. He is currently encouraging young cardiologists to give up smoking. "We all know the harms of tobacco now. Such awareness was not there when we were in college," he says.

ANONNA DUTT

## LIFE POSITIVE



## Dr Rajiv Bhagwat, 59

Interventional Cardiologist, Nanavati Max Super Speciality Hospital, Mumbai

**A**VOTARY of fitness, Dr Rajiv Bhagwat believes that daily exercises condition our heart muscles and tissues in such a manner that they can expand and withstand the stress of less oxygen in the blood. "And when the muscles are in a good condition, the blood flow is good and arteries can even open up on their own. A patient's survival depends on the blood flow to the heart during a cardiac episode. Ninety per cent of patients do not have it," he says. And he leads by example, attempting a daily routine even though emergencies and critical cases challenge him from time to time.

Dr Bhagwat wakes up at 7:30 am and his biorhythm has adjusted so well that no matter how late he sleeps, he always wakes up without the alarm. A palmful of nuts, bananas and black coffee at 8 am and he's on the phone, checking the overnight progress of his patients and scheduling appointments for the day. "In between, I manage to scan the newspaper and by 9 am I am on the beach for a 30-minute jog," he says. He skips the morning jog when he hasn't slept well the night before, either because of a late night surgery or monitoring a critical case. "Overworking a worn out body puts stress on the heart," he says.

He doesn't have breakfast but packs a brunch and snack pack to work. Just before OPD hour, he has a cup of tea or coffee, his caffeine shot to take on the day. "I have alter-

nate days of OPDs and interventionist surgeries. On OPD days, I have my brunch at 11 am, which comprises mixed atta chapati, a vegetable and dal. On surgery days or emergencies, I can't say I eat on time. But whatever I eat or drink, I carry from home. I never eat outside food," adds Dr Bhagwat.

On days he misses his morning exercise, he makes up for it in the hospital premises, choosing to walk up and down the stairs and not taking a lift. Just before his evening OPD, he munches on nuts or has a fruit around 5:30 pm. The hours may stretch to 8:30 pm after which there's the hour-long drive back home through chaotic Mumbai traffic. "This is the most stressful part of the day I feel," he says. That's why when he reaches home he has a very light dinner of two chapatis, dal, vegetable and lean chicken or fish very occasionally. He may unwind by reading news or watching sports but sleeps by 11:30 pm at all costs.

"As a doctor, the biggest stress I have is to be able to send all my patients back home from hospital," admits Dr Bhagwat. So he takes mini breaks and over the last 20 years, has travelled with friends to most national parks, Kanha being his favourite. "Wildlife photography is my passion and I started my own little 'save the tiger' project much before it became a slogan," says Dr Bhagwat before he goes back to read his patient files.

RINKU GHOSH



## Dr Mohammed Rehan Sayeed, 50

Senior Consultant, Cardiovascular and Thoracic Surgery, Heart Transplant Surgery, Robotic Cardiac Surgery, Manipal Hospital, Bengaluru

**A**S PRE-SURGERY preps take time, Dr Mohammed Rehan Sayeed, who is known for valve replacement surgeries, starts his day early at 5:30 am. He cannot think of going through the day without his workout on the rowing machine. He has only water while working out, a pre-workout supplement only if he is too parched. "I do a one-hour workout that comprises 20 minutes of rowing cardio, 15 minutes of strength training that works on my core, shoulders and legs, and 15 minutes of mobility exercises. On days I cannot afford the liberty of time, I condense this routine into 30 minutes," he says.

An exercise junkie, he works out four to five days a week, beating his stress with his endorphin levels. He sticks to intermittent fasting; he has his last meal at 8 pm and breakfast at 8 am. Protein supplements are a fast-opener while his breakfast comprises a variation of idli vada or roti with vegetables. Sometimes, he may have eggs. A 50 ml gulp of coffee and he is ready to begin his surgeries at 9 am. Normally, he has two surgeries lined up before lunch hour

at 2 pm. However, depending on the kind of surgeries or complicated cases, he gets to eat a meal sometime between 2 pm and 4 pm. "I never miss out on this meal of rice/chapati, vegetables, dal/chicken/fish as I need all the energy I can for the next round of surgeries, which may last beyond 7:30 pm at times. At 8 pm, regardless of whether I am at home or the hospital, I have yogurt and an extremely light meal of either salads or dosa. No rice, no carbs," says he.

If he gets home at a reasonable time, he spends 30 minutes with his dogs, a Labrador and a German Shepherd. Then there is family time but he still reads medical journals and works on new innovations in surgery. Dr Sayeed has already patented his own line of protein supplements and pre-workout drinks. And to ease himself to sleep by 10:30 pm, he listens to music, retro pop, Mohammad Rafi, Kishore Kumar and even the latest Hindi songs. "More than exercise and diet, a good night's sleep can keep you on an even keel. The lack of sleep is the only killer," he says.

RINKU GHOSH

## FACT OF THE MATTER

Regardless of emergencies, all cardiologists keep to their step counts and sleep on time



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## CAPSULES

[0-13 YEARS]

### Mom's memory helps with second birth

**NEW INSIGHTS** into how a mother's immune system "remembers" prior pregnancies may eventually lead to improved therapies to reduce the risks of pre-term birth, preeclampsia and stillbirth. In addition to previously known short-term immune system adjustments, researchers at Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center, US,



found that the mother's body keeps a longer-term supply of immune suppressive T-cells that specifically recognise the next foetus by the same couple. These suppressive T-cells instruct the rest of the immune system to stand down as the pregnancy develops and lingers in the mother's body for years after giving birth.

[18-50 YEARS]

### New way to target cancer cells

**RESEARCHERS** FROM the University of Arizona Cancer Center, US, have identified a new method of activating specific molecules to target cancer cells while leaving healthy cells unharmed. They developed a new strategy called click-release proteolysis targeting chimeras, or crPROTACs, that allows for the activation and release of



PROTACs only in cancer cells. PROTACs are molecules that scientists designed to break down specific proteins in the body. They are now explored as a potential treatment for cancer; however, one of the challenges is that they can be harmful to healthy cells due to uncontrolled protein breakdown.

[50+ YEARS]

### 3,000 steps good for hypertension

**A NEW** study by the University of Connecticut, US, has found that adding a relatively minimal amount of movement, about 3,000 steps per day, can significantly reduce high blood pressure in older adults. This study sought to determine if older adults with hypertension could receive these benefits by moderately increasing their daily walk-



ing, one of the easiest and most popular forms of physical activity for this population. On average, the systolic and diastolic blood pressure among participants decreased by an average of seven and four points, respectively, after the intervention. So a simple lifestyle intervention can be just as effective as structured exercise in care protocols.

## Just start at 25 to live fit beyond 80

Knowing the numbers of your routine tests is enough to protect your heart health

Dr Ambuj Roy/Dr Balram Bhargava

**INDIANS** ARE highly susceptible to heart disease and we tend to have heart attacks almost a decade earlier than our Western counterparts. Our odds of having a heart attack are 50-100 per cent higher. This grim reality is mirrored in the increasingly frequent headlines about young people suffering heart attacks or suddenly losing their lives. To avoid such events and live a healthier life, knowing and addressing the risk factors of heart disease is crucial. A great way to do this is to know your numbers.

### How much do you exercise?

You should exercise for a minimum of 150 minutes every week, as regularly as possible. Studies on the increasingly popular "step-count" — easily measured by smartphones and watches — reveal that a daily step-count of above 2,700 has measurable benefits, which keep increasing as you work up to 8,000-10,000 steps per day. Being physically active has profound beneficial effects on the heart as it lowers blood pressure, reduces blood sugar and improves one's cholesterol profile. These benefits emerge whether you stroll, take a brisk walk, or swim, whether you are young, old, lean, or obese.

### What are you eating?

Have 400 gm of fruits and vegetables. Include whole grains, millets, plant proteins, fish and lean meat and liquid plant oils. Limit use of sugar and salt, avoid processed food, oil that solidifies and sweetened beverages.

### What is your waist circumference and



### bodyweight?

One of the earliest red flags could be raised by your tailor! A bulging waist may be an early indicator of metabolic syndrome — a common condition in India that can leave you susceptible to heart attacks. For a healthy heart, men's waist circumference should typically be less than 90 cm, and women's should be under 80 cm. Apart from your waist circumference, you should also keep a close watch on your weight. Height (in centimetres) minus 100 (in kg) is a handy formula to figure out your ideal weight.

### How often do you smoke?

Tobacco, whether smoked or chewed, increases the odds of a heart attack by two to three times, and more if taken in both forms. However, there is a silver lining — five years after quitting, the risk of heart disease comes back down to normal.

### Are you keeping tabs on alcohol intake?

Moderation has traditionally been considered good for the heart. However, recent

studies have shown it might do more harm than good, especially for Indians. The uninitiated should avoid drinking and those who must drink should limit their intake.

### What is your blood pressure?

One in four adult Indians has high blood pressure, or hypertension, with readings above 140/90 mmHg. You should aim for an upper blood pressure of less than 120 and a lower blood pressure of 80 mmHg. Anyone with persistent blood pressure above 140/90 mmHg needs treatment.

There are several myths about blood pressure treatment, including dependence on the treatment and long-term ill effects of taking medicines. The only long-term effect of taking these medicines is the prevention of heart attacks, brain attacks, kidney failure, blindness and even death. This is a highly effective and cost-effective strategy with an extremely inexpensive treatment.

For every 40 individuals treated with these medicines, one episode (heart

attack/brain attack/death) is prevented.

### What is your blood sugar level?

Indians are highly susceptible to diabetes and everyone above 25 years of age should have their fasting blood sugar checked. It is estimated that 236 million Indians have diabetes or pre-diabetes. It is important to have an early handle on blood sugar control to prevent not just heart disease but also kidney failure, loss of eyesight and other complications. Fasting blood sugar should be below 100 mg/dl and post-meal should be below 140 mg/dl. HbA1c, which indicates your average blood glucose levels for the last three months, should be lower than 5.7 per cent in those without diabetes and below 7 per cent in those on treatment for diabetes.

### Have you checked your blood cholesterol lately?

You should regularly measure your bad (LDL) and good (HDL) cholesterol levels. The aim should be to keep the ratio of total cholesterol to good cholesterol below 4.5. This is even more important for those who have suffered heart or brain attacks, where we aim to keep bad cholesterol below 70-100 mg/dl.

Heart attacks are multi-factorial. Predicting one's risk for heart disease requires one to consider all these factors — a process that has been made quite elegant by several heart disease risk calculators. These calculators categorise individuals as low, moderate, or high risk for heart disease and inform physicians to take appropriate mitigation interventions. Given the ease with which heart disease can affect us, we should all make a conscious effort to know our numbers and make appropriate course corrections. Newer investigative tests that are useful in appropriate settings possess no added value in screening for heart disease. It's best to keep it simple.

— Dr Balram Bhargava is Head, Cardiothoracic Centre, AIIMS, New Delhi and Dr Ambuj Roy is Professor of Cardiology and Head, Skill, E-Learning and Telemedicine Facility, AIIMS