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# THE WORLD

**COUNTRY TOPPED GENDER GAP INDEX FOR 14 YEARS IN A ROW**  
**24-HOUR STRIKE IN ICELAND OVER INEQUALITY**

Tens of thousands of Icelandic women went on a 24-hour strike over gender inequality, including the Prime Minister, who said the fight for equal treatment was moving far too slowly at home and abroad. Schools and libraries were closed or operated on limited hours as female staff stayed home. **REUTERS**

**OVER 750 PEOPLE KILLED IN LAST 24 HOURS**  
 by Israeli airstrikes, says Gaza's Health Ministry

**12 OF 35 HOSPITALS NOT FUNCTIONAL: WHO;**  
 UN agency warns it will curtail operations in Gaza

**ISRAEL ATTACKS SYRIAN ARMY INFRA,**  
 also hits Lebanon squads preparing missile attacks

## Israel hits south Gaza as world leaders seek pause

Israel preparing a ground invasion of Gaza, says PM Netanyahu; offers no other details



Palestinians search for survivors at a site of Israeli strikes in Khan Younis on Wednesday. *Reuters*

**AGENCIES**  
 GAZA, JERUSALEM, OCTOBER 25

ISRAEL'S MILITARY intensified its bombing of southern Gaza overnight after one of the deadliest days for Palestinians since the conflict began, amid international calls for a pause in fighting to let aid into the enclave and prevent many more deaths.

Health officials in Gaza said on Wednesday that dozens more people had been killed in the south, where hundreds of thousands fled after Israel warned them it would attack the north in its bid to wipe out Hamas militants who mounted a killing spree in Israel on October 7.

Israel said strikes on Gaza over the previous 24 hours had eliminated Hamas operatives including the head of the Hamas battalion for southern Khan Younis, Tayseer Bebash.

Israel is preparing a ground invasion of Gaza, Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu said Wednesday, but declined to provide details on the timing or other information about the operation. The Health Ministry in Gaza, which is controlled by Hamas, said airstrikes killed over 750 people over past 24 hours. Officials did not give a breakdown of how many killed were militants.

In Gaza City in the north, rescue workers pulled an apparently lifeless young child out of rubble before trying to calm an agitated, partially buried man crying out his family's names.

Israeli jets also struck Syrian army infrastructure in response to rockets launched from Syria, an ally of Iran, the Israeli military said, fuelling concerns that its conflict with Hamas, also backed by Iran, will ignite the wider region.

Syria's state news agency said the Israeli attack killed eight soldiers and wounded seven more near southwestern city of Deraa.

Iran, which has sought regional ascendancy for decades and backs armed groups in Syria, Lebanon and elsewhere as well as Hamas, has warned Israel to stop its onslaught on Gaza.

Israeli forces hit five squads in Lebanon preparing anti-armour missile attacks or rocket launches, spokesman Rear Admiral Daniel Hagari said.

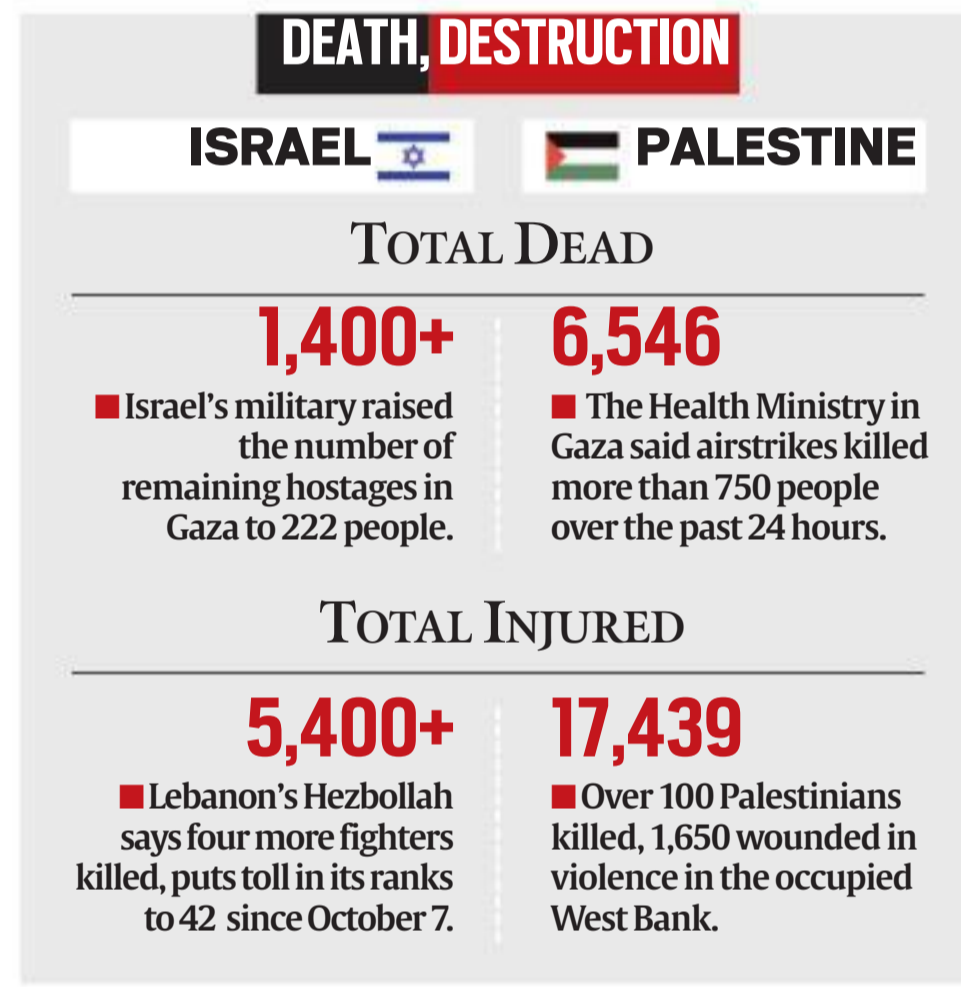
Lebanon's Iranian-backed Hezbollah group said four more of its fighters had been killed, increasing the death toll in its ranks to 42 since the start of the conflict.

The United States and Russia are leading international calls for a pause in fighting between Israel and Hamas to allow aid

into Gaza, where living conditions are harrowing. UN Office for Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs said more than one-third of hospitals in Gaza and two-thirds of primary health clinics had shut due to damage or lack of fuel.

World Health Organization said Wednesday that 12 of Gaza's 35 hospitals were not functioning and that seven major hospitals were well over capacity, risking patient safety. European Union leaders scheduled to meet in Brussels on Thursday were set to ask for a "humanitarian pause" to facilitate aid deliveries.

UNRWA, the UN agency for Palestinian refugees, warned that it would have to halt operations in Gaza on Wednesday night if supplies of fuel were not allowed in as it would run out.



### Hezbollah leader holds talks with Hamas and Islamic Jihad top brass

**KAREEM CHEHAYEB**  
 BEIRUT, OCTOBER 25

THE LEADER of Lebanon's Hezbollah group held talks on Wednesday in Beirut with senior Hamas and Palestinian Islamic Jihad figures in a key meeting of three top anti-Israel militant groups amid the war raging in Gaza.

In neighboring Syria, meanwhile, state media said an Israeli airstrike hit the international airport in the northern city of Aleppo on Wednesday, damaging its runway and putting it out of service.

There was no immediate comment from Israel on the reported strike.

Following the meeting in Lebanon, a brief statement said Hezbollah's leader Hassan Nasrallah agreed with Hamas' Saleh al-Aroui and Islamic Jihad's leader Ziad al-Nakhleh on the next steps that the three — along with other Iran-backed militants — should take at this "sensitive stage" in the Middle East.

Their goal, according to the

statement carried on Hezbollah-run and Lebanese state media, was to achieve "a real victory for the resistance in Gaza and Palestine" and halt Israel's "treacherous & brutal aggression against our oppressed and steadfast people in Gaza and the West Bank".

No other details were provided. The meeting came as the war between Israel and Hamas, the Palestinian militant group that rules the Gaza Strip, is now in its third week.

As the Gaza death toll spirals, tensions have also been rising along the tense Lebanon-Israel border, where Hezbollah members have been exchanging fire with Israeli troops since the day after Hamas' rampage into Israel.

Nasrallah has yet to publicly speak about the war in Gaza and clashes along the Lebanon-Israel border. However, other Hezbollah top officials have warned Israel against its planned ground invasion into the besieged territory.

Israeli officials have said they would retaliate aggressively in case of a cross-border attack by Hezbollah from Lebanon. **AP**

### BRIEFLY



**Turkish President called Hamas a 'liberation group'**

**Hamas is not a terrorist outfit, says Erdogan**

TURKISH PRESIDENT Tayyip Erdogan, in his strongest comments yet on the Gaza conflict, said Wednesday Palestinian militant group Hamas was not a terrorist organisation but a liberation group fighting to protect Palestinian lands and people. Speaking to lawmakers from his ruling AK Party, Erdogan also called for an immediate ceasefire between Israeli and Palestinian forces. **AP**

**Rating agency changes Israel credit outlook**

CREDIT RATING agency Standard & Poor's says it is changing its outlook on Israel's credit rating to "negative" from "stable" as the country fights a war against Hamas in Gaza in response to militant attack. S&P said it was revising the outlooks on its long-term foreign and local-currency ratings on Israel, citing the war, its potential to escalate into a broader regional conflict and impact that could have on country's economy. S&P left Israel's credit rating unchanged at AA-, agency's highest rating is AAA. **AP**

**UN: Gaza needs billions to undo yrs of trade curbs**

GAZA NEEDS billions of dollars in international economic aid to compensate for years of restrictions that have stifled its economy and curbed its development, according to a report by the United Nations trade body. In its report on economic development of Occupied Palestinian Territory for 2022, United Nations Conference on Trade and Development highlighted the dire economic conditions in Gaza, even prior to Israeli strikes on the enclave in reprisal for October 7 attacks. **AP**

### 'This way I'll recognise them': Gaza families wear bracelets to avoid mass grave burials

**NIDAL AL-MUGHRABI**  
 GAZA, OCTOBER 25

WITH SO many bodies, Palestinians in Gaza are burying the unidentified dead in mass graves, with a number instead of a name, residents say. Now some families are using bracelets in the hope of finding their loved ones should they be killed.

The El-Daba family has tried to reduce the risk of being struck during the heaviest-ever Israeli bombardment of Gaza. Israel launched the air strikes after Hamas militants attacked Israeli towns on October 7 in a rampage that killed 1,400 people and hostages were taken. Ali El-Daba, 40, said he had



Daughter of Ali Daba at their shelter in Khan Younis in the southern Gaza Strip. *Reuters*

seen bodies ripped apart by the bombing and were unrecognisable. He said he decided to divide his family to prevent them from

dying in a single strike. He said his wife Lina, 42, kept two sons and two daughters in Gaza City in north and he moved to Khan

Younis in the south with three others. El-Daba said he was preparing for the worst.

He bought blue string bracelets for his family members and tied them around both wrists. "If something happens," he said, "this way I will recognise them."

Other Palestinian families were also buying or making bracelets for their children or writing their names on their arms.

Mass burials have been authorized by local Muslim clerics. Before burial, medics keep pictures and blood samples of the dead and give them numbers.

The Israeli military has told people to leave the north of the Gaza Strip, and head south because it is safer. But air strikes have hit across the enclave. **REUTERS**

### Breakthrough in negotiations to free hostages likely soon, says Qatar PM

**ANDREW MILLS**  
 DOHA, OCTOBER 25

QATAR'S PRIME minister said on Wednesday that negotiations the Gulf Arab state is leading to secure the release of hostages held by Hamas in Gaza are progressing and he is hopeful there will soon be a breakthrough.

Qatar's foreign ministry urged de-escalation and warned that an Israeli ground assault on the densely populated enclave would make freeing hostages "much more difficult."

"There is some progress and some breakthrough and we remain hopeful," said Sheikh Mohammed Bin Abdulrahman al-Thani at a press conference.



Qatar's Prime Minister Mohammed bin Abdulrahman al-Thani

Wealthy gas-producer Qatar has had an open dialogue with both Israel and Hamas, which has brought about the release of four hostages captured in the October 7 rampage Hamas led into southern Israel, including

two Israeli women on Monday. "If they are able to get along between the two parties I think we will see some breakthroughs hopefully soon," said Sheikh Mohammed, who is also the minister of foreign affairs and who was speaking alongside his Turkish counterpart.

Qatar foreign ministry officials said an Israeli ground invasion of Gaza would complicate efforts to free the hostages.

"Obviously, a land incursion into Gaza would make it difficult to maintain the safety of the hostages, and in our efforts at mediation with both sides, we urge all parties in this conflict to de-escalate immediately," said Majed Al-Ansari, the foreign ministry's spokesperson. **REUTERS**

### Sterilisation for gender change not mandatory: Japan top court

Tokyo: Japan's Supreme Court on Wednesday ruled that a law requiring transgender people to undergo sterilisation surgery in order to officially change gender is unconstitutional, a verdict welcomed by advocates as a sign of acceptance of LGBTQ+ rights.

The ruling by the top court's 15-judge Grand Bench applies to sterilisation portion of 2003 law. The law forces those who seek a gender change a "cruel choice between accepting sterilisation surgery that causes intense bodily invasion and giving up important legal benefits of being treated according to their gender identity," the Supreme Court said. The decision, which requires government to reconsider law, is a first step toward allowing people to change their identity in official documents without getting sterilised. **AP**

### Russia passes law to withdraw from ratification of nuclear test ban treaty

**FILIPPLEBEDEV & MARK TREVELYAN**  
 MOSCOW, OCTOBER 25

RUSSIA'S PARLIAMENT completed the passage of a law on Wednesday withdrawing ratification of the global treaty banning nuclear weapons tests, evidence of the deep chill in relations with the United States as Moscow pursues its war in Ukraine.

Deputy Foreign Minister Sergei Ryabkov said Russia was not prepared to resume discussing nuclear issues with the U.S. unless Washington dropped its "hostile" policy.

The bill to deratify the Comprehensive Nuclear Test Ban Treaty (CTBT) was approved by 156 votes to zero in upper house after the lower house passed it unanimously. It goes to President Vladimir Putin for signing. Putin had requested the



Not ready to resume nuclear talks with US, says Russia's Deputy Foreign Minister. *AP*

change to "mirror" the position of the United States, which signed the CTBT in 1996 but never ratified it. Russia says it will not resume testing unless Washington does, but arms control experts say a test by either Russia or the United States could trigger a new arms race - and more testing by

other countries - at a moment of acute tension, with wars raging in Ukraine and the Middle East. The US Energy Department said last week it had conducted a chemical explosion at its test site in Nevada "to improve the United States' ability to detect low-yield nuclear explosions around the world". **REUTERS**

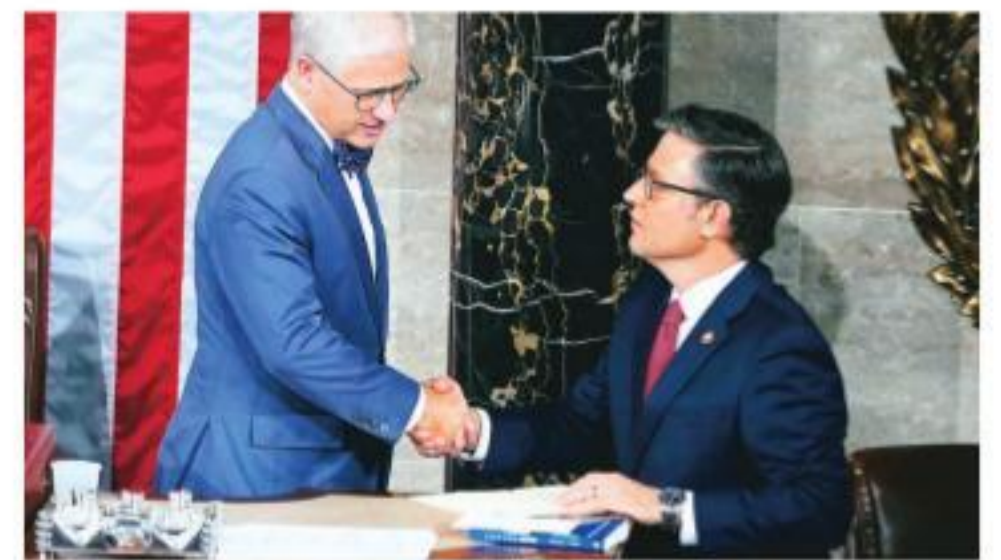
### Republican Mike Johnson elected US House Speaker, ending weeks of chaos

**DAVID MORGAN & MOIRA WARBURTON**  
 WASHINGTON, OCTOBER 25

THE US House of Representatives elected Republican Mike Johnson, a conservative with little leadership experience, as its speaker on Wednesday after a turbulent three weeks that left the rudderless chamber unable to respond to the Middle East crisis or carry out any of its basic duties.

The 220 to 209 party-line vote elevated Johnson to a speaker's chair that has been vacant since Kevin McCarthy was ousted on October 3 by a small group of hardline Republicans angry about a deal with Democrats that averted a partial government shutdown.

In the weeks that followed, Republicans who narrowly control the House considered and



Temporary House speaker Patrick McHenry (left) with Mike Johnson at the Capitol in Washington, Wednesday. *AP*

rejected three possible replacements before settling on Johnson, 51, a Louisiana lawyer backed by former President Donald Trump who spent years advancing conservative policies like school prayer.

"We will restore trust in this body. We will advance a comprehensive conservative policy agenda, combat the harmful policies of the Biden Administration, and support our allies abroad," Johnson said in a

statement shortly after the vote. First elected in 2016, Johnson will be the least experienced House speaker in decades.

He is best known as the author of an unsuccessful appeal by 126 House Republicans to get the Supreme Court to overturn election results in states that Trump had lost in the 2020 presidential election.

Johnson declined to answer a question about that effort shortly after his nomination on Tuesday night, while other Republicans boomed and heckled the reporter who asked it.

He will also have to respond to Democratic President Joe Biden's \$106 billion spending request for aid to Israel, Ukraine and US border security. While his Republicans broadly support funding for Israel and the US border, they are divided over further support for Ukraine. **REUTERS**



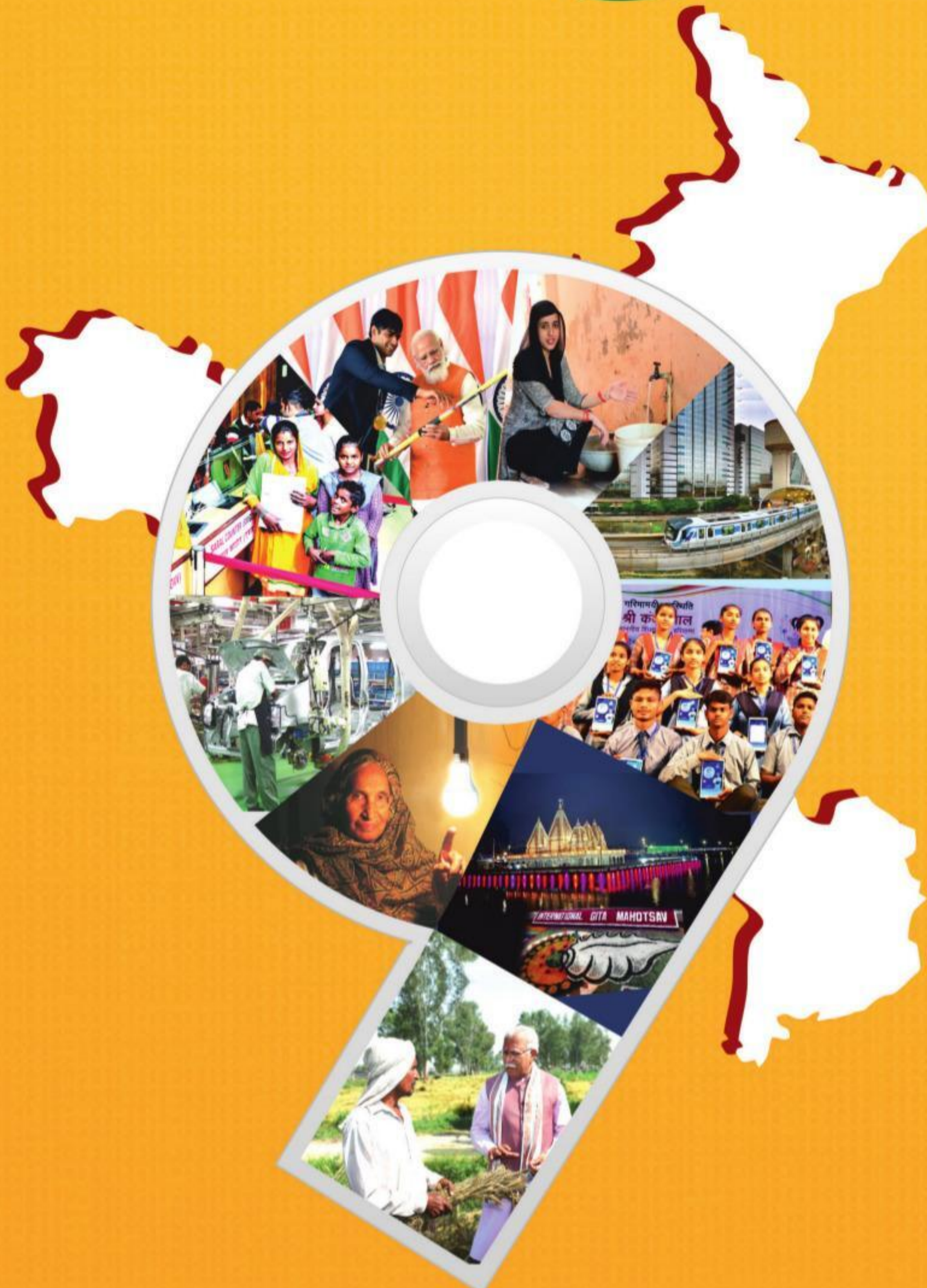
हरियाणा आज देश के उन अग्रणी राज्यों में है, जहां घर-घर पाइप से पानी की सुविधा से जुड़ चुका है। इसी तरह, बेटी बचाओ, बेटी पढ़ाओ में भी हरियाणा के लोगों ने बेहतरीन काम किया है। फिटनेस और खेल ये विषय तो हरियाणा की रंगों में हैं, हरियाणा की मिट्टी में है, यहां के संस्कारों में हैं और तभी तो यहां के युवा खेल के मैदान में तिरंगे की शान बढ़ा रहे हैं।  
- नरेन्द्र मोदी



हमने 9 वर्ष पूर्व अंत्योदय की भावना से जो संकल्प किये, आज उनके सफल परिणाम देखने को मिल रहे हैं। हरियाणा एक-हरियाणवी एक और सुशासन के मूल-मंत्र को ध्यान में रखते हुए प्रदेश के समान विकास को प्राथमिकता दी है और इन्हीं मूल-मंत्रों के आधार पर हम प्रदेश के चहुँमुखी विकास के लिए सदैव कटिबद्ध हैं।  
- मनोहर लाल

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#### Commitment to Antyodaya PM Garib Kalyan Anna Yojana -

5 kg per person per month free foodgrains to 27 lakh families  
Annual income limit for **BPL** families  
increased from Rs.1.20 lakh to Rs.1.80 lakh;  
Social security pension of Rs. 2,750 per month

#### Parivar Pehchan-Patra

Successfully delivered the benefits of 397 schemes and services to 45 lakh families within the comfort of home

#### PM Jan-Arogya Yojana (Ayushman Bharat/Chirayu) Free annual healthcare of up to Rs. 5 lakh to 30 lakh families

#### Beti Bachao Beti Padhao Campaign

Improvement in child sex ratio at birth  
from 871 (in 2014) to **932** (in September 2023)

#### Jal Jeevan Mission

**Har Ghar Nal Se Jal**- Clean drinking water to every rural household (30.41 lakh)  
**Saubhagya / Mhara Gaon, Jagmag Gaon**  
**24x7 power supply** in 5792 (86%) villages  
18,99,587 new domestic electricity connections

#### PM Kisan Yojana

Grant of Rs. 4,645 crore to 19.5 lakh farmers  
**Meri Fasal Mera Byora**  
Rs. 85,000 crore deposited directly in the bank accounts of farmers through DBT as payment of their produce

#### Pradhan Mantri Swamitva Yojana

Property rights to more than  
25 lakh families in villages within the Lal-Dora

#### To promote E-learning

Distributed 5.50 lakh tablets to students in Government schools

Every district of Haryana connected with **National Highway**,  
Two new **domestic airports** in Hisar and Ambala

## सुशासन ही आधार, डबल इंजन हरियाणा सरकार

**THIS WORD MEANS**

**CUBISM**

On Pablo Picasso's birth anniversary, a look at the revolutionary visual art movement he pioneered

**ALIND CHAUHAN**  
 NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 25

OCTOBER 25 marks the 142nd birth anniversary of the renowned Spanish artist Pablo Picasso (1881-1973). In partnership with French painter George Braque (1882-1963), Picasso pioneered Cubism, a revolutionary visual art movement that began in 1907.



**Pablo Picasso's painting Girl with a Mandolin (Fanny Tellier), created in 1910.**  
 Wikimedia Commons

**What is Cubism?**

The name 'cubism' seems to be derived from a snide comment by French artist Henri Matisse (1869-1954), who called one of Braque's paintings "a picture made up of small cubes".

Unlike its predecessors, Cubism involved artists seeing an object not from a single viewpoint but from every conceivable angle. It was the rejection of the traditional approach to making art, where art was just a copy of nature or an object and the artists adopted age-old techniques of perspective, modelling, and foreshortening.

"Cubism is about acknowledging the two-dimensional nature of the canvas and categorically NOT about trying to recreate the illusion of three dimensions (a cube, for example)," wrote Will Gompertz, former board director of the Tate Gallery, in his book, *What Are You Looking At? 150 Years of Modern Art in the Blink of an Eye*.

If Picasso and Braque were to paint a cardboard box, they would metaphorically take it apart and open it to make a flat plan, Gompertz added. This helped show all sides of the box at once. However, the artists would also want their composition to showcase the box's three-dimensionality on the canvas, which the flat plane can't do.

By doing this, Picasso and Braque thought their art would invoke "a much stronger feeling of recognition" about the box or any other subject that artists might create.

Cubism was meant to make people pay more attention to everyday objects that were usually overlooked and present a more precise representation of how people actually perceive an object.

**What inspired Cubism?**

Both Picasso and Braque took inspiration from the later works of French artist Paul Cézanne. As a Post-Impressionist painter, Cézanne began to represent nature with geometric shapes. This mode of making art was central to the early development of Cubism.

Cubism was also very much a reflection of the groundbreaking developments in science and technology during the early 1900s. "...the realisation that the atom was not the full stop definitively concluding scientific knowledge, but was in fact merely the end of the prologue... It made their Cubist idea of breaking matter down into a series of interrelating fragments seem an entirely logical step to take," Gompertz wrote.

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**EXPLAINED GLOBAL**

**CHINA LAUNCHES NEW MISSILE SUBMARINE: WHY THIS IS SIGNIFICANT**

CHINA HAS launched its first nuclear-powered guided missile submarines, according to a recent report by the Pentagon. This gives it land and sea attack options, once the sole province of the US and Russia.

The Pentagon report, published October 20, marks the first apparent confirmation that modified submarines seen in Chinese shipyards over the last 18 months are Type 093B guided missile submarines.

Previously, satellite images from northeast China's Huludao shipyard in May 2022 had shown a new or upgraded class of submarine, possibly with vertical tubes for launching cruise missiles.

**Threat to aircraft carriers**

Known as SSGNs, conventionally armed missile submarines were first de-

veloped by the Soviet Union during the Cold War to target US aircraft carriers with cruise missiles — long-range, precision weapons that are jet-propelled at subsonic speeds throughout their flights.

Unlike ballistic missiles, which are rocket propelled only in the initial phases of their flight, cruise missiles fly at low altitudes, skimming the surface of the sea and thus avoiding radar detection.

Singapore-based security scholar Collin Koh said the SSGNs were an important new capability for the Chinese navy which "potentially allows them to carry out saturated land and anti-ship attacks" from a far greater range than before.

Three new Chinese SSGNs could be operational by next year, as part of a wider expansion of China's submarine fleet amidst recent escalation of tensions with the US. **REUTERS**

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**Mahua case: process, precedent**

The Ethics Committee of Lok Sabha will meet BJP MP Nishikant Dubey today over his cash-for-query allegation against the TMC's Mahua Moitra. This is what could happen thereafter

**EXPERT EXPLAINS**

**PDT ACHARY**

BJP MP Nishikant Dubey and lawyer Jai Anant Dehadrai will appear before the Ethics Committee of Lok Sabha at noon on Thursday in connection with Dubey's accusation, made in a letter to Speaker Om Birla earlier this month, that Trinamool Congress member Mahua Moitra accepted "bribes" to ask questions in Parliament targeting the Adani Group.

The allegations by Dubey, which he has since taken to Union IT Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw and the Lokpal, are based on information provided by Dehadrai, which were confirmed by real estate developer Darshan Hiranandani subsequently. Hiranandani, a resident of Dubai, has issued a "sworn affidavit" saying Moitra gave him her Parliament login and password so he could post questions on her behalf.

**How serious is Nishikant Dubey's accusation?**

Essentially, the question is whether an MP is asking a question in return for some consideration, and whether there is illegal gratification involved. If this is established, then it is a serious issue.

If an MP has asked questions and has done other parliamentary work on behalf of somebody who has paid a consideration, then it should actually come to the Privileges Committee because it is a serious breach of privilege and contempt of the House. This is true for all countries that have a parliamentary system. In such a situation, Parliament can exercise its right to expel the member from the House.

**So is the Ethics Committee the right forum for a matter such as this?**

In my opinion, it should have been referred to the Privileges Committee, which is the only committee with the mandate to look into alleged breaches of privilege and contempt of the House. The Ethics Committee has been dealing only with some [less serious] questions of propriety, etc. — not with



TMC MP Mahua Moitra at Parliament House complex in New Delhi. PTI/File

cases where there is an alleged breach of privilege. For example, there was a case in which a man took his mistress or girlfriend on an official tour saying she was his wife, and the Ethics Committee looked into it.

But there was another instance in which a man took a woman and a boy abroad on the passports of his wife and child. That was a serious case — and a violation of The Passports Act. A special committee was set up to look into it, and he was expelled from the House. So, for serious matters, there is either the Privileges Committee or a special committee appointed by the House for that particular purpose.

**Has there been an allegation earlier about an MP handing over access to the Parliament website to someone else?**

No. This system has come into existence recently. As per the rules of Lok Sabha, a Member has to submit a question in a particular form signed by him or her with their identity number. The question can be delivered by someone on the Member's behalf, but it has to be signed by the Member. The signature is verified and the question is then processed.

**Is there a rule that specifically bars Members from giving their Parliament login and password to a third person?**

There is no such rule yet — because the practice of online submission of questions is recent. The rule should have been amended when online submissions were allowed. Had there been a rule, some safeguards against violations would have been specified as well.

**What will happen once the Committee starts its proceedings on October 26?**

The Committee will call the persons who are involved, the stakeholders — the person who made the complaint, the people who made statements, filed affidavits — and take their evidence. After that, the Committee will certainly call the Member against whom the complaint has been made. She has the right to cross-examine the complainant. She can also seek the permission of the Speaker to appear through an advocate, who can cross-examine the other side.

**How long could the Committee take to reach a decision and what punishment could it recommend?**

The time a Committee takes depends on the complexity of the case. In the normal course, two months' time can be given, and the Committee can seek an extension if needed.

This Committee has in the past recommended the suspension of the Member for a

certain period. The Member who had taken his girlfriend on a tour was suspended for 30 sittings. I think the Ethics Committee can only recommend suspension.

**Could the Committee refer the matter to an investigative agency like CBI or police?**

No. This (Ethics) Committee does not have that kind of mandate.

**Mahua Moitra has pointed out that the Ethics Committee has an "absolute majority of BJP members".**

In all Committees of Parliament, the ruling party will have a majority — that is the way committees are structured. Parliamentary Committees are supposed to function in a non-political manner, rising above party considerations when they examine issues. That has been the tradition, and it is expected that the Committee will address issues in an impartial and objective way.

The Committee does not have executive powers; it cannot punish the Member. Its recommendation will go before the House, which will take a decision. The House can accept the recommendation and agree with the suggested punishment, or perhaps agree with the findings but not with the punishment — it can take a lenient view.

**Can the MP appeal a potentially adverse decision in a court of law?**

If the Member is expelled, she can challenge it. If there is some illegality or unconstitutionality about the way in which the Committee went about the whole exercise, if there was a total denial of natural justice, in that case she can challenge it — not otherwise.

The window for the court's view is small. It is unconstitutionality, gross illegality, and denial of natural justice. These are the grounds on which a challenge can be mounted.

**THE EXPERT**

**PDT ACHARY** was Secretary General of the 14th and 15th Lok Sabhas. He is one of India's most eminent experts on parliamentary procedure. He spoke to *Manoj CG*.

**LS Ethics Committee: its constitution, members**

**VIKAS PATHAK**  
 NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 25

THE LOK Sabha Ethics Committee, which will take up Nishikant Dubey's complaint against Mahua Moitra, last met on July 27, 2021, according to information on the Parliament website. Since being established as an ad hoc entity more than two decades ago, the panel has heard several complaints, most of which have been for relatively light offences.

The members of the Ethics Committee are appointed by the Speaker for a period of one year. The Committee is currently headed by the BJP's Kaushambi MP Vinod Kumar Sonkar, and includes Vishnu Datt Sharma, Sumedhanand Saraswati, Aparajita Sarangi, Dr Rajdeep Roy, Sunita Duggal, and Dr Subhash Bhamre of the BJP; Ve Vaitihilingam, N Uttam Kumar Reddy, and Preenet Kaur (Congress); Balashowry Vallabhaneeni (YSR Congress); Hemant Godse (Shiv Sena); Giridhari Yadav (JD-U); P R Natarajan (CPI-M); and Kunwar Danish Ali (BSP).

**History of Ethics Committees**

A Presiding Officers' Conference held in Delhi in 1996 first mooted the idea of ethics

panels for the two Houses.

Then Vice President (and Rajya Sabha Chairman) K R Narayanan constituted the Ethics Committee of the Upper House on March 4, 1997, and it was inaugurated that May to oversee the moral and ethical conduct of members and examine cases of misconduct referred to it. The Rules applicable to the Committee of Privileges also apply to the ethics panel.

In the case of Lok Sabha, a study group of the House Committee of Privileges, after visiting Australia, the UK, and the US in 1997 to look into practices pertaining to the conduct and ethics of legislators, recommended the constitution of an Ethics Committee, but it could not be taken up by Lok Sabha.

The Committee of Privileges finally recommended the constitution of an Ethics Committee during the 13th Lok Sabha. The late Speaker, G M C Balayogi, constituted an ad hoc Ethics Committee in 2000, which became a permanent part of the House only in 2015.

**2005 cash-for-query case**

In 2005, the two Houses adopted motions to expel 10 Lok Sabha MPs and one Rajya Sabha MP who were accused of agree-

ing to ask questions in Parliament for money. The motion in Lok Sabha was based on the report of a special committee set up by the Speaker under Chandigarh MP P K Bansal to examine the issue. In Rajya Sabha, the complaint was examined by the House Ethics Committee.

The BJP, which lost six MPs, demanded that the Bansal Committee's report be sent to the Privileges Committee, so that the parliamentarians could defend themselves.

Former Lok Sabha Secretary General P D T Achary said there was "a lot of evidence" in the 2005 case — it was based on a sting operation — the challenge in the Mahua Moitra case will be to link the questions asked by the TMC MP to a money trail.

**Procedure for complaints**

Any person can complain against a Member through another Lok Sabha MP, along with evidence of the alleged misconduct, and an affidavit stating that the complaint is not "false, frivolous, or vexatious". If the Member himself complains, the affidavit is not needed.

The Speaker can refer to the Committee any complaint against an MP.

The Committee does not entertain com-

plaints based only on media reports or on matters that are sub judice. The Committee makes a prima facie inquiry before deciding to examine a complaint. It makes its recommendations after evaluating the complaint.

The Committee presents its report to the Speaker, who asks the House if the report should be taken up for consideration. There is also a provision for a half-hour discussion on the report.

**Privileges Committee**

The work of the Ethics Committee and the Privileges Committee often overlap. An allegation of corruption against an MP can be sent to either body, but usually more serious accusations go to the Privileges Committee.

The mandate of the Privileges Committee is to safeguard the "freedom, authority, and dignity of Parliament". These privileges are enjoyed by individual Members as well as the House as a whole. An MP can be examined for breach of privilege; a non-MP too can be accused of breach of privilege for actions that attack the authority and dignity of the House.

The Ethics Committee can take up only cases of misconduct that involve MPs.

**EXPLAINED WAR IN GAZA**

**Labyrinth under Gaza: lifeline for Hamas, Israel's greatest challenge**

**ARJUN SENGUPTA**  
 NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 25

AN ISRAELI ground invasion of Gaza, when it ultimately comes, will have to reckon with what lies under the ground — a labyrinth of tunnels, controlled and operated by Hamas. Not much is known about this subterranean spiderweb, but its critical importance to the strategy of both the militants and the Israelis, and indeed to how the battle progresses, is widely acknowledged.

The network of approximately 1,300 tunnels is thought to be around 500 km in length, with the deepest tunnels lying up to 70 metres underground, *DW* reported. Most passages are about 2 metres in width and height, and allow the comfortable movement of humans and equipment.

According to John Spencer, chair of urban warfare studies at the Modern War Institute of the US Military Academy West Point, the sheer scale of the tunnel system underneath Gaza poses a "wicked problem" for which "no perfect solution exists", and overcoming

which "will require a lot of time".

When and why were these tunnels dug, what are they used for, and why are they likely to pose a significant challenge to the Israel Defense Forces (IDF)?

**Lifeline of a besieged people**

The earliest tunnels underneath Gaza were probably dug as far back as the 1980s. The size and sophistication of the network increased after Israel tightened its blockade of Gaza in 2007.

For the besieged Palestinians, the tunnels are lifelines that provide them with all kinds of essential items, from food and medicine to hygiene products and electronics. Many lie along Gaza's border with Egypt, from where goods are smuggled through the city of Rafah in the Sinai peninsula.

For the besieged Palestinians, the tunnels are lifelines that provide them with all kinds of essential items, from food and medicine to hygiene products and electronics. Many lie along Gaza's border with Egypt, from where goods are smuggled through the city of Rafah in the Sinai peninsula.

For Hamas, which has poured millions of dollars into the construction and upkeep



An Israeli soldier in a destroyed tunnel near the kibbutz of Kissufim, in 2018. *The NYT*

of these tunnels, they are of "existential" importance, keeping Gaza's battered economy afloat.

**For Hamas, the great equaliser**

These tunnels also sustain the violent militancy of Hamas, and are used to smuggle weaponry and military equipment into Gaza. Apart from the smuggling tunnels in the southern border, Hamas has built some explicitly for military purposes.

"The tunnels allow fighters to move between a series of fighting positions safely and freely," Spencer wrote in his article published on October 17. "In short, the tunnels are a great equaliser, neutralising Israel's advantages in weaponry, tactics, technology and organisation." (*Underground Nightmare: Hamas Tunnels and the Wicked Problem Facing the IDF*)

**Tackling the tunnels challenge**

Given how important the tunnels are for Hamas, they will be top priority for the IDF during the planned ground invasion. But eliminating them altogether will not be easy, experts say.

First and foremost is the problem of locating these tunnels, which the experts say is akin to finding a needle in a haystack. Even with the availability of modern surveillance technology including radar, thermal imaging, and magnetic signatures, most tunnels are found by human detective work. This is why it has been impossible to accurately say just how big the tunnel system underneath Gaza is.

Second, even if the Israelis do locate the tunnels, eliminating them will not be simple. Sending in soldiers is fraught with risk as the tunnels will likely be booby trapped, and fighting inside the tunnels will almost certainly favour the Hamas militants, with their detailed knowledge of the terrain.

Using bunker-buster bombs runs the risk of causing extensive collateral damage, given how densely Gaza is populated. Although chemical agents have been used in the past, notably by the US in Vietnam, these would be regarded as "illegal" under International Humanitarian Law.

The IDF is highly trained for tunnel warfare, more than any other military force in the world, according to Spencer. But neutralising Gaza's tunnel network will take time, and likely come at immense human cost.

As Daphne Richemond-Barak, author of *Underground Warfare* (2017), noted in an article in *Financial Times*, "Even in such a scenario — which would come at an unthinkable human cost — it is unlikely that the entirety of Gaza's tunnel network would be destroyed."

MINISTER'S ANNOUNCEMENT COMES AFTER EXPRESS REPORT FLAGGED HOW BMC TOOK EYE OFF WASTE MOUNTAIN

## Mumbai civic body bans garbage burning in the open, sends notices to 6,000 construction sites

PRATIPACHARYA  
MUMBAI, OCTOBER 25

ON THE day *The Indian Express* published a report on how Mumbai's civic body took its eyes off the garbage dumping and its burning, the Brihanmumbai Municipal Corporation ordered a complete ban on burning of garbage in the open. Earlier, the city's Guardian Minister Deepak Kesarkar said the BMC had sent notices to 6,000 construction sites to install fogging machines and sprinklers.



The *Indian Express* report on Wednesday highlighted how garbage burning continues due to the civic body's inaction

At a press conference Wednesday, Kesarkar also said the BMC is putting in place a process to soon start segregation of waste — extraction of pollutants from the garbage — at its two landfills in Deonar and Kanjurmarg.

The new set of guidelines to mitigate air pollution announced by the BMC said, "There shall be a complete ban on open burning anywhere in the geographical area under BMC, especially garbage dumping grounds and possible sites of trash burning." **CONTINUED ON PAGE 2**

MONTH AFTER SERVICES SUSPENDED

## Delhi dials down, restores some visa services in Canada

Visa services for categories such as entry, business, medical, conference resume today, but not tourists

SHUBHAJIT ROY  
NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 25

A MONTH after it suspended Indian visa services in Canada and asked Ottawa to reduce its diplomatic presence in India following the diplomatic firestorm over Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau's allegation of a potential Indian link to the killing of a Canada-based Khalistan separatist, Delhi moved to reduce tensions between the two countries by restoring visa services in some categories with effect Thursday.

In a statement that signalled the de-escalatory move, the High Commission of India in Ottawa said, "After a considered review of the security situation that takes into account some recent Canadian measures in this regard, it has been decided to resume visa services for the following categories with effect



A file photo of S Jaishankar with Canada Foreign Minister Melanie Joly

from October 26, 2023: Entry visa, Business visa, Medical visa, and Conference visa."

While the entry visa is meant for Indian-origin Canadian passport holders, the business visa is for Canadian business travellers and investors in India. These have been restored keeping in view the high demand from Indian-origin Canadian citizens who don't have OCI cards as well

as Canadian investors in India. The medical visa is mostly used by Indian-origin Canadians for cost-effective emergency medical treatment and the conference visa is for academics and think tanks.

But tourist visas have still not been restored for Canadian citizens. "The visa services have been opened partially, but it has not been normalised," an Indian government source said.

But this is still perceived as a major de-escalatory move by India, a month after Trudeau's allegation of a potential link of Indian government links to the killing of Khalistan separatist Hardeep Singh Nijjar.

The official statement said that the High Commission of India in Ottawa and its Consulates General in Toronto and Vancouver were constrained to suspend visa services temporarily because of safety concerns. **CONTINUED ON PAGE 2**

ACROSS 52 DISTRICTS

## On UP govt radar, 200 ailing health centres: missing infra, dodgy finance

80% commissioned before Yogi govt came to power, SIT set up in many cases



53-year-old 'ward boy' Jharkhande Yadav at Kandharapur primary health centre in Azamgarh district. Vishal Srivastav

YOUR RIGHT TO KNOW  
AN EXPRESS RTI APPLICATION

DHEERAJ MISHRA  
NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 25

FROM A building with no doors and windows to one where stairs are missing; projects whose finances are under a cloud; where construction work is abandoned because the agency has lost interest. These are some of the key reasons why more than 200 community

health centres (CHCs) and primary health centres (PHCs) in 52 Uttar Pradesh districts are stuck, some from as far back as 2005, information accessed by *The Indian Express* under the Right to Information Act shows.

Indeed, most of these centres are languishing from before the Yogi Adityanath government came to power in 2017, and the UP government's health department has flagged alleged financial irregularities, ongoing internal inquiry, or the need for a probe by a Special Investigation Team in around 90 such centres (see interview below).

According to information available until August 2023, 86 **CONTINUED ON PAGE 2**

## Working to finish projects in a timely manner: health minister

DHEERAJ MISHRA  
NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 25

UTTAR PRADESH Deputy Chief Minister Brajesh Pathak, who also holds the health portfolio, has told *The Indian Express* that the state government is cognizant of alleged financial irregularities in some under-construction primary health centres (PHCs) and community health centres (CHCs), and action has already been initiated.

In response to a questionnaire, Pathak said, "SIT investigation has been ordered by the current government against officials of the executing agency concerned, UP Rajkiya Nirman Nigam Limited. Based on the findings of the SIT investigation, UP Rajkiya Nirman Nigam Limited is taking action against the guilty officials at their own level."

UP Rajkiya Nirman Nigam Limited is one of seven government agencies tasked with the construction, handling 63 CHCs **CONTINUED ON PAGE 2**



## 'I FEEL VERY BLESSED'

Prime Minister Narendra Modi meets office-bearers of Shri Ram Janmabhoomi Teerth Kshetra Trust in Delhi on Wednesday. In a post on X, the Prime Minister said they invited him to Ayodhya for the Ram Temple idol consecration ceremony. "I feel very blessed," he posted. Trust general secretary Champat Rai said the ceremony will be held on January 22. PTI **PAGE 7**

## Law Commission meets Kovind committee on one-nation, one-poll

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE  
NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 25

THE LAW Commission, chaired by Justice Ritu Raj Awasthi (retired), on Wednesday made a presentation to the high-level committee headed by former President Ram Nath Kovind on its "suggestions and viewpoints" regarding simultaneous elections.

The second meeting of the committee on Wednesday was attended by all the members — Kovind, Home Minister Amit Shah, Law Minister Arjun Ram Meghwal, former Leader of Opposition in Rajya Sabha Ghulam Nabi Azad, 15th Finance Commission Chairman N K Singh, former Lok Sabha



Committee headed by ex-President Kovind was set up on Sept 2

Secretary General Subhash C Kashyap, senior advocate Harish Salve and former Chief Vigilance Commissioner Sanjay Kothari. The committee was set up on September 2 to "examine and make recommendations for holding simultaneous elections" to Lok Sabha, state assemblies and local bodies.

"The Law Commission of India made a presentation during the meeting elaborating their **CONTINUED ON PAGE 2**



EXPLAINED

EXPERT EXPLAINS  
MAHUA MOITRA  
CASE: PROCESS, PRECEDENT

LS ETHICS PANEL:  
ITS CONSTITUTION

## Contours of joint theatre commands ready, await Govt nod before tweaks

One each for Pak, China frontiers, third for threat via sea; early talks on a fourth



The proposed national defence committee is likely to be headed by the Defence Minister. File

AMRITA NAYAK DUTTA  
NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 25

THE ARMED Forces have narrowed down the final contours of the integrated theatre commands with a proposal for the theatre commanders under a national defence committee likely to be headed by the Defence Minister, top officials have told *The Indian Express*.

Officials said the structures of the theatre commands are awaiting the approval of the government, based on which there may be further changes.

The theatreisation plans seek to integrate the Army, Navy and Indian Air Force and their resources into specific theatre **CONTINUED ON PAGE 2**

EXPLAINED  
The unified approach

SIMPLY PUT, a theatre command deploys elements of the three services under a single, unified command structure. Each command is assigned a specific geographical region, combining resources of the three services for operational roles. Given the threat India faces on its northern and western borders, integrated theatre commands and the roles assigned will be key in dealing with any future conflict.

## SC to Judges: Follow roster, taking unassigned cases gross impropriety

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE  
NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 25

UNDERLINING THE importance of the roster for allocating work to Judges, the Supreme Court has said that "Judges have to follow discipline and ought not to take up any case unless it is specifically assigned by the Chief Justice".

The bench of Justices Abhay S Oka and Pankaj Mishal was hear-

ing an appeal against a Rajasthan High Court Judge's decision to allow a civil writ petition for clubbing of FIRs against some accused. The bench noted that the accused had first filed two criminal writ petitions, but a single Judge, in April this year, had refused to grant any interim relief.

Thereafter, in what the SC called a "very extraordinary step", the accused filed a civil writ petition. In May, the other Judge hear-

ing civil writ petitions allowed the FIRs to be clubbed, and, in June, also directed that no coercive action be taken against the accused.

The appellant, Ambalal Parihar, at whose instance six FIRs were registered against the accused, claimed before the apex court that a civil writ petition was filed to avoid the roster judge who had not granted interim relief.

"This is a shocking case of **CONTINUED ON PAGE 2**

PAGE 1 ANCHOR

## Why all eyes are on lone seat in Abujhmad, the last Maoist fortress

JAYPRAKASH SNAIDU  
RAIPUR, OCTOBER 25

EVERY ELECTION throws up the challenge of Abujhmad, a dense, almost impenetrable forest region whose name stands for "unknown hills", holding within it the last of the Maoist bastions in the country, located in Chhattisgarh's Bastar region.

Union Home Minister Amit Shah has been insisting the BJP government has almost tackled the

Maoist threat, but on the ground, officials are on their toes as the five state Assembly elections kick off with voting here as part of Chhattisgarh's first phase on November 7.

Larger than the state of Goa, with parts of it extending into Dantewada and Bijapur districts of Chhattisgarh and bordering Gadchiroli in Maharashtra, Abujhmad includes around 200 villages. But, given its sparse population, estimated to be around 40,000 people, it is cov-

ered by the single Assembly constituency of Narayanpur. Officials say that 90% of its area remains unsurveyed.

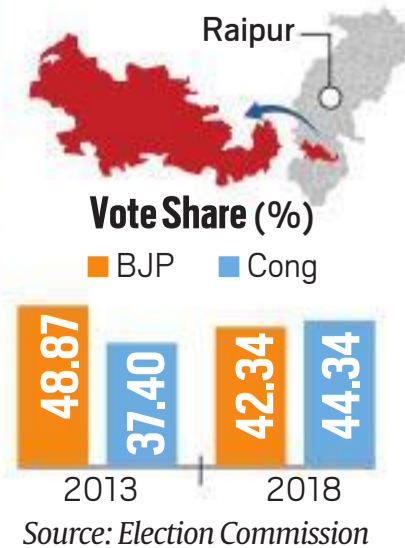
Most of the residents are "Abujhmaadiya", a loose term for the seven Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups (PVTGs) of Chhattisgarh, entitled to special benefits and rights from the government meant for endangered groups like them.

Since 2018 to now, the push by the Election Commission has added 312 new voter names to the electoral rolls in Abujhmad; 14,800-plus were added overall in Narayanpur district. The average for the rest of the 11



Paramilitary forces in Narayanpur. Sajin Saju

NARAYANPUR ASSEMBLY SEAT



Assembly seats in Bastar is 13,000-plus. An official says that voting is "very low" in general at three-fourths of the 30 polling booths in the Abujhmad region. As per Election Commission data, in the Orcha development block in 2018, a total of 15,018 people had voter IDs out of which only 4,867 people (32.40%) voted. For all but one booth, officials will be sent on choppers.

Chhattisgarh Chief Electoral Officer Reena Kangale told *The Indian Express*, "For the first time in Bastar region, 2,000 polling booths will have arrangements for a live broadcast, with officials monitoring the proceedings from

the control room. Overall, 12,000 polling booths in Chhattisgarh will have live webcasting." However, the facility will not be available in Abujhmad.


In 2018, the Orcha development block in Abujhmad saw among the lowest voting, with only around 32.40% turning up, less than half of the state's average of 76.45%. Narayanpur district, overall, saw 74.88% turnout.

Every vote matters for the parties as, in 2018, Chandan Kashyap of the Congress had defeated two-time minister and three-time MLA Kedar Kashyap of the BJP by a margin of 2,647 **CONTINUED ON PAGE 2**

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ENTERTAINMENT



ROHIT ROY LOOKS BACK ON HIS CAREER

Actor says should have been 'more careful' in his nascent years



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EXPRESS AUDIO  
Nobel Prize winner, Rajasthan's new party, and Israel-Hamas war

Nobel laureate Claudia Goldin's work on the wage gap and women's involvement in the labor market, a new party in Rajasthan with a focus on the issues faced by the Tribal population of the state, and an update on the ongoing Israel- Hamas war.

FROM PAGE ONE  
Delhi restores some visa services in Canada

FULL REPORTS ON WWW.INDIANEXPRESS.COM

and security considerations. Sources said while Ottawa has stepped up security for the Indian diplomats, the situation is not yet completely normal. "Emergency situations will continue to be addressed by the High Commission and Consulates General as it is being done currently," the statement said, adding that further decisions, as appropriate, would be based on continuing evaluation of the situation.

Minister S Jaishankar said India is looking at resuming visa services for Canadians "very soon" if it sees progress in the safety of its diplomats in Canada.

Jaishankar said that the primary reason behind India temporarily stopping the visa services was the concern over the safety and security of its diplomats in Canada. Ottawa's inability to provide a secure environment to Indian officials, he said, challenged the most fundamental aspect of the Vienna Convention on

Diplomatic Relations. His comments last Sunday came after Canada announced that it had pulled out 41 diplomats from India and halted its visa and consular services in Chandigarh, Mumbai and Bengaluru, and that these services would now be available only at the Canadian High Commission in Delhi.

The Indian move to resume visa services is being seen as a potential "door-opener" though Trudeau and his government have not withdrawn his allega-

tion, dismissed by Delhi as "absurd" and "motivated".

Delhi cited parity and the Vienna Convention on the downsizing of Canadian diplomatic presence, but that has not found favour with US, UK, Australia and New Zealand — all partners of Canada in the Five Eyes alliance.

Delhi had rejected Canada's "attempt to portray the implementation of parity as a violation of international norms", and accused Canadian diplomats of interfering in India's internal affairs.

Mumbai civic body bans garbage burning in the open

Besides sending notices to construction sites, the BMC said it will soon deploy 30 'clean up marshals' in each of the city's 24 wards who would monitor spitting, littering, garbage dumping and burning, and levy fines. In certain hotspots, where the Air Quality Index has sharply deteriorated, the BMC also plans to install air-purifiers too.

As part of the Express Series 'Death by Breath', the newspaper had on Wednesday carried a report "Burning trash, choking air: How BMC took its eyes off waste mountain". The report highlighted how garbage burning continued unabated due to the civic body's inaction and how it adversely affected public health, especially of children. Burning waste is one of the primary sources of PM 2.5 (particles less than 2.5 micrometers in diameter) and toxic fumes pollute the air.

Stating the government was serious about controlling pollution, Kesarkar told *The Indian Express* he will personally monitor the civic body's action every week. "Earlier nobody took a review of these issues in the civic body, however, now I am going to closely monitor this situation and take a review every week. We are hopeful that the city's air quality sees an improvement within the next two months," he said.

The Express Series launched on October 19 will continue to report over the following days and weeks all aspects of the city's air pollution crisis and the possible solutions and interventions. On Wednesday, the report highlighted that one of the key aspects of solid waste management re-

BMC GUIDELINES FOR AIR POLLUTION MITIGATION

- Complete ban on open garbage burning anywhere in BMC jurisdiction, especially at dumping grounds
- Immediate deployment of enforcement squads at ward level to ensure guidelines are followed
- Water fogging during loading and unloading activities at construction sites as well as water sprinkling on debris
- Deployment of sensor-based air pollution monitors at work sites
- Covering construction and demolition sites with green cloth or jute sheet
- 35-foot-high tin or metal sheets at construction sites sprawled over an acre and 25-foot-high sheets at sites under one acre
- Vehicles ferrying debris from construction sites must be covered, not overloaded and have their tires cleaned
- All construction workers and managers must wear equipment such as masks, goggles and helmets

lates to segregation. It also pointed to the fact that while garbage burning is rampant, BMC does not have any record of penalties imposed despite having a bye-law, effective since December 2006.

Addressing media, Guardian Minister Kesarkar acknowledged that Air Quality Index (AQI) readings are high around the landfills. "We are reviewing our existing method of garbage dumping and will also try to improve the existing infrastructure the civic body has in place for waste processing." Referring to pollution from dust linked to construction work — *The Indian Express* had highlighted this in its October 19 'Death by Breath' series ground report from six sites — Kesarkar said notices to all construction sites across the city had been issued.

"The civic body has sent notices to 6,000 construction sites

where civil works related to various private and government infrastructure projects are being taken up," he said. He said the government as well as BMC are studying dust mitigation measures taken in Delhi while executing Central Vista Redevelopment Project.

In response to *The Indian Express* report on Wednesday on garbage burning, the BMC said it was working towards framing the Solid Waste Management guidelines. "The BMC is currently in the process of revising new solid waste management by laws, aimed at establishing rigorous rules and regulations for the effective management of municipal solid waste," it said in a statement.

The BMC said it is in the process of deploying 'Clean Up Marshalls' to monitor littering, garbage dumping and burning, and levy penalties in all the wards.

SC to Judges

gross abuse of the process of law... We wonder how a civil writ petition for clubbing First Information Reports could be entertained. In the roster notified by the Chief Justice, there is a separate roster for criminal writ petitions," the bench said in its October 16 order. "If the courts allow such sharp practices, the roster notified by the Chief Justice will have no meaning."

Calling it a "classic case of forum hunting", the bench said: "The Judges have to follow discipline and ought not to take up any case unless it is specifically assigned by the Chief Justice. A Judge can take up a case, provided either the cases of that category have been assigned to him as per the notified roster, or the particular case is specifically assigned by the Chief Justice. Taking up a case not specifically assigned by the Chief Justice is an act of gross impropriety. Though a civil writ petition was filed, the learned Judge ought to have converted it into a criminal writ petition which could have been placed only before the roster Judge taking up criminal writ petitions". The complainants were not impleaded in the civil writ petition and, "interestingly, both in the civil and criminal cases, the same advocate represented the" accused, the SC noted.

It said the accused "must be saddled with costs" and asked them to pay Rs 50,000 to the Rajasthan State Legal Services Authority. It dismissed the civil writ petition and directed that "the conduct of the respondents shall be brought to the notice of concerned court" hearing petitions under Section 482 CrP filed by them "for quashing the FIRs".

Contours of joint theatre commands ready, await Govt nod before tweaks

commands. An official said members of the Chiefs of Staff Committee (COSC) are also likely to be part of the defence committee that will oversee the work of theatre commanders.

The COSC comprises the three service chiefs and the Chief of Defence Staff (CDS) and takes important decisions related to matters of higher defence.

"As per current plans, the structural changes, owing to the theatreisation plans, are also likely to involve appointment of a Vice CDS and a Deputy CDS," the official said, adding that they would oversee the verticals of operations, intelligence and planning, training, procurements and other Defence-related aspects.

Earlier discussions involved keeping the roles of raise, train and sustain for the service chiefs while

entrusting operations to the theatre commanders. But, according to a second official, it is currently being discussed that the service chiefs will likely retain some operational roles.

The official said that while the basic structure of the theatre commands is nearly final, certain matters related to human resource matters are yet to be decided.

The theatreisation plans, officials said, also entail overall transformation and better integration of the three service headquarters.

As reported by *The Indian Express* in January this year, three theatre commands will be set up first — one facing Pakistan, another opposite China, and a maritime theatre command to tackle maritime threats outside the coastal borders of the country. These theatre commands are likely to be lo-

cated in Jaipur, Lucknow and Karwar, respectively.

An official said that existing tri-service agencies such as cyber, space and the special operations division — to gradually upgrade to commands — might be integrated as a fourth theatre command in the future. But this plan is still at a discussion stage.

Limited cross-postings between the Army, Navy and IAF have already been implemented to promote jointness. "Restructuring of the headquarters and the subsequent postings will take place after the final approval from the government," the official said.

Currently, the Army and the IAF have seven commands each, while the Navy has three. In addition, there are two tri-service commands — the Andaman and Nicobar Command and the

Strategic Forces Command (SFC), apart from the Headquarters Integrated Defence Staff (HQIDS).

One regular command of each of the three services is likely to be upgraded to a theatre command. The current discussions are to subsume the Andaman and Nicobar Command into the maritime theatre command and bring the HQIDS under the CDS.

The SFC will continue to operate independently. All other commands will continue to oversee the respective operational theatres and there will be focus on enhancing jointness among the three services in areas such as intelligence, logistics, training, infrastructure among others.

Considered a major reform, creation of theatre commands and their structure has been under discussions for three years.

On UP govt radar: 200 ailing health centres, half-built to gaps in funding

CHCs and 132 PHCs commissioned between 2005 and 2023 are pending completion. The state has a total of 970 CHCs and 3,976 PHCs across 75 districts. As many as 178 or 81.6% of the centres were commissioned before the Yogi government came to power.

The health department has also highlighted the extent of completion of each project (table 1), and the year in which they were commissioned (table 2).

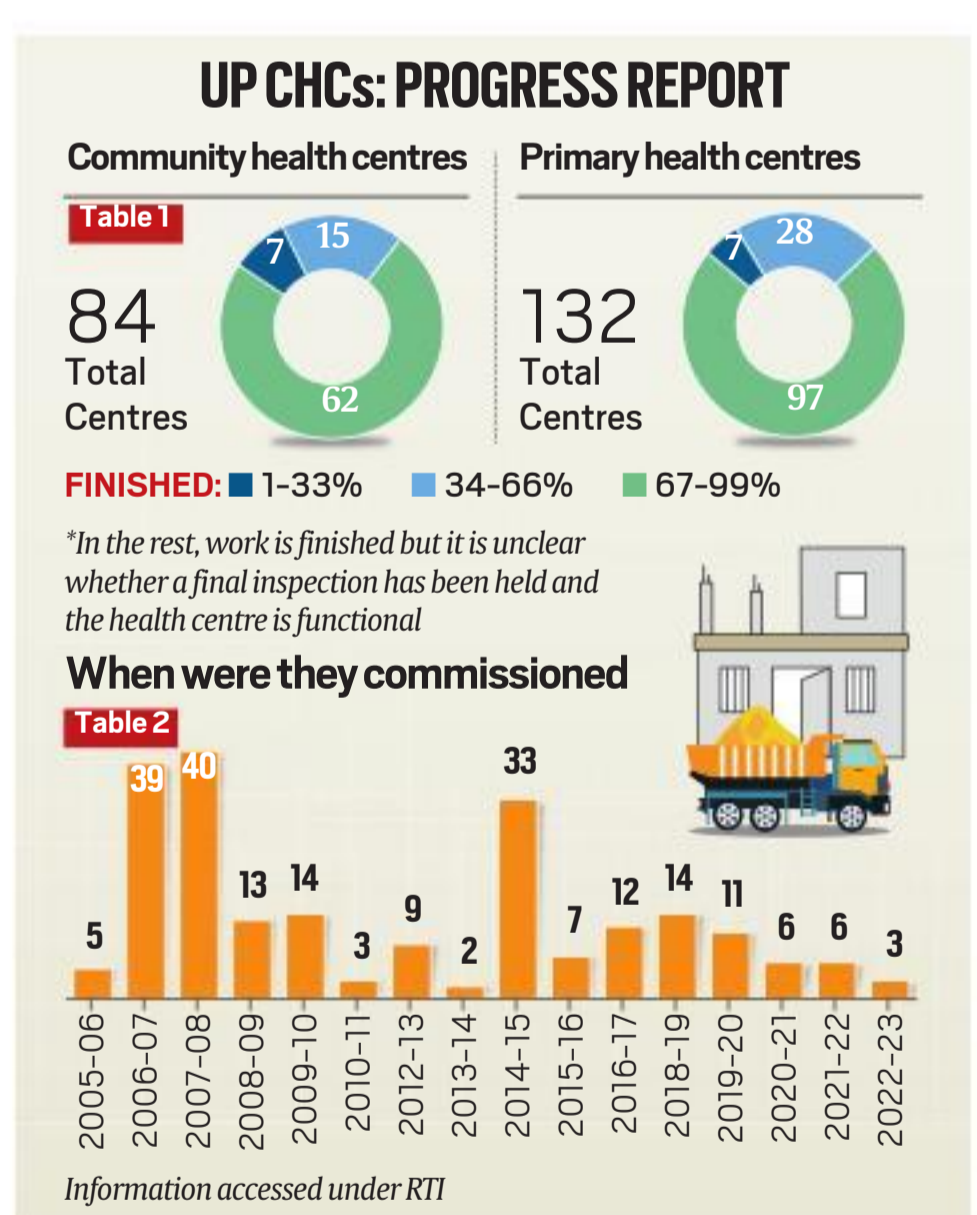
A PHC is the first point of contact between the village community and the medical officer, meant to provide curative and preventive healthcare to the rural population. They are established and maintained by state governments under the Minimum Needs Programme or Basic Minimum Services Programme, and are supposed to be manned by a medical officer supported by paramedical and other staff.

CHCs are a step higher, serving as referral centres for four PHCs and providing facilities for obstetric care and specialist consultations. A CHC is required to be staffed by four medical specialists — surgeon, physician, obstetrician/gynaecologist and paediatrician — supported by paramedical and other staff. It typically has 30 beds with one OT, X-ray, labour room and laboratory facilities.

Information accessed under RTI by *The Indian Express* reveals the key reasons behind the stalling of 218 PHCs and CHCs:

■ In around 90 unfinished projects, the health department has highlighted alleged "financial irregularities", ongoing internal inquiry, or an SIT (Special Investigation Team) probe. In all these cases, more than 90 percent of the amount that was allocated for construction has been spent. While internal inquiries are ongoing, one of the seven agencies tasked with the construction — the Rajkiya Nirman Nigam — has recommended an SIT probe.

■ In one instance, the health department notes: "The building has no doors, windows and the floor is incomplete." This particular CHC was commissioned in 2006-07 in Ervakra in eastern Uttar Pradesh. A total of Rs 2.24 crore was allotted, which has been spent, and the government has already rejected the revised esti-



mate.

■ On the status of a CHC in Raniganj Kaithola of Pratapgarh, commissioned in 2014-15, the department notes: "The building does not have stairs or ramp to go from the first floor to the second floor." While 94 percent of the allocated money has been spent, 60 percent of progress has been made.

■ "Affected by financial irregularities. The doors, windows, electric fixer in the buildings are partially complete," notes the health department on the status of a CHC in Azamgarh's Mohammadpur, commissioned in 2007-08. A total of Rs 3.02 crore was released, and despite over 96 percent of the funds being spent, only the first floor of the main building has been finished, records show.

■ On the status of a CHC in Dapsaura of Fatehpur, which was allotted in 2014-15 and passed its completion deadline in June 2021, the department notes: "Due to high expenditure by the construction unit, internal investigation is ongoing. Work stalled. OHT (overhead tank) is incomplete, there are no nets/glasses in the windows of the main building and MO's

(medical officer) residence."

■ "Due to non-completion of work even after the entire amount has been spent, the process of filing chargesheet against the responsible officers is going on at the executing agency level," notes the department on the status of one of the oldest commissioned projects from 2006-07 in Paras, Gonda district.

■ "On-site inspection was conducted on 06.07.2023. The work of medical officer and category-2 residence septic tanks and soak pits is still in progress. Apart from this, minor defects are being rectified," notes the department on the status of a PHC in Amaujaspur in Sultanpur district, commissioned in 2018-19, which was declared complete.

■ "The doors installed have to be replaced. The approach road has to be repaired. The floor of the overhead tank is broken," notes the department on the status of two PHCs in Binjor district, commissioned in 2018-19.

is stalled." The project was commissioned in 2008-09.

■ "The construction/executing agency is not taking interest in completing the work. The balance amount of Rs 70.26 lakh was released on 22.11.2022," notes the department on the status of a PHC in Bhadari, Pratapgarh district, commissioned in 2007-08. Despite spending about 50 percent of the allocated money, the project is still at the level of foundation work.

■ "Almost the allocated cost for the medical officer's residence has been spent and the construction work has been done only up to the chair level. Report has been sought from the construction unit," noted the health department on the status of a PHC in Kudarcot in Auraiya district, commissioned in 2005-06.

■ Other reasons cited by the health department for the delay include incomplete wiring; no water supply; unavailability of land; no mesh/glass in windows, etc. Records also show that even in the case of some "completed" works, irregularities were found during on-site inspection.

Seven government agencies were tasked with the construction — UP Rajkiya Nirman Nigam, UP Housing & Development Board, Construction & Design Services of UP Jal Nigam, Uttar Pradesh Rajya Nirman Sahkari Sangh Ltd, UP Projects Corporation Limited, UP State Construction And Infrastructure Development Corporation Limited, and UP Rural Engineering Department.

The maximum number of projects are being constructed by the Rajkiya Nirman Nigam (63 CHCs and 66 PHCs), followed by the Housing & Development Board (36 projects) and the Rajya Nirman Sahkari Sangh Ltd (28 projects). In total, of the Rs 393.80 crore allocated for the construction of CHCs, Rs 353.36 crore has already been released until August 2023, and Rs 305.30 crore spent by construction agencies. In the case of PHCs, of the Rs 166.75 crore allocated for construction, Rs 160.55 crore has been released and Rs 129.80 crore spent.

TOMORROW: GAPS BETWEEN ON PAPER AND ON THE GROUND

Working to finish projects in a timely manner: health minister

and 66 PHCs that are yet to be completed. A total of 218 health centres, some commissioned as far back as 2005-06, are yet to be fully finished, health department records accessed under RTI show.

Explaining the plan to complete projects that are stuck, Pathak said, "It has been decided by the Cabinet that some of the financial burden will be borne by the Rajkiya Nirman Nigam Limited and some by the Health Department, so that work can be completed in a time-bound manner. Action is being taken accordingly."

The 218 projects include 40 commissioned under the current BJP government in the state. On that, Pathak said, "The works which are currently under construction are being closely monitored and action is being taken to complete them on time so they can be made operational to the public soon."

"To complete the projects on time, administrative and financial approvals are being issued in a timely manner and funds are being allocated accordingly. The projects are being continuously monitored by the government," said Pathak, adding that this is to ensure financial irregularities do not happen in the future and projects are finished on time.

Citing absence, Bihar schools strike 20 lakh off rolls, 1.5 lakh may miss Boards

and an "infringement" on provisions of the Right to Education Act. They said they would challenge the decision before the National Commission for Protection of Child Rights.

Under the Bihar education department's instructions, inspections have been taking place at government schools over the last four months. During this, schools were first told to deregister students who remained absent for 30 days. That period was then brought down to 15 days, and eventually, schools were given the go-ahead to strike off names of students who remain absent for three consecutive days without

Law Commission meets Kovind committee

suggestions and viewpoints on the issue of simultaneous elections in the country," a Law Ministry statement said.

The Law Commission was represented by Justice Awasthi, member Prof (Dr) Anand Paliwal, and Member Secretary Khetrabasi Biswal.

According to sources, the Law Commission is set to release its report on the issue of simultaneous elections soon.

The committee's secretary,

Law Secretary Niten Chandra, informed the panel that after its first meeting on September 23, letters had been sent to six national parties, 33 state parties and seven registered unrecognised parties to seek their views on the issue, the Law Ministry statement said.

He also told the meeting that the committee had been re-named as the "high level committee on one nation, one election" and a website for receiving

suggestions and presenting information on the topic (onec.gov.in) had also been developed. The committee launched the website during the meeting.

The committee decided to approve its budget for 2023-2024 and "noted" the resignation of Congress leader in Lok Sabha, Adhir Ranjan Chowdhury, who resigned soon after the committee was set up, the statement said.

Why all eyes are on lone seat in Abujhmad

votes in Narayanpur. However, there are apprehensions regarding the turnout following fatal attacks on five BJP leaders, which have left party workers rattled in the region. The BJP poll coordinator for Narayanpur district, Ratan Dubey, said: "I have told BJP workers that there is no need to take the risk of going to the polling booths in Abujhmad. Neither are Congress workers taking that risk, as the area is under Naxal influence."

Among those killed was BJP Narayanpur deputy chief Sagar Sahu, who was shot by Maoists in February. Dubey said he is uncertain how the people will vote, given the situation. "After five back-to-back murders of our workers this year by Maoists, some of us have got security. Even got a call asking me if I wanted security."

Ravi Ghosh, a general secretary and a Bastar leader said, "The element of risk is there, but people in Abujhmad have also benefited from welfare schemes of Congress."

Narayanpur District Collector Ajeet Vasant admitted the challenging task before them, "owing to Left Wing Extremism, geographical barriers and inaccessible areas". He talked of measures to restore the faith of the people in the government, such as a health and welfare centre for pregnant women, reopening of schools, and new school buildings.

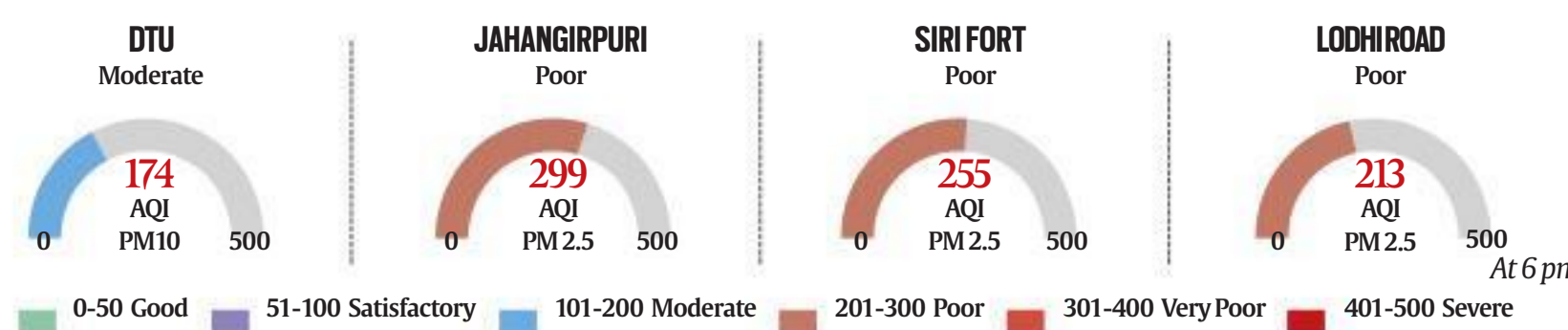
Sundarraj P, Inspector General of Police, Bastar Range, is counting on measures such as "opening up of police stations at Sonpur and Kohametia as well as new base camps like Dondribeda, Kademetia, Kadenar etc" to encourage voting.

This year, there was a jump in the number of farmers in Kurusur village bordering Abujhmad who sold their paddy to the government following increased compensation under the state government's Rajiv Gandhi Kisan Nyay Yojna. Abujhmad also got its first operation theatre recently, and two new mobile towers, though over 70% of the area is still without a mobile network.

Journalist Alok Putul, author of a book called *Naxalbadi Abujhmad*, said there are signs of change. "Critics say Naxals are behind the recent protests by villagers for their rights. But I see it as a positive sign because Naxals too are protesting in democratic way rather than choosing a path of violence."

Come November 7, both the Centre and state government will be watching for the same.

# 3 THE CITY



**SKY WATCH**  
**FORECAST: October 26**  
 Clear sky.  
 Mist in the morning.  
**AQI forecast: Likely to be poor or very poor**

**MAX: 31** | **MIN: 16**  
 0.8°C below normal | 1.2°C below normal

## FINDINGS AND FUNDING AT CORE OF ISSUE

# Caught in middle of bureaucrat-Delhi govt tussle, air pollution study stalled

MALLICA JOSHI  
NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 25

A STUDY to find the reasons behind Delhi's polluted air has been stalled for the past week, allegedly because of a disagreement between the chairperson of the pollution control body and the elected government on the findings and funding.

According to Environment Minister Gopal Rai, the project, which started in January, has been stalled because Delhi Pollution Control Committee (DPCC) chairperson Ashwini Kumar first questioned the project cost and then the findings of the study.

In a letter to Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal, Rai demanded that Kumar be suspended for not implementing the decision of the Council of Ministers.

Last October, an MoU for the study was signed between IIT-Kanpur and DPCC at a cost of Rs 12.72 crore, in addition to GST. The first instalment of Rs 10.72 crore was released the same month to buy equipment. Kumar was appointed DPCC secretary in December, and when the demand for the rest of the funds was made, he said the project cost seemed "very high".

During the back and forth that ensued, the letter states, part of the payment was cleared but after several meetings with the team from IIT-Kanpur and other experts, Kumar noted that IIT-Kanpur had failed to justify their conclusions and there was no validation of their model.

"He (Kumar) further notes that the conclusion that Delhi is impacted by pollution from outside is a contrived conclusion and while biomass burning impacts Delhi, other anthropogenic activities within Delhi itself, including heavy load of vehicles,



Smog seen over the capital, Wednesday. The sources of pollution in the city have been hotly debated over the years, with the Delhi government blaming crop stubble burning for its air quality woes, especially in October and November. Tashi Tobgyal

drives pollution load in Delhi. He claims that the 'twist in findings' seems to deflect the focus from what Delhi needs to do to contain pollution..." the letter states.

The sources of pollution in the city have been hotly debated over the years, with the Delhi government blaming crop stubble burning for its air quality woes, especially in October and November.

The last government-commissioned study on the sources of pollution was done by IIT-Kanpur and released in 2015. Accusing Kumar of trying to "sabotage the project", Rai said, "People of Delhi suffer every year due to the terrible air pollution in winter months. A project which provides real-time data about the source of that pollution would have been crucial in creating short- and long-term solutions to the problem," Rai wrote.

Questioning Kumar's expertise in the matter, the letter states that he is "convinced that the source of Delhi's pollution has to

be internal factors and cannot be majorly attributed to outside Delhi factors such as biomass (parali) burning".

"He does not put forth any scientific basis for his conclusions. As the IIT-Kanpur report does not align with his idea of what causes pollution in Delhi, he is willing to sabotage the entire project with no care or concern for the people of Delhi and no respect for scientific research... Despite multiple meetings with IIT-Kanpur and their responses explaining their validation model, he keeps rejecting the scientific work done... With a background in Electrical Engineering, he was not qualified to assess the complexities of source-oriented models..." Rai states in the letter.

At a press conference, Services Minister Atishi said, "At this critical time with soaring pollution levels in Delhi, Kumar unilaterally overturned the Cabinet's decision without consulting the minister concerned

and halted the lab's operations. He has decided not to pay the pending amount of Rs 2 crore. Consequently, now machinery worth Rs 10 crore remains unused... If the Kejriwal government Cabinet approved the real-time apportionment study, how can the DPCC chairman stop it without the Cabinet's permission?"

Kumar did not respond to questions on the matter. A senior DPCC official, however, stated that a satisfactory response was not received from the IIT-Kanpur team when it sought validation of the model.

"Validation should be able to predict future outcomes based on the findings. This was not provided satisfactorily. The report tries to portray that Delhi's pollution is not its doing and other states are to blame. This may be the case during the stubble burning season but is not during the rest of the year. It is a red herring aimed at helping people escape accountability," the officer said.

### THE ARGUMENTS

#### WHAT DPCC SAID

Report said that air pollution in Delhi has a major contribution from other neighbouring states attempted to distort the picture, as if only those states are to blame for city's pollution

There are large discrepancies between observed and predicted values

Validation of model is provided but the specific date and time is absent

#### WHAT GOPAL RAI SAID IN HIS LETTER

Despite multiple meetings with IIT-Kanpur and their responses explaining their validation model, DPCC chairman Kumar rejected scientific work

Kumar disregarded scientific conclusions in favour of his own conjectures and surmises, calling impact of pollution from outside a "contrived conclusion"

It is not his mandate to question a study initiated after due processes and approval by the cabinet

Actions violate the Transaction of Business Rules and All-India Services (Conduct) Rules, 1968

# Smog tower at CP ineffective; DPCC suggests its shut down

MALLICA JOSHI  
NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 25

THE DELHI Pollution Control Committee (DPCC) has suggested that the smog tower in Connaught Place be shut as it was found to be largely ineffective in tackling air pollution.

It has suggested that the site be upgraded and used as an environmental and climate change innovation centre.

The pollution control body wrote to the Environment Department last week, the second time, offering its assessment of the two-year-long project and said that the reduction in particulate matter was only around 12% to 13% at a distance of 100 metres from the smog tower.

The tower in Connaught Place became functional in October 2021. It was built under the supervision of IIT-Bombay, costing Rs 22 crore, and was funded by DPCC. Tata Projects Limited and the National Buildings Construction Corporation Limited (NBCC) were also part of the project.

The study on the effectiveness was carried out by IIT-Bombay. Its report said that the smog tower's capacity to reduce the concentration of PM 2.5 and PM 10 was 12% and 13% above a distance of 100 metres.

It also said that since the effectiveness was around 16% both at distances of 300 m and 500 m, it indicated a tendency of the clean air jet to persist at longer distances.



The smog tower in Connaught Place. Archive

### HOW EFFECTIVE IS THE TOWER?

Distance	Reduction (PM2.5)	Reduction (PM10)
20m	48%	50%
21-99m	30%	34%
100-199m	12%	13%
200-399m	13%	13%
>400m	13%	14%

The institute proposed that the smog tower be maintained as a national facility to be used for conducting experiments and testing future technologies.

DPCC, however, stated that the impact of the tower was very limited when looking at macro air quality. "The report analysis says that the tower will work more efficiently during the peak pollution loading compared to less pollution loading. The data reveals that the particulate pollution remains very high and not much impact is seen... From the final report of smog tower sub-

mitted by IIT-Bombay, it is evident that the impact of smog tower even in the vicinity is very low," it said.

Speaking about the second smog tower at Anand Vihar, the DPCC said that it could not have a positive impact either.

"Delhi's air quality is also dependent on meteorological factors... Even slight wind speed and turbulence in weather sweeps off the pollutants and AQI improves. Therefore, the percentage reduction envisaged in the report may not be the contribution of the smog tower," it added.

# Swiss woman's murder: Kin not aware she was in India, say cops

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE  
NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 25

DAYS AFTER Swiss national Nina Berger (36) was found murdered behind an MCD school in West Delhi — with her limbs tied with a chain — the Delhi Police said they have traced her family, who said they were unaware of her visit to India or the accused, Gurpreet Singh.

Police said the family has told the Swiss embassy that they can't come to Delhi at present and sought details of the case.

"We are waiting to conduct the autopsy as someone from the family needs to be present. Local authorities in Switzerland and Embassy officials are still in touch with the family. In case

they don't come, we will need a no-objection certificate from the Swiss Embassy and other authorities," said another officer.

One of the investigating officers said they also requested if Berger's friends in Zurich could be traced, but nothing has come of it yet. Meanwhile, a Delhi court Wednesday sent Singh (33), who allegedly murdered Berger in the national capital last week in a second-hand Santro car before dumping it, to five-day police remand.

Police sources said they need "more time" to question Singh and his family members who have been evasive. "His father is abroad and his mother and sister aren't cooperating. Singh has also been changing his statements. Initially, he told us he did-

n't know Berger. He then told us his friends were also involved in the murder. Now, it appears he acted alone. We need time to question him to ascertain the facts and sequence of events," said an officer.

Police also carried out a psychoanalysis test of the accused; the report is awaited.

A forensic analysis of the Santro was conducted and officials confirmed that Berger's body was kept in it. "It has come to our notice that the body was in the car for some time. We found the chain, blood stains, and hair strands in the car," said an officer.

Initial medical examination revealed that Berger had several cuts, wounds and burn injuries, which are old or ante-mortem.

# Patients mistreated, no care: Illegal rehab centre raided

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE  
GURGAON, OCTOBER 25

FOLLOWING ALLEGATIONS of mistreatment of patients and lack of proper care, a de-addiction centre in Gurgaon Sector 40, which was being run illegally, was raided by the Chief Minister's Flying Squad and the social welfare department, officials said. The man who was operating the centre has been arrested.

According to Inspector Harish of the team, Awakening Rehab Foundation "has been operating since 2021, and we had intimidated them that it must be sealed, but the centre continued to run despite warnings."

"When we raided the premises, we found 12 patients were housed in a big hall with bunk beds. They were given

medicines used for general illnesses and did not receive proper medication, food or treatment. There was an office and a room for staff who would force feed the inmates with pills, some of which were past their expiry dates. Some of the patients claimed they were physically abused by the staff," he said.

One of the patients, alleged he was beaten up several times at the centre. "The physician who came here had asked them to get an X-ray to check my ribs thrice, but they didn't do it... Moreover, we have been facing degrading treatment. The staff and a man, who said he was the son of a police officer, have beaten me up... once I was beaten with a rod on my neck," he alleged.

The Flying Squad in a statement said, "It was discovered that house no. 1094 in Sector 40 was illegally operating a substance rehabilitation centre, providing

treatment for patients suffering from addiction to alcohol, cannabis, smack, etc. Upon the team's arrival, the information was confirmed. The team met the operator of the centre, Balram. He stated that he had been operating the centre since 2021. He was asked to provide valid documents and consent (forms) of admitted patients and their legal guardians, but he failed to produce any valid documents."

Balram was arrested while the patients were handed over to police, Harish said, adding that their families were also informed.

"The families did not know the condition of the centre since they only saw pictures of it online. The staff used to go to the houses of patients to fetch them so the families didn't know first-hand experience what was happening here," said Harish.

The centre was charging Rs 40,000-45,000 per month for a normal bed and Rs 60,000-70,000 for a special bed, officers said.

The joint teams of the Chief Flying Officer and the Health Department have previously taken action against several such illegal centres, said the squad in the statement.

# NewsClick editor and HR head sent to 9-day police custody

NIRBHAY THAKUR  
NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 25

A DELHI court Wednesday sent NewsClick founder-editor Prabir Purkayastha and HR head Amit Chakraborty to nine-day police custody. The two had earlier been in judicial custody for almost two weeks.

Police had said their custody was needed again as new witnesses and devices emerged and they had to confront the accused with them.

The duo was arrested in October by the Delhi Police Special Cell, which had registered an FIR in August under sections of the UAPA and the IPC. Among allegations detailed by the Special Cell in its FIR against Purkayastha were attempts to show Kashmir and Arunachal Pradesh as "not parts of India"; discrediting the Indian government's fight against Covid; funding the farmers' agitation; and "putting up a spirited defence of legal cases" against Chinese telecom companies such as Xiaomi and Vivo.

Advocate Arshdeep Singh, representing NewsClick, opposed the remand application. Relying on High Court judgments, he said grounds for further remand must be very specific and not generic. "They can't come to court with such a vague application. They have to give specific reasons for the remand and if general reasons are given, then the court can deny the remand," he added.

To which Public Prosecutor Atul Kumar Srivastava said, "This is not the stage where we can share or reveal all things regarding the investigation with the accused. Statements of certain witnesses are also being recorded."

Additional Sessions Judge Hardeep Kaur asked the prosecutor who the witnesses were. He responded by saying there were three witnesses who couldn't be named.

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BRIEFLY

'Red light on Gaadi off' campaign returns today

New Delhi: Environment Minister Gopal Rai Wednesday said the city government will relaunch the 'Red Light on Gaadi Off' campaign from October 26 to curb vehicular pollution in the national capital. Last year, Lieutenant Governor V K Saxena had put the campaign on hold, questioning its effectiveness. Addressing a press conference, Rai said a recent data analysis shows a decrease in PM 10 pollution and a rise in PM 2.5 concentration due to biomass burning and vehicular emissions. "Considering this, we have decided to reintroduce the Red Light on Gaadi Off campaign to reduce vehicular pollution, starting October 26," he said. Rai noted that in the previous years, civil defence volunteers were involved in the campaign. This year, the campaign will involve the general public. The campaign aims to decrease vehicular pollution by encouraging drivers to turn off their vehicles at traffic lights.

Digging sewer line, labourer dies as earth caves in

New Delhi: One person died and two were injured when a portion of earth caved in on them while digging up a sewer line in Northwest Delhi's Netaji Subhash Place, police said Wednesday. The victims were working at a site of the Delhi Jal Board (DJB) near Shakur Basti when the incident occurred on Tuesday evening, they said. All three were pulled out of the debris after the incident and rushed to a hospital, where doctors declared one of them dead, police said. The deceased was identified as Rohit. A case under relevant sections has been registered against the contractor and further investigations are on, police added. No immediate reaction was available from DJB over the incident. PTI

AT SURAJMAL RTO, INSPECTOR FOUND 'FLOUTING RULES'

High pass rate in driving tests turns out to be sleight of hand

GAYATHRI MANI  
NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 25

A SUDDEN rise in people clearing their driving licence tests last year, particularly at one RTO in Surajmal Vihar, had raised the suspicion of officials in the Delhi transport department.

Following a complaint, the department observed that the passing percentage at this automated track rose from 55%-60% to 80%-85% over the last few months. When they dug deeper, they unearthed the reason — an RTO inspector was flouting rules to clear tests. The officer has since been suspended.

Explaining how the "irregularities" arose despite all 16 driving tracks in the capital being automated, an official said the suspended inspector tampered with the 'Conflict of Results' rule.

Under this rule, officials said Motor Licensing Officers (MLOs) have the right to issue a licence to a candidate if they pass the driving test successfully but CCTV footage is not clear due to some reasons. "For instance, a pigeon may have flown near the camera or sat on top of it... or the



All 16 driving tracks in the capital are now automated. As per data shared by officials, 1.45 lakh new licences have been issued from April 1 to October 23 this year. Archive

image flickers after the CCTV shakes due to wind. Sometimes, people also mistakenly stand in front of the camera. So, if a candidate has cleared the test successfully but the video footage is not clear, the MLO could pass him and issue a license under the 'Conflict of Results' rule — but this can only be exercised in rare cases...." said the official.

The suspended officer at At Surajmal Vihar issued licences

under this rule despite candidates having failed the test, said the official. After this incident, the department has withdrawn the option to exercise the rule from all MLOs in all zones.

Sources said, "The driving licence test at Surajmal Vihar is conducted on an automated driving track situated in Vishwas Nagar under the supervision of the inspector. After receiving a complaint that he was passing

candidates despite them failing tests, the department monitored and assessed data on the number of tests taken and licences issued at the RTO for two-three months. It was found that the inspector was misusing the 'Conflict of Results' rule."

Sources said the MLO of Surajmal Vihar gave permission to the suspended officer to exercise this right but he "misused the rule and took advantage of it". Officials said the department also issued a show-cause notice to Sukhdev, MLO of Surajmal Vihar.

Last month, *The Indian Express* reported that despite complaints coming in about faceless driving tests, especially the difficulty level, there was a sharp rise in the number of people passing them. Of 95,051 tests conducted last year, 80% had passed it, as per the Outcome Budget report. In 2021-22, as many as 40,000 driving tests were conducted on all test tracks in Delhi, of which only 52% (20,800 people) cleared it.

Further, as per data shared by officials, 1.45 lakh new licences have been issued from April 1 to October 23 this year.

Amrit Vatika to come up near War Memorial

New Delhi: L-G VK Saxena said an "Amrit Vatika" will soon come up near the National War Memorial. The announcement was made during the "Meri Maati, Mera Desh" campaign celebrations at Raj Niwas dedicated to the bravehearts who have sacrificed their lives for the country. The garden will be developed from soil collected from all 11 districts of Delhi.

According to officials, the venture transcends being just a green space; it will be a living testament to one's shared heritage, with the soil and saplings representing every corner of India. The plan is to plant 75 saplings of indigenous species and develop the 'Amrit Vatika'.

According to official sources, youth, volunteers and citizens gathered soil from their villages and transported it to the block level. Soil was also gathered from smaller urban bodies and brought to the municipalities and other larger urban local bodies. The urns were then carried to Delhi. ENS

Focus on cutting-edge tech, Dhankhar tells IIT-D students

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE  
NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 25

ADDRESSING STUDENTS of IIT-Delhi Wednesday, Vice-President Jagdeep Dhankhar said IITs have long been the crucible in which the minds that have transformed India and the world were forged.

Dhankhar asked students to focus their efforts on cutting-edge tech such as Artificial Intelligence, Quantum Computing, and Green Energy as they strive towards realising "Bharat 2047", while lauding them for harnessing "emerging technologies to create cutting-edge products that are changing the way we live, work and relate to each other".

The Vice-President also reflected on the image that IIT holds across the world and said many world leaders have stated their interest in having an IIT campus in their country.

IIT is all set to open in



Vice-President Jagdeep Dhankhar

Zanzibar, Tanzania, with a batch of 50 undergraduate students and 20 Master's students. It will also be the first to be led by a woman director.

During the hour-long session, he also interacted with students and faculty. He called upon the youth to "decimate and neutralise the false narrative being peddled by certain forces to taint and tarnish the image of Bharat and its institutions".

"IITs, I know for sure, people from the village come, people from humble backgrounds come, people who have made it with great difficulty, but a different impression is sold to the outside world," Dhankhar said.

"From revolutionising the agricultural sector to creating the third-largest startup ecosystem in the world, your contributions span across every sector of the economy," said the Vice-President, adding that the IIT students "are the greatest spinal strength of this country".

He also spoke about India's determination to invest and foster an environment that will encourage technological development. He further expressed hope that India will soon become the third-largest global economy by 2030.

IIT-Delhi Director Prof Rangan Banerjee, Deputy Director (operations) Prof TR Sreekrishnan, Deputy Director (strategy & planning) Prof Ambuj Sagar and Professor Narayanan D Kurur also attended the event.

Cabinet rejig: CM hands over water to Atishi from Saurabh

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE  
NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 25

AS PART of a "minor reshuffle" in the Delhi Cabinet, Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal has decided to hand over the Water portfolio to Atishi, relieving Saurabh Bharadwaj of the charge of the department. According to officials, the file has been sent to the Lieutenant Governor who has given his approval.

This comes two months after the CM gave Atishi the Services and Vigilance portfolios, which were under Bharadwaj. Atishi, the sole woman on the six-member Delhi Cabinet, remains in charge of over a dozen key portfolios.

Bharadwaj, meanwhile, has been handed over two new portfolios — Tourism and Art and Culture which were being handled so far by Atishi. Other departments under him include Health, Industries, Urban Development, Irrigation and Flood Control.

WHO HAS WHICH DEPARTMENT



ATISHI

PWD, Water, Finance, Services, Vigilance, Revenue, Education, Power, Public Relations, Higher Education, Technical Training, Women and Child Development, Development



SAURABH BHARADWAJ

Health, Industries, Urban Development, Irrigation and Flood Control, Art, Culture & Language, Tourism

Recently, sources said, Bharadwaj had a disagreement with officials of the Finance Department over the non-release of funds to the Delhi Jal Board that left many of its projects pending.

Atishi holds a majority of government departments — Education, PWD, Finance, Services, Water among others.

Before he resigned following his arrest, former Deputy Chief Minister Manish Sisodia held 18

portfolios. He and his former Cabinet colleague Satyendar Jain, who is also in jail in a graft case and had resigned in February, were replaced by Atishi and Saurabh Bharadwaj. Their official houses were also allotted to Atishi and Bharadwaj.

There was no immediate reaction from the Delhi government over the reasons behind the changes in the portfolios of Bhardwaj and Atishi.

(with PTI inputs)

CHARGESHEET FILED IN CASE

Police charge Khakha with minor's rape, wife and kids for aiding him

ARNABJIT SUR  
NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 25

THE DELHI Police has filed a chargesheet against suspended Women and Child Development department officer Premoday Khakha, his wife Seema Rani, and their two children for the alleged rape of a teenage girl — a friend's minor daughter — for several months, impregnating her, and forcibly terminating the pregnancy.

The minor had lost her father during the Covid-induced pandemic and was sent to Khakha's house by her mother since the families had known each other for years. However, in August, police said the minor stopped going to school and was taken to the hospital after suffering "panic attacks". At the hospital, she alleged she was raped by Khakha on several occasions. Police said his entire family has been booked as they "aided" the accused.

The chargesheet was filed at Tis Hazari court; the court is yet to take cognizance.

A police officer, citing the chargesheet, said Khakha allegedly raped the minor 5-6 times from November 2020 to January 2021. "In January 2021, the minor missed her period and spoke to Khakha's wife. In her statements, she said Seema told her to get an abortion and sent her son to buy the pills. The child had even told Seema about the rape earlier, but the woman scolded and blamed her instead. She also beat up the minor over studies...." said the officer, quoting the chargesheet.

In April 2021, the minor asked her mother to take her home as she was feeling unwell.

Police, citing the chargesheet, said the girl kept to herself and suffered from bouts of anxiety and panic attacks." She dropped



Suspended WCD dept officer Premoday Khakha

out from school and was admitted to another school. In August this year, her situation deteriorated and she had to be rushed to a hospital," said another officer, adding, "we have medical records that show she had ideas of self-harm as well".

The officer further said Seema was accused of harassing the minor and forcibly aborting the pregnancy. "Their children have been booked based on the minor's statements. The minor said she had confided in Khakha's son and daughter about the assault and pregnancy but they didn't believe her or help her...." added the officer.

During her examination, the girl told police she didn't tell her mother because she thought she would not "believe" her.

As part of the investigation, police wanted to carry out a virility test on Khakha after he had claimed before a Delhi court and police that he had undergone a vasectomy in 2005. His potency report was positive. The results have been made part of the chargesheet.

All the accused have been booked under IPC sections 376 2f (being a guardian, commits rape on woman), 506 (criminal intimidation), 509 (act intended to insult modesty of a woman), 323 (causing hurt), 313 (causing miscarriage without woman's consent), 120B (criminal conspiracy) and sections of the POCSO Act. The couple is currently in judicial custody. The children were denied anticipatory bail by the High Court.

Firm director held for selling Noida Authority property, duping man of crores

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE  
NOIDA, OCTOBER 25

GAUTAM BUDDHA Nagar police arrested a 52-year-old director of a construction firm for allegedly cheating a Noida resident of over Rs. 2.33 crore by trying to sell him property that actually belonged to the Noida Authority.

Officials said the accused, Shrawan Kumar Chaudhary, Director of Gujara Construction Pvt Ltd, was arrested from Gate No. 5 of Terminal 3 at Indira Gandhi International Airport.

On July 31, Sushil Kumar had filed a complaint alleging he was cheated by Chaudhary on the pretext of a Rs 9 crore property deal in Dabri tehsil. Officials said the accused had gone to London since then and a lookout circular was also issued against him.

Police said the suspect allegedly created a contract to sell the Rs 9 crore property and even received Rs 2.33 crore from the complainant, but the said property actually belongs to the Noida Authority. "A cheating case was registered against Kumar at Phase 1 police station in July. He was arrested just as he arrived at the airport. Further legal action is being taken," said Shakti Avasthy, Additional DCP, Noida.

According to the FIR, the contract was signed on November 25, 2022, between both sides. The complainant said he had paid over Rs 2.33 crore in two installments — Rs. 90 lakh as token amount and Rs. 1.43 crore later.

"... Whenever I asked the seller to execute the registry, he kept on avoiding me or postponing it. Then I felt there was something fishy. When I checked the details of the property at the Registrar office, I found that it belonged to the Noida authority. I realised I was cheated," read the FIR.

DIAL unveils 2 flyovers to ease transit to and from IGI Airport

UPASIKA SINGHAL  
NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 25

TWO NEW approach flyovers, which promise to deliver a hassle-free and efficient transit experience at Delhi Airport, were unveiled by the Delhi International Airport Limited (DIAL).

The flyovers, namely the Aerocity Flyover and the Parallel Access Road flyover, have been designed to alleviate the traffic congestion plaguing travellers to and from the airport.

The Aerocity Flyover, a four-lane one-way structure, is positioned at the Aerocity metro station junction, effectively slashing travel times between Terminal 1 (T1) and Terminal 3 (T3) of the airport. This flyover stretches from the front of Andaz Hotel, Aerocity (West side) to the Central spine road, stopping just short of the Eastern Cross Taxiway.

On the other hand, the Parallel Access Road (PAR) Flyover is part of a dedicated corridor featuring two lanes in both directions exclusively designated for Cargo Terminal traffic. Officials said this corridor,



The two flyovers, namely the Aerocity Flyover and the Parallel Access Road flyover, have been designed to alleviate the traffic congestion plaguing passengers. Express

equipped with a flyway adjacent to NH8, begins near Hanuman temple and concludes its journey near Andaz Hotel. The goal of the PAR Flyover is to segregate heavy vehicular traffic from passenger vehicles, thereby decongesting the approach road.

Collectively, with a total length of 800 metres for the Aerocity Flyover and 600 metres for the PAR Flyover, these additions will not only streamline transit between the three terminals but also significantly reduce movement of heavy vehicles on the airport approach road, said officials.

I Prabhakara Rao, Deputy Group Managing Director of GMR Group, which operates and manages the airport, said: "For us, passenger experience begins even before a traveller sets foot in the Delhi Airport. With this in mind, the two new flyovers have been constructed."

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF ELECTORAL OFFICER  
OLD ST. STEPHEN'S COLLEGE BUILDING,  
KASHMERE GATE, DELHI-110006  
NO VOTER TO BE LEFT BEHIND  
Date: 27.10.2023

PUBLIC NOTICE

General Public is hereby informed that draft electoral roll of all 70 Assembly Constituencies of NCT of Delhi with respect to 01.01.2024 as qualifying date is being published today i.e. 27.10.2023 (Friday) as part of Special Summary Revision. The electoral rolls will be available at the Voter Centres & Designated Locations i.e. All Polling Station Locations whose list is available on the website of CEO, Delhi [www.ceodelhi.gov.in](http://www.ceodelhi.gov.in). Draft electoral roll is also being made available on this website

The primary objective of the Special Summary Revision - 2024 is to include newly eligible voters with respect to 01.01.2024 as qualifying date. Those who have completed or will be completing age of 18 years on or before date 01.01.2024. Another objective for the Special Summary Revision-2024 is to provide opportunity for correction in electors' particulars and to invite objections against any wrong inclusion in the Electoral Roll. All claims & Objections in Form - 6, 7 & 8 with requisite documents will be received at these designated locations as per the schedule given as under:-

S. No.	Activity	Schedule
1.	Publication of Integrated draft electoral roll.	27.10.2023
2.	Period for filing claims & objections	27.10.2023 to 09.12.2023
3.	Special campaign at Polling Station Locations	04.11.2023 (Saturday) & 05.11.2023 (Sunday) and 02.12.2023 (Saturday) & 03.12.2023 (Sunday)
4.	Disposal of claims and objections	By 26.12.2023
5.	Final publication of electoral roll	On 05.01.2024

In addition eligible citizens, who are going to attain the age of 18 years on any of the subsequent qualifying dates in the year 2024, that is to say, the 1st April 2024, 1st July 2024 or 1st October 2024, may also file his or her claim for inclusion of name in the roll, in Form-6, in advance, during the SSR starting from 27.10.2023. Such advance forms shall be disposed of in the first month of respective quarter only.

General Public is also informed that mere holding of Voter Identity card does not entitle the voter to cast his/her vote during election. The name of the voter has to be present in the updated electoral roll. Accordingly, every voter is earnestly requested to check his/her name in the draft electoral roll by any of the following modes:-

I. Online	:- Visit <a href="https://electoralsearch.eci.gov.in">https://electoralsearch.eci.gov.in</a>
II. Mobile App	:- "Voter Helpline" for both searching the name & other electoral services. "Saksham App for Persons with disabilities (a fully accessible mobile app of ECI)
III. Helpline	:- Call 1950

If your name is not found in the draft electoral roll, please apply in Form-6 either online or offline immediately:-

Online	Offline
Voter Helpline Mobile App	Voter Centre of your Assembly Constituency.
Saksham Mobile App (For Divyang)	Your Polling Station Location
ECI Voter Service Portal; <a href="http://www.voters.eci.gov.in">www.voters.eci.gov.in</a>	

For more information please visit [www.ceodelhi.gov.in](http://www.ceodelhi.gov.in)  
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By Order

Special Chief Electoral Officer, Delhi 23-24

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**Pushkar Singh Dhami**  
Chief Minister, Uttarakhand

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**Narendra Modi**  
Prime Minister

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**Chennai Roadshow**

Thursday, 26<sup>th</sup> October, 2023 | 11:30 Onwards  
Venue : Hotel Taj Coromandel,  
Mahatma Gandhi Road, Chennai

**Bengaluru Roadshow**

Saturday, 28<sup>th</sup> October, 2023 | 11:30 Onwards  
Venue : Hotel Taj West End, Race Course Rd,  
Bengaluru, Karnataka

**Focus Sectors**

- |                                       |                           |                               |                                      |
|---------------------------------------|---------------------------|-------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| <b>Automobile and Auto components</b> | <b>Pharmaceuticals</b>    | <b>Agriculture and allied</b> | <b>Tourism and Hospitality</b>       |
| <b>IT/ ITeS</b>                       | <b>Electronics</b>        | <b>Education</b>              | <b>Film Shooting</b>                 |
| <b>Renewable Energy</b>               | <b>AYUSH and Wellness</b> | <b>Bio Technology</b>         | <b>Horticulture and Floriculture</b> |
| <b>Herbs &amp; Aromatics</b>          | <b>Food Processing</b>    | <b>Natural Fibers</b>         |                                      |

**Key Policies**

- Service Sector Policy 2023 • Solar Energy Policy 2023
- MSME Policy 2023 • Start-Up Policy 2023 • Customized Package
- Logistics Policy 2023 • Film Policy 2015 (as amended in 2019)
- Private Industrial Park Policy 2023 • Mega Industrial Policy 2015
- Export Policy 2021 • Tourism Policy 2023-30 • Drone Policy 2023
- IT Policy 2019 • Wellness & Ayush Policy • Excise Policy 2021-23
- Biotechnology Policy 2018-23 • Food Processing Policy
- Pump Storage Projects Policy 2023

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| Large number of engineering and management Institutes including IIT & IIM | Good Governance and image as a peaceful state                                  |
| Good quality of life for employees due to healthy environment             | Availability of suitable industrial land to start business at a cheap rate     |
| Attractive investment policy of State Govt.                               | Good connectivity by Rail, Road and Air with NCR                               |



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# 6 DECISION 2023

CHHATTISGARH • MADHYA PRADESH • MIZORAM • RAJASTHAN • TELANGANA

ELECTION IN NUMBERS

## 250

Almost 37%, or 250 of the total 679 seats going to polls in the five states, are reserved for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes

Rs 10,000 A YEAR FOR WOMEN HEADS OF FAMILIES, MORE TO GET SUBSIDISED CYLINDERS

# Priyanka the face as Gehlot unveils more schemes targeting women

The presence of the Cong gen secy helps party fill the gap of women leaders in state, maintains Gehlot-Pilot balance

**HAMZA KHAN**  
JAIPUR, OCTOBER 25

DURING HER address to a poll rally in Jhunjhunu Wednesday, Congress general secretary Priyanka Gandhi Vadra said, "Everyone is talking about women these days because politicians have understood that a woman's vote is precious." This is true for Rajasthan too, where the turnout of female voters, at 74.66%, was higher than men, at 73.49%, in 2018.

In Priyanka's presence at their Jhunjhunu rally, Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot, building on his focus on women-centric schemes, announced two new "guarantees" — Rs 10,000 annually to women heads of families each and the increased coverage of the subsidised LPG cylinder for Rs 500 to 1.05 crore beneficiary families.

In the run-up to the November 25 polls, while Rahul Gandhi is yet to visit Rajasthan since election dates were announced, and Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge has visited only once, Priyanka has come twice: first to former deputy chief minister Sachin Pilot's home turf,

Dausa, and now Jhunjhunu. At the first rally, in Tonk, Priyanka launched the Indira Rasoi Gramin Scheme to provide affordable meals in rural areas.

Sources claim two major reasons the Congress has deployed Priyanka in the state, apart from her leadership role in the party's national organisation. The first is the lack of women leaders. Unlike the BJP, the Congress does not have a woman leader recognisable across Rajasthan.

The BJP has had former CM Vasundhara Raje as its key leader for two decades, though her influence may be waning lately. The Congress women leaders have not been able to break through beyond their regions.

Gehlot has announced several schemes targeted towards the woman vote, including giving smartphones to 40 lakh women, the Free Annapurna Food Packet Scheme to distribute essential food items, and the Ekal Naari Samman Pension for divorced women or widows with annual income less than Rs 48,000. Women aged over 55 are eligible for pension under the CM Vridhjan Pension Yojana. There are more schemes ranging from



CM Ashok Gehlot, Priyanka with other Congress leaders at Wednesday's Jhunjhunu rally. PTI

scooters and scholarships for meritorious children and free sanitary napkins to programmes targeting specific sections.

Besides, there are schemes meant for all sections, including women. The Chiranjeevi Health Insurance Scheme providing a

cover of Rs 25 lakh per family, the CM Nishulk Nirogi Rajasthan Yojana to provide in-patient and out-patient medicines and tests for free, and the reinstatement of the Old Pension Scheme are some of them.

Through these schemes and

with Priyanka as the face, the Congress is hoping to reach out to women.

The second reason behind Priyanka's increased presence in the state is the perception that she has a soft corner for Pilot and that the latter would not be side-

lined by the Gehlot camp while she is around.

While the party leadership, including Kharge, might seem to lean towards Gehlot, it is not the case with Priyanka, who does not forget to acknowledge and praise Pilot. During Pilot's 2020 rebellion too, the first image signalling the end of the crisis had Priyanka with Pilot and other rebels.

As elections draw near, the Congress fears losing out on the Gujarat vote — in the 2018 elections, no Gujarat BJP candidate had won. Pilot is a prominent face of the Gujarat community, who make up 7-8% of the state population.

Since September, Kharge has had three rallies in the state — in Bhilwara on September 6, Jaipur on September 23 and one for the Eastern Rajasthan Canal Project in Baran on October 16. Pilot had skipped the crucial Baran rally, though he cited a prior engagement for the same.

Baran is among the 13 eastern districts that stand to benefit from the ERCP. Without Pilot, the Congress's ERCP campaign may not gather much pace since it passes through his area of influence, with a substantial Gujarat population.

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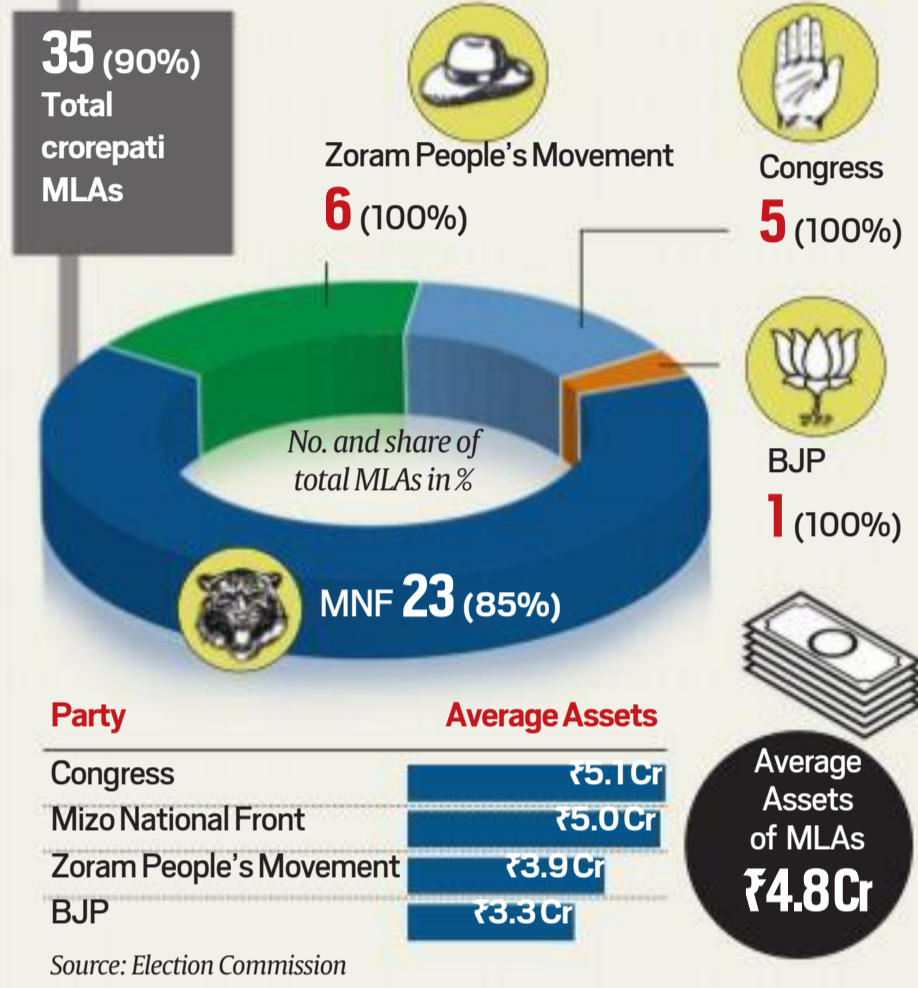
KEY PLAYERS

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MADHYA PRADESH

MIGRANT WORKERS UNITE TO PUT UP A  
FIGHT FOR DEMANDS IN TELANGANA

## NUMBER SPEAK

MIZORAM: PARTY-WISE CROREPATI MLAs



## BALLOT BANDOBAST

CRPF personnel at the Ranchi railway station, heading for Chhattisgarh poll duty. ANI

## Dropped MLA says 'shocked' as BJP puts out last 4 names for Chhattisgarh

**JAYPRAKASH S NAIDU**  
RAIPUR, OCTOBER 25

THE BJP Wednesday declared the names of its final four candidates for the Chhattisgarh Assembly polls, which will see the first phase of voting on November 7.

The list included the high-profile Ambikapur seat, where Rajesh Agarwal has been fielded against Deputy Chief Minister T S Singh Deo. Ambikapur votes in the next phase, on November 17. "Through his social work, Agarwal has built a base in

Lakhanpur, a Congress stronghold," said an Agarwal supporter. In a surprise move, sitting MLA Rajnish Singh was dropped from Beltara seat in the Bilaspur district, with the BJP picking Sushant Shukla instead. Rajnish Singh said he was "shocked" and would "speak to the party".

A first-time MLA, Singh, 56, has held several posts in the BJP. In Kasdol (Baloda Bazar district) and Bemetara (district of the same name) seats, where the BJP lost to the Congress last times, new candidates have been nominated by the party.

Dhaniram Dhivar will contest against Sandeep Sahu, the chairman of the Telghani Vikas Board, in Kasdol. Dipesh Sahu will battle it out with sitting Congress MLA Ashish Chhabra in Bemetara.

Among its 90 candidates for the elections, the BJP has fielded 31 OBC candidates, 19 general category candidates and one Scheduled Tribe candidate from the 51 unreserved seats.

The remaining 39 seats are reserved for STs (29) and SCs (10). Among these, 15 or 16.6% of the candidates fielded by the BJP are women.

## Two months after jumpstarting with first list, BRS is still missing 3 names

**SREENIVAS JANYALA**  
HYDERABAD, OCTOBER 25

WHEN THE ruling Bharat Rashtra Samithi (BRS) released its first list of 115 candidates months on August 21, two months before the Telangana Assembly polls, four seats were left out.

On Wednesday, while the party announced the candidate for Narsapur, the constituencies of Jangaon, Nampally and Goshamahall still did not figure. The reasons differ, ranging from internal bickering to the wait for other parties to name candidates.

**Jangaon:** The BRS has managed to broker peace between sitting MLA Muthireddy Yadagiri Reddy, who is seeking renomination, and MLC Palla Rajeshwar Reddy, whom the party wants to field. Sources said the party wants to replace two-time MLA Yadagiri

Party	Jangaon	Nampally	Goshamahall	Narsapur
BRS	50.47%	12.33%	32.23%	57.54%
Cong	34.18%	34.98%	19.23%	36.67%
BJP	1.72%	8.42%	45.18%	1.55%
AIMIM	-	41.99%	-	-

Source: Election Commission

Reddy as it fears anti-incumbency if he contests again.

In August, Yadagiri Reddy was appointed as chairman of the Telangana State Road Transport Corporation to placate him, while Rajeshwar Reddy has begun campaigning in the constituency, as asked reportedly by the party.

The Congress has not named its candidate, while the BJP's is Arutla Dashmanth Reddy.

**Nampally:** The BRS is waiting for ally AIMIM to announce its candi-

date. According to sources, the AIMIM wants to replace sitting MLA Jaffer Hussain Meraj, 63, with a younger candidate. The Congress has fielded Feroz Khan, who contested and lost in 2009, 2014 and 2018, but has a better chance of winning this time.

Reports from the ground suggest only a strong AIMIM candidate can stop Feroz Khan from sailing through. According to sources, if the BRS feels that the new AIMIM candidate is not

strong enough to beat Feroz Khan, it would name someone who can counter the Congress challenge.

The BJP too has not named its candidate so far.

**Goshamahall:** The BRS has been waiting for the BJP to name its candidate. Now that suspended sitting MLAT Raja Singh has been reinstated and renominated by the BJP, the BRS is said to be looking to field constituency in-charge Nanda Kishore Vyas. The Congress has nominated Moglii Sunitha from the seat.

**Narsapur:** The BRS Wednesday nominated State Women Commission chairperson Sunitha Laxma Reddy. The party reportedly is not too sure of sitting MLA Madan Reddy's prospects. A win for Sunitha will help the party beef up its women ranks. The Congress has not named a candidate; the BJP has fielded Erragolla Murali Yadav.

## Boost to Telangana Congress, senior leader set to return

**SREENIVAS JANYALA**  
HYDERABAD, OCTOBER 25

IN A boost to the Congress in Telangana, BJP national executive committee member Komatireddy Raj Gopal Reddy announced his resignation Wednesday and said he would be joining the Congress.

Raj Gopal had quit the Congress in August last year, citing differences with Telangana PCC chief A Revanth Reddy. He later joined the BJP, which fielded

him from the Munugode seat that he had vacated. However, he lost the bypoll to the Bharat Rashtra Samithi (BRS).

Sources within the BJP told *The Indian Express* that Raj Gopal was "unhappy as he was not given any important post". They said he had also raised complaints about Bandi Sanjay Kumar as BJP state chief. Kumar was replaced with Union Minister G Kishan Reddy recently.

Announcing his exit from the BJP, Raj Gopal posted: "Activists



are my strength. Fans are my breath. Their aspirations are my ambition. Positions are not new to me." Raj Gopal is expected to formally return to the Congress fold at a public meeting attended by senior party leader Rahul

Gandhi in the coming days.

Raj Gopal, 55, made his electoral debut on the Congress ticket in the 2009 Lok Sabha elections from Bhongir. In the 2014 polls, he lost this seat to a BRS candidate. His brother Venkat Reddy had been a four-time MLA from Nalgonda. The brothers are seen as having a good grip in the area.

Quitting the Congress, Raj Gopal had said that only the BJP and PM Narendra Modi can put an end to the family rule of Chief Minister K Chandrashekar Rao.

## I HEREBY DECLARE



**DEEPAK BAJAJ, 42**  
The Congress's Chhattisgarh unit chief. He is contesting from Chitrakot

**MOVABLE ASSETS (including of spouse, dependents)**  
₹1.15 CRORE

**IMMOVABLE ASSETS**  
₹92 LAKH including agricultural land, non-agricultural land and residential buildings

**LIABILITIES:**  
Rs 20.81 lakh (loans)

**SOURCE OF INCOME:**  
MLA salary, agriculture

**EDUCATION:**  
M.A. Govt Post Graduate College, Jagdalpur

## TICKET SIGNALS

# 'Maharaj ka chal gaya': Scindia loyalists in candidate lists of both BJP, Congress

**ANAND MOHAN J**  
BHOPAL, OCTOBER 25

UNION MINISTER Jyotiraditya Scindia was the centre of attention at the 125th Founder's Day celebration of The Scindia School in Gwalior on October 21, with Prime Minister Narendra Modi in attendance. Modi spent a big portion of his speech heaping praise on Scindia, calling him "Gujarat ka damaad (son-in-law)".

The scion of the erstwhile Gwalior royal family later showed off his dance moves, joining students on the stage to shake a leg. Just hours ago, the ruling BJP had released its fifth list of candidates for the November 17 elections, in which most of Scindia's prominent loyalists found place.

For months the Scindia camp

had been reeling from the infighting in the faction-riven state BJP unit. Several of his loyalists, including legislators who crossed over with him from the Congress to the BJP in early 2020, remained at odds with the BJP old-timers, and in recent months, several along with their supporters had returned to the Congress fold.

Speculation was rife that the BJP would favour its veterans in poll tickets, leaving his loyalists in the cold. But, with both the BJP and the Congress now declaring almost all their candidates for the state's 230 seats, Scindia's loyalists figure around the lists.

Of Scindia's 25 key loyalists who followed him as he switched to the BJP, 18 incumbent MLAs have been repeated by the BJP. This list includes 10 sitting minis-

ters. They are Pradyuman Singh Tomar (Gwalior), Water Resources; Tulsilavata (Sanwer, Indore), Industrial Policy and Investment Promotion; Rajvardhan Singh Dattigaoan (Badnawar, Dhar), Public health and Family Welfare; Prabhuram Chaudhary (Sanchi, Raisen), Revenue; Govind Singh Rajput (Surkhi, Sagar), Food; Bisahul Singh (Anuppur), Environment; Hardeep Singh Dang (Suwasra, Mansaur), Panchayat, Rural Development; Mahendra Singh Sisodia (Bamori, Guna), State Civil Supplies Corporation Chairman; Pradyuman Singh Lodhi (Malhara, Chhatrapur); Suresh Dhakad (Pohari, Shivpuri), PWD.

Five sitting Scindia loyalist MLAs fielded again by the BJP are Jaipal Singh Jajji (Ashok Nagar), Kamlesh Jatav (Ambah, Morena),



Speculation that BJP would sideline his supporters, many of whom crossed over to the party with him, laid to rest. Facebook

Brajendra Singh Yadav (Mungaoli, Ashok Nagar), Manoj Chaudhary (Hatpipliya, Dewas), and Narayan Patel (Mandhata, Nimad).

Significantly, risking the anger of its disgruntled old-timers, the BJP has even renominated three Scindia loyalists who had lost the

bypolls following their 2020 defection. They include former minister of women and child development Imarti Devi (Dabra, Gwalior), Aidal Singh Kansana (Sumawali, Morena) and Raghuraj Singh Kansana (Morena).

At the same time, seven Scindia loyalists have not been fielded despite winning the November 2020 bypolls. They include Urban Development and Housing Minister O P S Bhadoria (Mehgaon), Munna Lal Goyal (Gwalior East), Raksha Sanoria (Bhandar), and Sumitra Devi Kasdekar (Nepanagar).

After Goyal's supporters staged a protest outside Scindia's Jai Vilas Palace in Gwalior, he came out to speak to the irate partymen.

Other Scindia loyalists who lost out have largely kept silent. Of them, Giriraj Dandotiya (Dimmi),

Ranveer Jatav (Gohad) and Jaswant Jatav (Kareera) lost in the previous elections.

Even the Congress has fielded some of Scindia's supporters who left the BJP to return to the grand old party. They include Bodhi Singh Bhagat (Katangi, Balaghat), Samandar Patel (Jawad, Neemuch), and Baijnath Yadav (Kolaras, Shivpuri), who edged out sitting MLA and ex-Scindia loyalist Virendra Raghuvanshi.

Interestingly, the BJP has not deployed Scindia in the Assembly poll race, though other Union ministers have been fielded, including Prahlad Patel (Narsinghpur), Narendra Singh Tomar (Dimmi) and Faggan Kulaste (Niwasi). BJP national general secretary Kailash Vijayvargiya has also been fielded.

A Scindia loyalist said,

"Maharaj ka chal gaya (Scindia has prevailed). He managed to get tickets for all his close supporters. He will not be risking his political career either as he is not in the race. Modi and Amit Shah have big plans for him."

A senior BJP leader said, "The list is purely based on winnability, not age or any other factor."

A Congress leader from the Gwalior-Chambal region however said, "Scindia is not out of danger. His loyalists will have to win or his political career will be cut to size. His supporters like Govind Singh, Imarti Devi are on a sticky wicket."

BJP spokesperson Panik Chaturvedi said, "The Congress looks at politics from the lens of factions. They (Scindia loyalists) are all BJP workers. Scindia is a senior BJP leader who fulfilled big responsibilities."



DELHI CONFIDENTIAL



BATTLING FOR CREDIT

AHEAD OF the upcoming cricket World Cup match between India and England in Lucknow on October 29, Samajwadi Party (SP) on Wednesday credited its president Akhilesh Yadav with developing the international-level stadium. The stadium, initially named Ekana International Cricket Stadium, was built when Akhilesh was the CM. The BJP government in 2018 rechristened it as 'Bharat Ratan Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee Antar-rashtriya Cricket Stadium'. The party also said that Akhilesh's love for cricket was well-known, citing his visit to the Lords cricket ground in London in 2015.

CENTRAL CONCERN

WITH GROUND reports not matching up Bharatiya Janata Party expectations in Madhya Pradesh, the party has decided to send reinforcements to the poll-bound state. BJP sources said the party leadership convened a meeting of senior leaders from other states earlier this week and asked them to go to Madhya Pradesh. Sources said they have been tasked to get the cadres — which are disillusioned and disenchanted over a number of issues, including the choice of candidates, in some areas — out on the ground for campaigning to ensure favourable results.

REEL & ROLE

THE ELECTION Commission is set to appoint actor Rajkumar Rao as its national icon for voter awareness. According to EC sources, Rao's role as the presiding officer of a polling booth in Chhattisgarh in the 2017 film, 'Newton', played a part in his selection. The actor will be officially named the ECI's national icon at an event in Delhi on Thursday.

Cong urges EC to ban Shah, Himanta from campaigning

Also seeks action in 'rath prabharis' row

MANOJ CG  
NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 25

FROM DEMANDING a "clear and complete" ban on Union Home Minister Amit Shah and Assam Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma from campaigning in the upcoming Assembly elections, to seeking action on the Narendra Modi government's bid to rope in bureaucrats as "district rath prabharis" for a "yatra" to showcase its "achievements" to besides involving soldiers on annual leave to promote its schemes, the Congress Wednesday approached the Election Commission (EC) with a raft of complaints.

The Congress's petition against Shah and Sarma were related to their election speeches. Addressing a rally at Rajnandgaon in Chhattisgarh earlier this month, Shah had referred to the death of one Bhuneshwar Sahu in communal violence in August in Bemetara district. The BJP has fielded his father Ishwar Sahu as its candidate. Shah had alleged that the Bhupesh Baghel-led Congress government's "appeasement and vote-bank politics" led to the lynching of Bhuneshwar and said the "BJP has decided to ensure the culprits are brought to book, and as a symbol of it we have given a ticket to his father".

"The communally charged statements made by Shah... clearly aims to provoke the public to breach peace and even indirectly seeks votes in the name of religion, thereby violating the provisions of the IPC and Representation of People Act," the Congress alleged.

Charging that Shah's statement was in violation of various provisions of the Model Code of Conduct (MCC), the Congress asked the EC to "impose a clear and complete ban on Amit Shah from all campaign activities till the conclusion of the election and further direct a ban on circulation of the videos of the rally with the offending portions".

The Congress demanded a similar ban on Sarma over his remarks against Chhattisgarh Congress MLA Mohammad Akbar. In its complaint, the Congress quoted Sarma as having purportedly said at a rally in Kawardha that "If one Akbar comes to some place, he calls 100 Akbars. So, send him off as soon as possible, otherwise the land of Mata Kaushalya will get defiled".

The Congress delegation — comprising senior leaders Jairam Ramesh, Salman Khurshid, AICC in-charge of Telangana Manikrao Thakre, Telangana Congress chief Revanth Reddy, Lok Sabha MP Uttam Kumar Reddy and Leader of the Opposition in Telangana Assembly Bhatti Vikramarka — that met the EC also demanded its intervention on the government's plan to deploy government officers as district "rath prabharis" (special officers) for the "Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra".

According to an internal order of the Agriculture Secretary, the yatra — from November 20 to January 25 — would be aimed at "showcasing/celebrating" the achievements of the Modi government.

PM to attend Ayodhya Ram temple consecration ceremony on Jan 22

HARIKISHAN SHARMA  
NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 25

PRIME MINISTER Narendra Modi on Wednesday said that he will participate in the consecration ceremony of Ram Temple in Ayodhya on January 22, next year.

In a post on X, Modi said that the Shri Ram Janmabhoomi Teerth Kshetra Trust has invited him for the ceremony. "I will be present on this historic occasion," he said in the post.

"Jai siya Ram! Aaj ka din bahut bhawnaon se bhara hua hai. Abhi Shri Ram Janmabhoomi Teerth Kshetra Trust ke padadhikari mu-



'I will witness this historic occasion'

Teerth Kshetra Trust had come to meet me at my residence. They have invited me to come to Ayodhya on the occasion of the consecration of Shri Ram temple. I feel very blessed. It is my good fortune that in my lifetime, I will witness this historic occasion," Modi said in the post.

The invitation was extended by general secretary of Shri Ram Janmabhoomi Teerth Kshetra Champat Rai, chairman of the temple construction committee Nripendra Misra, and others.

Meanwhile, PM Modi on Wednesday chaired a PRAGATI meeting with the Centre and state governments.

अखिल भारतीय आर्युर्विज्ञान संस्थान, गुवाहाटी  
ALL INDIA INSTITUTE OF MEDICAL SCIENCES, GUWAHATI  
(A statutory body under the aegis of Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, GoI)  
Changarsari, Kamrup, Assam-781101, Website: www.aiimguwahati.ac.in

Ref No:- 1-94/2023-24/AIIMS/GHY/ADMIN./DIRECT RECRUITMENT /1409 Date: 13.10.2023

ADVERTISEMENT FOR RECRUITMENT TO VARIOUS GROUP-A NON-FACULTY POSTS ON DIRECT RECRUITMENT BASIS AT AIIMS GUWAHATI

AIIMS Guwahati is an apex healthcare institute, established by the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Government of India under the Pradhan Mantri Swasthya Suraksha Yojna (PMSY) with the aim of correcting regional imbalances in quality tertiary-level healthcare in the country and attaining self-sufficiency in graduate and postgraduate medical education and training.

The Director, AIIMS Guwahati invites online applications from Indian nationals for recruitment to the following Group A non-faculty posts on direct recruitment basis:

Sl.No.	Name of the post	Group	Pay Level (7th CPC)	Total	SC	ST	OBC	EWS	UR
1	Medical Physicist	A	Level-10	2	0	0	0	0	2
2	Blood Transfusion Officer	A	Level-11	1	0	0	0	0	1
3	Medical Officer Ayush	A	Level-10	1	0	0	0	0	1
4	Clinical Psychologist	A	Level-10	1	0	0	0	0	1
				<b>Total</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>5</b>

1) Last date of receipt of online applications will be 21 days from the date of publication of the advertisement in the Employment News.

2) For details of recruitment i.e. eligibility criteria, online application process, selection procedure, terms & conditions, notifications, corrigendum, addendum, etc. related to this recruitment will be published/uploaded only on the official website [www.aiimguwahati.ac.in](http://www.aiimguwahati.ac.in). Candidates are advised to check the website regularly for updates.

Sd/-  
Executive Director  
AIIMS, Guwahati

UP Cong chief to meet Azam today: 'Will stand by him in difficult time'

ASAD REHMAN  
LUCKNOW, OCTOBER 25

NEARLY A week after senior Samajwadi Party leader Azam Khan, his wife and son were sentenced to seven years of imprisonment in a birth certificate forgery case, Uttar Pradesh Congress unit president Ajay Rai will be leading a party delegation to Sitapur jail to meet the former MP from Rampur.

This comes amid the ongoing bickering between the Congress and the Samajwadi Party (SP) after the two parties of the Opposition INDIA bloc failed to reach a seat-sharing arrangement for the upcoming Assembly polls in Madhya Pradesh.

Over the last week, Rai and SP chief Akhilesh Yadav have been engaged in a war of words and name-calling over the issue. When asked if the decision to meet Azam Khan may irk the SP leadership, Rai said, "It shouldn't. We are allies. This is a good thing for the INDIA alliance."

"We can't say anything on why Akhilesh-jii hasn't met him (Azam Khan) so far," he, however, quipped. While the decision to meet Azam Khan, who a Congress leader described as the "tallest Muslim leader in UP", may seem innocuous on the surface, the party is trying to send a signal to the Muslim community in the state — that "it is standing with Azam Khan in this difficult time, while the SP may not".

UPCC Secretary (Organisation) Anil Yadav, who will accompany Rai to Sitapur jail, said Congress will "struggle" for Azam and his

EXPLAINED  
Taking lead

WITH THIS move, the Congress is trying to score over Samajwadi Party chief Akhilesh Yadav. The SP chief, who has in the past met several of his party workers and leaders lodged in prisons, has never visited Azam since he was imprisoned two years ago.

family on the streets too. Playing down the ongoing tiff with the SP, he said: "We will stand by him (Azam) in this difficult time, and that is what allies do. We are an ally of the SP, and we are doing what an ally should do," he said.

After Azam and his family members were sent to jail last week, SP chief Akhilesh Yadav, in a post on X, called it "harassment" and said that "for justice, everyone has stood by him, and will continue to do so".

Speaking to reporters on Wednesday, Akhilesh said that he was unhappy with Rai visiting Azam in jail. He said, "Azam sahab se toh sabko milna chahiye. Aur woh samay Congress ke log kahaan thi jab unko phasaya jaa raha tha? Congress ke नेता भी unhe phasane mein lage thay (Everyone should meet Azam sahab. Where were Congress people when he was being framed? Even Congress leaders were busy framing him)."

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

Shram Sadhana Bombay Trust's  
COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING & TECHNOLOGY  
Bambhori, Post Box 94, Jalgaon 425001 (MS)

**WANTED**

Applications are invited for the Permanent Non-Granted Post of **Principal and Assistant Director-Physical Education** from Eligible candidates.

The detailed advertisement is available on the College website: <https://ssoctjalgaon.ac.in>

The application shall reach to College within 15 days of the publication of this advertisement by post.

CHAIRMAN

Advertisement No. 51/2023  
Government of India  
Public Enterprises Selection Board  
Invites applications for the post of  
**Director (Finance)**  
in  
**Braithwaite & Co. Ltd.**

Last date of submission of application by the applicant is  
**15th November, 2023**

Last date of forwarding of applications by the Nodal officers to PESB is  
**24th November, 2023**

For details login to website <http://www.pesb.gov.in>

**BIHAR ANIMAL SCIENCES UNIVERSITY**  
Bihar Veterinary College Campus, Patna-800014 (Bihar)

**Employment Notice No. - 06/2023**

**"SPECIAL DRIVE FOR UNFILLED POSTS OF VETERINARY FACULTY"**

Bihar Animal Sciences University, Patna invites applications from the eligible candidates for the post of **Professor (Acad. Level-14), Associate Professor (Acad. Level-13 A), Assistant Professor (Acad. Level-10)** in Veterinary Faculty, Bihar Veterinary College, Patna and College of Veterinary & Animal Science, Kishanganj.

In-service candidates are required to submit the application, through proper channel. However, they must submit advance copy with requisite fee within last date of submission. The proper channel copy must be received within 15 days of last date of submission of the application form.

Last date for the receipt of application form is **24/11/2023 till 04.00 PM by Registered / Speed Post only.**

For detail information, please visit the University's website <https://www.basu.org.in>

Sd/-  
Registrar, BASU, Patna

**BIHAR ANIMAL SCIENCES UNIVERSITY**  
Bihar Veterinary College Campus, Patna-800014 (Bihar)

**Employment Notice No. - 12/2023**

**"SPECIAL DRIVE FOR UNFILLED POSTS OF DAIRY FACULTY"**

Bihar Animal Sciences University, Patna invites applications from the eligible candidates for the post of **Professor (Acad. Level-14), Associate Professor (Acad. Level-13 A), Assistant Professor (Acad. Level-10)** in Dairy Faculty, Sanjay Gandhi Institute of Dairy Technology, Patna.

In-service candidates are required to submit the application, through proper channel. However, they must submit advance copy with requisite fee within last date of submission. The proper channel copy must be received within 15 days of last date of submission of the application form.

Last date for the receipt of Application form is **24/11/2023 till 04.00 PM by Registered / Speed Post only.**

Those who have applied earlier vide Empl. Not. No.-07/2022 dated 27.07.2022 and 06.12.2022 with respective cut off dated 12.09.2022 and 10.01.2023 shall also be considered, however they may send update information relevant to their application form.

For detail information, please visit the University's website <https://www.basu.org.in>

Sd/-  
Registrar, BASU, Patna

**योजना एवं विकास विभाग**  
कार्यपालक अभियंता का कार्यालय  
स्थानीय क्षेत्र अभियंत्रण संगठन, कार्य प्रमंडल, औरंगाबाद।  
निविदा आमंत्रण सूचना संख्या - 01 (SBD) /2023-24  
(केवल ई-टेंडर पद्धति के अनुसार वेबसाइट [www.eproc2.bihar.gov.in](http://www.eproc2.bihar.gov.in) पर)

बिहार के राज्यपाल महोदय की ओर से बिहार राज्य के किसी भी कार्य विभाग/निगम/अन्य राज्य सरकार/केन्द्र सरकार/सार्वजनिक क्षेत्र के उपक्रम या राष्ट्रीय या अंतरराष्ट्रीय स्थापित के किसी भी एजेंसी में समुचित श्रेणी में निबंधित संवेदकों से प्रतिशत दर निविदा दो बीड प्रणाली (तकनीकी एवं वित्तीय) अन्तर्गत आमंत्रित किये जाते हैं। यदि संवेदक बिहार राज्य के किसी कार्य विभाग/निगम में पूर्व से निबंधित नहीं है, तब एकराजनामा के पूर्व निम्नलिखित कार्य का स्वीकार पत्र (लेटर ऑफ एक्सेप्टेंस) प्राप्त होने के बाद बिहार राज्य के किसी भी कार्य विभाग/निगम (जिसमें निबंधन की प्रक्रिया लागू हो) में निबंधन कराना अनिवार्य होगा।

1. कार्य की विवरणी :-

युप संख्या	कार्य का नाम	परिमाण (लाख ₹ में)	अग्रघन की राशि (ऑन लाईन मोड या ऑफ लाईन मोड में केवल B.G. के रूप में) (लाख ₹ में)	परिमाण-विपत्र का मूल्य (अप्रत्यर्पणीय केवल ऑनलाइन मोड में मुगतान) (रूपये में)	बीड प्रोसेसिंग शुल्क (अप्रत्यर्पणीय केवल ऑनलाइन मोड में मुगतान) (रूपये में)	कार्य पूर्ण करने की अवधि (माह में)	
01.	02	03	04	05	06	07	
1	हसपुरा प्रखण्ड अन्तर्गत पंचायत सोनहथु के ग्राम सोनहथु में पंचायत सरकार भवन का निर्माण कार्य।	243.876	4.878	10000.00	e-proc-02 वेब पेज के अनुसार	14 माह	
2	हसपुरा प्रखण्ड अन्तर्गत पंचायत हसपुरा के ग्राम जलपुरा में पंचायत सरकार भवन का निर्माण कार्य।	244.169	4.884	10000.00	e-proc-02 वेब पेज के अनुसार	14 माह	
3	हसपुरा प्रखण्ड अन्तर्गत पंचायत ईटवाँ के ग्राम खुटहन में पंचायत सरकार भवन का निर्माण कार्य।	245.621	4.913	10000.00	e-proc-02 वेब पेज के अनुसार	14 माह	
4	हसपुरा प्रखण्ड अन्तर्गत पंचायत डुमरा के ग्राम डुमरा में पंचायत सरकार भवन का निर्माण कार्य।	245.900	4.918	10000.00	e-proc-02 वेब पेज के अनुसार	14 माह	
5	हसपुरा प्रखण्ड अन्तर्गत पंचायत टाल के ग्राम टाल में पंचायत सरकार भवन का निर्माण कार्य।	245.195	4.901	10000.00	e-proc-02 वेब पेज के अनुसार	14 माह	
6	गोह प्रखण्ड अन्तर्गत पंचायत देवहारा के ग्राम देवहारा में पंचायत सरकार भवन का निर्माण कार्य।	245.608	4.913	10000.00	e-proc-02 वेब पेज के अनुसार	14 माह	
7	गोह प्रखण्ड अन्तर्गत पंचायत बेरका के ग्राम बेरका में पंचायत सरकार भवन का निर्माण कार्य।	248.492	4.970	10000.00	e-proc-02 वेब पेज के अनुसार	14 माह	
8	गोह प्रखण्ड अन्तर्गत पंचायत बाजारवर्मा के ग्राम मुडवाँ में पंचायत सरकार भवन का निर्माण कार्य।	249.245	4.981	10000.00	e-proc-02 वेब पेज के अनुसार	14 माह	
9	गोह प्रखण्ड अन्तर्गत पंचायत डिहुरी के ग्राम डिहुरी में पंचायत सरकार भवन का निर्माण कार्य।	247.800	4.956	10000.00	e-proc-02 वेब पेज के अनुसार	14 माह	
10	गोह प्रखण्ड अन्तर्गत पंचायत मलहद के ग्राम मलहद में पंचायत सरकार भवन का निर्माण कार्य।	248.013	4.961	10000.00	e-proc-02 वेब पेज के अनुसार	14 माह	
11	गोह प्रखण्ड अन्तर्गत पंचायत उपहारा के ग्राम बैजलपुर में पंचायत सरकार भवन का निर्माण कार्य।	249.598	4.992	10000.00	e-proc-02 वेब पेज के अनुसार	14 माह	
12	गोह प्रखण्ड अन्तर्गत पंचायत चापुक के ग्राम चापुक में पंचायत सरकार भवन का निर्माण कार्य।	245.533	4.911	10000.00	e-proc-02 वेब पेज के अनुसार	14 माह	
13	गोह प्रखण्ड अन्तर्गत पंचायत बनतारा के ग्राम बनतारा में पंचायत सरकार भवन का निर्माण कार्य।	248.592	4.972	10000.00	e-proc-02 वेब पेज के अनुसार	14 माह	
14	कुटुम्बा प्रखण्ड अन्तर्गत पंचायत परता के ग्राम परता में पंचायत सरकार भवन का निर्माण कार्य।	244.911	4.899	10000.00	e-proc-02 वेब पेज के अनुसार	14 माह	
15	कुटुम्बा प्रखण्ड अन्तर्गत पंचायत बैरौव के ग्राम बैरौव में पंचायत सरकार भवन का निर्माण कार्य।	244.575	4.891	10000.00	e-proc-02 वेब पेज के अनुसार	14 माह	
16	कुटुम्बा प्रखण्ड अन्तर्गत पंचायत महाराजगंज के ग्राम माडर गोपाल में पंचायत सरकार भवन का निर्माण कार्य।	247.406	4.949	10000.00	e-proc-02 वेब पेज के अनुसार	14 माह	
		<b>कुल योग :-</b>	<b>3944.534</b>				

2. विज्ञापन निर्गत करने की तिथि : दिनांक -18.10.2023

3. निविदा कागजात अपलोड करने की प्रारम्भिक तिथि एवं समय : दिनांक 09.11.2023 को 10.00 बजे पूर्वाह्न से। (सिर्फ वेबसाइट [www.eproc2.bihar.gov.in](http://www.eproc2.bihar.gov.in) पर )

4. प्री-बीड मीटिंग का समय, स्थान एवं तिथि : दिनांक 03.11.2023 समय 3.30 बजे अपराह्न, मुख्य अभियंता का कार्यालय, स्थानीय क्षेत्र अभियंत्रण संगठन, विद्येश्वरैया भवन, चतुर्थ तल, कमरा नं०-423, बेली रोड, पटना-800015

5. निविदा अपलोड की अंतिम तिथि एवं समय : दिनांक 16.11.2023 समय 3.00 बजे अपराह्न तक। (सिर्फ वेबसाइट [www.eproc2.bihar.gov.in](http://www.eproc2.bihar.gov.in) पर)

6. तकनीकी बीड खोलने की तिथि एवं समय : दिनांक 18.11.2023 समय 3.30 बजे अपराह्न से। (कडिका 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)

7. 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 )

8. निविदा खोलने का स्थान : [www.eproc2.bihar.gov.in](http://www.eproc2.bihar.gov.in) पर

9. निविदा की वैधता अवधि : 120 दिन (निविदा प्राप्ति की अंतिम तिथि के बाद )

10. विज्ञापनदाता का पदनाम एवं पता : कार्यपालक अभियंता, स्थानीय क्षेत्र अभियंत्रण संगठन प्रमण्डल, कार्य प्रमंडल औरंगाबाद।

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## The Indian EXPRESS

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BECAUSE THE TRUTH INVOLVES US ALL

# Balance of green power

States with poor renewable energy capacity need to be given a bigger stake in the energy transition



ROHIT CHANDRA

REPORTS OF COAL'S death are highly exaggerated. Between the strike notice by Coal India's unions, to the power minister's recent announcements of India's intent to build new coal power plants, to addressing the peak power problems which have repeatedly surfaced during seasonal demand surges, the dilemma of energy transition has reared its face in the last few months. Between the G20, the Clean Energy Ministerial and the actions of the International Solar Alliance, much has been said about India's global commitments and actions toward decarbonisation. But the logic and incentives of domestic energy transition need to be considered closely.

The first wave of power plant construction in India, between the mid-1970s and the mid-1990s, happened on the back of a push by central PSUs to solve the imbalances of state power supply. Some state electricity boards managed to build up power plants, others did not. The creation of the NTPC and Coal India in the mid-1970s was a central solution to a regional problem. NTPC's first four power plants (Ramagundam, Farakka, Singrauli and Korba) were sited so that they could supply power to multiple states. The second great wave of power plant construction between 2000-2015 was driven primarily by private promoters who built plants after the Electricity Act, 2003 was passed. These plants were largely located in central, western and southern India. From the mid-1990s onwards, India invested in a national power grid, and by the mid-2000s moving power between states became easier. Private investment in the power sector post-2000 clustered around states with more industrial demand, histories of commercial activity and stronger finances.

The next wave of power plant construction in India is likely the mass construction of renewable energy assets over the next few decades. While projections from government agencies about India's power future have varied, the Central Electricity Authority's report on Optimal Generation Capacity Mix for 2029-2030 establishes a clear expectation of sus-

tained RE growth. According to this report, by 2030, solar and wind will make up almost 51 per cent of total generation capacity (up from less than 20 per cent in 2019) and almost 31 per cent of all generated power (up from 8.3 per cent in 2019). If these projections materialise, they are likely to have major fiscal consequences for states.

Research by Sanjay Mitra and me zoom into the regional consequences of this RE build-out, and the accompanying expectation of greater RE procurement by state discoms. India's massive RE build-out so far has largely benefited western and southern states. In August 2023, 92.5 per cent of all grid-connected RE generation came from eight states. This is largely driven by higher insolation and wind density but also bolstered by favourable state finances and investment environments.

Assuming such patterns persist, RE-poor, coal-rich states are likely to face a double hit to state revenues: Coal royalties as a proportion of overall state revenue will decline as coal growth starts slowing later this decade, and the cost of power procurement will increase as new RE contracts are layered on top of existing commitments for firm power. Grid-scale energy storage technologies are still expensive and experimental, and are unlikely to be adopted at a large scale by the end of the decade. Since most coal-rich states have limited grid-scale RE-deployment, they will have to import more power from other states. This means that the quantum of inter-state financial transfers for power procurement will shoot up over the next decade. We find that the combined revenue impact of declining coal royalties and increasing electricity imports could worsen budget deficits of RE-poor power-importing states by almost 8.66 per cent on average, taking them well beyond the norms established by the Fiscal Responsibility and Budgetary Management Act, 2003.

The reality of India's fiscal federalism is that states are protective about the few major sources of revenue they have left post-GST. Coal royalties and their delayed upward revi-

sion cause frequent disagreements between coal states and the Union government. The power sector is another site of frequent tension. Between attempts to establish a centralised spot market for electricity, enforcing strict payment discipline on state discoms, privatisation of state discoms, drastic Electricity Act amendments, uncompensated transmission waivers for RE projects, and financing struggles with state lenders, there are many axes of policy friction between Union and state governments. Of particular concern is the displacement of RE integration costs onto state transmission companies. By giving inter-state transmission waivers to an entire generation of new RE projects, the integration costs of the energy transition are displaced onto state PSU balance sheets without necessarily facilitating compensatory investment in upgraded transmission capacity, which can better manage the variability of the new RE projects.

If these emerging frictions are not addressed, reluctant states and frequent policy conflicts could hold back India's ambitions for an energy transition. RE-poor states need to be given a bigger stake in this energy transition, rather than be treated as collateral damage. The philosophy of balanced regional developmentalism that led to the creation of NTPC in the 1970s needs to be revived. This could take many forms — preferential lending for RE projects in RE-poor states by state lenders, greater voice in federal power negotiations (through revival of institutions like the Inter-State Council), explicit financial transfers to RE-poor states through the Finance Commission and collaborative industrial policy through just transition mechanisms. Green industrial policy should not be the exclusive privilege of historically well-endowed states. Otherwise, the energy transition will simply be yet another drain of resources from India's least developed to its most developed regions.

The writer is Assistant Professor, IIT-Delhi School of Public Policy

## MUMBAI ALARM BELLS

City municipal corporation's multiple omissions on the pollution front have high public health costs

FOR THE SECOND year running, the withdrawal of the southwest monsoon in Mumbai has been accompanied by a spike in the pollution burden on the city's residents. Last winter, the city registered poor or very poor on the Air Quality Index (AQI) on most days from November to January. People in the country's financial capital have been choking on bad air for much of this month. Adverse meteorological conditions, triggered by climate change, seem to have negated the natural cleansing advantages of the city by the sea. But as a series of reports in this newspaper has shown, a large part of the blame should be taken by the city's municipality, the Brihanmumbai Municipal Corporation (BMC). The agency's Pollution Mitigation Plan, released in March, identifies five sources of pollution — construction debris, road dust, open burning of solid waste, use of unclean fuel in eateries and industrial emissions. But the municipality's response to its own report has been belated and patchy at best. Its Standard Operating Procedure, released on October 21, does detail measures to curb dust pollution but the agency has yet to find ways to tackle Mumbai's longstanding waste management problem.

The BMC's waste segregation system is restricted to residential buildings and gated societies. It leaves out the city's slum clusters where most people burn waste, mainly comprising plastic, rubber, polythene and paper. The incineration releases fine particles in the air, making it toxic. This month, Mumbai has recorded a 45 per cent increase in PM2.5 components compared with October last according to the Central Pollution Control Board data. BMC rules prohibit garbage burning but the municipality's enforcement mechanism leaves much to be desired. The municipality has not made adequate investments in creating awareness about responsible waste management. In 2007, it contracted public agencies for the services of marshals to monitor garbage disposal in public places. But the contract lapsed last year and the BMC's plans to conduct garbage disposal-related inspection drives remain on paper.

The BMC has a budget of Rs 52,600 crore, more than that of several states in the country. But there is a wealth of evidence on this rich municipality's failures to use funds judiciously. In March, a CAG report flagged "major systemic problems, poor planning, and careless use of funds" by the BMC. It pulled up the agency for "lack of transparency and probity in the execution of works taken up at a significant cost". The municipality's multiple omissions on the pollution front have public health costs. The alarm bells have, in fact, been ringing for at least seven years now. Since 2016, Mumbai has been reporting an increasing number of fatalities due to respiratory diseases, including COPD and lung cancer. The exposure of school children to poor air is another pressing concern. The BMC needs to get its act together, to make people's well-being its priority.

## A TAXING ISSUE

Authorities must address apprehensions and concerns raised by the spate of notices sent by GST departments

IN RECENT WEEKS, the central and state GST authorities have issued demand notices to companies spanning a range of sectors — from consumer durables to smart phones, insurance, online gaming and service providers. As reported in this paper, LIC has received one notice for Rs 290.5 crore in September. HDFC life insurance has received a notice for non-payment of GST to the tune of Rs 942 crore. FMCG major Dabur has received a notice of tax shortfall amounting to Rs 320 crore. Gaming major Delta Corp has received several notices which run into thousands of crores. While it can be nobody's case that tax authorities should not pursue legitimate demands, some of the issues raised over the nature of these notices warrant closer examination.

The notices seem to largely pertain to the initial period after the shift to the GST regime — a time marked by considerable uncertainty and teething problems — and gathered momentum towards the end of the limitation period on September 30. Their scope was expanded to include "underpayment" of tax, "incorrect avilment of input tax credit" and "reconciliation differences" between returns filed and financials. The concerns raised revolve around the multiplicity of notices, the absence of a uniform process and lack of coordination between the Centre and state tax authorities. In one particular case, state tax authorities have sought information about GST payments from a firm "based on media reports" of its merger with a company in a different state. Recently, GST notices have also been sent to several multinational companies on the levy of tax on expats and seconded employees working with them, following a court judgment on the issue.

Since its inception, the GST system has been marked by constant tweaking and significant leakages. The tax administration has over the years worked to address the gaps in the system. Between April 2020 and September 2023, more than 6,000 cases of fake input tax credit have been detected. These involved tax evasion of more than Rs 57,000 crore. In the ongoing financial year, so far, 1,040 such cases involving Rs 14,000 crore have been identified. While the tax system must ensure that firms pay their fair share of taxes, and leakages are minimised, it must also work towards simplifying the tax rules, reducing uncertainty and discretion in the system and easing the compliance burden. Not doing so will only lead to more litigation, with the amounts under dispute in the case of direct taxes, both corporate and personal income tax, already in lakhs of crores.

## ICELAND'S STANDSTILL

Women's strike in that country is a reminder that the struggle for equality is arduous, always and everywhere

What do you do when a so-called equality paradise is still far from equal? The answer, according to the women of Iceland, is to go on strike — and keep on striking — until the yawning gap between the dream of paradise and its dispiriting reality is closed, or almost. On Tuesday, tens of thousands of women and non-binary folk stopped work, both paid and non-paid, bringing the nation to a standstill for 24 hours — the first of its kind since the historic strike of 1975. Fishing industry workers, teachers, hospital staff, government workers, librarians and Prime Minister Katrin Jakobsdottir were among those who were protesting the gender pay gap and gender-based violence in a country that is widely held up as an exemplar of social equality.

There are two ways of looking at the women's strike in Iceland. The more cynical might wonder what hope there is for women in the rest of the world, if women in Iceland feel undervalued and unsafe. After all, the gender imbalance in terms of economic power, social status and political representation remains both acute and stubborn in many other countries compared to Iceland, which has topped the World Economic Forum's Gender Report rankings 14 years in a row. But it's the other perspective, which speaks of hope and aspiration, that is worth holding on to.

The struggle for equality was never going to be easy — not in Iceland, nor in the US, India or anywhere else. For every success story, like the decriminalisation of abortion in Mexico and the passage of the Women's Reservation Bill in India last month, there are heart-breaking reverses, such as the abortion ban in the US last year and harsher penalties for women who refuse to wear the hijab in Iran. The lesson from Iceland is not that the "equality paradise" is still faraway — it's that the dream for it will never die.

## TO OPEN THE CAMPUS

Push to attract foreign universities should be coupled with liberal work visa regime



SIFRA LENTINI

THE NATIONAL EDUCATION Policy (NEP) 2020 has made internationalisation a pivot for reforms of the country's higher education sector. This new paradigm aims to raise the standards of Indian university education in key parameters — an overhaul of syllabi, campuses with foreign students, foreign faculty, researchers, and joint and/or dual degrees conferred by Indian universities and colleges with their foreign counterparts.

India has 54,000 colleges and institutions which cater to 38.5 million college-level students. They are of mixed quality and not enough. About 7.5 lakh Indian students study abroad annually. The market need has led to a blossoming of private universities. Some have been able to attract international faculty, but the big gap is in attracting foreign students.

Foreign students can study in Indian universities but there is no provision for them to gain work experience in India after completing their degrees — which many foreign students seek, given India's vibrant corporate and start-up sector. Correcting this requires an amendment to India's student or "S" Visa.

Many Indian companies are international and aspire to be multinationals. Most major Indian players overseas are tech and services companies, and their key resource is talent. They need foreign employees with experience in India to better understand the country's and company's culture and etiquette, and learn how to navigate Indian regulations and markets. Through recruitment of foreign talent on Indian campuses and hiring alumni from Indian institutions who return to their home countries, Indian companies can develop an ecosystem of overseas talent that is acclimated to working in India. They will be the "cultural bridge" between their country and India.

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Indian alumni of US universities have been critical in bringing Silicon Valley and Bengaluru together, and in helping the US administration understand India's viewpoints on varied subjects. The big three US tech companies — Google, Meta, and Microsoft — are all headed by Indian alumni of US universities. Former Afghan President Hamid Karzai who studied in India kept bilateral relations warm through difficult times.

An expanded provision of student work visas will amplify these advantages. It must include the 4,000 scholarships for foreigners who come to India annually under the Indian Council for Cultural Relations, Ministry of External Affairs, and Indian Technical and Economic Cooperation scholarships for students and professionals from developing and less developed countries. African students who study at the Indian Institute of Mining, Dhanbad, or agriculture colleges, will benefit from field experience in India. India has 49,000 foreign students. The Ministry of Education's goal was to reach 2,00,000 students in 2023-24. This is not likely to fructify.

There is a worry that foreign students will take over the jobs of Indian students. This is not the case. India's population growth has dipped below the replacement rate of 2.1 per cent, and the country will begin ageing soon, like China, according to the UN Population Fund. The number of the elderly will double from 149 million in 2022 to 347 million in 2050, eventually overtaking the youth. This has serious ramifications. Growth cannot be sustained with a dwindling working population — as is being witnessed by Japan, Germany, and China. The US, UK, Australia, New Zealand, and Canada have offset this by offering post-study student work visas.

European nations, in contrast, have chosen the route of migration to make up for the worker deficit and this is finding implications in the politics of these nations. India can learn from these experiences. It can offer work status, which may not extend to a resident visa.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi has designated higher education as one of the champion export sectors being promoted overseas. Elite Indian institutions like the IIMs and IITs have already expanded abroad, most recently in Zanzibar, Tanzania, where IIT Chennai has begun full degree classes. Private universities like Manipal have long had foreign campuses in the Caribbean and Malaysia, and now newer ones like Sharda and Amity have established campuses in Uzbekistan.

With the world in geopolitical turmoil and the dream of Western education no longer a certainty, it's time a concerted effort is made to amend India's student visa regime. It starts with a notification by the Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) permitting paid employment under the "S" category visa. The Ministry of Finance will need to determine the applicability of India's tax laws and double taxation treaties on income earned by foreign students. The Ministry of Education, through the UGC and the All India Council for Technical Education, will need to pass guidelines for on-campus recruitment of foreigners and the role of the international students' department in coordinating with MHA, employers, and students. Finally, Indian multinational companies must advocate for a change in the student visa directly and through business chambers.

The writer is Bombay History Fellow, Gateway House: Indian Council on Global Relations

## OCTOBER 26, 1983, FORTY YEARS AGO

### AMBASSADOR SHOT

THE JORDANIAN AMBASSADOR to India, Mohammed Ali Khourme, was shot six times outside his residence in New Delhi. The 54-year-old envoy was critically wounded but doctors at AIIMS gave him a chance at recovery. The man who shot him, apparently a West Asian, made a dramatic escape.

had come to Delhi to assassinate the Nirankari chief Baba Hardev Singh. A Pakistani-made .32 revolver with 15 rounds of ammunition was seized from him. A 12 bore country-made pistol with 10 cartridges was also seized.

and a report from a Barbados radio station said three Cubans were killed and 22 wounded.

### ASSASSINATION CHARGE

HARBHAJAN SINGH (35), a suspected extremist from Amritsar, was arrested by the Delhi police. He was among a group of five men who

### US INVADES GRENADA

ABOUT 2,000 US troops invaded Marxist-ruled Grenada along with 300 soldiers from six Caribbean nations, and President Reagan said they had secured both of the island's airports. The president said he had no word on casualties. One ham radio report from Grenada said a US helicopter was shot down

### AIR SAFETY RESOLUTION

The resolution of air safety, passed by the annual general meeting of the International Air Transport Association (IATA), avoided mention of last month's shooting down of a Korean airliner in deference to objections raised by some airlines from Arab countries. The compromise resolution, which was finally passed, expressed grave concern over "the use of force against civil aircraft, recently and in past years, on the ground and in the air".



# 9 THE IDEAS PAGE

## Congress plays with two fires

The geopolitical and the communal: It turns a blind eye to Hamas's terror, aligns itself with the darkest gallery of rogues



YESHAYA ROSEMAN

UPON READING THE statements issued by the Congress leadership about the October 7 massacre perpetrated by Hamas and Palestinian Islamic Jihad (PIJ) in Israel, I sat in amazement. I couldn't help reflecting on how a party once flying the flags of satyagraha and ahimsa had explained away a massacre which currently counts 1,400 casualties — mostly civilians — and 4,000 injured.

Of all the Mahatma's hallowed legacies, the one Congress successfully emulated was his grave insult to the victims of the Holocaust, for which his closest admirers in Israel never forgave him. But while Gandhiji spoke from a misfiring of sincere idealism, shockingly, the Congress party issued their callous statements out of cynical political calculations, or possibly worse, deplorable sympathy towards the butchers.

The atrocities committed against infants, teenagers, men, women, elderly Holocaust survivors, Nepali students, Muslim Bedouins, lifetime peace activists, and many more, were unspeakably brutal, but filmed on the attackers' Go-Pro body cameras.

The Israeli response is a full-scale war, yet to fully begin. As aerial strikes pound Gaza, 360,000 troops are amassed along the Gaza and Lebanese borders. A ground invasion of Gaza is certain, and only the Iranians know what Hezbollah is planning on the Northern border. They have greater military capabilities than Hamas.

Any support by Congress to those who perpetrated the October 7 massacre is not only morally bankrupt but politically irresponsible.

First, the narrow political calculations seem weird, to put it mildly. Have Congress pollsters concluded that their Muslim voters are thrilled by jihadi violence? For all the troubled history and communal tensions between Hindus and Muslims in India, both sides can count themselves blessed that most Indian Muslims are not extremists, and don't condone genocidal fanaticism in the name of Islam.

I suggest Congress politicians read the Hamas Charter online. Its bloodlust speaks for itself. Do they recognise their Muslim constituents in this manifesto? Are they thinking about the same Indian Muslims who refused to bury the dead terrorists of the 26/11 Mumbai attacks in a Muslim cemetery?

Congress is playing with fire twice: First a geopolitical fire, and second, a communal one.

Geopolitically, they are aligning themselves with the darkest gallery of rogues. India's relations with Hamas' primary backers, Iran, and Russia, (and Qatar) can be debated typically if no blind eye is turned to their murderous aggression. As the Israeli



C R Sasikumar

newspaper *Haaretz's* technology correspondent Oded Yaron showed, it was Iranian drone warfare tactics perfected in Ukraine that allowed Hamas to breach Israeli defences. In supporting jihadists like Hamas, Congress is supporting precisely the most pathological Iranian activity.

And Indians should not delude themselves: Even if jihadists are uniquely obsessed with Jews, they view Hindus as idol worshippers, doctrinally more impure than Ahl al-kitab. The October 7 massacre will, unfortunately, be an inspiration to jihadists for years to come.

But the communal fire being stoked now by Congress is even more stunning. Dedicated jihadists are patient, cunning and calculated, operating in the same methodology as Hamas and their Muslim Brotherhood parent organisation: They quietly amass power within sovereign states, building up organisationally under the guise of waqfs and Islamic charities, explaining away any tell-tale signs of violence, in doctrine or in practice. Their full-fledged violence will first appear abroad, with fighters and funds funnelled to the no-man's-lands of Afghanistan, Pakistan or Syria.

If, theoretically speaking, Muslims of jihadist persuasion view it as their everlasting, divine imperative to fight the Kafir till submission, when does their violence appear domestically? The Islamic formulation is simple: When they sense a chance of victory.

When the father of global jihad, Palestinian Abdullah Yusuf Azzam, was asked why he chose to fight the Soviets and build al-Qaeda in Afghanistan, he answered, "In Palestine, there was nothing I could do."

Therefore, the Congress' statement is dangerous domestically. Any fringes of the Indian Muslim communities, in West Bengal, Kashmir, or elsewhere, that harbour a Hamas-style vision will never attack until they smell opportunity. If India fortifies itself militarily and spiritually, it will have peace, and jihadists will mutter, "there was nothing I could do".

But at any sign of weakness, they will roar into action. A weak India could find itself in the position of France, battling street mobs periodically burning down Paris, and watching ISIS cells gun down Frenchmen at theatres and schools. The difference would be that India's history of communal riots would ensure that the repercussions of such violence would be broader.

The greatest possible sign of weakness is a green light from Kafir authorities. If Congress leaders can not find within them a spine, they should remember that they still have a neck.

The writer is a Jerusalem-based journalist, head of the South Asia Project at Sharaka NGO, and pursuing a university degree in Indian Studies and Middle East and Islamic Studies

Indians should not delude themselves: Even if jihadists are uniquely obsessed with Jews, they view Hindus as idol worshippers, doctrinally more impure than Ahl al-kitab. The October 7 massacre will, unfortunately, be an inspiration to jihadists for years to come.

## WHAT THE OTHERS SAY

"The biggest question revolves around Babar's captaincy. It is argued that he isn't aggressive with his field placings to help his bowlers get the needed breakthroughs. There has been some conservatism in his captaincy at a time when other teams have become adventurous." — DAWN, PAKISTAN

## Seven regions, two corners

Given the undercurrents, Madhya Pradesh is likely to throw up surprises in the upcoming Assembly elections



YATINDRA SINGH SISODIA

MADHYA PRADESH HAS traditionally served as an illustration of a steady two-party political competition. Unlike the four previous Assembly elections in the state, the political narrative during the 2023 campaign is going to be a little different. The BJP is planning to focus its campaign on highlighting the achievements of its government in the last 18-odd years, without focusing on any chief ministerial face. Congress, on the other hand, is trying to focus on issues of youth unemployment, inflation, corruption and farmers' unrest. Interestingly, both political parties are trying to share a wishlist of freebies to lure voters.

In the last two decades, Madhya Pradesh has become one of the strongholds of the BJP in the Hindi heartland and has yielded extraordinary electoral outcomes in the party's favour. The BJP has been in power in the state almost throughout except for a short stint of 15 months in 2018, when the Congress came to power by a wafer-thin majority. It could not sustain it due to the Jyotiraditya Scindia-led block of 22 MLAs switching over to the BJP.

This Assembly election is going to have the shadow of both the 2018 election results and the Congress government debacle that followed in 2019. As the longest-serving chief minister in the state, his style of delivering political goods has undoubtedly made Shivraj Singh Chouhan very popular. But at the same time, there appears to be a fatigue among the electorate. Unlike in 2018, the face of the state leadership this time is that of a collective leadership, with the central leadership leading the campaign instead of Chouhan. This is, by default, sending out a message of an attempt to diffuse anti-incumbency.

After 18 years in power, the BJP has its share of other challenges. Factionalism within the party is surfacing at different constituency levels. With almost all tickets announced by both parties, infighting and bickering are out in the open. The 2018 election is remembered for the immense anti-incumbency against sitting MLAs of both the BJP and the Congress. Fifty-eight sitting MLAs of the BJP (including 13 Ministers) and 17 sitting MLAs from Congress had lost the election in 2018. This is a reflection of not gauging the electorate's disapproval of a particular candidate. This time, the BJP has denied tickets to 29 sitting MLAs. The denial of tickets to both sitting MLAs and those who lost in the 2018 elections across the two parties is creating a wave of dissent.

Madhya Pradesh can be broadly divided into seven regions out of its 230 seats. These are Chambal (34), Bundelkhand (26), Vindhya (30), Mahakoshal (38), Madhya Bharat (36), Malwa-North (38), and Malwa-

Tribal/Nimar (28). The pattern of each region has been distinct — Chambal, Bundelkhand and Vindhya have always witnessed the presence of BSP with a committed vote bank whereas the rest of the four regions have been majorly confined to bipolarity. Interestingly, in 2018, the Congress did exceedingly well in Chambal, Mahakoshal and Malwa-Tribal/Nimar, which contributed enormously to its tally. In this election, too, regional dynamics will be a big determinant in the final tally of the parties.

The Shivraj Singh Chouhan government has stressed a patron-client model, where individual beneficiary-oriented schemes, such as the Ladli Behna Yojana, were a special focus to strengthen the voter base, particularly among women. This over-focus on women, however, has sent an adverse message among unemployed youth, who are feeling deceived. Madhya Pradesh is an agricultural state and while the state government has taken initiatives to facilitate a favourable environment for farmers through various schemes, rising input costs due to inflation and inadequate prices for agricultural produce have raised the eyebrows of this community, particularly small and marginal farmers. Congress is likely to raise issues of youth unemployment, corruption, inflation, and farmer unrest. Besides these, caste census, atrocities against SC/ST and a long list of freebies to counter the BJP's political plank are also part of the party's campaign strategy. The issue of the Old Pension Scheme is also being talked about as it has already given political dividends to Congress in Himachal Pradesh and Karnataka.

The recent elections have witnessed polarisation in the Hindi heartland, creating concerns for the Congress. The party has specifically raised the concerns of OBCs and their under-representation in an attempt to counter this. However, the BJP has a strong hold over these communities and it would be interesting to notice the impact of the issue on the electorate. Among the STs, the Congress enjoys an upper hand. In 2018, out of 47 ST seats, Congress got 30. These 47 seats, mostly from Malwa-Tribal/Nimar, Mahakoshal and Vindhya are likely to become crucial deciding factors this time as well.

It can be inferred from these that this election again, in all probability, will witness a close fight between the BJP and the Congress, and might, to a great extent, reflect the situation in the 2018 elections. Both parties are fighting dissension against the selection of candidates in more than three dozen seats. The repercussions of these rebellions can be detrimental for both. Some dissenters are planning to try their luck with the BSP, AAP and as independent candidates. These votes can be crucial in close fights and have the potential to spoil the prospects of either party. The upcoming Assembly elections is unlikely to be a wave election for any political party. Instead, an undercurrent is discernible which may yield surprising results in several places.

The writer is a political analyst and Director, Madhya Pradesh Institute of Social Science Research, Ujjain

## Israel's doublespeak on terror

Zionist violence was a key element in the struggle for the Jewish homeland



MANI SHANKAR AIYAR

IT IS IRONIC that Israel is calling on the world to condemn Hamas terrorism when Zionist terrorism, involving several future Prime Ministers of Israel, was at the heart of the Zionist movement from at least the early 1940s. Even more ironically, its media voice was a newspaper called *Hamaas*, meaning "Resistance" in both Arabic and Hebrew. It was the mouthpiece of the terrorist group Lehi (a Hebrew acronym for Fighters for the Freedom of Israel) led by Abraham Stern whose later breakaway faction came to be called the Stern Gang. Perhaps the most notorious member of the Stern Gang was Menachem Begin, destined to become Prime Minister of Israel (1977-1983).

The Zionist terrorists sought and obtained the collaboration of Haganah, the official armed wing of the Zionist forces, described by Malcolm MacDonald, the British Colonial Secretary in the late 1930s, as "a Jewish army" designed to secure "eventual Jewish military supremacy in Palestine". They also obtained the cooperation and collaboration of Palmach, a wing comprising the "crack forces" of Haganah, composed mainly of "Jews from the east who looked and spoke like Arabs", and specially trained for terrorism, sabotage and ruthless assassination. Palmach's numbers included Yigal Allon, another future PM of Israel, the infamous Moshe Dayan, future Defence Minister of the country, as well as Itzhak Shamir, a future Speaker of the Israeli Knesset. These groups were conjoined with the most determined terrorist group of all, Irgun Zvai Leumi (National Military Organisation, generally known as "Irgun"), the terrorist wing of the Revisionist Party that opposed the Jewish Agency that was deemed by the British Mandatory authorities to be the majority representative of the Yishuv (Hebrew for the Jewish immigrants into Palestine). In the final stages of the struggle for the State of Israel, the activities of these groups were coordinated by Tenuat Hameri

Ha'ivri (Jewish Resistance Movement), the "single agency which would control the common fight". This was done with the blessings of the hitherto non-violent Jewish Agency run by David Ben-Gurion, the first PM, and Golda Meir, the second PM of Israel.

The terrorist character of the Zionist Movement had its origins in what was initially a sharp division of opinion and strategy between the London-based Chaim Weizmann, representing the World Zionist Congress, and the fiery, extremist Polish immigrant into Palestine, Vladimir Jabotinsky. It was Weizmann who, along with Rothschild, had squeezed out of the British Government the Balfour Declaration of 1917 which first envisaged a "homeland" for the Jews in Palestine. Within Palestine, Weizmann was represented by Ben-Gurion, who headed the Jewish Agency. They were bitterly opposed by the Revisionist Party founded by the Polish Jabotinsky, who had witnessed three million Jews suffer horribly in Poland's repeated anti-Semitic pogroms. While Weizmann and Ben-Gurion chose to ride on the shoulders of British imperialism to realise a Jewish state, Jabotinsky and his Revisionists insisted that it was through terrorism, fighting in the streets, that Israel would be won. So, Jabotinsky founded Irgun and resorted to acts of unbridled violence. While Ben-Gurion and Jabotinsky were on opposite sides through the 1920s and '30s, later, especially

during and after WWII, disillusioned with Britain's hesitation in relinquishing its League of Nations mandate over Palestine and unwillingness to entrust Palestine wholly to the Jews, the Jewish Agency came to collaborate with the terrorists to bring closer their common dream of Israel.

Their acts of terror included: Laying mines; stocking and using several hundred explosive devices, including what we now call IED; and blowing up railway lines, railway bridges, railway stations, rail depots, goods yards, loco sheds, and railway factories. Sabotaging ports was their speciality. They also attached limpet mines to police launches and ambushed lorries carrying government armaments. They made such devastating use of home-made mortars that the police took to calling them "V3s" in remembrance of the V1s and V2s that Hitler had used in his blitzkrieg against London, Coventry, and other British cities. They also kidnapped Arab and British policemen and used them as hostages or shot them dead. They resorted to hijacking convoys carrying cash for banks and looted armouries of the police and army, killing without mercy the accompanying guards. On November 6, 1944, the former Colonial Secretary Lord Moyne was shot by Lehi terrorists and died the same evening, infuriating Churchill, the staunchest supporter of Zionist immigration into Palestine. The most dramatic of these acts of terror, however, was the blow-

ing up of the King David Hotel in Jerusalem in July 1946 that housed the Mandate's secretariat and the headquarters of the army. This was followed by the assassination of the UN mediator, Count Bernadotte, in September 1948. The victims of Zionist terror included countless Arabs, numerous Jewish dissidents or rival Jewish terrorists, British cops and soldiers, and nameless innocents.

Thus was Israel born out of terrorism and as the massacre at Deir Yassin on April 10, 1948, orchestrated by Menachem Begin showed, when Israel became a State by UN decree, its principal national security plank was terrorising the Palestinians to drive them out of their homesteads as also the Arabs who could not or would not flee Israel. Such terrorising became — and has remained — the key element in its policies towards Palestinians, whether living inside Israel or in the Occupied Territories of the West Bank or in the Gaza Strip.

That is why Israel has resolutely refused to implement the UN's 1967 "Land for Peace" resolution, which envisaged an independent Palestine state living in harmony alongside Israel. Israel also failed to sincerely implement the 1993 Oslo Accord and the White House Rose Garden accord of the same year, to both of which Yasser Arafat committed himself. This, in turn, sparked a series of intifadas in the West Bank, especially after Arafat's death in 2004. In the face of the apparent capitulation of the Palestinian Authority in Ramallah, Hamas won the popular vote in Gaza. Initially determined to drive Israel into the Mediterranean, Hamas has since moderated its position to accept a "two-state" solution that Israel continues to deny. Thus has Israeli terrorism spawned ever-escalating Palestinian terrorism. Peace can come only through dialogue, not by increasing but de-escalating violence, and thus ensuring justice for all.

The writer is a former Union minister

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### UNETHICAL ACT

THIS REFERS TO the editorial, 'Officer and prabhari' (IE, October 25). The term "rath prabhari" gives the bureaucracy political overtones that reinforce the view that the ruling regime makes no bones of using every available service/resource under its command to promote its political agenda. While implementing the government's policies is the work of the bureaucrats, they are still expected to adopt a neutral stand that respects the dividing line between babudom and leaders. The officers cannot and must not be treated as advertising tools to further the cause of the party in power.

Vijai Pant, Hempur

THIS REFERS TO the editorial, 'Officer and prabhari' (IE, October 25). The Centre's plan to use bureaucrats as "rath prabhari" is an attempt to abuse our administrative machinery for political advantage. The idea, which comes before general elections, is unethical and politically immoral. The criticism the government faced for its previous, equally objectionable advice to the military, which required on-leave soldiers to promote government programmes in their communities, doesn't seem to have deterred it. After subverting every constitutional entity to target political rivals and nonconforming voices, the government is now eyeing the civil service, which should be apolitical in its functioning, to carry out its agenda. This is yet another lunge for democracy.

Kamal Laddha, Bengaluru

### MUMBAI AIR QUALITY

THIS REFERS TO the article, 'Breathless in Mumbai' (IE, October 25). The air quality in Mumbai has deteriorated drastically over the last few months. At present, Mumbai's air is more polluted than Delhi's, leading to Mumbaiers suffering from respiratory disorders. Countless trees have been slaughtered in the name of rampant urbanisation. While Mumbaiers are already gasping for fresh air, in such conditions, hacking trees in Sanjay Gandhi National Park is unwise. Therefore, those responsible should ponder over it and strive to reach a decision that is in the interest of the people of the city. Moreover, it is important to maintain nature's equilibrium even while doing development work.

Tauqueer Rahmani, Mumbai

### INACCESSIBLE NGMA

THIS REFERS TO the article, 'No walls in the house of art' (IE, October 25). Even as the National Gallery of Modern Art boasts grandeur and a plethora of artefacts, some gaps need to be addressed immediately. The NGMA holds an exalted position worldwide, but despite the splendour, it is still lagging behind in the domain of accessibility such as catering to the languages of different communities, as well as the accompanying audio and background of the artefacts. NGMA must give attention to audio books available via QR codes which can help people from all backgrounds and communities.

Yashank Mathankar, New Delhi

# 10 EXPRESS NETWORK

**BRIEFLY**

**KERALA**  
Youth dies, case filed against Kochi eatery

**Thiruvananthapuram:** A 24-year-old youth in Kochi died of food poisoning Wednesday after reportedly having shawarma from a city hotel. The victim Rahul D Nair was an employee at the special economic zone in Kochi. Police said a case has been filed against the owner of the restaurant, which had delivered shawarma on October 18. "His family alleged food poisoning was caused by shawarma. The hospital has confirmed it was a case of food poisoning," said police. **ENS**

**KARNATAKA**  
4 held after sex determination racket busted

**Bengaluru:** A sex determination racket was busted in Bengaluru and four persons were arrested. Police have launched a manhunt to nab the doctor who was involved. The gang was operating in Bengaluru, Mandya and Mysuru district, the police said. The prime accused, Dr Mallikarjun and his associates Siddesh are absconding. Byappanahalli police intercepted a car during checking and arrested the accused. A pregnant woman who was in the car later confessed she had undergone a sex determination test. The racket would collect ₹15,000 to ₹20,000 from pregnant women, police said. **ENS**

**UTTAR PRADESH**  
BJP leader dies after truck rams car in Amroha

**Noida:** A 42-year-old BJP leader died in a road accident Wednesday after a truck allegedly hit her car Tuesday on the Noorpur-Moradabad road in Amroha's Naugawa Sadat police station area. The truck driver is absconding. The victim, Sarita Chaudhary, a resident of Kashiram Nagar in Moradabad, was a BJP leader in Chandra Nagar mandal of the district. She was going to Bijnor from Moradabad. After the truck hit her car, it went up in flames, reads the FIR. **ENS**

**MADHYA PRADESH**  
After stir, Cong replaces four candidates

**Bhopal:** After protests over candidates list, Congress on Wednesday replaced candidates in four assembly seats in Madhya Pradesh. The four constituencies include Sumawali seat in Morena district, Pipariya (SC) seat in Narmadapuram district, Badnagar seat in Ujjain district and Jaora seat in Ratlam district. The new candidates are Ajab Singh from Kushwaha and Virendra Belvanshi from Pipariya (SC) seat. **ENS**

## Centre approves Rs 22,303 cr fertiliser subsidy for rabi season

**EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE**  
NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 25

THE CENTRE approved the Nutrient Based Subsidy (NBS) rates Wednesday for nutrients including Nitrogen, Phosphorus, Potash, and Sulphur for rabi season 2023-24 (October-March).

As per the decision, the rate for Nitrogen is fixed at Rs 47.02 per kg, Phosphorus Rs 20.82 per kg, Potash Rs 2.38 per kg, and Sulphur Rs 1.89 per kg. As per the statement issued after the Union Cabinet meeting, an expenditure of Rs 22,303 crore is expected on the NBS during the ensuing rabi season 2023-24.

Union Information and Broadcasting Minister Anurag Singh Thakur said that an additional subsidy of Rs 45 per tonnes will be given on DAP (Di-ammmonium Phosphate). Due to these rates, farmers will continue to receive DAP at the existing price of

### THE NUTRIENT BASED SUBSIDY RATES

	Rabi 2022-23	Kharif 2023	Rabi 2023-24
Nitrogen	98.02	76.49	47.02
Phosphorus	66.93	41.03	20.82
Potash	23.65	15.91	2.38
Sulphur	6.12	2.8	1.89

Rates ₹ per kg; Source: PIB

Rs 1,350 per bag, he said.

Similarly, NPK (Nitrogen, Phosphorus, and Potassium) and SSP (Single Super Phosphate) will be available at older rates of Rs 1,470 per bag and Rs 500 per bag, respectively, he said, adding that the MoP (Muriate of Potash) will now be available at a lower rate of Rs 1,655 per bag against Rs 1,700 per bag. He said there would be no increase in the price of urea, while the price of MoP has been reduced.

The NBS rates for rabi 2023-24 season are lower compared to

the kharif rates of 2023 and 2022-23 season. While a decline in the NBS rates is expected to bring some relief for the government by bringing down the fertiliser subsidy expenditure, farmers will continue to pay the existing rates for fertilisers.

"The subsidy on P&K fertilisers will be provided based on approved rates for rabi 2023-24 (from 01.10.2023 to 31.03.2024) to ensure smooth availability of fertilisers to farmers at affordable prices," the statement said.

Thakur said to safeguard the

farmers, the government has increased fertiliser subsidy from Rs 73,067 crore in 2014-15 - during the UPA government's tenure - to Rs 2.55 lakh crore in 2022-23, a three-fold increase.

In a separate decision, the Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA), chaired by the Prime Minister Narendra Modi, approved inclusion of Jamrani Dam Multipurpose Project of Uttarakhand under Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana-Accelerated Irrigation Benefit Programme (PMKSY-AIBP).

"The CCEA has approved central support of Rs.1,557.18 crore to Uttarakhand for completion of the project with an estimated cost of Rs 2,584.10 crore by March, 2028," said an official statement. "The project envisages construction of a dam near Jamrani village across river Gola, a tributary of the river Ram Ganga, in Nainital," the statement said.

**SOCIAL SCIENCE TEXTBOOKS**

## NCF sub-group suggestion to change 'India' to 'Bharat' not there in final document

**DEEKSHA TERI**  
NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 25

ONE OF the 25 focus groups set up by NCERT two years ago to provide inputs that would then feed into the new National Curriculum Framework (NCF) had suggested that 'India' should be renamed as 'Bharat' in social science textbooks.

However, the final NCF document that released by the Education Ministry on August 23, which was finalised after considering inputs from all 25 focus groups, makes no mention of introducing India as 'Bharat' in school textbooks. The NCF is a policy document that provides guidelines on how school education should be conducted in classrooms.

The suggestion on renaming India as Bharat was made by the

focus group on social sciences, which was headed by historian CI Isaac. Speaking to *The Indian Express*, Isaac confirmed the seven-member panel chaired by him had indeed proposed the name change. "We are hoping it will be implemented from the next academic year, but it all depends on NCERT," he said.

Based on the new NCF report in August, the NCERT has now initiated the process of drafting new textbooks. It's unclear if the inputs of the 25 focus groups meant for drafting the NCF will be considered during textbook preparation. The NCERT released a statement Wednesday, saying it was "too premature" to comment on the issue as it was still constituting curricular area groups responsible for drafting different textbooks.

"NCERT states since the development of new syllabus and textbooks is in process, and for that,

various Curricular Area Groups domain experts are being notified by the NCERT. So, it is too premature to comment on the news being reported in the media on this issue," the Council said on X.

NCERT has set up a 19-member committee responsible for aligning "school syllabus, textbooks, teaching and learning materials" with the NCF for classes 3-12. Isaac also added that the focus group on social science had proposed that Indian victories should be a significant part of the curriculum. "Currently, there is no mention of post-Independence history in NCERT books, so we have suggested historical events that took place from 1947 until now should also be introduced..." he said. The Committee has also suggested replacing 'ancient history' with 'classical period of Indian history'.

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

## BJP trains guns at TMC over its worker's killing during idol immersion

**EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE**  
KOLKATA, OCTOBER 25

A 65-YEAR-OLD man, associated with the BJP, was allegedly beaten to death by a group of people during Durga idols immersion procession in Shantipur area of Nadia district Wednesday.

"The man, identified as Adhir Sarkar, a resident of Boro Jirakur village, was walking with a Durga Puja immersion procession at Arpara market when he had an altercation with a group of people. The group of people beat him up. Sarkar was later found lying unconscious. Police took him to Shantipur General Hospital where he was declared dead on arrival," a police officer said, adding that the post-mortem report is awaited.

BJP alleged that Sarkar, a booth committee member of the party, was killed by local TMC

workers. "Sarkar was targeted to reduce our strength in the panchayat. The police did not take immediate action to arrest the culprits. Santipur police need to take responsibility for its failure. We will launch a movement against the police and TMC from Thursday," local BJP leader Chanchal Chakraborty said.

BJP MLA Suwendu Adhikari, demanded immediate police action.

TMC denied the charge and claimed that Sarkar was the victim of "BJP infighting." "The incident took place under the parliamentary constituency of BJP MP Jagannath Sarkar. TMC does not believe in the politics of killing. The death is a result of BJP infighting," local TMC leader Sanat Chakraborty said.

Earlier on Tuesday evening, two groups of TMC clashed during immersion procession in Kandi town in Murshidabad district, leaving eight injured.



### UNTIL NEXT YEAR

Devotees immerse an idol of Goddess Durga in Kolkata on Wednesday, following the conclusion of Durga Puja festivities. *Partha Paul*

## India should declare Hamas as terror group: Israeli envoy

**EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE**  
NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 25

TIME HAS come for India to prescribe Hamas as a terrorist organisation like many other nations have done, Israeli ambassador Naor Gilon said on Wednesday.

The Israeli envoy, at an interaction with journalists, also thanked India for its "100 per cent" support to Israel in its anti-terror operations against Hamas.

Gilon said Israel conveyed to relevant Indian authorities to declare Hamas as a terrorist organisation following its brutal attack on Israel on October 7. "Prime Minister Narendra Modi was among the first world leaders to condemn the terror attack... India is a very important moral voice in the world and the important countries for us are with us," Gilon said. "For Israel, it's a war to survive in the Middle East," he said.

## Rajasthan man runs over brother with tractor 'to frame rivals', say police

**EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE**  
JAIPUR, OCTOBER 25

A 26-YEAR-OLD man was arrested Wednesday for allegedly running a tractor over his brother multiple times, leading to his death, during a clash related to an old land dispute with a rival family in Rajasthan's Bharatpur district.

It is suspected Damodar Gurjar killed his elder brother, Narpal Singh Gurjar, to frame the rival family, police said.

Both are sons of Atar Singh Gurjar, who had a feud with his distant relative, Bahadur Gurjar and his family members, over a piece of land in Adda village of Bharatpur, around 175 km from Jaipur. Rajasthan DGP Umesh Mishra said the police were investigating the long-drawn land dispute as well. The dispute flared up Wednesday when members of

the two families clashed.

"Around 7.30 am, we got information that two parties were fighting. We learnt that the families fought over some past dispute. One person, Narpal Singh, died after being run over by a tractor during the clash," Additional SP, Bharatpur Rural, Om Prakash told reporters. The police said six people from both sides were injured in the clash.

According to Meena, the Prasad had "harassed him by posting him as the fourth ADC to the Haryana governor. On Wednesday, Prasad told *The Indian Express*: "By issuing an order, we just completed our process to enable the officer to join the central deputation. I assured him that the debarment may still be cancelled if he joins the central government."

## Haryana IPS officer seeks FIR against additional home secretary

**SUKHBIR SIWACH**  
CHANDIGARH, OCTOBER 25

DEBARRED FOR five years from central deputation for failing to take charge of the post assigned to him, Haryana IPS officer Rajender Kumar Meena has moved a representation with state Chief Secretary Sanjeev Kaushal seeking registration of an FIR against Additional Chief Secretary (Home) TVSN Prasad accusing him of harassment, a charge denied by the latter.

According to Meena, the Prasad had "harassed him by posting him as the fourth ADC to the Haryana governor. On Wednesday, Prasad told *The Indian Express*: "By issuing an order, we just completed our process to enable the officer to join the central deputation. I assured him that the debarment may still be cancelled if he joins the central government."

## 'Shouldn't have happened': Gujarat HC judge apologises to colleague for outburst

**EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE**  
AHMEDABAD, OCTOBER 25

TWO DAYS after a senior judge of the Gujarat High Court was captured on camera having a heated argument with his colleague on a division bench, he began the court session on Wednesday with an apology. The court was closed on Tuesday on account of Dussehra.

In the video, which was widely shared on social media, Justice Biren Vaishnav can be heard saying to Justice Mauna Bhatt during a hearing on an ongoing tax matter, "Then you differ year... then you differ. You have differed in one, differ in the other."

Justice Bhatt then responds, "It is not the question of..." before she is cut off by Justice Vaishnav, who says, "Then don't murmur. Then you pass a separate order." Justice Vaishnav is



Justices Biren Vaishnav and Mauna Bhatt

then seen rising and declaring that the bench will not take up any other matter for the day.

On Wednesday, when the two judges assembled in the court, Justice Vaishnav said, "Before we begin the session, what happened on Monday shouldn't have happened, I was wrong, I'm sorry for that and we begin a new session. It shouldn't have happened, I don't know, I was wrong." The High Court has taken down Monday's streaming link for the bench concerned from YouTube.

## Man opens fire in Pune over pizza delivery delay

**EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE**  
PUNE, OCTOBER 25

A PUNE-BASED businessman allegedly opened fire with his licensed pistol over arguments with a pizza delivery executive and his manager over a delivery delay. Police have arrested the 28-year-old man on charges including attempted culpable homicide.

The incident took place on Monday night in the Ozone Villas residential society in Pune's Wagholi area. The arrested man, Chetan Vasant Padwal (28), owns a stone-crusher business. An FIR was registered by the Lonikand police on a complaint lodged by Rohit Hulsure (22), a manager at the Wagholi franchise of an international pizza restaurant chain.

Around 10.30 pm, Padwal ordered a pizza, for which delivery executive Rahul Ghorpade was assigned. Because another executive from the outlet, Rushikesh Annapurve, was going to share his motorbike with Ghorpade to go home, the two went to Padwal's house to deliver the pizza.

A little after 11 pm, when they reached the address, Padwal allegedly abused them verbally and thrashed them following an argument over delay in the delivery.

Both delivery executives called Hulsure and told him what had happened. A while later Hulsure, two others from the outlet and the two delivery executives went to Padwal's home to confront him about the attack, the FIR stated. Padwal had an argument with Hulsure and allegedly thrashed him too.

According to the FIR, Padwal then ran to his car, took out a pistol and fired one round in the air in the upward direction. No one was injured in the incident.

## Goa minister claims Portuguese razed 1,000 temples; panel says restoring all not feasible

**PAVNEET SINGH CHADHA**  
PANAJI, OCTOBER 25

WHILE GOA Minister for Archives and Archaeology Subhash Phal Dessai said Tuesday that an expert committee formed by the archaeology department has collected information of over 1,000 temples that were allegedly destroyed during the Portuguese rule in Goa, the panel has recommended the state government to construct a single memorial for all the temples, stating that it is not "feasible" to reconstruct them all.

The committee was appointed in January to assess applications and claims for identifica-

tion of potential sites for reconstruction and restoration of temples destroyed during Portuguese rule. In 2022, the Goa government earmarked Rs 20 crore for the restoration.

The 10-page preliminary report of the committee, submitted to the government, revealed that most of the sites where temples were destroyed were in Tiswadi, Bardes and Salcete talukas. *The Indian Express* has learnt.

"The task before the committee is to identify these sites. The committee has received 19 applications so far... Since many temples were demolished, the committee found it may not be feasible or practical to reconstruct

so many. Land acquisition would also be a challenge. So, the panel has recommended that the government construct a memorial temple," a senior official of the department told *The Indian Express*.

At other sites, the committee suggested further exploration and excavation, while a recommendation has been made to reconstruct the Saptakoteswar temple at Divar island. The shrine was built on the island during the Kadamba dynasty and demolished in the 16th Century by the Portuguese.

"Land in that area (for reconstruction of the temple) is already under the government. It is a protected site. So, the committee probably saw potential that the

temple can be rebuilt there. At other sites, where it was found there are remains of a temple's foundations or say a pillar, the panel has recommended protecting such sites and carrying out further investigation," the official said. "Other parts of the state such as Ponda and Quepem were under Maratha rule at that time and many deities and idols were shifted from Tiswadi to Bicholim taluka, and similarly from Salcete to Ponda and so on," the official said. "The committee has not arrived at a specific number (of temples that were razed)... it is close to say (one thousand)," the official said, referring to the minister's assertions.

## In a first, case registered against online film reviewers in Kerala

**SHAJU PHILIP**  
THIRUVANANTHAPURAM, OCTOBER 25

IN A FIRST in Kerala, police have registered a case against online film reviewers and social media platforms following a complaint from a film director that his film was deliberately tarnished and denigrated with a motive to extort and blackmail.

The Kochi City Police acted on a complaint filed by Ubaini E, director of the film Rahel Makan Kora. The FIR was registered under section 385 (extortion) and section 120 (o) of the Kerala Police Act. Those arraigned as the ac-

cused include the owner of film promotion firm Hains, social media reviewers Arun Tharanga, Aswath Kok, Facebook account user anoopan6165, social media handle soulmates55 and platforms YouTube and Facebook.

The case was filed by police at a time when the director of *Aromalinte Aadyathe Pranayam*, Mubeen Rauf, had moved the Kerala High Court seeking a directive to ensure social media influencers and film reviewing vloggers refrain from publishing reviews of his movie on social media for at least a week from the date of its release.

Early this month, a bench of Justice Devan Ramachandran had

Seven of a family booked after teen girl raises 'pro-Pakistan slogans' at jagran in UP

Lucknow: A 15-year-old girl and eight others, including her parents and four siblings, were booked after the teenage

girl allegedly climbed up to a stage where a jagran – a Hindu ritual – was being held and raised "pro-Pakistan" slo-

gans, police said on Wednesday. The teenage girl and three of her minor siblings, who belong to a different

community, have not been apprehended. The accused were booked under relevant IPC sections, police said. Five

of the accused – the girl's parents, elder sister and two neighbours – have been arrested, police said. **ENS**

Sikkim dam breach: NGT seeks report from authorities

New Delhi: The National Green Tribunal has sought a report within six weeks from authorities concerned on the breach of

Chungthang dam in Sikkim earlier this month. A glacial lake outburst flood occurred in parts of Lhonak Lake, leading to a rise

in water levels with high velocities downstream along the Teesta River Basin in the early hours of October 4. **PTI**



# MAHARASHTRA

**Narendra Modi**  
Prime Minister

**Eknath Shinde**  
Chief Minister, Maharashtra

## RISING TRANSFORMING PROSPERING

**Shri Narendra Modi,**  
Hon'ble Prime Minister  
to launch **Developmental Projects**  
Worth **Rs. 14,000 Crores**

### 'Namo Shetkari Mahasanman Nidhi'

- Envisaged on the lines "Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Yojana"
- Rs. 12,000 to be distributed to each farmer family every year (Rs.6,000 Government of India + Rs.6,000 State Government)
- Rs. 6,900 Crore Provision for the year 2023-24
- Rs. 1,712 Crores to be distributed to 86.6 lakh beneficiary farmers during the launch

DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS	Project Cost
The new Darshan Queue complex, state-of-the-art facilities for the devotees	₹ 109 Cr.
Dedication to the Nation : The left bank (85km) canal network of Nilwande Dam	₹ 5177 Cr.
Inauguration of four laning of Sangli to Borgaon section of NH-166 (Package-I)	₹ 1102 Cr.
Dedication to the Nation : Jalgaon to Bhusaval 3 <sup>rd</sup> & 4 <sup>th</sup> railway line	₹ 640 Cr.
Dedication to the Nation : Electrification of Kurduwadi-Latur Road railway section	₹ 237 Cr.
Development of Additional Facilities at Manmad gas Terminal, Maharashtra	₹ 221 Cr.
Foundation Stone laying of Maternal & Child Health Wing at Ahmednagar Civil Hospital	₹ 25 Cr.
Inauguration of AYUSH Hospital at Ahmednagar Civil Hospital	₹ 9 Cr.

### Distribution of Ayushman Card and Swamitva Card

- Health cover up to 5.00 lakhs per annum to each family
- Commencement of distribution of 1.11 crore Ayushman Cards
- 'Sanad' distribution to beneficiaries under Swamitva Yojana

**Venue :** Near Shirdi Airport, Kakadi,  
Tal. Kopergaon, Dist. Ahmednagar.  
**Time :** 3.30 p.m. On Thursday,  
26th October, 2023.



**Devendra Fadnavis**  
Deputy Chief Minister

**Eknath Shinde**  
Chief Minister

**Ajit Pawar**  
Deputy Chief Minister

## Classifieds

### PERSONAL

**I, Narender Kumar Sharma, S/o Manohar Lal Sharma, R/o Flat No.-310 New Modern Apts Plot No.-26/2 Rohini Sec-9 Delhi-85** have changed my name to **YOGESH KUMAR.** 0040695300-1

**I, Madhu Sharma W/o Narender Kumar Sharma R/o Flat No.-310 New Modern Apts Plot No.-26/2 Rohini Sec-9 Delhi-85** have changed my name to **YOGESH KUMAR.** 0040695275-2

**I, KRITIKA RAWAT D/o GAMBHIR SINGH RAWAT, R/o 678/1, UGF, Ashok Vatika, Devli, New Delhi-62** declare that name of my father has been wrongly written as G S RAWAT in my 10th & 12th Marksheets-cum Certificates. The actual name of father is **GAMBHIR SINGH RAWAT,** which may be amended accordingly. 0040695266-2

**I, KAMLASH GOEL W/o YATENDER GOEL R/O H.NO. 1/374, LINK ROAD, OLD FARIDABAD, HARYANA-121002,** CHANGE MY NAME TO **KAMLESH GOEL FOR ALL FUTURE PURPOSES.** 0040695242-1

**I, KALPNA W/o Sh. Rajeew Dahiya R/o Flat.No.B-7, Vandana Apartments, Plot.No.18/2, The New Laxmi CGHS Ltd. Sector-13, Rohini, North West Delhi, Delhi-110085** have declare that in my Son's/ Daughter's Passport my name is wrongly written as **KALPNA DAHIYA/ KALPANA DAHIYA** respectively, instead of the correct name **KALPNA.** In future I will be known as **KALPNA,** which may be amended accordingly. 0070870134-1

**I, Jeremiah Pamei S/o Heitung Pamei R/o F-7, Teachers-Residential Block, Dhaka-Complex, Delhi-110009,** have changed my name to **Jeremiah Pame,** Permanently 0040695241-1

**I, JOSMY JOSE D/O K M JOSE R/O 74, KAMAYANI KUNJ KUMAR APARTMENT, I.P. EXTENSION, PATPARGANJ, DELHI-110092,** in my class 10th Secondary School Examination certificate my mother's name is wrongly recorded as **MARY JOSE.** MY mother's correct name is **MARY MATHA MACHUKUZHIVIL (MARY M M).** 0070870085-1

**I, Gian Chand Grover S/o Shiv Doyal R/O H.No.593, Sector-14, Hisar, Haryana-125001,** have changed my name to **Ghyan Chand.** 0040695307-3

**I, George K. K. S/o Kuruvilla philiphose Kunmathumpara R/O D2/13, third floor, D2 Block, Punjab National Bank, Janakpuri, New Delhi 110058** have changed my name to **George Kuruvilla Kunmathumpara.** 0040695207-1

**I, hitherto known as SHAKEELA alias SABARUN KHATUN D/O WAKIL MIR W/O MOHAMMAD HAIDER RESIDING AT D-938, GALI NO-22, D-BLOCK, BHAHANPURA, GARHI MENDU, NORTH EAST DELHI, DELHI-110053** have changed my name and shall hereafter be known as **SHAKEELA.** 0040695212-1

**I, Reena Popli W/o Shri Ravi Popli R/o Plot No-166, 2nd Floor, Sector-4, Vaishali, Ghaziabad, Uttar Pradesh-201010,** declare that **Seema Nagpal** and **Reena popli** both are one and same person. 0040695275-1

**I, Gurleen Kaur Banga D/O, Ranbir Singh Banga R/o 363, Kohat Enclave, Pitampura, Delhi 110034** have changed my name to **Gurleen** for all purposes. 0040695216-1

**I, Gulvinder Kumar S/o Sh.Darshan Lal R/o WZ-126, Gali No.29, Sant Garh, Tilak Nagar, West Delhi, Delhi-110018** is also known as **Gulvinder Kumar Gulati.** Both names are of one and the same person. 0040695202-1

**I, Anand S S/O, Prema Subramanian R/O B1/202 Harihar Royal Apartments, Pattanam Itteri Road, Ondipudur, Coimbatore -640116** have changed my name to **Anand Subramanian.** 0040695214-1

**I, SANDEEP SINGH S/O, SABAL SINGH, ADD-D-312, GANESH NAGAR, PANDAV NAGAR COMPLEX SHAKARPUR, DELHI-110092,** changed my name to **SANDEEP SINGH BISHT,** for all, future purposes. 0040695298-4

**My actual/correct name is Devender Kumar Aggarwal** instead of **Devender Aggarwal** which is wrongly-written in my Son-Aaryan Aggarwal passport, R/O D-86, New-Multan Nagar, Delhi-56. 0040695290-6

**It is for general information that I Ajay Kumar Kaithal S/o Shri Chhote Lal Kaithal R/O 496, Amrai Parisar, Bag Sevania, Huzur, Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh-462043,** declare that name of mine has been wrongly written as **Ajay Kaithal** in my Service Record with DMRC. The actual name of mine is **Ajay Kumar Kaithal.** 0040695263-1

**I, SAROJ KUMARI** is legally wedded spouse of **2868754F Ex-NK HARENDRA SINGH,** have changed my name from **SAROJ KUMARI** to **SAROJ DEVI** vide Affidavit dated 23.10.2023 before Notary Public of Dwarka Court, Sector 10, New Delhi-110075 0040695207-2

**I, YOGESH MAVI, S/O HATAM SINGH, R/O H.NO.9/22, SECTOR-3, RAJENDER-NAGAR, Sahibabad, Ghaziabad (UP) have** changed my name to **YOGESH KUMAR.** 0040695300-1

**I, VIJAY PAL MANN, S/O Late Chhatter Singh Mann, R/O H.No.380 Near Vijay Pal Wali Gali Alipur, North-West Delhi-110036,** have here-by **VIJAY PAL MANN Aadhaar Card, No. 6509 83163307** in My Passport is Name **VIJAY PAL SINGH** Passport No. **G7388690.** I declare **VIJAY PAL MANN** and **VIJAY PAL SINGH** both are the same only one and Same Person. 0040695317-9

**I, Tanzia D/o Surender Kumar R/o Block A-81 Gali No.1, near church Harit, Vihar Burari Delhi-110084,** changed my name to **Tanzia Gangar** 0040695288-3

**I, Taranjeet Kaur Viridi W/o Jatinder Singh WZ-283/136 Vishnu Garden Tilak Nagar Delhi** have changed my name to **Taranjeet Kaur.** 0040695288-8

**I, THARMESH KUMAR, S/O, PAKASH LAL, ADD-A-33, PREET-VIHAR, DELHI-110092,** changed my name to **THARMESH KUMAR BHATIA,** for all, future purposes. 0040695317-2

**I, Sonu Kumar s/o-Randhir Singh, Address H.No.-1662, Housing Board Colony, Sector-14, Sonipat (131001), Haryana,** have Change My Name to **Sonu Malik,** For All Purpose. 0040695314-4

**I, Soha Khan, D/O ROUF AHMAD KHAN, R/O-K-75 BATLA HOUSE JAMIA NAGAR ND-25, HAVE CHANGE MY NAME TO SOHA ROUF KHAN** 0040695300-4

**I, Shweta, D/o Sh. Sanjay kumar, house.no.3, third floor, street no 4, jwala mata mandir, old Anarkali extension, krishna-nagar, east delhi, delhi, 110051,** have Changed my name from **Shweta** to **Shweta Singh** for all future purposes. 0040695307-4

**I, Shneha Lata Swain, spouse of, Sunakar Swain, R/o GA-85, Defence-Colony, Niladri Vihar, Sailashree-Vihar, Khorda, Odisha-751021,** have changed my Name, from **Shneha Lata Swain** to **Snehalata Swain,** vide-Affidavit dated-25/10/2023, at Delhi. 0040695317-8

**I, Shijauddin S/o Zahoouruddin, R/O-3097-98, Gali Sushila, Turkman Gate Delhi-110006,** have changed my name to **Shijauddin.** 0040695300-3

**I, Shakina bano, w/o zargham haider, R/o Q-22, street.no.18, brahampuri new seelampur delhi-110053,** have changed my name to **sakina bano,** for all purpose. 0040695300-7

**I, Sangeeta Rani W/o Arjit Goyal R/o Flat No.A-12, First-Floor New India Apartment Sector-9, Rohini Delhi-110085,** changed my name to **Sangeeta Goyal** 0040695298-9

**I, Nidhi Walia Gaur W/o Dr. Vipul Gaur R/o E-3/1, Krishna Nagar, Delhi-110051,** have changed my name to **Nidhi Walia** for all future Purposes. 0070870123-1

**I, SANKALP SHRIVASTAV, S/O PRASHANT KUMAR SINHA, ADD-75, GROUND-FLOOR, CHITRA-VIHAR, LAXMI-NAGAR, EAST DELHI-110092,** CHANGED MY-MINOR DAUGHTER NAME SHACHI TO SHACHHI SHRIVASTAV, FOR ALL-FUTURE PURPOSES. 0040695298-1

**I, Ravi Shanker S/o Netram Mittal R/O-91 Upper Ground-Floor, Royal Avenue Pocket-27, Sector-24, Rohini Delhi-110085** changed my name to **Ravi Shanker Mittal** 0040695288-2

**I, Rakesh Kumar S/o Banarshi Dass R/O RZ-11A J-Block Old, Roshan Pura Najafgarh Delhi-110043,** changed my minor son name **Nimit** to **Nimit Kumar** 0040695288-1

**I, RISHU SINGH, S/O-RAN VIJAY SINGH, R/O-HAPPY HOME, H.NO.1356, FF/C/2-BLOCK, Palam Vihar, GURUGRAM-122017, Haryana,** have changed my name to **SUDHANSHU CHANDEL** for all purpose. 0040695314-2

**I, RAJENDER KAUR W/O KARNAIL SINGH R/O HNO.A-34A, KHNO.9/1, SHIV VIHAR, CHANDER VIHAR, NILOTHI EXTENSION, DELHI-110041,** HAVE CHANGED MY NAME TO **RAJINDER KAUR.** 0040695298-3

**I, Purnima Singh, D/o-Vinod Kumar Residing at B-10/50, Sector-18, Rohini, Delhi-110089,** have changed my name to **Purnima.** 0040695314-1

**I, Praveen Kumar S/o Prem Singh, R/O Khasra. No.154/166 Near-Balmiki Chopal, Pooth Khurd, Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh-462043,** have changed my name to **Praveen Malik.** 0040695317-3

**I, Pradeep Singh Rana, S/o Sh. Jai Bhagwan, R/O House, no.A-95, Ashok-Vihar Phase-2, Ashok Vihar, North West-Delhi, Delhi-110052,** have changed my name to **Pradeep Rana.** 0040695290-5

**I, Rajiv Aneja S/o Shiv Kumar Aneja R/O 29, Road-No-16, East Punjabi Bagh, Delhi-110026** have changed my name to **Rajiv Kumar Aneja.** 0070870098-1

**I, Dalip Kumar S/o Sunder Lal R/O-56 GP Block, Maurya, Enclave Pitampura Delhi-110034,** have changed my name to **Dalip Chawla.** 0040695307-1

**I, RAJINDER KUMAR, S/O VINOD KUMAR, R/O FLAT NO-335, POCKET B AND C, SECTOR-A, Vasant Kunj South, West Delhi, Delhi-110070,** Have changed my name to **RAJAT BANSAL** For all future purposes. 0070870128-1

**I, PRABHGU S/O RICHHPAL SINGH R/O VPO MALLEKAN DISTT SIRSA, HARYANA-125055,** HAVE CHANGED MY NAME TO **PRABHGU SINGH.** 0040695317-5

**I, Narinder Kaur W/o Sukhvinder Singh WZ-283/136 Vishnu Garden Tilak Nagar Delhi** have changed my name to **Narinderjeet Kaur.** 0040695288-9

**I, NISHI BALA alias NISHI GUPTA D/o RAVI DUTT W/o GYAN PRAKASH R/O 402 Block-5, Cat-3, Type-A Rani, Jhansi Statue Motia Khan, Pahar Ganj, Swami Nagar, Tirth, Nagar, New, Delhi, Central Delhi, Delhi-110055,** have changed my name to **NISHI GUPTA.** 0040695288-6

**I, Mohammad Shakil, S/O Faqre Alam, R/O A-48, Ilrd Floor, Gali no-01, Kabir Nagar, Delhi-110094,** have changed my name to **SHAKIL AHMED.** Permanently. 0040695290-3

**I, MOHD AHMAD, S/O MOHD ARFEEN, R/O B16/3, JOHRI FARM NOORNAGAR EXT JAMIANAGAR, NEW DELHI-110025,** IN MY PASSPORT MY AND MY PARENTS NAME ARE INCORRECT MOHD AHMED AND MD ARFEEN AND GULISTA CORRECT-NAME ARE MOHD AHMAD AND MOHD ARFEEN AND GULISTA BEGUM. 0040695307-5

**I, BINAYA KUMAR GUPTA, S/O RAMA SHANKAR GUPTA, R/O-F-904, GALAXY VEGA, TECHZONE-4, NOIDA, GAUTAMBUDH NAGAR, UTTAR PRADESH-201306,** changed my name to **BINAY GUPTA,** for all purposes. 0040695298-7

**I, Aisha Begum W/o, Saiman Khalid R/O, F-8, First-Floor, Flat-No.1, U.G.F., Shaheen-Bagh, Abul-Fazal-Enclave-II, Jamia-Nagar, Okhla, New Delhi-110025,** have changed my name to **Aisha Salman.** 0040695307-2

**I, ANIL KUMAR S/O RAM ADHAR R/O-E-19/354, Sector-3,, Rohini North West Delhi, Delhi-110085,** have changed my minor daughter name **ASMITA** alias **ASMITA RAJ** aged-16 years to **ASMITA RAJ.** 0040695288-5

**I, AJAY KUMAR S/O MAHIPAL SINGH, ADD- G-1/1141, MAN SAROVER-PARK, SHAHDARA, DELHI-110032,** CHANGED MY MINOR-DAUGHTER NAME SHRESHTHA TO SHRESHTHA DAGARR FOR ALL-FUTURE PURPOSES 0040695298-2

**I, hitherto known as PARUL GUPTA alias PARUL JINDAL alias PARUL D/O RAMESH CHANDER GUPTA W/O MUKESH KUMAR R/O H.NO-B-105, PARK VIEW APARTMENT, SECTOR-5, VASUNDHRA, GHAZIABAD, UTTAR PRADESH-201012,** have changed my name and shall hereafter be known as **PARUL GUPTA.** 0070870132-1

**I, YASH PAL PUNDIR, S/O MAHENDER SINGH, R/O HOUSE NO-399/1, GALI NO-12, PARWATIYA COLONY, FARIDABAD, SECTOR-22, HARYANA-121005,** Have changed my name to **YASHPAL SINGH** For all future purposes. 0070870097-1

**I, VIJAYA KUMAR ARVIND S/O R VIJAYAKUMAR R/O N-96, UPPER GROUND FLOOR FRONT SIDE, GALI NO.15, BHAGWATI GARDEN EXTENSION, UTTAM NAGAR, DELHI-110059,** declare that name of mine and my father has been wrongly written as **V K ARVIND** and **RAMASAMY VIJAYAKUMAR** in my Driving License No. DL122018000491. The actual name of mine and my father are **VIJAYA KUMAR ARVIND** and **R VIJAYAKUMAR** 0070870125-1

**I, Sumit Kumar Sharma R/O House#53 Anuj Vihar (shankar Vihar) Behind IDSA Delhi Cantt-10** have changed my daughter's name from **Aishani** to **Aishani Purohit** for all Purpose. 0040695272-1

**I, Sri sudipta Banerjee S/O Sri sibaprasad Banerjee, R/O L1/75-B, 1st floor LIG DDA Flats kalkaji delhi-110019** have changed my name to **sudipta Banerjee** 0070870130-1

**I, Sonu S/o Sh. Motilal R/O H.No.E9, 1st Floor, Gali.No.5, Chhalera, Gautam Budh Nagar, U.P-201301** have changed my name from **Sonu** to **Sonu Bhardwaj** for all future purposes. 0070870127-1

**I, Shailesh Kumar Pathak S/O, Indra Pal Pathak R/O 484 Friends Society Sec 12, Vasundhara Ghaziabad** have changed my name to **Shailesh Pathak** for all purposes. 0040695299-1

**I, Satish Nijhawan alias Satish Kumar Nijhawan S/o L.R Nijhawan, R/O-39, Maulana-Azad Society, Near-Bh Bharti School Pitampura, Delhi-110034,** have changed my name to **Satish Kumar,** Permanently. 0040695241-2

**I, RUKSHANA CYRUS SHROFF W/o Cyrus Minoo Shroff, R/O E-22A, East of Kailash, New Delhi-65** have changed my name and shall hereafter be known as **RUKSHANA SHROFF.** 0040695266-1

**I, SURESH CHANDRA S/O Harish Chandra R/O F.No.37, FF, Block 5, Eros Garden, Charmsood Village, Sec-39, Faridabad-121009,** Haryana, have changed my name to **SURESH CHANDRA JOSHI** for all future purpose. 0040695266-3

**I, DEVANSHU S/O VIJAY KUMAR MESSON R/O PLOT NO.9, 1ST-FLOOR, KHASRANO.99/23, BLOC K-A, JAIN NAGAR-EXTENSION, KARALA, DELHI-110081,** HAVE CHANGED MY NAME TO **DEVANSHU MESSON.** 0040695307-10

**I, DEEPAK, S/O, RAMSWAROOP, A DD-RZU, 24D, NANDA BLOCK MAHAVIR ENCLAVE PALAM-VILLAGE, SOUTH, WEST-DELHI 110045,** changed my name to **DEEPAK BHALLA,** for all, future purposes. 0040695317-1

**I, Batendra Kumar Dixit, R/O-A-434, Sector-47, Noida-201301,** Gautambudh Nagar, my Father's name, has been wrongly written, **Dev Krishan Dixit,** in my passport. The actual, name of my father **Deo Krishan Dixit.** 0040695300-6

**I, Jatinder Singh Viridi S/o Sukhvinder Singh WZ-283/136 Vishnu Garden Tilak Nagar Delhi** have changed my name to **Jatinder Singh.** 0040695322-9

**I, JITENDER KUMAR, S/O-DHARAM PAL, R/O-VILLAGE-ALIPUR, DISTT-FARIDABAD, HARYANA-121101,** inform that my property previous owner, **DARSHAN SINGH,** Ownership Original, Papers i.e., Agreement to Sale, GPA, Will, Possession Letter, Receipt, Affidavit of regarding of, PLOT, NO.19 and PLOT, NO.20, WAKA MAUJA BASELVA, TEHSIL & DISTRICT-FARIDABAD HARYANA, has been lost, if found, contact me +91-9899005045. 0040695300-9

**I, Saraswati Sharma, W/O B.D. Sharma, 120-C, D/B-block, Lig (D D A) flat, Hari Nagar, Delhi, -64 have** lost my **I-204 Beta-2 Gr. Noida G.B Nager (UP)** Allotment letter **NO-109356** intimation letter, Possession letter, lease plan, lease deed, all payment Challan, property Documents along with one time lease rent challan also. 0040695298-10

## LOST & FOUND

**ORIGINAL SHARE CERTIFICATE AND POSSESSION LETTER OF, FLAT, NO.21-C, DELHI PRADESH CGHS LTD, PLOT NO.43, SECTOR-13, ROHINI, DELHI-110085,** HAS BEEN LOST, FOUNDER CONTACT TO **SHRI KANT TRIPATHI/9717506989**

**Wg. Khagesh Kumar Sharma** and **Sheetal Verma W/o Shri Khagesh Kumar Sharma R/o Flat No.B-1303, Stellar Jeweon Plot No. GH-03, Sector-1, Greater Noida West, Bisrakh Jalalpur, Gautam Buddha Nagar, Uttar Pradesh-202307** inform that we have lost our Original Share Certificate of property bearing **No.Flat No.97, Ajanta Apartment, I.P. Extension Patparganj New Delhi-110092.** Finder pls contact above said address.

**I, JITENDER KUMAR, S/O-DHARAM PAL, R/O-VILLAGE-ALIPUR, DISTT-FARIDABAD, HARYANA-121101,** inform that my property previous owner, **DARSHAN SINGH,** Ownership Original, Papers i.e., Agreement to Sale, GPA, Will, Possession Letter, Receipt, Affidavit of regarding of, PLOT, NO.19 and PLOT, NO.20, WAKA MAUJA BASELVA, TEHSIL & DISTRICT-FARIDABAD HARYANA, has been lost, if found, contact me +91-9899005045. 0040695300-9

**I, Saraswati Sharma, W/O B.D. Sharma, 120-C, D/B-block, Lig (D D A) flat, Hari Nagar, Delhi, -64 have** lost my **I-204 Beta-2 Gr. Noida G.B Nager (UP)** Allotment letter **NO-109356** intimation letter, Possession letter, lease plan, lease deed, all payment Challan, property Documents along with one time lease rent challan also. 0040695298-10

## PUBLIC NOTICE

**THE GENERAL PUBLIC** is informed at large that **Mr. Ajay, S/o Mr. Ravish Chand & Mrs. Rita Sabra, W/o Mr. Rajesh** have made representations that they are the absolute owners of **DDA Flat No.788, Ground Floor, Block D, Rajendra Garden, G-4 Area, Hari Nagar, New Delhi,** & intend to sell the same to **Mr. Deepak Jainwal & Mrs. Nisha Jainwal,** who have further offered to mortgage the same with **State Bank of India, RAJCP, Naraina, New Delhi** against credit facilities. That Original Possession Slip, NDC Issued by DDA, Partial Conveyance Deed dated 20.12.2009 in favour of **Mr. Baldev Raj** are lost & information Report dated 11.03.2023 bearing LR No.230645/2023 has been lodged for same. Further, Surviving Members Certificates of **Mr. Baldev Raj & Mr. Parikaj Miglani** are untraceable. If any person has any information about said documents or has objection with respect to the same or has any interest whatsoever in the said property, may submit their objections before the undersigned vide E-Mail [adv.shalabh.gupta@gmail.com](mailto:adv.shalabh.gupta@gmail.com) or vide telephone No. +91-9712719434, with supporting documents within 15 days from the date of this publication. **SHALABH GUPTA, ADVOCATE ENR. No. D/600/2013**

**Be it known to all that my client Smt. Dhan Patil W/o Sh. Raj Singh, R/O H. No.297, Puna Udyan, North West Delhi, Delhi-40,** have severed all relations with her son namely **Sh. Anil Khatri** and his wife **Smt. Jyoti Tushir & grandson Daksh** and granddaughter **Karika** and have disowned & distributed them from all their movable & immovable properties, due to **Jyoti Tushir's** unruly behavior & her threat to false implication of entire family of my client. Whosoever deals with them in any matter, shall do so at his/her own risk & consequences and my client shall not be held liable for it. **Deepak Ranga (Advocate)** Ch. No. 331, Western Wing, The Hazari Court, Delhi-54

**Be it known to all that my client Smt. Dhan Patil W/o Sh. Raj Singh, R/O H. No.297, Puna Udyan, North West Delhi, Delhi-40,** have severed all relations with her son namely **Sh. Anil Khatri** and his wife **Smt. Jyoti Tushir & grandson Daksh** and granddaughter **Karika** and have disowned & distributed them from all their movable & immovable properties, due to **Jyoti Tushir's** unruly behavior & her threat to false implication of entire family of my client. Whosoever deals with them in any matter, shall do so at his/her own risk & consequences and my client shall not be held liable for it. **Deepak Ranga (Advocate)** Ch. No. 331, Western Wing, The Hazari Court, Delhi-54

**Be it known to all that I, SIMMI CHAWLA D/o Satpal Grover R/O 28/136 Second Floor, West Patel Nagar New Delhi-60006, has LOST ABOVE SAID ORIGINAL LETTER, POSSESSION LETTER, GPA, N.O.C. WILL, PAYMENT RECEIPT, AFFIDAVIT AND OTHER DOCUMENTS,** pertaining to **Flat No. 28-B, First Floor, Janta Flat, Basant Garden, Vasant Enclave, New Delhi.** As F.R. to this effect has been lodged in the Police Station Crime Branch. Any Person claiming any right interest or have any objection or found the above said original documents may contact the above named Person or call on phone no. 9999910542 within 15 days from the date of publication of this notice.

**Be it known to all concerned that my clients: OM PRAKASH S/O LATE LAXMI NARAYAN & BASANTI DEVI W/O PRAKASH R/O BH-22, MADANIGRI NEW DELHI-110086** have severed all their relations & disowned debars the son **MOHNSH KUMAR** from their all movable & immovable properties in Delhi and anywhere in India. In this regard, a notice, a disavowal, bad/irresponsible behavior & non fulfil his moral duties towards his clients. My clients & their family members shall not be responsible for any acts, deeds done by **MOHNSH KUMAR** at any point of time. **Sd/- TUSHAR SINHA En. No. D/192/2011 Advocate Ch. No. 466, Lawyers Bazaar, Saket Court Complex Saket, New Delhi-110017**

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GOVERNMENT OF HARYANA TENDER NOTICE						
Sl. No.	Name of Board/ Corp./Auth.	Name of Work/Notice/Tender	Opening Date/ Closing Date (Time)	Amount/Item (in Rupees)	Website of the Board/ Corp./Auth.	Mode of Officer/Contact Details/E-Mail
1	MUNICIPAL CORPORATION SONIPAT	FOR FOR EMBANELLED ARCHITECTS UNDER CATEGORY B AND ABOVE FOR CONSTRUCTION OF MAIN EYE PASS FROM NIHAL SCHOOL, (ROHTAK ROAD) TO KARKORI ROAD WARD NO.14 & 16 OF MUNICIPAL CORPORATION, IN DISTRICT SONIPAT	CLOSING DATE: 30.10.2023	NIL	<a href="https://etenders.hry.nic.in">https://etenders.hry.nic.in</a>	ajaynirala45@gmail.com
2	MUNICIPAL CORPORATION SONIPAT	ESTIMATE FOR MAINTENANCE OF PARK GRASSY LAWN AND PLANTS IN VARIOUS PARKS OF M.C SONIPAT - 1 WORKS	CLOSING DATE: 15.11.2023	1.44 CRORE	<a href="https://etenders.hry.nic.in">https://etenders.hry.nic.in</a>	ajaynirala45@gmail.com

22219/HRY FOR FURTHER INFORMATION KINDLY VISIT: [www.haryanaprocmnt.gov.in](http://www.haryanaprocmnt.gov.in) or [www.etenders.hry.nic.in](http://www.etenders.hry.nic.in)

## OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER RCD, ROAD DIVISION, JAMSHEDPUR, JHARKHAND

### e-Procurement Notice For National Competitive Bidding

**e-Tender Reference No. RCD/JAMSHEDPUR/1689, Date 25.10.2023**

1.	Name of the work	Balance work of Widening & Strengthening of Khasmahal to Jadugora Road, Length 0 to 7.67 km under RCD, Road Division, Jamshedpur for the year 2023-24
2.	Estimated Cost of Work (in INR)	Rs 17,54,85,862.00 (Rupees Seventeen Crore Fifty Four Lakh Eighty Five Thousand Eight Hundred & Sixty Two Only)
3.	Initial Bid Security (Rs In Lacs)	Rs 17.55 Lakh (Rupees Seventeen Lakh Fifty Five Thousand only).
4.	Initial Bid Security in the shape of	Bank Guarantee valid for minimum 45 days beyond the Bid validity period of 120 day/ 5 Yr NSC / 3 or 5 Yr FD issued by any Indian Post offices/ 3 or 5 Yr FD issued by any Nationalized



UPSIDA कर्मचारी उच्च महाप्राधम्यक (वि.0/वी.0), विद्युत काल-विद्युत 3000 राज्य औद्योगिक विकास प्राधिकरण

KERALA WATER AUTHORITY e-Tender Notice Tender No : E-tender No 178/2023-24/SE/PH/CHN

COAL INDIA LIMITED (A Maharatna Company) "All the tenders issued by CIL and its Subsidiaries for procurement of Goods, Works and Services are available on website of Coal India Ltd www.coalindia.in"

WESTERN RAILWAY - VADODARA DIVISION ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT E-TENDER NOTICE No. DRM-BRC 093 of 2023-24

SALUTE THE SOLDIER Constable Raghbir Singh ITBP salutes its braveheart Constable Raghbir Singh of 3rd Battalion, who made the supreme sacrifice in the line of duty on this day in Jammu & Kashmir in 1989

ARMY PUBLIC SCHOOL, SHANKAR VIHAR (NEAR MAHIPALPUR) DELHI CANTT-10 EXPRESSION OF INTEREST (EOI) EOI is solicited from suitable vendor for construction of closed shelter as activity room for Music Room

यूपी प्रोजेक्ट्स कारपोरेशन लि. (यूपी प्रोजेक्ट्स कारपोरेशन लि.) कार्यालय परियोजना प्रबंधक, निर्माण इकाई-12, 129, के.के.ए. रोड, आवास विकास, कृष्ती-284003, E-mail: pm12uppc@pm12uppc@gmail.com

उपग्रह जल विद्युत निगम लि. (यूपी प्रोजेक्ट्स कारपोरेशन लि.) एतद्वारा निगम हित में इस कार्यलय द्वारा प्रकाशित ई-निविदा सूचना सं 0 टी-19/EGD/MZN/2023-23

IMPORTANT! Whilst care is taken prior to acceptance of advertising copy, it is not possible to verify its contents. The Indian Express (P) Limited cannot be held responsible for such contents, nor for any loss or damage incurred as a result of transactions with companies, associations or individuals advertising in its newspapers or Publications.

Paschimanchal Viduyt Vitran Nigam Ltd., Victoria Park, Meerut E-TENDER INVITING NOTICE 1. Open short term tender is invited through e-tendering for supply of 34 Km 11 KV HT XLPE Cable size 3x120 sq.mm against tender specification no. PVVNL-MT/MM/80(s)/23-24

U.P. RAJYA VIDYUT UTPADAN NIGAM LTD E-Tender Notice E-Tender No- 02/E&MCC-VIII/JTPS/2023-24- Name of Work- "Work of Round the clock Operation of entire Signal & telecommunication (S&T) System and Routine/Daily, Monthly, Quarterly Half yearly and Annual schedules maintenance of Signal & telecommunication of Jawaharpur Thermal Power Station, from interchange point at Etah Rly. Station to inside plant. Estimated cost: Rs. 1,50,71,397.00. E.M.D: Rs. 2,90,000.00, Last date and time for submission of e-bid dt: 23.11.2023 at 14.00 Hrs.

अति अल्प कालीन ई-निविदा सूचना जनपद झांसी में राहकीय बालिका हाइटर कालेज बरुआसागर एवं राहकीय इण्टर कालेज रचना में बहुउद्देशीय इष्टक के निर्माण कार्य हेतु इस कार्यालय की ई-निविदा सूचना सं 08/PM-12/UPPCL/2023-24 दिनांक 21.10.2023 द्वारा ई-निविदा आमंत्रित की जाती है।

NORTHERN RAILWAY E-TENDER NOTICE Sr. DEE-TRS-GZB acting for and on behalf of President of India invites E-Tender against Tender No. 230-TRS-GZB-2023-24-13. The details are as under:-

BANGALORE WATER SUPPLY AND SEWERAGE BOARD Office of the Chief Engineer (Project) 3rd Floor, Cauvery Bhavan, K.G.Road, Bengaluru-560009

INVITATION FOR TENDER (Only through kpp portal) BWSSB invites Tenders in Two Stage Tender System from reputed Manufacturer / Authorized Dealer for supply of 35,000Nos of 15mm dia Multi Jet Class "B" Magnetic Type Water Meters conforming to IS:779/1994 & ISO:4064/2014 with MID certificate its latest amendments.

PROCLAMATION REQUIRING THE APPEARANCE OF A PERSON ACCUSED (See Section 82 Cr. PC) Whereas complaint has been made before me that accused person namely Seema W/o Sameer R/o H.No. A-4/33, Sector-20, Rohini, Delhi has committed (or is suspected to have committed) the offence in case FIR No. 164/2013 U/s 23 J.J. Act at P.S. Subhash Place, Delhi and it has been returned to a warrant of arrest thereupon issued that the said accused Seema cannot be found and whereas it has been shown to my satisfaction that the said accused Seema have absconded (or is concealing herself to avoid the service of the said warrant).

कार्यपालक अभियंता का कार्यालय पथ निर्माण विभाग, पथ प्रमण्डल, देवघर ई-प्रोक्वैरमेंट सूचना (3rd Call) ई-पुनर्निविदा प्रसंग संख्या - RCD/DEOGHAR/2138/2023-24 (3rd Call) दिनांक - 25.10.2023

Table with 2 columns: क्र. (Sl. No.), कार्य का नाम (Name of Work). Row 1: Construction of ROB (ROB proper and Approach portion) at Santhali Village near Br. 653 between Sankarpur - Jassidih at km 32/19-21 from Howrah (Job No.-CRF-JHR-2022-23/67)

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION KINDLY VISIT: www.haryanaeprocurement.gov.in or www.etenders.hry.nic.in

GOVERNMENT OF HARYANA TENDER NOTICE SR. NO. NAME OF BOARD/CORP/AUTH NAME OF WORK/NOTICE TENDER OPENING DATE/CLOSING DATE (TIME) AMOUNT/EMD (APPROX.) IN RUPEES WEBSITE OF THE BOARD CORP/AUTH NODAL OFFICER/CONTACT DETAILS/EMAIL

GOVERNMENT OF HARYANA TENDER NOTICE SR. NO. NAME OF BOARD/CORP/AUTH NAME OF WORK/NOTICE TENDER OPENING DATE/CLOSING DATE (TIME) AMOUNT/EMD (APPROX.) IN RUPEES WEBSITE OF THE BOARD CORP/AUTH NODAL OFFICER/CONTACT DETAILS/EMAIL

PROCLAMATION REQUIRING THE APPEARANCE OF A PERSON ACCUSED (See Section 82 Cr. PC) Whereas complaint has been made before me that accused person namely Seema W/o Sameer R/o H.No. A-4/33, Sector-20, Rohini, Delhi has committed (or is suspected to have committed) the offence in case FIR No. 164/2013 U/s 23 J.J. Act at P.S. Subhash Place, Delhi and it has been returned to a warrant of arrest thereupon issued that the said accused Seema cannot be found and whereas it has been shown to my satisfaction that the said accused Seema have absconded (or is concealing herself to avoid the service of the said warrant).

TENDER NOTICE BASE LOGISTICS OFFICER, HEADQUARTERS, EASTERN NAVAL COMMAND, NAVAL BASE VISAKHAPATNAM-530014, NOTICE FOR REGISTRATION OF REPUTED/REGISTERED TRANSPORT/SHIPPING COMPANIES FOR TRANSPORTATION OF HOUSE HOLD ITEMS/PRIVATE VEHICLES OF NAVAL PERSONNEL FROM VISAKHAPATNAM TO ALL OVER INDIA INCLUDING PORT BLAIR & LAKSHADWEEP ISLANDS

1. The Base Logistics Officer, Headquarters, Eastern Naval Command, Visakhapatnam, proposes to register reputed transport/shipping companies, who own their own trucks/ships and maintain proper record besides fulfilling statutory obligations like GST etc. and registered with Central/State Government for providing transport to service personnel for shifting house hold baggage/personal vehicles on their transfer from Visakhapatnam to all over India including Port Blair, Lakshadweep Islands.

OFFICE OF SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER, 6th Circle, HPPWD, Kullu-175101 Ph. 01902-222530, Fax:01902-222299, E-mail:hp-kul@nic.in

Table with 7 columns: District, Package No., Name of Work, Estimated Cost (in lacs), Total cost (Rs. Lacs), Period of Completion. Row 1: Kullu HP-06-151 Up gradation of Chhaki to Hallan road Km 0/0 to 9/595 (SH) Construction of Retaining wall Breast wall Metalling and Tarring Earthen shoulder sign Board PCC V-Shape drain Metal Beam Missing CD and parapets under PMGSY-III (Batch-I) 2022-23

GOVERNMENT OF HARYANA TENDER NOTICE SR. NO. NAME OF BOARD/CORP/AUTH NAME OF WORK/NOTICE TENDER OPENING DATE/CLOSING DATE (TIME) AMOUNT/EMD (APPROX.) IN RUPEES WEBSITE OF THE BOARD CORP/AUTH NODAL OFFICER/CONTACT DETAILS/EMAIL

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PROCLAMATION REQUIRING THE APPEARANCE OF ACCUSED PERSON (See Section 82 Cr.PC) Whereas complaint has been made before me that accused Umesh Mukhiya, S/o Buchaya R/o C-102, Gali No. 1, Nangal Ext. Bajrang Chowk, Delhi Permanent Address VPO-Ursal, Post-Harri Ludhpur, Distt-Madhubani, Bihar has committed (or is suspected to have committed) the offence in case FIR No.133/16 u/s 420/120B IPC, P.S. Maurice Nagar, Delhi and it has been returned to a warrant of arrest thereupon issued that the said accused Umesh Mukhiya cannot be found and whereas it has been shown to my satisfaction that the said accused Umesh Mukhiya has absconded (or is concealing himself to avoid the service of the said warrant).

PRADHAN MANTRI GRAM SADAK YOJNA (PMGSY) E-PROCUREMENT NOTICE The Superintending Engineer, 6th Circle HP.PWD Kullu on behalf of the Governor of Himachal Pradesh invites the item rate bids, in electronic tendering system, for construction of road under Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojna for the following work including maintenance for five years from the eligible and approved contractors registered with HPPWD/CPWD/P&T/Railways/ other State Govt. / Central Govt. agencies. Non registered bidders may submit bids. However, the successful bidder has to register in appropriate class with appropriate authorities in HPPWD, within a period of one month.

Table with 7 columns: District, Package No., Name of Work, Estimated Cost (in lacs), Total cost (Rs. Lacs), Period of Completion. Row 1: Kullu HP-06-151 Up gradation of Chhaki to Hallan road Km 0/0 to 9/595 (SH) Construction of Retaining wall Breast wall Metalling and Tarring Earthen shoulder sign Board PCC V-Shape drain Metal Beam Missing CD and parapets under PMGSY-III (Batch-I) 2022-23

- 1. Date of release of inviting for bids through e-procurement: at 10:00 AM on 26-10-2023
2. Cost of bid form:- Rs. 5000/- per package (non-refundable) only in form of Demand Draft.
3. Availability of Bid Document and mode of submission:- The bid document is available online and bid should be submitted online on website www.pmgstyender.gov.in.

OFFICE OF SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER, 6th Circle, HPPWD, Kullu-175101 Ph. 01902-222530, Fax:01902-222299, E-mail:hp-kul@nic.in

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF ENGINEER, WATER RESOURCES DEPARTMENT GUWAHATI, ASSAM No. CE/CC/WR/NIT/2019-20/1003/200 INVITATION FOR BIDS Loan No. and Title: L4352-IND: Climate Resilient Brahmaputra Integrated Flood and Riverbank Erosion Risk Management Project in Assam

GOVERNMENT OF HARYANA TENDER NOTICE SR. NO. NAME OF BOARD/CORP/AUTH NAME OF WORK/NOTICE TENDER OPENING DATE/CLOSING DATE (TIME) AMOUNT/EMD (APPROX.) IN RUPEES WEBSITE OF THE BOARD CORP/AUTH NODAL OFFICER/CONTACT DETAILS/EMAIL

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PROCLAMATION REQUIRING THE APPEARANCE OF ACCUSED PERSON (See Section 82 Cr.PC) Whereas complaint has been made before me that accused Yeply Smily, S/o: Gemin, R/o: Dwarka, Delhi (Country Ivory Coast) has committed (or is suspected to have committed) the offence in case FIR No. 1024/2021, U/s 14 Foreigners Act, P.S.: Nihal Vihar, Delhi and it has been returned to a warrant of arrest thereupon issued that the said accused Yeply Smily cannot be found and whereas it has been shown to my satisfaction that the said accused Yeply Smily has absconded (or is concealing himself to avoid the service of the said warrant).

PROCLAMATION REQUIRING THE APPEARANCE OF A PERSON ACCUSED (See Section 82 Cr.P.C.) Whereas as complaint has been made before me that two accused 1. Pintoo Rathore S/o Munna Rathore & 2. Pankaj Rathore S/o Munna Rathore, both R/o H.No. 54/24, Bhooton Wali Gali, Nangloi, Delhi have Committed (or is suspected to have committed) the offence in case FIR No. 557/2021 u/s 325/34 IPC has been registered at P.S. Nangloi, Delhi and it has been returned to a warrant of arrest thereupon issued that the said 1. Pintoo Rathore & 2. Pankaj Rathore cannot be found and whereas it has been shown to my satisfaction that the said 1. Pintoo Rathore & 2. Pankaj Rathore has absconded (or is concealing themselves to avoid the service of the said warrant).

**उ.प्र. पावर ट्रांसमिशन कार्पोरेशन लि. ई-निविदा आमंत्रण सूचना**  
 अनुभवो कार्यदायी संस्थाओं से विद्युत पारेषण मंडल, ग्रेटर नोएडा के अन्तर्गत निम्न कार्य हेतु ई-निविदाये ई-पोर्टल ctender.up.nic.in पर निविदा खुलने की दिनांक को 12.00 बजे तक आमंत्रित की जाती है। ई-निविदा खुलने की तिथि पर अवकाश की स्थिति में ई-निविदा अगले कार्य दिवस में खोली जायेगी। 1. अल्प कालीन निविदा संख्या टी-23/2023-24: विद्युत पारेषण खण्ड, हापुड के अन्तर्गत 132 के.वी. उपकेन्द्र, डासन पर 33 के.वी. के की सुदृढ़/परिवर्तन करने का कार्य। धरोहर राशि ₹ 1,500/- निविदा प्रपत्र शुल्क ₹ 590/- (कर सहित) खुलने की दिनांक 09.11.2023। 2. निविदा संख्या टी-24/2023-24: विद्युत पारेषण खण्ड, हापुड के अन्तर्गत 132 के.वी. उपकेन्द्र, गडमुक्तेश्वर पर स्थापित 40 एम.वी.ए. परिवर्तक की गैसकित बदलने का कार्य। धरोहर राशि ₹ 4,500/- निविदा प्रपत्र शुल्क ₹ 590/- (कर सहित)। खुलने की दिनांक 21.11.2023। ई-निविदा के प्रथम भाग उसी दिन निर्धारित समय पर सार्वजनिक रूप से खोला जायेगा एवं भाग द्वितीय (प्राइजविड) खुलने की तिथि तदनुसार वेबसाइट पर सूचित की जायेगी। ई-निविदाओं को बिना कोई कारण बताये अस्वीकार/विभाजित करने का अधिकार अधोहस्ताक्षरकर्ता के पास सुरक्षित रहेगा। कृपया विस्तृत जानकारी, डाउनलोड, अन्य संशोधनों एवं ई-निविदा प्रस्तुत करने के दिनांक तक विस्तार आदि के सम्बन्ध में कृपया ctender.up.nic.in पर लॉग ऑन करें।  
**हस्ता./- अधीक्षक अभियन्ता विद्युत पारेषण मंडल उ.प्र.पा.ट्रा.का.लि., 400 के.वी. उपकेन्द्र, पाली, ग्रेटर नोएडा। (मोबाइल संख्या:- 07290059731) "राष्ट्र हित में ऊर्जा बचाव"। पत्रांक:- 1666 वि.पा.मं./ये.ना./T-23 & 24/2023-24 दिनांक:- 20.10.2023**

NORTHERN RAILWAY E-Tender Notice							
File No. 23AC/Milk Stall/SBD/Blue Print/2018							
The Sr. Divisional Commercial Manager/P.S., Delhi Division, Northern Railway, New Delhi invites e-tender for 12 Milk Stalls of A1, A & B Category Stations at Hazrat Nizamuddin (NZM), Delhi Sarai Rohilla (DEE), Delhi Shahdara (DSA), Panipat (PNP), Karnal (KUN), Gurgaon (GGN) & Kurukshetra (KKDE) Railway Station over Delhi Division, Northern Railway for a period of 5 years, details of which are as under:							
S N	Name of Station, code & Station category	Tender No.	Location	Period/years of contract	*Minimum Reserve Price per annum (In Rs)	EMD @ 10% of Total Contract Value (In Rs)	Cost of Tender form Inclusive GST @18% Rs. 2500/- (Tender Cost) + 450/(GST) (In Rs.)
1	Hazrat Nizamuddin (NZM) A1	Milk Booth 01-2023	PF 1 (Near TTE Rest House) Delhi End	5 Years	2,58,359/-	1,34,500/-	2950/-
2	Delhi Sarai Rohilla (DEE) A	Milk Booth 02-2023	PF 4/5 (Between Shed Pillar No 1 and Elec. Light Pole No. 4/23)	5 Years	1,81,621/-	94,500/-	2950/-
3	Delhi Shahdara (DSA) A	Milk Booth 03-2023	PF 2/3 (Near OHE Pole No. 6/2)	5 Years	1,81,621/-	94,500/-	2950/-
4	Delhi Shahdara (DSA) A	Milk Booth 04-2023	PF 4 (Near OHE Pole No. 6/3)	5 Years	1,81,621/-	94,500/-	2950/-
5	Delhi Shahdara (DSA) A	Milk Booth 05-2023	PF 4 (Near OHE Pole No. 6/5)	5 Years	1,81,621/-	94,500/-	2950/-
6	Panipat (PNP) A	Milk Booth 06-2023	PF 1 (30 Mtr. from Train Lighting Room and near RMS Building)	5 Years	1,81,621/-	94,500/-	2950/-
7	Karnal (KUN) A	Milk Booth 07-2023	PF 1 (Near GRP Post)	5 Years	1,81,621/-	94,500/-	2950/-
8	Gurgaon (GGN) A	Milk Booth 08-2023	PF 2 (Near OHE Pole No. 31/02)	5 Years	1,81,621/-	94,500/-	2950/-
9	Gurgaon (GGN) A	Milk Booth 09-2023	PF 2 (DLI end)	5 Years	1,81,621/-	94,500/-	2950/-
10	Gurgaon (GGN) A	Milk Booth 10-2023	Circulating Area (Near SBI ATM)	5 Years	1,81,621/-	94,500/-	2950/-
11	Gurgaon (GGN) A	Milk Booth 11-2023	PF 1 (Between Water Cooler & RE Pole No. 30/940)	5 Years	1,81,621/-	94,500/-	2950/-
12	Kurukshetra (KKDE) B	Milk Booth 12-2023	PF 2/3 (Near Water Hut)	5 Years	1,09,900/-	57,500/-	2950/-

**Important Note:** 1. Interested bidders may please visit official website for e-tendering i.e. [www.ireps.gov.in](http://www.ireps.gov.in) for further details such as detail of locations, reserve price, EMD & Tender Cost and submitting tender. Date of bidding close on **16.11.2023** at 15.00 Hrs. interested bidder for any query; please come and attend pre-bid meeting at Commercial Branch, DRM's Office, State Entry Road, New Delhi -110055 on **06.11.2023** at 15.00 Hrs. 2. Bidders who wish to participate in the e-tendering will have to procure class-3 valid Digital Security Certificate (DSC) as per Information Technology Act, 2000. Bidders can procure this certificate from any of the certifying authority of Controller of Certifying Authorities (CCA), Government of India. Details of certifying authorities can be obtained from [www.cca.gov.in](http://www.cca.gov.in). 3. The bidder has to register, if not registered earlier, with [www.ireps.gov.in](http://www.ireps.gov.in) using DSC to participate in tender process. Detailed procedure for registration, system requirements and bidding are also available on [www.ireps.gov.in](http://www.ireps.gov.in).

**SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE** 3334/23

**बिहार पुलिस रेडियो, मुख्यालय, नेहरू मार्ग, पटना**  
**निविदा सूचना संख्या- 06 / 2023-24 / पी0पी0ओ0**

1. विभाग का नाम :- पुलिस महानिदेशक का कार्यालय, बिहार, पटना।  
 2. विज्ञापनदाता का पदनाम एवं पता :- पुलिस अधीक्षक (वित्त), बिहार, पटना। बिहार पुलिस रेडियो, मुख्यालय, सरदार पटेल भवन ई ब्लॉक, छठी मंजिल, कमरा नम्बर-612, नेहरू मार्ग, पटना।  
 3. निविदा समर्पित करने की तिथि एवं समय :- निविदा प्रकाशित होने की तिथि से किसी कार्य दिवस में दिनांक-16.11.2023 को 15:00 बजे तक।  
 4. निविदा के तकनीकी भाग को खोलने की तिथि :- दिनांक-16.11.2023 को 16:00 बजे।  
 5. निविदा समर्पित करने का स्थान :- पुलिस अधीक्षक (वित्त), बिहार, पटना बिहार पुलिस रेडियो, मुख्यालय, सरदार पटेल भवन ई ब्लॉक, छठी मंजिल, कमरा नम्बर-612, नेहरू मार्ग, पटना।  
 6. अनुमानित राशि :- ₹ 50,00,000/- (रुपये पचास लाख) या उससे अधिक।  
 7. मद का नाम :- वित्त सेटों एवं सहायक यंत्रों के पार्ट-पूज, Accessories, मोबाइल फीडर, 12 वोल्ट एंसी० चार्जर, 72 वोल्ट एंसी० चार्जर तथा इनके मरम्मत हेतु पार्ट-पूज आदि सुरक्षा उपकरणों यथा DFMD, DSMD, HHMD, Dragon Light, Commando Light, Charger आदि के मरम्मत में उपयोग हेतु आवश्यक पार्ट-पूज। इस निविदा द्वारा जिन सामानों के दर आमंत्रित किये जा रहे हैं, उनकी विस्तृत सूची एवं तकनीकी विवरण पुलिस अधीक्षक (वित्त), बिहार, पटना का कार्यालय, सरदार पटेल भवन, पी०पी०ओ० शाखा, कमरा सं०-D/603, नेहरू मार्ग, पटना-23 से निविदा समर्पित करने की अंतिम तिथि के एक दिन पूर्व तक किसी भी कार्य दिवस को प्राप्त किया जा सकता है। सूची में वर्णित सामानों का वित्तीय वर्ष 2023-24 के लिए दर एवं फर्म का निर्धारण किया जाएगा एवं जब-जब जिन सामानों की आवश्यकता होगी, तब-तब उन सामानों को अनुमोदित दर पर अनुमोदित फर्म से क्रय किया जायेगा।

**इस विज्ञापन सूचना को बिहार पुलिस विभाग के वेबसाइट [police.bihar.gov.in](http://police.bihar.gov.in) पर देखा जा सकता है।**  
 विस्तृत जानकारी [state.bihar.gov.in/prdbihar](http://state.bihar.gov.in/prdbihar) से प्राप्त की जा सकती है।  
**PR. No. 010826 (Police) 2023-24** **पुलिस अधीक्षक (वित्त), बिहार, पटना**

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

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**Govt. of Bihar**  
**Rural Works Department**  
**Notice Inviting Tender (No.-RWD/MMGSY(NDB)/HQ/ET/69/2023-24)**

The Government of Bihar has a loan no. [18IN01] from New Development Bank (NDB) towards the cost of Rural Roads Project (Mukhya Mantri Gram Sampark Yojana) to cover eligible payments under the contracts for construction & maintenance of works as detailed in the Table-1 below. Bidding is open to all bidders from eligible source countries as defined in the bidding document.  
 Engineer-in-Chief, Rural Works Department, on behalf of Governor of Bihar invites, SBD based Percentage rate tender in electronic tendering system under Mukhya Mantri Gram Sampark Yojana (MMGSY) for each of the following works including their maintenance for five years from the eligible and approved Contractors registered with RWD/RCD/CPWD/MES /Railways/Other State/Central Govt. departments

**Table-1**

Sl. No.	Package	Description of the Works [CONSTRUCTION AND MAINTENANCE OF ROADS (A) / BRIDGES (B)]		Length (KM)	Construction Amount (In Lacs)	Maintenance Amount (In Lacs)	Total Amount (In Lacs)	Earnest Money Payable* (In Lacs)	Amount Payable to Works Division	
		From	To							
1	MMGSY-NDB-BRRP-642-Motihari	A1	Kuldeep yadav house	Shankar Yadav House	1.330	140.680	9.180	149.860	12.221	Motihari
		A2	Mushahva Gram	Mushwa Mai Sthan	3.600	423.341	37.867	461.208		
		<b>Total</b>	<b>2</b>		<b>4.930</b>	<b>564.021</b>	<b>47.047</b>	<b>611.068</b>	<b>12.221</b>	
2	MMGSY-NDB-BRRP-643-Motihari	A1	NH-28	Mahadalit Basti (Gumati)	1.700	173.143	17.613	190.756	16.780	Motihari
		A2	Manshingha Idgha	Buchha Masjid	1.550	173.418	15.046	188.464		
		A3	Near Utkarmit Middle School Kodha	Roushanpur Sapaha	2.500	297.569	26.436	324.005		
		A4	Channu sah house	Awdhesh jha house	1.190	128.150	7.610	135.760		
		<b>Total</b>	<b>4</b>		<b>6.940</b>	<b>772.280</b>	<b>66.705</b>	<b>838.985</b>	<b>16.780</b>	
3	MMGSY-NDB-BRRP-644-Motihari	A1	Nandu Ram house	Indrajit Rai house	0.450	47.497	2.908	50.405	14.698	Motihari
		A2	Chhpawa Chawk Mushari Tola	Sugaon Manihari Boudhi Devi Brahma Asthan	0.580	58.217	5.724	63.941		
		A3	U.M.School, laxmipur bhataha	Sohit Ram house	0.700	80.690	5.550	86.240		
		A4	Ramparchay Prasad house	Harichandra giri	0.700	76.250	6.020	82.270		
		A5	Lohiya Swachh Abhiyan Betiah Road W.5	Begiya Tola	2.910	314.130	30.620	344.750		
		A6	Bela nahar dewdattawa road	Hiralal Yadav	0.810	99.630	7.680	107.310		
		<b>Total</b>	<b>6</b>		<b>6.150</b>	<b>676.414</b>	<b>58.502</b>	<b>734.916</b>	<b>14.698</b>	
4	MMGSY-NDB-BRRP-645-Motihari	A1	Shyam Narayan Prasad house	middle school kauaha	1.700	178.390	17.430	195.820	10.537	Motihari
		A2	Gafur miya house	panchayat bhawan bhargawa	1.140	117.320	10.760	128.080		
		A3	Bdheya Ram Das Math	Bankatwa Gidha Road	1.840	183.440	19.490	202.930		
		<b>Total</b>	<b>3</b>		<b>4.680</b>	<b>479.150</b>	<b>47.680</b>	<b>526.830</b>	<b>10.537</b>	
5	MMGSY-NDB-BRRP-646-Motihari	A1	NH 28A KANHAIYA HOTEL	BABHANTOLI RAILWAY GUMATI WARD NO 8	2.250	216.730	18.780	235.510	12.725	Motihari
		A2	U.M.SCHOOL, BANKATWA	BHARGAWA HARIJAN TOLI	2.470	250.650	26.670	277.320		
		A3	Harindra Prasad house	Kailash bhagat house	1.120	113.530	9.880	123.410		
		<b>Total</b>	<b>3</b>		<b>5.840</b>	<b>580.910</b>	<b>55.330</b>	<b>636.240</b>	<b>12.725</b>	
6	MMGSY-NDB-BRRP-647-Motihari	A1	SHYAMBABU SINGH HOUSE	CHATURI RAM HOUSE	0.450	43.569	5.047	48.616	9.689	Motihari
		A2	Narayan Singh ke mandir	Chota NH-28	1.170	117.240	11.540	128.780		
		A3	Mai Asthan Fulwria W 5 PMGSY Road	Mahadalit Basti Tak W.8	1.400	161.270	13.650	174.920		
		A4	Prabhu ray laxmipur W.9	BishundeV Sahni ke ghar	1.050	122.910	9.240	132.150		
		<b>Total</b>	<b>4</b>		<b>4.070</b>	<b>444.989</b>	<b>39.477</b>	<b>484.466</b>	<b>9.689</b>	
7	MMGSY-NDB-BRRP-648-Motihari	A1	Balua Tikulya Road	Chotelal yadav house	0.950	101.090	7.720	108.810	10.569	Motihari
		A2	Bachan Paswan House Bankatwa	Mohan Bana math harizan toli Semra	1.020	96.770	8.720	105.490		
		A3	Shivpujan yadav House	Pax godam	1.950	206.000	14.800	220.800		
		A4	Bhuta Miya Laxmipur Kohna W.8	Mustak Ali ke ghar	0.840	84.610	8.720	93.330		
		<b>Total</b>	<b>4</b>		<b>4.760</b>	<b>488.470</b>	<b>39.960</b>	<b>528.430</b>	<b>10.569</b>	
8	MMGSY-NDB-BRRP-649-Muzaffarpur West	A1	Kolhua Hari Sah Road me nakubi house chowk	Nat Tola	0.600	56.233	5.144	61.377	4.444	Muzaffarpur West
		A2	Khan Vila	Master Vishnath ram ke ghar	0.400	42.660	1.826	44.486		
		A3	NH 77 Raj Traders	koluhuya ka sahni tola	1.078	111.410	4.920	116.330		
		<b>Total</b>	<b>3</b>		<b>2.078</b>	<b>210.303</b>	<b>11.890</b>	<b>222.193</b>	<b>4.444</b>	
9	MMGSY-NDB-BRRP-650-Narkatiyaganj	A1	Done Canal Bajara	Ghota Tola	1.200	167.140	11.300	178.440	6.825	Narkatiyaganj
		A2	MAHESHPUR SURESH RAM KE GHAR	PATKHAULI DHANGAR TOLI	1.600	145.120	17.690	162.810		
		<b>Total</b>	<b>2</b>		<b>2.800</b>	<b>312.260</b>	<b>28.990</b>	<b>341.250</b>	<b>6.825</b>	
10	MMGSY-NDB-BRRP-651-Pakridayal	A1	Parsauni Siwan	Kanu Tola	0.920	101.650	8.840	110.490	8.067	Pakridayal
		A2	Pakridayal-Jhikhan Tikha Road Devi Lal Bridge	Narulaha Haraj Via Golgachh	2.400	267.050	25.830	292.880		
		<b>Total</b>	<b>2</b>		<b>3.320</b>	<b>368.700</b>	<b>34.670</b>	<b>403.370</b>	<b>8.067</b>	
11	MMGSY-NDB-BRRP-652-Pakridayal	A1	Sisahn Bazar	Sisahn Babu Tola via hospital	1.450	157.289	13.782	171.071	3.421	Pakridayal
		<b>Total</b>	<b>1</b>		<b>1.450</b>	<b>157.289</b>	<b>13.782</b>	<b>171.071</b>	<b>3.421</b>	
12	MMGSY-NDB-BRRP-653-Pakridayal	A1	Pakridayal Jhikhan Tikha road Devial Bridge - Narulah Haraj Road	Kund kanha chaur (Barka Gaon PWD road)	3.970	445.280	40.260	485.540	9.711	Pakridayal
		<b>Total</b>	<b>1</b>		<b>3.970</b>	<b>445.280</b>	<b>40.260</b>	<b>485.540</b>	<b>9.711</b>	
13	MMGSY-NDB-BRRP-654-Pakridayal	A1	Bhitgarwa Math	Bhitgarwa Got	0.820	73.790	9.430	83.220	4.361	Pakridayal
		A2	Betauna Mai Sthan	Khutauna Tola Ward No.12	1.390	119.880	14.930	134.810		
		<b>Total</b>	<b>2</b>		<b>2.210</b>	<b>193.670</b>	<b>24.360</b>	<b>218.030</b>	<b>4.361</b>	
14	MMGSY-NDB-BRRP-655-Pakridayal	A1	Devapur Durga Mandir	Khoripakar via Lahsanja	3.000	325.750	29.850	355.600	7.112	Pakridayal
		<b>Total</b>	<b>1</b>		<b>3.000</b>	<b>325.750</b>	<b>29.850</b>	<b>355.600</b>	<b>4.361</b>	
15	MMGSY-NDB-BRRP-656-Samastipur	A1	Kali asthan se via house of palat sahni	House of abhay jha	1.425	121.020	14.340	135.360	6.630	Samastipur
		A2	Motor training school	bhola sahni tola	2.570	171.750	24.380	196.130		

Total	2	3,995	292.770	38.720	331.490	6.630				
16	MMGSY-NDB-BRRP-657-Samastipur	A1	Rajwara hanuman mandir	kalwara	3.000	208.780	29.250	238.030	7.320	Samastipur
		A2	Proposed motor training school to bhola sahni tola	sri ram sharma house	1.510	113.180	14.800	127.980		
	<b>Total</b>	<b>2</b>			<b>4.510</b>	<b>321.960</b>	<b>44.050</b>	<b>366.010</b>	<b>7.320</b>	
17	MMGSY-NDB-BRRP-658-Samastipur	A1	PWD to bach gaw durga asthan road	dih sarsauna ward no 10	0.850	87.100	3.770	90.870		
		A2	L05 bajitpur Sarsauna PMGSY path	middle school diih sarsauna	0.545	45.410	4.630	50.040		
		A3	Tajpur to chakpahad RCD path	Badhai tola	1.000	79.770	9.110	88.880	7.473	Samastipur
		A4	Kuswaha tola to baital chowk path ward no 06	yadav tola	0.200	21.770	0.830	22.600		
		A5	Mahadalit tola ward no 09	tatma tola	0.600	49.490	4.620	54.110	</	

# 15 ECONOMY

<b>GOLD</b>	<b>USD RATE</b>	<b>OIL</b>	<b>SILVER</b>
₹61,700	₹83.18	\$90.00	₹74,500

Note: Gold, silver rates at Delhi spot market, gold per 10g, silver per 1 kg. Crude oil (Indian basket) as of October 24

SENSEX: 64,049.06 ▼ 522.82 (0.81%) NIFTY: 19,122.15 ▼ 159.6 (0.83%) NIKKEI: 31,269.92 ▲ 207.57 HANG SENG: 17,085.33 ▲ 93.80 FTSE: 7,411.96 ▲ 22.26 DAX: 14,905.99 ▲ 26.05

International market data till 1900 IST

## SECTOR WATCH AUTOMOBILE

### New made-in-India charging standards: How this could push EV adoption

AGGAM WALIA  
NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 25

THE BUREAU of Indian Standards (BIS) approved an indigenously developed AC and DC combined charging connector standard for light electric vehicles (LEVs) such as scooters, bikes, and rickshaws last week. Electric vehicle (EV) charging connector standards are conceptually similar to charging connector standards for mobile phones like the USB Type-C charger and the lightning charger.

The new standard, ISI7017 (Part 2/Sec 7): 2023, has been developed through collaboration between NITI Aayog, the Department of Science and Technology, two-wheeler maker Ather Energy, and various other government and industry stakeholders. This charging standard is the first in the world that combines alternating current (AC) and direct current (DC) for LEVs. Combined AC and DC charging standards for electric four-wheelers are already used across the world, like the Combined Charging System (CCS) standard that is widely used in Europe and in most electric four-wheelers in India. A combined charging standard is attractive because of its interoperability, which means that it can be used by different kinds of EV models and charging infrastructure providers.

**Need for a National Standard**  
In India, EV makers are not mandated to follow a specific standard for EV charging connectors. Currently, electric two-wheeler makers including Ola Electric, Ather Energy, and Ultraviolet Automotive, all use different charging standards for their EVs, much like how Apple phones use a lightning port and Android phones use a USB Type-C port.

For instance, Ola's proprietary Hyperchargers are designed for charging Ola Electric scooters only. Ather Energy's open source charging standard is used by its own scooters and by Hero Vida V1 e-scooters, as Hero MotoCorp owns a major stake in Ather. Ultraviolet's e-scooters are only compatible with charging connectors using IEC 62196-6, an international charging standard.

Unlike with phones, however, too many charging standards for EVs makes it difficult for public charging stations to cater to each and every EV, thus adding to range anxiety.

While EV owners can carry adapters to address any mismatch between charging standards, such a solution adversely impacts the convenience of owning an EV. Even though the latest approved standard fixes the problem of different standards for AC and DC charging for LEVs by creating a combined standard, it does not mandate EV makers to use a uniform standard that can help address range anxiety and promote faster adoption of EVs.

#### Global Charging Connector Standards

China uses a national standard for EV charging connectors called GB/T that, along with one of the densest networks of charging stations in the world, has allowed it to productively address concerns around range anxiety and become the world's largest market for EVs. While the US does not have a national standard, EV makers are collaborating with each other to push for some degree of standardisation. For instance, Ford and General Motors (GM) are adopting the North American Charging Standard (NACS) developed by Tesla so that their EVs can access Tesla's network of fast chargers across North America. **FULL REPORT ON [www.indianexpress.com](http://www.indianexpress.com)**

EXPLAINED

## INDICATIONS THAT PRIVATE INVESTMENT YET TO PICK UP

# Credit growth to industry slows as new projects dip

GEORGE MATHEW  
MUMBAI, OCTOBER 25

CREDIT EXPANSION to the industry is slowing down if the latest data from the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) is any indication. While the growth in total non-food credit declined marginally to 15 per cent as of August 2023 from 16 per cent a year ago, credit outstanding growth to the industry declined steeply to 6.1 per cent to Rs 33.89 lakh crore as against 11.4 per cent a year ago.

While growth in credit outstanding to the large industry fell to 5.4 per cent (Rs 25.30 lakh crore) as of August 2023 from 6.3 per cent a year ago, the medium sector showed a steep decline in growth to 9.8 per cent (Rs 2.55 lakh crore) from 36.6 per cent last year and micro and small industry credit growth was down to 10.7 per cent from 27.7 per cent, RBI data shows. This decline in credit growth has come amid a fall in new projects in the last two quarters.

The sluggish credit growth to the industry indicates that private investments are yet to pick up. "Though India's private capex cycle has shown early signs of a revival, the outlook over the



Micro and small industry credit growth was down to 10.7 per cent from 27.7 per cent. File

medium term looks positive. With capacity utilisation rising above 75 per cent coupled with a deleveraged balance sheet, we could expect the private investment cycle to accelerate. First quarter data shows improving profitability driven by the easing of input prices. The improvement in corporate profitability will aid private capex cycle revival," said a Care Rating report.

While the private sector has outpaced the government in terms of announcements of new projects in the first half of FY24, it has lagged the government sector in terms of completed projects and projects under implementation. CMIE's data on projects show a steep slowdown in net

new projects in the first half of FY24. The value of new projects announced fell to Rs 1.2 lakh crore in Q2 of FY24 from Rs 6.6 lakh crore in Q1 of FY24 and Rs 13.4 lakh crore in Q4 of FY23. It's important to note that a substantial portion of the new investment projects in Q4 of FY23 and Q1 of FY24 were driven by Air India's and InterGlobe Aviation's aircraft purchases, a factor absent in Q2 of FY24, Care Ratings said.

Additionally, the value of dropped projects rose from Rs 3 lakh crore in the Q4 of FY23 to Rs 4.2 lakh crore in Q1 of FY24 and Rs 4 lakh crore in Q2 of FY24. A rise in the value of dropped projects along with a slowdown in announcements of new projects

also pushed net new projects in the negative territory in the first half of FY24. Net new projects fell into negative territory for the first time since March 2021, the report said.

Among major industries, credit growth (year-on-year) to basic metal & metal products and textiles accelerated in August 2023 as compared with the corresponding month of the previous year, while that to chemicals & chemical products, food processing and infrastructure decelerated. On the other hand, growth in personal loans was at 18.3 per cent as of August 2023 as against 19.4 per cent a year ago. If the merger of HDFC with HDFC Bank is taken into account, the growth was at 30.8 per cent. Credit card outstanding shot up by 30 per cent to Rs 2.17 lakh crore on a year-on-year basis as against 26.8 per cent last year. Gold loan outstanding increased by 22.1 per cent to Rs 96,265 crore as against 9.2 per cent.

On October 6, while unveiling the monetary policy, the RBI cautioned banks and non-banking finance companies (NBFCs) about the high growth in the personal loan segments for any signs of stress. **FULL REPORT ON [www.indianexpress.com](http://www.indianexpress.com)**

## Axis Bank Q2 net profit rises 10% to ₹5,864 cr

New Delhi: Private sector lender Axis Bank on Wednesday reported a 10 per cent increase in the September 2023 quarter net profit to Rs 5,864 crore on higher interest income.

The lender had reported a net profit of Rs 5,330 crore in the year-ago period.

The bank's net interest income (NII) grew 19 per cent year-on-year to Rs 12,315 crore.

Its provisioning rose to Rs 815 crore during the second quarter of the current fiscal from Rs 550 crore in the year-ago period.

Axis Bank's total income rose to Rs 31,660 crore during the quarter under review, from Rs 24,094 crore last year. **PTI**



## SPECIAL CAMPAIGN 3.0

Delhi Customs Zone in presence of Revenue Secretary Sanjay Malhotra, Chairman CBIC Sanjay Agarwal & member Rajiv Talwar as part of Special Campaign 3.0 destroyed 328 kg narcotics worth Rs 284 crore and foreign origin cigarettes worth Rs 9.85 crore. @cbic\_india

## Weak sentiments: Sensex tanks 1,350 pts, Nifty drops 421 pts in two trading sessions

ENSECONOMIC BUREAU  
MUMBAI, OCTOBER 25

CONCERNS OVER escalation of Israel-Hamas war and surge in yield on 10-year US Treasury continue to weigh on the domestic equity market for the second consecutive day on Wednesday, with Sensex falling 1,350 points and Nifty dropping by 421 points in the last two trading sessions.

On Wednesday, the BSE Sensex tanked 522.82 points, or 0.81 per cent to close at 64,049.06. The NSE Nifty 50 slipped 159.6 points, or 0.83 per cent, to end at 19,122.15. On Monday, while the BSE Sensex lost 825.74 points, the



The Bombay Stock Exchange. File

Nifty 50 dropped by 260.9 points. Markets were closed on October 24 due to Dussehra holiday.

"Investor sentiment is on edge

as tensions in West Asia continue to drag the market. Despite a drop in oil prices and an optimistic view of the progressing Q2 results season, investors took a cautious approach due to the expectation that a higher interest rate scenario would continue slowing future growth," said Vinod Nair, Head of Research at Geojit Financial Services.

On Monday, the yield on the 10-year US bonds surged to 5.02 per cent, its highest level since July 2007. It, however, eased to 4.859 per cent on Wednesday.

Bank of Baroda's Chief Economist Madan Sabnavis in a note said that presently there are concerns on the war in Israel, oil

prices going higher, stock markets being volatile across the world, dollar getting stronger and Fed signalling that it is still not done with rate hikes.

"Concerns around global economic slowdown specially in Europe resurfaced after Eurozone Composite PMI (flash) worsened to 46.5 in October 2023 (lowest since November 2020) from 47.2 in September 2023. This comes ahead of the ECB policy meet, scheduled later this week wherein it is expected the members might not continue with higher interest rates for a longer period of time," BoB's note said.

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

## RBI asks private banks to have at least two whole-time directors on boards

ENSECONOMIC BUREAU  
MUMBAI, OCTOBER 25

THE RESERVE Bank of India (RBI) on Wednesday directed private and wholly-owned subsidiaries of foreign banks to have at least two whole time directors (WTDs) on their boards. This means that these banks must have at least one WTD in addition to the Managing Director (MD) and Chief Executive Officer (CEO).

The regulator said the number of WTDs will be decided by the board of the bank by taking into account factors such as the size of operations, business complexity, and other relevant aspects.

Given the growing complex-

ity of the banking sector, it becomes imperative to establish an effective senior management team in the banks to navigate ongoing and emerging challenges, it said.

"Establishment of such a team may also facilitate succession planning, especially in the background of the regulatory stipulations in respect of tenure and upper age limit for MD & CEO positions," the RBI said in a notification.

It advised banks that currently do not meet this minimum requirement to submit their proposals for the appointment of WTDs within four months.

The RBI said that those banks which do not already have the en-

abling provisions regarding appointment of WTDs in their Articles of Association may first seek necessary approvals expeditiously so as to be in a position to comply with the requirements.

"While ensuring compliance to the above instructions, careful consideration shall also be given to meet the requirements under other applicable statutory/regulatory provisions," it said.

In April 2021, the RBI had issued norms for the appointment of directors and constitution of committees of the boards of private banks, including Small Finance Banks (SFBs) and wholly owned subsidiaries of foreign banks. These norms were issued as part of the effort to strengthen

the corporate governance in banks. In respect of tenure of MD&CEO and WTDs, the RBI had said that these posts cannot be held by the same incumbent for more than 15 years. The regulator also clarified that no person can continue as MD&CEO or WTD beyond the age of 70 years in the private banks.

"MD&CEO or WTD who is also a promoter/ major shareholder, cannot hold these posts for more than 12 years. However, in extraordinary circumstances, at the sole discretion of the Reserve Bank such MD&CEO or WTDs may be allowed to continue up to 15 years," the RBI said.

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

## GST notices worth ₹1 lakh crore issued to online gaming companies so far

ENSECONOMIC BUREAU  
NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 25

ONLINE GAMING companies have been issued show cause notices worth Rs 1 lakh crore so far by the Goods and Services Tax (GST) authorities for tax evasion and underpayment of taxes, a senior government official said Wednesday. Though the official refused to put a total number to the overall notices issued by GST authorities, he said notices were issued now as the time period for issuing notices for financial year 2017-18 was coming to an end.

"Online gaming companies have been served notices worth about Rs 1 lakh crore by GST authorities so far... for GST evasion, there are so many issues for which show cause notices have been issued. Cases are being investigated. It will be very difficult to attach a figure to the quantum of evasion," the official said.

The government has amended the GST law, making it mandatory for overseas online gaming companies to register in India from October 1. But there is no data yet of overseas gaming companies registering in India, the official said.

In August, the GST Council clarified that 28 per cent Goods and Services Tax (GST) would be levied on the full value of bets placed on online gaming platforms.

Since then, many gaming companies have received either an intimation notice or a show cause notice for short payment of GST. Amended legal provisions and rules for online gaming, horse racing and casinos came into effect from October 1, bringing into effect the 28 per cent GST at face value at entry level and mandatory registration for offshore online gaming companies in India.

The online gaming companies claim they were paying taxes at the rate of 18 per cent as the games played on the platform were 'games of skill'.

While gaming company Dream11 had got a show cause notice for evasion of Rs 40,000 crore, casino gaming company Delta Corp received multiple notices from GST authorities totalling Rs 23,204 crore for short-payment of taxes. Delta Corp Ltd has already got orders from the Goa Bench of the Bombay High

## Smuggled gold seizures rise 43% in Apr-Sep

New Delhi: Smuggled gold seizures have increased nearly 43 per cent to 2,000 kilogramme during April-September, with most of the yellow metal entering India through the land borders of Myanmar, Nepal and Bangladesh.

Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs Chairman Sanjay Kumar Agarwal said in April-September period of last year, 1,400 kg of gold was seized, while during the full fiscal 2022-23, around 3,800 kg was seized. "There is no change in duty structure of gold vis-a-vis last year. But smuggling may be dependent on the prevailing prices of gold in international and domestic markets," Agarwal said. **PTI**

Court and Sikkim High Court restraining tax authorities from any further action on multiple GST demand notices.

A spate of GST notices have also been issued by authorities beginning from industry-specific investigations in sectors such as banking, insurance that later extended to online gaming and casinos.

Subsequently, GST notices expanded to cover "underpayment" of tax, "incorrect availment of input tax credit" and "reconciliations differences" between returns filed and financials. This especially picked up pace before the end of limitation period on September 30 for sending show cause notices for FY 2017-18, which was the first year of the GST regime.

Notices have also been sent for subsequent years from FY19 to FY22. The Tax Department has said that cases have been booked using "data analysis aided by advanced technical tools".

In a statement on October 18, DGGI said it detected GST evasion of Rs 1.36 lakh crore so far during FY24 involving voluntary payment of Rs 14,108 crore.

## Cabinet approves India-Japan chip supply chain partnership

ENSECONOMIC BUREAU  
NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 25

THE UNION Cabinet has approved a Memorandum of Cooperation (MoC) between India and Japan on developing a semiconductor supply chain partnership, which will focus on research and development (R&D), manufacturing, design, and talent development for the industry.

The MoC was initially signed in July this year between the IT Ministry and Japan's Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry.

The MoC intends to strengthen cooperation between India and Japan towards enhancement of the semiconductor supply chain, recognising the importance of semiconductors for the advancement of industries and digital technologies, a statement released by the Union Cabinet said. India is looking to establish itself as a reliable presence in the semiconductor supply chain, especially at a time when companies are looking to diversify from China, which has been the hub of electronics manufacturing for several decades now. New Delhi has rolled out a \$10 billion plan to boost local chip manufacturing. US memory maker Micron Technology is constructing an assembly and packaging plant in Gujarat under the plan.

India is also working with the United States on chip supply chains. As Prime Minister Narendra Modi and US President Joe Biden held a bilateral meet-



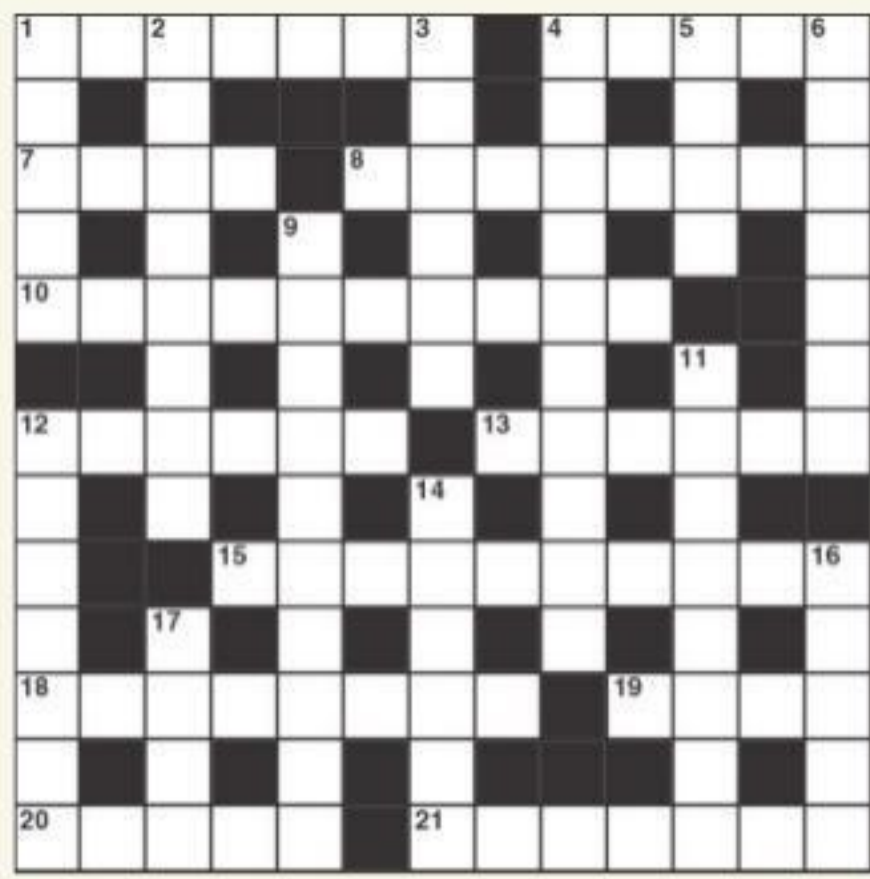
India is looking to establish itself as a reliable presence in the semiconductor supply chain. File

ing last month ahead of the G20 Summit, they reiterated their stance on building resilient global semiconductor supply chains.

US chip company Microchip Technology had earlier announced an investment of \$300 million for the next few years to expand its operations in India, which would include opening a new research and development (R&D) facility in Hyderabad. Advanced Micro Devices (AMD) will invest up to \$400 million in India over the next five years and will set up its biggest design facility in Bengaluru.

Lam Research had announced a proposal to train 60,000 Indian engineers through its Semiverse Solution virtual fabrication platform. And Applied Materials announced a proposed investment of \$400 million to establish a collaborative engineering centre in India.

## CROSSWORD 5192



- ACROSS**
- 1 Friend back on the sporting side, a real flier (7)
  - 4 Honest man (5)
  - 7 The first person on a Scottish isle (4)
  - 8 He can have a startling effect on public opinion (8)
  - 10 Mad artists may create emotional scenes (10)
  - 12 He can either phone or come round in person (6)
  - 13 Staff of office? (6)
  - 15 A diplomat or a doctor seen to fool another about nothing (10)
  - 18 A right pursued by one US state and another (8)
  - 19 Elderly but managed without a valet (4)
  - 20 Way in for all competitors (5)
  - 21 Something a climber may be raised on (7)
- DOWN**
- 1 One fat round Scottish landowner (5)
  - 2 The top hotel in the place perhaps (8)
  - 3 Measure that is of help to a sportsman (6)
  - 4 Excellent example of rudimentary instruction (5-5)
  - 5 The pin of a revolver? (4)
  - 6 Unusually big task carried out by servicemen (7)
  - 9 Notes or coins for the newsboy? (5,5)
  - 11 Spendthrift pair involved with gold (8)
  - 12 Ran wild in captivity causing dreadful loss of life (7)
  - 14 Empty one container into another (6)
  - 16 Is taken aback by a fair's attractions (5)
  - 17 Take-off is a bit of a risk seems (4)

**Solutions Crossword 5191 Across:** 1 Silver medal, 9 Ordered, 10 Other, 11 Post, 12 Dividend, 14 Reams, 16 Onsets, 16 Literary, 19 Epic, 22 Tacks, 23 Confine, 24 Tennis court  
**Down:** 2 Indus, 3 Vera, 4 Red fir, 5 Emotions, 6 Achieve, 7 Copperplate, 8 Trade secret, 13 Impression, 15 Article, 17 Precis, 20 Prior, 21 Undo

## OVER THE HEDGE by Michael Fry & T Lewis



## CALVIN & HOBBS by Bill Watterson



## MARVIN by Tom Armstrong



## JUMBLED WORDS

Given below are four jumbled words. Solve the jumbles to make proper words and move them to the respective squares below. Select the letters in the shaded squares and jumble them to get the answer for the given quip.

We would like to live as we once lived, but \_\_\_ will not \_\_\_ it. - John F. Kennedy (7,6)

**DEORR** **AEUMTT**

**FNIS** **CNUHPY**

**SOLUTION:** ORDER, FINIS, MATURE, PLUNGE  
Answer: 'We would like to live as we once lived, but history will not permit it.'

## SUDOKU 5362

**Difficulty Level 5s**  
**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.

	7	3	6					
5		9			8			
4	9		2					
3			7		1			
6							3	
1		5			9			
		2		1	4			
	5		4			8		
			1	7	2			

SUDOKU 5362

**Difficulty Level**  
1s = Very easy; 2s = Easy;  
3s = Medium; 4s = Hard;  
5s = Very Hard;  
6s = Genius

SOLUTION SUDOKU 5361

8	7	1	5	9	2	6	3	4
6	2	9	7	4	3	1	5	8
5	3	4	1	6	8	9	2	7
3	5	8	9	2	1	4	7	6
2	9	7	4	3	6	5	8	1
1	4	6	8	7	5	3	9	2
4	8	3	2	1	9	7	6	5
9	1	2	6	5	7	8	4	3
7	6	5	3	8	4	2	1	9

## PROCLAMATION REQUIRING THE APPEARANCE OF A PERSON ACCUSED

**SEE SECTION U/S 82 Cr. P.C.**

Whereas complaint has been made before me that accused **Veeru S/o Anil Prasad R/o H.No. G-Block Jhuggi Mangoipur, Delhi**, has committed (or is suspected to have committed) the offence in **FIR No. 335/17 U/s 379/411 IPC, P.S. Subhash Place, Delhi** and it has been returned to a warrant of arrest there upon issued that the said accused **Veeru** cannot be found and whereas it has been shown to my satisfaction that the said accused **Veeru** has absconded (or is concealing himself to avoid the service of the said warrant). Proclamation is hereby made that the said accused **Veeru** of **FIR No. 335/17 U/s 379/411 IPC, P.S. Subhash Place, Delhi** is required to appear before this Court to answer the said complaint on or before **24.11.2023**.

By Order  
**Rohit Gulia**  
Chief Metropolitan Magistrate (North West)  
Room No. 108, First Floor  
Rohini Courts, New Delhi

## APPEAL FOR IDENTIFICATION

General public is hereby informed that an unidentified person **Name:** Unknown @ Raju, **S/o:** Unknown, **R/o:** Unknown, **Age:** About 30 years, **Height:** About 5'3", **Complexion:** Shallow, **Face:** Round, **Wearing:** White Colour Shirt & Grey Colour Pant was found in injured condition after road accident at Near Bus Stop, Todapuri, Delhi on 20.10.2023. He was Admitted to RML Hospital, Delhi, where he is in unconscious condition and under treatment. In this regard a case vide **FIR No. 278/2023 U/s 279/337 IPC** dated 20.10.2023 has been registered at P.S. Inderpuri, Delhi.

Any person having any information or clue about this Unknown person may kindly inform to the following:-

**SHO:** P.S. Inderpuri, Delhi West Distt., Delhi  
**Tel. No. 8750871123, 9210347378**

**DP/12163/Wd/2023**

## OFFICE OF THE CHIEF CONSTRUCTION ENGINEER RURAL WORKS CIRCLE, BALASORE

**By E. Mail/e-Despatch**  
E-Mail ID: [sew.balasure@yahoo.in](mailto:sew.balasure@yahoo.in) Ph.No.: 06782/260318 Balia, Balasore

**"e" Procurement Notice for Bridge Work**  
Identification No. - Online Tender- Bridge NCB No. 49 of 2023-24  
Letter No. 5063 / WE Date. 20.10.2023

- Name of the work :- Bridge works.
- Total No. of work :- As per annexure.
- Estimated Cost :- As per annexure.
- Eligible Class of Contractor :- As per annexure.
- Period of Completion :- As per annexure.
- 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 in O/O C.C.E. R.W. Circle, Balasore	
		From	To		Technical Bid	Financial Bid
Chief Construction Engineer, Rural Works Circle, Balasore	N.C.B. No.- 49 of 2023-24	30.10.2023 at 11.00 A.M.	14.11.2023 Up to 5.00 P.M.	13.11.2023 Up to 5.00 P.M.	15.11.2023 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/- Er. N.V. Harihar Rao  
Chief Construction Engineer, R.W. Circle, Balasore.  
OIPR-25105/11/0059/2324

## PROCLAMATION REQUIRING THE APPEARANCE OF ACCUSED PERSON

**See Section 82 Cr. P. C.**

Whereas a complaint has been made before me that accused person namely **Samim S/O Abdul Aziz R/O H.No. O-15, Kalindi Kunj, Delhi**, have committed (or is suspected to have committed) the offence under **FIR No. 212/2019 U/S 323/341 IPC**, has been registered at P.S. Kalindi Kunj, Delhi and it has been returned to a warrant of arrest there upon issued that the said, **Samim** cannot be found and whereas it has been shown to my satisfaction that the said **Samim** has absconded (or is concealing himself to avoid the service of the said warrant).

Proclamation is hereby made that the said accused **Samim** of **FIR No. 212/2019 U/S 323/341 IPC**, registered at P.S. Kalindi Kunj, Delhi is required to appear before this court to answer the said complaint on or before **04.12.2023**.

By Order  
**Himanshu Tanwar MM**  
Room No. 307, 3rd Floor  
South-East District, New Delhi

**DP/11986/SE/2023**

## TAMIL NADU SMALL INDUSTRIES CORPORATION LIMITED

**e-TENDER NOTICE**  
**Rc. No.1103/PA/2023**

- Procurement of best Quality of Teakwood of various sizes and Thickness.
- Procurement of 2Ply Corrugated Packing sheet of various size made out of 125 GSM paper with 2.5mm 'V' flute.

REFER THE FOLLOWING WEBSITE FOR DOWNLOAD TENDER DOCUMENTS AND OTHER INFORMATIONS  
[www.tntenders.gov.in](http://www.tntenders.gov.in)

**Principal Secretary/ Chairperson and Managing Director**

**DIPR/5722/Tender/2023**

## BEFORE DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL-II, DELHI

4<sup>th</sup> Floor, Jeevan Tara Building, Parliament Street, New Delhi-110001

Notice under section 19(4) of the Recovery of Debts Due to Bank and Financial Institutions Act 1993 read with rule 12 & 13 of the Debts Recovery Tribunal (Procedure) Rule, 1993 in the matter of **TA NO 909/2022 BANK OF BARODA** **VERSUS** **MR. SANJAY KUMAR & ORS.** **RESPONDENT**

1. SANJAY KUAMR S/O SH. KARAM CHAND, R/O TEEKRI NEAR BRAHMAN CHOUPAL TEHSIL PALWAL DISTT. PALWAL HRY. ALSO AT: RENU INVERTORS AND BATTERIES TEGAM ROAD TIRKHA COLONY GALI NO. 1 SHOP NO 2 BALLABGARH

2. MRS. ANITA W/O SANJAY KUMAR, R/O TEEKRI NEAR BRAHMAN CHOUPAL TEHSIL PALWAL HRY. 3. MIS SUBHAMMA BULTECH PVT. LTD., PLOT N. GH/05/B SECT.- 137 EXPRESSWAY NOIDA UP ALSO AT: A-80 SECT.-2/NOIDA- 201301

Whereas the above named applicant (s) has / have instituted a case for recovery of Rs. 39,37,393/- (RUPEE THIRTY NINE LAKH THIRTY SEVEN THOUSAND THREE HUNDRED NINETY THREE ONLY) against you and where as it has been shown to the satisfaction of the Tribunal that it is not possible to serve you in the ordinary way therefore, this notice is given by advertisement directing you to make appearance in the Tribunal on 30.01.2024 at 10.30 A.M.

Take notice that in default of your appearance on the day before the mentioned, the case will be heard and determined in your absence.

All the matters will be taken up through video Conferencing and for that purpose:-  
(i) All the Advocates/Litigants shall download the "Cisco Webex" application/software; (ii) "Meeting ID" and Password for the date of hearing case to be taken by Hon'ble Presiding Officer/Registrar shall be displayed in the daily cause list itself at DRT Official Portal i.e. [drt.gov.in](http://drt.gov.in) (iii) In any exigency qua that the Advocate/Litigants can contact the concerned official at Ph. No. 23748478.

Given under my hand and seal of the Tribunal this the 30<sup>th</sup> day of Sept. 2023.  
BY ORDER OF THE TRIBUNAL, SECTION OFFICER, DRT-II, DELHI.

## GOVERNMENT OF ODISHA

**DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES**  
**OFFICE OF THE ADDITIONAL CHIEF ENGINEER**  
**CENTRAL IRRIGATION CIRCLE, BHUBANESWAR**

**"e" Procurement Notice No. ACECIC - 07/ 2023-24**

Procurement Officer	Bid Identification No.	Name of Work	Cost of Work (Rs. in Lakhs)	Bid Security (Rs. in Lakhs)	Cost of Bid documents (Rs)	Class of Contractor	Bid documents available online for bidding		Date of opening of Technical Bid	Period of completion of work
							From	To		
ACECIC, Bhubaneswar	NGR 06/ 2023-24	Construction of Irrigation Road from Village Tilabari to Manjari for Bratang Irrigation Project	315.98	3160000/- (On Line)	10000/- (On Line)	"A" Class	26.10.2023 At 10.00 Hours	09.11.2023 At 17.00 Hours	10.11.2023 (Six Calendar Month)	06

e-mail ID: [secic\\_dowr@yahoo.com](mailto:secic_dowr@yahoo.com)  
Further details conditions can be seen from Govt. Website [www.tenderorissa.gov.in](http://www.tenderorissa.gov.in)

Sd/-  
**Additional Chief Engineer**  
Central Irrigation Circle  
OIPR-32160/11/0008/2324

## DAY TODAY BY PETER VIDAL

- ARIES (Mar 21 - Apr 20)**  
The fact that professional stars combine very long-term patterns with very short-term cycles means that even little steps you take today can help with major ambitions. However, don't expect instant results, and do be prepared for people to leave existing arrangements.
- LIBRA (Sep 24 - Oct 23)**  
Since the Moon is now aligned with the very heart of your solar chart, you must fulfil all your domestic duties in full. The only way to escape is to give up the lot. Or enrol a team of willing helpers. Keep your sense of humour well to the fore and you'll survive with a smile.
- TAURUS (Apr 21 - May 21)**  
There is a very pleasant tendency in the air today, stimulated, as ever, by your friend, the Moon. The world will generally be moving in your favour, especially if you are happy to accept whatever turns up. Some people are bound to be in a touchy mood.
- SCORPIO (Oct 24 - Nov 23)**  
Other people are often surprised when you are able to make up your own mind, and even more stunned when they realise you know what you're talking about. Their notions may give you the advantage, and you could already be at the finishing post when they start.
- GEMINI (May 22 - June 21)**  
Your planetary ruler, Mercury, is still making a series of very inspired aspects. These raise the tantalising prospect that you'll make a massive amount money. However, it will be very difficult to distinguish the one genuine opportunity from the ghosts and illusions which cloud your vision.
- SAGITTARIUS (Nov 24 - Dec 22)**  
You may expect additional costs today. It's almost inevitable that you'll have to deal with money, and it may even be rather exciting if you're able to bring out the latent capitalist within. Plus, a generous gesture may take you closer to your heart's desire.
- CANCER (June 22 - July 23)**  
There may be a battle for supremacy between your need for security and your desire to break loose, so you may feel deeply unsettled. This could therefore be a very useful point indeed to reconsider the past, take a fresh look at the present.
- CAPRICORN (Dec 23 - Jan 20)**  
The Moon's helpful movement has two results. One is that your confidence should be growing. The other is that you're more sensitive. The best conclusion is that you'll be much more forthright about expressing your feelings than you were in the past.
- LEO (July 24 - Aug 23)**  
You can and will derive lasting benefit from partners' little games and schemes, even if it doesn't look that way right now. The more you trust them to do what is right, the better the chance that they'll succeed. Offer constructive advice.
- AQUARIUS (Jan 21 - Feb 19)**  
Venus and Mars are irresistible planets so, quite simply, you should be increasingly attractive. Actually, you can sabotage your own good fortune by deliberately refusing to co-operate. You should avoid such self-defeating actions, and help yourself by helping others.
- VIRGO (Aug 24 - Sep 23)**  
You should never forget that you are as creative as anyone else. In point of fact, at the moment your artistic potential seems to be rather greater than most other people's, and employers and people in authority forget this at their great cost.
- PISCES (Feb 20 - Mar 20)**  
There is nothing you like better than to be left alone to get on and dream. Psychologists tell us it is healthy to fantasise, so don't let anyone put you down or scoff at your colourful ideas. Besides, you might come up with suggestions which will benefit everyone.



**REBOOT**

**Ramp walk, trek, ashram visit: Indian team unwinds**



KL Rahul & Rahul Dravid enjoying their break from cricket.

DEVENDRA PANDEY  
OCTOBER 25

THE INDIAN cricket team recently took a well-deserved break during their World Cup schedule and indulged in some fun-filled activities in the picturesque town of Dharamsala. The team management had planned a variety of activities to keep the environment light and the players' spirits high in the midst of the high-pressure tournament.

One of the team activities was a trek in the nearby mountains, which the support staff thoroughly enjoyed. Head coach Rahul Dravid, along with batting coach Vikram Rathore and bowling coach Paras Mhambrey, were seen in a video shared by the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI), completely immersing themselves in nature and embracing the challenging climb. Dravid expressed his desire for the players to experience this marvellous journey in the future, as it was deemed too risky for them at the time.

Meanwhile, Indian captain Virat Kohli opted for a different experience by visiting an ashram.

In addition to these individual activities, the team management organised a ramp show for the players and support staff at the team hotel. Each member of the team had to walk on the ramp as if they were part of a fashion show. While it remains unclear who judged the show and who emerged as the winner, what is evident is that the Indian team ended their night with a great bonding session, further strengthening the camaraderie within the squad.

The Indian cricket team's success in the ongoing World Cup tournament has undoubtedly played a crucial role in fostering a vibrant and energetic dressing room environment. The players are not only enjoying each other's success but are also openly expressing their admiration for the team spirit.

In fact, one player described the team as "one family," highlighting the unity and harmony that permeate the Indian squad. The team's performance on the field has been nothing short of exceptional, as they have won all five games played so far.

The Indian team has also introduced the concept of the best fielder medal during the World Cup, which further promotes healthy competition and recognises outstanding fielding efforts. After each game, the fielding coach identifies the best fielder of the match and presents them with a unique medal, adding an extra element of motivation and appreciation for the players.

While the team management had prohibited the players from engaging in activities such as trekking or paragliding in Dharamsala due to safety concerns, the players made the most of their time off.



**ALL IS MAXWELL**

**FASTEST WORD CUP 100**

MAXWELL	MARKRAM	O'BRIEN	MAXWELL	DEVILLIERS
40 BALLS	49 BALLS	50 BALLS	51 BALLS	52 BALLS

**Largest victory margin, fastest hundred: Australia's World Cup campaign back on track on a day the Dutch and record books take a beating**

TUSHAR BHADURI  
NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 25

IT TAKES one day. So goes the promotional campaign for the World Cup.

However, on Wednesday, it took Glenn Maxwell just 42 balls to potentially change the course of Australia's fortunes in this tournament, as the fastest hundred in the history of the World Cup set up a 309-run annihilation of the Dutch, the largest victory margin ever in the competition. With matches against India and South Africa out of the way already, they consolidated their hold over fourth spot and on current form, look a good bet for the semifinals.

Two successive wins had got the Aussie campaign somewhat back on track, but the absence of late-order ballast was a shortcoming they needed to address, as Mitchell Marsh had said on the eve of their match against the Netherlands in the capital. They had faltered after a 250-run-plus opening partnership against Pakistan, not optimising their death overs. It seemed to be going in a similar direction against the Dutch, as Australia suffered a mini-collapse from 244/2 after 36 overs to 290/6 in the 43rd over.

With all other recognised batsmen back in the pavilion and Maxwell being more miss than hit with the bat lately, the five-time champions were in danger of being bowled out well within the 50 overs for somewhere around 320. It would, most likely, have been enough for their third win on the bounce, given the gulf in experience and class between the two teams, but wouldn't have silenced the doubters about their lower-middle order.

South Africa have been the only team so far to have put on the after-burners in the final 10 overs, with Heinrich Klaasen, David Miller and Aiden Markram doing full justice to the platform set by their top order. That was before Maxwell got amongst the Dutch and took them to 399/8. It helped that the underdogs didn't have anyone who could hurry him with extra pace. What he did in the final phase of the innings put to shade a 91-ball hundred by David Warner, his second successive ton in the tournament and sixth overall in World Cups, now just one behind Rohit Sharma's record.

As many as 131 runs came in the final 10 overs, the partnership worth 103 between Maxwell and Pat Cummins coming in only 43 balls with the contribution of the Aussie captain being a mere eight.

"That was crazy. Thought we both contributed equally in that 100-run partner-

**SCORECARD**

**AUSTRALIA vs NETHERLANDS**  
FEROZE SHAH KOTLA, DELHI

Toss: Australia, elected to bat first

**AUSTRALIA**

M Marsh c Ackermann b van Beek	9 (15b, 2x4)
Warner c Dutt b van Beek	104 (93b, 11x4, 3x6)
S Smith c van der Merwe b Dutt	71 (68b, 9x4, 1x6)
Marnus c Dutt b de Leede	62 (47b, 7x4, 2x6)
Inglis c Engelbrecht b de Leede	14 (12b, 1x4, 1x6)
<b>G Maxwell c Engelbrecht b van Beek</b>	<b>106 (44b, 9x4, 8x6)</b>
<b>Total</b> 50 Ov (RR: 7.98)	<b>399/8</b>
<b>FoW:</b> 1-28, 2-160, 3-244, 4-266, 5-267, 6-290, 7-393, 8-393	
<b>Bowling:</b> Aryan Dutt 7-0-59-1, Colin Ackermann 4-0-19-0, Logan van Beek 10-0-74-4, Paul van Meekeren 10-0-64-0, Vikramjit Singh 4-0-27-0, Roelof van der Merwe 5-0-41-0, Bas de Leede 10-0-115-2	

**NETHERLANDS**

V Singh run out (Maxwell)	25 (25b, 6x4)
Max O'Dowd b Starc	6 (9b, 1x4)
C Ackermann lbw b Hazlewood	10 (11b, 2x4)
S Engelbrecht c Warner b Marsh	11 (21b, 1x4)
B de Leede lbw b Cummins	4 (7b, 1x4)
S Edwards not out	12 (22b)
T Nidamanuru c Inglis b Marsh	14 (18b, 2x4)
L van Beek c Inglis b Zampa	0 (3b)
R van der Merwe lbw b Zampa	0 (1b)
A Dutt c lbw b Zampa	1 (8b)
P van Meekeren st Inglis b Zampa	0 (1b)
<b>Extras</b> (w 7)	<b>7</b>
<b>Total</b> 21 Ov (RR: 4.28)	<b>90</b>
<b>FoW:</b> 1-28, 2-37, 3-47, 4-53, 5-62, 6-84, 7-86, 8-86, 9-90, 10-90	
<b>Bowling:</b> Mitchell Starc 4-0-22-1, Josh Hazlewood 6-0-27-1, Pat Cummins 4-0-14-1, Mitchell Marsh 4-0-19-2, Adam Zampa 3-0-8-4	

ship," Cummins joked after the game.

The Dutch bowling didn't hold any terrors on a batting-friendly wicket and once Warner set his stall to play a long innings - apart from a run-out scare while batting with Steve Smith - it seemed rather inevitable that the left-hander would get to three figures. It was also a useful outing for Smith and Marnus Labuschagne, short of runs till now. It may have been only the Netherlands, but the time spent in the middle and the half-centuries scored may reap dividends at the business end of the competition.

**Dutch disaster**

The onslaught left the Netherlands shell-shocked, and it was evident when they came out to bat. A flurry of early boundaries from Vikramjit Singh and Max O'Dowd was followed by a procession that stopped only when they were bowled out for 90 in 21 overs. Leg-spinner Adam Zampa helped himself to a four-wicket haul, conceding just 8 runs in three overs.

"Just about the complete game. Couldn't be happier," Cummins gushed.

But the game was decided well before the Netherlands came out to bat. While Warner batted like he was expected to, the Dutch had the misfortune of facing Maxwell in his unstoppable avatar. Bas de Leede may have nightmares about his afternoon at the Arun Jaitley Stadium, suffering the most expensive spell in ODI history, conceding 115 runs in his 10 overs, 28 in his last, the penultimate one in the Aussie innings.

An Aussie side hitting its stride as the World Cup enters the decisive phase is a warning to the other contenders. Though they may not have the aura of some of the champion sides of yore, they can almost always be relied upon to bring their best game to the big occasion. It usually takes a special effort to beat an Australian side that has the bit between its teeth.

Warner had started the tournament slowly before smashing 163 against Pakistan. The opener is winding down his career, and looks keen to make every remaining outing count. He got into his stride by hitting off-spinner Aryan Dutt for four consecutive boundaries in the second over of the innings, all of them versions of the cut shot, finding the gaps on either side of the point fielder with surgical precision.

After Marsh perished to an ugly hoick relatively early, Smith - who had had a long net session the day before the game, taking throwdowns for more than an hour - showed his fluent self as the Dutch bowlers helped him by providing deliveries to hit through the legside.

Labuschagne, who has not been the quickest of scorers, also managed a half-century in 42 balls, showing some deft touch and innovation. Whether that will be enough for him to keep his spot in the XI once Travis Head returns remains to be seen.

Labuschagne's dismissal started an Aussie slide in which they lost four wickets for 46 runs, which may have raised some concerns in their dressing room, until Maxwell made his memorable intervention, after which they could be counted among genuine title-contenders once again.

**How the reverse hits helped Aussies switch to fast forward mode**

NAMIT KUMAR  
NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 25

IT WAS not until the 46th over that a semi-decent-capacity New Delhi crowd had truly got their money's worth.

Having seen batting of a vintage class from Australia's heavyweight top order - half-centuries for Steve Smith and Marnus Labuschagne, and a well-paced hundred from David Warner - Glenn Maxwell had begun in a similar vein. It was not until he unfurled his signature shot, depositing a few balls in different areas of the Feroze Shah Kotla, that the audience were up on their feet and roaring. One can't quite call it a reverse sweep, it's more like a reverse switch. The direction of the bat swing may be reversed, but the quick switch in both stance and grip make it seem like a controlled left-handed shot. It would prove to not only be his trademark but also his confidence booster.

Maxwell had driven his way - both straight and through cover - to a 20-ball 37, before eventually unleashing the switch shot to redirect a Paul van Meekeren full ball over point for four. The floodgates had opened. A six would follow, and two more to Bas de Leede in the next over, both off the switch shot, the second being a hook to a short slower ball in one flowing motion. The slower one deceived, but saw the same result.

Thirty seven from 20 had become 60 off 29, and Maxwell would unleash all kinds of carnage from there on to make the fastest century in ODI World Cup history from 40 balls, stealing the record from South Africa's Aiden Markram, who made a 49-ball ton on this very ground earlier this month. It was the fourth-fastest ODI century of all time.

The New Delhi crowd was not just enchanted by Maxwell's pinch-hitting on demand, but rather roaring to the tune of a familiar favourite. The 35-year-old Victorian has a long-standing good relationship with India, from his memorable IPL moments and history to his Indian wife and extended local family.

While Maxwell doesn't quite share Warner's affinity to Delhi - his two separate year-long stints with Delhi Capitals are nothing to write home about - and despite having the tailor-made skillset to exploit the

shorter boundaries around the Kotla, his IPL record here has been less than impressive. But regardless, playing around India has been one of his strengths even at international level. In Australian colours, he has three hundreds and eight fifty-plus scores across formats in the country, and it seemed only a matter of time, just like the five-time champions themselves, that he began firing in this tournament.

**Not merely unconventional**

Maxwell's Wednesday night blitz was not just about his unconventional batting strokes. Once the momentum was on his side with those three switch shots, he was not trigger-happy with it - in fact, he went for it only once more, nicking a fortunate inside edge for four. Netherlands skipper Scott Edwards was wary, doing his best to have third man and deep backward point covered, and the bowlers were conservative with their line and length.

The 35-year-old, then, exploited Netherlands' caution and the pressure on their lacklustre bowling lineup, with a straight bat. Stray wide balls were sliced, fuller balls were lifted over the bowlers' heads, stray full tosses pulled, and bad balls - of which there were many - were not left unpunished. Only five of his last 13 deliveries were not boundaries, and five of those were sixes.

Maxwell's shots may point to the much-talked-about influence of T20-slogging into the 50-over game, but it is his intelligent shot selection that made the record-breaking onslaught possible.

De Leede would feel its maximum wrath to notch an embarrassing record, leaking 29 runs, and five boundaries to Maxwell, in the penultimate over of the innings, ending with the most expensive figures in ODI history after giving 115 runs from his 10-over spell.

Maxwell's hard-hitting innings will go down as just one of the many feathers in Australia's cap after a five-star performance with ball and bat. But to have their star finisher - he has a strike rate of over 170 in the final powerplay throughout his ODI career - back among the runs and momentum, in conditions that have suited him in the past, would be a major boost, especially as they look to overturn their shaky start to get back into title contention in India.

**UNREALISTIC TARGETS**

**Aussies don't believe 400-odd totals will become a norm in one-dayers**

NAMIT KUMAR  
NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 25

AUSTRALIA MAY have put in a performance of all-round domination to dismantle the Netherlands in their World Cup game on Wednesday, but their star batsmen still believe that 400-odd totals in ODI cricket remain an exception, not the norm.

The former world champions put up a mammoth total of 399 and took 10 wickets for just 90 runs to record an impressive win in New Delhi.

While much is made of the increasing influence of T20 cricket on the 50-over game, with middle-order collapses and huge totals both occurring with more frequency, Glenn Maxwell and Steve Smith said that conditions, opposition bowling, and a fortunate day with the bat all play a role in getting to the 400-run mark in 50 overs.

Smith asserted after the game that Wednesday's high score was enabled by the top order doing their job, playing the middle overs well and building a base for those coming later to "have a smack at the back-end of the innings," but said it's only possible on the occasion that the pitch supports the batsmen.

"It's always wicket-dependent. To try and get 400 on the pitch we played on in Chennai in the first match against India would be unrealistic - probably would've been bowled out at 150. So we have to assess the conditions," he said after the match.

Maxwell was the pick of the Australia batsmen, making the fastest century in ODI World Cup history with his 44-ball 106. But he was one of two centurions, as David Warner made a sixth World Cup ton, and both Smith and Marnus Labuschagne registered 71 and 62 respectively.

Adding to Smith's point, he said it takes a



Maxwell embraces captain Pat Cummins after reaching his century. Abhinav Saha

lot more than just a good wicket to get to 400. "There's still a lot of things (other than the surface) that need to go right to get 400," Maxwell said in his post-match press conference. "There still needs to be a platform, there still needs to be solid intent through the middle overs, and then you need a sensational finish. Like you need to be powerful at the back end."

Maxwell stole the record from Aiden Markram, who made a 49-ball ton just a few weeks ago at the same pitch as South Africa pummeling their way to 428 against Sri Lanka at the same venue.

"South Africa, when they got their 420 here, they had - was it three blocks getting hundreds? And even then it took something brilliant from Markram to come out and pump it around after a long partnership which is sometimes not easy to do," Maxwell said.

"A big partnership is sometimes really hard to bat after in one-day cricket because

you're expected to keep that momentum, but he did it beautifully," he added.

**Records on my mind: Maxwell**

As Maxwell unleashed carnage from both ends at the death of Australia's innings, going from 14 in the 42nd over to 100 in the 49th, he had one eye on the number of balls he faced on the scoreboard in chasing the world records that have motivated him throughout his career.

"I'm very aware of them (records). I'm very aware of balls faced. I love the fastest 50, fastest 100 records. I think they're pretty cool records. Sometimes to the detriment of myself, I've always probably pushed the boundaries a bit too much," he said.

"So, it was I've been in those positions before I could make fast hundreds when I get on the run, I know I'm difficult to bowl to, just about getting past the first ball," he said with a smile.

SHORT TAKES



Hardik Pandya had injured his ankle during India's game vs Bangladesh in Pune. PTI

**Pandya to miss two more games due to injury**

INDIA WILL continue to miss the services of Hardik Pandya as it's now learnt that the Indian all-rounder will only be available for the last two World Cup league games against South Africa, on November 5, and Netherlands. Pandya is unlikely to join the team ahead of the game against England in Lucknow.

The Indian Express understands that Pandya hasn't begun to bowl after he had injured his ankle during India vs Bangladesh game held in Pune last week. The medical team will wait for a few more days to let him recover at the National Cricket Academy in Bangalore. He is expected to join the Indian team in Mumbai or Kolkata.

The Indian team management doesn't want to rush him and are hoping he will be completely fit for the last two games. With the Indian team on a winning streak in this World Cup, the team management wants a completely fit Pandya for the semis.

Pandya had missed the game against New Zealand in Dharamsala on October 22 and was rushed to National Cricket Academy in Bengaluru to be treated by a specialist doctor from England with the required injections. Pandya was initially expected to join the Indian team in Lucknow but that assessment has changed now.

"Team India vice-captain Hardik Pandya sustained an injury to his left ankle while fielding on his own bowling during India's match against Bangladesh at the Maharashtra Cricket Association Stadium, Pune. The all-rounder was taken for scans and is advised rest. He will be under the constant supervision of the BCCI Medical Team," BCCI secretary Jay Shah had said in its statement.

The medium pacer had limped off during bowling after putting his right foot to stop a drive from Bangladesh's Liton Das. Play was stopped for nearly five minutes as the physio strapped his ankle.

-DEVENDRA PANDEY

STANDINGS

	M	W	L	T	Pts	NRR
Ind	5	5	0	0	10	+1.353
SA	5	4	1	0	8	+2.370
NZ	5	4	1	0	8	+1.481
Aus	5	3	2	0	6	+1.142
Pak	5	2	3	0	4	-0.400
Afg	5	2	3	0	4	-0.969
SL	4	1	3	0	2	-1.048
Eng	4	1	3	0	2	-1.248
Ban	5	1	4	0	2	-1.253
Ned	4	1	3	0	2	-0.790

# Klaasen is Klusener-redux

Earning big bucks from globetrotting franchise gigs never a temptation; Heinrich Klaasen chose domestic grind to represent country

VENKATA KRISHNA B  
CHENNAI, OCTOBER 25

JUST BEFORE the pandemic set in March, Mandla Mashimbyi the head coach at the Titans in South Africa, remembers a dejected Heinrich Klaasen showing up at Centurion. Overlooked by the Proteas for over a year, Klaasen had announced himself big time with a man of the series performance in the ODI series against Australia at home. He even scored his maiden century then, before finding his name missing from Cricket South Africa's annual contract. After missing out on the 2019 World Cup, his career was once again at crossroads even as South Africa had taken baby steps from moving on from big names for the 2023 edition.

With domestic T20 leagues sprouting up and normal service resuming post-pandemic, Klaasen could have been easily lured by the big money contracts that came his way. A natural six-hitter, who could strike the ball long and hard, it didn't come as a surprise that franchises were queuing up for his signature. South Africa, could have easily missed out on another outstanding batting talent to the rest of the world. Only thing is Klaasen wasn't going to have any of it. Instead, Mashimbyi recalls how a wounded Klaasen turned up at the Centurion instead.

"He could have easily taken up the big bucks that T20 franchises were offering him. But he took the hard call and wanted to grind it out at the domestic level and represent the country again. Missing out on the contract just triggered the fighter in him, because he wanted to prove that he is made for the international level, which



At this World Cup, Heinrich Klaasen has a 67-ball 109 against England and a 49-ball 90. Deepak Joshi

many thought was beyond him. From the time I first saw him in 2014, it has been his dream all along and nothing could lure him. He wanted to fight for his spot, which he thought was his," Mashimbyi tells *The Indian Express*.

**Backed nationally**

With a string of good scores in the domestic fold, Klaasen would make a re-entry to the national set-up. With all their middle-order bigwigs hanging up their boots, a place would open up for Klaasen and with his credentials as a power-hitter only improving thanks to T20s, South Africa would eventually zero-in on him for the World Cup. And with Rob Walter, the coach with whom he started with at Titans, now in

charge of South Africa's white-ball teams, Klaasen would get the sort of backing he needed to become the beast he is.

"The last 18 months have been a blessing for him for all the hard work he put in earlier. He is someone who will perform when he knows the coach backs him. He would do anything for the coach and will always go the extra mile. Compared to two years back and now what has worked is that, this team believes in him. He has the trust of the coach and feels he is the main guy now," Mashimbyi adds.

That Klaasen had a good outing in the SA20 and in the IPL 2023, also helped a big deal. With South Africa's batting being too top-heavy, and no finisher in the mix, Walter would turn his eyes to Klaasen, who

started off as an opener. His aggressive style of play, especially his ability to launch an onslaught from the word go -- which was not too long ago considered rash -- would prove to be the deal clincher.

Like Lance Klusener, Klaasen has a similar bat lift. It is the very genesis of his power-hitting game that enables him to strike the ball long and hard to all pockets.

"He has always been explosive. The thing that makes him dangerous is he can bat when the chips are down. He is always looking for that fight, if you need someone to consolidate you go to him invariably because he is well-equipped to overcome such moments.

"Even in his early years, when Titans were in a very sticky situation on difficult

**Like Lance Klusener, Klaasen has a similar bat lift. It is the very genesis of his power-hitting game that enables him to strike the ball long and hard to all pockets.**

itches he has gone on to make hundreds for fun. He has this ability to absorb pressure and deliver back and if you are looking for someone to finish games, he can come and from the outset put pressure on bowlers. That for me is a high-skilled batsman, who can win you games from any position," Mashimbyi says.

Just before the World Cup, during the ODIs against Australia at home, he showed what he is capable of doing in the middle-order. Coming in at No 5 with South Africa placed at 120/3 in the 26th over, Klaasen launched himself to a personal best of 174 off 83 balls. And at this World Cup, he has a 67-ball 109 against England while coming in the 26th over and a 49-ball 90 landing at the crease in the 31st over. So far in this World Cup, Klaasen has scored a total of 142 runs off the last 10 overs at an overall strike-rate of 150.78.

But the conditions in India were supposed to be his area of concern. For a batsman who grew up playing at Centurion, where there is always juice on the pitch that makes batsmen go on the backfoot at most times, the spin-friendly conditions had tested him before.

Even when he made his debut against India in 2018, he struggled against India's spinners. And ahead of this year's edition which he used as a precursor for the World Cup, Klaasen would make a subtle adjustment. Blessed with an ability to pick up the length early, Mashimbyi's advice to his ward would be to stand still and not play anything across the line, unless forced by the length.

"Klaasen is a problem solver. You give him any condition, he will find a way to adjust and perform and that is what makes him special. So ahead of the World Cup, he just went with a strong gameplan. He doesn't commit early and he is standing on the leg-stump and waits for the ball to come. That is why he is managing to get the runs," Mashimbyi says.

## At sea in India, Buttler's England hope to conquer Islanders

SANDIP G  
BENGALURU, OCTOBER 25

THE GUARDS and groundsmen were still stretching their limbs, siesta-ing on the shaded part of the ground and letting out deep yawns when Jos Buttler stepped onto the ground on a lazy pre-winter afternoon in Bangalore. He peered at the sun—it might have been more benign than the Mumbai inferno. He watched the eagles swoop down, he wandered to the square where three pitches lay wrapped in a thin cover of tent-cloth. A groundsman offered a sneak-peek, a bemused expression spread across his face.

As he trudged back to the dressing room, he paused and turned back. He could see some of England's finest engaged in their chores. Here was Ben Stokes, the miracle worker, swinging for the fences. There was Joe Root, England's finest batsmen of this generation, rehearsing late-cuts. The spin pair—Adil Rashid and Moeen Ali—were locked in a long chat. Jonny Bairstow was shadow-batting, literally under the shade of a stand. Six of England's World Cup winners of 2019 are in the 2023 edition too. Thirteen of them had packed themselves in the 2022 T20 World Cup triumph, less than a year ago. Though Eoin Morgan, the alchemist of their white-ball success, had retired,

England seemed quite a force, as you would expect from the defending world champions.

Yet, in the space of three mind-breaking defeats, they find themselves not only on the precipice of crashing out of the tournament, but also wondering whether it is the beginning of the end of an era, or more damningly, whether the era has already ended and they are merely sleep-losing through a tournament. The side clearly is aging. England are the oldest team in this tournament (average age being 31.8), but not too old enough to be called past their prime. But for the 35-plus-year-old spinners, most of them are in their early 30s, not a time when the toll of cricketing years takes a toll on their body. Moeen said as much: "I think there's still a lot of players that can play for a long time. There's obviously a few of us who are a bit older, more than likely won't make the next World Cup, but there's a lot of players who have been around for years that will be, and I don't think it's the end of anything."

The performances cannot go bewilderingly downhill in a handful of months after all. Some of these same players were star-performers in the Ashes a few months ago too. They can't be tired either, because they were not returning from a frenetic season. An end of the year tournament could be exhaustive, both on the mind and body, but they claimed the T20 World Cup around the same time this year. The other day



A comeback is not beyond Buttler's boys, at least mathematically—five more games remain to claw them back into the tournament. AP

Joe Root ascribed the non-performance to not playing enough games. No doubt, they could have perhaps benefitted from playing more ODIs (played just four in the last six months), but are not these veterans who could seamlessly switch formats? Like all better-performing do, South Africa had played just one more than England in the same span.

Perhaps, it could be that motivation is drying up, the subconscious knowledge they have won it all shackling them in the face of adversity. Little doubt that defending the title and establishing themselves as an all-time great team like Australia at the start of the century is tempting enough, but when you lose three games out of four, a feeling of resignation would set in, apart from other malaises.

Like their combination—England are yet to figure out their best eleven, which could be attributed to fewer playing minutes. One match, they go for batting depth with utility men; in the next they take an exact U-turn and load specialists. Like their form. Against South Africa and New Zealand, they conceded close to eight runs an over; against Afghanistan's their inadequacies against spinners were exposed. Apart from Root none has been consistent. Even David Malan clicked in just a lone innings (140 against South Africa). The white-ball poster boys—Bairstow and Buttler—have eked out 184 runs between them. Among the bowlers, only Rashid and part-timer Liam Livingstone have conceded less than six runs an over.

But beyond these, England seem to have lost the tournament in their mind. Evident was a sense of flatness, and a lack of joy. Never was it more evident when they met South Africa. Here, on the one hand, was the tactical dominance of South Africa, the uninhibited aggres-

sion and clarity of thought, and there, fattened on success, was the decadence that can befall a white-ball giant.

In the backdrop, there is the distraction of Stokes turning down a three-year contract and instead opting for a one-year term, throwing doubts about his long-term future with England. None of it though deflects from the mess England have found themselves in.

A comeback is not beyond them, at least mathematically—five more games remain to claw back into the tournament. Or as Moeen said, "potentially the start of something (significant)." Often in these times, they resort to the Ashes balm, the fight back last England summer, from 2-0 to 2-2. But there, though, is a big difference. At no point in the series, did they look distraught. Both the Tests they lost could have been won too. The same could not be said of the World Cup team, who were thoroughly beaten in all three games.

The joylessness in the middle translated to the nets too, where they resembled a bunch of scattered individuals rather than a close-knit group. Scanning them all was Buttler, his face still wearing a bemused expression. He could see some of his country's all-time legends. Whether their time had slowed and stretched out or coming to a complete stop could be the most defining aspect of watching England in the coming days.

ASIAN PARA GAMES

## Tokyo heroics in the past, Antil continues assault on javelin WR in Hangzhou

NITIN SHARMA  
OCTOBER 25

ON A day when her 25-year-old son Sumit Antil broke the paralympic world record in men's javelin throw F64 category, Nirmala Devi was busy overseeing the construction of their new home in village Khewra near Sonapat. Antil broke his own record of 70.83m with a massive throw of 73.29m at the Hangzhou Olympics Sports Centre and Devi would tell the construction workers to create a new space for the Asian Games gold medal too for her son.

"Jab bhi main puchu ki mere liye kya layega videsh se, hamesha kahega ki medal hi launga. (Whenever I ask him what will you bring for me from abroad, he always says I will certainly get you the medal). He is very particular about his world records and plans to make a marking wall at our new home. Perhaps we have to wait for the Paris Olympics to get the finishing touch," says an elated Devi while speaking with *The Indian Express*.

Youngest of the four children, Antil lost his father Ram Kumar, an Indian Air Force soldier

to cancer in 2004. Like many Haryana youngsters, Antil had dreams of becoming a wrestler and competed in the local dangals at his village. He also trained at the SAI Centre in Sonapat. However, on January 5, 2015, he met with a motorbike accident on the Sonapat-Dewra road and was taken to the Base hospital in Delhi Cantt, where doctors had to take the decision to amputate his left leg.

"He stayed at the hospital for 53 days. Par hamesha hamein kehta raha ki himmat rakho (But he would always tell us to keep faith). He was very good in studies too and was going to his tuition classes when the accident happened. Sometimes he would tell us to bring his books to the hospital to make him feel good. If he would have stopped believing at that time, all these medals and glory would not have come," says Devi.

Days after his release from the hospital, Antil made a trip to Pune with some of the savings of the family to get a prosthetic leg. A meeting with para athlete Ram Kumar made him train under Para Asian Games medallist Virender Dhankar and later under Dronacharya awardee coach Naval Singh. While Antil was advised to go for long jump or



Sumit Antil with his Asian Para Games gold medal in Hangzhou. (Right) With his wife and mother. SAI/Special arrangement

other disciplines by other athletes at the Nehru Stadium in Delhi, Antil stuck to javelin.

"Sumit's strength from Day One has been his adaptability and not to complain about con-



ditions. When he came to train under me, he shared the room with another athlete and would do all the chores like washing clothes or making own food too. It took a lot of time

for him to adjust to the prosthetic leg and I would make him throw for a distance of 25-30 m initially. He would walk and not run as the prosthetic leg would run against his knee and blood would ooze out with multiple attempts. So he also learnt making throws while sitting at the hammer throw net. Wrestling has made his upper body muscles very strong and it's still an advantage for him," says Naval.

Within four years of training, Antil made a new world record in the F64 category with a throw of 61.32m at the Paris Grand Prix in 2019. He bettered the record the same year with a throw of 62.88m in the Worlds in Dubai. In 2020, Antil had competed against Neeraj Chopra in the Indian Grand Prix and finished seventh with a throw of 66.43 m to qualify for the Tokyo Paralympics.

"In 2018, we got him training in Finland with the invitation from 1988 Olympic gold medallist Tapio Korjus and Sumit competed against able bodied javelin throwers. Right from the start, his action has been like German Johannes Vetter and he used the fall technique but then he suffered elbow injuries. So we made some changes in his technique and the upper and arms and shoulders generate the

perk for him," says Singh.

At Tokyo, Antil had won the gold with a world record of 68.55m, bettering the world mark three times in the final. Last year, Antil had made a new world record throw of 68.62m at Indian Open before breaching the 70m mark at the Worlds in Paris. On Wednesday, Antil made a new world record of 73.29m, a throw which would have placed him eighth in the Asian Games in Hangzhou.

"The only challenge for Sumit has been in getting adjusted to the new prosthetic leg whenever he gets it after multiple tournaments. It takes some time for the knee to adjust and sometimes it bleeds too. But once he gets it set, it's all about his technique. He can cross the 75 m mark soon and who knows he can cross the 80m mark too," says Singh.

Antil had married Sheetal last year and chose to make a new home in the village itself, with the family deciding to make a huge hall to host functions for the villagers to attend. "Sumit always says that our village is the most precious thing to our family. Hence he got the new house made here. Like always, he will ask for desi ghee food on his return," says the mother Devi.