SUNDAY TIMES OF INDIA

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INDIA'S LARGEST ENGLISH NEWSPAPER

Amid a booming stock market, **'all the malpractices of Harshad Mehta/Ketan Parekh era are back, primarily in Kolkata',** says billionaire **Harsh Goenka** in a post on X. He claims that promoters are 'inflating profits' and 'driving stock prices to unrealistic levels' | P 17

Hamas negotiators arrived in Cairo on Saturday for talks on a possible Gaza truce that would see the return to Israel of some hostages, a Hamas official says. The CIA director is already present for the indirect diplomacy

After years of delays & stumbles, **Boeing is finally poised to launch astronauts to International Space Station for Nasa.** It's the first flight of Boeing's Starliner capsule with a crew on board | P 23

Skipper **Faf du Plessis** smashes a 23-ball 64 to guide **Royal Challengers Bengaluru (152/6) to a 4-wicket victory** after Gujarat Titans were dismissed for 147 | P 27

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5 students from 2 Doon pvt univs die in accident

Five students from two private universities in Dehradun — DIT and IMS Unison —lost their lives while another is battling for life after the SUV they were in careened off the Mussoorie-Dehradun road, plunging into a 60-metre gorge around dawn Saturday. P 13

IN THE COURTS

- A Delhi court transfers a laundering case relating to Bhushan Steel from one judge to another after an **accused in case claims to have overheard judge saying, 'ED matters mein kaun si bail hoti hai?'** | P 13
- **Supreme Court agrees to hear plea against acquittal of Moninder Singh Pandher and Surendra Koli in Nithari killings,** issues notice to them and UP govt | P 8

1 rescued, 3 feared drowned in canal

Four friends drowned after they went to take a dip in Ganga canal in Mainpuri on Saturday, police said, adding villagers jumped into the canal and saved one of them while three are missing. P 20

Noida bars till 4am? Panel to decide

UP govt has formed a 5-member panel to decide on whether to extend curfew hours for bars in Noida and Ghaziabad. Bar owners have sought to stay open till 4am; curfew is now 1am. P 10

Bhavesh Gupta, Paytm sr exec, quits

One97 Communications, which owns Paytm, on Saturday said the company's president and COO Bhavesh Gupta has quit. He will, however, move to an advisory role in the CEO office. P 17

2 choke to death in Noida septic tank

Two migrant workers from Bengal suffocated to death while cleaning a septic tank at a house in Noida's Sec 26 Friday. The duo entered the tank around 7pm and fainted within minutes. P 10

1 IAF man killed, 4 injured in attack on J&K convoy

Comes Ahead Of Anantnag-Rajouri Polling On May 7

Sanjay Khajuria | TNN

Jammu: An IAF man died and four other personnel were wounded Saturday evening following a gunfight that ensued when terrorists ambushed their trucks traversing a mountain road amid dense forest cover in J&K's Poonch district.

The five men were evacuated to the nearest military hospital, where one of them died of his wounds. The attack prompted Army and police to launch a coordinated cordon and search in the area. "Military Engineering Services and IAF vehicles were targeted near a govt higher secondary school in Sanai Sattar village," an official source said. The attack is believed to be aimed at disrupting the May 7 poll in Anantnag-Rajouri seat.

The terrorists, who were armed with assault rifles, are believed to have fled into the nearby forests

▶ Convoy was returning, P 19

Army vehicle skids off road, soldier dies

One soldier died and nine others suffered injuries after the Army vehicle they were travelling in skidded off the road at Batagund in Anantnag Saturday. Later in the day, J&K police said it was an accident and not a terror attack as was being claimed in some social media posts and warned against rumour-mongering. TNN

Lalu tried to save those behind Godhra train arson: PM at rally

Jai Narain Pandey | TNN

Patna: PM Modi on Saturday raked up the Godhra train fire tragedy of 2002 as he accused Congress & RJD of practising Muslim appeasement.

In a multi-pronged attack on INDIA bloc at a rally in Darbhanga, Modi accused RJD chief Lalu Prasad of having tried to "save" those responsible for the Godhra train burning in 2002 in which 59 kar sevaks returning from Ayodhya were burnt alive. "Lalu, then railway minister in UPA govt, had constituted the Justice UC Banerjee committee, which in its report in 2005 had given a clean chit to the accused and termed the blaze an accident. However, the court trashed the report and punished the guilty," Modi said.

He accused Congress and RJD of favouring the main minority community by trying to dilute OBC, SC & ST quotas. "Opposition parties are trying to distort Constitution framed by BR Ambedkar and others. Ambedkar and even Nehru were against the idea of religion-based reservation," he said.

DANCE of DEMOCRACY

- **TMC releases a sting video** purportedly showing a Sandeshkhali BJP neta admitting many charges were levelled following orders from party seniors | P 13
- **Cong's pick for Puri LS seat, Sucharita Mohanty, pulls out of poll race,** alleging lack of funds for campaigning | P 13

▶ 'Prince of Patna', P 21

Ex-Delhi Cong chief Lovely joins BJP for 2nd time, along with 4 others

New Delhi: Former Delhi minister Arvinder Singh Lovely, who resigned from the post of state Congress chief last week over the party's alliance with AAP, joined BJP for the second time on Saturday. With him, former Delhi minister Raj Kumar Chauhan, who had also left Congress in 2019 but had returned in a few months, ex-MLAs Naseeb Singh and Neeraj Basoya, who also quit the Grand Old Party, and former Youth Congress president Amit Malik also joined BJP here.

Speaking to **TOI,** Lovely alleged Congress was now practising 'tukde-tukde' politics. Recalling former PM Indira Gandhi's words that every drop of her blood was for the country, he alleged Congress deviated from its ideology of making sacrifices for the country. TNN

Photo: Piyal Bhattacharjee

Former Delhi Cong chief Arvinder S Lovely (4th from left) and other party netas join BJP in the presence of Union minister Hardeep Singh Puri in Delhi on Saturday

▶ 'Giving statements against me', P 6

Ahead of polls in Maha onion belt, export ban lifted

Govt on Saturday lifted the ban on onion exports after five months — a move that is likely to bring relief to farmers and traders in Maharashtra ahead of polling in the onion belts of Nashik, Ahmednagar and Shirdi. But the move comes with conditions. Traders can ship out onion at a minimum export price of $550/tonne and pay 40% export duty, which translates to Rs 64,000/tonne, **reports Dipak Dash.** Onion growers have been protesting against the export ban, but market players say lifting it may not bring much benefit to traders. P 20

Afghan diplomat caught with 25kg gold resigns

Zakia Wardak, consul general of Islamic Republic of Afghanistan in Mumbai, resigned from her post after **TOI** reported on Saturday that she had been caught at the city airport on April 25, allegedly trying to smuggle 25kg gold worth Rs 18.6 crore into India from Dubai, **reports Mateen Hafeez.** She was not arrested as she enjoys diplomatic immunity. Directorate of Revenue Intelligence is probing her earlier trips; a jeweller suspected to be part of the racket is also under the scanner. P 13

Kolkata police seek footage from Raj Bhavan

A special Kolkata Police team has sought CCTV footage from Raj Bhavan in connection with allegations by a contractual employee that Bengal governor CV Ananda Bose harassed her. Six Raj Bhavan officials have been asked to meet the probe team on Sunday. Footage has been sought for April 24 and May 2 — the days the employee claimed she was harassed. Bose described the probe, which began Friday, as a "joke" and said the Mamata govt did not have the right to order it. P 15

Deve Gowda's son held in kidnap case linked to sex scandal

Survivor Rescued From Farmhouse By Karnataka SIT

Rajiv Kalod & Lawrence Milton

Bengaluru/Mysuru: Karnataka JD(S) MLA **HD Revanna,** son of former PM HD Deve Gowda, was arrested Saturday by state govt-appointed SIT on charges of abducting a rape survivor in the sex video scandal, minutes after his anticipatory bail plea was rejected by a special court for elected representatives in Bengaluru.

Revanna was picked up from Deve Gowda's residence in Padmanabhanagar around 6.45pm. The police team was refused entry and had to wait for 20-25 minutes before a "smiling Revanna walked out", a police source said.

Revanna, who came under the lens along with his son and Hassan MP Prajwal following sexual harassment charges made against them, found himself in a tight spot after the survivor's son lodged a police complaint on May 2 that she had been abducted on the night of April 29.

Ahead of the verdict, in the afternoon, SIT rescued the survivor from a farmhouse in Kalenahalli near Hunsur taluk of Mysuru. Police sources said the property belongs to Revanna's PA.

▶ Bring survivor..., P 15

Blue corner notice against Prajwal?

The SIT probing the sex videos allegedly involving JD(S) MP Prajwal Revanna is set to get an Interpol blue corner notice issued against him through CBI. He had flown out of the country on a diplomatic passport, and is suspected to be in Germany. A blue corner notice is used to obtain information. P 15

Jaishankar on Nijjar plot: Canada blames us, but shows no evidence

Ottawa Report: India Interfered In Canadian Polls

Ashok Pradhan & I P Singh

Foreign minister S Jaishankar said on Saturday that Canada never provides any evidence but blames India for crimes committed there, while a Canadian govt report — "Public Inquiry into Foreign Interference in Federal Electoral Processes and Democratic Institutions" — claimed Indian officials and proxies engage in a range of activities to influence Canadian communities and politicians, and that "India directed foreign interference activities" during the 2019 and 2021 general elections in Canada.

Jaishankar's remarks come after Canadian police said they were looking at possible Indian links following the arrests of three Indian nationals for the killing of pro-Khalistan separatist Hardeep Singh Nijjar, designated a terrorist by India.

Karan Brar, Kamalpreet Singh and Karanpreet Singh, the three Indians indicted by Canada for Hardeep Nijjar's murder. Brar (23), from Punjab, had gone to Canada on a student visa in 2020

▶ EAM on Biden jab: India open & welcoming, P 19

▶ 'Vote bank politics', P 19

Exec on way home stabbed to death in Gzb

Noida: A 42-year-old man working as Delhi zone sales head of a steel major was allegedly stabbed to death while heading home from work in Ghaziabad's Rajinder Nagar on Friday night, **reports Advitya Bahl.**

Vinay Tyagi, police said, succumbed to injuries in hospital. He was found lying on a road — with two deep wounds in the chest — barely 2km from his house. Police suspect Tyagi may have been attacked during a robbery bid as his laptop and wallet etc were missing.

▶ Snatching suspected, P 10

AI cuts check-in bag limit to 15kg in lower-fare slab

Air India economy class domestic flyers opting for lower fare buckets will now have a check-in baggage allowance of 15kg — instead of 25kg. All big Indian carriers offer 15kg check-in to domestic flyers (without extra charge) and AI's generous allowance used to be its USP for economy flyers within India. An AI spokesperson said: "We introduced a menu-based pricing model or branded fare for families last year in line with global airline industry norms... Bundled fares offer a lot more value & greater choice to guests for less." P 13

Maha LOP: Not Kasab, RSS-linked cop killed Karkare

Congress's Vijay Wadettiwar, leader of opposition in Maharashtra assembly, claimed Saturday that the bullet that killed IPS officer Hemant Karkare was from the weapon of a police officer "dedicated to RSS" and not from the gun of terrorist Kasab or any of the other nine ultras who attacked Mumbai. He alleged Ujjwal Nikam, SPP in the case and BJP LS candidate from Mumbai North Central, "a traitor who suppressed this fact". Nikam called the remark "an insult to the 26/11 victims". P 15

DELHI POLICE
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Only 1000 challans/ notices shall be taken up for disposal by each Bench in all 180 Lok Adalat Benches. Total 1,80,000 challans/notices shall be disposed off on 11.05.2024 (Saturday), in all above Court Complexes. Only 07 Notice/ Challans (05 Notices, 02 Challans) Per Private Vehicle and 02 Notices/Challans per Commercial Vehicle will be taken in this Lok Adalat.

All the notices/challans are to be downloaded from Delhi Traffic Police Website. It is mandatory to carry a print out of the notices/ challans. There will not be any facility of print out in the court complexes.

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Bomb Hoax: Police To Send Judicial Request To Russia

To Move Court For Issuing Letter Rogatory For Email Details

Raj Shekhar Jha & Abhay | TNN

New Delhi: Delhi Police is likely to approach the Union home ministry and subsequently the court on sending a Letter Rogatory (LR) to Russia seeking details of the email ID from where the message about bomb threats were sent to around 200 schools in Delhi-NCR on Wednesday. Police have already requested Interpol through CBI for assistance in the probe. An LR is a judicial request and allies usually respond promptly to these communications.

Last year, the cops had sent an LR to Russia after the Indian School at Sadiq Nagar received a bomb threat on April 12. The LR was sent on May 12, sources said. "Russia promptly replied and informed us that the IP used by the sender was 188.172.220.76, based in Austria. A virtual private network was used," revealed a senior officer.

On Saturday, police started revisiting the probe in last year's school bomb hoaxes, fishing for technical leads that could either be developed or used in the latest case. The special probe team has had a relook at two cases that police managed to solve in which both the mail senders had used Gmail IDs and for which Google had shared internet protocol details facilitating the solving of the cases.

In the first case, DPS, Mathura Road, received a threat mail on April 25 from pe641729@gmail.com. The cops contacted Google for the sender's IP address and traced it to Jio services. This led to the detention of a juvenile student from the same school. His iPhone 13 Pro was confiscated though he was later released on bail by the juvenile justice board.

Police traced the sender in the second case at Amrita Vidyalayam, Pushp Vihar, on May 16 to terroristbomber6845@gmail.com and identified the IP address. Another minor was apprehended. His phone was seized and a report was filed with the juvenile justice board.

Two other cases, both involving the Indian School, Sadiq Nagar, couldn't be cracked. The threat mails were received on Nov 28, 2022, and April 12, 2023. The first from jhonfoster@tutanota.com led to a dead end as the German company said it didn't retain data for free accounts. The second, again from jhonmaddison77@rambler.ru, prompted the LR to Russia.

In another case, DPS, Mathura Road, received a threat on May 11, 2023, from an internal student email ID 20522pranav@dpsmathuraroad.org. The student claimed ignorance, and investigations revealed the email was sent using Google services without IP masking. Google responded to cop queries saying the mail was last opened from IP address 103.211.14.180 at 18:26:28 on May 11. Google's data showed the last access was from an IP associated with Excitel broadband. With around 500 active users on that IP, the investigation is ongoing.

HOW POLICE FARED IN PREVIOUS CASES

SOLVED CASES

CASE 1
Delhi Public School on Mathura Road
Date | April 25, 2023
- School receives threat mail about bomb in school
- Email ID used by the sender is pe641729@gmail.com
- FIR lodged, a demi letter is sent to Google seeking IP address details
- IP address provided by Google reveals Jio services were used
- Cops get mobile device details used by sender
- A juvenile student of the same school detained, his iPhone 13 pro used to send the mail seized
- Juvenile Justice Board grants him bail, custody given to grandfather

CASE 2
Amrita Vidyalayam in Pushp Vihar
Date | May 16, 2023
- A mail informing about bomb in school is received on its ID
- Cops begin probing sender's email ID, terroristbomber6845@gvmail.com
- After obtaining registration details from gmail, cops trace IP address
- IP located to a minor student, phone seized
- A report is filed with Juvenile Justice Board

UNSOLVED CASES

CASE 1
Indian School in Sadiq Nagar
Dates | Nov 28, 2022; April 12, 2023
- First bomb threat received through email ID jhonfoster@tutanota.com
- A letter sent to Germany seeking details of IP
- Reply says stock data of free-to-use accounts is not available
- Second bomb threat sent from jhonmaddison77@rambler.ru
- Cops send Letter Rogatory to Russia
- Russia says the IP, 188.172.220.76, used through VPN was based in Austria

CASE 2
Delhi Public School on Mathura Road
Date | May 11, 2023
- Bomb threat received from email ID 20522pranav@dpsmathuraroad.org
- The ID was assigned to a student, but he was unaware of the mail
- Probe reveals no masking of IP was done, student's Wi-Fi and router were examined
- Analysis of the email header reveals Google services were used to send the mail
- Google replies ID was last opened from IP address 103.211.14.180 at 18:26:28 on May 11
- Around 500 users were found to be active on the IP
- Probe is still on

Unattended bag triggers scare at Connaught Place

Times News Network

New Delhi: An unattended bag lying on the footpath in New Delhi's Connaught Place triggered panic on Saturday. However, after an hour-long search, it turned out to be left by the tourists.

The fire department received a call about a bag lying unattended at N-Block around 2.41pm. "Immediately, one fire tender rushed to the spot, and after an hour-long search, nothing suspicious was found in the bag," a fire department official said.

A police officer said that the area was cordoned off, and dog and bomb squads were immediately rushed to the scene.

During the inquiry, the cops found that a few tourists were eating something there and had placed their bags nearby, the officer said, adding that they forgot to take one of the bags while leaving.

At the time of incident, the area was crowded with vehicles and pedestrians. Cops set up barriers along the road and prohibited people from halting there. While managing the traffic, police redirected vehicles away from the affected area.

The incident comes days after 200 schools in Delhi-NCR had received bomb threat emails, creating chaotic scenes across the city. A day later, another bomb threat was sent to the official email ID of Delhi Police Commissioner, claiming that a bomb was planted at a school in Nangloi. After a thorough search, it too turned out to be a hoax.

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Mercury crosses 40°C, second time this season

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi: The day temperature on Saturday rose to 40.3 degrees Celsius, one degree above normal. It was the second time this season when mercury surpassed 40 degrees Celsius.

The highest maximum temperature, 40.5 degrees Celsius, was recorded on April 27 at Safdarjung, the city's base station, according to India Meteorological Department's data.

Due to partly cloudy skies, the minimum temperature rose from 18.3 degrees Celsius on Friday to 23.2 degrees Celsius, one degree below normal, on Saturday.

According to IMD, the day temperature remained above 40-degree mark at most stations on Saturday. At 42.8 degrees Celsius, Sports Complex observatory in CWG village near Akshardham was the hottest station, followed by Najafgarh at 42.5, Pitampura at 42.4 and Mungeshpur at 42.1 degrees Celsius. The maximum temperature settled at 41.6 degrees Celsius at Ayanagar and 41.3 degrees Celsius at Palam and Ridge in north Delhi.

There was no rain from 8.30am to 5.30pm. "As the impact of the western disturbance is over, mainly clear skies are predicted from Sunday onwards. The maximum temperature is likely to rise marginally over the next few days," said an IMD official.

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OVERALL AIR QUALITY INDEX IN 'POOR' CATEGORY ON SATURDAY

The maximum temperature is likely to rise to 41 degrees Celsius on Sunday and it may go up to 42 degrees Celsius by May 7. "However, another western disturbance is expected to impact the region from May 9 and there is a possibility of very light rain. Though the maximum temperature is predicted to hover in the range of 40 to 42 degrees Celsius from Sunday to May 9, it may dip to 39 degrees Celsius on May 10 under the influence of a western disturbance," said IMD official.

The minimum temperature is predicted to stay 22-24 degrees Celsius over the next seven days.

Delhi's air quality deteriorated further on Saturday with an Air Quality Index (AQI) of 281 in 'poor' category. The AQI was 264 on Friday.

According to Air Quality Early Warning System for Delhi, the forecasting body under the Union ministry of earth sciences, the air quality is likely to stay 'poor' on Sunday, but may improve to 'moderate' on Monday and Tuesday.

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Sexual consent by minor not legally valid, says court

Bagish.Jha@timesgroup.com

Gurgaon: A Panipat court held a man guilty of raping a teenager and awarded him 10 years of rigorous imprisonment (RI), saying that sexual consent given by a minor could not be considered legally valid. The court relied on evidence, including DNA analysis and medico-legal reports, although all the witnesses in the case, including the parents of the minor girl, turned hostile.

The witnesses' hostile attitudes didn't negate the severity of the crime or the evidence against the accused, the court said while convicting Sandeep.

On May 12, 2022, Sandeep kidnapped his sister-in-law, who was then 17, from her home. All her family's attempts to contact Sandeep turned futile. On the basis of a complaint filed by her family, an FIR was then registered under sections 363 (punishment for kidnapping) and 366A (procuration of minor girl) of the IPC.

The girl was rescued two weeks later — on June 4 — and a medical examination was conducted the next day. On June 6, during counselling, she revealed that she was sexually assaulted by Sandeep. Based on her statement, IPC and Pocso sections of rape were added to the case. Sandeep was arrested on June 7.

Plans To Tackle Threat Of Landfill Blazes In Pipeline

MCD Uses Perforated Pipes To Release Methane From Garbage

Vibha.Sharma
@timesgroup.com

New Delhi: Municipal Corporation of Delhi (MCD) is inserting perforated pipes into the garbage heap where fresh dumping occurs to reduce fire incidents at Ghazipur and other landfills.

This process is underway in Ghazipur, where the first fire incident of this year was reported last month.

Officials said the perforated pipes would help in releasing methane trapped inside the fresh waste. They plan to insert pipes after every thick layer of garbage is dumped. "It has been observed that when fresh garbage is dumped at a particular site for long, methane is generated during the decomposition of wet waste. It gets trapped inside and, with an increase in temperature, the methane's temperature also increases and it catches fire easily whenever it comes in contact with the air," the official said.

"To make sure that such a situation won't arise, we are inserting perforated pipes at each level, and the task is being carried out as an experiment. The exercise was recommended by NGT's appointed joint committee headed by justice SP Garg, former judge of Delhi High Court," the official said.

File Photo

In Ghazipur, MCD is dumping around 1,800 tonnes of waste daily

In Ghazipur, MCD is dumping around 1,800 tonnes of waste daily at an 8,000-10,000-square-metre site to allow smooth biomining of legacy waste at the remaining places.

The civic body has already completed the exercise for inserting pipes at Bhalswa landfill. "We carried out the task here first because in 2022, a major fire happened here due to the release of methane from fresh waste, and it took five days to extinguish the fire," the official said.

Among other efforts taken to mitigate the fire incidents, the civic body has written to the fire department to arrange for sand or foam to control a blaze, instead of using water, according to DPCC guidelines.

"Regarding fire incidents caused by the release of gases, the use of water is not advisable. Even last month when the fire broke out in Ghazipur, we used inert material generated at the landfill after biomining of legacy waste in large quantities," the official said.

However, the fire department refused to acknowledge receiving any correspondence in this regard.

After the Ghazipur fire on April 21, MCD has issued instructions to the staff to be extra vigilant. "There are CCTV cameras, heat thermometers, sprinklers and excavators at the spot. Besides, each landfill is in contact with a nearby fire station for immediate help. Our staff is also patrolling in shifts. Two junior engineers are engaged there in shifts round the clock to take immediate action in the case of a crisis," the official said.

Despite numerous efforts made to minimise unprocessed waste at the city's landfills, MCD continues to dump around 3,200-3,400 metric tonnes (MT) of it daily at Ghazipur and Bhalswa.

Of the 11,300 tonnes of waste generated every day in the city, around 7,300 tonnes goes to the four waste-to-energy plants, and 800-1,000 tonnes to the composting units, etc. The rest end up in landfills.

Two kids murdered, cops suspect father

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi: Two children, aged 11 and 13 years, were murdered in northwest Delhi's Keshavpuram on Saturday. Police suspect the role of their father in the case. He has been missing since the incident.

POLICE SAY
They were found unconscious in the shop run by their father on the ground floor of the house

Police received information about the incident at 7pm on Saturday. An investigative team rushed to the spot, and the children were taken to the hospital, where they were declared dead. "They were found unconscious in the shop run by their father on the ground floor of the house. Their mother was on the first floor of the building," an officer revealed.

The inquiry determined that the father had picked up the children from school in the afternoon. "The brother and sister were found unconscious by their mother when she started searching for them after finding they weren't at home. She alerted other people about the incident,' the officer said.

Police said the children were either poisoned or strangled, as indicated by the light injury marks found on their bodies. "We are waiting for the post-mortem reports," the officer said. The motive behind the act remains unknown, with no clear reason for the murder ascertained as yet. "We are questioning several people to try and pinpoint the reason for the killings," the officer said.

A senior officer said police had formed several teams to pursue the case. "They are scanning the CCTV footage of areas close to the murder site," the officer said.

The residents were left in shock by this gruesome event. Last month, a 15-year-old boy and his nine-year-old sister were discovered dead in their home in east Delhi's Pandav Nagar. Their mother was found unconscious and severely injured in a separate room. During the inquiry, cops located the body of their father dead on the railway tracks at Anand Vihar.

38-year-old doc stabbed to death by 3

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi: A 38-year-old doctor has been stabbed to death allegedly by three men in northeast Delhi's Karawal Nagar.

The incident took place at 9.10pm on May 2 and the victim has been identified as Rajkumar, a resident of Karawal Nagar, a senior police officer said.

"He was an Ayurvedic doctor who ran a clinic from the ground floor of his house. He had sustained a stab wound on the left side of his chest," the officer said.

His brother, Ravi Kumar (31), told cops that he saw his brother standing near a lane. "When he came down, he saw him lying on the ground and three people on a black motorcycle abusing him and driving away. His brother was stabbed. He took him to the hospital, where he was declared brought dead," the officer said.

Cops were investigating the case from all angles, including personal enmity or robbery, and also scanning the CCTV footage of nearby areas," the officer added.

Molested on metro, says boy, may file complaint

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi: A 16-year-old boy has claimed on X that he was sexually assaulted by a fellow passenger while travelling on Delhi metro on Friday night. In a series of tweets, soon after the incident, he narrated his ordeal after he boarded a train on Yellow Line that was headed towards Samaypur Badli station. His tweets have gone viral.

In what seemed to be a gradually escalating situation with the molester refusing to give up, he claimed he was assaulted thrice. "I felt something on my bottom as soon as I entered the train but I brushed it off thinking that it's someone's bag or someone mistouched me but I was wrong," he said. He claimed he waited for a minute and was assaulted once again which made him feel "terrified".

"He did it for the third time," wrote the teenager, adding that this time, he grabbed his assaulter by the hair and clicked a picture of him. "I was scared and shaking but I did it anyway. After that I waited a while there and he tried to argue but nothing happened," he wrote. He also shared a picture of the man who allegedly assaulted him.

In what seemed to be a gradually escalating situation with the molester refusing to give up, he claimed he was assaulted thrice

The teenager said he got down from the train at Kashmere Gate metro station and took an escalator but couldn't shake off the man. He was following him and had taken the escalator, he claimed. The boy said he ran for his life and finally reached a safe place and turned to a station guard who understood the situation. "He was very kind and finally escorted me to the train," wrote the teenager, adding that he eventually reached home.

However, on Saturday, the teenager once again took to X saying he won't file a police complaint. "I had a good night's sleep and woke up a few hours ago. I finally told my mom about this and she was supportive at first but now she told me that we shouldn't go ahead and file a case because apparently she's afraid of 'how our neighbours will react to this'." He had earlier announced that he had consulted a lawyer.

Speaking to **TOI**, deputy commissioner of police (Metro) G Ram Gopal Naik said that when they contacted the boy on phone, he said "there was too much rush in the metro and one unknown person's hand touched his hips which may be unintentionally". The boy's mother said she did not want police to take any action. They refused to give a written statement or disclose their address, Naik said. "In view of the above facts, the matter is being kept pending and necessary action will be taken according to (any) statement...provided by them," he added.

Late at night, the boy tweeted that his mother had finally agreed to file a case.

Incidentally, the Yellow Line and the metro stations have CCTV coverage.

5 kill youth for making reels, held

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi: A 28-year-old man was killed for threatening and blackmailing a group of men after he recorded them and posted the footage on Instagram. Police have arrested five individuals in connection with the case.

The incident occurred on April 17. The victim was identified as Ashok, who resided in Trilokpuri. During the investigation, police arrested five people: Anuj alias Annu, 34; Pawan alias Vikas, 34; Abhinav Raj alias Annu Pudi, 27; Sandeep Ghawari, 35; and Mukesh Kumar, 35.

The accused informed police that on the day of the incident, Ashok was abducted from Sanjay Lake by the accused individuals. He was beaten during the abduction. "Investigations revealed that Pawan owned the vehicle. The accused dropped off the Ashok near Chand Cinema in Kalyanpuri. There, Annu gave 500 rupees to the rickshaw puller, Hargovind, to take the victim to the hospital," police stated.

Anuj used to work for a private company, whereas another accused, Pawan, is a taxi driver, Abhinav Raj is a part-time physiotherapist, Ghawari is a property dealer and Kumar works for a courier company.

IT/ITES Freehold Plot For Sale - Sector 67, IT HUB, Mohali
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Result	1st week of July 2024 (Tentative)

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SCRAPPING THROUGH: A JUNKYARD NEAR VVIP AIRPORT

In 2018, due to VVIP movements happening from Safdarjung Airport, the home ministry asked Airports Authority of India to install 'view cutters' on Safdarjung flyover facing the runway for security reasons. However, today, commuters can see underneath the flyover, where they are greeted by chaos. Old and abandoned vehicles have been parked there for a long time, leading to an accumulation of dust and garbage. A security guard mentions that it serves as an NDMC storehouse for seized posters, hoardings, plastic crates, vending vehicles, junk vehicles, and even houses a police booth.

Year after year, owners rarely turn up to reclaim their properties, and this storehouse has become a junkyard over time, causing an eyesore for commuters. The relevant authorities need to address this issue and ensure that the area is kept clean and orderly for the benefit of all citizens. Most shocking is that the height of the junkyard now almost touches the end part of the flyover.

Photos and text | **Anindya Chattopadhyay**

Not Many City Voters Opt For Vote At Home

Less Than 6K Out Of The 1.5L Eligible Ones Choose Option

Atul.Mathur@timesgroup.com

New Delhi: While the deadline to register for the facility to cast votes from the comfort of homes ended on May 3, less than 6,000 persons with disabilities and those aged above 85 years availed of the facility.

As per the election office data, Delhi has over 1.7 lakh registered voters, including 98,000 aged 85 and above and 72,000 having the benchmark certificate of 40% disability, who were eligible for the facility to cast votes on postal ballots without having to go to the polling station on May 25.

Though the election office carried out a massive drive of reaching out to the voters, the response remained abysmal.

8k PEOPLE TO HELP ELDERLY & PwDs ON POLLING DAY

Officials said the booth-level officers across the city had been provided with the list of voters in their areas in mid of April who were eligible to get the opportunity to cast their votes on ballot papers from their home, and were advised to contact them in advance and explain the facility. The actual process of filling up Form 12D to register for it had started from April 29, the date of the notification of the election in Delhi, and had continued until May 3.

Sources said that in the 2020 assembly polls in Delhi, when the facility was first started for persons with disabilities and 80 and above aged voters, only 3,000-odd eligible people had opted for the facility. They added that the election office had this time expected a much better response from people considering the last week of May is always very hot.

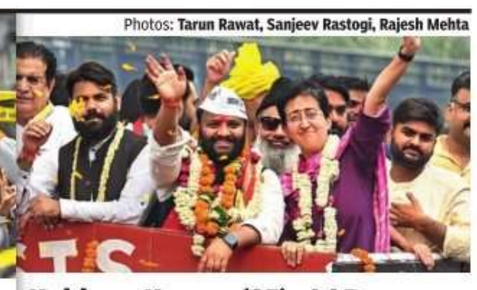
Delhi's chief electoral officer P Krishnamurthy, however, said casting votes on postal ballots was just an option and assuming that those who did not opt for the facility may not come out and cast votes on electronic voting machines at polling booths would not be correct. "We have decided to arrange for a pick-and-drop facility for those who want to come to the polling booths to cast votes. Nearly 8,000 volunteers will be posted on the polling day to facilitate people, especially elderly and persons with disabilities, to ensure they don't face any difficulties in exercising their franchise," said Krishnamurthy.

With May 6 being the last date to file nominations and the final list of candidates in fray in each of the seven Lok Sabha seats to be ready by May 9 following scrutiny of papers and withdrawal of nominations, Krishnamurthy said the ballot papers will subsequently be printed and teams will be sent to the houses of voters who have registered for the vote-from-home facility.

"We will send a notification to the voters who have opted for the facility about the schedule when our teams will start going to their houses. The entire exercise will be carried out amid full security. We will also inform the political parties about it in case they want to send their representatives," Krishnamurthy said.

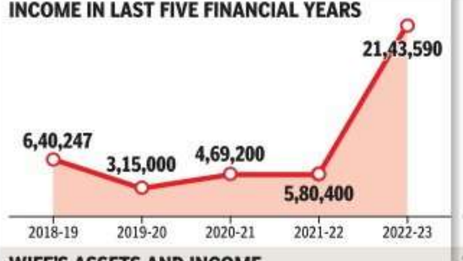
AAP, Cong candidates file nominations for 4 seats

Photos: Tarun Rawat, Sanjeev Rastogi, Rajesh Mehta



Somnath Bharti (49), AAP
Constituency | New Delhi
Education | Master's of science in Maths from IIT-Delhi, LLB from Delhi University

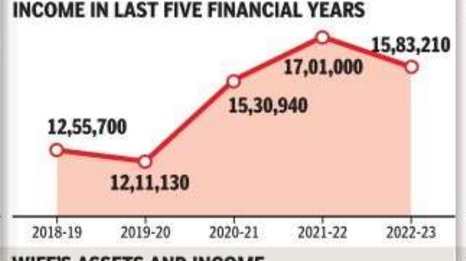
INCOME AND ASSETS OF SOMNATH BHARTI AND LIPIKA MITRA (WIFE)
2024 2020 (Delhi Assembly)
Movable Assets (Bank balance, valuables) ₹98.57 lakh ₹42.53 lakh
Immovable Property ₹1.25 crore ₹1 crore
Total 2.24 crore 1.42 crore

INCOME IN LAST FIVE FINANCIAL YEARS


WIFE'S ASSETS AND INCOME
Lipika Mitra's Assets ₹1.89cr Income (2022-23) NIL

Jai Prakash Agarwal (79), Cong
Constituency | Chandni Chowk
Education | Bachelor of arts, Delhi University

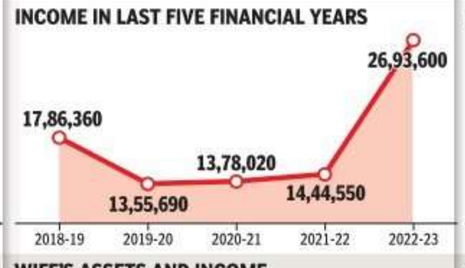
INCOME AND ASSETS OF JAI PRAKASH AND SARITA AGARWAL (WIFE)
2024 2019 (Lok Sabha)
Movable Assets (Bank balance, valuables) ₹1.34 crore ₹1.70 crore
Immovable Property ₹11.99 crore ₹7.92 crore
Total 13.3 crore 9.6 crore

INCOME IN LAST FIVE FINANCIAL YEARS


WIFE'S ASSETS AND INCOME
Sarita Agarwal's Assets ₹10.78cr Income (2022-23) ₹13.2L

Mahabal Mishra (69), AAP
Constituency | West Delhi
Education | Pre-university, Bihar

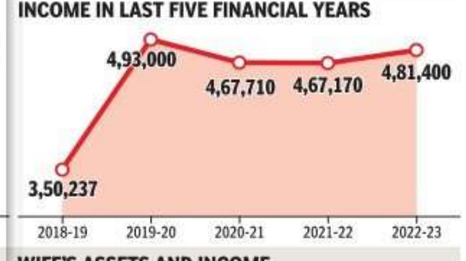
INCOME AND ASSETS OF MAHABAL AND URMILA MISHRA (WIFE)
2024 2019 (Lok Sabha)
Movable Assets (Bank balance, valuables) ₹8.2 crore ₹9.27 crore
Immovable Property ₹34.84 crore ₹35.8 crore
Total 43 crore 45 crore

INCOME IN LAST FIVE FINANCIAL YEARS


WIFE'S ASSETS AND INCOME
Urmila Mishra's Assets ₹23.1 cr Income (2022-23) ₹37L

Kuldeep Kumar (35), AAP
Constituency | East Delhi
Education | BA (Hons) 2nd year, Delhi University

INCOME AND ASSETS OF KULDEEP KUMAR AND DEEPA (WIFE)
2024 2020 (Delhi Assembly)
Movable Assets (Bank balance, valuables) ₹33.44 lakh ₹7.82 lakh
Immovable Property ₹15 lakh ₹19 lakh
Total 48.4 lakh 26.8 lakh

INCOME IN LAST FIVE FINANCIAL YEARS


WIFE'S ASSETS AND INCOME
Deepa's Assets ₹24.44 lakh Income (2022-23) Nil

Shreya.Ghosh@timesgroup.com

New Delhi: The penultimate day of filing nominations saw a huge rush of aspirants with 51 candidates submitting documents for their candidature for seven Lok Sabha seats in Delhi on Saturday.

According to officials of the chief electoral office of the capital, 141 candidates have so far filed nominations. Since many candidates filed two sets of documents, officials said a total of 186 nominations had been received so far for the May 25 election.

While 18 nominations were received for the New Delhi seat, 13 for North east Delhi and the Chandni Chowk seat saw 11 sets of documents being filed on Saturday followed by nine in West Delhi, eight in South, seven in East and five in North West Delhi. May 6 is the last day to file nominations.

Prominent candidates who filed their nominations included Jai Prakash Agarwal of Congress from Chandni Chowk, and Mahabal Mishra, Somnath Bharti and Kuldeep Kumar of Aam Aadmi Party from West, New Delhi and East Delhi parliamentary constituencies, respectively.

Amidst chants of "Nayi Dilli ke saathi, Somnath Bharti" and "Jail ka jawab vote se", the three-time Malviya Nagar MLA Somnath Bharti's nomination rally saw charged supporters gather in the narrow lanes of Balraj Khanna Marg in West Patel Nagar.

"We have to make our country's democracy and Constitution win. We will go to each and every house and make everyone understand. We will seek revenge for jailing Kejriwal without proof," Bharti said.

Bharti is one of the four candidates announced by AAP after an alliance with Congress for New Delhi Parliamentary constituency. He is pitted against BJP's Bansuri Swaraj.

Low-hanging wires obstructed the roadshow truck, prompting AAP volunteers to use their party flags to clear the way through the narrow lanes of Patel Nagar. A lawyer-turned-politician, Bharti waved at the residents peeking from their windows and balconies and those who thronged both sides of the lane to catch a glimpse of him. Also present at the rally were Delhi ministers Saurabh Bharadwaj and Gopal Rai and mayor Shelly Oberoi.

A five-time MP (once in Rajya Sabha) and a veteran Congressman, Agarwal submitted his nomination papers from Chandni Chowk seat. It will be Agarwal's fourth election from the seat.

He started his day by visiting the Hanuman temple at Yamuna Bazaar, where he was accompanied by workers from both Congress and Aam Aadmi Party. Agarwal said he had spent his entire life in the area and was familiar with every street and neighbourhood. "Chandni Chowk is not just an electoral constituency but my family. I have always been raising issues related to the development of the area," Agarwal said.

Before filing his nomination, Kondli MLA Kuldeep Kumar also met former deputy CM Manish Sisodia's wife Seema and took her blessings. He was accompanied by Rajya Sabha member Sanjay Singh, minister Atishi and MLA Dilip Pandey to the office of the returning officer.

Singh said chief minister Arvind Kejriwal had set a great example in democracy and fielded a Dalit from the general seat of East Delhi while Atishi said it was evident from the huge crowd that Kuldeep was going to win the election.

In a post on X, Kuldeep thanked Kejriwal and Sisodia for giving him the opportunity to "become the voice of common people".

The AAP candidate from West Delhi, Mahabal Mishra, also took out a huge procession on his way to file his nomination. Mishra said he was confident of victory because of the work he had done as an MP in the past.

Senior party functionaries Sanjay Singh and Kailash Gahlot accompanied him to the office of the returning officer. A number of Congress party workers were also seen at the procession.

Addressing the party workers, Gahlot said Mahabal was the most experienced candidate in this election in the capital and exuded confidence that he will win.

Heritage, water, law are issues in Chandni Chowk

Vibha Sharma & Ridhima Gupta | TNN

New Delhi: Each neighbourhood in the Chandni Chowk Lok Sabha constituency has its own set of electoral issues — from the insecurity of the heritage character of localities like Sadar Bazar, Matia Mahal and Chawri Bazar being diminished and deteriorating law and order in middle-class areas like Model Town, Kamla Nagar and Shalimar Bagh to the struggle for water and sanitation in the slums.

The two major contestants — Praveen Khandelwal of BJP and Jai Prakash Agarwal of Congress — consider the constituency their stronghold, having maintained close contact with the locals. The constituency has 14% Muslim voters, 19% OBC, 16.8% Scheduled Castes and 17% Vaish community.

The apathy towards civic amenities has left many indecisive about whom to vote for. From poor water quality and damaged roads to overflowing sewer lines, nothing has improved, said a trader

"Once we were very proud of being a part of the historic old Delhi. But the current generation feels ashamed to live in this place," said Mukesh Sharma, 56, a resident of Singhara Chowk in Sadar Bazar, who claimed his family has been living in the area for 200 years. "The place is very congested. Thousands of hawkers occupy space on the already crowded roads."

Sharma is among many who think it's time their parliamentarian effected a grand revamp of civic infrastructure in the historic quarters of the capital. The densely packed Sadar Bazar, with its 40,000 shops and a daily footfall of a lakh, isn't an easy place to live in or to run a business.

"Only one multilevel parking lot has been erected of the four proposed, leaving the lanes crammed with vehicles," pointed out Rakesh Yadav, a ninth generation shop owner and resident of Paan Mandi. "The new MP must allocate funds for developing such a facility even if the municipal corporation does not have funds."

Homemaker Shaheen Baig, 43, of Ballimaran pointed out how the congestion and crowding affects daily life. "Unlike other students, my children can't avail school bus facilities because the drivers refuse to come here for fear of getting stuck," she said.

In Chandni Chowk, the redevelopment has made sanitation and parking better organised. The construction of a multilevel parking at Gandhi Maidan will give the area a fresh lease of life. But there are concerns here too. As Sanjay Bhargava, member of Chandni Chowk Sarva Vyapaar Mandal, remonstrated, "What happened to the second phase of redevelopment? This was supposed to upgrade the façade of shops, inner lanes and other parts of Chandni Chowk."

In Kamla Nagar, Rajat Jain, 42, said, "After it gets dark, I am worried about women family members going out. There are no streetlights and incidents of snatching and eve-teasing have increased. Also, it is dangerous to wear gold accessories when going out for morning walks." In Model Town, residents grumbled about the lackadaisical policing and the poor condition of certain roads and the nuisance of stray cattle. "We have told the candidates that we want the deteriorating condition of roads in C and G blocks of Model Town III to be checked and we want RWA representation in DCP-level law-and-order committees to curb the increasing cases of burglary here," said Sanjay Gupta of Model Town III RWA.

The apathy towards civic amenities has left many indecisive about whom to vote for. "From the poor quality of water supplied in the area and damaged roads to leaking and overflowing sewer lines and missing stormwater drains, nothing has improved in the past decade. MPs' local area development funds could have been used," shrugged Sanjay Bansal, a trader in Kamla Nagar.

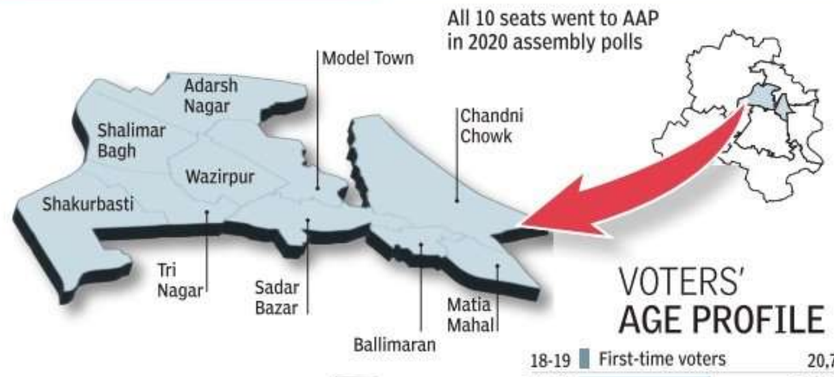
In the slums of Shakur Basti, the biggest election issues are the lack of basic amenities and the fear of being rendered homeless. Amir Aslam, 35, a daily wage earner, said, "Water is scarce. There are no public toilets and our women aren't safe. Also, even with voter ID cards, we live in fear of our houses being demolished."

CONSTITUENCY PROFILE
CHANDNI CHOWK

TOTAL ELECTORS 16,37,551

WOMEN	MEN	TRANSGENDERS
7,57,827	8,79,558	166

All 10 seats went to AAP in 2020 assembly polls

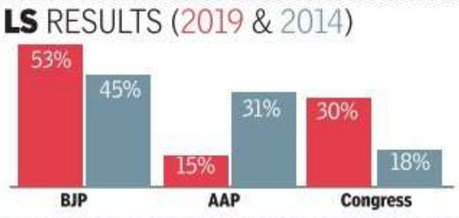


BJP sitting MP Harsh Vardhan was entitled to ₹22 crore for the constituency. Of the total amount, the unused amount is **₹0.9cr**

VOTERS' AGE PROFILE

18-19	First-time voters	20,743
20-29		2,46,837
30-39		4,16,769
40-49		3,75,108
50-59		2,74,406
60-69		1,71,136
70-79		95,811
80-89		31,055
90-99		5,503
100+		183

LS RESULTS (2019 & 2014)



Highest margin | 44.8%
Sikander Bakht (BLD) defeated Subhadra Joshi (INC) in 1977

Lowest margin | 1%
Vijay Goel (BJP) defeated J P Agarwal (Congress) in 1999

In terms of voters, Chandni Chowk is the second smallest parliamentary constituency after New Delhi

Only constituency to give Delhi a Muslim Lok Sabha MP in 1977

Its demography changed due to delimitation exercises in 2008, when various upscale and middle-class colonies, and jhuggi clusters were added

KEY ISSUES

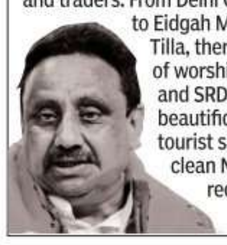
INFRASTRUCTURE
Poor infrastructure remains a big issue among voters. Other issues highlighted by them include lack of a redevelopment plan, bad roads, no streetlights and poor water quality. Many in areas like Kamla Nagar have raised the issue of poor drainage that results in flooding every year

CONGESTION
Voters demand solutions to combat increasing congestion, unorganised parking and illegal hawking. Some say due to lack of parking, people are forced to park on roads, which adds to congestion. Others say illegal hawkers at markets add to the problem

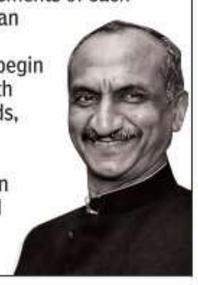
LAW & ORDER
From petty theft to burglaries, weak law and order situation is a concern among voters. Across the constituency, residents and traders claim that there is complete lawlessness and lack of police patrolling

PROMISES

PRAVEEN KHANDELWAL | BJP
"I will ensure the reconstitution of Shahjahanabad Redevelopment Corporation (SRDC) within 60 days through the intervention of LG and comprehensive development of Matia Mahal, Ballimaran and Chandni Chowk assembly constituencies. SRDC will have representatives of residents and traders. From Delhi Gate's Parsi Centre to Eidgah Maidan and Majnu ka Tilla, there are many places of worship of all religions and SRDC will focus on their beautification, making them tourist spots. We will also clean Najafgarh drain and redevelop Shakurbasti railway station



JAI PRAKASH AGARWAL | CONGRESS
"My constituency is divided into 10 parts, which include areas of Shahjahanabad, commercial markets, plotted area, multi-storeyed flats, industrial area, JJ clusters, villages, district parks, Yamuna belt and govt employee colonies. I have assessed in detail the requirements of each of these areas and how we can move ahead together with composite development. To begin with, decongesting areas with introduction of elevated roads, parking lots and eventually improving other basic amenities will be my focus. In multi-storeyed areas, we will ensure govt intervention for upkeep of civic facilities



Why parties are trying to harness east wind

Abhinav.Rajput @timesgroup.com

New Delhi: Despite a govt ban on celebrating Chhath Puja in public places in 2021 due to the Covid pandemic, BJP MP Parvesh Sahib Singh and then party state president, Adesh Gupta, had called upon people to conduct the rituals at the Yamuna ghats. Verma went to the extent of defying police and performing puja there.

While it was expected of Poorvanchal representatives like BJP's Manoj Tiwari and AAP's Mahabal Mishra to be vocal on issues related to the community, seeing Verma (a Jat) and Gupta (a Bania), go on an overdrive to woo them was a new phenomenon in Delhi's polity.

A far cry from politicians of all hues having off and on raised the issue of "outsiders" – a majority of them from Bihar and UP – putting pressure on the Capital's resources, including healthcare services.

In the run-up to Lok Sabha polls in Delhi, both BJP and AAP-Congress alliance have fielded Poorvanchali candidates besides others. Of the 14 candidates in the fray in both blocks, four are Poorvanchalis (three from INDIA bloc and one BJP).

Poorvanchalis are now rivaling traditional electoral groups, such as Punjabis, Vaishyas, Gujjars, Jats and the minorities. This trend was first noticed in the 2013 Delhi assembly elections when AAP gave more than 10% tickets to candidates from the community. In 2015, AAP gave tickets to 13 Poorvanchalis, all of whom won. In comparison, BJP had fielded only three with a Poorvanchal background.

"While people from the community are spread across Delhi, they are concentrated largely in unauthorised colonies. And if you study AAP's voter base, people in these colonies largely back the party," claimed an AAP functionary, adding that this was one of the key reasons for the party's good show in Delhi polls.

Traditionally seen as a vote bank of Congress, the Poorvanchalis switched allegiance to AAP after the party was formed in 2012 and contested the 2013 and 2015 Assembly elections. For the 2024 Lok Sabha polls, for which voting is scheduled in Delhi on May 26, BJP has repeated its Poorvanchali MP, Manoj Tiwari, for North East Delhi seat. The AAP-Congress combine has fielded three such candidates: Kanhaiya Kumar from North East, Somnath Bharti from New Delhi and veteran Mahabal Mishra from West Delhi.

A senior BJP functionary explained why Tiwari was the sole exception to party's stand of not giving a ticket to sitting MPs in Delhi this time. "Tiwari has established his image as a key representative of the community and is known across the country. In fact, when he was appointed state president, it was unthinkable that a person from Bihar would take the space dominated by Punjabis and Banias in Delhi BJP politics," he said.

Sonu Trivedi, professor of political science at Zakir Husain College, said that "with the increase in their numbers, there is an assertion for greater space, which is the reason why you are seeing parties fielding many Poorvanchali candidates. North East Delhi, for example, has a large chunk of people from the region and, now, they have an option as both candidates are from the same geographical background."

Mukul Mangalik, former history teacher at Ramjas College, Delhi University, said, "While parties are indeed giving tickets to Poorvanchali candidates, it needs to be seen which section of society these candidates come from."

"For real on-ground change, we need to see if these people are from those sections of society that have not got representation earlier besides looking at the issues they are raising."

Tarjeet Sabharwal, director of the Centre for Culture, Media, and Governance at Jamia Millia Islamia, said, "While political parties often build their vote banks around caste and region and have a tendency to give more tickets to blocks that are numerically big, policy formulation should focus more on the poor and downtrodden for the country to move in the right direction."

File photo

WHEN NUMBER IS POWER: A crowded ghat in Delhi during Chhath

BANKING ON THEM
POORVANCHALIS

Delhi Cong files complaint against 'fake, distorted news'

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi: Delhi Congress' recently appointed interim president Devender Yadav filed a police complaint on Saturday and alleged that BJP members and individuals associated with the party were "spreading fake and distorted news" via social media to "mislead, incite and provoke the public and create enmity between groups".

He alleged that "malicious videos" with "false content" were being uploaded and shared by BJP members and urged police to issue directions to take such posts down and freeze social media accounts of those circulating them to prevent further commission of such offences.

The complaint was filed at Tughlaq Road police station. Yadav alleged that senior Congress functionaries and a team of lawyers were forced to wait for two hours and their complaint was accepted only after they threatened to hold a protest against police.

While no reaction was available from Delhi Police, state BJP spokesperson Praveen Shankar Kapoor said Delhi Congress had all political rights to raise issues and complain against BJP if they were aggrieved over any issue.

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Cong functionaries were giving statements against me: Lovely

▶Continued from P1

I had resigned from the post of Delhi Congress president and wanted to continue to remain the party worker. I had a meeting with others who resigned and our other supporters and we decided there was no need to sit at home," Lovely said.

"BJP has a strong leadership under PM Narendra Modi and they are working to strengthen the country. I am thankful to PM Modi, Amit Shah and JP Nadda for accommodating not just me but my other colleagues from Congress too," he added.

Lovely said he had worked hard for Congress after coming back from BJP but the functionaries of the grand old party were giving statements against him after his resignation. The former Gandhi Nagar MLA had earlier joined BJP in May 2017 after levelling the charges of bribery in the distribution of tickets for MCD polls but had returned to Congress in Feb 2018, saying he was a "misfit" in the saffron party.

In his resignation letter to Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge last week, Lovely was critical of the alliance with AAP and also expressed his displeasure over the party giving tickets to Kanhaiya Kumar from northeast Delhi and Udit Raj from northwest Delhi, saying they were strangers to the party and its policies. He had, however, added that he will remain in Congress unless he was pushed to resign.

Piyal Bhattacharjee

Arvinder Singh Lovely and a few others were inducted into BJP in the presence of Union minister Hardeep Singh Puri, Delhi BJP chief Virendra Sachdeva and national general secretary Vinod Tawde

They were inducted into the party in the presence of Union minister Hardeep Singh Puri, Delhi BJP chief Virendra Sachdeva and party's national general secretary Vinod Tawde. While Chauhan had cited his "humiliation" at the hands of AICC general secretary in charge Deepak Babaria for leaving Congress, Naseeb Singh and Neeraj Basoya had hit out at the Congress for forging an alliance with AAP in Delhi in their resignation letters.

Chauhan said BJP was doing well under the strong leadership of PM Modi. "We have not been offered any position. We will work hard in the party and create space for ourselves," the former Mangolpuri MLA said. After their induction, Lovely, Chauhan and others went to meet BJP national president JP Nadda and had a long discussion with him. Delhi Congress' interim chief Devender Yadav said Lovely was an "opportunist". "I put Arvinder Singh Lovely in the category of an opportunist person. This is not the first time that he has tried to sabotage Congress. The party does not care much about such people. Congress was strong before and will remain strong in the future as well," Yadav said.

"This is their habit. Whenever there is a chance, he (Lovely) has tried to cheat and there is no place for cheaters in the party," he added.

Lovely, however, said he was not getting anything from BJP. "I was Delhi state president in Congress. I am joining BJP at a time when nominations for elections have already been filed. I am not getting anything from them," Lovely said. "We have been given an opportunity to fight for the people of Delhi under the banner of BJP. There is no doubt that the BJP govt is being formed in the country with an overwhelming majority," he added.

Sunita among AAP's 40 star campaigners for city, Hry

Times News Network

New Delhi: Chief minister Arvind Kejriwal, his wife Sunita Kejriwal, Punjab CM Bhagwant Mann and former deputy CM Manish Sisodia are among the star campaigners for Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) for Lok Sabha polls in Delhi and Haryana.

The party on Saturday released the list of 40 star campaigners each for the two states where it is contesting elections in alliance with Congress. While AAP has fielded candidates on four of the seven Lok Sabha seats in Delhi, it is contesting Kurukshetra seat in Haryana.

While AAP supremo Kejriwal, who is currently in jail in a money laundering case related to now-withdrawn excise policy, his wife Sunita, who has taken the cudgels of canvassing for the party extensively, is on number two position in the lists of campaigners for both the states.

Sunita has already done two roadshows — in East Delhi and West Delhi constituencies — two in Gujarat and has addressed two INDIA bloc rallies in Delhi and in Ranchi. She is scheduled to attend a roadshow in support of AAP candidate from South Delhi seat Sahi Ram on Sunday, party functionaries said.

AAP had released the list of star campaigners of Gujarat on April 16, which had Arvind Kejriwal on the top and Sunita at number 2.

The voting in Delhi and Haryana will take place during the sixth phase of polls on May 25.

Apart from Sisodia, former health minister Satyendar Jain also featured in the star campaigners' list. Both Sisodia and Jain are also in jail in two different cases.

Punjab CM Bhagwant Mann and Rajya Sabha MPs Sanjay Singh, Sandeep Pathak and Raghav Chadha have also been included as star campaigners. Chadha is currently in the United Kingdom for treatment of his eyes and has so far remained unavailable for campaigning.

Delhi ministers Atishi, Saurabh Bharadwaj, Gopal Rai and Kailash Gahlot have also been listed among the star campaigners.

Several prominent party ministers and functionaries of AAP-governed Punjab also figure in the star campaigners' list.

30-yr-old killed in outer Delhi

New Delhi: A 30-year-old man was found murdered at his relative's house in outer Delhi's Nangloi area on Saturday. The deceased, Amarjeet Mehto, had been residing in the house for the last 10 years, police said.

After receiving a PCR call about the murder at 8.22am on Saturday, police rushed to the spot to find a body with injury marks on the neck, which were inflicted with a sharp object. "The PCR caller, Laxman, who owned the house, told us that the deceased was his nephew," a senior police officer said, adding that the murder happened during the intervening night of May 2-3.

"Mehto was working as a delivery boy with a food delivery app. He got married eight months ago," the officer said.

Cops are probing whether it is a case of personal enmity or robbery. TNN

Bridge Repair May Cause Traffic Chaos

ASI Starts Work At Mangi Bridge In N Delhi

Times News Network

The traffic police, PWD and other road agencies are also conducting a new traffic trial requiring diversions for motorists because the Nigambodh Ghat U-turn is temporarily closed during the evening hours. This trial will continue for a few days with its objective being to find a solution to the congestion in the Kashmere Gate area.

New Delhi: The Archaeological Survey of India's repair work on an arch near Hanuman Setu near the Kashmere Gate Inter-State Bus Terminal is expected to cause traffic congestion in central and north Delhi.

According to traffic police, ASI began the repair work on Saturday. As a result, the extreme right lane below Mangi Bridge towards the Hanuman Mandir will be closed for use, causing traffic to jam up near Hanuman Mandir.

ASI officials said that the construction work would continue for two months as the arch had to face conservation efforts. "It is general conservation work of arches, plaster and consolidation," an official said.

The Mangi Bridge is situated before the Hanuman temple flyover, which connects to the entrance of the Kashmere Gate ISBT. This area experiences heavy traffic congestion daily due to the increasing traffic load, but the road width capacity remains the same. The bridge is the connecting link between Red Fort and Salimgarh Fort.

A traffic officer said that due to the work, two lanes had been shut down. Traffic coming from Salimgarh Bypass, Geeta Colony flyover, Shantivan crossing and other areas would be affected. "On Saturday, traffic wasn't significantly affected. However, we expect congestion on working days from Monday onwards, especially during peak hours. Additionally, Tuesday will likely see increased traffic as people use the route to visit a temple."

The traffic police, PWD and other road agencies are also conducting a new traffic trial requiring diversions for motorists because the Nigambodh Ghat U-turn is temporarily closed during the evening hours. This trial will continue for a few days with its objective being to find a solution to the congestion in the Kashmere Gate area.

Meanwhile, repairs of the Naraina flyover also affected traffic movement in west Delhi. The traffic officer said that congestion was noticed due to the work on the Naraina flyover on the carriageway from Naraina to Raja Garden. To ease the woes for motorists, some steps were implemented from Friday.

"Traffic coming from Dhaula Kuan will be diverted to the opposite carriageway on the Naraina flyover (wrong side) from 4pm to 10pm and will merge again on the main carriageway just before the Mayapuri Flyover. Traffic coming from Rajouri Garden to Dhaula Kuan will remain on the left lane and pass through using the side carriageway instead of going up on the flyover," an officer said.

The officer said that this arrangement was meant for 4pm to 10pm. During the rest of the day, traffic will run as normal. "Motorists have been informed that sufficient signage has been affixed at diversion points in this regard," the officer said.

The Naraina flyover was opened to the public in 2010 and its expansion joints have not been repaired since then. PWD usually replaces the expansion joints of the flyovers in a bid to strengthen the elevated road. As per the plan, during the strengthening and maintenance work, the concrete strata of the flyovers will also be repaired along with work on the expansion joints, bearings, etc.

Jatin Kumar

The repair work of Mangi Bridge is likely to lead to traffic congestion in north and central Delhi

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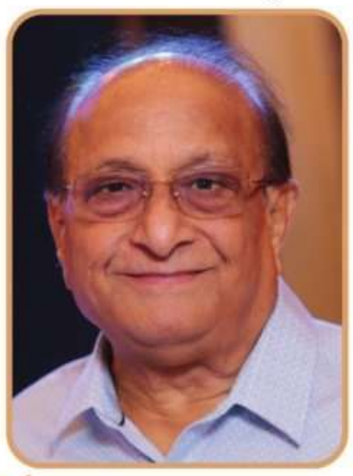

With profound grief we inform the demise of our beloved Shri. Rajender Singh Nalwa on 3rd May 2024

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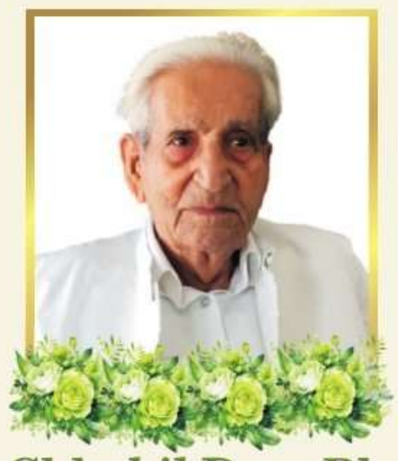

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Fondly remembered by

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Your Love, Guidance, and Radiance continue to inspire us. Missed and Loved every day.

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Mohini, Virender & Dr. Megha Watal
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11th Death Anniversary
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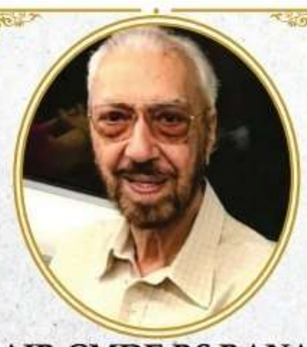
We miss you every moment. We dedicate ourselves to the devotion, wisdom & ideas for which you stood during your lifetime. Missed by: Whole Gupta Family 9810006195, 9811087130, 9811036094 .



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₹2cr seized from BMW car in Okhla, 2 arrested

Times News Network

New Delhi: Two men were detained by Delhi Police after more than Rs 2 crore was found in their BMW car in Okhla Industrial Area on Saturday. The incident took place around 4.30 pm.

A police officer said a flying squad was tasked with inspecting vehicles in the area in view of the polls. They stopped a BMW car for checking and recovered a huge amount of cash kept in two cardboards cartons.

The officer stated that the two occupants of the car had been taken into custody after they failed to provide a satisfactory explanation for the source of the funds. The income tax department and SDM have been notified about the seizure, the officer added.

During interrogation, the duo told the cops that they work as employees for a person.

Last month, two men were caught with Rs 20 lakh in Connaught Place area. Unable to explain the source of money, they were handed over to the income tax department. In March, four men were apprehended by Delhi Police near the Jharera flyover. The suspects were found to be in possession of a substantial amount of cash, amounting to approximately Rs 3 crore.

Man held for threat to Rashtrapati Bhavan

New Delhi: A 25-year-old man has been apprehended from northeast Delhi for allegedly making a threat call to blow up Rashtrapati Bhavan.

Police received a PCR call at 9.45pm on April 29, claiming that a bomb had been placed in Rashtrapati Bhavan which would explode in 15 minutes, a senior police officer said.

During investigation, a resident of Karawal Nagar was nabbed. During a joint interrogation, he disclosed that he enjoys making such calls and was previously involved in three similar cases, the officer said, adding, "It is also revealed that he is undergoing treatment at a hospital for mental illness". TNN

Excise case: ED seeks remand of Chauhan

New Delhi: The Enforcement Directorate (ED) on Saturday sought a four-day remand of accused Vinod Chauhan in the Delhi excise policy money laundering case.

The accused, Vinod Chauhan, was arrested by the ED from Goa in connection with the case on Friday and was produced before the Special Judge in Rouse Avenue Court on Saturday.

Chauhan has been arrested by ED for allegedly transferring a cash bribe amount from South Group to the election campaign of Aam Aadmi Party during the Goa assembly elections in 2022. ANI

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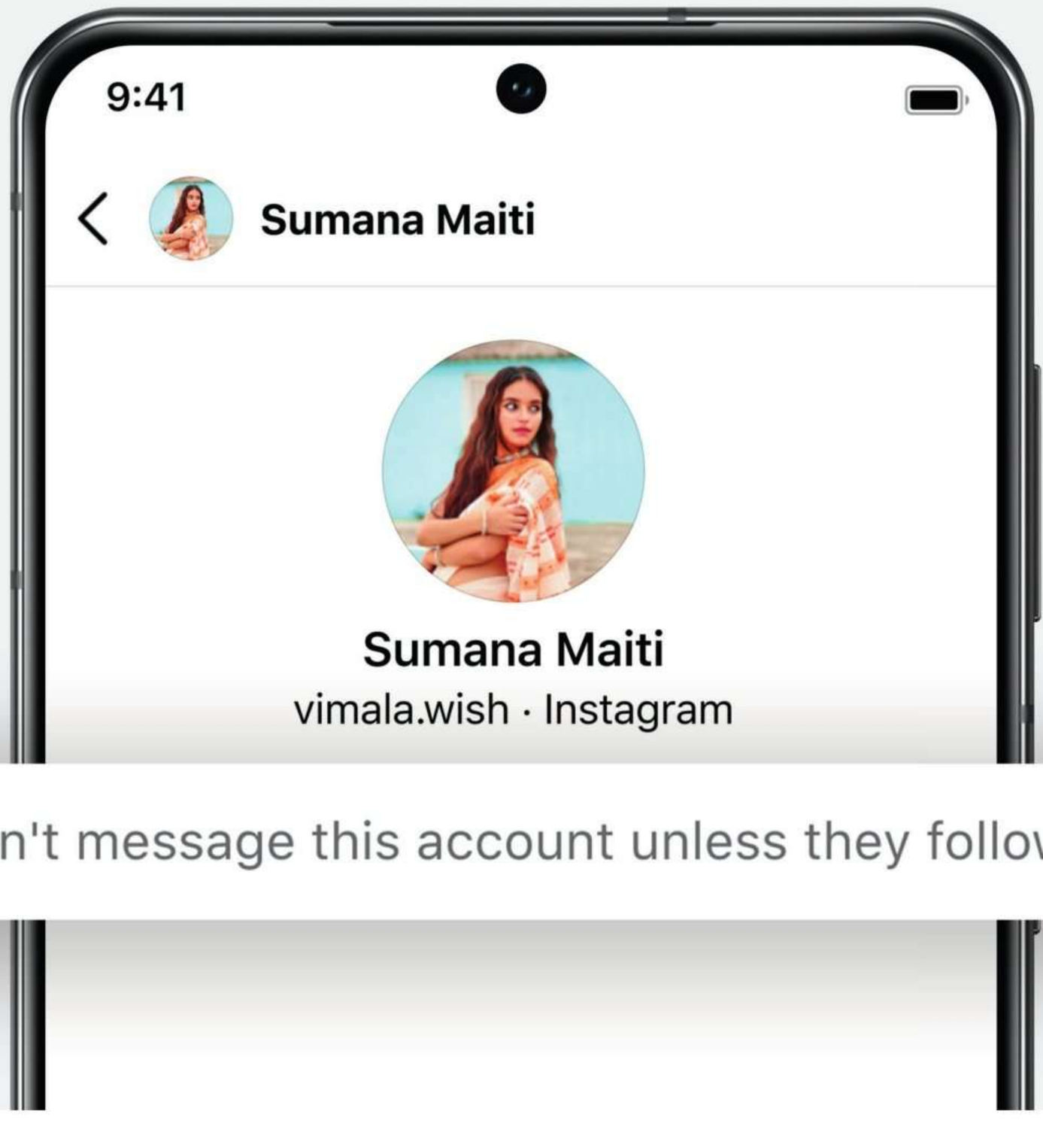


DJB Zeroes In On 400 Water Hotspots For Summer Action

Water Delivered Through Tankers In Most Of These Areas

Siddhanta.Mishra
@timesgroup.com

New Delhi: Delhi Jal Board has identified 440 water-deficit areas in the capital that will need extra attention during the summer months. These regions, which include RK Puram, Burari, Palam and Kondli, experience low or no water supply. Officials stated that in these areas, water is delivered via tankers because piped water is difficult to provide and tubewells are not available for everyone.

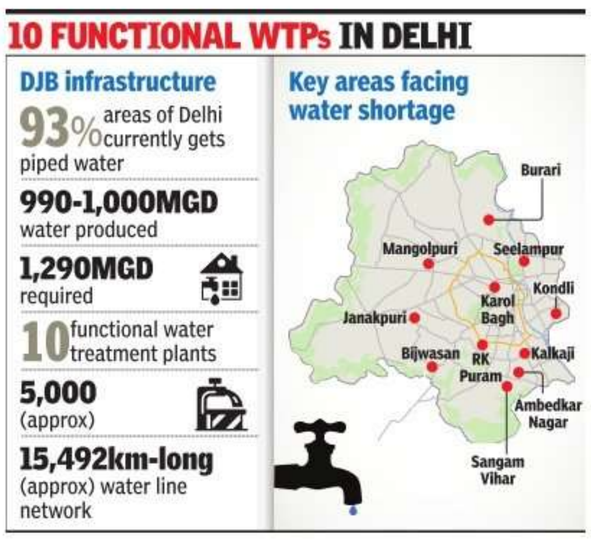
With the city firmly in the grip of summer, water production is fluctuating. DJB's current water production is 990-1,000 million gallons per day (MGD), which falls short of the city's water requirement of approximately 1,290 MGD. DJB regularly receives over 100 complaints every day regarding water supply and requests for water tankers. According to DJB officials, for the peak summer, water tankers have been deployed for 16 hours in two shifts. This year, the water utility plans to deploy 961 tankers. Their fixed destinations have also been increased, with tanker filling points in 190 locations.

Besides the 440 locations identified as water deficient, there are other areas that are also facing water shortage problems. "For the last two days, there has been no regular water supply from the pipeline," said a resident of Anand Vihar, a locality not on DJB's list. "I also do not have the facility of a borewell, so we are surviving on water we are borrowing from a construction site. We also have to buy water from the market. I have complained to DJB, and officials have assured me that the problem will be fixed soon. Hopefully, it gets resolved."

In Sept last year, the Central Ground Water Board recommended certain measures to DJB, including determining locations suitable for safe groundwater extraction to increase the city's overall output. Additionally, the central body identified 15 areas in the city that are overexploited due to domestic and commercial water extraction.

In the past two years, several plans have been discussed and agreed upon to increase water production and improve the water supply in the city. However, they have not been implemented. One plan involved setting up 1,000 reverse osmosis (RO) plants in JJ clusters, but only five have become operational in the past year. These RO plants were intended to be connected to water ATMs.

On April 3 this year, water minister Atishi wrote to chief secretary Naresh Kumar directing him to submit a colony-wise update on water availability in relation to the demand in the summer months. According to sources, the list of areas of water shortage has been prepared by DJB's different zones, compiled and submitted to the water minister.



'Sudden loss of anchors can make you doubt your ability to navigate'

*To help readers cope with their anxieties in these stressful times, TOI has launched **Talk it Out**, a series in which expert counsellors answer your mental health queries. This week's advice is from psychologist **Aditi Sharma***

I am a 29-year-old man. My stepmother robbed me of opportunities for self-growth and independence. Now that she is dead, I don't have a sense of identity and feel utterly confused about my life and career. I have been living on my own for a year now, and it's difficult to navigate through life when all I ever did was listen to her wishes and desires. How do I get better at figuring my life out?

– Anonymous

The sudden loss of anchors — upon which we have always relied for direction, even when we might not have wanted to — brings about a significant amount of uncertainty and a feeling of being scattered. This loss also impedes our ability to recognise and remember the times when we managed to guide ourselves without our usual anchor. For instance, I wonder what it takes for you to live on your own and how you've managed to do so until now. I would invite you to think about all the skills and wisdom you have used in this past year to get through the challenges that life has thrown your way as you managed it independently. Along with this, identifying what others notice, appreciate and admire in you may also help to see yourself in a different light — as someone who has unique qualities and knowledge to offer to the world. Along with reflecting on these questions on your own, another way to develop deeper understandings about yourself could be through meeting with a therapist.

I am 16 years old, and have just completed my boards. I recently got to know that my extreme mood swings and prolonged periods of depression and mania are symptoms of bipolar disorder. However, being a teenager under incessant scrutiny of parents, I have little to no access to a psychiatrist. I don't feel like sharing my mental health condition with them or anyone else. My relationship with my parents isn't bad but a conversation like this will likely have repercussions. I don't have any meaningful friends either. Nobody expects signs of such (so-called) weaknesses from me. Thus my SOS cries to the people whom I know get unnoticed every time. The disorder has been causing me trouble since the past two years, affecting my life and studies. Sometimes, I even have suicidal thoughts, though I have convinced myself not to think so each time. Will this condition get better or worse? What shall I do to deal with it?

– Anonymous

Our perception of a person's strength often obscures our ability to recognise when they may need support. Addressing mental health challenges alongside the inherent difficulties of adolescence requires significant effort and can be exhausting. Establishing a supportive community during such times is essential for countering feelings of isolation. Enlisting the support of a trusted adult to bridge these conversations with parents is a good starting point. Additionally, consulting with a trained professional can not only help you understand and navigate these struggles but also identify all necessary sources of intervention. From where I see it, it seems you are not okay to let these challenges affect your academic and personal life — what does this tell you about the kind of person you are and what you value?

TalkitOut

WANT SOME ADVICE?

Sharing can help your recovery so write to us at **talkitout@timesgroup.com** with your question, name and place. But if you wish to stay anonymous, do indicate that in your email.

You can also visit bit.ly/TOITalkItOut or scan this QR code to send in your concern.

If you need counselling, please contact the following helplines

- Aasra +91-9820466726 (24x7)
- Cooj +91 9822562522 (Mon-Fri, 1-7pm)
- iCall +91 9152987821 (Mon-Sat, 10am-8pm)
- Fortis +91 8376804102 (24x7)
- Kiran 1800-599-0019 (24x7)
- Sumaitri +91 9315767849 (2-6.30pm)
- Saath +91 7926305544 (1-7pm)
- Sneha +91 44 24640050 (10am-7pm)
- Vandrevala Foundation 18602662345, +91 7304599836 (24x7)

Scan to know your MENTAL HEALTH SCORE
M POWER MIND MATTERS
ADITYA BIRLA EDUCATION TRUST
24x7 Mental Health Helpline
1800 120 820 050
mpowerminds.com/chat
*The mental health score will help you in identifying the symptoms related to mental health at early stage, and seek help at the right time. The questionnaire is not a mental health diagnosis. Please seek professional help in case of a mental health crisis.

Nithari case: SC to hear petition against acquittals

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi: Supreme Court has agreed to hear plea against acquittal of Moninder Singh Pandher and Surindra Koli in Noida Nithari killings and issued notice to them and UP govt.

A bench of Justices B R Gavai, Satish Chandra Sharma and Sandeep Mehta sought response from the state and the accused on a plea filed by father of one of the victims.

Pandher and Koli have been convicted in some cases arising out of Nithari serial killings and have also been acquitted. In one of the cases, the trial court awarded the death sentence but they were acquitted by Allahabad High Court. 16 cases were lodged against Pandher and his domestic help Surender Koli for serial killings in 2005 and 2006.

The gruesome and shocking case had come to light in December 2006 when the Noida police discovered skulls and skeletal remains of 16 persons, mostly children, from a drain. Earlier, many children had gone missing from the nearby clusters of Nithari and it was alleged that Koli would lure them to the house on the pretext of offering them sweets and chocolates, murder them and then have sex with the corpses.

Challenging their acquittal, the petitioner submitted that the high court wrongly discarded medical evidence as well as the judicial confession of the accused as recorded by a magistrate. Issuing notice, the apex court also directed its registry to call for the records of the case from the trial court and the high court.

Not park, city needs 'proper dense' forest, high court tells DDA

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi: Taking a dim view of Delhi Development Authority's proposal to develop an "ornamental park" instead of a dense forest on a plot of land, Delhi High Court has stressed that the authority must focus on creating a forest in the city

Justice Jasmeet Singh, who had earlier asked the DDA to state the details of an over 55-acre land proposed to be earmarked for the development of a forest, said on Friday that "every inch" of the plot should be a "proper dense forest" as it will act as "lungs" for the city.

"It is for the lungs of Delhi. It is only to reduce pollution levels in Delhi … Delhi needs a forest. Delhi does not need an ornamental park. Delhi does not need a medicinal garden, clustered bamboo forest," Justice Singh pointed out to the DDA's lawyer.

However, the DDA's counsel assured the court that the plan is not to develop an "ornamental" park but for an urban forest with three zones, including a 19-acre area with dense flora and a "buffer" zone.

The court asked the authority to consider if the entire plot can be developed as a dense forest, observing that the total area is "too small" for the authority's proposed usage of carving out a core zone and a buffer zone or a periphery.

Justice Singh said there is a difference between a "park having some trees" and a forest and re-iterated that the entire 55 acres should be developed as a "core area."

The DDA counsel assured the high court that the plan was not to develop an 'ornamental' park, but an urban forest with three zones, including a 19-acre area with dense flora and a 'buffer' zone

"This is not acceptable. I am of the view that the need of the people of Delhi is a forest and not an ornamental park," the court said, listing the matter for further proceedings on May 17. It also asked the DDA to consider finding other "larger" patches of land to develop a forest.

"We don't need a herbal forest. People of Delhi will give you blessings. Go find some land which is lying vacant," the court said. On April 1, while dealing with a contempt case against the DDA over cutting down of several trees in the southern Ridge area, the court had asked the authority to file an affidavit with respect to its proposal to develop a forest and said the land should be "sustainable" for the creation of a forest.

HC issues notice on govt houses for judicial staff

New Delhi: Delhi High Court has issued notice on a plea seeking expedited availability of government residential accommodations for judicial officers in the national capital.

A division bench of Acting Chief Justice Manmohan and Justice Manmeet P.S. Arora issued notices to the govt of India through the Ministry of Law and Justice, Delhi govt, and the Registrar General.

The plea, moved by the Judicial Service Association, aims to speed up the availability of accommodations for officers serving in Delhi Judicial Services and Delhi Higher Judicial Services, in line with the Supreme Court judgments.

As of April 18, the total working strength of judicial officers in Delhi stands at 823 against 347 residential accommodations available in the judicial pool.

The petition highlights the dire situation, where almost half of the judicial officers in Delhi lack official residential accommodations.

Despite the Supreme Court's directives to provide such accommodations, a significant number of judges in the city remain without them, relying solely on inadequate HRA and other allowances, the plea stated.

The petition also referred to a circular issued by Haryana govt, which hires or requisitions private buildings or houses for residential purposes for judicial officers.

The plea sought similar relief for the petitioners and the judicial officers serving in Delhi.

The matter is scheduled for next hearing on July 16. IANS

8 forest guards for alternative green line

Priyangi.Agarwal
@timesgroup.com

New Delhi: The forest department has deployed nine forest guards to attend to complaints received on the alternative green helpline number (011-23378513) till the revival of toll-free number (1031).

Residents and activists have been complaining that the permanent helpline number has been non-operational. The alternate helpline number was made operational recently after the forest guards' deployment on April 24.

The chief secretary, meanwhile, informed Delhi High Court that the contract of the agency maintaining the permanent helpline expired on March 31. Due to the model code of conduct in force and CM being in judicial custody, they have started an alternative number.

A senior forest official said, "Complaints related to trees, forest, wildlife, encroachment etc can be given through this alternate helpline and the same will be registered in Green Helpline Portal. This helpline will be functional 24*7."

The court in April this year sought report from Delhi govt after observing that in Sept 2020 the forest department was directed to setup a telephone line for recording of complaints and create a link on its website where complaints may be registered by citizens, who notice concretization of the ground around a tree or other forms of damage or victimization of a tree. The court had then said on receipt of a complaint, the tree officer will promptly coordinate with the land-owning agency concerned, and the police to redress the problem.

An affidavit dated May 3, filed by chief secretary Naresh Kumar, said a green helpline number (1800118600) was launched on Sept 10, 2020 with the help of Delhi govt's Administrative Reforms department. This helpline was managed by the department.

"The initial contract with the vendor for various other helplines was for 3 years, but it was extended till March 31, 2024. The said file was placed before the chief secretary for the first time on April 2 after expiry of the contract period," said the affidavit.

"Considering the gravity of the matter, and the limitations due to ongoing model code of conduct and judicial custody of chief minister, the forest and wildlife department has made temporary arrangement immediately and accordingly a temporary helpline number 011-23378513 has been arranged to receive the complaints related to the tree offences," it added.

Activist Bhavreen Kandhari said, "The sudden disappearance of a tree helpline shows lack of seriousness. We tried on the helpline numerous times between April 6 and 15, and there was no response as the helpline had become defunct. The forest department started an alternate helpline, but information was not shared with the public."

Office of the District Election Officer & District Magistrate Hooghly, Chinsurah Hooghly : 712101

Notice

Information for all concerned that the Hon'ble **General Observers of 29 Arambag (SC) PC** will be available for public hearing in connection with General Election to Lok Sabha-2024. Anyone having any grievance w.r.t election can visit personally as per following schedule with prior appointment.

Sl No	Observer's Name	Parliamentary Constituency	Contact No	E-Mail ID	Meeting Venue	Meeting Time
1	Mr. Viabhav Galriya , IAS	29 ARAMBAG (SC)	9330342064	29arambaghgo.gels24@gmail.com	Conference Hall (Ground Floor) Nataraj Tourism Property (Earlier Tarakeswar Tourist Lodge), Tarakeswar, Mandir Para, Tarakeswar Hooghly, Pin : 712410	3rd May to 19th May 2024 Time : 11:00 A.M to 12:00 Noon.

Sd/-
District Election Officer & District Magistrate Hooghly

Memo No : 107(5)/HD/ICA/ADVT Date: 03.05.2024

Office of the District Election Officer & District Magistrate Hooghly, Chinsurah Hooghly : 712101

Notice

Information for all concerned that the Hon'ble **Police Observer of 27 Serampore PC, 28 Hooghly PC, 29 Arambag (SC) PC** will be available for public hearing in connection with General Election to Lok Sabha 2024. Anyone having any grievance w.r.t election can visit personally as per following schedule with prior appointment.

Sl No	Observer's Name	Parliamentary Constituency	Contact No	E-Mail ID	Meeting Venue	Meeting Time
1	Mr. Shiv Dayal, IPS	27 SERAMPORE	9330326207	27sreerampurpo.gels24@gmail.com	BTPS, Building Name- Gongotri, PO- Tribeni, Hooghly, PIN-712503	04/05/2024 to 20/05/2024 From 10:30 A.M. to 12:30 P.M.
		28 HOOGHLY	9330328689	28hooghlypo.gels24@gmail.com	BTPS, Building Name- Gongotri, PO- Tribeni, Hooghly, PIN-712503	04/05/2024 to 20/05/2024 From 10:30 A.M. to 12:30 P.M.
2	Mr. Deotosh Kumar Surendra Singh, IPS	29 ARAMBAG (SC)	9330324547	29arambaghpo.gels24@gmail.com	Conference Hall (Ground Floor) Nataraj Tourism Property (Earlier Tarakeswar Tourist Lodge), Tarakeswar, Mandir Para, Tarakeswar Hooghly, Pin: 712410	3rd May to 5th May 2024 Time: 10:00 A.M. to 11 A.M.

Sd/-
District Election Officer & District Magistrate Hooghly

Memo No : 108(5)/HD/ICA/ADVT Date: 03.05.2024

S-01

Notification on Corrigendum-3 to RFP - DTI (O)-COMP-IFMS-0008-2022-NO-3395

dated 15.03.2024

Corrigendum-3 to RFP - DTI (O)-COMP-IFMS-0008-2022-NO-3395 dated 15.03.2024 of Directorate of Treasuries & Inspection, Odisha, Bhubaneswar for the selection of System Integrator (SI) for Integrated Financial Management System (IFMS) 3.0. This corrigendum majorly deals with the online submission of proposal using MSTC's e-Procurement platform only **https://www.mstcecommerce.com/eprocn/** and needs to be read along with the released RFP and Corrigenda.

The details of the corrigendum will be available in the Odisha Treasury website **www.odishatreasury.gov.in**

Sd/-
Directorate of Treasuries & Inspection
Finance Department, Govt. of Odisha

OIPR-05005/11/0002/24-25

Office of Mission Director, National Health Mission, Uttarakhand
Uttarakhand Health & Family Welfare Society, DoMHFW, Uttarakhand Govt.
3rd Floor, Directorate of Health, DandaLakhond,
Sahastradhara Road, Dehradun – 248001, Phone/ Fax - 0135-2608646

Ref. No. 238/NHMUK/HR/2024-25/259D (E-62459) Dated: 02/05/2024

National Health Mission, Uttarakhand invites dedicated applicants for the position of **Cardiologist (Super Specialist)** to deliver exemplary healthcare services in the Himalayan state of Uttarakhand. Lucrative remuneration on the basis of **"YOU QUOTE-WE PAY"** Model. **Maximum remuneration Rs. 6 Lakhs per month**

The interview will be held on **22nd May 2024 (Wednesday)** from 10 AM onwards at the Office of Mission Director, NHM, Uttarakhand (address as above). Positions are purely contractual under NHM, Uttarakhand. Retired Doctors will be paid as per Government norms.

For more information & application procedure, please check **www.nhm.uk.gov.in** or Contact : 9412080703.

Permission for publishing the advertisement during Model code of conduct received via letter no-1/207599/XXVIII-3-24-e file-71530/2024, dated- 29.04.2024 & 599/xxxi(15)G/24-02 (साठ)/2022, dated- 25.04.2024

National Health Mission, Uttarakhand

Botanical Garden 'best metro station', Shastri Park 'best depot' facility

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi: Botanical Garden was awarded the 'best metro station', while Shastri Park Depot grabbed the award of the 'best metro depot' during the 30th foundation day of the Delhi Metro Rail Corporation (DMRC) observed at Bharat Mandapam on Friday.

Best station and depot are annual awards. These awards are given considering several factors, including maintenance, customer feedback, cleanliness, and the maintenance of trains (in the case of depots). A DMRC official said the prestigious annual awards were presented to recognise outstanding contributions and dedication.

The award 'Metro Woman of the Year' was given to Priti Kumari, senior station manager, while Md Abdussueb Ahamad, head traffic controller, won 'Metro Man of the Year." Gopesh Kumar Verma, senior station manager, was given 'Rajbhasha Puruskar'.

The celebration was graced by dignitaries, including Anurag Jain, Secretary of the union ministry of road transport & highways, ministry of housing and urban affairs & chairman of DMRC; Naresh Kumar, Chief Secretary; Paramvir Chakra Honorary Captain Yogendra Singh Yadav and Vikas Kumar, managing director of DMRC. Adding a touch of entertainment to the celebration, singer Kavita Krishnamurti Subramaniam and standup comedian Sunil Grover took the stage for an evening filled with laughter and melody.

GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL

NOTICE INVITING RE E-TENDER
NIT NO. HST/4T-85-2023/ Courier-RT(265&278)/2023/297

RE E-TENDER FOR EMPANELMENT OF LICENSED COURIER ORGANIZATIONS FOR TRANSPORTING OF SAMPLES OF DRUGS, KIT, CHEMICALS & REAGENTS AND CONSUMABLES FROM C.M.S TO DIFFERENT LABORATORIES WITHIN AND OUT OF WEST BENGAL FOR TWO YEARS FROM THE DATE OF A.O.C. is invited from the Bidders. Interested bidders may visit the website: "https://wbtenders.gov.in" or "www.wbhealth.gov.in" for further details. Bid submission start date (online): 15.05.2024; Bid submission closing date (online): 28.05.2024; Bid opening date (online): 28.05.2024. Sd/- D.D.H.S. (E&S), WB

ICA-T7930(3)/2024

Stock trader clicks on link, loses ₹7.6cr

Ankita.Anand
@timesgroup.com

Gurgaon: A CA's daughter from Faridabad was cheated of Rs 7.6 crore on the pretext of investing in the stock market through Facebook links. Faridabad police have arrested 16 persons from Bengaluru, Jaipur, Jodhpur, Bikaner, Delhi, Faridabad, Lucknow and Gurgaon in connection with the case.

The victim, who works with a management company in Delhi and has been trading in the stock market for about two years, received a link on Facebook on Jan 4, promising lucrative returns.

After following the link, she found herself in a WhatsApp group called "ICICI IR TEAM (57)", where members appeared to be generating substantial profits. Encouraged by what she saw, she decided to invest her own money in the group. Soon after, the victim was added to another group called "C6Ram Investment Academy", and was directed to add funds through customer service. Following instructions from the fraudsters, she invested varying amounts of money into different bank accounts.

In one instance, a woman named Kareena Rajput contacted the victim, claiming affiliation with an investment trading company and mentioned that she had acquired the victim's bank details from their customer service to facilitate fund transfers. As a result, on March 19, the victim initiated a transfer of Rs 1 lakh from her bank account, followed by another transfer of Rs 60 lakh on March 21.

"I was informed that the shares being purchased were yielding profits, so I continued depositing more money. I even transferred Rs 90 lakh from my father's account and Rs 15 lakh from my mother's account. The largest transaction I made was for Rs 4 crore. My total 'investment' amounted to Rs 7.59 crore. When I requested the return of my money along with the profits, they attempted to persuade me to invest more. It was only then that I realised I was being duped," she said in her complaint.

Following the fraud, she complained to the cyber portal.

"The accused devised a well-orchestrated scheme to entice individuals into investing in the stock market through these groups, promising lucrative returns. Subsequently, the funds were converted into USDT (a cryptocurrency) and transferred to accounts in China," said Amit Kumar, in-charge of the cyber police station.

Additionally, he said that the mastermind of this fraud was out of reach.

The arrested individuals include Prashant Kumar from Bangalore, Syed Md. Zeeshan and Syed Suhel from Uttar Pradesh, Hari Kishan and Ram Singh alias Dhallu from Bikaner, Akash and Rohit from Delhi, Mahendra alias Ritesh and Dinesh Kumar from Jodhpur, Rinku, Indrajit and Rahul, an M.Tech graduate from Bikaner, Dipendra from Uttar Pradesh and another Dinesh Kumar from Bikaner.

According to the police, they recovered 24 mobile phones, 556 SIM cards, 67 cheque books and 62 ATM cards, alongside Rs 15.17 lakh in cash. Under the supervision of Police Commissioner Rakesh Kumar Arya, a Special Investigation Team (SIT) was established. The operation, spearheaded by ACP Abhimanyu Goyat and supported by Cyber Central Station Manager and Sub-Inspectors Baburam, Pawan, and Praveen, was conducted.

"After thorough interrogation, the arrested individuals were produced in court and sent to jail. The investigation is ongoing," he added.

Cyber crooks pose as cops to dupe 2 of ₹50 lakh

Abhay@timesgroup.com

New Delhi: Two men, including a 78-year-old, lost more than Rs 50 lakh after being duped by scammers posing as police officers.

In the first case, the complainant, a 78-year-old retiree from DGCA and Airport Authority of India, told police that he became a victim of cybercriminals in March. They put him under "house arrest" for four days, starting from March 27, and duped him of Rs 47 lakh.

The septuagenarian received a call from a woman who posed as a consultant officer in the telecom department on March 27. She threatened him by saying that his phone number would be blocked due to illegal activities such as money laundering. She also informed him that someone in Mumbai had filed a complaint against him, mentioning that his Aadhaar card had been used for those illegal activities.

"She then connected the man to a person who posed as a sub-inspector from a Mumbai police station," a police source said. The man was threatened by the fake cop that an arrest warrant had been issued against his name under the PMLA Act. The scammers made a video call and threatened him to come to Mumbai urgently, as they wanted to "interrogate him". The man told them that he was unable to come to Mumbai due to his wife's illness; she is on dialysis three times a week. They then forced him to provide details of his bank accounts and investments.

EYEING YOUR SAVINGS

"The scammers kept me under house arrest and threatened me to report every two hours about my whereabouts. They kept mentioning that my phone was being tracked and monitored and that the calls were being recorded. They stated that they would retrieve the phone's history during the course of the investigation," the man stated in his complaint.

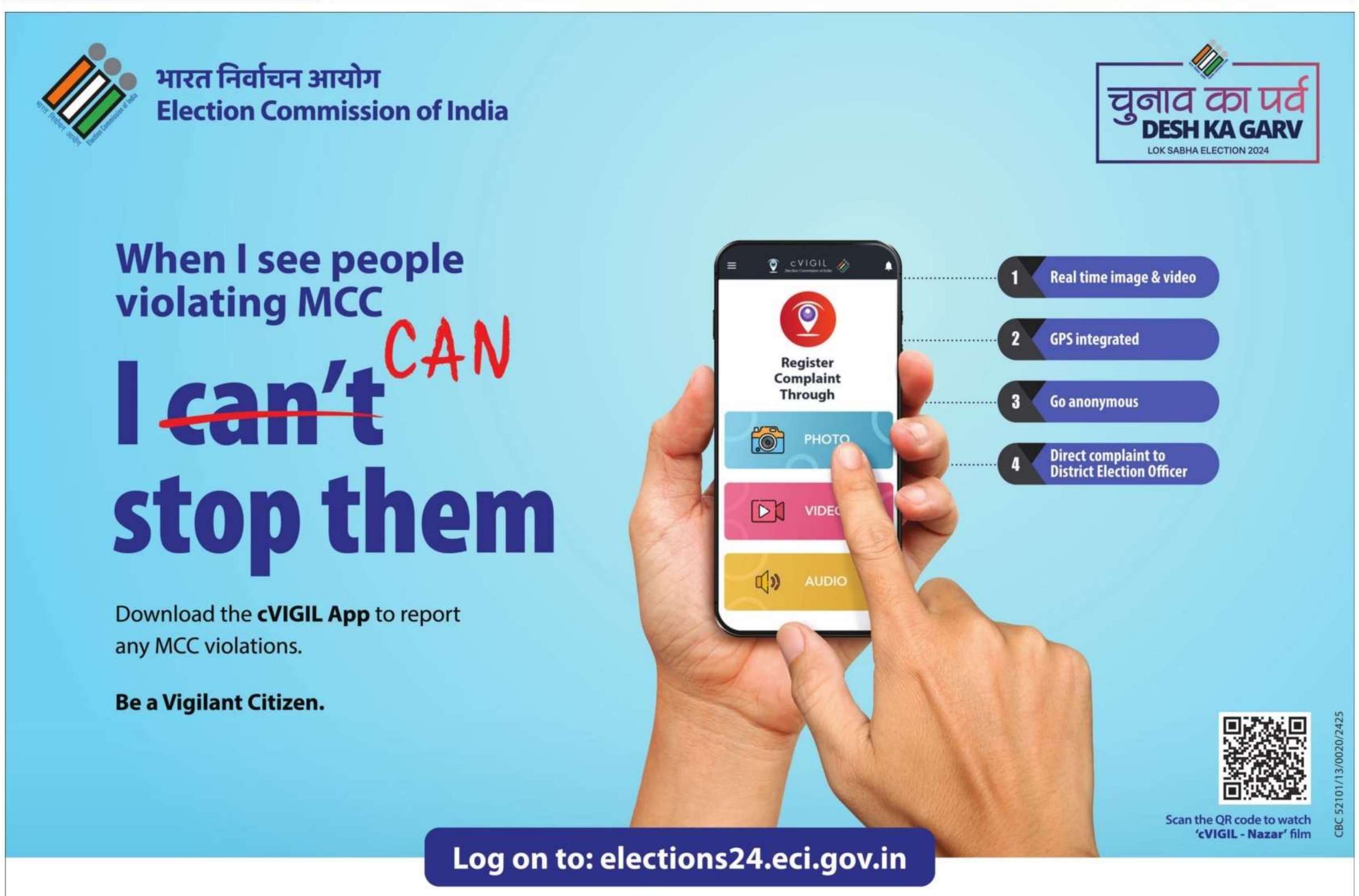
He further said that being a heart patient for more than a decade, he became nervous and mentally weak day by day. "My mind was functioning only in one direction: to protect my immediate family, including my married daughter and son-in-law, who are settled in Mumbai with two kids," the 78-year-old man said, adding that he ended up losing his money to the cyber criminals.

In another case, a resident of Chanakyapuri was duped of Rs 4.3 lakh by scammers posing as Crime Branch officers. "I received a call from an individual who posed as a courier company employee. He informed me that a courier had been forwarded to Russia under my Aadhaar number, which contained passports and some narcotic substances like MDMA," the man stated in his complaint. The call was subsequently transferred to "cops". The scammers then asked him to furnish his personal details and to download an application to interact with "a senior cop" for further investigation. The complainant said that during the video call, the scammers threatened him and showed some fake letters, some photos and told him that he had links with gangsters. "They threatened to arrest him and his family members. They asked him to transfer money to various accounts for verification. He then paid them the money and was duped," police source said.

Signage hoarding falls, driver injured

New Delhi: A 42-year-old autorickshaw driver was injured after a signage hoarding fell on him. The incident occurred after it was hit by a truck in northeast Delhi's Gokulpuri market.

The victim was identified as Ajab Singh, a resident of Gokalpuri. The incident occurred at 3.45 am at the entrance of Gokulpuri Market main road when a truck collided with the pole supporting the hoarding, causing the metal board to fall on Singh, who was sitting on a nearby bench at the time. Deputy commissioner of police (north-east) Joy Tirkey stated that Singh was taken to the hospital and is reported to be in stable condition. Two vehicles were also damaged. The truck driver fled the spot," the officer said. TNN



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ଓଡ଼ିଶା ଆଦର୍ଶ ବିଦ୍ୟାଳୟ ସଙ୍ଗଠନ

ODISHA ADARSHA VIDYALAYA SANGATHAN

N-1/9, Nayapali, PO: Sainik School, District- Khurda, Bhubaneswar, Odisha- 751005, Website: oav.edu.in
Email: oavsbbsr.od@gov.in / info@oav.edu.in

No. /OAVS. Date:

Notice for Computer Based Test (CBT)

No. 2462 Date: 03.05.2024

Pursuant to the Advt. No. 01/2024 and 02/2024 of OAVS, the Computer Based Test (CBT) for Recruitment of Principals and Teachers in OAVs and OMAVs is scheduled to be held as under at different centers across the state.

Schedule for CBT

Sl.No.	Advt. No. & Name of the post	Date of CBT
1	Recruitment of Principals & Teachers in OAVs (Advt. No.01/2024)	05.06.2024, 07.06.2024 & 10.06.2024.
2	Recruitment of Principals & Teachers in OMAVs (Advt. No.02/2024)	29.06.2024

1. The list of centers with cities and schedule of examination along with the link to download their admit cards will be available in the OAVS website (oav.edu.in). SMS will also be sent to the registered mobile number of the candidates.
2. In case of issues in downloading e-admit cards, candidates may approach the Facilitation Counters in the office of the concerned District Education Officers on:
   1. 04.06.2024 from 10 AM to 2 PM for applicants of Recruitment of Principals & Teachers in OAVs (Advt. No.01/2024).
   2. 28.06.2024 from 10 AM to 2 PM for applicants of Recruitment of Principals & Teachers in OMAVs (Advt. No.02/2024).
3. After completion of CBT, a link shall be provided for a specific period to enable the candidates to file their objections, if any, on the CBT questions.

For detailed information and updates, the candidates are advised to visit the OAVS website (oav.edu.in) regularly.

Sd/-
State Project Director

OIPR-27029/11/0001/24-25

YouTuber Elvish Yadav now being probed for money laundering by ED

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi: The ED has initiated a money laundering investigation against YouTuber Elvish Yadav in an alleged case of using snake venom as a recreational drug in parties and laundering the proceeds of crime. He was arrested last year in Nov along with five accomplices, all snake charmers, by the Noida police.

The ED's probe, initiated last week based on a police FIR registered at Sector 49 police station in Noida, will track money trail of the 'proceeds of crime'. The police, after the arrest of the YouTuber, had also recovered half-a-dozen snakes from the possession of the six accused, currently out on bail.

Acting on a complaint filed by an NGO and animal rights activists, the Noida police had searched the premises of the accused and recovered several cobras used by the suspects to extract their venom for sale in rave parties. Yadav was trapped by activists by ordering snake venom for a party where he had allegedly delivered 20ml of venom. The police had seized the same and sent it for forensic examination, which later became grounds for arrest of the accused.

The Noida police also filed a chargesheet in the case recently, pressing charges against the accused under various sections of the IPC, Wildlife Act and NDPS Act.

2 Enter Septic Tank In Noida, Choke To Death

Was Asked To Clean It At Night: Victim's Wife

Advitya.Bahl@timesgroup.com

Tapan (bottom left) and Nooni Mandal were called to the house of Sumit Chawla in A block of Sector 26 around 7pm on Friday

Noida: Two migrant workers from Bengal suffocated to death while cleaning a septic tank at a house in Sector 26 on Friday evening.

Originally from Malda district, Tapan (40) and Nooni Mandal (36) were relatives and stayed in a slum in Sector 9.

According to police, the two were called to the house of Sumit Chawla in A block of Sector 26 around 7pm on Friday. The workers, who were attached with an agency, had worked for Chawla earlier. This time, he called them directly without involving the agency.

"They descended into the septic tank around 7pm. Minutes later, they fainted and did not respond to any calls," said DCP Vidyasagar Mishra. According to him, police received a call around 10.30pm.

A team of firefighters and an ambulance reached the spot along with cops. The two were pulled out of the sewage shaft and taken to Kailash Hospital in Sector 27. "Doctors tried, but could not revive them. The two workers were declared dead on arrival at 11.15pm," the DCP said.

Till late on Saturday evening, a police complaint was yet to be registered.

Additional DCP Manish Mishra said the two bodies had been sent for an autopsy and their families informed.

"We reached out to their families and asked them to file a complaint. But they haven't done it so far. An investigation has, however, been initiated. Let the autopsy reports come. We will take a call on whether to register an FIR after that," Mishra said.

Lily Mandal, Nooni's wife, said they received a call from police around Friday midnight. The families visited the local police station the next morning.

"My husband and our relative Tapan were called to clean the septic tank around 7pm. I told them repeatedly to avoid descending into the tank at night and clean it only the next morning. But the house owner insisted they clean it at night," said Lily, who works as a domestic staffer in Sector 21.

She said the Mandals and several other families from their village in Malda had been living in the city for the past 14 years. While Nooni and Lily have three young children, Tapan and his wife have four. Two of Tapan's kids and his parents live in their village in Malda.

"Both Nooni and Tapan earned a living as sewage cleaners. They were major breadwinners for their families," Lily added.

According to her, they have been promised compensation bsy Chawla. "The owner of the house has promised to pay us Rs 8 lakh, which is why we have not lodged any police complaint against him so far," Lily said, adding that the families were waiting for the bodies.

"Once the autopsy is done, we will take the bodies back to our native village for the last rites," she said.

Family finds man lying injured on Gzb road, cops suspect snatching

▶Continued from P1

ACP (Shalimar Garden) Siddharth Gautam said, "We received a call from the hospital, informing us about the death of a man from stab wounds. A team reached the hospital from Shalimar Garden police station."

Preliminary investigation revealed Tyagi had left his Rajinder Nagar home for office around 11am on Friday.

"On his way back, he spoke to his family members at 11.17pm, informing them he would reach home soon. He would usually take the metro home," Gautam said. "When he did not reach home in a while, his family members tried reaching him, but his phone went unanswered. Looking for him, they found him lying injured on the road behind Khaitan school. He was bleeding from two stab injuries," he added.

CCTV footage shows him entering a lane as he walked back home, but there are no visuals of the crime spot

CCTV footage shows him entering a lane as he walked back home, but there are no visuals of the crime spot. Police said 10 teams were formed to nab the suspects.

"Prima facie, it appears he was walking back home when a group of snatchers or robbers intercepted him. He might have been attacked when he tried to resist them. His wallet and laptop bag are missing, his family told us," an officer said.

Following a complaint by Tyagi's family, an FIR was registered under sections 302 (murder) and 394 (voluntarily causing hurt in committing robbery) of the IPC.

Office of the District Magistrate & District Election Officer, North 24 Parganas, Barasat, North 24-Parganas-700124

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Information for all concerned that the Hon'ble General Observer of 14-Bongaon PC, 15-Barrackpore PC & Hon'ble Police Observer of 14-Bongaon PC & 15-Barrackpore PC will be available for public hearing in connection with General Election to Lok Sabha-2024. Anyone having any grievance w.r.t. election can visit personally as per following schedule with prior appointment.

Sl No.	Name of the Hon'ble General Observer	Duty assigned	Phone No.	e-mail address	Venue of meeting with the general public	Time of meeting with the general public
1	MR. RAKESH KUMAR PRAJAPATI, IAS	15-Barrackpore PC	9748310527	genobserverrkprajapati@gmail.com	Meeting Hall, SDO Barrackpore	6th May to 18th May 2024 Time: 11.00 am to 12.00 am except holiday.
2	MR. NAVEEN JAIN, IAS	14-Bongaon PC	9147332835	genobservernjain@gmail.com	PWD Inspection Bungalow, Bongaon	6th May to 19th May 2024 Time: 10.00 am to 11.00 am except holiday.

Sl No.	Name of the Hon'ble Police Observer	Parliamentary Constitution	Contact No	E-Mail ID	Meeting Venue	Meeting Time
1	MR. TUSHAR TABA, IPS	14-Bongaon PC & 15-Barrackpore PC	9147111937	polobservertushartaba@gmail.com	Coal India Guest House, New Town	6th May to 19th May 2024 Time: 10.00 am to 11.00 am

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District Magistrate & District Election Officer, North 24 Parganas

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Bars to remain open till 4am? Noida may get a nightlife boost

Shafaque.Alam@timesgroup.com

Noida: Looking to give nightlife and the state's excise coffers a lift, UP govt has formed a five-member committee that will take a call on whether to extend curfew hours for bars in the city and Ghaziabad.

In a meeting with the excise department on Friday, the Noida restaurant owners' association sought permission for bars to operate till 4am. Bars in the city are allowed to stay open till 1am now.

Subodh Kumar, the district excise officer in Noida, said the committee reviewing the bar timings was formed by excise commissioner Adarsh Singh, and included joint director of statistics Jogendra Singh and deputy excise commissioner Alok Kumar, among others.

"Noida and Ghaziabad are part of NCR, and the per capita income of local people and economic activities are also similar to those in other NCR cities. In this context, it is important to explore new sources of revenue for the excise department. The committee is required to submit a report on this within 15 days," a letter issued by the commissioner read.

At the meeting, restobars owners told the excise department officials that it was high time that bar timings in Noida aligned with those in cities like Delhi and Gurgaon.

In May 2022, Delhi govt extended the timings of bars by two hours till 3am, on the payment of a licence fee. In Gurgaon, bars have the option to operate 24/7 if they take a licence for it

"We suggested that bars in Noida should be allowed to stay open till 3-4am at least. Like it is in Delhi and Gurgaon, where the nightlife has matured by far," said Varun Khera, president of the Noida chapter of the National Restaurant Association of India.

In May 2022, Delhi govt extended the timings of bars by two hours till 3am, on the payment of a licence fee. In Gurgaon, bars have the option to operate 24/7 if they take a licence for it.

Khera said extended timings would help people choosing to unwind after a night shift. "Noida has many offices that operate 24x7. As of now, there are several restrictions on late-night parties here, which force people to travel all the way to Gurgaon or Delhi. The revised timings will not only help people dine too at bars, but also increase govt revenue by far," he said.

Members of the committee said it was crucial to ensure the changed timings did not impact law and order.

"We are looking into the proposal of extending bar timing by a few hours. However, this extension will be considered carefully to ensure that it does not create a law-and-order situation," Kumar said, adding that similar measures had been proposed for Ghaziabad too.

As part of plans to augment revenue, the excise department is also planning to issue licences for food and beverage establishments in IT parks.

"When the Noida airport is up and running by the end of this year, nightlife is expected to be more vibrant in the NCR city. Keeping this in mind, we are planning licences for food and beverages in IT parks that operate 24/7," Kumar added.

The restaurant association has also requested for a unified portal to simplify the process of securing licences. As of now, NOCs are required from various departments like Noida Authority, police, fire and food safety departments.

"A unified portal will simplify this process of tapping various departments," the excise official said.

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C.C. NO. 1648/2020

In The Court of 6th Additional Chief Judicial Magistrate (M.U. Furmani) Ahmedabad (Rural) B-Block, Room No. 202, Second Floor, Old High Court Building, Navrangpura, Ahmedabad.

Form No. 4 Proclamation Requiring The Appearance of A Person Accused (See Section-82)

Whereas complaint has been made before me that Accused Arunbhai Bhanubhai Vaghasiya Resident at A-702, Unique Apartment, Plot No. 38, Sector-6, Dwarka, South-West, Delhi-110075 has committed (or is suspected to have committed) the offence of publishable under section 138 of the Negotiable Instrument Act, 1981 and it has been returned to a warrant of arrest thereupon issued that the said Arunbhai Bhanubhai Vaghasiya cannot be found, and whereas it has been shown to my satisfaction that the said Arunbhai Bhanubhai Vaghasiya has absconded (or is concealing himself to avoid the service of the said warrant)

Proclamation is hereby made that the said Arunbhai Bhanubhai Vaghasiya is required to appear before 6th Additional Senior Civil Judge & A.C.J.M., Ahmedabad (Rural) to answer the said complaint on the Day of 05th Day of June, 2024. Dated this day of 16-4-2024

Court Seal Sd/- (M. U. Furmani)
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WB poll war hots up as TMC hits BJP with Sandeshkhali sting clip

In Video, BJP Neta Says Women Tutored To Allege Rape; Fake, Says Party

Dwaipayan.Ghosh
@timesgroup.com

Kolkata: Trinamool released Saturday a sting video showing a Sandeshkhali BJP functionary admitting that many of the charges, including rape in the area, were levelled following instructions allegedly from party seniors, including the LoP in Bengal assembly Suvendu Adhikari. BJP dismissed the clip as "fake".

The 33-minute video focuses on Sandeshkhali Block-II BJP mandal president Gangadhar Koyal. "We have followed Suvendu da's (BJP MLA Adhikari) instructions. He helped us. We convinced TMC people to do all this (level allegations). They (complainants) never said no, they did whatever we told them to do. He (Adhikari) told us that if we could not do this, if we could not get the big shots (Trinamool seniors of the area) arrested, we would not be able to stand (survive) here," Koyal is heard saying. "I had to do all this very smartly. We said it (the alleged rapes and torture) happened seven-eight months ago. We had to work hard," he adds.

Trinamool, including party chief Mamata Banerjee and national general secretary Abhishek Banerjee, latched on to the video. The CM first took to X and then spoke at length at public meetings in Nadia's Chakdah and Taherpur during the day. "The sting shows how deep the rot is within BJP. In their hatred for Bengal's progressive thought and culture, the Bangla birodhi (anti-Bengal brigade) orchestrated a conspiracy to defame our state. Never before in the history of India has a ruling party in Delhi tried to malign an entire state and its people. History will witness how Bengal will rise in rage against Delhi's conspiratorial regime and ensure their bisarjan (defeat)," she wrote on X.

A file photo of women protesting in Sandeshkhali. 'The sting shows how deep the rot is within BJP,' CM Mamata Banerjee said, while LoP Suvendu Adhikari was guarded in his response and sought a CBI probe

Adhikari was guarded in his response: "I have not seen the video. I will find out whose voice it is and speak on the matter." Later, he said truth could be "twisted and a misleading version circulated". "But its shelf life is very short. Ultimately, truth prevails," he said. "I will approach CBI and seek a full probe so that the perpetrators are punished."

Koyal himself later called the "viral video a conspiracy and a plot". "They have used technology to fake my voice. This is a ploy to defame me, my party, the mothers of Sandeshkhali and my leader (Adhikari)," he claimed.

One of the first Sandeshkhali complainants and now BJP's candidate for Basirhat LS seat, Rekha Patra, called the video a Trinamool "ploy". "The video is fake, there is no truth in it. Koyal is a BJP man, he can never say all this," she said, asserting that Trinamool "may have threatened Koyal to say all this".

The video shows BJP mandal president Koyal crediting Adhikari for everything. "It was he (Adhikari) who controlled.... Why has the Sandeshkhali movement survived for so long? He is still holding on, that is why. No one else has the ability to sustain this movement for so long," he says in the video. "Empty pockets (khali haat) cannot do all this," he replies when the interviewer in the footage asks him whether Adhikari sent mobile phones and money.

Koyal is also heard saying some women backed off from complaining because they were scared of visiting police stations and investigations. The video also shows a woman saying she backed out because she had not been instructed properly. BJP Sandeshkhali Block-I president Shanti Dolui is seen nodding in agreement with the interviewer when asked whether the pistols recovered by central agencies later were "planted".

The male interviewer remains unidentified throughout the video but, from the body language of Koyal & others, it appears they're comfortable with him and know him.

"You scripted a good drama on Sandeshkhali," CM Banerjee later said at Chakdah. "I've been telling you all for some time that this is a conspiracy and a BJP-scripted drama. I have heard of this expose from the media and have not seen it in detail myself but I will definitely see it," the CM added.

Af diplomat caught with gold at Mum airport resigns

Mumbai: Consul general of Islamic Republic of Afghanistan in Mumbai, Zakia Wardak, resigned from her post after **TOI** reported Saturday that she had been caught at the city airport allegedly trying to smuggle 25 kg gold worth Rs 18.6 crore into India from Dubai, reports **Mateen Hafeez.**

Wardak announced her resignation in a post on X hours after the report appeared, detailing how DRI officials stopped her at the airport on April 25 and found gold bars hidden inside special compartments stitched to her clothes. DRI is also probing her earlier trips, particularly in past six months following information raising doubts about her conduct. She was not arrested as she enjoys diplomatic immunity.

A jeweller suspected to be part of a smuggling racket is under the scanner, **TOI** has learnt. Wardak was not carrying legal documents for possession of the gold. DRI has registered a case of gold smuggling under the Customs Act, 1962.

5 students killed as SUV falls into U'khand gorge

Dehradun/Mussoorie: Five students from two private universities — DIT and IMS Unison —lost their lives while another is battling for life after the SUV they were in careened off the Mussoorie-Dehradun Road, plunging into a 60-metre gorge around dawn Saturday.

Among the deceased were Hardiyansh Chandra, Tanuja Rawat, Aman Singh Rana, and Digansh Pratap Bhati. The students had gone to Mussoorie in Rana's car. At Mussoorie, they met up with their senior from college, Ashutosh Tiwari, 24, who was also returning with them to Dehradun and perished in the accident. TNN

PMLA case shifted to another judge as accused cries 'ED bias'

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi: A Delhi court has transferred a money-laundering case relating to Bhushan Steel from one judge to another after an accused in the case expressed lack of confidence in the judge as one of the accused claimed to have overheard him saying "*ED matters mein kaun si bail hoti hai?*"

A Delhi court took the decision after an accused in the case claimed to have overheard the judge saying 'ED matters mein kaun si bail hoti hai?'

Principal district judge Anju Bajaj Chandna of Rouse Avenue court observed that "fairness and equality are hallmarks of criminal justice system" where judges are obliged to decide cases before them with impartiality, integrity, and by ensuring equality of treatment. In doing so, judges are upholding the rule of law, she said.

"It is also one of the basic principles of administration of justice that justice should not only be done but it should also be seen to be done," judge Chandna noted while agreeing to transfer the matter out of special judge Jagdish Kumar's court.

The judge was dealing with an application by PMLA accused Ajay Mittal, who said he was apprehensive & cited the remark allegedly made by Kumar to his staff.

Mittal's wife, a co-accused in the case, filed an affidavit that after the day's proceedings got over on April 10, judge Kumar passed the comment while in conversation with staff. The affidavit said that while she was watching the matter, and once the counsels had left, the court staff enquired about something and judge Kumar passed a comment ("*Lene do date-ein, ED matters mein kaun si bail hoti hai?*"), Mittal, in his plea before the district judge, contended that the comments came as a shock to him and that there was reasonable apprehension that the judge was sitting with a pre-determined and pre-judicial mind to dismiss his bail application.

The district judge noted the court cannot go into the merits of allegations by holding an inquiry at this stage and underlined that there is no complaint as to the conduct of judge Kumar. She said the issue raised by accused is an apprehension that the judge has made up his mind to the effect that bail isn't available in ED matters.

"The perception of the petitioner / applicant whereby he doesn't expect impartial hearing from the court has to be given due regard in the facts and circumstances of the case. The pleas, duly supported by an affidavit, cannot be outrightly discarded. Relegating the applicant to a court upon which specific allegations of bias are made would possibly have an adverse bearing on his case," the district judge noted.

Cong's Puri LS pick cites lack of party funds for polls, quits race

Debabrata.Mohapatra
@timesgroup.com

Bhubaneswar: Two days before the deadline for filing nominations, Congress' pick for Puri Lok Sabha seat, Sucharita Mohanty, Saturday pulled out of the electoral race, alleging lack of funds from the cash-strapped party for her campaigning.

Sucharita, who had unsuccessfully contested the Puri seat in 2014, said she had conveyed her decision to the party brass. The constituency will go to polls on May 25, and the last date for submission of nominations is Monday. Sucharita had not filed her nomination papers yet.

"I cannot contest as the party refused to sponsor my poll campaign. I am a salaried individual and cannot afford election expenses. The party asked me to arrange funds on my own,"

▸ Dance of Democracy, P21

said Sucharita, whose father late Braja Mohan Mohanty had represented Puri in the assembly and LS twice each in the 1970s and 1980s, besides serving as the assembly speaker and a Union minister in the Indira Gandhi govt.

Sucharita had launched a crowdfunding drive to raise funds for her poll campaign.

AICC refuted the charges and said the party had already started an exercise to name a replacement before she announced to return the ticket. "Congress was about to replace her in the Puri LS seat in a day or two. Funding candidates is not an issue for Congress," AICC Odisha in-charge, Ajoy Kumar, said.

Despite the divergence, Sucharita denied she would quit Congress and join any other party. "I am an admirer of Sonia Gandhi and Rahul Gandhi. I will continue to be loyal to Gandhi family."

AI cuts baggage limit to 15kg in lowest-fare bracket

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi: Air India economy class domestic flyers opting for lower fare brackets will now have a check-in baggage allowance of 15kg — instead of 25kg earlier. All big Indian carriers offer 15kg check-in to domestic flyers (without extra charge) and Air India's generous allowance used to be its USP for economy flyers within India that will somewhat make up for the long-awaited improved cabin product on the airline's old planes.

An AI spokesperson said: "We introduced a menu-based pricing model or branded fare families last year in line with global airline industry norms. Air India's fare families, named 'comfort', 'comfort plus', and 'flex' are groupings of fares that offer different levels of benefits and fare restrictions at different price points. The fare families are designed to let our guests choose the kind of fare and services that best suit their requirements."

Air India's economy class domestic flyers opting for lower fare brackets were earlier allowed check-in baggage of 25kg

"Bundled fares offer a lot more value and greater choice to guests for less. For example, price difference between 'comfort plus' and 'flex' fares would typically be about Rs 1,000 on a domestic sector like Delhi-Mumbai, with 'flex' fare providing value of nearly Rs 9,000, including 10kg extra baggage, zero change or cancellation fees, more loyalty points, greater choice of free seats to choose from."

Now on domestic routes in economy class, both 'comfort' and 'comfort plus' fare families offer 15kg baggage allowance, while 'flex' provides 25kg allowance. Business class baggage allowance on domestic routes ranges from 25kg to 35kg.

ADVERTORIAL

Uttarakhand leveraging newer ways of exploring the state

State tourism is breaking the connectivity barrier and paving the way for year-round tourism in Uttarakhand

Gone are the days when visiting the hill state of Uttarakhand was incumbent on weather. With two significant developments in the past month, Uttarakhand Tourism has embarked on a path to providing round-the-year offerings to tourists visiting the state.

These include an aerial darshan package to Adi Kailash and Om Parvat by helicopters from Pithoragarh during the winter months and a special tourist train to connect the hidden gems in the districts of Champawat, Udham Singh Nagar, Pithoragarh, Almora, and Nainital.

Lord Shiva's second abode, Adi Kailash, and the nearby Om Parvat, situated on the India-Nepal-Tibet border, famous for its naturally formed "Om" symbol, are now accessible throughout the year. Uttarakhand Tourism Development Board's (UTDB) new helicopter yatra initiative offers aerial access alongside the existing road option (available May-June and September-October). Previously, reaching Adi Kailash required trekking or riding mules. In 2021, a road route opened, allowing travel by vehicles from Dharchula, but limited to specific summer and autumn months.

The winter aerial darshan by helicopter and special tourist train reflect UTDB's unwavering commitment towards providing newer avenues of exploring the state's vast natural, spiritual, and cultural heritage

UTDB partnered with Noida-based travel agency Trip To Temples; the former secured approvals and planned the route while the latter handles marketing and execution.

The 4-night, 5-day yatra operates from November to March and is already undergoing its pilots in the months of April and May, utilizing H-125 helicopters and ATVs to navigate the snowy terrain. The itinerary includes darshans of Adi Kailash Parvat, Om Parvat, Brahma Parvat, Pandav Parvat, Parvati Nabhi and more. All necessary inspections, trials, and approvals are complete.

Sachin Kurve, Uttarakhand tourism secretary and CEO, highlighted the initiative's goals. "As a Himalayan state and tourist hotspot, we wanted to explore winter tourism options and open up the hidden gems of the state to tourists from across the country," he said. Initially focused on pilgrimage tourism, the region also holds potential for adventure sports amidst the snow-capped mountains. Kurve also emphasized the project's aim to "arrest migration, provide year-round employment, and attract more tourists to this part of Uttarakhand".

One of the devotees of the Pilot Batch on the Adi Kailash Yatra, which was organized in April 2024, Roachak Saxsena, an advocate hailing from Delhi, said, "The arrangements for the yatra were really good. Providing comfort at such higher altitudes and that too in such challenging terrains is commendable. My heartiest congratulations to Uttarakhand government for pulling off this innovative step successfully." He added that he would recommend his family and friends to undertake this yatra now.

Exploring Uttarakhand: Manaskhand Express Special Tourist Train

The Manaskhand Express Special Tourist Train, the first trip of which was successfully operated from Pune on a 10 Nights/11 Days journey with 280 tourists, is set to provide exploration of the hidden gems of Uttarakhand through a specially curated itinerary by IRCTC in consultation with UTDB. The train shall originate from different parts of the country, providing an opportunity to discerning travelers to visit Uttarakhand's best kept secrets.

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2.	M.Sc Electronics and Instrumentation	25.	M.A Sociology
3.	M.Sc Human Genetics and Molecular Biology	26.	M.A History
4.	M.Sc Bioinformatics	27.	M.A Women's Studies
5.	M.Sc Environmental Sciences	28.	Master of Library and Information Science
6.	M.Sc Textiles and Apparel Design	29.	B.Voc Multimedia and Animation
7.	M.Sc Computer Science	30.	B.Voc Business Process and Data Analytics
8.	M.Sc Data Science	31.	P.G. Diploma in Career Guidance for Executives
9.	M.Sc Information Technology	32.	P.G.Diploma in Cheminformatics
10.	M.Sc Data Analytics	33.	P.G. Diploma in Herbal Technology
11.	M.Sc Cyber Security	34.	P.G. Diploma in Industrial Biotechnology
12.	M.Sc E-Learning Technology	35.	P.G. Diploma in Export and Import Documentation and Procedure
13.	M.A Tamil	36.	P.G. Diploma in Educational Administration
14.	M.A Linguistics	37.	P.G.Diploma in Guidance and Counselling
15.	M.A English Language Studies	38.	P.G.Diploma in Geriatric Care Management
16.	M.A Economics	39.	P.G.Diploma in E-Learning Technology
17.	M.Com Finance & Computer Applications	40.	Certificate course in Cyber Security
18.	M.Com Finance & Accounting	41.	**B.Sc (Blended) Physics (In Collaboration with University of Melbourne, Australia) ***
19.	M.Com Financial Technology	42.	**B.Sc (Blended) Chemistry (In Collaboration with University of Melbourne, Australia) ***
20.	M.Ed (Master of Education)		
21.	M. A Journalism and Mass Communication		
22.	M.A Career Guidance		
23.	M.A Career Guidance (Lateral Entry)		

ADMISSION BY ENTRANCE TEST

S.No.	Courses	S.No.	Courses
1.	M.Sc. Mathematics	10.	M.Sc. Biotechnology
2.	M.Sc. Statistics	11.	M.Sc. Medical Biotechnology
3.	M.Sc. Biostatistics	12.	M.Sc. Microbiology
4.	M.Sc. Physics	13.	M.Sc.Biochemistry
5.	M.Sc. Medical Physics	14.	M.Sc. Applied Psychology
6.	M.Sc. Nanoscience and Technology	15.	M.A. English Literature
7.	M.Sc. Chemistry	16.	B.P.Ed
8.	M.Sc. Zoology	17.	M.P.Ed
9.	M.Sc. Botany	18.	M.C.A

Last Date for Submission of Filled in Online Registration Form 06.06.2024

Last date for receipt of filled in Online Registration Form for B.Voc Program, B.Sc (Blended) Physics & B.Sc (Blended) Chemistry are within 15 days of declaration of H.Sc/+2 Results.

Students should apply only through online by logging into University Website www.b-u.ac.in and necessary fee should be paid through ONLINE only.

The candidates who are unable to submit the Registration Form by online can contact the admission support centre (Phone numbers 0422-2428126/2428115/2428116 email.buadmission@buc.edu.in) of Bharathiar University to get the assistance for submitting the Online Registration Form.

It is mandatory to attach SSLC, HSC mark statement, UG Mark Statements, Community Certificate, Special category certificate along with Online Registration Form. Fee once paid will not be refunded under any circumstances.

MBA Admissions are through TANCET and Centralized Counseling conducted by DOTE at Government College of Technology, Coimbatore.

DIPR/470/DIS/2024

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Contact: 9871098146

UDYOG VIHAR, Brand New Interiors, 9000 sq.ft, for lease NH-8 facing, Signage avail. Other tenants MNC. Next to Radisson Hotel. Covered car parks.

FOR RENT Showroom 135 Sec-37 Pace city-1 Hero Honda chk 25000 ft @ 20L & Hotel bldg 162P sec-52 40Rk rooms @ 20L & B-11 South City-1 30 RK. # 9311139322.

M: 9773664737

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Contact 9899966622 8447730228

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CONTENT WRITER
- The candidate should be a Graduate in Mass Communication/Journalism or should have a specialization in creative writing. He/she should have ability to write wide variety of topics for multiple platforms (website, bolg, article, social update, banners, case studies etc.) with min. 2 years of experience.
- Should know to craft concise, eye-catching headlines and body copy.

Please apply within 7 days at the given address or e-mail with complete resume and recent passport size photograph, superscribing on the envelope the post applied for:

E-27, Defence Colony, New Delhi -110024
Email: arpeter@aisn.amity.edu

About Us
Pragyan, established in the year 2002 and ranked 1st as school leaders in the Times School Survey, is a leading day boarding, co-educational, CBSE, Senior Secondary School, providing holistic education to students in a happy and secure environment. Located on a 10 acre plot at Greater Noida, the School has state of the art infrastructure and a dedicated team of teachers for achieving excellence in various facets of school activities.

Applications are invited for

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The incumbent must be dynamic, creative, self-motivated and goal oriented leader with at least 8-10 years experience of teaching and school administration.
Pay and perks will not be a constraint for the right candidate.

- TGT - English, Science
- PRT - Tabla

Email resume to: jobs@pragyanschool.com
Contact Us www.pragyanschool.com 0120-4296701

jobs

SITUATION VACANT

ACADEMIC

GENERAL

REQD (F) TGT Sc, Librarian Receptionist,Office Asst,Vocal,Instrumental Music for school in Sec 7, Rohini.Send CV to recr.roh@gmail.com

D.A.V. PUBLIC SCHOOL
Kailash Hills, East of Kailash, New Delhi-110065
https://davkailashhills.com
Email: info.davkailashhills@gmail.com
Sector-IX, R.K.Puram, New Delhi-110022
http://davrkpuram.com
EM: dav_rkpuram@yahoo.in

Applications are invited from 01.05.24 to 07.05.24 from **DAV CBT** qualified candidates with **Provisional Eligibility Card, B.Ed and CTET** for Primary Teachers. Candidates, preferably female with good communication and ICT skills with minimum 50% marks from recognized universities and experience of CBSE/ ICSE English medium schools, may apply for the following posts.

a) **Post Graduate Teacher:** Master Degree with min. 03 years experience **Home Science, Chemistry, Sociology (For DAV Kailash Hills)**
b) **Primary Teachers:** Graduate/Post Graduate in respective subjects. **Mathematics, Science, Sanskrit (For DAV Kailash Hills) S. Science, Dance, Computer(For DAV RK Puram)**
c) **Nursery Teacher (For DAV Kailash Hills)** BA, NTT from a recognised University
d) **Nurse:** BA/XII with Nursing Diploma/Degree from a recognised University with Registration No.

Candidates to apply on prescribed form to be deposited in respective school reception of both schools. Hard copy of form to be submitted with Rs 350/- (handling charges) at school reception bet. 9:00 am - 2:00 pm on working days till 08.05.2024. Pay and allowances as per DAV College Managing Committee norms

Principal
DAVPS, Kailash Hills
Headmistress
DAVPS, R.K. Puram

jobs

SITUATION VACANT

ACADEMIC

GENERAL

N K BAGRODIA GLOBAL SCHOOL
Sector -17, Dwarka New Delhi -110078
website: www.nkbglobalschool.com

Requires Staff For Session 2024-25
Having Excellent Comm. Skills:-
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- TGT - English (Leave Vacancy)
- PRT
- Music-Vocalist (Leave Vacancy)
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Age & qualifications as per Govt. norms. Shortlisted candidates will be called for Test/ Interview. Apply on prescribed form available at the school reception from 09:00 to 03:00 P.M. & submit on or before 12th May 2024.

Principal

DAV NUPPL Public School
NUPPL Township,Ghatampur, Kanpur Nagar, UP-209206
Managed by DAV College Managing Committee, Chitragupta Road, New Delhi – 110055

Requires DAV CBT Qualified Candidates with PEC for PGT, TGT, PRT & Clerical Posts
For Subject, Eligibility & Interview Details visit
www.davnuppl.in or Contact 8789880780

TEACHER

GREENFIELDS Public School (Sr. Sec.) Vivek Vihar, Delhi-95 Req. Exp. TGT-Sanskrit, Biology, IT, Coding AI. Ph. 011-43071170/49 EM: info.gfpsvv@gmail.com

REQD. Female Computer Teacher for Bon Ascent Play School, C-Block, Prashant Vihar Opposite CRPF School Sec-14, Rohini. # 9013409595

DIAMOND Public School (Eng. Med.) Opp. B-Block, Yamuna Vihar, Delhi-94 Urg Req. Female Nursery Teachers Ph. 7303367099

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WALK IN INTERVIEWS SECTOR 48 - GURUGRAM
Under the aegis of G.D. Goenka Group, New Delhi
ACADEMIC SESSION 2024-25
GDGPS Gurugram, a Senior Secondary School affiliated with CBSE
1. **PGT** - Psychology, Maths
2. **TGT** - Science, Social Science, Hindi, Maths
3. **PRT** - General
4. **Nursery / Pre Primary Teacher**
5. **Guidance Counselor (EVGC)**
6. **Office Assistant**
7. **Day Care Teacher** - For La Petite Malibu Towne

SCHEDULE
Saturday, 11th May, 2024 - TIME: 09:00 am to 01:00 pm
VENUE: G D Goenka Public School | Sector 48 | Gurugram
- All candidates must bring their bio-data along with a recent photograph.
- Candidates who have applied earlier need not apply again.

Block-A, "Vipul World", Sector-48, Gurugram, Haryana
T: +91-9818800801 / 9818900901
+91-8826293374 / 8826293375
W: www.gdgoenka-gurgaon.com

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RTC CAMPUS, GURUGRAM
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Email-id: davppsg@gmail.com

Session: 2024-25
Applications are invited from **DAV CBT qualified candidates** with **Provisional Eligibility Card** for the following posts:
- **PGT** - English, Math, Physics, Biology, Computer Science, Political Science, History, Accountancy, Psychology-cum-Counsellor
- **TGT** - Hindi, Math, English, Sanskrit, Computer Science, Physics, Biology, Social Science
- **PRT** - Hindi, English, Science, Social Science, Art & Craft, Computer Science, Physical Education (Female only)
- **NTT/Mother Teacher** • **Dance Teacher**
- **Music Teacher** • **Special Educator** • **Nurse**
- **LDC** • **Receptionist** • **Caretaker (Transport)**
- **Caretaker (House Keeping)-cum NCC Instructor (Ex-Army only)**
- **PART TIME** - Skating Coach, Archery Coach, Instrumental Music teacher

Final selection will be made on the basis of **Demonstration & Subject/Panel Interview subject to verification of P.E.C.**
Candidates, who are dynamic, committed to their profession, proficient in the subject(s) and in written and spoken English should apply latest by **12.05.2024** on the prescribed application form available at the school website or at the school reception between 9.00 am to 11.30 am.
For all the post candidates must possess minimum qualification as prescribed by CBSE. B. ED & CTET is mandatory for all candidates.
Note: - CTET is not applicable for PGTs.

ACCOUNTS

ACCOUNTANT

REQ Acct. Asst. with knwl of Banking /Taxation. Resident near West Delhi pref having own conveyance. Em: resume : jecpl207@ymail.com

REQUIRED: Accountant for corporate office of reputed company based in Gurgaon, experienced. E-mail: acct.corporate22@gmail.com

FOR South Delhi Office of reputed company wanted Junior Accountant for permanent position. Excellent growth prospects for right candidates. Proficient in MS Office (Excellent knowledge in MS Excel) & Tally. Excellent salary depending on calibre. Send CV to hr@getgi.com

URGENT Vacancy for Junior Accountant at 1) New Delhi based Export house 2) Manesar based Export House. Interested applicants send your resume to: hr@eic.co.in

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Job opportunity in GST Law Firm at Gurgaon
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Please apply to:
contact@mohitmalikadvocate.com
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Cont: Jai 9810824316
Rahul 8800668615

ADMINISTRATION

HRD & ADMINISTRATIVE

FOR South Delhi Office of reputed company wanted HR & Administrator (Only Female Candidate) fluent in English with Excellent Communication & Management Skills for permanent position. Computer literate, Good Work Ethic & Positive Attitude must. Excellent salary depending on calibre. Send CV to hr@getgi.com

OFFICE ASSISTANTS

REQD. Office Asst. (F) exp./ fresher, good knowledge of MS-Office, draft letters and mails etc. Call: 011-46032664 Apply to: info@ctplonline.com

RECEPTIONISTS & TEL OPERATORS

REQ Female Recp./P.S smart broad minded 4 Pvt. Ltd. Comp. in Delhi/Moti Nagar exp. in Computer must sent CV with pic & salary on W/s- 9818558238

REQUIRED : Front Desk Executive (Male), for a reputed corporate office building. Location - Gurgaon. email: desk22.ggn@gmail.com

IT RELATED

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IFCPAR/CEFIPRA based at New Delhi invites applications from eligible candidates for the following positions on contractual basis: (i) Research Associate (Information Technology) (ii) Research Associate.For details i.e.Qualification, Experience, Job profile / salary etc. visit to our website www.cefipra.org. Last date of submission of application is 19th May 2024.

COMPUTER OPERATORS

DTP Operators. Corel, Photo shop, English, Hindi expert meet 5.00-6.30 PM, with Biodata : AIRADS 433, Patparganj Industrial Area,Delhi-92

REQ. Typist with min. Typing speed 50wpm & know. ms-word, excel, outlook & Good Eng. for Law Firm: Defence Colony,ND send cv iilc@iilc.co.in ,41327936

WANTED 15 Computer Operators for permanent position with 32 year old reputed Indian company. Must be proficient in MS Office. Sincere & hard working candidates.Freshers welcome. Excellent remuneration & opportunity to build long-term career. Walk in interviews on 06th, 07th & 08th May 2024 between 11:00 AM and 4:30 PM at GI Group, 581/3 Third Floor, Chirag Delhi Main Road (Above Hero Show Room), Chirag Delhi, New Delhi-110017

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No salary constraint for deserving candidate.
Eligible female applicants should mail their Curriculum Vitae with documents and latest photograph at
principalindwarka@gmail.com

G D GOENKA PUBLIC SCHOOL
WALK IN INTERVIEWS SARITA VIHAR, NEW DELHI
Under the aegis of G.D. Goenka Group, New Delhi
ACADEMIC SESSION 2024-2025
GDGPS Sarita Vihar, a Senior Secondary School affiliated with CBSE
1. Head Mistress (Senior School)
2. PGT - Computer Science
3. TGT - Maths, Computer Science, French
4. PRT - General (All Subjects), Maths
5. Nursery Teacher
6. Administrative Officer
7. Accounts Head
8. Accountant

SCHEDULE
- For all positions on **Saturday, May 11, 2024 from 10am to 1pm.**
- All candidates must bring their bio data along with recent photograph.
- Candidates who have applied earlier need not apply.
- Pay Scales commensurate to candidate's qualification and experience.

G D Goenka Public School, J Block, Sarita Vihar, New Delhi-110076
Email: recruitment@gdgoenka-saritavihar.com
Tel: +91-7042198724 / 25 / 26
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- Communication Design
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Contact on: 9996117780

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MEDICAL

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Email ID :
nicolshouse@gmail.com

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TECHNICAL

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Plaint against guv: Kol cops seek Raj Bhavan CCTV footage

Dwaipayan.Ghosh
@timesgroup.com

Kolkata: A special Calcutta Police team has sought Raj Bhavan's CCTV footage in connection with allegations by a contractual employee that Bengal governor CV Ananda Bose harassed her. Six Raj Bhavan officials have been asked to meet the probe team on Sunday.

Having earlier rejected the charges as "engineered and malicious", Bose described the probe as a "joke" on Saturday, arguing that the Mamata Banerjee-led TMC govt did not have the right to order it.

"Strict action will be taken not just against the CM but whoever deviates from the path of truth and justice. This is not a promise but a commitment of the governor," Bose said in Kochi, making it clear that he would not file a defamation suit. Some Youth Congress activists waved black flags at Bose in the Kerala city.

In Kolkata, the probe team sought footage from the officer-

Governor Bose described the probe as a 'joke', arguing that the Mamata Banerjee-led TMC govt did not have the right to order it

in-charge of a police outpost at Raj Bhavan for April 24 and May 2 — the days the employee claimed she was harassed. A senior cop said the probe team would also speak to witnesses.

The probe started Friday, hours after Raj Bhavan banned late Thursday the entry of Bengal cops into the complex till the Lok Sabha polls to prevent "unauthorised, illegitimate, sham and motivated investigations to placate political bosses during election". State finance minister Chandrima Bhattacharya was also barred. She had criticised Bose after the accusations emerged.

TMC general secretary Abhishek Banerjee seized on the restrictions on Saturday, saying "the people of Bengal will boycott Raj Bhavan till he (Bose) is there". "If the governor has an iota of conscience left, he should publicly apologise," Abhishek said.

(With inputs from Kochi)

Karnataka SIT rescues woman 'abducted' at Revanna behest

Discovered At Farmhouse Of Man Said To Be MLA's Aide

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Mysuru: Karnataka Police's SIT rescued Saturday a woman who was allegedly abducted on the behest of JD(S) MLA H D Revanna on April 29, a day after the 47-year-old from Holenarasipura town lodged a police complaint against him and MP son Prajwal, accusing them of sexually harassing her and her daughter when they worked in their household between 2019 and 2022.

According to police sources, she was found at a farmhouse in Kalenahalli near Hunsur taluk of Mysuru. She was taken to Bengaluru for questioning.

The survivor, who is seen in the sleaze videos pleading to be spared, was abducted from her house on April 29 night by a person named Satish Babu alias Babanna allegedly at Revanna's behest, her son claimed in a police complaint on May 2. She was rescued hours before a special court refused Revanna bail in the abduction case filed by the woman's son.

The farmhouse where she was found allegedly belongs to Rajagopal, said to be Revanna's personal assistant. Police arrested Babanna on May 2. According to the son's complaint, Babanna took his mother from their residence on April 23, claiming Revanna's wife Bhavani wanted to see her. This was three days before the state went to the polls on April 26. On the day of voting, Babanna brought her home, the son's claimed.

On April 29, Babanna once again took his mother on a motorcycle, dropping Revanna's name. This was a day after she filed sexual harassment charges against Revanna and his son.

"The woman, who had worked in Revanna's house for six years before quitting the job three years ago to work as a daily-wage labourer. She is one of the survivors of the alleged sexual abuses. She is very important for our investigation," a police source said.

ANI

JD(S) MLA HD Revanna is taken into custody by SIT officials in a kidnapping case in Bengaluru on Saturday

Give support to survivors: Rahul to Sidda

Congress's Rahul Gandhi has urged CM Siddaramaiah to provide full assistance to the individuals affected by the sex videos scandal. In a letter dated May 3, Rahul emphasized the importance of ensuring all perpetrators face legal consequences.

"I urge you to please offer all possible support to the victims. They deserve our empathy and solidarity as they wage their battle for justice. We have a collective responsibility to ensure that all parties responsible for these atrocious crimes are brought to justice," Rahul wrote to the CM. In response, Siddaramaiah Saturday reaffirmed his govt's commitment to supporting the survivors and ensuring justice in cases involving Prajwal. TNN

Cops bring survivor to MLA home for identification

▶Continued from P 1

The survivor was then brought to Bengaluru.

The 47-year-old woman from Holenarasipura town had lodged a police complaint against Revanna and Prajwal on April 28, accusing them of sexually harassing her and her daughter when they worked in the household between 2019 and 2022. She quit the job to work as a daily-wage labourer.

The Holenarasipura Town police have registered a case against the father-son duo, charging them with sexual harassment and criminal intimidation, among other sections of the Indian Penal Code (IPC).

Prajwal, who is alleged to have fled to Europe on a diplomatic passport after the issue started snowballing into a scandal, is yet to return to India. The state govt has requested the Centre to issue an Interpol blue corner notice against him.

In his complaint, the survivor's son alleged that she had been abducted from their house by a man called Satish Babu alias Babanna at Revanna's behest to prevent her from testifying against Prajwal. Revanna's advocate claimed that except for the reference in the statement of accused No. 2 (Satish Babu) that he had been sent by Revanna, there is no other material against the MLA in the FIR. However, special court for elected representatives judge Santosh Gajanan Bhat was not convinced and rejected the bail plea.

As part of the ongoing probe, earlier in the day, SIT brought another survivor for spot mahazar (identification) at the Holenarasipura residence of Revanna. His supporters gathered in large numbers and shouted slogans against the Congress govt in the state.

Karkare killed by RSS-linked cop, not Kasab: Maha LoP

Prafulla.Marpakwar
@timesgroup.com

Mumbai: Congress's Vijay Wadettiwar, leader of opposition in Maharashtra assembly, claimed Saturday that the bullet that killed IPS officer Hemant Karkare was from the weapon of a police officer "dedicated to RSS" and not from the gun of Ajmal Kasab or any of the other nine Pakistani terrorists who attacked Mumbai on 26/11. He alleged Ujjwal Nikam, special public prosecutor in the case and BJP LS candidate from Mumbai North Central, was "a traitor who suppressed this fact."

In a video statement, Wadettiwar alleged: "During the probe, key information was out. However, it was suppressed by Ujjwal Nikam, who is a traitor. My question is, why is BJP protecting a traitor and nominating such a person for Lok Sabha polls? By doing this, BJP is protecting traitors."

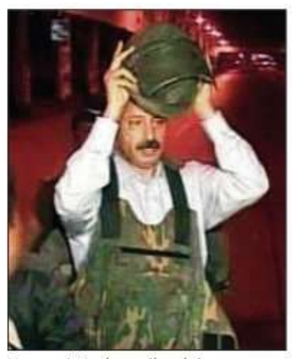
The statement drew a strong response from Nikam and BJP Deputy CM Devendra Fadnavis and Nikam described Wadettiwar's allegations as baseless and irresponsible and said Congress "is pro-Kasab," the 26/11 attacker who was caught alive and later convicted and hanged.

Nikam said, "What a reckless statement is being made. I am pained by such baseless allegations, raising doubts over my integrity. It clearly reflects the level of electoral politics. I never thought politicians will stoop to such low levels. For political gain? He (Wadettiwar) is insulting not me, but the 166 departed souls and all persons injured in the 26/11 attacks."

He added, "They (Congress) hold Kasab as innocent. Even Pakistan had accepted that Kasab was involved in the conspiracy and in the terror attack on India and was guilty." He said Indians very well know the legal steps he had taken to ensure Kasab's conviction. Nikam said citizens of the nation would on June 4 (day of LS poll results) give their reply to such allegations, adding he wished not to dignify the "desperate disinformation" with a further response.

Fadnavis, meanwhile, said, "Our alliance is with Nikam, while Congress has joined hands with Kasab."

Shiv Sena spokesperson Kiran Pawaskar said NIA should arrest Wadettiwar and ask him why he was defending Kasab. "From Wadettiwar's statement, it appears Congress is supporting terrorists who attacked Mumbai. More shocking is the fact that Sena (UBT) chief Uddhav Thackeray has maintained silence over the episode," he said.



Hemant Karkare (in pic) was killed during the Mumbai 26/11 attacks. Congress's Wadettiwar claimed key information on his death was suppressed by Nikam

Nikam backed RSS, got rewarded: Ex-IG

Former IG of police S M Mushrif, who wrote a book 'Who Killed Karkare', alleged that Nikam had suppressed facts and favoured RSS during the trial, for which he was being rewarded by BJP, reports **Gitesh Shelke.** Mushrif alleged Karkare's post-mortem had stated the bullets that hit him "belonged to a revolver and it was suspected a police officer having sympathy with RSS had shot Karkare from close range. This fact was suppressed and Nikam helped in it."

CM: CBI likely to seek Interpol's blue-corner notice against Prajwal

Rajiv.Kalkod@timesgroup.com

Bengaluru: Karnataka Police's Special Investigation Team (SIT) probing the sex videos and pictures allegedly involving JD(S) MP **Prajwal Revanna** is set to get an Interpol blue corner notice issued through Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) against him. The 33-year-old MP had flown out of the country on a diplomatic passport, and is suspected to be in Germany.

A blue corner notice is a type of alert used by Interpol to obtain information, including the current address and other details of a suspect hiding in a foreign country and facing criminal charges in his home country.

In Prajwal's case, chief minister Siddaramaiah hinted on Saturday on issuing a blue corner notice against him. "We will not tolerate any delay in the investigation. We will proceed with appropriate measures and arrest the suspects," he said. "There is a possibility that CBI will issue a blue corner notice and the investigation will be sped up," he added.

Typically, nodal officer from state CID, in the rank of ADG, sends a formal request to CBI, seeking issuance of a blue corner notice.

The Karnataka govt has named eight more police officers, including an SP, to join SIT, which now will have 29 members.

Raut harassing me, says Patra Chawl case witness

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Mumbai: In a letter written to the deputy chairperson of the Legislative Council, Neelam Gorhe, film producer Swapna Patkar, a witness in the Enforcement Directorate's money laundering investigation into the Patra Chawl redevelopment case, alleged that Shiv Sena (UBT) MP **Sanjay Raut** was harassing her and her family.

Patkar said she lives in Santacruz in Mumbai with her mother. "Sanjay Raut is harassing me and my family. Even though I have written thousands of letters so far, I am suffering. I am followed wherever I go. I was chased at BKC on May 3 as well. I have been attacked before. A case has been registered, but nothing has happened," Patkar said in her letter.

She claimed the Shiv Sena (UBT) MP had hired spies to watch over her. "One (spy) was also arrested but no action was taken against Raut. He threatened me and abused me, but no action was taken. He is not called to the police station. Threatening calls came from Dubai and Pakistan. My vehicle was attacked. Bottles of liquor were thrown at the house," Patkar also said in the letter to Gorhe.

Revanth assures Vemula's mom of fresh probe

Hyderabad: Telangana CM A Revanth Reddy on Saturday assured Radhika Vemula that justice will be ensured by reinvestigating the case of her son Rohith Vemula, a student of University of Hyderabad who died by suicide in 2016, reports **Roushan Ali**. The CM gave this assurance when Radhika called on him and demanded justice for her son.

Cyberabad Police had filed a closure report in the case, but after the family members, students and various organisations staged protests, director-general of police Ravi Gupta said the investigation would continue as Rohith Vemula's family expressed doubts over the investigation.

NORTH CENTRAL RAILWAY

E-Procurement Tender Notice No.01/2024-25 dt. 02.05.2024

E-Procurement Tender Notice

On behalf of the President of india, Deputy Chief Material Manager, General Store Depot, North Central Railway. Kanpur, invites the E-procurement tender for following items.

Tender no	Brief Description: Huck Bolting Machine With Power Pack and tool	Qty.	Tender Opening date
53245319		02 Nos.	03.06.2024

Note: The complete information of above E-Procurement is available on **IREPS** website i.e. **http://www.ireps.gov.in.** 788/24 (ADM)

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NORTH CENTRAL RAILWAY

E-Procurement Tender Notice No.-E.T.D./C.N.B./2024-25/04 Date: 03.05.2024

E-Procurement Tender Notice

On behalf of the President of India, **The Senior Materials Manager, E.T.D./Kanpur** invites the following e-procurement tender.

Tender No.	Description	Qty.
57241094B	Bearing 6312 ZRC3 for M/S LANDERT make motors (DESIDE/NDE SIDE) for MCP, TM blower and OCB) NOTE: item to be procured from latest RDSO supplier list with tender specific OEM authorization certificate.	280 Nos.

Tender Opening Date: 13.05.2024, **EMD:** NIL, **Note: 1.**The Complete information of above E-Procurement Tender are available on IREPS website i.e. **http://www.ireps.gov.in** **2.** Bids other than in the form of E bids shall not be accepted against above tenders for this purpose venders are required to get themselves registered with IREPS Website along with class III digital signature certificate issued by CCA and IT act 2000. **3.** Rules entered into financial rate page is duly signed digitally signature shall only be considered rates and any other financial entry in any other form/letter had if attached by vender shall be original straight way ignore and shall not be considered. 793/24(K)

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NORTH CENTRAL RAILWAY

E-Procurement Tender Notice No.: 24/29 Date: 03.05.2024

E-PROCUREMENT TENDER NOTICE

On behalf of the President of India, **The Principal Chief Materials Manager, North Central Railway, Prayagraj, (An ISO 9001:2015 certified unit)** invites the following E-procurement Tenders.

S.N.	Tender No.	Short Description	Qty.	Tender Opening Date
1	63245012	Galvanized Plate Screw to RDSO Drg. No. T-3912	180755 Nos.	30.05.2024
2	63245131	Metal Liner for use with ERC MK-III flat toe on concrete sleeper for 60 Kg rail to RDSO Drg. No. T-3740	2589775 Nos.	03.06.2024
3	64245091A	Emergency Hand Pump	31 Nos.	29.05.2024
4	64245007A	Tamping Arm	48 Nos.	21.05.2024
5	38243204A	AAR APPROVED CARTRIDGE TAPERED ROLLER BEARINGS CLASS 'K'	800 Nos.	27.05.2024
6	38241513	KEY BOLT WITH NUT	142000 Nos.	30.05.2024
7	38241218	BOLSTER INNER SPRING	2000 Nos.	30.05.2024
8	30242724	140 KN. AIR SPRING ASSEMBLY	09 Nos.	30.05.2024
9	30233055A	ONE COACH SET OF MOUNTING ARRANGEMENT	04 Set.	30.05.2024
10	40235053B	CONTACT WIRE PARALLEL	27472 Nos.	27.05.2024
11	20243739	SPEED SENSOR 5-PIN & 3-PIN DOUBLE COUPLER	04 NOS	21.05.2024
12	20233678	EXTREME PRESSURE LUBRICANT PASTE	14 KGS	29.05.2024
13	20243536	BEARING 6312ZRC3	500 NOS	29.05.2024
14	30244285	POH Kit for KE-1 Distributor Valve	417 set	11.06.2024
15	30242603	Set of Densified Thermal Bonded Block for GSCN	45 Set	11.06.2024
16	20243352	MAGNET VALVE/EP VALVE ASSEMBLY	10 Nos.	27.05.2024
17	70231592B	Roller Taper Segment W 5.4	16 Set	22.05.2024
18	20233686C	HOSE COUPLING 1 "(MREP) LH	40 NOS	30.05.2024
19	20242612B	PRIMARY SPRING [INNER]	142 NOS	27.05.2024
20	20233465D	KIT FOR PRESSURE REGULATOR	38 SET	27.05.2024
21	20231513	SET OF O RING FOR MAGNENT VALVE	385 SET	04.06.2024
22	38241473	BRAKE CYLINDER 355MM	415 Nos.	03.06.2024
23	30232887A	BODY SIDE ARRANGEMENT	18 Nos.	03.06.2024

Note: The complete information of above tenders can be seen and downloaded from IREPS website i.e. **https://www.ireps.gov.in.** For any change/corrigendum in tender, please visit this website regularly. No separate corrigendum/change will be published in news paper. 791/24 (A)

North central railways | www.ncr.indianrailways.gov.in | @northcentralrailway | @CPRONCR

NORTH CENTRAL RAILWAY

E-Tender No. PRYJ-Sig-004-2024-25 Date: 01.05.2024

E- TENDER NOTICE

Senior Divisional Signal & Telecommunication Engineer / Coordination / North Central Railway/ Prayagraj, for and on behalf of the President of India, invite **E-TENDER** on prescribed form for the following works up to **12.00 hrs.** on the opening date of E-tender mentioned therein. **The details of the Tender is as under: -**

Tender No.: 004 | **Approx. Cost of work :**₹ 60462644.00 | **Bid Security :**₹ 452300.00

Name of work: Comprehensive Annual Maintenance Contract of EI systems Hitachi Make installed at RH and Auto Block East /West in DDU-CNB section of Prayagraj Division for a period of 03 years.

Cost of Tender Form :0.00, **Completion Period:** 36 Months, **Date of closing of tender:** 03.06.2024, **2- Availability of tender form:** Tender forms shall be available on **www.ireps.gov.in. 3. Time date & place of opening of tender :** Tender will be opened through E-tender at office of Divisional Railway Manager, Prayagraj on or after pre determined date at 12.30 hours. 782/24(DG)

North central railways | @CPRONCR | @northcentralrailway | www.ncr.indianrailways.gov.in

HIGH COURT OF JHARKHAND, RANCHI

NOTICE INVITING TENDER

Tenders are invited in sealed cover envelope from the registered Agencies (Having experience of conducting the recruitment process for the Government Organisation/PSU) for the recruitment process of Jharkhand Superior Judicial Service on turnkey basis for entire process of recruitment subject to an undertaking as required under Rule 10 of Jharkhand Superior Judicial Service (Recruitment, Appointment and Conditions of Service) Rules, 2001 for :-

(i) receiving of online application form
(ii) online payment of Examination fees into the concerned Bank A/c of Registrar General
(iii) data entry of all the application forms
(iv) creating the Admit cards for PT, Mains & Interview and uploading the same to the website of this Court
(v) printing Attendance sheets
(vi) conducting the Preliminary Test (off-line), if any and Main examination (except setting question paper for Preliminary Test & Main Examination and evaluation of answer scripts for main examination).

Tender must reach to the office of undersigned at High Court of Jharkhand, Dhurva, Ranchi - 834004 by 4.30 P.M. on 31.05.2024.

DATED:- 03.05.2024 **Sd/- Registrar General**

Advertisement No. 38/2024
Government of India
Public Enterprises Selection Board
invites applications for the post of
Director (Finance)
In
Gliders India Limited (GIL)
Last date of submission of application by applicants is
28th May, 2024
Last date of forwarding of applications by the Nodal Officers to PESB is
6th June, 2024.
For details login to website
http://pesb.gov.in

SOUTHERN RAILWAY

TENDER NOTICE FOR THE SUPPLY OF STORES
No. E-02/2024

Firms are requested to login to **https://ireps.gov.in - login -> E.Tender - goods & services (new)** and quote against the following tenders. Manual Quotations will not be entertained for these tenders. Closing time for the tender is **14.30 hrs.**

S.No.	Tender No.	Brief Description of Stores	Qty.	Due Date
1	61245145	SUPPLY OF DIGITAL VOICE ANNUNCIATION UNIT	300 SETS	27.05.2024

Please note that only online quotations Submitted through IREPS portal will be accepted and the offers are to be digitally signed.

Deputy Chief Materials Manager, Signal Stores Depot, Podanur

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Website : www.ffdcindia.org E-mail : ffdcknj@gmail.com
Mobile : 08756019406, 07860936547, 08299151944
Certificates will be awarded

ARMY WELFARE EDUCATION SOCIETY (AWES)
ADMISSION NOTICE : B Sc (NURSING) DEGREE COURSE

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Army College of Nursing (ACN), Jalandhar Cantt: Affiliated to Baba Farid University of Health Sciences, Faridkot. **Address:** Deep Nagar, Jalandhar Cantt, PIN-144005. **Tele:** 0181-2266167, 2660080, 82838-24167. **Website:** www.acn.co.in, **E-mail:** acn@awesindia.edu.in, **No of Seats & Eligibility Criteria:** 60 (including one each for Indian Navy and Indian Air Force and two for children from UTs of J&K and Ladakh under 'OP SADBHAVNA') **Qualification:** 10+2 with Physics, Chemistry and Biology with minimum 45% aggregate marks, pass in English and 50th percentile in Online Admission Test (OAT).

Army Institute of Nursing (AIN), Guwahati: Affiliated to Srimanta Sankaradeva University of Health Sciences, Assam. **Address:** C/o 151 Base Hospital, Basistha, Guwahati, PIN-781029, Assam. **Mobile No:** 69012-99910. **Website:** www.ainguwahati.org, **Email:** ain@awesindia.edu.in, **No of Seats & Eligibility Criteria:** 50 (including one each for Indian Navy/Indian Air Force and five for civilian candidates of North Eastern (NE) States). **Qualification:** Candidates must have passed 10+2 in the first attempt with minimum 45% marks taken together in Physics, Chemistry, Biology and English and 50th percentile in Online Admission Test (OAT).

Date of Online Admission Test (OAT)-2024 (ACN & AIN): 30 Jun 2024 (Sunday)

How to Apply. Prospectus may be downloaded from respective college website. Candidates to **apply online only on ACN Jalandhar Website (www.acn.co.in) wef 03 May 2024 to 15 Jun 2024.**

Application Fee: ₹ 1000/- for each institutiton (online payment only).

Notes. Candidates to apply for each institution (ACN and AIN), if desirous to be considered for both the institutes.

NO OFFLINE APPLICATIONS/DOCUMENTS WILL BE ACCEPTED

Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises
Government of India

Government Certificate course on
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Duration: 2 Days | Course Dates: 11 & 12 May, 2024 | Timing: 10.30 AM to 5 PM

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Email Id: pd_estc@estcindia.com, Website: www.estcindia.com, Phone No: 011-20810492

Contents: Cyber Crime & terrorism, Goal of Cyber Security Types of attacks, Malware, Digital Forensics, Social Media Phishing, Digital Virtualization, Cyber Hacking, DarkWeb Information gathering, Mobile Hacking, Data Recovery

Technical Details: 9458809275

Course Fees: 5000/-(+18% GST) (Including Lunch & Tea)
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After successful completion, certificate will be issued

Contact: 9999948317, 9456108524, 6399000710, 9458809275

Documents required: AADHAAR card copy, Educational proof copy, 2 Photos

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17-B, Sri Aurobindo Marg, New Delhi-110016

ADMISSION NOTICE: 2024-25 SESSION

(1) Ph. D (Full-time) Programme
(2) Ph.D. (Part-time) Programme
(3) Master of Arts in Education and Development (MAED) Programme

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The National Institute of Educational Planning and Administration invites applications for admission to a 2-year Master of Arts in Education and Development (MAED) Programme.

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For further information and details, please visit the Institute website: **www.niepa.ac.in**

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प्रभादेवी, मुंबई–400 025
फोन: 01–22–66527519 / 520 / 545, ई–मेल: **dlab.tc@nic.in**

वस्त्र समिति, जो भारत सरकार, वस्त्र मंत्रालय के अधीन एक सांविधिक संस्था है, युवा पेशेवरों से 03 वर्ष की अवधि के लिए अनुबंध के आधार पर परियोजना सहायक (वस्त्र परीक्षण) पद के लिए आवेदन आमंत्रित करती है। इस हेतु पहले वर्ष के लिए प्रति माह 26,000/–रुपये भुगतान किया जाएगा और उसके बाद शेष 2 वर्षों के लिए उनके प्रदर्शन मूल्यांकन के आधार पर वजीफे में 3% की वृद्धि की जाएगी। **संबंधित केंद्रों पर आवेदन प्राप्त होने की अंतिम तिथि 31.05.2024 होगी।**

परियोजना सहायक (वस्त्र परीक्षण) पद के रूप में युवा पेशेवरों की कुल संख्या: 40 [अर्थात् बैंगलोर: 4, चेन्नई: 3, दिल्ली (एनसीआर): 3, गुंटूर: 1, हैदराबाद: 4, जयपुर: 2, कानपुर: 1, कन्नूर: 1, करूर: 1, मुंबई: 10 (मुख्यालय: 7, जेएनपीटी: 3), तिरुपुर: 3, कोयंबटूर: 5, लुधियाना: 1 और कोलकाता: 1]

(*) परियोजना सहायक (वस्त्र परीक्षण) की संख्या, साक्षात्कार का स्थान और क्षेत्र वस्त्र समिति की आवश्यकताओं के अनुसार परिवर्तन के अधीन हैं।

आयु सीमा:– न्यूनतम: 21 वर्ष और अधिकतम: 35 वर्ष । अधिकतम आयु सीमा 31.03. 2024 से मानी जाएगी ।

आवश्यक योग्यता: बी.एससी. (भौतिकी या रसायन विज्ञान) या बी.टेक (टेक्सटाइल टेक्नोलॉजी) ।

आवेदन प्रारूप और अधिक जानकारी के लिए कृपया वेबसाइट **www.textilescommittee.nic.in** देखें।

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WANTED BRIDES

SM4 Gaur Brahmin Boy 1994/5'11"/Engineer, Working in MNC. Family origin Rajasthan well Settled in Gujarat.- 9737176396

SM4 Brahmin Boy 49, looks younger,unmarried,Professor pvt college,MSc,Ph.D,BEd,MEd NET,own a flat,caste no bar, no dowry, early marriage through court/temple. # 7011703635

SM4 H'some Well-Settled Brahmin Boy 29/5'9" S'ware Engr 19 LPA Delhi-NCR. Parents retd Govt. offcr W'app/-call 9582539264, 9868717811

HIGH-STATUS respected Brahmin industrialist seeks a b'ful girl for h'some qualified son 30/5'10 based in Delhi/Ncr 7417320177, ks49698@gmail.com

S.P.B., 28/5'11" MS (Ortho) wkg Medical college, Vegetarian Smart, Handsome Boy, Lko basd fmly, seeks Brahmin Doctor bride Mb. - 8840269467

SM 4 NCR based Gaur Brah. Non Mnglk 24/5'9"/ Dip. Civil Engg Own B'ness Delhi. Father Retd. MCD Engr seeks Qlfd B'Ful Girl # 8800617300

SM4 Brahmin boy, 1991/5'8", Delhi. MS, Ph.D & Wrkg. in USA. Seeks well edu & Upper caste girl who is wrkg/willing to move USA # 8929241030

SM4 Feb 1992, 6'2" B.Tech MBA, Kashmir Brahmin, ML Engr & Sr. Analyst in Accenture Gurugram. 8750010004, Em: kcp202211@gmail.com

M4 aadi nadi h'some NM boy Adv own prac. earn. 6 fig. CS (Ex) MBA LLM 5'10", 23.3.1987 W'App 8130072844, 011-79695759 vksharma9101951@gmail.com

32/5'10" sandhya brahmin, grade-A central govt job. Prefer central govt/ PSU working girl other Job also welcome 9680284479

BR Delhi NCR 44/5.7" unmarried, Handsome boy, involved in family business looking for homely, unmarried girl. WhatsApp 9548691054

PNJBI brh boy 1990/5'9" B Tech,MBA. own factory in Noida. Seeking B'ful wrkng girl, NCR (Engg, Fin., Mkt, Mgmnt,Hr, teaching professions-self/ pvt/gvt) #9810085664

B.TECH MBA-IIT Saraswat Brahmin only son 29/5'7" MNC Ggn 15LPA Father Retd. Dy Dir Gen Delhi NCR Pref. BHMS Srv Br. 8800908497

JABALPUR resi boy, SP Parashar June 1982/5'8", B.TECH, fair, Wkg MNC Delhi on attractive Pkg, seeks Edctd girl. MB excuse mo 9213235906,9910422144

BY CASTE

SM 4 NM Goel boy Sep-89, 5'7", Officer in GOVT Bank, Parents Govt Retired, Caste no bar, Residence Gurgaon, 9868165711

SM 4 Non-Mnglk Bisa Agrwl boy, T.Totler/ Veg,B Tech (CS) Sept 87/ 5'10"/ Wrkg/ 24 LPA/ Delhi. W.Stld. Edu. Family of S.Delhi Call/W'ap 9810105486

29/ 5'10 B.Tech- IIT MBA-IIM wkg with MNC 70 Lpa+ Fthr Indstrlst castenobar, no dem-and Rich Family 7999512701, Email: bdmatj@gmail.com

HIGHLY Qlfd IAS, IRS, IPS, IES, IIT, IIM, MD, MS 10-70Lpa, 27-47yrs/5'-4"- 6' grooms for high status family prof. qlfd girls, # 9415580893, 9958658723

WKG/ homely M4 fair,h'some Bisa Agarwal Garg gotra boy 30/5'7" MBA,Wkg in Gurgaon, Living in own house at Janak puri, Delhi. Call W/s 9818829774

AGARWAL Handsome Boy, 31, 5"7, B.Tech (IIT), MBA (IIM) Working in MNC, Package 75LPA+, Seeks Working and beautiful Girl # 7351001184

IAS Garg Smart Boy 34/5'4" seeks Teetotaller Non eggetarian Professionally Qualified Slim B'ful Girl Mob : 9871011082 , 9810680064

SEEKS Conv. Edu. Veg Girl for Dec73/168 Delhiite Modernite Engr. Garg boy in Mfg. B'ness Own factory. Only son. Em: delhigarg73@gmail.com

SUITABLE Match for Bansal boy, 5' 8", 21.07.1991, 05.03 PM, Ghaziabad (UP), B.Tech, MBA, own factory, Non Manglik. Contact 98185 96801

BRAHMIN

GOUR Brahmin Kaushik Gotra 16.04.90/5'11" B.Tech, M.S. (London) 1.5 Cr PA. LLB MBBS/BDS/CA/ B.Arch in W.UP/Delhi NCR. 9810095831

BRAHMIN H'some Boy, Nov.92 / 5'10" Veg teetotaller, Investment Professional working in London UK. Seeks well edu, b'full, veg girl from status family. Contact: 9560073922, 9560455460

PM for 30/178 Smart, Fair, working Brahmin Engineer, Own House, U.S. Citizen. Wapp: 9711116689/9213205111 mail: arvkumsh131@gmail.com

SM4 Gaur Vats Brahmin MCA 36/5'7" Boy wkg in Nationlized Bank V. short mrg, minor limp in right leg Cont: 9818820857 Em: snehlata031960@gmail.com

SM4 Bhardwaj Br. Dhiman, MCA 2 Jun 87/5'7" Wkg S/W Engr MNC in Noida 30+lpa, Gzb based Veg. fmly Caste no bar # 9871884271, 9035117840

BRAHMIN 29 /5'10 B.Tech IIT MBA ISB working in MNC 80 LPA+ Father Class 1 Officer only child caste no Bar # 8269889223 , 8269934966

SM4 Gaur Bramhin Boy 34/5'7" CS, MBA, Wkg MNC, Belongs to NCR, 50 LPA, Divorcee, seeking Educated adjustable Girl. # 9650094527

PQM4 N.Indian Brahmin boy, 5'10", 27.6.96, 4.27am, Mumbai. MBA, B.Tech working in MNC, Mumbai. Educated family. Professional & employed girls preferable. Contact: 8779844278 sharmakshitij6796@gmail.com

KANPUR, 32 yrs , 32 Lpa / 6.0" Brahmin S/W Eng., HCL Noida. seeks B'ful Tall (5,5") girl, prfrd UP/MP / NCR # 8130477926 (W'app)

S'RYPARI Br. 28+/6' H'dsom Advocate High Court deals Service Matters Police Excise, Fire etc. Seeks Tall b'ful edu. girl. Father Sr. Govt Offr, Mother Edu. Dept. 9415442656

SM 4 BR Iless 43, Computer Engg., 5-10", NM, Own IT INST. TT CNB. Send Pics n Biodata : 9899105662, 9953781320. developerstechsb@gmail.com

1993/5'10"B.TECH-IIT,M.S (Eng), GOOGLE Wrkg, 1Cr + Fathr IAS Oficer, caste no bar,no dowry Affluent Famly 8329144307 E:s8br12@gmail.com

PGDM Fair Garhwali Brahmin Boy, 41/5'10" Offcr 11 LPA Delhi fmly only son Seeks Edu wkg girl whp8595642544 bhawanidutt030@gmail.com

SM4 37/5'10" Brahmin boy graduate in Arts well stld Businessman seeks b'ful working/non working girl # 9619828924

BEAUTIFUL, educated girl for London businessman. MEng. Brahmin. UK citizen. Never married. 5'9"/78. Parents doctors. Veg, teetotaller. doctormatri7@gmail.com

BR H'Some boy 30/5'9"/ Mglk, M.S & Ph.D (USA) Engr Wrkg in Mishigan (USA) on H1B, Seeks Wrkg Pref'bly Engr girl in USA # 9412507404

SM4 Brahmin Boy, 41/5'10", unmarried Asst. Professor Pvt College, owner of Flat & Villa, Caste no bar, No Dowry, Early Marriage. # 9560223904

29/ 5'7" boy, MS/Comp.Sc .employed in MNC in Ireland. Parents doctors. No bindings. Mobile 9826158349 Email : drdnsharma4@gmail.com

IITIAN Boy june93/5'7 70+LPA,3Cr.ESOP seeks well Qualified girl With 45+LPA Contact : 9511522985 . Email ID : kunvar5195@gmail.com

KKB, Dec 1991/5'8" MBA fin, Working in MNC@Mumbai, 20-25LPA. Pref. girls working or ready to relocate at Mumbai .Contact 7987178278

Bhubaneswar (Odisha)
Based Very highly Affluent established Business Family
is looking for a Odia Brahmin 5'3" and above beautiful and educated Bride for their 29yrs, 5'8", Only Son, studied in Jindal Global Law University. Involved in own venture.
Contact :
9437001358

SM4 Brahmin boy 8Feb.1994, 11:00Pm, Vadodara. B.tech MNC Noida 30LPA, Family settled in G. Noida. Girl from NCR prefd. PH: 9971235451

BRAHMIN Saryuparin boy 33/5'7"(B.Tech) Central Govt. Gr. B officer needs beautiful Bride (homely preferred). Mob : 7001733607, 8999528078.

DELHI Based Brahmin M.Tech Boy 28/5'8"/18LPA Wkg in reputed MNC, Pref Delhi NCR Based Wkg Girl, Mob no-9250147208

JAIN

28/5'10"B.TECH IIT,MBA IIM,Software.Devp.MNC,85 LK+ Father Mfg.Ind'lst Aflunt Family,Only child,caste no bar,no dowry 9272025670

SM for Delhi based,
Digamber Jain, Manglik Boy 31 YRS/5'7", B.Tech from DTU,working in MNC,Noida Rs. 75 Lac + P.A., from Reputed Family seeks alliance from educated, very beautiful, slim,working or non - working, pure veg girl, preferably from Jain, Vaish respectable family of Delhi N.C.R.
Contact / Whatsapp 8826914251
Em: vd1617@gmail.com

KAYASTHA

SRIVASTAVA 32/6' 2" fair Comp. Er boy running own startup company. Father senior govt doctor. Seeks tall fair Kayasth Girl # 9140494912

KAYASTHA fair boy 35/5'7" wkg MNC in GGN. (20LPA).Stld in Delhi-NCR. Seek edu wkg girl. Father Rtd. Civil Engr. Cont: 9899584810

PQSM4 V.h'som July 84/5'9" Masters USA iless, div Sr Mgr MNC 65 Lpa seeks b'ful wkg hmly girl unmarid /div/ issueles Wapp 6268673568

WANTED bride for 26 y/o boy based in Bangalore for old Delhi Mathur family (only Mathur alliance solicited). Looking for a kind-hearted girl who values mutual respect. Contact: 7838743869

SAXENA 32/5'6", B.Tech MNC 24+ LPA (WFH), Own house, seeks cl'd B'ful girl (P.Q wkg. Lko bsd fmly prfd). Upper Cast no bar M: 9451381067

SAXENA Handsome Boy Delhi Aug 1990 born 5'6" S/W Er. in MNC Noida. Educated Working Decent Bride prfd. Ph. 7303319939/8447209598

PQSM for NM, BTech, MBA. Saxena boy Mar 87/5'9" working in MNC in Paris, France. 9871703407, neelamsaxena24@gmail.com

SM4 kayastha boy Dr. M.D.S. 82/5'8" fair Reader LKN, Div. (Short Marriage.) Own clinic, Pref. wkg. girl Cast No Bar (W) 7599022353, 9557942076

SM for 10.1.1989/6'2"/11.06 AM Lko, Saxena boy LLM (NALSAR Hyd.) well estblshd practice in Lko. Father Retd. IFS Pref. Veg. M: 7380502999

SAXENA 29/5'7" B.Tech. MNC 65+ LPA, seeks cultured B'ful girl (B.Tech/ MBA wkg Lko base family prefd). Upper Cast no bar M: 8318288351

SAXENA Boy from Kanpur, 31Y/5'8"/20LPA/C.A.wkg in MNC at Banglore, seeks a cultured Prof.Qlfd.wrkg Girl. Mo-9305052227, 9984724255

WANTED Beautiful Bride for Kayastha Indian Forest Serv. officer 32/170cm B.Tech M.Tech from IIT Kanpur. Father Rnowned Neurologist Owning Hospital. 7985670572 drspradhan@rediffmail.com

SAXENA V.Fair MCA Feb85/ 5'9"NM,ASOCIATE MANAGER MNC Noida 36Lpa,Nvr.maried young look Fathr Astt.Director Rtd.delhiErlyMarig#9599556675

SRIVASTAVA 35, 5' 10"M B A , Deputy Manager at A Private Bank in Delhi. Caste No Bar , Contact - 9935058341

KAYASTH MBA Working In MNC Noida 10 LPA Manglik Reputed Family Seeks B'ful Professionally Qualified Wkg Girl. # 9415528351, 9838850125

CA BOY 33/5"10' WKNG Manager, Govt.PSU 30LPA.Father Retd. Chief Engr PSU.Seek Good looking edu.girl 8707648604 , 9711488667.

IES (MES) class-1 officer Manglik 80/5'7" PQM from status family, fair slim girl. Em:bhpbhopal@gmail.com mob:8463898737

SRIV Boy 20/1/91 5'11" BE CS V.Fair Slim s/w Egr Pune Presently in US seeks qlfd tall slim wrkg girl # 9412376454 E-mail: skivri6@gmail.com

SINHA, Smart h'some boy, Sep 1995/169 cm/ 45 LPA /B.Tech (IIT), MBA (ISB) working in MNC, Seeks a wkg girl, Prfd MBA. 7007896069

KAYASTHA groom 32/5'9" divorced. Wkg in MNC. 14 lac+ Fmly is well known in Biradari own house in South Delhi. Contact by text 9810049669.

SM4 H'Some, 36/5'8"/4+LPA, PQ w'king in SHCIL-DMS at Alld. reputed F'mly boy (Divorced). PFRD. Teacher. D'cent F'mly. BHP-W'App-7651980487

KAYASTHA boy 90born/5-8 ft, IIT MTech, Wkg in MNC NCR, 40LPA, seeking edutd wkg girl from reputed family. #9897074112 (between 7-10 PM)

KAYSTHA 28/5'6" LLB LLM Elite family,Director in newspaper group required kind hearted cultured educated good looking girl #9425025999

LOOKING Kayastha girl for Mathur h'some boy Aug. 1987/5'10' BE/MBA Wkg. Sr. Manager 1CICI bank (large corporate sector) 9893764423

PQM4 Kayastha boy 31/5'11", 30 LPA working in MNC. Preferable in IT Sector send BHP on # 9450455525, 8127568502

SRIVASTAVA W'kg, H'som Bachlr MBA Boy Sept 82/5'8", 10 LPA approx seeks Prof. Qual Wkg Girl. Ph 8765455038, 9839625533, p26lko@gmail.com

SM4 Kayasth Shrivastava Boy, Jan 1987/5'9", LLB, MBA, Prominent Advocate practicing Bhopal & Jabalpur High Court, 10Lpa. All Hindu accepted. 9425015986, 9575564006

KHATRI

PQM4 Sikh Khatri H'some boy, 1993, 5'-10", B.Tech, Sr. product Mnger Walmart-Bangalore. Chandigarh Well Sttld fmly. Wsap: 9888784254

KHATRI H'some 28/ 5'8" B.Tech(CS), wkg MNC (Germany), Father Sr Ex MNC, LKO, Upper middle, 9415105819, sethsachin@hotmail.com

SUITABLE match for Never married Punjabi Khatri Boy 5'9"/1982, IT MNC 30LPA, W'app or Contact # 7889118488, Email:Leozworld82@gmail.com

KHATRI boy fair 25.08.88/ 5'10" wrkg Sr. Software Eng., Blore (MNC). seeks match from a suitable girl with similar interests. tandonmatrimony@yahoo.com

KSHATRIYA

SEEKING PQ b'ful girl for Rajput 36/5'8"/MBA/Manager HR/50 Lakh+/h'some boy. Well settled doctor fmly of Lucknow Caste no bar. Call 9910988333

KSHATRIYA. Tomar 32/5'11" h'some MBA working in Amazon New Delhi. Lucknow twin brothers seeks suitable match. # 9793127325, 7905541988

SRINET Rajput, 1989/ 5'10" B.tech CSE working in Australia, fair, handsome boy seeks suitable rajput match. Contact - 7307993399

JADAUN Rajput handsome boy Oct 96 /5'11/ MBA (HR) Deputy Manager ICICI Bank in Delhi. family settled in Delhi. Pref. Jadaun Rajput family. educated cultured girl from Delhi NCR, Contact- 9313374525

CHAUHAN Kshatriya Boy in Lko. Dec'1996/5'10"' Marine Engineer Reputed Family seeks Professional Qualified Girl M: 9506405575, 79851368447

WANTED a working girl for a boy 1994/5'9" working in reputed Co. 10 lacs per annum. Contact: 9456937058, 9410010703

SWARNKAR

SWARNKAR, Manglik 30/ 5'9", B.Tech consultant 28 LPA Wking MNC Seeks BTech w'king girl NCR/ Pune/ Bangalore. 9119668462,7355575221

VAISH

CANADA based software Engg. (30) (Innocent divorcee) Govt job. Own house. Looking for Hindu bride. Contact 98375 3444 5

YADAV

UPSC CSE 2022 batch Class 1 Officer, Dec 92/5'10 , from (U.P). Seeks edu btful Yadav girl. WhatsApp 9335646909

BY COMMUNITY

AGARWAL

PQM4 H'some T'totaler, veg Jindal CA boy 90/5'10" doing practice. Delhi bsd upp.middle class fmly. Send BHP. em: capk 900@gmail.com , # 9711377249

HSOME Jain/Goel 5'7/68kg, BE(E&C) Sr. Engg Mgr/+90 Lpa US MNC, Live/work in Noida. 21.5.74/4pm/Pnp W: 9958606647, Email: jain1974s@gmail.com

MCA/ BCA Del based Very H'some Mittal boy 31/5'10"/ Tech Lead MNC 25LPA, Seeks fair, Edu, Wrkg Del-NCR caste no bar. Call/W'Ap:9868173081

MBA Canada PR, NvrMarried 39/5'7" Jain, visiting Delhi May, Educated Affluent family, CasteNoBar, WApp 9999802224, jain1909@gmail.com

DIGAMBER Jain Goyal Delhi / Sept. 98 / 180 boy BE-NSIT, MBA-MDI. Veg/Teet'ler/Non - Smoker Wkng US MNC Consulting Co. Fair Smart, h'some. only wkng girl. # 9654066136

SM4 Mittal issueless Divorcee 1980/6'2"/Smart/Fair/Slim B.E. Project Mgr. in L&T Baroda. Reputed LKO based family. Send BHP on WA: 9725661365

SM4 Bansal Boy T.T veg B.Tech/MBA 21.06.88, 6:47pm Delhi 5'10", 25 LPA MNC GGN seeks wkg girl from HR/ NCR 9873335255

IIT/ IIM for Garg 32/5'8", CA & MBA Oxford. Now working in India. May settle abroad. Father CA in Noida. BHP to: 9911586345

SM4 CA Boy 1983 Born Never Married Kansal 20Lcs per year. Contact on Mobile: 9873234506 & Em- meenaagrawal1954@gmail.com

M4 Fair 5'10",1991 wkg Mum boy,45Lac+Slry. Decent Fmly. Seeks B'ful, slim,non mglk,wkg girl decnt upprcast fmly 9467213553 tosharadgupta@gmail.com

DELHI NCR based boy Height/Age 6ft"/44, MBA/CFA working with Top Investment company seeks educated Bride. Marital Status- legally separated contact @9410065976 or email-vrg446@gmail.com

HINDU /Garg/31/5'10"'/ B.tech/MBA/CFA/FRM/CMA MNC–Mumbai/ 50L+p.a / Pref. N.Mglk. – Wkg- Unmarried Girl kumargupta1970@gmail.com

SM4 Agarwal Garg Mglk only son 5'7"/33/MCA, Own Hotel b'ness from highly edtd rptd fmly of Udaipur. All Vaishya invited. 9828077724

PERMANENT Govt Emp.(1900 gradepay), M.Com, 1992,/5.7",Aggarwal boy seeks edu.,wrkg/non-wrkg girl. Father business, 8750187521

GUPTA Boy, Jan 87/5'7", independently runs own business, well settled in Dehradun. Seeks edu girl, #9717722445

AGARWAL/GARG
Dec 1996/ 5'8"/ Post Graduate,Smart, Caring and well cultured boy of affluent Real estate business family from Ghaziabad (UP) having Canada PR & doing business in Vancouver (Canada) looking for suitable, beautiful, well cultured, family oriented homely and non-working girl.
Whatsapp/Call@
9350911887
praveen8296@gmail.com

AGRAWAL

VARSHNEY handsome unmarried boy 37/5'9"/ Project Manager TCS Bhopal, package, 30 Lakh PA. Contact : 9826545114

ARORA

NM boy, well off religious family, Nov 1993 5'6" software developer in Canada, currently in India, willing to settle in India 9896331530

NRI, Sikh Arora Boy Oct,1990/5'7" B.Tech (DCE), MBA (Vanderbilt University, USA) Handsome, Well Cultured, Intelligent, working in MNC in New York, H1B Visa Residence Manhattan, NY Belongs to Respectable affluent, educated family of Gurgaon Want compatible, educated girl with good values.
9717139900
Or Mail Us at
gurpreet0132@gmail.com
batra_ss@rediffmail.com

JAT

SM4 S.Delhi bsd boy 37/5'10 MBA(Symb) wrkd with Big4 in India/Doha. Now in Int'l Bank as VP in Canada (PR) seek wkg prof of rptd/edu fmly. Panwar, Kadyan, Dalal. # 9810280462.

SM for H'some Jat Boy 5'9" 82 Born, B.Tech, MBA, IT MNC Noida 30 L p.a Divorce, Short Marriage. Seeks Qualified Girl. Contact : 9911583433

Professionally Qualified Tall Fair Slim Convent Girl from respectable family for Our H'some Fair Son, 5'11"/16.11.92, B.Tech (CS), MS (Switzerland), Worked SAP Germany, PhD in AI-final yr. (Oslo Norway) from well established NCR bsd Jat Tomar affluent Doctor family. Caste no bar.
Send Bio/photo (whatsapp only)
8265800343

PROBASHI BENGALI

BENGALI/ Divorcee/ 34/ 5'11" IIT KGP,IITM Working in top MNC Delhi. Flat in Kolkata. Looking for extremely beautiful,educated girl.M 8013544818

RAJPUT

BRIDE WANTED
Rajput Chauhan boy, 29 Yrs, 5'9", B-Tech & MBA from Top Institutes of India, Only Child, Handsome and hailing from Reputed & Well-Settled family in South Delhi (Ancestral House in UP), Working in Top US MNC in Gurugram, 45 LPA, Veg, Not Smoking & Drinking. Seeking beautiful, cultural, well-educated & professional Rajput / Kshatriya girl. Mob: 9425816588

BEAUTIFUL Fair Slim girl for Rajput boy 27yrs, wkg in reputed national Co. in Delhi. Seeks wkg /Non Wnkg girl from rptd fmly # 8527418107.

PROF. Qlfd, Tall, Fair, B'ful, Well Edu Girl for Tall, Fair H'some Rajput Boy 28yrs/ 6'2" NYU edu PG, working in USA as Digital Marketing Strategist. Family Settled in Delhi-NCR. Contact: 9811144570, 9818008138

RAJPUT, 30/ 5'11",B.Tech + MBA (IMT Gzb), fair, working in MNC (IT Industry), Noida,17 LPA. Seeking Profnl.Qualified Working Girl. # 9868104131

BY PROFESSION

DOCTORS

JAISWAL Boy Manglik 86 Born DNB Radiology Working in Delhi Seeks MD/ MS/DMB Girl Upper Caste No Bar Contact:8445603547.

UP based Brahmin boy 1993/5'11", fair,h'some,MS Optho (Eye Surgeon). Status Reputed famliy. Seeks Medico tall b'ful match.Mob: 9917961666

35YRS/5'8" N.Mglk MBBS MD Psychiatrist, Pvt. job (Punjab) Seeks medico match (MBBS /MD / MS /DM /MCH) Ph: 9518665620, 8168013021

SM4 34/5'9" Gaur Brahmin, Non Manglik Doctor, MBBS, M.D (Pharmacology) PGIMS Rohtak Seeks MBBS / MD / DNB. Mob - 9896656024

MS ophthalmology (2nd Yr) smart Aggarwal boy 28/5'6" UP West b'sd well Edu. Upper Mdl class fmly seeks MS/MD Girl. 9837330797/8936948616

M4 MD pedia Neonatologist Pb Br boy 36/6'1 govt job Pb, Fthr own hospital. upr c.n. bar gynae pedia, Mbbs intr-std to sttl Pb shd #9872943592

INDUSTRIALIST

SM4 Khatri 28/5'4", H'some, well-settled. Engg, B'nessman frm Punjabi, Affluent Industrialist fmly of Ambala. W: 86077-77501

LAWYERS

AGARWAL 1996/5'10" Corporate Lawyer in Top Law Firm of Delhi (from reputed f'mily of Lucknow)seeks Prof Qlfd match. M: 9793700111

BY RELIGION

CHRISTIAN

41-YRS Mumbai Businessman never married, tall, fair below 35 doctor parents. Email: sjcd04@yahoo.co.in Mobile 9222189131

HINDU

AVP BTech Vaish boy Sep89/5'5.Wkg American Bank, ~45LPA, own house Hyd.Seeks Profquali girl pref. PhD/teacher/R&D. nirshubhmatri@gmail.com

NAI B.Tech.boy, well settled business, DOB:Feb-98, height 5'4",earn.18 LPA Father Job/Busi.,looking Qual girl contact 7007691813.

BOY 30/5'8, IIT Bombay, PhD (US) working in New York (parents living in Jaipur) wants a sanatani girl 24-27 yrs wishing to settle in US. Contact : nksbis@gmail.com

LOOKING for Eucated & Wrkg Girl for Mohyal Sarswat Br boy 31/6'3" M.Tech in Nanotechnology Wrkg with MNC Since 7 years 15LPA, #9818408300, 8130414821

MBA(XLRI) BTech
49/5'7" Widower MNC Exec
Prof qual HINDU girl
9399166542
matri.24.toi@gmail.com

MUSLIM

BRIDE Wanted for Muslim SHIA Engineer Boy Slim Built Fair Age 38 years Height 6 feet Settled in Australia Contact Details 9873479728

SM (Pref. Dr./MBA/Engr. or CA frm rptd. Inst.) for Sunni boy 30/5'11" MBA frm rptd. Inst wkg Mnc Mumbai 986851-7888, nizam1962@yahoo.co.in

SM4 Varanasi based Sunni muslim khan boy 28y/5'10" wkg with HDFC Bank. Father Rtd Bank Officer.Cntact:9838371818, makhanazh@gmail.com

MUSLIM Mansoori B.Tech 5'7"/33, Government Job in Railway, seeks beautiful educated Namazi bride # 9968387995, 9718122111

BE/MBA 27/5'7" Wkg MNC BOM 20 LPA,Well edu Guj family, seeks Prof. Qual Shia/ Sunni(Panjetani) girl Mob 8141082124

SM4 - 29, 5'9",H'some,Sunni, Industrialist Family. Lukg for b'ful Girl. Caste, Location no bar. Contact: 8920664268, Em: sehar3511@gmail.com

SIKH

CHANDIGARH Tricity Based Well Established Joint Business Family Solicits Alliance From Like Minded Khatri Arora Sikh Families For a non career oriented soulmate for their younger son Oct 1992 / VG - NV ok / NT / ND / 6.1/ Canadian BBA Brief details by WhatsApp May first be shared at 99 8888 9999 strictly by parents only. Confidentially Assured

MATCH for Arora Sikh Boy 27 / 5'7", MS from UCB California, working in USA. Seeking a working Gursikh girl in USA +91 9076323265

MBA (ISB) + BE: 36 6'4 handsome cln shvn Sikh never married, 60 LPA salary. Upper mid- class Bangalore fmly. Seek Sikh girl, WhatsApp 9886570802

GURSIKH Edu match from cultured family for well settled, highly Edu boy wkg with MNC in San Francisco, 5'10"/ 1991, belonging to reputed, well established business family of Gurgaon. Contact 7428997735

SIKH Handsome boy 5'4"/ 26.05.1991, BA(H) H.M. from Taj Group, Own B'ness Hotel Ind. 22 LPA, Own House, Settle in Delhi Caste no bar.. 9810111244

PROF Qual Wkg girl for MBA/ B.Tech, Oct. 88/5-11", turbaned Arora Sikh boy, belonging to edu fmly, wkg as Digital Marketing lead in G'gaon 9899026166

SM4 MBA South Delhi Based Gursikh Arora Boy, May 86/ 5'6", NT, Deputy Manager in Tour Co. 12 LPA, Caste no bar 99905-90900. Agency Excuse.

GENERAL

CASTE NO BAR

WKG Bride for Mgr MNC Ggn 01.07.1985/ N.Delhi/ 5'11". Send BHP: 9871001111

SUITABLE Match for Handsome Yadav Boy 30/185. IT Engineer in MNC, Income 30 LPA, Seeking Educated Hindu Girl, No dowry, Caste No Bar. Contact : 9886253418, 8884086991

M4 N'mglk, 48yrs Div., Wkg in bank. Seeks girl (40-45), from Rputd Fmly Delhi/Ncr. W'ap/ph: 9811535805, Email: ram2005punj@Yahoo.com

BRAHMIN 34 /5'10 B.Tech IIT MBA IIM working in MNC 75 LPA+ Father Affluent Business, caste no Bar, 9893202325, 9179134562

USA wkg Sr SW Engr, 6'2", Feb 96, BE,MS.S/o Sr Def offr. Seeking alliance from professional Girl in USA/India. 2shankarparvati@gmail.com

QUALIFIED girl for B.Tech 1989 born 5'8" Yadav boy having own house & well settled in France, legally divorced No issue. 9414047825

KAYASTHA Khare 29/5'8" fair, B.Tech (C.S.) wkg MNC Gurugram 50 LPA Lucknow based family Father G.M. PSU. # 9415788988, 7985289231

ALLIANCE invited for PB MBA boy 37/5'7", 30 Lpa from w'rptd b'ness fmly. Seeks w'qlfd b'ful grl. # 9314520152 Em: nkdelhi2023@gmail.com

SM4 brahmin boy, 6'3", 07.8.1991/1235 PM. BTech(IT) from CEC. Wrk in Chandigarh. Caste no bar. M: 8284090584 :Em kaustubh.bhrdwj@gmail.com

PQM4 for h'some Himachali Brahmin boy 93/5'8, B.tech (EEE), MBA (Fin. & Mkt.) wkg in reputed bank in Delhi, 20+ LPA. Contact: 8826374563

M.TECH Software Eng boy-Never Married Jul 84/5'11 wkg MNC Gurugram 20lpa. seeks prof, qual girl #9499120608.

ELDERLY vegetarian, single, well settled male seeks well cultured female from respectable family. Contact: 9990435300

WELL qualified match for 36 years 5-8 slim punjabi hindu khatri nonsmoker teetotaler of status family nontransferable central government Assistant Section Officer at Delhi 9417131101

BE, MBA, Yadav, Partial Manglik, Divorced, 45 yrs, 5'8", Working in US, seeks Graduate, beautiful girl. Caste no bar. 9993138042

GOOD looking & good family background Bride needed for Rajput, 31/5'6", Amazon Executive, 56000 p.m, Caste No Bar. Contact 9205780667, Email: nitindelhi35@gmail.com

JATAV Ph.D. boy, Feb 88/ 5'10" reptd fmly Wkg as A.P. at top Pvt. Univ. & own business, income >15L. Seeks Prof. Qual. girl for erly mrrge. #8077659328

35, 5'8",fair rajput, technical officer ministry of health GOI short marriage legally divorced delhi based affluent family call Sangeeta 9868659903,

KAYASTHA mangilk boy 35yr/6ft. MS&MBA from US working on H1B visa. I-140 approved. Ph:9425024489

SEEKING educated beautiful homely girl for Lucknow based handsome, fair Rajput boy 1990/5'11" successfully running own business. Call: 9335069071 E-mail: singhpk078@gmail.com

MUMBAI VAISHNAV BOY 1985 5'8" MBBS MNC JOB 30LPA BRIDE FAMILY WHATSAPP 9820667431

REPUTED Hindu business family from Hyd Alliance for son 38yrs looking for slim & homely girl from Hindu business & HNI family only. 9885008270

WANTED Educated, B'ful, mannered, sobre girl for MBA Handsome Gupta 49/5'7" 60kg, Pkg 2.50LPM. Div. (very short marriage). Call: 9818474916.

MBA boy 46/5'9" H'sm Pbi (clean shaven)affluent B'ness fmly bsd Delhi. Boy looks 35' not married. Pref. edu. well cult'd h'mly girl hving moral & fmly values # 9811330205

NO Dowry, CNB Religious, Healthy, 60 yrs looks much younger seeks a Girl, prefd for Young bachelorette Girl # 9033338844

SM4 Smart, Slim, Fair Garg Divorcee 48/5'11"/Asst. Mgr. in Akash Inst, Delhi 7Lpa Seeks Decent Girl. CNB # 9599777207 vishalagarwal1710@gmail.com

DELHI bsd Pb,kh,mglk boy all puja'don.5'11"/20.04.91/11:18am /delhi @35-40Lpa.BTech,MBA - IIM Rhtk-17,pref.wkg girl-js: XZTZ3655,9818669189,

SM preferably Wrkg Delhi/-NCR bsd for PB Hindu boy 30/ 5'6"/ PGDM/ Mngr Pvt. Bank, Upper mid. class fmly. Call: 9810682805, W'App:9871114387 Marriage Bureau Excuse.

PUNJABI unmarried boy 39, 5'9" B.Tech MS, Wkn MNC 1.00 Crore above Pkg, no dowry, Accept div& wido Cast no bar 9406468858, 9407787050

PQSM4 92 born , Agrawal boy, BE, MBA from premier institute , 75 LPA plus benefits affluent family M: 9873003809 shrutiagrawal332@gmail.com

W'SETTLED 33/5'8" h'some Rajput boy. M.Arch (IIT Kharagpur). 30-40LPA. Owner of well-established architectural firm in Noida. Gen Caste No Bar. 8178094587

SM4 Schedule Cast boy, 1989 /5'6" B.E/MBA(IIM), working in private firm, 41 Lpa. Seeking equ'vlnt qlfd wkg girl. Caste no bar.WAp: 7776911559

80 LPA 5'8'/1991
Engg Mgr IT Mnc
VFair Smart Fit
Own House NOIDA
Khatri Teetotaler
Js id VAAV9621
1st Marriage 4mth
Divorce. 1 child
livng separate
Reply with Pics, Biodata
Call on:
8826355102

COSMOPOLITAN

SEEKING a bride for 43, 170 cm, 68 kg, Professor, Never married, package 20+ lakhs. WhatsApp 8080624142.

DISABLED/ HANDICAPPED

SM for 100% visually impaired Delhi based Punjabi khatri boy 33/5'11/Post Graduate, Dy. Manger in PSU Bank, Own house. Caste no bar 9871713359

SC/ST

SM 4 H'Some B.Tech, M.Tech Boy Wrkg MNC/29Yrs./5'9"/ 32LPA/Parents Retd. Govt job Seeks Qlfd (B.Tech/M.T ech/-MBA Wrkg. girl. # 9015740496

SECOND MARRIAGE

LOOKING open minded Female for Hindu 48 yrs/5'10"/ 75 kg, Handsome, Issueless Divorcee, South Delhi. Whatsapp or call 9311823042

ISSUELESS Kayastha Widower 51, 5'7" looks much younger Delhi-NCR Sr Mgr 18 lacs mathur.kayastha.matri@gmail.com 9289346204

AGARWAL 35 Btech. MBA5'10"div.wkng Bangalore 38LPA issueless seeks wkng/non wkng girl parents Lucknow Mb.7887096240

SEEKING Edu. unmarried Rajput girl for second marriage, issueless, well settled Rajput Engineer 50yrs/6' wkg. in USA 8887662261(WA)

PB. Khatri Nov72/5'8 mutual Divorce. highly qlfd, Wkg in Govt. as Officer seek Wkg girl Caste no bar. # 8287698477 Email: molgm@yahoo.com

SM4, Goel Fair Slim Divorcee Boy, Oct88 H6'2", Wkg MNC Gurgaon, Pkg 60 LAC PA, Seeks Prof Qlyfd Partner, WAPP 9811183191

WANTED Divorcee, I'less, cast no bar bride for my son. 42/5'7", B.Tech, wkg in MNC Banglore, 20LPA, Meerut b'sd family. 8006053901, 9639816448

WKG Belarus/Noida HNWI Investor 62 Lpa Mtech NYU Harvard V'Fair Agarwal boy Sept 81/5'6", Looks young, Parents Doctor 9821172249

PUNE family seeks match well-settled, EU educated Punjabi boy Nov 91,5',8", family biz, short marriage, caste no bar +919967357443

UP Khatri 38/5'8" MBA, M.Sc (UK), Divorce, UK firm 16 Lpa, Seeks B'ful M

Paytm COO Gupta quits, cites 'personal reasons'

Move Part Of Organisational Rejig, Says Co

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Bhavesh Gupta will move to an advisory role in the CEO office

Mumbai: One97 Communications (OCL), which owns brand Paytm, on Saturday said the company's president and chief operating officer (COO) Bhavesh Gupta has resigned from his position. Gupta, whose resignation comes amid a series of recent top-level exits at the Noida-based fintech, will however move to an advisory role in the CEO office.

Gupta quit citing personal reasons and his last day with the organisation — which has come under regulatory scrutiny due to non-compliance at its banking unit — will be on May 31. The company notified stock exchanges about the development on Saturday following a board meeting.

Paytm, which also announced leadership changes within the company, claimed that the move was part of an overall organisational restructuring which will ensure the company's sustained growth across key business verticals and strengthening of the group's structure for regulatory compliance.

Varun Sridhar, former head of Paytm Money, will now take over as CEO of Paytm Services, focusing on distribution of mutual funds and wealth management products. Rakesh Singh, former CEO of stock broking business at Fisdom, has been appointed as the new CEO of Paytm Money.

"The company has been focusing on strengthening the roles of its next line of leaders and robust succession planning. Bhavesh Gupta who was overseeing the payments and lending businesses has decided to take a career break due to personal reasons... the leadership will focus on profitable business expansion and is committed to regulatory compliance," the firm said in a statement.

Last month, Paytm Payments Bank's MD and CEO Surinder Chawla had resigned while in March, Paytm's senior vice president of business Praveen Sharma quit the firm. Following Reserve Bank of India's clampdown on PPBL, Paytm founder and CEO Vijay Shekhar Sharma had stepped down as the non-executive chairman of the bank's board while OCL's nominee director Gupta had also quit the board. "Our focus on payments and lending is stronger than ever, and I will work with the seasoned leaders that we have in each of our businesses to execute our plans," Sharma said.

Stock price of Paytm ended at Rs 370.20 apiece on BSE on Friday, down 0.38%.

ENIL revenue rises 13.6% to ₹500cr for FY24

Mumbai: Entertainment Network (India) Ltd, operator of Radio Mirchi, reported a net revenue of Rs 149.3 crore for fourth quarter of FY24, marking a 42.4% increase compared to the same quarter of FY23.

Radio revenue witnessed growth of 26.4% in the fourth quarter of FY24, while non-FCT revenue surged by 48.1%, according to a company statement. It added that throughout FY24, radio experienced growth of 10.8%, whereas non-FCT grew by 8%. Consolidated revenues for FY24 reached Rs 500 crore, a 13.6% year-on-year growth.

EBITDA (excluding digital) for FY24 reached Rs 125.4 crore, a 34.5% year-on-year increase, largely fueled by robust top-line growth and operational efficiencies. In the fourth quarter, EBITDA (excluding digital) stood at Rs 36 crore, up from Rs 23 crore in the fourth quarter of 2023.

The statement said operational efficiency improvements have resulted in a significant boost in PAT, rising from Rs 2.3 crore in FY23 to Rs 50.6 crore in FY24 for its existing business.

Digital segment revenues for Q4FY24 reached Rs 20.3 crore, constituting 24.4% of radio revenue, while FY24 digital segment revenues amounted to Rs 47 crore, constituting 15.3% of radio revenue. TNN

As stock market booms, malpractices of Harshad, Ketan era are back: Goenka

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Mumbai: Billionaire businessman **Harsh Goenka** fears that a stock market scam is brewing that could be equated with the ones which were perpetrated by infamous market operators like Harshad Mehta and Ketan Parekh.

Goenka alleged that this time the scam may have its origin in Kolkata. In a post on X, Goenka on Saturday alleged that businessmen, especially from Kolkata, are cooking up books to inflate profits which in turn is driving up stock prices.

"With a booming stock market, all malpractices of Harshad Mehta/Ketan Parekh era are back primarily in Kolkata," Goenka posted. "Promoters are inflating profits & in nexus with Gujarati-Marwari brokers driving their stock prices to unrealistic levels." He did not elaborate.

Goenka, who has about 18 lakh followers on X, also tagged finance ministry and markets regulator Sebi urging them to step in to investigate the scam before small investors suffered huge losses.

Spokespersons for both, finance ministry and Sebi, didn't comment on the post.

Incidentally, Kolkata-born Goenka's younger brother Sanjiv is one of the leading businessmen in Kolkata. And cigarette-to-hotels conglomerate ITC is the most-valued company that has its headquarters in the city.

To a respondent to Goenka's post who stated that it is mostly major steel houses (who engaged in such activities of inflating profits), Goenka agreed.

UTTARAKHAND JALSANSTHAN
OFFICE OF EXECUTIVE ENGINEER MAINTENANCE DIVISION, NEW TEHRI

Letter No- 299/E-tender / 2024-25/05 Date: 03-05-2024

NATIONAL COMPETITIVE BIDDING
e -Tender Notice
INVITATION FOR BIDS

Executive Engineer, Maintenance Division, Uttarakhand Jalsansthan, New Tehri on behalf of "Chief General Manager Uttarakhand Jalsansthan" online tenders are invited on the website **http://www.uktenders.gov.in** from experienced and eligible bidders/firm having adequate technical and financial capability as specified in bid document for Two bid system as per description & schedule given below for the construction of following works:-

Sl.	District	Block	Name of Work/Scheme	Earnest money	Cost of e-tender document	Completion Period
1	Tehri Garhwal	Chamba	Strenghthening & Retrofitting of Intake well Structure work Near Zero Bridge Under New Tehri Pumping Water Supply Scheme.	106000.00	4000+18% GST Extra	45 Day
2	Tehri Garhwal	Chamba	Strenghthening & Retrofitting of Intake well Structure work Near Zero Bridge Under Sarjula Pumping Water Supply Scheme.	98000.00	3000+18% GST Extra	45 Day

Date of Online Publications	04/05/2024 at 17:00 hr
Pre Bid Meeting	06/05/2024 at 14.00 hr.
Bid Submission Start Date	07/05/2024 at 11.00 hr.
Bid Submission End Date	13/05/2024 at 11.00 hr.
Physical submission of Bid Document	13/05/2024 at 15:00 hr.
Date of Bid Opening	14/05/2024 at 15.30 hr.

Executive Engineer

GOVERNMENT OF NATIONAL CAPITAL TERRITORY OF DELHI
GENERAL ADMINISTRATION DEPARTMENT
(CO-ORDINATION BRANCH)
DELHI SECRETARIAT, IP ESTATE, NEW DELHI-110002
PUBLIC NOTICE

It is notified for information of the General Public that as per the provisions of Section 135B of the Representation of the People Act, 1951, every person employed in any business, trade, industrial undertaking or any other establishment in National Capital Territory Delhi and entitled to vote at an election to the Parliamentary Constituencies of Uttar Pradesh, as detailed below, shall be granted a holiday, on the day of poll, so that he/she can cast his/her vote in the election.

S No.	Phase	Date of Poll	Parliamentary Constituencies
UTTAR PRADESH			
1	Third	07 May, 2024 (Tuesday)	Sambhal, Hathras, Agra, Fatehpur Sikri, Firozabad, Mainpuri, Eta, Badayun, Aonla and Bareilly.

No deduction or abatement of the wages shall be made on account of above holiday and if any person is employed on the basis that he/she would not ordinarily receive wages for such a day, he/she nonetheless be paid wages he/she would have drawn had not a holiday been granted to him/her on that day.
The daily wage/casual workers are also entitled for a holiday and wages on poll day as provided in section 135 B of the Representation of the People Act, 1951. However, this section shall not apply to any elector whose absence may cause danger or substantial loss in respect of the employment in which he is engaged. Any contravention of the above provisions is punishable as per the provisions of Section 135-B (3) of the Representation of the People Act, 1951.

Sd/- (**PRADEEP TAYAL**)
DIP/Shabdarth/Classified/0034/24-25 **DY. SECRETARY (GAD/CN)**

OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT ELECTION OFFICER (WEST)
GOVERNMENT OF NATIONAL CAPITAL TERRITORY OF DELHI
PLOT NO.3, SHIVAJI PLACE, RAJA GARDEN, NEW DELHI-110027
(PHONE NO.: 011-25107118, Email: dcwest@nic.in)

PUBLIC NOTICE
GENERAL ELECTION TO LOK SABHA 2024
06-WEST DELHI PARLIAMENTARY CONSTITUENCY

This is for the information of Political Parties and General Public / Voters of 06- West Delhi Parliamentary Constituency that the Election Commission of India has designated the General Observer, Police Observer and Expenditure Observer for the General Election to Lok Sabha 2024 to be held on 25/05/2024 in respect of 06-West Delhi Parliamentary Constituency. They will be available to general public on all working days as per under mentioned schedule:-

S. No	Name of Observer	Telephone/ Mobile No.	Time & Date	Office Address
1.	Shri Bhim Singh, IAS General Observer	8448503094	From 11:00 am to 12:00 Noon w.e.f. 06/05/2024 till completion of election.	Room No. 106, First Floor, Office of District Election Officer / District Magistrate (West), 3, Shivaji Place, Raja Garden, New Delhi- 110027
2.	Shri Manish Kumar Sinha, IPS Police Observer	7015590553	From 11:00 am to 12:00 Noon w.e.f. 06/05/2024 till date of poll (only on Monday, Wednesday & Friday)	Room No. 106, First Floor, Office of District Election Officer / District Magistrate (West), 3, Shivaji Place, Raja Garden, New Delhi-110027
3.	Shri Vivek Kumar Jain, IRS Expenditure Observer	8851054681	From 11:00 am to 12:00 Noon w.e.f. 05/05/2024 till date of poll.	Room No.106, First Floor, Office of District Election Officer / District Magistrate (West), 3, Shivaji Place, Raja Garden, New Delhi-110027

Any Complaint with respect to malpractices in election and violation of Model Code of Conduct may be reported to the contact numbers given above.

Sd/- (**DR. KINNY SINGH**)
RETURNING OFFICER
DIP/Shabdarth/Classified/0035/24-25 **06-WEST DELHI PARLIAMENTARY CONSTITUENCY**

कानपुर विद्युत आपूर्ति कम्पनी लिमिटेड
14/71, सिविल लाइन्स "केसा हाउस" कानपुर (An ISO 9001:2015 Certified Company)
अल्पकालीन ई–निविदा सूचना

अधोहस्ताक्षरकर्ता द्वारा ई–निविदा पृथक–पृथक दो भागों में निम्न सामग्रियों हेतु केस्को ई–निविदा वेबसाईट https://etender.up.nic.in पर आमंत्रित की जाती हैं, जिसकी खुलने एवं अपलोड करने की तिथि नीचे दिये गये तालिका में निर्धारित है। निर्धारित तिथि को अवकाश घोषित होने पर निविदायें अगले कार्य दिवस में नियत समय पर खोली जायेंगी। ई–निविदा धनराशि का भुगतान ऑनलाईन एन0ई0एफ0टी0/आर0टी0जी0एस0 (खाता सं0 7723508014आई.एफ.एस.सी. कोड–IDIB000K587) के माध्यम से किया जायेगा । ई–निविदाप्रपत्र निविदा खुलने की तिथि पर दिये गये समय से दो घण्टे पूर्व तक वेबसाईट से डाउनलोड किया जा सकता है। वेबसाईट पर निविदा प्रपत्रों के साथ यू0टी0आर0 की स्कैण्ड प्रति अपलोड करना अनिवार्य है। ई–निविदा के प्रथम भाग में धरोहर धनराशि का भुगतान ऑनलाईन एन0ई0एफ0टी0/आर0टी0जी0एस0 (खाता सं0 7723508014आई.एफ.एस.सी. कोड–IDIB000K587) के द्वारा स्वीकार किया जायेगा एवं निविदा प्रपत्र के प्रथम भाग मे निर्धारित पी0क्यू0 आर0 एवं तकनीकी अभिलेख होंगे तथा निविदा के द्वितीय भाग में दरें एवम् व्यवसायिक शर्तें होगी, बिना धरोहर धनराशि के तथा सशर्त निविदायें खोली/स्वीकार नहीं की जायेंगी। 1. निविदा सं0–05/24-25,पात्र फर्में–मूल निर्माता/ अधिकृत विक्रेता, विवरण– विभिन्न प्रकार के सेफ्टी इक्युपमेण्ट की आपूर्ति हेतु, धरोहर धनराशि–(रू0) 4337501/–, निविदा धनराशि रू0 में (जी0एस0टी0 के साथ) 11800/–, ई–निविदा अपलोड करने की अन्तिम तिथि–20.05.2024, ई–निविदा खोलने की तिथि–21.05.2024

***Except MSE Firm, No exemption from depositing EMD in any case is acceptable Tenderer is required to deposit earnest money as specified in the tender Notice for full tendered quantity. In case any tenderer wishesh to quote lesser quantity, the amount of earnest money may be reduced proportionately. In case any tender deposit earnest money of a lesser amount, his offer shall be considered for the proportionate quantity only unless specified otherwise in the special instruction.**

उपरोक्त ई–निविदा की पूर्ण प्रक्रिया केस्को की ई–टेन्डरिंग वेबसाइट https://etender.up.nic.in के माध्यम से की जायेगी। तकनीकी योग्यता पूरा न करने वाले निविदादाता के निविदा पर विचार नहीं किया जायेगा। सामग्री क्रय की मात्रा घट बढ़ सकती है। अधोहस्ताक्षरकर्ता के पास बिना कोई कारण बताये किसी एक अथवा समस्त निविदाओं को स्वीकृत/अस्वीकृत करने का पूर्ण अधिकार सुरक्षित होगा। 1. सूक्ष्म एवं लघु एवं स्टार्टअप्स इकाईयों को निविदा सेट निःशुल्क उपलब्ध कराया जायेगा। 2. सूक्ष्म एवं लघु एवं स्टार्टअप्स इकाईयों को ई0एम0डी0 से छूट अनुमन्य है। 3. सूक्ष्म एवं लघु एवं स्टार्टअप्स से सम्बन्धित प्रपत्र को अपलोड करना अनिवार्य है।

(मदन लाल) अधिशाषी अभियन्ता (भण्डार क्रय)
पत्रांक–1418/एस0टी0पी0/ए0–11/2023–2024, दिनांक 03.05.2024
राष्ट्रहित में बिजली बचायें।

FORM G
INVITATION FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST FOR SIDHARTHA BUILDHOME PRIVATE LIMITED
(EXCLUDING NCR GREEN PROJECT)
(Under sub-regulation (1) of regulation 36A of the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Board of India (Insolvency Resolution Process for Corporate Persons) Regulations, 2016)

RELEVANT PARTICULARS		
1.	Name of the corporate debtor along with PAN/CIN/LLP No.	• **Sidhartha Buildhome Private Limited** (Excluding NCR Green project) • AACCP6984F • U74899DL1995PTC074013
2.	Address of the registered office	Unit No.-204, 2nd Floor, Krishna Mall, Plot No.-5, MLU, Sector-12, Dwarka, South West Delhi, India, 110075
3.	URL of website	https://www.sidharthagroup.com/
4.	Details of place where majority of fixed assets are located	• Corporate Office of the Corporate Debtor situated at SBL House, 5th Floor, Plot No.6, Sector-44, Gurugram – 122003; • Project Estella, Village Dhanwanpur & Tikampur, Sector-103, Gurugram, Haryana.
5.	Installed capacity of main products/ services	Detailed can be obtained from cirp.sbpl@gmail.com
6.	Quantity and value of main products/ services sold in last financial year	Detailed can be obtained from cirp.sbpl@gmail.com
7.	Number of employees/ workmen	Detailed can be obtained from cirp.sbpl@gmail.com
8.	Further details including last available financial statements (with schedules) of two years, lists of creditors, are available at URL :	Detailed can be obtained from cirp.sbpl@gmail.com
9.	Eligibility for resolution applicants under section 25(2)(h) of the Code is available at URL:	cirp.sbpl@gmail.com
10.	Last date for receipt of expression of interest	May 20, 2024
11.	Date of issue of provisional list of prospective resolution applicants	May 30, 2024
12.	Last date for submission of objections to provisional list	June 04, 2024
13.	Date of issue of final list of prospective resolution applicants	June 14, 2024
14.	Date of issue of information memorandum, evaluation matrix and request for resolution plans to prospective resolution applicants	June 19, 2024
15.	Last date for submission of resolution plans	July 19, 2024
16.	Process email id to submit Expression of Interest	cirp.sbpl@gmail.com

Note: CIRP of Sidhartha Buildhome Private Limited had been initiated on 04.03.2021. The CIRP of the company was withdrawn by Hon'ble NCLT after approval of 12A application filed by the promoter vide its order dated 24.05.2023.
The CIRP of the company (excluding NCR Green project) has been revived by the Hon'ble NCLAT, Principal Bench vide its order dated 16.02.2024 by setting aside the order of Hon'ble NCLT dated 24.05.2023.

Place: New Delhi
Date: 05.05.2024
DEEPAK KUMAR GOYAL
RESOLUTION PROFESSIONAL
IN THE MATTER OF SIDHARTHA BUILDHOME PRIVATE LIMITED (excluding NCR Green project)
REGN. NO: IBBI/IPA-001/IP-P-02490/2022-23/14143
AFA Valid till: August 06, 2024
ADDRESS: 701, Vikrant Tower 4, Rajendra Place, New Delhi - 110008
MAIL ID : deepakcamba@outlook.com; cirp.sbpl@gmail.com
Phone: 011-47100179; 9990045308

PROCLAMATION REQUIRING THE APPEARANCE OF A PERSON ACCUSED
See Section 82 Cr. P.C.

Whereas complaint has been made before me that accused **Mahender Singh** S/o **Prabhati Ram** R/o **D-533, Dabua Colony, NIT, Faridabad, Haryana** has Committed (or is suspected to have committed) the offence in case **FIR No. 600/21 U/s 33/58D. Ex. Act, P.S. Raj Park, Delhi** and it has been returned to a warrant of arrest thereupon issued that the said **Mahender Singh** cannot be found and whereas it has been shown to my satisfaction that the said **Mahender Singh** has absconded (or is concealing himself to avoid the service of the said warrant).
Proclamation is hereby made that the said accused **Mahender Singh** of case **FIR No. 600/21 U/s 33/58D. Ex. Act, P.S. Raj Park, Delhi** is required to appear before this Court to answer the said complaint/case on or before **09.07.2024.**

By Order
Ms. Ebbani Aggarwal
Metropolitan Magistrate (NW)
Room No. 107, 1st Floor
Rohini Court, New Delhi
DP/4963/OD/2024(Court Matter)

STORES E-PROCUREMENT

Tender Notice No.: S/04/2024-25, Dtd: 03-05-2024. E-Tender are invited by the undersigned for the following works.

Sl.No.:1; Tender No. : 40/24/0555/OT/25/2024-25;
Closing/Opening Date: 10-05-2024.
Brief Description: Microprocessor Controller for Roof Mounted AC Package Unit for LHB Coaches as per RDSO Specification No. RDSO/PE/SPEC/AC/0139 2009 (REV-1) as per Drg No. Nil, Specn: RDSO SPECIFICATION NO. RDSO/PE/SPEC/AC/0139 2009 (REV-1) (Warranty period: 30 Months after the date of delivery) (Inspection Agency: TPI, Stage Insp.: No, Stages:0). (i) Qty- 30 Nos for Dibrugarh Town Workshop Depot, NFR (Assam), (ii) Qty-10 Nos for Pandu GSD, NFR (Assam). P.L. No-45212119.

Sl.No.:2; Tender No. : 61/24/5108/OT/26/2024-25;
Closing/Opening Date: 24-05-2024.
Brief Description: 1-in-12 BG 60 KG Weldable CMS Crossing (WCMSC) on PSC sleepers in accordance with RDSO's standard drawing no T-6412 including supply of 6mm thick grooved rubber sole plates (drawing no RDSO/T-6204, to RDSO/T-66211, RDSO/T-6843 to RDSO/T-6846 excluding standard fish plates, fish bolts and nuts, E.R clips, including liner etc. (Warranty period: 30 Months after the date of delivery) (Inspection Agency: TPI, Stage Insp.: Yes, Stages:1). Qty-200 set for SSE/P.Way/TD/Bongaigaon, NFR(Assam). P.L.No-60060270.

Sl.No.:3; Tender No. : 30/24/1726B/OT/27/2024-25;
Closing/Opening Date: 21-05-2024.
Brief Description: COCK GI-DN 25E for LHB coach to KB Pt No.II 501176/1A1E or FTITIPL Pt No.790040400. (Warranty Period:30 Months after the date of delivery) (Inspection Agency: TPI, Stage Insp.: No, Stages: 0). (i) Qty-45 Nos for Dibrugarh Town Workshop Depot, NFR (Assam), (ii) Qty-515 Nos for New Bongaigaon Workshop Depot, NFR, (Assam), (iii) Qty-5 Nos for New Jalpaiguri Jn. GSD, NFR(West Bengal). P.L.No- 33513004.

Sl.No.:4; Tender No. : 10/24/3798/OT/28/2024-25;
Closing/Opening Date: 24-05-2024.
Brief Description: Element filter & DLW part No-17452168 to EMD Part No-8470903, MP, TP-50, Rev.0.01, July- 2023. (Warranty Period : 30 Months after the date of delivery) (Inspection Agency: TPI, Stage Insp.:No, Stages:0). (i) Qty-700 Nos for New Guwahati Depot, NFR (Assam), (ii) Qty-2000 Nos for Siliguri Jn. Diesel Depot, NFR (West Bengal). P.L. No. 17452168.

Sl.No.:5; Tender No. : 50/23/0668/OT/29/2024-25;
Closing/Opening Date: 27-05-2024.
Brief Description: Green LED Signal Lamps for Main Colour Light Signals for Railway Signalling as per RDSO specification No. RDSO/SPN/199/2010 Rev.1.1 with latest amendments/version. (Warranty Period :30 Months after the date of delivery) (Inspection Agency :TPI, Stage Insp : No, Stages: 0). (i) Qty-69 Nos for Dibrugarh Town Workshop Depot, NFR (Assam), (ii) Qty-121 Nos Pandu GSD, NFR (Assam), (iii) Qty-31 Nos for New Jalpaiguri Jn. GSD, NFR (West Bengal), (iv) Qty-30 Nos for Katihar GSD, NFR (Bihar). P.L. No. 56468088.

Sl.No.:6; Tender No. : 61/24/5059A/OT/30/2024-25;
Closing/Opening Date: 23-05-2024.
Brief Description: (1) WIDER CURVE SLACK GAUGE SLEEPER 1675 MM DRGF No T-8979. (Warranty Period :30 Months after the date of delivery) (Inspection Agency : CONSG, Stage Insp : No, Stages:0). Qty-800 Nos for SSE/P.Way/Dharmanagar, NFR (Tripura). P.L. No-60190206. (2) WIDER CURVE SLACK GAUGE SLEEPER 1682 MM DRG No T-8982. (Warranty Period :30 Months after the date of delivery) (Inspection Agency: CONSG, Stage Insp.: No, Stages:0). Qty- 3444 Nos for SSE/P.Way/Dharmanagar, NFR (Tripura). P.L. 601902060. (3) WIDER CURVE SLACK GAUGE SLEEPER 1679 MM DRG No T-8981. (Warranty Period: 30 Months after the date of delivery) (Inspection Agency: CONSG, stage Insp: No, Stages:0). Qty-800 Nos for SSE/P.Way/Dharmanagar, NFR(Tripura). P.L.No-6019020600. (4) WIDER CURVE SLACK GAUGE SLEEPER 1677 MM DRG No T-8980. (Warranty Period :30 Months after the date of delivery) (Inspection Agency: CONSG, Stage Insp: No, Stages:0). Qty-800 Nos for SSE/P.Way/Dharmanagar, NFR (Tripura). P.L. No-60190206002.

Sl.No.:7; Tender No. : 61/24/5060A/OT/31/2024-25;
Closing/Opening Date: 23-05-2024.
Brief Description: PSC Sleepers Turn Out Sleeper 1 in 8.5, 60 kg. (Warranty Period: 30 Months after the date of delivery) (Inspection Agency: CONSG, Stage Insp : No, Stages: 0). (i) Qty-10 Set for Sr. Section Engineer/P.Way/Rangiya Jn., NFR (Assam), (ii) Qty-10 Set for SSE/P-Way/Bongaigaon, NFR (Assam). P.L. No-60111008.

Note :- For full details of Tender Notice and Tender Documents, Tenderer may log on to the website (**www.ireps.gov.in**) prospective bidder who intend to participate in above tenders are required to log in themselves with the above website and submit their offer electronically, if they are already registered with **IREPS**. In case they are not registered with **IREPS**, they are advised to obtain class-III Digital Signature Certificate from the certifying agencies under Govt. of India IT Act 2000 and participate in the above tenders.

PCMM, Maligaon
NORTHEAST FRONTIER RAILWAY
Serving Customers With A Smile

CAD-

The Odisha State Co-operative Milk Producers' Federation Limited
D-2, Sahid Nagar, Bhubaneswar-751007
PH NO. : 0674-2546030, 2540273, 2540417, 2540974
E-mail ID : omfed@yahoo.com
www.omfed.com

Date : 04.05.2024

SEALED OFFER FOR SALE OF COW WHITE BUTTER

OMFED invites sealed tender for sale of White Butter available at different Dairies/Units. The quantity offered for sale against each location is as per the list enclosed herewith. The tender document can be downloaded from website **www.omfed.com** and document cost of Rs. 590/- (inclusive of GST 18%) along with EMD of Rs. 3,00,000/- must be paid in shape of Demand Draft in favour of "The Odisha State Cooperative Milk Producers' Federation Ltd" payable at Bhubaneswar with Tender. The tender documents will be available at our website from dated **03.05.2024 (10.00 AM) to 20.05.2024 (03.00 PM)** and Techno-Commercial Bid will be opened on **20.05.2024 at 04.30 P.M** at OMFED Corporate office in the presence of the interested bidders. Offers received by fax, Telegraph, email or any other unsealed mode would not be entertained.
OMFED reserves the right to accept or reject any or all tenders wholly or partly without assigning any reason thereof.

Sd/-
Managing Director
OIPR - 06063/11/0001/24-25

DISTRICT POLICE HEADQUARTERS KATHUA
E- mail : sspkathua@jkpolice.gov.in
Fax/Phone No. : 01922-234010

LOOK OUT NOTICE

On 28-04-2024, one Sohan Lal S/O Dina Nath R/O Amala Tehsil Marheen District Kathua lodged a written report at Police Station Rajbagh stating therein that on 27-04-2024 his father namely Dina Nath, age 93 years, is missing from home. The complainant tried his best to search his father but all in vain. On this, missing report vide DD No. 29 dated 28-04-2024 has been entered at Police Station Rajbagh.

During the course of investigation, best efforts were made to locate missing individual, whereas he is still un-traced.

As such Description Roll/Photograph of said missing individual is being shared with the appeal that anybody having clue/information about his whereabouts may inform us accordingly. The informer will be rewarded suitably :-

DESCRIPTION ROLL

Name	Dina Nath
Father	
Permanent Address	village Amala
Present Address	village Amala
Tehsil	Marheen
Police Station	Rajbagh
Age	93 years
Height	5 feet 2 inch
Complexion	Wheatish
Built	Medium
Face	Oval
Eyes	Black
Languages known	Hindi/ Dogri

PHOTOGRAPH

Any information related to the whereabouts of the subject may be communicated on following contacts :-

1. DPO Kathua- 01922-234010 (Phone/Fax)
2. dpokathua@jkpolice.gov.in (Mail ID)
3. PCR Kathua- 01922-234311 (Phone/Fax)
4. Police Station Rajbagh – 9419240455

Sr. Superintendent of Police, Kathua.
DIP No:DIP/J-330/24/03/05/2024

NORTH CENTRAL RAILWAY G20

Tender Notice No.:1720242025/35-37 Date:02.05.2024

E-Tender Notice

Divisional Railway Manager (Engineering) / North Central Railway / Prayagraj, for and on behalf of the President of India, invites the following E-Tender on prescribed form for the following works up to 13.30 hrs on **24.05.2024** The details of the tenders are as under:-

S.N.: 01	**Tender No.:** 35	**Approx Cost of work (₹) :** ₹88,08,647.50
Name of work: Jungle cleaning and removing weeds and bushes from cess in section under ADEN/Line/CNB.		
S.N.: 02	**Tender No.:** 36	**Approx Cost of work (₹) :** ₹74,67,948.85
Name of work: Structural repair of RCC overhead tank including columns & beams etc. at different locations at Kanpur under ADEN/HQ-II/CNB.		
S.N.: 03	**Tender No.:** 37	**Approx Cost of work (₹) :** ₹11,89,992.21
Name of work: Maintenance of BPCL Siding at Pankidham Station under ADEN/Line/CNB		

Earnest money (₹): S.N.: 01: ₹1,76,200.00, **S.N.:** 02: ₹1,49,400.00, **S.N.:** 03: ₹23,800.00, **Completion Period : S.N.: 01 and 02:** 06 Months, **S.N.: 03:** 02 Months, **Date of Opening of All tenders :**24.05.2024, **Similar work for Eligibility Criteria :S.N.:** 01: P.way work , **S.N.:** 02: Construction/ Repair\Rehabilitation of R.C.C. over head tank, **S.N.:** 03: NIL, **Note:- 1.** Tender on line can be submitted up to 13.30 hrs. on 24.05.2024. **2.**The complete information along with tender document of above E-Tenders are available on Website **www.ireps.gov.in, up to 13:30 hrs.** on the due date of tender opening i.e.24.05.2024 **790/24(DG)**

North central railways @CPRONCR @northcentralrailway www.ncr.indianrailways.gov.in

SEARCH FOR MISSING/KIDNAPPED

Amina

General Public is hereby informed that a girl namely **Amina D/o Mohd. Samid R/o** Block 6, MCD Colony, Flat No.1, Model Town-3, Delhi has been missing since 30.04.2024 at 10:00 AM. In this regard a **FIR No. 249/2024 dated 30.04.2024 U/s 363 IPC** has been registered at PS, Adarsh Nagar, Delhi.
The description of missing/kidnapped girl is as under:-

Age : 17 year, **Height :** 5' **Face :** Long, **Complexion :** Shallow, **Built :** Thin, **Wearing :** Orange Suit Salwar & Red Slipper in foot.
If anyone having any clue/information, kindly inform the undersigned at following phone numbers.

Website : http://cbi.nic.in
e-mail : cic@cbi.gov.in
Ph.: 011-24368638/24368641 Extn.-210
Fax: 011-24368639
DP/5302/NW/2024

SHO
P.S., Adarsh Nagar, Delhi
Ph. : 011-27674452, 27672452, 8750870229

PROCLAMATION REQUIRING THE APPEARANCE OF A PERSON ACCUSED
(See Section 82 Cr. PC)

Whereas complaint has been made before me that accused person namely **Shyam Gupta S/o Ram Bhagat Gupta R/o H.No. D-26, Shiv Ram Park, Nihal Vihar, Delhi & Vill Lariham PS Hairpur Distt: Samastipur Bihar** has committed (or is suspected to have committed) the offence in case **FIR No. 373/13 U/s 33 Ex. Act at PS: Nangloi, Delhi** and it has been returned to a warrant of arrest thereupon issued that the said accused **Shyam Gupta** can not be found and whereas it has been shown to my satisfaction that the said accused **Shyam Gupta** has absconded (or is concealing himself to avoid the service of the said warrant). Proclamation is hereby made that the said accused **Shyam Gupta of FIR No. 373/13 U/s 33 Ex. Act of PS: Nangloi, Delhi is required to appear before this court to answer the said complaint on or before 06.07.2024.**

By order
Sh. Shubham Devadiya
Metropolitan Magistrate-05 (West)
Room No.336-A, 3rd Floor,
Tis Hazari Courts, Delhi
DP/5212/OD/2024

PROCLAMATION REQUIRING THE APPEARANCE OF A PERSON ACCUSED
See Section U/S 82 & 83 Cr. P.C.

Whereas complaint has been made before me that accused **Yamini** D/o **Babbu Singh** R/o **H.No. C-2437, Sushant Lok, Gurgaon, Haryana** has Committed (or is suspected to have committed) the offence in case **FIR No. 638/2015 U/s 498A/406/34 IPC & 4 DP Act, P.S. Subzi Mandi, Delhi** and it has been returned to a warrant of arrest thereupon issued that the said **Yamini** cannot be found and whereas it has been shown to my satisfaction that the said **Yamini** has absconded (or is concealing herself to avoid the service of the said warrant). Proclamation is hereby made that the said accused **Yamini** of case **FIR No. 638/2015 U/s 498A/406/34 IPC & 4 DP Act, P.S. Subzi Mandi, Delhi** is required to appear before this Court to answer the said complaint/case on or before **05.06.2024.**

By Order
Ms. Reetika Jain
Ld. Metropolitan Magistrate, Mahila Court-03
Central District, Room No. 149, First Floor
Tis Hazari Court, Delhi
DP/5314/N/2024(Court Matter)

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WANTED BRIDES

BY LANGUAGE

PUNJABI

NM Khatri H'some boy, 6'2"/ 22-4-84/11:20am Jalandhar, wrkg. S'pore, good IT position Call- 07696328959, 7986871155 Email: kw.sg2204@gmail.com

OUR son, 29, "5'10", MA in Mass Communication, works in the creative department of an IT MNC in Pune. We are a well-settled, affluent, professional family. Seeking a cosmopolitan girl with good family values. Whatsapp-9850004766

MANGLIK Arora Pb Boy CA Feb 98/5'7"/10+ lpa Noida seeks CA/CS/ Govt. Job B'ful Girl. Caste No Bar, Mbl: 9810546847, mail:vaheguru1969@gmail.com

PUNJABI unmarried boy 30 Year 5'10" B.Tech MBA-IIM Wkin MNC 40.00 lakh Caste No bar, No dowry. Affluent fmly # 7987144206, 9406468858

BRIDE wanted for Delhi based Punjabi MBA from Affluent Family 9/9/88 Born 5,10 Working in MNC Package 30L Cont: 9811023879, 9811013879

Seeking B'ful, Slim, Fair, Working Girl For West Delhi based Punjabi Khatri Manglik Boy, 6'2", 18/04/1990, 3 PM, Birth place Mumbai, BBA, MBA, Industrialist Affluent Family.
Whatsapp / Call: 9899100576/9899063631
matri.delhi2024@gmail.com

SINDHI

NO Dowry M- 9711433945 seeks Qual girl for B.E Mech sindhi boy Sep 86/5'-9" Tiles Business Jabalpur 10LPA bhatia.kishor27@gmail.com

BY NATIONALITY

NRI/ GREEN CARD

PB Arora boy Aug 92 /5'7" B.Tech, MS from California, wrkg Amazon USA H1B visa, seek pref USA bsd girl. 9811822995, 8587009164

SM 4 Punjabi Khatri H'some boy/45/5'8",B.Com (H) settled in USA,Garment Exporter seek qualified girl # 9717347613, mainimonika9@gmail.com

USA bsd MBA/Dr girl 4Gupta boy31/6'VicePresident,JP'MorganBank'NewYork'2cr.MBA'DukeComput'Eng.Toronto,DoonSch'ling,fath'IAS,del'ncr-9971790446

LOOKING Well Edu/B'ful/ Tall Girl either US Settled or willing to US for Brahmin US Citizen H'some NM Boy 91 born 6'-1", M.S Mech. Engr, Pursuing MBA wrkg & well settled in USA, 8708538334, 001-586-8467855.

US based Match for l'less Divorcee Punjabi Brahmin h'some boy, Sr.Software Engineer Nov 84/5'5" B.Tech MS (USA)Californ-nia Caste No Bar # 9911175758

PUNJABI business family seeks life partner for their NRI son. Divorced, 38, 5'11, no kids. Seeking a sensible, homely, and beautiful bride under 34. Serious inquiries only. +91 9901828420

SM4 Pnjabi, h'some, teetotaler, 91, 5'11" well sttld New Zealand citizen boy seeks educated girl only from NZ or Australia, No matrimonials pls. 7043404444

UK based Garhwali boy. MSc-UX. 28/5'6". Product Designer in global bank in London. Seeks Prof Qual girl. Caste no bar. W'App: 9911115509.

US CA basd Soft Engr Gold mdal h'some boy Nov88, 5'6, topMNC 700K$+, Lbral Jain fmly seeks b'ful cultrd veg prfbly wrkng girl US basd/ rdy to relocate 9792726666

M4 1979/5'-10", Arora boy, divorced, issueless, IIT BTech, Phd US, US Citizen living in California, Own technology company, parents settled Chandigarh, Contact, Whatsapp 9216333656

MBA from IIMA, 32yr boy, 5'6 athletic, works in Facebook London, 1.5cr sal, no bad habits. Affluent, hindi bride families welcome. Pl call 9821912411

Fair, handsome, 32, 5'7", only child, BBA (India), PG Dip in Mktg Mgmt and Int Business Mgmt (Canada). Has PR. Tech IT Supervisor in MNC in Ontario. Educated, distinguished, brahmin family, well settled in own house in South Delhi. Seeks alliance from well educated, charming girl of upper caste cultured family.
Send biodata and latest photos call +91 9810188971

US Citizen, New York based 1995 born. unmarried handsome, fair, 6'1" working as IT Quality Engineer at global bank. Family well settled in New York. Seeking slim, professionals, based in US/Canada, Caste no bar Contact +15167827975 or pkaca143@gmail.com

SM4 GOEL MGLK 36/5'3"/ 80KG., GRADUATE FAIR GIRL GOOD MARRIAGE SEEKS WELL SETTLED MATCH CALL 9838507977

SM4 smart intl gupta girl 27 /5'6" c.sc MBA from US,Wkg Dubai. PQM boy pref settled in Dubai / USA. 9811448927 shvets1372@hotmail.com

PQM4 B'ful NM Bansal Girl Sept. 1990/ 5'/ M.Sc. IITB Wrkg. AVP MNC B'LR 50 LPA Pref. Wrkg. In B'LR/GGN Mrt. Fmly M-9997746861.

BRAHMIN

PQM4 Paliwal Brahmin 35, 5'4" MS PHD USA wkg in Health Care MNC Seeks USA Settled Upper Caste No Bar Send BHP. WA+919893336701

BRAHMIN 28/ 5'6", beautiful, Ph.D (IIT), seeks Govt Class I Officer, Engg, Prof. 9229089018

WELL Estb Ncr,MP bsd Sndya Br.fmly,Nov96/5'4" M.Eco(H) DSE/DU,wkg rept.MNC fin,Sr. position,Blore,pref veg,non sm-okr,t'totlar boy.W/A 9990466618

MBA (Aus) Girl Nov 88/5' Wkg NSW Aus, Father Doc Seeks Prof Qual match drharishankersharma @gmail.com 9826055207

WGCDR NK Sharma(Retd) seeks all fr Grd 1996/5.1" PG HtlMgt, Dip in Digtl Mktg, Dg MBA, wrkg frm home MNC. Delhi famly. Eng MBA bckgd prefd 9891909212, 9910101516

✔ **SM4** Grwli Brhm Grl BTch MBA(HR), 1.10.85/ 5 50AM/ Mum/ 5'5" Adi Nadi Mesh Rasi in Corpts Mum seeks prof qualf, match prf frm Al Brhmin/Upercst Boy Mumbai pref& othr Metros othr Cuntry . JSid . ZAAU7373.M 9869008172 SN.58011@gmail.com

GR Br fair girl 5'7"/90 NET qlfd Head at rep research & educational institution DLI seeks well settled VEG PQM in Delhi NCR, send BHP-8586016870

KANYAKUJ Brahmin Girl, B'ful, Fair, 1986, 5'5", LLB, MBA, Kanpur Based family Seeks Qulified & Well settled Groom. Contact: 8595567596

BR fair b'ful Girl Dec 92/ 5'2" Convt edutd MA,B.Ed spl edu. wrkg teacher rptd school Abu Dhabi (UAE). Del/Ggn fmly # 9818137635 (after 7pm)

BTECH SR MNG GOVT BANK DELHI 90/5'3 FAIR BFUL I'LESS DIV(15 DAY MARRIAGE) KANPUR 9718055064/9935530800

GAUR Br. 33 yrs 5'5" MBA from NIA Pune. Manager in Insurance PSU 15LPA. All India transferrable. Em: vrs.cls80@gmail.com

WANTED GROOM For Never married 40 years Brahmin daughter working as IT ENGINEER Bangalore USMNC 40 LPA /Contact:-+91-9327325444 / kn1944@gmail.com

HISAR based BRAHMIN family looking for suitable match for her daughter 25/7/95 /5"5' very fair , beautiful pg in fashion design , good income. 9812037032

BRAHMIN B'ful fair slim 5'5" 94 born MBA Amity freelance native HP girl well Qlfd settled match from HP Delhi Ukhand chandigarh WA: 9891568285

PQM4 Brahmin girl 83/5'5" Unmarried BTech MTech (CS) working in MNC. Seeks well-settled match, 9216864869

KAUSHIK B'ful Slim girl 25/ 5'4" MBA, working MNC. Noida based Upper Middle Class family seeks a suitable Brahmin Prof Qlfd veg Teetolar Boy Ph: 9810800722/ 9958581410

BRAHMIN girl, DOB- Sep 1990, Height - 165 cm, fair, well-settled(13 LPA) seeks suitable match from any high caste in Delhi-NCR. Contact on 9818452460 or 8447519666

BRAHMIN Vats 30/5'5" settled in London as physio-therapist beautiful requires UK London settled Brahmin veg. boy. #8979218607

SM for Post Grad, Govt PCS Officer posted in Bihar, UP Brahmin Girl- Bhardwaj Gotra, 28/5'2", from Educated, Cultured Family. Bihar / UP cadre officers/Govt. Officers, Doctors, qualified professionals shall be prefd. 9795033482

NOV 83, 5'4"DM ONCO Brahmin Doctor Girl seeks DM, MCh, MD, MS DOCTOR BRAHMIN match.Delhi/ NCR Pref. 7992176926

PQM4 MAR 1998/5" MANGLIK BRAHMIN GIRL M.A (PSY.) WORKING PROFESSIONAL MNC/30LPA. FATHER DF 9891959215

SM4 SPB Brahmin Girl, Fair 5'4"/32, Lucknow, divorcee, Hotel Manag/MBA, Working in US Cmpny, Father Retired bank officer. Cont: 6388813663

BE(CS) MBA(Symbiosis), Kanyakubj Girl Dec'93/5'3" content writer, Pref. H'sm w'edu settled boy frm affluent family.#9425156297, 9425155197

SM for Gaur Brahmin Girl Sep'96/5'1" MBA working at reputed Bank as Dy. Mgr seeks Prof. qlfd boy in Delhi / NCR. Call: 8178989101, 9315051226

GAUR Brahmin. beautiful working girl Dec 94/5'5" masters Digital Mkt from UK, seeks a reputed Service/Business/affluent cultured& educated family boy. 9971230055, 7065-544545. ashinap_4@yahoo.com

PQM for manglik girl from upper middle class family 5'2 Brahmin Sarswat 6.6.1992 4:10 PM Delhi. Done B.com Hons & M.com # 9910170098, 9311356537

PG (Furniture Designing)/Architect/ 28yr 5'9" Wrkg. Sanadya Brahmin Girl.
Delhi bsd affluent fmly.Seeks Prof. Qlfd. well Sttld. boy.
rsengineer24@gmail.com

An Elite Brahmin Family from South Delhi seeks alliance for their very Beautiful highly qualified daughter BE , MBA from USA 34/5.3" currently working in India looking for Handsome Professionally qualified match either working with big corporate company or in business from reputed upper caste family preferably from Delhi NCR.
Call: 7011743367

ALLIANCE INVITED For

Kayastha, Beautiful, Fair, Veg. LLB (Persuing LLM from UK to Finish in Sept'24) 1998 born / 5'6" Lawyer (No siblings, Edu. Sanskari Family) Working in a Top firm in Delhi. Good salary, Father at Top position Pvt. Sector. She will be in India in June'24 & Will settle in India. Cultured/ Family oriented/ Will pursue career. Seeks Edu. Well settle Boy Lawyer/ Engineer-MBA / Professional with good package with cultured family. Prefer from Delhi-NCR, Mumbai & then Banglore
Open to Bania, Brahmin, Rajput & all upper castes.
Send details at W'App:
9818733000

Looking for GROOM

SPB Dec 1991 born, 5'3", Anshik Manglik, b'ful, caring and cultured highly qlfd girl from an affluent family from South Delhi/ Prayagraj looking for a suitable Teetotaller, Non-Smoking well settled groom from an affluent family preferably settled Abroad/ Delhi NCR

Email at:
6mishra.s@gmail.com
Whatsapp/Call on:
9971536611

JAIN

MATCH For 12-05-1973 Born. 5'3", Veg, Working Unmarried Delhi Jain Girl, From Veg Edu Delhi Boy. Call: 9810526003.

JATAV

M.S. Gynae, SR at AIIMS. Girl 30/5'4" 55Kg. Fair. Father Lt. Class 1 Surgical Specialist. Mother Govt. Doctor MO. Seeks MS/MD-Surg/Ortho/Med. MOB:8827888804

Seeking groom for Civil service officer girl, 30, 5'8" from Jatav, upper middle class, father retd. PCS officer. Civil / central services officers only. contact 9415825395

KAYASTHA

PQM4 Beautiful, Kayastha, Non Mangalik Shrivastava girl, Aug 89, B.E., MBA, Senior Officer in Bank at Mumbai, 25 lacs p.a package, preferred based/transferrable to Mumbai, Caste No Bar. Cont: 7987184505, 9425015986

KAYASTHA match for srivastav girl, 1988/5'.3", V. Fair, M.A., Ph.D. (BHU), Asst. PROFESSOR. Seeks early marriage. # 9129872300.

B.TECH, working at TL in Wipro. 20LPA Kayasth B'ful Smart girl 30yrs/5'4" UP. Pref. suitable match. W'ap / Ph: 9695456145, 9415444067.

SM4 Kayastha only daughter MBA 27/5' 7LPA wrkg as Manager in Hydrabad MNC upper caste no bar seeks a well settled working boy 8303378386

SRIV Girl Nov/ 91 /5'5" BtechIT, b'ful working pune, veg, Nodowry, Kayastha only call 9695985686/ 9158637378

SHRIVASTAVA fair girl,partial manglik,pure veg,March 97/5'4" M.Tech.IIT,working in MNC,seeking pure vegetarian perfect match,highly educated(IIT/IIM) groom working in India from reputed family.(Contact-6260811551, 7651958326)

PQM4 GZB based wheatish Kayastha Girl. N.M / Nov. 91/5'6" B.Tech working MNC in Bangalore. 28.5Lpa. Upper caste no bar. Mobile; 9958429959

SM 4 Delhi-NCR based 1993 born smart B(Com), MBA (Full Time Reputed Instt), 5'3"/ 20 LPA, MNC Gurgaon. 9810498812, 9810494112

BENGALI, Kayastha, 30.9.85, 5'3", working in Central Govt- Grp-B, M.A. seeks suitable match preferably from metro city working in Central Govt / PSU / Doctor /Professor & Professionals within 45yrs. SC / ST pl excuse. Ph: 8902023989

PQM4 Sri Girl 28/5'-5" MBA (F), SR. Analyst, PWC-MNC Ahmedabad, Sub Caste Accept. Cont- 7266067502

DELHI Based well settled Groom for a Ph.D., Qualified Bengali Kayastha Manglik Girl 35 years old, 5'5" tall, Wheatish Complexion. Permanently Working in a Delhi based Central University. Annual Salary 27 lacs. Cont act: 9415002476 or 9334906431 or 9903003895. Mails: kscarun21@gmail.com or Saha.arati.10@gmail.com

BTECH, MBA Oct 88/5'7" Wkg MNC Bengaluru 30LPA never married beautiful girl seeks suitable match. Upper caste no bar. 7738892303/9867697816

SRIVASTAVA/BDS (Dental surgeon), Nov 94/ 5'5" smart- Attractive working in hospital Renowned family of UP Seeks Alliance MBBS/MD Doctor/ Engineer/class 1 officer. Mob/WA 9305377700.

SM FOR Bhopal based Kayasth girl 35/5'5" wkg as team leader in Accenture Pune- 23.25 lpa. Caste no bar. Cont: 9425149643, 9424467288.

KAYASTHA Mathur Girl April' 92 born 5'2" Senior Engineer in MNC. Seeks a well settled working boy. Contact-7693055513

PH.D (Biotech) Purs.(Atlanta, USA) Del-NCR bsd Saxena girl, Nov'96/ 5'7"/ Wheatish, slim,smart,seeking well stld. Educated boy Pref. wkg.in USA. Call/W'Ap: 9650088023

MBA (Opration) Kayastha 19 Jan 91 N.M 4"/ 11 smart working girl FMCG MNC Gurgaon 45 LPA seek PQ match prefer Gurgaon. Mo: 9818074610

WANTED IAS,Allied,Judicial offi'r, iitian engineer or SM for a Beautiful BALLB,LLM girl Practicing-High/Supremecourt (Delhi)No siblings, # 9973121899

PQM for Mathur girl July/92 5'4 Software Professional in MNC Chandigarh.9316043820/ 8360177188. Subcaste prefrd

SM 4 B'ful girl Nov 92 born /5'6" pilot renounced airline seeks well settled match Caste no Bar, contact : 9415076887

KHATRI

SUITABLE Unmarried Boy for V.B'ful PB. Arora Unmarried Delhi Girl born 1972 /5'4" looks younger B.Sc (maths) B.Ed,Prof. Qlfd, Associates in Family Education Business Em-kkdrd2023@gmail.com

SUITABLE match for unmarried Punjabi Khatri girl 1980 born. M.A., B.ED. W'app or Contact on 9958078517 Email: artivarma51@gmail.com

B'FUL Lko. Khatri Convent Girl 98/ 5'3" B.Tech wrkg MNC Bengaluru seeks Match Khatri /Hindu wrkg. Bengaluru prefd. M:9794637530, 9415910189

SM4 slim, B'full Punjabi Khatri girl, 30yrs/5'7, B.E, Software professional Non-Vegetarian Cont-9425646898/12 Pm-8Pm

SM4 convent educated girl MD (homoeopathy) 5'3"sept 1992 running own clinic ,only professionally qualified age upto 35 Whatsapp 9056340569

B.DES PB Arora Pretty wkg. girl 26/5'3"/ Master in Luxury Brand Mgmt. Seeks Edu. Well Stld. boy, other upper caste may Contact:9436641427

PQM4 Convent edu. fair b'ful Pbi Khatri unmarried girl 35, 5'4", LLB, Masters Mass Comm, Dip Cyber Law from premier institute, class 1 officer preferred. Father retired army officer # 9431788016, 9910821513

ALLIANCE invited for 34/5'6" fair, beautiful, educated girl PG in Mass Communication. Looking for educated, well settled boy from a good family background. Delhi NCR residents preferred. Mail: walias4matri@gmail.com

SM for Khatri B'ful girl, 5-5" 8/7/1994, B-Tech, Working (MNC Gurgaon) Based, Pkg 21 lakh Muzaffarnagar, Prfrd Well Stld, Family-9219056464

Looking for GROOM

Punjabi Khatri, Affluent Business Family seek suitable alliance for their daughter, 5'8" / 95 born, CA, MBA, beautiful, very fair.

(Whatsapp Only, No phone calls pls)
+91-79009-00005

Very b'ful fair slim punjabi 5'4" Nov94 B.Tech working in Mumbai. Father Industrialist. Seeks well settled edu. groom from status family. Caste no Bar.
Email: rpip94@gmail.com
W'app: 8299637269

KSHATRIYA

SUITABLE match for working as Assistant Professor in state Government University at Delhi, Tomar, Rajput Beautiful Girl 5'.3"/1995/ Non Mangelik form highly reputed family seeks well educated boy, Preference Delhi/-NCR Mob. : 9899696752

RAJPUT, 33, 5'5", BE, MBA, beautiful, slim, entrepreneur girl, briefly married for 2 months, divorced, own startup in Bhopal. Contact :9425012104, draparna2008@yahoo.co.in

SM4 beautiful Gaur Kshatriya girl 5'4" pursuing MD Anesthesia from PGIMER. Father: Director in Central Govt. Doctors prefd. 9818422518

SAINI

SEEKING well-settled boy for our daughter B.com, MBA 18 Feb 93 Born 5'5 fair completion share Biodata on k.l.suman52@gmail.com 9828056545, 9057518902

SAINI 5'3", Sep92 b'ful N/M B.Tech, MBA(IIM) wkg MNC B'lore 38Lpa, Delhi bsd.Seek (c.n.bar) N.sikh edu stld mba boy # 9868324421, 9873660961

VAISH

SM4 unmarried B'ful Gupta girl 78 born/160 cm, M.Lib & Info Sci. wrkg Cntr Govt S.Delhi, 12 LPA. 084272-76447. Div./Bureau excuse.

PORWAL Vaishnav, Girl, 01.04.96, 5'5". Company Secretary (CS), LLM, MBA. Working in Mumbai. Indore-based reputed family. Seeking like-minded, pure veg & well-educated match. M: 9109531135

88 Born/Vaish/Never married Girl, 5'4"/50kgs, Slim, attrctv, MBA, wrkng with ICICI foundation Ranchi. Seeks similar match# 9674221304 (only w'app)

SUITABLE Match Bansal partial Manglik 1995/5'7" Fair Complexion Post Graduated Noida IT Working Girl from Ghaziabad 9312272667 no agent

YADAV

YADAV V'BEAUTIFUL FAIR GIRL 27/165, B.Tech (IIT),MBA (IIM). JOB IN MNC. DECENT MARRIAGE. PHONE No: 0124-4101943 . GURGAON.

BY COMMUNITY

AGARWAL

B'FUL, fair, cultured Brahmin/Agg. Girl. April 94'/5'1", MBA(NMIMS),Graduate(DU) Wkg as Sr. Analyst in MNC, Delhi. Seeks Prof. Qlfd boy from Edu. fmly. # 9899701023

MBA, PGDM Qlfd b.ful NM Rastogi Nov 1984/5.2, legally separated upper mid class seek well settled qulfd match father sr.adv. H.C #8299433160

PQM H'sm Boy 4 Bnsl girl 1. 4.91/3.26pm,5'4",M.tech Com. Eng wkg MNC Ggn Prnts Dr Del.9899711184,47069616 archana100.scorpio@gmail.com

SM4 Jain girl 31/5'4"(Manglik). Masters in Comm. Design. working with reputed org. Father professional. Well-off family.M:9837200328, 9149160283

AGARWAL B'ful B.Tech 1999 /5'2"Girl wkg in MNC. Seeks w. Stld boy prfd Civil Serv, Govt. Officer fm status family # 92121 84522 agarwa.sachi@gmail.com

PQM4 Beautiful, Very Fair, Non-Manglik girl, March' 89/5 MBA, Working MNC Noida, 8 LPA. Father Retd. AGM. Status family. 9810979021.

SQM b'ful Aggarwal girl orthodonist 35/5'6" wkg in Dubai. Perf Delhi NCR family. Early marriage. Call: 9717677433

SM4 Garg girl 26/5' MSc maths (Delhi) BEd,Vedic Astrologer wrk frm home. Father b'nessmn seeks Well stld boy frm Delhi NCR 9810348642

REQD Indslst/CA/IIT/-H'some pkge for fair slim smart CA July 93/5'6" from Punjab based Agg edu reptd fmly. Uper cast no bar. Good marriage. (W) 7015864545

PQM 4 Agarwal MBA BE working MNC Gurugram 45 Lpa 5'5" March 1980, Father Retd. Exec. Eng. WhatsApp 9410666392, 9410407743

1992 Born, Smart Girl B.Tech MBA from Decent Family. Parents Doctors. WhatsApp 9413164664

ARORA

PUNJABI Arora Girl June 2002/5'7", Slim, Fair, BA Communication Design, residing in South Delhi seeks a suitable partner.8178208922

M.PLAN, B.Arch from Reputed Inst. Punjabi Arora Good looking slim Girl 28 yrs / 5'2", wrkng MNC Gurgaon. Seeks H'some Boy Pref. Engr /MBA/CA wrkng MNC Delhi /NCR. W'ap/call: 9811431774

PROFESSIONAL / Qualified Delhi based match for Punjabi fair slim girl, Dec'89 / 5'4" PhD working Asst Professor Delhi University # 9711034936

JAT

SM4 v.fair b'ful Jat girl Aug 89/5'6"B.Com(DU),MBA wrkg in MNC NCR. Pref. wkg MNC Delhi NCR, avd Teotia/Alhawat.W-9412432162.9690905080

SM4 Beautiful, B.Tech(IITR) girl 89born/156cm, from a very reputed family of West UP. working at a good position in a startup(by IITians) seeks a Handsome, well edu. and c'tured boy, M-- 9412216866, 8218886530, Em ela.chaudhary7@gmail.com

SM for B.Tech IITD, MS & PhD(USA) convent educated JAT Girl 28/5'04", preferably CS IITian well settled JAT boy want to settle USA 8696105907

NORTH INDIAN

MSC Hosp, Vishw/Lohar Girl, May 95/5'4", Asst lecturer CG/Gr-B/PB-6 at Chandigarh, 08 LPA, Seeks for Viswakarma Wkg boy, 9906227711

RAJPUT

B.TECH IT/wkg MNC/ NCR/Rajput Girl/29/5'4"/ foreign traveled. Father MNC Sr Exec, reputed UP Thakur family. Seeks suitable match of same background. locaterp@gmail.com / 9650192595

EliteMatrimony

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ELITE BRIDES WANTED

RAJPUT SAINI, 35, 180 cms, Director in his Family Business, Aerospace Engineer. Lives in Delhi. Father is a Businessman. Family is affluent with a good net worth. Looking for a like minded match from India/Abroad. Contact: 6366448342

KAYASTHA, 32, 178 cms, Entrepreneur, Bachelors in Electrical Engg. Lives in Bangalore. Father is a Doctor. Family is financially well off with a good net worth. Looking for an amiable well educated match. Contact: 6366448342

CASTE NO BAR, RAJPUT, 28, 175 cms, Engineer, Science in Electrical Engineering. Lives in USA. Father is a working professional. Family is financially well off with a good net worth. Looking for a compatible match. Contact: 6366448342

KHATRI, 30, 170 cms, Working in a leading MNC, Masters. Lives in Mumbai. Father is a working professional. Family is financially well off with a good net worth. Looking for a compatible match. Contact: 6366448342

KHATRI ARORA, 37, 173 cms, Divorced, Management Professional, MBA. Lives in Dubai. Father is a working professional. Family is affluent. Looking for a like minded match from India/Abroad. Contact: 6366448342

ELITE GROOMS WANTED

KHATRI, 40, 177 cms, Working Professional, Masters. Lives in Gurgaon. Father is served Indian Army. Mother is a working professional. Family is financially well off. Looking for a suitable match in Delhi/NCR. Contact: 6366530294

BRAHMIN, 30, 173 cms, London Based working Professional, MSc. Lives in London. Father is a working professional. Family is affluent. Looking for a like minded match from India/Abroad. Contact: 6366530294

KAYASTHA, 25, 168 cms, Working Professional, LLM. Lives in South Delhi. Father is a working professional. Family is affluent with a good net worth. Looking for a like minded match from India/Abroad. Contact: 6366530294

PUNJABI, 28, 165 cms, Working Professional, CA. Lives in Delhi. Father is a Businessman. Family is financially well off with a good net worth. Looking for a suitable match in Delhi/NCR. Contact: 6366530294

KAYASTHA, 35, 165 cms, Working Professional, Masters. Working in USA. Father is an AIS officer. Family is financially well off. Looking for a suitable match in Delhi/NCR. Contact: 6366530294

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FOR MBBS Doctor, Tall, Very beautiful, Fair, Rajput (Pundir) Girl 29, 173 cms, working in Govt. job, R/o Saharanpur, UP-9639539524, 7717574151

RAJPUT V.B'ful Fair 88/5'6" MCA Convent Edu. Vats Gotra wkng Girl, Accenture Noida, reputed f'mly, E.U.P #9450707884, 9450955122.

MPP doing from Harvard University, major - HBS, Rajput Girl, Nov 94, 5'5", fair, father IAS, only equally matched. W'app: 8305443161

RAJPUT 29/5.5"MBA/ wkg in MNC, fair, b'ful, girl seeks well stld,wkg India/abroad Match. Father-NRI. Call: 0040728987375, singhajay2100@yahoo.com

PQM4 Rajput b'ful mumbai bsd Sep.96,5'7" Dr. BDS. stts fmly frm E.UP. Pref w'stld mumbai bsd. #9820686277 E: singhkaushal.2009@rediffmail.com

B.TECH MBA B'ful & Smart girl, 5'5"/28, Rajput wkg in MNC, pkg 24 lpa, Well settled family in Noida, M: 9650831357

PQM Slim, B'ful May 87,5'-7 Kshatriya, M.Tech. IIIT, Financial Freedom, Seek well settled status never mar'ied boy NCR, LKO, Abroad. 9839343125

MP Based RAJPUT HIGHLY AFFLUENT RESPECTED BUSINESS FAMILY Looking For Their Beautiful and Educated Daughter Feb. 94-5'3" Seeks Well Educated Established Business Family.
CONTACT
8120099988

Alliance Invited for BEAUTIFUL, SLIM, FAIR, RAJPUT GIRL 25 / 5'3" POST GRADUATE, Business Family. Seeks Match From Affluent Business Family, Pref. Age 26-28 Yrs.
Contact: 9810346730 9810196730

BY PROFESSION

BUSINESS

SM for a Beautiful Gursikh only Daughter 22/5'6" Belongs to a Renowned & Established Business Family. # 7838387034, Email: gsgroom24@gmail.com

SM4 29, 5'10" B'Ful, Fair, doing business belongs affluent family. Caste no bar Pref busns family frm Mumbai. 9810840096 manav781@gmail.com

SOPHISTICATED high class Vaish fmly looking SM 4 their pretty daughter 32/5'4" MBA Mumbai base. CNB 9811 811551, matr1661@gmail.com

DOCTORS

MATCH for MS Surgeon wrkg in Surgical Oncology Corp. Hsp, also DPM Psychiatry 5'4" Oct' 87 status Pb Bz fmly 8126279566

MATCH for Obsy-Gynae DNB, DGO, FMAS, DMAS Laparoscopic Gynae working in Corp. Hsp 5'-3" Nov' 93 Pb Bz family # 9997747888

PQM4 Pun kh b'ful slim girl 29/5"/MD (Med)SR in Govt hosp.Upper Middle class fmly. Del/NCR Pref# 9871515125, 8968971765

MEDICO groom PG clinical subject for a medico saxena fair girl 5'3" / 14.10.1989 DNB ophthalmology wkg as SR in govt hospital. Ph: 9827116322

MEDICO Match for Yadav Beautiful, Fair Girl, Oct 93/5'4" (approx), DA DNB Anesthesia, SR in Delhi Hospital. Wts.App 9953216679, 9868557741

MBBS MD SM 4 B'ful Dr. mglk girl 5' / Oct 88, 12.35pm 75Kg wkg.in UNICEF 30 LPA, seeks edu. well sttld Boy 32-38Yrs.Delhi/NCR 9868001678.

MEDICO Bengali B'ful slim girl feb 90, 5'3" MBBS MD Child specialist & wrkg in top Med College in DL, prfd Delhi Ncr Bengali # 9871078510 .

POSTGRADUATE medico groom any higher caste for 30 years, 5"3" Pulmonologist Punjabi Arora girl from Gujarat. Parents doctors, settled in Gujarat. Call 9825116977/ 9374717453.

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SM4 29, 5.4" B'Ful, Fair, MD Doctor from affluent family, Caste, location no bar. Prefer Doctor or Business.9810714239 Email: vanij083@gmail.com

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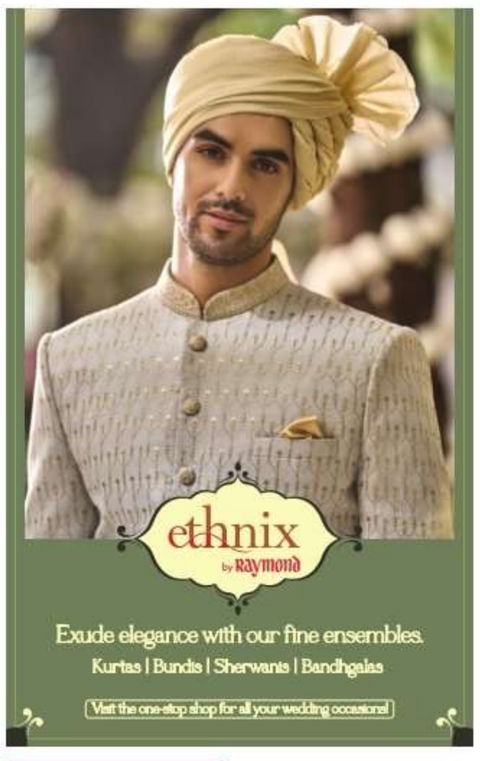
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At 11%, UP tops 2024 list of JEE (Advanced) candidates

54% Of Aspirants From 6 States, Data Of JEE(M) Qualifiers Shows

Manash.Gohain
@timesgroup.com

New Delhi: Eleven per cent of candidates appearing for Joint Entrance Examination-Advanced (JEE-Advanced) 2024 — the gateway to 23 Indian Institutes of technology (IITs) — will be from Uttar Pradesh.

An analysis of JEE (Main) qualification data also revealed that of the 2.5 lakh candidates who qualified to take the IIT entrance, more than 54% are from just six states and nearly 73% from 10 states.

Moreover, though over 75% of the registered candidates opted to take both (Jan and April) sessions of the JEE (Main), which is also an entrance test for centrally funded technical institutions and others, just around 28% of them managed to improve their results in the second sitting.

JEE (Advanced) is considered one of the toughest competitive exams in India, where aspirants must first qualify among the top 2.5 lakh in the JEE (Main) and then compete for 17,000 odd seats in IITs.

Uttar Pradesh (28,300+), Maharashtra (24,500+) and Telangana (24,100+) not only continue to dominate the results, these top three states also account for more than one-third (30.7%) of the total candidates eligible for JEE (Advanced).

There are 11 states which have more than 11,000 eligible candidates, which is close to 79% of the total candidates to have qualified.

There are five states with over 21,000 candidates, which include Andhra Pradesh and Rajasthan as well.

A total of 14.1 lakh candidates registered for JEE (Main) this year of which over 75% appeared in both the sessions of the exam, registering a high 96% attendance.

The last date for JEE (Advanced) registration is May 7 and the test will be delivered on May 26, 2024.

PROGRESS REPORT

State with over 10k quaification	Eligible for JEE (Advanced)	In %
Uttar Pradesh	28,373	11.3
Maharashtra	24,596	9.8
Telangana	24,121	9.6
Andhra Pradesh	21,844	8.7
Rajasthan	21,154	8.5
Karnataka	16,443	6.6
Bihar	13,588	5.4
Tamil Nadu	12,251	4.9
Delhi	12,101	4.8
Gujarat	11,744	4.7
Madhya Pradesh	11,188	4.5
Total	2,50,267	

3,89,323 No. of candidates who appeared in Jan and improved their score in April

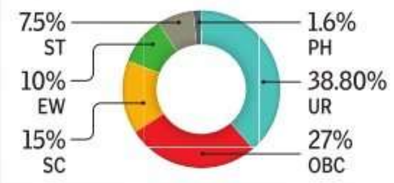
No. of Candidates who scored
Jan and April

90% & above	76,200
95% & above	36,472
98% & above	13,818

No. of female Candidates who scored 95% & above: 14,909

No. of male candidates who scored 95% & above: 61,796

Eligible for JEE (Advanced) in %



Nalsa verdict: '10 years later, why are trans people still at red lights?'

Landmark 2014 judgment promised a lot in terms of rights, reservations, and self-identification but members of the community say it's still a struggle

Ketaki.Desai@timesgroup.com

When Shreegauri Sawant petitioned the Supreme Court to recognise the rights of transgender people a decade ago, she did not have much hope. To her surprise, the Nalsa (National Legal Services Authority) judgment became the bedrock of her community's civil liberties in India — recognising the sex-gender distinction, creating a legal third gender category and issuing directives to state and central governments to ensure fundamental rights for trans people. Today, she, yet again, is not feeling much hope. "The visibility that trans people have is because of us, not the government. Class is such a big factor — people with coloured hair in big companies may be better off, but the trans people who were at red lights ten years ago are still at red lights," says the activist who runs the NGO Sakhi Char Chowghi Trust.

The landmark Nalsa judgment, which came on April 15, 2014, defined gender as 'the innate perception of one's gender,' opening doors for self-determination. Lawyer Tripti Tandon, deputy director of the Delhi-based Lawyers Collective, says, "As someone who was part of the legal process in Nalsa, it was a monumental win. Before, there was some sporadic litigation, but transgender people were non-existent legally. Courts were not even an avenue they could access." She remembers a client who would always carry a print-out of the judgment to remind people of where the Supreme Court stood. Another's family accepted their identity after the judgment.

SHREEGAURI SAWANT, ACTIVIST
It's easy to say, don't beg, but are we getting jobs or money to survive? No one is begging because they want to

Its directives to state and central government fell largely under three buckets — one, self-determination of one's identity. Two, it asked governments to ensure inclusion in social welfare schemes and third, to create a system of reservations for admission in educational institutions and for public appointments.

Muskan Tibrewala, assistant director, Law and Marginalisation Clinic at the Centre for Justice, Law and Society, who provides pro-bono legal services to trans people, argues that while the momentous judgment led to normative recognition of the community, efforts over the last 10 years to turn that into substantial impact have been lacking. "There are clampdowns on begging, transgender state boards are not working in many states and only two states have set up transgender protection cells in police stations as directed. An activist in Haryana had to go to court to make that happen," says Tibrewala. Others agreed that while Nalsa created systems to access social change, trans people are still having to fight each step on the way. As Sawant puts it, "It's like inviting someone to your house for dinner but saying you can only come if you bring a silver plate and golden spoon."

STRUGGLE FOR ID CARDS

The judgment, and The Transgender Persons (Protection of Rights) Act, 2019 that stemmed from it, have spoken of self-identification of gender. "That is the part of Nalsa that has got the most implementation. Before this, you would have to get sex reassignment surgery, but now there are two certificates. You can self-identify as trans legally, but if you want to legally identify as a man or woman you need some kind of medical procedure like HRT or a psychiatric evaluation," says Tibrewala. "The problem is that the process on the ground is badly implemented."

Activist Vyjayanti Vasanta Mogli, who was also a petitioner in last year's marriage equality case, points out the many hurdles. "Firstly, one has to get a transgender ID card through the National Transgender Portal. But, in Telangana where I work, there is a backlog of almost one and a half years. Collectors and district magistrates are not sensitised, and neither are clinical psychologists and psychiatrists whose evaluation is needed for certificates. They still search for pathological causes of our identity," says Mogli. Tandon has heard from clients that officials had no idea trans men existed.

QUOTA DILEMMA

Reservation is the sphere that has seen least progress, says Tandon. "It's worked out in states like Karnataka, but it's been left to states and local activists to see if they can get this demand moving." Plus, the judgment treats being transgender as a caste identity, so if you're a transgender person who is Dalit, you have to choose which identity is affording you reservations, Tibrewala points out. The community calls for horizontal and interlocking reservations, which account for the caste heterogeneity of India's trans people.

BEGGING BANS

Recently, Pune police banned begging by the trans community. "It's easy to say, don't beg, but are we getting a single penny to survive? Are we getting jobs? No one is begging because they want to," says Sawant. Kalki Subramaniam, who serves on the National Council for Transgender Persons, adds, "Without opportunities of education, entrepreneurship or instating livelihood initiatives, how can the system boycott trans people from begging? We are excluded from our families, leaving no choice but to beg or do sex work."

CONCERNS ABOUT VIOLENCE

Mogli says the 2019 Act is "a joke" when it comes to provisions for atrocities against transgender people. "The legislation was in response to the mandate enshrined in NALSA. However, the sentence is 6 months to two years, and perpetrators can get police station bail — they don't even have to go to court for that."

IDBI Bank's Q4 net profit jumps 44% YoY to ₹1,628 crore

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Mumbai: IDBI Bank has reported a net profit of Rs 1,628 crore for the quarter that ended in March 2024. This marks a 44% increase compared to the corresponding quarter last year, which had a net profit of Rs 1,133 crore.

The bank's profits saw a rise due to a sharp 58% drop in provisions to Rs 547 crore from Rs 1,292 crore in the same quarter last year. The bank's net interest income rose 12% to Rs 3,688 crore, thanks to a 16% increase in advances to Rs 1,88,621 crore. Deposits grew slower by 8% to Rs 2,77,657 crore.

Out of the total deposits, the CASA (Current and Savings Account) stood at Rs 1,40,027 crore, and the CASA ratio was at 50.43% as of March 31, 2024, which is marginally lower than the 53% ratio of a year ago.

The bank's net non-performing assets (NPA) declined to 0.34%, down from 0.92% as of March 31, 2023. The gross NPA stood at 4.53%, which is down from 6.38% as of March 31, 2023. The bank has provided for most of its bad loans with a provision coverage ratio of 99.09%, compared to 97.94% a year ago.

Kotak Mahindra Bank to invest ₹1,700cr in tech upgrades: CEO

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Mumbai: Kotak Mahindra Bank's CEO, Ashok Vaswani, said on Saturday that the bank will spend up to Rs 1,700 crore on technology upgrades to address Reserve Bank of India's concerns regarding the bank's technology capacity, risk management and resilience.

Last month, RBI instructed Kotak Bank to halt onboarding customers digitally and issuing credit cards as a penalty for not rectifying its technological issues to the regulator's satisfaction. Vaswani said the bank has been addressing RBI's concerns in these areas. He also added that there would be no restrictions on the bank's existing customers across channels or products.

"For the past two to three years, we've made senior hires, documented internal tech, and invested in capacity building for risk and resilience. Our technology expense is running at about 10% of our total operating expense. However, what is evident is that our efforts have fallen short of what the regulator expects," he said.

Vaswani was speaking to the media for the first time since taking over as the CEO from veteran banker Uday Kotak in Jan. He was announcing the Q4FY24 results, where the bank showed a net profit of Rs 4,133 crore for the quarter ending in March 2024, an 18% increase over the previous year's Rs 3,495.6 crore.

'India is open & welcoming': EAM rebuts Biden's 'xenophobic' remark

New Delhi: External affairs minister **S Jaishankar** has rejected recent remarks by US Prez Joe Biden describing India as "xenophobic" and emphasised that the country has been open and welcoming to people from diverse societies.

Jaishankar also refuted the allegation that the Indian economy was faltering. Union minister said that the Citizenship Amendment Act (CAA) introduced by PM Narendra Modi-led govt showcases India's welcoming approach.

On April 2, Biden had said the "xenophobic" nature of India, China, Japan and Russia is responsible for their economic troubles and argued that America's economy is growing because it welcomes immigrants to its soil. He made the statement while campaigning for his re-election at Washington fundraising event and argued that Japan, along with Russia and China, would perform better economically if the countries embraced immigration more.

"Why? Because we welcome immigrants. We look to — the reason — look, think about it. Why is China stalling so badly economically? Why is Japan having trouble? Why is Russia? Why is India? Because they're xenophobic. They don't want immigrants," Biden said.

EAM said, "First of all, our economy is not faltering."

"India is always... India has been a very unique country... I would say actually, in the history of the world, that it's been a society which has been very open... different people from different societies come to India," he said.

He said, "That's why we have the CAA, which is to open up doors for people who are in trouble... I think we should be open to people who have the need to come to India, who have a claim to come to India." ANI

Unilateral measures won't alter ground reality: Jaishankar on Nepal's new note

Contesting Nepal's decision to introduce a new Rs 100 currency note featuring disputed Indian territories, EAM S Jaishankar said that New Delhi's position is very clear adding that Kathmandu unilaterally took some measures on their side.

"I saw that report. I have not looked at it in detail, but I think our position is very clear. With Nepal, we were having discussions about our boundary matters through an established platform. And then in the middle of that, they unilaterally took some measures on their side. But by doing something on their side, they are not going to change the situation between us or the reality on the ground," said Jaishankar while interacting with professionals in Bhubaneswar on "Why Bharat Matters." ANI

Cong to review 'anti-people laws', says Ramesh, mum on CAA repeal

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New Delhi: Congress general secretary (communications) Jairam Ramesh on Friday said the party's position on Citizenship Amendment Act (CAA) was clearly stated in its manifesto where it promised to "review and change all anti-people laws" brought by BJP govt. However, he refused to explicitly say whether the contentious law would be repealed.

Senior Congress politician P Chidambaram had said last month that CAA would be scrapped once the INDIA bloc was voted to office. Notably, CAA did not find a mention in the party's manifesto, which was drafted under Chidambaram's chairmanship.

Asked whether the party would repeal CAA, Ramesh told **TOI**, "I am not commenting on what Chidambaram said. What he said is his personal view. I am going by the manifesto approved by him as chairman of the committee and approved by Congress prez and the party's working committee. I am stating the party position. The word CAA does not figure in the manifesto." He, however, said Congress believed that making religion the basis of reservation and citizenship was unconstitutional.

We opposed CAA in Parliament on the ground that it gives citizenship on the basis of religion, said Congress functionary Jairam Ramesh

"We opposed CAA in Parliament on the ground that it gives citizenship on the basis of religion. Our Constitution doesn't provide for reservation or citizenship on the basis of religion," Ramesh added.

Congress manifesto said, "We promise that all anti-people laws passed by the BJP-NDA without proper parliamentary scrutiny and debate, especially those relating to workers, farmers, criminal justice, environment and forests and digital data protection will be thoroughly reviewed and changed."

IAF convoy was returning after attending to radar in Poonch

▶ Continued from P 1

The convoy was en route to Sanai Top in the district's Surankote area, returning after some technical work on radar deployed in Poonch sector. "The vehicles have been secured inside the air base in the general area near Shah Sitar," the source said.

Security has been heightened for the elections and forces were conducting search operations in Poonch the past couple of days following inputs about movement of terrorists in the district bordering Pakistan. BSF personnel in Samba sector thwarted a potential infiltration attempt along the border, killing an "intruder". Several frontier villages were put on high alert.

Saturday's ambush adds to attacks on military personnel in Jammu region. A terrorist ambush on two Army vehicles in Poonch district on Dec 21 last year left four soldiers dead. Just a month earlier, security forces faced five fatalities in adjoining Rajouri sector. On April 20 last year, five soldiers were killed in an ambush on a military truck in Bhata Dhurian of Poonch district.

'Vote bank' politics in Canada to blame for problems there: EAM

▶ Continued from P 1

Canada has "allowed organised crime, specifically from Punjab, to operate from there", Jaishankar said at a press conference in Bhubaneswar.

"I just saw before coming in that three people have been arrested. They apparently are Indians with some kind of a gang background. We will wait for the police to tell us more. But normally, if you don't have a political agenda, if I say I suspect you, I will produce the proof," he said at a press conference.

"We have never been given anything by Canada which involves govt of India. In fact, we have repeatedly told you (the Canadian govt), if you have something, please give it to us," Jaishankar added.

The Canadian report by commissioner Marie-Josee Hogue refers to Indian officials, including Canada-based proxies, engaging to influence Canadian communities and politicians. The report said their aim is to "align Canada's position with India's interests on key issues, particularly how Indian govt perceives Canada-based supporters of an independent Sikh homeland". The World Sikh Organisation of Canada, which put the report in the public domain, is a hardline group advocating for the creation of a separate nation of Khalistan.

Blaming "vote bank" politics in Canada for problems there, Jaishankar said the situation has turned worse because the governing party has no majority. The party they depend on is pro-Khalistani, he said, adding that India has been consistently urging Canada against giving space to separatists and against giving them political legitimacy because the same will create problems for both India and Canada and in their relations.

"There are 25 examples I have with me, who are either known pro-Khalistani individuals or part of gangs involved in crimes. We have given them extradition requests, they did nothing. There is a gang war going on there. They shift blame to India every time. But investigative agencies there never give any proof. What I feel is that it's a political game," he said.

Held for Nijjar killing in Canada, Brar has no criminal cases in Punjab, say cops

Karan Brar, one of the three men arrested in Canada in connection with the killing of pro-Khalistan separatist Hardeep Singh Nijjar (designated a terrorist by India), belongs to Kot Sukhia village near Kotkapura town, Faridkot district, reports **Neel Kamal**.

The family has been residing in Kotkapura. Karan (23) had gone to Canada on a student visa in 2020. He had no criminal case against him in Punjab, Faridkot SSP Harjit Singh said.

Karan is an only son. His father Mandeep Singh, alias Bansa Brar, passed away on April 18. His mother, Ramandeep Brar, had gone to Singapore over a year ago and had returned upon the demise of her husband. She has been in hospital after hearing of the arrest of her son.

Karan did not return to India even after the demise of his father. His grandfather, Balbir Singh Brar, said on Saturday that his grandson had never been into any criminal activity.

HC junks Cong substitute nominee's plea for Indore fight

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Indore: A division bench of MP HC Friday upheld a single-judge bench's order dismissing a plea by Congress' Moti Singh Patel for his candidature to be accepted as the party nominee for LS polls after official candidate Akshay Kanti Bam pulled out of the poll race at the last minute.

The Indore bench, comprising Justice SA Dharmadhikari and Justice Gajendra Singh, said Patel's application was "bereft of merit and substance". Patel had approached the division bench after a single-judge bench of Justice Vivek Rusia on April 30 turned down his plea to overturn the rejection of his nomination by district election officer and to be allotted the Congress 'hand' symbol to contest polls. Indore votes in the fourth phase on May 13.

TOI LINE OF NO CONTROL SANDEEP ADHWARYU

Patel's candidature was rejected during scrutiny on April 25. Bam's papers were cleared as the 'approved Congress candidate', but he pulled out on April 29, the last day for withdrawal of nominations. It left Congress without a candidate in Indore.

Patel's counsel Vibhor Khandelwal contended that the RO may have been right in rejecting Patel's nomination on April 26 since at that time he wasn't the approved Congress candidate and his form was not signed by 10 proposers. But in view of the proviso to sub-section (5) of Section 36 of the Act, the RO ought to have given a day's time to Patel to get signatures of 10 proposers and examine the form the next day, he said.

Shouldn't have happened: Mahajan on Congress candidate's pullout in Indore

Former LS speaker Sumitra Mahajan expressed surprise over the last-minute withdrawal of nomination by Congress candidate from Indore, Akshay Kanti Bam, calling it unfair and unethical. Voters had the right to decide in a democratic set-up, she asserted. Bam had pulled out of the poll race on April 29, the last date for withdrawal of nominations, and joined BJP within hours, leaving Congress stunned. "People are calling me and asking me, 'what has happened Tai'?," Mahajan told **TOI** Saturday.

"This should not have happened. There was no need for this, as BJP's victory in Indore was a foregone conclusion," Mahajan said, hinting that she believed BJP was behind Bam's move. Indore is a saffron stronghold and Mahajan, now 81, represented the constituency eight consecutive times since 1989. TNN

POSTGRADUATE INSTITUTE OF MEDICAL EDUCATION & RESEARCH CHANDIGARH

CORRIGENDUM

Ref : Global Tender Enquiry Notice No. PI(EP)/23-24/G/06
Following changes are made:-

Sr. No	Equipment/ Item Name	Original Bid submission Date	Revised Bid Submission Date	Original Bid Opening Date	Revised Bid Opening Date	Deptt. Name
12	Holmium Laser 100W	06.05.2024	16.05.2024	07.05.2024	17.05.2024	Paed. Surgery

All other details shall remain the same. **Professor In-Charge (EP)**

NATIONAL COUNCIL FOR COOPERATIVE TRAINING (NCCT)
(An Autonomous Society under Ministry of Cooperation, Govt. of India)
3rd Floor, NCUI Building, 3, Siri Institutional Area, August Kranti Marg, New Delhi-110016

Announcement for Extension of date for submission of applications
This has reference to the advertisement dated 06/04/2024 for filling up one post of Director, VAMNICOM, Pune on Deputation basis initially for a period of 03 years. The last date for submission of applications has now been extended to 19/05/2024 (midnight). For more details please log on to NCCT website https://ncct.ac.in
Deputy Director (Pers.), NCCT, New Delhi

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पत्र संख्या / P-10812 यूपीएफ0 / दिनांक: 03.05.2024

Tender Notice

On line e-tenders are invited from manufacturers/Authorised dealer (as per details given in tender documents) for supply of Color coated profile sheet & Aluminium sheet , manufacturers/Authorised dealer/Authorised channel partner for Non Asbestos sheet & manufacturers/Authorised dealer/Authorised channel partner/Sole Selling Agent for Computer Stationery to various Cooperative Sugar Factories of U.P.. The e-tender documents with detailed specifications terms and conditions etc. can be downloaded from e- tender portal http://etender.up.nic.in & federation website www.upsugarfed.org . time to time.
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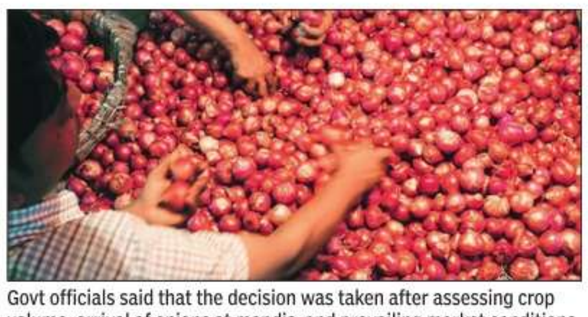
(RAMAKANT PANDEY) MANAGING DIRECTOR

Centre lifts onion export ban as Maha readies for LS polls

Move With Riders Set To Bring Relief To Tillers, Traders

Dipak.Dash
@timesgroup.com



Govt officials said that the decision was taken after assessing crop volume, arrival of onions at mandis, and prevailing market conditions

New Delhi: Govt on Saturday lifted the ban on onion exports after five months, in a move that is likely to bring huge relief to farmers and traders in Maharashtra ahead of the remaining phases of Lok Sabha polls in this key producing state. But the move comes with conditions. Traders can ship out onion at a minimum export price (MEP) of $550/tonne and pay another 40% export duty on this price, which translates to Rs 64,000 per tonne or Rs 64 per kg.

The decision comes just before the next phases of polls, particularly in Maharashtra's onion belts including Nasik, Ahmednagar and Shirdi. Onion growers in many parts of Maharashtra have been protesting against the export ban alleging it has hit their earnings as mandi prices at Lasalgaon are ruling around Rs 15/kg, which barely covers the cost of production.

Market players, however, said lifting the ban may not bring much benefit to traders. "The condition of 40% export duty on MEP will make it difficult to export onions," said Jaydutt Holkar, director, Agricultural Produce Market Committee (APMC), Lasalgaon.

Govt officials said the decision was taken after assessing crop volume, arrival of onions at mandis, prevailing market conditions, and to avoid storage loss. Consumer affairs secretary Nidhi Khare said estimated Rabi crop (2024-25), which has a share of around 60% of total annual onion output, is around 191 lakh tonnes. She said this is "reasonably comfortable" considering that monthly domestic onion consumption is around 17 lakh tonne.

"With a good Kharif prospect with 'above-normal' monsoon forecast, availability of onion is comfortable till arrivals of Kharif output. Since onion is a perishable crop, it has to be consumed either domestically or through export within 5-6 months of harvesting and holding on to Rabi stock beyond shelf life will only result in more storage loss," she said. The secretary added that storage loss increases significantly after three months.

DGFT director general Santosh Kumar Sarangi said, "effectively" onion shipments are being allowed at a minimum price of $770 per tonne and added that MEP and export duty have been arrived at considering recent price trend of govt-to-govt supply and prevailing international price of kitchen staple.

Sources said availability of onion is expected to increase in international markets with removal of export ban by Egypt following a 300% rise in production and Pakistan too removing its export restrictions.

Is stethoscope losing its pulse or doctors their ear for the beat?

Sumitra Deb Roy & Mohua Das | TNN

Mumbai: For over 200 years doctors have leaned on this trusty medical tool to poke, prod, listen and draw accurate inferences about what ails the patient. Until technology changed it. With echocardiograms and nifty pocket-sized ultrasound devices elbowing their way into the diagnostic arena, a recent conference on AI and healthcare at Bombay Hospital in Marine Lines, became the stage for doctors to deliberate the fate of this iconic medical relic — the stethoscope and whether the revered art of "auscultation" — might actually follow the path of the doctor's head mirror and fade away.

In 2016, as the stethoscope hit its bicentennial milestone, The Guardian wrote about how instead of celebrating its age, the world might be witnessing the beginning of its end after Dr Jagat Narula, a prominent Indian-origin cardiologist in New York, declared that "the stethoscope is dead" while W Reid Thompson, an associate professor of paediatrics at Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine countered it. Closer home, the medical fraternity remains sharply divided.

TIMES Special

According to interventional cardiologist Dr Satyavan Sharma, advancements in technology will diminish reliance on traditional stethoscopes. He predicts the analogue version — where doctors listen to heart and lungs by placing a probe in their ears and chest piece on the patient — will face formidable competition from electronic, digital, and now AI-powered versions.

Dr Lancelot Pinto, a respirologist, however, scoffs at the idea of a stethoscope-less world in medical practice. "It's just evolved in different ways," he says, pointing out that AI-based technologies now incorporate acoustic analysis, with devices like the one he developed at IIT that can attach to a stethoscope, record, and analyse sounds graphically and be transmitted via bluetooth or an app.

Stethoscopes can detect heart murmurs for cardiac irregularities, lung sounds for respiratory issues, and bowel sounds for gastrointestinal assessments.

However, many of these functions are now being taken over by new-age diagnostic devices, sometimes with greater efficiency, said Dr Arun Nayak, head of gynaecology at LTMG (Sion) Hospital. He said fetal doppler machines, for example, excel in listening to fetal heartbeats and earlier into a pregnancy. "To think the stethoscope won't change with technology would be naive," Dr Nayak said.

Interestingly, despite advancements, the classic device remains a cornerstone of diagnosis taught in all medical colleges.

"Medicine cannot be taught until students learn to interpret heart murmurs and abdominal sounds," said internal medicine expert Dr Niteen Karnik.

DOCTORS DIVIDED OVER ITS RELEVANCE

WHO INVENTED THE STETHOSCOPE

1816 French doctor Rene Theophile Hyacinthe Laennec invented it—a simple wooden tube for one ear

- His eureka moment came from watching some street kids scratch a beam with a pin, and the sound travelling its length
- Inspired, he crafted a paper tube to listen to his patients' chests that helped him link chest sounds to causes of death during autopsies

DOWN THE YEARS

1851 Irish physician Arthur Leared introduced binaural stethoscope, refined with flexible tubing for commercial production by George Cammann the following year

- Since then, stethoscopes have seen several tweaks

1960 Dr David Littmann of Harvard Medical school patented a breakthrough with lighter model

Then came **ELECTRONIC STETHOSCOPES** such as Littman, Cardionics, and Welch Allyn that could be connected to computers, allowing users to record and email sounds for teaching or consulting

HOW IT WORKS The chest piece of the stethoscope placed against a patient's body collects the sounds produced within the body, such as heartbeats, lung sounds or bowel sounds

- The collected sounds travel through hollow tubes inside the stethoscope, called the tubing, to the earpieces
- The stethoscope amplifies the sound waves, making them louder and clearer for the listener
- The amplified sound reaches the listener's ears through the earpieces, allowing them to hear and analyse the internal body sounds
- Healthcare professionals interpret the sounds to assess heart and lung function, detecting abnormalities, or monitoring progress during treatment

ITS APPLICATION IN MEDICINE

Cardiology | To listen to heart sounds to assess heart function and detect abnormalities such as murmurs, irregular rhythms, and valvular disorders

Pulmonology | To evaluate respiratory function, detect abnormalities such as crackles, wheezes, or diminished breath sounds, and diagnose conditions such as pneumonia, bronchitis or asthma

Gastroenterology | To listen for bowel sounds, which can indicate the presence of obstructions or gastrointestinal disorders

Vascular medicine | To assess blood flow through arteries and veins

STETHOSCOPE IN ERA OF TECH AND AI

Digital stethoscopes: Incorporate electronic components to amplify sounds and feature recording capabilities

Telemedicine integration: Some digital stethoscopes can transmit auscultation findings to remote locations

AI-based stethoscopes: Utilise artificial intelligence algorithms to analyse auscultation data, providing automated detection and interpretation of abnormal sounds

Salman case accused's mom seeks CBI probe

Mumbai: Mother of Anuj Thapan, an accused in firing outside actor Salman Khan's home who allegedly died by suicide in police custody, has moved Bombay high court seeking a CBI probe into her son's "unnatural" death, reports **Rosy Sequeira**.

"Murderous police assault, unending beatings and brutal torture" caused Thapan's death, states the petition by Rita Devi (40), of Sukhchain village in Fazilka district, Punjab, filed on Friday. Besides the state, she has made actor Salman Khan a respondent to her petition.

She has also urged HC for a fresh postmortem of the body and to preserve CCTV footage of the cell and call data record of cops concerned from April 24 till May 2.

Police add criminal conspiracy charges in Shah 'fake video' case

Times News Network

New Delhi: Delhi Police on Saturday added criminal conspiracy charges to a case in connection with the allegedly doctored video of Union home minister Amit Shah's speech.

Police sources claimed investigations revealed evidence suggesting a broader conspiracy, leading to addition of IPC Section 120B (punishment for criminal conspiracy).

Arun Reddy, arrested in the case on Friday, was remanded in police custody for three days.

He operated an account on X under the name "Spirit of Congress".

Reddy serves as national coordinator in Congress's internet media and digital platform cell at the party headquarters. He is accused of being involved in the uploading of videos and distributing them to others.

Police said they are conducting further investigations and Reddy's phone has been sent for forensic analysis.

The arrest occurred a week after Delhi Police registered an FIR and began an investigation into the allegedly "deep fake" video that was widely shared on social media.

One rescued, 3 feared drowned in Ganga canal

Agra: Four friends drowned after they went to take a dip in Ganga canal in Mainpuri district on Saturday, police said, adding that local villagers jumped into the canal and saved one of them while the other three are yet to be found, reports **Mohammad Dilshad**.

DSP, Mainpuri, Sunil Kumar told **TOI**, " A team of divers and local police are in a search operation. The lone survivor is doing well. They were all from the same locality in Kusmara and were graduating from various colleges. Their families have been informed."

Vishnu Pandey (18), Ankit Dixit (19), Yash Gupta (18), and Golu Gupta (19) had gone for a dip under the bridge across Chhoti Ganga canal near Raihar village and started drowning, police added.

TIMES Soulmate

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BY RELIGION

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SYD Sunni bful girl 25/5'3"/BE MBA IIM-2nd yr, Father Dr seeks well qual setld boy frm Syed/Sheikhs WA 8989406750

GROOM wanted for Muslim Shia Syed doctor girl, very beautiful 170cm tall and slim built, well settled NRI family hailing from Delhi. Seeking a compatible match, doctor or well qualified professional. pls contact via zaidisyeda.777@gmail.com

MS/MBBS UP Govt. Job Sunni Ansari, 31/5'1" Fair, Religious Girl, Medico Preffered Boy, UP based. Caste No Bar. @ 8090622117, 9044080786

SIKH

SM for a Beautiful Gursikh Daughter 27/5'5" Belongs to a Renowned & Established Business Family. 9811109134, Email : orchis27@gmail.com

SIKH Ramdasia Asstt. Prof. (Govt.) Girl Working in Western U.P. of DEC. 91/5'3" seeks professional match near around Meerut. Cont.-9897215355

GENERAL

CASTE NO BAR

SEEKING Compatible Groom for Mumbai Based B'ful MS & DNB 31/5'4" working in Dubai as specialist Gynaecologist from a very reputed educated Hindu family. Ph- 8291642739, Email : shambhu.singh142021@gmail.com

UPSC Civil Service Group "A" Officer, 91 born, 5' 3.5", Ph.D. (ECE), Jat Sikh Girl seeks Delhi bsd Central Govt Officer/PG Doctor WA 9646226004

QUALIFIED Match for Beautiful Bengali Girl Dec85 Doctor in USA issueless divorcee very short marriage caste no bar. WhApp : 7739322693

BRAHMIN 26/5'4", B'ful, fair, slim Girl B.Tech MBA Wrkn in MNC 16 Lpa, only child Fthr Industrialist,caste no Bar 8269934966,8269889223

NM boy,Tall,fair,H'som,W.sett. pref.off'r for a 5'3"/32y slim fair B'ful & prof'l (BPT& MPT) kashyap girl,father Retd. Govt.W/c 9412512267,9891093179

SUITABLE match for a Sikh Postgraduate working girl 27 yrs / 5'6" Brothers well settled business in Kachchh Gujarat M.No. 9825701701/9825525930 email shivraj@kml.co.in

44 Yrs,5 ft 1 inch, Never Married, Fair,Slim MBA,MCA from Mumbai having house in her name.Whats app. 9819148761.

DOCTOR Girl,12/03/90,5'4", M.B.B.S.,M.S. Ophthalmology, Working Consultant in Indira Gandhi Eye Hospital, Doctor parents clinic at Lucknow, Punjabi Khatri, 9839018220

GRAD (H.Sci) 34/5'5" PB B'ful homely Delhi based girl with insignificant epilepsy and no symptoms. Seeks well placed boy. # 9971783447

WELL settled groom (vegetarian, teetotaler, non smoker) for our daughter 15.04.1998, 5'-4", M.A(Eng), NET qualified, currently pursuing PhD and working as ad-hoc Assistant Professor in a prestigious Girls' College Chandigarh. Dowry seekers please excuse.Share bio with photo.prttal@gmail.com

PQM4 Probashi Bengali plump Kayastha girl 1985/5'4" MBBS. Mumbai based. Seeks Groom < 44yrs from well educated family. Upper Caste No Bar. Whatsapp 9822937989

BENGALI Brahmin, Clinical Psychiatrist, MD (Harvard)Assistant Professor (USA) 38, 5'5 unmarried, beautiful, jovial.Wanted: Well settled (USA)suitable groom M/W: 9140728113/9434742017

US match for Garhwali Rajput 31/5'3", fair, slim, beautiful girl MS (CS), H1b, Sr Consultant, reputed family +91-8384087552 rawat.as@gmail.com

GAZETTED officer lady 1980/fair based in jodhpur. only child of parents seeks prof. quali match who can settle in rajasthan. father rtd officer central gov. 9001637245 blj.jodr@gmail.com

DIVORCED, Issueless 88 born 5'3" Punjabi girl, govt. job in Australia. Pref issueless,wrkg in Aus with PR Email:matrimonial.ml@gmail.com .

BRAHMIN B'ful, fair, slim Girl B.Tech MBA Wrkn in MNC 16 Lpa, only child Fthr Industrialist,caste no Bar 8269934966,8269889223

NM boy,Tall,fair,H'som,W.sett. pref.off'r for a 5'3"/32y slim fair B'ful & prof'l (BPT& MPT) kashyap girl,father Retd. Govt.W/c 9412512267,9891093179

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GRAD (H.Sci) 34/5'5" PB B'ful homely Delhi based girl with insignificant epilepsy and no symptoms. Seeks well placed boy. # 9971783447

MATCH for daughter, Hindu MBA, born Oct 92/5'4", Delhi Employed, Mother MNC Manager, Father Mktg. Consultant. W/App: 9667753488

AGARWAL. B'ful wkng girl, Nov 92, 5'2. Father is renowned doctor. Seeking prof. qual boy >5'6" prefer Delhi NCR #7300783411

SM4 BArch/29/5'3" Smart SETHI Girl Runs Arch Firm Del. father DIG CRPF, Mother Homemkr. Lkng 4 qlfd good looking boy from Del NCR. caste no bar. Cont.:9891936965

SM4 b'ful fair girl, 5'3"/31, B.Tech MS(Embedded)from TU Eindhoven, wrkg Netherland. PR, Vishwakarma Brahmin, edu affluent fmly. # 9953905119

SM4 girl working in USA, 1985, 5'3", Never married, IIT, Masters, IT professional, whats app +91-9979413156

B'FUL fair Mathur Girl, Nov'89 born, 5'5", Dbl PG-MBA (HR), belongs to a reputed fmly. Seeks well settled match 9814142232, 9814607232

MASTERS in public policy from NLSUI, Jatav girl 30yr / 5'4", working executive Delhi from upper middle Lucknow based family w'ap: 8400331000

SM4 Slim b'ful Agrwl I'Less Divorcee girl 1982/5'4" Dentist conv Edu, working MNC Seeks H'some well settled boy. W'ap / ph: 9415229805

Delhi based , 29 May1984 born beautiful Kashyap Rajput Girl .Delhi Graduate , MBA , UGC net . Height 4'11" Was under medical treatment , fit &Normal now . Seeking Delhi NCR qualified settled Boy .Cast No Bar , Please contact on 9773601843 .

A Prominent & Respected Vaish / Soni Family (Father, Retd. IAS Officer) Based in Noida, Seeks alliance for their Very Smart, Attractive, Intelligent Family Oriented Daughter (Asst. Professor) 5.1", Sept. 91 Born, Looks younger. She is perfect Blend of Modern and Traditional Values wish to hear from a Professionally well settled Respectable Business or Service Family, Cast No Bar.
Email: meenaldharia@gmail.com
Call: 9650791844

MBA(FIN) Bengali girl sep 87/5'3' wkg in MNC Mumbai, seeks qual. Boy frm resp fmly. Cont.9769400174/8879394155

COSMOPOLITAN

CANADIAN Citizen maharashtrian girl highly qualified seeks tall above 175 cms age 34, intelligent, well settled groom in USA; Canada, Uk, Europe with cosmopolitan backround - Contact-9845824092

Punjabi Khatri well settled family of South Delhi is looking for match for their 1984 born/5'2" never married daughter, Post Graduate & running independent family business seeks well settled boy from Business family or a highly paid professional. Caste no bar.
WhatsApp 8287371967
nayar.jackson@hotmail.com

We are looking for a well-educated professional, engaged in Business or working (Delhi based) match for our daughter, B.Tech, M.Tech (Univ. of Michigan, Rank holder), 26 year, 5'5", with pleasing personality, very well read and widely travelled globally. Currently Director in family manufacturing business of a renowned brand with factories in NCR, Uttarakhand and offices across Pan India. She wishes to continue her career in the family business. We are Bengali, settled in Delhi.
Kindly mail us at :
forourdaughter09@gmail.com

MANGLIK

PQM4 BTech+MBA Manglik Rajput Girl, working MNC, 60 lakhs+ CTC, 5'6",8-Oct-90,7:39 AM,Delhi; #9667556591

B.Tech MBA Girl May92/5'5" Wkg MNC Noida 20 LPA. Father Retd professional. Seek Professional Groom NCR/Metro.9818200725, malik.sonepat113@gmail.com

SECOND MARRIAGE

SM for 35 yrs, 5-3", Anshik Manglik, Issueless divorcee, B'ful Brahmin girl, PGDM, Pvt job in NCR. Pl msg. thru WhatsApp no 9625636997.

BEAUTIFUL Agrawal girl,37,5'4",working,widow & issueless. Looking for well settled boy. Contact with biodata & photo @ 9910003526

PQM for B-Tech + MBA PB Arora 34/5'3" issueless divorce wkg girl in Top MNC Dubai @ Sr. Position. Caste no bar. Cont.- 9818806291

B'FUL Slim Agwl H'ly Edu.girl Oct'86/5'4" Professor (AI), Div. (v.short mrrg), Seeks Well Edu & Well Settled Agwl Boy, Pref Delhi/NCR.# W'app: 9625142911

GAZETTED Lady Officer, Looking for 62+ Companion, pref. Rtd. IAS/IPS/Judicial / Army/Gaz'd Offi./High Businsman 9260970012, 9415179385

SM4 B'ful pbi girl 35 5'5" wkg in reptd co in Mum pckg 12L PG in Eng. Dvrcee short marrg DLI bsd fam Fthr retd bnkr Mothr retd gaz offer 9599767762

B'FUL fair I'less divorcee Rajput girl 33/5'5", B.Tech, working in MNC Gurgaon seeks well settled groom from upper Caste. # 7303167765

B.TECH Girl Divorced Apr 88/5'6 "Wkg MNC Delhi 50LPA. seeks Wkg Qual boy. #8527180515, kamarriage3@gmail.com "

B.TECH, 89 born 5'4" Divorcee, short marriage, SC Jatav, wkg MNC Gurgaon @ Sr. position, seek suitable match. Call 9729494837

BY LANGUAGE

BENGALI

EARLY Marriage- Brahmin Kashyap girl 90/5'6",employed in delhi, prefd Delhi based wrkg Bengali boy. 8851496916, 9818364331, 9643451518

SM4 B'Ful, Bengali Brahmin Delhi Based Girl, PHD, Feb 88/5'3, Employed, Seek Well Edu. Ben. Working Boy 9717460770

SM4 Baidya Brh girl 37/5'3" MBA wrk in Noida 9LPA, seeks Edu &Stld boy. Caste no bar, send BHP on 9582480181/9889086120

BEAUTIFUL, fair bengali kayastha debari gon girl 30/5', B.Sc., B.Ed. seek well settled Bengali boy. Mob.9450046443

SM4 b'ful bengali brahmin Lko. based girl, Dec 88/5.0", teacher in a reputed convent school. WhatsApp bio data : 6394158281

MASTERS from TISS Gold Medalist 27/5'7" wheatish girl Sr. Research Associate in INGO seeks well edu. settled boy. Pref Delhi NCR. Caste no bar (except SC/ST/OBC) .No Dowry. Whatsapp: 9971490241

Noida Based B'ful, Slim, Fit, unmarried Bengali girl, 32 /5'5", BA.LLB (I) /PGD Journalism, Cert. of Entrepreneurship from MIT, running own Farm business with Tax Free Income of 20 LPA seeks well established and qualified boy. Pref. Delhi/NCR. Em: sdmatrimony @outlook.com

PUNJABI

MATCH For Punjabi 25/5'03"only girl CA Belonging to noted fmly of Del own industries C/No bar 9873463929, match4mehta@gmail.com

PUNJ khtr B'ful NM Girl Delhi bsd educated fmly, Sep 85/5'7 Veg wkg in MNC in Noida. Caste no bar, early marrige. #9582404399,9718566266

PB Khatri Manglik girl Apr 1990/5' 2", Master of Business Analytics from Australia, working MNC in Delhi, seeks prof qualified boy. 8700588907

PQSM 4 Smart, fair, Good looking, Punjabi (Sikh Girl) Dec 94, 5' 5", PQ, Working in Hyd. Contact: 9849640921 deepa.chadha4@gmail.com

MATCH for Punjabi girl Sep'94 born, height 5'6", non manglik, wrkg as an associate director in International Bank Pune,CTC 33LPA. M:9044374411

Delhi Based
Beautiful
Well Educated Khatri Girl,
Height 5'4"/ 29
Working in
Family Business.
Seeks Professionally Educated,
Smart and Well Settled
Punjabi Groom in NCR or Mumbai.
Please Send
Complete Details on
Email: sab9419sab@gmail.com
Call: 8447429664

V.B'FUL, smart girl 5'3"/39 (looks younger) from Pb.khatri status family of S. Delhi. PG & in teaching profession.Seek edu. & well settled match from metropolis . WA; 9958548830

SUITABLE match for Jaipur Based Arora Girl 5'2"/ 1980 Graduate Divorcee CNB. 9829156185 (Marriage beureo excuse)

MATCH for b'ful, v.fair girl, Khatri, never married, 78 born, 167, Visiting Prof. DU, Status Del fmly. Bhp must. 8700376245. Email: sach4098@gmail.com

SIKH, unmarried girl, 43/ 153, beautiful, B.Sc, B.Ed, MBA. Early decent marriage, Well settled,Divorcee/Widower Non-Sikh also. Whtsap Biodata 9988701134

SM4 B ful, V.fair, Slim, Pb girl Feb'93 / 164, CA + CS, wkg Big4, S.Delhi Profnl. fmly. Seeks educated groom. Em: rsb1793@gmail.com

Looking for a HINDU / PUNJABI BOY pleasant looking, intelligent hardworking from an affluent business family well settled in South Delhi / Gurgaon For our daughter 1997 BORN, 5'-4", Fair & Beautiful Working with Parents family business.
Contact:
9810097701
blessedunion24@gmail.com

SEEKING a professioanlly qualifed, well settled match for our daughter, 29/165, B. Design, working as a Sr. Experience Consultant (USA based MNC), Bangalore. Please contact with complete details via WhatsApp 8779553962.

BY NATIONALITY

NRI/ GREEN CARD

SIKH Girl, Beautiful, Slim, 24 / 5'-4", in B.Tech- IT Australian Permanent Resident Working as Software Engineer in Australia Seeks Sikh Boy. pammy1541@gmail.com

SEEKING NRI match girl 32 Arora 5'5"/60 fair MS software Eng working big MNC SFO,Father Retd IAS.Caste no bar. Cont 9425007887, nanditakumar09@gmail.com

ARORA 32/5'2" Wrkng in Dallas, Texas as Cybersecurity Prof. Parents from Gurgaon. Seeks US based boy. 9811228051, 9818397495

PQM from Canada / USA / India 4 b'ful CANADA PR Punjabi Gupta girl 90/5'2.5" Comp Engg in Int Org Well qualified family W'App / Call 9811580472

SETTLED/PR London M4 Agg highly qulfd Sep 88/5'3" settld in London from Punjab based Rptd B'ness fmly. Upper cast no bar. (w) 8570851867

SIKH Slim, B'ful Girl, Dentist in USA Green Card Process, Aug 1987,5'4", Doctor Family. Prefer American Boy. Caste no bar. 93560-23440

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B. Engg - Comp Sc.(Hons), Software Engineer from top Singapore university, beautiful Mohyal Brahmin Girl, 24 Yrs, 5'6". Presently working in Top US Global Bank in Singapore. Open to relocation. Highly qualified and well placed Family from Gurgaon.
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How Congress finally managed to untangle Amethi, Rae Bareli knots

Rahul And Priyanka's Stands Made It A Herculean Task

Subodh.Ghildiyal
@timesgroup.com

New Delhi: It was not a minor coincidence that the day Rahul Gandhi's Bharat Jodo Nyay Yatra entered Rae Bareli on Feb 20 was also the day Sonia Gandhi was elected to Rajya Sabha from Rajasthan, marking her transition in Parliament and creating a vacancy that was at the root of the tortuous brainstorming which ended with Rahul's nomination from Rae Bareli on Friday.

Rahul's switch from Amethi to Rae Bareli and Kishori Lal Sharma's elevation from a constituency manager to candidate, all at the last moment, marked the culmination of cogitation in Congress that made aligning available options with political objectives a Herculean task. In the end, Congress managed to land on its feet, as shown by the surge of emotion and support during the nomination in the patch of UP that once was known as the Gandhi family bastion, but has since morphed into a veritable challenge.

Like all that turned the world upside down for Congress in the run up to Mandate 2024, the defeat in Dec polls in north India rekindled doubts among strategists who were eagerly waiting for wins in MP and Chhattisgarh to cement the party's claim in the twin seats. But within two months,

As Priyanka — apparently against the idea of another Gandhi in Parliament — stuck to her guns, Rahul had to contend with contesting alone in UP

as Rahul's yatra waded into the VIP pocket to a tumultuous welcome, Congress swung back from despair to hope.

The assumption was that Priyanka Gandhi Vadra would replace mother Sonia in Rae Bareli, while Rahul would contest a second seat from Amethi, after Wayanad.

Simple as it sounded, it turned out to be a far more complicated task.

Though the discussion spanned two months, it is learnt that neither of the siblings were keen to contest. Rahul had scruples about the prospect of vacating Wayanad, which stood by him when he lost Amethi in 2019, while Priyanka apparently was against the idea of another Gandhi in Parliament, especially in the same election. It was here that the Congress brass led by chief Mallikarjun Kharge started nudging the siblings that they should fight the elections from UP.

Pressure was piled on Rahul that Rae Bareli could not be surrendered, as it represents a family legacy, starting with Feroze Gandhi who chose it for the first election post-Independence in 1952 to Sonia Gandhi till 2024. Sources said Priyanka was nagged till as late as this week that she should take up the battle too.

The concern was if Rahul shifted to Rae Bareli, BJP would land with a readymade attackline that he ran away from Amethi and Smriti Irani, his nemesis in last election. At the same time, some felt that Priyanka in Amethi would be a better strategic manoevure in the form of a "woman vs woman" contest.

As if the multiple variables were not enough, allies and workers doubled their push for the Gandhi siblings to take up the cudgels, warning that a no-show would shatter the perception that the party had miraculously managed in what was supposed to be an impossible 2024 matchup against post-Ayodhya BJP.

But as Priyanka stuck to her guns, Rahul had to contend with contesting alone in UP, even as the issue of family legacy hovered over the discussions to dictate the choice of seat. In the end, a reluctant Rahul agreed to contest from Rae Bareli to balance the umpteen equations. And Congress, left with no family friends like Satish Sharma in the past, fell back on constituency manager K L Sharma, who has been marshalling cadres and strategy for the past four decades.

During this period, part of the delay was because Rahul and the party were careful that any public debate on the issue was only held after the voting concluded in Wayanad, lest it riled the voters in Kerala. In future too, vacating Wayanad would not be easy, as Congress would be preparing for Kerala assembly polls in 2026. Kerala is a priority for Congress since rival Left managed to win an unprecedented repeat term in 2021, triggering a crisis in state Congress while a covetous BJP is trying hard to step into any opening.

Notwithstanding BJP's trolling that Rahul ran away from Amethi, stakes remain high for the Gandhi family in its former borough. With K L Sharma by her side and a packed crowd in front, Priyanka told the nomination rally in Amethi that she would return on May 6 and would camp there till the end of the election.

As days pass, it would be clear that it is the family's equity on the ballot despite Sharma being the candidate.

FROM CAMPAIGNER TO CANDIDATE IN AMETHI

After 40 yrs in Gandhi family borough, Rajiv's 'high potential boy' is Cong pick

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New Delhi: Kishori Lal Sharma is the first of the cadre of youngsters recruited by Rajiv Gandhi who, new to politics in 1983, had the idea of creating a team of young ideologues who would provide feedback on the implementation of govt policies and also specialise in constituency management. They came to be known as the "high potential boys", a total of 10 shortlisted out of 135 following an evaluation of their performance in districts where they were posted for some time.

AICC general secretary and J&K politician Ghulam Ahmed Mir recalls that Sharma and he, part of the first batch, were very young, and were sent to Amethi to look after the constituency. While Mir went on to become a name in Kashmir politics, Sharma, who hails from Ludhiana, stayed on with Amethi and Rae Bareli, spending four decades in the family borough. "After the Nehru-Gandhi family, Sharma is the man best known to workers and locals," Mir said.

No wonder, he was elated at his "batchmate" becoming the Congress candidate for the VIP seat. Mir now plans to campaign for his friend in the constituency he once managed for the party and its first family.

PTI

A soft-spoken Punjabi known for his people skills, Sharma (right) has managed a low profile while delivering high results

Four decades of affiliation, from Rajiv Gandhi to Satish Sharma to Sonia Gandhi to Rahul Gandhi, and the resultant trust, is what made the Gandhis pick "Kishoriji" above any relative or loyalist as the standard bearer in the place identified with them.

A soft-spoken Punjabi known for his man skills, Sharma has managed a low profile while delivering high results. As Sonia and Rahul worked on the national stage during the UPA decade, he was the go-to man who patiently listened to the demanding constituents used to having the personal ear of prime ministers and potential PMs, managing the local office and travelling across the region, with a team of aides. From time to time, he would also bring batches of people for personal audience with the VIPs, working overtime to keep all in good humour. The voters of Amethi-Rae Bareli-Sultanpur were famously known as pampered. In Delhi, he would operate faceless out of a South Avenue bungalow, attending to visitors from the family borough.

What set him apart from others was that he stayed on in one place, building a wealth of knowledge about mohallas, villages, castes, and their political leanings. His data bank on demographics and a keen eye on shifting sands of local politics has served the party well, a reason why rivals found it hard to break through the fortress barring the occasional success. As Mir recalls, Sharma has stayed put for four decades, which is impossible for a political worker given personal aspirations.

When Rahul came to politics in 2004, he built his team for the constituency, while Sharma looked after Rae Bareli. But he was the overall incharge, keeping an eye on the goings on. He also became an AICC secretary, looking after other states like Bihar.

An aide joked that "Kishoriji" would find it difficult to fight polls because he would forever be concerned if his campaign team was managing as competently for him, as he has been doing for others. So highly is his work rated.

Now, with a twist of fate turning him from a campaigner to a candidate, on a seat with eyes across the nation trained on, this is Sharma's moment to live up to his original billing as "high potential boy".

Yogi slams Cong, says inheritance tax like 'jizya' in Aurangzeb era

Bhopal: Uttar Pradesh chief minister **Yogi Adityanath** on Saturday alleged that the Congress manifesto talks about bringing about Aurangzeb's 'Jizjya' through inheritance tax, and promises 'freedom of choice of food for the minority community', reports **Suchandana Gupta**.

Campaigning for Jyotiraditya Scindia in Guna's Ashoknagar, he said that people of Guna were "lucky to have Scindia since he has a vision for the future". Scindia said he would take inspiration from Adityanath and "won't allow any wrongdoing ('galat kaam') in his region".

Scindia also urged voters to make a "triple engine sarkar".

"The cruelest Mughal Badshah was Aurangzeb. Cultured Muslim families do not name their sons Aurangzeb. He imposed jizya tax. Today, Congress in its manifesto is also talking about Jizya. That is what they call 'inheritance tax'," Adityanath said.

While PM Modi says he will end the symbols of ghulami (slavery) but respects our heritage, Congress manifesto says they will impose inheritance tax, the UP CM said.

Not just statute, BJP threat to peoples' lives too: Akhilesh

Meerut/Bareilly: With some Samajwadi Party (SP) strongholds like Mainpuri going to Lok Sabha polls in the third phase, party chief **Akhilesh Yadav**, who addressed a public meeting at Budaun in support of his uncle Shivpal Yadav's son, Aditya Yadav, on Saturday, took a dig at the ruling party, saying BJP will be completely wiped out in the next phase, reports **Krishna Chaudhary & Asif Ansari**.

"BJP's tenure was about fake promises. People have rejected them this time, which was reflected in the first two phases of polls," he said.

Referring to the Covid vaccine row, he said, "Not just Constitution, BJP is a threat to peoples' lives."

Attacking the BJP-led govt, he said, "They used to say that they would double the income of farmers. If a farmer checks his account, he'll find he is incurring losses instead. This is the condition of farmers today... Govt wanted to snatch farmers' lands with the three black farm laws and only withdrew it after a massive farmers' protest. However, the struggle is not over yet... This govt wants to change the Constitution."

Privileged 'shehzada' can't grasp my tears for poor: PM

Slams Rahul, Says Only Those Who've Suffered Will Understand

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New Delhi: Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Saturday fired back at Rahul Gandhi over his speech where the Congress functionary gleefully suggested that the PM was distraught over the trends of polling so far and could even break down.

Addressing a rally at Palamu in Jharkhand, Modi said that if he turns emotional it is only because he, having been born into poverty, emphathises with the underprivileged and has an insight into what they go through.

"My eyes well up with tears of joy when I meet the beneficiaries of welfare schemes. This can be understood only by those who have experienced poverty, those who have led a life of hardships. This can make no sense to those who have not seen their mothers coughing (while cooking) because of the smoke from the stove, those who have not seen their mothers tying their tummy with sari to crush pangs of hunger that would not let them sleep, drinking pots full of water to quench their hunger and concealing their illness (because they lacked money for treatment), those who have not seen their mother suffer pain and humiliation because of absence of latrines."

The PM also said Rahul who was born into privilege can never understand this. "Congress ke shehzade (prince) ko Modi ke aansoon acche lagte hain (the prince of Congress loves to see Modi's tears)," he said, reciting the popular Hindi couplet "Jaake paon phate na phate biwai, So kya jaane peer parai (only those who have suffered themselves can empathise with the miseries of others)", adding that Rahul was born with the proverbial silver spoon. Referring to Rahul's remark that Modi would soon break down on dais, Modi also said he would remain focused on his tasks of making India a developed nation and was not going to leave the arena until the objective has been accomplished.

He also said Congress was not serious about eradication of poverty and could not move beyond choreographed visits of PMs to hamlets of poor, but BJP has made a determined effort to help bring people out of poverty by providing them with houses and other facilities.

PM Modi blesses LJP candidate Shambhvi Choudhry from Samastipur constituency, at a rally in Darbhanga on Saturday

INDIA govt will scrap Agniveer: Rahul

Even as he announced that a future INDIA govt will disband Agniveer scheme and revert to regular recruitments, Congress' Rahul Gandhi on Saturday said it will also give some sort of compensation to the youth who were selected for the defence services prior to Agniveer scheme but were not appointed eventually. There are 1.5 lakh youngsters who were denied appointments after selection. Rahul was interacting with the youth as part of "Nyay Manch", where he reiterated that Agniveer was not the idea of defence forces but PMO, which along with NSA, bypassed the entire establishment system. He alleged the Agniveer system has been introduced to divert soldiers' money to Adani who has joined defence manufacturing. TNN

'Prince of Patna' treated Bihar as fiefdom since childhood: Modi

▶ Continued from P1

In a counter-attack on the INDIA bloc's charge that Modi would end reservations for backward people, change the Constitution and finish democracy in the country, the PM said he gets inspiration from Karpoori Thakur — the former CM who was posthumously conferred Bharat Ratna by the Modi govt recently.

"They can't play with the quota for OBCs and SC/STs until Modi is alive. They have lost their mental balance since I unmasked their faces. They are silent on my question 12 days ago if they will give in writing not to snatch the quota from OBCs, SCs and STs," the PM said.

Modi claimed that when "he (Lalu) was railway minister, he had asked officials in 2007 to manage reservation in jobs for Muslims from OBC/SC/ST quota". "It's like committing dacoity on the rights of Yadavs, Kurmis, Paswan, Musahar and Dhanuk communities," he said.

Without naming Lalu's son and former Bihar deputy CM Tejashwi Yadav, Modi attacked him. He called Tejashwi the "shehzada of Patna", like the one in Delhi (Rahul Gandhi). He said one treats the country and the other Bihar "as their fiefdom since childhood" and both have the "same report card of scams".

Problem not with seats, Rahul will lose wherever he goes: Shah

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Surat: In a stinging attack on Rahul Gandhi, Union home minister Amit Shah Saturday said the Gandhi scion had been shifting constituencies because of a fear of defeat, and would bite the dust in Rae Bareli, too.

Addressing a poll rally at Bodeli in Gujarat's Chhota Udepur, he said: "When he (Rahul) lost from Amethi, he went to Wayanad. This time around, there was a risk in Wayanad. So, he fled to Rae Bareli. The problem is not with the constituencies, but with him. Rahul will lose wherever he goes. He will face a crushing defeat in Rae Bareli."

Shah said, unlike Chandrayaan, which successfully landed on the moon, "Rahul Yaan" had failed to launch 20 times in the past. "Sonia Gandhi has launched 'Rahul Yaan' for the 21st time, but it will crash again," he said.

ANI

Shah addresses a public rally for Lok Sabha polls in Chhota Udepur in Gujarat on Saturday

In the Union Territory of Daman, the home minister took potshots at the INDIA bloc. "There's no chance of the alliance winning. But, imagine if they do, who will be the PM? Can Sharad Pawar, Mamata Didi, M K Stalin or Uddhav Thackrey run this country? Don't laugh, but can Rahul baba run the country?"

Shah accused Congress and its allies of spreading canards that PM Narendra Modi would abolish reservations if he won another term. It was the INDIA bloc that had robbed the quota meant for dalits, tribals and backward classes and given it to Muslims, he alleged, citing the examples of Karnataka and Andhra Pradesh.

He accused past Congress govts of going soft on terrorism out of fear their vote bank would be upset.

'Modi a shahanshaah, cut off from public'

Lakhani: Congress leader **Priyanka Gandhi Vadra** on Saturday called Prime Minister Narendra Modi a 'shahanshaah' (king of king) who lives in a palace but is cut off from the public, responding to the PM's 'shehzada' jibe for her brother Rahul Gandhi.

Addressing a public rally at Lakhani in Gujarat's Banaskantha Lok Sabha constituency to canvass for her party candidate Geniben Thakor, she also accused Modi of using the people of Gujarat for power and then forgetting them.

"He calls my brother 'shehzada'. I would like to tell him that this shehzada walked for 4,000 kilometres from Kanyakumari to Kashmir to listen to your (people's) problems, met my brothers and sisters, farmers and labourers and asked how we can resolve their problems," she said.

"On the other hand is your 'shahanshah', Modiji. He lives in a palace. Have you ever seen him on TV? Clean clothes with not a single speck of dust, not a single stray hair strand. How will he ever understand your hard work, your farming? How will he understand your problems, that you are overburdened with inflation?" she said. PTI

Kasparov swipes at Rahul over Rae Bareli, retracts move

Lucknow: Russian grandmaster **Garry Kasparov** has made a curious move and waded into India's poll pyrotechnics with a comment aimed at Congress MP Rahul Gandhi, reports **Shailvee Sharda**.

In response to an X post, the former world chess champion wrote: "Tradition dictates that you should first win from Rae Bareli before challenging for the top!" He later dubbed his comment a "little joke on Indian politics" and hoped "it does not pass for advocacy or expertise".

The remarks followed Rahul posting on his Insta handle on May 1 a video of himself playing chess. He described Kasparov as his favourite player, a "non-linear thinker" who "puts a lot of psychological pressure on the opponent". "In chess as in politics, every move your opponent makes can be used to your advantage," wrote Rahul.

This drew a searing post from an X user who tagged Rahul's video and wrote: "Feel so relieved that Kasparov and Viswanathan Anand retired early and didn't have to face the greatest chess genius of our times." Kasparov's "Rae Bareli win" remark followed this and went viral.

On Saturday, Kasparov appeared to have second thoughts when he dubbed his comment a "little joke." "But as an 'all-seeing monster with 1000 eyes', as I was once described, I cannot fail to see a politician dabbling in my beloved game," wrote Kasparov, who became the youngest world champion in 1985 at 22 after beating compatriot Anatoly Karpov. Now a political activist and a fierce critic of Russian President Vladimir Putin, Kasparov had a keen contest with Vishwanathan Anand for the world title.

In Agra, Dalits yearn for Maya of yore, search for new icon

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Agra: Lal mirch, haldi, dhaniya. These are the three ingredients Kusum Nigam mostly uses in her sparse kitchen that's carved out of the one-room house in which she lives with her husband and three daughters. At the end of a gruelling week working leather into pretty shapes that will eventually cover someone's feet, when her husband brings home his wages, they sometimes decide to get a little meat. That's when her daughter runs to Bhusan Lal's shop nearby to get a pinch of garam masala. It costs her Rs 10.

"We have no use for unnecessary condiments," Nigam, a Jatav, laughed self-deprecatingly. "Food is to fill tummies." Sitting in a clearing beside a drain that runs parallel to the railway line in Lohamandi, a colony of Dalits in Agra, she said that's how they have been eating ever since she can remember. "Change comes slow in our parts. And had it not been for Behenji, we wouldn't even have this much." That's why she is upset that Mayawati, BSP supremo and her "only leader", hasn't been seen much in these elections or the one before. "It's not good for us."

As Nigam speaks, a few other women join her. Some of them bring along the patches of leather they have been stitching. Pushpa Jatav, who says she gives finishing touches to about eight pairs of shoes per day, earning "Rs 6-7" for each, worries that with Mayawati receding into the background, their lives will take longer to improve. "We will give her our vote this time, too, but it'll be futile," she added. The small gathering agrees without debate.

In Agra, the so-called Dalit capital of UP, with 25-30% of the population made up of various SC groups, many are

BSP's vote share dipped to 12.9% in 2022 assembly polls in UP

unapologetic in their longing for Behenji, her strong, unabashed avatar. It breaks their heart and morale to see the dimming super star. They will all vote for her on May 7, they say, but concede it may not amount to much.

"Koi margdarshak nahi hai aaj Dalit ka," said social activist Naresh Paras in Nagala Ajeeta. "There's no one to lead the community today. Our icons and identity, we are in search of both," he added.

Ahead of Lohamandi, in a house with bricks jutting out of a thin paste of cement grudgingly applied, the family's faith in Mayawati comes with an edge of accusation. "Who will take care of us," asked Mukesh, who doesn't use a second name. "Ghamand mein rehti hai (she's prideful). She should have allowed Chandrasekhar (of Azad Samaj Party) to join BSP. We don't have a leader."

Mukesh's wife said most political parties skip the ghettos after elections. "They think we have all voted for the elephant (BSP's poll symbol). So, they don't come. And no one from Behenji's party comes either. We are at a terrible crossroads."

Aware of a diminished BSP, whose vote share dipped to 12.9% in the 2022 assembly polls in UP, BJP leaders are ready to go for the kill and have been panning an aggressive Jatav outreach. But it won't be easy to break the Dalit citadel. Out of the 20 lakh voters in the Agra reserved constituency, almost one-third are SCs, with Jatavs around 3 lakh and Valmikis hovering close to the 1 lakh mark. Other sub-castes make up the rest.

Arun Rajoriya, a Valmiki who lives in Tota Ka Taal and graduated from SR Degree College two years ago, said his folks supported Mayawati in 2019. Peppering his sentences with English words – "of course", "yes", "possible" – he said he doesn't believe a majority of Valmikis have gone with BJP yet. "Bahut meaning rakhti hai humare liye abhi bhi (Mayawati is still important to us)," he said. "She's tired. Her party should welcome new faces like Azad." He believes Mayawati's political heir Akash Anand can achieve something but "it's a long way off".

At Buddha Vihar, Bhante Anand, president of Akhil Bharatiya Bhikkhu Mahasangh, is angry at the current crop of Dalit leaders. "I don't see a single one who has national stature," he said. "Time has come for Dalits to think hard about who's really working for them."

As Agra votes in the next few days, BJP isn't losing sleep over Dalits missing a messiah. In 2019, Union minister SP Singh Baghel, who left BSP in 2014, won by 2 lakh votes. And though this time he is up against an SP candidate from Jatav community — with BSP picking Puja Amrohi, also a Jatav — Baghel has reiterated that 2024 will be easier. "There is no competition on the ground," he said. The Muslim vote, at about 2 lakh, will play a role but BJP leaders are confident Vaishyas, Brahmins, non-Yadav OBCs and a "large section of Dalits" will come good for them.

Jawahar Singh Jatav can live with that. "Let my vote drown in water," he said pointing to a squalid pool. "I'm still with Behenji. I'm sure we will have a new Dalit leader in 2029."

THE GREAT INDIAN OUTPLACEMENT

Plumbers to painters, butchers to bouncers, carpenters to coconut pickers — name a blue-collar job in rich countries, and chances are it's being done by a young Indian. Here's the why, the how and the who of the new immigration story

Team TOI

They aren't the rich and successful NRIs — entrepreneur/MNC CEO/I-banker/management guru — we reflexively celebrate. They are NRIs with jobs we barely pay attention to, till we need those skills: plumbers, electricians, carpenters, cooks, drivers, domestic help, caregivers, house painters, tailors, construction workers, farm workers, machine operators. The list is longer, it includes, butchers, bouncers, goldsmiths, bartenders, bellboys, waiters, even coconut pickers.

For years, rich countries were ageing. Because their young were having too few babies. A serious labour shortage was inevitable. In the last few years, it's become a reality. Enter India: huge semi-educated workforce, reasonably good supply of blue-collar skills, relatively low salary expectations, and, this is a key driving factor, too few jobs being created in the world's fastest growing large economy.

Nurses and sailors from India are the old story — albeit still going strong. The new stories are from the likes of Shahbaz in Rohtak, who will start work as a bouncer in Dubai. Or, Flavio Soarez, ex-resident of Agassaim, Goa, who's graduated from cafeteria staff to restaurant manager, working in the UK. Or, Sandeep Saikia, a caregiver in Japan, whose family came from North Cachar Hills, Assam, and later moved to Guragon. Or, Amritsar resident Muskan Suri, who's now a fruit-picker in Portugal.

Rarely talked about in the media, never talked up by politicians, thousands of young (early 20s to early 30s) Indians are leaving home and legally emigrating to do blue-collar jobs in countries as different as Finland and Uzbekistan. Japan, East Asia, Europe, Australia, Canada and even the US — the mecca of the white-collar Indian immigrant — are recruiting blue-collar Indians.

Hard numbers are hard to find, because in data-poor India, unsurprisingly, there's no centralised database. But as **TOI** reporters — they spoke to young Indians, govt officials, private agencies across the country — found out, the Great Indian Outplacement (GIO) is a story that's getting bigger with every 20-something from a small town or a village landing a job in a country they had never heard of before.

GIO has many striking features. One of them is the close involvement of many state govts in the immigration process.

MAHARASHTRA TO ODISHA, UTTARAKHAND TO TELANGANA

Haryana Kaushal Rozgar Nigam (HKRN), the state's main recruitment agency, briefly made news with its ad inviting applications for 10,000 blue-collar jobs in other countries, conflict-hit Israel among them. But Haryana, where job creation for the young is stalling because of farm economy problems and GOI's introduction of temporary army recruitment, is one among many states proactively trying to find jobs for their young residents.

HKRN has advertised for both white-collar jobs — translators, UI/UX designers, yoga professionals; and blue-collar ones — structural fitters and fabricators, angle and bandsaw machine operators, AC technicians, masons, welders, bus drivers, cleaners, electricians, appliance technicians, plumbers, housekeeping attendants, cooking staff. Israel aside, jobs have been offered by companies in Japan, UK, Finland and Gulf countries. Per state data, 34,000 have applied so far for 13,545 posts.

Kendrapara, Odisha, has historically been a pan-India supplier of plumbers. Training was institutionalised via govt-backed State Institute of Plumbing Technology in 2006. Initially, most pass-outs, when not self-employed, found jobs in Indian companies and in India ops of MNCs. Then came a wave of migration to Gulf countries. Recently, though, plumbers from Odisha are leaving home to fix pipes around the world — not just closer-to-home East Asia but European countries like Spain and Poland. Kendrapara has a Migration Support and Resources Centre, which offers a toll-free phone helpline for aspiring migrants.

Down South, in Telangana, there's Tomcom (Telangana Overseas Manpower Company), a state govt body that helps state residents find jobs, typically blue collar, abroad. Tomcom runs an app. Aspirants have to fill in their details, including skill sets. They get a call when their skills match a job. Tomcom only connects applicants to legit jobs. Kitchen and caregiver jobs in Japan, healthcare jobs in Germany, construction site jobs in the Gulf. For the last category of jobs, there's also a JV between National Academy of Construction and the state govt. It provides free training to those willing to take up construction jobs abroad.

The champion state of blue-collar migration is also in the South — Kerala. Data from NORKA Roots, the state govt agency tasked with liaising with Keralite expats, shows there are 40 lakh people from Kerala working in 182 countries. The Gulf used to be a big destination. But of late other countries, including middle-income ones, are also in the list.

Kerala govt helps residents find suitable jobs abroad. It funds courses that teach foreign languages. It liaises with returnees from jobs abroad to help place aspiring immigrants, who also get a state govt-funded accident insurance cover.

If Kerala is an old hand in the blue-collar immigration game, Jharkhand is a recent joinee. The number of Jharkhandis taking up semi-skilled jobs abroad may be only around 4,000 now. But it's up from less than 1,500 in 2021. Gulf countries, Europe and North America are the usual destinations. The state govt is in talks with embassies of different countries. The plan is to set up formal facilities for those job-hunting outside India.

The land of sea, sun and fun — Goa — is no better off when it comes to unemployment among the young. Blue-collar immigration is on the rise here, too. Per Kamaxi Overseas Consultants, which works with Goans, Germany is a big draw. Goa govt's Commissionerate of NRI Affairs says Europe has replaced Gulf as the most sought-after destination. But the Gulf isn't gone. Take the case of a 4-star Bahrain resort looking for cooks, bellboys, floor managers, waiters and barmen, hoping to find suitably skilled people in a state that draws tourists by tens of thousands.

> Muskan Suri, from **Amritsar**, travelled to the Czech Republic first, taken in by travel agents' tall stories. What she found there was another stretch of unemployment. Then she went to **Portugal**, where, she says, she's happy working in an orchard

India's richest state (by size of state GDP) and Goa's neighbour, Maharashtra, is even better organised. A centre in Govandi, an eastern Mumbai suburb, is tasked with enrolling, training and upskilling any young Maharashtrian wanting to try his or her luck abroad. The state's skills university has a tie-up with National Skills Development Corporation. The idea is to find skills that are in demand in rich countries. Fitters for Germany, butchers for Japan, plumbers for Austria and elevator operators for Russia — they all got trained and/or upskilled in state govt facilities. There's official assistance for settling in and for getting visas.

A GOI INITIATIVE TOO

Skill India International, working with National Skill Development Corporation (NSDC), has sent over 25,700 young Indians abroad since Oct 2021, with nearly half of them going to Saudi Arabia. Construction companies around the globe have been major recruiters.

"OECD countries want healthcare workers,

> The champion state of blue-collar migration is also in the South: Kerala. There are **40 lakh people** from Kerala working in **182 countries**. The Gulf used to be a big destination. But of late, other countries are also in the list

Gulf countries and East European countries want construction workers…" said Ved Mani Tiwari, CEO of NSDC. "Approximately 12,000 people are currently undergoing training for international mobility."

NSDC works with many state govts. In Maharashtra, the state skills university works with NSDC. States are also competing to identify jobs in the global market and then finding and upskilling their young residents.

KEEPING THE CRIMINALS OUT

Human trafficking is one of the world's most profitable industries. Per some experts, it's more profitable than even the global drug trade. Young people from developing and poor countries are among the prime targets of human traffickers. Indians have fallen victim too — press-ganged into working in Russian battalions, slave labour in Myanmar, to name two recent horror stories.

Or take the story of Pavana Devi, a 24-year-old resident from Kangra, Himachal Pradesh. A travel agent sent her to Dubai, the job was that of a domestic help. But on landing there, she and eight other women were taken to Oman. Their passports and phones were taken away. It's only because she managed to contact her brother via another phone that the state govt and then MEA could step in and rescue her.

There would have been far more tragedies but for govt involvement, at state and central levels, in the blue-collar immigration ecosystem. Govt agencies don't just train and match skills to jobs. They act as deterrents to trafficking gangs.

Kerala govt agencies work with foreign govts to ensure safe immigration. There's a govt ID card for immigrants from the state. That card helps the state track residents working abroad. Jharkhand govt's helpline has been instrumental in rescuing stranded immigrants in Gulf countries. Telangana's Tomcom acts as a counterweight to fake recruitment agencies. Officials in Haryana's labour department regularly advise young residents to stay clear of touts promising jobs abroad. Haryana has passed a law that imposes a 10-year jail sentence and property confiscation for those found guilty of recruitment scams.

Given the number of young Indians looking for jobs, and given uneven regulation and policing standards across the country, gangs that exploit job-seekers will still have a 'market'. But their 'business model' is less sound than it was.

SALARIES THEY WOULD NEVER GET IN INDIA

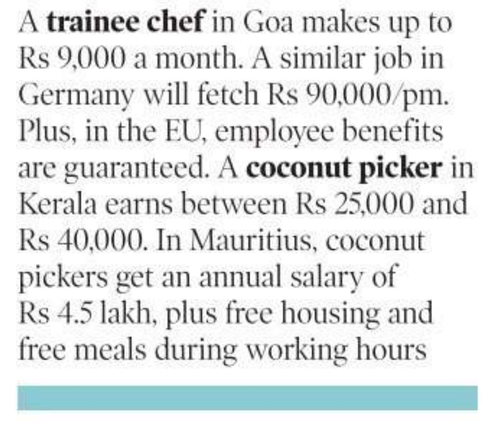
It's not just that young Indians are landing blue-collar jobs abroad, it's also that they are getting salaries four to 12 times what they would earn for a similar job in India. That these salaries are modest by host country standards is not the point — translated into Indian currency, they often represent life-changing opportunities for semi-skilled Indians.

A trainee chef in Goa makes Rs 8,000 to Rs 9,000 a month. A similar job in Germany will fetch Rs 90,000/pm. Plus, in the EU, employee benefits are guaranteed. How much does a coconut picker make in India? In Kerala, for a few months, earnings can be between Rs 25,000 and Rs 40,000. But there's no guarantee for the full year. And the job doesn't pay if you, say, fall sick. In Mauritius, coconut pickers are offered an annual, guaranteed salary of Rs 4.5 lakh, plus free housing and free meals during working hours.

> A **trainee chef** in Goa makes up to Rs 9,000 a month. A similar job in Germany will fetch Rs 90,000/pm. Plus, in the EU, employee benefits are guaranteed. A **coconut picker** in Kerala earns between Rs 25,000 and Rs 40,000. In Mauritius, coconut pickers get an annual salary of Rs 4.5 lakh, plus free housing and free meals during working hours

A caregiver in a Haryana health clinic was getting Rs 8,000/pm. His job in Japan, also as a caregiver, fetches him Rs 1 lakh/pm. Also in Japan, the son of a small farmer in Telangana, whose earning prospects were bleak, makes Rs 1.1 lakh/pm, working as a nurse. Someone working many blue-collar jobs in Gurgaon made at most Rs 20,000 a month. A bouncer's job in Dubai gets him more Rs 1.5 lakh/pm. Israeli recruitment agencies are offering between Rs 1 lakh and Rs 1.5 lakh/pm for jobs that fetch no more than Rs 10,000 to Rs 12,000/pm in India.

How much does a young man who scraped through high school make in Uttarakhand? This is a state where some villages have almost emptied out with people migrating to look for jobs. In Japan, working on a farm, he earns Rs 65,000/pm. A pickup van driver in Punjab, earning Rs 10,000 in a good month, went to Dubai, where he makes Rs 75,000-Rs 80,000/pm as a heavy vehicle driver. Odisha plumbers who migrate to big cities in India make on average Rs 30,000/pm. In Europe, Rs 1.5 lakh/pm is the norm.



UNITY IN ADVERSITY: STORIES OF BLUE-COLLAR NRIS

When **TOI** reporters spoke to blue-collar NRIs, or those getting ready to emigrate, their accounts varied widely in details, as you would expect in a country as big and as socially complex as India. There were two common threads though: first, a career move born out of desperation, second, a determination that helped them get over the all-too-understandable fear of the unknown.

Sandeep Saikia's family had migrated from the hills of Assam to Haryana. The youngest of three sons, the burden on him as he reached adulthood was the same as that on millions of semi-skilled Indians — how to earn enough to help a large family have a relatively decent life? His first preference was the army. But Agniveer put paid to that. His elder brothers — a cook in a small eatery and a guard — seemed stuck in their low-paying jobs. So, Sandeep, armed with a certificate course in nursing, took a leap of faith — and landed in Japan, where he earns a salary unthinkable for his peers back home.

Muskan Suri, from Amritsar, struggled to find a job, any job, in her hometown. She travelled to the Czech Republic first, taken in by travel agents' tall stories. What she found there was another stretch of unemployment. Czech businesses were looking for specific skill sets, which she couldn't offer. But the doughty spirit that drives so many of these young Indians landed her in Portugal, where, she says, she's happy working in an orchard.

Tashi Drema, from Tawang, Arunachal Pradesh, is the daughter of a local, low-level policeman. Following a stint with NSDC centre, where she got trained and counselled, she landed a job in Japan. Her experience working as a caregiver has been transformational. "Our company in Japan made all the arrangements for us to be picked up from the airport… they helped us settle down. I am able to send back a large part of my earnings to my mother," Tashi says.

Yellendu, in Telangana's Khammam district, is a poor tribal area. Guguloth Sukhdev's father ekes out a living from a tiny farm. Sukhdev's future in his village was guaranteed to be bleak. He didn't give up. He applied with Tomcom, got selected, and took a 3-month crash course in Japanese language and Japanese etiquette. He's now in Japan, working in the healthcare sector.

Sheshant Falari from Succaro, Goa, chose a hotel job in Dubai over a factory job in his home state. Peter Dias, a Goan from Quepem, lost his job in the pandemic, got another job as a chef in a Goa restaurant. But as soon as the cruise industry began, he started looking — he's now a chef in a cruise ship that operates out of Miami, US. These are immigrants who left jobs at home and embraced the unknown because they chose not to get stuck in a low pay rut.

Nirmal Singh Ranswal, from Champawat, Uttarakhand, had nothing really to offer in a modern job market. He just about managed to finish school. His monthly earning prospects varied between zero and a few thousand rupees. Undaunted, he searched — and he took himself to Chiba Ichihara in Japan. His job? Be at a farm every morning, armed with a measuring tape. On a recent morning, he had to sow cabbage, leaving a precise gap of 30cm between two saplings.

For some blue-collar NRIs, the first step gives them the confidence of dreaming bigger. Devendra Kumar, from Karjat, Maharashtra, is learning German. A "good job" in Germany is his first goal. Next? To become "a part of the internationally mobile workforce".

Tarun Virji Manani, a mason's son from Gujarat, is now a mason in Australia. Generations of the Manani family have always lived and worked in Ahmedabad. But, with what Tarun sends back every month from Australia, the Mananis live a different life.

THE STORY WILL CONTINUE

Blue-collar immigration won't stop anytime soon. Worker shortage in rich countries will keep getting worse. The number of young jobseekers in India will keep growing. If more states get proactive, both in skilling and in acting as a bridge between aspiring immigrants and bona fide recruiters in foreign countries, what's now a steady flow can well become a flood in the years to come.

We will still celebrate the Indian-origin CEO of an MNC. But we must recognise the drive and the courage of India's underprivileged young, who are fixing pipes, driving cars, mixing drinks, planting crops… across the world.

Reporting by: ***Hemali Chhapia, Ankita Anand, Rohit Mullick, Ajay Sura, Vinod Kumar, Newton Sequeira, Lisa Monteiro, Sushil Rao, Preetu Nair, KR Rajeev, Asish Senapati, Ashok Pradhan, ASRP Mukesh***

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Russian women prisoners get $2k/mth offer to fight Ukraine

Includes Pardon; Military Ads Now Feature Women

Berlin: The Russian army is expanding the role of women as it seeks to balance President Vladimir Putin's promotion of traditional family roles with the need for new recruits for the war in Ukraine.

The military's stepped-up appeal to women includes efforts to recruit female inmates in prisons, replicating on a much smaller scale a strategy that has swelled its ranks with male convicts. Recruiters in military uniforms toured Russian jails for women in the fall of 2023, offering inmates a pardon and $2,000 a month — 10 times the national minimum wage — in return for serving in front-line roles for a year, according to six current and former inmates of three prisons in different regions of Russia.

Dozens of inmates just from those prisons have signed military contracts or applied to enlist, the women said, a sampling that — along with local media reports about recruitment in other regions — suggests a broader effort to enlist female convicts.

It's not just convicts. Women now feature in Russian military recruitment advertisements across the country.

NYT

AT ODDS: The Russian military's need to replenish its ranks by recruiting women clashes with Putin's conservatism that portrays women as child-bearers, mothers and wives guarding the nation's social harmony

A pro-Kremlin paramilitary unit fighting in Ukraine also recruits women. "Combat experience and military specialties are not required," read an advertisement aimed at women that was posted in March in Russia's Tatarstan region. It offered training and a sign-up bonus equivalent to $4,000. "We have one goal — victory!"

Putin has placed women at the core of this vision, portraying them as child-bearers, mothers and wives guarding the nation's social harmony. "The most important thing for every women, no matter what profession she has chosen and what heights she has reached, is the family," Putin said in a speech March 8. These clashing military and social priorities have resulted in contradictory policies that seek to recruit women to the military to fill a need but send conflicting signals about the roles women can assume there.

"I have gotten used to the fact that I am often looked at like a monkey — like, 'Wow, she's in fatigues!'" said Ksenia Shkoda, a native of central Ukraine who has fought for pro-Russian forces since 2014.

Some female volunteers do not make it to Ukraine. The convicts who enlisted in late 2023 have yet to be sent to fight, the six former and current inmates said. They spoke on the condition of anonymity for fear of possible retribution. NYT

Zelensky on Russia's criminal 'wanted' list

Russia has added Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky to its list of wanted criminals, a move Kyiv dismissed as a sign of Moscow's "desperation". Zelensky's name appeared on Saturday on the Russian interior ministry's "wanted" list, an online database of alleged criminals sought by the Russian authorities. It said the Ukrainian leader was wanted "under an article of the criminal code", without providing further details. There was no immediate comment from Russian officials as to why he had been added to the list. AFP

Russia: Shot down 4 US-made missiles

The Russian defence ministry said on Saturday its air defence forces shot down four US-produced long-range missiles over the Crimea peninsula, weapons known as Army Tactical Missile Systems (ATACMS) that Washington has shipped to Ukraine in recent weeks. The ministry said later Russian aircraft and air defence systems had downed a total of 15 ATACMS in the last week. REUTERS

Gaza protests: For Indian students in US, stakes are much higher

Aware that suspension or arrest could put their hard-earned scholarships and visas at risk, many are wary of joining in

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When news that Achinthya Sivalingam GS, an Indian-origin graduate student at Princeton University, had been arrested during a Gaza solidarity sit-in on campus made the headlines, visa and education consultants in India were deluged with calls from students and parents.

"They are worried about semesters getting delayed, degrees coming in later. They keep asking: 'Will placements get delayed? Will visas be extended? What will happen when the study permit ends? How will we manage their fees?'" says Salil Bhatia, a visa consultant in Delhi-NCR.

SARTHAK GARG, FRESHMAN AT COLUMBIA

We put in a lot of money, years of hard work and effort — much more than many domestic students in the US — to get here

As Gaza protests engulf Columbia and other campuses in the US, parents have their own set of anxieties — what if their son or daughter joins in the movement and is detained, jeopardising their hard-earned scholarships, visas and semester time?

Sarthak Garg, a financial economics major at Columbia, says things are under control in his campus. "There is restricted movement, and the New York Police Department (NYPD) has wiped out all protests," says Garg on a Zoom call over breakfast. The first-year student from Jaipur is studying in the US on an F-1 visa and has maintained a neutral silence on the pro-Palestinian protests sweeping American campuses since April 17, its epicentre being Columbia University from where cops arrested over 100 student protestors alone.

RETHINK: Some Indian students are thinking about deferring admissions due to concerns about disruption

For Garg, it's the end of the spring semester and he must focus on his final exams — which have moved online — this week. "We put in a lot of money, years of hard work and effort — much more than many domestic students — to get to Columbia. The stakes are pretty high for us," says Garg, still reeling from the shock of heavy police presence on campus.

Indians make up 25% of the international students in the US, according to an Open Doors Report last year. But like Garg, many desi students are wary of joining in for fear of detention and consequent loss of scholarships or revoking of their F-1 and J-1 visas, and even deportation. Other pressing concerns include the F-2 visas of dependents of expelled students being cancelled, not to mention a blight on the academic record that might hinder chances of transfer to other universities or even future entry into the country. If arrested, legal rights are limited compared to domestic students.

Besides, doxing for taking political sides is also problematic. Right after the Hamas attack on Israel in October, some student groups from Harvard University had posted an open letter blaming Israel for the violence. Several co-signers of the controversial statement were later named and shamed online for being anti-Semitic, and their job offers taken away. International students are the hardest hit in such situations.

But, involved or not, Indian students can hardly escape the consequences. In this election year, Bhatia doesn't expect campus protests to die out any time soon. "At least one semester will be badly hit, which will directly impact applications in the fall semester (August) which has the highest number of Indian students enrolling. Already, students are asking if they should defer admissions," he adds.

Shreyashi Sharma, an LLM candidate at the UCLA School of Law who is scheduled to graduate on May 10, has been attending protests in LA since last year and even in the main campus, but admits she cannot risk joining the encampments set up in college grounds where hundreds of students were arrested this week. "To see all this is very dystopian yet very familiar, coming as I do from India. But I am also overwhelmed to see the support protestors are getting in terms of legal aid, medicine, food etc."

Garg remembers Hamilton Hall's rich history of protest, against the Vietnam War in 1968 and apartheid in 1985. But says it's different this time. "Were the administrator's actions appropriate or harsh? Was such a heavy NYPD presence required on campus? Is free speech gone in a university like Columbia or can students still protest in future? How much space for international advocacy will remain? These questions are hanging in the air for all of us here," he says.

German EU candidate beaten up

Berlin: A candidate for German Chancellor Olaf Scholz's centre-left party in next month's election for the European Parliament was beaten up and seriously injured while campaigning in an eastern city, the Social Democrats party said Saturday. Matthias Ecke, 41, was attacked while putting up posters in Dresden on Friday. It said he was taken to hospital and required surgery for his injuries. Government and opposition parties say their members and supporters have faced a wave of physical and verbal attacks in recent months. Many of the incidents have occurred in the former communist east of the country, where the far-right and anti-establishment Alternative for Germany party, or AfD, is expected to make gains in the European elections and in German state elections in the fall. AP

London mayor Khan wins third term; Tories routed in local polls

London's Labour mayor Sadiq Khan on Saturday secured a record third term, dealing the Conservatives another damaging defeat in their worst local election results in recent memory months before an expected general election. Khan, 53, easily beat Tory challenger Susan Hall to scupper largely forlorn Tory hopes that they could prise the capital away from Labour for the first time since 2016.

The first Muslim mayor of a Western capital when first elected, he had been widely expected to win as Labour surge nationally and the Conservatives suffer in the polls. In the end, he saw his margin of victory increase compared to the last contest in 2021. "It's truly an honour to be re-elected for a third term," Khan told supporters, accusing his Tory opponent of "fearmongering".

AP

FIRMLY SEATED: Sadiq Khan gives a speech after the results, in London, on Saturday

"We ran a campaign that was in keeping with the spirit and values of this great city, a city that regards our diversity not as a weakness, but as an almighty strength — and one that rejects right hard-wing populism," he added.

It adds to a dismal set of results for Prime Minister Rishi Sunak, as his Tories finished a humiliating third in local council tallies after losing nearly 500 seats in voting Thursday across England.

With Labour making huge gains, the beleaguered leader's Conservatives lost crunch mayoral races in Manchester, Liverpool, Yorkshire as well as the capital and elsewhere. In the West Midlands, Tory incumbent Andy Street reportedly requested a recount with the contest too close to call.

An unexpected Tory defeat there could leave Sunak with only one notable success: the party's mayor winning a third term in Tees Valley.

Writing in Saturday's Daily Telegraph, Sunak conceded "voters are frustrated" but insisted "Labour is not winning in places they admit they need for a majority". "We Conservatives have everything to fight for," Sunak argued. AFP

Florida bans sale of meat grown in lab

Florida has banned making and selling meat that is grown in a laboratory, a move several other states have considered amid worries about consumer safety and concerns that the technique could hurt the beef and poultry industries. A number of startup companies are developing technologies to grow beef, chicken and fish by using cells taken from animals without harming or slaughtering them. The process is expensive and the widespread availability of so-called lab-grown meat is years away. Beef and poultry associations, as well as some conservatives, have opposed the industry, calling it antifarmer. NYT

Nations must work together to tackle juvenile cybercrime: CJI

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi: Chief Justice of India D Y Chandrachud on Saturday expressed concern over growing footprint of juveniles in cybercrime and suggested that countries and their agencies should cooperate to deal with the problem.

Speaking at a National Symposium on Juvenile Justice organised in Nepal, Justice Chandrachud said that specific training programmes should be evolved by incorporating principles of trauma-informed care and by emphasising sensitivity and empathy towards juvenile offenders who may have experienced adverse experiences in life. "The changing nature of crimes, particularly with the increasing prevalence of digital crime, poses new challenges for juvenile justice systems globally. Recent data from the National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB) in India, unveiled last month, paints a concerning picture regarding cybercrimes. In 2022, the reported number of cases (involving juveniles) surged from 345 to 685 compared to 2021, nearly doubling within a year," the CJI, who is the first CJI to visit Nepal in his official capacity, said.

PTI

The CJI speaks at the National Symposium on Juvenile Justice, in Kathmandu, Saturday

He said there is a need for proactive measures to educate and safeguard young individuals in the digital age. The CJI said juvenile justice systems must adapt by enhancing international cooperation mechanisms and sharing best practices to address the transnational nature of digital crimes.

Boeing is on the verge of launching astronauts to ISS

Cape Canaveral (US): After years of delays and stumbles, Boeing is finally poised to launch astronauts to the International Space Station for Nasa. It's the first flight of Boeing's Starliner capsule with a crew on board, a pair of Nasa pilots who will check out the spacecraft during the test drive and a weeklong stay at the space station. Nasa turned to US companies for astronaut rides after its space shuttles were retired. Boeing has managed only a pair of unoccupied test flights so far, and its long-awaited astronaut demo is slated for liftoff Monday night. Provided this tryout goes well, Nasa will alternate between Boeing and SpaceX to get astronauts to and from the space station. AP

Worsening weather is igniting a $25bn market

Marty Malinow's mom never could get her head around what her son did for a living. To friends, she said he was "a stockbroker that does something with the weather." Malinow couldn't really object — he knew most people had no clue about financial contracts based on things like rainfall and wind.

That's beginning to change. Against a backdrop of rising climate volatility and social shifts, demand for weather derivatives is surging. Average trading volumes for listed products jumped more than 260% in 2023, according to the CME Group, with the number of outstanding contracts currently 48% higher than a year ago. And that publicly traded corner could make up as little as 10% of all activity, according to industry estimates; outstanding derivatives may be worth as much as $25 billion based on notional value.

"There's a lot more trajectory to our business right now," says Malinow, the founder and chief executive officer of advisory firm Parameter Climate. "The heightened fragility from direct weather volatility, supply-chain issues, inflation, geopolitics. It means weather can eat up a bigger part of the bottom line now."

Wall Street's better-known weather bets, catastrophe bonds, are also riding high following a year of bumper returns. But this boom is playing out in derivatives, which provide a different kind of hedge: Protection from less severe but more common meteorological threats. While a cat bond may pay out if a 100-year storm tears through a community, a weather derivative can compensate a tourism business if there are too many rainy days, or a farmer if a hot summer stresses her crops.

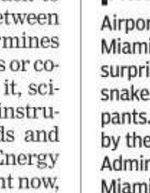
Part of the jump in demand is driven by corporations newly confronting their exposure to the elements. In some cases, it's because their operations have already been impacted, in others because they're responding to investor and consumer pressures. In many jurisdictions, regulators are beginning to compel firms to quantify how much of a threat the weather is to their business. Most large and listed European firms are required to disclose what they see as risks and opportunities from environmental factors. BLOOMBERG

Trump vows to fight 'anti-White feeling' in US

Washington: Donald Trump's pledge to fight what he calls "anti-White feeling" in the US will likely embolden allies who seek to dismantle government and corporate programs created to battle racism and boost diversity in American life. "I think there is a definite anti-White feeling in this country," Trump told *Time* in an interview published on Tuesday. "I don't think it would be a very tough thing to address, frankly. But I think the laws are very unfair right now." Trump did not specify examples of anti-White bias nor policy prescriptions in the interview. REUTERS

Berkshire pares huge Apple stake

Omaha: Berkshire Hathaway significantly reduced its enormous stake in Apple in the first quarter, as **Warren Buffett**'s conglomerate let its cash hoard swell to a record $189 billion. Buffett's company also posted a record operating profit exceeding $11 billion, as its insurance operations benefited from improved underwriting and higher income from investments as interest rates rose.



The value of Berkshire's stake in Apple fell 22% to $135.4 billion as of March 31 from $174.3 billion at the end of 2023, even though the iPhone maker's share price fell just 11% in the quarter. Based on changes in Apple's stock price, Berkshire appears to have sold about 115 million shares, or 13% of its holdings, in the quarter, ending with about 790 million.

A large sale is an about-face for Buffett, who is normally tech-phobic but came to view Apple as a consumer goods company with strong pricing power and devoted customers.

At the annual meeting on Saturday, Buffett assured shareholders that "unless something dramatic happens that really changes capital allocation, we will have Apple as our largest investment." REUTERS

Arguments in Google antitrust trial conclude

Washington: A landmark antitrust trial against Google concluded Friday after a federal judge heard final arguments, setting the stage for a ruling that could fundamentally shift the tech industry's power.

"The importance and significance of this case is not lost on me, not only for Google but for the public," Judge Amit Mehta said in the final moments of the proceedings Friday.

His ruling in the coming weeks or months will probably influence the course of other government antitrust lawsuits against Apple, Amazon and Meta, as US regulators try to rein in their power. NYT

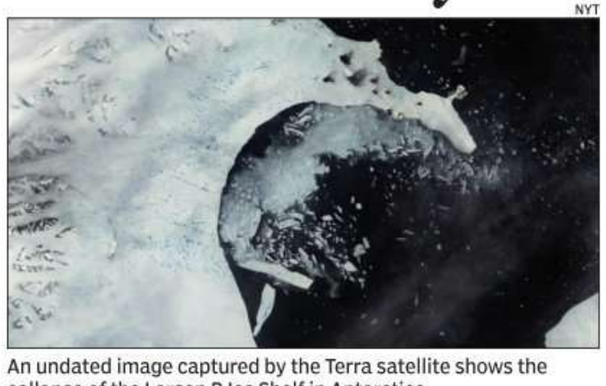
Nasa's about to lose its eyes on Earth & scientists are worried

Raymond Zhong

Sometime in the next few years — no one knows exactly when — three Nasa satellites, each one as heavy as an elephant, will go dark. Already they are drifting, losing height bit by bit. They have been gazing down at the planet for over two decades, far longer than anyone expected, helping us forecast the weather, manage wildfires, monitor oil spills and more. But age is catching up to them, and soon they will send their last transmissions and begin their slow, final fall to Earth. It's a moment scientists are dreading.

When the three orbiters — Terra, Aqua and Aura — are powered down, much of the data they've been collecting will end with them, and newer satellites won't pick up all of the slack. Researchers will either have to rely on alternate sources that might not meet their exact needs or seek workarounds to allow their records to continue. With some of the data these satellites gather, the situation is even worse: No other instruments will keep collecting it.

NYT



An undated image captured by the Terra satellite shows the collapse of the Larsen B Ice Shelf in Antarctica

In a few short years, the fine features they reveal about our world will become much fuzzier. "Losing this irreplaceable data is simply tragic," said Susan Solomon, an atmospheric chemist at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. "Just when the planet most needs for us to focus on understanding how we are affected by it, and how we are affecting it, we seem to be disastrously asleep at the wheel."

The main area we're losing eyes on is the stratosphere, the all-important home of the ozone layer. Across the stratosphere's cold, thin air, ozone molecules are constantly being formed and destroyed, tossed and swept, as they interact with other gases. Some of these gases have natural origins; others are there because of us. An instrument on Aura, the microwave limb sounder, gives us our best line of sight into this seething chemical drama, said Ross J. Salawitch, an atmospheric scientist at the University of Maryland. Once Aura is gone, our vision will dim considerably.

Recently, data from the microwave limb sounder has been proving its worth in unexpected ways, Salawitch said. It showed how much damage was done to ozone by the devastating wildfires in Australia in late 2019 and early 2020, and by the undersea volcanic eruption near Tonga in 2022. It helped show how much ozone-depleting pollution was getting lofted into the stratosphere over East Asia by the region's summer monsoon.

If it weren't going offline so soon, the sounder might also help unravel a big mystery, Salawitch said. "The thickness of the ozone layer over populated regions in the Northern Hemisphere has hardly changed over the last decade," he said. "It should be recovering. And it's not."

Jack Kaye, the associate director of research at Nasa's Earth Science Division, acknowledged researchers' concerns about the end of the sounder. But he argued that other sources, including instruments on newer satellites, on the International Space Station and here on Earth, would still provide "a pretty good window into what the atmosphere is doing." Financial realities force Nasa to make "tough decisions," Kaye said.

To scientists who study our changing planet, the difference between the same data and almost the same data can be vast. They might think they understand how something is evolving. But only by monitoring it continuously, in an unchanging way, over a long stretch of time, can they be confident about what's going on. Even a short break in the records can create problems.

Last year, Nasa canvassed scientists for thoughts on how the end of Terra, Aqua and Aura would affect their work. Over 180 answered the call. Even if there are alternate sources for this information, the scientists wrote, they might be less frequent, or of lower resolution, or limited to certain times of day, all factors that shape how useful the data is.

The end of Terra and Aqua will affect the way we monitor another important driver of our climate: how much solar radiation the planet receives, absorbs and bounces back to space. The balance between these amounts determines how much Earth warms or cools. And to understand it, scientists rely on the instruments of Nasa's Clouds and the Earth's Radiant Energy System, or CERES. Right now, four satellites are flying with CERES instruments: Terra, Aqua, plus two newer ones that are nearing their end. NYT

AROUND THE WORLD

AFP

HONOUR FOR PELOSI: US President Joe Biden presents the Presidential Medal of Freedom to US Representative Nancy Pelosi in the East Room of the White House in Washington on Friday. The presidential medal is the nation's highest civilian honor

Bag of snakes in pants, flyer held

Airport security officers in Miami found a slithering surprise last week — a bag of snakes hidden in a passenger's pants. According to an X post by the Transportation Security Administration, officers at the Miami International Airport found the small bag of snakes hidden in a passenger's trousers on April 26 at a checkpoint. The post included a photo of two small snakes that were found in what appeared to be a sunglasses bag. The snakes were turned over to the wildlife authorities. AP

Houston braces for more flooding: High waters flooded neighbourhoods around Houston on Saturday after heavy rains that have already resulted in crews rescuing hundreds of people from homes, rooftops and roads engulfed in murky water.

Pannun: Western outrage shouldn't touch RAW nerve

RIGHT & WRONG

SWAPAN DASGUPTA

A section of the intelligence community in the US has taken the assistance of a Washington daily newspaper to suggest that an alleged bid to murder Gurpatwant Singh Pannun, a North America-based leader of the Khalistan movement, "bore the hallmarks of an Indian state-sanctioned, state-sponsored assassination on US soil".

Having joined Canada's Justin Trudeau government in accusing India's external intelligence agency R&AW of violating copybook procedures in its war against Khalistani separatists, the CIA has gone a step further and made public the identity of Vikram Yadav, the officer it claims was the operational head of the mission. It has also been asserted that the then R&AW chief was fully in the loop. The disclosures followed a belief in US official circles that New Delhi was not serious about investigating the apparently roguish conduct of operatives in North America.

The feigned outrage in Washington over India's "murder plot" on US soil has given a handle to Narendra Modi's domestic critics to argue that it was inconceivable that a major undercover operation of this nature didn't have the endorsement of both National Security Adviser Ajit Doval and the Prime Minister. There is also the veiled threat that unless India took a few steps back and abandoned its aggressive campaign against separatists, the future of India-US relations would be jeopardised.

Since much of the US dossier against R&AW operations is based on assumptions, it is worthwhile exploring what would have happened if the hired killer contracted by one Nikhil Gupta—himself apparently subcontracted by R&AW to deal with Pannun—hadn't turned out to be an undercover US agent. Had the Khalistani leader indeed been neutralised, there would have been a momentary fuss. However, given that Pannun's menacing public utterances hardly stood the test of responsible US citizenship, it is likely that the matter would have been filed and forgotten. Unlike Canada where pro-Khalistan Sikhs have become a vote bank and are courted by the three mainstream parties, they are relatively insignificant in the US. Barring some state-level representatives, the Democratic and Republican establishments don't feel obliged to support the Khalistani cause. They would rather court successful professionals and moneybags among US citizens of Indian origin.

Yet, it is undeniable that Operation Pannun failed. It encountered what every undercover operation dreads: bad luck. Had the hapless Gupta, now in a Prague jail awaiting extradition to US, chosen a different contract killer, the results would probably have been quite different.

DIFFERENT STORY: Had Operation Pannun not failed, the matter would have been forgotten in the US since pro-Khalistan Sikhs are relatively insignificant there

In the aftermath of failure, messy professional rivalries inside R&AW have taken centre-stage. The responsibility for sullying its reputation has been pinned on Vikram Yadav and former R&AW chief Samant Goel. Both have been accused of being flat-footed policemen, incapable of distinguishing between operations in New York and Punjab. The critics seem to suggest that the Mossad-like approach of R&AW should be abandoned in favour of the agency's pre-Modi approach to fighting separatism: supplying the villains with suitcases of cash.

That the US offensive is against an inept R&AW operative with suspect tradecraft who also overstepped his limits is partially correct. Whether Pannun, as has been suspected in some quarters, doubled up as a US intelligence asset and is therefore precious, isn't known. However, what is significant is the way US has reacted to this supposed murder plot.

To believe the US regards its soil as sacred and values all its citizens equally is hogwash. Pannun has come in handy to mobilise the Five Eyes alliance comprising the US, UK, Canada, Australia, and New Zealand to put pressure on New Delhi to tone down its aggressive opposition to the diaspora Khalistanis. There is an awareness that the formidable reputation India's intelligence agencies have acquired in the neighbourhood, particularly inside Pakistan, has helped India shed its pushover, soft state status. India's opponents are running scared.

That this has happened in pursuance of a doctrine that upholds muscularity is also well known. Coming in the wake of the political support for retaliatory surgical strikes and assertions of strategic autonomy, there is a feeling in sections of western establishments that the Modi dispensation should be brought down a notch or two. Maybe it is wrong to over-read the significance of the timing of the media campaign against Modi and Doval, but it can't be separated altogether. The political leadership in the West may not be as invested in this project, but intelligence agencies are known to exercise their own operational autonomy.

What is important is that India should not resile from its determination to uphold national interests uncompromisingly. The skills upgradation of R&AW can happen without the country's strategic doctrines being diluted to accommodate the sensitivities of nations that have long lost the ability to distinguish between friends and enemies. ■

What is vikas, and at what cost do we want it, asks 'Green Nobel' winner

For over a decade, 43-year-old environmentalist ***Alok Shukla*** *has led a movement to save the lungs of Chhattisgarh, the Hasdeo forests. It resulted in the cancellation of proposed coal mines in the region and was held up as a model for grassroots campaigns. The Goldman Environmental Prize awardee speaks to* ***Shruti Sonal*** *about his green crusade*

FOR THE RECORD

■ Congratulations on getting the Goldman Environmental Prize (also known as the 'Green Nobel'). Did you ever think the Hasdeo campaign would become so big?

We have been fighting for 'jal, jangal, zameen' in Chhattisgarh for two decades. I never thought I would get such a big recognition for it. I am happy and proud, but also aware that the responsibility only increases from here on. More than anything, I see it as a recognition of the adivasi community's struggle. This award belongs to all the tribals, villagers and citizens who are part of the campaign. I hope it encourages more and more people to read about it. Hasdeo can become a model for fights in Jharkhand, Odisha, Maharashtra, and everywhere else.

■ The prize citation states how the #SaveHasdeo trended with couples even using it in their wedding invites. How did you involve villagers in the campaign? What were the challenges?

I had been working in Chhattisgarh since 2004 but visited Hasdeo only in 2011, invited by one of the local leaders. I was taken aback by the beauty of the sal forests and the Hasdeo river. Then, I got to know that 21 coal blocks had already been identified there, which would put almost one lakh hectares at risk of deforestation. The people had only one question in mind: how can they fight the government and a big corporation? They were not even aware of their constitutional rights. Hasdeo is spread over a massive area, and mobilising people from different villages and involving gram panchayats was crucial. We told them about the rights they have over their land and resources. Gradually, they became enthused to fight together. We decided this fight would be for the whole of Hasdeo, not just for a single forest or river, using legal rights, democratic models, and peaceful ways of mobilisation. There was a backlash, with many attempts at intimidation or buying out people.

■ But the movement became much bigger, going beyond Hasdeo.

Many movements in India in the last two decades have a common pattern — the fight for resources usually becomes limited to the lives of those directly affected by it. I understood that unless the Hasdeo cause got support from the masses outside, it would be difficult to strengthen the fight. It wasn't only a fight for constitutional and cultural rights of adivasis. Hasdeo forests are the lungs of Chhattisgarh — its future will have a wider environmental impact, especially on the country's monsoon cycle. We talked about how it might affect farmers' access to water in nearby states, wildlife conservation efforts, and increase man-animal conflict. This brought together a wide cross-section of people, including students, lawyers, and activists from urban areas. On social media, we said this was a fight for everyone's right to breathe. It became a platform to amplify local voices and made mainstream media take note. After a long time, a movement managed to break geographical and linguistic borders. It became a jan andolan across multiple cities.

■ Development and ecology are often pitted against each other. Is there a way to balance both in India?

Our fight to save Hasdeo is still on. There are six coal blocks remaining, and protests are ongoing at the site. But the campaign has managed to raise an important question: what is vikas, and at what cost do we want it? In 2010, the Hasdeo forests had been declared a no-go zone by the ministry of environment and forests. The Wildlife Institute of India had also called for it in 2021, saying there would be widespread ecological destruction and human-wildlife conflict otherwise. We asked a simple question — can we destroy such a forest to get coal? People and MLAs in Rajasthan, who were beneficiaries of this coal, said they don't want coal at such a massive cost. Meanwhile, people in Chhattisgarh asked another question: if India has set targets to push renewables, phase out coal and become net-zero by 2070, why do they need coal at all costs? One of the biggest wins was when the Chhattisgarh assembly passed a resolution in July 2022 to cancel all the coal blocks in Hasdeo.

■ What can be done to make green concerns more central to political discourse today?

We must increase awareness both in society and within parties. There's a long way to go in India, but if citizens bring it up strongly, politicians cannot ignore it. It's sad that currently, such issues are hardly mentioned in election manifestos even though they directly impact the lives of millions of people. Having a safe environment to live in is a part of the constitutional right to life. Yet, at a policy level, environmental laws are weakening, and paving way for more pro-corporate laws and faster environmental clearances, as seen in the Forest Conservation Act amendments. Activists on ground and those who write about the environment will have to step up. Including these issues in school curricula to sensitise children from a young age is the need of the hour.

Behenji's fightback: Mayawati tries to retrieve lost relevance in national politics

BY INVITATION

BADRI NARAYAN

While travelling around Dalit bastis and hamlets in villages and in urban slums, one hears two popular narratives — first, *jo free ration dewe, vote wohi ke jaye* (the party which distributes free ration will get our vote), and second, *party ke bachayib, hathi ke jhumayib* (we will save our party and make the elephant stronger).

One is clearly in favour of BJP, which implemented the free ration scheme for poor, Dalit, subalterns and marginals. Another represents support for Bahujan Samaj Party (BSP) and its leader Mayawati.

While BSP does face an existential crisis, it would be premature to write off Mayawati who still has the capacity to mobilise her base. There are two reasons. First, her cadre seems to have been activated at the grassroots this time. Secondly Mayawati, her nephew Akash Anand and other leaders of the party are constantly and aggressively attacking the welfare approach that emerged among the poor because of BJP-initiated schemes. Through this strategy, BSP is working hard to retrieve its base vote from the growing influence of BJP among Dalits, marginals and the poor.

Mayawati has seemingly reinvented her political diction in this election, from a macro-discourse to a more detailed one. Previously, she used to critique BJP and other parties for their developmental model in an abstract way. Now, that critique has evolved into a more granular attack. She is weaving in narratives of developmental schemes and their impact on the everyday problems of common people. She seems to be constantly shifting her electoral appeal to respond to issues raised by competing political parties. It shows BSP has strengthened its feedback system in this election.

She and her party are also campaigning aggressively in this election, in virtual and physical modes, compared to the last few elections. Her party is organising rallies, door-to-door programmes and finding other ways to forge direct contact with people. Party leaders are active on social media platforms like Facebook, X and also interacting with the media. Earlier, Mayawati and BSP ignored or gave less importance to the media for the purposes of electoral mobilisation. This time, she has shifted to a fast mode of electioneering. Another factor that strengthens her campaign is the support she is getting from Akash Anand. It is observed on the ground that Akash is being accepted among BSP voters as the party's second rank of leadership. Being a foreign-returned youth from the Dalit community, and the heir to Mayawati, provides a symbolic base to his leadership bid. BSP is also trying to regain political space in Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Rajasthan and Maharashtra by choosing strong candidates and organising systematic campaigns.

Mayawati is constantly deconstructing stereotypical perceptions created by a section of media and opinion-makers. She takes on accusations of being BJP's B-team, of striking underhand deals with BJP to cut votes and hurt the prospects of opposition parties. She attacks both BJP and the INDIA alliance very sharply. She has put up candidates from the same castes and communities against the BJP in many UP constituencies. She has played a similar strategy against INDIA bloc candidates of Samajwadi Party and Congress. The perception is being built that BSP is not going to give a walkover to any of its competitors.

Mayawati is trying to constitute a third pole in the real sense, by creating equal distance with NDA and INDIA bloc. To create a triangular fight in many constituencies in Uttar Pradesh, her strategy is to give tickets to candidates from the numerically dominant caste and community in that particular constituency.

She has used this method to evolve a local, constituency-wise plan. Her social engineering strategy is to bring a certain percentage of these dominant-community votes and add this to her base. To energise its base, BSP is telling its cadre to save the party that is crucial for their social existence and their future generations.

How will this third pole fare in the parliamentary election? They may not necessarily get an impressive number of seats, but they will still have a big impact on the results. First, it may determine the victory and defeat of NDA and INDIA candidates in many UP constituencies. Second, it may decrease the margin of victory of both sides. Third, BSP may retrieve some of its lost relevance in national politics, which is its main goal in this election. We need to wait and see the results of Mayawati's efforts in this do-or-die election for BSP and Dalit-led independent politics in India. ■

Narayan is director of the GB Pant Social Science Institute, Prayagraj

Song ka jawab, ban se denge? Stop censoring poll ditties

SWAMINOMICS

SWAMINATHAN S ANKLESARIA AIYAR

Psephologist Yogendra Yadav calls this the most unfair election ever. So does Trinamool Congress. The foreign media have uttered similar sentiments. BJP will disagree. But the Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) will agree passionately. It says the party seeks to win by jailing opponents and threatening those still free.

The charges against top AAP leaders are based on confessions from some parties in a liquor scam. And AAP has some serious questions to answer. But this should mean quick trials with the accused out on bail. It should not mean endless jail without bail. "The process is the punishment," to quote the Supreme Court.

Delhi chief minister Arvind Kejriwal is in jail. So are deputy chief minister Manish Sisodia and former health minister Satyendra Jain. So too, for months was Rajya Sabha MP Sanjay Singh. The most prominent AAP leader left, Atishi, alleges—so far without any proof—the BJP and enforcement agencies are targeting her and three others, and that she has been told to join BJP to avoid arrest.

Corruption charges are common in politics. These are sometimes followed by arrests, but the accused stay out on bail and remain in active politics for decades. Hundreds escape conviction thanks to a gentleman's agreement (you could call it honour among thieves) between most parties to ensure weak prosecutions to keep politicians of all stripes out of jail.

The difference today is that draconian laws, notably on money laundering and unlawful activities, are being used to jail foes without bail. BJP calls this effective enforcement. Opposition parties call it vendetta.

Many of those targeted have defected. According to a report in The Indian Express, since 2014, no less than 23 of the 25 top politicians who, in recent years, defected to the BJP had cases against them dropped or prosecutions halted. Doesn't this have some similarities to the standard offer made by Central American cartels to those who came in their way—'Join us and become rich, or oppose us and die'?

Institutional independence has eroded deeply. Consider last week's attempt by the Chief Electoral Officer of Delhi to stop AAP from using election songs to protest Kejriwal's jailing. '*Jail ka jawab hum vote se denge*' (we will respond to jailing through the ballot box) is how the lyrics went. What's wrong with winning through the ballot?

The CEO says the slogan casts aspersions on the judiciary, something forbidden in the cable TV network rules. Fiddlesticks. The song casts aspersions not on the judiciary but on the misuse of draconian laws meant to be used against terrorists and big gangsters. AAP's slogan, that it will respond through the ballot box, is a non-violent, democratic approach that the Election Commission should applaud, not censor.

CHANGE THE TUNE: AAP's slogan, that it will respond through the ballot box, is a democratic approach that EC should applaud, not curb

The CEO objects that the phrase '*Tanashahi party ko hum chot denge*' (We will hurt the party of autocracy) incites violence. Sorry but election slogans against 'tanashahi' are as old as the hills, made in election after election since Independence. They are more likely to incite yawns than violence. Censoring an election ditty on this ground is senseless.

The third objection is to the phrase '*gundagardi ke khilaf vote denge*' (we will vote against hooliganism). This in the AAP song is accompanied by the 'tanashahi' phrase and a clip showing former Delhi deputy chief minister Manish Sisodia being escorted by the police. The CEO claims, "The words and the clip tend to present the picture of police in bad taste. It thus casts aspersions on their working and has defamatory and slanderous remarks for the police."

Preposterous! The words and clips are clearly directed at the BJP, not the police. Besides, voters do not merely "cast aspersions" on the police but lambast them with a hundred curses. The judiciary has often castigated the police too. Yet the CEO wants to ban criticism of the police.

'*Awazein khilaf thi jo sabko jail me daal dia, bas unko hi bahar rakha jisne inko maal dia. Itna lalach, itna nafrat, bhrashtachari se mohabbat.*' This is a poetic way of saying "Opposing voices are jailed, only those escape who pay up. So much greed and hate speech. They are in love with corruption." This, says the CEO is "slanderous", and "a criticism of the ruling party on the basis of unverified facts and also casts aspersions on the judiciary." Such phrases have been common in elections so why the sudden expression of horror?

The Election Commission is supposed to be independent. Will it override its Delhi CEO? If not, accusations will grow about an unfair election. ■

INBOX

Don't rob Peter to pay Paul

Apropos the column 'Amiri hatao? Cong...' (ATM, Apr 28), the columnist's warning to the Congress not to hark back to old tax initiatives that yielded little dividend is worth heeding, though the party itself is not a wee bit interested in re-imposing inheritance tax and credit for handing over ammunition to PM Modi should go to Sam Pitroda. 'Robbing Peter to pay Paul' might not be a feasible idea in a free economy like India, but those in power could leave the wealthy to wallow in their riches while concentrating on making the poor richer.

— C V Aravind, Delhi

Need for civility

This refers to Indrajit Hazra's column 'Zabaan sambhal ke...' (ATM, Apr 28). During poll battle, personal diatribes and vilification touch new heights, often overtaking real issues and voter concerns. Unpleasant phrases and distasteful monikers used for top leaders are not only derogatory but outrageous. There has to be some degree of decorum and civility, applicable uniformly to ruling and opposition parties. Watchdogs need to play non-partisan roles.

— Taposh Bhattacharya, Bhopal

Rushdie's spirit

Salman Rushdie's interview 'New pressure on...' (ATM, Apr 28) highlights that exchanging ideas without fear of reprisal is essential. Learning that he was horrendously attacked while discussing the issue of safe spaces for writers was appalling. However, what shines through is his faith in the miracles of science, humanity, as well as his willpower.

— J K Srivastava, Noida

Email your letters to the editor at *sunday.times@timesgroup.com* with 'Sunday Mailbox' in the subject line. Please mention your name and city

No BFFs in geopolitics. Spying on friends is a symbol of power

BY INVITATION

DHEERAJ PARAMESHA CHAYA

Over the last seven months, numerous articles in the western media have called on democracies to re-examine relations with India because of its alleged hand in the killing and attempted killing of Khalistani terrorists in North America. In the last couple of days, charges have expanded to include espionage. Referring to recent revelations that the two diplomats expelled from Australia in 2020 were Indian, news outlet ABC said, "It does raise a lot of questions about Australia's trust and relationship with India". This begs the question: do friendly countries spy on each other? Answering this question reveals that the right to spy is not tied to 'values' as is currently espoused, but to the question of 'power'.

Contemporary history has witnessed the US spying on its European and Asian allies while the list of allies that have spied on the US include France, Germany, Japan, Israel, and South Korea. In 2013, Edward Snowden, a contract employee of the US National Security Agency, publicly revealed the US' spying activities, which kicked off angry reactions from several European countries. At a political level, a normative disapproval of the US' spying activities was understandable. At an intellectual level, however, western analysts and commentators were candid in making a case for spying on allies. Former CIA officer Peter Earnest deemed the European reaction hypocritical. Charles Kupchan, professor of international affairs at Georgetown University, pointed out that friends today may not be friends tomorrow. Similarly, Washington analyst James Lewis focused on the policy differences between the US and Germany and argued that spying was essential to align the direction of Berlin's policies with the US. The bottomline in Lewis' argument is that, for friends to remain friends, spying on each other is inevitable.

KEEP THEM CLOSE: US has spied on several allies. In 2013, Edward Snowden's revelations sparked angry reactions from Europeans

This applies even more so to regions with complex geopolitical interactions. For instance, in 2014, Germany faced an angry reaction from Turkey after media reports that Berlin was spying on its NATO ally. In its defence, it argued that Turkey's terrorism problem had implications for Europe. Also, it pitched it as an attempt to comprehend Erdogan's complicated foreign policies with neighbours such as Saudi, Syria, Iraq and Iran. Therefore, to accommodate this policy, the Germans came up with a tactic that Josef Joffe of the Hoover Institution termed "a Talmudic distinction between friends and mere partners". Accordingly, Britain and America were friends that could not be spied on whereas Turkey was 'fair game'.

It is against this perspective that one should view India's reported spying on friends. Fundamentally speaking, the notion of friendship in international politics is itself inconsistent for India. When observing the intelligence relationships of Pakistan, they are mostly alliance-based or ideology-driven. The cooperation between the ISI and Anglo-American agencies during the Cold War and the War on Terror is an example of alliance-based relationship whereas ties with the Gulf intelligence services since the late 1970s are ideological. India is neither part of any formal alliance formation nor is it ideologically placed to find natural friends in the world. As a civilisational state that is finding its place back in the international system, friendships are most likely to be purely transactional. In such a scenario, the above arguments made by western analysts advocating espionage on friends apply equally, if not more, to India.

Public discussions in India are mostly focused on acquiring power in the military and economic sense. Not readily evident to the casual observer is an intelligence hierarchy that is dominated by powerful countries. Moving ahead, India will need to understand this hierarchy and develop mechanisms to navigate through it. After Independence, India neither had the capability for independent intelligence operations nor the political vision to guide the development of a robust intelligence apparatus. Consequently, for core intelligence requirements such as China, Delhi had to rely on London and Washington. The latter utilised the relationship to their own advantage, occasionally using the liaison channels to spy on India.

Intelligence scholars Robert Dover and Richard Aldrich say such intelligence hierarchies "opened up sensitive information of the Global South to an elite group of nations", which is instructive of "global information inequality".

As India grows, its intelligence system will require a cultural transformation to overcome reliance on foreign agencies for tradecraft and technology. Innovative operational methods and indigenous technology development should support espionage operations and information security. This is not to suggest that spying operations will be failproof. Even US intelligence had two of its officers expelled from Spain in December 2023 after being caught spying. That the world does not make much noise about it reflects the power the US wields.

After the Snowden leaks, French politician Bernard Kouchner had commented that the European outrage was due to "jealousy" over "the extent of the US' intelligence dominance", not over morality. When the US Congress inquired if American intelligence spies on its allies, director of National Intelligence James Clapper replied confidently that it was "a fundamental given". As India grows and projects its power, there will surely be such jealousies. But Indian intelligence should focus on gaining dominance. ■

Chaya is a lecturer at University of Hull, UK, and author of 'India's Intelligence Culture and Strategic Surprises: Spying for South Block'

Tihar-style bhindi fry, and the wait for slow-motion justice

Illustration by **Cheyenne Olivier**

Abhijit Banerjee

TASTING ECONOMICS

In May 1983, I was one of 350-odd JNU students who ended up in Tihar jail. I don't recall what it was about, but it led to the president of the student union being expelled which we felt was an egregious assault on our democratic rights. The vice chancellor's house was occupied. The police showed up in full riot gear, with clear instructions to make it an example. Some got arrested on the spot; others courted arrest in solidarity.

I thought then, and I still believe, that the authorities deliberately provoked the fight, so that they could show us who was boss. Many of the famously 'liberal' rules at JNU, such as the ability to have female guests in your room during the day, got rescinded after the bust-up, even though nobody explained what that had to do with the protests.

Tihar jail was famous. We had read all about Charles Sobhraj, the 'bikini killer', who was imprisoned there at the time. He would famously escape from there in 1986, but this was after a good bunch of our group of JNU students, men and women, had already done it.

The British left us the idea that the socially privileged should be treated better even in prison. Blinded by caste and other distinctions, we did not bother to change it when they left

I didn't escape, but mostly because it seemed slightly undignified; the technology was easy enough. Unlike Charles Sobhraj, we were not seen as escape risks, and the police were not paying attention.

As I remember it, albeit through the rose-tinted lens of nostalgia, I quite enjoyed the days in Tihar. It was May in Delhi. Very hot. No fans. And very little to do. Some visitors brought us a pack of cards. One could play volleyball, but I was so bad that I risked breaking my fingers. Eventually, there were a few books to share. And there was the novelty of the situation, the enforced rest, and being with so many of my friends.

I had worried that food would be a problem. Indeed, my one immediate regret was that I missed my first meal at Bukhara, home of the eponymous dal. My aunt was going to take me, I think, the very evening when we went to Tihar instead. The first day, we got roti and dal. Two times a day. That's it (I think). Some of our savvier classmates figured out that this was in breach of the rules. In the bizarre hierarchy of the Indian Penal Code, we, as post-graduate students, had a right to a vegetable on top of our dal and roti. We complained. The prison authorities pushed back: not all of us were post-graduates — there was a small number of students from the School of Languages, who were only one or two years into their five-year integrated master's program. Hence, not eligible. One of our colleagues, later a prominent member of the civil service, threatened a fast (until death or liberation?). I must say I cringed — there we were, mostly left-wing activists, demanding special favours based on our privileged education that less educated prisoners would never get. But that threat carried the day, and I was happy to eat the vegetables. This being summer, it was often bhindi. I didn't complain. I must have been four and in the United States, when I discovered the pleasure of bhindi, dry fried with onions, with roti. It remains one of my favourite things to eat.

The British left us the idea that the socially privileged should be treated better even in prison. Blinded by caste and other distinctions, we did not bother to change it when they left. Remarkably, until the introduction of the Model Prisons Act in May 2023, prisons in India were governed by the Prisons Act of 1894, from a time when our rulers were happy to put up a sign saying, 'Dogs and Indians not allowed'. And while I suspect change is coming, as late as January this year, months after the Model Act, the Supreme Court was berating the states for caste discrimination in prisons. Apparently, Brahmins get to work in prison kitchens while the lowest castes are assigned toilet duty.

Perhaps an even bigger problem is that of undertrials. A remarkable 77% of those imprisoned in India have not been convicted; they are waiting to be tried. More than a quarter of those have been in jail for a year or more, *nearly 3% for more than 5 years*. A significant number have been undertrial for as many as 10 years, and at least for some of them, the maximum sentence for the crime they are accused of is less than 10.

This is not a new problem. In 1979, a Law Commission complained about it. The ratio of undertrials among the imprisoned was then 58% (now it's nearly 80). The source of the problem is an incredible logjam in the Indian court system. There are 50 million cases pending in Indian courts, including 1,70,000 that have been in court for 30 years or more! That number was still an impressive 29 million in 2018 when the government's think-tank Niti Aayog concluded that at the current rate, it would take 324 years to dispose of all the pending cases. And while we are a litigious people, this is also because we have 21 sanctioned judgeships per million population when the US has 150, and only two-thirds of the 21 are currently filled.

One consequence of a broken system is that it hurts those who are least able to work around its deficiencies. *In India, half the undertrials are from socially marginal groups — SCs, STs and Muslims — that constitute only about a third of the population.* Over-representation of socially weaker groups in prisons, unfortunately, is common enough across the world. In the US, African-Americans are just 13% of the population, but 40% of the imprisoned. A lot of this is pure discrimination, but in India, it is also the way the system works. Thinking back to our time in Tihar, what shocks me now is just how unbothered we were. We assumed that eventually, the very serious charges levelled at us (attempt to murder was, impressively, one of them) would get dropped. Our presumption was based less on our (true) innocence than on the idea that the collective parents of this group were too powerful to let anything happen to their brood.

Consider by comparison a boy who just happened to be hanging out with a group that got rounded up after a spot of trouble. He is 15 and should be treated as a juvenile, but has no way to prove it. He can barely read. Illiterates are 50% more likely to be in prison compared to their share in the population of younger males who are, like everywhere else, most of the imprisoned. He does not understand bail, and his mother cannot afford a lawyer. The state-provided lawyer is young and inexperienced and used to getting bullied by the police. The judge is too busy and too harassed to do anything about it. There are other more important cases in his court, and he gets many calls from powerful people. But he worries that the police want to keep the boy, not because they have anything on him, but because they want to look like they have some leads, and they know he is powerless. The judge knows that they can even hold him after bail gets granted, because there often is no follow up. The boy knows nothing of all that. He is a little frightened but doesn't know what he should worry about. Sometimes he prays like his mother told him, but mostly he daydreams and waits for meal-times. He would not say this to his mum, but he prefers the way they make it in Tihar.

This is part of a monthly column by Nobel-winning economist Abhijit Banerjee illustrated by Cheyenne Olivier.

BHINDI TWO WAYS

These are my two favourite ways to cook bhindi, a much-abused vegetable — the Americans, for example, cook it in its full glueyness. The first is my mother's standard, familiar from my childhood. The Tihar version was similar, but had more masala and was fried less. The other, I ate somewhere in the South and decided to reproduce.

My Mother's Bhindi Fry

Cut the top and the tips off from 750 gm of bhindi and then cut them horizontally into slices the thickness of your pinkie finger (4mm approx). Put in a colander with 1 tsp turmeric and 1 tsp salt for 30 minutes. While the bhindi is marinating, dice 400 gm onions into bits roughly comparable to the bhindi slices. Heat 5 tbs rapeseed or sunflower oil in a large (25 cm or larger) fry pan at medium-high, and add 1 tsp panchphoran and 1-2 dried red chili. When the seeds stop popping, add in the bhindi and the onions and coat the vegetables in the hot oil. Reduce heat to medium and fry for 20 minutes or so until the vegetables are turning a nice winey red. Taste for salt.

Tart and Nutty Bhindi

Cut the top and the tips off from 500 gm of small bhindi and then cut them in half from top to bottom. Put in a colander with 1 tsp turmeric and 1 tsp salt for 30 minutes. Heat 3 tbsp rapeseed or sunflower oil in a large (25 cm or larger) fry pan at medium-high, and throw in 1 tsp brown mustard seeds and when the popping starts to slow down, 2 red chilies, 1 tbsp chana dal, a sprig of curry leaves and a pinch of hing. After 1 minute, add the bhindi, cuts should be face down. Reduce heat to medium and let it cook for 8 minutes. Turn them over, cook for 5 more minutes or till the skin side starts to turn brown. Remove from heat and take them out on paper towels. Dust with a tsp of aamchur powder.

Sex and the Indian politician

As another scandal rocks Karnataka, a look back at how such exposés have played out in the past

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Explicit video clips in pen drives are left mysteriously at bus stops, the main accused who is the scion of a politically influential family runs off abroad, and a key witness and the scion's driver go missing…If the weather and the political slugfest wasn't hot enough, some prurient parlour games have been added to the mix.

At the centre of the affair is JD(S) MP Prajwal Revanna, accused of sexually exploiting and making videos of several women over a period of many years. A SIT has been constituted by the Karnataka government to investigate the accusations. Meanwhile, the political blame game has started.

Yet for all the shock over the alleged sex crimes, Revanna is hardly the first politician to be caught in a tight spot. Over the years, there have been several instances of elected representatives accused of exploiting high office for sexual favours whether it is former Andhra Pradesh governor ND Tiwari or Madhya Pradesh minister Raghavji. In fact, Karnataka itself appears to be a hotbed for such 'hectic activity'. In 2021, a CD involving state water resources minister Ramesh Jarkiholi was found to be in circulation and it was alleged that he had sought sexual favours from the woman in exchange for a job. Police have yet to verify its authenticity. In another instance, excise minister HY Meti was accused of seeking sexual favours with explicit videos featuring him with various women doing the rounds. He was cleared of the charges later. Not to mention the various instances of MLAs checking porn while sitting in state assemblies.

SAROJ GIRI, DU PROF

People tend to think of these controversies as political mudslinging and do not give sexual violence the attention it deserves

But, in a country where politicians' dalliances are seen as mere peccadilloes and accepted with a wink and a nod, has the latest controversy changed anything? Sugata Srinivasaraju, author of 'Furrows in a Field: The Unexplored Life of HD Deve Gowda', says the former PM and Revanna's grandfather is widely considered to be a puritanical, conservative figure. "It is a complete shocker for Karnataka that someone from his family has been accused of sexual misconduct."

TAMASHA BUT NO RECKONING

While Revanna's fate still hangs in balance, there have been many others who have weathered the storm like former Andhra governor ND Tiwari who was purportedly caught on tape in a sexual romp with three women in 2009. He resigned from office but continued to deny his involvement till the end. In 2014, he acknowledged a 34-year-old as his son after a paternity test and a long court case.

Former MP finance minister Raghavji was arrested in July 2013 after his domestic help alleged that the minister abused him for three years on the promise of a government job. The victim allegedly had 22 CDs which showed Raghavji in the act. In June last year, MP high court quashed the FIR against Raghavji calling it politically motivated.

Former Haryana minister Gopal Kanda is another high-flying politician who was accused in the suicide of air hostess Geetika Sharma. The 23-year-old, who was earlier employed with Kanda's MLDR Airlines, was found dead in August 2012 with a suicide note that blamed him. Kanda, who was acquitted by a Delhi court last year, still has considerable political sway.

In UP, Samajwadi leader and bahubali Amarmani Tripathi had an extra-marital affair with a poet Madhumita Shukla. She was seven months pregnant when she was found dead in her home. He and his wife were convicted of her murder and got life imprisonment in 2007. Last year, both were released on the directives of the UP prison administration.

In the social media age, the sharing of sordid details and videos has only become easier. However, rather than morality tales, they have been reduced to entertaining distractions. Saroj Giri, Delhi University assistant professor (political science), says such controversies are "weaponised" by political parties. "People tend to think of these controversies as political mudslinging between two parties and do not give sexual violence against women the attention it deserves. It just becomes a tamasha."

SURVIVING A SCANDAL

To assess the impact of scandals on a politicians' ability to survive in office, University of Houston professor of political science Brandon Rottinghaus examined presidential, gubernatorial and Congressional scandals from 1972 to 2021 in the US. He found negative consequences from scandals vary across time and institutions. Scandals in the Watergate era led to more resignations in Congress than in the '90s. With media more polarised than in past political eras, people can consume the media that fits their political preferences. "That means people are getting only one side of the story. If a politician gets caught in a scandal, that politician can claim the other side is out to get them politically and your base will still like you, despite the scandal," Rottinghaus says.

SHORT MEMORIES

The pattern seems to be true for India as well. Sex scandal or financial scam, voters and political parties tend to have a short memory. A recent report by Association for Democratic Reforms found that as many as 134 sitting MPs and MLAs in India are accused in cases related to crimes against women. "But parties continue to give tickets to people with criminal cases against them," says political analyst Amitabh Tiwari, "Just as there are pressure groups for farmers, trade bodies, there are no influential pressure groups for women who will demand clean political candidates. Unless the public refuses to vote for a candidate who is tainted, parties will continue to give them tickets."

The apathy makes people feel nothing will change. "The issue will move away from the headlines within the next couple of days. There is no real accountability after that," he adds.

Mag with Maneka at helm 'broke' first sex scandal

The first political sex scandal in independent India is widely attributed to Dalit leader and defence minister Babu Jagjivan Ram's son Suresh Ram. It led to Babuji's resignation from the cabinet and ended his prime ministerial bid. In her book , 'How Prime Minister's Decide', Neerja Choudhury says this was part of a plan to damage Jagjivan Ram who had emerged as a strong contender against Indira Gandhi for the PM's position. Suresh Ram used to take polaroid photographs of his girlfriend which were stolen from his car and leaked to the media. These salacious pictures were published by Gandhi's daughter-in-law and then editor of Surya magazine, Maneka Gandhi in the late '70s.

Choudhury writes, "Both Charan Singh and Indira Gandhi knew he was the only other serious contender for the top job — and would need to be marginalised if their plan were to succeed. Besides Jagjivan Ram's Dalit credentials, Indira Gandhi feared his administrative abilities. She knew she could not risk Babuji as PM, even as a stopgap…"

Waxing is waning: The women who are happy to be hairy

UP topper's trolling shows how deep the stigma around facial and body hair is. But some women are learning to live with, and love their fuzz

Ketaki.Desai@timesgroup.com

In 1915, an advertisement for the first-ever razor for women hit Harper's Bazaar. Gillette's Milady Décolleté ad pitched the product as a solution to "an embarrassing personal problem". Cut to 2024, where an ad for Bombay Shaving Company made a (failed) attempt to make a feminist statement. In reference to young UP state topper Prachi Nigam, whose facial hair has unfortunately garnered more attention than her achievement, the ad read, "Dear Prachi, they are trolling your HAIR today, they will applaud your AIR (All India Rank) tomorrow". It went on to hope she "never gets bullied into using their razor". Criticism flowed in for using a minor's name for monetary gain and drawing even more scrutiny towards her. She told BBC that she even wished she had scored less, so this never happened. There may be over a century separating these two ads, but they speak to the same problem: women's body and facial hair is seen as unclean, extraneous to their inherent femininity and is something that women must rid themselves of. And the choice not to is treated with condescension, or worse, an ad in national newspapers.

> **"…About body hair, yeah not sorry about it. I wear it as I like it. Its not a statement. I also wax. I also don't**
>
> **— TILLOTAMA SHOME,** ACTOR, ON INSTAGRAM

Despite the taboo, there are women who are deliberately reclaiming their bodies, hair included. In the West, there is the 'Januhairy' movement that encourages women to ditch their razors and those painful Brazilians that hurt like bejesus. Though that hasn't caught on in India, an increasing number have stopped all forms of hair removal altogether, while others pick and choose when and where they wish to remove their hair, rather than seeing it as a bimonthly compulsion or something to be ashamed of.

For 29-year-old Raveena Sakiri, a media professional based in Dharamshala, waxing started when she was only 15. It wasn't until she moved away from home (and the watchful gaze of her mother) that she began to question this norm. Did she really want to decide her outfits or plans around the status of her body hair? Did she want a partner who was grossed out by her hair? So, she stopped removing her body hair at the age of 22 and hasn't looked back since. And while relatives sometimes comment on it, she's figured out strategies that work. "If someone says something, I just ask why they're looking at my armpits," she laughs.

While the norm of the hairless woman has been around for centuries in some cultures — copper razors from 3000 BC were found in Egypt and Mesopotamia, according to the book 'Encyclopedia of Hair' — this only intensified in the 20th century. Sleeveless dresses became fashionable, World War II caused a nylon shortage, drawing advertisers' attention away from women's underarms towards their legs. In an essay featured in the anthology 'The Last Taboo: Women and Body Hair', academic Alice Macdonald argues that the hairless female body serving three functions: "a) it exaggerates the differences between women and men, (b) it equates female attractiveness with youth and (c) it connotes the 'to-be-looked-at-ness' of a body."

Disability consultant and driving instructor to people with disabilities, Anita Sharma has not touched a hair removal product in the last six odd years. Back in 2019, she was living in Amritsar and finding a parlour accessible to a wheelchair user such as herself was a challenge. Plus, she'd seen a bit too much Crime Patrol to get at-home salon services. Once Covid hit, the whole thing began to feel even more pointless. "I realised that if someone is body shaming me because of my facial or body hair, that person does not respect me. Now, I don't even care if someone points it out." Two years ago, Sharma got married to her boyfriend of nine years. At that time, people around her told her to get a bikini wax or full body wax, but she was uninterested. But the idea that hair removal is a must for a bride is one that she ran into several times.

Hair removal is normative across contexts but for many Indian women, with our bushy eyebrows and thick, brown hair, it is especially fraught. Little wonder that laser treatments in India are growing, according to Taniya Pandey, VP, marketing (beauty and wellness) at VLCC. "Our laser contribution has grown by 150% in just 2023-24. Earlier, only women with polycystic ovary syndrome (PCOS) or hirsutism would come in for facial hair, but now a lot of people are coming for full-body laser," she says, adding that they're seeing a lot more young women, especially those planning to study abroad.

Rachel (name changed) has not completely stopped hair removal but has been making an attitude adjustment. Growing up, her family would obsessively talk about her body hair. From the age of around 10, she was not allowed to wear skirts. "I have PCOS, so I have more growth. Even before that, I grew up hearing that one of my sisters who is fair-skinned would be perfect if she didn't have body hair. When her baby was born recently, the first thing she said about it was that 'oh, she will also have a moustache like me'," she says.

One common worry is about how it will affect romantic relationships. Dating with facial and body hair, says 24-year-old Thiruvananthapuram resident Gayathri RN, is quite telling. "After Covid, I stopped hair removal except for my underarms. But earlier, when I went for dates, there's this constant expectation where you're supposed to be all primped up, pretty, and hairless," she says. But the more she started to think about it, the stranger it seemed. "I don't want a partner who'll run away from me just because I happen to have a better beard than him," she says, adding that this has never been as much of a concern when she dates women.

INQUIZITIVE

by **JOY BHATTACHARJYA**

1 Which book, written in prison in the 1920s, and still in print, was originally meant to be titled (in translation) as 'Four and a Half Years of Struggle Against Lies, Stupidity and Cowardice'?

2 In Roman times, people intending to join political office would wear a white toga to symbolise their purity of motive. Which word, commonly used during elections, literally means 'one who wears white'?

3 According to the Hebrew Bible, which Nazirite lost his strength after a lady was bribed by the Philistines to cut off his hair while he was sleeping?

4 Which animal was originally called a 'camelopard' as it looked like a camel and had the colouration of a leopard?

5 Whose first film as a director was 'Dhobhi Ghat', featuring Prateik Babbar and Monica Dogra, and released in 2010?

6 In 1919, Lord Chelmsford renamed the city of Sakchi after which pioneering industrialist and nation builder?

7 Which common aromatic herb, used for culinary and medical purposes, also lends its name to a shade of green?

8 Since its inception in 1985, which is the only entity, which is not a state, to have won the maximum medals in the National Games?

9 Arabica and Robusta are the two most common variety of which product, consumed globally?

10 'Chitrahaar' is the second longest running television show in India, running on Doordarshan since 1982. Which is the longest, running since 1967?

ANSWERS

1 | Mein Kampf (My Struggle) by Adolf Hitler
2 | Candidate, from Candidus
3 | Samson, who was betrayed by Delilah
4 | Giraffe
5 | Kiran Rao, director of 'Laapataa Ladies'
6 | Jamshedji Nusserwanji Tata, he named it Jamshedpur
7 | Mint
8 | Services, the joint teams of the Army, Navy and Air Force
9 | Coffee
10 | Krishi Darshan

Hello and welcome to TOI's monthly roundup on gender, politics and culture. In a world where men still run most of the gigs and hog the mics, here's where we say it like we see it

TALKING POINT

Does Weinstein's acquittal mean end of MeToo?

Hollywood producer Harvey Weinstein, possibly the most emblematic figure of sexual abuse outed by the #MeToo uprising seven years ago, has been let off by a New York court of appeals. This is the latest in a string of acquittals, including that of Bill Cosby and Mario Batali. Does this mean that MeToo has lost, or that it had been excessive in its sweep? Not at all. With Weinstein, nearly a hundred women had spoken up about their experience of sexual assault and harassment. The court's acquittal, though, hinged on the standard of evidence — the testimony of many women was not allowed to factor into the specific charge of one.

1 WHAT METOO MEANT TO WOMEN

It was a dam breaking, as one woman spoke out about sexual assault in public, and all the others found their voices, one by one. It was a spill of urgent testimony, enabled by social media. Women spoke of their pain and degradation, and despite institutional hostility and denial, they found community in each other. The scale and truth of the abuse could no longer be pretended away. One third of all women have been subjected to sexual violence, and harassment and belittlement is pervasive.

2 IT SET OFF A TSUNAMI...

There has been a wave of women's activism around the world, from large demonstrations in the US and across Europe to South Korea and Japan, NiUnaMenos in Latin America, Aurat Marches in Pakistan, and many others. India, too, saw many powerful harassers being outed. While the MeToo discourse in the media focused on high-profile 'scalps' and individual falls from grace, it also led to legal change. In the US, state legislatures introduced more than 3,000 bills that supported gender equity and workplace safety and so on, of which 382 were passed.

3 ...AND IT ALSO SPARKED A BACKLASH

But social progress is not a straight line, movements for justice have to gather strength, and power always roars back. The backlash against women has gained greater force in recent years. Reactionary forces around the world try to dilute equality-seeking laws, place traditional 'family values' over women's sexual and reproductive rights, and champion 'men's rights' as though their oppressive dominion has not been the norm. Popular influencers in the 'manosphere' demand a return to a status quo that stifled women.

4 WHAT WAS METOO ASKING FOR?

For the world to believe women. This doesn't mean believing all women as a blanket rule. It means overriding our automatic reflex, instilled by patriarchy, to disbelieve women. In most cases, it took a tumble of testimony, several women's stories, to cast doubt on the reputation of a single man — why is a woman's word still worth so much less than a man's? How can any lone woman expect justice, with such structural hostility? The impulse that tells us that a woman accusing a man must be driven by vengefulness or some other power-trip, or that #MeToo is mob justice, is the tinted lens that doesn't let us see injustice, clear as daylight.

5 QUEST FOR JUSTICE IS FAR FROM OVER

Many have been disheartened by the Weinstein case, asking why evidence that demonstrates a defendant's propensity to commit sex crimes, even when those allegations aren't part of the crimes charged, is inadmissible. But the court of public opinion has shifted, and that is MeToo's success. It has exposed the domination that often distorts sexual encounters between men and women. Many of us can spot patterns now — how victim-blaming works, how the system excuses and actively defends men. We now notice how jokes and comments function, how pop songs and movies build up a climate of male entitlement. This deep reckoning with sexual violence and misconduct, and the distribution of power that underlies is, will go on. The quest for justice, once sparked, is not so easily subdued.

STATS STACK

Women may be stereotyped as the gender that likes to shop, but male spending creates **16% higher emissions**. That's because they spend on categories with a higher carbon footprint such as petrol and diesel for cars and meat

Source: Journal for Industrial Ecology

GENDER NEWS FROM THE WORLD

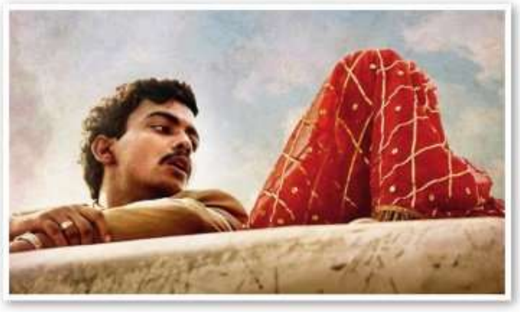
In Belgium, haircuts are now gender neutral

Women pay more for haircuts — it's about 2.5 times more in the UK, for instance. But Belgium's hairdressing federation has come up with a new rule to combat this issue. The plan is for hairdressers to charge €1.30 (₹116) a minute, regardless of gender

SEEN AND HEARD

Watch out, this is a boys' room

A hilarious video series investigates the bedrooms of twenty and thirty-something men in New York, often revealing mess, barren furniture and often absurd furniture. "I guess this is where he stores his dust," says host Rachel Coster in a video posted on the show's Instagram @ boyroomshow, as she touches a man's bookshelf. If you're wondering how many adult men do not make their beds, it's... a lot.



Lost and found feminism

Laapataa Ladies, now streaming on OTT, is a wonderful film that leaves you with a smile on your face and feminist churning in your heart. Kiran Rao's film isn't heavy-handed in its treatment of women's rights. Instead, it's funny and tender, less like a lesson, and more a feminist allegory.

TWO READS YOU DON'T WANT TO MISS

A refreshing take on dating after 50

A piece in The New York Times magazine looks at older people's relationship with dating, particularly older women who are newly single. In some cases, these women have discovered themselves sexually later in life. So they're not necessarily looking for someone to raise a family with. They're clear about what they want, whether that's a relationship or casual sex, and are able to move on from failed relationships faster. And thanks to apps, they're looking at a new world of options.

Where are women safe? Not even in Antarctica

Even in the middle of nowhere, women are not safe, as an eye-opening Wired investigation into rampant sexual harassment at Antarctic research stations shows. From assault to bullying, female scientists working in Antarctica have been subject to all kinds of violations from their male co-workers. Perhaps the knowledge that they have nowhere to go and the nature of power in academia embolden perpetrators. But a group of women are taking this issue on, speaking out about their experiences, leading to an avalanche of solidarity.

Shaila Paralkar, India's first woman animator

Women We Owe

Illustration: Shirish Sharma

Her films took on everything from alcoholism to immunisation

➤ Long before the world saw a Batman villain wearing a gas mask, Indians had seen 'The Thinker' wearing one in a 1981 dystopian animation short by the same name. And the steady hand that designed this National Award-winning film is India's first woman animator — Shaila Paralkar.

➤ Paralkar unknowingly stumbled into the world of animation in 1958 with a summer internship offer to fund her applied arts classes at Sir JJ School of Art. The budding illustrator hailed from a modest Goan household in Bombay and director Kantilal Rathod's Aakar studio job proved to be a godsend. "He directed me to a lady who handed me cotton gloves, colours, a paintbrush and a pile of celluloids with sketches traced on them. As I coloured them one by one, I saw that all the frames were similar except for minor detailing. I then realised the frames would become a reel for an animation film. No one told us what animation was in those days. It was a secret art form," recalls the 84-year-old self-taught artist.

➤ Her 40 prolific years at the Films Division of India (FDI) saw Paralkar create some of the finest animation films that went on to win both national and international acclaim. Her self-scripted anti-liquor ad film titled 'Bottled Cannibals' (in which a red alcohol bottle pours dread into nearby tea kettles, cups and saucers) was exhibited at international film festivals in France, Moscow, Greece and Portugal in 1979. The same year, 'The Last Drop' (a save oil campaign in which the rubber end of a dropper becomes a deflated planet) won a state award and was showcased in the 5th International Film Festival in France, China and Denmark. 'The Saviour' (in which a hero named Teekakaran threatens Rograj, the green monstrous king of diseases affecting kids, with a serpent-coiled injection) won two President's awards for raising awareness about immunisation.

➤ She began as a Grade II artist at FDI and rose up the ranks quickly. She even got a job offer from Walt Disney studios but refused owing to family commitments in Mumbai. Her daughter Namrata believes Paralkar would have achieved much more "if not for the politics in those days". Gayatri Rao, head of an animation firm in Mumbai, couldn't agree more. She did her first animation internship at FDI under Paralkar and says, "She never got to head the Cartoon Film Unit of the Films Division where she was the most talented and hardworking of them all. Somehow, she got sidelined in this male-dominated world of animation."

➤ "They didn't like taking orders from a woman. I cannot repeat the things they said," recalls Paralkar, saying she learnt to ignore the taunts. Namrata's fondest memories are of Paralkar painting legendary artist Norman Rockwell's illustrations. "Not everyone who makes animation on the computer with fancy 2D and 3D software can switch over to the old-school way. Moving a hand-drawn character is like math. You need to calculate the whole scene before you start your pencil drawing," she adds.

➤ Her retirement at age 60 in 2000 came just before "machines" came into the picture. She continued to draw beautiful rangolis every Diwali, turned cufflinks into jewellery and knitted sweaters for near and dear ones till 2021. Her sister's sudden death in 2022 triggered a paralytic stroke and rendered her right side immobile. Paralkar is now unable to draw, knit or paint. The former Mumbaikar now spends time playing with her pet dogs, cats and fish in her verdant, bird-friendly Pune penthouse.

➤ Paralkar doesn't know much about AI and the threat it poses to animators. But she has seen enough machine-drawn cartoons to know that they have nothing on 'Tom & Jerry'. "There is no life in those faces. I'm sure people will return to hand-drawn animation soon. They are bound to get tired of the AI overdose," she says.

Curated by **Ketaki Desai** with inputs from **Sharmila Ganesan Ram**

TIMES NATION

THE SPEAKING TREE

Seek The Truth For Yourself

The tale of donkey and owl is a metaphor for the relationship between seeking guidance and maintaining personal discernment. Acknowledge the value of mentors but also retain the ability to think critically and trust your own perception, says ACHARYA MAHAPRAJNA

ARUNDYUTI DAS BASU

This is the story of a donkey. A donkey who was walking along when night fell. He was not sure what his destination was and how to reach it. And what made it worse was that he could hear the sounds of wild animals in the forest, where he had been grazing all day. It was too dark for the donkey to see beyond his nose. Fear gripped the donkey as he peered into the darkness ahead to see if he could make something of it. Just as the donkey ambled about directionless, an owl from a treetop hooted out to him, "Buddy! You cannot see at night, but I can; maybe I should become your guide and show you the path." The donkey could not have asked for anything better. He guffawed with joy and invited the owl to sit on its back.

With the owl perched delicately on his back, the duo made their way through the forest. The owl gave directions, and the donkey followed them. All night, the arrangement worked out well. They managed to avoid wild animals and see the light of day. The sun rose as the team reached the forest's edge, and a new day was born. In the sunlight, the donkey could see very well, but the owl was blinded by the light.

For a few minutes, there was confusion, but the owl, having donned the guide's hat, was reluctant to give up the leadership role. The owl was too attached to his seat on the donkey's back and the power it gave him. So, even though the owl could see nothing, he continued to give directions.

The donkey did not think much about the arrangement that was well-suited to the night but defective during the day. He did not realise that he could see and did not need owl's help navigating the forest. Even though he did not require a visual guide now, he continued to accept the owl as his guide. He never attempted to use his head or eyes and perceive that he could see during the day, hence he did not need a guide. He continued to follow the owl's directions, which were not based on knowledge of the path ahead.

At one point, the owl instructed the donkey to turn left and immediately right. The donkey could see a deep, fast-moving river down the cliff. But he was following the guide and not thinking, so he did just as he was told. The donkey fell directly into the river and drowned.

We learn two things from this incident. There are times when we need guides, and no guide can be greater than the dharma guru or the spiritual teacher. However, it does not mean we stop seeing ourselves or examining things critically. All great seers have encouraged us to look for the Truth ourselves. They have also said to choose your guide after consideration.

Most ancient texts emphasise that both the teacher and the taught should fulfil certain qualifications. Indeed, the donkey did not have a choice during the night. However if he was alert during the day, he would have known that his guide was not helping him. In our lives, too, the same guide may not work for all occasions. Hence, Mahavir said *appana sachame secche* – search for the truth yourself. ■

SACRED STORIES

Cheetah from Kuno in MP strays 50km to Raj, sent back

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Jaipur: One of the African cheetahs from Madhya Pradesh's Kuno National Park strayed around 50km and reached Karauli in neighbouring Rajasthan early Saturday, but was tranquilised and taken back the same evening, officials said.

Foresters monitored the movement of the male cheetah, Oman, while keeping panicked locals at bay in Mandrayal area. Nearly 300 families reside in the zone the cheetah sauntered. Four months ago, another Kuno cheetah had sneaked into Rajasthan.

Foresters monitored the movement of the male cheetah, Oman, while keeping panicked locals at bay in Mandrayal

Karauli deputy forest conservator Piyush Kumar Sharma said a team from MP had set up camp in the area. "The animal was tranquilised in the evening as it was not safe to dart it during high temperatures in the afternoon. The team captured it around 4:30pm and took it back," Sharma added.

Mandrayal sees frequent movement of tigers, but none was detected in the vicinity while the cheetah wandered there on Saturday, officials said. According to officials, the cheetah may have followed a route along the Chambal, which flows through MP and Rajasthan's Karauli.

As word spread about its arrival, villagers wielding sticks took positions. Foresters arrived soon and ensured there was no confrontation. "Villagers were asked to be cautious and keep sufficient distance from the cheetah," said an official.

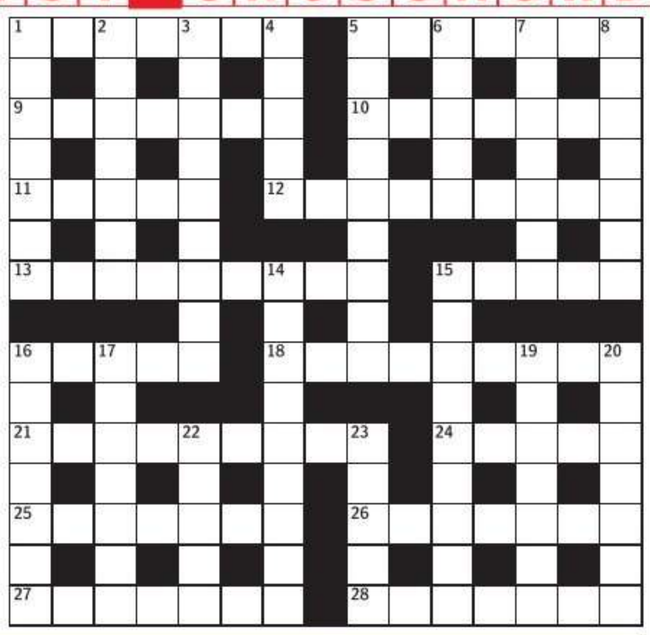
Agni, the Kuno cheetah that had strayed into Rajasthan four months ago, was captured in Baran district, adjacent to MP, and taken back.

THE TOI CROSSWORD

CROSSWORD No. TCC#0166

The **TOI Crossword contest** is on a short break, but the crossword itself will continue to be featured in The Sunday Times of India, so that you can continue to relish the challenge every week. **Stay tuned!**

The Times of India CROSSWORD EVERY SUNDAY



CRYPTIC CLUES

Across
1 Fancy a movie? (7)
5 Puzzled at being given out (7)
9 Woodmen at play (7)
10 A fishing boat that will sail with the tide? (7)
11 It's a very much used as a prefix (5)
12 One may be prone to take things so (5,4)
13 Watch parts required for telescopes (9)
15 Line for a letter, reportedly (5)
16 Fetch a note round (5)
18 Performed again in Crete and Aden perhaps (2-7)
21 One who helps to shed load (9)
24 Painful reminder of passion when taken to heart (5)
25 Lie in a furrow with the hunt milling around (7)
26 Pub arguments which carry weight (7)
27 Seafood concession includes name (7)
28 Uncommon fee for an author (7)

Down
1 Supply foodstuffs (7)
2 A gleeful laugh from Lewis Carroll (7)
3 A French resort to call generous? (9)
4 The rest of the canvas (5)
5 Team result is not the main topic of conversation (4,5)
6 Employing a piece of dubious ingenuity (5)
7 Damage in a way that needs repair to the pool (7)
8 Exploding grenade is enough to drive one mad (7)
14 A number on Jason's boat; a vessel carrying freight (5,4)
15 Seasonal review (9)
16 They're worn perhaps in northern Spain (7)
17 Apathy I retain however moved (7)
19 Extreme confusion (7)
20 French composer of Clair de Lune (7)
22 Identical in one quality (5)
23 It dies at the end of December (5)

QUICK CLUES

Across
1 Emotional bond (7) 5 Author of the Canterbury Tales (7)
9 Facially expressionless (7) 10 Overthrow (7)
11 Later in time (5) 12 Temporary truce (9)
13 Managerial (9) 15 That is to say (2,3)
16 A great affliction (5) 18 A synonym dictionary (9)
21 To the greatest extent (4,2,3) 24 Roman equivalent of Aphrodite (5) 25 Strenuous (7) 26 Thoughtful (7)
27 Ingredient (7) 28 Expelled (7)

Down
1 Spread out (7) 2 Inconsequential talk (7)
3 Timely (9) 4 Pick-me-up (5) 5 Look briefly (4,2,3)
6 Leisurely walk (5) 7 Narrow split (7)
8 Place of refuge (7) 14 On the way (2,7)
15 Beforehand (2,7) 16 Fellow soldier (7)
17 What is left (7) 19 Grow uncontrolled (3,4)
20 Dangle (7) 22 Invigorating seaside air (5)
23 A slight error (5)

SOLUTIONS TO LAST WEEK'S CROSSWORD

CRYPTIC

A	U	B	U	R	N	■	C	A	P	T	I	O	U	S
S	■	L	■	E	■	■	M	■	A	■	R	■	E	■
P	L	E	D	G	E	■	B	O	O	K	C	A	S	E
H	■	S	■	I	■	F	■	K	■	E	■	T	■	P
A	S	S	E	M	B	L	E	■	C	A	M	E	R	A
L	■	I	■	E	■	O	■	A	■	W	■	■	■	G
T	A	N	G	■	Q	U	A	D	R	A	N	G	L	E
■	■	G	■	A	■	N	■	V	■	Y	■	E	■	■
R	E	S	T	R	I	C	T	E	D	■	A	R	E	A
E	■	■	■	T	■	E	■	R	■	R	■	M	■	N
L	E	A	D	I	N	■	A	S	P	E	R	I	T	Y
A	■	M	■	C	■	E	■	E	■	M	■	N	■	B
T	R	U	E	L	O	V	E	■	P	O	T	A	T	O
E	■	S	■	E	■	E	■	■	T	■	T	■	D	■
D	R	E	S	S	I	N	G	■	C	E	L	E	R	Y

QUICK

S	H	E	R	R	Y	■	T	O	A	N	D	F	R	O
C	■	A	■	I	■	■	V	■	A	■	R	■	U	■
R	E	S	I	S	T	■	P	E	T	U	L	A	N	T
U	■	Y	■	I	■	U	■	R	■	S	■	M	■	B
P	A	G	A	N	I	N	I	■	G	E	N	E	V	A
L	■	O	■	G	■	G	■	S	■	A	■	■	■	C
E	X	I	T	■	D	O	T	H	E	T	R	I	C	K
■	■	N	■	S	■	D	■	A	■	E	■	N	■	■
M	A	G	I	C	F	L	U	T	E	■	S	T	A	G
A	■	■	■	O	■	Y	■	T	■	E	■	H	■	A
N	U	D	I	T	Y	■	M	E	A	N	W	E	L	L
N	■	I	■	F	■	F	■	R	■	I	■	D	■	L
E	N	T	I	R	E	L	Y	■	I	G	U	A	N	A
R	■	T	■	E	■	O	■	■	M	■	R	■	N	■
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TIMES SPORT
SUNDAY TIMES OF INDIA, NEW DELHI | MAY 5, 2024

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TRAVEL ON YOUR MIND?

CHALLENGERS TAME TITANS

Bowlers, Du Plessis Fire As RCB Stay Alive With A Thumping Win

Manuja.Veerappa
@timesgroup.com

Bengaluru: When the chips are down, it's never easy showing up, rising to the occasion and performing. But it's nothing new for Royal Challengers Bengaluru in the Indian Premier League.

With their chances of making the playoffs boiling down to mathematics, they came into their home game against Gujarat Titans with the numbers game worked out. At the M Chinnaswamy stadium, first the bowlers led by Mohammed Siraj (2/29) delivered and then Faf du Plessis (63, 23b, 10x4; 3x6) led from the front.

Although the home side stuttered after a blazing start, the foundation laid by their skipper did not go in vain as RCB registered a four-wicket win with 38 balls to spare, thus lifting themselves up from the bottom of the table to the seventh spot. Chasing a below-par 148 for victory, RCB finished with 152/6 in 13.4 overs for their second consecutive win over Gujarat and their third victory on the go.

RCB registered their best-ever powerplay score 91/1 with Virat Kohli starting the proceedings with two maximums of Mohit Sharma's bowling. Du Plessis then took on Josh Little (4/45) with a 20-run second over. By the fifth over Du Plessis had reached an 18-ball 50.

But the story of the day was RCB's bowling. Last Sunday, RCB's mainstay pacer Siraj uprooted Gujarat's big-hitting Shahrukh Khan's stumps with a peach of a reverse swinging delivery. In hindsight, it probably was the beginning of an upswing in Siraj's performance.

On the night, Siraj was all fire and brimstone as he led the home team bowlers' fine show. Shubman Gill and his men, who were seemingly on a suicide mission, were bowled out for a below-par 147 in 19.3 overs.

In nine matches before this, Siraj had conceded 323 runs in 34 overs while claiming six wickets. The T20 World Cup call-up seems to have added that extra zing in Siraj's approach. If one were to discount the three wides the 30-year-old bowled, his rhythm and lengths were spot-on.

It wasn't just Siraj. Barring spinner Karn Sharma, who went for some runs, most of the other bowlers kept it tight, pacers Yash Dayal (2/21) and Vyshak Vijaykumar (2/23), in particular.

Gujarat's woeful run in Powerplay continued as they managed just 23/3 with their misfiring top order back in the dugout. Out-of-form Wriddhiman Saha dug himself into a deeper hole, contributing a laboured single off seven balls.

Chetan Shivakumar

JUMP OF JOY: Mohammed Siraj celebrates a wicket with Cameron Green on Saturday

23/3 Runs scored in the first six overs by Gujarat Titans - the lowest powerplay score by any team in this IPL

--Rajesh Kumar

SCORECARD

Gujarat Titans: W Saha c Karthik b Siraj 1, S Gill c Vyshak b Siraj 2, S Sudharsan c Kohli b Green 6, M Shahrukh Khan run out 37, D Miller c Maxwell b Sharma 30, R Tewatia c Vyshak b Dayal 35, R Khan b Dayal 18, V Shankar c Siraj b Vyshak 10, M Suthar c Swapnil b Vyshak 1, M Sharma run out 0, N Ahmad not out 0; **Extras:** (B-2, LB-1, W-4) 7; **Total: (in 19.3 overs) 147; FoW:** 1-1, 2-10, 3-19, 4-80, 5-87, 6-131, 7-136, 8-147, 9-147, 10-147; **Bowling:** S Singh 1-0-1-0, M Siraj 4-0-29-2, Y Dayal 4-0-21-2, C Green 4-0-28-1, V Vyshak 3.3-0-23-2, K Sharma 3-0-42-1

Royal Challengers Bengaluru: V Kohli c Saha b N Ahmad 42, F du Plessis c S Khan b Little 64, W Jacks c S Khan b N Ahmad 1, R Patidar c Miller b Little 2, G Maxwell c Miller b Little 4, C Green c S Khan b Little 1, D Karthik not out 21, S Singh not out 15; **Extras:** (LB-1, W-1) 2; **Total: (For 6 wickets in 13.4 overs) 152; FoW:** 1-92, 2-99, 3-103, 4-107, 5-111, 6-117; **Bowling:** M Sharma 2-0-32-0, J Little 4-0-45-4, M Suthar 2-0-26-0, N Ahmad 4-0-23-2, R Khan 1.4-0-25-0.

HOW THEY STAND

TEAM	M	W	L	NRR	PTS
RR	10	8	2	0.622	16
KKR	10	7	3	1.098	14
LSG	10	6	4	0.094	12
SRH	10	6	4	0.072	12
CSK	10	5	5	0.627	10
DC	11	5	6	-0.442	10
RCB	11	4	7	-0.049	8
PBKS	10	4	6	-0.062	8
GT	11	4	7	-1.320	8
MI	11	3	8	-0.356	6

128.46 Strike rate registered by Gujarat Titans' batters' No. 1 to 3 while aggregating 880 at an average of 28.38 in eleven matches - the least by any team's top three batters in this IPL

Guarded LSG look to subdue dominant KKR

Coach Langer Confirms Mayank Unlikely To Play In Rest Of Season

Fazal Khan | TNN

Lucknow: Playing their last match on home turf, Lucknow Super Giants (LSG) will have to give it their best shot to edge past Kolkata Knight Riders at the Ekana cricket stadium on Sunday. KKR are a step away from a berth in the Playoffs with 14 spots.

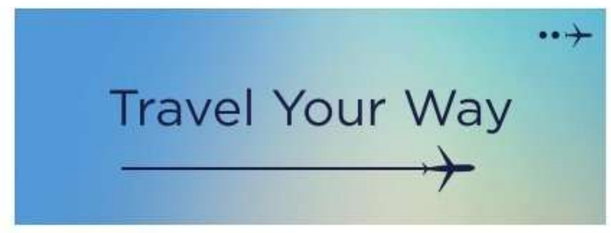
In their previous match against Mumbai Indians, LSG were far from convincing as they had to toil hard to chase the modest 145-run target. On the batting side, LSG skipper KL Rahul is in form up the order and has played some fine knocks, smashing fifties against Rajasthan Royals and Chennai Super Kings.

Allrounder Marcus Stoinis also played well against MI, scoring 62 runs, and had also played a spectacular match-winning innings against CSK. Deepak Hooda has also played some decent knocks. Wicket-keeper-batter Nicholas Pooran has not been able to make his mark in the last 2-3 matches and it is time for him to put his best foot forward. Top-order batter Quinton de Kock missed the last match against MI and he was back early to the pavilion against Rajasthan Royals.

On the bowling side, LSG's bowlers will also face a harsh test with none of them making a real dent with individual brilliance. In the last match, Mohsin Khan, Marcus Stoinis, Naveen-ul Haq and Mayank Yadav did well against MI. LSG will now have to go without pace sensation Mayank, who had walked out of the last match against MI due to his side strain acting up.

Mayank is unlikely to play in the remainder of the IPL. LSG head coach Justin Langer said, "We'll be praying that he can play hopefully in the play-offs but I am a realist as well. It will probably be difficult for him to get up for the back end of the tournament. He's (Mayank) had a scan. He's got a small tear in a similar area to where his last one (injury) was. So, it's very unfortunate. We saw the impact he had when he came back into the game."

As for KKR, their bowlers were in excellent form against MI on Friday. All the bowlers, especially spinners Varun Chakaravarthy and Sunil Narine.



"MUMBAI INDIANS HAVE BEEN A VERY CONFUSED TEAM THIS YEAR. IT'S BEEN HUGELY DISAPPOINTING FROM ONE OF THE MEGA FRANCHISES IN THIS YEAR'S IPL. A LOT OF PEOPLE WILL BE VERY, VERY SORE – THE MI FAN BASE AND THE MI CAMP."
– Graeme Smith | Former SA captain

Ashwin Weighs In On Big IPL Totals, Seeks 'Mental Boost' For Beleaguered Bowlers

'Size of stadiums not relevant now'

"IN THE NEXT STADIUM THAT WE PLAYED, I FELT I COULD WALK TO THE BOUNDARY, THEN THE NEXT I COULD RUN (TO THE BOUNDARY), AND, FINALLY, THERE WAS ONE STADIUM WHERE I FELT IF I SPIT MY CHEWING GUM, IT WILL CROSS THE BOUNDARY ROPE FOR A SIX!"
—R Ashwin | RAJASTHAN ROYALS

Hindol.Basu@timesgroup.com

New Delhi: The ongoing IPL has seen a plethora of 250-plus totals put on the board by teams, as bowlers are bearing the brunt. Featherbed pitches, small grounds, power-packed bats, and then the 'Impact Player' rule – which is technically allowing teams to go into a match with eight batters – are combining to make the life of a bowler miserable in this edition.

One of India's best spinners ever, Ravichandran Ashwin is now calling for balance to be restored between bat and ball. Ashwin feels the tilt in favour of batsmen is "too apparent" now and the size of cricket stadiums is being made irrelevant.

"The stadiums built back in the day are not relevant in the modern day. The bats that were used back then are now used only for gully cricket. With LED boards of the sponsors being used, the boundary has come in by 10 yards. That's making the job of the batters much easier as they have to cover a lesser distance and even a mishit is sailing into the crowd.

"It is tilting too far on the side of the batsmen. Someone's else's misery is giving you (spectators) a great time. The bowlers, quite simply, need a mental boost now," Ashwin said during a promotional event for his IPL team Rajasthan Royals.

Besides his straight talk on the bowlers' predicament, Ashwin, who has a witty sense of humour, had an amusing take on the size of the boundaries this season.

"The ground (Sawai Man Singh Stadium) in Jaipur, the boundary dimensions are huge. Seeing the dimensions, Dhruv Jurel was surprised and told me: 'Bhaiyya this is so big'. I told him: 'Dhruv, at least let it be (big) somewhere'. It's so huge that I felt, at this stage of my career, I would need a bicycle to reach the (Sawai Man Singh) boundary.

"Then in the next stadium that we played, I felt I could walk to the boundary, then the next I could run (to the boundary), and, finally, there was one stadium where I felt if I spit my chewing gum, it will cross the boundary rope for a six," Ashwin said as everyone started laughing.

However, Ashwin also firmly believes that a good bowler will still stand out due to his "ability to innovate". In fact, Rajasthan Royals' bowling attack has not suffered much embarrassment unlike some of the other teams, and that gives Ashwin satisfaction. "If you look at the industrial rate at which teams have conceded runs in the IPL, we have, in comparison, gone for less. We have, in fact, defended 180 in Jaipur in one game which was a massive feat," he said.

"But looking at the ball-striking of some of the players in this IPL, one has to stand and applaud and marvel at their skills. At the end of the day, spectators come to watch fours and sixes."

It's a must-win for CSK

Pacers Pathirana, Deshpande Back As Ruturaj's Boys Eye Revenge Against PBKS

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Chennai Super Kings have been far from comfortable playing away from home this season. The reigning champions have won just one of their four matches on the road so far and were outplayed by the opposition in each of the three losses. With time not on their side and the team playing catch-up in the intense playoff race, Ruturaj Gaikwad-led CSK will have to improve their away record, starting with the clash against Punjab Kings in Dharamshala on Sunday.

Super Kings (10 points from 10 matches) find themselves in must-win territory as they are two points behind Sunrisers Hyderabad (12 points from 10 matches), who occupy the fourth and final knockout spot.

A slip-up against Punjab — four days after going down to the same opposition in Chennai – could mean that top-four qualification may no longer be in their hands.

Moving into the most crucial phase of the league stage, Ruturaj's form is a huge positive for CSK. The right-handed opener is on a dream run with five 50-plus scores in his last six outings. While Ruturaj is in glorious touch, he can still improve in certain areas – maintaining consistency away from home, making full use of the Powerplay at a time when his opening partner Ajinkya Rahane is struggling for runs.

The fact that the pitches at the HPCA Stadium provide good assistance to the batters should please Ruturaj and Co. After being dominated by spinners Harpreet Brar and Rahul Chahar, the middle-order batters, especially Shivam Dube, will be eager to exact revenge.

CSK are set to be bolstered by the availability of pacers Matheesha Pathirana and Tushar Deshpande, but will be without the services of Deepak Chahar. While Pathirana and Deshpande missed the last game with a niggle and flu respectively, Deepak limped off the field with a groin injury.

"Deepak has pulled up with a problem in his leg and is not with us. The Sri Lankan boys (Pathirana and Maheesh Theekshana) had to go to get their visas sorted. They did not train on Saturday. Once we see how the conditions are and the balance of the team, we will know (if they play). Tushar seems fine right now," said CSK bowling consultant Eric Simons.

Punjab, who are on a two-match winning streak, will look to keep their slim playoff hopes alive. The change of home venue from Mullanpur to Dharamshala could come as a welcome boost as the free-stroking PBKS batters may be better-suited to the HPCA Stadium pitch.

FACE-OFF
PBKS vs CSK
TV TIME: 3.30 PM
STAR SPORTS
JIOCINEMA

HEAD TO HEAD

PBKS	CSK
14	15

LAST FIVE MATCH

PBKS	W	W	L	L	L
CSK	L	W	L	L	W

VENUE: DHARAMSHALA

ODDS

PBKS	CSK
5/4	6/10

WEATHER 27°C

5 matches won by Punjab out of the last five played against CSK — by 6 wickets in Dubai on Oct 7, 2021, by 54 runs in Brabourne Stadium on April 3, 2022, by 11 runs at the Wankhede on April 25, 2022, by 4 wickets on April 30, 2023 and by 7 wickets on May 1, 2024 (both at Chepauk).

254 runs for the first wicket @ 25.40 in 10 innings by CSK, the least by a team this season. CSK's run-rate of 7.97 for the first wicket is also the least — they are the only team scoring at less than 8 an over for the first wicket.

—Stats: Rajesh Kumar

Eng women using AI to pick playing XI: Coach Jon Lewis

London: England are using Artificial Intelligence (AI) while picking their playing XI, women's head coach Jon Lewis has revealed, saying the technology provided crucial feedback as far as match-ups are concerned and also helped them win T20 series against Australia.

Lewis said he got to know about the technology, powered by a London-based company PSi, while he was coaching the UP Warriorz in the inaugural edition of the Women's Premier League (WPL) in India.

Interestingly, Steve Borthwick, the England Rugby Union coach who also manages rugby league team Wigan Warriors, and English Football League One side Wigan Athletic have also used the same system.

The England head coach said the AI system has successful helped them take the eventual call of picking one player when two in-form players with almost similar skillsets were up for selection in a game against Australia during the Women's Ashes last year.

"We are able to run simulated teams versus the simulated opposition to give us an idea about how those teams may match up against each other," Lewis was quoted as saying by ESPNCricinfo. "I can send multiple different lineups to the company and they run, it's about 250,000 simulations per team that I send with all the different permutations that could happen.

"What I would say is it's not how we select the side, but it's one part of selection that we use to help understand what could possibly happen in the future. We used it very successfully in the Ashes last summer with match-ups against the Australian side," Lewis added.

Providing further insights to how the system has helped the England Women's side, Lewis said, "There was one selection in particular last year. We saw a real strength in Australia and we matched up our strength, our best bowlers, to that part of the game against Australia last year.

"That worked really, really well for us. That helped us win the T20 series in particular and that got us back in the Ashes," Lewis said, referring to England's 2-1 win over Australia. "The players were both players that I was thinking about picking. So it did help me with those selections and it turned out that it worked out really well," he said.

Lewis, however, admitted that traditional ways of selecting teams after monitoring players in their preparations could not be replaced but AI can only help in arrive at better decisions.

"Obviously we're on the ground with the people and that's probably the first thing that we look to in terms of selection, which people are playing well, we use our cricketing eye," Lewis said.

"But it's one small part of what we do and it's really interesting, and it played out really well last summer against Australia. I think it will help with borderline decisions in terms of selections and match-ups. Will it ever be at the front, the thing that selects the team? I would say, in my view, no. Other coaches may feel very differently, but it is really interesting," he said. PTI

HARDIK PANDYA LOOKS FLATTENED, DRAINED, UNDER PRESSURE: FINCH

HARDIK PANDYA

Mumbai: India vice-captain and Mumbai Indians captain Hardik Pandya looks "drained, flattened, under pressure" and Mumbai Indians look like a "confused" unit under him, reckons former Australian cricketer Aaron Finch.

Pandya once again walked out to loud boos around the Wankhede Stadium here on Friday during yet another disappointing outing for MI.

"He just looks really flattened at the moment, he looks really drained and someone who is feeling the pressure. I feel for him. I've been in that situation myself where everything that you're trying personally doesn't seem to be working," Finch told Star Sports. "When the team isn't performing as well, that is a very difficult place to be."

South Africa's legendary captain Graeme Smith also weighed in on the situation, saying, "Hardik has really struggled, he's looked like a man under pressure. That has created a little turmoil in the air, who knows how that has affected the people. But even the batting lineup, they look like they're confused." PTI

GALLERY

Red Bull's Verstappen wins Miami sprint race

Miami: Red Bull's triple world champion Max Verstappen completed a sweep of the first two sprint races of the Formula One season on Saturday with a win at the Miami Grand Prix. In another dominating display the 26-year-old Dutchman started from pole and was never challenged, beating Ferrari's Charles Leclerc by 3.371 seconds in the 19-lap race around the Miami International Autodrome. With the victory Verstappen remained unbeaten in Miami and stretched his championship lead over team mate Sergio Perez, who finished third. "My engagement wasn't good at the start so I had to squeeze him (Leclerc) a bit," said Verstappen. "Luckily everything worked out in turn one. It wasn't entirely perfect. I'm happy with that and it gives us a good few points to look at to improve on."

Auger-Aliassime in final as 'crazy' Madrid injury curse strikes again: Felix Auger-Aliassime said "it's crazy times for the elite of our sport" as the Canadian benefitted from yet another retirement to set-up a Madrid Open final clash against Andrey Rublev on Friday. Czech 30th seed Jiri Lehecka became the latest player to withdraw in the Spanish capital through injury, as he sustained a back problem and was forced to retire at 3-3 in the opening set of his semi-final.

IOC bans former senior Olympic member Sheikh Ahmad for 15 years: Kuwait's Sheikh Ahmad Al-Fahad Al-Sabah has been banned for 15 years from all positions within the International Olympic Committee over ethics breaches, the Olympic ruling body has decided. In a letter seen by Reuters, IOC Director General Christophe De Kepper informed all IOC members of the Executive Board decision to sanction Sheikh Ahmad over a court case in Switzerland. AGENCIES

ACTION TODAY

BADMINTON: Finals, Uber Cup, 7 am & Thomas Cup 2.30 pm (Jiocinema); **CRICKET:** IPL, Punjab vs Chennai, 3.30 pm; Lucknow vs Kolkata, 7.30 pm (Star Sports, Jiocinema); BD vs Zim, 2nd T20, 5.30 pm (Fancode); **FOOTBALL:** La Liga, 5.30 pm, 7.45 pm, 10 pm and 12.30 am Monday (Jio Cinema); EPL: Chelsea vs Westham, 6.30 pm; Liverpool vs Spurs, 9 pm (Star Sports); Bundesliga, 7 pm, 9 pm, 11 pm (Sony); **TENNIS:** Madrid Open men's final, 10 pm (Sony)

Real Madrid win Liga title after Barca's loss to Girona

Barcelona: Real Madrid has won its record-extending 36th Spanish league title after securing an insurmountable 13-point lead over second-place Girona with four games remaining. Madrid reclaimed its domestic crown after beating Cadiz 3-0 earlier Saturday, and Barcelona then lost 4-2 at Girona. Only a victory by Barcelona would have stopped Madrid from celebrating.

LA LIGA

Madrid also has a chance to add to its unequaled 14 European Cups. Madrid hosts Bayern Munich in the Champions League on Wednesday with their semifinal evenly balanced after a 2-2 first-leg draw in Germany. Either Paris Saint-Germain or Borussia Dortmund will await the winner in the June 1 final.

Girona leapfrogged Barcelona and pushed its Catalan rival into third place at 14 points behind Madrid. Carlo Ancelotti overhauled his lineup ahead of the decider against Bayern. Center back Nacho Fernández was the only starter from the first leg against Bayern to begin against Cadiz.

Madrid only lost once in 34 rounds so far and beat Barcelona in both league "clasico" matches, as well as dealing Girona a pair of lopsided losses in their two meetings.

Brahim Díaz broke through Cadiz's defense in the 51st minute at the Santiago Bernabeu on Saturday when the forward rifled a shot from the edge of the box into the top corner. Season standout Jude Bellingham tapped in a second goal in the 68th, moments after going on as a substitute to put the result beyond doubt with his 19th league goal of the campaign. Joselu Mato added a third in injury time.

In the end, it was a double blow for Barcelona coach Xavi. AGENCIES

AFP

MOMENT OF DRAMA: Dani Carvajal kicks the ball next to Cadiz's Argentinian goalkeeper Jeremias Ledesmaer at the Santiago Bernabeu stadium in Madrid

Haaland scores four in win for City as Arsenal lead by 1 point

London: Four goals for Erling Haaland. Another win for Manchester City in its bid to capture an unprecedented fourth straight Premier League crown. Arsenal, though, isn't going away in the title race. Not this time.

Haaland has now at least a hat trick in six of his 63 matches in England's top flight after converting two penalties, powering in a header and curling home a sublime

EPL

finish in City's 5-1 victory over Wolverhampton on Saturday. Julian Alvarez added a late fifth, moments after coming on as a substitute for Haaland.

That's six straight wins for the defending champions in their five-month unbeaten streak in the league. Three more wins — away to Fulham and Tottenham and then at home to West Ham — and the title is theirs once again. City might need to be perfect down the stretch to hold off Arsenal. There's no sign of an end-of-season collapse by Mikel Arteta's team this time, with a 3-0 win over Bournemouth in the lunchtime kickoff keeping the pressure on City.

Arsenal has four straight wins itself and has retained its one-point lead. City, though, has three games left, one more than Arsenal. Last season, Arsenal's title challenge faded in the spring as a fast-finishing City clinched a third straight league championship with three games to spare.

Twelve months on and the title race is heading into the final week of the season. Indeed, given the form of the top two, it is likely to be decided in the last round of games on May 19. Bukayo Saka converted a penalty in the 45th minute before second-half goals by Leandro Trossard and Declan Rice gave Arsenal victory at Emirates Stadium.

There will be a refreshing name in the EPL next season. Ipswich sealed a return to England's top division for the first time in 22 years after finishing as runner-up on the last day of the second-tier Championship's regular season. AGENCIES

Reuters

SUPER SHOW: City's Erling Haaland scores an acrobatic goal against Wolverhampton Wanderers at the Etihad Stadium

Mumbai City FC bag second ISL title with 3-1 comeback win

Nilesh.Bhattacharya
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Kolkata: The referee's final whistle was yet to be blown but Lallianzuala Chhangte briefly came over to the Mumbai City FC bench and kissed the crest of his jersey. A couple of his teammates

ISL

came out of their seats to bow down to him in deference.

The packed stands of 62,000 had fallen silent by that time. It was Mohun Bagan SG's heartbreak and Mumbai City FC's hurrah. It was Chhangte's night.

In a team game, Mumbai City's No. 7 painted the Salt Lake Stadium's canvass with one of the finest individual performances this season, guiding his team to a remarkable 3-1 win over Mohun Bagan to lift the ISL championship title and denying Antonio Lopez Habas's Shield winners an opportunity of doing a 'double' in the league.

Chhangte, who finished the league with 10 goals --- the maximum among domestic players --- didn't score this time. But such was his elegant menace that he almost single-handedly brought crowd favourites Mohun Bagan to their knees. His acceleration, vision and endless determination were too much for the home team. He simply eviscerated the opponents. Mumbai City started with such intensity that Chhengte was denied by the woodwork twice in the first half. Yet, the fickle hand of football seemed to turn the script on its head in a stunning way when Jason Cummings put Mohun Bagan ahead in the 44th minute in what was the team's second shot on target at that time.

But Petr Kratky's Mumbai -- having certainly learnt from their Shield-losing defeat here three weeks ago -- continued to control the game with their passing and possession and always looked threatening on the break. The equalizer came in the 53rd minute through Jorge Pereyra Diaz. Mumbai soon lost Pereyra Diaz and Alberto Noguera to injury. But their substitutes Bipin Singh and Jakub Vojtus rose to the occasion, scoring in the 81st and 95th minute, respectively, giving Mumbai the deserved victory.

While Mumbai players sang and danced with the cup, the result also put a question mark on Habas's strategy. They missed the usual creativity, and the likes of Manvir Singh, Liston Colaco and Dimitri Petratos were not given the license to set the tempo until the final 15 minutes when they decided to throw the kitchen sink in desperation.

Mumbai started on the front foot, flourishing in Petr Kratky's pass-and-move doctrine and leaving Mohun Bagan all over the place. The imperious Chhangte --- the winger with exceptional work-rate --- was the heartbeat of their relentless pressure on the Bagan box.

Soon after Chhangte saw his lay-off across the goalline go begging, he came calling again, this time his looping shot hit the crosspiece.

Pradip Datta

TRIUMPHANT: Mumbai City FC players celebrate with the ISL trophy

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	305 SQ. FT. (28.33 Sq. Mtr.)	Rs. 70,02,495	Rs. 31000	Rs. 7,00,250	Rs. 21,00,749	Rs. 21,00,749	Rs. 21,00,749
	311 SQ. FT. (28.89 Sq. Mtr.)	Rs. 71,40,249	Rs. 31000	Rs. 7,14,025	Rs. 21,42,075	Rs. 21,42,075	Rs. 21,42,075
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