



US defence secretary Pete Hegseth warns that China is 'credibly preparing' to use military force to upend the balance of power in Asia...

US plan for Gaza proposes a 60-day truce & release of 28 Israeli hostages — alive and dead — in first week...

Iran has increased its stockpile of uranium enriched to near weapons-grade levels, a confidential report by UN nuclear watchdog IAEA says...

Shreyas Iyer-led Punjab Kings & Hardik Pandya-captained Mumbai Indians meet in Qualifier 2 at Narendra Modi Stadium in Ahmedabad today...

Govt engr held on retirement day for illegal assets

A day after Baikunth Nath Sarangi, chief engineer with Odisha's rural development department, was caught on camera tossing bundles of cash onto his neighbour's terrace during a vigilance raid at his Bhubaneswar house...

Couple misses train, wins refund after 3-yr battle

An elderly couple from Bengaluru took an IndiGo train and won a refund for a train journey they never made, as their reserved coach was overbooked and inaccessible...

RWA seeks care for 'abandoned' couple

The Ridgewood Estate RWA in Gurgaon has moved the human rights commission seeking the state's intervention to guarantee care and safety for an elderly couple who have been living with two attendants after being "abandoned" by their son...

Passengers sit 3 hrs in static aircraft

About 150 passengers of a SpiceJet Delhi-Pune flight allegedly had to sit in the stationary aircraft for almost three hours — a charge denied by the airline — and ended up reaching their destination four hours later...

In U'khand, yr's 9th death in tiger attack

A 34-year-old man was mauled to death by a tiger while collecting leaves used to make eco-friendly utensils in the forests of Rishikesh range in Lal Tappar area of Dehradun district Friday...

73 deaths in 1st mth of Char Dham yatra

As many as 65 pilgrims undertaking the Char Dham yatra this year died due to health issues, mainly cardiac-related, while eight were killed in accidents on the route...

Land-for-jobs: Lulu plea for stay rejected

Delhi HC Saturday rejected former Union Minister Lulu Prasad Yadav's plea for a stay on trial court proceedings in a CBI case related to the land-for-jobs scam...

Kujur sets nat'l mark, India finish 2nd in Asian Athletics

A new national record and six final-day medals capped India's campaign at the 26th Asian Athletics Championships, which concluded with 8 gold, 10 silver and 6 bronze medals in Gumi, South Korea...

India lost jets but changed tactics to hit Pak hard: CDS

Rejects Pak Claim That It Downed Six Aircraft

Rajat Pandit@timesofindia.com

New Delhi: India did lose some fighter jets during the strikes on nine terror hubs in Pakistan and POK and the consequent retaliation on May 7, but then changed tactics to inflict major damage on airbases deep across the border before the ceasefire three days later...

What is important is not the jet being downed but why they were being downed... The good part is we were able to understand the tactical mistake which we made, remedy it, rectify it and then implement it again after two days...

Gen Anil Chauhan | CHIEF OF DEFENCE STAFF

lines of the Shangri-La Dialogue in Singapore. Gen Chauhan's admission of India's initial setbacks during Operation Sindoor is the most direct since director-general of air operations Air Marshal Anil Chauhan on May 7 said losses were part of any combat situation but "all our pilots are back home", implying they had ejected safely after their jets were hit by enemy fire...

Disproportionate response to terror is norm now: PM

Disproportionate response to terrorist attacks will now be the norm, PM Modi said in Bhopal Saturday adding, "If they fire bullets, we will retaliate with cannon balls"...

32 dead as heavy rains trigger floods, landslides in northeast

Villages Go Under Water, Power Lines Crumble

Kangkan Kalita, Manohar Das, HC Vanlalruata, Joken Ete, N Jagoi

At least 32 people died in the past 24 hours as relentless monsoonal rain triggered landslides and floods across six northeastern states, sweeping away homes, vehicles and lives, officials said Saturday...



Roads were waterlogged in Guwahati, where 5 deaths were reported... In Assam's Lakhimpur district, two people drowned after excessive water release...

Two with Covid die in 24 hrs in city; total no. of active cases in India 3,395

Anuja Jaiswal@timesofindia.com

New Delhi: Two more persons with Covid-19 died in the last 24 hours, taking the capital's death toll for this year to three. The city documented 81 fresh infections since Friday, with the current active caseload standing at 3,395...

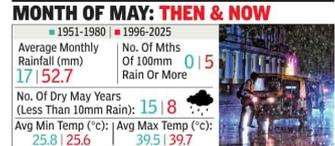
Trump to double levy on fgn steel, aluminium to 50%

President Donald Trump said he would be increasing tariffs on steel and aluminium to 50% from 25%, saying the move would help protect American workers...

How Delhi's summer is changing: 3-fold rise in May rainfall in 75 yrs

Amit Bhattacharya @timesofindia.com

New Delhi: Delhiites this month experienced the wettest May since record-keeping began in 1901. This wasn't a one-off event but another pointer to a dramatic change in Delhi's summer weather...



TOI analysis of data from Delhi's main weather station Safdarjung... 95.7 mm in May, P 6

Kerala leads in cases

Kerala leads with 1,336 Covid-19 positive cases, Madhya Pradesh follows with 467 & 375 cases, respectively... Gujarat, Karnataka and West Bengal among states that have also surpassed 200 cases...

MCD hoes face shortage of docs

MCD hospitals are facing a severe manpower shortage of 32% of posts of doctors, 43% of nurses & 64% of paramedics lying vacant, say sources...

ICAI Arbitration Conference details: 3rd Edition of International Conference on Arbitrating Indo-UK Commercial Disputes, Synergizing India - UK Arbitration Practices, 5th June 2025, Church House Westminster, Deans Yard, Westminster, London

HC upholds Army officer's termination for refusing to attend religious parade

New Delhi: Delhi high court has upheld the 2017 termination of an Army officer who refused to participate in regimental weekly religious parades on the grounds that he belonged to the Christian faith, reports Vineet Upadhyay...

Kol Jagannath's chariot to roll on Sukhoi tyres

Lord Jagannath's chariot is moving on from Boeing B-747 to Sukhoi. At the Iskcon Rath Yatra in Kolkata this year, the chariot will roll on tyres designed for a Russian Sukhoi fighter jet, reports Subhro Nivogi...

IN THE COURTS

- Arrest of Anchor Group director Hemang Shah by Mum Police's EDW 'illegal', says Bombay HC, orders his release from jail | P 15
Delhi HC dismisses petition seeking direction to DNA not to disturb Pak Hindu refugee camp at Majnu Ka Tila till an alternative piece of land is allotted to residents | P 5
Upholding dismissal of a former judicial officer during probation for adverse remarks, Pib & Hry HC says 'deemed confirmation' can't override adverse probation reports | P 15
Mau MLA Abbas Ansari sentenced to 2 years in jail in 2022 hate speech case, faces disqualification | P 15

Behaviour not... P 28

Valmik Thapar walked with tigers, now he rests

Ajay Singh@timesofindia.com

Jaipur: Valmik Thapar was 24 — fresh out of St Stephen's with a gold medal in sociology and an old key from The Deen School. He stood at a crossroads. Life had questions, but no answers. Then the jungle found him...

1952 - 2025
A pall of silence fell across Ranthambore's forests. Thapar, 73, died at his Delhi home after a prolonged battle with cancer. More than just a conservationist, Thapar was a man who walked with tigers — and also an author, documentarian, policy adviser and activist.

Organizing Speakers list for ICAI conference: Dr. N G Khaitan, Lord Michael Briggs of Westbourne, The Rt Hon Lord Arun Chawla, Mr. Arun Chawla, Mr. Vikram K. Doraiswami, Ms. Karishma Vora, Ms. Pinky Anand, Ms. Sherina Petli, Mr. Robert Lawrie, Ms. Geeta Luthra, Ms. Payel Chatterjee, Mr. Mohit Saraf, Ms. Annabel Thomas, Ms. Kate Corby, Mr. Amit Sibal, Mr. Sanjeev Kapoor

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## Ice skating rink at Dwarka complex to be ready by Oct

New Delhi: Delhi Development Authority's (DDA) first international-level ice skating rink is likely to be ready by Oct this year at its sports complex in Dwarka Sector 23, officials said on Saturday.

DDA is developing a sports complex spread across 17 acres with multiple facilities, including a football ground, hockey ground, and the ice skating rink. It has issued a tender seeking professional sports agencies to operate and maintain the facility.

"In Dwarka Sector 23, the ice skating rink is being specially designed, and the work is likely to be completed soon. We have issued a tender for professionals to operate this and other facilities," a DDA official said.

The authority is also working on two other sports complexes in Dwarka—in Sector 8 spread across 23 acres and in Sector 19 which covers 19 acres.

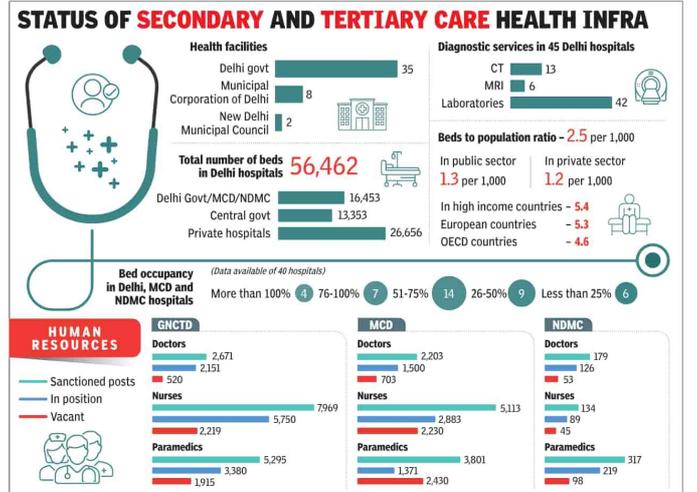
"The vision is to focus on inclusivity, excellence, sustainability, and long-term development of sports. DDA aims to establish specialised Centres of Excellence (CoE) for different sports at selected facilities, providing high-performance training environments for athletes," the official said.

According to the plan, the Sector 8 complex will host a CoE for wrestling, boxing, judo, and karate, while Sector 19 will focus on tennis and shooting. The Sector 23 complex will have facilities for hockey and football.

The company will be responsible for developing hostel facilities at the Sector 8 complex as per prevailing FAR norms and procuring necessary sports and non-sports equipment. The agency has already procured part of the equipment, and the remainder will be provided by the concessionaire, the tender reads.

# Delhi Hospitals Not In The Pink Of Health, Lack Infra

## Govt Plans To Improve Facilities, Address Manpower Crunch



## 3 minors among 4 injured in blast

New Delhi: Four people, including three minor brothers, were critically injured in a cylinder explosion at a godown in north-east Delhi's Sunder Nagar on Saturday.

Police were informed about the blast at 4:33 pm, and two fire tenders and 12 firefighters were dispatched. The explosion took place at a godown on Street Number 8. During a repair operation, a CNG cylinder reportedly exploded, with the impact forcefully breaking the iron gate. The three brothers, aged 4, 7 and 9, who were playing nearby, suffered severe injuries.

Additionally, a 25-year-old worker inside the godown, identified as Arshad, sustained serious burns. All four victims were rushed to GTB Hospital. According to the fire department, the building where the blast occurred is a three-storey structure. One child suffered 90% burns, while the other two had 85% burn injuries. Arshad received burns on 75% of his body.

Legal action has been initiated against the godown owner, and further inquiries are ongoing.

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While carat, clarity, colour, and cut remain the foundational 4 Cs, it is light performance that truly brings a natural diamond to life. How it captures, bends, and reflects light—its brilliance, fire, and scintillation—is what defines its beauty. In fact, cut and shape often influence a diamond's visual presence more than size alone. Today, the world's finest jewellers are placing new emphasis on this interplay of light, the true source of a natural diamond's unmistakable sparkle.

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From the hidden depths of the Earth to the heights of high fashion, natural diamonds continue to be cherished for what they are: expressions of authenticity, artistry, and permanence. In a disposable age, they remain a shimmering reminder that some things, love, legacy, and time itself truly are forever.

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number of rural pockets and peripheral areas compared to other parts of the city.

The combined bed-to-population ratio in the public and private sectors is 2.5 per 1,000 population, which is less than half of the 5.4 in high-income countries, 5.3 in the European Union, and 4.6 in OECD countries.

Officials agreed that the healthcare system in Delhi was not integrated and was currently functioning in silos. They also admitted that the bed-to-population ratio of 2.5 was not enough now and should be increased to at least 3 by 2030, and further improved to 4 by 2035 and 5 by 2047.

They highlighted that trauma, emergency and critical care services required more integration and large-scale vacancies needed to be addressed on priority.

It was decided that govt would now focus on optimising and expanding infrastructure and procurement of radiological and pathology machines.

## Speeding car kills 3-yr-old, driver nabbed

New Delhi: A three-year-old girl lost her life when a car struck her in Northwest Delhi's Bawana on Friday. The incident occurred while she was playing outside. Her mother, who was working, had taken the accused into custody.

The girl resided with her family in Pooth Khurd. According to her mother's statement, the incident occurred around 3 pm. As per her daily routine, she had brought her daughter to the factory. The child was playing near the roadside while her mother worked inside.

The mother stated that when she went outside to feed her daughter, a white Creta car with Delhi registration approached at excessive speed. The driver suddenly veered and struck the child before departing from the scene.

Bystanders who gathered around the location, where the child was rushed to a hospital. However, medical staff pronounced her dead upon arrival.

A case was registered under IPC sections 288 and 106 (1). The accused, a Bawana resident, was apprehended.

## 6 men arrested for robbery in Rohini

New Delhi: Six men have been arrested for allegedly robbing an employee at a CA firm of Rs 10 lakh in Rohini, police said on Saturday.

"The heist occurred on May 21, when the victim, Kuldeep Kumar, was returning to his office after collecting Rs 10 lakh from a trading company in Avantika Market," DCP (Rohini) Amit Goel said.

As he reached Maharaja Agrasen Marg near Sector 3, two men on a motorcycle intercepted him, snatched his bag containing the money and fled. A case was registered at south Rohini police station and six persons were arrested.

services in the secondary and tertiary sectors. It was also recommended that a secured online portal be created to serve as a central hub for initiating and managing referrals along with the development of telemedicine facilities and a centralised patient database.

Officials further emphasised the need for recruitment of professionals in mission mode, greater participation of the private sector in Ayushman Bharat, and optimum availability of diagnostic services and medicines.

Sources said the experts and govt also discussed the status of the 24 under-construction brownfield and greenfield hospitals and directions were issued to expedite the projects. These hospitals require more than Rs 12,000 crore for completion and another Rs 8,000 crore annually for their operation.

"Directions have been issued to officials to come up with a detailed plan at the earliest mentioning the measures that need to be taken to optimally utilise the existing facilities, the repair and maintenance of infrastructure, and procurement of radiological and pathology machines.

Emphasis was laid to fill up the vacancies by hiring permanent employees instead of the contractual ones. For that, recruitment rules have to be amended expeditiously," said an official.

## Maharashtra has 467 active cases of Covid-19, Delhi 375

### JN.1 VARIANT ACCOUNTS FOR 95% OF CASES

**JN.1 IS CHARACTERISED BY**

- Increased Transmissibility** | Mutations in the spike and non-spike proteins contribute to its rapid spread
- Mild Symptoms** | Most cases present with mild symptoms such as persistent low-grade fever, cough and sore throat
- Gastrointestinal Issues** | Unlike earlier variants, JN.1 has been associated with gastrointestinal symptoms like nausea, vomiting, abdominal pain and diarrhoea

**PRECAUTIONS YOU CAN TAKE**

- Mask Usage** | Wear masks in crowded or enclosed public spaces, especially if symptomatic or at higher risk
- Hand Hygiene** | Regularly wash hands with soap or use hand sanitiser
- Self-isolation** | If experiencing symptoms like cold, fever, or sore throat, self-isolate and avoid public places
- Monitor Health** | Keep track of symptoms and seek medical attention if oxygen levels fall below 93% or symptoms persist beyond five days

similar to those observed in the previous year," he said.

The JN.1 variant, a sub-lineage of the Omicron BA.2.86 strain, has become predominant in India, accounting for about 95% of recent cases.

Explaining the nature of the new strain of Covid-19 currently circulating, Dr Suranjit Chatterjee, senior consultant, internal medicine, Indraprastha Apollo Hospitals, said that NB.1.8.1 and LF.7 are sub-lineages of JN.1, which itself is a descendant of earlier Omicron strains. They are not entirely new variants but evolved forms with additional mutations. Compared to the Delta variant, which was associated with severe lower respiratory tract infections, the current sub-variants primarily cause milder, upper respiratory symptoms. They are more transmissible but generally

less severe, especially among vaccinated individuals.

The precautions for the current wave of Covid-19 remain the same as in previous phases. Dr Neetu Jain, senior consultant in pulmonology, critical care, and sleep medicine at PSRI Hospital, advised that individuals should wear masks, particularly in crowded spaces and indoor venues, while maintaining distance from people displaying flu-like symptoms, including cough, cold or nasal congestion.

She emphasised that those with symptoms should self-isolate and keep track of their health. The treatment protocol should focus on supportive measures such as staying hydrated and using paracetamol for fever management. She cautioned against self-administering antibiotics without a doctor's prescription.



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# Earned Love And Lost Carefree Attitude In Past 100 Days: CM

# Compensation for acquisition of land in Khanpur for metro corridor announced

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Atul.Mathur@timesofindia.com

New Delhi: Marking BJP-led Delhi gov't's first 100 days in office, CM Rekha Gupta on Saturday took the stage at Jawaharlal Nehru Stadium to present a report card during a conversation with actor Anupam Kher. The event blended humour, jibes at the previous AAP administration, and video montages showcasing recent achievements.

The interview-style event, attended by ministers, Delhi govt officials, BJP functionaries and other dignitaries, began with a tribute to the armed forces for Operation Sindoor, India's anti-terror military offensive. A short video, set to patriotic music, played on giant screens and saluted the Army's efforts. "This operation has raised the honour of the nation's daughters," Gupta said, before Kher quipped "thank god no one here asked for proof", taking a lengthy jab at opposition parties.

Seated on a large stage beneath octopus of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Gupta and Kher conversed before a neatly arranged audience. "It's been a long time since a govt came to power where it actually makes sense to talk about achievements," Kher said, setting the tone. When he



The event blended humour, jibes at the previous AAP administration, and video montages on recent govt work

asked Gupta why she liked Delhi, a video montage followed, featuring residents speaking about their favourite spots and changes they were noticing in the city.

Over the next hour, Kher lobbed questions on education, health, cleaning of the Yamuna and pollution, among other issues. Gupta responded with updates and subtle attacks. "Previous govts didn't take pollution seriously. We have started ward-level water sprinkling systems and rolled out 400 Devi electric buses," CM said.

On the Yamuna, she avoided giving deadlines. "We are working honestly—deslitting is happening, and for the first time, there's genuine seriousness."

Kher kept the jabs coming. "You have spoken for quite a while and not coughed once. Delhites had grown used to coughing all the time," he said, a tongue-in-cheek swipe at former chief minister Arvind Kejriwal. Gupta replied, "These days, I worry more about Punjab than Delhi."

Reflecting on her govt's 100-day performance, Gupta said,

"We have not hosted flags or made spectacles, but we have worked hard without taking a single day off." Asked what she had gained and lost since taking office, Gupta smiled and said, "I have earned love, lost my carefree attitude."

To commemorate the occasion, BJP unveiled a theme song celebrating Delhi govt's 100-day achievements, performed by BJP MP Manoj Tiwari along with a group of children. The lyrics highlighted developmental milestones while taking subtle jabs at the previous administration.

New Delhi: Delhi govt has announced a compensation of Rs 1 lakh each as a one-time grant to 80 families for the acquisition of over 1,500 square metres of land in south Delhi's Khanpur village. This is for the construction of a double-decker viaduct for Delhi Metro's Aerocity-Tughlaqabad corridor under the Phase IV expansion plan.

Revenue department officials stated that the affected families will also receive an additional Rs50,000 each as a one-time resettlement allowance. Since it was an agricultural piece of land, officials mentioned that the families did not need to be rehabilitated. They added that a total of 1,509 square

metres of land is being acquired, and a gazette notification announcing the compensation has already been issued by the collector of the south district.

Sources indicated that the land-acquisition was pending for more than four years, with the DMRC making the first request in July 2020. LG VK Saxena gave his approval for acquiring the land parcel in Oct 2024, after which the district collector's office started the process under the Right to Fair Compensation and Transparency in Land Acquisition, Rehabilitation and Resettlement Act, 2013.

"Due process was followed, and the claimants were given a hearing, after which the necessary formalities were completed under the act," said an official.

A social impact assessment study of the project, conducted by the Indian Institute of Public Administration, found that the land parcel would serve a "legitimate and bona fide public purpose" and would have "no adverse impact on the environment."

A senior Delhi govt official stated that, following the acquisition of land, this critical section of the Aerocity-Tughlaqabad metro corridor will be completed in less than a year. "This will make commuting from densely populated colonies of southeast Delhi to the airport and other locations on the line far easier. In the process, it will also address the issue of perpetual traffic jams on the Mehrauli-Badarpur Road," the official said.

# AAP protests over 'unfulfilled' promises

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi: As BJP's Delhi govt celebrated 100 days in office at Jawaharlal Nehru Stadium, the women's wing of AAP held a protest outside. It demanded Rs 2,500 of monthly financial assistance that BJP had promised to Delhi's women in its election manifesto while Delhi Congress accused the party of "squandering public money" on the celebrations.

Carrying placards, the party workers tried to march towards the stadium, but were stopped by police. AAP later claimed Delhi Police responded with "brutality" and women workers

were detained.

Delhi BJP, however, said AAP misled women in Delhi and Punjab in the name of Mahila Samman Nidhi and was attempting to mislead them again.

AAP alleged that BJP was giving a fresh coat of paint to the mohalla clinics built by its govt and converting them into Ayushman Arogya Mandir. AAP Delhi convener Saurabh Bhardwaj said a dispensary inaugurated in Chirag Dilli in 2011 was rebranded as Ayushman Arogya Mandir. Over 30 such clinics are being "advertised as a new BJP initiative", he claimed.

Delhi Congress president Devender Yadav alleged BJP govt squandered

crores of taxpayers' money to celebrate 100 days in office at the stadium by inviting singer Anupam Kher. "It was a mere publicity stunt to cover up its non-performance. BJP govt's report card was blank with nothing to show for ground-level performance for the benefit of the people," he said. Party spokesperson Naresh Kumar claimed BJP govt had done nothing for rural Delhi.

Delhi BJP president Virendra Sachdeva said, "BJP govt has earmarked Rs 100 crore in the 2025-26 budget for Mahila Samman Nidhi, and a ministerial committee is formulating the policy for its implementation. We will begin distributing the funds soon."

# Neighbour held for 13-yr-old girl's murder during theft in SW Delhi

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi: Two days after a 13-year-old girl was murdered in an unthel Delhi's Dabri, police arrested a 23-year-old neighbour. Police said the man went to the girl's house to steal, but when she saw him, he strangled her.

He also stole a mobile phone and a tablet, and sold the phone for around Rs 1,500 to a person in the area to fund his drug addiction, said police. The buyer was traced and he told police about the youth.

According to police, the control room received a call about the body of a girl, a student of Class VIII at a school in Jankpuri, on the third-floor terrace of a rented house in Dabri around 1.45pm on Thursday. After finding a few electronic devices missing, "techni-

AN OFFICER SAYS

The accused broke into the house to steal. Upon seeing him, the girl panicked and raised an alarm. The man, out of fear of being caught, strangled her

alarm. The accused, out of fear and apprehension of being caught, strangled her," police said. The girl was living in more than a dozen criminal cases.

During the preliminary investigation, the teen's mother claimed that on returning home, she found her daughter lying dead on the terrace. She immediately alerted the landlord, who called police. The mother told police that her daughter's hands were tied and a dupatta was knotted around her neck.

The girl was living in the rented accommodation with her mother, elder sister and brother for the past month and a half. The mother, who does small stitching and sewing work to sustain the family, immediately alerted the landlord, who called police. Her sister was also out on work and the brother had gone to Uttam Nagar.

cal surveillance led to the stolen mobile phone and the user told us about the accused. He was caught and confessed that he had killed the girl," said an officer.

Deputy commissioner of police (Dwarka) Ankit Singh said the accused lived in the second house from the victim's home, and knew her family. He broke into the house to steal. "Upon seeing him, the girl panicked and raised an

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**Admission Notice for Academic Year 2025-26 for Undergraduate & Postgraduate Programmes of Dr. B. R. Ambedkar University Delhi**

Dr. B.R. Ambedkar University Delhi, a State University established by the Government of NCT of Delhi invites applications for admissions to its various UG & PG programmes under different School of Studies in Kashmere Gate, Karampura, Lodhi Road & Qutub Institutional Area Campuses for the academic session 2025-26. The University has joined the Common University Entrance Test (CUET (UG) 2025 & CUET (PG) 2025) to be conducted by NTA. The CUET (UG) 2025 & CUET (PG) 2025 entrance examination will provide a single window opportunity to the students to seek admission to various undergraduate and postgraduate programmes of the university.

All such applicants who are willing to take admissions in the undergraduate and postgraduate programmes of Dr. B. R. Ambedkar University Delhi have to appear for CUET (UG) 2025 & CUET (PG) 2025.

**PG programmes for Academic Session 2025-26 are as follows:**

S.No.	Programme Name	S.No.	Programme Name
1.	MA Criminology	16.	MA English
2.	MA Comparative Literature	17.	MBA IJEDV
3.	MBA	18.	Master in Conservation Preservation and Heritage Management (MCPHM)
4.	M.Des (Social Design)	19.	Master in Archaeology Heritage Management (MAHM)
5.	MA Environment & Development	20.	MA Development Studies
6.	MA Global Studies	21.	MA Education
7.	MA Urban Studies	22.	MA Education-Early Childhood Care & Education (ECEC)
8.	Master of Public Health (MPH)	23.	M.VOC Tourism & Hospitality Management
9.	MA Gender Studies	24.	MA Film Studies
10.	MA Psychology	25.	MA Literary Art - Creative Writing
11.	MA Law, Politics & Society	26.	MA Performance Study
12.	MA Economics	27.	MA Visual Art
13.	MA Sociology	28.	MA Public Policy & Governance
14.	MA History	29.	MA Political Science
15.	MA Hindi		

Admission portal for Postgraduate Programs are now open. The last date to apply for admission is June 15. The Undergraduate Admission portal will be opened following the declaration of CUET (UG) result.

**UG programmes, for academic session 2025-26 are as follows:**

S.No.	Programme Name	S.No.	Programme Name
1.	Bachelor of Business Administration (BBA)	11.	Bachelor of Arts (Honours) Psychology
2.	Bachelor of Vocation (Tourism and Hospitality)	12.	Bachelor of Arts (Honours) Social Sciences and Humanities
3.	Bachelor of Vocation (Retail Management)	13.	Bachelor of Arts (Honours) Sociology
4.	Bachelor of Vocation (Early Childhood Centre Management and Entrepreneurship)	14.	Bachelor of Arts (Honours) Political Science
5.	Bachelor of Vocation (Accounting and Finance)	15.	Bachelor of Arts (Honours) Economics
6.	Bachelor of Arts (Sustainable Urbanism)	16.	Bachelor of Arts (Honours) English
7.	Bachelor of Arts (Global Studies)	17.	Bachelor of Arts (Honours) Hindi
8.	Bachelor of Arts (Social Sciences)	18.	Bachelor of Arts (Honours) Mathematics
9.	Bachelor of Arts (Law and Politics)	19.	Integrated Teacher Education Programme (ITEP)- B.ABEd (Preparatory Stage)
10.	Bachelor of Arts (Honours) History	20.	Integrated Teacher Education Programme (ITEP)- B.ABEd (Secondary Stage)

Applicants shall be admitted to Dr. B.R. Ambedkar University Delhi on the basis of satisfying the eligibility criteria and having appeared for chosen paper code/subject combination for CUET (PG) 2025 and CUET (UG) 2025 against each respective programme. The applicants seeking admission have to apply separately at [www.aud.delhi.gov.in](http://www.aud.delhi.gov.in) for various UG & PG programmes offered by the University. For latest updates related to application, applicants are advised to visit University website [www.aud.delhi.gov.in](http://www.aud.delhi.gov.in) and NTA (UG & PG) website.

**Admission under Competence Enhancement Scheme:**

The Competence Enhancement Scheme is an endeavour of the University to make higher education more accessible. As envisaged under the New Education Policy 2020, the Scheme aims to offer individuals from diverse backgrounds the chance to expand their knowledge and skills by enrolling in one or two courses per semester, which are being offered by the Schools of the University. To know more please visit, <https://aud.delhi.gov.in/competence-enhancement-scheme>

Dated: 23.05.2025 [www.aud.delhi.gov.in](http://www.aud.delhi.gov.in) Registrar  
Directorate of Higher Education, Govt. of NCT of Delhi  
DIP/Shabdarth/Classified/0073/25-26

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विविध कुमार् सिंह, कुलसचिव

**ALERT- OWNERS/ DRIVERS OF END-OF-LIFE VEHICLES**  
**No Fuel to End-of-Life (EoL) Vehicles**  
**w.e.f. 1st July 2025**

**Direction:** Commission for Air Quality Management (CAQM), vide Direction No. 89, dated 23.04.2025, has inter-alia directed that all EoL vehicles identified through ANPR cameras or other such devices installed at fuel pump stations shall be denied fuel w.e.f. 01.07.2025, in the NCT of Delhi.

**Violating vehicles** identified through ANPR cameras installed at fuel stations across Delhi or through any other monitoring mechanism, shall be DENIED fuel, besides other legal actions under the Motor Vehicles Act, 1989.

**What is an End-of-Life (EoL) Vehicle:**

- No longer validly registered vehicles, whether running on Petrol, CNG or Diesel fuel.
- Petrol vehicles more than 15 years old and Diesel vehicles more than 10 years old.

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**Transport Department**  
**Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi**

DIP/Shabdarth/Classified/0072/25-26

**Meet discusses Pt Deendayal Upadhyaya's life and vision**  
TIMES NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi: A two-day seminar and exhibition to commemorate 60 years of Pandit Deendayal Upadhyaya's speeches on Integral Humanism commenced on Saturday at the NDMC Convention Centre.

Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh's "sah sarkaryawah" Arun Kumar, paid tributes to Pandit Upadhyaya's statue and inaugurated the exhibition, which was organised by the Shyama Prasad Mukherjee Foundation and the Public Policy Research Centre. Kumar also delivered the opening address to kick off the seminar.

This was the first time the exhibition was presented in a digital format, which drew interest from visitors. It covered key aspects such as rural development, India's foreign policy, and India's message to the world, along with books written on Pandit Deendayal's life. BJP MP Mahesh Chandra Sharma, BJP Union Minister Shiv Prakash, Union finance minister Nirmala Sitharaman, and MS Chaitra also addressed different sessions. Union minister Bhupendra Patel spoke on Pandit Upadhyaya's life and philosophy in the final session, which was chaired by CM Rekha Gupta.

In his inaugural address, Arun Kumar said Pandit Upadhyaya's philosophy of Integral Humanism was the fundamental mantra for India's development. "He never claimed to present a new ideology, but rather offered a different interpretation of India's existing traditions. He measured the depth of Indian thought and presented it in a contemporary context," Kumar said.

**Missing man found dead, three nabbed**  
New Delhi: Three persons, including a minor, have been apprehended in connection with the murder of a 22-year-old man who went missing two weeks ago from southeast Delhi's Prithvi Park. Police said the motive behind the killing was personal enmity and confirmed that three individuals, including a minor, have been taken into custody. 794

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These barracks were once British. Can you name the monument that houses it? Scan the QR code and enter the name of this spot  
Yesterday's correct answer: NDLS  
Winner: **Lavanya Gupta**  
(Voucher will be sent by email)

**Key suspect in espionage op involving Pak Intelligence Operatives arrested**

**Times News Network**  
New Delhi: The Special Cell of Delhi Police arrested the prime suspect in connection with an espionage operation involving Pakistani Intelligence Operatives (PIOs). The accused was identified as Hasin, a resident of Gangora, Deeg, Rajasthan. His brother, Kasim, was arrested earlier in this case. Confirming the arrest, Additional CP Pradeep Kishore said that the suspect had been in contact with ISI officials for many years. He allegedly sent a SIM card to Pakistan through his brother Kasim in Aug 2024, which was later used by a PIO. Further interrogation revealed that Hasin shared photographs of sensitive army establishments with the PIO and received money in return. He also provided an OTP to activate a WhatsApp account in Pakistan.

The accused was clicking pictures and noting down timings of the movement of vehicles and army personnel at Alwar military station. "In return, Hasin's ISI handlers facilitated Pakistani visas for his younger brother Kasim, his brother-in-law and his sister during their visit to Pakistan in Aug 2024," said an officer. Hasin visited Pakistan about 15 years ago, where he has relatives, and was tapped by the ISI. Kasim, a resident of Bharatpur in Rajasthan, visited Pakistan twice in Aug 2024 and March 2025, staying for about 90 days and meeting his brother Kasim in Aug 2024, which was later used by a PIO. Further interrogation revealed that Hasin shared photographs of sensitive army establishments with the PIO and received money in return. He also provided an OTP to activate a WhatsApp account in Pakistan. The probe revealed that three ISI officers were providing them with training at a Pak army base in Lahore, officials said. Two of them were known by their aliases, viz Shah Ji and Tauji, while the third was identified as Waqas.

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**Home For Years Stares At Demolition**

**BATLA HOUSE:** Residents Get Notices From Authorities, Interim HC Relief For One Khasra

Ishita Jaiswal  
@timesofindia.com

New Delhi: In the tightly packed lanes of Batla House, anxiety hangs thick in the air amid fears of demolition. On May 22 and 26, two notices—one from the UP irrigation department and another from Delhi Development Authority—were posted regarding demolitions at khasras 277 and 279 in this southeast Delhi area, respectively. "The notices came without any information. Suddenly, we were told we have to leave our homes. Panic spread like wildfire," said 61-year-old Sohrab Khan, a resident of khasra 279 who has lived here for years.



Photos: Jatin Kumar

The UP irrigation department asked residents to remove their structures from its land at khasra 277 within 15 days, warning of legal action for non-compliance. The eviction date was set a day before Eid al-Adha in early June.



The UP irrigation department and DDA have issued demolition notices in khasras 277 and 279 in Batla House

The residents have now got a temporary reprieve after Delhi High Court stayed the irrigation department's plans. Department officials said notices were sent to over 100 houses over the last week. "As per the Supreme Court guidelines stating that a notice should be served to encroachers 15 days prior to demolitions, the UP irrigation department served notices to over 100 houses over the last week. However, a petition

was filed by the residents of Batla House on Friday at Delhi High Court, which has ordered a stay on any further action on this," BK Singh, executive engineer of UP irrigation department, told TOI. Singh added that the hearing was scheduled for Aug 4.

"Once the stay is lifted by the high court, the department will go ahead with the demolitions to reclaim its encroached land in Batla House," he said. For those living in khasra 279, the uncertainty has also overshadowed the upcoming Eid celebrations. "The main festival, Eid al-Adha, is near, but how can we celebrate when we are so worried about losing our homes," they asked, the festive spirit lost to fear. "By now, cleaning starts, but it's just silence this time," said Wasi's wife.

His son, a student at a Noida college, worries too. "I dream of building a second home for my parents. Now even the first one is slipping away. If it happens, we'll have to start from zero."

The uncertainty has also overshadowed the upcoming Eid celebrations. "The main festival, Eid al-Adha, is near, but how can we celebrate when we are so worried about losing our homes," they asked, the festive spirit lost to fear. "By now, cleaning starts, but it's just silence this time," said Wasi's wife. Nazim, a 65-year-old resident, said, "When the building was being constructed, people were plotting, DDA said nothing... when the land was going, where were they?" Mohd Idris (50) added, "We have electricity bills, water, my driving licence is from this address, why were we not stopped then?"

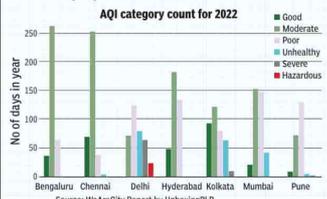
An official of Delhi Development Authority said, "Notice has been issued by DDA as well as GNCTD in khasra no. 279, village Okhla, which is acquired DDA/govt land, to remove unauthorised encroachment, as per directions of the Supreme Court vide order dated May 7, 2025... in order to recover precious govt land. As per the directions of the Supreme Court, 15 days' notice is being issued to the encroachers to vacate govt land."

With inputs from Ashni Dhaur

**CITYSTICS** Charting Change in Urban India

**No Prize For Guessing Which City Has The Least Clean Air**

On average, in 5 out of 6 days in a year, Bengaluru had air quality that is categorised as 'good' or 'moderate'. Chennai is the only city in the set that matched it on this count



**Lifelong commitment to crisis care: Dimple Arora receives award**



Her dedication to healthcare and crisis response was honoured with the prestigious 2025 National Florence Nightingale Award, presented by President Droupadi Murmu at Rashtrapati Bhavan on Friday

Anuja Jaiswal@timesofindia.com

New Delhi: "God has given me the opportunity to help people, and that is what I am doing to the best of my ability and want to continue with it even after my retirement," said Dimple Arora, a senior nursing officer at RML Hospital. Her dedication to healthcare and crisis response was honoured with the prestigious 2025 National Florence Nightingale Award, presented by President Droupadi Murmu at Rashtrapati Bhavan on Friday, recognising her 27 years of selfless service. Born in Punjab's Ferozpur, Arora's journey into nursing began after earning her general nursing and midwifery (GNM) diploma. She joined RML Hospital in 1998, but her contributions extended far beyond the hospital's walls, marked by her fearless response to some of India's most devastating disasters. In 2004, she was deployed to Port Blair following the catastrophic Indian Ocean tsunami. With over 400 lives lost and 3,000 people missing in Campbell Bay and Car Nicobar, Arora provided critical medical aid amid chaos. She administered first aid under extreme conditions, supported psychological trauma care and worked tirelessly to stabilise the injured, offering not just medical assistance but hope to grieving families. Her commitment didn't wane in 2010 when Leh-Ladakh faced a deadly cloudburst, triggering flash floods and mudslides. Amid the rugged terrain and harsh conditions, Arora managed emergency medical camps, treated injuries from debris and flooding, and coordinated with rescue teams to ensure timely care for the victims. In 2008, after the Delhi bomb blasts, she was on special duty managing emergency responses for the injured, ensuring swift triage and supporting overburdened medical teams. The following year, during the swine flu pandemic, she was stationed at IGI Airport, screening travellers from affected regions while also providing critical care at RML Hospital. Her frontline service continued during Covid-19, where she navigated the unprecedented health crisis with resilience and compassion. Arora's passion for healthcare, however, extends beyond crisis response. Holding an MSc in psychology and pursuing an MBA in health management, she champions lifelong learning to adapt to evolving healthcare challenges. Her leadership skills shine in both mentorship roles and providing counselling support for HIV-affected people. Senior nursing officer Ligi Boban, who worked with Arora, praised her exceptional patient management and calmness under pressure. Mahima, another colleague, highlighted Arora's ability to maintain clarity and leadership during emergencies while being approachable and supportive.

**High court bench dismisses petition against demolition of Pakistani Hindu refugee camp**

Times News Network

New Delhi: Delhi High Court dismissed a petition seeking a direction to Delhi Development Authority not to disturb or demolish the Pakistani Hindu refugee camp at Majnu ka Tilla until an alternative piece of land is allotted to the residents. A single-judge bench of Justice Dharmesh Sharma observed that the Pakistani refugees could not be rehabilitated under the DUSIB policy due to their foreign nationality status. "Needless to state, the effect of the acceptance of such an application would be that the aggrieved refugees shall be deemed citizens of India and would be able to enjoy all rights and benefits available to any ordinary citizen of India," it said.

The court rejected the plea filed by Ravi Ranjan Singh, stating that he and other similarly placed refugees have no right to continue occupying the area. It vacated the interim relief granted in March last year. Singh also requested that DDA be directed to make embankments along the Yamuna so that such colonies and religious structures might be protected, as was the case with the Akshardham temple and Commonwealth Games Village, and that the sanctity of the river might also be maintained. The court impressed upon the petitioner and the other refugees to first acquire Indian citizenship under Section 10A of Citizenship Amendment Act 2019. It added that the aggrieved parties could approach the member secretary, Delhi State Legal Services Authority, for help.

The court observed that even Indian citizens couldn't claim a rate allotment as an absolute right, particularly in cases concerning specially prohibited areas like zone O of Delhi, i.e., the Yamuna floodplain. The bench noted the camp was situated on the Yamuna floodplain and National Green Tribunal had directed to several govt agencies to repossess such areas and take steps to restore the river's ecological health. The court further added that its efforts to engage with the authorities to facilitate the refugees' rehabilitation didn't succeed due to bureaucratic buck-passing, particularly on the part of Centre.

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**SCHEME HIGHLIGHTS**

- Narela sub-city emerging as Education Hub
- Enhanced connectivity with proposed Delhi Metro and DTC Bus Service
- Sample flats ready

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**ADMISSION NOTICE 2025-26**

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S. No.	Name of Programme	Programme Code
1.	<b>Executive Programme : MBA with Functional/Sectoral Specializations</b> • Marketing, Human Resource, Finance, International Business, IT and Operations Sector : Healthcare / Real Estate / Banking / Insurance / Consultancy	155
2.	<b>Master of Law - LL.M.</b> • LL.M. (Cyber Law and Cyber Crime) • LL.M. (Intellectual and Industrial Property Law)	181
3.	<b>MBA (Fire and Industrial Safety)</b>	185
4.	<b>MBA (Disaster Management)</b>	186

Last date of submission of online application is 16 June, 2025.  
For other details, please visit the websites <http://ipu.ac.in> & <http://ipu.admissions.nic.in>  
Registrar

# Rain Relief After Hot And Sultry Day

## Thunderstorm And Strong Winds Delay 300 Flights, Air Quality Deteriorates To Poor Level

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi: Delhiites experienced a sultry day, but a sudden change in weather brought respite as very light rain, accompanied by a thunderstorm, lightning, and a dust storm, swept across the city. It was characterised by winds gusting up to 56 kmph, causing temperatures to plummet by almost eight degrees Celsius at most places in Delhi. This led to the diversion of the Air India Goa-Delhi flight to Jaipur and delayed several flights.

This was the sixth major thunderstorm activity recorded in the city in May this year. The Met department said there is a possibility of very light to light rain along with thunderstorms and gusty winds from Sunday to Wednesday. However, it has not issued any colour-coded warning for the next few days.

The maximum temperature on Saturday rose to 39.7 deg.

### WHAT'S NEXT FOR DELHI'S WEATHER

Maximum temperature at Safdarjung, city's base station, rose to 39.7°C on Saturday

The mercury dipped by 6°C after the thunderstorm

This was the sixth storm recorded in May

Forecast	Temp drops after thunderstorm																																								
<b>June 1 &amp; 2</b> Very light to light rain, thunderstorm, lightning <b>Gusty winds:</b> 40-50 km/h, temporarily up to 60 km/h	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th></th> <th>3.15 pm</th> <th>4.45 pm</th> <th>Fall</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Pitampura</td> <td>39.2</td> <td>30.9</td> <td>8.3°C</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Pragati Maidan</td> <td>37.1</td> <td>31</td> <td>6.1°C</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Narayana</td> <td>38.2</td> <td>30.9</td> <td>7.3°C</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Najafgarh</td> <td>37.6</td> <td>29.8</td> <td>7.8°C</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Lodhi Road</td> <td>37.8</td> <td>32.3</td> <td>5.5°C</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Palam</td> <td>38.5</td> <td>31</td> <td>7.5°C</td> </tr> <tr> <td>DU</td> <td>38.5</td> <td>30.1</td> <td>8.4°C</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Mayur Vihar</td> <td>38.3</td> <td>33.8</td> <td>4.5°C</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Ayanagar</td> <td>39</td> <td>30.9</td> <td>8.1°C</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>		3.15 pm	4.45 pm	Fall	Pitampura	39.2	30.9	8.3°C	Pragati Maidan	37.1	31	6.1°C	Narayana	38.2	30.9	7.3°C	Najafgarh	37.6	29.8	7.8°C	Lodhi Road	37.8	32.3	5.5°C	Palam	38.5	31	7.5°C	DU	38.5	30.1	8.4°C	Mayur Vihar	38.3	33.8	4.5°C	Ayanagar	39	30.9	8.1°C
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<b>June 3 &amp; 4</b> Light rain, thunderstorm, lightning <b>Gusty winds:</b> 30-40 km/h, briefly reaching 50 km/h																																									
<b>June 5 &amp; 6</b> Partly cloudy skies																																									



Temp drops after thunderstorm

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Ayanagar	39	30.9	8.1°C

rees Celsius, which is near normal for this time of the year. After the thunderstorm activity in Delhi, the mercury at Safdarjung dipped by six degrees. At Pitampura, Delhi University, Ayanagar in southwest Delhi, and Najafgarh, the temperature dropped by eight degrees Celsius in just one-and-a-half hours.

Though the speed of winds during the thunderstorm was recorded at 40 kmph at Safdarjung, it touched 56 kmph at Palam, 48 kmph at Pragati Maidan, 46 kmph at Najafgarh, 43 kmph at Pitampura, and 37 kmph at Lodhi Road. Thunderstorm activity was accompanied by very light rain or drizzle, as only 'trace' rainfall was recorded at Lodhi Road, Ridge, and Ayanagar from 8.30 am to 9.30 pm.

According to FlightRadar24, a live flight tracking website, over 300 flights were delayed at IGI Airport on Saturday.

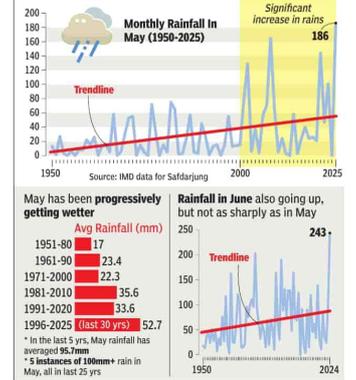
IMD scientist Krishna Kumar Mishra said, "Delhi and adjoining areas recorded rain in thunderstorm, and at storm on Saturday, mainly due to cyclonic circulation over north Pakistan, the presence of a trough extending at lower levels, winds from the Arabian Sea, and the weakening of depression over east Bengal," he said. Mishra added that the western disturbance would influence the region till June 2, but its impact would be more in the Himalayan region.

The minimum temperature on Saturday stood at 25.8 degrees Celsius, one degree below normal. The relative humidity oscillated between 40% and 87%.

Delhi's air quality index, meanwhile, deteriorated to the 'moderate' category on Friday to 241 in the 'poor' range on Saturday. According to the Air Quality Early Warning System for Delhi, the air quality is likely to stay in the 'moderate' category on Sunday and Monday.

# Average rainfall as high as 95.7mm in May in past 5 years

## DAMPENER FOR DELHI'S DRY SUMMER



# Eight years on, former wrestler arrested for supplying firearms

New Delhi: After an eight-year manhunt, the Delhi Police Crime Branch arrested a former national-level wrestler accused of supplying firearms to criminals. The accused, identified as Sonu, is a resident of Kirthal village in Bagpat. He was finally arrested on May 29.

Police reported that Sonu was once a promising national-level wrestler, but his athletic career ended abruptly in 2013 after a severe road accident resulted in the amputation of his right leg. Struggling with financial hardship and personal loss, he turned to crime in a desperate attempt to support his family. He and his accomplices have since been linked to several serious offences, including a

month with intense dry heat interspersed with occasional dust storms and light rain; a month when the 'desert cooler' worked well in providing relief from heat.

Rising humidity in May translates to more oppressive conditions with increased risks for human health and adds the threat of vector-borne diseases during a month that has been traditionally free of mosquitoes. It also means higher power demand with greater need of air-conditioners. Increased frequency of heavy-rain events puts a higher burden on the city's infrastructure and leads to loss of lives.

Why May is turning wetter is a matter of research. In a quick analysis, Mohapatra pointed to possible factors.

"We found that the frequency of thunderstorms in May has increased in the last 30 years, leading to more rainfall. This could be due to higher moisture in the air on account of global warming. Other factors that need to be looked at include the frequency of western disturbances, humidity levels at different atmospheric heights and whether there's increased atmospheric instability that could be leading to more thunderstorms," the IMD chief said.

M Rajeevan, veteran meteorologist and former secretary of Union earth sciences ministry, said the increased rainfall and higher presence of aerosols in the atmosphere could be offsetting the effects of global warming, resulting in average temperatures remaining more or less the same.

Consider this. During the 30-year period from 1951 to 1980, the month of May on average recorded 17mm of rain. In the last 30 years (1996-2025), this increased nearly 3x to 52.7mm. In the past five years, this average has been as high as 95.7mm. During 1951-1980, half of May months (15) were marked with total rainfall of less than 10mm. This number has reduced to nearly a fourth (8) in the latest 30-year period.

In 50 years from 1951 to 2000, there was not a single instance of total rain in May touching 100mm or more. In the next 25 years (2001-2025), there have been five such months, with three in the past five years alone.

With such a marked increase in rainfall, one would expect weather in May to be turning cooler. Interestingly, that is not the case. Average maximum and minimum temperatures for May have remained nearly the same since 1951. The average maximum in the last 30 years has been 39.7 degrees Celsius as opposed to 39.5 degrees C during 1951-1980. The minimum has been 25.8 degrees C against 25.8 degrees C in 1951-1980.

"It's a curious trend. Rainfall in May has increased significantly but average temperatures have not changed since 1951," said Mrutyunjay Mohapatra, chief of India Meteorological Department, after studying the data.

This is quite a change from what the typical month of May was like till a few decades back — a

two water samples collected from the underground reservoir of the DJB.

In the last hearing held on May 14, the bench headed by Justice Prakash Shrivastava said, "Supply of drinking water which is unfit to drink in six samples, indicating faecal contamination. According to the standard, total coliform and E. coli should be nil in drinking water."

CPCB analysed the water samples following the order of National Green Tribunal (NGT). NGT is hearing plea based on the grievance of the RWA in A-1 Block, Janakpuri, who claimed that they are not receiving fresh drinking water that meets the requisite norms.

RWA claimed that DJB is supplying sewage-mixed drinking water to them. The RWA alleged that the sewage line in the area was blocked, resulting in the corrosion of the pipelines supplying fresh water, and consequently, untreated sewage is getting mixed with the drinking water supplied through the pipelines.

In a report dated May 29, which was submitted to NGT, CPCB stated, "Out of the 20 samples of tap water collected from 20 houses in A-1 block, Janakpuri, total coliform and E. coli have been detected in six samples."

The report, however, added that total coliform and E. coli were not detected in the

# Many water samples from Janakpuri taps found contaminated

Out of the 20 samples of tap water collected from 20 houses in A-1 block of Janakpuri, total coliform and E. coli have been detected in six of the Tribunal."

The bench directed CPCB to take fresh samples in terms of the directions of the Tribunal contained in the previous order without informing DJB or any other authority and collect samples from 10 earlier locations and 10 new locations, analyse them expeditiously particularly for faecal coliform and E. coli, and submit the earlier sample as well as the fresh sample report before the next date of hearing.

Though DJB claimed that the results of the city's water samples are within the permissible limits, the tribunal earlier observed that until the water is found to be fit for drinking, it cannot be said that corrective action was taken.

**TIMES TRIBUTE**  
PAYING HOMAGE TO THE DEPARTED SOUL

In Loving Memory

पिबन्ति नद्यः स्वयमेव नाममस्वयं न खबन्ति फवाणि वृक्षाः ।  
नाबन्ति सरयं खनु वास्वाहाः परोपकारय सता विगूरतः ॥



**Shri Umendra Kumar Gupta**  
Founder, Visionary & Chairman Emeritus - Holostik Group  
9th June 1954 - 1st June 2021

Fondly Remembered By  
Family, Friends, and Holostik Family

In loving memory  
**PREM LUTHAR**  
w/o Late P. C. Luthar



**1930-2025**

Mama, you were and will forever be our anchor, our shining light, our guiding star. Your love will always sustain us.

Neeloo, Meenoo, Vikram, Madhur, Meher Arunima, Varun, Malika, Sanaiya, Akshaya, Sam, Tigger

In loving memory  
**Samarjit Singh Malik (Sammy)**

Beloved Husband of Sami Malik  
Loving Father of Samina & Uddhav Bhanary  
Dating Grandfather of Zian Bhanary

Prayer Meeting will be held at the Vasant Vihar Gurdwara  
Sunday, 1st June 2025 | 4:30 to 5:30 pm

Deeply mourned by  
Malik, Kashyap, Bhanary & Singh Families

In loving memory of  
**Wg. Cdr. Anoop Singh (Retd)**  
(17.3.1942 - 29.5.2025)

...And he continues to live in our hearts forever,

PRAYER MEETING  
2nd June, 2025  
11 am onwards  
At  
Gurudwara Singh Sabha  
Sector - 18 Noida

Nargis (wife)  
Smarjeet & Amranpreet,  
Jasjeet & Taranjeet,  
Sukhman & Rabani  
9810017741  
9810421534

With profound grief we inform the sad demise of

**Samarjit Singh Malik (Sammy)**

Beloved Husband of Sami Malik  
Loving Father of Samina & Uddhav Bhanary  
Dating Grandfather of Zian Bhanary

Prayer Meeting will be held at the Vasant Vihar Gurdwara  
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**Pankaj: 8130604727**

**REMEMBRANCE**  
SHARING MEMORIES

In Loving Memory of  
**SH. Madhu Raghavan Pillai**  
12/02/1961 - 01/06/2021

It has been four years but not a moment passes by when you are not missed by us. Your love and affection will always live in our hearts and memories. Deeply missed by Vineetha (Wife), Nidhi & Sharathchandra (Daughter & Son-in-law), Dr Neha Sree Pillai (Daughter), Kiaan (Grandson), Vijayakumar (Brother)

**SMT. SAVITRI JAIN**  
16.07.1926 - 01.06.2021

Dear Mummy,  
We remember you lovingly, every moment.

Deepshikha, Kirti Pradeep, Alok Suta & Smitrekha (Children)

**HONOUR. COURAGE. BRAVERY.** Three words that you taught us.  
Three words that help us cope with your loss.

The silent joy of remembering a loved one. The moments you shared together. Little moments that make life beautiful. Share them. With Friends, Relatives, Neighbours. Colleagues. With all those whose lives the departed soul has touched. Because while life goes on, when you share memories, they stay on forever.

**PUSHPA CHAUHAN**  
13.12.1950 - 01.06.2021

We love you mamma... we miss you so much... your guardian angel... you will forever and ever be in our hearts.

Dr. Brajesh Chauhan (Husband), Anuya (Daughter), Ritesh (Son-in-law), Pinky (Daughter), Abhishek (Son), Diyana, Ariya & Aarin (Grandchildren)

**REMEMBRANCE**  
SHARING MEMORIES

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**TO BOOK AN OBITUARY OR PLEASE CONTACT**  
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## Ex-employee, 3 juveniles among 7 held for dacoity

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi: Police have apprehended seven people, including three juveniles, in connection with a dacoity at a hotel in west Delhi's Pusa Bagh during the early hours of May 29.

According to police, the heist was planned by a former housekeeping staff member of the hotel. The accused, who was familiar with the hotel's operations, knew that substantial cash was often kept in the reception area. The former employee allegedly recruited six associates to execute the plan. During the robbery, four men armed with daggers entered the premises of Hotel Saffron Golden, located on North Avenue Road, around 2 am, while three accomplices maintained surveillance outside.

There, they threatened the staff, stole approximately Rs 50,000 and several mobile phones, and fled the scene.

Investigations revealed that the robbers had arrived on two motorcycles. One of the intruders, dressed as a delivery person, had visited the hotel for reconnaissance about 30 minutes before the dacoity. Police also discovered that one of the motorcycles used by the suspects was reported stolen from Sudarshan Park, Moti Nagar, the previous night. Using a combination of technical surveillance and human intelligence, cops managed to apprehend three suspects, including two juveniles.

During interrogation, one of the accused disclosed that he had worked as a housekeeping staff member at the same hotel about five months ago. During his employment there, he became aware that the reception area typically held a substantial amount of cash. He then devised the plan to rob the hotel, enlisting the help of his friends from Basal Darapur and Sudarshan Park. He also admitted to using the motorcycle used in the crime.

Based on the information obtained during interrogation, further raids were conducted, resulting in the apprehension of all seven individuals involved in the heist, including three juvenile offenders.

# DNA Test Nails Man Who Raped Niece

## DNA Matched With That Of Baby Born To Minor

Abhay@timesofindia.com

New Delhi: A DNA test helped Delhi Police solve the rape case of a 15-year-old girl in north Delhi's Timarpur. Her uncle was arrested after his DNA matched that of the baby born to the survivor.

The girl, who was mentally challenged, was unable to identify her assailant despite counselling. With no other leads, police collected DNA samples from seven people, including neighbours and family members. The results confirmed the uncle, who lived near the girl, as the perpetrator.

Police said that on Jan 14, they received information from a hospital about the pregnancy of a mentally challenged and physically paralysed girl. The survivor, who used to live with her father and grandmother, couldn't share any details, and her family members also claimed to be unaware of the pregnancy. A rape case was registered under relevant sections, including Protection of Children from Sexual Offences Act.

DCP (north) Raja Banthia formed a team to investigate

**The minor girl, who was mentally challenged, was unable to identify her assailant despite counselling. Police then collected DNA samples from seven people, which also included relatives**

the matter. The inquiry revealed that the girl was pregnant for nearly seven months and was also suffering from heart-related issues. "Neither the girl nor her family provided any information about the incident. On Jan 17, she was referred to another hospital under police protection, where she gave birth to a male child in Feb and was discharged in March," an officer said.

Police said they suspected the family's involvement and didn't return the girl's custody to them. She was sent to a children's home while the infant was handed over to an NGO. Counselling sessions were conducted regularly—once every three days during the first month—at hospitals and with private coun-

sellors to provide continuous psychological support.

"The survivor's statement was recorded in Feb at the hospital and later in March through audio-visual means. In both statements, she did not name any suspects," police said. The cops finally zeroed in on seven suspects, including family members, neighbours and others who either lived with her or visited her home. Blood samples were collected and sent to FSL, Rohini for DNA profiling, along with that of the baby, in Feb and March. Senior officers followed up rigorously to expedite the forensic results.

A few days ago, the FSL result was received, which confirmed that the DNA of one of the suspects—her 29-year-old uncle—matched the blood sample of the survivor's child. The police team immediately went to the accused's residence and arrested him.

Police said the uncle confessed that he used to drink with the survivor's father at the latter's house and, in a drunken state, sexually assaulted the girl twice a few months ago.

## Court sentences man to 20 years of imprisonment for raping daughter

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi: A Delhi court sentenced a man to rigorous imprisonment of 20 years for repeatedly raping and engaging in unnatural sex with his 13-year-old daughter.

The court of Additional Sessions Judge Anu Aggarwal, in an order dated May 28, observed, "For a child, home is a space that gives them a sense of security, love and affection; a place where the child is nurtured and is the most relaxing place for a child. The relationship between father and daughter is such that under the father's shadow, the daughter feels safe and secure."

The court convicted the man on May 19 under the POCSO Act for aggravated penetrative sexual assault, along with penal provisions for rape, unnatural offences, and criminal intimidation. Additional public prosecutor Arun K V argued against any leniency highlighting that the convict had raped his daughter over a period of 20 days.

During the girl's summer vacation in June 2018, her father took her to the national capital. He initially stayed at her paternal aunt's house before moving to a separate rented room where the crime was committed.

The case came to light later in the month when the girl, who was 13 years old at the time and studying at a madrasa in Lucknow, disclosed the crime to a neighbour. The neighbour informed the police.

The court observed that

the victim continues to suffer trauma, even years after the incident. The court noted that child's most cherished blood had become where they were 'subjected to the most heinous crime within the four walls of her house by the person on whom she bestowed her utmost trust.'

"After hearing the victim, it seems that this ordeal is never-ending for her. She was subjected to the most heinous offences and was not raped but was also subjected to unnatural sexual assault. However, even after the passing of seven years, the victim is still afraid that if her father is sentenced to jail, she will be blamed by everyone in society," the court said.

still undergoing treatment. No complaint has been received yet, police said.

On Jan 26 last year, a fire in the chimney sparked a fire in the restaurant, which did not have a fire NOC then. The

## AC compressor explosion at resto roof kills technician

Ghaziabad: A 35-year-old technician died while his colleague sustained severe burns when the compressor of an air conditioner exploded on the rooftop of a restaurant in Vaisali's Sector 4 on Saturday afternoon.

Pintu and Pawan (40), both from Khoda, were called in to repair the AC at Hotel Walk in Woods around 4pm by the management. After fixing the glitch, the two men were refilling gas in the air conditioner. Minutes into the work, the compressor burst, leaving Pintu dead on the spot.

Pawan, who suffered injuries, was rushed to Chandra Laxmi Hospital, where he is

still undergoing treatment. No complaint has been received yet, police said.

On Jan 26 last year, a fire in the chimney sparked a fire in the restaurant, which did not have a fire NOC then. The

still undergoing treatment. No complaint has been received yet, police said.

## 'All of us judge and are judged by others. Focus on the praise, not the criticism'

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 counselling psychologist **Shachi Baswan**

**I have a fear of being judged. I constantly feel like people won't find me or my conversations interesting. I've lost all confidence in myself. I try to speak, my hands start shaking and I can't express myself. I can't even meet people's eyes. The truth is, I love talking, but I'm scared of annoying others. I want my confidence back. Please help.**



Could it be that you might have felt annoyed by someone's conversation or you might have judged somebody else sometime? All of us judge and are judged by others. But your views, ideas and opinions on various subjects are a matter. If five people judge you, there may definitely be one or two who like what you say. Some may be shy to express how much they admire your thoughts. Hence, it is very important that you share what's on your mind. Instead of worrying about what others will think about you, how about you start paying attention to what others are saying and then start genuinely appreciating what you like about them? Say this in very small sentences. For example, "I agree

with you" or "your shirt is very nice." Gradually you will start speaking longer sentences and sharing your views also. As you gain confidence, your hands might also stop shaking.

**I truly loved a girl but was too afraid to express how deeply I felt for her. Now she seems interested in other guys. Every time a new guy joins our workplace, she starts showing interest in him. I've tried giving her a hint that what she's doing is hurtful to me, but she doesn't seem to care. It's giving me sleepless nights. I want to forge her, but I don't know how to. Please help me move on.**

It seems that you have acknowledged and accepted the fact that the girl is not interested in how you feel. There seems to be a good chance that had you expressed your feelings for her, things would have not been much different. Then you would have felt more hurt seeing her liking other guys. Moving on is indeed a wise decision. You have experienced the sweet feeling of falling in love. Now you have to accept that not all our wishes get fulfilled. She has her own thoughts and ideas about life. You have to let her live her life. As you are working in the same organisation, you are bound to cross paths often. Try

treating her like other colleagues. You cannot forget her completely so soon, but let it be a part of your past. With time, your feelings for her will slowly and gradually start to fade. Every time you miss her, replace that feeling with different desires like improving your skills, trying to meet deadlines, cultivating new hobbies or a sport. Please remember that it takes time to heal and move on.

**I'm 15 years old, and this school session, both of my best friends moved to a different school together. Our school also has a rule where all the students are shuffled into new sections in class 9, so I hardly know anyone in my current class, and honestly, I don't like the few I've met. My best friends had promised we'd stay close, but now they never message me. Even when I do, they reply really coldly. Losing them is tearing me apart. I don't know how to cope.**

You have so aptly described how 'losing them is tearing you apart'. It's not surprising as your mind has gotten used to seeing your friends' faces, hearing their voices, sharing one another's opinions and ideas, and thinking about them when not in school. Now that part of the mind is blank. You need to fill it with something else. Of course, you won't like your new classmates because unconsciously you might be looking for similar traits in them as your friends. You do not have to like everyone you talk to but you can take small steps. Accept the fact that your friends are not here now. Start talking to more students in your class. Everyone has some good qualities in them. Start praising what you like in others. Try learning some new activity like a sport. Ask for help and give help. It does take time. Go slow and be easy with yourself. You will find a new, changed and mature you. This phase of life will help you grow mentally stronger.

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## In Loving Memory



(26/01/1927 - 30/05/2025)

It is with deep sorrow that we acknowledge the loss of our torch bearer **Shrimati Saraswati Singhal**, (wife of Late Shri PP Singhal) who left for the heavenly abode on 30<sup>th</sup> May 2025. A soul full of love, warmth, and wisdom - she will remain in our hearts forever. We pray to the Almighty for eternal peace to the departed soul.

### Grieving Family

Salil - Madhu, Arvind - Bina, Sanjay - Nandita, Shefali, Mayank, Pooja, Anupama - Gaurav, Gaurang - Nitya, Suket - Vasumana, Ananya, Shivani, Vinayak, Vedika, Kavya, Pranay, Rehaan, Himadri, Suryansh, Kaira, Kian, Chaitanya



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# Elderly Couple 'Abandoned' For 3 Yrs; Neighbours' Care Eases Burden

## care disease patients continue to struggle despite govt policies

Bagish Jha@timesofindia.com

**Gurgaon:** Behind the closed doors of an apartment at Ridgewood Estate, the muffled cries of a nonagenarian man and his octogenarian wife have stirred neighbours into action, making it a rare case of a community seeking the state's intervention to guarantee care, safety and dignity for the allegedly abandoned couple.



Vinay Gupta

Left in the care of two untrained attendants by their son who is abroad, residents of the society, also members of Ridgewood Estate Condominium Association (RECA), said they repeatedly tried to contact the son, but their appeals fell on deaf ears. The association then approached Haryana Human Rights Commission (HHRC), which took cognizance immediately and ordered a comprehensive medical, psychological, and social assessment of the couple by govt.

The couple has been living here for three years, when the son purchased the flat and moved them, transferring power of attorney to his father, according to RECA. However, two caregivers working in day and night shifts became the couple's only connection with the outside world soon after. Concerned neighbours visited, making inquiries and offering assistance, but were turned away at the door. Residents said the son regularly made online payments for maintenance charges for the flat, but the association had no information about his whereabouts except his phone number and email ID in the society's records. None recollected having seen him in the compound either.

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- A minimum of two years of relevant Managerial/Professional/Technical work experience in industry/organization after graduation by the last date of application.

**Date for opening of website for Online Registration:** 02.06.2025 (from 10.00 a.m. onwards)  
**Last date for Online Registration:** 06.07.2025 (up to 11.59 p.m.)  
**Online registration link:** [https://saarimn.dtu.ac.in/admission/25\\_26/](https://saarimn.dtu.ac.in/admission/25_26/)  
**Application Processing Fee (Non-refundable):** Rs. 1500/- (Rupees One Thousand Five Hundred Only)

For detailed information on academic qualifications, eligibility criteria, and the complete admission process, please visit the DTU website at [www.dtu.ac.in](http://www.dtu.ac.in). Candidates are advised to visit the website regularly for the latest updates. Helpdesk E-mail: [dtu.mbaexec.dsa@dtu.ac.in](mailto:dtu.mbaexec.dsa@dtu.ac.in)

**GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL**  
**DEBEN MAHATA GOVERNMENT MEDICAL COLLEGE & HOSPITAL, PURULLA**  
Notice Inviting 2nd call for Tender for Hiring of Non-Resident Medical Officer (NRMCO) (General Duty) at the DMGHMC, Purulla.

(On the Basis of Eligibility)  
Notice Inviting 2nd call Tender for Hiring of Non-Resident Medical Officer (NRMCO) (General Duty) at the DMGHMC, Purulla. The Government Medical Officer (GMO) (General Duty) at the DMGHMC, Purulla. The Government Medical Officer (GMO) (General Duty) at the DMGHMC, Purulla. The Government Medical Officer (GMO) (General Duty) at the DMGHMC, Purulla.

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**GOVERNMENT OF PUNJAB**  
**Advertisement**  
**Appointment of the post of Technical Member (STATE), GSTAT, PUNJAB Bench.**

**No. 1118** **Dated 30/05/25**

1. The Department of Taxation, Government of Punjab has invited applications for appointment to the post of Technical Member (State) in the State Benches of GST Appellate Tribunal (GSTAT). GSTAT is the second Appellate Authority established to hear various appeals under the Central Goods and Services Tax Act, 2017, and Punjab Goods and Services Tax Act, 2017. The State Bench for the State of Punjab and Chandigarh of GSTAT will be located at Chandigarh.

2. Details of post and eligibility in brief are given below:

Name of Post	No. of Post	Eligibility
Technical Member (State)	01	He or she has been an officer of the State Government or an Officer of All India Service, or below rank of Additional Commissioner of VAT or SGST or such rank, not lower than that of the First Appellate Authority, as may be notified by the state Government, on the recommendations of the Council and has completed Twenty - Five years of Service in Group - A or equivalent. With at least 3 years of experience in the administration of an existing law or the goods and services tax or in the field of taxation in the State Government.

3. Further details about the eligibility and other details are mentioned in the vacancy circular published on the website of the taxation department of Punjab i.e. <https://taxation.punjab.gov.in/>.

4. Eligible candidates are required to apply online on the website (<https://gstn.org.in/gstat-state-application/home>) Online application portal would be accessible from 02.06.2025 and shall be open till 05.00 PM on 29.06.2025. Interested candidates may go through details posted on the website and apply online as per their eligibility and the procedure mentioned therein.

5. The candidates who have already applied for the above post need not to apply again.

**Administrative Secretary to Government of Punjab**  
**Member Secretary, Search-cum-Selection Committee**

**GOVERNMENT OF NATIONAL CAPITAL TERRITORY OF DELHI DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL WELFARE**

**7<sup>th</sup> Floor, MSO Building, I.P. Estate, New Delhi-110002**  
**NEW DELHI-110002**

**VACANCY NOTICE**

**Inviting applications for the post of State Coordinator for Delhi under UDID project of Govt. of India**

- The Department of Social Welfare, Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi invites applications for the post of **State Coordinator under UDID Project**, Govt. of India, purely on Contractual basis.
- Details regarding vacancies, educational qualifications, age limit, remuneration, duration of appointment, duties & responsibilities, application form are available on the website of the department i.e. [www.socialwelfare.delhigovt.nic.in](http://www.socialwelfare.delhigovt.nic.in).
- Applications are to be submitted only through online mode at [udidnct@gmail.com](mailto:udidnct@gmail.com). Application received through any other mode (including offline) shall not be entertained.
- The last date of submission of applications is 30 June 2025. Applications received after due date shall be summarily rejected.

**Sc/- Director**  
**Department of Social Welfare, GNCTD**  
**DIP/Shabdarth/Classified/0069/25-26**

the association secretary. Mathur said they had no information about the couple, not even their names. The couple have never attended any society event. Last month, an elderly neighbour ventured in seeing the door ajar and discovered the house to be in a complete mess, according to RECA members. A few days later, the son allegedly responded with a threat to lodge a police complaint against the neighbour for trespass. Lalit Batra, the HHRC chairman, expressed deep concern over the couple's prolonged medical and physical suffering, calling it a blatant violation of Article 21 of the Constitution, which guarantees the right to live with dignity. The rights panel emphasised that such situations were not meant for "private family matters" but public human rights concerns. "Failure to ensure essential medical care, emotional support, and regular supervision of the elderly couple amounts to a breach of not only the basic human rights of the senior citizens themselves but also of the larger community that has been indirectly subjected to such trauma," the rights panel observed.

**GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL**  
**DEBEN MAHATA GOVERNMENT MEDICAL COLLEGE & HOSPITAL, PURULLA**  
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Notice Inviting 2nd call Tender for Hiring of Non-Resident Medical Officer (NRMCO) (General Duty) at the DMGHMC, Purulla.

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**GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL**  
**HEALTH & FAMILY WELFARE DEPARTMENT**  
SWASTHA BHAVAN, GALLI, KOLKATA-700091  
Memo: H/F/SP/SC/66/P/1341928/176. Date: 27/05/2025

**EXPRESSION OF INTEREST**  
For establishment of Private Medical College in West Bengal based on National Medical Commission guidelines by following Government/Non-Government entities interested to have plans to give support for initial period of 5 years and extendable up to 33 years in a new Park for Leather Goods & Allied Industries to be set up in C.I.C. at Baratta in South-24 Parganas district for setting up of Leather & Allied Industries. The plots will be allotted on leasehold/freehold basis. The details, viz., Application Form, indicative terms, criteria and mode of allotment, amount of consideration (as may be decided by the Government) and the procedure mentioned therein (in whichever mode the Government decides).

In order to examine and treat this scattered request on a universal platform, Government of West Bengal seeks Expression of Interest (EOI) from interested persons formally in this regard. Project proponents will have to furnish papers and documents as detailed in the attached format. The project proponents are requested to submit their applications to the National Medical Commission, New Delhi (as per ready to pay to the Government of West Bengal certain user charges/fees (as may be decided by the Government) and the procedure mentioned therein (in whichever mode the Government decides).

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The interested project proponents can download the notification from the website [www.wbems.gov.in](http://www.wbems.gov.in) or [www.wbhealth.gov.in](http://www.wbhealth.gov.in). The interested project proponents can download the notification from the website [www.wbems.gov.in](http://www.wbems.gov.in) or [www.wbhealth.gov.in](http://www.wbhealth.gov.in). The interested project proponents can download the notification from the website [www.wbems.gov.in](http://www.wbems.gov.in) or [www.wbhealth.gov.in](http://www.wbhealth.gov.in).

**Senior Special Secretary/PPP**  
**Department of Health & Family Welfare**  
**Government of West Bengal**  
**ICA-110924/2025**

# DELHI SEES SIX DEATHS IN TWO YEARS

**CROWDFUNDING PORTAL STATISTICS**  
The portal contains records of more than **3,000** patients affected by various rare diseases

**MORTALITY FIGURES**  
Between 2022 and 2024, 50 patients succumbed with 20 deaths occurring from 2023 to present nationwide

**FUNDING CHALLENGES**  
Across India, **50 patients** have depleted their single allocation of funding under the policy and await continued care

**INSTITUTION-WISE FATALITIES**  
CDPF Hyderabad 10  
SGPGI Lucknow 10  
KEM Bangalore 8  
IGICH Bhopal 8  
AIMS Delhi 7

**TREATMENT DELAYS**  
Treatment delays persist despite therapy availability and sufficient funding

**TREATMENT STATUS**  
15 patients who died had treatment costs within the ₹50 lakh limit but never received NRPD 2021 benefits

**LIMITED EFFECTIVENESS IN PATIENT CARE**  
Despite receiving substantial funding of over ₹205 crore between FY 2022-23 and FY 2024-25, twelve centres of excellence under the NRPD 2021 showed limited effectiveness in patient care

**Notable institutions, including AIMS Delhi (₹53+ crore), and KEM Mumbai (₹23+ crore), despite receiving significant financial support, face challenges in providing accessible treatment to patients**

**New Delhi:** Despite the establishment of the National Policy for Rare Diseases (NRPD) in 2021 and a nationwide financial assistance programme, over 300 patients, predominantly children diagnosed with Lysosomal Storage Disorders (LSDs) such as Gaucher, Pompe, Fabry, MPS, and II, are left without essential medical care. Among them, 70 are from Delhi. Since 2022, nearly 50 patients—including six from Delhi—have succumbed to these diseases.

The Lysosomal Storage Disorders Support Society (LSDSS) reports that 50 patients across India exhausted their one-time funding under the policy. In Delhi, 7 patients are in critical condition due to financial constraints. Alishba Khan, a young girl battling Gaucher disease, illustrates the dire consequences of limited funding. Her father, Maqsood Alam, recounts the devastating decline in her health following the discontinuation of her medication in Aug 2024. "She suffers from severe abdominal pain, an enlarged spleen, bone pain, weakness, and decreased haemoglobin level. She is unable to attend school and requires constant supervision," Alam shared, his voice filled with anguish. Having already lost four children, he continually appeals to the High Court for continued treatment, fearing for Alishba's survival. While doctors at AIMS offer significant support, they are constrained by limited funding, he said.

Recognising the critical need, the Delhi High Court on Oct 4, 2024, directed the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare to extend funding beyond the Rs 50 lakh cap for patients with rare diseases. The court also mandated the establishment of a Rs 974 crore national fund for rare diseases for the fiscal years 2024-25 and 2025-26. However, the Ministry challenged this directive in the Supreme Court, where the matter remains pending.

The Lysosomal Storage Disorders Support Society (LSDSS) has been vigorously campaigning for urgent action. In a recent appeal to Union Health Minister JP Naidda, the LSDSS highlighted that despite allocating over Rs 205 crore to 12

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# Man beaten to death on suspicion of theft

**Aditya Bahl**  
**@timesofindia.com**

**NOIDA:** A 35-year-old rickshaw driver was beaten to death by two labourers on suspicion of theft at an IGL facility in Noida Extension's Birsark area on Friday afternoon. Police have arrested both accused and registered a case under Section 105 (culpable homicide not amounting to murder) of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita.

Rinku, who lived in Ghaziabad, was allegedly seen taking items—believed to be tools and tools—from the IGL premises near Gaur City-2 chowki area around 4pm by a security guard from the adjacent Amrapali Exotic society. Suspecting Rinku to be a thief, the guard alerted two labourers, Anand and Sandeep Kumar, working nearby.

According to police, the accused caught Rinku and beat him up with a plastic pipe. Rinku lost consciousness during the assault, following which the accused took him to a nearby hospital. A senior police officer said, "A hospital memo about the death was received between 6 and 6.30pm, after which we began inquiries," he added, "The police officer who had the details on this matter found."

When contacted, Dr Neeraj Gupta from the genetic unit of paediatrics at AIMS advised that the details on this matter found.

Rinku lost consciousness during the assault, following which the accused took him to a nearby hospital. A senior police officer said, "A hospital memo about the death was received between 6 and 6.30pm, after which we began inquiries," he added, "The police officer who had the details on this matter found."

When contacted, Dr Neeraj Gupta from the genetic unit of paediatrics at AIMS advised that the details on this matter found.



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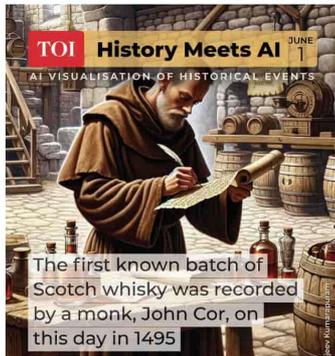
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AI VISUALISATION OF HISTORICAL EVENTS

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**Hindu bloc repeats Ajmer Dargah claim**  
Hindu Sena n't president Vishnu Gupta, who filed a civil suit in an Ajmer court in Nov 2024 claiming existence of a Shiva temple underneath the dargah of Khwaja Muinuddin Chisti, on Saturday submitted that the replies filed by dargah committee and ASI—Gupta dismissed any evidence of a temple at the site be rejected. In his rejoinder filed on his plea by respondents—Union ministry of minority affairs, dargah committee and ASI—Gupta reiterated his claim of a temple at the site and the right to worship there. He described the respondents' replies as hindering justice and untenable. The court adjourned the hearing to July 13. The ASI stated in its reply that it had no proof of any such temple.

**3 of family killed in jumbo attack**  
Three members of a family, including a 35-day-old infant, died in an elephant attack in Bengal's Alipurduar on Saturday. The deceased were identified as Manoj Das (35), his daughter Manisha, and his mother Makhanrani (68). A herd of 20 elephants had entered Kunjanagar village from a nearby forest. The tusker that strayed the other way trampled Manoj to death. Hearing his cries, Makhanrani rushed out of the house carrying Manisha. As the elephant attacked her, the baby slipped from her arms and got trampled too. All three were taken to hospital but declared brought dead. Villagers demanded repair of electric fences to keep jumbos out.

# Colombia rescinds Pak backing after intervention by Tharoor

Had Expressed Solidarity Over Loss Of Lives In Op Sindoor



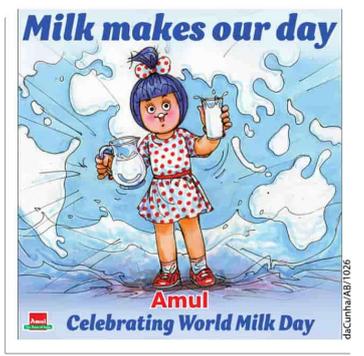
**WARM EXCHANGE:** Cong MP Shashi Tharoor presented with a woolen poncho from Colombian Congress MP Alejandro Toro in Bogota on Friday

New Delhi: Colombia is learnt to have withdrawn a statement expressing solidarity with Pakistan over the loss of lives in India's Operation Sindoor that targeted Pakistani terrorists and their training camps on May 7. This was apparently after an intervention by Congress MP Shashi Tharoor, who led an all-party delegation to the South American country to expose Pakistan's support to cross-border terrorism and its links with the Pahalagam terrorist attack on April 22. Tharoor's intervention led to the development after a meeting with vice foreign minister Rosa Yolanda Villavicencio. The Indian delegation conveyed a strong message of zero-tolerance for terrorism in all its forms and manifestations.

"I expressed India's view of recent events and voiced disappointment at Colombia's statement on 8 May conveying 'heartfelt condolences' to Pakistan. The minister assured me the statement had been withdrawn and that our position was now properly understood and strongly supported," said Tharoor on X. Colombia's "heartfelt condolences" followed India's military strikes on terrorist hideouts in response to the Pahalagam terror-attack. At a press briefing Thursday, Tharoor expressed disappointment over Colombia's message to Pakistan after India's military actions. There

Hoping to put Pak on grey list, India eyes FATF tango with US

New Delhi: Foreign secretary Vikram Misri discussed ways to deepen economic and financial ties with the US, including collaboration in international financial institutions and coordination in the upcoming Financial Action Task Force (FATF) processes, during his visit to Washington, said the Indian govt. This is important in the context of ongoing efforts by India to get Pakistan back into the global terror watchdog's grey list by flagging its involvement in terror-financing in June. Misri discussed the issue with deputy secretary of the treasury Michael Faulkender. Misri's visit to the US was a follow-up to PM Modi's visit to the country on Feb 13 this year, during which both sides launched the India-US COM-PACT (Catalysing Opportunities for Military Partnership, Accelerated Commerce & Technology) for the 21st Century. In meetings with deputy secretary of defense Steve Feinberg and undersecretary for policy Elbridge Colby, both the sides reaffirmed their commitment to a robust and forward-looking defense partnership. Discussions focused on co-production and co-development initiatives, sustained joint military exercises, logistics and information-sharing frameworks, and enhancing interoperability between the armed forces. At a luncheon meeting with deputy secretary of state Christopher Landau, both sides reviewed the full spectrum of the bilateral agenda. India and the US also reviewed progress on the India-US Bilateral Trade Agreement, cooperation in critical and emerging technologies, and the need to streamline ITR and export control regulations.



# Lord Jagannath's Kolkata chariot to glide on Sukhoi tyres

**Sukhoi Tyres**  
Kolkata: Lord Jagannath's chariot at Iskon Rath Yatra in Kolkata this year will roll at a gentle pace of 1.4 kmph on brand new tyres designed for a Russian Sukhoi fighter jet whose take-off run reaches a speed of 280 kmph. The new tyres were necessitated after the chariot encountered a steering snag last year. Acquisition of the Sukhoi tyres marks the culmination of a two-decade quest for fresh tyres for the chariot. The ageing tyres, in use for over half a century, were from a Boeing B-747. Sourcing the "Jumbo jet" tyres became a challenge after the aircraft was phased out. The Sukhoi's 4-ft diameter tyres were found to be closest match to the jumbo jet tyres, which had the same 4-ft diameter and weighed 10kg each. While the B-747 tyres were manufactured by Dunlop, the Sukhoi tyres are manufactured by MRF, which supplies main wheel and nose wheel tyres for the Sukhoi Su-30MKI jets in India. These tyres undergo rigorous testing, including ground speed tests and load-capacity assessments. "When I contacted MRF requesting Sukhoi tyres for the chariot, they didn't believe us at first," said Radharam Das, vice-president of



**JET, SET...:** Sukhoi jet tyres being installed on the chariot in Kolkata

Iskon Kolkata. "They even sent senior officials to Kolkata to inspect the chariots. When they saw that the chariots were running on Boeing 747 jumbo jet tyres for the past 48 years and we explained that Sukhoi tyres were the closest match in size and durability, they agreed to sell them to us." The new Sukhoi tyres will improve the chariot's manoeuvrability, safety and overall stability, especially on Kolkata's roads, many of which have tram tracks. They will also reduce strain of pulling on devices and minimise the chances of technical failures during the Yatra starting June 27. The tyre-replacement work is currently underway and is expected to be completed by the second week of June, just ahead of Rath Yatra.



# After Tharoor row, Khurshid take on Art 370 latest Cong headache

New Delhi: The all-party delegations visiting various countries to expose Pakistan post the Pahalagam terror attack seem to be becoming a headache for the Congress with senior party functionary and former MEA Salman Khurshid's recent remarks backing nullification of Article 370 in 2019 by Modi govt likely to discomfit Congress. This comes after delegation member Shashi Tharoor faced criticism from within Congress for his remark that India crossed LoC to conduct surgical strikes "for first time" under the Modi govt. While addressing think tanks and academia in India on Friday, Khurshid said it was unfortunate that Pakistan wants to undo the prosperity that has come to Jammu & Kashmir following the abrogation. Khurshid is part of one of all party delegations currently touring various countries. Congress had initially opposed the nullification of Article 370. It later nuanced its position and has since been ambivalent on the issue of restoration of the Article which granted J&K special status. "Kashmir had a major problem for a long time. Much of that was reflected in the thinking of the govt by an article called 370 of the Constitution, which somehow gave the impression that it was separate from the rest of the country. But Article 370 was abrogated. It was finally put to an end, because so much time had passed," Khurshid said. "Subsequently, there was a poll with 65% participation. There's an elected govt in J&K, and therefore, for people to want to undo everything that has happened, prosperity that has come to Kashmir, it is unfortunate. It will give a setback to anybody," he said. While the senior leadership made no comment on Khurshid's remarks, unease within the party has been brewing ever since govt announced names for 31 members of all-party delegations. Congress had accused Modi govt of "complete insincerity" and for playing "cheap political games" while highlighting that "regrettably" only one of four names suggested by party leadership had been included. However, the opposition party reluctantly allowing "opponent" party members selected by the govt to go with the delegations and make their contribution.

# Tiger slays man in U'khand's 9th such killing this year

Shivani Azad@timesofindia.com  
Dehradun: A 34-year-old man was mauled to death by a tiger while collecting leaves used to make eco-friendly utensils in the forests of Rishikesh range in Dehradun Friday. This marks the ninth human death from tiger attacks in the state this year. Officials said a male tiger, recently relocated from Corbett to Rajaji Reserve, had been exploring new territory and moving between Tapovan and Rajaji over past 20 days but has since returned to the reserve. The area is also home to gharials, and it is yet to be determined which animal was responsible for the attack, officials added.

The victim, identified as Raju (only first name available), had entered the forest with his brother around 9.30am when the tiger attacked them. His brother, Sanju, ran for help, but by the time others arrived, Raju had died. Officials noted that the body was intact, suggesting it was an accidental encounter rather than a predatory attack. "An ex gratia of Rs 1.5 lakh has been given to the family, and the remaining compensation is to follow upon completion of formalities," said Dehradun DFO Neeraj Sharma. Recent tiger movement from Motichur to Rishikesh and Barkot forest ranges underscores the ecological connectivity of Kansrao-Motichur-Barkot corridor. However, forest officials remain concerned about rising human activity fragmenting wildlife habitats and depleting resources. "There is an overall connectivity of human habitation across Chhidrawala, Nepali Farm, and Lal Tappar. The forest patch near Rishikesh and Barkot is narrow, about 8 to 9 km wide, which is insufficient and not promising for tiger habitat. The tiger is still exploring the area and doesn't yet have fixed territory," said an IFS officer on condition of anonymity.

# Ekambaram, among last women leaders in banking, to retire

Mumbai: After over three decades at Kotak Mahindra Bank, Shanti Ekambaram, the group's long-serving executive and current investment banker, will retire on Oct 31, 2025. Her exit is the latest in a string of senior-level departures following founder Uday Kotak's decision to step down from executive responsibilities in Sept 2023. She is one of the few women leaders who currently hold an executive position in banking. Ekambaram joined the Kotak group in 1991 and played a key role in its evolution from a financial services firm into a pvt sector bank. She led various businesses across investment banking, capital markets, corporate banking, treasury and consumer banking. In 2024, she was elevated to deputy MD and given wider responsibilities after joint MD KVS Manian quit to join Federal Bank as CEO. CEO Ashok Vaswani credited her with "entrepreneurial thinking" and "an unwavering commitment to excellence". Ekambaram's departure adds to the list of senior leaders who have exited since Uday Kotak's early retirement. She earlier served as president of corporate and investment banking for 11 years before leading consumer banking. She has extensive experience in investment banking, capital markets, M&A, corporate banking and treasury products.



**Shanti Ekambaram joined the Kotak group in 1991 and played a key role in its evolution from a financial services firm into a private sector bank**

**बिहार लोक सेवा आयोग**  
15, नेहरू पथ (बेली रोड), पटना - 800001

**आवश्यक सूचना**  
विज्ञापन संख्या - 29/30/31/2025, सहायक आभियन्ता (असैनिक/यांत्रिक/विद्युत) प्रतिযোগिता परीक्षा दिनांक: 06.07.2025, 06.07.2025 एवं 07.07.2025 को सभाविन है।  
स्था- परीक्षा लिखिक बिहार लोक सेवा आयोग, पटना

**HIMACHAL PRADESH PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT. INVITATION FORM BIDS (IFB)**  
The Executive Engineer HPPWD, Division Saranah District Simour H.P. on behalf of the Governor of H.P. invites competitive bids, in electronic tendering system in 2 Cover System for the under mentioned work from the eligible and approved contractors/Firms registered with HPPWD Department.  
S.N - 1 Name of work - Construction of (Block-3) Science Block (Ground Floor and First floor of Govt. Degree College at Saranah Distt. Simour H.P (SH) - Construction of civil work, WS & SI rainwater harvesting tank, septic cess tank pit etc.) Estimated cost (Rs.) - 2414798. Estimated money 2850000. Cost of Tender Form - 7000. Time Limit - 18 Months Eligible class of Contractor - B

**Terms and conditions of IFB**  
Availability of Bid Documents/ mode of submission: The Bid document is available online and bid should be submitted in online mode on website <https://tenders.gov.in> as per the key dates below:-

Sl. No.	Date of Online Publication	30-05-2025, 5:00 PM
1.	Date of Online Publication	30-05-2025, 5:00 PM
2.	Document Download Start and End Date	31-05-2025, 11:00 A.M. to 12-06-2025, 11:00 A.M.
3.	Bid Submission Start and End Date	31-05-2025, 11:30 A.M. to 12-06-2025, 11:00 A.M.
4.	Date of Technical Bid opening, Evaluation of Technical Bid followed by Opening of Financial Bid.	12-06-2025, 11:30 A.M.

**TENDER DETAILS:**  
1. The Tender Documents shall be uploaded online in 2 Cover.  
2. Cover 1: shall contain scanned copies of all "Technical Documents/ Eligibility Information".  
3. Cover 2: shall contain "BOQ/Financial Bid", where contractor will offer his percentage rate.  
4. PAYMENT OF TENDER FEE & EMD: The bidders are required to pay (a) the Tender Fee and (b) the Bid Security/Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) through Online Mode on website <https://tenders.gov.in> by the receipt by comparing e-procurement (MIS) with e-Shop and obtain MIS report of the receipt/cancellation of tender fee and EMD may be uploaded. 12-06-2025 at 11:30 HRS in the office Executive Engineer, HPPWD Saranah, Distt Simour H.P.  
6. The Executive Engineer HPPWD Division Saranah reserves the right to reject or cancel any/all the tenders without assigning any reasons.

Executive Engineer, Saranah B&R Division, HPPWD, Saranah.

Attn. No. 094931.05.2025 HIM SUCHANA AVAM JAN SAMPARK

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# HC stays suspension of student over 'Free Palestine' graffiti

Suresh Kumar.K  
@timesofindia.com

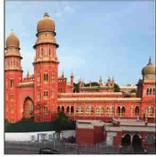
Chennai: Madras HC has stayed the May 25 decision of Rajiv Gandhi National Institute of Youth Development (RGNIDY) in Srirerambudur to suspend a second-year PG student for defacing hostel property by painting 'Jai Bhim' and 'Free Palestine' graffiti in his hostel room.

Justice T V Thamilselvi directed the institute to allow the student and petitioner, S Aslam, to appear in exams and take part in the internship programme. "If he is not permitted to attend the examination and internship programme, it will amount to de facto suspension of the student," the court said in its interim order on Thursday.

RGNIDY's assistant registrar Avinav Thakur, the warden, and assistant warden visited the hostel premises and found Aslam defacing the property with graffiti. An inquiry committee, including Avinav, subsequently suspended Aslam from the institute and expelled him from the hostel.

However, Aslam alleged that he was being victimized after he and some of his friends exposed a pending

**Justice T V Thamilselvi directed the institute to allow the student and petitioner, S Aslam, to appear in exams and take part in the internship programme. "If he is not permitted to attend the exam and the internship programme, it will cause undue hardship to the petitioner," Madras HC said in its interim order**



Sexual assault case against Avinav in Jharkhand. He claimed that Avinav influenced the committee and coerced some students to testify against him. The court has adjourned the matter for hearing on June 25.

# HC holds bizman's arrest in ₹67cr cheating case illegal, orders release

Swati.Deshpande  
@timesofindia.com

Mumbai: Bombay HC vacation bench on Friday declared the arrest of Anchor Group director Hemang Shah, 50, by Mumbai Police's Economic Offences Wing (EOW) as illegal, citing failure by police to produce him before a magistrate in 24 hours. The court ordered his immediate release on bail on ₹10 lakh.

The vacation bench, comprising justices Gauri Godse and Somasekar Sundaresan, noted that chat messages between the wives of the two brothers supported Hemang Shah's claim that his arrest and continued custody were intended to recover a settlement amount in mediation between family members.

The arrest was based on allegations of defrauding his elder brother, Mehul Shah, of ₹67 crore. Hemang Shah petitioned the HC, arguing that his arrest was illegal since he was not produced before a magistrate within 24 hours as required by law.

He was detained at Dhabhi airport at 5:30pm on May 17 and produced in court only at 10:45pm on May 18. The HC argued, stating that the arrest was illegal because Hemang was not produced before the nearest magistrate within 24 hours as required by law.



**Bombay HC cited cops' failure to produce Anchor Group director Hemang Shah before a magistrate in 24 hours as reason for deeming the arrest illegal**

being resolved before a mediator, is between Hemang and one side and his brother and their father on the other. The FIR was filed during mediation, and Hemang, scheduled to fly to Muscat from Delhi on May 17, was apprehended at the airport.

Police stated they arrested him on May 18 after the immigration department handed him over at 4:30 am, and then he was brought to Mumbai Senior counsel for the elder brother argued that immigration officers could not be considered cops, and hence his custody after being "arrested" at the airport was not an "arrest" by police officers.

# 2-yr jail for Mukhtar's MLA son; he faces disqualification

Rajeev.Dikshit  
@timesofindia.com

Varanasi: UP MLA Abbas Ansari was on Saturday awarded two years' imprisonment in a 2022 hate speech case, leaving him facing disqualification.

SBSIP legislator from Mau Abbas is the son of late mafia don Mukhtar Ansari. Abbas was present in court when the sentence was pronounced by chief judicial magistrate Krishna Pratap Singh. He was granted temporary bail and 30 days to file an appeal against the order.

State prosecution joint director Chandrakrishna Rai said the two-year sentence had set the ground for Abbas's disqualification as legislator. But the MLA's lawyer, Daroga Singh, claimed that if a sessions court stayed the order, Abbas would not be disqualified.

ED-probed money-laundering case that had kept him in jail for more than two years. Prison terms of two years or more lead to disqualification of lawmakers under the law. Abbas was present in court when the sentence was pronounced by chief judicial magistrate Krishna Pratap Singh. He was granted temporary bail and 30 days to file an appeal against the order.

### VISAKHAPATNAM METROPOLITAN REGION DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

**CORRIGENDUM**  
Re No. 17025/2024-ADMIN/VMRDA, Dt. 31-05-2025  
Inviting Expression of Interest (EOI) for 'Licensing of Retail / Commercial, Institutional and Residential Space' at VMRDA's The Deck Building is extended up to 12-06-2025 for more details visit website : <http://vmrda.gov.in/>  
Sd/-Metropolitan Commissioner, VMRDA

### KENDRIYA HINDI SANSTHAN, AGRA

(Ministry of Education, Govt. of India)  
Hindi Sansthan Marg, Agra-282005

**Advertisement for Project Staff Positions (Research Assistant and Field Investigator)**

Applications are invited from the eligible candidates for the positions of Research Assistant (01) and Field Investigator (01) in research project titled "A Study of Sociolinguistic Variation in Learning Hindi as a Foreign Language in India" funded by the Indian Council of Social Research (ICSSR) under the supervision of Dr. Deepa Moni Boruah (Associate Professor of Linguistics, Department of International Hindi Teaching, Kendriya Hindi Sansthan, Agra).

**Desirable Qualification:** Postgraduate in Linguistics (with a minimum of 55% marks) with NET. Proficiency in Hindi and English typing. Familiarity with SPSS or equivalent statistical tools. Prior research experience in sociolinguistics or language acquisition. Familiarity with Praet or other linguistic analysis tools. Experience in questionnaire design and phonetic transcription.

**Fellowship Duration:** 10 Months or until completion of the project

**Remuneration:** ₹ 37,000/- per month

**Essential Qualification:** Postgraduate in Linguistics or applied Social Science disciplines (with a minimum of 55% marks)

**Desirable Qualification:** Proficiency in Hindi and English typing. Prior research experience in sociolinguistics or language acquisition and past fieldwork experience.

**Fellowship Duration:** 06 Months

**Remuneration:** ₹ 20,000/- per month

For more details are available on the institute website <https://www.hindisansthan.in/> interested candidates may send the required documents (updated CV, mark sheets/certificates, brief description on previous research experience) to e-mail [boruahdeepa49@gmail.com](mailto:boruahdeepa49@gmail.com)

The last date of application is 15 June, 2025.

- Registrar

### NOTICE INVITING APPLICATIONS FOR APPOINTMENT OF VICE CHANCELLOR FOR SARDAR VALLABHBHAI PATEL UNIVERSITY OF AGRICULTURE AND TECHNOLOGY, MEERUT (U.P.)

Advt. No. : E-3463/2025

It is proposed to appoint the Vice-Chancellor for Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel University of Agriculture and Technology, Meerut (U.P.), established under the Uttar Pradesh Krishi Evam Prodyogiki Vishwavidyalaya Adhiniyam, 1958 by the Chancellor, out of a panel to be recommended by a Committee appointed in terms of Section-11(1) of the said Act.

The Vice-Chancellor shall hold office for a term of 03 years from the date on which he/she enters upon his/her office or till he/she attains the age of 68 years whichever is earlier. Only such person shall be eligible for appointment to the office of Vice Chancellor who has not attained the age of 65 years.

As the Vice Chancellor is the Principal Executive and Academic Officer of the University, he/she should have highest level of competence, integrity, morals and institutional commitment. He/She is required to have sound administrative acumen besides being a distinguished person in the field of Agriculture.

The newly appointed Vice Chancellor can take charge through this advertisement only after the tenure of the present Vice Chancellor appointed and working in the University is completed and the said advertised post becomes vacant.

The applicant for the post of Vice-Chancellor may send his application Online only in prescribed form available on the website "www.upgovernor.gov.in" or before dated 23<sup>rd</sup> June, 2025 (Monday).

Any application received after the prescribed date shall not be considered.

**Additional Chief Secretary to the Governor,**  
UPID-234460/30.05.2025 www.upgovr.nic.in  
Uttar Pradesh

# HC upholds dismissal of former Haryana judicial officer

Chandigarh: The concept of "deemed confirmation" cannot override an employer's power to assess work, conduct and behaviour of a probationer to ensure suitability in service, the Punjab and Haryana high court said, dismissing an appeal filed by a former judicial officer of Haryana Civil Services (JCS) branch.

Upholding the dismissal of the petitioner, Ankur Lal, a division bench comprising Chief Justice Sushag and Justice Sumeet Goel said "deemed confirmation" was a post-contractual concept in service jurisprudence which has long been discarded, since it erodes into the power of the employer to assess work, conduct and behaviour of the probationer. Besides, it would mean even a person of questionable integrity could be appointed to a post, the judges added.

"If deemed confirmation is brought into play, notwithstanding the adverse remarks, including that of 'integrity doubtful' based on lacklustre performance, conduct and behaviour of the petitioner, then an anomalous situation would arise where the probationer, despite being unfit for confirmation, is deemed to be confirmed. This would bring into the service a judge of doubtful integrity whose service record is tainted with adverse remarks. This would be deleterious to the very concept of probity on which the entire judicial system stands," the bench said.

The petitioner had sought directions to quash the recommendation dated July 23, 2012, for termination of his probationary service as civil judge (junior division).

### ICAR-INDIAN GRASSLAND AND FODDER RESEARCH INSTITUTE, Gwalior Road, Near Pahuji Dam, Jhansi-284003

**Advertisement for the temporary post of Project Scientists/Research Associate/Field and Lab Assistant**

Applications are invited for the recruitment of four project scientists, eight research associates, five field assistants and five lab assistants under the project entitled "Utilizing Perennial Grasses for Revolutionizing Sustainable Bioenergy Production under Challenging Environments" at IGRI-RIL Collaborative R&D project. Last date for submission of online application form is 25th June, 2025. For further details, kindly visit <https://cyberpassion.com/ICAR-IGRI/>

### MSME TECHNOLOGY CENTRE BHIVADI

Ministry of Micro, Small & Medium Enterprises, Govt. of India  
Plot No SP3-47(A), RT, RICO Industrial Estate Pathridi, Bhiwadi-30119 Dist.-Kharaihar-Tijara, Rajasthan  
Ph. No. 0149322 101 / 141 115. Phone: 987982173, 7972141185, 9634692822  
Email: [trg.ang@msmctbhiwadi.org](mailto:trg.ang@msmctbhiwadi.org); Website: [www.msmctbhiwadi.org](http://www.msmctbhiwadi.org)

### Post Graduate Institute of Child Health (P.G.I.C.H.) Sector-30, Noida, Gautam Buddha Nagar-201303

PGIHC, Noida invites applications (Soft copy by email and Hardcopy by Speed Post) for the following regular (Non-teaching) Specialist post in Pay Band 15650-39100, Grade Pay 5400/-, Level-10 (ES10-177500).

Sr. No.	Advertisement	Post Name	UR	OC	B	ES	Post
1	PGIHC,Noida/Exec.Reg./2025/38 Date:-31.05.2025	Gynecologist	-	-	01	-	01
2	PGIHC,Noida/Exec.Reg./2025/37 Date:-31.05.2025	General Surgeon	01	-	-	-	01
3	PGIHC,Noida/Exec.Reg./2025/36 Date:-31.05.2025	Dermatologist	01	-	-	-	01
4	PGIHC,Noida/Exec.Reg./2025/39 Date:-31.05.2025	General Physician	01	-	-	-	01
5	PGIHC,Noida/Exec.Reg./2025/40 Date:-31.05.2025	Psychiatrist	01	-	-	-	01

### Post Graduate Institute of Child Health

Department of Pediatrics, General Intensive, Eligibility Criteria, Application fees, form and the Other details. Number of Posts can be increased or decreased as per requirement. Applicants who had applied against last advertisement no. (1) PGIHC,Noida/Exec.Reg./2024/07, (2) PGIHC,Noida/Exec.Reg./2024/08, (3) PGIHC,Noida/Exec.Reg./2024/09, (4) PGIHC,Noida/Exec.Reg./2024/10, (5) PGIHC,Noida/Exec.Reg./2024/11 need to pay again. Last date for submission of soft copy application:- 14.07.2025 at 05:00 PM.

### अखिल भारतीय आयुर्विज्ञान संस्थान (एमएस), भुवनेश्वर

**ALL INDIA INSTITUTE OF MEDICAL SCIENCES (AIIMS), BHUBANESWAR**  
(A Statutory Body under aegis of Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Govt. of India)  
Sijua, Post-Dumunda, Bhubaneswar (Odisha) -751019

### WALK-IN-INTERVIEW

The All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS), Bhubaneswar invites eligible candidates for a Walk-In Interview for the following Non-Faculty Post on a Contractual Basis for 11 months or until alternative arrangement is made, whichever is earlier, as per the following Schedule:

Sl. No.	Name of the Post	Qualification/ Experience	No. of Post	Age Limit	Monthly Emoluments	Date of Interview
01	Medical Physicist (Nuclear Medicine)	1. M.Sc. Nuclear Medicine Technology from a recognized University/ Institution Desirable 2. RSO Level-II certification recognized by AERB 3. Ph.D. in Nuclear Medicine	02	21-35 years	₹ 86,955/-	09/06/2025

### DELHI SKILL AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP UNIVERSITY

(A State University Established under Act of NCT of Delhi Act of 2020)  
HQ- DSEU Dwarika Campus, Sector 3, Dwarika, New Delhi-110077. Website: <https://dseu.ac.in>

**ADMISSION ANNOUNCEMENT ACADEMIC SESSION 2025-26**

Delhi Skill and Entrepreneurship University (DSEU) is a state-funded university established under the Delhi Act of 2020. DSEU invites applications for various Certificate, Diploma, and Degree programs offered under different departments across 24 campuses. All programs are aligned with NEP 2020 and NCF with multiple entry and exit options. Providing opportunities for 1000 pass-out students, 1200 pass-out students, and graduate students to enroll in skills oriented regular academic programs. The curriculum has been designed to meet the current industrial requirements to ensure employability & to promote entrepreneurship.

### REGISTRATION & COUNSELLING FEE (Non-Refundable)

Programs after 10th	₹ 1000/-
Programs after 12th	₹ 1500/-
Programs after Bachelors	₹ 1500/-
B.Tech Program	₹ 2000/-

**Important dates for Online Registration-**

- 1. Commencement of Online Registration and Choice Filling: 18 May, 2025 (Wednesday) (Along with Application Fee Payment) from 11:00 AM
- 2. Last date and Time for Online Registration: 01 June, 2025 (Sunday) till 05:30 PM.

**How to apply:** The candidates are required to fill the online application form available at the following websites:

- Programs after 10th: <https://dseuadmissions.samarth.edu.in/>
- Programs after 12th: <https://dseuadmissions.samarth.edu.in/>
- Programs after Bachelors: <https://dseuadmissions.samarth.edu.in/>

In case of any difficulty in applying online, candidate may contact at the following email/contact number:

- Diploma Programs : [dseuadmissions\\_2025@dseu.ac.in](mailto:dseuadmissions_2025@dseu.ac.in)
- UG Programs : [ugadmissions\\_2025@dseu.ac.in](mailto:ugadmissions_2025@dseu.ac.in)
- B.Tech Programs : [btchadmissions\\_2025@dseu.ac.in](mailto:btchadmissions_2025@dseu.ac.in)
- PG Programs : [pgadmissions\\_2025@dseu.ac.in](mailto:pgadmissions_2025@dseu.ac.in)

**General Query:** [admissions@dseu.ac.in](mailto:admissions@dseu.ac.in)

Candidates are advised to refer to the Information Bulletin available on the above-mentioned websites for detailed information regarding programs, eligibility criteria, relaxation for reserved categories, fee structure, and the admission process.

- Registrar, DSEU

### CENTRAL COUNCIL FOR RESEARCH IN HOMOEOPATHY

Ministry of Health, Government of India  
Jawahar Lal Nehru Bhawan, Old Homoeopathy Anandshah Bhaswan  
61-65, Institutional Area, Opp. D-BLOCK, Jansanjari, New Delhi-110058

Advt. No.: 148/2025-26  
Date: 29.05.2025

### VACANCY NOTICE FOR SENIOR STENOGRAPHERS (ENGLISH) ON DEPUTATION BASIS

Applications are invited from the eligible candidates for filling up of 03 posts of Senior Stenographers (English) in Level-6 in the Pay Matrix Rs. 35400-112400 on deputation basis from officials under the Central Government/ Autonomous Bodies.

### NATIONAL EDUCATION SOCIETY FOR TRIBAL STUDENTS (NESTS)

Ministry of Tribal Affairs  
Jeevan Tara Building, Parliament Street, New Delhi-110001

### VACANCY NOTICE

Applications are invited from eligible candidates for appointment against following post in NESTS under contractual basis.

Sl. No.	Designation	Number of Posts	Remuneration per month
1.	Architect Consultant (One)	1	₹ 80,000/-
2.	Technical Consultant (Civil)	Six (6)	₹ 60,000/-

The details of the posts, qualifications and experience are available on the website <https://tribal.nic.in/> and <https://emr.tribal.gov.in/>. Only forwarded application should reach the undersigned by 17<sup>th</sup> June, 2025.

JOINT COMMISSIONER  
NESTS, New Delhi

### Post Graduate Institute of Child Health

Sector-30, Noida-201303, Gautam Buddha Nagar, U.P. (India)  
(An Autonomous Body Under Govt. Of U.P.)  
Website: [www.pgichh.edu.in](http://www.pgichh.edu.in) Email: [facultyrecruitment@gmail.com](mailto:facultyrecruitment@gmail.com)

Last Date for Online Receipt of Applications: 14<sup>th</sup> July, 2025  
Date: 31.05.2025

#### FACULTY APPOINTMENTS

Professor/Assistant Professors

The Post Graduate Institute of Child Health, Noida, Gautam Buddha Nagar, an autonomous body under Govt. of U.P. invites applications (soft copy by email and hardcopy by registered speed post) for the following positions in the departments mentioned below:

Sl. No.	Department	UR	OC	B	ES	ST	UR	OC	B	ES	ST	UR	OC	B	ES	ST
1	14 Ophthalmology (Paediatric Ophthalmology)	-	-	-	01	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
2	15 ENT (Paediatric Otolaryngology)	-	-	-	01	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
3	16 Microbiology	-	-	-	01	-	-	-	-	01	-	-	-	-	-	-
4	17 Paediatric Medicine	-	-	-	01	-	-	-	-	01	-	-	-	-	-	-
5	18 Pathology	-	-	-	01	-	-	-	-	01	-	-	-	-	-	-
6	19 Biochemistry	-	-	-	01	-	-	-	-	01	-	-	-	-	-	-
7	20 Basic Diagnostics	-	-	-	01	-	-	-	-	01	-	-	-	-	-	-
8	21 Paediatrics	-	-	-	01	-	-	-	-	01	-	-	-	-	-	-
9	22 Neonatology	-	-	-	01	-	-	-	-	01	-	-	-	-	-	-
10	23 Paediatric Cardiology	-	-	-	01	-	-	-	-	01	-	-	-	-	-	-
11	24 Paediatric Gastroenterology	-	-	-	01	-	-	-	-	01	-	-	-	-	-	-
12	25 Paediatric Neurology	-	-	-	01	-	-	-	-	01	-	-	-	-	-	-
13	26 Paediatric Nephrology	-	-	-	01	-	-	-	-	01	-	-	-	-	-	-
14	27 Medical Genetics	-	-	-	01	-	-	-	-	01	-	-	-	-	-	-
15	28 Paediatric Haematology/Oncology	-	-	-	01	-	-	-	-	01	-	-	-	-	-	-
16	29 Paediatric Surgery	-	-	-	01	-	-	-	-	01	-	-	-	-	-	-
17	30 Paediatric Plastic Surgery	-	-	-	01	-	-	-	-	01	-	-	-	-	-	-
18	31 Paediatric Orthopaedics	-	-	-	01	-	-	-	-	01	-	-	-	-	-	-
19	32 Paediatric Cardiac Surgery	-	-	-	01	-	-	-	-	01	-	-	-	-	-	-
20	33 Paediatric Anaesthesia	-	-	-	01	-	-	-	-	01	-	-	-	-	-	-
21	34 Paediatric Urology	-	-	-	01	-	-	-	-	01	-	-	-	-	-	-
22	35 Paediatric Dentistry	-	-	-	01	-	-	-	-	01	-	-	-	-	-	-

1. Application form can be downloaded from the institute website [www.pgichh.edu.in](http://www.pgichh.edu.in) in scanned copies of filled signed forms and all the relevant self-attested documents (PDF) need to be submitted to the undersigned by the last date mentioned above. 2. The application form should be submitted with self-attested photocopies of all documents must be sent by post to the Director, Post Graduate Institute of Child Health, Sector-30, Noida (India) so as to reach by 17:00 hrs on 21<sup>st</sup> July, 2025. The institute shall not be responsible for any postal delay what so ever. 3. Director Post Graduate Institute of Child Health, Noida, reserves the right to reject any or all applications without assigning any reason therefor. Number of the posts may be decreased or increased at the time of the interview with or without prior information. 4. Reservations as per U.P. Government.

### कार्यालय अधीक्षण अभियन्ता, चतुर्थ वृत्त, लोक निर्माण विभाग, रुद्रपुर (उधम सिंह नगर)

Phone/Fax: 05944-240921  
mail- [sepdwun8@gmail.com](mailto:sepdwun8@gmail.com)

पत्रांक-1238-23 एम-04/2025 दिनांक 29.05.2025

#### राष्ट्रीय प्रतियोगिताक ई-निविदा (e-tendering)

महार्थम रामपत्तन उन्नतराष्ट्रक कोर से अधीक्षण अभियन्ता, चतुर्थ वृत्त, लोक निर्माण विभाग, रुद्रपुर (उधम सिंह नगर) द्वारा निम्नलिखित कार्य हेतु ई-टेंडरिंग द्वारा टेंडर बिक्रिद सिस्टम के अन्तर्गत निविदा आमंत्रित की जाती है। निविदा से सम्बन्धित सभी सूचनाएं वेबसाईट [www.uctd.gov.in](http://www.uctd.gov.in) पर दिनांक 05.06.2025 से उपलब्ध होंगी।

क्र. सं.	कार्य का नाम	प्रतिशत प्रपत्र का (लक्ष) मूल्य	निविदा का मूल्य (रु में)	निविदा की वेबसाईट (दिवस)	कार्य पूर्ण करने का अवधि (दिन)	कार्य पूर्ण की कीमत	टेंडरकार को श्रेणी
1	केंद्रीय सड़क अवसंरचना निधि (CRIF) के अन्तर्गत उधम सिंह नगर में नहर-दिशपुर-मटकोटा-हदानी (एमएचएच-5) मोटर मार्ग के किमी 0.00 से 16.00 एवं मानुगर-नहरपुर-दिशपुर-मटकोटा-हदानी (एमएचएच-5 एम्स) का चौड़ीकरण व सुसुद्रीकरण का कार्य (कुल लम्बाई 19.300 कि.मी.) (प्रान्तीय खण्ड, रुद्रपुर)	90.00	5000.00+ 18% GST	120 दिन	15 माह	सर्कार/भारत सरकार के विभाग एवं उधम सिंह नगर कार्य हेतु श्रेणी A एवं उन्नतर में चौकीदार	
2	केंद्रीय सड़क अवसंरचना निधि (CRIF) के अन्तर्गत खडौना मेलाराम (राज्य मार्ग संख्या 107) में कचरोपी ड्रेन, सड़क सुधारक एवं रोड सैनिटेशन तथा डीवीपीएचए एवं चौकीदार सुसुद्रीकरण का कार्य। (निर्माण खण्ड, खडौना)	35.00	5000.00+ 18% GST	120 दिन	15 माह	नदीक	

अधीक्षण अभियन्ता

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**MATCH** for 6.8.91, 8.4.5 am  
B.Tech. M.B.A. working in  
working Navi Mumbai. 29  
L14. Parental Inheritance  
Kulu. 94654688. 853064322

**SM4** Khatri fair b'val wkg  
Prof. M.A. (B.Tech & MBA)  
29.57.37. employed with a  
Pvt. Co. 94654688. 853064322  
Contact: 989130171, 989130171

**BEAUTIFUL GIRL**  
29/57/37 Nonveg. Grad  
from IIT Bombay. Working  
in Affluent family. Father  
retired. Parents Post Grad.  
NCR based. Prof. QID Job  
from accomplished family.  
9892949271. Email:  
dhanwansuri@hotmail.com

**WELL SETTLED** unmarried  
match 4 khatris 29.57. high  
qidi b'val girl with high  
proficiency. R. 916628431

**AGARWAL**, 28/57, B.Tech. B.Tech. M.B.A. working in  
NCR. Repeat Daily. Del NCR  
seeks Home Boy (Serviceless)  
\*Himani both 6/1 & 7/2010184

**M.TECH** Non-Mech. Physics &  
Engg., Delhi. b'val Punjabi  
girl 29/57/37. prmtly wkg  
match #98966014

**KATHERIA (DHANUK)**  
Rajput (UP) based Seeks  
alliance for their daughter.  
5'6"/98. working as an  
Investment Professional with a  
Leading Asset Management  
Company in Mumbai. Father  
Class I Officer in a prominent  
bank, own car. 9892949271  
preferred. Email: R17420136  
mumbai.com, 879839787

**M.C.H. Doctor** Slim B'val  
GirL Delhi. 1988/57/37. Wkg  
in AIIMS Delhi. Father. Retd.  
Judge. Seeks upper caste  
Delhi/NCR based well QID.  
Match #9892949271. Email:  
Official/CA. Contact: 935828919

**MEDICO PG** V'bal, slim  
fair. Agarwal girl, 30/57/37  
from affluent Dr family seeks  
upper caste IAS/IBZ Dr very  
fit status. Lko wkg. 941757536

**NORTH INDIAN**

**BY PROFESSION**

**DOCTORS**

**REQ** wkg. Isotaller Well Stud  
Mumbai. 29/57/37. B.Tech. MBA  
Dr. Derma. Brahmin. 1987/57/37.  
Status Family. a 9899891491  
Email: 9899891491

**DOCTOR** match in UK or  
Indian metropolitan for fair,  
b'val. Sikh. Tall. Kashyap girl  
29/57/37. Fair & b'val. cultured.  
working in NHS UK. from status  
good. 9892949271. Email:  
wkg / wkg. 91898834319

**MDS (orthodontics)** (left)  
29/57/37. Fair. B'val. girl. Gkg  
Brahmin (Defense Offr) family  
seeks M.D. (MS) Oral Surgeon.  
Match #9892949271

**SM4** Brahmin b'val tall. Fair  
Dr. Cardiac. Delhi. IITian/IAS/  
IISc. Super speciality Card.  
Jokokok01202@gmail.com

**M.TECH (BITS Pilani)** Tall,  
Fair. Graduate. Shikha Rajput  
girl. Dec 1988/57/37. Wkg  
in Delhi. B.Tech. in Energy  
from BITS Pilani. Seeking  
a well settled, affluent family  
for their daughter. 9892949271

**GRADUATE** Fair Slim  
Rajput girl 29/57/37. Wkg  
in Delhi. Seeking a well  
settled, affluent family for  
their daughter. 9892949271

**PGM4** H.P. Rajput girl, fair,  
29/57/37. Wkg in Delhi. Seeking  
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**BHADRAI** Rajput 35/57/37.  
Wkg in Delhi. Seeking a well  
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**BHADRAI** Rajput 30/57/37.  
Wkg in Delhi. Seeking a well  
settled, affluent family for  
their daughter. 9892949271

**ELITE BRIDES WANTED**

**ELITE GROOMS WANTED**

**SKHARORA**, 28, 150 cms, PhD in Clinical Genetics. Lives in  
USA. Bolognese. Known business class family with high  
net worth. Looking for a suitable match from USA. Contact:  
636648342

**AGARWAL**, 35, 163 cms, Masters in Healthcare, Consultant.  
Lives in Canada. Comes from well educated and affluent  
family background. Looking for a suitable match from Canada.  
Contact: 636648342

**AGARWAL**, 25, 163 cms, Masters, Management  
Professional. Lives in Delhi. Father is a Businessman with a  
good net worth. Looking for compatible match. Contact:  
636648342

**AGARWAL**, 29, 175 cms, Management Professional. Masters.  
Lives in UK. Father is a working professional. Family is  
financially well off with a high net worth. Looking for a  
compatible match from India/Abroad. Contact: 636648342

**AGARWAL**, 35, 158 cms, Masters, First-Generation  
Entrepreneur. Lives in Delhi NCR. Father is a Businessman.  
Family is financially well off with high net worth. Looking for  
a suitable match from India/Abroad. Contact: 636648342

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**WANTED GROOMS**

**BY CASTE**

**KAYASTHA**

**KSHATRIYA**

**South Delhi based  
reputed and well  
established  
Aggarwal  
business family  
seeks alliance for  
their tall,  
intelligent,  
beautiful  
daughter  
36/57,  
B.Tech MBA,  
engaged in  
family business,  
isuesless  
divorcee.  
Seeks tall  
handsome,  
well  
educated  
boy having  
own  
business or  
high  
professional  
from strong  
family  
background  
based in  
Delhi/NCR.**

Contact:  
[9752788360@gmail.com](http://9752788360@gmail.com)

**RAJPUT**

**DELHI BASED  
affluent high  
class Rajput  
Family of Repute  
Seeks alliance  
for their humble,  
smart, Beautiful  
with Charming  
Personality  
Daughter,  
1996 born, 5'5",  
tall convent  
educated, MBA.  
A key contributor  
into family  
business, Parents  
are well qualified  
professionals.  
Wish to hear  
from Handsome,  
Moderate, well  
educated and  
professionally  
qualified Kshatriya  
Rajput Boy,  
preferably with a  
business back-  
ground & resident  
of Delhi / NCR.**

Send biiodata & details at  
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**MASTERS (Fin)** from Mel-  
b. 27/57/37. B.Tech. MBA. In  
Canada. P. B'val. only  
top US unives. High net worth.  
Non-Drinker. Non smoker.  
Pkg. Caste. G55 &  
customs. Mom (B. Ness).  
suitable match. 96589773

**MATCH** for Punjabi  
(Kshatri) Girl. DOB  
14/05/1992. 5'7". P. B'val.  
Patia. B.Tech. 2018.  
Working in Wipro, 2016.  
Pkg. Caste. G55 &  
788995970, 932553363

**Vairi** Viregity girl 28/57/37  
B.Tech. MBA. Working in  
top US unives. High net worth.  
Non-Drinker. Non smoker.  
Pkg. Caste. G55 &  
customs. Mom (B. Ness).  
suitable match. 96589773

**SARVATA**, 31, 57", is an MS graduate working at  
Bank of America, New Jersey,  
on a work permit. Smart,  
ambitious and values both her  
career and family. We seek a  
well-educated NRI with strong  
values who is willing to settle  
in the US with strong values  
and a progressive mindset.  
S.S. Sarvata, New York. 941010581

**SM4** Lko B.Tech Srivastava  
fair, b'val, 29/57/37. Wkg  
Manglik. B.Tech. MBA  
working MNC Gurgaon, VA. 989085553

**PQ** match for Non Mktg  
Saxena 1996 beautiful, fair  
slim 160 cms International leg  
cousin based in NCR, Caste no  
bar. WA881141100, 989130172

**SM4**, C.A. Kayastha  
Govt. 1980/57/37. Anshik  
94/56, CMA (ICWA) working  
Professional / Working Boy  
Lko. Educated. Matrim. Upper  
Caste no bar. 98130171

**SUITABLE** C1 Govt/Retd  
Govt. 29/57/37. Match 4 Mohali  
B.Tech. MBA. Working in  
US Tech Firm. Father retired  
Class I Central Government  
Officer. 9892949271

**PROF. QID** match requiring  
for B.Tech. MBA girl. March  
94/56, CMA (ICWA) working  
Professional with handsome salary  
Call WhatsApp: 98990887

**SM4** GZB based Kayastha  
girl, Design, NIFT. Work Interior  
Design. Noida. Upper Caste No  
Bar. 989130171

**SR** Girl Nov 91/25/57  
B.Tech. B.Tech. MBA. Working  
in US Tech Firm. Father retired  
Class I Central Government  
Officer. 9892949271

**M.TECH** (BITS Pilani) Tall,  
Fair. Graduate. Shikha Rajput  
girl. Dec 1988/57/37. Wkg  
in Delhi. B.Tech. in Energy  
from BITS Pilani. Seeking  
a well settled, affluent family  
for their daughter. 9892949271

**GRADUATE** Fair Slim  
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in Delhi. Seeking a well  
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**PGM4** H.P. Rajput girl, fair,  
29/57/37. Wkg in Delhi. Seeking  
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**BHADRAI** Rajput 35/57/37.  
Wkg in Delhi. Seeking a well  
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their daughter. 9892949271

**BHADRAI** Rajput 30/57/37.  
Wkg in Delhi. Seeking a well  
settled, affluent family for  
their daughter. 9892949271

**WANTED** USA Resident  
Mumbai. 29/57/37. B.Tech. MBA  
Dr. Derma. Brahmin. 1987/57/37.  
Status Family. a 9899891491  
Email: 9899891491

**MBS/MS** 27 yrs. B.Tech. MBA  
working in USA. Seeking a  
well settled, affluent family  
for their daughter. 9892949271

**SUNNI** Vastu YANTRAS  
P. Vastu Pundit 1997/57/37.  
Wkg in Delhi. Seeking a well  
settled, affluent family for  
their daughter. 9892949271

**SM4** Kayastha girl Oct 89/57/37.  
Wkg in Delhi. Seeking a well  
settled, affluent family for  
their daughter. 9892949271

**CA**, Fair, Young looking Sikh  
Guru. 29/57/37. Wkg in Delhi.  
Seeking a well settled, affluent  
family for their daughter. 9892949271

**SM4** Hindu Arora Kshatri  
girl, 29/57/37. Wkg in Delhi.  
Seeking a well settled, affluent  
family for their daughter. 9892949271

**DIVORCEE** Anshik Manglik 36  
L1M, 57. Brahmin, fair, v  
short marriage, issuesless,  
practicing in IIC Lockwood V  
Executive family. Caste No Bar.  
Boy should well settled. No  
Marriage Bureau. 713877777

**CS/LB** Goyal 36/57/37 girl  
145 cms. Fair. Wkg in USA.  
net/metro. city based boy.  
Contact: 989130171, 932553363

**SEEEKS** alliance for  
beautiful 33 issuesless legally  
divorced girl wkg in  
MNC in Mumbai. Package 40  
LPA. Seeking a well settled,  
affluent family. 9892949271

**SM4** Beautiful Bhatnagar Girl  
Divorcee 1994/57/37. MBA  
Pkg. Caste. G55 &  
Customs. Mom (B. Ness).  
suitable match. 96589773

**FAIR Hindu** Kshatri Manglik  
Girl 27/57/37. Wkg in  
USA. Seeking a well settled,  
affluent family. 9892949271

**MATHUR** Girl, Delhi Based,  
28/57/37. Fair. B.Tech. MBA.  
Working in USA. Seeking a  
well settled, affluent family  
for their daughter. 9892949271

**SRIVASTAVA**, 31, 57", is an MS graduate working at  
Bank of America, New Jersey,  
on a work permit. Smart,  
ambitious and values both her  
career and family. We seek a  
well-educated NRI with strong  
values who is willing to settle  
in the US with strong values  
and a progressive mindset.  
S.S. Sarvata, New York. 941010581

**SM4** Lko B.Tech Srivastava  
fair, b'val, 29/57/37. Wkg  
Manglik. B.Tech. MBA  
working MNC Gurgaon, VA. 989085553

**Kshatriya girl,  
Economist, B.Sc. and  
M. Sc. Economics from  
UK Universities,  
ex investment advisor  
to Scotland, Govt.  
officially working in  
Eurozone. ODI  
scholar. Non-smoker,  
well travelled, values  
Indian culture. Father  
(IAS) (Retd.). UPI (Retd.).  
Seeks well  
qualified groom IAS/  
Indian Foreign  
Service/ IPS/ Central  
Services/ Sr.  
Management**

Contact:  
[9752788360@gmail.com](http://9752788360@gmail.com)

**DELHI BASED  
affluent high  
class Rajput  
Family of Repute  
Seeks alliance  
for their humble,  
smart, Beautiful  
with Charming  
Personality  
Daughter,  
1996 born, 5'5",  
tall convent  
educated, MBA.  
A key contributor  
into family  
business, Parents  
are well qualified  
professionals.  
Wish to hear  
from Handsome,  
Moderate, well  
educated and  
professionally  
qualified Kshatriya  
Rajput Boy,  
preferably with a  
business back-  
ground & resident  
of Delhi / NCR.**

Send biiodata & details at  
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**9818133723**

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Dr. Derma. Brahmin. 1987/57/37.  
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Email: 9899891491

**MBS/MS** 27 yrs. B.Tech. MBA  
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for their daughter. 9892949271

**SUNNI** Vastu YANTRAS  
P. Vastu Pundit 1997/57/37.  
Wkg in Delhi. Seeking a well  
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**SM4** Kayastha girl Oct 89/57/37.  
Wkg in Delhi. Seeking a well  
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Saxena 1996 beautiful, fair  
slim 160 cms International leg  
cousin based in NCR, Caste no  
bar. WA881141100, 989130172

**SM for kayastha girl**  
MA. COE, DSE, 5'2",  
Jan'94 born, working  
in UN Org Delhi,  
father retd IFS  
officer. Seeking well  
settled match from  
Delhi/NCR in G.R.  
Govt/Pvt/MNC.  
B.Tech/MBA  
preferred. Caste no  
bar.

Contact:  
[praysm2425@yahoo.com](http://praysm2425@yahoo.com)

**DELHI BASED  
affluent high  
class Rajput  
Family of Repute  
Seeks alliance  
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smart, Beautiful  
with Charming  
Personality  
Daughter,  
1996 born, 5'5",  
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educated, MBA.  
A key contributor  
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Wish to hear  
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Moderate, well  
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Rajput Boy,  
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Pkg. Caste. G55 &  
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suitable match. 96589773

**FAIR Hindu** Kshatri Manglik  
Girl 27/57/37. Wkg in  
USA. Seeking a well settled,  
affluent family. 9892949271

**MBA**, ICWAI Mgr in Noida,  
Noida. Fair. Slim. Saxena  
Girl. 29/57/37. Wkg in  
Noida. Seeking a well  
settled, affluent family  
for their daughter. 9892949271

**MBS/MS** 27 yrs. B.Tech. MBA  
working in USA. Seeking a  
well settled, affluent family  
for their daughter. 9892949271

**SM4** Kayastha girl Oct 89/57/37.  
Wkg in Delhi. Seeking a well  
settled, affluent family for  
their daughter. 9892949271

**YADAV**

**27/51/51** fair tall slim  
girl seeks tall, Class I  
officer from Bhami Govt.  
Offg. Gurgaon Lockwood  
near 9892949271

**SM4** 1986/57/37 tall fair slim  
girl seeks tall, Class I  
officer from Bhami Govt.  
Offg. Gurgaon Lockwood  
near 9892949271

**YADAV**  
For 27 years age 5'6"  
Height M.B.S. B. Fair  
Conservatively well  
educated. Medical  
Officer in Govt. Medical  
College from Prestigious  
& Renowned Family,  
searching for a suitable  
M.B.B.S. Groom.

Contact:  
[971910501\\_843228913@gmail.com](http://971910501_843228913@gmail.com)

**DELHI BASED  
affluent high  
class Rajput  
Family of Repute  
Seeks alliance  
for their humble,  
smart, Beautiful  
with Charming  
Personality  
Daughter,  
1996 born, 5'5",  
tall convent  
educated, MBA.  
A key contributor  
into family  
business, Parents  
are well qualified  
professionals.  
Wish to hear  
from Handsome,  
Moderate, well  
educated and  
professionally  
qualified Kshatriya  
Rajput Boy,  
preferably with a  
business back-  
ground & resident  
of Delhi / NCR.**

Send biiodata & details at  
Whatsapp or phone  
**9818133723**

**WANTED** USA Resident  
Mumbai. 29/57/37. B.Tech. MBA  
Dr. Derma. Brahmin. 1987/57/37.  
Status Family. a 9899891491  
Email: 9899891491

**MBS/MS** 27 yrs. B.Tech. MBA  
working in USA. Seeking a  
well settled, affluent family  
for their daughter. 9892949271

**SUNNI** Vastu YANTRAS  
P. Vastu Pundit 1997/57/37.  
Wkg in Delhi. Seeking a well  
settled, affluent family for  
their daughter. 9892949271

**SM4** Kayastha girl Oct 89/57/37.  
Wkg in Delhi. Seeking a well  
settled, affluent family for  
their daughter. 9892949271

**CA**, Fair, Young looking Sikh  
Guru. 29/57/37. Wkg in Delhi.  
Seeking a well settled, affluent  
family for their daughter. 9892949271

**DIVORCEE** Anshik Manglik 36  
L1M, 57. Brahmin, fair, v  
short marriage, issuesless,  
practicing in IIC Lockwood V  
Executive family. Caste No Bar.  
Boy should well settled. No  
Marriage Bureau. 713877777

**CS/LB** Goyal 36/57/37 girl  
145 cms. Fair. Wkg in USA.  
net/metro. city based boy.  
Contact: 989130171, 932553363

**SEEEKS** alliance for  
beautiful 33 issuesless legally  
divorced girl wkg in  
MNC in Mumbai. Package 40  
LPA. Seeking a well settled,  
affluent family. 9892949271

**SM4** Beautiful Bhatnagar Girl  
Divorcee 1994/57/37. MBA  
Pkg. Caste. G55 &  
Customs. Mom (B. Ness).  
suitable match. 96589773

**FAIR Hindu** Kshatri Manglik  
Girl 27/57/37. Wkg in  
USA. Seeking a well settled,  
affluent family. 9892949271

**SRIVASTAVA**, 31, 57", is an MS graduate working at  
Bank of America, New Jersey,  
on a work permit. Smart,  
ambitious and values both her  
career and family. We seek a  
well-educated NRI with strong  
values who is willing to settle  
in the US with strong values  
and a progressive mindset.  
S.S. Sarvata, New York. 941010581

**SM4** Lko B.Tech Srivastava  
fair, b'val, 29/57/37. Wkg  
Manglik. B.Tech. MBA  
working MNC Gurgaon, VA. 989085553

**PQ** match for Non Mktg  
Saxena 1996 beautiful, fair  
slim 160 cms International leg  
cousin based in NCR, Caste no  
bar. WA881141100, 989130172

**SM for kayastha girl**  
MA. COE, DSE, 5'2",  
Jan'94 born, working  
in UN Org Delhi,  
father retd IFS  
officer. Seeking well  
settled match from  
Delhi/NCR in G.R.  
Govt/Pvt/MNC.  
B.Tech/MBA  
preferred. Caste no  
bar.

Contact:  
[praysm2425@yahoo.com](http://praysm2425@yahoo.com)

**DELHI BASED  
affluent high  
class Rajput  
Family of Repute  
Seeks alliance  
for their humble,  
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Personality  
Daughter,  
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A key contributor  
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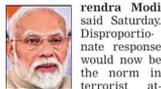
# MATRIMONIAL RATE CARD

Package	Publication	Rate for 5 Lines	Extra Line	Rate per cm	Min Cost 3 (M) x 5 (H)
Soulmate	The Times of India: Ahmedabad, Bangalore, Hubli, Bhubaneswar, Chennai, Coimbatore, Delhi, Chandigarh, West UP & Uttarakhand, Gurgaon, Goa, Hyderabad, Jaipur, Kanpur, Kerala, Kolkata, Lucknow, Guwahati, Lucknow, Madhya Pradesh, Madurai/Trichy, Mangalore, Mumbai, Mysore, Patna, Pune, Visakhapatnam, Aurangabad, Nashik, Pune, Uduppi	10350	2070	NA	NA
National Selection	The Times of India: Ahmedabad, Bangalore, Hubli, Bhubaneswar, Chennai, Coimbatore, Delhi, Chandigarh, West UP & Uttarakhand, Gurgaon, Goa, Hyderabad, Jaipur, Kanpur, Kerala, Kolkata, Lucknow, Guwahati, Lucknow, Madhya Pradesh, Madurai/Trichy, Mangalore, Mumbai, Mysore, Patna, Pune, Visakhapatnam, Aurangabad, Nashik, Pune, Uduppi	8850	1770	2245	33675
V					

### PM: Terrorists challenged our woman power, invited ruin

Suchandana Gupta  
@timesofindia.com

**Bhopal:** Pakistani terrorists challenged India's woman power in Pahalgam, and it spelt their destruction, PM Narendra Modi said Saturday.



Disproportionate response would now be the norm in terrorist attacks, he warned, remarking if they "fire bullets, we will retaliate with cannonballs". "India will no longer tolerate proxy war through terrorists. We will enter their homes and strike them there," the PM said at a women's empowerment rally in Bhopal to mark the 300th birth anniversary of 18th-century queen Ahilyabai Holkar.

"India is the land of tradition. And in our tradition, saviour is symbol of woman power. Even Lord Hanuman, who is immersed in devotion for Lord Rama, sports sindoor. We offer vermilion for Shakti Pooja and this sindoor has now become the symbol of India's valour. Terrorists in Pahalgam did not just shed blood of Indians, they attacked our tradition. They tried to divide our society. And most of all, they challenged India's woman power. This challenge became a disaster for the terrorists and their masters," Modi said.

Some 2 lakh women attended the rally, many carrying posters showing Colonel Sofiya Qureshi and Wing Commander Vovmika Singh. The PM called Operation Sindoor the "biggest and most successful anti-terror operation". "Pakistani army would never have thought that our military would annihilate the places we did, and annihilate terrorist camps," Modi added.

# Afridi presence at alumni meet in Dubai triggers row

**Kerala Varsity Denies Links; He Wasn't Invited, Says Association**

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

**Kochi:** The participation of Pakistani cricketers Shahid Afridi and Umar Gul at an inter-collegiate dance event organised by an alumni association of Cochin University of Science and Technology (CUSAT) in Dubai on May 25 has sparked outrage. A video showing Afridi being welcomed at the event, held at Pakistan Association Dubai (PAD) went viral on social media. The crowd can be seen cheering and chanting his nickname, "Boom Boom", as he approached the gathering. Massive backlash followed, prompting the association — Cochin University of Science and Technology Alumni Association (CUSAA), UAE — to issue an apology and clarify that the Pakistani cricketers came to the event uninvited. Cusat said it had no affiliation with CUSAA UAE. It said in a statement that its official alumni organisation was Cusat Alumni Network, and it was not aware of the programme organised in Dubai.



Afridi and Umar Gul had come to the auditorium for another event, CUBAA representatives said

Event organisers released a statement, saying the appearance of the cricketers was unplanned. They said PAD was booked for their inter-collegiate dance competition well before escalation of India-Pakistan tensions. "At the time of our event, diplomatic tensions had already eased. Due to the unavailability of an alternative venue at short notice, we proceeded...", the statement added. CUBAA representatives claimed the cricketers had come to the auditorium for another event. "We would like to categorically state that no member of our organising team, officials or alumni invited them or coordinated this appearance," the association said. "We deeply regret any hurt or offence our actions may have caused. It was never our intention, and we sincerely apologise to those affected," it added.

Netizens and outfits affiliated with Sangh Parivar criticised the organisers for inviting Afridi, who had made several anti-India remarks. Former BJP state president K Sureshnan accused the organisers of disrespecting Indians who lost their lives on April 22. In a Facebook post, he said: "If not traitors, what else can you call the Malayali organisation that brought Pakistani cricketers for a celebration in Dubai?"

ABVP called for cancellation of passports of CUBAA UAE office-bearers and submitted complaints to the PM and the ministry of external affairs. The organisation's Kerala state secretary EU Eswaragrasad said: "The association's approach is suspicious and the event, held in the presence of anti-India forces, undermined the martyrdom of Pahalgam victims and humiliated India globally."

# 'Feels like sky has fallen': Poonch mourns lives lost

Naseer Ganai  
@timesofindia.com

**Poonch:** Shells screamed through the early morning darkness of May 7, tearing through homes and lives in Poonch district, close to the LOC in Jammu & Kashmir. At Sukha Katha, a cluster of small homes on a mountain-side, Javid Iqbal's five-year-old daughter Mariyam lay in his lap, her stomach ripped open by shrapnel. "She died in my arms," he said on May 30, showing her photo, voice choked. His eight-year-old daughter, Iram Naaz, was wounded too.



Houses damaged by Pakistani shelling in Poonch. "Not even in 1965 did we witness this kind of bombardment," a shopkeeper said

worked tirelessly, but if we had ventilators, we might have saved six to eight more. We need a trauma hospital here, a good medical college." Sharma said 80% of Poonch had fled by May 10. He demanded bunkers for every household and govt jobs, not just for families of the dead but also those wounded in the shelling. "Thirty-five of them have life-long wounds," he said. "They're reliving with trauma too."

Amid loss and grief, another wound cut deep — one of defamation. Hours after Qari Iqbal's death, Delhi-based news channels flashed his photo on screen, calling him a Lashkar-e-Taiba terrorist killed in Operation Sindoor. At Jamia Zia-ul-Uloom on May 30, his brother Farooq Ahmad sat quietly, his face sunken. "We're already mourning, and then we get WhatsApp forwards. Friends asked, 'Why are news channels calling your brother a terrorist?' He had a beard and a Muslim name. That was enough for them to brand him something he wasn't. Even in death, he was humiliated."

Authorities moved quickly. Poonch police and district officials called the reports "baseless and misleading". Legal action was threatened against any outlet or person spreading false claims. Both Omar Abulhasan and Congress MP Rahul Gandhi visited the Jamia and were briefed about the slander.

Nazira Kousar, a mother from Poonch, rushed through falling shells to the hospital on May 7. Her 14-year-old son had been wounded at the seminary. "Nothing could stop me," she said. "He survived, but now hides under a blanket, afraid to go outside. My husband has liver disease. We can't afford treatment." She came back on May 30, hoping someone would shelter her. On May 31, Union home minister Amit Shah handed job appointment letters to next of kin. Dalbir Singh, who lost his brother Ramjit Singh — a grocery shop owner — received one. "He was calm and lovable," Dalbir said. "I feel the sky has fallen on us. I just want this to end."

At least five members of the local Sikh community died, including former Army officer Amarjeet Singh. A gurdwara wall was damaged in the shelling. As Poonch recovers from three days of unrelenting fire, scars remain — carved in stone and memory.

# Pak violated IWT through terror: India

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

**New Delhi:** Pakistan violated Indus Waters Treaty (IWT) through "unrelenting cross-border terrorism", India said at an international forum in Tajikistan and justified its action of putting the 1960 treaty in abeyance following the Pahalgam terrorist attack.

The remarks, articulated by junior environment and external affairs minister Kirti Vardhan Singh at the Glaciers' Preservation conference in Dushanbe, came on Friday after Pakistan PM Shehbaz Sharif, at the UN-led global forum, accused India of weaponising water. Strongly condemning Pakistan's attempt to misuse the forum by raising IWT issues, Singh said the treaty's preamble stated that it was concluded in the spirit of goodwill and friendship, and that honouring the treaty in good faith was essential, but the cross-border terrorism from Pakistan interfered with its implementation.

The minister said it was an undeniable fact that there had been fundamental changes in circumstances — technological advancements, demographic changes, climate change and the ongoing threat of cross-border terrorism — since the treaty was signed, which now required a re-assessment of its obligations. His remark is in sync with a clear understanding within govt quarters about the need to revise the terms of the treaty, which has long been considered loaded against the interests of India. "Pakistan, which itself is in violation of the treaty, should desist from putting the blame of the breach of the treaty on India," said Singh.

### TAJIKISTAN MEET

"We are appalled at the attempt by Pakistan to misuse the forum and to bring in unwarranted references to issues which do not fall within the purview of the forum. We strongly condemn such an attempt," said Singh, addressing the plenary session of the conference.

Referring to the theme of the conference, Singh also gave details of what signified the change in circumstances as far as the impact of climate change was concerned and emphasised that the retreat of glaciers represented not only a warning but an immediate reality with far-reaching implications for water security, biodiversity and the livelihoods of billions of people. The minister underscored that the phenomenon was accelerating, with disproportionate impacts on mountain regions such as the Himalayas.

Sharif on Friday said his country would not allow India to cross the red line by holding IWT in abeyance, accusing it of endangering millions.

As bombs rained on Poonch for three days, 14 civilians — including students, religious teachers, shopkeepers, homemakers and former soldiers — lost their lives. Over 65 were wounded, many with life-altering scars. Panic spread faster than the blasts. Families fled, streets emptied. The district fell silent under fear. "Not even in 1965 did we witness this kind of bombardment," said Zulfikar Ali, a shopkeeper in Poonch town's main market. "Everyone who could afford to leave, left."

### CRPF jawan spy case: NIA searches at 15 locations

**New Delhi:** NIA on Saturday carried out searches at 15 locations spread over Delhi as well as seven states in a case related to spying of classified information by a CRPF jawan with Pakistani Intelligence Officers (PIOs). The jawan, Moti Ram Jat, was recently dismissed from service and is at present in NIA's custody.

NIA teams conducted searches at the premises of suspects linked with PIOs in Delhi, Mumbai, Haryana, UP, Rajasthan, Chhattisgarh, Assam and West Bengal. According to investigations, the suspects acted as financial conduits for carrying out espionage activities in India. The agency said its teams had seized electronic gadgets and sensitive financial documents, along with other incriminating material. These are being examined for clues. 76N

### Raped minor waits 4 hrs in ambulance for hosp bed

**Patna:** A minor rape survivor referred from Muzaffarpur to Patna Medical College Hospital (PMCH) was left waiting in an ambulance for over four hours on Saturday, allegedly due to unavailability of a hospital bed, reports Jainarain Pandey.

A video of the incident was widely circulated on social media. Congress state president Rajesh Ram, who went to the hospital, said he tried to contact health minister Mangal Pandey but his call went unanswered. The party's media cell chairman Rajesh Rathore said the girl reached PMCH around 11am and was admitted after 3pm. Dr Ashok Kumar Jha, the deputy superintendent of PMCH, told reporters, "The superintendent is on leave and I rushed over on getting the information." He said emergency doctors visited her in the vehicle.

**DEPARTMENT OF TRAINING & TECHNICAL EDUCATION**  
Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi  
Muni Maya Ram Marg, Pitam Pura, Delhi-110034  
Website: <https://te.delhi.gov.in/>

## OPENING OF ONLINE ADMISSION IN GOVT. ITI'S OF DELHI - 2025

APPLY at ONLINE ADMISSION PORTAL <https://itidelhi.admissions.nic.in>

- Key Highlights**
- 21<sup>st</sup> Century new-age trades like Internet of Things (Smart City), Internet of Things (Smart Healthcare), Technician Mechatronics, Mechanic Electric Vehicle, Solar Technician, Information Technology, etc. are also available for admission.
  - Center of Excellences in Advance & Robotic Welding, Industrial Automation, Electrical and Electronics Sectors established in Govt. ITIs for up-skilling and World Skill Competitions.
  - Industry exposure visits, On-the-Job Trainings and 100 % Placement support through Training & Placement Cells in all ITI's for the trainees during their course of study.

IMPORTANT DATES	
Date of Start of Admission	: 02 <sup>nd</sup> June 2025
Last Date of Registration	: 02 <sup>nd</sup> July 2025
Last Date of Registration Fee Submission	: 02 <sup>nd</sup> July 2025
Tentative Rank Display	: 07 <sup>th</sup> July 2025

Registration Fee of ₹ 200/- is payable at the time of online registration

90% of seats are reserved for Delhi candidates and 30% seats are exclusively reserved for female candidates	No Tuition Fee for female candidates, Divyang, Inmates of government registered Orphanage & candidates belonging to Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes categories
Detailed Information of Trades/Courses, eligibility, reservation details and other particulars are available at Online Admission Portal <a href="https://itidelhi.admissions.nic.in">https://itidelhi.admissions.nic.in</a>	The complete admission process (Registration, Verification, Choice Filling and Counselling etc.) will be through online portal only

**Note:** Candidates are advised to visit the admission portal regularly for admission related updates.

Email: [caohelpline@gmail.com](mailto:caohelpline@gmail.com)  
Helpline: 9599704552, 8800965665

**JOINT ADMISSION COUNSELLING DELHI 2025**  
Admission Notice for B.Tech & B.Arch. 2025-2026  
ONLINE applications are invited on May 21, 2025 for admission to B.Tech. & B.Arch. Programmes offered by the following Universities/Institutes established by Government of NCT of Delhi:

DTU	NSIT	IGDTUW	IITD
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LAST DATE AND TIME FOR ONLINE REGISTRATION (REGISTRATION FORM FILLING, REGISTRATION FEE PAYMENT AND CHOICE FILLING) IS JUNE 02, 02:00 PM (INDIAN TIME).  
For detailed information regarding Eligibility Criteria, Reservation, Admission Procedure, Counselling Schedules, Application Process etc., please visit website: <https://jicdelhi.admissions.nic.in>  
HELP DESK: [helpdesk.jicdelhi2025@dtu.ac.in](mailto:helpdesk.jicdelhi2025@dtu.ac.in)  
NOTE - APPLICATION RECEIVED WITHOUT PRESCRIBED FEE SHALL NOT BE CONSIDERED AND WILL BE RETURNED UNREGISTERED.  
Chairperson, JAC Delhi 2025

**भारतीय अनन्देरीय जलमार्ग प्राधिकरण**  
**INLAND WATERWAYS AUTHORITY OF INDIA**  
(Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways, Govt. of India)  
PO: Simla Nagar, Connaught Place, New Delhi - 110022  
Website: <http://iwai.nic.in>, Email: [enquiry@iwai.gov.in](mailto:enquiry@iwai.gov.in), [vwswa.wa@iwai.gov.in](mailto:vwswa.wa@iwai.gov.in)

**NOTICE INVITING E-TENDER**  
E-Tender No.: IWA/IN/SA/E&E(64)/OFFICE BUILDING/2024-25  
Inland Waterways Authority of India invites online bids/tenders from experienced, reputed agencies/contractors for Interior, Partition, Furniture Fixtures for IWA/ Regional Office, Varanasi at Administrative Building of Multi-Mode Terminal, Ramnagar, Varanasi. Details and Tender documents can be downloaded from 31.05.2025, 15:30 hrs. to 09.06.2025, 15:00 hrs. from our website [www.iwai.nic.in](http://www.iwai.nic.in) and CPPP Portal <https://eprocure.gov.in/eprocure/app/>. Last date for submission of online bids is 09.06.2025 up to 15:00 hrs. and opening of tender is 10.06.2025 at 15:30 hrs. Submission of online bids will be through <https://eprocure.gov.in/eprocure/app/>.  
Sd/-  
Date: 31.05.2025 Director

**Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike**  
Office of the Executive Engineer, C.V. Raman Nagara Division, 8th Cross, 12th A Main Road, HAL 2nd Stage, Indiranagar, Bengaluru-560038  
No. EE/CVRIE/KPPP/07/2025-26 Date: 29.05.2025

**SHORT TERM TENDER NOTIFICATION**  
(Two Cover System)  
(Through GOK KPP Portal <https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in> only)  
Tenders on item rate basis are invited by the undersigned for the work mentioned below from the registered contractors of Bruhat Bangalore Mahanagara Palike or equivalent registration with CPWD/KPWD/Railways/MES or any State Government Organizations.

Sl. No.	Name of the Work
1.	Comprehensive development in Old Byappanahalli, Rajaynagara, Sanjaynagara, Krishnainahapalya sub area and C Colony in C V Raman Nagara Sub Division (Census block No.61, 57.2, 53, 58, 63, 54, 62, 76, 55, 77, 28, 64, 78, 25, 52, 29, 75/2, 76/1, 62, 63, 64, 64/1, 72, 50, 17, 22, 61, 48, 11, 23, 75/1, 62/0, 79, 73/2 in Ward No. 108, block No. 43/1, in Ward No.109, & Block No.544, 71, 43, 45, 72, 11-4 38 in Ward No-110. Approx. Value of work: Rs. 995.00 Lakhs, EMD :Rs.95,000/-
2.	Comprehensive development in Sudhamanagara, Murphy town, Jayarajnagar, Anadapura, Lakshimpura Slums in Jeevanbhimanagara sub division (Census block Nos. 10-1, 10-2, 67, 33-1, 8, 64, 62, 69 in Ward No.114 & block No.71, 58, 57, 70, 83, 72-2, 66, 68 in Ward No.115. Approx. Value of work: Rs. 995.00 Lakhs, EMD :Rs.95,000/-

Calendar of Events: (1) Last date for Receipt of Queries up to 03.06.2025 at 15:00 hours (2) Date of pre bid meeting at the office of Executive Engineer (C.V.Raman Nagara Division) on 04.06.2025 at 11.30 hours. (3) Last Date for uploading the Filled proposals 11.06.2025 at 16:00 hours (4) Date of Opening of Technical Proposals is 12.06.2025 at 16:30 hours (5) Date of Opening of Financial Proposals after approval of Technical Proposals through e-procurement.

Sd/- Executive Engineer C.V.Raman Nagara Division





Elderly couple misses train, wins refund after 3-yr battle

Bengaluru: A senior citizen couple from Hoodi in the city took on Indian Railways and won a refund for a train journey they never made as their reserved coach was overcrowded and inaccessible, forcing them to return home, reports Vindhya Pabolu. The Bengaluru Urban II additional district consumer commission pulled up South Western Railway (SWR) for deficiency in service and ordered a full refund along with litigation costs. The case, earlier dismissed by the forum on July 1, 2023, was challenged again by the couple at the state commission. The appeal was allowed, with the state commission setting aside the earlier order and directing the forum to readmit the complaint. The story began when Purna Ramakrishna and his wife Hymavathi booked sleeper class tickets on Covalam Express for March 29, 2022, from Krishnarajapuram (KJM) Railway Station to Vijaywada on April 13, paying Rs 825.5 for the trip. On the day of the journey, after reaching the station, the couple found their S2 coach — and the entire train — packed with passengers, making it impossible for them to board. Elderly couple filed a consumer complaint citing service lapses. In March this year, the consumer commission ordered the railways to refund Rs 825.5 and pay the complainants Rs 5,000 for deficiency of service, mental agony, and Rs 3,000 as litigation costs.



Active Covid cases cross 3,000 mark, Kerala tops list

State Has 1,336 Active Cases; Maha & Delhi Next

Times News Network New Delhi: The number of active Covid-19 cases in the country crossed the 3,000 mark on Saturday, with Kerala having 1,336 active cases, the highest in the country followed by Maharashtra and Delhi. According to the Union health ministry's data, four deaths — one each in Delhi, Kerala, Karnataka and Uttar Pradesh have been reported in the last 24 hours across the country so far. Meanwhile, the official



School students in Jammu wear masks as a precautionary measure amid a spike in Covid-19 cases

and four people have died. As per the updated figures on May 31, Kerala has 1,336 active cases, Maharashtra 467, Delhi 375, Gujarat 265, Karnataka 234, West Bengal 205, Tamil Nadu 185 and Uttar Pradesh 17. Director General of Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) Dr Rajiv Behl on Monday stated that genome sequencing of samples in West and South have shown that the variants listed to the current rise in cases are not severe and are sub variants of Omicron — L.7, XFG, JN.1 and NB. 1.8.1. The first three have been found in more number of cases, he said. "We have been closely monitoring the situation. At this moment overall, we should monitor, be vigilant but there is no cause to worry," Dr Behl had said.

APPEAL FOR IDENTIFICATION

General public is hereby informed that an unidentified male (depicted in the photo) Name Unknown S/o Unknown residence and family is Unknown Age About 40-45 years. He was found Unconscious Condition at PF No. 01, New Delhi Railway Station, Delhi On Dt. 26.05.2025 The Patient Was Admitted in LHMC Hospital, Delhi on MLC No. 1176/25, during the treatment Doctors declared him dead. In this regard, DD No. 13A, Dt. 26.05.2025 has been lodged at P.S. New Delhi Railway Station, Delhi. Dead body has been preserved for identification in the Mortuary of LHMC Hospital for 72 hours. His physical description is as under. Sex: Male, Age: About 40-45 years, Height: 5'00" Complexion: Wheatish, Build: Thin, Face: Long, Wearing: Black Colour T-shirt & Blue Colour Polythene. Any person is having information or clue about the deceased may kindly inform to the undersigned on the following address or telephone number. Ph. No. 011-24368638, 24368641 Website: http://cbi.nic.in E-mail: cbc@cbi.gov.in S.H.O Fax No. 011-24368639 P.S. New Delhi Railway Station, Delhi DP/6841/Rly/2025 Ph No.: 8826820817

SEARCH FOR MISSING

General public is hereby informed that one female (depicted in the photo) Name: Monika / Shivani, Do: Khushi Ram, R/o: J-57, Kucha Mohar Khan, Mori Gate, Delhi, has been Missing/kidnapped since 09.05.2025 at 12.30 P.M. In this regard a missing report case vide DD No.081A dated 09.05.2025 has been lodged at P.S. Kashmere Gate, Delhi. Her Physical description is as under- Sex: Female, Age: 20 Years, Height: 4'8", Complexion: Fair, Built: Medium, Wearing: Green Color Pant and Purple Colour T-Shirt. Sincere efforts have been made by local police to trace out the missing female but no clue has come to light so far. If anyone having any information about this person please report to the following. Phone No.: 011-24368638, 011-24368641 Fax No.: 011-24368639 Email id: cbc@cbi.nic.in Website : http://cbi.nic.in SHO PS - Kashmere Gate, Delhi Phone: 8750870123, 011-23968730 DP/6908/N/2025

Gorakhpur poultry shops shut for 21 days after bird flu cases

Gorakhpur: All poultry shops in Gorakhpur in Uttar Pradesh were asked on Saturday to shut for 21 days following detection of avian influenza strains, H5N1 and H9N2, in bird samples from five localities in the city. Samples were taken at Jhunjiga Bazar, Aluminium Factory area, Taramandali, Bhagat Chauraha, and Shaheed Ashfaquallah Khan Zoological Park. These were sent to National Institute of High Security Animal Diseases at Bhopal in MP which confirmed the presence of both strains of the virus. The chief veterinary officer activated district-level Rapid Response Teams and set up a control room at Sadar Veterinary Hospital to handle the outbreak. Additional municipal commissioner, Niram Singh, said as per central govt guidelines, culling operations have begun within a 1km radius of the infected zones. All live birds within this zone will be culled and disinfection drives are underway there.

Stalin visits estranged bro Alagiri in Madurai

Madurai: Years after their political face off and estrangement, Tamil Nadu CMMK Stalin visited his elder brother and former Union minister M K Alagiri at his house in TVS Nagar in Madurai on Saturday night, soon after concluding his roadshow in the city. Sources said Alagiri had recently invited Stalin to his house. Accepting the invite, the DMK supremo visited Alagiri's house around 10pm on Saturday after several years, and had dinner with his brother and his family. The meeting was a family affair as no ministers accompanied Stalin to Alagiri's house. However, a large number of supporters of Alagiri had gathered in front of his house. They gave a warm reception to the chief minister and presented him with shawls & a garland (scener). This is the second time Stalin is meeting his brother Alagiri in a long time. He had earlier met his brother in 2014 while visiting his nephew Durai Dossanidhi, who was undergoing treatment at Christian Medical College in Vellore. In 2014, late DMK chief M Karunanidhi had expelled elder son Alagiri from the primary membership for criticising the party and its members. In Dec 2024, nine Alagiri supporters expelled the DMK supremo from the primary membership for criticising the party and its members. In Dec 2024, nine Alagiri supporters expelled the DMK supremo from the primary membership for criticising the party and its members. In Dec 2024, nine Alagiri supporters expelled the DMK supremo from the primary membership for criticising the party and its members.

SEARCH FOR MISSING WOMAN

General public is hereby informed that this woman (depicted in the photo) Name: Nidhi Kumari D/o: Pappu Mishra, R/o: H. No. 77, S-Extn, Near Dwarkadish Apartment, Mohan Garden, New Delhi, Age: 22 Years, Height: 5 feet 6 inch, Face: Round, Complexion: Fair, Built: Medium, Wearing: Pink colour t-shirt, lower and hawai chappal in feet, has been missing since 28.05.2025 at 08:00 am from her home under area of P.S. Mohan Garden, New Delhi. In this regard a DD No. 59A, dated 30.05.2025 has been lodged at P.S. Mohan Garden, New Delhi. Sincere efforts have been made by local police to trace out information about this woman but no clue has come to light so far. Any person having any information or clue about this woman kindly inform to the following. SHO PS - Mohan Garden, New Delhi Website: http://cbi.nic.in Ph: 011-24368639 DP/6913/DW/2025 Ph: 011-24368638, 24368641

DISTRICT POLICE HEADQUARTERS KATHUA

LOOK OUT NOTICE On 27-05-2025, one Chanchal Devi W/O Sunit Kumar R/O Chack Desa Singh Tehsil and District Kathua lodged a missing report at P.S. Kathua stating therein that on 24-05-2025 their daughter namely Simran Mehra, age 19 years is missing from home. The complainant tried her best to search her daughter but all in vain. On this missing report vide DD No. 15 dated 24-05-2025 has been entered at Police Station Kathua. During the course of investigation, best efforts were made to locate missing individual, whereas she is still untraced. As such Description Roll/Photograph of said missing individual is being shared with the appeal that anybody having clue/information about her whereabouts may inform us accordingly. The informer will be rewarded suitably. DESCRIPTION ROLL PHOTOGRAPH Name: Simran Mehra Father: Sunit Kumar Permanent Address: Chack Desa Singh Kathua Present Address: Kathua Police Station: Kathua Age: 19 years Height: 5 feet 4 inch Complexion: Normal Build: Normal Face: Round Eyes: Black Languages known: Hindi/ Dogri Any information related to the whereabouts of the subject may be communicated on following contacts: 1. DPO Kathua - 01922-234010 (Phone/Fax) 2. dpokathua@dpkathua.gov.in (Mail ID) 3. PCR Kathua - 01922-234311 (Phone/Fax) 4. Police Station Kathua - 01922-234310 Sr. Superintendent of Police, Kathua. D/P No:DU/1675/2531/05/2025

NORTHERN RAILWAY OPEN E-TENDER NOTICE

For and on behalf of President of India, Sr. Divisional Mechanical Engineer (F4), Northern Railway, Delhi Division invites sealed e-tender on 'Single Packet System' for following work from experience and capable tenderers. Name of work: Refurbishment of 3000 Nos. of Cartridge Taper Roller Bearings Class 'E' (6" x 11") NRC-BRENCO make from M's NEI, Jaipur for a period of two years. Work place: Delhi Period of work: Twenty Four (24) Months. Advertised Value: ₹1,86,64,720.80 (including provision of GST) Earnest Money to be deposited: (₹2,43,000/- through net banking or gateway only on the working day. Tender Document Cost: Nil Date and Time availability of E-tender Document: From 30.05.2025 to 20.06.2025 at 15:04 hrs. Date & Time of E-tender Closing: 20.06.2025 at 15:30 hrs. On 20.06.2025 after 15:30 hrs, if the date of opening happens to be a holiday then E-tender shall be opened on the next working day. Place for opening E-tender: Mechanical Department, Divisional Railway Manager's Office Northern Railway, State Entry Road, New Delhi-55. Note: The complete particulars of the tender may be found in website www.reps.gov.in. S.No.: NR-LO/MCNW/MS/2024/2024 Dated: 30.05.2025 615/2025 SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE

Appeal for Identification

General public is hereby informed that a newborn baby's fetus Name: Unknown, S/o: Unknown, R/o: Unknown, Age: 1-2 Days, Height: 1 Feet 6 Inches Approx., Built: Normal, Face: Oval, Complexion: Shallow, Sex: Male, Place of Recovery: Found at A-1/123, JJ Colony, Madanpur Khadar, New Delhi on dated 20.05.2025. The dead body of deceased has been preserved at AAIMS Hospital Mortuary, Delhi for identification. In this regard FIR No. 365/25 U/s 94BNS, Dated 21.05.2025 has been lodged at Police Station: Kalindi Kunj, New Delhi. Any clue come to notice please inform undersign. SHO P.S.: Kalindi Kunj, New Delhi Ph.: 9311382927, 8750870922 DP/6926/SE/2025

GOVERNMENT OF ODISHA ENERGY DEPARTMENT ADVERTISEMENT ENG-HYD-OREDA-0002/2020/6987 Dt. 30.05.2025 Applications are invited from eligible candidates for appointment to the post of Chief Executive Officer (CEO), in OREDA Limited, a PSU functioning under Energy Department, Government of Odisha. For further details please visit https://energy.odisha.gov.in and https://oredaodisha.com OPR - 04665/11/0044/25-26

CAD-600 ODISHA SPACE APPLICATIONS CENTRE (ORSAC) (Dept. of Science & Technology, Govt. of Odisha) Plot No. 45/48(P) Jayadev Vihar Near Gopabandhu Academy of Administration Unit-16, Bhubaneswar-751023 NOTICE No. 16/2025 Applications are invited from Qualified, Experienced and Competent Indian Citizens, having minimum experience of five years, only in IT Industry / Production environments, in Design, Development, Commission, Operation, Maintenance and Support of Enterprise Class Web Enabled Geo Informatics/GIS Applications. For detail refer to: https://orsac.odisha.gov.in/ or https://odisha.gov.in/ https://it.odisha.gov.in/ or https://ocac.in/ Sd/- CHIEF EXECUTIVE OPR-28007/11/0016/25-26

Bomb hoax at Jaipur Holiday Inn Jaipur high-end hotels in Jaipur received bomb threats via email Saturday. Both turned out to be hoax. At Holiday Inn, three Rajasthan ministers, including minister of state for home affairs Jawahar Singh Bhande, were attending an event when the hotel received a bomb threat. Rajib Hotel in Kukas, along Jaipur-Delhi national highway, received a similar threat. SHO P.S.: Nihal Vihar, Delhi Ph.: 011-25946700, 7065036129 DP/6882/OD/2025

SEARCH FOR MISSING

General public is hereby informed that this boy named Md. Arman S/o Md. Mukhyar R/o H. No. A-18, Chander Vihar, Nilothi Extn., Delhi, Age: 20 years, Height: 6 feet, Built: Thin, Face: Oval, Complexion: Wheatish, wearing red & blue colour checkdard shirt and black colour jeans shoes in feet has been missing from his house since 25.05.2025. In this regard a DD No. 114A dated 28.05.2025 has been lodged at P.S. Nihal Vihar, New Delhi. Any person having any information or clue about this missing boy may kindly inform to the following. SHO P.S. Nihal Vihar, New Delhi, Website: http://cbi.nic.in Ph: 011-25946700, 25946710, 7065036129 DP/6837/OD/2025

SEARCH FOR MISSING/KIDNAPPED

General public is hereby informed that a male person Name: Sumit S/o Dilbag R/o Village Siwana PS Beri Distt. Jhajjar Haryana 124202, has been missing/kidnapped from Under Metro Station Near Parking, From The Area of P.S. Nsp Metro Since 26/05/2025 at about 1.50 PM. In this regard a DD NO. 16A, Dt. 29/05/2025 has been registered at P.S.: NSP Metro, Delhi. The description of the missing male person is as under. Age: 25 years, Height: 6'0" Complexion: Shallow, Face: Round, Built: Strong, Identification mark: Blade Cut marks on fore Arms Wearing: White Shirt, Black Pant And Black & White Shoes in feet. Sincere efforts have been made by the local police to trace out him but no clue has come to light so far. Any person is having information or clue about this missing male person may kindly inform to the following. Ph. No. 011-24368638, 24368641 Website: http://cbi.nic.in E-mail: cbc@cbi.gov.in S.H.O Fax No. 011-24368639 PS: NSP Metro, Delhi DP/6809/Metro/2025 Ph No. 011-20871254, 9650009876

APPEAL FOR IDENTIFICATION

General Public is hereby informed that an unidentified male named Unknown, S/o: Unknown, R/o: Unknown, was found dead on 19.05.2025, at Kela Ghat near Traffic Junction, Ring Road, Delhi. In this regard DD No. 48A, Dated 19.05.2025, has been lodged at Police Station Kashmeri Gate, North Distt., Delhi. Identification of unidentified dead body of male is as under: Sex: Male, Age: Approx 20-22 Years, Height: 5'6", Complexion: Shallow, Face: Long, Wearing: Green Pant & Light Green Shirt & Bare Foot. The dead body of deceased has been preserved for 72 hours in Subzi Mandi Mortuary for identification. If any one having any information or clue about this male deceased may kindly be informed undersigned. SHO Police Station Kashmeri Gate, North Distt., Delhi Ph.: 9810253067 DP/6910/N/2025

SEARCH FOR MISSING WOMAN

General public is hereby informed that this woman (depicted in the Photo) Name: Anjali W/o: Ashish, R/o: H. No. A-80, Arya Nagar, Chander Vihar, Nilothi, Delhi-41. Age: 29 Years, Height: 5 feet 4 inch, Face: Round, Complexion: Wheatish, Built: Heavy, Wearing: Mehroon t-shirt, black lower and slippers in feet, has been missing since 19.05.2025 at 8:00 pm from her home under area of P.S. Nihal Vihar, Delhi. In this regard a DD No. 156A, dated 23.05.2025 has been lodged at P.S. Nihal Vihar, Delhi. Sincere efforts have been made by local police to trace out information about this woman but no clue has come to light so far. Any person having any information or clue about this woman kindly inform to the following. SHO P.S.: Nihal Vihar, Delhi Ph.: 011-25946700, 7065036129 DP/6882/OD/2025

PROCLAMATION REGARDING THE APPEARANCE OF ACCUSED PERSON

See Section 82 Cr.P.C. Whereas complaint has been made before me that a accused person Ike Okolie Eidelis S/o Eidelis R/o 55 Foota Road in Front of Lala Apartment, Gallery of 4th Floor, Plot No. 02, Vipin Garden, Mohan Garden, Delhi has committed (or is suspected to have committed) the offence Case FIR No. 228/2024 U/s 8/21 NDPS Act at P.S. Mohan Garden, Delhi and it has been returned to a warrant of arrest thereupon issued that the said Ike Okolie Eidelis cannot be found and whereas it has been shown to my satisfaction that the said Ike Okolie Eidelis has absconded (or is concealing himself) to avoid the service of the said warrant. Proceeding u/s 82 Cr.P.C. has been initiated in the case. Proclamation is hereby made that the said Ike Okolie Eidelis accused of FIR No. 228/2024 U/s 8/21 NDPS Act at P.S. Mohan Garden, Delhi is required to appear before this Court to answer the said complaint on 01.07.2025. By Order: Ms. Bhavna Kalra, Special Judge (NDPS)-01, Court No. 610, 6th Floor, Dwarka Courts, (S.W.) New Delhi DP/6901/DW/2025

APPEAL FOR IDENTIFICATION

General public is hereby informed that a unidentified dead body of a female named Muskan, D/o: Azim Khan, R/o: Unknown found on 22.05.2025 from JPC Hospital was admitted by herself for treatment and referred by doctor to GTB Hospital, Shahdara, Delhi where she died during treatment. In this regard DD No. 30 A, dated 22.05.2025 has been lodged at Police Station New Usmanpur, Delhi. Identification of unidentified female is as under: Name: Muskan, Age: 23 Years, Height: 5'11", Complexion: Wheatish, Built: Medium, Face: Round, ID Mark: tattoo "MOM" in Right forearm 16.12.2001 is written on right hand "SM" written on fingers of right hand, Wearing: Yellow Colour Suit and Salwar. If anyone have any information or clue about this female may kindly be inform undersigned. SHO P.S. New Usmanpur, Delhi Ph.: 9599873311 DP/6848/NE/2025

APPEAL FOR IDENTIFICATION

General public is hereby informed that an unidentified male (depicted in the photo) name Unknown S/o Unknown, R/o Unknown, age about 45-50 years. He was found Dead at Mahalpur Flyover Dhaula Kuan Side, Delhi. In this regard DD No. 002A, Dt. 19.05.2025, has been lodged at P.S. Vasant Kunj, Delhi. His physical description is as under. Sex: Male, Age: about 45-50 years, Height: 5'4", Complexion: Shallow, Wearing: White Kurta Dhoti and A Brown Colour Mala Around his Neck. Any person is having information or clue about the deceased may kindly inform to the undersigned on the following address and telephone number:- S.H.O PS: Vasant Kunj, Delhi Ph No.: 9598926582, 9057205434 DP/6857/SW/2025

Appeal for Identification

General Public is hereby informed that a person Name: Unknown, S/o Unknown, R/o: Unknown, Age: about 45-50 years, Height: 5'7", Complexion: Shallow, Face : Round, ID Mark: Tattoo written 'LALARAM' on Right hand, Wearing: Sky Blue Shirt and Black Pant was found dead in train accident at Post No. 15/01, 15/03, Up main line near Fatak No.10, Sirapur Village, Delhi. Dead body was in 2 parts cut below the level. In this regard, a DD No.53A, Dated 29.05.2025 U/s 194 BNS has been lodged at P.S Subzi Mandi Railway Station, Delhi. Dead Body preserved for 72 hrs Subzi Mandi Mortuary for identification. Sincere efforts have been made by local police to trace out information about this person but no clue has come to light so far. Any person having any information or clue about this person may kindly inform to the following. SHO P.S., Subzi Mandi Railway Station, Delhi Ph.: 8750871303, 7678485707 DP/6868/Rly/2025

### Private nursing college principal held on charges of molestation

Nashik: The Bhadrakali police arrested a 40-year-old principal of a private nursing college in Dwaraka locality of Nashik in Maharashtra over the charge of molesting a minor student.

Police filed additional charges under Prevention of Atrocities Act, as the victim belongs to a Scheduled Tribe community, along with sections under BNS and the stringent PoCSO Act.

Police said the accused resides at Police Line Road in Pathardi and that, the principal pulled the victim's "dupatta", touched her inappropriately, and solicited sexual favours, repeatedly, between August 5, 2024, and April 29, 2025.

Following the initial complaint, three additional students from the same institution came forward with similar charges. The accused appeared before a city court on Saturday and was remanded in police custody for two days until Monday.

Police said separate arrests would be made for each of the four registered students adding that the complainants know each other, suggesting that the first complaint may have encouraged the other three students to report their experiences with the principal. **rw**

# New apprenticeship policy to link degrees, raise stipends

## Bid To Reduce Dropout Rates, Attract Talent

Manasht.Gohain@timesofindia.com

New Delhi: Centre has proposed comprehensive reforms to revitalise the apprenticeship ecosystem. Key reforms include an inflation-linked hike in stipend rates—from the current Rs.5,000-9,000 to Rs.6,800-12,300—to reduce dropout rates and attract diverse talent. The reforms also formalise Apprenticeship Embedded Degree Programmes (AEDP), enabling apprentices to earn recognised degrees alongside practical training. Additionally, the policy aims to enable global deployment of apprentices overseas client sites and expand training delivery through digital and virtual platforms.

These proposals come amid persistent structural challenges within the apprenticeship framework. An official from the ministry of skill development and entrepreneurship (MSDE) said, "The proposed stipend increase is essential to curb dropouts and make apprenticeship viable, especially in sectors like technology, manufacturing, and services where living and com-



Formal regulation of AEDPs will allow apprentices to earn degrees alongside hands-on training, strengthening the link between education & industry needs

muting costs can be prohibitive." A 2022 parliamentary standing committee report recommended convergence through a unified operational and digital infrastructure. Industry participation, particularly among small and medium enterprises (SMEs), remains limited due to administrative complexity, compliance burdens, and lack of awareness. Regional disparities persist, with only 1.2% of apprentices from the North-East despite targeted benefits. Female participation, while improving, continues to lag behind overall workforce levels. Fragmentation between ministry of education and MSDE—which run National Apprenticeship Training Scheme (NATS) and Pradhan Mantri National Apprenticeship Promotion Scheme (PM-NAPS), respectively—has caused duplication and inefficiencies. "We are developing a unified apprenticeship portal to integrate certification, data sharing, and employer outreach. This will simplify processes, reduce compliance friction, and improve access for both apprentices and employers," the official added.

The 38th meeting of Central Apprenticeship Council, chaired by Jayant Chaudhary, minister of state (independent charge), MSDE, recently discussed these proposals and charted a forward-looking policy roadmap. The reforms include targeted inclusion measures for

women, persons with disabilities (PwDs), and youth from the northeastern region (NER). The official noted, "Expanding participation from under-represented groups, particularly from the North-East and PwDs, is a key priority. The pilot project launched in Mizoram, providing an additional Rs.1,500 monthly stipend to over 26,000 apprentices, highlights our commitment." Formal regulation of AEDPs will allow apprentices to earn recognised degrees alongside hands-on training, strengthening the link between education and industry needs. "Only 0.27% of India's workforce are apprentices, compared to 3% in the UK and Germany. Attrition rates remain high. Inflation-linked stipends and degree-linked apprenticeship will help reduce attrition and sustain a steady talent supply," said Nipun Sharma, CEO, degree apprenticeship, Team Lease. He also pointed out the low female participation, despite sectors like electronics manufacturing and smartphone assembly preferring female workers.

On global deployment plan, the official said, "Allowing apprentices to gain experience at overseas client sites will expose them to international standards and prepare them for a competitive global workforce."

# PM focus on saturation of schemes as Modi govt marks its 11th anniversary

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi: Reaching out to every eligible central govt scheme beneficiary is set to be the prime focus of the Narendra Modi administration, which completes 11th anniversary.

Sources said nationwide registration camps will be held for enrolling eligible beneficiaries under schemes such as Ayushman Bharat Yojana for senior citizens as Modi govt marks its 11th anniversary by deciding to focus on saturation and by removing obstacles holding up last-minute delivery.



Officials said focus to take benefits of programmes to the poor, the needy and the last person will be the theme of the anniversary celebration as PM Narendra Modi has repeatedly underlined the need for complete saturation of govt schemes. In a break from practice, the govt has decided to do away with publicity blitz that has been staple for such milestones, and instead

engage directly with citizens, especially those benefiting from govt schemes, the sources said.

"PM Narendra Modi wants to turn this into an opportunity for listening and connecting," said a senior govt functionary. "The spirit is not of celebration but of connection. The idea is to understand what more needs to be done how to do it better," said a source familiar with discussions in the Prime Minister's Office and at other higher levels.

"Feedback from the beneficiaries is the best teacher," the functionary elaborated.

The ministries and departments concerned are conducting focused drives, enrolment camps, and beneficiary interactions to strengthen access and awareness.

"Ministries have been encouraged to use existing platforms and field networks to communicate achievements organically and prioritise authentic citizen voices over packaged messaging," a source said.

**B-165** Mail ID: - [sewdbalangi@gmail.com](mailto:sewdbalangi@gmail.com)

**GOVERNMENT OF ODISHA**  
**OFFICE OF THE CHIEF CONSTRUCTION ENGINEER**  
**BALANGIR (R&B) CIRCLE: BALANGIR**  
Procurement Notice  
**BID IDENTIFICATION NO: CCE/R&B/ BGR/04/2025-26**  
Letter No: 10617/ Dtd. 29.05.2025

The Chief Engineer, Balangir (R&B) Circle, Balangir on behalf of Government of Odisha invites percentage rate bid in double cover system in ONLINE MODE for the construction of works detailed in the table below from "B" "A" & "Special" Class Contractors registered with the State Governments and contractors of eligible Grade/Class registered with Central Government/ MES/ Railways for execution of Civil works. The proof of registration from the appropriate authority shall be enclosed along with the bid.

- Nature of Work : Building & Bridge work
- No. of tender : Building work-2 Nos & Bridge Work-1 No
- Tender Cost : Rs. 10,000/-
- Class of Contractor : "B" "A" & "Special" Class
- Date & Time of sale & Receipt : From 01.06.2025, 05.00 P.M. To 20.06.2025 up to 05.00 P.M.
- Date of opening Bid : 21.06.2025 at 11.00 A.M.

7. The bidders have to participate in ONLINE bidding only. Further details can be seen from the website: <http://hptenders.in>. All future corrigendum will be available on ONLINE MODE only.

Sd/-  
Chief Construction Engineer  
Balangir (R&B) Circle, Balangir  
OIPR-341311/09123-26

**HIMACHAL PRADESH PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT**  
e Web - [www.hpwwd.gov.in](http://www.hpwwd.gov.in) E mail - [hp-kin@nic.in](mailto:hp-kin@nic.in)  
Phone No. - 0198-226267

**INVITATION FOR BIDS (IFB)**

The Executive Engineer Kalpa Division, HPPWD, Kalpa, District Kinnour (HP) on behalf of Government of H.P. with HPPWD for the works as detailed in the table.

Sr. No. - 1 Nature of Work - Construction of 50 Seated Critical Care Centre at Regional Hospital at Reckong Poo in District Kinnour (HP) (SH - CO Civil work, water supply and sanitary installation, rain water harvesting tank, Septic Tank, soak pit and site development) Estimated Cost (Rs.) - 16,13,71,644/-  
Starting Date for downloading Bid. - 06.06.2025 Earned Money - 25,00,000/- Eligible Class of Contractor - 'A' Class Deadline for submission of Bid. - 15.06.2025 Date of opening of Technical Bid. - 16.06.2025 Time - Three Years

Sr. No. - 2 Name of Work - Construction of 4 Nos. Type-II Residential accommodation at Police Station Pooch in District Kinnour (HP) (SH - Building portion, WS & SI, Septic Tank and rain water harvesting system) Estimated Cost (Rs.) - 54,91,796/- Starting Date for downloading Bid. - 06.06.2025 Earned Money - 3,10,000/- Eligible Class of Contractor - 'C' Class Deadline for submission of Bid. - 15.06.2025 Date of opening of Technical Bid. - 16.06.2025 Time - Two Years

The bidders are advised to note other details of tenders from the department website [www.hptenders.gov.in](http://www.hptenders.gov.in).

Executive Engineer,  
Kalpa Division,  
HPPWD, Kalpa.

Advt No. - 093231/052025 **HIM SUGHANA AVAM JAN SAMPARK**

# Tax body, FM debunk social media claims of GST registration delays

New Delhi: Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs (CBIC) Saturday debunked a claim circulating on social media about delays and corruption in granting GST registration, saying the applicant has yet to furnish details sought by Delhi state GST office.

One individual took to LinkedIn to talk about how he has not been granted GST registration even after applying 20 days back. The post was shared on X by another user, accusing that there is "corruption" in granting GST registration.

Replying on X, CBIC gave facts of the case and said the ap-

plication was filed this week on May 20, 2025, which was assigned to Delhi State GST. Central GST authorities had no role in this matter, CBIC said.

It said as per Delhi State GST authorities, the case was processed and a query was raised about the missing designation of the person who has signed the re-entertainment on behalf of the company. "At this stage, AKN was pending for reply from the taxpayer side and it was duly informed to the taxpayer. The application will be processed by Delhi GST authorities upon receipt of the

pending information," CBIC said. The indirect tax authority also asked people to refrain from circulating "wrong information on social media without knowing the facts". Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman also took to X and quoted the CBIC post. "A detailed response from @cbic.in. To provide service to the taxpayer is our duty. While serving the taxpayers, transparency and integrity are crucial in earning their trust and confidence. Confident that the Board and the field formations will remain sensitive and responsive," she said. **pn**

**THE H.P. STATE COOP. MILK PRODUCERS FEDERATION LTD**  
Tolu, Shimla-171011

No: 521/P&I-8/21-XXV Dated -

**Tender Notice**

E-tender is hereby invited for the Selection of Company/Firm/ Proprietor for the marketing and sale of HIM Milk Products within and outside the state.

The Bid document is available online on 02.06.2025 at 04:00 PM and bid should be submitted in online mode on website [hptenders.gov.in](http://hptenders.gov.in) Bidder would be required to register in the above web-site [hptenders.gov.in](http://hptenders.gov.in) which is free of cost. For submission on bids, the bidder is required to have Digital Signature Certificate (DSC) from one of the authorized certifying Authorities (CA). Aspiring Bidders should visit in <https://hptenders.gov.in> & <https://hpmilkfed.org> for complete details. Bidders should also check the website from time to time to note the Corrigendum, if any.

Sd/  
Managing Director.

Advt.No.-093231/052025

# UPI ransom payment leads to kidnappers' arrest, trader's rescue

Kolkata: In what otherwise seemed like a perfect kidnapping of a trader for ransom, the panic-stricken victim's unwitting transfer of part of the money via UPI to one of the kidnappers proved to be their Achilles' heel, landing them behind bars in Kolkata on Saturday, reports Dwai-payan Ghosh. Five kidnappers had abducted Timir Kan-ti Majumder, a trader from South 24 Parganas district's Kulp, Wednesday from near Netaji Bhawan Metro station in Kolkata, where he had gone for some bank work. They kept him captive in an 11th-floor flat of a condominium on SC Mullick Road, near Jadavpur's Sulekha area.

The accused used Majumder's phone to contact his wife via WhatsApp call, demanding a ransom of Rs 10 lakh, which was later negotiated down to Rs 5 lakh. Panicked upon receiving the ransom calls, the victim's wife told the kidnappers she needed time to arrange the money. As a token amount, she sent Rs 10,000 via UPI to one of the accused, Suman Bose, police said.

The UPI transaction gave police a breakthrough, leading to the arrest of all five accused within four hours of the rescue operation. "We located Bose near Sukanta Setu. He was nabbed and questioned extensively before he led us to the flat inside the Jadavpur condo. He also helped us locate the victim," said an investigating officer.

"The main hurdle in the investigation was locating any suspect, as neither the complainant, Majumder's wife Tapasi, nor her family could provide any leads. The suspects weren't using their own mobile phones," said DC Priyabrata Roy. The accused had kept their phones switched off and used the victim's device to place ransom calls over a WiFi network.

Police have booked accused Sajal Bose (43), Sudip Mazumder (39), Suman Bose (51), Samir Kumar Deb (51), and Sandipani alias Chima Das (39), for kidnapping for ransom, said Joint CP (Crime) Rupesh Kumar.

"It seems a dispute over financial transactions led to the trader's kidnapping. The accused claimed the victim owed them lakhs of rupees. However, the complainant denies this, saying Majumder was tricked in a business venture. What is clear is that the accused and the victim knew each other," said another officer.

**SYSTEMATIC DEPRECIATION OF DEPTH**

IN WITH THE NEWS  
THE TIMES OF INDIA  
CHANGE Begins Here

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**Office of Superintending Engineer**  
**1<sup>st</sup> Circle PWD Almora**  
**NATIONAL COMPETITIVE BIDDING (E-Tendering)**

**E-TENDER NOTICE**

The Superintending Engineer, 1<sup>st</sup> Circle, PWD Almora invites tender through E-Tendering (Two Bid System) on behalf of Honourable Governor of Uttarakhand for following works. All other information will be available from dated 06/06/2025 & onwards on website <http://www.uktenders.gov.in>.

S. No.	Name of work	Cost of Tender Form	Earnest Money (Rupee in Lakh)	Validity of Tender	Time of Completion	Contractor's Category of Registration for tendering
1	Provincial Division PWD Bankhet Strengthening work by DBM & BC in Marchula - Sarikhet - Bajro - Pokhda - Stipuli-Pauri Motor Road (SH-32) in Km 41 to 75.500 in Almora District under Central Road and Infrastructure Fund (CRIF).	Rs.5000.00 + 18% GST	Rs. 40.29 Lakh	120 Days	15 Months (Including Raining/ Winter Season)	Class A & Higher in Road work in Central Govt./ Any state Govt./ Any Govt. Undertaking.

**DEPARTMENT OF TECHNICAL EDUCATION, GOVERNMENT OF RAJASTHAN, JAIPUR**  
**Center For Electronic Governance(CEG), Jaipur**  
**Rajasthan Engineering Admission Process(REAP-2025)**  
Registration Started in B.E./B.Tech. Courses

Online registration for admissions in the first year of B.E./B.Tech. and B.Arch course for the session 2025-26 through REAP-2025 for the candidates of Rajasthan State and out of Rajasthan State in constituent/affiliated engineering colleges/ technical programmes of State Funded Universities of Rajasthan.

**B.E. / B.Tech.**

**MINIMUM ELIGIBILITY**

Passed 10+2 examination with Physics/ Mathematics/Chemistry/ Computer Science/ Electronics/Information Technology/ Biology/ Informatics Practices/ Biotechnology/ Technical Vocational Subject/Agriculture/ Engineering Graphics/ Business Studies/Entrepreneurship/ Agriculture stream (for Agriculture Engineering).

Obtained at least 45% marks (40% marks in case of candidates belonging to reserved category) in the above subjects taken together.

Passed D. Voc. Stream (NCF level 4) in the same or allied sector.

**PRIORITY IN ADMISSION**

Particulars	Priority
Rank obtained in JEE (Main) 2025*	1 <sup>st</sup>
Percentage obtained in class 12 <sup>th</sup> (not covered in priority 1*)	2 <sup>nd</sup>
Percentage obtained in D. Voc. in Engineering & Technology course approved by state government	3 <sup>rd</sup>

\* Minimum 20 Percentile in JEE (Main) 2025 is required  
Registration fee for online application cum Registration form is Rs 500/- (500+18%GST). Option filling dates, Website and helpline number details are:

Particulars	B.E. / B.Tech.	B.Arch.
Starting date for Filling Online Application Form with Registration Fees	28-05-2025	07-07-2025
Last date for online deposition of Application cum Registration Fees	30-06-2025	01-08-2025
Last date to submit online registration and application form	02-07-2025	04-08-2025
Last date for the online form subsidy filling	13-07-2025	14-08-2025
Tentative date of first allotment for out of Rajasthan candidates	25-07-2025	18-08-2025
Website	<a href="http://www.reap2025.com">www.reap2025.com</a>	<a href="http://www.barch2025.com">www.barch2025.com</a>

**B.Arch.**

**MINIMUM ELIGIBILITY**

No candidate shall be admitted to architecture course unless he/she has passed an examination at the end of the 10+2 scheme of examination with at least 50% aggregate marks in Physics, Chemistry and Mathematics and also at least 50% marks in aggregate of the 10+2 level examination or passed 10+3 Diploma Examination with Mathematics as compulsory subject with at least 50% marks in aggregate.

The candidate needs to qualify an aptitude test in Architecture conducted by the COA/NTA (JEE main paper 2A).

**PRIORITY IN ADMISSION**

Particulars	Priority
Percentage obtained in Class-12 (50 % weightage) + Higher score of NATA/JEE-2025*(50 % weightage)	1 <sup>st</sup>
Percentage obtained in Diploma (50 % weightage) + Higher of score NATA/JEE-2025* (50 % weightage)	2 <sup>nd</sup>

\* Best one out of two scores in JEE-2025 and NATA-2025 shall be considered.

**CONVENOR, REAP-2025**  
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Helpline No.: 9462015808 , 9462015800  
(9 AM to 6 PM)

**Online Reporting** - Since this year, the process of online reporting has been started for the convenience of the candidates. Candidates can do online reporting without being present in person at the allotted institute by depositing the seat acceptance fee of Rs. 10,000/- through the REAP-2025 portal to secure a seat in the allotted institute and to participate in the reporting process. To take admission in the final allotted institute by the candidate, he/she will have to present physically to report within the stipulated time period and get the original documents checked. The seat acceptance fee will be adjusted in the institute fee.

Reg.Samudh/2/3026



**TIMES EVOKE**  
**YOUR GOLDEN MEAN**

# 'Gold mirrors capitalism, its mines echo with hardship and ecological harm'

**Stephen Tuffnell** is Associate Professor of Modern United States History at Oxford University. Speaking to Srijana Mitra Das at Times Evoke, he discusses how gold shaped the modern world:

**You've co-edited 'A Global History of Gold Rushes' — which are some profound ones?**

California is one of the most important — it fires the starting gun for a series of rushes that continued uninterrupted until Klondike which ended at the turn of the 20th century. Of course, gold was mined for millennia before that but California was the first phenomenon characterised by the mass movement of people around the world. Americans came there from the east coast but some of the earliest people to reach were also Peruvians, Australians and Chinese miners from Shandong province. 'Rushing' developed into an economic practice and a cultural idea and the technology also changed then — until then, there was alluvial mining or removing gold flakes from riverbeds. By 1833, a highly capital-intensive phase began and the industrialisation of mining started.

The other goldrush I'd mention was in southern Africa, where such capitalisation took on a new form. There, gold flakes were spread through a very complex ore body. Extraction required chemicals, processing plants and large amounts of capital — we then see the globalisation of 'mass mining' or taking out of each earth as possible and processing it with chemicals, etc.

Workers all: Black, Chinese and White labourers in a gold mine in South Africa

WORKERS ALL: Black, Chinese and White labourers in a gold mine in South Africa



**ALL THAT GLITTERS...** The mining of gold has meant the tearing down of entire mountains and jungles, the blasting of rock, the bleaching of ore with hazardous chemicals and their leaching into rivers, reaching animals and humans with deadly impacts

**Did these movements change communities?**

In California, when the rush began, the port that was San Francisco was just a community of around 800 people — it mushroomed into 10,000 within two years and that's just the people who stayed there. There were hundreds of thousands transiting through it. A 'gold rush community' developed rapidly, then moved into the gold regions.

Some of the most direct consequences were on the indigenous communities living in these gold regions — they were already suffering a decline after Spanish colonisation but the gold rush accelerated that enormously, in part because of the destruction of indigenous ways of life and the environments upon which they depended. Gold mining meant the degradation of rivers, large movements of earth and deforestation. And then, genocidal violence occurred in California, especially against indigenous groups like the Yuki Indians. There was a dramatic population decline, replaced by this Anglo mining community that began defining itself around ideas of white republicanism — it enacted things like the Foreign Miners' Tax Act in 1850 to push out migrants like the Chinese and create a kind of white American republic on the shores of the Pacific.

In Southern Africa, the discovery of gold translated into British settler colonialism — the mines started drawing migrants from far away into compounds where they were housed, searched daily and subjected to a regime of racial management by white foremen and engineers. This was the origin of the liquor laws, restrictions

on travel and other discriminations that become central to the Apartheid state. The mass transfer of Anglo miners transformed this colony into a powerful part of the idea of white settler dominions in the British empire.

**How did technologies and processes of capitalism evolve?**

In California, the pick, pan and shovels of the early alluvial phase transitioned into hydraulic mining — that needed iron, industrial nozzles and the deforestation of large parts of Sierra Nevada and other areas of California for the wood and flumes rivers were diverted into, so they could wash out rock from gold and amalgamate it with mercury. This needed massive funding — so, San Francisco rapidly became a sort of capital in the American West and a local elite established around gold developed, although, ironically, the state itself was a debtor — all the gold was leaving and finding its way into the Bank of England, which was kept to keep raw gold to peg the pound to the international gold standard.

You thus see the early seeds of a gold mining capitalism in California — when you reach South Africa, you see the gold rushes have become as much a race for the money that can be made on the stock exchange in London as to actually extract gold from the ground. There was booming company formation in London then, with enterprises claiming they could extract gold and make large profits. But they were really ventures for speculation, booms and bubbles — that transformed cultures of risk in the capitalist world.

Previously, the mine itself was the gamble — you'd go to diggings and may or may not strike it rich. But 30 years on, the culture of risk around mining became centred on the stock market, normalising investing in shares, speculation and industries which formed part of high financial capitalism.

**What ecological impacts did this gold frenzy cause?**

In the early rushes like California, Victoria and Australia, the destruction of landscapes was phenomenal — environments were entirely overturned. Miners themselves said they resembled 'moonscapes', denuded of flora and fauna and riverbeds diverted. In California, hydraulic mining washed away mountains, filling rivers with slurry and rock — this set in motion California's current politics of water and consequences like wildfires. Another



**TRAPPED UNDER:** Gold mining also gave rise to many practices of Apartheid

extremely destructive aspect was the use of mercury for gold extraction — that reached rivers and there are still advisories, suggesting people don't eat fish from these because the mercury causes health problems.

As a result, granddams were used in South Africa, where high concentrations of cyanide dissolved rock into a kind of sand. The waste was put behind dams — but often, there were spillages and seepage. Also, in abandoned mines, water built up and eventually when it flowed into rivers, mass perishings of fish and other animals occurred.

**Were miners themselves mixed?**

Yes, these were incredibly diverse populations. They tended to be dominated by Britons and Americans. But there were other Europeans, and large numbers of Chinese — they've been depicted as 'coolie labourers', indentured miners. In a lot of granddams, there were often voluntary migrants, working in companies together as a collective enterprise. California also had black Americans and indigenous miners. In South Africa, the workforce tended to be black Africans; also the supervisors, white Europeans or Americans — extreme forms of racialisation took place. But

even then, in response to a decline in employment of black Africans, they imported Chinese miners. A social consequence of this movement of Chinese workers to mines was the rise of ideas around 'restriction' heard in the US, Australia and London or stopping the migration of non-whites around the world. Those notions of gatekeeping, connected to migration, were linked to gold mining. Mean-

while, mining attracted non-miners too — a 'gold rush outflow' started in San Francisco where a German Jewish migrant made fortunes selling diamonds, miners, servicing gold rushes rather than engaging in mining itself.

**Do societies which went out actively seeking gold, like the US or China, differ in history from those who didn't send their people looking for it?**

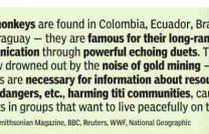
Gold partly helps us understand why certain regions of the world were plugged into a kind of global economy earlier than others. In the 19th century, this industry required the movement of enormous personnel, capital and goods. Gold is part of the story of how ideas about capitalism connected to concepts like economic development and humane industries promised jobs and growth from resource extraction.

**HEAVY GOLDEN CHAINS...**

**The lovely green kingfisher is among gold's fiercest victims — birds living within 7 kms of gold mines in Central and South America have four times higher mercury concentrations than those elsewhere, one showing mercury levels 30 times higher than the safe limit. The deadly chemical causes immune and neurological illnesses and reproductive failure while deforestation snatches away kingfisher habitat**

**The ocelot is a spotted wild cat, native to the southwest US, Mexico and Central America. Once chased by hunters for its beautiful skin used in fur coats upto the 1970s, the ocelot now faces contamination from gold mines in the Amazon, water run-offs and soil leaching affecting nervous systems, causing respiratory, visual, organ and muscular impairments and lowering the population size of this enigmatic arboreal species**

**Titi monkeys are found in Colombia, Ecuador, Brazil and Paraguay — they're famous for their long-range communication through powerful echos. These are now drowned out by the noise of gold mining — yet, the calls are necessary for information about resources, mates, dangers, etc., harming Titi communities, causing conflicts in groups that want to live peacefully on trees**



## 'Gold arrived on our planet as Earth was forming 4.5 billion years ago — it holds an extraordinary history'

**Jun Korenaga** is Professor of Earth and Planetary Sciences at Yale University. He tells Srijana Mitra Das at TE about how gold got to Earth:

It's a little surprising to connect to Jun Korenaga, not least because the scientist is sitting against the backdrop of a planetary surface that could be — but doesn't have to be — Mars. Speaking with purple rock and feathery clouds in a sunless sky behind him, Korenaga explains the origins of gold — and Earth. 'My work focuses on estimating early Earth's history. In the last few years, I've worked on the Hadean Eon which was ago — this is the most mysterious part of our planet's history because we don't have a rock record for it. I work on the theoretical side and try to reconstruct what early Earth looked like.'



4.5 billion years ago, Earth was hit by a Mars-sized rock and the moon formed as the debris from this collision went into an Earth-orbiting disk. More bombardment followed — there were plenty of leftover rocks orbiting the sun as well and several fell on young Earth. The landing of these objects is known as 'late accretion', comprising about the last 1% of planetary growth. In this period, some of the rocks which fell on Earth had metallic components like gold.'

**FROM YOUNG EARTH TO YOUR WRIST:** Born of supernova explosions, gold and platinum travelled through space to land on our planet, settling into its surface

Korenaga says, 'Gold is found on the moon but its abundance there is much lower than on Earth. It is found on Mars too. Of course, we don't have direct samples from Mars but we have so-called Martian meteorites. These are found on Earth but because of their isotopic features, they are traced back to Mars. Analysing these rocks shows us the presence of highly siderophile elements there — again though, the abundance of these, like gold and platinum, is much lower than on Earth.'

Gold is part of early Earth's story, although in unexpected ways. A symbol of stability now, gold had quite a dramatic past. Supernova or cataclysmic events, explosions and star collisions occurred in the universe. The extreme pressure of such imploding stars was so high, subatomic protons and electrons got pushed into their core — these formed neutrons. Rapid neutron capture by iron then created heavy elements like uranium, lead, silver and gold. Interestingly, this process occurred very, very swiftly — and then, these elements were expelled into space.

Thus, metals like gold and platinum arrived on Earth while our planet was still forming, Korenaga explains, 'About

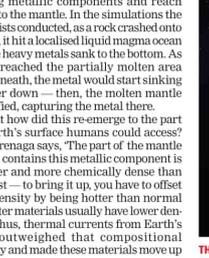
extremely strong affinity for iron. Korenaga smiles slightly and says, 'Now, if Earth was created with no funny twists in its story, we actually wouldn't have any gold on our planet's surface because, sticking to iron, this was heavy and should have gone straight down into the core which we cannot access. But we do have gold on the surface, which shows that part of Earth's mantle can retain metallic components.'

from the solid mantle to Earth's surface.' This process is called 'mantle convection', when hot mantle material rises as colder material sinks. Earth's mantle is almost totally solid — yet, over geologic periods, it acts like a pliable material which can mix and move things within it. Those include the HSEs — like gold — which came to Earth from massive collisions billions of years ago and then reached the planet's surface through these enormous, yet intricate internal processes.

These abundances thus help us decipher the paths planets once took. Given its incredible history — arriving on Earth 4.5 billion years ago, seeping deep into its mantle, pushed to the top by extraordinary forces operating from within our planet — how should we think of gold the next time we see it? Korenaga replies, 'Gold is, of course, widely available as jewellery and other items from shops but when we look at it, we should actually think about its extraordinary origins — we shouldn't take gold for granted. Its presence helps us understand crucial details of the very existence of this metallic Earth and the formation of its unique atmosphere which is 78% nitrogen and 21% oxygen — why did our planet develop in this way? A simple everyday item like gold can hold big answers to that.'

**SO MANY GOLD FINGERS...**

Through history, demand for gold has only grown around the world, increasing with uncertainties — some leading producers have upped supply but at profound costs



**THE GOLDEN MOON:** This too has gold on it

Wow, TE, your beautiful piece on plants was mind-blowing. The idea that plants, in their quiet stillness, are actually living equations, arranging leaves and petals in perfect Fibonacci harmony, is amazing! It's like nature is whispering the language of math in every blossom and branch. Who knew that behind this beauty lies such brilliant precision?

**READERS WRITE**

Dear Times Evoke, I appreciate Times Evoke's wonderful articles since these help us explore nature logically. The article featuring Christophe Gole on plants and math (16th June) clearly explained fibonacci patterns as an emergent result of natural processes that favour efficient, space-optimising growth strategies. There is so much we humans need to learn from nature. Great article, TE!

The wonderful TE article featuring Christophe Gole intriguingly blended different subjects through plants. The Fibonacci patterns, depicted by sunflowers, dahlias, etc., is a new phenomenon to note and related to equivalent computer codes. Thanks, TE, for this wonderful article!

I was thrilled to read about how the plant kingdom uses mathematical sequences. I did my postgraduate studies in botany but Christophe Gole introduced me to an entirely new aspect. It seems we know only a fraction of the vast knowledge about this fascinating world of plants.

Christophe Gole in TE was amazing! This article changed my perspective of looking at flowers, making one think about structure now. We never studied these geometrically calculating machines — aka 'plants' — which create such formations for proliferation. TE, a brilliant piece.

Wow, TE, your beautiful piece on plants was mind-blowing. The idea that plants, in their quiet stillness, are actually living equations, arranging leaves and petals in perfect Fibonacci harmony, is amazing! It's like nature is whispering the language of math in every blossom and branch. Who knew that behind this beauty lies such brilliant precision?

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## WILD OPTIMISM

## How Conflict Is Giving Way To Coexistence



File photo of locals in a village in Odisha's Keonjhar district chasing away a herd of elephants

From learning to live with leopards at the doorstep in Mumbai to monitoring tiger movement in Bengal's Sundarbans, and from poachers-turned-protectors in Periyar to using AI in Assam to ensure elephants don't get electrocuted, India is finally acknowledging that this land is not just for humans

Vaishnavi Chandrashekar

**L**ast Aug, the wolves of Baharich made the headlines for reportedly killing 10 people, nine of them children, prompting authorities in UP to capture most of the pack. In Dec, an elephant was electrocuted by a low-hanging power line in a forest in Assam's Dibrugarh. In March, a panchayat in Kerala, fed up with damage to crops and attacks on livestock and humans, passed a resolution to kill orders on leopards, bears and elephants.

India is one of the world's megadiverse countries, home to the largest population of wild tigers and much of Asia's elephants. It is also the world's most populous country, with a growing economy expanding infrastructure and increasing urbanisation.

## Can Humans And Animals Coexist?

This question lies at the heart of rising

human-animal conflict in the country — a trend largely caused by human infrastructure intruding into animals' natural habitats.

Between 2008 and 2023, around 3 lakh hectares of forest land were diverted for non-forest use. Biodiversity hotspots are seeing fragmentation. One study of the Western Ghats and Central India — regions rich in tropical forests — found a 6% increase in forest patches because of construction of roads and power lines. Astonishingly, the density of this "linear infrastructure" inside protected areas was similar to the density in non-protected forest areas, the study found.

In the Western Himalayas, a region prone to natural hazards, urbanisation increased by 184% and crop land by 12% between 1945 and 2015, shrinking forests, water bodies and scrubland. More forest reductions seem likely. Recent amendments to the Forest Con-

servation Act exempt certain categories of land — including near international borders, areas of insurgency, and alongside roads and rails — from forest clearance requirements.

Grasslands, another key habitat, have shrunk as well. Between 2005 and 2015, India lost almost 6 million hectares of grassland, a 31% decline.

The toll is being felt on all sides. Between 2019 and 2023, more than 2,800 humans died in elephant-related incidents and 349 in tiger attacks, gov data shows. In the same period, over 1,300 elephants died of electrocution, poisoning, poaching and train accidents. And even as tiger numbers have risen by 30% in the past two decades, 228 of them died, of natural causes as well as poisoning and other conflict between 2019 and 2023.

Climate change may compound the problem. Elephants facing unseasonal rain and droughts in Tamil Nadu and Karnataka, for instance, have under-

taken hazardous journeys across highways to Andhra's Chittoor. The area's pachyderm population rose from less than 10 more than a decade ago to 100 last year, spurring farmers to set up electric fences to protect crops and livestock — with fatal consequences.

Yet, as stories from across the country show, there are humane solutions. Some communities are finding ways to live with wild animals through a combination of technology, policy incentives and behavioural change.

In Mumbai, collaboration between scientists, citizens and the forest department has led to reduced leopard-animal conflict in one of the most densely populated cities in the world. In Kerala, a decade-long project to retrain poachers and engage with local communities has reduced conflict with tigers. Such efforts offer hope that the two Indias, human and animal, can continue to co-exist.

## Uniting to make space for leopards in Mumbai

Vaishnavi Chandrashekar

**Mumbai:** In the early 2000s, a spate of leopard attacks created panic in neighbourhoods around Sanjay Gandhi National Park, a protected forest at the northern end of Mumbai. In 2004-2005, there were around 30 attacks and multiple deaths, including of children.

A decade later, the attacks had largely ceased. Only a handful of incidents have occurred since, even as the leopard population is high (54, according to a recent census).

The turnaround came from a collaborative effort started in 2011 by former park director Sunil Limaye and wildlife biologist Vidya Athreya, uniting a group of researchers and residents — "Mumbaikars for SCNP" — with the forest department. One of the first things they did was set up a 24x7 hotline, says conservationist Dipti Humraskar. When a call came in, she and others would visit the spot. "Mostly there was no conflict. It was just that they had seen a leopard sitting on a wall," she says.

Forest officials and researchers trained the police and fire department and engaged with civic authorities to control garbage and strays, which attracted leopards. Public toilets for nearby slum-dwellers were also set up. The initiative added to a tradition of co-existence: tribals in and around the park have lived with leopards for generations, and even venerate 'Waghoba' (a tiger/leopard deity).

Researchers used scat analysis and camera traps to study leopards, finding they're mostly nocturnal and avoid humans. "If the leopards are avoiding people and humans are taking precautions, there doesn't need to be conflict," says Sunetro Ghoshal, a wildlife researcher and longstanding project volunteer.

A key step was to stop trapping and translocating leopards. "When a scared animal is put in a box, with people shouting all around it, it goes through trauma," says Nikhil Surve, a researcher with Wildlife Conservation Society But that doesn't mean leopards can never become a problem, he adds. When there were several attacks in 2017 and 2021, camera traps helped rescue teams identify and capture the specific animal involved. The cats were not released elsewhere.

Recent development near the park — like Borivali's glass towers and a new Metro — has raised concerns about fresh conflict. Yet, non-residents know they might see leopards at night, says longtime resident Manish Sawant. "Most people understand we are on their land."

Forest officials and volunteers continue to engage with the community, often conducting awareness programmes. "The forest department can't work in a silo," says Anita Patil, the new director of SCNP. "We didn't think a city with 25,000 people a square kilometre would be okay with a leopard around," says Humraskar. "If it can happen in Mumbai, it can happen elsewhere."



A leopard on the prowl captured by a camera trap in Mumbai's Sanjay Gandhi National Park with the sprawling metropolis in the background. Photo courtesy Nayan Khanolkar

## 'Ensuring safety, spreading knowledge key'

**Ganesh Raghunathan,** who has been managing human-leopard conflict for over a decade in Western Ghats, tells Sunil Nair why it takes a diverse network to run an early warning system that lets humans and wildlife co-exist

## How does the project work?

■ We're a team from the Nature Conservation Foundation (NCF), working with the forest department, tea plantations, and villagers in Valparai, Tamil Nadu. Our field teams track elephant herds and share real-time updates through a central node,

which pushes alerts to a network of over 5,000 people.

## What's the area covered?

■ The system covers 200sq km, though not all of it daily. Elephants follow certain routes, and villagers often pitch in with updates. The forest department also has teams posted at key locations.

## How are alerts sent?

■ We send out text messages and voice alerts, including over WhatsApp groups and broadcast on local cable channels. Residents of estates use red LED lights, ac-

tivated via mobile phones, which act as indicators of elephant presence and a way of warning those who have not subscribed to the alerts.

## The key learnings?

■ Giving elephants space to make stable decisions helps reduce fear. The average number of fatalities per year (in elephant attacks) has come down by more than half in 2003-2024 over 1992-2002.

## 'Long history in India of coexisting with wildlife'

**Abhishek Ghoshal,** head of conflict mitigation at Wildlife Trust of India, speaks to TOI about the growing complexity of human-wildlife conflict and the road ahead

## Are human-animal conflicts rising?

■ We don't have a national-level monitoring mechanism, but reporting on incidents of conflict has increased — likely due to smartphones and social media. In areas where we work long-term, data does suggest a rise.

## Which areas see the highest incidents?

■ Areas near protected forests with dense human settlements and intense agriculture, like the Terai and Wayanad, see more conflict. Land-use change — diverting forests for other use — is a major driver. So is human behaviour: open defecation, unlit streets, and unsecured rural homes increase vulnerability.

## How is human expansion changing animal behaviour?

■ Animals are continually adapting. Leopards have learnt to live in agricultural areas near villages and towns in states like Maharashtra, Uttar Pradesh, and Himachal Pradesh. Bears forage in garbage, and macaques and parakeets raid crops. On the other hand, feral dogs have emerged as common 'introduced predators'.

## Does climate change play a role?

■ Extreme weather events like droughts, forest fires and flash floods are likely to intensify conflict, though it's hard to establish a direct cause-and-effect relationship.

## How does India compare globally?

■ India has a long history of coexisting with wildlife. Despite its vast human population, India supports 75% of the world's tigers (3,700) and 70% of the global Asian elephant population (30,000). Unlike many western countries, India is still home to large carnivores and herbivores.

## What's the long-term approach?

■ We can't expect conflict to 'stop'; it must be managed. Conflict mitigation and coexistence need to be looked at as a continuous process — accepting some level of conflict and, therefore, losses. We must also use localised mitigation and public awareness.

## In Periyar, poachers turn animal protectors

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**Kochi:** Mahamayam made his first kill when he was just 25, shooting down a tusker from behind a bush with a country-made gun. In the 14 years thereafter — until he was detained in 2003 — he and his poaching gang of five wiped down hundreds of elephants in the thick jungles of Kerala's south-western ghats.

Today he is a champion of preserving biodiversity and preventing human-animal conflict. He says he got an opportunity to reform and accepted it. "I took the 'bait' as I was fed up with the fugitive life I had been living for years," he says.

Mamayam now works as a forest guide in Periyar Tiger Reserve (PTR). More importantly, he is deeply involved in the conservation of forest and wildlife inside PTR. "Tourists love me as I know the forest paths, its wildlife and trees like the back of my hand," he says.



A herd of gaur, or Indian bison, in Periyar Tiger Reserve. Mahamayam (inset), a former poacher, is part of a programme that relies on community participation to protect the reserve and limit human-wildlife conflict

PTR has 116 strict EDCs, which team up with forest officials to prepare mitigation plans for man-animal conflict and come up with sustainable and eco-friendly projects for the benefit of the local community and to protect biodiversity around PTR, spread across Idukki, Kottayam and Pathanamthit districts of Kerala.

It's brought remarkable results: there has hardly been any man-animal conflict in PTR



since the EDCs were formed. The 925sq km reserve, which has around 30 tigers and just one tribal settlement, in Vanchiyaval, secures top position every year in the Management Effectiveness Evaluation (MEE) of tiger reserves in India for its conservation measures. "These committees, with families as their members, function like socially integrating platforms," says Suresh Babu IS, assistant field director PTR.

Self-help groups have opened shops on the forest fringes that sell honey, organic turmeric, pepper and cardamom. The revenue goes to the EDCs. EDC members also help the forest department in mitigating forest fires in summer, eradicating alien plant species, desilting watering holes, maintaining marshy areas, and constructing brushwood check dams to ensure food and water availability in the forest. They function with financial aid from Forest Development Agencies (FDA), which get 40% of PTR's total revenue.

Anil Koruthodu, a member of the Kuzhimavay EDC in Azhutha forest, said nature clubs are also used to create awareness. Anil also serves as social facilitator — a link between locals and forest officials. He feels conflict-related issues are limited in areas surrounding PTR, unlike in other parts of the state, because of close coordination between locals and the forest department, thanks to the strong EDC system.

Forest officials acknowledge that most instances of man-animal conflict in Kerala are reported from Wayanad district, which has highly fragmented forest corridors. M.N. Jayachandran, a member of Kerala State Animal Welfare Board, says reduced human presence in PTR helps extensively in PTR, said the EDC model could be replicated in other parts of the country successfully if there is a team of dedicated forest officials at the division level.

File photo of a tiger being released by an island in Sundarbans



## Bengal bets on jumbo corridors, tiger trackers

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**Kolkata:** From elephants in north to tigers in south, Bengal's wildlife profile has meant that the state has had to adopt multiple strategies to prevent human-animal conflict. Managing the growing proximity between the two has involved actions on the ground and, increasingly, incorporation of tech to ensure that one doesn't end up causing harm to the other.

So, while steps are being taken to restore corridors for elephant movement, early warning systems are being put in place to help humans steer clear of tigers. At least 726 people and 136 elephants have been killed in Bengal in the past decade while incidents of tigers straying into human habitations every year, cameras that were earlier used only to estimate tiger numbers will now be used to detect their presence and send real-time alerts to forest

could get similar AI-enabled elephant movement detectors.

"We will install around two dozen elephant movement detectors to warn the forest department, quick response teams and cops," said Arjan Basu Roy of Nature Mates, the NGO spearheading the project. SNAP Foundation, the technical partner for the initiative, has developed detectors equipped with thermal motion sensors that can capture images and automatically analyse an animal's shape and movement. "These devices will trigger SMS warnings to the authorities," says SNAP executive director Kaustav Choudhury.

## Tracking Tigers

In the Sundarbans, which reports 10-12 incidents of tigers straying into human habitations every year, cameras that were earlier used only to estimate tiger numbers will now be used to detect their presence and send real-time alerts to forest

**In 2023, 26 jumbo corridors were identified in Bengal. A wildlife official said "stretches of 5km or longer will remain encroachment-free so that jumbos can use them and avoid human habitats"**



Nilgai on an agricultural farm in Bihar

estates. Along with AI-powered cameras, a specialised night vision thermal drone — to help foresters track big cats at night during straying incidents — will also be provided.

Abhishek Ghoshal, manager and head, human-wildlife conflict mitigation, WTI, said the "smart cameras will send a live feed to officials on their mobiles wherever there is tiger movement near villages."

While Odisha, too, has adopted AI-based smart cameras and is also using thermal drones to track

elephants, a community radio station in Keonjhar district — Radio Juhar 90.0 FM — has been airing its flagship bulletin daily at 5.30 pm with updates about jumbo movements, reaching about 10,000 listeners.

In Assam, railways has installed an AI-enabled Intrusion Detection System that can alert loco pilots, station masters and control rooms about elephant movement near tracks.

With inputs from Anchita Ghosh, Riyan Ramanath, Mukut Das

# Trade wars and chocolate bars, what India of the 1970s can teach Trump

**O**ne advantage/disadvantage of being old is that I lived through what is history to so many others. President Trump adores William McKinley, the 25th US president, for his tariffs, but in '78, he is likely too young to have lived behind a properly high tariff wall. On the other hand, lived in the India of the 1970s, when we had managed to kill almost all international trade through a combination of tariffs and other rules for importing (non-tariff barriers in trade parlance).

I mostly experienced trade barriers through the importation of chocolate. India, for reasons I do not claim to understand, did not grow much cocoa in those days, despite having many areas that seem suitable for that crop based on where else it grows. So, all the cocoa was imported and the exorbitant duties made it expensive. To keep the chocolate affordable for ordinary middle-class kids like me, Cadbury's used minimal amounts of cocoa. The net result was something milky and intensely sweet, not unlike most Indian confections, but chocolate mostly only in name. The trouble was that I had tasted the real deal, courtesy of my parents' kind friends who either lived abroad or had gone on a visit. And it tasted very different — there was a bitterness and depth to them that was unmistakable.

On our occasional trip to Kolkata's crumbling 'New Market', or to movie theaters in its vicinity, I would notice men in tight pants who were clearly trying to attract my mother's attention (and failing). Fairly soon, I figured out that they were selling various smuggled items, mostly watches, perfumes and CHOCOLATE. I could see from the print on the wrapper that though it said Cadbury's, this was a different breed. My instincts told me that my mother would not take kindly to the idea of buying contraband Cadbury's, but it was hard to shake off the desire to try it out.

As I grew into teenage, my understanding of the gains from trade became less one-dimensional. For one, I was more aware of how people around me dressed, and it became clear that there were jeans and jeans. Those that flopped a bit, like mine, and the ones exuded a steely foreign firmness. I remember admiring the new pair that a neighbour was wearing and his telling me, very proudly, "impotted", which to me sounded like impotent. I started giggling, at which point he got very huffy and commented on my apparent tendency to be jealous, which to be fair, I was a bit. All that has changed now. According to some industry estimates, India is the third largest exporter of denim in the world. Unfortunately, we still don't have our global brand



**As a teen, my understanding of the gains from trade became less one-dimensional. For one, it became clear that there were jeans and jeans. I remember admiring a neighbour's new pair and his telling me, very proudly, "impotted", which to me sounded like impotent and made me giggle**

them to get going, but eventually, they started exporting and making more money, and perhaps more interestingly, wearing higher-quality carpets in the same amount of time. The authors called this learning-by-exporting.

The alternative view is sometimes described, confusingly, as learning-by-doing. It is better described as learning-by-not-importing. The idea is that it takes some time to learn how to produce quality, and if you are new to the business, there is an apprenticeship period where the competition from abroad might make it impossible to sell profitably knowing that they are in for a prolonged period of loss before things turn around, firms may not take on certain products that would otherwise be natural for their country to produce.

This argues for temporarily shielding domestic firms from foreign competition to allow them to find their feet. The idea goes back at least to Alexander Hamilton, author of the Federalist papers and now a subject of a great musical, and is often referred to as the "infant industry argument".

A recent paper in the American Economic Review by Reka Juhász finds support for this theory in France during the Napoleonic wars. Before the war, France was slow to adopt mechanised cotton spinning technology developed in Britain. Instead, they imported British cotton yarn. A war-time blockade of British manufacturers changed that, especially in the north of France. This was where trade was particularly effectively blocked, unlike in the south, where

exports from Britain continued to seep in. Juhász shows that this difference in access to British cotton leads to an interesting reversal. The south, the part of France which had more mechanised spinning before the war, fell behind the north during the blockade. After the blockade ended and trade resumed, the north kept its lead and managed to compete successfully with the cotton from across the Channel. The infant industry grew up. It didn't need protection anymore.

The timing of take-off in the Indian denim industry is consistent with a learning-by-exporting view, since it mostly happened after liberalisation in 1981. However, given that the industry actually started in the 1980s behind the tariff wall, it is possible to argue that the trade barriers helped the infant industry to get prepared to meet global competition. The take-off still happened after the economy opened up, perhaps because importing the machines and other inputs for making denim became much easier after 1991.

I remember working with locally available inputs in the 1970s, the goal in my case being to replicate the Black Forest cake that I had loved at the then-famous Kolkata restaurant called Skyroom. I had my prized can of Himachali cherries for the filling, but the chocolate batter made from several slabs of domestic chocolate refused to look anything like the rich brown viscous liquid that they showed in the photo, and I eventually gave up. Perhaps it was a bit the same for the denim-makers.

Whether it is helping the exporters or stopping the imports, the intervention is meant to be temporary, just long enough that the industry can get going. The traditional position of economists is that if a country needs permanent refuge behind a high tariff wall to keep a particular sector going, it is probably better to shut down and focus on whatever the country is good at. Exports of successful products can pay for the imports of the ones that don't do well.

Politicians, including President Trump, often have a very different view on the problem. The problem is that trade has winners and losers, and they are not the same people. In the US, the big winners are relatively well-educated people who live on the coast; the losers are less educated residents of the middle of the country. The winners win more than the losers lose, economists would say, so why not tax the former to compensate the latter? The catch is that the US, unlike many European countries, has no tradition of large-scale redistribution through taxes and transfers. Instead, Trump wants to permanently block the imports of a wide range of products in the hope that it "reshores" the industries that were lost due to trade and brings back the associated jobs to the mid-Western workers.

At one level, this is not very different from what we do in India to protect the livelihoods of farmers: we have essentially permanent tariffs

## RECIPE FOR TRIFLE

My aunt, my mother's immediately older sister, was a superb cook, and though her mainstay was Marathi home food (she made the best prawn khichdi I have ever tasted), she also found innovative ways to make nice Western desserts under the constraints of the time. Here is her sublime recipe for a Trifle:

- Prepare the fruit. Choose some of the following totalling 3 cups: Peel and slice two small apples very thinly. Take two ripe mangoes and cut the flesh into small cubes. Slice 3 medium ripe bananas. Cut 3 ripe plums into thin segments. Cut two cups of grapes in half. Open a 500 gm can of peaches in syrup and cut them into thin slices. Open 500 gm of canned tangerine segments.
- Line a flat-bottomed 9" bowl with ginger biscuits. If you want the boozy edge, drizzle 1/4 cup rum over them and let sit. Beat 3 egg yolks with 1/3 cup sugar until pale yellow. Heat one cup of heavy (double) cream with 1/2 cup of milk in a heavy bottomed pan with 1 tsp vanilla essence till it comes to a simmer. Take off heat and place on a cool surface for 5 mins. Pour into the egg mixture in a gentle stream, beating all the time. Pour back into the pan and put on a low burner beating gently first and then more vigorously for about 7-8 mins. When it starts to coat a spoon, take it off the fire and pour into a bowl.
- This is cooling, mix in the fruit and spoon the mixture over the biscuits. Place the bowl in the fridge for a few hours to set, and if you have some, sprinkle 1/4 cup sliced almonds over it.



of 35% or more on things like corn, which is what allows the US. At another level, however, it is vastly more audacious. We are merely trying to keep the farmers in business. Trump wants firms to start new businesses, businesses that have been gone for a generation or more, and create jobs. They will need fresh, large investments and newly trained workers. Buyers will need to be willing to pay the premium and swallow the lower quality, like we did in India in my youth. Retailers will need to not look for alternatives, if not from China, from Brazil or Rwanda. Managers will need to hire workers rather than deploy robots to do all the work. The investors will need to believe that this new regime will last, and they won't fall victim to some new deal that the President (or the next President) likes better.

The reshoring probably won't happen. But in its own way, the new regime is a bold experiment: no one knows where it will land. In the meanwhile, I remain on the lookout for shifty men on Boston streets selling illicit bags of the wonderful Chinese black walnuts and sweet salty candied pineapples.

This is part of a monthly column by Nobel-winning economist Abhijit Banerjee. Illustrated by Cheyenne Olivier

## INQUIZITIVE

by JOY BHATTACHARJYA

- 1 The flags of many Arab countries like the UAE, Kuwait, Jordan and Sudan include the four colours from the flag of the Great Arab Revolt. Two of the colours are black and white. Which are the other two?
 

Novak Djokovic has won a record 24 men's singles titles in Grand Slam events. But which men's tennis player has won the most singles titles in any of these events? And in which event?
- 3 Which three words phrase literally meaning to move with little speed and energy as possible originates from the medieval sport of jousting when knights, with lances or other weapons in hand, would charge at each other on horseback, each trying to unseat the other?
 

Which institution forms the backdrop in the following films — 'Legally Blonde', 'Love Story' and 'The Social Network'?
- 5 Find the odd one out — Alphonso, Bagananapalle, Dasher, Fazli, Kinnow, Himsagar and Totapuri?
 

This is a comprehensive list of Test innings played by which cricketer — 4, DNB, 13, 303\*, 26, 0, 23, 5, DNB?
- 7 Which place, a tourist attraction, gets its name from the statue of a large animal originally situated there? The statue was later removed and re-installed in Victoria Gardens.
 

The title of a hit song from a 1977 film 'Hum Kisise Kum Naheen' featuring a specific actor became the title for a 2008 film starring his son, and a remixed version of the original song was also used in the new film. Just name the song?
- 9 In which European country would you find the battlements?
 

Waterloo, the encounter that marked the final defeat of Napoleon and the end of the Napoleonic wars?
- 10 Which globally famous multinational company specialising in GPS based products and sensor based equipment was founded by Gary Burrell and Min Kao in Kansas in 1967?

## ANSWERS

- 1 Green and Red
- 2 Alphonso
- 3 The Great Wall of China
- 4 The Eiffel Tower
- 5 Kinnow, which is a variety of orange
- 6 The White House
- 7 The Colosseum
- 8 The Great Wall of China
- 9 France
- 10 Garmin

# 'We're not ATMs': Why parents are fed up of arbitrary school fee hikes

As Delhi standoff reaches SC, Sunday Times looks at the rising cost of schooling so much so that some schools have tied up with finance firms that offer loans

Himanshi Dhawan & Hemali Chhappia | TNN

**P**lulled out of class by bouncers, left out of sports trials, kept out of class WhatsApp groups, taunted by teachers, and then expelled... Delhi parent Divya Mathey says his 16-year-old had to experience all this and more last month. All because Mathey and some other parents have teamed up against a fee hike by DPS Dwarka which, they claim, did not have the approval of the directorate of education.

"Why is the school picking on children? They should fight in court," says Mathey, whose son is among the 32 students struck off the rolls earlier this month. The school contends that the hike is justified in view of expenses incurred, and the names had been struck off on account of non-payment of dues. This week, the Supreme Court took a stern view, demanding to know from the Delhi govt and private school management how tuition fee could be hiked if



**MARKS AND MARGINS:** Parents from over a dozen Delhi schools protest against fee hikes. There has also been an outcry in cities like Bengaluru and Hyderabad

lakh in 2023 to Rs 3.7 lakh in 2024 when his four-year-old went from nursery to lower kindergarten.

## D FOR DILEMMA

Power tilts unmistakably toward institutions, while parents are left clutching invoices they don't understand and demands they cannot question. "Your child is already enrolled. You can't just walk away. And if you speak up, you worry they'll be targeted," says Anubha Sahai, president of the India-Wide Parents' Association.

Those who protest have to face reprisal. Bengaluru-based Sijo Sebastian, whose child's fees increased from Rs 55,000 in 2013 to Rs 1.62 lakh in 2022, alleges that his son was expelled because he protested. "There are different ways in which schools exploit parents. Some schools print and publish their own textbooks, which is just copy-pasting content with no authors' name, and charge double," says Sebastian, who is secretary of the advocacy group Voice of Parent. In Lucknow, parents say they are compelled to pay additional money for coffee table books, merchandise, coding classes and National Education Policy short-term courses, renovation of school buildings, bus/van charges, and mandatory preparation for common university entrance tests. Plus, parents are told to purchase books and uniforms from specific vendors designated by the institutions who charge more.

## NOT JUST FEES, BOOKS & COACHING ALSO UP

(CPI-base inflation between April 2014 and April 2025)

Item	% Increase
Tuition and other fees (school, college etc.)	76
Private tutor/coaching centre	61
Other educational expenses (incl. web courses)	59
Books, Journals (new)	58
Stationery, photocopying charges	58

lakh in 2023 to Rs 3.7 lakh in 2024 when his four-year-old went from nursery to lower kindergarten.

lakh in 2023 to Rs 3.7 lakh in 2024 when his four-year-old went from nursery to lower kindergarten.

absence of financial transparency. "Schools don't audit their accounts or share expenditure details. So, when they raise fees, it's arbitrary."

Aparajita Gautam, Delhi Parents' Association president, says of the 1,677 Delhi schools that have 10 lakh students enrolled, 325 have received subsidised land from DDA and should be audited. "But the audits are never done in a transparent manner. Whatever the political dispensation, there is no change in Delhi schools."

Sample this: a TOI report found that two-thirds of Madhya Pradesh schools have failed to provide information about their fee structures or hikes to the govt. In 2023, Trump wanted to permanently block the imports of a wide range of products in the hope that it "reshores" the industries that were lost due to trade and brings back the associated jobs to the mid-Western workers.

## P FOR PRIVATE EQUITY

A new model is emerging as private equity (PE) firms make deeper inroads into education. "What we're witnessing is the slow erosion of a stable schooling experience," says Anvita Bir, director principal of P's Podar School, Mumbai. "When a single owner shepherds a school through a child's academic life, it brings consistency. But when one PE firm sells to another and then to a third — each focused on valuations rather than values — where is the child in that equation?"

## E FOR EMI

The Consumer Price Index shows that tuition fee in schools/colleges increased by 75% between April 2014-April 2025, while prices for books and journals went

up by 58%. Charges for coaching centres and private tutors also went up by 61%.

The result is what was once considered a proud investment in a child's future has, for many, begun to feel like an unrelenting debt cycle. Parents sit with calculators and loan applications not to plan for their child's education, but to chart out school fee payments.

With schools nudging parents toward lump-sum, biennial or triennial advances, often padded with rising late fees, a new industry has emerged: finance firms offering EMIs for schooling. Most schools have a formal partnership with a financing firm. One ICSE school in Khar, for example, now offers three EMI options via a fintech partner. "Parents are getting used to seven-month plans to twelve-month loans with rates nudging 2.95%. A payment platform company says schools across the city are increasingly onboarding such services. "Both my daughters went to an international school," shares one father. "But after I left my CEO job to launch my own venture, when the hike came, I just couldn't keep up. I had to take out a loan to pay their fees."

At a school in PNB Met, Nielsen IQ revealed that parents are spending up to Rs 5.3 lakh a year on their children's education and extracurricular activities and are even willing to take on debt for it. "The research, titled 'Financial Planning in the Era of Rising Education Cost', was conducted in April 2023. "More than one in three parents misjudge the expense they would incur and end up overshooting their budget by 27%," says Sameer Bansal, chief distribution officer of the insurance firm.

## I FOR INFLATION

About 10-15% annual hike is inevitable due to various cost factors involved, say schools. "There are 49 items that a school needs to pay for, and all of it under the commercial slab. This includes water, power, property tax services, insurances, taxes on school buses etc. We do not get GST refunds," points out D Shashi Kumar, secretary of the Associated Managements of Primary and Secondary Schools of Karnataka. "Additionally, infrastructure in the industry is huge. Starting a skill lab will cost as much as Rs 30-40 lakh. There are fire safety, building safety, and land conversion expenses. Starting a new section costs Rs 75,000 in a CBSE school. While we condemn any hike above 10%, we believe annual hikes are unavoidable," he says.

## G FOR GUJARAT MODEL

Some states like Gujarat have instituted effective industry advisory committees that take quick cognizance of parents' complaints. In the last two years, six private schools in Gujarat have been slapped with fines ranging from Rs 50,000 to Rs 2.5 lakh for charging fees higher than what was fixed by the FRCE. In Delhi, the BJP govt has announced that it will issue an ordinance on fee regulation that entails establishing of regulatory committees and heavy penalties for non-compliance. West Bengal is planning to introduce one as well. But parents don't think much will change.

With additional reporting from Sruthy Uthas and Mohita Tewari



# Will Yunus go too far with the India bashing?

RIGHT & WRONG

SWAPAN DASGUPTA

If there is one thing the chief adviser of Bangladesh's interim administration has clearly shown since the resignation drama of May 24, it is that he is no pushover. In the nine months at the helm, Nobel Prize winner and NGO icon Muhammad Yunus has slipped from being the man the country welcomed as a potential saviour to being regarded as a crafty shrewd figure with a bagful of personal agendas. Yet, lacking a political base of consequence and despite a steep fall in popularity, Yunus has pitted diverse groups against each other and clung on to power — although at a huge cost to Bangladesh.

The latest political crisis to envelop Bangladesh centres on the timetable of the national election that will install a democratic govt in Dhaka. In a paradoxical twist, the army has advocated elections by the end of 2025, a demand strongly endorsed by the Bangladesh Nationalist Party (BNP), now led from London by Begum Khaleda Zia's son Tarique Rahman. On his part, Yunus has said he wants until end-June 2026 to first bring about unspecified reforms, and also bring the arrested leaders of the Hasina regime to justice. Activists of the National Citizen Party — derisively called the King's Party — have even suggested that Yunus should be in office for the next five years.

Behind this timetable battle is a more profound issue. The army and BNP see Yunus as heading an interim dispensation entrusted with one big task: the holding of free, fair and even inclusive elections, something that has been missing in Bangladesh at least a decade. This understanding of the role of the Yunus regime, shared by the army which organised the post-Hasina arrangement, naturally implies that big political initiatives must await a popular govt.

This limited role does not correspond with Yunus's self-image as a mediator between the warring factions of Bangladesh. As articulated by his press secretary, the interim administration enjoys the same executive powers as any previous govt. As Yunus's imperious colleague in the advisory council Kizwana Hasan put it, they were not appointed to merely hold elections. In Yunus's words, the real agenda is a "reset" of Bangladesh.

It is conceivable that Yunus and his personal appointees see economic reforms — including the privatisation of Chittagong Port — as the focus of the "reset" but others have more ambitious ideas. These include national security, health, Rahman's controversial "humanitarian corridor" to Myanmar's



RISKY RESET: There is something very ominous in Yunus's constant invocation of a 'war-like situation'

Rakhine province that many in Bangladesh see as the beginning of a direct US involvement in the region — something that Sheikh Hasina had warned in the context of St Martin's Island. On his part, Yunus nurtures some hare-brained schemes to integrate India's north-eastern states into a China-dominated market. It was the public expression of this strategic doctrine that led to Delhi taking retributive action on cross-border trade. As a result, Bangladeshi exporters now incur added costs of some Rs 2,000 crore.

Last Sunday, in explaining to some representatives of small parties why he had contemplated resignation, Yunus shrewdly pointed the finger at "Indian hegemonism". According to him, ever since the ban on the Awami League, India has made it its business to make life impossible for him.

Painting India as the villain is good political rhetoric and certainly endears Yunus to a wide cross-section and the Jamiat-e-Islami. It also feeds into the impulses of those seeking to revisit the legacy of the 1971 liberation.

India-bashing is, however, Yunus's reserve card. For the moment, he has negotiated a Faustian bargain with the Islamists to isolate the BNP and army. This could involve trying to force through 'reforms' that may overturn the basic structure of the 1972 Constitution. The regime's unbridled facilitation of the Supreme Court's acquittal of former Razakbar Ahmad Islam, on death row for 1971 war crimes, was indicative of a world turned upside down in Bangladesh.

The convergence between two distinct strands of authoritarian impulses may give Yunus a small breathing space. However, the unsettled economy and the fear generated by mob rule, not to mention the explosion of extortionist politics in the localities, is certain to ensure that the demand for early elections becomes irresistible. Yet, the last thing Yunus wants is to return to France as a footnote and he will do his utmost to prolong his tenure. It is hazardous to try reading tea leaves in today's Bangladesh. Yet, there is something very ominous in Yunus's constant invocation of a "war-like situation". If the political stalemate in Dhaka persists, we may see Yunus willfully provoking India and inviting retaliation. Only that will forge the nationality unit in Bangladesh that Yunus needs to bat on.

It could also backfire horribly. ■

# Pak will be hit hard by Indus water pause, especially in politically important Punjab

Water is in the headlines again, not just as a resource but as a strategic asset. Prof Anjal Prakash, research director at the Bharti Institute of Public Policy, ISB, has closely studied these issues and been lead author on multiple IPCC reports. In an interview with Joannina Rebello Fernandes, he discusses the use of water as a weapon, impact of melting glaciers, and how to cut annual flood risks in Indian cities

In the past, you've advocated for water to be deployed as a bridge, not a weapon. What is your view on the Indus Waters Treaty (IWT) pause? On the contrary, I wrote about water to be used as a weapon way back in 2023 when India sought its revision on the basis of new realities of the Indus Basin. The IWT is one of the most unfair treaties India has signed with around 80% of the flow of the river going to Pakistan. In the past, I did advocate for the IWT to be a bridge for peace but looking at recent developments, water should be used as a strategic weapon in our national interest. Suspending it will have severe short and long-term ramifications for Pakistan's economy. A major proportion of Pakistan's Punjab and Sindh farmers depend on Indus for irrigation, and agriculture contributes to around one-fourth of the country's GDP. Blocking this will help counter its Punjab-based politics that yields terrorism as a strategic weapon against India.

In addition to the political pressures exerted on the Indus river basin are the slow-unfolding environmental forces acting on it from melting glaciers. How does water variability affect the Indus Basin? Melting glaciers in the Hindu Kush Himalaya (HKH) significantly affect the Indus Basin. Indus Basin's water variability. In fact, amongst the three major rivers that feed south Asia — Indus, Ganga and Brahmaputra — Indus relies very heavily on the glaciers for its base water flow. Due to climate change, the increased meltwater leads to higher river flows, potentially causing floods and erosion. However, as glaciers shrink, this eventually leads to reduced water availability, especially during dry seasons. This variability impacts agriculture, water supply, hydropower generation and ecosystems. Mitigating the adverse effects of glacial melt on the Indus Basin is essential.

## FOR THE RECORD

India might experience some international criticism and strained relations with nations such as China, but it has a logic for keeping it in abeyance as the upper riparian country. Simultaneously, India should maximise water utilisation for development, particularly in J&K and Ladakh states. This includes infrastructure projects to divert Indus Basin river water for irrigation, hydropower, and other uses. Building canals and storage enhances water security and boosts regional economies. However, it is important that projects don't disturb the fragile ecosystem of the Himalayas.



Nepal recently held a funeral for a dying glacier. How effective are such events in galvanising climate action? Ice funerals, like the one for Yala, do capture public attention through emotional storytelling and visual representation of loss, making the abstract concept of climate change more relatable and immediate. However, their long-term impact on galvanising climate action is debatable. To be truly effective, these events need to be coupled with clear calls to action, such as supporting specific policies, reducing carbon emissions, or promoting sustainable practices. Without that, the potential for meaningful change could be lost.

An increase in heavy rainfall days, coupled with poor urban planning, leads to flooding in cities like Mumbai, Bengaluru and Delhi every year. Describe the urban planning you would frame to mitigate this annual occurrence. A multi-pronged policy approach is crucial. First, prioritise integrated urban watershed management, mandating holistic planning that preserves natural drainage, creates retention ponds, and implements green infrastructure to enhance water infiltration and reduce runoff. Second, enforce stringent zoning regulations that restrict construction in floodplains and ecologically sensitive zones. Building codes must prioritise flood resilience through elevated foundations and water-resistant materials. Third, invest in advanced drainage infrastructure, upgrading existing systems, incorporating real-time monitoring and early warning systems, and implementing nature-based solutions like urban forests to enhance water absorption. These policies, implemented in tandem, will significantly reduce urban flood risks. Unfortunately, these are known facts, and I am not stating anything new. What we need is a political force to get this knowledge into action.

The Aravallis are in the process of being formally defined. One of the parameters proposed by the Haryana govt is that only hills with a relative height of 100m be classified as part of the range. Why is this problematic? The Haryana proposal could lead to a significant underestimation of the range's actual extent. This arbitrary height limit disregards the geological continuity and ecological importance of lower hills and ridges that are integral to the Aravalli ecosystem. Many crucial habitats and recharge zones may be excluded, fragmenting the range and weakening its overall resilience. Properly defining, mapping, and measuring natural systems like the Aravallis is vital for ecological protection, and allows for better monitoring of ecological changes, like erosion or deforestation, and supports efforts to mitigate their impacts. Ultimately, this comprehensive approach is essential for preserving biodiversity, maintaining ecosystem services, and promoting sustainable development.

# Two cases, one message: Free speech needs more legal encouragement

SWAMINOMICS

SWAMINATHAN S ANKLESARIA AYIAR

Free speech, a cornerstone of democracy, is enshrined in the basic structure of the Constitution. Politicians often find free speech inconvenient when it comes to the deliverance of the Supreme Court — must guarantee it. Alas, the guarantee is eroding. Many courts seek on politically correct speech than free speech, which is often the opposite. Free speech includes the right to express any views even if highly critical of the ruling party, ideology or leadership. It is about the right to be cantankerous, outrageous, and contrarian. Not all courts approach cases in this spirit.

Two recent cases highlight the problem. In Maharashtra, a college girl reposted an Instagram post critical of the govt. Within two hours, she

deleted the post after getting a flood of objections and acknowledged her error. Nevertheless, her college expelled her for "anti-national activities."

Bombay high court then ordered her release on bail. It said, "The girl has realised her mistake and apologised. Instead of giving her a chance to reform, the state govt has arrested her and turned her into a criminal. Do not let the mere mention of stop expressing their opinions? Such a radical reaction will further radicalise the youth. The court also criticised the college for expelling the girl. "Instead of reforming her and making her understand, you have turned her into a criminal."

While we must thank the court for freeing the girl on bail, its remarks are far from a defence of free speech. It says that radical action against students with radical opinions will further radicalise them, which is surely true. But it keeps saying that both the college and state govt should be giving the

girl a chance to reform. In effect, it goes along with the accusation that the politically incorrect action of the girl is wrong and should be reformed. It does not say that the school must be allowed even if politically incorrect and unorthodox.

The second case is that of Ashoka University professor Al Khan Mahmudabad. He was arrested for a social media post which stated that while the optics of press briefings by a Muslim, Col Sofiya Qureshi, as a govt spokesperson during the recent hostilities was welcome, "optics must translate to reality on the ground, otherwise it's just hypocrisy." He then points out that victims of mob lynchings, arbitrary bulldozing and hate-mongering should be "protected as Indian citizens."

Mahmudabad is right, although he goes too far in saying that without complete secularism in other areas, Col Qureshi's appointment is "just hypocrisy." Hypocrisy abounds in all political parties, and indeed in all humans including

Mahmudabad. Political parties often try to please both sides of an issue and that can be good politics, or improved politics, rather than just hypocrisy. Most of us have been hurt by a govt that has appointed a jingoist war-monger instead of Col Qureshi? Surely not.

But this is a quibble. The main issue is that he was arrested for his post. The chair of the Haryana Women's Commission and a BJP youth activist accused him of criminal activity, including "acts prejudicial to maintaining communal harmony, making assertions likely to cause disharmony, inciting secession, armed rebellion or subversive activities and insulting religious beliefs." How can demanding a secular line in domestic affairs — which is guaranteed by the Constitution — incite secession and armed rebellion, or insult religious beliefs? Yet a local Haryana court ordered his arrest without bail.

Thankfully, the SC later released him on inter-

im bail. But its accompanying remarks dismayed free speech advocates. Optimists had hoped the court would throw out the case as frivolous. Instead, it confirmed his arrest and ordered him to say nothing further for now. This has mystified many. Should somebody approaching the Supreme Court to uphold free speech be gagged? Can urging secularism in all govt actions be a security threat?

The hon'ble justices have been ordered to investigate the Team of the police to unearth the meaning of Mahmudabad's posts.

This too is puzzling. Mahmudabad's writing is clear and straightforward. It contains no complex mysteries. Even if it did, this would not be an area of "police expertise."

Voltaire is credited with the declaration: "I disagree with you. But I will defend to the death your right to disagree." The SC will lift many spirits by adopting Voltaire's approach in free-speech cases. ■

# What the TN case tells us about the need to ease Centre-state friction

BY INVITATION

PRANAY KOTASTHANE

Several developments have taken place over the last two weeks concerning Centre-state relations. One, Tamil Nadu sued the Union govt in the Supreme Court for withholding over Rs 2,000 crore under the Samagra Shiksha Scheme. It claimed the Centre was surreptitiously linking the implementation of the three-language formula to the disbursement of education grants. Two, the NITI Aayog chaired its tenth governing council meeting but three Opposition CMs decided to give it a miss. In the absence of the Planning Commission and the complete neglect of the Inter-State Council, this is the only platform where all the CMs, the PM, and the Union govt can meet each other. Three, even inter-state language wars are escalating as another kerfuffle in Bengaluru over a bank manager refusing to speak Kannada revealed. This time, several political leaders got involved. On social media, all war-related national integration was quickly replaced by the generic north-south flame wars.

While the PM stressed the idea of Team India to realise the goal of Viksit Bharat 2047, these instances highlight yet again that cooperative federalism is a nice-sounding idea but hard to do. What we need are structures in which real cooperation can happen. Here are four such ideas that could be worth considering.

**1 | AN 'UMPIRE' FOR BARGAINING**  
This idea comes from economist Dr M Govindara Rao. He writes in his book, *Stations in Indian Public Finance*, that India lacks an institution that can act as a credible umpire between various states (horizontal bargaining), and between the states and Centre on the other (vertical bargaining).

The National Development Council, created for this purpose, is defunct. The Inter-State Council has not met for the last eight years. The Rajya Sabha no longer functions as the council of states and Union finance commissions are dissolved after making their recommendations. The NITI Aayog is yet to establish itself as an institution that speaks for the states and the Union equally. The GST Council is perhaps the only remaining bargaining and negotiation platform in our federal structure, but its mandate is limited to sharing taxes on consumption.

The result is that we have no functional institution to truly champion cooperative federalism. One model to consider is Vijay Kelkar's idea of a NITI Aayog 2.0, one which has fiscal powers to allocate conditional funds

to states for long-term transformational goals. But there's a risk that such powers could tempt NITI Aayog 2.0 into a Planning Commission 2.0, restricting the states' fiscal autonomy. Thus, we need a debate to construct a new institution for cooperative federalism.

**2 | MORE FUNDS WITH LESS STRINGS**  
All federalism debates almost exclusively focus on just one issue: horizontal devolution, i.e. the formula used for sharing resources between states. It also gets inaccurately framed as a "north vs south" debate — how the taxes collected from the south are frittered away in the north. But the problem really lies in vertical devolution, i.e. how the tax resources are split between the Union govt and all states as a whole. If the Union govt keeps less money to itself, all states stand to gain together.

This is why the TN petition has brought in a new dimension to the case. It is an opportunity to increase vertical devolution to states. As long as there are centrally sponsored schemes, which are designed by Union ministries and only implemented by states, the Centre is within its rights to change the scheme's design. States must demand that grand schemes falling under the state sponsor lists be scrapped and that they receive untied funds instead. This way, they can decide their priorities while the Union can focus on a select few centrally sponsored schemes, mainly in vertical redistribution; and the insider-outside debates sparked by local reservations will only worsen the situation. Like India's all-party delegations meant for global outreach after the Pakistan attack, we need a domestic mechanism where states send delegations to other states explaining their visions for development and growth. Such efforts could perhaps bridge the gap.

**3 | ALL-PARTY DELEGATIONS TO STATES**  
As the recurring language wars illustrate, trust levels between states are dipping. Lok Sabha seat reservation stemming from delimitation; charges of unfair fiscal redistribution; and the insider-outside debates sparked by local reservations will only worsen the situation. Like India's all-party delegations meant for global outreach after the Pakistan attack, we need a domestic mechanism where states send delegations to other states explaining their visions for development and growth. Such efforts could perhaps bridge the gap.

**4 | UNION-STATE SUB-GROUPS**  
Another interesting idea comes from Andhra CM Chandrababu Naidu, who proposed three sub-groups at NITI Aayog on GDP growth, population management, and leveraging artificial intelligence. While these themes are not set in stone, this approach could allow states to partner with other states and the Centre.

Creating Team India isn't easy, but it could happen with the right systems in place. ■

Kotasthane is a researcher at the Takshashila Institution. Views are personal

## WORD DROP

### TACO TRADE

This new buzzword on Wall Street is not quite as delicious as it sounds. Coined by Financial Times columnist Robert Armstrong, it describes how savvy investors are taking advantage of President Trump's seesawing on tariffs. 'TACO' stands for 'Trump Always Chicks Out'. The Trump administration has announced new or revised tariff policies more than 50 times since Trump's Jan 20 inauguration, according to an analysis from



The Washington Post. And predictably, many of them were quickly rescinded. Some traders turned it into a whole new strategy: buying on dips after tariff threats and selling when it rebounds after Trump gives countries more time to negotiate. For example, after declaring 50% tariffs on EU imports on May 23, the S&P 500 index fell 39 points. Two days later, he announced he would defer the increase till July 9, leading the market to rebound. Trump, unsurprisingly, isn't a fan of the term. When asked about it by a reporter, he called it "the nastiest question," arguing it was simply how negotiation works.

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# US, Pak, China: The post-Sindoor world calls for a strategic reset

BY INVITATION

ZORAWAR DAULET SINGH

India's pushback to Pakistan's provocation in Pahalagam is an inflection point in regional geopolitics. There are many reasons for this. First, India has absorbed to recent Indian statecraft in a rapidly changing international and regional setting. The Sino-Pakistan axis has acquired an operational reality that is difficult to ignore and not straightforward to counter. Most strategic reports that the India's conventional superiority over Pakistan means little in the context of controlled limited conflicts that are likely to occur under the nuclear shadow. For all practical purposes, Pakistan is a near-peer military competitor. This is now further complicated by the 'catcher' partner's military modernisation. India can selectively tilt the scales in Pakistan's favour. China's PLA, whose primary mission is to deny access to and potentially defeat the US in the Taiwan Straits, has spent the past decade modernising its forces for such a scenario. The focus has been on developing capabilities such as modern sensors, electronic intelligence satellites, electronic warfare, long range air-to-air missiles, and advanced tactical combat aircraft. It is apparent that some of these capabilities have made their way to the Pakistan military.

China can harness Pakistan's conventional power to keep pace and perhaps even surpass India in select areas in the future. What works to India's advantage is that unlike US and NATO hardware that come with well-known caveats and geopolitical risks, our "no-strings attached" partner's military modernisation can be absorbed to recent Indian statecraft in a rapidly changing international and regional setting. The Sino-Pakistan axis has acquired an operational reality that is difficult to ignore and not straightforward to counter. Most strategic reports that the India's conventional superiority over Pakistan means little in the context of controlled limited conflicts that are likely to occur under the nuclear shadow. For all practical purposes, Pakistan is a near-peer military competitor. This is now further complicated by the 'catcher' partner's military modernisation. India can selectively tilt the scales in Pakistan's favour. China's PLA, whose primary mission is to deny access to and potentially defeat the US in the Taiwan Straits, has spent the past decade modernising its forces for such a scenario. The focus has been on developing capabilities such as modern sensors, electronic intelligence satellites, electronic warfare, long range air-to-air missiles, and advanced tactical combat aircraft. It is apparent that some of these capabilities have made their way to the Pakistan military.

This being said, it is futile for India to engage in an all-out arms race (in essence, with China) or frantically build up conventional power. Strategic nuclear deterrence for major contingencies is robust and expected to strengthen over time. Remember, the main challenge is countering asymmetric warfare with the new doctrine of assured and calibrated cost imposition on Pakistan. The US remains the only power on the conventional to the sub-conventional to non-traditional areas like water security. There are obvious limits to China's ability to protect Pakistan from the blowback of its asymmetric warfare.

There are larger questions that India policymakers can no longer brush under the carpet. Why did the Sino-Pak axis acquire such momentum in recent years? And, should India do anything to reshape Beijing's calculations in the subcontinent?

First, there is no doubt that India's declared China-centric alignment with the US over the past decade while the lightning rod for Beijing to deepen ties with Rawalpindi much beyond its traditional partnership model. The US had no desire to open a geopolitical front with China in the subcontinent

## BUILD ON THAW

While the Sino-Pak axis is worrying, there is room to wean China away from Pakistan



and did little to shore up India's regional position. The US was primarily interested in drawing India into a tacit convergence between Washington and Beijing on upholding Pakistan's basic position in the regional order and the primacy of the Pakistan army at home. Nothing demonstrated this stark geopolitical reality to Delhi more than the recent crisis.

Can Indian statecraft arrest the deterioration in the regional chessboard that is partly the result of miscalculation from its own geostратegies? Beijing's primary geopolitical threats emanate from its eastern seaboard and will only grow over time. There is room to wean China away from Pakistan and bring Beijing's regional policy back toward a balance that is acceptable to Delhi. For this to occur, India must build on the 2024 thaw reached between the two leaderships and explore the possibility of a framework to normalise India-China relations.

As for the US, the normal will be different with or without Trump. There is scope for a balance-of-power play with the US in the subcontinent.

It was self-deception to imagine India could simply ride American power to emerge as South Asia's leading power. That outcome will have to be earned the way all regional and great powers acquired their material and normative strength — through broadening the domestic industrial, technological and human capital base of the Indian economy while intelligently leveraging the international environment. There is no other way in our multipolar age.

India doesn't have to get bogged down in a low-level game with the Pakistan army. Nor should India swing into a proxy crusader against a rising China whose sights are set on countering the US in the West-Pacific. This crisis is an opportunity to craft a sophisticated grand strategy for a multipolar world. Only geopolitical incompetence can disrupt the India story from its long strategic phase. ■

Singh is a strategic affairs expert and author of 'Powershift: India China Relations in a Multipolar World'

### Social media vetting begins for Harvard applicants

Federal officials are set to start reviewing the social media accounts of visa applicants who plan to attend, work at or visit Harvard for any signs of antisemitism, marking the latest development in a clash between the Trump administration and the Ivy League school. A cable sent Friday signed by secretary of state Marco Rubio said the vetting will help consular officers identify applicants with a history of those antisemitic offenses "and to duly consider their eligibility under US immigration law." The measure was sent to all US embassies and consulates, and it takes effect immediately.

### Trump: Chinese students in US colleges to be 'fine'

Trump sought to downplay worries among Chinese student visa holders over his administration's scrutiny, saying he would tell them that everything would be "fine" as they pursue their studies in the US. "Well, that's going to work out fine," Trump said Friday night when asked what his message would be for students who want to remain in the country. "We just want to check out the individual students." AP, BLOOMBERG

### Trump's tough love' better than no love: EU official

The European Union's diplomatic chief, Kaja Kallas said Saturday the continent was beefing up defence spending after "tough love" from the Trump administration, as she called for stronger ties to counter China's "economic might". Speaking at the Shangri-La defence forum in Singapore, Kallas was responding to comments by US defence secretary Pete Hegseth, who called President Donald Trump's insistence on more military spending "tough love". "It's love nonetheless, it's better than no love," Kallas quipped. AFP

### China mfg shrinks in May despite tariff 'ceasefire'

China's manufacturing activity shrank in May for the second month running, official data showed Saturday, despite Beijing reaching a temporary ceasefire in a blistering trade war with the United States. Beijing and Washington agreed this month to pause staggering high tariffs. While the two sides reached a temporary truce in mid-May, China recorded a contraction in factory output for the month. AFP

### Man jumps into display of China's Terracotta Army

A domestic tourist climbed over a fence and jumped into a section of the world-famous display of China's Terracotta Army damaging two ancient clay warriors, authorities said Saturday. The 30-year-old was visiting the museum housing the Terracotta Army in the city of Xi'an on Friday when he jumped over the guardrail and jumped. The man named Sun was found to "suffer from mental illness", officials said. Built around 290 BC to stand guard over the tomb of the first emperor, the 8,000-strong Terracotta Army is one of China's key archaeological discoveries and considered a symbol of its artistic sophistication. AFP

### 200 miles of sublime pain on a Hindu pilgrimage in Pak

**Zia ur-Rehman**  
Hingol National Park, Pakistan: When Amar Faqira's 3-year-old son abruptly lost movement in his foot last year, doctors offered little hope. As panic gripped his family, Faqira made a vow — if the boy recovered, he would make a 200-mile pilgrimage through blistering plains and jagged terrain to the Hingol Devi temple, a site sacred to the Hindu minority in Pakistan. It is also where Pakistan's largest annual Hindu festival is held, usually in mid-April. When the child regained strength a year later, Faqira set off in late April on a seven-day walk to the temple, nestled deep in the rust-colored mountains of the remote Balochistan. The goddess "heard me and healed my son," Faqira said before the trek, as he gathered with friends and family in his neighbourhood in Karachi. "Why shouldn't I fulfill my vow and endure a little pain?" Faqira and two companions, wa-

# US def secy warns allies of 'imminent' threat from China

## Tells Indo-Pacific Nations To Hike Their Def Spend

Singapore: US defence secretary Pete Hegseth reassured allies in the Indo-Pacific on Saturday that they will not be left alone to face increasing military and economic pressure from China, while insisting that they also contribute more to their own defence. He said Washington will bolster its defences overseas to counter what the Pentagon sees as rapidly developing threats by Beijing, particularly in its aggressive stance toward Taiwan.



**SINGAPOREANS IRKED BY LEE-TRUMP COMPARISON:** US secretary of defence Pete Hegseth speaks at the IIS Shangri-La Dialogue security summit in Singapore on Saturday. In a speech outlining US Asia-Pacific strategy, Hegseth ranked Singaporeans by likening Trump to the city-state's late founding premier Lee Kuan Yew. Hegseth referred to both leaders as "historic men." Social media erupted with loud and acerbic criticism of the comparison. "One is historic, the other is hysterical," said one user, while another remarked: "Trump compared to Lee Kuan Yew? That's like saying instant noodles are the same as fine dining." AFP

Hegseth of making "groundless accusations". Speaking at the Shangri-La Dialogue, a global security conference hosted by the International Institute for Security Studies, Hegseth said China is no longer just building up its military forces to take Taiwan, it's "actively training for it, every day". Hegseth also called out China for its ambitions in Latin America, particularly its efforts to increase its influence over the Panama Canal. He urged Indo-Pacific countries to increase defence spending to levels similar to the 5% of their gross domestic product European countries have pressed to contribute. "We must all do our part," Hegseth said. AP

## China bristles at Macron linking Ukraine defence to Taiwan threats

Singapore: China on Saturday criticised as a "double standard" attempts to link the defence of Ukraine with the need to protect Taiwan against a Chinese invasion. A thinly veiled reference to a speech by French President Emmanuel Macron in Singapore on Friday night. As part of a broader address on the risks of division between China and the United States, Macron told the Shangri-La Dialogue defence meeting that if Russia was allowed to take any part of Ukraine without constraint then "what could happen in Taiwan?".

In a Facebook post, China's embassy in Singapore said that comparing the Taiwan issue with the Ukraine issue is "unacceptable". "The two are different in nature and not comparable at all," the post said, saying that Taiwan was entirely an internal affair for China. "The post did not mention Macron directly but it had a photo of him speaking." Reuters

## US to double steel, aluminium tariffs

US President Donald Trump's announcement that he would double steel and aluminium tariffs to 50% from the next week drew fire from the European Union Saturday in the latest salvo in his trade war aimed at protecting domestic industries. China's army "is rehearsing for the real deal," Hegseth said in a keynote speech at a security conference in Singapore. "We are not going to sugarcoat it — the real deal China poses is real, and it could be imminent." The head of China's delegation accused Hegseth of making "groundless accusations".

## US SC nod to strip 500,000 of legal status

The Supreme Court let President Donald Trump's administration immediately strip the legal right to temporarily live and work in the US from as many as half a million people from Cuba, Haiti, Nicaragua and Venezuela. Over two dissents, the high court cleared the department's efforts to strip the status of those four countries' temporary legal status. The justices put on hold a federal trial court order that had blocked the cancellation while litigation went forward.

## Yunus invites parties for fresh talks on poll

Dhaka: Bangladesh interim gov't head Muhammad Yunus has invited political parties for a fresh dialogue on June 2 on the reform process. It follows the court's May 19 order letting DHS end legal protections for 515,000 Venezuelans under a different programme and the decisions are bolstering Trump administration efforts to aggressively evict migrants — including some who came to the US legally. As is often the case with emergency orders, the court gave no explanation. Justices Ketanji Brown Jackson and Sonia Sotomayor dissented. Bloomberg

## Musk exits in bizarre black-eyed farewell

Billionsaire Elon Musk bled tears as he exited the Oval Office on Friday, sporting a black eye, brushing aside drug abuse claims and vowing to stay a "friend and advisor" to the president. As the world's richest person bowed out of his role as Trump's cost-cutting chief, the Republican hailed Musk's "invaluable service" and handed him a golden key to the White House. But Trump insisted that Musk was "really not leaving" for a turbulent four months in which his Department of Government Efficiency (DOGE) cut tens of thou-

## France charges 25 suspects in crypto abduction cases

Twenty-five people, including six minors, were charged in Paris over a spate of kidnappings and attempted abductions in France's cryptocurrency world, said the city's public prosecutor's office on Saturday. The investigation centers on a May 13 kidnapping attempt targeting the daughter and grandson of the CEO of crypto firm Paymium, carried out in broad daylight in Paris. Prosecutors said the probe also covers "other unsuccessful plans", including an initial failed attempt on the same targets the day before, and a disrupted operation near the western city of Nantes on Monday. AFP

## Charges in bitcoin theft bid

The latest crime thriller gripping New York is the alleged kidnapping of a wealthy Italian whose captors attempted to torture the crypto millionaire into giving up his bitcoin password. It began amid the backdrop of wild parties, immortalised in pop culture through films like "The Wolf of Wall Street". In a post-Christmas night club where the nouveau riche and flashy Wall Street bros congregate. It ended on the morning of May 23, when a man ran to a police officer near Mulberry and Prince streets in the SoHo district of Manhattan. The barefoot man claimed he had just escaped a luxurious apartment where he had been captive for 17 days after entering the scene and arrested John Woeltz, 37, dubbed "the crypto king of Kentucky" by tabloids, who is facing charges of kidnapping, attempted kidnapping, weapons, assault and unlawful imprisonment. A second man, William Duplessis, 33, who is the founder of the startup Pangaea Investments, a national, turned himself in on Tuesday and was charged similarly to Woeltz. Local media claimed the presumed victim is Italian crypto currency entrepreneur Michael Valentino Teofrasto Carturan, who visited John Woeltz's rented home — \$30,000 a month — upon arriving from Italy on May 6. AFP

## The judge's data dilemma in the Google search case

Data plays a starring role in the US gov't's successful antitrust suit against Google, accused of illegally protecting its monopoly in online search. Steps to force Google to unlock its data drove court figure prominently in a ruling on how to address the tech giant's dominance, antitrust experts say. On Friday, the federal judge overseeing the case, Amit P. Mehta, heard closing arguments in federal court in Washington on what corrective measures, known as remedies, he should order to restore competition. Given the evidence in the case, a data-sharing order would be "a conceptually appropriate remedy," since its exclusive deals (with device manufacturers) increased Google's data advantage, said Douglas Melamed, a former senior official in the justice department. But it raises its own set of questions. In its testimony, Google emphasised its privacy concerns of passing user search data along to other companies. The gov't's data proposal also calls for access to software that uses data as an ingredient but was built by Google's engineers. "It looks like an administrative headache," said John Yun, an economist at George Mason University. NYT

## Small plane crashes into terrace in Germany; 2 die

A small plane crashed into the terrace of a residential building in western Germany on Saturday and two people were killed, police said. The crash happened in Korschbrunn, near the city of Monchengladbach and not far from the Dutch border. The plane hit the terrace of the building and a fire broke out. Police said one of them died and one of them was probably the pilot's staff. AFP

## 250 million bees go abuzz after truck overturns

There was a buzz in the air Friday in northwestern Washington state as about 250 million honeybees escaped a commercial truck that overturned. The truck, carrying an estimated 31.75 kg of honeybee hives rolled over around 4am (local time) close to the Canadian border near Lynden, the Whatcom County Sheriff's office said. It appears the driver did not navigate a slight turn well enough, causing the trailer to roll into a ditch, county emergency management spokesperson said. Deputies, county public works employees and several bee experts responded to the scene. The box hives later came off the truck, and local beekeepers swarmed to help recover, restore and reset the hives, according to the sheriff's office. The plan is to allow the bees to return to their hives and find their queen bee in the next day or two, according to the sheriff's office. The goal is to save as many bees as possible. The public was advised to avoid the area on Friday, and sheriff's deputies dove into their squad cars at times to avoid being stung. Beekeepers often transport millions of bees from one location to another because leaving them in one location for too long can deplete resources for other pollinators. The Seattle Times reported. AP

## IAEA report spells out Iran's past secret N-activities

Vienna: Iran carried out secret nuclear activities with material not declared to the UN nuclear watchdog at three locations that have long been under investigation, the watchdog said in a wide-ranging, confidential report to member states seen by Reuters. The findings in the "comprehensive" International Atomic Energy Agency report requested by the agency's 35-nation Board of Governors in Nov pave the way for a push by the UK, Britain, France and Germany for the board to demand Iran's violation of its non-proliferation obligations. Using the IAEA report's findings, the four Western powers plan to submit a draft resolution to the board to adopt at its next meeting on June 9, diplomats say. A separate IAEA report sent to member states on Saturday said Iran's stock of uranium enriched to up to 60% purity close to the roughly 90% of weapons grade, had grown by roughly half to 480 kg. That is enough, if enriched further, for nine nuclear weapons, according to an IAEA yardstick. Both IAEA reports said enrichment to such a high level was "of serious concern" since it is the only country to do so without producing nuclear weapons. Iran's foreign ministry rejected the reports as "politically motivated" and said that Tehran will take "appropriate measures" in response to any effort to take action against the country by the Board of Governors meeting. Reuters

## Hamas agrees to free 10 hostages alive; says war must end

Cairo/Jerusalem: Hamas responded to US-backed ceasefire proposals on Saturday saying it had agreed to release 28 living and dead hostages but restating its demand for an end to the war and a withdrawal of Israeli troops from Gaza. A separate Hamas statement said the proposals aimed for a permanent ceasefire. Israel has earlier accepted the US ceasefire proposal for Gaza, which Israeli officials familiar with the matter said would involve a 60-day pause in fighting and the United Nations-led distribution to the Palestinian territory. The Palestinian militant group said it would release 10 living hostages and hand over the bodies of 18 dead in exchange for Palestinian prisoners and detainees held in Israeli prisons. A Hamas official described the group's response to the proposals from US President Trump's special Middle East envoy Steve Witkoff as "positive" but said it was seeking more amendments. Arab ministers condemn 'ban on West Bank visit' The foreign ministers of several Arab countries, who had planned to visit the occupied West Bank this weekend, condemned a Saturday Israeli decision to block their trip. The ministers condemned "Israel's decision to ban the delegation's visit to Ramallah (on Sunday) to meet with the president of the State of Palestine, Mahmud Abbas", the Jordanian foreign ministry said. Ministers from Saudi Arabia, Egypt, Jordan and Bahrain had been expected to take part alongside the secretary-general of Arab League. Israel said Friday it would not cooperate, effectively blocking the visit as it controls the territory's borders and airspace. AP, AFP, REUTERS

despite reservations from key member Russia, doubling down on a historic policy shift that has sent crude prices sinking. Oil-producing nations led by Saudi Arabia agreed on Saturday to add 411,000 barrels a day to the market in July, according to a statement on the group's website. The hike matches increases scheduled for May and June, marking a radical reversal from defending prices to actively cutting them. Lower Officials say the hikes reflect Saudi's desire to punish over-producing members like Kazakhstan and Iraq, recoup market share lost to US shale drillers and other rivals, and satisfy Trump's desire for cheaper oil. Bloomberg



**AID SUPPLIES HIT BY LOOTING:** Palestinians collect aid supplies from the US-backed Gaza Humanitarian Foundation, in the central Gaza Strip, Thursday. Local aid groups said Saturday that armed men hijacked dozens of aid trucks entering the Gaza Strip overnight and looted their supplies, as officials waited for Hamas to respond to the ceasefire proposals. Reuters

## OPEC+ agrees on third oil supply surge

OPEC+ agreed to increase oil output for the third month in a row despite reservations from key member Russia, doubling down on a historic policy shift that has sent crude prices sinking. Oil-producing nations led by Saudi Arabia agreed on Saturday to add 411,000 barrels a day to the market in July, according to a statement on the group's website. The hike matches increases scheduled for May and June, marking a radical reversal from defending prices to actively cutting them. Lower Officials say the hikes reflect Saudi's desire to punish over-producing members like Kazakhstan and Iraq, recoup market share lost to US shale drillers and other rivals, and satisfy Trump's desire for cheaper oil. Bloomberg

## Yunus invites parties for fresh talks on poll

Dhaka: Bangladesh interim gov't head Muhammad Yunus has invited political parties for a fresh dialogue on June 2 on the reform process. It follows the court's May 19 order letting DHS end legal protections for 515,000 Venezuelans under a different programme and the decisions are bolstering Trump administration efforts to aggressively evict migrants — including some who came to the US legally. As is often the case with emergency orders, the court gave no explanation. Justices Ketanji Brown Jackson and Sonia Sotomayor dissented. Bloomberg

## DAILY PLANET

**250 million bees go abuzz after truck overturns**  
There was a buzz in the air Friday in northwestern Washington state as about 250 million honeybees escaped a commercial truck that overturned. The truck, carrying an estimated 31.75 kg of honeybee hives rolled over around 4am (local time) close to the Canadian border near Lynden, the Whatcom County Sheriff's office said. It appears the driver did not navigate a slight turn well enough, causing the trailer to roll into a ditch, county emergency management spokesperson said. Deputies, county public works employees and several bee experts responded to the scene. The box hives later came off the truck, and local beekeepers swarmed to help recover, restore and reset the hives, according to the sheriff's office. The plan is to allow the bees to return to their hives and find their queen bee in the next day or two, according to the sheriff's office. The goal is to save as many bees as possible. The public was advised to avoid the area on Friday, and sheriff's deputies dove into their squad cars at times to avoid being stung. Beekeepers often transport millions of bees from one location to another because leaving them in one location for too long can deplete resources for other pollinators. The Seattle Times reported. AP

**Small plane crashes into terrace in Germany; 2 die**  
A small plane crashed into the terrace of a residential building in western Germany on Saturday and two people were killed, police said. The crash happened in Korschbrunn, near the city of Monchengladbach and not far from the Dutch border. The plane hit the terrace of the building and a fire broke out. Police said one of them died and one of them was probably the pilot's staff. AFP

**Ngugi wa Thiong'o, Kenyan author, dies at 87**  
Celebrated Kenyan novelist and playwright Ngugi wa Thiong'o, whose sharp criticism of post-independence elites led to his jailing and two decades in exile, has died at the age of 87, Kenya's president said. Whether through novels such as "The Wizard of the Crow" and "Petals of Blood," memoirs such as "Birth of a Dream Weaver" or the landmark critique "Decolonizing the Mind," Ngugi embodied the very heights of the artist's calling — as a truth teller and explorer of myth, as a breaker of rules and standard of culture. He was a perennial candidate for the Nobel literature prize. Reuters

**GALLERY**

**Jay Shah meets UEFA president Ceferin in Munich**

**New Delhi:** Continuing cricket's global outreach, ICC chairman Jay Shah met UEFA president Aleksander Ceferin in Munich ahead of Saturday's Champions League final between Inter Milan and Paris Saint-Germain, which will be played at the Allianz Arena.

**Farhan, Abrar star as Pak win T20I series against B'desh:** Opener Sahibzada Farhan smashed a 41-ball 74 and spinner Abrar Ahmed grabbed grabbed 3-19 to guide Pakistan to another convincing 57-run win over Bangladesh after posting 201/6 in Lahore on Friday. Pakistan take 2-0 lead in the three-match series.

**Amandeep wins 7th Leg of Hero WPGT:** Amandeep Dhillon, one of the most successful players on the domestic circuit, topped a third straight round of one-over 7-11 to win the seventh leg of the Hero Women's Pro Golf Tour, breaking almost a 15-month wait for a title in Mysuru.

**Ahlawat tied 11th in Austrian Open:** Veer Ahlawat played a steady second round to sit tied 11th at the halfway stage of the Austrian Alpine Open in Salzburg. Ahlawat was 5-under and six shots behind leader Marcel Schneider.

**Dabang Delhi beat Jaipur Patriots in UTT opener:** Former champions Dabang Delhi TTC started their campaign on a positive note by outplaying Jaipur Patriots 11-4 in the opening match of Ultimate Table Tennis (UTT) in Ahmedabad Saturday.

**ACTION TODAY**

**CRICKET:** Eng vs Ind A, unofficial Test, Day 3, 3.30 pm (Sony, ECB website); Eng vs WI, 2nd ODI, 3.30 pm (Sony);

**TENNIS:** French Open, 2.30 pm & 1.45 pm (Sony Sports, Fancode)

**Law student could face both jail term & fine if convicted**

**Continued from P 1**

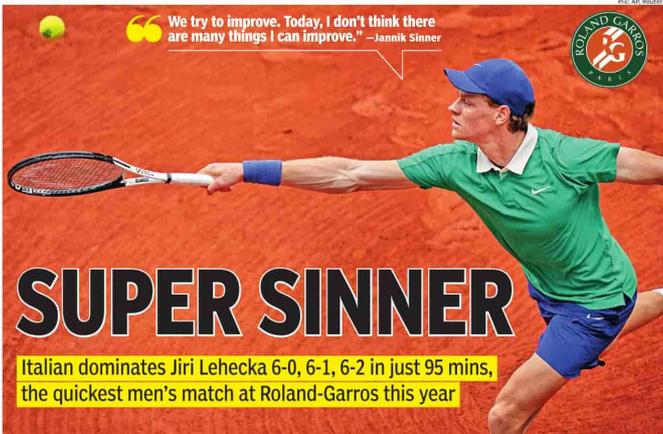
**A**n FIR was filed against the law student on May 15 over her Instagram video. "Attempts to serve notice failed as the accused and her family absconded. A court-issued arrest warrant led to her arrest in Gurgaon," said DC (Port) Harikrishna Pal.

Four FIRs are pending against the student in Kolkata. Charges include multiple sections of BNS — section 196(1) (a) for promoting enmity on religious grounds, Sec 295 for deliberate acts to provoke religious feelings, and sections 352 and 353(1)(c) for intentional insult provoking breach of peace and statements conducive to public mischief. Conviction could carry a prison sentence, fine, or both.

**The arrest has drawn sharp reactions on social media. In response to claims that legal norms were violated, police said, "All procedures were followed"**

Shortly after the controversy erupted, the girl deleted her post and issued a public apology. "I do hereby tender my unconditional apology. I never intentionally wanted to hurt anybody. I will be cautious in my public posts. Please accept my apologies," she wrote. She also claimed she received rape and death threats. "I have been trolled, threatened to be attacked, raped, murdered, for venturing my anger towards radical Pakistani terrorists who killed my innocent countrymen in Pahalgaon terror attack... Mera desh pehna mata hai," she posted.

Her arrest has drawn sharp reactions across social media, dividing opinion along political lines. In response to claims that legal norms were violated, Kolkata police posted on Facebook: "All procedures were followed. We urge all to avoid spreading unverified or speculative content and rely on authentic sources."



**ITALIAN DOMINATES JIRI LEHECKA 6-0, 6-1, 6-2 IN JUST 95 MINS, THE QUICKEST MEN'S MATCH AT ROLAND-GARROS THIS YEAR**

**Prjwal Hegde@timesofindia.com**

**Paris:** As the court-side clock closed in on an hour of match time, the capacity crowd at Suzanne Lenglen erupted into a joyous celebration. The French Open 2025 round clash was a dozen games old and spectators were showing appreciation generally reserved for the winner of a close contest.

World No. 1 Jannik Sinner had pulled away to a dominant 6-0, 6-1, 6-2 in just 95 minutes, the world No. 34, stopped his opponent's run of games and opened his account on the scoreboard. It was that kind of a performance from the three-time Major winner, clean as a whistle.

"It was like I was playing against myself, he was two times better than me in everything," said Lehecka, who was left shaking his head for a good part of the match.

The 23-year-old had nine unforced errors and 31 winners while going full throttle, coming through 6-0, 6-1, 6-2 in one hour and 35 minutes. That level of dominance against a fellow 23-year-old, who was ranked in the top-25 three months ago, should force organizers to think twice before scheduling the Italian for a night match. A 95-minute game wouldn't cut for the paying public, would it?

The reason why men play most if not all the night matches at Roland Garros is because there's a chance women's matches could go quickly, too quickly. Sinner, who improved to 15-0 on the season, won 29 of 35 points on his first serve and 17 of 20 on the second serve as the skies went from cloudy to clear in the course of their time on court.

Sinner, who returned earlier this month from a three-month ban for testing positive for clostebol, may be short of matches but he's looking fresher at a time when players are already complaining of fatigue barely five months into the season. "Sometimes in these kinds of matches (things) can change quickly, if you don't start well in one set the match can go long, and then you can't control it. We saw that on occasions here," Sinner said, perhaps alluding to Carlos Alcaraz's third-round clash against Daniil Medvedev.

The Bosnian surprised the defending champion in the third set on Friday night and broke the world No. 2 in the second game of the fourth set, then taking a handy 3-1 lead. "You have to focus and (have) the level always very, very high, because unexpected things can happen. Jiri is an amazing player. He has shown that throughout his career," Sinner admitted to feeling good at practice this morning, but didn't think he'd necessarily transferred to a match court especially given the vagaries of the conditions players have been dealing with this past week. "I try to control whatever I can, and today I did that,"

**BOPANNA & PAVLASEK ADVANCE TO RD 3**

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**Paris:** Rohan Bopanna and Adam Pavlasek rode the roller-coaster in their French Open second-round match against the 13th seeded Frenchman Fabien Reboul and Sadio Doumbia late on Friday.

The Indo-Czech pairing, who played together in Rome and Geneva, securing a match win in their two tournament outings coming into Roland Garros, saved their best tennis for the last. The duo rallied to score a thrilling 6-2 (2, 7-6), 6-2 win in two hours and 13 minutes. Bopanna and Pavlasek jumped to 3-1 and 4-2 advantages before they were broken in the eighth game. The French pair then played a strong tie-break. When Bopanna, 45, and Pavlasek, 30, trailed 1-3 in the second set, they looked to be out of it, but showed great energy in turning the match around. They converted on their third set point in the tie-break.

Bopanna and Pavlasek then ran away with the deciding set. The story of the match, however lay in the breakpoints converted.

The Indo-Czech couple created 13 opportunities and converted eight. Reboul and Doumbia converted three of three.

Next up for Bopanna and Pavlasek are the second seeds Finland's Harri Heliouvaara and Britain's Henry Pattin. In another second round clash India's Sriram Bopanna and Mexico's Miguel Reyes-Varelas lost to the fourth seeded Italians Simone Bolelli and Andrea Vavassori 3-6, 4-6. Meanwhile, Hitesh Chaudhary and Maxime D'hamme came through the junior boys qualifying draw.

**TIMES NATION**

**CDS: India-Pak conflict came nowhere close to N-faceoff**

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**New Delhi:** Chief of Defence Staff Gen Anil Chauhan said the conflict with Pakistan from May 7 to May 10, which saw reciprocal air, missile, drone and artillery strikes, never came anywhere close to the point of nuclear conflagration, with both sides "displaying a lot of rationality in their thoughts as well as actions".

In another interview on the sidelines of the Mangro-La Dialogue, the CDS further said, "The good part is that we are able to understand the tactical mistake which we made, remedy it, rectify it, and then implement it again after two days and flew all our jets again, targeting at long range."

Gen Chauhan was also dismissive of the effective-ness of Pakistan's air defence systems of Chinese-origin like HQ-9 missile batteries and radars as well as the use of "Turkish-origin Byker Y-1a kamikaze drones and Asiguard Sogard drones." "They didn't work. We were able to do precision strikes on heavily air-defended airfields of Pakistan 300km deep inside, with the precision of a metre," he said.

The IAF then struck nuclear Pakistani airbases and at least three radar sites, a few of them close to nuclear facilities as well as command and control centres, including Sukhoi-30MKI, Rafale and Mirage-2000 fighters using BrahMos, Crystal Mace-2, Rampage and Scalp missiles, among other precision munitions, for the calibrated pinpoint strikes, as was reported by TOI.

Gen Chauhan, on his part, declined to comment on President Donald Trump's claim that the US brokered the ceasefire to help avert a nuclear war but said it was "far-fetched" to suggest either side was close to using nuclear weapons. Pakistan's chairman of joint chiefs, staff Gen Saahir Shamshad Mirza had made the same point a day ago, also on the sidelines of the Shangi-La Dialogue, but had stressed that a "strategic miscalculation" can be netheruled out in the future.

Gen Chauhan, however, said "people in uniform" were rationally "most rational" since they understand the consequences. "In every step that happened during Operation Sindoor, I found both sides displaying a lot of rationality in their thoughts as well as actions. So, why should we assume that in the nuclear domain, there will be irrationality on someone else's part," he said.

There is "a lot of space" between the conduct of conventional operations and nuclear operations, the CDS said, adding that channels of communication with Pakistan "were always open" to control the situation and there were "more sub-ladders" on the escalation ladder that "can be exploited to settle our issues".

Modi gov't has misled nation, fog of war is now clearing, says Cong chief

**C**iting CDS Gen Anil Chauhan's remarks regarding aircraft loss in interviews on the sidelines of Shangi-La Dialogue in Singapore, opposition Congress demanded that govt come clean on "status" of losses suffered during Operation Sindoor. Accusing govt of misleading the people, party president Mallikarjun Kharge called for a special session of Parliament. "In wake of the remarks made by the CDS in Singapore, there are some questions that need to be asked. These can only be done if a special session of Parliament is convened," Kharge said. "Modi gov't has misled the nation. The fog of war is now clearing," he added. Congress also demanded a comprehensive review of the country's defence preparedness by an independent expert committee. "■"

**Guwahati shuts down after 11mm rain in 24 hrs**

**Continued from P 1**

**U**rban flooding shut down govt offices and educational institutions across Guwahati, where the IMD reported the highest rainfall ever recorded in May 17mm in 24 hours. Tezpur broke its own record with 17.4mm. A senior district official said 366 hill locations in Guwahati are known to be landslide-prone. "But most of these people continue to reside, risking their lives," Guwahati resident Basanti Rai voiced frustration over lack of preparedness.

"Situation in Rukminigaoon is going from bad to worse in past few years," she said. "Neither was there effort to flush out floodwater nor was preparedness in place to improve drainage around nearby areas."

In Arunachal, seven members of two families died when their vehicle was swept off NN-13 along Bana-Steppa road in East Kameng district late Friday. They were travelling to Seppa when a landslide pushed their vehicle into a gorge.

Two more died in Lower Subansiri district after a cabbage farm near Pine Grove was hit by a landslide. Arunachal CM Pema Khandu announced ex-gratia of Rs 41 lakh to each of the families, in accordance with govt norms.

Meghalaya reported seven deaths, including three children — due to drowning, landslides, and lightning strikes. With 47cm of rain in 24 hours, the state recorded India's highest single-day rainfall during this period. Cherrapunji and Mawsynram, among the wettest places on earth, witnessed their heaviest May downpour.

In Nagaland, one man was killed in Chumoukedi-m district on NH-29 after a rockfall struck a dumper Friday. Mizoram reported six deaths — including three Myanmarese refugees — after a hotel collapsed in a landslide. Floodwaters swallowed low-lying villages around Sairang near Aizawl as river Tlawng overflowed. In Tibet, Lunglei district, bordering Bangladesh, officials began moving families from the banks of river Karnaphuli to safer ground.

Manipur's Iri and Nambur rivers crossed danger levels by Saturday.

**64** Jannik Sinner struck a total of 30 winners to just nine unforced errors to improve to 64 consecutive wins against players ranked outside the Top 20.

**17** Sinner extended his Grand Slam winning streak to 17 matches.

**8** Alexander Zverev is just the eighth man in the Open Era to make eight or more consecutive appearances in the Roland-Garros 4th round. The 28-year-old now owns an impressive 37-9 record here.

**RESULTS (3RD ROUND)**

**Men:** Jannik Sinner (ITA) bt Jiri Lehecka (CZE) 6-0, 6-1, 6-2; 17-Alexey Rublev (RUS) bt Lukasz Ficiniak (POL) 6-1, 6-2; 17-Alexander Zverev (RUS) bt Joao Fonseca (BRA) 6-2, 6-4, 6-2; 3-Alexander Zverev (RUS) bt Flavio Cobolli (ITA) 6-2, 7-6 (7), 6-1; 17-Alexander Zverev (RUS) (AUS) bt 10-Paula Badosa (ESP) 6-1, 7-5; 3-Jessica Pegula (USA) bt Marketa Vondrousova (CZE) 3-6, 6-4, 6-2; 6-Mirka Ferrangis (ITA) bt 32-WuLiia Putintseva (KAZ) 6-3, 6-1.



he said. "This morning I felt the ball very good, and I can change from one moment to another."

The 68'3" Italian will meet Russian Andrey Rublev in the fourth round on Monday. Sinner leads the head-to-head 6-3 having won four of their last five meetings. Rublev advanced to the fourth round after a walkover from home favourite Arthur Fils, who withdrew because of a stress fracture of the lower back.

**GASPERINI CONFIRMS EXIT FROM ATALANTA**

**Bergamo:** Manager Gian Piero Gasperini confirmed his departure from Serie A side Atalanta with an emotional message to supporters on Saturday. Gasperini's exit did not come as a surprise, as he had earlier said he would not renew his contract.

**Heitinga returns to Ajax to take over as coach:** Former Netherlands defender John Heitinga has been appointed as the junior coach at Ajax.

**Satwik-Chirag duo bows out in semis**

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**Satwiksajit Rankireddy and Chirag Shetty** saved their match chances before crashing out in the semifinals of the Singapore Open BWF Super 500 tournament on Saturday.

Despite a valiant effort to win the 1st of the third game, the Indians lost 21-19, 10-21, 18-21 to Aaron Chia and Soh Wooi Yik of Malaysia. This was the 10th victory for the Malaysians in 13 meetings. They also beat the Indians at the Paris Olympics last August. The Malaysians reached their third final in three weeks. They won the Thailand Open and lost the Malaysia Masters last week.

In the final on Sunday, the third seeds will face South Korean fifth seeds Kim Won Ho and Seung Ja Seo. Playing their third semifinal of the year, Satwik-Chirag were aggressive in the first game. The Indians led 11-8 at the break and increased the lead to 14-10. Employing a strategy that helped them win in Olympics, Aaron and Soh succeeded in keeping the shuttle flat and close to the net. This disturbed the rhythm of the Indian duo and the Malaysians levelled at 18-18. At this stage, Soh hit the shuttle long and smashed the next one into the net, giving two valuable points to the Indians as they won the first game.

The Indians were a bit lax in the second game. It was a close affair till 6-6 in the third game. At this stage, the Malaysians secured four straight points and went up 11-7. At 20-11 when it looked all was over, the Indians saved seven match points before Soh managed to secure a smash winner, to the relief of the Malaysians.

**AIFF panel knocks Kashi out again**

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**Panaji:** The I-League title race has taken another turn after the AIFF appeals committee adjudged that Inter Kashi failed an ineligibility player for multiple games in the second leg of the competition.

The committee heard an appeal from Churchill Brothers, Namdhar FC and Real Kashmir and ruled that the re-registration of Mario Barco by Inter Kashi made him an ineligible player. "The rules do not provide for re-registration for anyone who has been ousted from the season due to a season-ending injury/illness," chairperson of appeals committee Rajesh Tandon said in the order.

The appeals committee had earlier rejected Kashi's plea against Namdhar fielding an ineligible player to announce Churchill as champs. Kashi had challenged the decision at the CAS where the matter is expected to be decided in June.

In the provisional standings, Churchill had 40 points, a point more than Kashi. The appeals committee order means Kashi's games where Mario was fielded would result in forfeiture. Churchill will now get two additional points, taking their position to an unassailable 42, regardless of the pending appeal before CAS.

**PIASTRI OUTPACES NORRIS TO GRAB SPANISH GP POLE**

**Barcelona:** Oscar Piastri topped the oval and McLaren teammate Lando Norris in the final moments of a gripping qualifying session on Saturday to clinch pole position for the Spanish Grand Prix.

The championship leader clocked a new, track-flawless final lap of one minute and 11.546 seconds to beat Norris by 0.209 seconds. McLaren claimed a dominant one-two having also topped all three practice sessions.

Four-time world champion Max Verstappen was third for Red Bull ahead of Mercedes' George Russell, seven-time champion Lewis Hamilton of Ferrari and Kim Antonelli in the second session. AP

**Valmik Thapar was tiger's most tireless advocate**

**Continued from P 1**

**B**ut to many, Valmik Thapar was the tiger's most tireless advocate. His relationship with Rathore, bloomed into a decades-long partnership that not only saved Ranthambhore's tigers from vanishing but also seeded a national movement for big cat protection.

"I met Valmik as a 10-year-old in 1976," said Govardhan Singh Rathore, son of Fateh Singh. "He was going through a difficult time and came to Ranthambhore seeking peace."

"That meeting with my father led to a friendship that lasted a lifetime. Both led a long-running crusade to save Ranthambhore and its tigers," he added.

In 1987, Thapar founded Ranthambhore Tiger Foundation — one of the first efforts in India to integrate conservation with community uplift.

Villages ringing the park became part of the mission. Healthcare, education, women's employment and traditional crafts were woven into a model that linked forest protection to human well-being. NGOs like Thapar joined the effort, showing conservation didn't need to be a choice between people and animals.

Dharmendra Chandal, a close associate and conservation biologist, recalled time in the field with reverence. "With Valmik sir, it was not just a safari; it was a masterpiece in the wild. His energy at 70 was unmatched. Even before safaris, he wouldn't rest — he would invite me home for lunch, he gave me a book, he would proudly Indian. The tiger may have lost a voice, but with him, Thapar was a visionary mentor — sharp, driven, and unyielding. His booming voice will echo through the valleys of Ranthambhore forever," said Govardhan Singh.

Even in his final days, Thapar was deep into writing a two-volume chronicle marking 50 years of Ranthambhore.

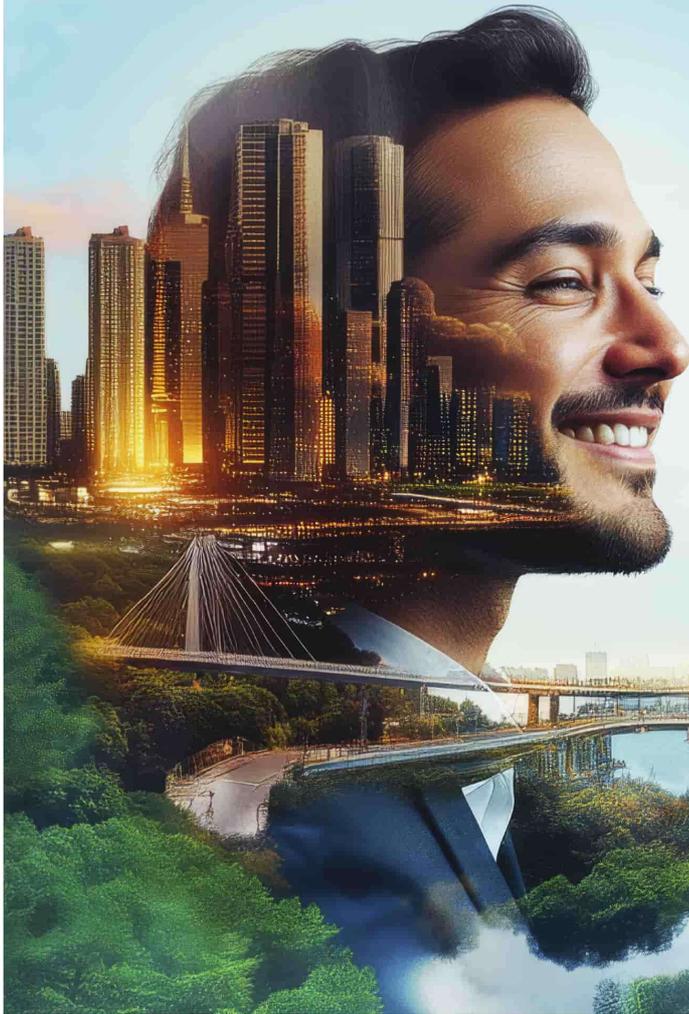
Wildlife filmmaker Subhash Nallanthuthu, who chronicled India's tigers for global audiences, perhaps captured Thapar's impact best. "He was the voice through which India's tigers first spoke to the world. Long before streaming platforms and social media, he gave the tiger a language that was poetic, political and proudly Indian. The tiger may have lost a voice, but with those who read his words, watched his films, and walked the trails he once did, that voice still echoes."

Thapar leaves behind his wife Sanjana Kapoor, daughter of actor Shashi Kapoor, and a life spent tracking pawprints through history.



Thapar authored nearly 50 books, narrated documentaries, and served on over 150 committees across political and bureaucratic divides. "He was fearless. Today, he has laid down his armour and gone to eternal rest," said Balendu Singh, former honorary warden of Ranthambhore.





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