# SUNDAY TIMES OF INDIA

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INDIA'S LARGEST ENGLISH NEWSPAPER




**Mother of Pete Hegseth**, Trump's pick for defence secy, tells NYT **she wrote her son an email in 2018 over his mistreatment of women for years**. 'I have no respect for any man that belittles, lies, cheats, sleeps around... You are that man,' she wrote **P 20**

**'Obligated to serve in the Army** because they took care of my ailing father for 3 years,' says **NDA gold medallist Ankit Chaudhary.** Jodha Thongiaomayum, son of school van driver in Manipur, wins bronze medal **P 13**

**Pakistan Cricket Board** backs down from boycott threat, **tells ICC it's willing to accept 'hybrid' model for hosting Champions Trophy** provided ICC allows the **same arrangement for events to be held in India till 2031 P 21**

**P V Sindhu cruises into women's singles final** with a dominating straight-game win (21-12, 21-9) in just 36 minutes over Unnati Hooda at **Syed Modi Int'l Super 300 badminton tournament P 22**




VOL. XXXV NO. 46 MUMBAI, SUNDAY, DECEMBER 1, 2024 * PRICE₹ 8.00 ALONG WITH SUNDAY MUMBAI MIRROR OR RAVIVAR MAHARASHTRA TIMES To subscribe call 1800 1200 004 or visit subscribe.timesofindia.com PAGES 40


## 7-yr-old dies in fall in Kurla pit

A seven-year-old boy died Saturday after he fell into an open pit that was dug by the RTO for track construction at the ST bus depot premises in Kurla (E). An official said they are still inquiring on how the boy fell into the pit, but it is learned that children often come to play on the premises. **P 2**

## Molestation FIR against actor

Khar police has registered an FIR against a Bollywood actor after a digital content creator accused him of molesting her at his suburban home where he allegedly called her under the pretence of a studio visit. No arrest has been made so far. **P 3**

## Discharge sought in hoarding case

Weeks after being granted bail, Bhavesh Bhinde, director of Ego Media and accused in the Ghatkopar hoarding crash case that claimed 17 lives, moved the sessions court seeking discharge from the case, saying it was an 'Act of God'. **P 3**

## Suicide pact: Man shoots GF & flees

A 24-year-old woman was Friday shot dead by her boyfriend, who intended to shoot himself, too, as part of an alleged suicide pact but lost his nerve and fled, say police in MP's Chhatarpur. He's been arrested and has admitted to killing her. **P 6**


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**Times Interact** | P 8, 10, 12 & 14

# Signal to Shinde? BJP says Maha govt to be sworn in on Dec 5

## Sena Wants Home Plus 9 Depts It Held

**Priyanka Kakodkar, Clara Lewis & Chaitanya Marpakwar** | TNN

**New Delhi/Mumbai:** BJP on Saturday announced that the new Mahayuti govt will be sworn in on Dec 5 in what is being seen as a signal to Eknath Shinde to make up his mind fast about joining the govt led by Devendra Fadnavis.

State BJP chief Chandrashekhar Bawankule said in a post on X that the swearing-in ceremony will take place at Azad Maidan and PM Modi will attend it. "The wait for this historic swearing-in is over," Bawankule said.

The announcement came post pause in talks after the three Mahayuti leaders — caretaker CM Eknath Shinde, Fadnavis and Ajit Pawar — met home minister Amit Shah in Delhi. The unambiguous post on X and the timing of it came as a surprise because there has been no communication between Shinde and BJP since he left Delhi and headed to his village in Satara district, after which he has been reportedly unwell. Sena wants the home department and 9 ministries it held earlier.

Political circles in Delhi and Mumbai were unanimous that the post was a message to Shinde to come around and agree to be a part of the Fadnavis govt.

▶ **'Demand for HM fair', P4**

### SHINDE HAS VIRAL FEVER, SAY DOCS

- Caretaker CM Eknath Shinde is down with viral fever at his native village Dare in Satara district, doctors said
- "He has viral fever, cold and throat infection. So I have started treatment and he's on IV saline. He will feel better in 1-2 days. He will go to Mumbai on Sunday," Dr R M Parte, who is treating Shinde, said
- The Shiv Sena is continuing to press for the home portfolio
- BJP still to hold meeting to elect legislative party leader
- Shiv Sena (UBT) chief Uddhav Thackeray asked why President's rule has not been declared though term of Maharashtra assembly has ended & no govt is in place yet

## EC defends roll updation but will meet Cong team

**New Delhi:** The EC, in its interim response on Saturday to concerns raised by Congress regarding "arbitrary deletion and additions of voters" and increase in voting percentages between 5 pm and 11.30 pm on polling day in Maharashtra and Jharkhand, reiterated electoral roll updation is a transparent process conducted with involvement of all parties. EC has agreed to meet a Congress delegation to hear the party's concerns on the polling process, EC sources said. **P 5**

▶ **30% vote manipulation in polls, claims Pawar Sr, P5**

# 2 more monks held after meeting jailed Chinmoy

## Kolkata-Agartala Bus Attacked In Bangladesh

**Subhro Niyogi & Biswendu Bhattacharjee** | TNN

**Kolkata/Agartala:** Bangladesh authorities arrested Iskcon monks Adi Purush Shyam Das and Ranganath Das as they were returning Friday after serving prasad to Chinmoy Kumar Das Brahmachari, an expelled priest of the order currently in prison on sedition charges.

Iskcon Kolkata's vice president Radharamn Das revealed Saturday the arrest of the two monks, both natives of Chittagong, amid a sharp rise in violence against Hindu minorities in Bangladesh since the Sheikh Hasina govt's fall in Aug.

### 'NO SYSTEMATIC ATTACK ON MINORITIES'

- Iskcon monk Chinmoy Das arrested on specific charges, **no systematic attack on minorities, Bangladesh tells UN forum** on minority issues



Protests in Dhaka over the arrests

- **Multi-specialty private hospital in Agartala suspends treatment of Bangladeshis** after pressure from a group of protesters
- Bangladesh **foreign affairs adviser Md Touhid Hossain hopes ties with India will improve** in near future: 'Our relationship is not defined by just a few days or months'
- **RSS urges Dhaka to take decisive steps** to curb violence against minorities, asks Indian govt to intensify diplomatic efforts
- B'desh **cancels 3 daily flights** to India as flyer count nosedives

An Agartala-Kolkata bus travelling via Dhaka allegedly faced an attack Saturday in Brahmanbaria district of Bangladesh, after an accident involving a truck and an autorickshaw. There were no casualties, but a group allegedly threatened the passengers and shouted anti-India slogans.

Tripura transport minister Sushanta Chowdhury said the collision may have been staged to target the Indian bus. He demanded immediate action by Bangladesh authorities to ensure the safety of Indians travelling through the country.

▶ **'Severe consequences', P 12**

## Penguin facility in city zoo to be expanded

With no takers among Indian zoos for Humboldt penguins at Byculla Zoo in exchange for other animals, authorities have decided to expand the existing penguin enclosure and quarantine facility that can accommodate up to 25 of the flightless birds, reports **Richa Pinto**. It is currently home to 18 Humboldt penguins, but to address future growth, plans are underway to construct additional space, which will allow room for 15 more penguins. A BMC official said, "We are keen to double the size." **P 3**

## SP netas barred from visiting kin of Sambhal violence-hit

**Bareilly:** A Samajwadi Party delegation planned to visit violence-hit Sambhal to "collect information and meet the victims", but its MPs and senior functionaries were stopped in different parts of UP on Saturday by the local administrations. Some of them were detained while others were put under "house arrest", reports **Kanwardeep Singh.**



UP's SP president Shyam Lal Pal put under 'arrest' at his Lucknow home

▶ **Court upholds Sanjauli partial razing order, P 15**

SP chief and ex-CM Akhilesh Yadav accused BJP of trying to suppress the party's efforts to connect with people and said, "All of us are in favour of peace. Our delegation was stopped by police. How long will they keep doing this? At least allow them to meet the victims' families in Sambhal. They are deliberately blocking the routes... BJP does not want peace."

▶ **'Political tourism', P 14**

## HC fines firm ₹5L over 'claim' on widow's plot

The Bombay HC dismissed a petition by a firm over acquisition of a village plot for the expansion of Kolhapur Airport and imposed exemplary costs of Rs 5 lakh to be paid within 2 weeks for raising a frivolous plea, consciously wasting its time, and harassing the landowner, an elderly widow. The division bench said it was the "grossest abuse of process of law" by the petitioner, GB Industries, "at every possible opportunity" as sans any semblance of legal rights to Minakshi Magdum's plot, the firm filed a petition. **P 2**

## Adani on indictment: Every attack makes us stronger

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**Jaipur:** In his first public reaction to indictment by US prosecutors, Adani Group chairman **Gautam Adani** said Saturday that "every attack" makes the group stronger and affirmed its commitment to regulatory compliance.



"This is not the first time we have faced such challenges... despite a lot of the vested reporting, no one from the Adani side has been charged with any violation of FCPA (America's Foreign Corrupt Practices Act) or any conspiracy to obstruct justice," Adani said at the 51st India Gem & Jewellery Awards in Jaipur.

"In today's world, negativity spreads faster than facts —and as we work through the legal process, I want to reconfirm our absolute commitment to world-class regulatory compliance," he said, adding, "These challenges have not broken us. Instead, they have defined us. They have made us tougher and give us the unshakeable belief that after every fall, we will rise again, stronger".

▶ **'Price of pioneering', P 14**

## 'Fengal' to bring heavy rain to Chennai, 4 dead

Four people were killed by electrocution in different parts of Chennai as Cyclone Fengal brought up to 13 cm of rain since Saturday morning, even as the spiral bands associated with the cyclone touched land around 7pm. The centre of the cyclonic storm slowed down 10 km/h to 7 km/h. The airport was also shutdown.

It took 3-4 hours for the cyclone to move toward the coast near Puducherry, IMD said, predicting heavy to very heavy rainfall in Chennai and 13 districts in Tamil Nadu on Sunday. **P 9**





TUDOR




BORN TO DARE

# HC fines firm ₹5 lakh for harassing widow over Kolhapur airport land

## Calls Plea Against Land-Owner Frivolous, 'Grossest Abuse Of Process Of Law'

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**Mumbai:** The Bombay High Court dismissed a petition filed by a firm over acquisition of a village plot for the expansion of Kolhapur Airport, imposing exemplary costs of Rs 5 lakh for raising a frivolous plea, consciously wasting its time, and harassing the landowner, a widow. HC division bench of Justices Girish Kulkarni and Advait Sethna, in a Nov 28 order, said it was the "grossest abuse of process of law" by the petitioner, GB Industries, "at every possible opportunity".

Sans any semblance of legal rights to a plot belonging to Minakshi Magdum, an elderly widow, the firm filed a petition, said the HC. The land was being acquired for a public project — the Kolhapur Airport.

"We cannot overlook that in the present times, when the pressure on the court is mounting, litigants persist in asserting such frivolous pleas. This is a new trend which we have noticed in several matters," the HC said. It would "not countenance" or brush aside such untenable persistence, said the HC and directed the firm to pay the widow in two weeks and, until it pays her, not to part with its own properties without a court nod.

The firm petitioned the HC this year, seeking orders to the state and the Maharashtra Airport Development Company Ltd, not to dispossess it from the plot, in village Mudshingi, as a tenant without giving it its share of the compensation under the Land Acquisition Act and also providing alternate land.

The HC said the leave license agreement of 2015 had expired in 2020, but the petitioners continued to occupy the land. After the Covid-19 pandemic, authorities sought to acquire the land for the airport. The compensation for the land would go to the widow and her two children. The firm began asserting its right as a 'tenant,' said the HC, but noted that its counsel, Shrikrishna Ganbavle, could not demonstrate if it was under the Maharashtra Rent Control Act, which is not even applicable to the area. Nor could the firm be an agricultural tenant, observed the HC, adding the firm, however, solely to harass, "illegally gain" "or in some manner blackmail" the widow, filed a suit before a Kolhapur court last year. It got no interim relief there. It filed a petition before the HC for orders against the state. The widow's counsel, RM Haridas, said the firm has no legal right, yet dragged her into "unwarranted proceedings" and sought dismissal with costs.

The HC said a litigant must come with "clean hands" and the law doesn't permit the court's writ jurisdiction to be abused for personal gains when no rights are evident and relief sought is effectively against private persons. Additional collector assured the acquisition process would be completed soon.

# 38 yrs on, stigma around HIV haunts 40K +ve people in city

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**Mumbai:** When 45-year-old Kaustubh*, a Bandra (West) resident, was diagnosed with cancer in 2018, support poured in from family, friends and doctors. Even health insurance companies and their third-party administrators were quick with the paperwork. He found a similar response in 2021 when he met with an accident and needed a leg surgery.

But the next year when he was diagnosed with HIV, all the well-wishers disappeared. "People are sympathetic with cancer as it's not considered to be the fault of the patient. But, for HIV, the patients are always blamed," he said.

Kaustubh is one of the 40,658 people living with HIV-AIDS (PLHA) in the city who are on medication to ensure their viral load is too low to be recorded. He could be a poster boy for the Indian healthcare system's response to HIV, but instead he and other PLHAs are stuck in the same social crisis that emerged after the virus was detected in India 38 years back. For most PLHAs, stigmatisation and discrimination attached to HIV— which spreads due to unsafe sex, needles or blood transfusion— is a grim day-to-day reality.

Kaustubh has now stopped visiting fancy hospitals; when he developed an infection on the leg that was operated on, he got admitted to BMC's Bhabha Hospital. Overcrowded public hospitals have their own problems, but Kaustubh doesn't have to fear being overcharged or denied insurance.

His fear isn't unreasonable. "At private hospitals, the charges for HIV patients seeking unrelated treatments, procedures or consultations can be more than for other patients," said HIV/AIDS specialist Dr Ishwar Gilada. Hospitals justify this by saying they have to spend on special equipment and infection-control protocols to treat positive people.

HIV care has evolved a great deal since Mumbai's Jaslok Hospital treated the first HIV case in 1986. A sizable number of the 25.4 lakh people living with HIV (PLHIV) in India now get free medicines. This year, Mumbai tested 7.3 lakh for HIV and found 3,383 to be positive while the rest of the state tested 24 lakh between April and Sept and found 7,234 positive cases. Doctors from the public health department say the numbers have been dropping every successive year.

Dr J K Maniar, HIV specialist at Jaslok Hospital, said, "Things have certainly improved, at least in cities and towns if not in our villages. It is true that PLHIV are denied admission in hospitals and that needs attention, at the same time, the extent of help available to such patients has boomed with govt and civil society initiatives."

For many like Kaustubh, though, the HIV status results in abandonment. A bioethics conference on stigma was held at KEM Hospital in Oct with Humsafar Trust's representatives. Its founder Suhail Abbasi told **TOI:** "While more and more people in the community are being open about their identities, there is still a lot of fear on opening up to their loved ones if they are HIV positive."

Insurance companies were expected to be more accepting of PLHIV after Human Immunodeficiency Virus and Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome (Prevention and Control) Act, 2017, which reads: "No person shall discriminate against the protected person on any ground including "the denial of, or unfair treatment in, the provision of insurance unless supported by actuarial studies". Kavi*, a 62-year-old resident of Bandra, found out otherwise. He has had health insurance since 2005 and was diagnosed with HIV in 2010. When he sought insurance for a medical procedure for sinus in 2021, his provider refused.

So, while PLHAs live longer and normal lives due to medication, and develop age-related ailments needing knee replacements, angioplasties or transplants, insurance cover is a grey zone. Gaurav Dubey, CEO of Livlong insurance, a brokerage house, said, "Even for unrelated treatments, hospital costs for HIV patients are comparatively more. Insurance compnies are not incentivised enough to design tailored plans for HIV patients and there is ambiguity in prevailing laws."

Ganesh Acharaya, the city's TB-HIV co-infection survivor and activist, said a few insurers offer coverage to PLHAs but the process is difficult. "Agents do not know the procedure. When I have tried approaching insurance companies, officials shut their doors on us."

Jaanvi* (32) who has lived with HIV since birth, has found a way around the insurance hassle. "The one time I needed a health procedure unrelated to HIV, I found a hospital that protected my HIV status from my insurance company." Nonetheless, there is hope. In 2021, Jaanvi took a leap of faith and revealed her status to a potential partner, who is not HIV positive. They married, have a healthy sex life with minimum transmission risk, and have a healthy kid. *(*Names changed)*

### HOSPS CHARGE MORE, INSURANCE DIFFICULT



**WHAT IS HIV**

- HIV or human immunodeficiency virus attacks cells that help the body fight infection, making a person vulnerable to other infections and diseases
- HIV spreads by contact with certain bodily fluids of a person with HIV
- If left untreated, HIV can lead to AIDS (acquired immunodeficiency syndrome)

**HIV & INDIA**

- India's first HIV-AIDS cases were reported in 1986 in Chennai and Mumbai
- The virus spread from at-risk groups (sex workers, drug-users, men having sex with men) to others due to poor awareness
- 2022 statistics show, India has **24 lakh** people living with HIV (PLHIV)

**AIDS DEATHS**

| Year | Deaths |
|---|---|
| 2000 | 80,000 |
| 2001 | 1 Lakh |
| 2002 | 1.1L |
| 2003 | 1.3L |
| 2005 | 1.5L |
| 2006 | 1.5L |
| 2014 | 80,000* |
| 2023 | 40,000 |

* Improved treatment access from 2007 reduced fatalities

**HIV & MUMBAI**

Mumbai and Maharashtra have seen among the highest number of HIV-positive people in the country

| | 2019-20 | 2020-21 | 2021-22 | 2022-23 | 2023-24 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Positive people | 4,617 | 2,153 | 3,179 | 3,462 | 3,383 |
| % | 0.7 | 0.6 | 0.6 | 0.5 | 0.5 |
| People tested for HIV | 6,49,824 | 3,50,705 | 5,37,366 | 6,48,870 | 7,29,309 |
| on medication | 4,217 | 2,017 | 3,030 | 3,207 | 3,229 |
| % | 91.3 | 93.7 | 95.3 | 92.6 | 95.4 |

**HIGHEST ON TREATMENT**

- According to union health ministry data, **16.68L** PLHIV on treatment in India
- Of them, Maha has the highest | **2.39L** on treatment
- 40,658 of them are from Mumbai

**ACHIEVEMENTS**

**1992** | Centrally-funded National AIDS Control Organization launched for prevention, awareness & treatment

**1998** | Mumbai District AIDS Control Society formed

**April 1, 2004** | India's first antiretroviral therapy (ART) centre set up at JJ hospital providing free medicines

**2017** | HIV/AIDS (Prevention and Control) Act to protect PLHIV's rights

- Today, there are 570 ART & 1,264 Link ART centres in India, 34,500 integrated counselling, testing centres

**TIMES Special**

"Serodiscordant couple marriages are now happening where one partner is HIV+ and the other negative. There are leaps to be achieved in society's approach but such couples are living healthy lives with children— **Dr J K Maniar** | JASLOK HOSPITAL

# 7-year-old boy dies after falling into open pit in Kurla E

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

**Mumbai:** A seven-year-old boy died after falling into an open pit that was dug at the ST bus depot premises in Kurla East, on Saturday, around 4pm.

The boy was identified as Ujwal Ravi Singh, who was rushed to civic-run Rajawadi Hospital, where he was declared dead.



According to information shared by the civic body, the boy fell into the pit that was dug up for track construction by the RTO.

A civic official said inquiries are still being made on how the boy fell into the pit. "It is learned that the kids from the neighbourhood often came to play on the premises, and the watchman had asked them to refrain from playing," said an official.

Police said they registered an accidental death report (ADR) and will investigate further. The boy's aunty, Kashmira Raghavpatre, said that he studies at a municipal school in Kurla.

"His mother worked as a house maid and father had passed away six months back. He jumped into the pit that was dug up and filled with water. He probably got stuck in it. This is what police told us," said his aunty.

The boy's body was yet to be handed over to the family. His mother Renuka Singh was inconsolable, said the relative. The final rites of the boy are likely to be performed on Sunday.

It may be recalled that on Nov 10, an 18-month-old boy, Krishna Omprakash Gupta, had died after falling into an open drain on Gaondevi Road in Bhandup (W).

# MCOCA invoked in Baba Siddique murder case

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**Mumbai:** The Mumbai crime branch, probing the murder of former minister Baba Siddique, on Saturday invoked the sections of the stringent law, the Maharashtra Control of Organised Crime Act (MCOCA) 1999 , in the case. So far, 26 accused, including three shooters, have been arrested. The motive behind the murder still remains unclear.

Siddique was shot dead on the night of Oct 12 outside his son Zeeshan Siddique's Bandra (East) office.

The city crime branch, which is also probing the firing case outside actor Salman Khan's Galaxy Apartment, has already invoked MCOCA against the accused in the firing case. Unidentified shooters had on April 14 fired at Salman's Galaxy Apartments residence and fled. Nobody was injured in the firing.

Under the MCOCA, police get a period of six months to file a charge sheet in a heinous crime case compared to three months under the IPC/BNS. Special courts conduct trials in the MCOCA cases.

In the Siddique firing case, three accused—Shubham Rameshwar Lonkar, Zeeshan Mohammad Akhtar, and Anmol Bishnoi—are still wanted in the case. Police have issued lookout circular notices against these wanted accused. Anmol is the brother of jailed gangster Lawrence Bishnoi. Anmol was detained in the USA around 10 days ago.

On Oct 12, soon after the firing, the Nirmal Nagar police nabbed two shooters while one of them, Shivkumar Gautam alias Shiva (23), managed to flee. He was arrested near the Nepal border a month after the murder.


DELHI POLLUTION CONTROL COMMITTEE

http://dpcc.delhigovt.nic.in

LiFE Lifestyle for Environment

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KIND ATTENTION:

OWNERS/OPERATORS/DRIVERS OF ALL TRUCK/LIGHT COMMERCIAL VEHICLES (LCV) HEADING TO DELHI

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Truck traffic into Delhi is not allowed (except for trucks carrying essential commodities/ providing essential services).

All LNG/ CNG / Electric/ BS-VI Diesel trucks shall however be permitted to enter Delhi.

LCVs registered outside Delhi, other than EVs / CNG / BS-VI diesel are not permitted, to enter Delhi, except those carrying essential commodities/ providing essential services.

*GRAP Stage-IV has been invoked in Delhi vide Commission for Air Quality Management in National Capital Region and Adjoining Areas (CAQM) order dated 17.11.2024 for strict implementation and all concerned are required to check the CAQM website (https://caqm.nic.in/) regularly for imposition/revocation of different stages of GRAP.*


# HC grants interim relief to 'Mochi' in its trademark dispute against 'Desimochi'

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**Mumbai:** In a trademark battle in the footwear industry between 'Mochi' and 'Desimochi', the Bombay High Court has granted interim relief to 'Mochi', which, it said, was in inception since 1977. Desimochi came into being in 2017. The mere addition of the word 'desi' does not create a distinction, the High Court single Judge Bench of Justice R I Chagla said in a Nov 18 order.

The HC put its foot down and restrained the infringement of 'Mochi', saying the mere addition of a generic prefix will not negate the actionable similarity between the rival marks, but would suggest to buyers or pass off as its 'Indian brand."

It was Metro Brands Ltd vs Nice Shoes LLP and others before the HC. Metro's counsel, Rashmin Khandekar, argued that his client is a public limited company and claims to be among the largest Indian footwear retailers as a one-stop shop for sole needs from 826 shops across India. Its mark as 'Mochi' is recognised as a "well-known mark" under the Trade Marks Act and has "tremendous goodwill". Khandekar argued that in August 2022, his client found the rival mark online. The World Intellectual Property Organisation (WIPO) Arbitration and Mediation Centre in January 2024 denied Metro's complaint, finding no 'bad faith' in the rival mark, while noting it to be "confusingly similar".

Mochi moved the High Court. It cried foul over the WIPO order. Advocate Jyoti Pandey for Nice Shoes invoked the defence of fair use and said 'Mochi' is a term 'generic to the business of shoe manufacturing", holding no exclusivity or monopoly. She argued that "The trademark law protects distinctive marks that identify the source of products, not generic terms."

Justice Chagla said, "Existence of bad faith is not required to secure an order of infringement against a registered trademark."

# Sacred season of Advent heralds countdown to the birth of Christ

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**Mumbai:** Sunday Dec 1 marks the start of the holy season of Advent, four weeks of prayerful celebration leading to the birth of Jesus Christ, saviour of mankind, at Christmas. Each Sunday, churches light a candle before the Advent wreath, variously symbolising hope, peace, joy and love.

Uma Kadam



Each Sunday, churches light a candle before the Advent wreath

Oswald Cardinal Gracias, archbishop of Bombay, issued a message to the flock Saturday, saying, "As we approach the sacred season of Advent, we are called to journey in hope. The universal Church stands at a crossroads as we navigate the complexities of a rapidly changing world. The synod on synodality has invited us to listen to one another. In our society, we are faced with challenges of economic inequality, environmental degradation, and the erosion of human dignity. Yet, Advent reminds us that in the darkest of times, Christ's light shines the brightest. In our archdiocese, let us keep in mind those most in need — the poor, lonely, elderly, and marginalised (through) concrete acts of charity and solidarity."

Fr S Gnana Jothi, parish priest of Christ The King Church, Shivaji Nagar, Govandi, said, "Our parish consists of 120 families with 400 people. They really help in everything. I am making four teams to plan during the whole month. For example, Sunday School teachers will teach children to make homemade decoration. A youth team will fashion the crib, another will handle church decoration."

At Sacred Heart Church in Andheri East, Fr Callisto Gomes blessed the candles on the Advent wreath. Parishioner Anil Dsouza said, "On Saturday, when the 7 pm mass is the Sunday mass, the first candle of hope was lit. The wreath is usually made of thorny green thistle leaves.. also indicative of the crown of thorns which Jesus was made to wear during crucifixion."

In Dadar East, Fr Austin Norris, parish priest of St Paul Church, said, "We are ushering in the season with prayer, patience, poverty-awareness and preparation for the Jubilee Year. Our decorators are working gradually starting on the first Sunday of Advent leading upto Christmas. Children and adults are gearing up with love offerings to the needy."

## Axe hurts baby as his parents & neighbour fight

**Navi Mumbai:** A nine-month-old boy was injured during a fight between his parents and their neighbour in Belapur. CCTV footage shows an axe held by the neighbour falling on the baby. The child sustained grievous injuries on the forehead.

The police said that the baby's elder brother often answered nature's call near the house of the accused, Raju Satta, which led to fights. On Thursday, Satta picked up an axe and tried to attack the baby's father, Usman Shaikh, when Shaikh's wife, with the baby in arms, tried to shield her husband. "That's when the axe fell on the infant's head, and left him bleeding."

The baby was taken to hospital. An FIR was lodged at NRI Coastal police station against Satta for attempt to murder. He has been absconding since then. —**Umesh K Parida**

# Content creator accuses film actor of molestation

### Police Register FIR, No Arrest In Case So Far

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

**Mumbai:** Khar police have registered an FIR against a Bollywood actor after a woman accused him of molesting her at his suburban residence this past week. No arrest has been made in the case so far.

The 32-year-old complainant is a digital content creator. In her complaint to the police, she said the actor reached out to her via Facebook.

Initially, she ignored the request, assuming it to be a fake ID. However, after the actor spoke to her over a video call, she was able to confirm his identity.

He told her he had seen her content on Facebook and Instagram. He asked her to meet him at his office to discuss a video shoot. He also sent her a Google location of a studio at Khar and asked her to send over all her photographs.

On Nov 26, around 5.30pm, the complainant reached the location at Khar. She called up the actor, at which he summoned her to the third floor of a building. On reaching the apartment, the complainant realised it was a residential property and not an office. An elderly man answered the door and asked whom she wanted to meet. She told the man that she had come to see the actor and was ushered inside.

To the complainant's shock, the actor was allegedly lying nude in his bedroom. When she turned around and told him to get dressed as she wasn't comfortable, the actor asked her to hug and kiss him. He then suddenly came towards her and groped her. She pushed him away and ran out of the apartment, the complainant said.

Later in the day, after she reached home, she received an obscene image and abusive texts over WhatsApp from the actor. She then approached Khar police, where an FIR was registered on Nov 27 for molestation.

When **TOI** contacted the actor for his comment, he said the incident never took place. "I had flown down from New York to Kolkata for the death anniversary of a family member," he said. Police have applied BNS sections 74, 75 and 79 for molestation and sexual harassment. Police said they will quiz the actor shortly.

# Penguin popln at city zoo up, plan is to expand bird facility

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**Mumbai:** With no takers among Indian zoos for Humboldt penguins at Byculla Zoo, authorities have decided to expand the existing penguin enclosure and quarantine facility. Currently home to 18 Humboldt penguins, the existing enclosure, constructed in 2017, can accommodate up to 25 of the flightless birds.

Last year, the city's Veermata Jijabai BhosaleBotanical Gardens and Zoo, commonly known as Rani Bagh, had approached Hyderabad's Nehru Zoological Park and Sakkarbaug Zoological Park or Junagadh Zoo in Gujarat, offering to exchange their surplus Humboldt penguins for other animals. However, neither zoo has responded positively.

To address future growth, plans are underway to construct additional space, which will allow room for 15 more penguins. A BMC official said, "We have space available to extend the existing enclosure itself towards the back. Our existing enclosure measures around 2,000 sqft, and we plan to add another 500 sqm. Besides, we intend to increase the size of the quarantine facility, which is currently 1,000 sqft. We are keen to double the size."

Expansion of the central exhibit could cost BMC around Rs 1.5 crore, while expansion of the quarantine could cost about another Rs 1 crore. An official said that there were plans to expand the penguin enclosure as part of the aquarium construction plans in the zoo, which, however, did not materialise. "It is important to complete expansion works before the number of the birds touches 25," the official said.

Authorities said that the reason other zoos have not shown willingness to take surplus penguins in exchange could be the steep operations and maintenance cost involved in housing penguins. Byculla Zoo spends Rs 5.5 crore a year to operate and maintain the penguin facility, which includes salaries to be paid to veterinarians.

The Humboldt penguins were introduced to Byculla Zoo on July 26, 2016, when eight birds—three male and five female —were brought from South Korea. In the past eight years, their population more than doubled. The last births of three penguins —two females named Coco and Stella and a male, Jerry — were announced in Nov 2023 by zoo authorities.

For many years, Byculla zoo has been trying to acquire a lion from Junagadh zoo. In 2019, a request for the lion was sent by the then chief minister's office to the Gujarat chief minister, but nothing materialised.

### FROM 8 GOT IN 2016, NUMBER TOUCHES 18




**HOW MANY PENGUINS CAME**

**Eight Humboldt penguins brought** | Three males, five females arrive at Jijabai Bhosale Vanaspati Udyaan & Zoo, Byculla, on July 26, 2016

➤ Penguins brought from Coex Aquarium, Seoul, South Korea. Quarantined with temperature maintained at 16-18 degrees Celsius

➤ Today, the number is 18. Males named Molt, Donald, Popeye, Oreo, Oscar, Flash, Bingo, Nemo, Jerry. Female called Flipper, Daisy, Olive, Bubble, Alexa, Siri, Dora, Coco, Stella

**ADDITIONS OF 2023**

A breeding pair, Molt & Flipper, lay egg, and a female chick Coco hatched on April 27, 2023. Another pair—Popeye (male) and Olive (female)—laid a single egg, and a female chick, Stella, hatched on May 23, 2023, who has been named Siri. Third chick (Jerry) hatched by breeding pair—Donald & Daisy on June 27, 2023

**PENGUIN FACTFILE**

➤ Penguins can procreate up to 15 years of age

➤ At a time, they can lay up to two eggs as well; however, so far, the penguins have laid only one each

➤ There is generally a gap of six months to one year when the birds can lay eggs

➤ Existing exhibit can accommodate up to 25 penguins

➤ The existing penguin enclosure facility is equipped with an advanced systems for the water body, for clean air circulation, chillers, CCTV cameras for 24/7 monitoring of penguins, veterinarians and animal keepers, engineers, etc., for care and management of the birds

# Bhinde asks for discharge from Ghatkopar hoarding crash case

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**Mumbai:** Weeks after being granted bail, Bhavesh Bhinde, director of Ego Media Pvt Ltd, which erected the Ghatkopar hoarding that claimed 17 lives after it crashed on a petrol pump on May 13, moved the sessions court seeking discharge from the case. Meanwhile, the court also granted bail to Jhanvi Marathe, a former director in Ego Media. She was arrested in May. The detailed order will be made available on Sunday.

In his plea, Bhinde (50) stated that the incident was neither the result of any negligence nor mistake on his part, but was purely due to an unexpected natural disaster and an 'Act of God,' which was beyond human control. He also denied that he failed to take the requisite permission from BMC to erect the hoarding. "…it is pertinent to note that this requirement does not apply in this case because the land belongs to the Railway Department. The jurisdiction for permissions for structures on railway land lies with the Railway authorities, not the BMC," the plea said. The court directed the prosecution to submit its reply. The matter will come up for hearing on Dec 7.

The police alleged that despite being aware of the need for permission from BMC, the accused, in collusion with GRP and civic officials, illegally erected the hoarding.

However, Bhinde's discharge plea said that it was pertinent to note that the Railway Department sought a report from a former Bombay High Court judge. "…in that report, it is clearly mentioned by Justice… that the MCGM has no power to decide about hoarding erected on the property of railways and recover any tax or fee on the same. Inspection with regard to the stability of the structures of a hoarding etc. is being done by railways and, as such, the MCGM cannot recover any tax or fee… Therefore, it is crystal clear that the applicant (Bhinde) has not sought any permission from the MCGM because MCGM has no power and authority to look into the land of railways," the plea said.

### 'INCIDENT AN ACT OF GOD'



➤ Three expert and technical reports revealed a glaring lack of proper soil testing, substandard piling work, and a fundamentally flawed and defective design of Ghatkopar hoarding. Reports from VJTI, weather bureau, and Indian Meteorological Department are on the chargesheet



➤ A special investigating team (SIT) of Mumbai crime branch discovered irregularities and procedural lapses by BMC and police officials while granting permission to Ego Media for approving hoarding

➤ The DGP's office issued a show-cause notice to former GRP commissioner Quaiser Khalid, and sought an explanation from his successor Ravindra Shisve for their failure to flag off the illegality

➤ The SIT, tasked with probing the cause of the hoarding collapse, submitted a 3,299-page chargesheet against Ego Media directors **Bhavesh Bhinde,** Janhvi Marathe, structural engineer Manoj Sanghu, and civil contractor Sagar Kumbhar

➤ Police told court they will continue to probe role of others under CrPC 173(8), despite having submitted chargesheet

➤ VJTI's report says collapse of the structure is due to "inadequate/deficient design & construction foundation of hoarding

## Pre-schools in limbo on admission age criterion

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

**Mumbai:** Preschools face uncertainty regarding minimum entry age requirements for admissions starting in December. Schools plan to maintain their current policy of accepting children who turn three by Dec 31, 2025, for junior kindergarten enrolment.

National Education Policy (NEP) stipulates a three-year entry age requirement, ensuring children are six years old when entering class 1 during Apr-Jun of an academic year. For the current academic year, preschools were permitted to enrol children turning three by Dec 31, 2024. Education professionals advocate for extending admission eligibility to children turning three by June-Jul of an academic year.

School administrators say they must establish age criteria as admissions commence in December. "With no clarity on age limit, we will continue having Dec 31 as the date for admitting children in preschools," said a school principal. Children as young as 2.5 years get admitted to junior kindergarten with the existing age criteria.

The preschool policy, anticipated to take effect in the 2025-26 academic year, is nearing completion.

## 'Digital arrest' threat: Woman made to strip

**Mumbai:** A woman working in a pharma company was threatened with "digital arrest" by cyber fraudsters and forced to strip over a video call under the pretext of undergoing "body verification". On her complaint, the Dahisar police registered an FIR and then transferred the case to Andheri Police as the offence occurred in the latter's jurisdiction. No arrest has been made so far.

The incident occurred between Nov 19 and 20, police said. Fraudsters posing as Delhi Police officers got in touch with the complainant. They scared her into believing that a money laundering probe was going on against her. The fraudsters forced her to book a hotel room. Keeping her engaged in conversation, they defrauded her of Rs 1.7 lakh online TNN

### GOKHALE BRIDGE WORKS IN FULL SWING

Uma Kadam



Work on completion of the Gokhale Bridge in Andheri, which will serve as a crucial east-west connector, is in progress, with lowering of the girder underway. The bridge was shut for traffic in Nov 2022, after authorities cited weak structural stability. Like in the first phase, assembly of the iron girder in the second phase was completed at a height of 14 to 15 meters above the ground on the east side of the railway tracks

## Bishop John Rodrigues to be the next archbishop

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**Mumbai:** Pope Francis has appointed Bishop John Rodrigues as coadjutant bishop of the Archdiocese of Mumbai. This implies that he will take over as Archbishop of Bombay after Oswald Cardinal Gracias resigns at the age of 80. The Cardinal turns 80 on Dec 24.

Fr Nigel Barrett, spokesperson of the archdiocese of Bombay, issued a press statement to this effect Saturday. He said, "Cardinal Gracias has conveyed through a video message to the archdiocese that Pope Francis has appointed John Rodrigues as the coadjutor bishop of the archdiocese. Bishop Rodrigues is well-acquainted with the archdiocese. He was ordained as a bishop at St Michael's Church, Mahim, on Jun 29, 2013, and served as an auxiliary bishop of the Archdiocese of Bombay for a decade before being transferred to Poona. As auxiliary bishop, he was appointed as rector of Mount Mary Basilica and has previously held positions as the rector of the Goregaon Seminary, St Pius X College, and a Professor of Dogmatic Theology."

Bishop Rodrigues will take office on Jan 25, 2025 and will reside at the Archbishop's House in Colaba.

# Mom acquitted of cover-up of girl's abuse by stepdad

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**Mumbai:** Five years after a now 44-year-old woman was accused under the Pocso Act for failing to report her minor daughter's sexual assault by her husband, the child's stepfather, a special Pocso court acquitted her this week. The 14-year-old, who confided in her maternal aunt that her stepfather raped her multiple times and that her cries for help to her mother fell on deaf ears, turned hostile in court during trial. The stepfather died by suicide soon after the FIR was registered, and the case proceeded only against the mother.

"Allegations against the present accused are only that she helped accused no 1 [stepfather] to commit a sexual act with the victim, but since there is no evidence on record about the commission of physical relations by the deceased accused with the victim, the victim herself did not state anything about the present accused. Moreover, she admitted that she did not lodge a report against the present accused," the judge said.

The judge further stated that the prosecution failed to examine remaining material witnesses, including panch witnesses, the medical officer, eyewitnesses, and other independent witnesses. "The evidence of the investigating officer is also not helpful to the prosecution to prove the incident, as the victim herself does not support the prosecution case at all on any material count," the judge said.

The judge further noted that in the absence of any cogent, convincing, and reliable evidence, the prosecution has therefore miserably failed to prove ingredients of section 21 of Protection of Children From Sexual Offences Act. This section deals with punishment for failing to report or record sexual offence against a child. The maximum sentence is six months in jail.

The FIR was registered on Oct 26, 2019. The girl herself lodged a report at the police station, contending that her mother married the deceased accused. Her mother, stepfather, sister, and stepsister were living together. In Sept 2019, they moved to Goa. However, her maternal aunt brought her to Mumbai for Diwali.

The FIR stated that the girl informed her aunt that when she was 9-10 years old, her stepfather sexually harassed her when her mother went to work. Seeing her alone, he sexually assaulted her. When she started shouting, he threatened to kill her. He used to trouble her, but since he threatened her, she did not disclose it to anyone.

## 10% water cut over Pise gate malfunction

**Mumbai:** Due to a malfunction in the pneumatic gate system at Pise, water supply to Mumbai city, suburbs, Thane, and Bhiwandi will be affected. BMC said that from Dec 1 to 5, there will be a 10% reduction in water supply. "A technical fault occurred on Nov 30 in the pneumatic gate system at Pise. The repair work will continue from Dec 1 to 2. This urgent repair work will impact the water supply to Mumbai city, suburbs, and the Thane and Bhiwandi municipal corporations. There will be a 10% reduction in water supply from Dec 1 to Dec 5," a statement from the BMC said. TNN

## Man fined ₹25K for ignoring RTI query in Virar

**Mumbai:** A retired revenue officer from Virar has been penalised Rs 25,000 for not responding to a Right To Information (RTI) query. The State Information Commission for the Konkan region has also issued a show-cause notice to the tehsildar of Vasai.

Terrance Hendricks had submitted an RTI query to the Virar talati office on April 16, 2021. When talathi Chandrakant Salve failed to provide the information, Hendricks went in appeal.

The commission told the state govt to deduct the fine amount from Salve's retirement benefits. TNN

# Cutchi Memon Jamat marks 100 years with multiple celebrations

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A group of 200 passengers boarded a luxury ship this past Saturday evening and cruised off the city coast. They were not usual tourists who, while holidaying in the city, visit the iconic Gateway of India and also go for a joyride on those catamarans tethered to the stonewall of the jetty. They were members of the Cutchi Memon Jamat out on the sea in the balmy evening celebrating the Jamat's centenary.

The party, which lasted for a couple of hours and included a fun and lavish dinner aboard the cruise ship, is just one of the several celebrations the Jamat has packed until December 12 to mark the important milestone in the Jamat's fascinating journey.

Beginning with Quran Khwani or recitation of the holy Quran, the celebrations also comprise a Qawwali performance by noted Qawwal Azim Nazan, and the felicitation of some of the senior and distinguished members of the Jamat who are flying in from across the world, from Dar es Salaam to Nairobi, Mombasa to Mauritius, Bahrain to Bengaluru. Three members, to be selected through a lucky draw following the felicitation function and a comedy show on December 12 in the city, will be sent for a sponsored Umrah trip to the holy city of Mecca. Though Haj and Umrah are performed in Mecca, these Umrah pilgrims will also visit Medina to pay homage to Prophet Muhammad's tomb and pray at Masjid E Nabawi or the Prophet's Mosque in Medina.

"This is a historical moment in the life of the Cutchi Memons. While we celebrate, we will also discuss what we achieved in the last 100 years and what we can do for future generations," said the Jamat President Hafiz Mohammed Irfan Dadani.

Dadani added that, in consultation with Vice-President Mohammed Irshad Abdullah Siddique, Treasurer Sadiq Abdul Karim Bharapurwala, and well-wisher Abdul Bakar Dadani, the Jamat has decided to remember the community's icons, remarkable individuals, and important institutions.

And when they begin going down memory lane, they will find that the Cutchi Memons are an offshoot of the Memons (another is Halai Memons) who were Lohana Hindus in Sindh (now in Pakistan). A legend has it that the 16th-century Sufi saint Syed Yusufuddin Qadri converted many Lohana Hindu families to Islam. Both the Cutchi Memons and Halai Memons trace their origins to those Lohana families who embraced Islam at the hands of that Sufi saint.

Some philanthropists in the community, including Haji Karim Mohammed Suleiman, fondly called Cummo Seth, founded the Jamat a century ago to keep the community under one umbrella and continue the charitable works it had initiated.

Known for establishing several institutions, they gave to the city many famous and mammoth institutions, including the massive Musafirkhana (the guesthouse near Crawford Market which sheltered Haj pilgrims from across the country in the era when pilgrims boarded ships to Jeddah before the Haj House became functional in the 1990s), Saboo Siddik Hospital, Anjuman I Islam's Saboo Siddik Engineering College, Minara Masjid at Mohammed Ali Road.



Cruising off the Mumbai coast was part of the centenary celebrations

There are around 10 lakh Cutchi Memons across the world, including over two lakhs in India. Out of this, around 20,000 reside in Mumbai.

Basically, a business community, many Memons are becoming professionals like engineers, doctors, and architects, even specialising in Artificial Intelligence (AI). "Bengaluru celebrated it last year. We are spread out across the world and many in the new generation have studied to become professionals. They are part of the global citizens ushering in a new era," said Bengaluru-based septuagenarian businessman Irfan Razack, among those the Jamat will felicitate on December 12.

# It's fair we insist on home dept, says Sena neta

**Priyanka Kakodkar, Clara Lewis & Chaitanya Marpakwar** | TNN

**New Delhi/Mumbai:** During deliberations, Eknath Shinde had raised the issue of the awkwardness of him joining govt as Dy CM after having served as CM of Mahayuti govt. Sources said Amit Shah is learnt to have told him calmly that even Fadnavis, an ex-CM, had joined him as deputy and it was not a decision Fadnavis took on his own but because he was asked to do so by the party. BJP's confidence is based on the numbers it has in the assembly: 132 plus five independents, which with Ajit's support swells to a daunting 178, putting the ball in Shinde's court.

NCP chief Ajit Pawar on Saturday reiterated that the CM would be from BJP and there would be two deputy chief ministers, one from NCP and the other from the Shiv Sena.

However, the Sena would, in addition to seeking the Dy CM's post, keep up its demand for the home portfolio and for retaining all the 9 ministries it held in the Shinde-led govt, a Sena functionary said. These include the industries and urban development departments.

Asked about Sena's demand for the home portfolio, Ajit Pawar said, "It's the CM's prerogative to decide portfolios. There is no tug-of-war regarding portfolios."

Sena's Sanjay Shirsat justified the party's demand. "When BJP held the Dy CM's post, they got the home portfolio. So it's only fair that we insist on it. If there is a dashing leader in charge of the home department, it will keep rioters at bay," he said.

The Sena functionary said there are no backchannel talks or negotiations going on with BJP and any power-sharing formula will only be discussed when Shinde, Fadnavis and Ajit Pawar meet in person.

Meanwhile, SS (UBT) chief Uddhav Thackeray said, "Before the MVA govt was formed, they declared President's rule. Now after such a massive majority, the Mahayuti govt has still not been formed. The term of the assembly is over. Why hasn't President's rule been declared?"

# Yugendra among 11 to seek EVM verification in Pune

**Pune:** Eleven assembly poll candidates, including NCP (SP)'s Baramati nominee Yugendra Pawar, have submitted applications to the district administration seeking verification of the microcontrollers of EVMs used in their constituencies during the recently concluded state election.

Among the other key candidates who have applied for the verification are NCP (SP)'s Hadapsar pick Prashant Jagtap, Congress Pune cantonment nominee Ramesh Bagwe. The applications were to be submitted within the mandatory seven-day window after the declaration of results, which ended on Friday.

The candidates have sought verification of the microcontrollers of 137 EVM sets in the districts and have collectively paid Rs 66.6 lakh for the process.

According to Supreme Court's directions, candidates who finish second and third in a poll can seek verification of microchips embedded in up to 5% of EVMs per assembly constituency after submitting a written request. District election officials said they have already intimated the state chief electoral office about the applications. A mock poll will be conducted in the presence of candidates, engineers of firms manufacturing control units, ballot units, and VVPATs based on the chief electoral office orders as per high court's directions. — **Nisha Nambiar**

*2 doctors who clinched Gadchiroli & Solapur for the first time, Sena's first Muslim candidate in 3 decades who won on a UBT ticket from Versova, and a rooted neta from Wadala who notched a record ninth term have one thing in common—their political trajectory is anything but usual*

# Docs to dropouts, 1st to 9th term winners, these MLAs stand apart

## Big Surprise In Versova

Haroon Khan constantly receives visitors and answers phone calls at his tiny office in Amboli in Versova. Fresh from his "surprise" victory from the Versova seat — only the second Muslim after Sabir Shaikh three decades ago to have become a Shiv Sena (UBT) legislator —Khan, 62, credits his victory to many. Among them are Shiv Sena founder Balasaheb Thackeray, his son and party chief Uddhav Thackeray, Sena MLA Aaditya Thackeray and senior Shiv Sainik Anil Parab. Khan was shakha pramukh from 17 years and vibhag pramukh for seven years before fortune pitchforked him to the state assembly.

"I am a humble Shiv Sainik. I was among five aspirants for the tickets. *Lekin lottery mere naam khula* (but the lottery opened in my name)," he smiled. He said he joined Shiv Sena around 35 years ago when he was a mandal (mohalla)-level worker and has risen through the ranks, though his wife Shahida became a corporator (20017-2022). The father of three (two daughters and son) said his children are married and settled and he has dedicated himself to social work.

A college dropout, Khan identifies with Marathi culture and speaks




the language fluently, though he said he never abandoned his Muslim roots. He said his rivals tried to polarise the poll with viral photos of him attending aartis. "As a politician, we have to balance a lot of things. I may have attended aartis, but never changed my Muslim name. I grew up in a chawl and have always lived here because I love my neighbourhood and the sense of belonging it gives me though my father left a flat for me in a neighbouring building."

Khan's victory against two-time BJP legislator Bharati Levekar by a margin of 1,600 votes surprised many. Besides Levekar, he had to face the challenge that Sena rebel Raju Pednekar, MNS candidate Santosh Desai and AIMIM candidate Raiees Lashkaria posed. "Out of 65,396 votes I got, over 20,000 are Hindu votes. That itself is proof of my acceptance among both Hindus and Muslims. I have never discriminated against anyone and will work for the development of my constituency," said Khan. — **Mohammed Wajihuddin**

## WADALA MLA AIMS TO ENTER GUINNESS BOOK

Pics: S L Shanth Kumar, Uma Kadam




Officials from the Guinness Book of World Records will visit Naigaum on Sunday, informed newly elected MLA from the constituency Kalidas Kolambkar.

He was elected MLA from the same assembly constituency of Wadala for the ninth consecutive term; he has been an MLA for the past 40 years. Kolambkar was a Shiv Sena MLA, then Congress's and now BJP.

"My mother had taken me back home to Malwan in the Konkan region when I was little as Naigaum was then a dangerous place. I returned to Mumbai when I was in the sixth-seventh standard. One day I attended a public meeting addressed by Balasaheb Thackeray. I was sitting on the ground listening to him and was so inspired I decided to work for his party," recounted Kolambkar sitting in his makeshift election office on a pavement in Naigaum.

Kolambkar started out by helping people in distress. He would claim bodies and arrange for them to be transported back to the villages in the Konkan and often organised blood donation camps. The son of a mill worker—his father worked as a time officer with Bombay Dyeing Mills—Kolambkar rose to become Gat Pramukh, Shakha Pramukh and then corporator from Ward 42.

"There were 10 candidates standing against me. All lost their deposit," he said. "The term of a corporator is for five years but that time the term was extended by two years."

"For some time I was MLA and councillor. It was 1990 and Chhagan Bhujbal recommended I be given the ticket. Balasaheb called and asked me to come to Matoshree. He said, "Aamdarki detoy (I am giving you MLA-ship)," said Kolambkar.

Kolambkar said he has always taken up issues of mill workers, asked for the installation of Bhim Jyoti at Chaityabhoomi and ensured Mumbai police living in BDD chawls get a 500 sq ft carpet flat in redeveloped buildings at Rs 15 lakh.

He went on a fast when housing minister Jitendra Awhad of MVA expressed his inability to reduce the price of each flat from Rs 50 lakh. "I fasted for two days and govt brought down the price to Rs 25 lakh. I called Devendra Fadnavis to offer me juice to break the fast and he announced a reduction of another Rs 10 lakh which Mahayuti govt then implemented." On why he left the Sena, Kolambkar said he liked the fact that Narayan Rane was quitting for a principle—Rane did not want to break Thackeray's family. On why he quit Congress, he said he had only five demands for his constituency which it did not fulfil. "Devendra Fadnavis fulfilled all five." — **Clara Lewis**

## Gadchiroli Doc In The House



A farmer's son, Dr Milind Narote, 39, was possibly the third doctor to resign from his govt job at Civil Hospital, Gadchiroli, to fight the elections from the backward Maoist-hit constituency and secure a berth in the state assembly. In doing so, Narote joined the hall of fame of past govt doctors-turned-MLAs—Dr Namdeo Usendi and Dr Devrao Holi. Restive Gadchiroli, which has also been synonymous with poor healthcare facilities and predominance of voodoo practitioners, has for 15 years successively elected doctors.

Nov 23 witnessed the meteoric rise of the MBBS-qualified Gadchiroli tribal candidate, Narote, who stunned a long-time Congress neta and zilla parishad vice-president Manohar Poreti by 15,200 votes to script history. A native of Rekhe village, 50km off Gadchiroli town, Narote entered active politics a couple of years ago. An active RSS worker, the alumnus of NKP Salve Medical Institute, Nagpur, faced an uphill task as BJP allotted the ticket to him, denying two-time sitting MLA Holi due to the anti-incumbency factor.

Narote said health facilities in remote areas are the worst hit in his district. "One of the possible reasons behind voting for doctors could also be the expectation of tribals that we would strive hard to improve the health infrastructure," said Narote, adding apart from the govt health sector, he would also ensure there is a robust network of private ones too. Narote owns a 10-bedded hospital.

Narote, who was inspired by his uncle, late Dr Suresh Narote, a veterinarian, studied at Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalaya till Class 10 in remote Ghot taluka of Gadchiroli, before shifting to Nagpur to study medicine. "I come from a farmer's family and was motivated to achieve by becoming a doctor or engineer. We come from a place plagued by poor medical facilities and infrastructure. Hence, becoming a doctor always played on my mind," he said. — **Soumitra Bose**

## Sangola MLA's Green Drive

An MD in general medicine, 37-year-old Dr Babasaheb Deshmukh's first foray into politics was a success. He became the only candidate of the Peasants and Workers' Party (PWP) to win from the Sangola constituency in Solapur district. He said he stepped into politics to carry forward his grandfather Ganpatrao Deshmukh's legacy.

A veteran PWP politician known for his simplicity, Babasaheb's grandfather, who travelled by public transport, was the longest serving legislator in Maharashtra elected for a record 11 times from the same constituency. He was last elected in 2014. Owing to age, he withdrew from the contest in 2019 and fielded another grandson, Aniket Patil, from Sangola. Aniket lost that election by 768 votes.



Ganpatrao passed away in 2021 at the age of 94. Babasaheb, who defeated sitting Shiv Sena MLA Shahjibapu Patil, said he would plant 25,386 trees in his assembly constituency, equalling his winning margin over Patil. "During the election campaign, I announced that I would plant trees in every village. I won by a margin of 25,386 votes and will plant as many trees in the constituency and take care of them. My win is a tribute to my grandfather who always cherished values of secularism and socialism," Babasaheb said.

He earned his degree from Govt Medical College in Chhatrapati Sambhajinagar in 2011 and completed his MD in general medicine in 2017 from a college in Kolhapur. — **Abhijeet Patil**


**MAHATRANSCO** Maharashtra State Electricity Transmission Co. Ltd.

**NOTICE INVITING TENDER CPD/114-2024-25**

Tenders are invited through e-Tendering in SRM system from the registered vendors for Supply of following:

| Tender No. & Description of Material | Estimated Amount (in Rs. Lakhs) / Tender Fee (in Rs.) | Due Date & Time (Hrs.) for Submission & Opening of Tender |
|---|---|---|
| SP/T-0833/1124 [RFX No.5000001325] [ 3rd Call] (Two Bid System) Procurement of 400 KV, 220 KV & 132 KV (N) & (AF) type Porcelain long rod insulators for various Zones of MSETCL on VARIABLE PRICE basis. | 1640.79 Lakh / 25,000.00 | 12.12.2024 12.12.2024 Up to 17.00 Hrs. At 17:30Hrs. |

Contact Person: Office of the Executive Engineer (Gr.P&C)
Tel. No. : 022- 69852717/08329909813
**Email: secpa@mahatransco.in, eepc@mahatransco.in, eegrp8@mahatransco.in,**
For further details visit our website **http://www.srmetender.mahatransco.in**
Any further amendments will be published on the MSETCL website www.mahatransco.in.
So bidders are requested to check the website.
**Sd/-**
**Executive Engineer (P&C)**

**MAHATRANSCO** Maharashtra State Electricity Transmission Co. Ltd.

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|---|---|---|
| SP/P&C/T-06/1124 [RFX No.5000001331] [ 3rd Call] (Two Bid System) Procurement of Van Mounted Ground EHV Cable Fault Locator System | 1647 Lakhs / 25,000.00 | 09.12.2024 09.12.2024 Up to 17:00 Hrs. at 17:15 Hrs. |

Contact Person: Office of the Executive Engineer (Gr.P&C)
Tel. No. : 022- 69852717/08329909813
Email: secpa@mahatransco.in, eepc@mahatransco.in, eepc@mahatransco.in,
For further details visit our website http://www.srmetender.mahatransco.in
Any further amendments will be published on the MSETCL website www.mahatransco.in. So bidders are requested to check the website.
**Sd/-**
**Executive Engineer (P&C)**

**DR. RAM MANOHAR LOHIA INSTITUTE OF MEDICAL SCIENCES**
**VIBHUTI KHAND, GOMTI NAGAR, LUCKNOW - 226 010**
Phone: 0522-4918510, Fax 0522-4918506
Website : www.drrmlims.ac.in

Ref No : RMLIMS/Vehicle Cell/2024/59 Date: 30 November 2024

**E-Tender Notice**

On-line offers are invited from Outsoursing Agency for Management of vehicle parking at Dr. Ram Manohar Lohia Institute of Medical Sciences main campus and hospital block. For more details like Tender cost, Earnest Money Deposit, Date of submission and opening of tender etc, you may please visit the e-tender portal **www.etender.up.nic.in.** The offer will be accepted On-Line only on e-tender portal with terms and conditions as mentioned in the tender documents. Any amendment will be uplodated only on the e-tender portal **www.etender.up.nic.in**

**MAHATRANSCO** Maharashtra State Electricity Transmission Co. Ltd.

**NOTICE INVITING TENDER CPD/111-2024-25**

Tenders are invited through e-Tendering in SRM system from the registered vendors for Supply of following:

| Tender No. & Description of Material | Estimated Amount (in Rs. Lakhs) / Tender Fee (in Rs.) | Due Date & Time (Hrs.) for Submission & Opening of Tender |
|---|---|---|
| **SP/T-0533/1124[RFX No.5000001323]** (Two Bid System) [4th Call] **Procurement of 3x500MVA, 765/400/33kV, 1-ϕ ICT along with Virgin High Grade Inhibited Insulating Oil conforming to IEC 60296 for 765kV R.S. Ektuni under Augmentation Scheme at Chhatrapati Sambhajinagar Zone.** | 6450.69 Lakhs / 25,000.00 | 17.12.2024 17.12.2024 Up to 16.00 Hrs. At 16:15Hrs. |

Contact Person: Office of the Executive Engineer (Gr.P&C)
Tel. No. : 022- 69852717/08329909813
**Email: secpa@mahatransco.in, eepc@mahatransco.in, eegrp5@mahatransco.in,**
For further details visit our website **http://www.srmetender.mahatransco.in**
Any further amendments will be published on the MSETCL website www.mahatransco.in.
So bidders are requested to check the website.
**Sd/-**
**Executive Engineer (P&C)**

**MAHATRANSCO** Maharashtra State Electricity Transmission Co. Ltd.

**SRM e-Tender Notice No. T-57 (3rd call)**

MSETCL invites online bids for following e-tender. The Tender details are available at https://srmetender.mahatransco.in

| SRM Tender No. | Particulars of tender | Estimated cost & EMD Amount | Download of Tender Document | Due date | Technical & Commercial bid opening |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| CE/Zone/Amt/ Add/TF/ Karanja + M'pir +Malegaon / 24-25/T-57 3rd call RFx 7000033738 | Supply, Erection, Testing and Commissioning towards i) Additional 1 x 25 MVA 132/33kV Power T/F at 132kV S/Stn Karanja. ii) Additional 1 x 50 MVA 132/33kV Power T/F at 132kV S/Stn Malegaon. iii) Additional 1x 25 MVA 132/33kV Power T/F at 132kV S/Stn Mangrulpir under EHV O&M Division, Akola. (T/F will be provided by MSETCL) | **8,56,84,141/-** & EMD Amount **Rs. 8,56,841/-** | From 25.11.2024 to 08.12.2024 (23:59hrs) | 08.12.2024 upto 23.59 Hrs | 09.12.2024, 11:00 hrs. & 09.12.2024, 15:00 hrs. resp. (If possible). |

**Contact No: -** The O/o, The Chief Engineer, EHVPCO&M, Zone Amravati- 0721-2669030.
The payment of Tender fee & EMD by online or EMD in the form of BG.
**--sd–**
**CHIEF ENGINEER, EHV PCO&M ZONE, AMRAVATI**

**NORTH CENTRAL RAILWAY**

**T. Notice No. 230-Elect/TRD/PRYJ/E-Tender Notice/2024/542 Date: 27.11.2024**

**E-Tender Notice**

Sr. Divl. Electrical Engineer/TRD/N.C. Rly/Prayagraj, for and on behalf of the President of India, invite the following E-Tender, the details of the tenders are as under:-

| | |
|---|---|
| **T. No. :** 230-TRD-WC-933-2024 | **Bidding system:** Single Packet |
| **Description of work:** Replacement of Circuit Breaker, CT, PT, CVT and other associated works on condition basis for reliability of power supply of 220/132kV Grid Sub station (GSS) in Prayagraj Division, (3rd Call). | |
| **Advertised value :** ₹ 6,82,92,505.97 | **Bid Security :** ₹ 4,91,500.00 |
| **Completion Period:** 12 Months / **Allocation:** Capital | **UWID:** 060236231001 |
| **Tender Closing Date & Time:** 23.12.2024 & 14:00 Hrs. | |
| **Tender opening Date & Time:** 23.12.2024 & 15:00 Hrs. | |

**Note:- (1)** The complete information along with tender document of above E-Tenders shall be available on Website **www.ireps.gov.in** 21 days prior to the date of opening of the tender **(2)** Bids other than in the form of E-Bids shall not be accepted against above tenders. For this purpose, vendors are required to get themselves registered with **IREPS** website along with Digital Signature Certificate. **(3)** In case of any difficulty helpdesk available on the website of **IREPS** may be approached. **2053/24 (MG)**

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

**MAHATRANSCO** Maharashtra State Electricity Transmission Co. Ltd.

**NOTICE INVITING TENDER CPD/112-2024-25**

Tenders are invited through e-Tendering in SRM system from the registered vendors for Supply of following:

| Tender No. & Description of Material | Estimated Amount (in Rs Lakhs.) / Tender Fee (in Rs.) | Due Date & Time (Hrs.) for Submission & Opening of Tender |
|---|---|---|
| SP/T-0532/1124 [RFX No.5000001332] [ 1st Call] (Two Bid System) Procurement of 200MVA, 220/132kV ICT (02 Nos.); 100MVA, 220/132kV ICT (01 No.); 50MVA, 220/33kV (01 No.); 50MVA, 132/33kV (10 Nos.); 50MVA, 132-110/33Kv (03 Nos.) and 25MVA, 220/33kV (01 No.) Transformer along with New Uninhibited Naphthenic Based High Grade Mineral Insulating Oil required for Augmentation Schemes under Amravati; Chhatrapati Sambhajinagar; Karad; Nagpur & Nashik Zone. | 8943.84 Lakhs / 25,000.00 | 27.12.2024 27.12.2024 Up to 16.00 Hrs. At 16:15 Hrs. |

Contact Person: Office of the Executive Engineer (Gr.P&C)
Tel. No. : 022- 69852717/08329909813
**Email: secpa@mahatransco.in, eepc@mahatransco.in, eegrp5@mahatransco.in,**
For further details visit our website **http://www.srmetender.mahatransco.in**
Any further amendments will be published on the MSETCL website www.mahatransco.in.
So bidders are requested to check the website.
**Sd/-**
**Executive Engineer (P&C)**

**MAHATRANSCO** Maharashtra State Electricity Transmission Co. Ltd.

**NOTICE INVITING TENDER CPD/110-2024-25**

The due Date and Time of submission and opening of following SRM e-tender is extended as follows :

| Tender No. & Description of Material | Estimated Amount (In Rs.) Lakhs / Tender Fee (in Rs.) | Due Date & Time (Hrs.) for Submission & Opening of Tender |
|---|---|---|
| SP/T-0534/1124 [ 2nd Call] [RFX No.5000001334] (Two Bid System) Procurement of 1600kVA, 11/0.415kV (01 No.) and 1600kVA, 33/0.433kV Dry Type Auxiliary Transformer (01 No.) for Chandrapur and Padghe HVDC Terminal Station under CAPEX Budget FY-2022-23. | 143.72/- / 5000.00 | 06.12.2024 06.12.2024 Up to 16:00 Hrs. at 16:15 Hrs. |

Contact Person: Office of the Executive Engineer (P&C) No.022-69852717/ Cell No.8329909813
Email: secpa@mahatransco.in, eepc@mahatransco.in, eegrp5@mahatransco.in,
For further details visit our website http://www.srmetender.mahatransco.in
Any further amendments will be published on the MSETCL website www.mahatransco.in. So bidders are requested to check the website.
**Sd/-**
**Executive Engineer (P&C)**

**BRUHAT BENGALURU MAHANAGARA PALIKE**
**Office of the Executive Engineer, Kengeri Division, RR Nagar Zone, BBMP Office Building, CA No. 3, 1st Main Road, Out Ring Road, Kommaghatta Road, Kengeri Upanagara, Bengaluru - 560 060.**

No.EE/KEN/TEND/14/2024-25 Date: 29.11.2024

**INVITATION FOR SHORT TERM TENDER (IFT)**
(Through GOK KPP Portal only)

The Executive Engineer, Kengeri Division, RR Nagar Zone, invites tenders from eligible tenderers for the works detailed in the table below:

| Sl. No. | Name of the Work |
|---|---|
| 1 | Improvements of Drain, Roads and other Basic Infrastructure in Poornapragna Layout, Suprabatha Layout and Pillanna Layout in Ward No. 26, Doddabidarakallu. Approximate Value of Amount put to Tender : **Rs. 398.71 Lakhs.** EMD : **Rs. 5,98,500/-** |
| 2 | Improvements of Drain, Roads and other Basic Infrastructure in Andrahalli, Balaji Layout and Vidyamanya Nagara Layout in Ward No. 27, Lingadheeranahalli. Approximate Value of Amount put to Tender : **Rs. 398.70 Lakhs.** EMD : **Rs. 5,98,500/-** |

**1)** Tender documents may be downloaded from KPP portal from 02.12.2024 onwards. **2)** Pre bid meeting : **07.12.2024 at 3.00 p.m 3)** Last date for receipt of tenders: **10.12.2024 upto 4.00 p.m. 4)** Date of opening of tenders: **12.12.2024 at 4.00 p.m.** Further details can be obtained from office of the undersigned or GoK e-procurement website: **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in**

**Sd/- Executive Engineer, Kengeri Division.**

# Pawar: Some flagged 30% vote manipulation in state elections

Anurag.Bende
@timesofindia.com

## BJP ex-ally RSP joins oppn chorus, blames EVMs for candidates' loss

**Mumbai:** The Rashtriya Samaj Paksha (RSP), a former ally of the BJP-led Mahayuti, on Saturday joined the opposition parties in raising doubts about the electronic voting machines (EVMs) in the recently held assembly election.

RSP chief Mahadev Jankar alleged that his party's votes were transferred to Mahayuti candidates in the Nov 20 poll, which saw the ruling alliance record a landslide victory.

The Mahayuti, comprising the BJP, Shiv Sena and NCP, won 230 out of 288 seats, while the opposition Maha Vikas Aghadi (MVA) bagged 46 seats. Following the poll drubbing, the opposition parties have alleged irregularities in the functioning of EVMs and called for the use of ballot papers. PTI

**Pune:** NCP (SP) chief Sharad Pawar said on Saturday that some people had raised red flags on the possibility of "30% vote manipulation" during the assembly poll, and the election outcome prima facie showed it held truth.

"Before the election, some people made a presentation that it is possible (to increase votes through manipulation), and they also raised a red flag saying it will be done in the election. It was our shortcoming that we did not pay heed to them. We never thought the Election Commission of India would go to that extent in taking a wrong stand. After the poll results, though, prima facie it appears that the red flags raised by those people hold truth," the NCP (SP) chief said during a media interaction when asked about the opposition take on the EVM issue.

Pawar visited Pune's Mahatma Phule Wada to meet 95-year-old social worker Baba Adhav, who was observing a hunger strike against the alleged corruption and use of money in the recent election. After the meeting, the veteran politician said, "Parliamentary democracy looks in danger, given the current situation. Those in govt have no interest in this. The opposition has been raising the issues in Parliament for the past six days, but not even for a minute has the discussion happened on issues of national interest. It clearly shows the intention of the people in govt to attack parliamentary democracy," he said.

The opposition parties have been raising the issue of alleged EVM manipulation in the assembly poll, questioning the spurt in the number of votes polled in the last hour of the voting in the state. During Pawar's interaction with Adhav, he said some people said 30% of votes could be added to increase the vote count.

Following the defeat in Haryana and Maharashtra assembly polls, Congress is planning a nationwide movement to raise issues over the conduct of the polls. Speaking about it, Pawar said, "The issue was raised in the Congress Working Committee's meeting where it was suggested that it should be raised by the members of the INDIA bloc at the national level. The decision on the issue is expected either on Monday or Tuesday."

Speaking about Adhav's hunger strike, Pawar said, "Some people met me outside Parliament recently, and they remembered JP Narayan's movement. They spoke about initiating a similar movement in the country. Adhav's agitation has given voice to the concerns of common people, but he will need support."

# EC to meet Congress netas to hear concerns on poll process

## 'Electoral Roll Update Transparent, Done With Involvement Of All Parties'

Bharti.Jain@timesofindia.com

**New Delhi:** The Election Commission, in its interim response on Saturday to concerns raised by Congress regarding "arbitrary deletion and additions of voters" and increase in voting percentages between 5pm and 11.30pm on polling day in the recent Maharashtra and Jharkhand elections, reiterated that the electoral roll updation is a transparent process conducted with the involvement of all political parties. The commission has also agreed to meet with a Congress delegation to hear the party's concerns regarding the polling process, EC sources said.

While ruling out discrepancy in voter turnout data, the poll panel clarified— just as it had when similar doubts were raised by Congress during the 2024 Lok Sabha elections — that the gap in 5pm data and final voter turnout was on account of procedural priorities, as presiding officers perform statutory duties near the close of polling before updating voter turnout data.

The EC underlined in the letter sent to Congress's law, human rights and RTI department, that the poll panel has, starting with the 2024 general elections, made it a standard practice to put out a press statement with updated voter turnout figures as of 11.45pm on polling day, as an "additional disclosure measure".

Congress had flagged the twin concerns despite the varied results in Maharashtra and Jharkhand—while the BJP-led Mahayuti alliance had won a landslide in Maharashtra, the UPA alliance recorded a spectacular win in Jharkhand.

Even as the EC, in its response, tried to allay the concerns raised by Congress, it agreed to get the issues regarding the addition and deletion of voters, examined and keep the party informed of the outcome. It not only agreed to convey its detailed and final reply to the issues raised by Congress but also granted an in-person hearing to the party delegation, as requested, at 5 pm on Dec 3.

EC sources said the commission has agreed to meet a Congress delegation as it would like to hear what the party has to say on the concerns raised, in wake of the EC's repeated clarifications. The commission will suitably articulate its reply so as to set all doubts to rest.

In its letter to Congress on Saturday, the EC recalled its last letter to the party dated May 10, 2024, wherein it had recorded the reasons for deviation in voting percentage at 5pm and at the close of polling day (around 11.45 pm). It reiterated that total votes polled at each polling booth were given by the presiding officer, before leaving the polling station, to the authorised agents of candidates in Form 17C Part 1, at the end of polling in Maharashtra and Jharkhand. "This cannot be changed... This number aggregates to final voter turnout which all political parties and candidates can verify," stated the EC.

The poll panel further said EC takes employees on election duty from various departments of state govt for the conduct of elections. "The presiding officer, near the completion of polling at polling stations, performs multiple statutory responsibilities like filling up of various statutory forms, record keeping of activities in the presiding officer's diary, sealing of the machines, etc before winding up the polling at the polling station. The data feeding from all polling stations into the voter turnout app, at this stage, thus takes time."

## Kirit complains to police chief against Jagtap

**Mumbai:** BJP leader Kirit Somaiya has lodged a complaint with the Mumbai police commissioner regarding Congress MLC Bhai Jagtap's controversial and derogatory remarks about the Election Commission of India (ECI).

Somaiya said such remarks demonstrate Congress's growing frustration and their attempts to discredit the electoral body. He urged appropriate legal action against Jagtap for his disrespectful comments towards a constitutional authority.

The opposition's concerns about voter counts and EVMs have intensified following their defeat in the state assembly elections. The parties have consistently questioned the integrity of the electoral process, despite the ECI's assurances about the system's reliability.— **Vijay V Singh**

## Activists move court on Sattar poll affidavit

**Chhatrapati Sambhajinagar:** Sillod-based activist Mahesh Shankarpelli and Pune's Dr Abhishesk Haridas have moved a local court alleging that Shiv Sena's Sillod MLA Abdul Sattar submitted false information in the affidavit submitted to the Election Commission ahead of the assembly elections.

The complainants alleged that Sattar provided misleading information in violation of Section 125A of the Representation of the People Act, 1951, which penalises false declarations.

The duo stated that they had already filed a petition against Sattar before the Aurangabad bench of Bombay High Court, which also issued a notice.

Earlier in 2019, Shankarpelli had filed a similar complaint, following which an FIR against Sattar was registered. He even had to secure bail in the case then. Currently, the case is under trial at the Sillod-based court. The petition was filed against Sattar over the alleged false affidavit in the assembly elections. —**Mohammed Akhef**

## Bail for teacher in delayed abetment case

**Mumbai:** In a Palghar case of suicide abetment and Pocso registered against a school teacher, Bombay HC granted him bail. The HC said the case was registered after 8 years, and the student who alleged that he was sexually abused committed suicide two years after leaving the school. Before single Judge bench of Justice Anil Kilor on Nov 28, advocate Satyavrat Joshi for the accused argued for bail on merit, delay, while prosecutor Priyanka Rane and advocate Drupad Patil for the complainant opposed citing the chargesheet and seriousness of case. The HC found no proximity to the date of suicide and said it was "doubtful" if section 306 of IPC (abetment of suicide) would be attracted in the case and granted the teacher bail on Rs 25000 bond. TNN

## WORLD'S 'MOST BEAUTIFUL' SHIP DOCKS IN CITY

PTI







The Amerigo Vespucci, a 93-year-old Italian naval training ship which is lauded as the "most beautiful ship in the world," has sailed into Mumbai's Indira Dock, its elegant masts cutting against the city's chaotic skyline.

For the first time in its storied history, this maritime marvel of Italian seafaring tradition has anchored on Indian shores — its 28th port call, marking a new chapter in cultural and diplomatic ties between Italy and India—before it culminates its two year voyage this month across 30 countries, including Los Angeles, Tokyo, Darwin and Singapore, since it set sail from its home in La Spezia on July 1, 2023, with a crew of 250.

The ship's gangplank will remain open to visitors till Dec 2, offering them a rare chance to step aboard a vessel that is equal parts history and art with its polished wooden decks and gleaming brass details preserved to near perfection. Accompanying the ship, is the Villaggio Italia, a mini expo offering a snapshot of modern Italian music, art, film, fashion and technology.

## ₹10cr drugs, 3.7k litres of liquor seized ahead of polls

**Mumbai:** The Mumbai Police seized close to Rs 10 crore worth of narcotics during the model code of conduct period before the Vidhan Sabha elections. Police also seized over 3,700 litres of alcohol and 269 weapons. The model code of conduct came into effect from Oct 15.

The EC guidelines require police to conduct special drives to check for transportation or storage of illegal arms, illicit liquor, cash, and contraband, besides compiling a list of history-sheeters and individuals indulging in electoral offences.

An IPS officer said every police station was tasked with carrying out crackdowns within their jurisdictions. In one month, police registered 157 offences pertaining to narcotics possession. Of the total narcotics seizures worth Rs 10 crore, the single largest seizure of Rs 5.5 crore was made in Dhule, where a Mumbai police team discovered a marijuana farm. "We initially arrested one person in Sakinaka with marijuana. After investigating the source of the drugs, our team reached Dhule on Nov 17 during the model code of conduct. We seized 2,800 kg of marijuana from the farm," explained an officer from the Anti Narcotics Cell (ANC).

Police also recorded 608 offences regarding possession of liquor during the period, seizing 3,769 litres worth Rs 19.17 lakh.

Police also recorded 243 offences pertaining to possession of weapons, seizing 49 firearms and 220 sharp weapons. TNN

# Activist ends fast after Uddhav assures bigger stir for fair polls

Anurag.Bende
@timesofindia.com

**Pune:** Social activist Baba Adhav on Saturday withdrew his hunger strike to safeguard constitutional principles after Shiv Sena (UBT) chief Uddhav Thackeray promised to scale up agitation for a fair election procedure. Earlier, Adhav had raised doubts over the fairness of assembly poll results and criticised govt for excessive use of money power in the presence of NCP chief Ajit Pawar.

Pawar, who also visited Mahatma Phule Wada to request Adhav to call off his hunger strike, defended the use of EVMs and criticised the opposition for raising doubts over the election outcome. "Before the assembly poll, the Lok Sabha election was held, in which MVA won 31 seats, while our alliance managed to secure only 17 seats. At that time, we did not raise any doubt against EVMs and accepted the mandate. Now, if the people of the state changed their mind and voted in favour of Mahayuti, is it our fault?" he said.

While he defended the use of EVMs, Ajit Pawar agreed there is no harm in discussing the issue. "I agree that in democracy, we can discuss the issue (related to EVMs) and if there is no solution, the aggrieved parties can approach the Supreme Court. Even the Supreme Court has rejected the plea against the use of EVMs. It is weird the opposition sees no problem in EVMs when they win and blame it when they face defeat," he said.

Adhav, though, said, "The difference in the Lok Sabha and state assembly poll results is astonishing. It is nothing short of a miracle and therefore, I doubt the fairness of the process. When I pressed the button on the EVM machine, I realised that there is a possibility of manipulation. While raising the doubts, I understand that the responsibility of proving the manipulation lies upon me and some technical experts will throw light on it, but the process lacked fairness," the 95-year-old said. Thackeray and NCP (SP) state president Jayant Patil, who too visited him, promised to take up the agitation at the state level. Accepting Thackeray's request, Adhav ended his three-day-long fast.

# Cong leaders should resign & then question EVMs: BJP

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

**New Delhi:** The BJP on Saturday hit back at the Congress for questioning the electoral process, including the integrity of the Electronic Voting Machines (EVM), saying its chief ministers and other elected representatives, like Rahul Gandhi, should first resign and announce that they will contest only after ballot papers are brought back.

Such a stand will underscore their trust in the issues being raised by them, BJP spokesperson Gaurav Bhatia told reporters, adding that their allegations will otherwise be nothing but empty words.

The Congress should move the courts over the issue, too, he said, while stressing that the Supreme Court has quite a few times endorsed the transparency of the electoral process and the integrity of EVM.

Congress chief ministers, and leaders such as Rahul Gandhi and Priyanka Gandhi Vadra should resign as they were elected through the same electoral process, Bhatia said. It was ironic that Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge questioned EVMs on a day Priyanka Gandhi Vadra took oath as a Lok Sabha MP, he said. The Congress will soon be confined to the pages of history books, he said.

Speaking on the incidents targeting Hindu minorities in Bangladesh, the BJP spokesperson noted the stand of the Indian govt and expressed confidence that India's strong voice cannot be ignored.

As the biggest democracy in the world, it is India's duty to raise its voice when minorities are facing harassment anywhere, Bhatia claimed.

He also accused Samajwadi Party leader and former Uttar Pradesh CM Akhilesh Yadav of acting as a shield for rioters and alleged the party's members, including MPs, are involved in instigating violence. Targeting the SP, he alleged riots frequently broke out when it ruled the state and that the opposition has no faith in the police. BJP's reaction came after Yadav accused it of orchestrating violence in Sambhal in UP.

# 162 motorcycles seized for rash riding in overnight crackdown

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

## Dumper hits Atal Setu barrier, ₹9L damage caused; driver flees spot

**Mumbai:** The Sewree police booked a dumper driver for causing damage to public property after the dumper he was driving crashed into the barrier on the Atal Setu bridge. The driver fled the scene. An initial assessment by a site team found damage to the tune of Rs 9 lakh caused to iron barriers.

The incident took place on Friday. Pranav Kesarkar, 21, a site supervisor employed with a private company on the Atal Setu, has lodged a criminal offence in the case. The incident occurred approximately 8 km away from Sewree on the Atal Setu, said the police. TNN

**Mumbai:** In a special campaign against rash driving, Mumbai Police (West region) seized 162 motorcycles on Friday during an overnight crackdown. The police said they have registered 40 offences under various sections of the Bhartiya Nyaya Sanhita and have initiated action against 689 motorists under sections of the Motor Vehicles Act.

Among the locations where the crackdown was conducted were Kherwadi, Western Express Highway at Bandra East, and on Bandra-Kurla Complex Road. "We found motorcycles using modified silencers and have seized these two-wgheelers," said an officer.

From Monday, the police said they are planning a joint crackdown on errant autorickshaws. "Meetings were conducted with the RTO (north region) and DCP (traffic police) to rope them in. Two teams will operate—one during the day and one at night—for the joint crackdown," said an officer.

Space is also being allocated for parking the seized vehicles, officials said.

## FIR for rape of teen names unknown man

**Mumbai:** The Mulund police registered a case against an unidentified person for allegedly raping a 13-year-old girl in May. The matter came to light recently when the girl's mother took her for examination to a govt hospital where doctors found she was pregnant. The hospital informed the police.

The girl told police that a man had lured her with Rs 50 and taken her to a deserted place in Mulund where he sexually assaulted her. He handed over Rs 50 to her and threatened her not to inform anyone. The police have booked the accused under the the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (Pocso) Act. TNN

## SEASON'S FLAVOUR: TANGY SWEET

KK Choudhary



Oranges brought in from Nagpur have started to flood the APMC wholesale fruit market at Navi Mumbai

# HC slams TMC for not razing illegal bldg despite SC order

Rosy.Sequeira
@timesofindia.com

**Mumbai:** Bombay High Court slammed Thane Municipal Corporation (TMC) for not demolishing a ground-plus-six-storey illegal building in Raghunath Nagar, Thane (W) even after time granted by the Supreme Court expired on Oct 8.

"Consequently, the persons who have committed illegality are enjoying the fruits thereof in spite of an adverse order against them only due to the blessings of the officers of TMC. This is unconscionable and such inaction by the officers of TMC needs to be taken note of by its commissioner," said Justices Ajay Gadkari and Kamal Khata on Monday.

The judges said the "present case represents a sorry state of affairs in the administration" of TMC. In Feb 2017, owners of Jilaniwadi made a representation to TMC commissioner against unauthorised construction of Sai Anjuman building and cited TMC's Oct 2009 order that declared it unauthorised. On their petition, HC in Dec 2019 directed TMC to decide their representation within six weeks. In 2020 the owners filed a contempt petition. On Sept 9 this year, TMC's advocate Mandar Limaye had informed that in March 2019 TMC had, in fact, found merit in the representation and directed demolition of the building.

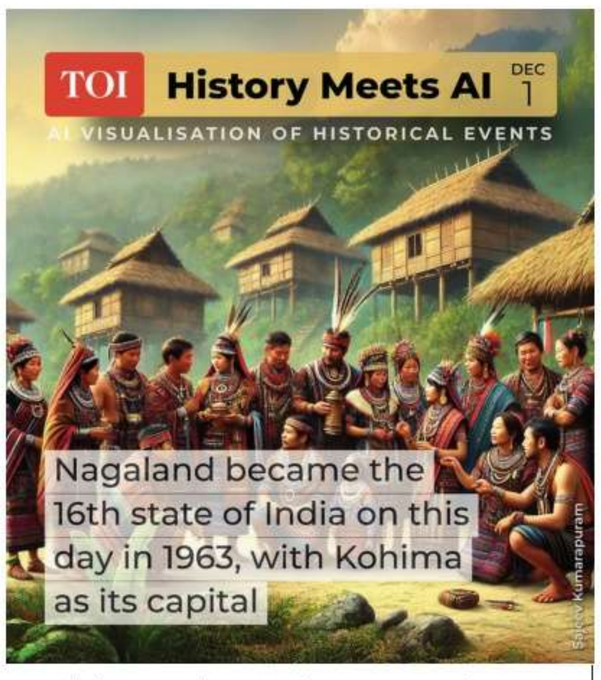
He said the High Court in July this year rejected residents' challenges to eviction notices. The demolition order will be implemented within 6 weeks. The HC then disposed of the contempt petition.

Petitioners' advocate Rajdeep Khadapkar and Sagar Joshi referred to SC's Sept 23 order on a resident's appeal. The judges noted that SC had directed TMC not to take coercive action for 15 days thereby permitting him to voluntarily vacate the premises. "Despite seven weeks have passed", TMC officers had not taken steps to get the premises vacated. "It is for this reason we are pained to observe that the officers of TMC are protecting the illegalities committed by the persons concerned for the reasons not far to see," they added.

They directed the commissioner to explain why HC and Supreme Court orders are not complied with and "the action he would adopt against his subordinate officers if he concludes they were instrumental in protecting the illegal structure."

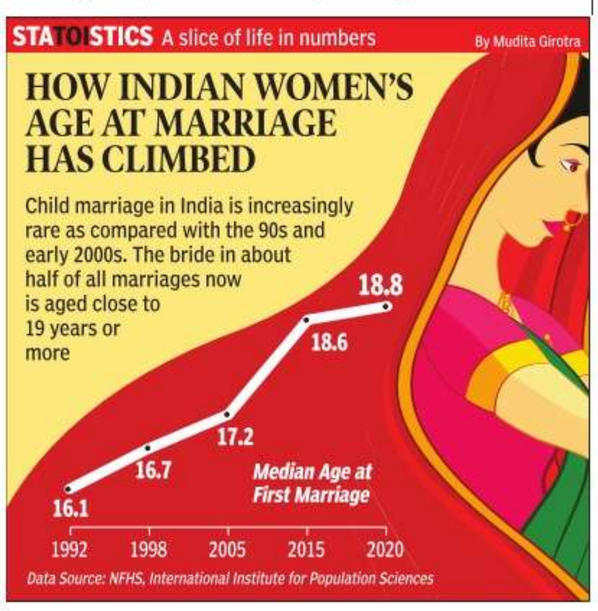
## 21st livestock census begins

**Mumbai**: The 21st livestock census commenced in Mumbai on Nov 25, 2024, jointly organised by the state animal husbandry department and the BMC. The BMC has appealed to citizens to cooperate with the enumerators during this census, which will run until February 28, 2025. As per the Centre's directives, the census is conducted every five years. TNN




## Punjab panchayat bans marriage with migrants and within village

The gram panchayat of Jawaharke village in Punjab's Mansa district has prohibited the residents from marrying migrants and also banned intra-village marriages. Residents who violate this order risk being expelled from the village, reports **Neel Kamal**. The village panchayat apparently passed a resolution on marriages on Nov 24, but it came into force on Nov 30, when a copy of the signed resolution became public. It is learnt that two such recent marriages spurred the village elders to take this step. Sukhchain Singh, husband of village sarpanch Ranbir Kaur, when contacted, said, "Sometimes they (migrants) lure the locals, and because of this, the gram panchayat has passed a resolution against anyone marrying them. The same is applicable to those who marry someone from the same village. This practice is not liked by residents." In neighbouring Haryana, the khap panchayats (caste councils) had in July 2023 submitted a representation to then CM Manohar Lal Khattar, seeking amendment to the Hindu Marriage Act, 1955, and declaring intra-gotra and intra-village marriages invalid. TNN




## Kid (6) testifies in dad murder, mom gets life sentence

**Meerut:** A Bulandshahr court has sentenced a woman to life imprisonment for murder of her husband in 2022 following crucial testimony by her 6-year-old son, reports **Rahul Singh**. The court also sentenced accused Radha Devi's lover Kanhaiya Kumar (28), her father Yogendra Singh (55) and her brother Anuj Kumar (35) to life for their involvement.

On Aug 13, 2022, Radha (32) and Kanhaiya killed Jogendra Kumar (then 33) after the latter discovered her illicit relationship. Following the crime, she told the family that Jogendra had died from a head injury. However, Jogendra's CT scan revealed a bullet lodged in his head, his family to alert police.

During the trial, the prosecution presented the testimony of the couple's son. "The boy woke up hearing the gunshot, rushed to the room, and saw his mother, uncle, maternal grandfather and Kanhaiya killing his dad," said assistant district govt counsel Yogesh Sharma.

## After outcry, Rlys claims blankets washed 2x a mth

**New Delhi:** Amid growing concerns over quality and hygiene of woollen blankets provided to train passengers in AC coaches, Northern Railway on Saturday said the blankets are washed every 15 days and sterilisation is done using hot naphthalene vapour every fortnight. It added that a pilot will soon start where UV robotic sanitisation of all blankets on Jammu and Dibrugarh Rajdhani trains will take place after every round trip.

UV robotic sanitation uses ultraviolet (UV) light to kill germs and viruses.

Northern Railway spokesperson Himanshu Shekhar said on Saturday that the use of hot naphthalene vapour is a time tested and effective method of sterilisation.

On the washing and cleaning of linens and blankets, the official said while cotton linens are washed after every use, woolen blankets are washed every 15 days. TNN

# Revanth kicks off 4th phase of loan waiver

### Move To Help 3L Farmers & Cost State ₹2,747 Cr

Roushan.Ali@timesofindia.com


CM Revanth Reddy issued waiver cheques on Saturday

**Hyderabad:** Telangana CM A Revanth Reddy announced the fourth phase of the state's farm loan waiver on Saturday. The latest tranche will cover 3.13 lakh farmers and cost the state exchequer Rs 2,747 crore. In the first three phases of the waiver, Telangana had spent nearly Rs 18,000 crore and covered 22.22 lakh farmers.

With the latest announcement, the state's total expenditure will reach Rs 21,000 crore and cover more than 25 lakh farmers. The move comes at a time when both BRS and BJP have made an issue out of lakhs of farmers not being covered by the initial waiver.

Revanth announced the fourth phase from the stage of the farmers' festival (Rythu Panduga) public meeting in Mahbubnagar, organised to mark Congress govt completing one year in office on Dec 7. The latest waiver started Saturday with cheques being handed out to farmers on the stage of the public meeting.

Crop loans up to Rs 1 lakh were waived on July 18, followed by loans up to Rs 1.5 lakh on July 30, and finally, loans up to Rs 2 lakh were cleared on Aug 15. The fourth phase covers all three categories of farmers.

Since Independence, Telangana was the only state in the country to have waived crop loans worth Rs 21,000 crore in less than a year, said Revanth. He challenged PM Narendra Modi, former CM K Chandrasekhar Rao, and serving CMs of all states in the country to come for a debate on the issue if they disagreed with him.

"Let KCR and PM Modi come together for a discussion on this historic achievement," Revanth said.

## Reconsider: Centre to TN after state rejects Vishwakarma scheme

TIMES NEWS NETWORK



**New Delhi:** Stating that a state should not arbitrarily reject a scheme for petty political gains, Centre on Saturday urged Tamil Nadu govt to reconsider its decision to reject the Prime Minister's Vishwakarma Scheme, which aims to uplift traditional artisans and craftspeople.

Minister of state for skill development and entrepreneurship (MSDE), Jayant Chaudhary, emphasised that the scheme is designed to foster social and economic mobility for individuals engaged in 18 traditional trades and crafts, and is "not caste-oriented", as alleged by Tamil Nadu.

Chief minister **M K Stalin** recently informed Union minister for MSMEs Jitan Ram Manjhi that Tamil Nadu would not implement the scheme in its current form, citing concerns over caste-based discrimination and a lack of inclusivity. Instead, Tamil Nadu plans to develop its own initiative to support artisans.

Stalin also highlighted issues with the scheme's eligibility criteria, proposing changes such as removing the requirement for applicants' families to have a history in traditional trades and raising the minimum age for eligibility to 35.

Responding to these concerns, MSDE reiterated the inclusivity of the scheme. A MSDE statement clarified that the scheme transcends caste and gender barriers, offering support for artisans from diverse backgrounds.

## EPFO approves amnesty plan, lets employers deposit dues sans penalty

**New Delhi:** EPFO on Saturday approved an amnesty scheme, encouraging employers to "voluntarily disclose and rectify past non-compliance or under-compliance without facing penalties". Labour ministry said a simple online declaration from employers will be enough to avail the scheme benefits.

"By providing a limited window for voluntary compliance, the scheme aims to extend social security benefits to more employees, rebuild trust with employers, and promote formalisation of the workforce," it added.

CBT also approved an amendment to EPF Scheme, 1952 under which interest will be paid to members up till date of settlement. According to existing provisions, for the claim settled till 24th of the month, interest is paid only up to the end of the preceding month. This change will benefit EPFO members. Post amendment, claims will be processed during the entire month, leading to reduced pendency, timely settlement. TNN

# *How a Bhandara tribal boy walked his way 'barefoot' to HC bench*

Vaibhav.Ganjapure
@timesofindia.com


THE ROAD LESS TRAVELLED: Justice Y Khobragade & his family

**Nagpur:** Justice Yanshivraj Khobragade's rise from the fields of Vidarbha to hallowed courtrooms of Bombay high court reflects power of resilience and making the best of available opportunity.

Born on May 9, 1966, in Rengepar, tribal village in Bhandara district, his journey spells overcoming systemic barriers through grit, education and acts of kindness. "Failure was not the end for me, it was a signal to fight harder," he said in an interview.

Despite walking miles barefoot to school, balancing academic pursuits with jobs to support his family and working in fields during vacations, his quest for education never waned. His father Gopichand and mother Anuradha were unlettered, yet they instilled a desire for education in their eight kids. "I remember collecting firewood to pay school fees of 40 paise," he recalls.

His journey was not without setbacks. Failing English in Class 12 exams left him crestfallen. "Dr Ambedkar's words—'Education is the milk of a tigress'—kept me going," he told **TOI**. He cleared his exams.

In Oct 1984, during a desperate search for work in Nagpur, fortune found him in the form of Rameshwar, driver for advocate general Arvind Bobde. This led to a job as a garden labourer at Bobde's residence.

Bobde, impressed by Khobragade's humility and determination, offered him clerkship in his legal office. "It changed the trajectory of my life," he said. Under the mentorship of Bobde and his son Sharad, who later became CJI, Khobragade found a new purpose. Encouraged by the Bobde family, Khobragade completed BCom and pursued an LLB degree from Nagpur University. "It wasn't easy. I worked by day, studied by night," he recalled.

He began practising law under Sharad Bobde and later with Justice Anil Kilor. In 2008, after years of practice, Khobragade joined the judiciary. He was appointed as a civil judge in Mumbai. On Oct 7, 2022, Khobragade was sworn in as a judge of Bombay HC. "This milestone is not just mine—it's a message to every underprivileged child that dreams do come true," he said.

## MP man shoots lover, then chickens out of suicide pact

P.Naveen@timesofindia.com

**Bhopal:** A 24-year-old woman was on Friday shot dead by her lover, who intended to shoot himself, too, as part of an alleged suicide pact but lost his nerve and fled, said police in MP's Chhatarpur.

The accused, Sachin Yadav, has been arrested and has admitted to killing his girlfriend, Meera, police said. The couple were dating for around three years but faced strong opposition from their families when they learnt about it. Meera's family had arranged her marriage elsewhere, driving the lovers to desperation, police said.

They allegedly made a pact: Sachin would shoot her and then kill himself. The couple met on Friday afternoon at Sachin's rented home. At 1.30pm, other tenants heard two gunshots from the room and ran there to find Sachin holding a pistol and Meera lying dead on the floor, bleeding from the head.

Witnesses told police that Sachin was shaken and told them that he was going to give himself up to police. He didn't. Police said he tried to escape, but was arrested later.


**WESTERN RAILWAY**

**VARIOUS WORK**

Divisional Railway Manager (WA), Western Railway, 6th floor, Engg., Deptt., Mumbai Central, Mumbai - 400008, invites E-Tender

| Sr. No. | Tender Notice No. & Date | Work and Location | Approx. cost of work in ₹ | EMD ₹ |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1. | BCT/24-25/216 dtd.27.11.2024 | **Marine lines-Khar section:-** Providing 22 units type II quarters in lieu of dismantled 32 units type-II quarters at Bandra Kherwadi Colony | ₹ 7,52,66,099.68 | ₹ 5,26,300.00 |
| 2. | BCT/24-25/217 dtd.27.11.2024 | **Lower parel (Workshop):-** Construction of Bio-Lab for existing Chemical and Metallurgical Lab (Composite Tender) | ₹ 73,93,612.31 | ₹ 1,47,900.00 |
| 3. | BCT/24-25/218 dtd.27.11.2024 | **Bhayandar and Naigaon:-** Replacement of ALSTOM make AFTC by digital axle counter to improve reliability of train detection. (Composite tender) | ₹ 43,89,334.45 | ₹ 87,800.00 |

**For all above tenders Date & Time of submission :** Till 20.12.2024,15:00 hrs. **Date & Time of opening :** On 20.12.2024 at 15:30 hrs. For further details please visit our website **www.ireps.gov.in. Manual offers will not be considered.** 0775

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**E-TENDER NOTICE**
**PRINTING AND STATIONERY DEPARTMENT, H.P., GHORA CHOWKI, SHIMLA-171005**

Tenders are electronically invited by the Controller, Printing and Stationery Department, H.P. on behalf of the Governor of Himachal Pradesh for purchase of Multicolour Sheetfed Offset Machine and Multicolour Web Offset Machine for which Technical Bids will be opened on the date and time given below in the presence of the tenderers who wish to be present. If the opening date happens to be a closed day, then the tenders will be opened on the next working day :-

| Sr. No. | Description | Date upto which tender can be uploaded /submitted. | Date & Time of opening of Technical Bids |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1. | Multicolor Sheetfed offset machine. | 23-12-2024 upto 11:00 A.M. | 23-12-2024 at 11:30 A.M. |
| 2. | Multicolour Web Offset machine. | | |

The description given above is in brief. The complete details including tender form, tender schedule (referred in e-tendering as Bill of Quantity) and terms & conditions will be available for downloading from 06-12-2024 on the website https://hptenders/gov.in. The bid shall be filled in electronic format on the schedule-"A" (BOQ) of the concerned website. The cost of tender form is Rs. 500/- which is non- refundable and is payable in favour of Controller, Printing and Stationery Department H.P. payable at Shimla in shape of Demand Draft which shall be submitted by post or by hand and should reach this office before the date of opening of tender. Tender should be accompanied with Earnest Money of Rs. 5.00 Lakhs only (Rupees five Lakhs) in the shape of F.D.R/Bank Guarantee duly pledged in favour of the Controller, Printing and Stationery Department, H.P. Shimla-171005, without which tender will not be considered. Cheques or cash will not be accepted.

**INSTRUCTIONS :**

1. Tender documents can be downloaded from the website https://hptenders/gov.in from 06-12-2024 at 3:00 P.M. till 23-12-2024 upto 11.00 A.M.
2. The tenders will be uploaded in electronic format on the website **https://hptenders.gov.in**. Complete bidding process will be online.
3. **Instructions to tenderers regarding e-tendering process :-**
   (a) Tenderers have to obtain "Digital Signatures Certificate" (Class-II or Class-III) as per Information Technology Act-2000, to participate in online bidding process. This certificate will be required for digitally signing the Tender. Tenderers can get above mentioned Digital Signatures Certificate from any approved vendors. Tenderers, who already possess valid Digital Signatures Certificate need not procure new Digital Signatures Certificates.
   (b)The tenderers have to submit their tenders online in electronic format with digital signatures. The tenderers without digital signatures will not be accepted. No proposal/bid will be accepted in physical form and online submission is mandatory.
   (c) The department will not be responsible for delay in online submission due to any reason.
   (d) Tenderers should upload the scanned copies of documents to cover all information including cost of documents and EMD as specified in the tender documents. Hard copy of the original documents in respect of cost of tender form, EMD and additional documents (if required), shall also be submitted in the office of Controller, Printing and Stationery Department, H.P., Shimla before the scheduled date and time of opening of tenders.
   (e) The tender documents shall be uploaded in two covers, Each cover shall contain the **"TECHNICAL BID" and the "FINANCIAL BID" separately.**
   **Cover-1** shall be "TECHNICAL BID" containing scanned copies of required documents as mentioned in the **Terms & Conditions of tender.** The "TECHNICAL BID" shall be opened on the notified date of opening of technical bids(s).
   **Cover-2** shall be "FINANCIAL BID" containing BOQ (Bill of Quantity) of rates. After the evaluation and approval of the technical proposal, the "FINANCIAL BID" shall be opened only in respect of the technically qualified/accepted bids. The financial bids found technically non-responsive shall not be opened.
   (g) If any cutting/changes/tampering/over writing is found in the BOQ (Bill of Quantity), the tender will be rejected.
5. The Controller, Printing and Stationery Department, H.P, shall straightaway reject the tenders received with incomplete documents or in case of non-receipt of requisite documents within stipulated period.
6. The Controller, Printing and Stationery Department, H.P. reserves the right of rejection/approval of all or any of the tender without assigning any reason.

**Note :-** Please contact this office for any kind of technical assistance/guidance.

**(Prabha Rajeev, HPAS)**
**Controller,**
**Printing and Stationery Department,**
**Himachal Pradesh, Shimla-171005.**

Advt.No.:-3621/30/11/2024. **HIM SUCHANA AVAM JAN SAMPARK**

**NORTH CENTRAL RAILWAY**

**E-TENDER NOTICE**

Deputy Chief Engineer-II (GSU), N.C. Railway, Gwalior for and on behalf of the President of India invites Open **Online e-Tenders (Single packet Systm) for the** following work:

**E-Tender No.:** DYCEGSUGWL0324

**Description of work:** "VGLJ-CNB Section: Feasibility study survey and preparation of DPR for construction of ROB/RUB in lieu of 25 Nos. level crossing."

| Approx. Cost : 1.43 Crore | Date of closing Tender : 23.12.2024 |
|---|---|

**Date of completion/period from issue acceptance letter. :** 06 Months

- Tender can be submitted online up to **11:00** hrs on **23.12.2024.**
- For full details and submission of bid please see the Indian Railways website www.ireps.gov.in

2050/24(AS)

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

**BENGALURU METROPOLITAN TRANSPORT CORPORATION**

Central Offices: Purchase Department, Shanthinagar, Bengaluru-560 027,
Website: www.bmtc.in e-mail:cosp@mybmtc.com

No. BMTC/COSP/STR/SDS/515/2024-25 Date: 29.11.2024

**"e"-Auction Notice**

Scrap Vehicals available at BMTC will be sold through e-Auction to be conducted by **M/s. M.S.T.C. (A Govt. of India undertaking)**. The e-Auction schedule is as under: **(1) Scrapped Vehicals with RVSF-ELV Date of e-Auction: 18.12.2024**. The interested bidders may log on to **www.mstcecommerce.com** for further details and registration. They may also contact M/s. M.S.T.C Ltd., at below mentioned address for needful clarification. **Address:** M/s. M.S.T.C. LTD., No.19/5, 19/6, 3rd Floor, Kareem Tower, Cunningham Road, Bengaluru- 560 052. Contact phone Nos: 080-22260054, 22266417, 22287356, FAX No. 080- 22256365 BMTC Contact phone Nos: + 91 7760991988 / 7760991157.

**Sd/-CONTROLLER OF STORES & PURCHASES**

**DEVELOPMENT SUPPORT AGENCY OF GUJARAT**
**An autonomous Society promoted by Tribal Development Department, Govt. of Gujarat (Phone no.079-232-52257)**

E-Tender File No: VKY/2023 /3049/D-SAG

**CORRIGENDUM-2**

Development Support Agency of Gujarat (D-SAG) has invited e-tender from intending bidders for "Selection of a Design and Project Management Consultant (DPMC) for Museum, Curation and Allied Works of National Tribal Freedom Fighters Museum at Garudeshwar, Rajpipla, Narmada District". The tender document was published on 10/10/2024.Regarding the same revised schedule is as below;

**Important Dates:**

| | |
|---|---|
| Last Date & Time for Submission of Bids (Physical) | **Dt. 16/12/2024, Time 18:00 hours** |
| Technical Bid Opening Date & Time | **Dt. 17/12/2024 , Time 11:00 hours** |

The tender document can be downloaded from the website **www.tender.nprocure.com**.Interested bidders are requested to download the tender document from the above mentioned websites.
Further details can be obtained from the office of Chief Executive officer, Development Support Agency of Gujarat, 3rd Floor, Birsa Munda Bhavan, Gandhinagar, Gujarat - 382010. Phone: (079) 23252257, Email: **ceo-dsag@guiarat.gov.in**

**Sd/-**
**Chief Executive Officer**
**Development Support Agency of Gujarat, Gandhinagar**

INF/1659-2024-25

MAHATRANSCO Maharashtra State Electricity Transmission Co. Ltd.

**NOTICE INVITING TENDER CPD/113-2024-25**

Tenders are invited through e-Tendering in SRM system from the registered vendors for Supply of following:

| Tender No. & Description of Material | Estimated Amount (in Rs.) / Tender Fee (in Rs.) | Due Date & Time (Hrs.) for Submission & Opening of Tender |
|---|---|---|
| SP/T-0723/1124 [RFX No.5000001253] [2nd Call] (Two Bid System) Procurement of Emergency Restoration Systems (ERS) comprising of 10 Towers each (Suspension Towers- 6Nos. & Angle Towers – 4 Nos.) for various EHV PCC O&M Zones of MSETCL. | 176.29 Crores / 25,000.00 | 18.12.2024 Up to 17:00 Hrs. 18.12.2024 at 17:30 Hrs. |

Contact Person: Office of the Executive Engineer (Gr.P&C) Tel. No. : 022- 69852717/08329909813
Email: secpa@mahatransco.in, eepc@mahatransco.in, eegrp7@mahatransco.in,
For further details visit our website http://www.srmetender.mahatransco.in
Any further amendments will be published on the MSETCL website www.mahatransco.in. So bidders are requested to check the website.

**Sd/-**
**Executive Engineer (P&C)**

**CENTRAL RAILWAY**

**Materials Management Department**

**CORRIGENDUM - 07/2024**

**Kindly refer E-Proc. Tender Notice No.E-44/2024 Dt. 30.10.24**, published on **01.11.24**. Tender opening date for **Tender No. 5124 special sleeper** is now postponed to **09.12.2024**. Due to change in Eligibility conditions Details may be seen in the website **www.ireps.gov.in** For Principal Chief Materials Manager/CSMT. DE-577

रेल्वे फाटक को बंध स्थिति में पार करना मना है

**CENTRAL RAILWAY**

**CORRIGENDUM NO - 1**

Corrigendum No -1 to Open e-tender notice No.- **BB.LD.585.W.843. ContR6** of 25.10.2024 . The closing date for the **e-tender notice No. BB.LD.585.W.843. ContR6, dated 25.10.2024**, for the "Provision of special Buried rail earthing system at SPs, SSPs, along with earthing and bonding to enhance safety and reliability in Kurla, Panvel, and Juinagar districts" has been extended from **28.11.2024 to 04.12.2024**. DE-574

रेल्वे फाटक को बंध स्थिति में पार करना मना है

**KALYAN SINGH SUPER SPECIALTY CANCER INSTITUTE**
**C.G. City, Sultanpur Road, Lucknow-226002**
**Website: https://cancerinstitute.edu.in, Email: procurement.kssci@gmail.com**

**E-TENDER NOTICE**

On-line offers are invited from Manufacturer/Authorized Importers/Authorized distributors/Dealers (Declared by Principal Firm only) for the supply and Installation of medical equipment/Software & other capital Items for various departments of the Institute such as Elsevier "Clinical Key Flex", UpToDate, My Loft mobile web app, Hospital Information System (HIS), Metagenome Sequencing etc., as per tender conditions, as stipulated in the tender documents. Tender documents duly filled will be submitted in two bid system i.e. technical bid and price bid.

For Detailed information like Name of Equipment, Date of Submission and opening of tender, name of e portal etc. You may please visit the e-tender portal or Gem Portal. The above details will also be available on our website - **https://cancerinstitute.edu.in** for reference only.

The Director reserves the right to accept or reject any tenders in part or full without assigning any reason thereof. In case any legal dispute; the legal jurisdiction shall be court of law at Lucknow (UP), India.

**NOTE:** The information in respect of above work/bid further will be uploaded on institute website.

Advt. No. KSSSCI/PRO-15/2024-25 **Director**

**NORTH CENTRAL RAILWAY**

**Tender Notice No.:** AGC-ELG-T-24-2024-25 **Date:** 28.11.2024

**E-TENDER NOTICE**

Sr. Divisional Electrical Engineer (General) N.C. Railway, Agra on behalf of President of India invites "Open Tender" through on line only (E-Tendering) for the following works.

**Name of work with its location & Completion Period:** Provision of Replacement of 11 KV & 33 KV overhead track crossing line by underground cabling of Agra Division.

**Completion Period:** 08 months **Approx. Cost of the work:** ₹ 7317850.77

For full details and submission of bid please see the Indian Railways website **www.ireps.gov.in** Tenders can only be submitted through web portal **www.ireps.gov.in** up to **15:00 hrs** on **23.12.2024.** 2060/24 (A)

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

**Office of the Superintending Engineer, P.W.D. Circle Anupgarh (Raj.)**

**No.SEG/NIT/2024-25/12005491 Dated: 25/11/2024**

**Notice Inviting Bid No. 01 Year 2024-25**
**NIB code PWD2425A2916**

Bid for "भवन निर्माण कार्यो" are invited from interested bidders from dated 28.11.2024 to 17.12.2024 up to 6.00 PM and will be opened on 19.12.2024 at 11.00 AM. Other particulars of the bid may be visited on the procurement portal (http:/eproc.rajasthan.gov.in, http://sppp.raj.nic.in) of the state and departmental website. The approximate value of the procurement is **Rs. 346.82 lacs & No. of works are 01.**

| | |
|---|---|
| 1 UBN No. PWD2425WSOB10673 | |
| DIPR/C/11927/2024 | **(B.S. Swami) Superintending Engineer P.W.D.Circle Anupgarh** |

MAHATRANSCO Maharashtra State Electricity Transmission Co. Ltd.

**INVITATION FOR BID (IFB) (LOCAL COMPETITIVE BIDDING)**

**SRM e-Tender No. T-2478/MSETCL/CO/ Projects /Pre-Tender (RFx No. 6000001256)**

MSETCL invites offers by SRM e-tendering in TWO bid system (Techno-Commercial Bid and Price Bid) from the eligible registered bidders for the following work as detailed below.
"Conversion of 110kV DCDC to 132kV DCDC line from Mayani Tap to Dighanchi Substation (Route Length-48.86 km) under Karad Zone, MSETCL."
Interested bidders may obtain further information available on the website. https://srmetender.mahatransco.in
The date of downloading of Bid documents available on the website is from 25.11.2024.

**Sd/-**
**Chief Engineer (Projects), MSETCL**

MAHATRANSCO Maharashtra State Electricity Transmission Co. Ltd.

**INVITATION FOR BID (IFB) (LOCAL COMPETITIVE BIDDING)**

**SRM e-Tender No. T-2475/MSETCL/CO/ Projects /Pre-Tender (RFx No. 6000001267)**

MSETCL invites offers by SRM e-tendering in TWO bid system (Techno-Commercial Bid and Price Bid) from the eligible registered bidders for the following work as detailed below.
"Construction of 132kV DCDC Link Line by making LILO of one Ckt of 132kV Amalner (220kV Amalner-II SS) to Nardane line to one Ckt of 132V Amalner (132kV Amalner-I SS) to Parola Line (RL-16.60km) under Nashik Zone."
Interested bidders may obtain further information available on the website. **https://srmetender.mahatransco.in**
The date of downloading of Bid documents available on the website is from 27.11.2024.

**Sd/-**
**Chief Engineer (Projects), MSETCL**

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**Bhagwant Singh Mann**
Chief Minister, Punjab



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## real estate

### MUMBAI PROPERTIES

#### CHEMBUR

**INVESTOR** Opportunity For flat going for redevelopment by Hiranandani in Chembur. IOD received. Brokers please excuse. Call - 9820756167

#### DADAR

**ICONIC** 50-story tower in Dadar with sea & city views, between Siddhivinayak Temple & Portuguese Church. 2&3 BHKs from Rs. 10 Cr*. RERA P51900008207. Call 9513373406.

**FURNISHED-FLAT** at Dadar West for sale. 1 BHK , Carpet 408 sqft, Ground floor. Peaceful society, next to Kohinoor Mall. Mob: 9892260660

#### JUHU

**SEAFACING** PLOT @ JUHU 1250 Sq yards. Clear Title Juhu Beach touch - Can Build G+3 / 15000 sq ft : 150 Crores /- SIPPY HOUSING 9820053962

**SPACIOUS** 3bhk JVPD Scheme 2300'bup 1800'ca 5th flr, 15k PM (inclusive of prop Tax) @ 10cr nego. Fantasy Homes +91-99-202-888-12.

**SEA** view. 4 BHK Penthouse. Duplex Terrace Flat for Sale/ Rent, Hr Flr, 2 garages. Also many more Flats/ Shops. Call for Buy/Sell/Rent : 9820211566

**4** BHK palace deals 2500 to 3000 + cpt nr club millennium with OC see now & 4 bhk+2000 terr. 18 crs nr juhu sea princess BKP 9820303062/ 9821018184

#### MAHIM

**PREMIUM** 38-story tower with 1 & 2 BHKs starting at Rs. 2.33 Cr*, offering sea views apts, 9 parking levels, and top amenities. Located at L.J. Road, close to Shivaji Park, Mahim. RERA: P51900031447. Call: 9513373407.

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#### POWAI

**FLATS** FOR SALE 1/2BHK Westend Raheja Vihar & Panchmahal, Panchsrishti Chandivali, Buyers Only. PARAB 9820277277, 9820355838.

#### SOUTH MUMBAI

**RUSTOMJEE-CROWN** Prabhadevi Xtra ordinary large 4 bhk oc ready. sky mansions, 55 flr++2100 + cpt17.5 cr +taxes, +91 86556 41895 Limited unit

**AVAIL.** Resi. & Commercial properties for sale & rent of various sizes in South Mumbai, Wadala, Bhiwandi, Palava, Igatpuri & Goa. Atisaya Property Consultant 9833632193/ 7045046300

**PIRAMAL-ARANYA** Byculla Special Campaign Lifetime Rani baug views 3 bhk 1100 cpt Fully Furnished homes 5.55 cr + taxes Possn in 6 months P51900018039 Visit Now Actual flat +91 84509 97242

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**FOR-SALE-3BHK-APARTMENT-AT-LODHA-WORLD** Crest, Higher floor, Great Value Deal. Contact 9920730769

**SEA** View 3 BHK 1150 Cpt Near Babulnath Temple 2 Parkings untouched apartment at Walkeshwar for sale BKP 9987580291 / 9820303062

**BABULNATH--WITH--OC** 3 bhks with 2 podium parking Sea & hanging garden facing Unobstructed life time views Paresh - 8097839330 / 8779694199

**SEA** Facing 4 BHK @ 9.10 Cr Fully Furnished Home High Ceilings / Sun Deck Pool, Gym, Kids Play Area Highrise Estates 99 200 11 888

**ALIBAUG** 4 bed 7000 sf villa on 1.25 acre, near Mandwa. 23cr 4 bed 4000 sf villa on half acre. 5.50cr. Call 8806066777

**BUY** sell/ rent/ redevelopment Commercial / Residential. All prime location in mumbai. You should contact : Hare Krishna Realty: 8928039672

#### WADALA

**AVAIL.** 2 BHK, Wadala (E) cpt 883 w/Balcony, 17th. Flr., imm. Poss. Good View, Rs. 2.30 CR. (NEG) Call Manvi 9820117548 (RAJ DARYANANI)

#### THANE

**IMMEDIATE** sale FF 3BHK 1100Carpet including 6dry balconies & open terrace garden, All sides open airy flat 6th floor with OC CC Conv Deed First owners Clear titles whethersheded building near Rlway stn Naupada Thane West 2.40 Cr(N) No Brokers Contact 8779263612

**PIECE** of industrial land measuring 9800 sq MTR at village lahe ,tal shahapur dist Thane Mumbai nasik highway Maharashtra, 2.5 acres land for sale rent Call whatsup 9342268931

**4 BHK BUNGALOW FOR SALE IN THANE (W) at Panchpakhadi**
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Contact Owner: 98927 26255

#### WORLI

**WORLI,** Fully Furnished Well done Up Flat Spacious 1320+ cpt All amenities, pool, gym Party area, new lobby 6.45 cr nego,Offers invited -9819227923

**@PRABHADEVI,** Near Siddhivinayak Temple, New Beautiful Tower 2 BHK (3.75 CR), 3 BHK (5.25 CR). Higher Flr. Akruti Builders- 8591254627

**BUNGALOW** Style 4 BHK Sea Facing 4700 Carpet High Ceilings / Terrace Deck 7* Amenities / Luxury Project Highrise Estates 99 200 11 888

**SALE** LUXURIOUS JODI APARTMENT 5 BHK FLAT (2815 Sq. FT Carpet Area) East Facing At 59th Floor, Trump Tower Lodha Park, Pandurang Budhkar Marg, Worli Mumbai-400013 Covered 5 Car Parking, 2 Servant Rooms Contact to Sunil Sharma 9824156284/ 9081378898 sunil.inv@kanoria.org

**WORLI-OBEROI-360** ,5800 sqft carpet luxurious Fully Furnished apartments sea view with ultra Modern amenities for Sale 9869070123 / 9167723483

#### ANDHERI WEST

**SALE:4BUNGALOWS** Malibu Hubtown Residences 2.5 BHK, higher floor 4.10 cr 3BHK Yari Road 1350@4 cr "Pink Agency" 93222 49196.

**IF** you want to Buy/ Sell/ Rent & redevelopment specialist All prime location in Mumbai you should contact: Hare Krishna realty 8928039672

#### BANDRA EAST

**4BHK+DECK-LAVISHLY** furnished, At RUSTOMJEE SEASONS, 1718 sqft, Modern amenities. Venus Real Estate Consultants +91 9867411144

#### BANDRA WEST

**BANDRA** W Kailash Enclave Exclusive 3BHK Terrace Flat National College Rd Golden chance to own in New Bldg Higher floor OC recd NO GST PR Developers 9833645045

**3** Bedroom hall ownership at Bandra West near National College. 950 rera carpet with lift & 1 parking. New six floor Building with OC. Price 4.90 crore. Contact 9820092993

**LAVISH** penthouse 23cr. Pali Hill 4bhk 18cr (LL 5L). 4bhk Turner road 12cr (4L). 3bhk 7cr | 2bhk 5cr | 1bhk 3cr. Sunil Motiramani 9821353504

***AVAILABLE** Sale 3 BHK + 2 Private Terrace + Serv Room ,Heart of Bandra (W),Cp 1230sq.ft + 400sq.ft, 1 parking Greenery View, + 91 9833054534

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**DISTRESS** Sale 2BHK flats in tower with all amenities @ 1.9 Cr+ (Jodi possible) Close to BKC, Rera 2025 June. Call - 9004077428

#### BORIVALI WEST

**SALE** Borivali (W)-I C Colony: Fully furn. 2 bed -1 bed jodi flat with 4 bathrooms, 1184 sqft carpet+2 terraces 800 sqft carpet. 9892247012/ 9819913456.

**BORIVALI** W for VIP luxurious 4-5 bhk nr. Pawar School & MCA 51 storeyed 14 height 3000 + 3000 carpet M. G. Realtors- 9820964062

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#### LOWER PAREL

**LODHA** The Park - Allura 3 BHK 1045' 2 parkings / 2 BHK 845' 1 parking untouched Apt. all Morden amenities for sale BKP 9987580291 / 9820303062

#### SANTACRUZ EAST

**SANTACRUZ** (E) few Flats available 1 bhk & 1 bhk jodi for sale, possession soon, stn. highway, metro 2 mint's site 9867756747

**S'CRUZ** (E), 4 BHK @ 5.35cr, 1310' Usable carpet + 220' balcony. Close to BKC. Modern Amenities like Swimmingpool, Clubhouse . Call 9920975768

#### SANTACRUZ WEST

**RAHEJA'S** Seaview Homes 3 & 4 BHK Carpet 1228 & 1732 5 BHK Carpet 2611/ Ready / OC 6BHK Carpet 3464/7*Amenities Highrise Estates 98200 58877

#### MULUND WEST

**BUNGLOW** for sale, Mulund (West), 5 BHK, 2300', Toilets, Store, Covered Terrace 600', Parking. Peaceful Location. Madhukar Thakkar 9820016348

#### VILE PARLE EAST

**VILEPARLE** East Azad Road Near Milan Subway 2 BHK- 650' 2nd Floor, New Building, OC, Parking @ 2.18 Cr. For Videos Call "Navkar Estate" 9619674640

**FLAT** For Sale @ Azad Road, Vileparle (E) Parlashray bldg. 3BHK 985', 1st Flr, Parking, OC. 3.25 Cr. Negotiable, For Videos Call "Navkar Estate" 9619674640

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#### GOA PROPERTIES

#### FOR SALE

**SATYA** ESTATE: 4 bhk villa with private pool, garden, 2 car parking for sale in the heart of anjuna goa - 98726-69275

#### COMMERCIAL PREMISES

**AVAILABLE** for Rent 7 Shops for Multiple Multinational Brands facing the main road in Panjim City. Contact on Whatsapp only 9422061098.

#### FOR SALE

#### LUCKNOW

**AVAILABLE** on Rent/Lease for Bank. 7,100sq.ft Commercial space in the heart of Lucknow city Vrindavan yojna Sec-8, Front double road and commercial complexes. Contact - 8299093144/9910301694

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#### VADODARA

**LUXURY** Villa, Furnished Ready to move, Posh Society, All Amenties on Vasna Road. Built up 3500sq.f.Plot 3300 sq.ft.Ctc-08989872274, 9428423493

#### PLOTS FOR SALE

**NA** Plot 1004 sq.mtr. for sale at Karjat, Village Dhamni with Fully Furnished 4 BHK Bunglow G+1, Collector Approved Layout. Owner-9819672644

**FARMHOUSE_PLOT,** Igatpuri, Karjat, Lonavla, Pati Roha, Alibaug, Dapoli, Goa For Farm Plot Booking - Contact : 8390059370 / 8828259772

**PLOT-FOR-SALE** 1.Non-Agricultural Land 67,736 sq.ft. 1.55 acre, Devadhe Village. 2. Agricultural Land 82,764 sq.ft, 1.9 acre, Kondye Village. 3. Mango Farm 79,494 sq.ft. 1.825 acres, Panhale Village. All 3 Road Touch Location, Lanja, Ratnagiri Dist. Call: 9820773986

**For Sale/ Purchase of Lands Agricultural/ Non- Agricultural/ Industrial/ Farmhouse in Khopoli Khalapur Karjat Pali pls contact Mr. Lodha 9819190513**

#### LAND FOR SALE

**KHALAPUR,** Chowk, Mumbai Pune Rd. Touch, N.A. Land, 8.2 Acres for SALE. Other Options Avail. Brokers Excuse Call: 9004055777

#### BUNGALOW & VILLA

**BEAUTIFUL-2BHK** Bungalow for Sale in Karjat, 1140 Sqft., on 3250 Sqft. With Trees and Airy, Nature All Around. Call- 9326011851.

#### PROPERTY ANCILLARIES

#### INDUSTRIAL PREMISES

**65** acres of Indl Land for sale in Wada, Palghar, near Blue Star Co. 20K sq. ft. shed and 500 HP power.(M) 9820531894/ 8433547218 ( Brokers Excuse )

#### COMMERCIAL PREMISES

**CLASS-ROOMS** space required in Ghatkopar West near Station. Brokers Excuse. Email: dkld.careers@gmail.com

**BKC** G block, Multiple offices Avl. For Lease, 3700 sqft cpt, Higher Flr, Grade A bldg, Furnished, 6 carparks, RTMI, BKP 8850107073/ 9820303062

**SHOWROOM** for Lease, Bandra W, G+1 -1000sqft cpt each grade A bldg,13ft ht, main Rd, frntge 20 ft, 1 CP, Poss April 25, BKP 8104642231/ 9820303062

**LOWER** Parel Furnished Office on lease. 960 sqft carpet + 600 sqft mezzanine standing height, 5 minutes walking distance to CR n WR stations. Owner : 9820677340

**882-888-9697** Owner BANDRA (w) Office for Sale Prime Location Linking Rd. W/pantry & bath 4th Flr F/F intr dsng As it is Front Glass facade bldg

**BHIWANDI-** Rent @ 87000/-, Rajlakshmi Commercial Complex, 6000' builtup, 2 bathroom, 3HP Power, Ample Parking, separate compound, Mumbai-Nashik Highway Touch, 1 Km towards Mumbai fm Shangrila Resort. Call : 9322213582

**TARDEO:** Shop for Pagri Sale with Great Frontage Prime Location- Self Contained, Opp. Bhatia Hospital. 385 sq.ft. Carpet. 2.25 Cr. Call: 9819490722

**MULTIPLE** offices avl. @ Lower Parel Lease/ Sale 10500 cpt, glass Facade, F/F 14 car parks, high flr, imm poss. BKP 850107073/ 9820303062

**GOING** CHEAP MAHIM SHOP for 86.52 L with transfer, Gr flr,160 sq ft,with toilet, Max visible/footfall/people. 7400102652

**4600** sq ft Commerical Office space for Rent in prime area of Panvel, Near Shivaji Chowk. Highly suitable for corporate offices. 8080514577 / 9867252610

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**REQ** English Med. Teachers & male Accountant Convent English high School & Jr College (Bhoidapada, Vasai East) 9637503164/9637504764

**VIVEK** Vidyalaya and Junior College Siddharth Nagar, Goregaon West, Mumbai 400 104, a Grant-in-aid English medium institution with Tamil linguistic minority requires Shikshan Sevaks for its Junior College Section: M.Sc (Physics) + B.Ed – 1 post, M.Sc (Maths/ Stats) + B.Ed – 1 post, M.Com + B.Ed – 2 posts. Secondary Section: B.A. (English) + B.Ed/ D.Ed, CTET/ CET. Apply within seven days to the Principal with copies of certificates.

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#### ACCOUNTANT

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**REQ.** Account Assistant 5 to 7 yrs. Experience in Data Entry, upto Finalization of Account. Including P & L/ Balancesheet. Good Communication in English. Job Location Borivali (West). Email: kaushal@abctaxguru.com, 9892272276.

**REQD** Accountant for NBFC. Min 10yrs exp. for Audit, Tally, TDS, GST, ITR & Telecaller. Prefer CA Office Exp. Email ichibaanfinance@yahoo.in

**REQD.** Exp. Female Account Assistant at Borivali. Prfd. Experience 3 to 5 years. Email: deepakhealthcare.resume@gmail.com

**ACCOUNTANT**
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#### ACCOUNTS & FINANCE

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9840382506

# AAP MLA gets 2 yrs in jail for Quran sacrilege

**Patiala/Ludhiana:** A local court in Punjab on Saturday sentenced Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) MLA from Mehrauli in Delhi, Naresh Yadav, to two-year imprisonment in the 2016 Malerkotla Quran sacrilege case. The court of additional sessions judge Parminder Singh Grewal in Malerkotla also imposed a fine of Rs 11,000 on the Delhi legislator. Under Section 295-A of the Indian Penal Code, which deals with deliberate and malicious acts intended to outrage religious feelings, Yadav has been sentenced to 24 months in prison and a fine of Rs 5,000. Additionally, under IPC Section 153A, which pertains to promoting enmity between different groups on grounds of religion, race, place of birth, residence, language, etc, he has received an identical sentence of 24 months and a Rs 5,000 fine. TNN

# 4 electrocuted in TN as Fengal brings heavy rain & winds

**Chennai:** Four people were killed by electrocution in different parts of Chennai as Cyclone Fengal brought up to 13 cm of rain since Saturday morning, even as the spiral bands associated with the cyclone touched land around 7 pm, reports **U Tejonmayam.**

It took three to four hours for the cyclone to move toward the coast near Puducherry, IMD said, predicting heavy to very heavy rainfall in Chennai and 13 districts in Tamil Nadu on Sunday.

A red alert for extremely heavy rainfall has been issued for Villupuram, Kallakurichi, and Cuddalore, as they are closer to the landfall location. "Cyclone Fengal is going to be stuck off Cheyyur-Marakkanam coast till Sunday morning," said blogger Pradeep John in one of his online posts. The centre of the cyclonic storm, which slowed down from 10 km/h to 7 km/h, changed direction from 90 km southeast of Chennai to 90 km south of the city from 2.30 pm until late evening.

"The system may gradually weaken into a low-pressure area after it makes landfall, but it may continue to bring rainfall on Sunday," said N Senthamarai Kannan, IMD regional director.

Chennai city and its neighbourhoods received intermittent rainfall since Friday, but the capital was spared from flooding. While Ennore recorded the highest rainfall of 13 cm, followed by 9 cm in Sholinganallur during Friday night's spells, rain gauges in Chengelpet recorded 11 cm, Mailam 14 cm, Ranipet 8 cm, and Mamallapuram 8 cm between 8.30 am and 7.30 pm on Saturday.


## ONGC Foundation

**ONGC Foundation is looking for Chief Operating Officer (COO) / Chief Executive Officer (CEO)**

**Advt. No. 03/2024**

Oil and Natural Gas Corporation Limited (ONGC), a "Maharatna" Public Sector Enterprise, is the largest Energy Company in India, contributing around 70 % to India's domestic production of crude oil and natural gas. ONGC, as a leading Maharatna of the nation, has set a benchmark continuously for the last two years by achieving 100% utilization of annual CSR budget which has been over Rs. 600 Crore.

With the vision of impacting and socially transforming the lives of the underprivileged, ONGC created a trust under the Indian Trusts Act 1882 named ONGC Foundation, to undertake, augment and facilitate activities, initiatives and projects relating to corporate social responsibility. Details are available at **https://www.ongcfoundation.org**

ONGC Foundation is looking for an experienced Executive to join as Chief Operating Officer (COO) / Chief Executive Officer (CEO) who will report to the Board of Trustees of ONGC Foundation.

The details of the post, method of applying, eligibility criteria etc. are available in Advt. No. 03/2024, posted at ONGC Foundation website **www.ongcfoundation.org** Interested and eligible candidates are requested to visit the mentioned website for detailed information and online registration of application.



## unitech

**Public Notice**

**Last Opportunity for the Homebuyers of Unitech Projects for Change of Options from "Refund" to "Possession" and "Updation of contact details" on the Company's web-portal**

Kind attention of the Homebuyers of pan-India Unitech Projects is invited to the Public Notice dated 18.11.2024, uploaded on the Company's website **www.unitechgroup.com**, vide which final and last opportunity has been given for change of option from "Refund" to "Possession" on or before **31st December, 2024**.

Likewise, the Unitech's Homebuyers have been granted one last opportunity to update their Contact Details and other particulars, in the Company's web-portal on or before 30th November, 2024, vide Public Notice dated 16.10.2024 uploaded on the Company's website and also published in National/ Regional Newspapers on 18.10.2024. The Management has decided to extend the last date for the updation of Contact Details and other particulars also upto **31st December, 2024** in order to keep the same co-terminus with the Change of options.

The Homebuyers are advised to access the Unitech's web-portal for further details and modalities to be followed for changing their Options from "Refund" to "Possession" and "Updation of contact details" and other particulars.

It is made clear that this is the **last and final opportunity for changing the Options** from "Refund" to "Possession" and **"Updation of contact details"** and other particulars. It may be noted that no further opportunity shall be granted in this behalf. Further, it may be noted that no individual communications would be sent to the Homebuyers for this purpose.

It is further made clear that those homebuyers who fail to update their Contact details within the specified timeline, the allotment of their Residential and/ or Commercial Units shall be cancelled forthwith and the amount paid by them shall be forfeited. This publication may be treated as the **Final Notice for the resumption of their Units**, for which no further correspondence shall be entertained. The Company also proposes to initiate appropriate proceedings under the provisions of the Benami Transactions (Prohibition) Act, 1988 and the rules made thereunder against such allottees.

**A.K. Yadav**
**Chief Executive Officer**
**Unitech Group of Companies**



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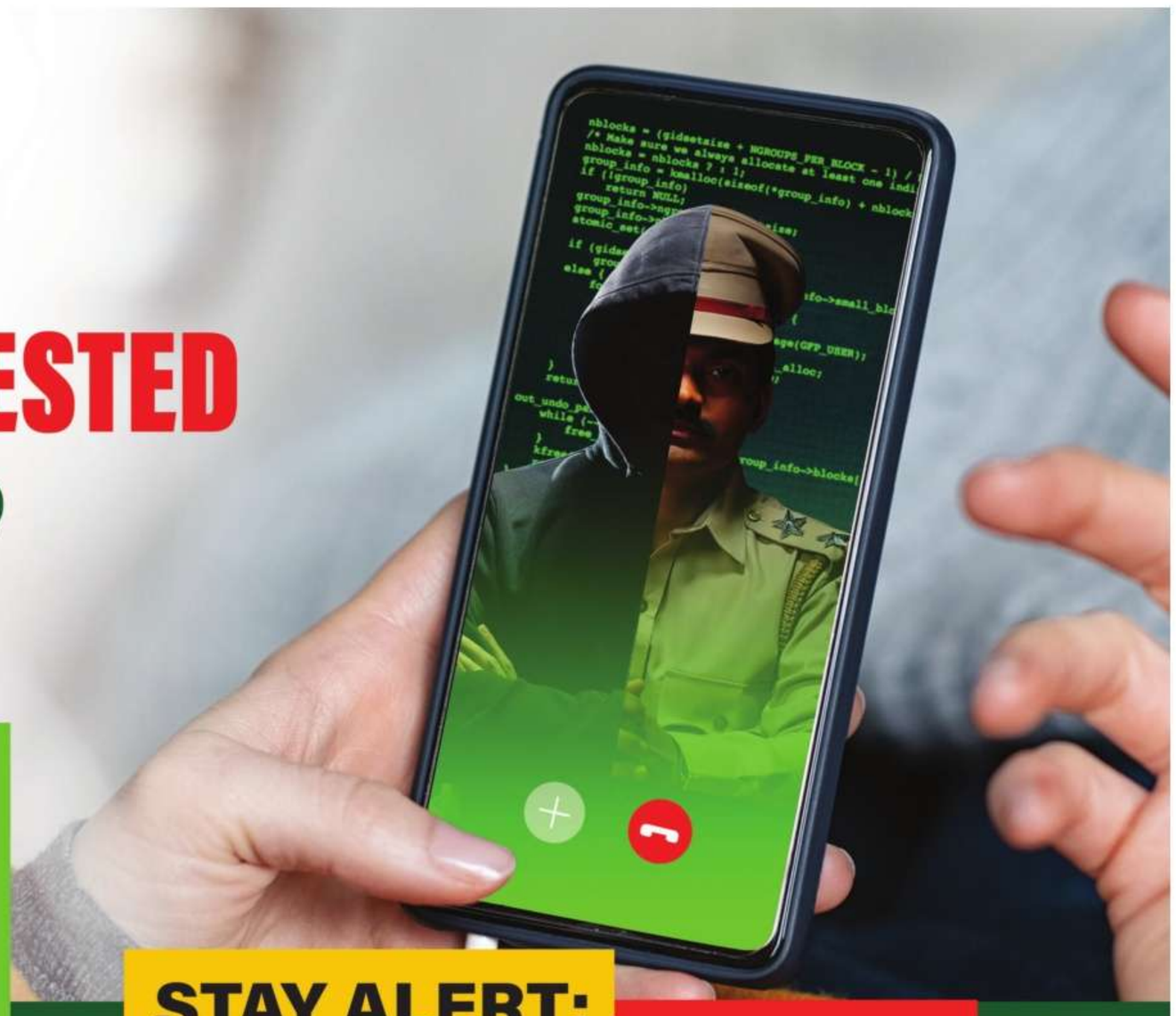
# Q. CAN YOU BE ARRESTED OVER A VIDEO CALL?



**Ans. No**

**Here's how scammers try to trap you:**

- THEY MAY CALL AND CLAIM THAT YOUR NAME IS INVOLVED IN ILLEGAL ACTIVITIES, SUCH AS PARCELS CONTAINING BANNED ITEMS.
- IMPERSONATING POLICE OFFICERS, THEY FORCE YOU TO JOIN AND REMAIN ON A VIDEO CALL.
- THROUGH FEAR AND INTIMIDATION, THEY EXTORT MONEY OR HARASS YOU.

**STAY ALERT:**

- CBI, POLICE, OR COURT OFFICIALS WILL NEVER ARREST YOU THROUGH CALLS OR VIDEO CALLS.

**WHAT TO DO:**

VERIFY IDENTITIES BEFORE SHARING ANY PERSONAL INFORMATION

CALL **1930** OR

FILE A COMPLAINT AT **WWW.CYBERCRIME.GOV.IN.**

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## WANTED BRIDES

### BY CASTE

### AGARWAL-BISA

**SEEKING** girl 4 Delhi-36(Bakoli) based Boy, 5'8", DOB:7Nov1985, C.Govt.Job, Family Income 35lpa. Phone: 9899565073/ 9899126899

**29/5'10** B.Tech-IIT MS Wkg with google 1Cr+well estblsd B'ness fmly Caste no Bar no dowry rich Fmly-8120991552 bdmatj@gmail.com

**SM4** Aggarwal Boy March1995 171cm B.Tech MBA Working NCR 9873002775, singhal1612@gmail.com

**H'SOME** 34/178 BTech BITS Pilani,N/married,veg MNC H1b CA USA,Decent pkg seeks status Fly, fair,slim,Prof,Girl US/India Fr Sr Cl1Retd WApp B&P 8999951877 Boy in pune till 25th Dec All U/caste

**AGRAWAL** BE(CS) MBA (IBS Hyd) 28/ 5'11" fair H'some, wrkg BIG 4 B'lore, Delhi bsd professional affluent family members IIC, IHC, CSOI seeks PQ wkg cltrd girl. # 9810441238

### BRAHMIN

**BRAHMIN** 30/5'10 B.Tech IIT MBA IIM working in MNC 80 LPA+ Father Industrialist only child caste no Bar # 8269889223 , 9179134562

**WELL-EDUCATED,** PROFESSIONALLY settled match for 27 yo/5'6" Punjabi Brahmin boy BE MBA; HR at reputed Org. in B'lore. Father businessman, mother homemaker (Gujarat based). 9723322333

**SM4** Kumaoni Brahmin, B.Tech Premr Inst. 31 / 5'8.5", 50 LPA, Sr Mgr MNC DLI, fthr Chairman PSU, Mthr Dr. Seeks Brah & all upper cast Prof qlfd grl. # 9810698009

**SM** 4 Kanyakubj Brahmin, 1991 born/ 5'10" ht./ Ph.D. Wrkg as Asst. Professor (Permanent), University of Delhi. Kindly W'App: 8076657211

**GAUR** Brahmin 32/ 6'1" fair handsome Ttotaler B.Tech wrkg in MNC 50LPA+ Pune Father Senior Officer in UP Govt seeks vegetarian well educated fair bride 9450104545

**MS** (Finance) Sanadya brahmin boy Oct'94/5'11" working in USA. Seeks equally qualified bride. contact 9425093237.

**PQM** for Brahmin boy,30/5'11", B.Tech,MBA-Fin.(USA), working at top MNC in USA. Reputed North Indian,Mumbai-based family.Ph-9082643517, 8451040630.

**SM4** 27- 6' Fair, Strong Built, Anshik Manglic, Antya Nadi, Saryuparin Nagpur. Vashishtha Gotra, IT Company Pune. Contact - 8208793857.

**1993/5'10"B.TECH** IIT,M.S (Eng),GOOGLE Wkg, 1Cr+ Fthr Mfg Ind'lst aflunt family, Caste no bar, No dowry 8962893692 Email: su7n5il@gmail.com

**1994/6'3"** BE wrkg Lead Stanchart GBS Bengaluru, 30+LPA. Father Ex IFS, wrkg country dir NGO. Bro wrkg London. 7588020450

**34** / 5' 10" Lead Data Scientist, Infosys, 20 Lacs Posted Jaipur. Affluent Family, no dowry, early marriage. Caste no bar # 7874882386

**BENG** Brahmin 30yrs MS Ortho Apollo Kol 5'5", Kanya, AB+ Seeks Doctor/IT/Bank bride within 28yrs. Ph. 9830554159

**SANADYA** Brahmin Boy- 38 yrs Height 5.8 well settled in Kandivali working in Kotak Life BKC. Need a pure Veg North Indian Girl from Mumbai. Contact: 7715974929

**PUNJABI BRAHMIN B.Tech boy 27/5-10" promoting family Business. Basically from Hoshiarpur settled in Mumbai Suburbs**
WhatsApp 9422475670
**9822737777**

### GUJARATI VAISHNAV

**VAISNAV_BOY** Dec.-1997 5'5" Practising Advocate at Kandivali (Mum). seeks Double Grad. wrkng Guj. vaishnav girl Call: 9664011380- 9664011386 prakashmehta964@gmail.com

### JAIN

**PROFESSIONALLY** qualified bride for (32/5'8") jain Data Analyst. MS from USA wrked with Big four in USA and Canada. Presently Toronto based. jainsunilk@gmail.com Whatsapp 919969220305.

**29/5'10** B.TECH IIT,MBA (IIM) Soft. Developer MNC, 95LK+ Father Mfg Ind'lst, Aflunt Famly, Caste no bar, No dowry, One child. Ph: 8329144307

### JATAV

**SM4** 28 5'8" B.TEC MBA IIM Indore work in Lodha Infra. AGM Mumbai 45 LPA. seeks B.full fair tall prof. working girl. Em: srchaudhary3861@gmail.com M: 9336112559

**SM4** Oct'95 / 5'10" B.Tech MS (USA) Working in Texas, Looking for suitable girl to relocate to USA. Father Retd Officer. W'App: 9818858348

### KAYASTHA

**MATHUR** Boy Oct'96, LLM/BbaLlb wkg MNC Noida. 15 LPA. Father Stk Mkt Trader, Mother Home Maker. Seek Fair and beautiful Prof. Qualified Bride vikasxkd@gmail.com

**B.TECH,** Software Engr, Mumbai, 31 yrs/5'11, MNC 35LPA, Kayastha Boy, Seeks Kayastha Girl, origin frm Bihar/JH. Ph: 9930803650.

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

**SRIVASTAVA** Delhi/NCR Jan'90/5'8", B.TECH/MBA, Self-employed. Family from Kanpur. Seeks a qualified wrkg girl. Caste No bar # 9336845255

**KAYASTHA** boy fair/ Smart Only son B.Tech/ MBA/1997/5'10" CFO & Co.in USA 30 LPA Caste No Bar Cont-9997679555, 9897055693.

**35** yrs Bhatnagar Manglik boy 5'11" in MNC Noida based Earning 11.50LPA. mail-sbpb1953@gmail.com . Mob 9997179501

**30/5'10** B.TECH- IIT MBA-IIM Sr Manager MNC 60Lpa Father Govt.officer Caste No Bar. No dowry Cont: 9340982702 , 9098455277

**SM4** Handsome, B.Tech. (CSE), Kayasth Boy 5'8"/92 working as Sr. Soft. Engg. in US-MNC @ B'luru.CTC 25 LPA. Contact:9810133058, 7574834147

**BTECH** MBA SAXENA Boy Sep 92/5'8, 36 LPA Wkg ICICI PRUDENTIAL as channel head of Delhi NCR. Seeks Prof Qual Girl 9560440109/8586841079

**SM4** V.Fair H'some Srivastava Medico boy Apr76/5'7" MS-Surgery DNB-GI Surgery, Delhi, 50LPA, sriv.tp@gmail.com , 9958799808

### KHATRI

**PQM4** Nvr Mrd Khatri CA bsd in Lucknow 49/5'11"/50 LPA, Lect/Sci/CA /Banker. Caste No Bar.sujayaca@gmail.com .9415018928

**WELL** Settled Hindu Khatri Boy, US Educated MSC, Canada Settled, 35, looking for Suitable Professionally Qualified Match, preferably living in Canada/USA. #7234889986.

**SOUTH** Delhi affluent Pb. Khatri fmly Advocate boy 26.11.93/ Del/ 8:58 pm, 5'11", LL.B, LL.M (Netherlands). cast no bar. W'ap 9810023627 E: ajay@teamworkinc.com

**BRIDE WANTED**
Reputed well established Punjabi business family of Jamshedpur seek match for their (clean shaven) boy 34/6'0" very handsome, very fair, convent educated, software engg., MBA having own business. Looking for a very beautiful, very fair, convent educated, non manglik girl of a reputed family. No dowry will be accepted.
CONTACT
6207121650
1968jamshedpur@gmail.com

### KSHATRIYA

**KSHATRIYA,** 1994 born, 5'11" handsome public policy professional working as Senior Consultant in a Big4 firm, seeks alliance from Delhi-NCR based beautiful, professionally qualified, working Kshatriya/Rajput girl. Email: hvmc2022@gmail.com ; Call: 9999297688, WhatsApp: 9437178810

**CHAUHAN** (VATSA GOTRA) 36/6'1" PGDM (GOLD MED.) G.M. IN A REPU CO. AT MUMBAI, INC. 80 LAC PA. SEEKS WELL QLFD, FAIR, ABOVE 5'6" GIRL. Ph: 9324075682 E-ML: sidd.arth3004@gmail.com

### YADAV

**HSOME** Yadav 33, 5.5" MBA Banking & finance Sydney Australia. Wkg Citi bank Pune. Want wkg bride in bank, IT mb8668943356

### BY COMMUNITY

### AGARWAL

**JAIPUR** AGARWAL, GARG, 33, 5'6", M.Sc, working in Germany, Automobile Engineer, seeks qualified girl: 9024672405, drsudhaagrawal145@gmail.com

**SMART** Gupta (Vaishy) Boy 33/ 5'8" MBA 50LPA Associate Director Analytics working in Banglore UP based family seeks Bride MBA, B.Tech 9415558354, 7897279751

**H'SOME** Agarwal boy, 1998 born, Doctor MS Ortho II yr, 5'10" Parents Doctor, Ludhiana seek Medico / MBA b'ful Hindu Girl, W'ap: 9815323269

**MUMBAI** Juhu fair h'some affluent businessman 35yr Agarwal divorcee 6'2" inc 5cr. Seeks tall, fair, pretty girl, high status fly. Send Bio 9920244770

### ARORA

**WORKING** Educated Mtch for Punjabi Arora Boy 33/170, B.Tech (I.T.), Msters from Texas Uni. USA & Emp. in USA, Parents Well Settled in Delhi. Contact 9899696058, dcgmcdtc@gmail.com

### MARATHA

**SEEKING BRIDE**
We are looking for a well-educated and cultured Maratha bride for our son, born in January 1995 (29 years old). **He is 5'6" tall and holds a BE in Civil Engineering along with an MS in Construction Management from a prestigious US university.** Currently employed in Seattle, USA, he intends to return to India to lead and expand the family business.
CONTACT
8806000123

### RAJPUT

**SM4** H'some, educated boy-Jan 92, 5'6"wkg in US. Fmly bsd in Mumbai with roots from eastern UP. #8108020896 E: rbsinghji508@gmail.com

**RAGHUVANSHI** chandigarh based 5'-10" 08/1982, MNC 20L Looking for a family oriented well educated never married girl. send details and pics at 9899157424

**SM** 4 Rajput boy, 1988 born/ 5'8" ht./ Ph.D. Working as Asst. Professor (Permanent), University of Delhi. Kindly W'App: 9958048001

### BY PROFESSION

### BUSINESS

**SMART** Very Successful Agarwal 27/5'9" MBA Belongs to Business Family Seeks a Pretty Girl. 9953552221 vpss999@gmail.com

### DOCTORS

**AUSTRALIAN** Gupta Doctor 170 cm March 99 Born.Both CA Parents.Need Govt College MBBS Girl. raym0105@gmail.com /Whapp 8130169414.

**SUITABLE** Match for handsome, tall, fair, Super specialist Doctor from renowned upperclass Brahmin family. Cont 9669664560, 8966063683, 9131069378

### BY RELIGION

### CHRISTIAN

**BOY30** / 5'11"B Tech MBA wkg at Mumbai, Bengali CNI, Liberal, wanted bride 24-29yrs with good Science /Tech education,Contact:6289457269

### HINDU

**SM** for London based (may move to US) for Kashmiree Hindu boy,41 years/5'11" never married. BTech, MBA, MS in Big 4 firm. Seeks qualified girl from decent family. Contact shekharsaraf14@hotmail.com

**SUITABLE** match for Kumaoni Rajput Merchant Navy 2nd Officer. DOB Nov92 Ht 5'7" Father Retd Army Colonel.# 7665388721,7665388167

**MAHARASHTRIAN** Groom (37, 6'2", heavy-built), well-settled businessman in Mumbai, seeks a smart, beautiful, educated bride from a good family (height min.5'5"). 9527416860/9890044249

**NRI** Khatri/ Punjabi boy 93/ 6'2 settled in Toronto Canada wkg. as Sr. Manager seek Prof. Qual. Match #9119262398

**Tall, Handsome, Qualified High Profile**
1972 Born, 6'3", 85 kg, Gujarati, Well spoken, Traveled, Cultured, Unmarried Professional Looking for a Young, Elegant, Well Spoken, Cultured Family Girl.
SUDHIR BHATT
9920099889 / 9619101019 / 20
sudhirmatrim@gmail.com

### MUSLIM

**PROP.** SM Boys 22-60 Prof Qlf B'men; 95/92 MD Derma; 94/96 BE MBA; 81/88/90/94/96 BE MBA; Boys for Dubai, US, UK Prof. Qlfd.; Div options too. Mrs Khan 9820255313.

**MUSLIM** Sunni Upper caste H'some 31/ 6", Masters frm LSE (London) with a MBA degree. ISB Hyd wrkng with Multinational Stays Delhi seeks an edu. b'ful bride wrkng/Non wrkng 9319040718

**SUNNI-HANAFI** 35 years, 5.10", BSc IT Graduate Boy working as IT Professional in MNC, looking for simple & educated girl. Call - 9137129392.

**SEEKING** a liberal, broad-minded, tall & foreign-educated Muslim bride, aged 22-27; for a Sunni Muslim Gujarati speaking UK- educated, accomplished businessman living in Dubai, born June 1995, 5'9". Contact with your brief introduction, education & occupation details. Uncle: 8104739843, soyam786@gmail.com

### SIKH

**SM4** Sikh Khatri boy, 29/5'10". B.Sc. Aviation. Pilot in Dubai based Airline. Earns 1 Cr PA. Whatsapp - 9811033702

**SEEKING** a Suitable match for Jatt Sikh Canadian Citizen Marketing Manager (Dec 91) 5'10, well settled in Toronto. Respond with Biodata and Photos on WhatsApp: +1 (647) 410-7248 or Email: jsbuttar1958@gmail.com

**GURSIKH,** 63 yrs. Mumbai based. No kids. Divorce on. Wants well earning, veg Gursikh lady, no kids. tsalwayswise@gmail.com

**B.TECH** MS(NYU) boy Dec 90/5'8" Wkg IT Proj.Mgr. Ahmedabad. 50 LPA.Father&Mother Govt.Retired Engr & Teacher. Seeks a suitable girl. Whatsapp-9725389777

### GENERAL

### CASTE NO BAR

**WIDOWER** Issueless Age 60, 5'7" MA Smart Businessman, 35 LPA Seeks Divorce widow understanding lady, Cast No Bar : Contact - 9967341620

**S4-** Gupta /83/5"8" /Divorcee/ Wkg in Pune /25 LPA/ Working Girl / Issue Less / Non Manglik contact 9983347969, 9828736667

**41-YEAR-OLD** US citizen, accomplished surgeon, entrepreneur, 5'4", 64 kg, affluent, and divorced, seeks an attractive, educated, outgoing bride. Contact via WhatsApp +1 9793580435 (USA) or visit www.bit.ly/lovebml.

**34** /5'10 Brahmin B.Tech IIT MBA IIM working in reputed MNC 70 LPA+ Father Industrialist caste no Bar # 9893202325, 8269889223

**SM4** PUNJABI H'some, Fair Slim, 5'8"/35 yr., MBA, Mumbai boy, Own well estd. business own office/flat Mumbai, 7 figs income seeks B'ful, Fair, Edu working, Girl from upper Mid Class family. Pref Mumbai /metropolitan W/C: 9911638777

**SM4** for *NRI Rajput* boy 32, 5'11" B Arch, MS in Const Mngt & wrkng in Australia. Reputable family, Father VP in FMCG. Looking for a well educated, working girl, similar values Contact 9545450567

**SM4** Punjabi Brahmin UM boy Dec.83/5.8" Musician settled in Mumbai-caste no bar/simple early marriage. Send profile-Wapp/ Mob 9811682892

**HINDU** boy 34/172cms BE MBA(US) wkg as Sr. Business analyst in a reputed bank near Washington DC. Father Maratha, Mother Sikh, Seeks proposals from girls wkg in US or India but willing to relocate. Caste no bar. Contact WhatsApp 8220199668.

**TELUGU** 33/5.8, 13.LPA Wkg.mnc GIFT city Ahmedabad, Parents Rtd. settled in Nagpur 9595088997 psudhirnaidu@gmail.com

**SM4** 26, 5'11" smart, h'some boy, own b'ness, income-in Cr. Cast no bar, Pref. Mumbai & metropolitn cities 9810483461 manav781@gmail.com

**B.TECH/** NSIT Del bsd h'sme jatav boy, 38/5'11" MNC Germany 1.10L PA frm edu fly seeks edu b'ful girl 9818266787 singh.amar.dda@gmail.com

**SEEKING** educated, employed girl on H1B or US citizen for handsome Hindu boy, 27/5'8", Canadian, Senior Software Engineer in Seattle, USA. Caste No bar. WA +16479724533

**PROPOSALS** from Super Elite, IFS, IPS, IAS, Business, Diplomat Hindu families for a tall, smart, accomplished 32/ 5'11" Canadian Doctor visiting India Dec 4. WhatsApp: 604.364. 3871 Mail: rks.peng@gmail.com

**PUNJABI** khatri boy 5'11/Nov 89 B.A.LLB(H) & MIB France wkg investment lawyer with oil &Gas conglo merate in Muscat fmly Delhi based. # 9818431818

**PATEL** boy 31yrs/5'10" mechanical Engineer Australian citizenship & Australia central Govt Job. Caste no bar Cont : 9425648187

**LOOKING** for a bride, preferably non-manglik, should be flexible with relocating to NCR region. Current location: Kanpur, 5'8,31,Kayastha,Project Manager,30LPA. Contact: 8171412197

**PQ** Working Match for handsome Srswt Brahmin, Gurgaon based, 36, 5'11" Engr, MBA (IIM) MS (Purdue USA) wrkg in a top US MNC. E: matrimonial. 2601@gmail.com

### COSMOPOLITAN

**UPPER** Middle Class 65 Yrs Pune Based Divorced No Liabilities Independent 7 Digit Income Seeks Similar Profile Decent Healthy Cultured Well Settled Lady Companion at Pune. Email: mysunshyn55 @gmail.com

**SM4** Cosmopolitan & Liberal 5'8"/39yrs RC boy lives in Mum Wkg Prof.Media&Film making Seeks edu, open mind, b'ful girl Religion & No bar. # 9818739357

**MATCH** for 30 yrs 5'10" Wealth manager 25+LPA own work,only child,living with parents own house,owns premium property in Delhi NCR jat mom ramgarhia dad retd IAS WhatsApp 9625633561 no bar

**BCA,** (SC), Oct '89, 5'7", wheatish,Class 1 Govt. Officer wrkg in Mumbai. No Dowry. Wrkg girl Cont: 81405-31997 / 83209-54370

**AUSTRALIAN,** Bengali, 43, Lawyer, bachelor, tall, slim, seeks educated bride between 28 to 35. Kar.Brisbane@gmail.com , WhatsApp 8582987200

### SC/ST

**NAMASUDRA/SC/** SC NRI Bride Only, Tall, Slim, Fair, VB, Highly PQ for pure Veg boy (31), IIT(BTech) + IIM (MBA), settled in North America(PR) father IIT(BTech), Cent. Govt. IES (Retd.) WA/- Mob: 7428305217. No Caste Hindu, No Agent/Apps, Dir. Cont. only.

### SECOND MARRIAGE

**PB** Sethi 1975 born Height 5'10" Widower boy CA MBA running Own company high income seeks Good Life Partner caste no bar # 9818227342

**PQM4** Jaipur bsd CA Shwtbr Jain l'less Divorcee Dec 81/5'7", own business 40LPA+. Savarn CNB. BHP W'App 9899315625

**SM4** Issueless Divorcee Kayasth July 86/5'6" B.Tech, MBA Smart Boy, Respectable Family, Working MNC at Noida Pkg 39 Lacs. 9415130080

### RELIGION NO BAR

**CHRISTIAN** Goan Bachelor, Bcom, Functional Consultant (IT), Capital Markets (NSE), 52 yrs, 5'7", Mumbai, well settled, own business/ accommodation. Reply to peggymarch987@ gmail.com with profile and photo.

**SUITABLE** match required for Hindu Chaurasia, 29 years, Fair, Slim, Handsome Boy Completed MBBS from Pune. DY Patil MED. College doing MD pediatrics from Lucknow. Father, Mother are Doctor own nursing home in Farukhabad, U.P. Sister ophthamologist, married to Orthopedic surgeon. Doctor from North India Preferred. Contact: 9415146387

**41/5'10"** Agarwal unmarried boy B.Tech- IIT,MBA-IIM Sr.Mngr MNC 80 Lpa accept div & widow caste no bar, no dowry 9098455277, 9179132579

### BY LANGUAGE

### BENGALI

**REQD** fair Bengali girl BSC BED kayastha 30 yr wkg as teacher settled in maharastra for 35 yr BCOM wkg in MNC pune. Father Lt Col Retd settled in pune M:9823180220

**SM4** Bengali 1980/6' BE, MBA IIM, PhD, Mumbai based divorcee, looking for educated homely bride. No dowry. suitablebride123@gmail.com

**BRAHMIN** 61/5'10" divorced, retd. Central P.S.U. seeks b'ful, homely, l'less divorcee /widowed/ nvr.married (40-45) wkg/non.wkg estb. bride. Email: rajdhanisan tanu@gmail.com

**EB** Brahmin sandilya 36+/6' MBA(IIM)wrkg in Pune seeks fair,b'ful,edu bride,33 wrkg in pvt co.Brhmn non-sandilya nonmangalik pref 8017931472

**BENGALI** kayastha 31/ 5'7" BE (E&TC) /MBA (USA)/ MS / MFIN working with H1B visa. Project Manager at IOWA State University USA. Only son of a well-established educated family. Searching for a fair educated and pretty girl from a brahmin/ baidya/ kayastha family. 9821117535

### MARATHI/ KONKANI

**SM4** h'some boy from affluent business fmly, Hindu Teli, 29/5'9"BS+MBA, Director 36 LPA, mumbai based lkg for b'ful, well educated girl. Affluent fmly. Call 9324783375

### PUNJABI

**SEEKING** a smart match for our son (13/10/1994 -5'10) Pune-based, creative professional, well-established family 22 LPA. WhatsApp 9850004766

**IF** you are of a homely and caring nature, please apply to my matrimonial advt. I am 53 yrs, tall, handsome. I am a clean-shaven Sikh. I have an MBA in Finance and work in an MNC in Mumbai. I am divorced with no child. You may reach out at 9820054157.

**LOOKING** for well educated, slim, beautiful 1989 to 2000 born girls from rich, high status families. Divorce & NRI reqd # P Kaur 7709109759, 8767577584

**SM4** Boy April 96 /5,11. Lawyer LLM from London 30 lacs LPA Based in Mumbai from an affluent punjabi fly. WhatsApp - 9322704455

**B'FUL** PQM from W'rptd fmly for h'some cleansh-aven sikh boy 1988/ 5'-10", MBA W'stld business Income in Crores annually. Caste no bar 90410-64104

**BUSINESS** Family looking for a perfect Match of their Son 1996 Born, 5'11" MBA having Own petrol pump & Finance Company #9829023809

**WANTED** Punjabi unmarred boy 31, 5'10" BTech-MBA IIM working mnc 45 lac cast no bar no dowry afulent fmly 7987144206 8085041316

**SOUTH** Delhi based high Status Punjabi 31/5'10" MSc (London) wrkg in MNC Highly paid seeks Smart qualified girl. Caste No Bar. 8076635292 matri661@gmail.com

**PBI** B'ful W/NW girl below 44 for Pb. Khatri never married 48/177/90 LPA status Delhi fmly, Photo must. 8700376245. Email: sach4098@gmail.com

**B'FUL** well edu girl 4 nvr mrd Pbi h'some boy 9.3.78,5'6" MBA. 95LPA, wkg Mumbai, upp-mid cl edu Fbd bsd fmly, 8178423326 BP: panchbhoot46@gmail.com

**Seeking Tall, Smart, Educated & Elegant Girl For West Delhi Based Punjabi Khatri Manglik Boy, 6'2", 18 / 04 / 1990, 3 PM, Birth Place Mumbai, BBA, MBA, Industrialist Affluent Family.**
Whatsapp/Call:
9899100576/9354441259
matri.delhi2024@gmail.com

### SINDHI

**MDS** Mumbai, Sindhi Boy 5/6"/28, seeks CA/MBA/Engr. /Physiotherapist/Pharmacy girl Parents practising Doctors. # 9322030011 / 9822330300

**UK** based Indian, working SINDHI Boy, MBA, 35 yrs / 5'9" Educated family seeks Professional Qualified Match (any caste). Ph: + 44 7867239555.

**STABLE** Reputed Mumbai family invites match for son only child 29 Y, 4'11" B Tech, CFTe working in equity market M-9967587225

### BY NATIONALITY

### NRI/ GREEN CARD

**GRADUATE,** 97/5'7, "Working in UK govt, family settled in the UK, seeks ambitious girl. +919967484531, rupagh@gmail.com

**BTECH** NSIT Delhi/Arora boy/31/5'11/Assc Dir/Soft Dev/Toronto Bank/Canada Citzn WA9560807440, matrimony2357@gmail.com

**PUNJABI,** h'some, 91, 5'11" well settled NewZealand citizen boy seeks educated beautiful girl only from NewZealand, No matrimonials. M: 7043404444

**CANADA,** Toronto, Hindu Bengali Engineer Groom 40/ 5'11"/fair Divorcee, Issueless, working MNC seeks suitable Hindu bride. Call/ WApp 0014374604774.

**1997** / 5'11 Handsome, Highly Qualified Reputed Gujarati family Boy, MS in Fin. Engg., Working with Multinational Pharma in New York, Looking for US based Indian Girl. Caste No Bar. 9372385380.

**SM4** Kayastha h'some USA boy 6'2"/1986 B.tech/IIT MBA America wkg Asso. Director pref. b'ful (abv5'5") fair slim Btech MBA MS grl 9415821889

**MS** France Working MNC, Germany, 32/5'6", SC boy, Delhi NCR. Seeks IT/ Software Engineer Beautiful Girl. Mob./WhatsApp. 9818689333

**SEEKING** alliance from professional working girl in USA/H1B visa holder for Punjabi boy currently working in USA in a Consulting firm (5'10", Jan 96, B Tech/MS.) WhatsApp 7738057820

**SEEKING** US Citizen Indian origin bride for a 27 year, 6'6" ft Khatri, US based Indian origin boy, working as Manager in Florida having completed MS, IUPUI, currently pursuing MBA. Parents, well educated professionals based in Mumbai.M- 9819145046

**SEEKING** UK based girl for handsome 42 year old Consultant in Private Equity based in London. Oxford MBA. High status defence family. Whatsapp 8826880222.

**BR.** Boy 35 yrs/ 5'10" Fair, H'sm MSc. holder Digital Mkt Wkg Ireland on critical skill visa Pref. Wkg girl CNB, visit India 15dec- 7 jan #9811452191



## WANTED GROOMS

### BY CASTE

### AGARWAL - BISA

**PQM** BTech-Del/MS US girl from affluent family working in MNC Bengaluru, 61L, Aug 86, 5'6", Ph 9289486644, agarwal6429@gmail.com

**PQM4** Garg MBA BTech girl Noida 22.01.95/ 5'1", wkg listed fintech co Mumbai 23lpa, father Sr IRS officer Noida, 9953782450 (WA), arnera108@gmail.com

"Alliance invited for Bisa Agarwal Girl, 29/5'2.5", Fair Attractive Features, PG in Interior Design Amity University, MBA, belong to Affluent Business family, Seeks Prof. Qualified, Well Settled B'ness/Job boy from highly affluent family. Brahmin, Punjabi, Khatri also welcomed. Email: shrishtikomal18@gmail.com Mob. No- 9415113577, 7985923675."

### BRAHMIN

**FAIR** south indian bride 86/5'3" divorcee UK citizen, seeks well settled boy, UK preferable jaisrikrishna617@gmail.com

**BE** (CS) MBA (Symbiosis), Kanyakubj Girl Dec'93 / 5'3" content writer, Pref. H'some w'edu sttled boy frm affluent family 9425156297, 9425155197

**WANTED** Groom Unmarried/Divorcee, for M.A, Bed unmarried Br. girl U.P shifted Pune. Early marriage seeks age 39. 7387062810/7888264709

**SM4** 29/5' Non Manglik gaur br girl. Pgt Eng in Pvt School.Pref Non Drinker/Smoker Pure veg settled in NCR. #9899146753

**BRAHMIN** Girl 1991/5'2.5", IIT, MS, Manager, Top MNC, India. Parents Class I Officer Prefer Brahmin/Upper cast veg. #9424419272/ 9329883131

**BRAHMIN** girl B.Tech 27/5'6"Wkg in MNC Hyd. Veg Father GM, Mother Central Govt. Looking for qualified decent match preferably M.P. #9425330185/7869966212.

**BRAHMIN** girl 1991 born/ 5'3" Asstt. Vice president Financial co. seeks suitable match, Mother #8766269550 deepakadj2002@gmail.com

**SM4** Noida based Tyagi Brahmin, b'ful girl 28/5'2", B.Tech, MBA IIM-K, MNC Ggn. 28 LPA. Seeks Well-settled partner. Contact: 9917088545

**KKB** 24/6/1993, ANTY SHANDILYA, M.Tech (CS) IT Technologist (Software). Hyderabad, 16 LPA. 7905323325 (W) 9415283021.

**KKB** Manglik girl 1991, Fair, 5'6" MBA, 22 LPA wkg Hyderabad seeks well educated & settled boy. All Brahmin Accepted 9981164359, 8374194461

**SM4** Brahmin Beautiful fair Engineer girl 33/5'4" working in MNC Gurgram LPA 15 Father Retired Mobile 9877648348, 7717375150

**BRAHMIN** Vishwakarma Girl 5'-3", 1995, Mngr in AU Small Bank Jaipur, Seeks Govt./Pvt Service/Bzman boy, All Br accpt. 8290333393,

**SM** for 28/ 4'-10" fair, NRI Gujrati girl, Garg Brahamin, LLB, Working in Johannesburg South Africa. Invites Pure Veg and Teetotaller Grooms Only Whatsapp 9414055008

**Punjabi Brahmin family seeks alliance for Daughter 1997/ 5'4" Fair & Beautiful, Chartered Accountant, Assistant Manager -Auditor at KPMG Mumbai.**
**9822737777**

### JAIN

**B'FUL** Smart Never Married Advocate, Convent-Edu. Jain Marwari Mumbai Girl 37/5'4. Need Jain/ Hindu Marwari/ Guj/ Hindi Boy. 9137293116

**JAIN** Match 4 Dig. Jain Girl slim b'ful 47/152 B.Com DBM, Non-wkg. Never Married, looks much younger, Veg family. Hindi spkg, Early Marriage. Ph : 022-46037166 WP : 09819598981.

**SEEKS** suitable USA working Jain swetambar veg groom for fair 26 Yr 5' 5" masters in graphic design USA working in cubic maryland. Contact 9673998282.

### KAYASTHA

**BTECH** Sri NM Aug88/5'2" Sr. Mgr Iqvia M'bai 35-40LPA, Lko bsd f'mly seeks w'stld boy, early decent Marriage. # 9415331617, 9454886600

**SUITABLE** Match for Kayastha Mathur Girl April '92, 5'2" Design Engineer in MNC PKG 18 LPA Upper caste no bar. Mobile: 7693055513

**SRIVASTAVA,** Sep90/5'5" UG Del Uni. PG WARWICK Uni UK,Brand Mgr,MNC, Mumbai, Nvr Married,Del NCR based family,caste no bar.#9810731723

**SUITABLE** match for non manglik Architect kayasth girl. January 1995, 5'1", (MNC Gurugram). Contact 9755745585, 9893366879

### KHATRI

**DUAL** Masters, 29, 163 cms, Sindhi, Entrepreneur, Mumbai Based, Father a Businessman, Good Networth, seeking for suitable-match mumbai only.Contact- 9321435090

**PQM** fair b'ful MBA/AVP IN MNC 46/5'3"/40LPA Nvr married, open to relocate sujayaca@gmail.com , 9415018928

**KHATRI** Pb.slim 29 yrs,5'4" prof.del.ncr.Post Grad. from foreign Uni.Seeks well edu.& stld groom in metropolitan areas.8252657878, 9431123772.

### KUMAUNI

**PQM4** Kumaoni Rajput Girl Aug 94/5'4½" BE-CH (Gold Medalist) MBA-IIM (C) Consultant-MBB - 50 LPA Seeks well settled Rajput /Brahmin boy. Mob./ Wsap 9464122376

### VAISH

**ALLIANCE** Invited for very fair charming, Jain Girl, 27/5'5" MBA, Father Highly respected Industrialist of Delhi. jsdjain@gmail.com 9899710471

### BY COMMUNITY

### AGARWAL

✔ **BDS** Doctor Mumbai, Fair, Slim, Oct 1996 Born... Open for Professional or Businessman Match... MITTALs 9820345742

**GOEL** Jan94 BTech MBA-IIM 5'7" 50LPA MNC highly edu fmly seeks NCR based profn'l M:9910495444

**SM4** CON. EDU. M.COM MBA FAIR SMART AGG. GIRL 1993/ 5'-4" WKG BANGLORE SR. CR. ANALYST CNB 97293-42319.

**Mumbai Based Affluent Sekhawati Agarwal Marwari Business Family Seeks Suitable Alliance for Their Daughter Sept 1992 Born, 5'4" Tall, Fair, Slim and Beautiful with Charming Personality and Well Educated from Abroad. Boy Should be from well Established Marwari / Agarwal / Jain / Maheshwari Business / Professional Family, Good Looking, Well Educated and Settled**
**Reply with Biodata and Photograph On Whats App Number 9821212625 / 9820035362 cljhuf@gmail.com**

### ARORA

**SM4** 29/5'7", NIT Gold Medalist, EdTech Prof., BLR. B'ful, slim, simple. Fam. settled Surat. Seeks edu., tall, veg Punjabi match. Call: 9374738545

### JAT

**AFFLUENT** Jat family Ext. b'ful Girl, B.Tech, Aug.92/5'5" wkg MNC. Father Chief Engr. Govt. Prefer Civil Service / Dr. / B'ness / IIT-IIM Caste 9 bar. W'ap / Ph: 9818496345.

**SM4** v.fair b'ful Jat girl Aug 89/5'6"B.Com(DU),MBA wrkg in MNC NCR. Pref. wkg MNC Delhi NCR, avd Teotia/Alhawat.W-9412432162.9690905080

### KERALITE

**NAIR** family from Vadodara seeks well placed groom for their daughter, 31 yrs, currently based in London. Contact : 9925260895.

### RAJPUT

**RAJAWAT** B'Ful Girl 27/ 5'2" Jaipur, MBA, Working In Corporate In Jaipur Seeking Well Educated Boy and Modern Family, M. 9929618522

**SM** FOR B'FUL GIRL JAN 93/5'3" BBA LLB DELHI UNIVERSITY WORKING MNC LEGAL ADVISOR PUNE SEEK QUALIFIED BOY FROM REPT RAJPUT FAMILY MO: 7007999714

**RAJPUT** Girl, 42/5'4/MA B.Ed. Teacher with family values & modern outlook. Seeks supportive, value-driven partner. Contact: 9839181777

### BY PROFESSION

### DOCTORS

**SM4** MDS (Endo), Wkg with ITS Dental College, 7 Lac PA Del/NCR Rajput Girl. 30/5"4" Fathr Retrd Govt. Officer, Mthr wkg PGT # 8800772456

**GURSIKH** Match for doctor Sikh girl, GI- Surgeon (M.Ch.) sept, 89/154. Working as Asstt. Professor (Regular) at AIIMS, Nagpur. WhatsApp- 9811033702

**ALLIANCE** invited for 39 years, 5'7", fair, well settled Punjabi Girl, MBBS, MD (Microbiology), working in Mumbai for a reputed Govt. Organization. Seeking match with compatible educational qualifications, preferably from Mumbai. Reserved category, plz excuse. W/App 8007125514

**MEDICO** match for Dental Surgeon (MDS), slim, b'ful girl, 1997 / 5'4" practicing. Mumbai based Agarwal Doctors family. Call & WhatsApp #98204 97061

### IAS/ ALLIED SERVICES

**85/5'5"** Never married Civil servant girl frm elite fmly seeks civil Servent or well qualified matches. Ph: 9827336418, 9691803552

### LECTURER

**5'4"/** Oct 90 born / Gori / Extremely Beautiful / LLM NLSIU Bengaluru / LLB / CLC / Law Fac / DU / Convent edu. Working as Asst Prof./ Rep Pvt Univ./Delhi. Open to relocation to metropolitan. Affluent hi status Agwl Del based fmly seeks high class professionals. Upper caste no bar. 9818632910

### MBA/CA

**PQM4** Btech+MBA Manglik Rajput Girl, working MNC, 60 lakhs+ CTC, 5'6",8-Oct-90,7:39 AM,Delhi; #9667556591

### BY RELIGION

### CHRISTIAN

**UAE** based beautiful Christian girl, 32/5.3", UK educated Engr, Sr Consultant. Seeks professionally qualified Christian boy 33-35/5.9" Preferably Dubai based Contact:9969547557

**MUMBAI** based, Fair, Good looking Girl, 5'4"/ 86 born, Christian, Working as Legal Manager /Advocate, Seeks Suitable Matches from India & abroad. 9892771204/ 7738674508

### HINDU

**AFFLUENT** Hindu family, (South Mumbai) Beautiful, Fair,36/5'-5" /LLM, Rs.40 LPA seeks match from upper Hindu highly Qlfd unmarried boy. Call : 9321571525

**DIVORCEE** 81/5'2" MBA psychologist 1 kid 14 years father retired IAS seeks well qualified match

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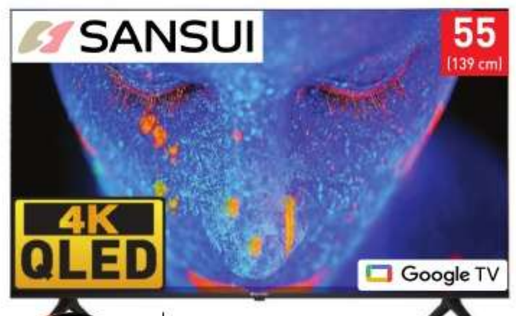


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WANTED GROOMS

BY RELIGION

MUSLIM

**DOCTOR** GIRL SUNNI MUSLIM 27YRS MBBS/MD/PG ONGOING/AIIMS.REPUTED FAMILY OF CHHATTISGARH. CALL:9827495951

**SUNNI** Muslim 23,5.6 fair n Beautiful, BSc.(Hons.)(eco. & Finance) Queens Mary, London from an elite claas business family seeks an educated moderate groom preferably busines family india/Abroad M. 9319040718

**PROF.** SM Girls 18-27 Grad, B'ful; 94/97 MD ENT; 94/97 BDS; 99/ 2000 B.Sc B.Ed; Girls from Dubai, US, UK, A'alia. Div opt too. Mrs Khan 9820255313.

**BTECH,** 30/5'5", Sunni Siddiqui girl in public sector bank (Mumbai), UP family settled in Rajasthan, seeks qualified match. #9461179587

**SUNNI** Muslim B'ful girl 26/ 5'6" Masters from Columbia Uni w'king Data Scientist in New York seeks suitable USA w'king groom. Ph: 9839073874

**FOR** "Smart & Beautiful Girl 30/ 5.4, BSC in Hospitality & MBA. High Status Sunni "Muslim Family. Boy from Sunni Muslim High Status, well Settled Educated open Minded. Mumbai based preferred. Contact -Col. Khan Phone 9820035638, Email: colonelkhan@gmail.com

**SM4** Indore based single Muslim working girl 39 yrs/5.2" BUMS doctor and MBA in Hospital Administration #9200156204

**PQ** match for convent edu. bride, MSc presently in Canada on PGWP, 5'2", from educated family of Kolkata. Call: 9433026034.

GENERAL

CASTE NO BAR

**SM4** Khatri 83/5'3" fair MBA girl non working issueless divorcee, only Pune based upper middle class family. Call: 7525066696 / 9451823245

**B.TECH/CS,** B'ful, EY B'lore, 15 LPA, 25/5'5" seeks min. BE/B.Tech & above boy, Caste No Bar, Mob-9423484748

**M.DESG** (NIFT) Delhi bsd Hindu Jat girl 40/ 5'4" Dghter of Retd. Sr. Cl-1 offcr of PSUs, affluent fmly.Seeks equal/high status fmly.Bureau excuse E: scahlawat56@gmail.com

**WANTED-GROOM-FOR** Beautiful Jat Sikh Girl 88 Born 5'8", B.A, B.Ed, Wrkng. Service Preferred, MAH based Sikh Boy. Call / WA on : 9867671059

**NOV** 79, Never Married, MS in Statistic, US GC Holder, IT Job since 2006, seek suitable groom, BHP only on WhasApp 9512535106

**SM4** Khatri girl from Kolkata 28, MBA working in Bangalore June 96/5'2", Father businessman Contact:9903032921

**PQM4** Fair Jat girl, 33/5'3", Ph.D working, belongs to edu family pref. Doctor, Scientist, Engg., MNC Prof. Caste no bar. Contact: 7838485718

**87** born 5'5 nvr married Sikh girl M.A freelancer Mumbai residence. Seeks clean shaven well settled boy Hindu/Sikh caste no bar. Mob: 9833168840

**SEEK** Groom for BR Girl 5'4"/Aug'97 BBA/CS pursuing MBA online wrkg as CS in MNC at Dubai 40 L p.a. Father Officer-SBI(Indore)#9425067078

**UNMARRIED** Groom Wanted, 38-41Yrs, Ht-Min5'7", Qualified & Good Human Being for Unmarried Bengali Girl, Working in MNC Mumbai, '87Born, 5'2", Hindu, B-Tech, MBA. Mob-8097788039

**Looking for a groom for a upper class family. Preferably a person with high education or a businessman from Mumbai.**
Age preference (30 to 34)
Please contact on 9820043744 for further details

COSMOPOLITAN

**SM** 4 Fair, Talented, Gold Medalist, Gupta Girl. MS in AI from CMU, Nov. 94 born, 160 cms., Sr. ML Engr in US Bank. Highly Educated Family. WA- 9825253717

**BEAUTIFUL,** CARING, 30, 170cm, UK Master's, UAE-based professional. Affluent family. Seeks compatible partner. Any location. Call/WA 9345634365.

**PREFERABLY** Mumbai or Around Based Well Settled, Caring and Sensitive Hindu, Caste No Bar, For May 95 Born,5.6", PG USA, back in Mumbai. Attached to NGO .Intelligent, Beautiful,Smart, Sensitive, Simple ,Pet lover, Eco Conscious D/o Punjabi Businessman, Gujrati Home Maker Mother. Simple Upper Middle Class Family With Moderate Values. Contact : Bhanneel19@gmail.com

RELIGION NO BAR

**MITRA,** kayastha, May 90, 5'2"/69, fashion designer working in Kolkata 22 LPA, willing to relocate to any metro. Nuclear, educated, well settled family. WA 98318 53138

**30** / 5'3" Punjabi B'ful, fair, slim Girl B.Tech IIT MBA Manager in MNC 25 Lpa Father Industrialist Caste no Bar 7898910538 , 8889036092

SC/ST

**CASTE** No Bar 30/5'7" IIT B.Tech. Fair, Beautiful, Rajak Girl, Working in Global Bank Pune 20 LPA W'ap - 9532669601 Em: anikesh543@gmail.com

**VIT** BTech + IIMC (MBA) SC Mala Hindu girl 26 yrs working in Delhi 29L CTC, seek India/NRI alliances preferably Telugu family- 9959250007

SECOND MARRIAGE

**DOCTOR** Girl Mumbai Based Hindu Chamar MD (Micro), 1986, 5'6", Slim, Fair, Asst. Professor, short marriage, Divorcee, issueless. Seeks Medico other professionals, Smart, understanding, family loving, Well Settled Mumbai based, issueless match no bar. Cont : 9320359330 / 8928186766.

**SAXENA** b'ful div. MBA 34/5'3" at MNC Mumbai seek Edu. h'some Elite Upper caste Boy. Pref. Mumbai / Delhi. Cont: 8448866298, 8697974488

**MATCH** 4 Gupta girl, 41, 5'4", S/W profl., currently in Canada, willing relocate 4 good, anywhere incl India; I'less div; no bars; Visiting parents Pune mid-Jan'25, contact: 8980002234, otherid.sai@gmail.com

**SM4** b'ful Punjabi issueless divorcee girl. Very short marriage 5'3"/28-10-89 MBA wrkng in Delhi Investment Co. W'app 9911983039 / 9650647878

**SM4** Jain(Dig.)/fair/B'ful/age 45/5'6"/widow (with one daughter) w'edu./wkg/w'stld/ looking suitable boy. BHP: Jain1005family@gmail.com

**AGARWAL,** CA 28¼, 5'4", namesake marriage ended with M.Div., virtually unmarried, seeks Mumbai based PQM below 33 yrs. Cont: 8169485344

BY LANGUAGE

BENGALI

**HOMELY** girl 30" / 5'4" fair B. SC ( Interior designing) manglik non working seeking probashi Bengali boy .Mob. / watsap 8957013376

**FAIR** Bengali girl, 5'2", July 1986, Kulin kayasta, born in Kolkata, diploma in hospitality management, MBA, working at Mumbai. preference Bengali groom. permanent resident & working at location only Mumbai Cont. 9674550684.

**ASST.** Prof./Scientist/ Offcr(Civil/defnce) match4 Bengali Brahmin 27 5'6" beautiful Resrch(PhD)Scholar Whtapp 8957780547

**SM4** 5'4"/92/MSc TIFR b'ful girl, Debari Gon, Novo Nordisk(25LPA). Seeks well educated (IIT/IIM/etc.), metro city matches. Call: 9331000291

**SEEK** BNGLI QUAL BOY 38-41Y READY TO SETTLE IN GURGAON FOR GIRL 38Y/5'/KAY/M.ARCH/30LPA WRKG IN GGN (B1149490) ONLY WHATSAPP SARKAR 9810291722

**SM4** Probashi Bengali Brahmin girl 33 yrs /165 cms, graduate, non-working. Low Manglik. Contact: 9820596296. Sandilya gotra / Debari gon, please excuse.

**BENGALI** groom for girl 86/5'3 working as Sr Mgr in Delhi. Convent educated, PG Mass Com. BE/BTech/ MBA / PG preferred #7827667224

**BENGALI** GROOM WITHIN 39 FOR 35/5'3" FAIR, SLIM & PRETTY KAYASTHA GIRL. ME WORKING IN REPUTED MNC. 9376620247.

GUJARATI

**SM4** Fair, B'ful Girl 29/5'.6", MS in US wkg in Amazon, california seeks alliance 4m top affluent, professional/ business family Mumbai. M: 9869668336

MALAYALI

**NAIR** Girl, Mumbai based, 34yrs, 5ft, BE MBA (Premier Institute) working with MNC in Mumbai. 30 Lacs PA. Boys from Premium Institute Only. Ph: 9987170210

PUNJABI

**"WANTED** Groom" from Reputed Punjabi khatriya, business family, 31Yr/5'2" Height, Excellent natured Girl, M.D. Radiologist, Belongs to Top Business House of Central India, Cast no bar Email happysolutions87@gmail.com call on 9425354227

**ALLIANCE** Invited for Tall very beautiful punjabi girl 26/ 5'5" MBA belongs to a Noted & Established industrial family. Caste No Bar. 9811162543 matrilist@gmail.com

**SM** for Punjabi girl, born Aug 89, ht.5'1" wrkg in top MNC in Mumbai as C.A. Good Sal. well settled, Edu. boys from Mum pref. 9819100562 rv29376@gmail.com

**MUMBAI** based fair complexioned, Punjabi girl, 30/155, LL.M., working as Legal Consultant with International Music Label seeks Mumbai based, Punjabi PQM. Reply in confidence on WhatsApp 8828024213.

**SM4** PB, Khatri B'ful Convent Edu girl 5'2"/Sep 2000, NET qlfd, wkg as Asst Prof. South Delhi college (Affil I.P univ) Enrolled in Ph.D. whatsapp: 9899044330

**SMART** Businessman invited for tall Very Pretty gursikh 25/5'05" MBA belonging to industrialist family. 9654992076 Mkb2210@gmail.com

Lucknow based affluent Punjabi family seeks match for fair, beautiful, very accomplished daughter 5'6"/1993, Masters from Top UK University, seeks well educated boy (professional or established business) from affluent family within India/Singapore. Punjabi or upper Hindu caste.
Phone/Watsapp : 9792002686
Marriage bureau please excuse

SINDHI

**LOOKING** for Hindu groom caste no bar, qualified at par or higher for eligible bride from Mumbai, Sindhi 86 born 5'2" fair, Eggitarian, MCOM, CFA, working in MNC. M 9076677000

**AHMEDABAD** based, Wrkg, SINDHI girl, CA, 30Y/5'6", Educated Family, seeks Prof Qual match from SINDHI family only. M:9409673074

TELUGU

**MUMBAI/HYD** settled Telugu Mudiraj/Koli parents seek match for pretty daughter 25/5'3" Advocate from suitable boy local/abroad. Father : Govt. Officer 9869434831; chandra129888@gmail.com ; caste no bar.

BY NATIONALITY

NRI/ GREEN CARD

**CDN** Citizen Never Married Slim B'ful Sikh Girl 1984/5'8" Convent Edu. Comp. Engr. Sr. Position at Google HQ California Salary $ 6 - figure. From Defence Officer Family Email : Coljeet@gmail.com

**PQ** BOY wrkg in US 4 MS Engr Punjabi girl. May 83/157 cm. Green Card. Profile JS-XAZU0000. M: +91 8874108804, E- pkhurana51@gmail.com

**SEEKING** well educated Groom working in MNC, for Punjabi Khatri US educated Girl in UAE, 31 years (12.09.93). WA mom : +971509449505

**SM4** Smart Agarwal B'ful Girl MD (Pharmacology) 30/5'2", Working in Singapore. Looking for matches wkg. in Singapore only. W'App: 9890690346

**AUST** Ctzn July 72 born 5'3" NM Prof stld Melb based Sindhi Girl seek PQM. NM/ I'less BHP W'App 7717441283, Email: 71mojt@gmail.com

**PQ** boy for Comp Engg (done from USA), Punjabi Gupta girl, Feb 90 / 5'2.5"; Wkg Intl Org at Toronto PR(Canada); WA 9899005601

**MATCH** for Charming qualified Punjabi 28/5'5/ Master in Biotech working in Pharma co. in Germany, wants Germany based qualified boy. 9811377714

**SM** 4 Unmarried B'ful, Pb Kh Girl, 42, 5'-3", MCA, MBA (USA) wkg in USA IT Engineer, seeks equivt Qualifi US wkg boy, 9099980101

SEEKING GROOM FROM WELL PLACED FAMILY FOR TALL FAIR MBA SINDHI GIRL 34YRS HEIGHT 5'7 1/2" FROM AFFLUENT BUSINESS FAMILY.
Contact
9826014549

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jobs

SITUATION VACANT

ADMINISTRATION

HRD & ADMINISTRATIVE

**EXPD** HR Manager (Male) for Engineering manufacturing Company, Dadar Corporate Office, 35-45 years well versed in PF/ESIC and man management. M: 9820594824 E: jobpost015@gmail.com

MANAGERS

**WANTED** Experienced Society Manager, Exp. 5 Yrs. Premium Commercial Bldg. Computer Skills, Marathi, Hindi, English. Email: societymanagerjobs@gmail.com

OFFICE ASSISTANTS

**REQUIRE** assistant / coordinator for office work. English medium preferred. Staying near Ghatkopar / Vidyavihar . WhatsApp no- 8655052035

RECEPTIONISTS & TEL OPERATORS

**RECEPTIONIST** Reqd. for a coaching centre in Bandra East. Whatsup your bio data to Sandeep Sir @ 98206 31041. Work time: 1.00 pm to 9.00 pm

BY QUALIFICATIONS

GRADUATES

**REQ.** Procurement Assistant (Min. Qualification Graduate .) At Lower Parel, Mumbai. Contact No. 9833454582 Email- admin@remwo.in

LEGAL

LAW OFFICERS

**REQD** of Short hand Stenographer cum typist full-time at Office near High Court Flora Fountain Fort Mumbai. Timing - 9 30 am - 7 pm Adv Madhur Surana 9820462463

MARKETING, ADVERTISING & SALES

MARKETING

**REPUTED** industrial fragrance manufacturer in Mumbai requires marketing executive post 2, (Pan india) Good salary. contact 9324114613

CUSTOMER SERVICE EXECUTIVES

**REQUIRE** Customer Care Service with 1-2 yrs experience for International courier company at Girgaum. Send CV dharmendra.dhutia@gmail.com

SALES

**REQD** Exp. Female Sales B2B Exports.Sal 41500/- Walk in.G'square 402, opp Sanpada stn.W. Navi mumbai. 8976380277

SALES MANAGER

**REQUIRED.** Fabric Field,Experienced Sales Managers, Bike & Mobile Must Salary Rs. 20,000 /- + Travelling Allowance - 9136792068

MEDICAL

MEDICAL

**OPPORTUNITY** for ambitious people to work with US based MNC. WhatsApp name, city & background on 9820925521

**REQ** Medical representative to promote advanced bone density machine in South and Central Mumbai. Pref Exp. in Pharma or Medical field. must know English fluently. Salary 25000+ Incentives. Contact: 9920936378

**SEA-BIRD** Medicare Centre at Andheri East nr Station. requires: Senior Medical Officer (MBBS/DNB Family Medicine) Full Time. Contact: 9819830718 Email: recruitment@seabirdhf.com

**MRI, CT Scan & X-Ray Centre**
Require skilled technicians with min 5 yr exp in MRI, CT Scan, and X-Ray operations. Must have proficiency in medical imaging equipment, patient care, and safety protocols. Send CV to :
chaarsahibzade@gnkhalsa.edu.in

OTHER VACANCIES

GENERAL

REQUIRE
WORKS MANAGER
For Stainless Steel Welded Tube Plant in NCR Delhi
(Min.10 years experience). only applicants experienced in SS TUBE INDUSTRY may apply
(others please excuse) in strict confidence to
tubeplant@yahoo.com

MULTIPLE VACANCIES

**REQD.** for Engg Co. at Andheri,electrical engg,housekeeping staff,ac technician House keeping supervisor(0-4 exp),Mech Engg at Palghar (0-2 exp), (M) : 7045740021, hrd.dseipl@gmail.com

**COOLING** Tower Mfg. Pvt Ltd Co. Req. A/c Asst., Auto CAD Draftsman, Sales, Purchase, Project Engineers for Office at Andheri (E) & Works Mgr, Prod/ Q.C. Engr for MIDC Ambernath. Min 2 Yrs Exp req. Email: finance@canaraindia.in

**EST.** Co. at Npoint, requires (1) Business Development Executives, 3 to 5 yrs min exp in IT/ Telecom/ ISP/ OTT/ IPTV. (2) Secretary / EA : M/F 2 to 3yrs experience. Apply : trimaxunited@gmail.com

**URGENT** Hiring for Int Sales Process Exp & freshers welcome.Shift: 9pm-6am IST, Sun off.Salary: Rs.15k-35k + incentives.Loc: Ghatkopar W, Mum.Cont:+91 8655717281,hr@vikramahahealthcare.com.

**"ELTECH"** LIGHTNING ARRESTER & ELEC EARTHING. Leading co. req. Sales Associate/ Agent. Sales Manager/ Engg. / Exe. Mumbai/ Navi muMbai / Thane -4, Pune-1, ROM & Goa-1. Mob. 9921948651

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**GOLDEN** Chance for Retired/VRS/HseWives /Professionals to join Branded Co.FlexiHrs/WorkFrmHome. 9869045582/9820436216

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RETIRED PERSONS

**2ND-CAREER** Opportunity for Retired/ Sr. Officers/NRI/ Bankers/VRS!! Salary+PF+ Incentives with your Talent & Skills, Age : 50+. M: 8369504839

**CAREER-OPPORTUNITY** Seminar- 2nd Dec' 24, Archana Banquet, Nr. R Mall.Mulund-W for Retired, Homemakers, VRS. Free Registry Vijay : 9987513797

**GENUINE-OPPORTUNITY** to Restart Career in Leading Corporate. Good Package for all M/F-Retired/Pensioners. VRS. Age:40+ Call: 98336 82433

**GOVT.-REGISTERED** Company requires Retired Seniors, VRS, Professionals. Age: 40+. Wonderful package +Incentives. Call: 8591749927

SECURITY

**Security Agency in Mumbai Requires expd.**
**1) Field Officers with bike.**
**2) Marketing Persons.**
**9321220237/ 9821406617**

SERVICES

FOOD & NUTRITION

**REQ.** Experienced Chemist / Food Technologist @Vashi, Navi Mumbai. Mob. 9833320272. modi.ghanshyam@gmail.com

RESTAURANTS

**RANG-SHARDA** Hotels Pvt Ltd. Bandra(W) Req. Restaurant Manager, Banquet Manager/Banquet Executive (3yrs Exp) Cooks, Tandoor, Chinese, Continental, Indian & Pantry, Kitchen supervisor Steward. Call - 022-68521919. WALK-IN for an interview between 11.00am-5.30pmMail resume with specific post & apply at hotelrangsharda99@gmail.com

TECHNICAL

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**ANDHERI-WEST-** Reqd Computer Hardware Engg. 3-5 yrs Exp (Salary 25k-30k) 9920444671 / 9321527993 Mail: contact@radicaltech.net

**LOOKING** for ENGRS for an Engg. Industry - Thane
1. Business Development,
2. Design & Development
3. Sales 4.Graduate Office Coordinator (F) #9324579727 / 8850606313 Email: advtwe@gmail.com

**REQUIRED** Civil Engineer for Bridge work for Marve, Malad (w) Site min. 4 years exp. in MCGM. Call - 9920333939

**REQD.** Civil Engineer/ Project Manager for a Rehabilitation project at Andheri West. M: 8850913007 E: info@supremeengicons.com

**REQ** Retired part / full time Draughtsman , Designers, Mechanical Engineer for an engineering co. in Virar east. PH: 9323165760 / 9769759167

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**ENGINEER** BE Civil exp. 2-3 yrs ready to work at site in MH.& Prodn Eng.Mech/Elect For Umergaon Guj 9324955291 or anjali@streetneon.co.in

**MAINTENANCE** Electrical Engineer Diploma Male exp. for Office cum residential campus Goregaon, Mumbai send cv by whatsapp 9980991973

**REQD** a Trainee Engineer/ Supervisor/ 1-3 yr exp Civil Engg/ Diploma for Facade Co. for their Project in Mumbai. Call Avdesh 8169349803/ Email: office.alufinns@gmail.com

**WANTED** Degree/Diploma with 5 years experience in civil construction work. Post resume at ferrobuild1@hotmail.com Contact. 9833834414 & 9833834415.

GENERAL

**WANTED** Turner for Metal Cutting Die Mould Manufacturing Co. Contact : VIAL SEAL INDUSTRIES- 9820235737/ 9892331252

**We are hiring for the following positions:**
**1. Marine Engine Mechanic:**
Expertise in inboard & outboard diesel and petrol engines.
**2. Hydraulic Technicians:**
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**Send your CV to: (info@silver-yachts.com)**

SITUATION VACANT

**AN** enterprise requires: Co-founder and manager for apparels/fashion Co-founder and manager for beauty & skin care productsDigital marketing manager & executives email us to hr infrastructure17@gmail.com and whatsapp to 8957774123

**WANTED** Night Reception Staff for a Super Speciality Hospital in Borivali West For more information Contact : 9029066784

**REQUIRED** Electrician at Matunga for EV Charger installation. Experience 2-3 Years. Devdutt Electronics. Mr. Jeetendra - Mobile: 9820486281

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**REQUIRED** Export/Import Executive with 2-3 years of relevant experience. MS Excel proficiency is a plus. Mail your CVs on hr@stylsmyth.com

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services

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personal

CHANGE OF NAME

**I,** Smt. Anita Arun Dhuri, wife of Late Arun Bapu Dhuri residing at C/212, Kalpataru Apartment, Navghar Road, Bhayandar (East), Near Salasar Nagar. Dated. 03 October 2024, as per Affidavit No. 24Ab 846275, am giving notice to the newspaper to change the name on the tax receipt as a necessary document for the transfer of name by inheritance after the death of my husband. Thank you!

tender & notices

TENDERS

INSTITUTE OF CHEMICAL TECHNOLOGY
(Deemed to be University Under Section-3 of UGC Act 1956)
Elite Status & Centre of Excellence - Government of Maharashtra
MATUNGA, MUMBAI - 400 019.
Invited Sealed quotations for 1) **Laboratory Furniture Work.** The Envelop, prescribing TENDER with name of the tender due date with DD enclosed in the name of **"Institute of Chemical Technology, Mumbai"** should be submitted within fifteen days from the date of advertisement in office hours to, The Vice Chancellor, Institute of Chemical Technology, Mumbai. Detailed Specifications and instructions are available on www.ictmumbai.edu.in
-sd-
Registrar, ICT.

PUBLIC NOTICE

**PUBLIC** NOTICE This is to inform all Public that my client 1) Mr.Mahendra Dattaram Bhosale and 2) Mrs. Sankalpa Mahendra Bhosale have lost/ Misplaced the original Agreement dated 12th April 2023 along with Original Index-II, Original Flat Allotment Letter issued by MHADA Dt.29.03.2023 and Registration Receipt Dt.12.04.2023, The said Agreement for Sale was duly registered at the office of the sub-registrar Vasai 2 vide Document No. VASAI 2-5115-2023 entered with M/s. Kokan Housing And Area Development Baard ( A Unit of MHADA) in respect of Building No.12G, 13th Floor, Flat No.1304, admeasuring 40.64 Sq.ft Carpet, at Bolinj, Virar, Dist.- Palghar Plot of land bearing Survey No.392/P, of Village Bolinj & Survey No.376 (P) of Village Virar, Dist. Palghar within the Limits of Palghar Municipal Corporation, within the Registration District Palghar Sub-Registration, Dist. Vasai - Virar, while traveling in Vashi on 27.11.2024. My client has informed to the Vashi Police Station under GD/SD/DD No. 043 on 28.11.2024 about loss of the said documents. If anyone found the same, please return it immediately within 15 days to Adv.Sagar S. Shinde, Advocate & Legal Consultant, Office Add. 609, Arenja Corner, Sector-17,Vashi, Navi Mumbai. Mobile no.8082522522.

PUBLIC NOTICE
IN RE: WRIT PETITION (C) NO. 15518 OF 2024
BEFORE THE HON'BLE DELHI HIGH COURT
BETWEEN:
PACE DIGITEK PRIVATE LIMITED & ANR. ...PETITIONERS
BHARAT SANCHAR NIGAM LIMITED & ANR. ...RESPONDENTS
Pace Digitek Pvt. Ltd., has filed Writ Petition (C) No. 15518/2024 before the Hon'ble Delhi High Court challenging inter alia the tender evaluation process in respect of Tender No. MM/BNO&M/BN-III/T-791/2024 issued on 15.02.2024 pertaining to "BharatNet Project." That Vide Order dated 27.11.2024, the Hon'ble Delhi High Court has been pleased to permit the Petitioners to issue this public notice to invite concerned bidders to enter appearance before the Hon'ble Delhi High Court. Copies of the Orders passed in the pending Writ Petition may be accessed through the website of the Hon'ble Delhi High Court.
All concerned are advised to take notice accordingly.
SD/-
Authorized Signatory of Pace Digitek Pvt. Ltd.

COURT NOTICE

IN THE HIGH COURT OF KARNATAKA AT BENGALURU
NOTICE TO THE RESPONDENT NO.3, 4, 5, 10 & 15
VIDE COURT ORDER DATED 14/11/2024
WRIT PETITION NO.24893/2015 (GM-DRT)
**M/s Yash Real Estate Pvt. Ltd.**
A Company incorporated under the compaines Act 1956 having its Registered Office at : No. 12/A, 7th Cross Road, R.D. Layout, Bannerghatta Road, Bangalore 30, Represnted by its Managing Director **Mr. Rajkumar Ladha** .....PETITIONER
V/S
Recovery Officer - II, Debt Recovery Tribunal, Karnataka, Krishi Bhavan, Hudson Circle, Bangalore & others ...RESPONDENTS
15. SICOM LTD., Nirmal Nariman Point Mumbai 400 021
Whereas the above named petitioner have preferred I.A.No.3/2024 praying this Court to and also on petition filed under Article S 226 & 227 of the Constitution of India, praying to issue writ of certiorari quashing the Orders passed by the Debt Recovery Tribunal, Karnataka, in O.A.2/2009 vide Annexure-A dated 18/11/2009 to the extent of direction given viz. 'further the Applicant Bank is at liberty to recover the same from the Defendants No.1 to 3 as stated above and also from the property shown in the O.A. Schedules' for a writ of certiorari quashing the proclamation of sale (Form-13) E-Auction sale notice published in The Hindu dated 17/05/2015 issued by the 1" Respondent dated 07/05/2015 and produced as Annexure-B and for such other writ directions, declarations and orders.
Notice is hereby given to you to appear in this Court either in person or through counsel duly instructed or through someone authorised by law, to act for you in the above Writ Petition on 19/12/2024 at 10.30 A.M. in case you intend to contest the Writ Petition. If you fail to appear, the same will be dealt with, heard and decided in your absence..
ISSUED UNDER MY HAND AND SEAL OF THIS COURT, ON THE 14TH DAY OF NOVEMBER 2024.
BY ORDER OF THE COURT
SD/- ASSISTANT REGISTRAR


# Free Iskcon monk, protect minorities, RSS tells B'desh

**New Delhi:** Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS) has called upon Bangladeshi authorities to take decisive steps in curbing violence against minorities and ensuring justice for the victims and immediate release of those unjustly imprisoned, including religious leader Chinmoy Krishna Das.

In a statement by general secretary Dattatreya Hosabale on Saturday, RSS also asked the Indian govt to intensify diplomatic efforts to address the situation, which includes engaging with international institutions and govts to highlight the plight of minorities in Bangladesh and mobilising global support.

Demanding an immediate stop to atrocities against Hindus and release of Das, Hosabale said: "RSS strongly condemns these acts. Instead of taking appropriate steps to stop these incidents, the current govt of Bangladesh and other concerned agencies have remained a mute spectator. Out of helplessness, when Bangladeshi Hindus resorted to raising their voice democratically for self-protection, to suppress their voice, a new phase of injustice and oppression has visibly emerged," adding that the arrest was unfair, and called "upon govt of Bangladesh to immediately stop the atrocities being committed against Hindus and release Pujya Shri Chinmoy Krishna Das ji from the prison." RSS also appealed to the Indian govt to continue efforts to stop attacks on Hindus and take necessary steps as soon as possible to build global opinion in its support.

## B'desh cancels 3 flights to India

At least two daily flights between Kolkata and Dhaka and one between Kolkata and Chittagong have been cancelled by airlines operating between the two countries as passenger count continues to nosedive following unrest in Bangladesh, attacks on minorities and curbs on travel due to Indian visa restrictions. Biman Bangladesh has cut operations between Kolkata and Dhaka from twice daily to a single flight a day. TNN

## Kol hosp: Won't treat Bangladeshis

A hospital in north Kolkata's Manicktala area said it will not treat patients from Bangladesh amid protests over the alleged atrocities on minority Hindus in the neighbouring country. An official of JN Ray Hospital on Friday said the decision was forced by insults meted out to the Indian flag by Bangladeshi nationals. "We have issued a notification that from today till an indefinite time we will not admit any Bangladeshi patient for treatment," said the official. PTI

# Severe consequences if anti-India activities continue: Tripura CM

▶ From P 1

Chief minister Manik Saha warned Bangladesh to prevent such attacks. "Centre is closely monitoring the situation. If they don't stop such anti-India activities, the consequences will be severe," he said.

In response to the attack, private hospitals in Agartala announced they would no longer treat Bangladeshi patients, and Indian businessmen in border town Unakoti suspended trade with the neighbouring country.

Bangladesh continued its crackdown on Iskcon, though the country's high court rejected Friday a plea to ban the organisation. Authorities reportedly ordered Saturday a freeze on the organisation's assets.

"Iskcon is a spiritual organisation that serves people. We cannot counter violence with violence. We can only resort to prayers," said Das from Iskcon Kolkata.

Millions of devotees across more than 150 countries, home to over 850 major Iskcon temples and thousands of centres, plan to hold kirtans in solidarity with Hindu and other minority communities in Bangladesh. In Kolkata, a prayer session is scheduled for Sunday.

# Audio-video nod must for PM-JAY procedures in Guj

**Ahmedabad:** In the wake of the death of some patients following unnecessary angioplasty at Khyati Hospital in Ahmedabad, Gujarat govt has announced stricter protocols for hospitals treating patients under the Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana and Mukhyamantri Amrutam (MA) schemes. Under the new standard operating procedure (SOP), hospitals must record audio and video consent from patients' relatives before conducting cardiac, cardiovascular, paediatric, radiological and chemotherapy procedures.

This decision follows allegations that family members of the deceased were not informed about the angioplasty procedures they underwent at Khyati Hospital. TNN

# EAM: Tipu Sultan a 'very complex figure in history'

**New Delhi**: External affairs minister (EAM) S Jaishankar on Saturday attended the launch of Indian historian Vikram Sampath's book 'Tipu Sultan: The Saga of the Mysore Interregnum' at the Indian Habitat Centre in Delhi. Jaishankar described Tipu Sultan as a "very complex figure in history." Jaishankar said, "On the one hand, he has the reputation as a key figure who resisted the British colonial control over India, and it is a fact that his defeat and death can be considered a turning point (for) the fate of peninsular India."

However, Jaishankar also noted the "adverse" effects of Tipu Sultan's rule in the Mysore region. "At the same time, he evokes strong adverse sentiments even today in many regions, some in Mysore itself," he added. Jaishankar emphasised that Indian history has focused more on Tipu Sultan's battles with the British, and "underplaying" or "neglecting" other aspects of his rule. Jaishankar said that "cherry-picking of facts" in the case of Tipu Sultan has led to the advancement of a "political narrative". ANI

TIMES Personal

THANKSGIVING

**THANK** you so much St Jude for listening to my prayer

## Potato crunch in Jharkhand, Odisha as WB halts supply

**Kolkata/Bhubaneswar/Ranchi:** West Bengal govt's decision to impose a month-long ban on potato supply to other states has sent the prices of the kitchen staple soaring in neighbouring Jharkhand and Odisha because of a shortage.

Bengal police are either turning back or stopping trucks at the border, creating significant supply-chain disruptions. In Jharkhand, wholesale prices have jumped by Rs 2 to Rs 4 per kg in just three days. Odisha has also seen a shortage and resultant surge in prices. Odisha's food supplies minister Krushna Chandra Patra on Saturday accused Bengal chief minister Mamata Banerjee of playing politics over the supply of potatoes. TNN

# Obligated to join Army as it took care of ailing father: NDA topper

### Gold Medallist Had Cleared JEE-Main Too

**Sandip.Dighe**@timesofindia.com

**Pune:** "I feel obligated to serve in the Army because it took care of my ailing father, who succumbed to liver cancer three years ago after retiring from the force," said Army cadet Ankit Chaudhary, the President's gold medallist of the 147th course at National Defence Academy (NDA).

Ankit had cleared the JEE Main entrance exam but the JEE-Advanced examination and the interview for the Service Selection Board (SSB) for NDA clashed. Ultimately, he chose to join NDA.

"I prepared only for the JEE entrance exam. I took the NDA entrance with my friends. The JEE Advanced examination and the SSB interview were scheduled the same day. It was a career-defining moment for me. I listened to my inner feelings and sacrificed my IIT dream. In the end, I felt compelled to join the academy to serve in the Army, as it provided top quality medical care to my father through the Ex-servicemen Contributory Health Scheme (ECHS)," Ankit told **TOI**.

Ankit's father, Sultansing, had served in the 11 Rajputana Rifles infantry battalion for 17 years. "I saw how well the Army took care of him. Today, I believe I made my father proud. He would have been happy with my decision," Ankit said.

Ankit's mother Sarojdevi, a teacher in Rajasthan govt, stood proudly beside him with tears in her eyes. "Being a single mother after my husband's death, my sole aim was to educate my children well. While Ankit joined NDA, my younger son Aanshu will join AIIMS to pursue a medical degree. Both sons have made me proud," Sarojdevi said.

Ankit's family is from Barsinghpura village in Rajasthan's Sikar district, about 115km from Jaipur. Ankit completed his schooling at St Mary's Senior Secondary School in Sikar. He had the honour of commanding the parade for his course.



Cadets during Passing Out Parade of NDA's 147th course in Pune on Saturday

### Bronze medal for Manipur school van driver's son

**Pune:** The son of a school van driver from Manipur made his parents proud by winning a bronze medal at NDA, reports **Sandip Dighe**. Reflecting on his early days in Imphal, where his father drove him and other students to school in a van, Jodha Thongiaomayum said, "My father supported my career ambitions. Because of his encouragement, I was able to achieve this milestone." Jodha did his schooling at Imphal's Sainik School before getting selected for Rashtriya Indian Military College, Dehradun.

**'DAD SUPPORTED ME'**

His father, Rosoraj, who attended the event with his wife and daughter, was busy receiving congratulatory phone calls from family and friends about his son's achievement. "He made us extremely proud," Rosoraj said.

### Man falls off moving bus while spitting tobacco in UP, dies

**Lucknow**: A 65-year-old farmer died after falling off a moving AC bus while trying to spit tobacco on Purvanchal Expressway in Uttar Pradesh on Saturday.

The deceased was identified as Ram Jiyawan of Lucknow. He was travelling from Lucknow to his village in Azamgarh.

"The passenger was chewing tobacco. He opened bus door to spit but lost balance and fell out of the moving vehicle. He succumbed on the spot," said driver Harishchandra Tiwari. TNN

Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav

File No. D-D.31020/5/2024-ADMIN-PURCHASE
Dated : 1 December , 2024

भारत सरकार
कर्मचारी चयन आयोग (पूर्वी क्षेत्र)
कार्मिक लोक शिकायत और पेंशन मंत्रालय
निज़ाम पैलेस, प्रथम एम.एस.ओ भवन (8वां तल)
234/4, ए.जे.सी. बोस रोड, कोलकाता-700020

Government of India
Staff Selection Commission (ER)
Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances & Pensions,
Nizam Palace, 1st M.S.O. Building (8th Floor),
234/4, A.J.C. Bose Road, Kolkata-700020

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**Deputy Director**
**SSC (ER), Kolkata**

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  Major Collaborations: IIT (Indore, Delhi)
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  Major Collaborations: TDU, TMV Pune, CDAC Pune, AVS Kottakal, JNU
- MEDICINAL PLANT RESEARCH (19 peripheral Institutes)
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This pictorial representation of Map of India does not purport to be the political map of India.

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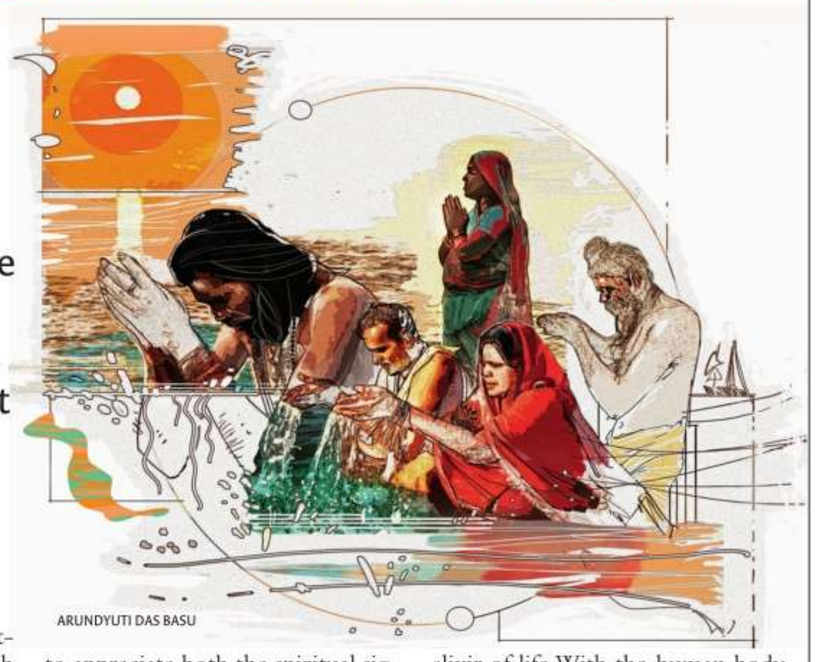
THE SPEAKING TREE

# A Transformative Churn



The Kumbh Mela aims to help individuals harmonise their internal cycles with cosmic rhythms, a practice that ancient yogis developed through meticulous calculations, says

SADHGURU JAGGI VASUDEV



ARUNDYUTI DAS BASU

In 2001, I found myself irresistibly drawn to the Maha Kumbh in Allahabad, despite having no initial plans to go. The journey from Coimbatore spanned a daunting 2,300 km and took over a 32-hour drive, but the final 10 km to the city stretched into an eight-hour ordeal due to throngs of people.

Upon arrival, the sight by the riverside was nothing short of breathtaking. The event was well-organised and surprisingly clean. It was around 2 am, but the riverside was alive with music and dance, each group bringing its unique traditions. In a few hours, I witnessed at least 100 different musical forms. The Kumbh Mela hosts an astounding array of *yogis*, spiritual seekers, and those hoping to heal and transform through the sacred dip.

Looking ahead to early 2025, it's projected that around 400 million people will gather at the Kumbh Mela in Prayagraj. This event, spanning from January 13, Purnima of the Paush month to February 26, Mahashivratri, is a significant cultural phenomenon, drawing more attendees than population of any country except China. It's essential to appreciate both the spiritual significance and scientific underpinnings of this grand gathering. The Kumbh Mela is rooted in yogic science of utilising the confluence of rivers at specific latitudes, a practice derived not from mere belief but from keen observation of how life and different forces around us function. Cycles of the Moon and Sun, particularly solar cycles that span 12¼ years, profoundly influence human physiology and well-being. The Kumbh Mela aims to help individuals harmonise their internal cycles with these cosmic rhythms, a practice that ancient *yogis* developed through meticulous calculations, as the mental, physical, and spiritual well-being of humans is determined by synchronising one's physical system with the cycle of solar system.

FESTIVE SPIRIT

The confluence of rivers, known as *sangams*, prayers, identified by these ancient yogis and sages, are sites where energy from water bodies creates a unique vortex beneficial to human well-being. Lore has it that during the *Samudra Manthan*, these spots on Earth were where the Kumbha, pot, spilled drops of amrit, elixir of life. With the human body being 72% water, this element significantly impacts our physiological state, especially on days with specific planetary alignments. Additionally, in latitudinal sections between 0 to 33 degrees, there is a natural energy upsurge. In this northern latitudinal band, centrifugal force acts in near vertical patterns, which is why Bharatavarsh is called *punya bhumi*, a land where the Earth's movements naturally promote spiritual growth. *Sanatan* has woven this esoteric knowledge into its societal fabric from time immemorial. This science is based on *Bhuta Shuddhi*, a fundamental aspect of yog focused on cleansing the five elements. The goal is to cultivate an internal state where individuals control these elements, achieving absolute well-being.

While many approach the Kumbh as tourists, its essence lies in a transformative process best approached with scientific understanding and preparation. Ideally, participants should stay for an entire mandala, 48 days, supported by specific practices, to benefit from sacred waters fully. It's essential for visitors to undertake a 10-minute sadhana for 40 days at home before taking a dip at the Kumbh. ■

# Manipur CM cites 'administrative history' to slam Mizoram CM, MNF

**Guwahati:** Manipur chief minister **N Biren Singh** said on Saturday that Manipur's historical significance spans 2,000 years, distinguishing it from Mizoram's relatively recent administrative history as a former district of Assam, reports **Prabin Kalita**.

Biren Singh's statement followed a series of recent verbal exchanges between Manipur govt and Mizoram's opposition party MNF, as well Mizoram CM Lalduhoma.



Speaking at a ceremony for construction of infrastructure to relocate the Assam Rifles from the premises of the historic Langthabal Old Palace in Imphal, Singh stated, "Manipur is not like Mizoram. We have a written history of 2,000 years while Mizoram was once just a district in Assam. Manipur merged with the Union of India as a single entity in 1949. Our boundaries were not newly created but we joined with the Union with intact boundaries."

Reacting to Lalduhoma's recent remarks against his Manipur counterpart in a newspaper, Singh said, "As a mature CM of any state, one should not incite hate or interfere in the internal affairs of another state."


**WESTERN RAILWAY**
**MISCELLANEOUS WORKS**

Deputy chief Engineer (const), western Railway, 8th floor, station building, Churchgate, Mumbai- 400 020 invites **E-tender Notice No: Dy.CE(C)/CCG/349 dated 28.11.2024. Name of work:** Dismantling of existing Service Building, Construction of New Service Buildings, Construction /Extension of Platforms with covershed and other miscellaneous works between Goregaon to Borivali Stations in connection with Extension of Harbour Line between Goregaon to Borivali (MUTP 3A). **NIT Cost:** ₹ 61,69,73,000.92. **Bid Security:** ₹ 32,34,900/-. **Bidding Start Date:** 11.12.2024. **Bid Submission Closing on:** 25.12.2024, 15:00 Hrs. **Tender Document opening on:** 25.12.2024, 15:30 Hrs. For further details please visit our website **www.ireps.gov.in.** 0782

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**WESTERN RAILWAY**
**REPAIRING WORK**

Divisional Railway Manager (WA), Western Railway, 6th floor, Engg. Deptt., Mumbai Central, Mumbai - 400 008, invites **Sr. No:1. E-tender Notice No: BCT/24-25/220 dtd.28/11/2024. Work and location: Virar-Joravasan Section:** Need based repairs on day to day basis for 2 years under Sr.DEN/N/Mumbai Central section. **Approx. cost of work in :** ₹ 2,14,29,183.51. **EMD:** ₹ 2,57,200/-. **Sr. No:2. E-tender Notice No: BCT/24-25/221 dtd.28/11/2024. Work and location: Virar-Joravasan Section:** Repairs to p.way under SSE(P.way), VAPI Section for a period of 2years. **Approx. cost of work in :** ₹ 7,31,14,718.14. **EMD:** ₹ 5,15,600/-. Both of above Tenders **Date & time of submission:** Till 24.12.2024, 15:00 hrs. **Date & time of opening:** On 24.12.2024 at 15:30 hrs. For further details please visit our website **www.ireps.gov.in.** 0780

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**EAST CENTRAL RAILWAY**
**Open-Tender Notice**

**E-Tender notice no.- SG-W-DDU-OT-01-2024-25 Two Packet System)**

Sealed tenders are invited for and on behalf of president of India from competent and experienced contractors for execution of the work mentioned below. **S.N. (i) Description: Name of work with its location and Completion period - Remarks:** Associated S&T works at RRI/DDU (Metal to Metal) in connection with DDU-PRYJ 3rd Line. Section:- Pt. Deen Dayal Upadhyaya Division. **Completion period-** 12 (Twelve) Months. **(ii) Approx. Cost of the work :** ₹ 26,84,70,253.50 (Rupees Twenty Six Crore Eighty Four Lakh Seventy Thousand Two Hundred Fifty Three and paise Fifty only) **(iii) Bid Security (Earnest Money) to be deposited :** ₹ 14,92,400.00/- (Rs. Fourteen Lakh Ninety Two Thousand Four Hundred only) **(iv) Last Date & Time for Submission of tender and opening of tender :** 26/12/2024 up to 12.00 Hrs. and 26/12/2024 at 12.30 Hrs. **(v) Website Concerned where complete details of tender can be seen etc. :** On concerned website (www.ireps.gov.in)

**Dy. Chief Signal & Telecom Engineer/ Works, Pt. Deen Dayal Upadhyaya**
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**Assam Project on Forest & Biodiversity Conservation Society (APFBCS)**
**Aranya Bhawan, Panjabari, Guwahati- 781037; Website: www.apfbcs.nic.in; Email: pd@apfbcs.in**

**INVITATION FOR BIDS (IFB)**
**INTERNATIONAL PROCUREMENT COMPETITION (IPC)**

**IFB No. APFBC/PMU/Phase-II/ Cloud Services/2024/350/134**
**Contract Title: PROCUREMENT OF CLOUD HOSTING SERVICES.**

The Assam Project on Forest and Biodiversity Conservation Society (APFBCS) has received funds from Agence Française de Développement ("AFD") towards the cost of "Assam Project on Forest and Biodiversity Conservation- Phase II". The Project Director, APFBCS invites Bids from eligible bidders for the supply of cloud services for hosting of Forest Management Information system integrated with Geospatial applications and mobile apps under the project. Hard copy of the Bidding document may be purchased in the manner specified on the website of APFBCS or the Bidding document may be downloaded free of cost from the website of APFBCS viz. **www.apfbcs.nic.in** from **29th November 2024 to 30th December 2024.** Detailed IFB Notice may be seen on the website of APFBCS.

1. Last date and time of submission of Bid **30th December 2024(14.00 hrs-IST)**
2. Date and time of opening of Technical Bid **30th December 2024(14.15 hrs-IST)**

Sd/-
**Project Director**
**PMU, APFBC Society**

Janasanyog/CF/2445/24/1-Dec-24

**MAHAGENCO** Maharashtra State Power Generation Co. Ltd.

**E-TENDER NO. NTPS/2024-25/39**

| Sr. No. | RFx NO. / SECTION | TENDER SPECIFICATION | ESTIMATE RS. / EMD RS. |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | 3000052539 CHP | Work of machine loading and shifting / transportation of stones / shale's / coal below conveyor area/ from anywhere in the CHP including loading & unloading in CHP to designated areas. | 204,83,485/- 2,08,400/- |
| 2 | 3000052540 TM | WC for Repairing / Fabrication / Replacement of firefighting & dewatering pump MSREW Pipeline along with valves, various bends & T- Joints (as and when required) | 8,81,022/- 12,310/- |
| 3 | 3000052546 WTP | Work for application of chemical resistant coating to internal surface of DM storage tank No. 4 & 5 | 32,00,750/- 35,600/- |
| 4 | 3000052661 TM | Work of Strengthening Foundation Structure of C. W. Pumps of Unit No. 5 at TM-II | 6,82,477/- 10,330/- |
| 5 | 3000052660 TM | Supply of Common Consumables, adhesive material during COH / Unit No. 3, 4, 5 (as & when required) | 3,40,478/- 6910/- |
| 6 | 3000052715 OS | Providing Xerox services at stage II NTPS. (refloated) | 2,01,500/- 5550/- |
| 7 | 3000052809 S&FF | Work of painting Safety & Fire Fighting Instructions in the NTPS plant & Colony premises (refloated) | 6,88,940/- 10,400/- |
| 8 | 3000052647 Civil | Annual maintenance contract for attending leakages of damaged CI/ GI underground Darana/ Godawari water supply lines in colony and Darana water pipeline from Chehadi pump house | 8,80,546/- 12,310/- |
| 9 | 3000052757 Civil | Providing and fixing H.D.P. water tank at old E type buildings at NTPS colony | 8,51,672/- 12,020/- |
| 10 | 3000053066 ODP | Removal, providing & application of thermal insulation mattresses for casing wall, inlet & outlet funnels of ESP of Unit # 3/4/5 | 59,33,030/- 62,840/- |
| 11 | 3000052649 Civil | Work of dismantling of roof & support of salt godown shed WTP near booster pump house at Stage-II | 3,29,769/- 6,800/- |
| 12 | 3000052651 Civil | Work of cleaning, clearing and deepening of nalha flowing from ash bund valley No.4A to Hinganwedhe shivar towards Darana river through Jakhori shivar (length 1.5 Km) | 1,83,168/- 5,340/- |
| 13 | 3000052868 BM | Work contract for carrying out non-destructive tests of boiler tubes at Unit-3, 4 & 5 Boilers during AOH and various RSD outages, as and when required basis. | 3,16,859/- 6,700/- |
| 14 | 3000052870 BM | Work contract for Removal and application of thermal insulation for boiler flue gas, air ducts, air pre-heater casing, APH outlet to ESP inlet duct, ESP outlet to chimney ducts, at various location at Nashik TPS Unit no. 3, 4& 5 | 19,74,629 /- 23,300/- |
| 15 | 3000053026 CHP | Repowering of Cummins Engine model KT 1150C for BEML BD 155 Dozer | 54,62,884/- 58,200/- |
| 16 | 3000053025 CHP | Work Contract for Maintenance of Cummins make engines of various Locomotives and Bulldozers | 90,31,734/- 93,900/- |
| 17 | 3000053029 TM | Supply of Rubber chords & gaskets required during COH/ as & when required at Unit 3, 4 & 5 | 4,50,952/- 8010/- |
| 18 | 3000053032 TM | Supply of Electro lube synthetic contact grease and Moly graph SG-100 EP | 50,09,770/- 53,600/- |
| 19 | 3000053035 CHP | Work of complete reconditioning and repairing of conveyor gearbox and drive assembly unit | 13,23,000/- 16,730/- |
| 20 | 3000053038 WTP | AWC for Periodic & Regular Monitoring of Stack Emission, Boiler Emission, Ambient Air Quality, Fugitive Emission | 37,68,147/- 41,200/- |
| 21 | 3000053039 WTP | Work contract for removing grass & bushes at various locations | 2,48,800/- 6000/- |
| 22 | 3000053030 WTP | Work Contract for Carrying out Ash Analysis (Physical & Chemical properties) of Ash Generated, Testing of GLC Monitoring & Preparation of Annual Environment Statement & Flue Gas Monitoring | 7,38,718/- 10,900/- |
| 23 | 3000053067 AUC | Supply, Erection, Installation and Commissioning of new weigh bridge of 100MT capacity for weight measurement of Pond Ash at Eklahare Entry Gate, Nashik TPS. | 21,93,828/- 25,440/- |
| 24 | 3000053047 I&C | Work contract for pneumatic impulse lines maintenance work for U # 3, 4 & 5 coal mill area on as & when require basis at I&C-II, NTPS, Eklahare. | 6,28,560/- 9,790/- |
| 25 | 3000053070 Civil | Providing & Fixing AC sheet at Vehicle Maintenance Section at NTPS, Eklahare. | 11,48,322/- 15,000/- |
| 26 | 3000053068 Civil | Renovation of control room CHP-II & III along with toilet block of CHP-II at Stage-II, NTPS, Eklahare. | 18,06,492/- 21,600/- |
| 27 | 3000052924 BM | Work contract for complete repairing and reconditioning of eroded exchangeable vane housing of ID fan AN 25 e6 due to ash erosion at NTPS, Eklahare. | 27,80,000/- 31,300/- |
| 28 | 3000052943 BM | Work of Heavy Material Transporting, Loading & Unloading, shifting of Material from Koradi/ Parli/ Bhusawal TPS to Nashik TPS Eklahare | 9,49,657/- 13,000/- |
| 29 | 3000052946 BM | Annual work contract for replacement of P.F. pipes & various size bends of Coal Mill XRP-763 in Unit-3, 4 & 5 at NTPS, Eklahare. | 21,22,587/ 24,800/- |
| 30 | 3000053094 TM | Restoration of refrigerant type compressed air dryer 3A (model-CS 1500 2-1-A-P) along with supply of spares | 9,35,018/- 12850/- |
| 31 | 3000053097 I&C | Work contract for modification, repairing and upgradation of existing Sox, Nox system for Unit # 5 during COH at NTPS, Eklahare Nashik | 49,50,210/- 53,005/- |
| 32 | 3000053093 ODP | Procurement (supply cum installation) of blower, motor & spares with installation for ODP-II | 9,10,800/- 12,610/- |

New vendors/ vendors not register are requested to register their firms for e-tendering. For more details log on to website. **Cost of Each Tender:** Rs.1180/-, Please visit at: **https://eprocurement.mahagenco.in** for more information & updates.

**Chief Engineer,**
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"Tourism House" # 3-5-891, Himayatnagar, Hyderabad-500029

**e-Procurement Tender Notice**
**No.19/SE/TGTDC/2024-25, Date:30-11-2024**

| Sl. No | Name of the Work | Est. Cost in Crores | Bid downloading Start date |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | Development of Passenger Ropeway at Khammam Fort, Khammam, Telangana. | Rs.14.00 | 02-12-2024 |

Further details can be seen @ **www.tender.telangana.gov.in**
DIPR No.:732-DP/CL-AGENCY/ADVT/1/2024-25, Dt:30-11-2024

**Sd/- Superintending Engineer, TGTDC Ltd, Hyderabad**

**Haldwani Rudrapur Cluster SWM Society (HRCSWMS)**
**(Nagar Nigam Haldwani-Kathgodam)**

**Short Term E-Tender Notice**

**Reference No.-105** **Date- 30/11/2024**

Request for Proposals are invited for Bioremediation, Waste Clearance, Resource Recovery, and Scientific Disposal Services in Compliance with the Legacy Waste Management Rules of 2019 and the SWM Rules of 2016 at Haldwani (Nainital) Uttarakhand from the eligible Consortium/developers/Agencies/ Firms through online portal www.uktenders.gov.in from 02/12/2024. RFP/ Tender Details / Tender programme can also be downloaded from this portal from 02.12.2024. RFP/Tender can also be purchased by cash from Cash Department Nagar Nigam Haldwani-Kathgodam.

**Sadasy Sachiv, HRCSWMS/**
**Nagar Aayukta**
**Nagar Nigam Haldwani-Kathgodam**

**MAHATRANSCO** Maharashtra State Electricity Transmission Co. Ltd.

**INVITATION FOR BID (IFB) (LOCAL COMPETITIVE BIDDING)**

**SRM e-Tender No. T-2479/MSETCL/CO/ Projects /Pre-Tender (RFx No. 6000001257)**

MSETCL invites offers by SRM e-tendering in TWO bid system (Techno-Commercial Bid and Price Bid) from the eligible registered bidders for the following work as detailed below.

"Conversion of 110kV SCSC to 132kV SCDC line from 220/110kV Ogalewadi Substation to 110kV Borgaon Substation using existing ROW (Route length-30.69 km) under Karad Zone, MSETCL."

Interested bidders may obtain further information available on the website.https://srmetender.mahatransco.in

The date of downloading of Bid documents available on the website is from 25.11.2024.

**Sd/-**
**Chief Engineer (Projects), MSETCL**

**MAHATRANSCO** Maharashtra State Electricity Transmission Co. Ltd.

**E-TENDER NOTICE**

**MSETCL invites online bids (E Tender) from registered contractors / agencies on Mahatransco E-Tendering website** https://srmetender.mahatransco.in for following works.

**Tender No:-** SE/EHV/O&M/Circle/Pune/**T-84/2024-25 RFX No. 7000034379**

**Subject:- E-tender (4th call)** for Work Contract for height raising work of 132 kV Phursungi - Kothrud line in section between old/ existing loc no. 76 to 90 (i.e. new/proposed loc no. 89 to 103) under EHV O&M Division-I, Pune.

**Tender Amount:-** Rs. 4,98,88,123/- **EMD:-** Rs. 4,98,881/-, **Tender Fees:-** Rs. 5000/-+GST.

**Download of tender documents:-** from dtd. 30.11.2024 to dtd. 10.12.2024 upto 11:00 hrs.

**Bid Opening:-** Dtd. 10.12.2024 after 11:00 hrs (Tech) Dtd. 11.12.2024 after 11:00 hrs (Price)

**For further details visit our website http://mahatransco.in and open above RFX for downloading tender document, schedules, and annexure.es**

**Sd/-**
**Superintending Engineer, EHV O&M Circle, Pune**


# UP dy CM calls SP's Sambhal visit plan political tourism

▶ From P 1

SP announced Rs 5 lakh compensation for families of those who died in the violence during a court-monitored survey of the Mughal-era Shahi Jama Masjid in the UP town. At least five people died due to the unrest.



Sambhal MP Zia-ur-Rahman Barq, who was part of one of the delegations (he has also been named "prime accused" in the FIR on the Nov 24 violence case), said, "Democracy is being undermined. Police and administration want to cover up their wrongdoings. We've been stopped unlawfully... I was in Bengaluru on the day of the incident, there is no justification for FIR against me."

Nearly 15-20 people were stopped and "convinced" not to go to Sambhal, said additional SP (Hapur) Vineet Bhatnagar. He added, "Heavy police force has been deployed at the toll plaza." DM (Sambhal) Rajendra Pensiya said, "Section 163 of BNS was imposed in Sambhal, which restricts a gathering of more than five people at one place."

In a dig at the SP delegation's visit, state deputy CM **Brajesh Pathak** said, "They are going there for political tourism, we'll maintain law and order at all costs." *(Inputs from Mohammad Dilshad & Rahul Singh)*

# Have accepted that roadblocks are 'price of pioneering': Adani

▶ From P 1

Adani group chairman Gautam Adani recalled that in Jan last year, just as the group was getting ready to launch a follow-on public offering, it faced a short-selling attack initiated from abroad, a reference to the US-based Hindenburg Research report.

"This was not a typical financial strike; it was a double hit — targeting our financial stability and pulling us into a political controversy. All of this was further amplified by certain media with vested interests," said Adani.

He said that after successfully raising Rs 20,000 crore from India's largest-ever FPO, the company made "the extraordinary decision" to return the proceeds. "Moreover, our all-time record financial results in the same year showcased our commitment to operational excellence. Not a single Indian or foreign credit rating agency downgraded us. Finally, SC's affirmation validated our approach," said Adani.

He said he had come to accept that roadblocks the group faces are "price of pioneering". "The more bold your dreams, the more the world will scrutinise you. But it is precisely in that scrutiny that you must find the courage to rise, to challenge status quo, and to build a path where none exists. To pioneer is to embrace the unknown and to believe in your vision even when the world cannot see it," said Adani.

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**SAD DEMISE**

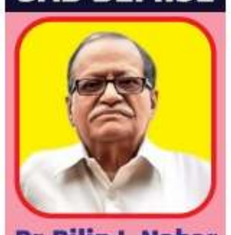


(16.07.1965 to 30.11.2024)

In loving memory of
***ANTHONY D'COSTA***
Husband of Belasia, father of Annabelle and Craig, brother of Jerome, Sebastian, Stephen and Agnes.

Holy Eucharist on Sunday, 1st December 2024 at 12 Noon at Our Lady of Immaculate Conception Church, I C Colony, Borivali West, followed by burial at I C Church Cemetery.

**SAD DEMISE**



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**-:Deeply Mourned by:-**
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**-:Grand children:-**
**Shaunak, Anvay & Ananya.**

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### DEATH ANNIVERSARY

7th Death Anniversary



**Smt. JYOTI ASHOK DUSIJA**
01.12.2017
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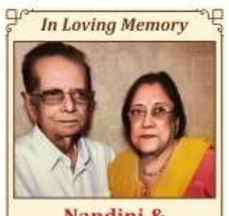
**Fondly Remembered by Shri Ashok M.Dusija & Darira Family**

### In Loving Memory



**Nandini & Ram Shivdasani**
*Your memory is a light that continues to shine in our hearts. While we miss you dearly, your love continues to inspire and guide us every day.*
***Deeply missed by***
Kavita - Ganesh Shermon, Neeta - Raj Bhambhani, Anavir & Jai

### IN MEMORIAM

**WING CDR.N.N.MURTI**
Fondly remembered on this day
Murti Family

### REMEMBRANCE
SHARING MEMORIES



18th Death Anniversary
**DR. AMIT DIWAN**
19/03/1973 - 01/12/2006
Our Hearts Ache with sadness & silent tears still flow, what it means to lose you only we know.
Fondly remembered by: Mumma & Papa Shubhlata Diwan & Late B.R. Diwan. Alka, Geetu, Roopika, Randeep, Vidur, Kannan, Kusha, Vaishnavi, Tista, Vahin.

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# Raj to bring anti-conversion bill, seek up to 10 years in jail

## Cabinet Gives Nod, Bill To Be Tabled In House

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

**Jaipur:** CM Bhajan Lal Sharma's cabinet on Saturday approved the introduction of Rajasthan Prohibition of Unlawful Conversion of Religion Bill, 2024 aiming to prevent religious conversions carried out through inducement, deceit, or force in the state, with stringent penalties ranging from one to 10 years of imprisonment.

Law minister Jogaram Patel stressed the need for such a legislation. "There is no specific law in the state to stop illegal conversion. So its proposal was approved after consideration at the cabinet meeting. After this bill becomes a law, no person or institution will be able to convert a person by using misrepresentation, fraud, force, undue influence, etc."

The proposed legislation will require people wishing to convert voluntarily to notify the district collector 60 days in advance. If a marriage is conducted with the intent of unlawful conversion, the family court will have the authority to declare such a marriage invalid. Crimes will be non-bailable and cognizable, according to Patel.

"The law shall also define the scope of live-in relationships and love jihad in the state," he said. MP, UP, and Gujarat have already implemented stringent laws.



File picture of forces conducting a flag march in Uttarkashi

## 'Beheading' threat to Hindu Sena chief over Ajmer row

Hindu Sena president Vishnu Gupta, who filed a civil suit in an Ajmer court claiming that a Shiva temple lies beneath the dargah of Khwaja Moinuddin Chisti, has allegedly received a "Sar Tan Se Juda" (beheading) death threat from an Indian in Canada. TNN

## After terming it legal, admin says Uttarkashi masjid disputed

**Dehradun:** In a turnaround from its earlier stance, the Uttarkashi district administration, which had earlier declared a decades-old mosque to be 'legal with valid documents', said on Friday that the structure was 'disputed' and granted permission to a right-wing group, which has been claiming that the mosque is illegal, to hold a mahapanchayat on the issue.

This came even as a string of officials, including the SP, were summarily transferred amidst claims that this was done at the behest of right-wing group members who had met CM Pushkar Singh Dhami. The mahapanchayat, to be held at Ramleela Ground, about 250m from the mosque on Sunday, was being allowed there would be no "hate speech", no "action promoting enmity between communities", nor any (items) "that could disrupt law and order," a statement by the district administration said. TNN

## Court upholds decision to raze 3 'illegal' floors of Sanjauli mosque

**Shimla**: District court in Shimla dismissed on Saturday an appeal challenging municipal commissioner's order of demolishing top three "illegally" built floors of a mosque in Sanjauli within two months. All Himachal Muslims Organisation (AHMO) had sought a stay on Oct 5 demolition order.

The mosque committee had voluntarily agreed to remove the illegal portions of the building, and gave an undertaking to this effect on Sept 12, a day after 10 people were injured in a massive protest in Shimla demanding demolition of illegal portions of the Sanjauli mosque.

AHMO spokesperson Nazakat Ali Hashmi, in his appeal, said the persons who gave the undertaking had no authority to do so. AHMO counsel Vishav Bhushan said they were yet to receive the copy of the court order. "Only after studying it will AHMO decide its further course of action," he added. TNN

## Sambhal masjid row: Hindu side files caveat in HC

Following violence in Sambhal, Uttar Pradesh, the Hindu side has filed a caveat before Allahabad high court that if the Muslim side files a petition, then no order should be passed without hearing Hindu side. On Nov 20, the civil judge of Sambhal had ordered survey of the Mughal-era Shahi Jama Masjid. Advocates Hari Shankar Jain and Parth Yadav, who filed the caveat, had earlier filed a suit before the civil judge claiming that Harihar temple once stood at the mosque site in Sambhal's Kot Garvi area. TNN

**Mistaken for thief, mentally challenged man shot dead:** A mentally challenged man was shot dead on Saturday by a farmer who mistook him for a thief in Erode. Police said P Kannan scaled wall of a farmhouse. The owner spotted him and shot him. TNN

## TTD bans political & hate speeches at Tirumala

**Tirupati:** Tirumala Tirupati Devasthanams (TTD) has banned political and hate speeches at Tirumala and warned that they will take legal action against violators. The newly constituted TTD trust board headed by BR Naidu, chairman, passed a resolution to this effect in its very first meeting held at Tirumala recently, reports **Sandeep Raghavan**.

Resolution No. 93 passed by the TTD trust board states: "The decision was taken to strictly maintain the serenity and divine atmosphere at Tirumala, duly preserving the sanctity of the seven hills."


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Please refer to the detailed advertisement on CRIS website **www.cris.org.in** under the tab "careers" – Engagements of Consultants. Please note change in email ID mentioned in detailed advertisement Para 7 How to apply sub para 3 for sending applications as follows:
**recruitment2024@cris.org.in**
The date of receiving applications is extended upto **31/12/2024**.
**Registrar**

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**CIN:** U67100DL2011NPL215270, **www.cersai.org.in/CERSAI/home**

**RECRUITMENT NOTIFICATION** **Adv No 03/2024**

CERSAI, a Govt. of India undertaking ( CPSE) licensed under section 8 of he Companies Act 2013, invites application from eligible Indian Citizens for 02 posts of regular employees in E-2 Pay Scale of CPSEs . All interested candidates are advised to visit notification section of our website www.cersai.org.in/CERSAI/home.prg for eligibility criteria and other details related to this advertisement. All future communications will be done through our website only.

| Publication of detail notification on our website | Tentative Online Application Start Date | Last date for Online application | Cut-off Date for eligibility Criteria |
|---|---|---|---|
| 01.12.2024 | 04.12.2024 | 24.12.2024 | 01.12.2024 |

**Asstt. General Manager(HR)**
**CERSAI,New Delhi**
**Date:01/12/2024**

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**(A Research Institute under Biotechnology Research and Innovation Council, Department of Biotechnology, Ministry of Science & Technology, Government of India) इनर रिंग रोड, उप्पल, हैदराबाद, तेलंगाना, भारत / Inner Ring Road, Uppal, Hyderabad – 500039, Telangana, India दूरभाष / Tel : +91-40-2721 6000 / 6011, फैक्स / Fax: +91-40-2721 6006 वेबसाइट / Website: http://www.cdfd.org.in**

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**OFFICE OF THE ENGINEER-IN-CHIEF (CIVIL), ODISHA**
**NIRMAN SOUDHA, UNIT-V, BHUBANESWAR**
**INVITATIONS FOR BIDS (IFB)**

File No-B-IV-H-(H&D)-77/2024 Lr. No.- 46200 Bhubaneswar, the 28th Nov., 2024

**Invitation for Bids**
**Bid Identification No. C.E. (B) - 22 / 2024-25**

1. The Chief Engineer, Buildings-I (I/C), Odisha, Bhubaneswar, on behalf of Governor of Odisha, invites percentage rate bids in double cover system in ONLINE MODE form eligible contractors for Building work as mentioned below:
2. **Nature of work** : **Building works**
3. **No. of work** : **03 Nos.**
4. **Bid Cost** : **Rs. 10,000/- (each)**
5. **Class of Contractor** : **'A' Special Class**
6. **Availability of Bid Documents in the website** : **From dt. 05.12.2024 to 17.00 Hours of dt.19.12.2024.**
7. **Date of Opening of Bid** : **Dt. 20.12.2024 at 11:30 AM.**
8. **The Bidders have to participate in ONLINE bidding only. Further details can be seen from the website: https://tendersodisha.gov.in. Any addendum / corrigendum / cancellation of tender can also be seen in the said website only.**

Sd/- **Chief Engineer, Buildings-I(I/C)**
**Odisha, Bhubaneswar**
OIPR-34117/11/0044/24-25

**O-757**

**GOVERNMENT OF ODISHA**
**OFFICE OF THE CHIEF CONSTRUCTION ENGINEER**
**CENTRAL RURAL WORKS CIRCLE, BHUBANESWAR**
**No. 5132/Date : 28.11.2024**

**"e" Procurement Notice for Building Works**

1. Name of the Work : Building Works
2. Total No. of Works : 02 Nos. of Building Works for the year 2024-25
3. Estimated Cost of the Work : Varies from Rs. 109.66 lakh to Rs. 173.90 lakh
4. Class of Contractor :
   a) Estimated cost more than Rs. 20.00 lakhs up to Rs. 3.00 Crores. — B Class (of Odisha PWD) or relevant class of other licensing authorities
   b) Estimated cost more than Rs. 1.00 Crore up to Rs. 20.00 Crores. — A Class (of Odisha PWD) or relevant class of other licensing authorities
5. Period of completion : As mentioned in Column-7 of Annexure
6. Offered rates by bidder : The offered rate by the contractor shall be excluding GST.
7. Other details :

| Procurement Officer | Bid Identification No. | Availability of tender online for bidding | | Date & Time of opening of tender | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | From | To | Technical Bid | Financial Bid |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 |
| Chief Construction Engineer, Central Rural Works Circle, Bhubaneswar | Tender- Online-C.C. 27 of 2024 | 05.12.2024 at 11.00 AM | 19.12.2024 Upto 5.00 PM | 20.12.2024 at 11.00 AM | To be intimated lateron |

Further details can be seen from the website **www.tendersodisha.gov.in**

Sd/-
**Chief Construction Engineer**
**Central Rural Works Circle, Bhubaneswar**
OIPR-25194/11/0013/24-25

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| 09002 | BHIWANI - MUMBAI CENTRAL (Bi-Weekly) | 04.12.2024 to 18.12.2024 | 14:45 hrs (Wed & Sat) | 16:30 hrs (Next day) |

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# Architect becomes spinner, and village boy a ₹3-CR PACER

**Cricket in India is no longer city-centric. IPL, one of the top sporting leagues in the world, has played a big role in tapping into raw talent across the country and bringing them to national and international attention**

Arani.Basu@timesofindia.com




In 2011, Varun Chakravarthy gave up his dream of being a professional fast bowler to pursue a career as an architect. But his passion for the game remained alive and, four years later, he turned up on a whim at a random nets session as a mystery spinner. A batchmate-turned-Indian Premier League (IPL) scout noticed him and persuaded Chakravarthy to be a part of the Tamil Nadu Premier League (TNPL). Two seasons later, he was picked up by Kings XI Punjab — now known as Punjab Kings — for an unbelievable Rs 8.4 crore. Three more years and he was representing India at the T20 World Cup.

Chakravarthy is not an isolated case. IPL is now one of the top sporting leagues in the world, and much of that success owes to the ability of franchises to dip into an ever-expanding domestic talent pool. The Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) has gone global with brand IPL, hosting auctions around the world while simultaneously branching out to the far corners of the country in its quest to diversify talent reserves.

At the recent auction in Jeddah, Saudi Arabia, for the 2025 IPL, a total of 182 players, including 120 Indians, were sold with the 10 franchises spending over Rs 639 crore to engage their services. Vignesh Puthur from Perinthalmanna in Kerala's Malappuram district was picked up by Mumbai Indians even though he had never represented his own state in any senior tournament. Robin Minz from Jharkhand became the first cricketer from a tribal community to be drafted into an IPL team. Along with Karnal's Anshul Kamboj, these two have become the latest examples of local talent making it to the IPL arena.

There have been many such unheralded, but extremely successful, picks in previous editions of the tournament, too. T Natarajan, with minimal exposure to formal cricket, was living hand-to-mouth in Chinnappampatti village in Tamil Nadu's Salem district before being selected for TNPL in 2016. The next year, he was picked up by Kings XI for Rs 3 crore. By Jan 2021, the pacer was a key component of India's historic Test win at Gabba against Australia.

Going back a bit further, Navdeep Saini, also from Karnal, turned up at the Delhi Ranji Trophy team's nets in 2013 at the behest of former Delhi and Kolkata Knight Riders (KKR) allrounder Sumit Narwal. He hadn't had any formal coaching but his talent impressed Gautam Gambhir, who's now the India coach, pushing him to hand Saini a Ranji Trophy debut a week later. Saini, too, was part of that famous Gabba victory.

Cut to IPL 2023. An engineer and a hobby tennis-ball cricketer from Roorkee — Akash Madhwal — became a sensation when he filled a Jasprit Bumrah-sized void in the Mumbai Indians camp, becoming captain Rohit Sharma's go-to man in the death overs.

Such stories are at the core of the T20 league's humongous appeal. India's T20 World Cup-winning coach Rahul Dravid summed it up aptly, saying, "Indian cricket today is extremely strong and powerful. One of the big reasons for that is that the talent comes from all over the country.

"If you go back to the time of, say, Gundappa Viswanath, or even when I was starting out, most of the talent came from the big cities or from a handful of other states. Even if they were talented, boys in smaller places had to come to the big cities to play cricket."

It was actually in the early 2000s — even before the IPL started — that Indian selectors first began to tap into raw talent from across the country. Subsequently, the IPL offered a level-playing field for those outside the regular cricketing power centres. Now, the gap between an IPL player and a 'Team India' cricketer — in terms of both skill and financial reward — has significantly narrowed.

Pursuing cricket as a full-time career isn't as difficult as it used to be. It's here that BCCI's domestic structure has played a vital role: Indian cricket's six-month-long domestic season sees it host around 2,200 matches across age groups for both men and women.

### Creating A Database

Former India bowling coach Paras Mhambrey, Dravid's trusted lieutenant since he took over as caretaker of India 'A', U-19s and the National Cricket Academy in 2015, says data has driven the talent hunt. "Creating a database was a major challenge. To get what the boys have been doing in their home states was a huge task. We would ask state associations to create a database of their cricketing performances," Mhambrey said, recalling the early days of working with Dravid.

"Currently, BCCI has a huge backroom where you get all kinds of data about players. You can find out how a player has come up through the ranks, what his fitness routines are, how he has been performing round the year. You have footage of each ball bowled," a proud Mhambrey added.

Streamlining the process over the last decade was an arduous task. It became tougher for the national selectors when a Supreme Court-appointed panel asked BCCI to amend its constitution and prune the selection committee from a five-member body to a three-member one in 2017. Although the ruling was reversed in 2018, one of the best ideas popped up during this period.

MSK Prasad, chairman of selectors at the time, said, "In 2017, we decided to get the help of match referees in domestic cricket across the country. We had given them a template and certain criteria to look at. They would mark and describe those parameters and send them to us at the end of the match. We went through all the reports and, accordingly, assigned selectors to track those players. Our focus was on the impact players could have on a game and not their numbers."

### Enter The IPL Talent Scouts

And then came the IPL scouting teams, which reached places that BCCI's regular selectors could not. Tanmay Shrivastava, part of Virat Kohli's U-19 World Cup-winning team in 2008, is now retired. He served as a scout for Royal Challengers Bengaluru before becoming an umpire. "Network building is a huge part of the exercise," he said. "There are franchises who rely on match referees, umpires and curators at various levels for tip-offs. As scouts, we were divided into groups and asked to fan out across the country. We tried to cover every tournament. Even as an umpire now, when I go out to officiate in local matches, I am always on the lookout for talent and refer them to the scouts I know," Shrivastava said.

Mhambrey agrees that selection patterns have changed since his playing days and that IPL has had a big hand in it.

Former India opener and Bengal stalwart Devang Gandhi, too, saw a change in attitude when he worked with Prasad on his selection panel before taking up a job with Bengal U-19s in 2021. "There is a drastic change in outlook. For example, cricket in Bengal is no longer Kolkata-centric. During my time as national selector, I observed the same in other states. The talent that comes through is based on potential and not just performance," Gandhi said.

The 'impact' a cricketer has on a game is now key to judging his potential. Shrivastava said IPL scouts are trained to go in with an open mind and just focus on how a player reacts to a situation.

Former India wicketkeeper Vijay Dahiya, who worked with KKR for their IPL triumphs in 2012 and 2014 before joining Delhi Capitals and Lucknow Super Giants, has an explanation. "This generation has grown up playing T20 cricket, which revolves around impact. Results in the longer formats are largely determined by the impact in the shorter moments of the game. You can't judge a player based only on their numbers," Dahiya said.

Tracking down these 'impact' players is less difficult now, thanks to the franchise model. The Tamil Nadu Cricket Association (TNCA), led by former BCCI president N Srinivasan, became the pioneer in introducing franchise-based T20 leagues with the TNPL in 2016. Now, every state tries to have its own T20 league. Corporates, seduced by the riches in Indian cricket, have jumped onto the bandwagon. Leading sports networks broadcast these matches.

> **"IPL franchises now look at players as investment. There are a lot of franchises willing to pick players and train them at their academies for years before throwing them into the deep end. They don't expect results straightaway and that helps a player's development**
>
> **— VIJAY DAHIYA,** Former India wicketkeeper

### Sweet Dreams, Big Results

Hope can be a great motivator, and there are more families now willing to make sacrifices to ensure their children get a piece of the cricketing pie.

Rishabh Pant's childhood coach Devender Sharma, who runs Delhi's historic Sonnet Club following the death of legendary coach Tarak Sinha, knows this better than most. "We see kids come from UP, Rajasthan, Uttarakhand and even Bihar. After the IPL, I see more people willing to leave their families behind and come to Delhi in search of greater exposure," he said.

"We too have a responsibility to not give them false hope. We see them in trials and tell them if they are good enough to be worked on. For batters, we look at 14- to 16-year-olds. Fast bowlers can be 18. Mayank Yadav, who has made his T20 debut against Bangladesh, comes from a very humble background," Sharma added.

According to Dahiya, "Cricket is a proper industry now." "You get to be seen on live TV even if you are playing in a local T20 league. The pay is good." According to Gandhi, "Boys from the suburbs and small towns are desperate to succeed, and I mean that in a positive way. It's all-or-nothing for them," he said. Prasad too calls them "fearless".

The ripple effects can be seen in the unlikeliest of towns. Avtar Singh, Pant's first coach in Roorkee, said, "When Rishabh played here, most were like 'hobby' cricketers. I'd ask the ones that were talented to move out of Roorkee because the cricket here was not recognised by the system then. I asked Rishabh to move to Delhi and try to get into the Sonnet Club under Tarak Sinha."

Things changed when Uttarakhand got its BCCI affiliation in 2019. "Now, my wards stay with me," Avtar said. The coach proudly pointed out that Mumbai Indians' medium pacer, Madhwal, is from his academy.

### Investing In Talent

Competitive cricket has taken root in the country, thanks to BCCI's extensive programmes. "BCCI's move to certify more coaches has helped. They go on to run academies and that brings uniformity to training across India," Mhambrey said.

Prasad highlighted the substantial funds that the states receive from the board. Before becoming a national selector, he served as Andhra Pradesh's director of cricket. "When I was director of Andhra cricket, 40% of the funds would go towards salaries and basic expenses, 40% was allocated for development of cricket in various districts," Prasad said. "Sheikh Rasheed, who was part of India's U-19 World Cup-winning team in 2022, was adopted by an Andhra academy in Mangalagiri and groomed there. Even Nitish Reddy, who is touted as the successor to Hardik Pandya, was first coached in Vizag."

Dahiya offers an intriguing insight: "IPL franchises now look at players as investment. There are a lot of franchises who are willing to pick players and train them at their academies for years before throwing them into the deep end. They don't expect results straightaway and that helps a player's development."

Prasad also worked for BCCI when nine new teams were inducted into domestic cricket. He credits BCCI policies with turning things around. "When the new states were incorporated, there was concern over the quality of cricket, especially in the North-East. But a few associations like Puducherry, Uttarakhand and Chandigarh showed great promise. The board allowed more players from established teams to play as professionals in the unfancied teams. Teams like Chhattisgarh, MP, Vidarbha and Gujarat have all become strong because of this move," he said.

So, here's a note to young cricketers — if you have the talent, perseverance and willingness to make sacrifices, there are high chances that your skills will get noticed.

# The Yashasvi story begins with 'Zahar Khan'

**Yashasvi Jaiswal, whose massive 161 played a key role in India's surprise win in the Perth Test, is the hottest opener in world cricket today. Last summer, Avijit Ghosh visited the small UP market town of Suriyawan and met his father, Bhupendra. Here's the story of how a steely young cricketer was born**



Summer afternoons can be ugly in east UP. Loo, the hot wind said to cause heatstroke, sends people scurrying indoors. But Suriyawan, a 'kasbah' (small market town) about 80 km from Varanasi, bustles despite the searing heat. Motorcycle-borne men without helmets honk even when there's no need to. Pushcarts peddle paneer burgers and badam shake. And devotional music rattles the air.

Towards the end of the main market, near the festooned Mahadev temple, Bhupendra Kumar Jaiswal sits alone on a chair in an unassuming hardware-and-paints store. Around him are stacked ropes, nails, tins — all wearing a thin coat of dust. Nothing separates the bespectacled 60-year-old from the dozens of shopkeepers in this trading town in Bhadohi district that mostly makes its living hawking wholesale goods, especially groceries.

But Bhupendra is not just any trader. It was his unswerving determination and bold vision that pushed the youngest of his four children, Yashasvi, to become India's most-happening young cricketer of 2024.

### Like Father...

In his youth, Bhupendra too played cricket. "I was the fastest bowler in the district. They had given me a nickname, Zahar (poison) Khan. My bowling was like poison to batters. Owing to circumstances, I could never play higher cricket," he says.

But rather than turning his life into a litany of lingering regrets, Bhupendra channelised his unfulfilled dreams into honing his sons' talents. "I swore one of my two sons would play for India. And I prayed to Maa Vindhyavasini to fulfil my wish," he recalls.

His voice is fervent, and his tone that of a man who decided to go on mission mode to make cricketers out of his sons even though it is a rather unusual desire for someone whose predecessors worked in the farmers' market. "*Aadhat ka kaam karte the* (they worked as commission agents)," he says.

Bhupendra had noticed early on that his sons were inclined towards sport. "My daughters, Ekta and Namrata, were good at studies. But my sons, Tejasvi and Yashasvi, were only interested in cricket. Of all the toys before him, Yashasvi would always pick up the bat and ball," he reminisces.

There's a small ground near his shop on the other side of the road, where the Jaiswals live. There, on a small cement pitch, the boys learnt how to take stance from their father. Bhupendra remembers a local seniors' tournament held near the railway station where Yashasvi, only 8 then, scored 34 and Tejasvi, about 13, made 22. Everybody could see the Jaiswal boys had talent.

### A Tough Call

But Bhupendra also knew the next step — sending his sons to hone their game in Mumbai — would test his finances. It did. Tejasvi had to return. And Yashasvi's early Mumbai diaries — getting thrown out of a dairy shop in Mumba Devi, selling *golgappas* at Azad Maidan — are already part of cricket's inspirational lore.

One incident, though known, deserves a more detailed recall. The owner of Muslim United cricket club in Azad Maidan tent asked the kid to prove his worth. "He scored 82 runs and the owner gave him a place to sleep," Bhupendra remembers. At the age of 10, Yashasvi was living alone in a tent in a tough metropolis.

This was the time when Yashasvi started selling *golgappas*, kulfis and colas in the evenings to earn some money.

"I ran a small shop and had taken a loan to fund my daughters' education. My resources were limited and I could send him only Rs 1,000-2,000 occasionally. I knocked on many doors. I wanted him to stay there. What he earned in the evenings helped him meet his expenses. He struggled really hard for two-and-a-half years," he says.

Those days of privation and struggle steeled Yashasvi's core, further fuelling his desire to succeed. It also infused him with the equanimity and maturity evident now in his television interviews.

The young cricketer's life changed for the better when coach "Jwala Singh sir" took him under his wings. "*Jabse unka saath mila,* Yashasvi *ki duniya badal gayi. Woh hamare liye Bhagwan hain. Jo shiksha unhone di hum nahi de paate* (ever since he offered his helping hand, Yashasvi's life changed. He is like God to us. We would not have been able to give Yashasvi the training he got from him). He brought him up like his own son," he says.



Bhupendra Jaiswal has a hardware store in Suriyawan market. He used to be a bowler in his youth and wanted his sons Yashasvi and Tejasvi to pursue the cricketing dreams that he couldn't

### Reaching The Top

Yashasvi flowered under Jwala's tutelage, first in local cricket and, then, in national cricket for juniors. He smashed hundreds in Vijay Hazare Trophy (2019) and emerged as the top scorer at the U-19 World Cup in South Africa (2020). He was, by far, India's best batter on view.

But even the most eagle-eyed of talent spotters are surprised by his phenomenal performance in international cricket. In 15 Tests, the 22-year-old left-handed opening batter has already smashed four big hundreds, including two double tons against England. His tide-turning 161 against Australia last week had former international players going into raptures on TV.

And he is no one-trick pony either. In IPL 2023, Yashasvi blitzkrieged a 13-ball 50 for Rajasthan Royals, the fastest in the tournament's history. Little surprise, he was retained by the franchise for Rs 18 crore in this year's auction. It is a matter of time before he breaks into Team India's ODI side.

Yashasvi now endorses Thums Up, a drink he once peddled in Azad Maidan.

Life's taken a turn for Bhupendra, too. Apart from the shop, he also runs a school and drives an MG Hector. His two daughters, to use a time-honoured expression, are 'well settled'. And Tejasvi, now 27, is playing first-class cricket for Tripura, albeit with limited success.

Bhupendra regrets that his youngest child is rarely able to visit his hometown owing to his busy schedule. "Yashasvi couldn't attend his grandfather's funeral because he was playing in South Africa," he says, adding, "He calls when free. But I understand he is not just my son anymore. Now he belongs to India."

PS: Two teenagers show up at the shop. One of them is from a nearby village, the other from a distant town. The hardware doesn't interest them. They have just come for a selfie with Yashasvi's dad.

## INQUIZITIVE

JOY BHATTACHARJYA

1 If India and Australia compete in Test match cricket for the Border-Gavaskar Trophy, the Test series between Australia and Sri Lanka is named after which two legendary cricketers?

2 Which company was founded in Dec 2013 by Albinder Dhindsa and Saurabh Kumar and was originally named Grofers?

3 Which pioneering theatre personality, the writer of plays like Charandas Chor and Agra Bazar, founded Naya Theatre in Bhopal and is especially renowned for his work with Chhattisgarhi tribals?

4 **Chichen Itza**, built by the Mayan civilization, was a flourishing city between 600 and 1,000 AD. In which modern country is the site located?



5 What connects Ruby, Barn, Firebrick, Carmine, Ferrari, Coral and Cardinal?

6 Which two-word term for the leading female singer in an opera company is now also used to describe a vain or disciplined person who finds it difficult to work as part of a team?

7 While Malta and Wales also feature it on their flags, which is the only Asian country's national flag to feature a dragon?

8 What was the name of the largest military unit of the Roman empire, usually comprising between 4,800 and 5,280 men in 10 cohorts?

9 Which fruit, with the scientific name Solanum lycopersicum and commonly eaten as a vegetable, was once regarded as being poisonous and not consumed?

10 The stapedius is the smallest skeletal muscle in the human body. At just over one millimetre in length, its purpose is to stabilise the smallest bone in the body, the stapes. In which part of your body would you find it?

### ANSWERS

1 | The Warne-Muralitharan Trophy
2 | Blinkit
3 | Habib Tanvir
4 | Mexico
5 | They are all shades of red
6 | Prima donna
7 | Bhutan
8 | Legion
9 | Tomato
10 | Ear

# B'desh: India can't step in but it can pressure US

RIGHT & WRONG



SWAPAN DASGUPTA

If nothing else, the saga of the arrest of the militant Hindu monk Chinmoy Krishna Das Prabhu on sedition charges has removed our blinkers from the present dispensation in Bangladesh. With each passing day, the remaining ambiguities over the nature of the regime that assumed charge after toppling Sheikh Hasina's govt on August 5 have been erased.

First, it is now clear that the centre of power has shifted quite decisively to the Islamists who have the support of the students who were in the forefront of the anti-Hasina demonstrations. Chief adviser and Nobel Prize winner Mohammad Yunus may be nominally at the helm, but events over the past four months have shown that both he and his NGO nominees exist at the mercy of those who seek to overturn the legacy of the 1971 liberation from Pakistan. The "reset" Yunus referred to in an interview to Voice of America two months ago may well be confined to restoring the sanctity of institutions that had been debased by corruption, but the others propping up his regime clearly have other ideas. If unchecked, there is every possibility of Bangladesh becoming an Islamist enclave, with ominous consequences for eastern India.

Second, because of the increasing political influence of the Islamists, the condition of Bangladesh's Hindu minority has become more precarious. Since the Hindu community, by and large, were supporters of the Awami League, they bore the worst of the political recriminations after Aug 5. However, the persecution of the political leadership of the Hindus was coupled with a targeted move to create insecurity among the 1.3 crore Hindu population.

According to the Bangladesh Hindu Buddhist Christian Unity Council, there were 2,010 incidents of attacks on minorities between Aug 4 and 20, and another 57 incidents between Aug 22 and Oct 12. Some 1,705 families and 50,000 people were affected by the first wave of violence. Additionally, 69 places of worship — mainly Hindu temples — were attacked, vandalised and set on fire. This year's Durga Puja in Bangladesh was held amid restrictions on the use of loudspeakers and a climate of fear.

Third, in the past, the persecution of Hindus invariably led to members of the community voting with their feet and crossing into India using either legal or illegal means. At Independence, the Hindu population of East Pakistan was around 23% but by 2022, it had shrunk to just 8%. Part of this exodus owed to the insecurities of living in a quasi-Islamic state. However, it also followed a deliberate move by Islamists since 1947 to cleanse Bangladesh of the cultural influence of Hindus. For example, the bulk of the refugees who crossed over to India after the Pakistani army crackdown in 1971 were Hindus. The majority of them didn't return to independent Bangladesh.

This year, there was a discernible shift in the Bangladeshi Hindu response to persecution. Thanks to the leadership provided by the likes of Chinmoy Krishna Das and many of his former colleagues in ISKCON, there were large protest demonstrations by Hindus in places such as Dhaka and Chittagong. Rather than try and flee to India, the leadership put across the message that Bangladesh was also their country and that they would stand and fight for their rights. This has pitted the Hindu community in direct conflict with those who look to complete the original Pakistani design of a Hindu-free East Pakistan.



**WAIT AND WATCH:** Since direct intervention to help the Hindu population in Bangladesh will be internationally unacceptable, India is left with no easy choices

Finally, the response of New Delhi to the regime change and persecution of Hindus has been significantly different. As opposed to past govts that viewed the issues affecting Bangladeshi Hindus as an internal matter of a neighbour, the Narendra Modi govt has made it clear that the harassment and persecution of Hindus in Bangladesh is very much India's business too. At the same time, India has more or less closed its borders and tightened its visa regime to prevent another Hindu exodus to West Bengal, Assam and Tripura. The message is clear: India wants the Hindus of Bangladesh to fight for their rights from within.

There are no easy choices for India. Direct intervention would be internationally unacceptable and would play into the hands of the shambolic Yunus regime. Although unpopular with domestic hotheads, a more viable option is to exercise patience and allow the political and economic crisis confronting Bangladesh to come to a head. At the same time, after the Trump administration assumes charge, India must put pressure on the State Department and intelligence agencies in the US to clean up the mess it created in the guise of restoring democracy. India must make it clear that it cannot countenance a regressive and hostile Islamist regime on its eastern borders. How the cleansing should happen need not be the subject of a public debate. ■

# Can we be the first generation that doesn't die, asks age-reversal guru Bryan Johnson

*At 47, American software millionaire **Bryan Johnson** is on a mission to outsmart death. Johnson, whose controversial age-reversing techniques include infusing himself with his teenage son's blood, says he has the heart of a 37-year-old and the skin of a 28-year-old. With his head full of thick, dark hair (his greys reversed), he spoke to **Mohua Das** over a video call ahead of his visit to Mumbai and Bengaluru this week to grow his 'Don't Die' community, complete with a Hindi hashtag #MarnaMat*

**■ The whole idea of building a 'Don't Die' community sounds like something out of a sci-fi film...**

Yeah, we are living in a sci-fi film. The progress of AI over the past few years is something once thought impossible. And yet, here we are. 'Don't Die' is actually the oldest game ever played. Think about it — Buddha, Muhammad and Jesus all spoke in terms of 'do this, don't die' — through their teachings. People pursue immortality through legacy, career or family. Warriors went to battle hoping for songs sung in their memory. What I'm proposing is simply a new lens on an old pursuit. Every generation dares to ask wild, impossible questions and the question for our time is, 'Are we the first generation that doesn't die?'

FOR THE RECORD

**■ What makes India an important destination for you to expand your 'Don't Die' community and for introducing your blueprint project?**

I think India is one of the most promising places to embrace 'Don't Die'. The country's historical context, religious and spiritual norms and its societal viewpoints make it a natural extension of this philosophy. I have many Indian friends and they have an intuitive understanding of the ideas behind 'Don't Die.' By contrast, Americans tend to be more rowdy, individualistic and resistant... reacting with a 'f*** off' attitude. It's just cultural differences, not a judgement. In general, I find the East more open to these concepts and this openness is critical right now. AI is progressing very quickly. Whenever a new technology emerges, it pressure-tests how humans cooperate and solve conflict. Right now, as we develop a technology superior to us in many ways, capable of changing society in ways we can't quite fathom, what do we do? We turn to democracy, capitalism or religion and ask, 'Can you help us figure this out?' Likewise, 'Don't Die' is what I propose. It's about not dying individually, not killing each other, not destroying the planet, and aligning AI with these principles. We're aiming to build a global movement, potentially up to a billion people by 2027 and I believe India — where we plan to engage with students, entrepreneurs, politicians and celebrities — could be a foundational part.

**■ Do you think your blueprint, with its focus on algorithms and your personal health protocol, can work for everyone, including Indians?**

I'm the most biologically measured person in human history. Across 43 different biomarkers — cardiovascular, metabolism, sleep and blood — I arguably have the best data and am the healthiest person in the world. The majority of things in my protocol are applicable to humans of all ages. For example, it's widely known that being obese is not ideal, so maintaining an appropriate weight is beneficial. We also know that exercise works well for everyone unless they have a severe medical condition. Similarly, bad habits like smoking and drinking have universally negative effects on health. We focus on what we call the 'power laws' — prioritising sleep, eating nutritious food, exercising and eliminating bad habits. So yes, I'd say it's absolutely applicable to everyone on earth regardless of geographic region or cultural norms.

**■ You say death may not be inevitable, but several doctors and scientists have dismissed your quest as a pipe dream...**

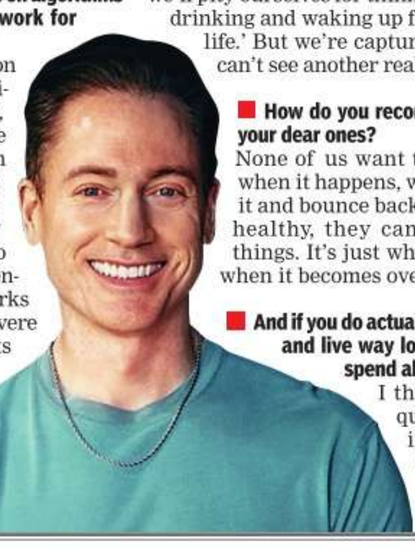
Let's look at the track record of what experts have said about 'impossible' things throughout history. This pattern plays out every single time. Someone poses a bold idea and the majority of experts immediately dismiss it as insane or impossible. Their naysaying means absolutely nothing.

**■ And with all the cutting-edge tech and supplements you're using to stay young, would you say you're now completely disease-free? What about unexpected health risks or the mental toll of it all?**

First off, my team and I approach this with a lot of humility. We're fully aware that things can go wrong at any moment. We don't have complete control over biology. What we do have control over are things like bedtime, sleep quality, exercise and diet. My goal is to become the most 'Don't Die' person in history. What I'm doing now, I believe, represents the future of humanity. By 2030, the whole world will be doing what I'm doing — it'll just be much easier. Right now, I'm navigating complex protocols and therapies every day. By then, they'll be integrated into everyday life. I'm just six years ahead.

**■ Committing to the 'Johnson Blueprint' also means giving up on things like eating birthday cake, late night parties with friends etc. Don't you miss that?**

It's funny because many people see how I live and say, 'Oh man, your life must suck!' But here's the thing: I've never heard anyone complain about feeling too good. Honestly, I've never been happier. We even hold 'Don't Die' summits where we rave at 9 am with a DJ and dance party. You don't need to stay up until midnight or drink alcohol to have fun. My son and I do all kinds of activities together, too. The idea that my life must be boring or sad is just a misconception. If anything, I feel sorry for people who are fatigued, unhealthy, or struggling with obesity. I've been there and it's not fun. When we look back from the future, we'll pity ourselves for thinking that staying up late, drinking and waking up feeling awful was 'living life.' But we're captured in this moment and can't see another reality.



**■ How do you reconcile the idea of outliving your dear ones?**

None of us want to lose a loved one but when it happens, we grieve, work through it and bounce back. So long as a human is healthy, they can work through these things. It's just when they get frail, that's when it becomes overwhelming.

**■ And if you do actually manage to defeat death and live way longer, how do you plan to spend all that extra time?**

I think this is the coolest question. Let's travel back in time to meet Homo erectus a million years ago. You ask them, 'If you survive, what will you do for fun?' They might say something like hunting different animals or moving to a better climate — things within their limited understanding of reality. What they wouldn't say is, 'I'll study black holes' or 'I'll explore molecular interactions at the cellular level,' because they couldn't even conceive those possibilities. Now, apply that to us. Are we — in this moment — essentially cavemen? Is our understanding of reality so primitive that we can't imagine what's coming next? This is why the concept of 'Don't Die' is so important — not as a bid for immortality, but as a way to keep ourselves alive long enough to experience and adapt to this new, transformative future. If you're trying to answer the questions AI and advanced technologies will raise with our current models, it's like Homo erectus trying to understand democracy or capitalism — it's laughably inadequate. That's why I advocate 'Don't Die'. It's not about living forever. Unlike subjective ideologies like democracy or capitalism, 'Don't Die' is quantifiable. You can measure organ health, cellular death, and biological pathways. So, to be specific, I'm not arguing for immortality. I'm arguing, don't die right now.

Courtesy: Bryan Johnson

## HIS BLUEPRINT FOR MAXING LIFE SPAN



- Wakes up at 5am without alarm clock
- Uses a thermal scan device to measure inner ear temperature as a 'safety and efficacy check' for various therapies through the day
- Uses a 10,000 lux thermal lamp for light exposure in place of the sun to set his circadian rhythm



- **Eats all his meals between 6 and 11am** which involves 1,977 calories and over 100 supplements including iron + vitamin C
- Checks weight, BMI, fat, visceral fat, muscle, water, bone and heart rate and the air quality in his area
- **5mins of blue light therapy** to keep complexion clear, followed by 10mins of meditation
- Uses a device on his nose to stimulate tear ducts to prevent dry eyes
- Wears a red light cap to combat hair loss
- 30-60min workout



- **A 30-min Heart Rate Variability therapy session** where he uses a specialised device that stimulates the vagus nerve in the ear by sending electric currents to measure heartbeat, stress levels and cardiovascular health.
- In his temperature-controlled bed by 8.30pm and asleep "in three minutes"

### DIET



**6.45am:** Breakfast of protein, nuts and supplements

**9am:** Super veggie meal — whole pieces or pureed

**11am:** Dinner or final meal of the day which is a combination of veggies, nuts, seeds and berries

**Johnson's current pace of aging is 0.69, which means that for every 365 days, Johnson ages 251**

# COP29 a cop-out but three reasons why India should not give up on it

BY INVITATION



ULKA KELKAR

Every winter, like migratory birds, people working on climate change flock to some distant location. This year, it was the Caspian seashore of Baku in Azerbaijan. They don't do this to escape the pollution of north India. They do it because they believe that if all countries come together at the annual climate summit of the UN (called the COP), they will be able to solve the problem of climate change. This has been going on for 29 years.

This year's COP29 started in inauspicious circumstances. The US elected Donald Trump, who will withdraw his country from the Paris Agreement on climate change, just as he did in 2016, meaning that the world's richest economy will not offer any new climate finance. Germany, usually an advocate for European contributions to climate finance, saw its coalition govt collapse.

Experts had estimated the need to raise $2.4 trillion per year for nature and climate, but COP29 closed with a kitty of only $300 billion per year by 2035. This is barely more than the earlier pot of $100 billion per year after allowing for inflation. And it will count not just grants that poor, vulnerable countries need, but also loans that they will have to repay, and money spent by developing countries themselves.

Quite naturally, people might question the benefit of this multilateral process. If rich countries are not paying up, why should we have to answer to anyone? Three developments at COP29 show the relevance of continued engagement for India.

First, many countries announced new targets to cut their greenhouse gas emissions. The UK's emissions are now half of what they were in 1990, and it pledged to cut them by 81% of 1990 levels by 2035. Though it is a developing economy, Brazil announced that it will cut its emissions by at least 59% from 2005 levels by 2035. Indonesia and Mexico committed to reaching net-zero emissions by 2050.

Such announcements send signals to Indian industry about potential markets. For example, with the European Union banning the sale of diesel or petrol cars after 2035 as part of its climate policy, Indian car makers could plan a shift to electric vehicle manufacturing, and Indian micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs) can start pivoting to making electrical components and reskilling their workers.

Similarly, with the new climate finance deal at COP29, multilateral development banks like the World Bank and Asian Development Bank will target their lending to climate-friendly activities, and Indian state govts can prepare project proposals for the needs identified in their State Action Plans on Climate Change.

Second, COP29 agreed on the rules of the international carbon market, which can be a useful source of revenue for projects in India. It adopted common standards for methodologies to accurately measure and credit emission reductions, developed a sustainable development tool for social and environmental safeguards, and found a way to link carbon credit registries across countries.




**SILVER LINING:** Rich countries did not really add to the climate finance kitty, but for Indian industry and govt, there are important indicators for potential markets

This means that Indian companies, MSME clusters, municipalities and gram panchayats will be able to sell carbon credits in three types of markets — the Indian carbon market that is being designed by the Bureau of Energy Efficiency, the voluntary carbon market that already exists, and the international carbon market made possible by COP29. The Indian govt has already published a list of preferred project types that are more expensive and can benefit from international carbon credit revenue — not just solar power, but solar power with storage; not only onshore wind, but offshore wind; and emerging technologies like green hydrogen, green ammonia, sustainable aviation fuel, and carbon capture and storage.

Third, next year's COP30 hosted by Brazil in the Amazon rainforest will give as much priority to nature as to climate. This is important for our country too. For example, as India scales up its solar parks over the next few decades, it will be important to protect biodiversity and people's livelihoods that depend on natural resources. We also have opportunities for behaviour change, such as switching to millets that need less irrigation. And we can reduce food waste — one study estimated almost 1,000 tons of food waste a year in 500 wedding halls in Bengaluru alone.

COP30 is also planning a new treaty for tracing the supply chains of critical minerals like lithium, nickel and cobalt needed for renewable energy, electric vehicles and batteries. There are growing concerns in India about e-waste, mining, and import dependence, and this topic was discussed in India's G-20 presidency last year. We can find value in e-waste and create rural jobs based on a circular economy to extract and process critical minerals.

Like its colourful rainforest birds, perhaps the Brazil COP next year will bring a more vibrant outcome. ■

*Kelkar is executive program director for climate, economics and finance at WRI India. Views expressed are personal.*

# Letter on women COs shows how some Army officers are stuck in a time warp

BY INVITATION



NAVDEEP SINGH

Earlier this week, the media exploded with the contents of a demi-official letter written by a general officer commanding of a corps of the Indian Army to his superior on the subject of women officers. One could have mistaken this for some other era, but the Gregorian calendar was indeed inching towards 2025.

The good general stated that eight women commanding officers were serving under his command and an "in-house" study had been carried out on their performance which showed that "these women officers" lacked tact in interpersonal relations, had an "exaggerated tendency to complain", were "overexerting command", displayed a "misplaced sense of entitlement" with an "overgrown ego", and lacked "empathy" and "compassion". Some more terms such as "over-ensuring a mean façade" (sic) were thrown in. Of course, there was no methodology provided on how this 'in-house' study was conducted —who were the members and respondents, what was the questionnaire, the data, the sample, the empirical analysis, and were experts such as psychologists consulted?

Though the intent, in all probability, was to improve the organisation, the letter is still indigestible on multiple levels. First, studies such as these are meant to be conducted scientifically by professional wings of the defence services and the ministry, such as the Army Training Command, College of Defence Management, and Defence Institute of Psychological Research, not by a motley crew of undisclosed men sitting together in a room exchanging personal opinions on women. Second, painting all commanding officers who happen to be women with the same (broad) brush, throwing loaded terms here and there, is just bizarre. Third, leaders — civil and military — have to be careful and moderated in the language they employ while putting ink to paper, even in confidential correspondence. This is not a casual drawing room conversation but related to one's official role. The written word lasts forever, unlike cold 'November Rain'. Fourth, it has just been a year since women officers assumed command and too early to pass a blinkered verdict on them. Fifth, having women in command is nothing new. They have served as 'Officers Commanding' in exacting circumstances as majors and lieutenant colonels, and just when they take over as 'Commanding Officers' in hitherto male-occupied appointments, proverbial hell breaks loose.

Fascinatingly, most of the cacophony emerges from a section of the officer corps and not from the lower ranks! Even more interestingly, the Central Armed Police Forces, which have a longer tradition of women serving in all ranks including at the border, have never experienced such scorn.



**UNFAIR MOVE:** A bunch of men shouldn't be sitting together to pass judgement on women commanding officers

Obviously, there will be teething troubles as during the times of any policy churn. As we move along, there will come an age when one won't view a soldier through the prism of gender. However, such loaded language gives an opportunity to sections of society, including a minority of serving and retired military staff, to vent their latent ire on their women colleagues with a glum "I told you so" certainty. The comments on social media must be seen to be believed, and the misdirected baseless anger towards women, courts, decision-makers, political executive and senior military brass on this subject is soaked in half-baked knowledge.

Those commenting on women being directly put into combat roles by the courts are totally off the mark since the Delhi high court, and later the Supreme Court, had endorsed permanent commission, and consequently command appointments, for women only in the branches they were already serving as short service officers. The courts had refused to interfere with the policy decision of not inducting them in pure combat arms. The women won the legal battle fair and square as the courts ruled that it was arbitrary for them to be acceptable to serve for 14 years as short service officers but not for 20-plus years as permanent officers in the same branches. This was not 'wokeism' but enforcement of Articles 14, 15 and 16 of the Constitution. Consequently, they were rightly held eligible for command appointments with their male counterparts within the same branches. The complication of delayed and sudden ascension to command roles arose since despite there being no 'stay' by the Supreme Court, the 2010 decision of the High Court was not implemented for more than a decade.

Obviously, there is a lot of learning and unlearning to be exercised by both men and women, and it is nobody's case that women should be given preferential treatment. They must perform, float or sink on the same terms and with the same merit as men, which will happen as things stabilise. It is also well understood that the military is not a social justice experiment, but then gender equality is a work in progress. However, more than the need to address their imagined psychological traits, it would be in the fitness of things to prioritise the sensitisation of their counterparts and senior colleagues, jettison the time warp and re-emphasise the year printed in block letters on the calendar at the back of their office doors.

The saving grace, however, is that such views do not reflect those of the govt and the chiefs of defence services who have made all the right progressive noises for nari shakti to succeed. ■

*Singh is an advocate at the Punjab & Haryana High Court, and co-editor of the upcoming 'In Her Defence: Ten Landmark Judgments on Women in the Armed Forces'*

# MAKE AMERICA BLAND AGAIN



Abhijit Banerjee

TASTING ECONOMICS

I spent my first American Christmas in Bethlehem, Pennsylvania visiting the family of a friend at Harvard. He was genial and easy-going, from a Christian Republican family. They took their religion very seriously, he said. Premarital sex was forbidden; I soon became the friend in whose room he officially slept when his girlfriend was visiting.

I have a few vivid memories from that trip. The pretty little house where all the linen matched, like in a hotel. Roast turkey, that my fresh-off-the-boat Indian palate found bland and dry, and the much-anticipated angel food cake, that turned out to be ultra crumbly but surprisingly bland in a pleasant way. Years later, I discovered that this was because it eschews both butter and egg yolks, the two things that give plain cake its richness.

We went to church. The sermon was largely unexceptionable, other than the recurring demand that 'God bless America', which seemed a tad parochial. There were declarations of concern for those less fortunate, which spilled over into the family's discussion of the many things




Illustration by **Cheyenne Olivier (France)**

**Low-income Americans angry about falling behind blame elites for supporting what they see as anti-worker policies. They see in Trump an ally**

that they were doing to help the needy. What remains with me is the very genuine spirit of generosity and warmth that emerged from those conversations — they seem to genuinely believe that God's love and munificence extended to everyone, even people who might have strayed a bit, and the implied need to do something for them as well.

I never discussed abortion with them, or homosexuality, and I suspect those conversations would not have gone very far, but they were calm and polite and generous (for example, to me, an unapologetic heathen). A bit formal on the first meeting, but there was a softness behind it, a bit like the angel food cake.

This was in 1983. President Ronald Reagan had recently launched his own plan to 'Make America Great Again': less taxes on the rich, less benefits for the poor, stronger businesses and weaker unions, private charities and private prisons, abstinence and an abortion ban.

I thought of that visit after another Republican won the US election, and unexpectedly even carried the state of Pennsylvania. My hosts adored Reagan. Reagan was articulate and affable and gracious, with a rare ability to make the many racist things he said sound reasonable and even sympathetic. He was divorced but had remarried, and seemed to have a stable and loving marriage. He went to church regularly, and 1983 was the year he chose to be the 'year of the bible'. His strength was his All-American blandness, that concealed a ruthless commitment to a right-wing agenda.

Trump is very different: rude and brusque, with a great talent for making the (very) nasty things he says sound even nastier. His racism is overt and extends to all non-white people. He brags about his sexual conquests, claiming that he, as a star, is allowed to physically harass women, and has been very publicly sleeping around while married (allegedly when Melania was pregnant). A jury found him liable for sexual abuse and he is a convicted felon. He occasionally mentions God, but usually to highlight his own semi-divine status. If Reagan was angel food cake,Trump is a stale rusk in a village teashop that has only its hardness to offer.

Both Reagan and Trump were/are machistas, but in very different ways. Reagan thought of himself as a cowboy in a broad-brimmed hat, a role he played in several films (he occasionally confused scenes from a film script with actual history). In his mind's eye, he was tough, but gracious and fair. Trump, despite his elite upbringing, is more of a street-corner bully, a blowhard and a lewd whistler. I disliked Reagan and still blame him for the disastrous anti-poor turn that the US took in the 1980s, whereas Trump, at least in his stated views, is more sympathetic to the US working class (though not to immigrants). But there is a crassness, dishonesty and violence that Trump brings to everything he does and says, that I cannot bear.

Could my hosts (we have lost touch — I don't even know whether they are with us), with their emphasis on good manners, propriety and conservative Christian values, have found in Trump what they loved in Reagan? And yet, a vast majority of conservative Christians said that they intended to vote for Trump and probably did. After all, in his last term, he gave them the judges that removed the right to abortion, and they might have worried that Kamala Harris would try to undo all that. And as it says in the hymn, God moves in mysterious ways, perhaps even to the point of making use of a retrograde.

But hard-core religious conservatives are only about a quarter of the population. What about the rest? Why were they not put off by his violence and narcissism? Why would they expect anything from this supremely self-centered man?

A part of the answer it seems to me is that Trump's one talent is for expressing hate and contempt (possibly because he genuinely doesn't like most people, which could explain why so many of his closest associates eventually turned on him). This is what made him an effective (nasty) boss in 'The Apprentice', the TV show that made him famous. Perhaps voters, angry with their own lot in life, find resonance in the hurtfulness of his words and ignore the content.

Looking from India, the claim that anger is driving American voters might seem puzzling. It is, after all, the most powerful country in the world. Yet, when asked if their country is on the right track, 70% or more Americans say no. The principal complaint seems to be about the economy: in most polls, voters blamed Biden-Harris for the weak economy.

The only problem is that the economy is not weak — it is the strongest in many ways it's ever been. 2024 GDP is substantially higher than what it was projected to be before the pandemic. Employment rates are near their all-time high and real (i.e. inflation-adjusted) wages for production workers and other non-supervisory staff (read lower-level workers) have never been higher, with a particularly steep trajectory in the Biden years. And the biggest increments were among the lowest-paid workers. Why are they complaining?

Perhaps the voters are concerned about the more long-term prospects. It is true that the last 40 years have not been great for the American worker. Reagan was successful in pushing workers down. Real wages fell through the Reagan years and under his Republican successor, George Bush, despite a growing economy. They started to rise in the 1990s, but it's only in 2020 (or perhaps a little earlier depending on how inflation is calculated) that real wages reached levels that the present worker's parents and grandparents enjoyed in the early 1970s. By this time, GDP per capita was twice as high, but almost none of that extra income had trickled down to the working classes.

This is in a country where historically each generation did better than the previous one. To make matters worse, some groups, like low-education male workers, kept falling behind the rest. No wonder lots of low-income Americans (especially low-wage males) are angry, and think something has gone very wrong. And a lot of them blame it on some (somewhat fuzzy) notion of elites, for supporting what they see as anti-worker policies, like globalization, immigration and big tech, though, interesting, not Reaganomics (Reagan remains a hero). They see in Trump an ally. Trump, I think, genuinely resents the elites, for treating him, during his years as a man-about-town, (unsurprisingly) as a corrupt buffoon. Moreover, what makes Trump credible is that he does not behave like the present-day elites. He doesn't finish his sentences, thrives on racist and sexist jokes, boasts about his peccadillos and has contempt for the law. I am absolutely not saying that most non-elites behave in these ways, but I think it so clearly violates the current elite norm that it powerfully signals Trump's difference. This might be why even low-income women believe that Trump is more in their corner than Harris, a representative of the California elite. And for that reason, they are grateful when he spews hate on the elites, on immigrants, on that largely imaginary cabal of 'woke' feminists and gender-fluid people.

If I am right, then there is both bad news and good news. The bad news is that we may be in the trap of low expectations. People in the US, especially poorer people, expect very little from the government, according to polls. They vote for Trump less in the hope that he will do a lot for them, than based on cynicism about the whole project: since governments are mostly useless, why not pick someone who will at least make your (mostly internal) enemies uncomfortable? But then very little will change, and the anger will still be there waiting to be harvested.

The good news is that the rage against the trans and the immigrants and so on may be more against the elite world view that supports them than against them as human beings.

The big news for the world (including India) is that Trump reflects America's crisis and not its greatness. We must not opt for a strong-man because the US now has one — loudmouths and bullies only serve themselves — there is nothing wrong with bland, as long as bland gets the job done. In that spirit let me offer a nice dessert that starts with the (very bland) angel food cake.

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

## RECIPE FOR ANGEL FOOD CAKE

- Sift ¾ cup sugar, 1/8th tsp of salt and 1 cup cake flour very well together. Separate eggs till you have 11/2 cup egg whites (ideally buy just egg whites) and let it come to room temperature. Beat with 1 tsp vanilla essence and 1½ tsp cream of tartar till frothy and beat at high speed, adding 12 tbs sugar, one tbs at a time, till the whites form glossy firm peaks. Fold in the flour with soft hands, 1 tbsp at a time. Pour into a tube pan and bake for 35-40 minutes. Let it cool completely before taking it out of the pan.
- Serve with a berry or mango compote. To make the compote, stew 3 cups of fresh or frozen berries or fresh mango in 4 tbsp orange juice and 6 cardamom pods for 15 minutes, mashing the fruit with the back of a spoon as it cooks. Add sugar to taste, if the fruits are too tart.

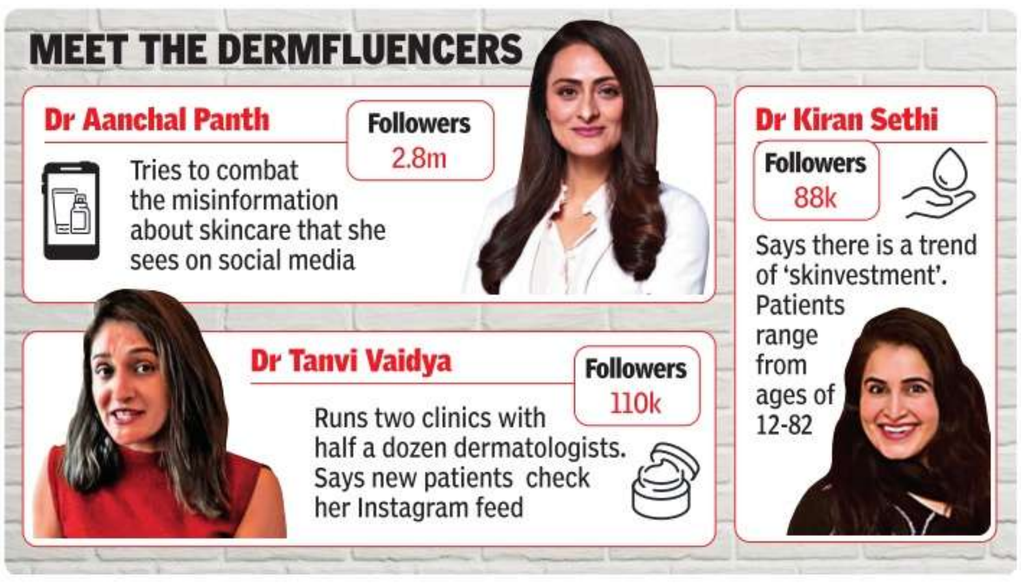


- Serve slices of the cake with a generous serving of the compote.

# Zit, zap, zoom: Dermatology now fave option for medical students

*No crazy hours, few emergencies and a growing clientele that is willing to spend on skincare. Add the chance to be Insta-famous, and you have a hot new PG specialty*

Himanshi Dhawan & Malathy Iyer | TNN




The video for NEET-PG students begins with the clickbaity headline: 'Why you should not take dermatology?' The YouTuber, a top-ranker from the 2023 batch of medical students, starts listing out the reasons he is 'regretting' his choice: an 8-hour work shift followed by 10 hours of sleep, five-star meals and travel opportunities due to plentiful conference invites across India, no emergency calls… If you haven't guessed already, it's a satirical video by Mayukh Hazra, currently studying dermatology as his specialisation in a Kolkata hospital, and having the last laugh as #skincare #glowup #selfcare light up screens across the world.

Once dismissed as the preserve of pimple poppers, dermatology is now among the top five post-graduation specialties for medical students in India. Traditionally, fields like radiology, internal medicine and paediatrics have dominated among aspirants, but there has been a noticeable shift thanks to the irresistible combination of great work-life balance, and a growing clientele willing to spend vast amounts on cosmetic procedures. Internationally and in India, dermatologists have become social media stars, offering skincare tips to millions while recommending their own branded products or endorsing others. This has upped the glam quotient of the profession rather than the typical 'daag-khujli' association.

### Work-life balance

Take Dr Hazra, for instance, who could have opted for any specialisation with an all India rank 29 but chose dermatology so he could continue quizzing, make videos and enjoy work-life balance while doing meaningful work. "It allows you to take time for other things that may interest you like travel or keeping yourself fit. My generation doesn't want to work 70 hours a week like Infosys's Narayana Murthy," he says. Another discouraging factor, he says, is the increasing attacks on doctors who have specialisations like internal medicine. Dr Manjunath Shenoy, president of the Indian Association of Dermatologists, Venereologists, and Leprologists and head of the dermatology department at Yenepoya Medical College in Mangaluru, says one indicator of the interest is the increase in dermatology seats. In Mangaluru itself, the number has increased from 10 to 40 in a decade. "The field is also highly competitive. All the top rankers vie for seats," he says.

Dr Reshma T Vishnani, dermatologist at Kokilaben Ambani Hospital in Mumbai, cites two reasons for dermatology's rise. "First, it's an 'end' field unlike cardiology or neurology where students must first study MD medicine before super-specialising in their field," she says. Second, dermatologists don't have to rush back to hospital at midnight to attend to emergencies. "Unlike a cardiologist or general medicine specialist, I would have an emergency once in 15 days when a patient with a sudden skin allergy is wheeled in," she adds.

**MAYUKH HAZRA,** RANK 29 BUT TOOK DERMATOLOGY

**It allows you to take time for other things like travel or keeping yourself fit. My generation doesn't want to work 70 hours a week**

### Star value

Isya Aesthetics founder Dr Kiran Sethi says that post-Covid, there is a trend of 'skinvestment' or an increasing interest in taking care of your skin. "Patients are willing to spend more time and money on maintaining good skin. The patient age profile has also broadened from 18-50 years to 12-82 years." Dermatologists like Dr Sethi, Dr Rashmi Shetty, and Dr Jaishree Sharad have followers who hang on to their every word, making them no less than celebs themselves.

On two days every month, Thane-based dermatologist Dr Tanvi Vaidya shoots reels for her Instagram page, answering queries on how to acquire that wedding glow, ways to optimise rosemary oil's benefits for hair, et al. Her advisories have grown in popularity over the last four years, helping her gain a follower base of 110k. "New patients tell me they check my Insta page to gauge if I am a doctor who can explain things well," she says. The 33-year-old dermatologist opened her second 'Derma MD' clinic within four years of branching out on her own; her first clinic came up in her parents' existing practice as gynaecologists, but the second rental clinic is her own. "The interest in aesthetics among people has increased," she says. Half a dozen dermatologists work alongside her, and her husband, an internal medicine specialist by training, has taken over managing her practice.

### Dangers of Insta advice

Young people think of beauty as part of self-care, which is not about conforming to external beauty standards but taking care of oneself in a holistic way. The rise of 'skinfluencers' have also helped promote well-being as a lifestyle. But with awareness and celeb endorsements, there has been an increase of 'quackery' as dermatologists describe it. "Last year, we discovered our laser hair removal machines which were always heavily booked had no takers. The treatment was being offered at throwaway prices at a nearby salon. There was no doctor to monitor it, but no one cared," complains a celebrity dermatologist.

The thing that tends to get under everyone's skin is "experts" who use terms like facialists, estheticians, eyelash specialists, and skincare specialists. "Certified expert means nothing. A dermatologist has studied anatomy, physiology, treated hundreds of patients and can prescribe medications accordingly. Most "experts" have a sample size of one — themselves," says Dr Aanchal Panth, who runs Dermafollix hair and skin clinic in Surat. Dr Shenoy agrees, "Our concern is not the competition but quackery. People claiming to be experts are misdiagnosing patients, causing more harm than good." Dr Sethi warns against trying procedures like microneedling at home. "People see an Insta reel and think they can achieve the same result at home. Unfortunately, the cheap fix ends up becoming an expensive, time-consuming and emotionally fraught problem."

With almost three million followers, Dr Panth uses her influence to combat misinformation. "In 2018, I saw influencers putting out videos advising people to use steroid creams for dark circles or fairness. I was horrified and decided that I must give correct information to people," she says. Dr Vishnani, believes there are demerits of too much dermatology on social media. "Some dermatologists mention names of medicines on their social media posts and videos. While this may be fine in the US where medicines are only sold with prescriptions, Indians can pick up any medicine from chemists without any paperwork or medical advice, But people self-medicate and we end up getting cases of people with allergic reactions or contact dermatitis. Also, there are steroids in many topical medicines that one needs to guard against," she adds.

# *Apples to Apple iPhones, how quick commerce changed India*

*The 10-min delivery model had its doubters, but consumers are now shifting even their big spends to these platforms*

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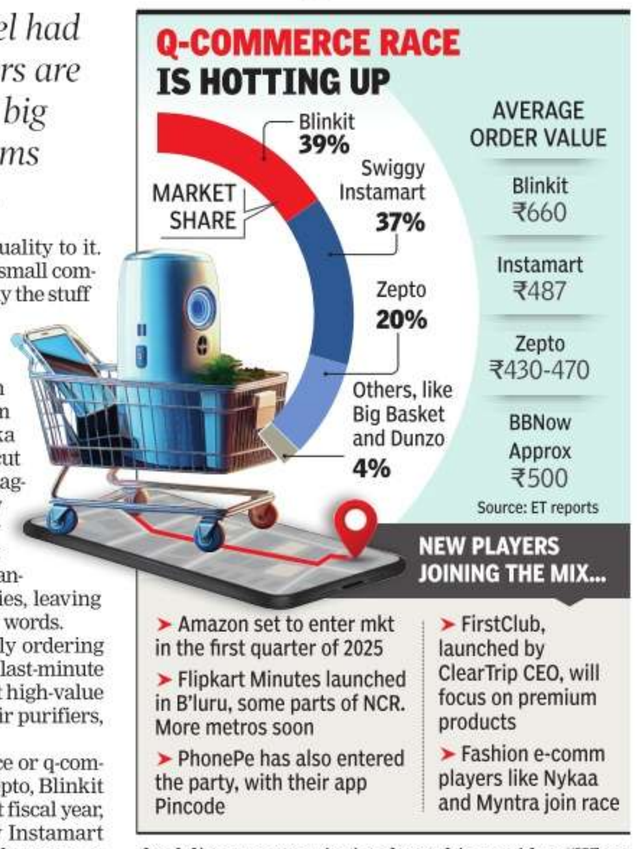


Technology often has a magical quality to it. The idea that we would all carry small computers in our pockets was squarely the stuff of science fiction. The fact that we would use one of these devices to buy stuff without getting up from our sofas would have sounded even more bizarre even a few decades ago. Just a few steps away from the popular children's show 'Shaka Laka Boom Boom' where a child with a bowl haircut could acquire any object he drew with his magical pencil. Thankfully, we do not have to rely on artistic prowess to get the items of our dreams without trips to the market. Not just that, the pandemic lockdown spurred two Stanford dropouts to give us hyperfast deliveries, leaving the 10-minute delivery skeptics to eat their words.

But now Indian consumers are not only ordering grocery staples, late-night chakna (snacks), last-minute Diwali kurtas and passport-size photos, but high-value items like iPhones, gaming consoles and air purifiers, as well as beauty and wellness items.

Overall FMCG sales on quick commerce or q-commerce platforms like Swiggy Instamart, Zepto, Blinkit and BBNow have doubled to 35% in the last fiscal year, the Economic Times reported. A Swiggy Instamart spokesperson says, "Non-grocery categories have grown 3-4x in just six months, with rising demand for electronics, home and kitchen items and toys. Big-ticket items like vacuum cleaners, food processors and soundbars are contributing significantly to this growth."

Shivaraj Jayakumar, practice leader, Consumer and Internet at consulting firm Praxis Global Alliance, says there are three reasons for this diversification of categories. "First, to become the one-stop solution for customers' shopping needs. Two, to add more monthly active customers and three, to drive up average order values (AOVs)." It's paying off. In FY24, there was a 15% increase in AOVs — the average amount users spend per order — for q-commerce platforms, a RedSeer Consulting report finds.

**A Swiggy Instamart spokesperson says, "Non-grocery categories have grown 3-4x in just 6 mths. Big-ticket items like vacuum cleaners, food processors and soundbars are contributing significantly to this growth"**

Convenience, of course, is a big part of the draw. Struggling with the Delhi air, Adya Singh decided to buy an air purifier. Twenty minutes later, it had arrived. Others, however, wonder if something is lost in our quest for convenience. Delhi-based student Aueshic Das bought a PS5 on a q-commerce platform earlier this year but wasn't very satisfied. "I was nearing my 25th birthday and had been planning on buying a gaming console for a year but hadn't got around to it," Das says. While the speed was unparalleled, it took away some of the sheen of making a big purchase. "Usually, I would make a day out of it by going to the store and celebrating later. This didn't feel special."

Other users have their own strange encounters. A Delhi shopper posted on social media about how Swiggy Instamart dropped off a condom order at his office reception in a transparent bag. Development professional Mili (name changed) bought a vibrator on Blinkit one night. When her partner went to answer the door, the delivery partner insisted on taking a video. "When I opened the package, the bag was torn. It looked like someone had tried to rip it open. You expect some discretion when you order these things," she says.

A Zepto representative says that people are now comfortable with spending more money on q-commerce. The decision to list electronics stemmed from wanting to "be able to offer whatever our users demand from us and is feasible as part of the quick commerce delivery operations". There are logistics that make some items unfeasible for q-commerce. "We don't list TV, refrigerators etc. The electronics listed on our platform are delivery partner bag-friendly — phones, accessories, speakers and the likes," says the representative.

A Swiggy Instamart spokesperson details the change in operations because of pricier items. "With a presence in 43+ cities, we've introduced larger dark stores and heavy-duty racks, to hold more assortment and bulkier items. Additionally, we are building a dedicated bulk delivery fleet of vehicles to efficiently deliver larger items to customers. We also offer an easy and quick returns process and we are actively working to expand this feature to more categories and use cases." Blinkit is hoping to have 1,000 dark stores in FY25, up from around 791 that they currently have, while Zepto plans to add 200 more dark stores, ET reports.

Jayakumar adds that changes to supply chain and delivery are inevitable. "Increasingly, as players expand their assortment, the need to have larger dark stores will emerge. You will see quick-commerce players doing two things to manage," he says. "One, split orders from multiple dark stores in a micro market with one main dark store which can hold up to 25K stock keeping units (SKUs) and many smaller dark stores holding up to 10K SKUs. So eventually, you will see order splitting happening with fast-moving items reaching in 10 min with slower moving SKUs/ SKUs space coming to your doorstep in 30 min."

Just as streaming platforms have changed how long we're willing to wait to watch a new movie, our online shopping expectations are evolving as q-commerce services do. The bottom line, of course, is whether for quick commerce players, this will be a quick route to profitability.


Priyanka with Toshani

Times Parenting #ShotOfTheDay
Scan this QR code to participate

# Meet the 'warrior moms' fighting for clean air

*From raising awareness to reporting violations, they are urging authorities to save their kids' lungs*

**Neha Bhayana**








**CAN'T BREATHE EASY:** Parents like Dr Mehak Segan (with cupcakes at a demonstration in Delhi on Nov 14), Purnima Raghunath (with daughter Meera) and Ruchika Sethi are creating awareness about the impact of pollution

Winters always evoke fond memories for Delhi-based Purnima Raghunath. She remembers playing catch in the park near her home every evening and going for family picnics to Lodhi Garden, India Gate or Qutub Minar where they indulged in chaat, ice-cream and loads of games, soaking up the warmth of the winter sun. For Raghunath's nine-year-old daughter Meera, however, winters seem rather dull. Smog has been choking Delhi every winter since 2016 when Meera was barely one so she is mostly cooped up indoors. Due to the recent 'airpocalypse', she was attending classes online for almost two weeks and spent her evenings reading books or watching TV. If at all she stepped out, it was with a mask. "Our kids are growing up in a strange time. The other day Meera said 'Mamma, the sky is grey with a neon ogre sun'. I felt so sad to hear this because I clearly remember the bright, blue sky of Delhi winters during my childhood," says the 43-year-old.

Desperate to give her daughter a normal childhood, Raghunath last year joined Warrior Moms, a collective of mothers who are demanding clean air and climate action for kids. Raghunath, who is a filmmaker, is also making a documentary to depict how polluted air is "silently killing" the residents of the capital, especially children who breathe twice as fast as adults. "I am not fighting just for my kid but for every kid's basic right to breathe clean air. There is a whole generation at stake," she says.

Warrior Moms, founded by 10 women in 2020, is now a network of almost 2,000 moms across the country. These moms are campaigning to raise awareness about the ill-effects of air pollution and pushing govts to implement measures to improve the air quality. "The air our kids breathe (in Delhi) is so polluted that its impact on their health is equivalent to smoking 20 cigarettes daily. This is not an environmental issue, it is a health crisis, and we need the government to tackle it immediately," says Bhavreen Kandhari, one of the founders of Warrior Moms. "We mothers were fighting lonely battles for our kids' right to breathe. We have come together to make our voices heard," she says.

Kandhari, who used to work as a copywriter, became a full-time climate activist after seeing how her twin girls, born pre-maturely weighing just 600 grams each in 2003, struggled with chronic colds and coughs during their growing years. "Their runny noses would magically clear up the moment we went on a holiday. This made me realise it had to do with the air," she says.

The past fortnight has been particularly busy for the Warrior Moms as they are working round the clock to demand real solutions to the annual smog in the capital. On Wednesday, more than 30 moms gathered near the Parliament to ask MPs to save their kids' lungs. On Nov 14, the collective also went to the Ministry of Health to show the health minister the findings of a survey they conducted to assess the impact on the health of kids. Based on interactions with chemists across Delhi, the moms have found that there has been a 40% increase in sales of respiratory medications and aids such as nebulisers. They also found that every third customer who bought a nebuliser was a parent buying it for a child. "We all knew that the situation is bad, but the findings show us the extent of the damage," says Dr Mehak Segan, who headed the study. A public health expert, Dr Segan was aware of the ill-effects of air pollution but it really started bothering her more when she became a mother in 2019. Her son had a tough time during his first winter and no amount of medications and nebulisation relieved him of the persistent cough. This became an annual challenge and now her 18-month-old younger son is facing the same. "I hate that I don't allow my kids to go out. My five-year-old keeps looking outside the window and now that the visibility is slightly better he is insisting on going to the park to play. How can I tell him that the air is still dangerous?" she says.

The Warrior Moms feel the govt's decision to introduce Graded Response Action Plan (GRAP)-IV restrictions or switch schools to online mode is simply like trying to get temporary relief from a fever by giving paracetamol or trying to calm a cough with a lozenge. "This is not a long-term solution, and it does not address the cause," says Dr Segan. "Doing classes on a screen not only hurts kids' eyes, it can also adversely impact their cognitive and social skills. Besides, as a working mother, it gets so tough to manage with online schools." Dr Segan wishes the govt would be proactive rather than reacting when the smog engulfs the city.

The anti-pollution moms have been holding demonstrations, signing petitions and organising awareness drives to educate the masses about air pollution. They are also trying to bust common myths regarding air pollution such as making people realise that the presence of PM 2.5 (particulate matter which poses serious risk to humans) rather than the AQI level is the correct indicator of air quality. Jyoti Pande Lavakare, who co-founded non-profit 'Care for Air' in 2013, feels the govt is not taking action because people are not asking for it "strongly enough." "The awareness regarding air pollution is still limited to the educated. We need to spread awareness till it becomes a topic of discussion at the nukkad chai ki dukaan," she says. After years of living under California's blue skies, Lavakare was shocked when she moved back to Delhi to be closer to her roots in 2009. Her kids, then eight and ten, started suffering chronic colds and coughs and she realised almost every kid in their class had a nebuliser at home.

The Warrior Moms also act as pollution guardians of their own neighbourhoods. The group has created manuals for members, so if someone spots a tree being cut in the neighbourhood or sees waste being burnt or a construction site not following norms, they should know what steps to take to report the violation. "People circulate messages on WhatsApp but don't bother to file complaints. We have been pushing citizens to file complaints so the issues get noticed," says Kandhari.

Complaining is what Ruchika Takkar Sethi has been doing for years with the aim of improving air quality in Gurugram. Sethi, who is a Warrior Mom and a founder-member of Citizens for Clean Air, has been encouraging residents of Gurugram to call the fire brigade and file complaints if they see waste being burnt. The group also posts videos of waste fires on their FB page 'Stop Burning Waste, Let Our Kids Breathe' to get the attention of authorities.

Sethi took a vow to fight for clean air when she realised that her daughter Manavi would suffer more (she is a child with special needs and prone to bronchitis) every time waste was being burnt near their residential complex. Sethi admits she started sniffing waste fires "like a loony woman" and would report them to the concerned authorities. Three years and much campaigning later, two local civic departments banned the burning of waste in 2014.

Manavi is 20 now and Sethi is still waiting for the day when she is confident her daughter is breathing fresh air. She feels sad that families in the capital have accepted the annual smog as part of life. "The other day I spoke to my 15-year-old twin nephews and asked them how they felt about the current situation. They just said that 'we can't even feel angry anymore because it's been eight years of the same situation every winter'. They want to just move out of Delhi as soon as they can," she says, adding that she felt so bad that teens were already sounding so cynical.

For the upcoming assembly elections in Delhi, the moms have kickstarted a campaign with the hashtag saansnahitohvotenahi.

**TOLL OF POLLUTION**

**1.5 lakh** children under 14 died due to air pollution in India in 2019, with Delhi, Punjab and Haryana experiencing the highest numbers, according to a study by the Collaboration for Air Pollution and Health Effect Research, India, led by IIT Delhi and AIIMS




# Toddler throwing tantrums? No, he's not a 'bad' child

*To avoid having your own meltdown, you need to understand why your kid is acting up, writes* ***Luke Coutinho***



We've all been there...those moments when your child's crankiness becomes overwhelming, and you feel like you're running on empty. Maybe it's been a long day, and all you want is a moment of peace. But here comes the meltdown — the tears, the frustration, the "why now?" questions racing through your mind. I want to tell you that it's okay. The truth is that these cranky moments are often your child's way of expressing what they can't yet put into words. Tantrums may test your patience, but at their core, they're often a child's way of expressing needs. For younger children especially, tantrums aren't about being 'bad'. It may be a cry for connection, a need for safety or just a sign of tiredness. As a father myself, I dealt with tantrums in the early stages and realised that behind every tantrum was the need for attention. When we start to understand the needs behind those tears and tantrums, we can approach these moments with more calm, more patience, and yes, even a little compassion — for ourselves and our children.

## What makes kids cranky

**Nutrition:** What children eat has a direct impact on their mood and energy. High-sugar foods and processed snacks can lead to spikes in blood sugar, causing hyperactivity and irritability, followed by energy crashes that leave them feeling cranky

Consider offering snacks that stabilise their blood sugar and keep their energy steady. Fresh fruits, whole grains, and nuts are excellent options that provide lasting energy without mood swings. Making these simple swaps can help them feel more balanced and content throughout the day.

**Sleep:** Ever noticed your child is more prone to meltdowns after a rough night's sleep? There's a reason behind it. Sleep is essential for emotional regulation, and children without enough rest are more likely to be irritable. Studies have highlighted the importance of adequate rest for children's emotional stability. Pre-schoolers should ideally get 10 to 13 hours of sleep and school-aged kids need 9 to 11 hours. Creating a calming bedtime routine can make a difference. Simple rituals like reading a story, dimming the lights, and setting a consistent bedtime can set the stage for restful sleep, making mornings (and the whole day) smoother and tantrum-free.

**Busy schedules:** For working parents, balancing jobs, family, and life's demands often feels like a juggling act. Most parents are doing their best, but busy schedules can sometimes leave children feeling overlooked. While nannies and caregivers can be invaluable in supporting families, they can't replace the emotional connection children need from their parents. Even if you're balancing a packed schedule, small moments count. Kids thrive on meaningful connections, even if it's just a few focused minutes. Try finding small, consistent moments to bond — a few minutes of eye contact during dinner, a quick check-in before school, or a story at bedtime.

**Digital overload:** Excessive screen time can over-stimulate kids, leading to mood swings and short attention spans. Screens trigger dopamine release, creating a dependency on constant digital excitement. A study conducted on 4,900 children in China found that the side effects of too much screen time include mood swings, irritability and sleep disorders among others. To help, establish 'screen-free' times — such as an hour before bed — to encourage calming, real-world activities.

**Lack of predictability:** Children thrive on routines. A consistent daily rhythm filled with balanced play, rest, and meaningful connection provides a sense of security that reduces crankiness and improves emotional stability. When children know what to expect, they feel safer and more in control which fosters a calm state of mind. Creating simple, comforting rituals can also enhance well-being. Try a 'wind-down' time before bed that might include reading a story, gentle stretching, or sharing a 'high and low' moment of the day.

## How to calm your cranky child

**Love and safety:** When kids feel genuinely seen, valued, and safe, it is reflected in their behaviour. A study on PubMed highlights that children with secure attachments are less likely to experience stress and are able to regulate their emotions better, even in challenging situations. The good news? Reinforcing these needs can be simple. Try starting each day with a warm hug, take a moment to meet their gaze during conversations and create small rituals like bedtime stories.

**Eye contact and listening:** When a tantrum erupts, kneel at your child's eye-level and give them your full attention. Every child is different, and so is every tantrum. Our first response is usually to shut it down immediately. However, the best approach is to give your child the gift of listening to them. Don't berate them; they're not in the frame of mind to understand when emotional. Instead, hold your child, cuddle and talk to them. Small acts of connection make kids feel loved, safe, and important.

**Redirection and choices:** Shift their focus by engaging them in a new activity or offering simple choices. Giving them options — like choosing between two toys — empowers them and helps reduce frustration.

**Positive reinforcement:** Praise calm behaviour with genuine, specific affirmations or small rewards. Positive affirmations encourage them to repeat that behaviour in the future. Every child is unique, so it might take a little trial and error to discover what works best. The goal is to provide steady guidance, helping them learn to express themselves in ways that keep the household — and their hearts — a little more peaceful.

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**When a tantrum erupts, kneel at your child's eye-level and give them your full attention. Our first response is usually to shut it down immediately. However, the best approach is to listen**

## How to calm yourself

**Take a breather:** If you're feeling frustrated or have had a rough day, step away for a moment before reacting. A short break to decompress can make a huge difference in responding calmly.

**Seek professional support:** Don't hesitate to reach out to parenting experts or mental health professionals if you're struggling. Expert guidance can equip you with strategies to handle challenging behaviours.

**Prioritise personal time:** Spend time with your spouse or partner to feel connected and aligned. Supporting each other strengthens your ability to parent together effectively. If you are a single parent, dedicate some time to unwind and decompress; confide in family or close friends who form your support system.

**Avoid reactive responses:** Focus on destressing first so that your responses are intentional, not reactive, which helps in guiding children through their emotions effectively.

*Coutinho is an integrative lifestyle expert and father to a 10-year-old*

# *'I didn't hide my cancer scars. I want my kids to see life's tough'*

*From playing the girl next door in television soap 'Tumhari Disha' in 2004 to battling cancer in early motherhood, actor* ***Chhavi Mittal****'s journey mirrors the quiet strength and fortitude of the characters she once portrayed. Now a digital content creator, Mittal spoke to* ***Sneha Bhura*** *about teaching her children the language of love, and why it is important for moms and dads to be equally involved*

**■ You've had a successful career in television. How did your role as a mother influence your professional choices?**

Around 2012, I had signed a new show for Star Plus as the lead when I found out I was pregnant. The first person I informed was my producer, and together we decided it wouldn't make sense to join a show only to take a sabbatical a few months later. That marked the point when I began transitioning out of active television, after working non-stop for years. Motherhood significantly influenced my career choices. I wanted to be a hands-on parent, and didn't want to miss any of my daughter's milestones. My husband and I wanted to do everything together — from vacations to shopping, dinners and lunches. Eventually, he also chose to take a break from his career as a television director, and we started our own venture. Thankfully, we took the right steps, and it became successful enough for us to pursue it as a career.

**For the first two years, I struggled to balance working and being a mother without feeling guilty about leaving my daughter behind**

**■ What challenges did you face in the early stages of motherhood?**

The biggest challenge for me was suddenly becoming a stay-at-home mom. I was used to working 30 days a month and lead a very active lifestyle. We had been married for seven years before deciding to have kids. I believed that once the baby arrived, I would go back to work. But when my daughter Areeza (12) was born, everything changed. I couldn't imagine leaving her even for a minute. For the first two years, I struggled to balance working and being a mother without feeling guilty about leaving her behind. I eventually started doing advertising work as a model, which allowed me to ease back into work while still being present for my daughter.

**■ In 2022, you had a breast cancer diagnosis and surgery. With kids at home, how did you handle the emotional and physical toll?**

Areeza was nine then and my son Arham was two. The whole time was like a blur. To be honest, you don't really think about anything, you just do what the doctors tell you and take one day at a time. I called my mom from Delhi to come and stay with the kids while I was away, as I knew my husband would be busy with me.

**■ How did you break the news to your kids?**

I gave my daughter the C-section surgery analogy, reminding her how they took out her baby brother from my stomach, and then stitched me up and sent me home to recover. In this case too, they'll open my breast and take out the cancer, then stitch me up and send me home, I told her. She used to take me down to the garden for a walk when I was recovering from my C-section. I said, "You do the same again — hold my hand, take me for a walk, and before we know it, I'll be out of the woods." Then, she had a smile on her face. My son was too small, so I just told him that I fell down and got hurt. I explained that whenever he came to hug me, he should be careful not to come too strong on my right side. Every time he came close, he would ask me, "Which is your right?" and I would tell him. Then, he would hug me on the left. I think that phase helped him become more sensitive and empathetic.

Both my kids have seen my scars, my stitches. As a mother, I felt it was important to normalise this. Cancer is becoming so common nowadays. I wanted to make this conversation normal at home, not treat it as taboo. I never felt shame in showing the scars on my breast, back or armpit to my children. I think openness has made a big difference to my kids. A few days ago, I had back pain and told my daughter, "I'm so sorry. I'm so weak." She said, "No, you're very strong. In fact, you're the strongest person I know." I had tears in my eyes.



**■ Pictures of you kissing your children on the lips had sparked debate online. How do you navigate such criticism?**

What people think on social media has rarely ever bothered me. As for kissing my kids on the lips, it's simply my love language. I want them to understand that hugging, for example, is a love language — a way to express affection in the best possible way. Parents often end up shouting at their kids, showing them anger, frustration or even exposing them to arguments. If they are subjected to those emotions, it's only fair that kids are shown an abundance of love.

**■ Is your husband an equal parent?**

My husband is equally involved. I think it is very important for parents to share the work of raising children, especially when both are working. When I was in the hospital, the kids didn't feel like something huge was missing in their lives. It's not as if I'm the only one bathing them, feeding them, or addressing their needs and concerns. They are just as comfortable with him as they are with me, and I think that's crucial for a child's growth.

**■ What advice would you give to mothers juggling a career and health challenges?**

I think it's important to involve your children in everything you go through in life. Showing them the tough patches is about normalising life for them. When you involve them in the ups and downs, they not only feel happy — they feel responsible, important, and valued. You should see the pride on a child's face when they feel they've contributed, like when they bring their mother a bottle of water because she can't get out of bed. Why would you want to deprive them of that sense of responsibility and joy?

**■ What do you hope your children will take away from your journey as a parent, a woman and a cancer survivor?**

I hope they understand that nothing is ever bad enough to give up on life. Just because you're going through a bad phase doesn't mean a good one isn't around the corner.

**■ What are your rules regarding sleep, sugar and screen time?**

My children go to a Waldorf school, based on Austrian philosopher Rudolf Steiner's educational theory. We have committed to ensure that the kids don't have screen time till the age of seven or eight. We don't take them to malls, play zones, or let them play video games as these things overstimulate them. Instead, we focus on outdoor activities like going to the beach or the garden. My daughter Areeza isn't fond of chocolates or sweets because we didn't expose her to them in her early years. But my five-year-old, a lockdown baby, got exposed to sugary treats when I started baking during the pandemic. Now he loves sugar, which I regret because sugar is so addictive. I started sleep training my children from day one. My son has a strict bedtime of 7-7.30 pm, and my daughter has a slightly later schedule as she is older. Sleep is non-negotiable in our home — many would call me a Hitler because of it, but I'm fine with that.

**When I was in the hospital, the kids didn't feel like something was missing in their lives. They are just as comfortable with their dad as they are with me**

**■ How would you define your parenting style — strict or soft? What are some of your fears?**

I'd say it's a mix of both. I'm very strict about sleep schedules. But I'm softer when it comes to some of their preferences. My daughter is growing up and sometimes wants to try make-up. I'm not a fan of it at her age, but I feel that if I'm going to agree with her eventually when she throws a tantrum, then I'd rather agree in the first go. I don't want that tantrum. But I also have firm boundaries — like when she wanted to attend the Dua Lipa concert, I knew it was a no, so there was no conversation about it.

My biggest fear is what will happen when my kids start going out on their own, especially at night, and when they start driving. I don't get much sleep already. I think it'll be worse when that phase comes. I also worry about Areeza as she's very sensitive. I don't want her to experience heartbreak, fall into bad company or make friends who might hurt or betray her. But I know she'll go through all those things, as we all do.

# Dozens of Syrian soldiers killed as rebels take Aleppo

## Islamist Group Hayat Tahrir al-Sham Leads Attack

**Amman (Jordan):** Syrian army said Saturday dozens of its soldiers were killed in a major attack by rebels who swept into the city of Aleppo, forcing the army to redeploy in the biggest challenge to President Bashar al-Assad in years.

The surprise attack, led by the Islamist group Hayat Tahrir al-Sham, was the boldest rebel assault for years in a civil war where frontlines had largely been frozen since 2020.

The war, which had killed hundreds of thousands of people and displaced many millions, has ground on since 2011 with no formal end, although most major fighting halted years ago after Iran and Russia helped Assad's govt win control of most land and all major cities. The rapid advance on Aleppo came just days into a surprise rebel offensive launched on Wednesday against the Assad regime.

Aleppo had been firmly held by the govt since a 2016 victory, one of the war's major turning points, when Russian-backed Syrian forces besieged and lay waste to rebel-held eastern areas of what had been the country's largest city.

"I am a son of Aleppo, and was displaced from it eight years ago, in 2016. Thank God we just returned. It is an indescribable feeling," said Ali Jumaa, a rebel fighter, in television footage filmed inside the city. Acknowledging the rebel advance, the Syrian army command said insurgents had entered large parts of Aleppo.

After the army said it was preparing a counter attack, airstrikes targeted rebel gatherings and convoys in the city, pro-Damascus newspaper al-Watan reported.

Images from Aleppo showed a group of rebel fighters gathered in the city's Saadallah al-Jabiri Square, a billboard of Assad looming behind them. Images filmed Saturday showed people posing for photos on a toppled statue of Bassil al-Assad, late brother of the President. Fighters zipped around in flatback trucks and milled around in the streets. A man waved a Syrian opposition flag as he stood near the historic citadel. REUTERS

AFP



**CONFLICT ZONE:** Anti-govt fighters prepare to topple the equestrian statue of Bassil al-Assad, late brother of Syrian President Bashar al-Assad, in central Aleppo, Saturday. Bassil died in a car crash in 1994

### Russia: Dangerous escalation in Syria

Russian foreign minister Sergei Lavrov held phone calls with his Iranian and Turkish counterparts on Saturday expressing concerns over the "dangerous" escalation of hostilities in Syria, Moscow said. Lavrov held separate calls with his Turkish and Iranian counterparts a day after Russia launched air strikes in aid of its ally Syria. He and Turkish top diplomat Hakan Fidan "expressed serious concern" and affirmed the need to "coordinate joint action to stabilise the situation". AFP

### Israeli strike in Gaza kills charity workers

An Israeli airstrike on a car in the Gaza Strip on Saturday killed five people including employees of World Central Kitchen. The charity was "seeking more details" after Israel's military said it targeted a WCK worker who had been part of the Hamas attack that sparked the war. WCK said it was "heartbroken" by the airstrike and that it had no knowledge anyone in the car had alleged ties to the Oct 7 attack. AP

## Trudeau: Had excellent conversation with Trump

**West Palm Beach (US):** Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau said Saturday he had an "excellent conversation" with Donald Trump at his Mar-a-Lago club after the president-elect's threat to impose significant tariffs on two of America's leading trade partners raised alarms in Ottawa and Mexico City. It was unclear, as Trudeau headed back to Canada from Florida, whether the conversation had alleviated his concerns.

A person familiar with the details of the leaders' hastily arranged meeting Friday night said it was a "positive wide-ranging dinner that lasted three hours." The official, who was not authorised to discuss the matter publicly and spoke to AP on condition of anonymity, said topics included trade, border security, fentanyl, defence, Ukraine, Nato, China, the Mideast and pipelines, as well as the G7 meeting in Canada next year.

### Trump threatens 100% tariff on BRICS countries

President-elect Donald Trump has threatened to impose a 100% tariff on the BRICS group nations if they undercut the US dollar. "We require a commitment... that they will neither create a new BRICS currency, nor back any other currency to replace the mighty US dollar or, they will face 100% tariffs," Trump wrote on his Truth Social website. AP, AFP

# Mom accused US def secy pick of mistreating women

## Defends Son Now, Says 2018 Letter Sent In Rage

**Sharon LaFraniere & Julie Tate**

**Washington:** The mother of Pete Hegseth, Trump's pick for secretary of defense, wrote him an email in 2018 saying he had routinely mistreated women for years and displayed a lack of character. "On behalf of all the women (and I know it's many) you have abused in some way, I say ... get some help and take an honest look at yourself," Penelope Hegseth wrote, stating that she still loved him.

"I have no respect for any man that belittles, lies, cheats, sleeps around and uses women for his own power and ego. You are that man (and have been for years) and as your mother, it pains me and embarrasses me to say that, but it is the sad, sad truth."

Penelope Hegseth, in a phone interview with The New York Times on Friday, said that she had sent her son an immediate follow-up email at the time apologising for what she had written. She said she had fired off the original email "in anger, with emotion" at a time when he and his wife were going through a very difficult divorce.

In the interview, she defended her son and disavowed the sentiments she had expressed in the initial email about his character and treatment of women. "It is not true. It has never been true," she said. She added: "I know my son. He is a good father, husband." She said that publishing the contents of the first email was "disgusting."

Questions about Pete Hegseth's treatment of women have emerged in the weeks since Trump chose him, a veteran of the Iraq and Afghanistan wars, to lead the Pentagon. The issue could be a subject of scrutiny during Senate confirmation hearings.

Reports of his infidelity have focused attention on his character and leadership, particularly for a civilian overseeing the military, where active-duty service members can be subject to prosecution for adultery under the Uniform Code of Military Justice.

Another issue is how the senators will view a rape complaint against Hegseth filed to police in Oct 2017 after an incident at a political conference in Monterey, California. No charges were ever brought and the complainant has not come forward publicly. Hegseth has said he was falsely accused by a woman with whom he had a consensual sexual encounter. He secretly paid her a settlement a few years later — only because, according to his lawyer, he wanted to protect his job as weekend anchor at Fox & Friends.

Penelope Hegseth emailed her son on April 30, 2018, during a turbulent period in his life. He was in the middle of a contentious divorce from his second wife, Samantha, the mother of three of his children. Samantha Hegseth filed for divorce after her husband impregnated a co-worker, part of a pattern of adultery that dated back to his first marriage.

Pete Hegseth's mother wrote in the email that she was upset about his treatment of Samantha, writing: "For you to try to label her as 'unstable' for your own advantage is despicable and abusive. Is there any sense of decency left in you?"

"She did not ask for or deserve any of what has come to her by your hand," she said.

"Neither did Meredith," Penelope Hegseth added, referring to his first wife.

Hegseth forwarded a copy of her email to Samantha the same night she sent it to her son. The NYT obtained a copy of the email from another person with ties to the Hegseth family. Hegseth told the daily on Friday she would consider providing with her apologetic follow-up email to her son but did not immediately do so. NYT

AP



Steven Cheung, a spokesperson for Trump, said in an email the NYT was "despicable" for publishing "an out-of-context snippet" of Penelope Hegseth's exchange with her son Pete (in pic)

# US OKs $385 million arms sales to Taiwan

The United States has approved the proposed sale of spare parts for fighter jets and radar systems as well as communications equipment to Taiwan, in deals valued at $385 million, a US agency said Friday. While Washington does not have official diplomatic relations with Taipei, it remains the island's most important backer and biggest arms supplier.

The proposed sale of the F-16 and radar system parts consists of equipment in existing US military stocks and was worth an estimated $320 million, the Defense Security Cooperation Agency said in a statement, with deliveries estimated to start in 2025.

"This proposed sale serves US national, economic and security interests by supporting the recipient's continuing efforts to modernise its armed forces and to maintain a credible defensive capability," the DSCA said. "The proposed sale will improve the recipient's ability to meet current and future threats by maintaining the operational readiness of the recipient's fleet of F-16 aircraft." The deals were approved by the state department, with the DSCA providing the required notification to Congress Friday. AFP

AFP



In this handout photo taken and released by Taiwan's defence ministry on Saturday, F-16 jets escort the plane of Taiwan President Lai Ching-te who embarked on a trip to visit Taiwan's allies in the , with a stopover in the US, drawing the ire of Beijing

### Russia, China carry out joint air patrol

Russian and Chinese strategic bombers conducted a joint air patrol over the Sea of Japan, East China Sea, and western Pacific Ocean, Russian defence ministry said Saturday. Russian Tu-95MS and Chinese H-6K bombers conducted an eight-hour patrol accompanied by fighter jets from both countries. The Russian aircraft took off from and landed at an airfield in China. REUTERS

# Robbers kill T'gana student in Chicago

**Sushil.Rao**
@timesofindia.com

**Hyderabad**: A 22-year-old Indian student from Telangana's Khammam district was shot dead by two assailants at a store in Chicago, USA, late Friday. Sai Teja Nukarapu, who was a part-time cashier at the store, died on the spot.

The armed assailants entered the store and forced Sai Teja to hand over the cash in his register before shooting him. His uncle here said they were informed about the murder after 5.30am (IST) Saturday.

After completing his BBA from a Hyderabad college, Sai Teja went to the US on June 15 to pursue an MBA at Chicago's Concordia University. His kin said he had completed his shift at the store Friday night and was about to leave for the day when a co-worker requested Sai Teja to stay back and cover for him so he could leave a bit earlier. Minutes later, the attackers shot the student dead.

Sai Teja's friends in the US told his family in Khammam that he was killed despite not resisting the robbers. "He was shot even after handing over the cash. The assailants must be severely punished. An innocent life has been lost," the victim's uncle said, adding that the family is rattled by the loss.

The victim's father, Koteshwar Rao Nukarapu, and mother Vani live in Khammam town in Raparthinagar. His elder sister lives in the US. Neighbours of the family said DyCM Mallu Bhatti Vikramarka and Khammam MP R Raghuram Reddy were talking to the external affairs ministry to help repatriate the body. Telugu Association of North America (TANA) is also helping in the initiative to bring back the body, but it may take at least a week as the post-mortem before all formalities are completed, relatives said.

### LIVES LOST

**July 12, 2010** | Hyd student N Arun Kumar shot dead in Connecticut while working at a store. He was pursuing Masters from Stratford Univ

**July 6, 2018** | Warangal student Sharath Koppu (25) shot dead in a restaurant in Kansas City

**May 6, 2024** | Hyd student Aishwarya Thatikonda killed in mass shooting at a Texas mall

**June 22, 2024** | Gopalakrishna (32) from Bapatla in Andhra Pradesh, pursuing an MS, shot dead in Dallas at a store in Arkansas where he was a part-timer

## Georgian Prez declares parl 'illegitimate'

**Tbilisi:** Pro-EU Georgian President Salome Zourabichvili called the govt illegitimate on Saturday and said she would not leave office when her term ends in Dec.

The South Caucasus country was thrown into crisis on Thursday, when Prime Minister Irakli Kobakhidze's Georgian Dream party said it was halting European Union accession talks for the next four years over what it called "blackmail" of Georgia by the bloc, abruptly reversing a long-standing national goal.

EU membership is overwhelmingly popular in Georgia and the freezing of application talks triggered large protests in the country, which has the aim of EU membership written into its constitution.

Zourabichvili and other govt critics say an Oct 26 election, in which Georgian Dream won almost 54% of the vote, was fraudulent, and that the parliament it elected is illegitimate. REUTERS

# Amitav Ghosh: Electric cars won't solve climate change

**Naomi Canton**

**London:** Kolkata-born New-York-based author Amitav Ghosh says renewable energies, carbon credits and electric cars will not solve climate change and has called for the world to focus on local community solutions instead.

"There is no pathway through this mess. If we look at recent COP, all the absurdities have now been laid bare, and when Greta Thunberg says it's blah blah blah, I think she is right," he said, speaking at the Global Cultures Institute's annual lecture at King's College London on Thursday night.

He said the West was obsessed with statistics and macro-driven data and all the literature on climate change — overwhelmingly produced by the West — is largely centred on technical and economic issues. "The only solution on offer – a quick changeover to alternative energy — we all know that's not going to stop the extractivism, or the battle for resources, already present in many conflicts," he said.

**"Militarisation is the single most ecologically destructive human endeavour**
**AMITAV GHOSH**
Author



"Everyone having an electric vehicle is not going to solve the problem. It just seems absurd. How many emissions are there in making the electric vehicle and in making the batteries?"

"Climate change is a global problem but manifests locally and that is where my interest lies. How do people at a local level respond? In Bangladesh, they have been disseminating information about climate change for years and the population is very well informed and they have their own solutions. They haven't given up. Resilience mitigation, in the end, won't come from technological solutions, it will come from community ties and from knowing your land," he said.

"If there is a collapse scenario, who would you rather be with? The nerd who has a calculator or the farmer who knows how to run land? India has always been a water stressed region and yet farmers have been able to wrest a crop from that soil for millennia. Every farmer who can do that carries an entire library in his head – which can't be bought."

"Militarisation is the single most ecologically destructive human endeavour. But research on the environmental impact of militarisation is non-existent," he said.

"During the Iraq war, the US military was consuming 1.3 billion gallons of oil annually – this was more than the annual consumption of Bangladesh. It could be said that conflict and national rivalry are the fundamental drivers of climate change, yet these issues are rarely discussed," he said.

*UK correspondent for TOI*

## Nepal rules out loans for BRI projects

**Kathmandu:** Nepal on Saturday said it is not in a position to take loans for projects under China's Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) and will instead primarily rely on grants, moving forward based on mutual consensus among all stakeholders.

Speaking to reporters at Tribhuvan International Airport upon returning from a three-day visit to China, foreign minister Arzu Rana Deuba sought to clarify Nepal's position on the implementation of BRI projects.

BRI is a pet project of Chinese President Xi Jinping to further the global influence of China with investments to build infrastructure projects. AP

# Major Canadian news outlets sue OpenAI in new copyright case

**Matina Stevis-Gridneff**

**Toronto:** A coalition of Canada's biggest news organisations is suing OpenAI, maker of the artificial intelligence chatbot ChatGPT, accusing the company of illegally using their content in the first case of its kind in the country.

Five of the country's major news companies, including the publishers of its top newspapers, newswires and the national broadcaster, filed the joint suit in the Ontario Superior Court of Justice on Friday morning.

While this is the first such lawsuit in Canada, it is similar to a suit brought against OpenAI and Microsoft in the United States in 2023 by The New York Times, claiming copyright infringement of news content related to AI systems. The two companies have denied the suit's claims.

In response to the Canadian lawsuit, a spokesperson for OpenAI said, "We have not yet had the opportunity to review the allegations," but added "our models are trained on publicly available data, grounded in fair use and related international copyright principles that are fair for creators and support innovation."

The Canadian outlets, which include the Globe and Mail, are seeking what could add up to billions of dollars in damages. They are asking for 20,000 Canadian dollars, or $14,700, per article they claim was illegally scraped and used to train ChatGPT. They are also seeking a share of the profits made by what they claim is OpenAI's misuse of their content, as well as for the company to stop such practices in the future. "OpenAI regularly breaches copyright and online terms of use by scraping large swathes of content from Canadian media to help develop its products, such as ChatGPT," the news organisations said.

"OpenAI's statements that it is somehow fair or in the public interest for them to use other companies' intellectual property for their own commercial gain is wrong," they added. "Journalism is in the public interest. OpenAI using other companies' journalism for their own commercial gain is not. It's illegal." NYT

Reuters




The Canadian outlets are asking $14,700 per article that they claim was illegally scraped and used to train ChatGPT

## Dhaka optimistic about India ties, wants concerns addressed

**Ahsan Tasnim**

**Dhaka:** Bangladesh interim govt foreign affairs adviser Md Touhid Hossain expressed optimism on Saturday about the prospects of building a strong relationship between Bangladesh and India despite the challenges posed by recent developments even as he acknowledged that while the previous Hasina govt made efforts to address New Delhi's concerns, Dhaka's concerns remain unresolved.

While saying that unresolved issues such as water-sharing and border killings still require attention, Hossain emphasised that both countries must take a realistic approach considering the post-Aug 5 situation. "We are hopeful that we can establish a good relationship with India, protecting the interests of both nations," Hossain said during a roundtable discussion titled "Bangladesh-India Relations: Expectations, Barriers, and Future".

Hossain pointed out the lack of progress on the Teesta treaty, which has been a long-standing concern for Bangladesh. "We expect progress on this front," he said.

He also expressed his country's strong stance against border killings, a recurring issue at the Bangladesh-India border. "These killings are unacceptable," he stressed, saying that this is the only border in the world where people are shot dead though a war situation does not exist. He also underscored the need to foster mutual trust.

## DAILY PLANET

AFP



**WELCOMING ANOTHER X'MAS:** Pilgrims visit the Grotto where it is believed that Jesus Christ was born, inside the Church of the Nativity during the celebrations marking the beginning of Advent leading to Christmas, in the occupied West Bank city of Bethlehem on Saturday. In many countries, the first day of Advent often heralds the start of the Christmas season

### Researchers to study DNA from dung to save Laos elephants

Once abundant in the forests of Laos, Asian elephants have been decimated by habitat destruction, gruelling labour in the logging industry, poaching and scarce breeding opportunities. But conservationists are hoping DNA analysis of elephants' dung will help them track both captive and wild tuskers, so they can secure a healthy genetic pool and craft an effective breeding plan to protect the species. Laos — once proudly known as "Lane Xang" or "Land of a Million Elephants" — has between 500 and 1,000 of the animals left, just one-third of the population two decades ago, according to conservation group WWF-Laos.

**Vietnam Parl OKs $67bn high-speed rail project:** Vietnam will start building a $67 billion high-speed rail network to connect its northern and southern provinces in 2027, as the govt plans large infrastructure projects to support its economic growth ambitions. The National Assembly on Saturday approved the govt's proposal to build the 1,541km express railway, which will cross 20 cities and provinces with a designed speed of about 350km per hour. The project is expected to be completed by 2035. BLOOMBERG

**Russia launches Kondor-FKA radar sat into orbit:** Russia successfully launched the Soyuz-2.1a rocket from the Vostochny Cosmodrome of Russia's Far East early Saturday, placing the Kondor-FKA No. 2 radar satellite into its designated orbit. Equipped with advanced radar technology, the Kondor-FKA satellites enable all-weather, round-the-clock Earth observation. Unlike optical satellites, the Kondor-FKA series can penetrate cloud cover and operate in darkness, making them indispensable for a variety of tasks.

# *World's pioneering tech cop's making her exit*

**Adam Satariano**

**Brussels:** Margrethe Vestager, the European Union antitrust enforcer who has been the world's foremost critic of the tech industry, recently walked through her Brussels office wondering what to do with the stuff she had accumulated during a decade in that role, which ends late this month. At one point, she paused to lift a sculpture of a hand holding up its middle finger.

"What should I do with this?" Vestager, 56, asked. The middle finger, she has said, was a reminder not to let critics get you down.

Vestager, a Danish politician who was the rare EU official to become known globally, has faced plenty of detractors over the years. When she was appointed to police antitrust in 2014, she became one of the first govt officials in the world to aggressively bring cases and fines against Google, Apple and Amazon for conducting illegal business practices and trying to block competition.

At the time, the US digital titans were growing quickly and were highly popular for their innovations. Vestager grappled with backlash for her actions, with tech leaders saying she was stymieing Europe's economy by scaring off startups from the region.

But as Vestager closes out her era in Brussels, regulating the tech industry has become more mainstream. Thanks to her, Europe is now widely seen as the pioneer of the toughest laws against tech. US regulators have in recent years followed Europe by bringing antitrust lawsuits against Google, Apple, Meta and Amazon. Regulators in South Korea, Australia, Brazil, Canada and elsewhere are also taking on the tech giants. "It is extremely satisfying," Vestager said, adding that she cried when the EU's highest court gave her an unexpected victory in Aug in a protracted tax-avoidance case against Apple. "People thought that we were crazy because 10 years ago, Big Tech was untouchable."

Even in Washington, Vestager has gone from outcast to trailblazer. In Sept, when she made a final visit to her counterparts at the US justice department, staff members there packed a room to hear her speak and gave her a standing ovation as she exited.

Vestager is now preparing to take a role at a university in Denmark. Teresa Ribera Rodríguez, a Spanish official, will take over as the EU top antitrust regulator on Dec 1.

Vestager said a new European law, the Digital Services Act, gave EU authorities critical new powers to regulate social media platforms. She said internet companies did not always appreciate that European laws differed from those in the United States over what constituted illegal speech, including racism, antisemitism and terrorist content. "If a platform is used to undermine democracy, well, then clearly it is not in compliance with the Digital Services Act," she said. She said the new law was needed to take on companies, including X and Telegram, that didn't do enough to police their platforms for harmful and illicit material. NYT

NYT



**FACE THAT REINED IN BIG TECH:** Margrethe Vestager, outgoing antitrust regulator at the European Union. In 2018, US president Trump reportedly said she "really hates" America

# TIMES SPORT

SUNDAY TIMES OF INDIA, MUMBAI | DECEMBER 1, 2024




HUBERT HURKACZ ADDS LENDL, MASSU TO HIS COACHING TEAM AHEAD OF 2025 CAMPAIGN

FORMER HOLLAND STRIKER RUUD VAN NISTELROOY APPOINTED MANAGER OF LEICESTER CITY



# DING FAILS TO PRESS

## Reigning Champ Draws With Black; Below-Par Gukesh Heads To 6th Game On Even Ground


**Amit.Karmarkar**@timesofindia.com


Ding Liren got the draw that he wanted with black pieces. But the manner of it raised certain questions and there are no clearcut answers to them.

After a 40-move draw in the fifth game in Singapore on Saturday that took less than three hours, the 14-game World Chess Championship match between challenger D Gukesh and reigning world champion Ding stands at 2.5 points apiece.

The Chinese world No. 23 will play with white pieces in the sixth game on Sunday before Monday's rest day. It was the second successive draw and the first game of the series where Gukesh wasn't decisive with white - he had lost the opening game and won the third.

After playing well for most part of the game and defusing possible threats to his position, Ding seemed to have Gukesh in trouble. But he did not press to gain a more concrete advantage in the knight, bishop, rook and pawns endgame.

That prompted a sharp response from legendary Judit Polgar during the Chess24 webcast. She said it seemed that Ding had pre-decided that he would draw with black pieces and was not sharp enough – at least to press harder for a win -- when the opportunity presented itself.

Of course, she also sugar coated it, saying she is not aware about his mental state, energy and confidence level.

Gukesh implied at the press conference that his position could have been difficult to defend had he played 25.b3 instead of 25.f3. He also colourfully described that he "hallucinated" and "blundered". But he did not explain his choice of going for a position which did not maximise his strength, and the fact that he also underestimated black's counterplay during the critical phase.

Before the start of the match, it was generally believed that queenless games would bring the endgame grind into the picture, but it would also blunt Gukesh's middlegame prowess. The 18-year-old world No. 5 allowed the queen exchange easily on Saturday before the 10th move. Of course, the idea was to deny black a chance to castle as the white queen had to be taken with the king.

FIDE WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP SINGAPORE 2024

But Ding showed his prudent choice of manoeuvring, in this phase. He took his king back to the back rank, exchanged one rook and brought his two knights into the game. Gukesh did show some aggression with a g3-g4-g5 push. But that also meant he had to reroute the knight with its three successive moves. And after giving away that knight for bishop (for a relatively clear path to e-pawn), he seemed to have missed Ding's 23...Nd3.

Later, Gukesh implied that he did not miss it but did not understand its wider implications. At that point, the computer made a major shift: it predicted 36% chances for Ding win and only 6% for Gukesh (with 58% for a draw). With the black pawn coming to d3, Gukesh had to find the correct defensive resource. And Ding allowed that easily, which led to the remaining rooks being exchanged.

After the dust settled, it was clear that with just the opposite-coloured bishops and Gukesh having an extra pawn (5 vs 4), was not going to be enough for any decisive headway.

The players repeated moves thrice instead of agreeing to a draw despite making the time control (agreed draw are allowed only after 40 moves).

Both players didn't face any time trouble. They had about 55 minutes each for the 20 moves before the time control. Though Ding consumed an excessive amount of time for two obvious moves, it didn't have any wider implications.

Earlier, the 'exchange variation' (3. exd5) against Ding's French defense raised some eyebrows. The first game was played in the same opening but in Classical, Steinitz variation.



FIDE

**DEEP THOUGHT:** The Ding-Gukesh showdown heads for a third draw. The scores are 2.5 points apiece




**GAME 5 MOVES:** 1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.exd5 exd5 4.Nf3 Nf6 5.Bd3 c5 6.c3 c4 7.Bc2 Bd6 8.Qe2+ Qe7 9.Qxe7+ Kxe7 10.O-O Re8 11. Re1+ Kf8 12.Rxe8+ Kxe8 13.Bg5 Nbd7 14.Nbd2 h6 15.Bh4 Nh5 09 16.Re1+ Kf8 17.g4 Nf4 18.Bg3 Nb6 19.g5 hxg5 20.Nxg5 Bd7 21.Ngf3 Re8 22.Ne5 Bxe5 23. dxe5 Nd3 24.Bxd3 cxd3 25.f3 Nc4 26.Nxc4 dxc4 27.Re4 Bc6 28. Rd4 Bxf3 29.Kf2 Bc6 30.Rxc4 Rd8 31.Rd4 Rxd4 32.cxd4 Bd5 33.b3 Ke7 34.Ke3 Ke6 35.Kxd3 g6 36.Kc3 a6 37.Kd3 Kf5 38.Ke3 Ke6 39.Kd3 Kf5 40.Ke3 Ke6. Game Drawn

"I REALISED I BLUNDERED BUT I DON'T KNOW HOW IT HAPPENED. MY POSITION ALMOST COLLAPSED. I BLUNDERED BUT IT WAS OK. I WAS CONFIDENT I WOULD HOLD ON."

**"I JUST SHOULD HAVE GONE FOR THE ROOK'S TRADE AND THE GAME WOULD HAVE BEEN A DRAW ANYWAY. I AM NOT SURE WHY THE OPPONENT DID NOT PLAY (A BISHOP MANOEUVRE) THAT I WAS VERY WORRIED ABOUT."** —D Gukesh

# Torre, a lone force of nature

## Asia's first Grandmaster happy with continent's chess surge

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Eugene Torre, who became Asia's first chess GM in 1974, has said that the continent getting an equal footing in the 64-square game with Europe and America is a healthy sign for the sport.

Speaking to the FIDE webcast during the Gukesh-Ding World championship match in Singapore on Saturday, the 73-year-old from the Philippines said that players of his generation used to struggle to play any kind of decent international tournaments as they were not organised in Asia.



TORRE

**"We had to develop both brain muscle and physical muscle to carry books to tournaments since we didn't have computers. China was sleeping. We woke them up in 1975 with a Friendship Match and return match in the Philippines."**
—Eugene Torre

Coming from a chess-loving family, Torre went to Europe in 1973 for a year. And though he missed the elusive GM norm to begin with, the historic GM title was completed at the Nice Olympiad the following year. It took 14 more years for another Asian (V Anand) to earn a GM title.

"We had to develop both brain muscle and physical muscle to carry books to tournaments since we didn't have computers," said Torre with a smile, "China was sleeping. We woke them up in 1975 with a Friendship Match and return match in the Philippines."

Besides winning the silver medal on the top board at the 1974 Olympiad, Torre has some astounding performances to his credit in the biennial team event. Aged 61, he defeated Nigel Short in 2012 Olympiad in Turkey. And at 65 years, he scored 10/11 on the third board in 2016 at Baku.

Torre had an association with the great Bobby Fischer. When the American played a Rematch with Boris Spassky in Yugoslavia in 1992, he hired Torre as his second. "He was comfortable with my character and my country was not politically involved. He knew that I wouldn't be a secret agent," said Torre. "I was more of a companion to him during the Rematch and gave him peace of mind. It was more of that (than chess)."

Torre claimed that compatriot and boxing great Manny Pacquiao had invited him to his home to play chess "as he could not sleep after his bouts."

Torre, who is an Appeals Committee member for the Singapore match, said, "I cannot and I am not rooting for anybody. Both India and China are very close to my heart."

# Pakistan agrees to hybrid model for CT, wants same for ICC events hosted by India in future

## Cricket Should Win, But With Respect For All, Says PCB Boss Naqvi


**Arani.Basu**@timesofindia.com


**New Delhi:** After a month of back-and-forth discussions on the ICC Champions Trophy venue, hosts Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB) on Saturday climbed down to agreeing to a hybrid model in which India will play their matches in Dubai in Feb-March. However, **TOI** understands that the PCB has put across a few demands before the International Cricket Council (ICC) while paying heed to Indian cricket board's (BCCI) decision to not play India's matches in Pakistan due to security reasons.

Sources said that the PCB has asked for a hybrid-for-hybrid solution to subsequent ICC tournaments to be played in India till 2031. Incidentally, India is supposed to host three men's ICC tournaments and one women's ICC World Cup in this period. India will co-host the T20 World Cup with Sri Lanka in 2026 and Bangladesh will be co-hosts for the ODI World Cup in 2031. The ICC Champions Trophy in 2029 will be solely hosted by India. The women's World Cup is due to be held in 2025.

"Cricket should win, that's most important but with respect for all. We are going to do what's best for cricket. Whichever formula we go for, it would be on equal terms," PCB chairman Mohsin Naqvi responded to a query if they have agreed to the hybrid model and thought of boycotting travel to India in future.

"My effort is to ensure that there is no one-sided system. It shouldn't be that we travel to India and they don't come to our country. The idea is to settle it once and for all on equal terms," he added.



**"My effort is to ensure that there is no one-sided system. It shouldn't be that we travel to India and they don't come to our country. The idea is to settle this issue once and for all on equal terms"**
—Mohsin Naqvi, PCB CHAIRMAN

**TOI** has learnt that PCB has also suggested a bigger share from ICC revenue as a compensation. Currently, BCCI gets 38 per cent of ICC revenue share while PCB gets less than six per cent. However, it is learnt that ICC had offered a compensation value over and above the hosting fees. It is unlikely that the ICC will agree on increasing PCB's revenue share just on account of agreeing to hybrid model. Other countries' boards will not agree to cutting their share and it would have to borne by BCCI alone.

ICC sources told **TOI** that BCCI and ICC were firm on their stand to play the Champions Trophy in a hybrid model or PCB would be in danger of losing the hosting rights altogether. BCCI has not committed to any of the demands yet. It is expected that the schedule for the tournament will be worked out in the coming week.

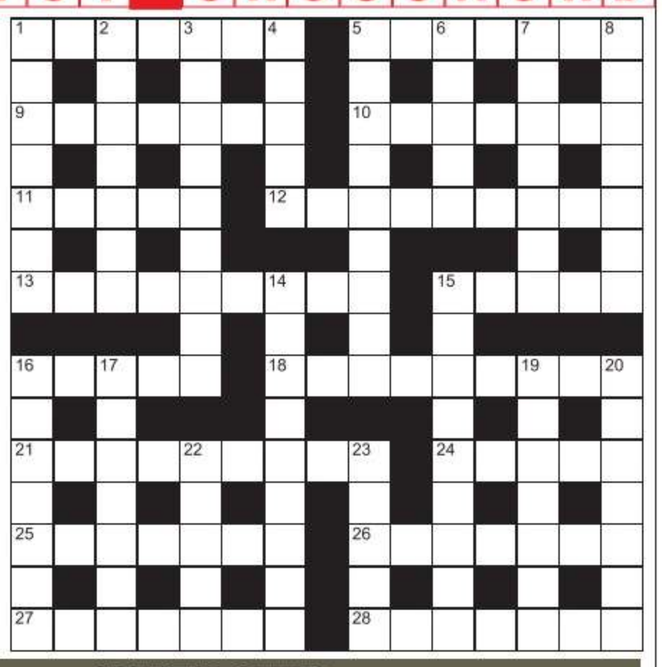
BCCI's incumbent secretary Jay Shah is due to take charge of ICC as its independent chairman from Dec 1. BCCI wanted this matter to be resolved before Shah assumed office at the ICC.

With India co-hosting the two men's World Cups, Pakistan is most likely to play their matches in Sri Lanka and Bangladesh. The final of the tournaments are set to be played in India. A call on the women's World Cup and the next Champions Trophy will be taken in due course.

# THE TOI CROSSWORD

**CROSSWORD No. TCC#0196**

The **TOI Crossword contest** is on a short break, but the crossword itself will continue to be featured in The Sunday Times of India, so that you can continue to relish the challenge every week. **Stay tuned!**



The Times of India CROSSWORD EVERY SUNDAY

## CRYPTIC CLUES

**Across**

1 Stop being loyal (7)
5 Upset girl burst into tears (7)
9 Being anxious in the saddle gets drunk (7)
10 Shy sect in trouble cuts down (7)
11 In a way quite small, but totally delightful (5)
12 Stay to drink and drink (9)
13 With bowl manage to beg (9)
15 A wild shot but a fine musketeer (5)
16 German currency between banks? (5)
18 Ships carrying the right pennants (9)
21 Put earth over the seed say - then pray! (9)
24 With time a small work becomes a major one (5)
25 Moving home (7)
26 A tortuous swindler (7)
27 A doctor ruled out, his duplicity seen through? (7)
28 Revised tale with a revolutionary ending (7)

**Down**

1 Imprisons and reduces to silence (5,2)
2 Old Greek hunter is made to work to a great age (7)
3 I get tea on free treat (9)
4 Can't bear inordinate haste (5)
5 Paper said to come out and fade away (9)
6 Verbal approval (3-2)
7 Remove all traces (7)
8 Way out writers in French restaurants (7)
14 Caught sight of rescinded order (9)
15 A nuclear physicist who does dissecting? (9)
16 It is run on American lines (7)
17 One kept in during school interval (7)
19 He may give a seat to someone standing (7)
20 Marked cards shuffled with hesitation (7)
22 Festivity involves five in a lively dance (5)
23 Spare one of the crowd (5)

## QUICK CLUES

**Across**

1 Cripplingly expensive (7) 5 Feeling of uneasiness (7)
9 Humiliating criticism (3-4) 10 Guideline (7)
11 Make fun of (5) 12 Completely (5,4) 13 Poverty-stricken (9) 15 Apply medical care to (5)
16 Myth (5) 18 Easy source of a loan (4,5)
21 Of highest quality as investment (4-5) 24 Senior (5)
25 Withdraw (7) 26 Do away with (7) 27 Witchcraft (7)
28 Lading (7)

**Down**

1 Said to be (7) 2 Weeping (2,5) 3 Separately (2,3,4)
4 Burn superficially (5) 5 Emblem of Canada (5,4)
6 Non-professionals (5) 7 Concentrated (7)
8 Hearing range (7) 14 Ugly (9) 15 Prominent (2,3,4)
16 Arithmetical calculations (7) 17 Reinforce (7)
19 Everlasting (7) 20 Badly affected (4,3)
22 Obliterate (5) 23 Restrict growth of (5)

## SOLUTIONS TO LAST WEEK'S CROSSWORD

CRYPTIC

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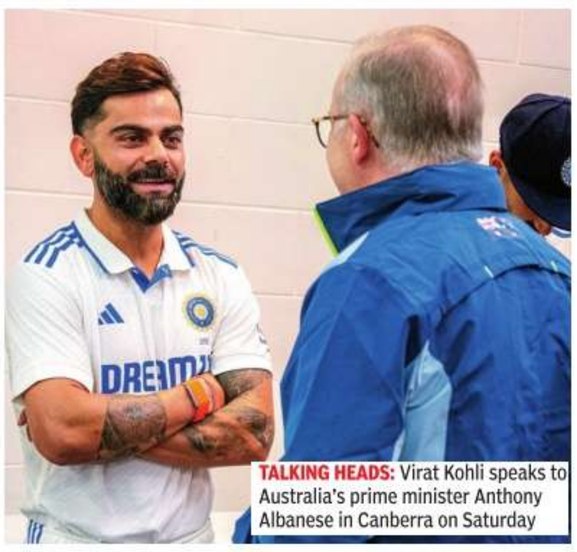
TOI Games — Enjoy a host of engaging puzzles and games every day. Play now! Scan theQR code or visit **toi.in/games**



**TALKING HEADS:** Virat Kohli speaks to Australia's prime minister Anthony Albanese in Canberra on Saturday

# Day One of pink-ball warmup washed out

**Canberra:** Unrelenting rain forced the abandonment of the first-day's play of the two-day practice match between India and Prime Minister's XI here on Saturday, robbing Rohit Sharma and Shubman Gill of some much-needed Pink ball game time ahead of the day-night second Test against Australia at Adelaide.

The teams have agreed to play a 50-over-a-side match on Sunday at the Manuka Oval, weather permitting.

However, the day might have come as a dampener for captain Rohit, who had skipped the first Test at Perth to welcome a baby boy into his family, ahead of the Pink Ball Test, starting from Dec 6.

Though he has had couple of extensive net sessions with Pink ball, facing some quality bowlers in a real-match situation holds a different value, considering India's last day-night Test was against Sri Lanka in March 2022 in Bengaluru.

Gill had to sit out of the first Test because of a finger injury and the top-order batter is expected to walk back into the XI. PTI

# Hazlewood ruled out of 2nd Test

Adelaide: Pacer Josh Hazlewood was on Saturday ruled out of the second Test against India — a day-night match — starting here on December 6 with a "low grade left side" injury, Cricket Australia announced.

Australia are trailing 0-1 in the five-match Border-Gavaskar Trophy after a 295-run shellacking in the first Test at Perth.



"Josh Hazlewood has been ruled out of the match with a low grade left side injury. Hazlewood will remain with the group in Adelaide to prepare for the remainder of the series," the CA said in a media release.

Uncapped pacers Sean Abbott and Brendan Doggett have been added to the Australian squad for the Adelaide Test.

"Sean Abbott and Brendan Doggett have been brought into the Australian men's squad for the second NRMA Insurance Test match against India in Adelaide.

"Abbott and Doggett join Beau Webster as squad additions for Adelaide," the release said. PTI

# SA drub SL, strengthen WTC final chances

**Durban:** South Africa wrapped up a 233-run win over Sri Lanka and medium-pacer Marco Jansen finished with 11 wickets in the first Test on Saturday.

Sri Lanka were set an improbable 516 target and started the fourth day in a deep hole at 103-5. They were bowled out for 282, hastened by the dismissal of Dinesh Chandimal, who led the resistance with 83.

After Chandimal was out caught and bowled by Gerald Coetzee, Sri Lanka's last three wickets folded for 11 runs in the next six overs.

Jansen took the last two wickets for 4-73 in the innings and 11-86 in the match for his maiden 10-for in his 14th Test.

South Africa, trying to reach their first World Test Championship final, moved up to second on the table, behind India and above Australia. The Proteas are unbeaten in seven Tests since February, winning six.

"The conversation (about the WTC) has been there, we are not too loud about it. It will come," South Africa captain Bavuma said. "Our focus needs to be more internally, what we have been doing as a team and control that, let whatever happens happen," he added. AP

**Brief scores:** South Africa 191 & 366/5 dec (Stubbs 122, Bavuma 113) beat Sri Lanka 42 & 282 (Chandimal 83, Dhananjaya 59, Jansen 4-73) by 233 runs

## ENGLAND ON VERGE OF WRAPPING UP FIRST NZ TEST

**Christchurch:** A sustained seam attack by Chris Woakes and Brydon Carse following a belligerent batting effort saw England on the verge of wrapping up the first Test at stumps on Day 3 in Christchurch on Saturday.

New Zealand were 155-6 at the close, ahead by just four runs and with only four wickets remaining. Daryl Mitchell was not out 31 with Nathan Smith on one. England made 499 in their first innings, an imposing 151-run lead, led by Harry Brook's 171. New Zealand were hurting at the fielding errors with Brook adding 153 after he was first dropped on 18. AFP

**Brief scores:** New Zealand 348 (Williamson 93, Phillips 58*, Carse 4-64, Bashir 4-69) and 155 for 6 (Mitchell 31*, Smith 1*) lead England 499 (Brook 171, Stokes 80, Pope 77, Henry 4-84) by four runs

## SNAPSHOTS

### Sindhu, Sen in title round

PV Sindhu and Lakshya Sen cruised to the women's and men's singles finals in the Syed Modi International Super 300 tournament in Lucknow on Saturday. Top seed Sindhu beat compatriot Unnati Hooda 21-12, 21-9, while Lakshya defeated Japan's Shogo Ogawa 21-8, 21-14. PTI

### Las Palmas stun leaders Barca:

Las Palmas shocked La Liga leaders Barcelona 2-1 on Saturday. Sandro Ramirez sent the visitors ahead early in the second half and although Raphinha hammered home an equaliser, Fabio Silva struck to claim three points. AFP

## ACTION TODAY

**CHESS:** World Ch'ship, Game 6 2.30pm (Fide YT)
**CRICKET:** PM XI vs India Day 2, 9.10am (Star Sports); SMAT T20s: 11am & 4.30pm (JioCinema); WI vs B'desh 2nd Test 8.30pm (FanCode)
**FORMULA ONE:** Qatar GP: 9.30pm (FanCode)
**FOOTBALL:** ISL: 7.30pm (JioCinema); EPL: 7pm & 9.30pm (Star Sports),

# PATIL, BOUNCERS AND AN INNINGS FOR THE AGES

## BRADMAN'S PRAISE AND PASCOE'S RUE, FORMER INDIA BATTER RECALLS HIS EPIC 174 AT ADELAIDE

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**Mumbai:** The picturesque Adelaide Oval, the venue for the second Test of the Border-Gavaskar Trophy from Dec 6, holds plenty of special memories for fans.

When India toured Australia for the first time in Jan 1948, Vijay Hazare scored a century in each innings (116 and 145) against "Bradman's Invincibles." In Dec 2003, Rahul Dravid scored a double century (233) and 72 not out, while current India chief selector and former paceman Ajit Agarkar took 6/41 as the duo starred in India's historic four-wicket win in the 'City of Churches.'

Almost 43 years ago, Sandeep Patil delivered a knock for the ages at this scenic venue. Known for its long straight boundaries, short square boundaries, and reputation as Australia's best batting wicket, the Adelaide Oval provided the stage for Patil's unforgettable innings.

In Jan 1981, during the second Test of the series, Australia, powered by Kim Hughes' 213 and Graeme Wood's 125, amassed a formidable 528 runs. In response, India was in trouble at 130/4 before Patil led a spirited fightback. Patil delivered a counter-attacking innings of 174 off 240 balls, laced with 22 fours and a six. Taking on a fearsome Australian pace attack featuring Dennis Lillee, Len Pascoe, and Rodney Hogg, Patil's knock became the highest individual score by an Indian batsman at Adelaide—until Dravid's 233 surpassed it years later.

During his memorable innings, Patil added 108 for the fifth wicket with Chetan Chauhan, who scored 97 and 147 for the sixth wicket with Yashpal Sharma (47). India went on to make 419. Patil's knock helped India wrest a draw.

The brilliance of Patil's innings lay in the context—he was coming into the Test after sustaining injuries to his head, inflicted by bouncers from Australia's fast bowlers during the first Test at Sydney. In the first innings at Sydney, batting without a helmet, Patil had reached 65 when, just before the tea break on the first day, he was struck on the throat by a delivery from Hogg. Undeterred, he continued to bat without a helmet, only to be hit over the right ear by a bouncer from Pascoe in the first over after tea.

Soon after getting struck, Patil collapsed at the crease, fell unconscious, and had to retire hurt. He was stretchered off the field and sent straight to a hospital. Though still unwell, he batted in the second innings at the insistence of his captain Sunil Gavaskar as India struggled to avoid an innings defeat.

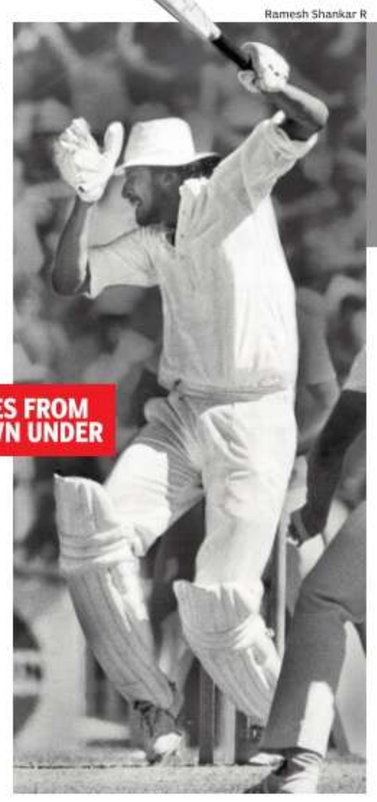
Shaken after that incident, Pascoe played only three more Tests and retired from the game at the age of 32. "It was so sweet of him (Pascoe) to come to the hospital the next morning, before the day's play, to see me, and not only that, after he hit me on my ear, he never bowled a bouncer to anyone. I only met him once at the Malaysia Sixes tournament for a brief 'hello' and 'Hi'," Patil recalled while talking to TOI on Saturday.

After the 'strikes' from the Aussie pacers on his head, Patil realised that he and his batting colleagues in the Indian team needed helmets—an almost alien concept to the Indian batsmen till then—to protect themselves from the Aussie 'pace barrage.' It must be remembered here that there was no limit on the number of bouncers allowed in an over.

"After I got hit on the head in the first Test at Sydney, I introduced the concept of a helmet to the Indian team. Except Sunil (Gavaskar), the entire Indian team wore helmets from that Test onwards," Patil recalled. "The late Anshuman (Gaekwad) too was also hit by (Michael) Holding on the West Indies tour (at the Sabina Park in 1975-76) but then helmets were not made and not available," Patil recalled.

TALES FROM DOWN UNDER

Ramesh Shankar R



**LEFT STAGGERING:** Sandeep Patil was hit on his right temple whie attempting to hook a Len Pascoe delivery

> **After I got hit on the head in Sydney, I introduced the concept of a helmet to the Indian team. Except Sunil (Gavaskar), the entire Indian team wore helmets from that Test onwards."**
> **—Sandeep Patil**

What made his hundred against Australia special for Patil was that amongst the spectators was an all-time legend like Donald Bradman, who later personally congratulated the Mumbaikar for his courageous knock. "Not only did Sir Donald Bradman watch my 174-run knock at the stadium, but he also witnessed my century against South Australia in a tour game at the same Adelaide venue before that Test match. When I was batting on 150 during the Test, Bradman came to our dressing room to meet me and said: 'Loved to watch you bat again.' It meant the world to me," Patil reminisced fondly.

"In the first Test of that series in Sydney, it was Sir Garfield Sobers who greeted me during tea time when I was batting on 65 and praised my (batting) approach before I got hit on the first ball after tea. So, I had the pleasure of meeting (and being complimented by) the two 'Sirs' of cricket in a span of two weeks," the Mumbaikar remembered.

Patil had shown that he was ready for Australia's fearsome pace challenge when, in the early tour matches of India's 1980-81 Australian tour, he scored 116 against South Australia, which included Rodney Hogg, and 60 and 97 against Queensland which had Jeff Thomson, Geoff Dymock and Carl Rackemann. Patil recalled his century against South Australia: "That hundred came against Hogg & Co. without a helmet. Dilip (Vengsarkar) too scored a century (153) in that match."

# Mehtab makes it count for hosts Mumbai

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

**Mumbai:** Mumbai City just about bounced back from their woeful midweek loss to Punjab by earning a 1-0 win over Hyderabad in Saturday's early ISL fixture at the Mumbai Football Arena.

**ISL**

Following the shock 3-0 defeat here to Punjab, which left the Islanders languishing in 10th place, coach Petr Kratky had demanded a response from his players. The reigning ISL Cup champions produced a lively first half, creating opportunities, but not quite managing to convert their dominance into a lead.

That was until defender Mehtab Singh broke free from a crowd of players in the box to power a header off Lallianzuala Chhangte's corner kick past Lalbiakhlua Jongte in the 29th minute.

Later, the drop in intensity in the second half, which gave Hyderabad hope of taking something from the game. Ramhlunchhunga's rasping left-footer forced Phurba Lachenpa into a diving save while Guinea-Bissau forward Edmilson Correia, a second half substitute for Hyderabad, made his displeasure known over a questionable offside call, as his attempt came back off the far post.

The win helped Mumbai climb to sixth place (9 games, 13 pts) and into the playoff spots while Thangboi Singto's Hyderabad (9 games, 7 pts) remain in 11th spot. "First half was excellent," said Kratky later. "I think the message got through to the team, what we spoke about three days after the Punjab game and what we wanted to change."

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## Santissimo for Campbell Trophy

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**Mumbai:** One of the Indian 2000 Guineas contenders, Santissimo, is likely to win the A Campbell Trophy, feature of Sunday's Mumbai races.

There are eight races with the first starting at 1.30pm.

Selections: **1. V R Menon Plate:** Yuletide 1, Floyd 2. **2. A Campbell Trophy:** Santissimo 1, Singer Sargent 2. **3. Dr. Jagjit Singh Trophy (Div.1):** Substantial 1, Scaramouche 2. **4. Captain G Hall Trophy:** Star Impact 1, Trillionaire 2. **5. Director General of Police Trophy:** Inquilab 1, The Panther 2. **6. Dr. Jagjit Singh Trophy (Div.2):** Chagall 1, Nostalgia 2. **7. Sir Jamsetjee Jeejeebhoy Trophy:** Among The Stars 1, Caradoc 2. **8. Gateway of India Plate:** Shambala 1, Azrinaz 2. **Day's best:** Santissimo.

# Suryavanshi disappoints as India lose to Pak by 43 runs

**Dubai:** Teen prodigy Vaibhav Suryavanshi's struggles against seam bowling was apparent during his brief stay as India U-19 comprising IPL contract owners struggled badly during their 43-run defeat to Pakistan in the Youth Asia Cup on Saturday.

After left-hander Shahzaib Khan thrashed Indian bowlers to submission with 10 sixes in his 159 off 147 balls, Indians were never in sight of victory target of 282.

They eventually got out for 238 in 47.1 overs but rising youngsters like Suryavanshi (1), Ayush Mhatre (20), C Andre Siddarth (15) and left-arm spinner Hardik Raj (0/47 in 6 overs) won't be amused with their performance.

The bulky left-hander Suryavanshi, who has had a very poor Ranji season, just got a solitary run as medium pacers Ali Raza and Abdul Subhan troubled him a lot.

Lot is expected of the Rajasthan Royals' Rs 1.10-crore signing but at 13 year and 8 months, he needs a lot of work to be even consistent at U-19 international level.

Subhan squared up Mhatre with a delivery that rose from length and moved a shade to take his outside edge, while Suryavanshi' feet didn't move when Raza slipped an angular fuller ball that he edged to the keeper. Nikhil Kumar's 67 was the only saving grace.

**Brief scores:** Pakistan U-19: 281/7; 50 overs (Shahzaib Khan 159; Samarth Nagraj 3/45, Ayush Mhatre 2/30) bt India 238; 47.1 overs (Nikhil Kumar 67; Ali Raza 3/36). PTI


