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One voter, two States, two votes

Over 3,000 voters in 14 villages along the Maharashtra-Telangana boundary get to vote in both States, thanks to an ongoing dispute

Abhinav Deshpande
CHANDRAPUR/K.B. ASIFABAD

Amid the desolate hilly terrain between Jivti taluk of Chandrapur district in Maharashtra and Kerameri mandal in Kumuram Bheem Asifabad district in Telangana are 14 villages in the Parandoli and Anthapur gram panchayats. Here, 3,023 residents, of a population of nearly 5,000, have the power of the vote in both Maharashtra and Telangana.

Both gram panchayats, dependent on the Maharashtra and Telangana governments, and the residents participate in almost all elections on both sides, says Laxman Kamble, the first sarpanch of Parandoli, elected in 1995.

With polling to the Telangana Assembly on November 30, these villages, predominantly occupied by Marathi-speaking Scheduled Caste (SC) communities, will exercise their voting right owing to an unresolved boundary dispute. The population includes Lambada tribespeople and Muslims who had migrated from drought-hit Nanded, Parbhani, Latur, and Jalna dis-



People in this area draw benefits of social welfare schemes from both States. ABHINAV DESHPANDE

tricts of Marathwada between 1970 and 1971 in search of a livelihood. The candidates are actively campaigning in these hilly areas, recognising the significance of the villages in the electoral landscape.

"We vote in both States' elections, but several of our problems, including road connectivity, healthcare and higher education remain unresolved," says Pundalik Waghmare, a Dalit farmer from Parandoli.

CONTINUED ON
» PAGE 6

REGION IN RUINS
Counting the deaths in Gaza
FAQ » PAGE 11

Nawaz Sharif: Pakistan's new sheriff has daunting tasks ahead
PROFILES » PAGE 12

England finishes campaign with a win, knocks out Pakistan
SPORT » PAGE 15

Khalistan Tiger Force case: NIA files chargesheet

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The National Investigation Agency (NIA) on Saturday filed the first supplementary chargesheet in the Khalistan Tiger Force (KTF) case involving smuggling of arms and explosives from Pakistan.

Among those arraigned are Amritpal Singh alias Ammy and Amrik Singh, who were both deported from the Philippines; Jassa Singh, and Gagandeep Singh alias Mithi.

It is alleged that Canada-based "listed individual" Arshdeep Singh alias Arsh Dalla, along with accused Manpreet Singh Peeta, had indoctrinated and recruited Ammy, Amrik Singh, Jassa Singh and Mithi into his banned terrorist group.

CONTINUED ON
» PAGE 6

IN BRIEF

PM woos Madigas with sub-quota panel promise

HYDERABAD
Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Saturday announced the constitution of a panel soon to empower Dalit communities and ensure justice for the Madiga community. » PAGE 4

MAGAZINE » 8 PAGES
CLASSIFIEDS » PAGE 5

THE HINDU
greet its readers on the occasion of **Deepavali**
There will be no issue of THE HINDU on November 13, 2023 as Deepavali is a holiday.
Readers can access the online edition at www.thehindu.com

Orders for 1 lakh Deepavali lamps light up Kashmir's Muslim-majority hamlet

Peerzada Ashiq
SRINAGAR

Kumaar Mohalla, a locality in central Kashmir, was abuzz with unprecedented activities this November, with kilns running throughout the day. Noor Muhammad Kumar, 54, a potter, roped in his two brothers and neighbours to meet orders for 10,000 earthen lamps from outside the State, for Deepavali. "It has been a busy month. The only time we would take breaks was during daily namaz," he said.




Kumaar Mohalla now has only about six families, whose kilns are still functional and churning out lamps. NISSAR AHMAD

Kashmir Valley has a minuscule Hindu population. However, with the growing number of jawans, migrant labourers, and Hindu families celebrating Deepavali in Kashmir this year, scores of temples, renovated

across the Valley in the past four years, are set for special prayers on the occasion.

Kumaar Mohalla itself, however, once home to nearly 25 families of potters, now has just about six families whose kilns are still functional. Muhammad Umar, 29, from a traditional potter's family in Srinagar's Ishber Nishat area, is witness to the decline of the sector over the past three decades.

CONTINUED ON
» PAGE 6



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Mutual Fund investments are subject to market risks, read all scheme related documents carefully.

PRESS NOTICE

In cancellation to the earlier press notice vide no. Tech-II/111/2023/8 dated 19/10/2023, the Spl. Chief Engineer, P.W.D. Building(Health & Education), Assam, Chandmari, Guwahati - 3 on behalf of the Governor of Assam, invites online EPC Mode-I e-tenders in two bid system (Eligibility and Financial) on Engineering, Procurement and Construction (EPC) Mode-1 basis from eligible firms/contractors of repute having experience in similar nature of work, for the following works.

Details of the bid may be seen at e-procurement website i.e. www.assamtenders.gov.in.

The bidders must be enrolled with e-tendering web-portal www.assamtenders.gov.in.

All terms and conditions will be as per the Bidding Documents. The Press Notice will be a part of the Bidding Documents.

Sl. No.	Package No.	Name of work	Bid Value (Rs. in Lakh)	Completion Period	Bid Security	Cost of Bid
1	Pkg-I	Infrastructure development of 126 Secondary Schools LAC wise under RIDF-XXIX (2023-24) in Assam for (i) Kumarkata HSS (ii) Anchalik HS School, Merkuchi (iii) Mushalpur H.S. School (iv) Birjhara HS School (v) Jana Priya High School (vi) Barjana High School (vii) Bengtol HSS (viii) Ulubari HS School (ix) Kashiabari High School (x) Nehru Voc. High School (xi) Bashbari High School	Rs. 7252.99608.00	3+21 (Twenty Four months)	1% of Bid Value	Rs. 30,000.00
2	PKG-II	Infrastructure development of 126 Secondary Schools LAC wise under RIDF-XXIX (2023-24) in Assam for (i) Dhekiajuli Higher Secondary School (ii) Silikhabari HSS (iii) Haleswar HSS (iv) Rangapara HS School (v) Panpur H.S. School (vi) Chariali HS & MP School (vii) Tinisuti High School (viii) Kalabari HS School	Rs. 5274.90624	3+21 (Twenty Four months)	1% of Bid Value	Rs. 30,000.00
3	Pkg-III	Infrastructure development of 126 Secondary Schools LAC wise under RIDF-XXIX (2023-24) in Assam for (i) Hamidabad HS School (ii) Durahati High School (iii) P.C. Institution HS School (iv) Batehat HS School (v) Barkanda Peoples academy HS School (vi) Rokakhata HS School (vii) S Ali HS School (viii) Maj-jakhili H. School (ix) Nayapara H School (x) Markula H School (xi) Dhumerghat HS School	Rs. 7252.99608	3+21 (Twenty Four months)	1% of Bid Value	Rs. 30,000.00
4	Pkg-IV	Infrastructure development of 126 Secondary Schools LAC wise under RIDF-XXIX (2023-24) in Assam for (i) Amguri girls HS (ii) Dholebagan HSS (iii) Palengi High School (iv) Sivanagar govt. HS & MP School (v) Mathurapur HS School (vi) Bhojo High School	Rs. 3956.17968	3+21 (Twenty Four months)	1% of Bid Value	Rs. 20,000.00
5	Pkg-V	Infrastructure development of 126 Secondary Schools LAC wise under RIDF-XXIX (2023-24) in Assam for (i) Kuchila High School (ii) Joymongol High School (iii) Kalika Prasad roy high School (iv) Netaji Nagar High School (v) Model HSS (vi) Latu H.S.School (vii) S.V Vidyanketan H.S. School (viii) Srigouri H.S. School	Rs. 5274.90624	3+21 (Twenty Four months)	1% of Bid Value	Rs. 30,000.00
6	Pkg-VI	Infrastructure development of 126 Secondary Schools LAC wise under RIDF-XXIX (2023-24) in Assam for (i) Barnagar JRP HS & MP School (ii) Bapuji HES (iii) Bajali HSS, Pathsala (iv) Hilapaki Higher Secondary School (v) Gunialguri HS (vi) Mandia HS School (vii) Kayakhuchi HS School (viii) Tarabari HS School (ix) Nalbari Girls' High School (x) Raghunath Choudhary HS School (xi) Bongaon HS School	Rs. 7252.99608	3+21 (Twenty Four months)	1% of Bid Value	Rs. 30,000.00
7	Pkg-VII	Infrastructure development of 126 Secondary Schools LAC wise under RIDF-XXIX (2023-24) in Assam for (i) Moitul Hoque Chodhary higher Secondary School (ii) Braja Kishore Dwarbond High School (iii) Morley High School (iv) Earle HS School, Lakhipur (v) Chandpur Public High School (vi) Kalain Higher Secondary School (vii) S.C. Dev Vidyapith	Rs. 4615.54296	3+21 (Twenty Four months)	1% of Bid Value	Rs. 20,000.00

8	Pkg-VIII	Infrastructure development of 126 Secondary Schools LAC wise under RIDF-XXIX (2023-24) in Assam for (i) Deomarnoi HS School (ii) Dhula High School (iii) Daipam High School (iv) Udalguri HSS (v) Bholabari High School (vi) Bengbari High School (vii) No. 2 Nalbari HS School	Rs. 4615.54296	3+21 (Twenty Four months)	1% of Bid Value	Rs. 20,000.00
9	Pkg-IX	Infrastructure development of 126 Secondary Schools LAC wise under RIDF-XXIX (2023-24) in Assam for (i) Balipathar HS School (ii) Phuloni High School (iii) DAV HS School, Diphu (iv) Maibond Sr. Secondary (v) Kolonga High School	Rs. 3293.81640	3+21 (Twenty Four months)	1% of Bid Value	Rs. 20,000.00
10	Pkg-X	Infrastructure development of 126 Secondary Schools LAC wise under RIDF-XXIX (2023-24) in Assam for (i) Khowang Higher Secondary School (ii) Graham Bazar Girls' High School (iii) Lahawal High School (iv) Belbari High School (v) Rajgarh HSS (vi) Chachoni HS School (vii) Assam Vidyapith HS School (viii) Mahakali Grant High School (ix) Barhajan High School (x) Margherita Publis HS School (xi) Bandarkhati High School (xii) Dangari HS School	Rs. 79112.35936	3+21 (Twenty Four months)	1% of Bid Value	Rs. 30,000.00
11	Pkg-XI	Infrastructure development of 126 Secondary Schools LAC wise under RIDF-XXIX (2023-24) in Assam for (i) Sontali H.S. School (ii) Chhaygaon H.S. School (iii) PALASBARI RB HS & MPS (iv) Mandakata H.S. School (v) Hajo SBSKR HS School (vi) Dagaon High School (vii) Madhyapanduri HS School	Rs. 4611.453	3+21 (Twenty Four months)	1% of Bid Value	Rs. 20,000.00
12	Pkg-XII	Infrastructure development of 126 Secondary Schools LAC wise under RIDF-XXIX (2023-24) in Assam for (i) Rangati H.S.S. (ii) Sonapur Rukhuria HS (iii) Lakhipur Girls Senior Secondary School (iv) All Assam Miri HSS (v) Dhernaji HSS (vi) Jonai HS School (vii) Garamur Sri Sri Ptambardev H.S. School	Rs. 4615.54296	3+21 (Twenty Four months)	1% of Bid Value	Rs. 20,000.00
13	Pkg-XIII	Infrastructure development of 126 Secondary Schools LAC wise under RIDF-XXIX (2023-24) in Assam for (i) Salmara High School (ii) Jaramari Char D.K.B. High School (iii) Btadrava SS Sankardev High School (iv) Kashori High School (v) Senchowa Amar Borkakoti HSS (vi) Chapanala HS School (vii) Singimari Md Ali HS School (viii) Koliabor Girls HS School (ix) Moudanga High School (x) Deshabandhau Bidyapith Model HS School (xi) Bhalukmari HS School	Rs. 7252.99608	3+21 (Twenty Four months)	1% of Bid Value	Rs. 30,000.00
14	Pkg-XIV	Infrastructure development of 126 Secondary Schools LAC wise under RIDF-XXIX (2023-24) in Assam for (i) Bokakhat HS School (ii) Dhupguri Janajati High School (iii) Balijan HS School (iv) Nabhanga Bapuji High School (v) Titabor Town High School (vi) Selenghat HS School (vii) Meleng Prov. High School (viii) Namdeuri HS School (ix) Devicharan Barua Girls' High School	Rs. 5934.26952	3+21 (Twenty Four months)	1% of Bid Value	Rs. 30,000.00
15	Pkg-XV	Infrastructure development of 126 Secondary Schools LAC wise under RIDF-XXIX (2023-24) in Assam for (i) Chandrapur High School (ii) Panbari H.S. School (iii) Palanshbari Anchalik High School (iv) Nakhola Secondary School, Jogiroad (v) Mikirbeta Anchalik High School (vi) Dewaguri Sec. School	Rs. 3956.17968	3+21 (Twenty Four months)	1% of Bid Value	Rs. 20,000.00

The Bid price may vary at the time of detail tending for which no claim will be admissible.

The Work will be allotted only after receiving Government approval.

Spl Chief Engineer, P.W.D.(Building),
(Health & Education)
Assamm Chandmari, Guwahati-3

Janasanyog /C/12082/23/ 11-Nov-23

MCD workers were used to 'dark Diwali' under the BJP: Mayor

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The Municipal Corporation of Delhi (MCD) employees who were used to a "dark Diwali", waiting endlessly for their salaries and other dues, while the BJP was in power at the civic body are now celebrating a "Happy Diwali", Mayor Shelly Oberoi said on Saturday.

Ms. Oberoi said the municipal workers had to regularly stage protests demanding their salaries and bonuses under the BJP's 15-year rule.

However, after AAP came to power after winning the civic polls in December 2022, the employees have been getting their salaries and other dues on time, she said.

**Timings
DELHI**

SUNDAY, NOV. 12		
RISE	06:41	SET 17:30
RISE	05:29	SET 16:44
MONDAY, NOV. 13		
RISE	06:42	SET 17:29
RISE	06:29	SET 17:20
TUESDAY, NOV. 14		
RISE	06:43	SET 17:29
RISE	07:32	SET 18:02

Delhi Weather	max	min
Delhi City	26	14
Safdarjang	26	14
Palam	24	16

Delhi Palam Today
30°C A dry weather to continue. Morning will be very cool with mist and haze. Day will be slight warm. Pollution level will increase.

Delhi Palam Tomorrow
30°C The weather will be dry. Morning will be very cool with mist and haze. Day will be slight warm. Increase in pollution level is possible.

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EAST CENTRAL RAILWAY
NOTICE INVITING OPEN TENDER ON LINE (E-TENDERING)
DANAPUR DIVISION (ENGINEERING BRIDGE DEPT.)
The Dy.CE/BRL/E.C.Railway, Hajipur is inviting online (E-Tendering) Open Tender for and on behalf of the President of India from reputed contractor with experience, financial capability including those registered/working with Railway/Irrigation/CPWD/MES or any other public sector undertaking for the following work.
Tender Notice No. : BRL-DNR-23-08-01, Sl.No. : 1. Name of work : Provision of bearing inspection platform at ROB FUT, DDGJ, PNC, Agamkuan, Guljarbagh (Gandhi Setu), Kumharar, RJPB Dharush setu, Chiraiyatand, Mithapur, PNBE Bypass-1, PNBE Bypass-2, Yarpur, Soy West, Chitkora, BTA, AREA, BEA, Bailey Road & JTIN in section of SSE/BR/DNR under Dy.CE/BRL/HJP. **2. Approx. Cost :** Rs. 1,90,34,338.71. **3. Earnest Money to be deposited :** Rs. 2,45,200.00
Tender Notice No. : BRL-DNR-23-08-02, Sl.No. : 1. Name of work : Metalizing of floor member of Br. No. 717 & 745 in PNBE-JAJ section under SSE/Br/MKA of Danapur Division. **2. Approx. Cost :** Rs. 64,87,024.95. **3. Earnest Money to be deposited :** Rs. 1,29,800.00
4. Date & Time for submission of tender and opening of tender : The tender will be uploaded on 10/11/2023 online on www.ireps.gov.in, and the date of tender opening is 04/12/2023 and will be opened on the same day after 12.00 hrs. **5. Website particulars, Notice board location where complete details of tender can be seen and address of the office from where the tender form can be purchased etc. :** Detailed tender notice, eligibility criteria & tender documents can be seen from the CRIS website: <http://www.ireps.gov.in> & full details of notice can be seen on notice board. All corrigendum will be uploaded on website if required.
Executive Engineer/Bridge/Line
East Central Railway, Danapur
PR/01632/DNR/EBRLT/23-24/56

**GOVERNMENT OF ASSAM
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF ENGINEER, PWD (BUILDING), ASSAM
CHANDMARI, GUWAHATI-03**
Email:ceb.apwd@gmail.com

No. CE/CB/TS/VIII/16/2023/03

PRESS NOTICE

The Chief Engineer, P.W.D. (Buildings) Assam, Chandmari, Guwahati-3 on behalf of the Governor of Assam invites online EPC Mode-1 e-tenders in two bid system (Eligibility and Financial) on Engineering, Procurement and Construction (EPC) Mode-1 basis from eligible firms / contractors of repute for the following work having eligibility criteria as laid down in the EPC document. Details of the bid may be seen at e-procurement portal website i.e. www.assamtenders.gov.in
The bidders must be enrolled in www.assamtenders.gov.in.

Sl. No.	Name of Work	Approx. Value of Work (in Rs.)	Bid Security/ EMD	Cost of Bid document	Completion period	Defect liability period
1	Setting up High Security Prison under Modernization of Prison Project at Assam (Hajo, Kamrup)	Rs. 90,04,10,456.00	2% of NIT value (for General) and 1% of NIT Value (for reserved Category)	Rs. 30,000.00	24 (Twenty Four months)	01 (one) year after completion

Note:- 1. Value of NIT may change during uploading of DNIT for which no claim will be entertained.
2. The bidders must be enrolled in www.assamtenders.gov.in
3. The work will be allotted only after receipt of AA.

Sd/-
Chief Engineer, P.W.D. (Building),
Assam, Chandmari, Guwahati-3
Janasanyog /C/12072/ 23/11-Nov-23

**GOVERNMENT OF ASSAM
OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER, PWD
GUWAHATI BUILDING CIRCLE-II, CHANDMARI, GUWAHATI-3**

PRESS NOTICE

The Superintending Engineer, P.W.D., Guwahati Building Circle-II, Chandmari, Guwahati-3 on behalf of the Governor of Assam invites bids for the following works having experience of similar nature of work from APWD registered contractors **having establishment in Guwahati**. Details of the bids may be seen at e-procurement portal website: www.assamtender.gov.in and also in the office of the undersigned during office hours. The bidders must be enrolled in www.assamtenders.gov.in for participate in the bidding process.

Name of Work	Approx. Value of Work (in Rs.)	Category of APWD (B) registered contractor
Arrangement of Temporary Pandal, Dals, Barricading, Branding, Temporary VVIP & VIP Toilets etc. in connection with the Scooty Distribution Ceremony in 2023 at Veterinary Playground, Khanapara, Ghy-22 (Civil & Electrical works)	2,32,68,484/-	Class-I (A/B)

Note:-
1. Any modification of tender may be seen in the portal www.assamtender.gov.in.
2. Value of work may vary according to the detail NIT.
3. The prospective bidder must visit the work site before submission of tender. The bidders have to submit evidence of site visit in the form of a certificate duly certified by the concerned Executive Engineer, PWD concerned.
4. This tender is invited as an advance action in anticipation of obtaining Administrative Approval from concerned authority and the work will be allotted on receipt of Administrative Approval only.

Sd/-
Superintending Engineer, P.W.D.
Guwahati Building Circle-II
Janasanyog /C/12085/ 23/11-Nov-23

PROCLAMATION REQUIRING THE APPEARANCE OF A PERSON ACCUSED
(See Section 82 Cr. PC)

Whereas complaint has been made before me that accused person namely **Vipin Kumar S/o Mahender Singh R/o VPO Nigoh Hasan Pur PS Malawan Distt: Etah U/P** has committed (or is suspected to have committed) the offence in case **FIR No. 357/19 U/s 279/304A IPC at PS: Kanjhawala, Delhi** and it has been returned to a warrant of arrest thereupon issued that the said accused **Vipin Kumar** can not be found and whereas it has been shown to my satisfaction that the said accused **Vipin Kumar** has absconded (or is concealing himself to avoid the service of the said warrant). Proclamation is hereby made that the said accused **Vipin Kumar of FIR No. 357/19 U/s 279/304A IPC PS: Kanjhawala, Delhi is required to appear before this court to answer the said complaint on or before 11.12.2023.**

By order
Ayush Sharma
Metropolitan Magistrate
Room No. 113,
Rohini Court, Delhi
DP/12115/RD/2023

THE HINDU
DISCLAIMER: Readers are requested to verify and make appropriate enquiries to satisfy themselves about the veracity of an advertisement before responding to any published in this newspaper. THE PUBLISHING PVT. LTD., the Publisher & Owner of this newspaper, does not vouch for the authenticity of any advertisement or advertiser or for any of the advertiser's products and/or services. In no event can the Owner, Publisher, Printer, Editor, Directors, Employees of this newspaper/company be held responsible/liable in any manner whatsoever for any claims and/or damages for advertisements in this newspaper.

Atishi initiates inquiry in corruption case 'linked' to Chief Secy.

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Vigilance Minister Atishi has initiated an inquiry into a corruption allegation linked to Chief Secretary Naresh Kumar.

The case pertains to a land deal which allegedly led to undue benefits to one of the landowners, who is said to be linked to the employer of Mr. Kumar's son.

The Minister sought all files related to the case while stating that "no files concerning the matter are to be processed through the Chief Secretary since he is the subject of the inquiry and therefore has a conflict of interest."

According to the allegation, a 19-acre parcel in south-west Delhi's Bamnoli village was acquired by the National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) for the Dwarka Expressway project.

As per media reports, the price of the land was increased from ₹41.52 crore to ₹353.79 crore.

Subsequently, the Union Ministry of Home Affairs initiated action against then South West Delhi District Magistrate Hemant Kumar for approving the enhanced compensation.

The son-in-law of one of the landowners is the director of a firm that employs the Chief Secretary's son, the reports added.

Responding to the allegations, the Chief Secretary had on Friday described the action as a "vendetta", saying it was he who had recommended action against the now-suspended officer who had allegedly approved the enhanced compensation.

The Chief Minister had earlier this week asked Ms. Atishi to launch a probe into the land deal.

Manish Sisodia meets ailing wife

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Former Deputy CM Manish Sisodia was on Saturday taken to his home from Tihar

jail to meet his ailing wife after securing permission from a city court. He was accompanied by police personnel and allowed to meet his wife for six hours.

PROCLAMATION REQUIRING THE APPEARANCE OF A PERSON ACCUSED SEE SECTION U/S 82 Cr. P.C.

Whereas complaint has been made before me that accused Azad Singh S/o Dalip Singh R/o G-4/22, Sector-11, Rohini, Delhi, has committed (or is suspected to have committed) the offence in Case FIR No.192/16 U/s 279/429 IPC, P.S. North Rohini, Delhi, and it has been returned to a warrant of arrest there upon issued that the said accused Azad Singh cannot be found and whereas it has been shown to my satisfaction that the said accused Azad Singh has absconded (or is concealing himself to avoid the service of the said warrant). Proclamation is hereby made that the said accused Azad Singh of Case FIR No.192/16 U/s 279/429 IPC, P.S. North Rohini, Delhi, is required to appear before this Court to answer the said complaint on or before 18.12.2023.

By Order
Deepali Shrivastava
Metropolitan Magistrate (North West)
Room No-107, 1st Floor
Rohini, Courts, Delhi

DP/12836/RD/2023 (Court Matter).



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Admission notification for two-year full time PGDM Programmes (2024-2026 Batch)

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3. Post-Graduate Diploma in Management (International Business)-PGDM-IB
4. Post-Graduate Diploma in Management (Business Analytics)-PGDM-Business Analytics.

MDI established its second campus in Murshidabad, West Bengal in 2014. MDI Gurgaon being the mentor institution is providing support to Murshidabad campus in terms of intellectual capital, teaching processes and academic rigour. Placement for all the batches have been phenomenal. MDI Murshidabad offers AICTE approved two-year full time Programme:

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ACCREDITED



AMBA
ACCREDITED



CRISIL
ACCREDITED

For the above programmes, the joint application form link is available on our MDI Gurgaon website www.mdi.ac.in | Last date to apply: Friday, November 24, 2023 UPTO 5.00 pm

Admissions through:
CAT-2023 for Indian citizens, GMAT for NRI at MDI Gurgaon AND
CAT-2023 for Indian citizens, GMAT for PIO/Foreign Nationals at MDI Murshidabad

For any further details about the admissions process, please contact:
Management Development Institute

MDI Gurgaon
Phone (+91 124) 4560000, 4560555, 4560666
E-mail: admissions@mdi.ac.in
Website: www.mdi.ac.in

MDI Murshidabad
Phone 08348021165
E-mail: admissions@mdim.ac.in
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Heartiest Greetings to all on the auspicious occasion of Diwali

November 12, 2023



IN BRIEF



Governor, Adityanath lead grand Deepotsav celebrations

Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath and Governor Anandiben Patel Saturday took part in pulling a chariot carrying artistes depicting the return of Lord Ram, his wife Sita and brother Lakshman to Ayodhya after 14 years of exile. This is the seventh year of the Deepotsav festival on the banks of river Saryu. The CM said, "This is being broadcast live in more than 100 countries of the world." A coffee table book on the Deepotsav was also released.

'Deepfake' video: Delhi Police writes to Meta for URL

The Delhi Police has written to Meta to provide the URL of the account from which the 'deepfake' video of actress Rashmika Mandanna was shared on social media, officials said on Saturday. Hemant Tiwari, Intelligence Fusion and Strategic Operations unit DCP, said the Delhi Police has also sought the information about the people who shared the fake video on social media. PTI

Sanitation worker dies of asphyxiation in Bhavnagar

A sanitation worker died in and another one fell ill cleaning a septic tank without safety gear on the campus of the Central Salt and Marine Chemicals Research Institute on Friday. Some workers of the Bhavnagar Municipal Corporation were cleaning the tank using a jetting machine when the incident happened, Municipal Commissioner N.V. Upadhyay said. The deceased was identified as Rajesh Vegad (45).

PM woos Madigas with promise to set up panel on SC sub-quota demand

Addressing a community rally in Hyderabad, Modi says he is committed to take their fight to its logical conclusion; asserts only BJP can ensure social justice in the country and Telangana

The Hindu Bureau
HYDERABAD

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Saturday announced the constitution of a committee soon to empower the Dalit communities and ensure justice for the Madiga community.

The Madigas have been fighting for their proportional quota within the SC reservation for about three decades. Constituting around 60% of the SC population in Telangana, political analysts estimate them to be influential in 20-25 Assembly constituencies.

'Double-engine govt.'

"From today onwards, Manda Krishna, founder of the Madiga Reservation Porata Samithi (MRPS), is my leader in the movement to end the decades of injustice being done to the community. I will be on his side till I ensure justice for all of you," he said, addressing the Madiga community gathered in large numbers at the 'Vishwaroopa Mahasabha' of the downtrodden sections organised by the MRPS in Hyderabad on Saturday.

Reiterating that it was only the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) that would en-



Prime Minister Narendra Modi with Manda Krishna, founder of the Madiga Reservation Porata Samithi, in Hyderabad on Saturday. NAGARA GOPAL

sure social justice in the country, in Telangana and also usher in development in the State, Mr. Modi said only a "double-engine" government of the BJP at the Centre and in the State would make "Bangaru (prosperous) Telangana" possible.

He said that he was committed to take the fight of the Madiga community, which commenced in Telangana (then part of undivided Andhra Pradesh) in

1994, to its logical conclusion.

The Prime Minister announced that the Food Corporation of India would procure 20 lakh tonnes of boiled rice produced in the kharif season from Telangana and asked the Bharat Rashtra Samithi (BRS) government not to delay the procurement process in the name of elections as the model code of conduct currently in force would not come in the way of

helping the farming community.

Targeting BRS, Cong.

He accused BRS leader K. Chandrashekhar Rao of "encroaching" upon the CM's chair after promising to place a Dalit on it. "BRS is anti-Dalit and the Congress is no less," he said in a simultaneous swipe at the principal Opposition party in Telangana. The MRPS had backed the Congress in the 2018 election.

Sachin Pilot finds unlikely ally in BSP candidate in Tonk

Mohammed Iqbal
JAIPUR

Former Rajasthan Deputy Chief Minister Sachin Pilot received a shot in the arm on Saturday, when the Bahujan Samaj Party (BSP) candidate Ashok Bairwa announced in the presence of local influential leaders that he would campaign for Mr. Pilot in Tonk in the upcoming State Assembly polls.

Mr. Pilot, who had won from Tonk in the 2018 State elections, has been fielded from the same constituency again by the ruling Congress party, where he is up against Ajit Singh Mehta, the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) candidate.

Wields influence

His new ally Mr. Bairwa, a former Congress member, also heads the Bhim Sena — an Ambedkarite social organisation — in the district, and wields considerable influence among the Dalit community in the constituency.

Mr. Bairwa said he wanted to withdraw his candidature, but could not do it due to paucity of time on the last day of withdrawal of nominations.

"I am impressed with Mr. Pilot's ideology. He is working for the upliftment of the poor. My supporters [in Tonk] will work wholeheartedly to ensure his victory," Mr. Bairwa said.

Mr. Pilot, who has been touring the villages in his constituency for the past



Congress candidate from Tonk constituency Sachin Pilot during an election campaign on Saturday. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

three days, is engaged in a damage control exercise with regard to a handful of Congress rebels who have also filed for nomination. He has so far succeeded in convincing all of them — Naimuddin, Mohsin Rashid Khan, Abul Qadir and Umar Baig — to withdraw their candidature.

Meanwhile, in a blow to the BJP, which is attempting to consolidate the Hindu vote in the constituency, some of its party workers, led by the party's city unit general secretary Ramdayal Bairwa, joined the Congress on Saturday.

Following the withdrawal of nominations by the rival contestants, six candidates are left in the fray against Mr. Pilot. They are BJP's Mr. Mehta, Azad Samaj Party's Mohammed Shoaib Khan, People's Green Party's Ganesh, Social Democratic Party of India's Abdul Lateef, and Independents Sitra Ram and Jagdish Prasad Verma.

Kerala farmer ends life after banks deny loan; blames govt.

The Hindu Bureau
ALAPPUZHA

A paddy farmer from Thakazhi in Kerala's Kuttanad, died by suicide allegedly after banks denied him agriculture loan. The deceased has been identified as K.G. Prasad, 55.

In a phone call he made to his friend before he died and a note allegedly written by him, which was recovered from his house, Prasad accused the State government and a few banks of pushing him to take the extreme step. He was heard telling his friend that he was in a financial crisis and banks recently denied him a loan for cultivating paddy in the up-

'The govt. should have repaid PRS loan with interest, but it failed to fulfil its responsibility, it hit my CIBIL score'

coming *puncha* (first) crop season citing a low CIBIL score. A Credit Information Bureau (India) Limited (CIBIL) score is an indicator of how well one has managed one's finances.

Prasad added he received the paddy procurement price for the last season from a bank as post-harvest credit on the production of paddy receipt sheet (PRS). "It is the government's responsibility

to repay the PRS loan with interest. But it failed to fulfil its responsibility and it affected my CIBIL score. When I approached the banks for a fresh loan, they denied it. I have no money to buy fertilizer. I have failed in my life," he was heard in the voice recording of the phone call.

Prasad was a BJP activist and had served as district president of the Bharatiya Kisan Sangh.

BJP workers staged a roadblock on the Ambalapuzha-Thiruvalla State Highway with Prasad's body in a show against the government's apathy towards farmers.

(Those in distress can dial 0471-2552056, 1056).

For Jharkhand Cong., it's yesterday once more

Amit Bhelari
RANCHI

Bracing for the Lok Sabha elections, the Jharkhand Congress has launched a unique initiative to bolster its numbers in the State in the form of a campaign rooted in sentimentality — one that aptly calls itself 'Aa Ab Laut Chalein' (Come, let's return now).

'Clean slate'

Named after the 1999 movie starring Akshaye Khanna and Aishwarya Rai, the campaign targets former Congress leaders who quit the party, or those previously associated with it. These leaders are being invited to return to the party with the promise of a clean slate.

State Congress president

Rajesh Thakur is of the opinion that because the legacy of the 'Grand Old Party' dates back to pre-Independent India, a soft corner for the Congress persists even today. "Ninety per cent of India's population supported Congress before Independence, and after that, several leaders joined other newly formed political parties, but most people's forefathers were Congressmen," he said.

The charm of the campaign has worked on many. One of the former members who has been persuaded to return to the Congress is Geeta Shree Oraon, former MLA from Sisa and daughter of prominent tribal leader and Congress MP Kartik Oraon. She had resigned last January, but upon being wel-



Jharkhand Congress chief Rajesh Thakur. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

comed back into the fold, said, "I do feel that in the larger perspective, Congress is a very strong party and can defeat the BJP, and prevent a hatrck in 2024."

Praising Rahul Gandhi's 'Bharat Jodo Yatra', she added: "People have taken note of [the yatra] and the way he connects with the people. An example is the Karnataka election."

The aim is to bring back former leaders who quit the party, or those previously associated with it

But perhaps the larger appeal of the campaign lies in its outreach to not only former members, but also the general public, the young and the uninitiated. Although the campaign is just over a week old, more than a thousand people have already joined the party.

With regard to a special focus on rural areas, Mr. Thakur said, "Panchayat heads and district council members are joining the party besides just former MLAs. People in rural areas could be great assets at the

time of elections since they have a sense of ground reality. These people were Congressmen, but exploited by other political parties, and now have been given an open platform to return."

The campaign is widely seen as an attempt to expand the party's base ahead of the Lok Sabha and Jharkhand Assembly elections. The Jharkhand Congress has also formed coordination committees in all 14 LS constituencies, and deputised them to work at the grassroot level.

The State party leadership is also working on a national workshop called the Leadership Development Mission to elevate the party's influence in seats reserved for the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes.

National capital waits with bated breath as it keeps date with the annual Deepavali test

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The air quality in the national capital, which saw a drastic improvement after Friday's downpour, could deteriorate after Deepavali, with many likely to defy the prohibition on bursting firecrackers in the city.

The Capital has been breathing hazardous air for the past week.

On November 5, the Delhi government ordered the closure of all primary schools and restricted the entry of trucks after the concentration of poisonous pollutant PM_{2.5} in the city was recorded at over 20 times the limit prescribed by the World Health Organization.

A day later, Delhi Environment Minister Gopal Rai said the government would implement the odd-

even vehicle-rationing scheme in the city for a week starting from November 13.

Decision on odd-even

However, after Friday's rain, Mr. Rai said the government will study the air pollution metrics after Deepavali, based on which it will decide how to go forward with the odd-even policy.

Under the odd-even vehicle-rationing scheme, vehicles with registration numbers ending with even digits are allowed to run on even dates and those with odd numbers are allowed to run on odd dates.

The Delhi police have seized over 10,000 kg of firecrackers in the city till November 8.

The highest number of violations were reported from East Delhi, from



The air quality in Delhi is likely to deteriorate over the next three days, after a brief respite following the rain on Friday. SUSHIL KUMAR VERMA

where close to 3,000 kg of crackers have been seized.

DCP (East) Amritha Guguloth said the police are regularly patrolling various

markets across the city to curb the sale and bursting of crackers.

Meanwhile, a 21-year-old man died in a blast in

north-east Delhi's Welcome while trying to mix sulphur and potash to make firecrackers for personal use.

High pollution levels have persisted in the city since October 28.

The government subsequently enforced several restrictions to curb air pollution, including a prohibition on construction and demolition.

'Bad air' likely

According to official data, the air quality is likely to deteriorate over the next three days, with no rain expected over the next few days.

According to the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB), the air quality of Delhi improved to the lower end of the 'poor' category on Saturday, compared with the 'severe' level on Thursday.

Delhi's 24-hour average air quality index (AQI) was 220 at 4 p.m. on Saturday, down from 437 on Thurs-

day.

However, the Central government's Air Quality Early Warning System has predicted poorer air quality from Sunday till November 14, with pollution likely to reach the 'severe' level on Monday, a day after Deepavali.

According to the CPCB, an AQI reading between zero and 50 is considered 'good', 51 and 100 'satisfactory', 101 and 200 'moderate', 201 and 300 'poor', 301 and 400 'very poor', and 401 and 500 'severe'.

Migrant workers hit

Meanwhile, migrant labourers in the Capital have been hit the hardest by the government's decision to ban construction and demolition activities, forcing the workers to return home.

Rajbir, a resident of

West Singhbhum district in Jharkhand, has been coming to the city for the past three years to earn around ₹15,000-20,000 a month.

"Last year, I stayed back because the Delhi government had promised to pay us [an allowance] for the days during which construction work was banned. But I did not get a single penny," he said.

This year, with little to no clarity on any monetary assistance, the 21-year-old worker is heading home.

Animesh, 19, who came to Delhi from Dhanbad, said he would not have come to the Capital had he known about the city's yearly pollution problem.

"I am going back less than a month after coming here. I did not even receive a month's pay," he said.

(With inputs from Alisha Dutta)

Classifieds

LIFE MADE SIMPLE

THE HINDU

Matrimonial

BRINGING PEOPLE TOGETHER

THE HINDU

BRIDEGROOMS WANTED

INDEX OF MATRIMONIAL

BRIDEGROOMS WANTED

BRIDES WANTED

BRIDES & GROOMS WANTED

Classification Common for Brides, Bridegrooms, Brides & Grooms

ASSAMESE

AWADHI

BENGALI

BHOJPURI

BIHARI

CHHATTISGARHI

ENGLISH

GUJARATI

HARYANI

HINDI

KANNADA

KASHMIRI

KONKANI

MALAYALAM

MANIPURI

MARATHI

MARWARI

NEPALI

ORIYA

PARSI

PUNJABI

SAURASHTRA

SINDHI

TAMIL

TELGU

TULU

URDU

ADVOCATE

BUSINESS

DEFENCE

DOCTOR

ENGINEER

FINANCE/BANKING

GOVERNMENT/QUASI-GOVERNMENT

IAS/ ALLIED SERVICES

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

MBA/ CA/ ICWA

NRI

COSMOPOLITAN

DIVORCEE

PHYSICALLY CHALLENGED

MARRIAGE BUREAUS

WEDDING ARRANGEMENTS

COSMOPOLITAN

KERALA HINDU, Girl, Divorcee 34/166 cm, Wheatish, CNB, Ph.D, Asst Professor in Central University, Delhi. Well educated family, seeks similar minded, working in Delhi/NCR. Ph: 9447400724

DOCTOR

TAMIL MUSLIM parents invite alliance for daughter MBBS 24yrs / 152cm / wheatish from religious Tamil-speaking MBBS/PG Doctors settled in Hyderabad. C.W: 7013724670

SOUTH-BASED AFFLUENT Christian family invites alliances for their daughter age 27 Post-Graduate Doctor. Suitable alliances from Christian Groom-PG Doctor contact: drajan3809@gmail.com/8920762703

PROPOSAL FROM Doctors For a Fair Beautiful Hindu Doctor Girl MBBS MD 31 Years. Ct: 95000 23500

TAMIL HINDU SC AD 32year Doctor MBBS, DCH, DNB (Pediatrics) working in Pondicherry seeking groom Contact: 9443634719

28 YEAR Beautiful Hindu Doctor, Kerala, working in U.K. Seeks Doctor Groom residing in U.K/England. WhatsApp 9846992540

GROOM WANTED

ELITE REPUTED AGAMUDAIYAR FAMILY Running Educational Institutions in Chennai. Invites Alliance for Daughter 26/168 Cms, Fair Good Looking Doctor, MS ENT. Looking for Doctor, MD/MS Groom from affluent Mukkulathur / Mudaliyar family

PH: 9500063847

DOCTOR

Wanted Groom

26Y beautiful Doctor from Thanjavur doing Neurology Residency at New Jersey seeks Doctor Groom residing in USA

E-mail ID drbkesav@gmail.com Ph/Whatsapp 9677026459

GROOM WANTED

Reputed Reddy Family in Chennai Invites Alliance for Daughter 32/165, Doctor MBBS, MS, Looking for Tall Educated Groom from affluent family CNB.

Call: 89256 40111

ENGINEER

HINDU CHETTIAR Girl, 29/163, Engineer MS, MBA, Comfortably Placed in MNC, Newyork State, USA. Looking For Well Qualified Engineers/Doctors Working in USA Or Willing To Migrate To USA. Can Sponsor Spouse. Caste No Bar. Mob: 9567095896

MALAYALAM

RCLC KERALITE girl 28/165 B.Sc Central Govt. employee in Chennai seeks alliance from well settled boys 9446087763

MUSLIM DIVORCEE 51 / 5'3", highly qualified, employed and well settled seeking marriage proposals from professionally qualified / self established Muslim male preferably not exceeding 58 years of age. 9074319636, 8075649557.

SEEKING ALLIANCE for Nair girl, 39, Ultram, Ph.D, Associate Professor at a UK University, never married Contact email id: krishnakumarak@yahoo.com or rajeswarikrishnan2002@gmail.com

TRIVANDRUM BASED Nair Ezhava parents inviting suitable alliance for their daughter working in Paris after BS-MS from ISER Trivandrum and MS from Sorbonne University Paris. 28/168cms/Chithira Preference for Hindu Boys settled in Europe/UK 8075963236

MALAYALEE NAIR girl 27/Sep 96, 155, Karthika, CA(UK), employed in UAE, seeks alliance from professionally qualified (PG) and well settled boys employed in India or abroad. Please WhatsApp +971504947205

NRI

BALIJA NAIDU, Bharani 26/150 (B.S., M.S., in USA) working as V.P in Fin. Firm in NewYork seeks well settled S.W Grooms in US. Ct: 9842350850

Hindu Mudaliyar Girl 32/167cm, BS, US Citizen Working in IT MNC Seeks Dr./S. Engr. Boys settled in US. Wapp: +1(469) 305-6277 / Ph: 63824 71829.

NATHAMAR UDAYAR, catholic 30 yrs, HR-MNC in Chennai, girl separated shortly with null and void order looking for catholic boy below 33 yrs, premier institute or professional with null and void or unmarried with clean habits, WhatsApp to 638039185

RC GIRL 26/170cm Working in Microsoft. Parents Kerala Settled in Chennai. Own Business Seeks Chennai Based Groom From a Good Family Background. 98841 85583

NADAR CHRISTIAN girl from well educated, very rich family, fair, God-fearing, very beautiful, employed in a reputed Company drawing good Salary. The boy should be well educated from a Christian rich family. Parents Contact: 98401 29090.

CHRISTIAN NADAR - 23, MBBS, Fair MBBS, DCH, DNB (Pediatrics) working in Pondicherry seeking groom. Doctor, Engineer. Abroad. Ct: 7824023030.

CHRISTIAN DKV 33/157 B.Tech, MSc, Ph.D, University employed, USA seeks professional working 33-35yr groom in USA, well educated, God-fearing family. Mail: greysell1990@gmail.com / WhatsApp: 9444386465/ 9566203917

TAMIL MUSLIM Girl, 28/165cm Electrical Engineer, Singapore Citizen, Good looking Seeks suitable alliance- NRI, Overseas Educated, Good Family, Willing to relocate Ct: 8056007500/email: habeebmillennia@gmail.com

Tamil Muslim, Elite Family MA(HR) MNC Chennai Seeks Professional or Business Groom. Ct: 9841659786.

CHRISTIAN AD 41, 155cm Government 3 Lakh / yr CNB 1st marriage Ct: 7418679079.

TAMIL

BC (KALLAR) Remarriage 39 Yrs M.Sc M.Phil Working in Pvt School (Admin Dept.) seeks good looking & good professional groom from same / equal caste. 9677970128, 9486457204

DOCTOR REDDY Elite Family Fair/29/160 Pooram Simmam MD AIIMS Delhi Seeks Professional Groom CNB 9841047406

Hindu Nadar, 26yrs, Ph.D. (Nano Tech) Gd looking, seeks highly qualified from same caste 9585452877/ 7639366767 e-mail: arjunapandian@hotmail.com

PILLAI / MUDALIAR, 34, MD, Well Settled family seeks Groom aged 34-36 yrs, Engineer/ Business/ Doctor. Contact: 93458 55735

GROOM WANTED Elite Mudaliyar, MBBS, MS, 28yrs, well Educated Family. Contact: 9710093999/ 8939691888

HINDU TAMIL Mudaliyar Chennai Girl / 32 /155 /58/MA/HR Mgr/MNC Blore /Fair Beautiful /Kattai 3rd padmam Viruchigam /Chevai Dosham Divorcee No Kids /Seeks suitable Mudaliyar Grooms Subsect No Bar. Up To 36 Yrs. Contact 9043735140.

HINDU/CHRI, 1992 working Asis Prof (Dr, HOD) Univer Chennai, seeking working groom 9443118355

PILLAI/ MUDALIAR B.E./Kettai / MNC, 1996 Born, Reputed Business family seeks alliance. Ph: 98400 93322

SWE BE MNC Chennai 40/167cm 20Lac p.a BC from Coimbatore, 1st Marriage Mirugasheerisham Rishaba Rasi, seeks Groom BC/FC only. Ct: 89394-66628.

TAMIL YADAVA Girl (Divorcee) BE, MBA Software Engineer 39 Years seeks alliance from Engineers / Professionals.Caste no bar. Call. 9444915440

SC AD Hindu, BE MBA, SBI Manager, 35yrs, Mesham-Bharani, seeking suitable & qualified Groom. Ph-8056104103

HINDU NADAR girl, 29 yrs, 168 cms, 65kg, ME, Thiruvathirai, Mithunam Seeks well settled, qualified groom. Ct: 96265 15511

DOCTOR DCH,MD(PATHOLOGY) 38yrs, Hindu, BC, Divorcee without Child, temporarily working in Government, seeks well settled, compatible & affluent Groom. CNB. Ph: 9176289180

HINDU NADAR 25/165, MBBS, MS, USA Settled. Seeks Suitable Groom Ct: KA RAMAN NADAR 9380791999/ 9047192999

RICH NAIDU, 27yrs, BE, MBA in UK, Elite Business Family, Seeks Suitable Groom Ct: 9710093999/ 8939691888

SC 29/167 M.Tech SRM Engineer girl now @ Bangalore TCS Seeks Govt or private job Native North T.N. 9442477699, Email: jsdc2012@gmail.com

HINDU, MUDALIYAR 25y / 158cm /Kannada / Tamil/lecturer/divorcee seeks well settled, clean habits boy with very good family background (CNB) Ct.9036778054

GROOM WANTED Rich Gounder, 31yrs, M.Arch, Elite Business Family in Chennai. CNB Ct: 9710093999/ 8939691888

SC (AD), 24yrs, BE, Well Educated Family Background. Seeks Suitable Groom Contact: 9710093999/ 8939691888

GROOM WANTED Hindu Nadar BE, 30/165, 50000, Divorcee, Caste No Bar, KA Raman Nadar 9380791999/ 9047192999

SC ADIDRAVIDA Divorced No Child, Age 38 BE EEE Wkg in MNC. Well settled. Seeks Suitable Groom. 9940347310

SC AD 25/B.E., Software Sr.Test Analyst [Cognizant Technology] 60,000p.m. Seeking Bridegroom. Ph:944993417

HINDU NADAR 29yrs 156cm MBBS, MD (Divorcee) seeks Dr./ Er./ Any Govt Officer in Chennai. Ct: 8939005008

HINDU VALLUVAN 33/167 BE MBA SWE/ Bank Swathi Chennai, seeks suitable groom, Caste No Bar. Ct: 9444053003

AGAMUDI MUDALIAR Elite Family 32/165 Mirugasim, Raghu in Lagnam PG (HR MNC) Seeks IIM/PG Groom. 9176780777

PILLAI 29 5.4' MBBS MS Chennai seeks PG Dr /Business Groom Chennai: Geetham 989488014

CHRISTIAN DKV 33/157 B.Tech, MSc, Ph.D, University employed, USA seeks professional working 33-35yr groom in USA, well educated, God-fearing family. Mail: greysell1990@gmail.com / WhatsApp: 9444386465/ 9566203917

TAMIL MUSLIM Girl, 28/165cm Electrical Engineer, Singapore Citizen, Good looking Seeks suitable alliance- NRI, Overseas Educated, Good Family, Willing to relocate Ct: 8056007500/email: habeebmillennia@gmail.com

Tamil Muslim, Elite Family MA(HR) MNC Chennai Seeks Professional or Business Groom. Ct: 9841659786.

CHRISTIAN AD 41, 155cm Government 3 Lakh / yr CNB 1st marriage Ct: 7418679079.

CHRISTIAN GROOM WANTED

Working in NHS London 39/167 Fair Tamil Protestant CSI Christian Nadar BC Innocent Divorcee no issues seeks Christian Doctor Groom / well settled Professionals in UK/ India. Caste no bar

Ph: 98435 26370

TAMIL

SEEKING EMPLOYED Groom below 36 years from Elite Family for Divorced 31 years Employed Bride BE & MBA Fair & Homely from SC AD Hindu Elite Family. Cast No Bar. 9483542477

HINDU NADAR, 26/165cm, B.Tech, MBA/ IIM,1.5laks/pm, Seeks Suitable Groom Contact: 9380791999/ 9047192999

WANTED GROOM

Tamil Yadava 24 Years, Pooram - Simmam, 156cm / Fair / BE Looking alliance from affluent well educated settled groom.

Mail ID: kkda1099@gmail.com

GROOM WANTED

Hindu Nadar 35 yrs, Doctor, Good Looking Bride from reputed Business Group in Chennai. Looking for Doctor / Bureaucrats / Business Well to do Family

78108 22424

ENGINEER

Tamil Saiva Pillai 32 Years, Working in USA seeks Girl. Contact Mobile : 9740883655

GUJARATI

CHENNAI BASED CA Brahmin Boy 32 invites alliance from working girl. Mob - 8758782911

HINDI

1985/175CM, 50 Lakhs PA, Never Married, Bangalore. WhatsApp: 96290 12248

ELITE BRIDES WANTED

BRAHMIN, 26, 183 cms, Businessman, Lives in Chennai, Mother is a Global Entrepreneur. Family is financially well off. Looking for an affable match from same community. Contact: 6366448344

DEVAR, 28, 175 cms, Masters in Medicine, Medical Professional, Lives in Chennai. Father is a Businessman. Mother is a Professor. Family is financially well off. Looking for a like minded match. Contact: 6366448344

REDDIYAR, 27, 180 cms, Businessman, Masters in Management, Lives in Chennai, Belongs to an affluent business family with a good net worth. Looking for a compatible match. Contact: 6366448344

CSI NADAR, 27, 165 cms, Sr Cyber Security, BE, Lives in Chennai, Father is a Businessman. Family is financially well off. Looking for an amiable match. Contact: 6366448343

CSI ADI DRAVIDAR, 30, 183 cms, Businessman, MBA, Lives in Chennai, Father is a Businessman with a good net worth. Looking for a suitable match. Contact: 6366448343

TAMIL

MUSLIM BOY good salaryed 31y, A.tch seeks alliance from girls 25 and above. Interested to stay or work in Bangalore. Ph No: 9786509095.

NAIR BOY, 30/180, Pooram, Suddha Jathakam, BE (Civil), MS (USA), well engaged as Executive Director in Family Business having Pan India Operations, Settled in Chennai Invites Proposals of Professionally Qualified Nair Girls with Suddha Jathakam. Contact: 9840397130/ 9962597100.

MS(USA) Chemical Engineer, Saliya 34/165 seeks USA based brides, caste no bar. 9989305086

SEEKING ALLIANCE for Nair boy, 39, Ultram, Ph.D, Assistant Professor at a UK University, never married Contact - email id: krishnakumarak@yahoo.com or rajeswarikrishnan2002@gmail.com

HINDU EZHAVAR Man, Govt. Plus Two Teacher, Gazetteed Officer, 51, Chathayam, Trivandrum 9447005305

NRI

NAIDU 28/180,POORATATHI, B.Tech, MS Working as Research Engr PPR of Sweden, Wanted Bride Call 956682220.

PUNJABI

HINDU NAI Boy 5ft 7inch, 1992, B.Tech, handsome package from well settled nuclear family with own house seeks well qualified, beautiful girl. Ph: 9319928449

TAMIL

CSI Christian 27yrs / 185cms, MBA, Working, 3.7LPA, Chennai seeks suitable Bride. Ct: 9677281464/9840139960

MUSLIM 40 Ph.D., M.Sc (yoga) Seeks Bride, Immediate Marriage. No Demand. Ct: 9342585072

ALLIANCE INVITED from Muslim Widow or Divorcee without Child around Age 40-45 for Muslim Widower by Businessman Age 57 Income 5000 permonth having Son Age 16 Ct: 9443011354

TAMIL MUSLIM 29yrs/176cm handsome SW Engr.in USA- MS- CS (Houston-USA) well settled, Educated Family in Chennai, seeks suitable bride-Fair, Tall (5'4"-5'9"), age(24-27yrs), working / Studying in USA- or willing move to USA from a decent, Educated, Tamil Muslim Family. Ct: Whatsapp 9444149649 with biodata & Photo.

URDU

SUNNI MUSLIM Slim, Fair Good Looking, Orthodox, B.Tech, IT 23yrs 5.4 Ft SW Developer in Accenture Seeks Well Educated Family. 9042581806

BRIDES WANTED

DIVORCEE

AGE 58 second divorcee 6 Lakh PA income, seeking issueless bride. No expectations /suitable alliance are invited. Ct.82204 47993

PSU BANK Manager.Tamil Reddy, Hand-some. 36/5.10, income 1.8 Lacs PM, Seeks fair and equally placed girl. Caste No Bar. Ct. 63830 93705.

DOCTOR

MUSLIM DOCTOR, MDS 54/170 never married, seeks bride Simple, unassuming, sound finance, Parents died. Whatsap 8075479568

DR. BRIDE WANTED

MUDALIAR 29 yrs / 180 cm/ 52 kg / Teetotaler doing D.M. Nephrology / Ayilyam / seeks well settled Doctor Bride doing PG/SS in Mudaliar or SUBSECTS. CT 9443244060

Hindu AD, 28/165cm, M.D. Anesthesia well settled in Chennai Seeks Doctor Bride. Caste No Bar. Ct: 94442 18149 E-mail:- mrrson@gmail.com

ENGINEER

Tamil Saiva Pillai 32 Years, Working in USA seeks Girl. Contact Mobile : 9740883655

GUJARATI

CHENNAI BASED CA Brahmin Boy 32 invites alliance from working girl. Mob - 8758782911

HINDI

1985/175CM, 50 Lakhs PA, Never Married, Bangalore. WhatsApp: 96290 12248

TAMIL

TAMIL RC, 29yrs, 180 cm, B.E., M.S., working in Sweden. Seeking suitable Alliance from Qualified Working Professional with similar Background. Ct: 9923846868

RC CHRISTIAN, 41yrs/170, B.E Software Engineer, Chennai, never married, caste no bar, CT- 9500188067

SFT JINCH 36, BE, Bits, Ex Sr. Associate IT, now Business, Chennai, affluent family, F Pillai M Iyer, doctors, Veg. Contact 9442026869

SOZHIYA Vellalar 35 MCA working in IDFC First Bank Branch Manager seeks suitable Bride. Mudaliar also prefered. Ct:9790596388, 9994159677.

PILLAI/ MUDALIAR, 28, ML, practising Lawyer in Chennai High Court, seeks suitable working bride from well settled decent family.

TAMIL MUSLIM, BE, MBA, SWE, 30/180 Working in MNC, Chennai seeks suitable Bride. Ct: 9444008160

BRIDE WANTED Rich Mudaliyar, 31yrs, M. Arch, Elite Business Family. Contact: 9710093999/ 8939691888

ELITE MUDALIYAR 30yrs B.Tech, MS (US) Working in US, Seeks Elite Family Background 9176718866/ 8939691888

BRIDE WANTED Rich Naidu, 32yrs, BE, MS(US), Working in US, Elite Family Background 9962791888/ 8939691888

HINDU NADAR 30/172, BE, IRS, 600000, USA, Seeks Suitable Bride C/KA Raman Nadar 9380791999/ 9047192999

HINDU SC AD, 37/ BE/ PGD HRM/ Director- L&D, Sthw Co., Chennai, Unmarried

From Page One

One voter, two States,
two votes

People in the 14 villages draw benefits of social welfare schemes from both the States. "We have two voter cards, two Aadhaars, and get rations and pensions from both States. KCR [Telangana Chief Minister K. Chandrashekhara Rao] also gives us the Kalyana Lakshmi scheme [financial assistance to the bride's family], but neither of them gives us *pattas* [title deeds] for our lands we have been cultivating for decades," said Subhabai Malahari Waghmare, 60, from Parandoli.

These villages have two Anganwadi centres, two primary healthcare centres, two water tanks, and two schools (Marathi- and Telugu-medium) run by the two State governments. In a country where jobs are sparse, people have two MGNREGS job cards. Each village even has two sarpanches. In these rural areas, walls serve as billboards for welfare schemes implemented, in both States in Marathi and Telugu.

"We are not worried about 'one nation, one election' and don't want to give up our dual voting right, as that could curtail our double benefits without any legal solution," a villager said.

A history of separation

The issue dates back to the unresolved tensions that arose during the linguistic reorganisation of States in 1956. This dispute led to inter-State tensions, more so when the Andhra Pradesh government set up polling stations in these villages for the first time during the 1989 election. (Telangana was carved out of Andhra Pradesh on June 2, 2014). It was further escalated in 1999 when the Andhra Pradesh High Court ruled that the villages be part of the Telugu State.

Maharashtra contested this decision in the Supreme Court, leading to a debate about dual voting, though the matter remained unresolved as elections were held separately in Chandrapur (in Maharashtra) and the united Adilabad district (in undivided A.P.) in 2004. That year, when the Election Commission mandated that voters choose a single constituency, Mr. Kamble recalled the impact: women voted in the Chandrapur constituency while men voted in Adilabad. "But now, we don't have that problem. We vote in both elections," said Waman Pawar of Maharajguda.

The Election Commission will be setting up four polling stations in the disputed villages for the forthcoming Assembly election. Telangana Chief Electoral Officer Vikas Raj, said, "After the delimitation process in 2006, these villages were included in the 005-Asifabad constituency. In 2004, recognising the territorial dispute, the Election Commission issued instructions to the CEOs of Andhra Pradesh and Maharashtra to take measures to avoid double voting."

NIA files chargesheet
in Khalistan outfit case

Operating from the Philippines, Ammy and Amrik Singh were actively engaged in inducting the youth into the KTF. Their activities extended to smuggling of arms and explosives from Pakistan, as well as carrying out extortion and the subsequent channelling of the crime proceeds for terrorist activities, the agency said.

The accused facing chargesheet, at the behest of Arsh Dalla, raised funds for the KTF. The terrorist group had carried out targeted killings and firings at the residences of potential victims, coercing them into complying with their extortion demands. The NIA investigation allegedly revealed that extortion funds were being systematically transferred to various foreign countries through both banking and non-banking channels. "These illicit financial transactions were aimed at fuelling terrorist activities in India," it said. The KTF operatives were involved in regular recruitment and handling of their terror syndicate associates from abroad. They were also involved in the smuggling of arms, ammunition, and explosives from across the border through drones, it added.

Earlier, the NIA had filed a chargesheet against nine accused persons in the same case on July 22. It said that 12 other members of the KTF and their associates linked to the Babbar Khalsa International are currently under investigation.

One lakh orders light up
Kashmir's pottery scene

"The modern way of life brought down the use of earthen utensils in Kashmir, denting sales. The past three years, however, have seen a revival of sorts. Diwali has played a role in it. Besides, glazed pottery is again in fashion in Kashmir, making pottery a viable option to earn our living," Mr. Umar, a commerce graduate, said. He has hired two additional workers to meet the demand of about 20,000 lamps this season.

The localities of potters in Zewan, Lethpora, Nishat and Rainawari too chipped in to meet the demand. "We are getting orders from Jammu and outside," Mr. Umar said. A rough estimate from the kilns in Srinagar and Ganderbal districts suggested that over 1 lakh lamps have been supplied from the Valley this year for Deepavali.

The revival of the pottery sector in Kashmir is spurred on by the introduction of electricity-driven wheels and spinners, making it less labour-intensive. This year, the government announced training, credit, and market support for potters in Kashmir under the PM Vishwakarma Kaushal Samman.

Drug smugglers find new route via
Mizoram, evade clashes-hit Manipur

Traffickers of narcotic substances from Assam and Mizoram have used excavators to carve a 10-km path from the International Border to the nearest habitation in the neighbouring country, officials say; the track starts from the Tiau river, which marks India's border with Myanmar

Rahul Karmakar
ZOKHAWTHAR (MIZORAM)

Indian smugglers and their local contacts on either side of the International Border used excavators to carve out a 10-km "jeepable road" in Myanmar for a new drug route through Mizoram, officials said.

Dawn is the name of the nearest habitation from Lungkawlh, a village in Serchhip district in central Mizoram near the border with Myanmar.

Officials of the State's Excise and Narcotics Department discovered the track from the Tiau river – it marks India's border with Myanmar – to Dawn after smugglers began using the route to avoid the ethnic conflict-scarred Manipur, considered a more strategic and convenient passage.

A couple of couriers caught by the State police carrying heroin and a 10-kg bundle of methamphetamine pills a few months ago confessed to members of the ring forcing the track through the hilly terrain with excavators.

The Tiau has ankle to knee-deep water for most part of the year and its rocky bed allows easy crossing. The river runs southward along the international edge of Saitual dis-



A vantage view of the India-Myanmar border with the near-dry Tiau river snaking through the landscape. Myanmar is on the left, and Mizoram on the right of the river. RAHUL KARMAKAR

trict through Champhai, Serchhip, and Hnahthial district where it meets the Tuichang river and flows onward as the Chhintuipui.

"Drug trafficking controlled largely by some people in [southern Assam's] Karimganj district has always been a problem for Mizoram. But the volume of smuggling increased after Manipur started burning on May 3, disrupting the Moreh-Tamu route," Peter Zohmingthanga, Deputy Commissioner (Enforcement) of the Excise

and Narcotics Department, told *The Hindu*.

"Some 90% of the drugs that would have been smuggled in through Manipur during normal times find their way through the Zokhawthar area. Several agencies are intercepting consignments that find their way through Zokhawthar but the 10% being trafficked further south through Serchhip district from Dawn is a new worry because of remoteness and issues of accessibility," he said.

Mizoram Director-Gen-

eral of Police Anil Shukla admitted that the State has become a major transit for narcotic substances from Myanmar to other parts of India.

While Tiddim in Myanmar's Chin State feeds the narcotic substances to Zokhawthar, 234 km southeast of Mizoram's capital Aizawl, Dawn, also in Chin State, is serviced from Thlanglang, the nearest urban centre across the border.

Enforcement officials said a police checkpoint set up at Lungkawlh has

made the drug smugglers take a diversion from Lungkawlh-Dawn "road" north to Sailulak in the Serchhip district. Another "stop-gap" route is from Dawn to Ngarhchhip in the Hnahthial district south of Serchhip through Ralpel (Myanmar).

Meth worry

A series of seizures by the State agencies and the paramilitary Assam Rifles, authorised in March 2022 to seize and collect information under the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances (NDPS) Act, have reportedly checked the inflow of drugs through Mizoram in the past couple of months.

"The terrain is tough and the Tiau is easy to cross at many stretches where it passes through hill-slope jungles on either side. We have caught several people, many of them [from] Myanmar, ferrying drugs in small and large quantities but many could be slipping through," Jeevan Kumar, the officer in charge at the Zokhawthar police station, said.

Zokhawthar, a border trade centre, is about 40 km from Champhai, the headquarters of the Champhai district. Both places are within the 16-km distance a Myanmar national is allowed to travel accord-

ing to the free movement regime (FMR) agreed upon by the two countries.

"The traffickers usually move at night or dawn through jungle tracks, often on Kenbos [Myanmar-made two-wheelers illegal in India but used within the FMR]. On November 10, our teams seized 2.61 kg of heroin and cash totalling ₹19.52 crore from five Myanmar nationals in three different operations in Champhai district," an Assam Rifles officer posted on the India-Myanmar border said.

From January to October 2023, the Assam Rifles recovered 18 weapons, contraband items worth ₹74.03 crore, and drugs worth ₹911.28 crore from 131 Indians and 58 Myanmar nationals.

Officials of the State agencies contest the worth of drugs "as heroin and methamphetamine pills are sold at 1-5% of the price they command in India's metros".

"What is worrying is the spike in the smuggling of methamphetamine pills or crystal meth, increasingly popular among the youth as stimulants. From 9.108 kg between 2015 and 2018, the meth seizure from 2019 to 2022 jumped to 376.764 kg, which could be the tip of the iceberg," an Excise and Narcotics official said.

Inducing artificial rain to fix lingering
pollution remains a nebulous science

Jacob Koshy
NEW DELHI

The Delhi government's attempt to alleviate severe pollution in Delhi by resorting to artificial rain or cloud seeding is an experimental endeavour with no evidence so far that it will be successful in non-monsoon months. Though cloud seeding has been attempted since the 1940s and was pioneered by the United States military, having clouds deliver enough rain over a desired region continues to be a nebulous endeavour.

With air quality "severely" bad, the Delhi government met experts from the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Kanpur earlier this week, who plan to submit a proposal to the government, which will in turn submit it to the Supreme Court. The plan, the full details of which are not known, is to fly aircraft into rain clouds – which are anticipated in North India around November 20 – and sprinkle a proprietary salt solution on them. Much like seeds sprayed on fertile soil, the hope is that



A view of Rashtrapati Bhavan in New Delhi on Saturday. SUSHIL KUMAR VERMA

these salts will interact with water droplets in the clouds, make them bigger and heavier, and they will eventually condense as rain.

In principle, this works, but many factors must align for it to succeed, as the most exhaustive analysis of cloud seeding in India has found. Such an experiment in Solapur, Maharashtra over two monsoons in 2018 and 2019, the results of which were published in the *Bulletin of the American Meteorological Society* in October, concluded that seeding resulted in 18% more rainfall or about 8.67 million

litres of water) than in the absence of it. Solapur was chosen because it is a rain-shadow region that normally receives little monsoon rain. Even so, the research team, consisting largely of atmospheric-research scientists from the Indian Institute of Tropical Meteorology, Pune, could find 276 "convective clouds". These are clouds with a minimum of 0.5 gm of water per sq. cm. of cloud.

Different cloud shapes

Thara Prabhakaran, the lead scientist for the experiment, said that differences in cloud shapes and their existing water content significantly influenced the success with inducing artificial rain.

The ₹200 crore CAIPEX Cloud Aerosol Interaction and Precipitation Enhancement Experiment (CAIPEX Phase-4), as it was called, even tracked individual clouds to see the extent to which they were influenced by seeding. "Not all clouds are seedable, not all clouds will make rain. There are clouds that will get dissipated on seeding.

Overall, however, there was a net increase of 18% [rainfall] in a 100 sq. km area. Our experiment was very controlled and we selected clouds based on their potential to make rain," Dr. Prabhakaran told *The Hindu*.

Conducting the experiment during pre-monsoon or post monsoon (as is the case in Delhi) could have different outcomes as the number of convective clouds were fewer and relatively lower in the atmosphere (and therefore having less water), Dr. Prabhakaran said. Some of the rain from the seeded clouds also drifted several kilometres beyond the marked area, she added.

The researchers at IIT-Kanpur, who are gearing up for the cloud seeding exercise, say that the 18% improvement in rainfall observed in the CAIPEX experiment was an encouraging reason to attempt cloud seeding to allay Delhi's pollution woes. Sachchida Nand Tripathi, Professor, IIT-Kanpur, said, "Even a few millimetres of rain can go a long way in clearing the air."

Uttarakhand govt. plans to hold special
Assembly session amid buzz over UCC

Ishita Mishra
NEW DELHI

The Uttarakhand government is planning to call a special Assembly session in the second half of November, during which it intends to pass one of two much-awaited Bills – either the Uniform Civil Code (UCC), or a proposal for 10% horizontal reservation for statehood agitators and their dependents – accord-

ing to sources in the government.

A Secretary-level official confirmed to *The Hindu* that orders have been issued to start preparations for the special session, though its dates have still not been decided.

"We have been told that we should be ready for the session which can be called anytime after the Deepavali holiday. The Bills that may get tabled in

the session are either UCC or reservation for Rajya Andolanikaris [statehood agitators] and their dependents," he said.

The official also confirmed that the committee formed by the Uttarakhand government in June last year to examine means for the implementation of UCC in the State has not yet submitted its final draft. "But the committee too has been asked to be ready

with the same," the official confirmed.

He added that the State cabinet, in September this year, had already granted approval to present the Bill proposing 10% horizontal reservation for statehood agitators and their dependents.

Retired Supreme Court judge Ranjana Prakash Desai, who heads the UCC panel, had on Friday said the draft of the UCC is ready.

India, EU taking key
steps to advance ties
on maritime front

Dinakar Peri
NEW DELHI

As India and the European Union (EU) look to expand defence and security cooperation, the EU's first Defence Attaché to the country took charge earlier this month while the two sides also conducted the first naval exercise together. Officials noted that the ambit of security cooperation is expanding especially with focus on the Indo-Pacific region.

"We have increased a number of maritime exercises between EU and India... especially France and Italy. EU is now not only a trade and investment partner but also a security partner," an EU official said on the sidelines of a discussion organised by the think-tanks Council for Strategic and Defence Research and Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung. "We are now focussing on security, energy, sensitive technologies," the official said, adding that there is lot of focus on digital connectivity.

Last week, Captain (Navy) Fabrizio Falzi, who has earlier served as the Italian Defence Attaché (DA) in India, took over as the first DA in the Delegation of the European Union in New Delhi. The EU has limited number of DAs worldwide and the appointment in India shows the importance the organisation attaches to the ties, another EU official noted.

"The Government of India reserves the right, on the principle of reciprocity, to avail suitable reciprocal arrangement, as and when required," the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) said in a letter accepting the appointment.

Recently, India and Italy signed a defence cooperation agreement. The official also pointed to the



The European Union (EU) and India conducted their first joint naval exercise in the Gulf of Guinea last month. ANI

agreement between space agencies. India and Europe are the terminals of the India-Middle East-Europe Economic Corridor (IMEC) corridor which was announced on the sidelines of the G20 leaders summit in September.

Maiden naval exercise

On October 24, India and EU conducted their first joint naval exercise in the Gulf of Guinea which saw the participation of Indian Navy's *INS Sumedha*, an offshore patrol vessel, joined by Italian navy ship *ITS Foscari*, French navy ship *FS Ventose*, and Spanish navy ship *Tornado*, the Indian Navy said in a statement. The exercise followed the third meeting of the EU-India Maritime Security Dialogue on October 5 in Brussels.

The four ships practised a series of tactical manoeuvres in international waters off the coast of Ghana, including a boarding exercise, a flying exercise using the helicopters embarked on French ship *Ventose* and *INS Sumedha*, and transfer of personnel between ships, the Navy said. "This exercise was followed by a knowledge sharing session in Accra, Ghana which built on the joint experience at sea to improve operational know-how."

ASSEMBLY POLLS 2023

MIZORAM » MADHYA PRADESH » RAJASTHAN » CHHATTISGARH » TELANGANA

Rajasthan's hilly village gets a polling station

Voters of Shergaon, a village in the hills in Rajasthan, will be able to vote in their own turf for the first time, an official said on Saturday.

Chief Electoral Officer Praveen Gupta said that for easy and inclusive voting, the Election Commission has made arrangements to set up polling stations even in inaccessible hilly, remote and sparsely

populated areas. Mr. Gupta said that voters of Shergaon, located at an altitude of 1,500 metres in the Abu-Pindwara Assembly constituency of Sirohi district, will be able to vote in their own village for the first time. With the help of forest guards, the polling party will walk for about 18 kilometres in the dense forest to reach this polling station, Mr. Gupta said. He said the polling station has been set up for 117 voters. Earlier, the voters had to go to the polling station in Utraj village. **PTI**



Posters on voting awareness on display ahead of the Rajasthan Assembly polls, in Bikaner. ANI

'IAF helicopters made 404 trips in Chhattisgarh'

The Indian Air Force conducted 404 sorties with eight Mi-17 choppers for six days, ferrying polling parties along with voting machines in Naxalite violence-affected Bastar division during the recently held first phase of Chhattisgarh polls, a senior election official said on Friday.

Twelve constituencies of Bastar division were among

the 20 Assembly segments in Chhattisgarh that went to the polls in the first phase on November 7.

The Chhattisgarh Chief Electoral Officer wrote on X (formerly Twitter) on Friday, "Defying all challenges, the Indian Air Force (IAF) conducted 404 sorties with Eight Mi-17s, securely ferrying 853 polling team members to and from 43 locations, enabling a successful electoral process in a tough LWE-affected region. Salute to the India Air Force." **PTI**



Congress leaders claim themselves to be heroes. They are not heroes. They are zeroes. Time has come to bid them farewell in Chhattisgarh

RAJNATH SINGH
Defence Minister

Baghel takes a 'goonda' jibe at BJP's Agrawal

Chhattisgarh Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel has said that calling someone else a *goonda* (goon) in front of senior Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) leader Brijmohan Agrawal is an insult to the word itself.

Talking to reporters on Friday, Mr. Baghel was reacting to an alleged incident of assault on Mr. Agrawal. **PTI**



Our fight now is to ensure Nyay. Justice to all our people. It is time to usher back an era of people-centric governance across India

RAHUL GANDHI
Congress leader



Vows made: The manifesto, titled Sankalp Patra, also promises concrete houses to more than 1.3-crore beneficiaries of the 'Ladli Behna Yojana'. A.M.FARUQUI

BJP promises wheat MSP hike, medical colleges in M.P.

Mehul Malpani
BHOPAL

Days ahead of the Assembly election in Madhya Pradesh, the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) on Saturday released its manifesto titled *Sankalp Patra* with a slew of promises, such as increasing the minimum support price (MSP) of wheat to ₹2,700 a quintal and of paddy to ₹3,100 a quintal.

The manifesto launched by BJP national president J.P. Nadda, Madhya Pradesh Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan, and other party leaders also promised concrete houses to more than 1.3-crore beneficiaries of the State government's flagship scheme 'Ladli Behna Yojana'. The BJP also promised that beneficiaries of 'Ladli Behna' and the Centre's 'Ujjwala Yojana' would receive LPG cylinders at a subsidised rate of ₹450.

The Congress has already released its manifesto in which it had promised to purchase wheat at ₹2,600 per quintal and rice at ₹2,500 per quintal.

The BJP has also promised to establish one engineering institute named Madhya Pradesh Institute of Technology, on the lines of the Indian Institutes of Technologies (IITs), in each division of the State. Mr. Nadda said that if the BJP forms the government in the State, it will also set up one medical college – Madhya Pradesh Institute of Medical Sciences, on the lines of Centre's All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS) – in each division. A medical city named Atal Medicity would also be established.

Free education

The party has promised free education from kindergarten to postgraduation for girls from below poverty line (BPL) families, Eklavya Model Residential Schools in all Scheduled Tribe-designated blocks of the State, and one medical college each in all tribal districts.

The BJP also proposes a Bundelkhand Development Board with an investment of ₹5,000 crore for the underdeveloped region. It has also promised similar development boards for the Vindhya and Mahakoshal regions. The ruling party, in an attempt to win over the State's 21% tribal population, has promised that ₹3 lakh crore would be spent on the development of the community. The BJP also said that the financial assistance to girls under 'Ladli Lakshmi Yojana' will be increased from ₹1.43 lakh to ₹2 lakh.

Mr. Nadda said that six new expressways will be developed in the State, and promised that two new airports will be developed in Rewa and Singrauli. He said while existing metro rail projects in Bhopal and Indore would be completed, new metro networks will come up in Gwalior and Jabalpur.

With the number of gig workers rising, the party has promised to set up a welfare board for them. It has also promised 100 unit of electricity for ₹100 to every household.

Commenting on the BJP's manifesto, Congress general secretary in charge of Madhya Pradesh Randeep Surjewala called it a "jumla patra". "Liars and dishonest people are issuing a *jumla patra*, how do you trust them?," he said.

GROUND REPORT

A.M. Jigeesh
MANDSAUR/ NEEMUCH

Long queues of farmers at government-controlled fertilizer distribution units have become gathering points to discuss the Shivraj Singh Chouhan government's farm policies ahead of the Assembly election in Madhya Pradesh. Farmers complain that shortage of fertilizers in cooperative retail outlets and delay in their distribution will have an impact both on the crops and on votes. The BJP, however, denied the reports of shortage and said if at all there are any issues, the district administrations will address it. The State will go to the polls on November 17.

The Hindu talked to scores of farmers who were on a queue near the Pipaliya Mandi in Mand-saur. This is the same area where six farmers were killed in police firing while protesting for higher minimum support price (MSP) and for adequate quantities of fertilizer and seeds, in June 2017. "I have been waiting here for two days. I need 15 bags of urea and



Pressing demand: Farmers stand in a queue to collect tokens for urea at Neemuch of Madhya Pradesh on Thursday. SHASHI SHEKHAR KASHYAP

what I will get after submitting relevant documents is two bags [each of 45 kilograms]. They won't be sufficient," said Ramlal, a farmer from Mand-saur.

Women and elderly people were also seen in the store waiting for their turn. "Only limited number of tokens are given, that too on a first come, first served basis. So I camped here overnight to be at the front of the queue. The government should have managed this better as we can-

not stay away from our farms at this time. It is very crucial," said Monu Gujjar, another farmer.

Continuing problem

The police have been deployed in these retail outlets to control the rush. "Every such retail outlet has long queues. This is not new. We are facing this for the past few years," said Vijay Singh, another farmer. He said he has sown wheat and chickpeas in his two-acre farmland and

needs fertilizers urgently. "I need to provide fertilizers for wheat and chickpea saplings within the next seven days. If I don't get the fertilizers, I will be forced to buy from private retailers where prices are much higher," he added.

Kishore Patidar, a farmers' leader associated with the Samyukt Kisan Morcha, said such long queues portray the absolute apathy of the government towards farmers. "Under the pretext of a slow billing

system and other logistical issues, the BJP government is pushing farmers towards private suppliers. Cooperatives are controlled by government and elections are not held for several years. Farmers depend on these cooperative outlets so that there is some respite in the input cost," Mr. Patidar said.

Price difference

According to farmers, private retailers charge about ₹450 for a bag of urea

while the price in cooperative stores is ₹266. Similarly, nitrogen, phosphorus, and potassium, or the NPK fertilizer is sold for around ₹1,500 to ₹1,800 at private stores while the designated rate is ₹1,350 (for 50 kg). Di-ammonium phosphate is also costlier with private retailers. "The government is in connivance with the private companies," Mr. Patidar said, demanding direct transfer of subsidies.

The Union government has been maintaining that the country has adequate stocks of fertilizers for this season despite global crises such as the Ukraine-Russia war. The Union Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers is also monitoring the supply and availability of fertilizers on a daily basis through an integrated e-platform.

The BJP said allegations of long queues and shortage are false. Party spokesman Hitesh Bajpai rubbished the charges.

"There may be local issues which need the District Magistrate's intervention. There is nothing to worry," Dr. Bajpai said, adding that the BJP will manage such issues after December 3, the day of announcement of the results.

Balak Nath brands himself as 'Rajasthan ka Yogi', raises communal passions in Tijara

GROUND REPORT

Sobhana K. Nair
ALWAR

Addressing a small gathering at the village temple in Bubkhera, Baba Balak Nath, the BJP candidate from Tijara in Rajasthan, asks, "Have you seen the Bharat-Pakistan match?"

The crowd, consisting largely of Meghwals, a Scheduled Caste community, listens to him impassively.

The clean-shaven, saffron-clad Baba, who has traded his diamond studs for wooden hoops this election season, thunders: "Match Pakistan ke saath jitna hai ki nahi? (Don't we have to win the match with Pakistan?)" The Bharat-Pakistan euphemism for the Hindu-Muslim divide is not lost on his audience.

The Tijara Assembly segment is part of the Alwar Lok Sabha constituency that Mr. Nath, 39, currently represents. In an election that could go down to the wire, his immediate concern is voting percentage. He does not name any community, but asks, "How much is their voting percentage?" Someone remarks that it goes up to 90%. "And how much is ours," he asks. There is on-



Seeking support: BJP candidate from Tijara Baba Balak Nath addressing villagers at Bub Ka Hera in Alwar. SHIV KUMAR PUSHPAKAR

Since 1967, the seat has been held by Muslim candidates seven times and Yadavs five times

ly a scattered response. He exhorts his listeners not to leave any voter behind.

Ahirwal vs Mewat

The Congress has fielded 36-year-old Imran Khan, a former Bahujan Samaj Party (BSP) leader who has not formally joined the party, but was granted ticket just days before the deadline to file nominations. The battle lines are drawn clearly in the "us versus them" metric, and the binary that Mr. Nath drew in his election pitch is an old tactic. The new pol-

itical map has not erased the ancient Ahirwal-Mewat boundaries. Ahirwal was a post-Mughal principality ruled by Ahirs or Yadavs. The Mewat region is populated by Muslims and Dalits. Development is uneven on the two sides of the Delhi-Alwar highway, which divides the two regions.

In the 12 Assembly elections held since 1967, the seat has been held by Muslim candidates seven times and Yadavs five times. Mr. Nath, who is a mahant of the Nath sect of Hinduism, was born into a Yadav family and is one of the aspirants for the Chief Minister's post in the faction-ridden State unit of the BJP. The only time the BJP has won the Tijara seat was in 2013.

As one crosses over to Rajasthan from Haryana, trudging through dusty Nuh, there are no motorable roads to the villages. At Mansingh Ki Thani, a small hamlet of 50 Meghwal households, voters are waiting patiently for Mr. Nath to arrive, though it is nearly 1 p.m., and he is running late. "We want to show him the condition of our village," says Ravinder Kumar, a 26-year-old electrician who works in the nearby industrial town of Bhiwadi. In his next breath, he adds, "But I have heard that he could be the CM, so I guess it would be good to place our bets on him."

Another man in his mid-40s listening in to the conversation offers his perspective. "No Muslim legislator has ever worked for Mewat. Last time, we had BSP MLA Sandeep Yadav, who later joined the Congress. He also worked only for Ahirwal. No one wants to bring development to Mewat," he says, on condition of anonymity. For the last two consecutive terms, the legislators from Tijara have been Yadav.

In this battle between the Yadavs and Muslims, it is the significant population of Dalits who could play a decisive role. Most of the Dalit voters are waiting

for a cue from the Meghwal Vikas Samiti, whose president, Mangat Ram, says he will take a call in a day or two. "All I can say is that we have been happy with the Congress government in the State and the same can't be said about our MP," says Mr. Ram.

'Communal agenda'

This is the same pitch adopted by Mr. Nath's opponent. "Our honourable MP can't point to a single foundation stone that he has laid in four-and-a-half years," says Mr. Khan. "He never talks about development. He has a single point agenda of Sanatana Dharma. No religion is in peril here, neither Hinduism nor Islam, but he is trying to fan communal passions," he adds.

Mr. Khan has been busy lodging complaints against Mr. Nath, including a claim that he drove bulldozers while campaigning without holding a heavy-vehicle driving licence.

The use of bulldozers in the BJP campaign is an ode to Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath, whose name Mr. Nath has adopted to brand himself as "Rajasthan ka Yogi".

Mr. Khan fears that as the polling date nears, the campaign will become more and more divisive.

Rajasthan will reject BJP's polarisation pitch: Ramesh

The Hindu Bureau
JAIPUR

Congress leader Jairam Ramesh on Saturday said the people in Rajasthan would reject the BJP's "politics of polarisation" in the Assembly election and support the ruling Congress, which was seeking a mandate based on the State government's performance during the past five years. The BJP is misusing the Central agencies for its electoral benefit, Mr. Ramesh said.

Mr. Ramesh said at a press conference here that the BJP, which was devoid of issues, was using polarisation on the basis of religion and caste as well as the agencies like Enforcement Directorate (ED) and Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) as its "weapons" for the polls. "Prime Minister Narendra Modi and his associates are speaking the language of polarisation and making baseless allegations against the Congress government in Rajasthan," he said.

Mr. Ramesh said Rajasthan had emerged as a model State during the Congress rule while the Opposition BJP was not in a position to talk adversely about the State government's welfare schemes.

FOR FULL COVERAGE OF ASSEMBLY POLLS
Please scan the QR code or visit <https://newsthe.live/elections>

IN BRIEF



3 tourists killed as houseboats catch fire on Dal Lake

Three tourists from Bangladesh lost their lives in a blaze that engulfed five houseboats on Friday night at the tourist hotspot of Dal Lake in Srinagar. An official said a State Disaster Response Force (SDRF) team retrieved the bodies from the debris of the houseboats on Saturday. The deceased were identified as Anindaya Kowshal, Das Gupta and Mohammad Moinud. The circumstances under which the houseboats caught fire near Ghat No. 9 in the Dal Lake could not be ascertained immediately. "The administration is dedicated to providing assistance to the victims," Ajaz Asad, Deputy Commissioner of Srinagar, said. The administration also relocated four houseboats to prevent further damage. Regional parties have expressed shock over the fire incident.

Grain tune: PM Modi's millet music gets Grammy nod

India's Prime Minister Narendra Modi has made an entry into the halls of global music with a song featuring him and his passion for millet nominated for a Grammy. "Abundance In Millets" by Falu and Gaurav Shah, a tune the musicians say was "written and performed" with the Prime Minister, features speeches by Mr. Modi expounding the benefits of his favourite grain. The tune was nominated on Friday in the Best Global Music Performance category. Mr. Modi has said he believes it "will inspire more people to embrace millets for healthy living!". Grammy winners will be announced on February 4. AFP

One dead, several injured in stampede at Surat station

One person died and several more were injured in a stampede at the Surat railway station in Gujarat's Surat district on Saturday. Sources said the stampede occurred when hundreds of passengers tried to board a Bihar-bound train ahead of the festivities. A massive crowd of migrant workers were on the way to their home towns and in a headlong rush the crowds attempted to board the outbound trains resulting in a stampede. The police said they managed to bring the situation under control and additional forces were deployed to manage the crowds at the station compound.

Indian fishermen released by Pak. govt. handed over to BSF

Eighty Indian fishermen who were released from a jail in Pakistan have been handed over to Border Security Force (BSF) authorities on the Attari-Wagah border here, officials said on Saturday. The Pakistan government on Thursday released 80 Indian fishermen from the Malir jail in Karachi. Punjab police protocol officer Arun Mahal said all the prisoners crossed over to India on Friday night through the border through the 'Emergency Travel Certificate' issued by the Indian High Commission based at Islamabad. The moment they crossed over to India the fishermen bowed down in respect, he added.

SUDOKU

		7	5	2				8
6	5	4				8		
				7				
		5		9	3			1
	3	1				7	9	
2			6	4		5		
				6				
			4				3	1
	9			3	7	2		

DIFFICULTY RATING: ★☆☆☆☆

Solution to yesterday's Sudoku

6	3	1	8	2	4	5	9	7
5	8	7	1	3	9	4	2	6
2	4	9	7	5	6	8	3	1
4	2	6	9	7	1	3	5	8
8	1	3	2	4	5	6	7	9
9	7	5	6	8	3	1	4	2
7	5	2	4	1	8	9	6	3
3	6	8	5	9	2	7	1	4
1	9	4	3	6	7	2	8	5

'Rishi Sunak keen on visiting India, but difficult issues remain in FTA'

British High Commissioner to India Alex Ellis says both Prime Ministers are signalling to their systems that they want to find a way to get a deal, but there is no hiding the difficulties; External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar to raise concerns about Khalistan threats during his four-day London visit

Suhasini Haidar
NEW DELHI

Negotiations for an India-United Kingdom Free Trade Agreement (FTA) are the main focus of ties between the two countries at present, with several "hard bits" that could need intervention at a "senior level", the British High Commissioner to India, Alex Ellis, said on Saturday, speaking ahead of External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar's visit to London this week. He added that British Prime Minister Rishi Sunak was "keen" on visiting India, but that the focus on the FTA talks came first.

"We are a lot closer than we were a year ago. We are batting deep as they would say in the Cricket World Cup, and now we are on to the big and tricky issues, and they are substantially difficult," Mr. Ellis said, when asked about a timeline for the FTA to be completed.

Asked whether Mr. Sunak's visit was contingent on the FTA being ready to sign, Mr. Ellis told *The Hindu* in an exclusive interview that the "Prime Minis-

ter [Sunak] is keen to come [to India]. But first of all, we have got to focus on the FTA," pointing to an "intense period of negotiations" that are now ongoing, with officials meeting regularly to work through issues.

FTA talks drag on

Mr. Sunak's proposed bilateral visit to India in October-November is understood to have been put off due to delays in the FTA talks. The talks, which began after Brexit in January 2022, are now in their 14th round, with about five of the 26 chapters still unresolved, sources said.

In a telephone conversation last week, Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Mr. Sunak also discussed the progress in the FTA talks.

Mr. Jaishankar, who left for the U.K. on Saturday on a four-day visit that officials said was "long overdue", is expected to be joined by U.K. Foreign Secretary James Cleverly to celebrate Deepavali at the Indian High Commission. He will hold several high-level meetings in London to discuss strategic ties, as well



Alex Ellis said that India and the U.K. have a better understanding on how to deal with extremism in different forms. R. RAVINDRAN

as India's concerns over the issue of Khalistani extremism in the U.K.

Top priority

Diplomatic sources have said that the U.K. FTA is India's top priority at present. Deals with Australia for the Comprehensive Economic Cooperation Agreement (CECA) and the European Union and the European Free Trade Association (EFTA) talks with Switzerland, Norway, Finland and Liechtenstein, as well as with the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) are next in line. With election season in India in 2024 and

the U.K. headed to polls by January 2025, Mr. Sunak and Mr. Modi are hopeful that the FTA will be completed by early 2024, but have not set any deadline yet.

"I think it's clear both Prime Ministers are signalling to their systems that they want to find a way to get a deal. But there is no hiding the difficulties," Mr. Ellis said. The problems include the Rules of Origin, given that the U.K. has an integrated supply chain with the European Union, while India wants to favour goods that include a higher value addition from the

U.K. itself. In addition, tariffs over goods such as Scotch whisky and automobiles, including electric vehicles, from the U.K., and leather and textiles from India are among the sticking points. Meanwhile, India has yet to commit to giving legal and financial U.K. firms access to the Indian market.

"So what we want to do now is try and boil down the issues to the few big ones which need resolution at a senior level, to cut away quite a lot of the second order issues... and then we can actually focus on the really hard bits at the end," Mr. Ellis added, clarifying that mobility, or more visas for Indians, are not included in the agreement.

When asked about the U.K. decision to put India on a list of "safe states", effectively disallowing any Indians that enter the U.K. illegally on "small boats" across the English Channel from applying for asylum, Mr. Ellis said that the move was an "autonomous judgment".

"To sustain legal migration we have to tackle illegal migration. And at diffe-

rent points in the first quarter of this year, Indians moved up to number two in terms of nationals coming in small boats across the Channel, crossing the English Channel. So you need to tackle that as well," Mr. Ellis said, adding that Indians are the largest recipients of work visas to the U.K.

Mr. Jaishankar, whose visit comes eight months after a major India-U.K. spat over protests by Khalistani extremists at the High Commission in London, is also expected to raise India's concerns on the issue, including over the most recent video by the Sikhs for Justice group, banned by India, that threatened any passengers taking Air India flights on November 19.

"We're always keeping under review the list [of extremist groups] and looking at the behaviour of different kinds of groups. I feel that [India and the U.K.] have a better understanding and a more greater confidence on the two sides of how to deal with extremism in different forms in the U.K.," Mr. Ellis said in the interview.

Pre-sale of dolls crafted by women in Manipur exceeds expectations

The Hindu Bureau
GUWAHATI

The online pre-sale campaign for crochet dolls crafted by Manipur's internally displaced women exceeded expectations by garnering \$11,000, officials said on Saturday.

A couple of months after the ongoing ethnic conflict broke out in Manipur on May 3, a Singapore-based brand named 1 Million Heroes launched 'Stitching Hope', an initiative to equip the violence-displaced women with skills in the Japanese craft art of amigurumi.

Shaping the narrative

Detailed templates, tools, and materials were provided to women in a few relief camps to create dolls as a



Crafting hope: Women in a relief camp in Manipur's Imphal valley crocheting dolls. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

viable means to the sustainable livelihood of persons affected by the ethnic violence that has so far claimed close to 200 lives and displaced more than 60,000 persons.

The online campaign for the dolls, which ran from October 7 to November 5,

garnered \$11,000 worth of pre-sale orders from North America, Australia, Europe, and Asia.

Monish Karam of 1 Million Heroes said the business generated through the pre-sale campaign was twice the initial target, attributing it to a blend of

compassion and the therapeutic aspect of crafting dolls.

"The success of the campaign is not just about numbers but about the human connection. It is about children around the world learning from the stories of resilience, and about our artisans finding healing and purpose through their craft," he said.

Officials of the State's Trade, Commerce, and Industries said the campaign, while transitioning to the production phase, has shaped a narrative of hope among the women for reclaiming control over their lives. "The dolls are expected to be delivered to homes across the world before December-end," an official said.

Scrap deal to send Indian workers to Israel: trade unions

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Ten Central trade unions (CTUs) have questioned the Centre's proposed move to send about one lakh Indian construction workers to Israel to replace Palestinian nationals working there. They alleged that the Union government is playing a despicable role in supporting the Israeli plans to throw out Palestinian workers, and retaliation for the Hamas attack is only an excuse. Diplomatic sources, however, said the request from Israel's construction industry has been discussed, but there is no agreement yet.

Asked about the proposal, Ministry of External Affairs spokesperson Arin-

dam Bagchi said the government was not aware of any specific request, but that India has been discussing a mobility and migration agreement with Israel to facilitate and protect Indian workers in the construction and caregiver fields.

The trade unions said both countries signed an agreement in May 2023 during the visit of the Israeli Foreign Minister Eli Cohen to send 42,000 Indian workers to Israel, out of which 34,000 were to be brought into the construction industry, to replace the Palestinian workers.

The trade unions said nothing could be more immoral and disastrous for India than "exporting" workers to Israel.

Scientists pull paper from journal over Arunachal mention

Shiv Sahay Singh
KOLKATA

In a spillover of the border dispute between India and China, Indian scientists have been forced to withdraw a paper from an international peer-reviewed journal published from China on the grounds that it could not mention Arunachal Pradesh.

Mukesh Thakur, Lalit Kumar Sharma, and Avijit Ghosh were forced to withdraw a paper on the white-cheeked macaque (*Macaca leucogenys*) on the grounds that it could not mention Arunachal Pradesh as the sampling site. The Chinese government contested the inclusion of Arunachal Pradesh in the study, claiming it did not align with their defined map.

The paper, "Two Y chromosome lineages in white-cheeked macaque (*Macaca leucogenys*)" was accepted on February 14, 2023, and published online on April 5, 2023, in *Wildlife Letters*. *Wildlife Letters* is a re-



Rare find: An Indian team discovered the white-cheeked macaque from two places in Arunachal Pradesh. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

cently launched international peer-reviewed journal and is published from Northeast Forestry University in China.

'Scientific terrorism'

"This is nothing but scientific terrorism. Since April 2023, I have exchanged several emails with the journal authorities relating to the paper. I have taken strong stand that I cannot replace Arunachal Pradesh

and was forced to withdraw the paper in the last week of October," Mukesh Thakur, scientist and officer-in-charge, Mammal Section, Zoological Survey of India (ZSI), told *The Hindu*.

Dr. Thakur, the lead author of the paper, has more than 100 papers in his name and has been a recipient of several distinguished awards, including the DST Young Scientist (2013), the DST INSPIRE

Faculty (2017), the INSA Medal for Young Scientist (2018), and the TULIP LAB Ex Fellow-France (2022). He has also served at the Chinese Academy of Sciences as a Visiting Scientist (2015-16).

"For *Wildlife Letters*, as a journal published in China, we are obligated to follow Chinese maps and use of place names. Our failure not to do so could result in removal of Chinese funding for the journal and create problems for journal staff that are based in China," Marcel Holyoak, co-editor-in-chief for *Wildlife Letters*, wrote to Dr. Thakur in an email dated April 2023.

The co-editor-in-chief suggested that the only option in the current case is that the problems be corrected or "we are forced to withdraw the manuscript".

When the scientists accused the journal of questioning the geopolitical boundaries of India, Professor Holyoak wrote back saying that neither he nor

the journal takes any position with respect to geopolitical boundaries, but "we are obliged to follow what is expected of the scientists and journal within China".

In October 2023, Dr. Thakur wrote to the journal saying that their decision to withdraw the paper based on "national regulations concerning the name of specific regions, mentioned in the article, in my view" was "unwarranted".

He also said that he was willing to pursue legal action through an international court to ensure resolution of the matter.

Lack of support

Dr. Thakur said that he was surprised that there were Indian scientists on the board of the journal who did not support him on the issue. Dr. Thakur, who specialises in the use of DNA technologies, also added that the journal holds a production house in India, and a few Indians employed with the journal's production house also in-

sisted on the omission of Arunachal Pradesh's mention from the paper.

"We are happy that our scientist has remained firm on the issue of the territorial integrity of the country. There could be several such incidents that can go unnoticed and we would urge the Government of India to come up with an advisory on issues where the territorial integrity of the country is concerned," ZSI Director Dhriti Banerjee said.

Discovered by Chinese scientists from South Tibet, white-cheeked macaque (*Macaca leucogenys*) was later reported by Dr. Mukesh and his team from Dibang Valley and West Siang region of Arunachal Pradesh on the basis of camera trapping and DNA analysis. In the paper, which they were forced to withdraw, the scientists explore two paternal lineage of the animal supporting a hybrid origin of the species with the sinica group of macaques.

DHAKA
150 garment factories shut, 11,000 workers charged in Bangladesh



Bangladeshi garment manufacturers on Saturday shuttered 150 factories "indefinitely", as the police issued blanket charges for 11,000 workers in connection with violent protests demanding a higher minimum wage, officers said. Violent protests demanding better pay erupted last month. AFP

MEXICO
Mexico City imposes severe, months-long water restrictions



Mexican officials imposed severe, months-long cuts to Mexico City's water supply at midnight on Friday, acting just a month after initial restrictions were ordered as drought dries the capital's reservoirs. Abnormally low rain has dropped the Cutzamala system to 44% lower than it should be at this time of the year. AP

UNITED NATIONS
Over half of Sudan's population needs humanitarian aid, says UN



Almost seven months of war between Sudan's military and a powerful paramilitary group have left a wave of destruction with over half the population in need of humanitarian aid and raised fears of a repeat of the deadly ethnic conflict in Darfur 20 years ago, the United Nations humanitarian coordinator for Sudan said. AP

ISLAMABAD
Pak. court orders return of Nawaz Sharif's seized property, assets



In a temporary relief to Nawaz Sharif, an accountability court in Pakistan has ordered authorities to release all moveable and immovable properties seized from the former Prime Minister in 2020 in connection with the Toshakhana corruption case. He is all set to lead the PML-N during the general elections, on Feb. 8. PTI

Gaza's main hospital goes dark amid attacks; toll crosses 11,000

Deaths of patients, especially those in the intensive care unit, have begun as medical devices have stopped working without electricity, says director of Shifa Hospital; Israel Prime Minister says responsibility for any harm to civilians lies with Hamas

Associated Press
DEIR AL-BALAH

Israel's Prime Minister pushed back on Saturday against calls from Western allies to do more to protect Palestinian civilians, as troops encircled Gaza's largest hospital where doctors said five patients died, including a premature baby, after the last generator ran out of fuel. Israel has portrayed Shifa Hospital as Hamas's main command post, saying militants were using civilians as human shields there and had set up elaborate bunkers underneath it — claims Hamas and Shifa staff deny. In recent days,



Clean sweep: Israeli tanks rolling as an Army bulldozer demolishes a burning building inside the Gaza Strip. AFP

fighting near Shifa and other hospitals in the combat zone of northern Gaza has intensified and supplies have run out. "There is no electricity. Medical devices stopped.

Patients, especially those in intensive care, started to die," said Mohammed Abu Selmia, the director of Shifa, speaking by phone over the sound of gunfire and explosions.

Abu Selmia said Israeli troops were "shooting at anyone outside or inside the hospital," and prevented movement between the buildings in the compound. Asked about reports of troops firing into the Shifa courtyard, the Israeli military would only say that troops are engaged with fighting Hamas in the vicinity and take all feasible measures to prevent harm to civilians. It said soldiers have encountered hundreds of Hamas fighters in underground facilities, schools, mosques and clinics during fighting in Gaza. Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu said the

responsibility for any harm to civilians lies with Hamas. His statement came after French President Emmanuel Macron pushed for a ceasefire and urged other leaders to join his call, telling the BBC there was "no justification" for Israel's ongoing bombing. The U.S. has been pushing for temporary pauses that would allow for wider distribution of badly needed aid to civilians in the besieged territory where conditions are increasingly dire. More than 11,070 Palestinians, two-thirds of them women and minors, have been killed since the war began, according to the Gaza Health Ministry.

Arab leaders slam Israel; call out 'double standards'

Agence France-Presse
RIYADH

Arab and Muslim leaders on Saturday condemned Israeli forces' "barbaric" actions in Gaza but declined to approve punitive economic and political steps against the country over its war against Hamas. The outcome of a joint summit in the Saudi capital of the Arab League and the Organisation of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) highlighted regional divisions over how to respond to the war even as fears mount that it could draw in other countries. The final declaration on Saturday rejected Israeli claims that it is acting in "self-defence" and demanded that the United Nations Security Council adopt "a decisive and binding resolution" to halt Israel's "aggression". Saudi Arabia's de facto ruler Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman, who before the war was considering establishing formal diplomatic ties with Israel, told the summit he "holds the occupation [Israeli] authorities responsible for the crimes committed against the Palestinian people". Iranian President Ebrahim Raisi said Islamic nations should designate the Israeli Army a "terrorist organisation". Prince Faisal bin Farhan, the Saudi Foreign Minister, similarly decried "double standards" in the world's response to the war, saying Israel was getting a pass on violations of international law.



Iranian President Ebrahim Raisi, left, arrives for the Organisation of Islamic Cooperation summit, in Riyadh on Saturday. REUTERS

Grand celebration



People lighting flares as they attend a march to mark the 105th anniversary of Polish independence in Warsaw, on Saturday. REUTERS

Over 3,00,000 turn out for pro-Palestinian London rally

Reuters
LONDON

More than 3,00,000 pro-Palestinian demonstrators marched through central London on Saturday, with police arresting nearly 100 far-right counter-protesters to stop them ambushing the main rally. Pro-Palestinian protesters could be heard chanting "From the river to the sea, Palestine will be free", a rallying cry which is viewed by many Jews as anti-semitic and a call for Israel's eradication. Others carried banners reading "Free Palestine", "Stop the Massacre" and "Stop Bombing Gaza". Skirmishes broke out between police and the far-right groups that had also descended on the cap-



Peace plea: People demonstrating on Vauxhall Bridge during a protest in solidarity with Gaza, in London on Saturday. REUTERS

Israeli drone hits vehicle in Lebanon

Agence France-Presse
BEIRUT

An Israeli drone struck on Saturday a vehicle in the Zahrani area, deep in Lebanese territory, official media in Lebanon National News Agency (NNA) said. This is after weeks of skirmishes mainly limited to border areas since the Israel-Hamas war began.

Myanmar fight blocks China trade routes

Agence France-Presse
YANGON

A surprise offensive by Myanmar ethnic armed groups has blocked two strategically vital roads to the country's biggest trading partner China, choking cross-border commerce and denying the cash-strapped junta taxes and foreign exchange. Fighting has raged across northern Shan state for two weeks, displacing almost 50,000 people, according to the United Nations, and posing the most serious military challenge to the generals since they seized power in 2021. The blockage to key transport arteries is already leading to higher prices in markets and hampering the junta's ability to send reinforcements to tackle the offensive. Goods traffic from Muse has all but halted since fighters from the Arakan Army (AA), Myanmar National Democratic Alliance Army (MNDAA) and Ta'ang National Liberation Army (TNLA) launched their offensive on October 27. Chinshwehaw, another hub on the border with China's Yunnan province, is also currently closed. Last week, the MNDAA posted footage of its fighters raising their flag at the border gate. The junta later admitted it had lost control of the town.

der-M ballistic missile was used in the attack, the first attempted missile strike on Kyiv in almost two months. Elsewhere in Ukraine, the strikes killed four people in three regions: two in Kherson, one in Dnipropetrovsk and another in Zaporizhzhia, local officials reported. Ukraine's air defence systems actively repelled attacks in Odesa, Dnipropetrovsk, Kharkiv, Poltava, Sumy and Kirovohrad regions. The country's Air Force said Russian troops launched 31 Shahed-136/131 drones, of which 19 were shot down. In Moscow, Russia's Defence Ministry said that its aerial strikes had hit an

Missile strike targets Kyiv as Russian train derails after 'unauthorised interference'

Associated Press
KYIV

Ukraine's Air Force said Russian troops launched 31 drones, of which 19 were shot down. In Moscow, Russia's Defence Ministry said that its aerial strikes had hit an

ammunition depot serving the 43rd mechanised brigade of Ukraine's Armed Forces near the village of Devichki in the Kyiv region. In an online statement, it said that Ukrainian drones had been shot down over the Smolensk and Moscow regions. Meanwhile, trains carrying cargo in Russia's Ryzan region were derailed Saturday morning due to "unauthorised interference," Moscow rail opera-

tor MZHD said. Russian law enforcement said that 15 train carriages had been derailed southeast of the capital, while MZHD reported the number as 19. Several Russian media outlets also reported that an explosion was heard in the vicinity on Saturday morning, although this could not be independently verified. Russian officials have previously blamed pro-Ukrainian saboteurs for several attacks on the country's railway system since Moscow invaded the country in February 2022, although no group has claimed responsibility for the damage. Kyiv has not commented on Saturday's attacks.

PARADIP PORT AUTHORITY WORKSHOP DIVISION
No.EMWS/TECH-07/2023/1592
Date :10.11.2023
Corrigendum-4 to e-Tender Call Notice No. EMWS-381/2023 for the work of "Grant of license for a period of 05 years, for Supply, Installation, Commissioning, Operation & Maintenance of 05 nos. 100 Ton Capacity HMC's up to 10 years old from the date of 1st commissioning".
1. Last Date & time of bid submission : 27.11.2023 up to 18:00 Hrs. 2. Opening of technical Bid : 29.11.2023 at 11:00 Hrs. Refer our website for details : https://eprocure.gov.in/eprocure/app. All other terms and conditions of the original tender will remain unchanged. Executive Engineer(M) Workshop Division-I, PPA PPA/PR/59/2023-24, Dt.11/11/23

MALABAR CANCER CENTRE (POST GRADUATE INSTITUTE OF ONCOLOGY SCIENCES & RESEARCH)
NABH Accredited (an autonomous centre under Government of Kerala Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala - 670 003. Phone +91 492 239207, 2355818 Fax: 91 490 2355880 Email: mcccty@gmail.com. Web: www.mcc.kerala.gov.in No. E 91918 MCC/358/2023-GAD-E4/2 10/11/2023
EXISTING AND ARISING VACANCIES
Online applications are invited for the post of Senior Resident in Radiation Oncology, Surgical Oncology, Clinical Hematology & Medical Oncology, Anesthesiology & Imageology 10/11/2023
EXISTING AND ARISING VACANCIES INSER ON CONTRACT BASIS
Online applications are invited for the post of Professor cum Vice-Principal, Assistant Professor (Medical Surgical Nursing) in MCC on contract basis. The last date for submitting online application is, 30/11/2023, 5.00 PM. *MCC invites applications for Non-Stipendiary Training Programs in various disciplines. Details are available in www.mcc.kerala.gov.in Sd/- Director

SOUTHERN RAILWAY
Electrical (General), Construction, Chennai, Egmore
Tender Notice No. E-HQ-CN-MS-EOT-9-2023-24 Dt:10.11.2023
For and on behalf of the President of India, The Deputy Chief Electrical Engineer/General/Construction/ Southern Railway / Egmore, Chennai - 600008 invites E-Tender for the following Work.
Name of work: Chinnasaalem - Kallakurichi New Line Work - Electrification of station buildings, Platforms, LC gate lodges, S&T Huts, Pumping arrangements, Electrification of Camp Office, Railway Staff Quarters etc in Chinnasaalem to Kallakurichi section including power supply arrangements
1] Period of completion 6 months
2] Approximate cost of work Rs.76,30,036.63
3] Cost of tender form Nil
4] Earnest Money deposit (EMD) Rs. 1,52,600/-
5] Tender closing date & time 04.12.2023 at 11.00 AM
6] Tender Opening date & time 04.12.2023 at 11.30 AM
Complete details can be seen www.ireps.gov.in.
Follow us on : twitter.com/GMSRailways

Modified antifungal agent shows reduced toxicity in mice

The Hindu Bureau

A structurally modified antifungal agent has shown reduced toxicity in mice and in human kidney cells while retaining its antimicrobial properties, according to a paper published in *Nature*. The advance could increase the clinical effectiveness and safety of such treatments in fighting deadly fungal infections.

Highly toxic

Amphotericin B (AmB) is

an antifungal agent produced by bacteria and has been used as a last line of defence against severe fungal infections for many decades. It achieves this by forming sponge-like aggregates that bind to a molecule known as ergosterol (which is found in bacterial and fungal cells and performs a similar function to mammalian cholesterol). This binding results in the extraction of ergosterol from the membrane, which leads to fungal cell

death. Despite being effective, AmB is highly toxic in humans – particularly in renal cells. However, it is unknown whether this toxicity is due to the same mechanism that causes fungal cell death.

Analogues of AmB

Arun Maji from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, Urbana, Illinois, U.S. and colleagues created analogues of AmB with changes to the parts of the molecule that bind

sterols, with the aim of observing how these changes affected biological activity. These analogues were tested in human kidney cells, and it was determined that renal cell death was due to the binding and extraction of cholesterol from kidney cell membranes by AmB.

The authors then designed a variant of AmB that can bind to and extract fungal ergosterol but not mammalian cholesterol, which would mitigate the toxic effects on the kid-

ney. The resulting compound (which they named AM-2-19) was renal-sparing in human renal cells and in mice, while retaining high efficacy as an antifungal treatment. The treatment was also comparatively resilient to antimicrobial resistance.

This mechanism of action is conserved across many antifungal molecules, and the authors suggest that the technique could be used to reduce toxicity in additional drug

treatments and thus increase their clinical efficacy. "Rational tuning of the dynamics of interactions between small molecules may lead to better treatments for fungal infections that still kill millions of people annually and potentially other resistance-evasive antimicrobials, including those that have recently been shown to operate through supramolecular structures that target specific lipids," the authors write.

SNAPSHOTS



Efficient passive radiative cooling materials developed

Two recent studies provide evidence that passive radiative cooling materials work. Passive radiative cooling approaches that use glass- and ceramic-based materials are more versatile, making them more attractive for a wide range of outdoor passive cooling applications. The microporous glass coating enables a temperature drop of about 3.5-4 degrees Celsius during daytime and night time, respectively. The ceramic composite can produce highly efficient light scattering and high thermal emission.



Nepalese researchers are studying an eye condition

Researchers in Nepal are carrying out environmental surveys and genomic sequencing to determine the cause of an eye infection that can cause children to lose their vision within days. Symptoms begin with a painless reddening and loss of pressure in one eye. Cases of seasonal hyperacute panuveitis seem to spike every two years, baffling scientists. Now researchers are racing to examine a possible link with white moths of the genus *Gazalina*, which swarm through Nepal at the end of the monsoon season.



Egg cells that lack cytoplasmic lattices become infertile

Cytoplasmic lattices seem to be storage sites for many proteins that are essential for the development of the early embryo. They enrich maternally provided proteins to prevent their premature degradation and cellular activity.

The discovery could explain why people whose eggs lack the fibres entirely are infertile. When researchers disabled the genes in mice that encode the proteins that make up the fibres, the resulting embryos were non viable.

'Universe may have resulted out of a Big Bounce'

In Einstein's theory, there are no particles of time but rather an entity called 'space time'. Mass distorts space time and the bigger ones more. Near a black hole, time passes super-fast. Someone at the edge of one, looking at earth, can see a year go

INTERVIEW

Carlo Rovelli

Jacob Koshy

Carlo Rovelli is an Italian theoretical physicist who has written several popular-science books. In his latest work, *White Holes: Inside the Horizon*, Mr. Rovelli explains the theoretical existence of white holes - the converse of black holes. The latter is believed to be the ultimate graveyard of all matter from which nothing, not even light, can escape. White holes on the other hand may beget a new universe. Though still in the realm of speculation, the math checks out.

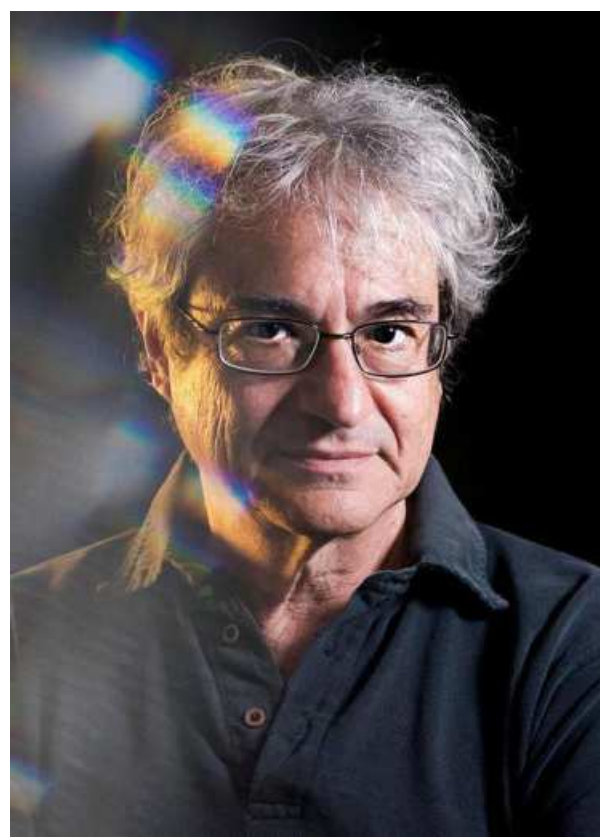
From what I understand of your book, a white hole is like a black hole in reverse – or as you would describe it – akin to a movie running backward. Could you explain why they are significant?

We've seen black holes, taken pictures of them colliding. We see matter around them spiralling and falling inside them. But then what? If we fell into them we would be squeezed and stretched but say we resisted it, what happens next? Are whatever falls into it eaten by monsters, do they go into a different universe? One can speculate in all kinds of ways. What I describe in my book is that something very simple happens. Things just fall and fall and then they bounce back. Like a ball bouncing back up from the

ground, it passes on the same path while going back up but with a reduced velocity. What interested me and my colleagues is that the bouncing out is also predicted by Einstein's theories. This possibility of things coming out is what we call a white hole. Einstein's theories however don't accommodate the possibility of a bounce, but quantum mechanics [The science and laws governing the subatomic world] does. So we use the equation of 'loop quantum gravity' - our theory of quantum mechanics and gravity together - and this suggests that a black hole itself bounces and becomes a white hole. If this is true, this implies that space and time undergo 'quantum jumps' and suggests that we have to change our understanding of what space time is. Electrons undergo quantum jumps and that is what makes all our electronic devices possible. These are quantum jumps of matter and don't do anything to space or time. But here, the shape of space itself is a quantum jump. It implies that time is no longer this uniform, local thing and performs tiny 'jumps' - akin to a stretching rubber band.

Is it possible that our universe is emerging out of a white hole, and before this was one that was swallowed by a black hole?

Well it is the same but there are some differences. The ball that is going up after bouncing is slower and has less velocity and energy. Where's the energy gone? It dissipates as heat on the ground. The black-hole-to-white-hole transi-



tion is also similar and that's why studying the transition is complicated.

The dissipated energy of the white hole was studied by Stephen Hawking; it is his great contribution to physics. Black holes emit heat or 'Hawking radiation' and this information isn't lost but can come out from a 'white hole.'

There is a very interesting theory that a universe that will fall into a black hole will bounce and generate something very similar to the Big Bang. We don't know if it is so but it is possible. The equations that predict a black to white and a bounce are quite similar. So you and I, in this universe, might be coming out of a 'big bounce' through what looks to us like a Big Bang 14 billion years ago.

How must someone in 2023 understand time? Is it an abstract but fixed entity - like the marker between two events. Or is it something physical, made up of particles, that can stretch and squeeze, and influenced by forces such as gravity?

We've discovered something very factual; that time doesn't pass the same for everybody. It seems unusual only because we aren't used to it or don't experience it often enough. If we could travel near light speeds, it would be usual for us to go on a long trip (at those speeds) and come back to see that a younger sibling is now older than you. This is as much a fact as that the earth is round. Albert Einstein was the

first to suggest that time wasn't something fixed like the ticking of a clock, but something more flexible like a rubber band. What we need to know is what makes time stretch, unevenly, in this way? Is it something like an electric field? There are electric and magnetic fields around us all the time but we don't feel it. Similarly, there is also the 'time field' that Einstein called the gravitational field. Einstein imagined us as being trapped in a large jellyfish, which is 'time' itself. In Einstein's theory, there are no particles of time but rather an entity called 'space time'. Mass distorts space time and the bigger ones more. Near a black hole, time passes super-fast. Someone at the edge of one, looking at earth, can see a year go by in a minute. But viewed from earth, everything is going very, very slowly and that is time-distortion. It's easier to think of space and time as a single-entity. This was all Einstein, 110 years ago. But we know that is limited and we also have to account for quantum effects; even though they may be tiny. They become important inside a black hole, near the Big Bang. If we account for quantum effects, space is granular. Not continuous and smooth and this granular aspect of space is time. This however is speculation and results from what we think should happen when combining quantum mechanics and gravity. That's what I have been working on, all these years. (We think) there are 'time-steps.' There may be atoms in space but they aren't moving in space. They themselves are space.

Health benefits of functional foods



SPEAKING OF SCIENCE

D. Balasubramanian

Senior citizens like me remember the song "Mera Nam Abdul Rahman, Pistawala Main Hun Pathan" in the 1956 film *Bhai Bhai*, and thought that the dry fruit Pista or pistachio was an import. But Dr K.T. Achaya, in his book "Indian Food", points out that dry fruits like almonds, pistachio, cashew, walnut, apricot and pomegranate were known since the time of the sage Charaka (100 BC), the father of Ayurvedic Medicine, who pointed out their value in health and nutrition.

A recent paper by Isabe-

la Mateus Martins and others confirm this using almonds as the queen of dry fruits. Almonds are regarded as the epitome of healthy foods because they are a rich source of protein, monounsaturated fatty acids, dietary fibre, vitamin E, riboflavin, and essential minerals as well as phytochemicals and polyphenols.

Functional food

The growing body of clinical evidence suggests that almond, which can be bought in any dry fruits shop, consumption is associated with several health benefits. Other dry fruits that also offer health benefits are cashew nuts, raisins, walnuts, dates, apricots and pistachio. Besides dry fruits, 'wet fruits' such as bananas, grapes, gua-



Healthy food: Almonds are a rich source of protein, monounsaturated fatty acids and essential minerals. ISTOCK

vas, oranges and mangoes offer health benefits, as Charaka pointed out.

Such healthy foods are also called 'functional foods', since they offer health benefits beyond their nutritional value. Some examples are oats, and millets like bajra, ragi, jowar, and soya proteins,

besides the fruits. The Hyderabad-based National Institute of Nutrition (NIN) offers periodic reports on the nutritive values of Indian foods, and what a healthy adult should eat to stay healthy. Children in particular should eat a lot of dry and wet fruits, and foodgrains of nutritive va-

lue. Functional foods are defined broadly as foods that provide more than simple nutrition; they supply additional physiological benefit to the consumer. Besides what NIN has suggested, the Healthline website suggests many functional foods that should be in the daily diet. This site is well worth reading. Functional foods have ingredients that offer health benefits which extend beyond their nutritional value. Some types contain supplements or other additional ingredients designed to improve health.

A healthy diet

Given all this, what should be eating, in order to maintain a healthy daily diet?

The best would be to use not just rice or wheat

in our daily diet, but include millets in the main item. And when we cook curry, using vegetables, let us use turmeric, cinnamon, ginger and garlic. Add butter and ghee, but not in excess. Curd contains several antioxidants. And drinking coffee and tea, though no more than a few cups per day, is also useful since they contain antioxidants. Children, in particular, should drink several cups of milk daily, while adults can limit it to three cups. In addition, let us eat dry and wet fruits often, at least once a week. And, if you are a non-vegetarian, you can eat eggs, fish, chicken and mutton, since they offer rich sources of minerals and fats of value.

So, have a nice and healthy meal!



Question Corner

Not unique

Like humans, are rats capable of imagination?

Researchers at the Howard Hughes Medical Institute's Janelia Research Campus have found that animals also possess an imagination. The researchers developed a novel system combining virtual reality and a brain-machine interface to probe the rat's inner thoughts. They found that like humans, animals too can control their brain activity to imagine places and objects that aren't right in front of them, using their thoughts to imagine walking to a location or moving a remote object to a specific

spot. Like humans, when rodents experience places and events, specific neural activity patterns are activated in the hippocampus, an area of the brain responsible for spatial memory. The new study finds rats can voluntarily generate these same activity patterns and do so to recall remote locations distant from their current position. This ability to imagine locations away from one's current position is fundamental to remembering past events and imagining possible future scenarios.

Readers may send their questions / answers to questioncorner@thehindu.co.in

FAQ

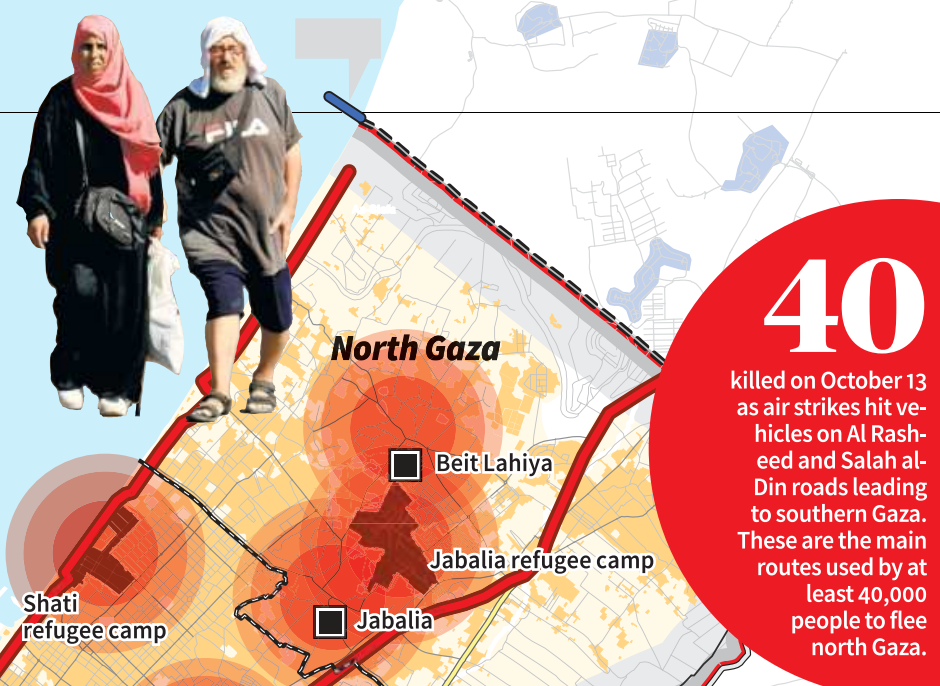


Beit Lahiya
10 people killed on October 9 as missiles struck a residential building. Beit Lahiya, a city in north Gaza, was among the many areas attacked in the region.

People assess the damage following an Israeli strike at the Jabalia refugee camp in north Gaza on November 1.
AFP

Jabalia camp
409 confirmed deaths. Air strikes destroyed entire quarters, including 30 residential buildings, and a UNRWA school sheltering displaced persons. This is the largest camp in Gaza and was the starting point of the first intifada, or uprising, against Israel's occupation of Palestinian territories in 1987.

Jabalia
181 confirmed deaths reported in the municipality. Air strikes caused widespread destruction in residential areas, including the demolition of an entire neighbourhood block. Two schools sheltering internally displaced persons were also targeted, resulting in significant casualties.



40 killed on October 13 as air strikes hit vehicles on Al Rashheed and Salah al-Din roads leading to southern Gaza. These are the main routes used by at least 40,000 people to flee north Gaza.

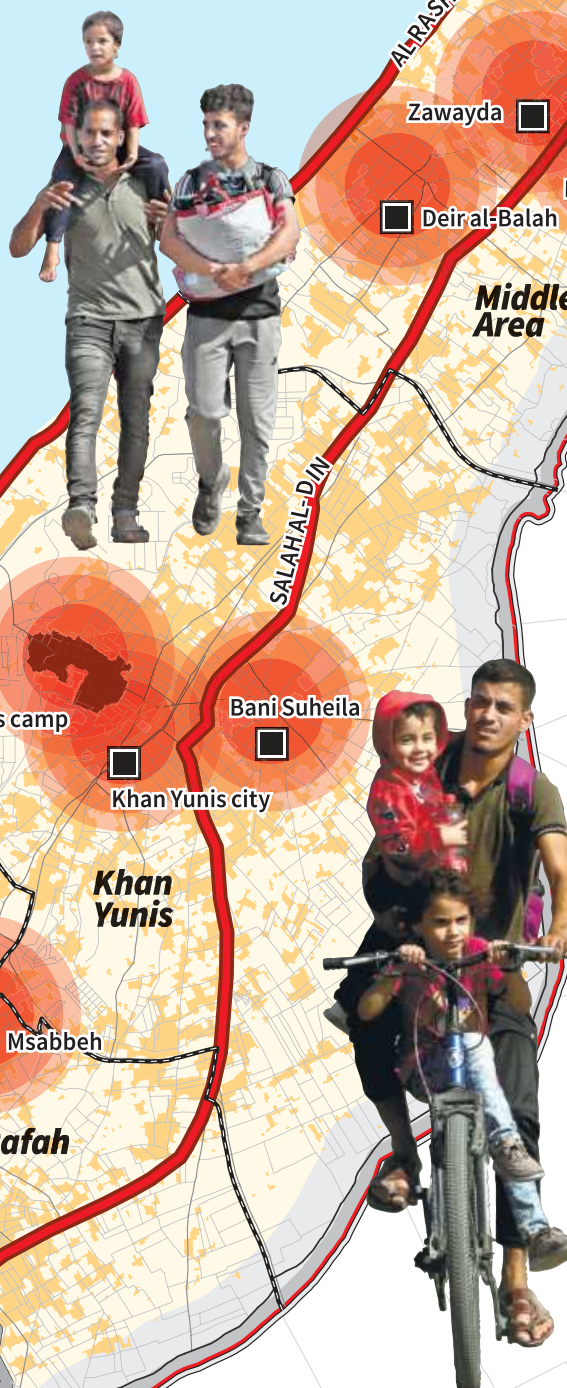
How many people have died in Gaza?

From Beit Lahiya in the north to Rafah in the south, every city in the Gaza Strip has been targeted by Israeli air strikes killing more than 11,000 people. Rebecca Rose Varghese, Vignesh Radhakrishnan and Gautam Nirmal Doshi trace the trail of destruction

GRAPHIC: KANNAN SUNDAR

Khan Yunis
221 confirmed deaths reported. Many residential buildings and areas have been targeted by the air strikes. Many who evacuated their homes in northern Gaza to southern cities such as Khan Yunis, where Palestinians have been told to seek refuge, also died in the Israeli air strikes.

Khan Yunis camp
16 killed on October 29 as Israeli air strikes hit a house in the Khan Yunis camp. During the 1948 War, Palestinians sought refuge in the camp, with the majority coming from the Bir Saba' area. Presently, there are 88,854 registered Palestine refugees. Overcrowding was an issue even before the war.



Bani Suheila
13 confirmed deaths reported in the Bani Suheila municipality. Israeli air strikes targeted residential buildings in the area, injuring 15 civilians, while many others were stuck under the rubble.

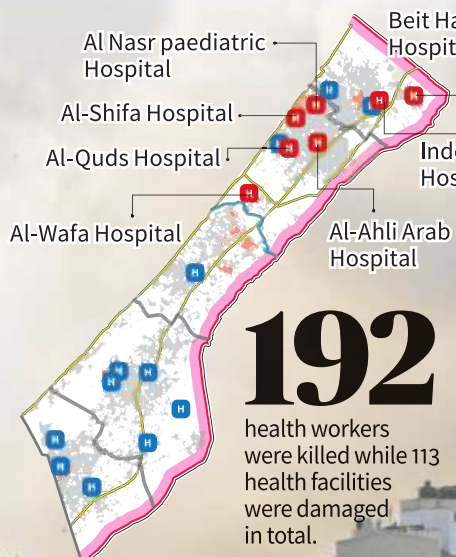
Rafah
112 confirmed deaths reported in the southern tip of Gaza. Air strikes targeted densely populated buildings, including charity organisations that sheltered displaced persons in the region. The UNRWA said that shelters had reached full capacity, leading to many sleeping on the streets.

Rafah city
71 deaths reported in the city. Residential areas and buildings sheltering displaced people were hit. Through the Rafah crossing — between the Gaza Strip and Egypt — the only exit not controlled by Israel, many are hoping to flee but Israeli forces continue to target this region, making escape challenging.

Tal As Sultan
15 confirmed deaths reported in the camp on November 6. The Israeli air strikes hit residential buildings in the region, killing more than a dozen people, while many were stuck under the rubble after the attack.

The death counts attributed to each city are an underestimation as only deaths of confirmed residents were mentioned.

HOSPITAL ATTACKS
Over one-third of hospitals and nearly two-third of primary health care centres were shut down in Gaza due to lack of facilities. Moreover, many health facilities got hit in the air strikes (highlighted in the map).



192 health workers were killed while 113 health facilities were damaged in total.

Source: United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees (UNRWA), Flash Updates from the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA), World Health Organization (WHO), Graphic News, AFP, AP, Reuters

Maghazi camp
51 killed in two incidents. One on October 17, as air strikes hit an UNRWA school, sheltering 4,000 displaced persons, and another on November 5. The dead included four children and four brothers of video-journalist Mohammed Alaloul. Several of his nieces and nephews also died.

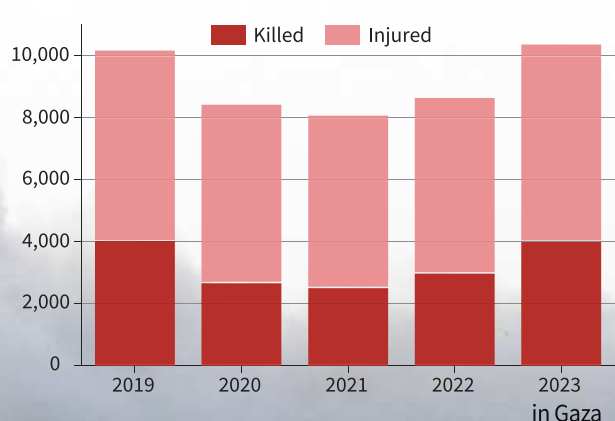
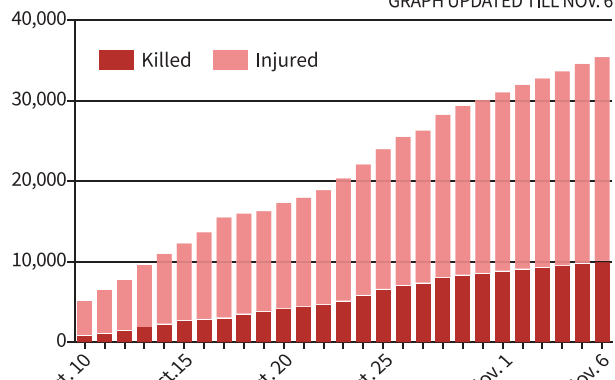
Deir al-Balah
126 confirmed deaths. Air strikes targeted many residential towers resulting in significant loss of life. The central town hosts a UN shelter, where hundreds of people who escaped from Gaza City have to share one toilet and drink brackish water, which often causes illness.

THE DEATH TOLL & INJURIES
The chart shows the day-wise cumulative death toll and injuries in the Gaza Strip since Israel began its attack. Death toll in Gaza has crossed 11,000 as of November 10, while injuries crossed 25,000. More than 2,500 women were reported to be killed in the conflict.

CHILDREN UNDER ATTACK
The number of children reported killed in just three weeks in the Gaza Strip is more than the number killed in armed conflicts globally — across more than 20 countries — over the course of a whole year, for any of the last three years.

Zawayda
39 killed. Air strikes resulted in the tragic loss of three generations of the Abu Shamala family when their house was hit. Palestinian cameraman Mohammed Alaloul, who works for a press agency, hugs his father after his children and brothers were killed in a strike on the Maghazi camp.

Nuseirat camp
109 killed. Air strikes hit public places including a bakery, where mostly women and children queued to collect their ration of bread, a wedding hall that sheltered displaced persons and a supermarket. Strikes also hit the nine-floor 'Mohandessin Tower'.



Gaza city
150 confirmed deaths. The deaths include Palestinian journalists and staff of the Palestinian Civil Defence Headquarters. Air strikes near two bakeries resulted in the deaths of many women and children. Taj residential building was hit killing 40. Fifty died after a strike on Al-Buraq school.



Bureij camp
70 confirmed deaths. Air strikes targeted residential buildings and an UNRWA shelter was hit too. A house near a school was also struck killing 13 people. The camp houses around 46,000, many of whom have fled northern Gaza and sought refuge in schools.

8 Number of refugee camps in Gaza, established after the mass exodus of Palestinians during the 1948 war that ensued creation of Israel. More than 7.6 lakh Palestinians either fled or were expelled from their homes in an event referred to as the "Nakba".

1.5 million Palestinians or about 62% have been internally displaced across all five governorates of the Gaza Strip as on November 6.

0.7 million internally displaced persons are sheltering in 149 UNRWA installations, with over 0.5 million sheltering in 92 facilities in the Middle Area, Khan Yunis and Rafah regions.

IN BRIEF



BSE Q2 net jumps fourfold to ₹118 crore, revenue rises 53%

BSE has reported a four-fold jump in net profit to ₹118.4 crore for the quarter ended September 2023. The exchange had posted a net profit of ₹29.4 crore in the year-earlier period, BSE said in a statement. The bourse's revenue rose 53% to a record ₹367 crore from ₹240 crore in the year-earlier period. The exchange's average daily turnover in the equity segment increased to ₹5,922 crore from ₹4,740 crore in the three months ended September 2022. PTI

Shriram Properties Q2 sales bookings rise 40% to ₹608 cr.

Realty firm Shriram Properties Ltd. has clocked 40% growth in sales bookings to ₹608 crore in the second quarter of this fiscal year on better demand for its housing projects. Sales bookings stood at ₹435 crore in the year-earlier period. According to an investor presentation, Shriram Properties' sales bookings grew 14% to 1.15 million sq. ft during the July-September period of this fiscal from ₹1.01 million sq. ft in the corresponding period of the previous year. PTI

Fall in prices brings glitter to gold just ahead of Dhanteras

The decline in gold prices – up to ₹1,130 per 10 gram since the beginning of this month – has lifted the sentiment that can revive the so-far-sluggish jewellery sales and step up demand for digital gold this Dhanteras. Gold prices fell to ₹60,240 per 10 gram on Friday from ₹61,370 on October 31 as concerns over the U.S. slipping into a recession eased on positive economic data. Digital gold, especially in the form of ETFs, has had huge traction.

ONGC Q2 net profit drops 20% on lower oil prices, output

Press Trust of India
NEW DELHI

State-owned Oil and Natural Gas Corporation (ONGC) reported a 20% drop in September quarter net profit on decline in oil prices and lower output.



The company reported a net profit of ₹10,216 crore in July-September (second quarter of current 2023-24 fiscal year), compared to ₹12,826 crore earned in the same period last year, a statement said.

This is the second consecutive quarter of decline in net profit for ONGC, India's top crude oil and natural gas producer. The firm had reported a 34% drop in April-June profit.

every barrel of crude oil it produced and sold from nomination fields against a gross realisation of \$95.50 per barrel last year and \$76.49 in the preceding quarter.

Oil prices globally had risen sharply in April-June 2022, after Russia's invasion of Ukraine led to uncertainties over supply and demand. But rates have cooled this year.

Academia-industry tie-ups are critical in fast-changing tech landscape: Capgemini

Mini Tejaswi
BENGALURU



Clifton Menezes

There exists a crisis in Indian education; educational institutions cannot operate in isolation anymore in a highly converging and rapidly changing technology landscape, cautioned Clifton Menezes, India Head of Group Portfolio at Capgemini.

“At least four academics recently approached us to explore the possibility of redrawing their syllabi to keep their institutions updated with the changing requirements of businesses globally,” said Mr. Menezes, who is responsible for Capgemini's go-to-market

transition and digitisation technologies.

“Educators and educational institutions are increasingly realising that corporations like Capgemini that focus on innovation, and do extensive research around cutting-edge technologies, will be able to help them change and fit the industry

‘Flight traffic to smaller cities soars’

Bengaluru International Airport witnesses a rapid proliferation of travel to domestic destinations since COVID-19, spurred by a demand for travel to smaller cities; the share of non-metro travellers grew from 25% before the pandemic to 58% now

Jagriti Chandra
NEW DELHI

The country's third-largest airport in terms of passenger traffic, the Bengaluru International Airport, has seen a rapid proliferation of travel to domestic destinations since COVID-19, spurred by a demand for travel to smaller cities.

Before COVID-19, passengers travelling to metropolitan cities like Delhi, Mumbai, Hyderabad, Kolkata and Chennai accounted for 75% of total passengers, which has now shrunk to 42% as the share

New destinations

Bengaluru airport sees a sea change in the nature of passenger traffic with the rise of travel to non-metro destinations



The airport recorded 28.12 million domestic passengers out of a total 31.91 passengers in FY2022-2023

- The share of passengers travelling to metropolitan cities has dropped from 75% pre-COVID to just 42% now
- The number of domestic passengers is now at 105% of the pre-COVID level, but international traffic still lags

of non-metro travellers grew from 25% to 58%, explains the airport's Chief Operating Officer, Satyaki Raghunath in an interview to *The Hindu*. The airport

recorded 28.12 million domestic passengers out of a total 31.91 passengers in the financial year 2022-2023.

The demand from these

travellers during COVID-19, when train travel was no longer a preferred choice for many due to health safety protocols, also often led to airlines opening new routes and later providing more frequencies on them.

“So, we have gone from 54 domestic destinations to 74. We are now connected to Jamnagar (Gujarat), Jaisalmer (Rajasthan), Bareilly (Uttar Pradesh), Agartala (Tripura), Jharsuguda (Odisha). Five years back you couldn't have imagined that there would be a direct flight to these cities from Bengaluru,” says Mr. Raghunath.

The number of domestic passengers at the airport is now at 105% of pre-COVID levels. The number of international passengers last fiscal (3.78 million) though lagged behind the pre-COVID level by around 10% as foreign carriers are yet to restore capacity to the levels seen in 2019-2020 due to supply-chain constraints and the Russia-Ukraine conflict which has closed a part of the European skies. However, by the end of this fiscal the airport is expected to exceed the pre-COVID passenger number of 33 million, the top executive said.

Reuters

Moody's turns negative on U.S. rating, irks Washington

Moody's lowered its outlook on the U.S. credit rating to 'negative' from 'stable' citing large fiscal deficits and a decline in debt affordability, a move that drew criticism from President Biden's administration. The move follows a downgrade of the sovereign by major agencies, Fitch, this year, and S&P, which has maintained a AA+ rating since 2011.

Federal spending and political polarisation have been a rising concern for investors, contributing to a selloff that took U.S. government bond prices to their lowest in 16 years.

“It is hard to disagree with the rationale, with no reasonable expectation for fiscal consolidation any time soon,” said Christopher Hodge, chief economist for the U.S. at Natixis. Moody's in a statement blamed “continued political polarisation” in Congress raising the risk that lawmakers will not be able to reach consensus on a fiscal plan.

Republicans, who control the House of Representatives, expect to release a stopgap spending measure aimed at averting a partial government shutdown as funding for federal agencies expires next Friday.

“We disagree with the shift to a negative outlook. The American economy remains strong, and Treasury securities are the world's preeminent safe and liquid asset,” Deputy Treasury Secretary Wally Adeyemo said in a statement.

Festive season keeps logistics, warehousing sectors abuzz

Mini Tejaswi
BENGALURU

Logistics movements and demand for warehousing have seen a significant spike in the months of September, October and until the first week of November to support the soaring festive season shopping volumes in the country.

Market observers said the logistics and warehousing segment reported a 50-60% increase in traffic and storage volumes in this festive period compared with the same time last year.

Merchandise segments, too, grew substantially and some categories grew even 100% over last year. “As



the festive season unfolded, the demand for warehousing solutions was reaching unprecedented levels, with sectors such as e-commerce, FMCD, and CDE significantly ramping up their inventory to meet the peak-season demand,” said Manikandan Ramachandran, COO, TVS Industrial & Logistics Parks.

The convenience of online shopping and the exclusive deals have a significant impact on shifting consumer behaviour specifically during the festive season, which clearly leads to high volume of logistics traffic, observed Kami Viswanathan, President of FedEx Express Middle East, Indian subcontinent, and Africa.

Although festive peak months start from October, the preparations typically begin as early as July and continue through January to cover year-end and new year gifting, said Ishaan Gupta, Joint MD, Gateway Distriparks, a part of Snowman Logistics.

Hospitality firm Tamara eyes doubling capacity

N. Anand
CHENNAI

Having crossed the 1,000-room milestone globally, Tamara Leisure Experience Pvt. Ltd. (Tamara) is looking to double the number of keys in the domestic market to over 500 in four months, said a top official.

“We recently crossed 1,000 keys [rooms] with the inauguration of our latest property in Coimbatore,” CEO Shruti Shibulal said during an interaction.

The Bengaluru-based hospitality firm has more than tripled its capacity in

five years, and aims to expand mainly in the Southern States.

O By Tamara in Coimbatore, its latest addition with 141 rooms, will be followed by expansions in Thiruvananthapuram, Kumbakonam and Guruvayur.

Tamara began operations in Madikeri, Karnataka in 2018, followed by Kodaikanal, Kerala and Germany.

“We follow an asset light concept. The expansion will be done through acquisition or management contracts,” Ms. Shibulal said.

Centre to unveil PM-Kisan Bhai to end traders' monopoly

Prabhudatta Mishra
NEW DELHI

To help small and marginal farmers who do not have the capacity to hold their produce in warehouses and wait for better prices, the Centre plans to incentivise them under a scheme likely to be named PM-Kisan Bhai (Bhandaran Incentive) scheme.

The Agriculture Ministry's 10-day deadline to receive feedback ended on Friday after a concept paper was published, and the scheme is likely to be rolled out by December-end.

This is seen as an attempt to break the monopoly of traders in deciding crop prices. Kisan Bhai is

Kisan Bhai aims to empower farmers by helping them retain and store their crops post-harvest

expected to empower farmers, allowing them to retain their crops for a minimum of three months post-harvest. This initiative grants farmers the autonomy to decide when to sell, in contrast to the current practice where most crops are sold around harvest.

A commodity market analyst said the scheme's success will depend on the response of buyers due to their large capital base.

(The writer is with *The Hindu businessline*)

Your feedback will keep us Cleaner, Sharper and Bolder

Call our toll-free number **1800 102 1878**

Or write to us at customercare@thehindu.co.in

Scan the QR code to register your feedback

THE HINDU businessline

FRONTLINE SPORTSTAR THE HINDU WORLD THE HINDU

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आर्यविज्ञान संस्थान, भोपाल (म.प्र.)-462020, www.aiimsbhopal.edu.in

No. ADM-2(3)/2/AIIMS BPL/RC/DR/2023/5103 Date: 10/11/2023

CANCELLATION NOTICE

It is hereby informed that the Advt. No. ADM-2(3)/AIIMS Bhopal/RC/2023/02 dated 25/10/2023 published in the Newspapers on 27/10/2023 and also uploaded on Institute's website for filling of 357 Group-'C' Non-Faculty Domain Specific Posts of 26 different cadres on Direct Recruitment basis has been cancelled due to administrative reasons. Application fee of Candidate's who have already applied against this advertisement, shall be refunded.

This is issued with the approval of the Executive Director & CEO, AIIMS, Bhopal vide file no. 56825 dated 10/11/2023.

Sd/-
Dy. Director (Admin.) AIIMS, Bhopal

PROCLAMATION REQUIRING THE APPEARANCE OF A PERSON ACCUSED

See Section 82 Cr. P.C.

Whereas complaint has been made before me that accused **Subham S/o Late Kallu R/o C/o Aman House No. 210, Gheora, North West Delhi-81** has Committed (or is suspected to have committed) the offence in case **FIR No. 433/2019 U/S 307/341/506 IPC, P.S. Nihal Vihar, Delhi** and it has been returned to a warrant of arrest thereupon issued that the said accused **Subham** cannot be found, and whereas it has been shown to my satisfaction that the said accused **Subham** has absconded (or is concealing himself to avoid the service of the said warrant);

Proclamation is hereby made that the said accused **Subham** of case **FIR No. 433/2019 U/S 307/341/506 IPC, P.S. Nihal Vihar, Delhi** is required to appear before this Court to answer the said complaint/case on or before **12.12.2023**.

By Order
Sh. Vinod Kumar
Principal District & Session Judge RCT/West District
Room No. 201
Tis Hazari Courts, Delhi

DP/12382/OD/2023(Court Matter)

SEARCH FOR MISSING/KIDNAPPED

General Public is hereby informed that one girl namely **Khem Kumari D/o Tek Bahadur Biswakarma R/o H.No. 487/110, Peeragarhi Village, Delhi** has been missing/kidnapped since 24.10.2023 at 7.00 PM from the area of P.S. Paschim Vihar West, Delhi. In this regard a case vide **DD No. 80A dated 25.10.2023** has been registered at P.S. Paschim Vihar West, Delhi.

The description of missing/kidnapped girl is as under:

Name : Khem Kumari, **Father's Name :** Tek Bahadur Biswakarma, **Age :** 18.6 years, **Height :** 5'0", **Face :** Long, **Build:** Medium, **Complexion :** Wheatish, **Wearing :** Green Color Suit & Salwar with sleeper in feet.

If anyone having any clue/information, kindly inform the undersigned.

Website : <http://cbi.nic.in>
e-mail : cic@cbi.gov.in
Fax : 011-24368639
Ph. : 011-24368638, 24368641

SHO
P.S., Paschim Vihar West, Delhi
Ph.: 011-25268394
7065036130

DP/12640/OD/2023

Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir
OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER PWD (R&B) DIVISION KISHTWAR
(E-mail: xenpwdkishtwar@gmail.com)

NOTICE INVITING TENDERS

e-NIT No. 79 of 2023-24 Dated: 08-11-2023

For and on behalf of the Lt. Governor, J&K Union Territory e-tenders are invited on percentage rate basis from approved and eligible Contractors registered with Union Territory of J&K/CPWD / BRO / Railways/ MES and other State/ Central Government for the work mentioned below:-

S. No.	Name of Work	Advertised Cost (In lacs)	Cost of document (In Rs.)	Earnest Money Deposit in the form of CDR / FDR / BG	Time Allowed for completion	Time and date of opening of tender	Class of Contractor
1	Design, Soil Investigation, Load testing including providing of design / drawings vetted from competent authority i.e. IIT / NIT / DIQC for construction of 195 mtrs. Span Steel Trussed Deck type Foot Bridge at Phagumhar Block Trigam including construction of Abutments, Anchor Blocks, and other accessories as required including consist. of both sides Approach Path, by way of earth work, Walling with pucca pavement cement concrete, Supply, Fabrication, Launching of Foot Bridge, providing Steel Truss Girders with chequered plates flooring, Towers (04 Nos.), Main Cables, Suspenders/Ties with fixtures, & painting with synthetic enamel paint as per the direction of Engineer in Charge, including all leads and lifts (complete job in all respects) (Under NABARD RIDF-XXIX).	507.00	6000+500	2% of the advertised cost	2 Years	30-11-2023	'A' Class

Head of account = Sanctioned under NABARD RIDF-XXIX
Position of Accord = Awaited
Position of TS = Awaited
Project Authority = Public Works (Roads & Buildings) Department

The Bidding documents consist of qualifying information, eligibility criteria, specifications, bill of quantities (B.O.Q), Set of terms and conditions of contract and other details can be seen/downloaded from the departmental website <http://jktenders.gov.in> as per below schedule:-

1.	Date of Issue of Tender Notice	08.11.2023
2.	Period of downloading of bidding documents	From 08.11.2023 1800 Hrs to 29.11.2023 1600 Hrs
3.	Date, Time and place of pre-bid meeting	20.11.2023 at 1200 hours in the Office of the Superintending Engineer PWD (R&B) Circle, Doda-Kishtwar
4.	Bid submission Start Date	08.11.2023 From 1800 Hrs
5.	Bid Submission End Date	29.11.2023 up to 1600 Hrs
6.	Date & Time of opening of Technical Bids (Online)	30.11.2023 at 1200 hours in the Office of the Superintending Engineer PWD (R&B) Circle, Doda-Kishtwar.
7.	Date & Time of opening of Financial Bids (Online)	To be notified after technical bid evaluation is completed

No. e-tenders/Kishtwar/1207-1219
Dated: 08-11-2023

Sd/-
Executive Engineer
PWD (R&B) Division
Kishtwar

DP/J-11014/23

MAKING IT EASY

Rohit has led by example both on and off the field, says Dravid



K. MURALI KUMAR

Rohit Sharma has come to the fore during the current World Cup and India coach Rahul Dravid highlighted this: "Rohit has certainly been a leader and has led by example both on and off the field. Some of the starts that he has given us and the way he has cracked open games has actually made some games look easy in the end."

PLAYING HIS PART

What stood out about Shreyas is his temperament: Dravid



K. MURALI KUMAR

In a batting line-up lit up by Rohit and Kohli, others like Shreyas too have shone. "From the time I have seen Shreyas with India-A, what stood out about him is his temperament," said India head coach Dravid. What about some issues with his pull shot? "Everyone will have areas they need to work on, there is no complete batter."

NEXT LEVEL

Playing in the IPL would be a great experience for the Dutch: Cook



K. MURALI KUMAR

Ryan Cook, Netherlands head coach, wants his players to take part in the IPL. "It would be a great experience for them, and that would be sort of the next level. But, you know, even just any of the other leagues as well would be welcomed from the players' point of view and obviously the experience that they can gain in that space."

GREAT OCCASION

'Looking forward to testing our skills against the table-toppers'



K. MURALI KUMAR

Netherlands head coach Cook is stoked to take on India on the auspicious occasion of Diwali. "We are looking forward to the game. It'll be a great occasion on Diwali at the Chinnaswamy Stadium. There is lots of excitement around that for our team. And I'm really looking forward to testing our skills against the table-toppers."

Consistent India looks to make it nine out of nine

Men in Blue expected to add to the good cheer associated with Diwali festivities; Netherlands, despite wins over South Africa and Bangladesh, has largely played second fiddle to the others

ODI WORLD CUP

K.C. Vijaya Kumar
BENGALURU

More than a month since their first game against Australia at Chennai, the Men in Blue traversed the length and breadth of India to finally reach Bengaluru in time for Sunday's World Cup clash against the Netherlands here at the M. Chinnaswamy Stadium.

Crossing the country and adapting to different terrain ranging from the Himalayas to the coastal plains, Rohit Sharma's men have remained the most consistent outfit so far in this premier championship.

India's final league game during the Diwali weekend, will seamlessly blend into the imminent knockout semifinals before the summit clash at Ahmedabad on November 19. For now, the players are back at a venue, which is

home to coach Rahul Dravid and his wards K.L. Rahul and Prasad Krishna. Meanwhile, Virat Kohli has his Royal Challengers Bangalore connect and for the rest of the squad, this ground and the adjacent National Cricket Academy are familiar territory thanks to the regular preparatory camps that are held here.

Electric starts

The host is expected to add to the good cheer associated with Diwali festivities. So far the Indian team has dished out fireworks all through the tournament, with its batters and bowlers clicking in unison. Rohit's electric starts have found middle-order vindication with Kohli being the prime mover.

The fast bowling troika of Jasprit Bumrah, Mohammed Siraj and Mohammed Shami have been relentless, while spinners Kuldeep Yadav and Ravindra Jadeja have spun a tight web. Eight wins on the trot

Today's match

INDIA vs. NETHERLANDS		Bengaluru 2 p.m.	
H2H IN ODIs			
	M	India	Netherlands
Overall	2	2	0
In India	1	1	0
In World Cup	2	2	0

EYE ON THE SKY
High 28°C
Low 20°C
Partly cloudy
Source: IMD

is a tribute to a playing eleven that has ticked most boxes.

Wankhede waiting

Since the triumphant 2011 edition, India has always sailed into the last-four stage.

The cup has proved elusive after M.S. Dhoni held it aloft on a feverish night at the Wankhede Stadium but there is no mistaking India's overall consistency. While a semifinal clash against New Zealand at Mumbai on Wednesday is set in stone, India would

rather focus on getting past the Netherlands and ensuring that all its vital cogs are in order.

The ground, with its penchant for runs, should stay true while the lurking clouds are expected to steer clear. Saturday was all about blue skies, a bright sun and cool air, and this trend is expected to continue. Meanwhile, the Netherlands, despite toppling South Africa and Bangladesh, has largely played second fiddle to others.

Seamer Bas de Leede has grabbed 14 wickets, but

his other comrades have largely been mute. Spinner Roelof van der Merwe, having played for RCB in the past, is clued into the conditions but more needs to be done by the troops under Scott Edwards, if the Netherlands hopes to embarrass a busy juggernaut like India.

The teams (from):

India: Rohit Sharma (Capt.), K.L. Rahul (wk), Virat Kohli, Shubman Gill, Shreyas Iyer, Suryakumar Yadav, Ishan Kishan, Ravindra Jadeja, R. Ashwin, Jasprit Bumrah, Mohammed Shami, Mohammed Siraj, Shardul Thakur, Kuldeep Yadav and Prasad Krishna.

Netherlands: Scott Edwards (captain & wk), Vikramjit Singh, Teja Nidamanuru, Max O'Dowd, Sybrand Engelbrecht, Colin Ackermann, Bas de Leede, Saqib Zulfiqar, Wesley Barresi, Noah Croes, Roelof van der Merwe, Logan van Beek, Shariz Ahmad, Ryan Klein, Aryan Dutt and Paul van Meekeren.

Umpires: Michael Gough and Chris Gaffaney; **Third umpire:** Joel Wilson; **Match referee:** Richie Richardson.
Match starts at 2 p.m.



Opening salvo: Gill will hope to make it count in a ground known for big totals. K. MURALI KUMAR

There is no real right and wrong, feels Dravid on the Mathews Timed Out episode against Bangladesh

K.C. Vijaya Kumar
BENGALURU

The Timed Out episode involving Shakib Al Hasan and Angelo Mathews surfaced during the press conference that Rahul Dravid addressed at the M. Chinnaswamy Stadium here on Saturday.

Dravid also praised the India coach was clear in his perspective and said: "Everyone thinks dif-

ferently. We are all unique creatures. "There is no real right and wrong. You can go and debate both the situations. You can debate whether we have to stick to the

rules. Or you have to sometimes give some leeway for the spirit of cricket.

"There will be people on both sides and it is fine to have these differences. When someone wants to

take the letter of the rule to the last nth degree, he is just following the rules. You might not do it yourself but you can't blame somebody for following the rule."

Coach Dravid insists on the need to maintain intensity in final league game



Men who matter: While Rohit was busy honing his batting skills, Dravid obliged the fans seeking selfies and autographs. K. MURALI KUMAR

K.C. Vijaya Kumar
BENGALURU

Returning to his backyard, Rahul Dravid strode into the press conference room, nursing a warm beverage in a cup.

The India coach was quick to stress on maintaining the intensity as his wards take on the Netherlands here during Sunday's World Cup game.

"We have done well and maintained high standards. We need to continue that. This is our ninth venue, and a great venue,

even if I say so," the Bengalee quipped here on Saturday. Dravid also praised the Netherlands: "We are impressed with the way they have played in this tournament. I know how difficult it is for associate teams to reach this level."

Being the final league clash, any temptation to rest some players? "We had six days off from the last game. We are well rested and the guys are in good shape. That's all I will say without giving anything away. You can make your inferences," Dravid said.

He also mentioned that the team is comfortable either way, taking first strike or launching a chase.

Crucial knocks

The coach made a special mention about how the middle-order shaped up. "How well your middle-order performs in challenging situations, will probably decide how well you do. While our top-order performed exceptionally well, our middle-order also played a very critical role. Some of those 30s and 40s are critical knocks.

Shreyas, K.L. (Rahul), Suryakumar Yadav and Jaddu (Ravindra Jadeja) have all contributed," Dravid explained.

India stepped into the World Cup with a few players coming back from injuries and Dravid drew heart from the way they performed even if Hardik Pandya again got hurt. "It is great to have these guys fit and ready. Our margins were tight, we had some contingency plans. It is a tribute to their hard work and the efforts of the NCA," the coach said.

I don't see India taking the foot off the pedal: Netherlands coach Cook

Ayan Acharya
BENGALURU

Netherlands head coach Ryan Cook wants his team to be consistent for "longer periods" after an impressive ODI World Cup 2023 campaign here. "I think the main lesson that we've learned is that our team needs to be better for longer, whether that's with the bat or with the ball," Cook said on the eve of his team's last league game against India.

Period of play

"I think we've shown glimpses of great periods of play. Some of those periods have been 20, 30, 40 overs long, but an ODI is 100 overs long, and you have to play cricket for a long period of time, and you have to play it really well."

The Netherlands' ambitions of qualifying for the 2025 Champions Trophy with a top-eight finish will likely rest on beating India on Sunday. However, Cook was quick to temper expectations.



Big motivation: Netherlands' ambitions of qualifying for the 2025 Champions Trophy by finishing in the top eight largely rests on the result against India. K. MURALI KUMAR

"I don't think there's any opportune moment to play them. Obviously, they're playing really good cricket at the moment. They've won all the matches. I don't see them taking their foot off the pedal in any way. I'm sure they'll be putting their best foot forward, and we would obviously be showing them the same courtesy as well," he said.

The Netherlands has four wins in 29 matches at 50-over World Cups, and it beat two full ICC members, South Africa and Bangladesh, in this edition. As the head coach of the only associate nation at this World Cup, Cook hopes this performance will elevate the profile of the sport back home.

"It's reaching a greater audience now, and a lot

more people are talking about it within the Netherlands," Cook said.

"Lots of people are sending pictures and messages about having watch parties, which maybe only contain 50 or 60 people in comparison to the IPL fan boxes that I see here in April and May, which are packed, but that's as big as it gets there. Hopefully, it will grow."

Nothing goes Pakistan's way right from the toss; England seals CT berth

Babar's men fall woefully short against a penetrative attack after Buttler's team bats first and posts a huge total; Stokes shines yet again

ODI WORLD CUP
N. Sudarshan
KOLKATA

The outcome of the Pakistan-England game at the Eden Gardens on Saturday had ceased to matter even before a ball was bowled. Pakistan's only chance of making the World Cup semifinals was to bat first and win by 287 runs. The moment the coin flipped in England's favour, and Jos Buttler chose to bat, it was curtains.

The tie did not prosper as a contest either. England scored 337 for nine on the slow, abrasive surface as Ben Stokes, in what was perhaps his final ODI innings, made the 37,666-strong holiday audience bounce by scripting a fine 84 (76b, 11x4, 2x6).

Pakistan fell woefully short, losing by 93 runs, as England sealed Champions Trophy qualification.

When Babar Azam was batting, Pakistan looked very much in the hunt. But once the skipper fell in the 14th over after a sweet 38 (45b, 6x4), it all fizzled out.

The middle-order collapse against Adil Rashid and Moeen Ali was particularly glaring. Once a land of great spinners and spin-playing batters, present-day Pakistan is neither.

It has been evident in the way its tweekers have bowled all tournament. At the Eden, it manifested in the way Mohammad Rizwan, Saud Shakeel, Iftikhar Ahmed and Shadab Khan fell – charging down the track mindlessly, sweeping thoughtlessly and failing completely in picking straighter deliveries and googlies.

The afternoon's proceedings, though, were in stark contrast as Stokes and Joe Root (60, 72b, 4x4) took centre-stage, building on an 82-run stand for the opening wicket between Jonny Bairstow (59, 61b, 7x4, 1x6) and Dawid Malan (31, 39b, 5x4), with a 132-run partnership for the third wicket.

Stokes was the more expressive, capitalising fully on an early let off by Shaheen Afridi, who grassed a simple caught-and-bowled chance.

The 32-year-old smashed the left-armer straight down, past mid-on, over mid-wicket and beyond point in a matter of two overs to send him out of the attack. Then came the hoick over mid-wicket off Mohammad Wasim and the falling reverse-swept six off Agha Salman, his stand-out shots.

At one point, Root seemed so bored at the other end that he tried his own reverse ramp. But



Smash hit: Stokes' pyrotechnics piloted England to a total that proved beyond Pakistan's reach. RITU RAJ KONWAR

classical batsmanship is his forte and he showcased that with back-to-back fours to the square fence.

Breezy knocks Afridi did have Stokes' measure, uprooting his off-stump with a ball that swung back. But breezy knocks from Jos Buttler (27, 18b, 3x4, 1x6) and Harry Brook (30, 17b, 2x4, 2x6) swelled England's total.

Pakistan's below-par fielding stuck out. Nothing it did really worked. It was a match that was emblematic of its World Cup campaign.

SCOREBOARD

ENGLAND

Dawid Malan c Rizwan b Iftikhar 31 (39b, 5x4), Jonny Bairstow c Salman b Rauf 59 (61b, 7x4, 1x6), Joe Root c Shadab b Afridi 60 (72b, 11x4, 2x6), Jos Buttler run out 27 (18b, 3x4, 1x6), Harry Brook c Afridi b Rauf 30 (17b, 2x4, 2x6), Moeen Ali b Rauf 8 (6b, 1x6), Chris Woakes (not out) 4 (4b, 1x4), David Willey c Iftikhar b Wasim 15 (5b, 2x4, 1x6), Gus Atkinson b Wasim 0 (1b), Adil Rashid (not out) 0 (1b); Extras (b-5, lb-2, w-12): 19; Total (for nine wkts. in 50 overs): 337.

FALL OF WICKETS

1-82 (Malan, 13.3 overs), 2-108 (Bairstow, 18.2), 3-240 (Stokes, 40.1), 4-257 (Root, 42.2), 5-302

(Brook, 46.4), 6-308 (Buttler, 47.2), 7-317 (Moeen, 48.4), 8-336 (Willey, 49.4), 9-336 (Atkinson, 49.5).

PAKISTAN BOWLING

Afridi 10-1-72-2, Rauf 10-0-64-3, Iftikhar 7-0-38-1, Wasim 10-0-74-2, Shadab 10-0-57-0, Salman 3-0-25-0.

PAKISTAN

Abdullah Shafique lbw b Willey 0 (2b), Fakhar Zaman c Stokes b Willey 1 (9b), Babar Azam c Adil Rashid b Atkinson 38 (45b, 6x4), Mohammad Rizwan b Moeen 36 (51b, 2x4), Saud Shakeel b Adil Rashid 29 (37b, 4x4), Agha Salman c Stokes b Willey 51 (45b, 6x4, 1x6), Iftikhar Ahmed c Malan b Moeen 3 (5b), Shadab Khan b Adil Rashid 4 (7b, 1x4), Shaheen Shah

Afridi lbw b Atkinson 25 (23b, 3x4, 1x6), Mohammad Wasim (not out) 16 (14b, 2x4, 1x6), Haris Rauf c Stokes b Woakes 35 (23b, 3x4, 3x6); Extras (lb-1, w-5): 6; Total (in 43.3 overs): 244.

FALL OF WICKETS

1-0 (Shafique, 0.2), 2-10 (Zaman, 2.4), 3-61 (Babar, 13.6), 4-100 (Rizwan, 22.3), 5-126 (Shakeel, 27.5), 6-145 (Iftikhar, 30.1), 7-150 (Shadab, 31.4), 8-186 (Salman, 36.4), 9-191 (Afridi, 37.4).

ENGLAND BOWLING

Willey 10-0-56-3, Woakes 5.3-0-27-1, Adil Rashid 10-0-55-2, Atkinson 8-0-45-2, Moeen 10-0-60-2.
Toss: England; **PoM:** Willey. England won by 93 runs.

The best four are in the last four: Arthur



Lights out! Shadab is done in by a Rashid special. RITU RAJ KONWAR

N. Sudarshan
KOLKATA

Pakistan's second straight fifth-place finish at the World Cup will be a bitter pill to swallow for the country's cricketing faithful. But coach Mickey Arthur seems to have already digested it.

"I really believe the best four teams in the competition are now playing the semifinals," he said after the loss to England here on Saturday. "Fifth is where we deserve to finish with the cricket that we've played over the last six weeks."

Arthur stated that the loss of pacer Naseem Shah ahead of the marquee tournament hurt the team. "Our bowling equilibrium was out of kilter because Naseem provides the consistency. It allows Shaheen Shah [Afridi] to attack, and then the leg-spinner and then Haris Rauf."

"Rauf doesn't normally bowl with the new ball. We've been working hard with him, but he bowled okay in patches."

The burly South African also opined that Pakistan

had to put up big scores consistently. "We have to become a 330-350 team. Those who are doing that consistently are in the semifinals. We do that when Fakhar Zaman comes off. We can't just be relying on one player."

The Pakistan-England fixture also saw a bitter-sweet ending to English speedster David Willey's international career. The left-arm seamer had announced his retirement last week after being denied a central contract, but capped his 73-match ODI journey by picking up his 100th wicket.

"It was mixed emotions," the 33-year-old said. "My situation with England has always been on the fringe. I'm next in if there's an injury, very much a squad player. And I've been at peace with that. It's not easy, never knowing where you stand from tour to tour."

"So, to just be able to enjoy my last game for England was lovely. The boys have been great. It was special to walk out [on to the field] first. They are memories I'll cherish forever."

Marsh hurricane blows away Bangladesh; Aussies roll on

Amol Karhadkar
PUNE

Mitchell Marsh and Steve Smith hold the rare distinction of being the only overseas pair to have represented both the Indian Premier League franchises from Pune. The duo marked its return to one of their homes away from home in style by helping Australia make a mockery of a target of 307 set by Bangladesh in their last Men's World Cup league game.

Riding on the duo's unbroken association of 175 runs – with Marsh's mammoth hundred being the star act – Australia overhauled Bangladesh's 306 for eight with more than five overs to spare and eight wickets in hand.

The victory – Australia's seventh in a row – wasn't enough for the five-time World champion to finish second in the league stage but will hold it in good stead going into Thursday's semifinal against South Africa.

Despite Travis Head's attempted heave off Taskin Ahmed resulting in his



Sizzling strokeplay: Marsh flayed the bowlers all round the park during his mammoth hundred. ANI

woodwork being shattered in the third over, Marsh and the in-form David Warner kept the chase in control. While Marsh was using the long handle on a batting paradise at the Maharashtra Cricket Association stadium to the delight of the 20,000-odd spectators, Warner rotated the strike in characteristic fashion.

Soon after he crossed his fifty, Warner chipped

Mustafizur Rahman to stand-in captain Najmul Hasan Shanto against the run of play. In came Smith and seamlessly continued his long hit in the net on the previous day.

None of the five bowlers employed by Bangladesh appeared to ask any questions to either of the two as Marsh and Smith kept on punishing them. Marsh's power-hitting rubbed on to Smith as well, as was

displayed during his slogsweep for a six off Nasum Ahmed's medium-pace. The young pacer had the most difficult day as he conceded a whopping 85 runs in his quota.

Had the Australia fielders not managed run-outs at key moments, Marsh may have been presented with an opportunity to join Glenn Maxwell – rested for the game – to hit a double century.

SCOREBOARD

BANGLADESH

Tanzid Hasan c & b Abbott 36 (34b, 6x4), Litton Das c Labuschagne b Zampa 36 (45b, 5x4), Najmul Hossain Shanto run out 45 (57b, 6x4), Towhid Hridoy c Labuschagne b Stoinis 74 (79b, 5x4, 2x6), Mahmudullah run out 32 (28b, 1x4, 3x6), Mushfiqur Rahim c Cummins b Zampa 21 (24b, 1x6), Mehidy Hasan Miraz c Cummins b Abbott 29 (20b, 4x4), Nasum Ahmed run out 7 (11b), Mahedi Hasan (not out) 2 (3b), Taskin Ahmed (not out) 0 (1b); Extras (lb-10, nb-2, w-12): 24; Total (for eight wkts. in 50 overs): 306.

FALL OF WICKETS

1-76 (Tanzid, 11.2 overs), 2-106 (Litton, 16.4), 3-170 (Shanto, 27.5), 4-214 (Mahmudullah, 35.4), 5-251 (Mushfiqur, 42.1), 6-286 (Hridoy, 46.3), 7-303 (Mehidy, 49.1), 8-304 (Nasum, 49.3).

AUSTRALIA BOWLING

Hazlewood 7-1-21-0, Cummins 8-0-56-0, Abbott 10-0-61-2, Marsh 4-0-48-0, Zampa 10-0-32-2, Head 6-0-33-0, Stoinis 5-0-45-1.

AUSTRALIA

Travis Head b Taskin 10 (11b, 2x4), David Warner c Najmul b Mustafizur 53 (61b, 6x4), Mitchell Marsh (not out) 177 (132b, 17x4, 9x6), Steve Smith (not out) 63 (64b, 4x4, 1x6); Extras (w-4): 4; Total (for two wkts. in 44.4 overs): 307.

FALL OF WICKETS

1-12 (Head, 2.5), 2-132 (Warner, 22.1).

BANGLADESH BOWLING

Taskin 10-0-61-1, Mahedi 9-0-38-0, Nasum 10-0-85-0, Mehidy 6-0-47-0, Mustafizur 9.4-1-76-1.

Toss: Australia; **PoM:** Marsh. Australia won by eight wickets with 32 balls to spare.

But the Australia pace pack, sans Mitchell Starc who was replaced with Sean Abbott, continued to find it difficult to strike in the PowerPlay.

Adam Zampa's yet another magnificent spell combined with Australia's magnificent fielding pulled things back.

As a result, Tauhid Hri-

doy scored the only fifty for Bangladesh despite all the top-seven batters getting off to a start.

At 239 for four after 40 overs, Bangladesh was in with a chance of setting an imposing total. But Zampa's three overs thereafter pulled it back for as Bangladesh could add only 67 in the last 10.

Wolves kayoes Spurs with a late one-two

EURO LEAGUES

Associated Press
WOLVERHAMPTON

Wolverhampton scored twice in stoppage time to beat Tottenham 2-1 in the Premier League on Saturday.

Mario Lemina struck in the 97th-minute after Pablo Sarabia had evened the score six minutes earlier at Molineux Stadium.

The visitors led from Brennan Johnson's goal after just three minutes.

Later, Arsenal coasted to a 3-1 win over a hapless Burnley, a result that took the Gunners to second and above Tottenham in the league standings.

Girona fought back for a 2-1 victory at Rayo Vallecano to ensure it kept its surprising lead of the Spanish league on Saturday.

The results: Premier League: Wolves 2 (Sarabia 90+1, Lemina 90+7) bt Tottenham 1 (Johnson 3); Arsenal 3 (Trossard 45+1, Saliba 57, Zinchenko 74) bt Burnley 1 (Brownhill 54); Crystal Palace 2 (Eze 5-pen, Edouard 73)



Lemina. GETTY IMAGES

lost to Everton 3 (Mykolenko 1, Doucoure 49, Gueye 86); Manchester United 1 (Lindelof 59) bt Luton Town 0.

LaLiga: Rayo Vallecano 1 (Garcia 5) lost to Girona 2 (Dovbyk 42, Savio 65).

Serie A: Lecce 2 (Sansone 66, Banda 70) drew with AC Milan 2 (Giroud 28, Reinjinders 35).

Bundesliga: Bayern Munich 4 (Kane 14, Kane 44, Guerreiro 72, Choupo-Moting 85) bt Borussia Dortmund 1 (Fullkrug 36).
Heidenheim 2 (Kleindienst 67, Beste 70); Stuttgart 2 (Undav 42, Guirassy 83-pen) bt Borussia Dortmund 1 (Fullkrug 36).

On Friday: LaLiga: Athletic Bilbao 4 (Sanchez 37, Guruzeta 45+5, Berenguer 90+8-pen) bt Celta Vigo 3 (Aspas 25, Bamba 41, Larsen 66).

'This meant just as much as any other hundred'

Points table

	M	W	L	PTS	NRR
India (Q)	8	8	0	16	2.456
South Africa (Q)	9	7	2	14	1.261
Australia (Q)	9	7	2	14	0.841
New Zealand (Q)	9	5	4	10	0.743
Pakistan	9	4	5	8	-0.199
Afghanistan	9	4	5	8	-0.336
England	9	3	6	6	-0.572
Bangladesh	9	2	7	4	-1.087
Sri Lanka	9	2	7	4	-1.419
Netherlands	8	2	6	4	-1.635

Q: Qualified

The semifinals:
November 15: India vs. New Zealand, Mumbai, 2 p.m.
November 16: South Africa vs. Australia, Kolkata, 2 p.m.

Amol Karhadkar
PUNE

Mitchell Marsh has had an emotional fortnight. Having had to rush to Australia midway through the tournament after the passing of his grandfather, Ross, Marsh rejoined the squad.

But the all-rounder kept his emotions in check after scoring his second hundred of the Men's World Cup – also Australia's third-highest individual score in the tournament history. Asked whether this was the most emotional of his three ODI hundreds, Marsh said he was battling the conditions

more than anything else.

"It's always a great honour to score 100, but I was pretty cooked to be honest. I was just starting to cramp at that stage, so I was trying to keep my heart rate low and not exert too much energy. So, yeah, this one meant just as much as any other hundred that I have ever made," Marsh said after the match.

Marsh was chuffed with the manner in which Australia has turned the tables around to set up a semifinal date against South Africa after losing the first two games.

"We are really excited. You look back to the start

of the World Cup and nine games seem like a long way away," he said. "With the amount of improvement with all cricket teams around the world there has been not one easy game."

Najmul Hossain Shanto, Bangladesh's stand-in captain, reflected on the team's batting unit's poor show right through the tournament. Shanto stressed on the need to stick to a set batting order.

"To be honest, it is better if we don't (shuffle the batting order). But sometimes you have to against certain teams. But the less we do it, (the better it is)," Shanto said.

THE HINDU
CRICKET WORLD CUP
TRIVIA CHALLENGE

1. Which cricketer scored the only century of the 2011 ODI World Cup final?
2. Who is the only bowler to be the leading wicket-taker in two successive editions of the ODI World Cup?
3. Who was the coach of the victorious 1996 World Cup Sri Lanka team?

Scan the QR code to participate in the quiz. Top 3 winners each day will win exciting gift vouchers

Answer to yesterday's quiz:

1. Kumar Sangakkara
2. Adil Rashid
3. Melbourne

INBRIEF



Czechs complete BJK Cup semifinals line-up

Barbora Krejčíková and Katerina Siniakova won the decisive doubles rubber against the United States to seal Friday's tie and claim the last place in the Billie Jean King Cup semifinals. Krejčíková and Siniakova beat Danielle Collins and Taylor Townsend 6-3, 7-5 to secure top spot in Group A and set up a showdown with Canada in Seville on Saturday for a spot in the final. France beat Germany 3-0 in a dead rubber on Friday to take second in the group.

Alex Marquez wins Malaysian MotoGP sprint race

Alex Marquez won the Malaysian MotoGP sprint race at Sepang on Saturday ahead of championship rival duo Jorge Martin and Francesco Bagnaia. Spain's Marquez romped home on his Ducati nearly 1.6 seconds ahead of compatriot Martin, who closed the gap on Italy's Bagnaia in their championship tussle to 11 points.

Indian men's team clinches gold in Asian Half Marathon

The Indian men's team won gold medal while the women's side clinched a bronze in the inaugural Asian Half Marathon championship in Dubai on Saturday. The Indian men's team consisted of Sawan Barwal, Kartik Kumar and Abhishek Pal. Poonam Dinkar, Kavita Yadav and Rima Patel represented the women's team.

Sumit Nagal sails past second seed Ruusuvuori

Sumit Nagal got past second seed Emil Ruusuvuori to reach the semifinals of the €145,000 Challenger tennis tournament in Helsinki, Finland. Qualifier Nagal led 6-3, 3-1 when the Finn retired.

Other result: Doubles: Semifinals: Jeevan Nedunchezhiyan & Vijay Sundar Prashanth bt Maxime Cressy (USA) & Otto Virtanen (Fin) 6-3, 6-4.

Namdhari pips RKFC, bags first win

Namdhari FC clinched a hard-fought 1-0 victory over Real Kashmir (RKFC) in the 2023-24 I-League at the Namdhari Stadium in Sri Bhaini Sahib on Saturday. Winger Harmanpreet Singh scored for Namdhari in the 36th minute.

LIVE TELECAST

NBA: Sports 18-1 (SD & HD) & Jio Cinema App, 7 a.m.
Badminton: Korea Open, Sports 18-1 (SD & HD) & Jio Cinema App, 7.30 a.m.
Men's Cricket World Cup: Star Sports 1 (SD & HD) & Hotstar, 2 p.m.
Tennis: ATP Finals, Sony Sports Ten 5 (SD & HD) & LIV, 4.30, 7 p.m. & 1.30 a.m. (Monday)
Premier League: SS Select 1, 2 (SD & HD) & Hotstar, 7.30 & 10 p.m.
Bundesliga: Sony Sports Ten 2 (SD & HD) & LIV, 8 & 10 p.m.
LaLiga: Sports 18-1 (SD & HD) & Jio Cinema App, 8.45, 11 p.m. & 1.30 a.m. (Monday)
Monday:
Tennis: ATP Finals, Sony Sports Ten 5 (SD & HD) & LIV, 4.30, 7, 11 p.m. & 1.30 a.m. (Tuesday)
LaLiga: Sports 18-1 (SD & HD) & Jio Cinema App, 1.30 a.m. (Tuesday)

SA players upbeat about semifinal against Australia

They are focused on giving their best and not on the result and don't carry baggages from the past, says Coetzee while van der Dussen dwells on the special memories in the campaign

ODI WORLD CUP

Shayan Acharya
AHMEDABAD

Rassie van der Dussen was 10-years-old, Andile Phehlukwayo was just three and Gerald Coetzee was not even born when South Africa featured in that classic World Cup semifinal against Australia in 1999.

None of them, obviously, have any memories of that game when a tied finish saw Australia progress to the final and eventually winning the tournament.

But come November 16 and they will be part of South Africa's semifinal with the Aussies and the current crop of players are looking forward to it.

"The whole chat around our group has been, 'you know what, on the 19th of November we will be where we need to be, whether it's lifting the trophy or not. It's fine, whatever happens will happen.' We will look to play the way we want to play and do what we want to do," said van der Dussen.

In a rather dead-rubber against Afghanistan on Friday, he stood firm and



Happy bunch: van der Dussen says the mood in the camp is really good and the players are ready to give their best. VIJAY SONEJI

guided the team home with an unbeaten 76 off 95 deliveries.

While van der Dussen understands that the pressure will mount up ahead of a high-voltage game, he wants to keep things simple.

"At the end of the day, I think that the time we've had together the last 8 to 12 weeks with the squad will go down as probably some of the best team environments and times I've had in my career."

"Those memories are

special already. So, whether we win or not, I don't think - that's not up to us really. Whatever will happen will happen, but we'll definitely go away from here with fond memories," he said.

South Africa has had a great run in the tournament - barring two defeats against India and The Netherlands - and it hopes to get the monkey off the back in the semis.

"What happened in the past doesn't affect us now. That's the game of cricket

and we are going to get there and ensure it's a good game. Whoever wins on that day, wins - there's no dishonour in losing as long as we come to play," said Coetzee.

For Phehlukwayo, the semifinal will be all about preparation.

"We are a good team and so are they. So, whoever plays the best cricket and who comes on on that day will win. It's about the preparation and who plays the conditions the best on the day."

Bavuma's injury being monitored



Race against time: Bavuma would do whatever it takes to lead from the front against Australia in the semifinal. VIJAY SONEJI

Shayan Acharya
AHMEDABAD

South Africa captain Temba Bavuma, who sustained a right hamstring strain during the team's last group league fixture against Afghanistan, is being monitored by the medical team.

Cricket South Africa confirmed in a statement on Saturday that Bavuma was assessed by the Proteas medical team and he showed an 'improvement overnight'.

"He will continue to be monitored and managed by the medical team," the statement said.

However, doubts linger over his participation in the World Cup semifinal against Australia at Eden

Gardens in Kolkata next week, after he left the field on Friday after nine balls of the first innings, and returned four overs later. However, he limped while fielding and hobbled while running between the wickets.

Later, Temba told the broadcaster that though he had the option of resting, he wanted to be with the team, despite it being a dead rubber.

"Obviously I had that option of coming off, but I think as much as it was our last group-stage game, probably it didn't have a big bearing in terms of the play-off," Temba said.

In case, Bavuma misses out on the semifinal, Aiden Markram is expected to lead South Africa.

Djokovic fired up for an eighth time at year-end No. 1

ATP FINALS

Associated Press
TURIN

Novak Djokovic has already done well enough at holding off the rise of the so-called "Next Gen" by keeping players like Alexander Zverev, Stefanos Tsitsipas and Daniil Medvedev from winning more titles.

Now, for the first time at the ATP Finals, Djokovic is joined by the three players who are being labelled the "Young Gen."

Carlos Alcaraz, 20 years old and already a U.S. Open and Wimbledon champion, is making his debut at the season-ending tournament for the year's top

eight players after missing the event last year with an injury.

Jannik Sinner, 22 and coming in red hot after recent titles in China and Vienna, will be playing before a home crowd with the Italian ranked a career-high No. 4.

Holger Rune, 20 and already with two wins over Djokovic, will renew his budding rivalry with the 24-time Grand Slam champion in the featured match when the tournament opens Sunday on the fast indoor court at the Pala Alpitour.

"Thanks for reminding me of the age - Next Gen, Young Gen - I don't know where I fit it, in which kind

of gen group," the 36-year-old Djokovic said Friday. "Being able to be compete with the young guys is always extra motivation for me, because I know that they are hungry and have big goals and objectives to win these kinds of tournaments... So that inspires me even more to play my best tennis."

Djokovic needs just one more match win to secure the year-end No. 1 ranking for a record-extending eighth time.

The groups: Green: Novak Djokovic (1), Jannik Sinner (4), Stefanos Tsitsipas (6), Holger Rune (8).

Red: Carlos Alcaraz (2), Daniil Medvedev (3), Andrey Rublev (5), Alexander Zverev (7).



The experienced and the hungry: For the first time at the ATP Finals, Djokovic is joined by the three players who are being labelled the "Young Gen." GETTY IMAGES

Double delight for Norah Chaudhary and Ronnie Vijay Kumar

Sports Bureau

Norah Chaudhary defeated second seed Sarena Gahlot 6-2, 6-3 in the under-12 girls final of the AITA National series junior tennis tournament at the Mavi Academy in Noida on Saturday.

Norah won the doubles title as well in partnership with Khushi Khadian, beating top seeds Sarena Gahlot and Aaradhana Tehlan in straight sets.

Ronnie Vijay Kumar clinched the boys singles title and the doubles crown in partnership with Yuvaan Garg.

The results: Under-12: Boys, final: Ronnie Vijay Kumar bt Yuvaan Garg 6-2, 6-1; **Semifinals:** Yuvaan bt Prabhnoor Singh 6-0, 6-1; Vijay Kumar bt Nihal Reddy 6-3, 6-2.

Doubles, final: Yuvaan Garg & Ronnie Vijay Kumar bt Arjun Dua & Anay Pandey 6-2, 6-3.

Girls, final: Norah Chaudhary bt Sarena Gahlot 6-2, 6-3; **Semifinals:** Norah bt Parinitha Vattaprambil 6-2, 6-2; Sarena bt Maahira Bhatia 6-3, 6-3.

Doubles, final: Khushi Khadian & Norah Chaudhary bt Sarena Gahlot & Aaradhana Tehlan 6-2, 6-2.

Dhiraj earns India's first quota place

ARCHERY

Sports Bureau

B. Dhiraj earned the first Olympics quota place for the country in archery at the Asian Continental Qualifier Tournament (ACQT) in Bangkok on Saturday.

The results: Recurve: Individual: Men: B. Dhiraj bt Sadeq Ashrafi Bavlili (Iri) 6-0 in QF, bt



Dhiraj, FILE PHOTO

Mohammadhossein Golshani Asi (Iri) 6-0 in SF, lost to Lin Zih-Siang (Tpe) 6-5 (10-9) in final. Tarundeep Rai lost to Lin Zih-Siang (Tpe) 6-0 in QF. **Women:** Ankita Bhakat lost to Ziyodakhon Abdusattorova (Uzb) 6-4 in QF.

Inyouwebelieve is expected to score in Kabini Cup

BENGALURU: Inyouwebelieve, who has been well-prepared, is expected to score in the Kabini Cup (1,200m), the main event of the races to be held here on Sunday (Nov 12) (postponed from Saturday (Nov 11)). False rails (width about 6.5m from 1,600m to the winning post) will be in position.

1 SHIMSHA PLATE (1,200m), rated 00 to 25, 2.00 p.m.: 1. Cinco De Mayo (10) S. Shareef 62.5, 2. Golden Gallery (4) Darshan 62, 3. Contador (9) S. John 61, 4. Elite Agent (7) Kiran Rai 60, 5. Infinite Spirit (2) Saddam H 58, 6. Lady Godiva (1) M. Chandrashekar 58, 7. Anne Boleyn (3) Tousif 57, 8. Marco Polo (5) L.A. Rozario 55.5, 9. Ultimate Choice (8) P. Surya 54 and 10. Perfect Halo (6) M. Rajesh K 52.5.

1. CONTADOR, 2. CINCO DE MAYO, 3. GOLDEN GALLERY

2 HEBBE FALLS PLATE (Div. II), (1,400m), rated 20 to 45, 5-y-o & over, 2.30: 1. Southern Power (1) Akshay K 61, 2. Ultimate Striker (8) Antony 60.5, 3. Noble Ruler (9)

Darshan 54, 4. Sling Shot (5) Vinod Shinde 53.5, 5. Domina (4) Arvind K 53, 6. Chiraag (10) Tousif 52.5, 7. Apollo Light (3) P. Surya 52, 8. Princess Jasmine (11) Shreyas S 52, 9. Je Ne Sais Quoi (6) L.A. Rozario 51.5, 10. Altamonte (7) Jagadeesh 51 and 11. Sacred Creator (2) M. Rajesh K 51.

1. SOUTHERN POWER, 2. ULTIMATE STRIKER, 3. ALTAMONTE

3 BLACK CAVIAR PLATE (1,100m), maiden 3-y-o only, (Terms), 3.00: 1. Cadmus (7) B. Nayak 57, 2. Palomino (6) Akshay K 57, 3. Super Sapphire (9) Suraj 57, 4. Crosswater (1) Antony 55.5, 5. Greeley (5) L.A. Rozario 55, 6. Prophecy (2) S. Saqlain 55.5, 7. Seeking The Stars (4) Inayat 55.5, 8. Shadow' Saim (8) Rayan 55.5 and 9. Tankinika (3) Salman Khan 55.5.

1. SUPER SAPPHIRE, 2. PROPHECY, 3. PALOMINO

4 HOGENAKKAL FALLS PLATE (1,600m), rated 20 to 45, 3.30: 1. Aircraft (2) Srinath 61.5, 2. Pharazon (12) L.A. Rozario 61, 3. Queen Of Kyiv (8) Suraj 60.5, 4. Ar-

5 ARDENT KNIGHT TROPHY (1,400m), rated 40 to 65, 4-y-o & over, 4.00: 1. Prime Abess (10) Antony 60, 2. Millbrook (6) S. John 59.5, 3. Armstrong (7) Akshay K 59, 4. Impiana (1) L.A. Rozario 57, 5. Mystic Eye (4) S. Shareef 56.5, 6. Anakin (8) Vinod Shinde 56, 7. Four Wheel Drive (5) Inayat 56, 8. Golden Vision (2) Rayan 56, 9. Able One (11) Jagadeesh 54, 10. Owen Legacy (3) Darshan 54 and 11. Klimt (9) S. Saqlain 53.

1. PRINCE ABESS, 2. ARMSTRONG, 3. ABLE ONE

6 KABINI CUP (1,200m), rated 50 to 85, 4.30: 1. Eternal Princess (6) P. Siddharaju 60.5, 2. Michigan Melody (3) Koshi K 57.5,

3. Amreli (5) Srinath 55.5, 4. English Bay (1) Ashok K 55.5, 5. Disruptor (4) Rayan 53.5, 6. Promise Kept (2) Likith Appu 53, 7. Inyouwebelieve (8) Akshay K 52.5 and 8. Knight In Hooves (7) Salman Khan 52.5.

1. INYOUWEBELIEVE, 2. ETERNAL PRINCESS, 3. AMRELI

7 HEBBE FALLS PLATE (Div. I), (1,400m), rated 20 to 45, 5-y-o & over, 5.00: 1. Super Kind (5) R. Pradeep 62, 2. Augusto (7) S. Shareef 61.5, 3. Memorable Time (2) Vinod Shinde 61, 4. Ombudsman (8) Shreyas S 59.5, 5. Schafenberg (4) Saddam H 59, 6. Southern Dynasty (3) Darshan 59, 7. The Omega Man (6) Salman Khan 59, 8. My Vision (1) Antony 56, 9. Ultimate Chance (9) S. Saqlain 55.5 and 10. Limited Edition (10) L.A. Rozario 54.

1. LIMITED EDITION, 2. AUGUSTO, 3. ULTIMATE CHANCE
Day's best: QUEEN OF KYIV
Double: CONTADOR - SUPER SAPPHIRE
Jkt: 3, 4, 5, 6 and 7; Tr (i): 2, 3 and 4; (ii): 5, 6 and 7.

India stays on top with win over SA

LAVER CUP

Sports Bureau

Rushil Khosla, Manas Dhamne and Sohini Mohanty won their singles and doubles matches to guide India to a 5-1 victory over South Africa in the fourth league match of the IC Rod Laver World junior challenge at the La Jolla Beach and Tennis Club in San Diego, California.

Asmi Adkar was the only one to lose her singles

match, while Sohini was stretched in the singles rubber.

India had earlier beaten Britain, USA and Italy. It was scheduled to play Argentina in the last league match.

The results (league): India bt South Africa 5-1 (Manas Dhamne bt Guy Vorwerk 6-3, 6-1; Rushil Khosla bt Simphiewe Ngwenya 6-0, 6-2; Asmi Adkar lost to Mari-Louise Van Zyl 3-6, 1-6; Sohini Mohanty bt Kaitlyn Ramduth 6-4, 7-6(7); Rushil & Manas bt Simphiewe & Guy 6-0, 6-3; Asmi & Sohini bt Kaitlyn & Mari-Louise 6-3, 6-1).

Gasping for breath

Every winter, air pollution spikes in the entire Indo-Gangetic Plain when pollutants from various sources are not dispersed easily because of the drop in temperature and wind speed. The worst affected by this deadly turn of events is Delhi

In the Annual World Air Quality Report released by IQAir, a Swiss air quality technology company, India is ranked eighth among countries with the worst air quality index. Even worse is the fact that 14 cities from North India occupy the list of 20 most polluted cities in the world.

The entire Indo-Gangetic Plain witnesses a spike in air pollution every winter. During the season, roughly the same atmospheric condition prevails throughout the region, which includes large parts of Delhi, Haryana,

Punjab and Uttar Pradesh, bringing it under an "airshed".

Winter sees a spike in air pollution as the drop in temperature renders it difficult for the pollutants emitted by different sources to disperse. Vehicle and diesel generator exhaust, heavy industry emissions, soil and road dust, open waste burning, and biomass burning all pollute the atmosphere throughout the year, but the noxious discharges get accumulated in the winter, amplifying the effect.

Debates over the extent of the impact of stubble

burning on air quality are going on. But this practice of clearing paddy crop residue from fields to sow wheat by burning it during October-November makes the situation worse. This November too, air pollution spiked in the region covering the national capital with toxic smog for about a week. Delhi remained the "most polluted" major city in the world for days together in November, according to IQAir's live data for over 100 cities.

(Text by:Vighnesh P. Venkitesh)



Wilting smoke: Stubble being burnt behind mustard fields near Ambala.
SHASHI SHEKHAR KASHYAP



Left fuming: Charred remains in a field after stubble burning near Ambala.
SHASHI SHEKHAR KASHYAP



Ground Zero: A thick layer of smog covers the Central Vista in the national capital. SUSHIL KUMAR VERMA



Clear signs: The Signature Bridge in New Delhi engulfed in dense smog. R.V. MOORTHY



Risky affair: A farmhand pulls out a cycle tube from burning stubble in a field near Ambala bypass in Chandigarh. SHASHI SHEKHAR KASHYAP



Far from sunny: A setting sun is almost lost in the smoke emanating from the fields as a farmer burns stubble in Ambala, Haryana. SHASHI SHEKHAR KASHYAP



Sitting ducks: A traffic policemen wears mask while on duty during smoggy weather in New Delhi. R.V. MOORTHY



Smoked out: An autorickshaw driver takes cover during a fumigation drive in Jangpura, New Delhi. SHASHI SHEKHAR KASHYAP



Hard to see: Vehicles stuck in a traffic jam on the Delhi-Gurugram Expressway amid low visibility due to smog during a winter morning, in Gurugram. PTI