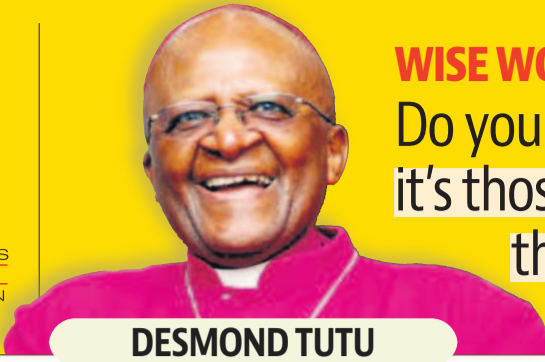


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NEW DELHI
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WISE WORDS »

Do your little bit of good where you are;
it's those little bits of good put together
that overwhelm the world.

DESMOND TUTU



Hindustan Times

FIRST VOICE. LAST WORD.

82 shows in 34 cities

THOUSANDS OF FANS GATHER AS BTS LAUNCHES WORLD TOUR FROM SOUTH KOREA >P3



champs league

ATLETICO PUNISH BARCA, SEIZE OF CONTROL >P5



Julian Alvarez
REUTERS

space odyssey ends today

ARTEMIS II MISSION ALL SET FOR 'FIREBALL' RE-ENTRY >P4

u.s. troops to remain around iran until real deal

CEASEFIRE TEETERS IN FACE OF DISAGREEMENTS OVER LEBANON AND HORMUZ >P3



A religious site in the southern Lebanese coastal city of Sidon damaged in an Israeli airstrike on Thursday AFP

icon no more

OLDEST TEST CRICKETER GOPINATH DIES AT 96 >P5



boxing

PREETI, MINAKSHI HEADLINE INDIA'S GOLD RUSH AT ASIAN C'SHIPS >P5

NATION

Voting concludes for Assembly polls: 77-89% turnout in Kerala, Assam and Puducherry

NEW DELHI: Voters across Assam, Kerala, and Puducherry turned out in massive numbers on Thursday for high-stakes Assembly elections.

According to the Election Commission's data at 5pm, the participation rate of Puducherry leads with 89.20%, followed closely by Assam at 85.10%, and Kerala at 77.50%.

Key leaders, including Assam CM Himanta Biswa Sarma and Kerala CM Pinarayi Vijayan, were among the early voters. Puducherry Chief Minister N Rangaswamy also cast his vote, maintaining his long-standing tradition of riding his motorcycle to the polling booth. Voting was held for 126 seats in Assam, 140 in Kerala, and 30 in Puducherry. Votes will be counted on May 4.

In Kerala, over 2.6 crore electors are eligible to decide the fate of 883 candidates across 140 constituencies. Of the 2,69,53,644 registered voters across the state, there are 1,38,27,319 women voters, and the number of male voters stands at 1,31,26,048. Officials said that there are 277 third gender voters in the state.

Nearly 4,24,518 voters fall in the 18-19 age group, while 2,04,608 voters are aged 85 years and above. To facilitate safe and secure polling, a total of 30,471 polling stations have been set up.

In Assam, more than 2.5 crore electors are eligible to exercise their franchise for the 126-member legislative Assembly. There are 722 candidates in the fray. Of 2,50,54,463 electors, 1,25,31,552 are male voters and 1,25,22,593 females. There are 318 Transgender voters and 63,423 service voters. To strengthen the monitoring mechanism, webcasting facilities have been arranged in accordance with the Commission's directions, a release said. Webcasting has been enabled in all 31,490 polling stations, including 31,486 main polling stations and four auxiliary polling stations. A total of 1,51,132 polling personnel have been deployed for the conduct of the election.



People queue up at a polling station in Thiruvananthapuram on Thursday PTI

'Indian students in Ireland up from 700 to over 9K in decade'

NEW DELHI: Indian students' interest in Ireland grew by 38% in 2024, even as overall outbound mobility declined by nearly 15%, signalling a clear shift in how students and families are evaluating global education choices, according to a new report.

The Student Perception Study report by OneStep Global, a market entry firm specialising in the higher education sector, noted that the growing preference is already translating into enrolment momentum, with Indian student numbers in Ireland rising from 700 to more than 9,000 over the past decade.

While the experts noted that globally, tightening visa regimes in Canada, Australia, and the UK, along with saturation in the US, are creating an opportunity window for Ireland, they flagged that sustainability will depend on course diversification, infrastructure support (housing) and stronger India-facing brand communication.

Tanker carrying 15,400 tonnes of LPG arrives at JNPA

THANE: The Jawaharlal Nehru Port Authority stated on Thursday that it has received an India-flagged vessel carrying 15,400 tonnes of liquefied petroleum gas (LPG), having successfully crossed the Strait of Hormuz amid the West Asia conflict.

JNPA described the development as notable in the backdrop of the war involving Iran, the United States and Israel. "Today, JNPA proudly welcomed Green Asha - an India-flagged LPG vessel that has successfully crossed the Strait of Hormuz, and has moored at JNPA's liquid berth operated by BPCL-IOCL," it said in a release.

This is a significant milestone as it is the first such vessel to reach JNPA since the onset of the war, it said.

"The vessel, its cargo, and every member of the crew are all safe and secure the steady," it said.

The West Asia conflict has affected energy supplies through the Strait of Hormuz.

CITYLIGHTS

Rising temp, strong winds forecast; AQI in moderate band

NEW DELHI: Temperatures in Delhi began rising on Thursday after several days of rain and below-normal readings, with the maximum temperature settling at 30.8 degrees Celsius (°C) and further increase expected over the next few days amid forecasts of strong surface winds. The India Meteorological Department has forecast a minimum temperature of around 17°C and a maximum of about 33°C for Friday, along with strong surface winds during the daytime.

Meanwhile, station-wise, Safdarjung, the city's base station, recorded a maximum temperature of 30.8°C, 4.3 degrees below normal, while Palam logged 29.6°C, 5.9 degrees below normal. Lodhi Road recorded 30.6°C, Ridge 31.0°C and Ayanagar 30.5°C. Minimum temperatures also remained below normal across stations, with Safdarjung recording 16.3°C, Palam 14.6°C, Lodhi Road 15.2°C, Ridge 14.5°C and Ayanagar 16.2°C.

Weather experts said temperatures are now expected to rise steadily. "We are expecting a



The Safdarjung Tomb in New Delhi on Thursday. The mercury inched up after several days- RAI K RAJ/HT

rise in the maximum temperatures over the northwest parts of the country by 6 to 8°C over the western Himalayan region and by 8 to 10°C over the north plains of northwest India," an IMD official said.

The city's air quality stood in the moderate category, with the Air Quality Index (AQI) recorded at 101.

CM Shri school admissions to begin from April 13

NEW DELHI: Admissions to the CM Shri Schools in Delhi will open on April 13 for classes 6 and 9, and on May 7 for Class 11 for the 2026-27 academic session, according to the Directorate of Education.

Admit cards were distributed on Wednesday for the entrance examinations. The tests for classes 6 and 9 will be conducted in the last week of March, while the examination for Class 11 is scheduled for May, the DoE said in a public notice issued on Tuesday.

The results for Classes 6 and 9 will be announced on April 30, and the results for Class 11 will be released on May 25.

SCHOOL EVENT

FRAGNEL SCHOOL, GREATER NOIDA, CELEBRATES ITS 17TH FOUNDATION DAY



Fr. Agnel School, Greater Noida, celebrated its 17th Foundation Day with great fervour as Easter Milan, reflecting the spirit of unity, peace and interfaith harmony. The chief guest for the event was Rev. Raphy Manjaly, the Archbishop of Agra. Rev. Anil J. Couto, Acharya Mohanji, Swami Sushilji Maharaj, Rev. Fr. Bento and various other religious leaders were also among the dignitaries who graced the event.

WORD POWER

Mediocre

Mee-dee-oh-ker (Adjective)

Meaning: Of only ordinary or moderate quality; neither good nor bad.

Origin: First recorded in 1580-90; From French *médiocre*, from Latin *mediocris* 'of middle height or degree', literally 'somewhat mountainous', from *medius* 'middle' + *ocris* 'rugged mountain'.

Synonyms: Decent, dull, inferior, middling

Antonyms: Different, excellent, superior

Usage: The car gets only mediocre mileage, but it's fun to drive.

WORLD

Iran to charge \$1/oil barrel from tankers passing Hormuz

Iran will reportedly demand tolls in cryptocurrency from shipping companies to let their oil tankers pass through the strategic Strait of Hormuz, as the Islamic Republic tightens its grip on the narrow waterway despite a two-week ceasefire with the United States. According to Hamid Hosseini, spokesperson for Iran's Oil, Gas and Petrochemical Products Exporters' Union, Iran wants to collect toll from any passing ship, and to assess each of the vessels. Follow US-Iran war news live updates "Iran needs to monitor what goes in and out of the strait to ensure these two weeks aren't used for transferring weapons," Hosseini quoted as saying by the Financial Times. The demanded toll is reportedly \$1 per barrel of oil.

Nepal issues arrest warrant for ex-PM Deuba in graft probe

KATHMANDU: Nepal has issued an arrest warrant for former prime minister Sher Bahadur Deuba for alleged corruption, officials said on Thursday, making him the latest high-profile figure targeted under the new government. Deuba, 79, is abroad for medical treatment and said that "an investigation on money laundering has been initiated against me and my family". He rejected the accusation of corruption. Meanwhile, Nepal's ex-prime minister KP Sharma Oli and former interior minister Ramesh Lekhak have been released from custody after questioning for their alleged role in a deadly 2025 crackdown on protesters, police said Thursday.

Jim Whittaker, first American to climb Everest, dies at 97

SEATTLE: Jim Whittaker, who in 1963 became the first American to reach the top of Mount Everest, has died. He was 97. Whittaker's 1963 ascent to the summit of Mount Everest came 10 years after Sir Edmund Hillary and Tenzing Norgay first scaled the peak. Whittaker died on Tuesday at his home in Port Townsend, Washington, according to a statement from his family. His Mount Everest feat made the once-shy, rangy climber an instant celebrity.

SCHOOL REPORTS



During the session, a 'Smarika' (commemorative publication) based on the theme 'Saptashakti Sangam' was also released

Inaugural session of AGM 2026 of Vidya Bharati Akhil Bharatiya Shiksha Sansthan organised with enthusiasm

NEW DELHI: The inaugural session of the annual general meeting (AGM) 2026 of Vidya Bharati Akhil Bharatiya Shiksha Sansthan was organised with the ceremonial lighting of the lamp & invocation of Goddess Saraswati. The chief guest for the session was Sah-Sarkaryavah of Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh Krishna Gopal. He was joined on the dais by All India President of Vidya Bharati Akhil Bharatiya Shiksha Sansthan Ravindra Kanhere, general secretary Deshraj, organising secretary Govind Mahant, & treasurer Rohit Vaswani. Addressing the gathering, the chief guest emphasised that Vidya Bharati continues to expand its role as a strong educational organisation, rooted in national consciousness and a spiritual outlook. Referring to the

principle of 'Ekam Sat Vipra Bahudha Vadanti', he highlighted India's cultural strength of unity in diversity. He said the purpose of education is not merely the dissemination of knowledge, but the development of a sense of national commitment, establishment of spiritual values, & a holistic outlook towards life among students. The chief guest stressed three key dimensions of education: national consciousness, understanding of spiritual fundamentals, and the nurturing of value-based students. He observed that increasing self-centeredness and materialistic tendencies in contemporary society are leading to intolerance, and that the solution lies in harmonising nationalism with spirituality.

Highlighting the impact of modern

technological developments, he spoke about artificial intelligence (AI), stating that while technology is useful, it cannot replace human sensitivity, creativity, and values. He further emphasised that, along with worldly education, imparting a spiritual perspective to every student is necessary to enable them to lead purposeful, value-oriented lives.

During the session, shradhanjali (homage) was paid to departed inspiring personalities, and a framework for four days of deliberations for the coming year was presented. On that occasion, a 'Smarika' (commemorative publication) based on the theme 'Saptashakti Sangam' was released in the presence of Madhu Savji, Sadhana Bhandari, Rajshri Vaidya, and Avneesh Bhatnagar.

HILLWOODS ACADEMY, PREET VIHAR, ORGANISES KINDERGARTEN GRADUATION EVENT

NEW DELHI: Hillwoods Academy, Preet Vihar, organised its Kindergarten Graduation Ceremony with zeal, celebrating an important milestone in the young learners' journey.

The programme commenced with a graceful Ganesh Vandana, invoking blessings for a bright and auspicious beginning. This was followed by a series of delightful performances, including a charming skit, energetic yoga displays, vibrant dance routines, and a melodious choir, all of which beautifully showcased the little performers' zeal, confidence, and talent.

The highlight of the day was the graduation ceremony, where the tiny graduates walked proudly onto the stage, dressed in adorable caps and gowns, marking their transition to the next phase of learning.

School principal Stuti Dixit Kapoor, along with headmistress Vinita Jha, felicitated the students and presented them with their graduation certificates amidst loud applause. The event concluded with a heartfelt vote of thanks by the headmistress, expressing gratitude to students, parents, and teachers for their constant support and contribution.



The event beautifully showcased the performers' zeal, confidence, & talent

Fr. Agnel School, Gr. Noida, celebrates 17th Foundation Day with great fervour

NOIDA: Fr. Agnel School, Greater Noida, celebrated its 17th Foundation Day with great fervour as Easter Milan, reflecting the spirit of unity, peace, and interfaith harmony. The chief guest for the event was Rev. Raphy Manjaly, the Archbishop of Agra. In addition, Rev. Anil J. Couto, Acharya Mohanji, Swami Sushilji Maharaj, Rev. Fr. Bento and various other religious leaders were among the dignitaries who graced the event.

The event commenced with the warm welcome of guests, who were honoured with mementoes. A graceful prayer dance marked the beginning of the celebration, creating a serene and spiritual atmosphere.

The event brought together religious leaders who shared messages amid the winds of wars and struggles. Swami Sushil Ji rendered the message, 'We are one,' and highlighted the role of the Bhartiya Sarv Dharm Sansad in fostering unity.

The chief guest elaborated on the significance of Easter as the victory of life over death and light over darkness. He also appreciated the school for organising such a meaningful gathering and imparting the right values among the pupils.

The event featured the release of the school's annual magazine, Agnel



The celebration left everyone inspired with the message of unity, love, and peaceful coexistence

Lights, followed by a mime performance that conveyed the social message of unity.

In his address, Swami Vivek Muni emphasised the importance of respecting all religions and spoke about the collective efforts of religious leaders to unite people. He urged students to rise above differences & live in peace and harmony.

In his address, Acharya Mohanji appreciated India's inclusive culture and its ability to accommodate people of all religions. He highlighted that, unlike many nations facing conflicts over religion and land, India stands as an example of unity in diversity. He reiterated that God is one and stressed the importance of mutual respect among all.

The celebration concluded on a harmonious note, leaving everyone inspired with the message of unity, love, and peaceful coexistence.

Jaypee Public School, Noida, honoured at 4th Annual Illness to Wellness Summit

NOIDA: Jaypee Public School, Noida, earned prestigious recognition at the 4th Annual Illness to Wellness Summit held in New Delhi. The event was organised by the Illness to Wellness Foundation in collaboration with the Physical Education Foundation of India, acknowledging institutions that actively promote awareness of healthy lifestyles and environmental responsibility on a large scale.

The school was honoured with the Highest Participation Award in the Inter-School Drawing Competition, conducted under the theme 'Painting India's Healthy Future.' The feat highlighted the zealous involvement & artistic excellence of students.

Five achievers — Harshika Rani (Class 7-A), Aamna Jawed (Class 8-C), Drisha Gupta (Class 3-D), Shashwat (Class 4-D), and Kriyansh Kumar



The school was honoured with the Highest Participation Award in the Inter-School Drawing Competition

(Class 4-E) — were specially recognised, including two special children, reflecting the school's commitment to inclusion and equal opportunities for all learners.

The national-level recognition reaffirms the school's dedication to fostering holistic development, nurturing creativity, and promoting inclusivity and well-being within the educational ecosystem.

Pragyan School, Greater Noida, celebrates Annual Day of Classes 3-5 with all zeal



A major highlight of the event was a theatrical presentation titled 'The Land of Oz', which transported the audience to a magical world

NOIDA: Pragyan School, Greater Noida, celebrated the Annual Day of Classes 3-5 titled 'Concord', in its auditorium with enthusiasm. The morning began with an exhibition of students' work in the auditorium foyer. Parents and guests had the opportunity to admire a wide range of creative projects, artwork and academic displays prepared by students. The cultural programme com-

menced with a warm welcome to the guests, setting a cheerful tone for the celebration. The audience was then treated to 'Resonance', a delightful Western instrumental presentation. Adding further charm to the event was 'Vaadhyanjali', an Indian instrumental presentation that highlighted the richness of traditional music.

A major highlight was a theatrical presentation 'The Land of Oz', which

transported the audience to a magical world through expressive acting, colourful costumes & engaging storytelling. In the end, school principal Ruchika Sharma expressed heartfelt appreciation for every student who participated in the exhibition and the cultural programme. The event concluded with the national anthem, bringing the memorable celebration to a proud and patriotic close.

Sh. SN Sidheshwar Sr. Sec. Public School, Sector 9A, Gurugram, hosts a special morning assembly

GURUGRAM: Sh. SN Sidheshwar Senior Secondary Public School, Sector 9A, Gurugram, organised a special morning assembly to commemorate World Health Day with an aim to promote health awareness & emphasise the importance of physical and mental well-being among students. The celebration was conducted in alignment with the 2026 theme of the World Health Organisation (WHO), 'Together for Health.' The objective of the programme was to encourage students to adopt healthy habits such as balanced nutrition, regular exercise, and proper hygiene.

The students of Class 6 presented a captivating skit and delivered an insightful speech, highlighting the significance of a healthy lifestyle. In addition, the programme also included a session of yoga exercises,



The event was organised to emphasise the importance of physical and mental well-being among students

reinforcing the importance of maintaining both physical fitness and mental well-being.

The assembly successfully drew attention to key global health concerns, reflecting the core purpose of World Health Day: raising awareness, inspiring action, and promoting better health outcomes for people everywhere.

Students of Little Flowers Public Senior Secondary School, Shivaji Park, make a mark at the Innovation Festival 2026

NEW DELHI: The students of Little Flowers Public Senior Secondary School, Shivaji Park, brought pride to their institution with an exceptional performance at the Innovation Festival 2026, held at the prestigious National Science Centre.

Demonstrating remarkable creativity and skill, the school's teams secured first place in the drawing, scrap, and sculpture categories. The winners — Ananya Verma, Kartik, Ikshit, Avni, and Paavni — were felici-



Demonstrating remarkable creativity and skill, the school's teams secured first place in the drawing, scrap, and sculpture categories

SCHOOL MANAGEMENT LAUDED THE STUDENTS FOR THEIR DEDICATION AND PERSEVERANCE, WHILE ALSO ACKNOWLEDGING THE INVALUABLE GUIDANCE OF THE TEACHERS

tated with a cash prize of ₹5000 each in their respective categories.

Adding to the school's success, Devansh and Abhigyan of Class 12 showcased their technical ingenuity in the robo and drone design category, earning appreciation for their innovative approach and problem-solving abilities.

Their participation reflected a strong understanding of emerging technologies and hands-on learning. The school management lauded the students for their dedication and perseverance, while also acknowledging the invaluable guidance of the teachers.

The achievement stands as a testament to the institution's unwavering commitment to nurturing creativity, innovation, and holistic excellence among its students.

MIND GAMES

SUDOKU

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

SCRAMBLE

Solve the four anagrams and move one letter to each square to form four ordinary words

MTEEO	*	*	*	*
FRILT		*	*	*
AFLMNU			*	*
BEIRBF	*	*	*	*

Now arrange the letters marked with an asterisk (*) to form the answer to the riddle or to fill in the missing words as indicated.

I only regret that I have ___ to lose for my country. — Nathan Hale (3,3,4)

Answer: I only regret that I have but one life to lose for my country. — Nathan Hale

MEMORY BOOSTER

Observe the picture carefully for a minute. Then cover it and answer the questions given alongside.

1. What is the name of the shop?
2. Is the moon visible?
3. What is the man in the shop entrance dressed as?
4. Is there any vehicle?
5. Is it snowing?



Answer: 1. The Toy Box 2. Yes 3. Santa Claus 4. Yes, a cycle 5. No

Amrita Bharati Features

MATHDOKU

5+		7+		6×
8×	3×	7+		
		8+	9+	
8+			2÷	5+
	10×			

Place numbers into the puzzle cells so that each row and column contains each of the digits from 1 to 5. No number is to be repeated in any row or column. Each bold-outlined cell contains a hint of a number and one of the mathematical symbols + x - /. The number is the result of the operation represented by the symbol to the digits contained.



Scan the QR code or head to

<https://htschool.hindustantimes.com/communities/Quizverse> to win exciting vouchers!

Solutions

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

NONOIS UXTUOSXOKOADS

3	2	5	1	4
5	4	3	2	1
2	3	1	4	5
4	1	2	5	3
1	5	4	3	2

MATHDOKU SOLUTION

SCRAMBLE Solution Words: Erase, fill, mantle, fiber

'US TROOPS TO REMAIN AROUND IRAN UNTIL REAL DEAL'

Ceasefire teeters in face of disagreements over Lebanon and Hormuz

Associated Press

DUBAI: A tentative ceasefire in the Iran war staggered Thursday under the weight of Israel's intense bombardment of Beirut, Tehran's continued chokehold on the Strait of Hormuz, and uncertainty over whether negotiators can find common ground on a range of other differences.

Hours after the ceasefire was announced — amid disagreement over whether it included a pause in fighting between Israel and Hezbollah — Israel pounded Beirut with airstrikes, resulting in the deadliest day in the country since the war began on Feb. 28.

Iran and the US appeared to try to pressure each other. Semiofficial news agencies in Iran suggested forces have mined the Strait of Hormuz, a crucial waterway for the world's oil. President Donald Trump, meanwhile, warned that US forces would hit Iran even harder than before if it did not fulfill the agreement.

But what that agreement is remains in deep dispute. Beyond whether Lebanon is included, there are questions over what will happen to Iran's stockpile of enriched uranium, how and when normal traffic will resume through the strait, and what happens to Iran's ability to launch missile attacks in the future. The US and Iran are due to meet in Pakistan for talks this weekend.

Lebanon's health ministry said at least 203 people were killed and more than 1,000 wounded in widespread Israeli strikes in central Beirut and other areas of Lebanon on Wednesday, when Israel intensified its attacks on the Iran-backed Hezbollah militant group.

Iran said Israel was violating the ceasefire agreement, which it has said included a stop to the fighting in Lebanon. Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and Trump have said it does not.

Iran's parliament speaker Mohammad Bagher Qalibaf warned Thurs-

day that continued Israeli attacks on Hezbollah in Lebanon would bring "explicit costs and STRONG responses" in a message on X.

Netanyahu said in a social media post that Israel will continue striking Hezbollah "with force, precision and determination."

Qalibaf has been discussed as a possible negotiator who could meet US vice president JD Vance this weekend in Islamabad.

Israel said Thursday it killed Ali Yusuf Harshi, an aide to Hezbollah leader Naim Kassem. Hezbollah did not immediately respond to a request for comment. A New York-based think tank warned the ceasefire "hovers on the verge of collapse."

Semiofficial news agencies in Iran published a chart Thursday suggesting the country's paramilitary Revolutionary Guard put sea mines into the strait during the war — a message that may be intended to pressure the US.

The chart, released by the ISNA news agency and Tasnim, showed a large circle marked "danger zone" in Farsi over the route ships take through the strait.

Only a trickle of ships have passed through the strait since the war began after several were attacked and Iran threatened to hit any that it deemed connected to the US or Israel. The chart suggested ships travel through waters closer to Iran's mainland near Larak Island, a route that some ships were observed taking during the war.

Trump warned that US warships and troops will remain around Iran "until such time as the REAL AGREEMENT reached is fully complied with." The White House said that Vance would lead the US delegation for talks in Islamabad aimed at ending the war.

There appear to be many points of disagreement to address, including whether Iran will be allowed to formalize a system of charging ships to use the strait that it has instituted. That would upend decades of precedent treating it as an international waterway that was free to transit.

The fate of Iran's missile and nuclear programmes also remained unclear.

The US insists Iran must never be able to build nuclear weapons and wants to remove Tehran's stockpile of highly enriched uranium. Iran insists its program is peaceful.

Trump said Wednesday that the US would work with Iran to remove the buried uranium, though Iran did not confirm that. In one version of the deal that Iran published, it said it would be allowed to continue enrichment.



A view of the Serena Hotel with the Margala Hills, as Pakistan gears up to host the US and Iran for peace talks, in Islamabad, on Thursday

THE POPULAR BAND RETURNS TO THE STAGE AFTER A NEARLY FOUR-YEAR HIATUS

Thousands of fans gather as BTS launches world tour in S. Korea

Associated Press

SEOUL: A huge crowd of BTS fans packed into a stadium near Seoul on Thursday to see the K-pop supergroup kick off their long-awaited world tour.

Returning to the stage after a nearly four-year hiatus, RM, Jin, Suga, J-hope, Jimin, V and Jung Kook will perform a set drawing from both their catalogue and new fifth album, ARIRANG, their first since band members completed South Korea's mandatory military service.

Despite pouring rain, Thursday's crowd packed a stadium with a capacity for over 40,000 for the show, which marks the group's first headline tour performance since their 2021-22 Permission to Dance on Stage tour.

The shows in South Korea, running through April 12, launch a global tour spanning dozens of shows across the United States, Europe and Asia, which analysts say could generate hundreds of millions of dollars in

revenue per quarter.

The concert comes less than a month after BTS marked their comeback with a free concert at Seoul's Gwanghwamun Square.

All seven members of BTS completed their mandatory military service, with Suga being the last to be discharged in June 2025. He reportedly served at government-related facilities and organizations instead of military camps due to a shoulder injury.

In South Korea, all able-bodied men between 18 and 28 years old are required by law to perform up to 21 months of military service under a conscription system meant to deter aggression from rival North Korea.

BTS — short for Bangtan Sonyeondan, or Bulletproof Boy Scouts in Korean — debuted in June 2013. The seven-member group launched in 2013 with the hip-hop heavy single album 2 Cool 4 Skool, releasing three full-length projects before really gaining momentum with their 2016 album Wings.



BTS members (from L to R) V, Jin, Suga, RM, Jungkook, J-Hope and Jimin pose before their concert at Gwanghwamun Square in Seoul on March 21, 2026. AFP FILE

Superstar boyband to visit 34 cities in a year for world tour ARIRANG

Reuters

SEOUL: K-pop superstar boyband BTS embarked on a world tour on Thursday from Goyang in South Korea to showcase new album ARIRANG, after marking the end of a more than three-year hiatus for military service with a concert at Seoul's Gwanghwamun Square last month.

The seven-member group's comeback album topped the Billboard 200 chart for two weeks in a row, a new record for a K-pop act, and generated 99.1 million on-demand official streams of the album's songs in the US alone in the first week of its release, according to Billboard.

Some analysts say the tour's ticket earnings alone could overtake highest-grossing tours such as Taylor Swift's Eras Tour and Coldplay's Music of the Spheres World Tour.

Performing in 34 cities

BTS will visit 33 more cities around the world for a total of 82 concerts lasting into March 2027.

After the first leg of concerts in South Korea and Japan in April, BTS will travel to the US and Mexico, and then to Europe to visit Belgium, Britain, Germany and France.

The group will visit North America again in the second half of this year for more concerts in the US and Canada, before visiting Latin American countries, including Colombia, Peru, Chile, Argentina and Brazil.

In Southeast Asia, performances are scheduled in Thailand, Malaysia, Singapore, Indonesia and the Philippines. The tour includes Taiwan and Hong Kong, but no concert is planned in mainland China. The group will also perform in Australia.

Sold out

Tickets for the concerts in South Korea sold out quickly during January's presale, snapped up by the band's fanbase known as ARMY. The North American and European legs also sold out within a few hours of sales, according to HYBE, the agency that manages BTS.

Biggest K-pop tour

The upcoming tour will mark the biggest world tour by BTS with the most tour dates and the broadest regional reach, according to HYBE. BTS' last world tour was from August 2018 to April 2019, titled Love Yourself, with 42 concerts in 20 cities, followed by 20 stadium concerts in 10 cities.

Fifth album Arirang

The new album ARIRANG is the fifth regular album for the group and has 14 tracks, including the title SWIM.

ARIRANG is named after a Korean folk song of the same name, capturing the identity of BTS as a group that began in Korea, according to Big Hit Music.

IN THE LIMELIGHT

Artemis II Moon mission

Nasa astronaut Reid Wiseman, commander; Christina Koch, mission specialist; and Victor Glover, pilot, along with the Canadian Space Agency's Jeremy Hansen, mission specialist, are expected to splashdown on Earth on April 10 (US time) as part of a historic 10-day Artemis II mission during which they completed a lunar flyby. On Monday, (April 6), the astronauts travelled furthest from our planet and viewed the areas of

the Moon never seen before by any human, breaking the previous record set by the Apollo 13 mission in 1970. On Tuesday (April 7), the mission wrapped up the lunar flyby and continued their journey back to Earth, bringing with them rich celestial observations including little-known lunar craters, a solar eclipse and meteor strikes that scientists hope will offer new insights on space. The Artemis II crew, which blasted off from Florida on Wednesday (April 1), rode aboard Lockheed Martin Corp.-built Orion capsule, stacked on the shoulders of Boeing Co.'s Space Launch System rocket, from the Kennedy Space Centre in Florida. It is the United States' boldest step yet toward returning humans to the lunar surface during this decade, and comes ahead of China's first crewed landing.



INS Aridaman

The Indian Navy last Friday (April 3) commissioned its newest nuclear-powered ballistic missile submarine, INS Aridaman, into service during a ceremony in Visakhapatnam, bolstering the sea leg of India's nuclear triad — the ability to launch strategic weapons from land, air and sea. As India's third Arihant-class submarine, it will serve as an undetectable platform for delivering nuclear warheads thousands of kilometres away.

Italy bows out of WC

Four-time champion Italy failed to qualify for a third straight World Cup, losing in a penalty shootout to 66th-ranked Bosnia and Herzegovina in the European playoffs on Tuesday (March 31). The defeat comes after being eliminated by Sweden and North Macedonia, respectively, in qualifying playoffs during the last two World Cups. Italy coach Gennaro Gattuso and football federation head Gabriele Gravina have resigned in the wake of the national team's loss.



HT CHRONICLE from the archives of the Hindustan Times

Quiz no. 10042026

The Hindustan Times

ESTABLISHED IN 1924



- In which year did Mahatma Gandhi launch the nationwide Civil Disobedience Movement?
A. 1927 B. 1930
C. 1933 D. 1936
- On which day in April 1930 did the Satyagraha 'soldiers' under the command of Mahatma Gandhi reach Navsari?
A. April 5

- B. April 11
C. April 16
D. April 20
- In which year was the Nobel Peace Prize awarded to Martin Luther King Jr., America's leading exponent of non-violence in the civil rights struggle?
A. 1952 B. 1955
C. 1959 D. 1964



- In which year was Martin Luther King Jr., America's leading exponent of non-violence in the civil rights struggle, shot dead?
A. 1961 B. 1963
C. 1968 D. 1970
- Name the US city where Martin Luther King Jr., America's leading exponent of non-violence in the civil rights struggle, was shot dead.
A. Memphis
B. Los Angeles
C. New York
D. San Francisco
- Who was the President of the USA when Martin Luther King Jr., America's leading exponent of non-violence in the civil rights struggle, was shot dead?

- A. John F. Kennedy
B. Lyndon B. Johnson
C. Richard Nixon
D. Gerald Ford

- In which year did Sarojini Naidu, President-elect of the 20th session of the Punjab Political Conference, perform the flag-hoisting ceremony at the Bradlaugh Hall grounds in Lahore?
A. 1930 B. 1932
C. 1935 D. 1938
- On which day in 1948 did Parliament approve the government's industrial policy as announced a day before?
A. February 10
B. April 7
C. August 14
D. November 5
- On which day in April 1919 was a spontaneous hartal observed throughout India as a protest against the Rowlatt Act?
A. April 1
B. April 6
C. April 14
D. April 19
- In which year did Walchand Hirachand, the veteran industrialist and a pioneer in Indian

- shipping industry, pass away?
A. 1948 B. 1951
C. 1953 D. 1955

- In which month in 1962 was ex-Lieutenant de Gueldre, leader of the Secret Army Organization, arrested in Algiers and transferred to France?
A. January
B. April

- C. August
D. October

- How old was Walchand Hirachand, the veteran industrialist and a pioneer in Indian shipping industry, when he breathed his last?
A. 68 years
B. 71 years
C. 74 years
D. 76 years

Answers to quiz #03042026

- 1950
- April 1
- 1935
- March 29
- Bombay
- Burma
- March
- Sarojini Naidu
- Rs 500
- About 1375 B.C.
- 1934
- March 30

CONTENT FOR QUIZ CALLOUT

Send in your answers separated by commas to htpcedelhi@hindustantimes.com (For example: 1-A, 2-C, 3-D ... and so on) Subject Line: Answers for Quiz #10042026

Send in your entry by April 15, 2026. Remember: Earlier you respond, better your chances to win. The quiz is open only to school students.

ARTEMIS II MISSION IS IMPORTANT STEP IN UNLOCKING MYSTERIES ABOUT SOLAR SYSTEM'S FORMATION

Artemis II astronauts prepare to end Moon mission in 'fireball' re-entry

On their trip back home, they will reach speeds of up to 38,365 kph as they enter Earth's atmosphere, a high-risk phase of the mission that will put Orion's heatshield to the test as it gets battered by intense atmospheric friction.

Reuters

HOUSTON: Four astronauts travelling back to Earth from the far side of the moon on Nasa's Artemis II mission spoke of their emotions as they wrapped up the unprecedented flight and prepared to re-enter the atmosphere in a "fireball", during their first press conference from space on Wednesday.

The Artemis II crew are due to splash down off the Southern California coast on Friday evening after reaching the Moon earlier this week. They cruised along a path that took them past the shadowed, lunar far side to become the farthest-flying humans in history.

On the trip back home, they will reach speeds of up to 38,365 kph as they enter Earth's atmosphere, a high-risk phase of the mission that will put Orion's heatshield to the test as it gets battered by intense atmospheric friction.

"I've actually been thinking about entry since April 3, 2023 when we got assigned to this mission," said Artemis II mission pilot Victor Glover, when asked how he was feeling about the return.

"There's so many more pictures, so many more stories, and gosh, I haven't even begun to process what we've been through. We've still got two more days, and riding a fireball through the atmosphere is profound as well."

Glover and fellow Nasa astronauts Reid Wiseman and Christina Koch, and Canadian astronaut Jeremy Hansen are the first wave of astronauts in a multibillion-dollar series of missions



Flight controllers monitor the Artemis II Orion spacecraft from the White Flight Control Room at the Nasa Johnson Space Center in Houston, Texas, on Wednesday

under the Artemis program that aims to return humans to the Moon's surface by 2028 before China, and establish a long-term US presence over the next decade, building a Moon base for potential future missions to Mars. Koch cast the mission series as a relay humans in history.

"We plan to hand them to the next crew, and every single thing that we do is with them in mind," she said.

That next mission, Artemis III, will involve a docking test in low-Earth orbit between the Orion capsule and both astronaut lunar landers that Nasa plans to use to put its astronauts on the Moon in later missions.

Artemis IV, targeted for 2028, would be the program's first crewed lunar landing, and the first since Apollo 17 in 1972.

Back on Earth, dozens of lunar scientists have been packed in rooms adjacent to Nasa's Mission Control Center in Houston this week, scribbling down notes and debating a steady stream of both real-time and recorded audio from the Artemis II astronaut crew in their Orion spacecraft.

Splashdown

The crew is due to return to Earth on Friday around 8 pm ET (0000 GMT Saturday, 5.30 IST), splashing down off the coast of San Diego, California to cap their nearly 10-day mission.

The four astronauts on Monday had reached a record-breaking distance from Earth of roughly 405554.68 km, surpassing by some 6437.37 km the previous record held by the Apollo 13 crew for 56 years.

Wiseman, Artemis II mission commander, told reporters the crew each had two "very brief" chats with their families during the mission.

"Hearing your crew mates giggling and crying, and just gasping and listening and loving their families from afar — family is so important to all four of us, and that has been amazing," he said.

In a radio message to mission control in Houston on Monday, as the crew approached their closest distance to the lunar surface, Hansen suggested naming a fresh crater on the Moon in honour of Wiseman's late wife, Carroll, who died of cancer in 2020.

Wiseman told reporters his crewmates approached him with that idea to name the crater Carroll while they

were in quarantine before launching to space.

"That was an emotional moment for me," Wiseman said. "I said 'Absolutely, I would love that' ... but I can't give the speech. I can't give the talk."

In the mission's sixth day, Hansen choked up as he made the suggestion to mission control in what was a tear-jerking moment for many Nasa staff in Houston. The astronauts broke their distance record during the lunar flyby in which they surveyed the Moon's surface from roughly 6437.37 km above. Advances in lunar science have typically relied on lunar-orbiting satellites and Earth-based observations. But the crew's six-hour lunar flyby provided a real-time stream of scientific collections from human eyes, allowing rare back-and-forth discussions between teams on the ground and their fellow scientists over 405554.68 km away in deep space.

Scientists see Nasa's Artemis II mission as an important early step in unlocking mysteries about the solar system's formation. The Moon, Artemis II mission specialist Koch said before launching to space last week, is a "witness plate" to the formation of our solar system

Maple syrup or nutella? Carney calls Canadian astronaut Hansen

Agence France-Presse

HOUSTON: Canadian astronaut Jeremy Hansen told Prime Minister Mark Carney on Wednesday that "teamwork is willingness" during an Earth-to-space call celebrating the achievements of the historic journey.

"Willingness is a huge ingredient in a successful team," said the Artemis II crew member, who added he can't wait to share more images and experiences with the people of Canada upon return.

Hansen is the first non-American to ever fly around the Moon, a journey he took on Nasa's Artemis II mission along with American colleagues Reid Wiseman, Christina Koch and Victor Glover.

"Canadians are so proud of what you're doing and the collaboration," Carney said. "I'm thrilled. I'm absolutely thrilled to be speaking with you, Jeremy and the crew. We've all been watching and inspired by what you're doing."

During the event Carney asked Hansen to expand on previous comments on the risks and rewards of space travel — "You said the other day that this mission is a risk for a good reason, which really struck me."

"You've got lots of young people watching," Carney added. "It's a positive challenge for this generation."

CARNEY PROBED HANSEN ON ONE BURNING ISSUE: "A LOT OF CANADIANS JUST WANTED ONE POINT OF REASSURANCE, THAT THE PREFERENCE IS FOR MAPLE SYRUP OVER NUTELLA ON YOUR PANCAKES IN THE MORNING."

"Risk is necessary — but calculated risk, well-thought out risk and risk that you balance with others," Hansen responded.

The Prime Minister also probed Hansen on one burning issue: "A lot of Canadians just wanted one point of reassurance, that the preference is for maple syrup over nutella on your pancakes in the morning."

Carney was referring to a viral image of a jar of nutella floating through the Orion space capsule, and his question had the crew in fits of laughter. "I'll take that as a yes," Carney said, also extending an invitation to visit Ottawa, the Canadian capital. "Don't look too closely right now," the Prime Minister added. "You'll notice that it's still pretty white, but the snow is going to go."



This screengrab from a Nasa livestream shows a jar of Nutella floating aboard the Orion spacecraft as Artemis II crew members Victor Glover, Reid Wiseman, Jeremy Hansen and Christina Koch work on Monday.

Government of Bharat

Committed to Nari Shakti Vandan

#NariShaktiVandan

33% reservation for women in the Lok Sabha and State Legislative Assemblies, ensuring participation in nation-building

Permanent Commission for women in the Armed Forces

At least 1 Woman Director in 48% of the total recognized startups in India

NORTHERN RAILWAY
NOTICE INVITING TENDER

03-SRDEE-G-DLI-2026-27
Electrical work in connection with (i) Provision of 2 Family suits and 6 individual suits at ORH GZB in lieu of Old ORH. (ii) Construction of underground tank & pump house, electric sub-station, improvement to water supply system under ADEN/GZB (iii) Augmentation of homing capacity of ELS/GZB from 200 to 225. (iv) Reorganization of facilities available in Shed and shop at ELS/GZB. (v) Provision of effluent treatment plant at ELS/GZB.

Name of work and its location

Approx. cost of the works in Rs. 11909661.90/-

Address of the office Sr. Div. Elect. Engineer/General, New Delhi.

Earnest Money Rs. 238200.00/-

Last Date & time of submission of tender 30.04.2026, 16.00 Hrs.

Opening of tender 30.04.2026, 16.00 Hrs.

Website & notice board www.ireps.gov.in & Sr. Div. Elect. Engineer/General, New Delhi

SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE 1178/2026

POSTGRADUATE INSTITUTE OF MEDICAL EDUCATION & RESEARCH CHANDIGARH

XXXIX CONVOCATION

The XXXIX Convocation for conferring academic degrees to candidates in respect of **PhD, DM, MCh, MD, MS and MDS courses** whose terms have been completed till **December, 2025** will be held on **27th April, 2026** in the Bhargava Auditorium of PGIMER, Chandigarh. A rehearsal will be held on **Sunday, the 26th April, 2026 at 9.00 A.M.** in the Bhargava Auditorium. It is compulsory for all recipients of degrees/medals to attend the rehearsal. Those who fail to participate in the rehearsal will not be allowed to take part on the day of Convocation. Kindly intimate the confirmation for participation in the Convocation by **15th April, 2026** through google form link (bit.ly/39convocation). The list of awardees & detailed information is available on the website of the Institute. (<http://pgimer.edu.in>)

PGI RC Advt. 26 HR-000200 UMMED MATHUR REGISTRAR

PSPCL Punjab State Power Corporation Limited

(Regd. Office: PSEB Head Office, The Mall, Patiala)
Corporate Identification Number (CIN): U40109PB2010SGC033813
Website: www.pspcl.in
(Dy. CE/Hydel Project PSPCL, Patiala, Contact Number: 9646118754)

Tender Enquiry No. 354/HPS/ED-II/ASHP-161 Dated: 06.04.2026

Dy. CE/Hydel Projects, PSPCL, Shed A-3, Shakti Vihar, PSPCL, Patiala Invites E-Tender for Design, supply, Erection, testing and commissioning of 1 no 200 KVA Silent DG (PCPB IV-norms compatible) set complete in all respect for Power House no. 1 Gangwaul of ASHP, Anandpur Sahib.

For detailed NIT & tender specification please refer to <https://eproc.punjab.gov.in> from 13.04.2026 onwards.

NOTE: Corrigendum and Addendum, if any will be published online at <https://eproc.punjab.gov.in>

RO No. 1079/12/2026/27/10302 C47026

उत्तराखण्ड शासन गृह (अधिष्ठाण) अनुभाग-3
संख्या: 385839/गृह-3/2026-01(20)2024 E-81203

दिनांक 09 अप्रैल, 2026

निदेशक, विधि विज्ञान प्रयोगशाला, उत्तराखण्ड, देहरादून के पद पर मर्ती हेतु "उत्तराखण्ड राज्य विधि विज्ञान प्रयोगशाला तकनीकी अधिकारी सेवा (संशोधन) नियमावली, 2024" के अन्तर्गत विहित अर्हताओं को धारण करने वाले उपयुक्त अभ्यर्थियों से चयन समिति द्वारा यथाविहित निबन्धनों एवं शर्तों पर प्रतिनिधित्व (सेवा स्थानान्तरण या बॉडी शॉपिंग) के माध्यम से 01 जुलाई, 2025 को अधिकतम 57 वर्ष से अधिक आयु प्राप्त न करने वाले अभ्यर्थियों से पदस्थापन हेतु आवेदन आमंत्रित किये जाते हैं।

2- आवेदन पत्र प्राप्त करने की अन्तिम तिथि 08.05.2026 सायं 5.00 बजे तक है। इच्छुक पात्र अभ्यर्थी निर्धारित प्रारूप पर उक्त पद हेतु अपने शैक्षिक प्रमाण-पत्रों, अनुभव का सुसंगत विवरण, ई-मेल एवं पत्राचार पता तथा अन्य विवरण सहित अपना आवेदन पत्र स्वीड पोस्ट / कोरियर / स्वयं के माध्यम से सचिव, गृह विभाग, उत्तराखण्ड शासन, 4-सुभाष रोड, देहरादून-248001 के पते पर दिनांक 08.05.2026 सायं 5.00 बजे तक भेज सकते हैं। दिनांक 08.05.2026 सायं 5.00 बजे के उपरान्त प्राप्त तथा निर्धारित विज्ञापित / प्रारूप के अनुरूप न पाये गये आवेदन पर किसी भी दशा में विचार नहीं किया जायेगा।

3-उत्तराखण्ड राज्य विधि विज्ञान प्रयोगशाला तकनीकी अधिकारी सेवा (संशोधन) नियमावली, 2024 में निहित प्राविधानों के अनुरूप निदेशक के पद हेतु अनिवार्य शैक्षिक अर्हता, आयु एवं अनुभव के सम्बन्ध में विस्तृत दिशा-निर्देश एवं विस्तृत विज्ञापित तथा आवेदन पत्र का प्रारूप उत्तराखण्ड सरकार की वेबसाइट <https://uk.gov.in/Announcements> पर प्रदर्शित है।

शैलेश बागौली
सचिव

JODHPUR VIDYUT VITARAN NIGAM LIMITED
(MATERIAL MANAGEMENT & CONTRACT WING) NEW POWER HOUSE, INDUSTRIAL AREA, JODHPUR-342003 PHONE: (0291) 274223, FAX: (0291) 2746539

E-PROCUREMENT TENDER NOTICE

E-Procurement Tender is invited for purchase of 11/0.433 KV, 500 KVA rating Outdoor Type (Copper Wound), Three Phase Distribution Transformers, Star I energy Efficiency Level-I under TN-2136 (UBN JV2627LGB00000).

Details regarding Quantity, Tender cost, Earnest Money, Schedule date of tender opening for aforesaid tenders are available on our website at energy.rajjasthan.gov.in/jdvml and also at <http://sppp.rajjasthan.gov.in>.
Raj.Samwad/C/26/558 SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER (MM&C)

रिजिस्ट्रार ऑफ इन्फार्मेशन टेक्नोलॉजी सर्विस, राजस्थान, जयपुर-302002

OFFICE OF THE HARYANA HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION
NIRMAN SADAN, PLOT NO. 1, SECTOR 33-A, CHANDIGARH

Applications are invited for filling up of one post of Deputy Registrar-cum-Deputy Secretary in Law Division on re-employment basis on formula of last pay drawn minus pension in the Office of Haryana Human Rights Commission, Chandigarh, initially for a period of one year, which can be extended from time to time or till the regular appointment is made, whichever is earlier.

Qualification for the post of Deputy Registrar-cum-Deputy Secretary

The person should be Law Graduate from a recognised University having Hindi subject in Matriculation. He/She should have served as a member of HCS/PCS Judicial Service for 5 years or having rendered Class -I Service for 10 years in any State/Central Government Department, preferably dealing with legal matters or having served the Punjab and Haryana High Court for 10 years as Class-I Officer and retired/releasing as Deputy Registrar or from equivalent post.

Notes:

- The candidate should not be more than 63 years of age as on 30.04.2026.
- The service of the person so engaged shall cease on the expiry of the term automatically.
- Application for the post must reach in this Office on or before 30.04.2026 by 5.00 P.M. positively.
- Attested copies of relevant testimonials i.e. Proof of Qualification, Experience, Date of Birth, two recent attested passport-size photographs, Aadhaar Card etc. must be attached with the application. Application without copies of relevant testimonials and received after 30.04.2026 will not be entertained.
- Incomplete application will be summarily rejected.**
- The interview date will be intimated later on.
- No TA/DA will be paid.

Sd/-
Registrar (Law & Legal)
Haryana Human Rights Commission
Chandigarh

RO NO. 1243/11/157/2027/44552/C/19/7

NORTH CENTRAL RAILWAY
E-Tender No.-PRYJ-Sig-002-2026-27

E-Tender Notice

Senior Divisional Signal & Telecommunication Engineer/Coordination/ North Central Railway/Prayagraj, for and on behalf of the President of India, invite **E-TENDER** on prescribed form for the following works up to 12:00 hrs. on the opening date of E-Tender mentioned therein. **The details of the Tender are as under:-**

Tender No.: 002 | **Approx. Cost of work :** 24741851.30 | **Earnest Money :** 498400/-

Cost of Tender Form : 0.00 | **Completion Period :** 12 Months

Date of opening of tender : 05.05.2026

Name of work : Strengthening and Augmentation of Earthing and Bonding Arrangement as per revised RDSO/TAN3006 in section of Sr.DSTE/Co/PRYJ.

Availability of tender form : Tender forms are available on www.ireps.gov.in

Earnest Money to be deposited : The prescribed amount of Bid Security as mentioned above must be deposited along with the tender form Online through Internet Banking on Online Payment gateway only. The tenderer(s) should note that, in any case, the Bid Security in any other form than specified in GCC shall be acceptable. If the Bid Security deposited by the bidder is in shape of Bank Guarantee, it should be supported by proper stamp duty, rate prescribed as per section 13 & 24 of the UP Stamp Act, 2008 and amended from time to time at the time of submission of Bank Guarantee. Tenders without Bid Security shall be summarily rejected.

Time & place of opening of tender : Tender will be opened through E-Tender at office of Divisional Railway Manager, Prayagraj at or after 12:30 hours. In case tender opening date happens to be holiday, Tenders will be opened on the next working day.

Validity of Offer : 60 days from the date of opening.

Right of Railway to deal with tender : Railway administration reserves the rights to postpone/modify or to cancel the tender without assigning any reasons. 770/26 (D)

www.ncr.indianrailways.gov.in

उत्तराखण्ड भूस्खलन न्यूनीकरण एवं प्रबंधन केन्द्र
(यू.एल.एम.एम.सी.)
(यू.एल.एम.एम.सी.)
वर्क नं. यू.एल.एम.एम.सी. भवन, 36, आई.टी. पार्क, सहकरधारा रोड, देहरादून-248013, उत्तराखण्ड
Website: www.ulmmc.in/ E-Mail: ulmmc.ddn@gmail.com

Ref.No.: 16 / 49/ULMMC/TENDER/2025-26 Date: 09.04.2026

:- निविदा आमंत्रण सूचना :-

उत्तराखण्ड भूस्खलन न्यूनीकरण एवं प्रबंधन केन्द्र (यू.एल.एम.एम.सी.), देहरादून द्वारा कार्यालय उपयोगार्थ "Slope Stability Analysis Software" निम्नलिखित केन्द्र हेतु निविदा आमंत्रित की जाती है। निविदा से संबंधित समस्त प्रश्न उत्तराखण्ड ई-टेंडरिंग वेबसाइट <https://uktenders.gov.in> से दिनांक 10.04.2026 से दिनांक 16.05.2026 तक डाउनलोड किए जा सकेंगे। निविदा जमा करने की अन्तिम तिथि 16.05.2026, समय 11:00 AM बजे तक निर्धारित है। निविदा शुल्क धरोहर राशि, पात्रता शर्तें एवं अन्य विवरण निविदा प्रश्न में उपलब्ध है।

S.No	Package No.	Name of Package
1	01/SOFTWARE/RFB/ULMMC/2026-27	Procurement of Slope Stability Analysis Software for ULMMC

Note:- 1. The corrigendum for the above package will be uploaded on website <https://uktenders.gov.in>
2. Email id ulmmc.ddn@gmail.com may be contacted for any information.

निदेशक, यू.एल.एम.एम.सी., देहरादून

ADVERTISEMENT NO. 01/2026

FILLING UP THE POST OF EXECUTIVE ENGINEER & ASSISTANT DIRECTOR (OFFICIAL LANGUAGE) THROUGH TRANSFER ON DEPUTATION IN KENDRIYA VIDYALAYA SANGATHAN

Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan (KVS) an autonomous body under Ministry of Education intends to fill the 01 (One) post of Executive Engineer in Pay Level-11 and 01 (One) post of Assistant Director (Official Language) in Pay Level-10, through transfer on Deputation. For more details i.e. the eligibility criteria, qualification and terms & conditions visit website www.kvsangathan.nic.in of Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan & Edition dated 4th April, 2026 of Employment News.

Additional Commissioner (Admn.)
CBC 21106/12/0001/2627

Government of Punjab
OFFICE OF MANAGING DIRECTOR-CUM-DIRECTOR STATE TRANSPORT, PUNBUS, PUNJAB
(JEEVANDEEP BUILDING SECTOR17-A CHANDIGARH
PH: 0172-2704606)

No. 2000/CA-1/PUNBUS Date: 9.04.2026

E-NOTICE INVITING BID

Punjab State Bus Management Company (PUNBUS) invites online e-tender from the bidders in two bid system (Technical & Commercial) for "Selection of Bidder for hiring of 10 (Ten), complete built bus (As per AIS:052 & AIS:153 Bus code), Type-III, Super Integral/Integral, Diesel engine heavy passenger vehicle-M3, 43+2 seater without call support for super-luxury, heating ventilation & air conditioning, 4x2 (Single axle), BS-VI, OBD-II (or latest), buses for inter-city operation on kilometer scheme basis. Please contact helpdesk No. 0172-2704606

- Uploading of Tender document: 13.04.2026
- Website: <http://eproc.punjab.gov.in>
- Pre-bid meeting: 16.04.2026 at 11.30 AM in the office of MD, PUNBUS
- Last date of Bid Submission: 01.05.2026 at 04.00 PM
- Date of Technical Bid opening: 04.05.2026 at 11.00 AM
- Last date and time of queries: 16.04.2026 at 05.00 PM IST (email id: tandcpunbus@gmail.com)

For participating in the above e-tender, the Bidder shall have to get themselves registered with <http://eproc.punjab.gov.in> and get ID & password. Digital Signature Certificate (DSC) is mandatory to participate in the e-tendering process.

RO No. 1746/12/2026/27/10321 **Managing Director, PUNBUS**

BADMINTON

Ayush enters quarters; Sindhu, Prannoy lose

NINGBO: Young Indian shuttler Ayush Shetty entered the men's singles quarter-finals of the Badminton Asia Championships with an impressive straight-game win but the seasoned PV Sindhu was eliminated from the women's event here on Thursday.

World No.25 Ayush, who is also the reigning US Open champion, registered a 21-16, 21-12 victory over his world No.20 rival, Chinese Taipei's Chi Yu Jen, in a commanding display. He will next face third seed Jonatan Christie of Indonesia.

However, it was a disappointing day for the rest of the Indian contingent.

Two-time Olympic medallist Sindhu went down 18-21, 8-21 to second seed Wang Zhiyi of China in a 46-minute last-16 stage match.

HS Prannoy, returning after a

shoulder injury, fought hard but lost 12-21, 19-21 to China's Weng Hong Yang.

In mixed doubles, Dhruv Kapila and Tanisha Crasto bowed out after a 13-21, 14-21 defeat to fourth-seeded Malaysians Chen Tang Jie and Toh Ee Wei.

Ayush relied on his height to unleash steep smashes and maintained tight control at the net to dominate proceedings.

The opening game was closely fought early on, with the scores level at 4-4 before Chi moved ahead 10-6.

Ayush clawed his way back after the break, drawing level at 12-12 and then taking control as Chi struggled with his length, committing a series of unforced errors.

The Indian surged to 18-14 and closed out the game comfortably.



Ayush Shetty is the only Indian alive at the Badminton Asia Championships.

ANI

CRICKET

Cardoso makes history with nine-wicket haul

DUBAI: Brazil fast bowler Laura Cardoso entered her name in the record books, becoming the first player in either men's or women's T20I cricket to pick up nine wickets in a single innings.

Cardoso delivered the sensational spell against Lesotho, finishing with extraordinary figures of 9/4 from her three overs, the best-ever bowling figures in T20I cricket, at the BCA Kalahari Women's T20I Tournament at Botswana Cricket Association Oval 2 in Gaborone.

The previous record was held by Bhutan's Sonam Yeshey, who claimed 8/7 against Myanmar in a men's T20I in 2025. In women's T20Is, Cardoso surpassed Indonesia's Rohmalia

Rohmalia's figures of 7/0 against Mongolia in 2024, according to the ICC.

Earlier in the match on Thursday, Brazil posted a commanding total of 202, powered by impressive knocks from Roberta Avery (48 off 35) and Monnike Machado (69 not out off 41).

Cardoso's incredible spell began in the second over when the pacer picked up a hat-trick. She followed it up with four more wickets in the fourth over to take her tally to seven.

Two additional wickets in the sixth over saw her reach an unprecedented nine wickets in an innings. The final wicket was claimed by Marianne Artur, as Lesotho were bowled out for just 13 in 6.2 overs, handing Brazil a massive 189-run victory.

CRICKET

Former India Test cricketer CD Gopinath dies

NEW DELHI: Former India Test cricketer CD Gopinath, who was the last surviving member of India's historic first Test victory, passed away in Chennai at the age of 96, according to ESPNcricinfo.

The 96-year-old was also India's oldest Test cricketer and the second oldest worldwide after Australia's Neil Harvey, who is 97 years and 183 days old. The Tamil Nadu Cricket Association (TNCA) paid tribute following the death of CD Gopinath. In a post shared

on X social media handle, TNCA wrote, "Rest in peace, CD Gopinath! A true pioneer of Indian cricket and the last surviving member of the historic team that scripted India's first-ever Test victory. Your legacy will forever be etched in the game's rich history."

Chingleput Gopinath was born on March 1, 1930, in Chennai, and he died at the age of 96 years and 39 days. A stylist with a wide range of strokes, Gopinath played 83 First Class matches.

CYCLING



UAE Emirates-XRG's Slovenian rider Tadej Pogacar (R) rides with his team over the cobblestones of the 'trench' of Brillion in France.

AFP

CHAMPIONS LEAGUE

Atletico punish 10-man Barca to take control of quarterfinal

Agence France-Presse

sportsdesk@hindustantimes.com

BARCELONA: Julian Alvarez and Alexander Sorloth's goals earned Atletico Madrid a commanding 2-0 lead over 10-man Barcelona in a tense Champions League quarter-final first leg clash on Wednesday.

The La Liga leaders were on top in the all-Spanish tie at Camp Nou before Pau Cubarsi was sent off for bringing down Atletico's Giuliano Simeone, who was through on goal.

Alvarez whipped home the resulting free-kick and Sorloth doubled their advantage with 20 minutes remaining to give Atletico a strong chance of reaching the semi-finals.

Diego Simeone's side, who have never won the competition, reached the 2014 and 2016 finals but were beaten by rivals Real Madrid on both occasions.

"We have things to improve and learn from... we're happy for the win but there's a long way to go," Atletico's Antoine Griezmann told Movistar.

"We're very far from the semis, we're 90 or more minutes away... we're confident but keeping our feet on the ground."

Barca, semi-finalists last season, need to make a huge comeback next Tuesday in Madrid if they are to stand a chance of lifting the trophy they last won in 2015.

"It will be tough there but if anyone can do it, it's us," Barca defender Ronald Araujo told Movistar.

Barca coach Hansi Flick was upset by the use of VAR to punish his side for Cubarsi's red card but not to analyse a potential handball incident against Atletico's Marc Puyol in the second half.

The defender touched the ball with his hand after goalkeeper Juan Musso passed it to him, to take the goal kick himself, which Flick said should have been reviewed.

"The VAR was very focussed today for Atletico, he's a German guy, so thanks Germany," complained the former German national team boss.

"It's for me a clear red card, then it (can) change (things) totally."

Diego Simeone said the decision that was made was "common sense".

Atletico knocked Barca out of the Copa del Rey in the semi-finals in March and this was the second of three meetings between the sides in the space of a fortnight.

Dominant PSG

PARIS: Desire Doue and Khvicha Kvaratskhelia scored the goals to give a dominant Paris Saint-Germain a 2-0 win over Liverpool in their Champions League quarter-final first leg on



Atletico Madrid players celebrate their second goal against Barcelona at Camp Nou in Barcelona on Wednesday.

AFP

Wednesday, as the holders seized a clear advantage to take to Anfield for next week's return.

Doue's shot in the 11th minute looped over goalkeeper Giorgi Mamardashvili and in thanks to a big touch off Ryan Gravenberch, and Kvaratskhelia then rounded his compatriot to double PSG's lead 65 minutes into a game they bossed from start to finish.

It only remains to be seen whether the reigning European champions — who had a second-half penalty in their favour overturned after a VAR review — might regret not scoring more goals against a Liverpool side who lined up with three centre-backs and were run ragged.

"I think we had chances to score more. There were many moments where we should score but it is OK,"

Kvaratskhelia told broadcaster Canal Plus.

"I think 2-0 is good but we have to stay focused because we have to play at Anfield. We know that the atmosphere will be amazing so we are already starting to prepare that game."

Liverpool's game plan could not stop them slumping to a second emphatic loss in five days.

GOLF

Masters under way as Augusta awaits holder McIlroy, Scheffler

Reuters

sportsdesk@hindustantimes.com

AUGUSTA: Mostly clear skies and cool conditions greeted the early starters as the Masters got under way on Thursday at Augusta National with defending champion Rory McIlroy and world No.1 Scottie Scheffler yet to tee off in the year's first major.

Honorary starters Gary Player, Jack Nicklaus and Tom Watson led off one of the most anticipated days in golf in front of a large crowd of patrons gathered around the first hole as the sun rose above picturesque Augusta National Golf Club.

Notably absent from this year's Masters are former champions and fan favourites Tiger Woods and Phil Mickelson. Woods, 50, is on an indefinite break from golf while seeking treatment following a recent car crash while Mickelson, 55, cited a family health matter for his decision to withdraw. McIlroy, looking to become the fourth man to retain a Masters title and first since Woods in 2001-02, is due to tee off at 10:31 a.m. ET (1431 GMT) with world No.3 Cameron Young and 18-year-old high school senior Mason Howell, who earned his spot by winning the 2025 US Amateur.

World No.2 McIlroy arrived this week without carrying the burden of having never won a Masters after he beat Justin Rose in a playoff last year to become the sixth man to complete the career Grand Slam of golf's four majors. "I know that I can do it now, so that should make it a little easier for me to go out and play the golf I want to play," McIlroy, whose best finish in four starts this season was a share of second at Riviera in February,



Jack Nicklaus is greeted by Tom Watson during the ceremonial tee shot.

AP

said this week.

Scheffler, looking to hold three major titles at the same time following wins at last year's PGA Championship and British Open, tees off in the penultimate group at 1:44 p.m. ET with Scotland's Robert MacIntyre and 2019 US Open champion Gary Woodland.

Twice US Open champion Bryson DeChambeau, one of 10 LIV Golf players in the 91-man field and who briefly held the lead in the final round last year, will be two groups ahead of McIlroy and playing with Matt Fitzpatrick and Xander Schauffele.

"It was a great learning lesson," DeChambeau said of last year's final round. "Leading or being tied for the lead and having the lead, that last group final round, gave me a lot of perspective on it."

Dry and firm conditions at Augusta National are expected to lead to faster greens and longer drives, a change from recent years when rain often softened the course. Among those setting off early are former Masters champions Jose Maria Olazabal, Angel Cabrera, Charl Schwartzel, Vijay Singh and Bubba Watson.

PREETI, MINAKSHI HEADLINE INDIA'S GOLD RUSH AT BOXING ASIAN CHAMPIONSHIPS

Press Trust of India

sportsdesk@hindustantimes.com

ULAANBAATAR: Reigning world champion Minakshi Hooda and Preeti Pawar led the gold rush for India with two other compatriots also registering victories in the finals to be crowned Asian boxing champions here on Thursday.

Joining Minakshi (48kg) and Asian Games bronze medallist Preeti (54kg) at the top of the podium were Priya Ghanghas (60kg) and World Boxing Cup gold medallist Arundhati Choudhary (70kg).

The biggest setback for India came in the 57kg final, where reigning world champion Jaismine Lamboria suffered a 0-5 defeat to Thailand's two-time World Championships silver medallist Punrawee Ruenros, formerly known as Jutamas Jitpong.

India also secured another silver with Alfiya Pathan (80+kg) finishing runner-up. She went down 0-5 to Kazakhstan's Dina Islambekova in her lone bout of the championships.

The Indian women's team finished with an impressive haul of 10 medals — four gold, two silver and four bronze.

However, with limited participation in certain weight categories, including fields of just three boxers, the likes of Lovlina Borgohain (75kg), Pooja Rani (80kg) and Alfiya essentially received medals for just participating.

Minakshi set the tone by securing India's first gold of the day with a commanding 5-0 win over Mongolia's Nomundari Enkh-Amgalan.

BOOK REVIEW

Folktales that offer us a glimpse of Kashmir's rich and vibrant culture

Folktales From Kashmir is such an interesting and even magical book reading which feels like stepping into a totally different world. It is a collection of traditional Kashmiri stories, each one with its own little lesson hidden within it.

The stories are not only simple to read but also really meaningful, which makes the book that is, at the same time, fun-filled and also one that sets one thinking. It feels like someone is sitting and telling you these stories instead of you just reading them.

The Foolish Man

The first story, titled The Foolish Man, is among my favourites. It is about a man who thinks that he is super unlucky and goes searching for Fortune to fix his life. Along the way, he meets a tree, a fish and a bear, all seeking help. But even though he gets answers he misses obvious chances to become happy and rich.

It is a bit funny but also frustrating because you can clearly see that what he is doing is wrong. It teaches



FOLKTALES FROM KASHMIR

Author: Vinita Zutshi

Publisher: Westland Books

Price: ₹399

that sometimes, we ignore opportunities because we expect something magical instead.

The Weak Brother

Another story I like is The Weak Brother. In it, the younger brother is not strong like the others but he is kind and smart. In the end, it is he who succeeds where everyone else fails. What appeals to me is the manner in which it shows that being weak does not actually mean being useless. Instead, thinking calmly and doing good matters more than strength.

The Ambitious Old Woman

In The Ambitious Old Woman, the main character keeps making wishes because she is never satisfied. At first it feels exciting but then you realise it is going to end badly. And it does. This story shows how greed can ruin everything, even what one already has.

The Poor Man's Daughter

The Poor Man's Daughter is probably the most appealing story of this engrossing collection. I like her character because she is clever, confident, smart and solves difficult problems to save her father, which makes her

character really stand out.

Children will enjoy this book because every story is short, different and full of surprises. In the end, readers will definitely be entertained but, apart from that, the stories also make readers think and assess their views on many important subjects that are close to our hearts.

My favourite character is the poor man's daughter because she is brave and intelligent, showing that girls can be just as smart and powerful as anyone else.

This book also gives a glimpse and enables readers understand Kashmiri culture and traditions in a very vivid way which I really enjoy reading about and would recommend to other young readers. Read this book to learn about Kashmir through well crafted folktales tailored to engage young readers and, at the same time, also teach them valuable life lessons.

Kaaina Kewat, Class 9,
Masonic Public School,
Vasant Kunj, New Delhi

HANDS ON

PAPER CUP TROPHY

SUPPLIES

- 2-3 big paper cups
- Coloured paper or acrylic paint
- Glue (Fevicol or hot glue)
- Scissors / cutter
- Marker/sketch pens
- Cardboard
- Decorative items (stickers, glitter, stars)



INSTRUCTIONS

Take a paper cup (for the body of the trophy) and keep it aside.

For the stand of the trophy, take another cup and cut it from the base at a height of 3-4 cm.

From the remaining top part of the cut paper cup, cut a long strip and roll it

into a cylinder. Glue the edges. Stick this piece to the bottom centre of the main cup. This is the stem.

Attach the stand under the stem to form a sturdy base.

Cut two curved strips from cardboard. Shape them like handles (semi-

circle curves). Glue them on both sides of the main cup.

Paint the trophy. Draw or stick a star in the centre. Add a label at the bottom (like in the image).

Now that your trophy is ready, organise a race with friends!

TOILET ROLL CHICKS

SUPPLIES

- Toilet paper rolls - one roll can be used to make 2 chicks
- Yellow paint - acrylic
- Yellow craft foam
- Orange pipe cleaners - 1 per chick
- Orange felt
- Googly eyes
- Hot glue gun or craft glue



INSTRUCTIONS

Cut your toilet paper rolls in half, or in whatever size you'd like. Then paint them yellow.

Cut out wings, a comb and a beak from the

yellow craft foam and orange felt.

Cut an orange pipe cleaner in half. Fold each half into a little chick foot! You may need to

trim off the excess. Glue all the parts to your chick's body (see image).

Your chicken craft is ready.

WHAT'S COOKING

DOODHI KHEER

INGREDIENTS

1½ cups grated bottle gourd (doodhi/lauki), 1½ tbsp ghee, 1 tbsp almond slivers, 1 tbsp chironji nuts (charoli), ½ tbsp pistachio slivers, ½ cup milk powder, ¼ tsp cardamom powder, ¼ cup sugar, 3 cups milk



METHOD

To make doodhi kheer, heat ghee in a broad non-stick pan and sauté almond slivers, chironji nuts, pistachio slivers and on medium flame.

Add the grated bottle gourd and sauté on medium flame for 3 to 4 minutes. Keep aside.

Meanwhile, boil milk and add all the ingredients in the milk and mix well.

Cook on a medium flame for 4 to 5 minutes, while stirring occasionally.

Let it thicken a bit. Keep aside to cool slightly. Serve the doodhi kheer hot.

GAMJA-JEON (KOREAN POTATO PANCAKES)

INGREDIENTS

2-3 medium potatoes, 1 small onion (optional, for extra flavour), 1-2 tbsp cornstarch, Salt to taste, oil for frying
For sauce: 2 tbsp soy sauce, 1 tbsp vinegar, ½ tsp sesame oil, a pinch of chili flakes (optional)



METHOD

Peel and grate the potatoes (and onion, if using) finely. Place the grated mixture in a bowl of water. Let it sit for a minute, then strain.

Keep the starchy water aside for 5 minutes, then carefully pour out the water from top leaving the white starch at the bottom. Add this starch to the potato mixture.

Add cornstarch and salt. Mix well. The mixture should be slightly thick and sticky.

Heat oil in a non-stick pan over medium heat. Add a scoop of the batter and flatten it into a thin pancake. Cook until golden brown and crispy (about 3-4 minutes per side).

Mix the ingredients for the sauce in a bowl and serve with the pancakes.

RAIL LAND DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY INVITES BID THROUGH E-TENDER

Leasing of 15,800 Sqm Railway Land for Commercial Development at New Loco Colony for 60 Years & Redevelopment of 32 Nos. of Type-II Railway Quarters at Chaliswan Railway Colony, Ayodhya, U.P

ON REVENUE SHARE MODEL

(RFP No. RLDA/2026/RFP/CRD-31 of 2026 Dated : 27.03.2026)



PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS

- Prime location in the Faizabad-Ayodhya twin-city region, directly benefiting from ongoing infrastructure development and the growth of religious tourism.
- Proximity to key religious and tourist destinations, including Shri Ram Janmabhoomi Mandir (9.5 km), ensuring sustained pilgrimage-driven visitor inflow.
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- High development potential for hotel and commercial uses, supported by Ayodhya's expanding infrastructure and consistently increasing religious tourism activity.

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(in terms of NPV)
Rs.122.87 Cr

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Redevelopment Cost
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(32 Nos. Quarters)

Offline and Online Pre-Bid Meeting Details

15.04.2026 at 12:00 hrs



SCAN HERE

Last Date of Submission of E-Bid Online

14.05.2026 upto 15:00 hrs

For further details of the project, please visit our website <https://rlda.indianrailways.gov.in> or e-procurement portal <https://www.tenderwizard.in/rlda> under the heading 'e-tender'

Note: Any corrigendum or addendum will be published only on above mentioned websites

For any clarifications, may please contact

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