



KALPANA CHAWLA

**WISE WORDS »**

When you look at the stars and the galaxy, you feel that you are not just from any particular piece of land, but from the solar system.



# Hindustan Times

FIRST VOICE. LAST WORD.



Kolkata, West Bengal



Kochi, Kerala



Chennai, Tamil Nadu



Guwahati, Assam

## assembly poll results: upheaval in 3 states

# BJP SWEEPS WEST BENGAL, RETAINS POWER IN ASSAM, TVK WINS TN AND UDF BAGS KERALA

### DAY OF RECKONING

People's power has prevailed; politics of good governance has triumphed: Modi

**NEW DELHI:** Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Monday said people's power prevailed and the BJP's politics of good governance triumphed in West Bengal, while in Assam, the NDA's win illustrated the unwavering support for the ruling alliance's emphasis on development.

The BJP looked set for a decisive poll victory over the Trinamool Congress (TMC) in West Bengal and headed for another term in Assam, while actor-politician Vijay's TVK made a stunning electoral debut in Tamil Nadu, emerging as the single-largest party in terms of the number of seats won or led. As votes were counted for the Assembly polls in West Bengal, Assam, Tamil Nadu, Kerala and Puducherry, Election Commission (EC) trends showed a wipeout of the Left and a solitary win for the Congress that has been battling diminishing electoral returns. That silver lining for the opposition party came from Kerala where the Congress-led United Democratic Front (UDF) won or led in 101 of the 140 Assembly seats, while the ruling CPI(M)-led Left Democratic Front (LDF) was ahead in just under 40 constituencies.

In a series of posts on X, Modi said West Bengal has given a spectacular mandate to the Bharatiya Janata Party and assured the people of the state that the party will do everything possible to fulfil their dreams and aspirations.

"The lotus blooms in West Bengal! The 2026 West Bengal Assembly Elections will be remembered forever. People's power has prevailed and BJP's politics of good governance has triumphed. I bow to each and every person of West Bengal," he said.

Modi said the BJP's record victory in West Bengal would not have been possible without the efforts and struggles of countless karyakartas (workers) of the party over generations.

"I salute them all. For years, they have worked hard on the ground, overcome all sorts of adversities and spoken about our development agenda. They are the strength of our party," he said. Modi said the BJP will provide a government that ensures opportunity and dignity to all sections of the society in West Bengal.

On Assam, the Prime Minister said: "Assam blesses BJP-NDA once again!" He said the National Democratic Alliance's victory in the Assam election illustrates the unwavering support for its emphasis on development and bringing a positive difference in people's lives.

Applauding all BJP-NDA workers for their round-the-clock efforts among the people of the northeastern state, Modi said it is commendable how the party and the alliance have grown over the last 10 years.

The Prime Minister also thanked the people of Puducherry for giving the NDA another victory.

"Thank you Puducherry! Based on our track record of good governance and the work of the government led by Shri N Rangasamy, the people of Puducherry have blessed NDA with another term. These blessings will add momentum to our collective efforts to boost good governance," he said.

Modi said he is very proud of the NDA workers of Puducherry for their exceptional efforts on the ground as they have constantly been among people and elaborated on the coalition's vision and track record.

On the Kerala polls, the Prime Minister thanked all those who have voted for the BJP-NDA in the southern state. "We will keep raising issues vital to Kerala's progress and work hard to realise vision of a Vikasita Kerala. I congratulate the UDF on its victory in the Kerala Assembly elections. The Centre will always keep supporting the developmental aspirations of the people of Kerala," he said.

Expressing gratitude to the voters of Tamil Nadu who supported the NDA in the Assembly polls, Modi said the coalition will always remain at the forefront in addressing people's issues and improving their lives. "Congratulations to TVK on their impressive performance. The Centre will leave no stone unturned in furthering the progress of Tamil Nadu and the well-being of their people," he said. **PTI**



Prime Minister Narendra Modi greets supporters at the BJP headquarters in New Delhi on Monday **REUTERS**

### CITYLIGHTS

## Grp-1 restrictions revoked in Delhi-NCR; AQI at satisfactory

**NEW DELHI:** Grp-1 restrictions in Delhi-NCR have been revoked after a significant improvement in air quality, officials said on Monday.

The Commission for Air Quality Management (CAQM) said that owing to favourable meteorological conditions, the air quality index (AQI) of Delhi was recorded at 88 on Monday. "Further, the forecast by IMD and IITM indicates that AQI is likely to remain in the moderate category in the coming days," an official said.

Grp-1 restrictions have been in force following an order issued on April 16.

The development means that restrictions such as a ban on the use of coal and firewood as fuel in tandoors in hotels, restaurants, and open eateries, and the use of diesel generators only in emergency or essential situations will no longer be in place.

There are four stages in Grap, each linked to the AQI at the time. The first stage, Grap-1, kicks in when the AQI is between 201 and 300; the second stage, Grap-2, is invoked when the AQI is between 301 and 400; Grap-3 kicks in



Commuters at the Connaught Place on Monday when the temperature logged was lower than usual **RK RAJ/HT**

between 401 and 500; and Grap-4 is invoked when the AQI is more than 450.

Overnight thunderstorms and rain, accompanied by gusty winds, brought temperatures down across Delhi on Monday, with the minimum temperature dipping several notches below normal, according to the India Meteorological Department. At Safdarjung, the city's base station, the minimum temperature was recorded at 18.8°C, 5.9 notches below normal, IMD data showed. **PTI**

## RangBaag to turn parks into creative learning spaces

**NEW DELHI:** The Delhi Development Authority (DDA), in collaboration with the National School of Drama (NSD), has launched RangBaag, a theatre-based initiative aimed at transforming public parks into spaces of creativity and learning, according to an official statement. The programme has been rolled out in line with directions of Delhi Lt Governor Tarunjit Singh Sandhu, who has emphasised reimagining green spaces as hubs of community engagement and cultural activity, it said.

The first batch began on May 2 at the Maya Art Gallery in Indraprastha Park, with partici-

pation by 21 children aged 12 to 16 years, the statement said.

Describing it as a first-of-its-kind institutional collaboration between the DDA and NSD, the statement said the initiative seeks to integrate structured theatre education into public spaces traditionally used for recreation.

Participants will undergo a six-week, production-oriented workshop led by trained theatre educators, focusing on communication exercises, movement-based activities, storytelling, improvisation and basic performance techniques in a collaborative setting. **PTI**

### SCHOOL EVENT

#### JIVA PUBLIC SCHOOL, FARIDABAD, ORGANISES PARENT-TEACHER PARTNERSHIP PROGRAMME



Jiva Public School, Faridabad, organised a parent-teacher partnership programme titled Manthan 3.0 for the students from Kindergarten to Class 8 and their parents. The primary objective of the programme was to strengthen collaboration between teachers and parents to ensure a bright and successful future for children. **>P2**

### WORD POWER

#### Tardy

Tahr-dee

Adjective

**Meaning:** Late; behind time; not on time. Moving or acting slowly; slow; sluggish.

**Origin:** First recorded in 1475-85; earlier tardive, tardif, from Old French, from Latin tardivus, equivalent to Latin tard(us) "slow" + -ivus adjective suffix.

**Synonyms:** Slack, belated, delayed, overdue

**Antonyms:** Punctual, prompt, early, on time

**Usage:** They were tardy in filing the application.

### u.s. denies strike

## IRAN SAYS IT HAS FORCED U.S. WARSHIP BACK FROM STRAIT OF HORMUZ

>P3



### inspiring lives

## NOVELIST WHO FOCUSED ON SOUTH ASIA



Bapsi Sidhwa

>P6

### climate change effect

## COFFEE REGIONS HIT BY EXTRA DAYS OF EXTREME HEAT

>P4

### champs league

## SAKA SPARKS ARSENAL ATTACK INTO LIFE AHEAD OF ATLETICO SHOWDOWN

>P5



Bukayo Saka **AFP**

### WORLD

## Europe, Canada pull together in Yerevan in Trump's shadow

**YEREVAN:** European leaders talked up independence on defence and closer ties with Canada on Monday, as they gathered in Armenia for a summit clouded by US threats to cut military support. US President Donald Trump loomed large over the meeting of the European Political Community (EPC) in Yerevan, which was for the first time attended by a non-European leader: Canada's Mark Carney. "We don't think that we're destined to submit to a more transactional insular and brutal world and gatherings such as these point to a better way forward," the Canadian Prime Minister told fellow leaders. **AFP**

## Australia begins public hearings into Bondi Beach attack

**SYDNEY:** Australia began public hearings on Monday in an inquiry into the Bondi Beach mass shooting in December, with Jewish Australians giving evidence of their experience of rising domestic anti-semitism. The attack on a Jewish Hanukkah celebration killed 15, fuelling calls for tougher gun controls and more action to tackle hatred towards Jews, following a spate of anti-semitic incidents. The first block of hearings will investigate the nature and prevalence of anti-semitism, said Virginia Bell, the retired judge leading the wide-ranging national inquiry known as a Royal Commission. **REUTERS**

## Rudy Giuliani, NY ex-mayor, in hospital; critical but stable

**WASHINGTON:** Former New York mayor Rudy Giuliani is hospitalised in critical but stable condition, his spokesman said on Sunday, without disclosing what ails the 81-year-old former politician. "Mayor Giuliani is a fighter who has faced every challenge in his life with unwavering strength, and he's fighting with that same level of strength as we speak," spokesman Ted Goodman said in an X post. Goodman did not say where Giuliani was receiving care or how long he had been there, but he asked "that you join us in prayer for America's Mayor Rudy Giuliani." The New York Times reported that Giuliani was hospitalised in Florida. **AFP**

## SCHOOL REPORTS

# Jiva Public School, Faridabad, organises parent-teacher partnership programme 'Manthan 3.0' with great enthusiasm

**FARIDABAD:** Jiva Public School, Faridabad, organised the parent-teacher partnership programme titled 'Manthan 3.0' for the students from Kindergarten to Class 8 and their parents. The primary objective of the programme was to strengthen collaboration between teachers and parents to ensure a bright and successful future for children. The initiative emphasised the importance of nurturing not only academic excellence but also strong values and principles from an early age.

Through that programme, parents were familiarised with the school's philosophy, teaching methodologies, and special activities, encouraging their active participation in their children's holistic development.

The programme commenced with the traditional lighting of the ceremonial lamp, creating a dignified and auspicious atmosphere. The occasion was graced by the esteemed presence of chairman Rishipal Chauhan, director Chandralata Chauhan, academic head Mukta Sachdeva, principal Narjeet Kaur, young director Meenakshi Singh, and strategic project head Jaiveer Singh. The presence of numerous parents added warmth and enthusiasm to the event. Additionally, the presence of CEO Madhusudan Chauhan and young directors Meenakshi Singh, Neeraj Chauhan, and Kajal Chauhan further elevated the event's stature.

Students presented a melodious welcome song, followed by captivat-



The initiative emphasised the importance of nurturing not only academic excellence but also strong values and principles from an early age

ing dance performances that enthralled the audience and added vibrancy to the event.

On that occasion, Class 5 student Garvika Arora and Class 4 student Swastika Arora were felicitated for securing first and third positions, respectively, in the 'NARO' competition. Their achievements brought

pride to the school and served as an inspiration for others.

A presentation highlighting the school's achievements was showcased through PowerPoint presentation. The session also focused on effective parenting strategies. The strategic project head conducted the programme and addressed key chal-

lenges faced by parents today, particularly in guiding children and instilling values. He shared practical parenting tips, emphasising the importance of understanding children, giving them time, avoiding undue pressure, and encouraging them positively while acknowledging their individual strengths and weaknesses. The students from various school clubs also presented their achievements and unique activities engagingly and impressively.

Addressing the gathering, the chairman stated that the Manthan programme serves as a meaningful platform where parents and teachers come together to exchange ideas for the holistic development of children.

He emphasised that education extends beyond the classroom and that family support plays an equally vital role in building students' confidence and discipline. He also highlighted the effectiveness of the Jiva Learning System in promoting comprehensive development.

Chandralata Chauhan, the academic head, and the principal observed the program. The principal elaborated on the school's major activities and stressed the importance of parents staying informed and actively involved in their children's daily progress.

The principal concluded the event by reiterating that strong coordination between school and parents forms the foundation of the child's bright future.

## FOCUS ON CONSCIOUS EDUCATION

## 'It ensures that schools are not just places of instruction but sanctuaries of growth'

Education has always been more than the transmission of knowledge. It is the shaping of human consciousness. In today's rapidly changing world, the call for conscious education is louder than ever. Awakening begins with self-awareness. When students learn to pause, reflect and recognize their emotions, they develop the ability to react. Conscious education encourages mindfulness practices, value-based discussions and opportunities for students to connect learning with life.

This awakening is not limited to students alone; educators too must embrace reflective practice, questioning not just what they teach but why and how they teach.

Awareness must translate into deliberate action. Conscious education calls for pedagogy rooted in values—respect, empathy, inclusivity and responsibility. Classrooms become laboratories of collaboration where students learn to act with integrity and courage.

Teachers act as facilitators of dialogue, guiding learners to make choices that honour both personal growth and collective well-being. Such action transforms education from rote learning into purposeful engagement.

The ultimate goal of conscious education is transformation. When

awareness and action converge, students evolve into changemakers and become creative, compassionate individuals ready to contribute meaningfully to society.

Transformation is visible in classrooms where diversity is celebrated, where mistakes are seen as opportunities and where every child feels empowered to lead. Schools embracing conscious education become communities of care, preparing learners not just for exams but for life.

Chaitanya is the essence of this journey. It is the inner light that guides educators, parents and communities to reimagine education as a holistic, human-centred endeavour. By awakening minds, inspiring action and fostering transformation, conscious education ensures that schools are not just places of instruction but sanctuaries of growth. The need of the hour is that education must move beyond information to inspiration.

Awaken, Act, Transform is not a slogan but a roadmap for schools committed to nurturing responsible, empathetic and creative citizens. In embracing conscious education, we honour the true purpose of learning, to awaken the human spirit and transform society for the better.



The ultimate goal of conscious education is transformation, writes Geetanjali, co-ordinator, middle wing

Geetanjali, co-ordinator, middle wing, CCA School, Sector 4, Gurugram



The competition aimed to encourage students to express their ideas and awareness through art

## ARWACHIN WORLD SCHOOL, BHOPURA, HOSTS POSTER-MAKING CONTEST

**GHAZIABAD:** Arwachin World School, Bhopura, hosted a poster-making competition, which was organised by Hindustan Times with great enthusiasm and creativity. The event aimed to encourage students to express their ideas and awareness through art while enhancing their imagination & presentation skills. The event was graced by dignitaries school trustee Urmila Sharma, chairman Anurup Sharma, HOS Saumya Anurup Sharma, director Krishna Bhatia, manager Prabha Garg, and headmistress Mona Luthra whose presence inspired and motivated students.

The students from Classes 3-8 actively took part in the event. The theme for Classes 3-5 was poster making, while the students of Classes 6-8 showcased their talent through monument drawing. The competition witnessed creations reflecting students' creativity, awareness, and artistic abilities. The best entries were selected, and the winners were awarded trophies as a token of appreciation. Overall, the event was a great success and provided a wonderful platform for students to showcase their artistic talents and creative expression.

## Ryan Int'l School, Noida, organises annual award ceremony to celebrate students' achievements

**NOIDA:** Ryan International School, Noida, celebrated its students' excellence through a grand annual award ceremony. The event began with the welcome of guests Manika Sambhor and Joseph Sam, whose encouragement and insights added immense value to the occasion. A special plantation ceremony titled 'Roots of

Tomorrow' reinforced the school's commitment to a greener future.

The school honoured its young achievers from Classes I-9 and II, recognising their academic and co-scholastic accomplishments. The presence of the parents of those achievers turned the felicitation ceremony into a truly beautiful one. The cultural

segment began with a welcome dance, 'Rhythmic Renegades', setting an energetic tone. A musical presentation titled 'This is Living Now' stood as a heartfelt tribute to Mother Earth that emphasised sustainable living. The audience was captivated by a graceful dance performance, 'Breath of Nature', which beautifully depicted

the harmony between humans and the environment. The event stood as a testament to the school's commitment to nurturing holistic development while instilling values of sustainability and respect for nature.

The achievers from Classes I-9 and II were recognised for their feats



## Shiksha Bharti Public School, Sec 66, G'gram, celebrates World Earth Day

**GURUGRAM:** Shiksha Bharti Public School, Sector-66, Gurugram, celebrated World Earth Day 2026 with unwavering enthusiasm, transforming the campus into a hub of 'green resolve'. The day began with a special morning assembly aimed at sensitising students and empowering them to become crusaders for environmental conservation. The students from pre-primary to the senior wing took part in the event with equal fervour. The assembly opened with a thought-provoking address, followed by a poignant poetry recitation on the importance of Mother Earth.

The verses reminded everyone how small daily actions can restore the Earth's beauty. The highlight of the assembly was a nukkad natak 'Dharati Ki Pukar' presented by senior students. The street play vividly depicted the alarming consequences of deforestation, rising pollution, and water scarcity, leaving a lasting impact on the audience. It conveyed a stark warning: if we do not act now, future generations may not have clean air to breathe.

The assembly concluded with a collective pledge taken by students and teachers to reduce plastic use, conserve water and electricity, plant



The celebration aimed to sensitise students and empowering them to become crusaders for environmental conservation

more trees, and spread awareness in their communities. Addressing the gathering, the school principal said, "Earth Day is not a one-day event but a lifelong responsibility. Sustainability means meeting our needs without compromising the ability of future generations to meet theirs."

Post-assembly, the school organised an array of hands-on activities across all wings. The tiny tots of pre-primary gave wings to creativity by

crafting planters and pencil holders from waste bottles, newspapers, and cardboard. Another group of students took part in a bird feeder-making workshop using coconut shells and hung the eco-friendly feeders on campus trees to provide respite to birds in the scorching summer.

The main attraction of the day was the 'Mass Plantation Drive' wherein students, teachers, and staff planted over 100 saplings of neem, peepal,

and fruit-bearing trees in and around the school premises. In addition, the school also organised a slogan writing competition, with entries like 'Plant Today, Breathe Tomorrow' and 'Green Today, Alive Tomorrow' adorning the display boards.

The initiative by the school was lauded by parents as 'exemplary and worthy of emulation' for instilling environmental stewardship in young minds.

## DPS, Noida, conducts Astronomy Evening Sky Observation Session

**NOIDA:** Delhi Public School (DPS), Noida, conducted an engaging and insightful Astronomy Evening Sky Observation Session for the 327 students from Classes 4 & 5, providing them with a wonderful opportunity to explore the mysteries of the night sky. The session began with an interactive sky tour, where students were guided on how to observe and identify celestial objects. The evening sky offered clear views of prominent planets such as Jupiter and its four moons, Venus (the evening star) and the Moon (with its craters), which fascinated the students with their brightness and visibility.



The session helped students develop a deeper appreciation for astronomy

Students successfully identified important constellations, including Ursa Major (Saptarishi), which helped them locate the Pole Star, guiding the northern direction. They also observed key stars from the Gemini constellation—Castor and Pollux. Adding to the excitement, some of the brightest stars in the night sky, such as Sirius, Capella and Aldebaran, were also clearly visible.

The session was further enriched with telescope observations, allowing students to closely view celestial bod-

ies and deepen their understanding of space. The guided explanations helped them learn about planetary features, star patterns and basic navigation in the night sky.

The session successfully combined learning with hands-on experience, sparking curiosity and enthusiasm among students. Overall, it was an enriching, enjoyable and memorable evening that helped students develop a deeper appreciation for astronomy and the wonders of the universe.

## Sh. SN Sidheshwar Senior Secondary Public School, Gurugram, celebrates Grandparents' Day with reverence

**GURUGRAM:** Sh. SN Sidheshwar Senior Secondary Public School, Gurugram, celebrated Grandparents' Day with reverence. The event began with the traditional Charan Pakharna & Deepsikha. Through the ritual of Charan Pakharna, students learnt the values of humility, respect, & gratitude towards elders, reinforcing the timeless lesson that reverence for grandparents is the foundation of family bonds. Students captivated the audience with a welcome song and Ganesh Vandana, followed by a skit on family values.

Joyful games like Pyramid, Ring,



Children emphasised the importance of grandparents in their lives

and Guess the Song added cheer to the event, and a vibrant dance performance showcased youthful energy. The Cooking Without Fire activity was a highlight as grand-

mothers worked with their grandchildren, turning the event into a symbol of cooperation, love, and shared joy across generations.

The principal interacted with the guests and shared inspiring words. The grandparents expressed their thoughts. Through speeches, children emphasised the importance of grandparents in their lives, acknowledging them as guiding lights and pillars of strength. The event ended with a vote of thanks, reaffirming the enduring role of grandparents as custodians of tradition, love, & moral guidance for future generations.

## St. Peter's School, Sector 16 A, Faridabad, conducts investiture ceremony



The ceremony marked the formal induction of the new student council

**FARIDABAD:** St. Peter's School, Sector 16 A, Faridabad, conducted the investiture ceremony for the academic session 2026-27, marking the formal induction of the new student council.

The event commenced with a spiritual prayer and the traditional lighting of the lamp by chief guest Pradeep Kamboj (constable, 4th Battalion, Haryana Police) and school dignitaries, manager Sr. Nancy Elizabeth,

principal Sr. Janet, and academic coordinator MN Kavita Lonkar.

After a welcome dance and the hoisting of the school flag, the protocol ceremony saw former leaders passing the baton of responsibility to the newly elected council. The highlight of the morning was a grand march-past, where four houses namely — Shamrock, Hollyhock, Sunflower, & Rose — displayed

exceptional discipline under the leadership of head boy Lakshay Sharma and head girl Bhavya Gulati.

After the pinning of sashes and badges, the principal administered the oath of office to the leaders, who pledged to serve with integrity & dedication. The event concluded with an address by the chief guest on the essence of leadership, a motivational song, and the national anthem.



The leaders of the student council were honoured with badges and sashes during the ceremony

IRAN SAYS IT STOPPED 'AMERICAN-ZIONIST' SHIPS ENTERING STRAIT

# Iran says it forced US warship back from Strait of Hormuz, US denies missile strike

Reuters

**DUBAI/DORAL:** Iran said it had forced a US warship to turn back from entering the Strait of Hormuz on Monday, although US Central Command quickly denied a report of a missile strike.

A senior Iranian official told Reuters Iran had fired a warning shot and that it was unclear whether the warship had been damaged. Iran's navy said it had prevented "American-Zionist" warships entering the Strait area by issuing a "swift and decisive warning". Iran's semi-official Fars news agency said two missiles had hit the warship near the port of Jask at the southern entrance to the strait, but CENTCOM denied that any warship had been struck.

It said its forces were supporting President Donald Trump's "Project Freedom", which aims to "guide out" commercial ships stranded in the Gulf by the US-Israeli war on Iran, and were enforcing a blockade of Iranian ports.

Trump gave few details of his plan to aid ships and their crews who have been confined to the vital waterway and are running low on food and other supplies. Shipping companies gave no sign of being ready to resume sailings.

"We have told these Countries that we will guide their Ships safely out of these restricted Waterways, so that they can freely and ably get on with their business," Trump said in a post on his Truth Social site on Sunday.



A patrol boat moves through the water as cargo ships sit at anchor in the Strait of Hormuz off Bandar Abbas, Iran, on Saturday AP

### Iranian military's warning

In response to Trump's announcement, Iran's unified command told commercial ships and oil tankers to refrain from any movement that was not coordinated with Iran's military.

"We have repeatedly said the security of the Strait of Hormuz is in our hands and that the safe passage of vessels needs to be coordinated with the armed forces," Ali Abdollahi, head of the forces' unified command, said in the statement.

"We warn that any foreign armed forces, especially the aggressive US Army, will be attacked if they intend to approach and enter the Strait of Hormuz."

Iran has blocked nearly all ship-

ping into and out of the Gulf apart from its own since the start of the war, cutting off around a fifth of the world's oil and gas shipments.

CENTCOM said it would support Trump's "Project Freedom" with 15,000 military personnel and more than 100 land- and sea-based aircraft, plus warships and drones.

### Convoys not a solution, say shipping and oil executives

Hundreds of commercial vessels and as many as 20,000 seafarers have been unable to transit the strait during the conflict, the International Maritime Organization says.

Container shipping group Hapag-Lloyd said on Monday its risk assess-

### Ship struck by projectiles in Hormuz: Britain

**DUBAI:** Projectiles struck a ship in the narrow Strait of Hormuz, the British military said on Monday, the second such attack in hours as tensions remain high between Iran and the United States.

The British military's United Kingdom Maritime Trade Operations centre issued the alert, saying a tanker had been targeted off Fujairah, United Arab Emirates, in the strait around 11:40 pm on Sunday. AP

last month. The Trump administration has been seeking help from other countries to secure shipping in the strait. CENTCOM said the latest effort announced by Trump would combine "diplomatic action with military coordination".

It was not immediately clear which countries the US operation would aid or how the operation would work. It will not necessarily include US Navy ships escorting commercial ships, Axios reporter Barak Ravid said.

The White House did not immediately respond to a request for comment. Trump said any interference with the US operation would have to be "dealt with forcefully".

### Iran reviews U.S. response to peace proposal

The United States and Israel suspended their bombing campaign against Iran four weeks ago, and US and Iranian officials held one round of face-to-face talks. But attempts to set up further meetings have failed.

Iranian state media said on Sunday Washington had conveyed its response to a 14-point Iranian proposal via Pakistan, and that Tehran was now reviewing it. Neither side gave details.

A senior Iranian official has confirmed that Tehran envisages ending the war on all fronts - including Israel's attacks on Lebanon - and resolving the shipping standoff first, while leaving talks on Iran's nuclear programme for later.



A coal-fired power plant in Hanover, Germany. Methane emissions from coal mining are higher on average than those of oil and gas SHUTTERSTOCK

## METHANE EMISSIONS FROM FOSSIL FUELS VERY HIGH IN 2025: REPORT

Press Trust of India

**NEW DELHI:** Methane emission from fossil fuels recorded very high levels in 2025, with no indication of their reduction globally, according to a new report. This is a concern, as methane is one of the main drivers of climate change—second only to carbon dioxide—responsible for 30% of global warming since pre-industrial times.

The report, "Global Methane Tracker 2026", released by the International Energy Agency (IEA) on Monday, tabulated the latest estimates of methane emissions from the energy sector based on satellite data and measurements.

"Oil, gas and coal production output reached record highs in 2025, and the IEA estimates that methane emissions from these activities total 124 million tonnes (Mt) a year: oil is the largest source at 45 Mt, followed by coal at 43 Mt, and natural gas at 36 Mt," the report said.

It added that bioenergy production and consumption contributed to 20 Mt of methane emissions. Notably, methane emissions from coal mining are higher on average than those of oil and gas. The most intensive coal-sector emissions are found in the Caspian Sea region, while India, Indonesia and Australia all record intensities well below global average, according to the report.

In a statement, Dr Sabina Assan, methane analyst at global energy think tank Ember, said, "Coal, one of the biggest methane culprits, is still being ignored. There are cost-effective technologies available today, so this is a low-hanging fruit for tackling methane. We can't let coal mines off the hook any longer."

The report highlighted that amid the current energy crisis, tackling methane could also help countries improve gas market security -- a top priority following the near-closure of the Strait of Hormuz, which has wiped off nearly 20 per cent of global liquefied natural gas (LNG) supply from the market.

"If select countries with spare existing gas export capacity and importing countries were to implement readily accessible methane abatement measures across their gas systems, nearly 15 billion cubic metres (bcm) of gas could very quickly be made available to markets," the analysis said.

## MUDDY DASH DRAWS HUNDREDS IN ENGLAND



Love for fun under the Sun, combined with the grit to take on the elements were all on display during the annual Maldon Mud Race attended by hundreds in Essex, east England, recently. Originated in 1973, the event involves negotiating a challenging course by running, walking and crawling across a 1,443 ft stretch of the boggy bed of Blackwater river. Albert Crates, 16, won the event, becoming the youngest to do so till date. (Clockwise from above) Participants, some in fancy costumes, compete during the Maldon Mud Race in Essex, England; Competitors relax after the race.



### HT CHRONICLE May 5 >> from the archives of the Hindustan Times



## Thailand enters Vietnam war to halt Red menace

**SINGAPORE** -Thailand has decided to enter the Vietnam war officially. This was briefly announced over Radio Bangkok late last night following an urgently called Cabinet meeting.

The announcement explained that the Cabinet had estimated that "the situation in the Republic of South Vietnam would have repercussions on other countries in the region, particularly Thailand If the free countries are unable to halt the Communist aggression there, the consequences will become more serious."

The Thai Government will provide combat assistance comprising naval and air force units to the South Vietnam Government for countering the Vietcong campaign.

No ground unit are reported to have been committed so far. Details of the assistance, allocations for which will amount to \$125,000 this year and to \$325,000 annually from the next year were released at Press conference called in Bangkok today by the Foreign Minister, the Interior Minister and the Deputy Defence Minister.

### GUERRILLAS ACTIVE

Foreign Minister Thanat Khoman stated that the aid was being sent at the South Vietnam Government's request and that it was being rendered in the belief that it will be beneficial in preserving Thailand's own independence.



## Tories swept to power in UK

**LONDON** - The British public has voted for a change of Government and rejected the Labour Party, returning the Conservatives to power with a massive majority.

Soon after the Tory lead was established, Mrs Thatcher was summoned by Queen Elizabeth and asked to become the first woman Prime Minister in the history of Britain and the Western industrialised world.

Earlier Labour Party's Mr Callaghan tendered his Government's resignation at a 25-minute audience with the Queen.

Mrs Margaret Thatcher will be the third to manage in person England's affairs of State after Queen Elizabeth the First and Queen Mary Tudor, who ruled before the monarchy became constitutional.

Queen Victoria did not herself manage affairs of State, though she did exercise some influence over those who managed them.

Mr James Callaghan won back his seat in Wales, but with a reduced majority. He is due to make a statement later.

In most constituencies there seems to have been a consistent

## Tories swept to power in UK



pattern of Conservative gains over Labour, particularly in London and the Southeast.

Labour fared better in Scotland, gaining mainly from the Scottish National Party, which has lost at least six seats.

The results still remain to be collated and finally scrutinised for pattern. But most of the better-known members have been returned to the Commons, including Mr David Owen, who, as the Labour Government's Foreign Secretary, was cause for some controversy. His place as Foreign Secretary is expected to be taken by Mr Francis Pym.

## Planning body stays despite new Ministry

### Planning body stays despite new Ministry

PM clarifies order on allocation of portfolios

**NEW DELHI:** Prime Minister Indira Gandhi today categorically stated that the Planning Commission would not be disbanded following the constitution of a Ministry of Planning at the Centre.

She also corrected the impression that the Commission would be a "secretariat" of the Planning Department and would not have the status it has hitherto enjoyed.

Mrs Gandhi was giving clarifications to newsmen on certain points arising from the Presidential order on the allocation of work to the new Planning Ministry and other departments issued today.

She said that the new Planning Commission would be set up as soon as the Planning Minister, Mr C. Subramaniam, returned from his foreign tour.

The Prime Minister, who is also

the Chairman of the Planning Commission, said that Mr Subramaniam would be its Deputy Chairman. She thought it was necessary for someone to be in whole time charge of the Commission and its work. She herself could not maintain day-to-day touch with the Commission. She also indicated that the new Commission would be constituted more or less on the basis of the present one.

### WATCH OUT THIS SPACE FOR QUIZ ON FRIDAYS

The quiz will be based on HT archives. Send in your answers at [htpcedelhi@hindustantimes.com](mailto:htpcedelhi@hindustantimes.com)

## AUTONOMOUS GLIDER DETECTS AND FOLLOWS WHALE VOCALISATIONS

## Underwater robot tracks sperm whale conversations in real time

Sperm whales use tongue clicks to navigate and hunt, and also produce patterned sequences of clicks, known as "codas," that are thought to play a role in communication.

Reuters

Deep beneath the ocean surface, sperm whales swim through the dark waters, clicking to each other in bursts of sound that can travel for kilometres. Now, scientists say they are beginning to follow those exchanges in real time using an autonomous underwater robot that can track whales by listening to their voices.

Sperm whales use clicks to navigate and hunt, and also produce patterned sequences of clicks, known as "codas," that are thought to play a role in communication. Scientists first identified that sperm whales vocalise in 1957. But understanding how they communicate has remained difficult because these marine mammals dive to depths of more than 1.6 km for around 50 minutes each hour, making continuous observation challenging.

"The underwater glider is listening for whales via four hydrophones and then steering itself toward them using a feature called backseat driver," said David Gruber, founder and CEO of Project CETI, professor of biology and environmental sciences at Baruch Col-



Project CETI's Glider, a whale communication data collection technology, is deployed in the Caribbean Sea off Dominica

REUTERS

lege at the City University of New York and a co-author of the study published this week in the journal Scientific Reports.

"When the glider detects the distinctive vocalisations of sperm whales, the software on board identifies where that sound is coming from and automatically communicates with the glider's navigation system to change directions and follow the whale," Gruber added.

A glider is a small robot that slowly changes its buoyancy, becoming slightly heavier to sink and lighter to rise.

"You can think of it as a quiet, long-distance explorer, more like a soaring albatross than a motorized vehicle, steadily travelling through the ocean while listening and gathering information as it goes," Gruber said.

Traditional tracking methods rely on suction tags that fall off after a few days or on stationary sensors that lose contact when whales move away. Project CETI also deploys hydrophones - underwater devices that detect and record sounds - towed from boats.

What makes the new robotic system different, Gruber said, is that it "can make decisions in real time while it's still underwater," rather than recording acoustic data for later analysis.

Previous methods allowed scientists to reconstruct where a whale had been, but not actively follow it at the moment. The new approach "continuously updates the glider's path so it can stay with a single whale for extended periods — potentially months," Gruber said.

The ability to track whales for longer periods marks what Gruber called a shift "from brief encounters to continuous relationships," allowing scientists to stay with the same whale or group instead of relying on short, opportunistic glimpses and to see patterns in how whales coordinate, socialize and respond to their environment over time.

Such data could also help answer longstanding questions about how sperm whales communicate.

"By following mother-calf pairs over time, we can begin to see how calves pick up vocal patterns from

their mothers," Gruber said.

The system could also reveal how whales react to human activity, allowing researchers to track the way their communication changes in the presence of human-made noise and offering a clearer picture of how shipping, offshore construction or fishing affect them.

By linking whale behaviour with environmental pressures, the technology could inform more precise, evidence-based policy decisions such as when to reduce ship speeds, reroute traffic or implement fishing restrictions to minimize disruption in sensitive areas, the researchers said.

Developing the system "brings us closer to understanding another form of intelligence on Earth, which has implications not just for conservation, but for how we think about communication and life beyond our own species," Gruber added.

Yet, precise localization remains a challenge, as the glider can detect the direction of a whale but not its exact position, limiting its ability to distinguish between individual whales and track them accurately. Communication is another constraint. The robot must surface every few hours to send and receive updates, making long-term, real-world monitoring less seamless. For Gruber, the moment the glider acted on its own offered the first real glimpse of what this technology could become.

"We're beginning to build systems that can operate independently and respond to the natural world as it unfolds," Gruber said.

## COFFEE CULTIVATION NEEDS OPTIMAL TEMPERATURES

## Coffee regions hit by extra days of extreme heat, say scientists

Agence France-Presse

PARIS: The world's main coffee-growing regions are roasting under additional days of climate change-driven heat every year, threatening harvests and contributing to higher prices, researchers said on Wednesday.

An analysis found that there were 47 extra days of harmful heat per year on average in 25 countries representing nearly all global coffee production between 2021 and 2025, according to independent research group Climate Central.

Brazil, Vietnam, Colombia, Ethiopia and Indonesia — which supply 75% of the world's coffee — experienced on average 57 additional days of temperatures exceeding the threshold of 30°C.

"Climate change is coming for our coffee. Nearly every major coffee-producing country is now experiencing more days of extreme heat that can harm coffee plants, reduce yields, and affect quality," said Kristina Dahl, Climate Central's vice president for science.

"In time, these impacts may ripple outward from farms to consumers,

right into the quality and cost of your daily brew," Dahl said in a statement.

US tariffs on imports from Brazil, which supplies a third of coffee consumed in the United States, contributed to higher prices this past year, Climate Central said.

But extreme weather in the world's coffee-growing regions is "at least partly to blame" for the recent surge in prices, it added.

Coffee cultivation needs optimal temperatures and moderate rainfall to thrive.

Temperatures above 30°C are "extremely harmful" to arabica coffee plants and "suboptimal" for the robusta variety, Climate Central said. Those two plant species produce the majority of the global coffee supply.

For its analysis, Climate Central estimated how many days each year would have stayed below 30°C in a world without carbon pollution but instead exceeded that level in reality — revealing the number of hot days added by climate change.

The last three years have been the hottest on record, according to climate monitors.



A farmer analyses the fruits that sprout from coffee trees in Brazil. An analysis found that there were 47 extra days of harmful heat per year on average in 25 countries representing nearly all global coffee production between 2021 and 2025.

SHUTTERSTOCK

**POSTGRADUATE INSTITUTE OF MEDICAL EDUCATION & RESEARCH, CHANDIGARH**  
CORRIGENDUM  
In partial modification to tender no. PGI/Drugs&Dressing/2026/ProcD&D000297 dated 18.04.2026 for purchase of Inj. Magnesium Sulphate 50%, 2ml amp due on 12.05.2026 till 12:30PM, in which on Annexure-I the condition mentioned at clause 2 is "The minimum turnover of the marketing firm/marketed by should not be less than 100 crores for three consecutive financial years, duly certified by C.A. If supplied through a sole distributor or directly, the marketing firm and sole distributor will be jointly and severally responsible for quality and supply of medicine."  
The above mentioned clause shall be read as "The minimum turnover of the marketing firm/marketed by should not be less than 50 crores for three consecutive financial years, duly certified by C.A. If supplied through a sole distributor or directly, the marketing firm and sole distributor will be jointly and severally responsible for quality and supply of medicine." All other terms & conditions remain the same.  
PGI-RC-ADVT-26-HR-000248 Officer In-charge (HPD), Proc. Drugs & Dressing

**NORTH CENTRAL RAILWAY**  
No. PU-TDL-W-02-2026 Dated: 02.05.2026  
**E-Tender Notice**  
Dy. CSTE/CTC/NCRPU/Tundla, N. C. Railway, for and behalf of President of India invites sealed "Open Tender" through on Line (E-Tendering) for the following work:  
SN.: 01 E-Tender Notice No.: PU-TDL-W-02-2026 Cost of Tender form: Nil  
**Description of work:** Construction of S&T service buildings (LSC) in KAA-ALJN section in connection with the work of "Reliability improvements of track circuits by provision of MSDAC in parallel of existing DCTC at 14 stations in KAA-ALJN section of Prayagraj Divn. of NCR."  
**Approx Cost (₹):** ₹ 2,50,28,756.15 (₹ Two Crore Fifty Lakh Twenty Eight Thousand Seven Hundred Fifty Six and Fifteen Paise only)  
**Bid Security (₹):** ₹ 500600/- (₹ Five Lakh Six Hundred Only)  
**Date of closing:** 26.05.2026 **Completion of period:** 09 Months  
**Note - (1)** The complete information along with Tender document of above E-Works Tender will be available on Website on [www.ireps.gov.in](http://www.ireps.gov.in) up to 15:00 Hrs. on the due date of Tender opening. (2) Bids other than in the form of E-Bids shall not be accepted against above Tenders. For this purpose Vendors are required to get themselves registered with IREPS website along with Class III Digital signature certificate issued by CCA under IT Act 2000. (3) Rates entered into financial rate page and duly signed digitally shall only be considered. Rates and any other financial entity in any other form / letter head if attached by Tenderer shall be straight way ignored & shall not be considered. (4) Documents being attached should be signed by the Tenderer on its body. (5) For full details and submission of bid please see the Indian Railways website [www.ireps.gov.in](http://www.ireps.gov.in) 98326(DG)  
North central railways ©CPRONCR www.ncr.indianrailways.gov.in

**AHMEDABAD MUNICIPAL CORPORATION**  
**LIGHT DEPARTMENT - SHORT TENDER NOTICE**  
AMC invites sealed competitive bids from interested Bidders for the below mentioned work:  
**Request for Proposal (RFP) for Appointment of a Consultancy Agency as a Project Management Unit (PMU) for Ahmedabad Municipal Corporation for Providing Technical Assistance in Planning, Implementation, Monitoring, Accessing Climate Finance, and Reporting of Activities and Interventions for Net-Zero, Sustainability, and Climate-Resilient Ahmedabad**  
1  
Online Submission up to Date: 12/05/2026 Only up to 04:00 PM.  
Last Date of Submission of (Hardcopy) Date: 14/05/2026 up to 05:00 PM.  
Tender details available on <https://tender.nprocure.com>

**आईआरईएल (इंडिया) लिमिटेड/IREL (India) Limited**  
Formerly Indian Rare Earths Limited  
(भारत सरकार का उपक्रम) (A Government of India Undertaking)  
CIN: U15100MH1950G01008187, Website: [www.irel.co.in](http://www.irel.co.in)  
ISO 9001:2015, ISO 14001:2015 & ISO 45001:2018 Company  
Ref: ADVT.NO.26-27/02 Dated: 02.05.2026  
**निविदा सूचना/TENDER NOTICE**  
आईआरईएल, ऑस्कॉम निम्नलिखित मध्ये/जिब विवरण के लिए प्रस्ताव हेतु अनुरोध अर्पित करता है IREL, OSCOM invites request for proposal for the following items/job descriptions.  
क्र.सं./Bid No. कार्य/वर्क विवरण/Job/Item Description  
IREL/OSCOM/EOI-Brahmagiri Office/2026-27/01 EOI for Residential-cum-Office setup (Unfurnished) for Brahmagiri BSM Project, at Puri, Odisha, to facilitate project-related preparatory and statutory activities.  
[GEM/2026/B/7478462] Supply of Various type of Pumps.  
बोलीपत्रा निविदा दस्तावेज <http://irel.co.in>, <http://gem.gov.in> या <https://eprocure.gov.in/> <https://eprocure.gov.in/> से डाउनलोड कर सकते हैं। उपरोक्त निविदाओं का कोई भी शुद्धिपत्र/विस्तार केवल उपरोक्त वेबसाइटों पर ही होस्ट किया जाएगा।  
Bidder may download tender document from <http://irel.co.in>, <http://gem.gov.in>, <https://etenders.gov.in> or <https://eprocure.gov.in/> <https://eprocure.gov.in/> Any corrigendum/Extension to above tenders shall be hosted in above websites only.  
CBC 48146/11/0003/2627 महाराष्ट्रक एवं प्रधान, ऑस्कॉम/GM & HEAD, OSCOM

**NORTHERN RAILWAY**  
**TENDER NOTICE**  
The Deputy Chief Engineer Const.-II, Shivaji Bridge, Northern Railway, New Delhi for and on behalf of the President of India invites open E-Tender for the following work.  
Tender closing date-25.05.2026 at 15.00 hrs. Bidders will be able to submit their original/revised bids up to closing date and time only. Manual offers are not allowed against this tender and any such manual offer received shall be ignored. Bidder should visit the [www.ireps.gov.in](http://www.ireps.gov.in) website for all details including corrigendum etc.  
**Mode of Tender:** E-Tender (Single Packet) (Open Tender)  
**Tender Notice No.:** 148-W-Dy. CE-C-II-CSB Date: 04.05.2026  
**Full name of work:** Maintenance and renovation of the office complex of DYCE/ C-II/CSB at Shivaji Bridge, New Delhi.  
**Approx. cost:** Rs. 61,95,491/- (Rs. Sixty one lacs ninety five thousand four hundred ninety one only).  
**Bid security (Cash/BG) amount:** Rs. 1,23,900/- (Rs. One lakh twenty three thousand nine hundred only).  
**Completion period:** 12 (twelve) Months  
**Availability of tender document on Rly. website:** Available on IREPS website [www.ireps.gov.in](http://www.ireps.gov.in). Tender detail and other instructions are as per NIT available on above mentioned IREPS site.  
**Tender availability on website:** 04.05.2026  
**Tender closing date:** 25.05.2026 upto 15.00 hours.  
**SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE** 1486/2026

**Office of The Additional Chief Engineer, Water Resources Zone, Jhalawar**  
क्रमांक: अ.सु.अ./ज.सं.स.झ./ई.-निविदा-01/2026-27/563 दिनांक: 29.04.2026  
**E-NIT No. - 01/2026-27**  
On Behalf of The Governor of Rajasthan, e-tender is invited from interested bidders for the work for (1) "Construction of Main CC Road of block K, H, E & B and Road connected to GSS building with drain at Rehabilitation colony Village Chhatrapura tehsil Atru Under Parwan Major Multipurpose Irrigation Project Dist. Baran." for Completion period of 12 Months (including rainy season) (Rs. 722.04 Lac), (2) "Construction of Interlocking tile road with Drain in the Block A, F & H in Rehabilitation colony at village Chhatrapura tehsil Atru Under Parwan Major Multipurpose Irrigation Project Dist. Baran" for Completion period of 12 Months (including rainy season) (Rs. 711.41 Lac) from 01.05.2026 (9.30 AM) to 20.05.2026 (06.00 PM) Other particulars, terms & conditions may be seen on the procurement portal <https://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in> & <https://sppp.rajasthan.nic.in>, [www.dipr.rajasthan.gov.in](http://www.dipr.rajasthan.gov.in) & [www.waterrajasthan.gov.in](http://www.waterrajasthan.gov.in).  
**NIB Code:** WRD2627A0032  
**UBN For Item No. 01:** WRD2627WLO800056  
**UBN For Item No. 02:** WRD2627WLO800057  
Additional Chief Engineer  
Water Resources Zone, Jhalawar  
DIPR/C/7784/2026

**OFFICE OF EXECUTIVE ENGINEER, M&H, Div.-I, Jaipur**  
No. 342 Date: 30.04.2026  
**Notice Inviting Bid No. 09/2026-27**  
Bids for 01 (One Nos.) Work are invited from interested bidders upto 06.00 PM dated 26.05.2026. Other particulars of the bid may be visited on the procurement portal (<http://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in>, <http://sppp.raj.nic.in>) of the state and M&H departmental website. The approximate value of the procurement is Rs. 500.00 Lacs.  
**UBN: 1. NRH2627WS0800128**  
Sd/- Executive Engineer  
DIPR/C/7772/2026 M&H, Div.-I, Jaipur

**Office Superintending Engineer Hydraulics Circle, Bahadrad Haridwar, Uttarakhand**  
Email: sehyd24@gmail.com  
**TENDER NOTICE NO. - 01/SE(HYD)/FPZ/2026-27, Dated: 04.05.2026**  
**e-PROCUREMENT NOTICE**  
The Superintending Engineer Hydraulics Circle, Bahadrad (I.R.I., Roorkee ) Haridwar, on behalf of Hon. Governor of Uttarakhand invites bids from eligible bidders for "Consultancy work for flood plain zoning in River Sharda (Kali) from Kalapani to Banbasa (Uttarakhand-Uttar Pradesh Border)".  
Detailed information and the bid documents will be available for download from 6 th May 2026 (4.30 PM) onwards, on [www.uktenders.gov.in](http://www.uktenders.gov.in).  
Superintending Engineer  
Hydraulics Circle, Bahadrad

Government of Tamil Nadu  
**Office of the Resident Commissioner**  
Tamil Nadu House, No. 9, Tikendrajit Marg, Chanakyaapur, New Delhi - 110021  
**PART-TIME TAMIL LANGUAGE, TAMIL MUSIC AND BHARATANATYAM CLASSES**  
In order to promote Tamil culture, Tamil language, Tamil (Vocal) music and Bharatanatyam classes are being conducted since 2018 on a part-time basis with special teachers, in Tamil Nadu House, New Delhi. Applications are currently being invited for admission for the year 2026-27. Only registration fee will be charged for these classes. Application forms for joining these classes will be available from 05.05.2026 to 20.05.2026 at Tamil Nadu House Library (or) can be downloaded from Tamil Nadu House website <https://tamilhouse.in.gov.in/pages/view/Advertisement>.  
1) Tamil Language Interested students only  
2) Tamil Music (Vocal) The applicant must have completed 8 years of age and must be studying in  
3) Bharatanatyam 3rd standard or above.  
\* The last date for submission of Registration forms is 20.05.2026.  
\* For more details / To submit applications: Library, House of Tamil Culture, Tamil Nadu House, No. 9, Tikendrajit Marg, Chanakyaapur, New Delhi - 110021.  
(Landmark: Opposite Chanakya Mall, behind Yashwanth Place)  
Applications can be submitted in person during office hours from 10:00 AM to 6:00 PM  
DIPR/342/DISPLAY/2026

**JOINT ELECTRICITY REGULATORY COMMISSION**  
(For the State of Goa and Union Territories)  
3rd and 4th Floor, Plot No. 55-56, Udyog Vihar, Phase-IV, Sector-18, Gurugram, Haryana-122015  
Ph. No. 0124-4684705, E-mail: [secy.jercuts@gov.in](mailto:secy.jercuts@gov.in), Website: [www.jercuts.gov.in](http://www.jercuts.gov.in)  
Ref. No. E-501/3/2020-E Date: 27.04.2026  
**Vacancy Circular**  
Applications are invited for the following's consultant position purely on short term contractual basis:-  

S. No.	Name of the Position	Number of Positions	Monthly Fee Range* (In ₹)	Age	Minimum Educational Qualification
1.	Consultant/ Research Officer (Finance)	01 (one)	₹ 90,000/- to ₹ 1,35,000/-	Not more than 40 years as on last date of receipt of applications	Bachelor degree with CA (Inter)/CMA (Inter)/MBA Finance/PGD (Post Graduate Diploma) in Finance or equivalent

  
\*Excluding taxes, if applicable  
Details of the post i.e. monthly fee, required qualifications/qualifying service and experience etc. are available on the website of the Commission i.e. [www.jercuts.gov.in](http://www.jercuts.gov.in) (under "Vacancies" sub-head). The last date for receipt of application in this office shall be 19th June, 2026 by 05.00 PM.  
Rajesh Dangi Secretary(I/c)  
CBC 34124/11/0005/2627

**Office of the Superintending Engineer, 2nd Circle, P.W.D., Nainital -263002**  
Phone/Fax: 05942-235728/232030, E-mail: [sepwdnt@rediffmail.com](mailto:sepwdnt@rediffmail.com)  
Letter No.: 946/41-M-2/26-27 Date:- 4/05/2026  
**National Competitive Bidding (E-Tendering)**  
Superintending Engineer, 2nd Circle, Public Works Department Nainital on behalf of Governor of Uttarakhand invites e-tender (two bid system) For further details please log on to <http://www.uktenders.gov.in> from 08-05-2026  

Sl. No.	Name of work	Tender Form Cost of	Earnest Money (Lacs)	Validity of tender	Time of completion	Contractor's category of Registration
1	Construction of road by interlocking tiles from the house of Shri Tulsi Singh in Dhela Barrage Farm to New Basti Shivnathpur Bridge in Malthanchaud No. 3 in Ramnagar block of Ramnagar assembly constituency of Nainital district. Under State sector	5000.00 + 18% GST	3.30	90 day	06 Month	Registered in motor road Under Government of India / State Government enterprise Class 'A' and above category" or "Chief Engineer, Public Works Department, Haldwani Class 'B' category" or "Second circle, Public Works Department, Nainital Class 'C' Category

  
Superintending Engineer,  
2nd Circle, P.W.D., Nainital

**SOUTH EAST CENTRAL RAILWAY**  
**E-TENDER NOTICE FOR CABLE SHIFTING RELATED S&T WORK**  
The Sr. Divisional S & T Engineer, South East Central Railway, Nagpur, acting for & on behalf of the President of India, invites E-Tenders for the execution of below mentioned work:  
**E-Tender Notice No.:** ST-Tender-Cable-Shifting/3 Dated: 24.04.2026  
**Name of the work:** S&T related Cable Shifting / utility shifting for facilitated engineering earth work for construction of Fencing / ROB / RUB / LHS/ Drain / Bridges repairing etc. in Gondia - Jabalpur section in Nagpur Division of SECR.  
**Tender Value:** ₹ 81.43,866/- **Bid Security:** ₹ 1,62,900/- **Completion Period:** 06 (Six) Months.  
**Submission of Tenders:** Bidders will be able to submit their original /revised bids up to 13.30 Hours on 18.05.2026 only. Details are available on our website: [www.ireps.gov.in](http://www.ireps.gov.in).  
Sr. Div. S&T Engineer, S.E.C. Railway, Nagpur  
स्वच्छ भारत अभियान एक कदम स्वच्छता की ओर

SPANISH LEAGUE

Vinicius double in Real Madrid victory

**BARCELONA:** Vinicius Junior struck twice for Real Madrid in a 2-0 win over Espanyol on Sunday to make La Liga leaders Barcelona wait to be crowned Spanish champions.

The Catalans would have completed their title defence if Madrid dropped points at Espanyol, but Alvaro Arbeloa's side trimmed the gap on Barca to 11 points, with four matches remaining.

Barcelona's next chance to claim their 29th league title comes in a week's time, when they host Real Madrid in a spicy Clasico clash. Once again, only a Real win will do to stop Hansi Flick's side.

"We've got a big game coming against a great rival, who are doing things very well," Arbeloa told Real Madrid TV.

"It's special for the fans and for us. We'll rest very well and prepare well

for this game." Without injured French superstar Kylian Mbappe and with just three wins in their last nine league games, Real Madrid arrived in Catalonia at a low ebb.

They knew that even with a victory to postpone Barca's celebrations they are virtually certain to end a second consecutive season without a major trophy. The Catalans beat Osasuna in Pamplona on Saturday night and were waiting for a Madrid slip-up to celebrate back-to-back Liga titles.

Instead they will have the chance to claim the trophy at Camp Nou, in front of 60,000 fans. Manolo Gonzalez's Espanyol, now without a win in 17 league matches, are fighting for top flight survival and needed the points. The Pericos are 13th, five points above the drop zone, although that gap could shrink on Monday if Sevilla, 18th, beat Real Sociedad.



Real Madrid's Vinicius Junior during the Spanish league match against Espanyol. AFP

TENNIS

Top players slam Roland Garros prize money

**PARIS:** A group of leading players including Jannik Sinner, Aryna Sabalenka and Coco Gauff have expressed "their deep disappointment" at the level on prize money at Roland Garros amid a lingering dispute with Grand Slam tournament organizers.

The clay-court Grand Slam event starts later this month in western Paris. The players said they have other demands that have not been addressed by officials, including better representation, health and pensions.

The players' call came after French Open organizers announced last month the Roland Garros prize money has increased by about 10% for an overall pot of 61.7 million euros (\$72.1 million), with the total amount up 5.3 million euros

from last year. "Players' share of Roland Garros tournament revenue has declined from 15.5% in 2024 to 14.9% projected in 2026," the group of players responded in a statement on Monday.

Play begins on May 24 at Roland Garros. Men's and women's singles champions each receive 2.8 million euros and the runners-up 1.4 million euros. Semifinalists earn 750,000 euros and first round losers get 87,000 euros. Men's and women's doubles winners pocket 600,000 euros and the mixed doubles champions get 122,000 euros.

But the statement said "the underlying figures tell a very different story," claiming that players receive a declining share of the value they contribute to generate.

IPL

Injured Phil Salt returns home for scans

**NEW DELHI:** Royal Challengers Bengaluru opener Phil Salt has returned to England for scans on a finger injury sustained last month.

The injury has kept Salt out of RCB's last three matches, with compatriot Jacob Bethell stepping in at the top of the order.

The 29-year-old is reported to have "damaged a finger on his left hand" while diving to save a boundary at deep backward square leg during

RCB's defeat to Delhi Capitals at the M. Chinnaswamy Stadium on April 18.

"Salt, who is centrally contracted by the ECB, has since returned home at the request of England's management and has undergone scans on his finger," ESPNcricinfo reported.

According to the report, both RCB and Salt are hopeful of a speedy recovery and the opener can return to India later this month.

CRICKET



Delhi Capitals' KL Rahul during a practice session ahead of an IPL match against Chennai Super Kings in New Delhi on Monday. PTI

CHAMPIONS LEAGUE



Arsenal's Bukayo Saka takes part in a team training session at London Colney ahead of their Champions League semi-final against Atletico Madrid. AFP

Saka sparks Arsenal attack into life ahead of Atletico showdown

Agencies

sportsdesk@hindustantimes.com

**LONDON:** Bukayo Saka's return from injury has jolted Arsenal's attack back into life just in time for the Gunners to dream of a Premier League and Champions League double.

Saka scored and provided an assist for Viktor Gyokeres as Mikel Arteta's men bagged three goals for the first time in 16 games in Saturday's 3-0 win over Fulham.

All three goals arrived before Saka was withdrawn by Arteta at half-time to protect the England winger, who has been nursing an achilles injury in recent months.

Arteta had one eye on Tuesday's visit of Atletico Madrid, with Arsenal hoping to reach just the second Champions League final in their history.

The clash is evenly poised at 1-1 after a first leg dominated by penalty

decisions in the Spanish capital.

Both sides netted from the spot, but Arsenal thought they should have had a second penalty when Eberechi Eze was clipped inside the box.

Saka was involved in that move and his introduction as a substitute helped Arsenal turn the tide to finish the first leg on the front foot.

The 24-year-old was recently handed a new four-year contract, reportedly making him the highest earner at the club.

Saka has struggled to find his best form since a serious hamstring injury ruled him out for three months last season.

Arteta, though, is hoping the attacker is both physically and mentally fresh to end Arsenal's long wait for silverware.

Saka's quick feet and deadly delivery left Gyokeres with the simple task of tapping into an empty net to settle

the Premier League leaders' nerves early on against Fulham.

The roles were reversed for the second as Saka latched onto the Swede's pass and arrowed a shot into the bottom corner for his 10th goal of an injury-disrupted campaign.

"He certainly made a difference. He made two actions that decided the game and we know what he's capable of," said Arteta.

"He's come back in the most important period of the season and now he's fresh.

"His mind is fresh, his hunger is at the highest possible height and I think he needed a performance like that to impact the team, so that's a big platform for Tuesday."

Robert Pires was part of the only previous Arsenal side to reach the Champions League final, a 2-1 defeat to Barcelona in 2006.

The Frenchman's wing play made

him a legendary figure in north London for his part in two Premier League titles under Arsene Wenger and he believes Saka can have an inspirational impact on his teammates.

"He's found his sharpness again, he's brought back his dribbling, his drive," Pires told AFP.

"When you have players like him, capable of making the difference, it already does everyone a lot of good.

"Above all, he pulls the others along, getting them to do, or at least try to do, what he does."

Arsenal's miserly defence, which has conceded just six goals in 13 Champions League games, has carried them to the brink of the final.

Now the onus is on Saka, nicknamed "star-boy" by the club's supporters, to provide the creative spark to take Arsenal to Budapest next month.

FORMULA ONE

Teen Antonelli wins again in Miami to extend title race lead

Agencies

sportsdesk@hindustantimes.com

**MIAMI:** Teenager Kimi Antonelli extended his lead in the drivers' world championship with a historic victory for Mercedes ahead of McLaren world champion Lando Norris in Sunday's dramatic Miami Grand Prix.

The 19-year-old Italian became the first F1 driver to claim his first three wins in a row from his first three pole positions, after triumphs in China and Japan had hoisted him to the top of the title race. Driving with determination and elan, Antonelli struggled for ascendancy in the first part of the race before enjoying an undercut pit stop to win his duel with Norris in the closing stages.

In the first race following a five-week hiatus due to the conflict in the Middle East, Antonelli came home 3.264 seconds clear of Norris.

Norris's McLaren teammate Oscar Piastri finished third, 23.828 seconds adrift. Mercedes driver George Russell, who began the season as championship favorite and won the opening race in Melbourne, finished fourth ahead of Red Bull's fiery and rejuvenated four-time champion Max Verstappen and Ferrari's Charles Leclerc, who spun on the penultimate lap.

Seven-time champion Lewis Hamilton was seventh in the second Ferrari ahead of Franco Colapinto of Alpine and the two Williams drivers, Carlos Sainz and Alex Albon.

Mercedes had dominated the opening three Grands Prix and arrived in Miami as the only top team without an upgrades package. But despite losing to Norris in Saturday's sprint race,



Mercedes' Italian driver Kimi Antonelli. AFP

they showed they remain on top.

"What a race, man, woo!" exclaimed Antonelli on team radio after winning. "Oh my God!"

He later said: "The team did a great strategy and we had a massive undercut -- and I was able to bring it home. It was a tough race. "I was a bit lucky when I locked up at the start behind Charles and then I did a mistake with energy management."

Norris described the result as "a mixed bag."

"We just got undercut. We should have boxed first, but Kimi did a good job and hats off to him and Mercedes,"

he said. "A good race. He didn't make any mistakes and I'm gutted not to win, but I didn't have the pace."

The weather was significantly cooler than for Saturday's sprint, but without the forecast rain that had brought forward the start by three hours. Antonelli made a clean start from his third consecutive pole, but was passed on the inside by Leclerc as Verstappen hit a curb and spun, creating chaos.

Leclerc resisted Antonelli, with Norris third, until lap five when the teenager passed him, only for Leclerc to regain the lead.

INDIA GEAR UP FOR STERN TEST AGAINST JAPAN IN AFC U17 ASIAN CUP

Agencies

sportsdesk@hindustantimes.com

**SUZHOU:** India face a stern test against powerhouse Japan as they look to bounce back from their opening game defeat and revive their campaign in the AFC U17 Women's Asian Cup 2026 here on Tuesday.

The Young Tigresses lost their opening Group B match to Australia 0-2 and find themselves in a situation where every goal will matter after Japan crushed Lebanon 13-0 to garner three points.

Japan, among the most technically refined sides in women's football, bring formidable pedigree into the clash, having reached the final in seven of the nine editions of the AFC U17 Women's Asian Cup and lifting the title four times.

The Asian giants also underlined their global dominance by clinching the FIFA U-17 Women's World Cup crown in 2014.

Though Japan will start as overwhelming favourites, the Young Tigresses remain undaunted, with head coach Pamela Conti asserting that her players will take the field with a clear and focused mindset.

"We've just finished training, and we are quite excited because we are going to play against one of the strongest teams in the world.

"Me, as a coach, and the players as well, believe that we need to play a perfect match if we want to win. But beyond that, just being there, experiencing it, and enjoying the game is also important. I will definitely enjoy it," said Conti. India have prepared diligently for the tournament with more than three months of rigorous training, including exposure trips to Myanmar and Russia.

# Prolific novelist whose works focused on South Asian themes

**BAPSI SIDHWA:** This late Pakistani novelist was known for popular works such as *Ice Candy Man*, *The Pakistani Bride*, *The Crow Eaters*, and *Water*. Having witnessed the tragedy of India-Pakistan partition at a young age, her riveting work is largely based on the predicaments of that era. The popular film *1947: Earth* was based on her creation.

Born in Karachi on Aug 11, 1938, to Gujarati Parsi Zoroastrian parents Peshotan and Tehmina Bhandara, Bapsi Bhandara later moved with her family to Lahore. Raised in an affluent family engaged in business, Bapsi contracted polio at the age of two, which left her frail and unable to attend school. Hampered by disability and a childhood with few friends, Bapsi found in fiction a refuge where anything was possible.

She was fluent in spoken Gujarati, Urdu, and English but could read and write best in English. She had witnessed from close quarters the distressing events during Partition, which produced experiences that her writing went on to reflect in the future.

#### Education and teaching

She was educated by private tutors and went on to complete BA from the Kinnaird College for Women, Lahore, in 1957. Bapsi married Gustad Kermani, a Zoroastrian businessman from Bombay (present Mumbai), in 1957, at the age of 19. She lived in Bombay for five years but her married life

with Kermani ended in separation. Bapsi returned to Lahore and married Noshir R Sidhwa, also a Zoroastrian. After securing a fellowship at Harvard, Bapsi began her first teaching job at Columbia University.

Sidhwa left Columbia after an academic term and moved to Houston where she taught at the University of St Thomas before she took up teaching at Rice University's School of Continuing Studies. She also taught at the University of Houston, Mount Holyoke College, and Brandeis University.

#### As an author

Bapsi self published her first novel, *The Crow Eaters*, in 1978. It was not until 1981 that her work got recognised after her novel was published in the UK in 1981 and received rave reviews. After that there was no looking back.

Her major novels, which include *The Bride*, *The Crow Eaters*, *Ice Candy Man* and *An American Brat*, explore a wide range of themes such as the Parsi identity, immigration, women's repression and struggles in patriarchal societies of South Asia, their resilience and rights.

Bapsi was also well known for her

collaboration with Indo-Canadian filmmaker Deepa Mehta. Her novel *Ice Candy Man* was the basis for Mehta's 1998 film *Earth*, while her work *Water: A Novel* formed the basis for the latter's film *Water* in 2005.

#### Recognition

In 1986, Bapsi obtained the Bunting Fellowship at the Radcliffe Institute for Advanced Study at Harvard University. Five years later, Pakistan's highest national honour in the arts, Sitara-i-Imtiaz (Star of Excellence), was conferred on her. In 1994, Bapsi received the Lila Wallace-Reader's Digest Writer's Award. The Zoroastrian community elevated her to its Hall of Fame in 2000. In 2007, she won the Mondello Prize for Foreign Authors for her work on *Water*.

#### Personal life

During the early 1980s, Sidhwa and her family moved to the US. She had five children, who included two from her first marriage. She died in Houston, Texas, on Dec 25, 2024, aged 86.

Sources: [www.wikipedia.com](http://www.wikipedia.com), [rektha.org](http://rektha.org), <https://scholarblogs.emory.edu/>



ILLUSTRATION: AMIT KUMAR

## INTERESTING FACTS

**1** Bapsi was 11 years old when one of her tutors, Mrs Penherow, gave her a copy of *Little Women* to read and Bapsi was hooked. Love for books inspired her to pick up the pen and create work that received praise from across the world.

**2** Faiz Ahmed Faiz, the great Urdu poet from Pakistan, had praised Bapsi Sidhwa for her wit, racy style and shrewd observations of human behaviour. He had even compared her to great novelists VS Naipaul and RK Narayan.

**3** While Bapsi Sidhwa's work titled *The Crow Eaters* eventually drew widespread praise for its humorous, candid description of a Parsi family in pre-partition India, the novel ran into a somewhat hostile initial response

from some members of the Parsi community to which she, too, belonged. The book launch ceremony at a hotel in Lahore had to be aborted midway due to a bomb threat from a member of the Parsi community. A common thread that

**4** runs through most of her works is that of major characters who, by dint of their struggles, defy conventional stereotypes, much like the author herself did throughout her life.



**DELHI POLICE**  
SHANTI SEWA NYAYA

## Empower and protect yourself with SELF-DEFENCE TECHNIQUES



**FREE  
Registration**

### 22<sup>nd</sup> Summer Camp-2026

**Training on Empowerment and Self-Defence Techniques**  
For School/College Girls, Working Women and Homemakers

Register with your convenience  
**04.05.2026 to 20.05.2026**  
 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM (except Sunday) at the following places

**1** Arvind Gupta  
DAV Centenary  
Public School,  
Northex, Model Town,  
Delhi-110009

**2** Saraswati Bal  
Mandir A-2  
Paschim Vihar, Near  
Ashoka Apartment,  
New Delhi-110063

**3** Govt. Co-ed  
Senior Secondary  
School, Dwarka,  
Sector-02,  
Delhi-110075

**4** Bal Bhawan  
Public School,  
Pocket-B,  
Mayur Vihar,  
Phase-II,  
Delhi-110091

For more information call at : 6828400654 / 011-20865499

Date & Time of Self Defence  
Training Programme (except Sunday)  
**29.05.2026 to 11.06.2026**  
 From (08.00 am to 10.00 am)

**Special Events:** Nukkad  
Natak/Street Play on  
Women Empowerment &  
Lecture on Cyber Awareness



Online registration through  
[www.spuwac.in](http://www.spuwac.in)

**24x7 SPECIAL WOMEN HELPLINE NO. 1091 OR 7835075012**

E-mail to CP, Delhi at: [cpdelhi@delhipolice.gov.in](mailto:cpdelhi@delhipolice.gov.in) | Write to CP, Delhi at P.O. Box No. 171, GPO, New Delhi

@DelhiPoliceOfficial
@DelhiPolice
@delhi.police\_official
@DelhiPoliceofficial
Delhipolice.nic.in

For Immediate Police Help Call 112
To Share Information Call 14547



BUREAU OF ENERGY EFFICIENCY



Bharat Ke Satham  
Good Name

# CONSUMER ALERT!

The following ceiling fan models failed to meet  
BEE's energy efficiency rating standards



Indicative Image



Indicative Image

**Ceiling Fan**  
**Brand - Rally**  
**Model No. - ES-PRO**

**Ceiling Fan**  
**Brand - Arcline**  
**Model No. - TREND DELUXE/2023**

Verify energy ratings and validity of labels at: [www.beestarlable.com](http://www.beestarlable.com)

\*This notice has been issued in compliance with provisions of Regulations of the Bureau of Energy Efficiency - Particulars and Manner of their Display (of electric ceiling type fan).

**BUREAU OF ENERGY EFFICIENCY**  
 A Statutory body under Ministry of Power, Government of India,  
 4th Floor, Sewa Bhawan R.K. Puram, New Delhi-110066 (INDIA),

CBC 34106/13/0003/2627

