



The PM said: the women's reservation bill was not passed, I apologize: the opposition snatched the rights of half the population, they will be punished for this sin

New Delhi(GNS): Prime Minister Narendra Modi addressed the nation for 30 minutes on Saturday on women's reservation. He said, "This bill could not be amended. I apologize to all mothers and sisters." He said, "For me, national interest is paramount. When party interest becomes everything for some people, when party interest becomes greater than national interest, then women power has to bear the brunt of it." The PM said that opposition parties like the Congress, TMC, and DMK are guilty of this foeticide. They are criminals against the Constitution of India and against women's empowerment. Those who snatched the rights of half the

population will be punished for this sin. The Constitution (131st Amendment) Bill, which seeks to increase the number of Lok Sabha seats from 543 to 816 and provide 33% reservation for women, failed to be passed in the Lok Sabha on Friday. **The PM said, "Yesterday we did not have the numbers, but we have not lost":** The PM said, "This fight isn't just about one law. Their negativity always comes to the fore. The sisters and daughters of the country will give a befitting reply to the Congress party's mentality. Some people are calling the shattering of women's dreams a failure of the government. This wasn't a ques-



tion of credit. I even told Parliament that you can take the credit. But those who view women with a conservative mindset persisted in their lies." The PM said, "The fight to empower women has been going on for decades. So many

sisters have told me everything through letters. I know women are sad. I share your sorrow. Today, even though we may not have received the 66% votes needed to pass the bill, I know that we have the blessings of 100% of the country's women." **PM said- Many countries became independent along with us, those countries went ahead of us:** The PM said, "Congress opposed the repeal of Article 370. They also oppose the Unified State Register of Citizens (UCC), calling it necessary. At the mention of reform, Congress rushes to the polls with placards in protest. Congress opposes 'One Nation, One Election' and SIR in the country. They

opposed the CAA, a law that provides protection to refugees." Modi said, "Congress has a consistent pattern. Whenever any reform comes up, they lie and spread confusion. Any work that is essential for the country is swept under the carpet by Congress. Because of this, India has not been able to reach the heights of development it deserves." The PM said, "Many countries gained independence with us. Many countries have surpassed us, but Congress has stalled many reforms. This is their work culture. Congress has kept pending water sharing and border disputes with neighboring countries. This Congressional attitude has harmed the country."

Banda in UP is the hottest in Asia, reaching 45.4°C



Many schools closed in Odisha and Chhattisgarh; four-day heat-wave alert issued in 10 states, including MP and Chhattisgarh.

New Delhi, (GNS): Nearly every state in the country is experiencing intense heat. Banda, Uttar Pradesh, recorded a temperature of 45.4°C on Friday, the highest temperature in Asia so far this season. Interestingly, a week earlier, on April 9-10, Banda also recorded the lowest temperature of 12°C in the plains of the country.

Here, from today onwards, there is a possibility of heat wave in Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Chhattisgarh, Odisha, Jharkhand, Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, West Bengal, Tamil Nadu and Kerala for the next 4 days. Temperatures exceeded 40°C in 16 districts of Uttar Pradesh, causing a heatwave. Severe heat is pounding 50 cities, including Prayagraj and Varanasi. Temperatures have exceeded 43°C in several districts of Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, and Odisha. School timings have been changed in 13 districts of Madhya Pradesh.



US warship circumnavigating Africa en route to the Middle East

Fearing attacks by Houthi rebels, it changed course, accompanied by 6,000 sailors and 3 destroyers

Washington DC(GNS): America's giant aircraft carrier USS George HW Bush, one of the world's most powerful warships at sea, is leaving the direct path and taking a long detour. The ship is now traveling one and a half times the distance, circumnavigating Africa and approaching Iran. Reports indicate that the Red Sea route is fraught with threats from Houthi rebels, forcing the American supercarrier to take a longer route to avoid them.

According to a Forbes report, US carriers typically transit through the Red Sea via Gibraltar, the Mediterranean Sea, and the Suez Canal. However, the US Navy has not chosen this route this time. The carrier is accompanied by three destroyers and about 6,000 sailors. Two US officials told the Associated Press that the strike group has departed for a Middle East deployment. America is afraid of Yemen's Houthi rebels. It's unusual for this most powerful American ship to take such a long route. The Pentagon hasn't officially explained the reason, but indications are clear that by taking the route around Africa, the ship is avoiding the Red Sea and the Bab-el-Mandeb Strait. In recent years, this area has been made unsafe by Yemen's Houthi rebels. These Houthi rebels, supported by Iran, have previously launched drone and missile attacks on vital sea lanes like the Red Sea and the Bab-el-Mandeb Strait. This is why even the world's most powerful navy now avoids that route.

CJI said: there is no need to fear AI, balance is necessary

Technology can only be helpful, it cannot replace judges

New Delhi(GNS): Chief Justice of India (CJI) Surya Kant said that the use of AI in the judiciary is necessary, but there is no need to fear it. He said that technology can only be helpful, not a substitute for judges. He made this statement at an event in Bengaluru on Saturday. He said that a balance is essential when using AI. While it may make work faster and easier, decisions should always be based on human reason-



ing, experience, and constitutional understanding. He urged judicial officers not to be influenced by AI and to maintain their independent thinking. He made this statement at the Karnataka State Judicial Officers Association's conference on "Reimagining the Judiciary in the Era of Artificial Intelligence." Karnataka Chief Minister Siddaramaiah and other Supreme Court judges were also present.

Rajasthan youth mastermind sleeper cell, arson Taking orders from foreigners, active near the India-Pakistan border, farming for show

Jaisalmer(GNS): Security agencies have busted a sleeper cell near the Rajasthan-Pakistan border. The accused were carrying out various anti-national activities on orders from foreign handlers. Incidents like the burning of vehicles in Uttar Pradesh in March and April also occurred at the instigation of this cell. Agencies suspect he was planning a major conspiracy. The accused, Rajuram Godara alias Syed (29), was detained on the night of March 24 in the Bharewala area near the India-Pakistan border on the basis of suspicious activities. Now, he has made several shocking revelations. **The accused is the master-**



mind of the network: Rajuram, a farmer from the Nachna police station area of Jaisalmer, lives a normal life, like any other sleeper cell member. He was arrested in March based on input from agencies in Uttar Pradesh. The investigation revealed that he was the mastermind and digital controller of the network operating through Telegram. It is alleged that he was providing instructions to youth active in Uttar Pradesh from Jaisalmer. The National Investigation Agency (NIA) and the ATS are also involved in the investigation, taking action under the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act (UAPA).

Air Force plane makes hard landing in Pune

Runway closed for nearly 11 hours, 91 flights cancelled; operations resume normal in the morning.

Pune(GNS): An Indian Air Force fighter jet made a hard landing at Pune International Airport on Friday night. The runway was temporarily closed after the incident, which occurred at 10:30 pm. Flight operations at the airport were affected for approximately 11 hours. Pune Airport Director Santosh Dhoke said the IAF aircraft was cleared from



the runway at around 5:45 a.m., but the NOTAM deadline was extended to 9 a.m. However, flight opera-

tions resumed normal only after 7:30 a.m. The IAF said on X that both pilots were safe. The runway was repaired and declared fit for flights. Operations would return to normal throughout the day. According to the airport director, 91 flights from five airlines were cancelled while the runway was closed, while 12 flights were diverted.

Australian emu spotted at Bahu Begum's tomb complex, attracting crowds of onlookers

Ayodhya(GNS): Suddenly a guest was seen in the historical Bahu Begum Tomb complex of Ayodhya, seeing which everyone was surprised. This guest was not an ordinary one, but a rare Australian bird, Emu. The special thing is that this bird cannot fly. In such a situation, the question is how did it reach Ayodhya? As soon as people came to know about it, people and tourists started reaching the tomb complex to see it. Some captured it on mobile cameras, while others

were expressing surprise on seeing its movements and expressions. It was a unique experience to see such a foreign bird. Media reports quoting the Forest Department state that a pair of emus is located within the Bahu Begum Tomb complex. The Ayodhya DFO explained that the emu is a bird native to Australia and belongs to the ostrich family. Although it cannot fly, its unique speed and uniqueness make it one of the world's most fascinating

birds. The emu is considered one of the world's largest flightless birds. Its long neck, strong legs, and fast running abilities make it unique. It can run at speeds of up to 50 kilometers per hour and can also swim if necessary. Furthermore, its eating habits are also unique—it is omnivorous and can eat fruits, seeds, grass, insects, and even small creatures. Its lifespan is also quite short; it can live for approximately 25 to 30 years.

Record registration for Chardham Yatra, 18.25 lakh devotees registered on the first day

Dehradun(GNS): Devotees are showing great enthusiasm for the upcoming Char Dham Yatra. On the first day of the registration process, a total of 18.25 lakh pilgrims registered, which is said to be a record figure. According to district administration officials, the offline registration process began on Friday, with 2,713 pilgrims registering on the first day. This manual process was

initiated before the formal start of the pilgrimage, which will commence on Sunday. For the convenience of pilgrims, special teams are being deployed at various transit points to facilitate on-the-spot registration. According to offline registration data, 683 pilgrims registered for Yamunotri, 690 for Gangotri, 667 for Kedarnath, and 673 for Badrinath on the first day. This number shows



that the faith and enthusiasm of devotees towards the four Dhams remains the same. Meanwhile, the online registration process has been ongoing since March 6th. Approximately 18.25 lakh pilgrims have registered online so far. Combining both online and offline data, the total number has reached 18.25 lakh, reflecting the growing interest in this year's pilgrimage.

Lord Parashurama is worshipped by all the society

Kapil Bhargava

In fact, religion can be understood simply and concisely as those socially accepted beliefs that, no matter how powerful a person becomes, cannot harm another, and remain balanced and disciplined. It is this religious policy that creates various forms of God to instill humanity, to combat oppression, incest, and to uplift saints and sages, so that the wicked can be destroyed, for the welfare of the world, and to protect the religion that keeps humans within their limits. Lord Parashurama was one such devout man who, under the influence of anger, was no less than death for the unrighteous. Parashurama symbolizes valor. Rama is synonymous with eternal truth. Thus, Parashurama means the bearer of

valor and upholder of truth.

Parashurama, the sixth incarnation of Lord Vasudeva Narayana, is considered a symbol of weapons and scriptures. Lord Parashurama possessed equal mastery over weapons and scriptures, and there has been hardly anyone as valorous as him. Lord Parashurama was the fourth child of Mother Renuka and Sage Jamdagni. He is also known as Bhargava. Parashurama was born on Akshaya Tritiya, and therefore, the birth anniversary of Parashurama is celebrated every year on Akshaya Tritiya. Lord Parashurama was born from the womb of Mother Renuka on the third day of the Shukla Paksha (waxing phase) of the month of Vaishakha, during the first quarter of the night under the Punarvasu Nakshatra, with Rahu positioned

in the Gemini sign, along with the auspicious planets. Experts say that this date should be observed as Pradosh Vaypini, as the time of Lord Parashurama's appearance coincides with Pradosh Kaal. Lord Parashurama was born before Lord Rama. Parashurama was the sixth incarnation of Lord Vishnu, while Shri Ram was the seventh. Their union is seen in the episode of Shiva breaking the bow during the swayamvar organised by King Janak, the king of Mithila.

The life of Lord Parashurama is an immortal saga of struggle against injustice, oppression, and unrighteousness. Parashurama's personality exemplifies the remarkable integration of scriptures and weapons in Indian culture. The valor of Lord Parashurama can be gauged from the fact that his mere arrival

instilled fear in the minds of tyrants and the people became fearless. It would be a grave mistake to categorize him in a caste-based category, for, regardless of the caste in which he was incarnated, he embodies social equality, human welfare, and accessible justice. History bears witness that whenever demonic forces became dominant and human communities were distressed by their misdeeds, injustice, and oppression, God himself incarnated and meted out severe punishment. A look at Parashurama's life reveals that he repeatedly eradicated demonic forces. His valor was as radiant as the sun, as unshakable as Mount Sumeru. He could travel anywhere at the speed of his own will. He established eternal human values by destroying the unrighteous. He dedicated his entire life to aus-

terity and public welfare. His penance on Mount Mahendra and his donation of his entire land to the sage Kashyapa are supreme examples of his renunciation and selfless action.

Know how Jamadagni's son Parashurama came to be known

Lord Parashurama's name in childhood was Ram. His parents used to call him Ram in his childhood. Lord Parashurama is said to be the sixth incarnation of Lord Vishnu. When he grew up, his father asked him to worship Lord Shiva. On his father's orders, he immersed himself in the penance of Lord Shiva. Mahadev, the Supreme God, was very pleased with his intense penance and ordered him to destroy the demonic power and establish Dharma. During this time, Lord Shiva gave him a weapon called Parashu (axe).

Editorial

Questions and doubts on delimitation

Former Chief Election Commissioner of India, S.Y. Qureshi, warns that if we rely on delimitation, the women's reservation law will only be implemented by the 2034 general elections. If women are to be given participation in political and policy-making, a 50% formula could be used to allocate seats. For example, according to the electoral mandate received by the BJP-NDA, they have a total of 292 seats in the Lok Sabha. By adding 50%, or 146, to this total, these seats could be reserved for women. Similarly, 116 more seats could be added to the opposition's 233 seats. Since the amendment bill would increase the Lok Sabha from 543 to 815, with 33% reserved for women, this would mean 273 women could become MPs. The former Chief Election Commissioner estimates that the census that has begun will continue until 2027. The results may take so long to be compiled that the 2029 general elections appear imminent. If delimitation is or is to be based on the 2011 population of over 1.21 billion, it would be fundamentally inconsistent and inconsistent, given the country's current population of over 1.476 billion. Isn't there a difference between the two censuses? Can delimitation reflect the growth, expansion, and geographical changes of the current population based on the old population? Delimitation should not be based on the government's whims. Of course, the Delimitation Commission is constituted under the chairmanship of a current or former Supreme Court judge, and its findings cannot be challenged in any court. Nevertheless, Parliament's approval of the Commission's report is mandatory, and then the President's approval is the final decision. Some cases in Jammu and Kashmir and Assam, after delimitation, have emerged that are so unbalanced and unequal that the integrity of the delimitation process can be questioned and doubted. The constitutional amendment on the "Nari Shakti Vandan Act" introduced in the Lok Sabha may have already been divided, or the opposition may have opted for a mass walkout! We will analyze this later, as this development was scheduled to take place by Friday evening.

Akshaya Tritiya is a divine journey from the world to the beyond

Lalit Garg



The festival of Akshaya Tritiya holds special significance not only in the Sanatan tradition but also in the Jain tradition. It holds significance in both temporal and transcendental perspectives. The word Akshaya means never-ending. In Sanskrit, Akshaya means 'prosperity, hope, happiness, and success,' while Tritiya means 'the third phase of the moon.' This festival is also a timeless auspicious and auspicious day, when marriages and other auspicious ceremonies can be performed without any auspicious time. Embedded in various cultural and auspicious frameworks, Akshaya Tritiya represents a unique confluence of Hindu and Jain religions, cultures, and traditions. Thus, the activities performed on Akshaya Tritiya, such as chanting, performing penance, performing yagnas, offering prayers to ancestors, and offering charity, yield everlasting results.



Lord Adinath was the first to emphasize the importance of charity in society. Therefore, on this day, Jains donate food, knowledge, and medicine. No matter how different the paths, the respect shown by all castes, classes, creeds, communities, and religions for this festival conveys a cherished message of unity in integrity. In today's time of war, terror, economic competition, and unrest, the everlasting tradition of restraint and austerity, of materialism and spirituality, needs to become a part of everyone's lifestyle.

Akshaya Tritiya is not just a date, but a symbol of the unbroken flow of Indian consciousness that elevates life from transience to eternity. "Akshaya" means that which never diminishes, that which constantly flows. This festival of such a spirit holds profound meaning at every level, from our worldly behavior to our spiritual practices. This day is not only a day of beginnings, but also a day of self-revelation. In Indian tradition, Akshaya Tritiya is called "Abujh Muhurat"—a time that requires no special calculations or astrological considerations. It is itself synonymous with auspiciousness. This is why many auspicious events such as marriages, housewarmings, and business launches are performed without hesitation on this day. This belief is not merely a matter of faith, but rather a result of cultural experience that has given this day the recognition of "all-prospering." From a secular perspective, Akshaya Tritiya is deeply connected to the Indian economy and labor culture. This day brings a message of renewed hope for farmers. In ancient times, the tradition of kings gifting seeds to outstanding farmers was not merely a symbol of respect, but a living testimony to the belief that agriculture is the soul of the nation. The belief that the food produced from these seeds would never run out was actually a belief in the harmony of labor and nature that is the foundation of Indian life. This day also holds special significance for potters, craftsmen, and animal herders—especially those who rear bulls. This festival reminds us that

gratitude to creation, labor, and nature are the true foundations of prosperity. But the true beauty of Akshaya Tritiya is revealed in its transcendental dimension, where it becomes a grand festival of self-purification, penance, and meditation. In the Jain tradition, this day is especially revered because it is linked to a very important event in the life of the first Tirthankara, Lord Rishabhdev. This is the day when after a long period of penance, he attained salvation, a moment which gave satisfaction to the penance and completeness to the sadhana.

According to legend, when Lord Rishabhdev renounced his kingdom and embraced renunciation, he went without proper food for over a year. This wasn't merely a material deprivation, but also a reflection of the social immaturity of that era, where people were unaware of the concepts of a "non-violent diet" and a "restrained life." Finally, in Hastinapur, Prince Shreyans offered him sugarcane juice and concluded his penance. At that moment, the cry of "Ahodanam, Ahodanam" resounded. It wasn't merely a joy, but a declaration of a historical consciousness that shaped a new direction in charity, restraint, and spiritual practice. This is why Akshaya Tritiya is the culmination day of great penance rituals like "Varshitapa" for Jain ascetics. Those who observe a year-long continuous fast perform the final parting on this day. This penance is not merely a means of torturing the body, but a process of purifying the soul. It teaches us that life becomes eternal not through enjoyment but through sacrifice. The spiritual message of Akshaya Tritiya is profound. It tells us that the true purpose of life is not merely the accumulation of resources, but the purification of the soul. In Indian culture, the soul is considered the supreme truth, and its discovery is life's highest pursuit. This festival is an invitation to that very discovery, an invitation that takes us on a journey from the external world to the internal. The life of Rishabhdev is deeply inspiring in this context. The word 'Rishabh' also means bull—a symbol of labor, patience, and stability—and

Tirthankara—a Tirthankara who paves the way for self-salvation and public welfare. Thus, his life is a wonderful synthesis of both material and spiritual dimensions. He gave society useful life-supporting skills like agriculture, crafts, and trade, and also showed the path to soul liberation. This same holistic philosophy is also reflected in the philosophy of Akshaya Tritiya.

In today's context, this festival becomes even more relevant. When human life is caught up in the race for material achievements, Akshaya Tritiya teaches us the lesson of balance. It reminds us that life is not complete with material prosperity alone. If there is no inner peace, even external splendor is meaningless. And if there is inner contentment, life can become eternal even with limited resources. This festival also teaches us that spiritual practice is not limited to monasteries and ashrams. It is possible in every action of life, provided there is a sense of awareness, restraint, and dedication. When a farmer sows seeds with devotion, when a potter shapes clay, when a householder faithfully performs his duties—all of them are also performing a form of spiritual practice.

Akshaya Tritiya also has profound cultural significance. This festival symbolizes the syncretic vision of Indian life, in which materialism and spirituality are not contradictory but complementary. Here, food is revered, as is the soul. Here, labor is valued, as is meditation. This balance is the greatest characteristic of Indian culture. On a personal level, this day provides an opportunity for introspection. It inspires us to reflect on our own lives: are we merely consumed, or is there a higher purpose? Are we merely accumulating, or are we also able to sacrifice something? Are we merely beautifying the external world, or are we also illuminating the inner world?

Akshaya Tritiya gives us the message that if we incorporate austerity, restraint, and service into our lives, our lives too can become immortal. This immortality is not limited to wealth or material things, but rather to virtue, peace, and spiritual satisfaction, which never ends.

Is the government trapped in its own web with the Women's Reservation Amendment Bill?

Sanat Jain

Recent political developments regarding women's reservation have brought to the forefront several crucial questions of Indian democracy. The Women's Reservation Act, known as the Nari Shakti Vandan Act 2023, was passed in 2023. The government deliberately delayed implementing this bill. After the bill passed in Parliament, the government did not even issue a notification. The bill stipulated that it would be implemented after the census and delimitation. The government made no effort to implement this in the last three years. While elections were underway in five states, the government suddenly sought to seize delimitation powers under the guise of the Women's Reservation Bill. A special session of Parliament

was called for this purpose. The government attempted to mislead the opposition under the guise of the Women's Bill. The opposition understood this. For the first time in the last 12 years, the opposition united. The government suddenly introduced an amendment bill and tried to pass it. The government was overconfident. With the West Bengal and Tamil Nadu assembly elections still to be held, the opposition would be unable to oppose it even if it wanted to. The government's intentions were not fulfilled; instead, the government is deeply cornered. The lack of a required majority in the Lok Sabha stalled the bill, posing a significant risk to its strategy and future political decisions. When the government passed this bill in 2023, it stipulated that women's reservations would be

implemented after the census and subsequent delimitation process were completed before implementing reservations. The government did not initiate the census in the last three years. No concrete action regarding delimitation could be taken until the census was conducted. When the original law was not notified, amending it was not in accordance with the rules. It was natural for the opposition to object. Did the government itself want women's reservations to be implemented? The main reason for this was the opposition parties' demand for a caste census and caste-based reservations. The debate in Parliament has revealed an important fact: the opposition is not against women's reservations. The opposition is questioning the conditions and process of reservations.

The opposition demanded that the government implement women's reservations based solely on the number of current MPs. The opposition has been opposing the indefinite postponement of women's reservation from the outset. In contrast, the government wants to move forward with the process by making delimitation a mandatory condition. This raised suspicion. The government, seeking political advantage, introduced three amendment bills linking the women's reservation issue to the Women's Reservation Bill. This has led to a sharp opposition offensive. The government's failure to secure a two-thirds majority in the vote indicates a lack of consensus between the government and the opposition in Parliament. The 298 votes in favor and 230 against indicate that

the issue is not merely a matter of numbers, but also of trust and transparency. Rarely in the past decade has the opposition challenged the government with such unity. This development is not limited to the Women's Reservation Bill; it will also have far-reaching political consequences in the future. Rising inflation, unemployment, public discontent is growing due to economic inequality. In such a situation, ambiguity and hasty decisions on a sensitive issue like women's reservation could create problems for the government in the future. The ruling party is portraying this as negative opposition politics. The truth is, lawmaking in a democracy is not just a game of majority. Consensus and trust between the ruling party and the opposition are essential.

Delhi CM Rekha slams Opposition for 'stalling' Women's Reservation Bill

New Delhi, (GNS): Delhi Chief Minister Rekha Gupta on Friday criticised Opposition parties over developments in the Lok Sabha, terming the situation "painful and deeply disappointing" for women across India.

Referring to the Nari Shakti Vandan Act, Gupta said the legislation represented a "historic and transformative" step towards women's empowerment under the leadership of Narendra Modi. She alleged that preventing the passage of the Constitutional Amendment amounted to an injustice to women aspiring for greater participation in govern-



As a woman Chief Minister, this issue is not merely political but one of deep sensitivity and respect," she said, adding that the opportunity for crores of women to take part in decision-making had been denied.

Gupta further accused the Congress and its allies of repeatedly creating obstacles in the path of women's rights, stating that their stance reflected their intent on the issue. She expressed confidence that women voters across the country would take note of the developments. Echoing similar views, Delhi BJP president Virendra

Sachdeva said Opposition parties stood "exposed" for their alleged anti-women position. He claimed that parties such as the Congress, RJD and SP had opposed the provision of 33 per cent reservation for women linked with the expansion of parliamentary seats. Sachdeva also questioned why successive governments between 1971 and 2009 did not prioritise increasing the number of parliamentary seats through delimitation, arguing that broader consensus was required for the reform. The BJP leadership maintained that it remains committed to advancing women's empowerment and ensuring greater representation of women in legislative bodies, even as the political debate over the bill continues.

New Delhi, (GNS): US President Donald Trump on Friday congratulated former Indian ambassador to US Taranjit Singh Sandhu on his appointment as the lieutenant governor of Delhi while also lauding Sandhu's contributions to strengthening India-US ties.

"Congratulations to Taranjit Sandhu on becoming the new Lt Governor of Delhi! As a seasoned Diplomat and former Ambassador to the United States, he has always shown deep commitment to strengthening the U.S.-India relationship. Wishing him success in leading Delhi's progress, and furthering global ties!" Trump said on social media. Sandhu was appointed the LG on March 5 and took oath on March 11. He said Delhi was his 'karmabhoomi' and he will work with all stakeholders and turn challenges into opportunities and will work for the city's development.

Since assuming office, Sandhu



has been visiting different parts of Delhi to review development work and civic infrastructure.

He has held frequent review meetings with chief minister Rekha Gupta, ministers and senior officials across departments, including coordination with the Delhi Police to address law-and-order and traffic management.

For traffic management he has put emphasis on easing congestion, which includes involving RWAs. He has asked officials to work on inter-agency coordination and time-bound resolution of urban issues affecting daily life.

Four more arrested in Vasant Vihar assault on Army officer, son

New Delhi, (GNS): Four more people have been arrested in connection with the assault of a serving brigadier and his son in southwest Delhi's Vasant Vihar on Saturday, taking the total number of arrests to six.

The accused have been identified as Surjit Singh (36), Sunil Sharma (53), Ashish (32) and Satender (35), residents of Mehram Nagar in southwest Delhi and Bhiwani in Haryana. Earlier, Satender alias Sonu (49) and Sanjay Sharma (56), both from Mehram Nagar, were arrested. Police said Satender and Sanjay were in an SUV when they were confronted by the Army officer and his son for



consuming liquor in a public place inside the vehicle. Investigations revealed that Surjit was acquainted with the main accused, Satender. The group was reportedly together in Mehram Nagar when Surjit

received a call from Satender regarding the quarrel. They then drove to the spot in Surjit's white car.

A police officer said a confrontation had taken place upon their arrival, following

which they returned home and went into hiding after learning that a case has been filed. "They were arrested from Delhi and the car used in the incident has been seized," the officer added.

Satender is a director at a firm providing aviation services, including chartered and cargo flights, and also involved in the sale and purchase of aircraft and related parts, said police. Sanjay runs a dhaba in Mehram Nagar.

An FIR has been registered at Vasant Vihar police station under sections 115 (voluntarily causing hurt), 126 (wrongful restraint), 351 (criminal intimidation), 79 (word, gesture or act intended to insult

the modesty of a woman), 191 (rioting) and 190 (every member of an unlawful assembly guilty of an offence committed in pursuit of a common object) of Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita.

The brigadier's wife told Media earlier that when the family had stepped out for a stroll around 9.45pm on Saturday, she was walking slightly behind her husband and son, who noticed two men consuming liquor inside a car parked near the society gate. In her complaint, she alleged that when they had objected to the drinking, the men misbehaved, used abusive language and passed remarks that outraged her modesty.



50-kg Indian flapshell turtle rescued in East Delhi

New Delhi, (GNS): In a quiet neighbourhood of East Delhi, a chance encounter between residents and a struggling reptile turned into a story of timely compassion and conservation.

A nearly 50-kg Indian flapshell turtle was rescued near a polluted water body in Harsh Vihar, Mandoli, after a local family spotted it floundering near the edge of a contaminated stretch. The freshwater turtle, a species protected under Schedule I of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972, bore minor abrasions, likely from contact with nearby asphalt and debris. What could have ended in distress for the reptile instead became an example of citizen awareness. The family, recognising the danger, carefully moved the turtle into a container and contacted the Wildlife SOS helpline.

Responding swiftly, the organisation's Rapid Response Unit reached the site and secured the animal, ensuring minimal stress during handling. The turtle was transported to a transit facility for assessment before being released into a safer habitat. The episode underscores the fragile coexistence between urban expansion and wildlife. Once thriving in ponds, marshes and slow-moving rivers, flapshell turtles now increasingly encounter degraded habitats due to pollution and encroachment.

Urban environments can be extremely challenging for aquatic species," said Kartick Satyanarayan, co-founder and CEO of Wildlife SOS. He noted that the family's quick response helped prevent further harm to the animal. Echoing the sentiment, Geeta Seshamani highlighted the importance of seeking professional help when encountering wildlife. "The right intervention ensured the turtle received care without unnecessary handling," she said. As temperatures rise and water sources shrink or become more polluted, such encounters may become more frequent.

Father-son duo stabbed to death in south Delhi's Alaknanda, neighbour on run

New Delhi, (GNS): A 60-year-old man and his 40-year-old son were stabbed to death, allegedly by one of their neighbours, in south Delhi's Alaknanda on Friday evening. A relative of the victims who tried to intervene was also injured in the attack.

The incident took place in Tara Apartments. Police suspect a financial dispute may have led to the killings.

The victims, identified as Rakesh Sood and his son Karan, lived in O block and had a property business.

A senior police officer said the suspect, identified by police as a resident of F block, visited their flat on Friday, where an argument quickly escalated. During the heated exchange, the suspect allegedly attacked the father-son duo with a knife, stabbing them repeatedly.



Alaknanda twin murders: Raids on to nab suspect: Both the men sustained multiple injuries and collapsed just outside their flat. A relative who attempted to intervene was also attacked. Following the assault, the suspect fled.

On discovering the injured, Sood's family members and neighbours immediately rushed them to a nearby hospital. They were later moved to Max Hospital for treatment. However, the father and his

son succumbed to their injuries.

Police teams were alerted shortly after the incident and arrived at the apartment complex. The area was cordoned off and forensic experts were called in to inspect the flat and collect evidence.

An initial examination of the scene pointed to a violent and targeted attack. Five police teams have been formed and raids are being conducted to trace and arrest the suspect, who is absconding. CCTV footage is also being analysed, police said.

The twin murders, meanwhile, have left the residents in shock. "I was at home and rushed to the spot after hearing some commotion... there was a lot of blood everywhere, and police subsequently arrived," said a resident, not wishing to be named.

NBCC auctions 14L sq ft of commercial space in Sarojini Nagar

New Delhi, (GNS): Govt-owned NBCC has auctioned 14 lakh sq ft of commercial space in Bharat Business Park in South Delhi's Sarojini Nagar for Rs 5,779 crore. This is the highest-ever sale value recorded in a single e-auction by National Buildings Construction Corporation (NBCC), the company said.

The e-auction, which saw participation from international and domestic MNCs, other corporates and institutional buyers, had offered super built-up area of approximately 23.44 lakh sq ft across eight towers. Of this, super built-up area of approximately 14 lakh sq ft was auctioned in five towers.

As per NBCC, average sale rate in the e-auction was Rs 41,207 per sq ft, which was 5% more than reserve price. "The funds realised



through this e-auction will be utilised for financing various ongoing redevelopment works, supporting project completion timelines and meeting financial obligations under housing and urban affairs ministry," NBCC said. It will get a marketing fee of 1% of sale value. The agency has been developing and selling commercial space in South Delhi on behalf of govt. Bharat Business Park (BBP) will be developed as a modern commercial office complex to provide office infrastructure.

DDA prepares to open parts of Bharat Vandana Park next month

New Delhi, (GNS): Delhi Development Authority (DDA) will finally open parts of Bharat Vandana Park, including the Mini India zone, in May.

Spread over 200 acres, the recreational project is designed in the form of a lotus, with each of its 10 petals representing a distinct theme and activity zone. The Mini India zone, featuring

replicas of 37 monuments from all states and Union territories, has been designed to offer visitors an immersive journey through the country's architectural and cultural diversity, said an official. The park will also include a congregation zone, Vandana Sarovar with a boating waterbody for leisure, a meditation zone for wellness and reflec-

tion, a cultural zone, a Fun Park with animatronics for families, an open-air theatre for performances, Pushpkriti Vatika, lake-view restaurants and adventure sports facilities.

To connect the zones, sky bridges and water canals are being developed, offering scenic views across the park. "Spread across an expansive area, the

park features an 18km network of pedestrian pathways and a dedicated tram corridor," said the official. One of the key highlights will be an 18-metre-high pylon bridge with a 1.2km skywalk, supported by nine pylons rising 45 metres each, which is pending completion due to approvals from the airport authority.

Bond between pets, caregivers must be given due consideration in disputes over custody: HC

New Delhi, (GNS): Pets cannot be treated as "inanimate objects", Delhi high court has said, emphasising that the emotional bond between pets and their caregivers must be given due consideration in disputes over custody. It pointed out that unlike objects, animals are sentient beings and develop strong emotional connections with those who care for them. HC was hearing a case involving three rescued pet dogs that were recovered during a police raid linked to allegations of animal cruelty.

Once they were rescued, the police handed over the canines to an NGO which later

ensured they were handled properly by interested care givers. However, a man claiming to be their original owner sought their return and got an order from the trial court to secure the three dogs custody, leading to the caregivers challenging the same in HC.

"One cannot ignore the emotional bond that gets created between the person adopting the pet and the pet itself," HC said as it noted that separating pets from their adoptive caregivers could cause significant emotional trauma to the animals, and such factors must be kept in mind while deciding custody issues.

WESTERN RAILWAY				
Material Management Department				
VARIOUS MATERIALS SUPPLY				
E-PROCUREMENT TENDER NOTICE No. S/19/2026 Date 15.04.2026				
S.N.	Tender No	Short Description of Items	Quantity	T.O.D.
122	112550355B	Oil Fired interconnected Boiler of capacity 4000 Kg/Hr and 2000 Kg/Hr conforming to IBR norms	1 Nos	20-May-26
123	26267078	Running Contract of one year for supply of Thick Web Switch Expansion Joint (TWSEJ) as per RDSO Drg. No: T-8822	785 Set	15-May-26
124	22253635A	End frame non driving end assly. (Machined)	63 Nos	15-May-26
125	22263286	Aluminium impeller for oil cooling blower	193 Nos	11-May-26
126	09252056C	Bearing shield DE side [End shield]	35 Nos	06-May-26

WESTERN RAILWAY				
VARIOUS WORKS				
Divisional Railway Manager (WA), Western Railway, 6th floor, Engg. Deptt., Mumbai Central, Mumbai - 400 008. Invites E-Tender				
Sr. No.	Tender Notice No. & Date	Work and Location	Approx. cost of work in ₹	EMD ₹
1.	BCT/26-27/17 dt.15/04/2026	(1) Matunga Road Colony - Repairs to Roof Leakage, toilet, Kitchen, Platforms, Safety Doors, Fencing etc. at Matunga Road Colony. (2) Matunga Road Colony - Repairs to quarters in connection with change in occupation of officers accommodation at Officer's quarters at Matunga Road and repairs to weather shed, balconies and building surrounding plinth protection & flooring to prevent leakage and seepage in Officer's flats at Matunga Road. (3) Repairs to Plaster and painting of the External Areas in Matunga Road & Dadar Colony.	₹ 3,20,80,120.26	₹ 6,41,600.00
2.	BCT/26-27/18 dt.15/04/2026	Provision of roof shed on roof of Bandra terminus, Mahalaxmi RPF Barrack in connection with the work of Mumbai Division - Provision of roof shed on roof of Bandra terminus, Mahalaxmi and Valsad RPF barrack.	₹ 96,27,375.07	₹ 1,92,600.00
3.	BCT/26-27/19 dt.15/04/2026	Bandra (east and west railway colony)- Need based repair on day to day basis for a period of 730 days.	₹ 1,06,17,032.55	₹ 2,12,400.00

WESTERN RAILWAY				
VARIOUS WORKS				
Sr. DEN (South) Mumbai Central invites E-tender				
Sr. No.	Tender Notice No. & Date	Work and Location	Approx. cost of work in ₹	EMD ₹
1.	BCT/26-27/13 dt.13.04.2026	Churchgate-Virar Section:- Providing lighting arrangement on hiring basis in connection with various sanctioned track works of 24-25 & 25-26 between Churchgate-Virar Section.	₹ 82,76,300.00	₹ 1,65,500.00
2.	BCT/26-27/14 dt.13.04.2026	Churchgate-Virar Section:- Welding of 60 kg 90 UTS & R-260 grade rails in situ and Supply of welding portion of R-260 grade rails with prefabricated moulds and automatic taping thimble with single shot crucible fitted under Sr. DEN (S) Mumbai Central Section in connection with sanctioned track work in the year 25-26.	₹ 1,13,69,197.97	₹ 2,27,400.00
3.	BCT/26-27/15 dt.13.04.2026	Churchgate-Virar Section:- Removal and disposal of muck, garbage, plastic, plastic bags, papers and other waste materials from the track under ADEN (T/N) Borivali Section.	₹ 91,34,021.00	₹ 1,82,700.00

Weaving history and craftsmanship to showcase saree legacy

New Delhi, (GNS): The handloom, unlike a powerloom that functions with mechanical precision, echoes the rhythm of the weaver's heartbeat.

This sentiment set the tone for a first-of-its-kind exposition organised by Bangladesh high commission in India, celebrating the country's rich handloom legacy with a special focus on sarees from two of its most storied weaving centres, Tangail and Pabna.



At the venue in Delhi, yards of fabric flowed like rivers with crimson merging into indigo and yellow brushing against soft ivory. Each saree seemed to hold a story, drawing visi-

tors in. They shuffled between the displays, fingers grazing the textures, pausing, reconsidering and often circling back, unable to settle on one.

With over 300 sarees on display, the exhibition - inaugurated on Friday in the presence of diplomats, cultural figures and textile enthusiasts and open to the public till April 21 - offers both abundance and artistry. At its core lies the legacy of Tangail sarees, whose origins stretch back centuries. Shaped in the fertile riverine delta of

Bangladesh, these sarees are celebrated for their fine cotton, airy textures and delicate motifs. They are versatile enough for use as everyday wear, yet elegant enough for ceremonial occasions. A defining feature of these sarees is their intricate weaving technique, where extra weft threads are used to create motifs directly on the loom. This approach shares a philosophical kinship with the jamdani weaving, though Tangail expresses it in a more structured and accessible form.

Armed men hold family of 4 captive in Delhi escape with valuables; house help key accused

New Delhi, (GNS): In a daring evening heist in Lutyens' Delhi, one of the city's most guarded enclaves, a group of armed burglars held a prominent liquor firm owner and his family captive at their home in Golf Links on Thursday evening before fleeing with a massive haul of cash and jewellery. Police said the crime was orchestrated with the help of a recently hired, unverified domestic help who had joined work last week.

The incident unfolded around 7pm when six masked men barged into the victim's home, gaining entry after the domestic help allegedly opened the door. Once inside, the group moved



with precision, immediately seizing control of the household, said police. The family of four, which included a child, was held captive and subjected to severe threats. Initial reports suggested the burglars used the child's presence as leverage to ensure total compliance, demanding the keys to the household safe and all visible valuables.

During a tense standoff that lasted about 15 minutes, the burglars, carrying break-in tools and rods, ransacked the premises. According to a police source, the family members resisted and put up a brave fight, prompting a scuffle during which they were roughed up.

Head Constable Injured After Being Hit by Fleeing Vehicle During Night Patrol, Driver Escapes

New Delhi, (GNS): A head constable was injured after being hit by a vehicle during a late-night patrol in Mandir Marg in Delhi.

The incident happened on April 13 around 11 pm. Head constable Mahender, along with constable Dipesh, had noticed a black car parked suspiciously on Vande Matram road near Hanuman Mandir. When Mahender approached the

driver to question the stoppage on a busy road, the driver appeared nervous and quickly drove away towards Dhaula Kuan.

The police team pursued the vehicle on motorcycle. Near Shankar Chowk, the driver, while trying to flee, struck the police motorcycle. The collision caused the motorcycle to crash, leaving the head constable seriously injured.

Sukesh Chandrashekhar case: Jacqueline Fernandez seeks to turn approver; Delhi court seeks ED response

New Delhi, (GNS): A Delhi court on Friday sought a response from Enforcement Directorate (ED) on a plea by actor Jacqueline Fernandez seeking to turn approver in a Rs 200-crore money laundering case involving alleged conman Sukesh Chandrashekhar.

Special judge Prashant Sharma issued the notice to the agency and listed the matter for hearing on April 20.



The development comes amid proceedings in the high-profile case, where Fernandez was named as an accused for the first time in a supplementary

chargesheet filed by ED.

The actor had earlier challenged the Enforcement Case Information Report (ECIR) before Delhi High Court, which dismissed her petition on July 3 last year.

Subsequently, Supreme Court also declined to interfere with the high court's order, effectively allowing the investigation to proceed. Fernandez was summoned multiple times by ED during the probe. The

case stems from allegations that Chandrashekhar duped the wives of former Ranbaxy promoters, Shivinder Singh and Malvinder Singh, of approximately Rs 200 crore.

According to investigators, Chandrashekhar, along with his wife Leena Paulose and other accused, routed the proceeds of crime through hawala channels and parked the funds using a network of shell companies.

Lured into 'investment', 77-year-old man loses Rs 2.7cr

New Delhi, (GNS): A 77-year-old man in east Delhi has lost his life savings of over Rs 2.7 crore in an alleged investment scam. The retired auto engineer was lured to invest in what appeared to be a legitimate stock trading operation promising high returns.

According to the complaint, the elderly man, a resident of Krishna Nagar, had received a message on WhatsApp and was added to a group with around 100 members. The group appeared credible due to its size and frequent activities, with members regularly sharing stock market advice and trading tips.

The man alleged that the



group was operated by a man who claimed to be the director of a well-known trading platform. He and others in the group encouraged members to invest in shares through a mobile application that closely resembled a legitimate trading app.

Over time, he invested over Rs 2.7 crore from his and his wife's accounts in shares recommended by the

group. The application displayed fake returns, with his portfolio allegedly rising to over Rs 8.2 crore, convincing him to invest more. "In the group, some people would, on a daily basis, share their screenshots of the app claiming profits of Rs 19 lakh to Rs 35 lakh in just a day. The logo of the app and everything else also looked very genuine," he said.

The situation escalated in early March when he was informed about an investment opportunity in a company. He was allegedly allotted 1.6 lakh shares at Rs 804 per share, amounting to over Rs 13 crore. The investment was allegedly adjusted against his subscription account.

200 more e-buses, Delhi-Rohtak bus among Delhi's new transport moves

New Delhi, (GNS): Chief minister Rekha Gupta on Friday flagged off 200 electric buses, launched the Delhi-Rohtak interstate e-bus service and dedicated the Madanpur Khadar bus terminal to the public. She also inaugurated the newly constructed massive budget of Rs 4,000 crore has been allocated for the next four years, under which not only are private vehicles being incentivised with road tax exemptions, but a plan is also ready to transition school buses and commercial vehicles to electric in a phased manner," she said.

The total bus fleet has now crossed 6,300, including over 4,500 e-buses, making Delhi the city with the largest electric bus fleet in the country. Govt aims to increase this number to approximately 14,000 buses by 2028-29. The buses are equipped with CCTV cameras, panic buttons, real-time tracking and features helping differently abled people.



Gupta said electric mobility was being rapidly promoted by Delhi govt to make the capital pollution-free. "Delhi's electric vehicle policy is one of the most effective and comprehensive policies in the country. A massive budget of Rs 4,000 crore has been allocated for the next four years, under which not only are private vehicles being incentivised with road tax exemptions, but a plan is also ready to transition school buses and commercial vehicles to electric in a phased manner," she said.

An official said the Delhi-Rohtak e-bus service was among several govt interstate bus services, which will run from ISBT Kashmiri Gate/Peeragarhi via Tikri border to Bahadurgarh and Rohtak.

Delhi govt plans survey to map industrial growth

New Delhi, (GNS): Delhi govt has planned a comprehensive industrial survey to assess the growth, composition and structure of the organised manufacturing sector in the capital. The exercise will be conducted between April and Sept this year and will cover factories and registered establishments across the city. In a notification issued under the provisions of the Collection of Statistics Act, 2008, the govt has ordered the conduct of the Annual Survey of Industries (ASI) 2024-25 - state sample, which will be carried out by the Directorate of Economics and Statistics, a Delhi govt body responsible for collecting, analysing and publishing official statistical data to support planning, policymaking and governance, covering the entire capital.

An official said the reference period for the survey would be 2024-25, and information would be collected for the financial year from April 1, 2024, to March 31, 2025, or for the accounting year of a unit ending on any date within that period.

The survey aims to capture detailed information on the performance and structure of the organised manufacturing sector, including allied activities such as repair services, gas and water supply, and cold storage. "It will help build a granular and credible database on Delhi's industrial ecosystem and support evidence-based policymaking, promotion of manufacturing, business growth and employment generation," an official said.

According to the notification, accessed by Media, the govt has appointed statistics officers empowered to issue notices, seek information and verify records. These officers may authorise field personnel to visit industrial units, inspect business records and seek clarifications from owners or managers. Field staff will be required to carry identity cards and formal authorisation letters during visits. The data collection will be structured in two parts. The first will focus on financial and operational indicators such as assets and liabilities, receipts and expenses, input materials - both indigenous and imported - and output, including products and by-products. The second part will capture labour-related indicators, including working days, man-days, absenteeism, labour turnover, earnings and social security benefits.

"The survey can play a crucial role in shaping Delhi govt's industrial development strategy in the wake of the changes in the demands, supply chains, labour dynamics, as the govt is pushing for sustainable and technology-driven manufacturing," said the official. According to the notification, the govt has mandated that all informants - including factories registered under the Factories Act, 1948, as well as establishments under laws such as the Companies Act, 2013, and the Shops and Establishments Act - must furnish the required information within the timelines specified in official notices. An official said confidentiality provisions under applicable laws will apply to all data collected.

Three 'Thak-Thak' gang members arrested in separate cases of theft in Delhi

New Delhi, (GNS): Three men allegedly part of "thak-thak" gang were arrested from different parts of the city in separate cases of vehicle theft and distraction-based snatching.

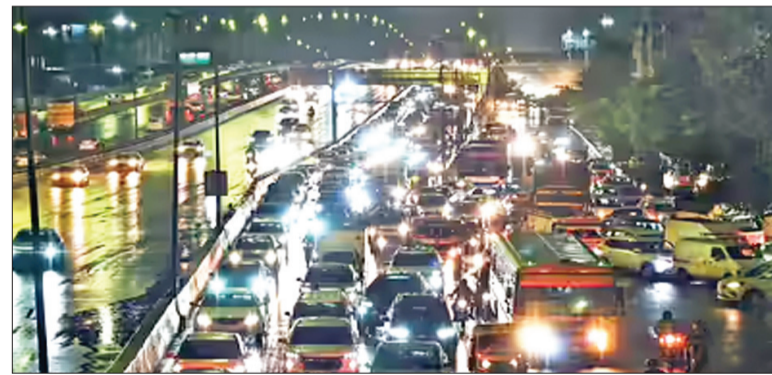
In the first case, two men involved in 16 such cases were arrested near Pushpa Bhawan Bus Stand in South Delhi. The accused have been identified as Rehmat Ali (42), a history-sheeter involved in 23 cases, and his associate Hemant (42), who has 16 criminal cases against him. Both were released from jail in 2024. Deputy commissioner of police (south) Anant Mittal said police received information that the duo would arrive around 10.20 pm on April 14 to sell stolen mobile phones. A trap was laid, and they were arrested.

Delhi sees 3 seasons in a day:

Hazy start, mercury hits 41°C, pounding rain

New Delhi, (GNS): The city reeled under extreme heat for the fourth consecutive day on Friday, with the maximum temperature soaring to 41 degrees Celsius, the highest of the season, before an unexpected spell of rain cooled it down considerably.

Strong thunderstorms, intense rain and gusty winds swept across Delhi-NCR in the evening, catching both residents and India Meteorological Department (IMD) off guard. It also brought traffic to a near standstill across multiple key routes,



leaving commuters stranded.

IMD has not predicted rain or thunderstorm for Saturday and Sunday either, expecting the maximum temperature to be 39-

41 degrees Celsius on Saturday and 40-42 on Sunday with partly cloudy skies.

Friday began on a humid note, with hazy conditions and light drizzling reported

in parts of the city. By afternoon, rising humidity levels pushed the temperature well above normal. At base station Safdarjung, the maximum settled at 41 degrees Celsius, four notches above normal, while the minimum was 24 degrees Celsius, also above the seasonal average.

While IMD had earlier forecast "isolated light rainfall with thunderstorm and lightning" over Delhi on April 17, the actual weather turned out to be far more intense and widespread, marking a significant miss in the forecast.

Why Plan To Rid City Forests Of Termites Has Bugged Experts

New Delhi, (GNS): The Delhi forest department has floated a tender for anti-termite treatment using lindane, a banned pesticide, at Central Ridge, where it is developing theme-based "special forests".

Experts have raised concerns over the move, noting that the presence of termites is a natural and healthy indicator in forest ecosystems. They warned that the use of harmful chemicals like lindane and chlorpyrifos in the soil could kill beneficial microbes and fungi, disrupt ecological balance, and pose risks to the health of animals, birds and humans.

They have also warned that theme-based plantations can disturb the ecologically sensitive Central Ridge.

A senior forest official said,



"Termites are an important indicator of soil health and contribute to nutrient cycling in forest ecosystems. However, in newly established plantations, excessive termites can damage young saplings and affect their survival rates. Therefore, limited and need-

based anti-termite treatment will be done only for initial protection of the saplings while they are vulnerable."

The official said the provision for anti-termite treatment has been adopted from the Delhi Schedule of Rates, wherein lindane is mentioned.

"However, considering environmental and health concerns, lindane will not be used. Instead, chlorpyrifos may be used, that too in limited and controlled quantities, strictly for localised application during the initial stage of plantation. Further, wherever feasible, safer and eco-friendly alternatives of anti-termite treatment will be preferred to minimise ecological impact," the official added.

"There was a mistake in this tender, and another one will be issued soon after removing lindane from it," another forest official said.

The March 17 tender mentions the supply and spreading of good-quality "anti-termite (chlorpyrifos 20% EC/lindane 20% EC) free from impu-

rities to all tree saplings (@ 5 ml per plant one time)."

Ecologists said the use of anti-termite treatment is not advisable for ecological restoration of the ridge, which is the green lungs of the city. They said anti-termite treatment is recommended on campuses and in gardens, not in natural forests.

A chapter on ecological impacts of termites in the book, "Termites and Sustainable Management", states that tropical termites may consume up to half of the annual litter production. "During their feeding and nesting activities, termites improve soil aeration, enhance absorption and storage of water in soils, and facilitate carbon fluxes and storage.