

SC adjourns hearing on ED plea to March 18 against I-PAC and Bengal CM

Express News Service New Delhi, February 18

THE SUPREME COURT on Wednesday adjourned the hearing on an Enforcement Directorate (ED) plea seeking a probe into the alleged obstruction of its search operations on political consultancy firm I-PAC and the residence of its founder, Pratik Jain, in Kolkata by CM Mamata Banerjee and others, with the agency claiming that it was "terrorised" and the latter alleging that it is "weaponised".

Senior Advocate Siddharth Luthra, appearing for Kolkata Police DCP Priyabrat Roy, told a bench of Justices P K Mishra and K V Viswanathan that the agency ought to justify its "weaponisation".

Additional Solicitor General S V Raju, representing the ED, said, "It has not been weaponised, it has been terrorised."

Solicitor General Tushar Mehta said the agency is likely to file its rejoinder affidavit on Wednesday, following which the bench decided to adjourn the hearing to March 18.

The court had on January 15 issued notice to Banerjee and top state police officers on ED's plea seeking a CBI probe into the January 8 incident. It also stayed further proceedings in the FIRs registered by the West Bengal Police against ED officials in connection with the raids and directed that CCTV and other devices containing the footage of the search operations be preserved.

The ED's petition alleged Banerjee and others "barged into the premises under the search" and "they not only started intimidating and threatening the officers but also snatched the files and electronic evidence containing incriminating material from them". It further claimed they also "snatched" material "earlier taken into possession by the officers... during their official duty as a part of the collection of evidence under the provisions of the Prevention of Money Laundering Act".

In its counter-affidavit, the West Bengal Police denied its officials had intimidated and threatened ED officials who were carrying out the searches.

State police officers, including then DGP Rajeev Kumar, then Kolkata Police Commissioner Manoj Kumar Verma and DCP Roy, said on the contrary, it was the ED officials who "behaved in a high-handed manner, and have obstructed West Bengal Police".

While ED claimed "a shocking state-of-affairs in Bengal", the state in a separate affidavit "denied that the said writ petition discloses any shocking state of affair in West Bengal".

PM MODI MEETS SPAIN PRESIDENT, FINNISH COUNTERPART Modi says India-EU trade deal ushers in golden era

Press Trust of India New Delhi, February 18

PRIME MINISTER Narendra Modi on Wednesday held separate meetings with President of Spain Pedro Sanchez and Prime Minister of Finland Petteri Orpo, and said the India-EU Free Trade Agreement (FTA) has ushered in a golden era in India-Europe relations.

Modi said he had a productive meeting with President Pedro Sanchez and discussed ways to boost the India-Spain friendship, especially in areas such as defence, security and technology.

"Our nations are marking 2026 as the India-Spain Year of Culture, Tourism and AI. This will deepen people-to-people linkages. Glad to see a big delegation of Universities also come to India. This, too, will go a long way in connecting our people."

"The historic FTA with the EU will have a very positive impact on the economic partnership with Spain and provide new opportunities to the people of our nations," Modi said on X, referring to the landmark FTA sealed on January 27.

President Sanchez said that alongside PM Modi, he noted the excellent state of relations between Spain and India, which the two will continue to strengthen. "I have congratulated him on the organisation of the Summit on the Impact of Artificial Intelligence. We share the need to continue taking steps to



Prime Minister Narendra Modi with President of Spain Pedro Sanchez Perez-Castejon in New Delhi on Wednesday. PTI

wards an AI that puts people at the centre," Sanchez said on X. Modi and Sanchez held talks and reviewed the entire gamut of India-Spain relations, including trade, technology, infrastructure, climate and renewable energy, defence and security, space, culture, tourism and people-to-people exchanges, the PMO said in a statement. They expressed happiness at the progress on Tata-Airbus collaboration for C-295 transport aircraft final assembly line at the Vadodra facility, jointly inaugurated in October 2024.

During his "extensive discussions" with his Finnish counterpart Petteri Orpo, PM Modi thanked him for his personal support to the India-EU FTA, which "ushers in a golden era" in India-Europe relations. "India and Finland aim to

double trade, thus giving a strong boost to economic linkages. We also talked about enhancing cooperation in futuristic technologies like 6G, innovation, clean energy, biofuels, circular economy and more," Modi said on X.

According to another PMO statement, Modi and Orpo welcomed the India-EU FTA, which will serve as a catalyst for shared progress and prosperity. The leaders underscored the pivotal role of digitalisation and sustainability in driving future economic growth and development.

RS polls on March 16; highest seats vacant in Maharashtra

Sharad Pawar, Priyanka Chaturvedi among MPs whose term ends in April

Asad Rehman New Delhi, February 18

THE ELECTION Commission of India on Wednesday issued the notification for elections to 37 Rajya Sabha seats, with polling and counting of votes scheduled for March 16. The term of 37 Rajya Sabha members is set to expire in April.

"Adequate measures for close monitoring of the election process by appointing observers shall be taken to ensure free and fair election," read the notification.

Among those MPs whose terms are ending, seven are from Maharashtra, six from Tamil Nadu, five each from West Bengal and Bihar, four from Odisha, three from Assam, two each from Chhattisgarh, Haryana and Telangana, and one from Himachal Pradesh.

Notable members whose tenures will lapse include NCP (SP) president Sharad Pawar, Shiv Sena (UBT)'s Priyanka Chaturvedi, RPI (ATWL)'s Ramdas Athawale, Trinamool



Chief Election Commissioner Gyanesh Kumar in Guwahati on Wednesday. PTI

Congress's Saket Gokhale, and Rashtriya Lok Morcha's Upendra Kushwaha.

The Rajya Sabha is a permanent House and cannot be dissolved. To ensure continuity, one-third of its members retire after

10 STATES, 37 SEATS

MAHARASHTRA: Dr Bhagwat Kishanrao Karad, Dr Fauzia Tahseen Ahmed Khan, Priyanka Vickram Chaturvedi, Sharadchandra Govindrao Pawar, Dhairyashil Mohan Patil, Rajani Ashokrao Patil, Ramdas Bandu Athawale

Haribansh Narayan Singh ODISHA: Mamata Mohanta, Muzibulla Khan, Sujeet Kumar, Niranjan Bishi

TAMIL NADU: NR Elango, G K Vasani P Selvarasu, M Thambidurai, Tiruchi Siva, Kanimozhi NVN Somu

ASSAM: Rameswar Teli, Ajit Kumar Bhuyan, Bhubaneswar Kalita

WEST BENGAL: Saket Gokhale, Ritabrata Banerjee, Bikash Ranjan Bhattacharyya, Mausam Noor (vacant w.e.f. 05.01.2026), Subrata Bakshi

CHHATTISGARH: Kavi Tejpal Singh Tulsi, Phulo Devi Netam

HARYANA: Kiran Choudhry, Ram Chander Jangra

BIHAR: Amarendra Dhari Singh, Prem Chand Gupta, Ramnath Thakur, Upendra Kushwaha,

TELANGANA: Abhishek Manu Singhvi, K R Suresh Reddy

HIMACHAL PRADESH: Indu Bala Goswami

every second year, under Article 83(1) of the Constitution, and "biennial elections" are held to fill these vacancies. The term of a member is six years. Out of the 245 members, 12 are nominated by the President, and 233 are represen-

tatives of the states and Union Territories of Delhi and Puducherry. Vacancies arising due to resignation, death or disqualification are filled through by-polls. Those elected serve out the remainder of their predecessor's term.

IMPORTANT

Whilst care is taken prior to acceptance of advertising copy, it is not possible to verify its contents. The Indian Express (P) Limited cannot be held responsible for such contents, nor for any loss or damage incurred as a result of transactions with companies, associations or individuals advertising in its newspapers or Publications. We therefore recommend that readers make necessary inquiries before sending any monies or entering into any agreements with advertisers or otherwise acting on an advertisement in any manner whatsoever.

भारतीय वानिकी अनुसंधान एवं शिक्षा पत्रिका INDIAN COUNCIL OF FORESTRY RESEARCH AND EDUCATION (पर्यावरण, वन एवं जलवायु परिवर्तन मंत्रालय, भारत सरकार की एक स्वायत्त निकाय) (An autonomous body of the Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change Government of India) प.० ऑ. न्यू फॉरेस्ट, देहरादून - 248006 (उत्तराखण्ड) P.O. New Forest, Dehradun - 248 006 (Uttarakhand) तिथि विस्तार सूचना / DATE EXTENSION NOTICE विज्ञापित सं. 20/उप महानिदेशक (प्रशासन)/निदेशक-व0अ0सं0, देहरादून/निदेशक-उ0क0व0अ0सं0, जलपुर/2026-मा0वा0अ0शि0प0 Advt. No. 20/DDG(Admin)/Dir-FRI & Dir-TFRI/2026-ICFRE दिनांक 09.01.2026 को भारतीय वानिकी अनुसंधान एवं शिक्षा परिषद में उप महानिदेशक (प्रशासन), निदेशक, वन अनुसंधान संस्थान, देहरादून और निदेशक, उष्णकटिबंधीय वन अनुसंधान संस्थान, जबलपुर के पदों को प्रतिनियुक्ति के आधार पर भरने हेतु आवेदन आमंत्रित किये गए जिसकी अंतिम तिथि 16.02.2026 थी को आगे दिनांक 16.03.2026 तक विस्तारित किया जाता है। On 09.01.2026, Applications were invited for filling up of the post(s) of Dy. Director General(Admin), Director, FRI, Dehradun and Director, Tropical Forest Research Institute, Jabalpur on deputation basis at Indian Council of Forestry Research and Education, Dehradun. The last date for receipt of application which was 16.02.2026 has now been extended till 16.03.2026 सचिव, भा0वा0अ0शि0प0 Secretary, ICFRE

INDEL MONEY Corporate office: Indel Money Limited, 11/rd Floor Indel House, Changampuzha Nagar, South Kalamassery, Ernakulam -682033, Ph: 0484-2933999 E: customercare@indelmoney.com GOLD AUCTION NOTICE

The pledges in specific and the public in general are hereby notified that public auction of the gold ornaments pledged in the below accounts is proposed to be conducted at the following branches on 21-03-2026 at 11:00 am We are auctioning the gold ornaments of the defaulted customers who have failed to make the payment of his/her loan amount despite being notified through various communication. Unauctioned items shall be auctioned on any other days without further notice of changes in venue or date and the same shall be displayed at concerned branches without any further notice. ADHYAPAK NAGAR - 32904530002262, 32904620002169, BADARPUR - 40104640000685, KARAWAL - 33904620002026, 0462/02038, 0462/02054, 0462/02075, 33904640002017, 0464/02041, 0464/02065, 0464/02066, 0464/02070, MAYUR VIHAR - 350046200000675, POOTHKALAN - 34004620001749, 0462/01750, 0462/01772, 0462/01820, 0462/01891, 34004680001837, SHAHADAD DIARY - 33104400001081, 331044620001093, 0462/01108, 0462/01110, VISHNU GARDEN - 354046400000624, GUNA - 36304640001272, HARDA - 40804640000083, IMAMI GATE - 32204530000937, 32204620000985, 0462/00986, 0462/00989, 0462/00990, ITARSI - 32104640001615, 32104640001691, MANDIDEEP - 35204640001036, MARIMATA - 32304620001559, 0462/01584, MHOW - 32404620000915, 32404680000981, FARIDABAD - 33804620001404, 0462/01431, 0462/01435, 0462/01453, FARIDABAD NIT 2 - 43804620000052. In case we are unable to complete the auction at the branch on the notified date, the same will be conducted through Shirram Automall India Limited (SAMIL) on their online e- auction platform https://gold.samil.in or e-Procurement Technologies Limited (AuctionTiger) on their online e- auction platform https://gold.auctiontiger.com on 24-03-2026 between 12.30 PM to 3.30 PM. Please note if the e- auction does not completed on 24-03-2026 the same will be re-auctioned on subsequent working days on the same terms and conditions. By Authorized Officer, Indel Money Limited

Indian Overseas Bank Regional Office : 595, Malik Chowk, Indra Nagar, Dehradun, Uttarakhand-248001 POSSESSION NOTICE (For Immovable Property Rules 8 (1)) Whereas, the undersigned being the authorised officer of the Indian Overseas Bank under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 and in exercise of Powers conferred under section 13(12) read with rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 issued a demand notice on mentioned in the notice calling upon the Borrower/ Guarantor/ Mortgagor to repay the amount mentioned in the notice within 60 days from the date of receipt of said notice. The Borrower/s/ and other having failed to repay the amount, the notice is hereby given to the borrower/ and the public in general that the undersigned has taken possession of the property described herein below in exercise of power conferred on him/her under section 13(4) of the said Act read with rule 8 of the said rules on the date mentioned are below. The borrower's in particular and the public in general are hereby cautioned not to deal with the property and any dealings with the property will be subject to the charge of the INDIAN OVERSEAS BANK. The Borrower's/ attention is invited to provisions of Sub Section (8) of Section 13 of the Act in respect of time available to them, to redeem the secured asset. S. No. Name of the Branch/ Borrower/Guarantor Description of the Immovable Property Date of Possession Date of Demand Notice Outstanding Amount 1. Branch: Jwalapur, Haridwar Equitable Mortgage of immovable property owned by Mr. Shailendra Tiwari S/o Sh. Sachidanand Tiwari and Mrs. Shavi Tiwari W/o Sh. Shailendra Tiwari Residential House belonging to khasra No.2235M situated at Ward No.44, Trimurti Nagar, Subhash Nagar, admeasuring 92.93sq.mtr. Pargana Jwalapur, District-Haridwar-249407, Boundaries :-East- Plot No.-40, West- Plot No.38, North-15 ft. wide road, South- Patti canal. 18.02.2026 11.12.2025 Rs 27,73,666.28 as on 01.02.2026 Symbolic Possession Date of published demand Notice Together with further interest at contractual rates, expenses, and other charges etc from 02.02.2026 17.12.2025 Date: 18.02.2026 Place : Dehradun Authorized Officer, Indian Overseas Bank

AAVAS FINANCIERS LIMITED (CIN:L65922RJ2011PLCO34297) Regd. & Corp. Office: 201-202, 2nd Floor, South End Square, Mansarovar Industrial Area, Jaipur. 302020 AUCTION NOTICE Auction Sale Notice for Sale of Immovable Assets under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with proviso to Rule 8(6) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002. Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower (s) and Guarantor (s) that the below described immovable property mortgaged/charged to the Secured Creditor, the physical possession of which has been taken by the Authorised Officer of AAVAS FINANCIERS LIMITED Secured Creditor, will be sold on "As is where is", "As is what is", and "Whatever there is" basis. The details of the cases are as under. Name of Borrowers/ Co-Borrowers/ Guarantors/Mortgagors Dues As on Date & Amount of 13(2) Demand Notice Date of Possession Description of Property Reserve Price For Property Earnest Money For Property Date & Time of Auction Place of Tender Submission, Tender Open & Auction at Aavas Financiers Ltd. Vandana Devi, Mr. Raj Kumar Singh (AC NO.) LNAL100619-200118636 Rs. 8,41,381.00/- Dues As On 18 Feb 2026 7 Mar 23 Rs. 44,2292/- Dues As On 6 Mar 23 10 Oct 24 Khet Khasra No.44-MI,Situated in Mauja Sukhrawali, Pargana And Teh-Koil, Distt Aligarh Admeasuring 150 Sq.Yards Rs. 486000/- Rs. 48600/- 11.00 Am To 01.00 Pm 09 Mar 2026 2nd Floor, H.M. Complex, Opp. Axis Bank, Janakpuri, Ramghat Road, Aligarh- 202001, Uttar Pradesh-India Terms & Conditions: 1). The person, taking part in the tender, will have to deposit his offer in the tender form provided by the AFL which is to be collected from the above branch offices during working hours of any working day, super scribbling "Tender Offer for name of the property" on the sealed envelope along with the Cheque/DD/pay order of 10% of the Reserve Price as Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) in favour of AAVAS FINANCIERS LIMITED payable at Jaipur on/before time of auction during office hours at the above mentioned offices. The sealed envelopes will be opened in the presence of the available interested parties at above mentioned office of the AAVAS FINANCIERS LIMITED Inter-se bidding, if necessary will also take place among the available bidders. The EMD is refundable if the bid is not successful. 2). The successful bidder will deposit 25% of the bidding amount adjusting the EMD amount as initial deposit immediately or within 24hrs after the fall of the hammer towards the purchase of the asset. The successful bidder failing to deposit the said 25% towards initial payment, the entire EMD deposited will be forfeited & balance amount of the sale price will have to be deposited within 15 days after the confirmation of the sale by the secured creditor; otherwise his initial payment deposited amount will be forfeited. 3). The Authorised officer has absolute right to accept or reject any bid or adjourn/postpone the sale process without assigning any reason therefore. If the date of tender depositing or the date of tender opening is declared as holiday by Government, then the auction will be held on next working day. 4). For inspection and interested parties who want to know about the procedure of tender may contact AAVAS FINANCIERS LIMITED 201,202, 11nd Floor, South End Square, Mansarovar Industrial Area, Jaipur-302020 or Ramesh Choudhary -8690001158 or respective branch during office hours. Note: This is also a 15/30 days notice under Rule 9(1)(8)(6) to the Borrowers/Guarantors/Mortgagor of the above said loan accounts about tender inter se bidding sale on the above mentioned date. The property will be sold, if their out standing dues are not repaid in full. Place : Uttar Pradesh Date : 19-02-2026 Authorized Officer Aavas Financiers Limited

DELHI POLICE SHANTI SEWA NYAYA COURAGE UNWAVERING & FIRM IN EVERY CHALLENGE DELHI POLICE 79th RAISING DAY 2026 Standing firm even in dangerous and risky situations, taking courageous action to protect citizens. 7 DIN 7 SANKALP A SAFE DELHI Delhi Police Week: 16 to 22 February, 2026 1. SERVICE 2. SECURITY 3. DEDICATION 4. COURAGE 5. SENSITIVITY 6. VIGILANCE 7. PARTICIPATION Date: Activities/Event 16.02.2026 Blood Donation Camp across Delhi 17.02.2026 Students' Police Station visit across Delhi 18.02.2026 Programme for Senior Citizens across Delhi 19.02.2026 Engagement with RWA's & MWA's Rural Spots/Eyes & Ears/Prahari Meet across Delhi 20.02.2026 Mega Exhibition at Central Park, CP, Delhi from 20 to 22 Feb., 2026 Kavi Sammelan at Red Fort, Delhi (6:30 PM Onwards) 21.02.2026 Mass Outreach Programme in each Police Station across Delhi Mass Awareness Programme against Drugs Abuse: 1. Anti-Drugs Run from Nehru Park to National Police Memorial (Morning) 2. Musical Evening Programme at Amphitheatre, Central Park, CP, Delhi. (Evening) Crime Branch Strict surveillance and control on criminal activities. Special Cell Tackles terrorism, organized crime, and national security threats. ATS Handles terrorism-related threats and ensures national security. AATS Preventing, detecting, and investigating motor vehicle theft cases. Riot Control/Emergency Response Teams Handle crises and ensure safety of the Citizens. SWAT Handles dangerous operations with specialized training and equipment. CYBER CRIME HELPLINE NO.: 1930 E-mail to CP, Delhi at: cpdelhi@delhipolice.gov.in | Write to CP, Delhi at P.O. Box No. 171, GPO, New Delhi @DelhiPoliceOfficial @DelhiPolice @delhi.police_official @DelhiPoliceofficial delhipolice.gov.in FOR IMMEDIATE POLICE HELP, CALL 112 TO SHARE INFORMATION, CALL 14547