JAL JEEVAN MISSION

Bihar minister disputes Centre data, flags higher number in state scheme

HARIKISHAN SHARMA NEW DELHI, AUGUST 18

BIHAR WATER Resources Minister Sanjay Kumar Jha on Wednesday disputed figures reported by the Centre on the Jal Jeevan Mission (IJM) dashboard, saying only 8.44 lakh tap water connections have been provided in Bihar under the central scheme for rural households, and not 1.46 crore as shown.

The rest of the tap water connections, Iha said, were provided under two other schemes, including Har Ghar Nal Ka Jal scheme which is run by the Nitish Kumar government on its own and which accounts for the largest chunk of the total number.

This is the first time a state one ruled by the JD(U) in alliance with the BJP — has disputed the figures on the JJM dashboard.

Reacting to The Indian Express report based on dashboard figures that say Bihar provided 1.46 crore

India, Australia

New Delhi: Chiefs of the Indian and Australian navies on Wednesday signed a guidance document to streamline interaction between the two forces at

The Navy said in a statement that the signing ceremony for the 'Joint Guidance for the Australia-India Navy to Navy Relationship' document was held via videconference between Navy Chief Admiral Karambir Singh, and Admiral Michael J Noonan, Chief of Navy, Australian Navy.

Australia and India, along China. The navies of the four Quad nations will also partici-



Resources Minister Sanjay Kumar Jha

tap water connections to rural households under the IJM since it began in 2019, Jha in a tweet gave the breakup of the connections under different schemes.

"Thanks to vision of Hon CM Shri @NitishKumar, 87% of Bihar rural households have access to clean tap water. The scheme-wise breakup of tap connections provided in Bihar is as follows: 1. Har Ghar Nal Ka Jal: 152.16 lakh; 2. Jal Ieevan Mission: 8.44 lakh: and 3. NRDWP: 2.32 lakh," tweeted Jha, who is also the national general secretary of the ID(U).

The Bihar minister's objection is significant as Bihar has the single largest contribution in the central data. If Bihar's numbers are

will drop to 3.36 crore from 4.74 $crore\,as\,reported\,on\,the\,J\!JM\,dash$ board on Wednesday.

In his Independence Day speech, Prime Minister Narendra Modi had said: "Iam happy that in just two years of Jal Jeevan Mission, more than 4.5 crore families have started getting tap water."

An email sent by The Indian Express to the spokesperson for Union Jal Shakti Ministry, seeking a response on the data, remained unanswered till press time.

Iha said the Bihar government has provided tap water connections to rural households with its own money. "Our Har Ghar Nal Ka Jal scheme was conceived in 2015 and implemented from 2016. The state government has been running this scheme from its own money. This has been possible only due to personal monitoring by Chief Minister Nitish Kumar.' he told *The Indian Express*.

He said the Bihar government

Samajwadi MP booked for sedition over Taliban remarks

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA SAMBHAL, AUGUST 18

SAMAIWADI PARTY MP Shafigur Rehman Barg has been booked for sedition following his recent remarks allegedly defending the Taliban's takeover of Afghanistan and equating it with India"s own freedom struggle, police said on Wednesday.

He was charged under Indian Penal Code section 124A (sedition) following a complaint from BIP leader Raiesh Singhal on Tuesday, Superintendent of Police Chakresh Mishra said.

Following registration of the case, Barq on Wednesday said he was quoted out of context and wrong charges have been levelled against him.

"I am with the policies of India," he said.

The MP has been also booked under sections 153A (promoting enmity between different groups) and 295A (outraging religious feelings), Mishra said.

Besides Barq, two others -Mohammad Muqueem and Chaudhary Faizan – have been booked under these sections, the officer said. Following the Sambhal MP's remarks, Samajwadi Party workers Muqueem and Faizan posted material on social media in support of the Taliban, according to

Responding to questions from reporters on Monday, Lok Sabha member Barq had said the Taliban wanted to free their country and it was Afghanistan's internal matter.

The MP had said that when India was under British Rule, the entire country fought for independence.

The remarks drew sharp criticism from Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath. In the state legislative council, the chief minister on Tuesday slammed the opposition MP.

Speaking to reporters on Wednesday, Barq said, "I have not given any such type of statement, and this is wrong. Whatever be the policy of my country, I will be with it."

from his bench, citing a "likeli-

Nod for Calcutta HC judge who was caught in Mamata row

permanent judge of HC

Justice Chanda made

Justice Chanda was caught in the eye of a political storm in West Bengal when Banerjee sought that the case seeking reevaluation of the Nandigram election results be reassigned

hood of bias".

During the hearing for recusal of the judge, Banerjee had stated that the judge could be biased as the government had opposed the proposal to appoint him as permanent judge since he was an "active member" of

In a letter to Chief Justice (Acting) Rajesh Banerjee's counsel Sanjay Basu had said that the Chief Minister had earlier "conveyed her objections and reservations' Justice Chanda's confirmation as permanent judge, and so there was reasonable apprehension... of bias". Eventually, Justice Chanda recused from hearing the case.

Chanda Additional Solicitor General of India in the High Court in 2015 before his appointment as judge. He has a tenure till 2036 as a judge of the High Court.

Collegium for appointments to High Courts, which comprises Justices U U Lalit and A M Khanwilkar apart from the CJI, also notified that it has approved proposals to appoint six additional judges of the Karnataka High Court as permanent judges of that court.

The six judges are Justices Sanjay Gowda, Jyoti Mulimani, Nataraj Rangaswamy, Hemant Chandangoudar, Pradeep Singh and Yerur Maheshan Nagaprasanna.

For the Telangana High Court, the Collegium recommended appointment of six district judicial officers and a member of the Income Tax Appellate Tribunal as judges.

Those recommended are judges Sree Sudha, C Sumalatha, G Radha Rani, M Laxman, N Tukaramji, A Venkateshwara Reddy and ITAT member P Madhavi Devi.

sign document to boost naval ties

various levels.

with the US and Japan are members of the four-nation Quadrilateral Security Dialogue, or the Quad, which has irked pate in the Malabar Naval Exercise later this year.

PEGASUS CONTROVERSY

SC notice to Centre, Bengal on plea against inquiry panel

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE NEW DELHI, AUGUST 18

SUPREME COURT on Wednesday issued notice on a plea to quash the July 27 notification of the West Bengal government setting up a two-member panel to inquire into allegations of use of Pegasus spyware for illegal surveillance.

A bench of Chief Justice of India N V Ramana and Justices Surya Kant and Aniruddha Bose issued notice to the Centre as well as the West Bengal government, seeking their response, on the plea filed by NGO Global Village Foundation. The bench said the matter will be taken up on August 25 along with other pending petitions seeking courtmonitored inquiry into the con-

Appearing for the Centre, Solicitor General Tushar Mehta termed the constitution of the committee "unconstitutional". Stating that he will assist the bench on the point of constitutionality, he said, "It is unconstitutional is all I can say.

Advocate Saurabh Mishra, who appeared for the petitioner, said the notification is being challenged on grounds of lack of jurisdiction. He sought an interim order in the form of a stay, submitting that the commission had already issued a public notice and proceedings had started and wondered why a state committee should continue while the Supreme Court is already seized of the matter.

The bench turned down the request with Justice Surya Kant observing that it "is only a preliminary exercise".

less than 5 per cent of rural wards

in the state to provide the tap wa-

ter connections to rural house-

holds. "Under @jaljeevan_ Bihar

has done work in 4,891 wards out

of a total of 1,14,651 rural wards.

1,346 wards taken up under the

erstwhile NRDWP. Remaining

1.08.414 wards covered under

state government's Har Ghar Nal

port, he tweeted, "This is a re-

markable story! Giant vision of

CM Shri @NitishKumar of Har

Ghar Nal Ka Jal... has ensured 87%

of rural households in Bihar with

tap water connections - among

said the Centre has released about

Rs 771 crore to Bihar under the JJM

in the past two years, and that

Bihar's performance is better than

other states because it started

working on its own scheme well

before the launch of the JJM.

A source in Jal Shakti Ministry

top 4 best states in India.'

Tagging The Indian Express re-

ka Jal scheme," he tweeted.

The committee comprises former Supreme Court judge Justice Madan B Lokur and former Chief Justice of Calcutta High Court Justice Jyotirmay Bhattacharya. The petition contended that

"considering the seriousness of the issue and the implications on the citizenry of the country as well as its cross border implications, the Pegasus controversy warrants an in-depth investigation. This cannot be carried out in a truncated and unconstitutional manner as is sought to be done by the West Bengal govern-**FULL REPORT ON**

www.indianexpress.com

Punjab ex-DGP Saini arrested in disproportionate assets case him in any case pertaining to any

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE CHANDIGARH, AUGUST 18

APURVA VISHWANATH

THE SUPREME Court Collegium

headed by Chief Justice of India

NV Ramana on Wednesday no-

tified its decision confirming

Justice Kausik Chanda, addi-

tional judge of Calcutta High

Court, as permanent judge of

meeting of the Collegium on

Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee

had told the High Court that

the state government had ob-

iected to the proposal to appoint

Justice Chanda as a permanent

The decision was taken at a

In June this year, West Bengal

that court.

August 17.

NEW DELHI. AUGUST 18

THE PUNJAB Vigilance Bureau arrested former DGP Sumedh Singh Saini on Wednesday night as he went to join an investigation in connection with a disproportionate assets case registered against him on August 2.

Reports, which could not be confirmed, suggested Saini was arrested by the VB in connection with "fresh FIR" relating to alleged irregularities in "recruitment of constables in Punjab Police".

Stating that Saini was a Z-plus category protectee — "meaning there is no chance of his absconding", the Punjab and Haryana High Court had earlier granted him interim anticipatory bail in the corruption case. The court had also directed Saini to surren-



Sumedh Singh Saini

der his passport and join the investigation within a week. Saini's counsel said the former

DGP had gone to join the probe in that case as per court orders when he was arrested. Terming the arrest illegal, he added that according to a High Court order issued last year, a seven-day notice had to be given to Saini before arresting

tachment of house no. 3048. Sector 20-D, Chandigarh, by the court of Special Judge Mohali. Saini has been claiming to be a tenant in the house after his retirement.'

incident during his service career.

Punjab Police said, "He was

formally arrested in another case

for having committed forgery in

order to stall the process of at-

A top functionary of the

Punjab Vigilance Bureau (VB) had on August 2 booked Saini and six others in a corruption and disproportionate case registered at Phase-I Vigilance Bureau police station in Mohali.

A 1982-batch IPS officer, Saini was appointed DGP in 2012. He was removed from the post in 2015 after protests erupted over a series of sacrilege incidents, and retired in 2018.

The Indian **EXPRESS**

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HEALTH DEPARTMENT Re-Tender notice no. – NMMC/HEALTH/ 165 /2021 Details Of work - Tender of contract for the supply of refilling

Medical Gas Dura cylinders on contract basis for to COVID-19 centers/Hospitals of NMMC. Estimated cost 5,58,44,150/-

Details regarding above mentioned tender is available on Navi Mumbai Municipal Corporation web site https://nmmc.etenders.in tenderers are require to note the same. Last date for online bid preparation is Dt.25.08.2021, up to 2.00

Medical Officer of Health NMMC RO PR Adv no./630/2021 Navi Mumbai Municipal Corporation

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U.T., CHANDIGARH First Floor, New Deluxe Building, Sector 17-E, Chandigarh Telephone No.: 0172-5025108, 5003206 E-mail ID: secchandigarh@gmail.com

E-TENDER NOTICE

The State Election Commission, U.T., Chandigarh invites e-tenders for providing Tent / Digital Videography / Photography and setting up of Computer Cell. Tenders can be downloaded from https://etenders.chd.nic.in.

OFFICER ON SPECIAL DUTY State Election Commission, U.T., Chandigarh

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CIN: U45209MH2013PLC242133 KSEL/ADM/NEW/2022/Toll Auction _1

NOTICE INVITING TENDER (NIT) Khed Sinnar Expressway Limited intends to invite Bids for User Fee Collection at Chalakwadi Toll Plaza (Km 91.906 of NH-50) in the state of Maharashtra Bid document may be downloaded from the website www.itnlindia.com from August 19, 2021 (11:00 Hrs) to August 22, 2021 (11:00 Hrs). Bid must be submitted on or before August 22, 2021 (18:00 Hrs) to email id: <u>itnl.projectbids@itnlindia.com</u>, via soft copy mode and hard copy to be sen to KSEL office address as mentioned in RFP. All the particulars and amendments related to this NIT can be viewed on the above said website. Interested agencies/firms may submit their bids as per eligibility criteria stated in the tender

document. All the hids heavy in size can be submitted via link **Authorized Signatory Khed Sinnar Expressway Limited**

WESTERN RAILWAY **TENDER NOTICE**

Mumbai Central, Mumbai - 400 008, invites E-tender as per details given as follows Executive Tender Notice No. & Date Approx. cost of 1 Sr. DEN (North) BCT BCT/21-22/174 dtd 16.08.2021 26,152,492.06 Work and location: Valsad:- Providing 17 units type-II quarters in lieu of

Divisional Railway Manager (WA), Western Railway, 6th Floor, Engg. Deptt.

2 Sr. DEN (North) BCT BCT/21-22/175 dtd 16.08.2021 31,073,826.08 Work and location: Valsad:- Improvement to corroded pipe line in Valsad East and West colonies along with improvement to watering arrangements. 3 Sr. DEN (North) BCT BCT/21-22/176 dtd 16.08.2021 59,739,929.52 Work and location: Virar - Surat Sec:- Underwater repairs of scoured beds of

unsafe dismantled guarters no 945, 946, (Including Electrical Works)

Pier no 16, 17, 18 and 19 North abutment and slobes of North approach bank o 92 bridge in connection of Vaitarna - Addl. Spans at bridge No 92 (3 Nos) (18.30 m each) with guide bund on the north side east/west approaches For all above tenders **EMD:** NIL; **Date & Time of submission:** on 09/09/2021

at 15:00 hrs; **Date & Time of Opening**: on 09/09/2021 at 15:30 hrs; Regarding detailed nature of work, containing cost of tender document (non refundable), EMD, eligibility criteria, similar nature of work, detailed tender conditions, $please\ visit\ \underline{www.ireps.gov.in}\ Manual\ offers\ will\ not\ be\ considered.$

Tender Notice-11/2021-2022 No. MahaRERA/ADM/e-Tender-11/161/2021.

Date: 12.08.2021 Name of the Work: Proposed work of Selection of an agency for assisting MahaRERA in

Maharashtra Real Estate Regulatory Authority

Housefin Bhavan, Plot No. C-21, 'E' Block, Bandra-Kurla Complex, Bandra East-400 051

monitoring the financial compliance of Real Estate Projects.				
e-Tender No.	Name of the Work	EMD in Rs.	Security Deposit	Duration of Project
11	Proposed work of Selection of an agency for assisting MahaRERA in monitoring the financial compliance of Real Estate Projects.		2,00,000/-	2 Years

Bidding documents can be downloaded from the web site http://mahatenders.gov.in.

The payment of tender form and EMD must be made online by net banking. Cost of Tender Forms: **Rs. 1,000/-** (Non-refundable via e-payment).

Amount of EMD: Rs. 1,00,000/-. Period for the Tender Documents to be downloaded from the web site: From 19.08.2021

Date of submission of e-tender 19.08.2021 to 30.09.2021 upto 03.00 p.m. Date of Opening of Sealed Tender: Packet 'A' Dt. 04.10.2021 at 04.00 p.m. Opening of Packet 'B' will be communicated on e-mail.

Pre-bid meeting will be held over Video Conference on 02.09.2021 at 03.00 p.m.

Secretary MahaRERA