

QUICKLY.

**'Not feasible to change existing UPSC provisions'**

**New Delhi:** Union minister Jitendra Singh on Thursday said it has not been found feasible to consider any change in the existing provisions regarding number of attempts and age-limit in respect of the civil services examination. The civil services examination is conducted annually by the UPSC in accordance with the CSE rules notified by the government, the Minister of State for Personnel said.

**High-voltage Malabar exercise begins today**

**New Delhi:** The Malabar exercise featuring the navies of all four Quad countries — India, the US, Australia and Japan — will take place off Sydney from August 11-21 to expand their overall maritime co-operation. Indian Navy's indigenous frontline warships, *INS Sahyadri* and *INS Kolkata*, are participating in the exercise, officials said.

# Bill in RS to exclude CJI from EC appointment panel

**EXPRESSING DISAPPROVAL.** If passed, the govt will have control over appointments of CEC and ECs; Opposition calls the move Black Day for Indian democracy

**Our Bureau**  
New Delhi

The Centre on Thursday tabled Chief Election Commissioner and other Election Commissioners (Appointment Conditions of Service and Term of Office) Bill, 2023, in the Rajya Sabha which seeks to replace Chief Justice of India (CJI) with a Union Minister in a panel that selects Chief Election Commissioner (CEC) and two Election Commissioners (ECs).

If the Bill is passed by Parliament, the government will have control over appointments of the CEC, a move that Opposition dubbed as a "Black Day for Indian democracy".

Future CECs and ECs will be selected by a three-member panel headed by

the Prime Minister and include the leader of Opposition in the Lok Sabha and a Cabinet Minister. Election Commissioner Anup Chandra Pandey, a former UP cadres IAS officer, will meet office on February 14, creating a vacancy in the Election Commission of India a couple of months before the general elections next year.

The Bill, introduced in Rajya Sabha by Union Minister of Law and Justice Arjun Ram Meghwal amidst ruckus by opposition over Manipur issue, comes about four months after the Supreme Court stamped that a three-member panel, headed by the Prime Minister and comprising the leader of the opposition in Lok Sabha and the Chief Justice of India, will select the CEC and ECs till Parlia-



**AMIDST RUCKUS.** Union Minister of Law and Justice Arjun Ram Meghwal speaks in the Rajya Sabha, in New Delhi on Thursday

ment frames a law on the composition and functioning of the apex poll body. The apex court's March verdict, legal experts had then stated, was aimed at insulating the appointment of the

CEC and EC from the executive's interference.

**'SINISTER PLOY'** Congress leader Randeep Singh Surjewala charged the Bill is a "sinister ploy to hi-

jack democracy by constituting a puppet Modi Election Commission" and comes ahead of BJP facing imminent defeat in the five election going States as also 2024 Lok Sabha polls. "ECI

will now be among the last Constitutional institutions to fall at the altar of usurpation of power by any or all means by an autocrat Prime Minister," Surjewala alleged.

The Bill states that the appointments in Election Commission would be from among people who hold or have held posts equivalent to Secretary of the Government of India. They will also be "persons of integrity, who have knowledge of and experience in management and conduct of elections".

The first round of screening of probables would be done by a search panel headed by Union Cabinet Secretary and two members not below the rank of Secretary "having knowledge and experience in matters relating to elections, shall

prepare a panel of five persons". The shortlisted candidates' names would then be forwarded to the committee headed by Prime Minister to finally pick names of CEC and ECs as and when there is vacancy, as per the Bill.

"The appointment of Chief Election Commissioner and other Election Commissioners shall not be invalid merely by reason of any vacancy in or any defect in the constitution of the selection committee," the Bill insists. The Selection Committee which as per the Bill would regulate its procedure in a "transparent manner" has been empowered to consider any other person for appointment to ECI apart from those whose names were included in the short-listed list of panel.

## Data protection law will come into force soon: Vaishnav

**Abhishek Law**  
New Delhi

Provisions of the Digital Personal Data Protection Bill, which was passed by the Rajya Sabha on Wednesday, will be rolled out "very soon", and interactions with industry stakeholders are on, Union Minister for Electronics and IT and Railways Ashwini Vaishnav said.

Work on the rule-making and digital implementation process is already on, as sources in the Ministry say the rollout could happen in the "next six to 10 months or earlier".

"We have already been working on the rule-making and digital implementation process. Industry was alerted, and they have been working towards incorporating the provisions of this

Bill in their working, too. So it should be rolled out very soon," the Minister said.

The Bill aims to ensure that data collection, sharing and storage practices adhere to standards and safeguard privacy. The Bill gives users of digital services more power and imposes obligations on any company using the data of individuals. Vaishnav explained that Indian citizens have the right to access information, right to correction of personal data, right to eraser, and right to grievance redressal, among others.

**'NON-PRESCRIPTIVE'** According to Vaishnav, the Bill remains "non-prescriptive and horizontal in nature". This means data collections across platforms will remain accountable under the upcoming



Ashwini Vaishnav, Union Minister for Electronics and IT and Railways

law. "We did not want the Bill to be put in to prescriptive or put in terms which would become obsolete with changes in technology. In such cases, the compliance burden will also go up for industry and citizens. So we decided to keep it horizontal and principle-based. We also used simple terms while defining provisions of the Bill," Vaishnav said.

Exemptions have been carved out "specifically", as per the "Constitutional mandates".

"Exemptions for the government are exactly within the framework of the Constitution of India. If you look at the General Data Protection Rules of the European Union, there are 16 exemptions for this, like economic or financial interest, monetary, budgetary and taxation matters, issues or matters covering public health and social security, and so on. If you count that and compare it with our Bill, then you will see that there is no question of excessive exemptions that have been given (to the government here)," he said.

Vaishnav explained that the Right to Privacy is a fundamental right as laid down by the Supreme Court in the Puttaswamy judgement;

and there has to be a "consonance" between it and the Right to Information. "We have done this by making a small amendment to Section 8(G) of our RTI Act. This amendment does not allow any public official or representative to hide any information which is required to be produced by law. It is very clear," he said.

Grievance redressal would be through the Data Protection Board, the Telecom Disputes and Settlement Appellate Tribunal, and, finally, the Supreme Court. This would apply to all, including the government.

The Data Protection Board, which will be established under the forthcoming law, will be an autonomous body, Vaishnav said, adding that it will consist of industry experts and professionals.

## Govt identifies 148 coal-fired plants, 241 hydro units for life extension

**Rishi Ranjan Kala**  
New Delhi

To maximise electricity generation from existing power plants for ensuring optimal utilisation of resources, the government has identified 148 coal fired and 241 hydro units with a total capacity of more than 50,300 megawatts (MW) for life extension up to 2030.

Besides, as India aspires to have 500,000 MW of non-fossil fuel capacity by 2030, with a major share coming from solar and wind power, the thermal power capacities will be required to play an important role in terms of balancing the grid.

Power Minister RK Singh in response to a starred question in Lok Sabha said

the Central Electricity Authority, in January 2023, suggested that rather than retiring plants, it advised for implementation of renovation & modernisation (R&M)/ life extension (LE) for running them up to 2030 and beyond, and getting these plants ready to operate in two shift mode to facilitate solar and wind energy integration into the grid, if found feasible.

"As many as 148 coal-based thermal units having capacity of 38,150 MW in Central, State and private sectors have been identified for R&M/LE works up to June, 2023," the Minister told the lower house.

Besides, 241 hydro units having capacity of 12,183.1 MW in Central, State and private sectors have been

identified for R&M/LE works for 2022-27, he added.

"However, it is pertinent to mention that generation is a delicately activity as per Section 7 of the Electricity Act, 2003, and the final decision of carrying out R&M/LE in coal based thermal units is taken by power generating companies based on their own techno-economic viability and environmental reasons," Singh said.

The main objective of R&M of thermal power plants is to make the operating units well equipped and augmented with latest technology to improve their performance in terms of output, reliability, availability, reduction of outage time, ease of maintenance and minimising inefficiencies.

## Hindalco, Texmaco Rail join hands to make aluminium wagons, coaches

**Our Bureau**  
Mumbai

Hindalco Industries, an Aditya Birla group company, and Texmaco Rail & Engineering, a specialised engineering company, have entered into a strategic alliance to manufacture aluminium rail wagons and coaches that will help Indian Railways achieve its emission goals and bolster operating efficiency.

The project envisages an investment of about ₹200 crore and the plant is expected to be commissioned in 18-24 months. The project is considering eastern region near Kolkata for setting up the manufacturing plan given the pre-dominance of wagon manufacturing in the region.

Indian Railways has launched "Mission 3,000 MT" with a target of doubling



freight capacity to reach 3,000 million tonnes by 2027 through augmentation of rolling stock, with the objective to achieve 45 per cent market share in freight.

The Railways has been inviting wagon manufacturers to contribute their own designs to enhance overall capacity and the life of railway assets.

Recognising these developments in the Railways, Hindalco will provide profiles, sheets and plates of aluminium alloys, along with

fabrication and welding expertise. The company's in-house aluminium freight rake launched last year is 180 tonne lighter and offers 19 per cent higher payload to tare weight ratio, consumes less energy with relatively negligible wear and tear.

**CARBON FOOTPRINT** Satish Pai, Managing Director, Hindalco Industries, said with the launch of India's first aluminium rake, the company has demonstrated the benefits of higher payload and significant CO<sub>2</sub> reduction that aluminium rakes offer.

Indrajit Mookerjee, Vice-Chairman, Texmaco Rail & Engineering, said this partnership will reinforce the company's commitment towards reducing the industry's carbon footprint and driving a positive environmental impact.

"We believe that these programmes provide a platform for MSEs to showcase their products and services and explore procurement opportunities," the company's latest annual report stated.

Also, identifying and supporting SC/ST and women entrepreneurs is an important step towards promoting diversity and inclusivity in business. Barriers are lowered to ensure their entrepreneurial capabilities are met with growth and success, it added.

CPCL has earmarked 25 per cent of total procurements for MSEs in FY24.

## DLF, Medanta enter into 50-50 joint venture

**Our Bureau**  
New Delhi

Global Health Ltd, the listed entity which owns Medanta brand of hospital, has entered in a 50-50 joint venture tie-up with real estate major, DLF, to set up a 400-bed multi-specialty in

Greater Kailash-I area of Delhi. DLF will be a strategic investor and Medanta will run the hospital and have operational control, the real estate major said in a statement.

The super speciality hospital is cover over 20 super specialties, including cardiac

sciences, neurosciences, orthopaedics, kidney, liver, lung and heart transplants, gastroenterology and chest surgery.

The facility will also have a comprehensive cancer care unit. Medanta's current capacities across hospitals in the NCR region covering Guru-

gram, Noida and Delhi are around 1,391. It's upcoming Noida facility has 550 beds.

According to Naresh Trehan, Chairman and Managing Director of Global Health Ltd, the facility is expected to become a one-stop solution for all types of cancer treatments.

**TO ADVERTISE**  
**PLEASE CONTACT**

Mumbai : 022 - 22021099  
Pune : 020 - 26113743  
Ahmedabad : 079 - 26871105

**businessline.**

## CPCL exceeds target for procurement from micro and small enterprises

**G Balachandhar**  
Chennai

Chennai Petroleum Corporation Ltd (CPCL) procured more than one-third of its non-crude supplies directly from MSE (micro and small enterprises) vendors during 2022-23, far exceeding the government mandate.

In FY23, procurements from MSE vendors at 38.96 per cent, outstripped the government's 25 per cent target under the public procurement policy 2012. The sourcing share in FY23 was lower than the 51.83 per cent share in FY22, but was higher in terms of value.

CPCL's procurements were valued at ₹955.5 crore (excluding crude, gas, power, and licence fees) in FY23. Of these, procurements from MSEs (general, reserved SC/ST, and women) stood at ₹372.25 crore. Procurements exclusively from

**In FY23, at 38.96%, procurements from MSE vendors outstripped the government's 25% target under the public procurement policy 2012**

reserved SC/ST MSEs stood at ₹57.83 crore, or 6.05 per cent, which is much higher than the target of 4 per cent. However, at 0.22 per cent, procurement exclusively from women-owned MSEs was lower than the target of 3 per cent.

**PROCUREMENT VIA GEM** Procurement through the GeM portal accounted for 57.57 per cent (₹550.07 crore) of the total procurements during 2022-23. In FY22, CPCL's procurements were valued at ₹655 crore, with MSEs (general, reserved SC/

**THE UGAR SUGAR WORKS LTD.**  
Regd. Office : Mahaveernagar, Sangli 416416 | CIN No: L15421PN1939PLC006738

Administrative Offices : Ugarkhurd 591316 (Dist. Belgavi)  
Factories : Ugarkhurd (Dist. Belgavi) and Nagarhalli-Malli Village (Dist. Kalburgi)

**STATEMENT OF UNAUDITED STANDALONE AND CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL RESULTS FOR THE QUARTER ENDED 30<sup>th</sup> JUNE, 2023**

Particulars	STANDALONE			CONSOLIDATED		
	Quarter Ended 30.06.23 (Unaudited)	Year to Date Figures 31.03.23 (Audited)	Corresponding 3 Months ended in the previous year 30.06.22 (Unaudited)	Quarter Ended 30.06.23 (Unaudited)	Year to Date Figures 31.03.23 (Audited)	Corresponding 3 Months ended in the previous year 30.06.22 (Unaudited)
1. Total Income from Operations (Net)	21,766.63	1,94,014.95	37,278.17	21,766.63	1,94,014.95	37,278.17
2. Net Profit / (Loss) for the period (before tax, Exceptional and / or Extraordinary items)	(762.32)	14,838.52	857.40	(762.22)	14,839.24	857.63
3. Net Profit / (Loss) for the period before tax, (after Exceptional and / or Extraordinary items)	(762.32)	14,838.52	857.40	(762.22)	14,839.24	857.63
4. Net Profit / (Loss) for the period after tax, (after Exceptional and / or Extraordinary items)	(913.79)	10,304.68	573.89	(913.69)	10,304.80	574.12
5. Total Comprehensive Income for the period [Comprising Profit / (Loss) for the period (after tax) and Other Comprehensive Income (after tax)]	(966.48)	10,187.40	644.70	(966.38)	10,188.45	644.93
6. Equity Share Capital	1,125.00	1,125.00	1,125.00	1,125.00	1,125.00	1,125.00
7. Other Equity	Rs.20845.98 Lakhs - 31-03-2023			Rs.20958.44 Lakhs - 31-03-2023		
8. Earnings per share of Re. 1/- each (for continued and discontinued business) Basic and Diluted	(0.81)	9.16	0.51	(0.81)	9.16	0.51

**Notes:**  
1) The above is an extract of the detailed format of Quarterly Financial Results filed with the Stock Exchanges under Regulation 33 of SEBI (Listing and Other Disclosures Requirements) Regulations, 2015. The full format of the Quarterly Financial Results is available on the Stock Exchange websites (www.bseindia.com & www.nseindia.com) and Company's website (www.ugarsugar.com)  
2) The above results are reviewed by the Audit Committee and were approved and taken on record by the Board of Directors at its meeting held on 10-08-2023.

**For The Ugar Sugar Works Ltd.**  
Niraj S. Shirgaokar  
Managing Director  
DIN - 254525