

## 9th Sept 2025

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**8260224080**



# Accept Aadhaar as identity proof, SC orders poll panel

Court asks EC to instruct Bihar officials to accept Aadhaar for filing claims or objections during special intensive revision of electoral rolls; they can verify authenticity of document submitted

**Krishnadas Rajagopal**  
NEW DELHI

**T**he Supreme Court on Monday directed the Election Commission to include Aadhaar as the 12th “indicative” document that those seeking inclusion or exclusion of names on the electoral rolls of Bihar could file as proof of identity during the special intensive revision.

A Bench of Justices Surya Kant and Joymalya Bagchi clarified that the use of Aadhaar would strictly be as proof of identity, and not as evidence of Indian citizenship.

The EC officials are entitled to verify the “authenticity and genuineness” of the Aadhaar submitted to them, just the way they would do in the case of the

## Go-ahead for Aadhaar

The Supreme Court has allowed the use of Aadhaar as proof of identity for special intensive revision of electoral rolls in Bihar

- The court takes note that despite its repeated directives, booth-level officers were refusing to accept Aadhaar

- It directs EC to publicise the order to inform voters that they can use Aadhaar

- Document should be used only as proof of identity or residence, and not as evidence of citizenship

**The petitioners are also agreeing that Aadhaar is not proof of citizenship. Then why can't you add Aadhaar too in the list?"**

**JUSTICE JOYMALYA BAGCHI to EC**



other 11 documents, the court noted in the order.

“Apart from passport and birth certificate, none of the remaining nine of the 11 documents you [EC] have listed for SIR are conclusive proof of citizenship. The petitioners are also agreeing that Aadhaar is

not proof of citizenship. Statutorily also Aadhaar is not proof of citizenship. Then why can't you add Aadhaar too in the list? This court has asked you several times to consider Aadhaar... Why are you not?” Justice Bagchi asked the EC's counsel, senior ad-

vocate Rakesh Dwivedi.

The court ordered the EC to issue instructions to officials, from Electoral Registration Officers to booth-level officers (BLOs), working on the ground in poll-bound Bihar, to accept Aadhaar from persons filing claims or objections. Approximately 65 lakh voters, out of a total 7.89 crore in the State, were excluded from the draft rolls published on August 1.

The deadline for filing claims to include names and file objections to exclude names for reasons such as death, permanent shifting, and duplication, was September 1. The EC, on September 2, clarified that these were welcome even beyond the deadline.

## Accept Aadhaar as proof of identity: SC

On July 10, the Supreme Court urged the EC to consider accepting Aadhaar as a document of identity during the SIR. Again, on August 14, the court formally directed the use of Aadhaar as a proof of identity and residence. Finally, on August 22, in response to complaints that the EC was still not accepting Aadhaar as a valid proof of identity or residence during the claims-and-objections period, the court clarified that voters excluded from the draft electoral roll could attach either Aadhaar card or any of the 11 “indicative” documents.

On Monday, senior advocate Kapil Sibal, appearing for Bihar’s main Opposition party, the Rashtriya Janata Dal, said the BLOs were refusing to accept Aadhaar from claimants despite these back-to-back orders from the top court.

“Your Lordships had clearly said several times that Aadhaar can be used as an alternative to any of the 11 documents. BLOs are still refusing. The EC is penalising officers for accepting Aadhaar and issued show-cause notices to BLOs who have allowed Aadhaar... Disciplinary proceedings have already started against these officers. There are no instructions from EC to officers to accept Aadhaar despite separate orders by this court... I have 24 affidavits from people from various districts who were unsuccessful in giving Aadhaar. The EC’s conduct amounts to gross contempt of this court’s orders... We want Aadhaar to be used as proof of residence or identity, so that a person can vote. We want only 11 documents plus Aadhaar,” Mr. Sibal submitted.

Mr. Dwivedi countered that Aadhaar could not be accorded the same status as a passport, which was a proof of citizenship. Besides, he contended that over 99% of the excluded voters had already submitted their claims and objections, disproving the petitioners’ argument that people did not have any of the 11 documents. Mr. Dwivedi said none of the political parties had pointed out any errors with the SIR process.

Justice Kant said Aadhaar was like any other official document such as ration card, passport, or birth certificate. Both statutes and judicial dictum did not consider Aadhaar as proof of citizenship. “You [EC] can accept Aadhaar and verify their authenticity,” Justice Kant observed.

Justice Bagchi said Aadhaar was not “alien” to the Representation of the People Act. “One of the provisions of the Act, in fact, allows Aadhaar as proof of residence,” the judge said.

The court orally asked Mr. Dwivedi to give “publicity” to the judicial order so that aggrieved voters would come to know and file their claims and objections along with Aadhaar, if need be. He responded that the order would be posted online.

The case is listed for further hearing on September 15.

# Prime Minister to cast first vote in today's Vice-Presidential election

**The Hindu Bureau**  
NEW DELHI

Prime Minister Narendra Modi will cast the first vote on Tuesday in the Vice-Presidential polls, for which Union Ministers Kiren Rijju and K. Rammohan Naidu, and Shiv Sena MP Shrikant Shinde have been appointed election agents.

The post fell vacant on the first day of the monsoon session of Parliament, after Jagdeep Dhankhar resigned as Vice-President on July 21 citing health reasons.

The National Democratic Alliance (NDA) has nominated Maharashtra Governor C.P. Radhakrishnan and the Opposition has picked Justice B. Sudershan Reddy (retired) as its nominee to contest the election to the constitutional post.

Two days before the



President Droupadi Murmu and Prime Minister Narendra Modi along with former Vice-President Jagdeep Dhankhar. FILE PHOTO

polls, the NDA and the Opposition had started preparations to train their MPs on the voting process. Mr. Modi, his Cabinet colleagues from the BJP, and party MPs took part in a two-day workshop – *Sansad Karyashala* – starting on Sunday. The workshop also passed a resolution thanking Mr. Modi for the

Goods and Services Tax (GST) reforms.

## **‘Promote local goods’**

At a meeting of NDA MPs on Monday, the Prime Minister laid out a plan of action to spread public awareness of the benefits of GST reforms.

He suggested that the MPs organise trader confe-

## **Modi lays out a plan of action to spread public awareness of the benefits of the recent GST reforms**

rences in their constituencies to inform the business community about the simplifications in the GST regime. They could also hold “Swadeshi Melas” during the coming Navaratri and Deepavali to promote domestically manufactured goods, which was essential for achieving self-reliance.

Mr. Modi said exhibitions should be held to support Indian products, local artisans, and micro/small industries in each parliamentary constituency. Calling the GST reforms revolutionary, he said it would benefit all sections of society and sectors.

# Economic practices must be fair, transparent: Jaishankar

**Press Trust of India**

NEW DELHI

The world is seeking a stable and predictable environment for trade, and economic practices should be fair, transparent and to everyone's benefit, External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar said on Monday, against the backdrop of increasing global concerns over Washington's tariff tussle.

In an address at a virtual BRICS summit, the Minister said India strongly believes that the international trading system's foundational principles of non-discriminatory and rules-based norms must be protected and that there is a need to create more resilient and reliable supply chains. Mr. Jaishankar represented Prime Minister



**Virtual meeting:** S. Jaishankar addresses the BRICS summit, in New Delhi on Monday. ANI

Narendra Modi at the summit that saw participation of Chinese President Xi Jinping, Russian President Vladimir Putin and several other leaders of the grouping.

It was convened by Brazilian President Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva to discuss trade disruptions triggered by U.S.' policies on trade and tariff. The U.S. slapped

50% tariffs on Brazilian exports like in the case of India.

## 'Balancing act'

Mr. Jaishankar's participation at the summit in place of Mr. Modi is seen as part of New Delhi's "balancing act" with the Trump administration increasingly getting suspicious about the BRICS.

In his remarks, Mr. Jaishankar called for urgent resolution to ongoing conflicts, adding the Global South has experienced a deterioration in its food, energy and fertilizer security. However, the major focus of his speech was on trade.

Mr. Jaishankar said the world requires "constructive and cooperative" approaches to promote trade that is sustainable.

# Translated collection of Bhil folk tales to be out soon

**Abhinay Lakshman**

NEW DELHI

The Union government's recent initiative to bring out a translation tool for tribal languages is helping bring out a translated collection of folk tales of the Bhil tribe in Madhya Pradesh.

The collection, in Hindi, will feature stories of inter-caste love, caste discrimination, *guru puja* and the celebration of theatre.

In the compilation, titled *Anuvad*, a recurring theme in several stories appears to be a narrative where casteism is defeated through arguments such as "caste was never a part of Sanatan Dharma", or "there is no caste in Manusmriti, it was introduced", and that caste differences should be set aside because "all Hindus are the same".

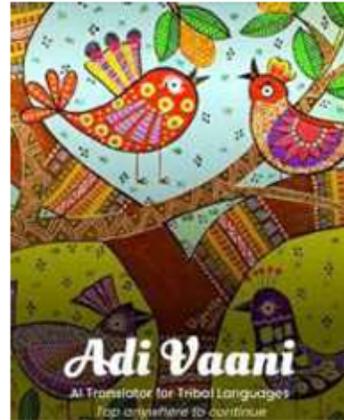
The e-booklet will be made available on the Tribal Affairs Ministry's *Adi Vaani* website and the app. Other stories talk about farmer distress, faith healers, and worshippers of Lokmata Ahilya Devi, the

Narmada, and Sant Singaji.

A story about inter-caste love titled *Jaativaad Khatam Karo* (end casteism) speaks of Basant and Palasi, who live in a beautiful village, where the only problem is that of casteism. While Basant's caste location is not revealed in the story, it says Palasi is Dalit and Basant is of a "higher" caste. Basant, an attendance marker at a factory, falls for Palasi, a worker, but the villagers object to this. The villagers, led by the Pandit, stop Basant to confront him about the *adharm* (sacrilege).

Basant stands his ground, enraging the Pandit, who forces Basant to argue with him in a public square. In this dialogue, the Pandit argues that caste is part of Hindu religious texts, while Basant argues that caste was never part of the Manusmriti but that it was inserted in made-up *shloks* (verses) later in the form of a "conspiracy".

He goes on to argue that inter-caste relations are not wrong "because all Hindus are the same", pos-



The e-booklet will be made available on the *Adi Vaani* website and the app.

iting that "casteism" goes against the "Varna system", which is based on *karma* and not on birth.

The Pandit listens to Basant, changes his mind, and declares him "innocent", calling him a "protector of faith".

Another story is about a fierce night-long street play competition where a "Vanvasi" audience is won over by the protagonist's theatre group, which starts playing the roles of "Vanvasis" on stage, speaking their language and dancing their dances.

These tales have been collected from oral story-

telling traditions of the Bhil community in regions of Madhya Pradesh, with some of them referring to the Nimar region of the State.

## Vague timeline

The stories do not mention the year in which they take place, but some of them have vague clues indicating that they are taking place in a modern world, with the mention of cars and roads, and characters who are police officers and district officials.

Officials told *The Hindu* that such folk tales from Gondi, Santali, and Mundari communities have also been translated and will be made available soon.

In a story titled '*Guru Pujan*', Samandar, a hard-working schoolteacher in a village, is preparing for *Guru Purnima*. As preparations are under way, the crowd is stunned into silence by a visibly drunk policeman, who is beating a child. When stopped, he threatens violence and casts against the teachers, children and guests, and vandalises the idol that

was supposed to be worshipped. Samandar works up the courage to confront the policeman, stands his ground, and ensures that he runs away. When the students see their teacher defending their lives, they say they will now worship him as their guru. At this point, Samandar posits that they should instead worship "the guru of guru" – the "*bhaagwat* flag" – a religious flag, typically yellow or saffron in colour. He says, "This flag represents our culture and civilisation. It is a vehicle for our nation. Our Sanatan culture is reflected in this. This is our guru."

According to the Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh's V. Bhagaiah, the RSS considers the "*bhagwa dhvaj*" (saffron flag) its guru. Author Arun Anand, who has studied the RSS, further writes that this concept originated when RSS members wished to consider founder K.B. Hedgewar as their guru, but Mr. Hedgewar had purportedly suggested they worship the saffron flag as their guru instead.

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# Assam to celebrate Bhupen Hazarika's birth centenary

PM, Home Minister pay rich tribute to the legendary singer-composer; Hazarika carried Assam to the world through his soulful melodies and made humanity his tune & love his anthem, says CM

**The Hindu Bureau**  
GUWAHATI

Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Union Home Minister Amit Shah paid rich tributes to Bhupen Hazarika as the Assam government launched a year-long celebration of the birth centenary of the legendary singer-composer on Monday.

Hazarika, lovingly called *Sudhakantha* (nectar-voiced), was born on September 8, 1926.

In an article, the Prime Minister threw light on the music maestro's life and music, and how it inspired millions of people in Assam and beyond.

Mr. Shah took to the social media platform X. "Remembering Bharat Ratna Dr. Bhupen Hazarika Ji on his Jayanti. Known as the Bard of Brahmaputra, Hazarika Ji's soulful voice carried the spirit of Assam to the world, and his creations spoke of love, unity and humanity. His melodies will forever echo in our hearts, reminding us of the power of music to heal and unite. By conferring



Members of the All Assam Students' Union pay tribute to Bhupen Hazarika on his birth anniversary in Guwahati on Monday. PTI

upon him the Bharat Ratna, Modi Ji ensured that his legacy remains immortal," he wrote.

## 'Bridging hearts'

In Guwahati, Governor Laxman Prasad Acharya and Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma paid homage to the late Hazarika, during the inaugural centenary function at the Dr. Bhupen Hazarika Samanay Tirtha. Hazarika was cremated at this centre adjoining the Gauhati University in November 2011. He had penned and sung the

theme song of the university, *Jilikabo Luitore Paar* (the university will illuminate the banks of Luit, an Assamese alias for the Brahmaputra), after it was established in 1948.

The Chief Minister of Assam, Himanta Biswa Sarma, also posted on social media platform X.

"Today, we celebrate the life of a legend, who carried Assam to the world through his soulful melodies and made humanity his tune & love his anthem. We celebrate the Bharat Ratna Dr Bhupen Hazari-

ka, on his *jayanti*, remembering his life, which was a poetry in itself," Mr. Sarma said.

"Bhupen Hazarika's life teaches us the power of empathy, of listening to people, and of staying rooted. His songs continue to be sung by the young and old alike," Union Minister of Ports, Shipping, and Waterways Sarbananda Sonowal said.

Arunachal Pradesh, where Hazarika spent a part of his childhood, also paid tributes to the music maestro.

"Remembering the Legendary Bharat Ratna Bhupen Hazarika Ji on his birth anniversary. Your songs beautifully bridged the hearts of Northeast India and the rest of the world. In Arunachal, your melodies continue to resonate, inspiring peace, unity, and cultural pride. May your timeless legacy keep connecting generations," Chief Minister Pema Khandu posted on X. The maestro shared a deep connection with Bolung village in Arunachal Pradesh's Lower Dibang Valley.

# Bangladesh to send 1,200 tonnes of *hilsa* ahead of Durga Puja

**Kallol Bhattacharjee**  
NEW DELHI

In a goodwill gesture, Bangladesh's interim government has announced that it will send 1,200 tonnes of *hilsa* fish to India ahead of Durga Puja later this month. An official notification issued on Monday said that a decision had been taken in this regard "in principle", and called for fish exporters to submit applications by September 11.



The *hilsa* will cost ₹1,100 a kg, which is lower than the present price in India. ISTOCKPHOTO

"*Ilish (hilsa)* is coming! The Bangladesh government just decided to export the quintessential fish to India ahead of the festival season as a mark of enduring friendship," Bangladesh's High Commissioner to India Riaz Hamidullah said.

Bangladesh has determined that the *hilsa*, a prized fish during festivities in eastern Indian States, including West Bengal, Assam, and Tripura, will cost \$12.5, or around ₹1,100, per kg, which is significantly lower than the prevailing market rates for *hilsa* in India at present. Bangladesh has traditionally sent *hilsa* ahead of the Durga Puja season.

1,200 tonnes of *hilsa* is expected to reach West Bengal.

Though diplomatic sources said Bangladesh had attempted to send some additional consignments for Assam and Tripura, that initiative did not receive a response from local importers within the given time-frame.

The 1,200 tonnes is less than previous consignments for the season. In 2024, the interim government led by Muhammad Yunus had sent 3,000 tonnes of *hilsa* ahead of the Durga Puja season. A similar quantity was maintained during the Sheikh Hasina years.

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# Red sea cable cuts take a toll on Indian networks to Europe

Internet traffic to and from Europe has noticeably slowed down following the disconnection of undersea cable systems, data show

**Aroon Deep**  
NEW DELHI

**B**harti Airtel Ltd., Reliance Jio Info-comm Ltd. and Tata Communications Ltd.'s networks are among many dealing with increased latency to traffic between India and Europe, according to telemetry published by the San Francisco-based network intelligence firm Kentic, Inc. This follows cuts to the undersea cable systems SEA-ME-WE 4 and IMEWE in the Red Sea, which connect India to West Asia and Europe. Undersea cables are an essential part of the global Internet's infrastructure, forming the backbone of networks around the world.

Latency is a measure of how long a data packet takes to make a round trip between two points. While latency between any two points on earth is rarely over one second, differences between domestic and in-

## Choppy network

Airtel, Jio and Tata Comm are among many telcos dealing with increased latency between India and Europe



- Lag follows cuts to the undersea cable systems SEA-ME-WE 4 and IMEWE in the Red Sea

- Kentic's data show latency between Europe and Mumbai went up from 110-150ms to 190-300ms

- Three subsea cable systems faced cuts in the Red Sea in the middle of last year

ternational traffic can be perceptible, such as an inter-continental video call. According to Kentic's data, latency between Europe and Mumbai (where most subsea cables land in India), went up from roughly 110-150ms to 190-300ms, depending on which cloud service provider was used to test the latency.

So far, widespread disruptions to networks have not been detected, as India has over a dozen subsea cable systems landing in the country, allowing telcos to reroute traffic over

other systems (which are less optimal, but in any case allow for traffic to continue flowing). Airtel, Tata Communications and Reliance Jio did not respond to a request for comment. The Department of Telecommunications did not respond to a query.

This is the second disruption to subsea cable systems connecting to India, after three subsea cable systems faced cuts in the Red Sea in the middle of last year, also linked to Houthi attacks in the ongoing crisis in the region.

# India, Qatar likely to finalise terms of reference for FTA in early October

**Saptaparno Ghosh**

NEW DELHI

India is likely to finalise terms of reference for a free trade agreement (FTA) with Qatar in the first week of October, a government source said on Monday. The source added that Commerce Minister Piyush Goyal may visit the Gulf country to finalise the same on October 6.

The possibility of a comprehensive economic partnership agreement (CEPA) with Doha was first announced in February during the Emir of Qatar Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad Al-Thani's visit to India. The two sides sought to double their bilateral trade by 2030.

Doha accounts for 1.22% of India's total trade. In FY 2024-25, India exported goods worth about \$1.68 billion, whilst it imports totalled \$12.47 billion. Qatar's key exports to India include liquefied natural gas (LNG), liquefied petroleum gas (LPG), chemicals and petrochemicals and aluminium articles, among other things.

**Commerce Minister Piyush Goyal may visit the Gulf country to finalise the same on October 6**

Expanding the number of FTA partners has emerged as an imperative for New Delhi in response to U.S. President Donald Trump-induced tariff regime.

Washington instituted a 50% tariff on Indian products inclusive of a 25% penalty for buying Russian oil. For perspective, trade with the North American country accounted for 11.4% of India's overall trade in FY 2024-25.

**Talks progressing well**  
Enumerating progress about the trade agreement with the European Union, the source stated that talks were progressing well with a delegation of the European Union already in New Delhi. Mr. Goyal is expected to meet the trade commissioner for EU Maroš Šefčovič on Friday as part of the 13th round of talks.

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## Coal output rises 8% in August over July

**The Hindu Bureau**  
NEW DELHI

Coal production in India rose about 8% on a month-on-month basis notwithstanding a lacklustre season owing to operational constraints triggered by monsoons and typically lower demand during the period. However, for the period until August since the commencement of the financial year, production slipped a marginal 0.6%.

Public-sector enterprise Coal India accounted for about 76% of overall output on a year-to-date basis.

## 'India halts grid access for 17 GW of clean energy projects'

**Reuters**  
NEW DELHI

India has cancelled grid access for nearly 17 gigawatts (GW) of delayed clean energy projects to prioritise connections for those that are operational or

nearing completion, according to a source familiar with the matter and official documents reviewed by *Reuters*.

The state-run Central Transmission Utility of India Ltd. (CTUIL) informed companies including Ada-

ni Green Energy, ReNew Power, NTPC, Avaada Group, JSW Energy, and ACME Solar about the cancellations, the documents show. The affected projects are located in renewable-rich states such as Rajasthan, western Gujarat, and

Madhya Pradesh in central India, according to a document from the federal agency overseeing interstate transmission access.

### **Notices served**

The grid access terminations were carried out in

the June quarter after prior notices were issued to the companies, said the source, who requested anonymity as the firms are seeking relief from the federal power regulator, the Central Electricity Regulatory Commission (CERC).

# A year in and without projects, U.K. India Infra Bridge recommends policy changes

**Sriram Lakshman**

LONDON

The U.K. India Infrastructure Financing Bridge (UKIIFB), an initiative launched by the Indian and the U.K. governments in September 2024, marked its first anniversary by launching a report in London, the financial district of the U.K. capital, on Monday morning.

However, a year since a handful of projects were identified for investment, they are no longer in the pipeline and have been replaced with eight recommendations themed around de-risking investment opportunities in India.



Chris Hayward

Those leading the initiative are hoping the second year will be different, with \$2 trillion needed in infrastructure investment by 2030 to meet the country's needs. However, changes are needed to make India more competitive in the

global investment landscape. The second year of the Bridge will also have a special focus on the renewal energy sector.

## Compelling case

Chris Hayward, who is the policy chief of the City of London Corporation, called the report a "compelling case for change" that outlines "Indian infrastructure projects more investible". The Corporation represents the U.K. lead for the UKIIFB, while NITI Aayog, India's official policy think tank, is the India lead.

Mr. Hayward, fresh from a visit to India, believes that the regulatory environment under the Naren-

dra Modi government is "definitely moving in the right direction" but "there's still work to be done", he said, citing his discussions last week with the insurance industry in Hyderabad.

Recommendations in the UKIIFB report include aligning the Indian procurement process with globally recognised frameworks, (such as the U.K.'s Five Case Model) as well as aligning with global (Environmental, Social, Governance (ESG) standards. India will also need to address operational risks for projects and the perception of unpredictability and opacity in construction, as per the report.

# At BRICS, Jaishankar red-flags 'linking of trade measures to non-trade matters'



EAM S Jaishankar and other BRICS leaders, including Chinese President Xi Jinping, Russia President Vladimir Putin and Brazil President Lula da Silva during the virtual summit. *PTI*

**SHUBHAJIT ROY**

NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 8

IN AN oblique reference to the US administration's decision to impose an additional 25 per cent tariff on India as penalty for purchase of Russian oil, External Affairs

Minister S Jaishankar on Monday expressed concern at the "linking of trade measures to non-trade matters". Calling for a "stable and predictable environment for trade and investment", he underlined that economic practices should be "fair, transparent and to

**CONTINUED ON PAGE 2**

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# Cabinet Secretary chairs interministerial meeting, focus on timely GST 2.0 rollout

AANCHAL MAGAZINE  
NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 8

WITH ECONOMIC ministries rushing towards the September 22 deadline to rollout the GST 2.0 reforms, Cabinet Secretary TV Somanathan on Monday chaired an inter-ministerial meeting on the implementation hurdles. The meeting was attended by officials from the Finance, Commerce and Industry, Textiles, Heavy Industries, Department of Fertilisers, and Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises ministries, among others.

The GST 2.0 implementation issues range from the automobile sector to textiles and fertilisers. The auto sector is grappling with the problem of adjusting the cess charged on vehicles which have moved out of the factory gates and have reached the dealerships, but will likely be sold only after September 22 when the cess is technically done away with. The mechanism to adjust the cess already paid is now a festering issue.

"The idea is to have a centralised coordination among the ministries to oversee the GST 2.0 rollout by September 22. The implementation date has been decided and the economic ministries have to be ready for the transition

## Auto dealers seek govt intervention in compensation cess recovery

*New Delhi:* Automotive dealer's body FADA has written to Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman seeking help regarding the levy and treatment of cess balances. In a letter to the minister, the Federation of Automobile Dealers Associations (FADA) noted that while GST 2.0 subsumes the earlier compensation cess regime for automobiles, the dealers today hold significant, validly-availed cess

balances in their electronic credit ledgers.

Once no further cess liability arises, these balances cannot be utilised against CGST/SGST/IGST under the current law, FADA president C S Vigneshwar said. Without a transitional pathway, credits risk lapsing, creating an unintended, permanent loss and a sharp working-capital shock for compliant MSME dealerships, he added. **PTI**

and work towards a smooth rollout. These ministries are in touch with industries in their sectors and therefore, have a better understanding of the sectoral issues which need to be resolved," an official told *The Indian Express*.

There is also concern about whether companies have enough time to readjust their labels for existing stocks as the government has appealed to the industry to pass on the benefits from GST rate cuts to consumers. As offtake from stores had slowed down in anticipation of the GST rate cuts over the last one month, most compa-

nies are tackling issues related to inventory and stocks in the pipeline.

"The ministries have to coordinate with their respective industry groups to ensure that the impact of this price cut is passed on to the end consumer. That's also on the agenda", the official said.

Industry representatives have connected with their line ministries to raise their sectoral hurdles with the Cabinet Secretary. The Ministry of Heavy Industries, for instance, is likely to raise the issue of cess adjustment in the auto sector in the meeting, officials said.

While the industry has found relief in a large section of the value chain, items such as bicycles, tractors, fertilisers and some types of textiles continue to face inverted duty structure — where the duty on inputs is higher than that on finished goods. Representatives from the bicycles, tractors, and fertilisers industry have reached out to the government to address problems of inverted duty structure. For instance, steel continues to attract 18 per cent GST while final products like bicycles and e-bicycles are in the 5 per cent GST slab. Among textiles, a few items such as the inputs required for polyester fibre and textile machinery, or inversion on account of packaging costs and government subsidies on fertilisers has resulted in continuation of inversion.

The textile and apparel industry representatives have also flagged the distortion resulting from different GST rates on unstitched fabrics (5 per cent) and stitched apparel exceeding Rs 2,500 per piece (18 per cent).

Industry sources said that if there is a risk of substantial amounts getting stuck within the refund process, it gives way to tendencies of evasion.

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# କର୍ପି ଚାଷ ବୃଦ୍ଧି ପାଇଁ ପୁସ୍ତୁତ ହେବ ରୋଡ୍ ମ୍ୟାପ୍

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ବାହାର ରାଜ୍ୟର ଚାଷୀଙ୍କୁ  
ସାମିଲ କରିବା ପାଇଁ ନିର୍ଦ୍ଦେଶ



କୋରାପୁଟ, ୮/୯ (ଇମିସ): କର୍ପି ଚାଷ ପାଇଁ ୪ ଲକ୍ଷ ହେକ୍ଟର ଜମିରେ ସମ୍ବାଦନା ରହିଛି। କିନ୍ତୁ ହେଉଛି ୪ ହଜାର ହେକ୍ଟର ଜମିରେ। ଅନୁକୂଳ ପାଗ, ବ୍ୟାପକ ସୁବିଧା ସୁଯୋଗ ଓ ନିଆରା ସ୍ୱାଦ ସତ୍ତ୍ୱେ ବିଶ୍ୱ ବଜାରରେ କୋରାପୁଟ କର୍ପି ଆଗକୁ ବଢ଼ିପାରୁଛି। କର୍ପି ବୋର୍ଡ଼ ଓ ଜିଲ୍ଲା ପ୍ରଶାସନର ମିଳିତ ଉଦ୍ୟମରେ ରୋଡ୍ ମ୍ୟାପ୍ ତିଆରି କରି ବାହାର ରାଜ୍ୟର କର୍ପି ଚାଷୀଙ୍କୁ ଆକୃଷ୍ଟ କରିବା ପାଇଁ ନିର୍ଦ୍ଦେଶ ଦେଇଛନ୍ତି ରାଜ୍ୟପାଳ ଡ. ହରିବାରୁ କମ୍ପାନୀ।

୩ ଦିନିଆ କୋରାପୁଟ ଜିଲ୍ଲା ଗସ୍ତରେ ଆସି

ରାଜ୍ୟପାଳ କର୍ପି ବୋର୍ଡ଼ରେ କର୍ପି ଷ୍ଟଲ୍ ଓ ବଗିଚା ବୁଲି ଦେଖିବା ସହିତ ଚାଷୀ, ଏସ୍‌ଏଚ୍‌ସି ମହିଳା ଓ ଅଧିକାରୀଙ୍କ ସହିତ ଆଲୋଚନା କରିଥିଲେ। ଗଣମାଧ୍ୟମକୁ ସୂଚନା ଦେଇ ରାଜ୍ୟପାଳ କହିଛନ୍ତି, କୋରାପୁଟ ଜିଲ୍ଲା ଅନୁସୂଚିତ ଅଞ୍ଚଳରେ ଆସୁଥିବାରୁ ସରକାରୀ ଜମି ସାଧାରଣ ବର୍ଗ ଲୋକଙ୍କୁ ହସ୍ତାନ୍ତରରେ ସମସ୍ୟା ରହିଛି। ଘରୋଇ ଚାଷୀ ନିଜ ଜମିରେ କର୍ପି ଚାଷ କରିବା ପାଇଁ କିପରି ଆକୃଷ୍ଟ ହେବେ ସେ ଦିଗରେ ପଦକ୍ଷେପ ନେବାକୁ ରାଜ୍ୟପାଳ କହିଥିବା ସୂଚନା ଦେଇଛନ୍ତି କୋରାପୁଟ କେନ୍ଦ୍ରୀୟ କର୍ପି ବୋର୍ଡ଼ର ସମ୍ପ୍ରସାରଣ

ଅଧିକାରୀ ଉପେନ୍ଦ୍ର କୁମାର ସାହା। କର୍ପି ବୋର୍ଡ଼ ବୁଲିବା ପରେ କୋରାପୁଟ ସୂତନ୍ତ୍ର ସର୍କିଟ୍ ହାଉସରେ ରାଜ୍ୟପାଳ ନାଲକୋ ଅଧିକାରୀଙ୍କ ସହ ଆଲୋଚନା କରିଥିଲେ। ସେହିପରି କୋରାପୁଟ ସହିଦ ଲକ୍ଷ୍ମଣ ନାୟକ ମେଡିକାଲ କଲେଜ ଅଧିକାରୀଙ୍କ ସହ ଆଲୋଚନା କରି ସ୍ୱାସ୍ଥ୍ୟସେବା ଓ ଭିଡିଓମି ସମ୍ପର୍କରେ ପଚାରି ବୁଝିଥିଲେ। ଅବିଭକ୍ତ କୋରାପୁଟ ଜିଲ୍ଲା ମେଡିକାଲ କଲେଜ ଉପରେ ନିର୍ଭରଶୀଳ ଥିବାରୁ ଉନ୍ନତମାନର ସ୍ୱାସ୍ଥ୍ୟସେବା ଯୋଗାଇବା ଏକମାତ୍ର ଲକ୍ଷ୍ୟ ହେବା ଆବଶ୍ୟକ ବୋଲି

ରାଜ୍ୟପାଳ କହିଥିଲେ। ଅନ୍ୟପକ୍ଷରେ କୋଟସ୍ ଅଧିକାରୀ, ସିଡ୍ କୁଇନ ହର୍ଷିତା ପ୍ରିୟଦର୍ଶିନୀ ମହାନ୍ତି, ପଦ୍ମଶ୍ରୀ ଗୋବର୍ଦ୍ଧନ ପାଲିକା, ମୁଦ୍ରା ହିତାଧିକାରୀ, ଭାରତୀୟ ରେଡକ୍ରସ ସୋସାଇଟି ଅଧିକାରୀ, ଡ୍ରାଇଆରସି, ଜେଆରସି ସଭ୍ୟଙ୍କ ସହ ରାଜ୍ୟପାଳ ଆଲୋଚନା କରିଥିଲେ। ଜିଲ୍ଲାରେ ଆଲାସେମିୟା, ସିକିଲସେଲ ରୋଗୀ ଅଧିକ ଥିବାରୁ ରକ୍ତ ଅଧିକ ଆବଶ୍ୟକ ଥିବା ବେଳେ ସେହି ଅନୁଯାୟୀ ରକ୍ତ ସଂଗ୍ରହ ହୋଇପାରୁନଥିବା ସଦସ୍ୟମାନେ କହିଥିଲେ।

ସନ୍ଧ୍ୟାରେ ରାଜ୍ୟପାଳ ଶାବର ଶ୍ରୀକ୍ଷେତ୍ର ପରିଦର୍ଶନରେ ଯାଇ ଚତୁର୍ଦ୍ଧାମୂର୍ତ୍ତିଙ୍କୁ ଦର୍ଶନ କରିଥିଲେ। କାର୍ଯ୍ୟକ୍ରମରେ କୋରାପୁଟ ବିଧାୟକ ରଘୁରାମ ମାଝି, କୋଟପାଡ଼ ବିଧାୟକ ରୁପ୍ତ ଭଦ୍ରା, ଜିଲ୍ଲାପାଳ ମନୋଜ ସତ୍ୟବାନ ମହାଜନ, ଏସ୍‌ପି ରେହିତ ବର୍ମା, କେସିସି ବ୍ୟାଙ୍କ ସଭାପତି ଛିଶ୍ୱର ଚନ୍ଦ୍ର ପାଣିଗ୍ରାହୀ, ଚିଡିସିସି ମ୍ୟାନେଜର୍ ଆଶୁତୋଷ ନନ୍ଦ, ଅତିରିକ୍ତ ଜିଲ୍ଲାପାଳ ତପନ କୁମାର ନାୟକ, ଜିଲ୍ଲା ପରିଷଦ ମୁଖ୍ୟ ଉତ୍ତମ୍ଭନ ଅଧିକାରୀ ବେଣୁଧର ଶବର, କର୍ପି ଚାଷୀ ସୁଜୟ ପ୍ରଧାନ ପ୍ରମୁଖ ଉପସ୍ଥିତ ଥିଲେ।

ବି ଭିନ୍ନ ହିମବାହ ଉପରେ ବିଶ୍ୱ ଉତ୍ତପ୍ତୀକରଣର ଅତ୍ୟୁତ୍ପର୍ବ ପ୍ରଭାବ ପଡ଼ୁଛି। ଏସିଆର ହିମବାହଗୁଡ଼ିକ ପ୍ରତି ବର୍ଷ ୨୨ ନିୟୁତ କିଲୋଗ୍ରାମରୁ ଅଧିକ ପରିମାଣର ବରଫ ହରାଉଛନ୍ତି ଏବଂ ଦକ୍ଷିଣ ଏସିଆରେ ଉତୁକାଳୀନ ବର୍ଷା ଓ ତୁଷାରପାତ ଢାଞ୍ଚାରେ ପରିବର୍ତ୍ତନ ଦ୍ୱାରା ହିମବାହ ତରଳିବା ତ୍ୱରାନ୍ୱିତ ହେଉଛି ବୋଲି ଯୁଗାହ ବିଶ୍ୱବିଦ୍ୟାଳୟର ଗବେଷକମାନେ ସ୍ପଷ୍ଟ କରିଛନ୍ତି।

କେନ୍ଦ୍ରୀୟ, ପଶ୍ଚିମ ଓ ପୂର୍ବ ହିମାଳୟ ଅନ୍ତର୍ଗତ ହିମବାହଗୁଡ଼ିକ ଏସୀୟ ମୌସୁମୀ ଦ୍ୱାରା ଭାଷଣ ଭାବରେ ପ୍ରଭାବିତ। ଯଦି ମୌସୁମୀର ସମୟ ଓ ତୀବ୍ରତା ପରିବର୍ତ୍ତନ ଜାରି ରହେ, ତେବେ ବରଫ କ୍ଷୟ ତ୍ୱରାନ୍ୱିତ ହେବା ସହ ନିମ୍ନ ଅବବାହିକାରେ ବସବାସ କରୁଥିବା ଲୋକଙ୍କ ପାଇଁ ଜଳ ଉପଲବ୍ଧତା ବିପଦରେ ପଡ଼ିବ। ହିମବାହ ତରଳିବା ଦ୍ୱାରା ନଦୀଗୁଡ଼ିକର ଗତିପଥରେ ପରିବର୍ତ୍ତନ ଘଟି ସେହି ଅଞ୍ଚଳରେ ରହୁଥିବା ଲୋକଙ୍କୁ ସିଧାସଳଖ ପ୍ରଭାବିତ କରିବ।

ନେପାଳ ଓ ଉତ୍ତରାଖଣ୍ଡକୁ ଆବୃତ କରୁଥିବା କେନ୍ଦ୍ରୀୟ ହିମାଳୟ ପର୍ବତମାଳାର ଦକ୍ଷିଣ ଭାଗରେ ଶୀତକାଳ ଅପେକ୍ଷା ଗ୍ରୀଷ୍ମ ଋତୁରେ ଅଧିକ ହିମବାହ ଜମା ହୋଇଥାଏ। ଅଷ୍ଟା ତାପମାତ୍ରା ମୌସୁମୀ ବର୍ଷାକୁ ତୁଷାରପାତରେ ପରିଣତ କରି ତାହାକୁ ବଜାୟ ରଖିବାରେ ସାହାଯ୍ୟ କରେ। ତୁଷାରପାତ ହ୍ରାସ କିମ୍ବା

# ଏସୀୟ ହିମବାହରୁ ବର୍ଷକୁ କମୁଛି ୨୨ ନିୟୁତ କିଲୋ ବରଫ

ତରଳିବା ତୀବ୍ର ହେଲେ ହିମବାହର ଆକାର କମିଯାଏ। ସର୍ବୋପରି ବିଶ୍ୱ ଉତ୍ତପ୍ତୀକରଣ ଉଦୟ ବର୍ଷା ଓ

ଯଦି ମୌସୁମୀର ସମୟ ଓ ତୀବ୍ରତା ପରିବର୍ତ୍ତନ ଜାରି ରହେ, ତେବେ ବରଫ କ୍ଷୟ ତ୍ୱରାନ୍ୱିତ ହେବା ସହ ନିମ୍ନ ଅବବାହିକାରେ ବସବାସ କରୁଥିବା ଲୋକଙ୍କ ପାଇଁ ଜଳ ଉପଲବ୍ଧତା ବିପଦରେ ପଡ଼ିବ। ହିମବାହ ତରଳିବା ଦ୍ୱାରା ନଦୀଗୁଡ଼ିକର ଗତିପଥରେ ପରିବର୍ତ୍ତନ ଘଟି ସେହି ଅଞ୍ଚଳରେ ରହୁଥିବା ଲୋକଙ୍କୁ ସିଧାସଳଖ ପ୍ରଭାବିତ କରିବ।



ତୁଷାରପାତ ଢାଞ୍ଚାକୁ ବାଧା ଦେଉଛି, ହିମ ସଂଗ୍ରହ ଋତୁକୁ ସଂକ୍ଷିପ୍ତ କରୁଛି ଏବଂ ହିମବାହ କ୍ଷୟକୁ ତ୍ୱରାନ୍ୱିତ କରୁଛି। ହିମବାହ ତରଳିବା ପ୍ରକ୍ରିୟା ତ୍ୱରାନ୍ୱିତ ହେବା ଯୋଗୁଁ

ହିମବାହ ହ୍ରାସ ବିସ୍ଫୋରଣ ଓ ଗୁରୁତର ବନ୍ୟା ଆଶଙ୍କା ମଧ୍ୟ ବଢ଼ିଥାଏ। ତେବେ ଏଥିପାଇଁ ଦୀର୍ଘ ବର୍ଷ ତାପମାତ୍ରାକୁ ନିୟନ୍ତ୍ରଣ କରିବା ପାଇଁ ଭାରତ ଏବଂ ଅନ୍ୟ

ଦେଶମାନେ ବିଶ୍ୱ ତାପମାତ୍ରାକୁ ପ୍ରାକ୍-ଶିଳ୍ପାୟନ ସ୍ତର ତଳକୁ ଆଣିବାର ଲକ୍ଷ୍ୟ ଦିଗରେ କାର୍ଯ୍ୟ ଜାରି ରଖିବାକୁ ପରାମର୍ଶ କରାଯାଇଛି।

# କ୍ରିପ୍ଟୋରେ ଭାରତ ନଂ ୧

ନୂଆଦିଲ୍ଲୀ, ୮/୯: ଡିଜିଟାଲ ମୁଦ୍ରା କ୍ରିପ୍ଟୋକରେନ୍ସି ଗ୍ରହଣୀୟତାରେ ଭାରତ ଶୀର୍ଷ ସ୍ଥାନ ହାସଲ କରିଛି। ଏହା ପଛକୁ ଆମେରିକା ଦ୍ୱିତୀୟ ସ୍ଥାନରେ ରହିଛି।

ସପ୍ତ ବାର୍ଷିକ ରେନ୍‌ଆନାଲିସିସ୍ ବିଶ୍ୱସ୍ତରୀୟ କ୍ରିପ୍ଟୋ ଗ୍ରହଣୀୟତା ସୂଚୀରୁ ଏହା ଜଣାପଡ଼ିଛି। ଏସଆ ପ୍ରଶାନ୍ତ ମହାସାଗରୀୟ ଅଞ୍ଚଳରେ କ୍ରିପ୍ଟୋକୁ ନେଇ ଅଧିକ ଆଗ୍ରହ ରହିଛି। ସେଥିରେ ଭାରତ, ଭିଏତ୍‌ନାମ ଓ ପାକିସ୍ତାନ ଭଳି



ଦେଶ ଗୁରୁତ୍ୱପୂର୍ଣ୍ଣ ଭୂମିକା ନିର୍ବାହ କରିଛନ୍ତି। ଲାଟିନ୍ ଆମେରିକାରେ କ୍ରିପ୍ଟୋ ଗ୍ରହଣୀୟତା ୬୨ ପ୍ରତିଶତ ଏବଂ ସର୍ବସାଧାରଣ ଆଫ୍ରିକାରେ ୫୨ ପ୍ରତିଶତ ବଢ଼ିଛି।

କିମ୍ବଦନ୍ତୀସିଏକ୍ସର ସହ ପ୍ରତିଷ୍ଠାତା ସୁମିତ ଗୁପ୍ତା କହିଛନ୍ତି ଯେ ବିଶ୍ୱ କ୍ରିପ୍ଟୋ ଗ୍ରହଣୀୟତା

ସୂଚୀରେ କ୍ରମାଗତ ତୃତୀୟ ଥର ପାଇଁ ଭାରତକୁ ଶୀର୍ଷ ସ୍ଥାନରେ ଦେଖି ଖୁସି ଲାଗୁଛି। ଆମ ଯୁବପିଢ଼ି ଇଣ୍ଟରନେଟ୍‌ଠାରୁ ବ୍ଲକ୍‌ଚେନ୍ ପର୍ଯ୍ୟନ୍ତ ନବସୃଜନକୁ ଲଗାତାର ଭାବେ ଗ୍ରହଣ କରୁଛନ୍ତି। ଭାରତରେ ୧୨,୦୦ରୁ ଅଧିକ ଡେଭ୍‌ଫ୍‌ସ୍ଟାର୍ଟଅପ୍ ରହିଛି ଏବଂ ସେମାନେ ୩୦୦ କୋଟି ଡଲାରରୁ ଅଧିକ ପାଣ୍ଠି ହାସଲ କରିଛନ୍ତି। ଭାରତ ହେଉଛି ବିଶ୍ୱର ଦ୍ୱିତୀୟ

ସର୍ବବୃହତ୍ ବ୍ଲକ୍‌ଚେନ୍ ବିକାଶକାରୀ ରାଷ୍ଟ୍ର। ଏହାର ଭାଗ ୫ ପ୍ରତିଶତରୁ ୧୨ ପ୍ରତିଶତକୁ ବୃଦ୍ଧି ପାଇଛି। ୨୦୩୦ ସୁଦ୍ଧା ଏହା ଦେଶରେ ୮,୦୦,୦୦୦ ନିୟୁତ୍ତ ସୁଯୋଗ ସୃଷ୍ଟି କରିବା ଆଶା କରାଯାଉଛି ବୋଲି ଶ୍ରୀ ଗୁପ୍ତା କହିଛନ୍ତି।

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