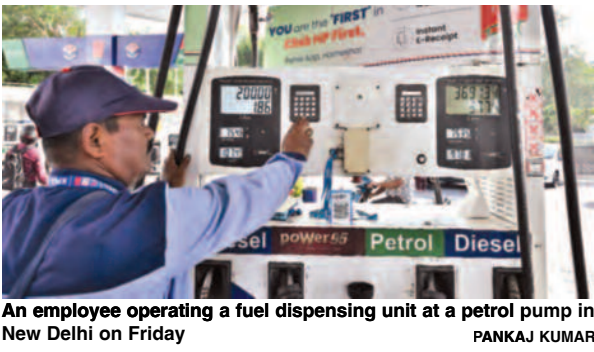




Prices of petrol, diesel raised by ₹3 a litre

The Union Government on Friday hiked petrol and diesel prices by ₹3 per litre and CNG by ₹2 per Kg. In Delhi, petrol prices have increased to ₹97.77 per litre from ₹94.77, while diesel rates moved up to ₹90.67 per litre from ₹87.67. In Kolkata, the price of petrol climbed to ₹108.74 while Chennai saw it rise to ₹103.67 per litre. In Mumbai, petrol prices went

No trust in US; India our friend: Iran FM Araghchi

Iranian Foreign Minister Abbas Araghchi on Friday said Tehran has no trust in the US and stressed that India remains a close and trusted partner of Iran, while addressing a special media briefing in New Delhi on the sidelines of the BRICS Foreign Ministers' Meeting.



Iranian Foreign Minister Abbas Araghchi addressing a press conference in New Delhi on Friday

When asked whether Iran would support India in meeting its energy needs, Iranian Foreign Minister Araghchi told The Pioneer, "Iran is ready to supply energy to India, if India is willing to receive it." The Iranian foreign minister was speaking at a press conference at the Embassy of Iran in New Delhi, against the backdrop of images of the Strait of Hormuz and the Minab 168 exhibition, which commemorates the 168 schoolgirls Iran says were killed during the US-Israeli military strikes on Iran

Bhojshala complex a temple: HC

Relying on ASI report, HC bars Muslims from offering Friday prayers

The Madhya Pradesh High Court on Friday held that the Bhojshala complex in Dhar is a temple dedicated to Goddess Saraswati, quashing a decades-old order of the Archeological Survey of India (ASI) that allowed the Muslim community to offer Friday prayers at the site. The court said its decision was based on archaeological and historical evidence, the Archeological Survey of India (ASI) survey report, provisions of the ASI Act and references from the Ayodhya judgment.

The HC also directed the Union Government and the ASI to take a decision regarding the future management and administration of the complex. The HC said evidence related to a Saraswati temple and an ancient Sanskrit education centre had been found at the Bhojshala complex.

The Muslim side, which maintains that the structure is the Kamal Maula Mosque, said it would challenge the verdict in the Supreme Court. Dhar city Qazi Waqar Sadiq said the community respects the HC judg-



The pillars and other architectural parts at Bhojshala show they are re-cycled from a variety of buildings

ment but would review the order before approaching the SC. Senior advocates Salman Khurshid and Shobha Menon had represented the Muslim side during the hearing.

The Hindu side has already filed a caveat in the SC seeking that no order be passed on any appeal against the HC verdict without hearing them first. Advocate Preeti Jain, represent-

ing the Jain community, also said the Jain side would move the SC. During the hearing, it was argued that remnants of Jain Tirthankara idols linked to the site are currently housed in the British Museum and deserve proper restoration and recognition.

Meanwhile, security has been tightened around the Bhojshala complex following the verdict. Barricades have been placed at the main gate and a heavy police force has been deployed in the area. Dhar SP Sachin Sharma said nearly 1,200 police personnel from across the district had been deployed and a 12-layer security arrangement had been put in place. Reserve Police Force and Rapid Action Force personnel have also been kept on alert.

AIMIM chief Asaduddin Owaisi criticised the verdict, saying it was not in line with constitutional principles. He alleged that, similar to the Babri Masjid case, the ruling favoured one community while affecting the worship rights of another. Owaisi also said such judgments weaken the Places of Worship Act and could encourage challenges to other religious sites.

NES PUNE EAST NEW TRANSMISSION LIMITED (100% wholly owned subsidiary of Power Grid Corporation of India Limited) B-9, Qutab Institutional Area, Katwaria Sarai, New Delhi-110 016 CIN- U42202DL2025GOI445359

PUBLIC NOTICE

Inviting Suggestions/ Objections on NES Pune East New Transmission Limited's Application for Grant of Transmission Licence (Case No: 52 of 2026)

- The NES Pune East New Transmission Limited has filed an Application for grant of Transmission Licence before the Maharashtra Electricity Regulatory Commission under the provisions of Section 14 and 15 of the Electricity Act, 2003 and the MERC (Transmission Licence Conditions) Regulations, 2004. The Hon'ble Commission has admitted the Application on 30 March 2026 and directed NES Pune East New Transmission Limited to publish a Public Notice under Section 15(2) of the Electricity Act, 2003.
- NES Pune East New Transmission Limited has been incorporated as a Special Purpose Vehicle for strengthening of an Intra-State Transmission system by establishing 765/400 kV AIS Pune East S/s to resolve existing grid constraints and to meet upcoming load demand. The Project has been awarded through Tariff Based Competitive Bidding process conducted by PFC Consulting Limited, notified as the Bid Process Coordinator by the Government of Maharashtra.
- The Project consists of:

Sl. No.	Name of transmission assets and location	Line Length/ Capacity	Tariff	Schedule COD (in case of addition)
1.	Establishment of AIS Pune East with 2x1500 MVA, 765/400 kV ICT with 1x240 MVAR bus Reactor at 765 kV level ➤ 765/400 kV, 1500 MVA, ICT-2 Nos. (7x500 MVA single phase units including one spare ICT Unit) ➤ 240 MVAR, 765 kV Bus Reactor-1 No. (4 x 80 MVAR single phase units including one spare Reactor Unit) • 765 kV ICT bays-2 Nos. • 400 kV ICT bays-2 Nos. • 765 kV line bays-4 Nos. • 400 kV line bays-4 Nos. • 765 kV reactor Bay-1 No. Future space Provisions: ➤ 765 kV line bays along with switchable line reactors-06 Nos. ➤ 400 kV line bays along with switchable line reactors-04 Nos ➤ 400 kV Switchable line reactor bays-02 Nos.	3000 MVA 240 MVAR	3684.60 million	24 months
2.	LILO of both circuits of 765 kV Pune (GIS) (Shikrapur-PG) (Existing) to 765 kV Pune-III (GIS) (Proposed) 765 kV D/C line at 765 kV AIS Pune (East)	100 kms		
3.	400 kV D/C line from 765 kV AIS Pune (East) to 400 kV AIS Karjat (Existing)	40 kms		
4.	400 kV D/C line from 765 kV AIS Pune (East) to 400 kV AIS Lonikand-II (Existing)	120 kms		
5.	400 kV line end bays at 400 kV AIS Karjat (Existing) and 400 kV AIS Lonikand-II (existing)	400 kV		

- The Applicant has been acquired by the successful bidder pursuant to the bidding process and is required to obtain Transmission Licence for establishment, operation and maintenance of the said Intra-State Transmission System in the State of Maharashtra. Accordingly, NES Pune East New Transmission Limited has applied for grant of Transmission Licence.
- The Commission has directed NES Pune East New Transmission Limited to invite Suggestions/ Objections from the Public on its Application for grant of Transmission Licence through this Notice. The contact details of the nodal person from whom a copy of the Application may be obtained for inspection or purchase is as under:
 - Name: Mr. Talla Hari Prasad, Project In-charge
 - Address from which the Application copy can be obtained for inspection or purchase: The office of the Company at C/o ED (TBCB), Power Grid Corporation of India Limited, Saudamini, Plot No. 2, Sector-29, Gurgaon 122001.
 - Timing for inspection or purchase: During working days between 10:00 hrs. to 17:00 hrs.
 - Detailed Application Documents (in English) along with CD on payment of ₹ 100/- in cash or by DD/Cheque drawn on "NES Pune East New Transmission Limited" payable at Delhi.
 - Website address from where the copy of Application may be downloaded free of cost: www.powergrid.in/subsidiaries
- In response to the Public Notice published, every person who intends to file suggestions/objections can submit the same in English or Marathi language in writing by uploading it through 'E-Public Consultation' Tab on MERC website (www.merc.gov.in/e-public-consultation). In case of any difficulty in accessing this feature, concerned stakeholders can contact the MERC Office on Mobile No.: 8928071522 or on Email ID: suggestions@merc.gov.in between 10:00 AM to 05:00 PM on all working days.
- A person who has uploaded suggestions and objections on 'E-Public Consultation' tab need not file any hard copy of its submission. Person who does not have access to electronic media can file their suggestion and objection in a hard copy addressed to 'Secretary', Maharashtra Electricity Regulatory Commission (MERC), 13th Floor, Centre No. 1, World Trade Centre, Cuffe Parade, Mumbai-400005 along with proof of service on Mr. Talla Hari Prasad, Project In-charge, NES Pune East New Transmission Limited, the office of the Company at C/o ED (TBCB), Power Grid Corporation of India Limited, Saudamini, Plot No. 2, Sector-29, Gurgaon 122001 Email: regulatory@powergrid.in and should carry the full name, postal address and Email address, if any, of the sender. Suggestions and/or objections received after 15 June 2026 on 5:00 pm shall not be on considered. Suggestions/ Objections filed through any other mode shall not be considered.
- NES Pune East New Transmission Limited shall reply to each of the objections/ comments received within three days of the receipt of the same but not later than 18 June 2026 for all the objections/comments received till 15 June 2026.

Place: Mumbai Mr. Talla Hari Prasad
Date: 15.05.2026 Project Incharge

OUR CENSUS OUR DEVELOPMENT

Maharashtra

Houselisting & Housing Census

16th May to 14th June

What will you be asked?

Information of house:

- Building number
- Materials of the floor, walls & ceiling
- Ascertain use of the house- (Residential/Non-residential)
- Condition of the house

Others:

- Main cereal consumed
- Mobile number (Only for Census communication)

Basic information about the family:

- Number of family members
- Name, sex and caste of the head of the family (SC/ST or others)
- Ownership status of the house
- Number of rooms
- Number of married couples living in the house

Amenities:

- Source of drinking water
- Availability of drinking water source
- Main source of lighting
- Access to latrine
- Type of latrine
- Waste water outlet
- Bathroom facilities
- Kitchen and LPG/PNG connection
- Main fuel used for cooking

Assets:

- Radio/Transistor
- Television
- Access to internet Computer/Laptop
- Mobile phone /Telephone
- Two-wheeler/ Four-wheeler

» This stage lays the foundation for population enumeration

» All your information will remain completely confidential and secure

TOLL FREE - 1855

Let us fulfill our responsibility and participate in the Census

CensusIndia2027