

Surat mum proves where there's a wheel there's a way

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For Manisha Kapadia from Surat, a simple scooter opened doors to new possibilities. A year ago, this 38-year-old cook struggled to earn Rs 5,000 a month. Today, the vehicle has helped her triple her income to Rs 12,000, enabling her to support her family.

"The vehicle cost me Rs 1 lakh, and yes, I took a loan," she says with pride. "Earlier, I would spend hours on buses and rickshaws," she recalls. "One home was the maximum I could handle. But the scooter changed that equation. I can now work in three homes and still manage the instalments while meeting the needs of my family."

Known for her delectable Surti specialties, particularly unthiyu, Manisha's culinary journey began with occasional cooking for acquaintances. Seven years ago, necessity turned this passion into a profession.

"My mother-in-law's medicines alone cost Rs 8,000 monthly and my

father-in-law, a heart patient, had undergone bypass surgery," she explains. "With my husband's limited income, I knew I had to step up. What started as nervous practice runs around her neighborhood has evolved into confident rides across Surat."

For Manisha, mastering the scooter wasn't just about learning to balance or understanding traffic signals — it was about steering her family towards a more secure future.

Her expertise in Surti cuisine spans both vegetarian and non-vegetarian specialties — from the delicate Ilva and papdi to the robust flavors of Tapela and manna that reflect her Khatri community's culinary heritage. She dreams of owning a food outlet someday. Yet behind her culinary dreams lies a deeper purpose.

"My priority is ensuring my family's wellbeing, especially my daughter's education," says Manisha. "I want her to study as far as her ambitions take her."

RIDING TO A NEW DAWN

Asserting What They Deserve And Desire, Women In Kutch's Kumariya Village Are Taking Driving Lessons To Claim Financial Independence And Seize Control Of Their Future

As the afternoon sun shines over Kumariya, 20km from Bhuj, an unusual hum fills the air — not the familiar tinkle of banaras at the village well, but the gentle purr of two-wheeler engines, punctuated by excited squeals and bursts of self-conscious laughter.

Here, women between 20 and 50 years gather every day at 3pm, their faces lit with determination as they take command of their two-wheelers. When the gram panchayat started this free driving school, little did they know that they were going to create a space where women would learn to chase bigger dreams. For many women, joining the school meant challenging deep-rooted societal conventions.

Among the learners is 21-year-old Ruksha Sumra, whose story epitomises the quiet revolution un-

folding here. Coming from a conservative family, Ruksha's journey began with resistance, but bloomed into acceptance. "The first time I touched the accelerator, the vehicle surged forward," she recalls, laughing. "I was terrified, but I knew falling was part of learning. My new skill will transform my life."

For Ruksha, mastering a two-wheeler means more than mobility; it means freedom from the three-hour waits when she misses the evening bus from college. Her newfound skill is a key to her dreams of a financially independent life.

The driving session — they call it the '3PM Club' — has become a sanctuary of hope for 53 women, each carrying her own aspirations. Those who have mastered riding the two-wheeler have already approached the gram panchayat, requesting car driving lessons — a reflection of their growing confidence and determination to push boundaries.

Take Geeta Kesariya, a 38-year-old entrepreneur whose business spans tailoring, embroidery and sanitary napkin sales. Her greatest hurdle is getting her products to customers. "I currently send my goods through buses, risking damage and dealing with unpredictable timings," she explains, her frustration evident. "Once I learn to ride the two-wheeler, I can deliver everything myself." With her family firmly behind her ambitions to master both two-wheeler and car, Geeta's eyes light up as she shares

her journey. "Learning to drive a car is my dream," she says. The learning curve has been steep but exciting. "There was a two-wheeler at home, but I didn't even know where to put the keys," she recalls, recalling her first lesson. "I started with the basics like understanding what's an accelerator, a brake, a clutch. It was like learning a new language."

Perhaps the most moving story is that of Rubina Noze, a 22-year-old who supports her differently-abled parents through her sewing work. "With a two-wheeler, I can expand my business, collect orders personally and deliver my work directly," she says. But it is not just about business for Rubina. Her voice softens as she shares a more personal dream. "My mother cannot walk, but soon, I will be able to show her

the world beyond our doorstep," she says. What makes this initiative work so beautifully? The answer lies in its trainers, Nishita Khasa and Komal Kesariya, both daughters of Kumariya. "Women come here believing that the training will change their lives for the better. Their excitement is contagious," says Nishita. "We are not just teaching them to ride a vehicle. We will also guide them through the RTO driving test process and help them get their licenses."

Suresh Chhanga, sarpanch of the village made famous by 'Lagaan', the movie, says. "The one-hour driving session is much more than about learning to drive. For the women, it is also about overcoming limitations, building confidence and taking charge of their future."

WHEN 3 O'CLOCK IS BREAKING-FREE O'CLOCK

I am grateful for this opportunity given to us by the panchayat. With a two-wheeler, I can expand my business, collect orders personally and deliver products directly. But more than that it will help me fulfil a desire I have long nurtured. My mother cannot walk. I will be able to show her the world beyond our doorstep.



Our '3PM Club' is aimed at making a difference to women's lives. Women come here believing that the training will change their lives for the better. Their excitement is contagious. We are not just teaching them to ride a vehicle. We will also guide them through the RTO driving test process and help them get their licences.



TIMES SPECIAL

BJP candidate Ramesh Bidhuri expresses regret after row erupts over his 'roads like Priyanka Gandhi's cheeks' remarks

New Delhi: BJP candidate from Kalkaji Ramesh Bidhuri on Sunday drew flak for his remarks that he would make roads which are like Congress leader "Priyanka Gandhi's cheeks" in his constituency, with the Congress demanding an apology from him for "insulting women" and some leaders in his party also expressing their disapproval.

Bidhuri, who has courted controversies in the past two over his statements, in a hilly remained defiant, pointing to similar remarks by RJD leader Lalu Prasad on actor and BJP MP Hema Malini.

However, he later posted a message on X expressing regret if his comments had hurt anyone and stated that his remarks had been misconstrued by some for political gains. "Lalu said in Bihar that he would make roads like Hema Malini's cheeks, but he lied, he could not do it. I assure you that just as we made the roads in Okhla and Sangam Vihar, we will make all the roads in Kalkaji like Priyanka Gandhi's cheeks," Bidhuri is heard saying in the purported video, which went viral on social media. The Congress con-

demned the remarks, alleging it reflected the "anti-women" mentality of the BJP. "Ramesh Bidhuri's statement regarding Priyanka Gandhi is not only extremely shameful but shows their ugly anti-women thinking. But what else can be expected from a man who used foul language against his fellow MP in the House and did not receive any punishment?"

"Not only Bidhuri, but the BJP's top leadership should apologise with folded hands," Congress spokesperson Supriya Shrinate said, adding it was not only an in-

sult to Priyanka Gandhi but to all women.

Asked about the Congress demand for an apology, Bidhuri sought to defend himself by saying, "If this is a mistake, then the one who committed it first should apologise. Isn't Hema Malini a woman?"

Accusing the Congress of hypocrisy he said, "Hema Malini was from a simple family, is she not a woman? The one who is from a known family is a woman, how is it possible?"

"Hema Malini is from the South, does that mean that she is not a woman. Everybody should get respect. ... they should have made Him (Lalu Prasad) apologise, they did not ask for it because she was from a simple family. It is their hypocrisy," Bidhuri told reporters.

Delhi BJP chief Virendra Sachdeva stressed that such statements should be avoided. "We should not make such statements and should exercise restraint in our language. I would also tell the Congress that when such remarks are made against our MP Hema Malini, you don't stop it. Having said that, respect for women and main-

taining control over our language is our duty and such statements are not welcomed by us," he said.

BJP MP Kamaljeet Sehrawani said, "A politician should say anything after giving a thought to it." As the row escalated, Bidhuri, a former two-time MP from South Delhi and three-term MLA from Tughlakabad, in a post on X claimed that his remarks were being misinterpreted by some for political gain. "It was not my intention to insult anyone. Still, if any person has been hurt then I express regret," Bidhuri said.

MP: Leopard electrocuted near Itarsi power house

Bhopal: A leopard that went to hunt a peacock was electrocuted after it came in contact with live wires near the Itarsi Ornaments Factory Power House in Narmadapuram on Saturday evening. According to forest officers, parts of a peacock's body were found in the leopard's mouth, while its feathers were strewn around the spot. The wire was about 10 feet above the ground while the power house's boundary wall was not also about 10 feet high.

Forest officers arrived at the scene an hour and a half after the incident. The dead leopard was found lying under an electric pole, while the peacock's feathers were entangled in the wire above. The forest ranger said the leopard entered the area to hunt the peacock and, in the process, came in contact with the live wire.

The forest team made a panchnama and took the leopard's body to the Bagdev Forest Outpost. The leopard, around two and a-half to

सिस्टम प्रसारन अथॉरिटी ऑफ इंडिया
System Prasad Authority of India

1. NIT No. SMP/KMR/NSD/03/MOR/KOS/SL dated 31.12.2024 is invited for Maintenance Dredging in the shipping Channel leading to Kolkata Dock System.

2. Tender No. MR/IN/2024/02024, G&M Bid No. GEM/2024/S/775783

3. Tender No. MR/IN/2024/02024, G&M Bid No. GEM/2024/S/775783

4. Tender No. MR/IN/2024/02024, G&M Bid No. GEM/2024/S/775783

POWER TRANSMISSION CORPORATION OF UTTARAKHAND LTD.
(A Govt. of Uttarakhand Enterprise)

E-TENDER CORRIGENDUM-1

The pre-bid clarifications of the E-Tender for "Division of 132 kV Binal-Purkul Transmission Line between tower No. 47 and 50 through 132 kV Underground Cable" against Tender Specification No. PTCUL/CE/Tender/C&P-INTL-17/2024-25 has been uploaded on e-tender website. For more details please visit the e-tender website www.uttarakhandpower.com (tender id no. 2024_PTCU4_79120_1) and for e-bidder competition notice our website www.ptcul.org. All other terms and conditions shall remain same.

For any assistance on E-Tendering, please contact +91-8898980000

RD 31/IMP/PTCUL/Date: 24.01.2025 Superintending Engineer (C&P-II)

"Save Electricity in the Interest of Nation"

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
Ministry of Education
(Department of School Education & Emp. Literacy)

ADVERTISEMENT FOR THE POST OF JOINT DIRECTOR, CENTRAL INSTITUTE OF EDUCATIONAL TECHNOLOGY (CENTRAL COUNCIL OF EDUCATIONAL RESEARCH AND TRAINING (NCERT))

Applications/Nominations are invited in prescribed proforma from eligible candidates for the post of Joint Director, Central Institute of Educational Technology (CIET), National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT), having Pay Scale of Rs.1,44,200-2,18,200-(Academic Level -14) [pre-revised pay band of Rs.37,400 to Rs.67,000 (PB-4)] with AGP of Rs.10,000. The appointment will be made by deputation or short-term contract on tenure basis. The deputation appointment will be for a period up to 5 years or till the age of 65 years or until further orders, whichever is earlier. For Eligibility and other details refer the detailed advertisement on NCERT website www.ncert.nic.in

BANGALORE WATER SUPPLY AND SEWERAGE BOARD

INVITATION FOR TENDER (Only through KPP portal)

BWSSB invites TENDERS in Two Stage Tender System from registered agencies for the following works:

Office of the Chief Engineer (Design & QA), 9th Floor, Cauvery Bhavan, K.G. Road, Bangalore-09

Sl. No.	Name of the Works	Amount put to Tender
1	Work of Construction of 6 nos of Quarters (SOI + GF + FF + SF) at Kumara Park, Bengaluru.	Rs. 2,48,94,397/-
2	Work of Construction of Service Station (GF) and Sub-division Office (FF) at Johnson Market for AEE (SE-1) Sub-division, Bengaluru.	Rs. 3,73,410/-
3	Work of Construction of 12 nos. of Block 2 quarters (SOI + GF + FF + SF) at Nagarbhavi, Bengaluru.	Rs. 1,28,02,927/-
4	Work of Construction of 12 nos. of Quarters Block 2 (SOI + GF + FF + SF) at Pinakri Bhavana premises, Yelahanka New Town, Bengaluru.	Rs. 2,00,000/-
5	Work of Construction of Sub-division office at MNK Park, Bengaluru.	Rs. 3,87,36,028/-
6	Work of Construction of 6 nos of Quarters (SOI + GF + FF + SF) at Sanjaynagar, Bengaluru.	Rs. 5,81,100/-
7	Work of Construction of Division Office at V.V. Puram, Bengaluru.	Rs. 3,87,36,028/-
8	Work of Construction of 12 nos. of Quarters Block 2 (SOI + GF + FF + SF) at Pinakri Bhavana premises, Yelahanka New Town, Bengaluru.	Rs. 5,81,100/-
9	Work of Construction of Sub-division office at MNK Park, Bengaluru.	Rs. 1,45,36,638/-
10	Work of Construction of 6 nos of Quarters (SOI + GF + FF + SF) at Sanjaynagar, Bengaluru.	Rs. 2,18,100/-
11	Work of Construction of Division Office at V.V. Puram, Bengaluru.	Rs. 2,48,94,397/-
12	Work of Construction of 6 nos of Quarters (SOI + GF + FF + SF) at Sanjaynagar, Bengaluru.	Rs. 3,73,410/-
13	Work of Construction of Division Office at V.V. Puram, Bengaluru.	Rs. 1,86,84,653/-
14	Work of Construction of Sub-division office at P.P. Layout (AGS Layout), Bengaluru.	Rs. 2,80,500/-
15	Work of Construction of Sub-division office at P.P. Layout (AGS Layout), Bengaluru.	Rs. 1,19,89,270/-
16	Work of Construction of Sub-division office at P.P. Layout (AGS Layout), Bengaluru.	Rs. 2,00,000/-
17	Work of Construction of Service Station at Devasandra /Basavanapura coming under AEE(E-2) Sub-division, K.R. Puram, Bengaluru.	Rs. 1,24,60,680/-
18	Work of Construction of Division Office at Koramangala for EE(SE-2) Division, Bengaluru.	Rs. 2,00,000/-
19	Work of Construction of Division Office at Koramangala for EE(SE-2) Division, Bengaluru.	Rs. 1,55,26,588/-
20	Work of Construction of Division Office at Koramangala for EE(SE-2) Division, Bengaluru.	Rs. 2,33,000/-

The Last date and time for receipt of completed tenders will be on 24.01.2025 upto 16:00 hrs. The Technical bids will be opened on 27.01.2025 at 16:00 hrs.

MSIL Mysore Sales International Limited
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Chitrid Division, MSIL House, No. 38, Cunningham Road, Bengaluru, 560 052. Phone: +91-80-2284021-25
e-mail: msil.chitrid@mstilonline.com

No. MSIL/IC/2024/24-25 Date: 06.01.2025

e-AUCTION NOTIFICATION

e-Auction for Investment of Surplus Funds with Public Sector Bank in Fixed Deposit through e-Portal of Government of Karnataka (<https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in/>). Interested banks can participate. Schedule of various events for e-auction: (1) Date of e-Auction Notification: 06.01.2025 (2) Last date to upload the Eligibility Criteria in Annexure-A & Declaration in Annexure-B in the e-portal: 18.01.2025 at 3.30 P.M. (3) Live Bidding: 17.01.2025 at 2.30 P.M. (4) Date of investment: 18.01.2025 to 20.01.2025

Sd/- General Manager, Chit Funds

EAUCTION - SALE OF REFRACTORY MATERIAL (LADLE BRICKS & PELLETS)
AS "AN ASSET ON A STANDALONE BASIS", UNDER IBC, 2016

MARMAGOA STEEL LIMITED - (IN LIQUIDATION)
CIN: L27106GA1987PLC000764

Sale under the provisions of the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code, 2016

Notice is hereby given to the public in general under the provisions of Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code, 2016 and Regulations there under, that the process of sale of Assets of Marmagao Steel Limited, in Liquidation (Corporate Debtor) on "An Asset on a Standalone Basis" basis, forming part of Liquidation Estate formed by the Liquidator, appointed by the Hon'ble NCLT, Mumbai vide order dated February 16, 2023 is scheduled to take place on 06.02.2025. The E-Auction will be conducted on "AS IS WHERE IS BASIS, AS IS WHAT IS BASIS, WHATEVER THERE IS BASIS AND NO RESERVE BASIS". The Auction will be conducted by the undersigned through E-Auction service provider Right2Vote.

All the assets are located at Customs House, Marmagao, Goa-403803.

"Sale of Refractory material (Ladle bricks & Pellets)" on "An Asset On A Standalone Basis" (Under Regulation 32(a) of the Liquidation Regulation 2016)

Sl. No.	Description along with Schedule of Property	Reserve Price	Earliest Money Deposit (EMD)	Incremental Bid Amount
1	Refractory material (Ladle bricks & Pellets) (Qty: Seven Crtns) <td>Rs. 3,36,487/-</td> <td>Rs. 36,000/- (Rupees Thirty Six Thousand Only) <td>Rs. 10,000/- (Rupees Ten Thousand Only) </td></td>	Rs. 3,36,487/-	Rs. 36,000/- (Rupees Thirty Six Thousand Only) <td>Rs. 10,000/- (Rupees Ten Thousand Only) </td>	Rs. 10,000/- (Rupees Ten Thousand Only)

Date and Time of Auction: Thursday, 06.02.2025 From 11:00 AM to 01:00 PM (with unlimited extension of 5 min each)

Last Date of Submission of Expression of Interest (EOI): Tuesday, 21.01.2025 by 06:00 PM

Expression of Interest (EOI) and EMD: Monday, 03.02.2025 by 08:00 PM

Physical Inspection Date and Time (Assets to be auctioned are located at Marmagao, Goa): Saturday, 25.01.2025 'til Sunday, 01.02.2025

The interested Applicants may refer to the complete E-Auction Process Document containing details of terms and conditions of the E-Auction on the website <https://right2vote.in/auction/> or <https://ibkrbyraj.com/> or directly write an email to info@right2vote.com to obtain the same. The Liquidator hereby gives the right to conduct, modify or extend the terms and times of this E-Auction at any time. The Liquidator reserves the right to bid any bid or order without assigning any reason.

Sd/-
ESS Srinivasachandran Murthy
Liquidator of Marmagao Steel Limited