

Give detailed plan on relocating 135-year-old library: SC to Centre

Ananthakrishnan G
New Delhi, October 5

THE SUPREME Court on Monday sought a detailed affidavit from the Centre on its plans to relocate the Central Secretariat Library (CSL), currently housed in Shastri Bhavan which is set to be torn down as part of the Central Vista revamp plan.

Taking suo motu cognizance of *The Indian Express* report on the issue, a bench of Justices Sanjay Kumar and Sanjeev Sachdeva issued notice to the Centre and sought an “affidavit with full details of the area which would be allotted for housing the library alongwith actual layout plans”.

The court also asked the Centre to indicate “whether this library (proposed one) will be sufficient to house not only the books which are presently stored in Shastri Bhavan, but also the books which are stated to be lying in R K Puram.”

On September 30, *The Indian Express* reported that the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs and Central Public Works Department are yet to find space for the 135-year-old library which houses more than 8.5 lakh books.

The report said that in January, the Directorate of Es-



The Supreme Court took suo motu cognizance of *The Indian Express* report published on September 30

ates allotted two rooms, with an area of 300 square metres, at Kartavya Bhavan-2 for the CSL. The Ministry of Culture, which administers the CSL, rejected this, replying that the space allotted was far from sufficient.

Following the publication of the report, the Ministry, in a post, said: “It is clarified that space for the Central Secretariat Library has been provided for in the Kartavya Path redevelopment plan. The necessary process for construction of the library is underway.”

The Indian Express also reported that around 2 lakh books in the regional languages section have remained locked up in boxes in an office complex in R K Puram for the past 15 years after this section was “closed temporarily” in 2011 for Metro construction.

Taking up the matter on

Monday, Justice Kumar said: “Credit where it’s due. This issue was flagged by one of my former colleagues, a retired judge of the Punjab and Haryana High Court who is as fond of paper as he is now appreciative of AI and all that it has to offer.”

Addressing Additional Solicitor General Aishwarya Bhati, who represented the Centre, he said: “Going by this newspaper report, this is a library which dates back to 1891 with writings of 1702. Very well to say that we should cut down on paper, but that doesn’t mean that you don’t take care of the valuable papers that you already have. You are allotting two rooms in that Kartavya Bhavan, that’s it?”

Bhati said that after the issue was flagged, she had taken instructions, and handed over a report to the bench. She said the report was signed by the Director, Central Vista. “Please see what is planned,” she said.

Justice Kumar, however, sought a proper reply from the Centre, with an affidavit giving an undertaking. He asked if the space proposed to be allocated was “leaving out the 2 lakh books which are lying in R K Puram... cartons which have not been opened since 2011.”

Bhati responded that “bigger space across two floors is being planned”, and the proposed area was more than the current area.

Justice Kumar expressed doubt on whether this would include the 2 lakh books.

The bench said the Centre must produce detailed plans “because if you are having conference rooms etc, the actual storage area for these books... you have to tell us there enough area, because if you have all these trappings there, then the area for actual book storage would go down drastically”.

The court fixed the next hearing for November 16.

ONE NATION, ONE ELECTION BILLS

SC gave its nod on Sept 22, but cancelled meet with House panel later, says Chairman

Express News Service
New Delhi, October 5

THE CHAIRMAN of the Joint Committee of Parliament on One Nation, One Election Bills, P P Chaudhary, on Monday said the Supreme Court on September 22 wrote to the committee confirming a meeting with its members at 4.30 pm on October 6, before deciding to cancel it on October 1 following objections raised to the proposed meeting.

The committee was scheduled to visit the court for a “local study visit”, including an “informal discussion” with Chief Justice of India Surya Kant and other judges of the Supreme Court “on the issue of simultaneous elections”, as per the programme circulated to the panel members.

Controversy over the proposed meeting erupted last week when Rajya Sabha MP Kapil Sibal addressed a press conference on October 1, calling the meeting “unconstitutional” as the Bills being deliberated by the committee could someday come before the court for adjudication.

The Supreme Court wrote to the committee on October 1 afternoon, cancelling the meeting, saying the matter was discussed among senior judges



P P Chaudhary

and it was felt that it would not be desirable to have the discussion as the Bills may become a subject of judicial review.

Speaking to reporters after a meeting of the Parliamentary committee on Monday, Chaudhary said the meeting was fixed by the Supreme Court after it was suggested by DMK MP and lawyer P Wilson. He said after the Supreme Court wrote to the committee on September 22, fixing the time of the meeting, all members were informed. Law Minister Arjun Ram Meghwal submitted “material” to the court; the lists of members and officers who would take part in the meeting were also shared.

“After eight or nine days, when some issues were raised publicly, the Supreme Court felt... it would not be proper to have the meeting, so we also in-

formed the members. If it is not appropriate, then we should not pursue the matter,” Chaudhary said. He added that committee of Parliament had interacted with the Supreme Court in the past.

Earlier in the day, the matter is learnt to have come up in the meeting of the committee. Wilson is learnt to have read out a letter explaining the matter. The DMK MP is learnt to have said that he had suggested the meeting with the court in the interest of broad-based consultation. He is learnt to have noted that the meeting could not take place due to political objections.

Wilson is learnt to have said that seeking the judges’ informal views cannot amount to seeking adjudication from the court. He is also learnt to have cited past examples, including when the draft Constitution was circulated to seek views from judges in 1948, as well as some recent examples, including meetings of Parliamentary committees with judges regarding the Mediation Bill, virtual courts and National Legal Services Authority.

Congress MP Manish Tewari is learnt to have said the decision to consult the Supreme Court was a grave error, given that the Bills could end up before the court. After Wil-

son made his point that such meetings had been held in the past, Tewari is learnt to have asked why then was the meeting cancelled.

The committee is also learnt to have held interactions with Chief Economic Advisor V Anantha Nageswaran, Chairman, Economic Advisory Council to Prime Minister, S Mahendra Dev and Vivekananda International Foundation chairman S Gurumurthy. They are learnt to have supported the idea of simultaneous elections. The CEA, it is learnt, told the committee that frequent elections bring the focus on revenue expenditure instead of capital expenditure, and can lead to policy paralysis. Gurumurthy is learnt to have flagged that frequent elections lead to the creation of paid party workers and use of money power in elections, as opposed to voluntary cadres.

The committee is examining the Constitution (129th Amendment) Bill, 2024, and the Union Territories Laws (Amendment) Bill, 2024, that were introduced in December 2024. The Bills provide for a one-time curtailment of terms of state Assemblies to align with that of the Lok Sabha to pave the way for a simultaneous election to the Lok Sabha and all Assemblies.

OFFICE OF THE ENGINEER-IN-CHIEF (CIVIL), ODISHA
NIRMAN SOUDHA, UNIT-V, BHUBANESWAR
INVITATIONS FOR BIDS (IFB)
E-mail ID:cebuildings_orissa@yahoo.co.in
cebuildings@rediffmail.com Tel. -(0674)-2391523

File No- B-I-Rev.-01/2026 Lr. No. 36734 Bhubhaneswar, dtd. 3rd Oct., 2026

Invitation for Bids
1st Corrigendum

Bid Identification No. CE-Bldg-138/2026-27

Name of the Works:

“Construction of Annex Building with Training, Administrative Support Facilities and 500 Seater Auditorium of ROTI, Gothapatana, Bhubaneswar on Turkey Basis”.

The following changes have been made in Bid Identification No. CE-Bldg-138/2026-27

Bid documents can be seen / downloaded from the Govt. Website i.e. www.tenderservice.gov.in, during the period dt.12.10.2026 to 17.30 hours of dt.02.11.2026 instead of dt.05.10.2026 to 17.30 Hours of dt.26.10.2026 for ONLINE BIDDING respectively.

1. A pre-bid meeting shall be held on dt.22.11.2026 at 11:30 AM at the Conference Hall of Office of the Chief Engineer (Buildings-I), Odisha, Nirman Soudha, Unit-V, Bhubaneswar instead of dt.13.10.2026.

2. Online bids shall be received till 17.30 Hours of dt.02.11.2026 instead of dt.26.10.2026.

3. Hardcopy shall be received on or before dt.06.11.2026 up to 17.30 Hours by this office instead of dt.30.10.2026.

4. The technical bids will be opened at 11.30 A.M. of dt.07.11.2026 instead of dt.31.10.2026.

All other terms and conditions remain unchanged.

Sd/-
Engineer-in-Chief (Civil)
(U/c) Chief Engineer, Buildings-I, Odisha,
Bhubaneswar

OIPR- 34001/34117/1/26-27/0081

OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR GENERAL, MEDICAL EDUCATION & TRAINING
2nd floor, Kisan Bazar, Vibhuti Khand, Gomtinagar - 226 010, UP
No. ME-3/I/817622/2026 Lucknow, Dated: 05.10.2026

THE SCHEDULE OF "THIRD ROUND" OF ONLINE COUNSELING FOR UP NEET MDS-2026

In continuation of the time-table issued by Medical Counseling Committee (MCC), New Delhi for counseling of NEET MDS course, the time-table of third round of online counseling for admission of state quota seats of MDS course in Government / Private Dental Colleges / Universities of the State is as follows:

Sl.#	Description	Dates
1.	Date of online registration	06 October, 2026 (From 11:00 am) to 08 October, 2026 (Till 11:00 am)
2.	Date of depositing registration and security Fee	06 October, 2026 (From 11:00 am) to 08 October, 2026 (Till 02:00 pm)
3.	Date of Declaration of Merit List	08 October, 2026
4.	Date of Online Choice Filling	08 October, 2026 (From 5:00 pm) to 12 October, 2026 (Till 11:00 am)
5.	Date of Declaration of result of seat allotment	12 October, 2026
6.	Downloading allotment Letters and Admission Process	13 October, 2026 to 17 October, 2026

All information related to UP NEET MDS 2026 counseling will be uploaded on Departmental website <https://upneet.gov.in> and www.dgme.up.gov.in

Help Line Numbers: 8189011696, 8189011697, 8189011698, 8189011699, 8189011700

APC ROAD SEALDAH BRANCH,
BANK OF BARODA 53 ABC TOWER PLAZA,
SURYA SEN STREET,KOLKATA-700009

VEHICLE E-AUCTION NOTICE

Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the to the Borrower (s) and Guarantor (s) that Bank has repossessed/seized the Hypothecated Motor Vehicle mentioned below in exercise of the powers conferred under Hypothecation/Loan Agreement executed by the parties and Vehicle will be sold on “As is where is”, “As is what is”, and “Whatever there is” basis for recovery of dues in below mentioned account/s. The details of Borrower/s/Guarantor/s/Vehicle/Total Dues/Reserve Price/e-Auction date & Time, EMD and Bid Increase Amount are mentioned below —

Sr No.	Name & address of Borrower/s/ Guarantor	Total Dues	Vehicle Make & Model RTO RegdNo.	1. Date of e- Auction Time of E- auction- Start Time to End Time 2. Last date and time of submission of Bid	1. Reserve Price- Rs. /- 2. Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) Rs. /- 3. Bid Increase Amount Rs. /-	EMD deposit Account No. IFSC Code Bank of Baroda Branch	Vehicle / Movable Asset Inspection date & Time
1	SANDIP KUMAR ROY 4TH FLOOR FLAT 4A H NO 10026 UDAYAN PALLY, ICHAPORE, BARRACKPUR-I NORTH 24PARGANAS WEST BENGAL 743144	Rs. 8,43,137/- PLUS INTEREST AND OTHER CHARGES W.E.F FROM 03-07-2025	HYUNDAI I 20 SPORTZ(0) MT REGISTRATION NO: WB-24BM-6831	07-11-2026 2PM TO 6PM 07-11-2026 6PM	RS. 4,72,500/- RS. 47,250/- RS. 10,000	BAANKNET.COM E-WALLET	Any Working Days 10AM TO 4PM (WITH PRIOR APPOINTMENT)

For detailed terms and conditions of sale, please refer/visit to the website link <https://baanknet.com>. Prospective bidders may contact on Mobile No. 8272968814
Place: Kolkata
Date: 05-10-2026

Authorised Officer,
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BRAHMAPUR BRANCH
628 Rishi raj Narayan Bose Road,
Brahmapur, Kolkata- 700096

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Sr. No.	Name and address of Borrower/s/ Guarantor	Total Dues	Vehicle Make and Model RTO Registration No.	1.Date of e-Auction, Time of e-Auction start time- To End Time — 2. Last date and time of submission of Bid.	1.Reserved Price Rs. 2.Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) 3.Bid Increase Amount Rs.	EMD deposit Account No. IFSC Code Bank of Baroda Branch	Vehicle / Movable Asset Inspection date and time
1	Ms. Nilanjana Roy Chowdhury Address: 8B 8C Green Park, Ganguli Bagan, South 24 Parganas, Kolkata – 700 084. Mob No- 8777590545	Rs. 4,36,320.02/- as on 30.09.2026 plus further Interest and other charges till the date of auction	Make: TATA Motors Model : TIAGO XE 1.2RTN BS6PH2 RTO Regd No. -WB20BY 1635 Colour: Opal White Engine No.: REVTNR19EVXK60293 Chassis No: MAT626367RKE38572	1.Date of e-Auction : 28-10-2026 Time of e-Auction start Time: 14:00 P.M To End Time: 18:00 P.M. 2. Last date and time of submission of Bid: 28-10-2026 & 18:00 P.M	1. Reserve Price- Rs. 2,47,500.00/- 2. Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) Rs. 24,750.00/- 3. Bid Increase Amount- Rs. 10,000.00/-	BAANKNET.COM E-WALLET	Any working Day Time: 10:00 A.M. to 4:00 P.M.

For detailed terms and conditions of sale, please refer/visit to the website link <https://www.https.baanknet.com>. Prospective bidders may contact to Branch Manager, BOB Brahmapur Branch on Mobile - 8335075592
Place: Kolkata
Date: 05-10-2026

Authorised Officer,
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BAISHNABGHATA BRANCH
D-6, Baishnabghata Patuli Township
Kolkata 700094

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Sr No.	Name & address of Borrower/s/ Guarantor	Total Due s.	Vehicle Make & Model RTO Regd No.	1. Date of e- Auction Time of E-auction- Start Time to End Time 2. Last date and time of submission of Bid.	1. Reserve Price-Rs. /- 2. Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) Rs./- 3. Bid Increase Amount Rs. /-	EMD deposit Account No. IFSC Code Bank of Baroda Branch	Vehicle / Movable Asset Inspection date & Time
1	Suman Sengupta P 130, Sinhati Colony para, Behala, Kolkata – 700034	Rs 5,76,159/- Plus Unapplied Interest thereon	Honda Amaze MMC 1.2 VX MT(I-VTEC) REGISTRATION NO: WB02AT1963	07-11-2026 2PM TO 6PM 07-11-2026 6PM	RS. 4,05,000/- RS. 40,500/- RS. 10,000	BAANKNET.COM E-WALLET	Any Working Days 10AM TO 4PM (WITH PRIOR APPOINTMENT)

For detailed terms and conditions of sale, please refer/visit to the website link <https://baanknet.com>. Prospective bidders may contact on Mobile No. 9051405724
Place: Kolkata
Date: 05-10-2026

Authorised Officer,
Bank of Baroda

‘I have not signalled Akali Dal and BJP alliance for Punjab polls’

WITH THE Assembly elections in Punjab just over four months away, Shiromani Akali Dal (SAD)'s lone MP **Harsimrat Kaur Badal** is holding at least three meetings a day as she leads her party's women-focused Mawan Dhiyan Insaaf Yatra against drugs across the state.

In an interview with **Raakhi Jagga**, the four-time Bathinda MP spoke about the drug problem in the state, her party's vision for Punjab, speculation surrounding her entry into state politics, and the buzz about the SAD-BJP alliance, among other issues. Excerpts:

Your anti-drug campaign, which is focused on women affected by the drug problem, is in contrast to the AAP's Mawan Dhiyan Satkar Yojana. Does this make your outreach difficult?

I do not intend to compete with anyone through my programme, which is about feeling the pain of women who are the worst-affected by the drug menace in Punjab. Women tell me that they are scared to send their children to schools and colleges.

The AAP government's scheme (Mawan Dhiyan Satkar financial aid scheme for women) is mere symbolism. Instead of providing an aid of Rs 60,000 over a five-year period, they started the scheme just six months before the polls.

Women affected by drugs are attending my programmes voluntarily.

Chief Minister Bhagwant Mann blames the previous



HARSIMRAT KAUR BADAL
BATHINDA MP, SHIROMANI AKALI DAL

SAD-BJP govt between 2007 and 2017 for the drug problem...

When we were in power, drugs were not being sold openly on the streets of Punjab nor were youngsters seen with syringe-poked arms. The AAP is just trying to defame the BJP-SAD tenure but the fact remains that *chitta* (heroin) is being sold like toffees in Punjab today.

Complainants in cases of drugs are being threatened and punished rather than drug suppliers. We often find policemen accused of selling heroin. There is a nexus between drug suppliers and the police. How can someone who was in power 10 years ago be responsible for today's problems?

The CM often takes a dig at Nanhi Chhan, your NGO which also campaigns against drugs.

Nanhi Chhan is very close to my heart. I started it decades ago when I was not active in politics.

I have empowered over 14,000 women.

With regard to Mann's criticism, what else can I expect from a “Guru Dokhi” (anti-Guru) CM, who has not empowered a single woman... His speeches show how much he respects women. I brought AIIMS to Bathinda. He has not brought a single project for the state during his tenure.

What is the Mawan Dhiyan Di Fauj campaign about?

Mawan Dhiyan Di Fauj is to identify drug traffickers and their godfathers across the state. We will empower our women to become the catalysts of change. I have released a form and it would be distributed in every village. I urge women to fill the form... Women should record all acts of drug trafficking around them with names of the traffickers and peddlers as well as those who were patronising them. The forms would be forwarded to a special anti-drug task force headed by a woman

DGP for speedy action when the SAD govt comes to power.

What is your response to the buzz that your political activity has increased as you may enter state politics and could be projected as SAD's CM face?

These are rumours being spread by our rivals. I have always been in the state as I belong to a regional party. We understand the pain of Punjab and Punjabis. This is my state.

So far, I have covered 14 Assembly constituencies through my yatra and will cover more...

What are your views on the possible alliance between the SAD and the BJP?

Contrary to perception, I have not given any indication about this possible alliance. When asked (in August) by our constituency in-charge of Longowal about an educational institution in the area, I had said if SAD comes to power, the constituency will see development.

I was just referring to former CM Parkash Singh Badal's abilities to get projects for Punjab through his goodwill irrespective of who was ruling at the Centre. My statement was misinterpreted.

How do you see SAD's chances in the 2027 Assembly polls?

The Congress won in 2017 after being out of power for 10 years. I firmly believe that public support can bring SAD to power as people no longer want Delhi to govern them. Ours is a party of Punjabis and for Punjabis.

RS polls: Union Ministers Hardeep Puri, B L Verma not in BJP's UP list

Lalmani Verma & Jatin Anand
Lucknow, New Delhi, Oct 5

THE BJP Monday announced eight candidates for the October 16 Rajya Sabha elections from Uttar Pradesh, leaving out Union Ministers Hardeep Singh Puri and B L Verma, whose terms in the Upper House are set to end next month.

Puri is currently the Union Minister for Petroleum and Natural Gas. Verma is the Minister of State for Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution, and Social Justice and Empowerment.

With their Rajya Sabha terms ending on November 25 and the BJP not renominating them, they can continue as the Union ministers for up to six months without being a member of either House of Parliament, as



Union Ministers Hardeep Singh Puri and B L Verma

per the constitutional provisions. The omission of the two ministers' names was seen as an indication that there could be a reshuffle of the Union ministry in the coming months.

The BJP's list of Rajya Sabha candidates from UP comprises three OBC faces, two Brahmins, two Dalits and one Thakur nominee. The list increases the share of OBCs and Dalits because the eight seats falling vacant had two OBCs, two Thakurs, two

Brahmins along with one Dalit and one Sikh.

Among the OBC candidates this time is Dharanpal Singh, the BJP MLA from Bareilly's Aonla and a minister in the Yogi Adityanath-led government, where he holds the Animal Husbandry and Dairy Development portfolio. Singh is a Lodhi, with his nomination seen as a replacement for Verma who also belongs to the community. The Lodhi group is influential in the Bundelkhand and Rohilkhand regions of UP, which has traditionally backed the BJP. Its support for the party is also linked to former UP CM late Kalyan Singh, a Lodhi leader who was one of BJP's tallest OBC leaders. The other two OBC nominees in the BJP's list are Prakash Pal, state president of the party's OBC Morcha who hails

from Kanpur district, and Shruti Gangwar of Bareilly. Shruti, an IIT graduate, is the daughter of Jharkhand Governor Santosh Gangwar. She has been politically active in the Bareilly-Baheri region.

The two Brahmin nominees are Radha Kant Ojha, a lawyer from Prayagraj and younger brother of former minister Shivakant Ojha, and Gopi Krishna Pandey of Kanpur, who has worked in the party's farmer and youth wings. The BJP's Dalit candidates are former Barabanki MP Priyanka Singh Rawat, a state party vice-president, and Vidya Sagar Sonkar from Jaunpur, former MLCA and state party general secretary. The eighth nominee Ram Pratap Singh Chauhan, former MLA from Agra, is a state BJP general secretary in charge of the western region.