

Delhi govt schools choke, private ones turn to air filters

SOPHIA MATHEW &
DRISHTI JAIN

New Delhi, December 19

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"What are the PM 2.5 levels?" she asked. "How can the CO2 levels be so high?" she demanded to know, her eyes on an air quality monitor. "Did the children just leave the room?"

The carbon dioxide level had just crossed the safe limit of 1,000 parts per million (ppm); the PM 2.5 reading was around 200 micrograms/cubic metre. The class teacher told her the reason: yes, the 30-odd children had left just a few minutes ago, and yes, the classroom door had been left slightlyajar.

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Teachers at the school have been trained to monitor readings throughout the day, and to adjust windows and vents as needed, the Junior School head said. It was essential to ensure that small children who, along with the elderly, are the most vulnerable to air pollution, are kept safe, she said.

As part of its standard operating procedure (SOP), this school stops physical education lessons and all outdoor activity if the air quality index (AQI) is between 200, where "poor" begins, and 350,

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which is halfway into the 'very poor' zone. Other top schools in the city have similar SOPs – at an international school, it is a "Red Day" if the AQI reaches 300, and it becomes compulsory to wear masks outside classrooms.

When the PM 2.5 level becomes 40 times the WHO safe limit of 15 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ (24-hour average), attendance is no longer compulsory.

Jai Dhar Gupta, who formulated the design response action plans for The British School and The Ardee School, said air purifiers were "a big no". "The solution for any classroom is filtered ventilation, as recommended by the American Society of Heating, Refrigeration and Air-Conditioning Engineers," he said.

Gupta, who was part of the Delhi government's air pollution task force in 2015, said most schools were not prepared for pollution-related health emergencies.

"Schools can't wait for a health advisory. Every school needs its own GRAP," he said.

No reliable data on total costs is available, but most schools said the annual cost of maintaining each air purifying unit came to around ₹12,000 on average.

'English would not touch hearts in anti-elite era'

HEENA KHANDELWAL
Mumbai, December 19

OVER THE YEARS, stand-up comedian Zakir Khan has broken ceilings and defied norms. But when he recently headlined a full-length show at New York's iconic Madison Square Garden – the first time the venue hosted a Hindi stand-up – it became a moment everyone back home came together to celebrate.

Speaking at the Express Adda in Mumbai on Thursday, Khan reflected on how stand-up comedy in India naturally leaned heavily on English initially. "The art form comes from abroad, so everybody was performing in English," he said. "But when I saw it, I personally felt it was a foreign language and wouldn't touch people's hearts. So I held my ground."

Born and raised in Indore, Madhya Pradesh, into a middle-class Rajasthani Muslim family, Khan said he consciously tried to take "the language I am comfortable in to the maximum number of people."

The initial years, he admitted, were tough. "I personally feel this is an anti-elite era," he said, explaining how he eventually found an audience that resonated with his voice and language.



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Drawing a parallel with global pop culture, he said, "If kids in India are willing to learn Korean because of content, I believe the day will come when people outside India will want to learn Hindi because of our conversations and stories."

Khan said "there is hegemony in language, classism around how one should speak."

"But the way you speak," he added, "comes from context – where you're from, which school you went to, which region you belong to. It's the same with Hindi."

Khan, who was in conversation with Anant Goenka, Executive Director, The Indian Express Group, and Devendra Pandey, Deputy Associate Editor, The Indian Express, kept the audience engaged through candid reflections, punctuated by humour that surfaced effortlessly through the conversation.

When asked whether he, as an artist at the pinnacle of success, feels insecure, Khan spoke at length about class, inheritance and the absence of safety nets. "I pay a lot of attention to people who come from genera-

tional wealth, or from families that have been in the same profession for two or three generations, or even royal families," he said. "I respect them a lot, because they have a hand to hold, and we don't."

"No matter how tall a building we construct, our foundation is fragile," he continued. "I was supposed to be a music teacher in some school, and yet I'm standing here. No matter how much I prepare myself or reassure myself, I know my foundation is weak. I don't have that training, that inheritance of

confidence."

Insecurity, he said, becomes permanent companion. "You live with the constant fear that something will go wrong tomorrow, that everything could be taken away. You wake up with this thought every day because you have no backing. You are walking on a thin margin."

"The world is divided between the haves and the have-nots – the cool and the uncool," he said. "I have always been the leader of the uncool group. The cool group may let you enter their world, give you a seat at the table, but they are not your friends. The margin for error is razor-thin. If you slip once, you are out. Their own people can make a hundred mistakes without consequence. I walk around with the awareness that I have no margin for error."

However, when it comes to his craft, Khan said he feels completely secure. "I carry no insecurity in my work."

On stand-up comics having been targeted for what they say, Khan said restraint was essential.

"You can't operate with the idea of 'I'll say whatever I feel like.' Every culture and country has its ethos and sensitivities. There are certain things you simply cannot say, and one must keep that in mind."

Trump suspends green card lottery programme

ASSOCIATED PRESS
Washington, December 19

PRESIDENT DONALD TRUMP has suspended the green card lottery programme that allowed the suspect in the Brown University and MIT shootings to come to the United States.

Homeland Security Secretary Kristi Noem said in a post on the social platform X that, at Trump's direction, she is ordering the United States Citizenship and Immigration Services to pause the programme.

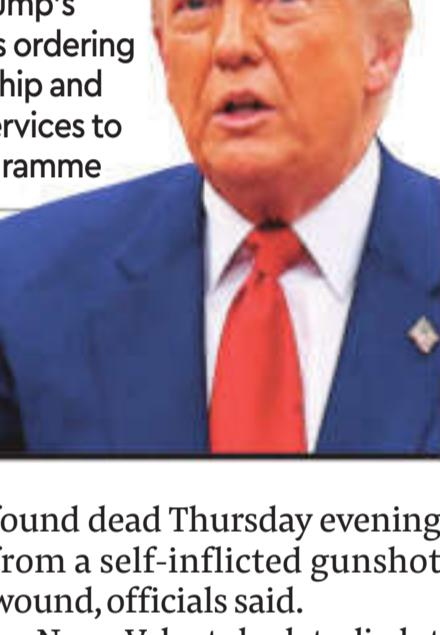
"This heinous individual should never have been allowed in our country," she said of the suspect, Portuguese national Claudio Neves Valente.

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STRINGENT MEASURES

■ The green card lottery programme allowed Brown University, MIT shootings suspect into US

■ Neves Valente is suspected in the shootings at Brown University that killed 2 students and wounded 9 others, and the killing of an MIT professor



pected in the shootings at Brown University that killed two students and wounded nine others, and the killing of an MIT professor. He was

found dead Thursday evening from a self-inflicted gunshot wound, officials said.

Neves Valente had studied at Brown on a student visa begin-

ning in 2000, according to an affidavit from a Providence police detective. In 2017, he was issued a diversity immigrant visa and months later obtained legal permanent residence status, according to the affidavit.

It was not immediately clear where he was between taking a leave of absence from the school in 2001 and getting the visa in 2017. The diversity visa programme makes up to 50,000 green cards available each year by lottery to people from countries that are little represented in the US, many of them in Africa. The lottery was created by Congress, and the move is almost certain to invite legal challenges.

Nearly 20 million people

applied for the 2025 visa lottery, with over 131,000 selected when including spouses with the winners. After winning, they must undergo vetting to win admission to the United States. Portuguese citizens won only 38 slots. Lottery winners are invited to apply for a green card. They are interviewed at consulates and subject to the same requirements and vetting as other green-card applicants.

Trump has long opposed the diversity visa lottery. Noem's announcement is the latest example of using tragedy to advance immigration policy goals. After an Afghan man was identified as the gunman in a fatal attack on National Guard members in November.

NOTICE



EDELWEISS FINANCIAL SERVICES LIMITED

CIN: L19999MH1995PLC094641

Regd. Office: Edelweiss House, Off C.S.T. Road, Kalina, Mumbai - 400098.

Tel: +91 22 4079 5199 Website: www.edelweissfin.com

E-mail: efsi.sharesholders@edelweissfin.com

TRANSFER OF EQUITY SHARES OF THE COMPANY TO THE INVESTOR EDUCATION AND PROTECTION FUND AUTHORITY

Notice is hereby given to the Members of Edelweiss Financial Services Limited (the Company) that in accordance with the provisions of Sections 124, 125 and other applicable provisions, if any, of the Companies Act, 2013, (the Act) and the Investor Education and Protection Fund Authority (Accounting, Audit, Transfer and Refund) Rules 2016, (the Rules) and the Circulars, Guidelines and instructions issued thereunder from time to time by the Investor Education and Protection Fund Authority (IEPFA), the Ministry of Corporate Affairs (the MCA), the Equity Shares in respect of which dividend amount has remained unpaid or unclaimed for a period of seven (7) consecutive years are required to be transferred by the Company to the Beneficial Owner / Demat Account of the IEPFA.

As per the requirements set out in the Act and the Rules, the Company has communicated individually to the concerned Shareholders at their address / e-mail address as available with the Depository/ies/ Depository Participant(s) / Registrar & Transfer Agent of the Company whose dividend amount has remained unpaid or unclaimed for a period of seven (7) consecutive years and consequently whose Equity Shares are liable to be transferred by the Company to the Beneficial Owner / Demat Account of the IEPFA.

The details of the Shareholders including their unpaid / unclaimed dividends and the Equity Shares liable to be transferred to the Beneficial Owner / Demat Account of IEPFA is available on the website of the Company at www.edelweissfin.com, which shall also be regarded and shall be deemed to be an adequate notice for the purpose of transfer of Equity Shares by the Company to IEPFA pursuant to the provisions of the Act and the Rules. The Shareholders are requested to verify the details of their unpaid / unclaimed dividends and the Equity Shares liable to be transferred to IEPFA on the website of the Company.

The Shareholders who have not claimed their dividends for a period of seven (7) consecutive years and whose dividends is unpaid / unclaimed are requested to claim such unpaid / unclaimed dividends by making an application and providing supporting documents for the purpose either to the Company at the above stated address / e-mail ID or to the Registrar & Transfer Agent of the Company at M/s. MUFG Intime India Private Limited (Unit: Edelweiss Financial Services Limited), C-101, 247 Park, LBS Marg, Vikhroli (West), Mumbai - 400083, e-mail: rnt.helpline@in.mpmms.mufg.com (RTA) by February 19, 2026.

The Shareholders are also requested to claim their unpaid / unclaimed interim dividend for the financial year 2018-19 and onwards before the same is transferred by the Company to IEPFA on respective due date. In case any unpaid / unclaimed dividend is disbursed, paid or credited during / out of the aforesaid period of seven (7) consecutive years, then such Equity Shares will not be transferred to the IEPF Authority. In case the Company / the RTA does not receive any application in this regard, we shall proceed to transfer the Equity Shares to the IEPFA without any further reference, notice or intimation to the shareholder in accordance with the provisions of the Act and the Rules.

The details of the Shareholders including their unpaid / unclaimed dividends and the Equity Shares liable to be transferred to the Beneficial Owner / Demat Account of IEPFA is available on the website of the Company at www.edelweissfin.com, which shall also be regarded and shall be deemed to be an adequate notice for the purpose of transfer of Equity Shares by the Company to IEPFA including the benefits accruing on such Equity Shares, if any, from the IEPFA by making an online application in Form No. IEPF-5 in accordance with and after following the procedure prescribed in the Rules which is available at the website of IEPFA at www.iepf.gov.in.

Please note that after the transfer of the unpaid / unclaimed dividend amount and / or the Equity Shares by the Company to IEPFA, no claim shall lie against the Company in respect of such unpaid/ unclaimed dividend amount and / or the Equity Shares transferred by the Company to the IEPFA including the benefits accruing on such Equity Shares, if any, from the IEPFA by making an online application in Form No. IEPF-5 in accordance with and after following the procedure prescribed in the Rules which is available at the website of IEPFA at www.iepf.gov.in.

For any queries, clarification or information on this matter, the Shareholders are requested to write to the Company / the RTA of the Company at the above stated address / e-mail IDs.

Yours faithfully,
For Edelweiss Financial Services Limited

Sd/-
Tarun Khurana
Company Secretary

Cords Cable Industries Limited
Registered Office: 94, 1st Floor, Shambhu Dayal Bagh Marg,
Near Okhla Industrial Area Phase-II, Old Ishwar Nagar, New Delhi - 110020
Tel: 011-40512000 * Fax: 011-20887232 * E-mail: ccil@cordscable.com
website: www.cordscable.com * CIN: L74999DL1991PLC046092

NOTICE

Pursuant to the provisions of SEBI (Prohibition of Insider Trading) Regulations, 2015 and Company's Code for prevention of Insider Trading, the Trading Window for dealing in the Securities of the Company shall remain closed from Thursday, 01st January, 2026 to consider and approve the Un-audited standalone & consolidated Financial Results for the Quarter ending on 31st December, 2025. The notice of this meeting is also available on the Company's website (www.gujaratgas.com) and also on the Stock Exchanges' website of National Stock Exchange of India Limited at (www.nseindia.com) and BSE Limited at (www.bseindia.com).

For details on the eligibility to participate in the bid process and for submission of Expression of Interest and list of Investments, please visit website of DBS India: go.dbs.com/corpimportannouncements

Further, for any queries, DBS India can be contacted at rajeshgawde@dbs.com / panchalc@dbs.com

Place: Mumbai

Date: 19th December, 2025

Issued by
Authorised Officer

DBS Bank India Limited
Express Tower, Level 19, Nariman Point, Mumbai - 400 021, Maharashtra.



INVITATION FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST FOR SALE OF INVESTMENT PORTFOLIO

DBS BANK INDIA LIMITED, a company registered under the Companies Act, 2013, having its registered office at GF Nos. 11 & 12 & FF Nos. 110 to 115, Capitol Point, BKS Marg, Connaught Place, New Delhi-110001 and Mumbai office at Express Tower, Level 19, Nariman Point, Mumbai - 400 021, Maharashtra (hereinafter referred to as "DBS India") proposes to sell Investment ("Investments") portfolio comprises of equity and debentures to all eligible participants/buyers including but not limited to Scheduled Commercial Banks, Non-Banking Financial Companies, Asset Reconstruction Companies, Small Finance Banks and All India Financial Institutions, who would like to participate in the competitive bidding process are required to intimate their willingness to participate by submitting in writing, expression of interest ("EOI") and executing non-disclosure agreement ("NDA") with DBS India.

For details on the eligibility to participate in the bid process and for submission of Expression of Interest and list of Investments, please visit website of DBS India: go.dbs.com/corpimportannouncements

Further, for any queries, DBS India can be contacted at rajeshgawde@dbs.com / panchalc@dbs.com

Place: Mumbai

Date: 20.12.2025

Issued by
Authorised Officer

CORRIGENDUM TO THE NOTICE OF POSTAL BALLOT

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Adding more ACs, Gupta argued, only creates an "accelerated CO2 environment" while also increasing greenhouse gas emissions. "You're putting your child into a bunker without understanding the science," he said.

Case studies of popular air purification systems installed in Delhi's top schools claim significant success in combating this situation. This clean air obviously has a cost.

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Delhi govt schools choke, private ones turn to air filters

SOPHIA MATHEW &
DRISHTI JAIN

New Delhi, December 19

IN THE NURSERY section of an elite South Delhi school this week, the head of Junior School conferred urgently with a class teacher whose students had left the room for a few minutes at the change of periods.

"What are the PM2.5 levels?" she asked. "How can the CO2 levels be so high?" she demanded to know, her eyes on an air quality monitor. "Did the children just leave the room?"

The carbon dioxide level had just crossed the safe limit of 1,000 parts per million (ppm); the PM2.5 reading was around 200 micrograms/cubic metre. The class teacher told her the reason: yes, the 30-odd children had left just a few minutes ago, and yes, the classroom door had been left slightlyajar.

At the school, a close and constant watch is kept on fluctuations in air quality and pollutant concentrations, the Junior School head said.

All the classrooms are in a "YOGA Clean Air Bubble", an air-purifying technology that claims to combine "traditional ventilation with modern filtration science" to create a "closed-loop bubble" in any indoor space.

Teachers at the school have been trained to monitor readings throughout the day, and to adjust windows and vents as needed, the Junior School head said. It was essential to ensure that small children who, along with the elderly, are the most vulnerable to air pollution, are kept safe, she said.

As part of its standard operating procedure (SOP), this school stops physical education lessons and all outdoor activity if the air quality index (AQI) is between 200, where "poor" begins, and 350,

SURVIVAL STRATEGIES



- CO2 levels has crossed the safe limit of 1,000 ppm; the PM2.5 reading was around 200 micrograms/cubic metre
- Teachers are trained to monitor readings throughout the day, and to adjust windows, vents as needed
- As part of its SOP, schools have stopped PE lessons & outdoor activity if the AQI is between 200 and 350
- The solution for classrooms is filtered ventilation, as recommended by the American Society of Heating

which is halfway into the 'very poor' zone. Other top schools in the city have similar SOPs – at an international school, it is a "Red Day" if the AQI reaches 300, and it becomes compulsory to wear masks outside classrooms. When the PM2.5 level becomes 40 times the WHO safe limit of 15 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ (24-hour average), attendance is no longer compulsory.

Jai Dhar Gupta, who formulated the design response action plans for The British School and The Ardee School, said air purifiers were "a big no". "The solution for any classroom is filtered ventilation, as recommended by the American Society of Heating, Refrigeration and Air-Conditioning Engineers," he said.

Gupta, who was part of the Delhi government's air pollution task force in 2015, said most schools were not prepared for pollution-related health emergencies.

"Schools can't wait for a health advisory. Every school needs its own GRAP," he said. No reliable data on total costs is available, but most schools said the annual cost of maintaining each air purifying unit came to around ₹12,000 on average.

referring to the Graded Response Action Plan.

Sealing off classrooms to keep out the polluted air is hazardous in itself, Gupta said. He recalled that in 2016, his son had recorded a CO2 level of 1,000 ppm using a carbon dioxide monitor in his inadequately ventilated classroom. "That's when I stopped sending my child to school during the pollution season."

Adding more ACs, Gupta argued, only creates an "accelerated CO2 environment" while also increasing greenhouse gas emissions. "You're putting your child into a bunker without understanding the science," he said.

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