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THE EVOLUTION OF
LEARNING

WORLD 8
OVER 60 LEADERS ENDORSE
KAMALA HARRIS FOR US PRESIDENT

MONEY 10
INDIA'S MANUFACTURING SECTOR
GROWTH EASES SLIGHTLY IN JULY

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North to South, Monsoon Mania ravages India

CAPITAL DELHI

SAUMYA SHUKLA ■ NEW DELHI

Delhi turned into a floating city after record-breaking downpour late on Wednesday, the highest single-day rainfall for July in 14 years, leading to prolonged traffic jams and 11 deaths in the Delhi-NCR areas. A woman and her three-year-old toddler who fell into an overflowing under-construction drain in east Delhi's Ghazipur were among the victims.

The weather station at Safdarjung recorded 108 millimetres of rainfall within a span of 24 hours. It caused major traffic congestion especially in Lutyens Delhi.

The rain led to water leaking from the roof of the lobby of the newly inaugurated Parliament building. Waterlogging was seen around the premises of the new Parliament, particularly near the Makar Dwar of the Parliament. Several videos of the flooding went viral on social media. Opposition leaders took swipe at the Narendra Modi Government over "water leakage" in a lobby of the new Parliament building and praised the "sturdy" old Parliament building for its better infrastructure during monsoon. In a statement Lok Sabha Secretariat said a minor water leak in the new Parliament building was due to displacement of an adhesive material used to fix glass domes over the lobby and corrective measures were taken immediately.

"During the heavy rain on Wednesday, the adhesive material used to fix the glass domes over the Lobby of the Building was slightly displaced, causing minor leakage of water in the Lobby," the Lok Sabha Secretariat said in a statement.



SDRF personnel evacuate stranded people after cloudburst at Junglechatti near Lincholi, in Rudraprayag district, on Thursday



Search and rescue operation underway following a cloudburst, in Rampur area of Shimla district, on Thursday

HIMACHAL / UTTARAKHAND

PNS ■ SHIMLA/DEHRADUN

Building collapsing in Kullu in Himachal Pradesh, roads being washed away, pilgrims being airlifted — these were the scenes in Uttarakhand and neighbouring Himalayan State of HP on Thursday morning as multiple cloudbursts led to rain wreaking havoc in these States.

At least 17 people were killed, 50 missing and hundreds are stranded in Uttarakhand and Himachal Pradesh due to heavy rains and multiple cloudbursts and toll is likely to go up. More than 1,500 pilgrims stranded on the Kedarnath trek route, which is blocked at several places by boulders, have been shifted to safe places. Pilgrims are being rescued with the help of both helicopters and rescue teams consisting of the SDRF, NDRF, police and district administration.

According to officials, 425 pilgrims have been brought to safety by helicopter from Lincholi and Bhimbali while 1100 pilgrims have reached Sonprayag on foot from various places with the help of rescue teams. The pilgrims had got stranded beyond Bhimbali along Gaurikund-Kedarnath trek route when 20-25 metres of the stretch were washed out by heavy rain on Wednesday night, Disaster Management Secretary Vinod Kumar Suman said. While multiple cloudbursts caused severe damage with five people confirmed dead and more than 50 others reported missing in Mandi, Kullu and Shimla.

WAYANAD

KUMAR CHELLAPPAN ■ KOCHI

Even as the South-West Monsoon's fury continued unabated in Wayanad district, the death toll in the massive landslides in Mundakkai settlement crossed 283 mark by 6 pm on Thursday. Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan, who inspected the flood-affected region, told mediapersons that the landslides and deluge which wreaked havoc

in Wayanad district should be declared as a national disaster. The non-stop rain in the district has affected the pace of the rescue operations as disaster response team members were finding it hard to wade through the slush, water and boulders. Though 283 bodies have been retrieved during the last three days of search and rescue operations, rescue workers are yet to make any breakthrough

regarding the dismembered human bodies recovered from the rivers and the landslide-affected regions. There is no information about 240 persons from Mundakkai missing after Tuesday's landslides. Engineers of the Indian Army have almost completed the laying of the Bailey bridge across the Chaliyar river to facilitate rescue operations.



Rescue operation underway after landslides triggered by rain, in Wayanad district, Kerala on Thursday



SC vents its ire on Kejriwal aide Bibhav Kumar's conduct

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court on Thursday came down heavily on Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal's aide Bibhav Kumar who allegedly assaulted AAP Rajya Sabha MP Swati Maliwal, saying "is this kind of goon supposed to work in the CM's residence?"

"He (Bibhav Kumar) acted as if some 'goon' had entered the official residence of CM," said the top court, adding that his entire argument before the High Court was that her allegations are concocted.

A bench of Justices Surya Kant, Dipankar Datta and Ujjal Bhuyan posted Kumar's bail plea for next Wednesday and told senior advocate Abhishek Singhvi, appearing for Kumar, that the court was shocked with the details of the incident recorded by the Delhi High Court. Kumar has challenged the July 12 order of the Delhi High Court denying him bail in the case and claimed that the allegations against him are false. He has also said his custody was no longer required as the probe was over. The apex court also issued a notice to the Delhi Government on his plea. "Is CM residence a private bungalow? Is this kind of 'goon' supposed to work in the CM's residence?" the bench asked Singhvi, who said there were non-serious injuries and the FIR was lodged three days after the May 13 incident. In its scathing remarks, the bench also asked Singhvi what Maliwal calling the police helpline number 112 during the assault indicated.



Apex court upholds quota within quota

RAJESH KUMAR ■ NEW DELHI

In a landmark ruling, the Supreme Court on Thursday ruled that sub-classification within the Scheduled Castes (SC) which form a socially heterogeneous class is permissible into different groups based on their inter se backwardness for extending the benefits of reservation. The court also called for identification of creamy layer among the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes (SC/STs) to take them out of the fold of affirmative action (reservation). The court clarified that while allowing sub-classification, the State cannot earmark 100 per cent reservation for a sub-class. Also, the State has to justify the sub-classification on the basis of empirical

data regarding the inadequacy of representation of the sub-class. A seven-judge Constitution bench headed by Chief Justice DY Chandrachud held by a 6:1 majority that the further sub-classification of SCs and STs by States can be permitted to ensure the grant of quota to more backward castes inside these groups. This judgment overrules the 2004 decision in EV Chinniah vs State of Andhra Pradesh, where a five-judge bench had held that sub-classification was not permissible, arguing that SC/STs form homogenous classes. The bench, which included Justices BR Gavai, Vikram Nath, Bela M Trivedi, Pankaj Mithal, Manoj Misra, and Satish Chandra Sharma, delivered six separate judgments.

Railway Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw assures action on recent accidents

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ NEW DELHI

Under criticism due to series of train accidents and derailments in recent times, Railways Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw on Thursday assured that the Government will make every effort to implement automatic train-protection system Kavach in the right earnest. Vaishnaw, however, did not give any timeline for implementation of Kavach on the entire railways network, but mentioned that smaller countries having much smaller railways networks took more than 20 years to implement the automatic train-protection system. "I can assure you that no stone will be left unturned in the roll



Union Railway Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw speaks in the Lok Sabha during the Monsoon session of Parliament, in New Delhi, on Thursday

out of Kavach. We will work hard day and night and make every effort to install Kavach along every kilometer," Vaishnaw said in a lengthy speech during which he also praised the efforts of 12 lakh railway employees for transporting two crore passengers in about 20,000 trains every day. At one point of time the bureaucrat turned politician also lost his cool responding to Opposition members who were attacking him by terms like 'Derailment Minister' and 'Reel Minister'. Vaishnaw accused the Opposition Congress and "its

social media troll army" of trying to amplify every small incident on the railways network to instill a sense of fear in more than two crore passengers who use the railway network everyday. "The attempts by the Congress to spread misinformation will not succeed," the Minister said, adding that attempts were made by the Congress and the Samajwadi Party to spread "incorrect" information about incidents at the Ayodhya railway station. The Minister's apparent reference to Congress leader and Leader of Opposition Rahul Gandhi's meeting with loco pilots at the New Delhi railway station last month had the Opposition members on their feet.

Trials in Mandir-Masjid dispute to continue, says Allahabad HC

PTI ■ PRAYAGRAJ

The Allahabad High Court on Thursday ruled that the trial in 18 cases relating to the Krishna Janmabhoomi-Shahi Idgah dispute in Mathura can continue, dismissing a petition filed by the mosque committee that challenged the maintainability of these suits. Justice Mayank Kumar Jain had on June 6 reserved his judgment on the plea moved by the Muslim side on maintainability of the suits. The court has now fixed August 12 as the date for framing of issues.

The suits filed by Hindu litigants seek "removal" of the Shahi Idgah mosque adjacent to the Krishna Janmabhoomi temple. The petitions claim that the Aurangzeb-era mosque was built after the demolition of a temple that marked the spot where Lord Krishna was born.

Puja Khedkar denied anticipatory bail

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI



The decks are cleared for arrest of controversial dismissed trainee IAS officer Puja Khedkar after a Delhi court on Thursday denied anticipatory bail to her. She has been accused of "misrepresenting and falsifying facts" in her Union Public Service Commission (UPSC)

Civil Services Examination 2022 application. The denial of anticipatory bail comes with a day after the UPSC, which conducts the civil services examination, cancelled her provisional candidature of Khedkar and permanently debarred her from all the future exams/selections. Denying the anticipatory bail plea of Khedkar, Patiala House

Court Judge Devender Kumar Jangala asked the Delhi Police to find out whether an insider from the complainant (UPSC) helped the applicant (Puja Khedkar). The court also asked to widened the probe in the case and ordered the Delhi Police to investigate if other persons have availed benefits of quotas under OBC and PwD without entitlement.

BSF woman wards off Bangla infiltrators all alone

SAUGAR SINGH ■ KOLKATA

A woman personnel of the Border Security Force has successfully beaten back infiltration bid by an armed band of Bangladeshis fighting them single-handedly at the Ranaghat border out-post of the 68th battalion in Nadia district, sources in the paramilitary organisation said. According to sources the lady official in charge of a CCTV control room on July 30 noticed some 14 people walking towards the Indian side of the border. She immediately rushed towards them and directed them to stop and return. However, armed with knives and other lethal weapons they would not listen and charged at her. The valiant BSF



personnel fought back even as a fellow jawan threw a "stun grenade" from a distance to frighten the intruders away. As the infiltrators continued to advance undeterred the woman constable fired a single shot from her rifle scaring the infiltrators who then ran back

to their side, sources said, adding this was the third such infiltration bid that was foiled in the past one week. Referring to the issue Bengal Opposition Leader Suwendu Adhikari said during Mamata Banerjee's rule infiltration had peaked and that the Trinamool Congress was aiding illegal infiltration to increase its vote base comprising the Rohingyas. "It is the same Mamata who protested valiantly against the Left Government for encouraging infiltrators... and now it is under her Government that the Rohingyas are infiltrating in large numbers and migrating to other parts of the country creating law and order problems," Adhikari earlier said.

Swapnil Kusale adds to India's medal collection at Olympics

PTI ■ CHATEAUX (FRANCE)

On an empty stomach and with his heart racing, Indian shooter Swapnil Kusale kept his composure to stage a remarkable comeback and help the country claim its first ever Olympic bronze in the 50m rifle 3 positions event here on Thursday. Kusale shot an aggregate of 451.4 in the eight-shooter final to finish third after being placed sixth at one stage. It took the country's overall tally to three, all bronze in shooting, at the Paris Games. His medal comes following the stunning performance of Manu Bhaker, who clinched the women's 10m air pistol and mixed team



10m air pistol bronze alongside Sarabjot Singh. "I did not eat anything, was feeling the butterflies (in my stomach). Just had black tea and came here. The night before every match, I just pray to god," Kusale said after his unprecedented achievement.

Rain Fury in Himachal; Five Killed 50 Missing

PNS ■ SHIMLA/MANDI

At least five people were reported missing following several incidents of cloudbursts in Himachal Pradesh on Thursday where rains washed away many houses, bridges and roads.

The state emergency operation centre said the cloudbursts took place in Nirmand, Sainj and Malana areas in Kullu, Padhar in Mandi and Rampur in Shimla districts. The local Meteorological office has issued a "red alert" of heavy to extremely heavy rains along with thunderstorms and lightning at isolated places in three districts of Kangra, Kullu and Mandi.

A cloudburst near Shrikhand Mahadev on Wednesday night triggered flash floods in Sarpara, Ganvi and Kurban nallahs, and as a result, the water in Samej Khud (nallah) in the Rampur subdivision of the Shimla district rose leaving two people dead and about 30 missing, Superintendent of Police (SP), Shimla, Sanjeev Kumar Gandhi said. Four people have been rescued from the spot. The rescue operation is challenging as roads have been washed away, Shimla Deputy Commissioner (DC) Anupam Kashyap said.

The Manali-Chandigarh National Highway has been damaged at several places due to landslides, an official said. The Shimla DC and SP, who were on the spot, said that teams of the Army, National Disaster Response Force (NDRF), Indo-Tibetan Border Police, State Disaster Response Force, police and home guards have started rescue operations and the help of drones is being

taken to locate the missing persons.

Another cloudburst in the Rajban village near Terang in the Padhar subdivision of the Mandi district on Wednesday night left three persons dead and seven missing. Two houses were washed away while another was damaged, officials said. Bodies of Chandi Devi (75), Chaitri Devi (90) and Baijru Ram (80) have been recovered and an injured person (25-year-old Ram Singh) has been rescued in serious condition.

A cloudburst also occurred in Kullu district, leaving seven people missing. "Seven people are missing and about eight-nine houses have been washed away in Bhagipur area of Nirmand block in Kullu district and CISF and special Home Guard (quick response team) have been deputed for search operation to locate the missing persons, Deputy Commissioner Kullu, Torul S Raveesh said. She said three people were missing and three-four houses have been damaged in Samej on the border of Shimla district. A breach was also reported in Malana Dam but the situation is under control.

Some people are stuck in the Malana I hydropower project. They are in underground buildings and safe and NDRF and Home Guard teams are making efforts to rescue them, she said adding that the Manali-Chandigarh National Highway has been breached at numerous places due to landslides and gushing waters of River Beas. All educational institutions and schools in the district have been closed for two days, she said.

Union Home Minister

Amit Shah spoke to Himachal Pradesh Chief Minister Sukhvinder Singh Sukhu and took stock of the situation arising due to the cloudburst in the state, and assured him of all help from the Centre. Speaking with reporters after an emergency meeting on the matter, Sukhu said that massive damage has been caused in Shimla, Kullu and Mandi districts since Wednesday night and about 50 persons are missing and Manali has been cut off by road.

Sukhu said that state emergency operation centres have also been set up at 13 places in the state for disaster monitoring and directed the district administrations to provide immediate relief to the affected families and construct Bailey bridges.

Five transport drones will be made available to enable the police to carry out transportation activities in the affected areas and 50 generators will be given to the police to ensure power backup. He urged people to take precautionary measures and avoid going near rivulets and rivers.

Shah and Union Minister J P Nadda have assured all possible help, he said and added that support from the Army and the Air Force would be sought and the state would get two more teams of the NDRF to help in the disaster.

Nadda has sought a detailed report from the chief minister and assured all possible help from the Modi government. He also appealed to the BJP leaders and workers to reach out to the affected people and provide them relief.

State Revenue Minister Jagat Singh Negi said massive damage has been caused due to heavy rains and cloudbursts in

the state. Road connectivity has been hampered in the affected areas. Four motorable bridges and footbridges have been washed away and rescue operations are going on in full swing, he said, adding the apple crop has also been damaged.

Shimla-Junga road was closed due to a landslide and reports of vehicles being buried in debris in Rajnagar in Churah assembly constituency in Chamba and roads blocked in Hamirpur district have also poured in. Heavy rains have lashed parts of Himachal since Wednesday evening and Palampur with 212 mm of rain was the wettest in the state followed by Chauri (203 mm), Dharamshala (183.2 mm), Kangra (150 mm), Sujapur Tira (142 mm), Baijnath (135 mm), Nadaun 9103.5 mm), Poanta Sahib (121.2 mm), Nahani (98.9 mm), Kufri (84.5 mm), Shimla (64.6 mm), Sainj (61 mm), Bilaspur (56 mm) and Berthin (50 mm).

Heavy to very heavy rain has been recorded at 20 stations in the state and the rainfall will continue in the state, said meteorological expert Sandeep Sharma, adding that an orange alert of heavy rain has been issued for Kangra, Chamba, Kullu and Mandi districts on Thursday.

The wet spell would continue for the next four-five days in the state. Data recorded till Tuesday showed that rain-related incidents had claimed 65 lives since the onset of the monsoon on June 27. The state has also suffered losses to the tune of Rs 433 crore, according to the state's Emergency Operation Centre. (With agency inputs)

SAD expels Sukhdev Singh Dhindsa for indulging in anti-party activities

PNS ■ CHANDIGARH

A day after former MP Sukhdev Singh Dhindsa asserted authority as the Shiromani Akali Dal (SAD) patron and his declaration of the expulsions of eight rebel leaders as "unconstitutional", the Akali Dal has taken decisive action by expelling him from the party. The decision, taken by the SAD's disciplinary committee, underscored the party's commitment to maintain discipline and unity within its ranks.

SAD's disciplinary committee, chaired by former MP Balwinder Singh Bhundur and with Maheshinder Singh Grewal and Gulzar Singh Ranike as its members, made the unanimous decision to expel Dhindsa from the primary membership of the party. The committee cited Dhindsa's anti-party activities, including his support for the expelled leaders and his unauthorized actions that violated the party's constitution. Grewal, during the media briefing, explained the rationale behind the decision, stating that Dhindsa was not upholding the honour of his post. "He was not only issuing unauthorized statements but was also acting against the party's constitution and its rich and glorious traditions," Grewal said. The disciplinary committee considered Dhindsa's recent statements and his attempt to support the eight expelled leaders in their rebellion against the party's leadership. Bhundur, the disciplinary committee chairman, emphasized that the party had made numerous attempts to address the concerns of the disgruntled leaders. "The party invited all the disgruntled leaders to attend meetings and discuss their grievances within the party forum," Bhundur noted. However, instead of engaging constructively, these leaders chose to participate in a conspiracy aimed at weakening and dividing the party. Bhundur highlighted that these actions were in direct contradiction to the party's principles and the teachings of the SAD's founding leaders. The disciplinary committee stressed that the expelled leaders had aligned themselves with forces attempting to undermine the party's integrity.

ED arrests former Minister Ashu in money-laundering case linked to tender scam

PNS ■ CHANDIGARH

The Enforcement Directorate (ED) on Thursday arrested Punjab's former Minister and senior Congress leader Bharat Bhushan Ashu in connection with a high-profile money-laundering case linked to a major tender scam. The arrest followed an in-depth investigation and recent raids on Ashu's properties.

The 53-year-old politician was taken into custody after intensive questioning at the ED's zonal office in Jalandhar. Reliable sources maintained that Ashu's questioning revealed substantial evidence, leading to his arrest under the Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA).

The case revolved around alleged irregularities in Punjab's 2021 transportation and labour cartage policy, and accusations surrounding the Ludhiana Improvement Trust scam. The ED's investigation, which began following a Punjab Vigilance Bureau FIR, highlighted significant corruption involving the fraudulent allocation of tenders to contractors through Rakesh Kumar Singla, former Deputy Director of Food and Civil Supplies Department, with Ashu's involvement.

The arrest followed a comprehensive raid conducted in August 2023 on Ashu's properties and

those of other involved parties, including Raman Balasubramaniam, a former chairman of the Ludhiana Improvement Trust. During these raids, the ED seized approximately Rs 30 lakh in cash and discovered documents indicating assets worth about Rs 1.5 crore. These assets are allegedly linked to the fraudulent tender allocations.

Ashu is accused of facilitating a scam during his tenure as the Minister of Food and Civil Supplies. The allegations suggested that the awarding of tenders for labour and transportation in Punjab's grain markets involved substantial irregularities, resulting in an estimated fraud amounting to Rs 2,000 crore. The scam allegedly involved using fake vehicle number plates for transporting goods, with numbers registered to scooters and motorcycles misrepresented as those of heavy goods vehicles. The initial probe was conducted by the Punjab Vigilance Bureau, which had already presented a charge sheet in the vigilance court. The ED's independent investigation sought additional documents from the Vigilance Bureau, further expanding the probe into the money-laundering aspects of the scam. The Vigilance Bureau's report served as the foundation for the ED's subsequent actions against Ashu.

8 IAS officers get new postings in Haryana

PNS ■ CHANDIGARH

The Haryana government on Thursday issued posting and transfer orders for eight IAS and four Haryana Civil Service (HCS) officers with immediate effect.

TVSN Prasad, a 1988 batch IAS officer, has been appointed as the Chief Secretary of the State, according to an official release. Prasad will also hold the charge of general administration, human resources, personnel and training, parliamentary affairs, vigilance

departments and secretary in charge of plan coordination and Chief Resident Commissioner, Haryana Bhawan, New Delhi. Prasad had been posted as the chief secretary on March 15 in place of Sanjeev Kaushal, who had proceeded on leave. Prasad, at that time, was posted as the chief secretary during the leave period of Kaushal, the 1986-batch IAS officer, who retired on July 31. Mani Ram Sharma has been posted as chief executive officer of Ayushman Bharat Haryana Health Protection

Authority and Special Secretary of the home department. Yash Pal, director of urban local bodies and special secretary of urban local bodies, has been given additional charge of director, consolidation of land holdings and land records, Haryana, and special secretary of revenue and disaster management department. Dr Shaleen has been posted as director, tourism and special secretary, tourism department, Amna Tasneem has been posted as managing director, CONFED (Haryana State Federation of

Consumer's Cooperative Wholesale Stores Ltd) and secretary, Haryana State Commission for Scheduled Castes. Ram Kumar Singh has been posted as municipal commissioner, Ambala and commissioner, municipal corporation, Ambala, while Sangeeta Tatarwal has been posted as labour commissioner, Haryana and special secretary, Labour Department. Neha Singh has been posted as additional resident commissioner, Haryana Bhawan, New Delhi, according to the release.

Himachal govt preparing strong case for Shanan Hydropower Project: CM

PNS ■ SHIMLA

Himachal Chief Minister Sukhvinder Singh Sukhu on Thursday said the Himachal government is preparing a strong legal case to "reclaim" the Shanan Hydropower Project which was given to Punjab on a 99-year lease.

The 110-MW Shanan Hydropower Project, commissioned in 1932, was built under a 99-year lease agreement between Joginder Sen, the then king of the erstwhile Mandi state, and British engineer B C

Batty signed in 1925. During the reorganisation of states in November 1956, the powerhouse which came under Mandi district of the hill state was given to Punjab as per the lease agreement that expired on March 2 this year. Presiding over a meeting with senior state government officials here, Sukhu directed them to present a strong case before the Supreme Court to reclaim the project. Sukhu said that the state government will fight vigorously to get back the rights of Himachal Pradesh so that the people of the state can

get benefits of this project.

In a statement issued here, he said the lease period ended on March 2 and as this project falls in the territory of Himachal Pradesh, now the Punjab government must hand over this project to the hill state without any delay. "The state government is committed to ensure that the benefits of the project are redirected to the people of Himachal Pradesh. As the legal proceedings were in process, the government is preparing a strong case to reclaim the project", reiterated the Chief Minister.

Farmers burn BJP's effigies in Punjab amid protests

PNS ■ CHANDIGARH

Farmers in Punjab intensified their protests on Thursday, burning effigies of the BJP in response to the recent developments. The protests, led by the Samyukt Kisan Morcha (non-political) and Kisan Mazdoor Morcha, center around demands for a legal guarantee of minimum support prices (MSP) for crops, among other issues.

The protests took place at various locations, including the Shambhu border between Punjab and Haryana, Amritsar, and Moga. Farmers expressed

their determination to continue the agitation until their demands are met.

One of the key points of contention is the Haryana Government's recent decision to recommend gallantry medals for six police officials, recognized for their role in preventing farmers from heading to Delhi during the 'Delhi Chalo' movement in February, this year. The government's recommendations to the Centre include the names of three Indian Police Service (IPS) officers and

three Haryana Police Service officers for the "police medal for gallantry".

Farmer leader Sarwan Singh Pandher condemned the Haryana Government's decision. "Police officers are being rewarded for stopping farmers from going to Delhi by using force," Pandher said, highlighting that the Haryana Police had used teargas shells and rubber bullets against farmers during their attempt to march towards Delhi.

The six officers were stationed at the Shambhu and

Khanauri borders, where they played a significant role in halting the farmers' march towards the national capital. The protesting farmers have been camping at these border points since February 13, when security forces initially stopped their "Delhi Chalo" march.

During the protests on Thursday, farmers raised slogans against the Centre and the Haryana government. Pandher reiterated the commitment of the farmers to continue their agitation. "The agitation will continue till the demands of

farmers and labourers are not met," he asserted.

The protests have seen significant clashes in the past. On February 21, a young farmer from Bathinda, Shubhkan Singh, was killed, and many police personnel were injured during confrontations at the Khanauri border on the Punjab-Haryana boundary.

The ongoing agitation highlights the deep-seated grievances of the farming community and their resolve to fight for their rights, despite the challenges and opposition they face.

Malwa's Groundwater Crisis: Study Exposes Toxic Contaminants in Shallow Wells

Urgent Health Risk from High Uranium and Fluoride Levels in Punjab's Malwa Region

MONIKA MALIK ■ CHANDIGARH

A recent study conducted by the Central University of Punjab has issued an urgent warning to the residents of the Malwa region — groundwater from shallow wells which are less than 60 meters deep is unfit for drinking due to dangerously high levels of toxic contaminants, particularly uranium and fluoride.

The study, led by researchers Prafulla Kumar Sahoo, Anjali Kerketta, and Harmanpreet Singh Kapoor, has been published in the esteemed international journal, Groundwater for Sustainable Development.

Health Risks and Contaminants

The research highlighted significant health risks posed to both adults and children from consuming contaminated groundwater. Fluoride levels above 1.5 mg/L can lead to dental and skeletal fluorosis, while uranium levels over 30 µg/L pose risks of chronic organ damage and nephrotoxicity. These findings reveal a direct link between high contaminant levels and increased health risks among the population in the Malwa region.

Among the studied districts, Fazilka, Sri Muktsar Sahib, Bathinda, and Barnala were identified as the worst affected. Groundwater in these areas, as per the study, is extremely unsafe for both drinking and irrigation purposes due to high levels of fluoride, uranium, and total dissolved solids (TDS). The study reported that uranium in groundwater posed a health risk to children in 66 percent of the samples and to adults in 44 percent of the samples. Fluoride posed a health risk to children in 29 percent of the samples and to adults in 23 percent of the samples.

Factors Contributing to Contamination

The study pointed to both natural and human-induced factors as contributors to the contamination. Long-term interactions between groundwater and environmental elements, influenced by human activities such as agrochemical usage, are significant factors. Hydro-chemical processes, including groundwater-surface water mixing, also play a role in mobilizing these contaminants. High TDS levels, particularly in shallow wells, exacerbate the problem. This is a result of salinization, rock-water interactions, salt-mineral dissolution, and agrochemical inputs. Meteorological factors like low rainfall, high evapotranspiration, and arid conditions further influence

TDS levels and the co-occurrence of fluoride and uranium. Assessment and Mitigation

Using the United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) model, the study assessed the health risks from fluoride and uranium. The results indicated that both children and adults face health hazard risks from these contaminants. The research found signs of various health problems in the groundwater samples, underlining the need for urgent action. Lead researcher Prafulla Kumar Sahoo emphasized the difficulty in controlling the release of uranium and fluoride at their sources due to their geogenic origin. He advocated for filtering and treating contaminated water before consumption. Sahoo recommended using groundwater from deeper wells, more than 60 meters, for drinking after purification. To mitigate harmful effects, he suggested installing community-level reverse osmosis (RO) plants, mixing groundwater with canal water in community water storage tanks, and using RO-based water purifiers at home.

Call for Immediate Action

CUP Vice-Chancellor Raghavendra P Tiwari underscored the urgency of addressing this public health crisis. He called for the development of low-cost, advanced, and effi-

cient water treatment technologies involving adsorption and nanotechnology. Tiwari also stressed the need for enhanced groundwater monitoring, increased public awareness, and collaborative efforts from government agencies, industry, researchers, and local communities to develop and enforce effective water management and remediation strategies. The researchers stressed the importance of not only addressing current contamination but also implementing sustainable practices to prevent future complications. Enhanced groundwater monitoring and public awareness are crucial steps in mitigating the risks posed by contaminated groundwater in the Malwa region.

The study's findings highlight an urgent need for immediate action to safeguard public health in Punjab's Malwa region. The research underscored the significant health risks posed by contaminated groundwater, particularly from shallow wells, and called for comprehensive measures to treat and monitor water quality. By addressing both current contamination and preventing future issues, the residents of Malwa can hope for a safer and healthier future. The collaborative efforts of government agencies, industry, researchers, and local communities are essential in achieving this goal.

Govt prepares comprehensive plan to connect small SC entrepreneurs with major industries: Hry CM

PNS ■ CHANDIGARH

To promote the growth of micro and small enterprises (MSMEs), Haryana Chief Minister Nayab Singh Saini on Thursday said that the State Government is taking steps towards formulating a comprehensive plan to link small entrepreneurs from the Scheduled Castes with major industries.

Presiding over a meeting with the representatives of the Dalit Indian Chamber of Commerce and Industry (DICCI), the Chief Minister discussed various initiatives with them and said that the Government is already running various incentive schemes to promote MSMEs. Now, new schemes are being devised to assist small entrepreneurs from the Scheduled Castes, so they can reach larger markets, improving their economic status, he added.

Saini further said that the State Government will collaborate with the Dalit Indian Chamber of Commerce and Industry (DICCI) to develop new schemes, providing opportunities for small entrepreneurs from the Scheduled Castes to move forward. He also directed the concerned officers to study the initiatives run by DICCI and best practices adopted by other states as well.

Saini said that the State Government will also provide assistance to young entrepreneurs in exporting their prod-



Chief Minister Nayab Singh Saini (center) with other officials during a meeting.

ucts abroad. He directed officers from the Department of Industries and Commerce and the Department of Foreign Cooperation to prepare a roadmap in collaboration with the Dalit Indian Chamber of Commerce and Industry. The Department of Foreign Cooperation is already running various programs to provide employment opportunities abroad for youths and to assist industrial units in exporting their products, he said.

He said that the government aims for more youths to become entrepreneurs, transforming them from job seekers into job creators. Under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, the central government is running various skill training schemes. Apart from this, flagship schemes like Stand-Up India and the MUDRA Yojana provide financial assistance to youths for starting new ventures. He further said that the Haryana government has also established the Shri Vishwakarma Skill University, Gurugram in the state, providing skill train-

ing to make youths employable. and Navodaya schools, have been made for the backward class. Not only this, the limit of the creamy layer has also been increased from Rs 6 lakh to Rs 8 lakh. Similarly, the double-engine government in Haryana is also providing rights to the people of the backward class, he added.

'Gram Panchayats can now get works up to Rs 21 lakh done from State fund'

Meanwhile, a government statement said that Chief Minister has fulfilled his promise by allowing Panchayats to carry out works up to Rs 21 lakh at their own level. Now taking a step further, he has now granted Panchayats additional autonomy by approving works up to Rs 21 lakh to be funded from the State Fund as well. The Development and Panchayat Department has issued a circular outlining the new guidelines for the execution of development works by Panchayati Raj Institutions. This move is expected to strengthen local governments and expedite development projects in villages. The statement further said that the government had already permitted Panchayats to undertake development works estimated up to Rs 21 lakh without a tender process using funds from the Gram Nidhi, Samiti Nidhi, or Zila Parishad Fund. Now with the decision to get additional works done from the State Fund as well, there will be no shortage of funds for development works.

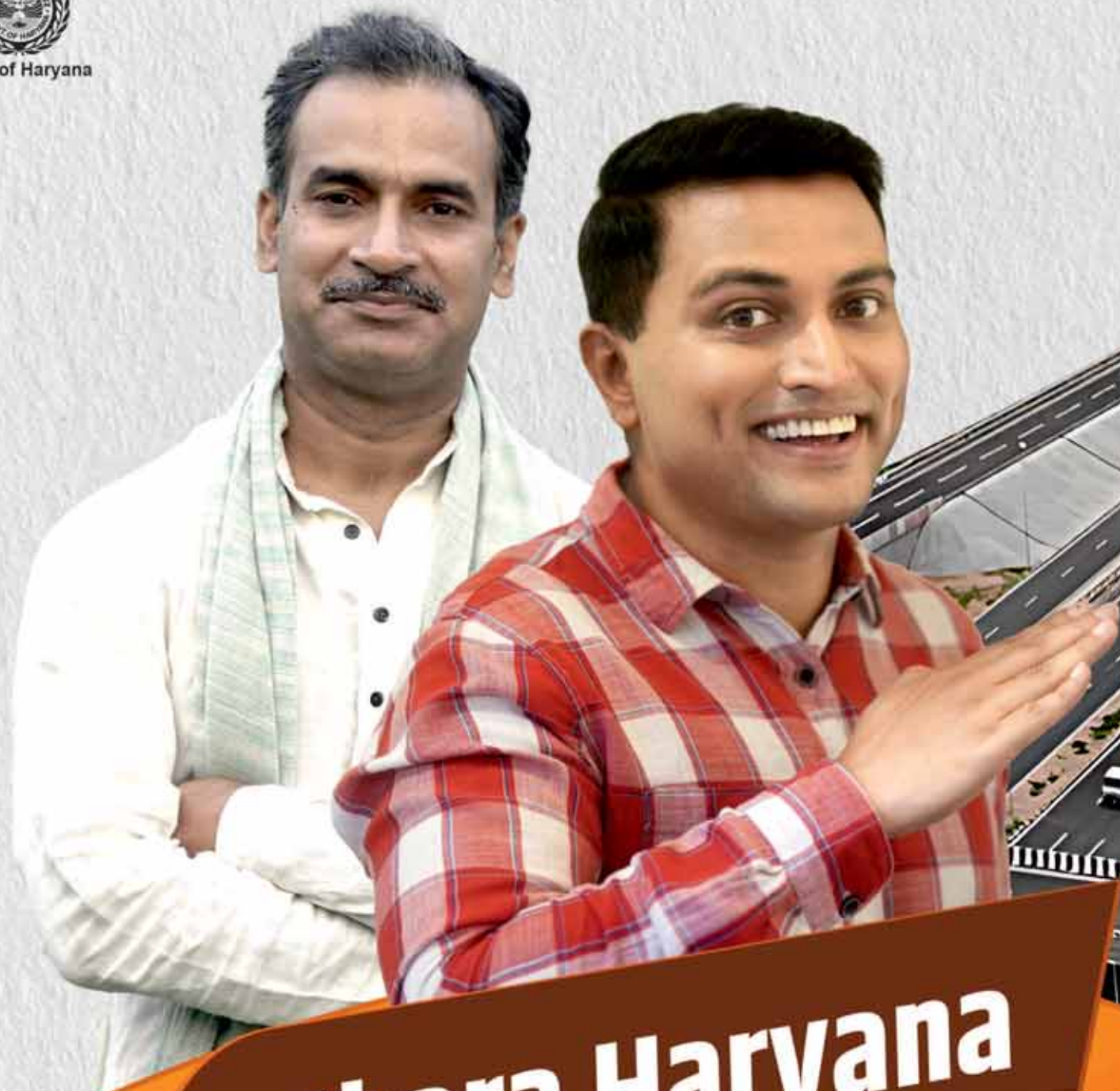
'Govt considering giving reservation for Backward Class-B in local bodies and PRIs'

In another event after receiving a copy of the supplementary report on the reservation proportion for Backward Class Block-B in urban local bodies/municipalities and Panchayati Raj institutions of Haryana from the Chairman of the Haryana Backward Commission, Judge (Retd) Darshan Singh, Saini said that after giving reservation to Backward Class-A in Local Bodies and Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs), the State Government is considering giving reservation for Backward Class-B in local bodies and PRIs. He said that Prime Minister Narendra Modi has secured the rights of the backward class by giving constitutional status to the Central Backward Commission. Special provisions for reservation in educational institutions, including MBBS, Kendriya Vidyalaya,

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Govt. of Haryana



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Construction of Ambala-Kotputli Greenfield Corridor (152-D) completed at a cost of ₹10,646 crore

The construction of 1350 km long national highways at a cost of ₹40,000 crore over the last 10 years

Ongoing construction of 11 new national highways totalling 1069 km

Double Engine Government
Modern Roads Continuous





Classifieds

BEDAKHLI NOTICE

We Lovekesh Bansal S/o Ramesh Chand & Ritu bansal W/o Lovekesh bansal, R/o H.No. 5314/2, MHC, Manimajra, Chandigarh, declare that our son Ayush Bansal is out of our control. We disown him from all our moveable/immovable properties. If anybody deals with them will do so at his/her own risk & responsibility.

I, Ram Singh alias Raju S/o Late Sh. Man Singh R/o H.No. 1822, Ward No. 29, Garhi Ghasita, Near Gopinath Mandir, Sonipat has disowned my daughter Manisha from my all moveable/immovable property as she is out of my control. In future, if anybody deals with her, he/she will do at their own risk.

BEDAKHLI NOTICE

I, Rajeev Kumar S/o Kuldeep Singh r/o Village Akam PO Kotli Khas Tehsil Mukerian Distt Hoshiarpur disown my daughter Noor Jaryal from all of my moveable and immovable property. She has got married of her own will and out of our control. Anybody dealing with her will do at his/her own risk. We will not be responsible for any of their good or bad deeds in the future.

We, Davinder Singh S/o Amarjit Singh and kawaljit Singh W/o Davinder Singh R/o.H.No.12, Bhai Manj Singh Road near Grand Estate Kot Mit Singh Amritsar declare that my son Gurprit Singh alias Gora are not under my control. so we disinherit them from my all moveable properties. I and my other family members will not be responsible for any act done by him in future.

I, Vandna W/o Jida Ram R/o.2039/8, Gali Bagh Wali, Qilla Bhangian, Shakti Nagar Amritsar declare that Vishal and his wife Paramjit kaur alias Pinky and their children Divanshi and Tanish are not under my control and not obedient to me. I disinherited them from my all moveable properties. I and my other family members have severed all kind of relations with them.

I, Pritam Kaur W/o Sulshan Singh R/o.H.No.404, Sultanwind Road, New Azad Nagar, Amritsar have declare that my Son Tejinder Singh and his Wife Rajwanti Kaur Daughter Baljeet Kaur Alias Bavi, Gurmeet Kaur Alias Sonia are out of my Control I Disinherit them from my all movable and immovable properties any body deal with them is his own risk and responsibility.

I, Vijay Kumari w/o Vijay Kumar r/o Ganesh Colony, Ladwa Road, Pipli, Distt. Kurukshetra inform that my son Ishant Sharma is out of control. Therefore, I disown him from my movable and immovable properties. My family will not be responsible for his good or bad deeds and transactions in future.

I, Sunita w/o Late Ram Kishan R/o 170 ,Raipur Sahapur Turk, Sonipat declare that my son Ashish is out of my control. So I disown them from my all movable/ immovable property. In future, he will be held responsible if he commits any illegal transaction with anyone.

I, Sushma Devi W/o Vijay Pal R/o Vill Bamla-2, Teh & Distt Bhiwani, declare that my Son Rohit are out of my control. I evict his from my movable and immovable properties. If anybody deals with his shall do their own risk in future.

I, Joginder S/o Sh. Devi Singh R/o H.No. 879, Ward No. 15, Gohana Adda, Para Mohalla, Rohtak declare that my son Tushar is out of my control. So I disown him from my all moveable/immovable properties. Any body dealing with him at their own risk. I or my family are not responsible for any type of their legal or illegal acts.

I, Hardeep Singh S/O Karnail Singh R/O Village Banur Tehsil & Distt SAS Nagar Declare That My Daughter Jyoti Devi Is Out Of My Control. So I Disown Her From All My Moveable And Immoveable Properties. Anybody Dealing With Her On Their Own Risk.

I, Manjit Singh S/O Jaghla Singh R/O B-11529, Mohalla Thakurpuri Old Rajpura Distt Patiala Declare That My Wife Jatinder Kaur And Son Gursimran Singh And Daughter Gurleen Kaur All Are Out Of My Control. So I Disown All Of Them From All My Moveable And Immoveable Properties. Anybody Dealing With Them On Their Own Risk.

I, Naresh Kumari W/o Late Sham Kumar R/o Kalsa, Pehowa, Kurukshetra My Son Vishal Vashishth Is Out Of My Control. I, Disown Them From All My Moveable And Immoveable Properties. If Anybody Deals With Him At Their Own Risk.

I, Jatinder Kumar S/o Gulshan Kumar R/o Ward no.-19, Street No-2, Anant Nagar, Khanna [Ludhiana] Declare That My daughter Ritika Kapoor W/o Ankush Kapoor is out of my control. The Behaviour of my daughter Ritika Kapoor and Ankush Kapoor is very bad. I Disown my daughter Ritika Kapoor, her husband Ankush Kapoor and their children from my movable and immovable property. Anybody deals with them shall be fully responsible for that.

ਅਸੀਂ ਹਰਪ੍ਰੀਤ ਸਿੰਘ ਪੁੱਤਰ ਚਰਨਜੀਤ ਸਿੰਘ ਦਾ ਸਨਦੀਯ ਕੌਰ ਦਿਉਲ ਪਤਨੀ ਹਰਪ੍ਰੀਤ ਸਿੰਘ ਵਾਸੀਆਨ ਪਿੰਡ: ਨੈਗਲ ਕਲਾਂ ਤਹਿ: ਰਾਏਕੋਟ (ਲੁਠਿਆਣ) ਵਿਆਨ ਕਰਦੇ ਹਾਂ ਕਿ ਸਾਡਾ ਲੜਕਾ ਮਨਜਿੰਦਰ ਸਿੰਘ ਅਤੇ ਸਾਡੀ ਨੂੰ ਜਸਦੀਯ ਕੌਰ ਜੋ ਕਿ ਸਾਡੇ ਕਹਿਣੇ ਤੇ ਬਾਹਰ ਦੀ। ਅਸੀਂ ਇਨ੍ਹਾਂ ਨੂੰ ਆਪਣੀ ਚੋਲ-ਅੱਲੜ ਜਾਇਦਾਦ ਤੋਂ ਬੇਦਖਲ ਕਰਦੇ ਹਾਂ। ਇਨ੍ਹਾਂ ਨਾਲ ਲੈਣ ਦੇਣ ਕਰਨ ਵਾਲਾ ਖੁਦ ਜਿੰਮੇਵਾਰ ਹੋਵੇਗਾ। ਸਾਡਾ ਜਾਂ ਸਾਡੇ ਪਿਰੇਦਾਰ ਦਾ ਕੋਈ ਵੀ ਤਾਲੁਕ ਵਾ ਵਾਸਤਾ ਨਹੀਂ ਹੋਵੇਗਾ।

PUBLIC NOTICE

I, Shringarika Nagar W/o Nitin Jamwal D/o Vipin Nagar R/o #32, First Floor, Silver Oak Heights, VIP Road, Zirakpur, District Mohali undertakes that Shringarika and Shringarika Nagar is one and same person. It has been inadvertently mentioned in the place of mother's name as Shringarika instead of Shringarika Nagar in birth certificate of minor Nabhya Jamwal issued by Registrar Birth & Death, Gram Panchayat Chandpur.

I Nikita D/o Sh. Rajan Resident of House no 143, Balmiki Basti, Ward no 1 Kalka, Tehsil Kalka District Panchkula (Haryana) Have changed My Father's name Parveen Kumar To Rajan.

I, Jasanpreet Kaur D/o No. 10316071F EX Sep Sukhinder Singh R/O Village Pandori PO Ghoman Tehsil Batala District Gurdaspur have changed my name from Jasanpreet Kaur to Jashanpreet Kaur and dob from 12-10-2004 to 12-11-2004 vide affidavit No- IN-PB37499364130209W before executive magistrate Shri Hargobindpur dated -20 July -2024. Please note all concerned.

I, Vipan Kumar S/o Baldev Raj R/o Kandroni, Teh. Indora, Distt. Kangra HP declare that my son's name is written as Akshit Sharma in alldocuments where as in his birth certificate, his name wrongly written as, Akshit which issued by CMO office Dharamshala. Akshit Sharma & Akshit is one and same child. Concerned note it.

I, Dudekula Haseena legally spouse of No. JC-312321H Rank SUB Name Dudekula Khadarvali Unit 4 Engr Regt. C/o 56 APO Bathinda Cantt.(Punjab) permanent resident of Vill-Papineni Palli, Post-Papineni Palli, TO-Ardhaveedu, Teh-Cumbum, PS- Ardhaveedu Distt. Prakasham State Andhra Pradesh-523335 have changed my name from D Haseena to Dudekula Haseena and DOB from 02.02.1983 to 02.06.1985

I, Pakhi D/o Jitender Kumar Bhadri R/o H.No. 21 Vill: & Post Office Sherewala Teh- Abohar Distt. Fazilka Punjab-152116 have changed my name to Pakhi Bhadu for all future purposes. As per vide affidavit No. IN-CH 5105127922252W dated 19 July 2024 before notary Public Chandigarh.

I Bhajan Singh S/O Dharam Pal R/O Vill Manjoli Teh Rajpura Distt Patiala that in my Jo Record my father name wrongly entered Dharam Singh but my father correct name is Dharam Pal.

I, Navdeep Kumar Sharma S/o Darshan Kumar R/o VPO Kot Bhai, Teh. Gidderbaha, Distt. Sri Muktsar Sahib (Punjab) declare that in my son Ansh Sharma who has passed Matriculation and XII Class From Malwa School, Gidderbaha, session 2021-22 and 2023-24 unique ID 7663409, my name is wrongly mentioned as Navdeep But Correct Name is Navdeep Kumar Sharma.

I, Kadheja Mother of Army No. 15713716W, Rank L/NK Name Habeebulla AK Unit 16 (I) ABSC have changed name from Khadeeja to Kadheja through vide document No. IN-PB41723806102742W dated 01-08-2024.

I, Jasveer Kaur Sharma W/o Navdeep Kumar Sharma R/o VPO Kot Bhai, Teh. Gidderbaha, Distt. Sri Muktsar Sahib (Punjab) declare that in my son Ansh Sharma who has passed Matriculation and XII Class From Malwa School, Gidderbaha, session 2021-22 and 2023-24 unique ID 7663409, my name is wrongly mentioned as Jasveer Kaur But Correct Name is Jasveer Kaur Sharma.

I, Patharlapalli Rama Legally Wedded Wife of Army No. 15715002F, Rank Sigmn Name Vempatapu Sreenivasa Rao have changed name from Vempatapu Rama to Patharlapalli Rama through vide document No.IN-PB41725048337490W date 1-08-2024.

I, Bahadur Singh S/o Chanda Singh Resident of Village Nanluga P.O. Mirthal Tehsil & Distt. Pathankot (Punjab) India Pin 145101 declare that in my passport no. 87515698 my name is wrongly entered as Bahader Singh instead of Bahadur Singh

I, Rimple w/o Vijay Kumar resident of Malout would like to inform the general public that I have lost Original certificate of ICSE: statement of marks of 10th class (Session 2022-23) of Sacred Heart Convent School Malout, pass certificate, migration certificate and character certificate of my son Yaksh chananya.Index number 1235101/184 anyone find it kindly contact me at 94177 39215 within 15 days from the date of issue of this AD.

I, Harpal Kaur W/O Manpreet Singh. R/O Vpo Sohal Tehsil/Distt Gurdaspur. State Punjab. Declare That My Daughter Gurleen Kaur Studying In Little Flower Convent School Sohal (Dharawal) Gurdaspur In 10th Class. In Her School Record My Husband Name Manprit Singh Is Wrong But My Husband Name Manpreet Singh Is Correct.

I, Santosh Thakur W/o Sh. Madan Lal Thakur Rio Vill. Gahan, PO Kamla Nagar. Tehsil and Distt. Shimla-6, H.P. do declare that I have changed my name from, Santosh Thakur (Previous Name), to Meena Devi (New Name) . All concerned please may note.

I, Komal D/o Kuldeep Singh R/O Village Manawala, Tehsil Lopoke, Distt. Amritsar have changed my name from Komal to Komalpreet.

I, Akash Lal S/o Mohan Lal R/O VPO Pandori Ladha Singh, Distt. Hoshiarpur, Punjab 144520 have changed name from Akash to Akash Lal. Noted to all concern.

I, Kawal Ram S/o Gurdass Ram R/O Village. Kangar, Fateh Pur Kothi, Distt: Hoshiarpur, Punjab 144530 have changed name from Kawal Ram to Kabal Ram. Noted to all concern.

I, Jasbir Kaur W/o Sarabjit Singh R/O VPO Paldi, Distt: Hoshiarpur, Punjab 146107 have changed name from Jasbir Kaur to Jasvir Kaur. Noted to all concern.

I, Pooja Grover W/o Pushkar Grover R/O H.No.350, Sector 11, Huda, Panipat, I have changed my name from Pooja Bhandari to Pooja Grover, for all future purposes.

I, Anita W/o Shri Sundar Singh R/o village Nindana Tehsil Meham District Rohtak, declare that I have changed my name from Anita to Anita Rani for all future purpose.

I, Sundar S/o Shri Prem Singh R/o village Nindana tehsil Meham Distt. Rohtak, declare that I have changed my name from Sunder to Sunder Singh for all future purpose.

I, Nidhi W/o Bhupinder R/O H. No. 5414, 3rd Floor, DLF City Phase 4, Near Galleria Market DLF-4, Gurgaon, Haryana-122009 declare that I have changed my name from Nidhi to Nidhi Singh for future purpose.

I, Trishla Devi wife of No. 6367449Y Hony Nb Subedar Tarsem Lal (Retd) resident of Village & PO Abdulla Pur, Tehsil Mukerian, Distt Hoshiarpur (Pb) have changed my name from Trishla Devi to Trishala Devi. Concerned note.

I, Amandeep Singla s/o Krishan Gopal Singla R/O #1496 Sector 42-B Chandigarh have changed my name from daughter's name from Arshia to Arshia Singla.

I, Vishal Sharma S/o Mohinder Kumar R/O Near Khera Mandir, VPO Buria, Jagadhri, Distt Yamuna Nagar have changed my name from Vishal Sharma to Vishal.

I, Meenakshi D/o Surinder Kumar R/O H.No. 810 Near Ration Depot VPO Boh, Distt Ambala have changed my name from Meenakshi to Meenakshi Pal.

I, Jai Kour W/o Ram Saran R/O #250, Sector-14, Panchkula (Haryana) have changed my name from Jai Kour to Jai Kaur.

I, Ramkishan S/o Tulsi Ram R/O #250, Sector-14, Panchkula (Haryana) have changed my name from Ramkishan to Ram Saran.

I, Raghbir Singh S/O Teja Singh R/O #225, Phase 11, Sector 63, Mohali, Tehsil & Distt SAS Nagar Have Changed My Name From Raghubir Singh To Raghbir Singh.

I, Neeraj Malik S/o Pitam Singh R/O Indian Colony, Sonipat (Haryana) have changed my name from Neeraj Kumar to Neeraj Malik.

I, Yashwinder s/o Dilbag r/o Village Mitthal, Tehsil & District Bhiwani declares that I have changed my minor's daughter name from Jaspreet Dharwal to jashvi for all future purposes.

I, Laxmi D/o Ramkumar Goyal R/O No. 338, Housing board colony Sirsa Road, Hisar declare that I have changed my name from Laxmi to Laxmi Devi for future purpose.

I, Service No. JC 850346F Rank Sub (DMT) Sanjay Singh S/O Nakli Singh of Unit 209 Army AVN SQN (UH) C/o 99 APO and Present R/o 139A, Krishna Nagar, P.O Babyal, Ambala Cantt, Distt. Ambala.have changed my Name from Sanjaya Singh To Sanjay Singh.

I, Smt. Jitender Kaur Wd/o JC 375811L Ex Late Sub Gurcharan Singh R/o VPO Tepla, Tehsil Ambala Cantt, Distt. Ambala.have changed my Mother in law (Mother of my deceased husband)Name from Raj Kaur To Raj Rani and DOB from 01.Jul.1941 To 10.Oct.1941.

I, Smt. Jitender Kaur Wd/o JC 375811L Ex Late Sub Gurcharan Singh R/o VPO Tepla, Tehsil Ambala Cantt, Distt. Ambala.have changed my Mother in law (Mother of my deceased husband)Name from Raj Kaur To Raj Rani and DOB from 01.Jul.1941 To 10.Oct.1941.

I, Saitunisa Mother of No.14933553H Hav Muhamaddin R/O Mithha Mafi Kushinagar Pipra Bazar Uttar Pradesh-274305 now at 15 Mech Inf C/o Apo have changed my name to Saitun Nisha and Date of Birth from 01.07.1965 to 01.01.1960 Vide Affidavit No.IN-PB41889910728207W Dt.01.08.2024 Before Notary Public Amritsar

I, Saitunisa Mother of No.14933553H Hav Muhamaddin R/O Mithha Mafi Kushinagar Pipra Bazar Uttar Pradesh-274305 now at 15 Mech Inf C/o Apo have changed my name to Saitun Nisha and Date of Birth from 01.07.1965 to 12.10.1965 Vide Affidavit No.IN-PB41888055130790W Dt.01.08.2024 Before Notary Public Amritsar

I, 14930608W Hav Rahul Kutre resident of 18, Chawatta Gali, Village Lalwadi, Hebbal, Belgaum, Karnataka-591120 now at 15 Mech Inf C/o 56 APO, have changed my name from Satyavva to Satyavva Rahul Kutre vide affidavit no. IN-PB41992124347877W dated 01-08-2024, before Notary Public, Amritsar

I, Narinder Singh Chandhok S/O Pritam Singh Chandhok R/O H.No. 3048, 1st Floor, Kacha Bazar, Ambala Cantt do hereby solemnly affirm & declare that I have changed my name from Narinder Singh to Narinder Singh Chandhok. All concerned note.

I, Sumit Kaur Chandhok W/O Narinder Singh Chandhok R/O H.No. 3048, 1st Floor, Kacha Bazar, Ambala Cantt do hereby solemnly affirm & declare that I have changed my name from Sumit Kaur to Sumit Kaur Chandhok. All concerned note.

I, Deepesh Alias Deepesh Kumar Makker S/O Ramesh Kumar Makker R/O 521, Behind Prabhu Prem Aashram, Prabhu Prem Puram, P.O Industrial Area, Ambala Cantt., Khojkipur, Ambala, Haryana-133001 have changed my name to Deepesh Kumar Makker.

I, Aparna Mane W/o Army No. 15583530A Hav Patil Sunil Laxman R/O Vill- Biur, PO- Biur, Tehsil- Shirala, Distt.- Sangli (MH) have changed my son's name from Sanavi Sunil Patil to Sanvi Sunil Patil vide affidavit dt. 02.08.2024 before Session Court, Hisar

I, Ishmanjot Kaur D/o Kawaljeet Singh R/O H-No 280A Railway Colony Ambala Cantt have changed my name from Ishamanjot Kaur to Ishmanjot Kaur. All concerned please note.

I, Mamta Devi W/o Sh.Parveen Kumar Village & Post Office Mullana Tehsil Barara Distt.Ambala. I Have Changed My Name Mamta Rani To Mamta Devi. Concerned Note.

I, Udit Bansal S/o Manoj Kumar R/o Anaj Mandi, Ward No. 2, Siwani hereby declared that I have changed my name from Udit to Udit Bansal for future purpose.

I, Manoj Kumar S/o Sajjan Kumar R/o Anaj Mandi, Ward No. 2, Siwani hereby declared that I have changed my name from Manoj or Manoj Bansal to Manoj Kumar for future purpose.

I, Neelam Kaushal w/o sh. Rajesh Kumar Kaushal r/o House no. 30/19, Shri Badri Das Hospital ICU Care Centre, Assandh Road, Near Aneja Petrol Pump, Panipat, declare that I changed my name from Neelam to Neelam Kaushal and In future I will be known as Neelam Kaushal.

I, Narender Singh S/o Mahender Singh R/O Hassangarh (29), Rohtak, Haryana 124404 declare that name of mine has been wrongly written as Narender, in my minor daughter, Manshikka, Aged 17 years, in her educational documents. The actual name of mine is Narender Singh, which may be amended accordingly.

I, Mitesh Kumar S/o Sanjay Mahato R/o Plot No.32, Parkash Vihar Near Ram Bali Chowk, Batala Road, Amritsar have changed my name from Mitesh Kumar to Nitesh Kumar

I, Mithan Chand Narang S/o Wazir Chand R/o H.No.40, Court Road, Near Fedral Bank, Amritsar have changed my name from Mithan Chand Narang to Mithan Chand

I, Sarabjit Kaur Spouse of No.4483093H Sep Gurmeet Singh R/O 16, Fatehgarh Churian Road, Badrinath Hospital, Harkrishan Garden, Nangli Amritsar have changed my name to Sarbjit Kaur

I, Payal Mehta W/o Girish Kumar Madan R/o H.No.7, Gali No.4, Guru Amar Das Nagar, Amritsar have changed my name from Payal Madan to Payal Madan After Marriage

I, Sahadd Ali Father of No.14933553H Hav Muhamaddin R/O Mithha Mafi Kushinagar Pipra Bazar Uttar Pradesh-274305 now at 15 Mech Inf C/o Apo have changed my name to Sahdalli Ansari and Date of Birth from 01.07.1956 to 01.01.1960 Vide Affidavit No.IN-PB41889910728207W Dt.01.08.2024 Before Notary Public Amritsar

I, Saitunisa Mother of No.14933553H Hav Muhamaddin R/O Mithha Mafi Kushinagar Pipra Bazar Uttar Pradesh-274305 now at 15 Mech Inf C/o Apo have changed my name to Saitun Nisha and Date of Birth from 01.07.1965 to 01.01.1960 Vide Affidavit No.IN-PB41889910728207W Dt.01.08.2024 Before Notary Public Amritsar

I, Saitunisa Mother of No.14933553H Hav Muhamaddin R/O Mithha Mafi Kushinagar Pipra Bazar Uttar Pradesh-274305 now at 15 Mech Inf C/o Apo have changed my name to Saitun Nisha and Date of Birth from 01.07.1965 to 12.10.1965 Vide Affidavit No.IN-PB41888055130790W Dt.01.08.2024 Before Notary Public Amritsar

I, 14930608W Hav Rahul Kutre resident of 18, Chawatta Gali, Village Lalwadi, Hebbal, Belgaum, Karnataka-591120 now at 15 Mech Inf C/o 56 APO, have changed my name from Satyavva to Satyavva Rahul Kutre vide affidavit no. IN-PB41992124347877W dated 01-08-2024, before Notary Public, Amritsar

I, Narinder Singh Chandhok S/O Pritam Singh Chandhok R/O H.No. 3048, 1st Floor, Kacha Bazar, Ambala Cantt do hereby solemnly affirm & declare that I have changed my name from Narinder Singh to Narinder Singh Chandhok. All concerned note.

I, Sumit Kaur Chandhok W/O Narinder Singh Chandhok R/O H.No. 3048, 1st Floor, Kacha Bazar, Ambala Cantt do hereby solemnly affirm & declare that I have changed my name from Sumit Kaur to Sumit Kaur Chandhok. All concerned note.

I, Deepesh Alias Deepesh Kumar Makker S/O Ramesh Kumar Makker R/O 521, Behind Prabhu Prem Aashram, Prabhu Prem Puram, P.O Industrial Area, Ambala Cantt., Khojkipur, Ambala, Haryana-133001 have changed my name to Deepesh Kumar Makker.

I, Aparna Mane W/o Army No. 15583530A Hav Patil Sunil Laxman R/O Vill- Biur, PO- Biur, Tehsil- Shirala, Distt.- Sangli (MH) have changed my son's name from Sanavi Sunil Patil to Sanvi Sunil Patil vide affidavit dt. 02.08.2024 before Session Court, Hisar

I, Ishmanjot Kaur D/o Kawaljeet Singh R/O H-No 280A Railway Colony Ambala Cantt have changed my name from Ishamanjot Kaur to Ishmanjot Kaur. All concerned please note.

I, Amit s/o Ramesh Kumar r/o Village Kheri Naru, Distt. Karnal (Haryana) have changed my name from Amit to Amit Kumar. In future I should be known as Amit Kumar.

I, Suresh e/o Amit Kumar r/o Village Kheri Naru, Distt. Karnal (Haryana) have changed my name from Suresh to Suresh Kumari. In future I should be known as Suresh Kumari.

I hitherto known as Balvir Kaur W/o Santokh Singh, residing at V.P.O. Musapur, Teh. Nawanshahr, Distt. S.B.S. Nagar-144513, Punjab, India have changed my name and shall hereafter be known as Veerpal Kaur.

I, Raj Kumar S/o Ram Lubhaya Malhotra R/o 1170, Baba Namdev Road, Jandiala Guru Distt Amritsar have changed my name from Raj Kumar to Raj Kumar Malhotra

I, Malika W/o Harbarinder Singh R/O Village Basarke Bhaiini PO Ghumanpura Amritsar have changed my name from Malika to Malika Gill

I Pavittardeep Singh S/o Kamal Preet Singh Pannu R/o Vill Piddi PO Tarn Taran Teh and Distt Tarn Taran have changed my name from Pavittardeep Singh to Pavittar Deep Singh Pannu

I, Mitesh Kumar S/o Sanjay Mahato R/o Plot No.32, Parkash Vihar Near Ram Bali Chowk, Batala Road, Amritsar have changed my name from Mitesh Kumar to Nitesh Kumar

I, Mithan Chand Narang S/o Wazir Chand R/o H.No.40, Court Road, Near Fedral Bank, Amritsar have changed my name from Mithan Chand Narang to Mithan Chand

I, Sarabjit Kaur Spouse of No.4483093H Sep Gurmeet Singh R/O 16, Fatehgarh Churian Road, Badrinath Hospital, Harkrishan Garden, Nangli Amritsar have changed my name to Sarbjit Kaur

I, Payal Mehta W/o Girish Kumar Madan R/o H.No.7, Gali No.4, Guru Amar Das Nagar, Amritsar have changed my name from Payal Madan to Payal Madan After Marriage

I, Sahadd Ali Father of No.14933553H Hav Muhamaddin R/O Mithha Mafi Kushinagar Pipra Bazar Uttar Pradesh-274305 now at 15 Mech Inf C/o Apo have changed my name to Sahdalli Ansari and Date of Birth from 01.07.1956 to 01.01.1960 Vide Affidavit No.IN-PB41889910728207W Dt.01.08.2024 Before Notary Public Amritsar

I, Saitunisa Mother of No.14933553H Hav Muhamaddin R/O Mithha Mafi Kushinagar Pipra Bazar Uttar Pradesh-274305 now at 15 Mech Inf C/o Apo have changed my name to Saitun Nisha and Date of Birth from 01.07.1965 to 01.01.1960 Vide Affidavit No.IN-PB41889910728207W Dt.01.08.2024 Before Notary Public Amritsar

I, Saitunisa Mother of No.14933553H Hav Muhamaddin R/O Mithha Mafi Kushinagar Pipra Bazar Uttar Pradesh-274305 now at 15 Mech Inf C/o Apo have changed my name to Saitun Nisha and Date of Birth from 01.07.1965 to 12.10.1965 Vide Affidavit No.IN-PB41888055130790W Dt.01.08.2024 Before Notary Public Amritsar

I, 14930608W Hav Rahul Kutre resident of 18, Chawatta Gali, Village Lalwadi, Hebbal, Belgaum, Karnataka-591120 now at 15 Mech Inf C/o 56 APO, have changed my name from Satyavva to Satyavva Rahul Kutre vide affidavit no. IN-PB41992124347877W dated 01-08-2024, before Notary Public, Amritsar

I, Narinder Singh Chandhok S/O Pritam Singh Chandhok R/O H.No. 3048, 1st Floor, Kacha Bazar, Ambala Cantt do hereby solemnly affirm & declare that I have changed my name from Narinder Singh to Narinder Singh Chandhok. All concerned note.

I, Sumit Kaur Chandhok W/O Narinder Singh Chandhok R/O H.No. 3048, 1st Floor, Kacha Bazar, Ambala Cantt do hereby solemnly affirm & declare that I have changed my name from Sumit Kaur to Sumit Kaur Chandhok. All concerned note.

I, Deepesh Alias Deepesh Kumar Makker S/O Ramesh Kumar Makker R/O 521, Behind Prabhu Prem Aashram, Prabhu Prem Puram, P.O Industrial Area, Ambala Cantt., Khojkipur, Ambala, Haryana-133001 have changed my name to Deepesh Kumar Makker.

I, Aparna Mane W/o Army No. 15583530A Hav Patil Sunil Laxman R/O Vill- Biur, PO- Biur, Tehsil- Shirala, Distt.- Sangli (MH) have changed my son's name from Sanavi Sunil Patil to Sanvi Sunil Patil vide affidavit dt. 02.08.2024 before Session Court, Hisar

I, Ishmanjot Kaur D/o Kawaljeet Singh R/O H-No 280A Railway Colony Ambala Cantt have changed my name from Ishamanjot Kaur to Ishmanjot Kaur. All concerned please note.

I, Manisha Chawla W/o Manish Kumar R/o H.No- 104, JBB Infrastructure Tower T-1 A, Near Heritage lawns Sec-35 Karnal Have changed my name from Manisha to Manisha Chawla.

I, Rinku Singh S/o Sh. Jagbir Singh R/o H.No. 455, VPO Rindhana Tehsil Gohana Distt. Sonipat declare That I have changed my name from Rinku to Rinku Singh In future I will be called by the name of Rinku Singh for all purposes.

I, Jaspreet Kaur D/o Sh. Surjeet Singh R/o H.No 169/10 Ashoka Road, Singh Mansion Vardhman Enclave Rohtak declare That I have changed my name from Jaspreet to Jaspreet Kaur. In future I will be called by the name of Jaspreet Kaur for all purposes.

I, Sumit S/o Sh. Mahabir Singh R/o 405/24 Jagdish Colony Rohtak declare That I have changed my son name from Abeer to Abeer Khanagwal In future my son will be called by the name of Abeer Khan



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PAPER WITH PASSION

Squabbling overshadows tragedy

The Wayanad landslide tragedy serves as a stark reminder of the consequences of ignoring environmental warnings

In India, we've developed a bad habit of politicising everything, from festivities to tragedies, using every opportunity for one-upmanship against opponents. Indeed, the tragic landslide in Wayanad, Kerala, that claimed life of more than 170 people is being used as a slingshot to score brownie points. It has triggered a heated political exchange between State and Central Government leaders. The tragedy, which resulted in significant loss of life and property, has brought to the forefront the critical issue of disaster preparedness and environmental stewardship. Following the landslide, Home Minister Amit Shah stated that the State had received an early warning but failed to take necessary preventive measures. He criticised the State Government for the negligence, suggesting that more lives could have been saved with timely action. Kerala Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan quickly refuted Shah's claims, asserting that the State Government had acted on all available warnings and had undertaken necessary measures to mitigate the impact. Vijayan emphasised that the unprecedented intensity of the landslide was beyond what the early warnings had predicted and that the state's disaster response teams had worked tirelessly to manage the situation. This spat achieved nothing; neither relief for the people injured nor a plan of action to stop such incidents in the future. But yes, both the Central and State Governments gave themselves a clean chit, and that was the end of it.

This incident highlights challenges in disaster management and the need for coordinated efforts between State and Central Governments. The

Wayanad tragedy has also opened a broader discussion on environmental conservation and the risks of taking nature for granted. The Kerala Government must take the blame for unrestricted development in the Western Ghats, one of the most fragile ecosystems in the country. Despite frequent disasters, the Kerala Government continues unsustainable activities in the name of development. The thick tree cover is gone due to changed land use. This has turned many perennial streams and rivers into seasonal ones and increased the risk of flooding in the monsoon season. The Wayanad landslide is a stark reminder of the consequences of ignoring environmental signals. Human activities such as deforestation and unplanned construction have exacerbated the vulnerability of regions like Wayanad to natural disasters. The Wayanad landslide underscores the importance of accountability and proactive measures in disaster management. More importantly, it highlights the critical need to respect and care for our environment. Forests, for instance, play a crucial role in stabilising soil and regulating water cycles. Deforestation disrupts ecosystems, making landslides more likely. The Wayanad tragedy is a call to action for governments, communities, and individuals to prioritise environmental conservation for our collective survival.

PICTALK



Asian Openbill storks perch on a tree, in Kolkata

The evolution of learning

Learning is a complex phenomenon with multiple layers. It needs judgement, sensitivity, foresight and a strong will to absorb new ideas



VINAYSHIL GAUTAM

The real world can be tricky to negotiate. This is because a lot of early childhood learning needs substantive modification when it comes to real life. Illustratively, a child is taught many principles which are simply impracticable as he grows up. Typically, a child will be told never to do something without informing their parents, whereas in real life this is neither feasible nor practicable.

The truth is, that childhood learning is about basics; one learns to modify or calibrate it as one goes along. It has to do with a child's mind and establishing certain principles that life experiences may define or modify. Consider the case of teaching a child about parallel lines. The child is taught that parallel lines are lines that never meet. That's good enough for his purposes. As one matures and gains a few years, the child transitioning into adulthood learns that parallel lines do meet, but they meet at 'infinity'. Similar examples can be cited elsewhere. However, more to the point is a simple proposition, namely that learning has to do with the capacity and capability of the learner.

The same principle can undergo several modifications or even alterations. As one emerges into adulthood, one learns many other intricacies about life, and several of them can only be re-learned only through experience. Here is the need to sharpen a person's capacity for continuous learning and absorption. Typically, the adult, as he goes through life, meets different types of people, and there is a clear need to coexist with several others. One's judgment becomes a crucible for deciding what the truth is and where one has to steer clear or walk through it. This is what adult learning is about, and it is a lifelong necessity that is felt at each stage. Sometimes strange situations can occur, especially if one learns through aphorisms/proverbs/ folk sayings, and even the wisdom of



elders. An illustration of this could make the point clear. In Sanskrit, there is a saying "Satyam brooyat, priyam brooyat, na brooyat satyama priyam". "Broadly translated, it means, speak the truth, but speak it pleasantly. If a truth is bitter, it need not be spoken". Whether this is desirable or not is a moot point. What is more, is that other sayings can be found to be very different than the one quoted above. For example, there is another Sanskrit statement "Satyameva jayate" "A free translation into English would be that "truth alone triumphs". The two statements are clearly in two different contexts and mean two different things. There is an element of contradiction between the two. It is here that adult learning acquires a special veneer of its own. What that special something is a matter of experience and exposure. Some people who repeatedly emphasised in their childhood that they must always tell the truth get so much in the habit of only telling the truth that they become offensive in conversations. This is not because of their



AS ONE EMERGES INTO ADULTHOOD, ONE LEARNS MANY OTHER INTRICACIES ABOUT LIFE, AND SEVERAL OF THEM CAN ONLY BE RE-LEARNED THROUGH EXPERIENCE

ill intention, but their style itself became 'offensive'. Such offensive behaviour can have a heavy price. After all, tact is something that is not an optional extra, it is essential to life. Being tactful does not end up lying or being untruthful. It only trains a person to be sensitive to another person's feelings and sentiments. It also raises the importance of recognizing that all inputs contribute to better and improved behaviour. Creating a situation in which everyone gains and a better environment is established is essential. If bluntness causes hurt rather than improvement, it could lead to deterioration of quality of life, which cannot be the objective of any action. The obvious conclusion is that learning is a complex phenomenon with multiple layers. It needs judgement sensitivity, and foresight. In the absence of any of the above relationships, they can become compromised. After all, if the relationship itself is lost, one might ask: what is the input about? This issue is fundamental to the act of living. This is so because man is a gregarious animal, and the act of living

requires a collective experience. Learning therefore is a lifelong exercise requiring continuous involvement and the capability to evolve. External inputs to learning are of course critical, but internalization of the same is the core. Unfortunately, whereas much attention has been paid to teaching, an equal amount of attention is due to the ways of the learning process. There are indeed definite limits to the capacity to learn and methods of learning. This is something that needs to be more widely recognized than before, especially since it does not seem to be integrated into the larger theories of learning. Indeed, one needs to pay attention to also when and how a revision of the learning process becomes seminal. To sum up, it is important to recognize the continuous nature of learning and one's central role in keeping that learning alive. A teacher can only help the process but cannot substitute a learner's learning. (The writer is a well-known management consultant of international repute. The views expressed are personal)

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Remembering APJ Abdul Kalam



Throughout his life Abdul Kalam professed the scientific, academic as well as spiritual development of the students. He made

numerous speeches and wrote many books addressing the youth; which are listened and read even today by students even across the world. Choosing his birth day as the 'World's Student's Day' was an appropriate decision honoring his works as a scientist and the millions of youths that he inspired and still inspires through his works, achievements, speeches, lectures and books. Students deserve better education standards and we hope it is time to inculcate the best education to students so that they may not wish to go to other countries for education purposes. He believed that students are the future of a nation and they can bring considerable change if well nurtured and educated. He professed education as the only weapon to fight back the demons of poverty, illiteracy, malnutrition etc.

Anandambal Subbu | Mumbai

Bombay. Furthermore, he was a pioneer in advocating for workers' rights, introducing an eight-hour working day, free medical facilities, and more. As stated at the outset, it is impossible to fully capture the essence of JRD Tata, whose life itself was his message.

Tata passed away in Geneva, Switzerland, from a kidney infection on 29 November 1993, at the age of 89. A few days before his death, he remarked, "Comme c'est doux de mourir" ("How gentle it is to die"). Upon his death, the Indian Parliament was adjourned in his memory, an honor rarely given to those who are not members of parliament.

He was buried at the Père Lachaise Cemetery in Paris. Pages from JRD Tata's life ought to be made compulsory reading in our parliament and legislative assemblies. It might lead to some introspection and, perhaps, inspire some of our elected representatives to mend their ways. Politics in India being what it is, I know this is just daydreaming on my part. Avinash Godbole | Dewas

LACKADAISICAL APPROACH OF MCD

Madam — This refers to the editorial, Enough is enough (July 29) vide which the bitter truth was elaborated that the inaction of municipal authorities and the lack of accountability have resulted in yet another tragedy. The tragic death of three students at the illegal Rao IAS Coaching Centre in Old Rajendra Nagar area of Delhi is a shameful tale of gross and unpardonable negligence at the administrative level. This illegal business is flourishing with the connivance of MCD officials. The basement meant for commercial storage was illegally converted into a coaching centre. There was no emergency exit and no technical scientific arrangements for drainage. The issuance of NOC for building usage and security lapses reflected lackadaisical approach of the MCD officials. Harshest punitive measures must be taken against the people responsible.

Yugal Kishore Sharma | Faridabad

Send your feedback to: letterstopioneer@gmail.com

Age and capability: Rethinking retirement and leadership

Why is it that in the corporate world, age is a barrier to employment, while in public service, older individuals often hold the highest offices?

In May 2020, close on the heels of the covid outbreak, my husband lost his job. It was an unexpected knock to take barely a month after he was awarded the best employee. The company that he was serving for the past many years attributed the pink slip to the pandemic, and following it, it was near impossible for him to find another job. In most cases, it seemed as if he was deemed over-age. In the traditional sense, it must be true that 58 years is the time to hang one's boots, but taking superannuation was far from his mind. His mental and physical abilities had not dimmed a wee bit and he had many more years of active work life left in him. But it was hard to convince a work culture that was transitioning to a younger demographic about his worthiness. He was soon forced to stop looking for a job and start something of his own. Three years on, it is a decision we don't regret taking. But there is one thing that I have not been able to decipher. If a company considers a person to be too old to seek employment at that age, what makes older doyens eligible to



seek fresh terms as heads of state? This question is more relevant now after John Biden was forced to step aside following doubts over his diminishing cognitive abilities on various platforms. Biden's dropping out in no way suggests that his opponent (who is younger by only three years) is more eligible to be the boss at the White House if age is a major criterion for holding responsible positions. Yet, in public service, it is par for the course for older men and women to push it till economic and social policies allow or they are naturally indisposed. Why is 80 a wholesome number to be at the helm of a state and 60 an age to retire for employees?

There is no doubt that the age gap between the highest and lowest denominators at a workplace has widened significantly. There are concerns about an agile, IT-driven young generation unable to work alongside an older brigade that follows old clunky ways. On this side things, it is still a huge challenge for those used to archaic practices of functioning to adopt digital modes overnight. But experience is something we still cannot discount. On the other hand, we also need a lot of young blood to keep our workplaces vibrant. People age differently. Their biological age may not be commensurate with their chronological age. In a

recent interview on CNN, Anthony Fauci, former chief medical advisor to the President of the United States looked and sounded many times more agile and vigorous at 81 than Biden does. My mother at 77 is much less healthy than a few other relations in their 90s. So to determine people's capabilities based on the number of summers they have seen is a faulty method. Our cognitive age and ability to handle the pressures of a job is something only we can gauge. It is for us to decide if we are fit to handle the responsibilities — be it to serve the nation, run a company or a household. John Biden must have eventually realised that cracks are showing up in his public image and faculties and that stepping aside is the most gracious thing to do, both for his self-esteem and for the sake of his country. Although it had to come after much persuasion, he made the call. Congratulations to him for being rational and accepting 'it is what it is'.

(The author is a Dubai-based author and columnist; views are personal)



ASHA IYER KUMAR

ALL QUIET IN BANGLADESH

Madam — After the recent mind-boggling violence in Bangladesh, things seem to be stabilising for now. Hopefully, peace will not be compromised again, as Dhaka is an important neighbor for New Delhi. Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina's support for those who fought for the liberation of Bangladesh, led by her late father Sheikh Mujibur Rahman, is well known and reasonable. In the past, Hasina's firm and decisive action against the offenders of the 1971 Bangladesh Liberation War earned her praise, but her indecision and leniency towards extremists were criticized by moderates and liberals.

Her recent decision to reserve fifty-six percent of jobs for the descendants of the liberation movement was undoubtedly aimed at certain sections of the country's vote bank. Although the Bangladesh Supreme Court struck down the order and reduced the reservation to five percent, Hasina must be feeling the setback. Some short-sighted remarks by Hasina during the students' protests further fueled emotions. It's time for the longest-serving Prime Minister of Bangladesh to get her act together and display the statesmanship expected of her.

Ganpathi Bhat | Akola

THE LEGACY OF JRD TATA

Madam—The 29th of July 2024 marked 120 years since the birth of JRD Tata, fondly called Jeh by those close to him. Words cannot do justice to his modesty, philanthropy, achievements, awe-inspiring firsts, patriotism, and staunch belief in the three guiding tenets of Zoroastrianism: good thoughts, good words, and good deeds, without professing either belief or disbelief in God. Jeh was India's first commercial pilot license holder and the first to fly a commercial plane from Karachi to Madras. He was also the first Indian businessman who refused to bribe politicians and the first to establish Asia's first cancer care hospital, the Tata Memorial Centre in



FIRST COLUMN
INDIA NAVIGATES DIPLOMATIC TIGHTROPE

Despite the US unease, India charts its own course; QUAD Tokyo conference is a case in point



KUMARDEEP BANERJEE

In a balancing act of sorts, the Government of India is trying to address US and European concerns regarding PM Modi's meeting with President Putin last month, when many of the leaders were in a huddle in Washington for the NATO summit. President Putin went an extra step to welcome PM Modi in Moscow, signalling a strong message to the US, regarding the long-standing partnership with India. Senior officials in the US expressed deep concern with the optics involved in PM Modi's Moscow visit while reiterating that nothing significant was achieved. Russia bilateral is a tightrope, that India has managed to carefully tread on, despite its growing engagement with the US in the past decades. Therefore, this week's QUAD foreign minister's conference in Tokyo where External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar met his US counterpart Anthony Blinken was significant. The joint statement in unequivocal terms condemned Russia's action in Ukraine, perhaps for the first time joining in such a multilateral official communication. The joint statement read "We express our deepest concern over the war raging in Ukraine including its terrible and tragic humanitarian consequences. We reiterate the need for a comprehensive, just, and lasting peace in line with international law, consistent with the purposes and principles of the UN Charter, including respect for sovereignty and territorial integrity."

PM Modi had also in his bilateral meetings with President Putin and public messages subsequently, mentioned the need for finding lasting solutions to the Ukraine crisis away from the battleground while condemning the attack by Russia killing nearly 41 persons including at a children's hospital.

PM Modi said "Whether it is war, conflict or a terrorist attack, any person who believes in humanity, is pained when there is loss of lives. But even in that, when innocent children are killed, the heart bleeds and that pain is very terrifying.". Ukraine President Zelensky has condemned PM Modi's visit to Russia. Government officials now indicate that the PM is likely to travel to Ukraine in August to balance the geopolitical dynamics and reset India and Europe's relationship. Meanwhile, the QUAD for-



Foreign ministers meeting continued to focus on the Gaza crisis, and its spillover in the Red Sea zone, impacting lives and raising freight costs. The foreign ministers jointly communicated "We urge all parties to comply with international law, including international humanitarian law, as applicable. We welcome UNSC Resolution S/RES/2735 (2024) and strongly urge all parties concerned to work immediately and steadily toward the release of all hostages and an immediate ceasefire. We call on all parties to take every feasible step to protect the lives of civilians including aid workers, and facilitate the rapid transportation of humanitarian relief. We also encourage other countries, including those in the Indo-Pacific, to increase their efforts to address the dire humanitarian need on the ground. We underscore that the future recovery and reconstruction of the Gaza Strip should be supported by the international community. We remain committed to a sovereign, viable and independent Palestinian state taking into account Israel's legitimate security concerns as part of a two-state solution that enables both Israelis and Palestinians to live in a just, lasting, and secure peace."

India would be the host for the QUAD leaders summit scheduled this year, however, the crucial US presidential elections in November would be a key determinant of the time. President Biden who has mostly shaped the Quad narrative in the past, would like to leave a lasting impression on this group of four.

(The writer is a policy analyst; views are personal)

Union budget prioritises employment and skilling

To empower youth, the Government has announced three transformative schemes aimed at promoting skilling across various sectors



DINESH SOOD



One of the top nine priorities of the Union Budget is employment and skilling. In line with this, three schemes have been announced to promote skilling. The first scheme involves increasing the maximum loan amount for high-end skilling courses under the revamped Model Skill Loan Scheme from Rs 1.5 lakhs to Rs 7.5 lakhs, with an interest rate of 1.5% per annum. This scheme is expected to empower the youth by providing easy access to advanced-level skill courses, potentially removing significant financial barriers for many deserving students and candidates to gain futuristic and in-demand industry skills, thus creating a future-ready and empowered workforce. Recognising the significant role played by non-banking finance companies (NBFCs) and micro-finance institutions in the skill loan market, the Ministry of Skill Development and Employment (MSDE) has made pivotal modifications to the scheme. This includes the inclusion of NBFCs, Micro Finance Institutions, and Small Finance Banks to extend loans backed by a guarantee against default up to 75% of the loan disbursed through the instrument of collateral-free loans of up to Rs 7.5 lakh to facilitate 25,000 aspirants every year. Without a vibrant skill loan market, many youths leave aspiring candidates without the necessary financial support to pursue their skill training. To ensure uninterrupted credit flow in the skilling sector and to provide low-income youths with access to affordable finance for specialized skill courses, the MSDE initially launched the Credit Guarantee Fund Scheme for Skill Development in July 2015, resulting in below expectations. The low fund utilisation under the scheme over the past decade was due to the low ticket size of loans up to Rs 1.5 lakh, even as course costs and fees rose due to inflation, leaving many high-cost



THIS FIRST-OF-ITS-KIND SCHEME, AIMING TO COVER ONE CRORE YOUTH IN 5 YEARS, HAS THE POTENTIAL TO BE A GAME CHANGER IN TACKLING YOUTH UNEMPLOYMENT

courses out of the scheme. Secondly, private banks still need to be more willing to finance government-sponsored schemes. As of March 31, 2024, loans amounting to Rs 115.75 crore had been extended to just 10,077 borrowers over the past decade. However, the government's unwavering commitment to addressing this issue is evident in the new model skill loan scheme, which aims to meet the challenges of a highly skilled workforce emerging from paced technological changes. Relevant skills are in demand, and the cost of acquiring specialised skills is higher. Only 5% of the so-called skilled workforce is formally trained, creating a significant skill gap that needs to be urgently addressed. While 26.5 crore children enrol in school each year, by the time they reach higher education, their numbers have dwindled to 4.3 crores. To align with the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020 mandate, an additional five crore children who pass school need to be included in higher education and to make skill training accessible to every individual, especially the large number of students from rural India. The Model Skill Loan Scheme is not just a solution but a necessary and urgent step in bridging this gap. The skill economy is increasingly market-led, integrating new-age learning into the skill development ecosystem. The youth from urban and semi-urban areas recognise the opportunities for skilling and livelihood improvement. An initiative like the Model Skill Loan Scheme opens doors to many skill courses in sectors such as healthcare,

beauty-wellness, IT, AI-data science, cloud applications, digital marketing, hospitality, animation, gaming, graphic designing, and drone technology. These courses, driven by changing industry dynamics, offer substantial placement opportunities and the potential for global mobility, providing a promising future for the youth and opening doors to international career prospects. The second scheme aimed at skilling 20 lakh youth over five years. The scheme, with a total outlay of Rs 60,000 crore, aims at fulfilling this objective by upgrading 1,000 Industrial Training Institutes (ITIs) in the hub and spoke arrangements with outcome orientation. It's an ambitious scheme that aims to make youth more employable by imparting industry-specific skills. The course content and design will be upgraded to reflect the skill needs of the industry. For instance, emerging IT sector needs could include cyber security or data analytics skills. The third scheme introduced in the Budget for Skilling Youth is a comprehensive scheme that provides the youth with internship opportunities in 500 top companies. This first-of-its-kind scheme, aiming to cover one crore youth in 5 years, has the potential to be a game changer in tackling youth unemployment. This internship scheme's innovative approach and potential impact make it a beacon of hope for young people's future employment, promising a significant reduction in youth unemployment rates. Moreover, landing an internship is difficult, leading to a vicious

cycle of frustration and disappointment. Students with professional degrees like MBA, engineering, etc., may still find landing jobs or internships easier after graduation. However, the scenario could be more precise for unemployable humanities graduates with no ready-made market-appropriate skill set. Thus, such a scheme providing young graduates across disciplines with internship opportunities at leading companies can be a game-changer if implemented properly and effectively. Perhaps, in the future, the government could consider widening the scope of this scheme by making it mandatory for companies above a specific size (the government could come up with a set of specifications to decide this) to take in a fixed number of interns every year and fund the training program through their Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) funds. These funds are a company's initiative to assess and take responsibility for the company's effects on environmental and social well-being. Most importantly, the internship opportunities provided under this new scheme could significantly boost the employability quotient of youth. With concrete experience, they will be more likely to land a job. However, implementation, effectiveness, and accountability are crucial to fostering employable skill sets. (The writer is a Co-Founder and MD of Orane International, a Training Partner with the National Skill Development Corporation (NSDC), Network Member of India International Skill Centres; Views expressed are personal)

Transforming bone fracture treatment with the magnesium implants invention

This innovative solution promises to alleviate the long-term suffering of bone-fractured patients caused by traditional metal implants

An age-old adage "necessity is the mother of invention" still holds now. This aforementioned adage is duly proven by the fact that Nitin Pratap Varma Senior Scientist and highly esteemed research scholar from Dhanbad-based IIT-ISM and currently working as Senior Scientist for Shahjahanpur (UP) based company G Surgiwear Limited, felt the necessity of resorbable implant that could be fully absorbed in the bodies of accident victims as part of treating their fractured bones. Understanding this need of the hour, Varma held meetings with members-scientists of his research team. Many brainstorming ses-



GYAN BHADRA

sions with experiments ensued. Eventually, the team led by Varma zeroed in on the final product and invented the "magnesium implant" for the first time in the world. Shedding light on the factual aspects of his invention, Varma says: "For many years, I have been observing the predicaments and troubles being suffered by bone-fractured patients due to inserted implants comprising plates and screws made

up of stainless steel and titanium metals. Since those plates and screws remained embedded in the body, patients had to undergo painful sufferings for a long period. To remove those metallic plates from the body, the patients have to undergo surgery which is physically tormenting as patients have to bear the brunt of risk aspects of surgery. And to add insult to injury, patients bear the huge expenses of surgery. Keeping in mind the troubles faced by patients, Varma convened a series of meetings with his fellow scientists and team members to discuss the use of plates made up of resorbable metals in place of stainless steel-made plates



After having a long discussion, we reached to the scientific conclusion that implant of resorbable metals gets fully absorbed in the body within 3-5 years of insertion. It is no hyperbole on my part if I say it vanishes into the

body. Thus through continued research and experiments, we invented and zeroed in on magnesium implant due to its path-breaking resorbable quality in the human body. Patients do not feel any physical inconvenience

afterwards, Varma explains matter-of-factly. Analysing his bone treatment-related achievement in an in-depth manner, Varma explains that there are three kinds of metals that are resorbable and biologically safe: magnesium, zinc and iron. Undoubtedly, these metals have their pluses and minuses. Varma and his colleagues have been experimenting with resorbable metals to gain knowledge of their utilities and qualities. For this very purpose, the team of scientists also visited the Jamshepur-based National Institute of Metallurgy institution to seek intricate technical knowledge of metals. Expressing optimism over the utility and quality of

magnesium implants, Varma avers that the invented product has reached the final stage; since the product has already been implanted in animals for testing its efficacy. Also, to be well-versed with different clinical parameters related to experimental procedures, the animals have been kept under observation for six months. Results from animal testing are very encouraging. After successfully experimenting with this product in animals, Varma has plans to test this product in human bodies. For this, he has decided to seek permission from the Drug Controller General of India. Having successfully tested this product in human bodies, it will be put in the

public domain, Varma explains. Eventually, it is no exaggeration to say that the invention of the magnesium implant is slated to bring revolutionary changes in the treatment of bone fractures and other bone diseases. This is more so because as per a research report, scores of scientists are engaged in experimental procedures of implants in laboratories the world over. And in this context, thousands of research papers have been inked and published. But to this date, those scientists have yet to make in-roads to reach the level of realistic utility of implants. (The writer is a freelancer; views expressed are personal)

Iran's supreme leader prays over coffin of Hamas leader Haniyeh

AP ■ BEIRUT

Iran's supreme leader and representatives of Palestinian militias he backs prayed Thursday over the coffins of Hamas leader Ismail Haniyeh and his bodyguard who were killed in a shocking assassination blamed on Israel that risked escalating into an all-out regional war. Ayatollah Ali Khamenei prayed over Haniyeh's coffin at Tehran University while Iran's new President Masoud Pezeshkian stood next to him. State television later showed the coffins placed in a truck and moved on the street toward Azadi Square in Tehran and people throwing flowers at the funeral. After the funeral services in Tehran, Haniyeh's remains are to be transferred to Qatar for burial Friday. Haniyeh came to Tehran to attend the inauguration of Pezeshkian. Associated Press photos showed the Hamas



Iranians attend the funeral ceremony of Hamas leader Ismail Haniyeh and his bodyguard, some of them holding up posters with his photo and reading in Arabic: "Congratulations Haniyeh!" at Enqelab-e-Eslami (Islamic Revolution) Sq. in Tehran, Iran, Thursday. AP/PTI

leader seated alongside leaders from the Palestinian Islamic Jihad militant group and Hezbollah, and Iranian media showed him and Pezeshkian hugging. Haniyeh had met earlier with Khamenei. Hours later, he was killed in an airstrike that hit a residence Haniyeh uses in Tehran. Iranian authorities said the attack is under investigation but haven't

provided details. Israel had pledged to kill Haniyeh and other Hamas leaders over the group's Oct. 7 attack on southern Israel that sparked the war in Gaza. The strike came just hours after Israel targeted a top commander in Iran's ally Hezbollah in the Lebanese capital Beirut. Iran supports Hamas, as well as Hezbollah and other Palestinian militant groups fighting Israel in Gaza. U.S. Secretary of State Antony Blinken said "all parties" in the Middle East must avoid escalatory actions that could plunge the region into further conflict. Speaking in the Mongolian capital of Ulaanbaatar on Thursday, Blinken appealed for countries to "make the right choices in the days ahead" and said a cease-fire between Israel and Hamas in Gaza was the only way to begin to break the current cycle of violence and suffering.

Israel confirms death of Hamas military chief in July strike

Jerusalem (AP) — The Israeli military said Thursday that it has confirmed that the head of Hamas' military wing, Mohammed Deif, was killed in an airstrike in Gaza in July. Israel targeted Deif in a July 13 strike that hit a compound on the outskirts of the southern Gaza city of Khan Younis, but the military said for weeks it was working to determine if he died in the blast. Hamas has denied he was killed. More than 90 other people, including displaced civilians in nearby tents, were killed in the strike, Gaza health officials said at the time. In a statement Thursday, the Israeli military said that "following an intelligence assessment, it can be confirmed that Mohammed Deif was eliminated in the strike." There was no immediate comment from Hamas.

US reaches plea deal with alleged 9/11 mastermind

PTI ■ WASHINGTON

The US has announced that it has entered into a pretrial deal with the alleged 9/11 mastermind Khalid Sheikh Mohammed, a Kuwaiti-Pakistani engineer, and two other co-accused in the 2001 terror attacks that killed nearly 3,000 people. The agreement — reached after 27 months of negotiations — takes the death sentence off the table for Mohammed, Walid Bin Attash, and Mustafa al Hawsawi, prosecutors said in a letter sent to the families of 9/11 victims and survivors shortly before the Department of Defense announced the news in a press release Wednesday. Mohammed and his co-defendants, who have spent almost two decades in the US military prison at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, will enter guilty pleas at a plea hearing that could come as early as next week, according to the letter obtained by

CNN. The settlement agreements with the Pentagon bring partial closure to a case that has dragged on for years and become mired in legal delays over whether the evidence extracted through torture during their interrogations was admissible in court. On September 11, 2001, two hijacked passenger planes hit the Twin Towers of the World Trade Center in New York City. A third plane struck the Pentagon in Washington. A fourth plane, heading to Washington, crashed in Pennsylvania after passengers fought back with the hijackers. Many family members of the nearly 3,000 people who died in the September 11, 2001, attacks want the 9/11 defendants put to death. Since a trial became increasingly unlikely, plea bargains were widely viewed as the only way to resolve the case, the US media reported. The Convening Authority for Military

Commissions, Susan Escallier, has entered into pretrial agreements with Khalid Shaikh Mohammed, Walid Muhammad Salih Mubarak Bin Attash, and Mustafa Ahmed Adam al Hawsawi, three of the co-accused in the 9/11 case, the US Department of Defence said in a press release. "The specific terms and conditions of the pretrial agreements are not available to the public at this time," it said. The three accused, along with Ali Abdul Aziz Ali and Ramzi Bin al Shibh, were initially charged jointly and arraigned on June 5, 2008, and then were again charged jointly and arraigned a second time on May 5, 2012, in connection with their alleged roles in the September 11, 2001, attacks against the United States, the release said. The letter says that the families now have 45 days to submit questions to be answered by the alleged co-conspirators by the end of the year.

Blinken aims to ease US election concerns on 6-nation Asia tour

PTI ■ SINGAPORE

With large parts of the world in turmoil and deep uncertainty over the future direction of America's global role, U.S. Secretary of State Antony Blinken sought this week to project an aura of calm normalcy as he traveled through Asia on his first overseas mission since President Joe Biden jolted the 2024 presidential race with his withdrawal. Whether he succeeded or not remains an open question. On a trip to Laos, Vietnam, Japan, the Philippines, Singapore and Mongolia that was punctuated by several potential escalatory developments in the Middle East, an uptick in Russian attacks in Ukraine and overshadowed by persistent fears about China's increasingly aggressive actions, he could not escape questions and comments about domestic U.S. politics. Having embarked on the six-nation tour just days after Biden's decision, Blinken no

doubt would have preferred to avoid the issue entirely but came prepared with several stock answers to questions about U.S. leadership from concerned partners and allies. Chief among them: "I don't do politics" and variations on "American engagement abroad endures across administrations." In the Philippines, Blinken and Defense Secretary Lloyd Austin remained politely silent when President Ferdinand Marcos Jr. welcomed them with a nod toward the campaign that now pits former President Donald Trump against presumptive Democratic nominee Vice President Kamala Harris. "We are very happy to see (you) once again," Marcos said on Tuesday in Manila. "I am a bit surprised considering how interesting your political situation has become back in the States, but I'm glad that you've found the time to come and visit with us." In Singapore, Blinken was asked by a senior diplomat about the

"noise coming out of the presidential campaign" and replied with a joke. "Really? I hadn't heard any of it," he said to laughter from the audience of students and academics from Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy before taking a stab at a serious answer. "We have these periodic things called elections and I think it's normal that before every election — given the importance of this moment in history that our country has around the world — that of course people ask questions," Blinken said. "They wonder what's going to happen in any given election, what direction does the country take, and maybe there are lesser or higher degrees of that on any given election, but it always happens before every election, and I understand that," he said. But, he argued that no matter who occupies the White House "there are a number of constants that don't fundamentally change irrespective of who wins a particular election."

UK stabbings suspect named in court

PTI ■ LONDON

The teenage male suspect charged with murder over the fatal stabbing of three young girls in north-west England was Thursday named by authorities after restrictions were lifted in court, as Prime Minister Keir Starmer held talks with police chiefs over violent protests the incident triggered outside Downing Street here. Axel Muganwa Rudakubana, a Wales-born 17-year-old from the nearby village of Banks in Lancashire who was arrested soon after the attack on Monday in Southport, appeared at Liverpool City Magistrates Court charged with three counts of murder, 10 counts of attempted murder and possession of a knife. Judge Andrew Menary lifted the legal restriction on naming the accused after hearing submissions that he is just days away from his 18th birthday on August 7 and remanded him in youth custody until the next hearing on October 25. In its update on Wednesday evening's violent clashes in the



aftermath of the stabbings, the Metropolitan Police said that 111 people had been arrested for offences including violent disorder, assaults on police officers, possession of knives and offensive weapons and breach of protest conditions. A number of officers were injured as one was punched in the chest, one elbowed in the head, one kicked in the back, one kicked in the wrist and another kicked multiple times.

"Last night our officers faced unacceptable scenes of disorder and violence, as others across the country have done in recent days. They acted with great courage and the highest levels of professionalism in the face of hateful behaviour," said Met Police Assistant Commissioner Matt Twist. "All our thoughts should be with the victims and families of those impacted by the most dreadful attack in Southport. It

is shameful that some have sought to exploit this tragedy as justification for their own violence and criminality. There is absolutely no place for this on our streets. We will ensure that anyone involved in any violent disorder and criminal behaviour will be stopped, arrested and will face justice," he said. Flares were thrown towards the gates of Downing Street and some among the crowd threw cans and glass bottles. Protesters later tried to kick down a fence as they were confronted by police equipped with riot gear. Chants of "Rule Britannia," "save our kids" and "stop the boats" could be heard as the crowd was penned in by the police trying to contain the disorder on Wednesday night. The London events followed violent protests in Southport and also in Hartlepool, north-east England, and Aldershot, south-east England, believed to involve far-right groups whipped up by social media misinformation claiming the male suspect behind the stabbing was a Muslim asylum seeker who arrived illegally in

the country on a boat. Arrests were also made in the violent disorder in Hartlepool and Aldershot. Earlier, Merseyside Police Chief Constable Serena Kennedy said the charges against the teenage suspect mark a "significant milestone" in the "live investigation" as the force continues to work with partners from Lancashire Police and Counter Terrorism Policing North West (CTPNW). Three children — six-year-old Bebe King, seven-year-old Elsie Dot Stancombe and nine-year-old Alice Dasilva Aguiar — died as a result of the attack at The Hart Space community centre. A "Taylor Swift Yoga and Dance Workshop" aimed at primary school children was taking place at the time of the attack in the seaside town north of the city of Liverpool. Eight other children suffered stab wounds in the attack, five of whom remain in critical condition in hospital. Two adults, including one of the organisers of the event, also suffered critical injuries. PTI AK

Over 60 leaders endorse Kamala Harris for US President

PTI ■ WASHINGTON

New York (PTI) — More than 60 South Asian American state and local elected officials from across the US have endorsed Kamala Harris for the presidency, saying that as the daughter of an Indian immigrant mother, she will create a "fairer and more inclusive" immigration system. They also said that the US Vice President's victory in the November 5 presidential election would send a powerful signal to all Asian Americans, communities of colour, and women. The officials joined the Indian American Impact in endorsing Harris, who is the 2024 Democratic candidate for President of the United States. "As South Asian elected officials, we proudly support Kamala Harris in her historic bid to become the first South Asian American woman President of the United States," the officials said in a statement issued by The Indian American Impact Fund, which is dedicated to promoting and elevating voices of Indian and South Asian Americans in the political and civic life of the United States. "As the daughter of an Indian immigrant mother, Harris will also 'create a fairer and more inclusive immigration system,'" the statement said, referring to Harris's Chennai-born mother Shyamala Gopalan, a scientist who had moved to the US in the 1950s to pursue higher education. "As an exceptional coalition builder, Harris possesses an extraordinary ability to unite our nation at a time when the stakes have never been higher," it said. The statement added that Harris's victory in the November 5 election would send a powerful signal to all Asian Americans, communities of colour, and women. "By helping so many reimagine what is possible, a President Kamala Harris would affirm that the American Dream isn't just an aspiration, but an achievable reality."

Ramaswamy accuses Harris of leaning into 'identity politics'

PTI ■ WASHINGTON

Former Republican presidential candidate Vivek Ramaswamy has accused Vice President Kamala Harris of leaning into 'identity politics' and claimed that she only considered herself Indian-American when "convenient." Ramaswamy, who supports the Republican Party's nominee Donald Trump now, said that Harris, the Democratic presidential election nominee, leaned on her Indian American heritage while running for office in California, where there is a significant Asian American population, but has since shifted her focus away from that identity on the national stage. The 38-year-old Indian-American biotech entrepreneur drew a comparison between Harris' heritage and his own to share his views on the subject. "On a very personal level, my parents were immigrants to this country, legal immigrants from southern India — the very same part of India that (Harris) mother also immigrated from," he told



Real Madrid goalkeeper Andriy Lunin dives as Milan forward Samuel Chukwueze passes the ball during the second half of a friendly soccer match Wednesday, in Chicago

Fox News. "I think it's a hard fact... it's a fact whether you like it or not, that many Indian-Americans in the US are indeed somewhat offended by the way Kamala has suddenly cast aside the Indian-American side of identity," Ramaswamy said. She leaned into it when she ran for Office in California — big Asian-American and Indian-American population, he said. "So she wore that when it was convenient. She's wearing a different identity now when it is politically convenient on a national stage," he alleged. He said he does not think Americans should be relying on these ethnic identities at all. "We're actually Americans. And the problem is, when you're Kamala Harris and you actually lean into your identity politics, then you open the door to that type of criticism," he said. "But if you ask me, that shouldn't be how this election is decided one way or another. It should be decided on our own identity as Americans and what our vision is for the future of our country. And the number one thing missing in Kamala Harris' candidacy is that she lacks that vision for the country," he added. Harris, 59, is Indian American and African American. Her mother emigrated from India, and her father emigrated from Jamaica. Former President Trump also mocked Vice President Harris' heritage during a combative live interview Wednesday at the National Association of Black Journalists (NABJ) convention, saying "she happened to turn Black" in recent years.

Death toll jumps to 30 in China landslide

PTI ■ BEIJING

Beijing (AP) — At least 30 people have died and 35 others are missing in a city in south-eastern China after days of heavy rains tied to a tropical storm, state media said Thursday. The death toll rose sharply from a previously reported four deaths in villages in Zixing, a city in Hunan province. In addition, a mudslide from the same rains killed 15 people on Sunday in another part of the province. Earlier this week, state broadcaster CCTV showed helicopters being used to get relief supplies into severely flooded areas in Zixing. By midday Thursday, roads, electricity and communications had been largely restored in the city's eight most affected townships, state media said. Chinese Premier Li Qiang, visiting flood-hit villages in Zixing, urged all-out efforts to find the missing as search and rescue work continued.

Poland marks 80 years since Warsaw uprising, honours heroes

PTI ■ WARSAW

Warsaw (Poland) (AP) — The Polish and German presidents bowed their heads to the cadence of a military drum as they paid tribute Thursday to Poles slaughtered by Nazi Germany during the Warsaw Uprising of 1944 on the 80th anniversary of the outbreak of the ill-fated revolt. As Poland marked the hallowed day, news broke that the oldest surviving insurgent of the uprising, 106-year-old Barbara Sowa, died in the morning. With very few survivors left to take part in the ceremonies, it was a poignant reminder of the passing away of the generation shaped by the sacrifice of World War II. Later, the city will stop and sirens will not wait to pay tribute to the insurgents. Taylor Swift, who is giving the first of three concerts Thursday evening in Warsaw, warned her fans on social media not to panic when they hear the sirens. Many are traveling from far away for the performance. Polish President Andrzej Duda and German President Frank-Walter Steinmeier stood together, heads bowed, to remember those days of August in 1944. They paid tribute to the Wola Massacre, the mass-murder of civilians of Warsaw's Wola district carried out by the Germans from August 5 to August 12, 1944. "They were led out of their homes, tenement houses, their homes were set on fire, and they themselves were shot in the streets, and



their bodies were burned. Several tons of ashes were collected from the streets and squares of Wola, in order to place them in a common grave," Duda said. The German president's bowed head and other symbolic gestures signaled remorse for the crimes of his nation. That Steinmeier "lays a wreath, bows his head, kneels before the commemorative cross," calls for respect, said Duda, speaking for the nation under brutal occupation from 1939-1945, which suffered the extermination of millions of its citizens, Christian and Jewish, and the near-total destruction of its capital city. Many Poles feel the gestures of remorse are not enough, and the previous nationalist government in power from 2015-23 — allied with Duda — demanded USD 1.3 trillion from Germany in war reparations. Germany says it will not pay and the matter was settled with compensation paid to East Bloc nations in the years after the war and with territory given up to Poland. The government of Prime Minister Donald Tusk, which took power last December, has toned down the demands but says it would still like Berlin to consider possibilities for compensation. Warsaw's revolt began August 1, 1944, by the clandestine Home Army, which acted on orders from Poland's government-in-exile in London.

Trump questions Harris' racial identity: Is she black or indian?

PTI ■ WASHINGTON

Washington (PTI) — Republican presidential nominee Donald Trump has launched a racially insensitive attack against Kamala Harris by questioning whether she is "Indian or Black," drawing a sharp reaction from his Democratic rival who termed his remarks "the same old show" of "divisiveness" and "disrespect." Trump, 78, falsely claimed Vice President Harris had only emphasised her Asian-American heritage until recently when, he claimed, "she became a black person." "I've known her a long time, indirectly, not directly very much, and she was always of Indian heritage, and she was only promoting Indian heritage. I didn't know she was Black until a number of years ago when she happened to turn Black, and

now she wants to be known as Black," Trump said at the National Association of Black Journalists convention in Chicago on Wednesday, as the race for the November 5 presidential election gained momentum with opinion polls showing that Harris has narrowed the gap with her Republican rival. "So I don't know — Is she Indian? Or is she black?" Harris' mother is originally from India, and her father is from Jamaica. As an undergraduate, Harris attended Howard University, a historically black school in Washington, and belongs to Alpha Kappa Alpha, the country's oldest Black sorority. She was also the president of the Black Law Students Association while studying at the University of California's law school in San

Francisco, and a member of the Congressional Black Caucus during her time in the Senate. When one of the journalists who was interviewing Trump on stage tried to tell him that Harris had always identified as Black and had attended a historically Black university, the former president continued: "I respect either one, but she obviously doesn't. Because she was Indian all the way, and then all of a sudden, she made a turn, and she went — she became a Black person. And I think somebody should look into that too." Trump's comments prompted immediate criticism. Speaking at an event in Houston Wednesday for the Sigma Gamma Rho Sorority, a historically Black sorority, Harris told the crowd that "this afternoon, Donald Trump spoke at the

annual meeting of the National Association of Black Journalists, and it was the same old show." "The divisiveness and the disrespect, and let me just say, the American people deserve better," Harris, 59, did not directly address the content of Trump's words but said that Americans "deserve a leader who tells the truth, a leader who does not respond with hostility and anger when confronted with the facts, we deserve a leader who understands that our differences do not divide us, they are an essential source of our strength." Harris campaign communications director Michael Tyler earlier said the "hostility Trump showed on stage today is the same hostility he has shown throughout his life, throughout his term in office, and throughout his campaign for president."

"Trump lobbed personal attacks and insults at Black journalists the same way he did throughout his presidency — while he failed Black families and left the entire country digging out of the ditch he left us in," Tyler said. "Donald Trump has already proven he cannot unite America, so he attempts to divide us." At the White House, press secretary Karine Jean-Pierre responded to Trump's jab at Harris, calling the former president's comments "insulting." "As a person of colour, as a Black woman, who is in this position that is standing before you at this podium, behind this lectern — what he just said, what you just read out to me is repulsive, it's insulting," Jean-Pierre said. "No one has any right to tell someone who they are, how they identify."

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Jamaat-e-Islami, Islami Chhatra Shibir banned

PTI ■ DHAKA

Bangladesh on Thursday banned the Jamaat-e-Islami and its student wing Islami Chhatra Shibir under anti-terrorism law following nationwide unrest over the quota system for government jobs, accusing the fundamentalist party of instigating protests that left at least 150 people dead.

A notification issued by the Public Security Division of the Ministry of Home Affairs on Thursday confirmed the ban on the Islamist party, a key ally of former prime minister Khaleda Zia's Bangladesh Nationalist Party. The ban on Jamaat, Chhatra Shibir and other associated groups came through an executive order under Section 18(1) of the Anti-Terrorism Act. "They (Jamaat-Shibir and BNP) just used the students as their shield," Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina said on Thursday when Italian Ambassador Antonio Alessandro called on her at her official residence Ganabhaban here.

A Home Ministry spokesman said that the government on August 1 banned all political activities of Bangladesh Jamaat-e-Islami and its various wings. The Bangladesh government on Tuesday decided to ban the

Jamaat-e-Islami following the deadly nationwide students' protests over quotas in government jobs, accusing it of exploiting the movement that left at least 150 people dead. The development comes after a meeting of the ruling Awami League-led 14-party alliance passed a resolution earlier this week that Jamaat must be banned from politics.

The decision to ban Jamaat comes over 50 years after its initial prohibition in 1972 for "misusing religion for political purposes". The Jamaat opposed Bangladesh's 1971 independence from Pakistan and sided with the Pakistani troops during the Liberation War.

The party, founded in 1941 in undivided India, was first banned in 1972, the year Bangladesh framed its Constitution, which disbanded the functioning of any association or union or political party based on religion.

But the subsequent military government led by General Ziaur Rahman revoked the ban by issuing a martial law proclamation, which allowed Jamaat to refloat and years later became a crucial partner of the then prime minister Khaleda Zia's 2001-2006 four-party alliance government. Two senior Jamaat leaders

were inducted into her cabinet. Top leaders of the ruling Awami League, who have been in power for the past 15 years, have supported the ban on the Jamaat because of its role in the Liberation War.

The Jamaat remained active despite losing its registration and being barred from elections due to court rulings. The party was allegedly involved in the recent violence surrounding the protests of the quota reform movement, which the government has cited as a reason for the ban, the report added.

Violence gripped Bangladesh for almost the entire of July when the protests that had started in universities and colleges earlier this month, quickly turned into a widespread agitation against Prime Minister Hasina and her government's policies.

The government called in the Army to quell protests against job quotas after the unrest left at least 150 dead and several thousand people, including policemen, wounded and major government installations damaged. Law Minister Anisul Huq said on Tuesday the ban is being imposed because of the recent violence associated with the quota reform movement and will be enacted through an executive order.

Xi for smart system to boost border defence

PTI ■ BEIJING

Chinese President Xi Jinping has called for greater use of technology and the deployment of a "smart system" for border defence to meet "new opportunities and challenges", amidst Beijing's unresolved land and maritime territorial disputes with its neighbours.

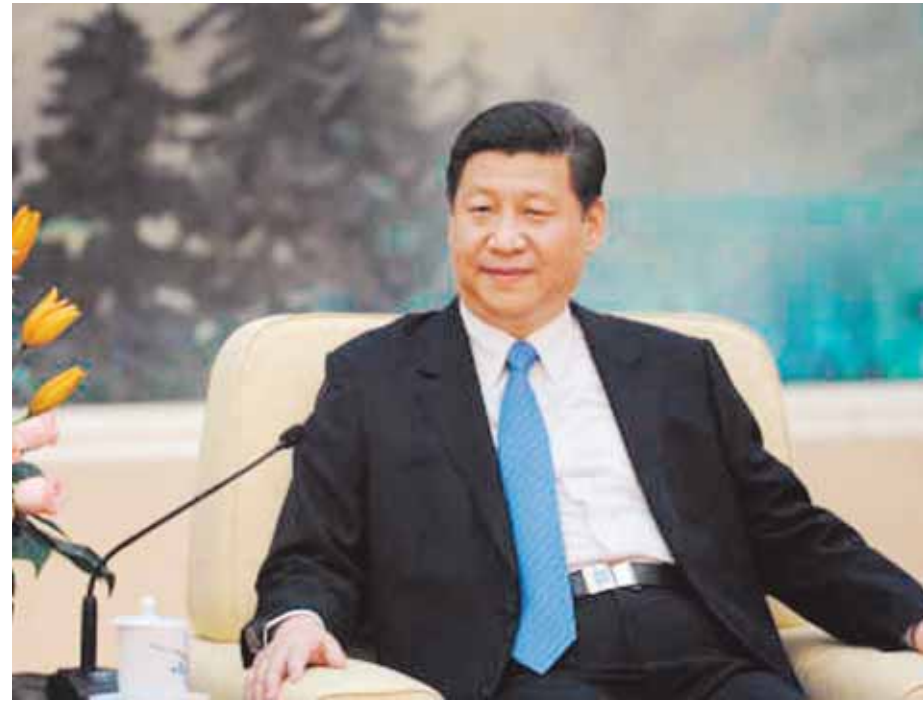
The instructions were made during a group study session on Tuesday attended by the Communist Party's 24-member Politburo, its top policymaking body.

Xi highlighted the need to "strengthen technological empowerment" in border defence, "enhance the development of new methods and conditions for border, maritime, and air defence, and build a comprehensive and smart management and control system," Hong Kong-based South China Morning Post reported on Thursday.

This aligns with Xi's repeated calls to improve the use of advanced technology in the armed forces to meet modernisation goals by 2027 and achieve the goal of building a world-class military by 2050.

Tuesday's meeting lacked details about what the "smart" systems would entail, the Post report said.

However, an article published last year in the PLA Daily, the official newspaper of the People's Liberation Army, said



technological advancements for border defence included modernised reconnaissance, surveillance, and early warning networks for efficient monitoring, as well as unmanned weapons incorporating AI.

Xi called for efforts to build a "strong, stable, and modern" border defence, as well as air and sea defence, to safeguard the country's national security and interests.

"As the world undergoes a cen-

tury of accelerating changes, the influencing factors have become increasingly complex. The construction of border, maritime, and air defence faces new opportunities and challenges," Xi said.

China is facing tensions on multiple fronts, including the military standoff with India in eastern Ladakh since May 2020 after Chinese troops aggressively moved closer to the LAC. Since then the two sides have

so far held 21 rounds of Corps Commander-level talks to resolve the standoff. The two sides so far agreed to disengage from four points, namely the Galwan Valley, the Pangong Lake, Hot Springs, and Jianan Daban (Gogra) in eastern Ladakh.

India is pressing the People's Liberation Army (PLA) to disengage from the Depsang and Demchok areas, maintaining that there cannot be the

restoration of normalcy in its relations with China as long as the state of the borders remains abnormal.

On Wednesday, India and China held a Working Mechanism for Consultation and Coordination on India-China Border Affairs (WMCC) in New Delhi.

The Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) said the two sides reviewed the current situation along the LAC with a view to finding an early resolution of the outstanding issues. In the South China Sea, China has ongoing territorial disputes with the Philippines, and in the East China Sea, it is at odds with Japan over the contested Diaoyu Islands, known in Japan as the Senkaku Islands. Xi called for strengthened "overall coordination" to secure the borders, according to state news agency Xinhua.

Xi said on Tuesday that managing China's border defence involved multiple military and civilian departments. He called for "combined" efforts by the military, police, civilians and local governments.

He praised the achievements of recent reforms in border defence management systems, force structure and national defence policies, adding that "a series of significant actions have been carried out to effectively safeguard our territorial sovereignty and maritime rights," the Post report said.

British journalist deported from Pak after seeking meeting with Imran Khan in jail

PTI ■ ISLAMABAD

A 73-year-old British-American author and journalist, who sought an interview with Pakistan's jailed former premier Imran Khan, has been deported after his tourist visa was revoked, a media report said on Thursday.

Charles Glass, an author, journalist, broadcaster, and publisher who specialises in the Middle East, was told by law enforcement agencies on Wednesday that his visa had been cancelled and he had five hours to leave the country, the Dawn newspaper reported.

Glass has served prominent media organisations such as Newsweek, ABC TV, and The Telegraph, among others, and currently works as a freelance journalist. He had been trying to secure a meeting with Khan. Sources told the paper that

Glass, who was recently spotted outside Adiala jail in Rawalpindi alongside Khan's sister Aleema, was at the residence of Islamabad-based senior journalist Zahid Hussain when they were visited by a large police contingent.

Around noon on Wednesday, a team led by an assistant superintendent of police (ASP) arrived, initially saying they wanted to meet the foreign journalist.

They then informed Glass that his visa had been cancelled. After arguing for nearly an hour, the ASP reportedly told the journalist he had to leave the country by 5 pm.

"Mr Glass wondered how he would secure a flight and said his luggage is still at [his lodgings]. The ASP offered to accompany him to the hotel to collect his luggage and informed him that there was a

flight to Abu Dhabi available at 4 pm, which he should take to leave the country. The ASP said he had a clear order to deport the journalist," the paper quoted sources as saying.

Sources said that Glass was initially taken to his lodgings to collect his luggage, and then deported to the Middle East. Shahzad Akbar, a former aide of ex-PM Imran Khan, also mentioned the incident on social media. "There are reports of the deportation of British journalist Charles Glass who was visiting Pakistan to see @ImranKhanPTI at Adiala prison," he wrote on X, formerly Twitter. Sources said that Glass had been trying to secure an interview with Khan, the founder of the Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf party, and it was possible that his tourist visa was cancelled because of this.

Rainfall breaks 44-year record in Lahore

Lahore (PTI): Monsoon rains on Thursday broke the 44-year record for maximum rainfall in a day for Lahore, flooding streets, homes, and even public hospitals in the capital city of Pakistan's Punjab province, which also killed three persons, officials said. More rains are forecast for a few days and the authorities have warned of moderate to high flooding in Jhelum river at Mangla.

According to the Provincial Disaster Management Authority (PDMA) spokesperson Mazhar Hussain, the 44-year record for maximum rainfall in a day during monsoon was broken on Thursday with maximum rainfall — 337 millimetres — recorded at the Lahore airport area.

The Pakistan Meteorological Department (PMD) said, "Strong monsoon currents from the Arabian Sea and Bay of Bengal are expected to

bring torrential rains to upper parts of the country from August 1 to 6, with intermittent breaks."

"Rain flooded streets, homes, and even public hospitals, disrupting electricity supply across Lahore. Around 300 feeders have tripped in the city. Three people were killed in rain-related incidents in the city," officials said.

Flight operations in Lahore too were suspended for several hours due to heavy rains. Punjab Chief Minister Maryam Nawaz has directed the officials concerned to remain in the field 24/7 to drain out rainwater-inundated areas.

The PDMA said water levels in rivers, dams and streams are rising due to the monsoon rains. "Moderate to high-level flooding in the river Jhelum at Mangla from August 1 to 4 can be witnessed," it said.

China sanctions US lawmaker for 'interference' in domestic affairs

AP ■ BANGKOK

China has sanctioned a United States lawmaker for "frequently interfering" in China's domestic affairs, in its latest effort to express displeasure with US politicians who have criticised China's policy and practice.

The sanction against Rep Jim McGovern, a Democratic congressman from Massachusetts, is symbolic, since the congressman has no assets in China or business dealings there. The sanction includes freezing his assets and properties in China, prohibiting any organization or individual in China from conducting transactions or working with him, and denying him and his family a visa to enter the country, according to a statement from China's Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

On the social media platform X, McGovern called the sanctions "absurd" and said he would wear his "as a badge of honour."

"If (Chinese) leaders don't like it when people speak out against their horrific human rights record, maybe they should improve their horrific human rights record," McGovern wrote on X. "They can start by ending their oppression of Tibetans, ending their genocide in Xinjiang, and ending their crackdown on democracy in Hong Kong."

McGovern is the ranking member of the House Committee on Rules, and he co-chairs the Tom Lantos Human Rights Commission. He also is a member of the Congressional-Executive Commission on China, which focuses on China's human rights record.

Beijing has previously sanctioned a number of US lawmakers, former Trump administration officials, and companies. It sanctioned Rep. Michael McCaul, also chair of the House Foreign Affairs Committee, and former Rep. Michael Gallagher over their support for Taiwan, a self-governed democracy that China claims as its own. In 2020 it sanctioned Rep Chris Smith and several US senators, including Marco Rubio and Ted Cruz. McGovern and McCaul, along with two senators, last year introduced bicameral legislation calling for stronger US support for Tibet, a region in China where human rights groups have criticized authorities for the treatment of ethnic Tibetans. Congress approved the bill in June, and President Joe Biden signed it into law in July.

Russia launches biggest drone barrage in seven months

Kyiv (AP): Ukrainian forces shot down all 89 Shahed drones launched by Russia in a nighttime attack on the country, Ukraine's air force said Wednesday, in what was one of the largest drone barrages this year. No damage or injuries were immediately reported in the bombardment, which mostly targeted the region of Kyiv, the capital. Russia used the same number of Shahed drones in a Jan. 1 attack, an air force statement said. Both Ukraine and Russia have relied extensively on explosive drones during the war and have scrambled to come up with more countermeasures. The Russian drones are being shot down by Ukraine's Soviet-era aircraft, according to Anatolii Khrapchynskyi, an aviation expert in Kyiv. "The air force is using electronic jamming against the drones' GPS which forces the drones to fly at a higher altitude, which then makes it easier for Ukrainian aircraft to strike them down," he told The Associated Press.



In this photo released by the Telegram channel of the head of Nizhny Tagil Vladislav Pinyayev on Thursday, August 1, 2024, Russian Emergency Ministry workers are seen near a multi-storey building partially collapsed presumably due to gas explosion in Nizhny Tagil, 1400km (870mi) east from Moscow, Sverdlovsk region, Russia. Three people have reportedly been rescued from under the rubble, information about the victims is being clarified AP/PTI

Singapore Airlines resumes standard inflight services

PTI ■ SINGAPORE

Singapore Airlines (SIA) on Thursday resumed its standard in-flight service procedures following adjustments made in the wake of the inflight turbulence incident in May that hit flight SQ321 badly, leaving one passenger dead and several others injured.

The airline had stopped serving meals when the seatbelt sign was turned on as part of a more cautious approach after the incident during the London-Singapore flight on May 21.

"SIA flights will end its safety time-out and revert to standard in-flight service procedures from Aug 1, 2024, 0001hrs, Singapore time," said an SIA spokesperson in a statement on Thursday. SIA's pilots will continue to decide to either sus-

pend or continue with the inflight service when the seat belt sign is switched on, depending on their assessment of weather and operational conditions, the spokesperson added.

Hot beverages, including soup, will not be served when the seat belt sign is on.

Shortly after the SQ321 incident, SIA tightened its in-flight turbulence response procedures as a precautionary measure. The safety time-out implemented was to allow the airline time to "thoroughly review" its turbulence management protocols, SIA said in its statement.

"We have verified that SIA's turbulence management protocols are in line with the industry's best practices and safety protocols," said SIA. "To reinforce these procedures among our staff, all our pilots and cabin

crew have undergone additional refresher courses over the last four weeks."

The courses covered topics such as recognising and handling risks associated with turbulence, assisting passengers during such instances and how to maintain safety throughout the flight. The airline has also introduced periodic reminders to its passengers via its in-flight entertainment system screens to reinforce the importance of keeping seat belts fastened while seated. "Customers should always follow the instructions of our pilots and cabin crew, and keep their seat belts fastened while seated at all times," the Channel News Asia quoted the spokesperson as saying. Safety of passengers and staff remains SIA's top priority, said the airline.

UK family docs vote to limit services to patients in row over funding

London (AP): Family doctors in England have voted to limit the number of patients they see and refuse extra work to protest a "broken" funding model, their union said on Thursday. The British Medical Association said 98.3 per cent of the 8,500 general practitioners who voted backed the work-to-rule action, which falls just short of a strike.

The open-ended action is due to start immediately.

The state-funded National Health Service said doctors' offices would remain open and the impact would vary from place to place. The union described the collective action as "an act of desperation." It said a new contract between doctors and the government, which will see services given a 1.9 per cent funding increase for 2024-25.

Police fire tear gas as protests break out in Nigeria

Abuja (Nigeria): Thousands of mostly young people poured onto the streets across Nigeria on Thursday as they protested against the country's worst cost-of-living crisis in a generation. Security forces fired tear gas to disperse protesters in several places.

In Abuja, where a court granted an order late Wednesday to restrict the protest to a stadium, Nigerian police officers were seen firing tear gas to disperse a crowd of protesters that gathered a few kilometers (miles) from the Presidential Villa.

The police also fired tear gas at protesters in Bauchi and Borno states in the conflict-battered

northeast. It was not immediately clear if security forces made any arrests.

Nigeria's public officials, frequently accused of corruption, are among the best paid in Africa, a stark contrast in a country that, despite being one of the continent's top oil producers, also has some of the world's poorest and hungriest people.

Roads were blocked in parts of the country by either placard-carrying protesters or armed security forces, who were deployed overnight after days of mobilization for protests against the government of Nigerian President Bola Tinubu. Some

groups also staged protests in support of the Nigerian leader. Rights groups and activists had raised concerns about a possible clampdown on the protests. Comments in recent days suggest "a troubling readiness to stifle dissent, heightening fears of a violent crackdown," the international rights group Human Rights Watch said. Many businesses across the country were also shut on Thursday amid fears the protests could be a replay of the deadly 2020 demonstrations against police brutality in the West African nation — or a wave of violence similar to last month's protests in Kenya,

where a tax hike led to chaos in the capital, Nairobi. Though originally planned for 10 days, Omoyele Sowore, a former presidential aspirant and one of the protest organizers, said they won't back down until their demands are met.

The protesters said they are also aggrieved over the country's deadly security crises in the conflict-battered north, which Tinubu had promised to end when he was campaigning for president. Fourteen months into office, the country's security and economic crises have persisted, and even worsened in some instances, official statistics show. AP

S Korea offers humanitarian aid to flood-affected North

AP ■ SEOUL

South Korea on Thursday offered to send aid supplies to North Korea to help the country recover from heavy rains and floods that submerged thousands of homes and huge swaths of farmland. It's unclear whether North Korea would accept South Korea's proposal for help. Animosity between the warring rivals is at its highest in years over the North's growing nuclear ambitions and the South's expansion of combined military exercises with the United States and Japan to counter the North's threats.

South Korea's Unification Ministry, which handles inter-Korean affairs, said the South was willing to swiftly provide supplies to address the "humanitarian difficulties"

facing North Korean residents following the recent storms. The ministry in a statement urged North Korea's Red Cross to promptly respond to its calls for discussions to determine the types and amounts of South Korean supplies and how to deliver them.

North Korea didn't immediately respond to the South's offer.

North Korean state media said Wednesday that recent heavy rains left 4,100 houses, 7,410 acres of agricultural fields and numerous other public buildings, structures, roads and railways flooded in the northwestern city of Sinuiju and the neighboring town of Uiju.

The North has not reported details about casualties.

PUNJAB STATE POWER CORPORATION LTD.
(Regd. Office: PSEB Head Office, The Mall Patiala-147001)
Corporate Identity Number U40109PB2010SGC033813
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E-Tender (Short Term) Enq. No. 539/P-2/EMPW-12715 Dated 05.07.2024
Dy. Chief Engineer/ Headquarter (Purchase Cell-2) GGSSTP, Rupnagar invites E-Tender ID No. 2024_POWER_124154_1 for Repair/Overhauling including replacement of spares O2 no. Transmission Assemblies of Sr. No. 384A94 and Sr. no. 2523B13 of BEML make Bulldozer Model 8D-155 as per tender specifications.
For detailed NIT & Tender Specification please refer to <https://eproc.punjab.gov.in> from 29.07.2024 onwards.
Note:- Corrigendum & addendum, if any will be published online at <https://eproc.punjab.gov.in> RTP-70/24

76155/12/3213/2023/36278 Dated CHD :- 8/1/2024

National Yuva Cooperative Society Ltd.
Regd. Office: 209, 2nd Floor, A/2-B, Vardhaman Janak Market Janakpuri, New Delhi-110058. Ph: 011-45096352/40153681 E-Mail: nycs.ltd@gmail.com, Website: www.nycsindia.com

NOTICE
Notice is hereby given that 23rd Annual Representative General Body Meeting (RGB) of National Yuva Cooperative Society Limited will be held on 25th August, 2024 at 10:00 am at National Cooperative Union of India, 3, August Kranti Marg, New Delhi - 110016.

All the Members of the RGB and Central Registrar of Cooperative Societies are requested to participate in the meeting.

Detailed agenda of the meeting can be viewed in the website: www.nycsindia.com
Date: 02nd August 2024
Place: New Delhi
Prakash Chandra Sahu
President, NYC'S Ltd.

Classifieds

CHANGE OF NAME

I, Munne Devi, Mother of Ram Karan Singh Chauhan, Unit of 228 Fd Regt Resident of Village Ganiyawar Post Chakar Nagar Tehsil Chakar Nagar District Etawah Declare That in my Son's Army Service Records my name Munne Devi & date of birth 13/02/1954 is wrongly mentioned. But Actual and Correct my name Muni Devi & Date of birth 01/01/1955.

I, Pooja Kad W/O Vinod Soni R/O VPO. Sunder Chak Teh. & Distt. Pathankot (Punjab) Declare that after Marriage Have Changed My Name from Pooja Kad to Pooja Soni. Pooja Soni and Pooja Kad both names are pertain to one, Single and Same Person. i.e Myself. Please note.

I, Ramfer S/O Bhagwandas R/O House No. 389, Indira Colony Sector-17 Panchkula Have Changed My Name From Ramfer To Ram Pher.

I, Gurjant Singh Mavi S/O Dalbara Singh Mavi R/O H.No. 4, Village Butrela, Sector-41b, Chandigarh, Have Changed My Name From Gurjant Singh To Gurjant Singh Mavi.

I, Khajan Singh Zinta S/O Sh. Dhyan Singh R/O Village- Jaigarh P.O. & Tehsil- Chopal, Distt. Shimla, H.P. Have Changed My Name From Khajan Singh Zinta To Khazan Singh Zinta.

I, Dudekula Khadar Shariff Legally Son Of No. Jc-312321h Rank Sub Name Dudekula Khadarvali Unit 4 Engr Regt. C/O 56 Ap0 Bathinda Cantt. (Punjab) Permanent Resident Of 3-64, Near Bustand, Vtc : Papineni Palle, Po- Papinenipalle Distt. Prakasham State Andhra Pradesh-523335 Have Changed My Name From D Khadar Shariff To Dudekula Khadar Shariff.

I, No. Jc-312321h Rank Sub Name Dudekula Khadarvali Unit 4 Engr Regt C/O 56 Ap0, Bathinda Cantt (Punjab) Permanent Resident Of Vill- Papineni Palli, Po- Papineni Palli, To-Ardhaveedu, Teh- Cumbum, Ps-Ardhaveedu, Distt. Prakasham State Andhra Pradesh-523335 Have Changed My Minor Daughter Name From D Rehana To Dudekula Rehana.

I, Jatinder Kaur Sodhi D/o Iqbal Singh, 16 Sector 18/A Chandigarh, have changed name to Jatinder Kaur

I, Manisha W/o Mohit Singh R/O VPO Bhagal, Kaitthal, have changed my name to Manisha Rani.

I, Kamlesh W/o Satbir R/O Vill. Songal. Kaitthal, have changed my name to Kamlesh Devi.

I, Kulwant Ram S/O Pritam Singh R/O Village Theh Butana, Kaitthal, have changed my name to Kulwant Singh.

I, Komaljit Kaur W/o Inderjeet Singh R/O Vill. Theh Butana, have changed name given Komaljeet and Kaur Surname.

I, Urmila Singla W/o Suraj Bhan R/O H.No. 142 Huda R-3 Ward No 8 Cheeka, Kaitthal, have changed name Urmila and Rani Surname.

I, hitherto known as Paromila Devi Wife of Hemant Siag, R/o H.No.4001, Janglian Street, Fazilka 152123, Pb, have changed name and shall hereafter be known as Promila.

I, hitherto known as Sonam wife of Vikram Sharma, R/o Near Holy Hart Public School, M.C.Colony, Fazilka 152123 Pb, have changed name and shall hereafter be known as Sonam Sharma.

I, Rovit S/o Prem Chand. H.No.124-C, Jawahar Market, Nangal (Distt Rupnagar) have changed my name from Rovit to Rovit Barsiwal.

I, Manoj S/o Ram Chander R/O Village Fattupur, Tehsil Thanesar, District Kurukshetra, Haryana- 136038, have changed my name from Manoj to Manoj Kumar. In future I should be known as Manoj Kumar only.

I, Rahul S/o Sh. Girdhari Lal Monga R/O House No. 400/19, Mohalla Gujran, Rania Gate, Sirsa (Haryana) have changed my name from Rahul to Rahul Monga.

I, Pawan Kumar S/O Rulda Ram R/O Kathgarh Chhapra, Ambala Have Changed My Minor Son Name Armaan Saini to Given Name Amaan Surname Saini.

I, Sarabjeet Kaur W/o Naresh Pal R/O H.No. 948/6, Mohalla Sagran, Adampur, Distt. Jalandhar, Punjab have spelling correction in my name Sarabjeet Kaur to Sarbjit Kaur.

I, Rajwant Kaur W/O Tarlochan Singh R/O Village Salempur Masandan, Distt. Jalandhar-144101, Punjab have changed my name from Rajwant Kaur to Rajwant Kaur Johal. (Surname as Johal)

I, Tarlochan Singh S/O Bhajan Singh R/O Village Salempur Masandan, Distt. Jalandhar-144101, Punjab have changed my name from Tarlochan Singh to Tarlochan Singh Johal. (Surname as Johal)

I, Raj Rani W/o Brij Lal R/O Vill. Sunner Khurd, Po. Rurki, Teh. Phillaur, Distt. Jalandhar- 144311, Punjab have changed my name from Raj Rani to Raj.

I, Ashwani Kumar S/O Shiv Lal R/O Kashmiri Mohalla, Subathu, Distt. Solan (HP) have changed my minor daughter's name from Ganika to Gavika.

I, Rekha Kumari W/o Rakesh Kumar R/O Vill. Darabli, PO. Sarsoo, Teh. Pachhad, Distt. Sirmour (HP) have changed my name from Rekha Kumari to Sarita.

I, Nathu Devi is legally mother of Sukka Singh resident of Vill. Majhra Baheri, PO. Bara, Ajitpur, Distt. Udhm Singh Nagar State Uttarakhhand -263148 have changed my name from Nathu Devi to Nattho Devi vide Affidavit dated 01 Aug 2024 before Executive Magistrate Jalandhar, (PB).

I, Tara Devi Bhatt is legally mother of Ravindra Bhatt resident of Vill. Basai, PO. Chamarthal, Distt. Bageshwar, State Uttarakhhand-263619 have changed my name from Tara Devi Bhatt to Tara Bhatt vide Affidavit dated 01 Aug 2024 before Executive Magistrate Jalandhar, (PB).

I, Dinesh Chandra Bhatt is legally father of Ravindra Bhatt resident of Vill. Basai, PO. Chamarthal, Distt. Bageshwar, State Uttarakhhand- 263619 have changed my name from Dinesh Chandra Bhatt to Dinesh Chandra vide Affidavit dated 01 Aug 2024 before Executive Magistrate Jalandhar, (PB).

I, Santhamma is legally mother of Viswanthmon OP resident of Puthantharayil, North Mankuzhy, Thekkekara (Part), Pallarimangalam, Alappuzha, Kerala - 690107 have changed my name from Santhamma to Santha vide Affidavit dated 01 Aug 2024 before Executive Magistrate Jalandhar, (PB).

I, Omanakuttan is legally father of Viswanthmon OP resident of Puthantharayil, North Mankuzhy, Thekkekara (Part), Pallarimangalam, Alappuzha, Kerala - 690107 have changed my name from Omanakuttan to S Omanakuttan vide Affidavit dated 01 Aug 2024 before Executive Magistrate Jalandhar, (PB).

I, Navdeep Kaur Sidhu W/O Rajinder Singh Sandhu R/O Vpo. Manuke Distt. Ludhiana Have Changed My Name To Navdeep Kaur Sandhu.

I, Harpreet Singh Toor S/O Swarnjit Singh R/O Bhinder Khurd Distt. Moga Have Changed My Minor Daughter's Name Harnoor Kaur Toor To Harnoor Kaur.

I, Harpreet Singh Toor S/O Swarnjit Singh R/O Bhinder Khurd Distt. Moga Have Changed My Minor Daughter's Name Seerat Kaur Toor To Seerat Kaur.

I, Angrej Singh Gahle Son Of Veer Singh R/O Village Sekhwan Distt. Ferozepur Have Changed My Name To Angrej Singh.

I, Sarbjit Singh S/O Mehnga Singh R/O Vpo. Dhugga, Distt. Hoshiarpur, Punjab, Have Changed Name Of My Minor Son From Tarnjit Singh To Taranjit Singh.

I, Sangina D/O Narinder Singh W/O Harjit Singh R/O Vill. Harmoya, P.O. Patti, District Hoshiarpur, Punjab Have Changed My Name To Sarabjit Kaur.

I, Gurdev Singh S/O Polo Ram, R/O Village Chandpur, P.O. Sandhran Tehsil & Distt. Hoshiarpur Punjab Have Changed My Name From Gurdev Singh To Gurdev Singh Heer.

I, Parkash Kaur W/O Gurdev Singh R/O Village Chandpur, P.O. Sandhran, Tehsil & Distt. Hoshiarpur, Punjab Have Changed My Name From Parkash Kaur To Parkash Kaur Heer.

I, Gurmit Kaur Dhadda W/O Daljit Singh R/O Village Dhadda, P.O. Rawalpindi, Tehsil Phagwara, Distt. Kapurthala Have Changed My Name From Gurmit Kaur Dhadda To Gurmit Kaur.

I, Kirpal Kaur W/O Onkar Singh R/O Vpo. Bhullarai, Tehsil Phagwara, District Kapurthala Have Changed My Name From Kirpal Kaur To Kirpaljit Kaur.

I, JC-511676L Rank Sub name Bhupinder Singh R/O Vpo. Allapur Teh-Kharar (Mohali) Pin Code-140103 have changed my daughter name from Khushpreet to Khushpreet Kaur.

I, Neetu Garg W/o Sunny Kumar R/O Mandi Harji Ram Malout (Sri Muktsar Sahib) have changed my name to Neetu Gupta.

I, Jaspal Singh S/O Darshan Singh Vpo Jandwala Charat Singh Teh Malout Distt Sri Muktsar Sahib Have Change My Name Jaspal Singh Dhillon.

I, Rajveer Kaur W/O Jaspal Singh Dhillon Vpo Jandwala Charat Singh Teh Malout Distt Sri Muktsar Sahib Have Change My Name Rajveer Kaur Dhillon.

I, Reshma Rani Maju W/o Harman Deep Singh Majhu Vpo Gurma Tehsil Mehal Kalan, Distt. Barnala have changed my name Reshma Rani Majhu.

I, Beant Kaur Nagra W/O Suchet Singh Nagra R/O Village Gaunspur, Kauli, Kauli, Patiala Have Changed My Name From Beant Kaur Nagra To Beant Kaur.

I, Nirmala W/O Sandeep Bajwal R/O B-5, Flat No 401 Maya Garden City Delhi Ambala Highway Zirakup SAS Nagar Mohali Have Changed My Name from Nirmala To Sanjana Bajwal after marriage.

I, Joginder Kumar S/o Sh. Krishan Lal, R/O Village Sadikpur, Tehsil Naraingarh, Distt. Ambala have changed my name from Joginder Kumar to Joginder Singh.

I, Mann Singh S/o Avtar Singh R/O H.No. 73 Mansurwal Dona (Kapurthala) have changed my name from Mann Singh to Mann Singh Walia.

I, Gurbaksh Singh S/o Zora Singh R/O Vpo. Tajpur (Ludhiana) have changed my name from Gurbakx Singh to Gurbaksh Singh.

I, Talwinder Singh S/o Sadhu Singh R/O Raikot (Ludhiana) have changed my name to Talwinder Singh Gill.

I, Sukhdeep Kaur W/o Talwinder Singh Gill R/O Raikot (Ludhiana) have changed my name to Sukhdeep Kaur Gill.

I, Kulwinder Singh Doudhar S/O Ajaib Singh R/O Vill: Bilaspur (Moga) have changed my name to Kulwinder Singh.

I, Kuljit Kaur W/o Sukhdev Singh R/O Nawa Purba, Near Chungi No. 08 Ferozepur Cantt Have Changed My Name From Kuljeet Kaur To Kuljit Kaur.

I, Shinder Pal Singh Dhanju S/O Charan Singh R/O H.No. 78, Golden Enclave, Ichhe Wala Road, Ferozepur City Have Changed My Name To Shinderpal Singh.

I, Sushil Kumar S/o Suresh Kumar R/O Village Tepla Tehsil Rajpura Distt. Patiala declare that I have changed my minor daughter's name from Vanshika Jindal to Vashika.

I, Anguri W/o Om Parkash D/o Singh Ram R/O V.P.O. Bir Mathana, Distt Kurukshetra have changed my name from Anguri Devi to Anguri.

I, Sulinder Singh Surinder Singh S/o Lachman Singh R/O Village Palnau, PO- Kang Jagir, Tehsil-Phillaur, District- Jalandhar, Punjab-144418, have changed my name to Surinder Singh.

I, Davinder Singh S/O Labh Singh R/O Village Bhani, Nathpura (Bathinda) Declare That My Name Be Read As Given Name Davinder And Surname Singh.

I, Amandeep Kaur W/O Bhupinder Singh R/O H.No.111, W.No.12, Green Enclave, Near Friends Colony, Khanna (Ludhiana) Have Changed My Name To Amandip Kaur Kalsi.

I, Gurjit Singh S/o Gurbachan Singh R/o Nai Abadi Akalgarh Teh-Raikot (Ludhiana) have changed my name to Gurjeet Singh.

I, Nirmaljeet Kaur W/o Gurjeet Singh R/O Nai Abadi Akalgarh Teh-Raikot (Ludhiana) have changed my name from Narinder Kaur to Nirmaljeet Kaur.

I, Army no. JC675339M Rank .sub, Ranjit Kumar Tiwari My name is wrongly mention in my army service record as Ranjit Kumar Tiwari, but my correct name is Ranjit Kumar Tiwari.

I, Lakhwinder Kaur W/o Late Sh. Vikas Arya R/O H.No. 876 Ward No. 7 Near Tika Ram House, Jind Tehsil and District Jind Have Changed My Minor Son Name From Pratham To Pratham Arya.

I, Paramjeet W/o Rajendra Kumar R/O Adhoyi Tehsil Barara distt. Ambala that I have changed my name from Paramjeet to Paramjeet Kaur. Concerned note

I, Satish Kumar Goel S/o Bisheshwar Nath R/O A-28 Tribune Colony Ambala Cantt have changed my name from Satish Goel to Satish Kumar Goel. Concerned note

I, No.15501407X NK Gajendra Singh Thakur resident of Vill-age-Narsingharh, Post-Narsingharh, Tehsil- Pathriya, District- Damoh, State- M.P. Pin-470675, have changed my Son name from Vivek Singh to Vivek Singh Rajpoot vide affidavit No.IN-PB41850320867098W dated 01 Aug 2024 before notary public Pathankot

I, No.15797869H NK (OFC) Ajit Narayan Desai resident of Village- Ivoli, Post- Castlerock, Tehsil- Joida, District- Uttara Kannada, State- Karnataka, Pin-581121, have changed my Mother name from Narmada Desai to Narmada Narayan Desai vide affidavit No.IN-PB40352438581712W dated 29 July 2024 before notary public Pathankot

I, No.15797869H NK (OFC) Ajit Narayan Desai resident of Village- Ivoli, Post- Castlerock, Tehsil- Joida, District- Uttara Kannada, State- Karnataka, Pin-581121, have changed my Father name from Narayan Desai to Narayan Ambaji Desai vide affidavit No.IN-PB40354628221094W dated 29 July 2024 before notary public Pathankot

I, No.15788338K Hav (Opradi) Shaileendra Singh resident of Village- Rautainia Sardar, Post- Sardar Nagar, Tehsil- Chauri Chaura, District- Gorakhpur, State- Uttar Pradesh, Pin-273202, have changed my Mother name & DOB from Gyanmati Singh to Gyanmati Devi & date of birth from 01 Jan 1959 to 01 Jan 1953 vide affidavit No.IN-PB41528065055197W dated 01 Aug 2024 before notary public Pathankot

I, No.15788338K Hav (Opradi) Shaileendra Singh resident of Village- Rautainia Sardar, Post- Sardar Nagar, Tehsil- Chauri Chaura, District- Gorakhpur, State- Uttar Pradesh, Pin-273202, have changed my Mother name & DOB from Gyanmati Singh to Gyanmati Devi & date of birth from 01 Jan 1959 to 01 Jan 1953 vide affidavit No.IN-PB41528065055197W dated 01 Aug 2024 before notary public Pathankot

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I, Pinki Devi Wife of No.JC-472877L NB/Sub Mohan resident of Village- Jassia, Post- Jassia, Tehsil- Rohtak, District- Rohtak, State- Haryana, Pin-124001, in my Daughters' Vanshika, Ishika and Son Arnab Duhan School record my name wrongly recorded as Pinki Devi instead of Pinky Devi Vide affidavit No.IN-PB41851291168889W dated 01 Aug 2024 before notary public Pathankot

I, Iravva Tirakannavar Am Mother Of No 15331768F Rank L Hav Name Basavaraj Tirakannavar Present Residing At 164 Br Coy 16 Engr Br Regt (Pms) Chandimandir Cant. Panchkula. Haryana Declare That I Have Changed My Name From Irava To Iravva Tirakannavar And Also Change My D.O.B From 01 Jul 1958 To 01 Jan 1963

I, Yamanappa Neelappa Tirakannavar Am Father Of No 15331768F Rank L Hav Name Basavaraj Tirakannavar Present Residing At 164 Br Coy, 16 Engr Br Regt (Pms), Chandimandir Cantt. Panchkula. Haryana Declare I Have Changed My Name From Yamanappa T To Yamanappa Neelappa Tirakannavar And Also Change My Date Of Birth From 01 Jul 1953 To 10 May 1952.

I, Radha Basavaraj Tirakannavar Am Spouse Of No 15331768F Rank L Hav Name Basavaraj Tirakannava Present Residing At 164 Br Coy, 16 Engr Br Regt (Pms) Chandimandir Cantt. Panchkula, Haryana Have Changed My Name From Radha To Radha Basavaraj Tirakannavar.

I, Sabita Choubey is legally Wedded Spouse of No: JC 303661k Rank: Sub Name: Amar Nath Choubey Presently Posted At- Unit: 142 AD Regt (SP) Permanent Address - Teh-Shahpur, Gareyan, Bhojpur, Bihar-802154 Declare that I have changed My Name from Sabita Choubey to Savita Choubey. Vide Affidavit No:54AA 510684, Dated; 01/08/24

I, Amarjit Kaur W/O Kashmir Singh. Resident Of Vill Rura, Po- Pakiwan, Tehsil Kalanaur Distt Gurdaspur, Pin Code 143604. Have Changed My Name From Amarjeet Kaur To Amarjit Kaur

I, Harprit Singh S/O Tarlok Singh. R/O Vill- Virk, Po- Athwal, Tehsil Kalanaur District Gurdaspur, Punjab, India Pin Code 143511, I Want To Change My Name From Harpreet Singh To Harprit Singh.

I Smt, Surinder Kaur W/O No. 1284448-H, Ex Hav, Gurcharan Singh R/O Village Mathola Po, Bharath Tehsil Batala Distt Gurdaspur State Punjab, Have Changed My Name From Salwinder Kaur To Surinder Kaur And Date Of Birth Is 16-09-1950 To 05-12-1950.

I, Kinder W/O Jaswinder Masih R/O Village Nabipur Tehsil/Distt Gurdaspur, Punjab. Have Changed My Name From Kinder To Nishu

I Hither To Known As Ujjagar Mall S/O Om Parkash R/O Moh Guro Nanak Pura Qadian 143516 Tehsil Batala Distt Gurdaspur Punjab Have Changed My Name And Shall Hereafter Known As Ujagar Mal.

I, Hitherto Known As Jashanpreet Singh Son Of Unique Singh Residing At Village Aari Bhan, Po Dargabad Tehsil Dera Baba Nanak District Gurdaspur-143511 Punjab Have Changed My Name And Shall Hereafter Be Known As Singh Jashanpreet.

Sensex rises for 5th day

Nifty scales historic 25K mount on US Fed rate cut hopes

Benchmark Sensex advanced 126 points to close at an all-time high while broader Nifty scaled the historic 25,000 mount for the first time in a volatile trade on Thursday following gains in banking and oil shares as the US Federal Reserve hinted at a rate cut by September. Extending its winning run to the fifth day in a row amid weak global trends, the 30-share Sensex climbed 126.21 points or 0.15 per cent to settle at a new lifetime high of 81,867.55. The index opened higher and rallied 388.15 points, or 0.47 per cent, to hit an all-time intra-day high of 82,129.49 in the morning session. The NSE Nifty rose 59.75 points or 0.24 per cent to settle at an all-time closing high of 25,010.90. Intraday, it scaled the record 25,000 level for the first time, rising 127.15 points, or 0.50 per cent, to 25,078.30. From the Sensex stocks, Power Grid, NTPC, HDFC Bank, Nestle India, Adani Ports and Special Economic Zone, Maruti Suzuki India and Reliance Industries were the major gainers.

In contrast, Mahindra and Mahindra, Tata Steel, Bajaj Finserv, State Bank of India, Larsen & Toubro and Tata Motors were the laggards. "The benchmarks started positive taking cues from the global market following the Fed Chair's indication that a rate cut might be considered at the September meeting due to easing inflationary pressures. "However, the broader market closed on a negative bias due to escalating geopolitical tensions in the Middle East leading to rising crude oil prices," Vinod Nair, Head of Research at Geojit Financial Services, said. The BSE smallcap gauge fell 0.70 per cent and MidCap by 0.80 per cent in the broader market. During the day, BSE MidCap hit its all-time high level. Among the indices, utilities zoomed by 2.04 per cent, power by 0.86 per cent, energy by 0.80 per cent, oil & gas by 0.59 per cent and metal by 0.35 per cent. Realty, capital goods, industrials, auto, telecommunication, and consumer discretionary were among the laggards. "Indian



equity indices rose for the fifth consecutive session. Indian markets opened higher on the back of positive cues from US markets where FOMC Chair Jerome Powell said a cut as early as September was a possibility," Devarsh Vakil, Deputy Head Retail Research of HDFC Securities, said. Maruti Suzuki India shares settled 1 per cent higher after the homegrown automobile major reported a 47 per cent jump in net profit to Rs 3,650 crore for the June quarter. During the day, the stock hit a 52-week high on the bourse. Shares of Omace declined 5 per cent -- its lower circuit limit -- in the second straight day following Sebi restrictions on the realty firm, its Chairman, the MD, and three others from the securities market for two years for misrepresenting the company's financials.

Strategic reforms needed to enhance India's appeal to global investors, attract FDI: GTRI

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Strategic reforms are needed to enhance India's appeal to global investors as despite having huge potential, FDI data shows that the country has not fully capitalised on its opportunities, think tank GTRI said on Thursday. Suggesting a four-step plan, the Global Trade Research Initiative (GTRI) said that measures which can help India position itself as a leading choice for foreign investors include reducing cost disadvantages for companies relocating to India, improving the Ease of Doing Business throughout the business lifecycle, and establishing a framework for evaluating investment proposals. India attracted USD 44.4 billion in FDI (foreign direct investment) in FY2024, which is only 1.1 per cent of its GDP. The country lagged significantly behind countries like



China (USD 189.1 billion), Brazil (USD 86.1 billion), Australia (USD 61.6 billion), and Canada (USD 52.6 Billion) as noted in the World Development Report 2023, it said. It suggested that India must offer a more competitive cost structure to attract businesses shifting from China or considering alternative production locations. For this, India needs to address the four cost-related components - labour, rate material, energy and financial costs. "In India, raw material costs are higher for non-traditional pro-

ductions due to import dependence and high tariffs. China benefits from lower costs due to large-scale local production and efficient supply chains, while Vietnam offers competitive costs with low or zero tariffs on imports," GTRI Founder Ajay Srivastava said. He said that the financial costs in India are the highest, with lending rates around 9-10 per cent, while China enjoys lower interest rates at 4-5 per cent, and Vietnam's rates are moderate at 7-8 per cent. "India needs to address these costs and strive to be the most cost-effective option," Srivastava added. To further improve the ease of doing business, the GTRI suggested the identification of priority sectors, particularly those where India's manufacturing and export capabilities are currently weak, such as Electronics, computers, telecom, precision equipment, and factory machinery.

Domestic food market expected to grow at 47% till 2027: Official

PTI ■ CHENNAI

The domestic food market was expected to grow by over 47 per cent between 2022 and 2027 and expected to touch USD 1.274 billion, a top industry official said. Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) Foodpro Expo 2024 Chairman B Thiagarajan said the food processing sector was growing at an average annual growth rate of 5.35 per cent between 2015-16 to 2022-23. "In 2022-23, the sector accounted for 7.66 per cent of the GVA (Gross Value Added) in manufacturing at 2011-12 prices," Thiagarajan, also the Managing Director of air-conditioners and commercial refrigerators maker Blue Star Ltd said in a press release on Thursday. "In terms of employment, the sector employs almost 2 million workers in nearly 41,500 registered units. With a market size of USD 866 billion in 2022, the food industry will play a vital role in the economy growth. CII Tamil Nadu Chairman Srivats Ram said currently India is the largest producer of milk, pulses, banana, mango, pomegranate, papaya, lemon, non-food crops like cotton and jute. During 2023-24, India produced 304.4 million tonnes of cereals, 296 million tonnes of pulses, 351.9 million tonnes of horticulture, 230.6 million tonne of milk and 138.4 billion eggs, Ram also the Managing Director of steel wheels manufacturer Wheels India Ltd said.

India's manufacturing sector growth eases slightly in July

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

India's manufacturing sector growth eased slightly in July, on softer increases in new orders and output, while cost pressures and demand strength led to the steepest increase in selling prices since October 2013, a monthly survey said on Thursday. The seasonally adjusted HSBC India Manufacturing Purchasing Managers' Index (PMI) moderated slightly from 58.3 in June to 58.1 in July. In PMI parlance, a print above 50 means expansion, while a score below 50 denotes contraction. "India's headline manufacturing PMI showed a marginal slowdown in the pace of expansion in July, but with most components remaining at robust levels, the small drop is no cause for concern," Pranjal Bhandari, Chief India Economist at HSBC, said. Despite slowing since June, Indian manufacturers reported a substantial increase in new work intakes. There were also reports of strengthening demand from clients based in Asia, Europe, North America and the Middle East, Indian manufacturers experienced a robust increase in international sales during July.

The overall rate of expansion was marked and the second-strongest in over 13 years, the survey said. On the price front, buoyant demand also exerted pressure on prices. Input costs rose at one of the quickest rates in nearly two years, which contributed to the steepest increase in selling prices since October 2013. Indian manufacturers reported having paid more for coal, leather, packaging, paper, rubber and steel,

GEETA CHANDRAN'S ARTISTIC LEGACY

Padma Shri awardee **GEETA CHANDRAN**, honored with the NRITYA CHOODAMANI, celebrates 50 years of transformative work in Bharatanatyam, underscoring her lasting impact on classical dance and cultural dialogue, says **SAKSHI PRIYA**

Congratulations on being conferred the NRITYA CHOODAMANI title. Reflecting on your 50-year journey in Bharatanatyam, how do you perceive this honour in the context of your career and contributions to classical dance?

Every award is a reminder that the work must continue. But, frankly, after a while, the awards truly cease to matter. One's perspective changes. What is truly exciting is that the body and the mind are so aligned that one can dance only for oneself. That is the most exciting frontier. Everything else feels superficial.

You have received numerous prestigious awards over your career, including the Padma Shri and the Sangeet Natak Akademi Award. How does the NRITYA CHOODAMANI title compare to these other honours in terms of its significance to you?

The Krishna Gana Sabha is an extremely prestigious dance forum in Chennai. An honour from that Sabha is very significant. In fact, for a Bharatanatyam dancer who has crafted my dance journey completely outside Chennai considered the mecca of Bharatanatyam, this is a nod from that citadel. So, I value it.

Your journey in Bharatanatyam began 50 years ago with your arangetram. Can you share some of the most pivotal moments and challenges you faced during these five decades?

Dance is probably the most fragile of artistic pursuits. That is because its instrument is the body and to keep that tuned constantly in pitch condition is an extremely arduous and daily task. Taming the body constantly for fifty years has been challenge Number 1. The next challenge has been to add layers to the knowledge gained from some of the most wonderful Gurus of those decades. And finally, the search for one's own artistic voice and to keep it sane without compromises has been a wonderful path of self-realization.

As the Founder-President of NATYA VRIKSHA, you have nurtured many young artists. How has your philosophy of holistic dance education evolved over the years and what core values do you emphasise in your teachings?

Dance as movement is only a fraction of my vision of dance. At Natya Vriksha, I have experimented with Bharatanatyam as a 'force multiplier' for the widest range of classical dance



issues that have engaged my focus: exploring linkages between body and mind; forging relationships between solo dancing, group dancing and choreography; actualising the connects between the artist and society; and using dance as a medium for expressing abstract notions of Joy, Beauty, Values, Aspirations, Mythology and Spirituality.

NATYA VRIKSHA's vision statement seeks to probe the continuing relevance of classical tradition in a world of changing values. It showcases the aesthetics of Bharatanatyam and its history, how the tenets of the dance can be employed as a means of communicating issues of contemporary concern, even while exploring linkages between history and continuity, between external body and internal mind-space, between yesterday and tomorrow, between artist and audience.....between roots and wings.

You are celebrated for your dynamic performances that promote societal dialogue and inclusivity. Could you elaborate on how you choose themes and choreograph pieces that transcend linguistic and cultural barriers?

My engagement with contemporary issues led me to create a unique

format which I call performance-dialogue through which I raise contemporary issues through my classical performances. Previous works like HER VOICE and IMAGINING PEACE raised issues of the meaninglessness of violence. KAIKEYI spoke about stigma and villainization. MYTHOLOGIES RETOLD addressed the issue of female foeticide. ANEKANTA highlighted the Indian Constitution's vision of an inclusive society. And GANDHI: WARP AND WEFT was a reminder of Gandhian values and choices. SIMHIKA: DAUGHTER OF THE FOREST highlighted the need for justice and rights for forest tribals. JAYATU BHARATAM celebrated 75 years of India's independence.

All these choreographies have articulated my conviction that dance can be a vehicle to build social bridges and erase social stigma, amplify gender issues and raise awareness on making sustainable environmental choices. I am currently absorbed with creating a new work that looks at new dimensions of women and conflict.

Preserving and promoting Bharatanatyam is a significant part of your legacy. What specific initiatives or projects have you

championed to ensure the art form's relevance and vibrancy in today's world?

At NATYA VRIKSHA, I aim to make youth aware of the immense potential of Bharatanatyam to become a live voyage of learning; make them comprehend the complex ; inter-linkages between the classical dance tradition and its strict grammar with other disciplines: Philosophy, Ritual, Religion, Myths, Ancient texts, Poetry, Literature, Art (Painting and Sculpture), Cultural Studies, Yoga, Handicrafts & Handlooms and Beauty & Aesthetics.

Towards this end, I have evolved a holistic method of transmitting classical dance; an approach that encompasses training students both in dance (theory and practice) and dance aesthetics. They are also made aware of the related fields of music, aharya (costuming & make-up), stage design and sound & light technologies. The aim is to use Bharatanatyam as a tool to wider knowledge, spiritual and physical empowerment

Balancing multiple roles as a dancer, choreographer, Carnatic vocalist and media personality is no small feat. How do you integrate these diverse aspects of your artistic identity into a cohesive whole?

There is no master plan; just efficient management of time to do all these things that I truly enjoy and that imbue my being with meaning. **Curating dance at the Serendipity Arts Festival must be a unique experience. How has this role influenced your perspective on contemporary and traditional art forms and how do you see them converging?**

Serendipity has made me focus on young audiences and their expectations of performance. And what joy it is to see that GenZZZ can equally engage and enjoy the pristine classical and the contemporary and also the experimental. Curating that dizzy mix has brought me in touch with artists from across the spectrum all over India, South Asia and beyond.

What legacy do you hope to leave behind in the world of Bharatanatyam and classical dance, both through your performances and your work with students and the broader community?

I don't yearn for any legacy. The only legacy is constant sweat. If you can do that every single day of your life, you can become a dancer. Everyone else remains an amateur.

A New Path to Inspire

ADAH SHARMA makes her singing debut with a powerful rendition of the Shiv Tandav Stotram, showcasing a profound connection to both devotion and artistic expression. In a conversation with **TEAM VIVA**, Sharma reveals her intent to inspire others through her music.



Adah, your recent singing debut with the Shiv Tandav Stotram has captivated many. What inspired you to choose the Shiv Tandav Stotram for your singing debut?

As an actor I meet so many people who say they saw me do something and got inspired to do it themselves. So I thought this would be nice to inspire people. Also we made this version a version that has a lot of beats so you feel energised when you listen to it .

Can you describe the emotions you felt while chanting the Shiv Tandav Stotram live in a temple and how that experience influenced your recorded performance?

I had shared a version during the lockdown which I sang live in my home and then in a temple last year. Whenever I went for any public appearances people would ask me to chant it. So I thought it would be nice to do a studio recorded version. Chanting the Shiv tandav makes me feel focused, strong , energetic and the empowered feeling that all evil will be destroyed.

The video of your live chanting at an event went viral and received widespread acclaim and is trending on instagram since the release. How did that response impact you and did it motivate you to pursue more singing opportunities?

I did this especially for the audience so them enjoying it feels very special. I sing anyway, always. There's always music going on in my head. I've got singing offers before but I thought the first one should be something from me directly to the audience So I decided to release it on my own YouTube channel.

How do you balance your acting career with your newfound interest in singing and do you have plans to explore more musical projects in the future?

I like doing multiple things I enjoy. But I don't know how to plan for the future. I enjoy living in the present and working on becoming a better actor, dancer , singer everyday. I believe opportunities will come if they are meant to.

What was the most challenging part of performing the Shiv Tandav Stotram and how did you overcome those challenges?

For the video I wanted to stand in the middle

of the ocean on a rock. I practice meditation on one foot everyday to increase focus. On the day we decided to shoot it was very sunny and breezy and hot. So that was tough. But somehow the strength just came to push through and I didn't feel like it was a challenge.

How did you approach the task of capturing the essence and energy of the Shiv Tandav Stotram in both your live and recorded performances.

With honesty always, as I do everything in life. I don't know any other way.

Given the positive reception of your live chanting performance, do you plan to incorporate more live chanting or musical elements into your public appearances?

I haven't actually planned anything. We thought we would do a launch but I'm shooting for two big projects and the role in one of them I think is the toughest I've played. So even on days off in preparation. We just put the song out on YouTube and Instagram , no ads, no publicity. But in today's time I think the audience is the best PR.

What message or feeling do you hope to convey to your audience through your rendition of the Shiv Tandav Stotram and how do you feel it aligns with your overall artistic expression?

I am one of those very fortunate actors, I get the opportunity to play different roles because the audience accepts me in them. Just after the Kerala story where I played an innocent college girl I played an evil bar dancer in Sunflower season 2 and then I did Bastar where I was a soldier fighting for my country. My upcoming projects also have me being different people. On social media I am myself which is so different from all these characters . The audience doesn't allow me to get typecast. I'm very very lucky.

A DIALOGUE BETWEEN TWO ARTISTIC VISIONS

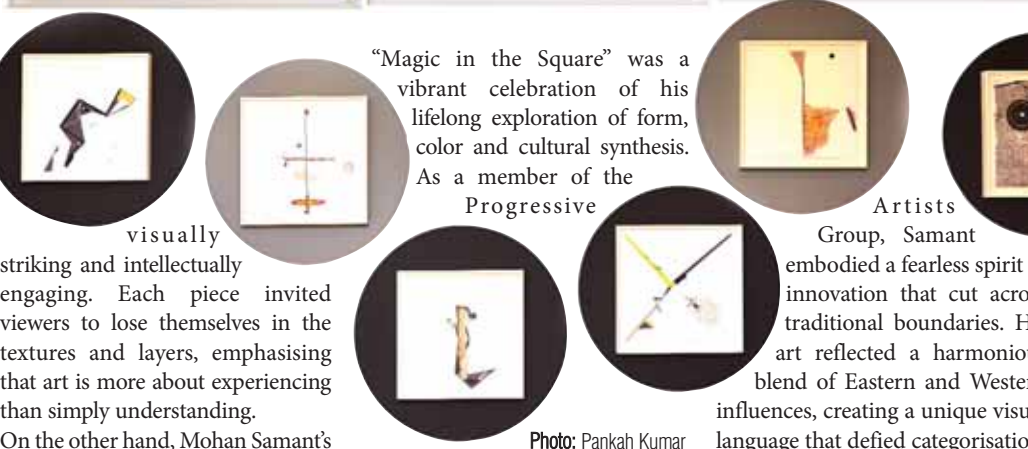
Experience the artistic vision and creative journey of Amitava and Mohan Samant. Their exhibitions remind us that art goes beyond just being a collection of works, it becomes a dialogue between the past, present and future, writes **TEAM VIVA**

The Kiran Nadar Museum of Art in New Delhi has hosted two remarkable exhibitions that explore the creative journeys of Amitava and Mohan Samant. These exhibitions, titled "If We Knew the Point" and "Magic in the Square," provided a fascinating look into the world of Indian modern art through the eyes of two artists whose works are both unique and deeply interconnected. The museum presented over 150 works by Amitava and a diverse range of pieces by Mohan Samant, showcasing how each artist has contributed to shaping contemporary Indian art.

engagement with materials, ranging from graphite, ink and watercolor to acrylics and burnt marks. His artworks resisted straightforward narratives, inviting viewers to interpret the complex themes and emotions embedded within each piece.

Central to Amitava's work was the color black, used not merely as a tone but as a gateway to deeper introspection. Black served as a canvas for exploring socio-political themes and reflected the tumultuous realities of contemporary society. In works like the "Heads" series, dense, totemic figures emerged from this blackness, their intricate patterns hinting at underlying chaos.

Amitava's approach struck a balance between control and spontaneity, as he layered materials to create compositions that were



"Magic in the Square" was a vibrant celebration of his lifelong exploration of form, color and cultural synthesis. As a member of the Progressive Artists Group, Samant embodied a fearless spirit of innovation that cut across traditional boundaries. His art reflected a harmonious blend of Eastern and Western influences, creating a unique visual language that defied categorisation.

Samant's works often drew from a wide array of cultural motifs, incorporating elements from Indian mythology, Egyptian hieroglyphs and Western modernist techniques.

Samant's fascination with mythological and ancient themes was evident in his work, where the past and present converged to create symbols and narratives. His art was not just a visual experience but a sensory one, incorporating mixed media materials like wire, plastic toys and sand to add texture and depth. These elements created a tactile dimension to his pieces, inviting viewers to explore them as living artifacts that challenged the conventional boundaries of painting and sculpture.

The juxtaposition of Amitava and Mohan's exhibitions offered a unique dialogue between two generations of artists. While Amitava's work delved into introspection and emotional

complexity, Samant's art celebrated cultural synthesis and exploration. Together, these exhibitions provided a holistic view of the diverse trajectories of Indian art, highlighting the personal and cultural narratives that have shaped its evolution.

As viewers navigated these exhibitions, they were encouraged to reflect on their interpretations and connections, making the experience both profound and intimate. In this shared space, art became a journey - a continuous exploration of meaning and the human experience. Through their lenses, the museum offered a window into the transformative power of art and its ability to bridge cultural and personal divides.

At the Kiran Nadar Museum of Art, these two exhibitions reminded us that art is more than just a collection of works; it is a conversation between the past, present and future, a tribute to the enduring power of creativity and the human spirit.

Photo: Pankah Kumar



INDIANS DISAPPOINT IN 20KM RACE WALK AT OLYMPICS

PTI ■ PARIS
National record holder Priyanka Goswami finished a poor 41st in the women's 20km competition while Vikash Singh and Paramjeet Singh ended at lowly 30th and 37th positions respectively in the men's event as Indian race walkers produced a disappointing performance at the Paris Olympics here on Thursday.

The 28-year-old Priyanka, who has a personal best of 1:28:45, has been based in Australia since early this year after the Mission Olympic Cell approved her high-altitude training last December. Reigning Asian Games champion Yang Jiayu of China won gold with a time of 1:25:54 while world champion Maria Perez (1:26:19) of Spain and Commonwealth gold medalist Jemima Montag (1:26:25) of Australia took the silver and bronze respectively. The competitions were held under warm and humid conditions. When the women's event ended, the temperature rose to nearly 25 degree Celsius while humidity was more than 85 per cent

throughout. Athletics competition of the Paris Olympics began on Thursday. In the men's corresponding event, which started 30 minutes late due to rain, Vikash clocked 1 hour, 22 minutes and 36 seconds while Paramjeet crossed the finish line in 1:23:48sec in the race won by Brian Daniel Pintado (1:18:55) of Ecuador. Caio Bonfim (1:19:09) of Brazil and reigning world champion Alvaro Martin (1:19:11) of Spain took the silver and bronze medals respectively while Tokyo Olympics gold medalist Massimo Stano (1:19:12) of Italy was fourth. National record holder Akshdeep Singh pulled out

after the 6km mark and he was seen in discomfort, holding his abdomen while bending down forward. A team coach told PTI that Akshdeep was having fever for the last two days due to Urinary Track Infection (UTI). "He was having fever from 30th onwards because of UTI. However, he recovered from fever yesterday," the coach said. India was among the countries which had three full quota of athletes in the men's event but all of them could not match their personal best. The best performance by an Indian in the Olympics was the 10th-place finish by KT Irfan in the 2012 London Games with a timing of 1:20:21.

Nikhat's Olympic campaign ends with shocking loss to China's Yu



PTI ■ PARIS

In one of the biggest upsets of the Olympic Games boxing competition, two-time world champion Nikhat Zareen (50kg) bowed out after a 0-5 loss to Asian Games gold-medallist Wu Yu, completely outmaneuvered by the Chinese in a stunningly lopsided bout here on Thursday. Nikhat was unseeded for the Games as the International Olympic Committee (IOC), which is holding the boxing competition, doesn't recognise the International Boxing Association (IBA), which conducts the world championship. One of India's strongest medal contenders, Nikhat was put under pressure by the top-seeded reigning flyweight (52kg) world champion in the opening round itself. Yu was quick off the blocks and

though Nikhat tried to counter-attack, she wasn't able to connect. The reason being, Yu's brilliant footwork, which allowed her to consistently switch her stance to avoid the blows. Trailing 1-4, Nikhat found a bit more success in the second round as she landed a few straight but Yu managed to connect some telling hooks on the Indian's face. Nikhat ended the round with a few body shots. Not much changed in the third round as Nikhat desperately tried to connect but continued to fail due to Yu's nimble movements. Despite this loss, Nikhat remains one of the most consistent Indian boxers, having won back-to-back gold medals at the world championships and the 2022 Commonwealth Games besides a bronze in the Asian Games last year.



Biggest, most diverse fleet in Olympic sailing gets ready to hit water

AP ■ MARSEILLE (FRANCE)

The biggest and most diverse fleet of the 2024 Olympics sailing events, the one-person dinghy, is scheduled to hit the water Thursday in sweltering Marseille. The small, white-sailed boats - formerly known as lasers, now called ILCA 6 for women and ILCA 7 for men - go slower, sail deeper into the water and have a less spectacular design than many other vessels in the Olympic marina. But, to the sailors who race them, they are the purest form of the sport. "It's very pure and it's very close - you've got to work for every inch," said Matt Wearn, 28, of Australia. "You're not looking to win by a mile, you're looking to win by a meter." Wearn is seeking to defend the gold he won in the event in the Tokyo Games - and so is Anne-Marie Rindom of Denmark, 33, who in addition to gold from Tokyo has a bronze from Rio de Janeiro and first competed in the London Games in 2012. "It's all about the sailor in the boat," said Rindom, whose parents first took her sailing when she was two weeks old. She competed in her first regatta at age nine. In this class, boats are provided to Olympians only about a week before the Games, leveling the playing field. That makes consistently nailing the smallest tactical detail - an inch of advantage at the starting line, catching a sudden wave to surf ahead, balancing for the additional weight of branding stickers on the sail - the key to medal. "All these little accuracies make a huge difference," said Micky Beckett, 29, of Britain. "Being on top of your mental game is absolutely everything." That's also because the boats are

so versatile and "basically unsinkable," in Beckett's words, that they can - and do - sail in any weather, for hourlong regattas. Not that physical strength is negligible. In big swells, with spray coming straight at the athletes' bodies, races can be "quite battering, like being thrown into a washing machine and spat out the other side," Wearn said. So far in Marseille, the challenge has been the opposite: very low winds under a scorching sun, which can also be draining. The boats are relatively inexpensive to buy and transport, designed to fit the top of a car. So, they're the star of World Sailing's development program, which aims to support athletes from nations without long histories in Olympic sailing, from El Salvador to Fiji to Mozambique. "It's cool to see it's not always the same five nations," said Nethra Kumanan, 26, of India, who qualified for the Games in the ILCA 6 at the so-called last-chance regatta under the program. "We hope we can give them a fight." And a fight it is, because the event features almost twice as many boats as the other sailing categories - more than 80. "It's the hardest to win, it's very equal," said Tom Saunders, 32, of New Zealand, whose brother also was an Olympic sailor but in the two-person boats. "It feels like it's not over till the very end," echoed Maud Jayet, 28, of Switzerland, who learned sailing on Alpine lakes and competed in the Tokyo Games. Like her and most sailors in this category, Marit Bouwmeester, 36, of the Netherlands, enjoys shouldering all the responsibility alone for racing strategy, unlike in two-person boats.

AP ■ PARIS

US men fall to 0-2 in 3x3 basketball pool play at Olympics with 19-17 loss to Poland

The U.S. Men's 3x3 basketball team fell to 0-2 in pool play in the Paris Olympics with a 19-17 loss to Poland Wednesday night. Jimmer Fredette cut the lead to 1 with about 90 seconds left before Michal Sokolowski made a free throw a few seconds later to extend the lead to 19-17. The U.S. Had a chance to tie it late, but Fredette's 2-point attempt came up short. Fredette, who was brought in to boost the team after the U.S. Failed to qualify for Tokyo, appeared to sustain an injury with about three minutes left. He looked to be in pain as he was tended to by a trainer but soon returned to the game. He did not speak to reporters after the game and a team spokesman said he was receiving treatment but did not provide any specifics on an injury. The U.S. Team remains confident despite the tough start to the Paris Games. "I don't think we're concerned," Kareem Maddox said. "We just know we have some adjustments to make."

The U.S. Was down by 1 after a basket by Canyon Barry with about six minutes left before Poland used a 6-1 run to make it 15-9 with four minutes to go. Poland was up by 5 with about 2 1/2 minutes to go when Barry made three free throws to cut the lead to 17-15. Barry shoots free throws underhanded like his father, NBA Hall of Famer Rick Barry. A basket by Adrian Bogucki pushed Poland's lead to 3 and Dylan Travis made a shot for the U.S. Before Fredette's last bucket got team within 18-17. Bogucki had seven points and five rebounds for Poland, which lost to France on Tuesday. Barry and Travis led the U.S. With six points each. Fredette, who is the only player with NBA experience in the 3x3 competition, added three. The U.S. Struggled from long-range, making just 2 of 15



attempts. "We're just not making shots," Barry said. "That's what it comes down to. We had a lot of good looks and they just didn't fall tonight." FRANCE 21, LITHUANIA 19: Timothy Vergiat scored eight points and his basket with three seconds remaining lifted France to a win over Lithuania and a 2-0 start in pool play.

France led by 5 after two free throws by Lucas Dussoulier with about two minutes left. Lithuania then scored the next five points, with the last three from Evaldas Dziaugys to tie it with less than a minute to play. Lithuania had the ball with 12 seconds left, but Gintautas Matulis turned it over to set up Vergiat's game-winner. Jules Rambaut had nine points with five rebounds for France,

which beat Poland on Tuesday. Lithuania got seven points each from Aurelijus Pukelis and Dziaugys. LATVIA 21, NETHERLANDS 12: Karlis Lasmanis scored eight points to lead defending champion Latvia over the Netherlands. Nauris Miezijs added five points and six rebounds in the win after Latvia opened the tournament by beating Lithuania. Worthy de Jong made a basket followed by a free throw to get the Netherlands within 1 point with about four minutes to go. Latvia then scored the next nine points, with two 2-pointers by Lasmanis and one from Miezijs to extend the lead to 19-9. Arvin Slagter scored the first points for the Netherlands in more than two minutes on a 2-pointer after that and De Jong made a basket with less than a minute to go to cut the

lead to 19-12. But Lasmanis made a 2-pointer to end it on the next possession. The Netherlands, which beat China in its opener, was led by De Jong's seven points. CHINA 21, SERBIA 15: Zhang Ning scored 11 points and added four rebounds to help China beat Serbia. A basket by Mihailo Vasic put Serbia up 9-7 with about six minutes remaining. China took over after that, going on a 10-1 run to take a 17-10 lead. China made three 2-pointers in that stretch to pull away. Marko Brankovic and Dejan Majstorovic made consecutive 2-pointers for Serbia to cut the lead to 19-15 with about two minutes to go. Zhao Jiaren closed it out by making two free throws with 2:05 remaining. Majstorovic had seven points and Brankovic added five for Serbia, the Tokyo Olympics bronze medal winner.

OTHER SPORTS

Injured SL pacers Pathirana, Madushanka ruled out of ODIs against India

PTI ■ COLOMBO
Sri Lanka suffered a massive blow ahead of the three-match ODI series against India as pacers Matheesha Pathirana and Dilshan Madushanka were ruled out with respective injuries. The first one-dayer will be played at the RPS Stadium here on Friday. "Madushanka suffered a Grade 2 hamstring injury on his left leg during the team's field-



ing practice" the Sri Lanka Cricket announced in a statement on Thursday.

"Pathirana has suffered a mild sprain on his right shoulder while diving to take a catch during the Third T20 match vs. India," the statement added. Pathirana did not bowl in the thirds T20 at Pallekele on Tuesday. The hosts have brought in Mohammed Shiraz and Eshan Malinga as replacements for the injured players. Meanwhile, Kusal Janith, Pramod Madushan and Jeffrey Vandersay have been added to the squad as standbys.

My favourite bowler is Bumrah: Dhoni

PTI ■ HYDERABAD



Legendary Mahendra Singh Dhoni picked Jasprit Bumrah as his favourite bowler, but the multiple World Cup-winning former Indian skipper refrained from selecting between Virat Kohli and Rohit Sharma as batsman of his choice. Bumrah played a vital role in India's recent T20 World Cup triumph in the Americas, picking up 15 wickets from eight matches at an economy rate of 4.17, best among the regular bowlers in the ICC showpiece. The effort earned Bumrah the player of the tournament award. "It's easy to pick my favourite bowler because Bumrah is there. It's difficult to pick a batsman because we have many good batsmen. But that doesn't mean bowlers aren't good," said Dhoni during a promotional event here. Bumrah has been given a rest post the World Cup, and he is

not playing the ongoing away white ball series against Sri Lanka. Dhoni said it is tough to pick one batsman as his favourite because several batters churn

out excellent knock. "It's difficult to pick one among batters as whomever I see batting, he looks the best. But when I see someone else he also looks great.

"But as long as Team India is winning, I don't want to pick a batter (as my favourite). I hope they will keep scoring runs for the team," Dhoni said. The 43-year-old Dhoni did not reveal his IPL future when a fan posed a question about his plans for the 2025 edition. "There is a lot of time for it. We have to see what decision they take on player retention etc. Right now, the ball is not in our court. "So, once the rules and regulations get formalised, I will take a call, but needs to be in the best interest of the team," he added. At present, the IPL teams are a divided house over a host of issues ranging from the mega auction rules to the 'Impact Player' rule. The BCCI secretary Jay Shah said he had a "constructive dialogue" with the IPL team owners on a variety of subjects, which would then be taken before the IPL Governing Council led by Arun Dhimal for further deliberation.

SOUTH INDIAN Bank
The South Indian Bank Ltd
Regional Office - Delhi, 3rd Floor, Plot No.21, 21/1, Pusa Road, Karol Bagh, New Delhi -110005, Phone-011 4233 1664/011 4512 866/ 7982865660 Email-ro1008@sib.co.in | qc1008@sib.co.in

Ref: DEL/CRD/SAR/30/2024-25 Date: 01.08.2024

E - AUCTION SALE NOTICE
E-Auction Sale Notice for Sale of Immovable Assets under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with proviso to Rule 8(6) and 9(1) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002.

1. Mrs. Gurinder Kaur W/o Jasmeet Singh Proprietrix of M/s. Hansika Impex residing at DK-4, Royal View, Premium RVP, Omare Royal Residency, Ludhiana - 142022. Also at SCO-4, 2nd Floor, Gian Rarewala Market, Link Road, Ludhiana, Punjab 141 002. Also at 2177, Phase 2 Dugri, Urban estate, Dugri Road, Model Town, Ludhiana, Punjab 141 002.

2. Mr. Jasmeet Singh S/o Uttam Singh residing at DK - 4, Royal View, Premium RVP, Omare Royal Residency, Ludhiana - 142022. Also at 2177, Phase 2 Dugri, Urban Estate, Dugri Road, Model Town, Ludhiana, Punjab 141 002.

3. Mr. Manoj Kumar Juneja [Legal heir of late Tirok Chand] S/o Late Sh. Tirok Chand R/o H.No. 465, Phase-1, Urban Estate, Dugri, Basant Avenue, Ludhiana, Punjab - 141013

4. Ms. Veena Grover [Legal heir of late Tirok Chand] D/o Late Sh. Tirok Chand R/o H.No. 36/91, Vikas Nagar, Near Pakhowal Road, Jawwadi, Ludhiana, Punjab - 141012

Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the borrower/guarantor/ Legal heirs that the below described immovable properties mortgaged to the South Indian Bank Ltd, Branch Ludhiana (Secured Creditor), the physical possession of which has been taken by the Authorised Officer of The South Indian Bank Limited (Secured Creditor), will be sold on "as is where is" basis, "as is what is" and "whatever there is" condition on 20.08.2024 for recovery of an amount of Rs. 1,52,41,076.21 (Rupees One Crore Fifty Two Lakhs Forty One Thousand Seventy Six and Paise Twenty One Only) as on 31.07.2024 with future interest, costs and expenses etc. thereon due to The South Indian Bank Limited, Branch Ludhiana (Secured Creditor), from the above mentioned Borrower(s) and guarantor(s).

Item No.1	Mrs. Gurinder Kaur
Name of Property Owner	
Description of property	All that part and parcel of property admeasuring 205.00 Sq. yards comprised in Kasra No 3531/258, 3532/258, 6161/259/1, 6161/259/3/1, 259/2, 6161/259/2 Khata no 1408/1926 as per Jamabandi for the year 2010-11 along with building bearing number MC No B-XXII-2724/2, situated at Gill no 1, locality known as "Chet Singh Nagar", Gill Road, Taluk & District Ludhiana Punjab State, owned by Mrs. Gurinder Kaur more particularly described under Transfer Deed No. 6467 dated 10/11/2015 of SRO Ludhiana bounded on North by Other Owner, South by Street, East by Neighbour and West by Neighbour.
Reserve Price	Rs. 33,75,000/- (Rupees Thirty Three Lakhs and Seventy Five Thousand Only)
Earnest Money	Rs. 3,40,000/- (Rupees Three Lakhs Forty Thousand Only)
Deposit (EMD)	EMD shall be deposited on or before 19.08.2024 by 04.00 PM
Bid incremental amount	Rs. 10,000/- (Rupees Ten Thousand Only)
Encumbrances known to the Bank	Nil/ Encumbrances from 31.01.2018 to 22.07.2023
Date and time of E-auction	20.08.2024 from 11.00 AM to 11.30 AM (with 5 minute unlimited auto extensions till sale is concluded)

For detailed terms and conditions of the sale, please refer to the link provided in web portal of South Indian Bank Ltd, (Secured Creditor) website i.e. www.southindianbank.com. Details also available at https://assets.mateaux.com. For any further clarification with regards to inspection of property, terms and conditions of the e-auction or submission of bids, kindly contact South Indian Bank Ltd on 9489-771-757 / 7309-655-552 (contact number).

Place : Ludhiana SId AUTHORISED OFFICER

LIBERTY कर्पूरीयोर करुणावतार संसारसार भुजुगेन्द्रदासम्। सदा बसन्तं हृदयारविन्दे भवे भवानी सहित नमामि।

समी शिवमूर्तको पवित्र श्रावण मास की शिवरात्रि की हार्दिक बधाई एवं शुभकामनाएं।

रमन बंसल सी.ओ.ओ.

लिबर्टी सेंट्रल हाउस रेल्वे रोड, कर्नाल

NO: 6-2(13)/2019-Est. 30 July 2024

VACANCY CIRCULAR - 01/2024

Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR), an autonomous organization under the Department of Health Research, Ministry of Health & Family Welfare, Government of India invites applications UP to **31.08.2024** from eligible employees of Central/State Govt./Autonomous Body/ PSU for filling up **one post of Assistant Director General (Administration) in the Pay Level-12 on Deputation basis including short term contract**, for a period of three years, which may be thereafter extended/curtailed, if required by the ICMR Hqrs.

2. For more detail please visit <https://main.icmr.nic.in>. The application received after the due date of receipt of applications or incomplete or NOC not received through proper channel will not be considered.

Assistant Director General (Admin)
CBC 17152/12/0015/2425