

**OPINION 6**  
WHY A NATIONAL SECURITY STRATEGY IS VITAL FOR INDIA

**WORLD 8**  
8 PALESTINIANS KILLED IN WEST BANK

**MONEY 10**  
STOCK MARKETS PARE GAINS TO CLOSE LOWER

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11 SPORTS



# India monitors a neighbour at war with itself



External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar speaks in the Lok Sabha on Tuesday (l); people gather around the residence of Bangladeshi Prime Minister in Dhaka, Bangladesh

**PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ NEW DELHI**

A day after Bangladesh Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina was ousted and arrived here after resigning, the Government informed Parliament it is monitoring the situation with regard to minorities in the neighbouring country and is in "close and continuous" touch with the Indian community there through its diplomatic missions. The Government also apprised MPs about Hasina's "very short notice" request to come to India "for the moment."

India, External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar also briefed an all-party meeting on the latest situation. He also did not rule out the role of foreign Government in the unrest there. Home Minister Amit Shah, External Affairs Minister Jaishankar and National Security Advisor (NSA) Ajit Doval held a meeting to review the fast evolving situation in Bangladesh. They also took stock of the readiness of the forces on the India-Bangladesh border. Doval had met Hasina at the Hindon airbase on Monday. In a statement in the Rajya Sabha, Jaishankar also briefed the Elders on Hasina's "very short notice"

## Sheikh Hasina's port of arrival fluid

**PNS ■ NEW DELHI**

Former Bangladesh Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina's travel plan to London remain fluid and she is likely to stay in India for a few more days after arriving here on Monday evening, sources said here on Tuesday. Hasina landed at the Hindon airbase on Monday in a C-130J military transport aircraft hours after resigning. This development arose after the



UK Government indicated that she may not get legal protection against any possible probe into the massive violent protests in her country, they said.

request to come to India "for the moment". "There are an estimated 19,000 Indian nationals there, of which about 9,000 are students. The bulk of the students, however, have already returned to India in the month of July," Jaishankar said. Elaborating upon the sequence of events, he said "On August 5, demonstrators converged in Dhaka despite curfew. Our understanding is that after a meeting with leaders of the security establishment, Hasina apparently made the decision to resign. At very short notice, she requested approval to come for the moment to India." "We simultaneously received a request for flight clearance from Bangladesh authorities. She arrived yesterday evening in Delhi. The situation in Bangladesh is still evolving," he said. "Army Chief General Waqar-uz-Zaman, addressed the nation on August 5. He spoke about assuming responsibility and constituting an interim Government. We are in close and continuous touch with the Indian community in Bangladesh through our diplomatic missions," Jaishankar said. India is also monitoring the situation with regard to the status of minorities, he said. In the all party-meeting, Jaishankar informed them India has assured help to Hasina, who arrived here on Monday evening, and given her time to decide the future course of action, sources said.

## Bangladesh prepares for interim Government

**PTI ■ DHAKA**

Bangladesh President Mohammed Shahabuddin on Tuesday dissolved Parliament to make way for the formation of an interim administration, a day after Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina resigned and fled the country following massive protests against her government. "The decision to dissolve the parliament was taken following the President's discussions with Chiefs of three staff of Armed Forces, leaders of different political parties, representatives of civil society and leaders of the Anti-Discrimination Student Movement," said a statement issued by the President's office. Over 100 people have been killed in the violence across Bangladesh as chaos reigned supreme hours after Hasina resigned as Prime Minister and fled the country on Monday, reports said on Tuesday amid signs of return to normalcy. The situation in Dhaka was largely calm on Tuesday morning after a day of unrest and a night of tension. Buses and other public transport were on the streets and traders were opening shops. Government vehicles were heading to offices. Many battery-run rickshaws plied the roads, BDNews24.Com newsportal said. According to local media reports, 119 people have been killed in the violence and attacks on Hindu



temples and widespread looting in the capital and various other places. At least 109 people were killed in clashes in different parts of the country, including Dhaka, at the last moment of the one-point demand of the anti-discrimination student movement on Monday, Bengali language daily Prothom Alo reported on Tuesday. Earlier, the newspaper reported the death of 98 people till 12 pm on Sunday. Another 16 deaths were reported in the middle of the night. The total death toll stood at 114 on Sunday. "With this, the total death toll stood at 440 in 21 days from July 16 to yesterday," the paper said. It said that 37 bodies were brought to the Dhaka Medical College Hospital between 11 am and 8 pm on Monday.



## BJP pillar LK Advani hospitalised

**PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ NEW DELHI**

Around a month after being discharged, senior BJP leader and former Deputy Prime Minister LK Advani was admitted to Delhi's Apollo Hospital again on Tuesday. The 96-year-old is stable and under observation, according to sources. According to a hospital source, Advani, who was born in undivided India, was admitted to the Apollo hospital here today. In the first week of July too, Advani was brought to this facility and discharged after being kept under observation for a couple of days. Prior to that he had been admitted to the All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS) and was discharged following a night-long stay there. Advani served as the Deputy Prime Minister of India from 2002 to 2004 and as the Union Home Minister from 1999 to 2004.

## For Vinesh, the world is her oyster at the Olympics



Vinesh Phogat reacts after the round of 16 of the women's freestyle 50kg wrestling match against Japan's Yui Susaki, at Champ-de-Mars Arena, during the 2024 Summer Olympics, on Tuesday

**PTI ■ PARIS**

Vinesh Phogat pulled off the biggest upset at the Paris Games by outwitting hitherto invincible Yui Susaki with a perfectly planned strategy before edging past Ukraine's Oksana Livach to storm into the women's 50kg semifinal as she inched closer to an elusive Olympic medal, here on Tuesday. The Tokyo Games gold medalist and four-time World Champion Susaki had not lost any of her 82 bouts in her international career but the Japanese top seed hardly had an idea as to what was about to hit her in the opener which she lost 2-3. Later, Vinesh quelled the

## Javelin king Neeraj set to beat his own record

**PTI ■ PARIS**

Defending champion Neeraj Chopra turned on the style as he stormed into the men's javelin throw final of the Olympic Games with a season's best effort of 89.34m in his very first attempt in the qualification round here on Tuesday. The Tokyo Olympics, the 26-year-old crossed the automatic qualifying mark of 84m in his opening throw to occupy the top spot in Group B.

challenge of former European champion and 2018 world championship bronze-medallist Livach 7-5 in the quarterfinal. Having endured two Olympic heart-breaks, the feisty 29-year-old, is now only one win away from ensuring her maiden Olympic medal. Vinesh has every medal in her cabinet which includes three CWG gold, an Asian Games title, eight Asian Championship medals to go with two World Championship bronze but Olympic success eluded her both times in Rio and Tokyo. "It's a miracle, no less than a miracle what Vinesh has done today. It was such a sad Monday due to Nisha's injury but Vinesh has lightened up the day," India's national coach Virender Dahiya said before leaving for Anitn Panghal's draw. It was not just the Indian camp that was celebrating but the wrestlers in the Susaki's half in the draw were relieved that the big obstacle has been removed. "With the world champion out, I thought I will now have a better chance. Vinesh was very strong, I tried to fight but I made a few mistakes," said Livach after her close 5-7 defeat against Vinesh. Thrown in at the deep end, Vinesh came up with a strategy to look for that one attack in the dying moments and pulled that off successfully. There was no action for the first 90 seconds as the two wrestlers measured each other.

## Manipur CM says illegal immigration the biggest threat to his people



**PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ IMPHAL**

Manipur Chief Minister N Biren Singh on Tuesday said illegal immigration is a grave threat to the state's indigenous people and asserted that those who entered after 1961 should be deported with Central Government's help. In response to a query from Naga People's Front legislator Leishiyoi Keishing in the Assembly, Singh described the situation as "alarming," and stressed the need for unity in addressing illegal immigration. He remarked, "It is an alarming situation. Illegal immigration has caused demographic changes but some sections do not believe it. Without unity, it is not possible

to deal with the issue." Singh said the State has a 398-km porous and unguarded international border with Myanmar, which complicates the detection of illegal immigrants. He recalled that a Cabinet sub-committee led by Tribal Affairs and Development Minister Letpao Haokip had been formed to investigate the issue. The sub-committee, working with the Home Ministry, identified nearly 2,480 illegal immigrants, though this figure is subject to correction, he said and added that detecting these immigrants is challenging when they blend with local populations. The Chief Minister mentioned that new villages have been set up by illegal immigrants, with some areas inaccessible due to local conflicts with the Myanmar-based People's Defence Force (PDF). He said anyone sheltering illegal immigrants would face punishment under new orders. Previously, 140 to 150 immigrants from Churachandpur district were detained and moved to a shelter in Imphal, said the Chief Minister, adding that satellite data has revealed new villages forming after May 3, 2023, the day when the ethnic clashes started. The implementation of the Inner Line Permit system is based on the year 1961, he said.



## Hindus now file caveat in SC on Mathura dispute

**PTI ■ NEW DELHI**

The Hindu litigants have filed a caveat in the Supreme Court seeking a hearing if the Muslim side approaches it challenging a recent order of the Allahabad High Court which rejected a plea against the maintainability of 18 cases related to the temple-mosque dispute in Mathura. The caveat has been filed through advocate Vishnu Shankar Jain to ensure that no ex-parte order is passed against the Hindu litigants if the other group moves the top court. A caveat application is filed by a litigant to ensure that no adverse order is passed against him or her without being heard. On August 1, the High Court had rejected a plea challenging the maintainability of 18 cases related to the Krishna Janmabhoomi-Shahi Idgah dispute in Mathura, and ruled that the religious character of the mosque needs to be determined. The court had dismissed the Muslim side's contention that the suits filed by Hindu litigants relating to the dispute over the Krishna Janmabhoomi temple and the adjacent mosque violated the Places of Worship (Special Provisions) Act — and were thus not maintainable. The 1991 Act prohibits changing the religious character of any shrine from what existed on the day of the country's Independence. It exempted only the Ram Janmabhoomi-Babri Masjid dispute from its purview. The cases filed by the Hindu side seek the "removal" of the Aurangzeb-era mosque they claim was built after demolishing a temple that once stood there. The Hindu litigants claim the mosque holds signs suggesting that it was a temple once. The mosque management committee and the UP Sunni Central Waqf Board had argued that the suits were barred under Places of Worship Act and other laws. On May 31, the Allahabad High Court reserved its judgment on this maintainability plea after hearing both sides. However, the court reopened the hearing at the request of Shahi Idgah counsel Mehmood Pracha.

## Victims of electrical accidents to get compensation in Capital

**STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI**

In a first, Delhi Electricity Regulatory Commission has come out with its compensation to victims of electrical accidents regulations, 2024, paving the way for financial assistance of ₹7.5 lakh in case of loss of life and ₹five lakh for more than 60 per cent disability due to electricity related mishaps in the city. The regulations stipulate a range of compensation for loss of life, injuries to people as well as loss of milch and draught animals, birds and poultry. If an electricity related accident causes 40-60 per cent injury to any person, he will get ₹one lakh as compensation, ₹25,000 for hospitalisation for



over a week and ₹10,000 in case of less than a week of hospitalisation, the regulations lay down. The quantum of compensation in case of loss of an animal involving any electricity related accident varies with ₹50,000 for each milch animal-buffalo, cow, camel and such others; ₹5,000 per sheep, goat, pig and others.

## More houses for aam aadmi in Delhi

**SAUMYA SHUKLA ■ NEW DELHI**

The Delhi Development Authority (DDA) will soon launch three housing schemes offering a variety of flats located at different places across the city catering to income groups of all categories. Delhi Lieutenant Governor Vinai Kumar Saxena approved the housing scheme projects, beside a new policy for management and use of Community Halls and extension of time for completing construction on the residential, commercial, industrial and institutional plots. The proposal was approved at the Authority meeting at Raj Niwas on Tuesday. According to proposals, DDA Sasta Ghar Housing Scheme 2024 will offer lower income group (LIG) and economically weaker sections (EWS) flats at discounted rates in Ramgarh Colony, Siraspur,

Loknayakpuram, Rohini, and Narela through first come first serve (FCFS) mode, making housing more accessible and enabling a common man to their own houses in Delhi. Under the scheme, around 34000 flats are to be offered, with starting price as low as approximately ₹11.5 lakh. Under the General Housing scheme, flats of all categories including high income group (HIG), middle income group (MIG), LIG and EWS at different localities like Jasola, Loknayakpuram and Narela will be offered at 2023 prices without any price escalation. The starting price of flats is approximately ₹29 lakh and around 5400 flats are to be offered under this scheme. DDA's Dwarka Housing Scheme will offer MIG, HIG and higher category flats in Sector 14, 16B and 19B of Dwarka through an e-auction process. This will provide



an opportunity to people to own a house in the upscale area of Dwarka. About 173 flats are being offered under the scheme, with starting price of ₹128 lakh. To provide ease of living to the residents of Delhi, the Authority

has also approved a new Policy for Management and Use of Community Halls including relaxed rental structure and operationalization of ancillary facilities in Multi-Purpose Community Halls. The Authority took an important decision whereby an Amnesty Scheme has been given nod to renewal-cum-freehold conversion of Expired Term Leases (90 years) in 23 Nazul Estates. The scheme is proposed to be introduced, initially for a period of six months from the date of commencement. The renewal charges are proposed to be different in case of Residential and Mixed-Land use properties and shall further vary as per the size of the plot. The charges shall increase in a progressive manner, if in case the scheme is extended beyond the initial period of six months.



# Hry CM announces hike in paddy commission by 20 percent, benefiting Arthiyas

PNS ■ CHANDIGARH

Making a series of announcements for Arthiyas, Haryana Chief Minister Nayab Singh Saini on Tuesday said that the Arthiyas will get an increase of 20 percent for paddy, which means that commission amount has been increased from Rs 45.88 to Rs 55.00 per quintal, which is the maximum in any States of the country. It comes as the state prepares for Assembly elections later this year.

Addressing the representatives of Haryana State Grain Market Arthiya Association and Haryana Rice Millers and Dealers Association in Chandigarh, the Chief Minister said that the Government would compensate for the losses incurred by Arthiyas due to wheat shortages. For this, he announced compensation of approximately Rs 12 crore.

On the occasion, the issue of wheat shortages was raised by the Arthiyas. They apprised Saini that since 1966, no government has ever compensated for this shortage, which averages around 0.20 percent every year. The shortage in the previous Rabi season was 0.28 percent. Responding to which, the Chief Minister said that the State Government would compensate for the increased shortage of 0.08 percent. The State Government will cover the Rs 12 crore losses due to this shortage, he added.

Saini said that the last date for delivering rice to the FCI for the year 2023-24 was June 30, 2024. Those who delivered by this date have been given a Rs. 10 bonus by the Haryana government. Some millers faced issues due to storage; therefore



the government has decided to extend the last date to August 31, 2024. A request has been made to the central government to extend the last date, and it is expected to be approved soon. Therefore, the Haryana government will provide a Rs 10 bonus for rice distributed in July and August.

He further shared that as part of making the state stray cattle-free, Rs 600 per cow and Rs 800 per bull would be paid immediately to bring stray cattle to their gaushalas. He added that for the captured stray animals, a daily feed subsidy of Rs. 20 for calves, Rs. 30 for cows, and Rs. 40 for bulls would be provided.

## Approves Rs 3.80 crore Sewerage and IPS Project for Kapal Mochan Pilgrimage site

In another programme, the Chief Minister has approved the provision of a sewerage facility and the construction of an Intermediate Pumping Station (IPS) at Kapal Mochan in District Yamuna Nagar at the cost of Rs. 3.80 crore. A Government

spokesperson said that Gopal Mochan and Somsar Mochan, Kapal Mochan attracts approximately 8.50 lakh pilgrims and visitors each year during the annual Kartik Mela. He said that this significant move aims to enhance the sanitation and public health infrastructure at this revered pilgrimage site, which is important to both Hindus and Sikhs. This project to be executed under the Mahagram Yojna as a special case, underscores the government's commitment to improving the quality of life for its citizens and preserving the sanctity of this religious place.

## Will attend State-level Teej festival in Jind today

The Chief Minister will participate as the Chief Guest in the State-level 'Hariyali Teej' festival on Wednesday in Jind district organised by the Haryana Government. Around 30,000 women from across the state have been invited to this festival, where Saini will gift 'Kothlis' to them as it holds a special significance for 'Hariyali Teej'. State government is organising 'Hariyali Teej', which falls in the holy month of

Sawan, is a traditional festival of the state, and celebrating such festivals collectively promotes social harmony. This state-level Teej festival is specially dedicated to women. During the event, 'Lakhpati Didi's' will share their success tales and the Chief Minister will also distribute bank loans worth Rs100 crore to self-help groups. Apart from this, he will honour members of self-help groups with the Best SHG Award and will also recognize female topper students from the 10th and 12th grades.

The Chief Minister will also distribute cheques to the beneficiaries of Haryana Women Development Corporation. At the state-level Teej festival, 101 colourful swings have been set up for women, and as part of the cultural program, women in traditional attire will perform folk dances to traditional Teej songs. The festival will also feature traditional Haryanvi dishes like milk, ghevar, gul-gule etc. and cultural programs. Moreover, women will set up more than 50 stalls at the festival, the spokesperson added.

# Mann announces To create 10k New Posts in Punjab Police; Says Average of 51 Youth Hired Daily

PNS ■ PHILLAUR (JALANDHAR)

Punjab Chief Minister Bhagwant Mann on Tuesday highlighted his administration's achievement of providing 44,250 government jobs within 872 days — averaging around 51 job placements daily over the last 2.5 years.

Mann, speaking at a function to distribute appointment letters to 443 officers in the Police, Law, Justice, and Home Affairs Departments, emphasized that all recruitments were merit-based and transparent, designed to empower the youth and restore Punjab's historic glory.

Lauding the newly-appointed officers and underscoring the importance of their roles in maintaining the state's integrity and safety, Mann said: "Our goal from day one has been to empower our youth by providing them with government jobs, and today, we see the fruits of our labour. These appointments are a testament to our commitment to transparency and meritocracy," said Mann, encouraging the new recruits to serve with dedication and integrity, ensuring that their actions reflect positively on the government and benefit the people of Punjab.

The Chief Minister announced the creation of 10,000 new positions in the Punjab Police, with the notification for recruitment already issued. The move is part of a

broader strategy to strengthen law enforcement and ensure public safety across the State. "By bolstering our police force, we aim to enhance our law enforcement capabilities significantly. The safety and security of our citizens are paramount, and these new positions will ensure that our police force is well-equipped to handle any challenges," said Mann.

Mann detailed plans to recruit 1800 Constables and 300 Sub Inspectors annually for the next four years to address the police force's manpower shortage. He anticipated that this rigorous recruitment process will engage youth in academics and physical training, channeling their energy positively and deterring them from drug abuse. "Our recruitment efforts are not just about filling positions but about shaping the future of our police force. By providing opportunities for our youth, we are helping them channel their energy in positive directions and away from harmful activities. This initiative will also ensure that our police force remains robust and capable of meeting the challenges of the future," he said.

## People Saving Rs 63L Daily After Toll Plazas' Closure

Highlighting fiscal reforms, Mann noted that the closure of 19 toll plazas in Punjab is saving residents Rs 63 lakh daily. This decision, made in the public interest, prevented the

extension of toll plaza contracts, thereby directly benefiting the common man and enhancing the state's economic efficiency. "By closing these toll plazas, we are not only saving money for our citizens but also making travel more convenient and hassle-free. This move is a significant step towards ensuring that the hard-earned money of Punjabis is not wasted on unnecessary toll fees," Mann explained.

## Rs 45-cr to Introduce AI in Punjab Police

In a significant modernization effort, Mann revealed that Artificial Intelligence (AI) would be integrated into the Punjab Police at a cost of Rs 45 crore. Approximately 3,000 high-resolution AI-enabled cameras will be installed along the Indo-Pak border to curb smuggling activities. The initiative aimed at revolutionizing policing by leveraging advanced technology for enhanced surveillance and crime prevention. "The integration of AI into our police force is a game-changer. These high-resolution cameras will provide real-time data and analytics, allowing us to monitor and prevent smuggling activities effectively. This technology will enhance our capabilities and ensure that we stay ahead in our fight against crime," said Mann.

## Enhancing Law Enforcement Resources

Mann further highlighted the provision of 410 hi-tech vehicles to Station House Officers (SHOs) in Punjab Police, marking a departure from past practices where new vehicles were allocated to higher officers. "Our SHOs are the backbone of our police force, and it is essential that they have the best resources at their disposal. These new vehicles will enable them to perform their duties more efficiently, ensuring that they can respond to incidents promptly and effectively," he said.

## Commitment to Eradicating Drug Menace

Mann called on the police officers to play a proactive role in eradicating drug abuse in Punjab, reiterating that the state is at the forefront of the national fight against drugs. He emphasized the importance of upholding the Punjab Police's tradition of combating drug trafficking and ensuring the safety and well-being of citizens. "Punjab is fighting a war against drugs, and our police force is on the front lines. It is crucial that we remain vigilant and proactive in our efforts to combat this menace. Our officers must uphold the highest standards of integrity and dedication in this fight," Mann urged. He highlighted the need for a coordinated and sustained effort to tackle the issue of drug abuse, ensuring that the police force is fully committed to eradicating this scourge from the state.

# 'Orange' Alert issues for very heavy rain in parts of Himachal

PNS ■ SHIMLA

The meteorological centre of Shimla on Tuesday cau-

tioned of moderate flash flood risk in isolated parts of Himachal Pradesh's seven out of 12 districts -- Kangra, Sirmour, Chamba, Shimla, Kullu, Kinnaur and Mandi -- in the next 24 hours.

The weather office issued an 'orange' alert of very heavy rain in parts of 10 districts of Bilaspur, Chamba, Hamirpur, Kangra, Kullu, Mandi, Shimla, Sirmour, Solan and Una for the next 24 hours till Wednesday evening. It also issued an 'orange' warning of heavy to very heavy rain, thunderstorms and lightning at isolated places in the state on August 7 and 10.

Monsoon activity is likely to intensify from Tuesday evening and continue for the next five to six days, bringing fairly widespread rain across the state, the MeT said. As intermittent rain continued to lash several parts of the state, 53 roads were closed, while 63 water supply schemes were affected, the state emergency operation centre said on Tuesday evening.

Sixteen people died in flash floods triggered by cloudbursts in Kullu, Mandi and Shimla districts on July 31 and 40 are still missing. Eighteen roads were closed in Kullu, 16 in Mandi, nine in Lahaul and Spiti, six in Kangra and two each in Sirmour and Kinnaur on Tuesday evening, the emergency response centre said.

Meanwhile, the death toll due to flash floods triggered by cloudbursts in three districts of Himachal Pradesh increased to 16 on Tuesday with the recovery of two more bodies.

## Calls for Mass Movement to Boost Punjab's Green Cover, Combat Pollution

Emphasizing the crucial role of public participation, Chief Minister Mann has issued a clarion call to transform the state's plantation drive into a mass movement aimed at curbing environmental pollution and enhancing Punjab's green cover. Mann, addressing the gathering, urged the people of Punjab to actively support the State Government's efforts by planting more trees. "It is imperative that we turn this plantation drive into a wide-spread movement to benefit everyone," he said, highlighting the urgent need for collective action.

Mann lamented the havoc wreaked by the reckless cutting of trees, attributing the increasing natural disasters across the country to this environmental negligence. He asserted that the only viable solution is to plant more trees. He advised farmers receiving free electricity for irrigation to plant at least four trees on their farms, adding that this requirement could potentially be legislated to safeguard future generations.

# CM Mann promises legal action in sacrilege cases

PNS ■ HOSHIARPUR

In a firm stance against the perpetrators of the sacrilege of Guru Granth Sahib, Punjab Chief Minister Bhagwant Mann on Tuesday declared that those responsible will face exemplary punishment. Mann, speaking at the state-level Van Mahotsav function in Hoshiarpur, emphasized that while mistakes could be forgiven, sins could not, specifically targeting the leadership of the Shiromani Akali Dal (SAD).

The Chief Minister's remarks came a day after SAD president Sukhbir Singh Badal's written apology to the Akal Takht for his party's controversial decisions during its rule from 2007 to 2017, including the 2015 sacrilege incident and the Behal Kalan firing, was made public. Mann asserted that the Akali leadership had already been judged guilty in the court of people, and it was now time for legal repercussions.

Mann accused Sukhbir Badal of trying to mislead the public with political theatrics, stating that while apologies might be accepted for minor



misdeeds, sins of such magnitude were unforgivable. He lambasted the Badal family for committing grave offenses against the state and its people, insisting that their actions could never be pardoned.

The Chief Minister assured that the State Government was actively gathering evidence related to the sacrilege incidents and that the true culprits would soon be brought to justice. He criticized the rebel Akali leaders for their current expressions of regret, pointing out that they had been complicit in the Badal family's actions and could not absolve themselves simply by issuing statements

now. During the Van Mahotsav event, Mann inaugurated the state-level celebrations by planting a sapling at the community center in Hoshiarpur. Joined by State Forest Minister Lal Chand Kataruchak, Revenue Minister Brahm Shankar Jimpa, and Member of Parliament Raj Kumar Chhabwal, Mann highlighted the state's ambitious plan to plant three crore saplings this year as part of its green initiative.

Additionally, Mann handed over carbon credit cheques worth Rs 1.75 crore to 818 farmers of the Hoshiarpur dis-

trict, who had adopted environmentally sustainable agricultural practices such as direct seeding and low tillage, as first instalment of this ambitious scheme. He announced that Rs 45 crore would be distributed to 3686 farmers from across the state in four phases under this project, launched in the state with the help of TERI as pilot project.

"These funds will be transferred to the farmers through the Direct Benefit Scheme besides playing an active role in checking environmental pollution," he said, envisioning that this scheme will act as a pivotal for reducing the effects of greenhouse gases. This is based on the 'Polluter Pays Principle' where polluters compensate the organisations or farmers working for reducing carbon emission, he added.

Appealing to the farmers, who receive free electricity for irrigation, Mann urged them to plant at least four trees around their tubewells, hinting that the government might consider implementing a law to enforce this scheme — an initiative aimed at promoting environmental sustainability and enhance the state's green cover.

# Five Jathedars To Meet On Aug 30 At Akal Takht

POLITICAL CHURNING IN SAD

MONIKA MALIK ■ CHANDIGARH

The August 30 meeting of the five jathedars (head priests) at Sri Akal Takht Sahib is expected to be a turning point in the ongoing SAD saga. The high-stakes gathering is set to dissect the storm of controversies surrounding the party president Sukhbir Singh Badal's recent clarifications, which have only fueled the fires of discord within the party. Additionally, the session will tackle the contentious issue of Rs one crore worth of advertisements issued by the Shiromani Gurdwara Prabandhak Committee (SGPC), which have become a lightning rod for criticism.

The last rendezvous of the jathedars on July 15 had put Sukhbir on the spot, demanding a detailed explanation within a tight 15-day window, in response to the allegations levelled by party 'rebels'. Sukhbir's response, submitted to Jathedar Giani Ragbir Singh, has now

been laid bare for public scrutiny, adding new layers to the unfolding drama. In his explanation, Sukhbir has taken responsibility for the sacrilege incidents and the controversial pardon given to the head of a religious sect, while the SGPC has defended its stance on the advertisements, attributing them to directives from former Jathedar Avtar Singh Makkar.

The controversy is complicated by the internal strife within the Akali Dal, led by the rebel faction under Prem Singh Chandumajra. This group, which includes prominent members such as Sikandar Maluka, Gurbartap Singh Wadal, Parminder Singh Dhindsa, and Bibi Jagir Kaur, underscored the party's internal discord. Their dissent highlighted the party's recent electoral struggles, marked by significant losses.

After maintaining a stronghold in Punjab's politics under Parkash Singh Badal's leadership for a decade, the Akali Dal's influence began to wane significantly. The 2017 state elections saw the party's seat

count plummet to 18, while the Congress secured a commanding victory with 77 seats. The 2022 elections further illustrated this decline, with the Akali Dal managing only three seats amidst the Aam Aadmi Party's dominance.

The Akali Dal's declining fortunes are mirrored in its Lok Sabha performance. From winning four seats in 2004, the party's presence has dwindled to just one seat in the 2024 elections, reflecting a broader loss of public support.

The rebel faction's grievances include several critical allegations against the Akali Dal's governance. These include retracting a complaint against Dera Sacha Sauda leader Gurmeet Ram Rahim, granting him a pardon, failing to adequately investigate sacrilege incidents, and not delivering justice for Sikh victims of alleged fake police encounters. These issues have fueled internal conflicts and eroded the party's public trust.

## Senior Badal's 2015 Letter Also Went Viral

Adding a historical dimension to the unfolding drama, a letter from the late Chief Minister Parkash Singh Badal also emerged. Written in October 2015, Senior Badal's letter expressed his profound distress following a series of sacrilege incidents in September. Addressed to the Jathedar of Sri Akal Takht, the letter revealed Badal's emotional struggle with the administration's failure to apprehend those responsible for these offenses. The letter, written in Punjab, read, "As the head of Punjab's administration, I was fully aware of these unexpected events. I have strived to carry out my duties with dedication and hard work. However, despite my best efforts, sometimes unforeseen incidents occur... This has caused me deep distress and spiritual turmoil. Our sense of regret is profound, and during these challenging times, we find ourselves grappling with inner pain. We turn to our Guru, seeking strength and compassion to guide us through this period."

# More e-buses for HRTC to achieve 'Green Energy' initiative: Himachal CM

PNS ■ SHIMLA

Himachal Chief Minister Sukhvinder Singh Sukhu, while presiding over a meeting of Himachal Road Transport Corporation (HRTC) on Tuesday said that the State Government would provide all possible assistance to the Corporation to revive it from the financial loss and make it a profitable organization.

The HRTC which is a life-line of hill transport system plays a very pivotal role in providing reliable services to the people with more than 12,000 employees, whom the Chief Minister termed as the backbone of the corporation. He said that the HRTC would be transformed into a 'Green Transportation System' as more electric buses were being introduced in the already existing fleet of 110 e-buses and 50 e-taxis. He said that Rs. 327

crore had been provided to purchase electric buses and the process was underway to procure 2,000 additional type-II e-buses. The entire fleet of diesel buses will be replaced by e-buses in a phased manner.

At present in the first phase HRTC is plying six buses to Ayodhya to facilitate the devotees with plans to add more if necessary. Besides, it was also providing its services to other religious places, said the Chief Minister.

Deputy Chief Minister Mukesh Agnihotri said that the HRTC was providing reliable transport services in the challenging terrains of Himachal Pradesh. The employees and pensioners of the organization now have been receiving their salary and pension on the day of every month for the last seven months, whereas during the previous BJP government, the employees and pensioners had to wait for eight to 10 days to get their salaries released.

## RAPID METRO GURUGRAM SEES SIGNIFICANT GROWTH IN RIDERSHIP AND REVENUE

Chandigarh: Haryana Chief Secretary TVSN Prasad on Tuesday said that the Rapid Metro Rail Gurgaon Limited (RMGL) and Rapid Metro Rail Gurgaon South Limited (RMGSL) have reported substantial growth in both ridership and revenue for the first quarter of the financial year 2024-25. While presiding over a meeting with the Board meeting of Haryana Mass Rapid Transport Corporation Limited, he said that for the period from April to June 2024, total income surged by 10.49 percent compared to the same period last year, reaching Rs. 8.11 crore. This increase is directly attributed to an 8.75 percent rise in ridership during the same period. The number of passengers utilising the Rapid Metro network saw steady growth, with April, May, and June 2024 recording 12.20 lakh, 13.48 lakh, and 12.30 lakh passengers, respectively.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS MADE BY BJP GOVT IN HRY CAN'T BE IMPLEMENTED ON GROUND: HOODA

Chandigarh: Former Haryana Chief Minister and Leader of Opposition Bhupinder Singh Hooda on Tuesday alleged that the BJP led Government is constantly making baseless announcements which cannot be implemented on the ground. He said that the announcement of giving MSP on all crops is also one of them. The former Chief Minister said while announcing MSP on all crops, the BJP government even forgot that the MSP is announced by the central government. "It is not in the jurisdiction of the state government. The state government also announced 15 such crops which are not grown in Haryana," he said. "The truth is that the central government has not mentioned MSP guarantee anywhere in this year's budget, nor has it made any provision for it in the budget. Then on what basis is the state government making such an announcement," he questioned. "If the BJP is even slightly serious about MSP, then the central government should immediately bring a bill in the Parliament as per the announcement made by the Congress, which should have a provision for MSP guarantee. The attempt to mislead the farmers through mere verbal promises will not succeed," he added.





Govt. of Haryana



# Mhara Haryana

# Non-Stop Haryana

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Exemption from written exam in Group-C recruitments

10% reservation for Agniveers in Constable, Mining Guard, Prison Warder, Forest Guard posts with age relaxation

Arms license on priority

Interest free Loan of ₹5 lakh to support entrepreneurship

Continuously contributing to the Nation's security





# Classifieds

## LOST AND FOUND

**I Narinder Kaur** wife of Gurdeep Singh r/o Village Chatke Post Office bhogpur district jalandhar, declare that my son Mr. Gunbir Singh passed Matriculation Examination of ICSE Board New Delhi vide index No 1235354/010 and UID No 7741147 in 2023 has been lost somewhere.

## BEDAKHLI NOTICE

**I, Sanjay S/O** Ramgopal Tampraleay R/o Khanna Road Panipat. and Permant R/o Rothak Road Jind, declare that my son Aaryan Singla is out of my control. So, I disown him from my all movable/immovable properties. If anybody deals with him shall do their own risk in future.

**We, Parvesh Mohan Gaur S/O** Chandu Lal Gaur & Kusum Gaur W/o Parvash Mohan Gaur R/o E 49/22, Near City Park Industrial Area, Sonipat, Haryana has disowned our son Kuber Gaur & his wife Bhawna Gaur from our all movable-immovable property as they are out of our control. In future, if anybody deals with them, he/she will do at their own risk.

**I, Satish Kumar S/O** Sh. Ram Ditta Mal R/o H.No-2184/66, Baldev Nagar Ambala city inform that my Sons Pankaj Kumar & his wife Neha & Sourav Kumar & his wife Priyanka are out of my control. So I disown all of them from my movable and immovable properties. I and my family will not be responsible for any kind of transaction or legal or illegal work done by them.

**I, Daya Singh S/O** Late Sh. Sunehara R/o Village Kalkaha, Tehsil Matloada, Distt Panipat, declare that my son Ankush c/o Munaa is out of my control. So, I disown him from my all movable/immovable properties. If anybody deals with him shall do their own risk in future.

**I, Pawan Kumar S/O** Ram Sahay R/o H.no.-1323, Sec-14, Sonipat declare that my Son's Jatn Kalra is out of my control. So I disown him from my all movable/immovable property. Any body deals with him at own risk.

**I, Kheronisa W/O** Late Mohammad Sahid R/o Jhuggi No 1047, Janta colony sector 25 Chandigarh Declare that my son namely Mohammad Javed and his wife sabnam is out of my control. So that I disowned him from my all movable and immovable properties. Anybody deals with them their own risk.

**I, Sanjay Kumar S/O** Ishwar Singh R/o Vill Badhra, Teh Badhra Distt Charkhi Dabri, declare that my name is recorded as Sanjay and my wife name is Pramila in the school records of my daughter Khushi which is wrong. My correct name is Sanjay Kumar and my wife correct name is Pramila Kumari, which should be corrected in the school records of my daughter.

**I, Manjeet Kumar S/O** Ram Singh R/o Vill Badhra, Teh Badhra Distt Charkhi Dabri, declare that my name is recorded as Manjeet in the 10th class CBSE Certificate of my son Vinay Kumar, which is wrong. My correct name is Manjeet Kumar which should be corrected in my son documents.

**I, Sandeep Kumar S/O** Ishwar Singh R/o Vill Badhra, Teh Badhra Distt Charkhi Dabri, declare that my name is recorded as Sandeep in the school certificate of my son Ronak which is wrong. My correct name is Sandeep Kumar, which should be corrected in the school records of my son.

**I Babu Ram S/O** Devi Dass R/O #2260, Sector 52-D Chandigarh Declare That In My Driving Licence My Father's Name Is Wrongly Mentioned As Devi Das. My Father's Correct Name Is Devi Dass.

**I, Rajesh Kumar S/O** Sh Uday Kumar R/o village Nizampur district Sonipat Haryana inform that Rajesh in my son's 10th class Marksit but my correct Rajesh Kumar and Rajesh is the name of one and same person.

**I, Savita W/O** Sandip Kumar Saroha R/O 2284, Phase-2, Sector-12, Sonipat, Haryana have changed my name to Savita Nara for all future purposes.

**I, Ashwani Kumar S/O** Mukand Lal R/O Flat # 104, Cyberport, Tower 5, Shahpur Turaq, Shahpur Turak (83) Sonipat, Haryana have changed my name to Ashwani Kumar Arora for all future purposes.

**I Beena Devi wife of** Suresh Kumar Resident of H. No. 347 Village Raipur Rani Distt. Panchkula. I have changed my name from Beena Devi to Veena Rani.

**I, Sanjay Chandra Prashar S/O** Parkash Chand, # 1077-B, Sector 7-B, Chandigarh have changed my minor son name from Samarth to Samarth Prashar.

**I, Sanjay Chandra Prashar S/O** Parkash Chand, # 1077-B, Sector 7-B, Chandigarh have changed my minor Daughter name from Sanjini to Sanjini Prashar.

**I, Riddhima D/O** Sanjay Chandra Prashar, # 1077-B, Sector 7-B, Chandigarh have changed my name from Riddhima to Riddhima Prashar

**I, Ranjit Singh S/O** Santokh Singh R/O Trimmoo Road Gurdaspur, Opposite Babbar Hospital Gurdaspur. Tehsil/Distt-Gurdaspur. My Two Daughters Jasmeet Kaur And Varinder Kaur And One Son Daljit Singh Are Not My Saying Out Of Control. So I Disinherit Them From My Moveable And Immovable Property. I Shall Not Be Responsible.

**I Usha Rani W/o** Avtar Singh R/o Vill Rampur Teh Rajpura Distt Patiala declare that my son Harwinder Singh is out of my control so I evict him all my Moveable immovable property anyone dealing with him at their own risk.

**I, Pushkar Kaushal S/O** Rajesh Kaushal R/o Village & PO Ajjowal Tehsil & Distt Hoshiarpur Punjab, India, declare that my 10th Class Certificate My father name has been wrongly mentioned Rajesh Kumar. But the correct name of my father in all documents is Rajesh Kaushal. Concerned note.

**I, Gajula Balaraju** legally father of No. 15334693A Rank HAV Name Gajula Chiranjeevi Unit 4 Engr Regt. C/o 56 APO Bathinda Cantt. (Punjab) permanent resident of H No 2-47, Mogullapalle, Metpalle, PO Metpalli, Distt. Warangal, State Andhra Pradesh-506366 declare That I have changed my name from Balaraju to Gajula Balaraju and DOB from 01.07.1959 to 06.04.1958

**I, Gajula Sammakka** legally mother of No. 15334693A Rank HAV Name Gajula Chiranjeevi Unit 4 Engr Regt. C/o 56 APO Bathinda Cantt. (Punjab) permanent resident of 2-47, Mogullapalle, Metpalle, Distt. Warangal, State Andhra Pradesh-506366 declare That I have changed my name from Sammakka to Gajula Sammakka and DOB from 01.07.1963 to 15.08.1965

**I, Devarakonda Sarasvathamma** legally mother of No. 15327477K Rank HAV Name J Raju Unit 4 Engr Regt. C/o 56 APO Bathinda Cantt. (Punjab) permanent resident of 2-60 Venkata Reddy Pally, Mohammada Bad, Mahabub Nagar, State Telangana-509337 declare That I have changed my name from Sarasvathamma to Devarakonda Sarasvathamma and DOB from 01.07.1959 to 01.01.1957

**I, Jagdish Chander S/O** Hira Ram R/o Village- Phulia Khurd, Tehsil-Narwana, District-Jind state that Jagdish Chander and Jagdish Chander Jakhar both are my names. My name in my passport is Jagdish Chander Jakhar, whereas in my educational documents and Aadhar card my name is Jagdish Chander.

**I, Kamlesh Kumari W/O** Mohan Lal R/O 114, Shivpuri A, Kansepur Road, Yamuna Nagar have changed my name from Kamlesh Kumari to Kamla Devi.

**I, Sanjana Kak D/o** Jeevan R/O 1648, Sector 17, Huda, Jagadhri, Distt Yamuna Nagar have changed my name from Sanjana alias Ira Kak to Sanjana Kak.

**I, Meenu Sharma R/O** 450, PWT, Manimajra Chandigarh Stating That My Husband Name Has Been Changed From Manjesh Kumar Sharma To Manjessh Jai Sharma.

**I, Vikash s/o** Jagveer r/o Village Uncha Samana, Tehsil Gharaunda, Distt. Karnal declare that my name should be changed from Vikas to Vikash in my driving license.

**I, Surendra Kaur** wife of No. 13927256 NK Surjit Singh (Retd) resident of Village Kalabagh, PO Naushera Tehsil Mukerian, Distt Hoshiarpur (Pb), have changed my name from Surendra Kaur to Surinder Kaur. My correct date of birth is 04.05.1954. Concerned note.

**I, Chirag S/O** Shashi Kochar R/O H. No. 67-A, Sant Nagar, Hisar (Haryana) declare that I have changed my name from Chirag Kochar to Chirag for all purpose. In future I shall be known my new name Chirag.

**I, Kuldeep Singh** Dhahan S/O Resham Singh Dhahan R/O H. No. 20, Bhagat Singh Colony, 4 KM Stone, Sirsa Road, Hisar (Haryana) 125001 declare that I have changed my name from Kuldeep Singh Dhahan S/O Resham Singh Dhahan to Kuldeep Singh S/O Resham Singh for all purpose. In future I shall be known my new name Kuldeep Singh S/O Resham Singh.

**I, Manu D/o** Mandeep Singh Poonia R/O VPO Satrod Khurd, Distt. Hisar declare that I have changed my name from Manu to Manu Poonia for future purpose.

**I, Gursewak Singh S/O** Lakhbir Singh R/O Village Kals, PO. Mastgarh, Tehsil Patti, Tam Taran have declare that Singh is my Surname and Gursewak is my Given Name.

**I, Punam Kumari W/O** Kamal Kumar R/O H.No.105, Ward No.9, VPO Ajnala District Amritsar have chnged my name from Punam Kumari to Poonam Kumari

**I, Harjeet Kaur** Sondh W/o Manjeet Singh Sondh R/o H.No.122, East Mohan Nagar, Amritsar have changed my name from Harjeet Kaur Sondh to Harjit Kaur Sondh

**I, Rajiv Kumar** Sharma S/O Rajpal Sharma R/O Block Verka VPO Bal Khurd Distt Amritsar have changed my name Rajeev Kumar Sharma. to Rajiv Kumar Sharma.

## CHANGE OF NAME

**I, Rajabala** देवी पत्नी EX SUB JC-206330Y श्री लक्ष्मी चन्द डरोलिया निवासी गाँव सांखोल, तह. बहादुरगढ़ जिला झंझर-124507 ब्यान करती हूँ कि मेरे आधार कार्ड, पेन कार्ड आदि में मेरा नाम राजबाला देवी दर्ज है जबकि मेरे पति के आर्मी रिकार्ड में राजबाला दर्ज है। उक्त राजबाला देवी और राजबाला दोनों नाम मेरे ही हैं। मैं अपने पति के आर्मी रिकार्ड में मेरा नाम राजबाला से राजबाला देवी करवाना चाहती हूँ।

**I, Manoj Kumar S/o** Nathi Ram R/O Village Nagal, PO Chamrroi, Tehsil Radaur, Distt. Yamunanagar, Haryana have changed my Daughter's name from Drishtii Devi to Drishtii Kamboj.

**I, Lal Chand S/o** Amarnath R/O 3323, Sector 35-D, Chandigarh have changed my name from Lal Chand to Lal Chand Masown.

**I, Sahil S/o** Sh. Gurparkash Singh R/O H.No.78, Milk Colony, Dhanas, Chandigarh have changed my name from Sahil to Sahil Singh.

**I, Baljinder Kaur W/o** Sh. Gurparkash Singh R/O H.No.78, Milk Colony, Dhanas, Chandigarh have changed my name from Baljinder to Baljinder Kaur.

**I, Navdeep Singh S/o** Nirmal Singh R/O Vill. Chak Raju Singh PO Sandhra Tehsil & Distt Hoshiarpur Punjab declare that my name is Navdeep Singh. Singh is my Surname. And my given name is Navdeep.

**I, Gurpreet Singh** Narula S/O Kanwajit Singh R/O H.No. 674, Ward No. 21, Kamalpur, Tehsil & Distt. Hoshiarpur 146001 Punjab have changed my name from Gurpreet Singh Narula to Gurpreet Singh. Concerned note.

**I, Paramjit Singh S/O** Balbir Singh R/O Village Chakowal Shekhan, PO Nainowal Jattan Tehsil Distt Hoshiarpur Punjab have changed my minor daughter's name from Tammana to Tammana Singh. Concerned Note.

**I, Balwan S/O** Buta Ram R/O Lakkan Pati, VPO- Dhanauri, Distt-Jind, have changed my name from Balwan to Balwan Singh, I may please be known by this name in future. Concerned please note.

**I, Mausam S/O** Ishwar Chand Sharma R/O Sanjay colony, Panipat have changed my name from Mausam to Mousam Sharma for all future purposes.

**I, Deepika Naval** Kishore W/O Naval Kishore R/O 114, Nanda Colony, Farakpur, Jagadhri Workshop, Yamuna Nagar have changed my name from Deepika Naval Kishore to Deepika.

**I, Kamlesh Kumari W/O** Mohan Lal R/O 114, Shivpuri A, Kansepur Road, Yamuna Nagar have changed my name from Kamlesh Kumari to Kamla Devi.

**I, Sanjana Kak D/o** Jeevan R/O 1648, Sector 17, Huda, Jagadhri, Distt Yamuna Nagar have changed my name from Sanjana alias Ira Kak to Sanjana Kak.

**I, Meenu Sharma R/O** 450, PWT, Manimajra Chandigarh Stating That My Husband Name Has Been Changed From Manjesh Kumar Sharma To Manjessh Jai Sharma.

**I, Vikash s/o** Jagveer r/o Village Uncha Samana, Tehsil Gharaunda, Distt. Karnal declare that my name should be changed from Vikas to Vikash in my driving license.

**I, Surendra Kaur** wife of No. 13927256 NK Surjit Singh (Retd) resident of Village Kalabagh, PO Naushera Tehsil Mukerian, Distt Hoshiarpur (Pb), have changed my name from Surendra Kaur to Surinder Kaur. My correct date of birth is 04.05.1954. Concerned note.

**I, Chirag S/O** Shashi Kochar R/O H. No. 67-A, Sant Nagar, Hisar (Haryana) declare that I have changed my name from Chirag Kochar to Chirag for all purpose. In future I shall be known my new name Chirag.

**I, Kuldeep Singh** Dhahan S/O Resham Singh Dhahan R/O H. No. 20, Bhagat Singh Colony, 4 KM Stone, Sirsa Road, Hisar (Haryana) 125001 declare that I have changed my name from Kuldeep Singh Dhahan S/O Resham Singh Dhahan to Kuldeep Singh S/O Resham Singh for all purpose. In future I shall be known my new name Kuldeep Singh S/O Resham Singh.

**I, Manu D/o** Mandeep Singh Poonia R/O VPO Satrod Khurd, Distt. Hisar declare that I have changed my name from Manu to Manu Poonia for future purpose.

**I, Gursewak Singh S/O** Lakhbir Singh R/O Village Kals, PO. Mastgarh, Tehsil Patti, Tam Taran have declare that Singh is my Surname and Gursewak is my Given Name.

**I, Punam Kumari W/O** Kamal Kumar R/O H.No.105, Ward No.9, VPO Ajnala District Amritsar have chnged my name from Punam Kumari to Poonam Kumari

**I, Supreet Kaur W/o** Rajinder Singh R/O H.No. 287/14 Near SD College Deep Nagar Distt. Hoshiarpur 146001 Punjab have changed my name from Supreet Kaur to Supreet Kaur Saini. Concerned note.

**I, Neelam Kumari** Mother of No. 4003627K NK (TS) Rohit Kumar (Retd) resident of VPO Bhangala, Tehsil Mukerian, Distt Hoshiarpur (Pb), have changed my name from Neelam Kumari to Neelam. My correct date of birth is 01.01.1963. Concerned note.

**I, Jasbir Kaur** wife of No. 2463003H NK (TS) Bhagwan Singh (Retd) resident of Village Mehandipur, PO Abdullapur, Tehsil Mukerian, Distt Hoshiarpur (Pb), have changed my name from Jasbir Kaur to Jasvir Kaur . My correct date of birth is 01.01.1960. Concerned note.

**I, Reena Rani** w/o Naresh Kumar r/o 947/82A ward no. 14, Jagjiwanpura Fatehabad, Tehsil & District Fatehabad declares that I have changed my name from Neha to Reena Rani in my all documents for all future purposes.

**I, Rohan Sabherwal S/O** Ashwani Sabharwal R/O House No. 221, Sector 44-A, Chandigarh Have Changed My Name To Rohan Sabharwal.

**I, Ashwani Kumar** Sabherwal S/O Bal Krishan Sabharwal R/O House No. 221, Sector 44-A, Chandigarh Have Changed My Name To Ashwani Sabharwal.

**I, Geetika W/o** Sourabh Anand, # 1585, Pushpac Complex, Sector 49B, Chandigarh have changed my name to Geetika Anand.

**I, Faraz Khan S/O** Gulzar Ali Khan, # 616, Mauli Jagran, Chandigarh declare that my name wrongly entered as Fraz Khan in my aadhar card but correct name is Faraz Khan my father's name in my academic certificate may be treated as Gulzar Ali Khan instead of Gulzar.

**I, Lakshay Grak S/O** Sh Balwan Singh R/O Village Gullarpur District Karnal declared that name of mine, my Father & my Mother has been wrongly written as Lakshay, Balwan and Neelam Devi in CBSE Secondary and Senior Secondary School Certificate. That actual name of mine, my Father and My mother is Lakshay Grak, Balwan Singh and Neelam Devi respectively.

**I, Sanchita Das W/o** Shubendu Kumar Das R/O flat No- 304, GHS 108, Block-A, Sector-20 Panchkula Haryana have changed my name to Sanchita Sil.

**I, No. 3398719F** Ex Hav Gurdeep Singh S/O Shri Kamaljit Singh R/O Vill. Badhupur PO Musahibpur Tehsil Mukerian Distt. Hoshiarpur Punjab have changed the name of my father from Kamaljit Singh to Kamal Rashpal Singh.

**I, Smt Asha Devi W/o** No. 56525 Lema DEVP Madan Lal R/O VPO Bassi Purani Tehsil & Distt. Hoshiarpur Punjab have changed my date of birth from 01-12-1950 to 06-06-1949.

**I, Smt. Narinder Kaur W/O** No. 3358930N Late NK Sikander Singh R/O VPO Khanaura Tehsil & Distt. Hoshiarpur Punjab have changed my date of birth from 17-09-1955 to 01-01-1960.

**I, Sukhmani C/o** Gangandeev Singh Chawla R/O H.No. 55, Model Colony, Distt. Hoshiarpur Punjab have changed my name from Sukhmani to Sukhmani Kaur. Concerned note.

**I, Surendra Kaur** wife of No. 13927256 NK Surjit Singh (Retd) resident of Village Kalabagh, PO Naushera Tehsil Mukerian, Distt Hoshiarpur (Pb), have changed my name from Surendra Kaur to Surinder Kaur. My correct date of birth is 04.05.1954. Concerned note.

**I, Chirag S/O** Shashi Kochar R/O H. No. 67-A, Sant Nagar, Hisar (Haryana) declare that I have changed my name from Chirag Kochar to Chirag for all purpose. In future I shall be known my new name Chirag.

**I, Kuldeep Singh** Dhahan S/O Resham Singh Dhahan R/O H. No. 20, Bhagat Singh Colony, 4 KM Stone, Sirsa Road, Hisar (Haryana) 125001 declare that I have changed my name from Kuldeep Singh Dhahan S/O Resham Singh Dhahan to Kuldeep Singh S/O Resham Singh for all purpose. In future I shall be known my new name Kuldeep Singh S/O Resham Singh.

**I, Manu D/o** Mandeep Singh Poonia R/O VPO Satrod Khurd, Distt. Hisar declare that I have changed my name from Manu to Manu Poonia for future purpose.

**I, Gursewak Singh S/O** Lakhbir Singh R/O Village Kals, PO. Mastgarh, Tehsil Patti, Tam Taran have declare that Singh is my Surname and Gursewak is my Given Name.

**I, Punam Kumari W/O** Kamal Kumar R/O H.No.105, Ward No.9, VPO Ajnala District Amritsar have chnged my name from Punam Kumari to Poonam Kumari

**I, Harjeet Kaur** Sondh W/o Manjeet Singh Sondh R/o H.No.122, East Mohan Nagar, Amritsar have changed my name from Harjeet Kaur Sondh to Harjit Kaur Sondh

**I, Rajiv Kumar** Sharma S/O Rajpal Sharma R/O Block Verka VPO Bal Khurd Distt Amritsar have changed my name Rajeev Kumar Sharma. to Rajiv Kumar Sharma.

**I, Swatanter Gautam S/O** Jai krishan sharma # 415, milk colony Dhanas Chandigarh have changed my minor son name from Arnav Gautam to krishan Gautam.

**I, Surinder Kumar S/O** Mohan Lal R/O VPO-Narangpur, Atholi, Phagwara, Kapurthala, Punjab-144002 have changed my name to Kumar Surinder.

**I, Charanjit Singh** Khosa S/O Rattan Singh R/O Vill. Kot Karor Kalan, Distt. Ferozepur, Punjab-142060 have changed my name to Charanjit Singh.

**I, Jagdish Chander S/O** Telu Ram R/O H No. 35, Block 2, Peont, Karnal, Haryana-132036 declare that name of mine and my wife is wrongly written as Jagdish and Nirmala in my minor daughter Nandii aged 17 years in her 10th Class Educational Documents. Actual name of mine and my wife are Jagdish Chander and Nirmala Devi.

**I, Simran Chauhan D/o** Vijay Kishore Singh R/O R-424, Balsarai Khurd, Dera Baba Jaimal Singh, Amritsar, Punjab-143204 declare that name of mine and my father is wrongly written as Simran and Vijay Singh in my CBSE Class 10th Educational Documents. Actual name of mine and my father are Simran Chauhan and Vijay Kishore Singh.

**I, Sarita W/o** Anoop Kumar R/O House no 368, Sec -7, Ambala City have changed my name to Sarita Garg.

**I Banto Devi W/o** Ishar Singh R/O Kalal Majra Distt Ambala. That my name mention in my aadhar card is Banto Devi and in my son Arvinder Shingh 10th class Smc my name mention as Banti Devi. Banto Devi and Banti Devi both name are mine and same person name.

**I Kiran Katyal W/o** Rakesh Katyal R/O H.No-1250, Sector-9, Ambala City have changed my name from Simran Katyal Alias Kiran Katyal to Kiran Katyal . In Future I will be known as Kiran Katyal.

**I Ajmer Singh S/O** Sh. Kulwant Singh R/O H.No.56, Jaggi Colony Phase-1 Sharma Colony Ambala City have changed my minor Son Name Manider Singh to Maninder Singh.

**I, Shivam Saluja S/O** Ram Murti Saluja R/O 1152/3, Near Hari Mandir, Kaziwara, Ambala City, Haryana-134003 have changed my name to Shivam.

**I, Nisha Devi, W/o** Krishan Lal R/O House No. 2651, Devi Mandir Road, New Ramesh Nagar Panipat I have changed my name from Nisha Devi to Nisha for all future purposes.

**I, Bakshish son of** Balkar Singh R/O Village Bahri, Tehsil Thanesar, District Kurukshetra, Haryana have changed my name from Bakshish to Bakshish Singh for all future purposes.

**I Meenakshi W/o** Naresh Kumar, 13-A, Park Lane, Rani Ka Bagh, Railto Chowk, Amritsar-I, Amritsar, Punjab 143001 have changed my name from Meenakshi to Meenakshi.

**I, RajKumar** Sharma S/O Sh. Hari Ram R/O Village Samora Tehsil Indri Distt Karnal Haryana have changed my name from RajKumar to RajKumar Sharma. In future I should be known as Nirmila Pal.

**I, Vijay Batra s/o** Ram Parkash Batra r/o 6/82 A, Seth Nand Lal, Noharia Bazar, Sirsa have changed my name to Vijay Kumar. Concerned note.

**I, Navneet Chaudhary S/O** Son Nath R/O H.NO.387-A, Vill.Manwal Teh.& Distt. Pathankot (PB) Declare that Navneet Chaudhary and Navneet Chowdhary Both Name are Pertain to One, Single and Same Person. i.e Myself. All Concerned authorities Note.

**I, Ram Gopal Aggarwal S/O** Late Sh. Mangat Ram Bansal R/O H. No. 2, Mandi Road, Bhamashah Nagar, Hisar declare that I have changed my name from Ram Gopal to Ram Gopal Aggarwal for future purpose.

**I, Rajeev Sharma S/O** Shri Niwas Sharma R/O #House No 40, Gali No.1, Indra Nagar Faridabad, Haryana Have Changed Rajeev Kumar To Rajeev Sharma

**I, Neeru Khera W/O** Sanjiv Kumar R/O Kolkapura Road, Street No. 7, Gurgaon Dev Nagar, Sri Muktsar Sahib, Punjab-152026 have Changed My Name To Neeru Bala All Concern Note It

**I Charanjeet Kaur W/O** Gopal Das R/O Bazigar Basti, Faridkot Declare That Charanjeet Kaur And Charnjit Kaur Both Are My Names And Belongs To Me. Please Note.

**I Abita W/O** Krishan Kumar R/O H.No- 120, Second Floor, Shakti Enclave, Dhakuli Sas Nagar Mohali, Punjab, Have Changed My Name From Abita To Abita Rani.

**I Surinder Kaur** Jhiout W O Amrajjeet Singh R O Prem Nagar Katakpura District Faridkot Have Changed My Name To Surinder Kaur

**I, Gursharn W/o** Surinder Singh R/o H.No.41-A, New Garden Colony Amritsar have changed my name from Gursharn to Gursharan

**I, Chnchala Devi** Mother of Gurdev Singh R/O Village Ressayin, PO Kotwalt Teh Ramnagar Distt Udhampur (J&K) Pin 182122 have changed my name from Chanchala Devi to Chanchala Devi Vide Affidavit No.IN-PB43263278159847W Dt.06.08.2024 Before Notary Public Amritsar

**I, Sheshan Devi** Mother of Sandeep Kumar R/O Vill. Tikhari Teh Char Gaon Distt Shimla (HP) Pin 171208 have changed my name from Sheshan Devi to Shivshnan Devi Vide Affidavit No.IN-PB43228139278608W Dt.06.08.2024 Before Notary Public Amritsar

**I, Rimpy Kumari W/o** Rahul Kumar, residing at Ward No. 13, Lohian Khaz, PO Lohian, Distt. Jalandhar-144629, Punjab, India, have changed the name of my minor daughter Ishani and she shall hereafter be known as Ishani Kumari.

**I, Gurjant Singh S/o** Manohar Singh R/O Vill Khiala Khurd PO Khiala Kalan District Amritsar have changed my name from Gurjant Singh to Gurjant Singh Bhangu

**I, Harbeer Kaur W/O** Gurjant Singh Bhangu R/O Vill Khiala Khurd Po Khiala Kalan District Amritsar have changed my name from Harbeer Kaur to Harbeer Kaur Bhangu

**I, Renu Bala Das** Mother of No.14941689F L/O/Nk Bankim Chandra Das R/O H.No. 11, Vill. Muria PO Kolabira Distt Seraikela Kharsawan Jharkhand-833220 now at 15 Mech Inf C/o 56 APO have changed my name to Renubala Das and Date of Birth from 25.02.1968 to 01.01.1974 Vide Affidavit No.IN-PB4327442574533W Dt.06.08.2024 Before Notary Public Amritsar

**I, Gurmit Kaur** wife of Satnam Singh resident of Daliri Tehsil Patti District Tam Taran have changed her name to Gurmeet Kaur

**I, Kawaljeet Kaur W/O** Heera Singh R/O E-9/103, Muhamad Ben Building, PO Chheharta, Amritsar have changed my name from Kawaljeet Kaur to Kawaljit Kaur

**I, Sarita W/o** Jagmohan R/O VPO Duhai Tehsil and Distt Ghaziabad (Uttar Pradesh)-201206 India, have changed my name from Sarita Devi to Sarita due to wrong name record in Army Service record of my husband.

**I, Ranjit Kaur** mother of No. 19002638W NK Ranjyodh Singh Resident of Vill. Panjdhera Raiya. PO. Mansoorpur. Tehsil Mukerian, Distt. Hoshiarpur Punjab. Pin Code-144211 have changed my name from Ranjit Kaur of Ranjeet Kaur vide affidavit dated 6 August 2024 before Executive Magistrate Mukerian.

**I, My Army No. 16030512K** - RFN Mandeep Unit 16 Rajfir S/O Sh. Balbir Singh R/O VPO Barna, Tehsil Thanesar, District Kurukshetra have changed my minor daughter name from Parneet to Parneet Saharan. In future my daughter should be known as Parneet Saharan.

**I, Nirmila w/o** Sonu Pal r/o Village Bazida Roran, Karnal (Haryana) have changed my name from Nirmila to Nirmila Pal. In future I should be known as Nirmila Pal.

**I, Vijay Batra s/o** Ram Parkash Batra r/o 6/82 A, Seth Nand Lal, Noharia Bazar, Sirsa have changed my name to Vijay Kumar. Concerned note.

**I, Navneet Chaudhary S/O** Son Nath R/O H.NO.387-A, Vill.Manwal Teh.& Distt. Pathankot (PB) Declare that Navneet Chaudhary and Navneet Chowdhary Both Name are Pertain to One, Single and Same Person. i.e Myself. All Concerned authorities Note.

**I, Ram Gopal Aggarwal S/O** Late Sh. Mangat Ram Bansal R/O H. No. 2, Mandi Road, Bhamashah Nagar, Hisar declare that I have changed my name from Ram Gopal to Ram Gopal Aggarwal for future purpose.

**I, Rajeev Sharma S/O** Shri Niwas Sharma R/O #House No 40, Gali No.1, Indra Nagar Faridabad, Haryana Have Changed Rajeev Kumar To Rajeev Sharma









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PAPER WITH PASSION

## Ignominious exit

Sheikh Hasina resigns as the Prime Minister of Bangladesh and flies to India leaving New Delhi in a quandary

It was writing on the wall which Sheikh Hasina the former Prime Minister of Bangladesh could not read. The people had turned against her. No wonder she had no choice but to resign and leave for the friendly country, India. The protests over the past few months paralysed Bangladesh. The initial spark was the students' demand for doing away with the reservation for the relatives of freedom fighters which evolved into a broader demand for political reforms and the resignation of Hasina Government. The unrest reached a crescendo, with more than 100 deaths in violent clashes between protesters and security forces. Protesters eventually stormed her official residence. Sheikh Hasina's political career has been a roller coaster ride. She is the daughter of Sheikh Mujibur Rahman, the founding leader and first President of Bangladesh. Hasina's political journey began in earnest after the assassination of her father and most of her family members in 1975. Exiled in India during the subsequent military regimes in Bangladesh, Hasina was elected as the President of the Awami League in 1981. She returned to Bangladesh in 1981. She was instrumental in reviving the Awami League and making it a formidable political force.

Sheikh Hasina first became Prime Minister in 1996 after the Awami League won the general elections. Allegations of corruption and political instability led to her party's defeat in the 2001 elections. But she returned to power in 2009 after the Awami League's landslide victory in the 2008 elections. Her subsequent terms as Prime Minister (2009-2024) have been marked by significant economic growth but also highhandedness which ultimately led to her downfall. Her tenure has been marked by efforts to consolidate power, leading to accusations of authoritarianism and suppression of dissent. But the fact remains that under her leadership, Bangladesh has made significant strides in poverty reduction, women's empowerment, and achieving key development milestones. After a long rule of 15-years she was out of sync with the ground realities; calling people traitors and clamping curfew and issuing shooting orders were grave mistakes which she had to pay for. Her ouster has put New Delhi in fix. India will now have to navigate the uncharted choppy waters of diplomacy in the Bay of Bengal. The alternatives to Hasina's government include the right-wing Bangladesh Nationalist Party (BNP), the Jatiya Party, and the army, all of which perceive India as a dominant influence and would like to keep her at bay. The volatility in Bangladesh raises security concerns for India, particularly in the border regions. Sheikh Hasina's departure has significantly altered the political dynamics. No matter who replaces Hasina it would adversely affect Indo-Bangladesh relations. Bangladesh may now move closer to China. New Delhi will have to deal with the interim government and make friends with the BNP and Jatiya party not to mention the army Generals who would be calling the shots for a while till new elections take place.

### PICTALK



People walk to their work as torrential rains lash Shimla

# Why a national security strategy is vital for India



ASHOK K MEHTA

The military has always codified its practices and procedures for institutional memory. So why is the Government shy of it and using the CDS to justify it?

It is official now. After a decade of speculation over not whether and when a National Security Strategy (NSS) will be prepared and released, we were told that a written NSS is not needed. India's second CDS, Gen Anil Chauhan, recently said at India International Centre New Delhi while releasing the book Indian Craft of War, that a National Security Policy, using the term as an alternative to NSS, was not needed in writing. He added: "we have practices and processes in place...otherwise how did we do Article 370; handle COVID; Balakot air strikes...". A cerebral retired General noted, "it is in the head". < That we have gone on for 75 years without NSS does not mean we don't need one. The strategic ambiguity over not naming adversaries, missions, risks and opportunities is not worth a naya paisa in the contemporary geopolitical context. The contradiction is this: in the cradle of strategic thinking, Defence Services Staff College, Wellington, its Commandant, Lt Gen Verinder Vats, regularly underlines the virtues of NSS to his triservice students. There is no merit in explaining why a written document is necessary, indeed essential.

All democracies, even authoritarian regimes have an NSS or White Paper on defence and security. For starters you can open former COAS Gen MM Naravane's latest unreleased book, Four Stars of Destiny, to learn of his unenviable predicament in waiting for orders during a grave and critical operational situation on LAC post-Galwan. Tragically, the Indian military has shied away from demanding a White Paper, Strategic Defence and Security Review (SDSR) or any political guidance from the ruling political class. At a recent seminar on national security at New Delhi's IIC, former NSA Shiv Shankar Menon disclosed categorically that during the UPA regime, a draft NSS was prepared thrice but it never saw the light of day. For Menon's presentation, the discussant was former defence security NN Vohra, former Governor J&K, and Principal Secretary to



the Prime Minister. He endorsed Menon's claim and if further confirmation was needed it came from former Foreign Secretary Shyam Saran who was chairing the event. All three stated that the absence of political will let the NSS drafts collect dust. This raises the issue of the role and responsibility of not only civil servants but also more importantly of Service Chiefs who fail to persuade or even gently coerce the PM/RM on the issuance of written directives. In their single-service operational mission papers, they guesstimate their likely missions from the speeches of the Prime Minister during the Combined Commanders' Conferences or elsewhere. The BJP/NDA government has fared no better than the UPA in providing political guidance to the armed forces. Its stellar achievement though was the creation of CDS, which for lack of consensus both among the armed forces and the political class, remained missing for decades. Then, in a burst of zeal, the BJP announced the appointment of CDS in December 2019 without consulting anyone. It is now stuck in the old groove of securing consensus among the military over theorisation. It has taken a full five and a half years for RM Rajnath Singh to state, that too, in response to



TRAGICALLY, THE INDIAN MILITARY HAS SHIED AWAY FROM DEMANDING A WHITE PAPER, STRATEGIC DEFENCE AND SECURITY REVIEW (SDSR) OR ANY POLITICAL GUIDANCE FROM THE RULING POLITICAL CLASS

a question during an interview with PTI in May that consensus is growing among the services. Also in May, Gen Chauhan stated during a lecture at USI New Delhi that theorisation was "imminent" though "there were differences over reforms". As CDS has become synonymous with theatrisation the government needs to be as decisive in setting a deadline for its blueprint and implementation as it was in appointing the CDS. But the IAF, especially has been saying that an NSS is a prerequisite to theatrisation. In 2018 when the Defence Planning Committee was created under NSA Ajit Doval, it was widely expected that an NSS would be prepared by it. It is no secret that two drafts of NSS are lying with Doval - one prepared by Integrated Defence Staff and another by NSC Secretariate in 2021-22. But Gen Chauhan has closed the door to a scripted NSS though he did release last month a written tri-service cyber-space doctrine. Earlier, a tri-service Training Doctrine was also released which attracted severe criticism for its loopholes. One can ask how these documents can be written when there is no NSS and National Defence Strategy. India is the only emerging power with the fifth largest economy and fourth largest armed forces that does not

have an NSS/NSP though it has fought four short wars, - lost one, won one with the remaining two ending in stalemate - and one casualty-ridden successful border skirmish. There is hardly any mention or recognition of India's first out-of-area 32-month IPKF CIS mission in Sri Lanka where coercive diplomacy failed even as 1171 Bravehearts sacrificed their lives. The CDS recently called IPKF a minor operation. High time an NSS was written after a strategic defence review. I can vouch for it as a member of the Defence Planning Staff, the forerunner of IDS, which produced the country's first Defence Plan 2000 in 1988 after conducting a Security and Technology Environment Review that was lauded in Parliament. It was possible due to the political guidance from RRM Arun Singh and three dynamic service chiefs. The military has always codified its practices, processes, and procedures to be good for institutional memory. So why is the government shy of doing it and using CDS to justify it (The writer, a retired Major General, was Commander, IPKF South, Sri Lanka, and founder member of the Defence Planning Staff, currently the Integrated Defence Staff. The views are personal)

### LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

#### BURDEN OF OVERTOURISM

Madam - Apropos the article, "The global crisis of over-tourism", published on August 5, this is my response. With tourism expanding globally all the time, the term 'overtourism' is becoming a concern, which highlights the spiralling number of visitors taking a toll on cities, landmarks and landscapes. As tourist numbers worldwide returned towards pre-pandemic levels, the debate around what constitutes 'too many' visitors continues. Dealing with overtourism, therefore, has become a priority. But despite the mounting howls of protest, tourism promotion endures and unsustainable hordes of tourists continue to descend on cities, beaches and other natural wonders. In an effort to manage the flow of tourists, some cities have taken drastic measures to limit the effects of overtourism, including the introduction of new revised taxation arrangements and fines linked to new local laws. But it's a fine line to tread. If tourist arrivals see a dramatic decline, it would likely have considerable economic repercussions for those who rely on them. Tourism should be part of the wider destination management system, which must also consider transport and mobility, the preservation of public spaces, the local economy and housing, among other aspects of daily life. Therefore, research, planning and a close dialogue among city administrators, the tourism industry, civil society groups and local residents are essential. Ranganathan Sivakumar | Chennai

#### DEATH OF SENITATION WORKERS

Madam - In the span of last six months, 43 sanitation workers lost their lives while cleaning sewers and septic tanks. These deaths took place despite manual scavenging has been banned and several policy measures have subsequently been put in place to prevent it. The fact is that despite recognising the dehumanising nature of their occupation and understanding how their caste status further

### Djokovic wins gold medal



Djokovic carved out a break point in the second game of the opener and three more in the

fourth, all saved by the Spaniard but the vintaged tennis won the first gold medal for the veteran tennis player. Then it was Serb's turn to demonstrate his famed powers of resilience off three break points in the fifth game and another five in a marathon ninth game. In a roller-coaster duel, Alcaraz served a set point in the 12th game but his senior opponent dominated the tie break to claim the opener after 93 minutes on court Philippe Chartier. There was no let up in the second set and the serve volley game saw veteran Djokovic having greater control in the tie-break to win the game, set, match and the gold medal in a scintillating display of tennis. Jayanthi CK Maniam | Mumbai

#### SHEIKH HASINA RESIGNS

Madam - Now that Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina of Bangladesh has resigned, a new chapter begins in the country's history. This could be a positive sign for a brighter future. On Sunday, fierce clashes in Bangladesh resulted in the deaths of 91 people, and last month, around 150 demonstrated against the government's failure to address conflicts. This illustrates that the government has been too arrogant and stubborn to describe. The Bangladeshi Government lost the touch with ground reality and ignored the concerns of its people. It is not rocket science to implement a few amendments in the quota system, but the government's behavior had been arrogant to say the least. It only confined itself to the welfare of its supporters. There is hope for a prompt restoration of stability in the neighboring country. Jakir Hussain | Kanpur

## Suppressing scientific studies is injurious to nation's health

Limiting scientific inquiry not only jeopardises public safety but also undermines trust in the authorities responsible for managing such crises

The recent instance of the Kerala government's contentious gag order banning scientific institutions from studying the land slide-affected areas of Wayand has been met with resistance from the scientific community and civil society. Hours later, the order was withdrawn at the behest of the state's Chief Minister. But what is still worrying is how a government or a bureaucrat drafts such an insane order restricting the scientific community from undertaking any studies at Meppadi Panchayat, Wayand, where the multiple landslides occurred on the morning of July 30 and airing their views to the media. Whatever has happened in Wayand in the Western Ghats region or the Uttarakhand or Himachal Pradesh in the Himalayan belt is due to the hiding of scientific information from the public. If scientists communicate with the public rather than politicians or policymakers, it brings more validity and acceptance to society. Once we take the public into confidence, it can bring positive changes to society.



These occurrences have emphasised the urgent requirement for thorough catastrophe planning and response methods, encompassing catastrophic earthquakes and tsunamis, industrial mishaps, and pandemics. An essential component in formulating these strategies is the implementation of scientific research carried out at disaster sites. Research conducted at catastrophe sites can improve preparedness and response techniques, ultimately preserving lives and mitigating economic losses in future occurrences. Imposing restrictions on scientific study threatens the general population's safety and erodes people's confidence in the authorities and organisations responsible for managing disasters. Freedom of scientific expression is crucial for all types of scientific research. To

foster the continuous acquisition of knowledge, it is essential to create an atmosphere where scientists can openly communicate their ideas, exchange discoveries, and provide constructive criticism to one another without any concerns about being censored or facing negative consequences. Impeding scientific studies and suppressing the freedom of expression within the scientific community presents a severe danger to the advancement and credibility of Science. Science and scientific facts reveal the truth because researchers conduct systematic studies. In that case, why should one hide it from the media or the public? Unfortunately, every scientist in the country needs approval from their higher-ups to publish a paper or even a popular science article. A committee of few who don't have any work except criticising others oversees the author's creativity. It's a pathetic situation. It's like making things more complicated so that no one dares to venture into new things. Over the past few years, there has been a concerning

increase in the occurrence and severity of catastrophes, including those caused by nature and human activities. These occurrences have emphasised the crucial requirement for thorough catastrophe planning and response methods. During the Joshimath sinking incident, there were reports of ISRO satellite images that showed that many parts of the Himalayas, including the famous Shimla ridge, were sinking. Unfortunately, that report soon vanished from the public domain. Had the information been available, people would be prepared to move from these regions instead of clinging to it. Restricting scientific investigation and hiding the information can lead to misinterpretation by unscrupulous historians, who may distort the true scientific explanations of natural disasters for their interest. This could harm future generations' comprehension of the scientific causes underlying these calamities. (The writer is an adjunct faculty at the National Institute of Advanced Studies, Bengaluru. Views are personal)



BIJU DHARMAPALAN



## FIRST COLUMN

## ACCEPTANCE - THE KEY TO REDUCING SUFFERING

When we accept reality, our anger tends to decrease and the pain subsides considerably



BY RAJYOGI BRAHMAKUMAR NIKUNJ JI

If you ask anyone what is suffering? they would simply say that it is something that's caused by or is a result of negative events that happen in our life. However, this is not so, because in an actual sense, suffering is never what happens, it is how you feel about what happens in your life. We must understand that suffering is a feeling and our strongest feelings are nothing but our emotions, and when emotions get negative, they give pain. So, in simple words, suffering is our resistance to our negative emotions and our pain. It's a pain about our pain. Hence, we must understand the fact that suffering is the result of OUR emotions and not the events of our Lives.

We all experience pain in our day-to-day lives because it's inevitable and it is a part of being human. However, how many of us have pondered over this philosophical question of life – "What Causes Us PAIN?" or "What is the Cause of Our Negative Emotions?". Our pain might stem from losing a dear one, losing our job, a bad breakup, a fatal accident or undergoing any other kind of trauma or situation. However, when we hide from facing or accepting reality, we create suffering. Therefore, it should be clearly understood that we are the sole creator of good and bad in our lives and hence it's futile to blame others by saying things like — "It's not fair, why Me? This shouldn't have happened with me at least or I can't bear this anymore! etc...."



There is a deep instinct in most of us to fight the pain we experience deep within, however, in most cases it backfires and we end up experiencing double the pain. The reason behind this is our tendency to avoid and, in some cases, hide our pain or pretend that it isn't present. Deep within we might ruminate about our suffering, without doing anything about it because of our stubbornness to accept it openly.

A wise person would instead accept the reality and become light instead of getting heavy on the mind because accepting simply means that you stop trying to deny your reality and you acknowledge it because sometimes accepting the painful emotions can reduce our suffering because we are no longer running from them or pushing them away. It however does not mean that you approve of a situation or that you don't want it to change, it's all about reducing our suffering, so if you have been hurt by someone, it's best to accept that YES you were hurt and then move on with your life rather than pondering over why, how, what.... Remember! To forgive or not is each one's prerogative, but acceptance is necessary for moving forward in life or else we would get stuck in a quagmire of wasted thoughts.

Once we accept reality, our anger tends to decrease and the painful situation loses the power it has over us. There is no denying the fact that emotional pain is an intrinsic part of all our lives, however, we create needless suffering when we don't accept reality. When we practice acceptance, we let ourselves move on, we open the door to freedom and we take steps to improve our lives. Most of us may find it hard to accept reality and still prefer to wait for time and situations to change, however in doing so, we forget that time does not heal everything, but acceptance will heal everything.

(The writer is a spiritual educator and popular columnist views are personal)

## Need for rationalising taxes on fertilisers



UTTAM GUPTA

The GST Council, responsible for tax rate decisions has yet to resolve the tax discrepancies despite multiple discussions and recommendations

For over five years now, the fertilizer industry has been facing an 'inverted duty structure'. Inverted duty structure refers to a situation in which raw materials (RMs) are taxed at a higher rate than finished products in whose manufacture these are used. But, there was little that the Budget presented by the Union Finance Minister (UFM) Nirmala Sitharaman on July 23, 2024, could do to address it.

Fertilizers and RMs used in their making are mostly taxed under the GST (Goods and Services Tax) regime. The GST Council - headed by the UFM that includes finance ministers from all States and UTs - has the mandate to fix tax rates besides deciding the procedures for registration, payment of taxes, GST return filing, and other related matters. So, the responsibility for fixing any anomalies in their taxation also lies with the GST Council.

The issue was discussed in the 45th (September 2021) and 47th (June 2022) meetings of the GST Council; but no decision could be taken.

Meanwhile, on August 9, 2023, the Standing Committee on Chemicals and Fertilisers recommended that the Union Government propose to the GST Council to reduce tax rates on fertilizers as well as RMs used in their making. In its 53rd meeting held on June 22, 2024, the Council referred the matter to the Group of Ministers (GoM) on rate rationalization to a take holistic view.

At the outset, let us look at the present structure of taxing fertilizers.

To make fertilizers affordable to farmers, the government controls their maximum retail price (MRP) at a low level, unrelated to the cost of production and distribution, and reimburses the excess of the cost over MRP as a subsidy to the manufacturers. In the case of urea, the MRP is about one-tenth of the cost, whereas for all other fertilizers, the price is nearly one-third.

When the government spends heavily from its budget to make fertilizers available to farmers at a fraction of their cost, it makes no sense to impose a tax on them. This increases the cost, only to be reimbursed as an additional subsidy, to the manufacturers. It is a typical case of taking from one hand and giving back from the other.

Two major components of the fertilizer supply chain are taxed under two different regimes: one under GST and the other under the pre-GST regime. All finished fertilizers such as Urea, di-ammonium phosphate (DAP), ammonium sulphate etc are taxed under GST at 5 per cent. Most RMs such as sulfuric acid, ammonia, phosphoric acid etc (these are used for making DAP and other complex fertilizers) are also covered under GST. While sulfuric acid and ammonia are levied 18 per cent GST, phosphoric acid attracts 12 per cent tax.

However, natural gas (NG), used for the manufacture of all domestic urea, is taxed under the pre-GST regime. Electricity, a utility intrinsic to the fertilizer-making process, is also kept outside GST.

GST is a single nationwide tax with a provision for set-off tax paid on inputs. It subsumes within it more than a dozen taxes from the pre-GST era, namely cen-



WHEN THE GOVERNMENT SPENDS HEAVILY FROM ITS BUDGET TO MAKE FERTILISERS AVAILABLE TO FARMERS AT A FRACTION OF THEIR COST, IT MAKES NO SENSE TO IMPOSE A TAX ON THEM. THIS INCREASES THE COST, ONLY TO BE REIMBURSED AS AN ADDITIONAL SUBSIDY, TO THE MANUFACTURERS

tral excise duty (CED), service tax, and sales tax/value-added tax (VAT). The Constitutional Amendment Act of 2016 on GST, while providing for the inclusion of NG (besides other petroleum products such as petrol, diesel, ATF etc) under its ambit, kept it 'zero-rated' meaning it continues to be under the pre-GST regime. The GST Council has put fixing the rate for NG (besides ATF) on its agenda umpteen times only to defer it.

Taxing under pre-GST results in a cascading effect on the cost of NG and electricity. Gas companies like Oil and Natural Gas Corporation (ONGC) and Oil India Limited (OIL) are outside the GST ambit and can't claim credit for the taxes paid on their purchases of inputs, consumables, and equipment, leading to a higher price. Even as NG attracts nil CED on supplies to fertilizer plants, its delivered cost is boosted by VAT, which can be as high as 24.5 per cent in Andhra Pradesh (AP).

Other local taxes, for instance, Gujarat's "purchase tax" on that portion of inputs consumed for making urea that is sold outside the state, also add to the cost. In the case of electricity, power companies don't get any credit for taxes paid on inputs viz., equipment, stores, and so on, used in its generation and distribution, leading to higher costs.

Further, under the Constitution, entry 53 in the State List of the Seventh Schedule empowers states to impose tax (or electricity duty) on the sale and consumption of electricity, except

when it is consumed by the Union Government or the Railways. For electricity duty, too, electricity companies don't get any offset. This further exacerbates the cost of power supplied to fertilizer plants.

Even in areas where the materials are covered under GST hence, no cost cascading effect, the inverted tax structure plays a spoiler. The higher GST levied on ammonia/sulfuric acid/phosphoric acid as against much lower GST on finished fertilizers results in an 'unabsorbed' input tax credit (ITC), as the output tax falls far short of the input tax. The situation gets exacerbated because of the government's control over the MRP of fertilizers at a low level.

Considering that the cost of making fertilizer available to farmers (sans taxes) by itself is substantially higher than the price the Union Government wants them to pay, ideally, it shouldn't levy any tax as the proceeds from such levy will have to be paid back as an additional subsidy. Even if it wants to levy, ideally, all components in the supply chain have to be brought under GST and fertilizers, and all inputs and RMs should be in the lowest tax slab of 5 per cent.

While the tax rate on fertilizers is already 5 per cent, this will require lowering the tax rate on all RMs viz. ammonia/sulfuric acid/phosphoric acid from the current 18/12 per cent to 5 per cent. The tax on micronutrients such as zinc (Zn), boron (B), manganese (Mn), iron (Fe) etc should also be lowered from the

existing 12-18 per cent to 5 per cent in line with the recommendation of the Standing Committee as their importance for plant growth and ensuring balanced nutrient use. NG and power should be brought under GST and taxed at @5 per cent. Lowering tax on RMs by itself won't address the problem of unabsorbed ITC. This is because the MRP of finished fertilizers is substantially lower than the cost, even with the same GST, tax paid on RMs/inputs would still be higher than output tax liability. This can be resolved only when the government gives subsidies to farmers under direct benefit transfer (DBT) and lets manufacturers charge full price from the farmers.

Lowering tax on ammonia/sulfuric acid/phosphoric acid on supplies to fertilizer manufacturers to accommodate their special needs but leaving GST on supplies to other industries such as detergents, paints, dyes, plastics, etc unchanged can lead to large-scale diversion and misuse as it is impossible to track every grain of supply and ensure that it is used for the intended purpose. We have seen this happening in the case of urea where setting its MRP at a low level prompts diversion.

Diversion/misuse is inevitable in any regime of differential taxation/pricing based on the end use of the product. The only way to prevent it and yet meet the intended objective is DBT. Well, this is shaping up!

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

## India's abolition of Angel tax: A major boost for startups and investment

The removal of this tax, combined with procedural simplifications, promises to create a more dynamic and supportive environment for startups

Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman, in her seventh Budget, has proposed to abolish the Angel Tax, a significant move aimed at bolstering the Indian startup ecosystem. This tax had long been a contentious issue between startups and the Income Tax Department, acting as a major hindrance to growth and investment.

The abolition of this tax, if coupled with procedural simplifications, could indeed be a game-changer, fostering a more vibrant and dynamic startup ecosystem that encourages innovation and entrepreneurship. The Angel Tax, essentially a tax on capital raised by unlisted companies through the issue of



B K JHA

shares, was introduced under Section 56(2)(viii) of the Income Tax Act, 1961. It taxed investments above the fair market value of a company as 'Income from other sources', primarily affecting angel investors. The excess realization was considered income and taxed accordingly. This provision, while well-intentioned to curb money laundering, ended up stifling

genuine investments and became a nightmare for startups. The abolition of this tax removes a significant barrier that has long hindered the growth of startups and discouraged investment. Startups can now raise capital without the looming fear of being taxed on perceived excess valuations, which often did not account for the future growth prospects and potential of these young companies.

This move aligns with the government's broader agenda of promoting innovation, employment, education, skilling, and research. The abolition of the Angel Tax is expected to boost the entire startup ecosystem by making it easier for startups to attract investments.

This, in turn, will stimulate economic growth and job creation. For instance, the comprehensive digitalization of taxpayer services and the simplification of the GST tax structure are indicative of the government's commitment to digitalization, which will benefit tech startups across various fields such as education, health-care, and taxation. India has been a global leader in creating successful entrepreneurship opportunities in recent years.

The investor community, including high-net-worth individuals (HNIs), foreign funds, venture capitalists, and angel investors, has remained bullish on the growth potential of the Indian startup ecosystem.



However, the Angel Tax had cast a shadow over this optimism, causing significant distress among startups and investors alike. While the government's initiatives such as Startup India, Stand-up India, and Digital India have provided a favourable environment for startups, the Angel Tax was a significant pain point. The Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT) had even

shaken the startup ecosystem by directly deducting income tax under Section 68 from the bank accounts of certain startups on unexplained cash credits. The abolition of the Angel Tax, coupled with the recent notification simplifying compliance procedures, reflects the government's responsiveness to the concerns of the startup community.

Startups no longer need to procure a fair market value certificate issued by a merchant banker or seek approval from an inter-ministerial board. Instead, they can request angel tax exemption from the Department of Industrial Policy & Promotion (DIPP) with the necessary supporting documents.

The CBDT is mandated to respond to such applications within 45 days, providing much-needed clarity and certainty to startups. While the abolition of the Angel Tax is a significant step forward, its impact will depend on the implementation and further simplifications of procedures. The focus should be on creating a startup-friendly regulatory environment that encourages investment and innovation. The government's emphasis on digital public infrastructure and the digitalization of the economy will also play a crucial role in supporting tech startups and fostering a culture of innovation. Overall, the abolition of the Angel Tax is a welcome move that promis-

es to remove a significant barrier to startup growth and investment. However, for this initiative to truly be a game-changer, it must be accompanied by procedural simplifications and a supportive regulatory environment.

The government's continued focus on innovation, digitalization, and economic growth will be crucial in realizing the full potential of this policy change. This could very well mark the beginning of a new era for the Indian startup ecosystem, driving innovation, entrepreneurship, and economic growth in the years to come.

(The author is a senior journalist and the views expressed are personal)



# Judge in Trump's hush money case delays date for ruling on presidential immunity

AP ■ NEW YORK

The judge in Donald Trump's hush money trial is pushing back a date for a key ruling on presidential immunity until two days before Trump's scheduled sentencing.

The immunity decision had been due September 6, with the sentencing set for September 18. But then Trump's lawyers asked Judge Juan M. Merchan last week to rule first on their renewed bid to get the judge to step aside from the case.

In a letter made public on Tuesday, Judge Juan M. Merchan postponed the immunity ruling to September 16 — if it's still needed after he decides next week whether to recuse himself.

Merchan said the Republican presidential nominee is still due in court September 18 for "the imposition of sentence or other proceedings as appropriate".

Trump lawyer Todd Blanche and the Manhattan district attorney's office, which is prosecuting the case, declined to comment.

A jury found Trump guilty in May of falsifying business



records to conceal a deal to pay off porn actor Stormy Daniels shortly before the 2016 election. At the time, she was considering going public with a story of a sexual encounter with Trump a decade earlier. Trump's former lawyer Michael Cohen paid Daniels and was later reimbursed by Trump, whose company logged the repayment as legal expenses. Prosecutors said that was an effort to disguise the true nature of the transactions and the underlying hush money deal. Trump denies Daniels' claim, maintains he did nothing

wrong and says the case is politically motivated. Manhattan DA Alvin Bragg is a Democrat. Trump's lawyers say the Supreme Court's July ruling on presidential immunity warrants overturning the May guilty verdict and entirely dismissing the hush money case against Trump. The defence also contends that the trial was "tainted" by evidence that should not have been allowed under the high court's ruling, such as testimony from some Trump White House staffers and tweets he sent while president in 2018.

The high court's ruling curbs prosecutions of ex-presidents for official acts and restricts prosecutors in pointing to official acts as evidence that a commander in chief's unofficial actions were illegal.

The Manhattan district attorney's office maintains that a commander in chief's unofficial actions were illegal.

The defence also contends that the trial was "tainted" by evidence that should not have been allowed under the high court's ruling, such as testimony from some Trump White House staffers and tweets he sent while president in 2018.

# Indian mission in UK issues safety advisory amid violent clashes

PTI ■ LONDON

The High Commission of India in London on Tuesday issued a safety advisory for Indian nationals to "stay vigilant and exercise due caution" amid ongoing violent clashes which have targeted immigrants and asylum-seekers in parts of the UK since last week. The advisory posted on the social media channels of the Indian mission also provides emergency contact information for anyone in need of urgent assistance. It comes a week after the fatal stabbing of three young girls in Southport, north-west England, and incorrect social media claims over the UK-born suspect's asylum-seeker status.

"Indian travellers would be aware of recent disturbances in some parts of the United Kingdom. The High Commission of India in London is closely monitoring the situation," reads the message entitled 'Advisory for

Indian Citizens Visiting the UK?'

"Visitors from India are advised to stay vigilant and exercise due caution while travelling in the UK. It is advisable to follow local news and advisories issued by local security agencies, and to avoid areas where protests are underway," it added. The contact provided for India House at Aldwych, London, in case of an emergency is: +44-2078369147 and inf.london@mea.gov.in. Birmingham in the north and Plymouth in southern England witnessed the latest scenes of clashes between two sets of protesters overnight on Monday.

A man is in a serious condition in hospital after being attacked in a suspected hate crime in Belfast, Northern Ireland, and police officers were attacked with bricks in Darlington, northern England.

The British government said it has accelerated its plans to deal with prison capacity

to ensure sufficient space for an expected rise in prisoners due to rioting after hundreds of arrests have been made.

"I think we have seen serious acts of violence designed to cause terror to a section of our community," Neil Basu, the former head of counter-terrorism policing, told the BBC. Basu also blamed social media companies for not taking tough enough action to clampdown on misinformation and said "we should be appealing" to advertisers to cut the funding of social media giants if responsibility was not exercised.

Meanwhile, the UK's National Crime Agency (NCA) and Department for Science, Innovation and Technology are investigating the role of foreign state actors amplifying misinformation and disinformation about the UK riots, including cracking down on automated online bots.

"Clearly we have seen bot activity online, much of which may

well be amplified with the involvement of state actors amplifying some of the disinformation and misinformation that we've seen," said Prime Minister Keir Starmer's official spokesperson, but declined to say which states may be involved.

On Monday after a high-level COBRA security meeting, Starmer pledged a "standing army" of specialist officers to stamp out the riots across several cities in the country, which he has termed as "far-right thuggery."

"I've asked for the early consideration of the earliest naming and identification of those involved in the process, who will feel the full force of the law," he said.

Many of his own Labour Party MPs and Opposition members are calling for Parliament to be recalled from its summer recess to debate the issue, but Starmer has so far insisted the government needs to focus on restoring calm on the streets.

# At least 24 killed in hotel owned by Awami League leader in B'desh

PTI ■ DHAKA

At least 24 people, including an Indonesian national, were burnt alive by a mob in Bangladesh at a starred hotel owned by a leader of Awami League party after its leader Sheikh Hasina resigned as prime minister and fled the country, local journalists and hospital sources said on Tuesday.

The victims, mostly boarders, were burnt alive late on Monday night as the mob set afire Zabir International Hotel owned by district Awami League general secretary Shahin Chakkladar in Joshor district. "The dead included an Indonesian national," a local journalist told PTI in Dhaka over phone. He added the doctors at Joshor General Hospital confirmed they counted 24 bodies while surviving hotel staff feared more bodies could be found inside the debris.

Media reports suggested unidentified mob, opposed to the Awami League (AL) regime, set the ground floor of the hotel on fire which quick-



ly spread to the upper floors. There were almost identical reports from across the country where the angry mob simultaneously vandalised residences and business establishments of many Awami League leaders and activists, including its central office in

Bangabandhu Avenue in the capital. Bangladesh descended into chaos on Monday after Hasina resigned, surreptitiously fled the country and landed in India while the army stepped in to fill the power vacuum. As the news of Hasina's departure spread, Dhaka and other

parts of the country saw fresh round of violence in the already battered South Asian nation with mobs resorting to street violence, vandalising government property and even breaking into Hasina's government residence and looting the interiors.

# US urges its citizens not to travel to Bangladesh

PTI ■ WASHINGTON

The United States on Tuesday recommended its citizens not to travel to Bangladesh, witnessing civil unrest, crime, and terrorism following the resignation and fleeing of former prime minister Sheikh Hasina.

Elevating its travel advisory to the highest 'Level 4: Do Not Travel' category, the US State Department has also recommended the departure of non-emergency US government employees and family members. Over 100 people have been killed in the violence across Bangladesh as chaos reigned supreme hours after Hasina resigned as prime minister and fled the country on Monday, amid signs of a return to normalcy.

"On August 5, 2024, the Department ordered the departure of non-emergency US government employees and family members. Travellers should not travel to Bangladesh due to ongoing civil unrest in Dhaka," the State Department said in its advisory.

Travellers should be aware of petty crimes such as pickpocketing in crowded areas, the advisory said, adding that crimes such as muggings, burglaries, assaults, and illegal drug trafficking constitute the majority of criminal activity in Bangladesh's major cities, but there are no indications foreigners are being targeted because of their nationality. These crimes tend to be situational, based on time and location, it said.

According to the travel advisory, terrorist attacks can happen with little or no warning, with terrorists targeting public areas such as tourist locations, transportation hubs, markets/shopping malls, restaurants, places of worship, school campuses, and government facilities.

"Because of security concerns, US Embassy personnel in Bangladesh are subject to some movement and travel restrictions. The US government may have limited ability to provide emergency services to US citizens in Bangladesh due to these travel restrictions, a lack of infrastructure, and limited host government emergency response resources," it added.



Britain's Prime Minister Keir Starmer welcomes Sultan Haitham bin Tariq Al Said, the Sultan of Oman to 10 Downing Street in London on Tuesday. AP/PTI

# Kamala Harris picks Minnesota Gov Tim Walz as running mate

PTI ■ WASHINGTON

US Vice President Kamala Harris, who is of Indian and African heritage, has formally secured the Democratic presidential nomination becoming the first Indian-American to win the nomination from a major political party and chose Minnesota Gov Tim Walz as her running mate on Tuesday.

Harris, 59, would face Republican presidential candidate and former president Donald Trump, 78, in the general elections scheduled to be held on November 5.

Harris picked Minnesota Governor Tim Walz, 60, to be her running mate on Tuesday morning ahead of the Philadelphia rally, Washington Post said quoting sources.

Walz has served 12 years in Congress before he became Minnesota governor in 2018. Earlier last month, Harris abruptly thrust into the role of presidential candidate after President Joe Biden withdrew from the race for the White



House. Harris' nomination became official on Monday night after she received 99 per cent of the votes of the pledged and automatic delegates at the conclusion of the roll call vote after a five-day round of online balloting by Democratic National Convention delegates. As many as 4,567 delegates from across the country cast their vote for Harris.

The next steps in the nominating process include the certification of the roll call by the

Democratic National Convention (DNC) secretary Jason Rae, and the acceptance of the nomination by Harris and her running mate, certified by DNC Chair (DNCC) Minyon Moore.

The Convention is to be held in Chicago from August 19 to 22. "With the support of 99 per cent of all participating delegates in the virtual roll call, Vice President Harris has historic momentum at her back as we embark on the final steps in officially certifying her as our party's nominee," DNC chair Jaime Harrison and DNCC chair Minyon Moore said in a joint statement.

Last Friday, Harris was declared the 2024 presidential nominee of the ruling Democratic Party after she won enough votes from Democratic delegates in a virtual roll call. A step away from breaking the last glass ceiling of the United States, Harris became the first ever woman of colour to be on the top of a presidential ticket of a major American political party.

# 8 Palestinians killed in West Bank as world leaders try to avoid regional war

AP ■ JERUSALEM

Israeli fire during military raids in the occupied West Bank killed eight Palestinians, including four teenagers, and wounded another seven, Palestinian officials said Tuesday, as world leaders try to stop tensions in the Middle East from boiling over into a regional war.

An Israeli airstrike on a village in southern Lebanon killed four people, the country's Health Ministry said. Later Tuesday, Lebanon's Hezbollah launched a drone attack on northern Israel, wounding five people, in response to the killing of one of its fighters. Israel and Hezbollah have exchanged near-daily strikes for the past 10 months during the war in Gaza.

Leaders in Egypt and Türkiye say they are exhausting all avenues possible to prevent the Israel-Hamas war from becoming a wider regional conflict after the killings of a senior Hezbollah commander in Lebanon and Hamas' top political leader in Iran. But Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu told his Cabinet over the weekend that Israel is already in a "multi-front war" with Iran and its proxies.

The only corridor for humanitarian aid to enter southern Gaza has been shut down, apparently because of fighting in the area. The Palestinian territory has been plunged into a severe humanitarian crisis in

# Hezbollah launches drone attack in northern Israel

Lebanon's Hezbollah launched a drone attack Tuesday on northern Israel, wounding at least seven people, in response to the killing of one of its fighters in an Israeli airstrike.

The attack did not appear to be linked to Hezbollah's vow to avenge the killing of one of its top commanders in an Israeli airstrike in Beirut the previous week, which has raised fears of an all-out war.

Hezbollah has launched nearly-daily drone and rocket attacks since the start of the Gaza war in what it says is an act of solidarity with the Palestinians. Israel has responded with airstrikes, one of which killed four people in southern Lebanon earlier Tuesday, according to Lebanese authorities. Hezbollah said it launched a drone attack targeting army bases in northern Israel in retaliation for the killing of a lower-level commander in a strike late Monday. Gal Zaid, spokesperson for Galilee Medical Center,

said it was treating one severely wounded person and four others with mild injuries. Israel's Magen David Adom rescue service said it was treating seven wounded in three locations in Western Galilee. The Israeli military said "a number" of drones entered from Lebanon, one of which was intercepted. It said several civilians were wounded near the coastal town of Nahariya, some 6 kilometres south of the border, without giving a precise

location. The Israeli military said "a number" of drones entered from Lebanon, one of which was intercepted. It said several civilians were wounded near the coastal town of Nahariya, some 6 kilometres south of the border, without giving a precise

# Attack on Iraqi military base injures US personnel

AP ■ WASHINGTON

Several US personnel were injured in a suspected rocket attack at a military base in Iraq, US defense officials said Monday, in what has been a recent uptick in strikes on American forces by Iranian-backed militias.

The attack comes as tensions across the Middle East are spiking following the killings last week of a senior Hezbollah commander in Lebanon and Hamas' top political leader in Iran, in suspected Israeli strikes. Both groups are backed by Iran. The US defense officials said troops at al-Asad air base were still assessing the injuries and damage, and it appeared that as many as seven military troops and civilians were injured. Earlier Monday, Iraqi security officials confirmed the attack, but no group has claimed responsibility.

The American officials said the US looked into reports of a possible second attack at the base but determined there had not been another one. The officials spoke on condition of anonymity to discuss military operations. The White House said the president and vice president were briefed on the attack.

# UN fires additional staffers after probe finds potential involvement in attack on Israel

AP ■ JERUSALEM

The United Nations said Monday it has fired additional staff members from its agency for Palestinian refugees after an internal investigation found they may have been involved in the Hamas-led October 7 attack against Israel. The UN secretary-general's office announced the move in a brief statement to journalists. Farhan Haq, Deputy Spokesperson for the Secretary-General, did not elaborate on the UNRWA staffers' likely role in the attack or on the evidence that prompted its decision. UNRWA previously fired 12

staffers and put seven staffers on administrative leave without pay over the claims. The group of nine staffers the UN announced it had fired Monday includes some from each group, said Juliette Touma, communications director for UNRWA.

The UN did not clarify how many have now been fired from the agency in total. The UN's internal watchdog has been investigating the agency since Israel in January accused 12 UNRWA staffers of being involved in the October 7 attack on Israel, in which militants killed 1,200 people and abducted some 250 others. Israel's allegations initially led

top donor countries to suspend their funding for UNRWA. That caused a cash crunch of about USD 450 million dollars. Since then, all donor countries, except for the US have decided to resume funding.

Oren Marmorstein, the spokesperson for Israel's Ministry of Foreign Affairs, wrote on X following the announcement of the firings that Israel was again calling for donor countries to suspend funding "as the funds may go to terrorist elements."

"UNRWA is part of the problem and not part of the solution, and anyone who seeks the best interests of Israel, the Gaza Strip and the region

should act to replace UNRWA's activities with other agencies," he wrote.

The UN watchdog charged with investigating UNRWA, called the Office of Internal Oversight Services, said it drew on evidence provided by Israel in discussions with Israeli authorities. It said it could not independently corroborate that evidence since it did not have direct access to it. The investigators also reviewed internal UNRWA information, including staff records, email and other communications data. It said it found sufficient evidence pointing to nine employees' potential involvement in the October 7 attack.



# N-disarmament must be tackled as a pressing issue: Hiroshima Guv

AP ■ TOKYO

Hiroshima officials urged world leaders Tuesday to stop relying on nuclear weapons as deterrence and take immediate action toward abolishment — not as an ideal, but to remove the risk of atomic war amid conflicts in Ukraine and the Middle East and rising tensions in East Asia. They commented as Hiroshima remembered its atomic bombing 79 years ago at the end of World War II. The

memorial comes days after Japan and the US reaffirmed Washington's commitment to "extended deterrence," which includes atomic weapons, to protect its Asian ally. That is a shift from Japan's past reluctance to openly discuss the sensitive issue as the world's only country to have suffered atomic attacks. Hiroshima Gov. Hidehiko Yuzaki said nuclear-armed nations and supporters of atomic deterrence "deliberately ignore ... the fact that once

people invented a weapon, they used it without exception." "As long as nuclear weapons exist, they will surely be used again someday," Yuzaki said in his address at the Hiroshima Peace Memorial Park. "Nuclear weapons abolition is not an ideal to achieve far in the future. Instead, it is a pressing and real issue that we should desperately engage in at this moment since nuclear problems involve an imminent risk to human survival," he said. Hiroshima Mayor Kazumi

Matsui said Russia's war on Ukraine and the worsening conflict between Israel and Palestinians are "deepening distrust and fear among nations" and reinforcing a view that use of force in settling conflict is unavoidable. The atomic bomb dropped by the United States on Hiroshima on August 6, 1945, destroyed the city, killing 140,000 people. A second bomb dropped three days later on Nagasaki killed 70,000 more. Japan surrendered on August 15, ending

World War II and Japan's nearly half-century aggression in Asia. About 50,000 people at the ceremony observed a minute of silence with the sound of a peace bell at 8:15 am, the time when a US B-29 dropped the bomb on the city. Hundreds of white doves, considered symbols of peace, were released. Prime Minister Fumio Kishida, who attended the ceremony, said global conflicts and divided views over approaches to nuclear disarmament make

achieving that goal "all the more challenging," but pledged to do his utmost in pursuing "realistic and practical measures" to build momentum within the international community. His critics say it is a hollow promise because Japan relies on the US nuclear umbrella for protection and has been rapidly expanding its military. Japan, the United States and other regional allies have been stepping up security cooperation in response to a more assertive China and the

growing nuclear and missile threats from North Korea. Japan has sought stronger US protection by its nuclear capability. Many survivors of the bombings have lasting injuries and illnesses resulting from the explosions and radiation exposure and have faced discrimination in Japan. As of March, 106,823 survivors — 6,824 fewer than a year ago, and now with an average age of 85.58 — are certified as eligible for government medical support, according to the Health

and Welfare Ministry. Many others, including those who say they were victims of the radioactive "black rain" that fell outside the initially designated areas of Hiroshima and Nagasaki, are still without support. Hiroshima officials called on Kishida's government to do more to provide support and address their wishes. The aging survivors, known as "hibakusha," continue to push for a nuclear arms ban as they desperately campaign to have their effort kept alive by younger generations.

## Strategically important Myanmar military HQ appears to fall to the resistance

AP ■ BANGKOK

Myanmar's military regime acknowledged Monday it had lost communications with the commanders of a strategically important army headquarters in the northeast, adding credence to a militia group's claims it had captured the base.

The fall of the army's Northeast Command in Lashio city would be the biggest in a series of setbacks for Myanmar's military government this year, as an offensive by an alliance of powerful militias of ethnic minority groups makes broad gains in the civil war.

"The regime's loss of the Northeast Command is the most humiliating defeat of the war," said Morgan Michaels, a Singapore-based analyst with the International Institute of Strategic Studies who runs its Myanmar Conflict Map project. "Without Lashio, it will be extremely difficult for the regime to hold onto its final outposts in the theatre."

Those include the key Muse border crossing with China, as well as the strategic crossroads at Kyaukse, and it opens the way for attacks on Pyin Oo Lwin and Myanmar's second-largest city, Mandalay, Michaels said.

In a video broadcast Monday night on state television, the head of the ruling military council, Senior Gen. Min Aung Hlaing, gave a vague account of the base's fall, saying some security forces in northern Shan State left their outposts because keeping people safe was their priority.

In his 25-minute address, he accused the ethnic resistance forces and "traitor maggots" inside and outside Myanmar of working together and circulating propaganda to demoralize people.

He alleged that warlordism is growing among leaders of the insurgent groups, and that people are likely to face illegal and unjust killings and an economy involving drug trafficking and gambling. The army will continue to carry out security measures to restore stability, he said.

The loss of Lashio raises questions about whether Myanmar's ruling military council could be forced to give up attempts to hold contested territory in order to consolidate a defense of the central heartland.

It could also contribute to growing discontent with Min Aung Hlaing, who seized power after leading the overthrow of Aung San Suu Kyi in

2021. "It seems increasingly unlikely that the army could survive with Min Aung Hlaing at the helm," Michaels said.

Lashio, about 110 kilometers (70 miles) south of the Chinese border, has been the target of an offensive by the Myanmar National Democratic Alliance Army since early July.

The MNDAA is a military force of the Kokang minority, who are ethnic Chinese. It is part of the Three Brotherhood Alliance, which in October launched a surprise offensive that succeeded in seizing large tracts of territory along the northern border with China. The Chinese Embassy in Myanmar on Tuesday urged its citizens in Lashio and other parts of Shan state to strengthen their security precautions, and stay away from conflict zones or return to China.

Beijing helped broker a ceasefire in January, but that fell apart in June when the Taang National Liberation Army, another member of the Three Brotherhood Alliance made up of Taang ethnic minority members, launched new attacks, followed by the MNDAA.

The alliance's third member, the Arakan Army, has never stopped fighting in its home

Rakhine State in western Myanmar.

The groups in the alliance have been fighting for decades for greater autonomy from Myanmar's central government. They are loosely allied with People's Defense Forces, pro-democracy resistance groups that have emerged to fight military rule.

The MNDAA initially claimed the capture of the Northeast Command and Lashio on July 25, but it turned out the announcement was premature as the army continued to fight. The MNDAA in a statement on Facebook on Saturday said the group had finally completely captured the Northeast Command headquarters and defeated the remaining army units in Lashio.

The claims could not be verified independently, with access to the internet and mobile phone services in the area mostly cut off.

A member of Lashio's Freedom Youth Volunteers-FYV, reached while outside the city, told The Associated Press on Monday that other members of his aid group had reported army personnel remained in control of some areas of the Northeast Command headquarters, though most had been taken by the MNDAA.

## Gunmen kill New Zealand chopper pilot in Papua region

AP ■ JAYAPURA (INDONESIA)

Gunmen stormed a helicopter and killed its New Zealand pilot shortly after it landed in Indonesia's restive Papua region on Monday, and they released two health workers and two children it was carrying, police said.

Glen Malcolm Conning, a pilot for Indonesian aviation company PT Intan Angkasa Air Service, was shot to death by gunmen allegedly with the West Papua Liberation Army, the armed wing of the Free Papua Movement, after landing in Alama, a remote village in the Mimika district of Central Papua province, said Faizal Ramadhani, a National Police member who heads the joint security peace force in Papua.

The gunmen released the Indigenous Papuan passengers and set fire to the plane, he said. "All passengers were safe because they were local residents of Alama village," said

Ramadhani, adding that the village is in a mountainous district that can be reached only by helicopter. A joint security force was deployed to search for the attackers, who ran into the dense jungle.

New Zealand's Foreign Ministry confirmed late Tuesday that Conning had been killed. Consular officials in Jakarta were working with authorities to "understand more about the circumstances" surrounding the helicopter pilot's death, the ministry said in a statement.

West Papua Liberation Army spokesperson Sebby Sambom told The Associated Press he had not received any reports from fighters on the ground about the killing.

"But, if that happens, it was his own fault for entering our forbidden territory," Sambom said. "We have released warnings several times that the area is under our restricted zone, an armed conflict area that is pro-

hibited for any civilian aircraft to land."

Sambom called on Indonesian authorities to stop all development in Papua until the government is willing to negotiate with the rebels, and "if anyone disobeys, they must bear the risk themselves."

Conflicts between Indigenous Papuans and Indonesian security forces are common in the impoverished Papua region, a former Dutch colony in the western part of New Guinea that is ethnically and culturally distinct from much of Indonesia. Conflict has spiked in the past year, with dozens of rebels, security forces and civilians killed. Monday's killing was the latest violence against New Zealand nationals in the Papua region.

In February 2023, Egianus Kogoya, a regional commander in the Free Papua Movement, abducted Philip Mark Mehrtens, a pilot from Christchurch who was working for Indonesian

aviation company Susi Air. Kogoya and his troops stormed a single-engine plane shortly after it landed on a small runway in a mountainous village. Planning to use the pilot to negotiate, Kogoya has said they won't release Mehrtens unless Indonesia frees Papua as a sovereign country.

In 2020, seven employees of PT Freeport Indonesia, including a New Zealand miner, Graeme Thomas Wall from Ngaruawahia, were attacked by gunmen in a parking area in Tembagapura, a mining town. Wall was shot in his chest and died. Papua was incorporated into Indonesia in 1969 after a UN-sponsored ballot that was widely seen as a sham. Since then, a low-level insurgency has simmered in the mineral-rich region, which is divided into six provinces. Flying is the only practical way to access many areas in the mountainous easternmost provinces of Papua and West Papua.

## Pak's NA passes bill restricting independent lawmakers from joining other parties

PTI ■ ISLAMABAD

Pakistan's National Assembly on Tuesday passed a bill seeking to bar independent lawmakers from joining a party after a stipulated period, with the jailed former prime minister Imran Khan's party voicing a strong protest against it. The Election Act Amendment Bill 2024 was moved by ruling Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz (PML-N) members Bilal Kayani and Zeb Jafar and passed by the National Assembly with a majority vote despite protest by opposition Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI). The amendment changed Sections 66 and 104 of the Elections Act 2017, restricting independent candidates from joining political parties after a constitutionally and legally defined period.

It states that parties failing to submit a list of reserved seats within the specified period will not be eligible for those seats. It further stipulates that candidates who do not submit an affidavit of party affiliation to the returning officer will be considered independent, and their declaration of party affiliation after elections will not be recognised.

When the bill was taken up for voting, the opposition members stood on their seats and started protesting and sloganeering. They came in front of the speaker's dais, tore copies of the bill, and raised slogans "Bill Rejected" and "Attack on Judiciary and Democracy Rejected" and decried the government. PTI's Ali Muhammad Khan proposed an amendment to the Election Act, which was rejected by the house when Law Minister Azam Nazeer Tarar opposed it.

Later, addressing the House, Ali Muhammad termed the amendment to the Election Act unconstitutional and questioned how the party could be deprived of its rights given by the Supreme Court.

"The Election Act Amendment Bill is a politically motivated attempt to deprive the PTI of reserved seats," he added.

Ali Muhammad said the PTI would move the Supreme Court against the legislation, which, he said, would reject it because this bill is not legislation but a manifestation of the fascist approach of a political party.

He added that the Parliament was used to attack the Supreme Court through this law. Law Minister Tarar said 81

members took oath as members of the Sunni Ittehad Council (SIC) and now are saying they are members of another party.

The minister said the purpose of the amendment is to bring clarity to the election law. The amendment to the Elections Act 2017 will be enforced retroactively, clearly showing that the aim was to target the 41 independent lawmakers who could join the PTI after the Supreme Court verdict of July 12, which recognised that the PTI was a party and independents could join it.

The court also declared that 39 members who had shown affiliation with the PTI while filing nomination for elections were its members, while another 41 lawmakers who were elected with the party's support may join it after filing an affidavit. The Election Commission of Pakistan already issued a notification recognising the 39 lawmakers as members of the PTI, while the fate of 41 others is still pending.

After the Supreme Court verdict, the PTI was expected to become the largest party in the Parliament, while the ruling coalition was deprived of its two-thirds majority as Khan's party also got a share in the

reserved seats.

The new law would stop the 41 independent candidates from joining the PTI as they already joined the SIC after the election.

After the elections, the PTI asked its supported independents to join the SIC to get a share in the reserved seats allotted to the party based on strength in the Parliament.

However, the SIC bid to get reserved seats failed, and its petition in the top court led to the decision that independents could join the PTI.

The proposed amendment also forbade allotting reserved seats to a party which had not submitted the list of candidates for these seats before elections. The apex court's judgment opened doors for the PTI to apply for reserved seats even without submitting the list before the poll.

Khan's PTI party could not contest the February 8 elections as the ECP rejected its intra-party elections and deprived it of the bat symbol for contesting the elections as a party. So its candidates, who had won independently but with the support of PTI, were asked by the PTI leadership to join a SIC to form a parliamentary party to claim reserved seats.

AP ■ LOS ANGELES

Elon Musk filed a lawsuit on Monday against OpenAI and two of its founders, Sam Altman and Greg Brockman, renewing claims that the ChatGPT-maker betrayed its founding aims of benefiting the public good rather than pursuing profits.

The lawsuit, filed in a Northern California federal court, called Musk's case a "textbook tale of altruism versus greed." Altman and others named in the suit "intentionally courted and

deceived Musk, preying on Musk's humanitarian concern about the existential dangers posed by artificial intelligence," according to the complaint.

Musk was an early investor in OpenAI when it was founded in 2015 and co-chaired its board alongside Altman. In the lawsuit, he said he invested "tens of millions" of dollars and recruited top AI research scientists for OpenAI. Musk resigned from the board in early 2018 in a move that OpenAI said — at the time — would prevent conflicts of

interest as he was recruiting AI talent to build self-driving technology at the electric car maker.

The Tesla CEO dropped his previous lawsuit against OpenAI without explanation in June. That lawsuit alleged that when Musk bankrolled OpenAI's creation, he secured an agreement with Altman and Brockman to keep the AI company as a nonprofit that would develop technology for the benefit of the public and keep its code open.

"As we said about Elon's initial

legal filing, which was subsequently withdrawn, Elon's prior emails continue to speak for themselves," a spokesperson for OpenAI said in an emailed statement. In March, OpenAI released emails from Musk showing his earlier support for making it a for-profit company. Musk claims in the new suit that he and OpenAI's namesake objective were "betrayed by Altman and his accomplices." "The perfidy and deceit are of Shakespearean proportions," the complaint said.

## Maldives and China to start FTA in September

PTI ■ MALE

Maldives on Tuesday said it has begun efforts to establish a Chinese bank in the country and announced that the implementation of the FTA between the archipelago nation and China is set to commence in September. Maldives' Minister of Economic Development and Trade Mohamed Saeed was speaking here at the inauguration of the 'Maldives-Sichuan Trade and Investment Cooperation Conference' when he highlighted the potential business opportunities in the Maldives. Relevant laws have already been passed for the imple-

mentation of the Free Trade Agreement (FTA), under which a 'local currency settlement' between the Maldivian Rufiyaa and the Chinese Yuan would enable Maldivian businesses to import goods from China using local currency instead of USD, news portal Edition.mv said quoting Saeed. "Work has begun to establish a Chinese bank in the Maldives. In addition to it, the free trade agreement between the Maldives and China would offer numerous benefits, with the agreement's implementation set to commence in September," Saeed said. "The most urgent task is to enable businesses from both

countries to conduct transactions using their respective currencies. An agreement between the People's Bank of China and the Maldives Monetary Authority (MMA) is also underway," he added. The minister also explained how converting the dollar demand into Maldivian Rufiyaa and Chinese Yuan would facilitate the import of vegetables, fruits, construction materials, and technology. The Maldives currently imports goods worth USD 700 million from China each year, including USD 19 million from Sichuan province alone, Edition.mv said. The conference, attended by

over 100 participants from Sichuan Province and the Maldives, aims to enhance business relations and provide Chinese companies with information on investment opportunities in the Maldives. Maldives is also working out a similar Rupee-Rufiyaa arrangement with India. In July, Maldives' Foreign Minister Moosa Zameer undertook an official visit to China from July 20 to 24 at the invitation of Wang Yi, Member of the Political Bureau of the CPC Central Committee, Director of the Office of the Central Commission for Foreign Affairs and China's Minister for Foreign Affairs.

## Imran's party marks one year of arrest with rally in KP province

PTI ■ PESHAWAR

Pakistan's jailed former prime minister Imran Khan's party held a massive rally in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa province on the completion of the party founder's one year in jail and pledged to make concerted efforts for his release with a similar rally in capital Islamabad by month end. The Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) rally was held in Swabi district of the party-ruled province bordering Punjab on Monday and addressed by Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Chief Minister Ali Amin Gandapur

besides party chairman Gohar Ali Khan and Secretary General Omar Ayub.

Khan, 71, was arrested on August 5 last year and lodged at Attock jail. However, in September he was shifted to Adiala Jail at Rawalpindi. Khan, who served as prime minister of Pakistan from August 2018 to April 2022, faces over 200 cases, with convictions in a few of them. The PTI leaders said the former cricketer-turned-politician cannot be kept in jail any longer as he is the leader of the biggest party of the country. They also announced to hold

the party's next show of strength in the capital Islamabad "by the end of this month or in September" and declared that no authority could stop them from holding the rally.

Announcing that the rally would be held in Islamabad's D Chowk, Gandapur said that Khan stood firm on what he believed in. He said that the former prime minister was taking steps to "secure the future of the country and its children."

"The founding chairman has said that he will not let the nation bow down in front of

anyone. Freedom is being taken away from us, and we cannot allow that," Gandapur said. He added that Khan believed in achieving freedom in the truest sense of the word.

"If we do not achieve this objective, history and the nation will not forgive us. We raise our voices and promise to support Khan till the last drop of our blood," the KP chief minister said. Gandapur assured that if his party returned to power, it would put an end to terrorism. He asked the gathering which government functionaries had created lawlessness in the country.

PTI ■ KATHMANDU

Seven people were killed in a landslide that hit a remote area in western Nepal on Tuesday morning, according to the police.

A team of Nepal Police and local representatives were involved in the rescue and rehabilitation operations, carried out soon after the landslide triggered by incessant rain in Badgad Rural Municipality of Baglung district. Seven people were killed when the landslide swept away two houses in the Badgad area on Tuesday, according to the

police. The four people who sustained injuries in the incident, have been admitted to the local hospital for treatment. Necessary relief material has been dispatched to the affected area.

In a similar rain-triggered landslide incident on July 12, two buses were swept away into the Trishuli river at Simalton on the Narayanghat-Mugling road. As many as 62 passengers, including seven Indians, went missing and only three of them swam to safety in the tragic incident involving buses heading to Kathmandu from Gaur.

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**E-Tender Enquiry No. 535/P-2/EMPW-12689 Dated 20.06.2024**  
Dy. Chief Engineer/ Headquarter (Purchase Cell-2) GGSSTP, Rupnagar invites E-Tender ID No. 2024\_POWER\_123689\_1 for Assistance in Breakdown/ Preventive Maintenance and Annual overhauling of FSSS & SADC Systems for GGSSTP Stage-II & III Units.  
For detailed NIT & Tender Specification please refer to <https://eproc.punjab.gov.in> from 31.07.2024 onwards  
**Note:-** Corrigendum & addendum, if any will be published online <https://eproc.punjab.gov.in> **RTP-78/24**

76155/12/3231/2023/36404 Dated CHD :- 8/6/2024

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(Phone No. 01881-275289) E-mail: se-hq-ggsstp-ropar@pspcl.in

**Press (Open) Tender Enq. No. 549/P-3/EMPW-12747 Dated 05.08.2024**  
Dy. Chief Engineer/ Headquarter (Purchase Cell-3) GGSSTP, Rupnagar invites Press Tender for Repair of Bush bearing of ID Fan Motor and PA Fan.  
For detailed NIT & Tender Specification please refer to PSCPCL Website [www.pspcl.in](http://www.pspcl.in) from 05-08-24 from 05:00 P.M. onwards.  
**Note:-** Corrigendum & addendum, if any will be published online [www.pspcl.in](http://www.pspcl.in) **RTP-79/24**

76155/12/3234/2023/36408 Dated CHD :- 8/6/2024



# Stock markets pare gains to close lower, Nifty falls below 24,000

PTI ■ MUMBAI

Stock markets surrendered Searly gains and settled lower in volatile trade on Tuesday with Sensex losing 166 points and Nifty ending below the 24,000 level due to fag-end selling in banking and telecom stocks.

Falling for the third straight day, the 30-share BSE Sensex settled at 78,593.07, down 166.33 points or 0.21 per cent, as 17 of its constituents declined and 13 gained.

The index opened sharply higher and rallied further 1,092.68 points or 1.38 per cent to a high of 79,852.08 on value-buying by investors. However, the barometer faltered later and hit a low of 78,496.57 as banking shares came under selling pressure. Similarly, the NSE Nifty declined 63.05 points or 0.26 per cent to settle below the 24,000 level at 23,992.55. The index surged 327 points or 1.35 per cent to 24,382.60 in intra-day trade but failed to hold onto gains.

"The domestic market tried to rebound mirroring the Asian markets. However,



momentum was short-lived and closed below the threshold level of 24,000. Investors are watching the appreciating Yen, weak US economic data, and rising geopolitical tensions," Vinod Nair, Head of Research, Geojit Financial Services said. From the 30 Sensex pack, State Bank of India, Mahindra & Mahindra, Bharti Airtel, Titan, HDFC Bank, IndusInd Bank, Axis Bank and Bajaj Finance were the biggest laggards. JSW Steel, Tech Mahindra, Larsen & Toubro, Hindustan Unilever, HCL Technologies and Reliance Industries were among the gainers from the pack.

The RBI Monetary Policy Committee started three-day deliberations on Tuesday. The RBI governor will announce the bi-monthly policy on Thursday. Suman Bannerjee, CIO, Hedonova, said, "Amid persistent inflationary pressures, particularly due to rising food prices, the RBI is expected to maintain the current benchmark rate. This cautious approach is designed to balance economic growth with price stability." Asian markets also rebounded sharply, where Seoul, Tokyo, and Shanghai settled significantly higher. Hong

Kong, however ended lower. Japan's benchmark Nikkei 225 share index soared as much as 10.7 per cent early Tuesday, a day after it plunged the most in 37 years. European markets were trading in the negative territory. The US markets ended with deep cuts on Monday.

Foreign Institutional Investors (FIIs) offloaded equities worth Rs 10,073.75 crore on Monday, according to exchange data. Global oil benchmark Brent crude climbed 0.30 per cent to USD 76.52 a barrel.

The BSE benchmark plummeted 2,222.55 points or 2.74 per cent to settle at over a month's low of 78,759.40 on Monday, marking its worst single-day retreat since June 4, 2024. During the day, it tanked 2,686.09 points or 3.31 per cent to 78,295.86.

The NSE Nifty slumped 662.10 points or 2.68 per cent to settle at 24,055.60. During the day, it tumbled 824 points or 3.33 per cent to 23,893.70. Nifty also saw its worst single-day fall since June 4, 2024, when markets crashed more than 5 per cent after the general election results.

# Rupee recovers from all-time low level, closes 16 paise higher at 83.93/USD

PTI ■ MUMBAI

The rupee recovered from its all-time low level and settled for the day 16 paise higher at 83.93 (provisional) against the US dollar on Tuesday, on suspected intervention by the Reserve Bank.

Forex traders said mixed to weak global equities on rising concerns over recession fears in the US and the geopolitical tensions in the Middle East dented investor sentiments. Moreover, the sentimental impact of unwinding of the Yen carry-trade weighed on the riskier currencies such as the rupee. However, suspected intervention by the Reserve Bank supported the local unit.

At the interbank foreign exchange market, the local unit opened at 83.92 and touched an intra-day high of 83.84 and a low of 83.97 against the dollar during the session.

It finally settled at 83.93 (provisional) against the American currency, up 16 paise from its previous close. On Monday, the rupee slumped 37 paise to settle at an all-time low of 84.09 against the US dollar.

"We expect the rupee to trade with a negative bias on risk



aversion in the global markets, amid geopolitical tensions in the Middle East and rising risk of recession in the US which may lead to outflows by foreign investors. However, overall weakness in the US dollar and declining crude oil prices may support the rupee at lower levels.

"Any further intervention by the RBI may also support the rupee. Traders may take cues from trade balance data from the US. Investors may watch out for RBI's monetary policy decision this week. USD-INR spot price is expected to trade in a range of Rs 83.75 to Rs 84.20," said Anuj Choudhary - Research Analyst at Sharekhan by BNP Paribas. Meanwhile, the dollar index, which gauges the greenback's strength against a basket of six currencies, gained 0.37

per cent to 103.07 points. Brent crude, the global oil benchmark, was trading 0.17 per cent lower at USD 76.17 per barrel in futures trade, on fears of spreading Middle East conflict that could hit supplies, outweighing fears of a possible US recession that could hurt demand in the world's biggest oil consumer. In the domestic equity market, the 30-share BSE Sensex fell 166.33 points, or 0.21 per cent, to cost at 78,593.07 points, while the Nifty declined by 63.05 points, or 0.26 per cent, to 23,992.55 points.

Foreign Institutional Investors (FIIs) were net sellers in the capital markets on Monday, as they offloaded shares worth Rs 10,073.75 crore, according to exchange data.

# BCCI paid ₹2,038 crore GST in FY23, FY24



PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Gross GST revenue collection from BCCI during 2022-23 and 2023-24 fiscal years was Rs 2,038.55 crore, Parliament was informed on Tuesday. Minister of State for Finance Pankaj Chaudhary said BCCI, which is the apex body for the promotion of cricket in India, is an autonomous body registered under the Tamil Nadu Societies Registration Act, 1975. "Services by way of admission to sporting events like Indian Premier League attract GST @ 28 per cent.

During Financial Years 2022-23 and 2023-24, Gross GST revenue collection from BCCI was Rs 2,038.55 crore," Chaudhary said in a written reply in the Rajya Sabha.

He said the Income Tax department has denied tax exemption to BCCI under Section 11 of the I-T Act, and the matter is now sub judice. Section 11 of the I-T Act deals with charitable institutions.

BCCI is claiming exemption under section 11 of the Income Tax Act, 1961. However, during assessment proceedings, the exemption is being disallowed by the Income Tax department.

"The issue of the BCCI's tax exemption is currently sub judice. Further, there is no direct tax proposal pending in this regard, at present," Chaudhary said. BCCI does not receive any grants from any scheme of the Ministry of Sports, he added.

In reply to a separate question, Chaudhary said from July 2017 to June 2024, the number of GST evasion cases booked by Central Tax formations in Gujarat was 13,494. The amount of GST evasion was about Rs 52,394 crore, involving the arrest of 214 persons.

# Softbank-backed Unicommerce eSolutions IPO fully subscribed within hours of opening for bidding

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

The initial public offering of SoftBank-backed SaaS platform Unicommerce eSolutions Ltd got fully-subscribed within hours of opening for subscription on Tuesday. The initial share sale received bids for 2,09,25,906 shares, as against 1,40,84,681 shares on offer, translating into 1.49 times subscription, as per NSE data till 13:42 hours.

The portion for Retail Individual Investors (RIIs) attracted 6.66 times subscription, while the category for non institutional investors fetched 1.01 times subscription. Unicommerce eSolutions Ltd on Monday said it has garnered over Rs 124 crore from anchor investors. The issue, with a price band of Rs 102 to Rs 108 a share, is open for public subscription from August 6-8.

The issue is entirely an offer-for-sale (OFS) aggregating up to 2.56 crore equity shares valued at Rs



276.6 crore at the upper end of the price band. Since the IPO is completely an OFS, the entire proceeds will go to the selling shareholders. Under the OFS, SB Investment Holdings (UK) Ltd, an affiliate of Japan's SoftBank, will offload 1.61 crore shares, and promoter AceVector Limited (formerly known as Snapdeal Limited) will sell up to 94.38 lakh shares. Founded in 2012, Unicommerce eSolutions is India's leading e-commerce enablement software-as-a-service (SaaS) platform. The company's suite of SaaS

solutions enables end-to-end management of e-commerce operations for brands, retailers, marketplaces, and logistics service providers. It serves a large and growing base of clients in India, including Lenskart, Fabindia, Zivame, TCNS, Mamaearth, Emami, Sugar, BoAt, Portronics, Pharmeasy, Cello, Urban Company, Mensa, Shiprocket and Xpressbees. IIFL Securities and CLSA India are the book-running lead managers to the issue. Shares of the company will be listed on BSE and the National Stock Exchange.

# Bangladesh crisis poses significant concerns for India's textile, apparel industry: CITI

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Bangladesh, which is facing its worst political crisis since Independence in 1971, poses "significant concerns" for India's textile and apparel sector, particularly for companies operating factories in the neighbouring country, the Confederation of Indian Textile Industry said on Tuesday.

The domestic textile industry body believes that any supply disruption in Bangladesh will have an immediate impact on the supply chain, potentially affecting production schedules and delivery timelines of Indian firms. "The situation in Bangladesh is indeed concerning, and we are closely monitoring the developments. Bangladesh's growth in the textile sector has been inspiring and has lent strength to the trade flows in the entire subcontinent. "While we are concerned about the impact on the supply chain and the potential delays and disruptions it might cause, we are hopeful that the situation will improve soon,"



Chandrima Chatterjee, Secretary General, Confederation of Indian Textile Industry (CITI) said. According to CITI, Indian companies with manufacturing operations in the country are likely to face challenges in maintaining their production flow, leading to delays and potential shortages in the market. This disruption could affect the availability of products and might force companies to seek alternative manufacturing solutions to mitigate the impact. "Amid the uncertainties in Bangladesh, there is already a

noticeable shift towards alternative manufacturing hubs such as a strategic move by companies to diversify their production bases and reduce dependency on a single market," CITI stated. It observed that Indian textile hub Tirupur, known for its robust textile and apparel manufacturing capabilities, may emerge as a key beneficiary of this shift. Bangladesh is facing its worst political crisis since independence in 1971, with Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina resigning amid massive anti-government protests.

Bangladesh Army Chief General Waqar-uz-Zaman on Monday announced that an interim government would be taking over the responsibilities.

"Several major global brands that rely on Bangladesh for their sourcing needs will also be affected by these disruptions. Brands with significant portions of their supply chain rooted in Bangladesh may experience delays and a decrease in the availability of their products. This, in turn, could lead to a ripple effect across the global retail market, affecting inventory levels and sales," CITI said.

Bangladesh is a crucial market for Indian textiles, serving as both a manufacturing hub and a significant export destination.

"The Indian industry is deeply concerned about the current events and hopes for the swift restoration of normalcy. Stability in Bangladesh is vital for maintaining the smooth operation of cross-border trade and production," CITI said.

# Sebi issues cautionary statement, passes directions to protect investors from unregistered entities

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

To safeguard retail investors, Sebi has taken several measures, including cautioning them against trading on stock tips given by unregistered entities, conducting probes and issuing directions against non-compliant ones, Parliament was informed on Tuesday.

Under the Sebi's rule, no person can render investment advice unless he is registered with the capital markets regulator.

Sebi (Investment Advisers) norms specify the eligibility conditions for registration, obligations and responsibilities and procedure for action in case of default, Minister of State for Finance Pankaj Chaudhary in a written reply to Rajya Sabha. Responding to a query on steps taken by the government to protect retail investors against the frauds happening the social media in the name of giving advice as stock market experts, Chaudhary said that Sebi has issued several press releases advising investors to deal with only registered investment advisers for availing investment advisory services. Investors can check the registration status of the entity providing investment advisory services on the regulator's website. Additionally, the regulator has cautioned investors against



trading in the securities markets based on the tips/recommendations provided by unregistered entities/persons and entities impersonating Sebi-registered intermediaries, the minister said. "On receipt of any complaints/references against unregistered entities carrying out such activities, and also after suo motu cognizance, Sebi conducts examination of these entities. In case of non-compliance, appropriate sections of the Sebi Act, 1992 and various Sebi Regulations are invoked, and requisite directions are issued to non-compliant entities," he added. Further, the issue of the association of Sebi-regulated intermediaries with such unregistered persons or entities was discussed in the Sebi's Intermediary Advisory Committee. Considering its recommendations, a proposal for carrying out necessary regulatory amendments to restrict the association of all Sebi-regulated intermediaries with any unregistered entity has been approved, Chaudhary said.

# RBI starts deliberations on monetary policy amid expectations of status quo on interest rate

PTI ■ MUMBAI

Reserve Bank's rate-setting panel started its three-day deliberations for the next set of bi-monthly monetary policy amid expectations of no change in benchmark interest rate in view of concerns on inflation and economic growth remaining steady.

The decision of the RBI Governor Shaktikanta Das-headed six-member Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) will be announced on Thursday.

The MPC may also refrain from rate cut as economic growth is picking up, notwithstanding the elevated interest rate of 6.5 per cent (repo rate), said experts. Retail inflation based on consumer price index (CPI) increased to a four-month high of 5.08 per cent in June as food items, including vegetables became dearer. The government will release the data for July later this month.

"RBI is likely to pause as food price movements currently is imparting a positive bias to RBI 4.5 per cent projection...Likely prospects of an excess rainfall in August and September could also have a debilitating impact on food prices," said a SBI research report. It also expects the Reserve Bank to continue with its monetary stance of withdrawal of accommodation.



According to a report of Goldman Sachs, the MPC is likely to keep the policy rate unchanged at 6.5 per cent on August 8. "We expect the RBI MPC to keep the policy repo rate unchanged at the Aug 8 meeting at 6.50 per cent, with a 4:2 vote in favour, retain the monetary policy stance of 'withdrawal of accommodation', sound relatively optimistic on growth, and continue to reiterate the commitment to the 4 per cent headline inflation target," it said. The central bank last hiked the repo rate to 6.5 per cent in February 2023 and since then it has held the rate at same level in its last seven bi-monthly monetary policy reviews.

Commenting on the RBI's monetary policy, Radhika Rao, Executive Director and Senior Economist, DBS Bank, said that in light of the firm

expectations over the last week. We maintain our forecast of an RBI rate cut in December, but note the risk of a delay if inflation does not progress in line with the RBI's expectations," Sodhani said. Sanjoo Bhadana, Founder and MD, 4S Developers, too said the MPC is likely to keep the repo rate unchanged at 6.5 per cent as risks from higher food inflation pose a challenge for the apex bank. "We hope the central bank withdraws its accommodative stance and help provide an impetus to the housing momentum by enabling aspiring homebuyers to enter the market," Bhadana said.

H S Bhatia, managing director, Daweebo India, said lower interest rates can boost consumer confidence and spending power, driving demand for durables. "However, the RBI's primary focus on managing inflation might restrict its room for monetary easing. The policy's impact on disposable income will be crucial as it determines consumer spending capacity," he said. Additionally, any measures to improve credit availability could benefit the sector. A supportive policy stance can propel growth in the consumer durable market, Bhatia added.

The MPC is entrusted with the responsibility of deciding the policy repo rate to achieve the inflation target of 4 per cent, keeping in mind the objective of growth.

# Electric vehicle sales rose 55.2% to 1.79 lakh units in July, says FADA

PTI ■ MUMBAI

Electric vehicle sales registered a 55.2 per cent on-year growth at 1,79,038 units in July driven by a massive 96 per cent jump in e-two-wheeler sales, automobile dealers' body FADA said on Tuesday.

The total electric vehicles sales for July 2023 were at 1,16,221 units, according to the monthly sales data from Federation of Automobile Dealers' Association (FADA). The electric two-wheelers sales during the previous month stood at 1,07,016 units, up 95.94 per cent, from 54,616 units sold in July last year, while the electric three-wheeler sales grew 18.18 per cent at 63,667 units, from 58,873 units year earlier, as per FADA.

The commercial vehicle sales during the reporting month was also on an upward trajectory, growing two-fold on a year-on-year basis to 816 units, from 364 commercial vehicles sold in July 2023, it stated. Passenger vehicles, however, declined 2.92 per cent at 7,541 units in July, as against 7,768 units in the same month of last year, as per data. "The rising market share in the 2W and 3W EV segments for July 2024, with YoY growth rates of 95.94 per cent and 18.18 per cent respectively, and a market share of 7.4 per cent and 57.6



per cent, respectively for the month, is a clear indication of the growing acceptance and demand for electric vehicles in India," FADA President Manish Raj Singhania said. The PV segment, while showing a marginal year-on-year decline of 2.92 per cent, maintains a market share of 2.4 per cent, Singhania said, adding that the CV segment has shown remarkable growth with a year-on-year increase of 124.2 per cent and a current (July) market share of 1.02 per cent. The combination of attractive discounts and the anticipation of the discontinuation of the EMPS (Electric Mobility Promotion Scheme), despite its extension, has significantly boosted sales, he said. Announced by the Ministry of Heavy Industries in March, for a four months period-April 1,2024 to July 31,2024? to boost the adoption of EVs across the country with a total outlay of Rs 500 crore, the EMP scheme has now been extended by September 30, while the scheme's outlay has also been increased to Rs 778 crore.



# RESILIENT CHANU SETS SIGHTS ON HISTORIC PODIUM FINISH IN PARIS



PTI ■ PARIS

Way from the spotlight owing to an injury-plagued buildup, Mirabai Chanu will be in focus on Wednesday when she attempts to become India's first weightlifter to win two Olympic medals but a challenging field and lingering fitness concerns stand in the way.

The lifter, who opened India's tally on the first day of the competition at the Tokyo Olympics with a sparkling silver, has kept a low profile since suffering hip tendonitis during the Asian Games last October.

Chanu has endured a rather underwhelming Olympic cycle thanks to injury and workload management. Her best effort since Tokyo came at the 2022 Commonwealth Games where she lifted 201kg (88kg+113kg). She had won the silver in Tokyo by heaving 202kg (87kg+115kg).

Competing in her pet 49kg weight category, Chanu is likely to be in the scramble for a silver or bronze if she matches or betters her personal best in both sections. Reigning Olympic champion China's Hou Zhihui is the favourite to defend her title.

While there are still murmurs

surrounding her fitness after she returned from a five-month hiatus following the hip injury, both Chanu and chief national coach Vijay Sharma have asserted that the Manipuri has completely recovered. "We know that Mira has to go well beyond the 200kg mark. 202kg will not cut it this time but somewhere around 205-206kg should do it. But we are prepared for the challenge," coach Sharma told PTI.

However, this is easier said than done, as the 29-year-old has struggled to surpass her personal best of 88kg in the snatch, set at the 2020 National Championships, and 119kg in clean and jerk, achieved at the

2021 Asian Championships, for quite a while. While Chanu, who turns 30 on Thursday, will have one eye on her competitors' barbells, the Manipuri's main battle will be with herself at the South Paris Arena.

Her performance in the snatch section continues to be her achilles heel and her mediocre clean and jerk performance recently also doesn't inspire confidence.

While a 90kg snatch lift continues to elude Chanu, four of her competitors have breached the coveted mark. Having said that, Chanu has been known to be a fighter and one of the most tenacious athletes in the country.

Be it battling intense menstrual camps to win a medal in Tokyo or attempting a 117kg clean and jerk lift despite injuring herself during the Asian Games, she has shown her resolute side.

Despite the absence of North Korea's Asian Games champion and world record holder Ri Song Gum, the 49kg event is a highly competitive contest.

Chanu has set an entry weight of 200kg alongside two others — USA's three-time Pan American champion and a world bronze medalist Jordan Delacruz and 2021 world champion Surodchana Khambao of Thailand.

# Jena on verge of crashing out early from javelin throw even



PTI ■ PARIS

India's Kishore Jena on Tuesday finished ninth in the men's javelin throw Group A qualification round with an underwhelming throw of 80.73m, which left him on the verge of making an early exit from the Olympics.

Jena will await the result of Group B qualification round where superstar Neeraj Chopra will begin his campaign later in the day.

All those who throw 84m or above, or at least 12 best performers from Group A and B combined will advance to the final to be held on Thursday.

Jena's opening throw was 80.73m, and he fouled his

second attempt before coming up with 80.21m in his last effort.

Julian Weber of Germany topped Group A with a first round throw of 87.76m while former world champion Julius Yego (85.97m) of Kenya and Tokyo Olympics silver medalist Jakub Vadlejch (85.63m) of Czech Republic were second and third respectively.

Toni Keranen (85.27m) of Finland was the fourth athlete to go past the automatic qualification mark of 84m.

Jena had booked an automatic Olympics berth with his 87.54m throw for a silver medal in the Asian Games in October last year.

After that, he crossed the 80m mark in just one out of six competitions before Tuesday.

**E-AUCTION PROGRAMME FOR THE MONTH OF AUGUST 2024**

E-Auction additional programme for sale of Railway Scrap materials under jurisdiction of Lunding Division for the month of August '2024 is hereby fixed as under:

SN	MONTH	DATE FIXED
1	AUGUST 2024	08/08/2024 & 29/08/2024

Interested bidders may participate in E-auction through IREPS website [www.ireps.gov.in](http://www.ireps.gov.in).

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**STORES E-PROCUREMENT**

**Tender Notice No.: S/14/2024-25; Dated: 02-08-2024.** E-Tenders are invited by the undersigned for the following works:-

**SN. 1: Tender No. 61/24/5258/OT/106/2024-25; Closing/ Opening Date: 26-08-2024**

**Brief Description, P.L. No. & Qty:** Elastic Rail Clip MK-V with flat toe for 60 kg UIC/ 52 kg rail sections to Drg. No. RDSO T-5919 with specification conforming to IRS-T-31-2021 with latest amendment, if any, with alt no. 2 with latest alterations, if any. [Warranty Period: 30 Months after the date of delivery]. [Inspection Agency: CONSG, Stage Insp: Yes, Stages: 0]. Qty- 854856 Nos for SSE/P.Way/TD/Bongaigaon, NFR (Assam). P.L. No.- 60110028.

**SN. 2: Tender No. 61/24/5182/OT/107/2024-25; Closing/ Opening Date: 29-08-2024**

**Brief Description, P.L. No. & Qty:** Manufacture and supply of 10125 mm Curved Switches as per RDSOs Drg. No. T-6155 [with latest alterations] with ZU-1-60 Thick Vee grade 880 Class-A Tongue rails and UIC 60 Kg per m Grade-880, Class A or B Stock rails with elastic fasteners and Spring operated Setting Device [RDSO-T-6216 with latest alterations], complete with all fittings for 1 in 12, BG 60 kg turn out for fan shaped layout on PSC Sleepers i.e. all fittings for switch portion as per sub assembly No. T-6155 [with latest alteration] in accordance with RDSOs standard drawing No. T-6154 [with latest alterations] excluding standard fish plates, fish bolts and nuts, Elastic Rail Clips and Insulating Liners [The tentative List of Fittings as per Alt-5 is enclosed as Annexure - A. Any addition/ modification to the List of fittings, issued by RDSO in subsequent Alterations upto the date of closing of tender is also to be supplied by the firm for which no additional payment would be made. Specification: T-10/2000, Corrigendum No. 1 of Dec. 2016 or with latest Alteration if any upto the date of closing tender] [Warranty Period: 30 Months after the date of delivery]. [Inspection Agency: TPI, Stage Insp: Yes, Stages: 1]. 1) Qty- 125 Set for SSE/P.Way/TD/Bongaigaon, NFR (Assam). P.L. No.- 60060268.

**SN. 3: Tender No. 61/24/5215/OT/108/2024-25; Closing/ Opening Date: 29-08-2024**

**Brief Description, P.L. No. & Qty:** Manufacture and Supply of Wider Mono Block Pre-Stressed concrete Line Sleeper (pre-tensioned type) conforming to RDSO Drg. No. T-8746 and IRS Specification No. T-39 (as amended upto date of tender opening), duly loaded into wagons/road vehicles. [Warranty Period: 30 Months after the date of delivery]. [Inspection Agency: CONSG, Stage Insp: NA, Stages: 0]. Qty- 13944 Nos for SSE/W/Jagiroad, NFR (Assam). P.L. No.- 60190139.

**SN. 4: Tender No. 61/24/5257/OT/109/2024-25; Closing/ Opening Date: 30-08-2024**

**Brief Description, P.L. No. & Qty:** Manufacturing & supply of High Viscous Nylon-66 Insulating Liner (HVN Liner) to RDSO Drg. No. 3706 and conforming to IRS specification No. T-44-2023 (as amended up to date) for use with ERC MK-III Flat toe for 60 Kg. Rails on concrete sleepers. [Warranty Period: 30 Months after the date of delivery]. [Inspection Agency: TPI, Stage Insp: No, Stages: 0]. Qty- 628398 Nos for SSE/P.Way/TD/Bongaigaon, NFR (Assam). P.L. No.- 60110086.

**SN. 5: Tender No. 30/24/1226/OT/110/2024-25; Closing/ Opening Date: 29-08-2024**

**Brief Description, P.L. No. & Qty:** Primary Vertical Damper for all LHB Coaches Fitted with FIAT Bogie to RDSO Drg. No. RDSO/CG/DRG/21047 Alt-2. Mat. Spec.- RDSO/CG-18005 Rev-1 [Warranty Period: 30 Months after the date of delivery] [Inspection Agency: TPI, Stage Insp: No, Stages: 0]. i) Qty- 4026 Nos for Dibrugarh Town/Workshop/Depot, NFR (Assam). ii) Qty- 1110 Nos for Pandu/GSD, NFR (Assam). iii) Qty- 4413 Nos for New Bongaigaon/Workshop/Depot, NFR (Assam). iv) Qty- 301 Nos for New Jalpaiguri/GSD, NFR (West Bengal). v) Qty- 455 Nos for Katihar/GSD, NFR (Bihar). P.L. No.- 33501002.

**SN. 6: Tender No. 61/24/5285/OT/111/2024-25; Closing/ Opening Date: 30-08-2024**

**Brief Description, P.L. No. & Qty:** Wide Base curve Sleepers RT- 8979 to RT- 8982 (T-8621 to T-8624) [Warranty Period: 30 Months after the date of delivery] [Inspection Agency: CONSG, Stage Insp: NA, Stages: 0]. Qty- 1328 Nos for SSE/P.Way/South/Katihar, NFR (Bihar). P.L. No.- 60060517.

**SN. 7: Tender No. 30/24/1107/OT/112/2024-25; Closing/ Opening Date: 30-08-2024**

**Brief Description, P.L. No. & Qty:** Secondary Lateral Damper for FIAT Bogie with Air Spring to RDSO Drg. No. RDSO/CG/DRG/21049 Alt-2. Mat. Spec.- RDSO/CG-18005 Rev-01. [Warranty Period: 30 Months after the date of delivery]. [Inspection Agency: TPI, Stage Insp: No, Stages: 0]. 1) Qty- 782 Nos for Dibrugarh Town/Workshop/Depot, NFR (Assam). 2) Qty- 545 Nos for Pandu/GSD, NFR (Assam). 3) Qty- 1203 Nos for New Bongaigaon/Workshop/Depot, NFR (Assam). 4) Qty- 56 Nos for New Jalpaiguri/GSD, NFR (West Bengal). 5) Qty- 154 Nos for Katihar/GSD, NFR (Bihar). P.L. No.- 33502626.

**SN. 8: Tender No. 10/24/5029/OT/113/2024-25; Closing/ Opening Date: 02-09-2024**

**Brief Description, P.L. No. & Qty:** Traction Motor (Complete Assembled) to BLW Part No- 18080017 of HHP Locomotives. [Warranty Period: 30 Months after the date of delivery]. [Inspection Agency: TPI, Stage Insp: No, Stages: 0]. Qty- 6 Nos for SSE/D/New Guwahati, NFR (Assam). P.L. No.- 169100210019.

**NOTE:-** For full details of Tender notice and tender documents, tenderer may log on to the website ([www.ireps.gov.in](http://www.ireps.gov.in)) prospective bidder who intend to participate in above tenders are required to log in themselves with the above website and submit their offer electronically, if they are already registered with IREPS. In case they are not registered with IREPS, they are advised to obtain class-III Digital Signature Certificate from the certifying agencies under Govt. of India IT Act 2000 and participate in the above tenders.

PCMM/ Maligaon

**NORTHEAST FRONTIER RAILWAY**  
Serving Customers with a smile

## CHANGE OF NAME

- I, Kannan** is Father of JC/Army No. 16127067L Rank NK Name Vivek Ramana K of Unit 05 Engr Regt. resident of VTC: Rameswaram, PO: Rameswaram, District: Ramanathapuram, State Tamil Nadu, Pincode 623526 Declare That my true and correct date of birth is 20.08.1969 as per my Aadhaar Card, but on my son's service record my date of birth is mentioned as 07.05.1969 which is wrong. Vide Affidavit Dated 06 August 2024 before at Notary Ferozepur.
- I, Sakthivel** is mother of JC/Army No. 16127067L Rank NK Name Vivek Ramana K of Unit 05 Engr Regt resident of VTC: Rameswaram, PO: Rameswaram, District: Ramanathapuram, State Tamil Nadu, Pincode 623526 Declare That my true and correct date of birth is 08.05.1977 as per my Aadhaar Card, but on my son's service record my date of birth is mentioned as 08.09.1977, which is wrong. Vide Affidavit Dated 06 August 2024 before at Notary Ferozepur.
- I, JC No. 312915X** Rank SUB Name Sukracharya Biswas of Unit 03 Engr Regt. C/o 56 APO, PIN-914003 Yol Cantt have changed my Mother Date of birth 01.01.1962 to 24.07.1960 Vide Affidavit Dated 06 August 2024 before at Notary Ferozepur.
- I, Army No. 15324601P** Rank HAV Name Biju TK of Unit 03 Engr Regt. C/o 56 APO, PIN-914003, Yol Cantt, have changed my name from Biju TK to Biju T K Vide Affidavit Dated 06 August 2024 before at Notary Ferozepur.
- I, Army No. 15324601P** Rank HAV Name Biju TK of Unit 03 Engr Regt. C/o 56 APO, PIN-914003, Yol Cantt, have changed my name from Biju TK to Biju T K Vide Affidavit Dated 06 August 2024 before at Notary Ferozepur.
- I, Gurbpreet Kaur** Sidhu, Daughter of Harpal Singh, Holder Of Indian Passport No S 5874942, Issued At Vancouver On 16-05-2018, Permanent Resident Of Vpo Hari Ke Kalan, Distt Muktsar Punjab, India, And Presently Residing At 9076, 147, Street, Surrey, Bc, Canada V3r 3v7, Do Hereby Change My Name From Gurbpreet Kaur Sidhu With Immediate Effect.
- I, Neelam** W/o Harwinder Singh R/o Bibipur Kalan, Murtzapur, Pehowa, Kurukshetra Have Changed My Name Neelam Rani.
- I, Harvinder** S/o Dharmbir Singh R/o Bibipur Kalan, Murtzapur, Pehowa, Kurukshetra Have Changed My Name Harwinder Singh
- I, Boota Ram** S/o Joginder Vill.Janedpur, Kaithal have Changed My Given Name Boota Surname Ram
- I, Aman** S/o Balbir Vill.Dadola, Panipat have Changed My Given Name Aman Surname Aman
- I, Sukhwinder Kaur** W/o Shamsheer Singh R/o 32/05, Gurudwara Baba Sri Chand Ji, Pehowa, Kurukshetra have Changed My Name Sukhwinder Kaur
- I, Sangeeta** alias Shakuntla W/O Sunil Kumar R/O 286 Sundar Nagar Mandour Ambala city Distt Ambala have changed my name To Shakuntla
- I, Neha Bector** W/o Rajeev Kumar R/o H.No. 22-23, Sat Kartar Colony, 120 Ft Road, Basti Sheikh, Near Manjit Nagar, Jalandhar-144002, Punjab have changed my name from Neha Bector to Neha.
- I, Weeranwali** W/o Ajay Kumar R/o Flat No. 106, 2nd Floor, Vill Kingra, Glenmore Greens, Jalandhar-144002, Punjab have changed my name from Weeranwali to Veeran Wali.
- I, Jaskiran** D/o Harmet Singh R/o Fateh Farms, Bhawanipur, Kapurthala - 144601, Punjab have changed my name from Jaskiran to Jaskiran Kaur.
- I, Kulvinder Kaur** W/o Avtar Singh R/o VPO. Haripur, Tehsil Nakodar, Distt. Jalandhar have changed the spelling of my name Kulvinder Kaur to Kulvinder Kaur.
- I, Lakhbir Kaur** W/o Baljit Singh R/o VPO. Sikandarpur, Tehsil Adampur, Distt. Jalandhar have changed my name from Lakhvir Kaur to Lakhbir Kaur.
- I, Jagdish Kumar** S/o Baldev Krishan S/o Village Easspur, Po. Nussi, Distt. Jalandhar have changed my minor daughter's name from Vishali to Vishali Paul & her DOB is 25/06/2014
- I, Chaman Dulari** W/o Chaman Lal R/o H.No. 285, Street No. 15, Krishna Nagar, Hoshiarpur, Punjab have changed my name from Chaman Dulari to Ram Dulari.
- I, Ashwani Kumar** S/o Charan Dass R/o H.No.228, Park Estate, Leather Complex Road, Near MS Farm, Jalandhar have changed my name from Ashwani Kumar to Ashwani Khera.
- I, Vimla Thakur** Alias Vimal Devi Alias Ayodhya Devi W/o Late. Vijay Kumar Thakur R/o 420, Preet Nagar, Sodal Road, Jalandhar declare that Vimla Thakur Alias Vimal Devi Alias Ayodhya Devi are name of the same person i.e. myself.
- I, Baldev Singh** S/o Bishan Singh R/o H.No. 139, Ward No.44, Dilbagh Nagar, Jalandhar-144002, Punjab have added my surname from Baldev Singh to Baldev Singh Bansal (Surname as Bansal)
- I, Khilpha Devi** is legally mother of Pratap Singh resident of H.No.74, Sawad Sawar, Distt. Chamoli, State Uttarakhand - 246427 have changed my name from Khilpha Devi to Khilli Devi vide Affidavit dated 06 Aug 2024 before Executive Magistrate Jalandhar, (PB).
- I, Yanchele** is legally mother of Haingim resident of H.No.186A, Jalukie B, Peren, Nagaland- 797110 have changed my name from Yanchele to Pehianche vide Affidavit dated 06 Aug 2024 before Executive Magistrate Jalandhar, (PB).
- I, Pauheurang** is legally father of Haingim resident of H.No.186A, Jalukie B, Peren, Nagaland- 797110 have changed my name from Pauheurang to Pauheurang Pame vide Affidavit dated 06 Aug 2024 before Executive Magistrate Jalandhar, (PB).
- I, Lunglai** Thangneingak Moyon am legally spouse of CR Thangboi Moyon resident of Pena Ching Village, Pena Ching, Chandel, Manipur-795135 have changed my name from Lunglai Thangneingak Moyon to Lunglai Thangneingak Aimal vide Affidavit dated 06 Aug 2024 before Executive Magistrate Jalandhar, (PB).
- I, Rajesh Kumar** is legally father of Kumari Arushi Kumari resident of VPO. Bhajnowa, Distt. Rajouri, State J&K, PIN - 185151 have changed date of birth of my daughter from 18-12-2013 to 06-03-2013 vide Affidavit dated 06 Aug 2024 before Executive Magistrate Jalandhar, (PB).
- I, Rajesh Kumar** is legally father of master Ayush Kumar resident of VPO. Bhajnowa, Distt. Rajouri, State J&K, PIN-185151 have changed date of birth of my son from 20-09-2012 to 12-01-2012 vide Affidavit dated 06 Aug 2024 before Executive Magistrate Jalandhar, (PB).
- I, Raminder Bajwa** W/O No.6622738 Late Sep Paramjit Singh R/O Village - Cinema Road Batala And Po- Batala, Tehsil -Batala, Distt- Gurdaspur, State- Punjab, That I Declare Changed My Name From Rajinder Bajwa To Raminder Bajwa In My Husband Army Record.
- I, Sonia** W/O Davinder Kumar R/O House No- 603 Ward No-14, Behrampur Road Gurdaspur, Tehsil/Distt-Gurdaspur. Punjab -143521. Declare That Changed My Daughter Name From Kanika To Kanika Photra.
- I, Reena** W/O Army No.15490524A Rank Lt Niraj Kumar R/O Village - Ransota, Po- Nangal Bihalan, Tehsil - Mukerian, District - Hoshiarpur , Punjab, India. Declare That Changed My Name From Reena To Reena Kumari. Vide Affidavit No. In-Pb28690333822584W, Dated 25-06-2024 Before Executive Magistrate Mukerian.
- I, Komal** spouse of No.2809325H Sep Sahu Sachin Nanhkar resident of Village- Harihar Peath, Post- Harihar Peath, Tehsil- Akola, District- Akola, State- Maharashtra, Pin-444003, have changed my name from Komal to Komal Sachin Sahu Vide affidavit No.IN-PB43128380989092W dated 05 Aug 2024 before notary public Pathankot
- I, R Maheshwari** spouse of Yuvaraj A resident of Village-Vilari, Post- Timiri, Tehsil- Arcot, District- Vellore, State- Tamil Nadu, Pin-632512, have changed my name from R Maheshwari to Maheshwari Y Vide affidavit No.IN-PB43128380989092W dated 05 Aug 2024 before notary public Pathankot
- I, Ashish Kumar** Kailay s/o Lt. Sh Akshay Kumar R/o house no 1222 sector 43 B Chandigarh have changed my name from Ashish Kumar Kailay to Ashish Kailay
- I, Rashpinder Kaur** w/o Rinku R/o H.no. 1976 Gurdev Mohalla VPO Barara Tehsil Barara distt. Ambala that I have changed my name from Rashpinder Kaur to Kaur Rashpinder and surname to Kaur. Concerned note
- I, Navneet Nain** S/O Sh.Ram Sawrup Nain R/O - Hno- 886 Urban Estate Sector - 8 Kurukshetra Haryana Have Change My Name From Navneet Nain To Navneet Kumar. Concerned Note.
- I, Patil Jyoti** Harshal is legally Wedded Spouse of Army No: 14877019W Rank: Hav/Skt Name-Patil Harshal Anil Presently Serving in Unit: A Coy 603 ASC BN (AM) N-Area Pin-905603,Chandigarh C/o 56 APO Declare That I have changed my Patil Jyoti Harshal to Jyoti Harshal Patil. Vide Affidavit No-54AA 510726, Dated: 06/08/24
- I, Kamlesh Devi** W/O No. 14481371K Ex Hav Ramesh Chander Resident Of Vpo Nindana, Tehsil Meham, District Rohtak (Haryana) Have Changed My Daughter Name In My Husband's Army Records From Rekha Devi (Existing Name) To Rekha Rani (Proposed New Name) My Daughter Correct/Actual Dob Is 12.09.1995 Instead Of 12.09.1995 As Per My Daughter Aadhaar /Pan Card . In Future My Daughter Shall May Be Known/Written And Called As Rekha Rani (Dob 12.09.1995) For All Work Purposes, Vide Affidavit Dated 06 Aug 2024 Before Notary Public, Rohtak
- I No. 14256642F** Ex Nk Shive Shankar Son Of Sri Sardar Singh Resident Of H No. 1345/02, Surya Nagar, Rohtak, Tehsil & District Rohtak (Haryana) Have Changed My Daughter Name In My Army Records From Nancy (Existing Name) To Nancy Sharma (Proposed New Name) As Per My Daughter Aadhaar /Pan Card . In Future My Daughter Shall May Be Known/Written And Called As Nancy Sharma For All Work Purposes, Vide Affidavit Dated 06 Aug 2024 Before Notary Public, Rohtak.
- I Pushpa** W/ O Sachin House No 708/7 BDC Sector 26 Chandigarh Have Change My Name Pooja.
- I Amisha Jindal** W/O Sandeep Gupta R/O H.No. 210, St.No.-3, New Deep Nagar, Civil Lines Ludhiana Have Changed My Name To Amisha Gupta.
- I Pooja** W/O Sunny Gupta R/O H.No.-210, St.No.-3, New Deep Nagar Civil Lines Ludhiana Have Changed My Name To Pooja Gupta.
- I Aarti** W/O Jagmohan Gupta R/O H.No.-170, Near Canara Bank Bharat Nagar Ludhiana Have Changed My Name To Aarti Gupta.
- I Sunita** And Meenakshi W/O Bharat Bhushan R/O H.No.-448 Ward No.-18 St.No.-05 Sardar Nagar Moga Am One And The Same Person Of Above Both Names.
- I Jyoti Momi** W/O Surinder Pal R/O Mohalla Gobindpura Phagwara District Kapurthala Punjab India Have Changed My Name As Jyoti. All Concern Please Note.
- I Shyamvei** S/O Harikesh R/O Indachoi, P.O. India Chhoi, Distrit Fatehabad, Haryana Have Changed My Name From Shyamved To Shyamved Balu.
- I Dev Raj** S/O Mahinder Pal R/O St.No.-14, Baba Gadhia, Sahibzada Ajit Singh Nagar, Phagwara Have Changed My Minor Son's Name From Manveer To Manveer Mamma.
- I Sukhwinder Singh** S/O Gurdev Singh R/O Vill. Boothgarh P.O. Ram Colony Camp Hoshiarpur That Given Name Of My Minor Son's As Ekam And Surname As Singh.
- I Sukhwinder Singh** S/O Gurdev Singh R/O Vill. Boothgarh P.O. Ram Colony Camp Hoshiarpur That Given Name Of My Minor Son's As Manjashan And Surname As Singh.
- I Chander Gopal** S/O Narinder Pal R/O Near Govt. S.S. School, Vpo. Hajipur (Hoshiarpur) Punjab Declare That My Given Name As Chander And My Surname As Gopal.
- I Jyoti** W/O Kkunal Sahney R/O House No.B-8/519 Sukhdev Nagar, Hoshiarpur Punjab Have Changed My Name From Jyoti To Jyoti Sahney.
- I Priyanka Khullar** D/O Raman Khullar R/O House No.-436, Mohalla Jagatpura, Hoshiarpur Have Changed My Name From Priyanka To Priyanka Khullar.
- I Antima** W/O Vishal Verma H/No 738 W/No 08 Arjuna colony Dasuya Distt Hoshiarpur Have Changed My Name From Antima To Antima Verma.
- I, Sito** W/O. Karnail Singh R/O. Fatehgarh Urf Retgarh, Teh. Samana, District Patiala Known With Two Names Sito And Surjit Kaur.
- I, Kamlesh Rani** W/o Chaman Lal R/o Vill: Sajawalpur Teh-Nawanshahr (SBS Nagar) Pb, have changed my name from Kamlesh Rani to Kamlesh Kaur.
- I Deepika Rani** W/o Bal Krishan R/o Vpo Shaina Teh-Tapa Distt Barnala have changed my name Deepika Garg.
- I Yoginder Kumar** S/o Sita Ram R/o Roop Nagar, Ward No.15, Gidderbaha Distt. Sri Muktsar Sahib-152101 have changed My Name to Yoginder Sharma.
- I, Amandeep Kaur** W/o Lakhwinder Singh R/o Abbuwal (Ludhiana) have changed my name to Amandeep Kaur Dhaliwal.
- I, Karamjeet Kaur** W/o Joginder Singh Sidhu R/o Johlan (Ludhiana) have changed my name to Karamjit Kaur Sidhu.
- I, Mandeep Singh** S/o Satwinder Singh R/o Nagol Khurd (Ludhiana) have changed my name to Mandeep Singh Bopari.
- I, Sarbjit Kaur** D/o Nachater Singh R/o Ballowal (Ludhiana) have changed my minor daughter name from Davneet Kaur Davneet Kaur Grewal.
- I, Lakhwinder Singh** S/o Lal Singh R/o Abbuwal (Ludhiana) have changed my name to Lakhwinder Singh Dhaliwal.
- I, Jasvir Kaur** W/o Satpal Singh R/o Village Kakrala, Tehsil Samana, Distt. Patiala have changed my name from Jasbir Kaur to Jasvir Kaur.
- I Balkarnjit Kaur** W/O Palwinder Singh R/O Kot Budha Distt Tarn Taran Have Changed My Name Balkarnjit Kaur To Balkarnjit Kaur.
- I, Parneet Kaur** Lehal W/O Gurbakhshish Singh Pannu R/O Naushehra Pannun Tehsil & District Tarn Taran Have Changed My Name Parneet Kaur Lehal To Parneet Kaur.
- I, Harish Chandra** Poplani S/o Parmanand Poplani R/o H.No. 4962 Block-D Pancham Society Sector-68 (SAS Nagar, Mohali) have changed my name from Harish Chand Poplani to Harish Chandra Poplani.
- I, Ritu Rani** W/o Vishal Verma R/o H.No. 1176 Ph-10 (SAS Nagar, Mohali) have changed my name from Ritu Verma to Ritu Rani.
- I, Manjeet Singh** S/o Gurcharan Singh R/o Village Daudpur (Ludhiana) have changed my name to Manjit Singh.
- I, Meenu** W/o Mukesh Kumar R/o Patti Jetha, VPO Dharmot, Tehsil Payal (Ludhiana) have changed my name after marriage as Meenu Gupta.
- I, Gurmit Kaur** wife of Judge Singh Resident of Village Basti Gulab Singh Wali, Mamdot Uttar Tehsil & District Ferozepur have Changed my name to Gurmeet Kaur.
- I Gurcharn Singh** Son Of Sukhdev Singh R/O Thandewala Distt Sri Muktsar Sahib Have Changed My Name To Gurcharn Singh.
- I Rajinder Kumar** S/O Gurdev Lal R/o Gobar Mandi, Ferozepur City have changed my minor daughter name Khushi to Puja.
- I Balwinder Singh** Sidhu S/o Nahar Singh R/o Vill. Acharwal (Ludhiana) have changed my name from Balvinder Singh to Balwinder Singh Sidhu.
- I, Chhinder Kaur** W/o Daljit Singh R/o Vpo. Aitiana (Ludhiana) have changed my name to Surinder Kaur.
- I, Harmilan Singh** S/o Yadwinder Singh R/o Patti Gill Sudhar (Ludhiana) have changed my name to Harmilan Singh Gill.
- I Sarbjit Kaur** W/o Harwinder Singh R/o 284 A, Maharaja Ranjit Singh Avenue, Jalandhar have changed my name from Sarbjit Kaur to Sarbjit Kaur.
- I, Sunita Sharma** D/o Late Sh. Tilak Ram R/o H.No. 546/3, Durga Garden, Near J.B. Industries, Jagadhri, Distt. Yamunanagar have changed my name from Sunita Sharma to Sunita.
- I Mandip Singh** Jaspal S/o Abkar Singh R/o VPO-Jandour, Tehsil-Dasuya, Distt-Hoshiarpur, Punjab - 144205, have changed my name to Mandip Singh.
- I, Gurwinder Singh** S/o Baljinder Singh R/O Vill: Baj Singh Wala Tala Saida Sahu (Ferozepur) have changed my name from Gurwinder Singh to Gurwinder as a given name and Singh as a surname.

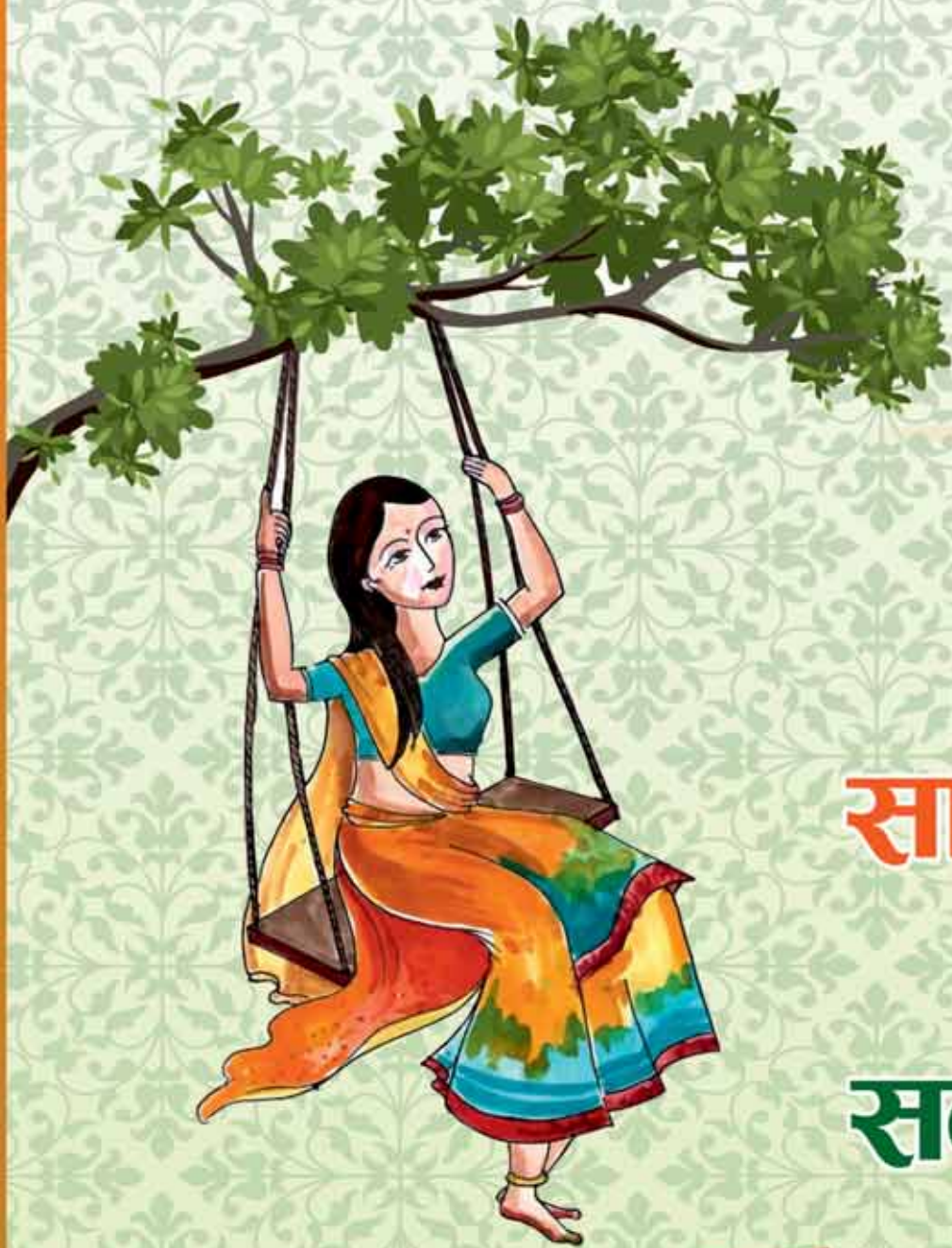
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हरियाणा सरकार



“हमें अपनी समृद्ध और विविध संस्कृति पर गर्व है। भारत की गौरवशाली विरासत को पुनर्जीवित करने और उसका सम्मान करने की दिशा में कई प्रयास किए गए हैं, जिसे हमारे युवाओं और हमारी संस्कृति के बीच का रिश्ता और गहरा हुआ है।”

- नरेन्द्र मोदी

## सावन की बयार, खुशियों की फुहार सबको बधाई, आया तीज का त्योहार

महारा हरियाणा

नॉन-स्टॉप हरियाणा

# तीज उत्सव

के शुभ अवसर पर देशवासियों को  
हार्दिक शुभकामनाएं



## राज्य स्तरीय समारोह

7 अगस्त, 2024 | प्रातः 10:00 बजे | नई अनाज मंडी, रोहतक रोड, जींद

मुख्य अतिथि

### श्री नायब सिंह मैनी

मुख्यमंत्री, हरियाणा

अध्यक्षता

### श्री महिपाल ठांडा

राज्यमंत्री विकास एवं  
पंचायत (स्व. प्र.), हरियाणा

कार्यक्रम से  
जुड़ने के लिए  
क्यू आर कोड  
स्केन करें

