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FIRST ROUND  
11 SPORTSPM Modi shares perspectives on  
Russia-Ukraine conflict with PutinPIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■  
NEW DELHI

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Tuesday spoke to Russian President Vladimir Putin and shared "insights" from his recent visit to Ukraine. During the telephone talks, Modi reiterated India's firm commitment to supporting an early, abiding and peaceful resolution of the Russia-Ukraine conflict.

A day earlier on Monday, Modi had briefed US President Joe Biden on his visit to Ukraine and conveyed India's full support for the early return of peace to the region through dialogue and diplomacy.

As regards talks with President Putin, Modi said in a social media post, "Exchanged perspectives on the Russia-Ukraine conflict and my insights from the recent visit to Ukraine. Reiterated India's firm support to an early, abiding and peaceful resolution of the conflict." The Prime Minister also said he and President Putin also discussed measures to further strengthen Special and Privileged Strategic Partnership between the two countries.

A statement by the Prime Minister's Office (PMO) here said Modi had on Tuesday a telephone conversation with the President of the Russian Federation Vladimir Putin.

The Prime Minister recalled his successful visit to Russia last month to participate in the 22nd India-Russia Bilateral Summit.

The two leaders reviewed progress on a number of bilateral issues and discussed measures to further



FILE PHOTO

strengthen the Special and Privileged Strategic Partnership between India and Russia. They also exchanged views on a range of regional and global issues of mutual interest.

The two leaders exchanged views on the ongoing Russia-Ukraine conflict as Modi shared with Putin insights from his recent visit to Ukraine.

He underlined the importance of dialogue and diplomacy as well as sincere and practical engagement between all stakeholders to achieve an abiding and peaceful resolution of the conflict. The two leaders agreed to remain in touch.

Modi's talks with Putin took place days after he met Ukraine President Volodymyr Zelenskyy in Kyiv.

During his meeting with the Ukrainian President, Prime Minister Modi had said India is "not neutral as it is always on the side of peace".

## Protests singe City of Joy

SAUGAR SENGUPTA ■ KOLKATA

Many people, including policemen, were injured in pitched battles intermittently fought at various locations of Kolkata and Howrah between the men in uniform and students protesting against the rape and murder of the lady doctor at a medical college in Kolkata. Several protesters were taken into custody. The students under the banner of a relatively obscure Paschim Banga Chhatra Samaj — with apparent blessings of the Opposition BJP — marched towards the State Secretariat Nabanna to demand the resignation of Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee when clashes took place.

Initial jostling turned into skirmishes with the police repeatedly bursting tear gas, charging water jets and resorting to lathicharge as the charged up agitators that included many women refused to relent and turned aggressive. The pitched battles continued for more than five hours giving the police a harrowing time, sources in the administration said, adding additional combat forces and RAF had to be called in from the neighbouring districts.

At various places people profusely bleeding from head were seen being carried away by their co-agitators to the hospitals. Similarly the policemen who often got isolated were also attacked. At Babu Ghat a crowd of agitators badly beat up two policemen with lathis, rods, bricks and even shoes. Some even spit on them while



Tear gas shells being used by security personnel to disperse students during their protest march towards West Bengal Secretariat over the alleged sexual assault and murder of a trainee doctor, in Kolkata, on Tuesday

journalists covering the incident tried to intervene by appealing the people not to take law into their own hands.

Intensity of the protest was such that the agitators who were quickly joined by swarms of political activists, moved dangerously close to the seat of State power, Nabanna with the police armed with riot gear having a trying time to push them back.

The scene was almost same on both sides of the Hooghly River as the agitators broke through firmly erected barricades one after the other at Mahatma Gandhi Road, College Square, Princep Ghat, Esplanade, Hastings, Santragachi, Vidya Sagar Setu leading to Nabanna, Howrah Maidan, Sarat

Safety of healthcare workers:  
Portal floated, public view sought

ARCHANA JYOTI ■ NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court-appointed National Task Force (NTF) to formulate a protocol for the safety and security of healthcare professionals held its inaugural meeting under the chairmanship of the Cabinet Secretary on Tuesday.

It decided to conduct broader consultations with key stakeholders to identify critical issues and develop a comprehensive framework for

protecting those in the healthcare field.

Soon after the NTF panel also favoured setting up an online portal seeking suggestions from public, the Union Health Ministry shared a link in this regard, posting on the X social platform, "Suggestions to N T F" — <http://serviceonline.gov.in/directApply.do?serviceId=2987> for seeking suggestions from individuals and different stakeholders across the country.

Chatterjee Road and elsewhere shouting the hitherto familiar slogan "we want justice."

At Princep Ghat and Mahatma Gandhi Road the police chased away the agitators who were trying to break the cordons. At Kona Express Way too, the police fought intermittently with the agitators who were trying to enter Nabanna area from Howrah side.

In the melee more than 50 people, including policemen were hurt, sources said, adding that the count could go up as "more information from other zones are still awaited." The police had detained more than 350 people, the BJP sources said.

While the police accused the agitators of resorting to violence first by throwing bricks the opposite side said the students got agitated as news spread that four of their leaders who had been organising the movement for the past several days had "mysteriously gone missing" as they had allegedly been picked up around midnight on Monday.

Incidentally most of the agitating doctors at various medical colleges and the members of the civil society remained indifferent to the Tuesday's march but continued their cease work at their workplaces, sources said. The Tuesday's clashes were the culmination of fortnight long protests by the people from all walks of life against the brutal rape and murder of a lady doctor at the RG Kar Medical College Hospital and allege effort by the Kolkata Police and the powers that be to shield the real guilty.

## BRS leader Kavitha gets bail in Liquorgate

RAJESH KUMAR ■ NEW DELHI

In a major setback to the Enforcement Directorate (ED) and the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) and a big relief to Bharat Rashttra Samithi (BRS) leader Kalvakuntla Kavitha, the Supreme Court on Tuesday granted her bail in the now-scrapped Delhi excise policy 2021-22.

A Bench of Justices BR Gavai and KV Viswanathan passed the order after noting that the investigation is over and trial will take a long time to conclude.

The bench also questioned the fairness of the prosecution agency (CBI/ED) and criticised their selective approach in treating some accused as approvers. It also



Bharat Rashttra Samithi (BRS) leader Kalvakuntla Kavitha

asked the ED and the CBI about the "material" they had to show that Kavitha was involved in the alleged scam. The bench noted that the investigation is complete and

chargesheet/prosecution complaint has been filed in both the CBI and ED cases. Hence, the custodial interrogation of the petitioner, who has been behind the bars

for over five months, is no longer necessary.

Also, the trials in both cases are unlikely to be completed soon since there are about 493 witnesses to be examined and the documentary evidence runs into nearly 50,000 pages. "The appellant (Kavitha) is directed to be released forthwith on bail... on furnishing bail bonds in the sum of ₹10 lakh in each of the cases," the bench said, while allowing her appeals against the July 1 verdict of the Delhi High Court which had denied her bail in the two cases.

"The appellant (Kavitha) shall not make any attempt to tamper with the evidence or influence the witnesses. The appellant shall deposit her passport with the learned Trial Judge. The appellant

shall regularly attend the Trial Court and cooperate with the expeditious disposal of the trial," reads the order. Later in the day, a city court issued release warrants for Kavitha, paving the way for her release from jail.

The Supreme Court's decision has given hope to AAP convener and Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal whose bail petition is pending in the apex court. Kejriwal's legal team is expected to argue the case on the basis of bail granted to Kavitha and Manish Sisodia in the same case. Special Judge Kaveri Baweja issued the release order for Kavitha after being informed that the politician was granted bail earlier in the day by the SC in both the cases.

industry a bad name.

Lal's decision to quit was preceded by a WhatsApp chat with other office bearers and members of the executive committee. "We can expect more such allegations in coming days and it is better to quit rather than face the charges. Let a new team of office-bearers take over after the general body meeting," Lal reportedly told his colleagues. Though other office-bearers persuaded Lal to continue, the super star remained adamant and resigned.

Mollywood's MeToo movement  
topples South Indian superstar

KUMAR CHELLAPPAN ■ KOCHI

The controversy over casting couch in the Malayalam film industry took an interesting turn on Tuesday as Mohan Lal, popularly known as the superstar and South Indian Amitabh Bachchan, quit as president of Association of Malayalam Movie Artists (AMMA), the apex body of film stars.

All office bearers, including the executive committee members of AMMA, too, submitted their resignation along with Lal as the industry

is plagued by allegations of sexual misconduct.

A number of stars and directors, including Ranjith, (chairman, Chalachitra Academy), Siddique (general secretary, Amma), Mukesh MLA, Jayasooraya, Manian Pillai Raju, KP Prakash, Babu Raj (joint secretary, Amma) Babu (former general secretary, AMMA) have been



named by female artists as people seeking sexual favours in lieu of work or inappropriate behaviour or even attempt to rape.

Those who raised the issue include Bengali actress Sreelekha Mitra, Revathy Sampath, Minu Muneer, Geetha Vijayan and a number of junior and senior artists giving the Malayalam film

industry a bad name.

Lal's decision to quit was preceded by a WhatsApp chat with other office bearers and members of the executive committee. "We can expect more such allegations in coming days and it is better to quit rather than face the charges. Let a new team of office-bearers take over after the general body meeting," Lal reportedly told his colleagues. Though other office-bearers persuaded Lal to continue, the super star remained adamant and resigned.

## DAHI HANDI SHOW



Devotees form a human pyramid to break the 'dahi handi', an earthen pot filled with curd, as part of Janmashtami celebrations, at Dadar, Mumbai, on Tuesday

## Rise of daughters in Jammu and Kashmir

MOHIT KANDHARI ■ JAMMU

In the absence of any 'son'rise, it is time for the 'Laadli betis' to make their presence felt in the upcoming Jammu and Kashmir Assembly elections.

On Tuesday, two daughters with strong claim to political legacy from the Jammu and Kashmir divisions filed their nomination papers for the first round of polling on September 18.

From Kishtwar, 29-year-old Shagun Parihar filed her nomination as the BJP candidate in the presence of J&K BJP chief Ravinder Raina.

She is the niece of late BJP leader Anil Parihar. Anil Parihar was killed by

terrorists along with his brother Ajeet Parihar while they were returning home on November 1, 2018. Anil Parihar had considerable influence in the area and was an active member of the Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh.

"It is the love of the people of Kishtwar that has motivated me to file my nomination. I am confident of my victory. I am also certain that the brothers, sisters, and elders of Kishtwar will support my candidature and ensure my victory by a large number of votes," the BJP nominee told reporters after filing her nomination at the office of the returning officer in Kishtwar. She emphasised that this mandate is not just



for her family, but for the families of all martyrs in the region. Shagun Parihar, pursuing a doctorate in electronics, expressed gratitude to the BJP for honouring the families of martyrs who laid down their lives for the nation and the party. She stressed that peace, security, employment, and

women's empowerment would be the core areas of her work for the uplift of the mountainous district. In the Valley, 37-year-old Iltija Mufti, daughter of Peoples Democratic Party (PDP) chief Mehbooba Mufti, made her electoral debut by filing the nomination papers from the Srigufwara-

Bijbehara constituency of south Kashmir. Bijbehara is a traditional bastion of the PDP. It has been represented from 1999 to 2018 by senior party leader Abdul Rehman Veeri. "The party has reposed faith in me by fielding me from the Bijbehara Assembly constituency," Iltija told

media persons in Anantnag on Tuesday.

She said that her grandfather, Mufti Mohammad Sayeed, and mother Mehbooba Mufti had also started their political career from Bijbehara. "Today, it is a very emotional moment for me and I am truly honoured," she said. Mehbooba Mufti has vowed not to contest Assembly elections until Statehood is restored. In Kishtwar, BJP candidates Sunil Sharma and Tariq Keen also filed their nomination papers from Paddar Nagseni and Inderwal seats, respectively. Meanwhile, the BJP on Tuesday named 29 more candidates for the Jammu and Kashmir Assembly polls, taking to 45 the number of

seats for which it has announced its nominees. The BJP has made one change from the now-revised list, which was put out on Monday, as it has named Baldev Raj Sharma from Shri Mata Vaishno Devi seat in place of Rohit Dubey. All other names are the same for the same set of constituencies, announced on Monday before being withdrawn.

In Srinagar, the Jammu and Kashmir National Conference released a list of 32 candidates which included Omar Abdullah for the Ganderbal Assembly seat, a constituency that he represented from 2009 to 2014 when he was the Chief Minister of the NC-Congress coalition Government.



# Trouble Mounts for Kangana: SGPC issues notice, Demands Apology Over Controversial Remarks

MONIKA MALIK ■ CHANDIGARH

The controversy surrounding actress-turned-politician Kangana Ranaut intensified as the Shiromani Gurdwara Parbandhak Committee (SGPC) — known as Sikhs' mini parliament — on Tuesday issued a legal notice to the makers of her upcoming film 'Emergency' for allegedly "misrepresenting the character and history of Sikhs".

The notice, sent by SGPC's legal adviser Amanbir Singh Sial, accused the film of misrepresenting Sikh history and portraying anti-Sikh sentiments, and demanded the removal of objectionable scenes and a public apology.

The SGPC, Sikhs' highest religious body, took strong objection to a particular dialogue in the film's trailer, which allegedly depicts Sikhs in a negative light. The trailer, released on August 14, features a character in Sikh attire who is shown demanding Khalistan — a sentiment the SGPC firmly denounced as "inaccurate" and "misleading".

The notice emphasized that such portrayals could hurt the sentiments of Sikhs worldwide and tarnish their image as sepa-

artists — a label that has no basis in Sikh history.

This is not the first time the SGPC has intervened. A few days earlier, the committee had sent a notice to G-Studio, the production house behind 'Emergency', opposing the release of the film's trailer.

Kangana, who plays the role of former Prime Minister Indira Gandhi in the biographical film, is no stranger to controversy. Her remarks on the ongoing farmer protests have already drawn widespread criticism, particularly from Punjab's farmer unions.

In her recent statements, Kangana claimed that had the government not been firm, Punjab could have turned into another Bangladesh during the farmer protests, accusing the movement of inciting violence and unlawful activities. In a recent interview, she alleged that the absence of strong leadership could lead Punjab to descend into chaos akin to Bangladesh, accusing protestors of instigating "hooliganism", including acts of rape and murder.

This has led to an outcry among farmer leaders, who have demanded a public apology and

disciplinary action against her by the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP). Despite the BJP's media cell distancing itself from Kangana's remarks, the outrage continues to grow.

Farmer leader Sarwan Singh Pandher, speaking from the Shambhu border, called for immediate disciplinary action against the actress, emphasizing that such statements should not go unpunished. He also announced a mass gathering on August 31, marking 200 days of the ongoing farmer protests, where a significant number of farmers from Punjab and Haryana are expected to converge. "BJP, at the national level, has distanced itself from Kangana's statements, but as a BJP MP, disciplinary action should be taken against her. She should issue a personal apology as the ongoing opposition and false narratives harm the farmers' movement," he said.

Additionally, prominent farmer leader Balbir Singh Rajewal questioned Kangana's mental stability, further escalating the demand for accountability.

The 'Emergency' movie trailer has sparked widespread

protests, with Sikh organizations and leaders condemning the film's portrayal of Sikhs. Independent MP from Punjab Sarbjit Singh Khalsa had already objected to the scenes, urging the Central Government to halt the film's release.

In addition, Congress MP and the Leader of Opposition in the Lok Sabha Rahul Gandhi has also criticized Kangana's remarks, accusing the BJP Government of maligning farmers and failing to fulfill its promises to them.

The SGPC's notice comes amidst a growing backlash against the film, which is set to be released on September 6. The controversy has already escalated, with threats being issued against Kangana. A viral video of Vicky Thomas, a Christian convert to Sikhism, surfaced on social media, where he threatens to behead the actress if the film continues to misrepresent Sikh history.

As the situation escalates, all eyes are on the response from Kangana and her film's producers. The SGPC has made it clear that they will not tolerate any distortion of Sikh history and will continue to fight for the dignity and respect of the community.

# Kangana Ranaut's Remarks On Farmers Stirs Hornet's Nest

## HP Assembly adopts resolution against her

PNS ■ SHIMLA/ CHANDIGARH

The Himachal Pradesh Assembly on Tuesday adopted a Congress-backed resolution condemning Mandi MP Kangana Ranaut's remarks on farmers even as the Haryana unit of AAP held protests at several places in Haryana against what it called the anti-farmer mindset of BJP.

Ranaut had posted a clip of her interview in which she suggested that a "Bangladesh-like situation" could have erupted in India but for the country's strong leadership. She then alleged that bodies were hanging and rapes were taking place during the farmers' protest against the now-repealed three farm laws. She alleged the involvement of China and the US in the "conspiracy".

Kangana's remarks triggered heated exchanges in the assembly of her Congress-ruled home state with the House adopting a resolution condemning the remarks.

With Haryana going to polls on October 1, the opposition targeted the ruling BJP over the issue. The Aam Aadmi Party's

Haryana unit staged protests in the state against her remarks, with a party leader saying her statement indicates the BJP's "mindset" towards farmers. The AAP leaders and workers held protests at various places including Jind, Yamunanagar, and Panchkula.

In the Himachal Assembly, as soon as the opposition BJP staged a walkout over rejection of its adjournment motion on law and order situation, Parliamentary Affairs Minister Harshwardhan Chauhan said remarks of Kangana are insulting for the entire farm community of the country. After the BJP members returned to the House, he asked them to clear their stand on the issue. Members from both sides started raising slogans as Leader of Opposition Jai Ram Thakur said Kangana's remarks are personal and it is not the view of the party.

Chief Minister Sukhvinder Singh Sukhu supported the resolution and said the BJP should have come forward to discuss the issue. Supporting the resolution, Deputy Chief Minister Mukesh Agnihotri said the farmers are furious over the remarks of Kangana and the BJP should seriously consider its conduct. Revenue Minister Jagat Singh Negi said an FIR should be registered against the actor as her remarks can create a law and order situation. Pacifying the

agitated members, Speaker Kuldeep Singh Pathania said a resolution condemning the remarks of Kangana has been passed by the House and there is no need for further discussions.

Himachal Pradesh PWD Minister Vikramaditya Singh and her mother Pratibha Singh, who is the state Congress president, hit out at Kangana, terming her remarks on the farmers' protest as "reckless and misinformed". The Congress leaders, in two separate statements, condemned Ranaut's remarks, and said they were a grave insult to the farmers.

The Haryana unit of AAP held demonstrations at various places with state senior vice president Anurag Dhandra leading a protest in the Yamunanagar district. The protesters carrying placards raised slogans against the BJP government. Haryana AAP president Sushil Gupta dubbed Ranaut's remarks "shameful". He alleged the BJP hated farmers because they forced them to roll back the "black" farm laws.

Kangana has made such statements on farmers earlier also, Gupta said, and alleged it has been the "mentality" of the BJP that those who abuse farmers are rewarded with posts. Her remarks indicate the "mindset" of the BJP towards farmers, he further alleged.

## BJP's Kiran Choudhry elected unopposed to RS from Haryana

PNS ■ CHANDIGARH

Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) leader Kiran Choudhry was elected unopposed in the Rajya Sabha bypoll from Haryana after the deadline for withdrawal of nomination ended at 3 pm on Tuesday. Being the lone candidate in the contest, she was declared elected unopposed. The winning candidate was given a certificate by Returning Officer Saket Kumar for the bypoll at the Haryana Vidhan Sabha Secretariat. State Chief Minister Nayab Singh Saini was also present on the occasion. Earlier when she had filed her nomination, four JJP rebel MLAs had also extended support to her candidature. No other party has put up a candidate for the bypoll for the lone Rajya Sabha seat in Haryana which was necessitated after Congress's Deepender Singh Hooda was elected to the Lok Sabha from Rohtak. His Rajya Sabha term was to end on April 9, 2026. The BJP had named Choudhry (69) as its nominee for the bypoll shortly after she resigned from the assembly a week ago, nearly two months after she switched over from the Congress. Choudhry joined the BJP along with her daughter and former MP Shruti Choudhry in June. Kiran Choudhry represented the Tosham seat in the Haryana Assembly. Congress had not fielded a candidate for the Rajya Sabha seat as it did not have the numbers.

# Punjab Govt Gears Up Ahead of PM's Meeting: CS Requests Police Force for HA land acquisition

PNS ■ CHANDIGARH

As Prime Minister Narendra Modi prepares to review the progress of national highway projects in Punjab on Wednesday, including the much-anticipated Delhi-Amritsar-Katra Expressway, the State Government has sprung into action. Ahead of the high-stakes meeting, Punjab's Chief Secretary Anurag Verma has written to the state Director General of Police (DGP) Gaurav Yadav, requesting the deployment of police forces to ensure the smooth acquisition of land required for the National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) projects in Malerkotla and Kapurthala districts.

Verma, in his letter, emphasized the urgency of securing two critical yet small stretches of land — 1.34 kilometers in Malerkotla and 1.25 kilometers in Kapurthala — by August 27, 2024. He noted that with adequate police presence, these sections could be swiftly acquired, allowing the state to present a favourable progress report during the Prime Minister's meeting.

The Chief Secretary's correspondence is part of a broader effort to address delays in land acquisition, a key bottleneck that has slowed down the ambitious highway projects, including the NHAI's flagship project Delhi-Amritsar-Katra Expressway.

The letter came amidst a prolonged standoff between the Punjab Government and the Centre over land acquisition for NHAI projects. The dispute has been a thorny issue, with the Centre, led by Union Minister Nitin Gadkari, previously warning that delays in land acquisition could lead to the cancellation of key projects. Gadkari had also raised concerns over assaults on contractors and their workers, further complicating the situation. Currently, NHAI has 293 kilometers of highway projects underway in Punjab, with an estimated cost of Rs 14,288 crore.

Punjab Chief Minister Bhagwant Mann had earlier assured the Centre of the state's cooperation, clarifying that delays were primarily due to the high land prices in Punjab. Mann also pointed out that FIRs lodged against contractors were based on

legitimate grievances. The ongoing negotiations, which included meetings with Punjab's new Governor Gulab Chand Kataria, underscored the complexity of the situation.

The State Government, following backlash from the Centre, had also intensified efforts to resolve issues with protesting farmers, in the past few days, offering enhanced compensation and clarifying the legal repercussions of illegally occupying acquired lands.

It has been reported that districts such as Patiala, Sangrur, and Pathankot have fully transferred the necessary land for the construction of the 669-kilometer, four-lane, access-controlled Delhi-Amritsar-Katra Expressway, which connects Jaisalmer in Haryana to Jammu. The remaining districts — Jalandhar, Kapurthala, Ludhiana, Malerkotla, and Gurdaspur — have achieved up to 97 percent land acquisition success.

Chief Secretary Verma emphasized that both civil and police administrations have been fully mobilized to ensure the

smooth, peaceful, and timely completion of all highway projects across the state, particularly the Katra expressway.

**PM Modi's Review Meeting today**

Prime Minister Modi's meeting in New Delhi on Wednesday will be a crucial review of NHAI's projects in Punjab, with the Delhi-Amritsar-Katra Expressway prominently on the agenda. In response to the impending review, the Punjab Government has intensified its efforts to resolve the land acquisition issues that have been stalling progress. Verma's letter to the DGP is a clear signal that the State is taking concrete steps to meet the Centre's expectations. The Chief Secretary's letter directed the DGP to ensure that land acquisition in the two identified stretches is completed under the supervision of District Magistrates and Sub-Divisional Magistrates, with the presence of sufficient police forces to handle any resistance from landowners or local groups.

# Punjab Govt Ramps Up War on Drugs: CM to Launch Anti-Narcotics Taskforce, Helpline Today

MONIKA MALIK ■ CHANDIGARH

The Aam Aadmi Party (AAP)-led Punjab Government is intensifying its battle against drug abuse, taking a decisive step toward making the state drug-free. Chief Minister Bhagwant Mann is set to unveil a comprehensive anti-narcotics action plan on Wednesday, which includes the launch of a dedicated Anti-Narcotics Task Force (ANTF) and a WhatsApp helpline aimed at eradicating the drug menace from Punjab.

The newly constituted Anti-Narcotics Task Force, modeled after the Anti-Gangster Task Force (AGTF), is designed to target and dismantle drug trafficking networks operating within the State. The Chief Minister will inaugurate the ANTF's state-of-the-art headquarters in Mohali at 11 am, marking a significant milestone in the government's ongoing campaign against drugs. The event will also see the introduction of a WhatsApp number, allowing citizens to report drug-related activities directly to the authorities.

A senior Punjab police official, who did not wish to be named, told The Pioneer, "Under this new phase of state's anti-drug campaign, the introduction of ANTF and WhatsApp helpline represents a proactive and innovative approach to tackle the drug crisis. Citizens are encouraged to use the WhatsApp number to report any suspicious drug-related activities in their areas, enabling the police to respond promptly and effectively."

In response to the escalating drug crisis, the Punjab

Government has constructed a new ANTF building equipped with advanced technological infrastructure. The facility houses a cutting-edge computer lab that will enable real-time monitoring of drug trafficking activities. With the latest software and surveillance tools, the task force will keep a close watch on suspected drug networks, ensuring that the fight against narcotics is both relentless and effective.

The government's decision to bolster its anti-drug strategy comes at a time when drug trafficking has become a pervasive issue, not just domestically, but also across borders. With drug supplies increasingly being sourced from neighboring countries like Pakistan, the ANTF will play a crucial role in safeguarding Punjab's borders and preventing the influx of illicit substances.

In addition to the ANTF's new headquarters, the Punjab Government has initiated a surveillance project in six border districts, investing Rs 40 crore in the installation of high-tech cameras. Given that Punjab shares a 553-kilometer border with Pakistan, these cameras are strategically positioned within a five-kilometer radius of the border to monitor and intercept any illegal activities, including the smuggling of drugs and arms via drones.

The project, which also includes enhancing mobility and strengthening infrastructure with an additional Rs 20 crore, represented a multifaceted approach to combat the drug trade.

The Punjab and Haryana High Court has also taken a firm stance against drug traffickers,

demanding that the state's Director General of Police (DGP) submit a detailed report on all pending NDPS (Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances) cases where suspects have not been apprehended within six months. The court has issued clear directives that drug traffickers must be arrested immediately after a case is registered. If they evade capture, they should be declared Proclaimed Offenders (POs), and their properties should be attached.

In response to the surge in cross-border drug trafficking and arms smuggling fueled by drones, the Border Security Force (BSF) has recently demanded two additional battalions to bolster its efforts along the India-Pakistan border in

Punjab. The push came amidst a marked increase in drone activity, with over 120 drones intercepted this year alone, compared to 107 in all of 2023. Currently, the BSF has 20 battalions deployed along the 500-kilometre border, with two dedicated to critical security roles at the Attari check post and the Kartarpur corridor. The proposed battalion, comprising about 800-900 personnel, aimed at enhancing surveillance and counter-drone capabilities. With the majority of drones now arriving via drones, the BSF is also focusing on improving intelligence operations and community engagement. The force is innovating patrol methods and constructing infrastructure, such as culverts over rivers, to prevent illegal crossings and smuggling.



Himachal Chief Minister Sukhvinder Singh Sukhu, meeting the Leader of Opposition Jai Ram Thakur during the first day of the Monsoon Session of Himachal Pradesh Vidhan Sabha at Shimla on Tuesday. The two-week Monsoon session of the Assembly started on a stormy note with the opposition BJP staging a walkout after rejection of its adjournment motion on alleged deteriorating law and order situation in the state. *Pioneer Photo*

# Show Of Strength Continues By Candidates In Haryana To Bag Party Tickets

## Haryana Assembly Election

MANOJ KUMAR ■ CHANDIGARH

With the Assembly Elections around the corner, the Political leaders and workers in Haryana are sweating profusely in the Streets to show their strength for getting ticket in their respective constituencies. As none of the political parties have announced tickets so far in the State, the aspirants are leaving no stone unturned to garner support from the public through holding rallies, roadshows and public meetings as well as putting all their efforts to mount pressure on their top brass. These aspirants are also using innovative ways to connect with the voters, such as door-to-door campaigns, social media interactions, and community outreach programs.

The ruling Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP), the Indian National Congress (INC), and the Jannayak Janata Party (JJP), Indian National Lok Dal (INLD), Bahujan Samaj Party (BSP) and Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) are among the key players in the fray. The Elections are scheduled for October 1, and the results will be declared on October 4.

In the Congress party, the candidates are working tirelessly to secure a ticket as there is a long queue of aspirants in every segment. There are over 2500 candidates who have applied for tickets in the Congress in Haryana. These aspirants are banking on the party and organisational work, past record as social workers and their connection with the masses to get the mandate.

In Congress, the Hooda faction, Birender Singh faction and

the Selja-Surjewala faction are at loggerheads and workers are approaching their leaders to get tickets in their respective constituencies.

Vrinda Sharma, a ticket aspirant from former Union Minister and Senior Congress leader Birender Singh's faction, who recently held a rally at Jat Dharmshala in Jind to show the strength, said, "Large number of people attended the rally. They want me to contest assembly elections as I have been working for the party over the last many years. I am a dedicated worker of the Congress party."

In Jind, Parmod Sehwal and Pardeep Gill, who are considered close to former Chief Minister Bhopinder Singh Hooda have been conducting their padyatra in different areas over the last many days to garner support from public and also to mount pressure on party high command to get ticket.

Talking to reporters, Ajay Chaudhary, who is considered close to Sirsa MP and senior Congress leader Kumari Selja, said, "I am seeking a ticket from Narnaund segment of Hisar district. I had recently organized a party worker meeting at Raviddas Dharamshala and sought support from them. At a rally in Narnaund, Selja ji had recently declared my candidature and sought votes for me."

Talking to reporters, senior Congress leader Sukhbir Kataria, who himself is a contender for the ticket from Gurugram, said, "32 aspirants have already staked claim for the party ticket from Gurugram." He further said, "We are very confident about defeating the BJP across the State and in Gurugram as it has failed to deliver services to the people in the last 10 years. Gurugram has

become a waterlogged city, which is permanently traffic-jammed and full of garbage. We will end this nightmare," said Kataria."

In a press statement, Mohit Grover, who fought the election in 2019 as an independent from Gurugram said, "I am a tried and tested candidate as I managed to get around 50, 000 votes and came second in the 2019 election. I have earned the trust of people in Gurugram and that is the reason they voted for me. My father also served the Congress for many years. If a mandate is given I will work hard to ensure that the party wins in the polls."

Pankaj Dawar, Media Coordinator of the Congress party, Gurugram, said, "I have served the organisation in the toughest period from 2010 to 2024 with dedication. I have served the party with loyalty and almost 90% of party activities held in the last 10 years have been carried out by me. I ensured that 10,600 people joined the party during the membership drive."

Manish Bansal, son of former railway minister Pawan Kumar Bansal, is making a push for political influence in Panchkula. In a statement, Bansal said, "I have been working in Panchkula for the last 16 years and have the desire to contest from here, but the final decision will rest with the party high command."

Congress State Women Wing Chief Sudha Bhardwaj as well as former mayor Upinder Ahluwalia are also actively seeking the ticket, signalling a competitive race for the party nomination from Panchkula. Senior Congress leader Laxman Goyal from Panchkula has also staked claim to the Panchkula seat.

To show their strength, the kin of former Chief Minister

Bansi Lal held separate public meetings to mark his birth anniversary in his home constituency Tosham and native village Golgarh. Kiran Choudhry, daughter-in-law of Bansi Lal, along with her daughter Shruti Choudhry, organised a public meeting in Tosham town, which was attended by Chief Minister Nayab Singh Saini as chief guest. On the other hand, Lal's elder son, Ranbir Mahendra, former Congress MLA and his son Anirudh Chaudhry held a meeting of their supporters in Golgarh, his native village.

Despite facing anti-incumbency after ruling the State for 10 years, BJP district president Kamal Yadav said that enthusiasm among the workers and leaders was high. Talking to reporters in Gurugram, he said, "There is strong demand for the BJP ticket as workers and leaders have faith in the organisation and work which we have done in the last 10 years. As many as 15 candidates have sought the Gurugram ticket. Party will give the ticket to the candidate who has a clean image and is loyal to the party."

A BJP leader Gargi Kakkar said, "I have worked both in the party organisation and as a social worker to help people. If the party gives me a chance, I will definitely work for the betterment of the city."

Talking to reporters, BJP State Unit President Mohan Lal Badoli said that a large number of aspirants have sought a BJP ticket across the State and their names were discussed in detail in the state election committee meeting. "The names of candidates will be shared with the central leadership soon. The first list could be finalised by August 28 or August 29," he added.

# JJP & Chandrashekhar Azad's ASP form alliance in Hry; JJP to contest 70 seats, ASP 20 seats

PNS NEW DELHI ■ CHANDIGARH

To woo the Dalit voters in the State, the Jannayak Janata Party (JJP) on Tuesday announced an alliance with Chandrashekhar Azad's ASP Samaj Party (Kanshi Ram). It will be the first political foray of Azad, the Bhim Army leader, into Haryana, but comes in the wake of his win from the Nagina Lok Sabha seat.

The two parties have also finalised the seat-sharing arrangement, with JJP contesting 70 seats and ASP 20 seats. This announcement was made in a joint press conference in Delhi by senior JJP leader and former Deputy Chief Minister Dushyant Chautala and ASP leader and MP Chandrashekhar Azad.

Talking to reporters, Chautala stated that the JJP and ASP alliance has laid the foundation for taking Haryana forward. He assured that both parties would contest all 90 seats



together with full force. The alliance will form a youth government in Haryana, uniting all 36 communities and empowering the poor, farmers, laborers, women, and all other sections of society. Chautala also said that the people of Haryana are eager to remove the BJP, and JJP has made it clear that they will not align with the BJP again.

On the occasion, ASP leader Chandrashekhar Azad emphasized that their primary goal is to take Haryana forward, as the state needs to become more powerful. The

party, with one joining the Congress, and two expected to go with the BJP. The JJP-ASP alliance has its eye on the potentially formidable caste combination of the JJP's Jat support base and the ASP's expected Dalit backing. The Jats make up 26% of Haryana's population.

In the 2019 Assembly elections, four of the seats won by the JJP were SC-reserved constituencies. Earlier, the Abhay Chautala-led Indian National Lok Dal (INLD) — the original party from which Dushyant broke away to form the JJP — and Mayawati-led BSP announced that they would revive a previous tie-up for the Vidhan Sabha polls. The SC-reserved seats in Haryana have been won mostly by the Congress and BJP. In the 2019 Assembly polls, the BJP won five of the 17 SC seats in Haryana, and the Congress seven, with the JJP winning four and one seat going to an Independent.

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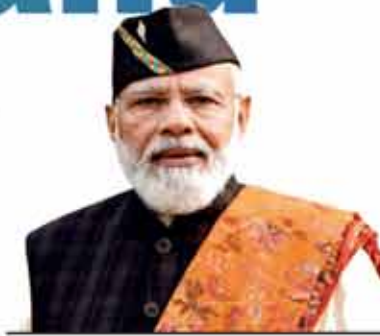


# Destination Uttarakhand

UTTARAKHAND PIONEERING SOCIAL REFORMS

**With the Uniform Civil Code, CM Pushkar Singh Dhama led Uttarakhand government has taken significant strides towards promoting equality and ensuring equal rights for all its citizens**

## Uniform Civil Code: Promoting equality



I congratulate Uttarakhand government on the remarkable progress achieved in the last few years. This has been made possible by sustained policy push and focus on key sectors such as tourism and renewable energy. Alongside, the state has made significant strides in infrastructure development, setting new benchmarks for sustainable growth. Uttarakhand's commitment to harnessing its natural resources and promoting tourism has not only bolstered its economy but also showcased its potential on the global stage. I applaud the state's dedication to include the development and look forward to its continued success in the years ahead.

**Narendra Modi,**  
Prime Minister

Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhama led government, with the vision of bringing uniformity in the society by providing same set of laws regarding marriage, divorce, land, property and inheritance to all people of Uttarakhand - irrespective of their faith - has taken the initiative to implement Uniform Civil Code in the Himalayan state. With CM Dhama announcing to implement UCC before November 9 - the state foundation day - Uttarakhand is on path of becoming the first state of the country, since Independence, to implement UCC. The law that intends to increase social harmony, promote gender justice and empower women, is in compliance with the provisions of Article 44 of the Constitution.



>> Narendra Modi, Prime Minister of India and Pushkar Singh Dhama, CM Uttarakhand

The proposed law has 392 sections divided into four parts and seven chapters providing equal rights to women in marriage, divorce, alimony, and inheritance of property, proscribes certain kinds of relationships, bans polygamy, sets the marriageable age for men and women (21 years and 18 years respectively), and makes registration of marriages mandatory

### ENSURING EQUAL RIGHTS TO WOMEN AND CHILDREN

One of the primary benefits of UCC is the promotion of gender equality. UCC would eliminate disparities and gender biases, ensuring that women have equal rights to property and inheritance, regardless of their religion.

The UCC also promises to uphold children's rights by standardizing adoption laws. Currently, different religious communities have varying practices regarding adoption, with some not recognising it at all. The UCC would establish a uniform legal framework, guaranteeing that

all children have the same rights to a family environment, irrespective of their background.

### PROMOTING SOCIAL HARMONY

In a diverse state like Uttarakhand, where differ-



>> CM Pushkar Singh Dhama in discussion with UCC Panel

ent religious and ethnic communities coexist, the UCC would reinforce the principle that all citizens are equal before the law, thus promoting a more harmonious and integrated society.

### SIMPLIFYING LEGAL SYSTEM

The implementation of a Uniform Civil Code (UCC) would simplify the legal system in Uttarakhand. The presence of multiple personal laws complicates legal proceedings and can result in conflicting judgments. UCC would establish a single legal framework for all civil matters, making the judicial process more streamlined and efficient.

### ECONOMIC BENEFITS

Uniform civil laws can have positive economic implications. By ensuring that property rights are clear and consistent, a UCC can create a more predictable environment for economic activities. This legal clarity can encourage investments and economic development, contributing to the overall growth of the state. Additionally, by securing women's property rights, UCC would empower women economically, allowing them to participate more fully in economic activities.

As Uttarakhand leads the way, it sets a precedent for other states to follow, bringing India closer to the constitutional ideal of equality for all.

### WHAT UCC AIMS

- Provide security and empowerment to weak, poor, and sensitive section of society.
- Connect women, children, youth, and the elderly of every section with the mainstream of development.
- Promote the feeling of unity, integrity, and nationalism through a uniform law.
- Encourage daughters and sons for higher education by increasing the age of marriage.
- Create a prosperous society by ending evil practices that have been going on for years.
- Eliminate discrimination between son-daughter and man-woman by giving equal rights to people of all communities.



Under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Uttarakhand is growing new heights of growth and development. I am working with full dedication to ensure that this stream of progress and prosperity continues in coming years as we follow the path of good governance.

**Pushkar Singh Dhama,**  
Chief Minister

### UCC TIMELINE

- Announcement: Feb 12, 2022
- 5-member panel formed: May 27, 2022
- 2 sub-committees: August 22, 2022
- Draft submitted: February 2, 2024
- Cabinet approval: February 4, 2024
- Table in assembly: February 6, 2024
- Passed in assembly: February 7, 2024
- 9-member panel to draft rules: February 10, 2024
- Presidential assent: March 11, 2024
- PLANS AHEADS
- 2 sub-committees to submit report before Aug 31
- 1 sub-committee to submit report before Sept 30
- To be implemented around Nov 9 (state foundation day)

### UNIFIED LAW, UNIFIED GROWTH

Uttarakhand's initiative to implement the UCC marks a significant step towards realising the constitutional mandate of equal rights for all. The state's leadership has recognised that diverse personal laws can perpetuate inequalities and impede social justice. By adopting the Code, Uttarakhand aims to streamline its legal system, ensuring all citizens are subject to the same laws and thus fostering a more inclusive and equitable society.

### TIMELINE TO THE HISTORIC BILL

The bill was introduced in the state legislative assembly on Feb 6 and was passed on Feb 7 during a special session of the Uttarakhand assembly. A nine-member panel drafted rules on Feb 10. Gurmit Singh, Uttarakhand governor, referred the bill sent by the state government to President Murmu for her approval, which she approved on March 11. This makes Uttarakhand the first state in the country to implement the UCC. Pushkar Singh Dhama, chief minister, Uttarakhand, declared it as a historic day and stated that his state will implement the UCC before State Foundation Day (November 9).



### Opportunities for growth

Uttarakhand steers ahead towards a promising pathway to economic empowerment, social justice, and growth

The implementation of a Uniform Civil Code (UCC) in Uttarakhand presents a significant opportunity for economic empowerment and growth.

One of the foremost advantages of the UCC is the simplification of legal procedures related to property and inheritance. Currently, different religious communities in India follow their laws, leading to a complex legal landscape. This complexity can create ambiguities and disputes, deterring investment and economic activities. With the UCC in place, all citizens in Uttarakhand will follow the same set of rules. This clarity will boost investor confidence and encourage both domestic and international investments in the region.

### Empowering women: Bridging the gender gap

The UCC also holds the potential to significantly empower women economically. In many personal laws, women have traditionally been at a disadvantage regarding inheritance and property rights. The UCC, by providing equal rights to all individuals, irrespective of gender, can rectify these historical injustices. Empowering women in this way is not only a matter of social justice but also an economic imperative, as it can lead to higher household incomes, improved economic productivity, and overall economic growth.

### Economic empowerment: From equality to prosperity

Entrepreneurs and businesses will benefit from standardised laws, reducing the time and costs involved in legal compliance. This can make Uttarakhand an appealing destination for new businesses and startups, encouraging a thriving entrepreneurial environment. Simplified legal processes and decreased administrative obstacles can boost economic activity, job creation, and innovation in the state.

Furthermore, the Uniform Civil Code (UCC) can contribute to social harmony and cohesion, which are crucial for maintaining a stable economic environment. A more harmonious society creates an environment that is favourable for economic activities, as it promotes trust, cooperation, and a sense of community. This stability can also attract more tourists, investors, and businesses to Uttarakhand.

Uttarakhand stands to gain significantly in terms of economic development and improved quality of life for its citizens and a promising pathway to economic empowerment and growth.

## Benefits of a Uniform Civil Code for Uttarakhand's judicial system

Uttarakhand's initiative to implement the UCC is a significant step towards legal simplification, promising numerous benefits for the state's judicial system. Read to know more...

The concept of a Uniform Civil Code (UCC) has long been a subject of discussion in India, aiming to replace the personal laws with a common set of rules applicable to all citizens. One of the primary advantages of the UCC is the simplification of legal processes. Currently, personal laws in India vary significantly among different religious communities, leading to complexities and inconsistencies in the legal system. For instance, laws governing marriage, divorce, inheritance, and adoption differ for different communities.

By introducing UCC, Uttarakhand aims to establish a single, cohesive legal framework that applies to all citizens. This uniformity will streamline legal procedures, reduce ambiguities, and enhance the efficiency of the judicial process.

### Legal reforms and social progress

In a country where we have more than 5 crore pending court cases, the UCC

will facilitate a standardised set of laws, courts can process cases more swiftly, as judges will no longer need to interpret varying personal laws. This will significantly reduce the backlog of cases and ensure timely delivery of justice. For instance, disputes over inheritance and property rights, which



>> CM Pushkar Singh Dhama presiding over a meeting on Anti Copying Law

often involve complex interpretations of personal laws, can be resolved more expeditiously under the UCC. This efficiency will not only benefit the judiciary but also provide relief to citizens who often endure prolonged legal battles. The Uniform Civil Code (UCC)

promoting about a significant benefit by bringing equality before the law. The implementation of UCC will eliminate discrepancies, ensuring that all citizens are treated equally under the law. Furthermore, laws about parental rights on property, the legitimacy of children born in live-in relationships, and equal property rights will prove beneficial in the long term. The UCC represents a move towards gender equality and non-discrimination, upholding the principles of the Indian Constitution and fostering social justice and inclusivity.

### Economic growth through legal uniformity

The Uniform Civil Code aims to improve the transparency and predictability of legal outcomes. This will help citizens gain a clear understanding of their rights and obligations, leading to better compliance with the law. By adopting UCC, the state is aligning with the constitutional vision of uniformity and equality.

After the implementation of the Anti-Copying Law, it has proven to be a game changer in the state

## Anti-Copying Law boosts job creation in U'Khand

The Anti-Copying Law has addressed several concerns like cheating, corruption, and favouritism head-on. By establishing stringent measures to prevent malpractices the state has ensured a level playing field for all aspirants. With the law in place, government examinations have become more transparent and fair.

### POSITIVE EFFECTS

**Boosting job creation:** Ever since CM Dhama took charge, 15 thousand jobs have been created. And after the implementation of the Anti-Copying Law, Uttarakhand has conducted exams and more than 10,000 government positions have been filled, providing employment opportunities across various sectors. The implementation of this law has led to fewer exam delays and instances of

malpractice, enabling the government to speed up the recruitment process.

**Restoring public trust:** Candidates now have greater confidence that their hard work and merit will be fairly evaluated, leading to more genuine and competitive participation in government exams. This renewed trust has also motivated



>> CM Pushkar Singh Dhama presiding over a meeting on Anti Copying Law

more individuals to pursue government jobs, knowing that the selection process is unbiased and transparent.

**Long-term benefits:** A transparent and fair recruitment system attracts more qualified

and competent individuals to public service, ultimately enhancing the efficiency and effectiveness of the government workforce. This, in turn, leads to better governance and improved public services, contributing to the overall development of the state.

**Future prospects:** To sustain its effectiveness, it

is crucial to ensure strict enforcement, maintain technological infrastructure to prevent malpractice, and continuously update the law to counter new cheating methods. Additionally, the government must focus on creating awareness among candidates about the law and its benefits

to foster a culture of integrity and honesty. With continued efforts and commitment to upholding the principles of this law, Uttarakhand can look forward to sustained progress and development in the years to come.

## Ensuring progress

UCC has some key features that will help the CM Dhama led government promote social justice and equality

### KEY FEATURES OF THE UCC

**Equal rights for husband and wife**  
Under the UCC, the rights and responsibilities of husband and wife are equal. This ensures that both partners have the same legal standing and obligations in their marriage.

**Exclusion of scheduled tribes**  
The UCC thoughtfully excludes scheduled tribes from its scope, recognising the importance of preserving their distinct cultural practices and traditions. This respectful approach ensures that the unique identity and heritage are safeguarded.

**Legitimacy of children born in live-in relationships**  
Children born during a live-in relationship are granted legitimacy under the UCC. These children are entitled to all the rights of a biological child, ensuring that they are not disadvantaged or stigmatised. This provision protects the welfare and rights of all children, promoting their acceptance in society.

**Equal property rights**  
The UCC provisions equal property rights for sons and daughters across all religious communities. This ensures that inheritance laws are fair and non-discriminatory, empowering women with the same economic rights and opportunities as men.

**Uniform marriage age**  
The UCC standardises the minimum age for marriage across all religions, setting it at 21 years for boys and 18 years for girls.

**Mandatory registration for live-in relationships**  
To provide legal recognition and protection to live-in relationships, the UCC mandates their registration. This ensures that partners have clear legal rights and responsibilities.

**Equal rights on divorce**  
The UCC ensures equal rights for both husband and wife, guaranteeing fair dissolution of marriage with equitable treatment.

**Mandatory marriage registration**  
All marriages to be registered within a stipulated time. This mandatory registration helps maintain accurate records and provides legal clarity and protection to married couples.

**Equality for men and women of all religions and sects**  
The UCC ensures equal rights for individuals of all religions and sects, thus fostering inclusivity and eradicating gender and religious-based discrimination.

## Anti-Copying Law: A bold step towards recruitment integrity

The new law underscores the state government's commitment to establish a fair and just recruitment system. Anti-Copying Law addresses the same

In a significant step to uphold the integrity of education and discourage misconduct in competitive exams, the Anti-Copying Law has been implemented in Uttarakhand. This new law entails strict penalties, including the potential for life imprisonment, for individuals involved in or aiding cheating.

**Anti-Copying Law: A necessary reform**  
The integrity of job examinations is crucial to maintaining a fair and merit-based recruitment process. However, with the increasing instances of cheating and unfair practices, the need for stringent measures has become more pressing than ever.

The Anti-Copying Law is designed to address this issue comprehensively by introducing stringent penalties for those who engage in cheating. It serves as a deterrent to potential offenders and reassures students, parents, and educators that the government is serious about creating a level playing field for all.

The introduction of an anti-copying law in job exams aims to address this challenge head-on, ensuring that only the most deserving candidates earn their positions. This law not only safeguards the credibility of the examination process but also reinforces the principles

of justice and transparency in employment. Chief minister Pushkar Singh led the Govt. ruling BJP government in Uttarakhand has brought the country's strictest anti-copying law and blamed previous governments for being slack in the matter. "Why has no one in the past tried to tighten the noose around

PIC: DIPR, UTTARAKHAND GOVERNMENT



>> CM Dhama distributing appointment letters

the neck of the cheating mafia? I knew an attempt would be made to intimidate us after we decided to act against the mafia involved in the paper leak. I would like to know in whose government's tenure the accused were sent to jail," Dhama said.

CM Dhama further said, "It will also

have provisions for disqualification of candidates guilty of using unfair means from appearing in any examination for 10 years and confiscation of property of those facilitating cheating." The Uttarakhand Competitive Examination (Measures for Prevention and Prevention of Unfair Means in Recruitment) Ordinance came into force after the approval given by the Governor on February 10.

**Upholding the sanctity**

The bill aims to ensure transparency and fairness in competitive exams in the Himalayan state. The state authorities clarified that the provisions shall remain applicable only in competitive exams and not in school and college exams.

- Following actions punishable under this law:
- Any involvement in unfair exam processes may result in life imprisonment and a fine of up to Rs 10 crore for individuals, printing presses, service provider organizations, management systems, or coaching institutes.
  - Conspiring with such entities can lead to life imprisonment and a fine of up to Rs 10 crore.

Text by: Sarita Shukla



# Classifieds

## LOST AND FOUND

It is information to the general public that, I have lost my Elementary Teacher Training Course Diploma Certificate Roll No. 165602 dt. 10.12.2014 Session 2008-10 issued by J&K State Board of School Education, Jammu and named Shilpa D/o Chhatar Singh R/o H.No. 75/14, Opp. Main Post Office, Jind Road, Hansi, Distt. Hisar Mob: 9499442131.

It is notified for the information that my Original passing certificate of Main, 10th (Secondary) Examination of Year 2007 and Roll No. 2141473 issued by CBSE has been actually lost. Name of the candidate Amandeep Singh S/o Balbir Chand, Full Address - Preet Sagar colony, H.No. 20/1558, Gali No.- 2, Begu Road, Sirsa (Haryana) Mo- 81683-8950.

## BEDAKHLI NOTICE

**I, Bahadur Singh** S/o Jit Singh R/o Village Kurari, P.O. Manauli Distt. SAS Nagar (Mohali) declare that my son Gurprey Singh his Wife Jagjit Kaur are out of my control. I, disown him from my movable & immovable properties. Anybody dealing with them at their own risk.

**I, Jogender Singh** S/o Parbhaati Lal R/o H.No.19-B, Sujaan Singh park, Model Town, Sonipat, declare that my son Amandeep and his wife Deepika are out of my control. So I disown them from my movable & immovable properties. Anybody dealing with them at their own risk.

**I, Lalita W/o Ajay R/o H.No 2116** , Kaith Majri Ambala City inform that my Son Gautam & his wife Himani are out of my control . So I disown both 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, Nisha W/O Late Rampal Walia R/O #51-A, St No.3-D, Deep Nagar, Patiala** Declare That My Son Pankaj Walia And His Wife Sonia Are Out Of My Control. So I Disown Them From All My Movable And Immoveable Properties. Anybody Dealing With Them On Their Own Risk.

**I, Rajender s/o Sh. Bhora Ram R/O Vill. Karora Teh. & Distt. Kaithal** declare that my son Mohan Lal is out of my control. So I evict him from my all moveable/immovable properties. Anybody dealing with him at their own risk.

**I, Sumitra W/O, Karam Chand R/O Village Patti Shahzadpur, Tehsil Shahahab M., Distt. Kurukshetra** Declare That My Son Balbir Chand And His Wife Neelam Devi Is Out Of Our Control. So I Disown Them From My Movable Or Immoveable Properties. Any Body Dealing With Them On Their Own Risk.

**I, Surinder kaur W/O Late Sh. Jarnal Singh R/o 49,Balaji Colony Morthikri teh Derabassi Distt Mohali Punjab** declare that my daughter Daljeet Kaur W/O Vijay Sharma and my son Lakhwinder Singh and his wife Girja and Grand-children's they are out of my control. So, I Disown all of them from my all moveable / Immoveable Properties. Anybody Dealing with Them at their own risk.

**We, Prem Singh S/o Chander Bhan and Gurnati Devi W/O Prem Singh R/O House no 394, Sector 28-A, Alpha City Karnal** declare that our son shabee Satsangi is out of our control, so we disown him from our movable and immovable property. If anybody deals with them, they will be responsible themselves.

**I, Surinder Kumar, S/O Shri Mool Chand, R/O 58,117 Church Road, Ahata Buta Singh, Firozpur Cantt, Punjab 152001** Presently Residing At Maya Colony, Near Post Office Saha, Ambala Cantt Declare That My Son Sahil And His Wife Anjali From My All Movable And Immoveable Properties

**I, Madhu Bala W/O Sh. Hari Krishan R/O 1076, Housing Board Colony, Ambala Cantt, Distt. Ambala** Declare That My Son Navdeep And His Wife Pooja And Their Childrens Palak & Keshav Are Out Of My Control. So I Disown Them From My All Movable Immoveable Properties

**I, Rampal Son Of Shri Om Prakash Resident Of Village Shahzadpur, Tehsil Narayargarh, District Ambala, Hereby Declare** That Both My Sons Mukul And Aryan Nagal Are Beyond My Control, Therefore I Evict Both My Sons Mukul And Aryan Nagal From My Movable Property And Legal Rights. They Will Themselves Be Responsible For Any Right Or Wrong Done By Them In Future.

**I, Anita W/o Late Sh. Inder Lal R/o H. No. 27, Lucky Vihar, Behind Banarsi Dass mill, Ambala Cantt** declare that my Son Raj Kumar alias Pajra is out of my Control. So I Disown my Son from my all Movable Immoveable Properties.

**I, Gaurav S/o Late Sh. Bijender R/O Vill. Kami, Tehsil & Dist. Sonipat** has disowned my sister Preeti from my all moveable-immovable property as she is out of my control. In future, if anybody deals with her, he/she will do at their own risk.

**I, Prithvi Raj S/o Mohan Lal Vill.Kheri Shishgran, Pehowa, Kurukshetra My Son Suraj And His Wife Dipika is out of my control. I, disown them from all My moveable and immoveable properties. If Anybody deals with him at Their Own risk**

**I, Nihal Singh, S/o Kartar Singh R/o Guru Nanak Colony, Pehowa, Kurukshetra, my wife Pratibha, who is not able to listen to me and does not listen to me, therefore, I break the relationship with her. Any transactions made by her in future and She herself will be responsible for good and bad deeds. Neither I nor any other member of my family will have anything to do with it.**

**I, Uttar Singh S/o Mai Dhan R/o H.No. 2229, Vikas Nagar, Ward No.3, Tehsil Camp, Panipat,** declare that my son Nirmal Singh and his wife Sheela Devi are out of my control. Are Therefore I evict them from my movable and immovable property. In future the person doing any dealing with them will be responsible himself. There will be no responsibility for me or my family.

## PUBLIC NOTICE

**I, Salendro Devi** DOB 04-03-1985 (Existing name and DOB of spouse as per service documents of my husband) Wife of JC-492829M Nb Sub Dilbag of 17 JAT (name of husband) resident of VPO-Dhanana Tehsil and District Bhiwani (HR) have changed my name and DOB from Salendro Devi & DOB 04-03-1985 to Salindro kumari & DOB 03-04-1985(existing name and DOB mentioned in my all civil documents) vide affidavit dated 27-08-2024 at sonepat.

**I, Bellamkonda Ram Babu** legally father of No. 16127430L Rank NK(L) Name Bellamkonda Naga Raju Unit 4 Engr Regt. C/o 56 APO Bathinda Cantt. (Punjab) permanent resident of 1-146/A, VTC : Kalli Phalam, Distt. Guntur, State Andhra Pradesh -52262 declare That I have changed my name from Bellamkonda Ram Babu to Bellam Konda Rambabu and DOB from 01.01.1971 to 01.01.1967

**I, T Murugan** legally father of No. 16122805P Rank NK Name Thangam M Unit 4 Engr Regt. C/o 56 APO Bathinda Cantt. (Punjab) permanent resident of 7B, Karungulam South Street, VTC : Sivagiri, PO- Sivagiri, Distt. Tirunelveli, State Tamil Nadu-627757 declare That I have changed my name from T Murugan to Murugan T and DOB from 20.04.1967 to 06.12.1965

**I, M Muthulaxmi** legally mother of No. 16122805P Rank NK Name Thangam M Unit 4 Engr Regt. C/o 56 APO Bathinda Cantt. (Punjab) permanent resident of 7B, Karungulam South Street, VTC : Sivagiri, PO- Sivagiri, Distt. Tirunelveli, State Tamil Nadu-627757 declare That I have changed my name from M Muthulaxmi to Muthulakshmi M DOB from 12.07.1972 to 11.02.1965

**I, S. Ponraj** legally father of No. 16123518X Rank NK Name Anand P Unit 4 Engr Regt. C/o 56 APO Bathinda Cantt. (Punjab) permanent resident of Rajamudi Puthuval, Vandiperiyar, Manjunjala, V Vandiperiyar, Distt. Idukki, State Kerala-685533 declare That I have changed my name from Ponraj S to S. Ponraj and date of birth from 10.10.1958 to 26.01.1965 vide Affidavit dated 08.07.2024

**I, Sandhya Chopra** Mahindru W/o Vishal Mahindru R/o H. No. 14/10, Dala Farm, Near Jail Road, Gurdaspur declare that in school record of my son Aryan Mahindru, my name has been wrongly written as Sandhya Mahindru. My correct name is Sandhya Chopra Mahindru. Concerned note.

**I, Army No. 15505379N,** Rank LD, Simerjeet Singh S/o Trilok Singh R/o 62 Cavalry, Tibri Cantt., Tehsil and District Gurdaspur, Punjab, India declare that in my Army Service Record, my mother Name is wrongly recorded as 12.12.1969 . Her correct DOB is 01.01.1968

**I, No. 15496241P,** Rank LD, Davinder Singh S/o Ran Singh R/o 62 Cavalry, Tibri Cantt., Tehsil and District Gurdaspur, Punjab, India declare that in my Army Service Record, my mother Name and DOB are wrongly recorded as Suman Davi and DOB 01.07.1964. Her correct name is Suman Lata and DOB is 01.01.1963 .

**I, Pooja Bhasin W/o Gagandeep R/o #1457, Ground floor, Progressive Enclave, Sector 50, Chandigarh** is hereby declare that in my Pancard number AIQPM8114R my name wrongly entered as Puja Monga and Father's name also wrongly entered as SVBASIN SVBASIN. My correct name may be treated as Pooja Bhasin and my father's name may be treated as Subhash Chander Bhasin in future for all purpose.

**I, Govindasamy (Old Name),** Father Of Thirupathi G Resident Of Village Bandharapalli, Post Office – Billanakuppam, Taluk & District - Krishnagiri, State – Tamil Nadu, Pin – 635115, Have Changed My Name & Dob From Govindasamy & Dob 01/05/1953 (Old Name & Dob) To Govindasamy V & Dob 21/03/1959 (New Name & Dob), Vide Affidavit Dated 27 Aug 2024 Sworn Before Notary Public Sat Pal, Pathankot.

**I, Nana** Father Of Army No 7783298Y Rank Hav(Mp) Name Patil Ravikant Nana Residing Of Village – Salgre, Tehsil – Miraj, Distt – Sangali, State - Maharashtra, Pin - 416418, Declared That I Have Changed My Name From Nana To Nanaso Sambhaji Patil As Per Affidavit Dt 27 Aug 2024 Sworn Before Notary Public, Satpal, Pathankot. Please Correct It.

**I, Neha Dham @ Neha Talwar @ Neha W/o Varun Talwar R/o #61, Near Gurudwara Dalima Vihar Rajpura Distt Patiala** those all name are same and the one person only.

**I, Manonmani** Mother of Army No. 15334727H, Rank HAV Name S Prasad UNIT 422 - ENGR SQN C/O 56 APO have change name & DOB from N Manmonmani & 01/07/1956 to Manmonmani & 19/05/1955 through Vide document No. IN-PB50100176523889W Dated: 27.08.2024

## CHANGE OF NAME

It Is For General Information That I, Anuj S/O Kuldeep Singh Residing At Khanpur Kalan (16-N), Hhajjar, Haryana-124142 Declare That The Name Of My Father Has Been Wrongly Written As Kuldeep In My CBSE Class 10th & 12th Educational Documents. The Actual Name Of My Father Is Kuldeep Singh Respectively Which May Be Amended Accordingly. It Is Certified That I Have Complied With Other Legal Requirements In This Connection.

**I, Umesh Sharma S/o** Rajinder Sharma, R/o H. No. 45-46, Ram Nagar, Kansapur Road, Near Ajay Palace, Tehsil Jagadhri, District Yamuna Nagar, Haryana-135001, India declare that name of mine, my father and my mother has been wrongly written as Umesh, Rajender Kumar and Varsha Rani respectively in my 10th class educational document. The actual name of mine, my father and my mother are Umesh Sharma and Varsha Sharma.

**I, Ravinder Singh S/o Sh. Harnam Singh R/o House No. 711/A, Harmilap Nagar, Baltana, Ziraikpur Distt. Mohali** have changed my name from Mukta Bahadur to Mukta Bahadur Banset.

**I, Surinder Kumar** Kataria S/o Sh Madan Lal Kataria R/o # 1114, Sector 15, Panchkula declare that Surinder Kumar and Ravinder Kumar Kataria is one and the same person.

**I, Muskaan W/o** Chirag Bhamri R/o 676, Subhash Gali, Yamuna Nagar declare that my father's name changed from Om Prakash Wadhwa to Om Parkash Wadhwa.

**I, Sandeep Kumar** Jindal S/O. Dharmal Jindal R/O #147 A, First Floor, Shiv Nagar, Near Kali Mata Mandir, Vtc: Pir Muchhalla,, Po: Dhakauli, Teh. Dera Bassi, District SAS Nagr, Mohali Punjab. I Have Changed My Name From Sandeep Kumar Jindal To Sandeep Jindal.

**I, Dharampal Kharb S/o Sh. Chatter Singh R/o H.No.1002, Sector 13-17, Huda, Panipat,** declare that i have changed my name from Dharampal to Dharampal Kharb for all purpose in future.

**I, Gulshan Jeet Singh** Khurana S/o Mehar Chand R/o H.No.1605, Sector-24, Huda, Distt. Panipat, I have changed my name from Gulshan Rai to Gulshan Jeet Singh Khurana for all purpose in future.

**I, Chanchal W/o** Gulshan Jeet Singh Khurana R/o H.No.1605, Sector-24, Huda, Distt. Panipat, I have changed my name from Chanchal Rani to Chanchal for all purpose in future.

**I, Kamaljit S/o** Jaswant Rai R/o H.No. 784, Street No. 21, W.No. 20 Moh. Kamalpur Distt. Hoshiarpur Punjab have changed the name of my minor daughter from Nikita to Nikita Kaur. Concerned note.

**I, Baljit Kaur W/o** Talwinder Singh, R/o VPO Aharana Kalan, Tehsil and Distt Hoshiarpur, Punjab have changed my name from Baljeet Kaur to Baljit Kaur. Concerned Note.

**I, Meenakshi Kalra D/o** Yash Pal Kalra w/o Vinay Gulati r/o #543-A, Adarsh Nagar, Tehsil & Distt. Kaithal have changed my name from Meenakshi Kalra to Meenakshi. In future, I will be known as Meenakshi.

**I, Kuldeep Kaur W/o Sh. Daljit Singh R/O 1501, Ward No. 2, Shyam Colony, Thanesar Kurukshetra** declares that in my old passport my D.O.B. is mentioned as 17.10.1964 and my husband's name Daljit Singh. My correct D.O.B. is 07.01.1965 and my husband correct name name is Daljeet Singh. Note all concerns.

**I, Arju D/o** Chander Has, R/o Village Chuharpur Kalan, PO Malikipur Khadar, Tehsil Pratap Nagar, District Yamuna Nagar, Haryana-135106, India declare that name of my father has been wrongly written as Surrender respectively in my 10th class educational documents. The actual name of my father is Chander Has.

**I, Mohini Devi D/o** Jaswinder Kumar, R/o Village Maheshwari, PO Pabri Kalan, Tehsil Jagadhri, District Yamuna Nagar, Haryana-135003, India declare that name of my father and my mother has been wrongly written as Jaswinder Singh and Sushma respectively in my 10th class educational document. The actual name of my father and my mother are Jaswinder Kumar and Sushma Devi.

**I, Umesh Sharma S/o** Rajinder Sharma, R/o H. No. 45-46, Ram Nagar, Kansapur Road, Near Ajay Palace, Tehsil Jagadhri, District Yamuna Nagar, Haryana-135001, India declare that name of mine, my father and my mother has been wrongly written as Umesh, Rajender Kumar and Varsha Rani respectively in my 10th class educational document. The actual name of mine, my father and my mother are Umesh Sharma and Varsha Sharma.

**I, Ravinder Singh S/o Sh. Harnam Singh R/o House No. 711/A, Harmilap Nagar, Baltana, Ziraikpur Distt. Mohali** have changed my name from Mukta Bahadur to Mukta Bahadur Banset.

**I, Mh Shabi Aalam** Son of Guljar Ahmed resident of H.No. 1068, Rajiv Colony, Shiv Mandir, Panipat-132103, state that I have changed my name from Mh Shabi Aalam to Shabi Alam.

**I, Sangita W/o** Ravi, # 1396, Sector-25, Chandigarh have changed my name to Sangeeta.

**I, Paramjit Kaur W/O** Bikramjit Singh R/O Dehriwal Daroga, Gurdaspur, Punjab-143518 have changed my name to Harjit Kaur.

**I, Subhash Chander S/O** Khem Chand R/O 25, Mann Colony (Jyoti Nagar), Karnal, Haryana-132001 have changed my name to Subhash Choudhary.

**I, Suvidhi D/O** Pardeep R/O Chhara 17, Hhajjar, Haryana-124504, hereby undertake that I Suvidhi want to change my name to Deep Sharma & Gender as Male.

**I, Rajan S/O** Amarjit Ram R/O Vtc-Dhak Manak, Po-Manak, Phagwara, Kapurthala, Punjab-144401 have changed my name to Rajan Shemar.

**I, No. 1550078** Ex Nk (TS) Karamjit Singh S/O Balwant Singh R/O Vill. Ralhan PO Khudda, Tehsil Dasuya Distt. Hoshiarpur Punjab have changed the name of my daughter from Jasbir Kaur to Jasvir Kaur.

**I, Smt. Kiranjit Kaur W/O** No. 4465107P Ex Nk Balwant Singh R/O Vill. Chak Khela PO Bhunga Tehsil & Distt. Hoshiarpur Punjab have changed my name from Kiranjit Kaur to Kiranjeet Kaur and my date of birth from 18-07-1968 to 01-01-1972

**I, Harvinder Singh S/O** Murat Singh r/o Vill. Ajmer, Po. Gera, Tehsil Mukerian, Hoshiarpur, Punjab-144221 declare that Given name is Harvinder & Surname as Singh.

**I, Jobanpreet S/O** Sanjeev Kumar R/O Vill. Chakrala, Po. Mustfapur, Distt. Jalandhar have changed my name from Jobanpreet to Jobanpreet Verma.

**I, Sandeep Kaur W/o** Sukhjith Singh R/O Vill. Rakshan, Po. Jadia, Distt. SBS Nagar, Nawanshahr have changed my name from Sandeep Kaur to Kaur Sandeep (Surname as Kaur).

**I, Ravita W/o** Manohar Lal Bajaj D/o Shri Bhim Sen R/o H.No- 1045/13, Milap Nagar, Ambala City have changed my name from Ravita Rani to Ravita. In future I will be known as Ravita.

**I, Om Parkash S/o** Sh. Atma Ram R/o H.No- 114 Phase-1 Jaggi Garden, Baldev Nagar, Ambala City have changed my name from Om Parkash Dhiman to Om Parkash.

**I, Babli Devi W/o** Satpal Singh R/o Village Bari Kohri PO Banondi 254 Tehsil Naraingarh Distt Ambala have changed my name from Shanti Devi to Babli Devi . in future I will be known as Babli Devi.

**I, Priya Mahant C/o** Shabhnam Mahant Dwara R/o ward no 6 Chanana Colony Naraingarh (219) Ambala Haryana have changed my name from Priya Mahant to Manoj Kumar.

**I, Harbhajan Singh S/O.** Sh. Dayal Singh R/O. House No 228, Village Mouli Jagran, Chandigarh. In My Aadhar Card No. 592799672751 My Name Is Wrongly Entered As Harabhajan Singh But My Correct Name Is Harbhajan Singh.

**I, Vikrant S/o** Bishamber Das R/o House No 4440, Maloya Colony Chandigarh have changed the name of my minor daughter from Himanshu to Himanshi.

**I, Shalender S/o** Ram Mehar R/O Village Shamlo Kalan, Jind Tehsil and District Jind Haryana inform that in my father Army service records my name recorded Salender Kumar and date of birth 21.09.1988. My correct name is Shalender and correct date of birth is 11.12.1990.

**I, Mukta Bahadur S/o** Sher Bahadur R/O House No. 72, Sector 5-A, Chandigarh have changed my name from Mukta Bahadur to Mukta Bahadur Banset.

**I, Mh Shabi Aalam** Son of Guljar Ahmed resident of H.No. 1068, Rajiv Colony, Shiv Mandir, Panipat-132103, state that I have changed my name from Mh Shabi Aalam to Shabi Alam.

**I, Sangita W/o** Ravi, # 1396, Sector-25, Chandigarh have changed my name to Sangeeta.

**I, Paramjit Kaur W/O** Bikramjit Singh R/O Dehriwal Daroga, Gurdaspur, Punjab-143518 have changed my name to Harjit Kaur.

**I, Subhash Chander S/O** Khem Chand R/O 25, Mann Colony (Jyoti Nagar), Karnal, Haryana-132001 have changed my name to Subhash Choudhary.

**I, Suvidhi D/O** Pardeep R/O Chhara 17, Hhajjar, Haryana-124504, hereby undertake that I Suvidhi want to change my name to Deep Sharma & Gender as Male.

**I, Rajan S/O** Amarjit Ram R/O Vtc-Dhak Manak, Po-Manak, Phagwara, Kapurthala, Punjab-144401 have changed my name to Rajan Shemar.

**I, No. 1550078** Ex Nk (TS) Karamjit Singh S/O Balwant Singh R/O Vill. Ralhan PO Khudda, Tehsil Dasuya Distt. Hoshiarpur Punjab have changed the name of my daughter from Jasbir Kaur to Jasvir Kaur.

**I, Smt. Kiranjit Kaur W/O** No. 4465107P Ex Nk Balwant Singh R/O Vill. Chak Khela PO Bhunga Tehsil & Distt. Hoshiarpur Punjab have changed my name from Kiranjit Kaur to Kiranjeet Kaur and my date of birth from 18-07-1968 to 01-01-1972

**I, Harvinder Singh S/O** Murat Singh r/o Vill. Ajmer, Po. Gera, Tehsil Mukerian, Hoshiarpur, Punjab-144221 declare that Given name is Harvinder & Surname as Singh.

**I, Jobanpreet S/O** Sanjeev Kumar R/O Vill. Chakrala, Po. Mustfapur, Distt. Jalandhar have changed my name from Jobanpreet to Jobanpreet Verma.

**I, Sandeep Kaur W/o** Sukhjith Singh R/O Vill. Rakshan, Po. Jadia, Distt. SBS Nagar, Nawanshahr have changed my name from Sandeep Kaur to Kaur Sandeep (Surname as Kaur).

**I, Maya Devi W/o** Sant Singh R/O Village Kaulpur, Po. Bhangran, Tehsil Mukerian, Distt. Hoshiarpur have changed my name from Maya Devi to Maya Kaur.

**I, Jaspal Singh S/o** Sansar Singh R/O VPO. Jhingar Kalan, Tehsil Dasuya, Distt. Hoshiarpur have changed my name from Jaspal Singh to Singh Jaspal (Surname as Singh).

**I, Mahipal, S/o** Mahasingh, Ward No. 17, Near Hanuman Mandir, Devi Lal Nagar, Meham Road, Gohana, Sonipat, declare that the name of my son is registered in the school records of my son as Jayant. Whereas his correct name is Jayant Mor for all future purposes.

**I, Sonu S/o** Onkar Singh, R/o village Malar, district Jind declared that the name of my son is registered in the school records of my son as Yogesh. Whereas his correct name is Yogesh Yadav for all future purposes.

**I, Kavita Rani W/o** Sh. Joginder Sandhu R/O H. no. 636, village, gagsina, Distt Karnal, have changed my name to Kavita Sandhu for all future purposes.

**I, Smilerpreet Singh** Sandhu S/o Dilbag Singh R/O L1/528, Sultanwind Road, Gurnam Nagar, Amritsar, Amritsar-I, have changed my name from Smilerpreet Singh Sandhu to Smilerpreet Singh. All concern please note.

**I, Harjeender Kaur** Aulakh W/O Harjeet Singh R/O H.No. 145, Ram Tirath Road, Near Lakehead Public School, New Urban Estate, Amritsar-II, PO Mahal, Distt. Amritsar, Punjab-143105 have changed my name from Harjeender Kaur Aulakh to Harjinder Kaur.

**I, Shashi Pal S/o** Jaswant Ram R/o Siwan Distt. Kaithal (Haryana) declares that I have changed my name from Shashi Pal to Pal Shashi. In future, I will be known by the name of Pal Shashi. All concerned please note.

**I, Sanjay S/o** Om Parkash Setia R/o #29 Purnjabi Colony, Ward No.10, Rajpura Tehsil Rajpura Distt Patiala have changed my name to Sanjay Setia.

**I, Aryan S/o** Mahender Kumar R/O Village Mamlu PO Bherthan Tehsil Jagadhri Distt Yamunanagar Haryana, declare that in my some documents my father name mentioned as Mahinder Kumar, whereas his actual name is Mahender Kumar.

**I, Manpreet Kaur S/o** Gurtej Singh resident of Village Virk Kalan Teh. & Dist. Bathinda have changed my name from Manpreet Kaur Alias Amarjeet Kaur to Manpreet Kaur .

**I, Sohan Sharma S/o** Sh. Telu Ram R/O House no. 29, Kendriya Vihar 2, Sector- 25 Panchkula Haryana, Have Changed my Minor Son Chirag address H.no 730, ward no. 1 VPO Nigdhu, Distt Karnal Haryana 132157.

**I, MS Khan S/o** Shamsuddin khan resident of House No. 1035 Sector 43-8 Chandigarh, have changed my name from M S Khan to Mohd Shahabuddin Khan.

**I, Radhika Garg D/O** Kamal Garg R/O H.No 37, Huda part-3, Ward no.8 Cheeka Tehsil Guhla District Kaithal Haryana have changed my name from Radhika to Radhika Garg.

**I, Karamjot Singh S/o** Sukhdeep Singh, VPO Bhagwal, tehsil Batala, Distt Gurdaspur have changed my name from Karamjot Singh to Singh Karamjot. Karamjot is my given name. Singh is my surname.

**I, Vijender Kumar S/o** Sh.Om Parkash R/O House no.437, ward no.4, New cloth market, Ambala City Haryana, have changed my name from Vijender Kumar to Vinjender Kumar Rajput.

**I, Vipin Pal, Son Of** Ved Pal, Resident Of Village Kakrali, Toda, Panchkula Haryana Have Changed My Name From Vipan Pal To Vipan Pal Rana.

**I, Urviya Singh, W/o** Sh.Ashok Kumar Rao, R/O E-15/303, GH-79, Sandeep Vihar, sector -20 Panchkula, Haryana, have changed my name from Urviya Singh, to Urviya Rao.

**I, Davinder Singh S/O** Balwinder Singh R/O Kothi No.420 Phase 3b1 SAS Nagar (Mohali) Have Changed My Son Name From Agastayaveer To Agastayaveer Singh

**I, Bellamkonda** Mangamma legally mother of No. 16127430L Rank NK(L) Name Bellamkonda Naga Raju Unit 4 Engr Regt. C/o 56 APO Bathinda Cantt. (Punjab) permanent resident of 1-146/A, VTC : Kalli Phalam, Distt. Guntur, State Andhra Pradesh -52262 declare That I have changed my name from Bellamkonda Mangamma to Bellam Konda Mangamma.

**I, Rukmani Saha** Is Legally Wedded Spouse Of No. 15708534y Rank Hav (Skt) Name Abhishek Kumar Saha Presently Residing At Vill Khapiya, P.O Simariya, Tehsil Chatra, Distt. Chatra, Jharkhand. Have Changed My Name From Rukmani Saha To Rukmani Kumari Vide Affidavit No. 17181 Dated 09/08/2024 Before Notary Ambala

**I Service No. 15691850y** Hav Praneeh Mandapalli Unit 2 Corps Signal Regiment (Aren) C/O 56 Apo, Ambala Cantt. Have Changed My Wife Name From M Venkata Satya To Mandapalli Venkata Satya Vide Affidavit No. 14528 Dated 22/08/2024 Before Notary Ambala

**I Reena** Is Legally Wedded Wife Of Service No. 6949974K Rank Hav/Skt (Mt) Balraj Singh R/O Vill Balkra (79) , Distt. Bhiwani, 127022 Of 867 Fd Wksp Coy (640 Emr Bn) C/O 56 Apo. Have Changed My Name From Reena To Reena Kumari Vide Affidavit Dated 26.08.2024 Before Notary Public Ambala

**I Kavita** Is Legally Wedded Wife Of Service No. 15814353y Rank Hav/Skt (Sig). Name Ombir R/O Rzf 902/5, Ugf Back Side, Raj Nagar Part 2, South West Delhi, Delhi 110077 Of 867 Fd Wksp Coy (640 Emr Bn) C/O 56 Apo. Have Changed My Name From Kavita To Kavita Kumari Vide Affidavit Dated 26.08.2024 Before Notary Public Ambala Cantt

**I Kusum** Is Legally Wedded Wife Of No. 14660361w Rank Nk Name Shailesh Kumar Singh Presently Residing At Vpo Kusauri, Tehsil Bansdhi, P.S Sahatwar, Distt. Ballia, State Up 277209 Of Unit 867 Fd Wksp Coy (640 Emr Bn) C/O 56 Apo. Have Changed My Name From Kusum To Kusum Singh Vide Affidavit Dated 26.08.2024 Before Notary Public, Ambala Cantt

**I Kiran Goel W/O** Neeraj Goel R/O H. No. 91A, Gobind Nagar, Ambala Cantt, Distt. Ambala. Have Changed My Name From Kiran Bala To Kiran Goel.

**I Jangsher Singh F/O** Service No. 18001860p Rank Hav Name Neeraj Chouhan R/O 742, Rajputana, Shahzadpur (58), Ambala, Haryana 1342026. Have Changed My Dob From 01/09/1963 To 25/02/1963.

**I Balvir Singh F/O** Service No. 15339448f Rank Hav Name Chamkaur Singh R/O Alo Arkh, Sangrur, Alloarakh, Punjab 148026. Have Changed My



JM FINANCIAL ASSET RECONSTRUCTION COMPANY LIMITED

Corporate Identity Number: U67190MH2007PLC74287 Registered Office: 7th Floor, Cnergy, Appasaheb Marathe Marg, Prabhadevi, Mumbai- 400025 Contact Person: 1. Raj Kumar- 9041087500, 2. Vishal Ketele- 9584966653, 3. Jyoti Sawant- 022- 6224 1676 Website- www.jmfinancial.com

Table with 6 columns: Loan Code/Branch/Borrower(s)/Co-Borrower(s)/Guarantor(s), Demand Notice Date and Amount, Property Address\_final, Reserve Price, Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) (10% of RP), Outstanding Amount (24-08-2024)

DATE OF E-AUCTION: 08-10-2024, FROM 11:00 A.M. TO 2:00 P.M. (WITH UNLIMITED EXTENSION OF 5 MINUTES EACH), LAST DATE OF SUBMISSION OF BID: 07-10-2024, BEFORE 4:00 P.M.

For detailed terms and conditions of the Sale, please refer to the link provided in https://www.jmfinancial.com/Home/Assetsforsale OR https://www.bankauctions.in.

SYMBOLIC POSSESSION NOTICE

Table with 6 columns: Sr. No., Name of the Borrower(s)/Loan Account Number, Description of Property/ Date of Symbolic Possession, Date of Demand Notice/ Amount in Demand Notice (Rs), Name of Branch

The above-mentioned borrowers/guarantors/s is/are hereby issued a 30 day Notice to repay the amount, else the mortgaged properties will be sold for 30 days from the date of publishing this Notice, as per the provisions under Rules 8 and 9 of Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002.

Sincerely Authorised Signatory For ICICI Bank Ltd.

PIRAMAL CAPITAL & HOUSING FINANCE LTD.

Registered Office: Unit No.-801, 6th Floor, Piramal Amli Building, Piramal Agastya Corporate Park, Kamani Junction, Opp. Fire Station, LBS Marg, Kuria (West), Mumbai- 400070-T +91 22 3802 4000 Branch Office: A301 & 302, 3rd Floor, Elante Office Complex, Industrial Area Phase 1, Chandigarh-160022

Table with 6 columns: Loan Code/Branch/Borrower(s)/Co-Borrower(s)/Guarantor(s), Demand Notice Date and Amount, Property Address\_final, Reserve Price, Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) (10% of RP), Outstanding Amount (22-08-2024)

DATE OF E-AUCTION: 13-09-2024, FROM 11:00 A.M. TO 01:00 P.M. (WITH UNLIMITED EXTENSION OF 5 MINUTES EACH), LAST DATE OF SUBMISSION OF BID: 12-09-2024, BEFORE 04:00 P.M.

For detailed terms and conditions of the Sale, please refer to the link provided in www.piramalfinance.com/ e-Auction.html or email on piramal.auction@piramal.com

STATUTORY 15 DAYS SALE NOTICE UNDER SARFAESI ACT TO THE BORROWER/GUARANTOR / MORTGAGOR

Table with 6 columns: Loan Code/Branch/Borrower(s)/Co-Borrower(s)/Guarantor(s), Demand Notice Date and Amount, Property Address\_final, Reserve Price, Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) (10% of RP), Outstanding Amount (22-08-2024)

DATE OF E-AUCTION: 04-10-2024, FROM 11:00 A.M. TO 01:00 P.M. (WITH UNLIMITED EXTENSION OF 5 MINUTES EACH), LAST DATE OF SUBMISSION OF BID: 03-10-2024, BEFORE 04:00 P.M.

For detailed terms and conditions of the Sale, please refer to the link provided in www.piramalfinance.com/ e-Auction.html or email on piramal.auction@piramal.com

STATUTORY 30 DAYS SALE NOTICE UNDER SARFAESI ACT TO THE BORROWER/GUARANTOR / MORTGAGOR

Table with 6 columns: Loan Code/Branch/Borrower(s)/Co-Borrower(s)/Guarantor(s), Demand Notice Date and Amount, Property Address\_final, Reserve Price, Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) (10% of RP), Outstanding Amount (22-08-2024)

DATE OF E-AUCTION: 04-10-2024, FROM 11:00 A.M. TO 01:00 P.M. (WITH UNLIMITED EXTENSION OF 5 MINUTES EACH), LAST DATE OF SUBMISSION OF BID: 03-10-2024, BEFORE 04:00 P.M.

For detailed terms and conditions of the Sale, please refer to the link provided in www.piramalfinance.com/ e-Auction.html or email on piramal.auction@piramal.com

STATUTORY 30 DAYS SALE NOTICE UNDER SARFAESI ACT TO THE BORROWER/GUARANTOR / MORTGAGOR

Table with 6 columns: Sr. No., Name of Work, Estimated Cost (Rs.), Starting Date for Downloading Bid, Earnest Money (Rs.), Deadline for Submission of Bid

Bidders are advised to submit their bids as per instructions issued by the Engineer-in-Chief, HPPWD Shimla with his office letter No. PW/CTR/32-20/Genl. Inst. CPWD/2020-19111-210 dated 25.10.2021 and even file letter No. 37996-38095 dated 13.03.2023 in compliance of the Principal Secretary (PW) to the Government of Himachal Pradesh guidelines dated 07.10.2021 in continuation to notification issued by the Additional Chief Secretary (PW) to the Govt. of HP vide notification No. PBW(B)(A)(S)/12020 dated 22.7.2020. Tenders are called on percentage rates as per directions of the Chief Engineer (S2), HPPWD Shimla conveyed vide letter No. PW/CTR-29/Misc/2023-36299-329 dated 16.02.2023. The bidders are advised to note other details of tenders from the department website www.hptenders.gov.in

Public Notice THAT IS FOR NOTICE OF THE GENERAL PUBLIC I Bharat Singh s/o Subhash Chand (95897901681) and Smt. Raminderpreet Kaur (95897901681) all are the Resident of Singh (82265502907), all are the Resident of NDC 15053505 Kotla, Jalandhar. I am the Present Owner of the Property in question and further came into an agreement to sell with Smt. Baldev Devi s/o. Suresh Kumar (95897901681) and we declared that we Lost Our previous Chain Two title sale deeds no.29781/30/12/2013 and 1608/1 dated 13/03/12 and registering that a DSR no.1323207/1401604 is also Logged That the above said Purchaser namely Smt. Baldev Devi s/o Suresh Kumar, is getting loan from Gritum Housing Finance Ltd and declared that I never mortgage it anywhere in all over India, not in any other institutions. If there is any negligence apart on my part, then civil/criminal liability will arise upon me or if found mortgage anywhere, then I shall be liable for that infuture. Advocate bhavishay Sahni/Chamber no.501, distt Court, Karnal.

Public Notice This is to inform and seek objections, if any, from general public that Hero Housing Finance Ltd, has sanctioned Home Loan to Mr. Sall Dev Singh Balli S/O Mr. Devinder Singh Balli and Mrs. Parul Bai W/O Mr. Sall Dev Singh Balli against the property s.e. House No. 55 Sector-16 A Chandigarh 52.50 Sq. Yds. That Conveyance Deed Dt. 03.03.1964 registered in the old Estate Office, Chandigarh, executed & Register in favour of Mrs. Nirmala Devi and Transfer Letter no 35535/RP-9509 and 142/RP-9509 and 4294/RP-9509 of the above mentioned property was lost. That a DDLR/LR No. GD No. 046 Dt. 27/08/2024 was lodged in the Community Police Wing, Punjab regarding the loss of the said Sale Deed. In case any person having a claim, right, title or interest in the above said property in any manner whatsoever by way of sale, gift, lease, inheritance, exchange, mortgage, charge, lien, trust, possession, easement, attachment or otherwise howsoever, shall bring the same to the notice of the undersigned in writing with supporting documents/evidence within a period of 7 days from the date of this notice failing which such claim if any, shall be considered to be waived, abandoned and it shall be presumed that no person has any claim of any nature in respect of the above said lands and any subsequent claim shall not bind our clients or their successors/ nominee/ assignees in any manner whatsoever.

Public Notice I, Sushma W/o Amarjeet VPO Nandal, Tehsil & District Rohtak. I have changed my name from Sushma Rani to Sushma for all future purposes.

Public Notice I, Shelly W/o Rohit Bansal True Pharmacia, Kharsa No 2007 2 Habast No 163 Churn Road Village Kishanpura Nalagarh Solan Himachal Pradesh that original Regd. Sale Deed no 1830 dated 02 August 2006 before the office of Sub Registrar, Nalagarh duly executed by Ram Rajatar, Sri Gokul in Favour of Micro Motion Private Limited (director Serjit Mittal) are missing somewhere by mistake. Whoever finds it should immediately inform me. I have also lodged a FIR for this and till date, FIR No is 132350642401036. I have not missed these documents Contact : Shelly - 826500042 Advocate Amit Sharma - 9216087146.

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LOST & FOUND

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LOST & FOUND

I, Shashi Batra w/o Tilka Raj Batra R/o 1187/23 DLF Colony Rohtak I have actually lost my original house Registry No. 10175 dated 01-08-2024

Guru Nanak Dev University, Amritsar Engineering Department

Tender Notice Tender Reference No. GNDU/ ENGG/ 2024/081-5 The Engineering Department of Guru Nanak Dev University, Amritsar invites online bids for 3 Civil Work & 2 Supply of (i) Desert Cooler and Pedestal Fans (ii) Furniture Closing date & time: 11-09-2024 upto 04:00 PM For details log onto www.eproc.punjab.gov.in Note: Any Corrigendum/ Addendum to the tender notice shall be published on the above website only.

Assistant Engineer, Guru Nanak Dev University, Amritsar NA/12/24979/2023/37000 Dated CHD - 8/27/2024

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हिसार अर्बन को. अपॉरेटिव बैंक लि. हिसार

SFC-87 ग्रीन स्वकार मार्केट, हिसार दूरभाष नं. 01662-225236

सुचना आम सभा

हिसार अर्बन को. अपॉरेटिव बैंक लिमिटेड हिसार के सदस्यों को आम सभा दिनांक 15-09-2024 को प्रातः 11 बजे Lemon Twist Hotel हिसार चौक हिसार में होनी निश्चित हुई है। सभी सदस्यों से अनुरोध है कि आप अधिक से अधिक संख्या में उपस्थित होकर आम सभा को शोभा बढ़ाएं।

REGIONAL OFFICE: SHAKTI MALL, 3RD FLOOR, LAJPAT NAGAR, JALANDHAR

AUCTION SALE NOTICE

The under mentioned persons are hereby informed that they have failed to pay off the liability in the loan accounts. Notices sent to them by Registered Post have been returned undelivered, to the Bank. They are therefore requested to pay off the liability and other charges and redeem the pledged securities on or before 30.08.2024 failing which the said securities will be sold by the Bank in public auction through offline mode at the cost of the borrower at the Bank's premises at 02:30 P.M. on 19.09.2024 or on any other convenient date thereafter without further notice, at the absolute discretion of the Bank.

Table with 6 columns: Sr. No., Name of the Branch, Date of Loan, Loan Number, Reserve Price, Name & Address of the Borrower

Chopra Colony, Salkartar Enclave, Jalandhar - 144002.

Save Energy For the benefit of self and nation HIMACHAL PRADESH STATE ELECTRICITY BOARD LTD.

Short Term Notice Inviting E-Tendering (E-Tendering Mode only) Online tender is hereby invited by the undersigned, for and on behalf of the Chairman-cum-Managing Director, HPSEB Ltd, Shimla-4 from the experience/reputed bidders/Joint venture firms/A Co-operative society of retired employees of HPSEB Ltd. for below mentioned work on the prescribed formats-

Tender No. KESD-01/2024-25 Name of Work: Tender for refilling of fire extinguishers at Various Sub Stations under





www.dailypioneer.com

facebook.com/dailypioneer | @TheDailyPioneer | instagram.com/dailypioneer/

PAPER WITH PASSION

## Step in the right direction

### Modi Govt launches assured pension scheme for Central Govt Employees, amid concerns of financial implications

The Modi Government has announced the fixed pension scheme for the central government employees. This must be music to the ears of central employees who were not happy with the ongoing market-linked pension scheme and were demanding its scrapping. In a significant policy shift, the Indian government has approved a new pension scheme guaranteeing central government employees 50% of their base salary as a pension. This move marks a departure from the current National Pension Scheme (NPS), which links payouts to market returns. The newly introduced Unified Pension Scheme (UPS) is set to be implemented from April 1, 2025, and will impact over two million federal employees. The shift towards the UPS stems from growing dissatisfaction with the NPS, which was adopted in 2004 as part of a broader fiscal reform. Under the NPS, employees contribute 10% of their base salary, and the government adds 14%, with the eventual pension amount depending on the market returns from investments, primarily in federal debt. However, as some states began reverting to the older, more fiscally burdensome system of guaranteed pensions, the Modi government faced mounting pressure to reassess the NPS.



The decision to approve the UPS aligns with demands from trade unions and the Opposition parties, who have long advocated for a guaranteed minimum pension. The issue gained political traction during recent general elections, where the lack of pension security under the NPS became a contentious topic. The UPS guarantees that employees who have completed at least 25 years of service will receive 50% of their base salary, calculated over the last 12 months before retirement, as a pension. This assured payout provides a safety for retirees, addressing concerns about the volatility of market-linked pensions. While the UPS offers greater security for employees, it also imposes a significant financial burden on the government. The expected cost to the exchequer for the fiscal year 2024-25 is approximately Rs 62.5 billion. This annual expenditure is likely to fluctuate based on the number of employees retiring each year. However, the shift to the UPS raises several concerns. First, the financial sustainability of the scheme is a critical issue. The guaranteed nature of the pension could strain government finances, especially if economic growth slows or tax revenues decline. Additionally, the UPS may lead to disparities between central and state government employees. Moreover, there is a risk that the shift back to a defined benefit pension system could set a precedent for other sectors, potentially leading to broader demands for similar guarantees. This could exacerbate fiscal challenges, particularly in a country where social welfare spending is already under pressure. As India prepares to implement the UPS in 2025, careful management and ongoing evaluation will be essential to ensure that the benefits of the scheme are balanced against its fiscal impact.

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### PICTALK



A painter gives final touches to the Goddess Durga's idol ahead of Durga pooja, in Kolkata

# A new standard for global populism



SHIVAJI SARKAR

### Kamala prioritises the everyday citizen over corporate interests and her message is getting traction not only in the US but across the globe

The global economic landscape could shift dramatically if the US Democratic Party's presidential nominee, Kamala Harris, succeeds in implementing her bold stance on prices and corporate control. This move could send shockwaves across the world, compelling nations like India to reconsider their current economic models—just as they did during the liberalization era when corporate power surged. It appears the tide is turning, as people worldwide demand freedom from the manipulative tactics that drive up prices. Harris's message is clear: Americans can no longer tolerate skyrocketing costs. Her aggressive, populist economic agenda aims to rein in corporate power and lower the cost of living, potentially setting a new standard for global economic policies.



A 74-year-old Indian blogger after a lavish Indian corporate marriage in July blurted out on X-twitter, "In my 74 years, I have not seen, or even heard of, a more tasteless, egotistical or pretentious wedding than the recent, 24X7 televised extravaganza. The perversity and its real portent lie elsewhere. "It lies in the way money was expended, at a time when the average Indian has never been worse off economically, when inequality and unemployment have reached record heights, when 67 percent of the country's wealth, when 800 million people have to be provided free/ subsidized foodgrains to survive".

Not much different is the weekend speech of Harris. She says, "We know that many Americans don't yet feel that progress in their lives. Costs are still too high and it feels too hard to get ahead." No wonder Republican nominee Donald Trump calls her too liberal. It seems so similar to the echoes of severe price rises and joblessness during the June Lok Sabha elections in India amid rows of mutton, muslim, mandir and mujra, mehngai and berojgari. Yes, Indians and Americans need food, a minimum quality of

life and freedom from organised oppression. Indians are certainly more concerned because with whatever rank in the world economy, it is nowhere near the US. If the American economy is not in good shape, Indians can at best be convalescing, post-COVID-19. But the stranglehold of the honchos in India is more gripping than in the US, which has strong anti-trust laws despite the protests from the big. Indian policies suit the big shops more with quite a few trillions being waved off in taxes and other benefits, including tailoring national and stock market policies. Harris instead, despite being the Vice President of the USA, empathising with the American people, says, "The bills add up. Food, rent, gas, back-to-school clothes, prescription medication. After that, for many families, there's not much left at the end of the month. As president, I will take on the high costs that matter most to most Americans." Those words any Indian voter would love to hear from their leaders. It follows a dozen proposals for improving the lives of Americans. Some like 3 million new housing units to the people seemingly have been picked up from Indian political party manifestos. Like India's PM Avas, she proposes to provide up to \$25,000 in down payment support for a million first-time home buyers.



AMERICANS CAN NO LONGER TOLERATE SKYROCKETING COSTS. HER AGGRESSIVE, POPULIST ECONOMIC AGENDA AIMS TO REIN IN CORPORATE POWER AND LOWER THE COST OF LIVING, POTENTIALLY SETTING A NEW STANDARD FOR GLOBAL ECONOMIC POLICIES

ers. An addition is tax incentives for builders, who build affordable rental housing. It could be a welcome scenario for most Indians. As now being debated in India on capital gains tax indexation or also rentals, Harris is keen on preventing corporate landlords from using algorithmic price-setting tools to increase rents by large margins. It is gradually becoming a problem in areas in the national capital regions of Noida, Gurgaon, Delhi's Dwarka, Bengaluru, and Chennai. India has just started feeling it. Medical costs and health insurance fraud are the worst in the US. Many Indian companies now have emulated it. Medical expenses are increasing in India and the US. Both countries are discussing it intensely and often end up saying the United Kingdom has the best medical facilities. Harris promises to eliminate medical debt for millions of Americans, possibly by using federal funds to buy and forgive outstanding debt from health providers. She wants to limit Americans' annual out-of-pocket spending on prescription drugs to \$2,000. Thousands of kilometres apart the conditions are so similar! The one difference is that India wants to repeat the US insurance follies and they are trying to change it. Though in some cases like PM

JanAushadhi, India is doing better in providing generic medicines at low prices. Harris does not have that option and says would cap the out-of-pocket cost of insulin at \$35 per month for all. As direct benefit pensions are given to kisans in India, Harris would give a child tax credit that would provide \$6,000 per child to families for the first year of a baby's life. Indian budgetary novelties introduced as direct benefits or pensions in various ways have fascinated Harris. Each of Harris's proposals, whether in terms of food, medicine, housing or child care is "populist", involving government intervention against corporate interests on behalf of consumers. Socialism, direct or indirect, despite big companies ruling the roost, is returning to world politics. What Harris does may just create a flutter, but countries like India, who claim to be the next global leaders, have to tread more cautiously to safeguard the poor, farmers and the working class. Harris has borrowed quite a few of it from the Indian budget. Now it is India's turn to ensure how it could check the corporates to serve people's interests. The world is changing and India's populism is winning big one's heart. (The author is a freelance writer and columnist; views are personal)

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### CELEBRATING KRISHNA'S BIRTH

Madam — Krishna Janmashtami, the birthday of Lord Krishna, is a joyous celebration that embodies the triumph of love and divine joy over evil and negativity. This auspicious occasion marks the arrival of Krishna, the eighth avatar of Lord Vishnu, who brought hope and redemption to a world plagued by darkness and despair. As devotees around the world honor Krishna's birth, they are reminded of his profound teachings in the Bhagavad Gita, which emphasize the importance of spiritual growth, self-realization, and the eternal victory of good over evil. Through vibrant festivities, soulful bhajans, and heartfelt pujas, Krishna Janmashtami celebrates the unconditional love and divine joy that Krishna embodies, inspiring devotees to embrace their own spiritual journey and revel in the bliss of the divine.

Purva Pandya | Ujjain

### STALIN'S NEW MOVE

Madam — As against the Sanatana Dharma before the Lok Sabha elections, the DMK has changed its stand now by a mix in the Dravidian model by supporting the individual's faith of choice and wanting to help them in their religious pursuits. By inaugurating the two-day Global Muthamizhil Murugan Conference, the Chief Minister of TN M K Stalin is bringing in a new colour other than black and red as he's well aware that this will help him in the forthcoming assembly elections to woo the votes of the Hindus by using the Murugan card to play to DMK's advantage. We welcome this change and are happy if something good for the people happens from the leadership of M K Stalin whom I respect for his flexibility of principle if he finds something worth it. One hopes Stalin's new found alliance with the Lord Murugan may bestow the blessings for the people for the prosperity of the state. A P Thiruvadi | Chennai

## Unified pension scheme launched



This refers to the news report, "Unprecedented Unified Pension Scheme by Modi Government" (August 25). Though driven by the huge political pressure after jolts in recently held Lok Sabha polls, the NDA Government's decision to roll out a new guaranteed Unified Pension Scheme for its employees is a step in right direction. In fact, pension is a social welfare measure which is granted to ensure that a retired employee lives with dignity in his

old age. Reversing its 21 year old pension reforms partially, the Government has introduced OPS features like assured pensions, inflation-linked adjustments, family pensions, and a guaranteed minimum pension in the UPS. Employees are still required to contribute 10% of their basic pay and dearness allowance to UPS remains only major difference between the OPS and the UPS. The government will also contribute to the UPS, which will increase from 14% (currently contributed to NPS) to 18.5%. Thus, the UPS will lead to higher burden on the exchequer. Thus, it remains to be seen whether state governments adopt the UPS, which certainly would not augur well for their financial health. Manoj Parashar | Ghaziabad

### PM MODI BROKERS PEACE

Madam — Modi's visit to Kyiv will strengthen India-Ukraine bilateral relationship. Like with Russia in March 24 Modi is likely to have had the message of peace with Zelenskyy about ending the war and restoring peace. The catch is both Russia and Ukraine are not keen in fighting any further but both wanting to end the war on their own terms. Kyiv does not want to compromise on its sovereignty and territorial integrity which could lead to an instability and even a revolution in Ukraine. Kyiv wants to retrieve all the Ukrainian territory occupied by Russia something that Russia is unwilling to do. The US and NATO have rejected Russia's demand to end the war. Under this situation it is extremely unlikely that a peace can be brokered by PM Modi as an one off attempt. Unlike other leaders of the world PM Modi enjoys a special relationship with Putin who in his words has called Modi as his best friend. India also in none of the resolu-

tions passed by the UN has gone against Moscow. While on the same lines has been maintaining good equation with Zelenskyy (post his ire after having a hug with Putin in March 24) through telephone calls and the sidelines meetings in summits. With Modi's Aug 23 personal visit and signing of the trade agreements and India's commitment to be on the side of the PEACE and just a not a neutral country one can expect PM Modi will make attempts for a peace talk between the two warring leaders. Besides, PM Modi's initiative also takes care of the growing Chinese influence in the region and places India at par with it if not above, India must be more proactive in the region to safeguard its own interests. With US already started feeling the heat of recession and a leadership change in the offing one can see the light at the end of the tunnel! Gopalaswamy J | Chennai

Send your feedback to: letterstopioneer@gmail.com

## The risk of monetising public education

### Commercialisation of these institutions undermines their core mission which is to provide inclusive, affordable high-quality education to all



BIJU DHARMAPALAN

The Vice-Chancellor of JNU, Prof. C Santhoshree D Pandit recently remarked that the country's top university is facing a financial crunch with little regular income generated from its resources. The VC has decided to repurpose the university's properties with private participation. This culture of looking at public academic institutions as a source of revenue has been rhyming among our policymakers during the past several years.



One reason is the huge prime land area holding maintained by the public sector institutions and another is the change in the societal perception. Today's society evaluates everything based on money. The primary objective of public sector academic institutions is to offer an inclusive and excellent education to all sections of the population. Central to these institutions is the concept of education as a public good—a valuable asset that has advantages for society as a whole, rather than solely for individuals. Education, in this view, is not simply a product that can be purchased and

sold, but rather a profound process that moulds individuals into knowledgeable, reflective members of society who are capable of making meaningful contributions to the collective welfare. Their value should be assessed based on the number of enlightened minds generated by these institutions. As we can see it's these enlightened minds who are driving the wheel of the government machinery, and the nation's progress. Public sector academic institutions have been under growing pressure in recent decades to implement business-oriented strategies, which include prioritising income creation. The transition has been prompted by several circumstances, such as decreases in government financing, increasing operational expenses, and the expanding

impact of market ideology in public policy. Consequently, numerous public universities and colleges have resorted to alternate sources of income, such as raising tuition fees, extending online programs, providing executive education courses, renting out spaces and forming alliances with private industry.

Private parties, if allowed to rent out spaces, should work closely with the academic and research community of the university. It should also help in imparting knowledge and transformation to students. In many NTIs, the guest house rate has been increased tenfold, as mandated by the policymakers.

Unfortunately, people who visit these institutions including academicians and parents of students have to pay more than what is the market rate in that area. Although these initiatives can offer significant financial support, they also pose a potential threat of altering the core purpose of public sector institutions. It can be detrimental to maintaining high academic standards and fostering a wide range of intellectual perspectives.

Additionally, it can generate pressures to give higher priority to programs and research areas that provide greater profits, perhaps overlooking subjects that are less financially rewarding but equally crucial for societal progress. It is vital to provide students with a well-rounded education that encourages critical thinking and broad-based knowledge. Public sector academic institutions hold a distinct and crucial role in maintaining the social fabric of the nation. Their objective is not to earn financial gain but rather to generate enlightened minds capable of critical thinking, and contribute to the development of the nation. The great minds working in every field, including the bureaucrats and political leaders are groomed by these public sector institutions. For this to continue, we should not put a price tag on every facility a public sector university offers to the student or society at large.

(The writer is an adjunct faculty at the National Institute of Advanced Studies; views are personal)





## FIRST COLUMN

### LIVE IN THE PRESENT

### MOMENT, IT MATTERS MOST

One needs to inculcate habits of equanimity, and remaining calm, whatever the circumstance



RAVI VALLURI

The romance was in the air as India attained freedom from the British yoke. The period was the 1950s as India embarked upon the socialistic pattern to revive the country, which had inherited an impecunious economy. Two bright students from coastal Andhra landed in rain-washed Delhi University to pursue their dreams. To remain connected with their past, they made recurrent trips to the New Delhi Railway Station to receive students arriving in droves from their state and revive those nostalgic moments. When it is repetitively said, "Those good old days!", in one stroke we send a signal to our Universe that the present is not congenial. As Buddha says, "The mind is everything. What you think you become." If we live in the past, we keep fretting and fuming about the missed opportunities and those past impressions create roadblocks in our physical and metaphysical advancement.

On completion of their studies, the more aspiring students stayed back and the less enterprising ones returned home. The person in Delhi aspired to be a civil servant like his more illustrious siblings and their children. But destiny had carved out its plan. His friends and acquaintances qualified for the coveted job, a sinecure that eluded him. So, the mind became envious of his siblings, their children and friends and started implanting his failed mission upon his children, much to their discomfort. How does one reach that state of 'present moment'? Before dwelling on some techniques, it will be useful to read a fas-



cinating Buddhist parable. One afternoon a Buddhist monk was carrying a bucket filled with water in a dense forest. Suddenly he heard a rustle. It was a tiger, smacking its lips and intently looking at the potential prey. The monk ran for his life, with the tiger in pursuit. The monk reached a precipice and had a choice to make, either be devoured by the ferocious tiger or jump off the cliff. Death stared in his face. The monk jumped and fortuitously clung onto a branch of a strawberry tree. He ate the strawberry—considering it to be his last meal—and thoroughly relished it. The monk had never had such a meal, as was absolutely in the present moment. A simple yet profound technique of sadhana is to be a witness to all the actions and activities that take place. The actor in us becomes the spectator too. This is what is espoused in the esoteric philosophy of Ashtavakra Gita (a classic dialogue between King Janaka—who himself was a Raj Rishi—and the sage Ashtavakra).

Any individual, householder or seeker needs to inculcate habits of equanimity, equilibrium, and equipoise to remain calm, whatever the circumstance or situation, to be contented and remain in the present moment. The protagonist who stayed back in Delhi could fulfil his dreams only partially. His son did qualify for the civil services, but could not join the service of his choice; this was due to excessive pressure applied by family members already in the elite services. Eventually, the son turned into an alcoholic. Perhaps it was because both father and son were not grateful to the Universe and did not adhere to the Law of Gratefulness.

Thus, lives were ruined. Meanwhile, the friend who returned home did not lose his way in the sands of time. He became a trade union leader and politician, living in the present. "Life is one big road with lots of signs. So, when you are riding through the ruts, do not complicate your mind. Flee from hate, mischief, and jealousy," sang Bob Marley.

(The writer is a faculty at Art of Living, views expressed are personal)

# Catalyst for cinematic evolution and excellence



CHAITANYA K PRASAD

The 70th National Film Awards once again celebrated the rich tapestry of Indian cinema, where diverse languages and cultures converged to showcase the best talent

The National Film Awards: A Platform for The Great Leap Forward At the 70th National Film Awards, India's cinematic excellence once again took centre stage, showcasing vibrant and diverse storytelling from across the nation's many languages. Southern cinema emerged as a dominant force this year, with films and artists from the region sweeping some of the most prestigious honours. The Malayalam film 'Aattam' captured the Swarna Kamal for Best Feature Film, while the Kannada blockbuster 'Kantara' clinched the title of Best Popular Film.

Rishab Shetty, the driving force behind Kantara, took home the Best Actor award, sharing the limelight with Nithya Menon and Manasi Parekh, who shared Best Actresses for the Tamil film 'Thiruchitrambalam' and Gujarati film 'Kutch Express' respectively. Meanwhile, the Haryana film 'Fouja' gathered acclaim, earning Pramod Kumar the award for Best Debut Director, while Pavan Raj Malhotra secured Best Supporting Actor. The epic Tamil drama 'Ponniyin Selvan: I' also made its mark, with AR Rahman's power-packed music earning him the Best Music Director (Background Music) award, alongside wins for Best Sound Design by Anand Krishnamoorthi and Best Cinematography by Ravi Varman. In the Hindi cinema category, 'Gulmohar' emerged as the Best Hindi Film, adding another feather to Sharmila Tagore's illustrious cap with her third National Film Award.

This year's awards not only celebrated individual excellence but also highlighted the ever-evolving and dynamic landscape of Indian cinema. The lifeline and longevity of any artist and any film is fuelled by the adrenaline of 4A's "Acknowledgment, Awards, Appreciation, and Applause". Globally, awards are given for excellence in the celluloid space which has opened a new phase of creativity, innovation perspective perspective-building through storytelling and film narration. Since its inception in 1954, the National Film Awards for Excellence in Cinema have symbolised the journey of excellence and creativity. The awards have offered an equal platform to cinemas of various languages, cultures, diversities, themes, and perspectives, where all the creative energies of India converge to speak the unified language of artistic excellence. These awards in the last seventy-odd years have showcased the gold standard of filmmaking across different verticals reinventing and shaping the diverse landscape of cinema in this country.

Each edition of the National Film Awards has strengthened inclusivity and converged the diversity of celluloid space seamlessly. The National Film Awards are unique in terms of their magnitude, canvas, and spectrum. Every award ceremony has been an opportunity to witness the emergence of different forms and categories of cinema that reflect continuity and legacy. The landscape of the National Film Awards is deep and insightful, promoting diversity, storytelling, and narration.

It has truly elevated parallel, regional, and experimental cinema; voiced social concerns; and embraced and adapted to contemporary standards, content, and style



THIS YEAR'S AWARDS NOT ONLY CELEBRATED INDIVIDUAL EXCELLENCE BUT ALSO HIGHLIGHTED THE EVER-EVOLVING AND DYNAMIC LANDSCAPE OF INDIAN CINEMA

of presentation. Over the years, Indian cinema has witnessed a remarkable evolution, with regional films gaining recognition for their artistic brilliance. It all began in 1954, as the film "Mirza Ghalib" made history as the first recipient of the Best Feature Film award.

This milestone paved the way for a treasure trove of cinematic gems from various regions. Bengali cinema, in particular, has been a shining beacon, with timeless classics like Satyajit Ray's "Pather Panchali", "Apur Sansar", and "Charulata" earning the prestigious Swarna Kamal. The legendary Soumitra Chatterjee a revered Bengali actor has been lauded for his performances in classics like "Apur Sansar" and "Charulata," earning him National Film Awards for his works.

The spotlight has also turned to Southern cinema, which has produced its own set of trailblazers. In 1965, the Malayalam masterpiece "Chemmeen" captivated audiences and critics alike, winning the Best Feature Film award. Kannada cinema made a powerful statement with "Chomana Dudi" in 1976, sweeping the National Awards for Best Feature Film, Best Actor, and Best Story. Tamil cinema joined this illustrious list in 1990 when Marrupakkam became the first Tamil film to clinch the Best Feature Film award.

The northeastern region of India has also produced its share of winners at the National Film Awards, bringing regional tales to the national stage. "Halodhia Chorai Baodhan Khai", the first Assamese film to win the Swarna Kamal for the Best Feature Film in 1987. Rima Das, a director has been recognized for her movies "Village Rockstars" and "Bulbul Can Sing," which capture the essence of life in Assam by portraying simplicity and resilience. At the 60th National Film Awards, Jahnur Barua's Assamese film "Baandhon" won

the Best Feature Film in the category while "Ko;Yad", a Missing film won the Best Feature Film in the non-Eighth Schedule language category. At the 62nd National Film Awards the movie "Phum Shang", from Manipur was honoured with the Best Investigative Film award showcasing the contributions of filmmakers from North East India.

Such examples also prove that the National Film Awards serve as a crucible for bringing together a convergence of ideas, creativity, and talent. They offer hope that creativity knows no barriers in India, allowing unknown filmmakers and names to become stars. One of the most coveted awards of the National Film Awards is the Dadasaheb Phalke Award, India's highest award in the field of cinema honouring the artists' lifetime achievement. Named after Shri Dadasaheb Phalke, the visionary often hailed as the father of Indian cinema, this award is a tribute to those whose contributions have indelibly shaped the landscape of Indian filmmaking.

This award was introduced in 1969 and was presented to Devika Rani. Since then this distinguished honour has been awarded to Waheeda Rehman, Satyajit Ray, B.N. Reddy, L.V. Prasad, Bhupen Hazarika, Sivaji Ganesan, B.R. Chopra, Soumitra Chatterjee, Lata Mangeshkar, Raj Kapoor, Shyam Benegal, Amitabh Bachchan and Rajnikant are some of the renowned names who have been recognized for their lasting impact and their outstanding contribution to cinema. The National Film Awards also spotlight the significance of non-feature films by inspiring emerging directors to experiment and push boundaries.

This platform has nurtured talent, with acclaimed works like "Ek Tha Gaon" and "An engineered Dream", the Marathi film "Girni" and the Bengali film "Aamaar Katha: Story of Binodini" winners at the 52nd and the 62nd

National Film Awards. These awards bring attention to themes and innovative storytelling approaches demonstrating that Indian cinema thrives on creativity and embraces diversity beyond commercial considerations. The non-feature segment of awards over the years has acted as a catalyst for young film-makers who have unleashed their creativity across diverse subjects and narratives. This segment has showcased a unique simplicity, aesthetics and deep understanding of filmmaking and creativity. The recent changes to the regulations for the 70th National Film Awards demonstrate an evident wave of evolution. Changes like renaming awards and merging categories reflect an approach to acknowledging excellence in filmmaking.

The National Film Awards of India have witnessed several historic moments that have not only enhanced the country's cinematic excellence but also served as a stepping stone to celluloid success and international acclaim. One such landmark was the recognition of Satyajit Ray's "Pather Panchali" in 1956, which won the Best Feature Film award and subsequently brought Indian cinema to global attention. Another significant milestone was Aamir Khan's "Lagaan" in 2001, which not only won the National Film Award for Best Popular Film Providing Wholesome Entertainment but also earned an Academy Award nomination for Best Foreign Language Film. The National Film Awards have played an instrumental role in shaping the course of Indian cinema. By celebrating a variety of perspectives and pushing boundaries the awards not only recognize exceptional achievements but also inspire upcoming filmmakers and artists.

(The writer is former additional DG, DFF and Festival Director, IFFI; views are personal. Inputs provided by Zoya Ahmad and Vaishnavi Srinivasan)

# How personalised and adaptive technologies are shaping the future of education

The future of education is personal, adaptive, and brimming with possibilities for individual success. It's time to embrace this change

The education system is witnessing a revolutionary shift, one that promises to reshape how we learn, grow, and succeed. At the core of this transformation lies advanced personalized and adaptive learning - a groundbreaking approach set to redefine the educational landscape.

With the global adaptive learning market projected to reach \$5.3 billion by 2025 and the personalized learning market expected to soar to \$19.86 billion by 2030, it's clear that these technologies are more than just a passing trend.

Unpacking Personalized and Adaptive Learning Personalized learning crafts educational experiences that resonate with each student's



VEDANT HAMIRWASIA

unique needs, skills, and interests. It's about creating learning journeys that allow individuals to flourish in their way. Adaptive learning takes this concept further, using AI to adjust content difficulty and style in real time based on student performance.

It's like having a high-tech tutor that ensures learning is always challenging but never overwhelming.

**The Power of Data-Driven Insights:** One of the most exciting aspects of these systems is their ability to harness data for good. Through sophisticated learning analytics, educators gain unprecedented insights into each student's progress.

This foresight allows for timely interventions, ensuring no student falls behind. Predictive analytics even allows these systems to anticipate which students might struggle, enabling proactive support measures.

**Customized Learning Paths:** Gone are the days of one-size-fits-all education. Advanced personalized learning creates individual learning plans that adapt to each student's unique learning style.

Whether you're a visual learner who thrives on interactive simulations or prefer diving deep into text-based explanations, these systems have you covered. The flexibility extends to pacing as well, allowing students to linger on challenging concepts or race ahead in areas they excel.

**Engagement, the Secret Sauce of Success:** Engagement is crucial for effective learning, and these technologies serve it up in spades.

Interactive content, gamification elements, and multimedia experiences make learning feel less like a chore and more like an adventure. By catering to diverse learning preferences, these systems ensure that every stu-



dent finds their groove and stays motivated.

**Levelling the Playing Field:** Perhaps one of the most profound impacts of these technologies is their poten-

tial to promote equity in education.

Assistive features embedded within these systems support students with disabilities, offering tools like

text-to-speech and customized interfaces. This push for inclusivity ensures that quality, personalized education is accessible to all, regardless of individual challenges.

**The Benefits and Challenges Ahead:** The benefits of advanced personalized and adaptive learning are clear and compelling. Studies consistently show improved learning outcomes, increased student engagement, and the potential to bridge achievement gaps.

However, it's important to acknowledge the challenges that come with this educational revolution. Privacy concerns surrounding student data and the persistent digital divide are hurdles

that must be addressed thoughtfully. Embracing the Future of Education The educational landscape is evolving rapidly, propelled by the transformative potential of advanced personalized and adaptive learning.

By embracing these technologies thoughtfully and addressing the challenges head-on, we can create an educational landscape where every student has the opportunity to thrive, learn, and reach their full potential. The future of education is personal, adaptive, and brimming with possibilities for individual success. It's time to embrace this change and unlock the potential of every learner.

(The author is director, ODA Class; views are personal)



# Khamenei open to America over nuclear talks

AP ■ DUBAI

Iran's supreme leader opened the door Tuesday to renewed negotiations with the United States over his country's rapidly advancing nuclear program, telling its civilian government there was "no barrier" to engaging with its "enemy." Ayatollah Ali Khamenei's remarks set clear red lines for any talks taking place under the government of reformist President Masoud Pezeshkian and renewed his warnings that Washington wasn't to be trusted.



"We have long said that we ultimately view diplomacy as the best way to achieve an effective, sustainable solution with regard to Iran's nuclear program," it said. "However, we are far away from anything like that right now given Iran's escalations across the board, including its nuclear escalations and its failure to cooperate" with the International Atomic Energy Agency, the United Nations nuclear watchdog. "If Iran wants to demonstrate seriousness or a new approach, they should stop nuclear escalations and start meaningfully cooperating with the IAEA," it said. Since the deal's collapse, Iran has abandoned all limits that the deal put on its program, and enriches uranium to up to 60 per cent purity — near weapons-grade levels of 90 per cent. Surveillance cameras installed by the IAEA have been disrupted, while Iran has barred some of the Vienna-based agency's most experienced inspectors. Iranian officials also have increasingly threatened that they could pursue atomic weapons. Meanwhile, tensions between Iran and Israel have hit a new high during the Israel-Hamas war in the Gaza Strip. Tehran launched an unprecedented drone-and-missile attack on Israel in April after years of a shadow war between the two countries reached a climax with Israel's apparent attack on an Iranian consular building in Syria that killed two Iranian generals and others.

# 'US, China aim to avoid conflict in Beijing talks'

AP ■ BEIJING

The United States and China are working to ensure the competition between them does not veer into conflict, a top White House official said Tuesday as the two sides started talks on a relationship that has been severely tested during President Joe Biden's term in office. Jake Sullivan, the US national security adviser, is meeting over two days with Wang Yi, a senior foreign policy official for Chinese leader Xi Jinping, in a scenic lake area on the northern outskirts of Beijing. "President Biden has been very clear in his conversations with President Xi that he is

committed to managing this important relationship responsibly," Sullivan said in brief remarks to media before the talks began. The goal of his visit, which lasts through Thursday, is limited — to try to maintain communication in a relationship that broke down for the better part of a year in 2022-23 and was only nursed back over several months. No major announcements are expected, though Sullivan's meetings could lay the groundwork for a possible final summit with Chinese leader Xi Jinping before Biden steps down in January. Wang, the director of the Communist Party's Central Foreign Affairs Commission

Office, noted that the China-US relationship has gone through twists and turns in past few years. "The key," he said, "is to keep to the overall direction of mutual respect, peaceful co-existence, and win-win cooperation." According to Da Wei, a US and international relations expert at Tsinghua University in Beijing, it's important for the two countries to avoid any crisis in the remaining months of the Biden administration, as it could set the tone for US-China ties under the next one. The goal of this visit is not reaching new breakthroughs or progress but to continue the stable momentum of China-

US relations in the past year through strategic communication, and to avoid new crises in the next few months," he said. The Biden administration has taken a tough line on China, viewing it as a strategic competitor, restricting the access of its companies to advanced technology and confronting the rising power as it seeks to exert influence over Taiwan and the South China Sea. Already frosty relations went into a deep freeze after then-Speaker of the House Nancy Pelosi, a senior US lawmaker, visited Taiwan in August 2022. Hopes of restoring ties were dashed the following February when a suspected Chinese spy balloon

drifted across the US before being shot down by the US military. Sullivan has been Biden's point person for often unannounced talks with Wang, who is the foreign minister as well as the ruling Communist Party's top foreign policy official. Wang had initially stepped down as foreign minister when he took the party post, a more senior position, but he returned about seven months later, in July 2023, after his successor was removed for reasons that have not been made public. At a meeting between Sullivan and Wang in Vienna in May 2023, the two countries launched a delicate process of putting relations back on track. Since

than, they have met two more times in a third country, Malta and Thailand. This week will mark their first talks in Beijing. China's Foreign Ministry said this week that relations with the US remain at "a critical juncture." It noted that the two sides are talking on climate and other issues, but it accused the US of continuing to constrain and suppress China. Canada announced on Monday that it will match America's 100 per cent import tariff on Chinese-made electric vehicles, after being encouraged to do so by Sullivan during a meeting with Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau and Cabinet ministers the previous day.

# 'Hasina's ouster watershed for student activism'

PTI ■ DHAKA

The recent student movement in Bangladesh, culminating in the ouster of Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina, marks a watershed moment in the nation's political landscape, fuelled by a 70-year legacy of student activism from the 1952 Language Movement to the Liberation War and beyond. Political analysts and observers view the recent student protests, which many in Bangladesh have christened as the "Bangla Spring" — taking a cue from the Arab Spring — or the "Monsoon Revolution," as a watershed moment in Bangladesh's political landscape, driven by the same spirit of activism that has characterised student movements in the country for over 70 years, even before its independence in 1971, when it was known as East Pakistan. The latest movement, which began in July 2024, was sparked by the Court's decision to reinstate a controversial job quota system, a move that reignited long-standing frustrations among students and the general public. The reinstatement of the job quota system, which had been abolished in 2018 due to student protests, sparked widespread demonstrations led by students that ultimately led to the collapse of the government led by long-time prime minister Hasina.

# 5 more murder cases filed against B'desh ousted PM

Dhaka (PTI): Five more murder cases have been filed against Bangladesh's ousted prime minister Sheikh Hasina taking the total number of cases filed against the Awami League leader to 71, a media report said on Tuesday. Four of the new cases were filed in Dhaka and one in Rajshahi against the 76-year-old deposed former prime minister, several former ministers and police officials, The Daily Star newspaper reported. In the first case, Hasina and 48 others were booked for the death of one Dulal alias Selim in the city's Jatrabari area on August 3 during mass protests. The victim's brother Mostafa Kamal filed the case against the Awami League president and others with the court of Dhaka Metropolitan Magistrate Md Saddam



Hossain. Former home minister Asaduzzaman Khan, Awami League general secretary Obaidul Quader, former Awami League lawmakers Shamim Osman and Ramesh Chandra are among the accused, The Daily Star said. In the second case, Hasina along with 21 others was booked on the charge of killing one Mansur Miah, a machine operator of Buriganga Filling Station at

Basila of Mohammadpur on July 19. In the third case, Hasina and 91 others were sued for the death of one Miraz Hossain at Sanarpar in the city's Demra area on August 5. The victim's brother Khorshed Alam filed the case with the court of Dhaka Metropolitan Magistrate Belal Hossain. The fourth case was filed against Hasina and 40 others for the death of 21-year-old Nahidul Islam at Mirpur-10 on July 19. The victim's brother Md Sabuj filed the case with the court of Dhaka Metropolitan Magistrate Mehedi Hasan. Quader, Asaduzzaman, Chowdhury Abdullah Al-Mamun, Hasina's sister Sheikh Rehana, son Sajeeb Wazed Joy, Harun Or Rashid and former DMP commissioner are among the accused.

# Ex-minister held

Dhaka (PTI): Bangladesh police on Tuesday arrested former junior minister for information and broadcasting Mohammad Ali Arafat, an accused in several cases, including one filed over the killing of a student during the anti-government protests. Police said they arrested Arafat from the upmarket Gulshan area in the national capital. They were preparing to produce Arafat to a court with a petition seeking remand custody. The arrest came amid speculation that he might have left the country during or after the ouster of the Awami League regime on August 5 in a student-people mass upsurge as he was active on social media while other ministers or party leaders were unseen in the public domain. Two weeks ago, Bangladesh Bank's Financial Intelligence Unit (BFIU) ordered banks to freeze the

accounts of Arafat and his wife. Arafat was arrested a day after left-leaning Jatiya Samaitantrik Dal (JASOD) president Hasanul Haque Inu was detained from a relative's house in Dhaka while police sought a court order for him to be placed under a 10-day remand for questioning in a murder charge. JASOD was one of the key allies of the past government, with the Workers Party of Rashed Khan Menon being another. Menon was also arrested in a case and was placed on a five-day police remand by a Dhaka court. Former law minister Anisul Huq and entrepreneur's private sector affairs adviser and business tycoon Salman F Rahman were the first who were arrested from Dhaka's main river port Sadarghat terminal area as they were allegedly trying to leave Dhaka on a boat in disguise.

# Starmer warns of 'painful' budget ahead in speech

PTI ■ LONDON

British Prime Minister Keir Starmer on Tuesday gave the first indication of some tough tax measures in store in the October budget in the first keynote address of his premiership since taking charge at 10 Downing Street last month. In a planned speech at the Rose Garden before a gathering of apprentices, medics and other professionals, Starmer declared the state of the public finances was left in a much worse condition by the previous Conservative Party regime than the Labour government had expected. He declared that his job was now to fix the foundations which would involve "short-term pain for long-term good" and admitted that "unpopular" decisions would have to be made. "There is a Budget coming in October and it is going to be painful. We have no other choice given the situation that

we are in," said Starmer. "I promised that this government would serve people like you — apprentices, teachers, nurses, small business owners, firefighters, those serving our community and our country every day," he said, with reference to the Downing Street gathering. The keynote, timed a week before Parliament resumes after its summer recess next week, was designed to assert that "it won't be business as usual because we can't go on like this any more." "Things will have to be done differently. We will do the hard work to root out 14 years of rot, reverse a decade of decline and fix the foundations. Between now and Christmas, we will carry on as we started: action not words. We will introduce legislation and take decisions to protect taxpayers' money," said Starmer. Referencing the recent far-right riots across different parts of the UK, the former barrister and chief prosecutor said the

violent clashes didn't just "betray the sickness" left in the wake of the former government's "cynical conflict of populism" but also revealed that the cure was to be found in the "coming together of a country." "When, after the hard work of clearing up the mess is done, we have a country that we have built together, built to last, that belongs to every single one of us... This is our country. Let's fix it — together," he noted. Addressing media queries after the speech, Starmer reiterated that the tough economic decisions ahead were down to a GBP 22 billion "black hole" left at the end of 14 years of Tories in charge. "We were being honest about the situation before the election, we set out very clearly what we would be doing with tax rises," he said, stressing that his commitment not to put up income tax, National Insurance or VAT "remains the position" and "those with the broadest shoulders should bear the heavier burden."

# Israeli military rescues hostage abducted in October Hamas attack

Jerusalem (AP): The Israeli military said Tuesday that it has rescued one of the scores of people abducted in Hamas' October 7 attack, which ignited the ongoing war in Gaza. The military said Qaid Farhan Alkadi was rescued "in a complex operation in the southern Gaza Strip." It did not provide further details. The 52-year-old is from Israel's Arab Bedouin minority and was working as a guard at a packing factory in Kibbutz Magen, one of several farming communities that were attacked on October 7. He has two wives and is the father of 11 children. Israel's Channel 12 showed Alkadi's family members sprinting through the hospital where he was brought after they received the news. Hamas-led militants abducted some 250 people in the October 7 attack, in which some 1,200 people, mostly civilians, were killed.

Israel's retaliatory offensive has killed over 40,000 Palestinians, according to local health officials, who do not say how many were fighters. It has displaced 90 per cent of Gaza's 2.3 million people from their homes and caused heavy destruction across the besieged territory. Hamas is still holding around 110 hostages, about a third of whom are believed to be dead. Most of the rest were released in exchange for Palestinians imprisoned by Israel during a cease-fire last November. Israel has rescued a total of eight hostages, including in two operations that killed scores of Palestinians. Hamas says several hostages have been killed in Israeli airstrikes and failed rescue attempts. The United States, Egypt and Qatar have spent months trying to negotiate an agreement in which the remaining hostages would be freed in exchange for a lasting cease-fire.

# French judge extends police custody for Telegram CEO

Paris (AP): A French investigative judge extended police custody for the CEO of the popular messaging app Telegram, Pavel Durov, prosecutors said on Tuesday. Durov was detained Saturday at Le Bourget airport as part of a judicial inquiry opened last month involving 12 alleged criminal violations. They include complicity in selling child sexual abuse material and in drug trafficking, fraud, abetting organized crime transactions and refusing to share information or documents with investigators when required by law. A statement from the Paris prosecutor's office said Durov's police custody order was extended on Monday evening for up to 48 hours. After that, authorities must release or charge him, the prosecutor's office said in an earlier statement. Durov is a citizen of Russia, France, the United Arab Emirates and the Caribbean island nation of St Kitts and Nevis.

# Turkish-backed authorities arrest Syrian journalist

Idlib (AP): A local journalist in rebel-held northwestern Syria who works with international news agencies was arrested by Turkish-backed authorities, his wife and rights groups said Tuesday. Journalists and activists called Bakr Qassim's arrest part of an ongoing crackdown on them. Local authorities did not immediately comment. Qassim, who has reported and taken photos for French news agency Agence France Presse and Turkey's state-run Anadolu Agency, was arrested Monday afternoon in al-Bab city in northern Aleppo province as he and his wife finished work. Britain-based opposition monitor The Syrian Observatory for Human Rights said he was dragged and beaten while asking the reason for his arrest. It said he was presented with "a number of charges, including preparing press reports for several parties." His wife, Nabaha Taha, and the opposition monitor said he was held by Turkish-backed authorities in Hawar Kilis village along the border with

Turkey. Local military police held Taha for two hours before she was released following protests from journalists and residents, she said in a video. Taha said Qassim was taken to another location and his current circumstances were unknown. "We call on the local authorities in northern Syria to immediately release our correspondent Bakr Qassim and allow him to resume his work freely," AFP editor-in-chief Sophie Huet said in a statement. Journalists and activists in northwestern Syria said they would stage a protest later Tuesday calling for the release of Qassim and other journalists and activists they say are arbitrarily detained. They also call for the release of activist Karam Kellieh, who was arrested two months ago and whose whereabouts remain unknown. Northwestern Syria is the last rebel bastion in the war-torn country. Idlib province is under al-Qaida-linked Hayat Tahrir al-Sham, and northern Aleppo province is under Turkish-backed forces.

# WH pressured FB over some COVID-19 content during pandemic: Zuckerberg

Washington (AP): Meta CEO Mark Zuckerberg says senior Biden administration officials pressured Facebook to "censor" some COVID-19 content during the pandemic and vowed that the social media giant would push back if it faced such demands again. In a letter to Rep Jim Jordan, the Republican chair of the House Judiciary Committee, Zuckerberg alleges that the officials, including those from the White House, "repeatedly pressured" Facebook for months to take down "certain COVID-19 content including humor and satire." The officials "expressed a lot of frustration" when the company didn't agree, he said in the letter. "I believe the government pressure was wrong and I regret that we were not more outspoke-



ken about it," Zuckerberg wrote in the letter dated August 26 and posted on the committee's Facebook page and to its account on X. The letter is the latest repudiation by Zuckerberg of efforts to target misinformation around the coronavirus pandemic during and after the 2020 presidential election, par-

ticularly as allegations have emerged that some posts were deleted or restricted wrongly. "I also think we made some choices that, with the benefit of hindsight and new information, we wouldn't make today," he said, without elaborating. "We're ready to push back if something like this happens again." In response, the White House said in a statement that, "When confronted with a deadly pandemic, this Administration encouraged responsible actions to protect public health and safety. Our position has been clear and consistent: we believe tech companies and other private actors should take into account the effects their actions have on the American people, while making independent choices about the infor-

mation they present." Experts warn this year's US election could be swamped by misinformation on social media with the proliferation of artificial intelligence and other tools to produce false news stories and content that could mislead voters. Facebook in early 2021 appended what Zuckerberg called labels with "credible information" to posts about COVID-19 vaccines. That's after it moved in April 2020 — just as the virus had led to global shutdowns and radical changes in everyday life — to warn users who shared misinformation about COVID-19. Conservatives have long derided Facebook and other major tech companies as favoring liberal priorities and accused them of censorship.

# Dam collapse in Sudan kills at least 30

Cairo (AP): The collapse of the Arbaat Dam in Sudan's eastern Red Sea state over the weekend flooded nearby homes and killed at least 30 people following heavy rains, a UN agency said. The UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) said late Monday, citing local officials, that the actual number of fatalities from the collapse on Sunday might be higher. Additionally, about 70 villages around the dam were affected by the flash flooding, including 20 villages that have been destroyed. The Arbaat Dam, which is about 38 kilometers northwest of Port Sudan, was massively damaged because of heavy rains.

# US judge pauses Biden's plan on spousal legal status

Houston (PTI): A Texas court has put a temporary pause on President Biden's ambitious plan to fast-track permanent residency for illegal migrants married to American citizens, a move that could hamper the hopes of approximately half a million such spouses, including several thousand Indian-Americans. In June, President Joe Biden issued a massive immigration relief to non-citizens offering a path to citizenship to the non-citizen spouses and children of American nationals. Biden had directed the Department of Homeland Security to take action to ensure that US citizens with non-citizen spouses and children can keep their families together. This new process will help cer-

tain non-citizen spouses and children apply for lawful permanent residence — a status that they are already eligible for — without leaving the country, the White House said. On Monday, US District Judge J Campbell Barker issued the two-week-long administrative stay on the same day the Department of Homeland Security began accepting applications for the so-called Parole in Place programme, which would grant work authorisation, permanent residency and eventually citizenship to spouses and stepchildren of US citizens who have been in the country for at least 10 years. "The claims are substantial and warrant closer consideration than the court has been able to afford to date," Barker wrote in his nine-page

order, which followed a lawsuit filed by 16 Republican-led states arguing that the programme would "incentivise illegal immigration and will irreparably harm" the states, the New York Post reported. The lawsuit, filed on Friday, further contended that the "Biden-Harris Administration — dissatisfied with the system Congress created, and for blatant political purposes — has yet again attempted to create its own immigration system." Texas Attorney General Ken Paxton, who noted in the complaint that the Lone Star State has had to pay tens of millions of dollars annually to cover the costs of illegal migrants living in Texas, called the ruling "just the first step" in what may be a lengthy court battle.



# Ukraine troops control nearly 500 sq miles of Kursk region

AP ■ KYIV

The chief of Ukraine's army said ON Tuesday that the country's troops control nearly 1,300 square kilometres (500 square miles) of Russia's Kursk region since their surprise incursion three weeks ago. Gen Oleksandr Syrskyi also said that Ukraine has captured 594 Russian prisoners in its operation. "The enemy drags troops from other directions, in such way weakening them. They attempt to create a ring of defence around our offensive group of troops and plan counter-offensive actions," Syrskyi said, commenting on the situation in the Kursk region. The seized territory is roughly the size of Los Angeles. His claim, which could not be independently confirmed, came hours after Ukraine endured a second consecutive barrage of nighttime air and missile attacks from Russia. Five people were reported killed and 16 injured in the attacks, which President Volodymyr Zelenskyy said included 81 drones, as well as cruise and ballistic missiles. He said four people died, but the governor of the Zaporizhzhia region later said a fifth person had died there from burns in the attacks. "We will undoubtedly respond to Russia for this and all other attacks. Crimes against humanity cannot go unpunished," Zelenskyy wrote on X. The Kursk operation, the largest incursion into Russia since World War II, forced some 130,000 residents to evacuate their homes. Russia has sent reinforcements into the region, but it was not clear to what extent these movements might be weakening Russia's position in eastern Ukraine, where it was making slow advances in efforts to gain ground in the Kharkiv region. The Russian Defence Ministry said Tuesday that Ukraine has suffered heavy casualties in Kursk — some 6,600 troops either killed or injured — and that more than 70 tanks have been destroyed along with

# 5 people killed in missiles and drones strike across Ukraine

AP ■ KYIV

Nighttime Russian drone and missile attacks struck across Ukraine, killing at least five people on Tuesday, a day after a heavy barrage pounded energy facilities throughout the country. President Volodymyr Zelenskyy said the attacks included 81 drones, as well as cruise and ballistic missiles and that 16 people were injured. He said four people died, but the governor of the Zaporizhzhia region later said a fifth person had died there from burns in the attacks. "We will undoubtedly respond to Russia for this and all other attacks. Crimes against humanity cannot go unpunished," Zelenskyy wrote on X. In the Kyiv region, which had struggled with blackouts after Monday's onslaught, five air alerts were called during the night. The regional administration said air defenses destroyed all the drones and missiles but that falling debris set off forest fires. After the Monday barrage across Ukraine of more than 100 missiles and a similar number of drones, Prime



Minister Denys Shmyhal said "the energy infrastructure has once again become the target of Russian terrorists" and urged Ukraine's allies to provide it with long-range weapons and permission to use them on targets inside Russia. President Joe Biden called Monday's Russian attack on energy infrastructure "outrageous" and said he had "re-prioritized US air defence exports so they are sent to Ukraine first." He also said the US was "surging energy equipment to Ukraine to repair its systems and strengthen the resilience of Ukraine's energy grid." The Russian Defence Ministry said the attacks used "long-range precision air- and sea-based weapons and strike drones against critical energy infrastructure facilities that support the operation of Ukraine's military-industrial complex. All designated targets were hit." In Russia, meanwhile, officials reported four Ukrainian missiles were shot down over the Kursk region, where Russian forces are fighting Ukrainian troops that made a surprise incursion this month. The fighting in the region has raised concerns about the nuclear power plant there. International Atomic Energy Agency chief Rafael Grossi arrived inspected the plant on Tuesday, but did not immediately give a public assessment. He said the attacks used "long-range precision air- and sea-based weapons and strike drones against critical energy infrastructure facilities that support the operation of Ukraine's military-industrial complex. All designated targets were hit." In Russia, meanwhile, officials reported four Ukrainian missiles were shot down over the Kursk region. The fighting in the region has raised concerns about the nuclear power plant there. International Atomic Energy Agency chief Rafael Grossi arrived inspected the plant on Tuesday, but did not immediately give a public assessment.

# Japan protests after Chinese plane violates its airspace

AP ■ TOKYO

Japan's top government spokesperson said on Tuesday a Chinese military aircraft had briefly entered Japanese airspace the day before, calling the incident an "absolutely unacceptable" territorial violation and safety threat. Chief Cabinet Secretary Yoshimasa Hayashi said that a Chinese Y-9 reconnaissance plane briefly entered Japan's southwestern airspace Monday, forcing its military to scramble fighter jets. He added that it was the first time the Japanese Self Defense Force detected a Chinese military aircraft in Japan's airspace. "The Chinese military aircraft's incursion into Japan's airspace not only is a serious violation of our territorial rights but also a safety threat," Hayashi told a regular news conference. "We found it absolutely unacceptable." The Chinese Y-9 reconnaissance plane circled above Danjio Island off the southwestern coast of Japan's main southern island of Kyushu for two minutes, the Joint Staff of the Japanese Self Defense Force said late Monday, adding that officials were analyzing the latest Chinese military activity. The Joint Staff said Japan scrambled fighter jets and warned the Chinese plane to leave. Hayashi stressed that China's military activity around Japan in recent years has become "increasingly expanding and intensifying." Hayashi said Japan will continue watching Chinese military activity and do its utmost to respond to possible anti-airspace violations. The Foreign Ministry said in a statement that Japanese Vice Foreign Minister Masataka Okano summoned acting Chinese Ambassador Shi Yong to strongly protest the airspace violation. Okano also demanded that China take steps to avoid such incidents. According to Japan's military, it scrambled jets nearly 669 times between April 2023 and March 2024, about 70% of the time against Chinese military aircraft, though that did not include airspace violations.

# Philippine defence chief says China is 'the biggest disruptor of peace'

AP ■ MANILA

The Philippine defence chief said Tuesday that China is "the biggest disruptor" of peace in Southeast Asia and called for stronger international censure over its aggression in the South China Sea, a day after China blocked Philippine vessels from delivering food to a Coast Guard ship at the Sabina Shoal. Defense Secretary Gilberto Teodoro Jr spoke at an international military conference organized in Manila by the US Indo-Pacific Command amid a spike in clashes between China and the Philippines in the disputed South China Sea and in its airspace. China is "the biggest disruptor of international peace" in Southeast Asia, Teodoro told the conference, which was attended by military officials and senior diplomats from the US and allied countries. He later told reporters on the sidelines of the conference that international statements of concern against China's increasingly assertive actions in the disputed waters and elsewhere were "not

enough." "The antidote is a stronger collective multilateral action against China," Teodoro said, adding that diplomats and defense officials should determine those stronger steps. Pressed by reporters to be more specific, Teodoro said a UN Security Council resolution condemning and ordering a stop to Chinese acts of aggression would be a strong step but acknowledged the difficulty of pursuing that. "The world is not that perfect," Teodoro said. There was no immediate reaction from Chinese officials. China, like its geopolitical rival the US, is one of the five permanent members of the UN Security Council and has power to veto such an adversarial step. The Association of Southeast Asian Nations has paid "attention" to China's aggressive actions but should do much more, Teodoro said. The 10-nation Southeast Asian bloc includes the Philippines, Vietnam, Malaysia and Brunei, which have South China Sea claims that overlap with each other, as well as China's and Taiwan's. "ASEAN, to remain relevant and credible, cannot continue to ignore what China is doing in the South China Sea," Teodoro said. In the latest incident in the South China Sea, Philippine officials said China deployed "an excessive force" of 40 ships that blocked two Philippine vessels from delivering food and other supplies to Manila's largest coast guard ship in the disputed Sabina Shoal in the latest flare-up of their territorial disputes in the busy sea passage. China and the Philippines blamed each other for the confrontation on Monday in Sabina Shoal, an uninhabited atoll both countries claim that has become the latest flashpoint in the Spratlys, the most hotly disputed region of the sea passage that is a key global trade and security route. China and the Philippines have separately deployed coast guard ships to Sabina in recent months on suspicion the other may act to take control of and build structures in the fishing atoll.

# China calls for more support for Ukraine peace plan with Brazil

AP ■ BANGKOK

China called on Tuesday for more countries to endorse its peace plan for Ukraine, after a round of diplomacy with Indonesia, Brazil and South Africa to support its plan. Envoy Li Hui called the three countries representative of the Global South and "important forces in promoting world peace" who share similar positions with China. "They have maintained communication with both Russia and Ukraine and stay committed to a political settlement to the crisis through dialogue and negotiation," said Li, China's special envoy for Eurasian affairs. China and Brazil issued a joint peace plan earlier this year that calls for a peace conference with both Ukraine and Russia

and no expansion of the battlefield. China and Russia were absent from a peace summit hosted in Switzerland in June. Russia was not invited while China chose not to attend. Initially, Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy said China had pressured other countries to not attend the peace summit. But since then, Ukraine has recognized China's role in a peace process, given its close relationship with Russia, with the Ukrainian foreign minister paying a visit to the country in July, the first since the war began. While a diplomatic dialogue between Russia and Ukraine so far appears out of reach, the war has shifted. In August Ukraine opened a new front in the war by attacking the Russian oblast of Kursk, in a surprise move that made clear Russia was also vulnerable. Zelenskyy has said the aim was to create a buffer zone to protect Ukraine from attacks. Li noted the incursion and criticized Western support for Ukraine. "All sides are worried that the West continues to relax conditions for Ukraine to strike the Russian territory with aided weapons," Li said. "And recent developments on the battlefield confirmed these kind of worries." The US and NATO have called China an enabler of Russia in the war. NATO Secretary-General Jens Stoltenberg then said China provides equipment, microelectronics and tools that are "enabling Russia to build the missiles, to build the bombs, to build the aircraft, to build the weapons they use to attack Ukraine."

# Nishan-e-Imtiaz (Military) awarded to top Chinese general

PTI ■ ISLAMABAD

Commander of the Ground Forces of the People's Liberation Army of China General Li Qiaoming was on Tuesday conferred the Nishan-e-Imtiaz, one of the top honours in Pakistan, for his "unwavering commitment" in promoting close cooperation between the militaries of the two all-weather friends. Prime Minister Shabbaz Sharif and Army Chief General Asim Munir participated during a special investiture ceremony at the President's House and attended by service chiefs and parliamentarians. "The citation at the ceremony highlighted General Li Qiaoming's four-decade career, noting his significant contributions to the Chinese military. His intellect, administrative skills, and dedication have earned him a reputation as a courageous and capable officer, crucial in promoting peace and stability in China and beyond," the state-run news agency Associated Press of Pakistan (APP) said. "General Li is renowned for his exceptional professionalism and skills in maintaining peace and stability around China. As a friend of Pakistan, he greatly strengthened Pak-China military relations with unwavering commitment," it said. Earlier on Monday, Qiaoming met with Prime Minister Sharif and discussed various aspects of the Pakistan-China friendship, particularly the bilateral defence and strategic partnership, the report said. Sharif underscored that Pakistan and China are All-Weather Strategic Cooperative Partners and trusted friends and highlighted that the deep-rooted ties between the two nations enjoy broad public, political, and institutional support in Pakistan, "making them indispensable for the progress and development of both countries." The Prime Minister expressed satisfaction at the deepening military-to-military exchanges and noted that the defence and strategic ties between Pakistan and China are vital for peace and stability in the region.

# Malaysian ex-leader charged with sedition for mocking former king

AP ■ KUALA LUMPUR

Former Malaysian Prime Minister Muhyiddin Yassin was charged Tuesday with sedition over a speech he made that allegedly questioned the integrity of the country's previous king, Muhyiddin, who led Malaysia from March 2020 until August 2021, pleaded not guilty in a court in northeast Kelantan state. According to the charge sheet, Muhyiddin made the seditious remarks last month during a by-election campaign in Kelantan. Nine ethnic Malay state rulers take turns as Malaysia's king for five-year terms under the country's rotating monarchy, which began when Malaysia gained independence from Britain in 1957. The monarchy plays a largely ceremonial role, but are revered by the nation's majority Muslims. In his speech on August 14, Muhyiddin had questioned why then-King Sultan Abdullah Sultan Ahmad Shah

didn't invite him to be prime minister following a hung Parliament in November 2022. Muhyiddin had claimed he had the backing of majority lawmakers. Muhyiddin's Islamic nationalist bloc received stronger-than-expected support from Malays, who account for two-thirds of Malaysia's 34 million people. Sultan Abdullah appointed then-opposition leader Anwar Ibrahim as prime minister after Anwar cobbled up support from rival parties to form a unity government. Sultan Abdullah from central Pahang state, who ended his reign on Jan. 30 this year, didn't comment on the case. But his son issued a strong rebuke to Muhyiddin, saying his remarks were dangerous and could divide the people and undermine the royal institution. Muhyiddin was questioned by police following complaints against him. He had denied insulting the royalty, saying his remarks were factual and that he had handed in sworn oath of support by 115 lawmakers in the 222-member parliament. Zaid Malek from Lawyers for Liberty, a human rights and law reform group, slammed the use of the colonial-era Sedition Act against Muhyiddin. He said questioning or criticizing the exercise of constitutional power by the king wasn't seditious. The law, introduced by the British in 1948, criminalizes speech or actions with an undefined "seditious tendency," including that which promotes hatred against the government and monarchy or incites racial discord. "The king is a constitutional monarch, and not a feudal ruler. His exercise of his power can thus be debated, questioned or criticized. This is the very bedrock of our system of constitutional monarchy," Zaid said. Anwar had backtracked on his pledge to repeal the Sedition Act, which has long been used to suppress dissenting voices, he added.

# PM Sharif reiterates 'resolve' to root out terrorism from Pakistan

PTI ■ ISLAMABAD

Pakistan Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif Tuesday strongly condemned the terrorist attacks in the restive Balochistan province as he reiterated the unwavering resolve of his government to root out terrorism from the country. Heavily armed Baloch gunmen killed at least 37 people in separate attacks in Pakistan's restive Balochistan province on Monday, as insurgent attacks spiked in the region bordering Iran and Afghanistan. Chairing a Cabinet meeting a day after violence in Balochistan stunned the country, Sharif strongly condemned the terrorist incidents that resulted in the death of innocent Pakistanis including the security personnel, state-run Radio Pakistan reported. He said the sacrifices rendered by the people and the Armed Forces of Pakistan in the war

against terrorism will not go waste. "The entire nation is committed for complete elimination of terrorism from the country," he said. Prime Minister Sharif said all available resources would be provided to the Armed Forces to curb terrorism. He said time has come to eliminate terrorism. "We need to move forward towards this path with firm resolve," he said. He said doors of dialogue are open for those who believe in Pakistan and its Constitution. However, no talks will be held with the enemies and terrorists, he added. Referring to the terrorist incidents, he said it is no secret now that the terrorists of the Tehreek-e-Taliban Pakistan, operating from Afghanistan, are behind terrorist attacks. He said the government has already sensitized the Afghan government on the issue. He said the terrorist acts being carried out in Balochistan are

aimed at creating anarchy and disturbance in Pakistan and to disrupt the steps being taken by the government for development of the country. However, their nefarious designs could not terrorize the people and disrupt the development process. Prime Minister Sharif stressed the need for forging unity, saying such despicable designs are only meant to impede the country's progress, ongoing CPEC projects in Balochistan and undermine the time-tested friendship between Pakistan and China. He announced to soon visit Balochistan to hold in-depth deliberations on the situation and decide on immediate measures to deal with it. Meanwhile, Interior Minister Mohsin Naqvi visited Balochistan on Tuesday to support the provincial government in its efforts to tackle militancy. "My aim to visit is to let you all and the people of Balochistan know that the federal interior minister is standing behind the Balochistan chief minister. Whatever decision he (chief minister Bugti) makes, we will support him," he told the media in Quetta flanked by Chief Minister Mir Sarfaraz Bugti. Naqvi ruled out any fresh operation, saying that a police station house officer was enough to tackle the law and order with proper and timely response. "They are terrorists and our civil armed forces, armed forces, and the police know how to combat them," the minister said.

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Chief Engineer/ O&M (P&P Cell-I), GHTP, Lehra Mohabbat, invites E-tender for the Procurement of RTDs and thermocouple for Stage-I & II Units, GHTP, Lehra Mohabbat, Quantity as per NIT. For detailed NIT & tender specification please refer to <https://eproc.punjab.gov.in> from 23-08-2024 at 17:00 Hrs. onwards.  
Note:- Corrigendum and addendum, if any will be published online at <https://eproc.punjab.gov.in>  
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MD/MK/04/1082	Rate Contract for 140 Kg 8 Mtr. Long PCC Pole	2808.30	23600	05.09.24 at 3:00 PM	17.09.2024 at 3:00 PM

  
Other details and full Tender documents would be available on Company website <https://portal.mpcz.in> & Govt. Website <https://mptenders.gov.in> shortly.  
M.P. Madhyam/116105/2024 CHIEF GENERAL MANAGER (PROC.)

# If anything happens to me, Army chief & DG ISI responsible: Imran Khan

PTI ■ ISLAMABAD

former prime minister's trial in cases concerning the violence on May 9 last year might go to the military courts. "The events and vandalism on May 9 last year invited the application of the Army Act since military installations were attacked and damaged," Government spokesperson for legal affairs Barrister Aqeel Malik had said. On May 9 last year, violent protests erupted after Khan's arrest by paramilitary Rangers from the premises of the Islamabad High Court in connection with an alleged corruption case. His party workers allegedly vandalised a dozen military installations, including the Jinnah House (Lahore Corps Commander House), the Mianwali airbase and the ISI building in Faisalabad. A mob also attacked the Army headquarters (GHQ) in Rawalpindi. Khan's longish post on X started with "reminding" the nation of the two attempts on his life: first in Wazirabad, Punjab province and then again at the Judicial Complex in Islamabad. The ISI stole the CCTV footage from

Wazirabad, and the night before the attack in Islamabad, the ISI had taken control of the area where it happened, he claimed. "In their panic, they have made my conditions in jail even tougher. The staff assigned to ensure that my food isn't poisoned has been changed for the fourth time," he wrote. He also described the conditions of his and his wife Bushra's cell - "rats fall from the top when she prays - and said the court has been informed about it. Khan further said that he had already explained why the Islamabad rally was postponed and how it had nothing to do with "contacts with the establishment." This entire government runs on lies; I don't even read the news about them. I have no contact with the establishment. If we do hold talks with them, it will only be for the sake of the country and the constitution," the PTI supremo added. Drawing a parallel to the situation that unfolded in Bangladesh, he also came up with a curt comment: "Cattle can be

herded in a desired direction, not humans" and said, "The Army Chief, Chief Justice, and Police Chief were all loyal to the Prime Minister (in Bangladesh), but when the people took to the streets, they won their rights." Anyone critical of the regime is labelled a digital terrorist. When internet services were shut down, people protested, but those in power couldn't handle the criticism. No one is permitted to even voice their problems. The nation blames a specific institution for this," he added. What are his qualifications? Under him, the law-and-order situation across the country is deteriorating," the PTI leader asked and described terror attack incidents in KP and Balochistan. The former cricketer-turned-politician rued about "the embarrassing defeat against Bangladesh" on Monday and said it set a new low. He also lamented the current condition of cricket in Pakistan, saying: "The blame for all of this collapse falls on one institution."



# Classifieds

## CHANGE OF NAME

**I, Kuldip Kaur** W/o Amarjit Singh R/o Vill Alipur Khalsa Tehsil Dhuri Distt Sangrur, have changed my name to Kuldeep Kaur.

**I, Amarjit Singh** Kular S/o Dhian Singh R/o Vill Alipur Khalsa Tehsil Dhuri Distt Sangrur, have changed my name to Amarjit Singh.

**I, Harjit Kaur** W/o Gurdeep Singh, Vill Bela Ramgharh, PO Bhallan, Tehsil Nangal (Rupnagar) have changed my name from Harjeet Kaur to Harjit Kaur.

**I, Kavita** W/o Rakesh Kumar R/o VPO Lalmandi, Tehsil Buhana District Jhunjhunu (Rajasthan) PIN 333034 , India have changed my name from Kavita Devi to Kavita due to wrong name record in Army Service record of my husband.

**I, Bhupendra** is legally brother of Jeetmal Singh R/o VPO Katara Aziz, Tehsil-Todabhim District-Karauli , State-Rajasthan Pincode-322230 has changed my name from Bhupendra to Bhupendra Singh vide affidavit No. IN-PB50058251200840W Dated 27 August 2024 Before District Court, Gurdaspur (Punjab)

**I, Indra Kumari** W/o of Vijendra Kumar Saharan R/o Ward No. 2 VPO Buchawas Tehsil Taranagar District Churu (Rajasthan) PIN- 331304, India have changed my name from Indra Devi to Indra Kumari due to wrong name record in Army Service record of my husband

**I, Vijendra Kumar** Saharan R/o Ward No. 2 VPO Buchawas Tehsil Taranagar District Churu (Rajasthan) PIN- 331304, India have changed my father's name from Jagadish Prasad to Jagdish Prasad due to wrong name record in my Army Service record.

**I, Vijendra Kumar** Saharan R/o Ward No. 2 VPO Buchawas Tehsil Taranagar, District Churu (Rajasthan) PIN- 331304, India have changed my mother's name from Meera to Meera Devi due to wrong name record in my Army Service record.

**I, Mandip Kaur** Mattu W/o Amandeep Singh R/o Mohalla Gopal Nagar, Dharawal (Gurdaspur) have changed my name to Mandip Kaur. Concerned note.

**I, Surender Kaur** W/o Gurdeep Singh R/o Vill. Chakrala, Jalandhar have changed my name from Surender Kaur to Surinder Kaur.

**I, No.615989** Ex-JWO Hardeep Singh S/o Late Surjan Singh R/o H.No. 214, Old Dashmesth Nagar Po, Dakoha, Distt. Jalandhar Declare that in my service record name of my wife is mentioned as Charan Kaur instead of Charanjit Kaur.

**I, Sukhvir Singh** S/o Lal Singh R/o H.No. 36, VPO, Bajutha Khurd, Tehsil Nakodar, Distt. Jalandhar, Punjab have changed my name from Sukhvir Singh to Singh Sukhwinder (Surname as Singh).

**I, Pramila Ganesh** Tambe legally wedded wife of Army No 14676779H Rank: NK. Name: Tambe Ganesh Kailas, Unit: 2CZW C/o 56 APO, Presently Residing at Udmaiwadi, Indapur, Pawarwadi, Pune, Maharashtra- 413104, have changed my Name from Pramila to Pramila Ganesh Tambe.

**I, Army No. 15613719P** Rank: Hav Durga Charan Majhi Unit: 14 Guards C/o 56 APO R/o Trinath Nagar, Balighat-2, Sadar, Puri, Odisha-752002 declare that in my service record my son's name is mentioned as Aditya Ranjan Majhi but his correct name is Adityaranjan Majhi.

**I, Gajula Priyanka** is legally Wife of Service No. 16125601N Rank L/NK Name: Gajula Prashanth residing at Village Thandra Post Malak Chincholi, Taluk Sarangapur, Distt. Adilabad (State) Telangana Pin- 504110, have changed my name from Gajula Priyanka Prashanth to Gajula Priyanka.

**I, Gajula Narsavva** is legally Mother of Service No. 16125601N Rank L/NK Name: Gajula Prashanth residing at Village Thandra Post Malak Chincholi, Taluk Sarangapur, Distt. Adilabad (State) Telangana Pin- 504110, have changed my name from Narsavva to Gajula Narsavva.

**I, S Mangamma** is legally Mother of Service No. 16125529H Rank: SPR Name: Kashanna residing at Village Bandameedipally Post Bandameedipally, Taluk Mahabubnagar, Distt. Mahabubnagar (State) Telangana Pin -509001, have changed my name from Mangamma to S Mangamma.

**I, Puneet Kumar** S/o Raj Kumar R/o House No. 416, Ranjit Pardhan Wali Gali, Ward No. 15, District Mansa, Punjab have changed my name from Puneet Kumar to Puneet Jindal.

**I, Shantavva** Mudrgani is Mother of No. 15516023A, ALD, Shivaputrappa Mudrgani of Unit 84 Armd Regt C/o 56 APO Residing of Kakanur, Kakanur, Bagakot State Karnataka Pin-587155 Declare That my Name Shantavva Mudrgani Wrongly written in my son Army Service Records but my correct Name is Shantavva Mudrgani Vide Affidavit Dated 27 August 2024 before at Notary Ferozpur.

**I, Renuka** Shivaputrappa Mudrgani is Wife of No. 15516023A, ALD, Shivaputrappa Mudrgani of Unit 84 Armd Regt C/o 56 APO Residing of Kakanur, Kakanur, Bagakot State Karnataka Pin-587155 Declare That my Name Renuka Basavaraj Yadavaw Wrongly written in my Husband Army Service Records but my correct Name is Renuka Shivaputrappa Mudrgani Vide Affidavit Dated 27 August 2024 before at Notary Ferozpur.

**I, Army No. 16112446Y**, L/Hav, Konda Thirupathi Reddy of Unit 03 Engr Regt C/o 56 APO, PIN-914003, Yol Cantt, today Camping at Ferozpur, have changed my mother name from Venkata Lakshmi to Konda Venkata Lakshamma & Date of birth 01.07.1958 to 01.01.1958.

**I, Daravath** Chandravathi is mother of Army No. 16117240L, L/NK, Prabakar of Unit 39 FD PK COY, 5 Engr Regt, today camping at Ferozpur have changed my name from Chandravathi to Daravath Chandravathi and my date of birth from 01.07.1974 to 27.02.1964 Vide Affidavit Dated 27 August 2024 before at Notary Ferozpur.

**I, Ummadisetty** Jayalaksmi is mother of Army No. 16125727M Spr, Ummadisetty Veersekhar of Unit 05 Engineer Regt c/o 56 APO, today camping at Ferozpur have changed my name from U Jayalakshamma to Ummadisetty Jayalaksmi Vide Affidavit Dated 27 August 2024 before at Notary Ferozpur.

**I, K Venkata** Ramana is father of Army No. 16127912A, NK, K Shreekanth of Unit 05 Engineer Regt C/o 56 APO have changed my name from Komarolu Venkataramana to K Venkata Ramana Vide Affidavit Dated 27 August 2024 before at Notary Ferozpur.

**I, Ashok**, Father Of No. 3014319N, Naik, Vedparkash Unit 17 Rajput C/O 56 APO Residing At Village Kheri Khummar, Jhajjar, Haryana, Pin 124103, Have Changed My Name From Krishna To Ashok Vide Affidavit Dated 27 August 2024 Before At Notary Ferozpur.

**I, Krishna**, Mother Of No. 3014319N, Naik, Vedparkash Unit 17 Rajput C/O 56 APO Residing At Village Kheri Khummar, Jhajjar, Haryana, Pin 124103, Have Changed My Name From Krishna To Krishna And Change Date Of Birth From 15/12/1974 To 01/01/1973.

**I, Rakhi Sharma** Spouse Of No. 481090X Sub Ravi Kumar Unit 17 Rajput C/O 56 APO And Resident At R-38/1, Shiv Pratap Nagar, Near Dayal Bagh Chowk, Mahesh Nagar, Ambala Cantt, Ambala, Haryana, Pin 133001, Have Changed My Name From Rakhi To Rakhi Sharma Vide Affidavit Dated 26 August 2024 Before At Notary Ferozpur.

**I, Ranjit Singh** Sandhu Son of Gurnam Singh Resident of Village Nawwa Quilla, Post office Karma, District Ferozpur have Changed my name to Ranjit Singh.

**I, Suraj Bhan** S/O Ami Lal, R/O Street No 8 Thakar Abadi Abohar, Fazilka Punjab -152116 split my name from Suraj Bhan to Given name: Suraj and sur name: Bhan

**I, Harminder Singh** Son of Budh Singh Virk Resident of House No. 47, Phase - 2, Golden Enclave, Ichhe Wala Road Ferozpur City Have changed my name to Harminder Singh Virk.

**I, Sewa Mal** Jasuja S/o Lal Chand R/O 1471-B/6, Jyoti Nagar, Tehsil Thanesar, District Kurukshetra, have changed my name from Sewa Mal Jasuja to Sewa Mal. I should be henceforth further known as Manpreet Kaur.

**I, Sanjay** S/O Ram Pyare R/o Patiala Bank Colony, Kurukshetra, have changed my name from Sanjay to Sanjay Nishad.

**I, Babu Ram** alias Babu Ram Goeel S/O Radhey Shyam R/o H.No.23, Old Gur Mandi Ward No. 14, Samlakha Po. Samlakha Dist. Panipat Haryana-132101 have changed my name to Babu Ram Goeel.

**I, Gokal Singh** S/O Mukand Singh R/O Ward No. 4, 392. Near Gurudwara, Sikanderpur, Sira-125060 (Haryana), Have Changed My Name To Gokul Singh.

**I, Tarun Bhatnagar** S/O Pardeep Bhatnagar R/O B-1102 Imperial Heights, Kharar Banur Road Sector 115, Kharar, Tehsil Kharar Distt Mohali Have Changed Declare That Pardeep Bhatnagar And Pardeep Kumar Is One And Same Person.

**I, Sukhbir Singh** S/O Dalip Singh R/O Village and Post Office Ikkas, District and tehsil Jind. I have declared that my name Changed From Sukhbir Singh To Sukhvir Singh Dhull. In future all purposes.

**I, Krishan Kanta** Bindal W/o Krishan Kumar Bindal R/O H. No. 1336, Sec 14 P, Hisar declare that I have changed my name from Krishan Kanta Bindal to Krishana Kanta Bindal for future purpose.

**I, Santar** Wd/o Sh. Shubh Ram R/o H. No. 803, Gali No. 12, Jawahar Nagar, Hisar, Teh. and Distt. Hisar, Haryana declare that I have changed my name from Santar to Santar Devi for all future purposes.

**I, Kuldeep Singh** S/o Ran Singh R/o H. No. 85 A, Near Shiv Mandir, Sarsod (129) , Sarsod, Hisar, Haryana 125121 declare that I have change my name from Kuldeep Singh to Kuldeep for all future purpose.

**I, Shiv Kumar** S/o Satpal Kumar # 3103 Sector 19-D, Chandigarh Have Changed My Minor Son's Name From Arnav To Ryan.

**I, Rajesh** S/o Sh. Ramchander R/o Village Kailana, Sonipat have changed my name from Rajesh to Rajesh Kumar for all future purposes.

**I, Parmarjit Kaur** Wife of No. 14935914P Rank NK Name Balwinder Singh R/o Vill. Majhara, Teh. Purnapur, Distt. Pilibhit, Uttar Pradesh-262122 have changed my date of birth in army record from 01-11-1982 to 01-09-1982 vide affidavit dated 27-08-2024 before Session Court Hisar.

**I, No.-14937864N** Rank NK Name Amarjeet Singh R/O Vill. & PO Sukhanand, Teh. Bagha Purana, Distt. Moga, Punjab-142049 have changed my name in army record from Manjeet Singh to Manjeet Singh Brar vide affidavit dated 24-08-2024 before Session Court Hisar.

**I, Ajmer Singh** Father of No.-14937864N Rank NK Name Amarjeet Singh R/O Vill. & PO Sukhanand, Teh. Bagha Purana, Distt. Moga, Punjab-142049 have changed my date of birth in army record from 13-09-1945 to 01-01-1947 vide affidavit dated 24-08-2024 before Session Court Hisar.

**I, Baljeet Kaur** Mother of No.-14937864N Rank NK Name Amarjeet Singh R/O Vill. & PO Sukhanand, Teh. Bagha Purana, Distt. Moga, Punjab-142049 have changed my date of birth in army record from 02-03-1948 to 01-01-1952 vide affidavit dated 24-08-2024 before Session Court Hisar.

I hitherto known as Parduman S/O Sh. Uday Singh residing at Chaudhariwadi Sub-Tehsil Balsamand District Hisar-125001, Haryana have changed my name and shall hereafter be known as Parduman Bishnoi.

**I, Sukhvir Singh** S/o Mukhtiar Singh Vill.Adhoya, Diwana, Pehowa, Kurukshetra have Changed My Name Sukhbir Singh

**I, Krishan Kumar** Matharu S/O Amar Nath R/O 135 B-11 Hissar Road Ambala City have changed my name To Krishan Kumar.

**I, Laxmi Dixit** W/O Rajpal Verma R/O 118 Near Manav Chowk Mohinder Nagar Ambala City have changed my name To Pooja Verma

**I, Baljeet Kaur** W/o Gurpreet Singh R/O 75/74 Vill Barouli Distt Ambala have changed my name To Sudesh

**Jc 342950P** Sub.Ramesh S/O Ram kumar V/O Jhansa Tehsil Pehowa District Kurukshetra 136130 Have changed my name from Karanbir Singh to Karanbir is my Given name and Singh is my surname.

**I, Teena Devi** W/o Gurmeet Singh Vill.Jorasi Kalan, Pehowa, Kurukshetra, have changed my name Nirmaal Singh.

**I, Harwinder Kaur** Ghuman W/o Nirmal Singh, R/O Deepgarh, Tehsil Tapa, Distt. Barnala, have changed my name Harwinder Kaur.

**I, Nirmal Singh** Dhillon S/O Darshan Singh R/O Deepgarh, Tehsil Tapa, Distt. Barnala, have changed my name Nirmaal Singh.

**I, Pal Kaur** W/o Bikkar Singh, R/O VPO Shaina, Tehsil Tapa, Distt. Barnala, have changed my name Harpal Kaur.

**I, Nirmala** wife of Sh. Laxmi Singh daughter of Sh. Mahantu Ram, Resident of Lakharanji (524), Kotla, Solan, Tehsil - District Solan, Himachal Pradesh declare that in the Gram Panchayat Jabali Record my name is Radha Devi and date of birth 26.06.1973 is entered. My correct name is Nirmala alias Radha Devi and date of birth is 26.06.1972. all concerned please may note.

**I, Vansh** S/O Sarbjete Sharma R/O Khaira Kotli, Distt-Gurdaspur. Have Changed My Name From Vansh To Vansh Sharma.

**I, Kamalbir Bains**, Spouse Of Ex- Sgt Satinder Pal Singh Bains No.671078, Resident Of H.No.524/1 (Opp.256/6), Improvement Trust Colony, Scheme No.5, Jail Road, Gurdaspur (Punjab)-143521. Have Changed My Name From Kamalbir Bains To Kamalbir Kaur Vide Affidavit Dated 27/08/2024 At Gurdaspur, Punjab.

**I, Laxmi** mother of No. 15806970M Rank SEP (DVRMT) Name Sadgir Suresh Dattu resident of Jayprakash Nagar, Sinner, Nasik, Maharashtra, have changed my name from Laxmi to Laxmibai Dattu Sadgir vide Affidavit No IN-PB49968417643424W Dated 27-08-2024 before Notary Public Pathankot (Punjab).

**I, Sadgir Dattu** Somnath father of No. 15806970M Rank SEP (DVRMT) Name Sadgir Suresh Dattu resident of Jayprakash Nagar, Sinner, Nasik, Maharashtra, have changed my name from Sadgir Dattu Somnath to Dattu Somnath Sadgir vide Affidavit No IN-PB49966734895731W Dated 27-08-2024 before Notary Public Pathankot (Punjab).

**I, Kulwant Kaur** W/O Ranjit Singh R/O Village Chopra Tehsil/Distt- Gurdaspur, Punjab, India. Declare That My Daughter Jasmeen Kaur Studying In Gagan International School, Purana Shalla In 10th Class Her School Record My Daughter Date Of Birth 20-06-2009 Is Wrong. But Date Of Birth 20-06-2010 Is Correct.

**I, Gurdip Singh** S/O Harbans Singh R/O Vpo. Ramuwala Distt. Bathinda Have Changed My Name To Gurdeep Singh.

**I, Manjit Singh** S/O Surinder Singh R/O H.No.2213/7A, St.No.1, New Vijay Nagar Basti Jodhewal Ludhiana Have Changed My Name To Manjeet Singh.

**I, Ripan Kumar** Goyal S/O Sat Narayan Goyal R/O H.No.-109 W.No.-16 St.No.-02 Anand Nagar Moga Distt. Moga Have Changed My Name To Ripan Goyal.

**I, Suraj Parkash** S/O Gurbashard R/O Street No.9-A, Satnampura, Phagwara, District Kapurthala Have Changed My Minor Son's Name Happy To Happy Ganger.

**I, Suraj Parkash** S/O Gurbashard R/O Street No.9-A, Satnampura, Phagwara, District Kapurthala Have Changed My Minor Son's Name Arshdeep To Arshdeep Ganger.

**I, Amarjeet Kaur** W/O Surjit Kumar R/O Vpo. Nangal Majia, Tehsil Phagwara, District Kapurthala, Have Changed My Name As Amarjeet As Given Name & Kaur As Surname.

**I, Kulvinder Singh** S/O Darshan Singh R/O Vill. Jandiaila P.O. Begampur Jandiaila Distt. Hoshiarpur Punjab Have Changed My Name To Kulvinder Singh.

**I, Shaina Brar** W/o Guriqbal Singh R/O H.No. 213 Sector-19/A Near Sector-19 Dispensary (Chandigarh) have changed my name from Shaina Brar to Shaina Kaur Brar.

**I, Guriqbal Singh** S/O Gurpiar Singh R/O H.No. 213 Sector-19/A Near Sector-19 Dispensary (Chandigarh) have changed my minor daughter name from Seerat to Seerat Khokhar.

**I, Jaswinder Singh** Sohla S/O Harjit Singh R/O Vpo-Halwara Teh-Raikot Distt. Ludhiana Have Changed My Name To Jaswinder Singh.

**I, Karanbir Singh** S/o Sukhdial Singh R/O Village Hassanpur Po Lidhar, Tehsil Baba Bakala Distt Amritsar Have changed my name from Karanbir Singh to Karanbir is my Given name and Singh is my surname.

**I, Harwinder Kaur** Ghuman W/o Nirmal Singh, R/O Deepgarh, Tehsil Tapa, Distt. Barnala, have changed my name Harwinder Kaur.

**I, Nirmal Singh** Dhillon S/O Darshan Singh R/O Deepgarh, Tehsil Tapa, Distt. Barnala, have changed my name Nirmaal Singh.

**I, Pal Kaur** W/o Bikkar Singh, R/O VPO Shaina, Tehsil Tapa, Distt. Barnala, have changed my name Harpal Kaur.

**I, Harpreet Singh** S/O Jarnail Singh R/O Nainewal Tehsil Tapa, Distt. Barnala, have changed my name Harpreet Singh Jhinger.

**I, Jasvir Kaur** W/o Harbhajan Singh R/O Zira (Ferozpur) have changed my name to Jasveer Kaur.

**I, Gurmeet Singh** Shergill S/o Jaswinder Singh R/o Mansurwal (Ferozpur) have changed my name to Gurmeet Singh Gill.

**I, Surjit Singh** S/o Sewa Singh R/o Vpo. Bhangala Teh-Mukerian (Hoshiarpur) have changed my name from Surjeet Singh to Surjit Singh.

**I, Manjinder Singh** Dhillon S/o Pritam Singh R/o Vill: Rajgarh (Ludhiana) have changed my name to Manjinder Singh.

**I, Amandeep Singh** S/O Lakha Singh R/o Vill:Andlu (Ludhiana) have changed my minor daughter name from Sukhmandeep Kaur to Sukhmandeep Kaur Toor.

**I, Gagandeep Kaur** Rupana D/o Baljit Singh R/O Vpo. Barundi Teh-Raikot (Ludhiana) have changed my name to Gagandeep Kaur.

**I, Kulchain Kaur** W/o Sikander Singh R/o Vill; & P.O. Mangewal, Jutb; Anandpur Sahib, Distt.Rupnagar, Punjab declare that I have changed my name from Kulchain Kaur to Sarabjit Kaur.

**I, Hardev Singh** S/O Kharak Singh R/O W.No. 1 Vpo. Miani Teh-Dasuya (Hoshiarpur) have changed my name from Hardev Singh to Hardav Singh.

**I, Parvinder Jit Kaur** W/o Satvinder Singh R/o Vill: Bodal Kotli Po. Nangal Khunga (Hoshiarpur) have changed my name to Parvinderjit Kaur.

**I, Satvinder Singh** Chohan S/o Charan Singh R/o Vill: Bodal Kotli Po. Nangal Khunga (Hoshiarpur) have changed my name to Satvinder Singh.

I Hitherto Known As Sukhveer Kaur Brar W/O Manjit Singh Residing At Vpo. Bir Raake, Distt. Moga, Pin-142046, Punjab, Changed My Name And Shall Hereafter Be Known As Sukhveer Kaur.

**I, Lovepinder Singh** S/O Hamek Singh R/O Village Bebbal Kalan District Faridkot Have Changed My Name To Lovepinder Singh Brar.

**I, Anthony & Rony** Son Of Chhote Lal Resident Of T.A Line Ferozpur Cantt I Am Known By Both Names As Above One And Is Same Person.

**I, Renu** W/O Meharban Sabharwal R/O H No 136,Zira Road,New Satiya Wala Ferozpur Have Changed My Name Renu Sabharwal.

**I, Sudesh Kumari** Alias Sudesh Kakkur W/O Dharminder Dev Resident Of Ward No. 17 Street No. 2 Shanti Nagar Ferozpur I Am Known By Both Names As Above One And Is Same Person.

**I, Sukhbir Singh** Son Of Jagir Singh Resident Of Village Jamitpur Dheru Po Sodhi Nagar District Ferozpur Have Changed My Name To Sukhbir Singh Jossan.

**I, Shinder Kaur** W/O Sukhwinder Singh Resident Of Village Ghall Khurd, Tehsil And District Ferozpur Have Changed My Name As Chhinderpal Kaur.

**I, Gaganpreet Kaur** Grewal W/o Jagraj Singh Dhillon R/O VPO Hariion Kalan, Tehsil Khanna (Ludhiana) have changed my name to Gaganpreet Kaur.

**I, Gurprit Singh** S/O Swaran Singh R/O Village Kotla Badla, Tehsil Khamanon (Fatehgarh Sahib) have changed my name to Gurpreet Singh.

**I, Ashok Kumar** Dutt S/O Balwant Rai Dutt R/O H.No.E-110, Jagat Colony, Khanna (Ludhiana) have changed my name to Ashok Kumar.

**I, Ztehil Singh** S/O Pritam Singh R/O W.No.12, Shaheed Bhagat Singh Colony, Khanna (Ludhiana) have changed my name to Ztehil Singh.

**I, Asha Rani** Alias Simran Kaur W/o Gurwinder Singh R/O Surgapuri, Kotkapura District Faridkot is known by two names as above.

**I, Jatinder Kumar** S/O Harbans Lal Gupta R/O Gali No-1, Indira Colony, Ward No-29, PO-Pathankot, Tehsil-Pathankot, Pathankot, Punjab-145001, Have Changed My Name To Jatinder Gupta.

**I, Sartaj Pal** Singh S/O R P Singh R/O Friends Colony, Street A, Near Nag Mandir, Dhangu Road, VTC-Pathankot, Punjab - 145001, Have Changed My Minor Son's Name From Sabir Singh Aged 3 Years To Hayaan Veer Singh Forever.

**I, Narinder Kumar** S/o Sh. Roshan Lal R/O H.no. 592 Bhagat Mandi, Karnal have changed my name from Narinder Kumar to Narender Singla. In future I will be known and known as Narender Singla.

**I No. 4473003h** Ex Hav Mahavir Singh S/O Hawa Singh Resident Of Vpo Lakhna Majra, Tehsil Lakhna Majra, District Rohtak (Haryana) Have Changed My Daughter Name In My Army Records From Nainsi (Existing Name) To Nainsi (Proposed New Name) My Daughter Correct/Actual Dob Is 16.06.2002 Instead Of 21.03.2002 As Per My Daughter Matric Certificate, Aadhaar Card . In Future My Daughter Shall May Be Known/Written And Called As Nainsi (Dob : 16.06.2002) For All Work Purposes, Vide Affidavit Dated Aug 2024 Before Executive Magistrate (Rohtak)

**I Priya Devi** (Existing Name As Per Records) D/O No. Jc729564X Ex Sub Vmmer Singh Resident Of Vill Ghuskaani, Po Khidwali, District Rohtak (Haryana) Have Changed My Name In My Father Army Records From Priya Devi (Existing Name) To Priya (Proposed New Name) As Per My Matric Certificate, Aadhaar Card .In Future I Shall May Be Known/Written And Called As Priya For All Work Purposes, Vide Affidavit Dated Aug 2024 Before Executive Magistrate (Rohtak)

**I, No.14659466n** Hav Vikram Singh Resident Of Village- Debipur Gadolamau, Post- Musanagar, Tehsil-Ghatampur, District- Kanpur Nagar, State- U.P, Pin-209208, Have Changed My Daughter Sonam Yadav Dob From 08 Nov 2008 To 08 Nov 2009 Vide Affidavit No.In-Pb42654900275247W Dated 06 Aug 2024 Before Notary Public Pathankot

**I, Manisha** Spouse Of Vansh Bhaskar Valuba Resident Of Village- Mamdapur, Post-Mamdapur, Tehsil- Yeola, District- Nashik, State-Maharashtra, Pin-423403, Have Changed My Name From Manisha To Manisha Bhaskar Vansh Vide Affidavit No.In-Pb49399417397029W Dated 24 August 2024 Before Notary Public Pathankot

**I, Vansh Bhaskar** Valuba Resident Of Village- Mamdapur, Post- Mamdapur, Tehsil- Yeola, District- Nashik, State-Maharashtra, Pin-423403, Have Changed My Name From Vansh Bhaskar Valuba To Vansh Bhaskar Valuba Vide Affidavit No.In- Pb49402211433427W Dated 24 August 2024 Before Notary Public Pathankot

**I, Vansh Bhaskar** Valuba Resident Of Village- Mamdapur, Post- Mamdapur, Tehsil- Yeola, District- Nashik, State-Maharashtra, Pin-423403, Have Changed My Name From Vansh Bhaskar Valuba To Vansh Bhaskar Valuba Vide Affidavit No.In- Pb49402007873237W Dated 24 August 2024 Before Notary Public Pathankot

**I, Vansh Bhaskar** Valuba Resident Of Village- Mamdapur, Post- Mamdapur, Tehsil- Yeola, District- Nashik, State-Maharashtra, Pin-423403, Have Changed My Father Name From Waliba To Valuba Punjaba Vansh Vide Affidavit No.In-Pb49401445334164w Dated 24 August 2024 Before Notary Public Pathankot

**I, Vansh Bhaskar** Valuba Resident Of Village- Mamdapur, Post- Mamdapur, Tehsil- Yeola, District- Nashik, State-Maharashtra, Pin-423403, Have Changed My Name From Prasant Bhaskar Vansh To Prashant Bhaskar Vansh Vide Affidavit No.In-Pb49400963949967W Dated 24 August 2024 Before Notary Public Pathankot

**I, Vansh Bhaskar** Valuba Resident Of Village- Mamdapur, Post- Mamdapur, Tehsil- Yeola, District- Nashik, State-Maharashtra, Pin-423403, Have Changed My Father Name From Om To Om Bhaskar Vansh Vide Affidavit No.In-Pb49400470969802W Dated 24 August 2024 Before Notary Public Pathankot

**I, Surinder Kumar** Verma S/O Ram Kishan Resident Of H.No. 7-A, Agarsain Nagar, Ambala Cantt, Haryana Do Now Declare That I Have Changed My Name From Surinder Verma To Surinder Kumar Verma, In The Future, I Will Be Known As Surinder Kumar Verma.

**I, Kawal Kishore** Sabharwal S/O Acharaj Lal Sabharwal R/O H.No. 10 Housing Board Colony Ambala Cantt 133001 That I Have Changed My Name From Kawal Kishor Sabharwal To Kawal Kishor Sabharwal. Concerned Note

**I, Rekha** Barman Am Spouse Of No 16124946h Rank Hav Name Anup Kumar Roy Present Residing At Rhq Camp, 16 Engr Br Regt (Pms), Chandimandir Cantt, Panchkula, Haryana Decliare That I Have Changed My Name From Rekha Roy To Rekha Barman.

# USP

## Himachal Pradesh State Electricity Board Limited

**Shimla:** Sh. Sandeep Kumar (IAS), the newly appointed Managing Director of Himachal Pradesh State Electricity Board Limited by the Government of Himachal Pradesh, has assumed charge today at the Board Headquarter's Vidut Bhawan Kumar House Shimla. Sh. Sandeep Kumar will continue hold the charge of the post of Secretary and CEO HIMUDA. Earlier, he was also holding the post of Director Youth Services and Sports Department. Sh. Sandeep Kumar, M.Sc, M. Phil, (Chemistry), MBA is a well-known Indian Administrative Services officer of 2010 batch and has previously worked on the posts of Director Urban Development, Director Town and Country Planning, Director IT, Managing Director HRTC, Deputy Commissioner Una and Kangra. Born on 06 December 1969 in Nadaun District Hamirpur, Sh. Sandeep Kumar has 14 years of experience in the administrative field. Sh. Sandeep Kumar is known especially for providing facilities to the employees of HRTC and general passengers of the State while working as Managing Director in HRTC.



**PARALYMPICS**

# INDIA EYE RECORD HAUL WITH LARGEST EVER CONTINGENT IN FRAY AT PARIS

PTI ■ PARIS

Beaten by life but not by its many challenges, an 84-strong contingent of Indian para-athletes, the largest ever in the country's history and a heady mix of youth and experience, would be eyeing an unparalleled gold rush when the Paralympic Games begin here on Wednesday. India won a record 19 medals, including five gold, in the Tokyo Paralympics in 2021 for a 24th-place finish in the overall rankings. Three years on, the country's target is more than 25 medals with a double-digit haul in gold. What has fuelled this ambition is the size of the contingent and the exceptional performances in the past one year. India won a record 111 medals, including 29 gold, at the Hangzhou Asian Para Games last year. This was followed by unprecedented success at the World Para Athletics Championships in May where the country snared 17 medals, including half a dozen gold for a sixth-place finish in the overall standings. Several medal winners in Hangzhou are in this Paralympics team, including top stars like world record-



holding javelin thrower Sumit Antil (F64) and rifle shooter Avani Lekhara (10m Air Rifle Standing SH1). Both of them would be defending their gold medals won in Tokyo. The Games, as much a celebration of sporting skills as human endurance, club athletes with similar functional abilities in terms of movement, coordination and balance into various classifications. The "degree and nature of their eligible impairments" decide these groups. For India, the para-athletics team has been a major medal giver in the past and this time too, it is expected to be the

biggest contributor with as many as 38 names in fray. Other top medal contenders include the likes of para-archer Sheetal Devi, who shoots with her legs as she was born without arms, landmine blast survivors Hokato Sema (shot putter) and Narayana Konganapalle (rower) and several other accident amputees. India is competing in 12 sports this time, as against nine by a 54-member team in Tokyo. Shooter Manish Narwal and shuttler Krishna Nagar are also among those who would be looking to defend their gold medals won in Tokyo.

Antil, whose left leg was amputated owing to an accident when he was 17, had also won gold in the para world championships in May and he is hoping to cross the 75m mark in Paris at the same venue where his able-bodied counterpart Neeraj Chopra won an Olympic silver earlier this month. Lekhara was the best performer in Tokyo with one gold and a bronze and one of the two athletes to win two medals, the other being Singhraj Adhana (silver and bronze). Adhana, however, could not make the current team.

Lekhara was the first Indian woman to win a Paralympic gold medal. She is now primed to join the club of three medal winners in the Paralympics. Current Paralympics Committee of India (PCI) President Devendra Jhajharia, a javelin thrower, is the most decorated Indian Paralympian with two gold (2004 Athens and 2016 Rio) and a silver (2021 Tokyo). Joginder Singh Bedi won three medals in the 1984 Paralympics (silver in shot put, a bronze each in javelin and discus throw). Deepthi Jeevanji (women's 400m T20; intellectual disability), Rio Olympics gold-medallist Mariyappan Thangavelu (men's high jump - T63), whose right leg was disabled after being run over by a bus, and Yogesh Kathuniya (men's Discus Throw - F56), born with a neurological disorder that damaged his nervous system, would be also aiming to add to their existing Paralympic medal tally. Shuttlar Krishna Nagar (men's singles SH6), who has overcome the disadvantage of his short height, is also looking good to defend his gold medal won in Tokyo, more so after winning the title in the World Para Badminton Championships in Thailand in

February. The other gold winner in Tokyo, Pramod Bhagat, is, however, serving suspension after whereabouts failure. Suhas Yathiraj (Men's Singles SL4 and Mixed Doubles SL3-SU5), who won a silver in Tokyo, will again be a medal contender. In para-archery, Sheetal and Harvinder Singh will be among the medal contenders. Harvinder had won a bronze in Tokyo in men's individual recurve open. Sheetal, the first and the only international para archery champion without upper limbs, bagged two gold medals in a stunning performance in the Asian Para Games in women's individual compound and mixed doubles, and a silver in the women's doubles compound event. In table tennis, after winning a silver in class 4 event in Tokyo, Bhavinaben Patel will hope to better the colour of the medal. The wheelchair-bound player is competing in women's singles S4 and women's doubles D10 events. Antil and shot putter Bhagyashri Jadhav, who won a silver in the F34 event in Asian Para Games, will be the joint flag bearers at Wednesday's Opening Ceremony to be held outside a stadium for the first time in the history of Paralympic Games.



**US OPEN**

## 16-year-old Californian Iva beats Magda in first round

AP ■ NEW YORK

Iva Jovic, a 16-year-old from California, became the youngest American to win a women's main-draw match at the U.S. Open since 2000, eliminating 2023 Australian Open semifinalist Magda Linette of Poland 6-4, 6-3. "Surprised, but not surprised," Jovic said on Monday about the result against someone who's been ranked in the top 20. "I just had a plan about what I was going to do before we started, and there weren't that many needs for crazy adjustments, because it was going well," Jovic said. "So just kind of sticking to that." Katrina Scott of the U.S. Was 16 when she won a match at the U.S. Open four years ago. Last year, Mirra Andreeva of Russia was 16 when she did it. Here's one indication of Jovic's youth: She still is planning to enter the junior event later in the tournament. Here's another: Jovic is still in school, taking online courses through a program she described as "convenient and ... Very lenient." Jovic grew up participating in a bunch of sports, including soccer, gymnastics and swimming. But she gravitated to tennis, which she began learning alongside her older sister on courts built atop the apartment complex in Torrance, California, they lived in. "I want to be the best that I can be," Jovic said. "Just get better every day, honestly.

Just keep working. I'm on a good path, but there's a lot more to do." She earned a wild-card entry for the main bracket at the year's last Grand Slam tournament by winning the U.S. Tennis Association Girls' 18s national championship. She also paired with Tyra Grant there to take the doubles title, which gave them a wild card for women's doubles at Flushing Meadows; the USTA granted Jovic and another American teen, Kaylan Bigun, a spot in the mixed doubles field, too. Jovic and Grant teamed up to win junior doubles titles at the Australian Open in January and Wimbledon in July; they also were the runners-up at the French Open in June. Jovic's favorite players are 24-time Grand Slam champion Novak Djokovic - he's Serbian, and so are her roots; after the English portion of her news conference concluded Monday, she answered questions in Serbian - and Tokyo Olympics gold medalist Belinda Bencic. Why? "Djokovic, I mean, do I need to say? We all know how great he is," Jovic responded. "And then Belinda, she just takes the ball so early and her footwork is very cutting the angle, so she just makes her opponents feel kind of suffocated. That's what I would like to try to do." Jovic would love the chance to have a conversation with Djokovic, but their lone interaction so far was when she asked if he would mind posing for a photo.

## Coco begins her US Open title defense with an easy win after a two-match losing streak

AP ■ NEW YORK

The chant rang out in cavernous Arthur Ashe Stadium at the U.S. Open before Coco Gauff's first service game of her first match of her first Grand Slam tournament as a defending champion: "Here we go, Coco! Here we go!" Coming to Flushing Meadows off a series of early exits at other events, Gauff already was down 1-0 to Varvara Gracheva on Monday, having dropped the match's initial game at love by making four groundstroke errors. What followed was a tough, tight game, featuring 14 points across eight minutes and three break chances for Gracheva. The important part, of course, was that Gauff saved all of those break points, claimed that game, and suddenly was in complete control on the way to a 6-2, 6-0 victory that not only



put the 20-year-old American in the second round but also told her - and everyone else - that her game is in better shape than it appeared lately. "The last couple of weeks were tough, and I was like, I have to do this and do that, but I don't have to prove anything to anyone except myself. So ... (these) two weeks are just about proving all the

expectations that I have on myself," the No. 3-seeded Gauff said. "I have many more years coming back here and I'm not going to win every year. Just that perspective and just having the belief that I can - but not the expectation that I should." Day 1 at the year's last Grand Slam tournament went about as well as possible for Gauff

and another young American featured in Ashe, 13th-seeded Ben Shelton, a semifinalist a year ago who beat 2020 champion Dominic Thiem 6-4, 6-2, 6-2. It was the last U.S. Open match for Thiem, who turns 31 next week and is retiring after this season. "Obviously she plays with a lot of passion," Shelton, 21, said about Gauff. "You could tell that she cares out there. She's into it every time that she's on the court. I think that's something that the people love." Gauff was not the only past U.S. Open champ on Monday's schedule: The night session in Ashe began with 2017 winner Sloane Stephens blowing a huge lead against Clara Burel and losing 0-6, 7-5, 7-5 after taking the first nine games, followed by Novak Djokovic - whose collection of 24 Slam titles includes last year's in New York - against Radu Albot.

## India to face West Indies, South Africa in Women's T20 World Cup warm-up matches

PTI ■ DUBAI

India will take on West Indies and South Africa in their two Women's T20 World Cup warm-up fixtures in Dubai, the International Cricket Council announced on Tuesday. India will take on West Indies on September 29 while Harmanpreet Kaur and Co. Are slated to play South Africa on October 1. All 10 teams that have qualified for the Women's T20 World Cup will participate in the practice games, with every side playing two warm-up games each. The warm-up fixtures will start on September 28 with Pakistan taking on Scotland and Sri Lanka facing Bangladesh.

Defending champion Australia will face arch-rival England on September 29, followed by West Indies on October 1 in Dubai. The warm-up fixtures will be 20 overs per side and will not have international T20 status, allowing teams to field all members of their 15-player squad. No two sides who belong to the same group will take on each other in the warm-up round. India has been clubbed in group A alongside Australia, New Zealand, Pakistan and Sri Lanka while group B comprises England, South Africa, West Indies, Scotland and Bangladesh. The competition, starting October 3, was moved to the

UAE by the ICC following the ongoing political unrest in Bangladesh, the original host. **WARM-UP FIXTURES:** September 28: Pakistan v Scotland (Sevens, Dubai) September 28: Sri Lanka v Bangladesh (ICCA1, Dubai) September 29: New Zealand v South Africa (Sevens, Dubai) September 29: India v West Indies (ICCA2, Dubai) September 29: Australia v England (ICCA1, Dubai) September 30: Sri Lanka v Scotland (Sevens, Dubai) September 30: Bangladesh v Pakistan (ICCA2, Dubai) October 1: West Indies v Australia (Sevens, Dubai) October 1: England v New Zealand (ICCA2, Dubai)

## Nigeria hires German coach Bruno in bid to get World Cup qualifying back on track

PTI ■ LAGOS (NIGERIA)

Nigeria hired German coach Bruno Labbadia on Tuesday to lead the men's national soccer team in a bid to get its flagging World Cup qualifying campaign back on track. "The appointment is with immediate effect" said Mohammed Sanusi, the general secretary of the Nigeria Football Federation. The 58-year-old Labbadia has been out of work since April 2023 when he was fired by Stuttgart after failing to arrest its slide to the bottom of the Bundesliga. Nigeria is second from bottom in its 2026 World Cup qualifying group after failing to win any of its opening four

games. The Super Eagles drew 1-1 with both Lesotho and Zimbabwe in November last year before Portuguese coach Jose Peseiro led the team to the final of the Africa Cup of Nations. Nigeria lost the final to the host nation Ivory Coast in February. The NFF promoted Peseiro's assistant, Finidi George, to the top position in April after the Portuguese departed. But, the former right winger was unable to improve the team's fortunes in World Cup qualifying. George oversaw a 1-1 draw with South Africa followed by a 2-1 defeat in Benin in June. George then reportedly resigned after not being told of the NFF's plans to appoint a

technical advisor to oversee his work. The NFF did not publicly acknowledge the resignation. Labbadia only oversaw two wins from his 12 games in charge of Stuttgart during his second stint at the club - one each in the league and German Cup. His successor, Sebastian Hoeneß, ultimately saved Stuttgart from relegation and led the team to a club-record points total last season. Labbadia previously coached Hertha Berlin, Wolfsburg, Hamburger SV, Bayer Leverkusen and Darmstadt. As a goal-scoring forward, he helped Bayern Munich and Kaiserslautern win Bundesliga titles in the 1990s.

# Duleep Trophy: Indisposed Siraj ruled out, Jadeja allowed more rest

PTI ■ MUMBAI, AUG 27 (PTI)

Seamer Mohammed Siraj will miss the Duleep Trophy's first round games due to illness while veteran all-rounder Ravindra Jadeja has been allowed an extended period of rest by the BCCI's national selection committee, which announced a few changes to the participating squads on Tuesday. The first round of the Duleep Trophy, comprising two matches, will be held from

September 5-8 with India A taking on India B at the M Chinnaswamy Stadium in Bengaluru and India C facing off against India D at the Rural Development Trust Stadium A in Ananthapur. Siraj, who was a part of India's last away assignment in Sri Lanka, along with Umran Malik have both been ruled out of the first round games and have been replaced by Navdeep Saini and Gaurav Yadav respectively. "Both Siraj and Malik are



suffering from an illness and are not expected to be fit in time for their Duleep Trophy fixtures," the BCCI informed in a release. "All-rounder Ravindra Jadeja has also been released from the Team B squad," the board added. Jadeja was last seen in action in the T20 World Cup final in June against South Africa and was rested from the ODI series in Sri Lanka. The 32-year-old Yadav, who hails from Madhya Pradesh, took 41 wickets in seven

matches for Pondicherry in the last season of Ranji Trophy to finish as the second highest wicket-taker in the country's premier domestic competition. **REVISED SQUADS:** **India A:** Shubman Gill (c), Mayank Agarwal, Riyan Parag, Dhruv Jurel (wk), KL Rahul, Tilak Varma, Shivam Dube, Tanush Kotian, Kuldeep Yadav, Akash Deep, Prasidh Krishna, Khaleel Ahmed, Avesh Khan, Vidwath

Kaverappa, Kumar Kushagra, Shaswat Rawat. **India B:** Abhimanyu Easwaran (c), Yashvi Jaiswal, Sarfaraz Khan, Rishabh Pant (wk), Musheer Khan, Nitish Kumar Reddy\*, Washington Sundar, Navdeep Saini, Yash Dayal, Mukesh Kumar, Rahul Chahar, R Sai Kishore, Mohit Awasthi, N Jagadeesan (wk). **India C:** Rituraj Gaikwad (c), Sai Sudharsan, Rajat Patidar, Abishek Porel (wk), Suryakumar Yadav, B Indrajith, Hrithik Shokeen,

Manav Suthar, Gaurav Yadav, Vyshak Vijaykumar, Anshul Khambhoj, Himanshu Chauhan, Mayank Markande, Aryan Juyal (wk), Sandeep Warrier. **India D:** Shreyas Iyer (c), Atharva Taide, Yash Dube, Devdutt Padikkal, Ishan Kishan (wk), Ricky Bhui, Saransh Jain, Axar Patel, Arshdeep Singh, Aditya Thakare, Harshit Rana, Tushar Deshpande, Akash Sengupta, KS Bharat (wk), Saurabh Kumar.



# HOPEFULLY, WE WILL BREAK FINAL BARRIER IN T20 WC: HARMANPREET

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Skipper Harmanpreet Kaur remained optimistic that India can grab their maiden global title in the upcoming ICC Women's T20 World Cup, and said conditions in the UAE could work to their advantage.

The International Cricket Council has recently shifted the showpiece, to be held between October 3 and 20, to the UAE from Bangladesh owing to the political unrest in the latter nation.

"Whenever we play on this kind of stage (World Cup), we always want to do well. We have always done well in the past as well, and hopefully, this time we will break that final barrier and go all the way," Harmanpreet told PTI videos.

Harmanpreet was on Tuesday appointed as the captain of the Indian team for the T20 World Cup.

The 35-year-old did not read too much into the venue shift, and said the conditions in the UAE are quite similar to India.

"We have not played much cricket in the UAE. But the conditions in the UAE are going to be similar to Indian conditions."



"We will see how the conditions play out (there) and try to adjust ourselves to the conditions as soon as possible," said Harmanpreet, who led India to the final of the 2020 T20 World Cup.

Irrespective of the playing conditions, she wanted the team to dish out a "positive" game in the World Cup.

"As a team, we learn from our defeats and break those barriers that are pushing us back. Hopefully this time we can express ourselves in a more positive way in the World Cup," she said.

Harmanpreet also backed the Indian bowlers, who flourished in the recent Asia Cup final against Sri Lanka, to deliver in the World Cup.

"The bowlers are working really hard as a team and, hopefully, in this World Cup we tick all the boxes."

Harmanpreet, who led Mumbai Indians to WPL victory last year, said the key to winning the World Cup will be to keep themselves in the present.

"It is always important for us to play good cricket, keeping ourselves in the present. Whatever the situation is in front of us...we go there and evaluate (it) as soon as possible," she signed off.



## Jeev, Jyoti among Indian stars to compete in country's inaugural Legends Tour

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Indian golfing greats Jeev Milkha Singh and Jyoti Randhawa will be among 64 international players vying for top honours in the inaugural HSBC India Legends Championships to be played at Jaypee Greens course at Greater Noida from August 30 to September 1.

The first Legends Tour tournament in the country, which will have USD 0.5 million as prize purse, will also see 2005 US Open champion Michael Campbell of New Zealand in action.

The winner of the HSBC India Legends Championship is set to take home USD 74,250, while the runner-up will receive USD 49,000. The third-place finisher will pocket USD 32,700.

The event will be played over 54 holes and it will be preceded by a star-studded Pro-Am event on August 28 and 29, which will see top golfers play alongside amateurs.

The Legends Tour is a professional golf tour for male golfers aged 50 and over, run by the PGA European Tour. It began as European Senior Tour in 1992 and was rechristened as Legends Tour since 2022.

Jeev is the host of the tournament, co-sanctioned by the Professional Golf Tour of India (PGTI). The event will see a participation from 17 countries.

Randhawa qualified after winning the Legends Tour's tough and challenging Qualifying School finals in Turkey.

"Since I am the host, I will ensure that I don't win the tournament this weekend," the 52-year-old Jeev joked at the press conference to launch the tournament.

"It's great for the country's golfers and for world golf in general. Golfing career is over when you are 40 or 45. But with the Legends Tour, you can have a second innings after reaching 50 years."

"Now, you can play golf as a career till 60." Randhawa, also 52, said not only the money, a golfer can also maintain the competitive spirit by continuing to play in the Legends Tour.

"It's good for the budding Indian golfers and amateurs. They will now know that a golfer can play another 10 years after retirement," he said.

"By playing in the Legends Tour, you are keeping your golfing passion and competitive spirit intact as well as keeping yourself fit." Jeev (twice Asia No. 1 in 2006 and 2008) and Randhawa (once Asia No. 1 in 2002) are well-known names around the world with numerous appearances in Majors too.

Jeev has won four times each on the European and Japan Tours, one on the Korean Tour besides six times on the Asian Tour. Randhawa has won eight times on the Asian Tour and once in Japan.

Jeev, who has played all four Majors, was the first Indian to tee up at the Masters at the Augusta National in 2007. He was a former captain of Asia in EurAsia Cup (Europe vs Asia team event). He has five top 10 finishes on the Legends Tour since 2022.

Besides Jeev and Randhawa, there are other seven Indians in the fray. They are Mukesh Kumar, Digvijay Singh, Harmeet Kahlon, Vijay Kumar, all past winners on the Asian Tour, Amandeep Johl, Vishal Singh and Sanjay Kumar.

The 55-year-old Campbell, who has also won 15 other tournaments around the world, said, "I started playing golf when I was 10. My grandmother told me that time when I achieve success, I should remember I have two hands, one for receiving and another for giving back," he said.

"Legends Tour is great in that way. You keep playing after retirement and inspire youngsters to take up the game. We have to give back to the game."

## US OPEN

# Djokovic starts his bid for record 25th Grand Slam title with straight-set win

AP ■ NEW YORK

Novak Djokovic began his bid for a record 25th Grand Slam title and tied Roger Federer with his 89th match win at the U.S. Open by defeating qualifier Radu Albot of Moldova 6-2, 6-2, 6-4.

The second-seeded Djokovic, again wearing a gray sleeve over his surgically repaired right knee, was competing for the first time since claiming an Olympic gold medal three weeks ago at the Paris Games, the last significant achievement that was missing from his resume.

"It's always challenging to start, particularly when you haven't played on this surface for five, six months,

and coming off an Olympic gold and playing on clay. I haven't had any official matches before the U.S. Open. So I'm expecting to be probably challenged a little bit more in the opening rounds," he said.

"Hopefully, I can play better each day." He said his knee, which was operated on in early June, feels fine.

Djokovic, a 37-year-old from Serbia, improved to 18-0 in first-round matches at Flushing Meadows and is now 89-13 overall at the hard-court tournament, which he's won four times, including a year ago. He's never lost earlier than the third round at the U.S. Open; Albot never has been past the third round in 30 appearances at majors.



The retired Federer went 89-14 in New York, with five consecutive championships from 2004 to 2008.

He's the most recent man to win the U.S. Open at least twice in a row. Among men, only Jimmy Connors, who went 98-17, won more matches than Djokovic and Federer at the event.

Djokovic never has lost a Grand Slam match to someone ranked as low as No. 138 Albot. And Albot is now 0-12 against opponents ranked in the top 10.

Next up for Djokovic is a countryman, familiar opponent and friend, Laslo Djere, who advanced with a 6-7 (7), 6-1, 6-7 (7), 6-4, 6-2 victory over Jan-Lennard Struff. A year ago, Djokovic

met Djere in the third round at the U.S. Open; Djere took the first two sets before Djokovic came through in five.

"It's a guaranteed third round for one of the Serbian guys. Hopefully it's going to be me. But Djere is a guy that really likes playing on a big stage.

I think he also loves the conditions here. It's a bit quicker. Ball stays low. He has a very flat backhand particularly and very good serve, great return. He's physically as fit as anybody," Djokovic said. "I remember very well our match. It was a very tough match.

I'm going to try to analyze that and hopefully do some things even better than I did last year."

# New Champions League format promises more

AP ■ GENEVA

The new Champions League format this season will see more teams playing more games for more prize money.

On Thursday, the Union of European Football Associations makes the draw in Monaco for the match schedule of the new single-standings league phase that replaces the traditional group stage.

The first new Champions League format since 2003 promises more of almost everything that Europe's wealthiest and most influential clubs wanted from UEFA.

There are four more places in a 36-team lineup; at least eight games each instead of six; Champions League games scheduled in January for the first time; a prize money rise of at least 25% to a minimum of 2.5 billion euros (USD 2.8 billion).

There also was more evidence, at UEFA's European Championship this summer, that constant expansion of international competitions is leaving players tired and unable to perform at their best year-round. The new league phase in European club soccer's marquee event will have 144 total games compared to 96 in the group stage last season.

The "key aims," UEFA said, is to "improve competitive balance and sporting interest and in the process increase the number of meaningful matches - matches with



something at stake for both sides" throughout the competition.

In the eighth and final round, all 36 teams play on the same January 29 evening to finalize the standings which will decide which eight teams advance directly to the pre-quarterfinals - and with what seedings in a tennis-like knockout bracket - as well as which 16 go into a new knockout playoff round in February, and which 12 are eliminated.

"We simulated that qualification should be possible with an average of 7.6 points, which means two UEFAs and two draws," said UEFA's head of competitions strategy, Stéphane Anselmo.

**Why change such a successful competition?**

Money, mostly, though that's not the only reason. The Champions League in Europe

has for the past 32 years showcased the highest quality play in world soccer. It let UEFA steer billions of euros (dollars) of prize money to clubs that pay the highest transfer fees and salaries.

Still, influential officials at the European Club Association (ECA) got bored of the group stage, saying it was too repetitive and lacked drama. They wanted more games against stronger opponents that would be more valued by broadcasters, viewers and new fans worldwide. Their leverage over UEFA was potentially launching their breakaway competition.

The road to agreeing on the format was rocky. A controversial first proposal in 2019, favoring storied clubs, was stopped by a backlash from mid-ranked clubs and domestic leagues.

There was intense turmoil sparked by the failed Super

League launch in April 2021 by most of the same club officials who negotiated Champions League reform with UEFA.

Final format approval came in May 2022 - when Real Madrid, Barcelona and Juventus were exiled from the talks and still pursued UEFA in court - and it was broadly what the rebel France and Brest was third in Ligue 1.

**What is the new format?**

Out goes the group-stage format played for 21 seasons where 32 teams were put into eight groups of four teams from a seeded draw. The top two in each group advanced to the pre-quarterfinals. Groups gave each team six games from September into December, playing each rival once at home and once away.

In comes a single-standings league - 36 teams each playing eight games against eight different opponents through January.

The top eight in the standings go directly to the pre-quarterfinals in March. Teams ranked ninth to 24th go into the knockout playoffs in February. The bottom 12 teams are eliminated.

In the playoffs, teams ranked Nos. 9-16 are seeded in the draw to play seeded legs at home against unseeded teams Nos. 17-24.

**Who gets the four extra places?**

Two for countries whose teams collectively had the best record in UEFA club competitions in

the previous season. That was Italy and Germany so the fifth-placed teams in Serie A and the Bundesliga qualified: Bologna and Borussia Dortmund.

The fifth-ranked national league (based on five years of results in UEFA club competitions) gets a third direct entry. That is currently France and Brest was third in Ligue 1.

An extra place goes to the qualifying rounds path for national champions from lower-ranked countries. They now play for five total qualifying places instead of four last season.

**How will the draw be done?**

The 36 teams come out of four seeding pots graded by each team's "UEFA club coefficient"

- its ranking by results in five years of European competitions. The top-seeded pot contains recent Champions League winners and beaten finalists, plus Leipzig and Barcelona.

When a team's ball is drawn, its slate of eight opponents - two from each seeding pot, one to play at home and one away - will be allocated by a software

program and displayed within seconds.

Match dates will be confirmed Saturday, to avoid city clashes with Europa League and Conference League games being drawn Friday in Monaco. Those lower-tier competitions also are a 36-team single-standings league. Conference League teams play just six games.

**AU SMALL FINANCE BANK LIMITED (A SCHEDULED COMMERCIAL BANK)**  
 Registered office :- 19-A, Dhuleswar Garden, Ajmer Road, Jaipur-302001, Rajasthan(India) CIN L36911RJ1996PLC011381

**APPENDIX-IV-A [See proviso to rule 8(6)] Sale notice for sale of immovable properties**

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

Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower (s)/ Co-Borrower (s)/Mortgagor (s) and Guarantor (s) that the below described immovable properties mortgaged to the Secured Creditor, the constructive/physical possession of which has been taken by the Authorised Officer of AU Small Finance Bank Limited (A Scheduled Commercial Bank), the same shall be referred hereafter as AUSFB. The Secured Assets will be sold on "As is where is", "As is what is", and "Whatever there is" basis through E-Auction for recovery of amount mentioned in the table below along with further interest, cost, charges and expenses being due to AUSFB viz. Secured Creditor.

It is hereby informed you that we are going to conduct public E-Auction through website <https://sarfaesi.auctiontiger.net>

Loan A/c Number / Name of Borrowers / Co-Borrowers / Guarantors/Mortgagers	Date & Amount of 13(2) Demand Notice	Date of Possession	Description of Property	Reserve Price For Property	Earnest Money For Property	Date & Time of E-Auction	Date of Bid Submission	E-Auction Place of Tender Submission	Contact Person and property visit date
A/c No.: L9001060117810528 SHRI Vardman Crockery Shop THROUGH IT'S PROPRIETOR AVINASH JAIN (Borrower), Avinash Jain S/O Rambharose Jain (Co-Borrower), Ram Bharosi Jain S/O Nem Chand (Co-Borrower)	07-Sep-22 Rs. 1350199/- Rs. Thirteen Lac Fifty Thousand One Hundred Ninety-Nine Only As on 06-Sep-22	20-Feb-24	Property Situated At Hno 882/ A- 1, KHATA NO 3420 RT, AABADI IN LAL DORA, VILL KOT / NEEMTALA PALWAL, TESHIL AND DIST - PALWAL, Haryana Admeasuring 63 Sqyds	Rs. 835000/- Rs. Eighty Lac Thirty Five Thousand Only	Rs. 83500/- Rs. Eighty Three Thousand Five Hundred Only	09-Oct-24 On or Before 07-Oct-24 2.00 PM to 4.00 PM with unlimited extension of 5 minutes	On or Before 07-Oct-24	Au Small Finance Bank Ltd, Branch Office : Ward No 11, SN Tower, GT Road, Ram Nagar, Palwal, Haryana - 121102	Amit Lohiya/ Deepak Jain, 7340011760/ 9773358234, auctions@aubank.in visit date : 04-Oct-24

**The terms and conditions of e-auction sale:-**

(1) The E-Auction sale of Secured Asset is on "as is where is", "as is what is", "whatever there is" and "no recourse" basis for and on behalf of the Secured Creditor viz. AUSFB and there is no known encumbrance which exists on the said property. (2) For participating in online e-auction sale, Bid document, copies of PAN Card, Board Resolution in case of Company and photo ID, address proof are required to be submitted along with EMD, which is payable by way of RTGS/NEFT/DD in the name of MSME AUCTION POOL ACCOUNT OF AU Small Finance Bank Limited, Current account No.1921201121711599 AU SMALL FINANCE BANK LIMITED Fifth and Sixth Floor Sunny Big Junction STC Kharsa No. 64 to 67, Gram Sukhaiyapura New Atish Market Jaipur 302020. IFSC Code: AUBL0002011. Once an Online Bid is submitted, same cannot be withdrawn. Further any EMD submitted by bidder will be required to send the UTR/Ref no/DD No of the RTGS/NEFT/DD with a copy of cancelled cheque on the following email IDs i.e. auctions@aubank.in (3). All interested participants / bidders are requested to visit the website <https://sarfaesi.auctiontiger.net> & <https://www.aubank.in/bank-auction> for further details including Terms & Conditions, to take part in e-auction sale proceeding and are also advised to contact e-mail of auctions@aubank.in

**Please Note:-** This is also a 15 days notice Under Rule 8(6) read with Rule 9(1) to the Borrowers/Co Borrowers/Mortgagors of the above said loan account about sale through tender /inter se bidding on the above-mentioned date. The property will be sold, if their outstanding dues are not repaid in full by the borrower in the given notice period.

Place : HARYANA Date : 27-08-2024 Authorised Officer AU Small Finance Bank Limited