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MONEY 10
SENSEX, NIFTY HIT ALL-TIME HIGH
DURING EARLY TRADE

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PM Modi apologises to his deity, Shivaji Maharaj



Prime Minister Narendra Modi with Maharashtra Governor CP Radhakrishnan and Chief Minister Eknath Shinde during laying of the foundation stone of Vadhan Port and launching of development works, in Palghar district, on Friday

TN RAGHUNATHA ■ MUMBAI

In an apparent bid to blunt the Opposition's full-fledged campaign against the BJP-led MahaYuti Government and the Centre over the collapse of Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj's imposing statue at Rajkot fort in Sindhudurg district ahead of the Maharashtra Assembly polls, Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Friday apologised to Chhatrapati Shivaji whom he described as not just "a revered king or great personality but a deity".

Maharashtra's Palghar district and kick-starting other developments, Modi recalled that the first thing he did after he was nominated by the BJP as the Prime Ministerial candidate in 2013, was to visit Raigad Fort to offer his prayers to Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj at the latter's Samadhi. He said he was blessed with the same 'bhakti bhav' with which he revered his master and embarked on the new journey to serve the nation. Alluding to the collapse of a 35-tall statue at Malvan in Sindhudurg district, the Prime Minister tendered his humble apology to the legendary Marathi king by saying: "Shivaji Maharaj is not merely a name, a revered king

or a great personality but a deity". Indirectly hitting out at the leader of the Opposition in Lok Sabha Rahul Gandhi of the Congress for showing disrespect towards freedom fighter Veer Savarkar, Modi said that his upbringing and his culture made him different from those "who intend to disrespect the great son of the land Veer Savarkar and trample the feeling of nationalism". In an unmistakable criticism of Rahul Gandhi ahead of the State Assembly polls, Modi said: "People of Maharashtra should remain wary of those who disrespect Veer Savarkar and feel no remorse for it". The Prime Minister said that his

reverence towards Chhatrapati Shivaji should be seen in the context of the fact that the first thing he did after visiting Maharashtra was to apologise to his deity Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj. He also sought forgiveness from all those who worship Shivaji Maharaj. Averring that his government had taken major steps for the growth of Maharashtra in the last 10 years as "a Viksit Maharashtra is the most crucial element of the resolution of a Viksit Bharat", Modi said that the state had the potential and resources to grow due to its coastal proximity, holding immense possibilities for the future.

"The Vadhan Port will be the country's largest container port and will be counted among the world's deep water ports. It will become an epicenter of trade and industrial development for Maharashtra and India," the Prime Minister said. Being built at a cost of ₹76,000 crore, Vadhan Port — located near Dahanu town in Palghar district — is expected to be one of India's largest deep-water ports and will provide direct connectivity to international shipping routes, reducing transit times and costs. Vadhan Port aims to establish a world-class maritime gateway that will boost the country's trade and economic growth by catering to large container vessels, offering deeper drafts, and accommodating ultra-large cargo ships. Modi, who also inaugurated and laid the foundation stone of 218 fisheries projects worth around Rs 1,560 crore and launched Rs 360 crore National Roll Out of Vessel Communication and Support system, said there was a time when Bharat used to be counted among the most strong and prosperous nations due to its maritime capabilities. "People of Maharashtra are well-versed in this potential. Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj took India's maritime capabilities to new heights with his policies and strong decisions for the development of the country," Modi said, adding that even the entire East India Company could not stand in front of Darya Sarang Kanhoji Yaganti.

Dialogue a bygone theme, EAM warns Pakistan of action

RAHUL DATTA ■ NEW DELHI

External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar on Friday sent out a stern message to Pakistan declaring that the era of "uninterrupted dialogue" is over. He also warned that "actions have consequences" in an apparent reference to Pakistan-sponsored terrorism. Making these assertions at a book launch event here, he reaffirmed New Delhi's position that terror and talks cannot go together. The Minister's comments on dialogue with Pakistan came in the backdrop of elections in Jammu and Kashmir in less than 20 days. "The era of uninterrupted dialogue with Pakistan is over. Actions have consequences," Jaishankar said. "So far as Jammu and Kashmir is concerned, Article 370 is done with. So, the issue is what kind of relationship we can contemplate with Pakistan," Jaishankar said, making it clear that there would be no compromise on this matter. He also stressed that India would not remain passive in its dealings with Pakistan. "What I do want to say is that we are not passive, and whether events take a positive or a negative direction, either way, we will react," the Minister added. On a suggestion that India is content with the relationship to continue as it is, he said, "Maybe yes, maybe no... but what I do want to say is that we are not passive, and that whether events take a positive or negative direction... either way we will react." In his address, Jaishankar also said for any country in the world,



neighbours are "always a conundrum", and so are "major powers". Major powers will be a conundrum because they are major, because of the breadth of their interests. They will always have an agenda, which will overlap with us, but to differing degrees, also diverge, he said. In the case of China, you have a "double conundrum", because it's a neighbour and a major power. So, the challenges with China fits this double definition, he added. The book "Strategic Conundrum: Reshaping India's Foreign Policy" by former diplomat Rajiv Sikri talks about India's relationship with its neighbouring countries and the accompanying challenges. The Minister also said there is a debate in the neighbourhood about SAARC and BIMSTEC, and "all of you know the difference". That is a contrast which illustrates some of the challenges and opportunities of "regionalisation", he said.



Jagdish Tytler to be framed for 1984 riots and murders

SAUMYA SHUKLA ■ NEW DELHI

Holding that there was sufficient evidence to put him on trial, a Delhi Rouse Avenue Court on Friday ordered framing of charges for murder and other offences against Congress leader Jagdish Tytler in a case related to alleged murder of three people in the North Delhi's Pul Bangash area, almost 40 years after the 1984 anti-Sikh riots. Special CBI judge Rakesh Syal said there was sufficient evidence against him to put him on trial. "Sufficient ground is there to proceed against the accused person," the Special CBI judge said, posting the matter for September 13 for formally framing the charges when Tytler would be asked if he would like to plead guilty or face trial. Tytler was discharged under the Indian Penal Code (IPC)'s Section 148 (rioting armed with deadly weapons) as the special judge Rakesh Syal listed the matter for the next hearing on September 13.

Welcoming the development, BJP national spokesperson RP Singh wrote on X, "Albeit delayed, it appears justice is being done." The case relates to the burning to death of Badal Singh, Sardar Thakur Singh, and Gurbachan Singh and setting ablaze Pul Bangash Gurudwara a day after the then Prime Minister Indira Gandhi's assassination on November 1, 1984.

Helpless Mamata Banerjee writes to PM a second time

SAUGAR SENGUPTA ■ KOLKATA

Within a week of writing a letter to Prime Minister Narendra Modi seeking enactment of stringent laws in rape cases — all in the backdrop of the nationwide protests against the rape and murder of a postgraduate lady doctor at RG Kar Medical College Hospital in Kolkata — Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee on Friday shot him off a second letter reiterating the earlier demand and expressed her dismay at the alleged lukewarm response her first missive found in South Block.

"You may kindly recall my letter number 44-CM dated August 22, 2024," Mamata wrote, adding with a tinge of discontent that though such issues warranted immediate attention she is yet to receive any reply from him. "No reply was received from your end on such a sensitive issue," the Chief Minister wrote in her second letter mentioning, however, that she had indeed received a general letter from the Minister of Woman and Child Development which, she said, was a "generic reply" concerning a serious issue. "I am of the thought that the



seriousness of the subject and its relevance to society has not been adequately appreciated as this generic reply reflects," Mamata wrote providing details of the measures her Government has taken to prevent such offences. Mamata's back-to-back express communications come in the wake of tremendous pressure her Government is facing from the community of doctors, the civil society and general public as a whole with streets of the State getting flooded with huge rallies demanding justice for the 31-year-old lady doctor who was brutally raped and murdered in the wee hours of August 9 even as she was taking rest inside a seminar hall of the hospital after completion of 36 hours

of non-stop duty. Mamata's letter also comes in the wake of her Government announcing amendments in the Central laws through a special Assembly Session summoned for that purpose on September 2. The State Government has convened a Special Assembly Session on September 2 for placing an amendment Bill and passing a stringent law against rape, senior Bengal Minister Sobhandeb Chattopadhyay earlier said. The State Cabinet has already given clearance to the tabling of the Amendment Bill, he said. Mamata had a couple of days ago told a students' rally that she had requested Modi to pass stringent laws in these cases. "But if the Centre cannot pass stringent laws... then we will pass it in the State by convening a Special Session of the Assembly... we want a strong law so that the accused can be tried in a fast-track court and given death sentence in 15 days' time," she said. Meanwhile, Bengal Governor CV Ananda Bose on Friday met Home Minister Amit Shah at his residence where they apparently discussed the situation arising out of the rape and murder of the lady doctor at RH Kar Hospital, sources said.

Assam cancels Jumma break for Muslim MLAs

PNS ■ GUWAHATI

The Assam Assembly will do away with a two-hour break provided on Fridays to facilitate Muslim legislators to offer namaz, Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma said. The rule will be implemented from the next Session, an Assembly official said. In a social media post, Sarma said, "By doing away with the 2 hour Jumma break, @AssamAssembly has prioritised productivity and shed another vestige of colonial baggage. This practice was introduced by Muslim League's Syed Saadulla in 1937.

Champai Soren joins BJP, Jharkhand feels the tremors

RAJESH KUMAR ■ NEW DELHI

On a day when Ghatshila OMLA Ramdas Soren replaced him in the Jharkhand Cabinet taking oath as a Minister, former Chief Minister Champai Soren, popularly known as the "Kolhan Tiger", joined the BJP on Friday, marking a significant change in the State's political landscape just ahead of the Assembly elections. Champai along with a large number of his supporters crossed over to the saffron camp in the presence of Union Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan and Assam Chief Minister Himanta Biswa



Former Jharkhand chief minister Champai Soren with Union Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan waves to supporters after joining BJP during a ceremony, in Ranchi, Friday

Sarma at a ceremony in Ranchi while Jharkhand Governor Santosh Gangwar administered the oath to Ramdas in the presence of Chief Minister Hemant Soren, senior leaders of the JMM-led coalition Government, and top bureaucrats. Though Ramdas's portfolio is yet to be announced, he would likely be given similar portfolios as Champai held. Champai's induction into BJP is seen as a shot in the arm of the saffron party, looking to establish a foothold in the tribal belt of Jharkhand, where Scheduled Tribes make up about 26 per cent of the electorate.

Construction threatens Sultanpur Park's fragile biodiversity

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ NEW DELHI

Taking exception to the flagrant disregard for environmental regulations at the Ramsar site and Eco-Sensitive Zone (ESZ) of Sultanpur National Park in Gurugram, Haryana, a high-level central panel chaired by Union Environment Minister Bhupender Yadav, has sought action against the offenders.



It has also called for a comprehensive action taken report from the State Government in the matter. At a meeting held recently, the members of the Standing Committee of the National Board of Wildlife (NBWL) led by the Union Minister deliberated in detail on the observations made in the report prepared under the supervision of Inspector General

(Wildlife). The report was particularly alarming to the extent that it "leaves much to be desired." The report said despite the national park being enclosed by a boundary and its habitats largely preserved due to the proactive measures of the Forest and Wildlife Department, the governance and management practices within the ESZ are found to be seriously deficient.

Nation salutes historic gold and bronze medalists at Paris Paralympics

PTI ■ CHATEAUX

The incredible Avani Lekhara became the first Indian to claim successive Paralympic gold medals with a record-shattering top finish in the women's 10m air rifle (SH1) shooting competition and had a bronze-winning Mona Agarwal for company on the podium in a historic double for the country here on Friday. Winner of the Tokyo Paralympics gold three years back, Avani, 22, shot a superb 249.7 to erase her own Paralympic record of 249.6 set in the Japanese capital three years back. The 37-year-old Mona, who dabbled in several sports

including shot-put, powerlifting and wheelchair volleyball before settling on shooting, notched up 228.7 for the third-place finish. This is the first time in India's Paralympic history that two shooters have pulled off medals in a single event. Avani, who hails from Jaipur, endured a tough buildup to the Paralympics. She grappled with a host of health issues, including a gallbladder surgery, which forced her to take a recovery break of one and half months. But the committed shooter, who is an assistant conservator of forest with the Rajasthan Government, did not let health concerns distract her from her aim of



Avani Lekhara X/@CricCrazyJohns

Paralympic glory. She lost quite a bit of weight following the surgery but the determination to overcome all odds was all too evident

during the national camp at the Karni Singh ranges, where she worked hard on regaining her strength and mentally steeling herself for Paris. "I am happy to win a medal for my country. I am thankful to my team, my coaches and my parents," said Avani after the match. The SH1 category is for athletes who have movement affected in their arms, lower trunk, legs or have no limbs. The youngster, who is wheelchair bound after a car mishap left her paralysed below the waist as an 11-year-old, had become the first woman shooter from the country to win medals in shooting at the Tokyo Paralympics in 2021. In a nerve-wracking final, Avani was trailing her rival Lee Yunri by a few decimal points but the South Korean wilted under pressure and

had an awful last shot of 6.8, while Avani kept her cool to shoot a superb 10.5 to clinch the gold with a Paralympics record. The success will come as a huge boost for Avani ahead of the 50m rifle 3-positions event, where she is also a firm favourite for a medal after winning bronze in the previous edition of the Games in Tokyo. Earlier, Avani came up with another sterling performance by qualifying for the final in second place, while Mona, who too has been in sublime form in the last one year, also made it to the eight-shooter summit clash in fifth place. While Avani shot a 625.8 to be placed second behind

Ukraine Iryna Shchetnik, who broke the Paralympic Qualification Record with a score of 627.5, Mona, the two-time World Cup gold medalist, shot 623.1. Avani had credited the "positive environment" in the national camp for helping her overcome her fitness worries. "I think we have been in a very positive environment throughout. We are just focussing on the process rather than the outcome. "There, obviously, will be expectations but those expectations only motivate me and inspire me more to give my best. I am also more mature in my technique," she had said before leaving for Paris.

Classifieds

LOST AND FOUND

I, Deepansh Mahajan Son of Mr Deepak Gupta resident of Budha Nagar, Post- Malikipur, Tehsil- Pathankot, District- Pathankot, State- Punjab, Pin-145025, Passed my 12 class (March 2024) Index No.2242019/010 from Christ the King Convent School, Sujjanpur. I Lost my original Pass Certificate.

BEDAKHLI NOTICE

We, Ranjit Kaur W/o Inderjeet Singh and Inderjeet Singh S/O Arjun Singh R/O House No. 3503, Sector 23D, Chandigarh declares that we disown our son Amrinder Pal Singh and his wife Imandeep Kaur and Grandson Dilkirat Singh from our moveable/ Immoveable properties (Published in Pioneer Chandigarh dated 28 June, 2024). Now they are under our control. We withdraw that disown notice.

I, Vijay Kumar S/o Chote Lal R/O # 8/15, Pakki Sarai, Ambala Cantt declare that my son Nitin Kumar is out of my control So I disown him from my movable and immovable properties. Anybody deal with him self responsible. My self & my family members are not responsible.

We Sushil Kumar S/o Pyare Lal and Sonia Devi W/o Sushil Kumar, Both R/O House No. 1401, New Indira Colony Manimajra Chandigarh inform that my son Dev Kumar out of my control. I disown him from my all moveable and Immoveable Properties. Anybody deal with them at their own Risk.

I, Manju Rani W/o Gulshan Kumar R/O House no 1438/27 Sector 29-B Chandigarh inform that my son Shubham Khera and his wife Kanishka Sharma out of my control. I disown them from my all moveable and Immoveable Properties. Anybody deal with them at their own Risk.

I, Poonam Kumari W/o Sh. Kapil Kanojia and D/o Sh. Tirok Singh R/O House No 3375/2, Sector 40-D, Chandigarh inform that my husband Kapil Kanojia out of my control. I disown him from all my moveable and Immoveable Properties. If anybody deal with him at his own Risk/Responsibility.

I, Birmati W/o Ramphal R/O Village Raja Khedi, District Panipat, dealers that my son Deepak Sharma and his wife Deepika are out of my control. So, I disown them from my moveable and immovable property. In future anybody deals with them responsible for that deal himself.

I, Bahadar Singh S/O Sh. Ram Singh, Vill. Badali Tahsil Kharar Distt. SAS Nagar Mohali Punjab Declare That My Son Gurpreet Singh (Rika) And His Wife Seeta Kumari (Rinku) And His Family Are Out Of My Control So I Disown Them From Over Moveable And Immoveable Properties. If Any Body Deal With Them His Own Risk.

I, Ram Sham Dass S/o Sh. Bachan Singh R/O # 546 Sector 69 Mohali declares that My Son Ram Partap and his wife Ranvir Kaur are out of my control. So I disown them from my Moveable/Immoveable property. If anybody deals with them, they should do it at their own risk.

I, Gurdeep Kaur W/o Late Nirjan Singh R/O H.No.283, Sant Nagar, Verka Amritsar have declare that my Daughter Amarjeet Kaur and his Husband Ramesh Singh and their family are out of my control I disinherit them from my all movable and immovable properties any body deal with them is his own risk and responsibility.

I, Gurdip Kaur w/o Kashmir Singh r/o Village Bir Amin, Tehsil Thanesar Kurukshetra state that my son Jaspal Singh is out of my control. Therefore I disown him from all my properties. Anyone who deals with him will be responsible for it.

I, Sunita Devi W/o Late Satpal Vill.Sangroli,Tehsil Dhand, Kaithal My Daughter Neha is Out Of My Control. I,Disown her From All My Moveable And Immoveable Properties. If Anybody Deals With her At Their Own Risk.

I, Sawntar Kaur Gupta S/o Siri, Ishwar Dass R/O No 251 -A housing board colony, Kalka, Tehsil Kalka, district Panchkula declare that my son, namely Anshul Gupta, and his wife, smt. Yogita are out of our control so we disown them both from our all movable and immovable property. If anybody deals with them at their own risk.

I Kamalu Deen S/o Jabra Ali # Batra Colony, Panipat declares my adopted son Mohammad Haneef & his wife Rijwana is out of my control. So I disowned both of them from all my movable and immovable property in future. I will not be responsible for their any activities.

I, Yog Raj Gupta Son Of Mr. Mohan Lal, Resident Of Durga Colony, Samana, Tehsil Samana, District Patiala Declare That My Son Paras Gupta And His Wife Kanchan Jain Are Beyond My Authority, I Completely Evicting Them From My Entire Property Or Relationship, Any Kind Of Transaction With Them, The Lender Will Be Responsible Themselves, They Will Be Responsible For Their Own Profit And Loss, I Will Not Have Any Responsibility.

PUBLIC NOTICE

I, Karamjeet Sandhu W/o Late Col Pritpal Singh Sandhu of House No 324, Village -Khuda Ali Sher Sect-01 Chandigarh (U.T.) - 160001 do solemnly affirm as under : (1) that my correct name is Mrs Karamjeet Sandhu. The same is correctly spelled in all my under mentioned documents (a) Aadhar No-700979738706. (b) Indian passport No-X5034609. (c) PNB Pension Account No-0575000300229991. (2) That in my late husband (Col Pritpal Singh Sandhu IC-16376 L) PPO (Pension Payment Order) No- M/008649/98 my name has been mentioned as Karajeet Sandh. This has been erroneously misspelled may be due to a typographical error. The correct spelling of My name is Karamjeet Sandhu.

I, Vijay S/o Yakub Maish R/O Village Dadwan, Dhariwal Distt Gurdaspur declare that in school record of my daughter, her name and my name are wrongly written as Mehak and Vijay. Our correct names are Mehak Sahota and Vijay Masih.

I, Renu Singh W/o Late Sh. Inder Pal Singh , R/O House No. 75, Sector 28-A, Chandigarh inform that Renu Singh, Renu Kapoor and Arvinder Kaur are the name of one and same person.

I, Pooja Widow of Parveen Kumar R/O H.No. 70, Raviddas Nagar, Kot Khalsa, Amritsar, Punjab declare that my husband was known by two names Parveen Kumar and Parween Kumar. Parveen Kumar and Parween Kumar is one and the same person.

I, Jagwinder Singh Chawla S/O Mahinder Singh R/O H.No. 4985/18, Daim Ganj, Main Bazar, Amritsar, Punjab- 143001 declare that in my son's matriculation certificate Unique Id 8384308, Index No. (Roll No. 1246334/072) his name was wrongly mentioned as Shubkarman Singh Chawala instead of Shubkarman Singh Chawla.

I, Randhir Singh S/O Sher Singh R/O Chand Patti Kirmach (6) Kirmuch, Kurukshetra, Haryana, 136119, Do Herby Solemnly Affirm And Declare That I Have Embraced Sikhism And Renounced Hinduism Religion With Effect From 28/08/2024. I Have Changed My Religion Not My Name.

I, Manjeet S/o Sh. Ram Kishan R/O Near Ashoka Palace, Bharat Nagar, Main Babali Road, Panipat, do hereby declare that Tushar is my real son. My actual name is Manjeet and my wife's actual name is Manju. This has been mentioned as Manjeet Singh and Manju Devi in 8th Class Transfer Certificate of my son Tushar issued by S.D. Vidya Mandir, City, Panipat. Now I want to get recorded my name as Manjeet and my wife's name as Manju in School record of my son Tushar in D.A.V Police Public School, Police Line, Panipat.

I, Gulab Ambule legally father of Ambule Pramod Gulab permanent resident of At. Bhaejpar, Post, Wedegaon, Distt. Gondwya, State Maharashtra-441911, Affidavit no IN-PB5139412983122W Dated 30.08.2024 declare That I have changed my name from Gulab Ambule to Gulab Mohan Ambule and DOB from 15.02.1950 to 15.07.1950.

I, Premkala legally mother of Ambule Pramod Gulab permanent resident of At. Bhaejpar, Post, Wedegaon, Distt.Tiora Gondwya, State Maharashtra-441911, Affidavit no IN-PB51394336353014W Dated 30.08.2024 declare That I have changed my name from Premkala to Premkala Gulab Ambule and DOB from 11.11.1954 to 01.01.1958

I, MT Rugmini Balan legally mother of No. 15326528A Rank HAV Name Rakesh Nair Unit 4 Eng Regt. C/o 56 APO Bathinda Cantt. (Punjab) permanent resident of Rugmini Nivas Ottappalam, Kannianmpuram, Ottappalam Palakkad, State Kerala- 679104 declare That I have changed my name from MT Rugmini Balan to MT Rugmini M T and DOB from 01.07.1957 to 22.11.1958

I, Narinder Kaur W/o late S. Balvir Singh D/O JC-73762 Sub and Honey Lt Late. Sarwan Singh Parmar R/O Ward No 3, H.No.5, Bachint Nagar, Reru, Jalandhar declare that my actual date of birth is 19-02-1960 whereas in the service document/record of my deceased father my date of birth was wrongly mentioned as 06-03-1960. That as per my documents my correct date of birth is 19-02-1960.

I, Kulwant Kaur W/o Late: Army No. 13700190 Rank-Sep, Kabal Singh R/O Vill: Warian Purane Po. Naushehra Pannuan (Tarn Taran) declare that in my husband Tare: Kabal Singh army record wrongly entered DOB 18-01-1953. But my husband correct DOB is 01-01-1958. So amended my husband DOB from 18-01-1953 to 01-01-1958 in my husband army record.

I, Himanshu Mittal S/o Rakesh Kumar Mittal R/O H.No. 28/500 K.S.M Road Gali No 3, Near Pspcl Office Rajpura, Hereby Declare That My Father's Name Has Been Wrongly Mentioned As Rakesh Kumar Mittal In My Passport Bearing Number H1419405. The Correct Name Of My Father Is Rakesh Kumar. I Request The Concerned Authorities To Make The Necessary Corrections In The Records.

I, Himanshu Mittal S/o Rakesh Kumar Mittal R/O H.No. 28/500 K.S.M Road Gali No 3, Near Pspcl Office Rajpura, Hereby Declare That My Father's Name Has Been Wrongly Mentioned As Rakesh Kumar Mittal In My Passport Bearing Number H1419405. The Correct Name Of My Father Is Rakesh Kumar. I Request The Concerned Authorities To Make The Necessary Corrections In The Records.

I, Nithya S Is Spouse Of Army No. 15332971/L-Hav R Saravanan Of Unit 05 Engr Regt C/O 56 APO, Ferozepur Residing Of 2-134, Bhootherp (M) Village Yelkicherla Post Yelkicherla Tehsil Bhootherp Distt. Mahabubnagar State Telangana Pin-509406 Declare That My Date Of Birth 17/12/2003 Wrongly Written In My Brother Army Service Records But My Correct Date Of Birth 17/02/2005

I, Army No. 15324715a, Hav, Parandaman Of Unit 22 Engr Regt. C/O 56 APO Ferozepur Residing Of Karadikudi, Karadikudi, Vellore, Devichettikuppam State Tamil Nadu Pin-632107 Have Changed My Son Name In All Documents From P Sanjay To Sanjai P. Vide Affidavit Dated 30 August 2024 Before At Notary Ferozepur.

I, Chhinderpal Kaur spouse of JC-281925X, Sub Maj. Gurpreet Singh R/O Vill: Khai, Teh-Nihal Singh Wala Distt. Moga, State Punjab Pin-142046, have changed my name from Chhinderpal Kaur to Chhinderpal Kaur to Chhinderpal Kaur Sidhu vide affidavit No. IN-PB3991874585904W before notary Public Nihal Singh Wala, Pb.

I, Navdeep Singh Son of JC-281925X, Sub Maj. Gurpreet Singh R/O Vill: Khai, Teh-Nihal Singh Wala Distt. Moga, State Punjab Pin-142046, have changed my name from Navdeep Singh to Navdeep Singh Sidhu vide affidavit No. IN-PB3991874585904W before notary Public Nihal Singh Wala, Pb.

I, Sarita Devi W/o Sulinder Kumar R/O Vill: Haler Janardhan Teh-Mukerian (Hoshiarpur) declare that in my daughter Nisha Dadwal's School Record my name mention wrongly as Sarita. But my actual name is Sarita Devi.

I, Rani Devi W/o Sanjeev Kumar R/O Vill: Umarpur Sheeha Teh-Mukerian (Hoshiarpur) declare that in my daughter Shurti Thakur's School Record my name mention wrongly as Rani. But my actual name is Rani Devi.

I, Jasveer Kaur W/o Suba Singh R/O Gobindgarh, Dabrikhana (Faridkot) have declare that in my PAN Card No. IKUPK7795A my father name entered Suba Singh by mistake my correct father name is Gurbachan Singh.

I, Paramjit Kaur W/O Jasvir Singh (No. 1466925H, Rank NK) R/O. VPO. Hathur, Tehsil Jagraon, Distt. Ludhiana, (PB) Hereby Declares That My DOB Is Mentioned Wrong As 10-02-1970 In My Husband's Service Record. That My Correct DOB Is 05-01-1970, As On My Aadhar Card & Pan Card. Vide Affidavit NO: IN-PB51022591194580W, Dt. 30/08/2024.

I, Baburam Is Father Of Army No. 16118417a Nk Pravesh Kumar Rajbhar Of Unit 22 Eng.Regt C/O 56 Apo Residing Of Gram Ishakpur, Post Bakshpur, Bakspur, Azamgarh, Thekma, State Uttar Pradesh Pin-276303 Declare That My Name Babu Ram Rajbhar & Date Of Birth 10.04.1951 Wrongly Written In My Son Army Service Records But My Correct Name Is Baburam & Correct Date Of Birth Is 01.01.1968.

I, Sursati Devi Is Mother Of Army No. 16118417a Nk Prवेश Kumar Rajbhar Of Unit 22 Eng.Regt C/O 56 Apo Residing Of Gram Ishakpur, Post Bakshpur, Bakspur, Azamgarh, Thekma, State Uttar Pradesh Pin-276303 Declare That My Name Babu Ram Rajbhar & Date Of Birth 10.04.1951 Wrongly Written In My Son Army Service Records But My Correct Name Is Baburam & Correct Date Of Birth Is 01.01.1968.

I, Minakshi Kamboj W/o Naresh Kamboj R/O 1340, Sector 18, Part 2, Jagadhri, Distt Yamuna Nagar have changed my name from Minakshi to Minakshi Kamboj. In future I shall be known as Minakshi Kamboj.

I, Anup Kumar Chopra S/O Rajinder Pal Chopra R/O 4D Type 3 NGO Block, Police Line Jagadhri, Distt Yamuna Nagar have changed my name from Anup Kumar to Anup Kumar Chopra.

I, Naresh Kamboj S/O Dilla Ram R/O 1340, Sector 18, Part 2, Jagadhri, Distt Yamuna Nagar have changed my name from Naresh Kamboj to Naresh Kamboj. In future I shall be known as Naresh Kamboj.

I, Subhash Chand S/o Late Sh. Manohar Lal R/O H.NO.5146 Sector 38-West, chandigarh have changed my minor daughter's name from Ananya to Ananya Chawwla.

I, Mangli Narayana Is Legally Father Of No. 16118537y, Hav, Mangli Gokari Of Unit 22 Engr Regt C/O 56 Apo Ferozepur Resident Of 1-77, Velugodu, Velpanur, Kurnool State Andhra Pradesh Pin-518533 Declare That My Name M Narayana And My Date Of Birth 08/06/1975 Wrongly Written In My Son Army Service Records But My Correct Name Is Mangli Venkataalakshamma And My Date Of Birth 19/10/1980 Wrongly Written In My Son Army Service Records But My Correct Name Is Mangli Venkataalakshamma And Date Of Birth 11/10/1974.

I, Mohammad Salim Is Father Of Army No. 15807584m Nk (Dmt) Sonu Akhtar Of Unit 408 Gun Msl Regt. C/O 56 Apo Residing Of 91, Chirudih, Near Masjid Chirudih, Village Chepro Post Nawadhi Tehsil Nawadhi Distt. Bokaro State Jharkhand Pin-829144 Declare That My Date Of Birth 01.02.1983 Wrongly Written In My Son Army Service Records But My Correct Date Of Birth Is 01.01.1977

I, Rehana Khatoon Is Mother Of Army No. 15807584m Nk (Dmt) Sonu Akhtar Of Unit 408 Gun Msl Regt. C/O 56 Apo Residing Of 91, Chirudih, Near Masjid Chirudih, Village Chepro Post Nawadhi Tehsil Nawadhi Distt. Bokaro State Jharkhand Pin-829144 Declare That My Date Of Birth 01.02.1983 Wrongly Written In My Brother Army Service Records But My Correct Date Of Birth 17/02/2005

I, G Mallesh Is Legally Brother Of No. 16134358h, Spr, G Madhu Of Unit 22 Engr Regt C/O 56 APO Ferozepur Residing Of 2-134, Bhootherp (M) Village Yelkicherla Post Yelkicherla Tehsil Bhootherp Distt. Mahabubnagar State Telangana Pin-509406 Declare That My Date Of Birth 17/12/2003 Wrongly Written In My Brother Army Service Records But My Correct Date Of Birth 17/02/2005

I, Army No. 15324715a, Hav, Parandaman Of Unit 22 Engr Regt. C/O 56 APO Ferozepur Residing Of Karadikudi, Karadikudi, Vellore, Devichettikuppam State Tamil Nadu Pin-632107 Have Changed My Son Name In All Documents From P Sanjay To Sanjai P. Vide Affidavit Dated 30 August 2024 Before At Notary Ferozepur.

I, Nithya S Is Spouse Of Army No. 15332971/L-Hav R Saravanan Of Unit 05 Engr Regt C/O 56 APO, Ferozepur Residing Of 2-134, Bhootherp (M) Village Yelkicherla Post Yelkicherla Tehsil Bhootherp Distt. Mahabubnagar State Telangana Pin-509406 Declare That My Date Of Birth 17/12/2003 Wrongly Written In My Brother Army Service Records But My Correct Date Of Birth 17/02/2005

I, Nithya S Is Spouse Of Army No. 15332971/L-Hav R Saravanan Of Unit 05 Engr Regt C/O 56 APO, Ferozepur Residing Of 2-134, Bhootherp (M) Village Yelkicherla Post Yelkicherla Tehsil Bhootherp Distt. Mahabubnagar State Telangana Pin-509406 Declare That My Date Of Birth 17/12/2003 Wrongly Written In My Brother Army Service Records But My Correct Date Of Birth 17/02/2005

I, Krashna Devi, Spouse Of No. 17011757f, Nk, Muraree Lal, Unit Of 806 Fd Wksp Coy Erme Resident Of 07 Mandir Bali Gali Beeslapur Akola Agra Uttar Pradesh Pin 283102 Have Changed My Name From Krashna Devi To Krishna & Date Of Birth 01/01/1994 To 03/03/1994 Vide Affidavit Dated 27 August 2024 Before At Notary Ferozepur.

I Service No. 14944619n /L/Nk Kamaldeep Singh Son Of Dilbag Singh, Resident Of Village Haldi, Post Jamaur, Udhham Singh Nagar, Uttarakhand 262308, Presently Posted In Unit 23 Mech Inf C/O 56 Apo Declare That I Want To Get Entry Of My Above Said Father Name As Dilbag Singh In The Service Record Of Army. In Place Of Name, Dilbag Singh And Date Of Birth Of My Father As 01/04/1959 In Place Of 01/01/1964.

I, Sanjukta Rani Behera Wife Of Late Janardana Behera Resident Of Village Nukhapada, P.S. Narasinghpur, Distt- Cuttack, State- Odisha Have Changed My Name From Sanjuktarani Behera To Sanjukta Rani Behera Due To Erroneous Mistake In My Son's Manoranjan Behera Service Record. My True And Exact Date Of Birth Is 15.07.1965, As Per My Aadhar Card And Pan Card, But On My Son's Service Record My Date Of Birth Is Mentioned As 01.07.1968, Which Is Wrong.

I, Ranjani Kaur W/O Jasvir Singh (No. 1466925H, Rank NK) R/O. VPO. Hathur, Tehsil Jagraon, Distt. Ludhiana, (PB) Hereby Declares That My DOB Is Mentioned Wrong As 10-02-1970 In My Husband's Service Record. That My Correct DOB Is 05-01-1970, As On My Aadhar Card & Pan Card. Vide Affidavit NO: IN-PB51022591194580W, Dt. 30/08/2024.

I, Baburam Is Father Of Army No. 16118417a Nk Prवेश Kumar Rajbhar Of Unit 22 Eng.Regt C/O 56 Apo Residing Of Gram Ishakpur, Post Bakshpur, Bakspur, Azamgarh, Thekma, State Uttar Pradesh Pin-276303 Declare That My Name Babu Ram Rajbhar & Date Of Birth 10.04.1951 Wrongly Written In My Son Army Service Records But My Correct Name Is Baburam & Correct Date Of Birth Is 01.01.1968.

CHANGE OF NAME

मैं सदीप कुमार पुत्र श्री इंद्र सिंह निवासी गाँव दुबेन वस्तील नवाना जिला जींद और हरक में बचान करता हूँ मेरे बेटे को नाम प्रदीप प्रोवर (Pardeep Grover) से बदलकर अरव(Arav) रख दिया है भविष्य में मेरे बेटे को इसी नाम से जाना व पहचाना जाय।

I, Virender Singh, s/o Ved Singh, r/o village Ramrai Kheda Tehsil and district Jind, declare that is, Anjli @ Anjali Dhull both are the same names of my daughter and Virender @ Virender Singh both are the names of my same man. In future, my daughter should be known and called as Anjali Dhull D/o Virender Singh.

I, Anup Kumar Chopra S/O Rajinder Pal Chopra R/O 4D Type 3 NGO Block, Police Line Jagadhri, Distt Yamuna Nagar have changed my name from Anup Kumar to Anup Kumar Chopra.

I, Minakshi Kamboj W/o Naresh Kamboj R/O 1340, Sector 18, Part 2, Jagadhri, Distt Yamuna Nagar have changed my name from Minakshi to Minakshi Kamboj. In future I shall be known as Minakshi Kamboj.

I, Anup Kumar Chopra S/O Rajinder Pal Chopra R/O 4D Type 3 NGO Block, Police Line Jagadhri, Distt Yamuna Nagar have changed my name from Anup Kumar to Anup Kumar Chopra.

I, Naresh Kamboj S/O Dilla Ram R/O 1340, Sector 18, Part 2, Jagadhri, Distt Yamuna Nagar have changed my name from Naresh Kamboj to Naresh Kamboj. In future I shall be known as Naresh Kamboj.

I, Subhash Chand S/o Late Sh. Manohar Lal R/O H.NO.5146 Sector 38-West, chandigarh have changed my minor daughter's name from Ananya to Ananya Chawwla.

I, Kishan Devi Mother Of Army no. 14669565K Nk Dinesh Kundu unit 60, ENGR C/O 99 APO-914060 R/O VPO Titoli, Tehsil & Distt Rohtak have changed my name from Kisani Devi to Kishan Devi and date of birth change from 01.07.1959 to 01.01.1951 in army record of my son. Vide affidavit no. 53AA375192 dated 29.08.2024

I, Inderjeet Kaur W/o Khushvinder Singh R/O 460, Sector 17, Huda, Jagadhri, Distt Yamuna Nagar have changed my name from Inderjit Kaur to Inderjeet Kaur. In future I shall be known as Inderjeet Kaur.

I, Jagmati Devi W/o Sh. Dharambir R/O H.No. 1242/25, Bhatnagar Colony, Jind, Haryana, have changed my name from Jagmati Devi To Jagmati.

I, Nb/Sub.Nachatter Singh No.JC502262X S/O Ghiya Singh R/O Basarke hereby inform that in my service record the name of my father has wrongly been written as Ghiya Singh while his actual name is Ghiya Singh, my mother's wrongly written name is Surinder Kaur while her correct name is Sawinder Kaur and my wife's wrongly written name is Inderjit Kaur while her correct name is Inderjeet Kaur. The necessary amendments be made accordingly in my service record.

I, Makhddeep Kaur D/O Nachatter Singh R/O Basarke have changed my name from Makhddeep Kaur to Mehakdeep Kaur. Concerned please note.

I, Jasbir Singh No. 15348296M Rank Hav Unit No. 60 ENGR Regt S/O Mange Lal R/O H. No. 230, Mohalla Road Near Chopal, Katheri, Tehsil Gharaura Distt Karnal declare that in my service record my mother's name wrongly written as ompati. But my mother's actual name is Ompati Devi.

I, Ashwani Kumar S/o M.P. Verma, # 481, New Indira Colony, Manimajra, Chandigarh have changed my name to Ashwani Verma.

I Hitherto Known As Kalpana W/O Dinesh Kumar R/O Bhainsru Kalan (30), Bhasro Kalan Rohtak, Haryana-124501 Have Changed My Name And Shall Hereafter Be Known As Kunti.

I Hitherto Known As Pratibha D/O Om Prakash R/O Village Madina Teh. Mehram, Distt Rohtak, Haryana, Pin-124111 Have Changed My Name And Shall Hereafter Be Known As Sunita Devi.

I, Kewal Lal S/o Ajit Ram R/O Vill. Gulind PO Nainawal Jattian (Hoshiarpur) declare that I have changed the name of my minor Daughter from Pridhi Singh to Paridhi Singh. Concerned note.

I, Gursheen Madhra D/o S. Gagandeep Singh R/O House No. 2572, Sector 35-C, Chandigarh has declare that I have changed my name from Gursheen Kaur Madhra to Gursheen Madhra for all purpose.

I, Seema W/o Jai Parkash R/O Vill. Alipur Khalsa, Tehsil Gharaura, Distt. Karnal, I have changed my name from Seema Devi to Seema for all future purpose in future.

I, Hitherto Known As Jaipal S/O Ram Bhagat R/O Narkatari Road, Narkatari Road, Azad Nagar, Thanesar, Kurukshetra, Haryana- 136118, Have Changed My Name And Shall Hereafter Be Known As Jaipal Saroha.

I, Lekha N is wife of Shibu_K.S Resident of Village Vilapill, Post Office -Peyad, Tehsil- Neyyattinkara, District-Trivandrum - Central, State-Kerala, Pincode- 695573 have changed my name from Lekha Shibu to Lekha N due to wrong name recorded in my husband's army service record vide affidavit before Notary Public Gurdaspur dated 30/08/2024.

I, J Sarojam is mother of Shibu_K.S Resident of Village Malayinkeezhu, Post Office -Peyad, Tehsil- Neyyattinkara, District- Trivandrum - Central, State-Kerala, Pincode- 695573 have changed my name from J Saroojam to J Saroojam due to wrong name recorded in my son's army service record vide affidavit before Notary Public Gurdaspur dated 30/08/2024.

I, Nishu D/O Nirmal Singh R/O #297, Kalaheri (28), Ambala, Haryana-133001 declare that name of my father is wrongly written as Narmal Singh in my Cbse Class 10th Educational Documents. Actual name of my father is Nirmal Singh.

I, Sanjay Kumar S/O Late Madan Lal Sharma R/O Village & Post Office Deogran, Talampur, District-Kangra, Himachal Pradesh-176061 have changed my name to Sanjay Kumar Sharma.

I, Rajeev Kumar S/O Kartar Singh R/O 679, Sector-14, Sonipat, Haryana-131001 have chnged my name to Rajeev Kumar Atri.

I Seema W/o Gurpreet Singh R/O Village berpura Tehsila Naraingarh Distt Ambala have changed my name from Seema to Sukhpreet Kaur. in future I use my name as Sukhpreet Kaur.

I, Anju Bala W/o Parveen Bajaj, R/O house no. 1044, C-Block, Ansal Sushant City Panipat, declares that I have changed my name from Anju Bala to Anju Bajaj. In future, I should be known as Anju Bajaj.

I, Smt. Kulwant Kaur W/O No. 13801014 Ex Sep Dhiraj Singh R/O Vill. Talla PO Miani Tehsil Dasuya Distt. Hoshiarpur Punjab have changed my date of birth from 18-01-1944 to 15-07-1947.

I, Sneh Lata Kumari is legally wedded spouse of S. No. 14654863M Rank Hav Name sachin Kumar of unit 974 AD Regt WKSP (Mob) c/o 56 APO, Ambala Cantt. have changed my Date of Birth from- 01-07-1984 to 10-01-1990 vide Affidavit dated 30-08-2024 before Notary Public, Ambala cantt.

I Shally W/o Pardeep Kumar, Hno 65 Ward No #13, Durga Vihar, Near National Public School Gate No 2, Jammu Colony, Yamunanagar, PO: Yamunanagar District Yamuna Nagar I have change my name from Shally Devi to Shally All concerned note.

I Gurmeet Kaur w/o Shri Tara chand (Ex Hav No 14930729X) residence Korwa khurd Tehsil Naraingarh District Ambala Haryana in my husband army service record my name is wrongly entered Gurmeet Bhatia instead of Gurmeet Kaur. In all documents my name recorderd Gurmeet Kaur. My correct name is Gurmeet Kaur. In future I should be known as Gurmeet Kaur.

I Sawarn Kaur w/o Shri Balwinder Singh residence village Panjodi tahsil Naraingarh District Ambala Haryana I have changed my name from Swarn Kaur to Sawarn Kaur. In future I should be known as Sawarn Kaur.

I Durga Prased Gour F/O Vikas Gour R/o air force station Ambala cantt 133001 have changed my name from Durga Prased Gour to Durga Prasad Gour vide affidavit No. 3461 dated 30.08.2024 before Tehsil Ambala cantt

I Shobha Durga Prased Gour M/o Vikas Gour R/o Air force station Ambala cantt 133001 have changed my name from Shobha Durga Prased Gour to Shobha Gour vide affidavit No. 3247, dated 30/08/2024 before Tehsil Ambala cantt

I, Rina Ramesh Uikey legally wife of Service No. 15784418-K, Rank -HAV, Name -Uikey Ramesh Motiram, Unit -146 LLAD Regt (SP) C/o 56 APO

Akal Takht declares Sukhbir a 'Tankhaiya' for Violating Sikh Religious Code

Asks Sukhbir, his former 'Sikh' Cabinet colleagues to appear within 15 days

MONIKA MALIK ■ CHANDIGARH

In a decision that has sent ripples through Punjab's political landscape, the Akal Takht - Sikhs' highest temporal authority - has declared Shiromani Akali Dal (SAD) president Sukhbir Singh Badal a 'tankhaiya' - a term signifying one guilty of religious misconduct.

The decision, delivered on Friday by Akal Takht Jathedar (head priest) Giani Raghbir Singh after a meeting of five Jathedars (head priest of five temporal seats), followed allegations that Sukhbir violated the Sikh religious code, particularly concerning his actions and affiliations during his tenure as Deputy Chief Minister of Punjab and as the leader of the SAD. The decision marked a significant moment in the ongoing crisis within the SAD - one of Punjab's most influential political parties.

The declaration of Sukhbir as 'tankhaiya' comes a day after he appointed his father Parkash Singh Badal's loyalist and close aide Balwinder Singh Bhundur as SAD's working president - a move widely seen as an attempt to stabilize the party amid internal dissent and growing pressure from 'rebel' leaders.

The Akal Takht's decision is rooted in allegations that Sukhbir, during his tenure as Deputy Chief Minister and as SAD president, violated a 2007 hukamnama (edict) issued against the Dera Sacha Sauda, a controversial sect based in Haryana's Sirsa, forbidding any Sikh from associating with the Dera. Yet, under Sukhbir's leadership, SAD allegedly sought and secured political support from the Dera during elections.

As per the decision of Sikh clergy, Sukhbir has been asked to appear before the Akal Takht within 15 days to atone for his transgressions. Failure to do so would result in him continuing to be regarded as a 'sinner' within the Sikh faith. The edict also extended to other 'Sikh

ministers' who served under Parkash Singh Badal during the SAD-BJP coalition government from 2007 to 2017, requiring them to present themselves before the Akal Takht and provide written explanations for their conduct.

The Allegations and Response

The allegations against Sukhbir Badal are serious and multifaceted - including accusations of favouring Dera Sacha Sauda chief Gurmeet Ram Rahim Singh, a figure notorious among Sikhs for blasphemous actions, and of exerting undue influence on the Akal Takht. Further, Sukhbir is accused of orchestrating the controversial appointment of IPS officer Sumeet Singh Saini as Punjab's Director General of Police (DGP) in 2012, despite Saini's troubling history, which includes allegations of human rights violations during the militancy period in Punjab.

In response to these accusations, Sukhbir penned a letter to Jathedar Giani Raghbir Singh, in which he admitted to the mistakes made under his leadership and sought atonement. Without directly addressing the specific allegations, Sukhbir expressed unconditional remorse and sought forgiveness from the Akal Takht, emphasizing his humility and submission to the authority of the Sikh community's supreme temporal seat, stating that he was "no one" to argue or defend himself before the supreme authority of the Akal Takht and that he sought unconditional forgiveness as a devout Sikh. Sukhbir, after Akal Takht's decision on Friday, reiterated his acceptance of the supreme body's verdict through a post on social media, signaling his readiness to present himself before the religious authority for accepting his tankha and atone his "sins".

Rebel Leaders' Role

The Akal Takht's decision to declare Badal a 'tankhaiya' followed a sustained campaign

by a group of rebel SAD leaders, including former MP Sukhdev Singh Dhindsa, Shiromani Gurdwara Parbandhak Committee's (SGPC) former president Bibi Jagir Kaur, former MP Prem Singh Chandumajra, former Minister Parminder Singh Dhindsa, former MLA Gurbartap Singh Wadala, and other senior figures. These leaders, who have been calling for Sukhbir to step down as SAD president, appeared before the Akal Takht earlier in July and apologized for the "mistakes" committed during the SAD-BJP Government's tenure from 2007 to 2017. Along with their apology, their complaint to the Akal Takht detailed various grievances, including Sukhbir's failure to adequately respond to incidents of sacrilege of the Guru Granth Sahib in 2015, which led to widespread unrest and police violence in Punjab.

The rebel leaders also criticized Sukhbir for allegedly engineering a pardon for the Dera Sacha Sauda chief, a decision that sparked outrage among Sikhs and was later retracted. Additionally, they criticized Sukhbir for appointing controversial figures like IPS officer Sumeet Singh Saini as Punjab's Director General of Police, despite their alleged involvement in human rights abuses during the militancy period. Sukhbir was also accused of appointing Farzana Alam, the wife of another controversial police officer Izzat Alam - who is facing similar charges - as chief parliamentary secretary in the Akali government. These allegations were formally presented to the Akal Takht by the rebel leaders on July 1, leading to the current predicament faced by Sukhbir. The dissidents have positioned themselves as the true custodians of Sikh values and are determined to restore the party's integrity by ousting Badal from leadership.

The Akal Takht's decision to declare Badal a 'tankhaiya' followed a sustained campaign

Akal Takht's Mandate

Declaring him tankhaiya,

The Burden of being Tankhaiya

In Sikhism, being declared a 'tankhaiya' (sinner) is a grave matter, marking an individual as a violator of the rehat maryada, the sacred Sikh code of conduct. This designation is not taken lightly, as it signifies a breach that could harm the religious fabric of the community. The authority to declare someone a 'tankhaiya' rests solely with the Akal Takht Jathedar, supported by the four Singh Sahibaa, the guardians of Sikhism's five holy takhts.

Once labeled a 'tankhaiya,' the individual is considered a sinner within the Sikh faith and must seek atonement, known as tankha, prescribed by the Akal Takht. This atonement involves performing humbling tasks like cleaning the Golden Temple, polishing shoes or assisting in the langar, the community kitchen. Only after completing this penance and seeking forgiveness from the Akal Takht can the sinner be forgiven. Refusal to comply with the atonement can lead to excommunication, a severe consequence that bars the individual from participating in religious ceremonies and entering gurdwaras. The process of atonement is deeply symbolic, offering the transgressor a chance to redeem themselves in the eyes of the community and restore their spiritual standing.

The Akal Takht has given Sukhbir 15 days to appear before the Sikh community's apex body and atone for his transgressions. In case he fails to comply, he will continue to bear the stigma of being a 'tankhaiya' - a title that severely damages his standing within the Sikh community. Giani Raghbir Singh, delivering the decision alongside the four other jathedars, stated that the Akal Takht had determined Sukhbir's actions led to a "serious decline in the image of the Sikh community, a deterioration in the state of the Shiromani Akali Dal, and harm to Sikh interests".

These actions, he noted, were taken by Sukhbir during his tenure as both Deputy Chief Minister of Punjab and president of the Shiromani Akali Dal. Sukhbir held the deputy CM position from 2007 to 2017 and has been the party's president since 2008. The Akal Takht instructed Sukhbir to "seek atonement for his transgressions" by humbly presenting himself before the Guru Granth Sahib, the five high priests, and the broader Sikh community. If he fails to do so, he will continue to be regarded as a transgressor of the Sikh faith. Furthermore,

Giani Raghbir Singh issued a directive that all Sikh ministers who served in the Akali cabinet during Badal's tenure must also present themselves before the Akal Takht within 15 days and submit written explanations for their actions.

Broader Implications for SAD

The Akal Takht's decision comes at a time of considerable turmoil within the SAD, a party that has seen its influence wane significantly since its loss in the 2017 Punjab Assembly elections after ruling Punjab for a decade. The party's decline has been exacerbated by internal divisions, with the rebel faction led by Dhindsa and others openly challenging Sukhbir's leadership.

The appointment of Balwinder Singh Bhundur as the party's working president on Thursday was an apparent bid by Sukhbir to consolidate his control over the party. However, the timing of the Akal Takht's declaration suggested that the move may have come too late to quell the dissent. The rebel leaders have already demanded that Sukhbir should resign from his position as SAD president, arguing that his continued leadership is

untenable given the Akal Takht's ruling. Gurbartap Singh Wadala, a former MLA and the convener of the Akali Dal Sudhar Lehar - a reform movement within the SAD - issued a statement calling for Sukhbir's immediate resignation. He argued that a leader declared a 'tankhaiya' has no moral authority to lead a party that represents the Sikh community.

The Path Forward

As Sukhbir Badal contemplates his next steps, SAD faces an uncertain future. The Akal Takht's ruling has not only tarnished Sukhbir's personal reputation but has also further weakened the party's standing among the Sikhs. The upcoming days will be crucial in determining whether Sukhbir can navigate this crisis and restore his credibility or whether the rebel faction will succeed in its efforts to reform the party from within. The Akal Takht's mandate to other Sikh leaders who served in the SAD-BJP government from 2007 to 2017 to appear before the body and explain their actions adds another layer of complexity to the situation. These leaders, who were part of Parkash Singh Badal's Cabinet, now face the daunting task of justifying their roles in the controversial decisions that have come to define that period.

In Punjab's charged political atmosphere, where religious and political identities are deeply intertwined, the fallout from the Akal Takht's decision will be closely watched. As the 15-day deadline looms, all eyes are on how Sukhbir will respond to this religious and political quagmire. His decision to atone before the Akal Takht could be seen as a gesture of humility, but whether it will be enough to placate the dissenters and restore the party's standing remains to be seen. In the meantime, the Akali Dal faces an existential challenge that could reshape the future of Sikh politics in Punjab.

BRIEFS

20,000 POSTS LYING VACANT IN HEALTH SERVICES IN HRY: BHUPINDER HOODA

Chandigarh: Former Haryana Chief Minister Bhupinder Hooda on Friday said about 20,000 posts were lying vacant in health services in the state. "There is a shortage of 14,000 doctors in hospitals. About 94 percent of specialist doctors' posts are lying vacant in villages. Due to lack of staff and facilities, thousands of patients have been facing difficulties," he said. Hooda said that patients have to make rounds of hospitals for several days for lab tests, or they have been compelled to go to private laboratories. "According to WHO guidelines, there should be one doctor for every 1,000 people, but in Haryana there is one doctor for 2,035 people. There should be one bed for 200 people, but in the state there is one bed for 2,086 people." "Owing to this, it is seen in many places that two or three patients are lying on one bed and deliveries are taking place on the floor. More than 1,100 out of 5,253 posts of Senior Medical Officer, Medical Officer and Dental Surgeon have been lying vacant," Hooda said in a statement. The two-time Chief Minister said that in 2014 the BJP had promised that it would build medical colleges "in every district as soon as it comes to power". "The reality is that in the last 10 years, not even a single new medical college announced by the BJP has been started. Only the institutions built during the Congress' tenure are providing health services to the people," he added.

POLITICAL PARTIES CAN CAMPAIGN ON DOORDARSHAN AND ALL INDIA RADIO: CEO

Chandigarh: Haryana Chief Electoral Officer Pankaj Agarwal on Friday said that the Election Commission of India has fixed time for recognized national and regional political parties to conduct their election campaign through the regional centers of Doordarshan and All India Radio for the Haryana Assembly elections. In a statement, Agarwal said that the Election Commission has allotted time to 6 national and 2 regional political parties of Haryana. The national parties include Bharatiya Janata Party, Indian National Congress, Communist Party of India (Marxist), Bahujan Samaj Party, Rashtriya People's Party and Aam Aadmi Party. Apart from this, regional parties include Indian National Lok Dal and Jannayak Janata Party. He said that the Commission had permitted free use of television and radio for campaigning in the 1998 general election, and subsequently extended it to the state legislative assembly/general elections. The Chief Electoral Officer said that a total time of 720 minutes each has been allotted to the political parties for campaigning on All India Radio and Doordarshan.

GURUGRAM ADMN TO CONDUCT VOTER AWARENESS ACTIVITIES IN COLLABORATION WITH RWAS

Gurugram: Gurugram District Election Officer and DC Nishant Kumar Yadav on Friday said that the district administration has decided to conduct voter awareness activities in collaboration with Resident Welfare Associations (RWAs) in the district given the upcoming Haryana Assembly elections. Under the plan, the district administration will later pick the top three RWAs and honour them for their commendable work in encouraging voters to participate in the elections, he added. Yadav said that voting for the four assembly constituencies in Gurugram district - Pataudi (SC reserved), Badshahpur, Gurgaon, and Sohna - will take place on October 1. As per the latest voter list, there are 14,87,310 registered voters across the four assembly constituencies in the district. The voter awareness campaign will focus especially on urban areas alongside rural regions. For this purpose, polling stations have been set up in 126 high-rise buildings as well, he added. "To increase voter turnout, awareness activities under the Systematic Voters' Education and Electoral Participation (SVEEP) program will be intensified, with active cooperation from RWAs. Administrative officers and voter awareness brand ambassadors will also participate in these activities organised with the help of RWAs," he added.

COUNCIL OF JUNIOR ENGINEERS ANNOUNCE AGITATION PROGRAMS IN PB

Chandigarh: The Council of Junior Engineers PSEB, a representative body of Power Junior Engineers and Engineering Officers promoted from ranks in Punjab Power Sector has announced a series of agitation programs over the non-settlement of various pending demands of the cadre of Power Junior Engineers. This was informed to the press by Davinder Singh, State General Secretary of JEs Council. Paramjit Singh Khattrra State President and Davinder Singh- State General Secretary of JEs Council jointly stated that the agitation will begin by holding protest rallies in front of all PSPCL circle H.Qs. on 4th September. Thereafter, Zonal protests will commence from 9th September at West Zone, at Bathinda, 13th September Central Zone, at Ludhiana, 17th September Border Zone, at Amritsar, 20th September North Zone, at Jalandhar, 24th September South Zone, at Patiala followed by a day-long peaceful protest Dharna will be held in front of PSPCL H.Q., The Mall, Patiala on 8th October by all the Central Working Committee members of JEs Council. The Council leadership said that the Power Management is continuously ignoring the important demands of junior engineers, including pay revision and pending arrears payment.

PUNJAB VETS TO STAGE STATEWIDE PROTEST ON SEP 1

Mohali: In response to the Punjab Government's continued neglect, the Joint Action Committee (JAC) of Vets is preparing for a state-level sit-in protest at Mohali on September 1. The demonstration aims to highlight the government's failure to restore pay parity for veterinarians with their counterparts in the Health Department. Veterinarians have been on strike since June 24, boycotting services such as Artificial Insemination and extension camps as a mark of protest. The issue stemmed from a pay scale reduction implemented by former Finance Minister Manpreet Singh Badal during the previous Congress regime, which lowered their entry pay scale from Rs 56,100 to Rs 47,600. Despite repeated assurances from Animal Husbandry Ministers, no concrete actions have been taken. JAC media in-charges Dr Gurinder Singh Walia and Dr Parshotam Singh on Friday expressed frustration over the lack of progress and urged Chief Minister Bhagwant Mann to intervene. They called for an immediate resolution to ensure justice and address the concerns of these dedicated professionals.

HIMACHAL CM SAYS ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION IS A PRIORITY

Shimla: Himachal Chief Minister Sukhvinder Singh Sukhu on Friday inaugurated the 'Wetlands for Life' film festival and forum, organized by the HP State Wetland Authority, HP Council for Science, Technology and Environment and the Department of Environment, Science, Technology and Climate Change. The event featured the screening of short films, including Guardians of Wetlands: Women as Stewards of Conservation, Green Renuka Ji Fair: A Collective Endeavour of Renuka Lake, and Municipal Solid Waste around Wetlands in Himachal, an initiative of healing Himalayas. Sukhu said that environmental protection is a priority for the present state government and it was working tirelessly to preserve the natural beauty and ecological balance of the state. He remarked, "Last year, Himachal Pradesh faced a disaster unlike any we have witnessed in our lifetime. Every part of the state suffered significant damage. Today, it is raining in Kinnaur and Lahaul-Spiti areas that historically never received rainfall. Due to carbon emissions and changes in our lifestyle, the earth's temperature is rising and we are witnessing its harsh consequences in every part of the world. However, it is not too late, public participation is crucial in addressing this issue. It is not solely the government's responsibility, but people must also engage in this noble cause, said the Chief Minister.

Himachal becomes first state to offer MSP on natural farming products: CM Sukhu

PNS ■ SHIMLA

A delegation of four scientists from the French National Research Institute for Agriculture, Food, and Environment (INRAE) called on Chief Minister Sukhvinder Singh Sukhu on Friday. During the meeting, the Chief Minister said that Himachal Pradesh was pioneering in natural farming as the state was the first in India to offer a minimum support price for products grown through natural farming practices with wheat being procured at Rs. 40 per kg and maize at Rs. 30 per kg. Additionally, cow milk was being purchased at Rs. 45 per litre and buffalo milk at Rs. 55 per litre.

The team, led by Prof. Allison Marie Loconto, Deputy Director of LISIS, included researchers Prof. Mireille Matt, Dr. Evelyne Lhoste, and Dr. Renee Van Dis are on a visit to Himachal Pradesh to learn



about the advancements in natural farming in the state.

Sukhu said that Himachal Pradesh was set to become a leading state in natural farming within the next five to six years and emphasized the importance of product certification in natural farming. He said that the CETARA certification system had been introduced,

which was being implemented in the state to ensure fair prices for the farmers. He said that HIM-UNNATI scheme was being implemented in the state with a cluster-based approach which aims to produce and certify chemical-free produce, with plans to establish 2,600 agricultural groups involving approximately 50,000 farmers.

Furthermore, the state government was also taking significant steps to boost the dairy sector and enhance milk production.

The visiting INRAE scientists are on a three-week mission to Dr. Y.S Parmar University of Horticulture and Forestry, Nauni and various other locations in the state. Their visit is part of the European Commission-funded ACROPICS project (Agroecological Crop Protection towards International Co-Innovation Dynamics and Evidence of Sustainability), which aims to advance co-innovation in agroecological crop production.

The delegation lauded the state government's efforts in promoting natural farming and praised the CETARA certification system. They said that INRAE would explore the possibility of adopting this certification system in other countries.

Punjab faces severe DAP shortage: Centre assures timely supply ahead of Rabi season

PNS ■ CHANDIGARH/NEW DELHI

Punjab is currently grappling with a severe shortage of Diammonium Phosphate (DAP) fertilizer, with a shortfall of 5.1 lakh metric tonnes, threatening the upcoming Rabi season. In response to this urgent crisis, Punjab's Special Chief Secretary KAP Sinha met with the Union Minister of Chemicals and Fertilizers JP Nadda in New Delhi on Friday. During the meeting, the Centre assured that adequate quantities of DAP and other essential fertilizers would be supplied to Punjab in time to meet the state's agricultural needs.

Earlier, Punjab Chief

Minister Bhagwant Mann personally reached out to the Union Minister Nadda, highlighting the state's dire need for DAP. With only 40,000 metric tonnes supplied by July 1, against a requirement of 5.5 lakh metric tonnes for sowing wheat across 35 lakh hectares, the shortage has raised concerns over potential economic losses due to reduced wheat production.

During the crucial meeting, KAP Sinha, accompanied by senior officials from Punjab's Agriculture and Farmers Welfare Department and Punjab Markfed, emphasized the need for immediate action. He warned that any delay in the supply of DAP fertilizer could severely impact wheat sowing, which is set to begin in October, following the September potato planting.

The Union Minister assured Punjab that there would be no shortage of DAP fertilizer or other phosphatic fertilizers. He promised that adequate supplies would be dispatched to Punjab over the next two months, ensuring that the state's farmers would have the necessary resources for a successful Rabi season. "Our discussions were fruitful, and we have been assured that there will be no shortage," Sinha stated, expressing confidence that the crisis would be averted.

In preparation for the Rabi season, Punjab has been allocated 4.50 lakh metric tonnes of DAP, 1.50 lakh metric tonnes of NPK (nitrogen, phosphorus, and potassium), and 1.50 lakh metric tonnes of SSP (Single superphosphate) fertilizers by the Government of India. This allocation is crucial, as Punjab contributed 46 percent of the wheat to the central pool in the 2023-24 season and any disruption in the supply chain could have significant repercussions on both the state's and the nation's food security.

CM Nayab Saini to contest Assembly election from Ladwa: Hry BJP Chief

PNS ■ CHANDIGARH

Haryana BJP President Mohan Lal Badoli on Friday said that the State Chief Minister Nayab Singh Saini would contest the Assembly election from Ladwa Constituency of Kurukshetra district.

His announcement came a day after the BJP's Central Election Committee (CEC) met for a brainstorming session on the list of candidates for Haryana.

On Thursday, Prime Minister Narendra Modi and BJP national president JP Nadda chaired the CEC meeting to finalise the ticket allottees in the presence of Saini, Badoli, former Chief Minister Manohar Lal Khattar, former State Home Minister Anil Vij and other members of the committee.

Talking to reporters in New Delhi, Badoli did not divulge if Saini would also contest from Karnal.

Meanwhile, the CM's name is the first one that the BJP has finalised, with the first list expected over the weekend. At present, Congress' Mewa Singh is the MLA from Ladwa, which has a substantial number of voters from the Saini and Jat communities and is a part of the Kurukshetra Lok Sabha constituency that CM Saini represented before being chosen to succeed Khattar as chief minister.

Ladwa will be Saini's fourth constituency - Assembly or Parliamentary - over the past decade. In 2014, he won for the first time from the Naraingarh Assembly seat and five years later, successfully contested the Lok Sabha polls from Kurukshetra. March, this year,



when former CM Manohar Lal Khattar stepped down and Saini succeeded him at the helm of the state, he won the bypoll from Karnal, the seat Khattar vacated.

Ladwa is currently held by the Congress, whose leader Mewa Singh won in 2019. It went to the BJP's Dr Pawan Saini in 2014 and was won by the Indian National Lok Dal in 2009.

BJP chief Badoli further

said, "At the CEC meeting, discussions were held for all 90 seats. A few of them (candidates) have been shortlisted, and after two days another meeting will take place to discuss the rest of the names. After this, the final decision will be announced." Asked about Saini's seat, Badoli said that he would be contesting the election from Ladwa. At present, he is the MLA from Karnal.

The BJP State Unit Chief said that following the CEC meeting, the first list of candidates is likely to be released after two days.

Badoli, a first-time MLA from Rai segment of Sonapat, said that as he is holding the post of state president in the organisation, he would not be contesting the elections this time. Badoli contested the Lok Sabha polls from Sonapat but lost to the Congress's Satpal

Brahmachari. Badoli also said there had been no discussions regarding an alliance and asserted that the BJP would form the government with a clear majority.

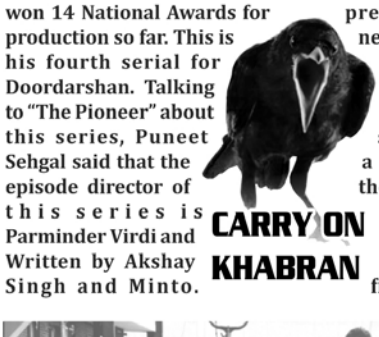
In March, the BJP replaced Manohar Lal Khattar as Haryana Chief Minister with Saini, an OBC leader. Khattar, who won the parliamentary elections from Karnal, is now a Union minister. At the time he replaced Khattar, Saini was the BJP's Haryana Chief and the party's Kurukshetra MP. He won the bypoll from the Karnal assembly seat vacated by Khattar. Saini had won the assembly polls from the Naraingarh seat in Ambala district when BJP stormed to power in 2014. Elections to the 90-member Haryana Assembly will be held in a single phase on October 1 and the results declared on October 4.

Comedy serial 'Carry On Khabran' to be telecast on DD Punjabi from September 9

The serial will reveal the reality of web channels misleading viewers with fake news

Gurdaspur, August 30-On the instructions of Director General Doodarshan Kanchan Prasad, Doodarshan

Center, Jalandhar is telecasting a serial called 'Carry On Khabran' on DD Punjabi channel from September 9 at 9 pm. This comedy series humorously targets some web and YouTube channels that are doing their work by showing false and fake news for personal gain. It will also be shown how these channels create sensation through fake news and compete to gain TRP. The producer-director of this serial is Puneet Sehgal who has



won 14 National Awards for production so far. This is his fourth serial for Doodarshan. Talking to 'The Pioneer' about this series, Puneet Sehgal said that the episode director of this series is Parminder Virdi and Written by Akshay Singh and Minto. **CARRY ON Khabran** prepared with hard work in a limited budget, breaking away from the norm, will be

present new ideas and new laughter in a new way. In the series, people have been made aware that they should check the true and false news themselves. This serial, prepared with hard work in a limited budget, breaking away from the norm, will be

successful in leaving a deep impression on the hearts of the audience. He told that there are a total of 26 episodes of this series and the audience will be able to enjoy it every day at 9 pm from 9 September.

LOST & FOUND

I Ayush Sharma, R/O H.No. 4-A, Jhang Apartment, Sec-13, North West Delhi, Rohini, Declared that Harmony Homes Original Allment of Flat No. 547206 in the of Ayush Sharma S/o Anand Sharma belongs to my property. Original document has been lost on 07.12.23 at 10:30 am at Near Toll Plaza, Panipat. If any person found, please inform us on this mob. no. 99539-76636 - DEPNONING

ESTATE MANAGER HOUSING BOARD HARYANA PANCHKULA PUBLIC NOTICE

NO. HBHEM/PKL/2024/3287
Date: 29/08/2024
Sub: Transfer of Flat No. 456F, Housing Board Colony, Sector-3-4-4A, Pinjore, Tehsil-Kaika, Distt-Panchkula, Haryana, in the name Sh. Sidharth Negi S/o Sh. Netra Singh Negi R/o Jaridhar Gaon, Tehsil Garwah, Uttarakhand on the basis of general transfer current owner is Sh. Suraj Sharma S/o Sh. Birbhan Sharma, R/O H.No.757, Himshikha Colony, Pinjore, Panchkula, Haryana. It is being intimated that it is notified for the information of the general public and all concerned with the property No. Flat No. 456F, Housing Board Colony, Sector-3-4-4A, Pinjore, Tehsil-Kaika, Distt-Panchkula, Haryana, which stands in the name of Sh. Suraj Sharma S/o Sh. Birbhan Sharma, R/O H.No.757, Himshikha Colony, Pinjore, Panchkula, Haryana, as per record of this office. It has been reported by the applicant (s) that Sh. Suraj Sharma S/o Sh. Birbhan Sharma, R/O H.No.757, Himshikha Colony, Pinjore, Panchkula, Haryana, is the owner of this property applied for General Transfer on 20.07.2024, for the said property in his/her name on the basis of document of General Transfer Policy in the name Sh. Sidharth Negi S/o Sh. Netra Singh Negi R/o Jaridhar Gaon Tehsil Garwah, Uttarakhand. If anybody have any objection in writing in the office of the undersigned within 30 days from the date of publication of this notice, failing which this property shall be transferred accordingly and no further claim whatsoever shall be entertained letter on.

Classified Advertisement

COLOR OR BLACK AND WHITE ADS CONTACT: 9417419351

Disclaimer

The Pioneer does not take responsibility for the contents for the advertisement (Display / Classified) carried in this newspaper. The Paper does not endorse the same. Readers are requested to verify the content on their own.

PUBLIC NOTICE

Sukhpreet Kaur w/o Gurmeet Singh s/o Bakhshar Singh R/o Part of MC No.2469, Mehna Chowk, Bathinda. 151001. Property measuring 100 Sq. Yards, part of bearing M.C. No. 2469, [Municipal Corporation Assessment Register No. 79, Serial No. 77, Page No. 27, for the year 2011-2012], situated at Mehna Chowk, Bathinda and having boundaries (As per Title Deed) is under-First: 15' Road 40' Wide, West: 15' Plot of Vendor, North: 60' & as per title deed, the property is bound as under having boundaries Enaving boundaries (As per Title Deed) East: 15'-00" Road 40ft wide West: 15'-0" Plot of Owner, North: 60'-0" H/o Yawinder Singh and South: 60'-0" H/o Owner (Hereinafter referred to as 'Property in question'). Anybody having objection regarding mortgage of property with Cholamandalam Investment & Finance Co. Ltd., may respond or raise objection within 7 Days, to Deepak Das & Associates Advocate, 94784-35270.

Bank of Baroda

Rule-8 (1) POSSESSION NOTICE (for Immovable Property)
Whereas, the undersigned being the Authorized officer of the BANK OF BARODA, Kakawal, Ludhiana under the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 (54 of 2002) and in exercise of powers conferred under section 13(12) read with Rules 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 issued Demand Notices dated mentioned as below calling upon the borrower(s)/Guarantor(s) to repay the amount mentioned in the Notice(s) being as Below within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said Notices.

Borrower / Guarantor & Owner of Property	Description of the Mortgage Property/ies	Date of Demand Notice	Date of Possession	Nature of Possession
(Borrower) :- Shri Gudiya Devi w/o Mohan Kumar and Mohan Kumar s/o Shri Sita Ram, r/o House No. 159, St no. 5, Aman Vihar Colony, Guru Nam Nagar, Bagga Kalan, Ludhiana, Punjab -141008	Equitable Mortgage of Residential property 133.00sqy yards situated at Opposite Sacred Heart School, Abadi Harrai Nagar, Village Bhattian, Tehsil and District Ludhiana comprised in Khama Number 43/2/2, Khata no. 354/376 as per Jamabandi for the year 2008-2009 wakia village Bhattian, abadi Harrai Nagar, Tehsil and district Ludhiana bearing wasika no. 2748 dated 01-07-2017 in favor of Gudiya Devi w/o Mohan Kumar. Boundries: East: Parminder Singh 45'-0", North: Naninder Singh 26'-8", South: Gali 20' wide 26'-8", West: Neighbour 45'-0"	24-05-2024	29.08.2024	Symbolic Possession

DATE: 30.08.2024 PLACE: LUDHIANA Authorised Officer

ICICI Home Finance

Corporate Office: ICICI Home Finance Company Limited ICICI HFC Tower, Andheri - Kuria Road, Andheri (East), Mumbai-400095, India
Branch Office: 1st floor, 3-A, City Center Building, Massand Chowk, Model Town, Jalandhar- 144003
Notice for sale of immovable assets
E-Auction Sale Notice for Sale of Immovable Assets under the Securitization 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.

Sr. No.	Name of Borrower(s) / Guarantors / Legal Heirs. Loan Account No.	Details of the Secured asset(s) with known encumbrances, if any.	Amount Outstanding	Reserve Price / Earnest Money Deposit	Date and Time of Property Inspection	Date of Auction	One Day Before Auction	SARFAESI Stage
1.	Nirmal Kanta (Borrower) / Mithlesh Sharma (Co-Borrowers) / Loan Account No. LHJAL000133905 & LHJAL000133404	Plot No. 63 Golden Avenue, Lehal Colony Lehal Gurdaspur Gurdaspur-143519	Rs. 13,86,746/- August 22, 2024	5,06,250/- Rs. 50,625/-	September 23, 2024 11:00 AM to 03:00 PM	October 04, 2024 02:00 PM to 03:00 PM	October 03, 2024 before 05:00 PM	Physical Possession

The online auction will be conducted on website (URL: Link-auctions.saml.in) of our auction agency Shriram Automall India Ltd. The Mortgages/notice are given a last chance to pay the total dues with further interest till October 03, 2024 before 05:00 PM else these secured assets will be sold as per above schedule.

The Panipat Urban Co-operative Bank Ltd.

(MULTI STATE BANK)
Head Off. : Om City Center, 932-935, Opp. I.B. College, G.T. Road, Panipat
Branch : New Anaj Mandi Panipat, Ph: 7496999006, 7496999010

Symbolic POSSESSION NOTICE (For Immoveable Property/ies)
Whereas, the undersigned being the Authorized Officer of The Panipat Urban Co-operative Bank Ltd., G.T. Road Panipat Branch under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act 2002 and in exercise of powers conferred under section 13(2) read with rule 8 of the security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 issued a demand notice on the dated mentioned against account calling upon the respective borrowers/guarantors/legal heir to repay the amount mentioned against account within 60 days from the date of the receipt of the said notice.

Name of Borrowers/Legal Heirs / Guarantors	Description of the Immoveable Property	Date of the Demand Notice	Date of the Possession	Amount Outstanding
1. Sh. Rajesh Kumar S/o Sh. Chajju Ram (Debtor/Owner), Smt. Bilma Devi W/o Rajesh Kumar (Debtor), Sh. Javeer Singh S/o Sh. Mahender Singh (Surety), Sh. Jitender Kumar S/o Sh. Ram Kumar (Surety)	Area 125 Sq. Yards in the name of debtor, sale deed no. 1451 dated 13.05.1997 Kharsa No. 181/64 (1-0), 181/67 (1-0), 181/68 (0-5), 183/2/3 (0-5), 183/2/4 (1-0), Mutation No. 778, Wakia Mouza Gardiwar, Abadi Rai Nagar, Gali No. 4, Near Gugameti, Within Panipat Municipal Corporation Limits, District Panipat. There are limits. North-House of Vikram South-Road, East-House of Sudher West-Gali No.4.	18.06.2024	20.08.2024	Rs. 1,69,347/- as on 18.06.2024 (+interest and other expenses)

2. Ravinder S/o Late Sh. Chander Bhan (Legal Heir), Sukhvinder S/o Late Sh. Chander Bhan (Legal Heir), Pooja D/o Late Sh. Chander Bhan (Legal Heir), Sunita D/o Late Sh. Chander Bhan (Legal Heir), Nisha D/o Late Sh. Chander Bhan (Legal Heir), Sh. Vinod S/o Sh. Hoshiyar Singh (Surety) Sh. Vinod S/o Sh. Balbir Singh (Surety)	Area 100 Sq. Yards in the name of debtor, Transfer deed no. 51871/1 dated 06.08.2019 and Sale Deed Vaska No. 5637 dated 23.11.1987 Kharsa No. 2639/1 (9-3), Khewal No. 713, Mutation No. 16710, situated at Rajputana Abadi 1886, Anand Nagar, Kanal By Pass Road, Jatal Road, Panipat. There are limits. North-Road, South-House of Balbir, East-Factory, West-House of Indar.	18.06.2024	20.08.2024	Rs. 3,77,134/- as on 18.06.2024 (+interest+expenses)
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DATE:-20.08.2024, Place:- Panipat Authorised Officer, The Panipat Urban Co-operative Bank Ltd. G.T. Road, Panipat

PUBLIC NOTICE

ICICI Bank Branch Office: ICICI Bank Limited shal Tower Plot No-23, New Rohtak Road Karol Bagh New Delhi-110005

These steps are being taken for substituted service of Notice. The above borrower/s and/or guarantor/s (as applicable) is/are advised to make the outstanding payment within 60 days from the date of publishing this Notice. Else, further steps will be taken as per the provisions of the Securitisation and Re-construction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002.

Classifieds

CHANGE OF NAME

I, **Indira Bai** Sagadeva Rao is legally Mother of Service No. 16129191A Rank: L/NK Name: Suman Sagar Sagadeva Rao residing at Village Hosur Post Mathgiri, Taluk Hosur, Distt. Krishnagiri (State) Tamil Nadu Pin-635110, have changed my name from Indira Bai E to Indira Bai Sagadeva Rao.

I, **Mulla Main** Bee is legally Wife of Service No. 15322375K Rank: HAV Name: Mulla Mahaboob Basha residing at Village Giddalur Post Giddalur, Taluk Koilkuntla, Distt. Kurnool (State) Andhra Pradesh Pin- 518166, have changed my name from M Main to Mulla Main Bee.

I, **Mulla Bibi** is legally Mother of Service No. 15322375K Rank: HAV Name: Mulla Mahaboob Basha residing at Village Giddalur Post Giddalur, Taluk Koilkuntla, Distt. Kurnool (State) Andhra Pradesh Pin- 518166, have changed my name from M Beebe to Mulla Bibi.

I, **Mulla Mahaboob** Vali is legally Father of Service No. 15322375K Rank: HAV Name: Mulla Mahaboob Basha residing at Village Giddalur Post Giddalur, Taluk Koilkuntla, Distt. Kurnool (State) Andhra Pradesh Pin- 518166, have changed my name from Mulla Mahabuvali to Mulla Mahaboob Vali.

I, **Shridevi Gotdaki** is legally Mother of Service No. 16121256N Rank: NK Name: Naveen Gotadaki residing at Village Madawal Post Madawal, Taluk Gokak, Distt. Madawal (State) Karnataka Pin -591101, have changed my name from Shridevi to Shridevi Gotdaki.

I, **Shivanand Gotadaki** is legally Father of Service No. 16121256N Rank: NK Name: Naveen Gotadaki residing at Village Madawal Post Madawal, Taluk Gokak, Distt. Madawal (State) Karnataka Pin -591101, have changed my name from Shivanand to Shivanand Gotadaki.

I, **Sukhjit Singh** S/o Hamek Singh R/o House No.61, Village Mitli Majra, P.O. Khari Mandian, Distt. Patiala (Punjab) declare that in my Passport No. H3957046 my wife's name mentioned Ranbir Kaur but her correct name is Ranvir Kaur.

I, **Manili W/o** Late Akashdeep Goyal R/O E-12, Era-1, Barnala Road, Sirda (Haryana). That I have changed my name from Sunita Rani and Manili to Manili Goyal, in future my name is to be called as Manili Goyal.

I, **Jashit S/o** Late Akashdeep Goyal R/O E-12, Era-1, Barnala Road, Sirda (Haryana). That I have changed my name from Jashit to Jashit Goyal, in future my name is to be called as Jashit Goyal.

I, **Manili Goyal W/o** Late Akashdeep Goyal R/O E-12, Era-1, Barnala Road, Sirda (Haryana) declare that my husband Akashdeep Goyal had changed his name from Akashdeep to Akashdeep Goyal during his lifetime. My late husband was known and recognized as Akashdeep Goyal during his lifetime.

I, **Palwinder Kaur W/o** Gurdev Singh R/O Vill. Maqsdumpur, Distt. Kapurthala-144819, Punjab have changed my name from Palwinder Kaur to Balwinder Kaur.

I, **Sardool S/o** Chandan Singh R/O H.No. 955, Guru Arjan Nagar, Basti Mitlu, Jalandhar, Punjab have changed my name from Sardool to Sardool Singh.

I, **Gurpreet Kaur W/o** Gagandeep Singh R/O H.No. 86/3, Preet Nagar, Ladowali Road, Jalandhar declare that Gurpreet Kaur and Gurpreet Kaur is one and the same person.

I, **Ayachuki** is mother of No 18017820X /LNK Gajendra Singh serving in unit 52 Engrs C/o 56 APO have changed my name from Asu Kanwar to Ayachuki.

I, **Pushpa W/o** Som Nath R/o Vill. Dhak Pandori, Distt. Kapurthala have changed my name from Pushpa to Pushpa Devi.

I, **15429177W** Rank Hav/LA Name Arun presently residing at Gram Post Patauwa, Po. Patauya, Distt. Sagar, State MP, PIN-470335 is hereby declare that as per service record my mother name erroneously recorded as Mahima, whereas her correct name is Mahima Bilhare vide Affidavit dated 30 Aug 2024 before Executive Magistrate Jalandhar, (PB).

I, **15429177W** Rank Hav/LA Name Arun presently residing at Gram Post Patauwa, Po. Patauya, Distt. Sagar, State MP, PIN-470335 is hereby declare that as per service record my mother name erroneously recorded as Ramsakhi, whereas her correct name is Ramsakhi Bilhare vide Affidavit dated 30 Aug 2024 before Executive Magistrate Jalandhar, (PB).

I, **15429177W** Rank Hav/LA Name Arun presently residing at Gram Post Patauwa, Po. Patauya, Distt. Sagar, State MP, PIN-470335 is hereby declare that as per service record my father name erroneously recorded as Bal Kishan Bilthare, whereas his correct name is Bal Kishan Bilthare vide Affidavit dated 30 Aug 2024 before Executive Magistrate Jalandhar, (PB).

I, **Tsiochemia Sangtam** is legally wedded spouse of Tsaimlong Sangtam presently residing at House No. 142, Old Mangakhi, Po. Longkhim, Distt. Tuensang, State Nagaland, PIN-798616 have changed my name from Tsiochemia Sangtam to Tsiochemia vide Affidavit dated 27 Aug 2024 before Executive Magistrate Jalandhar, (PB).

I, **Sarojani Bisht** is legally Mother of Rakesh Singh presently residing at Vill. Kimoli, Po. Kimoli, Tehsil Narayan Bagar, Distt. Chamoli, State Uttarakhand have changed my name from Sarojani Bisht to Sarojini Devi vide Affidavit dated 29 Aug 2024 before Executive Magistrate Jalandhar, (PB).

I, **Vidhya Rautela** is legally wedded spouse of Kundan Singh Rautela presently residing at Katfigar, Mateia, Kafali, Distt. Bageshwar, State Uttarakhand, PIN- 263628 have changed my name from Vidhya Rautela to Vidya Rautela vide Affidavit dated 30 Aug 2024 before Executive Magistrate Jalandhar, (PB).

I, **Devaki Devi Rautela** is legally Mother of Kundan Singh Rautela presently residing at Katfigar, Mateia, Kafali, Distt. Bageshwar, State Uttarakhand, PIN- 263628 have changed my name from Devaki Devi Rautela to Devaki Devi vide Affidavit dated 30 Aug 2024 before Executive Magistrate Jalandhar, (PB).

I, **Baljeet Singh** is legally son of No. 1261826K Hav Malkit Singh (Retd) presently residing at Ward No. 2, H.No. 99, Baba Karam Singh Colony, Bhogpur, Distt. Jalandhar, Punjab-144201 have changed my name from Baljeet Singh to Jagjit Singh vide Affidavit dated 29 Aug 2024 before Executive Magistrate Jalandhar, (PB).

I, **hithero Known** as Kulvir Chand S/o Nazir Ram R/O Village Kala, Po. Bara Nid, Tehsil Phillaur, Distt. Jalandhar-144418, Punjab have changed my name and shall hereafter be known as Kulvir Ram.

I, **Igagan Arora S/o** Satpal R/O Mukdi (Ferozepur) Have Changed My Name From Gagan Arora To Gagandeep.

I, **Baljinder Singh S/o** Amar Singh Jabbal R/O Vpo. Mahesari Wacha (Ferozepur) Have Changed My Name From Sukhjeet Kaur To Sukhjit Kaur.

I, **Jaswant Kaur W/O** Baljinder Singh Jabbal R/O Vpo. Mahesari Sandhuan Distt. Moga Have Changed My Name To Baljinder Singh Jabbal.

I, **15429177W** Rank Hav/LA Name Arun presently residing at Gram Post Patauwa, Po. Patauya, Distt. Sagar, State MP, PIN-470335 is hereby declare that as per service record my father name erroneously recorded as Bal Kishan Bilthare, whereas his correct name is Bal Kishan Bilthare vide Affidavit dated 30 Aug 2024 before Executive Magistrate Jalandhar, (PB).

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I, **14841290p** Hav P. Vijay Kumar Resident Of Village-Uppilapuram, Post-Uppilapuram, Tehsil- Thuralay, District- Trichy, State- Tamil Nadu, Pin-621011, Have Changed My Father Name From Periyaswamy To Periyasamy V Vide Affidavit No.In-Pb50716428434819w Dated 29 Aug 2024 Before Notary Public Pathankot

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I, **Satnam Singh** S/O Charanjeet Singh R/O Village Saida Pura P.O. Bhari (Fatehgarh Sahib) Changed My Name To Satnam Singh Kalra.

I, **Dilbir Singh** S/O Karnail Singh R/O VPO Bowani, Tehsil Payal (Ludhiana) have changed my name to Dalvir Singh.

I, **Navdeep Kaur** Santohy W/o Gurdeep Singh R/O H.No. 107, Sector 22-B, Mandi Gobindgarh (Fatehgarh Sahib) have changed my name to Navdeep Kaur.

I, **Amanpreet Singh** S/o Karamjit Singh Mavi R/O B016/00338, W.No.25, St.No.L-2, Malerkotla Road, Jethi Nagar, Khanna (Ludhiana) have changed my name to Amanpreet Singh Mavi.

I, **Manpreet Kaur** W/o Amanpreet Singh Mavi R/O B016/00338, W.No.25, St.No.L-2, Malerkotla Road, Jethi Nagar, Khanna (Ludhiana) have changed my name to Manpreet Kaur Mavi.



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PAPER WITH PASSION

The dark side

Sexual exploitation in the Kerala film industry revealed by the Hema Committee report sends shockwaves across the country

It is a "me too" moment of the Kerala film industry. The image of the Kerala film industry has touched the rock bottom after Hema committee has reported rampant sexual abuse, lack of basic amenities for women and more. It is all the more shocking as it is happening in the state which has given the most progressive films to the country. The Kerala film industry, known for producing some of India's most critically acclaimed and beloved films, is now under the shadow of a severe crisis. A landmark report from the Hema Committee has exposed the deep-rooted gender issues and sexual exploitation that plague this vibrant film hub, revealing a shocking underbelly that contradicts the industry's artistic achievements. The 290-page report, prepared by a three-member panel headed by retired Kerala High Court Justice K. Hema, offers a scathing indictment of the Malayalam-language film industry. It paints a grim picture of a workplace where sexual harassment is rampant and systemic, and where a "mafia of powerful men" wields control, leaving women vulnerable to exploitation. The Hema Committee was established by the Kerala government in 2017, in the aftermath of a high-profile case that sent shockwaves through the industry.



The Hema Committee's findings have laid bare the systemic problems that have long been ignored or downplayed. The report uncovers a litany of abuses, from the lack of basic amenities like toilets and changing rooms for junior artists to the frequent demands for sexual favors by powerful men in the industry. It describes the harrowing experiences of women who have been forced to endure long hours without access to toilets, leading to severe health issues. The panel also found that sexual harassment is not only widespread but often goes unchecked and unreported due to the fear of retaliation. As expected, the Kerala film fraternity has vehemently denied all the allegations. Despite the damning findings, the Association of Malayalam Movie Artists (AMMA), a prominent industry body, has denied the accusations. The organization's general secretary, Siddique, dismissed the claims, stating that conditions for women on film sets have improved in recent years and that the industry is not controlled by a small group of powerful men. However, the report's release has sparked widespread outrage, with activists and opposition leaders demanding immediate action against those implicated. Kerala Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan has vowed to take action if any woman who testified before the committee comes forward to file a complaint. As the industry grapples with these revelations, there is hope that this moment of reckoning will lead to lasting change. The Kerala film industry has long been celebrated for its artistic achievements; now, it must also become a beacon of respect, safety, and dignity for all who work within it.

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PICTALK



Aukhra Nimbarka Peeth Mahanta Asthal, a 250-year-old Mutt in East Bardhaman

Recently the Mayor of the picturesque Santorini Island in Greece had to declare an emergency as 17000 tourists descended on the island in one day. The beleaguered residents of the island were advised to stay indoors as swarms of tourists took over the hapless location putting immense stress on infrastructure, accommodation and the local environment including the verdant beaches. This has triggered protests by the locals who took out rallies holding placards that read "no more mass tourism."

Overtourism is characterised by increased pollution and strain on resources like water and energy in a destination that is overwhelmed by an excessive number of tourists, to a point where it negatively affects the local environment, biodiversity, and infrastructure. The telling impact of overtourism is evident in India too. Every year the popular hill stations of north India such as Kullu, Manali and Mussoorie witness serpentine tourist traffic jams that extend over many kilometres to gain entry to these towns.

Thanks to this excess footfall the average ambient temperatures have gone up in many of the Himalayan tourist hot spots. The rising temperatures in these locations have in turn altered the weather patterns. Over the last two decades, the Indian Himalayan region has experienced a consistent decline in snowfall days, severely affecting destinations such as Gulmarg and Auli, which have seen a decrease in skiing tourists and shorter seasons, resulting in lower revenue and local economic strain. Even far-flung religious destinations such as Joshimath have not been immune to this heavy tourism torture with over 10 crore people visiting this revered Himalayan town every year resulting in ecological issues such as land subsidence and crumbling biodiversity. Down south popular tourist states such as Kerala are experiencing the painful consequences of rampant tourism. The above-normal rainfall combined with indiscriminate human activity in the form of



tourism resulted in a change in land use patterns in the plantation areas across Kerala. The God's Own Country became a victim of human greed as over-tourism led to increased demand for hotels, restaurants and related businesses. Consequently, indiscriminate building activity on hillsides, exploitation of land and deforestation took place leading to irreversible damage to the environment besides terrain instability issues. The recent tragedy in Wayanad is an unfortunate example that consumed 500 lives and left 400 people injured besides causing immense loss of property. The unfortunate impact of tourism is accurately captured by the findings of the French start-up Murmuration specialising in monitoring the environmental impact of tourism using satellite data. The firm has stated that 80% of tourists visit just 10% of the world's tourist spots leading to bigger crowds in fewer locations. If this trend continues, the United Nations World Tourism Organisation (UNWTO) estimates that by 2030, the number of worldwide tourists, which peaked at 1.5 billion in 2019, will reach 1.8 billion. Furthermore, by 2030 the transport-related carbon emissions from tourism are expected to grow by 25% from 2016 levels. Some countries like Australia have taken



THANKS TO THIS EXCESS FOOTFALL THE AVERAGE AMBIENT TEMPERATURES HAVE GONE UP IN MANY OF THE HIMALAYAN TOURIST HOT SPOTS. THE RISING TEMPERATURES IN THESE LOCATIONS HAVE IN TURN ALTERED THE WEATHER PATTERNS

broad steps to address the issue. The Australian eco-certification programme for instance promotes minimal environmental impact tourism, which helps tourists make responsible travel choices. South Africa on the other hand supports ethical tourism through its fair-trade tourism certification, which ensures fair wages and working conditions in tourism enterprises. Closer home, Bhutan has adopted a "high value, low volume" policy, which serves a dual purpose and involves a daily fee paid by tourists, which helps fund local community services and limits tourist numbers to prevent over-tourism. However, India has unique problems and needs more specific and aggressive measures to rein in the issue of overtourism. The beginning point can be the tourism supply chain sector comprising travel companies, cruise companies, ticketing firms and package tour providers. These entities must bear a fair share of responsibility for ensuring a balanced tourist traffic flow across the destinations in India. This can be done by abstaining from overselling usual tourist destinations and redirecting travellers to other locations. This will prevent overcrowding of a few traditional tourist hot spots and bring

down environmental stress. The tourism ministry in collaboration with the Ministry of environment working in tandem can employ innovative initiatives to protect the ecology and biodiversity of popular tourist destinations. This partnership can start by first regulating the tour and ticketing companies. This can be ended by registering each tourist operator and weeding out illegal entities. The dual ministry partnership can usher in a new era of environmentally conscious tourism. As a part of this, both the ministries can provide unique and non-transferable registration IDs to tourism companies and then periodic workshops can be held for these bonafide members to sensitise them about ecology, biodiversity and climate change issues. As a part of this partnership, the ministries can also develop algorithm-based software for the tourism sector companies that helps in automatically limiting the tourist flow to popular destinations by limiting hotel and transport availability after a certain quota of tourists are accommodated. This can go a long way in reducing the tourist burden on the environment in these destinations. (The author is a policy analyst. The views are personal)



KOTA SRIRAJ

Environment: A casualty of overtourism

The future of India's tourism sector depends on a delicate balance between ecological integrity and economic growth, but it needs to be addressed now

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

CAN GENDER JUSTICE BE ENSURED

Madam — With the revelations of the Hema Committee, the masks of many prominent figures in the Malayalam film industry are falling apart. This is a good start. But are such degradations only in Malayalam cinema? Is this not the case in Kollywood and Bollywood? Aren't ordinary women more or less humiliated in many public places except in the government sector? Isn't this the reason for the age-old awareness of the society towards gender justice? How do organized religions treat their women? Do women have their own voice? After the Hema Committee's revelations, will the beleaguered creeps examine the condition of the women around them? It is not rituals and prayers that children should be taught from an early age. Rather, the ability to react like the heroine in Jaya Jaya Jaya jayaha should be developed. Only then will society, the society's copies and remakes of cinema and its workers, especially actresses, be saved. Which party will take the initiative? Which religion will come forward? **Unnikrishnan Mangalasseril | Malappuram**

ARE DOCTORS' PORTESTS PEACEFUL?

Madam — This is in response to the news report titled "Doctors on strike refuse to listen to Mamata" (August 29). Junior Doctors of government medical colleges of West Bengal, who are on cease-work for around 3 weeks, have not only condemned the violence and mayhem unleashed by a political outfit in the guise of "students" on the 27th day of August in Kolkata; but also gone to the hilarious extent of terming their own "protests" as "peaceful"! While goons and lumpens are directly tormenting the innocents through muscle-flexing and physical assaults resulting in wounds of the victims; the Doctors are tormenting the innocent vulnerable patients, suffering from "wounds" in heart lungs kidney brain liver stomach eyes through the "non-violent" path of refusal of medical

Let us have eco-friendly festivals



India is a country where festivals are celebrated with immense joy and enthusiasm. However, these celebrations also bring forth significant challenges. Every year, Ganesh Chaturthi is celebrated with great fervor, and this year will be no different, with festivities reaching new heights. But alongside the excitement, one of the most pressing challenges we face is environmental health.

Our past experiences have shown that festivals often lead to severe water pollution, particularly due to the disposal of idols and ritual remains. These materials, often containing silicon dioxide and sodium carbonate, are harmful to aquatic life, leading to their deaths and causing significant water contamination. This, in turn, affects the quality of life, disrupts food chains, and threatens the balance of our ecosystems. To address this issue, people across the country must adopt the practice of making idols from clay and soil. This eco-friendly approach could be a significant asset in preserving environmental health. With many species of flora and fauna already endangered or on the brink of extinction, it is crucial to embrace new, innovative methods to celebrate festivals. By doing so, we can protect life on Earth while maintaining the same energy and enthusiasm in our celebrations.

Sarthakj Sharma | Ujjain

treatment!

Less said about the worst woes of patients, rushing from towns and villages several hundred kilometers away, suffering from cancer or requiring dialysis and operations the better! Yes, unlike the muscle-flexing stone-hurling violent goons, the "protests" by the "sacrosanct" Doctors are "peaceful" indeed **Kajal Chatterjee | Kolkata**

BENGAL GOING DOWN THE HILL

Madam — To the one of the kind gesture, recently the Indian Air Force launched the comic book to inspire youngster for joining Air Force. So far, joining the air force is been a sort of privilege for the men and women. But after the case of Agniveer is trolled so much politically by the opposition parties and there were rumours of dismantling this particular scheme, one established in the governance, the craze of joining force got a little hurt. Although patriotism is always a biggest inspiration for all the young people to

serve their motherland with utmost honesty and integrity. But the novel idea of comic book to share the valour and patriotism of our exuberant commanders and officers. The nation is safe on the clutches of brave hands, we hope that more and more valour loving people come from the society to serve the nation's cause. In conclusion, while the Agniveer scheme has faced political scrutiny, the spirit of patriotism remains a driving force for many young people eager to serve their motherland. By showcasing the courage and dedication of our commanders and officers, this novel approach helps reignite the passion for joining the Air Force. The nation's safety lies in the hands of these brave individuals, and we hope to see more valiant citizens stepping forward to serve the nation with honor and integrity.

Kirti Wadhawan | Kanpur

Send your feedback to: letterstopioneer@gmail.com

Automation vs authenticity: Can AI replace the writer's soul?

Will the essence of storytelling — the reflection of genuine human experience — be lost in the rise of machine-generated content?

Way back in the early 2000s, when I started writing my debut novel, it seemed like a daunting task that would take an entire lifetime to complete. Driven purely by my literary instincts and an eagerness to create something authentic, I took four years to finish the story and become an author. To be an author in those days meant a lot. Not many people ventured to do it given the time and effort that one had invested in the process. Cut to the new times, and becoming an author is as easy as blowing bubbles, thanks to the emergence of AI.



Someone I know recently said that they have a target of publishing 10 books this year, and I wasn't surprised. But can AI-assisted writing be a patch on creative writing that comes from the inner realms of a writer filled with genuine emotions and subjective thought? As a creative writing coach for children, I have often wondered if children will ever need to learn to write in future, and if even readers will stop caring if a piece of writing has come from AI's backyard or the annals of original human contemplation and creativity. I have floated this question to people and the responses have been divided. Some believe that in a world that is pressed for time, the source of thought is not as important as the thought itself. If served in an easily digestible manner, it doesn't matter where it comes from — man or machine. While this view has resulted in the spawning of authors around the world, what remains a cardinal truth is that a story or a piece of writing can be resonant with readers only when it is generated in human consciousness. The chief purpose of art and literature is to be able to strike a chord with readers and not to just disseminate information. The reader is

looking for a part of herself in the stories, a reflection of common human experiences and the books they read to be echo chambers of their own lives in parts or whole. Authentic storytelling brings with it a chunk of the writer's soul and it seeks to merge with the soul of the readers. Anything that is generated by a vast reservoir of ready-made ideas will be too perfect to evoke responses. Students may be able to produce perfect sentences and passages that will answer a question, but they will not reflect the personality and character of the writer. What makes a genuine piece of writing enduring and endearing is the voice of the writer and their ability to draw on personal experiences, intuition and a strong need to connect with the audience. No matter how the concepts are laid out in an artificial piece of story, they will be less distinctive and more formulaic and impersonal. Maybe, our hustling world needs only quick fixes, and as we discover newer methods to replicate human thought, our spirit will also capitulate and settle for

the synthetic form of writing. It's again about what the audience chooses that will determine the future of creativity. If AI can satiate the population, then why would original writers spend time and energy on creating something from the core of their hearts? It is a scary outlook to hold, as a writer and creative writing coach. While a part of me still refuses to believe the doomsday scenario, I am still betting on ethical and moral considerations to deter people from going all out and claiming themselves to be authors and writers without much intellectual investment. I am under no illusion that writing will remain sacrosanct as it used to be. It will soon become generic and predictable. Or maybe, going forward, AI will be able to generate stylised texts that mimic the voice of a particular writer and erase the distinction between the real and the unreal. It's a scary and depressive scenario, but one that we, as authentic writers, must brace ourselves for. (The author is a columnist and writing coach based in Dubai; views are personal)



ASHA IYER KUMAR



FIRST COLUMN

RELATIONSHIPS AND SPIRITUALITY

We must learn to see others as souls like ourselves, worthy of respect and understanding



AJIT KUMAR BISHNOI

Yes, spirituality can help in maintaining good relationships. I will cite several examples, where solutions are available in spirituality. Beginning with the common fault of seeing fault in others, don't we have faults? Therefore, others must have too. How should we deal with this problem? Lord Krishna guides in the Bhagavad-Geeta, "We should not cause confusion in the minds of ignorant persons, rather should pacify." (3.26) Let us assume that our assessment of other person is right. Then, accept it and somehow manage the situation. We should be able to do so if we indeed are wise. Another common flaw is to get angry with someone and maintain anger. What benefit is there in doing so? All we will do is to cause harm to ourselves. The Geeta illuminates, "From anger, foolishness results; from foolishness, bewilderment results; from bewilderment, loss of intelligence occurs; and by the loss of intelligence, a person is doomed." (2.63) This sequence is repeated in the lives of all those who harbour anger. How does spirituality help? Forgive and be done with it. What benefit will be derived by harbouring anger? Rather one can be a happy person. (5.23) Thoughts of illicit acts are another common problem. Who can claim that he or she doesn't get them: The only exceptions are highly advanced devotees like Swami Vivekananda. What is the spiritual solution? Lord Krishna has drawn the line when He stated, "I am passion in beings, according to religious principles." (7.11) Otherwise, get ready to burn as warned in this verse, "By this insatiable fire in the form of lust, which is the eternal enemy of a knowledgeable person knowledge is covered." (3.39) Close relationships



like marriage require special attention. In spiritual terms, we are packages with both good and bad. Our natures are parts of these. When we are born we bring them into our present lives. These are parts of our fate and don't change much in our lifetime, mainly the major factors. This is the solution for marriage partners. We must accept them as they are. Disliking would not help; acceptance will, as long as there is no violation of dharma like maintaining illicit relationships. From the Geeta we learn that even a man of knowledge endeavours according to his nature; persons follow nature. What will repression do? (3.33) God can help if we are determined, but it is a very slow process. Another major deterrent to good relationships is a clash of egos. Everyone is trying to prove his or her superiority, whereas there is only one superior, i.e. God. We are all small, ignorant and quite helpless really. This is what ego means. Sooner we give up the false sense of superiority and become humble better we will be served. Humility is a great quality to achieve relationships. One will begin appreciating instead, which endears us to one and all. One will have no dearth of friends, which all egoists lack. Just like everyone has faults, everyone has some good qualities also. Look for them and you will find plenty. Make a habit of thanking whenever some favour is done to us; this habit entitles us to more favours. Lord Krishna has asked us to see all others as souls just like us. (5.18) There must be basic regard for all human beings. We are judgemental, and, unfortunately, suffer due to our very limited knowledge. How much do we know about anything in its totality – the Big Picture? Only God knows. Therefore, our expectations are very high from others and, inevitably, very little from ourselves. If we are not so judgemental our relations with others will be conducive to dealing. We will appreciate that the circumstances of others may not be so favourable to them. We will be better served in dealing with others if we embrace spirituality. We will not step in the three doors to hell, which are lust, anger and greed. And if we can control our hateful tendencies, we will endear ourselves to others greatly. (The writer is a spiritual teacher, views expressed are personal)

The crisis of residential colonies in Punjab



SUKHDEV SINGH

Despite repeated efforts to curb unauthorised development, the reality remains stark: unauthorised colonies have proliferated, and buyers still face numerous hurdles



In its meeting held on August 14, 2024, the Punjab cabinet decided to remove the requirement of PUDA NOC for the sale of plots in the unapproved residential colonies. But the stated objective "to save the buyers from their struggle for basic civic amenities in these colonies" is the same as used by the successive governments amending the PAPR Act 1995 from time to time while its hollowness is so obvious in the reality on the ground. Every time the law has been amended to make some of its provisions more stringent against the colonizers, it has served them more. For example, the PAPR Act 1995 was amended in 2014 to deal with the promoters or estate agents registered under the act but failing to comply with its provisions. The amendment changed the punishment of imprisonment from up to three years to a minimum of three years extendable to seven years with a fine from ten thousand to a minimum of Rupees two lac extending to Rupees five lac. But it made the law ineffectual on the offending colonizers in the past. The cycle of stricter punishment and waiver of the offences in the past has been on since 1995 in the name of saving buyers from cheating and deceit. The notifications, issued in the years 2010, 2013, 2014, 2016, 2018, 2021, and 2022, amending or adding to the law(s) of PAPRA instantiate the continuity in relief to the colonizers in the name of providing relief to the people. The successive governments have been approving the schemes of instituting the need for a 'no objection certificate' NOC by paying some fee as development charges that the individual plot holders are circumstantially compelled to pay but the real estate agents remain immune to it waiting for the next the cut-off date for the waiver. Given the increased demand for housing and the unregulated activities of "some private colonisers" working with the sole "motive of profits" disregarding "the interests and rights of buyers of plots and flats", the stated objective for repealing the Punjab Regulation of



THE PAPR ACT 1995 WAS AMENDED IN 2014 TO DEAL WITH THE PROMOTERS OR ESTATE AGENTS REGISTERED UNDER THE ACT BUT FAILING TO COMPLY WITH ITS PROVISIONS

colonies Act, 1975 and the legislating Punjab Apartment and Property Regulation Act (PAPRA) 1995 was "to check, control and regulate effectively the activities of such private colonisers and protect the interest of the consumers". The situation originated from the unpreparedness of the government to meet the rising need for housing and post-1990 privatisation policy without any regulating mechanisms. In hindsight, the Punjab Apartment and Property Regulation Act 1995 was legislated and the Punjab Urban Planning and Development Authority (PUDA) was established to register private colonizers and issue licenses to develop the housing colonies on the agricultural or other land after seeking change in land use (CLU) and approved plans as per rules in PAPR Act 1995. With a huge financial burden on salaries and infrastructure PUDA and its subsequent regional authorities were tasked to enforce 'obligations on promoters and estate agents' to create all civic amenities within a specified timeframe requiring them to hand over the colony to the respective urban local body after NOCs from all the concerned departments. The stated objective of the act (PAPAR) and the authority (PUDA) since then has been to check the growth of unauthorised colonies and enforce the development in the authorised colonies as per rules. But unfortunately, it has miserably failed in its two-pronged objective: since 1995 the number of unauthorised colonies has risen to more than 15000 while the number of authorised colonies in comparison is much less.

Yet in the authorised colonies, the enforcement of time-bound assured development is too weak to act for anyone as a motivation to build houses there. The colonisers have sold all the plots in the name of legal colonies plotting a chunk of land on its sidelines without necessary approvals and without developing the approved section to the standards of seeking NOCs from the concerned departments to hand over the colonies to the local body; the irony is that the development authorities prefer not to take any suo moto notice of it. Neither the developer nor any government agency including PUDA undertakes the development responsibility although the rules prescribe stringent action against the coloniser and for PUDA to undertake development by confiscating the mortgaged properties and bank guarantees etc. But PUDA continues to grant extensions year after year while the plot buyer is not able to build the house on the 'legal' plot in a 'legal' colony because the PSPCL does not provide a power supply connection in the absence of NOC. The officials appointed in PUDA and urban local body (ULB) to enforce and ensure time-bound development in the legal colonies by the licensed private developer finish off by saying that the public facilities in an authorised colony are the responsibility of the colonizer who doesn't give a damn to this responsibility because he understands that the enforcement agencies enforce the law not on those who approach the law not on those who violate the law. The plot buyers feel legally duped. The unauthorised colonies without change in land use or any

approved plan continued to mushroom where the colonisers created very little infrastructure and sold the plots leaving the plot holders to act as the vote bank approaching the political class for relief. Hence the need for NOCs and their waiver becomes a game of politics rather than a policy. Now that the cycle is complete by the Punjab cabinet decision to waive off the need for NOCs in the unauthorised colonies while the cabinet itself had legislated for the NOCs. It doesn't matter to the common man which cabinet it was or is; what matters to them is a legal and easy-to-build house policy for them. Therefore while the government notifies the waiver of NOCs in the unauthorised colonies, it should direct PUDA to confiscate mortgaged properties and bank guarantees to develop all more-than-ten-years colonies and ensure time-bound development of electricity LD systems, sewerage, water supply and roads before selling any plot in the authorised colonies to encourage the planned and legal development and strictly control the unauthorised development in future rather than approve policies to legalise the illegal. The onus for ensured development should be on the regulator rather than on the buyer of a plot. Let the 2024 notification waiving off the condition of NOCs by the buyers be the last one! Let the common man experience the fundamental right to live a respectable life! (The writer is a retired professor from Guru Nanak Dev University, Amritsar and a Member, of the Governing Council, INTACH; views are personal)

Seizing the opportunity in global defence supply gaps

With its growing defence manufacturing capabilities and strategic partnerships, India has the unique opportunity to address the emerging gaps in global defence supplies

The global defence landscape is rapidly evolving, marked by escalating geopolitical conflicts and the increasingly strategic use of denial tactics to restrict access to critical military hardware and technology. Many nations, including India's key strategic partners, are facing unprecedented challenges as essential defence stockpiles deplete, and sophisticated war machines become obsolete or vulnerable to new forms of subversion. In response, major defence suppliers, particularly those in first-world countries, are prioritizing the preservation of their stockpiles over external sales. Amid these challenges, a critical opportunity emerges for India. By adopting a strategically designed approach to filling these gaps and enhanc-



PADMALOCHAN DASH

ing its strategic influence and partnerships, India can play a significant role in addressing the emerging deficits in the global defence supply chain. **Vulnerabilities in the Global Defense Supply Chain:** The COVID-19 pandemic, coupled with ongoing conflicts in regions like Ukraine, the Middle East, and the Indo-Pacific, has exposed the fragility of global defence supply chains. As India seeks to position

itself as a reliable and diversified supplier of defence equipment, it is imperative to act promptly. Scaling these capabilities and implementing robust, resilient policies rooted in long-term strategic objectives is critical for India to emerge as a prominent player in the global defence marketplace. **Strengthening Strategic Alliances:** India has bolstered its defence partnerships with major global powers, including the United States, Russia, France, and Israel. However, these alliances must evolve beyond transactional arrangements into enduring, reciprocal relationships. For India, every transaction or partnership should be leveraged to bolster the country's ability to produce surpluses

and emerge as a key provider for other nations' defence needs. These strategic alliances should not only enhance India's position as a global player but also provide it with a sustainable competitive edge in the global defence market. **Advancing Indigenous Production Capacity:** India has made considerable strides in Indigenous defence production, exemplified by achievements such as the Arjun main battle tank, BrahMos missile, and Tejas fighter jet. However, these successes must evolve to meet the increasing demands of the global defence market. To strengthen its position as a world-class defence producer, India must expand its production capabilities into areas such as military-class UAVs, advanced missile defence sys-



tems, and cutting-edge cyber defence technologies. Additionally, integrating advanced maritime reconnaissance aircraft, anti-submarine warfare systems, and comprehensive surveillance infrastructure into its production portfolio is essential. India's Indigenous defence production capacity must be enhanced to meet international benchmarks, positioning the country as a dominant

player in filling global defence requirements. **Enhancing Strategic-Critical Manufacturing Projects** India's ambitions to become a leading, self-sufficient defence producer are underscored by initiatives like "Make in India" and Atmanirbhar Bharat. However, the true measure of success will be how well these products align with international demands and address the expanding gaps in the global defence supply chain. India must swiftly adapt to global requirements, ensuring that its products are compatible with international platforms and standards. To achieve this, the country's policies must prioritize attracting investments in advanced manufacturing infrastructure, supporting defence production

systems, and upgrading critical production expertise. Additionally, enforcing rigorous quality control and fostering an innovation-driven, high-quality production foundation is essential to meeting global defence demands. **## Diversification and Global Competitiveness** Diversification and transformation within India's defence sector are vital for achieving global competitiveness. A diversified manufacturing base that strategically incorporates public sector units with private enterprises must be developed to create a more adaptable and responsive supply chain. As India aims to become a major defence supplier, success will depend on developing a sustainable innovation ecosystem that produces tangible

outcomes. **Path Forward:** India as a Leading Defense Supplier India's ambition to emerge as a leading defence supplier demands decisive action and strategic focus. To realize this vision, India must enhance its export capabilities, target key markets, and align with international standards. Success in this arena depends on establishing a firm policy commitment to consistently deliver high-quality, adaptable, and precise defence products tailored to the needs of diverse conflicts, theatres, and warfare requirements. (The author is an ICSSR-Post Doctoral Fellow, School of National Security Studies, Central University of Gujarat. The views expressed are personal)

Aid group: Israeli missiles hit convoy to hospital in Gaza

AP ■ DUBAI

An Israeli missile hit a convoy carrying medical supplies and fuel to an Emirati hospital in the Gaza Strip, killing several people from a local transportation company, the American Near East Refugee Aid group said Friday. Israel claimed without immediate evidence that it opened fire after gunmen seized the convoy.

The strike killed several people employed by a transportation company that the aid group was using to bring supplies to the Emirates Red Crescent Hospital in Rafah, said Sandra Rasheed, Anera's director for the Palestinian territories.

The strike happened Thursday on the Salah al-Din Road in the Gaza Strip and hit the convoy's first vehicle.

"The convoy, which was coordinated by Anera and approved by Israeli authorities, included an Anera employee who was fortunately unharmed,"



Palestinian civil defense workers clear the rubble from a damaged house following an Israeli military operation in the West Bank refugee camp of Nur Shams, Tulkarem, Friday. AP/PTI

Rasheed said in a statement. "Despite this devastating incident, our understanding is that the remaining vehicles in the convoy were able to continue and successfully deliver the aid to the hospital. We are urgently seeking further details about what happened."

Anera planned to release more information later Friday. The Israeli military did not immediately respond to a request for comment Friday from The Associated Press. However, Israeli military spokesperson Lt. Col. Avichay Adraee posted to the social

platform X that "gunmen seized a car at the head of the convoy (a jeep) and began driving." "After the seizure operation and after confirming the possibility of attacking the militants' vehicle alone, the raid was carried out, as the rest of the convoy vehicles were not harmed and reached their target according to the plan," Adraee wrote. "The operation to target the militants removed the risk of seizing the humanitarian convoy." He added: "The presence of armed men inside a humanitarian convoy in an uncoordinated manner makes it difficult to secure the convoys and their staff and harms the humanitarian effort." The United Arab Emirates, which reached a diplomatic recognition deal with Israel in 2020 and has been providing aid to Gaza since the Israel-Hamas war began, did not immediately acknowledge the attack. Israeli forces have opened fire on other aid convoys in the Gaza Strip.

Houthi video shows Yemeni rebels planted bombs on tanker now threatening Red Sea oil spill

AP ■ DUBAI

Yemen's Houthi rebels released footage on Thursday showing their fighters boarded and placed explosives on a Greek-flagged tanker, setting off blasts that put the Red Sea at risk of a major oil spill. The vessel was abandoned earlier, after the Houthis repeatedly attacked it.

In the video, the Iran-backed Houthis chant their motto as the bombs detonated aboard the oil tanker Sounion: "God is the greatest; death to America; death to Israel; curse the Jews; victory to Islam." The blasts capped the most-serious attack in weeks by the Houthis in their campaign disrupting the \$1 trillion in goods that pass through the Red Sea each year over the Israel-Hamas war in the Gaza Strip, as well as halting some aid shipments to conflict-ravaged Sudan and Yemen. The Sounion carried some 1 million barrels of oil when the Houthis initially attacked it on Aug 21 with small arms fire, projectiles and a drone boat. A French destroy-

er operating as part of the European Union's Operation Aspidess rescued the Sounion's crew of 25 Filipinos and Russians, as well as four private security personnel, after they abandoned the vessel and took them to nearby Djibouti.

The footage released Thursday shows masked Houthi fighters carrying Kalashnikov-style rifles boarding the Sounion after it was abandoned. The bridge appeared ransacked. Fighters then rigged explosives over hatches on its deck leading to the oil tankers below. At least six simultaneous blasts could be seen in the footage.

The footage, as well as comments by the Houthi's mysterious leader Abdul Malik al-Houthi, confirmed an earlier analysis by The Associated Press that the Houthis boarded and planted explosives on the Sounion. The Houthi-controlled SABA news agency described al-Houthi as saying the Sounion attack shows America "is lying in its claims regarding any deterrence of Yemeni operations supporting Palestine." "The effec-

tiveness of our operations and their control of the situation is acknowledged by the enemies," al-Houthi said.

Western countries and the United Nations have warned any oil spill from the Sounion could devastate the coral reefs and wildlife around the Red Sea. However, the EU's naval force in the region says it has yet to see any oil spill from the Sounion. Operation Aspidess "is preparing to facilitate any courses of action, in coordination with European authorities and neighbouring countries, to avert a catastrophic environmental crisis," the EU mission said. "Together, we can protect the environment and maintain stability in the region." UN spokesman Stephane Dujarric commended the efforts by the international community and the UN special envoy for Yemen, Hans Grundberg, "to secure the immediate access to the vessel and avert an environmental catastrophe". The Houthis have agreed to allow the operation to proceed safely, he said. Dujarric did not offer any indication when it might start

but added that the reports that "the salvage operations for the tanker can proceed with tugboats and rescue ships to access the incident area" are encouraging. On Wednesday, the Houthis suggested they may allow the Sounion to be salvaged, though the rebels already once blocked crews trying to reach the abandoned vessel, the US military said.

The US State Department declined to directly comment on the video Thursday. It referred to earlier remarks in which spokesperson Matthew Miller warned "the Houthis continued attacks threaten to spill a million barrels of oil into the Red Sea, an amount four times the size of the Exxon Valdez disaster" in 1989 off Alaska. This isn't the first time the Houthis have used the threat of an oil spill to their advantage. It took years of negotiations before the rebels allowed the UN in 2023 to remove 1 million barrels from the oil tanker Safer off the coast of Yemen, which had been used as a floating storage and offloading facility.

Germany deports 28 Afghan nationals to their homeland

AP ■ BERLIN

Germany deported Afghan nationals to their homeland on Friday for the first time since August 2021, when the Taliban returned to power. Government spokesperson Steffen Hebestreit described the 28 Afghan nationals as convicted criminals but did not immediately respond to a request for comment to clarify their offenses.

Interior Minister Nancy Faeser called the move a security issue for Germany. Germany does not have diplomatic relations with the Taliban, requiring the government to work through other channels. It's unlikely that Friday's actions will lead to a wider thawing of relations between Germany and the Taliban, especially after last week's issuing of the first set of laws to prevent vice and promote virtue in Afghanistan. They include a requirement for a woman to

conceal her face, body and voice outside the home. German Foreign Minister Annalena Baerbock has slammed the morality laws in posts on X.

While Hebestreit said the deportations have been in the works for months, they occurred a week after a deadly knife attack in the town of Solingen in which the suspect is a Syrian citizen who had applied for asylum in Germany.

The suspect was supposed to be deported to Bulgaria last year but reportedly disappeared for a time and avoided deportation. He was ordered held Sunday on suspicion of murder and membership in a terrorist organization pending further investigation and a possible indictment.

The Islamic State militant group claimed responsibility for last Friday's attack, without providing evidence. The extremist group said on its news site that the attacker tar-

geted Christians and that he carried out the assaults "to avenge Muslims in Palestine and everywhere." The claim couldn't be independently verified.

There has also been debate over immigration ahead of regional elections Sunday in Germany's Saxony and Thuringia regions where anti-immigration parties such as the populist Alternative for Germany are expected to do well. In June, Chancellor Olaf Scholz vowed that the country would start deporting criminals from Afghanistan and Syria again after a knife attack by an Afghan immigrant left one police officer dead and four more people injured.

Faeser on Thursday announced a plan to tighten knife laws, according to German news agency dpa. Along with other officials in the governing coalition, she also pledged during a news conference to make deportations easier.

'America ready to turn page on Trump'

PTI ■ WASHINGTON

The American people are ready to "turn the page" on Donald Trump, Kamala Harris has said, asserting that her Republican challenger is pushing an agenda which "divides" the country and "diminishes the character" of its people.

In her first major television interview of her presidential campaign, the 59-year-old US Vice President, who will face Trump in the November 5 elections, said the American people are ready for a "new way forward."

"I think sadly in the last decade, we have had in the former president someone who has really been pushing an agenda and an environment that is about diminishing the character and the strength of who we are as Americans — really dividing our nation," Harris, in a joint interview with her running mate Minnesota Governor Tim Walz, told CNN. "And I think people are ready to turn the page on that," Harris, the Democratic Party's candidate,

said. "The American people are ready for a new way forward. Our former president has pushed an agenda that diminishes the character and strength of who we are as Americans, and divides our nation. People are ready to turn the page," she said in a post on X, linking an interview snippet. Harris, who is of Indian and African heritage, also refused to engage in Trump's identity politics during the interview. She eluded questions about Trump's claims over her racial identity, calling those a part of the "same old tired playbook."

Last month, Trump questioned Harris' racial identity at the National Association of Black Journalists conference in Chicago, suggesting she had previously identified as South Asian but "happened to turn Black" for political purposes. Her refusal to comment aligned with her campaign's strategy to avoid leaning into identity politics following Trump's remarks, CNN reported. Responding to a question about a previous debate on the

decriminalisation of US borders, she said, "I believe there should be consequence. We have laws that have to be followed and enforced that address and deal with people who cross our border illegally. And there should be consequence." Harris added that she is the "only person" in the presidential race who has "prosecuted transnational criminal organisations who traffic in guns, drugs, and human beings." "I'm the only person in this race who actually served a border state as attorney general to enforce our laws. And I would enforce our laws as president going forward. I recognise the problem," she said.

Calling the border issue a "very significant" immigration issue to the American people and the security of the US, she said a border security bill was crafted under the administration of her boss — incumbent President Joe Biden. She said that Trump killed the bill that would have put 1,500 additional agents at the border as it "would not have helped him

politically". Speaking about Biden, she said that serving with him for almost four years was "one of the greatest honours of my career." He has the intelligence, the commitment and the judgment — disposition that I think the American people rightly deserve in their president," she said. Last month, Biden dropped out of the presidential race, saying it was in "the best interest" of the Democratic Party and the country to withdraw from the race. He endorsed Harris to be the nominee of the party.

Harris also said she would name a Republican to serve in her Cabinet if elected.

Kamala Harris responded to a question in her first in-depth interview when asked about her Republican rival Donald Trump's remarks questioning her race. Fifty-nine-year-old Harris, who is of Indian and African descent, is the Democratic Party candidate in the November 5 presidential election in which she will contest against Trump, 78.

During the interview with CNN, the US Vice President

was asked to comment on Trump's remarks on her race. Harris brushed off the question and said Trump's remarks as an "old, tired playbook."

"Trump has been making disparaging remarks about Harris during the campaign. His comments, especially at the National Association of Black Journalists convention where he appeared to question Harris' race. Trump had falsely claimed Harris had only emphasised her Asian-American heritage until recently when, he said, "she became a black person" for political gain.

"I didn't know she was Black until a number of years ago when she happened to turn Black and now, she wants to be known as Black. So, I don't know, is she Indian or is she Black?" Trump said at the time. Harris' mother, Shyamala Gopalan, was originally from India and her father, Donald Harris, is from Jamaica.

Trump in the last few weeks has been personally attacking Harris despite calls from allies to refocus his campaign on policy issues.

Harris: Biden called to inform about decision to not seek re-election

PTI ■ WASHINGTON

Democratic presidential nominee Kamala Harris has said President Joe Biden called her personally on a Sunday to inform her about his decision to not seek reelection, asserting that he was "very clear" about endorsing her instead. In the first major television interview of her presidential campaign on Thursday, the 59-year-old Vice President said she was with her family when she got the call from Biden, 81. Harris said that she was having bacon with her baby nieces when her phone rang. "And it was Joe Biden. And — and he told me what he had decided to do. And I asked him, 'Are you sure?' And he said, 'Yes.' And that's how I learned about it," she told CNN in a joint interview with her running mate Minnesota



Democratic presidential nominee Vice President Kamala Harris poses for photos at a campaign rally in Savannah on Thursday. AP/PTI

Governor Tim Walz. Last month, Biden, 81, dropped out of the presidential race, saying it was in "the best interest" of the Democratic Party and the country to withdraw from the

race. Biden had a disastrous presidential debate against former president Donald Trump, who is the Republican presidential candidate. Responding to a question

about Biden endorsing her as the Democratic Party's presidential candidate, Harris said, "He was very clear that he was gonna support me."

She added that her first thought at that moment was about Biden and not herself. Harris asserted that history will show several things about Biden's presidency. She said it would show how it was "transformative" about investing in America's infrastructure, new economics, new industries, and bringing its allies back together, among other things. "And I think history is going to show not only has Joe Biden led an administration that has achieved those extraordinary successes, but the character of the man is one that he has been in his life and career, including as a president, quite selfless and puts the American people first," she said.

Trump asks federal court to intervene in hush money case in bid to toss conviction

AP ■ NEW YORK

Donald Trump asked a federal court late Thursday to intervene in his New York hush money criminal case, seeking a pathway to overturn his felony conviction and indefinitely delay his sentencing scheduled for next month. Lawyers for the former president and current Republican nominee asked the federal court in Manhattan to seize the case from the state court where it was brought and tried, arguing that the historic prosecution violated Trump's constitutional rights and ran afoul of the US Supreme Court's recent ruling on presidential immunity.

Trump's lawyers said moving the case to federal court following his May 30 conviction will give him an "unbiased forum, free from

local hostilities" to address those issues. If the case is moved to federal court, Trump lawyers wrote, they will then seek to have the verdict overturned and the case dismissed. If it remains in state court, with sentencing proceeding as scheduled, it could amount to election interference, they said. "The ongoing proceedings will continue to cause direct and irreparable harm to President Trump — the leading candidate in the 2024 Presidential election — and voters located far beyond Manhattan," Trump lawyers Todd Blanche and Emil Bove wrote in a 64-page US District Court court filing. Trump was convicted in state court in Manhattan of 34 counts of falsifying business records related to a payment to buy affair allegations that threatened to cloud his 2016 presidential run. Even if the

case isn't moved to federal court, the potential delay caused by litigation surrounding Trump's effort could give him a critical reprieve as he navigates the aftermath of his criminal conviction and the homestretch of his presidential campaign.

Separately, the state court judge who presided over the trial, Juan M. Merchan, is weighing Trump's requests to postpone sentencing until after Election Day, Nov 5, and to overturn the verdict and dismiss the case in the wake of the Supreme Court's immunity decision. The high court's July 1 ruling reopens prosecutions of ex-presidents for official acts and restricts prosecutors in pointing to official acts as evidence that a president's unofficial actions were illegal. Trump's lawyers argue that in light of the ruling, jurors in the

hush money case should not have heard such evidence as former White House staffers describing how the then-president reacted to news coverage of the deal to pay hush money to porn actor Stormy Daniels.

Trump's lawyers had previously invoked presidential immunity in a failed bid last year to get the hush money case moved from state court to federal court. A federal judge rejected that request, clearing the way for Trump's historic trial in state court.

US District Judge Alvin Hellerstein rejected Trump's claim that allegations in the hush money indictment involved official duties, writing in July 2023, "The evidence overwhelmingly suggests that the matter was a purely a personal item of the president — a cover-up of an embarrassing event."

Taipei zoo's veteran giant panda celebrates her 20th birthday

AP ■ TAIPEI

With politics set aside, well-wishers gathered to wish the Taipei zoo's senior panda a happy 20th birthday. Visitors crowded around Yuanyuan's enclosure to take photos of her with a birthday cake in the shape of the number 20. Yuanyuan was born in China and arrived in 2008 with her partner Tuantuan. He died in 2022 at age 18 but not before fathering two female cubs, Yuanzai and Yuanbao, now 11 and 4 respectively and still living at the zoo.

Danielle Shu, a 20-year-old Brazilian student in Taiwan, said she found online clips of the pandas an enjoyable distraction. "And I just find it really funny and cute," Shu said. Giant pandas are native only



to China, and Beijing bestows them as a sign of political amity. Yuanyuan and Tuantuan arrived in Taiwan during a period of relative calm between the sides, which split amid civil war in 1949. China claims the island its own territory, to be annexed by military force if

necessary. Faced with declining habitat and a notoriously low birthrate, giant panda populations have declined to around 1,900 in the mountains of western China, while 600 pandas live in zoos and breeding centres in China and around the world.

MCA-Nepal signs contract for cross-border power transmission line to India

PTI ■ KATHMANDU

Nepal on Friday signed a USD 12.36 million contract for a critical 18 km cross-border electricity transmission line, a crucial part of the broader Electricity Transmission Project that will deepen energy cooperation with India. Signed under the Millennium Challenge Corporation (MCC) Nepal Compact, the 18 km transmission line project, with three sub-stations, will help Nepal achieve its domestic power goals and reinforce Nepal's position in the regional energy market, officials said.

"As MCA-Nepal marks the first anniversary of the Compact's Entry-Into-Force, this new milestone reflects the unwavering commitment from



all stakeholders to enhancing regional energy trade between Nepal and India," read a statement by the Millennium Challenge Account (MCA) Nepal. The Millennium Challenge Corporation (MCC) Nepal Compact is jointly funded by the government of Nepal and

the US government. The MCC was created by the US Congress in January 2004 with strong bipartisan support. The contract, amounting to USD 12.36 million, has been awarded to Transrail Lighting Ltd, entrusted to construct the transmission line from the 400 kV New Butwal Substation in

Nawalparasi Bardaghat Susta West to the Nepal-India border, the MCA-Nepal said. The contract was inked by Khadga Bahadur Bisht, executive director of MCA-Nepal, and Amol Wankhede, representative of Transrail Lighting Ltd at the signing ceremony witnessed by the officials from the Ministry of Finance, National Electricity Authority (NEA), MCC and MCA-Nepal. "Along with the signing of the three substation contracts worth USD 126 million, this 18 km transmission line project is set to play an important role in helping Nepal make strides in achieving its domestic power goals and reinforcing Nepal's position in the regional energy market," Dr Ram Prasad Chimire, Secretary, Ministry of Finance, said.

Indian-origin woman in UK admits to killing daughter

London (PTI): A 33-year-old Indian-origin woman on Friday admitted to the killing of her 10-year-old daughter, who was found dead at their home in a town in the West Midlands region of England earlier this year.

Jaskirat Kaur, also known as Jasmine Kang, had been charged with the murder of Shay Kang on March 4 when West Midlands Police said the girl had been found with injuries at an address in the town of Rowley Regis and pronounced dead at the scene. Kaur has now told Court in a short hearing via video link from her prison that she pleads guilty to her daughter's manslaughter on the basis of diminished responsibility.

B'desh yearns for new political force amidst uncertainty

PTI ■ DHAKA

After Bangladesh's recent political upheaval following Sheikh Hasina's ouster, the deeply polarised country is yearning for a new political force to emerge beyond the traditional Awami League and Bangladesh Nationalist Party binary that aims to create a discrimination-free and more inclusive society.

"We have seen the BNP, Awami League, and Jatiya Party come to power and fail us for decades. It is time for someone new to lead our country," says 60-year-old Ahmed, a rickshaw-puller in Dhaka, echoing a sentiment shared by many in present-day Bangladesh.

Under unprecedented anti-government protests that peaked on August 5, Hasina, 76, resigned as prime minister and fled to India.

The interim government led by 84-year-old Nobel laureate Mohammad Yunus aims to

reform Bangladesh's fractured institutions and restore public trust by ensuring a free and fair election, which, if successful, would mark a significant achievement in a nation with a history of electoral malpractice.

Yet, people are divided and yearning for a new political force, having experienced all the traditional parties.

While former prime minister Khalida Zia's BNP, long the main opposition party, is expected to participate, people have already tasted its governance in the early 1990s and 2000s, casting doubt on its ability to gain widespread public support.

The Jamaat-e-Islami, the largest Islamic party in the country, is also a contender after the ban on it was lifted this week, but it too was in power in the early 2000s alongside the BNP.

The Jatiya Party, which held power in the late 1980s, is

another player in the political arena and has gone through several splits in the last three decades.

Meanwhile, the Awami League, now a political pariah, with its leadership in hiding or exile, is uncertain whether it will be in a position to join the fray.

The possibility of new student parties emerging from the recent upheaval also looms large, potentially shifting the dynamics of the upcoming elections.

"We, too, had hit the streets by responding to the call by the students. The students and youth of the nation have given us new hope, and now they must not step back. They have already come up as a force to reckon with, and now they should come up with a full-fledged political party. The people of this country are fed up with mainstream political parties," said Masud Alam, a teacher.

Amid the growing speculation

about new political players, the role of the student movement remains a critical factor.

While many have suggested that the student-led Monsoon Revolution could lead to the formation of a new political outfit, student leaders have so far refuted such reports.

"We are not here to replicate the mistakes of the past; we want to hold those in power accountable, whoever they may be," Ayesha Siddiqui, a student activist, said.

However, with the political landscape in flux, some observers believe it's only a matter of time before the students channel their momentum into a more organised political form, potentially becoming a new force in Bangladesh's politics.

The recent student movement has left many veteran politicians wondering if a new era of political transformation in Bangladesh is on the horizon.

Golam Sarwar Milon, the first

president of the Bangladesh Jatiotabadi Chatra Dal—the student wing of the BNP—suggested that the successful movement could pave the way for a new generation of political leaders, potentially challenging the dominance of traditional parties like the BNP, Awami League, and Jatiya Party.

"This just may be the beginning of a new era of political transformation in Bangladesh, with students once again leading the way," Milon, who is presently co-chairman of the Jatiya Party (Raushan faction), told PTI. "The logical conclusion is that the students form a new political party. Although they have said they don't want to form any political party, you don't know what's in the future," he said.

Other political leaders seem to echo this sentiment. Senior BNP leader Amir Khasru Mahmud Chowdhury mentioned there is no issue if a new political outfit emerges, saying,

"That would only enhance the democratic system in the country. We are not like the Awami League, which doesn't believe in the democratic process. If the students want to join the political process, they are welcome to do it."

Bangladesh Jamaat-e-Islami supremo Shafiqur Rahman also stated that his party has no objections to the formation of new political entities, emphasising that everybody deserves free and fair elections.

"There have been no elections in Bangladesh since 2014. All the elections were fraudulent and did not reflect the people's mandate. We want people to participate in the elections and choose their own representatives democratically," he said. Echoing these sentiments, G M Quader, the chairman of the Jatiya Party, emphasised that student movements, untainted by narrow political agendas, have played a transformative role in shaping

Bangladesh's political landscape. "Students have a unique advantage because they are trusted by the people," he remarked.

"We have witnessed once again how ordinary citizens have rallied behind them, showing unwavering support and solidarity during the recent protests. Now if they want to form a political party and contest elections, they are free to do it," he said.

Kajal Debnath, a leader of the Hindu minority community and a praesidium member of the Bangladesh Hindu Buddhist Christian Unity Council, believes that there is significant potential for a new political force to emerge, and that "the students who spearheaded the anti-discrimination protests could indeed usher in a more inclusive and discrimination-free society in Bangladesh."

The student movements in Bangladesh have

always played a critical role in shaping the country's history, from the 1952 Language Movement to the Liberation War of 1971 and beyond.

However, the recent Monsoon Revolution is being hailed as something different—an unprecedented scale of mass mobilization that has the potential to change the course of Bangladesh's future.

Political analysts, however, feel that supporting students during mass movements and electing them as their representatives are not the same.

"It remains to be seen whether new coalitions, arising from the unorganised power of students and citizens, will lead to the formation of a new political party or a reformation of existing structures and bring about a change in the mindset of the mainstream political parties," Zillur Rehman, executive director of the Centre for Governance Studies, a think tank in Bangladesh, said.

Kremlin not worried about Putin visit to Mongolia

AP ■ MOSCOW

The Kremlin says it has "no worries" about President Vladimir Putin's upcoming visit to Mongolia, a country that is a member of the International Criminal Court, which last year issued a warrant for his arrest.

The visit, scheduled for September 3, will be Putin's first trip to an ICC member state since the warrant was issued in March 2023 over suspected war crimes in Ukraine.

Under the court's founding treaty, the Rome Statute, ICC members are bound to detain suspects for whom an arrest warrant has been issued by the court if they set foot on their soil. But the court doesn't have any enforcement mechanism.

In a famous case, then-Sudanese President Omar al-Bashir wasn't arrested in 2015 when he visited South Africa, which is a member of the court, sparking angry condemnation by rights activists and the country's main opposition party.

Putin spokesperson Dmitry Peskov, who previously stressed that Russia doesn't recognize the jurisdiction of the ICC, told reporters during his daily conference call Friday that the Kremlin has "no worries" about the upcoming trip: "We have a wonderful dialogue with our friends from Mongolia," he said.

According to a statement released by the Kremlin on Thursday, Putin will travel to Mongolia at the invitation of President Ukhnaa Khurelsukh "to participate in the ceremonial events dedicated to the 85th anniversary of the joint victory of the Soviet and Mongolian armed forces over the Japanese militarists on the Khalkhin Gol River".

Putin will also hold talks with Khurelsukh and other top



Mongolian officials, the statement said. The ICC has accused Putin of personal responsibility for the abductions of children from Ukraine, where Moscow has fought a devastating war for the last 2½ years.

It was the first time the global court has issued a warrant against a leader of one of the five permanent members of the UN Security Council. The ICC said in a statement that Putin "is allegedly responsible for the war crime of unlawful deportation of (children) and that of unlawful transfer of (children) from occupied areas of Ukraine to the Russian Federation".

The court also indicted Putin's children's rights envoy, Maria Lvova-Belova, on the same charges, and later issued arrest warrants for former Defence Minister Sergei Shoigu and chief of the general staff Gen. Valery Gerasimov on the charges of war crimes and the crime against humanity of inhumane acts.

Russia isn't a member of the court, doesn't recognise its jurisdiction and refuses to hand

over suspects. Officials have dismissed the warrants as "null and void".

Putin hasn't travelled to ICC member states since the arrest warrant was issued. He skipped a summit of the BRICS bloc of developing economies last year in South Africa.

South Africa lobbied Moscow for months for Putin not to attend to avoid the diplomatic fallout since the country is an ICC member, and ultimately announced the countries had reached a "mutual agreement" that Putin would not attend a meeting he's normally a fixture at. The Kremlin said Putin had decided not to attend in person. He instead took part in the summit in Johannesburg by video link, during which he launched a tirade against the West.

Last year, the Kremlin also bristled at old ally Armenia over its decision to join the ICC, adding to the growing tensions between the two countries. Armenian officials, however, quickly sought to assure Russia that Putin wouldn't be arrested if he entered the country.

Japan def ministry seeks record budget

AP ■ TOKYO

Japan's Defence Ministry on Friday sought a record 8.5 trillion yen (USD 59 billion) budget for the next year to fortify its deterrence on southwestern islands against China's increasing threat, while focusing on unmanned weapons and AI to make up for the declining number of servicemembers as a result of the country's shrinking population.

The ministry's request for 2025 marks the third year of Japan's rapid five-year military buildup plan under the government's ongoing security strategy. Japan aims to spend 43 trillion yen (USD 297 billion) through 2027 to double its annual military spending to around 10 trillion yen, making it the world's third-largest military spender after the United States and China.

The budget request was approved at the Defence Ministry meeting Friday ahead of a submission to the Finance Ministry for negotiations through December. Japan has been rapidly building up the defense of the southwestern region in recent years amid China's growing military threats and tension in the regional seas.

China has escalated clashes with the Philippine coast guards in disputed waters in the South China Sea and sent a fleet of coast guard boats to routinely violate territorial waters around Japanese-controlled disputed islands in the East China Sea that Beijing also claims.

A hefty 970 billion yen (USD 6.7 billion) of the budget request for 2025 covers the cost of bolstering strike-back capability with the development and purchases of long-range missiles and equipment for their launch, including from an Aegis-class destroyer. About one-third of it goes to a satellite constellation aimed at bolstering the capability to detect missile-related activity, as North Korea, China and Russia develop hypersonic missiles that are harder to detect and track.

While pushing military buildup, Japan must deal with a shrinking troop size and is focusing on developing and buying more drones for surveillance and combat, requesting 103 billion yen (USD 710 million). It also seeks 314 billion yen (USD 2.17 billion) to build three new multi-purpose compact destroyers that require 90

crewmembers, less than half the crew size currently needed.

Japanese defence officials say combat drones are "game changers" that can be on hours-long missions and lower human losses in combat and consider it a main pillar of Japan's ongoing military buildup. The unmanned weapons can also help a country struggling with its aging and shrinking population.

Japan has been struggling to fulfill SDF troop levels at 247,000 people.

The Self-Defence Force has faced difficulty attracting young applicants in recent years and fulfilled only half of its recruiting target of 19,598 last year, making it the lowest in the 70 years of SDF history.

Last year, 6,258 mid-career personnel left, the highest number in 30 years.

"Due to declining childbirths and working age population, it is inevitable that Japan will face a society of serious labour shortage," the ministry said in an interim report on human resources, also released Friday. "We need to build an organisation that can fight in new ways while strengthening defence

power." Shrinking younger population and private companies that offer better salaries and benefits make "the environment surrounding recruiting servicemembers the worst since the end of World War II," the ministry report said.

It requested 18 billion yen (USD 124 million) to introduce an AI surveillance system at 40 SDF bases across Japan, aiming to free up 1,000 service personnel. It is also asking 4.3 billion (USD 29.7 million) for automated supply storage for launch in 2027 in Okinawa.

In the interim report released Friday, the ministry called for reforms to improve salary, working environment, more training and learning opportunities, as well as support for working mothers to lure more women.

The ministry has been hit by a series of revelations of sexual assaults, harassment and abuse of power in recent years. Its internal investigation last year criticized cover-up attempts and a lack of sense of responsibility among supervisors.

It came under fire in July over the leak of classified information and corruption scandals.

Pak PM speaks to Yunus

Islamabad (PTI): Pakistan Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif on Friday spoke to Bangladesh's Chief Adviser Muhammad Yunus during which the two leaders agreed to work closely for the progress and prosperity of the people of both countries.

During the telephone conversation, they further agreed that "greater regional cooperation could play a vital role in uplifting the lives of the people of South Asia," according to an official statement here. Sharif's telephone call to Yunus marks the first high-level direct contact.

GURU NANAK DEV UNIVERSITY, AMRITSAR

TENDER NOTICE

Online tenders are invited from reputed manufacturers/authorized dealers for the Rate Contract for supply of Chemicals, Glassware and Plasticware etc. (upto Rs. 2,00,000/-) for the Period 2024-25. Earnest Money (Rs. 20,000/-) may be deposited online latest by 13/09/2024 (till 5:00 pm). Online Tender Form can be filled through link available on www.gndu.ac.in

Director of Research

NA/12/25078/2023/37148
Dated CHD :- 8/30/2024

Ukraine says US experts helping figure out why F-16 crashed in Russia war

AP ■ KYIV

US experts have joined a Ukrainian investigation into why an F-16 warplane that Ukraine received from its Western partners crashed earlier this week during a Russian bombardment, the country's air force commander said on Friday.

Commander Mykola Oleshchuk said on Telegram that "a detailed analysis is already being conducted" into why the fighter jet went down on Monday, when Russia launched a major missile and drone barrage at Ukraine.

"We must carefully understand what happened, what the circumstances are, and whose responsibility it is," Oleshchuk wrote in the post.

The crash was the first reported loss of an F-16 in Ukraine, where they arrived at the end of last month. At least six of the warplanes are believed to have been delivered by European countries.

Military analysts say the planes won't be a game-changer in the war, given Russia's massive air force and sophisticated air defence systems. But Ukrainian officials welcomed the supersonic jets, which can carry modern weapons used by



NATO countries, for bringing an opportunity to hit back at Russia's air superiority.

Russia's army is making slow but gradual progress in its drive into eastern Ukraine, while Ukraine's forces are holding ground in the Kursk border region of western Russia after a recent incursion.

Oleshchuk, the Ukrainian air force chief, directed scathing criticism at a lawmaker who is deputy head of the Ukraine parliament's defense committee for her claims that the F-16 was downed by a Patriot air defence system. Ukraine has received an unspecified number of the US-made systems.

Mariana Bezuhla cited unnamed sources for her claim and demanded punishment

for those responsible for the error. Oleshchuk accused Bezuhla of defaming the air force and discrediting US arms manufacturers, adding that he hoped she would face legal consequences for her claims.

The air force didn't directly deny that the F-16 was hit by a Patriot missile. The Institute for the Study of War said it was to be expected that Ukraine would lose some Western-provided military equipment in the fighting. But the Washington-based think tank added that "any loss among Ukraine's already limited allotment of Western-provided F-16s and trained pilots will have an outsized impact on Ukraine's ability to operate F-16s in the near term as part of its combined air defense umbrella or in an air-to-ground support role."

Overnight, Russia fired 18 Shahed drones and one ballistic missile at Ukraine, the air force said. It said 12 drones were destroyed, with four more going down before reaching their target. The attack killed one woman and started a fire in Sumy, the capital of the region of the same name that borders Russia's Kursk region, the regional administration said.

Colombo Security Conclave signs Charter and MoU for Secretariat



National Security Advisor Ajit Doval (file pic) and the representatives of the Maldives, Mauritius and Sri Lanka signed the Charter and an MoU for the establishment of the Colombo Security Conclave Secretariat

PTI ■ COLOMBO

National Security Advisor Ajit Doval and the representatives of the Maldives, Mauritius and Sri Lanka on Friday signed the Charter and an MoU for the establishment of the Colombo Security Conclave Secretariat here to promote regional security by addressing transnational threats and challenges of common concern to the member states. The Colombo Colombo Security Conclave (CSC) brings together National Security Advisors (NSA) and Deputy NSAs from India, Sri Lanka, Maldives and Mauritius. It deals with maritime security, counter-terrorism and cyber security with India bringing to the fore its own strategic concerns in the Indian Ocean and promotes regional security by addressing transnational threats and challenges of common concern to the Member States. "NSA Ajit Doval KC joined reps from Maldives, Mauritius & Sri Lanka in signing the Charter & MoU for the establishment of Colombo Security Conclave (CSC) Secretariat today. A key platform to enhance regional security cooperation, the signing marks a milestone in the CSC roadmap," the Indian High Commission here said in a post on X along with photos from

the signing ceremony.

A Colombo Security Conclave joint press release said the Member States of the Colombo Security Conclave (CSC) "signed the Charter and the MoU for the Establishment of the CSC Secretariat on 30 August 2024."

The Signing Ceremony was hosted in Colombo by the Government of Sri Lanka, it said. Doval; Ibrahim Lt Col (Retd) Latheef, DC, NSA of Maldives; Haymandoyal Dillum, High Commissioner of the Republic of Mauritius to Sri Lanka, and Sagala Ratnayake, National Security Advisor to the President of Sri Lanka, signed the documents on behalf of the respective Member States.

The event concluded with a discussion among heads of delegation on the next steps and the future activities of the Conclave. There are five pillars of cooperation under the CSC namely Maritime Safety and Security; Countering Terrorism and Radicalisation; Combating Trafficking and Transnational Organised Crime; Cyber Security and Protection of Critical Infrastructure and Technology; and Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief, the joint press release said. Bangladesh and the Seychelles have observer status at the Conclave.

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Notice Inviting Tender www.verka.coop

e-Tenders are hereby invited for the purchase and supply of following items:-

Sr. No.	Name of Work/Item	Period/Tentative Qty
1.	For Verka Head office, Chandigarh Hiring of milk powder plant having conversion capacity in the range of 2.00 to 4.00 LPPD for conversion of liquid milk into extra grade SMP and WMP for Verka Dairies.	Annual
2.	For Verka Mohali Dairy Hiring of Agency for packaging of Dahi pouch/ Cups/Matkas, Lassi pouches, Kheer cups, Ghee, Paneer and Yoghurt, Packaging and recombination of White Butter and Reconstitution of SMP.	As per day to day requirement of Market
3.	For Verka Bathinda Dairy Hiring of insulated vehicles for supply of packed milk and fresh milk products in Bathinda Milkshed area.	One year with extension upto one year
4.	For Verka Sangrur Dairy a) Refrigeration Machinery Scrap. b) MS Scrap c) Ammonia Compressor 7x7. d) Ammonia Compressor 9x9. e) Copper Wire Scrap f) Outsourcing activities i.e. packing of products, loading/unloading etc.	25 Ton 05 Ton 01 Ton 01 Ton 300 kg Annual
5.	For Verka Ludhiana Dairy Hiring of:- i. Toyota Innova Crysta without driver for minimum running of 2000 kms per month on lump sum basis. ii. Deep Freezer (cold store) for storing White Butter Approx 2000 MT including storage, loading/ unloading at cold store and transportation charges(to and fro)of White Butter per M.T per month. iii. Road Milk Tankers for transportation of milk all over Punjab,Chandigarh, U.P Delhi & Haryana. iv. Insulated Road Milk tankers for Transportation of milk from BMC/Mcc etc. v. Vehicles (Tempo) for Cattle feed/ Milk products / Technical services. vi. Vehicles (Tempo) for transportation of Milk through cans. vii. Passenger Car (Swift Dzire, Toyota Etios or Equivalent) and Jeep Camper Type.	01 complete job Annual 04 No's 45 No's 07 No's 40 No's Cars 18 No's & Camper 01 No's
6.	For Verka Gurdaspur Dairy a) Operation repair & maintenance of pouch packing machines (milk, lassi and Dahi), online coding machines photocell sensors and crate washers. b) Hiring of:- i. Insulated Vehicle for city supply. ii. Car (Dzire or Its equivalent). iii. Diesel Car (5 seater Bolero camper or its equivalent). iv. Milk powder plant having conversion LPD for conversion of liquid milk into standard grade SMP for Verka Gurdaspur Dairy c) Advertisement Material backlit glow Sign Board, double sided glow sign board, non lit flex board, flex change, flex banner, wall painting/shop painting, vehicle painting, umbrella, A-Type standing flex board and vinyl stickers. d) Allotment of Milk booth (Civil Hospital Pathankot, Civil Hospital Batala, Civil Hospital Gurdaspur, Kotli Surat Mahli and Sardar Beant Singh State University).	30000 ltr to 50000 ltr per day 02 years 01 No. 01 No. 50000 ltr to 100000 ltr per day 01 year 02 years
7.	For Verka Jalandhar Dairy a) Lifting/Sale of paneer whey from Verka Jalandhar Dairy. b) Hiring of vehicles for transportation of Panjiri to C.D.P.O.'s of Punjab and other milk products to Punjab and other states. c) Advertisement Material flex board, flex banner, star flex banner, vinyl board, glow sign board, gum sheets stickers, pamphlets, danglers, sun board, wall painting, vehicle painting, standies, canopies.	Annual Annual Annual
8.	For Verka Amritsar Dairy a) Hiring of :- i. Powder plant for conversion of skimmed milk into SMP. ii. Deep Freezer (cold store) for storage of white Butter at -18°C or below. iii. Godown for storage of Skimmed Milk Powder.	09 Months 01 No. 01 No.
9.	For Verka Hoshiarpur Dairy Allotment of Milk booth:- i. Municipal Corporation office,Hoshiarpur. ii. Udarn Singh Park, Hoshiarpur.	03 years 03 years
10.	For Verka CFP, Bhattian (Khanna) Hiring of Five-Seater AC car model less than 7 year old.	02 No's
11.	For Verka Mega Dairy, Bassi Pathana Hiring of 5-Seater Bolero camper (AC) - 01 no's & Passenger Vehicle Bolero/ swift Dzire/ Etios (Platinum) or equivalent (AC)-2 no's along with drivers.	03 No's

NOTE:
1. For complete details regarding above tender (NIT), please visit our website i.e. www.verka.coop & e Tendering portal i.e. eproc.punjab.gov.in.
2. Corrigendum, if any, will be uploaded on website only.

NA/12/25103/2023/37175 Dated CHD :- 8/30/2024

Dy. General Manager (Purchase)

Sensex, Nifty hit all-time high during early trade

PTI ■ MUMBAI
Equity benchmark indices Sensex and Nifty hit their new all-time high levels during early trade on Friday, amid the ongoing bullish rally in domestic stocks, tracking firm trends in Asian markets and fresh foreign fund inflows.

The 30-share BSE Sensex jumped 502.42 points to hit a fresh all-time high of 82,637.03 in early trade. The NSE Nifty surged 105.7 points to hit a new record peak of 25,257.65.

Among the 30 Sensex firms, Bajaj Finserv, HDFC Bank, Titan, Bajaj Finance, NTPC, Power Grid, Asian Paints and HCL Technologies were the biggest gainers. Tata Motors and Sun Pharma were the laggards. In Asian markets, Seoul, Tokyo, Shanghai and Hong Kong were trading with gains. The US markets ended on a mixed note on Thursday. Foreign Institutional Investors (FIIs) bought equities worth Rs 3,259.56 crore on Thursday, according



to exchange data. Domestic Institutional Investors also bought equities worth Rs 2,690.85 crore.

"Continuation of accumulation of quality largecaps by the DIIs (Domestic Institutional Investors) and HNIs and the FIIs reducing their selling significantly and buying on certain days have contributed to the resilience of the market," said V K Vijayakumar, Chief Investment Strategist, Geojit Financial Services.

Global oil benchmark Brent crude climbed 0.23 per cent to USD 80.12 a barrel. Prashanth Tapse, Senior VP (Research), Mehta Equities Ltd, said, key catalysts for markets rally include substantial FII buying, positive global cues, and upbeat US GDP data.

The BSE benchmark jumped 349.05 points or 0.43 per cent to settle at an all-time closing high of 82,134.61 on Thursday, extending its winning momentum to the eighth day in a row. Rallying for the 11th straight session, the Nifty surged 99.60 points or 0.40 per cent to settle at a new closing high of 25,151.95.

Mahindra Group, Sentries sign MoU to explore development of anti-drone solutions

PTI ■ NEW DELHI
Mahindra Group and Israel's Sentries Ltd on Friday said they have signed a non-binding Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to explore opportunities for developing and providing 'differentiated anti-drone solutions' in India.

The solutions will cover civilian and military applications, the two companies said in a joint statement. The MoU relates to the 'anti-drone systems' technology space and will focus on the Transfer of Technology (TOT) and manufacturing of radio frequency-based counter-drone solutions under the government of India's 'Make in India' initiative, it added.

The 'differentiated anti-drone solution' is an autonomous and integrated system with a command and control (C2) module, and enables detection, tracking, identification and mitigation of incoming drones. "We believe that this MoU with Sentries would enable the group to explore opportunities in the anti-drone space and set the stage for cutting-edge technological offerings with global partners for a full suite of anti-drone



solutions across applications in the future," said Vinod Sahay, Mahindra President, Aerospace & Defence Sector and Member of Group Executive Board.

Sentries CEO Yoav Zaltzman said the strategic partnership with Mahindra would provide a cutting-edge multi-layer CUAS (Counter Unmanned Aircraft System) solution, made in India, that can be used to protect military bases, military forces and borders against the threat of friendly and hostile drones. "India is a very important market for us and I am confident that together with industry leaders like Mahindra we will create the best CUAS solution for India," he added.

The differentiated anti-drone solution can monitor drone flight paths, and identify their specific models, unique serial numbers, and their IDs. This capability allows for precise differentiation between friendly and hostile drones. In cases where a drone is classified as a threat, the system can autonomously take control and ensure it lands safely in a predefined zone resulting in no collateral damage. The system can be deployed for protection of critical infrastructure in urban areas or as an integral part of a broader multi-layered 'anti-drone solutions' for military applications, it added.

Rupee rises seven paise against US dollar

PTI ■ MUMBAI
Rupee appreciated 7 paise to 83.82 against the US dollar in morning trade on Friday, supported by significant foreign fund inflows and a positive trend in domestic equities.

Forex traders said a rise in global risk sentiments supported the rupee, while recovery in the US dollar and month-end dollar demand from importers and oil marketing companies (OMCs) weighed on investor sentiments.

At the interbank foreign exchange market, the local unit opened at 83.83, then gained ground to touch 83.82, registering a rise of 7 paise from its previous close.

On Thursday, the rupee appreciated 8 paise to close at 83.89 against the American currency.

According to forex traders, MSCI rebalancing flows could take the rupee higher.

"Some appreciation in the rupee appears likely, with anticipated MSCI inflows of around USD 3 billion. The rupee is likely to trade within a range of 83.75 to 83.90,



while in the medium-term, a range of 83.60 to 84.05 is anticipated, with a bias towards the upside," CR Forex Advisors MD-Amit Pabari said.

Meanwhile, the dollar index, which gauges the greenback's strength against a basket of six currencies, was up 0.03 per cent to 101.37 points.

Brent crude, the international benchmark, gained 0.29 per cent to USD 80.17 per barrel in futures trade.

In the domestic equity market, the 30-share BSE Sensex advanced 227.63 points, or 0.28 per cent, to 82,362.24 points, while the Nifty was up 65.70 points, or 0.26 per cent, to 25,217.65 points.

Foreign Institutional Investors (FIIs) were net buyers in the capital markets on Thursday, as they purchased shares worth Rs 3,259.56 crore, according to exchange data.

Meanwhile, Moody's Ratings on Thursday raised India's GDP growth forecast for 2024 and 2025 calendar year to 7.2 per cent and 6.6 per cent, respectively, on strong broad-based growth.

CAG signs MoU with General Court of Audit, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia

PTI ■ NEW DELHI
The Comptroller and Auditor General of India (CAG) has signed a pact with the General Court of Audit, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia to strengthen cooperation and exchange of expertise between the two nations in the field of public sector auditing.

The area of cooperation encompasses conducting joint training programmes on topics related to financial, performance and compliance audits and exchange of audit manuals and audit methodologies, the CAG said.

The Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was signed on Thursday in Riyadh.

"Our commitment to a strong bilateral relationship is a witness to the shared values and objectives of our institutions and will serve to reinforce bonds between our SAIs and our nations," CAG Gish Chandra Murmu said.

The CAG stated that the support and cooperation between the two SAIs will energise their capacity development initiatives and encourage exchange of knowledge and information between the two Supreme Audit Institutions (SAIs).

Hussam Abdulmohsen Alangari, President, General Court of Audit, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, highlighted the importance of the agreement in enhancing the cooperation in areas of competence of two SAIs to enhance and improve their respective external audit practices.



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SpiceJet shares slump as DGCA places carrier under enhanced surveillance

PTI ■ NEW DELHI
Shares of SpiceJet on Friday morning tumbled over 6 per cent after aviation watchdog DGCA decided to place the crisis-hit firm under enhanced surveillance.

The stock tanked 6.38 per cent to Rs 62 on the BSE after a weak beginning.

DGCA on Thursday decided to place SpiceJet under enhanced surveillance that will entail increased spot checks and night surveillance to ensure safety of the airline's operations.

Based on reports of cancellation of flights and financial stress being experienced by SpiceJet, DGCA said it conducted a special audit of the airline's engineering facilities on August 7 and 8 and certain deficiencies were found during the audit.

"In light of the past record and the special audit carried out in August 2024, SpiceJet has once again been placed under enhanced surveillance with immediate effect." This would entail an increase in the number of spot checks/night surveillance with a view to ensure safety of operations," the Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) said in a release on Thursday.

In 2023 also, the regulator had placed SpiceJet under enhanced surveillance. The no-frills carrier has been grappling with multiple headwinds, including financial and legal woes, and is also in the process of raising funds.



INBRIEF

- NBCC SELLS COMMERCIAL SPACE WORTH ₹14,800 CRORE APPROX**
NEW DELHI: NBCC (India) Limited announces the remarkable achievement of selling 100% of the office space inventory at World Trade Center (WTC) Nauroji Nagar, New Delhi and 100% retail and commercial space at DOWNTOWN SAROJINI NAGAR, New Delhi.
- RECPDCL HANDS OVER BHADLA-III**
NEW DELHI: REC Power Development and Consultancy Limited (RECPDCL), handed over a project specific SPV (Special Purpose Vehicle), viz. Bhadla-III Power Transmission Limited to M/s Power Grid Corporation of India Limited (PGCIL) on 28th August 2024 at Gurugram.
- 7TH INTERNATIONAL HEALTH AND WELLNESS EXPO**
NEW DELHI: Union Minister of AYUSH Pratap Rao Jadhav inaugurates the Three-Day 7th International Health and Wellness Expo at Pragati Maidan in Delhi.
- DR. PONGURU NARAYANA ON HIS APPOINTMENT AS MINISTER**
ANDHRA PRADESH: Dr. G. Viswanathan - Hon'ble Chancellor along with Shri Sankar Viswanathan - Vice president VIT University have called Dr. Ponguru Narayana on his appointment as Minister of Municipal Administration and Urban Development - Government of Andhra Pradesh.
- GURU NANAK DEV UNIVERSITY ORGANISED EXPERT TALK**
AMRITSAR: Department of Education of Guru Nanak Dev University organized an expert talk to explore the universe and to develop the scientific temper and attitude among the teacher educators of the department under the guidance of Prof (Dr) Jaspal Singh Sandhu, Vice Chancellor of Guru Nanak Dev University.
- 1ST INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM ON ADVANCED MATERIALS**
AMRAVATI: The inauguration of first edition of International Symposium on Current Trends in Advanced Materials (CTAM-24) was held at VIT-AP Campus. The 6-day symposium is being organized in association with American Chemical Society.



Vistara to operate its last flight under brand name on Nov 11

PTI ■ NEW DELHI/ MUMBAI
Air India was announced in November 2022 and post-completion of the deal, Singapore Airlines will have a 25.1 per cent stake in Air India.

Vistara CEO Vinod Kannan said the merger is about offering passengers more choice with a larger fleet and a wider network while elevating the overall travel experience.

"Cross-functional teams from Air India and Vistara have been working together for many months to make the transition of aircraft, flying crew, ground-based colleagues and, most importantly, our valued customers, into the new Air India as seamless as possible," Air India CEO and MD Campbell Wilson said.

In a separate release, Air India welcomed the Union Cabinet's approval for the foreign direct investment by Singapore Airlines in the airline. "This is an important milestone that facilitates the merger process between Vistara and Air India, and the broader transformation of the Air India Group," it said.

Vistara will operate the last flight under its brand on November 11 and the full-service carrier's operations will be unified with Air India from November 12.

The government has given its nod for the foreign direct investment by Singapore Airlines as part of the Air India-Vistara merger.

Vistara is a joint venture between Tata Group and Singapore Airlines.

Air India is owned by Tata Group.

"Starting 03 September 2024, customers will, progressively, no longer be able to make bookings with Vistara for travel on or after 12 November 2024," Vistara said in a release on Friday.

Thereafter, Vistara aircraft will be operated by Air India and bookings for the routes operated by these planes will be redirected to Air India's website.

"Vistara will continue to take bookings and operate flights as usual till 11 November 2024," the release said.

The merger of Vistara with

SEBI amends rules to regulate unregistered financial influencers

PTI ■ NEW DELHI
Markets watchdog Sebi has amended norms in a bid to regulate unregistered financial influencers or influencers amid growing concerns about potential risk associated with such unregistered persons.

In three separate notifications, the regulator has restricted associations between its regulated entities and unregistered individuals.

This came after the board of Sebi approved a proposal in this regard last month.

As per the notifications, the persons regulated by Sebi and the agents of such persons will not have any association like any transaction involving money, referral of a client, interaction of information technology systems with any other person who, directly or indirectly, provides advice, recommendation or makes explicit claim of return.

"No person regulated by the Board (Sebi) or the agent of such a person shall have any direct or indirect association, with another person who provides advice or any recommendation, directly or indirectly, in respect of or related to a security or securities, unless the person is registered with or otherwise permitted by the Board to provide such advice or recommendation; or makes any claim, of returns or performance expressly or impliedly, in respect of or related to a security or securities, unless the person has been permitted by the Board to make such a claim,"



the regulator said.

By requiring influencers to register with Sebi and adhere to specific guidelines, the regulator is setting a standard for accountability and expertise in the sector, market experts said.

The move would ensure that mutual fund houses, research analysts, registered investment advisors and stock brokers do not partner with influencers.

On the other hand, a small window has been provided for investor education from such partnership.

This is subject to a condition that these influencers do not provide any recommendation or claim any return or performance.

This came amid growing concern over the potential risks associated with unregulated influencers who might offer biased or misleading advice.

They usually work on a commission-based model.

Influencers have significantly impacted their followers' financial decisions in the last few years and thus Sebi's regulatory framework can make them accountable and responsible for the advice they provide.

To give this effect, Sebi has amended norms governing depository participants, intermediaries and Securities Contracts.

Centre fixes kharif rice acquisition target at 485 lakh tonnes for 2024-25

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ NEW DELHI
The Centre has fixed kharif rice procurement target at 485 lakh tonnes for the 2024-25 marketing year starting October and asked states to focus on increasing purchases of coarse cereals. In the current 2023-24 marketing year (October-September), the government procured 463 lakh tonnes of kharif rice.

Paddy is grown in both kharif and rabi seasons. State-owned Food Corporation of India (FCI) is the government's nodal agency for procurement and distribution of foodgrains. Union Food Secretary on Friday chaired a meeting with State Food Secretaries and FCI to "discuss arrangements for procurement of crops in ensuing Kharif Marketing Season (KMS) 2024-25", an official statement said.

Various factors impacting procurement such as weather forecast, production estimates, and readiness of states for procurement operations were reviewed during the meeting. "After deliberations, the estimates for paddy procurement (Kharif crop) during ensuing KMS 2024-25 have been fixed at 485 lakh tonnes in terms of rice compared to procurement of 463 lakh tonnes (Kharif crop) during KMS 2023-24," the statement said.

The meeting was attended by Principal Secretary/Secretary (Food) of states/Union Territories as well as officers from FCI, IMD and Department of Agriculture.



MAGICAL SPELL OF AN UTTARAKHANDI RASOIYA

We metropolitan dwellers are forever starved of authentic regional cuisines across India's traditionally rich and diverse home kitchens. **SHOBORI GANGULI** had the fortune of feasting on one such regal platter wafting from the heart of Uttarakhand in Delhi



Tamra, at Shangri La Eros, New Delhi, had a monsoon delight on offer this month with a pop-up of some truly earthy, hearty and soulful Uttarakhandi cuisine handcrafted by the extremely gifted Dehradun based Chef Yojana Khanduri Chaudhary. Those familiar with the flora and fauna of this northern Himalayan region would clearly know of the robust aromas of a pahadi kitchen and some of its most mouth-watering dishes to be savoured on a rain-drenched August afternoon. Here, I will pause to underline that Chef Pin is God's gift to those who worship and crave for, authentic Indian regional cuisines, far away from the butter chicken and paneer tikka fare that parades under the "Indian cuisine" banner in restaurants across metropolises. A unique and innovative platform across Delhi NCR, Bengaluru, and Mumbai, Chef Pin is an app which offers diners local, authentic and home-cooked meals from hundreds of talented home chefs. Apart from opening up these secret kitchens to urban diners at their homes, the pop-ups organised by Chef Pin at leading hotels allow these chefs to showcase their unique culinary flair to a much larger audience. So this month it was Chef Yojana, a textile designer by training, her passion for food having taken her on a parallel route of creativity: Cooking. Her dedication to cooking, imprinted with her signature flourish on time-held traditional recipes of the Himalayan landscape, gave us a truly delectable meal. This infectious bubbly Chef has made a commendable effort to act as a bridge to bring the raw, earthy robust spices, herbs, vegetables and seeds sourced from the



heart of Uttarakhand to the uninitiated urban metro dweller. I was indeed fortunate to savour the innovative fusion of aromatic spices, fresh ingredients and traditional cooking techniques masterfully curated by Chef Yojana. Her passion for authenticity and originality, deeply inspired by her Himalayan roots, to cater to the urban palate is nothing short of a marvel.



This young Chef put out quite a royal feast, her signature creations infusing each preparation with the warmth of a pahadi rasoilya. She was kind enough to detail all the ingredients she had sourced from her home town to give the Delhi diner some authentic flavours, like Jakhiya, Bhang beej, Bhang jeera, Phara, Jhangora (millet), Mandua (Ragi millet), Lal Bhaat, (red rice), Chemi (pahadi rajma) and gehet (horsegram). Chef Yojana is



passionate about roasting and hand grinding her masalas on a sil batta (stone mortar and pestle). Rare to see such enthusiasm for tradition in today's generation of professionals. With everything in place, I set out on a heart-warming culinary journey through Patudi, a mini Dal Cheela, the absolutely irresistible and aromatic Bhaang Sookha Chicken. With Lal Bhaat as a companion, Chef Yojana walked me through with chicken cooked in arbi leaves (colocassia). Her Shikar Mutton was the show stopper of the whole spread with its smoky flavours lifting the rich gravy to an unbeatable level. There was palak hari bhujji (Spinach) and Urad ki Kichdi. All accompanied by side dishes like Bhang ki Chutney, Kheere ka Raithu, Naal Badi ka Saag and Mooli Thechwa. Chef Yojana concluded the fare with her signature take on traditional Uttarakhandi sweets like Jhangore Ki Kheer and Mandve Ka Halwa, descending straight from the serene landscapes of the Himalayas into the heart of Delhi. Hope these roving chefs continue to visit us with their art and craft of cooking!

Sushi Samurais, Dim Sum Warriors

China Bistro in Delhi recently observed its first anniversary with the launch of Chopstick Chronicles. **SHOBORI GANGULI** participated in this celebration of Asia's ancient culinary heritage set against the backdrop of a contemporary Bistro

Tucked away in a quieter corner of the bustling Select City Walk mall in Delhi, China Bistro with its calming ivory hued décor and Pan Asian culinary spread is the perfect place for a relaxed and quiet lunch or dinner with friends and family. Since its inception in 2012 in Mumbai, it now has outlets across India and the UAE. In the NCR, Delhi is the Bistro's first chapter, August 21 marking its first anniversary. To commemorate the event, China Bistro launched Chopstick Chronicles, a festival of sushi and dumplings, crafted and curated by Chef Lee Khan as he unveiled Asia's centuries-old imperial culinary treasure trove for its patrons. Each bite proved to be a passport to divine dining, transporting one to a world of traditional Asian cuisine artistically painted on a rich canvas of culture and tradition. As pointed out by Rajib Mazumder, Corporate Chef at Foodlink F&B Holdings India Pvt Ltd, "Chopstick Chronicles goes beyond the plate, exploring the cultural significance of chopsticks and the dynamic duos of Asia's sushi and dim



sum." Indeed, the sushi rolls were a work of art and the dim sum folds displayed brilliant craftsmanship. Drawing inspiration from global gastronomic innovations, the spread brought Japan, Tibet and China to the table. The result: Simply awesome.



One started out with the Lasha Luxury Dumpling, a Tibetan masterpiece which had juicy, aromatic chicken dumplings wrapped in lotus flour dough. Legend has it that these dumplings had to be bathed in a rich, piping hot chicken broth served right at the table. The experience was as magical as the dish itself. This was followed by the Dynamite Prawn Maki, a creation of Chef Chiro



from Vancouver, crispy prawn tempura, crunchy nori, and sweet sushi rice. The freshness and texture of the prawns really stood out. Next on offer was the Wasabi Firecracker Prawns - crispy tempura coated prawns tossed in a spicy wasabi sauce, inspired by Chef Jack's offering at his seafood restaurant from his coastal hometown. Sitting in the heart of Delhi, savouring this delicacy was pure pleasure.

I was then thrown open to the Dim Sum Dare. This dish had four juicy chicken dim sums wrapped in carrot lotus flour and served with chicken broth. The dare was that these had to be consumed with four deadly chili dips, Sesame Sauce, Roasted Pepper Sauce, Sichuan Pepper Sauce, Bhut Jolokia Sauce. I guess my Bengali genes helped me simply cruise through this spice challenge. I also tried Chef Takashi's exquisite and signature Enoki Truffle Crunch, crispy tempura Enoki mushrooms wrapped in creamy truffle mayo in a delectable sushi roll. They say, one evening in a tranquil forest, Chef Takashi discovered a hidden truffle patch. He then used his discovery to create a creamy truffle mayo teaming it with crispy Enoki mushrooms to create a revolutionary sushi roll. This modern innovation of a traditional Japanese cuisine went on to become a legend. Of course, I washed all this down with a chilled glass of Kogarashi, a combination of ginger and lime and some cool crispy cucumber flavour. A splash of non-alcoholic ginger beer gave the beverage a fizzy, spicy finish. China Bistro is highly recommended if you crave for authentic Pan Asian cuisine.

ABHINAV BINDRA SAYS TRAINING INDIAN ATHLETES ON MENTAL HEALTH ISSUES A 'WORK IN PROGRESS'

PTI ■ MUMBAI
Olympic gold medallist Abhinav Bindra on Friday acknowledged training Indian athletes across sports on the aspect of mental health remains a "work in progress", while adding that benefits of the same must reach grassroots level. Bindra said mental health directly influences overall well-being of an athlete and sports administrators also share equal responsibility in it. "It's an area where there is work in progress — we all acknowledge that. We are a sporting ecosystem which is developing. It is slowly maturing," he said during a virtual interaction organised by Mpower to launch AMP: A Sports Psychology Division to Elevate Athlete Performance. "This is an aspect that not just from a shooting athlete's point of view, but across the board, which needs to be prioritised. It is something which has a direct influence on the performance of the athlete. "It has a direct influence on the well-being of an athlete. Sports organisations and everybody involved in governance has to also ensure that our athletes perform well, but their well-being is of equal importance," he added.



Bindra highlighted the presence of a mental health expert with the Indian contingent in Paris Olympics as a step in the right direction. "We've seen progress made even during the Olympics in Paris. It was the first time there was a mental health expert who was with the team. There (also) was somebody for sleep," he said. "There are things that are happening. But we need to keep working with intensity to make sure that this perpetuates down to the grassroots level," he added. Bindra rejected the notion that athletes today are "softer" than those in the past. "I completely disagree. If that is the notion to be believed, then the softer ones are winning more than the tougher ones because that's what our results and our history tell us," he said. Bindra revealed how a meditation course, while planning to quit shooting, helped him find "love for the process" after winning the Olympic gold in 2008. "When I did win that gold medal at the Olympics, my energy was completely drained in the sense that I was physically, emotionally (and) mentally drained. It also required a period of time to just let go and then to recharge my batteries and that wasn't easy," he said. "I decided to go on a vipassana meditation course and it was interesting because I was wanting to actually leave the sport and move on to the next calling. That was my primary drive, to find my new calling. "I had to meditate for eight nine hours a day in complete silence for 10 days and all I did in that course was to think back to my sport and think back to how I loved the process of what I was doing," he said. Bindra said he was guilty of not realising his full potential since he judged himself on outcomes of tournaments. "For far too long, perhaps, I too was guilty in putting myself worth to wear my name, equating myself worth to where my name would appear on the ranking list of a sports competition and that was very silly," he said. "I became an Olympic champion, (a) world champion, I won many many championships but I failed in achieving my fullest and truest potential and now that I have a chance to look back I would attribute that failure to this lack of balance that I had in my life as an athlete. "I did not humanise my effort enough and I think that was while it helped me achieve goals it didn't help me get to my very best ability," he added.



Tricity's Dancing Divas- Rockstar Twins, Tanya & Tanisha Shine at Global stage
Chandigarh: Tanya and Tanisha, the 14-year-old twins who have made a mark as 'dancing prodigies', have once again brought pride to their country with a series of impressive wins on the international dance stage. The twins represented India in a series of European competitions. Tanya & Tanisha interacted with the media to share details of their achievements. Along with them were their parents, mother - Anamika Kashyap and father Vinod Kumar. The twins' dance mentors Sameer Mahajan, Founder-Owner & Dance Director, Rockstar Academy and Sakshi Rauthan, MD & Choreographer, Rockstar Academy, also accompanied their pupils at the press meet. Harpreet Dubey who teaches the girls Classical dance was also present. The girls have been training since they were just 4 years old at Rockstar Academy.



Sh. Akhileshwar Singh, Director (Finance), SJVN honored with CFO Leadership Award 2024
Shimla: Sh Akhileshwar Singh, Director (Finance & Personnel) SJVN Ltd, has been conferred with prestigious CFO Leadership Award 2024, by Top Rankers Management Club, during its 24th National Management Summit, held at New Delhi. The theme of the summit was "Transform to thrive: Shape the future of work in a world of constant disruptions." The award was given to Sh. Akhileshwar Singh for his outstanding contribution for promoting the business of SJVN. Under the leadership of Sh. AK Singh, Director (Finance) the Renewal Energy business of the company has grown many folds. Sh. Singh introduced The Innovative Financials Management like construction line of credit at competitive rate from domestic and international financial institutions, which led to competitiveness in Renewable Business and as on date the Solar and Wind portfolio of SJVN stands at 7.3 GW.

Ronaldo included in Portugal's first squad after scoreless Euro 2024

AP ■ LISBON (PORTUGAL)
Portugal coach Roberto Martinez has included Cristiano Ronaldo in his squad list for the first two Nations League matches following the veteran forward's disappointing European Championship. Martinez announced the squad on Friday for its home games against Croatia on Sept. 5 and Scotland on Sept. 8. The 39-year-old Ronaldo holds the record of 130 goals for international men's soccer. But he went scoreless in all five of Portugal's games at Euro 2024 before it was eliminated in a penalty shootout by France in the quarterfinals. Martinez said after Euro 2024 his team is starting "a new cycle for the 2026 World Cup." Ronaldo would be 41 by the time that tournament in North America kicks off. Martinez restored Ronaldo to his place in the starting lineup after predecessor Fernando Santos had stunned his team, and nation, by benching him midway through the 2022 World Cup, where he scored in an opening win over Ghana but then went scoreless over the next four games including a quarterfinal upset loss to Morocco.



PORTUGAL:
Goalkeepers: Diogo Costa (FC Porto), José Sá (Wolverhampton), Rui Silva (Real Betis). **Defenders:** Rúben Dias (Manchester City), António Silva (Benfica), Renato Veiga (Chelsea), Gonçalo Inácio (Sporting), Tiago Santos (Lille), Diogo Dalot (Manchester United), Nuno Mendes (Paris Saint-Germain), Nélon Semedo (Wolverhampton). **Midfielders:** João Palhinha (Bayern Munich), João Neves (Paris Saint-Germain), Vitinha (Paris Saint-Germain), Bruno Fernandes (Manchester United), Bernardo Silva (Manchester City), Rúben Neves (Al-Hilal), João Félix (Chelsea), Francisco Trincão (Sporting), Pedro Gonçalves (Sporting). **Forwards:** Rafael Leão (AC Milan), Geovany Quenda (Sporting), Pedro Neto (Chelsea), Cristiano Ronaldo (Al Nassr), Diogo Jota (Liverpool).

Nitesh seals semifinal spot; Manasi, Manoj out

PTI ■ PARIS
India's Nitesh Kumar dished out a superlative performance, thrashing China's Yang Jianyuan in straight games in his second men's singles SL3 group A match to qualify for the semifinals in para badminton competition at Paris Paralympics on Friday. A 29-year-old IIT Mandi graduate, Nitesh, who had suffered a permanent damage to his leg due to an accident in 2009, outclassed Yang 21-5 21-11 in a dominating show. With his second consecutive win, Nitesh is assured of a top-2 finish in the four-man group. The top two ranked players from each of the two groups qualify for the semifinals. Nitesh, who hails from Karmal district in Haryana, will next face Thailand's Bunsun Mongkhon in his last group A match. Manasi Joshi and Manoj Sarkar, however, suffered their second successive defeats to end their hopes of making it to the semifinals from their respective groups. Manasi, a 2019 World Champion, faltered at the finishing line to go down



narrowly 21-10 15-21 21-23 to Ukraine's Oksana Kozyna in her second women's singles SL3 Group A match. She had lost her opening match to Indonesia's Qonitah Ikhtiar Syakuroh on Thursday. Tokyo bronze medallist Manoj also suffered yet another loss, this time going down 19-21 8-21 to Bunsun in his second Group A match. He had lost to compatriot Nitesh on Thursday and will meet Yang on Friday. SL3 class is for those players with more severe lower limb disabilities, requiring play on a half-width court. On Thursday night, Nitesh and Thulasimathi Murugesan had lost to Indonesian combination of Ramdani Hikmat and Oktilla Ileani Ratri 15-21 8-21 in their second mixed doubles SL3-SU5 group stage match. Suhas Yathiraj and Palak Kohli also suffered a 15-21 9-21 loss to France's Lucas Mazur and Faustine Noel in their second Group A mixed doubles match. SU5 class includes athletes with upper limb impairments.



Chitkara University and HDFC Bank Forge Strategic Partnership to Drive Innovation and Industry-Academia Collaboration
Chitkara University, renowned for its dedication to innovation and excellence in education, is thrilled to announce a groundbreaking partnership with HDFC Bank, one of India's leading financial institutions. This strategic collaboration is set to bridge the gap between academia and industry, providing students with vital skills and knowledge to excel in today's dynamic global marketplace.

Dr. Mohinder Kaushal Contributes Cutting-Edge Techniques to the 3rd Edition of "Endoscopic Spine Surgery"

Trinity Hospital & Medical Research Institute, Zirakpur/Chandigarh, is proud to announce that Dr. Mohinder Kaushal has been invited to contribute four chapters to the esteemed 3rd edition of Endoscopic Spine Surgery, published by Thieme. This prestigious publication is led by Professor Dr. Daniel Kim from the University of Texas, USA, along with his distinguished co-editors. Dr. Mohinder Kaushal's contributions focus on his pioneering ArthrospineDuo UBE technique, which is recognized for its innovation in spine surgery. These chapters will provide readers and learners with valuable insights into advanced surgical techniques, enhancing their understanding and practice of endoscopic spine surgery.



On National Sports Day, Bank of Baroda launches "Sab Mein Hai Khiladi" Campaign

Chandigarh: On the occasion of National Sports Day, Bank of Baroda is undertaking various sports, fitness and environmental activities such as walkathons, group sports competitions and tree plantation drives to promote a healthier, more active, and environmentally conscious community. It also launched the "Sab Mein Hai Khiladi" campaign to recognise and celebrate the athletic and sportsmanship spirit that resides within every employee of the Bank. India celebrates National Sports Day on August 29 every year, commemorating the birth anniversary of hockey legend Major Dhyan Chand. The Sab Mein Hai Khiladi campaign features three of India's well-known athletes and Bank of Baroda's endorsers: badminton legend PV Sindhu, cricket star Shafali Verma and rising tennis player Sumit Nagal. These three sporting stars took centre stage together with Bank of Baroda's own athletes.

Prathna Bhatia gets cash award in Cycling in National Games

Chandigarh: Sports Department Chandigarh Administration awarded various sports athletes of Chandigarh on the occasion of Sports day and among them was Prathna Bhatia who won Silver Medal in Cycling in Nationals for Chandigarh held in Gurgaon in April 2023 beside that she also won a silver medal in swimming at Berlin Germany an International level (World special Olympics) in June 2023 in which around 184 countries participated for which prize money is awaited from the Government.



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