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magazine



Gandhi family wounded the Constitution: PM



Prime Minister Narendra Modi speaks in the Lok Sabha during the discussion on the 'glorious journey of 75 years of the India Constitution', in the ongoing Winter Session of Parliament

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ NEW DELHI

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Saturday said that the "Congress led by Gandhi family", having "tasted blood", repeatedly "wounded the Constitution", while his Government's policies and decisions since it took office in 2014, have been aimed at boosting India's strength and unity in line with the vision of the Constitution. In his 107-minute speech, outlining 11 'Sankalps' for 'Viksit Bharat', Modi accused the Gandhi family, from Nehru to Sonia Gandhi, of "doing everything

in their power to harm the Constitution". He said his Government "changed the Constitution for the betterment of dalits, women empowerment" and "removed Article 370 to unify the country". PM Modi emphasised that he was specifically targeting the family due to their prolonged rule, with its members in power for 55 years. Replying to a two-day debate in Lok Sabha on the 75th anniversary of the adoption of the Constitution, he took a swipe at the past Congress governments, accusing them of planting "poisonous seeds" in the country's diversity to

accentuate its contradictions and damage its unity. Training guns at the Nehru-Gandhi family of the Congress, he said they left no stone unturned to strike blows to the Constitution. "This family challenged the Constitution at every level," he said, adding that he was singling out the family as its members were in power for 55 years. The family, having "tasted blood", repeatedly wounded the Constitution, he said, citing several decisions of Jawaharlal Nehru, Indira Gandhi and Rajiv Gandhi when they held the office of Prime Minister. "Their next generation is also into the same game," he said in a swipe at the Leader of Opposition in the House Rahul Gandhi and his MP sister Priyanka Gandhi Vadra. The PM said leaders like him, and many others who came from ordinary families could never have reached where they did but for the strength of the Constitution, as he underlined his long commitment to its values. As Chief Minister of Gujarat, PM Modi said that his government celebrated the 60th year of the Constitution's adoption by placing a copy of the document on an elephant while he walked underneath barefoot in a symbolic gesture to highlight its supremacy. Slamming the Nehru-Gandhi family, he said India's first PM Jawaharlal Nehru "amended the country's guiding document to curb freedom of expression and his daughter Indira Gandhi imposed Emergency to defy a Supreme Court judgment that annulled her election as an MP."

Savarkar always blamed Constitution: Rahul Gandhi

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ NEW DELHI

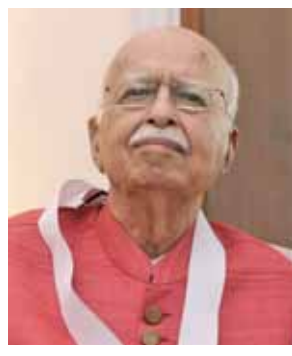
Leader of Opposition Rahul Gandhi on Saturday accused the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP), and the Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS) of being "supporters of Manusmriti" adding that "their supreme leader Savarkar always blamed the Indian Constitution". Participating in a debate in the Lok Sabha on the 75 years of the adoption of the Constitution, the Congress leader said that while talking of protecting the Constitution, the ruling party is "ridiculing" Savarkar. Drawing a parallel with the story of Eklavya who had to chop off his thumb as 'Guru Dakshina' to Dronacharya, Gandhi alleged that by creation of "monopolies" for the Adani Group in various sectors, bringing in the Agnipath scheme, firing teargas at protesting farmers, bringing in lateral entry and allowing paper leaks, the government was "chopping off" the thumb of the youth, tillers, backward class people and the poor. Gandhi said that he wants to tell every poor person that the Constitution protects them, but the BJP keeps attacking it 24x7. He also reiterated his promise made on the floor of the House last session that a caste census will be conducted and the 50 per cent cap on reservation will be done away with to usher in a "new type of development" in the country. "I want to start my speech by



Leader of Opposition in the Lok Sabha Rahul Gandhi speaks in the House during the Winter session of Parliament, in New Delhi, Saturday

quoting your supreme leader Savarkar and his ideas on the Constitution of India and how he thought India should be run. He says, "The worst thing about the Constitution of India is that there is nothing Indian about it. Manusmriti is that scripture that is most worshippable after the Vedas, and which, from ancient times, had begun the basis of our culture, customs, thought, and practice. This book for centuries has codified the spiritual and divine march of our nation. Today, Manusmriti is law," Gandhi said. "Savarkar has clearly stated in his writings that there is nothing Indian about the Constitution and that the book that India is run by should be superseded by the Manusmriti," Gandhi said, "adding that this is what the fight is about. "It is nice that all of you are so-called defending the Constitution. But I want to ask you, do you stand by your leader's words? Do you support your leader's words? But when you speak about defending the Constitution, you are

ridiculing Savarkar, you are abusing Savarkar, you are defaming Savarkar," Gandhi said. Countering Rahul Gandhi's criticism of Savarkar, the BJP and its ally, Shiv Sena, reminded the Congress leader that his grandmother and former Prime Minister Indira Gandhi had hailed the Hindutva ideologue as a "remarkable son of India" and issued a postage stamp in his honour. Launching a scathing attack on the Congress, Shiv Sena MP Shrikant Shinde wondered whether Indira Gandhi was also anti-Constitution as she had praised Savarkar as a "remarkable son of India". He read out a letter written by Indira Gandhi to Pandit Bakhle of the Swatantryaveer Savarkar Rashtriya Smarak on the occasion of the freedom fighter's birth centenary celebrations. "Was your grandmother also anti-Constitution? You have the habit of speaking nonsense about Savarkarji.... But we revere Savarkarji, we are proud of him," Shinde said.



BJP patriarch LK Advani in ICU, condition stable says hospital

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ NEW DELHI

Veteran Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) leader Lal Krishna Advani has been admitted in the ICU of Indraprastha Apollo Hospitals. "LK Advani ji, former Deputy Prime Minister of India, has been admitted to the ICU of Indraprastha Apollo Hospitals for medical management and investigations," the hospital said in a statement. "He is under the care of Dr Vinit Suri and is currently stable," it added. Suri is a senior consultant in the neurology department. The hospital, however, did not disclose any information on the reason for his hospitalisation. Persons associated with the 96-year-old were brought to the hospital about two days ago. He had been admitted to the same hospital earlier this year as well.

Police lob teargas, 17 injured, farmers suspend march to Delhi

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ NEW DELHI

A group of farmers, who made a fresh attempt to march towards Delhi from Shambhu border point of Haryana on Saturday at around 12 pm, faced tear gas and water cannons launched again by the Haryana police. After that, they suspended their march to Delhi and announced a tractor march on December 16 and "rail roko" protest in Punjab on December 18. Farmer leader Sarwan Singh Pandher said, "On December 16, a tractor march will be organised outside Punjab, and on December 18th, we have called 'Rail Roko' in Punjab. We appeal to all Punjabis to participate in 'Rail Roko' in large numbers... The Opposition should not run away from their role by just giving a statement." Ahead of the 'Dilli Chalo' foot march, Pandher compared the ongoing farmers' protest to the Parliament's Constitution debate. The clash took place when a group of 101 farmers, who had resumed their march from the Shambhu protest site on the Punjab-Haryana border around noon, reached the barricades set up by Haryana police. A few farmers were injured during the tear



Security personnel use tear gas, water cannons to disperse farmers agitating at the Shambhu border

gas shelling and were taken to a nearby hospital by ambulances stationed at the site. Visuals from the Shambhu border showed police using tear gas to disperse the protesting farmers and stop them from marching towards the National Capital. Meanwhile, Congress leader Bajrang Punia visited the Shambhu border and expressed his dismay over the farmers not being allowed to march towards Delhi. Punia, a wrestler who joined the Congress ahead of the October 5 Haryana Assembly polls, also criticised teargas shelling and use of water cannons against the protesting farmers by the

Haryana security personnel. He also inquired about the health of the injured farmers at the civil hospital in Rajpura. Earlier in the day, Ambala Deputy Commissioner Parth Gupta and Superintendent of Police S S Bhoria tried to persuade the farmers to seek permission from Delhi authorities before continuing their march. However, the farmers stood firm on their decision to proceed, urging the security forces to let them pass. This is the third time the farmers have attempted to march towards Delhi. Previous attempts on December 6 and December 8 were also blocked by Haryana police.



CAQM revises plan to tackle winter pollution

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

The Commission for Air Quality Management (CAQM) on Delhi-NCR air quality has issued a revised plan to tackle winter pollution, asking states to implement stricter measures when the air quality deteriorates and making it mandatory for schools to shift to hybrid learning on days with severe air pollution. "The Chief Secretaries of Delhi and NCR shall frequently review the actions and implementation of the GRAP especially when the air quality falls or is likely to fall in the 'Severe' or 'Severe +' category (Stage III and beyond). The Commission may decide upon any exceptions and additional measures to the schedule of the GRAP, under different air pollution categories i.e., Stages I to IV, as per the prevalent AQI and weather

forecast," read the advisory. During the first stage, Discoms are advised to minimise power supply interruptions in NCR. According to CAQM, the total number of days with 'Good to Moderate' air quality in 2024 is 207 so far, which is the highest since 2018 (barring 2020, the COVID Year). The record highest number, six days with 'Moderate' AQI in 2024, as against only one day each in 2018, 2019 and 2020; '0' days in 2021 & 2023; and '2' in 2022. On the other hand, the number of days with 'Poor to Severe' AQI in December are also the lowest in the current year since 2018 i.e. only eight. A lowest avg AQI of 234 for the month of December (till 14th) has also been recorded in the current year 2024, since 2018, when the AQI has generally been in the range of '300-400' i.e. Very Poor," it said.

The battle for, and of, New Delhi

RAJESH KUMAR ■ NEW DELHI

The prestigious New Delhi Assembly seat is likely to witness a fierce electoral contest with incumbent legislator, and Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) supremo, Arvind Kejriwal pitted against the sons of former Chief Ministers of Delhi, who have been fielded by the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) and Congress as their star candidates. The Congress party has fielded two-time former Member of Parliament (MP) and former Chief Minister (CM) Sheila Dikshit's son Sandeep Dikshit. Meanwhile, BJP senior leader and former MP, Parvish Sahib Singh Verma, the son of former Delhi CM Sahib Singh Verma, on Saturday also claimed that he has been "asked to prepare for contesting from the New Delhi constituency". If this candidature materialises, the election will pit two scions of politician families against Kejriwal, making it a triangular battle of high-profile leaders. While the AAP and Congress have announced some candidates, BJP is still figuring out their list. The AAP has so far declared two lists with 31 names. According to poll experts, this election is more than just a political contest for Sandeep Dikshit, it is a chance for him to reclaim his family's legacy and 'settle old scores' in the New Delhi seat. Sources in the



Congress said a team which worked with Sheila Dikshit is still active in New Delhi which may help him to counter Kejriwal's narratives. Even in 2020, when it drew a blank in the Assembly polls for the second time in a row, the Congress had banked on the late Congress stalwart to revive its fortunes in what was once its citadel. The party's campaign song in 2020 had a line, "Ek Dilli thi vo jo Sheila ne khud se sawari tha. Fir se Congress wali Dilli...". Some insiders say in the past 10, the Congress is out of power in Delhi and their leaders and workers have lost their connectivity with the people. Currently, the Congress has no face that connects with people. The New Delhi constituency is one of the smallest, numerically speaking, of the total 70 Assembly seats and is dominated by the government employees as voters. On the other hand, AAP convener has an advantage as he has a connection with people. Speaking at an event earlier on Friday, Kejriwal rejected the rumours that he

was going to shift from the New Delhi seat to some other constituency in the Assembly elections which are due in February next year. "There will be no change. I will contest from the New Delhi seat and Chief Minister Atishi from Kalkaji," he said when asked about the possibility of changing seats by them. Verma, a former West Delhi Lok Sabha MP, said, "My party has asked me to prepare for this seat." The list of BJP candidates is yet to come out, he added. The AAP supremo shot to fame in the political arena of the country by defeating then chief minister Sheila Dikshit from the New Delhi constituency in the 2013 Assembly polls by a margin of over 25,000 votes. He won the seat again in 2015 defeating BJP's Nupur Sharma by over 31,000 votes. In 2020, the last Assembly election, Kejriwal defeated BJP's Sunil Yadav by over 21,000 votes. Congress candidate Ramesh Sabharwal got just 3,220 votes in the New Delhi seat in the 2020 Assembly elections.

Ayodhya Ram Temple is UP's most visited destination of the year

BISWAJEET BANERJEE/KAMLESH SRIVASTAVA ■ LUCKNOW

Uttar Pradesh has experienced a tourism surge, breaking records with an impressive 47.61 crore tourists visiting the state between January and September 2024. Ayodhya, home to the under-construction Shri Ram Temple, has emerged as the state's most visited destination, surpassing even the iconic Taj Mahal in Agra. According to the Uttar Pradesh Tourism Department, Ayodhya alone welcomed 13.55 crore domestic tourists and 3,153 international visitors during this period. The upcoming inauguration of the Ram Temple has played a pivotal role in drawing unprecedented crowds.

"The rise in Ayodhya's tourism is nothing short of phenomenal," said Rajesh Tiwari, a Lucknow-based travel agent. "We have seen a 70% increase in bookings for Ayodhya tours compared to last year. Devotees and cultural enthusiasts from across the country want to be part of this historic transformation." While the Taj Mahal remains a global icon, its tourist numbers have seen a slight decline in domestic visitors, though international arrivals rose from 26,84,825 in 2022-23 to 27,70,340 in 2023-24. The overall domestic tourist count to the Taj Mahal decreased by 1,93,298 compared to the previous year. "The Taj Mahal is still an essential stop for international tourists," remarked Suresh Gupta,

a tour operator from Agra. "However, domestic travelers now prefer spiritual and culturally significant sites like Ayodhya and Varanasi. People are looking for meaningful travel experiences that connect them to their heritage." Tourism Minister Jaiveer Singh highlighted the state's broader tourism success. "The tourism surge is not limited to Ayodhya," he stated. "Varanasi attracted 6.2 crore domestic tourists and 1.84 lakh foreign visitors. Prayagraj drew 4.80 crore tourists, including 4,790 foreigners. Mathura, the birthplace of Lord Krishna, saw 6.8 crore visitors, including 87,229 international tourists. Even Mirzapur recorded 1.18 crore visitors." The state's Buddhist circuit hub,

Kushinagar, also saw substantial growth, welcoming 16.2 lakh visitors, including 1.53 lakh international tourists. Agra, despite competition from Ayodhya, received 1.25 crore tourists, including 9.24 lakh foreigners. Tour operators remain optimistic. "We expect even higher numbers with the upcoming Pran Pratishtha ceremony at the Ram Temple," said Poonam Verma, a tourism consultant from Delhi. "Religious tourism has become a defining factor in Uttar Pradesh's tourism industry. Events like the Kumbh Mela, along with better infrastructure and connectivity, have boosted travel significantly." Industry experts believe that consistent marketing and improved facilities have helped



File photo: PTI

Uttar Pradesh build a strong global tourism presence. "The government's focus on religious tourism is commendable," noted Amit Sharma, a hospitality consultant. "We now see better hotels, guided tours, and easier transport options, making the state an attractive destination for all types of travelers." Other destinations like Siddharthnagar (86,215 visitors), Lakhimpur Kheri (46.5 lakh), Pilibhit (30.6 lakh), Bijnor (34.4 lakh), and Sonbhadra (19.4 lakh) also contributed to the state's growing tourism footprint. With the Ram Temple nearing completion and major religious events on the horizon, Uttar Pradesh is poised to strengthen its position as India's top cultural and religious tourism hub.

Classifieds

BEDKHALI NOTICE

I, Manju Sharma W/o Late Gopal Krishan Sharma R/o #31, Gulmohar Avenue, Dhakoli, Distt. Mohali (Punjab) declare that my son Ankur Sharma & his wife Gaurav Sharma are out of my control. So, I disown them from all my movable & immovable properties. If anybody deals with them shall do their own risk in future.

I, Jagdish S/o Ritha Ram R/o Deha Colony, Teh. Shahabad (M.), Distt. Kurukshetra we declare that our daughter Anjna are out of my control, and do not even behave well with us. So We disinherit them from all my movable/ immovable Properties. If anybody deals with them in any manner, they will deal on his own responsibility.

I, Santro Devi w/o Dharampal R/o Village Golli, Tehsil Assandh, Distt. Karnal inform that my daughter Ritu Devi is out of my control. I disown her from my movable and immovable properties. In future it will be responsible for its own transactions, legal and illegal actions. There will be no responsibility for me or any member of my family.

We Virender and Bimlesh Both R/o House No 1310, Indira Colony, Sector 17, Panchkula Haryana inform that our son Jasbir and his wife Deepa are out of our control. We disown them from our all movable and immovable Properties. Anybody deal with them will do at their own Risk.

I, Ranjender Kumar S/O Sh. Gopal Singh R/O H.No 2151, Gf, Block-E, Ansal Esplanade Sector-67, Badshahpur, Gurugram, Haryana 122101, I Disown My Son Kunal From Movable And Immovable Property Due To Out Of My Control, Anybody Dealing With Him At Their Own Risk.

We, Ashok Kumar S/o Sh. Ramesh Kumar and Shakuntla Devi W/o Ashok Kumar R/o H.No.1558-A, Sector 13-17, Huda, Panipat, declare that my son Ashish and his wife SimranKaur are out of my control. So I disown them from my movable/immovable properties. If anybody deals with them shall do their own risk in future.

We Madan Lal S/o Lallu and Urmila W/o Madan Lal both the residents of Post Chandarpura Kanan Tehsil Shahabad Distt Rampur UP, declared that our son namey Amit and his wife Alka are out of our control, so we disown them from our movable immovable properties, anybody dealing with them at their own risk.

I, Lakhvinder Singh S/o Ladda Singh Vill.Ladwa Farm, Murtzapur, Pehowa, Kurukshetra My Son Ranjit Singh is out of my control. I, disown them from all my moveable and immoveable properties. If Anybody deals with them at their own risk.

I, Jaswant Singh S/o Harcharan Singh R/o B-30 Mahesh Nagar Babyl Road Ambala Cantt that my son Prabhjeet Singh, daughters Navkiran Kaur and Simranjeet Kaur are out of my control so I disown them from all my moveable immoveable properties. In future anybody dealing with them at their own risk, I will not be responsible.

I, Anubha Sharma D/o Kishan Chand R/O Street no 12c, Dagana Road, Dasmesh Nagar, Distt. Hoshiarpur, Punjab declare that my father's name has been wrongly mentioned in 10th class and other certificates as Krishan Chand but my father's correct name in all documents is Kishan Chand. Concerned note.

I, Gurmakh Singh S/o Amrik Singh R/O Village Hardeo Jhandey, Teh. Batala Distt Gurdaspur declare that in my daughter Bikramjit Kaur Matriculation Certificate of CBSE under Roll No. 13162600 of passing year 2022 my name has been written as Gurmakh Singh which is wrong. Please correct it as Gurmakh Singh.

I, Varinder Singh S/o Paramjit Singh R/o Vpo. Ajram, Tehsil & District Hoshiarpur, Punjab, India, I declare that my Passport No. E2178098 is enter my father name spelling as Parmjit Singh by my mistake but actually is correct name spelling is my father Paramjit Singh.

I, MadanLal, S/o Sh. HimmatRai, S/o Sh. Chokha Ram, R/o House No.33B, Prakash Nagar, Tehsil Camp, Panipat, declare that in my property documents, my name is written as Mahender Kumar, S/o HimmatRai, S/o Sh. Chokha Ram and in all my other documents, my name is written as MadanLal, S/o Sh. HimmatRai, S/o Sh. Chokha Ram. Mahender Kumar and MadanLal both are the names of one person. All Concern noted.

Continuity Pg. No. 07

USP

Dr. Vibha Bhardwaj, Director of Environment Laboratories, Ras Al Khaimah Municipality, UAE, Meets Vice Chancellor Prof. Deepthi Dharmani Discussions Focus on MoU for Scholarships, Research, Student & Faculty Exchange, and Employment Bhiwani, December 14, Dr. Vibha Bhardwaj, Director of Environment Laboratories at Ras Al Khaimah Municipality, United Arab Emirates, and Vice President of the International Parliament FUNIMA Colombia and Argentina, paid a courtesy visit to Prof. Deepthi Dharmani, Vice Chancellor of Chaudhary Bansi Lal University (CBLU), Bhiwani. The meeting explored potential collaborations through a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) encompassing scholarships, research initiatives, student and faculty exchange programs, and employment opportunities. During the visit, two books authored by Dr. Bhardwaj were ceremonially released by Vice Chancellor Prof. Dharmani.

Classified Advertisement. सार्वजनिक सूचना. सभी आम जनता को सूचित किया जाता है कि रीता राय (पत्नी), दारिद्र्य काल (पुत्र), विनोद कोशल (पुत्र) काली (पुत्री) चन्द्र सुधाच चन्द्र मकान नं 1130 पंचवीन कालीन कोशिकाबाद कक्षा 100 वर्गफुट को अपने पक्ष में स्वामित्व करने के लिए नगर निगम फरीदाबाद में आवेदन किया है। जो कि सुधाच चन्द्र की मृत्यु दिनांक 03.09.2024 तकनीक वारिस है। इसे हस्तगत करने में किसी को आपत्ति है तो यह नोटिस के प्रकाशन की तारीख से 30 दिनों के भीतर सहायक दस्तावेजों के साथ नगर निगम अयुक्त फरीदाबाद को लिखित रूप में आपत्तियों प्रस्तुत कर सकता है। अन्यथा संपत्ति अधिकारी नगर निगम अयुक्त फरीदाबाद को नोटिस के अनुसार उक्त हस्ततरफारपत्रवाई आई की मजूरी दे दी जाएगी और उसके बाद कोई खाना होने पर उस पर विचार नहीं किया जाएगा। अयुक्त, नगर निगम फरीदाबाद।

Public Notice. I, Urmila Devi w/o Charan Singh Flat No 102 Shri Krishna GCHS apartment near samanyan Mandir sector 21-D Faridabad have lost original property document allotment letter No RA-I-99/420 Dt. 17.4.2000, possession certificate number S-627 at 17-4-2002 and Re-allotment letter no CTP/SB/9582 dt. 4-7-2013 at lot of kalkaji. Finder may contact above address.

Public Notice. The General public is hereby informed that Mr. Suresh Kumar S/O : Mahipal is the present owner / Seller of plot house measuring 18'x50' (Biswas), comprised in Khehwal/Khatoni No. 4572 Khasna No. 30/11/11-16/20/12/1-10, 20/2-12/11/13-14/19/16/20, 16/15/1-5, 16/21-5, 17/2-3, 24/0-3, 25/2-0, 10/15/1-1, 11/1/4-10, 11/2-12 Total land 24 Bighas - 19 Biswas of 27/9980 Share=0 Bigga 1 kiswa 7 biswas (Hastab no-05) at 22-26P ASTRA Colony Village - Mahiwaala Me dera distt SAS Nagar Mohali and Mrs. Nareesh Kaur is proposed owner / purchaser of above said property from Shri Ram Finance Limited Chandigarh. Previous sale deeds of said property bearing registration sale deed no. 2261 Dt. 23-09-2015 registered in sub registrar, Dera Bassi declared by SPA Gaurav Kumar S/O : Manoj Kumar Singh, Gesta Gesta Ram and Gesta Shyam have been lost and FIR/DOR has been got registered in this respect having details DOR application no. LR -N547696/2024 dated 14.12.2024 Police Station PSOC Zirakpur Mohali. Anybody having claim claiming any rights or interests in any manner in this property or has raised loan by depositing the aforesaid Documents with any person/bank/financial institution may approach and may submit objections to the undersigned within 7 days from the date of this public notice. After the expiry of the period of this notice, if anybody has any information about any claim or has any information about any other legal heirs of the deceased other than mentioned above the same may be intimated to the Estate Officer, U.T., Chandigarh, immediately. If anybody has any objection upon the mutation of the said share in the said property, in favour of the above named applicants, he/she may furnish the same in writing (supported with affidavit duly attested by Magistrate/Notary) in the office of the undersigned within 30 days from the date of publication of this notice, failing which the said share in the said property will be mutated accordingly in the name of above said beneficiaries and no further claim whatsoever shall be entertained at any later stage.

Public Notice. I, Urmila Devi W/O Charan Singh Flat No. 102 Shri Krishna GCHS Apartment near Samanyan Mandir Sector 21-D Faridabad have lost original property document allotment letter No RA-I-99/420 Dt. 17.4.2000, possession certificate number S-627 at 17-4-2002 and Re-allotment letter no CTP/SB/9582 dt. 4-7-2013 at lot of kalkaji. Finder may contact above address.

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Public Notice. I, Raju Seta S/o Mohan Lal Seta R/o H. No. 683, Subash Gh, Behnd Nand, Jagadhri, Distt. Yamuna Nagar declare that Original Sale Deed No. 6849 Dt 22/01/2007, no. 9489 Dt 29/03/2011, 450 Dt 18/04/2012, 4953 Dt 29/08/2016, 4741 Dt 22/08/2016 Of Plot Situated At Property No. 10KH77HP situated in Sondhi Mohalla Near Rana Lane, Yamuna Nagar has been lost at Shastri Colony Yamuna Nagar on dated 15.10.2024. It has not been mortgaged with any Person/ Bank / Financial Institution. If someone find these deeds please submitted to ICICI Bank Home Loan East Bhatla Nagar Jagadhri Road, Yamuna Nagar.

Public Notice. I, Raju Seta S/o Mohan Lal Seta R/o H. No. 683, Subash Gh, Behnd Nand, Jagadh

Attempt by protesting farmers to march to Delhi foiled again by Haryana authorities

PNS ■ CHANDIGARH

Punjab Farmers on protest suspended their foot march to Delhi after some of them were injured on Saturday in teargas shelling and use of water cannons by Haryana security personnel, who foiled the agitators' third attempt in less than 10 days to cross the Punjab-Haryana border.

Farmer leader Sarwan Singh Pandher claimed that 17 farmers were injured in the action by the Haryana security personnel. "The two forums (of farmers' unions) have decided to call back our 'jatha' (group)," Pandher told reporters at Shambhu border. "How are 101 farmers a danger to the law and order and peace of the country? You are debating the Constitution (in Parliament). Which Constitution allows the use of force against farmers," he asked. No discussion is taking place on the issue of farmers in Parliament, Pandher said. On the next course of action, he said a tractor march will be taken out in states except Punjab on December 16. A 'rail roko' protest will be held on December 18 from 12 noon to 3 pm in Punjab, he added.

The farmers under the banner of Samyukta Kisan Morcha (Non-Political) and Kisan Mazdoor Morcha have been pressing for various demands, including a legal guarantee for Minimum Support Price (MSP). They have also demanded that the Centre initiate talks with them to address their issues. It was the third attempt by protesting farmers to march towards the national capital. Farmers had earlier made two attempts to cross the Shambhu border point on December 6 and December 8 but they were not allowed to proceed by security personnel in Haryana.

Ahead of the resumption of their march, the Haryana government had on Saturday sus-

ended mobile internet and bulk SMS services in 12 villages in Ambala till December 17 to prevent any disturbance of peace and public order.

The group of 101 farmers started their foot march to Delhi shortly after 12 noon from the Shambhu protest site on the Punjab-Haryana border. Ambala Deputy Commissioner Parth Gupta and Superintendent of Police S S Bhorja tried to persuade the farmers to stop, but when the impasse continued Haryana security personnel fired teargas shells and used water cannons to disperse them.

Farmer leader Manjit Singh Rai alleged that rubber bullets were also used by security personnel due to which one farmer was seriously injured. "Chemical mixed water was used when water cannons were used," Pandher alleged. Deputy Superintendent of Police, Ambala Cantt, Rajat Gulia, however, refuted the allegation of chemicals being mixed in water and said "plain water was used". Farmers injured in the teargas shelling were taken to a nearby hospital in ambulances stationed at the protest site, said the protesting farmers.

Before the police action, Gupta and Bhorja held talks with some protesting farmers for over half an hour, trying to convince them to get permission from Delhi to go towards the national capital. They also urged them to hold a dialogue with the Supreme Court constituted high-powered committee. However, the protesting farmers, who were adamant about going to Delhi, said they wanted to hold talks with the Centre for the resolution of their issues.

As the protesting farmers were stopped by a multilayered barricade erected by Haryana authorities, they urged the security personnel to allow them to proceed to Delhi. "We want to go in a peaceful manner. Our voice

should not be crushed like this. More than half of the country's population are connected with agriculture, their voice cannot be crushed like this," a farmer leader told the Haryana officials including the SP and DC, who were speaking to protesters from behind the iron mesh fencing of the barricade. "We want the government to listen to the problems of farmers and labourers," said the farmer.

Ambala's SP Bhorja said if they have to go to Delhi for any dharna, they should apply for permission under the law, and if that is granted, "we will ourselves help you reach there". "If you want to hold a protest. It is your right. Hold a protest peacefully, it is your right. Nobody is stopping you," he said and asked them to seek permission from Delhi Police. "The spot, where you are standing in protest, as per Supreme Court order of July 24, directions were to maintain the status quo at Shambhu border so that no untoward incident occurs," Bhorja told the protesters.

Appealing to the protesting farmers to move back, Bhorja also referred to the apex court's statement on Friday that a high-powered committee constituted by it would talk to the protesting farmers and make recommendations to the court which would eventually be put to the stakeholders for a decision. Bhorja said December 18 has been fixed as the next date in the Supreme Court and till then, there is a clear direction that effort be made to resolve the issue through talks. "What is the problem in it?" he asked the protesters.

Ambala DC Gupta also urged farmers to hold talks with the committee and said, "Whatever the issue is, it will be resolved through talks." When farmers insisted on allowing them to head towards Delhi, SP Bhorja said, "If we allow you to

go, you will be stopped at the Delhi border. What will happen? You will sit at the Delhi-Haryana border." He asked them to apply for permission from Delhi Police. "Listen to me, it is my promise that I will fix a meeting with the (high-powered) committee tomorrow and I will go along with you. At least hold a meeting," he asked the protesters.

However, Longowal claimed the committee would not give justice to them. To this, the DC said, "You are saying you do not trust the committee, you are saying it will not get you justice. Who formed the committee? The committee was formed by the Honourable Supreme Court. And now you are saying that the SC could not get you justice. You should remain positive."

The SP said the high-powered committee is going to invite the stakeholders including the Centre and the farmers for talks in the next few days. The Supreme Court had constituted a committee headed by former Punjab and Haryana High Court judge Justice Nawab Singh to amicably resolve the grievances of protesting farmers at the Shambhu border.

As the officials failed to end the impasse, the Haryana security personnel used water cannons to disperse the protesters. While speaking to reporters after the 'jatha' was called back, Pandher said, "On one side you hold talks and on the other, you use water cannons. The country should tell who indulged in violence." He said teargas shells were also fired near the stage at the protest site. Pandher alleged that the security personnel tried to provoke the people who had gathered in support of farmers by firing teargas shells.

Meanwhile, farmer leader Jagjit Singh Dallewal's fast unto death at the Khanauri border point entered the 19th day on Saturday.

Brahmin Community delegation meets Haryana CM

PNS ■ CHANDIGARH

Haryana Chief Minister Nayab Singh Saini on Saturday said the state government would celebrate the birth anniversary of Lord Parshuram in a grand manner at the government level.

Addressing representatives of the Brahmin community from across the state at his residence, he said that the 36 communities of the state have endorsed the development policies of the BJP government, leading to the formation of the BJP government for the third consecutive time, marking a historic achievement in Haryana.

In response to the demand from Brahmin community representatives for the formation of a Brahmin Welfare Board, the Chief Minister assured that prominent members of the society would be invited for a detailed discussion on the matter.

The Chief Minister, while targeting the opposition, said that opposition leaders had already formed a government even before the election results were



announced, and now, after the results, they are blaming the EVMs. He pointed out that Congress leaders were demanding an account of the 10 years of the BJP government through yatra, but when asked to give an account of their own tenure, they failed to respond. He said that during the Congress tenure, every government recruitment ended up in court, whereas under the BJP government, even children from poor families are securing government jobs without any parchi-kharchi.

Saini said that ensuring the uninterrupted delivery of public services is the top priority of the state government. As a result, clear instructions have been issued to officials to ensure that the benefits of government

schemes reach eligible beneficiaries without delay. He said that if any complaints are received from citizens, action will be taken against the concerned officers and employees. He further added that, alongside developmental works, new welfare schemes will be introduced to benefit citizens and accelerate Haryana's progress in terms of development.

He highlighted that the Haryana government has set a target to establish a medical college in every district. In the past 10 years, medical colleges have been opened in 15 districts, and work is underway to establish colleges in 7 more districts. In addition, a college has been set up within a 20 km radius in every district to ensure that girls do not have to travel long distances for higher education. He also men-

tioned that the Prime Minister recently laid the foundation stone for the main campus of the Horticulture University. Through its regional center, the university will empower farmers in the field of horticulture, helping them increase their income.

Saini said that the state government has undertaken several initiatives in the interest of farmers. To alleviate the financial burden caused by the lack of rainfall this year, the government has provided a bonus of Rs 2000 per acre. So far, Rs 800 crore has been directly deposited into the accounts of farmers in two installments. He assured that soon, an additional Rs 400-500 crore will be released as the third installment. Haryana government is committed to purchasing all farmers' crops at the Minimum Support Price (MSP).

Punjab State women commission summons SGPC chief

PNS ■ CHANDIGARH

The Punjab State Women Commission issued a notice to Shiromani Gurdwara Parbandhak Committee (SGPC) president Harjinder Singh Dhani on Saturday for his alleged derogatory remarks against his predecessor, Bibi Jagir Kaur.

Commission chairperson Raj Lali Gill has directed Dhani to appear before the panel in person and submit a written explanation by December 17. Gill took suo-motu (on its own) notice of the matter involving alleged derogatory remarks targeting Kaur. The chairperson said the commission's attention was drawn to an audio recording circulating on social media, in which Dhani allegedly used

"highly-offensive and demeaning language" targeting Kaur, a prominent woman leader, during a telephonic conversation with a journalist.

The remarks were not only personally defamatory but also disrespectful to women in general, she said. The commission emphasised that as the head of a prestigious institution like the SGPC, Dhani is expected to uphold the highest standards of dignity and respect for all. Such language, the commission asserted, is unbecoming of his office and sends a damaging message to the society. Gill also sought Dhani's removal from the SGPC president's post.

Dhani has already expressed regret about his remarks against the former SGPC president.

KZF behind grenade attack at Police Post in Nawanshahr: Pb DGP

PNS ■ CHANDIGARH/ JALANDHAR

Days after hand grenade attack at Police Post Ason in Nawanshahr, Counter Intelligence (CI) Jalandhar in a joint operation with SBS Nagar district police has cracked the case masterminded by the Khalistan Zindabad Force (KZF) with the arrest of three members this terror module.

In a statement, Director General of Police (DGP) Gaurav Yadav identified the arrested persons as Yugpreet Singh alias Yuvi, a resident of Mohalla Qazian, Jaskaran Singh alias Shah, a resident of Mohalla Jagoteyan and Harjot Singh alias Jot, a resident of Dugglan Mohalla in Rahon. Police teams have also recovered two weapons— one country-made pistol and one revolver— along with six live cartridges from their possession, he added.

The development came in less than two weeks after some persons targeted Police Post Ason of Police Station Kathgarh by hurling a hand grenade in its premises on December 2, this year.

DGP Yadav said that the arrested accused persons are the members of KZF module

controlled by handlers based in Germany, United Kingdom (UK) and other countries and were tasked to target police establishments and minority leaders in Punjab and Haryana. The module has received funding of ₹4.5 lakhs over the last six months, he added.

The DGP said that preliminary investigation has revealed that the arrested persons had retrieved a hand grenade from a Dead Letter Box (DLB) located at the GT Road in Jalandhar on November 28 and hurled it at Police Post Ason in SBS Nagar on December 2. A DLB is a secret location used to exchange information or items between two people without meeting in person.

AIG CI Jalandhar Navjot Singh Mahal said that in an intelligence and human-int based operation, a team of CI Jalandhar along with SBS Nagar Police laid a special Naka near railway crossing SBS Nagar city and arrested the accused persons, when they were coming towards Nawanshahr Bus Stand on their Splendor motorcycle. He said that further investigations are ongoing to establish forward and backward linkages to identify and apprehend other members of this terror module.

Haryana Introduces Free Cashless Treatment for Road Accident Victims

PNS ■ CHANDIGARH

In compliance with the guidelines issued by the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways, Haryana Police has launched a new initiative under which accident victims will now receive free treatment in the initial golden hour. Under this scheme, treatment up to Rs.1.5 lakh per person per road accident is provided free of cost for a maximum period of 7 days from the date of the accident. In this regard, Additional Director General of Police, Hardeep Doon has written a letter to all officers concerned of the state asking them to ensure compliance.

In a statement, Director General of Police Shatruej Kapur on Saturday said that making the roads of the state safe for the common people is one of our priorities. Therefore, it is necessary to prepare a better and effective action plan to reduce road accidents and work on them. In the same series, the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways has started providing free treatment facilities to road accident victims. He said that this pilot project will be implemented jointly by the

National Health Authority in coordination with the local police and hospitals contracted by the state health department. During this, the accident victim will be provided free treatment up to a limit of Rs 1.5 lakh for a maximum of 7 days under Section 162 of the Motor Vehicles Act, 1988.

Under this scheme, the road accident victim is taken to the hospital. After this, the hospital management uploads the data of the injured person in their software and sends it to the police station concerned, after which the police station confirms within 6 hours whether the injured person is injured in a road accident or not. After confirmation, the injured person is provided with cashless treatment.

Kapur said that in order to reduce road accidents, Haryana Police works by focusing on several important points, as a result of which a decrease of 616 road accidents has been recorded in 2024 compared to 2023. Along with this, there has also been a decrease of 251 deaths in road accidents in 2024 compared to 2023 and 403 fewer people have been injured. He said that from January 2024 to

the end of November 2024, Haryana Police conducted 2166 road safety awareness campaigns through which 2 lakh 91 thousand 307 children and other people ensured participation.

Along with this, black spots have also been identified in the state where road accidents are relatively high. These black spots are rectified by coordinating with the concerned road engineering departments. In view of the seriousness of the subject of road safety, road safety committees have been formed in different districts of the state, through which regular meetings are held on the agenda of road safety. By the

end of October 2024, 107 such meetings have been held, which are chaired by the Deputy Commissioner of the respective district. He said that in the year 2024, the road safety committee checked 19 thousand 261 school buses, out of which 4,657 school buses were challoaned for irregularities. Sh. Kapur said that there are currently 66 toll plazas in the state on which weigh-in-motion machines are to be installed, out of which these machines have been installed at 54 toll plazas, out of which 29 are being used to challan overloaded vehicles through weigh-in-motion machines and soon it will also be started at other toll plazas.

Digital literacy subjects to be included in higher secondary school curriculum: Haryana CM

PNS ■ CHANDIGARH

Haryana Chief Minister Nayab Singh Saini has said the state government has decided to introduce digital literacy subjects, including coding, data analysis and digital security, in the higher secondary school curriculum recognizing the importance of new technologies in education. In addition, the government will establish "Umeed Counseling" services in every school and career counseling will be made mandatory for all students from Class 9 onwards.

The government also aims to maintain a teacher-student ratio of 1:30 in the government schools. To support the students, the government will provide an additional scholarship of Rs 3,000 per year to each eligible student under the National Means-cum-Merit Scholarship Scheme, he said. Saini was speaking at the inauguration of the ground floor

block of Vivekanand Bhawan at Nand Lal Geeta Vidya Mandir School, located in Tepla village, Ambala district on Friday.

Saini said the government has established 1,420 Model Sanskriti Vidyalayas across the state with the goal of providing high-quality education to children from the most economically disadvantaged families, starting from the primary level. These schools are not only focusing on academic excellence but also imparting education rooted in ancient values and cultural traditions. He claimed that Haryana is the first state to implement the National Skills Qualifications Framework (NSQF) for vocational skills at the school level. Under this initiative, the students from Class 9 to 12 are being provided with various skill training programmes, helping them acquire practical skills alongside their academic education.

AAP promises launch of 100 e-buses, round the clock water supply for Jalandhar Civic Polls

PNS ■ JALANDHAR

The Ruling Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) in Punjab on Saturday launched its official campaign for the Jalandhar Municipal Corporation elections, unveiling a manifesto with five guarantees aimed at transforming the city with the launch of 100 electric buses and round the clock water supply. Punjab AAP President Aman Arora said the party is committed to delivering these promises immediately after assuming office.

The manifesto has been prepared based on public consultations, ensuring a people-

centric approach. Arora assured that all projects would commence without delay, demonstrating the party's focus on transparency and accountability in governance.

The five guarantees for Jalandhar are 100 electric buses with charging stations in the city; round-the-clock supply of drinking water; large-scale parking facilities with CCTV surveillance; elimination of 28 waste dumps to ensure a clean and healthier city environment; and restoring sports glory with the establishment of sports memorials and the revival of key sports landmarks like Burton Park.

Himachal CM directs to explore solar power potential in vacant hills of Kupvi area

PNS ■ SHIMLA

Himachal Pradesh Chief Minister Sukhvinder Singh Sukhu on Saturday instructed officials to explore the potential for establishing solar power plants on vacant hills in various Gram Panchayats of Kupvi sub-division in district Shimla. This initiative aims to harness renewable energy while generating self-employment opportunities for the local community.

During a visit to village Tikkar as part of the 'Sarkar Gaon Ke Dwar' programme, Sukhu held a detailed discussion with officials about the developmental needs of the area and said that the establishment of solar power plants in the area could prove to be a significant step in promoting sustainable energy and creating employment for the local people.

Earlier in the day, Sukhu took a walk with the children and discussed their studies and interest in sports and also inquired about the available resources in the local schools



and said that the present state government would make all possible efforts to provide the best education facilities in rural areas.

The Chief Minister also interacted with the elderly residents of the village and held a discussion regarding the teaching methods of their time and the current educational scenario. He also assured the senior citizens that the government remains committed to strengthen the rural economy through various schemes and

initiatives and would continue to bring new initiatives for the betterment and development of the rural population.

CM flags off 'Nasha Mukht Indora' rally

Later, Sukhu flagged off the 'Nasha Mukht Indora' awareness rally at Indora in district Kangra and said that the state government has launched a campaign against the drug menace and has taken stringent action against the drug mafia over the past two months and

arrested many involved.

He said that the government was committed to root out drug menace and save the younger generation from this social vice. He said that such awareness campaigns play a crucial role in eradicating and generating awareness against drug abuse. He called for educating the youth about the harmful effects of drugs and ensuring the active participation of all sections of society in the fight against substance abuse. "If every individual stands firmly against drug addiction this menace can be eradicated," he said.

Sukhu said that the state government was setting up a State-Level Advisory Board for de-addiction and rehabilitation. This board aims to streamline the activities of various departments related to substance abuse and would ensure a unified approach to tackle this issue. The board would foster coordination among the different department's initiatives, which was expected to yield positive outcomes.

BRIEFS

EIGHT YOUNG OFFICERS FROM PUNJAB COMMISSIONED INTO INDIAN ARMY & AIR FORCE

CHANDIGARH: In a proud moment for Punjab, eight alumni from the Maharaja Ranjit Singh Armed Forces Preparatory Institute (MRSAFPPI) in SAS Nagar (Mohali) were commissioned into the Indian Army and Air Force. Six of these officers, Kritin Gupta from Ludhiana District, Bhart Sharma and Sahildeep Singh from Amritsar, Sahilpreet Singh Sandhu from Patiala, Shiv Kumar from Kapurthala and Uttam Malik from Bhatinda, were commissioned into the Indian Army in the passing out parade of the Indian Military Academy (IMA) Dehradun's 155 Regular Course. The parade was reviewed by Nepali Army Chief General Ashokraj Sigdel. These cadets are from the 8th Course of the MRSAFPPI. These young officers would soon join their units and serve the Indian Army. Additionally, two more cadets from the Institute, Gursher Singh Cheema from Sangrur District and Pratham Parmar from Kapurthala, were commissioned as Flying Officers in the Indian Air Force in the 214th Combined Passing Out Parade of the Air Force Academy (AFA) Dundigal. Air Chief Marshal Amar Preet Singh, the Chief of the Indian Air Force, reviewed the parade. Major General Ajay H. Chauhan, Director of MRSAFPPI said that with the commissioning of these eight officers, a total of 168 cadets from MRSAFPPI have been commissioned into the Armed Forces of India since its inception.

STUDENTS OF GOVT SCHOOL VISIT PUNJAB VIDHAN SABHA

Chandigarh: Students of Government Senior Secondary School Pakhi Kalan, District Faridkot visited Punjab Vidhan Sabha under the guidance of school teachers. The aim of this visit was to provide first hand experience to the students about the political system and the working of the Vidhan Sabha. The officials of Punjab Vidhan Sabha imparted detailed information to the students about the legislative work in the Vidhan Sabha, ruling party, opposition and Speaker's Chair etc. On this occasion, the students were also given information about the heritage building of the Vidhan Sabha and about the architect Le Corbusier. Earlier, the delegation of students led by teachers visited the official residence of Speaker Kultar Singh Sandhu.

AAP PUNJAB PRESIDENT AMAN ARORA SEEKS BLESSINGS FROM DERA BEAS CHIEF

Jalandhar: Aam Aadmi Party Punjab President Aman Arora, along with party leaders met and sought blessings from Baba Gurinder Singh Dhillon, Chief of Dera Beas, and Jasdeep Singh Gill. The AAP delegation accompanying Arora included Minister Hardeep Singh Mundian, AAP Punjab Working President Sharry Kalsi, senior leaders Deepak Bali, and Sunny Ahluwalia. Together, they shared their vision of development and commitment to Punjab's welfare, drawing inspiration from Baba Ji's wisdom and teachings.

3.54 LAKH CASES TAKEN UP IN 365 BENCHES OF NATIONAL LOK ADALAT IN PUNJAB

Chandigarh: Under the leadership of Justice Gurmeet Singh Sandhawalia, Judge, Punjab & Haryana High Court, and Executive Chairman of Punjab State Legal Services Authority, the National Lok Adalat was organized on Saturday throughout Punjab. Approximately 3.54 lakh cases were addressed across 365 Benches during this Lok Adalat. Various long-pending matters, including civil cases, domestic disputes, property disputes, cheque bounce cases, labour matters, criminal compoundable cases, and cancellation/untraced reports of various FIRs, were taken up. Manjinder Singh, Member Secretary, Punjab State Legal Services Authority visited the court complex of Rupnagar and participated in Lok Adalat proceedings. He said the main purpose of this National Lok Adalat is to settle disputes through mutual agreement, encouraging people to seek resolution through alternative dispute resolution centers as it saves valuable time and money.

COLD WAVE SWEEPS PUNJAB HARYANA, FARIDKOT CHILLS AT 1 DEGREE CELSIUS

Chandigarh: Cold weather conditions persisted across many parts of Haryana and Punjab on Saturday, with Faridkot shivering at a minimum temperature of one degree Celsius, the meteorological department said. According to the data from the Met department, Faridkot was the coldest place in Punjab. Pathankot recorded a low of 2.3 degrees Celsius, while Gurdaspur and Bathinda experienced chilly nights with minimum temperatures of 2.8 degrees Celsius and 3.4 deg Celsius, respectively. The data showed that Amritsar logged 3.4 degrees Celsius, Ludhiana 7.8 deg C and Patiala recorded a low of 6 degrees Celsius. In Haryana, mercury plunged in Karnal recording a low of 4 degrees Celsius while Hisar and Bhiwani registered a minimum of 4.1 degrees Celsius. The weather office said that a piercing cold swept Narnaul, which logged a low of 4.5 degrees. Rohtak recorded 6.8 degrees Celsius while Ambala recorded 7.5 degrees Celsius, it said. Chandigarh recorded a minimum temperature of 6.6 degrees Celsius, the weather office said.

HIMACHAL UNLOCKS ADVENTURE TOURISM POTENTIAL WITH WATER SPORTS AT PONG DAM: CM

Shimla: Chief Minister Sukhvinder Singh Sukhu on Saturday announced to celebrate Indora Utsav-2024 as district-level festival from next year. While greeting the people on the occasion of Indora Utsav, the Chief Minister assured that adequate funds would be allocated for the development of the Indora Assembly constituency and also reaffirmed the state government's dedication to the overall development of Kangra district and the work of expansion of Kangra Airport and the establishment of a Rs. 300 crore state-of-the-art milk processing plant at Dhagwar was under progress. Apart from this, the state government has given approval for water sports at Pong Dam and activities set to begin soon. Sukhu said that the state government has fulfilled seven key promises, including reinstating the Old Pension Scheme (OPS) for government employees in the very first cabinet meeting where as the BJP government after forming their government in Rajasthan abolished it. He further said that due to internal conflicts within the BJP, the party now was divided into five factions. He said that during the tenure of BJP the so-called double-engine government in the state there was a decline in every sector in Himachal Pradesh, whereas our government was bringing reforms that would lead to positive outcomes.

Congress slams PM Modi's 11 resolutions as hollow, demands discussion on Adani issue

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ NEW DELHI

The Congress on Saturday termed as "hollow" Prime Minister Narendra Modi's 11 resolutions articulated in his speech in the Lok Sabha and said if the BJP has zero tolerance on corruption then why doesn't it discuss the Adani issue. The opposition party also questioned why Prime Minister Modi, Union Home Minister Amit Shah and Defence Minister Rajnath Singh were not present in the House when Leader of Opposition Rahul Gandhi spoke while participating in a two-day debate on the "Glorious Journey of 75 Years of the Constitution of India".



Prime Minister Modi on Saturday said that the Congress, having "tasted blood", repeatedly wounded the Constitution while his government's policies and decisions since it took office in 2014 have been aimed at boosting India's strength and unity in line with the vision of the Constitution. Asked about the PM's remarks, Congress leader Priyanka Gandhi Vadra likened his over 110-minutes speech in

the Lok Sabha to a "double period of mathematics" from school and said it "bored us". She slammed Prime Minister Modi's 11 resolutions as "hollow" and said if there is zero tolerance towards corruption then why doesn't the BJP agree to a discussion on the Adani issue.

"PM has not spoken one thing which is new, he has bored us. It took me decades back, I felt like I'm sitting in that double period of Mathematics," she said. "Nadda ji was also rubbing hands but as soon as Modi ji looked at him, he started acting as if he is listening attentively. Amit Shah also had his hand on head, (Piyush) Goyal ji was going off to sleep. It was a new experience for me. I had thought that the PM will say something new, something nice," she said. Congress general secretary in-charge organisation K C Venugopal said, "On a debate about India's Constitution, the PM once again decided to bring out his tired old speech about the Congress instead. While the people were expecting an answer from him on the injustice and inequality facing Indian society, he chose to

bring up stale narratives against the Congress, which have lost all resonance among the public." "Truth is, he has no answer to the allegations regarding the Adani mega scandal, nor does he have a response to the growing instances of caste and religious divisions created by his own regime," Venugopal said. "It was only blame game against the Congress. In yesterday and today we exposed government's deeds on Adani. They are using entire machinery to give everything to one person. Whenever we talk of the Constitution they did not respect Parliament. When LoP spoke, the prime minister, home minister and defence minister was absent, either they are scared of Rahul Gandhi or they don't believe in opposition politics," Venugopal said.

Congress did not give Ambedkar his due: Union Minister Kiran Rijju

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ NEW DELHI

Union minister Kiran Rijju on Saturday tore into the Congress for not giving BR Ambedkar his due, as he questioned the opposition's claims that minorities were being denied their rights. Intervening in the debate in the Lok Sabha on 75 years of the adoption of the Constitution, the parliamentary affairs minister cautioned that "our words and actions should not diminish the image of the country in the world fora". Rijju was the first speaker on the second day of the debate in the Lower House. While India has given equal voting rights to all, some claim that minorities have no rights in the country, Rijju said in an apparent jibe at the opposition. In his over an hour-long speech, Rijju suggested that the Congress should "apologise" to

Ambedkar to "lessen its sins". He alleged that "you" (apparently the Congress) made Ambedkar lose in the 1952 parliamentary polls. Rijju also questioned the delay in bestowing Ambedkar with the Bharat Ratna and asserted that the chief architect of the Constitution was conferred with India's highest civilian honour after a government supported by the BJP came to power at the Centre. Continuing his tirade, Rijju cited Ambedkar as saying that while Jawaharlal Nehru delivered more than 2,000 speeches in 20 years, he never spoke about the welfare of Scheduled Castes "even once". "Pandit Nehru is always for Muslims," the minister, said quoting Ambedkar. Citing a document, Rijju said while Ambedkar wanted reservation indefinitely till equality was achieved, Nehru advocated for it to be in place for 10 years. A day after

several opposition leaders claimed in the Lower House that the rights of minorities were shrinking, the Union minister said India not only provided legal protection to minorities, it also had a provision for affirmative action to protect their interests. Rijju said successive governments worked for the welfare of minorities. "The Congress has also done that, I am not undermining its role." The minister also cited a survey to claim that minorities, including Muslims, were facing discrimination and hate crimes in many nations. The situation in neighbouring Pakistan, Bangladesh and Afghanistan where minorities are facing persecution is well-known, he said. Groups seek refuge in India as they feel this country is safe for them, Rijju added and wondered why such narratives on minorities' rights were being floated.

Is Adani unparliamentary word: Priyanka Gandhi in her maiden speech



PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ NEW DELHI

Congress MP Priyanka Gandhi Vadra on Saturday questioned why 'Adani' was expunged from her speech and asked if it is an unparliamentary word. In her maiden speech in the Lok Sabha on Friday, Priyanka Gandhi had said it seems Prime Minister Narendra Modi has not understood that it is "Bharat ka Samvidhan" and not "Sangh ka Vidhan". Asked about BJP's criticism of Leader of Opposition in Lok

Sabha Rahul Gandhi's speech, she told reporters on Saturday, "This is the job of the BJP. They don't want to talk on real issues. The speech that I have given, only Adani has been expunged from it." "Is Adani unparliamentary word? They can take anyone's name, we can't take Adani's name?" she said. The newly elected Wayanad MP claimed during a debate on the Constitution in the Lok Sabha that had it not been for the Lok Sabha poll results, the ruling party would have started changing the Constitution.

Tripura to have 1.14 lakh 'lakhpati didis' by end of current fiscal: CM Manik Saha



PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ AGARTALA

Lauding the Tripura Rural Livelihood Mission (TRLM) for spearheading women empowerment, Chief Minister Manik Saha on Saturday asserted that the northeastern state will have 1.14 lakh 'Lakhpati Didis' by the end of the current fiscal. At present, the state has 83,000 'Lakhpati Didis' who earn Rs 1 lakh or more annually by engaging

themselves in activities of self-help groups (SHGs). While addressing the inaugural programme of SARAS Mela at Badharghat International Fair Ground in West Tripura district, the chief minister said the success of SHGs has changed the rural economy over the last few years. "The number of SHGs, which was only 4,000 before 2018, has now increased to 52,000. Altogether, 4.73 lakh rural women got engaged in various self-employment trades. The government has allocated Rs 69 crore as revolving fund so far (after the BJP came to power in Tripura) and Rs 626.97 crore community investment fund has been channelised to the SHGs," Saha said. Showering praise on the role of TRLM, which works under the state

government's Rural Development Department, Saha said "The number of 'Lakhpati Didis' in the state will increase from 83,000 at present to 1.14 lakh by the end of the current financial year. The initiative has strengthened the socio-economic condition of the women living in rural areas." Saha also highlighted the success of organising SARAS mela, an annual event to showcase and sell the products made by different SHGs. "The sale proceeds of SARAS Mela, which was Rs 1.5 crore in the 2022-23 fiscal, has grown to Rs 4.5 crore in the 2023-24 fiscal. The increase mirrors the success of SHGs," he said. Is Adani unparliamentary word: Priyanka Gandhi on words expunged from her maiden speech

New Delhi, Dec 14 (PTI) Congress MP Priyanka Gandhi Vadra on Saturday questioned why 'Adani' was expunged from her speech and asked if it is an unparliamentary word. In her maiden speech in the Lok Sabha on Friday, Priyanka Gandhi had said it seems Prime Minister Narendra Modi has not understood that it is "Bharat ka Samvidhan" and not "Sangh ka Vidhan". Asked about BJP's criticism of Leader of Opposition in Lok Sabha Rahul Gandhi's speech, she told reporters on Saturday, "This is the job of the BJP. They don't want to talk on real issues. The speech that I have given, only Adani has been expunged from it." "Is Adani unparliamentary word? They can take anyone's name, we can't take Adani's name?" she said.

India, Indonesia to strengthen bilateral defence ties during Navy Chief's four day visit

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ NEW DELHI

India and Indonesia will review the entire spectrum of their bilateral defence ties and explore ways to further enhance them during Navy Chief Admiral Dinesh K Tripathi's visit there for four days beginning Sunday. Giving details here on Saturday, navy officials said this visit is part of ongoing efforts to further consolidate bilateral defence relations between India and Indonesia, in line with the deepening Comprehensive Strategic Partnership, with a focus on enhancing Naval Cooperation. During the visit, Admiral Tripathi is scheduled to engage in bilateral discussions with top level Indonesian Government and defence officials including Lt General Sjafrie Sjamsuddin (ret'd), Defence Minister of

Indonesia, General Agus Subiyanto, Commander of Indonesian Armed Forces and Admiral Muhammad Ali, Chief of Staff of Indonesian Navy. The discussions are expected to cover a broad spectrum of defence cooperation areas, particularly maritime security, joint training initiatives, and exploring avenues for further strengthening the operational collaboration between the two navies. The visit underscores the strong maritime relations between the two countries conforming to the shared vision of India-Indonesia Maritime Cooperation in the Indo Pacific. The existing maritime cooperation between the two Navies encompasses a range of activities, including joint exercises, port visits, and training initiatives aimed at building capacity.

BJP demands apology from CM Sukhvinder Singh Sukhu for eating 'jungli murga'

PTI ■ SHIMLA

The Himachal BJP on Saturday demanded an apology from Chief Minister Sukhvinder Singh Sukhu for allegedly encouraging his associates to eat "Jungli Murga" (Grey Junglefowl), which is an endangered species, during a dinner in a remote area in Shimla. Sukhu responded by saying that he does not eat oily and non-vegetarian food due to health reasons. He further said eating non-vegetarian food is a way of life in villages and accused the opposition leaders of making an issue out of it. The BJP's statement came after a video went viral on the internet, in which Sukhu is seen saying, "Inko do Jungli Murga, hume thodi khana hai (Give them Jungli Murga, I don't want to eat)". Sukhu then asks his companions if they wish to eat the dish. The video was shot at the remote Tikkar area of Shimla district, where the Chief Minister was having dinner

with Health Minister Dhani Ram Shandi and other officials on Friday night and the particular dish was listed on the menu. "Jungli Murga (Grey Junglefowl) is an endangered species listed in Schedule I of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972, and the Wildlife (Protection) Amendment Act 2022. Hunting and eating this species is illegal," said BJP spokesperson and state social media in-charge Chetan Bragata in a statement issued on Saturday. Meanwhile, Leader of Opposition Jai Ram Thakur pointed out that there are provisions for imprisonment and fines for hunting and eating "Jungli Murga." He accused the CM of not only having the dish featured on the dinner menu but also encouraging his associates to eat it. BJP MLA from Dharamshala, Sudhir Sharma, said that while the CID is still probing who leaked the samosa enquiry report, another controversy has emerged regarding the serving of "Jungli Murga." He

called on the forest department to take action in this matter. The incident of three boxes of samosas and cakes being mistakenly served to the CM's security staff during an event on October 21, instead of him, has taken on disproportionate significance following a CID probe that termed the mix-up an "anti-government" act. In a video byte, Sukhu responded by saying, "The villagers served the chicken for dinner, but I refused as I do not eat it and now Jai Ram Thakur is making an issue out of it." "I do not eat oily and non-vegetarian food due to health reasons," he later added in a statement, insisting that opposition leaders have no real issue and are merely trying to tarnish the image of the villagers. Despite being an endangered species, hunting and eating the Grey Junglefowl, which is considered delicious, is reportedly a common practice in rural areas of the state, particularly during the winter months.

Congress apologised for Emergency but BJP silent on its own actions: NC MP Mian Altaf Ahmad

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ NEW DELHI

Opposition MPs on Saturday accused the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) of attacking the Constitution, with National Conference (NC) MP Mian Altaf Ahmad saying while the Congress apologised for imposing Emergency, the ruling party has been silent on its own actions. Participating in a debate on 75 years of the adoption of the Constitution, Ahmad slammed the BJP for bifurcating the state of Jammu and Kashmir into two union territories. "Congress has apologised for the Emergency but you are silent on various things you have done... Congress toppled elected governments, but you divided our state into two Union Territories, which was unnecessary," he said. Communist Party of India (Marxist) Leninist Liberation MP Raja Ram Singh named activists like Stan Swamy, who was jailed



in the Bhima Koregaon case and died in the prison, Umar Khalid, Gulfisha and Meeran Haider, who have been arrested on the allegations of links with the 2020 Delhi riots. "What Constitution are we talking about?" he said. Singh said the idea of economic equality is also enshrined in the Constitution and there should be a proportional difference in the salary of the president and a peon. "You want a peon for Rs

5,000 but the CEO gets paid Rs 2.5-3 crore... Government is encouraging growing economic disparity," he said. The MP also slammed the BJP for wanting to keep "Gandhi in one pocket, and Savarkar in the other pocket". "This double standard would not work. BJP is playing with the Constitution, they want to bring communal fascism in this country," he said. "The first chapter of the

Constitution has the figure of Buddha on it, don't try to replace it with the Gita," he said. The Revolutionary Socialist Party (RSP) MP N K Premchandran also pointed out at the growing divide between rich and the poor and said the directive principles speak about minimising inequalities. He accused the BJP government of trying to concentrate wealth and means of production in a few hands. "The fruit of so-called economic development is not reaching the poor and the marginalised," he said, adding that B R Ambedkar had warned that economic and social inequalities will destroy the foundation of democracy. He also said the secular fabric of the country was under threat. He said people of the country did not give absolute majority to the BJP because they wanted to protect the secular character of the nation.

Sikkim CM Tamang launches NPHCE

PTI ■ GANGTOK

Sikkim Chief Minister Prem Singh Tamang on Saturday launched the National Programme for Health Care of Elderly (NPHCE) aimed at catering to the needs of senior citizens in the state. The key initiatives under the programme include the establishment of a 20-bed geriatric ward at STNM Hospital and 10-bed wards in all the district hospitals, specialised OPDs, and the distribution of mobility aids like spectacles, hearing aids, and wheelchairs, an official said. "This programme ensures a holistic approach to address the needs of Sikkim's elderly and retired population and help them lead healthier, happier and more fulfilling lives," the chief minister said after launching the health initiative at a function at his official residence Mintokgang. State Health Minister GT Dhungel was present on the occasion. The programme aims at providing affordable, high-quality healthcare services for senior citizens and retired individuals, the official said.

WHO report sounds alarm: drowning claims 300,000 lives annually, may claim 7.2 Million by 2050

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ NEW DELHI

The Global Status Report on Drowning Prevention, released by the World Health Organisation (WHO) on Friday has painted a grim picture of the global toll of drowning, which claimed over 300,000 lives in 2021-equivalent to 30 deaths per hour. Alarmingly, it said, if current trends persist, over 7.2 million lives, predominantly children, could be lost to drowning by 2050. More so, with climate change increasing the frequency and intensity of flooding, drowning prevention becomes an urgent priority, as 75 per cent of flooding deaths result from drowning.



Drowning remains a huge burden given that it is the third leading cause of death for children aged 5-14 years and the fourth leading cause for those aged 1-4 years. As per the report, 92% of drowning deaths occur in low- and middle-income countries with the South-East Asia Region (including India) accounting for 28% of

global deaths in 2021. While global drowning deaths have decreased by 38% since 2000, progress varies significantly. For example, the European region saw a 68% drop, while South-East Asia achieved a 48% decline. Data limitations exclude deaths caused by natural disasters (e.g., floods) or water transport, likely underestimating the true scale. Only 33% of countries offer national programmes to train bystanders in safe rescue and resuscitation. Just 22% of countries include swimming and water safety education in school curricula. Without significant investment in drowning prevention,

economic losses could reach \$4 trillion globally by 2050, as per the report which emphasises the need for multi-sectoral involvement to address drowning, including government, education, health, and infrastructure sectors. Providing day care for pre-school children and teaching school students basic swimming skills could help protect millions of lives in countries with high rates of drowning, the report states. Investing in drowning prevention efforts would not only save lives, it could help prevent economic losses of about \$4 trillion that could occur by 2050 if efforts are not taken to stem the crisis, the report points out.

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ NEW DELHI

In a wake-up call to the escalating challenges of climate change, a new report by researchers from the Indian Institutes of Technology (IIT) Guwahati and Mandi has identified at least 11 districts in India, including Patna (Bihar), Alappuzha (Kerala), and Kendrapara (Odisha), as being at 'very high' risk of experiencing both floods and droughts, necessitating immediate intervention. The climate risk assessment report compiled jointly by the two IITs in collaboration with the Centre for Study of Science, Technology and Policy (CSTEP), Bengaluru, categorised 51 districts in

India under the "very high" flood risk category, with 118 more as "high" risk. States like Bihar, Assam, Jharkhand, Odisha, and Maharashtra are most affected, said the study that assessed risks across 600 plus districts. India's heavy dependence on the monsoon underscores the critical nature of these risks. Variability in rainfall-leading to either droughts or excessive floods-directly impacts agriculture, livelihoods, and rural economies, said the report. "India's agrarian society is deeply dependent on the monsoon, making the challenges posed by climate change, such as droughts and excessive rainfall, increasingly critical. This report, a collaboration

between DST, SDC, provides a comprehensive risk assessment for over 600 districts, offering invaluable insights for effective mitigation strategies," noted Devendra Jalihal, the IIT-Guwahati director. The study integrated climatic hazards, exposure and vulnerability to offer a comprehensive view of district-level risks to aid in disaster risk reduction and highlight the direct impact on people and livelihoods, paving the way for data-driven adaptation planning. "Climate change is one of the most formidable challenges of our time, impacting agriculture, livelihoods, and every aspect of life. No single entity can address this alone - it requires collective efforts and

innovative frameworks. Through this report, we take a significant step towards identifying vulnerabilities, assessing sensitivity and addressing challenges faced by local communities at risk," said Anita Gupta, head of scientific divisions in the Department of Science and Technology. "Translating these findings into on-ground actions is essential, and the insights must reach every stakeholder at both national and state levels. This is just the beginning, as India moves forward with a balanced adaptation and mitigation strategy to achieve a cleaner, greener and climate-resilient future. Together, we will fast-track our goals for a Viksit Bharat and a Net Zero Bharat by 2047," Gupta added.

11 Indian districts at very high risk of both floods and droughts: IIT climate risk report

Protests erupt in Kolkata over doctor's rape and murder case, Opposition alleges CBI's inefficacy

PTI ■ KOLKATA

A day after two key suspects in the rape and murder of a doctor at the RG Kar hospital got bail, the Left parties and the Congress on Saturday took out protest rallies at various locations in Kolkata, alleging that the CBI has "failed" to deliver justice in the case. They also alleged that the ruling Trinamool Congress (TMC) in West Bengal and the BJP-led Centre have a "tacit understanding". The Congress took out a procession from Rabindra Sadan area to the CBI office at Nizam Palace in southern Kolkata and criticised the central probe agency for its alleged inability to frame charges against the two accused in the case. During the procession, Congress activists were seen holding the party flags aloft and chanting slogans like "We



demand justice" and "Bihar chai Tilottoma (Tilottoma wants justice)". The police stopped the Congress activists from entering the Nizam Palace, which led to a scuffle between the protesters and the police personnel. Hundreds of people took part

in a rally, organised by the West Bengal Junior Doctors Front (WBJDF), from Karunamoyee to another CBI office at CGO Complex in Salt Lake area, covering a distance of one kilometre. Junior doctors' forum organised the march to protest the "delay in framing

charges by the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI)" against all the "conspirators" in the rape and murder of the woman doctor at RG Kar Medical College and Hospital on August 9. The parents of the deceased medic also participated in the rally. "We will fight for justice

and it is our right," said the mother of the deceased doctor. The protesters were holding placards which read "If the system has failed, we will make it function to deliver justice". In a separate rally, SUCI (Communist) activists marched from Karunamoyee to the CGO Complex in Salt Lake, while a rally was taken out by SFI, the students' wing of the CPI(M), in College Street area in the northern part of the city. The Sealdah court in Kolkata had on Friday granted bail to RG Kar Medical College and Hospital's ex-principal Sandip Ghosh and former officer-in-charge of the Tala Police Station Abhijit Mondal in the rape and murder case of the on-duty doctor. They were granted bail after the CBI "failed" to file a charge sheet against them within the mandatory 90-day period.

Fake notice sent to UP Governor in land inheritance case

BISWAJEET BANERJEE ■ LUCKNOW

In a shocking incident, an unidentified miscreant sent a forged legal notice to the Uttar Pradesh Governor in connection with a land inheritance case pending in Malihabad Tehsil court. The matter came to light when the notice file reached the district collectorate from the Raj Bhavan, prompting the Governor to express displeasure and direct strict action, sending officials into a frenzy. The case involves a dispute between Meera Pal and the village council over inheritance rights, which are currently under consideration in the court of Tehsildar Vikas Singh. According to officials, the miscreant fabricated a regular legal notice by forging the court's seal and the signature of the Tehsildar's assistant. The notice, dated October 29 with a hearing date of November 8, was speed-posted from Lucknow to the



Raj Bhavan on November 11. Tehsildar Singh clarified that under the Uttar Pradesh Revenue Code 2006, computerized notices are automatically generated for parties involved in inheritance disputes under Section 34. "The Governor is not a party in such cases, and no such notice was issued from the tehsil," he confirmed. Sub-Divisional Magistrate (SDM) Saurabh Singh stated that the fake notice aimed to tarnish the tehsil's reputation. "Someone used a forged

court seal and signature, creating a false notice and sending it via speed post from Lucknow," he said. While the letter from the Raj Bhavan has yet to reach Malihabad, an investigation is underway to trace the culprit. "Strict action will be taken against the person responsible," assured SDM Singh. The incident has raised concerns about potential misuse of official seals and documents, prompting officials to tighten security measures in administrative offices.

Malkangiri will get cement factory soon: Odisha CM Majhi

PTI ■ MALKANGIRI (ODISHA)

Focusing on the overall development of tribal-dominated districts, Odisha Chief Minister Mohan Charan Majhi on Saturday announced plans to set up a mega cement factory in Malkangiri district that would provide employment to 2,000 people. A cement factory with an investment of Rs 4,000 crore will be set up in the district. This will provide employment for about 2,000 people in Malkangiri," the CM said. On the second day of his visit to Malkangiri, the CM chaired a review meeting with district officials, which was attended by minister for social security and empowerment of the disabled, scheduled tribes and scheduled castes development, minority and backward classes welfare, and school and mass education Nityanand Gand,



Nabarangpur MP Balabhadra Majhi, Malkangiri MLA Narasinh Madakami, Chitrakonda MLA Mangu Khil, southern revenue officer Rupa Roshan Sahu, southern range DIG Nitish Shekhar, district collector Ashish Elohim Patil, and forest officer Pratap Kattapalli. Majhi emphasised the need for the urgent implementation of various schemes under the Scheduled Tribes and Scheduled Castes Development, Minority and Backward Classes Welfare

Department, including the development of railway infrastructure, national highways, roads, and rural development. He directed officials to complete these projects on a priority basis. Highlighting the importance of education, the CM stressed the need for appointing at least two teachers in every school. He also outlined plans for development through the Jeevan Jeevika Mission, aiming to bring Malkangiri on a par with the state's leading districts.

Senior Congress leader E V K S Elangovan passes away at 75

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ CHENNAI

Senior Congress leader and former Union Minister EVKS Elangovan died due to age-related ailments at a private hospital here on Saturday, the hospital said. He was 75. The legislator from Erode East constituency has not been keeping well for over a month. He was admitted to a hospital here on November 11. Born in Gobichettipalayam on December 21, 1948, Erode Venkata Krishnasamy Sampath Elangovan served as Union Minister of state for Petroleum, later as MoS for Industries and Commerce and MoS for Textiles, he was instrumental in abolishing the CENVAT. He was the grandnephew of Periyar Ramasamy. His father Sampath was associated with the Dravidian movement and later merged his faction with

the Congress. His mother Sulochana Sampath served as AIADMK organising secretary. Elangovan was fondly called as "Tanmana Thalaivar" by the Tamil Nadu Congress workers. He entered politics in the 1980s and was elected as MLA from Sathyamangalam constituency, Erode district, in 1984 while in alliance with the AIADMK. He unsuccessfully contested from Bhavanisagar Assembly constituency after joining actor Sivaji Ganesan-led political party "Tamizaga Munnetra Munnani." Ganesan had then thrown his weight behind the Janaki AIADMK faction. Following the merger of the AIADMK groups, Ganesan dissolved the political party and Elangovan rejoined the INC. After 2009, he contested in two parliament elections and was defeated at Erode and Theni.

PM Modi pays tributes to Raj Kapoor on 100th birth anniversary

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ NEW DELHI

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Saturday paid tributes to celebrated actor-filmmaker Raj Kapoor on his 100th birth anniversary, hailing him as "the eternal showman". He said in a social media post, "Today, we mark the 100th birth anniversary of the legendary Raj Kapoor, a visionary filmmaker, actor and the eternal showman! His genius transcended generations, leaving an indelible mark on Indian and global cinema." The prime minister had recently met members of the Kapoor family, which has produced several successful actors, to commemorate his legacy. Born on this day in 1924 in what was then undivided India and is now part of Pakistan, Kapoor was the son of stalwart actor Prithviraj Kapoor and grew



to become not only a successful actor but also one of the greatest filmmakers of the Hindi film cinema. His screen portrayal of a common man wedded to working-class values

coupled with an eye for talent in various aspects of film-making, not least in music, created a popular cinema that won the hearts of people in India as well as abroad.

Air Chief Marshal Amar Preet Singh urges graduating cadets to uphold IAF's honour and traditions



PTI ■ HYDERABAD

Chief of Air Staff, Air Chief Marshal Amar Preet Singh on Saturday urged the graduating cadets from the Air Force Academy near here to uphold the ethos, traditions and honour of the Indian Air Force (IAF). He served as the reviewing officer of the Combined Passing Out Parade of the IAF

at the Air Force Academy near here. Addressing the cadets, Singh said their career is not only challenging but also honourable. He further said whether in the sky or on the ground, the officers have a vital role to play in operations and should make sure that they understand their role. Exhorting the newly commissioned officers to be future leaders and

commanders, the IAF chief said the responsibility should be a motivating factor in their lives. "You are the future leaders and commanders, not just air warriors, and you will chart the destiny of Indian Air Force. Let this huge responsibility not wear you down, but be a motivating factor in your lives," he said. If the young officers let the core values of Indian Air Force, mission, integrity, and excellence be their guiding beacons, while they navigate through their careers, they will never go wrong, he said. Singh urged them to uphold the ethos, traditions and honour of the Indian Air Force. Every aspect of their service life, from professional learning to executing assigned missions and tasks, cultivating leadership, and later passing on the mantle to

their juniors, will have an impact on how the Indian Air Force navigates trials and tribulations ahead, he added. The CGP of the 214th Course commemorates the successful completion of pre-commissioning training for flight cadets across various branches of the Indian Air Force (IAF). The CGP also witnessed the commissioning of the first batch of Weapon Systems Branch officers into the IAF. During the ceremony, the IAF Chief conferred the 'President's Commission' on the graduating trainees. The event included the presentation of 'Wings' and 'Brevets' to flight cadets, as well as officers of the Indian Navy, and Indian Coast Guard, and one officer from a friendly foreign country upon their successful completion of training.

Nepal Army Chief General warns of future challenges for military leaders due to emerging technologies

PTI ■ DEHRADUN

The future environment for military leaders will be full of challenges due to the emergence of disruptive new technologies, said Nepal Army Chief General Ashok Raj Sigdel as he reviewed the IMA's passing-out parade for the autumn course on Saturday. He called upon the gentlemen cadets passing out of the Indian Military Academy (IMA) to be ready for such challenges and said they can embark on their exciting new journey with confidence, as they have received the best training available in the field. "The job ahead is not easy. You will face a future environment that is invariably multi-domain, multi-theatre, and multi-sectoral. The challenges will be multi-pronged due to the emergence of disruptive



technologies, but you can go forth with confidence because you have received the best training," General Sigdel said, addressing the cadets. A total of 491 cadets passed out of the IMA on Saturday, including 456 from India and 35 from friendly countries. "Valour will carry you through difficult times, and wisdom will help you carve out the best path forward," General Sigdel said. As the cadets step into their new roles as military leaders,

their endurance will be tested, as they will be required to perform their duties in extreme climatic conditions - ranging from the highest altitudes to the lowest depths, from the coldest glaciers to the hottest deserts, and from the loneliest jungles to the densest urban centers, he added. Their skills and the values of valour and wisdom instilled in them at the IMA will stand them in good stead, General Sigdel said. He praised the

cadets for their immaculate turnout and flawless drill, saying it reflected their high level of training. General Sigdel further congratulated the cadets and wished them the best on their exciting new journey. He said they should serve their respective nations with the highest degree of professionalism and integrity. Describing military service as the most honourable career, he said it demands a lifelong pursuit of growth and excellence. General Sigdel also expressed his gratitude for being invited to the Passing Out Parade (POP) at the IMA, which has a global reputation for excellence as a military training academy. A colorful parade and drill were presented by the passing-out cadets at the IMA's drill square, set against the backdrop of the historic Chetwode Building.

Kerala Education Minister warns of strict action over leaked SSLC, class 11 question papers

PTI ■ THIRUVANANTHAPURAM

Kerala Education Minister KV Sivankutty on Saturday warned of stringent action against those behind the leak of question papers for SSLC and class 11 Christmas examinations. "The Director General of Education will lodge a complaint with the DGP regarding the incident," he told reporters here. According to recent media reports, the question papers of Class 10 English and Class 11 Mathematics for the Christmas examinations were leaked and circulated on YouTube channels before the exams. He also said action would be initiated against YouTube channels that published the leaked question papers. "The government will

collect information about teachers from the Public Education Department who are associated with private tuition centers, and they will be subjected to an investigation," the Minister stated. Criticising the YouTube channels that published the leaked question papers, he said such actions only bring them "notorious fame." "Although the current exams are not pivotal to students' future, it is crucial to uphold the credibility of the examination system," he added. The Minister reiterated that teachers are already prohibited from engaging in private tuition, and strict action has been taken against those violating the department's directives. "We will release the figures of those soon," he added. A release issued by the

General Education Department on Saturday said the Director of General Education will soon lodge a complaint with the State DGP and Cyber Cell regarding the leak of plus one question papers for the Christmas examination and its appearance on a YouTube channel. Strict security measures are in place across all stages, including the preparation and distribution of question papers. Describing the incident as a "very serious matter", the release said the culprits would be identified and brought before law. The Department of Public Education added that no compromises would be tolerated in ensuring the integrity of school examinations.

Allu Arjun released from jail after spending a night in custody over stampede incident



PTI ■ HYDERABAD

Actor Allu Arjun was released on Saturday morning from the jail where he spent the night after being arrested in connection with the death of a woman in a stampede here during the premiere of his latest film. Arjun had to spend Friday night in prison despite the Telangana High Court granting him bail, as the authorities had not received

a copy of the bail order until late last night. "He has been released," Ashok Reddy, his counsel, told reporters at the Chanchalguda prison. After reaching home, Arjun thanked his followers and others across the country for their love and support and said he is a law-abiding citizen and respects the law. "I'll cooperate with them and I'll do the needful. And very importantly, I would like to give my condolences once again to the family. It (death of a woman) is very very unfortunate," he told the media. On his arrest, the 42-year-old actor said he believed in the law and respected it. "When the law is taking its course, I should not deal with the case, so I should not talk about it. From a legal standpoint, I would not like to talk about it," he

said. Arjun said it was a challenging time for his family. A 35-year-old woman died and her eight-year-old son was hospitalised on December 4 during a stampede-like situation at the Sandhya Theatre in Hyderabad when thousands of fans jostled to have a glimpse of the actor at the premiere of the blockbuster "Pushpa 2: The Rule." Following the incident, the city police registered a case against Allu Arjun, his security team, and the theatre management under different sections of Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS) at the Chikkadpally police station based on the complaint lodged by the deceased woman's family. Reiterating that he would support the family of the deceased, the actor said he

has been going to theatres to watch films for the past 20 years. From the prison, the star directly drove to his family production house, Geetha Arts and spent some time there. After reaching home, he was hugged by his son, wife and other family members. Arjun was driven out through the Prison Academy gate at around 6.45 am, sources said. Ashok Reddy claimed that the prison authorities did not release the actor despite having got the High Court order copy. "You should question the government and the department why they have not released the accused. The High Court order is very specific. Forthwith, the moment you (prison authorities) receive the order, (they should) release him. Despite the

clear order, they have not released, they have to answer. This is an illegal detention. We will take legal steps," Reddy said. According to the counsel, Allu Arjun was kept in jail as a "special category prisoner". The "Pushpa" actor was arrested from his residence on Friday morning unfolding a day-long dramatic turn of events. After the arrest, Allu Arjun was produced in a local court which remanded him to 14 days' judicial custody. However, his lawyers moved the HC and secured interim bail. Arjun was lodged in Chanchalguda prison shortly before the HC spelt its order. Meanwhile, police stepped up security outside the star's city residence anticipating a surge of fans post his release.

SOUTH KOREA'S PARLIAMENT IMPEACHES PRESIDENT YOON

South Korea's parliament on Saturday impeached President Yoon Suk Yeol over his stunning and short-lived martial law decree, a move that ended days of political paralysis but set up an intense debate over Yoon's fate, as jubilant crowds roared to celebrate another defiant moment in the country's resilient democracy.

Hundreds of thousands of people gathered near the parliament roared in jubilation, waved banners and brandished colourful K-pop glow sticks, as a lead activist shouted on stage, "We have preserved the constitutional order!"

from launching provocations by miscalculation. Han asked the foreign minister to inform other countries that South Korea's major external policies remain unchanged, and the finance minister to work to minimize potential negative impacts on the economy by the political turmoil, according to Han's office.



A participant holds up a banner before a rally to demand South Korean President Yoon Suk Yeol's impeachment outside the National Assembly in Seoul, South Korea. (inset) President Yoon Suk Yeol.

deployment of troops was meant to maintain order, rather than disrupt it. Democratic Party leader Lee Jae-myung called Yoon's speech a "mad declaration of war" against his own people.

destroy the door and drag out the lawmakers who are inside." Kwak said he didn't carry out Yoon's orders. Yoon is the third South Korean president impeached while in office.

Shoot them down: Trump on mystery drone sightings

US President-elect Donald Trump has called for the "shooting down" of the mystery drones that have been appearing in various parts of the country.

The White House on Thursday said there was no evidence yet that the reported drone sightings pose a national security or a public safety threat or that they have a foreign nexus.

Jersey has reported several incidents of unattributable drone sightings at night, alarming both residents and local law enforcement.

A federal appeals court has left in place a mid-January deadline in a federal law requiring TikTok to be sold or face a ban in the United States, rejecting a request made by the company to halt enforcement until the Supreme Court reviews its challenge of the statute.

injunction after a panel of three judges on the US Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit sided with the US government and rejected their challenge to the law.

Court denies TikTok's request to halt enforcement of potential US ban until Supreme Court review

The Justice Department had opposed TikTok's request for a pause, saying in a court filing last week that the parties had already proposed a schedule that was "designed for the precise purpose" of allowing Supreme Court review of the law before it took effect.

line, House Select Committee on the Chinese Communist Party (CCP) Chair John Moolenaar and Ranking Member Krishnamoorthi on Friday wrote to Apple CEO Tim Cook, Google CEO Sundar Pichai and TikTok CEO Shou Chew.

PUBLIC NOTICE: It is to inform to the public at large that Mr. Karam Singh has acquired First Floor without roof...

PUBLIC NOTICE: It is to inform to the public at large that Mrs. Shabana has acquired Plot No. 9, measuring 250 sq. yds. out of Khata No. 1661 Min. at Main Road...

LOST & FOUND: I, Jaba Sen Menon D/o Deva Prasad Sen Mazumdar, R/O Flat No. A 302 Saranah Apartments, Plot No. 34, I/P Extension, Patparganj, Delhi-110092, solemnly and sincerely swear and state that I am the duly constituted attorney of Shri Krishan Kumar Gupta...

PUBLIC NOTICE: It is hereby informed that Flat No. 374-B, First Floor, Block B, Sector-19, Noida whose GPA holder is Shri J.C. Tewari S/o Shri Shiv Dutt...

THE PIONEER CLASSIFIED CHANGE OF NAME: I, Sudesh D/o Dhara Singh W/o Lt. Sh. Ranvir Singh R/o 18, Goodwill Apartment, Sector-13, Rohini, Delhi-110085, I have changed my name Sudesh Kumari to Sudesh. And also in my Driving License wrongly return name of my husband as Ranbir Singh but my husband correct name is Ranvir Singh.

PUBLIC NOTICE: Notice is hereby given to the General Public that Sh. Gurjit Singh S/o Sh. Joginder Singh and (2) Sh. Harinder Kumar W/o Sh. Gurjit Singh are the owner of F-63, Ground Floor, Area Measuring 50 sq. yds. Situated at Gali No. 2, East Vinod Nagar, Delhi.

PUBLIC NOTICE: My client Jitender Singh s/o Late Shri Dayaram R/o H.No. 223, Devi Village, New Delhi-110002, REVOKED/CANCELLED by cancellation deed on 13/12/2024, any and all General Power of Attorney along with agreement to sell, Special power of attorney, Possession letter, Will, Receipt, etc. All Dated 12/2023. Notarized by VINOD YADAV R/o No.17567/19 vide NOTARY REGISTER SL. No. 721, 722 & 723 in respect of properties in Property No. 223, Khata No. 155 measuring 300 sq. yds. meters, Block-A, Sector-P, 4, Greater Noida, Distt. Gautam Budh Nagar, U.P. from Mr. Sunil Verma. It is hereby declared that the owners are availing a loan facility against the mortgage, registered at SBI RACPC, Prayagraj, U.P. by mortgaging All Original documents. In the entire chain of documents, the Original Stamp papers of Lease Deed bearing SL. No. 645 in Book No. 1 Vol. No. 745 at pages 677 to 696 on 17/02/2004 issued by GNIDA in favour of Mr. Sunil Verma is missing hence the said property is free from all types of encumbrances, tenets or any claim.

PUBLIC NOTICE: This is to inform to the public at large that Raj Kumar Vaisya and Mrs. Kanchan Vaisya have purchased Residential Plot No. 51, area measuring 300 sq. meters, Block-A, Sector-P, 4, Greater Noida, Distt. Gautam Budh Nagar, U.P. from Mr. Sunil Verma. It is hereby declared that the owners are availing a loan facility against the mortgage, registered at SBI RACPC, Prayagraj, U.P. by mortgaging All Original documents. In the entire chain of documents, the Original Stamp papers of Lease Deed bearing SL. No. 645 in Book No. 1 Vol. No. 745 at pages 677 to 696 on 17/02/2004 issued by GNIDA in favour of Mr. Sunil Verma is missing hence the said property is free from all types of encumbrances, tenets or any claim.

Indian-origin OpenAI whistleblower dies by suicide in San Francisco

A 26-year-old Indian-origin former employee of the artificial intelligence giant OpenAI has died by suicide in San Francisco, authorities said.

San Francisco, the office's Executive Director David Serrano Sewell said. "The manner of death has been determined to be suicide.

initial investigation," SFPD officer Robert Ruca wrote in a statement. Balaji spoke to the Times in October, saying he was one of the researchers who worked gathering data to train OpenAI's programmes like GPT4, which users interact with through the chatbot ChatGPT.

GOVERNMENT OF ODISHA OFFICE OF THE CHIEF CONSTRUCTION ENGINEER, SOUTHERN (R&B) CIRCLE, BERHAMPUR. Bid Identification No. CCE, S.C (R&B)-BAM-13/2024-25 No. 4172 / Dated: 11.12.2024. The Chief Construction Engineer, Southern (R&B) Circle, Berhampur on behalf of Governor of Odisha invites percentage rate bid in double cover system in ONLINE MODE from eligible contractors for construction of Road works as detailed in the table below.

GOVERNMENT OF ODISHA OFFICE OF THE CHIEF CONSTRUCTION ENGINEER, KHORDHA (R&B) CIRCLE, KHORDHA. Short Tender call Notice. Bid Identification No. CCE-Khordha (R&B) Circle-21/2024-25 Memo No - 2472 Dt. 12.12.2024. The Chief Construction Engineer, Khordha (R&B) Circle, Khordha on behalf of Governor of Odisha inviting percentage rate bid in double cover system in ONLINE MODE from eligible contractors for Building works as detailed in the table below.

सावर्जनिक सूचना: कावयवक पत्रिका-401 उज्जैन/राजस्थान/सदर. PD(1081)C I, Mahadevi Mahalingappa Mellikan, W/o- No.6494093P H/o Mahantesh Kadakol, Rav Mahantesh Kadakol, Post-Tallur, Teh- Savadatti, Dist-Belgaum, Karnataka-591117, have changed my name from Mahadevi Mahalingappa Mellikan to Mahadevi Mahantesh Kadakol, vide affidavit dated 14/12/2024 before Notary Public Delhi.

PD(1082)C I, Shweta W/o Atul Kumar R/o K-1702, 17th Floor, Arihant Arden, Sector-1, Greater Noida West, Gautam Buddha Nagar, Uttar Pradesh-201318 have changed my name to Sweta Singh for all future purposes. PD(1083)A I, Sajid Alam S/o Md Nuruddin R/o WZ-273, Shakur Pur Village, Sarawati Vihar, North West Delhi, Delhi - 110034 have changed my name to Md. Sajid for all future purposes. PD(1084)A

PUBLIC NOTICE: My client Jitender Singh s/o Late Shri Dayaram R/o H.No. 223, Devi Village, New Delhi-110002, REVOKED/CANCELLED by cancellation deed on 13/12/2024, any and all General Power of Attorney along with agreement to sell, Special power of attorney, Possession letter, Will, Receipt, etc. All Dated 12/2023. Notarized by VINOD YADAV R/o No.17567/19 vide NOTARY REGISTER SL. No. 721, 722 & 723 in respect of properties in Property No. 223, Khata No. 155 measuring 300 sq. yds. meters, Block-A, Sector-P, 4, Greater Noida, Distt. Gautam Budh Nagar, U.P. from Mr. Sunil Verma. It is hereby declared that the owners are availing a loan facility against the mortgage, registered at SBI RACPC, Prayagraj, U.P. by mortgaging All Original documents. In the entire chain of documents, the Original Stamp papers of Lease Deed bearing SL. No. 645 in Book No. 1 Vol. No. 745 at pages 677 to 696 on 17/02/2004 issued by GNIDA in favour of Mr. Sunil Verma is missing hence the said property is free from all types of encumbrances, tenets or any claim.

Time has come for US Congress to act on Bangladesh: Thanedar

Raising the issue of attacks on minority Hindus in Bangladesh, Indian-American Congressman Shri Thanedar has said that the time has come for the US Congress to act.

Bangladesh since the fall of the Sheikh Hasina government. "Since 1971, when Bangladesh got its freedom from Pakistan, there have been numerous occasions where minority Hindus have been attacked.

I feel bad that I missed the opportunity, but I can re-create it: Patidar hopes for India return



PTI ■ BENGALURU

Rajat Patidar's international career did not take off as he would have liked, but the Madhya Pradesh batter is confident of "re-creating" the opportunity through domestic matches and don the India jersey again.

Patidar's six innings against England earlier this year produced just 63 runs, but the right-hander has shown impressive touch in the first half of the Ranji Trophy and the ongoing Syed Mushtaq Ali Trophy. "I enjoyed going to the Test team. But sometimes I feel bad that I missed the opportunity. But it's alright sometimes things don't go your way," Patidar said during an interaction here on Saturday.

Patidar has accepted his "failure" and has moved away from that disappointing space. "I think acceptance is the key. You have to accept that there will be failure in the cricketing journey. So, it's important for me to face it and learn from it."

"I have just accepted it and I am moving forward. It's a part and parcel of the game. I can re-create the opportunity," he added.

In that context, the 31-year-old has taken a bold first step, scoring a good amount of runs in domestic tournaments.

From five Ranji Trophy matches, the Madhya Pradesh captain has made 427 runs at an average of 53.37 with a hundred and a fifty. Patidar is also the third highest run-getter in the ongoing SMAT behind Ajinkya Rahane (432) and Bihar's Sakibul Gani (353) with 347 runs from nine matches at a strike-rate of 182.63 with four fifties.

The powerful right-hander said trusting his skills was the reason behind his good run. "I am just trying to back my strength in the areas where I am going to hit, like I was doing in the last couple of years. I am just trying to find out the same pattern that I was playing in the IPL."

"My mantra is to play one ball at a time. I try to put my impact on the opposition for my team. I don't try to get big scores. I have never paid attention to that," he said.

Patidar also received a confidence-booster when Royal Challengers Bengaluru retained him ahead of the IPL auction.

"Yes, definitely, RCB is a big franchise and I love playing

for RCB. So it (retention) gave me a lot of confidence that they retained me."

Patidar's name is doing rounds within RCB circles as their prospective captain for IPL 2025 after the franchise released Faf du Plessis.

He was open to that challenge.

"Of course, if I get an opportunity to lead RCB, that is what I am there for, and I will be happy. But it all depends on the franchise," he said.

However, Patidar has an immediate goal to accomplish, guiding Madhya Pradesh to their maiden SMAT title against Mumbai on Sunday at a venue where they won the Ranji Trophy two seasons ago.

Incidentally, they had beaten Mumbai that time and Patidar had made 122 in MP's six-wicket victory. The captaincy sits light on his shoulders.

"I have learnt a lot out of it. I have enjoyed learning the tactics. I love seeing players and anticipating what they can do."

"I have learnt a lot about captaincy from my coach (Chandrakant Pandit). Everybody knows that he is the best coach in India," he said.

Assam govt not taking initiative to identify sporting talents, says Bhogeswar

PTI ■ SIVASAGAR (ASSAM)

Assam's first Arjuna Awardee sprinter Bhogeswar Baruah has criticised the state government's sports policy, saying it is not taking enough initiatives to identify and nurture talent in rural areas.

"It is sad to say that there is no production of sports persons anywhere in Assam. Earlier, we used to organise camps to attract new talents, but it is not happening anymore," Baruah, a gold medalist in 800m at the 1966 Asian Games, told PTI.

The 84-year-old said the government has engaged so many coaches who could be sent to districts to organise such camps and impart training, but such initiatives are not happening.

"If there is no coaching, how will we produce sports persons? If any sports event takes place, the kids are just taken there to participate. If there is no training or camp, how will our children progress?"

"If there is any tournament, children are called and taken to participate -- this is Assam's sports policy," Baruah said.

Baruah, who won gold and silver at the Asian Games in 1966 and 1970 respectively, accused the government of encouraging only those who have achieved success on their own.

"Has the government made anyone a sports person? Government is not identifying and picking up talents from



the ground. When someone shines, only then the government comes into the picture. That is what is happening nowadays," he said.

Baruah said it has been almost 6 to 7 years that any sports camp has been organised in the state.

"If they (government) were interested, I would have also taken interest. I would have definitely gone to the ground and given tips to the athletes. When the government has no idea, no intention, no aim, what can I do?" he said.

Baruah said earlier 2 to 3 such camps used to be organised annually but questioned why they have stopped.

"You go and ask the Director of Sports. They have not organised a camp for so many years! Why is it not happening nowadays?" he remarked.

Baruah claimed he had requested the concerned officials several times to hold sports camps, but there has been no response.

"I had even sought equipment saying that we would hold a camp. Give at least one set of hurdles for doing training. You need 10 hurdles in one line, but we sought five for training purposes. There is no jumper, pole vaulter -- nothing is available," he claimed.

Asked if he spoke to the state Sports Minister regarding this, Baruah said due to his age he could not meet him to discuss the matter.

Reflecting on the future of sports in Assam, Baruah said: "I can't say anything. I will say what is right. There has been no camp at all during the tenure of the present government."

The Assam government is currently organising the second edition of 'Khel Maharan', aiming at identifying and nurturing rural talent through grassroots-level competitions.

"All sports persons are in the villages. We have to search and nurture them. Rural sports is the only way to find real talents, otherwise we won't get it," Baruah said when asked about 'Khel Maharan'.

In 2021, the Assam government had decided to observe Baruah's birthday September 3 as 'Sports Day'. Baruah heaped praise on Asian Games gold medalist runner Hima Das and Olympic medalist boxer Lovlina Borgohain, saying their success is largely due to the efforts of their parents.

Classifieds

CHANGE OF NAME

I, Anil Kumar S/o Sh. Brij Lal Saini R/o H No. 1172, Sector 52, Chandigarh have changed my name from Anil Kumar to Anil Kumar Saini.

I, Parvesh Kumar S/o Rameshwar Dass Bansal R/o H.No. 1007, Sector-17, Panchkula Haryana have changed my name to Parvesh Kumar Bansal husband of Raksha Rani.

I, Rakesh Kumar Arora s/o Late Shri Roshan Lal Arora R/O # 1670 Sector 22-B Chandigarh have changed my name from Rakesh Kumar Arora to Rakesh Arora.

I, Naresh Kumar S/o Om Parkash Hira R/o 1961, Sector 17, HUDA, Jagadhri, Distt Yamuna Nagar have changed my name from Naresh Kumar to Naresh Kumar Hira.

I Baljeet Jangra S/o Sh. Ram Chandar R/O Pana Maharana VPO Mirzapur, Teh. & Distt. Hisar, Haryana declare that I have changed my name from Baljeet Singh to Baljeet Jangra for all future purposes. In future I should be known as Baljeet Jangra instead of Baljeet Singh. - Deponent

I, Nawal Kishore Singh s/o Ram Avtar Singh r/o #1365, Sector 5, Urban Estate, Kurukshetra have changed my minor son's name from Vashu to Arnay Singh. In future, he will be known as Arnay Singh.

I, Harpreet Singh S/o Sh. Avtar Singh, #3112, Sector-50D, B.J Enclave Near Buraal Jail, Chandigarh have, changed my name to Harpreet Singh Ubhi for all future purposes.

I, Pardeep Kumar S/o Shyam Lal R/o # 621/12, Jahajpur, Hisar have changed my name from Pardeep Kumar to Pardeep Kumar Rupela.

I, Neetu W/o Madan Lal Changotra R/o H.No- 1209, Sector-10, Ambala City, Haryana 134003 have changed my name from Neetu to Raj Rani Changotra.

I, Aryan S/o Ravinder Kumar R/o H.No- 111, Rana Complex, Babyal Road Ambala Cantt 133005 have changed my name from Aryan to Aryan Dhanwan.

I, Vandana Verma C/o Gaurav Hasija R/o H.No-374/319 Model Town Ambala City, Haryana 134003 have changed my name from Vandana Verma to Vandana Hasija

I, Gunjan Kaushal W/o Atul Kaushal R/o H.No- 552, Mathura Nagar, Ambala City, Haryana 134003 have changed my name from Gunjan Kaushal to Gunjan Rana.

I, Baljit S/o Brahma Nand R/O Village Maruli Brahmanan Tehsil & Distt. Hoshiarpur Punjab have changed my name from Baljit to Baljit Singh. Concerned note.

I, Iqbal Singh S/o Gian Singh R/o VPO Chhabwala Distt. Hoshiarpur Punjab have changed my name from Iqbal Singh to Iqbal Singh Jhutti. Concerned note.

I, Smt. Kartar Kaur W/o No. 4437762X Late Hav Faqir Singh R/o VPO Daganu Kalan Tehsil & Distt. Hoshiarpur Punjab have changed my name from Kartar Kaur to Avtar Kaur and my date of birth from 18-08-1944 to 05-03-1950

I, Rameshwar Das S/o Sh. Gopal Dass R/o H.No. 507, Gali No. 7, Vikas Nagar, Phoshgarh Road, Karnal I have changed my name from Rameshwar Das to Rameshwar Dass. In future I will be known as Rameshwar Dass.

I, Jaswinder Lal S/O Kabul Ram R/O #1141B B-1 Rathpur Colony Pinjore Distt Panchkula Have Changed My Name From Jaswinder Lal Suman To Jaswinder Lal.

I, Sachina D/o Sh. Surender R/o H.No. 410, VPO Mandaura, Teh. Kharkhoda, Distt. Sonapat, Haryana have changed my name to Cheena Dahiya for all future purposes.

I, Sunita Rani W/o Sanjay Kumar R/o H.No. 881/5, Layalpur Colony, Kurukshetra, Haryana-136118 declare that name of mine and my son has been wrongly written as Sunita and Dhruv in my minor Son namely Dhruv Khunger, aged 16 Years, in his 10th class educational documents. The actual name of my mine and my son is Sunita Rani and Dhruv Khunger respectively.

I, Pawandeep Singh S/o Kuldeep Singh R/o Village Kiri Afgana, Tehsil Batala, Distt. Gurdaspur have changed my name from Pawandeep Singh to Singh Pawandeep.

I, Sajan Masih S/O Baldev Masih village Godarpur Post Office Naushera Majia Singh District Gurdaspur (Punjab) Have Changed My Name Sajan Masih To Masih Sajan.

I Mamtesh Rani (Aadhaar No. 848634007897) W/o Sh. Amandeep Singh R/o Village Ismailabad, Sub-Tehsil Ismailabad, District Kurukshetra have changed my name from Mamtesh Rani to Manpreet Kaur. In future I should be known as Manpreet Kaur.

I, Kiran Devi W/o Om Prakash Presently R/o Flat No. E 2/8 - 2nd floor DLF VALLEY, Near Amravati Panchkula, Tehsil Kalka, distt. Panchkula Haryana 134107, permanent R/o Vill. Dhani Nangal Ugra, Teh. Bawal, Distt Rewari, Haryana 123501, have changed name of my minor son Yug, aged 13 years, and he shall hereafter be known as Yug Jangu.

I, Narinder Kaur W/o Gurnam Singh R/o Village Teonthha, Tehsil Pundri, Distt. Kaithal (Haryana) declares that I have changed my name from Narinder Kaur to Narender Kaur. In future, I will be known by the name of Narender Kaur. All concerned please note.

I Joginder Singh S/o Ishar Singh R/o Village Khera Kalan,P.O Talakaur,Sub Tehsil Saraswati Nagar, Tehsil Jagadhri, Distt. Yamuna nagar have changed my father Name from Ishar Singh To Ishar Singh & changed my Mother Name from Soma Kaur To Som Kaur & Changed my Address Village Kheda Kalan, P.O Talakaur, Tehsil Jagadhri, Distt. Yamuna Nagar To Village Khera Kalan, P.O Talakaur, Tehsik Jagadhri, Distt. Yamuna Nagar.

I, Nirmala Devi W/o Pars Ram, R/o Village Bassa Lokwan, PO. Bhalkh, Tehsil Nurpur, Lokwan (398), District Kangra (H.P), My Correct Name is Nirmala Devi, I Declare That Nirmala Devi to Nirmala Devi is Name of one lady, Kindly Note.

I, Pars Ram S/o Gian Chand, Ward No-9, Vishkarma Nagar Lamini Pathankot, Tehsil & District Pathankot (Punjab), My Correct Name is Pars Ram, I Declare That Pars Ram to Pars Ram is Name of the one Parson, Kindly Note.

I, Vijay Kumar S/o Chaman Lal, R/o H.No.408, Ward No.17, Shakti Nagar, Angooran Wala Bagh, Pathankot, Hereby Declare That I Have Changed My Name to Vijay Kumar Babbar, Henceforth, I Shall be Known as Vijay Kumar Babbar For All Purposes.

I, Manju Bala W/o Varinder Kumar Sehgal R/o H.No.8, Gali No.7, Pawan Nagar, Batala Road, Amritsar Have Changed My Name From Manju Bala To Vanita Sehgal. All Note.

I, Ranjit Singh s/o Baj Singh R/o Vill. Bhangwan po. Preet Nagar Tehsil Ajnala District Amritsar Pin.143110, Punjab ,India have changed My Name From Ranjit Singh To Ranjit as given name and Singh as Last Surname .Concern note

I, Arshdeep Kaur w/o Ranjit singh R/o Vill Bhangwan po. Preet Nagar Tehsil Ajnala District Amritsar pin. 143110 ,punjab, India have changed my name from Arshdeep Kaur To Arshdeep as Given name and Kaur as Last Surname. Concern note

I, No. 14670477A Havildar Ravendra Kumar Presently Posted With 184 (1) Fd Wksp Coy & My Permanent Address Is Village 58, Harvansh Nagar, Meerut Road, Ghaziabad Post Nand Gram Tehsil Ghaziabad District Uttar Pardesh, Pin 201001, Have Changed My Wife Date Of Birth From 02-07-1986 To 02-07- 1987, Vide Affidavit No. In-Up89311857661906w, Dated 04-12- 2024, Before Notary Public.

I, No. 14670477A Havildar Ravendra Kumar Presently Posted With 184 (1) Fd Wksp Coy & My Permanent Address Is Village 58, Harvansh Nagar, Meerut Road, Ghaziabad Post Nand Gram Tehsil Ghaziabad District Uttar Pardesh, Pin 201001, Have Changed My Wife Name From Kumari Divya To Divya Yadav, Vide Affidavit No. In-Up89309933632877w, Dated 04-12- 2024, Before Notary Public.

I, Jagdeep S/o Shahub Singh R/o Village Satrod Khas (154), Hisar, Haryana, 125044 declare that I have changed my name from Jagdeep to Jagdeep Rana for all future purpose.

I, Surila W/o Sh. Ashok Jain R/o H. No. 1195, Sector 14 P, Hisar (Haryana) declare that I have changed my name from Surila to Surila Jain for all future purpose.

I, Rajeev Kumar S/o Omparkash R/o VPO Bugana (71), House No. 475, Distt. Hisar Haryana-125121 declare that I have changed my name from Rajeev Kumar to Rajeev for all future purpose.

I, Bipin Bihari Mohanty Father of No-14664759H Rank NK Name Sanjeeb Kumar Mohanty R/o Vill. Adhajori, PO Sansaraphala, Teh. Pattamundai, Distt. Kendrapara, Odisha-754211 have changed my date of birth in army record from 01-07-1949 to 20-02-1959 vide affidavit dated 12-12-2024 before Session Court Hisar.

I, Reema Singla W/o Raj Krishan Singla, 30 Silvercity Extension, Zirakpur, SAS Nagar, have changed name to Reema Singal.

I, Pardeep Gill s/o Puran Chand R/o #1167 Pushpac Complex, Sector 49 B Chandigarh have changed my name to Pardeep Singh

I, Geeta W/o Shri Shiv Dev Roy Sehdev R/o House No. 858 Sector- 12 Panchkula Haryana 134112, have changed my name from Geeta to Geeta Sehdev .

I Mohan Suni S/o Balbir Dhuni R/o VPO Paraul, Distt SAS Nagar Mohali, have changed my name from Mohan Suni S/o Balbir Dhuni to Mohan Singh S/o Balbir Singh.

I Meena W/o Rakesh Kumar Village Simbal Majra Po Nurpurbedi Distt Rupnagar have changed my name Meena to Naresh Kumari

I Narinder Kaur W/O Manjit Singh Resident of House No. 557/9 purana Bazaar ward.no.9 Patti Dist. Tarn Taran. I have changed my name Narinder kaur to Sharanjit Kaur. Please note

I, Kamaljit Kaur W/O Sardar Singh R/O Village Sultania (Kartarpura) Tehsil Guhla District Kaithal Haryana have changed my name from Karamjit Kaur to Kamlesh Kaur.

I, Neeru Jindal W/O Pankaj Kumar R/O House no.225,Huda R-3, Ward no.8 Cheeka Tehsil Guhla District Kaithal (Haryana) have changed my name from Neeru to Neeru Jindal.

I, Megha Devi W/o Vishal Jindal R/o H. No. 212, Urban Estate-2, Hisar (Hry) have changed my name from Megha Jindal to Megha Devi for all purposes in future.

I, Sunita Kundu w/o Sh. Subhash Chandar R/o H.no. 1506,Sec-23, Sonapat 131001 Haryana have changed my name from Sunita Devi to Sunita Kundu for all future purposes.

I Navdeep Kaur W/o Dalwinder Singh R/o W.No.15, New Chandan Nagar Gurudwara Sahib, Kartarpur, Jalandhar have changed my name from Navdeep Kaur Dhaliwal to Navdeep Kaur.

I Om Parkash S/o Sh Radha krishan R/o Ward no 11 Assandh Distt Karnal I have changed my name from Om Parkash to Om Parkash Chhabra.In Future I shall know As Om Parkash Chhabra.

I Ram Singh S/o Karam Chandler R/O Bassi Pathana, Fetehtarh Sahib declare that in school record my daughter name is wrongly mentioned as Rajwinder Kaur. Correct name is Rajwinder Kaur.

I, Lalit Kumar S/O Ajay Kumar Vpo Kalichpur Tehsil Dinanagar District Gurdaspur. Declare That My Son Studying In Lfcs Gurdaspur. In School Record My Son's Name Written As Sarvanshu. Now I Have Changed My Son's Name Sarvanshu Khajuria.

I Ranjeet Kaur W/O Amandeep Singh Makkar R/O Bhagta Bhai Ka Distt. Bathinda Have Changed My Name To Ranjeet Kaur Makkar .

I Chinderpal Kaur W/O Hardeep Singh R/O Vill. Bulara P.O Gill Distt. Ludhiana Have Changed My Name To Chhinderpal Kaur.

I Mahesh Kumar Saini S/O Ram Parkash R/O B-6/595 Vpo. Pur Hiran Hoshiarpur Punjab Have Changed My Name To Mahesh Kumar.

I Jugraj Singh S/O Harbhajan Singh R/O Vpo. Begampur Jandiala Distt. Hoshiarpur Punjab Declare That My Given Name As Jugraj And Surname As Singh.

I Jasbir Kaur W/O Kuldeep Singh R/O H.No.B-1/467/5, Panj Piplan, Bahadurpur, Hoshiarpur (Punjab) Declares That Jasbir Kaur And Jasvir Kaur Both Names Are One And Same Person.

I Madhu Sudan S/O Roshan Lal Jain, R/O H.No.B2 MCH.73 Ivory Cottage Mall Road, Hoshiarpur. Have Changed My Name From Madhu Sudan To Madhu Sudan Jain.

I Gurwinder Singh S/O Daljit Singh R/O House No.1530, Keharwali Dasuya, Distt. Hoshiarpur Punjab Declare That My Given Name As Gurwinder And Surname As Singh.

I Monika W/O Satish Sandhu R/O Vpo. Madho Pur Tehsil Phagwara Distt. Kapurthala Have Changed My Name From Monika To Monika Sandhu.

I, Neethu Sharma spouse of No.15672275N Hav Praveen Rai resident of House No. 41-A, Gali No. 7/3, Shakti Vihar, Mithapur Extn Badarpur, South Delhi, State-New Delhi, Pin-110044, have changed my name from Neethu Sharma to Neetu Rai Vide affidavit No.IN-PB87250643955196W dated 10 Dec 2024 before notary public Pathankot

I, No.14835224W Hav/MT Purushottam Singh resident of Village- Sehi, Post- Sehi, Tehsil- Chhata, District- Mathura, State- UP, Pin-281406, have changed my Mother name from Bijna Devi to Vijana Vide affidavit No. IN-PB88156444990489W dated 12 Dec 2024 before notary public Pathankot

I, Kabul Devi am Mother of Army No: 15337776W Rank-CHM Name-Jai Prakash Presently Posted At Unit: 57 Engr Regt C/o 56 APO Permanent Address: Ward No: 9,Sagwa, Sagawa, Jhunjhunun, Buhana, Rajasthan-333034 Declare that I have changed my name from Kabul Devi to Kabul Kanwar. Vide Affidavit No-48AA 901176, Dated: 14/12/24

I, Army No-18006156H Rank-NK Name-Santhosh Kumara M N Presently Posted At Unit: 57 Engr Regt C/o 56 APO Permanent Address: Melagodu Village and Post, Dudda Hobli, Hassan Taluk and District, Melagodu, Hassan, Karnataka - 573220 Declare that I have changed my name from Santhosh Kumara M N to Santhosh Kumar M N. Vide Affidavit No-48AA 901177, Dated: 14/12/24

I, Joginder Kaur am Mother of Army No-4477905P Rank-L/NK Name-Ashwani Singh Presently Posted At Unit: 250 DSC, PLN, Arde (DRDO) Pashan, Pashan Police Station, Pashan, Pune, Maharashtra-411002 Permanent Address: Vill: Kotli, Post: Bhunga, Teh: Hoshiarpur, Dist: Hoshiarpur, Punjab, Pin 144210 Declare that I have Correct my Date of birth from 06/05/1956 to 01/01/1953. Vide Affidavit No-48AA 901162, Dated: 14/12/24

I, Jone Singh am Son of Army No-4477905P Rank-L/NK Name-Ashwani Singh Presently Posted At Unit: 250 DSC, PLN, Arde (DRDO) Pashan, Pashan Police Station, Pashan, Pune, Maharashtra-411002 Permanent Address: Vill: Kotli, Post Bhunga, Teh: Hoshiarpur, Dist: Hoshiarpur, Punjab, Pin 144210 Declare that I have changed my name from Jone Singh to Jon Singh. Vide Affidavit No-48AA 901160, Dated: 14/12/24

I, Jon Singh am Son of Army No-4477905P Rank-L/NK Name-Ashwani Singh Presently Posted At Unit: 250 DSC, PLN, Arde (DRDO) Pashan, Pashan Police Station, Pashan, Pune, Maharashtra-411002 Permanent Address: Vill: Kotli, Post: Bhunga, Teh: Hoshiarpur, Dist: Hoshiarpur, Punjab, Pin 144210 Declare that I Correct my Date of birth from 22/04/2006 to 23/04/2006. Vide Affidavit No-48AA 901161, Dated: 14/12/24

I, Sunita W/o Anil Bhola R/o H.No. 371/17 Ashri Gate Behind of Aushdalya Near Gandhi Gali, Jind Tehsil and District Jind Have Changed My Name From Sunita To Sunita Bhola.

I, Anil S/o Sudesh Kumar Bhola R/o H.No. 371/17 Ashri Gate Behind of Aushdalya Near Gandhi Gali, Jind Tehsil and District Jind Have Changed My Name From Anil To Anil Bhola.

I, Rohit Kumar S/o Sh. Balvinder Singh R/O H.No. 795/5 Rajender Nagar Jind Tehsil and District Jind Have Changed My Name From Rohit Kumar To Ramesh Kumar.

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AAVAS FINANCIERS LIMITED
(CIN:L65922RJ2011PLCO34297) Regd. & Corp. Office: 201-202, 2nd Floor, South End Square, Mansarovar Industrial Area, Jaipur, 302020

POSSESSION NOTICE

Whereas, The undersigned being the Authorised Officer of AAVAS FINANCIERS LIMITED under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 and in exercise of powers conferred upon me under section 13(12) read with Rule 9 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002, issued a Demand Notice calling upon the borrowers mentioned herein below to repay the amount mentioned in the respective notice within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said notice. The borrowers having failed to repay the amount, undersigned has taken possession of the properties described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on me under Section 13(4) of the said Act read with Rule 9 of the said rules on the dates mentioned as below.

The borrower and Guarantor in particular and the public in general is hereby cautioned not to deal with the properties and any dealings with the property will be subject to the charge of the **AAVAS FINANCIERS LIMITED** for an amount mentioned as below and further interest thereon.

Name of the Borrower	Date & Amount of Demand Notice	Description of Property	Date & Type of Possession
GULAYACHIGULAYACHI, MR. BREEJ MOHAN GUARANTOR : MR. RAMESH KUMAR, MR. HARPAL SINGH (A/C NO.) LNKRK02921-220180952	8-FEB-23 Rs. 546243/- 7-FEB-23	RESIDENTIAL PROPERTY SITUATED AT H NO 948, PPD 78C266U207, KHASRA NO 24/17, KALI MANDIR COLONY, SHANTI COLONY, JAGADHRI, TEHSIL JAGADHRI, DISTT. YAMUNA NAGAR, HARYANA ADM. 65 SQ. YARD	PHYSICAL POSSESSION TAKEN ON 11-DEC-24

Place : Jaipur Date: 15-12-2024 Authorised Officer Aavas Financiers Limited



“Elegance is not being noticed, it’s about being remembered.”

Walking into “Shubhrajyotsna,” you are instantly transported to a world of delicate artistry and enduring tradition. The event, hosted by Princess Manjari Mishra of Ayodhya, was a heartfelt tribute to her late mother, Rani Jyotsna Mishra. Every detail of the event reflected the deep connection between heritage and craftsmanship, creating an environment that felt both majestic and intimate. The inauguration saw the presence of iconic figures like Padma Shri Hema Malini, Padma Bhushan Sudha Murthy and Padma Vibhushan Sonal Mansingh. Their words of admiration for Rani Jyotsna Mishra and her daughter’s efforts added depth to the event. The venue was an aesthetic masterpiece, with every corner adorned with designs that captured the essence of Ayodhya’s cultural legacy. The stunning collection of textiles and accessories from Shilpmanjari, Princess Manjari’s artisanal atelier, was the highlight. From soft velvets to the intricate zardozi and gota-patti embroidery, each piece displayed a level of craftsmanship that was nothing short of breathtaking.

The showcased clothing celebrated the rich tradition of Indian fashion. The embellished sarees, paired with elegant cummerbunds and shawls, exuded a sophistication that stood out in a world often focused on fast fashion. These garments were steeped in tradition but had a contemporary appeal, making them versatile for any occasion. Princess Manjari’s personal style, marked by subtlety and grace, was evident in each piece, which was not only a reflection of her cultural roots but also a vision of elegance. In addition to the sarees, the accessories collection stole the show. Beaded potlis, embroidered belts and delicate hairbands were inspired by the flora, fauna and folklore of India. These accessories were carefully designed to complement the clothing, with each piece telling its own unique story. The work was rich in detail, from the vibrant designs to the tiny beads and pearls that added a touch of opulence. Princess Manjari also created the “Shubhrajyotsna,” perfume, which holds a special place in her heart as a tribute to her mother. The perfume’s floral and woody notes perfectly reflect Rani Jyotsna’s essence. Princess Manjari shared that her mother always loved the ingredients included in the fragrance and through this perfume, she feels her mother’s presence will always be with them. The scent acts as a beautiful reminder of Rani Jyotsna, carrying her spirit with every use. The collections from Shilpmanjari also featured the Panchatantra Collection, where the spirit of folklore was brought to life through clothing



IN EVERY THREAD, A STORY

Through “Shubhrajyotsna,” Princess Manjari Mishra breathes new life into Ayodhya’s fashion heritage, honouring her mother’s elegance and vision, says **SAKSHI PRIYA**



adorned with vibrant animal and bird motifs. This collection honored the mythical tales that are part of India’s collective memory, blending tradition with creativity. Similarly, the Darbar Collection offered rich velvets and satin robes, reminiscent of the royal courts of yore. These regal garments, embellished with semi-precious stones, evoked the grandeur of royal darbars, where opulence was essential. The garments from Shilpmanjari are not just pieces of clothing; they are embodiments of history, heritage and art. Each design is thoughtfully crafted to celebrate the elegance of royalty while making it accessible for modern-day wearers. The quality of the fabrics, the precision of the embroidery and the cultural inspiration that runs through every piece make them truly timeless. Shubhrajyotsna beautifully blends the past with the present, offering a rare glimpse into a world where tradition meets modern style. The event not only celebrated exquisite craftsmanship but also highlighted the importance of preserving our cultural heritage. True beauty lies in the details, where tradition and creativity come together and every piece tells its own meaningful story.

PHOTOS: PANKAJ KUMAR



THE NEW LIFESTYLE LANDMARK

By **TEAM VIVA**

In the fast-paced life of Noida, where long commutes and traffic have become a daily struggle, *Rcube Monad Mall* has emerged as a refreshing new destination, offering everything from shopping and dining to entertainment, all in one place. Located in Sector 43, this modern mall is quickly becoming the heart of the community, redefining urban living with convenience, luxury and family-friendly experiences. “We are incredibly proud to introduce *Rcube Monad Mall* to Noida, a place that is more than just a shopping destination; it represents our commitment to creating sustainable and innovative urban spaces that enhance the quality of life for the communities we serve,” said Mr. Anuj Malhan, Founder at *Rcube Projects Pvt Ltd*.

Rcube Monad Mall isn’t just another commercial centre; it’s a thoughtfully designed neighbourhood hub. As *Richa Malhan*, shares, “We wanted to create a destination close to home, offering everything you need within minutes.” The mall is a one-stop shop for all things lifestyle, from retail stores featuring popular brands like *Lifestyle* and *Fab India* to essential services like salons and beauty parlours, all just moments away from nearby residential communities.

For families, this mall is a game-changer. It offers a variety of experiences for all ages, from Funky Island, an interactive play zone for kids, to family-friendly dining options like *McDonald’s* and *Popeyes*. For parents looking for a place to unwind, the Birch bar provides the perfect space to relax, while *MovieMax Edition*, Noida’s first luxury cinema with all-recliner seating, promises a premium movie experience. But the vision doesn’t stop at shopping and entertainment. The Mall is committed to sustainability and plans to make the mall pet-friendly in the future, ensuring that even furry friends can enjoy the experience. This commitment to creating a space that caters to families, friends and pets alike reflects the mall’s dedication to improving the quality of life for everyone.

In a world that often feels rushed, *Rcube Monad Mall* stands as an example of a slower, more connected way of living. It’s a space that blends convenience, luxury and community, offering a new, more human-centric approach to the modern lifestyle. Whether you’re sipping coffee in the morning, enjoying lunch with family or watching a movie in the evening, *Rcube Monad Mall* has everything you need to make the most of your day and it’s right in the heart of Noida.



PHOTOS: PANKAJ KUMAR
Richa Malhan, Founder at Rcube Projects Pvt Ltd.

Bringing Luxury Home Décor to Delhi

Maison Sia’s store in Delhi is a walking luxury taking the shopping of home décor to a whole new level, says **ABHI SINGHAL**

Maison Sia has launched its flagship store in Delhi, setting a new benchmark for luxury home decor in India. The boutique is a refined space that mixes global craftsmanship with Indian sensibilities. The store presents a curated collection of design pieces by internationally renowned names like Jean-François Lemaire and Glasremis, each reflecting a unique story that transcends borders. These works which are handpicked for their artistry and innovation, are a reflection of the brand’s philosophy of offering sophisticated design solutions. *Vratika Gupta*, the founder of *Maison Sia*, notes, “India’s emerging luxury design market, with its hunger for authentic and extraordinary experiences, perfectly mirrors *Maison Sia*’s creative philosophy.” The store is not just a retail space but a statement of how the brand fuses the best of global and local design. Featuring a collaboration with the esteemed furniture brand *EDRA*, the Delhi store also marks the debut of



Maison Sia’s first furniture line, *Maison Sia x Edra*. The synergy between local architects, such as *Seza Architects*, and international design houses has shaped a unique and immersive shopping experience. With luxury home décor products



like funky showpieces namely *Leblon Delienne*, *Sas Atelier*, different-sized candles, and heavy coffee table books, the boutique also features exquisite lighting solutions, with each piece crafted from responsibly sourced materials, adding character



and sophistication to any space. Designer wallpapers and precisely curated furniture further elevate the store’s ambiance, offering a glimpse into a world of design where quality and creativity meet. *Maison Sia*’s Delhi flagship store signals the brand’s commitment to bringing global design luxury narratives to India’s most refined design enthusiasts.

Amaran is an action war film that tells the inspiring story of *Major Mukund Varadarajan*, a brave Indian Army officer. While the film boasts strong performances, particularly from *Sivakarthikeyan* and *Sai Pallavi*, it unfortunately succumbs to the familiar tropes of the genre. *Sivakarthikeyan* delivers a commendable performance, effectively portraying the transition from a carefree college student to a dedicated soldier. His physical transformation and portrayal of *Mukund*’s unwavering commitment to duty are particularly noteworthy. *Sai Pallavi*, as always, is a force of nature, delivering an emotionally resonant performance that captures the strength and resilience of a grieving wife. Her portrayal of *Indhu*’s internal struggles, her unwavering love for *Mukund*, and her ultimate acceptance of his sacrifice are truly moving. *Rahul Bose* provides a solid supporting role as the commanding officer, adding gravitas to the film. The film’s plot, while emotionally charged, follows a predictable trajectory. The narrative, unfortunately, lacks originality, relying heavily on familiar tropes seen in countless other army-related films. The fast-paced nature of the film often leaves little room for viewers to fully process the emotional impact of certain



CINEMATIC RUSH WITH FAMILIAR BEATS
Amaran keeps the audience bound with the action but succumbs to the familiar tropes of the genre, writes **ABHI SINGHAL**



scenes. The film could have benefited from a slower pace, allowing for greater emotional depth and character development. The soundtrack features some catchy tunes. While some songs may appeal to a specific audience, they do little to enhance the narrative or elevate the emotional impact of the film. The background score, however, effectively builds tension and adds to the overall atmosphere of the film. The film undoubtedly aims to create strong emotions, and in some instances, it succeeds. The scenes depicting the love story between *Mukund* and *Indhu*, as well as the poignant moments of grief and loss, are genuinely moving. However, the film’s reliance on melodrama and predictable plot points sometimes undermines its emotional impact. The film could have benefited from a more nuanced portrayal of the complexities of war and its impact on the soldiers and their families. *Amaran* is a well-intentioned film that pays tribute to the sacrifices made by our soldiers. While the performances are commendable, and the film boasts some emotionally resonant moments, its predictable plot and reliance on familiar tropes prevent it from reaching its full potential.

Rating: 3.5/5

"IF YOU REALLY WANT TO MAKE A FRIEND, GO TO SOMEONE'S HOUSE AND EAT WITH HIM...THE PEOPLE WHO GIVE YOU THEIR FOOD GIVE YOU THEIR HEART"
— CESAR CHAVEZ

A TASTE OF TOKYO IN THE HEART OF DELHI



Boya Restaurant at Chanakyapuri, Delhi, is a gastronomic gem with finely curated dishes from celebrity chef Augusto and equally tastefully done interiors, writes **TEAM AGENDA**



Basko: All-Day Culinary and Cocktail Experience



By **TEAM AGENDA**

Step into *Basko*, the newly launched culinary bar in Noida, where ambiance, impeccable service and gastronomic artistry converge to create an unparalleled dining experience. Perched on a stunning rooftop, *Basko* exudes contemporary elegance with its warm, inviting interiors that seamlessly transition from a relaxed daytime haven to an energetic evening hotspot.

Basko's menu is a curated journey across global cuisines, featuring standout dishes like the *Lebanese Breaking Balloon*, a feast for both the eyes and palate, and the *Balochistan Raan*, a richly spiced lamb delicacy slow-cooked to perfection. Adventurous foodies will love the *Basko Surf & Turf Wings* and the umami-packed *Sesame Crusted Tofu with Teriyaki Glaze*.

The handcrafted cocktail program elevates the experience further, with offerings like the *Basko Ball*, blending buttery popcorn flavors with refreshing twists, and the *Picante Twist*, a fiery delight for spice lovers. Each sip is as inventive as it is indulgent. With its exceptional service, vibrant social atmosphere, and thoughtfully curated events, including live performances and exclusive launches, *Basko* is redefining Noida's dining and entertainment scene. It's more than a restaurant; it's a destination where every visit feels like a celebration.



Hours of Operation: 11 AM to 1 AM, Monday to Sunday
For Reservations, Please Contact: 95991 99499
Address: Basko, 6th Floor, Starling Mall, Sector 104, Noida, Uttar Pradesh, 201303

Chanakyapuri, Delhi's diplomatic enclave, has welcomed a new culinary star, *Boya* Restaurant. This contemporary dining destination promises a delightful experience that blends innovative gastronomy with an inviting ambience. Helmed by the celebrated *Chef Augusto*, who is both the Executive Chef and Chief Operating Officer (COO), *Boya* has quickly become a beacon for food connoisseurs and culinary adventurers alike.

A CULINARY VISION REALISED
Boya represents my vision of creating a dining experience that celebrates authenticity while embracing creativity," shares *Chef Augusto*. "Every dish on the menu has been crafted with passion, ensuring that it tells a story, evokes an emotion, and leaves a memorable impression." True to his words, the menu at *Boya* is a masterpiece that showcases an eclectic mix of global flavours with a modern twist.

The restaurant's menu is a symphony of carefully curated dishes that highlight seasonal ingredients and culinary finesse. Signature offerings include the succulent *Charcoal-Grilled Lamb Cutlets* infused with exotic spices and the delicately balanced *Miso-Glazed Black Cod*, a dish that perfectly marries sweet and savoury notes. Vegetarians will rejoice at the *Truffle-Scented Wild Mushroom Risotto*, which *Augusto* describes as "a warm embrace in a bowl."

"For me, food is more than just sustenance; it's an art form," *Chef Augusto* explains. "Every



ingredient is chosen with care, and every preparation is a homage to its origin." This ethos is evident in every bite, where the harmony of textures and flavours takes centre stage.

An Ambience That Speaks Volumes
The allure of *Boya* extends beyond its food. The restaurant's design is a visual treat that complements the culinary journey it offers. With its understated elegance, *Boya* combines modern architecture with subtle cultural motifs. The interiors are adorned with warm, earthy tones, ambient lighting, and bespoke art pieces that create an atmosphere of refined comfort.

"We wanted *Boya* to be more than just a place to eat," says *Chef Augusto*. "It's a space where people can connect, celebrate, and create

memories." This philosophy resonates throughout the establishment, from the welcoming staff to the thoughtful table settings.

The open kitchen design adds another layer of intrigue, allowing diners to witness the chefs in action. The theatrical display of culinary craftsmanship not only enhances the dining experience but also reinforces the transparency and authenticity that *Boya* embodies.

A TOAST TO CRAFTSMANSHIP
Boya's beverage programme is equally impressive, featuring a curated selection of wines, artisanal cocktails, and non-alcoholic options. The Sommelier's Selection highlights rare vintages and regional specialities, while the signature cocktails, like the *Citrus Bloom Martini* and *Smoked Maple Old Fashioned*, are crafted to perfection.

"Our drinks menu is an extension of our culinary philosophy," *Augusto* notes. "It's about balance, creativity, and ensuring every sip complements the flavours on the plate." The mocktails, such as the refreshing *Basil Lemonade* and the exotic *Lychee Rose Fizz*, are equally delightful, catering to diverse palates.

ACCOLADES AND ANTICIPATION
Despite its recent launch, *Boya* has already garnered acclaim from critics and

patrons. Food enthusiasts have praised the restaurant for its innovative menu and impeccable service. Many have also commended *Chef Augusto's* ability to create an experience that feels both luxurious and personal.

"The response has been overwhelming," says *Augusto*. "It's heartening to see diners appreciate the effort and thought we've put into *Boya*. For us, this is just the beginning."

A MUST-VISIT DESTINATION
Whether you're a seasoned foodie or simply looking for a memorable meal, *Boya* Restaurant is a destination that should be on your radar. With its exceptional menu, stunning ambience, and the genius of *Chef Augusto* at the helm, *Boya* is set to redefine the dining landscape in Delhi.

"*Boya* is not just a restaurant; it's a celebration of life, flavours, and togetherness," *Augusto* concludes. "We're here to create moments that linger long after the last bite." In a city teeming with culinary options, *Boya* shines bright as a testament to what passion, creativity, and excellence can achieve. Make your reservations soon, this is one dining experience you won't want to miss.



UNIQUE DUAL DINING EXPERIENCE

Experience two different worlds at *Blaq* and *Wyte*, with both daytime relaxation and rocking nightlife on the rooftop, writes **TEAM AGENDA**

Under the open sky and also for people loving indoors, *Blaq* and *Wyte* in the Defence Colony, opens its doors to a chilling concept for the food and party lovers. With a unique concept of both daytime and evening preferences with flair and sophistication one side of the place is *Blaq* and the other is referred to as *Wyte*. With doors above the urban hustle, *Blaq* and *Wyte* promises a meal and a mood with slices of the heavens on both sides.

Blaq's menu specialises in Pan Asian cuisine, featuring signature dishes like *crunchy iceberg vegetable dumplings*, *Chengdu Lamb*, and *Tuna Tataki*. By day, *Blaq* is a refined dining destination, but after 9 PM, it transforms into a lively party space with led displays and Asian-inspired cocktails, creating a nightlife experience.

On the other hand, the *Wyte* offers a contrasting and complementary atmosphere as a day-themed chill cafe and resto-bar. *Wyte* features Mediterranean cuisine, serving dishes like *Lamb Adana Kebab*, *Mezze Platter*, and *Stuffed Camelloni*. *Wyte* provides a relaxed, airy ambience that's perfect for casual

gatherings or unwinding over a leisurely meal. Its bright and inviting decor makes *Wyte* an ideal daytime spot for savouring a curated selection of Italian and Mediterranean dishes in a laid-back setting.

"The *Blaq's* interiors feature black and gold, highlighting how black enhances the prominence of other colours. Our vision was that without black, other colours wouldn't stand out as much.

Blaq evolved into a proper party destination after 9-10 p.m., catering to Delhi's party crowd. However, we noticed a demand from guests seeking a more relaxed and conversational ambience. That inspired *Wyte*, chill space with subdued music where guests can unwind, enjoy their food and drinks, and connect," said *Nikhil Sharma*, Founder of *Blaq* and *Wyte*.

Together, the place offers a great chill time from day to night bringing its own unique flair and appeal to Delhi's upscale dining scene. Whether it's a relaxed afternoon at *Wyte* or an elegant evening at *Blaq*, guests are invited to explore both spaces and embrace the full range of experiences offered in this exceptional dual dining destination.



A PERUVIAN EXTRAVAGANZA

By **TEAM AGENDA**



Delhiites experienced a rare glimpse of Peru's vibrant culture and cuisine during the Peru Festival, organised by the Embassy of Peru in Delhi. The event was inaugurated by H.E. Mr. Javier Manuel Paulinich Velarde, Ambassador of Peru to India, who kicked off a week-long celebration promising an immersive journey into the culinary and cultural treasures of the South American nation. Held at Le Méridien, the festival quickly became a highlight for food enthusiasts, culture lovers, and those passionate about exploring global traditions. The grand inauguration set an engaging tone, featuring mesmerising performances of traditional Peruvian music that captivated attendees. The event was launched by the distinguished ambassador alongside senior executives of Le Méridien, underscoring the shared values of cultural exchange and hospitality. The heart of the *Peru Festival* lay in its culinary offerings, curated by renowned Peruvian Chef

Julio Castillo. Guests indulged in an authentic menu featuring iconic dishes such as *ceviche*, *lomo saltado*, *anticuchos*, and *aji de gallina*. Dessert lovers enjoyed classics like *suspiro a la limeña* and *picacones*, paired with traditional beverages such as *pisco sour* and *chicha morada*.

Chef Castillo highlighted Peru's rich and diverse culinary heritage, shaped by Indigenous, Spanish, African, and Asian influences. "Food is the soul of our culture, and we're thrilled to share this with the world," he said.

Le Méridien's Marketing Manager *Gitanshu Jetly* echoed this sentiment, stating, "The Peru Festival exemplifies our commitment to celebrating global cultures and connecting our guests to enriching experiences. This partnership allows us to bring the vibrancy of Peru's heritage to our guests in a unique and memorable way."

The *Peru Festival* was an instant hit, drawing crowds eager to savour the sights, sounds, and tastes of Peru. The event offered Delhiites an opportunity to immerse themselves in the essence of Peruvian culture without leaving the city—a chance that visitors embraced wholeheartedly.

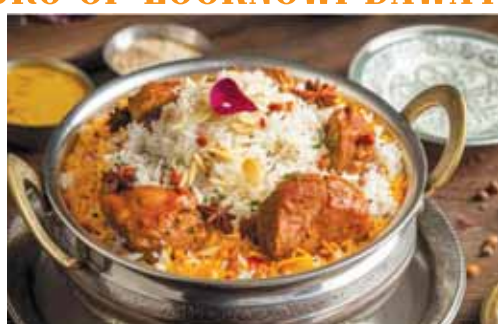


By **TEAM AGENDA**

If you've ever found yourself dreaming of a regal feast fit for royalty, look no further than the heart of Lucknow, brought to life at *Tamra, Shangri-La Eros New Delhi*. Here, home chef *Mansi*, a culinary prodigy from the UP Khatri community, delighted food lovers with an exquisite journey through Lucknowi *Dawat*, a celebration of *Awadhi* cuisine, reimagined with a deeply rooted respect for tradition. *Chef Mansi*, whose expertise in authentic *Awadhi* flavours is steeped in generations of family recipes, hosted a unique pop-up event at the renowned international cuisine restaurant. Her cooking, inspired by the women of her family, honoured the vegetarian traditions of her community while introducing a delightful array of North Indian delicacies. Focusing on slow cooking and seasonal ingredients, she brought life to every dish, from the rich *Zaffrani Biryani* to the soul-soothing *Dal*. The evening began with *Shammi Kababs*, delicate, spiced patties of minced meat, their tender texture and bold flavours setting the stage



REGAL FLAVOURS OF LUCKNOWI DAWAT



for what was to come. Then, guests were treated to *Khasta* and *Aloo* – the crisp, golden kachoris paired with tangy potatoes in a tomato gravy, a comforting prelude to the main course.

For the grand finale, the *Zaffrani Biryani* emerged as the hero – tender meat and fragrant rice slow-cooked under a blanket of saffron-infused steam, capturing the essence of *Awadhi* luxury. The *Nihari*, a slow-cooked stew of tender meat, braised overnight with aromatic spices, was a hearty winter delight, while the vegetarian dishes like *Lauki Musallam* – a stuffed gourd in a rich gravy – and the fresh, zingy *Nimona*, stole the spotlight.

The evening ended with the indulgent *Phirni*, a saffron-flavoured rice pudding crowned with dry fruits and silver wafers, served in charming earthenware bowls.

Chef Mansi's Lucknowi *Dawat* was not just a meal, but a celebration of culture, heritage, and culinary craftsmanship, a truly magical experience at *Tamra*, where tradition and innovation met with warmth and hospitality.

FACT SHEET

BLAQ

Address: D-21, Third Floor, Defence Colony, Delhi - 110024
Contact Number: 9582222702, 9582222703
Timings: 5 PM - 1 AM

WYTE

Address: D-21, Third Floor, Defence Colony, Delhi-110024
Contact Number: 9582221704, 9582221705
Timings: 12 PM - 1 AM

"The future belongs to those who believe in the beauty of their dreams"

— Eleanor Roosevelt



CELEBRATING THE RICH CULTURE OF NORTHEAST INDIA



The Ashtalakshmi Mahotsav 2024 brought the traditions, art, and flavours of the eight northeastern states to the national stage, celebrating their unparalleled cultural richness at the Bharat Mandapam in New Delhi, says **ABHI SINGHAL**

The Ministry of Development of North Eastern Region (DoNER) took a remarkable step in celebrating and showcasing the diverse culture and vibrant traditions of Northeast India. In an effort to bring the essence of this unique region closer to the heart of the nation, the Government of India concluded the first edition of the *Ashtalakshmi Mahotsav*, a festival that honoured the unparalleled cultural heritage of the eight northeastern states. Held in the national capital Delhi, the event resonated with the lively spirit, colours, and flavours of the region, leaving an indelible impression on visitors.

The festival's name, "Ashtalakshmi," has been derived from the eight northeastern states namely Assam, Arunachal Pradesh, Meghalaya, Manipur, Nagaland, Mizoram, Tripura, and Sikkim, which were often referred to as the 'Ashtalakshmi' or the eight forms of prosperity. These states played an important role in enriching India's cultural, social, and economic fabric, making them indispensable contributors to the nation's diversity. True to its name, the festival served as a lively celebration of the region's unparalleled beauty, artistic heritage, and deep-rooted traditions.

The *Ashtalakshmi Mahotsav 2024* was a three-day event held from December 6th to 8th at the Bharat Mandapam in New Delhi. The event provided a grand platform to showcase the region's thriving textile industry, elegant artisanal crafts, and distinct Geographical Indication (GI) products. It was a unique opportunity for the audience to engage with the intricate artistry and cultural richness of the northeastern states.

The festival's inauguration was graced by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, whose presence underscored the government's commitment to promoting and uplifting the northeastern states. The opening day featured an impressive array of performances and exhibitions, offering a glimpse into the vibrant artistic traditions of the region. A key highlight of the day was a spellbinding performance by the renowned *Shillong Chamber Choir*, whose unique fusion of traditional and contemporary music set a magical tone for the festival. The choir's soulful melodies were accompanied by traditional dance performances and folk music, providing an alluring and enriching cultural experience for the attendees.

One of the major attractions of the *Ashtalakshmi Mahotsav* was the food journey through the region's diverse cuisines, each dish telling a story of its own. Visitors had the opportunity to

savour an array of flavours that beautifully captured the essence of the Northeast. Assam's simple yet delectable offerings included rice, fish curry, and traditional pitha. Arunachal Pradesh presented its flavourful rice-based dishes like *Thukpa* and *Zan*, often prepared with locally sourced ingredients like bamboo shoots. Manipur delighted the crowd with healthy delicacies such as *Eromba* and *Singju*, which highlighted the region's love for fresh vegetables and aromatic spices.

Nagaland's bold flavours took centre stage with dishes like *smoked pork* and *Akhumi*, while Mizoram's milder but equally delicious offerings included *Bai* and *smoked pork*. Tripura brought forth an exquisite blend of Bengali and indigenous influences with dishes like *Wahan Mosdeng* and *Mui Borok*. Meghalaya's hearty preparations, such as *Jadoh* and *Dohneiiong*, resonated with the region's rich culinary heritage, and Sikkim's popular *Phagshapa* and *Momos* emphasised fresh ingredients and simple yet delightful flavors. Together, these dishes created a vibrant gastronomic experience, allowing visitors to relish the authentic taste of Northeast India.

The second day of the Mahotsav continued to captivate audiences with a mesmerising blend of music and artistry. *Pangpari*, a talented singer-songwriter from Aizawl, Mizoram, enchanted the audience with her emotive blend of pop, indie, and jazz. Her heartfelt performance seamlessly merged modern music with traditional influences, offering a soulful



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THE ASHTALAKSHMI MAHOTSAV NOT ONLY CELEBRATED THE TRADITIONS AND CULTURAL HERITAGE OF NORTHEAST INDIA BUT ALSO PROVIDED A SIGNIFICANT PLATFORM FOR THESE STATES TO GAIN BROADER NATIONAL RECOGNITION.

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experience. Following *Pangpari* was *Sofiyum*, a Lepcha folk fusion band from Gangtok, Sikkim, that enthralled the crowd with its unique blend of traditional *Lepcha* folk songs and contemporary musical styles. Their performance beautifully illustrated the importance of preserving cultural heritage while adapting it to modern sensibilities.

The day also featured the Eastern Elements Unplugged session, an innovative musical experience that fused the *Blues* with *Raga jazz*, highlighting eco-friendly and ethically produced garments as a part of the growing global discourse on sustainability.

Prominent designers from the region showcased their creations, each bringing their unique vision and dedication to preserving the Northeast's sartorial traditions. *Jejum Gadi* from Arunachal Pradesh mesmerised with nature-inspired, gender-neutral designs. *Bambi Kevichusa* from Nagaland showcased her exquisite bridal wear while promoting sustainable craftsmanship. *Richana Khumanthem* from Manipur collaborated with local weavers to present garments that told stories of the region's weaving traditions.

Other notable designers included *Patricia Zadeng* from Mizoram, who focused on

uplifting female artisans, and *Daniel Syiem* from Meghalaya, whose work highlighted the indigenous fabric *Ryndia*. *Karma Sonam Bhutia* from Sikkim revived the traditional art of nettle-weaving, while *Priyanka D Patwari* from Assam and *Jyotsana Dev Verman* from Tripura brought their distinct styles to the event. Together, these designers painted a vivid picture of the Northeast's creative and cultural potential.

The final day of the *Ashtalakshmi Mahotsav* was a fitting conclusion to the three-day celebration, featuring a series of breathtaking performances. *Basavdutta Chongtham* (BASAV) from Manipur attracted the audience with her emotive vocals and poetic storytelling, while *FeatherHeads Haokui*, a Tangkhul Naga folk band, delivered lively renditions that celebrated the oral traditions of the Tangkhul tribe.

Adding a traditional touch was the graceful *Peacock Dance* (Kaa Kingnara Kingnari) from Arunachal Pradesh, which showcased the beauty and elegance of Tai Khamti culture. The festival's final act, *Imnainla Jamir*, an exceptional electric guitarist from Nagaland, brought a modern twist to the celebration. Her performance blended Western music with Indian influences, embodying the fusion of tradition and innovation that defines the artistic spirit of Northeast India.

The *Ashtalakshmi Mahotsav* not only celebrated the traditions and cultural heritage of Northeast India but also provided a significant platform for these states to gain broader national recognition. Through its rich array of performances, exhibitions, and culinary delights, the festival strengthened the cultural bonds between India's diverse regions and highlighted the immense potential of the northeastern states. It was a tribute to the spirit and resilience of the people of the Northeast India, whose contributions continue to enrich the nation's cultural and social fabric.



In the heart of Westminster, London, St. James' Court offers a unique blend of Indian warmth and British charm, loved by Bollywood stars, says **RUPALI DEAN**

St. James' Court, a luxurious retreat nestled in the heart of Westminster, exudes an irresistible charm that makes it a favourite among the glitterati. This opulent hotel seamlessly blends grandeur with the warmth of Indian hospitality, creating a setting that feels as if it's been plucked straight from a glamorous film set.

Celebrities such as the Bachchans, Ajay Devgan, Sunil Shetty and Manisha Koirala have often sought solace here, drawn by its enchanting ambience and impeccable service. From the moment you enter its grand lobby, the elegance of marble floors and the soft glow of chandeliers whisk you into a world of sophistication. The melodious strains of a grand piano fill the air, offering a romantic atmosphere perfect for both lively conversations and intimate moments. Cosy nooks adorned with vibrant artworks provide ideal spots for quiet reflection or a relaxing chat over chai, making the hotel a discreet haven for stars escaping the public eye.

evoked the splendour of royal living, ensuring guests a sumptuous retreat after a day of exploring. A standout feature is the renowned Jiva Spa, where rejuvenating treatments transport visitors into a state of bliss, proving that relaxation here is an art form perfected.

Conveniently located just a ten-minute stroll from Victoria Station, the hotel is a prime base for discovering London's iconic attractions. Landmarks such as Westminster Abbey and Big Ben are just a leisurely walk away, while St. James' Park offers stunning views and peaceful pathways. This enchanting locale has not only captured the hearts of tourists but also photographers and filmmakers seeking inspiration.

Where Bollywood Glamour Meets Exquisite Cuisine

Dining at St. James' Court is a culinary adventure designed to impress even the most discerning Bollywood stars. With an array of dining options, each venue celebrates global cuisines with a touch of flair.

TH@51 Restaurant & Bar delivers an international menu catering to diverse palates, making it a hotspot for both locals and globe-trotting celebrities. For a quintessentially British experience, Kona reimagines afternoon tea with innovative themes that are as Instagram-worthy as they are delicious.

For authentic Chinese cuisine, The House of Ming offers a menu inspired by Sichuan and Cantonese traditions, guaranteed to captivate any A-lister. Meanwhile, the Michelin-starred Quilon presents a vibrant tribute to the culinary treasures of India's southwest coast, each dish weaving a story that could easily inspire a Bollywood screenplay.



For those drawn to adventurous Indian flavours, a short cab ride to the Bombay Brasserie unveils a modern twist on traditional recipes, reminiscent of a Bollywood blockbuster reinterpreting a classic tale.

As evening falls, the Hamptons Bar beckons with masterfully crafted cocktails, set against the soothing melodies of a resident pianist. In the summer, the TH@51 Courtyard transforms into a magical alfresco dining venue, complete with fairy lights, offering an experience straight out of a romantic Bollywood scene.

Blending Indian Hospitality with British Elegance

St. James' Court not only boasts exceptional cuisine but also offers beautifully appointed rooms and suites that balance luxury with comfort. Thoughtfully designed, these spaces are perfect for families and friends, echoing the ensembles often seen in Bollywood films.

With its unique combination of Indian hospitality and British sophistication, St. James' Court has earned its place as a favourite among Bollywood's elite. It is more than just a luxury hotel; it is an elegant canvas capturing the essence of a magical getaway.

For stars who seek not only opulence but also a serene escape from the crowds, St. James' Court stands as a testament to comfort, charm, and an unforgettable London experience.

Where? 54 Buckingham Gate, London SW1E 6AF, United Kingdom

— Rupali Dean, awarded 'Best Food Writer in the Country' by the Indian Culinary Forum, WACS, and the Ministry of Tourism, writes on food and travel

Where Luxury Meets Holistic Wellness In Perfect Harmony

A luxurious sanctuary of tranquility and wellness, Jetwing Lagoon is a perfect retreat for holistic wellness, says **SHARMILA CHAND**

Sri Lanka beckons, a land where vibrant city life is in synergy with calming pulse of pristine beaches. Adding to the Sri Lankan hospitality is a luxury wellness haven, Jetwing Lagoon, a signature masterpiece originally envisioned in 1965 by legendary architect Geoffrey Bawa, as his first resort design project.

REVIVE. REJUVENATE REFLECT
Nestled between the quiet Negombo lagoon and the gorgeous Indian Ocean, this luxury wellness resort embraces the serenity of the inland waters for a perfect island retreat.

As I step in, a feeling of calm and peace embraces me. I walk from the reception towards the suites, crossing the centrepiece 100 metre swimming pool which boasts of being one of the largest in the region. To my utmost pleasure, I have the company of one pretty egret following me in the garden. She stops when I go towards the staircase as my suite is located on the first floor. We look at each other conveying the message of 'see you' later.

Suites here are epitome of luxury and mine is lagoon facing while featuring all modern amenities. With the sunrise, I look forward to my bespoke wellness plan which begins with yoga and meditation session. And yes, meeting my friend once again in the garden.

There is something about the air at the resort that comforts, heals, and brings in peace. An in-house Senior Ayurvedic Physician, Dr. Gayathri Nissanka awaits, ready to curate a wellness plan following a personalised consultation.

WELLNESS ETHOS

Dr Gayathri explains, "At Jetwing Lagoon, the Wellness Experience is thoughtfully crafted around five key pillars: Mindfulness, Nutrition, Movement, Rest, and Community.



FACTS:
Jetwing Lagoon
Pamunugama Rd, Negombo 11504,
Sri Lanka Phone: +94 312 233 777

The wellness packages integrate these pillars, ensuring that every guest embarks on a transformative journey that inspires lasting lifestyle changes. From slow flow yoga and meditation sessions, luxurious spa treatments, age-old ayurvedic treatments, and nourishing wellness cuisine, we provide a comprehensive approach to rebalancing and restoring your body, mind, and spirit."

MINDFUL DINING

Dining at the Resort is a journey through a wholesome culinary experience. Designed to nourish the body, mind, and spirit in harmony with serene surroundings, wellness cuisine is at the heart of the culinary philosophy at Jetwing Lagoon. The culinary philosophy focuses on the use of fresh, natural, and nutrient-rich ingredients, thoughtfully prepared to enhance health, vitality, and balance. Every dish is crafted with care, prioritising plant-based whole foods while also offering lean meats and seafood, ensuring a diverse

"The culinary experience at Jetwing Lagoon goes beyond taste-it is about embracing a mindful approach to eating that supports your overall well-being. From vibrant salads and nourishing soups to revitalising juices and herbal teas, our menu is designed to rejuvenate your senses and restore your energy, creating a holistic dining journey that aligns with the tranquil ethos of our resort."
ROHAN FERNANDO
Executive Chef, Jetwing Lagoon

menu that caters to a variety of dietary preferences. There is a commitment towards preserving the integrity of each ingredient, avoiding processed foods and artificial additives.

Set within the tranquil surroundings of the resort, 'Blue Lagoon' restaurant lives up to its name with a spacious, serene setting that overlooks the stunning Negombo Lagoon. Inspired by the impressive length of the swimming pool, '100 Meters' is the Poolside Bar with a menu as extensive as its name. Have your pick from tropical cocktails and mocktails, or from a range of international beverages and spirits. Here at the Pool Bar, you will also find refreshing station, featuring fresh juices, smoothies, detox beverages, and selected mocktails.

'Pier Dining' turned out to be my favourite. On a cloudy evening, I chose to dine at the table set up right at the edge of gentle waters of the Negombo Lagoon. An open-air setup on a private pier that extends out into

the open expanse of the lush landscapes is truly a memorable experience.

THE LOCAL NARRATIVE

Step out of the resort and explore fascinating tales of Negombo and its surrounding regions. For the birding enthusiasts, a journey through the historic Dutch canals that lead to the famed mangroves of Muthurajawela in the south, or the lush open sanctuary of Anawilundawa to the north are great natural aviaries around with a number of endemic and migratory species that can be spotted on special excursions. For the adventure seekers, there are water sports to indulge in adrenalin-filled experiences on a sunny Negombo afternoon. Take a city tour and discover history and culture at every turn. How the ruined Dutch Fort reflects Negombo's colonial legacy, while the bustling Lellama Fish Market pays tribute to its roots as a traditional fishing



"With luxurious villa-styled rooms sprawling expansively in a harmonious blend of tropical modernism, spaces bathed in natural light and lush gardens that transcend the calm of the gentle waters, Jetwing Lagoon is a sanctuary of peace and tranquility for a wellness getaway that rebalances, restores and revives."
ROMELLO PERERA
General Manager, Jetwing Lagoon

village. I was not surprised why Negombo is also fondly known as 'Little Rome' as it is home to outstanding collection of churches. Also, do not miss the 300-year old Angurukaramulla Temple, which abounds in a number of ancient murals while a large Buddha statue stands as an icon prominently.

TO CONCLUDE

In this serene environment, worries melt away as you prepare to embark on a transformative journey. So go ahead and discover an iconic sanctuary meticulously designed to welcome guests seeking rejuvenation amidst luxe pampering.



"Besides therapies we also curate specific meals that align with guests' individual health goals. For a more interactive experience, we let guests join the chefs in preparing nutritious dishes, offering a hands-on journey into wellness cooking. This immersive approach allows you to savor the satisfaction of dining on meals you've crafted yourself. Such experiences go beyond just dining—they offer a chance to connect with nature, embrace wellness, and enjoy mindful eating in the tranquil atmosphere of Jetwing Lagoon."

DR. GAYATHRI NISSANKA
Senior Ayurvedic Physician,
Jetwing Lagoon



YOUR WEEK AHEAD

MADHU KOTIYA



ARIES March 21-April 19

This week is pivotal for addressing any outstanding debts or loans. You may find yourself approached by friends or relatives seeking financial assistance for significant life events, like a wedding. Fortunately, you are well-placed to offer the necessary support, whether emotional or financial. Engaging in charitable activities could also be fulfilling during this period. While financial stability enhances your ability to enjoy life luxuriously, mid-week might bring a wave of daydreaming and fantastical thinking. You may find yourself indulging in various pleasures, from dining and fashion to leisure activities. However, be wary of your shifting desires, as they could lead to confusion and dissatisfaction. Staying grounded and setting clear, realistic goals is essential.

Lucky number 11 | **Lucky colour** Peach
Lucky day Monday



LEO July 23-Aug 22

You possess a commanding presence and a strong inclination for things to unfold according to your expectations. Your meticulous nature shines even brighter than usual, filling your surroundings with dynamism and vigor. However, an excess of any trait can lead to distancing, conflicts, and an overall unpleasant atmosphere. This might cause some peers to either shy away from or challenge you, potentially leading to disagreements or differing views. It's essential for you to channel your abundant energy into more productive activities. Fortunately, you are endowed with robust health, a respectable position, and significant influence. Although you lead in your pursuits, maintaining a harmonious environment could enhance your achievements even further. Despite this, such balance may seem elusive. Your dominant traits could risk the reputation you've painstakingly built.

Lucky number 13 | **Lucky colour** Pink
Lucky day Wednesday



SAGITTARIUS Nov 22-Dec 21

This week may bring some health challenges that require you to step back and focus on recovery. You might need to undergo medical care, which will necessitate a brief pause from your usual activities. Fortunately, you will not be alone during this time, as your partner will provide unwavering support and comfort. This period is also an opportune time to deepen your spiritual connections. Engaging in spiritual practices and exploring your inner faith can significantly bolster your resilience and help you regain your balance. Embrace a path that emphasizes compassion, kindness, and love towards everyone. Family relationships will strengthen, allowing for open communication and shared insights. You may find yourself drawn to spiritual study and devotion, particularly in seeking peace and recovery.

Lucky number 2 | **Lucky colour** Ivory
Lucky day Sunday



TAURUS April 20-May 20

This week, you may find yourself embracing a leadership role through your ability to influence and manage others effectively. Your capacity to understand and address the needs of those around you could strengthen your position. However, be aware of a contingent who may not appreciate your approach. These individuals might attempt to undermine your efforts, potentially impacting outcomes that include negotiated agreements or opportunities for which you've been competing. As the week progresses, you may feel a sense of fatigue from shouldering heavy responsibilities on your own. It would be wise to consider sharing tasks and authority more broadly. Delegating effectively can not only ease your workload but also enhance overall productivity and job satisfaction.

Lucky number 4 | **Lucky colour** Teal
Lucky day Saturday



VIRO Aug 23-Sep 22

This week presents an opportunity for growth and financial security, offering a sense of victory in achieving your goals. You'll find yourself enjoying various forms of entertainment and a satisfying home life, which could lead to fulfilling personal desires. As the week progresses, you may find yourself focusing on emotional achievements, potentially receiving positive news related to relationships or deepening bonds with significant others. However, be prepared for a phase where you might experience some confusion and a feeling of detachment. By the week's end, you'll find it beneficial to adapt and integrate new perspectives into your life. Embracing change and discarding outdated practices will help you maintain your balance and face future challenges with renewed confidence.

Lucky number 15 | **Lucky colour** Green
Lucky day Friday



CAPRICORN Dec 22-Jan 19

This week, you might find yourself overwhelmed by emotions and sentimentality. Challenges may arise, steering things away from your desired outcomes and causing considerable emotional turmoil. Health concerns could also add to your stress, prompting you to focus more on well-being. It's a time to manage your finances wisely; prudent budgeting is essential. Mid-week calls for a systematic approach to navigate through these challenges effectively. Prioritize a balanced diet and disciplined lifestyle to maintain your overall health. As the week progresses, expect improvements in your professional life, which in turn could boost your financial situation. Satisfaction and joy will grow towards the weekend, and a significant personal goal, such as acquiring a property, may be within reach, enhancing your sense of achievement and well-being.

Lucky number 16 | **Lucky colour** Amber
Lucky day Thursday



GEMINI May 21-June 20

Last week brought some rewarding outcomes, but caution is advised moving forward. Upcoming challenges at work may include conflicts and arguments with a domineering colleague. This period may be marred by criticism, underhanded competition, and harsh words. Midweek could see you coming under the influence of a negative individual, devoid of ethical considerations, potentially pushing you toward decisions that clash with societal norms. Despite these hurdles, your resolve remains firm. With confidence and determination, you'll navigate through these obstacles successfully. By the week's end, your integrity and truthfulness will shine through, earning you recognition and respect. This reaffirmation of your status will be a significant morale booster, allowing you to hold your head high amidst challenges.

Lucky number 6 | **Lucky colour** Lavender
Lucky day Tuesday



LIBRA Sep 23-Oct 22

The upcoming week heralds a phase of enjoyment, recognition, and well-being. Positioned favorably, you are poised to reap the benefits of your dedication and perseverance, coupled with divine favor. This period accentuates your equitable and magnanimous traits, enhancing your leadership capabilities. Your integrity and altruistic nature resonate well with the flow of events, garnering admiration and influence among peers and admirers who value your counsel. At home or in professional settings, your role as a guiding figure is set to receive accolades from those close to you. However, as the week draws to a close, remain vigilant. Being proactive in managing these risks is advisable to maintain your current trajectory. Always remember, taking precautions is more prudent than seeking remedies after the fact.

Lucky number 21 | **Lucky colour** Saffron
Lucky day Tuesday



AQUARIUS Jan 20-Feb 18

This week starts with a need for you to make significant decisions. It's important to approach these choices with a clear, objective mindset, as they could have profound impacts on your life or someone close to you. Expect some competition or conflicts at work; it's wise to avoid confrontations and adopt a more yielding approach during this time. Midweek might bring challenges, possibly criticism from a higher-up, which could leave you feeling downhearted. To combat this, engaging in meditation or following a spiritual practice could help restore your confidence and mental balance. Stay focused on your goals or aspirations, as this focus is crucial now. By the week's end, the atmosphere lightens, bringing a sense of positivity. Issues begin to resolve, and there might be developments in personal relationships, potentially involving commitments or heartfelt connections.

Lucky number 22 | **Lucky colour** Copper
Lucky day Saturday



CANCER June 21-July 22

This week begins with a surge of activity for you, pushing emotional considerations to the background. You'll find yourself faced with a professional opportunity requiring immediate attention and sharp skills. Embrace this chance to act decisively, as your clear communication and refined approach will pave the way for future benefits. As the week progresses, expect significant financial transactions. This period will also highlight your philanthropic side, as you feel compelled to assist those in need. Revisiting your financial commitments will be key during this time, ensuring that debts are settled responsibly. The latter part of the week brings developments in personal relationships. You may find yourself forming a new partnership or deepening existing ties, bringing a sense of fulfillment in love.

Lucky number 9 | **Lucky colour** Ocean Blue
Lucky day Friday



SCORPIO Oct 23-Nov 21

This period is proving increasingly demanding for those with intense and focused energy. The pressure to excel is pervasive, affecting not only professionals but also students immersed in their academic pursuits. Both groups would benefit greatly from taking time to relax and heal. This is a crucial moment to restore balance, ensuring you're equipped to tackle future challenges without succumbing to fatigue. Such stress can cause irritability and may even impact emotional stability. Health-wise, it's wise to prioritize well-being through regular check-ups and ensuring adequate rest, particularly for women who might experience physical discomfort mid-week. Additionally, tension in professional relationships could escalate into conflicts. It's essential to manage your responses and invest time in rejuvenation. Balancing your busy schedule with moments of leisure can prevent potential discord at work or home.

Lucky number 8 | **Lucky colour** Gray
Lucky day Saturday



PISCES Feb 19-March 20

This week is brimming with energetic potential for those who channel their creativity constructively. However, without a clear goal, efforts may falter. Focus is crucial in harnessing your dynamic energy for productive outcomes. Family matters demand your attention and compassion. Neglecting any health concerns could lead to significant financial consequences, so preventative measures are advisable. Midweek might present challenges, including personal separations and financial setbacks, potentially straining relationships. Yet, resilience and mental fortitude can provide necessary support during these times. As the week concludes, numerous opportunities may emerge, but be mindful not to overlook them due to preoccupation with personal pursuits. Engaging in discussions and journeys could enhance your emotional well-being. For those in relationships, this period fosters greater understanding and connection.

Lucky number 19 | **Lucky colour** Red
Lucky day Thursday

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The Spiritual significance of food

THE TUNING FORK



CV Srikanth

Thoughts shape reality; regulate them to transform your destiny.

Food is just a part of a balanced diet... For us it is about what goes into it and how we consume it - a spiritual act. Across cultures and beliefs, the spiritual significance of food mirrors the deep connection between us, nature, nourishment, and the divine. It is the 'Sutradhar' the common thread running through belief systems, occasions, connect of self with nature, community sharing, mindfulness, and holistic wellbeing. In Christianity, the Eucharist involves the symbolic consumption of bread and wine, representing the body and blood of Christ. In Sanatan Dharma, Annaprashnasignifies the initiation of feeding the first grain to a baby according to family customs.

The spiritual purport of variety and ingredients - cooked rice as the beginning of life, variety of fruits for Naivedyam or Bhog to God as a gratitude to Him being the provider, clarified butter (ghee) in rituals symbolizes the cosmic connect. Cinnamon and cloves signify energy givers and absorbers, sweets for auspicious beginnings, Ganesh Chaturthi brings in Modhakand Teej / Raksha Bandhan announces Ghevar. Pongal (the festival) beckons Pongal - The dish, Dhokar Dalnarings in Puja festivities in Bengal.



Simple water is so inspiringly sacrosanct - 'Mindfulness and Gratitude' - Sprinkling water with recitation of mantras (invoking the divine within), is a way of seeking blessings, purifying oneself & the food making us more receptive eating - to be aware and present during meals bringing sanctity. Festivals ring in the community sharing embodying principles of generosity and hospitality. A recommended spiritual practise is Upavasa (Staying near Oneness) or abstinence from food signifying a direct connect to the Self - an act of self-

discipline and sacrifice abstaining from all the four forms chewing, licking, swallowing, and drinking. Going within to Purge and Purify for heightened awareness. As per Vedic traditions, food is intertwined with spiritual evolution and the attainment of higher consciousness. In the Taittiriya Upanishad, the concept of "Annam Brahma" (Food is Para Brahman - The One and Only Supreme) encapsulates that food is not just material sustenance but embodying the divine consciousness (Para Brahman). Taking our connect with

Annam to another level of spiritual awareness. Every day offering to God is Bhog or Naivedyam. Central to Vedic rituals is Yajna (rituals with sacred fire and mantras) - where offerings, including food, are made into the sacred fire as a deference to the Deities. Krishna explains in the Bhagavat Gita ...:

अन्नादभवन्तिभूतानिपर्जन्यादन्नसम्भवः| यज्ञादभवत्पर्जन्योयज्ञः। कर्मसमुद्भवः| 'All beings are born from and subsist on food. Food is produced by rains. Rains arise from the performance of sacrifice (Yajna), and sacrifice is produced by the performance of prescribed duties.'

A brilliant explanation of the interrelation between food, sustenance (rain), and the performance of sacrificial duties (Yajna). We are what we consume. The idea of Ahara (food) and Vihara (lifestyle) - Sattvic (simple) Ahara and Spiritual Evolution in Ayurveda is exceptional. Everything is composed of 5 basic elements (Pancha Mahabhootas), Earth (Prithvi), Water (Appu), Fire (Teja), Air (Vayu) Ether (Akasha). So, the Panchabhuta components of ingested food nourishes their respective elements in the body. Correct Ahara is the best medicine - essentially saying that Ahara and Vihara are agreeable to metabolism and constitution of an individual.

The gunas qualities of sattvic foods considered to promote clarity of mind and spiritual growth. The Bhagavad Gita describes this as

आयुरुस्त्वचबलारोग्यसुखप्रीतिविकर्मानां| रस्याः सिन्ध्याः स्थिरा हृद्या आहाराः सत्त्विकक्रियाः || 'Foods that promotes life span, purity, increase virtue, strength, health, happiness, and satisfaction, which are juicy, succulent, wholesome, naturally tasteful, nourishing and pleasing to the heart, are dear to those in the mode of purity, goodness and righteousness (Sattva).'

Consuming Sattvic food supports physical health, nurtures a harmonious state of mind for spiritual practice. Food is Prasad when consumed with piety - with Blessings and Gratitude यत्करोति यदश्नाति यज्जुहोति ददाति यत् | यत्पश्यति कोन्तेय तत्कुरुष्व मदपणम् ||27|| 'All that you do, you eat, you offer as oblation & gift, and all austerities that you perform, do them as an offering to Me'

Surrendering of one's actions, including that of consuming food, as a pious offering fosters spiritual growth. It is not food and eating. It is spiritually evolving with masterful compositions of gratitude, mindfulness, self-discipline, interweaving us with nature and divine awareness. It is about 'Prana' - The Life Force.

Now you can write to us at agendapioneer@gmail.com