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INSIDE

MONEY 10
INDIA INC EXPECTED TO
ACHIEVE SEVEN-EIGHT PER
CENT GROWTH IN Q4: ICRA

CHANDIGARH, TUESDAY FEBRUARY 25, 2025; PAGES 12 ₹2

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PUBLISHED FROM: DELHI | LUCKNOW | BHOPAL | BHUBANESWAR | RANCHI | RAIPUR | CHANDIGARH | DEHRADUN | HYDERABAD | VIJAYWADA



Prime Minister Narendra Modi with Bihar Governor Arif Mohammed Khan, Union Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan and Chief Minister Nitish Kumar during the release of the 19th installment of the PM Kisan Samman Nidhi (PM-KISAN) scheme and launch of various development projects in Bhagalpur

Poll bugle sounds in Bihar by Modi

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ PATNA/NEW DELHI

Blowing the poll trumpet in Bihar for year-end assembly elections, Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Monday attacked the Lalu Yadav-led "jungle raj" regime in Bihar. Modi said "same" people were now making "vulgar" remarks about the ongoing Maha Kumbh at Prayagraj.

Addressing a function in Bihar's Bhagalpur district, Modi, without naming the party or the former chief minister, also alleged that "the jungle raj wallahs hate our heritage and our faith".

"The Maha Kumbh at Prayagraj is the greatest celebration of Bharat's unity. The number of people who have taken a holy dip exceeds the population of Europe. Many people from Bihar have

Pay present property tax to MCD, clear all past dues

RAJESH KUMAR ■ NEW DELHI

In a big relief to the people of Delhi, the Municipal Corporation of Delhi (MCD) has announced a house-tax waiver scheme, allowing residents to clear their house tax dues of 2024-25 and have all previous pending taxes written off.

Additionally, in the next financial year, 100 percent of house tax on 100-yard homes and residential-area shops will be scrapped, while properties between 100-500 yards will get a 50 percent waiver. For the first time, 1,300 housing societies - previously ineligible - will receive a 25 percent rebate. This transformative proposal is set to be passed in the MCD House on February 25.

After losing the turf to BJP in governing the national Capital, the Aam Aadmi Party (AAP)-led MCD on Monday introduced a major house tax waiver for property owners which can be witnessed as a direct confrontation between the two different regime in Delhi.

The announcement, made ahead of the mayoral polls in April, was delivered at a press conference by AAP leader, MCD Mayor Mahesh Khinchi, Deputy Mayor Ravinder Bhardwaj, and Leader of the House Mukesh Goyal.

Announcing the initiative, Rajya Sabha MP Sanjay Singh said those who settle their 2024-25 house tax dues will have all previous outstanding amounts waived. The move aims at easing financial



Senior AAP leaders Sanjay Singh and Durgesh Pathak, Mayor Mahesh Khinchi and Leader of the House Mukesh Goyal held a joint press conference at the party headquarters in New Delhi

burdens on citizens and curbs corruption in tax collection, is set to be passed in the MCD House.

Singh highlighted that the decision is that those who pay their house tax for 2024-25 will have all their previous outstanding house tax dues, which have been a burden on them, completely waived.

"This is a major announcement: upon paying the house tax for 2024-25, all previous outstanding dues, which were a financial burden, will be written off. Secondly, the house tax for buildings ranging from 100 square yards to 500 square yards will be reduced by half. That is, houses within the 100-500 square yard range will now have their house tax cut by 50%," he said.

He further noted that for buildings below 100 square yards, the house tax will be entirely waived. He said, "So, properties between 100 and 500 square yards will have their tax reduced by half, and those below 100 square yards will have their tax fully waived."

Under the scheme, properties measuring up to 100 square yards, including residential shops, will be completely exempt from house tax from the next financial year. Houses measuring between 100 and 500 square yards will receive a 50 per cent waiver, while 1,300 housing societies that previously did not qualify for any exemption will now get a 25 per cent rebate. Singh further added that additionally, residential properties where commercial activities such as shops are running, and properties designated for commercial purposes, will also have their house tax waived.

Singh said, "There are over 1,300 apartments in Delhi that do not currently receive any tax exemptions or benefits. A crucial decision has been made regarding them as well: 1,300 housing apartments in Delhi will receive a 25% house tax waiver."

Powered BJP face fired AAP in Delhi Assembly

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

The first day of the Delhi Assembly under the newly-formed BJP government witnessed a heated exchange between the treasury benches and opposition Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) members, leading to a brief adjournment of the House on Monday following Vijender Gupta's election as speaker amid sloganeering from both the treasury and the Opposition benches, with AAP members accusing the BJP being "anti-Dalit and anti-Sikh".

The Leader of Opposition Atishi accused new Government for removing BR Ambedkar and Bhagat Singh's portraits from Delhi Chief Minister Rekha Gupta's office, a charge denied by the ruling BJP.

Tensions escalated when the Leader of Opposition Atishi, while congratulating Gupta, alleged that photos of BR Ambedkar and Shaheed Bhagat Singh had been removed from the Chief Minister's Office. Her remarks, made without permission, led to loud protests from BJP MLAs prompting Speaker Vijender Gupta to censure her for speaking out of turn.

As disruptions continued, the newly elected assembly speaker Vijendra Gupta accused the AAP of disrupting the house with pre-planned intentions and adjourned the house for 15 minutes. The Speaker said it was a courtesy address and You (Opposition) should not have made it a political platform." The Opposition does not want the



Delhi Chief Minister Rekha Gupta greets newly-elected Delhi Assembly Speaker Vijender Gupta at his chamber during the first day of the Assembly session in New Delhi

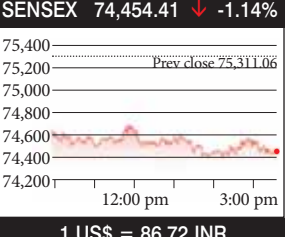
House to run smoothly. AAP has come with the intention of disrupting the House. Maintain the dignity of the House," said Gupta.

Ruckus witnessed both inside and outside when Leader of Opposition (LoP) in Delhi Assembly Atishi alleged that the BJP removed the portraits from the Chief Minister's Office in the Assembly - portraits that had been put up under the AAP government. As the Assembly session began, AAP MLAs, led by the LoP, in a mark of protest inside the House, raised slogans and demanded the immediate reinstatement of the portraits.

The BJP accused the opposition party of trying to divert people's attention from the CAG reports that will be tabled in the Assembly to expose "corruption" by AAP when it was in power. The Delhi BJP shared photos of the chief minister's office on social media and said, "The portraits of Mahatma Gandhi, Babasaheb Bhimrao

Ambedkar, Bhagat Singh the President and the prime minister are displayed in the offices of Chief Minister Rekha Gupta and other ministers." Delhi BJP president Virendra Sachdeva also clarified that that the portraits of the revered Mahatma Gandhi, Dr. B.R. Ambedkar, Bhagat Singh, the President of India, and the Prime Minister of India continue to be displayed in the offices of the Chief Minister and all ministers of Delhi - something that anyone can easily verify. Earlier from Sanskrit to English and Maithili to Punjabi, the first session of the newly constituted eighth Delhi Legislative Assembly began on Monday with MLAs of the ruling BJP and opposition AAP demonstrating the linguistic diversity of the legislature by taking their oaths in six languages including - Hindi, English, Sanskrit, Urdu, Maithili and Punjabi.

MARKETS



WEATHER



One dead, 10 injured in clash at Bangladesh air force base

PTI ■ DHAKA

A man was killed and several others injured in a clash on Monday between a group of local people and air force personnel at an airbase in Bangladesh's Cox's Bazar, officials said.

The Inter Service Public Relations (ISPR) - the media wing of the military - in a statement said the "miscreants" attacked the Bangladesh Air Force Base near Cox's Bazar's Samitipara. "Bangladesh Air Force is taking necessary actions in this regard," it said.

The ISPR said that "some local miscreants" of the Samitipara area adjacent to the beach resort town "launched a sudden attack" on the airbase after a biker was stopped at a checkpoint as he was crossing the base area without any papers for the vehicle.

It said the biker was taken inside the base for interrogation when over 200 people marched towards the base. The security personnel tried to stop them, sparking a clash that left four Air Force personnel injured.

Deputy Commissioner of the district, Mohammad Salahuddin, said: one person was killed, and several others were injured in the incident". The official said a thorough investigation would be conducted into the cause of the attack.

Gym owner's murder: Delhi court sends gangster's wife to custody

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ NEW DELHI

Delhi court on Monday sent alleged gangster Hashim Baba's wife Zoya Khan to three-day police custody in a case related to the reported killing of a 35-year-old gym owner by two bike-borne assailants in a posh neighbourhood in south Delhi's Greater Kailash area last September.

Chief judicial magistrate Anuj Kumar Singh sent Zoya Khan to police custody after the investigating officer said her custody was required to unearth the larger conspiracy (behind the killing) and to establish her role in the case. Besides Baba, the police also suspect the involvement of jailed gangster Lawrence Bishnoi's associates in the murder.

The police told the court that it wanted to recover the weapons used in the crime, claiming that all the accused were in touch with each other through App-based encrypted calls.

The victim, Nadir Shah, who had previous criminal cases against his name, including



on charges of robbery and attempt to murder, co-owned a gym in Greater Kailash Part I.

During the proceedings, Zoya told the court, "My only crime is that I am Hashim Baba's wife. I am not involved in any case against him."

Her lawyer told the court that Zoya's name was not disclosed in any of the arrested accused's discloser and that she had joined the probe on two occasions when asked by the investigating agency. Shah also owned a business in Dubai. His father hailed from Afghanistan and had shifted to Delhi several years ago.

Survival of trapped men bleak in tunnel collapse: Govt

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ HYDERABAD

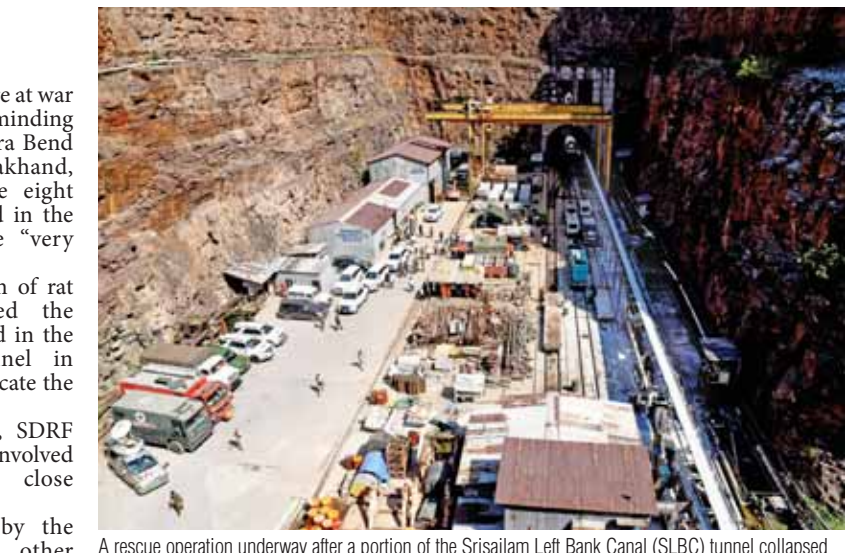
Even as multiple agencies are at war footing in Telangana reminding their efforts in 17 days Silkyara Bend rescue operation in Uttarakhand, chances of survival of the eight persons who remain trapped in the SLBC tunnel seems to be "very remote".

The latest to join are a team of rat miners, who had rescued the construction workers trapped in the Silkyara Bend-Barkot tunnel in Uttarakhand in 2023, to extricate the men.

Indian Army, Navy, NDRF, SDRF and other agencies are also involved in rescue operations in close coordination with each other.

Despite relentless efforts by the Indian Army, NDRF and other agencies, no breakthrough has been achieved so far in the rescue operations to extricate the eight persons who have remained trapped for over 48 hours inside the tunnel after a section of it collapsed in the Srisailem Left Bank Canal (SLBC) project in Telangana's Nagarkurnool district on Saturday.

The persons who have been trapped in the collapsed tunnel for the past over 48 hours have been identified as Manoj Kumar and Sri Niwas from Uttar Pradesh, Sunny Singh (Jammu and Kashmir), Gurpreet Singh (Punjab) and Sandeep Sahu, Jegta



A rescue operation underway after a portion of the Srisailem Left Bank Canal (SLBC) tunnel collapsed in Nagarkurnool district

Xess, Santosh Sahu and Anuj Sahu all from Jharkhand. Of the eight, two are engineers, two operators and four labourers.

Telangana Minister Jupally Krishna Rao said that rescuing the trapped individuals would take at least three to four days, as the accident site is filled with muck and debris, making it a daunting task for the rescuers.

"To be honest, the chances of their survival are very, very, very, very remote. Because, I myself went up to the end, almost just 50 meters short

(of the mishap site). When we took photographs, the end (of the tunnel) was visible. And out of the 9 meter diameter (of the tunnel) -- almost 30 feet, out of that 30 feet, mud has piled up to 25 feet," he said.

"When we shouted their names also, there was no response...So, there is no chance at all," he said.

Krishna Rao said the process of clearing the debris is underway with several machinery in place.

According to officials the Tunnel Boring Machine (TBM) which

weighs a few hundred tons, got almost flushed away by about 200 meters after the collapse and due to the gushing water.

"Even, even assuming they (the trapped persons) are in the lower part of the TBM machine, assuming even if it is intact on the top, where is the air (oxygen)? Underneath, how the oxygen will go," he asked though pumping of oxygen and dewatering have been continuously done.

"For removing all the debris and all that, in spite of all types of efforts, all types of organisations (working), it takes, I think it takes not less than 3-4 days (to extricate the people)," Rao, who had overseen the rescue operations along with Irrigation Minister Uttam Kumar Reddy, said.

Rao said the conveyor belt was being restored at the tunnel to clear the debris.

Meanwhile, a social media post from Telangana Chief Minister's Office (CMO) said CM Revanth Reddy has been continuously reviewing the situation regarding the SLBC tunnel accident and was in constant touch with the ministers and senior officials involved in the rescue operations.

Dewatering is going on while oxygen was being continuously pumped into the tunnel. The officials also informed that they are exploring alternative routes to reach the site of the accident by clearing the debris of soil mounds in the tunnel, the post said.

Simultaneous polls cater to federal structure

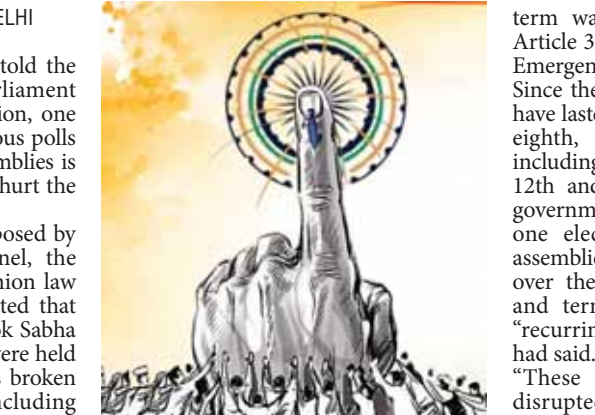
PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ NEW DELHI

The Centre is learnt to have told the joint committee of Parliament examining the bills on 'one nation, one election' that holding simultaneous polls to the Lok Sabha and state assemblies is not undemocratic and does not hurt the federal structure.

Responding to a set of queries posed by the members of the joint panel, the legislative department in the Union law ministry is learnt to have asserted that simultaneous elections to the Lok Sabha and state legislative assemblies were held in the past before the cycle was broken due to various reasons, including imposition of President's rule in some states.

Sources said while the ministry answered some of the questions, some others were sent to the Election Commission for a calibrated response. The joint committee is holding its next meeting on Tuesday.

Following the adoption of the Constitution, elections to the Lok Sabha and all state assemblies were conducted simultaneously from 1951 to 1967, it noted. The first general elections to the Lok Sabha and state assemblies were held



together in 1951-52, a practice that continued for three subsequent general elections in 1957, 1962, and 1967.

However, this cycle of synchronised elections was disrupted in 1968 and 1969 due to the premature dissolution of some state legislative assemblies.

The fourth Lok Sabha was also dissolved prematurely in 1970, with fresh elections held in 1971. Unlike the first, second, and third Lok Sabha, which completed their full five-year terms, the fifth Lok Sabha's

term was extended until 1977 under Article 352 because of the declaration of Emergency.

Since then, only a few Lok Sabha terms have lasted the full five years, such as the eighth, 10th, 14th and 15th. Others, including the sixth, seventh, ninth, 11th, 12th and 13th were dissolved early, a government explainer on 'one nation, one election' had earlier said. State assemblies have faced similar disruptions over the years. Premature dissolutions and term extensions have become a "recurring challenge", the government had said.

"These developments have firmly disrupted the cycle of simultaneous elections, leading to the current pattern of staggered electoral schedules across the country," it observed.

"Due to the ongoing cycle of polls in various parts of the country, political parties, their leaders, legislators, and both state and central governments focusses on preparing for upcoming polls rather than prioritising governance," it said, citing the 'rationale' for holding simultaneous polls as recommended by the panel headed by former president Ram Nath Kovind.

Kedarnath earnings more than double since 2020-21

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ DEHRADUN

The Kedarnath temple's earnings from offerings, donations and different services offered to devotees have more than doubled since March 2021, an RTI query has revealed. From Rs 22.04 crore in 2020-21, it rose to Rs 52.9 crore in 2023-24, the Sri Badrinath-Kedarnath Mandir Samiti said in response to the query filed under the Right to Information Act by Noida-based RTI activist Amit Gupta.

Giving a yearly break-up, the committee said the income of the famous Himalayan temple in Uttarakhand was Rs 22.04 crore in 2020-21, it dropped to Rs 16.52 crore in 2021-22 in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic but rose again to Rs 29.67 crore in 2022-23 and to Rs 52.9 crore in 2023-24.

The rise in the temple's income during the period was 2.3 times.

A delayed opening of the temple for devotees in 2021, coupled with restrictions such as mandatory negative RT-PCR test reports, a daily cap on the number of devotees visiting the shrine, besides compliance with mask-wearing and social-distancing norms had severely affected the inflow of pilgrims during



the pandemic.

However, as the number of Covid cases declined and the yatra norms were relaxed, the number of pilgrims surged the following year, increasing the temple's earnings once again.

The trend continued in 2023-24, the temple committee said.

The income of the temple comes from the offerings and donations made by devotees as well as the priority darshan facilities offered to those coming by helicopter services for which an additional fee is charged by the committee.

Classifieds

BEDKHALI NOTICE

I, Radha Ram s/o Chungi Ram R/o# 149, village Billa tehsil district Panchkula Haryana my son Jarnal Singh his wife Sunita Devi are out of my control. I disown them from my all movable/immovable properties. Anybody dealing with them at their own risk.

I, Ram Niwas S/o Sube Singh R/o 270, Jhad wali gali, Near Jhad, Nahri, Sonipat has disowned my daughter Smriti from her all movable-immovable property as they are out of her control. In future, if anybody deals with them, he/she will do at their own risk.

I Manpreet Kaur wife Late Sh. Surinder Singh Resident of House No 1521, GMCH Complex Sector 32, Chandigarh inform that my son Aditya Kashyap is out of my control. I disown him from my all moveable and Immoveable Properties. Anybody deal with him will do at their own Risk.

I, Bhagat Singh S/o Sh. Dariyav Singh R/o Panipat, Haryana, declare that I disown my daughter Leena from my movable and immovable property. I want to inform the general public that whoever deals with her in future, will her/himself be responsible for the same. If found involved in illegal activities, she will be herself responsible. I and my family members will not be responsible for the same.

I, Sanjay Kumar S/o Sh. Ram Dhari r/o H. No.62, Sector 41 D, Chandigarh declare that my son Panabh is out of my control I disown him from my all movable/immovable properties from 01-01-2025. Anybody deal with him at his own risk.

I, Kavita Seth W/o Raman Kumar R/o 2136/8, Gali Tokriyan Wali, Amritsar have declare that my daughter Sheetal Beri and her son are out of my control I disinherit them from my all movable and immovable properties anybody deal with them is his own risk and responsibility.

I, Raman Kumar S/o Sain Dass R/o 2136/8, Gali Tokriyan Wali, Amritsar have declare that my daughter Sheetal Beri and her son are out of my control I disinherit them from my all movable and immovable properties anybody deal with them is his own risk and responsibility.

I Sajjan Singh S/o Ajmer Singh R/o H.No. 61, Darshani Bagh, Manimajra, Chandigarh, declared that my son Devinder Singh and his wife Gurpreet Kaur and their children Angad Singh, all are out of my control, so I disown them from my moveable-immovable properties, anybody deals with them at their own risk.

I, Mahinder Partap resident Juneja Street Fazilka Tehsil and district Fazilka declare that my son Raman Gandhi and daughter-in-law Navneet Kaur are out of my control. I disown them from my moveable and immovable properties. Person dealt with them and both of them will be responsible for their own deeds and actions.

I, Som Pal S/o Liliu R/o village Peedal tehsil Guhla district Kaithal, Haryana, disown my son Vikram Kumar R/o Ward No. 9 Peedal and daughter-in-law Manpreet from my movable / immovable property , as both beyond my control. If anybody deals them do at own risk/ responsibility, I and family shall not be responsible.

I, Varinder Singh S/o Faqir Chand R/o Village Padu Postoffice Rawa, Tehsil Shahabad Markanda District Kurukshetra, have evicted my son Sagor, from all my movable-immovable properties, as he is out of my control.

I, Ravinder Kumar S/o Vidha Chand # 400, New Colony, Khuda Lahora, Chandigarh declare that my son Gaurav Kumar is out of my control. So, I disown him from my moveable/ immoveable property. Anybody deals with him at their own risk.

We, Balbir Singh S/o Kartar Singh and Kulwant Kaur W/o Balbir Singh Village Shahpur, Pehowa, Kurukshetra, our son Kuldeep Singh and his wife Harvinder Kaur and grandson Gurkirat Singh are Out Of our Control. We, Disown Them From All our Moveable And Immoveable Properties. If Anybody Deals With Him At Their Own Risk.

I, Phool Singh S/o Sh. Lekh Raj resident of House No. 30, Ground Floor, Ashiana, Sector 28, Panchkula declare that my daughter Rani is out of my control. I disown my daughter From my All Movable and immovable Properties. Anybody dealing with her will do at his own risk and cost. I and my family will have nothing to do with it.

We, Satish S/o Sh. Ram Kumar & Smt. Kavita w/o Sh. Satish, both residents of House No. 697, Ajmer Basti, Bhiwani Road Jind, Distt. Jind, Haryana declare that our Son Amandeep is out of our control. We Disown our Son From our All Movable and immovable Properties. Anybody dealing with him will do at his own risk and cost. We will have nothing to do with it.

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to inform the general public that my clients, Sh. Gulab Singh & Beena Devi R/o Gali No. 3B, Sawatantar Nagar, Narela, Delhi-110040 have disowned their son Ankit & his wife Komal from their all movable-immovable property as they are out of their control. In future, if anybody deals with them, he/she will do at their own risk. Deepak Kumar Chopra, Advocate

This is to inform the general public that my client, Sunita Devi Widow of Late Sh. Ajay Kumar Dabas R/o H.No.109, Kurenia, Narela, North-West Delhi, Delhi-110040 has disowned her son Amarjeet Dabas & his wife Kiran from her all movable-immovable property as they are out of her control. In future, if anybody deals with them, he/she will do at their own risk. Mahtab Singh, Advocate

I, Aftab Ahmad S/o Sabir Huussain # 554, Charan Singh Colony, Mauli Jagran, Chandigarh is hereby declare that my name written as Aftab Ahmed is on Aadhaar card which may be correctly written as Aftab Ahmad and my father's name is Sabir huussain and Sabir huussain is one and the same person.

I, Bhimavva Mother of No. 17020983A, Sep. Hanamant Balappa Melavanki presently residing at Qtr. No. 1704/4, Sector-D, Chandimandir Cantt. Panchkula, Haryana, declared that in my son's service record my name is recorded as Bhimavva, whereas my correct name is Bhimavva Melavanki.

I, Balappa Father of No. 17020983A, Sep. Hanamant Balappa Melavanki presently residing at Qtr. No. 1704/4, Sector-D, Chandimandir Cantt. Panchkula, Haryana, declared that in my son's service record my name and Date of Birth is recorded as Balappa and 01-01-1965, whereas my correct name is Bhimavva Melavanki and 01-01-1968.

I, Jasmeet Singh S/O Balwinder Singh. R/O Vill - Kot Bhalia. Po- Talibpur Pandori, Gurdaspur Pin- 143531, Punjab, India. Declare That My Given Name As Jasmeet And My Surname As Singh.

I, Nillam Rani, mother of no. 15188808M NK (DS) Jaswinder Singh resident of Village Padian Lehri, PO & Distt. Pathankot Pin 145001 (Punjab), hereby declare that I have changed my name and date of birth from Neelam Rani 15/04/1948 to Nillam Rani & date of Birth 01/01/1961.

I, Ashok Kumar, father of no. 15188808M NK (DS) Jaswinder Singh resident of Village Padian Lehri, PO & Distt. Pathankot Pin 145001 (Punjab), hereby declare that I have changed my name and date of birth from 18/08/1955 to 01/01/1955.

I, Army No. 13744743P Rank Nk Jaswant Singh Presently residing at Vill: Kohte Himmatpura (Kot Bhai) Distt. Sri Muktsar Sahib, State of Punjab Pin-152101 have declare that in my army record the DOB of my son Gursahib Singh is wrongly written as 20-11-1995 instead of 23-10-1994. The actual DOB of my son Gursahib Singh is 23-10-1994 which may amended accordingly.

I, Bhagvati, Is Legally Father Of Army No 14682731L Bhm Somnath Patil Of 607 Eme Battalion Residing At Vpo Hindalga, Teh. Hukkari, District Belagavi, (Karnataka) 591108 Have Changed My Name From Bhagvati To Bhagavati Somanna Patil & Changed Date Of Birth From 01/07/1955 To 01/01/1951, Vide Affidavit Dated 24-02-2025, Before Attested Magistrate Ferozepur.

I, Shanta Bai, Is Legally Mother Of Army No-14682731L Bhm Somnath Patil Of 607 Eme Battalion, Residing At Vpo Hindalga, Teh. Hukkari, District Belagavi, (Karnataka) 591108 Have Changed My Name From Shanta Bai To Shanta Bhagavati Patil & Changed Date Of Birth From 01/07/1959 To 01/01/1964, Vide Affidavit Dated 24-02-2025, Before Attested Magistrate Ferozepur.

I, M Sarathamani, Mother Of My No. 16112226P Rank Hav Name Sivakumar M Of Unit 5 Engr Regt C/O 99 Apo, Have Changed My Name From M Sarathamani To Saratha Mani Sivathanu Pillai & Date Of Birth 01.07.1947 To 12.10.1955 Vide Affidavit Notary Ferozepur.

I, Mony, Father Of Army No. 16112226P Rank Hav Name Sivakumar M Of Unit 5 Engr Regt C/O 99 Apo, Have Changed My Name From Mony To P Mani & Date Of Birth 01.07.1944 To 10.05.1948 Vide Affidavit Notary Ferozepur.

I, J Mallava, Mother Of Army No. 16115569W Rank Hav Name J Mallesh Unit 5 Engr Regt C/O 99 Apo, Pincode: 914005 Have Changed My Name From J Mallava To Jupelli Mallava & Date Of Birth 01.02.1966 To 20.04.1966 Vide Affidavit Notary Ferozepur.

My name is Chaman Lal son of Haria son of Gobinda residence of village Nangran tehsil Nangal distt Rupnagar declare that Shanti Devi w/o Baldev Ram and Savitri w/o Guljar Singh my real sisters . My sisters name is written Bakshya Devi and Gyatri Devi in Jamabandi. Them known by both names Bakshya Devi alias Shanti Devi and Gyatri Devi alias Savitri are true and correct.

CHANGE OF NAME

I, Munish Jain S/o Sh. Sudershan Jain r/o H.No 2552 Sector - 22 C, Chandigarh have changed my name from Munish Kumar Jain to Munish Jain.

I Payal Kumari W/o Sanjay Bansal R/O House no 752 sector 7 Panchkula Haryana have changed my name to Payal Bansal.

I, Monika Dhandu W/o Robin Dhandu R/O 109/1, Village Kandraul, Distt Yamuna Nagar have changed my name from Monika to Monika Dhandu.

I, Sama Khan W/o Sunny R/O Village Odhri, PO Sabapur, Distt. Yamuna Nagar-135101, Haryana, India have changed my name from Sama Khan to Sama.

I, Anita Rani W/o Sh. Gagandeep Singh R/o H.No. 204, Manakpur Devial Colony, Near Sacred Saint School, Pinjore, Panchkula, Haryana declared that I have changed my name Anita Rani Malhotra to Anita Rani. Please noted.

I, Army No. 15178056A Havildar Amit Kumar S/O Hari Parkash, residing at Village-Jauli, Tehsil-Gohana, Distt-Sonipat (Haryana). I hereby inform that in my Army records name of my mother is Guddi Devi and her date of birth is 03-01-1966 which is wrong. Correct name of my mother is Guddi and correct date of birth is 01-01-1968. So please update the same in my Army records.

I, No.3405365P, Hav Paramjit Masih S/O Sukhdev Singh unit 5 Sikh Regt c/o 99 APO, R/o VPO Kahnawan Distt Gurdaspur (Pb) PIN-143528 declare that in my Army Service documents, name of my daughter wrongly recorded as Arpeta. Her correct name Arpita. All note.

I, Service 1568345Y Ex-NK/DME- Balwant Singh S/O Shri Charan Singh Resident of Village- Adowali PO- Rangar Nangal Tehsil- Batala Distt-Gurdaspur, Punjab, That I declare changed my son name from Jagraj Singh to Jugraj Singh and date of birth from 22/06/2003 to 14/06/2003 in my army record.

I, Prayagala Asha Jyothi is legally wife of Eswara Rao Prayagala Residence of Village Gullaseetharama Puram, PO-Gullaseetharama Puram, Tehsil - Santhakaviti, District-Srikakulam, State- Andhra Pradesh Pincode- 532123 has changed my name from P Asha to Prayagala Asha Jyothi due to wrong name recorded in my daughter Trishika Prayagala school record vide affidavit no. IN-PB10382648614901X dated 24-02-2025

I, Service No.14928550L, Rank Hav Name Tota Sreenivasulu S/o T. Mallaiiah, 2-6-30, resident of Satram Street, Allagadda, Allagadda, Kurnool, Allagadda, Mdg, Andhra Pradesh 518543, at present Unit 25 Mech. Inf. (R&SP) C/o 56 APO declare that my son has changed his name from T. Manideep to Tota Manideep due to wrong name record in my Army service record vide affidavit No. IN-PB 09980272486723X dated 24 Feb.2025

I, No. 21154A Petty Officer Ram Ditta (Retd) son of Late Ram Saran resident of Village Dharampur PO & Tehsil Mukerian, Distt Hoshiarpur (Pb) have changed the name of my daughter from Esha to Esha Anand. Concerned note.

I, Sonia W/o Sh. Santokh Singh R/o VPO. Bassi Dault Khan Distt. Hoshiarpur Punjab India. Have Changed My Name From Sonia To Sonia Kaur. All Concerned Note.

I, Gurprejit Singh S/O Simarjit Singh R/O B-22 MCH 678, Mohalla Tibba Sahib, Hoshiarpur, Punjab declare that my given name as Gurpremit and my surname as Singh.

I, Gagandeep Singh S/O Paramjit Singh R/O Mohalla Milap Nagar Gali No. 03, Tehsil & Distt. Hoshiarpur Punjab have changed my name from Singh Gagandeep. And Singh is my surname. Concerned note.

I, Ravina W/o Ramesh Yadav R/o #115, Parade Mohalla, Tehsil-Kalka, District Panchkula (Haryana) have changed my name from Ravina Yadav to Ravina.

I, Sarita D/o Ashok Kumar Mehra W/o Ishant Khurana R/o H.No. 234/8, Satto Wali Gali, Katra Karam Singh, Amritsar, Punjab have changed my name after marriage from Sarita to Sarita Khurana.

I, Surjeet Singh S/o Jaggu Ram R/o Barna Shankar colony, Tehsil-Thanesar, Distt.Kurukshetra (Haryana) declare that Surjeet Singh & Surjit Singh both are my name.

I, Kamla Devi W/o Surjeet Singh R/o Barna Shankar Colony, Tehsil-Thanesar, Distt.Kurukshetra (Haryana) declare that Kamla Devi & Kamlesh Devi both are my name.

I, Vishal Wadehra, s/o Sh. Vijay Wadehra, r/o house no. E-2417, Ansal Sushant City, Panipat, Tehsil, And District Panipat, declare that I have changed my daughter's name from Nourin to Nourin Wadehra. In future she should be known as Nourin Wadehra.

I Preet Mohinder Singh Son of Sh. Ajmer Singh Malhi R/O H.No-1258, Sector 44 B, Chandigarh have changed my name from Preet Mohinder Singh to Preet Mohinder Singh Malhi

I Shano Khosla Daughter of Sh. Deepak Khosla R/O H.No-5422/1, Modern Housing Complex, Manimajra, Chandigarh have changed my name from Shano Khosla to Deepika Khosla

I Sanjay Kumar Sharma S/O Chaman Lal Sharma R/O House no 61/972 Baldev Nagar Ambala City have changed my Minor Daughter's name from Tanya to Tanya Sharma.

I Parveen Arora S/O Shyam Sunder R/O Vill Durga Nagar Ambala City Haryana I Have Changed My Name From Parveen Arora To Parveen Kumar

I Punita W/O Parveen Kumar R/O Vill Durga Nagar Ambala City Haryana I Have Changed My Name From Punita To Punita Rani.

I Ankita D/o Shri Rajesh Kapoor R/O House No. 44, D. C. Colony, Meerut Road, Kamal (Haryana). I declare that I have changed my Name from Ankita to Ankita Sharma for all future purposes.

I, Varun S/o Vijay Kumar R/O Shri Hargobindpur , Near old Post Office, Tehsil Batala Distt Gurdaspur (Pb) have changed my name from Varun to Varun Singh. Concerned note.

I, Venus W/o Paras Gill R/O Gali No. 2, Sial Kotia Chowk Islamabad, have changed my name from Venus to Venus Gill

I, Kamal Kumar Sharma S/O Mehar Chand R/O H.No.461, Gali No.2, Green Field, Majitha Road, Amritsar have changed my name from Kamal Kumar Sharma to Kamal Sharma

I, Rupinder Kaur W/o Karanjit Singh Osahan R/O H.No.19, Diamond Estate, Near Sultanwind Canal Road, Amritsar have changed my name from Rupinder Kaur to Rupinder Kaur Osahan

I, Sheetal Rana W/o Bhudev Singh Rana R/O Kalyanpur, Bijnor Uttar Pradesh-246762 have changed my name from Sheetal Rana to Sheetal Rajput

I, Kultaerjeet Kaur W/o Kanwaljit Singh R/o 3, Friends Colony Gumtala Sub Urban Amritsar have changed my name from Kultaerjeet Kaur to Kultaerjit Kaur

I, Alok Marwah S/o Rakesh Kumar R/O H.No.17-B, Beauty Avenue, Phase-2, Amritsar have changed my name to Alok Kumar. All Concerned Please Note.

I Arshdeep Singh S/O Dalbir Singh R/o VPO Ram Diwali Hinduan, Amritsar have changed my name from Arshdeep Singh to Given name Arshdeep Surname Singh.

I, Danesh Kumar S/o Chaman Lal R/O VPO Sultanwind Patti Malko Di, Amritsar have changed my name from Danesh Kumar to Dinesh Kumar

I, Monika W/o Surender Kumar R/o House No 328, Village- Mirzapur, Tehsil Thanesar, District Kurukshetra have changed my name from Monika to Monika Samdhian.

I, Seema Rani mother of No.2496169K Hav Ghan Shyam R/O Village Sarwari Upari, PO Khadyad Tehsil Kotli, Distt. Mandi H.P.-175003 have changed my name from Seema Rani to Ahlya Devi Vide Affidavit No.IN-PB1005823986187X Dt.24.02.2025 before Notary Public Amritsar

I, Bhavya Sharma S/O Ramkumar R/O Kharak Bhura, Jind, Kharakbhura, Haryana-126115 declare that name of mine & my father is wrongly written as Ram Jaari & Ram Kumar in my Class 10th Educational Documents & Polytechnic Diploma Certificate & name of mine is wrongly written as Ramjuari in my Class 8th Educational Documents. Actual name of mine & my father are Bhavya Sharma & Ramkumar.

I, Hasan S/O Malkhan R/O 1400/4, New Janta Colony, Rohtak, Haryana-124001 have changed my name to Ishwar. I have changed only my name not my religion.

I, Smt. Jaswinder Kaur D/o No.1516725H Late Spr Nasib Singh R/O Vill. Bahga, PO Garhdiwala Tehsil & Distt. Hoshiarpur Punjab have changed my name from Jaswinder Kaur to Rajinder Kaur. Concerned note.

I, Smt Gurbinder Kaur W/o JC-214946F Ex Sub Harbinder Singh R/O H.No.99, Lane No. 04, Sainik Vihar, Dhillwan Road, Rama Mandi, PO Dakoha Tehsil & Distt. Jalandhar Punjab have changed my date of birth from 30-04-1961 to 22-01-1958.

I, Simranjeet kaur W/o Harvinder Singh R/O Village jandi, P.O., shamchurasi, distt Hoshiarpur Punjab have changed my name from Simranjeet kaur to Naviyot kaur.

I, Satbir Singh Son of Gurdev Singh residing at H.No.3, Gali No.17, Makboolpura, Guru Tej Bahadur Nagar, District Amritsar-143001 Punjab have changed the name of my minor Son Sonamdeep Singh Aged 16 Years and he shall hereafter be known as Ranbir Singh.

I, Safi W/o Kurban R/O H.No.36, Garhi Basik, Village Rana Majra, Tehsil Samalkha, Distt. Panipat, have changed my name from Safi to Rafi.

I, Ramesh Kumar Chhabra S/o Sh. Amarnath Chhabra R/o H.No.52/ 23, Near Hanuman Mandir, Krishan Pura, Panipat, I have changed my name from Ramesh Chhabra to Ramesh Kumar Chhabra for all future purposes.

I, Dinesh S/O Jasvir Singh R/O Bure Jattan, Pandori Bawa Dass, Hoshiarpur, Punjab-146113 have changed my name to Dinesh Dinesh.

I Parvinder S/o Ramesh Kumar R/O Village Dehar P.O. Ambli, Naraingarh Ambala Haryana, has changed my name from Parvinder to Pivender Singh.

I, Service No 15776498X Rank Hav Name Rajesh Kumar Yadav Of Unit 513 Ad Msl Regt (Sp) C/O 56 Apo, R/O Vill-Jiraso, Po- Bankata Mishra, Tehsil- Bhatpa Rani, Distt Deoria, State-U.P, Pin- 274506 Have Changed My Son Name From Amritesh To Amritesh Yadav Vide Affidavit Dated 24-02-2025 Before Ambala Cantt

I, Main Mother Of Service No 15778690a Rank Hav(Occ) Name Patil Shekhar Bhaskar Of Unit 105 Ad Regt C/O 56 Apo, R/O Vill- Akolner, Tehsil -U Distt-Ahmednagar, State-Maharashtra, Pin-414005 Have Changed My Name From Main To Malan Bhaskar Patil Vide Affidavit Dated 31-01-2025 Before Ambala Cantt.

I, Anu Rani Khanna, W/o Ashwani Khanna R/O 2070/1, Sector 40 C, Chandigarh. After marriage my in-law's changed my name to Anu Rani Khanna. I am Raj Rani Khanna by birth. Both these names belong to me and is of same person.

I, Riicky Jain S/o Vinod Kumar Jain R/O # 1825, Sector 22 B, Chandigarh have changed the name of my minor daughter from Drishti Jain to Drishti R Jain.

I, Ricky Jain S/o Vinod Kumar Jain R/o 1825, Sector 22B, Chandigarh have changed my name to Riicky Jain.

I, Shipra Jain W/o Riicky Jain R/o # 1825, Sector 22 B, Chandigarh have changed my name to Shipra R Jain.

I, Mohdi Devi wife of Sh. Jeet Singh Resident of village Goway, Tehsil Chopal (165), District Shimla, Himachal Pradesh, declare that my correct name in Aadhaar card, PAN card is Mohdi Devi. While my name is entered as Maidi Devi in savings account of SBI Ronhat, District Simaur. Mohdi Devi and Maidi are the names of the same person. All concerned please may note.

I, Mangat Ram S/O Kishori Lal R/O House No. 772, Sector 8, UE, Kurukshetra have changed my name from Mangat Ram to Mangat Ram Jindal.

I, Monika W/o Surender Kumar R/o House No 328, Village- Mirzapur, Tehsil Thanesar, District Kurukshetra have changed my name from Monika to Monika Samdhian.

I, Anant Varma S/O D Varma R/O Flat No-1502, ATS Golf Meadows Prelude, Barwala Road, Dera Bassi, SAS Nagar (Mohali), Punjab-140507 declare that name of mine & my wife is wrongly written as Anuradha Varma & Anant Varma in my minor daughter Priyanshi Varma aged 16 years in her Cbse Class 10th Educational Documents. Actual name of mine & my wife are Anant Varma & Anuradha Varma.

I, Vikram Dhaliwal S/O Sukhdev Singh R/O Ward 6, Mohalla Khilla Patti, Raikot, Ludhiana, Punjab-141109 have changed my name to Amarjit Singh Dhaliwal.

I, Jeeto W/O Ajit Ram R/O Sarhal Mundi, Tehsil Phillaur, Jalandhar, Punjab-144502 have changed my name to Jeet Kaur.

I, Babli Devi W/O Joginder Singh R/O Tika Dadui, VPO-Lehroon Tehsil Dhar Kalan, Pathankot, Punjab-145022 have changed my name to Santosh Devi.

I, Shamu S/O Ram Dhiraj Jaiswal R/O Street No 3, Bagh Phool Chand, Makhu Gate, Ferozepur, Punjab-152002 have changed my name to Samir Jaiswal.

I, Dinesh S/O Jasvir Singh R/O Bure Jattan, Pandori Bawa Dass, Hoshiarpur, Punjab-146113 have changed my name to Dinesh Dinesh.

I Parvinder S/o Ramesh Kumar R/O Village Dehar P.O. Ambli, Naraingarh Ambala Haryana, has changed my name from Parvinder to Pivender Singh.

I, Service No 15776498X Rank Hav Name Rajesh Kumar Yadav Of Unit 513 Ad Msl Regt (Sp) C/O 56 Apo, R/O Vill-Jiraso, Po- Bankata Mishra, Tehsil- Bhatpa Rani, Distt Deoria, State-U.P, Pin- 274506 Have Changed My Son Name From Amritesh To Amritesh Yadav Vide Affidavit Dated 24-02-2025 Before Ambala Cantt

I, Main Mother Of Service No 15778690a Rank Hav(Occ) Name Patil Shekhar Bhaskar Of Unit 105 Ad Regt C/O 56 Apo, R/O Vill- Akolner, Tehsil -U Distt-Ahmednagar, State-Maharashtra, Pin-414005 Have Changed My Name From Main To Malan Bhaskar Patil Vide Affidavit Dated 31-01-2025 Before Ambala Cantt.

I, Anu Rani Khanna, W/o Ashwani Khanna R/O 2070/1, Sector 40 C, Chandigarh. After marriage my in-law's changed my name to Anu Rani Khanna. I am Raj Rani Khanna by birth. Both these names belong to me and is of same person.

I, Riicky Jain S/o Vinod Kumar Jain R/O # 1825, Sector 22 B, Chandigarh have changed the name of my minor daughter from Drishti Jain to Drishti R Jain.

I, Ricky Jain S/o Vinod Kumar Jain R/o 1825, Sector 22B, Chandigarh have changed my name to Riicky Jain.

I, Shipra Jain W/o Riicky Jain R/o # 1825, Sector 22 B, Chandigarh have changed my name to Shipra R Jain.

I, Mohdi Devi wife of Sh. Jeet Singh Resident of village Goway, Tehsil Chopal (165), District Shimla, Himachal Pradesh, declare that my correct name in Aadhaar card, PAN card is Mohdi Devi. While my name is entered as Maidi Devi in savings account of SBI Ronhat, District Simaur. Mohdi Devi and Maidi are the names of the same person. All concerned please may note.

I, Mangat Ram S/O Kishori Lal R/O House No. 772, Sector 8, UE, Kurukshetra have changed my name from Mangat Ram to Mangat Ram Jindal.

I, Monika W/o Surender Kumar R/o House No 328, Village- Mirzapur, Tehsil Thanesar, District Kurukshetra have changed my name from Monika to Monika Samdhian.

I, Ranjodh Singh S/O Joginder Singh R/O Village Joyian PO Jaura Chattran Distt Gurdaspur declare that in my Passport name of my deceased mother wrongly entered as Surjit Kaur. Her correct name is Surjit Kaur. Concerned note.

I, Rajwinder Kour W/o Ranjodh Singh R/O Village Joyian PO Jaura Chattran Distt Gurdaspur have changed my name from Rajwinder Kour to Rajwinder Kaur. Concerned note.

I, No. 14810707-H Ex Sepoy Suresh Kumar S/o Sh. Rajendra Singh R/O Vill. & P.O. Bohar, Teh. & Distt. Rohtak (Haryana) declare that my son name Gaurav is wrongly mentioned in my Army record. But my son correct & actual name is Gaurav Kumar. vide affidavit dated 24.02.2025 before Notary Public Rohtak.

I, Sheeshpal Singh S/O Shyam Singh R/O Village Dhanauri Post Office Dhanaura Tehsil Barara District Ambala Haryana. I Have Changed My Name From Sheeshpal Singh To Sheeshpal Singh. In Future I Will Be Known As Sheeshpal Singh. Concerned Note.

I, Bhajan Lal S/O Bhag Singh R/O Village Pharal, Sub-Tehsil Dhand, Distt. Kaithal (Haryana) declares that I have changed my minor son's name from Harjot to Harjot Kamboj. In future, he will be known by the name of Harjot Kamboj.

I, Rafik Muhammad S/O Ayub Khan VPO Khurd Teh & Distt Malerkotla, have changed my name To Rafiq Mohammad

I, Sudhir Kumar Alias Sudhir Gilhotra Alias Sudhir Kumar Gilhotra S/O Balram Gilhotra, H. No. 669, First Floor, Sector-8, Panchkula (Haryana), declare that I know by names Sudhir Kumar, Sudhir Gilhotra and Sudhir Kumar Gilhotra.

I, Kamaljit Kaur Badshah W/o Sh. Gurjeet Singh Badesha, R/O House Number 3180, Sector 21-D, Chandigarh. That I have changed my name from Kamaljit Kaur Badshah to Kamaljit Kaur Badesha

I, Baljit Kaur Badsha W/o Sh. Amarjit Singh Badshah, R/O House Number -3180, Sector 21-D, Chandigarh. That I have changed my name from Baljit Kaur Badsha to Baljit Kaur Badesha.

I, Amarjit Singh Badshah S/O Sh. Gurdev Singh, R/O House Number 3180, Sector 21-D, Chandigarh. That I have changed my name from Amarjit Singh Badshah to Amarjit Singh Badesha.

Opposition Targets AAP Over Illegal Mining, Session's Short Duration

MONIKA MALIK ■ CHANDIGARH

After a gap of more than five months, Punjab Vidhan Sabha convened for a two-day special session, which kicked off on Monday with sharp criticisms and significant policy discussions. The Leader of Opposition and senior Congress leader Partap Singh Bajwa launched a scathing attack on the Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) Government over issues like illegal mining, shortage of school heads, the unprecedented delay in holding the session, and governance failures; while the state Cabinet Minister Aman Arora did not mince a word while issuing a stern warning to the officers against misleading or harassing the public.

The session, which comes after the government skipped the winter session, saw intense deliberations on crucial matters ranging from education, renewable energy, and health infrastructure to law and order concerns. Amid these discussions, the absence of Chief Minister Bhagwant Mann raised eyebrows, with opposition leaders questioning his non-participation in such a legislative sitting, that's taking place after a long time. Bajwa wasted no time in targeting the AAP Government for failing to curb illegal mining, which he alleged was flourishing under the administration's watch. He lambasted the Government for not taking stringent action against mafias who, he claimed, were plundering Punjab's natural resources with impunity. Bajwa also criticized the Government for convening a mere two-day session, arguing that a State grappling with multiple crises needed more extensive legislative deliberations. "It is disgraceful that after skipping the winter session entirely, the Government has called for this mere formality of a two-day session. This is an insult to the democratic process. Punjab is in a crisis — be it illegal mining, lawlessness, or broken promises — but this government seems disinterested in governance," Bajwa said. Also taking on the AAP Government over vacancies in

schools, Bajwa gave the School Education Minister Harjot Singh Bains some uncomfortable moments when he questioned him over the vacancies of headmasters and principals in the state government schools.

"Your government, earlier in Delhi and now here, often talk about two models — Health and Education. Can the Minister concerned please inform the House how many total high schools are there in the state, and how many percentage headmasters are there. Can the Minister tell us how many senior secondary schools are there and how many of them have no principals," he said.

Arora's Stern Message to Officers-in-Field

Responding to a query during the Question Hour,

energy. "We have already installed solar panels in 4,238 schools, with work underway in 2,400 more. Our goal is to bring all 19,110 government schools and over 53,000 government buildings under solar power," he said, adding that even private buildings should be encouraged to adopt solar energy solutions, and release the burden of subsidy from the state power department.

Health Minister Raises Concerns Over 41 'Defunct' Oxygen Plants

Health and Family Welfare Minister Dr Balbir Singh raised a major concern about the state's oxygen infrastructure, revealing that 41 oxygen plants — set up during the COVID-19 pandemic under the previous Congress Government — are now non-operational. Terming them "white ele-

Jalandhar MLA Pargat Singh raised concerns over the National Education Policy (NEP), calling it an "RSS-driven agenda" and urging the Punjab Government to reject it, as six other states have already done. "Once we start implementing it, we will have no choice but to continue with it. This is a dangerous policy aimed at distorting education," he warned.

Pathankot MLA Raises Security Concerns

BJP MLA Ashwani Sharma flagged security concerns in the border district of Pathankot, pointing out that a significant number of outsiders had settled there in the last three years. "Crime is on the rise. The government must ensure proper verification of these individuals, especially since Pathankot has witnessed terrorist attacks in the past," he cautioned.

Strict Punishment Sought For Milk Adulteration

Congress MLA Rana Gurjit Singh highlighted the issue of adulterated milk being supplied in Punjab, calling for stringent laws with punishments ranging from eight to 10 years for offenders. "Right now, these culprits get away with minor penalties. This is a serious health hazard," he asserted, urging the government to bring a law in the next session.

Govt Waiting for NABARD Funds to Repair Roads

The poor condition of roads, exacerbated by increased traffic due to the farmers' protest at the Shambhu border, was also raised by several MLAs. Due to the protest, alternate routes through Derabassi and nearby villages have deteriorated under heavy traffic, said Derabassi MLA Kuljit Singh Randhawa, highlighting the plight of these roads. Responding, Cabinet Minister Gurmeet Singh Khudian assured the House that repairs would begin as soon as the Punjab Government received a loan of Rs 1,800 crore from NABARD. "The moment funds are disbursed, the repair of rural roads will begin," he said.

PUNJAB ASSEMBLY SPECIAL SESSION

Cabinet Minister Aman Arora issued a stern warning to government officers against misleading the public or creating unnecessary bureaucratic hurdles. Citing a recent case from Faridkot, where a basketball coach's family was denied an income certificate, Arora said: "It is unacceptable for officials to sit in government offices and harass the people. Officers should change their ways, or else their pensions will not take long to be held back."

Congress MLA Rana Gurjit Singh interjected, questioning what concrete action had been taken against the erring officials. In response, Arora assured that his government was committed to holding officials accountable and urged MLAs to report such instances directly to him.

19110 Govt Schools To Be Covered With Solar Energy

Arora, who also oversees the Renewable Energy Department, made a significant announcement regarding the government's plan to power all government schools with solar

phants", he expressed serious doubts over their viability, stating that the oxygen produced by these plants was not meeting the required purity levels. Bajwa questioned the government on the status of the oxygen plant in Gurdaspur, to which Dr Balbir responded, "That plant is currently defunct, but tenders have been floated, and it should be operational by March." Speaker Kultar Singh Sandhwan also urged the Health Minister to expedite efforts to make these plants functional, particularly the one in Faridkot. However, Dr Balbir reiterated that his Department was relying on liquid oxygen supplies for now, as the purity levels of these defunct plants remained questionable. "The 99 percent purity is required, and these plants give oxygen with about 93-94 percent purity which, I believe as a doctor myself, will not be suitable to use for the patients," he added.

Pargat Singh Calls for Scrapping of National Education Policy

their accounts. He also highlighted that under the PM Surya Ghar Muft Bijli Yojana, solar panels of up to 2 kilowatts are being installed in the homes of poor and eligible families. He said that solar panels of 2-kilowatt have already been installed in the homes of more than 12,500 families in the state. Under this scheme, the central government provides a subsidy of Rs 80,000, while the remaining amount is covered by the Haryana government.

The Chief Minister stated that the government has increased the pension of Matribhasha Satyagrahis from Rs 15,000 to Rs 20,000. He emphasized that the government's objective is to ensure that poor families face no hardships and in the same series HAPPY Card Scheme has been introduced to facilitate smooth transportation in the state. HAPPY Cards are being issued to families with an annual income of upto Rs 1 lakh or less. So far, 30 to 35 lakh people in the state have distributed HAPPY Cards, allowing card holders to travel up to 1,000 kilometers for free in Haryana Roadways buses for one year.

Formation of triple engine Govt will lead to rapid development: Hry CM

PNS ■ ROHTAK

Haryana Chief Minister Nayab Singh Saini on Monday said that with the formation of the triple-engine government in the state, development works will be undertaken at three times the speed. The State Government is committed to provide transparency in governance and fulfill the people's expectations, he added.

Addressing a programme in Rohtak, Saini said that as soon as the present state government assumed office, appointment letters were given to 25,000 youth selected on merit as promised in the Sankalp Patra. Within the first 100 days, the government introduced free dialysis services for kidney patients in the state, fulfilling a commitment made in the Sankalp Patra. Additionally, under the Har Ghar-Har Grihini Yojana, women from households with an annual income of less than Rs 1.80 lakh are being provided



ed gas cylinders at a cost of just Rs 500, benefiting approximately 15 lakh families. Officials have been instructed to ensure that eligible families get the benefits of this scheme.

He said that the government has decided to grant ownership rights to farmers who have been cultivating land for a long time but have been deprived of such rights. Similarly, individuals who have built homes on panchayat land

for over 20 years will also be granted ownership rights, a decision that has brought significant relief to the people. He said that Haryana is the first state in the country where all crops are being purchased at MSP. While considering the demand of commission agents (Arhtiyas) for an increase in commission, the government has raised it from Rs 40 to Rs 55 per quintal, resulting in Rs 309 crore being transferred to

Bajwa's '32 AAP MLAs in contact' claim creates furore; Arora hits back

PNS ■ CHANDIGARH

The Leader of Opposition in Punjab Vidhan Sabha Partap Singh Bajwa, minutes before the start of the first day of the two-day special session on Monday, created a flutter by claiming that 32 MLAs of the ruling Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) are in touch with the Congress. Rubbishing the claims, Cabinet Minister and AAP's state unit president Aman Arora hit back asserting that Bajwa has already "secured his advance booking" with the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP).

Bajwa, addressing the media before the session, claimed that AAP legislators were actively reaching out to Congress and waiting for the right time to switch sides. Comparing the situation to Maharashtra's Eknath Shinde rebellion, which toppled the Uddhav Thackeray-led Shiv

Sena Government, he asserted that Punjab would witness a similar political upheaval soon. "Like fans booking tickets in advance for Diljit Dosanjh's concerts, AAP MLAs are booking their places in Congress. It is just a matter of time before the government collapses," said Bajwa. He further alleged that Punjab Chief Minister Bhagwant Mann was in secret talks with the BJP and that Union Minister Ravneet Singh Bittu was acting as a mediator between the two.

"Bittu is the bridge between CM Mann and BJP leaders in Delhi. He is enacting a drama by protesting outside Mann's residence, but the reality is that he is facilitating meetings between the Chief Minister and top BJP leadership. When Arvind Kejriwal tries to remove Mann, he will jump ship," Bajwa alleged.

He also accused the AAP government of failing on multiple fronts and said the people of Punjab had already lost faith in their leadership. **Arora's Counterattack: 'Bajwa Has Booked His Own Ticket with BJP'** Responding to Bajwa's claims, AAP Punjab chief Arora launched a counterattack, alleging that it was Bajwa who was preparing to join the BJP. Arora claimed that the Congress leader had recently visited Bengaluru, where he held secret meetings with senior BJP leaders. "Pratap Bajwa's transition to BJP is almost complete. His advance booking is done. Rahul Gandhi should ask him what he was doing in Bengaluru and which BJP leaders he met," said Arora.

Accusing Arora of hypocrisy, Arora said that while the Congress leader was busy

speculating about AAP defections, his own party was crumbling. "Bajwa couldn't even stop Sandeep Jakhar from joining the BJP. The Congress party is in disarray, and Bajwa's own ship is sinking. Instead of saving his own party, he is spreading rumours about our MLAs," he added.

Arora dismissed Bajwa's claim that 32 AAP MLAs were in contact with Congress, calling it "laughable and baseless". "Even if we assume that 32 MLAs left, we would still have 62 — enough for a majority. Meanwhile, Congress has just 15 MLAs. Even if Bajwa's fantasy were true, Congress still wouldn't be able to form a government. This shows his desperation," Arora remarked.

AAP spokesperson Neel Garg also joined the attack, claiming that Bajwa had already finalized his BJP deal. "Bajwa has climbed 12 steps, and only the final door remains to be opened. We have solid information that he met BJP leaders in Bengaluru to finalize his entry," said Garg.

MC Polls: BJP promises 25 pc rebate in House tax for women owners in Haryana

PNS ■ CHANDIGARH/ROHTAK

Ahead of the Municipal Corporation Elections, Haryana Chief Minister Nayab Singh Saini on Monday released his party's manifesto in Rohtak in the presence of senior party leaders, promising a 25 per cent rebate on residential tax for women homeowners in towns. The BJP's 'Sankalp Patra' also pledged to install at least one 'pink toilet' with sanitary napkin vending machines in every market.

The elections for 33 municipal bodies, including eight municipal corporations, are scheduled for March 2. These will include elections for four municipal councils and 21 municipal committees. Additionally, bypolls will be held for the mayor's position in the Ambala and Sonapat municipal corporations, as well as for three presidents and three members of municipal committees and councils. Gurgaon, Faridabad, Manesar, Hisar, Karnal, Rohtak, Panipat, and Yamunanagar are the eight municipal corporations going to polls in Haryana.

In its manifesto, the BJP also announced that house tax would be simplified for villages that have come under the jurisdiction of Municipal Corporations. The party also promises special tax relief for houses built on agricultural land. The BJP manifesto states that charges for sewerage and water connections will be waived. There will be smart streets, oxygen parks, and open gyms in the parks. Additionally, the manifesto promises to install machines to dispose of green waste in these parks. The BJP has announced plans to operate electric buses through a public-private partnership

model to create a more cost-effective and environmentally friendly transportation system. Also, the BJP has committed to doubling the streetlights in each municipal ward. Free solar panels will be provided to families with an annual income of up to Rs 1 lakh. Multi Level parking, provision of additional sanitation workers, and modern libraries are promises of the BJP for tier-2 and tier-3 cities. The manifesto also promises to grant ownership rights and provide registration to people living on a piece of land in urban or rural areas for the past 20 years.

Congress promises 'Green Cities, Clean Cities'

With an eye on reclaiming its lost ground in the State, Haryana Congress launched its civic poll manifesto under the slogan "Green Cities, Clean Cities". Senior party leader and former Chief Minister Bhupinder Singh Hooda released the manifesto in Gurugram. The Congress promised to establish a modern library in every ward, complete with Wi-Fi access. It also commits to planning pollution-free cities and improving garbage disposal management in urban areas. It also promises to provide more public toilets, especially for women, and improve traffic management in towns. The Congress runs for the municipal corporation elections under the slogan "Green City, Clean City". Like the ruling BJP, the Congress also contests the upcoming polls on the party symbol. Despite internal differences within the Congress, senior leaders appeared united at the event. Hooda was joined on stage by Haryana Congress president Uday Bhan.

Himachal govt to develop Rs. 80 crore ropeway project in Kullu

PNS ■ SHIMLA

In a step towards enhancing tourism in Kullu district, the Himachal government has approved the construction of an Aerial Ropeway from Kullu Bus Stand to Peej Paragliding Point with an estimated cost of Rs. 80 crore.

A government spokesperson on Monday stated that the 1.20-kilometer ropeway would provide a safe and convenient transport option for tourists, improving accessibility to Peej village, which is located 12 kilometers from Kullu by road. Peej serves as the gateway to the picturesque Lug Valley, and this initiative is expected to boost tourism activities thereby strengthening the local economy, and create new opportunities for adventure enthusiasts.

He said that once completed, the ropeway would offer easy access to Peej Paragliding Point, making it an ideal destination for both novice and experienced paragliders. This project was a part of the government's broader efforts to promote adventure tourism, religious tourism, and water sports tourism, recognizing the tourism sector as a key pillar of the state's economy. The State Government was also taking pro-active measures to promote ecotourism in the State, aiming to provide tourists with closer experiences of the wilderness and virgin ecosystems while ensuring the conservation of the natural resources, he added.

Punjab Assembly pays tributes to former PM, MLA Gogi, others

PNS ■ CHANDIGARH

Punjab Vidhan Sabha, on the first day of its special session, paid homage to several eminent personalities, including former Prime Minister Dr Manmohan Singh, political leaders, freedom fighters, and a renowned artist who passed away recently.

Obituary resolutions were passed in remembrance of MLA Gurpreet Singh Bassi (Goggi); former Ministers — Dharam Pal Sabharwal and Ajab Singh Mukhmailpur; former Rajya Sabha MP Harwinder Singh Hanspal; and former MLAs — Joginder Pal Jain, Sukhwinder Singh Butter, and Bhag Singh.

The House also honoured the contributions of freedom fighters — Karnail Singh, Kikkar Singh, and Kehar Singh, as well as renowned artist Jarnail Singh. Tributes were paid to Jaspal Kaur, wife of

Raikot MLA Hakam Singh, and Lal Singh, father of Nabha MLA Gurdev Singh Dev Mann. A two-minute silence was observed as a mark of respect, following which Speaker Kultar Singh Sandhwan passed a resolution conveying the condolences of the House to the bereaved families. On the request of Cabinet Minister Harjot Singh Bains, the name of Justice Kuldeep Singh was also added to the list. Amidst the solemn proceedings, the Leader of Opposition Partap Singh Bajwa urged the Assembly to pass a resolution recommending that Dr Manmohan Singh be awarded the Bharat Ratna, the nation's highest civilian honour, citing his pivotal role in India's economic reforms and global stature as an economist and statesman. Speaker Sandhwan assured that the proposal would be given due consideration.

National Centre for Disease Control to come up in Punjab

PNS ■ CHANDIGARH

To further ramp up the public health infrastructure in the state, the Punjab Health and Family Welfare department has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the National Centre for Disease Control (NCDC), New Delhi to establish a state branch at the Community Health Centre (CHC) Manawala in the Amritsar district.

The MoU was signed between Principal Secretary Health Kumar Rahul and Dr Amarjeet Kaur, Senior Regional Director, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (GoI) in the presence of Punjab Health and Family Welfare Minister Dr Balbir Singh on Monday. The minister stated that this MoU will facilitate the introduction of essential disease control expertise directly to the state of Punjab. He informed that due to the increase in population, along with emerging and re-emerging communicable and infectious diseases, it is crucial to upgrade and strengthen our public healthcare infrastructure.

BRIEFS

Kataria distributes appointment letters to newly recruited special educators

Chandigarh: Punjab Governor and UT Administrator Gulab Chand Kataria on Monday distributed appointment letters to newly recruited special educators. 22 TGT and 18 JBT cadre Special Educators were given appointment letters at a programme here. Speaking at the event, the Administrator commended the appointees for their dedication and urged them to embrace this golden opportunity to serve their responsibility towards society. Kataria said, "As special educators, you are entrusted with the responsibility of shaping the children with special needs into an asset for the country where they not only contribute towards nation building but also set an example for all. Your role is not confined to academics but extends to instilling confidence and hone natural talent in students."

Licenses of 4003 street vendors cancelled by MCC Chandigarh

Chandigarh: In a major decision against vending fee defaulters, the Town Vending Committee of Municipal Corporation, Chandigarh on Monday accorded approval to cancel the licenses of 4003 street vendors, who have failed to deposit the outstanding fee with the MCC. The 34th meeting of the Town Vending Committee (TVC) of the Municipal Corporation was held under the chairmanship of the Commissioner Municipal Corporation Amit Kumar. The meeting was attended by all TVC members and concerned officers of MC. During the meeting, various key agenda points were discussed, focusing on streamlining vending regulations, improving vending zones, and addressing the concerns of street vendors. The committee deliberated on measures to enhance urban planning while ensuring the welfare of registered vendors in Chandigarh. The Commissioner emphasized the importance of a balanced approach that supports vendors' livelihoods while maintaining the city's cleanliness and order. The committee members actively participated in discussions, providing insights and suggestions for effective implementation of vending policies.

Punjabi Singer Babbu Mann Supports Cancer Awareness at Paras Health

Panchkula: Punjabi singer Babbu Mann extended his support to cancer awareness at Paras Health's 'Umeed Ke Sitare' campaign, encouraging early detection and treatment. The event, part of a month-long initiative, saw participation from over 150 attendees, including leading oncologists and cancer survivors who shared their inspiring journeys. Babbu Mann interacted with oncologists and cancer survivors, honoring them and spreading a message of hope. He said, "Health is the greatest gift we have, and we must take care of it. Cancer is not something to fear but to fight with awareness and early action. Initiatives like this help save lives." The event featured free health screenings, including mammography, discounted PSA tests, and other essential lab and radiology tests.

Over 5 lakh people in Pb waiting for DLs and RCs Chandigarh

Chandigarh: Kamal Soi, Member of the National Road Safety Council and Chairman of Raahat - The Safe Community Foundation, has raised serious concerns over the Punjab Government's move to take control of driving license (DL) and registration certificate (RC) issuance. Addressing a press conference in Chandigarh, Soi said that over 5 lakh people in Punjab are waiting for DLs and RCs and are left in the lurch and are being subjected to inconvenience, which will only lead to corruption. Moreover Why are driving tests not being conducted by the government in Punjab", he questioned.

Punjab Govt Orders Daily Inspections of Sub-Registrar Offices to Curb Corruption

MONIKA MALIK ■ CHANDIGARH

Strengthening its relentless drive against corruption, the Punjab Government has launched yet another bold initiative - this time targeting bribery in property registration offices. In a sweeping directive issued to Deputy Commissioners (DCs) of all districts, the Government has mandated daily inspections of sub-registrar offices for a week, ensuring that officials involved in corrupt practices are identified and held accountable.

The move comes on the heels of a series of stringent actions against corruption, reaffirming the Government's commitment to uprooting malpractices across key departments.

The directive, issued by the Special Chief Secretary (Revenue and Rehabilitation) Anurag Verma, sought to ensure the smooth and transparent registration of sale deeds while also gathering direct feedback from citizens on any demands for bribes.

Verma has instructed all Deputy Commissioners to personally inspect one sub-registrar office per day, while warning that strict action will follow against any official found indulging in corruption.

Punjab Government has made it clear that it follows a zero-tolerance policy towards

corruption. The directive reminded the sub-registrars that any involvement in bribery will result in severe consequences. SDMs have also been tasked with conducting similar inspections within their respective jurisdictions to strengthen the enforcement mechanism.

The fresh order came in response to numerous complaints against sub-registrars and joint sub-registrars, despite a November 25, 2024, notification from the Department of Housing and Urban Development, which had relaxed certain property registration norms until February 28. The directive also mandated that DCs hold special meetings with all sub-registrars and joint sub-registrars to reinforce the anti-corruption stance.

This latest action is part of the State Government's ongoing anti-corruption campaign, following the ruling Aam Aadmi Party's Delhi poll debacle, which has seen massive rejj in the state's administrative rejj.

Verma has also directed that any reported cases of bribery be immediately escalated for swift government action.

The daily inspections will be reviewed at the highest level, ensuring that the crackdown is enforced effectively.

Pb Transfers 8 IAS, Including 5 DCs

PNS ■ CHANDIGARH

In another administrative reshuffle, the Punjab Government on Monday issued transfer and posting orders of eight IAS officers, including five Deputy Commissioners (DCs). The order, issued by the Department of Personnel (IAS Branch) under the directions of the Punjab Governor, is aimed at streamlining the governance and enhance efficiency in key administrative positions across the state.

Among the key transfers and new postings are 2012-batch IAS officer Vineet Kumar, who has been transferred from Faridkot Deputy Commissioner to Punjab State Warehousing Corporation's managing director replacing Kanwal Preet Brar. In Vineet's place, Poonamdeep Kaur, who was serving as Barnala Deputy Commissioner, has been appointed as Faridkot Deputy Commissioner. Hoshiarpur DC Komal Mittal, 2014-batch IAS, has now been transferred to SAS Nagar as Deputy Commissioner, replacing 2015-batch IAS Aashika Jain, who will not take charge of Hoshiarpur Deputy Commissioner. The 2016-batch IAS officer Parminder Pal Singh, who was serving as Project Director of the World Bank Project, Department of School Education-cum-Special Secretary, School Education, and also PUNCOM managing director, was relieved of his duties. His services have been placed at the disposal of the Department of Local Government, and he will now take over as SAS Nagar Municipal Corporation Commissioner, replacing 2018-batch officer T Benith. Benith has been appointed as Barnala Deputy Commissioner. Ankurjeet Singh, 2018-batch IAS, who was previously the Chief Administrator of Jalandhar Development Authority (JDA), has been transferred as the Deputy Commissioner of Shaheed Bhagat Singh Nagar, replacing Rajesh Dhiman.

BREAK OPEN NOTICE TO LOCKER HOLDERS - PUNJAB NATIONAL BANK (DEFAULTERS IN PAYMENT OF RENT OF LOCKERS)

This is for the information of our valued patrons who have taken lockers on rent at our branch and have committed breach of the arrangement. The notice sent as per the RBI/Banks Guidelines to the renters returned, as their recorded address were not found or had left or deceased.

Table with 5 columns: Sr. No., Name of A/c Holder, Name of Branch, Locker No., Address of Account Holder. Lists 22 lockers with details of holders and addresses.

Dated: 24.02.2025 AUTHORIZED OFFICER

SYMBOLIC POSSESSION NOTICE

ICICI Bank Branch Office: ICICI BANK, Plot No. 23, Shal Tower, Rohtak Road, Karol Bagh, New Delhi - 110005

The Authorised ICICI Bank Officer under the Securitisation, Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 and in exercise of the powers conferred under section 13(12) read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002, issued Demand Notices to the borrower(s) mentioned below, to repay the amount mentioned in the Notice within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said Notice.

Having failed to repay the amount, the Notice is issued to the borrower and the public in general that the undersigned has taken symbolic possession of the property described below, by exercising powers conferred on him/her under Section 13(4) of the said Act read with Rule 8 of the said rules on the below-mentioned dates.

Table with 5 columns: Sr. No., Name of the Borrower(s)/ Loan Account Number, Description of Property/ Date of Symbolic Possession, Date of Demand Notice/ Amount in Demand Notice (Rs), Name of Branch. Lists 2 borrowers with property details.

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

Date: February 25, 2025 Place: Hisar & Fatehabad (Haryana) Sincerely Authorised Signatory For ICICI Bank Ltd.

HIMACHAL PRADESH PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

Annexure "A" Ph. No. 01907-251336 E-mail: ee-gohr-hp@nic.in

INVITATION FOR BIDS (IFB)

The Executive Engineer, HPPWD Division Gohar (HP) on behalf of Governor of H.P., invites the percentage rate bids, in electronic tendering system from the eligible class of contractors registered with HPPWD for the works detailed in the table.

Table with 7 columns: Sr. No., Name of Work, Estimated Cost (In Rs.), Starting date for download (G Bid), Earnest Money (In Rs.), Deadline for submission of Bid, Time allowed, Class of Cont. Lists 2 items for bidding.

- 1. The department has right to extend or cancel the bids without declaring any reasons therefor.
2. As per Govt. Notification No.PWB(B/A)3(1)/2020-I dated 07-10-2021 the tenders above 5% of estimated cost will be summarily rejected.

Note: The AMP work to be carried out with hot mix plant - 1, Paver vibratory, road roller and static roller as such only those contractor would be issued tender documents and allowed this work who produce the ownership of hot mix plant -1 No, road roller -1 No, and static roller-1 No.

(On behalf of Governor of Himachal Pradesh) Executive Engineer, Gohar Division, HPPWD Gohar-175029

SYMBOLIC POSSESSION NOTICE

ICICI Bank Branch Office: ICICI BANK Ltd., Plot No. 23, Shal Tower, 3rd Floor, New Rohtak Road, Karol Bagh, New Delhi-110005

The Authorised ICICI Bank Officer under the Securitisation, Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 and in exercise of the powers conferred under section 13(12) read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002, issued Demand Notices to the borrower(s) mentioned below, to repay the amount mentioned in the Notice within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said Notice.

Having failed to repay the amount, the Notice is issued to the borrower and the public in general that the undersigned has taken symbolic possession of the property described below, by exercising powers conferred on him/her under Section 13(4) of the said Act read with Rule 8 of the said rules on the below-mentioned dates.

Table with 5 columns: Sr. No., Name of the Borrower(s)/ Loan Account Number, Description of Property/ Date of Symbolic Possession, Date of Demand Notice/ Amount in Demand Notice (Rs), Name of Branch. Lists 4 borrowers with property details.

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

Date: February 25, 2025 Place: Amritsar Sincerely Authorised Signatory For ICICI Bank Ltd.

PUBLIC NOTICE

Subject: Transfer of ownership in respect of property No. C3/42, first floor, DLF Valley, Panchkula (Haryana) under the death of late Sh. Baljit Singh Redhu, Sh. Baljit Singh Redhu S/o Late Sh. Tek Ram, who is the co-owner of the subject cited property as per record has died on 25-11-2024.

LOST & FOUND

It is Notified That I Gaurav Tewari S/O Bakshish Rai Tewari H.No.-1710/2, Sector-43B, Chandigarh have Actually Lost Original CD Registration No.-2255 Dated 29-08-2005, Regarding H.No.-1710/2, Sector-43B, Chandigarh in Favour of Bakshish Rai Tewari, While Going For Xerox in Sector 43 Market.

PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice is hereby given to the General Public that the allotment of Unit No. D402 in 02nd Floor at Joynt ZRK 1 situated at Village Gazipur, M.C. Zirakpur, Distt. S.A.S. Nagar (Mohali) Punjab developed by Mainstreet Developers Private Limited ("Developer"), which was issued vide Allotment Letter dated 20.03.2023 in the name of Ms. Divya & Mr. Amit stands cancelled vide Letter dated 24.04.2024 & 29.05.2024 issued by the Developer.

PUBLIC NOTICE

It hereby informs to general public that Aman Setia S/o Milakh Raj Setia S/o Bula Ram R/o Gandhi Colony Sirsa Tehsil & Distt. Sirsa, is owned a Gair Mumkin property bearing 8 Kanal 0 Marla comprised in Kh. Kh. 17/202 Sg.No.12 Killa No. 8(8-0); situated at Mohammadpur Salarpur, Sirsa Tehsil & Distt. Sirsa, vide Transfer Deed No. 13480 Dt.07.03.2019 and Mutation No. 1813 Sanctioned Dt.01.10.2017.

PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice is hereby given to the General Public that the allotment of Unit No. D205 in 02nd Floor at Joynt ZRK 1 situated at Village Gazipur, M.C. Zirakpur, Distt. S.A.S. Nagar (Mohali) Punjab developed by Mainstreet Developers Private Limited ("Developer"), which was issued vide Allotment Letter dated 23.08.2023 in the name of Mr. Gaurav Kaloria & Mrs. Sulekh Lata stands cancelled vide Letter dated 24.04.2024 & 29.05.2024 issued by the Developer.

PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice is hereby given to the General Public that the allotment of Unit No. D105 in 01st Floor at Joynt ZRK 1 situated at Village Gazipur, M.C. Zirakpur, Distt. S.A.S. Nagar (Mohali) Punjab developed by Mainstreet Developers Private Limited ("Developer"), which was issued vide Allotment Letter dated 11.05.2023 in the name of Mrs. Monika Sharma stands cancelled vide Letter dated 24.04.2024 & 05.08.2024 issued by the Developer.

PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice is hereby given to the General Public that the allotment of Unit No. D405 in 04th Floor at Joynt ZRK 1 situated at Village Gazipur, M.C. Zirakpur, Distt. S.A.S. Nagar (Mohali) Punjab developed by Mainstreet Developers Private Limited ("Developer"), which was issued vide Allotment Letter dated 11.05.2023 in the name of Mrs. Monika Sharma stands cancelled vide Letter dated 24.04.2024 & 05.08.2024 issued by the Developer.

PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice is hereby given to the General Public that the allotment of Unit No. D405 in 04th Floor at Joynt ZRK 1 situated at Village Gazipur, M.C. Zirakpur, Distt. S.A.S. Nagar (Mohali) Punjab developed by Mainstreet Developers Private Limited ("Developer"), which was issued vide Allotment Letter dated 25.03.2023 in the name of Mrs. Sulekh Lata & Mr. Salyinder Pal stands cancelled vide Letter dated 24.04.2024 & 29.05.2024 issued by the Developer.

COURT NOTICE

(U/o 5 Rule 20 CPC) (SUCCESSION CASE) IN THE COURT OF SUREET KAUR Additional Civil Judge (Senior Division), Amritsar

COURT NOTICE

(U/o 5 Rule 20 CPC) (SUCCESSION CASE) IN THE COURT OF SUREET KAUR Additional Civil Judge (Senior Division), Amritsar

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(U/o 5 Rule 20 CPC) (SUCCESSION CASE) IN THE COURT OF SUREET KAUR Additional Civil Judge (Senior Division), Amritsar

MAHARAJA AGRASEN INSTITUTE OF MANAGEMENT & TECHNOLOGY MAIMT APPROVED BY AICTE & AFFILIATED TO KURUKSHETRA UNIVERSITY, KURUKSHETRA

KURUKSHETRA COLLEGE OF EDUCATION DHURALA, DISTT. KURUKSHETRA (HARYANA) Ph. 83070-65212, 89018-85652

SYMBOLIC POSSESSION NOTICE

ICICI Bank Branch Office: ICICI BANK, Plot No. 23, Shal Tower, Rohtak Road, Karol Bagh, New Delhi - 110005

The Authorised ICICI Bank Officer under the Securitisation, Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 and in exercise of the powers conferred under section 13(12) read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002, issued Demand Notices to the borrower(s) mentioned below, to repay the amount mentioned in the Notice within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said Notice.

Table with 5 columns: Sr. No., Name of the Borrower(s)/ Loan Account Number, Description of Property/ Date of Symbolic Possession, Date of Demand Notice/ Amount in Demand Notice (Rs), Name of Branch. Lists 2 borrowers with property details.

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

Date: February 25, 2025 Place: Gurdaspur Sincerely Authorised Signatory For ICICI Bank Ltd.

Regional Office: Bathinda

Possession Notice (Rule - 8(1)) Whereas, the undersigned being the Authorised officer of the Union Bank of India under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 (Act No. 54 of 2002) and in exercise of the powers conferred under section 13(12) read with rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 issued a Demand Notice dated mentioned thereunder with further interest thereon within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said notice.

Table with 5 columns: Name of the Branch & Borrower(s) / Guarantor(s), Description of the Immovable Property, Date of Demand Notice, Date of Possession Notice, Amount Outstanding. Lists 1 borrower with property details.

STATE BANK OF INDIA

DEMAND NOTICE

NOTICE U/S 13 (2) OF THE SECURITIZATION & RECONSTRUCTION OF FINANCIAL ASSETS & ENFORCEMENT OF SECURITY INTEREST ACT, 2002 (HERE AFTER CALLED "ACT")

Table with 5 columns: Name of the Borrower(s)/ Guarantor(s), Description of the Movable/Immovable Property, Date of NPA, Date of Demand Notice, Amount Outstanding as per Notice. Lists 1 borrower with property details.

The steps are being taken for substituted service of notice. The above Borrower / Guarantor are here by called upon to make payment of outstanding amount within 60 days from the date of publication of this notice, failing which further steps will be taken after expiry of 60 days from the date of this notice under sub section(4) of section 13 of Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act 2002.

SYMBOLIC POSSESSION NOTICE

ICICI Bank Branch Office: ICICI Bank Limited Plot No-23, Shal Tower, 3rd Floor, New Rohtak Road, Karol Bagh, New Delhi-110005

The Authorised ICICI Bank Officer under the Securitisation, Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 and in exercise of the powers conferred under section 13(12) read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002, issued Demand Notices to the borrower(s) mentioned below, to repay the amount mentioned in the Notice within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said Notice.

Having failed to repay the amount, the Notice is issued to the borrower and the public in general that the undersigned has taken symbolic possession of the property described below, by exercising powers conferred on him/her under Section 13(4) of the said Act read with Rule 8 of the said rules on the below-mentioned dates.

Table with 5 columns: Sr. No., Name of the Borrower(s)/ Loan Account Number, Description of Property/ Date of Symbolic Possession, Date of Demand Notice/ Amount in Demand Notice (Rs), Name of Branch. Lists 1 borrower with property details.

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

Date: February 25, 2025 Place: Jalandhar Sincerely Authorised Signatory For ICICI Bank Ltd.

SHRIRAM FINANCE LIMITED

Registered Office: Sri Towers, Plot No. 14A, South Phase, Industrial Estate, Guindy, Chennai Tamil Nadu-600032, Tamil Nadu, and First/Work floors, Level-3, C-2, G Block, Badra-Kurja Complex, Badra (East) Mumbai-40051 Branch Office: #510, workshop floor, Lal dwara, Opp.ragunath mandir, Yamunanagar Haryana-135001

SYMBOLIC POSSESSION NOTICE

Whereas, the undersigned being the authorised officer of Shriram Finance Limited (SFL) under the provisions of the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 (said Act) and in exercise of powers conferred under Section 13(12) of the said Act read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 (said Rules) issued demand notices to the Borrowers details of which are mentioned in the table below to repay the amount mentioned in the said demand notices.

Table with 4 columns: Borrower/Co-Borrower Name and Address, Amount due as per Demand Notice, Description of Property. Lists 1 borrower with property details.

Table with 4 columns: Borrower/Co-Borrower Name and Address, Amount due as per Demand Notice, Description of Property. Lists 1 borrower with property details.

This notice is also hereby to caution the general public at large that the authorized officer of SFL is in the lawful Symbolic Possession of the immovable property mentioned herein above and the Borrowers or any person shall not after receipt of this notice transfer by way of sale, lease or otherwise deal with/ alienate any of the above mentioned secured assets referred to in this notice, without prior written consent of SFL.

DATE: 25.02.2025 + PLACE: Yamuna Nagar Sd/- Authorized officer, Shriram Finance Limited

Regional Office - SCO 62-83, Bank Square, Sector 17-B, Chandigarh - 160017

TENDER FOR ALTERNATE PREMISES FOR RAI MARKET, AMBALA CANTT. BRANCH

BANK OF BARODA, Chandigarh Region, Premises & Equipment Department invites proposals from vendors for Alternate Premises for Rai Market, Ambala Cantt. Branch.

The proposal is to be submitted in Two Bid System. (a) Technical Bid (b) Financial Bid

The details are available on Bank's Website- http://www.bankofbaroda.com/tender.htm Last date for submission of bids document is 17.03.2025 before 16:00 Hours. DEPUTY GENERAL MANAGER Chandigarh Region, Bank of Baroda



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PAPER WITH PASSION

German election Tik Toked

As Germany votes to elect its new chancellor, far right may make substantial gains thanks to its Tik Tok campaign

Germany votes in a snap federal election, a political shake-up triggered by the collapse of the three-party coalition government at the end of last year. With 59.2 million eligible voters, this election is set to reshape the country's political landscape, potentially heralding a shift towards conservatism and a stronger far-right presence. At the forefront of the race is Friedrich Merz, the 69-year-old leader of the conservative Christian Democratic Union (CDU). Merz has emerged as the frontrunner to become Germany's next chancellor, advocating for economic stability, stricter immigration policies, and a reassertion of Germany's leadership in Europe. The far-right Alternative for Germany (AfD) is poised to make historic gains, emerging as the second-largest political force. This comes at the expense of Chancellor Olaf Scholz's Social Democratic Party (SPD), which has suffered due to economic stagnation and dissatisfaction with the previous coalition government. The Green Party and the Free Democrats (FDP), both



part of the fallen coalition, have also struggled to maintain voter confidence. Meanwhile, the Left Party is fighting to remain relevant amid internal divisions and the broader shift in political sentiment.

This election is taking place at a critical juncture for Germany, with pressing domestic and international challenges shaping the national narrative. Germany, the EU's largest economy, is grappling with slow growth, rising inflation, and concerns about industrial competitiveness. Many voters are looking for a leader who can restore economic stability and drive innovation. Besides, the country has faced growing debates over migration policies, with many Germans expressing concerns about integration and border security. The AfD has capitalised on this sentiment, calling for stricter immigration controls. With growing geopolitical tensions, including relations with China, Russia, and the United States, Germany's next leader will need to navigate foreign policy challenges carefully. But the biggest factor that is being analysed is why the AfD is gaining ground? Indeed, the rise of the AfD can be attributed to several factors. Firstly, economic dissatisfaction has pushed voters towards populist rhetoric, with the AfD portraying itself as the party of change. Secondly, frustration with the previous coalition's handling of immigration and energy policy has bolstered nationalist sentiments. An interesting aspect of this election has been the role played by social media, particularly TikTok. The AfD has effectively leveraged TikTok to reach younger audiences, spreading populist messages through short, engaging videos, often laced with negative content. Meanwhile, mainstream parties have struggled to counteract misinformation and viral narratives that favor the far-right. This election underscores the growing influence of digital platforms in modern politics, raising questions about regulation and the impact of algorithm-driven content on democratic processes. Whatever the outcome, it will have far-reaching implications for Germany, the EU and beyond.

cerns about integration and border security. The AfD has capitalised on this sentiment, calling for stricter immigration controls. With growing geopolitical tensions, including relations with China, Russia, and the United States, Germany's next leader will need to navigate foreign policy challenges carefully. But the biggest factor that is being analysed is why the AfD is gaining ground? Indeed, the rise of the AfD can be attributed to several factors. Firstly, economic dissatisfaction has pushed voters towards populist rhetoric, with the AfD portraying itself as the party of change. Secondly, frustration with the previous coalition's handling of immigration and energy policy has bolstered nationalist sentiments. An interesting aspect of this election has been the role played by social media, particularly TikTok. The AfD has effectively leveraged TikTok to reach younger audiences, spreading populist messages through short, engaging videos, often laced with negative content. Meanwhile, mainstream parties have struggled to counteract misinformation and viral narratives that favor the far-right. This election underscores the growing influence of digital platforms in modern politics, raising questions about regulation and the impact of algorithm-driven content on democratic processes. Whatever the outcome, it will have far-reaching implications for Germany, the EU and beyond.

PICTALK



A parrot perches on a 'Palas' flower, in Bastar

PTI

Navigating differences: Lessons in collaboration from a life in leadership

My experiences have taught me that to find common ground one must show patience, open to dialogue and accommodate perspectives different from your own

I have been trying to set up a small library within my condominium complex. A lady was apprehensive about the criticism from a select few for the expenditure on this noble venture. Her sharp rejoinder that she could never stoop so low to my simple solution of inviting the critics to inaugurate the library left me seething.

In another instance, a lady unequivocally told me that she would not work with another lady in the Art and Literature Festival I am organizing within my society. I found their response irrational. I had worked in the government sector for more than 30 years out of the 35 years of an active professional life.

The initial 17 years were spent in handling big teams of literate or semi-literate staff. My success depended upon their performance. I could not achieve much without the support of subordinates, peers, and superiors. I did not have the luxury of going back to my seniors to shift a person if he did not perform. I also could not go back asking for a transfer if I felt overwhelmed by the people who



had strong unions, and who would not hesitate to run me down even at the slightest hint of weakness. I was taking stock of the previous day's performance with my senior supervisor in my very first posting in a maintenance shed that had more than 1,000 staff.

A group of staff and their leaders barged into the room to air their grievances. An unruly element from the crowd threw an earthen tea cup to landed right in front of me on the table. I had to gulp down the insult to present a brave face as I thundered in the most authoritative voice I could muster that the meeting was over and I would not discuss any further. It turned out that they were testing me and the leaders

tried their best to be on my right side. A senior visited my shop floor during lunch hours in another posting in a production unit a few years later.

A place where a lot of grease was used was usually quite gloomy with layers of the sticky substance accumulating over years. The shop floor would also not be the cleanest of the places at lunchtime. Railways was an extremely hierarchical organisation with the seniors considering themselves masters at insulting the subordinates, particularly the officers, who would not retaliate in front of the staff out of a sense of propriety. This senior gentleman shouted at me that if the cleaning staff was not available, then I should have cleaned myself.



SANJAY CHANDRA

My supervisor and the staff showed more compassion as they rushed around. There were many such incidents when I felt degraded and insulted. I did not have the same options that the two young ladies wanted to exercise. To give credit to both, they are well educated, one of them having studied psychology in college, the other is a medical professional. I find a similar unwillingness in other younger professionals. They are rigid in their approach to daily problems and would rather not talk to a person with contrary opinions than sit down to resolve them. The attitude often spills into the personal lives also. There would always be some difficult times. There is a need to discuss and find a middle ground.

I would like to bring their attention to the famous words of Abraham Lincoln, "I do not like that man. I must get to know him better." It will take a lot of time and effort. But in the end, it will be worth it. (The author is an electrical engineer with the Indian Railways and conducts classes in creative writing; views are personal)

A G Rajmohan | Anantapur

Susant Pal | Bhubaneswar

Madam — After the suicide of a Nepali student at Odisha's KIIT University following an unhealthy relationship, some sections of the media are targeting the university

Madam — US President Donald Trump's economic and geopolitical decisions have

raised global concerns. His imposition of tariffs on Mexico, Canada, Brazil, and China has strained trade relations. His remarks about annexing Canada and Panama are alarming, while his characterisation of India as the highest tariff-imposing nation risks diplomatic tensions. On foreign policy, Trump's abandonment of Ukraine, despite US Democrats pushing it into conflict with Russia, has left the nation vulnerable.

His call for Palestinians to vacate Gaza and seek refuge in Egypt and Jordan adds to Middle East instability. If America alienates nations through unilateral policies, it risks losing global leadership. A hostile US stance could push China and Russia closer. No country, not even the US, can remain strong forever without allies. For America to truly remain great, Trump must adopt a more cooperative and balanced approach to international relations.

Gopalaswamy J | Chennai

Send your feedback to: letterstopioneer@gmail.com

New VC appointment rules undermine State autonomy

The UGC's draft guidelines, while ostensibly aimed at ensuring uniformity in VC appointments, have opened a Pandora's box of political and constitutional concerns



K S TOMAR

The University Grants Commission's (UGC) draft guidelines proposing a shift in the appointment of Vice-Chancellors (VCs) have ignited a political storm. By granting Chancellors—predominantly Governors—the authority to constitute search-cum-selection committees for appointing VCs, the UGC has stirred concerns about federalism, state autonomy, and academic independence.

Adding to the controversy, non-compliance with these guidelines could disqualify state universities from UGC funding schemes, creating a direct clash between the Centre and opposition-ruled states such as Tamil Nadu, Kerala, West Bengal, Punjab, and Himachal Pradesh. This move, seen as a veiled attempt to centralise power over state universities, places the spotlight on India's federal structure and the simmering tension between state governments and Governors, especially in opposition-led states. At the core of the debate is the growing role of Governors, often viewed as proxies of the Centre, in state governance.

Historically, state governments have played a central role in appointing VCs by constituting independent search committees. However, the UGC's draft proposes a shift, granting Governors—functioning as Chancellors of state universities—control over these committees. Governors, constitutionally expected to act as neutral figures, have increasingly been accused of serving partisan interests, particularly in states like Tamil Nadu, Kerala, and West Bengal. By formalizing the Governor's role in academic appointments, the UGC guidelines risk politicising the process, potentially undermining academic independence and turning universities into ideological battlegrounds. The fears of state governments are not unfounded.

In Tamil Nadu, for example, the DMK has accused the Governor of deliberately delaying VC appointments to push candidates aligned with the ruling party at the Centre. Similarly, Kerala has witnessed repeated stand-offs between the Governor and the state government over academic



appointments. The new guidelines only add fuel to these already volatile relationships. The UGC's draft guidelines also raise significant constitutional questions. Education, as a subject under the Concurrent List, allows both the Centre and states to legislate on it. However, the Constitution also upholds federal principles, granting states substantial control over their universities.

The new guidelines, by empowering Governors to dominate the VC appointment process, are being viewed as an encroachment on states' jurisdiction. Several states may challenge these guidelines in court, arguing that they violate the federal structure enshrined in the Constitution. States like Tamil Nadu have already passed laws to curtail the Governor's powers in academic governance, reflecting a broader pushback against what they see as an overreach by the Centre.

For opposition-ruled states, where educational institutions are often viewed as bastions of intellectual and political autonomy, the UGC's guidelines have deepened fears of central overreach. The ruling dispensations in states like Tamil Nadu, Kerala, and West Bengal have expressed strong apprehensions about Governors using this newfound authority as an extension of the Centre's political influence. In West Bengal, Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee's government has long accused the Governor of interfering in the state's affairs, particularly in



THE FEAR IS THAT SUCH INTERFERENCE COULD STIFLE INTELLECTUAL DIVERSITY, WITH UNIVERSITIES BECOMING VEHICLES FOR PROPAGATING THE CENTRAL GOVERNMENT'S POLITICAL AGENDA

the educational domain. The UGC guidelines could exacerbate this friction, allowing the Governor to influence appointments to academic institutions. Such moves, critics argue, undermine the intellectual independence that universities in the state have historically enjoyed.

In Kerala, where the Left Democratic Front (LDF) government has vociferously defended educational autonomy, the guidelines are being seen as an outright encroachment on the state's constitutional rights. The state government fears that politicised appointments could compromise the ideological neutrality and academic standards of its universities.

The DMK-led Tamil Nadu government has also repeatedly opposed the Governor's increasing interference in educational appointments. The state has even passed legislation to reduce the Governor's control over the VC selection process, only to have it stalled by the Governor. For Tamil Nadu, these new guidelines are a direct challenge to the state's efforts to safeguard its educational institutions from external political influence.

Universities, as centres of higher learning, thrive on autonomy and academic freedom. The UGC's intervention threatens to compromise these principles by potentially turning VCs into political appointees. Critics argue that such appointments could erode academic independence, with VCs prioritising political allegiance over edu-

cational excellence. In opposition-led states, this concern is particularly acute.

The fear is that such interference could stifle intellectual diversity, with universities becoming vehicles for propagating the central government's political agenda. This interference also undermines the confidence of academicians and researchers.

Scholars worry that political considerations will outweigh merit in appointments, leading to a decline in the quality of higher education. The resulting chilling effect could discourage free thought and innovation in academic institutions.

The controversy over VC appointments is emblematic of a larger tussle between the Centre and states over federalism. For states like Tamil Nadu, Kerala, and West Bengal, the guidelines represent an erosion of their autonomy in managing critical domains such as education. This growing centralisation also poses questions about the role of Governors in a federal structure.

A balanced approach, one that respects state autonomy while ensuring accountability in academic governance, is the need of the hour. Without such a resolution, the guidelines risk becoming another flashpoint in the Centre-state relationship, with significant implications for India's federal structure and the future of its education system.

(The writer is a senior political analyst and strategic affairs columnist)

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

FARMERS DESERVE FAIR PRICES

Madam — The Union Agriculture Minister talking about the government working out schemes (February 23) to prevent distress sale of farm produce is welcome. India continues to be predominantly an agrarian country. Its contribution to the country's GDP was around 51 per cent at the time the country got freedom. Still, we had to depend on aids like PL480 to feed the poor. Thanks to the green revolution taken up with all by the government as well as the farming community with all sincerity the country is upgraded to food surplus status. But due to the shifting of focus from agriculture to industry, agriculture is suffering the worst, facing all sorts of odds at every level.

Though every commodity's price is fixed by the producer, it doesn't hold good for the farm produce. The government doesn't volunteer to take the ground reality into account and fix the cost, leaving it to the market dynamics. This policy has allowed the middlemen to play havoc. This reality, coupled with the apathetic moves of the government, has resulted in millions of farmers resorting to committing suicide. Many small farmers are deserting their farming activities and migrating to cities seeking daily wage jobs for their livelihood. The government is still not sensitised to address the issues but comes out with plans to monopolise farming by a few private corporations. It is good that the minister has now talked about the woes of the farmers who fail to get reasonable returns and the consumers who fail to get the benefit of the plenty. It would be a meaningful act of the government to discuss with the farmers and address their woes without attaching any political strings. Farmers are the real wealth creators and providers of food security.

A G Rajmohan | Anantapur

MEDIA TARGETS KIIT UNIVERSITY

Madam — After the suicide of a Nepali student at Odisha's KIIT University following an unhealthy relationship, some sections of the media are targeting the university

Virat shines as India beats Pakistan



India has beaten its archrival Pakistan by six wickets in their group A match of the ICC Champions Trophy 2025 at the Dubai International Cricket stadium. Virat Kohli has once again proved his supremacy against Pakistan in the ICC tournaments, delivering a scintillating unbeaten century with a memorable knock off 111 balls. The win propelled India to the top of Group A with 4 points,

virtually securing a semifinal berth, while Pakistan faced the threat of an early exit, suffering their second consecutive defeat. Kohli's knock featuring seven exquisite boundaries dismantled Pakistan's hopes as their premier pacers Shaheen Shah Afridi and Haris Rauf struggled to make an impact after Afridi dismissed Rohit Sharma (20 off 15) early with a fiery yorker. It is Kohli's 51st ODI tonne by becoming the fastest batter to reach 14000 ODI runs during his innings. With 51 centuries in ODIs and 30 in Tests, with 7 double centuries in international cricket, Kohli is regarded as one of the greatest batsmen of all time. Kohli is often referred to as the King Kohli by his fans and supporters due to his achievements and contributions to the game.

P Victor Selvaraj | Tirunelveli

to satisfy their agenda. Now, the context of justice for the deceased girl has been diverted to their own vendetta. As a result, the last couple of days have been very dramatic for the student fraternity.

Other students in KIIT who have come for higher studies from outside and their parents have been in a distributing mind state. They should not suffer from the media trial. Considering the incident, the state government formed a high-level committee to probe into it. Now it's become a political farce; every day different political outfits are staging protests in the evening in front of the main gate like a daily routine, which is ruining the academic environment on the campus. Amid all of this, we should not forget the contributions of this university to the sports and education systems of the state. Let's make a healthy environment for the other students of KIIT and have faith in the law.

Susant Pal | Bhubaneswar

TRUMP DISRUPTING WORLD ORDER

Madam — US President Donald Trump's economic and geopolitical decisions have



FIRST COLUMN

THE HANDWRITING BLUES:
A STORY OF DECLINE

Some see handwriting as a reflection of character, but it shifts, evolves and often declines beyond recognition



APS MALHOTRA

Some conjecture that a person's handwriting can give a glimpse into that person's character. But I am a sceptic in this regard, because, in my opinion, the handwriting of an individual is not a constant, but keeps on morphing as time goes by. A case in point is your humble friend, who has seen his handwriting deteriorate over the past few decades, till now, in my fifth decade, it is nothing more than a painstaking, almost illegible scrawl—although, with the advent of the now ubiquitous personal computer and other sundry devices, the negative impact of this deterioration has been minimised, especially in official work. Because today, when I write a note on any file with my hand, others find it rather difficult to 'decrypt'. Even filling simple financial documents like a cheque is a nightmare now, a stiff challenge, that is increasingly being left to my better half to handle, as bank people, on a few occasions, have raised doubts about the authenticity of my signature. But before the readers start commiserating about the sad and agonising state of my handwriting, I will share with them that this was not always the case. In the early years of school, I was the darling of my teachers because of my neat and clean handwriting, which made me the cynosure of my peers. Writing on four-line copies, I would get full marks in English handwriting.

The slide commenced from middle school onwards, when I shifted from writing with a pencil to writing with a ball pen, and the copy changed from one with four lines to that with two lines. But the hand was still steady, and teachers did not have any problem reading my answer sheets, as was evident from the good grades I continued to get in my exams. But I am sure, that as I entered college and the university in the mid-eighties, the good professors would have become



increasingly impatient in poring over my messy answer sheets, with scribbles galore. Throughout, my father, a diligent and thorough gentleman, with very precise and beautiful handwriting, kept counselling me to stem the rot, even as I secured a job in the public sector in 1991. He gently warned that it would adversely impact my prospects of growth in the corporate world, especially when this was the period when all office work was conducted on well-defined sheets of paper— which, in my case, were to be yellow pages.

Before leaving for Bombay (as Mumbai was then called), I scoffed at Dad's gentle, but consistent reprimands. It was only when I took my first, tentative steps in the company did I realise that what Dad had been emphasising over the years was not an iota away from the truth. I faced a mild, personal nudge from some bosses on this account, but others were not so kind, and their reaction bordered on outright contempt, reprimand and disapproval. But Dad was an eternal optimist. He still harboured a strong wish to get my handwriting back on track, even at this stage, for which he purchased a book— 'Techniques to improve your handwriting'. I was back in kindergarten.

So, whenever I came home to Delhi for a break, he would insist that I sit with him, at least for some time, and practice on ways to improve my, by now abominable handwriting. But by this point, my mind, like that of all young men, was engrossed in finer things of life than improving my writing ability, which, I realised, was destined to be an exercise in futility. This cat-and-mouse game continued even after I got married in 1993. It was only after I became a father in 1995 did Dad finally buried his desire to improve my handwriting to a decent level.

(The author is a freelance writer; views are personal)

RBI should go for an
'accommodative' stance

UTTAM GUPTA

While inflation has been steadily declining, the RBI opted to retain its 'neutral' stance, signaling a measured approach rather than give push to boost liquidity and demand



On February 7, 2025, the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) Governor Sanjay Malhotra announced the decisions taken by the six-member Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) in its sixth bi-monthly meeting of the current financial year (FY). It has reduced the policy rate or the repo rate (the interest rate at which the RBI lends to banks) by 25 basis points to 6.25 per cent. This marks the first repo rate cut in nearly five years. Moreover, it has continued with a neutral stance which it shifted in its fourth bi-monthly review/announcement on October 10, 2024, from its earlier stance of "withdrawal of accommodation". In 2016, the Union Government put in place an institutionalized framework to enable the MPC to formulate monetary policy and determine the key interest rates including the policy rate for inflation targeting. It mandated the RBI to fix the policy rate in such a manner as to maintain the Consumer Price Index or CPI (it corresponds to a basket that includes food, fuel, manufactured goods, and select services) within the target range of 4 per cent (+/- 2 per cent).

The RBI decides the policy rates once in two months during each FY. The mandate initially given for five years ending March 31, 2021, has since been extended for a further period of five years. The current mandate will continue till March 31, 2026. The other crucial policy instrument the RBI uses for targeting inflation is Liquidity - jargon for the quantum of credit available in the banking system. Pumping more liquidity along with a reduction in the policy rate represents a scenario which in jargon is described as an 'accommodative' policy stance. The terminology was coined by the outgoing governor Shaktikanta Das in June 2019 when he started going for aggressive cuts in the policy rate and an increase in credit availability.

Since June 2022 the RBI changed its stance to "withdrawal of accommodation" and had stuck to it till October 9, 2024, when in the fourth bi-monthly review, the MPC decided to go for a "neutral" stance. A



THE PROBLEM IS RBI'S OBSESSION WITH INFLATION. MALHOTRA RECOGNISES THAT INFLATION IS ON A DOWNWARD TRAJECTORY. YET, HE DOESN'T WANT TO RELINQUISH HIS NEUTRAL STANCE CITING GLOBAL ECONOMIC CHALLENGES "PROGRESS IN GLOBAL DISINFLATION IS STALLING"

"neutral" stance connotes that the RBI has vowed to keep its options flexible meaning it will neither squeeze liquidity by restricting credit availability and keeping policy rates high nor go for unrestrained lending at low interest rates.

While inflation targeting is important, it is equally necessary to dovetail the monetary policy to sustain the momentum of high growth. During the second quarter of the current FY, growth in GDP plummeted to a low of 5.4 per cent down from a high of 8.1 per cent during the second Qr of FY 2023-24. For the current FY 2024-25, it is estimated at 6.4 per cent as against 8.2 per cent recorded during FY 2023-24. Seen in this backdrop and an overarching need to achieve a growth of 8 per cent on a sustained basis in line to make India a 'developed economy' by 2047, the RBI could have given the desired push. It could have gone for an 'accommodative' policy stance by opting for a significant cut in the policy rate and pumping sufficient cash into the banking system. However, it has stuck to a "neutral" stance while reducing the repo rate by a small 0.25 per cent. RBI's reluctance has to do with a mindset that was reflected in ex-Governor Das's observation while announcing the first bi-monthly policy of the current FY. He had said "The elephant has now gone out for a walk and appears to be returning to the forest."

We would like the elephant to return to the forest and remain there on a durable basis." Put simply, he meant there was no need to start reducing interest rates until inflation reached the target of 4 per cent and stayed at that level. The incumbent Governor has continued with this mindset. In February 2023, the policy rate was at a peak of 6.5 per cent. During FY 2022-23, the CPI inflation was hovering around 8 per cent.

In the following year, it started decreasing from 7.4 per cent in July 2023 to 5 per cent in September 2023, 4.8 per cent in October 2023 and 5.1 per cent during January/February 2024. For FY 2023-24, it was 5.4 per cent. During the current FY also, it has kept low; 5.08 per cent in June 2024 and 3.54 per cent in July of 2024. After a brief spurt of 6.2 per cent in October 2024, in January 2025, it declined to 4.3 per cent.

During FY 2024-25, the RBI has estimated it at 4.8 per cent. Given the above, from the third quarter of FY 2023-24, the CPI inflation has remained well within the target range of 4 per cent (+/- 2 per cent). This position continues during the current FY. For FY 2025-26, the RBI expects it to be 4.2 per cent. Thus, there was a strong case for a significant reduction in the repo rate besides the injection of sufficient liquidity. This would have helped in stimulating demand thereby giving a boost to economic growth besides helping millions of borrowers reduce their EMIs and helping industries, especially MSMEs reduce the cost of servicing their loans. But, this was not to be.

The problem is RBI's obsession with inflation. Malhotra recognizes that inflation is on a downward trajectory. Yet, he doesn't want to relinquish his neutral stance citing global economic challenges "progress in global disinflation is stalling." Put simply, he fears imported inflation impacting CPI hence, a "neutral stance will provide MPC flexibility to respond to evolving macro-economic environment." A major factor contributing to wide variations in CPI inflation is food inflation which has a weight of around 40 per cent and is impacted predominantly by supply side/seasonal factors whereas monetary policy instruments work on the demand side. Invariably, food inflation main-

tains an upward trend even as a small disruption in supply caused by seasonal factors can lead to spiralling prices.

As long as food remains a part of the CPI basket, inflation targeting will always remain a problem. There is an urgent need to exclude it while setting benchmark interest rates, an idea that was mooted by the Chief Economic Advisor in the Economic Survey (ES) for 2023-24. The CEA argued that monetary policy has no bearing on the prices of food items, which are dictated by supply-side pressures.

For instance, during 2021-22, wheat output was affected by unusually high temperatures. During 2022-23, rains accompanied by hailstorms acted as a spoiler. During the first half of FY 2023-24, food inflation went up due to a spike in the prices of vegetables caused by seasonal factors. The spurt in food prices during October 2024 also had to do with supply-side pressures only. The RBI can achieve little to control them by keeping the policy rate high. The RBI should take the idea mooted in the ES - 2023-24 on board. Meanwhile, it should consider reducing the weight of food inflation in CPI to reflect the contemporary reality. The current 40 per cent weight is based on the Consumption Expenditure Survey (CES) of 2011-12 whereas Summary Statistics from the 2022-23 CES point towards a significant reduction.

While formulating its monetary policy, the RBI's prime responsibility is to ensure macro-economic stability its pivotal focus being on keeping inflation within reasonable bounds. However, it can't be oblivious of the dire need to support economic growth which could be adversely impacted if it doesn't relax the credit environment.

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

M23 rebellion and Rwanda's role: The escalating crisis in Eastern Democratic Republic of Congo

At the heart of this conflict lies a web of ethnic tensions, political grievances, and economic exploitation, particularly vast mineral wealth of DRC

The recent escalation of violence in the eastern Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) is a stark reminder of the region's deep-rooted instability. The resurgence of the M23 rebellion, which led to the seizure of Goma and further advances into South Kivu, is not merely an internal Congolese crisis—it is a conflict with significant regional and international implications. Rwanda's involvement, whether direct or indirect, remains contentious, as accusations of its support for M23 persist. While Kigali denies these allegations, the sophistication of M23's operations raises serious questions about its backing. At the heart of this crisis lies a complex mix of ethnic tensions, political grievances, and



DEBASHISH JAINA

economic exploitation, particularly concerning the DRC's vast mineral wealth. For years, Rwanda has been accused of providing M23 with financial and military support, a claim reinforced by multiple UN reports and statements from Western governments. Kigali, however, insists that it is acting in self-defence, citing the threat posed by the Democratic Forces for the

Liberation of Rwanda (FDLR), a Hutu militia operating in eastern DRC with historical ties to the perpetrators of the 1994 Rwandan genocide. Yet, Rwanda's actions go beyond border security. The conflict's economic dimension cannot be ignored, with Rwanda being accused of profiting from the illicit exploitation of Congolese minerals, particularly coltan, a key component in electronic devices.

The capture of Rubaya, a coltan-rich area, by M23 last year suggests that economic interests play a crucial role in shaping the rebellion's trajectory. M23 claims to be fighting for the rights of ethnic Tutsis in eastern DRC, arguing that the Congolese government has failed to protect them from persecution. While

there is historical evidence of ethnic violence against Tutsis in the region, M23's actions undermine its credibility. Rather than advocating for political rights through diplomatic means, the group has engaged in violence, forced displacement, and human rights violations. Its strategy of seizing key cities and resource-rich territories suggests an agenda extending far beyond self-defence.

The DRC, backed by the international community, has dismissed M23's claims, arguing that the group is acting as a proxy for Rwanda's regional ambitions. The latest attempt by regional leaders to broker peace, with the Southern African Development Community (SADC) and the East African Community



(EAC) calling for an immediate ceasefire, reflects a growing recognition that the crisis cannot be resolved through military means alone. However, the reality on the ground tells a different story. M23 had briefly declared a ceasefire before resuming attacks, signalling that diplomatic efforts are struggling to keep up with battlefield developments. The DRC's call for UN sanctions against Rwanda, coupled with protests in Kinshasa

where demonstrators burned portraits of President Paul Kagame, indicates a deepening rift between the two countries. With diplomatic ties severed and hostilities intensifying, the prospects for a negotiated settlement remain bleak. A purely military solution is unlikely to yield lasting peace. The Congolese army has historically struggled to contain well-equipped rebel groups, and the presence of the UN peacekeeping mission, MONUSCO, has done little to prevent the latest wave of violence. Foreign military intervention, whether from regional actors or international forces, risks escalating the situation rather than resolving it. The most viable path forward is a combination of military containment and political

engagement. Strengthening the DRC's security forces to prevent further territorial losses is crucial, but diplomatic efforts must also address the root causes of the conflict, including ethnic grievances and economic exploitation. The global demand for coltan and other precious resources ensures that armed groups can sustain themselves through illegal mining operations. Without stronger international regulations and accountability measures, companies sourcing minerals from conflict zones will remain complicit in financing violence. Holding both state and non-state actors accountable for their role in resource exploitation is essential for breaking the cycle of conflict. The ongoing crisis in eastern

DRC is not just about M23 or Rwanda's alleged involvement—it is part of a larger geopolitical struggle that has plagued the region for decades. Unless regional actors commit to genuine peace efforts and the international community enforces stricter measures against illegal mineral trade, the conflict will persist. The path to stability requires addressing both security concerns and economic incentives that drive armed groups. Without meaningful action, eastern DRC will remain trapped in a cycle of violence, with its people bearing the brunt of a war that serves the interests of powerful actors far beyond its borders.

(The writer is a foreign policy researcher; views are personal)

Conservatives win German poll

Far-right party surges to second place

PTI ■ BERLIN

Provisional results confirmed that mainstream conservatives led by Friedrich Merz won Germany's national election, while a far-right party surged to become the nation's second-largest.

The campaign was dominated by worries about the years-long stagnation of Europe's biggest economy and pressure to curb migration, something that caused friction after Merz pushed hard in recent weeks for a tougher approach.

It took place against a background of growing uncertainty over the future of Ukraine and Europe's alliance with the United States.

The results released by the electoral authority showed Merz's Christian Democrats and the centre-left Social Democrats winning a combined majority of seats in the national legislature after small parties failed to make the electoral threshold.

That gives Merz the best chance of becoming the country's next chancellor. He said on election night that he hopes to form a government by Easter at the latest.

He has ruled out a coalition with the far-right Alternative

for Germany, or AfD, which is now the country's second-largest party after its best showing ever.

For the time being, outgoing Chancellor Olaf Scholz, whose Social Democratic party suffered a stinging defeat, will remain.

Mainstream parties hold majority as far-right surges Merz's conservatives won 208 seats in the 630-seat Bundestag, while the AfD won 152. The three parties in the former governing coalition lost seats, with the SDP falling to 120 seats and the Greens to 85.

The pro-business Free Democrats, which triggered early elections by pulling out of the coalition, failed to reach the 5 per cent of the vote required to win seats.

The left party got 64 seats, while the left-wing Sahra Wagenknecht Alliance came in just under the 5 per cent hurdle.

The AfD was jubilant on Sunday night, with leaders vowing to become the country's main party in the next election as its appeal expands. The anti-immigrant, far-right party has established itself as a significant political force in the 12 years since it was founded, but it hasn't yet been part of any state or



Friedrich Merz

national government. That's the result of what is often called a "firewall" against Alternative for Germany. Other parties say they won't work with the AfD, which is under observation by the domestic intelligence agency for suspected right-wing extremism, something that AfD objects to strongly. Its branches in three eastern states are designated "proven right-wing extremist" groups, which is particularly sensitive in view of Germany's Nazi past.

The election took place seven months earlier than originally planned after Scholz's unpopular coalition collapsed in November, three years into a

term that was increasingly marred by infighting. There was widespread discontent and not much enthusiasm for any of the candidates.

Merz says he's ready to face challenges from US and Russia Merz said Sunday night that his top priority is to unify Europe in the face of challenges coming from the US and Russia. Both US Vice President JD Vance and Trump ally Elon Musk openly supported the AfD.

"I have no illusions at all about what is happening from America," he told supporters. "Take a look at the recent interventions in the German election campaign by Mr. Elon

Musk." He added that "the interventions from Washington were no less dramatic and drastic and ultimately outrageous than the interventions we have seen from Moscow. So we are under such massive pressure from two sides that my absolute priority now is really to create unity in Europe".

Germany is the most populous country in the 27-nation European Union and a leading member of NATO. It has been Ukraine's second-biggest weapons supplier, after the US, and will be central to shaping the continent's response to the challenges of the coming years, including the Trump administration's confrontational foreign and trade policy.

The conservative leader said that "the most important thing is to reestablish a viable government in Germany as quickly as possible". "I am aware of the responsibility," Merz said. "I am also aware of the scale of the task that now lies ahead of us. I approach it with the utmost respect, and I know that it will not be easy."

"The world out there isn't waiting for us, and it isn't waiting for long-drawn-out coalition talks and negotiations," he told cheering supporters.

THIRD ANNIVERSARY OF WAR WITH RUSSIA

Foreign leaders visit Ukraine in show of solidarity

PTI ■ KYIV

A dozen leaders from Europe and Canada visited Ukraine's capital on Monday to mark the in a show of support for Kyiv by some of the nation at war's most important backers.

European Commission President Ursula von der Leyen and Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau were among the visitors greeted at the train station by Ukrainian Foreign Minister Andrii Sybiha and the president's chief of staff Andrii Yermak.

In a post on X, von der Leyen wrote that Europe was in Kyiv "because Ukraine is in Europe". "In this fight for survival, it is not only the destiny of Ukraine that is at stake. It's Europe's destiny," she wrote.

The guests, also including European Council President Antonio Costa as well as the prime ministers of Northern European countries and Spain, were set to attend events dedicated to the anniversary and discuss supporting Ukraine with President Volodymyr Zelenskyy amid a recent US policy shift under President Donald Trump.

In the latest sign of Europe's efforts to rework its strategy on Ukraine to respond to Trump's actions, Costa on Sunday announced that he would con-

vene an emergency summit of the 27 EU leaders in Brussels on March 6, with Ukraine at the top of the agenda.

"We are living a defining moment for Ukraine and European security," Costa said in a post on social media.

The three-year mark of the war in Ukraine came at a sensitive moment for Kyiv as Zelenskyy navigates a rapidly changing international environment upended by Trump's changes to the US approach to the war.

The US leader has sought to follow through on his campaign promises to end the war quickly, though his methods for doing so have alarmed many in Ukraine and Europe who believe that his approach is too conciliatory toward Russia and its president, Vladimir Putin.

Russia's foreign ministry said Saturday that preparations for a face-to-face meeting between Trump and Putin were underway, and US officials have said that they had agreed with Moscow to reestablish diplomatic ties and restart economic cooperation.

And on Sunday, Russian Deputy Foreign Minister Sergei Ryabkov told the state TASS news agency that Moscow and Washington would continue bilateral talks at the end of next week, adding that "quite a lot" of contact was ongoing between

the Russian and American sides.

Leaders across the EU, fearing both that Trump's approach to Ukraine would lead to an unfavorable settlement for Kyiv and that they — among Ukraine's most important supporters — would be sidelined in negotiation for peace, have rushed to assert their own response to the rapidly shifting environment.

The EU's top diplomat, Kaja Kallas, insisted on Monday that the US cannot seal any peace deal to end the war without Ukraine or Europe being involved. She highlighted what she claimed were pro-Russian positions being taken up by the Trump administration.

"You can discuss whatever you want with Putin. But if it comes to Europe or Ukraine, then Ukraine and Europe also have to agree to this deal," Kallas told reporters in Brussels, where she is chairing a meeting of EU foreign ministers.

Kallas travels to Washington on Tuesday for talks with US Secretary of State Marco Rubio. Asked whether the US administration is acting in the interests of Russia or Ukraine's Western backers, she said: "If you look at the messages that come from the United States, then it's clear that the Russian narrative is there very strongly represented."



In this photo provided by the Ukrainian Presidential Press Office, European leaders attending the ceremony at the memorial to the fallen Ukrainian soldiers on Independence Square in Kyiv, Ukraine, on Monday. AP/PTI

Pope facing kidney problems

PTI ■ ROME

Pope Francis woke up and was continuing his therapies on Monday after a quiet night, on the 10th day of his hospitalisation for a complex lung infection that has provoked the early stages of kidney insufficiency, the Vatican said.

"The night passed well, the pope slept and is resting," it said. A medical bulletin was expected later Monday.

He is continuing to feed himself and is not receiving artificial or liquid nutrition, the Vatican said.

Late Sunday, doctors reported that blood tests showed "early, slight kidney insufficiency" that was nevertheless under control. They said Francis, 88, remained in critical condition but that he hadn't experienced any further respiratory crises since Saturday. He was receiving high flows of supplemental oxygen and, on Sunday, was alert, responsive and attended Mass. They said his prognosis was guarded.



A candle glimmers alongside a painting of Pope Francis at San José de Flores basilica, Buenos Aires, Argentina, where he worshipped as a youth. AP/PTI

Doctors have said Francis' condition is touch-and-go, given his age, fragility and pre-existing lung disease. They have warned that the main threat

facing Francis is sepsis, a serious infection of the blood that can occur as a complication of pneumonia. To date there has been no ref-

erence to any onset of sepsis in the medical updates provided by the Vatican.

This hospitalisation now looks set to be Francis' longest as pope. He spent 10 days at Rome's Gemelli hospital in 2021 after he had 33 centimeters (13 inches) of his colon removed.

In New York on Sunday, Cardinal Timothy Dolan acknowledged what church leaders in Rome weren't saying publicly: that the Catholic faithful were united "at the bedside of a dying father".

"As our Holy Father Pope Francis is in very, very fragile health, and probably close to death," Dolan said in his homily from the pulpit of St. Patrick's Cathedral, though he later told reporters he hoped and prayed that Francis would "bounce back".

Francis' condition has revived speculation about what might happen if he becomes unconscious or otherwise incapacitated, and whether he might resign.

Human rights suffocated by autocrats and warmongers, says Guterres

PTI ■ GENEVA

UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres says human rights are being "suffocated" around the world, lashing out at voices of division and anger who see them as a barrier to their quest for power and profit.

In a speech to the Human Rights Council, Guterres decried Russia's full-scale war in Ukraine that marked its third anniversary Monday, appealed for a permanent cease-fire between Palestinian militants and Israel, and urged respect for Congo's territorial integrity, among other things.

While reiterating many of his concerns about conflict and climate change, the UN chief said he would propose new ideas to the Security Council aimed to bring greater stability and security for the people of Haiti, where a multinational security support mission has been deployed.

Guterres depicted a world where human rights were "on the ropes and being pummeled hard" by warmongers, a "morally bankrupt global financial system" that favors profits over planet protections, those who might exploit artificial intelligence to harm people, and leaders who seek to demonize migrants or restrict women's rights.

Human rights, he said, "are being suffocated by autocrats, crushing opposition because they fear what the truly empowered people would do," and "by voices of division and anger who view human rights not as a boon to humanity, but as a barrier to the power, profit and control they seek."

Three weeks ago, US President Donald Trump announced a US pullout from the council, though the Biden administration had already decided the United States would not seek a seat on the 47-member-country body when its latest three-year term expired at the end of last year.

China holds live-fire exercises in Gulf of Tonkin as Vietnam marks territorial claims

PTI ■ BANGKOK

Chinese authorities said they began live-fire exercises in the Gulf of Tonkin on Monday, only days after Vietnam announced a new line marking what it considers its territory in the body of water between the two countries.

China's Maritime Safety Administration said the exercises would be focused on the Beibu Gulf area, closer to the Chinese side of the Gulf of Tonkin, and would run through Thursday evening.

It gave no further details, but the drills follow an announcement last week by Vietnam establishing a baseline used to calculate the width of its territorial waters in the Gulf of Tonkin.

State-run Vietnam News reported that the baseline was in compliance with the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea and would provide "a robust legal basis for safeguarding and exercising

Vietnam's sovereignty, sovereign rights and jurisdiction". Vietnam has not publicly responded to the Chinese drills.

China and Vietnam have long had a maritime agreement governing the Gulf of Tonkin, but have been locked in competing claims in the nearby South China Sea over the Spratly and Paracel Islands and maritime areas.

China has been growing aggressive in pursuing those claims, and in October assaulted 10 Vietnamese fishermen near the Paracel Islands, three of whom suffered broken limbs. China claims almost the entire South China Sea as its own, though it has not publicly released exact coordinates of its claim other than a map with 10 dashed lines broadly demarcating what it calls its territory.

In addition to Vietnam, China's claims overlap with those of the Philippines, Malaysia, Brunei and Taiwan, while Indonesia has also fig-

ured in violent confrontations with the Chinese coast guard and fishing fleets in the waters around the Natuna Islands.

Tensions have been particularly high with the Philippines, with regular confrontations between the two countries.

Most recently, a Chinese navy helicopter flew within 10 feet (3 metres) of a Philippine patrol plane last week over the South China Sea, near the hotly disputed Scarborough Shoal off the northwestern Philippines.

Leaders in Australia and New Zealand also said China should have given more warning before its navy conducted an unusual series of live-fire exercises in the seas between the two countries, forcing flights on Friday and Saturday to divert on short notice.

Political leaders from both countries emphasized that China didn't breach international law, but said they had only been given "a couple hours notice" rather than the usual 12 to 24 hours.

Greenpeace says pipeline company's lawsuit threatens organisation's future

PTI ■ MANDAN (US)

A Texas pipeline company's lawsuit accusing Greenpeace of defamation, disruptions and attacks during protests against the Dakota Access Pipeline goes to trial in North Dakota on Monday, in a case the environmental advocacy organisation says threatens free speech rights and its very future.

The lawsuit stems from the protests in 2016 and 2017 over the oil pipeline's planned Missouri River crossing, upstream from the Standing Rock Sioux Tribe's reservation. The tribe has long argued that the pipeline threatens its water supply. Of the thousands of people who protested the project, hundreds were arrested.

Energy Transfer and its subsidiary Dakota Access allege trespass, nuisance, defamation and other offenses by Netherlands-based Greenpeace International and its American branch, Greenpeace USA. The lawsuit also names the group's funding arm, Greenpeace Fund Inc.

The jury trial in state court in Mandan, North Dakota, is scheduled to last five weeks.

What are details of the case? Dallas-based Energy Transfer alleges Greenpeace tried to delay construction of the pipeline, defamed the companies behind it, and coordinated trespassing, vandalism and violence by pipeline protesters. The lawsuit seeks millions of dollars in damages.

The Dakota Access Pipeline

was completed and has been transporting oil since June 2017. Greenpeace International said it shouldn't be named in the lawsuit because it is distinct from the two US-based Greenpeace entities, operates outside the US, and its employees were never in North Dakota or involved with the protests.

Greenpeace USA said the plaintiffs have failed to back up their claims in the years since the protests. Earlier in February, a judge denied motions by Greenpeace to throw out or limit parts of the case.

What is Greenpeace's position? Representatives of the environmental organisation founded over 50 years ago said the company just wants to silence oil industry critics.

"This trial is a critical test of the

future of the First Amendment, both freedom of speech and peaceful protest, under the Trump administration and beyond," Greenpeace USA Interim Executive Director Sushma Raman told reporters.

"A bad ruling in this case could put our rights and freedoms in jeopardy for all of us, whether we are journalists, protesters or anyone who wants to engage in public debate," Greenpeace USA helped support "nonviolent, direct-action training" on safety and de-escalation at the protests, Senior Legal Adviser Deepa Padmanabha said.

Energy Transfer is arguing that "anyone engaged in a training at a protest should be held responsible for the actions of every person at that protest," Padmanabha said.

Federal workers confront mass confusion as Musk's deadline to list accomplishments looms

PTI ■ WASHINGTON

Confusion and chaos loom as hundreds of thousands of federal employees begin their workweek on Monday facing a deadline from President Donald Trump's cost-cutting chief, Elon Musk, to explain their recent accomplishments or risk losing their jobs.

Musk's unusual demand has faced resistance from several key US agencies led by the president's loyalists — including the FBI, State Department, Homeland Security and the Pentagon — which instructed their employees over the weekend not to comply. Lawmakers in both parties said that Musk's mandate may be illegal, while unions are threatening to sue.

Trump over the weekend called for Musk to be more aggressive in his cost-cutting crusade

through the so-called Department of Government Efficiency, or DOGE, and posted a meme on social media mocking federal employees who "cried about Trump and Elon".

Musk's team sent an email to hundreds of thousands of federal employees on Saturday giving them roughly 48 hours to report five specific things they had accomplished last week. In a separate message on X, Musk said any employee who failed to respond by the deadline — set in the email as 11:59 p.m. EST Monday — would lose their job.

Mass confusion followed on the eve of the deadline as some agencies resisted the order, others encouraged their workers to comply, and still others offered conflicting guidance. One message on Sunday morn-

ing from the Department of Health and Human Services, led by Robert F. Kennedy Jr., instructed its roughly 80,000 employees to comply. That was shortly after the acting general counsel, Sean Keveney, had instructed some not to. And by Sunday evening, agency leadership issued new instructions that employees should "pause activities" related to the request until noon on Monday.

"I'll be candid with you. Having put in over 70 hours of work last week advancing Administration's priorities, I was personally insulted to receive the below email," Keveney said in an email viewed by The Associated Press that acknowledged a broad sense of "uncertainty and stress" within the agency.

Keveney laid out security concerns and pointed out some of

the work done by the agency's employees may be protected by attorney-client privilege: "I have received no assurances that there are appropriate protections in place to safeguard responses to this email."

Democrats and even some Republicans, including Sen. John Curtis, R-Utah, were critical of Musk's ultimatum.

"If I could say one thing to Elon Musk, it's like, please put a dose of compassion in this," Curtis, whose state has 33,000 federal employees, said on CBS' "Face the Nation." "These are real people. These are mortgages. ... It's a false narrative to say we have to cut and you have to be cruel to do it as well."

Newly confirmed FBI Director Kash Patel, an outspoken Trump ally, instructed employees to ignore Musk's request, at

least for now.

"The FBI, through the Office of the Director, is in charge of all of our review processes, and will conduct reviews in accordance with FBI procedures," Patel wrote in an email confirmed by the AP. "When and if further information is required, we will coordinate the responses. For now, please pause any responses."

Ed Martin, interim US attorney for the District of Columbia, sent his staff a message Sunday that may have caused more confusion.

"Let me clarify: We will comply with this OPM request whether by replying or deciding not to reply," Martin wrote in the email obtained by the AP, referring to the Office of Personnel Management.

"Please make a good faith effort to reply and list your

activities (or not, as you prefer), and I will, as I mentioned, have your back regarding any confusion," Martin continued. "We can do this." Officials at the Departments of State, Defense and Homeland Security were more consistent.

Tibor Nagy, acting undersecretary of state for management, told employees in an email that department leadership would respond on behalf of workers.

"No employee is obligated to report their activities outside of their Department chain of command," Nagy wrote in an email. Pentagon leadership instructed employees to "pause" any response to Musk's team, according to an email from Jules Hurst, the deputy undersecretary of defense for personnel and readiness.

The Homeland Security Department, meanwhile, told

employees that "no reporting action from you is needed at this time" and that agency managers would respond, according to an email from RD Alles, deputy undersecretary for management.

Thousands of government employees have already been forced out of the federal workforce — either by being fired or through a "deferred resignation" offer — during the first month of Trump's second term.

There is no official figure available for the total firings or layoffs so far, but the AP has tallied hundreds of thousands of workers who are being affected. Many work outside of Washington.

Musk on Sunday called his latest request "a very basic pulse check." "The reason this matters is that a significant number of people who are supposed

to be working for the government are doing so little work that they are not checking their email at all!" Musk wrote on X. "In some cases, we believe non-existent people or the identities of dead people are being used to collect paychecks. In other words, there is outright fraud."

He has provided no evidence of such fraud. Separately, Musk and Trump have falsely claimed in recent days that tens of millions of dead people over 100 years old are receiving Social Security payments.

Meanwhile, thousands of other employees are preparing to leave the federal workforce this coming week, including probationary civilian workers at the Pentagon and all but a fraction of US Agency for International Development staffers through cuts or leave.

Trump's abrupt change of US policy on Ukraine raises questions about Taiwan support

PTI ■ BNAKGOK

US President Donald Trump's abrupt reversal of three years of American policy toward Ukraine has raised concerns...

Trump was quite popular in Taiwan when he left office in 2021 and was widely credited with bringing the US and the democratically governed island closer together.

By American law, the US is obligated to supply Taiwan with sufficient hardware and technology to fend off invasion from the mainland...

appointed many China hawks in his administration, including in top-level positions such as Secretary of State Marco Rubio and Defense Secretary Pete Hegseth.

Taiwan Strait as an indispensable element of security and prosperity for the international community.

comforting," Nouwens said. The shift on Ukraine will give China the opportunity to push a message that the US is an unreliable partner...

approach than some before him, said Euan Graham, a senior defense analyst with the Australian Strategic Policy Institute.

Graham said that while all American allies "should be concerned by the Trump administration's abandonment of Ukraine and willingness to deal with Putin," it would be "simplistic" to assume a similar arrangement would apply to the China-Taiwan situation.

Trump meets Macron amidst uncertainty over US ties with Europe, Ukraine

PTI ■ WASHINGTON

President Donald Trump welcomed French President Emmanuel Macron to the White House for talks on Monday at a moment of deep uncertainty about the future of transatlantic relations...

Chinese aggression brings Japan, Philippines closer

PTI ■ MANILA

Japan and the Philippines agreed on Monday to further deepen their defense collaboration and talk about protecting shared military information in the face of mutual alarm over China's increasing aggressive actions in the region.

tion-sharing. "We also agreed to commence discussion between defence authorities on military information protection mechanism," Nakatani said.

over islands in the East China Sea. Chinese and Philippine coast guard and navy ships, meanwhile, have been involved in a series of increasingly hostile confrontations in the South China Sea in the last two years.

Blast outside Russian Consulate in Marseille

PTI ■ PARIS

An incendiary device exploded outside the Russian Consulate in Marseille early Monday, authorities said, on the third anniversary of Russia's invasion of Ukraine.

Police raid PTI leaders' homes, offices, arrest dozens in Pakistan

PTI ■ LAHORE

Pakistan raided offices and residences of Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) leaders and arrested a dozen activists as the party announced the resumption of political activities, it said on Monday.

dozen PTI activists, including Murrez District General Secretary Safdar Zaman Satti, were arrested.

unleashed a reign of terror on the masses. "This fascist regime has stooped too low by picking up a young college girl through male policemen in Punjab for sharing a post against Chief Minister Maryam Nawaz on social media," she said.

Paradipt Port Authority Tender Call Notice

Name of the work: Road Widening and Restoration/Repair of Divider from Gate No.2 to BOT Substation Square. Estimated Cost: Rs.4,29,27,225.82.

Public Notice

Be known to all that, SEEMA DABAS W/O BALDEV SINGH R/O-GH-1/214, FF, PASHCHIM VIHAR DELHI-63, I am the miter/owner/legal owner of GH-1/214, FF, PASHCHIM VIHAR, DELHI-63, File No. 16(23)1889/PW/RPS which is allotted by the DDA, I have the Original Allotment-Cum-Demand Letter, Handing over Possession Letter & NOC for write up...

Public Notice

I, Ashwani Sharma, son of Late Sh. Dinesh Kumar, resident of 578, Sector-15, Part-1, Gurugram do hereby solemnly affirm and declare as under: 1. That I am contesting the election of Member from Ward No. 13 of the Municipal Corporation Gurugram as a candidate set up as Independent.

Public Notice

Know to all through this public notice that my clients Sh. Kirshan Pal S/o Late Sh. Hari Singh and his wife Smt. Saroj R/o H.No-104, Sangeer Pur, Delhi-36, have debarred their son namely together (with No. 59891/03/13) and his wife Asha (Aashir) No. 25592/44/28529 from their all movable and immovable properties and have served all relations with them, due to their irresponsible & quarrelsome behavior...

Change of Name

I, Nongmaithem Romi Devi, D/o Nongmaithem Koireng Singh R/o Wanging Khounou Awang Leikai, P.O. Chairel, P.S. Wangpou, District Kachhing, Manipur hereby declare that Nongmaithem Romi Devi and Nongmaithem Romi Devi are one and the same person.

Public Notice

I, Babai Parkhe, Mother of- No.14848522L Hav Parkhe Vijay Vitthal, R/o- Vill- Raygavhan, Post- Dhawalgaon, Teh- Shrigonda, Dist- Ahmadnagar, Maharashtra- 413702, have changed my name from Babai Parkhe to Babai Vitthal Parkhe, vide affidavit dated 24/02/2025 before Notary Public Delhi.

Public Notice

Information is given to general public at large that Mrs. Sanju Devi W/o Mr. Anrendra Thakur who is/are purchasing the Flat No. 201, addressing around R/Su, Vids, on the Ground Floor, in a property out of Kharsa No. 599, situated in Village Chhattarpur, Near Durga Ashram, New Delhi - 110074, from Mr. Bijoy Bhattacharya S/o Mr. Surya Bhattacharya who was the owner of property by virtue of Notarized Gift Deed, GPA & Will dated 07/12/2023 executed by Mr. Surya Narayan Bhattacharya S/o Mr. H. Bhattacharya alias Hari Narayan Bhattacharya. Intend to mortgage the same against the financial assistance from Shubham Housing Development Finance Company Limited, Surrounding Member Certificate of Mr. Surya Narayan Bhattacharya are not available with Seiler i.e. Mr. Bijoy Bhattacharya S/o Mr. Surya Bhattacharya to comply the requirements of BANK/NFC, we give this public notice that if any person(s) having any objection regarding ownership and/or creating mortgage of the said property is/are hereby requested to intimate in writing to the undersigned within 07 days at below address.

Public Notice

Information is given to general public at large that Mr. Sonu S/o Mr. Gang Ram is the owner of RESIDENTIAL PLOT of land area measuring 50 sq. yds, i.e. 41.30 sq. mtrs, out of Kharsa No. 528m, situated in the area of Village Chaichpur Loni, Pargana and Tehsil Loni, Ghazabad U.P. acquired by virtue of Sale Deed dated 14.11.2012 (Document No. 19882) executed by Mr. Devender Kumar Sharma S/o Mr. Patiram Sharma, registered in SR-LONI, Ghazabad. Registration Particulars page are not available of Original Sale Deed Dated 09.12.2010, (Document Number 27353), executed by Mr. Eaji S/o Mr. Alias Though Attorney Mr. Onkar S/o Mr. Kewal in favour of Mohd Iqbal S/O Mr. Nabbi Bakas with our client in respect of the said property and our client intend to mortgage the above mentioned property against the financial assistance from Hero Housing Finance Ltd. Any person having any type of claim/right/title/interest over the said property is/are hereby requested to intimate in writing to the undersigned within 10 days at below mentioned address.

Public Notice

It is to inform to general public that Mrs. Babita Gautam who is purchasing the Residential Property area measuring 270 sq. yds., Kharsa No. 506/915, Village Chhattarpur, Noida, Pargana and Tehsil Deed Dated: 02-08-2023 (Doc. No. 50542) and same to be financed & mortgaged by Federal Bank Limited, Sec-15 Limited. That (1) Original Sale Deed dated 01-11-2008 (Doc. No. 3712) in favour of Mr. Anil Kumar, (2) Original Sale Deed dated 28-02-2018 in favour of Mr. Dinesh Kumar and Mr. Rajeev, (3) Original Sale Deed dated 02-07-2021 (Doc. No. 3033) in favour of Mrs. Prema Devi, (4) Original Correction Deed in favour of Mr. Vipin, (5) Original Correction Deed in favour of Mr. Vipin, (6) Original Correction Deed in favour of Mr. Vipin, (7) (1) to (6) has been misplaced. To comply the requirements of BANK/NFC, we give this public notice that if any person having any type of claim/right/title/interest creating mortgage over the said property, may inform in writing, at the address mentioned below, about his objections within 7 days, failing which it shall be presumed that the said property is free from all type of Encumbrances, lien etc. or interest in the said property. The undersigned is/are hereby requested to intimate in writing to the undersigned within 10 days at below mentioned address: Mr. 11003. Now the respective owner(s) intend to sell their respective Said Portion(s) to Proposed Borrower(s) i.e. Sh. Vinay Kanchari (or any persons) (hereinafter any objection(s) or claim(s) with respect to right, title or interest in the said property in any manner whatsoever, immediately contact the undersigned in writing along with all supporting documents in respect of their claim(s)/objection(s). If no such claim is received within a period of 7 days from the date of publication of this notice, then it will be presumed that no one has any present or right, title, or interest in the said property and even if someone has any claim/objection, he/she/they have given up the same.

Public Notice

Notice is hereby given to the General Public that Miss Ashya D/o Mr. Shahzad Ahmed is the owner of Residential, Builtup Second Floor, (Without roof slab), Built on bearing Property No. P-186, area measuring 80 Sq. Yards, i.e. 66.88 Sq. Mts., out of Kharsa No. 561, situated in village of Chandrawali, Alwar, Rajasthan, Gali No. 16, Brijani Colony, Hsaa Shahdara Delhi-110032, by virtue of Relinquishment Deed dated 09/08/2023, as Doc. No. 7979, executed by (1) Mr. Shahzad Ahmed, (2) Mr. Ashraf, & (3) Miss Ashya, same to be financed by SPMG India Credit Company Limited (Formerly Fullerton India Credit Company Limited), General public kindly informed that if any person(s) having any objection regarding ownership and/or creating mortgage of the said property is/are hereby requested to intimate in writing on the below mentioned address R/o. 13 of The Securitisation and Reconstruction of the Financial Assets & Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002, read with rule 3(b) of The Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002, on or before 07/03/2025, failing which it shall be presumed that the said property is free from all type of Encumbrances, lien etc. or interest in the said property. The undersigned is/are hereby requested to intimate in writing to the undersigned within 10 days at below mentioned address: Mr. 11003. Now the respective owner(s) intend to sell their respective Said Portion(s) to Proposed Borrower(s) i.e. Sh. Vinay Kanchari (or any persons) (hereinafter any objection(s) or claim(s) with respect to right, title or interest in the said property in any manner whatsoever, immediately contact the undersigned in writing along with all supporting documents in respect of their claim(s)/objection(s). If no such claim is received within a period of 7 days from the date of publication of this notice, then it will be presumed that no one has any present or right, title, or interest in the said property and even if someone has any claim/objection, he/she/they have given up the same.

Public Notice

Whereas, The undersigned being the Authorized officer of "The Kangra Co-operative Bank Ltd.", Head office at, C-29, Community Centre, Pankha Road, Janak Puri, New Delhi - 110058, having its registered office at 1916, Chuna Mandi, Pahar Ganj, New Delhi-110055, under The Securitisation and Reconstruction of the Financial Assets & Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002, (54 of 2002) and in exercise of powers conferred under section 13(12) read with rule 3(b) of The Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002, the Bank had issued a demand notice on dated: 01-08-2024, calling upon the borrower & mortgagor namely Smt. Sangeeta Gupta W/o. Sh. Raj Kumar Gupta R/o. 1365, Ground Floor, Gali No.8, Govind Pur, New Delhi-110019, and Smt. Sangeeta Gupta W/o. Sh. Raj Kumar Gupta, C/o. Mis. Laxmi General Store, 1314, Ground Floor, Gali No. 10, Govind Pur, Kalkaji, New Delhi-110019, to repay the amount mentioned in the notice being Rs. 7,74,265/- (Rupees Seven Lakhs Seventy Four Thousand Two Hundred Sixty Five Only), together with further interest, penal interest and other charges as applicable to this Loan account from time to time, from the date of the notice till the date of payment, with in 60 days from the date of receipt of the notice.

Public Notice

The Public at large is hereby notified / informed on behalf of my client Sh. Saied Ahmed aged 69 years S/o Late Shri Azimullah R/O-E-419, First Floor, JaiPu Extension Part-2, Badarpur, South Delhi, Delhi-110044 that my client do hereby disown and disinherit his two sons; daughters-in-law and daughter namely (i) Shri Anwar, daughter-in-law Smt. Anjum Saifi both R/O of E-419, Third Floor, JaiPu Extension Part-2, Badarpur, South Delhi, Delhi-110044; (ii) Shri Akbar Khan, daughter-in-law Smt. Imrana Saifi both R/O of E-419, Second Floor, JaiPu Extension Part-2, Badarpur, South Delhi, Delhi-110044 and (iii) Smt. Parveen alias Rukhsana W/o Shri Saieed both R/o Sangeet Vihar near Asthal Mandi, South Delhi-110062 including all their legal heirs/successors etc. for their continued, misconduct, misbehavior, harassment, humiliation and misdeeds towards my client. These persons, their legal heirs/successors etc. shall not inherit any of movable and immovable properties of my client nor be entitled to any share in movable/immovable properties or any other assets etc. of my client in any manner whatsoever and they shall further not be entitled to the probate of any will of my client. To put to notice one and all that my client has no concerns either with them or their legal heirs/successors etc. in any manner. Any person dealing or transacting with the aforesaid persons in any respect concerning my client or his properties and assets etc. shall be doing at his or her own risk, cost and peril and the general public kindly take note thereto.

Public Notice

The Public at large is hereby notified / informed on behalf of my client Sh. Saied Ahmed aged 69 years S/o Late Shri Azimullah R/O-E-419, First Floor, JaiPu Extension Part-2, Badarpur, South Delhi, Delhi-110044 that my client do hereby disown and disinherit his two sons; daughters-in-law and daughter namely (i) Shri Anwar, daughter-in-law Smt. Anjum Saifi both R/O of E-419, Third Floor, JaiPu Extension Part-2, Badarpur, South Delhi, Delhi-110044; (ii) Shri Akbar Khan, daughter-in-law Smt. Imrana Saifi both R/O of E-419, Second Floor, JaiPu Extension Part-2, Badarpur, South Delhi, Delhi-110044 and (iii) Smt. Parveen alias Rukhsana W/o Shri Saieed both R/o Sangeet Vihar near Asthal Mandi, South Delhi-110062 including all their legal heirs/successors etc. for their continued, misconduct, misbehavior, harassment, humiliation and misdeeds towards my client. These persons, their legal heirs/successors etc. shall not inherit any of movable and immovable properties of my client nor be entitled to any share in movable/immovable properties or any other assets etc. of my client in any manner whatsoever and they shall further not be entitled to the probate of any will of my client. To put to notice one and all that my client has no concerns either with them or their legal heirs/successors etc. in any manner. Any person dealing or transacting with the aforesaid persons in any respect concerning my client or his properties and assets etc. shall be doing at his or her own risk, cost and peril and the general public kindly take note thereto.

Public Notice

Information is given to general public at large that Mrs. Sanju Devi W/o Mr. Anrendra Thakur who is/are purchasing the Flat No. 201, addressing around R/Su, Vids, on the Ground Floor, in a property out of Kharsa No. 599, situated in Village Chhattarpur, Near Durga Ashram, New Delhi - 110074, from Mr. Bijoy Bhattacharya S/o Mr. Surya Bhattacharya who was the owner of property by virtue of Notarized Gift Deed, GPA & Will dated 07/12/2023 executed by Mr. Surya Narayan Bhattacharya S/o Mr. H. Bhattacharya alias Hari Narayan Bhattacharya. Intend to mortgage the same against the financial assistance from Shubham Housing Development Finance Company Limited, Surrounding Member Certificate of Mr. Surya Narayan Bhattacharya are not available with Seiler i.e. Mr. Bijoy Bhattacharya S/o Mr. Surya Bhattacharya to comply the requirements of BANK/NFC, we give this public notice that if any person(s) having any objection regarding ownership and/or creating mortgage of the said property is/are hereby requested to intimate in writing to the undersigned within 07 days at below address.

Public Notice

M/s Signatreglobal (India) Limited has been granted Environmental Clearance for Industrial Plotted Colony at Village Shidrawali, Tehsil Manesar, District-Gurugram, Haryana vide letter EC Identification No. SEAC/HR/2024/266 dated 19.02.2025. The copy of clearance along with the conditions to be complied with is available at office of the Haryana State Pollution Control Board on the website of the MOEF&CC at http://parivesh.nic.in and at registered office of the company at 13th Floor, Dr. Gopal Dass Bhawan, 28 Barakhamba Road, Connaught Place, New Delhi, 110001 and also on website of the company at www.signatreglobal.in.

Public Notice

M/s Signatreglobal Business Park Private Limited has been granted Environmental Clearance for Industrial Plotted Colony Project at Village-Bhondas, Ghamroli, Mahendrawa, Tehsil-Sohna, District- Gurugram, Haryana vide EC identification No. SEAC/HR/2024/191 dated 17.02.2025. The copy of clearance along with the conditions to be complied is available at office of the State Environmental Impact Assessment Authority, Haryana and on the website of the MOEF&CC at http://parivesh.nic.in. Also available at the registered office of the company at 13th floor, Dr. Gopal Dass Bhawan, 28 Barakhamba Road, Connaught Place, New Delhi and also on website of the company at www.signatreglobal.in

Public Notice

Notice is hereby given to general public at large that my client Axis Bank Limited, having one of its Branch at 11 Floor, Hinalaya House, K. G. Vard, New Delhi - 110011 intends to grant Loan facility to Sh. Vinay Kanchari against security of Flat (S) Bearing No. 74 (Bessement & Ground Floor), 8A (First Floor) & 9A (Second Floor), (hereinafter referred to as the "Said Property"), forming a part of Block A, located on the southern side, having a total area of 2420 square yards (hereinafter referred to as the "Entire Property"), out of the total land measuring 5504 square yards, being Civil Lines, Delhi-110054 (hereinafter referred to as the "Schedule Property") at Sh. Anand Raj Bahadur (A) S/o Late Sh. Rajesh Bahadur & Ms. Indira Bahadur (B) D/o Late Sh. Rajesh Bahadur & C. Smt. Radhika W/o Late Sh. Rajesh Bahadur & D. Smt. Radhika W/o Late Sh. Rajesh Bahadur & E. Smt. Radhika W/o Late Sh. Rajesh Bahadur & F. Smt. Radhika W/o Late Sh. Rajesh Bahadur & G. Smt. Radhika W/o Late Sh. 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India, UK resume talks for trade pact

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

India and the UK on Monday announced the resumption of negotiations for the proposed free trade agreement (FTA), which is expected to double or even triple bilateral trade from the current \$20 Billion in the next 10 years. The announcement was made by Commerce and Industry Minister Piyush Goyal and UK Secretary of State for Business and Trade Jonathan Reynolds here.

"Today, the Republic of India and the United Kingdom (UK) have resumed negotiations towards a trade deal between our two countries," a joint statement issued after the meeting said.

Both sides have agreed to resume talks towards a balanced, mutually beneficial and a forward-looking deal that delivers mutual growth and builds on the strengths of the two complementary economies.

The strengthening of the trading relationship has the potential to unlock



Union Minister for Commerce and Industry Piyush Goyal meets UK Secretary of State for Business and Trade Jonathan Reynolds in New Delhi. Pioneer Photo

opportunities for business and consumers across both nations and build further on the already deep ties, it said. Briefing media, Goyal said the pact will be "pathbreaking" and would provide huge opportunities to grow "our current \$20 Billion bilateral trade in merchandise to probably twice or thrice in the next 10 years".

On the deadline to conclude the negotiations, he said its never "too early" or "too late" to conclude a good agreement as

Asked whether the negotiations for the bilateral investment treaty (BIT) would be concluded along with the FTA, Goyal said the two countries are actively negotiating at three different fronts - FTA, BIT, and a Double Contribution Convention Agreement.

"And all three are in parallel and conjoint with each other," he said.

Goyal also said that immigration has never been a part of trade negotiations anywhere in the world and India has "never ever" discussed immigration in any FTA negotiations.

On this, Reynolds said that the UK welcomes "the huge and important relationship we have with people coming from India to UK whether to study, whether to be part of the businesses and obviously business mobility is a separate issue to immigration".

Goyal added that in several countries, including the US, UK, Canada, New Zealand and Australia, Indian students travel for education.

In almost all these countries, to incentivise education, business and attract more people, countries "do give a certain period of time for students to gain practical experience to work in their country but that is short-term business work visas. It has nothing to do with immigration as such," he added.

The India-UK FTA negotiations were launched on January 13, 2022. The agreement is aimed at boosting bilateral trade and investments.

In such pacts, two countries either eliminate or significantly reduce customs duties on maximum goods traded between them. They also ease norms for promoting trade in services and bilateral investments.

The bilateral trade between India and the UK increased to \$21.34 Billion in 2023-24 from \$20.36 Billion in 2022-23. The United Kingdom is the sixth largest investor in India. The country has received \$35.3 Billion FDI during April 2000 and September 2024.

India Inc expected to achieve seven-eight per cent growth in Q4: ICRA

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Domestic rating agency Investment Information and Credit Rating Agency (ICRA) on Monday said Indian companies are likely to clock seven-eight per cent revenue growth during the March quarter of the current fiscal year, led by revival in rural demand and uptick in government spending.

ICRA expects the private capital expenditure (capex) cycle to remain measured in view of the uncertainties around geopolitical developments and relatively subdued outlook on merchandise exports from India.

Nonetheless, certain sunrise sectors such as electronics, semiconductors and niche segments within the automotive space like electric vehicles (EVs) will continue to see a scale-up in investments, in line with various production-linked incentive programmes announced by the

Government of India, it said. In a statement, ICRA said the recovery in the operating profit margins (OPM) for India Inc witnessed over the past quarter is likely to be sustained at 18.2-18.4 per cent, supported by an increase in demand, led by improved consumer sentiments.

"Rural demand is expected to be upbeat in H1 CY2025 (January-March), aided by the robust output for most kharif crops and the favourable outlook for the ongoing Rabi season.

Beyond that, a normal and well distributed monsoon in 2025 is crucial to support the agricultural outcomes," said Kinjal Shah, senior vice president and co-group head, Corporate Ratings, ICRA.

Urban demand, which has been sluggish over the last few quarters, is expected to improve, aided by the sizeable income-tax relief in the Union Budget 2025, the monetary easing by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI), and the expectations of a moderation

in food inflation, which would augment discretionary consumption, Shah added. ICRA said the evolution of the global economic and political scenario, movement in foreign exchange rates, impact of the new US President's policies, pick up in government spending and a revival in the domestic urban demand would remain the key monitorables over the near-term.

ICRA's analysis of the Q3 FY2025 (October-December) performance of 602 listed companies (excluding financial sector entities) shows a 6.8 per cent year-on-year revenue growth, supported by improved demand across consumption-oriented sectors like consumer durables, FMCG, retail, hotels and airlines, while a few commodity-oriented sectors like iron and steel witnessed some decline, following lower realisations owing to weak global demand and influx of cheaper imports from China.

Delhi discoms achieve A+ rating in consumer service 2023-24

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

In a major achievement for Delhi's power sector, the city's discoms, including BSES Rajdhani Power Limited (BRPL) and BSES Yamuna Power Limited (BYPL), have been awarded the highest A+ rating in the fourth edition of the Consumer Service Ratings of Discoms for the year 2023-24.

Released by REC Limited under the Ministry of Power, this evaluation ranked 66 power distribution companies across India, covering over 33 Crore consumers. The rankings were based on four broad parameters: operational reliability (45 marks), connection and other services (10 marks), metering, billing and collection (35 marks), and fault rectification and grievance redressal (10 marks). These were further

divided into 23 sub-parameters, ensuring a comprehensive evaluation of service delivery. Of the 66 discoms assessed, 56 were state-owned, while 10 were private. However, only six managed to achieve the coveted A+ rating, with BRPL and BYPL standing out for their exceptional service quality.

Over the last four years, five discoms, including BRPL, BYPL, and Tata Power Delhi Distribution Limited (TPDDL), have consistently maintained top grades (A+/A), highlighting their commitment to operational efficiency and consumer satisfaction.

Delhi discoms performed exceptionally across several critical aspects. They ensured 24-hour power supply, a significant achievement in a sector plagued by frequent outages in many parts of the country. BRPL recorded an impressive

distribution failure rate of only 0.1 per cent, while BYPL stood at 0.6 per cent - a stark contrast to the national average of 6.4 per cent. The report also recognised Delhi discoms for their efficiency in processing consumer applications, achieving a 100 per cent processing rate through their online portals compared to the national average of 87 per cent. Billing accuracy was another area of excellence, with 99 per cent of bills generated through actual meter readings, surpassing the national average of 91 per cent. In the adoption of advanced metering technologies, BYPL led the way with 100 per cent bills generated via non-manual meter readings, while BRPL and TPDDL followed closely at 99 per cent, significantly higher than the 37 per cent national average.

Consumer engagement was another stronghold for Delhi

discoms, with 99 per cent of BRPL and BYPL consumers receiving billing alerts compared to the national average of 82 per cent. The digital transformation of payment systems also placed them ahead of the curve, with 89 per cent of BRPL and BYPL consumers opting for digital payments, far exceeding the national average of 41 per cent.

The Consumer Service Ratings of Discoms, released by Union Power Minister Manohar Lal Khattar during the Review, Planning, and Monitoring (RPM) last week, aims to benchmark service delivery, promote healthy competition, and encourage continuous improvements among discoms.

With this recognition, Delhi's discoms reaffirm their commitment to excellence, setting a benchmark for the power distribution sector nationwide.

Indian tech sector revenues to grow 5.1 per cent in FY25

PTI ■ MUMBAI

Indian tech sector's revenues are set to grow 5.1 per cent to \$282.6 Billion in fiscal year 2025, and likely to climb up further to \$300 Billion in fiscal year 2026, lobby grouping Nasscom said on Monday.

The revenue growth is on the "right trajectory", the body's president Rajesh Nambiar told reporters here, pointing out to revenue growth of four per cent in fiscal year 2024, 5.1 per cent in fiscal year 2025 and the over 6.1 per cent needed to cross its expectation of crossing \$300 Billion in fiscal year 2026.

"It has been a good outcome broadly given everything happening around us," Nambiar said pointing to aspects like geopolitics, and tariffs which are dominating the worries at present.

Nasscom said the sector, which includes IT services companies, business process management companies, global capability centres and e-commerce companies, added 1.26 Lakh new jobs in fiscal year 2025 to take the overall employment to 58 Lakh. Nambiar hinted that the industry will continue to add employees in the same pace that it did last year.

The Indian IT sector's fiscal year 2025 growth is likely to be faster than the 4.7 per cent growth in global tech services spending in the calendar year 2024, Nasscom said, adding that India's share in global sourcing stood at 58 per cent as of fiscal year 2025.

Among the segments, the IT services companies' revenues will grow 4.3 per cent to \$137.1 Billion while the BPM industry will see its revenues

grow by 4.7 per cent to \$54.6 Billion.

The engineering research and development space is the fastest growing at seven per cent at \$55.6 Billion, Nasscom said.

The domestic revenues for the sector which has been traditionally focused on exports will grow seven per cent to \$58.2 Billion, outpacing exports' 4.6 per cent growth at \$224.4 Billion, Nasscom said.

The body said the export revenues between Indian and global multinationals are evenly split at present, and denied that the heft of the foreign 'companies has increased courtesy of the global capability centres (GCC) play. It pegged the total number of GCCs at 1,760 and added that such units employ 19 Lakh people at present.

Retail inflation eases slightly for farm workers

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Retail inflation for farm and rural workers eased slightly to 4.61 per cent and 4.73 per cent, respectively, in January from 5.01 per cent and 5.05 per cent in December 2024, showed the government data released on Monday.

The All-India Consumer Price Index for Agricultural Labourers (CPI-AL) and Rural Labourers (CPI-RL) decreased by four points and three points, respectively, for the month of January 2025, reaching 1,316 and 1,328 points, the labour ministry said in a statement.

According to the statement, the CPI-AL and CPI-RL stood at 1,320 points and 1,331 points, respectively in December 2024. The food index for CPI-AL decreased from 1,262 points in December to 1,255 points in January this year.

Gold rises ₹350 to reclaim ₹89,000 mark

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Gold prices rose ₹350 to trade near a record high at ₹89,100 per 10 grams in the national capital on Monday amid firm global trends, according to the All India Sarafa Association. The precious metal of 99.9 per cent purity had closed at ₹88,750 per 10 grams on Friday.

Gold of 99.5 per cent purity increased ₹350 to ₹88,700 per 10 grams from the previous close of ₹88,350 per 10 grams.

"Gold traded with a modest gain on Monday as geopolitical and trade tensions continued to provide a safe haven demand to hedge against uncertainty," Saumil Gandhi, senior analyst of commodities at HDFC Securities, said.

Last week, gold of 99.9 per cent and 99.5 per cent purity hit fresh peaks of ₹89,450 and ₹89,050 per 10 grams, respectively.

However, silver traded flat at ₹1 Lakh per kg.



Ranjan Dimri

Further, Gandhi highlighted that the US dollar has provided an additional boost for the precious metal. The dollar index fell for the third week in a row and is trading lower amid mixed United States macro data. Meanwhile, in futures trade on the MCX, gold contracts for April delivery appreciated ₹118 to ₹86,128 per 10 grams.

"Gold traded within a range, posting minor gains, supported by Comex gold holding above \$2,925. Rupee weakness provided additional support to MCX gold," Jateen Trivedi, VP research analyst - commodity and currency, LKP Securities, said.

Comex gold futures for April delivery quoted higher at \$2,954.71 per ounce in the

overseas markets. Globally, spot gold also rose \$5.50 to \$2,941.55 per ounce. "Gold prices continue to hover near all-time highs as the dollar weakens amid escalating geopolitical and economic uncertainty," Abans Holdings' chief executive officer Chintan Mehta said.

The precious metal's rally is expected to persist as safe-haven demand remains strong, with central banks worldwide continuing to accumulate gold to hedge against economic volatility and policy uncertainty, Mehta added.

On the other hand, silver futures in the Asian market hours quoted 0.43 per cent lower at \$33.20 per ounce.

According to Kotak Securities, traders are closely monitoring the upcoming Personal Consumption Expenditures (PCE) data release to further understand the US Federal Reserve's policy trajectory, as it directly impacts bullion's investment appeal.

Sensex tumbles over 850 points on weak global cues

PTI ■ MUMBAI

Falling for the fifth straight session on Monday, equity benchmark BSE Sensex plunged over 850 points to drop below the crucial 75,000 level, tracking a weak global market trend and unabated foreign fund outflows amid escalating trade tensions.

Besides, deep losses in IT, telecom and metal stocks added to the gloom, analysts said.

The 30-share BSE benchmark tanked 856.65 points or 1.14 per cent to settle at 74,454.41. During the day, it plummeted 923.62 points or 1.22 per cent to 74,387.44.

The NSE Nifty dropped 242.55 points or 1.06 per cent to 22,553.35.

As many as 2,810 stocks declined, while 1,207 advanced and 183 remained unchanged on the BSE.

"The market is more concerned about the US' likely move to reciprocate higher tariff levies on exporting nations, which could impact developing countries, including India. Also, FIIs

showing no signs of putting brakes on their India exit strategy continue to weigh heavily on markets, with expensive valuations driving investors to curb their equity bets here.

"Heavy selling in banking, IT, telecom and other old economy sectors saw benchmark Sensex end below the crucial level of 75k mark," Prashanth Tapse, Senior VP (Research), Mehta Equities Ltd, said.

In the last five trading sessions, the BSE barometer lost 1,542.45 points or two per cent, and the Nifty tanked 406.15 points or 1.76 per cent. From the Sensex pack, HCL Tech, Zomato, Tata Consultancy Services, Infosys, Tech Mahindra, Bharti Airtel, Tata Steel and NTPC were among the biggest laggards.

In contrast, Mahindra and Mahindra, Kotak Mahindra Bank, Maruti, Nestle and ITC were among the gainers.

Among BSE sectoral indices, BSE Focused IT dropped 2.65 per cent, IT (2.60 per cent), teck (2.56 per cent), telecommunication (2.26 per

cent), metal (2.16 per cent), commodities (1.53 per cent) and utilities (1.42 per cent). On the other hand, Auto and FMCG were the gainers.

The BSE smallcap gauge declined 1.31 per cent, and the midcap index dipped 0.78 per cent.

Foreign Institutional Investors (FIIs) offloaded equities worth ₹3,449.15 Crore on Friday, according to exchange data.

Foreign investors have pulled out over ₹23,710 Crore from equity markets so far this month, pushing total outflows past ₹1 Lakh Crore in 2025 amid rising global trade tensions.

"The D-Street indices experienced a sharp drop to an eight-month low as market sentiment remained subdued. The decline was primarily driven by significant losses in heavyweight stocks, especially within the IT sector. This weakness followed reports of declining consumer confidence in the US, casting a shadow over the country's growth outlook.

"The broader market felt the impact, pulling down both

small and midcap indices," Ameya Ranadive, Chartered Market Technician, CFTe, Sr Technical Analyst, StoxBox, said.

In Asian markets, Seoul, Shanghai and Hong Kong settled lower. Equity markets were closed in Tokyo for a holiday.

European markets were trading mostly in positive territory. US markets ended significantly lower on Friday.

"Global headwinds continue to weigh on the domestic market, with persistent volatility causing uncertainty among retail investors, who generally have a lower risk appetite. Weak US consumer sentiment and tariff concerns may further pressure export-oriented sectors such as IT," Vinod Nair, Head of Research, Geojit Financial Services, said.

Global oil benchmark Brent crude rose 0.04 per cent to USD 74.46 a barrel.

On Friday, the BSE benchmark dropped 424.90 points or 0.56 per cent to settle at 75,311.06. The Nifty declined 117.25 points or 0.51 per cent to 22,795.90.

NTPC, Reliance, Adani commit ₹4 Lakh Crore investment in MP

PTI ■ BHOPAL

Billionaire Gautam Adani's group, Reliance Industries and state-owned power producer NTPC were among over a dozen companies that on Monday committed to invest about ₹4 Lakh Crore across businesses in Madhya Pradesh, amid a high-voltage showcase by the state of its vast opportunities and investment potential.

While Adani promised ₹1.10 Lakh Crore in pumped storage, cement, mining, smart meters, and thermal energy, Reliance committed ₹60,000 Crore to set up bio-fuel projects in the state.

Speaking at the eighth edition of the Madhya Pradesh investment summit, Adani promised another ₹1 Lakh Crore in a greenfield smart city, an airport project, and a coal-gasification project for which the ports-to-power conglomerate is in talks with

the state government. "Today, I am proud to announce new investments of over ₹1,10,000 Crore in the areas of pumped storage, cement, mining, smart-meters and thermal energy. These multi-sectoral investments will create more than 1,20,000 jobs in Madhya Pradesh by 2030," he said.

Adani said the plans are not just about investments, but they are milestones in a shared journey - one that would make the state a national leader in industrial and economic growth.

The inaugural MP Global Investors Summit began with big-ticket announcements - with the state going all out to woo global investors and large business houses to invest in the MP's limitless potential.

NTPC-NGEL (NTPC Green Energy Ltd) and MPPGCL (Madhya Pradesh Power Generation Company Ltd) signed a Memorandum of



Madhya Pradesh Chief Minister Mohan Yadav in a meeting with Gautam Adani and other industrialists during Global Investors Summit 2025 in Bhopal. PTI

Understanding (MoU) for 20 GW worth of renewable power generation in the state, with an intent to invest ₹1,20,000 Crore in the energy sector.

NTPC Chairman and Managing Director Gurdeep Singh said his firm and its subsidiaries and joint venture

partners will invest ₹1.2 Lakh Crore in setting up 20 gigawatts of renewable power generation capacity in Madhya Pradesh. NTPC will also look at investing another ₹80,000 Crore in two sites of greenfield nuclear power plants in the state.

Renewable energy player Avaada plans to invest ₹50,000 Crore in setting up solar, wind, and pump hydro storage and battery storage projects and solar photovoltaic module manufacturing facility, its MD Vineet Mittal said.

"We will invest ₹50,000 Crore over a period of next three to five years in solar, wind, pumped storage, as well as battery," Mittal said.

Ahmedabad-based Torrent Power committed ₹26,500 Crore investment in renewable energy projects.

Power Finance Corporation (PFC) and Rural Electrification Corporation (REC) committed ₹26,800 Crore and ₹21,000 Crore of lending support, respectively, to projects coming up in the state.

The Indo-European Chamber of Small and Medium Enterprises, the Germany India Innovation Centre, and the Indo-German Chamber of

Commerce also signed MoUs with Madhya Pradesh Industrial Development Corporation (MPIDC).

OPG Power Generation Pvt Ltd pledged ₹13,400 Crore investment in setting up a manufacturing facility for battery storage systems, small modular reactors, green hydrogen and hybrid (solar and wind) power generation.

The final numbers will change after the state government releases a full list of investment commitments at the end of the two-day summit on Tuesday.

Chief Minister Mohan Yadav, while addressing audiences during the MoU signing ceremony said, the State has hit new milestones on the inaugural day of the Global Investors Summit.

He said that nations across the world have reposed confidence and faith in India's pace of progress and leadership in multiple sectors.

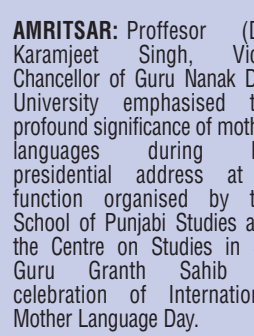
INBRIEF

INTERACTIVE SESSION WITH DIASPORA PUNJABI WRITER HELD AT GNDU



AMRITSAR: In a thought-provoking program organised by the School of Punjabi Studies at Guru Nanak Dev University, diaspora Punjabi writer Neelam Laj Saini shared her insights on diaspora Punjabi literature and her creative process with faculty, research students, and attendees.

MOTHER LANGUAGE CONNECTS INDIVIDUALS TO THEIR HERITAGE: PROF KARAMJEET SINGH



AMRITSAR: Professor (Dr) Karamjeet Singh, Vice-Chancellor of Guru Nanak Dev University emphasised the profound significance of mother languages during his presidential address at a function organised by the School of Punjabi Studies and the Centre on Studies in Sri Guru Granth Sahib in celebration of International Mother Language Day.



Real Madrid 2-0 win against Girona in Spanish league

PTI ■ MADRID

Luka Modric scored a beautiful long-range goal in Real Madrid's 2-0 home win against Girona that moved the defending champion level on points in the Spanish league with leader Barcelona.

The veteran midfielder chested the ball down in the 41st minute before firing a right-footed shot into the top corner.

"To score a goal like that, you have to keep shooting," Modric said. "I was by myself, controlled the ball, I struck it well and thank God it went in. It was a nice goal and it's always special to score at home in front of the fans at the Bernabeu."

Modric received a huge ovation from the crowd at the Santiago Bernabeu Stadium. "I'm very grateful and proud of the affection that Madrid fans show me every day," he said. "Today they've done it again and I can only say 'thank you.'"

Vinicius Junior scored Madrid's second goal after an assist from Kylian Mbappé in the 83rd to leave Madrid with the same 54 points as Barcelona, which won 2-0 at Las Palmas on Saturday. Barcelona leads on the head-to-head tiebreaker against Madrid. Atletico Madrid is one point behind the two rivals. Diego Simeone's team won 3-0 at Valencia on Saturday.

Modric made his ninth start in 25 league matches for Madrid in a season in which the 39-year-old has played few minutes off the bench. The former world player of the year scored his fourth goal this season with his neat strike to put Madrid ahead at the Bernabeu.

"Modric is a gift for soccer," Madrid coach Carlo Ancelotti said. "We've had the luck of having a legend with us."

Vinicius scored his first league goal since November from inside the area after a nice through ball by Mbappé, who on Wednesday scored a hat trick to lead Madrid to a 3-1 win over Manchester City at the Bernabeu in the Champions League playoffs.

REGULARS RESTED, ALABA STARTS

Ancelotti rested a few regular starters following the City match at the Bernabeu, including central defender Antonio Rüdiger and Federico Valverde, the midfielder who for the first time this season didn't play any minutes.

Defender David Alaba made his first start in more than a year following a knee injury, while Lucas Vázquez was back in the lineup after missing a few games to nurse a left hamstring issue.

Modric had also started in the league draw at Osasuna last weekend as Ancelotti rotated his squad for the Champions League playoff

games against City. Brahim Díaz was another who got to start on Sunday.

Midfielder Jude Bellingham served the first of a two-game suspension for cursing at a referee in the match against Osasuna.

Girona, sitting in 12th place, has lost seven of its last eight games in all competitions, including three in a row in the Spanish league.

SEVEN-GOAL ROUT FOR ATHLETIC

Forward Nico Williams scored a goal in each half as Athletic Bilbao trounced last-place Valladolid 7-1 at home. Mikel Jauregizar, Maroan Sannadi, Oihan Sancet, Gorka Guruzeta and Inaki Williams, Nico's brother, also scored for Athletic.

Valladolid, which has lost six in a row, played with 10 men from the 66th after a red card for Stanko Juric. The visitors had what would have been the 1-1 equalizer in the first half disallowed for offside.

Before each match, a banner with the words "respect the referee" and "respect soccer" was displayed as players from both teams posed for photos. The campaign comes after several complaints from clubs against refereeing decisions and some threats by fans against the officials.

OTHER RESULTS

Japan forward Takefusa Kubo scored a second-half goal as eighth-placed Real Sociedad comfortably beat Leganes 3-0 at home.

Nobody can handle pressure like Kohli: BCCI, IPL top brass

PTI ■ DUBAI

Virat Kohli provides unmatched stability to the Indian team, according to former Sports Minister Anurag Thakur and BCCI Vice President Rajeev Shukla, who felt the superstar batter displayed exceptional composure under pressure during his century against Pakistan. Kohli's majestic unbeaten century was the backbone of India's six-wicket victory over Pakistan in the Champions Trophy.

"Virat Kohli has shown how to handle the pressure and how to play for the country. Through his outstanding innings, Virat has won many hearts and the match for the country," former BCCI President Thakur said. "If you look at Virat's innings, he never went outright for the

century. For him, the priority was India's win. He was rotating the strike, not going for his own runs only. "He wanted to play till the last and win the match for India. That is a big thing about Kohli. For big players like him individual innings is not very important, it's country's victory that matters," he added.

After India's bowlers restricted Pakistan to an underwhelming 241, Kohli stitched match-winning partnerships with Shreyas Iyer and Shubman Gill to chase down the target with 45 balls to spare.

"Kohli's century was simply fabulous. The way he scored his century. The way he provided stability to Indian team, nobody can do it," Shukla said. "Shreyas and Gill also played very well. The Indian team is back to full form. All the players were fully fit and they were

ready to take on Pakistan. And they did it in style. The team looks well oiled for the finals," he added.

Kohli's century, his 51st in ODIs, was laced with seven boundaries. "The entire country was waiting for Virat to score a century. The way he played today, it was a fantastic innings to watch," IPL Chairman Arun Dhumal said. "I am pretty sure that IPL has played a major role in India's good show at the ICC tournaments. Look at the bench strength. Not just for Indian cricket, IPL has changed the cricket world over."

"That's the change of attitude that has happened over the years. That has made cricket very interesting and that is why you have new audience hooking on to cricket. It augurs well for the game," he added.

Classifieds

CHANGE OF NAME

I, Thangam Ponnuswamy, mother of No 16118717F, Rank: Havildar. Name: Vinoth P. Unit 21 Engr Regt, C/o 56 APO and residing at House No 1-31, Vill: Sundan Parappu, PO Mahathanapuram, Taluk: Agasteeswaram, Distt: Kanniyakumari, State: Tamil Nadu, PIN-629702 today camp at Leh Ladakh, have changed my name from P Thangam to Thangam Ponnuswamy vide Affidavit/Self Declaration dated 22/02/2025.

I, No. 14662884N Rank: Hav. Ekramul Biswas Unit: 601 EME BN (2 Arm Wksp) C/o 56 APO R/o Village Natunpara Mahishmara, PO. Mahishmara, Distt. Murshidabad, West Bengal-742133 declare that in my service record my mother's Name and Date of Birth is mentioned as Mamataj Biswas & 01-07-1963 but her correct Name and Date of Birth are Mamata Biswas & 01-02-1960.

I, No. 14662884N Rank: Hav. Ekramul Biswas Unit: 601 EME BN (2 Arm Wksp) C/o 56 APO R/o Village Natunpara Mahishmara, PO. Mahishmara, Distt. Murshidabad, West Bengal-742133 declare that in my service record my father Abdul Mannan Biswas's Date of Birth is mentioned as 01-07-1958 but his correct Date of Birth is 10-08-1951.

I, Ritu W/o No. 2686109L, Ex Hav Hari Om R/o VPO - Ahulana, Teh. - Gohana, District - Sonipat (Haryana) have changed my name from Retu to Ritu vide affidavit dated 20 Feb 2025 before Sonipat (Haryana) Court. In future I should be known as only Ritu.

I, Rinku S/o No. 1098909H, Ex Dfr Dilbag Singh R/o VPO - Jagsi, Teh. - Gohana, District - Sonipat (Haryana) have changed my name from Rinku Sura to Rinku vide affidavit dated 20 Feb 2025 before Sonipat (Haryana) Court. In future I should be known as only Rinku.

I, Salim S/o No. 5244990P, Ex Naik Basir Singh R/o Ward No. - 1, kharkhoda, Teh. - Kharkhoda, District - Sonipat (Haryana) have changed my name from Salim Khan to Salim vide affidavit dated 20 Feb 2025 before Sonipat (Haryana) Court. In future I should be known as only Salim.

I, Ram Murti W/o No. 8015200, Ex Naik Hawa Singh R/o VPO - Mundiana, Teh. - Gohana, District - Sonipat (Haryana) have changed my name from Ram Murti to Ram Murti vide affidavit dated 21 Feb 2025 before Sonipat (Haryana) Court. In future I should be known as only Ram Murti.

I, Yashu Jaipuria W/o Sh. Gautam Bagla R/o Ganpati Smart City, Floor-2, Plot-8, Barnala Road, Opp. Women Police Station, Sector 21, HUDA, Sirsa(Haryana). That I have changed my name from Yashu Jaipuria to Yashu Bagla, in future my name is to be called as Yashu Bagla.

I, No.15816058P Rank NK Name Harpreet Singh Unit 668 Army Avn Sqn (R&O) C/o 56 APO Bathinda cantt. (Punjab) permanent resident of Vill Jhawar, PO Jiven Wal Babri, Distt Gurdaspur State Punjab-143521 declare That I have changed my father name from S Gurnam Singh to Gurnam Singh vide affidavit dated 24.02.2025

I Nachattar Singh S/O Gurdit Singh R/O Patti Baj Ki Bundala, Vpo Bundala, Tehsil And Distt, Amritsar Have Changed My Name To Given Name To Nachattar And Singh Is My Surname

I, Tarika Kukreja W/o Moga Punjab India Now Resident Of 191 Newtown Road, Malvern, Worcestershire, Wr 141 Pj, Mother Of Minor Daughter Divyanshi. I Declare On The Behalf Of My Daughter That I Have Changed My Minor Daughter's Name Divyanshi (Former Name) To Divyanshi Kukreja.

I Sandhya Goyal W/O Vikas Goyal R/O #52, St No.3, New Shakti Nagar, Bathinda Have Changed My Name From Sandhya To Sandhya Goyal

I Ranjit Kaur Wife of Sucha Singh resident of Village Padde, P O Pheruman, Tehsil Baba Bakala, Distt. Amritsar have changed my name from Ranjit Kaur To Ranjeet Kaur.

I, Himanshu S/o Sh. Hariom R/o V. P. O Kathura, Gohana, Sonipat have changed my name Himanshu to Himanshu Narwal for all future purpose.

I Kishan Kumar S/o Tarsem Chand R/O H.no. 18/21055, banwadi ward no. 18 Rajpura, Patiala, Punjab, have changed my name from Kishan Kumar to Krishan Kumar.

I Balwinder Kumar S/O Kamalish R/O Village New Colony Mukerian Tehsil Mukerian Distt Hoshiarpur Have Changed My Name From Balwinder Kumar To Kumar Balwinder

I Surender Kumar S/o Om Parkash Resident of Chejaran Dharamsala, Hanuman Gate, Bhiwani-127021. That I have changed my old name from Surender Kumar to sunder (new name)

I, Bhupinder Singh S/O Bhajan Singh, # MCB-Z-7/4030, Street No 1/4, Krishna Colony, Bathinda, Punjab (151001) Have Changed My Name to Bhupender Singh.

I Joginder Singh son of Charna Ram resident of village Lohsimbali sub tehsil Ghanour tehsil Rajpura district Patiala declare that both Joginder Ram and Joginder Singh are the same person i.e. my names, I am known by both names.

I Ranbir S/o Ratn Singh Resident of Brijwasi Colony, Ward no 27, Bhiwani-127021 That I have changed my old name from Ranbir to Ranbir Singh (new name)

We, Vimal Gambhir S/o Sh.Iqbal Chand and Sapna Gambhir W/o Vimal Gambhir R/o House No. 806 Sector-4 Panchkula (Haryana) have changed my minor daughter name from Tanishka Gambhir to Tanishkka Gambhir.

We, Vimal Gambhir S/o Sh.Iqbal Chand and Sapna Gambhir W/o Vimal Gambhir, R/o House No. 806 Sector-4 Panchkula (Haryana) have changed my minor daughter name from Kashi Gambhir to Kaashvi Gambhir.

I Jitender Kumar S/o Raj Kumar R/O 147, Village Nakrauli, P.O Shahpur Nurdh, Ambli (136), Naraingarh, Distt. Ambala, Haryana, Pin Code 134203. have changed the name of my minor son Deepak aged 15 years and shall hereafter be known as Deepak Aggarwal.

I, Rimpay Bansal W/O Raj Kumar, R/O H.N.98, Block-C, Wawe Estate Sctor -85 Sohana (SAS Nagar Mohali) 140308, Declare That I Have Changed My Name To Rimpay.

I, Barphi W/o Lal R/o Vill. Bajah, PO. Tikhari Neol, Teh. Nerwa, Distt. Shimla (HP) have changed my name from Barphi to Vidya Devi.

I, Rameshwar Dutt S/o Banarsi Dass R/o Vill. & P.O. Daro-Devria, Teh. Pachhad, Distt. Sirmour (HP) have changed my minor daughter's name from Hitakshi Sandhu to Kritika.

I, Shanti W/o Shri Kanshi Ram R/o Vill. Baniya Devi, Teh. Arki, Distt. Solan (HP) have changed my name from Shanti Devi to Shakuntla Devi.

I, Pritpal Singh S/o Joginder Singh R/O H.No. 8-D, Master Tara Singh Nagar, Jalandhar, Punjab have changed my daughter's name from Baneet Bajewa to Baneet Kaur Bajewa. All concerned please note.

I, Divya D/o Rajinder Verma R/O Shenshah Colony, Lamini, Pathankot, Tehsil & District Pathankot, Have Changed My Name From Divya to Divya Verma, Kindly Note.

I, Lovejit Kaur W/o Lovepreet Mail R/O Village Jalla Singh, District Jalandhar, Punjab have changed my name from Lovejit Kaur to Kaur Lovejit (Kaur as Surname).

I, Pragati W/o Satinder Pal Singh R/O Vill. Bhal, Po. Najka, Distt. Jalandhar, Punjab have changed my name from Pragati to Pragati Grewal (After Marriage)

I, Charanjit Kaur Bajwa W/o Kuldeep Singh R/O VPO. Bajwa Kalan, Tehsil Shahkot, Distt. Jalandhar, Punjab have changed my name from Charanjit Kaur Bajwa to Charanjit Kaur.

I, No. 14647197A Rank HAV Name Mahadik Sandip Ramchandra S/o Ramchandra Mahadik R/o Flat No.3, 1st Floor, Radha Krishna Near Ganesh Mandir, Anand Nagar Pen, VTC Pen, PO. Pen, Sub District Pen, District Raigarh, State Maharashtra-402107 have changed my daughter name from Mahadik Aastha Sandeep to Mahadik Aastha Sandip.

I Gurmeet Kaur Gill W/O Sukhdeep Singh R/O Vpo. Sadda Singh Wala Distt. Moga Have Changed My Name To Gurmeet Kaur.

I Kewal Singh Gill S/O Gurbhej Singh R/O Vpo. Longodeva Distt. Ferozepur Have Changed My Name To Kewal Singh

I Yadwinder Singh Gill S/O Kewal Singh R/O Vpo. Longodeva, Distt. Ferozepur Have Changed My Name To Yadwinder Singh.

I Jaspreet Kaur Samra W/O Yadwinder Singh R/O Vpo. Longodeva, Distt. Ferozepur Have Changed My Name To Jaspreet Kaur. After Marriage.

I Lovepreet S/O Jaspal R/O Makowal, Mutton Balachaur, SBS Nagar Punjab Have Changed My Name To Lovepreet Moom.

I Kamaljit Singh S/O Jagtar Singh R/O Vill. Aulia, P.O. Umarpur Tehsil Mukerian, District Hoshiarpur Declare My Given Name As Kamaljit And Surname As Singh.

I Babli W/O Narinder Kumar R/O H.No.-275, Hariana Road, Naloyian Chowk, Hoshiarpur, Punjab, Have Changed My Name To Bablu Kumari.

I Gouri Shankar Ghai S/O Mangat Ram R/O Patti Mahanta Vpo. Kokri Kalan (Moga) Have Changed My Name To Gouri Shankar.

I, Mansvi S/O Raj Kumar R/O Bhagokanwan, P- Magarmudian, Gurdaspur, Punjab - 143521. Have Changed My Name From Mansvi To Mansvi Kumar.

I, Rano Devi mother of No 13767064K Rank HAV Name Jasbir Singh presently residing at Vill - Chatwal, PO - Jandwal, Tehsil and Distt Pathankot (Punjab), have changed my name from Rano Devi to Champa Rani vide Affidavit No IN-PB10074990343808X Dated 24-02-2025 before Executive.

I, No 4005731W Ex Nk (TS) Surjit Kumar resident of Village - Akhrota, PO - Rattangarh, Tehsil and Distt - Pathankot, State - Punjab, have changed name of my father from Mulkh Raj to Mulaah Raj vide Affidavit No IN-PB10057363011700X Dated 24-02-2025 before Executive Magistrate Pathankot (Punjab).

I, No 4005731W Ex Nk (TS) Surjit Kumar resident of Village - Akhrota, PO - Rattangarh, Tehsil and Distt - Pathankot, State - Punjab, have changed name of my mother from Mohindro Devi to Mohindro vide Affidavit No IN-PB10058573689976X Dated 24-02-2025 before Executive Magistrate Pathankot (Punjab).

I, No 8034237F Ex Hav Sanjeet Kumar Son Of Om Prakash R/O Vpo Ritalui, District Rohtak (Haryana) Declare That I Have Changed My Daughter Matric Certificate, Aadhaar / Pan Card. In Future My Daughter Shall May Be Known/Written/Called As Seema For All Work Purposes, Vide Affidavit Dated February 2025 Before 1st Class Magistrate (Rohtak)

I, Satyavir Singh Father of No.17001412M HMT Mukesh Kumar resident of Village- Lisan, Post- Lisan, Tehsil- Rewari, District- Rewari, State- Haryana, Pin-123411, have changed my name from Satyavir Singh to Satyavir Vide affidavit No.IN-PB10314911591505X dated 24 Feb 2025 before notary public Pathankot

I, Gulabjan (Old Name) Mother Of Aftabahamad Amersab Resident Of Vill & Post - Tumminakatti, Taluk - Ranebennuru, District - Haveri, State - Karnataka, Pin - 581119, Have Changed My Name From Gulabjan (Old Name) To Gulabjan Amersaheb Guleddugda (New Name) Vide Affidavit Dated 24 Feb 2025 Sworn Before Notary Public Satpal, Pathakot. Please Correct It.

I, Gaddi Chandrakala (Old Name) Mother Of Gaddi Anil Kumar Resident Of H- No- 6-133, Village - Khanapur, Mandal - Khanapur, Taluk Khanapur, District - Nirmal, State - Telangana, Pin - 504203, Have Changed My Name & Dob From Gaddi Chandrakala, Dob 10/06/1969 (Old Name & Dob) And Gaddi Chandrakala, Dob 10/06/1965 Vide Affidavit Dated 24 Feb 2025 Sworn Before Notary Public Satpal, Pathakot. Please Correct It.

I, Neelam Singh W/o Vijender Singh Bhati R/O House No: 504, Sector-6, Panchkula, Haryana-134109 declare that I have changed my name from Neelam Singh to Neelam Singh Bhati

I, Sonali Gill Wife of Sh. Pushpinder Singh Gill Resident of Flat B-806, Vikram Vihar AWHO, Sector 27, Panchkula, Haryana-134116 declare that I have changed my name Sonali Gill to Sonalli Gill.

I, Kuldeep Singh S/o Sh. Karam Singh R/O Bharouli, Kandaivala, (137), Kandaivala, Distt. Panchkula, Haryana-134204 declare that I have changed my name from Kuldeep Singh to Kuldeep Singh.

I, Mamta is legally Wedded Spouse of Army No: 15581125K Rank: L/Hav Name-Vijay Rajaram Kadam Presently Posted At Unit: 105 Engr Regt C/o 56 APO Permanent Address: Sr No 18/1 37 Colony No 06, Aprna Niwas, Alandi Road, Sambhajinagar, Pune City, Post: Dighi Camp, DIST: Pune, Maharashtra-411015 declare that I have changed My Name from Mamta to Mamta Vijay Kadam. Vide Affidavit No-48AA 901460, Dated: 24/02/25

I, Paranjit Singh S/o Tarsem Singh R/O Hno 689, Ginal Zail Singh Nagar Rupnagar (Ropar) Tehsil Rupnagar, District Rupnagar, Punjab, India declare that my name is Paranjit Singh. In the document i.e. Aadhar Card, Passport, Ration Card, Voter and Driving License my name is written Paranjit Singh. As per my old documents my Name is entered Paranjit Singh Rehal, but now I have corrected my name Paranjit Singh Rehal to Paranjit Singh.

I, Usha Devi W/O Jai Bhagwan R/O Village Khark Ram Ji Tehsil And Distt Jind Have Changed My Name From Usha Devi To Usha Rani.

I, Sunil S/o Raghubir Singh R/O H.No. 82, Sector 11, Green Valley, Jind Tehsil and District Jind Have Changed My Name From Sunil To Sunil Kumar.

I, Mahender Singh S/O Ram Saran R/O Village Haibatpur Tehsil and District Jind Have Changed My Name From Mahender Singh Insan To Mahender Sihag.

I, Inderjeet Kaur Sran W/O Kuljeet Singh Sran R/O Village Kabbar Wachha, PO Mukdi, Tehsil & District Ferozepur have changed my name as Inderjeet Kaur Sran.

I Gurbir Singh S/O Dilbag Singh R/O Village Chak Bamba District Tarn Taran Have Changed My Name From Gurbir Singh To Gurbeer Singh.

I Rajinder Singh S/O Avtar Singh R/O Village TUR District Tarn Taran Have Changed My Given Name To Rajinder & Surname To Singh.

I, Gurmajit Singh Sandhu S/o Sukhdev Singh R/o Vpo. Ghagga Tehsil Gidderbaha Distt. Sri Muktsar Sahib I have changed name Gurmajit Singh.

I hitherto known as Bala Devi alias Bali Devi D/o Mange Ram W/o Saminder Singh R/O 264/12, Krishna Colony, Samalkha, Panipat-132101 have changed my name and shall hereafter be known as Bali Devi.

I, Kamaljit Singh S/o Balbir Singh R/O Village Banizer, Tehsil Amloh (Fatehgarh Sahib) have changed my name to Kamaljeet Singh.

I, Jagdish Nagpal S/o Ram Dass R/O H.No.897, St.No.7, Krishna Nagar, Khanna (Ludhiana) have changed my name to Jagdish Rai.

I, Harjeet Kaur Dhindsa D/o Hakam Singh R/O Village Rampur Chhanna, Po. Amargarh (Malerkotla) have changed my name to Harjeet Kaur.

I, Raman Kumar Ahuja S/o Subash Chander R/o Amlah Road, Guru Nanak Nagar, Khanna (Ludhiana) have changed my name to Raman Ahuja.

I Seedan W/o Khushi Mohammad R/O VPO Khurd, Distt Malerkotla have changed my Name Seedan to Raseeda.

I Mandeep Singh Parmar S/O Chinder Singh, R/O. Vpo. Talwandi Rai, Tehsil Raikot, Distt Ludhiana Have Changed My Name To Mandeep Singh.

I, Guneet Grewal W/o Dev Partap Singh Guron D/o Hardev Singh R/O #116 Calm Waters Cres Brampton L6V4S2 Ontario, Canada have changed my name to Guneet Guron.

I, Jatinder Grewal W/o Ranbir Singh D/o Hardev Singh R/O 56, Pennyroyal Cres Brampton, Ontario Canada have changed my name to Jatinder Pandher.

I, Gurinder Singh S/O Hardev Singh R/O Mahoun (Ludhiana) have changed my name to Gurinder Singh Grewal.

I, Harinder Pal Singh S/o Hardev Singh R/O H.No. D-503 Wastech Sanskriti Sector-92 Dhorkal-120 Bhanrola Gurgaon (Haryana) have changed my name to Harinder Pal Singh Grewal.

I, Sain Dass S/o Mangtu R/o Vill: Barota Teh- Mukerian (Hoshiarpur) have changed my name from Sain Singh to Sain Dass.

I, Sonia W/o Jogeshwar Singh R/O Vill: Barota Teh- Mukerian (Hoshiarpur) have changed my name from Sonia Devi to Sonia.

I, Mamilavenkata Subba Is Father Of No.14650438A, Rank Hav Name Mamilava Chandrareddy Of Unit 168 Fd Regt Longewala C/O 56 APO, Residing At Village And Post Nagulavaram, Tehsil Ardhaveedu, District Prakasam State A.P. Pin 523333 Have Changed My Name From Mamilavenkata Subba To Mamilava Venkata Subbareddy Vide Affidavit Dated 21 February 2025 Before At Notary Ferozepur.

I, M Chennamma Is Mother Of No.14650438A, Rank Hav Name Mamilava Chandrareddy Of Unit 168 Fd Regt Longewala C/O 56 APO, Presently Residing At Village And Post Nagulavaram, Tehsil Ardhaveedu, District Prakasam State A.P. Pin 523333 Have Changed My Name From M Chennamma To Mamilava Chennamma Vide Affidavit Dated 21 February 2025 Before At Notary Ferozepur.

I, Jc- 332935M Rank Sub/Je (E/M) Bhagwat Dattatraya Shivajirao S/O Bhagwat Shivajirao Shamrao, Resident Of Village & Post Anpatwadi, Tal Koregaon, Distt. Satara, Maharashtra Pin 415525 Have Changed My Name From Bhagawat Dattatraya Shivajirao To Bhagwat Dattatraya Shivajirao Vide Affidavit Dated 24 Feb 2025 Before At Notary Ferozepur.

I, Basant Singh S/O Sh. Sawai Singh, Residing At House No. 354, Koliya, Nagaur, Rajasthan 341305, India Declare That My Daughter In School Certificate Name Is Written Dipika Kanwar, But In All Other Documents My Daughter Correct Name Is Mentioned As Dipika, Have Changed My Daughter Name From Dipika Kanwar To Dipika, Vide Affidavit Dated 24-02-2025, Before Attested Magistrate Ferozepur.

I, P Naga Nancharamma, Spouse Of Army No. 17006077X Rank Nk Name Anand Motupalli Of Unit 71 Inf Div Provost Unit C/O 99 Apo, Pin Code 908471, Have Changed My Name From P Naga Nancharamma To Pamarthi Naga Nancharamma Vide Affidavit Notary Ferozepur.

I Gurveen kaur W/O Pearl Puneet Singh, D/O Davinder Singh, residence 72, new Moti Bagh colony Patiala Punjab have changed my name to Harveen kaur from gurveen Kaur after my marriage.

I, Jog Raj S/O Daulat Singh R/O PO-Pandori Ganga Singh, Distt-Hoshiarpur, Punjab - 146108, have changed my minor daughter's name from Sanjana aged 14 years to Sanjana Bhatoya forever.

I, Jog Raj S/O Daulat Singh R/O PO-Pandori Ganga Singh, Distt-Hoshiarpur, Punjab - 146108, have changed my minor daughter's name from Komal aged 16 years to Komal Bhatoya forever.

I, Harsh Khanna S/O Arun Kumar Khanna R/O #2116/2, Sirhindi Bazar Patiala have Changed my Minor Son's Name from Tarush Khanna to Tarush Khanna.

I, Neena Mahana w/o Ashwani Kumar Mahana R/O H.No. 357 Sector 5 U E Kurukshetra declares that Neena Mahana and Neena Rani Mahana is one and same person that is me.

I Parminder Singh Taggar S/O Gurdev Singh R/O Basant Nagar, Kotkapura (Faridkot) Have Changed My Name To Parminder Singh.

I Jaswinder Singh Brar S/O Boota Singh R/O Village Panjraingar Kalan (Faridkot) Have Changed My Name To Jaswinder Singh.

I hitherto known as Manav Jaglan S/O Vedparkash R/O D 1526, D Block, Near Kirpal Ashram Ansal Sushant City, Panipat, Haryana 132103, have changed my Name and shall hereafter be known as Sam.

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IDFC FIRST Bank Limited
(erstwhile Capital First Limited, amalgamated with IDFC Bank Limited and presently known as IDFC FIRST Bank

Destination Uttarakhand

EMERGING AYUSH & WELLNESS HUB



Yoga & meditation in U'Khand, a sign of wellness & spiritual revival

The tranquil and spiritual terrain of the Garhwal Himalayas has evolved into a focal point for fitness lovers, thanks to PM Modi's future forward vision



In June 2018, during the 4th International Yoga Day, Prime Minister Modi guided an estimated 50,000 enthusiasts in performing yoga asanas at the scenic Forest Research Institute, Dehradun. Emphasising yoga's international resonance, Modi remarked, "From Dehradun to Dublin, from Shanghai to Chicago, from Jakarta to Johannesburg, Yoga is everywhere." His focus on yoga as a unifying and therapeutic approach echoed profoundly, strengthening its position in boosting physical and mental well-being. "In Yoga, we have the perfect solution to

the problems we face, either as individuals or in our society," he said, highlighting the holistic advantages of yoga in promoting a peaceful, innovative, and satisfied life. The Prime Minister's advocacy for yoga expanded beyond the International Yoga Day festivities. In May 2019, his visit to the Kedarnath shrine attracted considerable awareness, especially his meditation session in the 'Dhyan Gufa' (meditation cave). A picture of Modi covered in a saffron shawl, sitting in meditation inside the cave, went viral on social me-

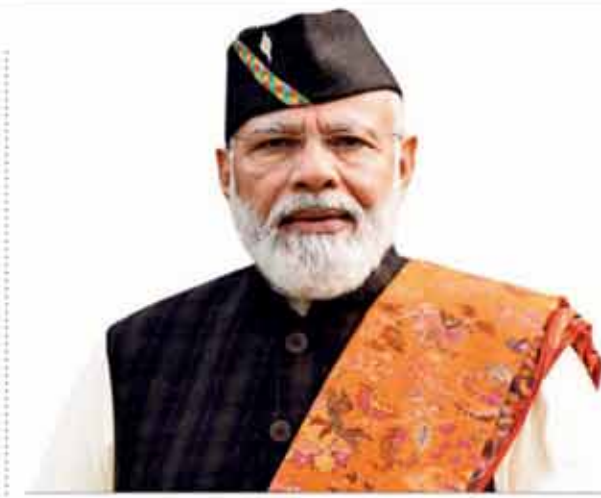
dia, scintillating widespread appeal in the cave as a new traveller appeal. This scenic location at 12,500 feet in the Garhwal Himalayas encountered an exceptional wave in popularity, with bookings for the meditation cave soaring. Garhwal Mandal Vikas Nigam Ltd (GMVN) recorded a swell in online bookings for the 'Dhyan Gufa,' which has been completely booked for months

PM Narendra Modi's fondness for yoga and meditation has immensely increased the favour of these age-old traditions, especially in Uttarakhand

ahead. This inflow of interest has encouraged local management to plan the building of three more meditation caves in the surroundings, improving the spiritual charm of the location.

Modi's many visits to Kedarnath have also contributed to a surprising rise in the temple's footfall. The temple has been witnessing record-breaking footfall since, becoming a historic landmark for Kedarnath.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi through his enthusiastic participation and promotion of yoga and meditation has boosted the international profile of these practices along with restoring spiritual tourism in Uttarakhand, attracting innumerable followers to the peaceful and hallowed surroundings of the Himalayas.



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

Narendra Modi
Prime Minister

Under the visionary leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Uttarakhand, known as Devbhoomi, has truly flourished as a global destination for yoga and meditation. His dedication, exemplified by his visits and meditation in Kedarnath and Adi Kailash, has inspired countless people worldwide to visit Rishikesh. Our government is committed to transforming Uttarakhand into a world-renowned hub for AYUSH health services, medicines, and consumer products, furthering his mission of holistic wellness."

Pushkar Singh Dhami
Chief Minister

CM Dhami Govt 245 appointed 245 Ayush Doctors in Uttarakhand

245 selected candidates got appointment in AYUSH department, after the approval of CM Dhami, the wait of AYUSH doctors waiting for appointment in the state of Uttarakhand for a long time is now over. The government has issued orders for the appointment of a total of 245 candidates including 242 Ayurveda medical officers, one Unani, one Yoga and Naturopathy and one Manager State Pharmacy. Recruitment process was started for 257 medical officer posts. Uttarakhand Medical Selection Board started the recruitment process for 253 medical officer posts of



Ayurveda and Unani Department on 11 March 2022. After completing the interview process, the final selection of 243 candidates was also done. While their appointment letters were being issued, complaints of irregularities in the recruitment process came in. On this, in August, the Chief Minister had ordered a detailed investigation of the matter.

All have been placed on probation for two years. On this, the government banned the appointment of selected candidates on the posts of Ayurveda medical officers and handed over the investigation to the Director of Ayurveda. Now after the completion of the investigation, the government has issued orders for his appointment after the approval of Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhami.

186 villages of the state identified by the name of herbs, Ayurveda department sends report to AYUSH Ministry

The state government has identified 186 villages of the state by the name of different herbs to promote Ayurveda treatment. The Ayurveda department distributed plants of the respective herbs to the people living in these villages. It has sent the report of these villages to the central government.

Dr Pankaj Kumar Pandey, secretary AYUSH, said that 35 villages in Almora district, 12 in Bageshwar, four in Chamoli, three in Haridwar, 15 in Nainital, 42 in Pauri, 23 in Pithoragarh, five in Rudrapur, 24 in Tehri, 10 in Udham Singh Nagar

Ayurveda programmes will be started in 3900 schools in the state. Ayurveda doctors will visit schools and make the children aware

and 13 villages in Uttarkashi were identified as Herbal Villages. This initiative of the department will promote environmental protection.

Along with this, people will be aware about Ayurveda herbs. He said that from next month, Ayurveda programmes will be started in 3900 schools in the state. Under this, Ayurveda doctors will go to schools and make the children aware. 13 villages in the state will be developed as Ayush Villages. Regular camps of Ayurveda, Yoga, and Homeopathy will be organised in these villages.

Adi Kailash turns into a meditation hub

The Chief Minister's visit to Adi Kailash strived to boost the area as a noteworthy pilgrimage and visitor destination

On International Yoga Day, Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhami performed yoga at Adi Kailash, a venerated place situated about 15,000 feet above sea level in the sacred land of Lord Shiva. This occasion not only highlighted the importance of yoga in improving physical, mental, and spiritual well-being but also emphasized the cultural and religious legacy of the place. In his address, Chief Minister Dhami highlighted the trans-

significance of incorporating yoga into day-to-day routines for physical, mental, and emotional stability.

The Chief Minister's visit to Adi Kailash also strived to boost the area as a noteworthy pilgrimage and visitor destination. He stated that the idea of Prime Minister Narendra Modi has been instrumental in bringing transnational acclaim to the location. The Prime Minister's visit to Pithoragarh and

Jyotikong last year has already extended the inflow of travelers and pilgrims, turning Adi Kailash, Om Parvat, and Parvati Sarovar into bustling locations of spiritual and cultural tourism.

The Chief Minister emphasized the financial advantages that improved tourism brings to the local residents. With more visitors and pilgrims visiting Adi Kailash and its surrounding neighborhoods, local enterprises, particularly

those involved in homestays and local food production, are flourishing. He backed the growth of 100% homestay-based tourism, which not only conserves the local architecture and culture but also provides sustainable job prospects for the locals.

In his speech, Chief Minister Dhami also addressed the necessity for enhancing infrastructure and establishments in the region. He called for the standardization of transportation amenities and the simplification of the procedure for allocating Inner Line Permits, assuring that tourists do not encounter any problems. He emphasised the significance of maintaining sensitivity and clarity in these procedures to evade any turmoil in this sensitive border region.

Environmental protection was another essential emphasis of the Chief Minister's address. He voiced concern over the pollution of the environment and the drying up of natural water sources. He informed strategies to restore traditional streams, springs, and ghats, encouraging everyone to contribute to this cause.

CM stressed that the idea of Prime Minister Modi has been instrumental in bringing about transnational acclaim to the location

formative influence of yoga, defining it as a convergence of body, mind, and soul that brings contentment and calmness to humans. He extended an invitation to Shiva followers and visitors from around the globe to visit Adi Kailash, highlighting



Milestones by AYUSH

With a strong infrastructure and strategic endeavours, Uttarakhand has arisen as a leader in reviving age-old medicinal approaches and assuring their accessibility to all

The Department of AYUSH in Uttarakhand has made noteworthy strides in elevating and incorporating conventional Ayurvedic and Unani methods of medicine into the state's healthcare framework.

HEALTHCARE FACILITIES AND INSTITUTIONS
Uttarakhand has a network of 546 Ayurvedic and Unani hospitals, furnishing essential medi-

cal care mainly via conventional techniques. These include 541 Ayurvedic and five Unani hospitals, alongside specialised facilities in establishments like the Government Ayurvedic College in Rishikul and Gurukul Kangri, Haridwar. These organisations not only deliver treatment, but also act as hubs for teaching and research in Ayurvedic medicine. Under the National Rural Health

Mission (NRHM), Ayush wings have been established in 206 allopathic hospitals, further incorporating conventional approaches into mainstream healthcare. This endeavour advances to community health centers and primary health centers, assuring exhaustive healthcare services across rural and metropolitan regions.

EDUCATION AND RESEARCH
Uttarakhand has five Ayurvedic

colleges, including two government institutions, committed to providing quality teaching in Ayurvedic medicine. Notably, Rishikul Government Ayurvedic College, Haridwar, provides postgraduate education in seven specialised topics, augmenting the collection of qualified Ayurvedic practitioners in the area.

The state also underscores training programmes for Ayurvedic nurses and pharmacists, enabling qualified healthcare specialists yearly. Private sector endeavours complement government measures, contributing greatly to the workforce in Ayurvedic medicine and corresponding domains.

INFRASTRUCTURE AND MANUFACTURING
The Government Pharmaceutical Laboratory in Rishikul,

Haridwar, plays a key part in making Ayurvedic medicines to fulfill hospital needs. This establishment assures the availability of high-quality, standardized Ayurvedic formulations, that align with national health priorities.

Under NRHM, Ayush wings have been established in 206 allopathic hospitals, further incorporating conventional approaches into mainstream healthcare

REGULATION AND QUALITY ASSURANCE
Uttarakhand keeps strict benchmarks for Ayurvedic

and Unani medicines via its State Drug Licensing Officer. Licensing and supervision ensure compliance with Good Manufacturing Practices (GMP), with the majority of pharmacies already licensed. Measures are continuing to improve certification for all pharmacies, including well-known labels acknowledged nationally and globally.

RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT

The establishment of a State Drug Testing Laboratory in Haridwar highlights Uttarakhand's dedication to promoting research and assuring the effectiveness and safety of Ayurvedic medicines. This establishment fosters strict testing and verification, boosting trust in conventional medicinal practices.

Uttarakhand's AYUSH Policy

Transforming healthcare landscape



Under the leadership of PM Narendra Modi and the guidance of Uttarakhand CM Pushkar Singh Dhami, Uttarakhand's AYUSH Policy outlines innovative strategies to integrate traditional healthcare practices with modern methods, aiming for holistic, wellness and economic growth

Known as the 'Devbhoomi' or 'Land of Gods', Uttarakhand is deemed to evolve as an international center for AYUSH (Ayurveda, Yoga & Naturopathy, Unani, Siddha, and Homeopathy) practices, leveraging its rich natural and cultural legacy. The AYUSH Policy of Uttarakhand summarises enterprising strategies to incorporate conventional healthcare procedures with contemporary methods, striving for holistic wellness and financial development.

With a terrain endowed by the Himalayas, Uttarakhand has long been associated with Ayurveda and Yoga. The policy strives to capitalise on this legacy by enabling the cultivation of over 1,000 rare medicinal plants native to the area. Endeavours such as the Chief Minister Medicinal Plant Development Programme are set to involve 50,000 farmers in growing these plants, promoting sustainable farming approaches, and augmenting regional revenues.

In the domain of AYUSH production, Uttarakhand already has a strong drive, backed by ample raw materials and promising business necessities. The state hosts multiple GMP-certified manufacturing departments making a vast array of AYUSH medicines and consumer items. Under the new policy, more incentives and assistance will be offered to enable more units to attain WHO GMP certification and adhere to global quality norms. This action is anticipated to greatly improve the sector's contribution to the state's GDP, presently evaluated at Rs 4,000-5,000 crore. Healthcare constitutes another

cornerstone of Uttarakhand's AYUSH approach, with the state having one of the country's highest concentrations of AYUSH healthcare establishments. The policy summarises strategies to credit all specified government AYUSH healthcare centers under the NABH (National Accreditation Board for Hospitals & Healthcare Providers) within five years. This accreditation will not only improve service quality, but also incorporate AYUSH treatments with allopathic healthcare systems, assuring complete medical care for all citizens.

Wellness tourism, already thriving in Uttarakhand due to its natural magnificence and spiritual essence, is set to obtain additional growth. The policy proposes building health centers and resorts across the state, concentrating on places like Kasar Devi and Harsil known for their natural healing effects.

Education and research are essential elements of Uttarakhand's AYUSH concept, with organisations like the Uttarakhand Ayurved University ushering the charge. The policy supports NAAC accreditation of all AYUSH academic colleges within five years, promoting educational superiority and assuring graduates are qualified to fulfill international norms. Governance-wise, the department of AYUSH will spearhead policy undertaking, teaming closely with other state divisions and stakeholders. A single-window clearance system will facilitate investment processes, drawing private sector participation and promoting financial expansion across all AYUSH segments.

CONSUMER CONNECT INITIATIVE