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INSIDE

WORLD 8
HOLLYWOOD HILLS FIRE BREAKS OUT AS DEADLY WILDFIRES BURN OUT OF CONTROL ACROSS LOS ANGELES

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Cong cornered in INDIA bloc truck

Mohit Kandhari n Jammu

Amid growing differences within the INDIA bloc, Jammu and Kashmir Chief Minister Omar Abdullah Thursday dropped clear hints suggesting he was also on the verge of splitting ties with the opposition plank. Omar also demanded the INDIA bloc should be disbanded as the opposition parties were not on the same page in the run-up to the Delhi polls. Acerbic observations made by Omar, a close friend of Rahul Gandhi, have once again sparked speculation over the future of the Congress party in the INDIA bloc. While both AAP and the Congress are part of the INDIA bloc, the parties are contesting the Delhi polls separately.



increasing support for AAP ahead of next month's Delhi elections, Omar Abdullah said, "I cannot say anything about this at the moment because we have no involvement with Delhi polls. The Aam Aadmi Party, Congress, and other political parties on the ground will decide how to compete with the BJP strongly." Stating that AAP succeeded twice in Delhi previously, Abdullah said, "This time, we will have to wait and see what the people of Delhi decide." Meanwhile, National Conference President Dr Farooq Abdullah on Thursday said his party does not intend to "fight" New Delhi to collaborate with the central government to address the pressing issues of Jammu and Kashmir.

Mamta Banerjee-led Trinamool Congress along with Uddhav Thackeray's Shiv Sena (UBT) and Akhilesh Yadav's Samajwadi Party (SP) have already announced their support to the Aam Aadmi Party in the Delhi elections leaving Congress party stranded in the multi-cornered poll battle. The subtle timing of Abdullah's remark, a day after Rashtriya Janata Dal (RJD) leader Tejashwi Yadav said the INDIA bloc had lost its significance and was formed specifically for the Lok Sabha polls, has also raised many eyebrows in the power corridors. "INDIA bloc was formed just for the Lok Sabha elections and to stop the victory march of the BJP. It has no significance now. The bickering between the

Congress and the AAP is not unexpected," the former Bihar Deputy Chief Minister said. Reacting to Abdullah's remark, Congress MP Manickam Tagore said the opinion of INDIA bloc allies was not binding on the party. "INDIA bloc allies will not decide what the Congress wants to do in Delhi," he said. Abdullah, whose National Conference is part of the INDIA bloc, Thursday said "It is unfortunate that no meeting of the INDIA bloc has taken place. Who will lead? What will be the agenda? How will the alliance move forward? There is no discussion on these issues. There is no clarity on whether we will remain united or not." "After the assembly elections in Delhi, they (INDIA Bloc) should call all the alliance members for a meeting. If this

alliance was only for the parliamentary elections, it should be wound up, and we will work separately. But if it is also meant for Assembly elections, we will have to sit together and work collectively," Abdullah told reporters on the sidelines of a three-day long orientation programme of the newly elected legislators here in Jammu. In December 2024, When Trinamool Congress leaders started a campaign to aggressively push for West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee to head the opposition alliance, the Congress leader Rahul Gandhi directed the party's Lok Sabha MPs not to react to comments of "middle-and low-rung" leaders of INDIA bloc parties. Replying to another query on

Bijli, Paani free on BJP's poll platter?

RAJESH KUMAR ■ NEW DELHI

What was once criticised as "free ki revri" and "freebies" has now become the central focus for the political parties as they vie for votes in the February 5 Delhi elections. In a bid to match the ruling AAP's raft of pre-poll promises in Delhi, the BJP is likely to announce free electricity of up to 300 units for household, free piped water, and a Ladli Behna-like scheme (financial assistance of Rs 2500 for eligible women) to woo the voters in its manifesto for the upcoming assembly polls. Along with this, the BJP is also planning to provide free electricity of up to 500 units to religious places like temples and gurudwaras. Top sources said these recommendations are expected to be part of the manifesto. The

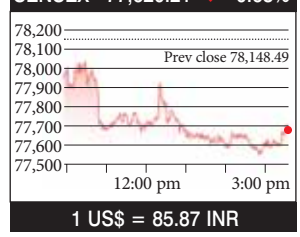


Photo: Ranjan Dimri/The Pioneer

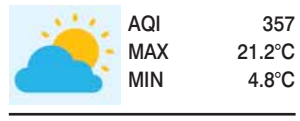
recommendations have been sent to central leadership for approval. According to sources, the manifesto committee has also recommended not doing away with schemes currently in place in Delhi including free public bus travel for women, up to 20 kilolitres of free water per month to domestic consumers, and free electricity to households that consume less than 200 units a month.

The AAP-led Delhi government currently provides free electricity for up to 200 units a month. Under the existing free electricity scheme, the Delhi government provides free electricity to consumers with a monthly consumption of 200 units. Whereas, a 50 per cent subsidy is given to people with a consumption of 201-400 units of electricity.

MARKETS



WEATHER



GRAP III invoked in the Capital

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

Rising air pollution level has once again forced the authorities to impose vehicle ban on BS 3 petrol and BS 4 diesel cars as the Commission for Air Quality Management (CAQM) for Delhi and its adjoining area has imposed the Stage-III ('Severe' Air Quality) measures under the Graded Response Action Plan (GRAP) for Delhi-NCR with immediate effect. The stage 3 also bans the entry of non-essential BS 4 diesel trucks into Delhi. The restrictions are not applicable for commercial vehicles involved in essential services. Persons with Disabilities shall be permitted to ply BS - III Petrol / BS - IV Diesel LMVs, provided that these are specifically adopted for them and are run only for their personal use," the CAQM said in a statement. GRAP Stage 3, which was revoked on Sunday, entails a ban on non-essential construction work.

Indian passport ranking slips

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ NEW DELHI

Even as outbound travel from India continues to grow rapidly and a growing number of destinations try to woo Indian tourists, obtaining a visa for travel has become harder for Indian travelers, the global ranking of Indian passport dropped five spots to 85th in Henley Passport Index 2025 even as Singapore reclaimed the top spot and Japan takes the second position. According to a press statement, as per the Henley Passport Index 2025, India has slipped from 80th rank in



2024 to 85th in 2025. An Indian national can travel to 57 visa-free destinations around the world, it adds. The index is considered the standard reference tool for global citizens and sovereign states when assessing where a passport ranks on the global mobility spectrum, the

Henley & Partners said. As per the index for 2025, India stands at 85th while the ranking of Pakistan and Bangladesh stood at 103rd (101st in 2024) and 100th (97th in 2024), respectively. According to a data chart available on the firm's website, for the range of years from 2006-2025, India's rank was the lowest at 90th in 2021, while its best score was in 2006 when the country was ranked 71st. According to the passport index, the ranking of Pakistan and Bangladesh stood at 103rd (101st in 2024) and 100th (97th in 2024), respectively.

Naidu visits Tirupati stampede victims

PNS ■ TIRUPATI



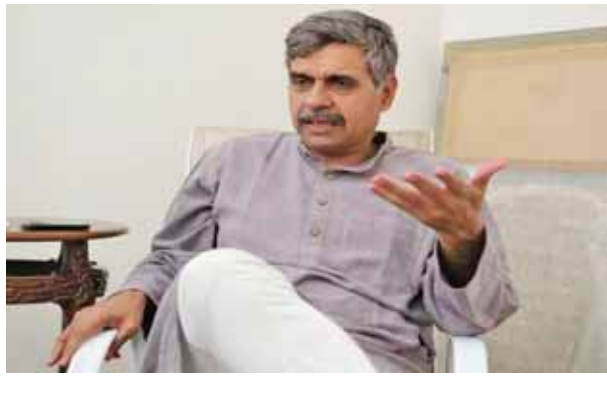
Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister N Chandrababu Naidu meets a person injured in the stampede on Wednesday, at SVIMS hospital in Tirupati. PTI

Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister N Chandrababu Naidu on Thursday visited the injured undergoing treatment in a hospital here following a stampede that left six people dead. Six devotees died and nearly 40 more were injured in the stampede at Bairagi Patteda near MGM School in Tirupati on Wednesday night as hundreds of devotees turned up from across the country for the 10-day Vaikunta Dwara Darshanam at Lord Venkateswara Swamy temple on Tirumala Hills. Hundreds of devotees turned up from across the country for the 10-day Vaikunta Dwara Darshanam commencing from January 10. Earlier, Naidu visited the accident site where the stampede claimed six lives and injured many.

Congress still relevant in Delhi: Sandeep Dikshit

SAUMYA SHUKLA ■ NEW DELHI

Congress candidate from the New Delhi assembly constituency and two-time East Delhi MP, Sandeep Dikshit, has accused the AAP of siphoning off Congress votes in other states, at a time when the ruling party has made serious allegation against him and his party for being in cahoots with BJP while dismissing AAP's claim of Centre hindering the Delhi government from functioning.



The son of former Chief Minister Sheila Dikshit is a widely known critique of AAP chief Arvind Kejriwal, one of the reasons he stated for pitting him against Kejriwal in the upcoming elections. While the AAP has made several allegations against Dikshit and Congress for being hands in gloves with the BJP, Dikshit, in an interview with The Pioneer, shrugged them off claiming that the BJP is picking his criticisms rather than the other way around. "BJP is repeating what I am saying. They have never attacked Kejriwal on factual information. I have done that and I think it's good whoever is picking that up. Secondly, there is a critique and a criticism of AAP, which is not party-specific. Criticism is opposition-specific," he said. "If Yamuna is dirty, do you expect BJP to say something

else about Yamuna and us to say something else? We are in the opposition, we will attack you for all the things that you have not done. When they were in the opposition, AAP and BJP both called us corrupt in 2012-13. We could very easily say that you are saying exactly what BJP was saying. The role of the opposition is to criticize the government wherever it finds valid criticism," he said. He further raised questions on AAP fighting elections outside Delhi and claimed that they cut Congress votes to help the BJP. "They are really somebody who helps BJP win different elections and then they attack me," Dikshit alleged. Claiming that the AAP is afraid of Congress fighting the elections, he asked why the AAP is scared of him or AICC treasurer Ajay Maken when they say that Congress is not relevant in Delhi.

Minister signs a file and it becomes policy, in Delhi's case, in many of the subjects, files have to go to the LG level," Dikshit added. While the AAP's narrative is centered around 'Phir layenge Kejriwal' (We will bring Kejriwal again), Kejriwal's rival said that even if he becomes one he will be a Chief Minister 'who will be in jail' or he will 'not do any work' because of the conditions put by the Supreme Court on his bail. "In the remote chance that AAP wins Delhi again, and you get elected as their leader, even if you get sworn in as Chief Minister, you cannot perform. Not even for a single day. This promise of Rs 2,100 he made to the women. In reality, if he signs that file, he'll go to jail. He'll break his bail conditions," the leader said, adding that AAP Convenor resigned from his Chief Ministerial post not as a sacrifice but because he knew that he cannot perform its duties. The Congress candidate also plans to remind people of the work his mother has done for Delhi and how Kejriwal has not been able to carry it on even in an 'average fashion'. Dikshit also claims that in case of any post-poll alliance, other parties will have to come to them and not the other way around as he is confident of a good performance by the Congress.

SC to review JEE-Advanced attempt limit

PNS ■ NEW DELHI



The Supreme Court on Thursday agreed to examine a plea against bringing down from three to two, the attempts given to Joint Entrance Examination (JEE)-Advanced aspirants. When the plea came up before a bench of Justices B R Gavai and Augustine George Masih, the petitioner's counsel said, "This matter pertains to the IIT (Indian Institute of Technology) admission entrance examination in which the number of attempts have been reduced from three to two." The lawyer said a similar plea was listed before the bench on January 10 following which the court directed both to be tagged.

Mann Ki Baat must for Goa babus

PNS ■ PANAJI

The BJP government in Goa has made it mandatory for heads of all its departments (HoDs) to tune into Prime Minister Narendra Modi's 'Mann Ki Baat' monthly radio broadcast. In a circular issued on Thursday, Shreyas D'Silva, under secretary (general administration), asked all HoDs to tune into 'Maan Ki Baat' and draw inspiration from suggestions and best practices mentioned in the programme. Posting the circular on his social media handle, Chief Minister Pramod Sawant said "Mann Ki Baat, the monthly interactive program by Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri @narendramodi Ji, highlights the thoughts and ideas of citizens on Governance, as well as individual and collective efforts driving societal change." He said success stories and best practices shared during the programme can be adopted to improve governance. "All Heads of Government Departments in Goa are directed to actively tune in to #MaanKiBaat. It is encouraged to draw inspiration from success stories and best practices shared during the programme, which have brought positive change across the nation. These insights shall be appropriately considered for adoption to



improve governance and enhance service delivery in Goa," Sawant noted. The CM further said "Goa has been a pioneer in implementing progressive Governance practices that have been emulated at both state and national levels." He also talked about his government's vision of 'Swayampurna' (self-sufficient) and developed Goa. "It is essential to continually seek inspiration and adopt innovative practices from across India, be it from individuals, organizations, or state initiatives. This will further our efforts to promote Ease of Living and Ease of Doing Business, propelling us toward achieving the vision of a Swayampurna, Viksit (developed) Goa," Sawant said. 'Swayampurna Goa' is a government-led community level action plan to make each and every village and city in the state self-reliant.

CRPF launches online platform to adopt retired K9s for second life

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

The CRPF has launched a first-ever online service that allows common people to adopt retired sniffer and assault dogs from the country's largest paramilitary force to give these four-legged soldiers a comfortable second life. This is probably the first time that any security force has decided to offer their trained dogs for public adoption, as this move was always fraught with the dangers of misuse of these highly-skilled and motivated dogs by anti-national elements. Till now, the central forces and state police were handing over their retired dogs to registered NGOs or reputed organisations for their care. More than 30 canines from four

breeds — Belgian Shepherd Malinois, German Shepherd, Labrador and the indigenous Mudhol Hound — can now be adopted through a rigorous process that will be monitored by the CRPF's specialised Dog Breeding and Training School (DBTS) near Bengaluru. These canines, aged 8-12 years, have undertaken hundreds of operations in the anti-Naxal, counter-insurgency and counter-terrorism theatres across the country, saving lives of numerous troops from improvised explosive devices (IEDs) and deadly ambushes laid by Maoists or terrorists, a senior officer told PTI. Baloo, Sweetie, Veeru, Moby, Coco, Stroll and their colleagues have been trained in various sniffer and combat streams such as explosive

detection and tracking, infantry patrol and assault, etc. The officer said the adoption is free and the adopter can check the force's website to gather basic details and pictures of the dogs up for adoption, fill up a form stating their "motivation and intent" for adopting a retired police K9, and state how they plan to engage the canine — like a companion, guard or a therapy dog — along with details of the proposed accommodation for the adopted dog. "A compatibility meeting between the adopter and the dog will be organised at a designated camp where the retired canine is housed. We have also got these selected canines groomed by dog behaviour experts so that they can adjust in a homely environment,"



the officer said. A brief profile, picture and citation of these "soldier buddies" have been hosted on the CRPF portal, making it clear shall take care of the "K9 hero with dignity, due diligence and compassion". The force, as part of this adoption process, will sign a "legally-

binding" agreement with the adopter and will provide a KCI (Kennel Club of India) registration certificate, medical and vaccination records, and other vital documents of these canines. "Initiating public adoption of our retired dogs is an effort to ensure a happy second life for our canine soldiers," CRPF Deputy Inspector General Moses Dhinakaran told PTI. It has been made clear in the terms and conditions of the adoption process that there shall be no "abuse or ill-treatment" of the K9 and that they should not be sold, used for any purpose to earn money, or deployed against any person. The guidelines state that CRPF officers should be allowed for "periodic verification" of the

adopted dogs, including regular communication with their handlers through short videos and live videoconferencing. "The adopter shall give emotional support if the K9 is found in distress, and extend all therapeutic care as required for a geriatric dog," the guidelines state. The force hopes that these brave loyal soldiers get a good home and family as it writes about Zina, a female Belgian Shepherd Malinois, how she is "loyal with a balanced temperament, making her an ideal companion for families looking for a protective yet gentle dog". With about 3.25 lakh personnel in its ranks, the Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) is the leading internal security force of the country which functions under the Ministry of Home Affairs.

Classifieds

BEDKHALI NOTICE

I, Dilbagh Singh S/o Late Sh. Raghubir Singh R/o Vill. Rathdhana, Teh. & Distt. Sonapat has disowned my son Bhupinder Kumar & his wife Suman Rani from my all movable-immovable property as they are out of my control. In future, if anybody deals with them, he/she will do at their own risk.

I, Gurwant Kaur W/o Harjeet Singh R/o # 7A, Type-1, Group Centre, Kalka (Panchkula) declared that my son Jaspreet Singh is out of my control. So, I disowned him from my movable-immovable property. In future, anybody deals with him at his own risk & responsibilities.

I, Bhag Singh Son of Arjun Singh and Balbirinder Kaur W/o Bhag Singh R/o House No 1785, Safada Colony Nayagaon District Mohali Punjab inform that our daughter Mandeep Kaur is out of our control. We disown her from our all moveable and Immoveable Properties. Anybody deal with her will do at their own Risk.

I, Hari Chand S/o Ram Khilawan R/o H No. 468, Janta Colony, Nayagaon, SAS Nagar declare that my son Neeraj is out of my control. I, disown him from my moveable & immovable properties. Anybody dealing with him at their own risk.

I, Devinder Kumar S/o Shri Ramditta Mal R/O Dharampur Colony, Near Primary School, Radha Krishan Colony, Pinjore, Tehsil Kalka, Distt Panchkula, Haryana declare that my son Tushar Sharma & His wife Sahil are out of my control. I, disown them from my moveable & immovable properties. Anybody dealing with him at their own risk.

I, Phul Jahan Wife of Late Naseem Ahmed Resident of House no 818-B, Small Flats Dhanas Chandigarh inform that my son Harun and his wife Jeenat out of my control. I disown them from my all moveable and Immoveable Properties. Anybody deal with them will do at their own Risk.

I, Karan Singh S/o Hari Chand R/o Vill. Lohri, Distt. Panipat, declare that son Mohit and his wife Veena and granddaughter Nitya are all out of my control. Therefore I evict them from my moveable and immovable property. In future, anyone who deals with them will be responsible.

We Pushkar Singh S/o Jagat Singh and Usha W/o Pushkar Singh R/o H.No. B-05/1578/5 Shivalki vihar, Nayagaon SAS Nagar, declared that our son Prabodh and his wife Poonam, both are out of our control, so we disown them from our movable- immovable properties, anybody dealing with them at their own risk.

We, Bala Devi W/o Sh. Ramesh Kumar and Ramesh Kumar S/o Sh. Ram Dhan R/o 162/35, Vashy Mandir, Near Khatu Shivam Mandir, Naya Padav, Janta Colony, Rohtak declare that our son Rinku and his wife Aruna Goyal are out of my control. So we disown them from our all moveable/immovable properties. Any body dealing with them at our own risk. We or our family are not responsible for any type of their any acts.

I, Narendra Singh late SH.Joginder Singh R/O house no 466/1 kurari mohalla Tehsil Kalka Distt Panchkula declare that my son, namely Arpit is out of my control so that I disown him from my all movable and immovable properties, anybody deals with them, their own risk.

I, Dhara Singh S/o Gaje Singh Vill. Sangri Tehsil Sub Tehsil Dhand Distt.Kaithal My Daughter Parmeet W/o Navin Punjia is out of my control. I, disown them from all my moveable and immovable properties. If Anybody deals with him at their Own risk.

I, Ashok Kumar S/o Munshi Ram R/o Ward No.10, bhaji Ji Wali Gali, Pehowa, Kurukshetra My Two Son Nareesh Kumar And Shubham is out of my control. I, disown them from all my moveable and immovable properties. If Anybody deals with him at their Own risk.

मैं, सतबीर पुत्र सुधन सिंह निवासी शीतल नगर, झज्जर, सूची बाग वाली गली, रोहतक ब्यान करता हूँ कि मैं अपने पुत्र चिराग, पुत्रवध पुनम को मेरे कहने-सुनने से बाहर होने पर अपनी चल-अचल संपत्ति से बेदेखल करता हूँ। भविष्य में मुझे लेन-देन करने वाला व्यक्ति स्वयं जिम्मेदार होगा, मेरी व मेरे परिवार की कोई जिम्मेवारी नहीं होगी।

PUBLIC NOTICE

I, Hoshiar Kaur W/o Late Mehar Singh R/O 387, Phase 11, Mohali declare that Gurpreet Singh is my son-in-law who was residing with us and his all identity proofs are on my address. Now he is not residing with us, as matrimonially legally cases has filed between my daughter Gunimrat Kaur and him. So, if any person deal with him any financial or any matter he/she will responsible for them.

I, Beant Raj Son of Sohan Lal Resident of Village Phulahi PO Bhatrana Tehsil & Distt. Hoshiarpur, Pin 146001, Punjab, India, Declare that I have changed the name of my daughter from Parvinder to Parvinder Heer. Heer as a Surname. concerned note

We, both brothers Vijay Rana and Ajay Rana sons of Surinder Singh Village Nangran Kalnot Tehsil Nangal Distt. Rupnagar declare that our name is written as Multar Singh and Malkiat Singh in Jamabandi. We are known by both names Multar Singh alias Vijay Rana and Malkiat Singh alias Ajay Rana are true and correct .

I, Army no. 2512237Y rank NK Charanjeet singh r/o bhagibandar district Bathinda that in my army records my mother's name is registered as baljeet Kaur which is wrong her correct name is baljit Kaur please check my army records my mother's name. Baljit Kaur should be corrected. E-stamp No.IN- PB95413720719063X dated 08-01-2025.

I, Army no. 2512237Y rank NK Charanjeet singh r/o bhagibandar district Bathinda that in my army records my father's name is registered as baljeet Kaur which is wrong her correct date of birth is 01-01-1971 please check my army records. The date of birth of my father Thana Singh should be corrected as 01-01-1971. E-stamp No.IN- PB95414991089663X dated 08-01-2025.

I, Army no. 2512237Y rank NK Charanjeet singh r/o bhagibandar district Bathinda that in my army records my father thana Singh's date of birth is 01-01-1973 which is wrong his correct date of birth is 01-01-1971 please check my army records. The date of birth of my father Thana Singh should be corrected as 01-01-1971. E-stamp No.IN- PB9541411007208X dated 08-01-2025.

I, Jitender Kumar, son of late Sh. Subash, resident of House 5267 sector 38 west Chandigarh declared that in my and my wife's Passport, the name are mentioned as Jitender and Mrs. Vandana w/o Mr. Jitender, we have changed our names from Mr. Jitender to Mr. Jitender Kumar, son of late Sh.Subash and Mrs. Vandana to Mrs. Vandana Chadha wife of Mr. Jitender Kumar

I, Aman Kumar Yadav S/o Jagat Singh, Vill Khohri Distt. Alwar, Rajasthan-301713 Declare that in my service record my wife name is Neelam, which is wrong but her actual name is Neelam Kumari as per her Adhar card vide Affidavit dated 18.09.2024

I, Aman Kumar Yadav S/o Jagat Singh, Vill Khohri Distt. Alwar, Rajasthan-301713 Declare that in my service record my daughter name is Anushka, which is wrong but her actual name is Anushka Yadav as per her Adhar card vide Affidavit dated 18.09.2024

I, Kanaka legally mother of No.15328025N Rank HAV Name Thanji E Unit 440(I) Engr Sqn C/o 56 APO Bathinda Cantt. (Punjab) permanent resident of 3/953A, Kottaimedu, Somanathangal, Ariyapadi, Distt. Tiruvannamalai, State Tamil Nadu-623214 declare that I have changed my name from Kanaka to Kanagammal E and DOB from 01.07.1957 to 23.04.1960 vide affidavit dated 07.01.2025

I, Ramappa legally father of No.16123344H Rank NK Name Shivanand Ramappa Hidakal Unit 4 Engr Regt C/o 56 APO Bathinda Cantt. (Punjab) permanent resident of Satti, Satti, Distt. Belgauam, State Karnataka-591240 declare that I have changed my name from Ramappa to Ramappa Hidakal and DOB from 01.06.1958 to 01.01.1963 vide affidavit dated 08.01.2025

I, Sarita Devi legally spouse of No.15779521L Rank HAV(OFC) Name Ram Ishwar Singh Unit 322 AD Regt C/o 56 APO Bathinda Cantt. (Punjab) permanent resident of Madhusudanpur (CT), Chinsurah-Magra, Distt. Hooghly, State West Bengal-712504 declare that I have changed my DOB from 12.09.1981 to 23.09.1981 vide affidavit No IN-PB960234202525463X dated 09.01.2025

I, Yamanavva legally mother of No.16123344H Rank NK Name Shivanand Ramappa Hidakal Unit 4 Engr Regt C/o 56 APO Bathinda Cantt. (Punjab) permanent resident of Satti, Satti, Distt. Belgauam, State Karnataka-591240 declare that I have changed my name from Yamanavva to Yamanavva Hidakal and DOB from 03.09.1963 to 01.01.1968 vide affidavit dated 08.01.2025

I, Bhimappa legally father of No.16120533F Rank HAV Name Shivparasad Bhimappa Khot Unit 4 Engr Regt C/o 56 APO Bathinda Cantt. (Punjab) permanent resident of Nirvanti, House No. 587, Hidkal, Distt. Belgauam, State Karnataka-591107 declare that I have changed my name from Bhimappa to Bhimappa Siddappa Khot and DOB from 19.04.1966 to 08.01.2025

I, Gangavva legally mother of No.16120533F Rank HAV Name Shivparasad Bhimappa Khot Unit 4 Engr Regt C/o 56 APO Bathinda Cantt. (Punjab) permanent resident of Nirvanti, House No. 587, Hidkal, Distt. Belgauam, State Karnataka-591107 declare that I have changed my name from Gangavva to Gangavva Bhimappa Khot and DOB from 05.01.1966 to 01.01.1974 vide affidavit dated 08.01.2025

I, No. 93098, Rank NK Name Keshab Dutt Sharma S/O Sh. Jay Datt Pandey R/o VPO Tamil, Distt. Champawat, Uttarakhand have changed my name from Neshab Datt to Keshab Dutt Sharma & also my wife date of birth mentioned incorrect as 01-07-1948 in service record. Her correct date of birth is 17-04-1942. Concern Please Note.

I No. 2808874W Rank HAV, Name Ware Bapusahab Sitaram S/o Sitaram Rangnath Ware R/o VPO Pangri, Distt. Beed, Maharashtra declare that my son's name mentioned incorrect as Prathamesh Bapusahab Ware in my service record. His correct name is Prathmesh Bapusahab Ware. Concern please note.

I Paramjeet Kaur W/O Harbaldas R/O Village Hussainpur District Jalandhar Punjab India 144026 Declare That In My Passport My Husband's Name Mentioned As Harbals Whereas The Correct Name Of My Husband Is Harbaldas.

I, Baljinder Singh S/o Sangu Singh R/O Village Barundi, Tehsil & District Ludhiana declare that in my service record my daughter's name is wrongly entered as Navdip Kaur instead of Navdeep Kaur.

I Sukhvinder Singh S/O Wattan Ram Village Sajjana Tehsil Dasuya Distt Hoshiarpur declare that in my Passport No JAL PO3173103 my Father's name Wattan Singh Written Wrongly. Actually My Father Name is Wattan Ram as per his Documents record.

I, No. 2710146A Rank NK Bhagwan Shankar unit 22 Grenadiers C/o 56 APO R/o 6C/3A/1, Ajad Nagar, Khandari, Distt. Agra, State Uttar Pradesh hereby declared that in my service record my wife name wrongly mentioned as Soniya while here correct name is Sonaria may be recorded in service records respectively.

I, Shivanand Guggari S/O Shankar, Mantur, Belgauam, Karnataka-591222 declared that I have changed my son's name Nagarjun to Nagarjun Shivanand Guggari Vide affidavit dated 09-01-2025 by notary Distt. Court Bathinda.

I, Savita spouse of Shivanand Guggari S/O Mantur, Belgauam, Karnataka-591222 declared that I have changed my name Savita to Savita Shivanand Guggari Vide affidavit dated 09-01-2025 by notary Distt. Court Bathinda.

I, No. 15690561X Rank Hav Chandra Prakash R/O Dwarika Nagar Badora Near Mata Mandir Betul Madhya Pradesh-460001 now at unit 2 EW BDE (CAMP) C/o 56 APO declared that my daughter name Yachika is incorrect entered is my service records. But her correct name is Yachika Narware vide affidavit No. QE0023670711 dated 09-01-2025 by notary Distt. Court Bathinda.

I, No. 14667603 W Rank NK Johare Sandip Vasant R/O Koli Wada Shendumi Po. Shendumi Distt. Jalgaon, Maharashtra-424204 now at unit 14(I) ARMD BDE C/o 56 APO declared that my daughter's name Vedika is wrongly entered in my service records. But her correct name is Vedika Sandip Johare vide affidavit dated 09-01-2025 by notary Distt. Court Bathinda.

I, Bhagyashree Sandip Johare spouse of No. 14667603 W Rank NK Johare Sandip Vasant R/O Koli Wada Shendumi Po. Shendumi Distt. Jalgaon, Maharashtra-424204 now at unit 14(I) ARMD BDE C/o 56 APO declared that my name Bhagyashree Sandip Johare is wrongly entered in my husband service records. But my correct name is Bhagyashri Sandip Johare vide affidavit dated 09-01-2025 by notary Distt. Court Bathinda.

I, Shivanand Guggari S/O Shankar R/o Mantur Belgauam, Karnataka-591222 declared that I have changed my daughter's name Sannidi to Sannidi Shivanand Guggari vide affidavit dated 09-01-25 by notary Distt. Court Bathinda.

I, Lilabai mother of No. 14667603 W Rank NK Johare Sandip Vasant R/O Koli Wada Shendumi Po. Shendumi Distt. Jalgaon, Maharashtra-424204 now at unit 14(I) ARMD BDE C/o 56 APO declared that my name Lilabai and DOB 01-07-1965 is wrongly entered in my son's service records. But my correct name is Lilabai Vasant Johare and DOB 01-01-1965 vide affidavit dated 09-01-2025 by notary Distt. Court Bathinda.

I, Koutika Mother of No. 15690561X Rank Hav Chandra Prakash R/O Dwarika Nagar Badora, Near Mata Mandir Betul, Madhya Pradesh-46001 now at unit 2 EDY BDE (CAMP) C/o 56 APO declared that my name Koutika and DOB 01-07-1966 is wrongly entered in my son's service records. But my correct name is Koutika Narware and DOB 01-01-1965 vide affidavit No. QE0023670712 dated 09-01-2025 by notary Distt. Court Bathinda.

I, Vasant father of No. 14667603 W Rank NK Johare Sandip Vasant R/O Koli Wada Shendumi Po. Shendumi Distt. Jalgaon, Maharashtra-424204 now at unit 14(I) ARMD BDE C/o 56 APO declared that my name Vasant and DOB 01-07-1968 is wrongly entered in my son's service records. But my correct name is Vasant Hari Johare and DOB 01-06-1959 vide affidavit dated 09-01-2025 by notary Distt. Court Bathinda.

I, Komal Narware Father of No. 15690561X Rank Hav Chandra Prakash R/O Dwarika Nagar Badora, Near Mata Mandir Betul, Madhya Pradesh-460001 now at unit 2 EW BDE (CAMP) C/o 56 APO declared that my DOB 01-07-1959 is wrongly entered in my son's service records. But my correct DOB is 01-07-1950 vide affidavit No. QE0023670713 dated 09-01-2025 by notary Distt. Court Bathinda.

I, D.C. Singh S/o Sajan Singh R/O Mirpur Khurd Teh: Sardulgarh (Mansa) informs that my name is Gurcharan Singh on the voter card which is wrong. While my name is D.C. Singh in all the other papers is registered. Which is correct.

I Shinder Kaur W/O D.C. Singh R/O Mirpur Khurd Teh: Sardulgarh (Mansa) informs that my husband's name is Gurcharan Singh on my voter card. Which is wrong. Whereas in all my other papers my husband's name is D.C. Singh is registered. My husband's real name is D.C. Singh.

I, Babbal wife of Army 14412639L Ex Hav Joseph S/O Thomas Resident of VPO Mukdi , Gill Road Tehsil and Distt Ferozpur Punjab, have changed my name from Babbal to Mohinderjit Kaur and also changed my date of birth from 10 May 1975 to 01 Feb 1976 in my husband Army Service Records and shall hereafter be known as my New Name Mohinderjit Kaur as per affidavit dated 09 Jan 2025.

I, Mohinder Kaur wife of Kirpal Singh and mother of Arpyl No 2487521F Ex Nk Darshan Singh Resident of VPO Tumber Bhan Tehsil and Distt Ferozpur Punjab, have changed my name from Mohinder Kaur to Mahinder Kaur and I also changed my date of birth from 01 Jul 1955 to 10 Jun 1952 in my son Army Service Records and shall hereafter be known as my New Name Mahinder Kaur as per affidavit dated 09 Jan 2025.

CHANGE OF NAME

मैं, पूजा पत्नी राहुल निवासी थिकताना तेहसील व जिला हिसार, हरियाणा ब्यान करती हूँ कि मेरा बँक खाता मैं नाम रून् हे तथा अन्य सभी कागजात रिकार्ड मैं रून् नाम मेरे ही हैं और मैं उपरोक्त दोनों नामों से जानी/पहचानी जाती हूँ।

I, Urmila Devi Wife of Sh. Anup Kumar Gupta R/O #2057/1, Sector 47-C, Chandigarh have changed my name from Urmila Devi to Urmil Gupta for the officials and unofficial purposes.

I, Shikha Bisht Spouse of D S Bisht R/o #286, Maan House, Behlana, Chandigarh have changed my name from Shikha Bisht to Shikha Khanayat vide Affidavit No-IN-CH54057789316451X Dated 08-01-2025 before Notary, Distt. Court at Chandigarh.

I, Pradeep Father of Drishti R/O #1367, Sector 47B, Chandigarh have changed my Daughter name from Drishti to Drishti Sangwan vide Affidavit No -IN-CH53805681226331W Dated 08-01-2025 before Notary, Distt. Court at Chandigarh.

I, Pradeep Father of Naira Sangwan R/O #1367, Sector 47B, Chandigarh have changed my Daughter name from Naira Sangwan to Rhee Sangwan vide Affidavit No - IN-CH53805640418914W Dated 08-01-2025 before Notary, Distt. Court at Chandigarh.

I, Tushar s/o Pardeep Kumar r/o House No. 286, A/12, Bhatta Colony, Near Lakshmi Narayan Temple, Fatehabad, Tehsil & District Fatehabad Haryana 125050 have changed my name from Tushar to Tushar Tuteja for all future purposes.

I, Sumesh Mehta S/o Sh. Ramesh Kumar Mehta R/O 711/17, Old DC Road, Opp. Man Mandir, Prem Colony, Sonapat, Haryana have changed my name to Sumesh Kumar Mehta for all future purposes.

I, Ramesh Mehta S/o Sh. Dharam Pal Mehta R/O 711/17, Old DC Road, Opp. Man Mandir, Prem Colony, Sonapat, Haryana have changed my name to Ramesh Kumar Mehta for all future purposes.

I, Neelu Gera W/o Tarun Gera R/O Village Bhiridana, Tehsil & Distt. Fatehabad declare that I have changed my name Neelu to Neelu Gera. In future I will be known by Neelu Gera.

I Jawahar Lal Arora S/O Vishan Nath R/o H.No. B-1/2272, Baniyani wala Mohalla, Rajpura, Distt. Patiala, have changed my name to Jawahar Arora.

I, Sunita Alias Sunita Gupta D/O Banarsi Dass Jindpal W/O Babu Ram Goel R/O House Number-Dn-23, Old Gurmandi Ward No.14 Samalkha, Samalkha Panipat Haryana-132101 Have Changed My Name To Sunita Gupta.

I, Sunil Singh S/O Sh. Bikram Singh, R/O 38/1, Sector 41-A, Chandigarh. That I have changed name of minor son age 11years, Aniket Singh Bisht to Aniket Singh.

I, Sushma Devi D/o Kaka Singh R/O House no 5265/1 Modern Housing complex, Manimajra Chandigarh have changed my name from Sushma Devi to Shreya Thakur.

I, Monika Devi W/o Rajesh Kumar R/O Village Sanwla, Tehsil Thanesar, District Kurukshetra, have changed my name from Monika Devi to Monika.

I, Dilbagh S/o Hari Chand R/O village Ballana, Tehsil Sampla, District Rohtak, state that my name has been mistakenly recorded as Dilbagh Singh Sindhu in the allotment letter No. No/HSIIDC/IMT/RTK/2016/552 dated 01/03/2016 of my plot no. 188 situated in Sector 30-B, IMT Rohtak whereas my correct name is Dilbagh. Now I want to get my correct name Dilbagh recorded in my allotment letter.

I, Shyam Kishore S/O Radhey Shyam R/o #K-201, Shivalki Vihar, Vill. Pabhat, Zirakpur, SAS Nagar, Mohali have changed my name from Shyam Kishore to Shyam Kishore Aggarwal.

I, Bal Krishan S/o Om Parkash R/o #117, Parade Mohalla, Near Gandhi Chowk, Distt.Panchkula (Haryana) declare that Bal Krishan Chauhan & Bal Krishan both are my name.

I, Krishan Lal s/o Shobh Raj r/o Kalotha, Tehsil Ratia, District Fatehabad Haryana 125051 declare that in some documents my name mentioned as Krishan Lal and in my passport my name mentioned as Krishan Lal Multti. Krishan Lal & Krishan Lal Multti both name are mine and one person.

I kush kumar s/o Nevneet goel, r/o H-20 jai city, jagadhru Distt. Yamunanagar, that I have change my name from kush kumar to kush kumar goel .

I, Bhupinder Kaur, wife of Gurbachan Singh, resident of village Jabo Majra sub tehsil Ghanour tehsil Rajpura district Patiala state that Harvinder Kaur alias Bhupinder Kaur are both names of the same woman i.e. my name.

I, Ishwer Chand Bansal s/o Jagdish Rai R/O 112, NAC, Shivalki Enclave, Manimajra, Chandigarh - 160101, do hereby change my name to Ishwar Chand

I, Parmeet Kaur Natt D/o Iqbal Singh R/O Flat no. 1101, Block-C green Lotus Avenue village Singhpura Zirakpur SAS Nagar Mohali, have changed my name from Parmeet Kaur Natt to Parmeet Kaur.

I, Anchala Rani W/O Sh. Amit Arora R/o 1182 mori gate manimajra Chandigarh have changed my name from Anchala Rani to Anchala Arora.

I, Varinder Pal Singh s/o Dalo Singh, 81/7 sugar mill colony Yamunanagar, That I have change my name from varinder pal singh to Vandere Pal Singh.

I, Drishti Dhall W/o Vipul Gambhir, D/O Sh. Gulshan Kumar, R/O H.No., 181-A, Ward no. 28, Bharat Colony, Distt. Rohtak, Haryana declare that my name is Drishti Dhall W/o Vipul Gambhir and in my passport my name is Drishti Dhall. Now I want to change my name from Drishti Dhall D/o Sh. Gulshan Kumar to Drishti Dhall W/o Vipul Gambhir. Which is correct.

I, Ravinder Kumar S/O Ram Dhan R/O VPO Bainsi, Teh. & Distt. Rohtak, Haryana- 124001 declare that in my Aadhar Card and Voter Card my name is Ravinder and in my 10th & 12th class marksheet my name is Ravinder Kumar. Ravinder Kumar and Ravinder is the same and one person. In future I will be known as Ravinder.

I, Heena Rani W/o Sh. Deepanshu Kaushal R/O 190, Police Line Area, Hisar hereby declare that I have changed my name from Heena Kaushal to Heena Rani and for all future purposes I need to be addressed with this name.

I, Jugalkishore S/o Inder Sain Bansal R/O 313 A/9, Patram Rice Mill, Patram Nagar, Narwana, Jind, Haryana 126116 declare that I have changed my name from Jugalkishore to Jugalkishor Bansal for all future purpose.

I, Suman W/o Sunil R/O Village Dhani Landhari Sukh Lambran, Hisar Teh. and Distt. Hisar, Haryana declare that I have changed the name of my minor son from Ayush to Ayush Jyani for all future purpose.

I, Hitherto Known As Ashwani Kumar S/O Om Prakash, Residing At H No. 28, Street No 5, National Avenue Colony, Dakoha, Rama Mandi, Jalandhar, Punjab 144023, Have Changed My Name And Shall Hereafter Be Known As Ashwani Kumar Sharma.

I, Prabhat Singh father of No.13767047K Hav Rajeev Chand Unit 11 Jk Rif C/o 56 Apo that in my son's army service record my name has been wrongly entered as Prabhat Singh but my correct name is Prabhat Chand vide affidavit No.IN-PB94771549742140X DT.06.01.2025 before Executive Magistrate Amritsar

I, hitherto Known as Nandini wife of Rahul residing at H.No.38, Dream City, Gali No.1, Near Life Care Hospital, Chabal Road, Amritsar-143001 Punjab have changed my name and Shall hereafter be known as Saruchi Verma.

I, hitherto known as Komal Wife of Jagjit Singh residing at Harike, District Tan Taran-143412 Punjab have changed my name and shall hereafter be known as Komalpreet Kaur

I, hitherto Known as Gurinderjit Singh Kaler Son of Avtar Singh residing at Village and Post Office Kaler Kalan Tehsil and District Gurdaspur143519 Punjab have changed my name and Shall hereafter be known as Gurinderjit Singh

I, Bibi Maleka Mother Of Service No 15787374H Rank Nk(Dmt) Name Md Ismail Of Unit 105 Ad Regt C/O 56 Apo R/O Vpo-Gangadabi, Tehsil- Chanchal, Distt-Malda Town, State-West Bengal, Pin-732139 Have Changed My Name From Bibi Maleka To Muleka Vide Affidavit Dated 09-01-2025 Before Ambala Cantt.

I Joginder Sharma S/o Churu Ram Sharma R/O House no. 2009, Gali no. 03, Jaura Fatak, Hari Singh Nagar, Amritsar, Punjab 143001 also resident of Village Muhai, Tehsil Dehra, Distt. Kangra declare that Joginder Sharma, Joginder Kumar and Joginder Kumar Sharma are the names of one and the same person and i am known by these names.

I, Bal Krishan S/o Om Parkash R/o #117, Parade Mohalla, Near Gandhi Chowk, Distt.Panchkula (Haryana) declare that Bal Krishan Chauhan & Bal Krishan both are my name.

I, Krishan Lal s/o Shobh Raj r/o Kalotha, Tehsil Ratia, District Fatehabad Haryana 125051 declare that in some documents my name mentioned as Krishan Lal and in my passport my name mentioned as Krishan Lal Multti. Krishan Lal & Krishan Lal Multti both name are mine and one person.

I kush kumar s/o Nevneet goel, r/o H-20 jai city, jagadhru Distt. Yamunanagar, that I have change my name from kush kumar to kush kumar goel .

I, Bhupinder Kaur, wife of Gurbachan Singh, resident of village Jabo Majra sub tehsil Ghanour tehsil Rajpura district Patiala state that Harvinder Kaur alias Bhupinder Kaur are both names of the same woman i.e. my name.

I, Ishwer Chand Bansal s/o Jagdish Rai R/O 112, NAC, Shivalki Enclave, Manimajra, Chandigarh - 160101, do hereby change my name to Ishwar Chand

I, Parmeet Kaur Natt D/o Iqbal Singh R/O Flat no. 1101, Block-C green Lotus Avenue village Singhpura Zirakpur SAS Nagar Mohali, have changed my name from Parmeet Kaur Natt to Parmeet Kaur.

I, Anchala Rani W/O Sh. Amit Arora R/o 1182 mori gate manimajra Chandigarh have changed my name from Anchala Rani to Anchala Arora.

I, Varinder Pal Singh s/o Dalo Singh, 81/7 sugar mill colony Yamunanagar, That I have change my name from varinder pal singh to Vandere Pal Singh.

I, Drishti Dhall W/o Vipul Gambhir, D/O Sh. Gulshan Kumar, R/O H.No., 181-A, Ward no. 28, Bharat Colony, Distt. Rohtak, Haryana declare that my name is Drishti Dhall W/o Vipul Gambhir and in my passport my name is Drishti Dhall. Now I want to change my name from Drishti Dhall D/o Sh. Gulshan Kumar to Drishti Dhall W/o Vipul Gambhir. Which is correct.

I, Ravinder Kumar S/O Ram Dhan R/O VPO Bainsi, Teh. & Distt. Rohtak, Haryana- 124001 declare that in my Aadhar Card and Voter Card my name is Ravinder and in my 10th & 12th class marksheet my name is Ravinder Kumar. Ravinder Kumar and Ravinder is the same and one person. In future I will be known as Ravinder.

I, Heena Rani W/o Sh. Deepanshu Kaushal R/O 190, Police Line Area, Hisar hereby declare that I have changed my name from Heena Kaushal to Heena Rani and for all future purposes I need to be addressed with this name.

I, Jugalkishore S/o Inder Sain Bansal R/O 313 A/9

New schemes to be introduced in Budget to make farmers economically prosperous, says Hry CM

PNS ■ CHANDIGARH

Haryana Chief Minister Nayab Singh Saini on Thursday said our goal is to enhance farmers' income and make them economically prosperous and the double engine government is working towards it. He said that the upcoming budget must include provisions aimed at increasing farmers' profits to empower them economically.

Saini was addressing a pre-budget consultation meeting at Chaudhary Charan Singh Haryana Agricultural University in Hisar. On the occasion, suggestions were sought from progressive farmers regarding their upliftment. Agriculture and Farmers Welfare Minister Shyam Singh Rana, Public Health Engineering Minister Ranbir Gangwa, MLA Vinod Bhyana and Randhir Panihar were also present.

During the discussion, Saini engaged in one-on-one interactions with the farmers. In the first session, over 52 suggestions were shared by the farmers. Along with progressive farmers, agricultural experts also participated in the session. In the second session, discussions were held with farmers associated with Farmer Producer Organizations (FPOs), and members of the FPO federation also contributed their suggestions.

The Chief Minister said that the suggestions shared during today's discussions will be incorporated into the upcoming budget. The state government is particularly focused on the welfare of farmers, with special attention being given to increasing their



income and strengthening their position. He said that agriculture contributes 18 percent to Haryana's GDP and expressed the government's intention to implement measures that would ensure small landholding farmers can earn a good income. For this, initiatives like e-mandi and other options are being developed.

Saini remarked that, in the past, transporting produce to the market was a significant challenge. However, the country's road and rail connectivity network has been significantly strengthened, making it easier to transport crops across regions. He highlighted the progress made by the country over the last 10 years, particularly under the Prime Minister's leadership. Today, the government is introducing new initiatives to benefit farmers, including the promotion of organic farming.

He urged farmers to adopt crop diversification, encouraging them to move away from traditional farming practices and said that diversification could significantly increase farmers' income. He also encouraged farmers to focus on the production of coarse grains. During his address, he highlighted the success of strawberry farming in village Syadnwa, Hisar, praising the

hard work of local farmers in cultivating strawberries. He also mentioned the cultivation of Kinnow in Sirsa and stressed that farmers must explore innovative approaches beyond traditional farming to improve their income and achieve sustainable growth.

Saini said that the state government has launched a portal for receiving suggestions related to the General Budget of Haryana for the year 2025-26. Through this portal, common citizens, progressive farmers, and representatives associated with Farmer Producer Organizations (FPOs) can submit their suggestions. These suggestions would be taken into account and incorporated into the budget, the Chief Minister assured.

'This year's Budget will focus on the welfare of every Section'

Addressing the function after inaugurating Part-II of the Agri-Tourism Center at CCSHAU in Hisar, the Chief Minister said that this year's budget will be prepared with the interests of all sections of society in mind. To ensure its inclusivity, suggestions are being gathered from diverse groups. During the event, he also launched a coffee-table book titled "Poshan Utsav",

which was prepared by the Deen Dayal Shodh Sansthan.

Saini emphasized that the Agri-Tourism Center, built at a cost of Rs. 5.60 crore, would serve as a valuable platform to educate the public about farming practices. He highlighted its potential in helping the people of Haryana by sharing the traditional farming methods used by previous generations. In line with the government's current priorities, the Chief Minister stressed the importance of improving dietary habits to combat malnutrition, particularly among children and women.

Later, while interacting with the media persons, the Chief Minister said that BJP takes every election seriously. Regarding the Delhi elections, he expressed confidence that the results would favor the BJP and that under the leadership of PM Modi, the party would form the government in Delhi. He criticized Arvind Kejriwal for making unrealistic promises to the people of Delhi over the past decade.

In response to another question about local body elections in Haryana, the Chief Minister said that the party is fully prepared. He added that the party would decide whether to contest the elections with or without a symbol.

Punjab Raj Bhavan Hosts dialogue on Drug Prevention with Educationists of Punjab



PNS ■ CHANDIGARH

The Punjab Raj Bhavan on Thursday hosted a dialogue on drug awareness with educationists of Punjab in association with the Joshi Foundation, Khanna Foundation, Grewal Foundation, and Sampla Foundation. During the event, academicians from about 50 universities, schools and other higher education institutes expressed their views and pledged full support to effectively address the issue of drug abuse in Punjab.

In his address, Punjab Governor Gulab Chand Kataria highlighted the evil of the drug menace, emphasizing that it is not just a regional problem but a national crisis, particularly alarming in Punjab. He stated, "This war against drugs can only be won through the joint efforts of all sections of society, including the government, social organizations, educational institutions, NGOs, and other stakeholders. Enforcing laws is important, but it alone cannot solve the problem. Spreading awareness across all sections of society is equally crucial." The Governor underscored the importance of leveraging modern communication tools, such as social media, to spread awareness about the threats of drug abuse. He further suggested organizing public marches and community-driven campaigns to foster a collective response against this social evil.

Harjeet Singh Grewal, Founder-Director of Grewal Foundation, extended his full support for this noble cause. Avinash Rai Khanna, Former Member of Rajya Sabha and Director of Khanna Foundation, stressed the need for collective efforts to eradicate this menace, especially by running awareness programs at the senior secondary school level to educate young students about the ill effects of drugs. A collective resolve was made to strengthen awareness campaigns, support rehabilitation efforts, and work collaboratively to create a drug-free society.

the unique challenges posed by the current wave of synthetic drugs, describing them as more life-threatening than traditional drugs. He pointed out that this has become a lucrative business for anti-social and anti-national elements, creating an even more urgent need for a focused and united approach.

The dialogue also featured key contributions from many of those present. Vineet Joshi, Founder of the Vineet Joshi Foundation, introduced participants from various schools and colleges and shared practical remedies to combat drug abuse. Vijay Sampla, Former Minister of State for Social Justice and Empowerment, highlighted the importance of utilizing drug rehabilitation centers effectively. He emphasized the need to accept and support addicts, helping them reintegrate into society instead of discriminating against them.

Kataria also acknowledged

SAD working committee meet today to decide on Badal's resignation

PNS ■ CHANDIGARH

The Shiromani Akali Dal (SAD) has convened a meeting of its working committee on Friday to take a call on the resignation of Sukhbir Singh Badal as party chief and also announce the schedule of the membership drive to pave the way for its restructuring. The decision came after a delegation of the SAD met Akal Takht Jathedar Giani Ragbir Singh in Amritsar.

Senior party leader and former minister Daljit Singh Cheema said SAD working president Balwinder Singh Bhundar has convened the meeting. Cheema said besides considering the resignation of Badal, the party would also announce the schedule for the membership drive, besides discussing all important issues related to the state.

The Akal Takht Jathedar on Monday had asked the SAD to implement the edict, announced on December 2 last year, at the earliest, as he was referring to the direction of accepting the resignation of Badal as party chief. While pronouncing religious punishment for Badal and other leaders for the "mistakes" committed by the SAD and its government in Punjab from 2007 to 2017 on December 2 last year, the Akal Takht had also directed that SAD's working committee to accept the resignation of Badal as party chief and other leaders. Badal had undergone the religious

punishment but the SAD's working committee was yet to accept his resignation, which he tendered in November last year. He was declared 'tankhaiya' (guilty of religious misconduct) by the Akal Takht, the highest temporal seat of Sikhs, on August 30 last year and subsequently tendered his resignation as the party chief on November 16 last year but the party's working committee did not accept his resignation.

The SAD delegation led by Cheema apprised the Akal Takht Jathedar that as according to the party's constitution, it was only the working committee which could decide about the membership drive. "A decision with regard to the membership drive is to be taken by the party's working committee," said Cheema. He said the Jathedar agreed to the contention of the delegation. "The Jathedar told us to act as per the party's constitution and said the party should not suffer. We thank the Jathedar for agreeing to it," Cheema told reporters in Amritsar.

The SAD had earlier apprised the Jathedar through the seven-member committee formed by the Akal Takht might lead to losing its recognition from the Election Commission of India as a political party should run in a secular manner and not as per the directions of a religious body. The party had also submitted a legal opinion in this regard to the Jathedar.

Hry Police ranked first in Country in preventing cyber fraud in year 2024: DGP

PNS ■ CHANDIGARH

Haryana Director General of Police (DGP) Shatruejt Kapur on Thursday said that State Police ranked first in the country in preventing cyber fraud in the year 2024. State Police saved approximately Rs 268.40 crore from cybercriminals, compared to Rs 76.85 crore in 2023. Thus, three times more money was saved from cybercriminals in 2024 compared to 2023 and five times more than in 2022, he added.

DGP said that State Police is also taking strict action against cybercriminals and sending them behind bars. In 2022, 2165 cases were registered against cybercriminals, while in 2023, 2747 cases and in 2024, 5511 cases were registered. Similarly, in 2022, the State Police arrested 1078; in 2023, 1909 were arrested and in 2024, 5156 cyber criminals were arrested. Out of the total criminals arrested in 2024, 70 per cent (3555 criminals) are from other states. On an average, 14 cyber criminals were arrested daily by the State Police in 2024.

Kapur further said that effective efforts are being made by the Haryana Police to return the amount blocked from the cybercriminals to the victim's account. Rs 33 crore was refunded to cyber fraud victims in 2023, which was increased to Rs

95 crore 45 lakh 14359 (almost three times) by November 2024. All 29 cyber police stations in the state have been instructed to refund the money back to the victims through Lok Adalat, so that people do not have to go to courts to get the money. Punjab and Haryana High Court on the request of Haryana Police has issued orders to all District and Session courts to abolish the requirement of filing an FIR to refund, so that the fraudulent amount can be refunded without any delay.

DGP further said that in 2024, the team of the Indian Cyber Crime Coordination Center (I4C) of the Government of India, along with Google and other fintech companies, visited the Haryana Police's Cyber Helpline-1930 and appreciated its functioning. Along with this, the cyber teams of Uttar Pradesh, Rajasthan, and Delhi also studied the work of cyber security of the Haryana Police and expressed their interest to implement the best practices here in their respective states, DGP added.

Punjab Police arrests 1 person with 3 pistols

PNS ■ CHANDIGARH

Counter Intelligence (CI) Amritsar has busted a Pakistan-backed weapon smuggling racket being operated by absconding smuggler Manjot Singh alias Mannu from Dubai with the arrest of its one operative, Punjab Director General of Police (DGP) Punjab Gaurav Yadav said on Thursday.

The arrested person has been identified as Gurpreet Singh alias Kaka, a native of village Havellian in Tarn Taran and currently residing at village Saidpur in Amritsar Rural. Police teams have also recovered three sophisticated pistols—two 9MM Glock and one .30 bore China Made Pistol—along with 4 cartridges, besides, impounding his grey coloured Honda Activa scooter, which he was riding.

Yadav said that following a reliable input that a foreign-based

Indian individual Manjot Singh alias Mannu has been operating a weapon smuggling racket through Pakistan with the help of following his India based individuals, CI Amritsar has launched an intel-based operation and arrested the accused Gurpreet Singh at a Special Naka at village Khurmanian Amritsar on link road from village Ram Tirath, when he was going to deliver the weapon consignment.

He said that preliminary investigation has revealed that Manjot Singh is the kingpin of this network and was using encrypted apps to contact his Pakistan-based weapon smugglers. The arrested accused used to retrieve weapon consignment dropped using drones from across the border and further supply it to the gangsters in various cities of Punjab on the directions of accused Manjot, he added.

Punjab Police's Cyber Crime Division arrests 4 for manipulating Anaaj Kharid Portal

PNS ■ CHANDIGARH

Punjab Police's State Cybercrime Division has unearthed an Minimum

Support Price (MSP) payment fraud with the arrest of four individuals involved in manipulating the Anaaj Kharid Portal to divert crop payments from farmers to their own bank accounts. Additional Director General of Police (ADGP) Cybercrime Division V Neeraja said on Thursday.

Those arrested have been identified as Manish, Jasvir Singh, Angrej Singh and Balwinder Singh. Police teams have also recovered digital devices and routers used by them to commit the fraud. Neeraja said that the accused used an innovative modus operandi to divert the payment of crop of the farmers to their accounts fraudulently by replacing the mobile numbers of the farmers with their mobile numbers and thereafter using the same to update bank account information of the farmers. To avoid detection, the accused would restore the original details immediately after the payment was processed, she said, while adding that a state wide operation is being conducted to nab the other accused persons involved in the scam.

A complaint was received from Food and Civil Supplies Department, Punjab in which it came to light that some farmers have not received the payment of selling their crops during the 2024 paddy season. Further verification revealed that the payment of these farmers has been credited to various bank accounts belonging to different persons. The ADGP said that during preliminary enquiry, IP records and other data was scrutinized

and information regarding the bank accounts, which revealed the details regarding the unauthorised access of the Anaaj Kharid Portal and the diversion of the crop payment in different accounts.

During the investigation, it was also revealed that a mobile number and a mobile device was purchased from District SAS Nagar on fake identity, which was used to obtain OTPs for altering the bank accounts of farmers on Anaaj Kharid Portal and the gang was running their operation from remote areas of Sri Muktsar Sahib, she said, while adding that an internet connection was also installed for the purpose of unauthorised access of the Portal and altering the bank records of the farmers.

ADGP V Neeraja said that three teams from Cybercrime Division headed by Insp Jujhar Singh, Insp Deepak Bhatia and SI Ranjit used multiple OSINT techniques to establish the whereabouts of the accused, which led to the arrest of four persons from areas of District Moga and District Sri Muktsar Sahib. Further questioning of the arrested accused is underway to identify the involvement of more persons, she said, while not ruling out the connivance of any officials of Mandi Board or Food Supply Department and commission agents, who might have shared sensible information and technical glitches of the Anaaj Kharid portal with the masterminds of the scam. Raids are being conducted to arrest the remaining accused in the case, she added.

BRIEFS

COLD WEATHER CONDITIONS PERSIST IN PUNJAB HARYANA

Chandigarh: Cold weather conditions continued to persist in Punjab and Haryana on Thursday with Moga being the coldest place as it recorded the minimum temperature of 2.3 degrees Celsius. Fog was observed in some parts of the states early in the morning. In Punjab, Amritsar recorded a low of 4.8 degrees Celsius, according to a meteorological department report.

Patiala recorded a low of 4.2 degrees Celsius, three degrees below normal, while Ludhiana, Pathankot, Bathinda, Faridkot and Gurdaspur districts experienced cold weather conditions at 6.2, 3.3, 5, 2.6 and 5 degrees Celsius respectively. In Haryana, Sonapat recorded a low of 3.1 degrees Celsius. Among other places, Ambala's minimum was 7.6 degrees Celsius. Hisar, Karnal, Narnaul, Rohtak, Bhiwani and Sirsa recorded their respective minimum temperatures of 3.5, 3.5, 4, 5.7, 4.9 and 5 degrees Celsius. Chandigarh recorded a low of 6.1 degrees Celsius, two natches below normal.

HIMACHAL GUV RETURNS BILL BARRING PENSION TO DISQUALIFIED MLAS TO STATE GOVT

Shimla: Himachal Pradesh Governor Shiv Pratap Shukla has returned to the state government a Bill that bars legislators disqualified under the anti-defection law from drawing pensions and sought clarifications on several counts. The Himachal Pradesh Legislative Assembly (Allowances and Pension of Members (Amendment) Bill, 2024, was passed on September 4 last year. It prevents the members of the House disqualified under the 10th Schedule of the Constitution -- anti-defection law -- from drawing pensions. The Bill affects six former Congress MLAs, who were disqualified by the Speaker for defying the whip and abstaining from the House during discussions on cut motions and passing of the Budget in February last year. Shukla has sent back the bill to the state government with some objections on which clarifications have been sought, an official said. According to sources, there are apprehensions that the bill cannot be implemented with retrospective effect. The six former MLAs who will be impacted due to the Bill are Sudhir Sharma, Inder Dutt Lakhanpal, Rajinder Rana, Devinder Kumar Bhutto, Chetanya Sharma and Ravi Thakur. All of them had voted in favour of BJP nominee Harsh Mahajan during the Rajya Sabha elections held in February. All six had contested the bypolls on BJP tickets earlier this year. While Sudhir Sharma and Lakhanpal got re-elected, the other four lost.

MUST STUDY LEGISLATIVE PROCESS IN DEPTH TO RESOLVE ISSUES: HRY SPEAKER

Chandigarh: Haryana Vidhan Sabha Speaker Harvinder Kalyan on Thursday said that expanding one's capabilities and knowledge is a continuous process in life and training helps to improve our skills and develops knowledge. Speaking at the closing ceremony of the two-day capacity building programme organized for officers/employees of Haryana Vidhan Sabha at the Mahatma Gandhi State Institute of Public Administration, Sector 26, Chandigarh, Kalyan said the programme was organized to further improve the working style of the Assembly. Institutions progress only due to the hard work of those working in them. We all should keep acquiring as much knowledge as possible and keep sharing it with others. The officers and employees do the work of giving feedback to the Assembly members, which is very important.

BJP GOVT IN HRY COULD NOT ESTABLISH ANY BIG INSTITUTION: HOODA

Sonapat: Former Chief Minister Bhupinder Singh Hooda on Thursday alleged that BJP led Haryana Government did nothing except increasing the debt on the state. "During the Congress tenure, Haryana was number one on every scale of per capita income, per capita investment and development. But despite being in power for 10 years, the BJP could not establish any big institution or project in the state, and it has no achievements to show," he added. After inaugurating the new chambers of lawyers built for the Kharkhoda Bar Association, Hooda said that the BJP government has proved to be a failure on every front, from law and order to development.

UT CHIEF SECY LAUNCHES STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURES FOR MONITORING OF DRUG FREE CAMPUSES

Chandigarh: Rajeev Verma, Chief Secretary, UT Chandigarh on Thursday launched the standard operating procedures (SOPs) along with the checklist for declaring Higher education institutions drug free campuses. Prerna Puri, Secretary Education, apprised that 17 VADA clubs have been established in higher education institutions across all the colleges in Chandigarh by the Department of Higher Education in partnership with the Department of Social Welfare, Women and Child Development. These clubs align with the "Nasha Mukht Bharat Abhiyaan" launched by Prime Minister Narendra Modi and the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment in 2020. Speaking on the occasion, Chief Secretary Verma said that similar SOPs may be developed for schools in Chandigarh and there should be greater synergy between school and colleges so that the evil should be nipped at the earliest.

HARYANA TO LAUNCH 'HARYANVI MAHOTSAV': MINISTER

Chandigarh: To celebrate the achievements of Haryanvi expatriates, Haryana Government is set to launch a new initiative called 'Haryanvi Mahotsav'. This announcement was made by Heritage and Tourism Minister Arvind Sharma during the 18th Pravasi Bharatiya Divas Conference, inaugurated by Prime Minister Narendra Modi at Bhubaneswar in Odisha on Thursday. He said, "The 'Haryanvi Mahotsav' is aimed to celebrate and harness the potential of Haryanvi expatriates, contributing to the state's vibrant economic and cultural landscape." Sharma represented Haryana at the conference, held a dialogue session with over 50 countries' expatriates. He discussed opportunities in education, sports, business, youth, and women's entrepreneurship, inviting the diaspora to engage with Haryana's development. "The Haryanvi Sabha" at this conference is a platform to gather ideas and suggestions from the global Haryanvi community. Outstanding Haryanvi will be honored, fostering a sense of pride and belonging," stated Dr. Sharma. He conveyed Chief Minister Nayab Singh Saini's invitation for non-resident Haryanvis to contribute to Haryana's cultural and economic growth.

CHANDIGARH POLO CLUB TO HOST POLO EXHIBITION MATCHES DURING MAGHI MELA

Chandigarh: As part of the Maghi Mela celebrations, the Chandigarh Polo Club (CPC) has been invited to organize polo exhibition matches under the aegis of the Punjab Horse Show on January 11-12 at Muktsar. The event is aimed to promote polo and equestrian sports in the region, rekindling interest in this regal game. The two-day event will feature three teams—Chandigarh Polo Club, Punjab Polo Team, and Team Servicemen—competing in three thrilling exhibition matches. Notably, several servicemen will be participating, bringing their discipline and sportsmanship to the matches. Their inclusion adds a unique dimension to the event, emphasizing camaraderie and unity through sport. Chandigarh Polo Club hosted the Maharaja Ranjit Singh National Polo Tournament in the first week of December 2024 under the aegis of the Indian Polo Association.

PUNJAB GOVT TO CONSTRUCT 1419 ANGANWADI CENTERS

Chandigarh: The Punjab Government will construct 1419 Anganwadi centers to promote the holistic development of women and children. These centers will be established at a cost of ₹200 crore and existing Anganwadi centers will be upgraded to improve their infrastructure, Baljit Kaur, the Minister for Social Security, Women and Child Development said. During a press conference at Punjab Bhawan, Kaur stated that the government is committed to the overall development of women and children across the state. The plan includes constructing new Anganwadi centers, upgrading existing ones, providing improved sanitation facilities, and equipping centers with furniture and other necessary amenities. She also mentioned that graftity will be done at these centers to enhance the development of children. The Minister emphasized that this initiative is not just about building structures but about creating a conducive environment for the physical, cognitive and emotional development of children.

Himachal Cabinet pays tributes to Dr Manmohan Singh, HIPA renamed after him

PNS ■ Shimla

The Himachal Pradesh Cabinet, in its meeting held under the Chairmanship of Chief Minister Sukhvir Singh Sukhu on Thursday, paid rich tributes to former Prime Minister Dr. Manmohan Singh and observed two minutes of silence in his memory. The Cabinet acknowledged his significant contributions to the nation and to Himachal Pradesh's development and noted that several key projects in the state were realized due to Dr. Singh's vision and support. These include the Atal Tunnel, three medical colleges, the ESIC Hospital at Ner Chowk, IIT Mandi, IIIT Una, the Central University, and the National Institute of Fashion Technology (NIFT) in Kangra.

It was also mentioned that Dr. Manmohan Singh's tenure as Prime Minister and Union Finance Minister was transformative and his initiatives such as the Right to Information Act, Right to Education Act, MNREGA, the Food Security Act, introduction of Aadhaar, Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT), and the historic loan waiver for

72 lakh farmers were highlighted as milestones. The Indo-US Nuclear Deal during his Prime Ministership was hailed as a strategic achievement with lasting benefits for India. As Union Finance Minister, he was instrumental in pulling the country out of an economic crisis and laying the strong foundation for economic reforms that reshaped India's financial landscape.

The Cabinet gave its nod to rename Himachal Pradesh Institute of Public Administration (HIPA) as Dr. Manmohan Singh Himachal Pradesh Institute of Public Administration.

The Cabinet also approved the inclusion of families in BPL list, with no adult members between the ages of 18 and 59, families headed by women, families whose head has a disability of 50 percent or more, families that worked for at least 100 days under MNREGA in the previous financial year, and families whose earning members are suffering from chronic diseases such as cancer, Alzheimer's, Parkinson's, muscular dystrophy, thalassemia, or any other condi-

tion resulting in permanent disability. It also approved the establishment of a Special Task Force to combat drug abuse and dismantle drug trafficking and organized crime networks in the state through a comprehensive, multi-faceted approach.

Additionally, the Cabinet has decided to promulgate an ordinance to amend Schedule 1A of the Indian Stamp Act, 1899. This amendment will enable the levy of a uniform stamp duty rate of 12 percent on transfer and lease transactions secured under Section 118(2)(H) of the Himachal Pradesh Tenancy and Land Reforms Act, 1972, with prior sanction from the State Government.

It decided to approve the ban on felling of trees except Safeda, Poplar and Bamboo while felling of khair for sale in accordance with ten years programme.

The Cabinet approved the guidelines for 'Sarkar Gaon Ke Dwar' Programme to redress the grievances of common man residing in remote and hard areas of the State.

The Cabinet reiterated its request to the Government of India to adopt the 90:10 funding formula for the power component of the Kishau Multipurpose Project, similar to the formula adopted for the water component. Alternatively, it proposed providing a 50-year interest-free loan for the entire amount payable by the State Government for the power component under the Inter-State Agreement.

In addition, the Cabinet has decided to delegate the mandate for the allotment and monitoring of hydro and solar power projects above 5 MW, as well as Green Hydrogen, Biomass, and Pumped Storage Projects, to the Department of Energy. It also approved the establishment of a 1 MW Green Hydrogen project in Nalagarh, to be executed by HPPCL.

Furthermore, the Cabinet approved the imposition of Green Energy Development Charges for Pumped Storage Projects. A charge of Rs. 2.5 lakh per MW per year will be levied for the first 10 years after the project's commissioning, which will increase to Rs. 5 lakh per MW per year thereafter.

Classifieds

CHANGE OF NAME

I. Inderjit Kaur W/O Kulvinder Singh Rodeja 1666/6-B-28 1325/6 Pakhwold Road Shaheed Kamal Singh Nagar Ludhiana Have Changed My Name To Inderjit Kaur Juneja.

I. Kuljit Kaur Bhakhar W/O Naib Singh R/O Kotha Guru Ka Teshil Phul Distt. Bathinda Have Changed My Name To Kuljit Kaur.

I. Jasvir Kaur Janagal W/O Amandeep Singh R/O Street No.7, Sham Nagar, Phagwara, District Kapurthala Have Changed My Name From Jasvir Kaur Janagal To Jasvir Kaur.

I. Sunita W/O Pawan Kumar R/O Street No.1, New Fatehgarh, Hoshiarpur, Punjab, Have Changed My Minor Son's Name Dishant To Dishant Sharma.

I. Pardip Kumar S/O Rakesh Kumar R/O Mohalla Bedian, Gali Bania Di., Khatwala Gate., Phagwara (Kapurthala) District. My Given Name As Pardip And My Surname As Kumar.

I. Malkit Singh S/O Joginder Singh R/O Village- Darapur., Po-Rohi R/O Khurd Pin Code-143528, Teshil/Distt.: Gurdaspur., Punjab. Declares That My Given Name As Malkit And My Surname As Singh.

I. Ashok Kumar Rai father of No. 15783594P Rank Nk (DS) Name Binay Kumar presently residing at Vill - Baralawan, Post - Lauwan Kala, Teh & Dist - Saran, State - Bihar, have changed my name from Ashok Kumar Rai to Ashok Ray vide Affidavit No IN-PB95770954636384X Dated 09 Jan 2025 before Notary Publichan Kot (Punjab).

I. Jhendi Ram father of No 15121776H Rank Hav (Mcp Nb Sub) Name Sarwan Kumar presently residing at Village - Bagai, Teshil - Pathankot, Distt - Pathankot, State - Punjab, have changed my name from Jhanda Ram To Jhendi Ram vide Affidavit No IN-PB94439021181992X Dated 04 Jan 2025 before Executive Magistrate Pathankot (Punjab).

I. Gangreiddi Hymavathi legally wedded spouse of No. JC-858492W Rank Sub (OFC) Name Gangreiddi Naveen Kumar R/O 41-3-17A, 1st Floor, PO Krishnalanka, Teshil Vijaywada, Distt. Krishna, Andhra Pradesh, PIN-520013, Unit at 510 LT AD MSL REGT(SP) C/O 56 APO declare that I have changed my name from Hymavathi Mangam to Gangreiddi Hymavathi.

I. Service No. JC-858492W Rank Sub (OFC) Name Gangreiddi Naveen Kumar R/O 41-3-17A, 1st Floor, PO Krishnalanka, Teshil Vijaywada, Distt. Krishna, Andhra Pradesh, PIN-520013, Unit at 510 LT AD MSL REGT(SP) C/O 56 APO declare that I have changed my name from Gangreiddi Balaji Rao to G. Balajirao.

I. Service No. JC-858492W Rank Sub (OFC) Name Gangreiddi Naveen Kumar R/O 41-3-17A, 1st Floor, PO Krishnalanka, Teshil Vijaywada, Distt. Krishna, Andhra Pradesh, PIN-520013, Unit at 510 LT AD MSL REGT(SP) C/O 56 APO declare that I have changed my name from Neelavva Fakeerappa Yaligar to Neelavva Fakeerappa Yaligar.

I. Surinder Kumar Saini S/O Pritam Chand R/O Vpo. Barwa, Teshil Anandpur Sahib, District Rupnagar have changed my son name to Gagandeep saini to Gagandeep Singh Saini

I. No.15633064P GDSM Sunil Kumar Kumawat resident of Village-Gordhanpura, Post- Palsana, Teshil-Dantaramgarh, District- Sikar, State-Rajasthan, Pin-332402, have changed my Father name from Bhaghrathmal Kumawat to Bhagrath Mal Kumawat Vide affidavit No.IN-PB95478096247203X dated 08 Jan 2025 before notary public Pathankot

I. No.15633064P GDSM Sunil Kumar Kumawat resident of Village-Gordhanpura, Post- Palsana, Teshil-Dantaramgarh, District- Sikar, State-Rajasthan, Pin-332402, have changed my Mother name from Anachi Devi to Anchi Devi vide affidavit No.IN-PB95478096247203X dated 08 Jan 2025 before notary public Pathankot

I. Degala Rajaya Lakshmi Is Mother Of Army No: 18015228H Rank: Spr Name- Degala Achyuth Presently Posted At Unit: 57 Engr Regt C/O 56 Apo Permanent Address: 4-1-139/C6, Bapanakunta, Manuguru, Manuguru, Bhadradi Kothagudem, Telangana-507117 Declare That I Have Changed My Name From Degala Rajaya Lakshmi To Degala Rajyalakmi. Vide Affidavit No: 48aa 901337, Dated: 09/01/2025

I. Bhullan Nisad Is Father Of Army No:18006613K Rank:Nk Name-Sanjay Nishad Presently Posted At Unit: 57 Engr Regt C/O 56 Apo Permanent Address: Sarayasi, Rampur Halwara Uphar, Purah, Faizabad, Uttar Pradesh, 224171 Declare That I Have Changed My Name From Bhullan Nisad To Bhullan. Vide Affidavit No:48aa 901344, Dated: 09/01/2025

I. Arvind Negi Is Father Of Army No-18022372A Rank-Spr Name-Gaurav Negi Presently Posted At Unit: 57 Engr Regt C/O 56 Apo Permanent Address: Sabdharkhal, Sirala, Pauri Garhwal, Uttarakhand-247301 Declare That I Have Changed My Name From Arvind Negi To Arvind Singh. Vide Affidavit No: 48aa 901336, Dated: 09/01/2025

I. Devis Dutt Palwal Is Father Of Army No: JC-345408K Rank: Nb/Sub Name- Kheema Nand Palwal Presently Posted At Unit: 57 Engr Regt C/O 56 Apo Permanent Address: 91 A, Fatepur, Fatepur, Nainital, Haldwani, Uttarakhand, 261339 Declare That I Have Changed My Name From Devis Dutt Palwal To Devee Datt. Vide Affidavit No: 48aa 901341, Dated: 09/01/2025

I. Neema Palwal Is Mother Of Army No: JC-345408K Rank: Nb/Sub Name- Kheema Nand Palwal Presently Posted At Unit: 57 Engr Regt C/O 56 Apo Permanent Address: 91 A, Fatepur, Fatepur, Nainital, Haldwani, Uttarakhand, 261339 Declare That I Have Changed My Name From Neema Palwal To Nirmala Palwal. Vide Affidavit No: 48aa 901342, Dated: 09/01/2025.

I. Sheetal wife of Vishal Gupta Resident of House No. 96, Street no 7, Ferozepur Cantt have changed my name to Gopal Kishan.

I. Sheetal wife of Vishal Gupta Resident of House No. 96, Street no 7, Ferozepur Cantt have changed my name to Sheetal Gupta.

I. Paramjit Kumar Son of Des Raj Resident of Vpo Jwan Arain Teshil Gururashahi District Ferozepur have Changed my name to Paramjeet Kumar.

I. Asha Spouse of No. 15153601N Rank HAV Name Ashoka, of Unit 197 Fd Regt residing at Prashantha Nagar, Soregowdanakote (P & V) Bangarpet (Teshil) Kolar (District) Karnataka (State) Pin 563162 have changed my name from Asha to K Asha Vide Affidavit Dated 10 January 2025 before Notary Ferozepur.

I. My Army No. 2699688P, Rank Hav Name Yogesh Kumar Chaudhary, Unit of 2 Grenadiers Pin 910802 C/O 56 APO residing at Village Nagla Mandhat PO. Kursanda Teshil Sadabad District Haryana State UP 281306 have changed my minor son name from Yuv Choudhary to Yuvi Chaudhary Vide Affidavit Dated 10 January 2025 before Notary Ferozepur.

I. Rehka Mother of No. 15256564L, Rank OPR Name Rahate Sandip Radheshyam, Unit of 330 FD Regt C/O 99 APO Pin 926330, Residing at Village Hasara PO, Mitewani Teshil Tumsar District Maharashtra Pin 441912 have changed my name from Rehka to Rekha Radheshyam Rahate Vide Affidavit Dated 10 January 2025 before Notary Ferozepur.

I. Sneha Pahwa D/o Suraj Parkash Chhabra and W/o Sandeep Pahwa, Residing at House No 1465, Near Divya Yodh Mandir, Sector 7, Urban Estate, Kamal, Haryana - 132001, have changed my name to Ankita Pahwa.

I. Pritpal Kaur W/o Sh. Surjeet Singh, R/O 240, Mohalla Pathana Wala, Naraingarh, Distt.Ambala has changed my name from Pritpal Kaur to Pritpal Kaur Makkar.

I. Gursehaj Preet Kaur W/o Jasbir Singh R/O Village Ahmedpur Teshil Patti, District Tar Taran Punjab have changed name from Gursehaj Preet Kaur to Gursehajpreet Kaur.

I. Sonia W/o Shinderpal Kaur R/O Flat No. 1105, Block B-7, Kendryia Vihar-2, Sany Enclave, Sector-125, Distt. S.A.S. Nagar, have changed my name Sonia to Sonnia Pal Singh.

I. Army No. 4442699X L/NK Dhana Singh R/O VPO Sayan Kulan Teshil and District Ludhiana (Punjab) hereby declare to change my name from Dhana Singh to Dhanna Singh.

I. Jyoti W/o Jasvir Singh R/O VPO Bath Kalan, Teshil Nakodar (Jalandhar) have changed my name from Jyoti to Jyoti Kaur.

I. Nisha Chugh W/o Abhi Jolly R/O H.No.115, St.No.L-3, GTB Nagar, Ladhari Road, Khanna (Ludhiana) have changed my name after marriage as Nisha Jolly.

I. Preeti Mangal W/o Parveen Mangal R/O House.No.7-8, Bazar No.3, Ferozepur Cantt, Teshil and District Ferozepur, I have changed my name From Preeti to Preeti Mangal.

I. Ajay Son of Hari Ram Resident of Gali No. 02 Opposite Govt Sikh Kanya School Kasri Gate Ferozepur City Have changed my name to Ajay Kumar.

I. Rajdavidar kaur w/o Jagdev Singh Village Sadhan wala P.O. Gole wala District Faridkot Have changed my name to Rajdavidar Is my given name and kaur is my sur name.

I. Gopal Kishan son of Ganga Ram Resident of House No. 96, Street no 7, Ferozepur Cantt have changed my name to Gopal Kishan.

I. Sarawati wife of Vishal Gupta Resident of House No. 96, Street no 7, Ferozepur Cantt have changed my name to Sheetal Gupta.

I. Balaraman is legally Father of No. 2608296H, Rank Hav, Name B. Sivakumar Unit of 28 Madras C/O 56 APO Ferozepur Cantt, Residing at Village Ramapuram Po. Sathyamangalam, Teh. & Distt. Vellore (TN) 632114, have changed my name from Balaraman to Balaraman Mahadevan Vide Affidavit Dated 09 January 2025 before Notary Ferozepur.

I. B. Mallika is legally Mother of No. 2608296H, Rank Hav, Name B. Sivakumar Unit of 28 Madras C/O 56 APO Ferozepur Cantt, Residing at Village Ramapuram Po. Sathyamangalam, Teh. & Distt. Vellore (TN) 632114, have changed my name from B. Mallika to Malliga Balaraman Vide Affidavit Dated 09 January 2025 before Notary Ferozepur.

I. Saraswati Kishan is legally Wife of Army No. 4287423K Rank L/NK Name Sanjit Minz of Unit 7Bihar Regt C/O 56 Apo Residing at House Road, Litibeda Uperpada, Vtc Katang, Po. katang, Teshil Kurta, District Sundargarh State Odisha Pin-770023 Declare that My Name Sarawati Minz Wrongly Mentioned in My Husband Army Service Records but my correct Name is Saraswati Kishan.

I. Rituu Rani W/o Ram Pal Goyal R/O #18-BEE Sewak Colony Patiala have changed my name to Riitu Goyal.

I. Hitherto known as Sujan Juneja D/O Amar Nath W/o Prem Pal Batra, R/O House No.111, S A S Nagar Ext. - 132001, have changed my name to Chanderdhanr-1, Punjab-144003 have changed my name and shall hereafter be known as Dimple Batra.

REGIONAL OFFICE: BATHINDA

DEMAND NOTICE

NOTICE US 13 (2) OF THE SECURITIZATION AND RECONSTRUCTION OF FINANCIAL ASSETS & ENFORCEMENT OF SECURITY INTEREST ACT, 2002 HEREAFTER CALLED 'ACT'

A notice is hereby given that the following Borrowers/Borrower(s)/Co-Borrower have defaulted in the repayment of Principal and Interest of the Loans facility obtained by them from the Bank and the loans have been classified as Non Performing Assets (NPA). The notices were issued to them under Section 13(2) of Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets & Enforcement of Security Interest Act 2002 were issued to Borrower(s)/Guarantor(s) at their following addresses by registered/ speed post, but they have been returned un-served & as such they are hereby informed by way of this public notice.

Name of the Branch & Borrower(s)/Guarantor(s)	Details of the Movable/Immovable Properties	Date of NPA	Date of Demand Notice	Liability Outstanding
Bathinda Civil Lians Branch	Property Measuring 157 Sq Yards Kharsa No. 4931M (0-3) # 30904 St No. 14 Jogi Nagar Bathinda In The Name of Mohammed Shokeen # 30904A , Mohd. Islam Vide Sale Deed No 4752 Dated 23.10.98 East : Street side No. 13 - ward No. 33, Jogi Nagar-bathinda Punjab. West: 18ft 1.5 inch Gali, North: 78ft 1.5 inch Gali, South: 78ft 1.5 inch Gali, Dimple, Lassi Jankar, South: 78ft 1.5 inch Gali, Dimple.	23.12.2024	04.01.2025	Rs.1,24,107.50/- of together with further interest and incidental expenses and costs.
Ferozepur Branch	House No A.A. 4775 Measuring 1.86 Marlas [15.12.2024 04.01.2025] Situated In Street No. 2 Bharat Nagar Ferozepur In The Name of Smt Suman W/o Jatinder Kumar Vide Vaska No. 1032 Dated 23.05.2013 Registered With Sub Registrar Ferozepur With Its Boundries East : Street Side 30.4 Ft West : Rajinder Kumar, Avtar Singh side 15.8 ft +14.7 ft North: Jagdish Lal West 22.9 Ft South : Passage Ad Rajinder Kumar 11.3 Ft + 11.9 ft	15.12.2024	04.01.2025	Rs.8,31,339.78/- of together with further interest and incidental expenses and costs.

The steps are being taken for substituted service of notice. The above Borrower(s) are hereby 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 60days from the date of this notice under sub section(4) of section13 of Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act 2002.

DATE: 10/01/2025 PLACE: Bathinda, Ferozepur AUTHORIZED OFFICER, CANARA BANK

HIMACHAL PRADESH STATE ELECTRICITY BOARD LIMITED

(A State Government Undertaking)

"SHORT TERM TENDER NOTICE"

Sealed item rate Short Term Tender is hereby invited on behalf of the Chairman cum Managing Director HPSEBL by the undersigned from the approved/experienced contractor/authorize dealers for the execution of work as per the detail mentioned hereinafter. The tenders shall be received on prescribed form clearly super-scribed with tender No. and date of opening together with earnest money in the office of Sr. Executive Engineer, Electrical Division, HPSEB LT, Rajgarh, on stipulated date and time & will be opened in the presence of the contractors or their authorized representatives. The Tender document can be had on any working day as specified below in the table from Division Office HPSEBL Rajgarh after completing codal formalities.

Sr. No.	Tender No.	Name of Work	Estimated Cost	Earnest Money	Cost of Tender Documents	Completion Period
1.	RED - 118/2024-25	E-Tender for Permanent restoration of power supply of in 3 Phase LT at LWSS Banibakholi Stage 1st LWSS Sadnaghat 1st and LWSS Banibakholi Stage 2nd due to endangered pole due to Heavy rain on Dated 27 & 28/12/2024 under ESD Sarahan. (Ch to R/M of HT/LT Line under ESD Sarahan for the year 2024-25).	Rs. 1,85,919/- Only	Rs. 1860/- Only	Rs. 500 +GST @18% = Rs. 590/-only	1 Month
2.	RED - 119/2024-25	E-Tender for Permanent restoration of power supply of in 11 KV HT Line at LWSS Janolghat, Banah Ki Ser 2nd Stage, LWSS Lohardi Patthroli 3rd and Kathar due to endangered pole due to Heavy rain on Dated 27&28/12/2024 under ESD Sarahan. (Ch to R/M of HT/LT Line under ESD Sarahan for the year 2024-25).	Rs. 1,87,971/- Only	Rs. 1880/- Only	Rs. 590/-only	1 Month
3.	RED - 120/2024-25	E-Tender for Permanent restoration of power supply of in LT Line in Existing Substation at Chaboga, Kotia Barog, Basech, Dadhik Dingri, Pab, Kazar, Mohar, Narag No-4, Kurttua, Sheena ghat, Dilman due to endangered pole due to Heavy rain on Dated 27 & 28/12/2024 under ESD Narag. (Ch to R/M of HT/LT Line under ESD Narag for the year 2024-25).	Rs. 1,93,476/- Only	Rs. 1935/- Only	Rs. 590/-only	1 Month
4.	RED - 121/2024-25	E-Tender for Permanent restoration of power supply of in 11 KV HT Line and 3 Phase LT Line in Existing Substation at Dhog, Ser, Anji, Shakar, Ratoli, Chadli, Kharaal, Sadar, Pervipul, Chabul, Barad, Sakan, Sadihyut, Suria, Sheela and S/area due to endangered pole due to Heavy rain on Dated 27&28/12/2024 under ESD Rajgarh. (Ch to R/M of HT/LT Line under ESD Rajgarh for the year 2024-25).	Rs. 2,21,165/- Only	Rs. 2215/- Only	Rs. 590/-only	1 Month

Key Dates

1. Start date of Sale of Tenders	10.01.2025 (at 11:00 AM)
2. Last Date of receipt of Tenders	16.01.2025 (at 01:00 PM)
3. Date and time of opening	17.01.2025 (at 03:00 PM)
4. Cost of Tender Fee	Rs. 500 + G.S.T. @18% = Rs. 590/-only

Before issue of the tender documents, the bidder shall have to furnish adequate counter-embury evidence in support of qualifying requirements stipulated as below:- The All the terms and conditions can be seen in the HPSEBL website i.e. //hptender.gov.in.

Sr. Executive Engineer,
Electrical Division, HPSEB Ltd. Rajgarh.

REGIONAL OFFICE: Bathinda

[Rule-8(1)] Possession Notice (For Immovable Property)

Whereas the undersigned being the Authorised officer of the Canara Bank, under the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 (Act No.54 of 2002) and in exercise of powers conferred under section 13(2) read with rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 issued a Demand Notice to borrower(s)/guarantor(s) on the date mentioned hereunder, calling upon the borrower(s)/guarantor(s), to repay the amount mentioned in the respective demand notice, within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said notice. The borrower(s)/guarantor(s) having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the borrower (s) /guarantor(s) and the public in general that the undersigned has taken Physical/Symbolic Possession of the properties described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on him/her under sub section (4) of section 13 of the Act read with rule 8 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 on the date mentioned against below accounts. The borrower(s)/guarantor(s) in particular and the public in general is hereby cautioned not to deal with the property/properties and any dealings with the properties will be subject to the charge of the CANARA BANK, for an amount of being less amount of recovery made. If any other charges/expenses, costs, thereon are incurred by the borrower(s)/guarantor(s), the same shall be added to the provisions of sub-section(8) of section 13 of the Act, in respect of time available, to redeem the secured assets.

Name of the Borrower(s)/Guarantor(s)	Description of the Immovable Property	Date of Demand Notice	Date & Nature of Possession	Amount Outstanding
Mansa Branch (2472)	Equitable mortgage of Residential House in the name of Sh. Parladh Kumar S/o Sh. Som Dutt (Borrower cum Mortgagor, since Deceased) Ambedkar Nagar, Ward No 3, Gali No. 7 Mansa -151505, Mrs Lalita Rani W/o Sh Parladh Kumar (Co - Borrower) Ambedkar Nagar, Ward No 3, Gali No. 7, Mansa -151505.	31.08.2023	Physical 08.01.2025	Rs. 4,49,967.17/- as on 16.08.2023 together with further interest and expenses thereon.
Malout Branch (4197)	Property measuring 04 Marlas under Kharsa No.2021-22265/1692 dated 10.05.2021 measuring 5.90 Marla (e.590/96400 share of land measuring 48Kanal Amara Mustil Killa No. 167/9 (0 -12), 10(8-0), 168(6 (8-0), 7 (8-0), 9 (8 -0) 10min(7 -12), Khatwai Khatori 306/769 as per Jamabandi of the year 2017 - 18 situated at Krishna Colony, Opposite Fauzi Petrol Pump, Mansa and bounded as East : Balwinder Singh, West : Kaka Singh, North: Ram Singh, South: Street.	25.07.2024	Symbolic 08.01.2025	Rs. 6,11,014.49/- as on 30.06.2024 together with further interest and expenses thereon.
1. M/S Deva Enterprises (Partnership Firm) Seikhu Road Near DAV College Distt Muktsar Malout Punjab 152107	04 Marlas under Kharsa No.2021-22265/1692 dated 10.05.2021 measuring 5.90 Marla (e.590/96400 share of land measuring 48Kanal Amara Mustil Killa No. 167/9 (0 -12), 10(8-0), 168(6 (8-0), 7 (8-0), 9 (8 -0) 10min(7 -12), Khatwai Khatori 306/769 as per Jamabandi of the year 2017 - 18 situated at Krishna Colony, Opposite Fauzi Petrol Pump, Mansa and bounded as East : Balwinder Singh, West : Kaka Singh, North: Ram Singh, South: Street.	25.07.2024	Symbolic 08.01.2025	Rs. 6,11,014.49/- as on 30.06.2024 together with further interest and expenses thereon.
2. Parveen Kumar S/o Kasturi Lal (Partner) Near DAV College W/o. 6 Distt Muktsar Malout Punjab 152107	House No. 418-L, Which is Part of Unit No B-6/820, Whose property Municipal Permanent Property ID No. 219C1115J919 Model Town A/LA (Guarantor) Teshil Jagadhri Yamuna Nagar Haryana Admeasuring an area of 121.36 Sq.Yd.	25.07.2024	Symbolic 08.01.2025	Rs. 6,11,014.49/- as on 30.06.2024 together with further interest and expenses thereon.
3. Avinash Kumar S/O Bhagwan Kumar (Partner) H.No.604 W.No.3 Dashmesh Colony Distt Muktsar Malout Punjab 152107	House No. 418-L, Which is Part of Unit No B-6/820, Whose property Municipal Permanent Property ID No. 219C1115J919 Model Town A/LA (Guarantor) Teshil Jagadhri Yamuna Nagar Haryana Admeasuring an area of 121.36 Sq.Yd.	25.07.2024	Symbolic 08.01.2025	Rs. 6,11,014.49/- as on 30.06.2024 together with further interest and expenses thereon.

DATE: 10.01.2025 PLACE: MANSA, MALOUT AUTHORIZED OFFICER, CANARA BANK

REGIONAL OFFICE: Bathinda

PUBLIC NOTICE-TENDER CUM E-AUCTION FOR SALE OF SECURED ASSET

[See proviso to Rule 8(i)]

Notice for sale of immovable asset(s)

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

This notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower(s) and Guarantor(s) that the below described immovable property mortgaged/ charged to the Secured Creditor, the physical possession of which has been taken by the Authorised Officer of ICICI Bank Limited will be sold on 'As is where is', 'As is what is' and 'Whatever there is' as per the brief particulars given hereunder.

Sr. No.	Name of Borrower(s)/ Co-Borrowers/ Guarantors/ Loan Account No.	Details of the Secured asset(s) with known encumbrances, if any	Amount Outstanding	Reserve Price Earnest Money Deposit	Date and Time of Property Inspection	Date & Time of E-Auction
(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	(E)	(F)	(G)
1.	Urmila Devi (Borrower), Sandeep Kumar, Vanita, Lalit Kumar, JPY Consortium Private Limited (Co Applicant), Suman Lata (Guarantor) A/C No.- LBYGR00005269509, LBYGR00005269423	House No. 418-L, Which is Part of Unit No B-6/820, Whose property Municipal Permanent Property ID No. 219C1115J919 Model Town A/LA (Guarantor) Teshil Jagadhri Yamuna Nagar Haryana Admeasuring an area of 121.36 Sq.Yd.	Rs. 68,33,283/- As on January 04, 2025.	Rs. 83,60,000/- As on January 04, 2025.	January 24, 2025 from 12:00 Noon to 02:00 PM	February 17, 2025 from 11:00 AM to 12:00 Noon

The online auction will be conducted on the website (URL Link-<https://www.disposahub.com>) of our auction agency M/s NexTen Solutions Private Limited. The Mortgages/ Notices are given a last chance to pay the total dues with further interest by February 15, 2025 before 05:00 PM else the secured asset(s) will be sold as per schedule.

The prospective bidder(s) must submit the Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) Demand Draft (DD) (Refer Column E) at ICICI Bank Ltd, B V1 1269 / 5, Gobindpuri Road, Near J K Residency, Yamuna Nagar, Haryana- 135001 on or before February 15, 2025 before 05:00 PM. Thereafter, they have to submit their offer through the website mentioned above or before February 15, 2025 before 05:00 PM along with the scanned image of the Bank acknowledged DD towards proof of payment of EMD. In case the prospective bidder(s) is/ are unable to submit his/ her/ their offer through the website, then the signed copy of tender documents may be submitted at ICICI Bank Ltd, B V1 1269 / 5, Gobindpuri Road, Near J K Residency, Yamuna Nagar, Haryana- 135001 on or before February 15, 2025 before 05:00 PM. Earnest Money Deposit DD/PO should be from a Nationalised/ Scheduled Bank in favour of 'ICICI Bank Limited' payable at Yamuna Nagar.

For any further clarifications in terms of inspection, Terms and Conditions of the E-Auction or submission of tenders, contact ICICI Bank Employee Phone No. 8928935040 / 8584874809

Please note that the Marketing agencies 1. M/s NexTen Solutions Private Limited, 2. Augeo Asset Management Pvt. Ltd., 3. Hecta Proptech Pvt. Ltd. have also been engaged for facilitating the sale of this property. The Authorised Officer reserves the right to reject any or all the bids without furnishing any further reasons. For detailed Terms and Conditions of the sale, please visit www.icicibank.com/n4ps

Date: January 10, 2025 **Place:** Gurugram & Yamunanagar & Chandigarh (Haryana) **Authorized Officer:** ICICI Bank Limited

REGIONAL OFFICE: Bathinda

PUBLIC NOTICE-TENDER CUM E-AUCTION FOR SALE OF SECURED ASSET

[See proviso to Rule 8(i)]

Notice for sale of immovable asset(s)

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

This notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower(s) and Guarantor(s) that the below described immovable property mortgaged/ charged to the Secured Creditor, the physical possession of which has been taken by the Authorised Officer of ICICI Bank Limited will be sold on 'As is where is', 'As is what is' and 'Whatever there is' as per the brief particulars given hereunder.

Sr. No.	Name of Borrower(s)/ Co-Borrowers/ Guarantors/ Loan Account No.	Details of the Secured asset(s) with known encumbrances, if any	Amount Outstanding	Reserve Price Earnest Money Deposit	Date and Time of Property Inspection	Date & Time of E-Auction
(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	(E)	(F)	(G)
1.	Rameshwar Dass Sanjay Kumar (Applicant) Mr. Rajesh Kumar (Co-Applicant, Mortgagor, Guarantor), Rajni Jain (Guarantor) Can 2 No. 359205000900 & L5N255000024	Commercial Shop Located At Plot No.- 12, New Anaj Mandi, Ganaur Distt- Sonipat Haryana. Area: 1700 Sq Ft	Rs. 2,39,01,798/- As on Dated January 02, 2025	Rs. 1,56,50,000/- As on January 02, 2025	February 01, 2025 From 11:00 AM to 01:00 PM	February 17, 2025 From 11:00 AM to 12:00 Noon

The online auction will be conducted on the website (URL Link-<https://disposalhub.com>) of our auction agency M/s NexTen Solutions Private Limited. The Mortgages/ Notices are given a last chance to pay the total dues with further interest by February 15, 2025 before 05:00 PM else the secured asset(s) will be sold as per schedule.

The prospective bidder(s) must submit the Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) Demand Draft (DD) (Refer Column E) at ICICI Bank Limited, 3rd Floor Shal Tower, Near Rohtak Road, Karol Bagh, Delhi-110005 on or before February 15, 2025 before 05:00 PM. Thereafter, they have to submit their offer through the website mentioned above or on before February 15, 2025 before 05:00 PM along with the scanned image of the Bank acknowledged DD towards proof of payment of EMD. In case the prospective bidder(s) is/ are unable to submit his/ her/ their offer through the website, then the signed copy of tender documents may be submitted at ICICI Bank Limited, 3rd Floor Shal Tower, Near Rohtak Road, Karol Bagh, Delhi-110005 on or before February 15, 2025 before 05:00 PM. Earnest Money Deposit DD/PO should be from a Nationalised/ Scheduled Bank in favour of 'ICICI Bank Limited' payable at Delhi.

For any further clarifications in terms of inspection, Terms and Conditions of the E-Auction or submission of tenders, contact ICICI Bank Employee Phone No. 9372730494 / 8584874809

Please note that the Marketing agencies 1. M/s NexTen Solutions Private Limited 2. Augeo Asset Management Pvt.Ltd 3. Hecta Proptech Pvt. Ltd. have also been engaged for facilitating the sale of this property. The Authorised Officer reserves the right to reject any or all the bids without furnishing any further reasons. For detailed Terms and Conditions of the sale, please visit www.icicibank.com/n4ps

Date: January 10, 2025 **Place:** Sonapat **Authorized Officer:** ICICI Bank Limited

Himachal Pradesh Public Works Department

Procurement Notice

INVITATION FOR BIDS (IFB)

The Executive Engineer HPPWD Rohru Distt Shimla H.P on behalf of Governor of H.P invites item rate, bids, in electronic tendering system, in 2 cover system for the under mentioned work from the eligible and approved contractors/firms registered with HPPWD Department.

Sr. No.	Name of Work	Estimated Cost (Rs)	Starting date for downloading Bid	Earnest money	Deadline for submission of bids
1	C/o link road Basha to Malkoon km 0/00 to 2/800(SH: - F/C 5/7 mtr wide road at RD 1/00 to 1/330	3074908/-	15-01-2025	6198/-	22-01-2025
2	C/O link road village Tandali to Dogra Khad 0/00 to 2/245(SH: - F/C 5/7 mtr wide road at RD 1/660 to 1/825)	2023382/-	15-01-2025	40467/-	22-01-2025
3	A/R & M/O of type III quarter At Samala Housing Board colony (SH: - C/o Roof steel work)	2162200/-	15-01-2025	43244/-	22-01-2025
4	C/ o Sandasu to Khashdar road km 0/00 to 10/00 SH C/ o B wall and R wall in R/O Stone masonry at Km 0/ 164 20 to 0/ 178. 20 to 0/180 to R/ 160 to 0/ 170 to 2/25 to /285 8/ 020 to 8/ 045	4100980/-	15-01-2025	82020/-	22-01-2025
5	C/ O 24.39 mtr/80				



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PAPER WITH PASSION

Breaking ice

The India-Afghanistan talks reflect India's shift from non-recognition of the Taliban to a pragmatic approach to engagement

In a significant step towards recalibrating ties, India and the Taliban-led Afghan government held a high-level meeting in Dubai. The dialogue, attended by India's Foreign Secretary Vikram Misri and Afghanistan's Acting Foreign Minister Mawlawi Amir Khan Muttaqi, revolved around enhancing bilateral relations and addressing regional challenges. The talks, focusing on economic, humanitarian, and strategic cooperation, underscore India's pragmatic approach toward engaging with Afghanistan despite the complex political dynamics following the Taliban's return to power in 2021. India's relations with Afghanistan have been historically robust, characterised by cultural and economic collaboration. However, the Taliban's return disrupted bilateral ties, with India maintaining a cautious stance while continuing to provide humanitarian aid. The evolving geopolitical landscape, Pakistan's actions in the region, and Afghanistan's dire humanitarian crisis have necessitated a renewed engagement. The discussions also gain relevance amidst regional tensions, notably Pakistan's airstrikes in Afghanistan, which New Delhi strongly condemned. This shared concern over Islamabad's destabilising actions further aligns Indian and Afghan interests, fostering mutual cooperation.



The Dubai meeting covered a wide range of topics. India reaffirmed its commitment to aiding Afghanistan's recovery. It pledged continued support in healthcare, food security, and disaster relief, building on its earlier contributions, such as 50,000 metric tonnes of wheat, medical supplies, and vaccines. Besides, both sides emphasised the strategic importance of Chabahar Port in Iran as a key trade and humanitarian supply route. The port offers Afghanistan access to global markets, bypassing Pakistan, and could serve as a stabilising economic lifeline for the war-torn country. India has expressed readiness to resume developmental activities, including infrastructure and capacity-building projects. This signals India's willingness to strengthen Afghanistan's socio-economic framework despite challenges posed by the Taliban's governance. The Afghan delegation addressed India's concerns about terrorism and regional stability, assuring cooperation to prevent Afghanistan from becoming a safe haven for anti-India activities. The talks indicate a shift in India's approach. This may encourage other nations to adopt a similar stance, recognising the necessity of dealing with the Afghan government. But the biggest takeaway from this meeting indeed was Strengthening India-Afghanistan ties to counter Pakistan's influence in the region. Islamabad's strained relations with Kabul, exacerbated by recent airstrikes, present an opportunity for New Delhi to assert its role as a reliable partner. Reviving trade and development projects through Chabahar Port could bolster Afghanistan's economy and offer India strategic leverage in Central Asia.

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PICTALK



A commuter rides his bicycle through a mustard field on a winter morning, in Nadia

Navigating Trump redux: India's tightrope



BHOPINDER SINGH

While Trump's focus on countering China could strengthen Indo-US strategic ties, his erratic temperament and divisive policies present challenges

In India, there is a mix of excitement, tentativeness, and even concern, with the second coming of Donald Trump as the President of the United States. While Trump's excitable temperament is well known, he ought to be served better with hindsight of experience. But he may not. While India will remain resolutely relevant and critical in his foreign policy calculus, the handling of certain issues could test Indian reaction and patience. His inevitable fixation with managing China will necessitate nurturing the strategic 'pivot' of India as a counterbalance, Delhi's deep-rooted equations with countries like Russia or Iran, could earn his ire and vitriol.

A lot will depend on 'Team Trump' who will aid and assist Trump as he attempts the shape his poll promises of MAGA i.e., Make America Great Again! However, unlike the first term when he did inherit and heed reputation and professionalism as the criteria for key jobs in the Trump administration (though subsequently, he developed a penchant for 'revolving door' ousters of many), this time the criteria only seem to be 'loyalty' to Trump, personally. There is a disconcerting and contradictory logic to many recent appointments that begs the question if it indeed will be 'business as usual' - something Delhi had got used to, irrespective of the dispensation in Washington DC. Sadly, that vital presence of 'adults in the room' from the first Trump administration who were able to navigate and manage Trump out of his outlandish and fickle ideas, will not be present anymore. If anything, in a room filled with 'loyalists' (read, obsequious staff), chances that someone will play the 'adult in the room' anymore, will be starkly lesser than before, as there could be competitive grovelling to valourise Trump's ideas, whatever be the portent. How will Trump's purported 'non-interventionist' preferences sit with Sino-wary countries like India, Japan or Australia (the other three from QUAD framework) that are in the direct line of Chinese belligerence and expansionism? Will Trump's 'non-interventionist' instinct embolden Beijing to finally bite the bullet on Taiwan and storm the same, knowing that beyond mouthing platitudes, Washington DC will not intervene militarily? The picture emerging out of a beleaguered (and potentially isolated) Ukraine does not seem reassuring from a security angle, as the possibility of America pushing its 'allies' under the bus, seems very plausible. Even disconcerting memories of the Summer of 2020 when the Chinese aggression pushed through Indian frontiers, with a seemingly disinterested Trump offering to 'negotiate a deal' instead of adopting a more assertive stance, are still raw. Indeed, the Americans had expedited the exports of weaponry to Delhi, but all that made imminent commercial sense to the die-hard businessman in Trump. Just how ramrod and unflinching will the Trump support be in meeting any such exigency in the future, is worth considering. Even in bilateral relations, there is a fresh bunch of unrestrained radicals who make up the Trump redux cabinet. They may or may not play by the traditional rulebook of diplomacy and could make comments that are unpalatable to Indian sensibilities. Delhi will be under immense pressure to moderate the bilateral



engagement and conversations, as the Indian democracy has its dynamics and imagined perceptions that will disallow unruly comments, even if they were to come from the USA. Adding to the complexity is the contradiction that many amongst this new Trump cabinet are trigger-happy interventionists (e.g., Secretary of State Marco Rubio, Elise Stefanik the Ambassador to UN etc.) a neoconservatives whom Trump rubbish repeatedly - how this contradiction will manifest will be interesting. Even on non-security issues like immigration, trade terms, or commitment towards the environmental issues, could be a very rocky ride for Delhi. India has made ambitious commitments towards the global environmental cause, whereas Trump's rhetoric has cockily been, "We're going to drill, baby, drill," and confirmed that, "I will terminate the green new scam". While India isn't on top of its target list on immigrant issues, it will only be a matter of time before the bogey "stealing your jobs" impacts India. Trump will be a mega populist who will dance to the 'redneck' wish list and this will impact relations with the world's largest democracy, a lot more gravely than other countries. Trump has demonstrated a ter-



THERE IS A DISCONCERTING AND CONTRADICTORY LOGIC TO MANY RECENT APPOINTMENTS THAT BEGS THE QUESTION IF IT INDEED WILL BE 'BUSINESS AS USUAL' - SOMETHING DELHI HAD GOT USED TO, IRRESPECTIVE OF THE DISPENSATION IN WASHINGTON DC

ifying ability to shed responsibilities towards his allies (sovereign, coalition, and even personal) and also his moral responsibility by readily abandoning its vital geostrategic stakes (remember Afghanistan, and now Syria) with a thoughtless shrug of the shoulder and "not my problem" approach. This tests the will to invest in a transactional relationship like the one offered by Trump, as no support can be construed for sure. Owing to his polarising politics of identity and blind support for the likes of Benjamin Netanyahu, the narrative emanating from the White House could jeopardise and harm the societal fabric of a diverse country like India that needs to maintain an inclusive outlook. America itself is in for a tumultuous time with the President-designate having promised to close the border with Mexico and launch the largest deportation exercise in US history within hours (not days) of taking over. While Donald Trump's rhetoric is usually more bark than bite, India may find it difficult to accommodate his provocative talk and temperament, beyond a point. (The writer, a military veteran, is a former Lt Governor of Andaman & Nicobar Islands and Puducherry. The views are personal)

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

INDIA'S GDP GAP WITH CHINA WIDENS

Madam — An analysis of the economies done by a start-up highlights the pressing necessity to boost India's lacklustre growth. In 1980, India's Gross Domestic Product was \$186 billion, close to China's \$303 billion. But, by 2024, India's GDP had grown 21 times to \$3.93 trillion, while China's GDP had surged to \$18.5 trillion—61 times its 1980 level. To put it differently, China's GDP in 2004 was 2.82 times greater than India's. In 2014, it was 5.13 times greater and in 2024, 4.71 times greater. India's GDP surged 2.94 times from \$694 billion to \$2,043 billion between 2004 and 2014, while it grew merely 1.92 times, reaching \$3,930 billion between 2014 and 2024. Had the GDP growth in the decade starting in 2004 persisted in the decade beginning in 2014, the GDP disparity would have further decreased.

The decade before 2004 was a period of consolidation after structural reforms were initiated. India has to rejig its economic strategy to achieve a consistent 9-10 per cent rate of growth. India chose a mixed economic system, which combines the features of both socialist and free-market economic systems. The recent push towards private investment in government-owned assets has served only as an easy route for crony capitalists to enrich themselves into billionaires. Democratic India can consider a new economic system aimed at fostering faster growth. However, growth in Southern India, which accounts for about 31 per cent of GDP, has thrived under the current system and can accelerate further with adequate support from the Centre. Northern India needs to explore strategies to bridge the gap with the South. And the ostrich-like attitude and constant denials hinder progress in addressing realities. The nation must embark on a rapid growth path that creates jobs, elevates the living standard of common man and reduces inequality. Haridasan Rajan | Kozhikode

India's AI gets a leg-up



A golden chapter has begun in the field of Artificial Intelligence (AI) in India. The announcement by Microsoft Chairman and CEO Satya Nadella to invest \$3 billion (approximately Rs 25,000 crores) marks a historic step toward elevating India's technological capabilities to new heights. This initiative will serve as a foundation for strengthening visionary programs like Prime Minister Narendra

Modi's 'Digital India' and 'Atmanirbhar Bharat' (Self-Reliant India). The Government of India is already committed to promoting digital infrastructure, skill development, and startups. Microsoft's investment will further bolster these plans. The initiative to train 10 million Indians in AI over the next five years is a significant step to prepare the youth for global competition. This effort will create new opportunities in areas such as cloud infrastructure, data centres, and SaaS (Software as a Service). With the support of the government, Indian industries and startups will become global leaders in competition. The collaborative efforts of Microsoft and the government will not only place India in a leading position on the global AI map but also pave the way for entering a golden era of self-reliance and innovation. RK Jain | Barwani

STAMPEDE AT TIRUPATI TEMPLE

Madam — Six devotees, including four women, and many injured in a stampede near Vishnu Niwasam in Tirupati for getting tokens to visit Tirumala Srivari Vaikuntha Dwara is disturbing, tragic and appalling. A huge rush for getting tokens by devotees had caused the tragedy. But this accident at Tirupathy is unfortunate and could have been avoided. It is the utter failure of the state machinery. Mismanagement in the crowd governance system is a primary cause of the accident. An immediate investigation should be conducted into this incident. Officials should be made accountable for negligence of duty. People were accommodated in temporarily constructed compartments and neatly provided darshan. This token system is ill-advised and should be dispensed with. All safety measures should be put in place so that people have a hassle-free Vaikunta Ekadasi Darshan, which is to run for the next ten days. Sravana Ramachandran | Chennai

EARTHQUAKE IN TIBET

Madam — Powerful Tibet earthquake near Nepal kills 53, injures 62; tremors also felt in Bhutan and northern India, including Delhi-NCR and parts of Bihar. The impact of the temblor was felt across the region of 800,000 people, which is administered by Shigatse, the traditional seat of the Panchen Lama, one of the most important figures in Tibetan Buddhism. Can we ever forget the havoc the Nepal earthquakes wreaked back in 2015, killing about 9,000 people, or the huge quake in China's Sichuan province in 2008 that killed almost 70,000 people? Today (on January 7, 2025), a 7.1 magnitude earthquake, near the Nepal-Tibet border, was felt in North India. India's geographical position at tectonic plate boundaries makes it prone to earthquakes, particularly in the Himalayan and Northeast regions. Bidyut Kumar Chatterjee | Faridabad

How India's healthcare sector is accelerating towards Viksit Bharat 2047



P N ARORA

As India embarks on its journey toward becoming a \$35 trillion economy by 2047, the healthcare sector emerges as a critical pillar in this transformation.

As India aims to achieve its ambitious goal of becoming a \$35 trillion economy by 2047, the healthcare sector stands as the cornerstone of this transformation. With aspirations to increase the average life expectancy from 71 to over 85, India's vision of Viksit Bharat aligns closely with the sentiment of "Swasth Bharat, Viksit Bharat, and Niramaya Bharat." It considers a robust healthcare system not just as a necessity but as the foundation for a healthier, more productive nation.



Viksit Bharat 2047 journey builds upon substantial achievements in the healthcare sector. Since independence, the nation has witnessed notable reductions in neonatal, infant, under-five, and maternal mortality rates, reflecting improved healthcare outcomes. Flagship initiatives such as Ayushman Bharat Health and Wellness Centres, the establishment of new AIIMS, and a growing network of medical colleges have bolstered healthcare delivery. Moreover, digital advancements through initiatives like CoWIN, the Ayushman Bharat Digital Mission, and e-Sanjeevani have revolutionized healthcare accessibility, particularly in rural areas. Role of the Pharmaceutical Sector

India's pharmaceutical leadership has further solidified the country's position as a global healthcare contributor. As a leading producer of vaccines and generic medicines, the nation plays a pivotal role in ensuring global healthcare equity. Coupled with its steadily increasing medical tourism industry, India continues to attract patients worldwide, offering advanced care at affordable costs. The private sector continues to play a crucial role in complementing public healthcare efforts. Innovation, R&D, and cost-effective healthcare models spearheaded by private players have extended quality healthcare to remote and underserved regions. Technological advancements, from AI and robotics to telemedicine and wearables, are shaping the future of healthcare delivery, making it more accessible. Roadmap of Viksit Bharat 2047: Looking ahead, the roadmap to Viksit Bharat 2047 includes priorities such as workforce development through the expansion of medical and nursing colleges, further integration of cutting-edge technologies, and an

emphasis on preventive care, mental health, and holistic wellness. The transition from mass-produced to biotech-based personalized medicine, supported by advancements in CRISPR and nano-technology, is set to redefine pharmaceutical practices. India's healthcare system is also poised to transform its business models, shifting from predominantly out-of-pocket expenses to public and insurance-funded frameworks. This evolution will not only strengthen the healthcare sector but also ensure equity and affordability for all. As India strives toward its 2047 goals, public-private partnerships and an unwavering commitment to equitable healthcare are vital. India's healthcare providers remain dedicated to contributing to this transformative journey. By fostering innovation, enhancing accessibility, and ensuring quality care for all, the sector aims to play an integral role in building a healthier, stronger, and more prosperous India. (The writer is CMD, Yashoda Super Speciality Hospitals, Kaushambi, Ghaziabad; views are personal)

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FIRST COLUMN

TRUMP 2.0: CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES FOR ASEAN

With Trump's return, Southeast Asia finds itself bracing for another era of US ambiguity



KUMARDEEP BANARJEE

With the return of Donald Trump to the US presidency, Southeast Asia braces for another era of unpredictability in American foreign policy. Southeast Asian nations, while expressing formal congratulations following Trump's victory, are now focusing on how his administration will impact their economies and strategic interests. As the region's governments gear up for a distinctly different governance style than the one under President Joe Biden, the potential for dramatic shifts in trade relations, diplomatic ties and regional stability is palpable. The ten members of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN)—spanning from Indonesia to Myanmar—are acutely aware that Southeast Asia may not be at the top of the new administration's priority list.

Trump is a known figure for his transactional and often unpredictable style of diplomacy. ASEAN countries, while understanding the volatility that a Trump administration can bring, remain cautiously optimistic that his return might lead to a return to serious trade talks. Many regional leaders believe that Trump's preference for direct, bilateral negotiations could lead to more favourable deals for specific countries, particularly those that are not bound by multilateral negotiations, like those seen under Biden's tenure. Yet, for many in Southeast Asia, the most pressing concern remains the US-China relationship. Since Trump's first term, ASEAN nations have had to balance their relationships with both China and the US, seeking to maintain economic growth and regional security without angering either side. The dynamic has changed considerably in the



post-pandemic era, as China and ASEAN emerged as each other's largest trade partners. The direction of US-China relations will have profound consequences for Southeast Asia's economic stability and security.

Under Trump, this relationship was tense, marked by the trade war and military posturing, and the nomination of headline China critics, such as Marco Rubio for Secretary of State and Mike Waltz as National Security Advisor, signals that the US will continue to confront China head-on in ways that could disrupt regional dynamics. While many ASEAN leaders are concerned about the economic impact of a hard-line US-China policy, there is also hope that Trump's presidency could bring much-needed attention back to Southeast Asia's trade and strategic importance. This could be particularly appealing to resource-rich nations like Indonesia and the Philippines, which are in high demand for critical minerals used in electronics and green technologies. On the other hand, a significant worry for ASEAN countries is that they may become collateral damage in the US's efforts to reduce its trade deficit.

Despite these uncertainties, ASEAN's primary goal will remain stability and balance. ASEAN countries will push for steady relationships with both global powers, aiming to shield themselves from the worst effects of US-China tensions while seeking to expand their own economic and diplomatic space. To avoid being left behind, India is watching the space closely, as it is well aware that Trump will target Delhi soon.

Delhi is trying to rebuild bilateral relationships with several ASEAN groups of countries, even as it participates with full vigour on the multilateral platform. The chief guest for 2025 Republic Day would be the President of Indonesia, a key country in ASEAN. India's exports to the US could be hit due to Trump's overtures and it needs to find new markets for its products, while gently easing out domestic compliances and trade barriers. The region's future relationship with the US will depend not only on Trump's domestic agenda but also on how ASEAN and India navigate the delicate balance between American and Chinese influence in the years to come.

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

The courage to tell untold stories on the celluloid

Despite the challenges, a new wave of filmmakers continues to illuminate untold stories, challenging entrenched narratives and bringing forgotten truths to light



SANTANU GANGULY



Recently, Prime Minister Narendra Modi has praised the film *The Sabarmati Report* produced by Ekta Kapoor and her Balaji Motion Pictures. Before this also PM has been praised films - *The Kashmir Files* and *The Kerala Story*. It took almost seventy years after the independence of India, for a few courageous filmmakers like Vivek Agnihori to make *Buddha in a Traffic Jam*, *The Tashkent Files*, *The Kashmir Files*, and *Vaccine War*; Sanjay Puri made *72 Hoorain* and Sudipto Sen to make *The Kerala Story* and *Bastar: The Naxal Story* both produced by Vipul Shah. Fortunately, most of these films have been celebrated among the audiences overwhelmingly. The group of pseudo-secular, those who still control the fake narratives to spread one-sided, false propaganda throughout the world, have also been super active in dismissing these films.

But not all filmmakers are lucky enough; forget about PM's praise to release their films, get proper distribution channels or theatres, or the cooperation from the local authorities, governments and positive reviews by film critics. It is almost swimming against the tide. After the success of those films, some independent filmmakers got the courage to tell the true stories, incidents which were unfortunately never been part of our history syllabus. The incidents were not discussed, or debated much by the elite of the society or the so-called liberal, secular, intellectual groups. Very few filmmakers dare to make films on those subjects, because, in most cases, the victims are the majority Hindu community while the oppressors are from other communities. Since the last many years there has been a tendency among the liberals, that whenever the Hindus are the victim, the stories have been buried with all extra efforts so that the so-called peace should be maintained in society.

Even if there has been immense loss of human lives, property, rape of women, and permanent displacement from the homeland, nothing is much more impor-



SINCE THE LAST MANY YEARS THERE HAS BEEN A TENDENCY AMONG THE LIBERALS, THAT WHENEVER THE HINDUS ARE THE VICTIM, THE STORIES HAVE BEEN BURIED WITH ALL EXTRA EFFORTS SO THAT THE SO-CALLED PEACE SHOULD BE MAINTAINED IN SOCIETY

tant than the pseudo ideology of keeping peace in the society to just appease the particular community.

That is why so far whatever films have been made on the partition of India very few films portrayed the true stories. Most of the films are sugar-coated to portray that the victims belong to both communities and it was a loss for everyone. No doubt the partition of India was a great loss for all the communities but why do we feel ashamed to point out the faults and the responsible people? Neither our history books nor the literature or cinema have been ever so brave as to tell the actual stories of our society.

Filmmaker M K Shivaaksh made the film *Accident or Conspiracy: Godhra* which is based on the infamous case of Godhra in Gujarat, where fifty-six Ram devotees were burnt alive in a train coach of the Sabarmati Express by one particular community. Again the film became the victim of the ecosystem and got a very limited release so the film can't be seen by many people in the country. While *The Sabarmati Report* not only got praise from the PM but also Yogi Adityanath, Pushkar Singh Dhami and Naib Singh Saini took time to watch the film along with the crew and casts and made the film tax-free in their respective states UP, Uttarakhand and Haryana because of Ekta Kapoor - Smriti Irani connection. But Shivaaksh was not that lucky at all.

He had planned to release his film *Accident or Conspiracy: Godhra* in February but the censor board delayed the process for seven months. They have asked for literally all the evidence and the makers have provided all the related evidence based on the

Nanavati - Mehta Commission Report, Court Verdicts, eyewitness records as well as all the supporting documents.

To study the material the censor board took seven months and even after that they gave the certificate where they chopped about fifty per cent of the content, informed Shivaaksh. Unfortunately, some renowned actors also took advantage of the situation from these novice young independent filmmakers to bully them, those who have good connections with the government agencies as well as some strong political backing. Initially, they talk big to bag the role and comparatively good remuneration, but after the film is completed, instead of helping the film for smooth sailing, they even discourage the other co-actors from not promoting their film just pretending to be secular. Forget to help with the censor process, they don't even come forward to promote the film, nor even post on social media.

Pushpendra Singh director of *Ajmer 92*, Kamal Chandra director of *Humare Baraah* and *Shivaaksh*, all of them have the same terrible experiences with some of their actors. Akashaditya Lama's *Bengal 1947* described the hardships faced by the displaced Hindu refugees from the then East Pakistan now Bangladesh to the completely unknown, unfamiliar terrain of present days Chhatisgarh.

A few political leaders' high ambitions divided the country into three different territories and created devastating for the crores of innocent people in the country. The film was released in very limited theatres. Akashaditya said that when he made the film in Chhatisgarh, the then Congress government helped him a lot

without imposing many terms and conditions, then Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel, told him only not to show Pundit Nehru in a bad light.

Even a cabinet minister came to receive the shooting team at the airport, and arranged the full-proof security for the entire team, with overwhelming hospitality. By the time the film got ready to release BJP government came to power in Chhatisgarh, but unfortunately, the film never got any special attention or tax rebate from the local government. However, the films have been screened at various film festivals. In the same manner, another film *The Diary of West Bengal* directed by Sanoj Mishra has suffered massively at the hands of the government and political elements of West Bengal.

Finally, the film was released, which too a very limited release by the order of the court. All of these films are not only talking of the great human rights violations by one particular religious community towards the majority Hindu community but also these films are unbiased, true documentation of time a political era as well as the impact on society. Unfortunately, none of these films got any recognition, big awards or even tax rebates from the government. In this situation, a special section "The untold stories" could have been curated in the just concluded International Film Festival of India (IFFI) which would have been very much appropriate to showcase the film to the larger audiences, as well as the screening at IFFI would have certainly boosted the morale of the filmmakers.

(The writer is a Delhi based Film Festival curator. The views expressed are personal)

What gaming regulation can learn from SEBI'S F&O regulations

India's gaming sector stands at a critical juncture. Thoughtful regulation can help it realise its immense potential while safeguarding consumers

Two seemingly disparate sectors—India's gaming industry and capital markets—are drawing significant attention in public policy discourse. Both sectors hold immense promise: gaming contributes to job creation, while capital markets foster capital formation. However, both also pose substantial challenges. Gaming can lead to habit formation and addiction, while the Futures and Options (F&O) segment of capital markets carries risks of speculative losses. Policymakers have tackled these challenges differently, with contrasting approaches in gaming and F&O regulation.



MANDAR KAGADE

around 568 million players—and employing 15,000 developers. The sector's revenue is projected to grow from \$3 billion in 2023 to \$6 billion by 2028, potentially creating 250,000 new jobs over the next decade. With development costs in India nearly 50 per cent lower than the global average, gaming has the potential to generate significant export revenues. However, this growth depends

on balanced regulation, particularly concerning gaming's habit-forming nature. Unfortunately, current proposals by the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY), the Advertising Standards Council of India (ASCI), and other stakeholders lean toward rigid, prescriptive measures, drawing inspiration from China's heavy-handed regulatory framework.

Flaws in Current Gaming Regulation

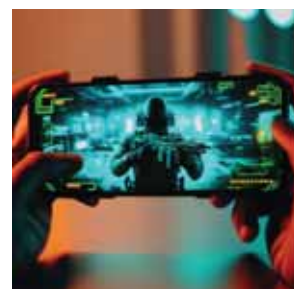
1. Time and Age Restrictions Proposals to impose strict time limits and age restrictions on gaming apps are touted as innovative but raise significant concerns. Forcing intermediaries to monitor minors' activities infringes on privacy and contravenes the data minimi-

sation principle of India's Digital Personal Data Protection Act (DPDPA). Such policies may inadvertently lead to surveillance overreach, compromising minors' online privacy.

Parents, who have a far greater vested interest in their children's wellbeing, are better positioned to manage their gaming habits. Handing this responsibility to unelected bureaucrats not only undermines parental discretion but also risks creating intrusive and overly broad policies.

2. Blanket Warnings and Advertising Restrictions

The Ministry of Education's 2021 advisory linking online gaming to "gaming disorder" is an overgeneralisation. Such broad statements, without clinical substantiation, stigmatise



gaming and equate it with gambling. Similarly, ASCI's restrictions on advertisements portraying gaming as a viable career path stifle creativity. These measures lump educational and cerebral games with gambling-like activities, disincentivising developers from creating "good habit-forming" games. This could slow innovation and limit the gaming sector's growth potential.

Learning from SEBI'S Approach to F&O Regulation

The Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) faced a similar challenge with F&O trading, where explosive volumes exposed retail investors to speculative risks. Instead of resorting to outright bans,

Key Steps by SEBI:

Increased Contract Sizes: Raising the minimum investment size by 50 per cent reduced speculative trading by retail investors.

Disclosure Requirements: Brokers were mandated to display potential downsides prominently, promoting informed decision-making.

Structural Adjustments: Limiting weekly expiries to one per exchange curbed excessive speculative activity. These steps exemplify a bal-

anced approach—relying on nudges and incentives rather than bans. SEBI recognised that heavy-handed policies could undermine broader goals, such as increasing equity market participation.

India's gaming sector can benefit from SEBI's measured approach to F&O regulation. Policymakers must embrace strategies that balance innovation, consumer protection, and industry growth. Here are three actionable recommendations:

1. Nudges and Incentives Over Mandates:

Rather than micromanaging user behavior, regulators can incentivise responsible gaming through voluntary measures. For instance, gaming platforms could offer rewards for adhering to healthy gaming limits.

2. Transparent Education Over Stigma

Policymakers should prioritise honest disclosures about gaming's potential downsides instead of messaging that fosters shame. Clear and factual communication can empower gamers to make informed choices without demonising the industry.

3. Consideration of Unintended Consequences:

A tunnel-vision approach risks stifling innovation and creating barriers to growth. Policymakers must evaluate how restrictive measures might deter investment, hinder creativity, or drive users to unregulated platforms.

(The writer is Founder & Principal, Black Dot Public Policy Advisors; views are personal)

Hollywood Hills fire breaks out as deadly wildfires burn out of control across Los Angeles

PTI ■ LOS ANGELES

A fast-moving fire broke out in the Hollywood Hills on Wednesday night, threatening one of Los Angeles' most iconic spots as firefighters battled to get under control three other major blazes that killed five people, put 100,000 people under evacuation orders and ravaged the city from the Pacific Coast to inland Pasadena.

The Sunset Fire was burning near the Hollywood Bowl and about a mile (kilometer) from the Hollywood Walk of Fame. The streets around Grauman's Chinese Theatre and Madame Tussauds were packed with stop-and-go traffic as sirens blared and low-flying helicopters soared by on their way to dump water on the flames. People toting suitcases left hotels on foot, while some onlookers walked towards the flames, recording the fire on their phones.

More than 1,000 structures, mostly homes, have been destroyed, and more than 130,000 people are under evacuation orders in the metropolitan area. Winds eased up some Wednesday, a day after hurricane-force winds blew embers through the air, igniting block after block, and hundreds of firefighters from other

states have arrived to help, but the four fires burning out of control showed the danger is far from over.

More than half a dozen schools in the area were either damaged or destroyed, including Palisades Charter High School, which has been featured in many Hollywood productions, including the 1976 horror movie "Carrie" and the TV series "Teen Wolf," officials said. Los Angeles Mayor Karen Bass said air operations were dousing flames. She warned they still faced "erratic winds," though not of hurricane force like Tuesday evening, when much of the destruction occurred.

In Pasadena, Fire Chief Chad Augustin said between 200 and 500 structures have been damaged or lost from the Eaton Fire that started Tuesday night. He said the city's water system was stretched and was further hampered by power outages but even without those issues, firefighters would not have been able to stop the fire as embers blown by the intense winds ignited block after block. "We were not stopping that fire last night," he said. "Those erratic wind gusts were throwing embers for multiple miles ahead of the fire."

On the Pacific Coast west of downtown Los Angeles, a



Los Angeles Fire Department firefighters work to extinguish a house fire as the Palisades Fire ravages a neighborhood amid high winds in the Pacific Palisades neighborhood of Los Angeles.

AP/PTI

major fire leveled entire blocks, reducing grocery stores and banks to rubble in the Pacific Palisades, a hillside area along the coast dotted with celebrity homes and memorialized by the Beach Boys in their 1960s hit "Surfer USA." More than 1,000 structures were destroyed in the Palisades fire, the most destructive in the modern history of LA. Many people were hurt, including

first responders, LA County Fire Chief Anthony Marrone said. The scope of the destruction was just becoming clear: Block after block of California Mission Style homes and bungalows were reduced to nothing but charred remains dotted by stone fireplaces and blackened arched entryways. Ornate iron railing wrapped around the smoldering frame of one

house. The apocalyptic scenes spread for miles. Swimming pools were blackened with soot, and sports cars slumped on melted tires. As flames moved through his neighborhood, Jose Velasquez sprayed down his Altadena home with water as embers rained down on the roof. He managed to save their home, which also houses their family business of selling churrros,

a Mexican pastry. Others weren't so lucky. Many of his neighbors were at work when they lost their homes. "So we had to call a few people and then we had people messaging, asking if their house was still standing," he said. "We had to tell them that it's not." Beyond the burned areas, residents worked wearing N95 masks, unable to escape the toxic smoke wafting over huge

sections of the city.

Actors lost homes: The flames marched toward highly populated and affluent neighborhoods, including Calabasas and Santa Monica, home to California's rich and famous. Hollywood stars. Mandy Moore, Cary Elwes and Paris Hilton are among the stars who said Wednesday they had lost homes. Billy Crystal and his wife Janice lost their home of 45 years in the Palisades Fire. "We raised our children and grandchildren here. Every inch of our house was filled with love. Beautiful memories that can't be taken away," the Crystals wrote in the statement. In Palisades Village, the public library, two major grocery stores, a pair of banks and several boutiques were destroyed. "It's just really weird coming back to somewhere that doesn't really exist anymore," said Dylan Vincent, who returned to the neighborhood to retrieve some items and saw that his elementary school had burned down and that whole blocks had been flattened. The fires have consumed a total of about 42 square miles (108 square kilometers) — nearly the size of the entire city of San Francisco. **Landmarks get scorched and studios suspend production:** President Joe Biden signed a federal emergency declaration

after arriving at a Santa Monica fire station for a briefing with Gov Gavin Newsom, who dispatched National Guard troops to help. Several Hollywood studios suspended production, and Universal Studios closed its theme park between Pasadena and Pacific Palisades.

With an estimated 1,000 structures destroyed and the fire still active, the Palisades Fire is by far the city's most destructive in modern history, topping the Sayre fire in 2008 that destroyed just over 600 structures, according to statistics kept by the Wildfire Alliance, a partnership between the city's fire department and MySafe:LA. Structures refers to homes and other buildings. Southern California Edison shut off service to thousands because of safety concerns related to high winds and fire risks. More than 1.5 million customers could face shutoffs depending on weather conditions, the utility said. Several Southern California landmarks were heavily damaged, including the Reel Inn in Malibu, a seafood restaurant. Owner Teddy Leonard and her husband hope to rebuild. "When you look at the grand scheme of things, as long as your family is well and everyone's alive, you're still winning, right?" she said.

"PUBLIC NOTICE FOR LOST DOCUMENTS"

To Whomsoever It May Concern

My clients (1) Smt. Lata Mittal, W/o Sh. Susheel Mittal, R/o F-395, Sudarshan Park, New Delhi-15 and (2) Mr. Shrey Mittal, S/o Sh. Susheel Mittal, R/o F-52, Bali Nagar, New Delhi-15 are registered owner of a PROPERTY known as C-101, area measuring 152 sq. yards, part of Khasra no. 732 Min., situated in the estate of Village NAWADA, New Delhi-59 abadi known as Block-C, Mohan Garden, Uttam Nagar, New Delhi-110059.

This PROPERTY was purchased by them from Shri Pradeep Dahiya and Shri Naveen Dahiya both sons of Shri Prem Singh Dahiya, R/o B-82, Teachers Colony, Samaipur, Delhi-42 vide regd. Sale Deed as document no. 5816, Book no. 1, vol. no. 4178 on pages 41 to 49, regd. on 19-03-2019 regd. in the office of The Sub-Registrar IIB, Janakpuri, New Delhi. Since then this PROPERTY is in the possession of my clients, Pradeep Dahiya and Naveen Dahiya acquired the same from their sister Smt. Sunita, D/o Sh. Prem Singh, R/o B-82, Teacher Colony, Samaipur, Delhi-42 through registered GPA in blood relation. It has come to our notice that some previous documents/chain of the PROPERTY documents are lost/misplaced by Smt. Sunita. The details of original documents lost are mentioned below:-

1. Original Agreement and Affidavit both dated 19.11.1998 executed by Shri Kali Ram, S/o Sh. Risal Singh in favour of Smt. Sunita, D/o Sh. Prem Singh. 2. Original GPA, Agreement to Sell and Affidavit, all dated 27.11.1990 executed by Smt. Ram Rathi, W/o Sh. Jai Pal Rathi in favour of Sh. Kali Ram, S/o Sh. Risal Singh. 3. Original GPA, Agreement to Sell, Affidavit and WILL, all dated 04.03.1987 executed by Sh. Shori Lal, S/o Sh. Ram Chand in favour of Smt. Ram Rathi, W/o Sh. Jai Pal Rathi. 4. Original GPA, Agreement to Sell, Affidavit and WILL, all dated 22.12.1986 executed by Sh. Sewa Ram, S/o Sh. Chaman Lal in favour of Sh. Shori Lal, S/o Sh. Ram Chand. 5. Original Sale Deed dated 03.07.1972 executed by Sh. Subey Singh, S/o Sh. Tulsi Ram in favour of Sh. Sewa Ram, S/o Sh. Chaman Lal.

A Police complaint for above said missing/lost documents is registered under FIR / LR No.2030806/2018 dated 22-08-2018.

If anyone has these documents with him/her or have any information regarding these lost documents, he/she may inform to my client at 9871394810 or 9871394811. If anyone has any claim on the said property, the same is informed to me at the below given address by regd. post within 15 days from the date of appearance of this Notice in the Newspaper.

I request all concerned parties to take note of this public notice and not to deal with any person claiming to be the owner of the said property without the written consent of my clients.

— Sanjay Rana, Advocate (Mob.: 9811031327)
Enrl. no. D-2803/08, Delhi High Court
Add.: Plot no. 15, Gali No. 1, Mahavir Vihar Colony
Near SDM/DC Office, Kanjhawala, Delhi — 110081

Body of Israeli hostage found in Gaza, possibly alongside his son's remains

PTI ■ JERUSALEM

Israeli soldiers recovered the body of a 53-year-old hostage in an underground tunnel in southern Gaza, the military said Wednesday, and the army was determining if another set of remains belongs to the man's son. The discovery of Yosef AlZayadni's body comes as Israel and Hamas are considering a ceasefire deal that would free the remaining hostages in Gaza and could halt the fighting. Israel has declared about a third of the 100 hostages dead, but believes as many as half could be alive. Yosef and his son Hamzah AlZayadni were thought to still be alive before Wednesday's announcement, and news about their fate could ramp up pressure on Israel to move forward with a deal.

The military said it found evidence in the tunnel that raised "serious concerns" for the life of Hamzah AlZayadni, 23, suggesting he may have died in captivity. Col. Nadav Shoshani, an Israeli military spokesperson, said the circumstances behind Yosef AlZayadni's death were being investigated. AlZayadni and three of his children were among 250 hostages taken captive after Hamas-led militants stormed into southern Israel, killing 1,200 people. AlZayadni, who had 19 children, worked at the dairy farm at Kibbutz Holit for 17 years, said the Hostages Families Forum, a group representing the relatives of captives. AlZayadni's teenage children, Bilal and Aisha, were released along with about 100 hostages in a weeklong ceasefire deal in November 2023.

The family are members of the Bedouin community, part of Israel's Palestinian minority who have Israeli citizenship. The traditionally nomadic community is particularly impoverished in Israel and has suffered from neglect and marginalisation. Palestinians make up some 20 per cent of Israel's 10 million population, and millions more live in Gaza and under Israeli military occupation in the West Bank. Eight members of Israel's Bedouin minority were abducted in the October 2023 attacks. Yosef AlZayadni appeared on a list of 34 hostages shared by a Hamas official with The Associated Press earlier this week who the militant group said were slated for release. Israel said this was a list it had submitted to mediators last July, and that it has received nothing from

Hamas. US Secretary of State Antony Blinken said Wednesday that a ceasefire and hostage deal between Israel and Hamas is "very close" and he hopes "we can get it over the line" before handing over US diplomacy to President-elect Donald Trump's administration later this month. Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu expressed sorrow at the news of AlZayadni's death, and said in a statement he had "hoped and worked to bring back the four members of the family from Hamas captivity." Israeli Defence Minister Israel Katz earlier said the bodies of both Yosef and Hamzah AlZayadni had been recovered, but the military said the identity of some remains were not yet determined. The Hostages Families Forum said the ceasefire deal being nego-

tiated "comes far too late for Yosef - who was taken alive and should have returned the same way." "Every day in captivity poses an immediate mortal danger to the hostages," the group said in a statement.

The bodies of around three dozen hostages have been recovered in Gaza, including the two on Wednesday, and eight have been rescued by the army. Many of the families fear their loved ones' fate is at risk as long as the war in Gaza rages on. Israeli forces are pressing their air and ground war against Hamas, and Palestinian medics said Israeli airstrikes killed at least five people in the Gaza Strip on Wednesday, including two infants and a woman. Israel's military says it only targets militants, accusing them of hiding among civilians.

THE PIONEER CLASSIFIEDS

CHANGE OF NAME

I, Prahalad Singh, Father of JC-472773K Sub Udai Singh, R/o VPO- Pritampur Via Kanwat, Teh- Neem Ka Thana, Dist- Sikar, Rajasthan-332708, have changed my name from Prahalad Singh to Prahalad Singh vide affidavit dated 09/01/2025 before Notary Public Delhi.

PD(1218)C

I, Kamala Devi, Mother of JC-472773K Sub Udai Singh, R/o VPO- Pritampur Via Kanwat, Teh- Neem Ka Thana, Dist- Sikar, Rajasthan-332708, have changed my name from Kamala Devi to Kamla Kanwar vide affidavit dated 09/01/2025 before Notary Public Delhi.

PD(1219)C

I, Joginder Lal Narang S/o-Om Parkash Narang, R/o D-87, Lord Krishna Road, Adarsh Nagar, Delhi-110033, declare that Krishna Narang is my son, in his documents, my name is erroneously written as Jugender Narang & Jugender Lal Narang, whereas my correct name is Joginder Lal Narang, all these names pertain to one and same person, i.e. myself.

PD(1220)C

I, Tejas Makhija S/o- Pratap Makhija, R/o- Flat No. 328, Sanskriti Apartments, DDA Multistorey, Sector- 19 B, Dwarka, South West Delhi, Delhi-110075, declare that in my Passport (No. # C6639300), my name is erroneously written as Tejas, whereas my actual name is Tejas Makhija, which may be amended accordingly.

PD(1221)C

I, JC-736560K Nb/Sub Obbalarreddi Manga Raju, R/o- D.No-17-1-112/1, Velama Veedhi, Revenue Ward No.- 12, Narsipatnam, Anakapalli, A.P.- 531116, have changed my name from Varahalu to Varahalu Obbalarreddi for all future purposes, vide affidavit dated 09/01/2025 before Executive Magistrate, Delhi Cantt.

PD(1222)C

I, JC-736560K Nb/Sub Obbalarreddi Manga Raju, R/o- D.No-17-1-112/1, Velama Veedhi, Revenue Ward No.- 12, Narsipatnam, Anakapalli, A.P.- 531116, have changed my name from Sanyasi to Sanyasi Obbalarreddi for all future purposes and in my service records my father's date of birth is wrongly mentioned as 15/06/1956 instead of his correct D.O.B. as 25/12/1956, vide affidavit dated 09/01/2025 before Executive Magistrate, Delhi Cantt.

PD(1223)C

I, hitherto known as Manjeet Kaur alias Manjeet Kaur Tuli D/o Jageer Singh, and W/o Gurdeep Singh Tuli R/o A-86, Second Floor, Chandler Nagar, Janak Puri New Delhi, Janakpuri B-1, West Delhi, Delhi-110058, have changed my name and shall hereafter be known as Manjeet Kaur Tuli.

PD(1224)C

I, RAINA GUPTA W/o Dwarika Prasad Gupta R/o RZ-179, Gali No.4 Dabri Vaishali Dabri South West Delhi-110045 have changed my name to RITU GUPTA for all future purposes

PD(1225)C

I, Rajesh Sharma S/o Manoj Sharma R/o House No. RZ-26, Gali No.3 Phase-2, Nangloi Raod Najafghar Jai Vihar South West Delhi-110043 have changed my minor daughter name ARCHNA alias KHUSHI KUMARI aged 16 year to KHUSHI KUMARI

PD(1226)C

Impeached President Yoon's lawyers warn detention may spark 'civil war'

PTI ■ SEOUL (SOUTH KOREA)

South Korean opposition parties introduced a bill Thursday calling for an independent investigation into impeached President Yoon Suk Yeol's brief martial law declaration, as thousands of his supporters and critics held tense rallies near his residence ahead of his potential detention. The bill, jointly submitted by six parties, including the main liberal opposition Democratic Party, proposes that a special prosecutor investigate whether Yoon's martial law decree on December 3 constituted an attempted rebellion. The bill also calls for an investigation into opposition claims that Yoon sought to provoke a clash with North Korea by allegedly flying drones over Pyongyang or discussing the possibility of shooting down trash-laden balloons launched from North Korea across the border, to justify a power grab at home. Yoon's lawyers and the South Korean military have denied the suspicions. Yoon remained holed up at his official residence in the capital city of Seoul, where the presidential security service has fortified the grounds with barbed wire and rows of vehicles blocking the roads, anticipating another attempt by law enforcement to detain him after last week's failed effort.

The Corruption Investigation Office for High-Ranking Officials, leading a joint investigation with police and the military, has pledged to work with police to make a more forceful effort to detain Yoon. It has warned that members of the presidential security staff could be arrested if they obstruct attempts to apprehend the embattled president. Yoon's lawyers argued against bringing him to custody, claiming he isn't a threat to flee or destroy evidence. They claimed that images of him being dragged out in handcuffs could spark a "civil war" in the divided country. At a news conference Thursday, Seok Dong-hyeon, a lawyer on Yoon's legal team, highlighted the fervent protests by Yoon's supporters and claimed that the anti-corruption office's "reckless" attempts to detain Yoon would "provoke a significant backlash from outraged citizens." "It would essentially be a civil war situation," he said, claiming that attempts to detain Yoon are aimed at humiliating him by displaying him in handcuffs. Separated by police lines and fences, thousands of Yoon's supporters and crit-

ics continued their daily rallies near his residence, shouting passionate slogans either vowing to protect him or calling for his ouster. They occasionally exchanged verbal insults, though there were no immediate reports of major clashes. The opposition has claimed that an independent investigation is crucial because separate investigations led by the country's anti-corruption agency and public prosecutors have been hindered by Yoon's unwillingness to cooperate. The new bill proposes that the Supreme Court's chief justice recommend two candidates to Yoon, who would then select one as the special prosecutor. If Yoon refuses to appoint anyone, the elder of the two candidates would automatically assume the role. The opposition's earlier bill proposing an independent investigation was rejected by the National Assembly on Wednesday, as members of Yoon's conservative party opposed a clause allowing only opposition parties to recommend special prosecutor candidates. That bill was voted down by just two votes, and the Democrats were hopeful that the new bill would get through.

China concerned over new Syrian regime appointing Xinjiang Uygur militants to top military posts

PTI ■ BEIJING

China said it is greatly concerned over the new Syrian government appointing foreign terrorist fighters, especially from the banned Uygur militant group "the East Turkestan Islamic Movement", to senior military ranks. The East Turkestan Islamic Movement (ETIM) is active in China's volatile Xinjiang province. These remarks were made by Fu Cong, China's permanent representative to the UN, at the UN Security Council Briefing on Syria on Wednesday. China is greatly concerned about the reports that said the Syrian Army has recently granted senior military ranks to a number of foreign terrorist fighters, including the head of Council, a listed terrorist organisation, the Turkistan Islamic Party, also known as the ETIM, Cong said. He called on Syria to fulfil its counter-terrorism obligations and to

prevent any terrorist forces from using Syrian territory to threaten the security of other countries, according to official media reports here. Reports from Syria say that the new Syrian regime headed by de-facto leader Ahmed al-Sharaa has appointed 50 new military officials of which six were foreign fighters, including that of ETIM. The Army is being re-organised by Hayat Tahrir al-Sham (HTS), the Islamist group that is now effective in charge of the country following the overthrow of former President Bashar al-Assad earlier this month. Based on the names that have been published, they are said to include Chinese Uygurs, a Jordanian and a Turkish national. All are said to have been given high-ranking positions as colonels or brigadier-generals, BBC reported. China has supported the Assad regime and was caught unawares by its sudden fall. Assad himself fled to Russia where he was

granted asylum. Thousands of fighters from many different countries joined the uprising against Assad as it became an all-out armed conflict when mass protests were met with violence by the security forces. The new appointments appear to have been made in order to reward those fighters - whether from Syria or elsewhere - who played a significant role in the final triumph over the regime. The issue is just one of many that could complicate any successful transition to a new political and social framework in Syria, the BBC report said. For China, ETIM is a red rag as it blames the Uygur militant group for a number of militant strikes in different cities in China and Xinjiang where the Uygur Muslims who constituted the majority were restive over the large-scale settlements of ethnic Hans from other provinces. For over a decade China has deployed thousands of security forces to control the militancy.

SRF LIMITED
Regd. Office: The Galleria, DLF Mayur Vihar, Unit No. 236 & 237, 2nd Floor, Mayur Vihar Place, Noida Link Road, Mayur Vihar Phase I Extn, Delhi-110091
Corporate Office: Block-C, Sector 45, Gurugram, Haryana-122 003
Tel. No (Regd office) : (+91-11) 49482870; Fax : (+91-11) 49482900
E-mail: cs@srf.com, Website: www.srf.com; CIN: L18101DL1970PLC005197

NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that Share Certificates pertaining to shares of the Company detailed below have been reported lost and request(s) for issue of duplicate Certificates in lieu thereof have been received by the Company :-

Sl. No.	Folio No.	Name of the Share Holder / Legal Heir (Claimant)	Cert.No.	Dist.No.	Lost Shares
1	SRF0110547	RAMESH KUMAR GUPTA: Deceased	4748	1273681-730	50
			10876	1602351-400	50
			61539	3296730-79	50
			1131258	310540442-1241	800
			90244621	1214181-220	40
2	SRF0032649	SUDHA GUPTA: Claimant	1136606	296154130-529	400
			90069192-4	9027126-225	100
3	R 0006357	RAM SWAROOP: Deceased	142523	5759082-99	18
			976765	18596283-318	36
			1138723	296594822-5037	216
4	M 0004306	PRAVEEN MITTAL: Claimant	19679	1855901-25	25
			50481-2	2716426-75	50
			51065	2732126-50	25
			70159	3462137-80	44
			132266-7	5477741-812	72
			1138316	296502266-3769	1504
5	R 0002771	DEEPAK SEHGAL: Claimant	90112201-4	7126614-773	160
			140544-5	5711766-856	91
			1137764	296399994-400357	364
			100368	296399994-400357	12
6	C 0000717	CHINUBHAI VADILAL HEMCHAND: Deceased	307076-9	15840541-613	73
			456076-9	23860333-405	73
			975336	18551237-61	25
			1132642	295348014-9105	1092
			90015558	6308430-69	40
			90154199	10541835-84	50
			140623	5713118-35	18
			976630	18591667-702	36
			1134045	295645750-965	216
			1136242	296092954-3353	400
7	R 0002991	CHINUBHAI VADILAL HEMCHAND: Deceased	90068199-201	8997406-505	100
8	SRF0032126	KAMLESH CHINUBHAI NAWAB: Claimant			

Public is hereby cautioned against dealing with the aforesaid share certificates.

for SRF LIMITED

Sd/-
RAJAT LAKHANPAL
Sr. VP (Corporate Compliance) & Company Secretary

Place: Gurugram
Date: 09-01-2025

Zelensky, Austin say military aid to Ukraine must continue under Trump

Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky and US Defence Secretary Lloyd Austin used their final meeting Thursday to press the incoming Trump administration to not give up on Kyiv's fight, warning that to cease military support now "will only invite more aggression, chaos and war."

through presidential draw-down authority, meaning they can be pulled directly from US stockpiles, and the Pentagon is pushing to get them into Ukraine before the end of the month. This latest package leaves about USD 3.85 billion in funding to provide future arms shipments to Ukraine; if the Biden administration makes no further announcements, that balance will be available to President-elect Donald Trump to send if he chooses.

Austin leaves a consortium that now has more than a half dozen independent coalitions of those countries who are focused on Ukraine's long-term security capabilities and who have committed to continuing to stand up those needs through 2027. Globally, countries including the US have ramped up domestic weapons production as the Ukraine war exposed that all of those stockpiles were woefully unprepared for a major conventional land war.

Taiwan demonstrates sea defences against potential Chinese attack

Taiwan on Thursday demonstrated its sea defences against a potential Chinese attack as tensions rise with Beijing, part of a multitiered strategy to deter an invasion from the mainland. The island's navy highlighted its Kuang Hua VI fast attack missile boats and Tu Chiang-class corvettes in waters near Taiwan's largest port of Kaohsiung, a major hub for international trade considered key to resupplying Chinese forces should they establish a beachhead on the island.

The Kuang Hua VI boats, with a crew of 19, carry indigenously developed Hsiung Feng II anti-ship missiles and displayed their ability to take to the sea in an emergency to intercept enemy ships about to cross the 44-kilometer (24-nautical mile) limit of Taiwan's contiguous zone, within which governments are permitted to take defensive action.

China routinely sends ships and planes to challenge Taiwan's willingness and ability to counter intruders, prompting Taiwan to scramble jets, activate missile systems and dispatch warships. Taiwan demanded on Wednesday that China end its ongoing military activity in near-by waters, which it said is undermining peace and stability in the Taiwan Strait and disrupting international shipping and trade.

PUBLIC NOTICE: Be it known to all person that my client Smt. Mamata Tiwari, wife of Late Smt. Shyam Narain Tiwari is the only legal owner of the property measuring 200 Sq. Yards comprising Plot Nos. B-178, and B-179, Shyam Kunj, Near Goyla Village, New Delhi-110071 and she has not transferred/Sold nor has authorized any person to Sell or Transfer or to do any kind of transaction or agreement with any person with regard to said plots of land on her behalf, if any person is dealing with the said property, it shall be at his/her own risk and consequences and my client shall not be responsible for the same.

PARADIP PORT AUTHORITY ADMINISTRATIVE DEPARTMENT e-TENDER CALL NOTICE No. AD/OE/EG-47/13(Vol. VII)/2787 Dtd. 31.12.2024 Name of the work: "Providing Secretarial and other assistance for official works of Administrative Department". Estimated cost put to tender ₹ 1,95,50,947.00 (excluding GST @ 18% & Contractor's Commission).

ESAF GOLD AUCTION NOTICE: Notice is hereby given for the information of all concerned that Gold ornaments pledged with ESAF Small Finance Bank and not redeemed by borrowers, despite repeated reminders and notices, of our branches, are listed below. This will be auctioned as per the details given below.

CONSTRUCTION, P. WAY AND FORMATION WORKS IN KATHIAR DIVISION: Tender Notice No.: KIR/Engg./01 of 2025, Dated: 03-01-2025, E-Tender are invited by the undersigned for the following work: Tender No. 1: Brief Description of Work: At New Jalpaiguri: Construction of one coach length sick line - 2 Coach holding (Extension - 1). Tender Value: ₹4,79,07,958.84/-; Bid Security: ₹3,89,500/-; Tender No. 2: Brief Description of Work: Kathihar - Teznarayanpur - Provision of RGM Siding - 2 stations under the jurisdiction of S.DENIVI/Kathihar. (P.Way works and Formation works). Tender Value: ₹1,75,27,465.42; Bid Security: ₹2,37,600/-; Date & time of closing of above tenders at 15:00 hrs. and opening at 15:30 hrs. on 03-02-2025.

Debt Recovery Tribunal - I, Delhi: Debts Recovery Tribunal - I, Delhi 4th Floor, Jeevan Tara Building, Parliament Street, New Delhi-110001. TA 1813/2022 BANK OF INDIA Applicant VS M/S S/WADESHI ALUMINIUM CO P LTD Defendants

PARADIP PORT AUTHORITY ADMINISTRATIVE DEPARTMENT e-TENDER CALL NOTICE No. AD/OE/EG-47/13(Vol. VII)/2787 Dtd. 31.12.2024 Name of the work: "Service contract for office management and allied works in various departments / divisions and operational areas of PPA". Estimated cost put to tender ₹4,15,09,160.00 (excluding GST @ 18% & Contractor's Commission).

PARADIP PORT AUTHORITY ADMINISTRATIVE DEPARTMENT e-TENDER CALL NOTICE No. AD/OE/EG-47/13(Vol. VII)/2787 Dtd. 31.12.2024 Name of the work: "Service contract for office management and allied works in various departments / divisions and operational areas of PPA". Estimated cost put to tender ₹4,15,09,160.00 (excluding GST @ 18% & Contractor's Commission).

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BEFORE THE ADDITIONAL SUB COURT AT CHENGALPATTU IN STATE OF TAMIL NADU I.A. NO. 3 OF 2024 IN O.S. No. 86 of 2024 M/s. CENTURY LEATHERS (P) LIMITED REP BY ITS AUTHORISED REPRESENTATIVE MS. GEETA MOHANTY. PETITIONER/PLAINTIFFS -VS- BALWINDER SINGH & OTHERS To, RESPONDENTS/DEFENDANTS

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Baba Farid University of Health Sciences, Faridkot (Ph.D SECTION): BABA FARID UNIVERSITY OF HEALTH SCIENCES, FARIDKOT Ph.D ENTRANCE TEST (PHDET) - Jan 2025. Online fresh applications in the prescribed format are invited through University website w.e.f from 10/01/2025 to 30/01/2025 for admission to Ph.D Courses in faculties of Medical /Allied Health/Dental/ Nursing/ Physiotherapy/ Pharmaceutical Sciences, alongwith fee of Rs. 3000/- + 18% GST through University payment gateway. The date of Entrance Examination will be notified on University website later on. For eligibility/ detail/ updates visit at University at: www.bfuhs.ac.in

Debt Recovery Tribunal - I, Delhi: Debts Recovery Tribunal - I, Delhi 4th Floor, Jeevan Tara Building, Parliament Street, New Delhi-110001. TA 1813/2022 BANK OF INDIA Applicant VS M/S S/WADESHI ALUMINIUM CO P LTD Defendants

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OFFICE OF THE MUNICIPAL CORPORATION, BHOPAL, DIST BHOPAL (M.P.) (Sewerage Project of PACKAGE-1) (FIRST CALL) Notice Inviting e-Tenders. NIT No. 04/SEW/AMRUT-2.0/BMC/2025 Online Lump sum bid for the following AMRUT 2.0 works are invited from registered contractors and firms of reputed fulfilling eligibility criteria.

Equinox India Tapir Constructions Limited: (CIN: U70200DL2014PLC267441) Extract of Unaudited Financial Results for the quarter and nine months ended 31 December 2024 (₹ in Millions)

BEFORE THE ADDITIONAL SUB COURT AT CHENGALPATTU IN STATE OF TAMIL NADU I.A. NO. 3 OF 2024 IN O.S. No. 86 of 2024 M/s. CENTURY LEATHERS (P) LIMITED REP BY ITS AUTHORISED REPRESENTATIVE MS. GEETA MOHANTY. PETITIONER/PLAINTIFFS -VS- BALWINDER SINGH & OTHERS To, RESPONDENTS/DEFENDANTS

MANIBHAVNAM HOME FINANCE INDIA PRIVATE LIMITED POSSESSION NOTICE (Appendix IV) Rule 8(1): Whereas, M/s Vatika Seven Elements Pvt. Ltd. (Formerly known as Strong Infrabuilt Pvt. Ltd. & Others) is developing a Residential Group Housing Colony over an area measuring 14.30 acres in the revenue estate of Village Harsaru & Hayatpur, Sector-89A, Gurugram, Haryana, in accordance with the provision of license no. 41 of 2013 dated 06.06.2013 granted by Director, Town & Country Planning, Haryana, Chandigarh.

PUBLIC NOTICE: To be known to all that I, RAJESH KUMAR SAXENA S/o SH. GANESH LAL SAXENA, allottee of JANTA FLAT NO. 223, SECOND FLOOR, BLOCK-D, POCKET-11, JASOLA, NEW DELHI have applied for Certified Copies of the aforesaid flat vide File No./J21(1549) 2004/JHS/JL in DDA. The original documents i.e. DEMAND-CUM-ALLOTMENT LETTER, POSSESSION LETTER and NOC to water and electric of the above said flat has been lost. An NCR/LR No.2451374/2024 dated 31.12.2024 to this effect has been lodged in P.S. Crime Branch, Delhi. Any persons claiming any right, interest, having any objection or found in possession of original documents, may write to the undersigned person at above Address/Phone No.639614059 within 15days from the date of publication of this notice. The person claiming any right, interest, objection with respect to this property, can personally inform or write to Deputy Director (H) or Director (H), D Block, Vikas Sadan, New Delhi

Debt Recovery Tribunal - I, Delhi: Debts Recovery Tribunal - I, Delhi 4th Floor, Jeevan Tara Building, Parliament Street, New Delhi-110001. TA 1813/2022 BANK OF INDIA Applicant VS M/S S/WADESHI ALUMINIUM CO P LTD Defendants

Debt Recovery Tribunal - I, Delhi: Debts Recovery Tribunal - I, Delhi 4th Floor, Jeevan Tara Building, Parliament Street, New Delhi-110001. TA 1813/2022 BANK OF INDIA Applicant VS M/S S/WADESHI ALUMINIUM CO P LTD Defendants

SAGAR SMART CITY LIMITED, SAGAR Registered Office : Sagar Smart City Office, 2nd Floor, ICCB Building New Collectorate Premises, Sagar, M.P.-470002 Phone : 07582-242850, E-mail: smartcitysagarp@gmail.com No./SSCL/2025/11 Sagar, Date : 04.01.2025 NOTICE INVITING TENDER Sagar Smart City Ltd. (SSCL) invites online Bids from eligible Bidders for "Selection of an Agency for Construction and Development of Road- Tili Junction to Girdharipuram Sagar under Smart Cities Mission". Tender No. 2025/SSCL/143

CONSTRUCTION, P. WAY AND FORMATION WORKS IN KATHIAR DIVISION: Tender Notice No.: KIR/Engg./01 of 2025, Dated: 03-01-2025, E-Tender are invited by the undersigned for the following work: Tender No. 1: Brief Description of Work: At New Jalpaiguri: Construction of one coach length sick line - 2 Coach holding (Extension - 1). Tender Value: ₹4,79,07,958.84/-; Bid Security: ₹3,89,500/-; Tender No. 2: Brief Description of Work: Kathihar - Teznarayanpur - Provision of RGM Siding - 2 stations under the jurisdiction of S.DENIVI/Kathihar. (P.Way works and Formation works). Tender Value: ₹1,75,27,465.42; Bid Security: ₹2,37,600/-; Date & time of closing of above tenders at 15:00 hrs. and opening at 15:30 hrs. on 03-02-2025.

BEFORE THE ADDITIONAL SUB COURT AT CHENGALPATTU IN STATE OF TAMIL NADU I.A. NO. 3 OF 2024 IN O.S. No. 86 of 2024 M/s. CENTURY LEATHERS (P) LIMITED REP BY ITS AUTHORISED REPRESENTATIVE MS. GEETA MOHANTY. PETITIONER/PLAINTIFFS -VS- BALWINDER SINGH & OTHERS To, RESPONDENTS/DEFENDANTS

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THE KANGRA CO-OPERATIVE BANK LTD. C-29, Community Centre Pankha Road, Janakpuri, New Delhi-110058. Phone: 911-25811842, 25811043, 25811044 E-mail: legal@kangrabank.com, legal1@kangrabank.com, Website: www.kangrabank.com APPENDIX IV [See rule 8(1)] POSSESSION NOTICE (For immovable property) Whereas, The undersigned being the Authorised 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] of The Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002, the Bank had issued a demand notice on dated 10-09-2024, calling upon the borrower Sh. Charanjeet Singh S/o. Late Sh. Parmeshwar Yadav R/o. D-19, Gali No.4, South Anarkali, Jagatpuri, Delhi-110051 also at Sh. Charanjeet Singh S/o. Late Sh. Parmeshwar Yadav C/o. M/s. Sai Impex, A-3, Ground Floor, Garg Complex, Gurgaon, Naxla Nagar, Delhi-110092, and calling upon the mortgagor & surety Smt.Amanpreet Kaur W/o. Sh. Charanjeet Singh R/o. D-10, Gali No.4, South Anarkali, Jagatpuri, Delhi-110051, Smt. Amanpreet Kaur W/o. Sh. Charanjeet Singh, C/o. Sarodaya Kanya Vidyalaya, Kanti Nagar West, Delhi-110051, to repay the amount mentioned in the notice being Rs.11,71,909/- (Rupees Eleven Lakhs Seventy One Thousand Nine Hundred and Nine Only), together with further interest, penal interest and other charges as are 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.

India has potential to increase organic products' exports to ₹20,000 Crore in 3 years: Goyal

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

India has the potential to increase exports of organic products up to Rs 20,000 crore in the next three years, Commerce and Industry Minister Piyush Goyal said on Thursday. He said this while releasing the eighth edition of National Programme for Organic Production (NPOP) with new regulations aimed at enhancing clarity and transparency in organic product standards as well as aligning with global standards. "Currently, our organic product exports are at Rs 5,000-6,000 crore. In the next three years, we can easily achieve Rs 20,000 crore exports, about 3-3.5 times increase from the current level," Goyal said at an event organised in partnership with industry body Ficci. He said the global demand for these products is about Rs 1 lakh crore, which can grow up to Rs 10 lakh crore in the coming years, a unique opportunity India should not miss. India already has one of the largest numbers of farmers in the world undertaking organic farming.



He also asked startups to come out with solutions that help in growth of the sector. The NPOP has undergone several revisions since its inception in May 2001. The eighth edition marks a significant update to the regulatory framework governing organic products in India, with the last revision occurring in 2014. Key features of the eighth edition of

NPOP include farmer-friendly regulations, streamlined certification, enhanced transparency and revamped traceability system. The eighth edition aims to bolster India's organic export sector, with an ambitious target of reaching USD 2 billion in organic food exports by 2030. Ministers of State for Cooperation Krishan Pal Gurjar and Murlidhar

Mohol, Minister of State for Commerce Jitin Prasada and Cooperation Secretary Ashish Kumar Bhutani were also present at the event. NPOP plays a crucial role in enhancing the credibility of organic products in both national and international markets. It ensures that agricultural products labelled as "organic" meet stringent standards, thereby protecting consumer interests and promoting sustainable agricultural practices. It is overseen by the Commerce Ministry, with the Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA) managing its implementation. TraceNet 2.0, an upgraded traceability platform of NPOP for seamless operations and enhanced tools for regulatory oversight, was also launched. On the occasion, a dedicated NPOP portal was launched for more visibility and ease of Operations for Organic stakeholders. An upgraded redesigned APEDA portal as well as an agri exchange portal were also unveiled.

Govt to soon launch new credit guarantee scheme for MSME sector

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Financial Services Secretary M Nagaraju on Thursday said the government would soon launch a new credit guarantee scheme for the MSME sector covering loans up to Rs 100 crore. "We are likely to come up with a scheme, which was announced by Finance Minister in her last Budget, that could provide loans up to Rs 100 crore without guarantee, if they are already having the enterprise," he said at the concluding day of Grameen Bharat Mahotsav. The scheme is expected to be placed before the Union Cabinet soon for its approval. "For facilitating term loans to MSMEs for purchase of machinery and equipment without collateral or third-party guarantee, a credit guarantee scheme will be introduced. The scheme will operate on pooling of credit risks of such MSMEs. A separately constituted self-financing guarantee fund will provide, to each applicant, guarantee cover up to Rs 100



crore, while the loan amount may be larger," the Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman had announced in Budget 2024-25. The borrower will have to provide an upfront guarantee fee and an annual guarantee fee on the reducing loan balance, she had said. Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) sector employs 50 million people, he said. MSMEs exports have witnessed a remarkable rise, increasing from Rs 3.95 lakh crore in 2020-21 to Rs 12.39 lakh crore in 2024-25, underscoring their critical role in boosting India's economy and strengthening global trade. The MSME sector in India has consistently demonstrated remarkable resilience and adaptability, significantly contributing to the nation's GDP over the years. The Gross Value Added (GVA) by MSMEs in India's GDP was 29.7 per cent in 2017-18, rising to 30.1 per cent in both 2022-23. To promote entrepreneurship in rural India, Nagaraju said, the government is very keen to lend more to rural areas through its various schemes. As the country surges ahead, he said, there is need to focus on four things, quality, linkages for exports, capacity building, and support to achieve the vision of Vikshit Bharat.

Inflows into mutual funds' equity schemes increase 14 per cent in December

PTI ■ MUMBAI

Inflows into mutual funds' equity schemes increased by over 14 per cent on-month to Rs 41,156 crore in December, even as market volatilities continued. The small and midcap schemes of mutual funds continued to attract investor interest with inflows touching record highs during the month, despite the concerns being expressed about the two segments for the risk they portend, industry body Amfi said. Inflows into systematic investment plans came at Rs 26,459 crore, up from November's Rs 25,320 crore. The SIP assets under management stood at Rs 13.63 lakh crore, which is around a fifth of the overall. The overall assets under management of mutual funds came at Rs 66.93 lakh crore as on December 31, 2024, which was down from Rs 68.08 lakh crore in the month-ago period.



Venkat Chalasani, chief executive of the Association of Mutual Funds of India (Amfi), attributed the decline in market-to-market losses on corrections as well as outflows of Rs 1.27 lakh crore in debt schemes, which is in line with previous experience of a pull out at the end of a quarter. Responding to a question on the continued interest in equity funds and what to expect in the future, Chalasani acknowledged that there are uncertainties which may

influence the market, like the change in the US administration with Donald Trump as the President in January, but added that Indian investors continued to repose faith in the equity market. Pointing to the continued interest in SIPs, Chalasani said these inflows illustrate the optimism of the investors in the Indian markets over a long term. Asset management companies launched a total of 33 new fund offers during the month

through which over Rs 13,643 crore of money was mobilised, Amfi said, adding that this was higher than the 18 schemes that collected over Rs 4,000 crore in November. "Culmination of NFOs, SIPs and lump sum purchase led to an increase in net sales numbers. Investor confidence on mutual funds are an efficient tool for investments continue to remain strong," Kotak Mahindra AMC's national head for sales, marketing and digital business Manish Mehta said. Within the equity schemes, sectoral or thematic category attracted investors with the highest net inflow at Rs 15,331 crore, which is almost double of the Rs 7,658 crore in November. The midcap category saw inflows of Rs 5,093 crore in December 2024, while the smallcap category saw inflows of Rs 4,667 crore, Amfi said, adding that these are record inflows.

Government to give ₹35,000 Crore LPG subsidy to IOC, BPCL, HPCL

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

The government is likely to provide a subsidy of Rs 35,000 crore to state-owned Indian Oil Corporation Ltd (IOC), Bharat Petroleum Corporation Ltd (BPCL), and Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Ltd (HPCL) to make up for losses they incurred on selling the fuel this fiscal, sources said. The three fuel retailers have kept the price of domestic LPG unchanged at Rs 803 per 14.2-kg cylinder since March 2024 despite a rise in input raw material cost. This led to under-recoveries on LPG sales, and the resultant drastic fall in their earnings in the April-September (first half of current 2024-25 fiscal year). The total under-recovery on LPG sales for the industry in the current fiscal is estimated at about Rs 40,500 crore. Against this, the government is likely to provide Rs 35,000



crore in total spread over two financial years, two sources with knowledge of the matter said. IOC, BPCL and HPCL are likely to get Rs 10,000 crore during the current 2024-25 fiscal and the remaining Rs 25,000 crore in the next, they said, adding that provision of the subsidy is likely to be made in the Union Budget for 2025-26 that Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman will present on February 1. Sources said there is an under-

recovery (or loss) of about Rs 240 per 14.2-kg cylinder that the state-owned fuel retailers sell to domestic households at the current price of Rs 803. Prices of domestic LPG are regulated by government to insulate domestic households from high market rates. Regulated prices are lower than the Saudi CP - the international benchmark used to price domestic LPG. This is because domestic LPG production is not sufficient to meet the local demand and the fuel has to be imported. This leads to under-recoveries and consequent losses to the fuel retailers. Government from time to time compensates IOC, BPCL and HPCL for these losses. The three were previously paid Rs 22,000 crore compensation for 2021-22 and 2022-23 fiscal year. This was against Rs 28,249 crore of under-recovery. Of the Rs 40,500 crore under-recovery estimated for the current fiscal, IOC is likely to account for Rs 19,550 crore, HPCL Rs 10,570 crore and BPCL Rs 10,400 crore, according to sources. Domestic LPG prices have remained unchanged since March 9, 2024, when they were cut by Rs 100 per 14.2-kg cylinder just before general elections were announced. Sources said international LPG prices have remained moderately high in 2024, even during summers, leading to under-recoveries.

Software migration caused error in gold import computation; issue largely rectified: Sources

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

The government's initiative to migrate SEZ data from NSDL software to ICEGATE system for streamlined reporting of import data caused double counting of gold imports, resulting in inflated figures and the issue has now been largely rectified, government sources said. The downward revision has provided the actual picture of trade deficit (difference between imports and exports), which was earlier looking very high. The deficit for November will now be revised downwards from USD 37.84 billion to about USD 32.8 billion. Similarly, there

will be a revision in overall import numbers as well. On account of the correction, the commerce ministry has revised downwards the gold import data for November by USD 5 billion to USD 9.84 billion and for the first eight months of the current fiscal by USD 11.7 billion to USD 37.38 billion. The double counting occurred as imports into the country and the clearances from SEZs (special economic zones) to domestic tariff area (DTA) were counted twice due to technical glitches. The double counting which occurred on account of migration of NSMDL to ICEGATE has now being

largely rectified, but the migration is still underway, the sources said. "Correction and revision of data is part and parcel of framework of statistics world over. The data compilation is a complicated process as it involves collection of data from over 500 locations and over 2.5 lakh transactions take place every day," they said. They added that corrections and revisions of data is a standard practice and an integral part. "Revision and corrections do happens in data. This is a normal drill of statistics," they said. Exports and imports take place mainly from two places



— airports and seaports. SEZ (special economic zones) numbers were earlier counted separately (on NSDL system) as these zones are treated as foreign entities in terms of

provisions related to customs. In May last, it was decided to migrate from NSDL to ICEGATE. India's trade data compilation process starts with exporters

and importers filing Shipping Bills (for exports) and Bills of Entry (for imports) through the Electronic Data Interchange (EDI) system at Customs. All the data comes to the server of ICEGATE. The Indian Customs Electronic Gateway (ICEGATE) is the national portal of Indian Customs of the Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs (CBIC) that provides e-filing services to trade, cargo carriers and other trading partners electronically. Customs officials verify these documents for compliance and assign a unique transaction number upon clearance. The verified data is

then transmitted to the DGCIS in real-time. DGCIS validates the data to correct errors and aggregates it by commodity, trade partner, port, and mode of transport. The data is standardised into a consistent format, with trade values converted to USD for global comparability. The Kolkata-based DGCIS prepares a preliminary monthly trade report, which is reviewed and shared with government departments. After further validation, the final data is published in reports such as Monthly Trade Statistics, Annual Reports, and Country-wise Trade Data. This data is disseminated

through DGCIS press releases, government websites, and the Export-Import Databank, and is also shared with global agencies like WTO (World Trade Organisation) and IMF (International Monetary Fund). Trade data is periodically revised to incorporate updates from Customs. Key agencies involved in this process include DGCIS, CBIC (Customs), the Ministry of Commerce and Industry, and the Reserve Bank of India (RBI). This comprehensive process ensures accurate and reliable trade data for policymaking and analysis.

TCS Q3 net profit rises 11.95 per cent to ₹12,380 Crore, employee base dips

PTI ■ MUMBAI

India's largest IT services company TCS on Thursday reported an 11.95 per cent jump in net profit at Rs 12,380 crore in the December quarter while the overall workforce reduced by over 5,000 employees. The Tata Group company had reported a net profit of Rs 11,058 crore in the year-ago period, and Rs 11,909 crore in the preceding September quarter. The company's revenue grew 5.6 per cent to Rs 63,973 crore as against Rs 60,583 crore a year earlier. However, it was down from Rs 64,259 crore in the September quarter. New order bookings came at USD 10.2 billion in what is termed as a seasonally challenging quarter due to the holiday season. Chief Executive K Krithivasan said the new orders were across industries,



geographies and service lines, which lends a "good visibility to long-term growth". He said the banking, financial services and insurance, along with consumer businesses are returning to growth and there are early signs of a revival in discretionary spend in some verticals. These two trends, along with continuing strong growth in regional markets makes the company confident for the future, he added. The operating profit margin came at 24.5 per cent as against 24.1 per cent in the quarter-ago period, but still lower than the aspirational

bracket. The overall workforce reduced by over 5,000 employees during the three months under review, and the overall base stood at 6.07 lakh as of December this year. The IT services attrition stood at 13 per cent. Chief Human Resources Officer Milind Lakkad said campus hirings are going according to plan and the company is preparing to onboard a higher number of campus hires next year. The company board announced a dividend of Rs 76 per share, including a special dividend of Rs 66 per share. TCS also announced the acquisition of land bank in Bengaluru from a Tata Group company for Rs 1,625 crore. The TCS crop closed 1.72 per cent down at Rs 4,036.65 apiece on the BSE on Thursday, as against a 0.68 per cent correction on the benchmark.

Rupee recovers from record low to settle four paise higher at 85.87 against US dollar

PTI ■ MUMBAI

The rupee recovered slightly from its record low and settled with a gain of 4 paise at 85.87 (provisional) against the US dollar on Thursday amid firm American currency and elevated level of crude oil prices. According to forex analysts, relentless selling in domestic equities and outflow of foreign capital kept the local unit under pressure, while dollar strengthened on improved macroeconomic prospects in the US. They said, uncertainties related to trade restrictions ahead of the change in US administration under President Donald Trump continued to fuel dollar demand, while concerns over Federal Reserve's move to delay interest cut kept the country's benchmark treasury yields elevated. At the interbank foreign exchange, the rupee opened at its historic low level of 85.94 and touched an intra-day peak



of 85.84 before ending the session at 85.87 (provisional) against the greenback, 4 paise higher from its previous close. On Wednesday, the rupee plunged 17 paise to settle at its all-time low closing level of 85.91 against the dollar. Anuj Choudhary, Research Analyst at Mirae Asset Sharekhan, said the surge in US bond yields and FII outflows pressured the rupee. The US macroeconomic data was mixed, with weekly unemployment claims favouring the greenback while non-farm employment data was disappointing. "We expect rupee to trade with a negative bias on weak

domestic markets, strong dollar and rising US treasury yields. Elevated crude oil prices and FII outflows also put downside pressure on the domestic currency. However, any RBI intervention may support rupee at lower levels. Investors may watch out for non-farm payrolls report. USD-INR spot price is expected to trade in a range of Rs 85.75 to Rs 86.10," Choudhary said. Meanwhile, the dollar index, which gauges the greenback's strength against a basket of six currencies, was trading 0.05 per cent higher at 108.98. The 10-year US bond yields also remained elevated at 4.67 per cent. Brent crude, the global oil benchmark, fell 0.03 per cent to USD 76.14 per barrel in futures trade. In the domestic equity market, the 30-share BSE Sensex declined sharply by 528.28 points, or 0.68 per cent, to settle at 77,620.21 points, while the Nifty dropped 162.45 points, or 0.69 per cent, to 23,526.50 points.

INBRIEF

POWERGRID SIGNS MASTER AGREEMENT WITH EPRI, USA FOR STRATEGIC COLLABORATION

Power Grid Corporation of India Limited (POWERGRID), a 'Maharatna' Public Sector Enterprise under Ministry of Power, Government of India, has taken a significant step towards collaborative technical research by signing a 'Master Agreement' with independent, non-profit energy research and development organization EPRI, USA.



BIMA SAKHI CROSSES 50,000 MARK

Prime Minister Narendra Modi launched LIC's BIMA SAKHI Yojana at Panipat, on December 9, 2024. Bima Sakhi Yojana is a step towards Viksit Bharat through women empowerment which will provide social security to the families. LIC of India is proud to be a partner in Viksit Bharat by including women as partners in the nation's progress by providing them with opportunity of becoming BIMA SAKHI and self-reliant.

UNITING HEARTS, BRIDGING CULTURES: THE LEGACY OF SYCORIAAN MATRIMONIAL SERVICES

LUCKNOW: Sycoriaan Matrimonial Services is proud to celebrate 28 years of excellence in matchmaking, connecting people across cultures and continents to create lasting relationships. With a focus on personalised services, Sycoriaan has become a trusted name in the matrimonial industry, blending tradition and modern technology to foster meaningful connections.

A GLIMPSE INTO WANCHO CULTURE

JANUARY
 READS



Myth, Memory & Folktale of the Wancho Tribe of Arunachal Pradesh explores the cultural heritage, myths and challenges of the Wancho community, says **SAKSHI PRIYA**

Myth, Memory & Folktale of the Wancho Tribe of Arunachal Pradesh by Tara Douglas and Jatwang Wangsa is a remarkable work that provides readers with a rich and insightful exploration of the Wancho tribe, a prominent indigenous community from the hilly regions of Arunachal Pradesh, India. This book serves as a vital document of the tribe's deep-rooted cultural heritage, values and social dynamics. The authors combine thorough research with a nuanced narrative, bringing to life the tribe's traditions, worldview and their historical context in a way that resonates with readers from various backgrounds. A standout feature of the book is the authors' deep dive into the animistic belief system of the Wancho tribe. The book illustrates how the Wanchos view nature not simply as a physical environment, but as an interconnected and spiritual entity. In the tribe's worldview, animals, plants and natural features like rivers and mountains possess spirits that are integral to the tribe's existence. This perspective is explored through a variety of captivating myths, such as the story of Ganghan, the sun and his younger brother Katgong. These stories embody the tribe's philosophy of balance between humans and nature. The authors succeed in conveying the depth of this belief, which challenges the modern

tendency to view nature as a resource to be exploited, making it especially relevant in today's environmentally conscious world. The authors also offer a historical perspective that highlights the tribe's warrior culture, especially the practice of headhunting and its role in the tribe's defense against external threats. One of the most compelling historical accounts in the book is the detailed retelling of the Nyinu massacre of 1875, where the Wanchos ambushed British surveyors and killed 80 of them. The authors provide a balanced view of the event, contextualising it within the tribe's broader resistance to colonial forces. Rather than painting the tribe as "savage" or "violent," the book reframes the incident as an act of self-defense and an effort to protect their land and way of life. This nuanced portrayal is an important contribution, as it challenges reductive and one-sided portrayals of indigenous people in history. In addition to the grand myths and historical narratives, the book also provides intimate stories that offer a glimpse into the everyday lives of the Wancho people. These personal tales of love, sacrifice and family serve to humanise the tribe, making their culture more relatable and accessible. For instance, the stories of tribal elders, who hold deep connections to the land and community, underscore the importance of kinship and collective memory within the

Wancho society. These stories are not only culturally enriching but emotionally engaging, as they capture universal themes that resonate with readers on a personal level. Moreover, the book does not shy away from addressing the challenges the Wancho tribe faces in the modern world. One of the more poignant aspects of the book is its examination of the tensions between traditional practices and the pressures of

modernisation. As younger generations drift away from their ancestral ways, the tribe's rich oral traditions and cultural practices are at risk of being lost. The authors acknowledge this tension and highlight efforts within the community to preserve its heritage. This theme of cultural preservation is one of the book's most powerful messages, as it calls attention to the fragility of indigenous cultures in the face of rapid societal changes. The book emphasises the importance of safeguarding these cultural traditions, which offer valuable lessons for the contemporary world.

ABOUT THE BOOK
 Book: Myth, Memory & Folktale of the Wancho Tribe of Arunachal Pradesh by Tara Douglas and Jatwang Wangsa
 Publisher: Niyogi Books
 Price: ₹599

A key strength of the book is how it bridges the gap between academic research and cultural preservation. The authors not only provide anthropological study but also offer a platform for the voices of the Wanchos themselves. The book does not present the tribe through the lens of an outsider, but rather allows the Wanchos to tell their own stories in their own words. This respectful and inclusive approach ensures that the cultural heritage of the Wancho tribe is portrayed authentically, giving readers an opportunity to engage directly with the community's worldview. This is a refreshing departure from many studies that tend to objectify indigenous communities as subjects to be studied rather than active participants in their own representation.

In terms of writing style, the authors strike a delicate balance between scholarly rigor and engaging storytelling. The book is accessible and enjoyable to read, making it suitable for both academic audiences and casual readers with an interest in indigenous cultures. The authors work the myths, histories and personal stories together in a way that is both informative and captivating, ensuring that readers stay engaged while gaining valuable insights into the Wancho culture. *Myth, Memory & Folktale of the Wancho Tribe* stands as a comprehensive and insightful portrayal of the Wancho people, their beliefs, traditions and struggles. Through meticulous research and a compassionate understanding of the tribe's way of life, Tara Douglas and Jatwang Wangsa have created a significant contribution to the documentation of indigenous cultures in India. The book provides not only a deeper understanding of the Wanchos but also a broader perspective on the importance of preserving cultural diversity in a rapidly changing world. This book is highly recommended for anyone interested in anthropology, folklore, indigenous studies or the preservation of cultural heritage. It is a valuable resource that offers both academic insight and emotional resonance, making it an important read for those who seek to understand the depth and richness of indigenous cultures.

Book: Muffin: A Love Story
Author: Rahul Sharma
Publisher: OM International Books
Price: ₹295

Book: Ex Object: The art of Holding on, Letting go
Publisher: OM International Books
Price: ₹695

Book: Liberal Hearts
Author: Nayantara Violet Alva
Publisher: Ebury Press
Price: ₹350

Book: The Drowning
Author: Nidhi Upadhyay
Publisher: Ebury Press
Price: ₹299

Book: Maupassant and a Cigar
Author: By Tho Mu Ragnathan
Publisher: Niyogi Books
Price: ₹620

LOVE, LOSS AND PSYCHE

BY TEAM VIVA

Rithwik Aryan's *Out of Madness* is a riveting debut that masterfully intertwines themes of mental health, love, loss and the fragility of human sanity. It is a novel born from an extraordinary journey of self-discovery, research and lived experience, offering readers an unfiltered glimpse into the complexities of the human psyche. Aryan's path to writing *Out of Madness* is as unconventional as the book itself. A dropout from Harvard Extension School, Aryan chose the



ABOUT THE BOOK
Book: Out of Madness by Rithwik Aryan
Publisher: Ocam (an imprint of BluOne Ink)
Price: ₹499

unpredictable path of storytelling over academia, immersing himself for over a year in the raw and unsettling environment of India's most notorious mental asylums. This decision infuses the novel with an authenticity that is rare and striking. The narrative follows Mason Moron, a psychology professor at Nalanda University who stages his death after discovering his wife's infidelity. He and Bahubali, an eccentric politician who is bent on shooting a cult adult film, get sucked into the tornado of insanity that compels their trip to a mental hospital, alongside a man blighted by normalisation, Mr. Staci, who is also trying to face her inner demons. Critiques of Aryan are equally accompanied by Aryan's own ability to navigate through and critique

Aryan's anguish, the same sheds light on how men are coerced into hiding their feelings. Using Aryan masculinity and its portrayal through the character of Mason and Barbrugio, Aryan contemplates on how masculinity comes with grief and vulnerability, wherein, Aryan poses those males do not have to stoically conform to societal gender norms. Aryan in a more sensitive manner showcases the effect of societal pressures and expectations in suppressing feelings in men. What can be termed as one of Aryan's strongest suit shines in this very novel, the other novels that Aryan has penned encapsulate emotion through an extremely fact-based and observational lens. Aryan unlike many others who idealistically view and comment on other's pain, stayed in a

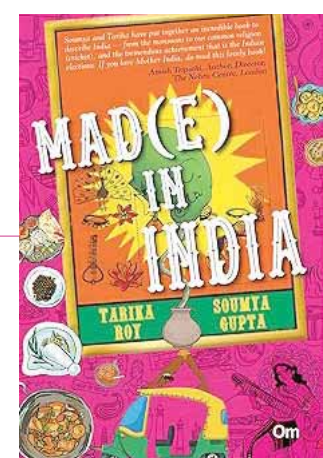
mental asylum while conducting empirical research, the combination of these two polarising views helped him stably sit in the middle. Aryan's characters are multifaceted, each grappling with their own struggles. Mason's existential crisis, Bahubali's delusional ambition and Staci's haunting past create a web of intersecting narratives that challenge readers to reflect on the nature of obsession, love, and redemption. The book's philosophical undertones deepen its impact, as Aryan delves into profound questions about freedom, identity and the human condition. The interplay of grief and desire, sanity and insanity, creates a narrative that is as thought-provoking as it is emotionally charged. The novel is not without its quirks. Its wild plot twists, dark humor and sometimes surreal narrative might alienate readers seeking a more conventional storyline. However, these elements make *Out of Madness* stand out as a fearless work that refuses to conform. *Out of Madness* is a bold debut that challenges societal norms and delves deep into the human psyche. Aryan's unflinching honesty, coupled with his evocative prose, makes this a must-read for those interested in mental health, emotional complexity, and the chaos of human existence. Rithwik Aryan has crafted a tale that is as much a reflection of his own journey as it is a story of his characters. With its raw emotion, intricate storytelling, and philosophical depth, *Out of Madness* cements Aryan's place as a writer to watch.

The Essence of Indian Life

BY GYANESHWAR DAYAL

Mad(e) In India penetrates the rich and amusing psyche of Indianness and Indian people. More than the politics of the nation, it presents the very essence of a nation - its people, its peculiarities, its multitude of caste systems, languages, superstitions, and an even bigger multitude of Gods and Goddesses worshipped. It provides a vivid illustration of the chaotic nature of the Indian metropolitan areas, the obsession inherited by its people with movie stars and their characteristics, and the Indian concept of optimistically doing whatever it takes to solve or fix a problem, termed 'jugaad'. It also underlines Indian culinary art, the diversity of the cultural and traditional practices of society, and the various forms of art present in the nation, showcasing how the integration of such diversity unifies the country, even in terms of conflicted domains. Out of a combination of satirical humour, perceptive and nuanced observations, and a repository of Indian expressions, the authors have come up with an engaging and illuminating account of the intricate web that is India. This, in turn, makes the book very interesting and highly recommended for someone who wants to discover the informatic and spiritual side of

India. *Mad(e) In India* humorously and cleverly depicts what it is to be Indian and how it is to live in this country. The authors of the book discuss Indian life and its various aspects, such as the panoply of languages spoken, the various cultures and religions, and even the everyday life and the unique approaches to solving problems, also known as jugaad, as per Indian traditions. The book takes note of the idiosyncratic lifestyles of people living in different metropolises of the nation, their compulsive fandom for movie stars, and the motley of food, customs, and ethnic handicrafts within the country. The authors demonstrate how one thread generalises the millions of complexities that exist in the Indian fabric - the ability of India to hold within itself so many differences. One can sense that the authors are writing in a conversational yet humorous way, which in many places comes laced with Indian expressions, making *Mad(e) In India* an interesting read even for those who merely seek entertainment. In case you have ever wondered how the Hindi film industry has always had a glamorised image of this country, *Mad(e) In India* is fun and informative, providing a comprehensive look at how such misconceptions arise and helping to clear them.



ABOUT THE BOOK
Book: Mad(e) In India by Tarika Roy and Soumya Gupta
Publisher: Om Publishers
Price: ₹499

Tottenham beats Liverpool 1-0 in English League Cup semifinals

PTI ■ LONDON
Lucas Bergvall's first goal for Tottenham secured a 1-0 win over Liverpool in the on Wednesday in a first-leg match notable for a serious-looking injury to Rodrigo Bentancur and the first in-stadium announcement by a referee in the English game. The 18-year-old Bergvall slotted home the winner in the 86th minute following a pass from Dominic Solanke, who thought 10 minutes earlier that he had given Tottenham the lead. That goal was ruled out after a VAR check for offside and referee Stuart Attwell communicated the decision via a wireless microphone to spectators inside Tottenham Hotspur Stadium and to TV viewers. In the sixth minute, Bentancur — the Uruguay midfielder who plays for Tottenham — fell to the ground and lay prone after landing awkwardly when

attempting a header from a corner. He was carried off on a stretcher, to applause from around the ground, after receiving treatment during a 10-minute delay and Tottenham manager Ange Postecoglou confirmed after the game that Bentancur was "conscious" and talking. The second leg is at Anfield on Feb. 6. Newcastle leads Arsenal 2-0 after the first leg of the other semifinal match. Liverpool, the defending League Cup champion, saw its 24-match unbeaten run in all competitions come to an end and there was a hint of controversy about only the team's second loss of the season. Visiting players and manager Arne Slot were unhappy that Bergvall was on the field to score what proved to be the winning goal after he escaped collecting a second yellow card for a foul on Kostas Tsimikas moments earlier. Indeed, Tsimikas was off the field, waiting to come



back on having received treatment following Bergvall's tackle, when the Sweden midfielder tucked home his finish. Slot earned a yellow card himself for his protests, though he shook Attwell's hand after the final whistle. "The decision he made had a lot of impact on the result tonight," Slot said. Liverpool captain Virgil van Dijk said it was "quite obvious" that Bergvall deserved a second yellow card. "And a minute later he scores the winner," Van Dijk said. "He (Attwell) made a mistake, in my opinion. And I told him that." It was a busy end to the match for Attwell, who took center stage after there was a video review following Solanke's strike in the 76th minute. After being notified that Solanke was offside, Attwell used the public address system to declare the goal had been ruled out, in an NFL-style announcement.

The League Cup semifinals were chosen to pilot a process in England that has been widely used in other sports, and in soccer at the Women's World Cup in Australia and New Zealand in 2023 and other FIFA events. **Kinsky's dream debut** Three days after signing from Sparta Prague, Antonín Kinsky — a 21-year-old goalkeeper from the Czech Republic — was handed his debut by Tottenham and he kept a clean sheet after producing a string of great saves, notably from Liverpool substitute Darwin Nunez. His parents and sister were in the crowd to watch him play his first match in English soccer and he was emotional after the game. "I have never dreamed this," Kinsky said. Tottenham signed the highly rated Kinsky with first-choice goalkeeper Guglielmo Vicario currently out injured.



Aiming for hat-trick of SA20 titles: Markram

PTI ■ CAPE TOWN
Sunrisers Eastern Cape skipper Aiden Markram says his side is pumped up to make it a hat-trick of titles at the SA20 as it faces MI Cape Town in its opening game. Markram's team has won both the editions of the competition so far. The tournament begins days after South Africa blanked Pakistan in a Test series at home. "Definitely still really pumped to try and get a third one this year. Obviously, (there are) no guarantees and it's a hugely competitive tournament, so hopefully in a month's time something cool can happen," Markram said during the Captains' Day press conference here. Former South Africa captain Faf du Plessis said his side Joburg Super Kings haven't got the ideal weather to finalise its preparations as it has rained for the last few days in Johannesburg, but his players are surely up for a fight. "From my side, the weather has been a bit of a downer down in Joburg, it's been pretty wet. But from a squad perspective, some great signings in Joburg too, and you know the likes of Jonny Bairstow, Devon Conway, (Matheesha) Pathirana," du Plessis said. "Those three guys and

(Tabraiz) Shamsi, obviously, have a lot of experience that comes with them. So, all in all, our squad are looking very balanced. Two injuries, that wasn't ideal for our pace attack for Nandre Burger and Lizaad Williams. But we still feel we have enough options to put out a well balanced team," he added. MI Cape Town's Rashid Khan said his side was determined to put a better show in the third edition. "I think from the first year we had some really close games and it just didn't go our way. We had some great cricket last year as well, some wonderful cricket," he said. "But it was just more about the result, it didn't come our way. In the fresh year, we'll go with a fresh mind. We have some new faces in the team. We're looking forward to the new challenges and hopefully this year it won't be the same in the last few years." Paarl Royals' captain David Miller said the competitiveness in the league has benefitted South African cricket to a major extent. "It's been two special years for us, but also for the competition itself. Just playing with the competitive juices that we have, all the games are really fun to be a part of, as well as having incredible overseas players, all the coaches are around," he said.

Mandhana-led India eye dominant show in first-ever bilateral series against Ireland

PTI ■ RAJKOT
Riding high on a dominant performance against the West Indies, India under Smriti Mandhana will look to carry forward their winning momentum when they take on Ireland in the first-ever women's bilateral series, with the opening ODI scheduled here on Friday. India had swept the West Indies 3-0 in the ODI series, following a 2-1 triumph in the T20 series. Mandhana emerged as the top run-scorer across formats, scoring 148 runs in the ODI series, including two half-centuries, and 193 runs in the T20s, with three successive fifties. Notably, she scored five consecutive half-centuries, only missing out in the final ODI and Mandhana will look to bring the same form as she leads the team in the absence of regular captain Harmanpreet Kaur, who has been rested alongside fast bowler Renuka Singh. With Kaur and Renuka missing, the responsibility

shifts to the rest of the batters, including Harleen Deol, Pratika Rawal, and Jemimah Rodrigues, to step up. Deol was the top scorer in the ODI series with 160 runs, including a brilliant 115, while Rawal and Rodrigues also had solid outings, scoring 134 and 112 runs, respectively, with a fifty each in the ODIs. In the bowling department, Renuka's absence will be felt as she was the leading wicket-taker with 10 wickets in the ODI series against the West Indies. The onus will now fall on newcomers Titas Sadhu and Saima Thakor to make their mark. Sadhu, 20, who has three wickets in ODIs and 13 wickets in T20s, will be expected to provide early breakthroughs, having impressed with her pace and swing in domestic and recent international cricket. Saima, 28, will also look to continue her good form after taking seven wickets in eight ODIs so far.

Australian Open 2025: Cases involving Jannik Sinner and Iga Swiatek make doping a top topic

PTI ■ MELBOURNE
It is a topic that shadowed tennis in 2024 and is still a talking point as the 2025 Grand Slam season opens at the Australian Open on Sunday (Saturday EST): doping and the cases involving Jannik Sinner — which actually is still not fully resolved — and Iga Swiatek. Both spent much of last year at No. 1, and Sinner still will hold that spot in the ATP rankings when he steps on court at Melbourne Park to begin the defense of his championship, one of two major trophies he won over the past 12 months.



Swiatek, a five-time Slam champ and the woman leading the WTA rankings most of the past three seasons, is currently No. 2 behind Aryna Sabalenka, who will be chasing her third consecutive title in Australia. "Obviously, there are going to be some negative comments," Swiatek said. "You're not going to avoid that." Most current players prefer to remain silent when asked about the cases. But there are those who have been happy to weigh in, including 24-time major champion Novak Djokovic, raising questions about whether Sinner and Swiatek were treated the same as other players facing similar circumstances and why their situations were kept under wraps for months. "I sit and wonder, Why such a big difference in treatment and judgment?" was two-time major champion Simona Halep's reaction to Swiatek's punishment. "I can't find, and I don't think there can be, a logical answer." Halep initially was banned for four years after testing positive for the banned drug Roxadustat at the 2022 U.S. Open, then had that penalty reduced to nine months on appeal — although she already had been off the tour longer than that. She was supposed to compete at Melbourne Park for the first time in three years, but withdrew from qualifying because of knee and shoulder pain. No one has been louder about the subject lately than Nick Kyrgios, the 2022 Wimbledon runner-up who missed nearly all of the past two seasons because of injuries. He has been commenting regularly, in real life and online, even taking a jab (that he said was

in jest) at Cruz Hewitt after the 16-year-old son of Australian Davis Cup captain Lleyton posted a photo with Sinner from a practice session. "It's been handled horrifically in our sport. Two world No. 1s, both getting done for doping, is disgusting for our sport," Kyrgios said at the Brisbane International, the first event of his comeback. "It's a horrible look." Where do things stand with Jannik Sinner's positive drug tests? Sinner was the dominant player in men's tennis last year, and there's little reason to think that won't continue. In 2024, he went 73-6 with eight titles, including at the U.S. Open, and led Italy to the Davis Cup. He heads into the Australian Open on a 14-match winning streak. Hanging over it all is this: Two positive tests for a trace amount of an anabolic steroid in March were made public in August; the International Tennis Integrity Agency (ITIA) determined he shouldn't be suspended because the exposure to Clostebol was considered accidental — the result of a massage from a trainer who used the substance after cutting his own finger. The World Anti-Doping Agency was not entirely convinced about the exonerator and thinks a ban of one to two years would be appropriate. Its appeal, lodged in September, is still pending, and a final determination is expected after the Australian Open ends. "It's in (my) head a little bit," Sinner said, adding that he is confident everything will go his way. What happened with Iga Swiatek's failed doping test?

medication, melatonin, that Swiatek was taking for jet lag and sleeping issues. She missed three tournaments — although the real reason wasn't revealed at the time — and finished serving her punishment after the season was done. "This whole process was pretty abstract sometimes and hard to understand," Swiatek said, surely speaking for many observers. Which is why, perhaps, Dutch captain Paul Haarhuis said what he did after his team lost to Sinner's Italy in the Davis Cup finals. "Jannik, in my personal opinion, is an unbelievably nice guy (and) great player," Haarhuis said, "but we (might) never know what happened."

Are there other noteworthy cases in tennis? While Sinner and Swiatek will compete in Melbourne, another player involved in a recent ITIA case won't: Max Purcell, who won men's doubles titles at the U.S. Open in September and Wimbledon in 2022 and was a two-time runner-up at the Australian Open. Purcell didn't test positive, though. Instead, he accepted a provisional suspension for, as he described it, having "unknowingly received an IV infusion of vitamins above the allowable limit." "I have no good words for it," said Jordan Thompson, Purcell's doubles partner in New York last year.

SEBI भारतीय प्रतिभूति और विनियम बोर्ड
Securities and Exchange Board of India
PUBLIC NOTICE
RECOVERY PROCEEDINGS IN THE MATTER OF PACL LTD. AGAINST THE LATE NIRMAL SINGH BHANGOO
To all legal heirs, next of kin, or persons claiming any interest in the estate of Late Nirmal Singh Bhango. Whereas, Recovery Proceedings have been initiated against the late Nirmal Singh Bhango under section 28 A of the SEBI Act, 1992 under Recovery Certificate Nos.832 of 2015 dated December 11, 2015 and 7796 of 2024 dated May 9, 2024, by the Recovery Officer, Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) for non-compliance of directions of the Board. AND Whereas during the pendency of the said proceedings, it has come to the notice of SEBI that the late Nirmal Singh Bhango, has passed away on August 25, 2024 and vide a Public Notice dated August 27, 2024, Ms. Barinder Kaur Bhango, daughter of the late Nirmal Singh Bhango has, inter alia, stated that she will be extending her unwavering support and provide complete cooperation to the judicial or quasi-judicial authorities in relation to the repayment of money to each investor of PACL Ltd. (Pearls Group). Accordingly, SEBI has vide letters dated November 27, 2024 and December 12, 2024 addressed to Ms. Prem Kaur w/o the late Nirmal Singh. Bhango, inter alia, sought information regarding legal heirs. I however, no response was forthcoming on the same. As per Section 28B of the SEBI Act, 1992, all pending recovery proceedings against the defaulter (since deceased) shall be deemed to be initiated against the Legal Representatives, and may be continued against them from the stage at which it stood on date of the death of deceased and all the provisions of Section 28 A of SEBI Act, 1992 shall apply accordingly. Any person(s) claiming to be legal heirs of the late Nirmal Singh Bhango are hereby called upon to furnish all relevant documents/information in support of their claim within 7 days from the date of publication of the notice to kshama@sebi.gov.in. failing which Ms. Prem Kaur wife and Ms. Barinder Kaur and Ms. Sukhwinder Kaur Bhango daughters of the late Nirmal Singh Bhango would be treated as the sole legal heirs of the late Nirmal Singh Bhango.
sd/-
Date: 01.01.2025 **Kshama Wagherkar**
Place: New Delhi **General Manager & Recovery Officer**
CBC 15204/11/0208/2425

AAVAS FINANCIERS LIMITED
(CIN:L65922RJ2011PLCO34297) Regd. & Corp. Office: 201-202, 2nd Floor, South End Square, Mansarovar Industrial Area, Jaipur. 302020
AUCTION NOTICE
Auction Sale Notice for Sale of Immovable Assets under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with proviso to Rule 8(i) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) rules, 2002
Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower (s) and Guarantor (s) that the below described immovable property mortgaged/charged to the Secured Creditor, the physical possession of which has been taken by the Authorised Officer of **AAVAS FINANCIERS LIMITED** Secured Creditor, will be sold on "As is where is", "As is what is", and "Whatever there is" basis. The details of the cases are as under.

Name of Borrowers/Co-Borrowers/Guarantors/Mortgagors	Dues As on	Date & Amount of 13(2) Demand Notice	Date of Possession	Description of Property	Reserve Price For Property	Earnest Money For Property	Date & Time of Auction	Place of Tender Submission, Tender Open & Auction at Aavas Financiers Ltd.
LEELURAM LEELURAM, Mr. RAHUL KUMAR, Mrs. KALLOO (AC.NC) LNBH00522-230253346	Rs. 10,62,157.00/- DUES AS ON 06 JAN 2025	27 MAR 24 Rs. 837585/- DUES AS ON 27 MAR 24	2 AUG 24	AARJI JARAI TADADI 02 MARLA ALAWALPUR UP TEHSIL DHARUHEDA TEHSIL REWARI DISTIC REWARI MUSTIL NO-09 KILA NO-09 KILA NO 22/2(2-9), 23/2(2-9), 24/2(2-9) MUSTIL NO 17 KILA NO 3(8-), 4(8-0) DHARUHEDA RAMJAS NAGAR, HARYANA 123106 ADMEASURING 60. SQ. YARD	Rs. 758400/-	Rs. 75840/-	11.00 PM TO 01.00 PM 15 FEB 2025	D-203, 1ST FLOOR, BHAGAT SINGH COLONY, ABOVE AXIS BANK, ALWAR BHIWADI BYPASS, BHIWADI, DIST-ALWAR-301019, RAJASTHAN-INDIA

Terms & Conditions: 1) The person, taking part in the tender, will have to deposit his offer in the tender form provided by the AFL which is to be collected from the above branch offices during working hours of any working day, super scribing "Tender Offer for name of the property" on the sealed envelope along with the Cheque/DD/pay order of 10% of the Reserve Price as Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) in favour of AAVAS FINANCIERS LIMITED payable at Jaipur on/before time of auction during office hours at the above mentioned offices. The sealed envelopes will be opened in the presence of the available interested parties at above mentioned office of AAVAS FINANCIERS LIMITED The Inter-se bidding, if necessary will also take place among the available bidders. The EMD is refundable if the bid is not successful. 2) The successful bidder will deposit 25% of the bidding amount adjusting the EMD amount as initial deposit immediately or within 24hrs after the fall of the hammer towards the purchase of the asset. The successful bidder failing to deposit the said 25% towards initial payment, the entire EMD deposited will be forfeited & balance amount of the sale price will have to be deposited within 30 days after the confirmation of the sale by the secured creditor; otherwise his initial payment deposited amount will be forfeited. 3) The Authorised officer has absolute right to accept or reject any bid or adjourn/postpone the sale process without assigning any reason therefore. If the date of tender depositing or the date of tender opening is declared as holiday by Government, then the auction will be held on next working day. 4) For inspection and interested parties who want to know about the procedure of tender may contact AAVAS FINANCIERS LIMITED 201, 202, 2nd Floor, South End Square, Mansarovar Industrial Area, jaipur-302020 or Rajesh Sharma -9116663125 or respective branch during office hours. Note: This is also a 15/30 days notice under Rule 9(1)(8)(i) of the Borrowers/Guarantors/Mortgagor of the above said loan accounts about tender inter se bidding sale on the above mentioned date. The property will be sold, if their outstanding dues are not repaid in full.
Place : Jaipur **Date : 10-01-2025** **Authorised Officer Aavas Financiers Limited**

USP
Olive Cafe & Bar opens in Ludhiana
Ludhiana: After Chandigarh, Olive Café & Bar has opened in Ludhiana also. A gourmet café menu by Chef Jyotika Malik, freshly brewed coffee, bespoke drinks, and hand-crafted cocktails by lead mixologist Harish Chhimwal are some of its everyday elements. AD Singh, Founder & MD of The Olive Group of restaurants said, Olive is a way of life and an experience where we bring together good food, delicious cocktails, warmth, fun and hospitality as it should be. Now, we are really looking forward to bringing the trademark Olive experience to the experimental diners of Ludhiana.

Bank of India to organize "SAMJHAUTA NEW YEAR ONSET"
Bank of India is organizing SAMJHAUTA NEW YEAR ONSET" from 20 th to 22 nd January 2025 to settle the NPA loan accounts of borrowers under One Time Settlement(OTS) at all its branches/Zones and FGMOs across the country. The SAMJHAUTA DAY is specially designed for the NPA Borrowers who could not repay their loan in time due to distress in business/medical condition of the borrower or any other genuine reason. Our Bank is having special OTS schemes to settle small value accounts and mid-size accounts through which special discounts are offered to the borrowers whose accounts are NPA and ready to resolve through OTS. Additional incentive is available on early payment of OTS amount. Bank of India is appealing to all the borrowers whose accounts are NPA to come forward to avail this Golden opportunity by settling NPA loan accounts on SAMJHAUTA NEW YEAR ONSET" from 20 th to 22 nd January 2025.

Seeing the Unseen The Beauty of Quiet Moments in Twinkle's Art
How one artist's quiet reflections in the corner inspire conversations about introspection and self-awareness in today's fast-paced world. Twinkle, an artist who hails from the historic city of Agra and is currently pursuing her master's in the UK, is making waves in the contemporary art world. Her work not only reflects her personal journey but also speaks to a broader audience by addressing themes that resonate deeply in today's society. Her latest painting, 'The Corner', is a striking example of how she captures the nuances of human emotion and introspection, taking her viewers on a reflective journey into their own inner worlds.