

Apart from the infant, there were seven men and four women among the dead. One of the deceased was yet to be identified. The majority of them were from Pangani in Chamba district, police said.



Classifieds

LOST AND FOUND

I Akshra Mittal D/o Sachin Mittal R/O 66, Gandhi Dham, Jagadhri, Tehsil Jagadhri, Distt, Yamuna Nagar, Haryana declare that I have passed 10+2 under Unique ID No. 8090633 in the year 2026 from Council for the Indian School Certificate Examination New Delhi and the said certificate and Migration Certificate, Transfer Certificate has been misplaced. Lodged FIR application NO. 132400302601357 dt. 21.7.2026 and not traced out to till date.

It is notified for the information that my Original Qualifying Marksheet of Main Secondary (Class X), Examination of Year 2022- and Roll No1022553971, issued by Punjab School Education Board PSEB) has been actually lost. Name:Ashnoor Kaur D/O Sukhvinder Singh, Address: H.NO 553, Anand Nagar, Patiala (Punjab)Tel: 8427089450

BEDKHALI NOTICE

I Asha Rani W/o Ram Lal R/o #B-1/4472 Sham Nagar Rajpura Distt Patiala declare that my son Sonu and his wife Poonam and second son Jony and his wife Varkha is out of my control so I evict them all my moveable immoveable property anyone dealing with them at their own risk.

मैं गुलशन कमार दल पुत्र स्वगीय श्री चमन लाल निवासी मकान नंबर 150/8 शिवाजी कुलीनी, नजदीक रामलीला ग्राउंड रोहतक, हरियाणा 124001 अपने हक्क से ब्यान करता हू कि मेरा पुत्र रूपेश दल जो कि मेरे कहने सुनने से बाहर है को मैं अपनी चल अचल संपत्ति से बेदखल करता हू भविष्य में मेरे पुत्र से लेनदेन करने वाला स्वयं जिम्मेदार होगा मेरी ओर मेरे परिवार की कोई जिम्मेदारी नहीं होगी।

PUBLIC NOTICE

I, RimpY Menka D/o Tirath Menka R/o Near Arya Samaj School Samana Teh-Samana Distt. Patiala Punjab-147101, do hereby inform to the general public that RimpY Menka and RimpY Garg is the single and same person called with both names.

I Baljinder Kaur Wife of No- 4467609W Ex Nk Balbir Singh Resident of Vill: Dhugga, PO: Nainowal Jattan, Teh & Distt: Hoshiarpur (Pb) have changed my date of birth from 10-5-1969 to 01-1-1973.

I, Sakatter Singh S/o Pal Singh R/o Vpo. Padda Padda Teh-Batala Distt. Gurdaspur Pb, declare that in my Passport my father's name written as Gopal Singh. my father's correct name is Pal Singh.

I, Smt. Amar Kaur D/o Late: Shri Shangara Singh and spouse of Service No. 231282 Ex-CPL Joginder Singh resident of H.No. 4501 (GF) Sector-70 Mohali, Distt. SAS Nagar (Punjab) do hereby affirm and declare that I have changed my name from Amarjit Kaur to Amar Kaur at Mohali Vide affidavit dated 24 Jul 2026, Please note.

I, No. 14498288H Ex-Nk Rameshwar Dass son of Late: Shri Shyam Singh Resident of Vpo. Lalru (Near Govt Elementary School) Teh-Dera Bassi, Distt. SAS Nagar (Punjab) do hereby affirm and declare that I have changed my name from Rameshwar Dash to Rameshwar Dass according to my Aadhar Card, PAN Card and Revenue Records. Please note.

I, Ranjeet Kumar, Residing At Dhanni Bhorthain, Kathua, J&K - 184143, Have Changed My Minor Son's Name From Haran Roy To Haran Raj Vide Affidavit Dated 24/07/2026 Before Notary Pathankot.

I, Davinder Pal Kaur W/o Navtej Singh R/o Village Chak Fateh Khan, Tehsil Ajnala, Distt. Amritsar, Punjab declare that in my daughter's Aasmeen Kaur 10 Class (Matriculation) Certificate my name has been incorrectly recorded as Davinderpal Kaur. My correct name is Davinder Pal Kaur. Hence forth I shall be identified by this name for all purposes.

I, No 3407856K Ex Nk Surinder Singh s/o Sh. Joginder Singh, resident of Village Bahadurgarh, Post Office Talania, Tehsil & District Fatehgarh Sahib declare that I have served in The SIKH Regiment from 30 Sep 2004 to 31 Jul 2020 and I have transfer to pension for establishment on 01 Aug 2020. That Surjit is my real mother. As per Army Records the name and DOB of my said mother has been written as Surjeet Kaur and DOB mentioned 23 Apr 1963. Whereas as per Aadhar card, Pan card and Voter card her correct name is Surjit Kaur and DOB is 10 Dec 1959. Hence name and DOB of my mother be changed.

CHANGE OF NAME

I, Sanapati Venkata Krishna father of Sanapati Siva Rama Krishna R/o #1352-B, Sector 47-B, Chandigarh have changed my name from Sanapati Venkata Krishna to Sanapati Venkatakrushna vide Affidavit No - IN-CH62992073107306Y Dated 11.07.2026 before Notary, Distt. Court Chandigarh.

I, Rajesh Kumar Deol, Son of Roshan Lal Deol, residing at 2046/1, Sector 45C, Chandigarh, declare that the name Rajesh Kumar Deol and Rajesh Deol are the same person. The name Rajesh Deol is inadvertently recorded as rajesh's name in the birth, school certificates and marksheets of my son, Saksham Deol. In future, my correct name may be read as Rajesh Kumar Deol for all purposes.

I, NISHA RANI W/O SONU Mother of DEVAIN (Son's Name) R/O PLOT NO-382, SOUTH CITY, SEC 9-11, HISAR, PO: HISAR, DIST: HISAR, HARYANA-125001 have changed my minor Son name from DEVAIN to DEVAIN JANGRA.

I, Anil S/o Sh. N. Parkash Chand R/o H. No. 14, Gali No. 1, Ward No. 7, Government School, Shiv Nagar Mill Gate, Hisar, Haryana 125001 declare that I have changed my name from Anil to Anil Kumar for all future purpose.

I, Raj Kumar Allawadhi S/o Wazir Chand R/o H. No. 1243, Sector-14, Hisar declare that I have changed my name from Raj Kumar Allawadhi to Raj Kumar for all future purpose.

I, Gaurav Kumar, son of Bhajan Singh, resident of Mukerian, Fatehpur Kulian, Hoshiarpur, have changed my name from Gaurav Kumar to Gaurav.

I, Khujani, w/o Saroop Singh resident of Jaiwan tehsil and district Jind, inform that I have changed my name from Khujani to Khajani Devi, in future I should be known as Khajani Devi.

I, Baljit Kaur wife of Satnam Singh resident of Village Saganwali, PO. Bhatnura Lubana, District Jalandhar, Punjab 144201, have declare that Kaur is my Surname Baljit is my given name.

I, Satnam Singh son of Tarlok Singh resident of Village Saganwali, PO. Bhatnura Lubana, District Jalandhar, Punjab 144201, have declare that Singh is my Surname Satnam is my given name.

I, Rajnish S/o Sh. Ravikaran R/o Village Gudha, TeshilGohana, District Sonipat (Haryana), India have changed my Minor Son name From Aman Singhal to Arman.

I, Sahab Singh, Aadhaar No. 5570 5721 3205, Son Of Chander Singh, Resident Of Madina, Tehsil Gohana, District Sonipat, Haryana, Declare That I Have Change The Spelling Of My Name In Aadhar Card To Akansa Instead Of Akansha

I, Sanjeev Choudhary@ Sanjeev Sihag son of sh. Ram Kumar Choudhary resident of A201, Tower 3, Orlov Court Essel Towers, M.G Road, Gurgaon, Pin 122002, Haryana India /

Near Tau Devi Lal Park, Village Teja Khera (52) Post office Chautala, District Sirsa, Haryana 125101 declare That my name in the Passport is Sanjeev Choudhary son o sh. Ram Kumar Choudhary and in Adhaar & Pan Card my name is Sanjeev Sihag son of sh. Ram Kumar Choudhary. Sanjeev Choudhary@ Sanjeev Sihag son of sh. Ram Kumar Choudhary is the same and one person.

I, Sunita W/o Amit Kumar Gab R/o H.No.9/4,Ward No.27, Ranjeet Colony Camp, Jagadhri, Po. Yamuna Nagar, Distt. Yamuna Nagar, declares that my husband in my passport wrongly Written as Amit Gaba but my husband name actual Amit Kumar Gaba.

I, Atma Prakash, son of Shri Harphul, resident of Ward No. 06, Siwani (Tehsil Siwani, District Bhiwani), do hereby solemnly declare that I have changed my name from Atma Prakash to Atmaram for all future purposes. In the future, I should be known and recognized by the name Atmaram. – Deponent

I, Sajjan S/o Sh. Dil Bahadur Gamel R/o H.No.2029, Sector 15-C, Chandigarh declare that I have changed my name Sajjan to Sajjan Gamel Magar. In future I shall be known and called as Sajjan Gamel Magar.

I, No. 1575269A, Nk Narinder Singh R/o Ram Saran R/o Village and PO Kahri Tehsil and Distt. Hoshiarpur Punjab have changed the name of my wife from Kamalesh Kaur to Kamlesh Kaur and her date of birth from 04-05-1968 to 20-12-1970. Concerned note.

I, Smt Juginder Kaur wife of No. 13689552X Hav Late Raj Kumar, resident of Kirti Nagar, H.No. 52, Street No. 3, Hoshiarpur, PO, Tehsil and Distt Hoshiarpur (Punjab) have changed my name from Juginder Kaur to Joginder Kaur. Concerned note.

I, No 2680499H Ex Hav (MACP-III) Yatinder Kumar resident of Vill Lalothe, PO Datapur Tehsil Dasuya Distt: Hoshiarpur (Pb) have change of name & date of birth of my wife from Nirmala Devi to Nirmila Devi and DOB from 27.11.1971 to 10.01.1972. Concerned note.

I Jitender Kumar S/o Hari Chand R/o House No 332/13, Geeta Colony, Panipat, Haryana-132103, have changed my name to Jitender for all future purpose.

I Jyoti Rani W/o Jitender R/o House No 332/13, Geeta Colony, Panipat, Haryana-132103, have changed my name to Jyoti for all future purpose.

I, Harsh Kaswan, son of Satpal and resident of Village Umedpura, Tehsil Ellenabad, District Sirsa, hereby declare that I have changed my name from Harsh to Harsh Kaswan. In the future, I should be known by the name Harsh Kaswan.

I, Sonu Gulati S/o Late Gyan Chand R/o H. No. 117/25, Patel Nagar, Nr. Tagore Sr. Sec. School, Labour Chowk, Circular Road, Rohtak-124001 have change my minor son's name from Danish Gulati to Vidhan Gulati for all future references.

I, Abhishek S/O Ashok Kumar R/O H No 367 Ward 04 Ram Nagar Tohana, Tehsil Tohana, Have Changed My Name From Abhishek To Abhishek Baweja.

I Dilbagh Singh S/O Gurmit Singh R/O Village Dala PO Raipur pir buxwala district Kapurthala declare that have changed my name from Dilbagh Singh to Dilbag Singh. Please note.

I, Ganshkar Singh son of Jagir Singh residing of Village: Sidhwan Bet, Tehsil Bholath, District Kapurthala, declare that I had changed my name from Ganshkar to Ganshkar Singh. Please note.

I, Ram Mehar, S/o Sh. Ragbir Singh, R/o Village UPLI, Tehsil Gharaunda, Distt. Karnal, declare that I have changed my name from RAMMEHAR to RAM MEHAR, for all future purposes.

I Punam Devi W/O Sh.Raj Kumar H No 6 Village Kundi Sector 20 Panchkula. I Have Change My Minor Daughter Name From Baby Three Of Poonam Devi To Pinki Kumari.

I, Sukhdev Kaur Bains Alias Sukh W/O Amarjit Singh Dhami R/O Ring Road, Nishan Colony, Bajwara Kalan, Po-Bajwara, Hoshiarpur, Punjab-146023 have changed my name to SukhjIt Kaur Dhami.

I, Sukhwinder Kaur W/O Satnam Singh R/O Kotha Mukadam, Hariana, Hoshiarpur, Punjab-144208 have changed my name to Satwinder Kaur.

I, Rinki W/O Late Ajit R/O Khar Khara (300), Rewari, Haryana-123106 have changed name of my minor daughter Krinch aged 16 years to Bhumika.

I Rajji W/O Sh. Vikas Munjal Resident Of H. No 2039/6, Gali Tasveera Wali Sarafa Bazar, Opp Arya Samaj Mandir, Near Anaj Mandi, Ambala City Haryana -134003 Have Changed My Name From Rajji To Razzi.

I, Gurmit Singh son of Mahinder Singh residing at H.No.4299, Gali No.3, Sultanwind Road, Kot Bhagat Singh Amritsar Punjab-143001 have change the name of my minor daughter Gursirat Kaur aged 16 years and she shall hereafter be known as Prabhdeep Kaur.

I, hitherto known as Pati Nayak wife of Raju Barik residing at Ward No.44, Adarsh Khust Ashram Batala, PO Batala, District Gurdaspur Punjab-143505 have changed my name and shall hereafter be known as Parnila Devi.

I, Pankaj Singh son of Amir Singh residing at House No.216-D, VPO Ghiala Tehsil and District Pathankot Punjab-145101 have changed the name of my minor Son Viren Pratap Singh Aged 02 Years and he shall hereafter be known as Vedant Thakur

I, Manpreet Kaur wife of Kuljeet Kumar residing at VPO Mustapur, Tehsil and District Hoshiarpur Punjab-146024 have changed the name of my minor Son Aviraaj Bhatti Aged 05 Years and he shall hereafter be known as Aviraaj Singh

I, hitherto known as Sajal son of Late Harinder Singh residing at VPO Zirakpur, District SAS Nagar Mohali Punjab-140603 have changed my name and shall hereafter be known as Sajal Kadyan

I, hitherto known as Gian Kaur wife of Kashmir Singh residing at Singhpura, District Tarn Taran Punjab-143303 have changed my name and shall hereafter be known as Ranjit Kaur

I Mukesh S/o Sham Sunder Resident of 516/4, Kalla Harnama Shah, Dhab Wasti Ram, Amritsar. I have changed my name from Mukesh to Mukesh Kumar. All concerned please note.

I Sabina Rosy D/O Sunil Samson R/O 622, Diamond Avenue, Majitha Road, Amritsar Have Changed My Name From Sabina Rosy To Sabina Rosy Samson.

I, Akashdeep Singh S/o Avtar Singh R/o Patti Balo Di, Sultanwind Pind Amritsar have declare that Akashdeep is my given name and Singh is my Surname

I, Ranjit Kaur W/o Milkha Singh R/o Village Kamaska Tehsil Ajnala District Amritsar have declare that Ranjit is my Given name and Kaur is my Surname

I, Ranjit Kaur W/o Milkha Singh R/o Village Kamaska Tehsil Ajnala District Amritsar have changed my minor son's name from Sahilpreet Singh to Sahilpreet is his given name and Singh is his surname

I, Ranjit Kaur W/o Milkha Singh R/o Village Kamaska Tehsil Ajnala District Amritsar have changed my minor daughter's name from Manpreet Kaur to Manpreet is her given name and Kaur is her surname

I, Hardip Singh and Hardip Singh Gill S/o Ajit Singh R/o Village Varpal Tehsil and District Amritsar have declare that above both names are mine one and same person

I, Kumari Pavan spouse of No 14672785Y Hav Shiv Ram Sarswat R/o Barauli Bhikam, Aligarh, Beethna, Uttar Pradesh-202002 have changed my name from Kumari Pawan to Pavan Sarswat Vide Affidavit No.IN-PB73394980145076Y Dt.24.07.2026 before Executive Magistrate Amritsar

I, No 14672785Y Shiv Ram Saraswat S/o Sharda Charan Sarswat R/o Barauli Bhikam, Aligarh, Beethna Uttar Pradesh-202002 have changed my daughter's name from Kumari Prema Sarswat to Prerana Sarswat Vide Affidavit No.IN-PB7339381912484Y Dt.24.07.2026 before Executive Magistrate Amritsar

I, Indra Bh Chetry Father of No. 13787768P Rfn Amrit Chetry R/o Village Tengabari, PO Borjarani, Teh & Dist Biswanath, Assam 784184 have changed my name from Indra Bh Chetry to Indra Bahadur Chetry Vide Affidavit No.IN-PB73639125640928Y Dated 24.07.26 before Notary Public Amritsar

I, Radha Sharma W/o Narinder Pal R/o 62, Nagar Nigam Colony, O/s Gilwali Gate, Amritsar have changed my name from Radha Sharma to Radha

I, Sharanjit Kaur W/o Parwinder Singh R/o Village Ranewali, PO. Sansra Kalan, Tehsil Ajnala, District Amritsar Have Changed My Given Name From Sharanjit Kaur To Surname As Kaur And Given Name As Sharanjit. Concerned May Please Be Noted.

I, Jaspreet Singh S/o Jarnail Singh R/o Village Daduwal PO Barian Kalan Distt. Hoshiarpur Punjab declare that my name is Jaspreet Singh. My surname is Singh and my given name is Jaspreet. Concerned note.

I, Navjot Singh S/o Kartar Singh R/o Village and PO Khanaura Distt. Hoshiarpur Punjab declare that my name is Navjot Singh. My surname is Singh and my given name is Navjot. Concerned note.

I, Suman Allawadhi W/o Raj Kumar R/o H. No. 1243, Sector-14, Hisar declare that I have changed my name from Suman Allawadhi to Suman Rani for future purpose.

I, Rajan S/o Sh. Subhash Chander R/o H. No. 203/18, Mohalla Dogran Near Hanuman Mandir, Hisar Haryana 125001 declare that I have changed my name from Rajan to Rajan Arora for all future purpose.

I, Harish Kumar Thakur S/o Dilay Ram Thakur R/o H.No.1438, Sector 17, Huda, Tehsil Jagadhri, Po. Jagadhri, Distt. Yamuna Nagar, have changed my name from Harish Kumar Thakur to Harish Thakur.

I, Suresh VS Father of 15817247L Rank HAV Name Sanish Suresh R/o Vill. & PO-Malayattoor, Teh-Aluva, Distt.-Ernakulam, Kerala-683587 have changed my date of birth in army record from 04-05-1964 to 01-01-1964 vide affidavit dated 24-07-2026 before Notary Public Hisar.

I, Shageela Suresh Mother of 15817247L Rank HAV Name Sanish Suresh R/o Vill. & PO-Malayattoor, Teh-Aluva, Distt.-Ernakulam, Kerala-683587 have changed my name and date of birth in army record from Shageela Suresh (DOB 08-05-1969) to Shajela Suresh (DOB 01-01-1969) vide affidavit dated 24-07-2026 before Notary Public Hisar.

I, Dalip Kaur W/o Babu Singh R/o Village Rurki Tehsil Amloh (Distt. Fatehgarh Sahib) Declare that my father was known by two names Kartar Singh Alias Katar Singh. That my Father Mother have since been expired. That my above statement is true and correct.

I, Tanu D/O Rakesh Kumar r/o Garden colony, street number 2, Burra Gujjar Road,Sri Muktsar Sahib have changed my name to Tania

I, Rakesh Singh Chaudhary, S/o Kaur Singh Chaudhary, R/O House no. 77/5, Village Kajheri, Sector-52, Chandigarh, That my son's actual name is Aarav Singh Chaudhary which is mentioned in his Birth Certificate but it is mentioftedlās Aarav Singh in his Aadhaar Card

I, Madhu Devi W/o Lal Bahadur R/o Village Naguran Tehsil Alewa District Jind, Haryana have Changed my name from Madhu Devi to Madhu.

I, Satbir Singh (Aadhaar No. 9454 3760 4601) S/o Sh. Ramchander R/o H.No. 183, Dher Pana, Mehah, Teh. Mehah, Distt. Rohtak - 124112, declare that my name appears as Satbir Singh on my Voter Card, whereas it has been incorrectly recorded as Satbir on my Aadhaar card. Satbir Singh and Satbir both name are one & same person. Now I wish to have my name corrected to Satbir Singh on my Aadhaar Card.

I, Sandeep Kumar S/o Sh. Lachhman R/o VPO Kinana Distt. Jind (Haryana) have changed my name from Sandeep Kumar to Sandeep

I, Dalip Kaur W/o Babu Singh R/o Village Rurki Tehsil Amloh (Distt. Fatehgarh Sahib) Declare that my father was known by two names Kartar Singh Alias Katar Singh. That my Father Mother have since been expired. That my above statement is true and correct.

I Parveen Kaur D/o Parvinder Singh R/o VPO Sant Nagar, Tehsil Rania, Distt, Sirsa, Haryana have changed my name from Parveen Kaur to Sahiba Aulakh.

I Saurabh s/o Vikram r/o Vill. Dehola Distt. Jind declare that I have changed my name from Sorav to Saurabh for all future purposes.

I Mayank s/o Murari Bansal r/o Shop No. 142, Jai Jagdambey enterprises, Julana, New Grain Market Julana, Distt. Jind declare that I have changed my name from Mayank to Mayank Bansal for all future purposes.

I, Anju Pathania, Wife of Sh. Naresh Singh Pathania, Resident of Village & Post Office Dunera, Tehsil Dhar Kalan, District Pathankot Have Changed my Name from Anju Bala to Anju Pathania.

I, Anuj son of Shri Mahabir Singh resident of H.No. 2669, Near Shiv Mandir, Ward No. 11, Sewah Panipat, Haryana, India state that I have changed my name from Anuj to Anuj Sharma.

I Govind Bihari S/O Shri Chet Ram R/O Ravidass Gurudwara Road,Village Birring, P.O Jalandhar (Punjab) 144005 Declare That I Have Changed My Name From Govind Bihari To Nanku.Now In Future I Am Be Known By The Name Of Nanku

I am No-15614235F, Rank- HAV (MACP NB/SUB), Name- RANINDER KUMAR (Retd), residence of VPO-NURPUR BEDI, TEHSIL- ANANDPUR SAHIB, DISTRICT- RUPNAGAR, STATE - PUNJAB declare that in my Army record my daughter's name wrongly mentioned as KHUAISH. Now I want to amend my daughter name KHUAISH to KHUAISH BASSI in my Army Records. Her correct name is KHUAISH BASSI and correct dob is 06.01.2011.

I, Prince S/o Jarnail Singh R/o Fancy Colony, Pehowa, Kurukshetra, my father's name is wrongly Jamel Singh in my driving license, but according to all my documents, my correct name is Jarnail Singh.

I, Sheenam Devi W/o Lachhman Vill.Ramgarh, Pehowa, Kurukshetra have changed my name Sonnan Devi.

I, Kajal W/o Kamal Gudwani R/o H. No. 1585 Near Mahavir Mandir, Rajpura Distt Patiala Punjab, have changed my name to Kajal Rani.

I, Rajni W/o Hunny Kumar R/o H. No. 2129-A Dashmesh Colony Ward No19, Rajpura. Distt Patiala, have changed my name to Rajni Bala.

I, Rita Rani W/O Paramjeet Singh resident House No. B-650, Near Laxmi Nariyan Mandir, Basti Hazoor Singh Fazilka, District Fazilka (Punjab) declare that in some document's my name recorded as Ritu Khera and DOB as October 29, 1965, whereas my correct name is Rita Rani and DOB is October 29, 1968, which is mentioned in my Adhar Card.

I, Hari Ram S/o Mam Raj Gupta, Near Railway Bridge, Mandi Gobindgarh, have changed name to Hari Ram Gupta

I, Harjit Singh S/o Guralp Singh, Village Ladpur Fatehgarh Sahib, have changed name to Harjeet Singh.

I, Ramandeep Singh Arora S/o Sarabjit Singh R/o H.No. 134, Gali No. 6, G.T. Road, Sant Avenue, Amritsar, Punjab have changed my name from Ramandeep Singh Arora to Ramandeep Singh.

I, Simarjit Kar W/o Ramandeep Singh R/o H.No. 134, Gali No. 6, G.T. Road, Sant Avenue, Amritsar, Punjab have changed my name from Simarjit Kar to Simarjit Kaur.

I Shanti W/o Late Sh. Ram Adhar R/o H.No 2704 Mouli Jagran complex chandigarh 160102 that I have changed my name from Shanti to Shanti Devi.

I, Mohinder Singh Kodan C/o Jugti Ram R/o 1184 Sector 26-1, Panchkula, Haryana 134116 that I have changed my name from Mohinder Singh Kodan to Mohinder Singh.

I, Arun Kumar Mittal S/o Pawan Kumar R/o H.No. 82, Bishanpuri Colony, Sangat Mandi, Distt.-Bathinda (Punjab) declare that i have changed my name from Arun Kumar to Arun Kumar Mittal for all future purpose.

I Banso W/o Mangat Ram R/o Post Office Rahimpur, Rahimpur Jalandhar have changed my name from Banso to Banso Chahal.

I, Gurinder Kaur W/o Davinder Singh R/o H.No. 567, MIG, Phase-1, Urban Estate, Patiala have changed my minor Daughter's name from Dhruvika to Gurshan Kaur.

I, Kashish Rana C/O Sh. Dheeraj Kumari R/O #9ff, City Homes, Bishanpura, Zirakpur, District Sas Nagar, Mohali, Punjab-140603. I, Declare That Kashish Rana & Kashish Is One & The Same Person.

I, Chitra Nayanaben legally spouse of No. 20000464M NK(CM) K Bahadur Sang D Unit HQ 10 Corps Def Corps Camp, C/o 56 APO residing at Tikar, Distt-Surendra Nagar, State-Gujarat -363510 declare That I have changed my name from Chitra Nayanaben to Naynaben Bahadursang Kasela as per my Adhaar Card, vide Affidavit No. IN-PB73076363636361Y dated 23.07.2026 before the court of Bathinda.

I, Harjeet Kaur, wife of Harpreet Singh, resident of Bairampur, Bhago Majra, District SAS Nagar (Mohali), have changed my name from Harjeet Kaur to Harjit Kaur.

I, Pooja Devi W/o Rajesh Kumar R/o Nagla Sadhan(191), Bandi, Yamuna Nagar, Haryana - 135133, INDIA have changed my minor daughter name from Nainci to Nancy.

I, Meenu W/o Ravi Kumar R/o H.NO. 835, Near ITI, Laxmi Garden, Jagadhri, Yamuna Nagar -135001, Haryana, India, have changed my name from Meenu to Meena Kumari.

I, Ansh S/o Bashist Vishwakarma R/o H.NO. 81-A, Laxmi Nagar, Krishna Colony, Yamuna Nagar - 135001, Haryana, India have changed my name from Ansh to Ansh Sharma.

I Seema Devi, W/o Army No. JC-812408M, Sub Rajveer Singh, R/o Kola Patti, VTC Serhada, P.O. Serhada, Distt. Kaththal, Haryana-136043, have changed my my Date of Birth from 30/05/1981 to 18/09/1981 vide affidavit dated 14.07.2026 before Notery Bathinda

I Ishwar Singh Deswal dependent of Rajbir Singh Deswal, resident of VPO Baliana Distt Rohtak Haryana, have changed my name from Ishwar Singh Deswal to Ishwar Singh vide affidavit date 23 July 2026 before Distt court Sector-17, Chandigarh (U.T.)

I, Shashi W/o Rajinder Kumar, House No. 647, Mohalla Mata Raj Kaur Manimajra, Chandigarh have changed my name from Shashi to Shashi Bala.

I, Parveen Kumar S/o Dharmbir Garg, House NO 33, Near Guga Peer, Daria, Chandigarh have changed my minor daughter name from Anakshi Garg to Aina Garg

I, Babita W/o Sh. Rishi Pal, House No. 3269, Sector 51-D, Chandigarh have changed my name from Babita to Babita Devi

I Rajinder Kumar S/o Malu Das, R/o House no. 830, new indira colony mani majra chandigarh have changed my name from Rajinder Kumar to Rajinder Kumar Das.

I, Vikas Verma S/o Late Sh. Rajinder Verma, House NO. 3147, Third Floor, BJ Enclave, Sector 50-D, Chandigarh have changed my name from Vikas Verma to Vijay Verma

I, Aaresh Kumar S/o Mam Chand, House NO. 426, Maloya Colony Chandigarh have changed my minor daughter name from Baby one of Priyanka to Iwanka

Bittu Quits Union Ministry, Set for Bigger Punjab Role as BJP Bets Big for Ballot Battle

MONIKA MALIK ■ Chandigarh

Ravneet Singh Bittu has resigned as Union Minister of State, signalling the Bharatiya Janata Party's clear intent to deploy one of its most prominent Sikh faces in the run-up to the 2027 Punjab Assembly elections. With President Droupadi Murmu accepting his resignation, political attention has shifted from New Delhi to Punjab, where Bittu is now expected to play a central role in the BJP's electoral campaign and could himself contest the Assembly polls next year.

Bittu confirmed that the BJP has entrusted him with the responsibility of working towards forming the party's government in Punjab. He also revealed that he met Prime Minister Narendra Modi a day before submitting his resignation, indicating that the move was part of a larger political strategy rather than a routine ministerial exit.

Bittu's resignation comes a month after his Rajya Sabha tenure from Rajasthan ended on June 21. Although he could have continued as a minister without being a Member of Parliament for six months, until December 21, under constitutional provisions,

he chose to step down after the BJP decided not to re-nominate him to the Upper House.

Instead, the party nominated senior BJP leader Tarun Chugh to the Rajya Sabha, effectively bringing Bittu's tenure as Punjab's only representative in the Union Council of Ministers to an end. During his stint in the Narendra Modi government, Bittu held the portfolios of Minister of State for Railways and Minister of State for Food Processing Industries.

Grandson of Punjab's former Chief Minister Beant Singh, Bittu inherited a strong political legacy and emerged as one of the Congress' most outspoken leaders. He entered Parliament from Anandpur Sahib in 2009 before winning the Ludhiana Lok Sabha seat in both 2014 and 2019, establishing himself as a significant political figure in Punjab.

Known for his aggressive stand on issues such as the farmers' movement, law and order, and Punjab-related matters, Bittu was appointed Congress party's leader in the Lok Sabha in 2021. However, growing dissatisfaction with factionalism and leadership disputes within the Punjab Congress eventually led to

his exit from the party.

Ahead of the 2024 Lok Sabha elections, Bittu joined the BJP, giving the party a prominent Jat Sikh face at a time when it was seeking to expand its political footprint in Punjab. Though he lost the Ludhiana parliamentary contest to Punjab Congress president Amarinder Singh Raja Warring by 20,942 votes, the BJP retained confidence in him by inducting him into the Union Council of Ministers.

Bittu's resignation is widely seen as the BJP's attempt to strengthen its organisational and electoral machinery in Punjab ahead of the Assembly elections. The party has already indicated that it intends to contest the elections independently, ruling out speculation of an alliance with the Shiromani Akali Dal.

The BJP is hoping to improve upon its modest performance in the 2022 Assembly elections, when it managed to win only two of the 117 seats. With the ruling AAP facing political controversies and the Congress grappling with internal divisions, the BJP appears keen to position Bittu at the forefront of its Punjab campaign as it seeks to emerge as a stronger force in the state.

Punjab Congress Stares at Split as High Command Reaffirms Warring's Leadership

MONIKA MALIK ■ Chandigarh

Punjab Congress appears headed for its biggest internal showdown ahead of the 2027 Assembly elections, with former Chief Minister Charanjit Singh Channi and former Deputy Chief Minister Sukhjinder Singh Randhawa openly challenging the authority of state Congress chief Amarinder Singh Raja Warring despite the party high command repeatedly refusing to replace him. The two-day marathon meetings in Delhi on Wednesday and Thursday ended with an unequivocal message from the leadership — Warring will continue as Punjab Congress president and will lead the party into the next Assembly elections.

Instead of settling the leadership dispute, the closed-door deliberations exposed the deepening divide within the state unit. While the high command stood firmly behind Warring, Channi and Randhawa refused to retreat, indicating that the battle for Punjab Congress leadership is far from over and raising fresh concerns of a split within the party.

The leadership deadlock has already claimed its first political casualty, with the Congress high command shelving Rahul Gandhi's proposed Punjab bus yatra and directing the state unit to organise four major rallies instead.

According to party sources, the meetings chaired by Congress general secretary KC Venugopal turned unusually confrontational after Channi questioned Warring's leadership and bluntly told Punjab party affairs in-charge Bhupesh Baghel that the Congress could not win the 2027 Assembly polls under the present state president. He reportedly warned that if Warring continued, the responsibility for the party's electoral performance would rest with the high command.

Venugopal responded firmly, making it clear that Warring had been appointed by the Congress leadership and would remain the Punjab Congress chief. He reminded the gathering that Warring

had risen through the organisation — from the Youth Congress to the state unit — and continued to enjoy the confidence of the high command.

This is not the first time the Congress central leadership has publicly backed Warring while rejecting demands from the Channi-Randhawa camp for a change at the top. Yet, despite repeated assurances that Warring's position is non-negotiable, the dissenting leaders have refused to soften their stand.

Sources informed The Pioneer that the meeting became particularly tense when Venugopal confronted Channi, reminding him that the party had entrusted him with major responsibilities despite his limited political base before Rahul Gandhi elevated him as Punjab Chief Minister in September 2021 by replacing Capt Amarinder Singh. Venugopal is learnt to have pointed out that Channi was virtually unknown at the state leadership level and did not even enjoy the backing of a single MLA when the high command chose him for the top post.

The remarks reportedly did not go down well with Channi, who shot back that if the leadership felt he had been given enough, he was prepared to resign as chairman of the party's election campaign committee.

Warring, who initially remained silent, is learnt to have offered to step down if his leadership had become a problem for colleagues. However, Venugopal immediately intervened, reiterating that Warring would continue because the high command had appointed him.

Venugopal also pulled up Randhawa for publicly attacking Warring despite an earlier understanding within the party. Randhawa, however, stood his ground, insisting that he had only spoken the truth.

As tempers flared, Venugopal reportedly walked out of the meeting. Channi also left shortly afterwards, underlining the seriousness of the confrontation.

The high command

attempted to placate Channi by emphasising that the chairman of the campaign committee would play a pivotal role in every major election-related decision. Sources said that Channi was also assured of a decisive say in candidate selection and ticket distribution, besides leading the party's statewide campaign as its principal Dalit face.

The leadership also conveyed that Warring's organisational role and Channi's election management responsibilities would complement each other rather than clash.

However, the assurances failed to convince the Channi camp. When Rahul Gandhi's proposed Punjab bus yatra came up for discussion, dissenting leaders reportedly maintained that while they would participate in Rahul's programmes, the leadership issue needed to be addressed first. The high command eventually decided to defer the proposed bus yatra for the time being and instead asked the state unit to organise four major rallies.

The fallout from the meetings became visible immediately afterwards. While Warring, Venugopal, Baghel, Sukhpal Singh Khaira, and other leaders shared photographs from the Delhi meetings on social media, Channi, Randhawa and their supporters conspicuously stayed away, reinforcing speculation that reconciliation remains elusive.

Even as Channi's aides denied reports that he was preparing to resign as campaign committee chairman, they acknowledged that the meetings had witnessed sharp differences.

The events of the past two days have made one thing abundantly clear: the Congress high command has once again shut the door on demands for a leadership change in Punjab, but Channi and Randhawa have shown little willingness to accept that verdict. With neither side ready to yield, Punjab Congress, it seems, is heading for a split ahead of a crucial 2027 electoral battle.

Himachal CM launches thematic garden project at Himachal zoo

PNS ■ Shimla

Himachal Pradesh Chief Minister Sukhvinder Singh Sukhu on Friday launched a thematic garden project to be established at Durgesh Aranya International Zoo in Dehra, Kangra, and released Rs 4 crore for its implementation.

The project was launched with Rs 4 crore released through the Himachal Pradesh State Biodiversity Board (HPSBB) to the Chief Wildlife Warden, Himachal Pradesh, for execution of the project. Sukhu said the initiative reflects the state government's commitment to biodiversity conservation, environmental education, scientific research and sustainable eco-tourism.

Spread over 22,247 square metres (around 5.5 acres), the thematic garden has been designed as an ecological



destination showcasing Himachal Pradesh's diverse flora and natural heritage. The project will include a Ficarium featuring species of the genus Ficus, an Arboretum showcasing indigenous and exotic tree species, a Bamboosetum displaying bamboo varieties of ecological and economic importance, and a watch tower offering panoramic views of the surrounding landscape.

Sukhu said the thematic garden would emerge as an important centre for conservation awareness,

environmental interpretation, experiential learning and scientific research, besides creating new opportunities for nature-based tourism. It will also provide students, researchers, tourists and nature enthusiasts with a platform to understand and appreciate the state's rich biological diversity.

The chief minister expressed confidence that upon completion, the thematic garden would significantly enhance the visitor experience at Durgesh Aranya International Zoo and establish it as a model destination for biodiversity conservation and eco-tourism in the country. The project will be executed by the Chief Wildlife Warden, Himachal Pradesh, with technical guidance and support from the Himachal Pradesh State Biodiversity Board.

BRIEFS

HIMACHAL CM DIRECTS OFFICIALS TO EXPLORE FOREIGN LANGUAGE COURSES TO FACILITATE OVERSEAS JOBS

Shimla: Himachal Chief Minister Sukhvinder Singh Sukhu has directed to explore the possibilities of introducing foreign language courses through the Himachal Pradesh Buildings and other Construction Workers Welfare Board. Chairing a meeting, Sukhu said that the State Government was providing handholding support to the skilled youth to secure overseas jobs through the Himachal Pradesh State Electronics Development Corporation (HPSEDC). He said that to equip them with requisite language skills new foreign language courses would be introduced. Sukhu said that the State Government was also developing a digital platform to ensure the safety and security of Himachali youth who have secured employment abroad. He said that the platform would go a long way in monitoring their well being and providing them with necessary support. He said that the State Government was also exploring the possibilities of additional overseas employment opportunities, aiming to provide them better salary packages and ensuring zero-exploitation of the candidates working abroad. He said that the State Government has succeeded in obtaining a license for HPSEDC as a Recruiting Agency. Sukhu directed the Labour and Employment Department to upload all the details of its flagship programmes on the CM Dashboard for effective monitoring of these programmes. He also reviewed the progress of various schemes of the Tribal Development Department and instructed to upload the status of all the FRA cases on the CM Dashboard.

RETIRED IAS OFFICER SAMEER PAL SROW APPOINTED CHAIRPERSON OF QUALITY ASSURANCE AUTHORITY

Chandigarh: Haryana Government on Friday appointed retired IAS officer Sameer Pal Srow as the Chairperson of the Quality Assurance Authority (QAA). A senior officer of the Haryana cadre, Srow brings extensive administrative experience to the role. His appointment is expected to further strengthen the Authority's efforts to enhance quality oversight across government programmes and public service delivery.

HARYANA RECORDS MAJOR GAINS IN TB FIGHT, RANKS SECOND NATIONALLY IN TB MukT BHARAT APP REGISTRATIONS

Chandigarh: Haryana has posted significant gains in its fight against tuberculosis, registering 35,229 users on the TB MukT Bharat App—the second-highest in the country—while increasing TB Preventive Treatment (TPT) coverage to 49 per cent, raising molecular (NAAT) testing to 67 per cent and extending differentiated TB care to 71 per cent of eligible patients. The achievements came to the fore during a review of the state's 100-Day TB Elimination Campaign chaired by Chief Secretary Anurag Rastogi. During the review, officials informed the Chief Secretary that Haryana has witnessed steady progress across key indicators since the launch of the campaign on March 24, 2026. The state has not only secured the second position nationally in total registrations on the TB MukT Bharat App but has also mobilised 22,888 volunteers and 2,067 Nikshay Mitras to strengthen community participation in the fight against tuberculosis. Out of 51,526 TB cases notified between January 1 and July 23, 8,939 TB patients have registered on the TB MukT Bharat App, enabling better patient monitoring and support.

DON'T ATTEMPT TO REPAIR POWER FAULTS YOURSELF, REGISTER COMPLAINTS ONLY THROUGH OFFICIAL CHANNELS: UHBVN APPEALS CONSUMERS

Chandigarh: The Uttar Haryana Bijli Vitran Nigam (UHBVN) has appealed to farmers and general consumers not to tamper with electricity lines, transformers or any other electrical equipment, and to refrain from attempting to repair power faults on their own. It has frequently been observed that farmers and consumers try to rectify electrical faults themselves and climb electricity poles or transformers without following proper safety measures. Such practices have led to a continuous rise in electricity-related accidents. Sharing this information, a spokesperson of the power utility urged farmers and consumers to avoid repairing electrical equipment themselves and instead register their electricity-related complaints through official channels, including all UHBVN mobile applications, the toll-free numbers 1912 and 1800-180-1550, or by visiting their nearest electricity office.

PROTEST IN KAITHAL OVER POLICE ACTION AGAINST YOUNG PROTESTERS IN DELHI

KAITHAL: A large number of youths, farmers and activists of various social organisations on Friday held a demonstration against Delhi Police's crackdown action protesters demanding resignation of Union Minister Dharmendra Pradhan over the alleged NEET paper leak issue. The protesters gathered at Hanuman Vitak Park and then took out a procession to the District Mini Secretariat. The protest came amid the Cockroach Janata Party's nationwide call for peaceful protests. The protesters carried banners, posters, and placards and raised slogans throughout the march.

HARYANA OPENS DEPUTATION WINDOW FOR 32 POSTS IN HUMAN RESOURCES DEPARTMENT

Chandigarh: In a move aimed at strengthening its Human Resources Department with experienced personnel from across the state administration, the Haryana Government has invited applications for 32 posts to be filled on a three-year deputation basis. The vacancies are open to eligible regular officers and officials working in various departments of the state government. According to a letter issued by the Human Resources Department, the recruitment drive covers eight different categories of posts, ranging from Superintendents and Private Secretaries to Clerks, Steno-Typists and Drivers. The deputation will initially be for three years. The department has notified 13 vacancies for Assistants, the highest among all categories, followed by six Clerks, three Superintendents, three Personal Assistants, three Steno-Typists, two Junior Scale Stenographers, one Private Secretary and one Driver.

Punjab Govt Gives Clean Chit to IPS Officer SPS Parmar, Closes Vigilance Case Proceedings

PNS ■ Chandigarh

Bringing the departmental proceedings against senior IPS officer Surinder Pal Singh (SPS) Parmar to a close, the Punjab Government has given him a clean chit in the high-profile Transport Department corruption case, with the Governor accepting an inquiry report that found no evidence to support allegations of misconduct or dereliction of duty. The government has dropped all charges against the 1997-batch IPS officer, ordered closure of the disciplinary proceedings, and directed that his suspension period be treated as duty.

The decision marks the end of disciplinary action initiated against Parmar, who currently serves as Additional Director General of Police (Law and Order) and had earlier headed the Punjab Vigilance Bureau.

The inquiry concluded that the Vigilance Bureau had acted in accordance with Section 17A of the Prevention of Corruption Act, 1988, and that none of the charges levelled against the officer could be substantiated.

According to an order issued by the Punjab Home Department, departmental proceedings initiated against Parmar under Rule 8 of the All India Services (Discipline and Appeal) Rules, 1969, have been formally closed after the Governor accepted the findings of the inquiry conducted by Special DGP (Law and Order) Arpit Shukla.

The inquiry officer concluded that the evidence on record failed to establish any of the Articles of Charge framed against Parmar. The report held that the Vigilance Bureau had acted strictly within the legal framework of Section

17A of the Prevention of Corruption Act and found no proof to support allegations of misconduct or dereliction of duty against the officer.

The departmental proceedings originated from the Punjab Vigilance Bureau's high-profile investigations into alleged corruption in the Transport Department involving accusations of bribery, illegal permits, extortion, and systemic corruption allegedly involving transport officials, private bus operators, and intermediaries.

On May 18, 2025, the Home Department issued a memorandum initiating disciplinary proceedings against Parmar over allegations relating to the Vigilance Bureau's handling of the transport corruption investigations. He was subsequently suspended while serving as the Chief Director of the Punjab

Vigilance Bureau. Parmar was reinstated in August 2025 pending completion of the inquiry.

Following a detailed departmental probe, the inquiry found no evidence of procedural lapses or wrongdoing on Parmar's part. Accepting the report, the Governor ordered that all Articles of Charge be dropped and directed that the entire period of suspension be treated as duty in accordance with the applicable service rules.

The order approving the inquiry report was issued with the Governor's approval on July 22, 2026, while the formal endorsement was issued by the Home Department on July 24. With the closure of the proceedings, Parmar stands fully exonerated, restoring his service status and entitling him to all service benefits for the period he remained under suspension.

Viral Barnala Lathi-Charge Videos Force Action; DSP Suspended, Opposition Mounts Attack

PNS ■ Chandigarh

Punjab Government on Friday suspended Barnala City DSP Satvir Singh Bains following the controversial police lathi-charge on protesting sanitation workers in Barnala — a move that came after Chief Minister Bhagwant Mann's direct intervention amid mounting public outrage over viral videos allegedly showing policemen assaulting women sanitation workers. The Station House Officer (SHO), Barnala, has also been transferred in connection with the incident.

The action follows the violent confrontation that took place two days ago at Handiaya Bazaar, where sanitation workers, already on a prolonged strike over demands including wage enhancement and regularisation of services, clashed with police during a protest. Videos purportedly showing male police

personnel beating women sanitation workers spread rapidly on social media, triggering protests across the region, and intensifying pressure on the government.

Sangrur MP and former Cabinet Minister Gurmeet Singh Meet Hayer announced that the suspension was ordered after detailed discussions with Chief Minister Mann. The Punjab State Safai Karamchari Commission, which had intervened in the matter, said it had urged the government to take immediate disciplinary action. Commission chairman Chandan Grewal reiterated that the Punjab Government remains committed to protecting the rights, dignity and welfare of sanitation workers.

The incident also drew serious attention from the National Safai Karamchari Commission and the Punjab State Scheduled Castes Commission, both of which

sought reports from the administration after taking strong note of the allegations.

Sanitation workers alleged that police resorted to an unprovoked lathi-charge on their peaceful demonstration, leaving several employees injured. Their organisations, supported by various political parties, continued protests demanding strict action against those responsible.

The opposition launched a sharp offensive against the Aam Aadmi Party government. BJP leader and Central Valmiki Sabha national president Gejja Ram Valmiki termed the police action an attack on the dignity of the Valmiki community, alleging women protesters faced inhuman treatment. He demanded the dismissal of both the DSP and the SHO, a fair inquiry, justice for the victims, and warned of a statewide agitation, including protests outside the Chief Minister's residence, if workers' demands remained

unaddressed.

Punjab BJP president Kewal Singh Dhillon accused the government of betraying sanitation workers after promising regularisation before elections. Calling the incident proof of an "anti-poor and anti-Dalit" mindset, he demanded an apology from the government, strict action against the guilty officers and acceptance of the workers' legitimate demands.

Punjab Congress president Amarinder Singh Raja Warring also condemned the police action, accusing the Mann government of suppressing peaceful protests. He announced that he would move the Punjab and Haryana High Court over the alleged human rights violations, demanded action against the policemen involved and questioned the silence of the Punjab SC Commission, saying sanitation workers deserved its immediate protection.



Government of Punjab

TENDER / RFP FOR Works

TENDER NOTICE REFERENCE NO. MCJ/SL/2026-27/ 35 AND 126/ CE/WS/G Dated 23-07-2026

THE DEPARTMENT OF MUNICIPAL CORPORATION JALANDHAR INVITES **OPEN BIDS FOR:-** 02 Works related to street light branch in CENTRAL CONSTITUENCY (Detailed of work as mentioned in website)

Closing date & time:- **(1st Attempt)**

Availability of Tender:- FOR Sr. No.1-02 **28-07-2026, 14:00 PM**

Last date for Submission of Tender:- **07-08-2026, 14:00 PM**

For details log onto:- **eproc.punjab.gov.in**

Note:- Any corrigendum(s) to the Tender / RFP Notice shall be published on the above website only.

As per Govt. letter Refer. No. JDDLJ/PRU/DLG/2021/1018-23 Dt. 13-05-2021

Corporation Engg.
Corporation Engineer (O&M)
Water Supply & Sewerage Dept.
Municipal Corporation, Jalandhar

1911/12/2026-27/13636 Dated CHD :- 24/07/2026

CHANDIGARH HOUSING BOARD

8, Jan Marg, Sector 9-D, Chandigarh

PUBLIC NOTICE

Subject:- Mutation/Transfer of 1/3 share of **DU No.162-2 of Category-LIG, Sector 41-A,** Chandigarh in the name of (i) **MS. KAJAL**

SEHGAL D/O LATE SH. RAJ KUMAR SEHGAL & (ii) SH. KARAN SEHGAL S/O LATE SH. RAJ KUMAR SEHGAL (HAVING 1/3 SHARE EACH) on the Intestate Demise of co-allottee/transferee **SMT. ASHA SEHGAL W/O LATE SH. RAJ KUMAR SEHGAL (HAVING 1/3 SHARE).**

It is hereby notified for the information of the General Public and all concerned that **SMT. ASHA SEHGAL W/O LATE SH. RAJ KUMAR SEHGAL (HAVING 1/3 SHARE)** co-allottee/transferee of **DU No.162-2 of Category-LIG, Sector 41-A,** Chandigarh expired on **25.04.2026** at Zirakpur (Pb.) as informed by her legal heirs. (i) **MS. KAJAL SEHGAL D/O LATE SH. RAJ KUMAR SEHGAL & (ii) SH. KARAN SEHGAL S/O LATE SH. RAJ KUMAR SEHGAL (HAVING 1/3 SHARE EACH)** have requested for transfer of **1/3 share** of ownership of **DU No.162-2 of Category-LIG, Sector 41-A** Chandigarh in their name on the basis of intestate demise of co-allottee/transferee **SMT. ASHA SEHGAL W/O LATE SH. RAJ KUMAR SEHGAL (HAVING 1/3 SHARE).** They have further stated that no other legal heir has been left out.

In case anybody has any objection regarding the claim/right/interest in the dwelling unit which is proposed to be transferred by the Chandigarh Housing Board in favour of (i) **MS. KAJAL SEHGAL (DAUGHTER) & (ii) SH. KARAN SEHGAL (SON),** he/she may submit the objection in writing to the undersigned within 21 days of the publication of this notice, failing which the registration and allotment of the said dwelling unit shall be transferred in favour of the above claimant's.

Secretary,
Chandigarh Housing Board,
Chandigarh

CHANDIGARH HOUSING BOARD

8, Jan Marg, Sector 9-D, Chandigarh

PUBLIC NOTICE

Subject:- Mutation/Transfer of allotment/ Registration of Ownership in respect of **DU No.3508 of Category-MIG-II, Sector 46-C,** Chandigarh in the name of (i) **SH. LUKESH CHANDER (LUKESH) S/O LATE SH. ROMESH CHANDER GUPTA, (ii) SH. PARVESH CHANDER GUPTA (PARVESH) S/O LATE SH. ROMESH CHANDER GUPTA & (iii) SH. PARVEEN CHANDER GUPTA (PARVEEN) S/O LATE SH. ROMESH CHANDER GUPTA** from the name of allottee/ transferee **SMT. KAUSHALYA DEVI (KAUSHALYA GUPTA) W/O SH. ROMESH CHANDER GUPTA (RAMESH CHANDER GUPTA)** on the basis of Registered WILL.

It is hereby notified for the information of the general public and all concerned that (i) **SH. LUKESH CHANDER (LUKESH) S/O LATE SH. ROMESH CHANDER GUPTA, (ii) SH. PARVESH CHANDER GUPTA (PARVESH) S/O LATE SH. ROMESH CHANDER GUPTA & (iii) SH. PARVEEN CHANDER GUPTA (PARVEEN) S/O LATE SH. ROMESH CHANDER GUPTA** after the death of allottee/transferee **SMT. KAUSHALYA DEVI (KAUSHALYA GUPTA) W/O SH. ROMESH CHANDER GUPTA (RAMESH CHANDER GUPTA),** has applied to Chandigarh Housing Board for transfer the **DU No.3508 of Category-MIG-II, Sector 46-C,** Chandigarh in their favour, as **SMT. KAUSHALYA DEVI (KAUSHALYA GUPTA) W/O SH. ROMESH CHANDER GUPTA (RAMESH CHANDER GUPTA)** expired on dated 26.05.2026 at Vasant Kunj, South West Delhi and left behind a WILL which was Registered with Sub Registrar, Karnal (HR) on **15.06.2006,** in their favour. They have further stated that the WILL of the deceased allottee/transferee is the last WILL executed by her which has neither superseded nor cancelled till the death of the deceased.

If any body has any objection upon the mutation of the said property in favour of applicant(s), he/she/they may submit the objection in writing to the undersigned within 21 days of the publication of this notice, failing which, the registration and allotment of the said dwelling unit shall be transferred in favour of above said claimant(s).

Secretary,
Chandigarh Housing Board,
Chandigarh.

CHANDIGARH HOUSING BOARD

8, Jan Marg, Sector 9-D, Chandigarh

PUBLIC NOTICE

Subject:- Mutation/Transfer of the Allottee/transferee of **DU No.2150-D of Two Bed Room Category and Parking No.88-CSO-373 in Block No.B8 In Sector 63,** Chandigarh in the name of (i) **SMT. HARBHAJAN KAUR SOHI (HARBHAJAN KAUR) W/O LATE SH. BALWINDER SINGH SOHI, (ii) MISS RUHEEN KAUR SOHI (MINOR) D/O LATE SH. PUNEET SINGH SOHI & (iii) MASTER RIHAAN SINGH SOHI (MINOR) S/O LATE SH. PUNEET SINGH SOHI THROUGH LEGAL GUARDIAN GRANDMOTHER SMT. HARBHAJAN KAUR SOHI (HARBHAJAN KAUR) W/O LATE SH. BALWINDER SINGH SOHI** on the Intestate Demise of allottee/transferee **SH. PUNEET S. SOHI (PUNEET SINGH SOHI) S/O SH.(DR.) B.S. SOHI (BALWINDER SINGH SOHI).**

It is hereby notified for the information of the General Public and all concerned that **SH. PUNEET S. SOHI (PUNEET SINGH SOHI) S/O SH.(DR.) B.S. SOHI (BALWINDER SINGH SOHI)** allottee/transferee of **DU No.2150-D of Two Bed Room Category and Parking No.88-CSO-373 in Block No.B8 In Sector 63,** Chandigarh expired on **11.07.2025** at County of Yuba, Marysville, California as informed by his legal heirs. (i) **SMT. HARBHAJAN KAUR SOHI (HARBHAJAN KAUR) W/O LATE SH. BALWINDER SINGH SOHI, (ii) MISS RUHEEN KAUR SOHI (MINOR) D/O LATE SH. PUNEET SINGH SOHI & (iii) MASTER RIHAAN SINGH SOHI (MINOR) S/O LATE SH. PUNEET SINGH SOHI THROUGH LEGAL GUARDIAN GRANDMOTHER SMT. HARBHAJAN KAUR SOHI (HARBHAJAN KAUR) W/O LATE SH. BALWINDER SINGH SOHI** have requested for transfer of ownership of **DU No.2150-D of Two Bed Room Category and Parking No.B8-CSO-373 in Block No.88 in Sector 63,** Chandigarh in their name on the basis of intestate demise of allottee/transferee **SH. PUNEET S. SOHI (PUNEET SINGH SOHI) S/O SH.(DR.) B.S. SOHI (BALWINDER SINGH SOHI).** They have further stated that no other legal heir has been left out.

In case anybody has any objection regarding the claim/right/interest in the dwelling unit which is proposed to be transferred by the Chandigarh Housing Board in favour of (i) **SMT. HARBHAJAN KAUR SOHI (HARBHAJAN KAUR) (MOTHER), (ii) MISS RUHEEN KAUR SOHI (DAUGHTER) & (iii) MASTER RIHAAN SINGH SOHI (SON),** he/she may submit the objection in writing to the undersigned within 21 days of the publication of this notice, failing which the registration and allotment of the said dwelling unit shall be transferred in favour of the above claimant's.

Secretary,
Chandigarh Housing Board,
Chandigarh.

सार्वजनिक सूचना

इस पब्लिक नोटिस के माफ़त जनसाधारण को सूचित किया जाता है कि प्रार्थी हिमांशु खन्ना पुत्र प्रदीप कुमार निवासी 60/75, बाहर कॉलेज रोड, यमुनानगर ने अपने कानूनी वारिस की रिपोर्ट जारी करने हेतु एक प्रार्थना पत्र इस कार्यालय में प्राप्त हुआ है प्रार्थी द्वारा पेश प्रार्थना पत्र व सहायक हल्क नामा व रिपोर्ट पारदर्शक/नगरपालिका/पटवारी अनुसार मुक्त स्वरूप अमृत पाल सिंह पुत्र बख्शीश सिंह के निम्नलिखित कानूनी वारिस हैं: गगनदीप कौर, सरदीप सिंह, इमरती कौर, पानी / पुत्र/पुत्री हैं। यदि उपरोक्त वारसान रिपोर्ट बारे किसी व्यक्ति को कोई आपत्ति है तो वह तहसीलदार जगधारी कार्यालय में प्रकाशन के 15 दिन के अंदर -2 आपत्ति दर्ज करवा सकता है यदि प्रार्थी द्वारा दी गई सूचना किसी भी समय गलत पाई जाती है तो प्रार्थी भारतीय दण्ड संहिता की धारा 177 व अन्य संबंधित कानूनी दण्ड का भागीदार होगा। तहसीलदार, जगधारी

सार्वजनिक सूचना

इस पब्लिक नोटिस के माफ़त जनसाधारण को सूचित किया जाता है कि प्रार्थी हिमांशु खन्ना पुत्र प्रदीप कुमार निवासी 60/75, बाहर कॉलेज रोड, यमुनानगर ने अपने कानूनी वारिस की रिपोर्ट जारी करने हेतु एक प्रार्थना पत्र इस कार्यालय में प्राप्त हुआ है प्रार्थी द्वारा पेश प्रार्थना पत्र व सहायक हल्क नामा व रिपोर्ट पारदर्शक/नगरपालिका/पटवारी अनुसार मुक्त स्वरूप प्रदीप कुमार पुत्र गुरमुख दास के निम्नलिखित कानूनी वारिस हैं: गुरु पाल, अमृता सचदेव पुत्री, गिरिका पुत्री, हिमांशु खन्ना हैं। यदि उपरोक्त वारसान रिपोर्ट बारे किसी व्यक्ति को कोई आपत्ति है तो वह तहसीलदार जगधारी कार्यालय में प्रकाशन के 15 दिन के अंदर -2 आपत्ति दर्ज करवा सकता है यदि प्रार्थी द्वारा दी गई सूचना किसी भी समय गलत पाई जाती है तो प्रार्थी भारतीय दण्ड संहिता की धारा 177 व अन्य संबंधित कानूनी दण्ड का भागीदार होगा। तहसीलदार, जगधारी

सूचना

मैं, सुनीता रानी पत्नी स्व. राज कुमार पुत्र गेपाल दास निवासी म.नं. 258 आनंद नगर चौक, मुक्ता मानस, यमुनानगर, तहसील जगधारी, जिला यमुनानगर यह ब्यक्त करती हूँ, कि मेरे पति राज कुमार का स्वर्गस्त्य दिनांक 01.09.2015 को चुका है। मेरे पति राज कुमार के निम्नलिखित कानूनी वारिस हैं: सुनीता रानी, शिव कुमार, अशीष कुमार पत्नी/पुत्रान स्व. राज कुमार हैं। उपरोक्त वारसान के इलावा कोई वारिस नहीं है। भविष्य में अन्य कोई वारिस पाया जाता है, तो मेरे खिलाफ धारा 182 आईपीसी की धारा के तहत कानूनी कारवाई की जाए। यदि किसी व्यक्ति को उपरोक्त अनुसार कोई एतराज हो तो नगर निगम कार्यालय या तहसील कार्यालय में 15 दिन के अन्दर-2 आपत्ति दर्ज करा सकता है।

CHANDIGARH HOUSING BOARD

8, Jan Marg, Sector 9-D, Chandigarh

PUBLIC NOTICE

It is hereby notified for the General Public that the following person(s) have applied for Permission for the Sale/Purchase of Dwelling Unit in their names under Regulation of the Chandigarh Housing Board (Allotment, Management and Sale of Tenements) Regulations 1979:-

Sr. No.	Name of the applicant (PROPOSED TRANSFEEE)	Name allottee/transferee of (TRANSFEROR)	Du No.	Category	Sector
1.	SMT.SAMPATI SHARMA W/O LATE SH. LOKINDER SHARMA	(i) SMT. ASHA RANI D/O LATE SH. NANAK CHAND, W/O SH. HARBANS LAL, (ii) SMT. SATYA DEVI D/O LATE SH. NANAK CHAND, W/O SH. SURINDER PAL (iii) SMT. USHA RANI D/O LATE SH. NANAK CHAND. W/O SH. PAWAN KUMAR (iv) SH. SHIV KUMAR PILAY S/O LATE SH. NANAK CHAND (v) SH. SUBHASH S/O LATE SH. NANAK CHAND & (vi) SH. RAJ KUMAR S/O LATE SH. NANAK CHAND	2336	EWS	45-C, CHANDIGARH

In case anybody has any objection for the Sale/Purchase in respect of above said dwelling Unit, he/she may submit the objection, if any, in writing within 21 days of the publication of this notice before the undersigned alongwith documentary evidence, if any.

Secretary,
CHANDIGARH HOUSING BOARD,
CHANDIGARH

पंजाब नैशनल बैंक

...सरोसे का प्रतीक

punjab national bank

...the name you can BANK upon!

BRANCH OFFICE : GURDWARA ROAD SONEPAT, HARYANA TEL. NO. 9599884177

POSSESSION NOTICE Rule 8 (1)

Whereas

The undersigned being the Authorized Officer of the **Punjab National Bank** under the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 and in exercise of Powers conferred under Section 13 read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002, issued a demand notice dated **27/04/2026** calling upon the Borrower **Sh. Amit Goel/ M/s Shri Radhey Enterprises** to repay the amount mentioned in the notice being **Rs. 51,61,169.90 (Rupees fifty One lakhs Sixty One Thousand One hundred Sixty Nine and Paise Ninety only as on 31.03.2026)** as on **31.03.2026+ interest thereon + expenses - recovery if any** within 60 days from the date of notice/date of receipt of the said notice.

The borrower having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the borrower and the public in general that the undersigned has taken possession of the property described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on him under sub-section (4) of section 13 of Act read with rule 8 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 on this the **23rd day of July of the year 2026**

The borrower in particular and the public in general is hereby cautioned not to deal with the property and any dealings with the property will be subject to the charge of the Punjab National Bank for an amount of **Rs. 51,61,169.90 and interest thereon + expenses-recovery if any.**

The borrower's /guarantor's /mortgagor's attention is invited to provisions of sub-section (8) of section 13 of the Act in respect of time available to redeem the secured assets as mentioned below.

Description of the immovable property:

1. All the Part and Parcel of commercial shop measuring 63.99 sq. yds Situated within the area of Barun Mandi, Rohtak Road, Sonapat, which is detailed as under:-

a) Shop Measuring 37.33 Sq. Yrds Situated within area of Barun Mandi, Sonapat, Rohtak Road, Tehsil and District Sonapat with in the MC limit of Sonapat, owned by Sh. Naresh Kumar S/o Sh. Moti Ram vide registered Sale Deed No. 1954 dated 05.12.1987.

b) Shop Measuring 26.66 Sq. Yrds Situated within area of Barun Mandi, Sonapat, Rohtak Road, Tehsil and District Sonapat with in the MC limit of Sonapat, owned by Smt. Shashi Bala W/o Naresh Kumar vide sale deed no. 1017 dated 26.05.1988.

Total Shop is Measured and Bounded as per Valuation as under :- North: 24-0" Shop of Vijay, South: 24'-0" Shop of Rajender Kumar, East: 24'-0" Main Road, West: 24'-0" Gali

2. All that Part and Parcel of Industrial plot no O-9, measuring 654 sq yds situated in Industrial Area Sonapat, tehsil and District Sonapat with in the MC limit of Sonapat owned by Sh. of Amit Goel vide sale deed no 7681 dated 07.01.2010, which is measured and Bounded as under :- North: Road, South: Plot no O-16, East: Road, West: Plot no O-8

DATE: 23.07.2026 PLACE: SONIPAT Authorized officer, Punjab National Bank

पंजाब नैशनल बैंक

...सरोसे का प्रतीक

punjab national bank

...the name you can BANK upon!

BRANCH: SDVM, SECTOR - 11-12, PANIPAT

POSSESSION NOTICE Rule 8 (1)

Whereas

The undersigned being the Authorized Officer of the **Punjab National Bank** under the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 and in exercise of Powers conferred under Section 13 read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002, issued a demand notice dated **11/05/2026** calling upon the Borrower **Smt Poonam (Prop M/s Rahul Enterprises** to repay the amount mentioned in the notice being **Rs. 19,15,181.70 (Rs Nineteen lacs Fifteen thousand one hundred Eighty One and seventy paise)** within 60 days from the date of notice/date of receipt of the said notice.

The borrower having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the borrower and the public in general that the undersigned has taken possession of the property described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on him under sub-section (4) of section 13 of Act read with rule 8 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 on this the **20th day of July of the year 2026**

The borrower in particular and the public in general is hereby cautioned not to deal with the property and any dealings with the property will be subject to the charge of the **Punjab National Bank** for an amount of **Rs. 19,15,181.70 and interest thereon.**

The borrower's /guarantor's /mortgagor's attention is invited to provisions of sub-section (8) of section 13 of the Act in respect of time available to redeem the secured assets as mentioned below.

Description of the immovable property

Smt Poonam wife of Sh Kiranpal so Sh Shyam Lal, resident of vill Chhajpur kalan, Tehsil bapoli, Distt- Panipat, owner in possession of land measuring 02 kanal 08 marla being 5800/109263 share out of 45 kanal 03 marla comprised in khewat no 184/166, khtoni no 201, rect no 7, killa no 18(4-5), rect no 9, killa no 4(2(3-2), khewat no 185/166/1, khatoni no 202, rect no 27, killa no 14(2(5-0), 16(8-0), 17(8-0), 24(8-0), rect no 28, killa no. 20(2(3-0), rect no 43, killa no 4(5-16), All that Part and Parcel of Industrial building measuring 1452 sq yd situated at jalmana, Sub Tehsil- Bapoli, Distt - Panipat, registered via sale deed no 668/1 Dt 11-07-2014

As per spot insp report dated 13-02-2023 issued by Kanungo bapoli, two shed room and boundary wall measuring 02 kanal 07 marla 07 sarsai, bounded as under :- North: 247'-6" Vacant plot and wine shop, South- 274'-00" House of other, East: 50'-00' Other land, West: Road

DATE: 20.07.2026 PLACE: PANIPAT Authorized officer, Punjab National Bank

इंडियन बैंक

ALLAHABAD

ZONAL OFFICE: SCO 96, District Shopping Centre, Fourth Floor, Ranjit Avenue, Amritsar - 143001, Ph.: 0183-2830600; Fax: 0183-2500108, E-mail: zoomritsar@indianbank.bank.in

DEMAND NOTICE

NOTICE UNDER SEC. 13 (2) OF THE SECURITISATION AND RECONSTRUCTION OF FINANCIAL ASSETS AND ENFORCEMENT OF SECURITY INTEREST ACT 2002

A notice is hereby given that the following Borrower(s) / Guarantor(s) / Mortgagor(s) have committed default in repayment of loans to the tune of below mentioned amount due i.e. Book Balance + MOI with further interest at the agreed rate from date mentioned below till date of repayment. The Bank, issued notice under the Act, calling upon Borrower(s) / Guarantor(s) / Mortgagor(s) to repay the outstanding amount mentioned below. The notice was sent to you by "Regd. Post has been returned unserved.

Name of Branch Borrower(s), Guarantor(s) & Mortgagor(s)	Description of the Mortgaged / Hypothecated Assets	NPA Date	Date of Demand Notice	Amount as per Demand Notice (Rs.)	Nature of Facility
BRANCH- JAMMU Borrower(s):- (1) New Hot Billions, Registered Address:- Village Thikerial, 01, R.S. Pura, Jammu - 181102 (2) Sanjeev Bhasin S/o Sh. Inderjeet Bhasin, R/o House Number 87, Ward Number 8, BC Road, Rehari Chungi, Rehari Mohalla, Jammu -	Mortgaged Assets:- Property:- All piece and parcel of open plot measuring 30'90" (2700 Sq. Ft.) i.e. 10 Marlas bearing Khasha No. 19 Min, Khata No. 147 Min, Khewat No. 2 Min situated at Sehora, Tehsil Bishnah and Distt. Jammu owned and possessed by Sh. Sunil Verma vide sale deed Dated 21.07.2014. Property is bounded as under:- North: Road 18 Ft.; West: House. Hypothecated Assets:- All movable assets i.e. Stocks and Book Debts, Plant and Machinery etc. (present and future).	06.07.2026	08.07.2026	Rs. 55,35,304/- (Rupees Fifty Five Lakhs Thirty Five Thousand Three Hundred Four only) and the said amount carries further interest at the agreed rate from 08.07.2026.	OCC A/c #7842949267
180005 (3) Sunil Verma S/o Bal Krishan Verma, R/o House Number 733, Subhash Nagar, Rehari Mohalla, Jammu - 180005.					

The above Borrower(s) / Guarantor(s) / Mortgagor(s) are called upon to pay the amount mentioned in notice within 60 days from the date of the publication of this notice failing which we will be constrained to exercise rights of enforcement of Security Interest as against the secured assets mentioned above. This notice is without prejudice to any other right / remedy available to the Secured Creditor.

"We draw attention to the provisions of Section 13(8) of the SARFAESI Act and the Rules frame there under which deals with your rights of redemption over the securities".

This Notice is without prejudice to any other remedy available to the Secured Creditor - including its right to proceed with the proceedings presently pending before DRT/RO of DRT/DRAT/Court and proceed with the execution of order / decree obtained / be obtained.

Dated: 24.07.2026 Place: Jammu AUTHORIZED OFFICER

ICICI Bank

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

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

Having failed to repay the amount, the Notice is issued to the borrower and the public in general that the undersigned has taken symbolic possession of the property described below, by exercising powers conferred on him/her under Section 13(4) of the said Act read with Rule 8 of the said rules on the below-mentioned dates. The borrower in particular and the public in general are hereby cautioned not to deal with the property. Any dealings with the property will be subject to charges of ICICI Bank Limited.

Sr. No.	Name of the Borrower(s)/ Loan Account Number	Description of Property/ Date of Symbolic Possession	Date of Demand Notice/ Amount in Demand Notice (Rs)	Name of Branch
1.	M/s. Kesarinandan Enterprises/ Ajay Choudhary/ Anubha Choudhary/ 023805004245	Property Private No. IFB06-6-Ground Floor (Independent Floor On Ground Floor) & According To Puda No. 430 Ground Floor Having Super Area of 1465.00 Sq. Feet (Approx) On A Plot Size of 326.38 Sq. Yrds (Approx) Bearing Khasha No.42/20/1 Min, Khewat No. 165, Khatauni No.273/1, Jamabandi For The Year 2012-2013, Hadbast No. 262, Situated At Village Jheotan Kalan, Subdivision No.02, "Dream City", Tehsil & District Amritsar, Punjab- 143001, Owned By Ajay Choudhary, (Admeasuring An Area of Super Area of 1465.00 Sq. Feet (Approx) Plot Size 326.38 Sq. Yrds (Approx) North: As Per Puda Plot No. 431 And As Per Allotment Plot No. IFA-05, South: As Per Puda Plot No. 429 And As Per Allotment Plot No. IFA-07, East: As Per Puda And Allotment 15 Meter Wide Road, West: As Per Puda Plot No. 394 And As Per Allotment IFA-19/ Date of Symbolic Notice July 22, 2026	April 22, 2026 Rs. 84,23,273.99/-	Amritsar

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

Date: July 25, 2026
Place: Amritsar

Sincerely Authorised Officer,
For ICICI Bank Ltd.

ICICI Bank

Branch Office: ICICI Bank Ltd First Floor, Mc International, The Mall, Mall road Amritsar- 143001

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

[See proviso to Rule 8(6)]
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.	M/S. Gurp Kirpa Fruits (Appurtenant), Fateh Chand, Sunita Baghla Alias Sunita Rani (Co-Applicant, Guarantor and Mortgagor), Sapna Rani (Guarantor, Mortgagor) Loan No- 078945500454, 603090037376	Property Bearing Measuring Area 1200 Sq. Feet i.e. 4-½ Marlas i.e. 9/332 Share of 8 Kanals – 1 Marlas, Size 30' X 40', Comprised In Khasha No. 68/17/1/1 (3-2), 24/3/2/2 (4-19), Khewat/khatoni No. 781/1051, Hadbast No. 234, As Per Jamabandi For The Year 1993-1994, Vide With Sale Deed No. 2822 Dated 10/08/2001, Situated At Radha Swami Colony, Gali No. 3, Fazilka, Punjab. Admeasuring An Area- 1200 Sq. Feet.	Rs. 1,75,84, 865/- as on July 02, 2026	Rs. 59,50, 000/- Rs.5,95, 000/-	August 07, 2026 from 12:00 Noon to 01:00 PM	September 01, 2026 from 11:00 AM to 12:00 Noon

The online auction will take place on the website of e-auction (URL Link-https://biddeal.in) Value trust Capital Services. The Mortgagors/ notice are given a last chance to pay the total dues with further interest till August 31, 2026 before 05:00 PM failing which, this/these 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 First Floor, Mc International, The Mall, Mall road Amritsar 143001 on or before August 31, 2026 before 05:00 PM and thereafter they need to submit their offer through the above mentioned website only on or before August 31, 2026 before 05:00 PM along with scan image of Bank acknowledged DD towards proof of payment of EMD. Kindly note, in case prospective bidder(s) are unable to submit their offer through the website then signed copy of tender documents may be submitted at ICICI Bank Ltd First Floor, Mc International, The Mall, Mall road Amritsar 143001 on or before August 31, 2026 before 05:00 PM. Earnest Money Deposit DD/PO should be from a Nationalised/ Scheduled Bank in favour of "ICICI Bank Limited" payable at "Amritsar". For any further clarifications with regards to inspection, terms and conditions of the e-auction or submission of tenders, kindly contact ICICI Bank Limited on 9780139915/ 7304914763. Please note that Marketing agencies 1. M/s Value Trust Private Limited 2.Augeo Assets Management Private Limited 3.Hecta Proptech Pvt Ltd 4.Grinarsoft Pvt Ltd 5.Xpert Arc 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/n4p4s

Date: July 25, 2026 Place: Fazilka

Authorized Officer, ICICI Bank Limited

SMFG India Home Finance Co. Ltd.

Corporate Off. : 503 & 504, 5th Floor, G-BLOCK, Inspire BKC, BKC Main Road, Bandra Kurla Complex, Bandra (E), Mumbai - 400051. Regd. Off. : Commerzone IT Park, Tower B, 1st Floor, No. 111, Mount Poonamallee Road, Porur, Chennai – 600116, TN

DEMAND NOTICE

UNDER THE PROVISIONS OF THE SECURITIZATION AND RECONSTRUCTION OF FINANCIAL ASSETS AND ENFORCEMENT OF SECURITY INTEREST ACT, 2002 ("the Act") AND THE SECURITY INTEREST (ENFORCEMENT) RULES, 2002 ("the Rules")

The undersigned being the Authorized Officer of SMFG India Home Finance Co. Ltd. (hereinafter referred to as SMHFC) under the Act and in exercise of the powers conferred under Section 13 (12) of the Act read with Rule 3 issued Demand Notice(s) under Section 13(2) of the Act, calling upon the following borrower(s) to repay the amount mentioned in respective notice(s) within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said notice. The undersigned reasonably believes that borrower(s) is/are avoiding the service of the Demand Notice(s), therefore the service of notice is being effected by affixation and publication as per Rules. The contents of Demand Notice(s) are extracted herein below :-

Sr. No.	Loan Account No. & Name of the Borrower / Co-Borrowers Property Holders as the case may be	Description of Secured Assets / Mortgage Property	Date of Demand Notice U/s. 13 (2) & Total O/s.
1.	LAN : 61023951172453 1. Baljeet Singh 2. Harveer Kaur, W/o. Baljeet Singh Add. :- S/O Balbir Singh, House No 470 Jaggi Colony, Jandouli Road, Rajpura Patiala, Punjab 140401. Also At 286, Chahleri, Dera Chahleri Part 2, Patiala, Punjab 140401	All the Piece and Parcel of the Property area Measuring 83 Sq. Yards, Comprised in Khewat/Khatoni no. 733 to 45, Khasha no. 129 min(4-4-18), 130 min(5-13), 131(1-15), 132(4-9), 133(6-16), 134(6-3), 135min(6-4-8,20), 136min(4-16), 137min(8-6-6), 135min(0-0-10.80), 136min(0-1), 136min(0-4), 134min(0-2), 137min(0-1-12), 129min(0-0-10), 125min(0-2-7.20), 129min(0-5), 130min(0-1), 129min(0-2-14.80), 129min(0-0-10), 137min(0-5), Kitta 21, Total area 49 Bigha 16 Biswa, situated at Jaggi colony, village jandoli, Tehsil Rajpura, District- Patiala, Bounded as East- Road, West- house, North- House, South-Manjit Singh	19.06.2026 Rs. 11,65,223.21 (Rs. Eleven Lakh Sixty Five Thousand Two Hundred Twenty Three & Paise Twenty One Only) as on 11.06.2026 NPA Date: 05.06.2026
2.	LAN : 610239211618873 1. MANJU OM PARKASH 2. Sunil Kumar S/o. Om Parkash 3. Sanju Kumar, S/o. Om Parkash Add. :- W/O Om Parkash H No 100/ A, Ghass Mandi School, Near Gupta Material, Karan Waia Chowk, Patiala, Punjab, 147001	All the Piece and Parcel of the Property area measuring 51.68 sq. yds, House no. 574/2min situated at Mohalla gher Sodan, inside city gates, Patiala, Tehsil and Dist. Patiala.	19.06.2026 Rs. 20,03,853.75 (Rs. Twenty Lakh Three Thousand Eight Hundred Fifty Three & Paise Seventy Five Only) as on 11.06.2026 NPA Date: 05.06.2026



Classifieds

CHANGE OF NAME

I, Satinder Singh Kalsi S/o Piara Singh R/o VPO. Atta, P.O. Goraya, Distt. Jalandhar, Punjab have changed my name to Satinder Singh. All concerned please note.

I, Satnam Kaur Kalsi W/o Satinder Singh R/o VPO. Atta, P.O. Goraya, Distt. Jalandhar, Punjab have changed my name to Satnam Kaur. All concerned please note.

I, Sushma Devi W/o Raj Kumar R/o Vill: Udhawal Teh-Balachaur Distt. SBS Nagar have changed my name from Sushma Devi to Sushma.

I Savitra Devi W/O JC118074M Late Subedar Sadhu Ram Village Niku Chak PO Hajipur Tehl Mukerian Distt Hoshiarpur have changed my name From Sumitra Devi To Savitra Devi.

I, Rudlu Ram S/o Banarsi Dass Garg R/o Partap Colony 54 Feet Road Samana Po. Samana Distt. Patiala have changed my name to Rudlu Ram Garg.

I, Gurpreet Singh S/o Shri Roos Singh R/o Vill: Tharajwala Teh-Gidderbaha Distt. Sri Muktsar Sahib have changed my minor daughter name from Priya Rani to Priya Kaur.

I Manjit Singh Saroyo S/o Shyam Singh R/o Village Araicha, Ludhiana have changed my name from Manjit Singh Saroyo to Manjit Singh.

I Bhuvesh Kumar S/o Late Sh. Surinder Kumar R/o House No. 6478, Street No. 3, New Hargobind Nagar, Shivaji Nagar, Ludhiana have changed my name from Bhuvesh Kumar Jindal to Bhuvesh Kumar.

I Jagjit Singh S/o Gindar Singh R/o House No. 9200, Street No. 31, Kot Mangal Singh, Ludhiana have changed my name from Jagjit Singh Kainth to Jagjit Singh.

I, Harnoor D/o Jaswant Singh R/o Vpo. Khanpur Teh-Mukerian Distt. Hoshiarpur have changed my name from Harnoor to Harnoor Kaur.

I, Mona Rani (D/o Tirlok Kumar) W/o Bhawani Shankar R/o PNB Street Gidderbaha Distt. Sri Muktsar Sahib have changed my name from Manmohanta to Mona Rani.

I, Amar Chand S/o Patras R/o Vill: Attalgarh Teh-Mukerian Distt. Hoshiarpur have changed my minor son name from Arun to Arun Gill.

I, Sushma Rani W/o Narinder Singh R/o Vpo. Ghoman Teh-Batala Distt. Gurdaspur Pb, have changed my name from Seema to Sushma Rani.

I Jaskaran Singh S/o Gurmel Singh R/o Burj Littan (Ludhiana) my father's name is Gurmial Singh also known as Gurmel Singh.

I, Maninder Kour Marok W/o Jaswant Singh R/o Jorha (Ferozepur) have changed my name as Maninder Kaur.

I, Harmanpreet Singh Thind S/o Boota Singh R/o Vill: Chohla (Ferozepur) have changed my name as Harmanpreet Singh.

I, Baljinder S/o Rulia Ram R/o V.P.O Shergarh Distt. Hoshiarpur have changed my name to Baljinder Kumar.

I, Navdeep W/o Baljinder Kumar R/o V.P.O Shergarh Distt. Hoshiarpur have changed my name to Navdeep Kaur.

I, Gurinderpal Singh Benipal S/o Tara Singh R/o Village Jaipura Tehsil Payal {Ludhiana} have changed my name to Gurinderpal Singh.

I, Gurleen Kaur Benipal W/o Gurinderpal Singh R/o Village Jaipura Tehsil Payal {Ludhiana} have changed my name to Gurleen Kaur.

I, Manavjot Singh Benipal S/o Gurinderpal Singh R/o Village Jaipura Tehsil Payal {Ludhiana} have changed my name to Manavjot Singh.

I, Sunita D/o Hans Raj R/o H.No.661, St.No.5, W.No.5, Ambedkar Colony, Khanna (Ludhiana) have changed my name to Sunita Ralh.

I, Dharam Pal father of Anu Sharma R/o 1385/3, Nai Abadi, Khanna (Ludhiana) declare that my correct name is Dharam Pal instead of Dharam Pal Sharma, as per documents.

I, Reena W/o Bobby R/o Krishna Nagar, Khanna (Ludhiana) have changed my name from Reena to Reena Rani.

I Amandeep Singh S/o Raj Kumar R/o Village Ganna Pind, PO Haripur Khalsa, Tehsil Phillaur District Jalandhar Punjab, India 144410 Declare that my Givan name is Kumar.

I Sachin Kumar s/o Lal ji R/o Ravidasspura Phillaur, District Jalandhar Punjab, India 144410 Declare that my Givan name is Sachin & Surname is Kumar.

I Menka Jain W/O Sachin Mittal R/o #1 Block F St no.2, Royal Enclave Extension Hanuman Mandir Urban Estate Phase 1, Patiala have changed my name to Menka Mittal.After Marriage.

I Kailash Kaur W/O Kartar Singh R/O Vpo Gandiwind Dhttal District Tarn Taran I Have Changed My Name Kalish Kaur To Kailash Kaur.

I, No.15621311L Hav Selvendran S resident of Village-Silvarpatti, Post-Veppampatti, Tehsil-Perraiyur, District- Madurai, State- Tamil Nadu, Pin-625705, have changed my Son name from S Gowtham to Goutham S Vide affidavit No.IN- PB73185977448624Y dated 23 july 2026 before notary public Pathankot

I, No. 6498510N, Rank – Nk, Name Anil Kumar Dubey Resident Of Village – E-204 TWR-2 Radhe Resi, Nr Air Force, Vadodara, Gujarat -390014, Have Changed The Name Of My Son From Dibakar Dubey (Old Name) To Divakar Dubey (New Name) Vide Affidavit Dt 24 Jul 2026 Sworn before Notary Public Sat Pal, Pathankot. Please Correct It.

I, Army No. 174168-W, Rank Sub. Maj., Name Ramphal R/o Village Shamlo Khurd Tehsil Julana Distt. Jind, Haryana Pin-126101 declare that my spouse name was earlier Sawatri and DOB is 19/10/1954 in the Army records, which I have now changed to name Sawitri Devi and DOB is 03/08/1951.

I, KUSSUM is Mother of Army No: 15744006A Rank: Hav Name: Deepak Singh Chauhan Presently Posted at Unit: Western Comd Sig Regt C/o 56 APO Permanent Address: House No: 63, Nangla, Nangla (274), Dadri Toe, Hhajjar, State: Haryana, Pin: 124103 Declare that in my Son's Service record my name is by mistakenly mentioned as KUSSUM but as per Civil/Govt. Documents my Correct name is KUSHUM LATA. Vide Affidavit Dated: 24/07/2026, Before District Court Panchkula, Haryana

I, SATHYA BHAMA TP am Mother of No: JC- 406406X Rank: Sub Name: Sunith Kumar VC Present Posted at Unit: 20 Guards C/O 56 APO Permanent Address: House: Othayoth thazam, Village: Kakkodi, Post: Makkada, Tehsil: Kozhikode, Dist: Kozhikode, State: Kerala, Pin: 673611 declare that in my Son's Service record my Name Spelling is by Mistakenly Mentioned as SATHYA BHAMA TP but as per Civil/Govt. Documents my Correct name is SATHYABHAMA. Vide Affidavit No: 11AA 832054, Dated: 24/07/2026

I, GANGA DHARAN NAIR am Father of No: JC- 406406X Rank: Sub Name: Sunith Kumar VC Present Posted at Unit: 20 Guards C/O 56 APO Permanent Address: House: Othayoth thazam, Village: Kakkodi, Post: Makkada, Tehsil: Kozhikode, Dist: Kozhikode, State: Kerala, Pin: 673611 declare that in my Son's Service record my Name Spelling is by Mistakenly Mentioned as GANGA DHARAN NAIR but as Per Civil/Govt. Documents my Correct name is P C GANGADHARAN NAIR. Vide Affidavit No: 11AA 832056, Dated: 24/07/2026

I, Deepa spouse of No.15789188L Hav (GNR) Nand Lal Batham resident of Village- Sanda, Post-Khama, Tehsil- Tirwa, District- Kannauj, State-Uttar Pradesh, Pin-209734, have changed my DOB from 08 Aug 1992 to 08 July 1992 Vide affidavit No.IN- PB73538914652190Y dated 24 July 2026 before notary public Pathankot.

I, Ram Prakash Batham Father of No.15789188L Hav (GNR) Nand Lal Batham resident of Village- Sanda, Post-Khama, Tehsil- Tirwa, District- Kannauj, State-Uttar Pradesh, Pin-209734, have changed my name from Ram Prakash Batham to Ram Prakash Vide affidavit No.IN- PB73540548339896Y dated 24 July 2026 before notary public Pathankot.

I, Ram Prakash Batham Father of No.15789188L Hav (GNR) Nand Lal Batham resident of Village- Sanda, Post-Khama, Tehsil- Tirwa, District- Kannauj, State-Uttar Pradesh, Pin-209734, have changed my name from Ram Prakash Batham to Ram Prakash Vide affidavit No.IN- PB73540548339896Y dated 24 July 2026 before notary public Pathankot.

I, KRISHAN NAND SHARMA am Father of Army No: 14847679Y Rank: NK/SHT Name: Sandeep Sharma Presently Posted At Unit: 603 ASC BN (AM) C/O 56 APO Permanent Address: Nandi Firozpur, Nandi Aht, Saharanpur, Nandi Firozpur, Uttar Pradesh, 247001 declare that in my Son's Service record my Name Spelling is by Mistakenly Mentioned as KRISHAN NAND SHARMA but as per Civil/Govt. Documents my Correct name is KRISHNA NAND. Vide Affidavit No: 11AA 832057, Dated: 24/07/2026

I, Army No: 14937717L Rank: Nk Name: Pravin Bajrang Mirge Presently Posted At Unit: 27 Mech Inf C/O 56 APO Permanent Address: Vill: Shendurjane, Post: Shendurjane, Tehsil: Koregaon, Dist-Satara, State: Maharashtra, Pin: 415021 declare that in my Service record my name is by mistakenly Mentioned as MIRGE PRAVIN BAJRANG but as per Civil/Govt. Documents my True and Correct name is PRAVIN BAJRANG MIRGE. Vide Affidavit No: 11AA 832059, Dated: 24/07/2026

I, Army No: 2700969M, Rank Havildar Md. Shamid Alam Son of Tetar Miyan and my permanent resident of Vill: Birbanna, Post: Sangit Baita, Ps: Antichak, (Kahalgaoon), Teh: Kahalgaoon, Dist: Bhagalpur, Pin: 813203 hereby declare that my daughter's name has been erroneously recorded as ALISA in my Service records, however, according to official civil documents, her correct name is ALISHA KHATOON, and I request that this correct name be updated in my Army records.

I, Army No. 2700969M, Rank: Havildar Md. Shamid Alam Son of Tetar Miyan, resident of Vill: Birbanna, Post: Sangit Baita, Ps: Antichak, (Kahalgaoon), Teh: Kahalgaoon, Dist: Bhagalpur, Pin: 813203 do hereby Solemnly declare that the name of my wife recorded in my Service records is Apsara Khatun, which is incorrect. However, according to Civil and official documents, my wife's correct name is Afsara Khatoon, and I request that this correct name be recorded in my Army records.

I, Ravi Kumar S/o Sh. Lal Singh R/o House No. 65 Near Panchayat Ghar Village Jamawari, Hansi, Hisar Haryana declare that I have changed my minor Son name from Baby one of bharti to Tejas.

I, No.15492297K DFR Arvind Singh Tomar resident of House No.-37, Village- Shiv Nivara Maharaj Pura, Near Air Force, Post- Gole Ka Mandir, Tehsil- Morar, District- Gwalior, State-Madhya Pradesh, Pin-474005, have changed my Mother name from Siya Beti to Siya Devi Vide affidavit No.IN- PB73198065420627Y dated 23 July 2026 before notary public Pathankot.

I, Deepa spouse of No.15789188L Hav (GNR) Nand Lal Batham resident of Village- Sanda, Post-Khama, Tehsil- Tirwa, District- Kannauj, State-Uttar Pradesh, Pin-209734, have changed my DOB from 08 Aug 1992 to 08 July 1992 Vide affidavit No.IN- PB73538914652190Y dated 24 July 2026 before notary public Pathankot.

I, Ram Prakash Batham Father of No.15789188L Hav (GNR) Nand Lal Batham resident of Village- Sanda, Post-Khama, Tehsil- Tirwa, District- Kannauj, State-Uttar Pradesh, Pin-209734, have changed my name from Ram Prakash Batham to Ram Prakash Vide affidavit No.IN- PB73540548339896Y dated 24 July 2026 before notary public Pathankot.

I, Ram Prakash Batham Father of No.15789188L Hav (GNR) Nand Lal Batham resident of Village- Sanda, Post-Khama, Tehsil- Tirwa, District- Kannauj, State-Uttar Pradesh, Pin-209734, have changed my name from Ram Prakash Batham to Ram Prakash Vide affidavit No.IN- PB73540548339896Y dated 24 July 2026 before notary public Pathankot.

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I, Ram Prakash Batham Father of No.15789188L Hav (GNR) Nand Lal Batham resident of Village- Sanda, Post-Khama, Tehsil- Tirwa, District- Kannauj, State-Uttar Pradesh, Pin-209734, have changed my name from Ram Prakash Batham to Ram Prakash Vide affidavit No.IN- PB73540548339896Y dated 24 July 2026 before notary public Pathankot.

I, Ram Dulari Mother of No.15789188L Hav (GNR) Nand Lal Batham resident of Village- Sanda, Post-Khama, Tehsil- Tirwa, District- Kannauj, State-Uttar Pradesh, Pin-209734, have changed my name from Ram Dulari to Ram Dularee Vide affidavit No.IN- PB73540548339896Y dated 24 July 2026 before notary public Pathankot.

I, Ram Prakash Batham Father of No.15789188L Hav (GNR) Nand Lal Batham resident of Village- Sanda, Post-Khama, Tehsil- Tirwa, District- Kannauj, State-Uttar Pradesh, Pin-209734, have changed my name from Ram Prakash Batham to Ram Prakash Vide affidavit No.IN- PB73540548339896Y dated 24 July 2026 before notary public Pathankot.

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I, Army No: 14937717L Rank: Nk Name: Pravin Bajrang Mirge Presently Posted At Unit: 27 Mech Inf C/O 56 APO Permanent Address: Vill: Shendurjane, Post: Shendurjane, Tehsil: Koregaon, Dist-Satara, State: Maharashtra, Pin: 415021 declare that in my Service record my name is by mistakenly Mentioned as MIRGE PRAVIN BAJRANG but as per Civil/Govt. Documents my True and Correct name is PRAVIN BAJRANG MIRGE. Vide Affidavit No: 11AA 832059, Dated: 24/07/2026

I, Army No: 2700969M, Rank Havildar Md. Shamid Alam Son of Tetar Miyan and my permanent resident of Vill: Birbanna, Post: Sangit Baita, Ps: Antichak, (Kahalgaoon), Teh: Kahalgaoon, Dist: Bhagalpur, Pin: 813203 hereby declare that my daughter's name has been erroneously recorded as ALISA in my Service records, however, according to official civil documents, her correct name is ALISHA KHATOON, and I request that this correct name be updated in my Army records.

I, Army No. 2700969M, Rank: Havildar Md. Shamid Alam Son of Tetar Miyan, resident of Vill: Birbanna, Post: Sangit Baita, Ps: Antichak, (Kahalgaoon), Teh: Kahalgaoon, Dist: Bhagalpur, Pin: 813203 do hereby Solemnly declare that the name of my wife recorded in my Service records is Apsara Khatun, which is incorrect. However, according to Civil and official documents, my wife's correct name is Afsara Khatoon, and I request that this correct name be recorded in my Army records.

I, Ravi Kumar S/o Sh. Lal Singh R/o House No. 65 Near Panchayat Ghar Village Jamawari, Hansi, Hisar Haryana declare that I have changed my minor Son name from Baby one of bharti to Tejas.

I, No.15492297K DFR Arvind Singh Tomar resident of House No.-37, Village- Shiv Nivara Maharaj Pura, Near Air Force, Post- Gole Ka Mandir, Tehsil- Morar, District- Gwalior, State-Madhya Pradesh, Pin-474005, have changed my Mother name from Siya Beti to Siya Devi Vide affidavit No.IN- PB73198065420627Y dated 23 July 2026 before notary public Pathankot.

I, Deepa spouse of No.15789188L Hav (GNR) Nand Lal Batham resident of Village- Sanda, Post-Khama, Tehsil- Tirwa, District- Kannauj, State-Uttar Pradesh, Pin-209734, have changed my DOB from 08 Aug 1992 to 08 July 1992 Vide affidavit No.IN- PB73538914652190Y dated 24 July 2026 before notary public Pathankot.

I, Ram Prakash Batham Father of No.15789188L Hav (GNR) Nand Lal Batham resident of Village- Sanda, Post-Khama, Tehsil- Tirwa, District- Kannauj, State-Uttar Pradesh, Pin-209734, have changed my name from Ram Prakash Batham to Ram Prakash Vide affidavit No.IN- PB73540548339896Y dated 24 July 2026 before notary public Pathankot.

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I, Seema Luthra D/O Ramesh Luthra R/O H.No.129/4, Improvement Trust Colony, Scheme No.5, Jail Road, Gurdaspur. Tehsil/Distt- Gurdaspur, Punjab -143521, India. Have Changed My Name From Seema Luthra To Seema Sharma.

I, Vasu S/O Sanjeev Kumar Sharma. R/O H.No.129/4, Improvement Trust Colony, Scheme No. 5, Jail Road Gurdaspur. Tehsil/Distt- Gurdaspur Punjab,-143521, India. Have Changed My Name From Vasu To Vasu Sharma.

I, No. 4477827H Ex Sep Gurnam Singh resident of VPO - Parmanand, Tehsil and Distt Pathankot, State- Punjab, have changed name of mother from BACHAN KAUR to BACHNI DEVI vide Affidavit No. IN- PB73415728631198Y dated 24-07-2026 before Executive Magistrate Pathankot (Punjab).

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Assam flood : 47 dead, 40 missing, 7.21 lakh people affected

TONY DAS n Guwahati

The flood situation in Assam remained critical on Friday with many rivers continuing to rise following incessant rains, while 47 people died in the deluge and over 7.21 lakh people are affected across 11 districts, officials said. Around 40 people are still missing and the toll might increase, Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma said.

To review the rapidly deteriorating situation, Sarma will chair a video conference with district commissioners and senior officials stationed across the flood-affected districts to assess the administration's ongoing response in handling the crisis.

"The situation has improved slightly, but we still have not



Assam CM Himanta Biswa Sarma chaired a virtual review meeting with the District Commissioners of the flood-affected districts to assess the latest flood situation in Upper Assam with a special focus on accelerating rescue and relief operations PIONEER PHOTO

been able to reach around 20 per cent of the affected people. I believe we will be able to reach them by today," he told reporters.

According to information, around 40 people are missing, and the death toll is expected to rise further, Sarma said.

"The Government will stand by the flood victims and will help as far as possible. A central Government team will visit the state to assess the flood damage on July 25," he added.

A spokesperson of the Assam State Disaster Management Authority (ASDMA) said that the river Dikhow at Sivasagar town continues to flow "above the severe flood condition" at 9 am on Friday. "Due to the continuous increase in the water level of

Dikhow, citizens have been advised to stay away from the river," she added.

At present, the Buridihing river at Khowang, Disang at Nanglamuraghat, Dikhau at Sivasagar, Dhansiri at Numaligarh and Kushiara at Sribhumi are flowing above the danger level.

According to the ASDMA flood bulletin issued on Thursday night, six people have lost their lives in the deluge during the last 24 hours. Sivasagar district has witnessed four people, including one woman and one child, drowned in flood waters; followed by two, including one child, in Charaideo, it added.

With these fatalities, the total number of deaths in this year's

floods has increased to 47 across the tate. According to the authority's flood report, more than 7,21,000 people have been affected in Charaideo, Dibrugarh, Golaghat, Hojai, Jorhat, Kamrup, Kamrup Metropolitan, Karbi Anglong, Nagaon, Sivasagar and Tinsukia districts.

Sivasagar is the worst-hit district with nearly 3.8 lakh people affected, followed by Charaideo with almost 1.9 lakh people and Jorhat with more than 1.2 lakh people reeling under floodwaters.

The flood situation has worsened significantly since Wednesday, when more than 6.53 lakh people were affected across 11 districts. The ASDMA stated that the administration has been oper-

ating 358 relief camps and relief distribution centres in nine districts, currently caring for 24,124 displaced individuals.

Multiple agencies like the Army, NDRF, SDRF, Fire & Emergency Service, police and civil agencies have rescued around 5,000 people from different parts of Golaghat, Jorhat and Sivasagar, it added.

At present, 883 villages are under water, and 25,375.44 hectares of crop areas have been damaged across Assam, the ASDMA said. Embankments, roads, bridges and other infrastructure have been damaged by flood waters in different districts of the state.

On account of widespread flooding, 3,71,609 domestic animals and poultry are affected across the state.

Rescue operations conclude in rain-battered Palghar

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE n Palghar

Heavy rains claimed two lives in Maharashtra's Palghar district over the past two days, where the local administration and two National Disaster Response Force (NDRF) teams rescued 244 people from flooded areas, officials said on Friday.

Schools and educational institutions in the district have been directed to remain closed on Friday as well for safety reasons, they said. Vivekanand Kadam, chief of the district disaster management cell, said the multi-agency rescue and



A worker transplants paddy saplings at a field in Maharashtra PTI

relief operations concluded around 5 am. Several localities in Palghar went under water following intense rainfall, with Dahanu and Talasari among the worst-affected areas.

Kadam said the death toll rose to two after another

body was recovered in Dahanu on Thursday. The man who was washed away in floodwaters is yet to be identified, he said. Earlier, another man's body was found in a nullah.

The official said 244 persons were rescued from

various waterlogged locations across the district. These included 124 from Palghar town, 65 workers stranded at a factory in Talasari, and 25 people trapped at a farmhouse in Gundale. A relief team official described the deluge as the worst the district had faced in the past decade.

Several close calls were reported during the downpour. Four passengers narrowly escaped on Thursday when their car plunged into a waterlogged trench on Sun City-Ghas Road in Vasai West after the driver swerved to avoid a stray dog. Locals pulled all four

occupants safely out of the partially submerged car.

Six persons, including four passengers, were trapped inside an MSRTC bus stranded in rising floodwaters in Saivan. Local residents again stepped in, pulling them to safety with ropes.

As floodwaters receded, traffic resumed on affected roads and bridges.

Officials said they had prioritised carrying out panch-namas (spot inspections) to assess the extent of monetary and property losses suffered by residents.

District Collector Indu Rani Jakhar monitored the situation, they added.

Modi Govt first to bring anti-paper leak law: Kerala BJP President



PIONEER NEWS SERVICE n Thiruvananthapuram

Kerala BJP president Rajeev Chandrasekhar on Friday said that the Narendra Modi Government was the first in the country to bring a law to prevent question paper leaks.

In a Facebook post, Chandrasekhar, the MLA from Nemon constituency, said that it was the Modi Government which formulated the Public Examinations (Prevention of Unfair Means) Act of 2024.

The BJP leader also claimed that he was part of the ministerial committee that framed the legislation and was, therefore, clearly aware of the developments that the Modi Government has implemented for the youth of the country since 2014. "Therefore, we must reject the false propaganda being spread against Modi on this issue," he asserted.

His assertion comes amidst intense protests in Delhi by the Cockroach Janata Party (CJP) and students against the Centre and Union Education Minister Dharmendra Pradhan over the alleged irregularities in various nationally-conducted exams, including NEET.

Ken-Betwa activist Amit Bhatnagar ends 18-day hunger strike on mother's request

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE n Chhatarpur

Activist Amit Bhatnagar has ended his 18-day fast over displacement issues resulting from the Ken-Betwa river linking project and other irrigation schemes in Madhya Pradesh.

Their mother persuaded him to end his fast after he reached his hometown Bijawar in Chhatarpur district, following his discharge from the hospital, Bhatnagar's brother Ankit said. "He was not keeping well. Our mother made him break the fast after he reached home," Ankit said.

Chhatarpur Collector Parth Jaiswal said that Bhatnagar was shifted to his hometown after his health improved. He had been admitted first to Bijawar Civil Hospital and later to the ICU of the district hospital after the police removed him from the protest site.

The Chhatarpur police broke up the protest at Kupi village on July 19, citing rising water levels in the Barana river during the monsoon. Bhatnagar had then said that his fast would con-



tinue. The protest began on July 3 beneath an under-construction bridge over the Barana river.

Protesters demanded an inquiry into alleged irregularities in rehabilitation and payment of compensation to those displaced by the Ken-Betwa Link Project and other irrigation schemes, besides seeking statutory rights for affected families. They alleged large-scale corruption in the implementation of rehabilitation pack-

ages and sought an impartial probe to ensure justice for families yet to receive benefits.

Bhatnagar had claimed that on the day the administration cleared the protest site, he was preparing to present documents to the media alleging irregularities worth 400 crore. Before Bhatnagar ended his fast with coconut water, local organisation Jai Kisan Sangathan, which participated in the agitation, alleged in a statement that his family, journalists, social activists and fellow protesters were not allowed to meet him during his hospitalisation.

It also claimed that women in several villages had launched a *chulha bandh* (no-cooking) protest in support of the agitation. The organisation quoted Bhatnagar as saying that his agitation was not directed against any individual, political party or Government but sought to protect the constitutional, environmental and legal rights of tribal communities and project-affected families.

NEET paper fallout: Congress, BJP hold protests, counter-protests in Karnataka

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE n Bengaluru

Protests and counter-protests over the alleged NEET question paper leak and the political fallout from the issue were held across several parts of Karnataka on Friday, with police detaining protesters, preventing rival groups from clashing and stepping up security at multiple locations.

Student groups, Dalit organisations, Youth Congress activists and civil society groups held protests over the alleged NEET irregularities and the reported police action against students in Delhi. The BJP has been protesting against the attack on its leaders during their agitation near the Congress office

in Bengaluru on Wednesday. Congress workers reportedly threw eggs at BJP legislator BP Harish, when he took part in the agitation to protest the Congress demonstration in front of the BJP office at Malleswaram in the city.

In Vijayapura, the BJP, led by district president Gurulingappa Angadi, held a protest at Ambedkar Circle, accusing the Congress Government of "hoolliganism" and later marched towards the Deputy Commissioner's office.

Simultaneously, Progressive Dalit organisations and Aam Aadmi Party activists opposed the BJP protest, raising slogans against the party. Police intervened to prevent a confrontation between the two groups, detained more



Police personnel detain Congress workers after they staged a protest over the NEET paper leak issue at Hubballi in Dharwad district, Karnataka PTI

than 15 Dalit activists and brought the tense situation under control.

In Hubballi, students and Youth Congress activists staged a demonstration outside the Karnataka Institute of Medical Sciences (KIMS), alleging that the Centre had failed to ensure transparency in the NEET examination. Protesters attempted to burn effigies of Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Union Home Minister Amit Shah, but police prevented the attempt and seized the effigies.

A brief verbal altercation followed before the protest ended peacefully amid heavy police deployment. In Kalaburagi, members of the Democratic Thought Forum organised a protest march at Jagat Circle, con-

demning the alleged lathi charge on students protesting at Delhi's Jantar Mantar over the NEET issue.

In a separate demonstration, the Sneha Jagruti Suraksha Manch submitted a memorandum to the Deputy Commissioner seeking a fair probe into the alleged NEET irregularities and comprehensive reforms in the education systems.

The BJP also organised a separate protest in Kalaburagi, blocking traffic at Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel Circle before attempting to march towards the district Congress office. Police stopped the protesters by erecting barricades and detained several BJP leaders and workers, including MLA Avinash Jadhav and former MLA Dattatreya Patil Revoor.

3-member team probes DGP's unnatural death in Tripura

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE n Agartala

A three-member team headed by the West Tripura SP will investigate the unnatural death of DGP Anurag Dhankar, said a state Government order issued on Friday.

Dhankar, who led the CBI probe into the alleged 13,000 crore PNB fraud involving diamondaire Nirav Modi and the reinvestigation of the 1984 anti-Sikh riots, was found hanging in the washroom of his chamber at the state police headquarters here on Monday.

"The unnatural death of DGP Anurag Dhankar will be investigated by a three-member team led by West Tripura Superintendent of Police (SP) Namit Pathak. West Tripura Additional SP



Druba Nath and Sub Inspector (SI) and existing Investigating Officer (IO) Subhojit Deb will assist the SP in the investigation," the Tripura Government order said. In case of necessity, the SP may co-opt any other officer from the Tripura Police Crime Branch or any other unit.

For any technical support, the West Tripura district superintendent of police may seek help from the cyber crime unit, the order said.

"Progress report in connection with the investigation may be submitted on a weekly basis to Inspector General (IG), Law and Order, Manchak Ipper for perusal of the Director General of Police (DGP), Tripura," the order said. State Home Secretary Abhishek Singh said the

police have already received the post-mortem report but stopped short of disclosing its content.

"The police have received the post-mortem report of the DGP. Investigation into the unnatural death is progressing as per law," he said.

Earlier, DGP in-charge GS Rao had hinted at forming a team to supervise and investigate the unnatural death of Dhankar.

As part of the investigation, uniform, official vehicle and electronic devices of Dhankar were seized for forensic examinations, another officer said.

The last rites of the 1994-batch IPS officer were performed in his native village Baraut in Baghpat, Uttar Pradesh, with full honour on July 22.

Tripura BJP chief asks leaders to minimise differences ahead of local body elections

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE n Agartala

Tripura BJP president Abhishek Debroy urged party leaders to minimise their differences and work in unison to strengthen the organisation, asserting that internal factionalism would only weaken the party.

His remarks come as the BJP gears up for the elections to the Village Committees under the Tripura Tribal Areas Autonomous District Council (TTAADC) and urban local bodies, including the Agartala Municipal Corporation (AMC).

Addressing a party programme at Bishalgarh Town Hall in Sepahijala district on Thursday, Debroy



Abhishek Debroy

referred to the recent organisational reshuffle in which MLA Sushanta Deb was replaced as the BJP Yuva Morcha state president by Arindam Deb.

"Some may say Sushanta Deb has been sidelined because he is no longer the Yuva Morcha president. The same thing happened to me when I was removed as the

Gomati district president. At that time, some people said I had been sidelined. But today I am the state president. Had I not been removed from that post, I would probably not have become the state president," he said.

Describing the BJP as an inclusive organisation, Debroy said leaders are re-assigned to different responsibilities to strengthen the party, and a change in organisational position should not be viewed as a setback.

Issuing a warning against factionalism, he said he would not work for any particular group within the party. "I have been entrusted with the responsibility of leading the state unit for the next three years," he said.



Editor's
TAKE

Exam leak response shifts to fast-track courts

PM Modi's announcement of fast-track courts for exam paper-leak cases signals the Government's intent to strengthen accountability and expedite justice

Prime Minister Narendra Modi's announcement of fast-track courts for examination paper-leak cases is, technically, a way forward. However, to say it may pacify the protesters, the short answer is no. The Government's response has arrived 45 days into a sit-in at Jantar Mantar, three days after a "Chalo Sansad" march on Parliament ended in lathi charges, and a day before a nationwide strike called by the Cockroach Janta Party (CJP), the youth outfit leading the agitation. The demand on the street was never primarily about court speed. It was - and remains - the resignation of Education Minister Dharmendra Pradhan.

That mismatch explains why the announcement has, if anything, hardened the standoff rather than softened it. CJP's national spokesperson dismissed it as a fix for the wrong fracture. Having said that, fast-track courts are still worth having: certain, swift punishment beats the slow cases that previously allowed leak networks to regroup. They can act as a deterrent and dissuade perpetrators from such adventurism. It may not be a remedy for paper leaks, but it is certainly one of the many steps required to fix the problem.

Parliament's Monsoon Session, which opened the same day the march was blocked, remains deadlocked over the issue. None of this looks like a movement preparing to stand down - CJP called another round of strikes explicitly to protest the police crackdown, not to welcome the court announcement.

There is also a credibility problem no single X post can fix. This is not India's first paper-leak reckoning. The 2024 NEET-UG leak produced near-identical protests, an identical resignation demand, a new central law criminalising exam fraud, and a seven-member expert panel under former ISRO chief K. Radhakrishnan that filed roughly sixty recommendations. Two years and one more compromised exam later - the same racket, investigators say, also breached the 2025 paper - the cycle repeated. Fast-track courts prosecute a leak after it happens. They do nothing to stop the next one. That is the more useful question buried under the resignation politics: what actually stops a paper from leaking? The evidence points to an insider problem, not a punishment gap: leaks trace back to the question-setting, printing and transport chain, where coaching-linked intermediaries buy access - not outside hackers.

The Radhakrishnan committee's central recommendation - which the Supreme Court is now pressing the ministry to implement - was structural: replace the National Testing Agency's dependence on contractual staff with permanent, professional staffing, and build identity-linked custody records for every hand a paper passes through. Separately, the ministry's own plan to shift NEET to a computer-based, possibly multi-stage format from 2027 would shrink the payoff of any single leak, but that does not happen overnight. CJP's demands now include compensation for the families of a dozen-plus students it says have died by suicide since the exam was scrapped and re-run - a grief no courtroom timeline addresses. Pacifying this protest will likely require visible proof that the Government is willing to listen to them and has a plan to fix the problem once and for all.

The price of Western pragmatism

As Riyadh consolidates its regional influence despite persistent human rights concerns and a complex ideological legacy, the Kingdom's rise reflects a broader truth: in international politics, strategic interests often eclipse professed principles



NILANTHA
ILANGAMUWA

Saudi Arabia and Iran were hardly natural allies during the reign of Shah Mohammad Reza Pahlavi, yet their rivalry remained largely contained within the conventions of statecraft. The Iranian Revolution of 1979 transformed that competition into something altogether different. From that moment onwards, West Asia became the arena for a struggle that extended far beyond borders, armies and diplomacy.

Over the following decades, sectarian identity became increasingly weaponised as political currency. Sunni and Shia communities that had coexisted for centuries across the region found themselves drawn into conflicts manufactured by states pursuing influence rather than reconciliation. Reports that circulated during the opening phase of Donald Trump's war on Iran suggested that Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman, rather than Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, had urged Washington that the moment had come to topple the already weakened government in Tehran. Whatever the extent of Riyadh's influence over Washington's decision-making, the broader strategic reality is unmistakable. The region has entered another dangerous phase, while Saudi Arabia finds itself emerging as one of its greatest geopolitical beneficiaries.

For decades, Western governments have presented themselves as guardians of democracy, human rights, freedom of expression and the international rules-based order. Yet these same standards have demonstrated remarkable flexibility whenever Saudi Arabia occupies the centre of the discussion. The murder of Saudi journalist Jamal Khashoggi inside the Saudi Consulate in Istanbul was not merely another human rights violation; it became one of the most thoroughly documented acts of state violence in modern diplomatic history. Yet only a few years later, many of those same governments, businesses and political figures returned to the Kingdom with remarkable enthusiasm, demonstrating how moral language often survives only until sufficiently large strategic or commercial incentives appear.

Amnesty International's latest report documents widespread abuse of Filipino domestic workers in Saudi Arabia, alleging excessive working hours, unpaid wages, physical and sexual abuse, and severe restrictions on their freedom under the Kingdom's labour sponsorship system. The organisation has urged Saudi authorities to strengthen legal protections, dismantle the remaining elements of the kafala system, and ensure accountability for employers accused of exploitation. The historical record surrounding Saudi Arabia's religious establishment presents another uncomfortable



THE SEIZURE OF
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AND POLITICAL LIFE

The writer is a columnist
based in Colombo

reality. The ideological movement established by Muhammad ibn Abd al-Wahhab emerged not merely as a theological reform movement but as a doctrine that sharply distinguished between those regarded as authentic believers and those deemed to have fallen into unbelief. As David Commins demonstrates in *The Wahhabi Mission and Saudi Arabia*, the alliance between religious doctrine and the House of Saud became one of the most enduring political partnerships in modern history.

The ideological infrastructure established through schools, charities and universities extended far beyond the Arabian Peninsula, with enormous resources invested in exporting a particular interpretation of Islam that profoundly shaped later generations of radical movements. The seizure of the Grand Mosque in Mecca in November 1979 exposed these contradictions. Yaroslav Trofimov's *The Siege of Mecca* presents the uprising as a moment that revealed the internal tensions of Saudi religious and political life. Juhayman al-Otaybi and his followers did not reject Wahhabi doctrine. They claimed to be restoring it to what they believed was its uncompromised form. Their rebellion emerged from accusations that the Saudi monarchy had abandoned genuine Islamic governance through its alliances with Western powers, growing wealth and accommodation with modernity.

Rather than fundamentally challenging the ideological assumptions that had nourished such radicalism, the monarchy strengthened many elements of the religious establishment in exchange for renewed political legitimacy. The global expansion of conservative religious institutions accelerated during precisely the same period that transnational jihadist movements were beginning to emerge.

The Soviet invasion of Afghanistan transformed this ideological current into an international military enterprise. Backed by the United States, Saudi Arabia and Pakistan during the Cold War, thousands of foreign volunteers, including Osama bin Laden, travelled to Afghanistan under the banner of jihad. Al-Qaeda emerged through a convergence of ideological, geopolitical and military circumstances rather than Saudi religious doc-

trine alone. Nevertheless, both bin Laden and fifteen of the nineteen perpetrators of the September 11, 2001 attacks were Saudi nationals, while al-Qaeda and the so-called Islamic State developed overwhelmingly within extremist Sunni traditions rather than Shia movements associated with Tehran. This does not absolve Iran of supporting armed proxies, a reality starkly illustrated by Yemen. It does, however, complicate simplistic narratives that portray one source of extremism as the exclusive threat.

Against this historical background, the newly signed civilian nuclear cooperation agreement between the United States and Saudi Arabia represents far more than an energy partnership. During the Cold War, Washington actively helped establish Iran's civilian nuclear programme under Shah Mohammad Reza Pahlavi, supplying its first research reactor, highly enriched uranium fuel and technical expertise through the Atoms for Peace initiative. That programme was presented as a peaceful endeavour, yet the infrastructure created with American support later became central to one of the world's most contentious nuclear disputes.

Reports indicate that the agreement departs from what has long been regarded as the American 'gold standard' for nuclear cooperation by not requiring Saudi Arabia permanently to renounce uranium enrichment and spent-fuel reprocessing. Those distinctions matter because civilian nuclear programmes and military nuclear capabilities exist upon a technological continuum. Not every country possessing civilian reactors pursues nuclear weapons, but every nuclear weapons programme requires technological foundations that civilian programmes may eventually provide. The issue is therefore not immediate weaponisation but future strategic options.

Perhaps the most revealing aspect of this agreement lies not within its technical provisions but within the broader political transformation that made it possible. History rarely rewards the most virtuous governments. More often, it rewards those that recognise that power is ultimately negotiated through interests rather than principles. Mohammed bin Salman appears to have understood this better than many of his counterparts. While liberal democracies continue to present themselves as defenders of human rights, democratic accountability and the international rules-based order, their policies towards Riyadh repeatedly demonstrate the exact opposite. Whatever history's final verdict on his legacy may be, one conclusion is difficult to dispute: Mohammed bin Salman has transformed Saudi Arabia's geopolitical position with remarkable effectiveness. In a region fractured by war, exhausted by proxy conflicts and increasingly shaped by transactional diplomacy, he has outmanoeuvred many of his rivals and critics alike. For now, he has the last laugh.

PIC TALK



A man looks towards the base camps for the Amarnath Yatra amid rain at Baltal in Ganderbal district.

PHOTO: PTI



DEEBA
SALIM IRFAN

2ND OPINION

Few years back, at one of my writing retreats, a participant gave me a story.

"It isn't very good" she said quickly. "I haven't written in forty years."

Forty years. I looked at her. Wondered what had happened in those decades. Not because she hadn't written, but because she had stopped believing she could write. Life had happened, of course.

Marriage. Kids. School runs. Ageing parents. Deadlines. Responsibilities. The small acts of care that hold families together. As I listened to her I thought about all the things we give up.

The girl who wanted to write stories.
The young man who dreamed of opening a café.
The woman who wanted to start a business.

The things we leave for later



The traveller who kept postponing the trip. We don't stop wanting these things. We just think there will be time later. Later is a tricky word.

It sounds reassuring. Patient. Responsible. Years fly past fast. One day you put a dream on hold for a few months. The next twenty years have passed.

Lately I've noticed something changing. Friends in their fifties are taking courses they never took in their twenties. A neighbour is learning Arabic. Another started an online business from home. Someone I know started his PhD well into his 60's because education was unfinished.

These stories won't make headlines. They move me more than tales of quick success. Maybe because they're not about achievement. They're about giving yourself permission. Permission to start before you're ready. Permission to be bad at something. Permission to want more from life even when life has

given you much. We live in a culture that loves youth. Ads and social media content try to convince us that our best years are behind us by forty. That one cannot achieve much after. But, as I grow older, my faith in these claims is shaking. I've met women who became more confident with every passing year, well into their late fifties. More than they were in their twenties. I've seen people find purpose after retirement. I've seen friendships grow, marriages appear from places buried for decades.

Dreams return. Life is not a road. It's like a mountain path. There are bends. There are pauses.

Sometimes there are stretches where nothing happens. Then unexpectedly the view changes. The participant finished her story. Then she wrote another. Last year she sent me a message to say one of her pieces was published. I was happy, for her. What stayed with me was something else she wrote. "I wish I hadn't waited this long." I understand what she meant. Maybe there's another way to look at it. She started. And sometimes, that is the bravest thing a person can do.

The writer is an award-winning, Dubai-based author exploring themes of memory, identity and emotional truth through storytelling, and is the founder of TheWriteScene.com

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LIVE-IN RELATIONSHIPS CHALLENGE TRADITIONAL INDIAN VALUES

India is known to the world for its rich culture and traditions. This cultural richness has not emerged on its own. Hinduism has enriched the customs of the country and is not only a major religion of India but a civilisational strength that has defined its societal norms. Its ability to accommodate diversity has taught the world how different faiths can coexist without confrontation.

The Vedas, Puranas and Gita are not merely sacred texts but gateways to enlightenment that have helped a civilisation survive and excel through pragmatism, scientific reasoning and philosophical analysis. Holi, Diwali and Durga Puja are more than vibrant festivals; they provide opportunities for community gatherings where people from all walks of life

participate. Indian culture has traditionally considered marriage sacred. However, the growing practice of live-in relationships is changing centuries-old social traditions. Cohabitation without marriage has traditionally been considered contrary to Indian values. Live-in relationships can sometimes lead to conflict when partners disagree over marriage.

Our habit of importing Western technology, education and fashion has also influenced our way of living, which may not always suit Indian traditions and values. It is time to consider what example such practices will leave for future generations if the sanctity of Indian traditions is to be preserved.

KABIR AHMED SAIKIA | ASSAM

Please send your letter to the info@dailypioneer.com. In not more than 250 words. We appreciate your feedback.

Education reforms need accountability

It is heartening to note that activist Sonam Wangchuk has ended his 26-day-long hunger strike after assurances from the Centre on education reforms. It is a welcome move. As the student protest intensified, violence erupted, similar to what had happened earlier during the CAA and farmers' protests. Anti-social elements, allegedly with foreign support, took control of the situation. The Congress, too, wanted to score political mileage against the Modi Government. Sonam's decision to call off his fast before the violence spread further is to be appreciated.

The Government, on the other hand, should bring reforms to the education sector. Many students have died because of the pressure to pass the NEET examination to become doctors.

NEET provides a proper platform to select meritorious students and ensure quality medical education. There are some bottlenecks that should be overcome through experience; banning it altogether is unwanted and uncalled for. There must be accountability and transparency at all stages.

The Government can also consider nationalising the education and health sectors and moving them out of the clutches of politicians.

NR RAMACHANDRAN | CHENNAI

Nuclear safeguards must remain

Apropos the editorial 'The US ends its clear non-proliferation policy' (July 24), it rightly highlights the dangers of weakening long-standing nuclear safeguards for short-term strategic and commercial gains. By allowing Saudi Arabia access to civilian nuclear technology without the stringent restrictions imposed in earlier agreements, the United States risks undermining the global non-proliferation framework it once championed.

The omission of explicit limits on uranium enrichment and the absence of stronger IAEA oversight could encourage other countries in the region to demand similar concessions. At a time when tensions surrounding Iran's nuclear programme remain high, such a move may trigger a costly and destabilising arms race across the Gulf.

While every nation has the right to pursue peaceful nuclear energy, that right must be balanced with robust transparency and internationally accepted safeguards. Commercial interests and geopolitical competition should never take precedence over global security. Congress must carefully scrutinise the agreement to ensure that strategic partnerships do not come at the cost of weakening decades of efforts to prevent nuclear proliferation.

SANJAY CHOPRA | MOHALI

Assam struggles against the deluge

It is a matter of urgency for the Government to act on the current flood situation in Assam. Heavy rainfall has affected thousands of people, while the Disang river is flowing above the danger level in many areas. The rescue efforts of the Assam State Disaster Management Authority have not been sufficient, resulting in the Indian Army being called in for support.

So far, more than 6.5 lakh people have been displaced. In several places, entire villages are under water, causing immense hardship to residents. The situation in Sivasagar, Charaideo and Golaghat is particularly severe. Twenty-one people have already lost their lives due to the floods.

At this critical juncture, the Government must take all necessary measures to restore normalcy. We cannot halt rain or floods, but effective management and adequate preparedness can significantly reduce people's suffering.

The Centre, along with Assam's neighbouring states, should take the initiative to support affected communities, strengthen rescue and relief operations, and help residents deal with the flood crisis effectively.

KIRTI WADHAWAN | KANPUR

Bundelkhand’s long road from neglect to renewal

For decades, Bundelkhand remained on the margins of development. Today, however, the region is witnessing a remarkable turnaround. Backed by major investments in infrastructure, improved connectivity and new industrial initiatives, Bundelkhand is steadily emerging as a key growth centre for Uttar Pradesh



PRIYANKA SRIVASTAVA

Although Uttar Pradesh’s Bundelkhand region is advancing towards becoming the state’s second Noida today, for nearly seven decades after Independence it was condemned to a fate marked by bandits, drought and mass migration. Spanning roughly 29,000 Sq Kms and home to nearly 8.2 million people across seven districts, this vast territory was systematically kept outside the mainstream of development for a prolonged period. Under successive regimes of the Congress, the Bahujan Samaj Party and, above all, the Samajwadi Party, resource scarcity, neglect of schemes and administrative apathy remained the norm. Promises were routinely made, yet tangible change on the ground remained conspicuously absent.

This is the same land that, under the leadership of Rani Lakshmbai of Jhansi, raised the banner of self-respect during the Revolt of 1857. Stung by that uprising, the British administration deliberately set out to cripple Bundelkhand economically and socially as a punitive lesson.

After Independence there was hope that the land of these great warriors would finally receive its rightful due. Instead, successive Congress, BSP and especially Samajwadi Party governments converted colonial-era neglect into a permanent political arrangement. The old pattern was further entrenched so that the absence of development could always be excused by a ready-made narrative of backwardness and insecurity.

The artificial narrative of ‘Dasyu Pradesh’: A design to keep investment away

During the tenures of Mulayam Singh Yadav and Akhilesh Yadav, Bundelkhand’s image was deliberately projected as the stronghold of the dacoits of Chambal and Bundelkhand. Rather than recognizing the region’s latent potential, official policy reduced it to a mere “dacoit-affected zone.”

This carefully constructed narrative sent a clear signal to industrialists and investors across India and beyond: Bundelkhand was unsafe for trade and capital. Dacoits received political patronage; their criminal pasts were glorified. Consequently, while new industries and infrastructure rose elsewhere in the state, Bundelkhand’s public identity remained confined to chilling tales of outlaw gangs.

The criminalisation of a generation of youth

The greatest disservice under Congress, BSP and SP rule was inflicted on the future of Bundelkhand’s young people. Hands that should have held quality education, modern skills and technical knowledge were steered instead towards pistols and the underworld, exploiting unemployment and despair.

With employment opportunities absent and the education system in ruins, local youth faced only two bleak choices: join mafia or dacoit gangs, or migrate to the slums of Delhi, Mumbai and Surat to work for subsistence wages. ‘Under Samajwadi Party governance’, youthful energy was channeled not into learning or livelihood but into muscle power and political muscle-flexing.

Government machinery as silent spectator and willing accomplice

During SP rule, successive dreaded dacoit gangs operated parallel administrations in full public view. The terror spread by figures such as Thokia, Dadua and Ragia was so complete that law and order simply ceased to exist in rural areas.

Most painfully, the state government and police administration remained passive onlookers instead of acting. Political patrons in power exploited these gangs for electoral advantage, booth capturing and ‘vote-bank consolidation’.

Punishment postings and the free rein of the mining mafia

‘Government machinery’ in Bundelkhand was deployed ‘not for public service’ but to silence ordinary citizens and plunder local resources. Police and



BRAJESH KUMAR TIWARI

machine operators, repair workers and supervisors. This is not merely an unemployment problem; it is a capability mismatch. Degrees have expanded faster than usable workplace skills, and certificates have often grown faster than employer confidence. As Skill India completes eleven years on July 15, 2026, the central question is no longer whether India can train at scale. It is whether training can translate into productivity, wages, dignity and real bargaining power in the labour market.

What India did gain from Skill India

Skill India’s most visible achievement has been its large scale. Under PMKVY, from 2015 to 31 December 2025, 1.64 crore candidates were trained or oriented, while 1.29 crore were certified. Women’s participation has also been notable, with 74.29 lakh women trained by 30 June 2025, accounting for nearly 45 per cent of total candidates. In the first three phases, where placement tracking was linked mainly to the Short-Term Training component, 56.89 lakh candidates were certified and 24.3 lakh were reported placed, reflecting a placement rate of about 42.8 per cent. PMKVY 4.0 has moved beyond basic placement reporting towards wider career pathways, including self-



MEGA PROJECTS SUCH AS THE DEFENSE INDUSTRIAL CORRIDOR (JHANSI NODE) AND THE BUNDELKHAND INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY (BIDA) ARE ACCELERATING INDUSTRIALISATION. THE CENTURIES-OLD DRINKING-WATER CRISIS HAS BEEN ADDRESSED THROUGH THE ‘HAR GHAR NAL SCHEME’, FREEING MOTHERS AND SISTERS FROM KILOMETRES-LONG WALKS FOR WATER

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administrative officers regarded postings there as “punishment postings.” Those who arrived either capitulated to the corrupt system or chose silence. In return, under SP rule the mining and land mafias were granted open license to loot sand from the rivers. Illegal extraction from the Ken and Betwa drained the public exchequer while ordinary farmers feared even setting foot in their own fields.

The cost of limited political weight and step motherly fund allocation

A key political calculation behind this prolonged neglect was Bundelkhand’s modest electoral footprint — only four Lok Sabha seats and nineteen Assembly seats. Whether under Congress, BSP or the SP of Mulayam and Akhilesh Yadav, electoral strategy always prioritised regions with larger seat shares or stronger captive vote banks. Because of its limited political leverage, Bundelkhand never received priority in budgetary allocations. The bulk of state resources was diverted elsewhere, while the region was dismissed with the label “backward area” and token announcements.

Farmers parched by drought and relief looted by corruption

Bundelkhand’s natural geography is arid and plateau-like, yet successive governments left this structural challenge unaddressed. Between 2013 and 2015, under Akhilesh Yadav’s government, severe drought drove farmers into starvation, debt and suicide. Irrigation projects remained buried in files for years. The ultimate betrayal came when drought-relief supplies and “relief packets” themselves became ‘casualties of corruption’. The administration simply labelled the crisis a “natural disaster” and washed its hands of responsibility.

The end of neglect under the double-engine government

The arrival of the double-engine government—Narendra Modi at the Centre and Yogi Adityanath in Uttar Pradesh after 2017 — has brought an epochal shift. The Bundelkhand Expressway has linked the region directly to both the national and state capitals.

Mega projects such as the Defense Industrial Corridor (Jhansi node) and the Bundelkhand Industrial Development Authority (BIDA) are accelerating industrialisation. The centuries-old drinking-water crisis has been addressed through the ‘Har Ghar Nal scheme’, freeing mothers and sisters from kilometres-long walks for water. Power supply has been fully stabilised, and scheme benefits now reach citizens directly, free of middlemen.

The story of Bundelkhand is a stark reminder of how a historically and strategically significant region was systematically sidelined for political convenience. Neglect that began under British rule reached its zenith under Congress, BSP and especially Samajwadi Party governments. Arming the youth with pistols, allowing dacoits to flourish, and denying basic amenities had become the region’s enforced destiny.

While the double-engine government since 2017 has begun writing a new chapter of development and has visibly transformed the atmosphere, the fact remains that the ‘planned impoverishment of Bundelkhand’ until 2017 is a documented chapter of history whose full redress will still require considerable time.



ACHARYA PRASHANT

The state stands indicted. An administration under which question papers travel faster than justice has failed its first duty. The syndicates that sell children’s futures for cash deserve the harshest prosecution the law can build. Nothing that follows dilutes that verdict by one drop. In every act of injustice there are two things, not one. First, the action; second, your understanding of the action and response to it. You are examining the minister with full ruthlessness. Now extend the same examination to the examiner. If the test is fair, why should anyone be exempt? Including you.

The paper leaked, somebody sold it, and somebody also bought it. Show me one buyer of the paper in the march. Ask yourself: the students whom the next leak reaches in time, will they be marching or memorising the leaked paper? Is it not the ego’s oldest trick to shout about the action so that the actor is never discussed? Man acts from a corrupt centre, and no rearrangement of actions has ever cleaned a centre. Correction is the cleaning of the centre of the old one. Not that you leave the street, but that you clean the one who walks on it.

Look at what your placards demand. A fair examination, an accountable minister; in other words, a cleaner race. Not one placard in the whole capital asks the prior question: is this race so important that a young person takes his life for it? In 2022, this country recorded 13,999 student suicides. No paper had leaked in that year, and the children still died anyway. So the leak did not build the machine that equates a rank with a life.

A whole civilisation has told its seventeen-year-olds that their self-worth is tied to their scorecards. When the result collapses, the young person concludes that he has collapsed. That conclusion is the real killer. A movement that wins a resignation but leaves this machine untouched is preparing the next round of casualties.

A monkey entered the house and wrecked the room. Now the mother returns. Whom does she slap? The monkey, or the child who left the door open? I am only asking why one of them has ten million investigators and the other has none. Who opened the door? The people you now want to drag from their chairs were carried to those chairs by you. What exactly were you doing in the polling booth?

Outer revolution must follow inner revolution, or it is only an outing. Has your family’s extra income, legally called black money, not been quietly set aside for your sister’s dowry? On the morning of the great march: “Mummy, extra parathas today, I am off to do revolution.” Whose money bought the flour, beta? Here is a qualifying exam for revolutionaries. Announce at home: I refuse the corrupt rupee. This exam does not cancel your march; it qualifies you for it. A revolution that reaches the road but never reaches the dining table has not begun. It begins as one unbearable question: why am I the way I am?

Half a century ago, this country saw its largest student uprising, against corruption itself. Its young heroes then ruled states for decades. The record of that rule includes the very corruption convictions their movement was born to prevent. Fifteen years ago, another anti-corruption wave electrified the nation. Its crusader became a governing politician and collected corruption cases of his own. The chair did not corrupt the pure. The chair only handed a bigger stage to an ego nobody had ever questioned. Rotate the patients as often as you like; the disease holds the ward. They do not prove that marching is useless; they prove that unfit marchers are useless. And nothing changed, because the winners were the same unexamined egos as the losers. The failure was never in the feet; it was in the centre the feet carried. That is why fitness comes first. Not instead of the march, but before it. Suppose you win, and the minister resigns. The ego does not weep because it was hurt. It weeps because it has not yet been paid for the hurt. The resignation is the payment. And a compensated victim never again faces the mirror. Prosecute the guilty. A scalp is a trophy, and trophies educate nobody. Krishna stood on a battlefield, not in a hermitage. He took one warrior, and he refused to let him shoot a single arrow until that warrior had self-knowledge. He refused to let him fire, and he equally refused to let him flee. He purified the fighter, and then he said: Now Fight! The bar is honesty, and honesty does not take years at all. I have a problem with blindness on the street. Educate yourself in the self: one hour a day with a text that questions the questioner, before the phone is touched. Then educate the voter beside you.

Then vote, then organise, then contest, and then march. The march of the awakened is not merely permitted; it is awaited. The word revolution means a complete turning. So turn, but turn fully: towards yourself. There is no revolution without love. Not slogan-love, but love as the ego’s own decision to turn upon itself and dissolve. Rage rearranges the world and leaves the actor intact. Love alone changes the actor.

Dear youth, you want revolution, and you are right to want it. First the mirror, then the march. The real revolution is not housed in any ministry or maidan. It first lives in you. Then come out, and I will be marching in your middle.



Acharya Prashant is a philosopher and author whose work centres on self-inquiry and its application to contemporary life

Viksit Bharat needs skilled India, not just certified India



veyed candidates were placed in their desired skill sector. Yet placement tracking was mainly linked to PMKVY’s first three phases, not PMKVY 4.0. When tracking weakens, accountability also weakens. This is worrying for MSMEs, which need trusted hiring signals and easy apprenticeship routes, not just more course completions. The rural-urban divide also persists. PLFS 2025 shows youth unemployment at 8.3 per cent in rural India and 13.6 per cent in urban India. Secondary education attainment was 61.9 per cent in rural areas and 79.7 per cent in urban areas. Skill India has widened access, but structural gaps in schooling, connectivity, migration networks and local employer density remain unresolved. India’s skilling strategy should not be based on a single model viewed only through the lens of a foreign system. Germany shows the importance of tying classroom instruction to practical workplace training. Almost 89 per cent of vocational upper-secondary students participate in programmes that blend school-based learning with on-the-job experience. In this way, some 94 per cent of recent vocational graduates get a job within two years. South Korea, meanwhile, demonstrates how robust academic rigour, institutional rigour and competent quality assurance

can enhance results, even when vocational education attracts comparatively fewer students.

Another key lesson from Singapore is to not see vocational education as a lesser or second choice. The Institute of Technical Education and the broader SkillsFuture ecosystem have given vocational skills more social recognition, career mobility and lifelong relevance. The Philippines shows how a national mechanism can broaden the horizons of competency-based assessment and certification, with 13.76 lakh enrolments and nearly 10.81 lakh workers certified in 2024.

The importance of legally supported apprenticeship programmes is underscored by Brazil. By April 2026, the nation boasted 7,26,025 active young apprentices, suggesting the efficacy of a system in which employers participate in workforce development. India does not have to follow the entire path of any of these models. The big takeaway is that we are going to need a trusted skilling system that enables meaningful employer involvement, stronger apprenticeships, portable qualifications, high-quality standards, and job outcomes - not just enrolment and certification numbers.

Viksit Bharat is not only a GDP target; it is a productivity target. India cannot become a major manufacturing hub, high-value services exporter, green-transition economy and digital public infrastructure leader when only about 4 to 5 per cent of its people are formally vocationally trained. Manufacturing needs technicians, machine operators, quality controllers, maintenance workers and supervisors. Services need coders, cloud-support staff, logistics workers, care workers, sales teams and hospitality professionals. Green growth will

require solar technicians, EV maintenance workers, building-efficiency specialists and workers for recycling, waste management and industrial retrofitting. PMKVY 4.0’s shift towards electronics, IT-ITeS and future skills is therefore welcome, but India needs a much wider base of applied workers, not only a small class of elite engineers.

AI can support this transition, but it cannot replace basic institutional reform. For most workers, the need is not advanced AI-building skills, but stronger digital ability, data awareness and problem-solving. AI should be used for personalised learning in Indian languages, adaptive practice and better matching of learners with jobs and apprenticeships. Used well, AI can improve assessment quality and make reskilling continuous; used poorly, it will create one more dashboard without creating one more employable worker. India now needs hard but practical reforms. PMKVY 4.0 should restore compulsory tracking of placement, wages and retention, publish district-wise outcomes, and link public payments more closely with verified employment results. Apprenticeships must become simpler for MSMEs through pooled agencies, standard contracts, digital stipend support and shared trainers. In the medium term, vocational education must enter schools, ITIs, polytechnics and universities as a mainstream pathway, with portable credits under NCFE. Skill India’s first decade proved it can certify at scale. Its second must prove that skills improve young Indians’ bargaining power.

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Order Order

Pet dog plays crucial role in solving 2021 Mohali murder



A Mohali court convicted and sentenced a man to life imprisonment in a 2021 murder incident with a pet dog of the victim playing a crucial role in cracking the case.

The court of Additional Sessions Judge Vikrant Kumar awarded a life term to Jagir Singh, a resident of village Parol, for the murder of goat farmer Sucha Singh, a resident of Chhoti Badi Naggal village in Mohali in June 2021. The court also imposed a fine of `1 lakh.

Two other accused Desraj and Satnam Singh were, however, acquitted in the murder case.

The court also rejected the prosecution's plea for capital punishment, stating that the case did not qualify as one of the "rarest of rare".

The court convicted the accused on July 17 and the sentence was pronounced on July 22.

According to the prosecution, Sucha Singh went missing on June 12, 2021, after leaving home to graze his goats.

The family came to know that Jagir Singh took Sucha to his house for making enclosure for goats. When Sucha did not return home that day, Jagir told the family that Sucha had gone with one Desraj. But Sucha did not return home, prompting the family to lodge a missing complaint with police. Despite the family carrying out search at their own level for over a week, Sucha Singh could not be found. Thereafter, the family members of Sucha Singh went to Jagir's farmhouse on June 20, 2021. The family also took along their pet dog Rocky.

When the family members were looking for Sucha Singh, their pet dog Rocky went towards a small pit. The family then started digging and found Sucha's T-shirt. Later police was called in and the headless body of Sucha Singh was exhumed from the spot. (PTI)

Delhi court acquits man in 2011 murder case

A Delhi court has acquitted a man in a 2011 murder case, saying the prosecution failed to prove the charges beyond reasonable doubt after key witnesses turned hostile and the forensic evidence did not support the case.

The court, however, convicted him for absconding after he pleaded guilty to the offence. Additional Sessions Judge Vandana was hearing the case against Amit Kumar, who was accused in the murder of property leader Ranbir Singh, who was shot in Bawana's Pooth Khurd area in June 2011. An FIR was registered against the accused under IPC sections 302 and 120B and the Arms Act. In the order dated July 14, the court said, "There is no hesitation in holding that the prosecution has failed to prove its case beyond reasonable doubt, and accordingly, the accused, Amit Kumar, deserves the benefit of doubt and hence stands acquitted."

The court noted that the complainant and other material witnesses did not support the prosecution during the trial and failed to identify the accused. It also said that the ballistic report did not link the recovered pistol with the bullets found in the deceased's body. "Even vide the forensic evidence, no incriminating evidence could be proved against the accused persons as discussed above. (PTI)

Centre assures strict steps to curb NEET paper leaks

The Supreme Court on Friday told the Centre that it will closely monitor the steps taken to curb NEET examination paper leaks, while underlining that ad hocism has caused trouble for years.

A bench of Justices PS Narasimha and Alok Aradhe, which was hearing a batch of petitions, including one by the Federation of All India Medical Association (FAIMA), told Solicitor General Tushar Mehta that the Government should indicate the steps taken towards transparency, implementation of recommendations of the Radhakrishnan Committee, and how the IIT model would be followed.

Mehta said there are some developments and the Government will file a detailed report, which may be beyond the recommendations of the Radhakrishnan Committee. "Students' futures can't be jeopardised. We are going beyond the Radhakrishnan Committee. I assure you that the Government is walking 10 extra miles. I can assure you everything is being supervised at the highest level," Mehta submitted. He added that two years back, a similar issue arose and right from printing to transportation, everything was explained to the court. The bench said that the Government deployed the Airforce to transport question papers for the NEET-UG retest, but all these measures are ad hoc. (PTI)



HC refuses to entertain PIL on NIA probe into CJP's *Chalo Sansad*

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE
n New Delhi

The Delhi High Court on Friday refused to entertain a PIL seeking a probe by the NIA or any "specialised agency" into the Cockroach Janta Party-led march to Parliament on July 20 to protest against the NEET-UG paper leak and other related issues.

A bench of Chief Justice DK Upadhyaya and Justice Tejas Karia said the alleged incidents of vandalism were given the knowledge and notice of the authorities, who would take action according to the law.

The bench also said it was for the Centre to refer any case to the National Investigation Agency (NIA) for investigation, and not the court.

In view of the court's observations, Solicitor General Tushar Mehta asked the petitioner's counsel to consider withdrawing the PIL, following which the petitioner



requested the bench to withdraw the same.

"The PIL is dismissed as withdrawn," the court ordered.

The petitioner, Satish Kumar Aggarwal, the ex-vice president of the Akhil Bharat Hindu Mahasabha, said in the PIL that the participation of activists and political leaders as well as the alleged involvement of foreign-funded organisations, has raised serious questions about the "true nature,

purpose, and objectives of the protest".

It said these concerns call for a "comprehensive investigation" to ascertain if any "external elements were involved in activities prejudicial to public order, national security, and the sovereignty and integrity of India".

"In these circumstances, the petitioner seeks appropriate directions for registration of an FIR, a thorough and impartial investigation into the incidents connected to

the protests, and further investigation by an appropriate specialised agency, including the National Investigation Agency, if the competent authority considers that the material disclosed warrants investigation under the applicable law," the plea submitted.

The Cockroach Janta Party (CJP) has been protesting since June 20 demanding Education Minister Dharmendra Pradhan's resignation over alleged examination irregularities.

On July 20, thousands of protesters gathered at the Jantar Mantar for a *Chalo Sansad* march to press their demands, despite heavy security deployment.

As the crowds swelled, police lathi-charged and tear-gassed the protesters when they attempted to march towards Parliament, on Day 1 of the Monsoon Session.

The ensuing clashes left several police personnel and protesters injured.

SC restricts uploading proceedings online



PIONEER NEWS SERVICE
n New Delhi

The Supreme Court on Friday barred posting, reposting or uploading of audio-video recordings of court proceedings on social media and other digital platforms without prior permission of the concerned secretary general of the apex court or the registrar generals of the high courts.

A bench of Chief Justice Surya Kant and Justices Joymalya Bagchi and V Mohana also sought responses from the Centre and others on a plea raising the misuse of live-streaming and circulation of videos of

court proceedings on social media.

"As an interim measure, it is directed that there shall be no extraction, modification, dissemination posting, reposting and uploading of audio-video visual recordings of judicial proceedings on social media or other digital platforms without prior permission of the secretary general of this court or the registrar general of the jurisdictional high courts," the bench said.

Senior advocate Vikas Singh, appearing for the petitioner, highlighted the misuse of videos of court proceedings on social media and other digital platforms.

Building contractor suicide: Ex-MLA, wife get anticipatory bail; no relief for MNS leader

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE
n Pune

A sessions court in Pune has granted anticipatory bail to former MLA Ravindra Dhangekar and his wife in connection with the suicide of a building contractor, while rejecting a similar plea filed by MNS leader Bala Shedge.

Additional Sessions Judge Aniruddha Gandhi granted anticipatory bail to the Dhangekar couple on Thursday on a personal bond of `25,000 each with one surety of the like amount, subject to conditions.

The court, however, rejected the anticipatory bail application of Shedge, whose name allegedly figured in the suicide note and a video purportedly recorded by the deceased before taking the extreme step.

The case pertains to the suicide of Khalil Sheikh (65), a building centring contractor and labour supplier, at his residence in Gultekdi on July 16. Based on a complaint lodged by his wife Sultana Sheikh, the Swargate police registered a case against Shiv Sena leader Dhangekar, his wife Pratibha Dhangekar,



Shedge, Raghunath Gowda and eight others for abetment of suicide and other offences. According to the complaint, Khalil Sheikh had recorded a video before his death alleging that he had been cheated in business. A purported suicide note was also found pasted on the wall outside his house.

The complaint alleged the accused had failed to pay him dues, causing him severe financial distress. It further claimed Shedge threatened to kill Sheikh and had seized his centring material, a temporary structure that supports buildings or structural elements during construction, leading to sustained harassment that allegedly drove him to end his life.

While granting relief to the Dhangekar couple, the court observed that Ravindra Dhangekar's name did not appear in the suicide note and that he had no direct business dealings with the deceased.

The court also noted that Dhangekar's wife had retired from the partnership firm linked to the construction business on August 19, 2025, and therefore had no direct connection with the deceased or his business at the relevant time. On these grounds, the court held that custodial interrogation of the Dhangekar couple was not warranted and granted them anticipatory bail, while declining similar relief to Shedge.

SC proposes special courts for Manipur violence cases

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE
n New Delhi

The Supreme Court on Friday proposed setting up special courts to conduct day-to-day trials in criminal cases arising from the 2023 ethnic violence in Manipur. It also directed probe agencies to expeditiously complete pending investigations and ensure that victims receive copies of chargesheets.

A bench comprising Chief Justice Surya Kant and Justices Joymalya Bagchi and V Mohana took note of the fact that many victims and their families are yet to get copies of the chargesheets filed by the CBI and the state

SIT in criminal cases. The lawyers will have to be provided the chargesheets within one week of legal aid counsel contacting them, the court said.

More than 200 people have been killed, several hundred injured and thousands displaced since ethnic violence first broke out in Manipur on May 3, 2023, when a 'Tribal Solidarity March' was organised in the hill districts to protest against the majority Meitei community's demand for Scheduled Tribe (ST) status.

Hearing a batch of pleas relating to the violence, the apex court permitted the legal aid counsel represent-



ing the victims to approach the offices of the chief justices of the Gauhati and Manipur chief justices to seek copies of the chargesheets.

Senior advocate Vrinda Grover informed the bench

that despite previous directions, the families of two deceased victims had told her they had still not received the copies. She said one legal aid counsel had received the documents while another

was still awaiting them. The law officer clarified that chargesheets were sensitive criminal records and required to be furnished only to victims and their lawyers and not to women's groups or public interest litigants.

"We are informed by (Vrinda) Grover that regardless of the directions or status report, she has been informed by victim families that chargesheets have not been supplied to them. She was able to contact the legal aid counsels, one of whom has received a chargesheet. Others are awaited," the bench said.

"We direct the legal aid counsels to immediately

contact the office of the chief justices of high courts Manipur and Gauhati. The authorities will ensure supply of chargesheets not later than one week from the date legal aid counsel contacts them," it ordered.

Proposing to set up special courts to conduct day-to-day trials in criminal cases, the bench asked Additional Solicitor General Aishwarya Bhati, appearing for the state government, SIT and the CBI, to collate information about the cases where the investigations are complete and chargesheets are filed and also give details of those matters where probe is incomplete.

Media reports reckless, no plea related to CJP protests filed: CJI Surya Kant

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE
n New Delhi

Chief Justice of India Surya Kant on Friday dismissed as "reckless" media reports that he had denied urgent hearing on a plea challenging the July 20 police action against students, saying it was only a representation and not a petition.

No such petition was filed, he stated. "In the last two days, a completely false statement was made that a matter was filed, and the media is absolutely free from all responsibility and falsely reporting that the Chief Justice refused to list the matter," he said. "Till morning 10 am, not a single page has been filed. It was one representation... sent by Mishra or someone. How can I treat the



representation as a writ petition? And people start recklessly reporting this," the CJI said while lawyers were mentioning their cases for urgent listing on Friday.

On Wednesday, a lawyer sought urgent hearing on the police action against students during the Cockroach Janta Party-led protest march here on July 20. "I have the

videos as well regarding police brutality... If it can be listed tomorrow (Thursday)... students are there," the lawyer had said.

He said the students had allegedly been subjected to police brutality during the protest. The CJI had declined the request and made it clear that the bench was not inclined to examine

video footage at the mentioning stage. "We are not interested in videos, we don't have time to watch... We don't want to watch videos," the CJI had said. When the counsel reiterated that students had been beaten up and again referred to the video evidence, the CJI had said, "Don't waste our time. We don't want to watch any videos."

The Cockroach Janta Party led march on July 20 witnessed clashes between protesters and security personnel, who used lathis and tear gas to disperse crowds attempting to move towards Parliament. The protestors were demanding the resignation of Union Minister Dharmendra Pradhan's resignation over NEET exam leak issue.

SC to hear pleas on police action against students

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE
n New Delhi

The Supreme Court on Friday agreed to hear on July 27 two separate petitions alleging police excesses on students protesting against the NEET paper leak. The matter was mentioned before a bench comprising Chief Justice Surya Kant and Justices Joymalya Bagchi and V Mohana. Senior advocates Shyam Divan and Gopal Sankaranarayanan mentioned the matter.

Urging the bench to list the matter for hearing, Sankaranarayanan said both the pleas have been filed and they have been numbered by the apex court registry. Students have been staging protests in several states against the paper



leak. The Cockroach Janta Party-led march on July 20 in Delhi witnessed clashes between protesters and security personnel, who used lathis and tear gas to disperse crowds attempting to move towards Parliament.

The protestors were demanding the resignation of Union minister Dharmendra Pradhan's resignation over NEET exam leak issue.

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BUSINESS11

India engaged with US for negotiating trade pact: Govt

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE
n New Delhi

The Government is studying all the developments and remains engaged with the US in the framework of negotiating a bilateral trade agreement (BTA), Parliament was informed on Friday.

In a written reply to the Rajya Sabha, Minister of State for Commerce and Industry Jitin Prasada said that the Government remains in continuous consultation with relevant stakeholders, including farmers, agricultural exporters, industry bodies, ministries/departments and export promotion councils on issues related to import tariffs imposed by the US.

The Government has also taken into account inputs received from States on issues related to import tariffs

imposed by the US, with a view to safeguarding India's trade interests, he said.

The India-US BTA negotiations were launched following the meeting of leaders from both sides in February 2025, where the two countries adopted the "Mission 500" objective of expanding bilateral trade to \$500 billion by 2030.

Negotiations continued through multiple rounds, and the two countries announced a framework for an interim trade deal on February 2, 2026.

Following the US Supreme Court judgement dated February 20, 2026, invalidating reciprocal tariffs, reciprocal tariffs are no longer in force.

However, the US Government has issued Executive Orders imposing 10 per cent tariffs on certain

File photo

products from all countries under section 122 of the US Trade Act 197.

"The Government is studying all the developments and remains engaged with the US

Government in the framework of negotiations for a BTA which includes recent meetings of negotiating team of both sides in Washington, DC (20-22 April), New Delhi (1-4

June), and the recent visit of the US Trade Representative to New Delhi (22-24 June)," Prasada said.

Replying to another question, the minister said following the implementation of India-SAFTA (South Asia Free Trade Agreement), India's exports to SAFTA increased from about \$5.5 billion in 2005-06 (pre-FTA year) to \$25.8 billion in 2025-26.

Major export destinations include Bangladesh, wherein exports increased from \$1.7 billion in 2005-06 to nearly \$10.6 billion in 2025-26 (41.1 per cent share of SAFTA exports); Nepal, from \$0.9 billion in 2005-06 to \$7.4 billion in 2025-26 (28.9 per cent share); and Sri Lanka, from \$2 billion in 2005-06 to \$5.5 billion in 2025-26 (21.4 per cent share).

He also said ASEAN contin-

ues to be one of India's most important FTA blocs. This pact came into force in January 2010.

India's exports to ASEAN increased from about \$18.1 billion in 2009-10 (pre-FTA year) to \$38.4 billion in 2025-26, more than doubling over the period.

Major markets include Singapore, wherein exports increased from \$7.6 billion in 2009-10 to nearly \$11.9 billion in 2025-26 (30.9 per cent share of ASEAN exports); Malaysia, where exports increased from \$2.8 billion in 2009-10 to over \$6.8 billion in 2025-26 (17.8 per cent share); Vietnam, from \$1.8 billion in 2009-10 to \$6.7 billion in 2025-26 (17.3 per cent share); and Thailand, where exports increased from \$1.7 billion in 2009-10 to US 5.1 billion in 2025-26 (13.2 per cent share).

Odisha: HCLTech to invest `14,257 cr to set up data center

IT major HCLTech, in partnership with AI firm Sarvam and the Odisha Government, will set up its first AI data centre in the upcoming Odisha Sovereign AI Park, with a planned capital outlay of `14,257 crore.

A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to this effect was signed by HCLTech, Sarvam, and the Odisha Government in the presence of Chief Minister Mohan Charan Majhi, HCLTech Chairperson Roshni Nadar Malhotra, HCLTech CEO & MD C Vijayakumar, and Sarvam Co-Founder Pratyush Kumar.

"... Relating to its proposed entry into the full-stack AI market, HCLTech... plans to set up its first AI data centre in the upcoming Odisha Sovereign AI Park.

"The AI data centre will be established in partnership with Sarvam and the Government of Odisha. The planned capital outlay for the project will be `14,257 crore, including financial assistance from the Government of Odisha.

(PTI)

Gold drops to `1.47 lakh/10g, Silver down `5,000 in Delhi

Gold prices dropped by `2,000 to `1.47 lakh per 10 grams in the national Capital on Friday due to profit-taking by traders.

The precious metal of 99.9 per cent purity depreciated by `2,000 to `1,47,200 per 10 grams (inclusive of all taxes), marking its second straight day of losses. Gold traded at `1,49,200 per 10 grams on Thursday, according to local traders.

Silver prices also declined by `5,000 to `2,24,700 per kg (inclusive of all taxes) due to heavy selling. The white metal had settled at `2,29,700 per kg in the previous session.

Traders said bullion prices remained under pressure in the domestic market amid weak buying sentiment.

However, in the international markets, spot gold gained marginally to trade at \$4,063.70 per ounce and silver rose nearly 2 per cent to \$58.59 per ounce.

"Spot gold traded higher marginally around \$4,060 per ounce in the overseas markets as Brent oil has retreated nearly 4 per cent following a spike of 12 per cent in five days," said Praveen Singh, Head of Commodities at Mirae Asset ShareKhan.

(PTI)

India, Israel conclude second round of trade pact negotiations

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE
n New Delhi

The second round of negotiations for the proposed free trade agreement between India and Israel covering multiple issues such as trade in goods and services, rules of origin, technical barriers, intellectual property rights, customs procedures and trade facilitations has been concluded this week, an official statement said on Friday.

The negotiations were held here during July 20-23.

"The discussions were constructive and forward-looking, with both sides undertaking detailed technical deliberations aimed at narrowing gaps and identi-

fying areas of convergence," the Commerce Ministry said.

It added that India and Israel share complementarities across several sectors and the proposed FTA presents an opportunity to further enhance bilateral trade and deepen economic integration.

"During this round, technical experts from both sides held dedicated techni-

cal sessions covering areas including trade in goods, trade in services, rules of origin, sanitary and phytosanitary measures, technical barriers to trade, intellectual property rights, customs procedure and trade facilitation, economic cooperation and other chapters under the proposed agreement," it said.

The statement added that both sides remain committed to working towards the early conclusion of a balanced, comprehensive and mutually beneficial FTA which will further expand trade and economic ties between the two countries.

Total merchandise trade between the two countries stood at \$3.93 billion in 2025-26.

Adani Energy Solutions bags `8,500 crore transmission project in Andhra Pradesh

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE
n New Delhi

Adani Energy Solutions Ltd (AESL) on Friday said it has secured a `8,500 crore transmission project in Andhra Pradesh.

The project was awarded through a tariff-based competitive bidding (TBCB) framework of the Centre where AESL emerged as the most competitive bidder, a company statement said.

The transmission system would facilitate integration and supply of power to the proposed green hydrogen and green ammonia projects in the Vizag area, catering to an estimated demand of 4,500 MW.

It will also support the growing load requirement expected from the Pendurthi-Vizag region, where a new wave of data centre and digital infrastructure investments is taking shape.

The project will be housed

under a Special Purpose Vehicle, Vizag Power Transmission Ltd.

Its scope involves the establishment of a 4x1500 MVA, 765/400 kV GIS substation at Pendurthi (Vizag) and a 3x1500 MVA, 765/400 kV Khammam-II substation.

With this, AESL will add 1,582 ckm (circuit kilometre) of transmission lines and 10,500 MVA of transformation capacity, taking its overall transmission network to 29,531 ckm and 1,33,675 MVA of transformation capacity.

"The Vizag transmission project is an important step in building the energy backbone for India's next generation of industrial growth. It will support the development of green hydrogen and green ammonia capacity in Andhra Pradesh, while also strengthening the grid for emerging digital infrastructure demand in the Pendurthi-Vizag region," Kandarp Patel, CEO, AESL, said.

Crude oil futures ease 2% to `8,876/barrel on profit-booking

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE
n New Delhi

Crude oil futures fell 2 per cent to `8,876 per barrel on Friday as traders booked profits after the recent rally, even as global benchmark Brent hovered near the \$100-a-barrel mark amid geopolitical tensions in West Asia that kept supply concerns alive.

On the Multi Commodity Exchange (MCX), crude for the August delivery declined by `148, or 1.64 per cent, to `8,876 per barrel in a business turnover of 17,232 lots.

The September contract also eased `154, or 1.79 per cent, to `8,426 per barrel in 2,125 lots.

Traders said profit-booking capped gains after crude prices logged their strongest weekly rally in months on fears of supply disruptions.

In the international markets, Brent oil futures for September delivery traded marginally lower at \$100.28 per barrel on the Intercontinental Exchange,

while West Texas Intermediate (WTI) for the same month contract fell 0.53 per cent to \$91.70 per barrel on the New York Mercantile Exchange.

"Brent crude prices are holding near \$100 after crossing the level for the first time in two months this week," said Anindya Banerjee, Head of Commodity and Currency Research, Kotak Securities.

He said the rally was triggered by Yemen's Houthi attacks on two Saudi oil tankers in the Red Sea, as well as US President Donald Trump's threat of a massive strike on Iran, and Kazakhstan's suspension of exports through the Caspian pipeline following drone strikes.

Banerjee said investors are watching the Bab-el-Mandeb Strait, warning that any significant disruption to shipping through the Red Sea could propel Brent towards \$120 per barrel, as global oil inventories have been depleted by months of continuous drawdown.

Rupee recovers 18 paise to settle at 96.55 against US dollar

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE
n Mumbai

The rupee recovered 18 paise to close at 96.55 (provisional) against the US dollar on Friday amid likely intervention by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI).

A combination of factors, including heightened tensions in West Asia, FI outflows, and sustained negative sentiments at the domestic equity markets, maintained pressure on the local unit, according to forex traders.

At the interbank foreign exchange, the rupee opened

weaker at 96.81 and traded in the range of 96.30-96.81 before eventually settling at 96.55 (provisional), up 18 paise from its previous close.

The rupee ended 20 paise weaker at 96.73 against the US dollar on Thursday. The US military announced the 13th night of strikes on Thursday against Iran as clashes escalated over shipping routes. The attacks came after Yemen's Houthi rebels said they attacked two Saudi oil tankers in the Red Sea, potentially widening the Iran war as international oil topped \$100 a barrel.

VK Vijayakumar, Chief Investment Strategist, Geojit Investments Ltd, said, "Rupee has been stable on Friday, trading around 96.55 to the dollar at 3.30 pm. There are reports of RBI intervention to prevent further depreciation of the rupee. Some PSU banks are also reported to have sold dollars to stabilise the rupee. If crude declines next week, it can further help the rupee to stabilise."

"We expect the rupee to trade with a negative bias on further escalation in tensions between the US and Iran.

Elevated crude oil prices may also pressure the rupee. However, diplomatic talks between the two nations may prevent a sharp fall in the rupee," Anuj Choudhary, Research Analyst, Mirae Asset ShareKhan, said.

Any intervention by the RBI may also support the rupee at lower levels, he said, adding that the USD-INR spot price is expected to trade in a range of `96.30-96.85. Meanwhile, the dollar index, which gauges the greenback's strength against a basket of six currencies, was trading marginally down by

0.06 per cent at 101.38. Brent crude, the global oil benchmark, crossed the \$100-mark, trading 0.25 per cent lower at \$100.4 per barrel in futures trade.

On the domestic equity market front, Sensex settled lower for the fifth day in a row, falling 331.62 points, or 0.43 per cent, to 76,059.77, while the Nifty was down 102.15 points, or 0.43 per cent, to 23,767.45.

Foreign Institutional Investors offloaded equities worth `2,999.23 crore on a net basis on Thursday, according to exchange data.

SEBI imposes penalties of `7.5 cr on 21 entities in Axis MF front-running case

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE
n New Delhi

Capital market regulator SEBI on Friday levied fines totalling `7.5 crore on 21 entities, including Axis Mutual Fund's former fund manager Viresh Joshi, and barred them from the securities markets for up to seven years in a case related to front-running allegations.

Front-running refers to an illegal practice in the stock market where an entity trades on the basis of advance information from a broker or analyst before the

information has been made available to their clients.

Also, the `30.56 crore imposed in compliance with the directions of the interim order dated February 28, 2023, shall be

treated as the disgorgement amount for all the entities, the regulator said in a 146-page final order.

The regulator has also directed these entities to pay 12 per cent annual interest on the disgorgement amount.

SEBI said it had concluded that "Viresh, Sumit Desai, Pranav Vora, Vaibhav and along with the other noticees, namely, the Kurani Group apart from Prijesh, the Marfatia Group and the Jajoo Group colluded to execute a scheme to front run the orders of the Big Client".

Market benchmark indices Sensex and Nifty ended lower on Friday, extending the losing streak for the fifth consecutive session, as investors remained cautious due to rising oil prices amid geopolitical tensions in West Asia and renewed concerns over US trade tariffs. Fresh foreign fund outflows and selling in blue-chip HDFC Bank also dented market sentiment.

The 30-share BSE Sensex declined 331.62 points, or 0.43 per cent, to settle at 76,059.77. During the day, it tanked 916.96 points, or 1.20 per cent, to 75,474.43. The 50-share

NSE Nifty dipped 102.15 points, or 0.43 per cent, to end at 23,767.45. From the Sensex

pack, Eternal, Mahindra & Mahindra, Bajaj Finance, Bharti Airtel, Asian Paints and

Infosys were among the major laggards. IT services company Infosys declined 1 per cent after it tempered the upper end of its full-year revenue forecast to between 1.5 per cent and 3 per cent amid continued macroeconomic uncertainty.

"Indian equity markets extended their losing streak to a fifth consecutive session as investors remained cautious amid lingering geopolitical tensions in the Middle East and renewed concerns over US trade tariffs. Weakness across Asian markets reinforced the risk-off mood, prompting broad-based selling despite signs of easing pressure in energy

markets," Ponmudi R, CEO of Enrich Money, an online trading and wealth tech firm, said.

"Markets traded volatile and ended lower on Friday, extending their losing streak for the fifth consecutive session amid persistent geopolitical concerns, elevated crude oil prices and disappointing earnings from select large-cap companies," Ajit Mishra — SVP Research, Religare Broking Ltd, said.

Brent crude, the global oil benchmark, dropped 3.66 per cent to \$96.98 per barrel on Friday, after surpassing \$100 per barrel in the previous session.

FROM THE WORLD

PAKISTAN

Imran son seeks global help

Former prime minister Imran Khan's son has urged the international community to intervene claiming his father, who has not been incarcerated for 1,100 days, urgently needs medical attention.

Currently lodged in solitary confinement at the Adiala Jail, Rawalpindi, the 73-year-old international cricketer turned politician was arrested on August 5, 2023 after an Islamabad trial court found him guilty of corrupt practices in the Tosha Khana (national treasury) case. Imran Khan has been subsequently arrested and convicted in several other cases leading to continued incarceration. "It has now been around 1,100 days since my father, Imran Khan, was imprisoned, and my brother and I haven't heard his voice since March. For months, we've been denied contact with him," Kasim said.

CHINA

Attacks Philippine ships again

Chinese coast guard ships fired powerful water cannons at two Philippine fisheries vessels on Friday in the South China Sea, the third confrontation in the disputed waters this week as Manila hosted annual ministerial meetings at which Asian and Western Governments renewed their alarm over China's maritime aggression.

The latest high seas faceoff happened near the Scarborough Shoal, the Philippine coast guard said.

Drones target US base in Iraq, conflict escalates

JULIA FRANKEL/ STELLA MARTANY
n Irbil

Drones carrying explosives targeted a city in northern Iraq where US forces are stationed and sirens rang out in Bahrain on Friday, hours after the American military said it finished its 13th night of strikes against Iran.

The conflict has flared again over the past week, as the US pounded Iran while Tehran attacked ships in the Strait of Hormuz and targeted US assets and allies in the region.

The strait, which is a crucial passage for the world's energy supplies, is at the centre of the latest fighting since Iranian attacks can effectively shut the waterway, sending fuel prices soaring worldwide and causing widespread economic turmoil.



The Iranian-allied Houthi rebels added further pressure this week by targeting two Saudi tankers in the Red Sea, making good on a threat to cut off an alternative route for the region's oil.

Despite the war's unpopularity

— and its widespread damage to Iran and the global economy - the latest round of fighting has no clear off-ramp. Iran's Health Ministry said 55 people have been killed and over 600 wounded in strikes in recent weeks. The US and Israel

attacked Iran on February 28 and have offered shifting goals for the war, including toppling Tehran's Government and eliminating its nuclear programme. But the conflict has devolved into a fight for control of the Strait of Hormuz - with Iran apparently hoping to win concessions by inflicting damage on the global economy and the US trying to limit that damage.

US-led forces intercepted and shot down five explosive-laden drones over Irbil on Friday morning, according to security officials in northern Iraq. "Fortunately, the incident caused no casualties or damage," they said.

An Associated Press journalist heard at least seven blasts in the city, the capital of Iraq's semi-autonomous Kurdish region, and saw at least four plumes of black smoke rising from areas near or

inside a base at the city's airport that hosts US forces. Flights continued as normal at the airport, the state-run Iraqi News Agency reported, citing the facility's director.

US military officials in Iraq did not respond to a request for comment. In recent years, the US maintained about 2,500 troops in Iraq for training and to conduct operations against the Islamic State group with Iraq's military. Many of those have withdrawn, but a small contingent of military advisers and others remains - many of whom have moved to Irbil.

Iran's Revolutionary Guard urged people in neighbouring countries to stay away from bases with American troops while asking people to report the places where they are stationed, according to a statement read out on state TV.

As the US has bombed Iran, Tehran has targeted several countries in the region that host American troops. Bahrain, which is home to the US Navy's 5th fleet, said it intercepted and shot down Iranian aerial attacks on Friday. It did not say if there were any casualties or damage.

US strikes overnight hit a naval base for the paramilitary Revolutionary Guard in the north of Iran, the semiofficial news outlets Fars and ISNA reported Friday morning.

Blasts from US bombardment overnight were also reported on Iran's Qeshm Island, a base for naval assets including drone boats that Iran can use to attack vessels in the Strait of Hormuz, as well as in Isfahan province, home to a major Iranian air base and one of Iran's nuclear sites. (AP)

Sri Lanka welcomes US tariff reduction

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
n Colombo

Sri Lanka on Friday welcomed the US decision of lowering to 10 per cent the tariff on goods imported from the island nation saying it will send a strong signal to investors about the country's economic reforms.

The US imposed the 10 per cent tariff on goods imported from Sri Lanka, India, Pakistan, Bangladesh and 13 other countries as part of a wider action against products made using forced labour. The decision to lower tariffs from 12.5 per cent to a minimum of 10 per cent was a result of Sri Lanka's decision to ban the import of goods produced using



forced labour. "The move is expected to deliver positive results for exporters, while reflecting Sri Lanka's ongoing commitment to fair trade, responsible business practices, and internationally accepted labour standards," a statement from the Ministry of Finance said. The tariff reduction will enhance the competitiveness of Sri Lankan exports in the US

market, sending a strong signal to investors and buyers about the country's dedication to sustainable economic reforms, it added.

The island's main trade chamber, reacting to the US decision, said, "The reduction will provide some relief to exporters navigating a highly competitive and uncertain market place."

Under the 'Trump Tariffs' announced in early 2025, Sri Lanka was billed to pay a reciprocal tariff rate of 44 per cent, which if implemented, was to have a devastating effect as the US is Sri Lanka's single largest export market.

The local exporters then feared that the 44 per cent tariff would have been non-competitive and would push

Sri Lankan exports out of the US. Later, Sri Lanka's tariff was brought down to 20 per cent alongside those of Vietnam, Bangladesh, Thailand, Indonesia, and Cambodia.

In February this year, the US Supreme Court struck down and invalidated the reciprocal tariffs.

In early June, the US imposed a 10 per cent tariff for 15 countries that had enforced forced labour import prohibitions and a 12.5 per cent for 45 countries with no such prohibitions.

On July 10, President Anura Kumara Dissanayake gazetted Sri Lanka's prohibition on the importation of goods produced using forced labour.



Delegates pose for a group photograph during the High-Level Conference of the High Contracting Parties to the Treaty of Amity and Cooperation in Southeast Asia (TAC) in Pasay City, Metro Manila, Philippines

Pakistan expresses concern over recent tensions in West Asia

SAJJAD HUSSAIN n Islamabad

Pakistan on Friday expressed concern over the recent West Asia tensions and called for dialogue, restraint and de-escalation by all sides to achieve peace in the region.

Pakistan Foreign Minister Ishaq Dar said this in a meeting with his Iranian counterpart Seyyed Abbas Araghchi on the sidelines of the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) Council of Foreign Ministers (CFM) in Cholpon-Ata, Kyrgyzstan, the Foreign Office said.

UK PM begins work from new No 10 North

ADITI KHANNA n London

British Prime Minister Andy Burnham began work from the new No 10 North in Manchester on Friday, which is designed to split the Government's power base out of 10 Downing Street in London.

The new northern England branch of the PM's office at Heron House in Manchester was declared "open for business" as Burnham arrived to chair the first meeting of the National Economic Council of senior ministers, mayors and business leaders.

He plans to spend at least one day a week at No 10 North, which he said would be more than just an office. "It's not just a new office. Through this place, power is



going to flow, energy is going to flow, new ideas are going to come through," said Burnham, in his address to the staff.

"I cannot tell you what a proud moment this is. I think this might be the best day of my life. "My generation of people growing up here, and it's true of places all over

the country, to get on in life you had to leave where you were because things weren't here... that is what No 10 North is all about: putting power in every postcode so that people can turn things around for themselves and make changes just as this great city has done and the other English cities are doing

through devolution. "Turning things round because of that ability to be able to do more for themselves," he said.

Burnham, who took charge as Prime Minister on Monday, was joined in Manchester by Chancellor John Healey and Louise Haigh, who is overseeing the "Office for the Prime Minister and Cabinet" – a new department that will encompass 10 Downing Street, No 10 North and the Cabinet Office. "This isn't about Government working in its old way, it's about the Treasury, No 10, close together, the heart of Government, then driving the same mission from here right out into all parts of the country," he stressed. (PTI)

Seaplane carrying 11 crashes into island north of Seattle, all aboard are rescued

ASSOCIATED PRESS n Seattle

A seaplane carrying 11 people crashed near an island tourist destination north of Seattle and caught on fire, prompting a quick, successful rescue by multiple agencies via boat and air to get injured passengers and the pilot to hospitals.

Videos posted on social media show the aircraft banking to one side as it flies low over the water near some boats close to shore. The plane makes a hard landing, first on one float, then briefly skips into the air before hitting the rocky coast.

The person taking the video gasps as a crunching



sound is heard when the plane crashes just out of sight. Witnesses rushed to help. People can be seen getting out of the plane as smoke rises before bright orange flames engulf the fuselage, which came to rest partially submerged against

a large rock. "An Urgent Marine Information Broadcast was issued to mariners in the area, and numerous good Samaritan vessels responded to assist," the US Coast Guard said Friday in a statement about the crash, which happened.

The crash, which involved a pilot and 10 passengers, happened more than two weeks after a seaplane carrying eight people made a rough landing in New York City's East River, causing minor injuries.

In 2022, federal regulators ordered seaplanes to be inspected following a deadly crash in the waters of Puget Sound northwest of Seattle.

Thursday's crash happened in Shallow Bay near Sucia Island in the northern San Juan Islands. The archipelago between Washington and Vancouver, British Columbia, is a popular summer vacation spot known for its ferries, whale watching and hiking.

UNESCO adds West Bank site, Lebanese castles to World Heritage list

KIM TONG-HYUNG n Seoul

A United Nations committee voted on Friday to inscribe a major archaeological site in the West Bank and a set of castles in southern Lebanon as World Heritage sites, despite objections from Israel, which had urged the committee to reject the bids.

The decision at a UN Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation meeting in South Korea came days after Israel's Foreign Ministry urged the

committee to reject efforts to designate the small West Bank town of Sebastia and the Lebanese castles, calling the nominations a "weaponisation of cultural heritage."

At their meeting in Busan, members of the UNESCO committee decided to place Sebastia and five castles in Lebanon's Mount Amel area on both the World Heritage List and the List of World Heritage in Danger after reviewing the nominations on an emergency basis.

Sebastia, a hilltop town

about 10 kilometers (6 miles) northwest of Nablus in the Israeli-occupied West Bank, is identified by scholars as ancient Samara, capital of the biblical Kingdom of Israel.

The area's archaeological remains span the Iron Age, Roman, Byzantine and Islamic periods. Christian and Islamic tradition holds that John the Baptist was buried there, according to a UNESCO website.

Sebastia's nomination, first submitted by the Palestinian delegation to

UNESCO in 2012, argued that World Heritage status was needed to help preserve the site, saying it remains largely undeveloped under Israeli control and requires additional conservation despite attracting tourists.

The designation comes as Israel, which does not recognize a Palestinian state, moves to expropriate large swaths of land around the site, even as it faces pressure to crack down on violence by Israeli settlers in the Palestinian territory.

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Extract of Standalone Unaudited Financial Results for the Quarter ended 30th June, 2026

(₹ Crore unless stated otherwise)

Sl. No.	Particulars	STANDALONE			
		Quarter ended		Year ended	
		30 th June, 2026	31 st March, 2026	30 th June, 2025	31 st March, 2026
		Unaudited	Audited	Unaudited	Audited
1	Total Income from Operations	26245.64	30813.45	25921.46	110810.24
2	Net Profit / (Loss) for the period (before tax and exceptional items)	2302.80	2653.46	889.76	5002.08
3	Net Profit / (Loss) for the period before tax (after exceptional items)	2158.79	2323.68	889.76	4333.86
4	Net Profit / (Loss) for the period after tax	1636.00	1679.51	685.48	3233.48
5	Total Comprehensive Income for the period [comprising Profit / (Loss) for the period (after tax) and other Comprehensive Income (after tax)]	1524.36	1958.91	567.86	3199.83
6	Paid-up Equity Share Capital (Face Value of ₹10/- each)	4130.53	4130.53	4130.53	4130.53
7	Reserves (excluding revaluation reserve)	55589.19	54064.83	52093.74	54064.83
8	Securities Premium Account	235.10	235.10	235.10	235.10
9	Net Worth	59719.72	58195.36	56224.27	58195.36
10	Paid up Debt Capital/Outstanding Debt	31969.95	31921.62	36074.92	31921.62
11	Debt Equity Ratio	0.54	0.55	0.64	0.55
12	Earnings per equity share (of ₹10/- each) (not annualised)				
	1. Basic (₹)	3.96	4.07	1.66	7.83
	2. Diluted (₹)	3.96	4.07	1.66	7.83
13	Debt Redemption Reserve	-	-	2.06	-
14	Debt Service Coverage Ratio (number of times)	1.66	7.26	2.74	3.84
15	Interest Service Coverage Ratio (number of times)	4.80	5.25	2.04	2.86

Extract of Consolidated Unaudited Financial Results for the Quarter ended 30th June, 2026

(₹ Crore unless stated otherwise)

Sl. No.	Particulars	CONSOLIDATED			
		Quarter ended		Year ended	
		30 th June, 2026	31 st March, 2026	30 th June, 2025	31 st March, 2026
		Unaudited	Audited	Unaudited	Audited
1	Total Income from Operations	26245.67	30813.49	25921.76	110810.84
2	Net Profit / (Loss) for the period (before tax and exceptional items)	2330.69	2631.58	967.81	5173.73
3	Net Profit / (Loss) for the period before tax (after exceptional items)	2186.68	2501.80	967.81	4505.51
4	Net Profit / (Loss) for the period after tax	1644.05	1835.47	744.58	3372.80
5	Total Comprehensive Income for the period [comprising Profit / (Loss) for the period (after tax) and other Comprehensive Income (after tax)]	1586.29	2174.42	626.58	3433.65
6	Paid-up Equity Share Capital (Face Value of ₹10/- each)	4130.53	4130.53	4130.53	4130.53
7	Reserves (excluding revaluation reserve)	57807.86	56225.36	55401.67	56225.36
8	Earnings per equity share (of ₹10/- each) (not annualised)				
	1. Basic (₹)	3.98	4.44	1.80	8.17
	2. Diluted (₹)	3.98	4.44	1.80	8.17

Note:

1) The above Financial Results have been reviewed by the Audit Committee and approved by the Board of Directors at their respective meetings held on 24th July, 2026.

2) The above is an extract of the detailed format of Unaudited Financial Results for the Quarter ended 30th June, 2026 filed with the Stock Exchanges under regulation 33 and 52 of the SEBI (Listing Obligations and Disclosure Requirements) Regulations, 2015. The full format of these Financial Results are available on the Stock Exchange websites of NSE and BSE at www.nseindia.com and www.bseindia.com respectively and under the Investor Relations section on the Company's website www.sail.co.in.

For and on behalf of Board of Directors

Sd/-

(Dr. Ashok Kumar Panda)

Chairman & Managing Director

Place : New Delhi

Dated: 24th July, 2026

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CIN: L27109DL1973GO1006454

4 Palestinians, 1 Israeli dead after West Bank shooting

JULIA FRANKEL n Jerusalem

Four Palestinians and one Israeli were killed in a shooting in the northern West Bank, health officials said on Friday. Several more people were injured.

The circumstances of the shooting, which occurred near the city of Nablus, were not immediately clear. Violence in the Israeli-occupied territory has flared in recent days. The Palestinian Health Ministry in Ramallah said the four Palestinians were killed by Israeli forces.

Israel's Magen David Adom rescue services did not say who had killed the Israeli man. Palestinian health officials said they were treating four injured Palestinians, three in critical condition. Israel's rescue service said two injured Israelis were being airlifted out of the West Bank.

The Israeli military said in a statement that soldiers responded to a report of an attack on Israeli civilians hiking near the settlement of Havat Gilad, west of Nablus. It said it had imposed a "temporary cordon" around Nablus and the nearby Palestinian village of Tell.



More than a dozen gunshots can be heard in the footage, which is less than a minute long.

The military said the suspect was one of the people killed in the field. It did not respond to questions about why soldiers killed the

other men — all of whom were related — or how long after the original altercation the killings took place.

Later, army chief Eyal Zamir said he was sending more troops to the occupied West Bank, where soldiers have encircled Tell and the nearby city of Nablus. Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu also said Israel would "act forcefully" following the incident. (AP)

Bangladesh President Shahabuddin resigns

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA n Dhaka

Bangladesh President Mohammed Shahabuddin, a former ally of deposed prime minister Sheikh Hasina, resigned on Friday, two years ahead of the end of his tenure. "I am suffering from various health complications," the 76-year-old leader was quoted as saying by The Daily Star newspaper.

He was responding to a question about the reason for his resignation. A Bangabhaban — the president's house - spokesman said that Shahabuddin's representatives have left his office for the parliament carrying his resignation letter.

The resignation letter would be submitted to parliamentary Speaker Hafizuddin Ahmed, who would serve as Acting President in accordance with the Bangladesh Constitution until a new President is elected.

"I can't make any official comment on the resignation until the Speaker receives the letter," the spokesman said. His resignation



Mohammed Shahabuddin

comes amid speculations that Prime Minister Tarique Rahman's Government was uncomfortable with the largely titular head of the state, according to media reports.

A 1971 Liberation War veteran and former lower judiciary judge, Shahabuddin had taken the oath in April 2023 for a five-year term.

He was elected to the highest office by the previous parliament and is the only person still holding his constitutional position, long after the violent July-August 2024 student-led street protest that toppled Hasina's Awami League Government.

Guyana ferry death toll rises to 72 amid salvage effort



BERT WILKINSON n Georgetown

The confirmed death toll from the recent capsizing of a state ferry off Guyana's coast rose to 72, with more bodies recovered as a multinational team struggled to salvage the partially submerged vessel. Of the estimated 179 people aboard, 76 people were rescued. The Government has estimated that 100 may have died in the accident, which would make it the worst marine tragedy on record for the South American nation. Prime Minister Mark Phillips said late Thursday that crews have widened the search area and are determined to find all those who were aboard so loved ones can bury them with dignity. "The Government of Guyana continues to stand in solidarity with all those

affected during this difficult time and will ensure that every available resource is deployed until the operation is brought to a safe and dignified conclusion," he said.

The MV Barima departed the capital, Georgetown, on Saturday and was headed to Port Kaituma when it began taking on water and capsized in Atlantic waters off the Essequibo coast. Phillips said that the ferry was not insured, and that the Government is paying for the funeral and other related expenses.

Death toll rises as international crews try to salvage capsized ferry in Guyana Divers from countries including Brazil and Trinidad are trying to salvage the vessel, with officials saying they hope to inspect it for any possible damage that could shed light on what happened. (AP)

India to fund portal for United Nations for global ICT security

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA n United Nations

India has said it will fund a portal for the UN for global ICT security, which will bridge the capacity gap that continues to separate developed and developing States. India also said digital technology benefits can only be fully realised when accompanied by robust security and the capability to defend against emerging threats.

Scaled, demand-driven capacity-building for Information and Communications Technologies (ICTs) for the

Global South is both achievable and effective when pursued with sustained political will, India's Permanent Representative to the United Nations Ambassador Parvathaneni Harish said.

He was addressing the Plenary Session of the Global Mechanism on ICTs in the Context of International Security on Thursday when he also welcomed the establishment of a Dedicated Thematic Group on cyber capacity building.

The first substantive plenary meeting from July 20-24 of the UN's permanent cyber mechanism advanced plan for the



global cyber capacity-building system with member states discussing topics, including funding, implementation and

fellowships for women.

"It is with particular happiness that my delegation recalls that the proposal for a

dedicated Global ICT Security Cooperation and Capacity-Building Portal was originally an Indian initiative, first tabled in 2022," Parvathaneni said.

"We are pleased to announce today that, having seen this idea through years of deliberation to consensus and eventual adoption, India will be providing the entire funding towards the operationalisation of this Portal as a Portal of the United Nations so that concrete, tangible action can finally follow years of discussion," he said.

India's support will help enable the technical estab-

lishment of the Portal and its maintenance, ensuring that the platform envisaged, comprising a repository of resources, a capacity-building calendar, a needs-based catalogue of opportunities and an interactive discussion board, can move from design to reality, he said.

CERT India will undertake the technical consultancy work required for the Portal's testing and infrastructure development, he announced. CERT-In is India's national nodal agency for responding to computer security incidents as and when they happen.

Deposed Türkiye's Opposition leader forms new party

ASSOCIATED PRESS n Ankara

The deposed leader of Türkiye's main Opposition party on Friday formed a new political party to challenge President Recep Tayyip Erdogan, months after he was removed from his post by a court order that his supporters slammed as a political move to weaken the Opposition.

Ozgur Ozel and 90 other legislators formally resigned from the Republican People's Party, or CHP, and then registered the new political party — named the "New Party" — with the Interior Ministry.

"May it be auspicious for our homeland, our nation, and our party," Ozel said in a video posted on X, showing him signing a document formalising his resignation from the CHP, Türkiye's oldest political party.

In May, a court of appeal annulled a 2023 party congress vote that appointed Ozel as CHP chair. The court decision, which cited alleged irregularities, reinstated the unpopular Kemal Kilicdaroglu as leader. Ozel's ouster sparked outrage among many CHP supporters.

Ozel, 51, had succeeded the 77-year-old Kilicdaroglu after



Ozgur Ozel

13 years of what many analysts described as ineffective Opposition to Erdogan.

Ozel's supporters view his ouster as part of a wider crackdown on the opposition. In the past two years, hundreds of elected mayors and other officials from CHP-run municipalities have been detained as part of criminal investigations, mostly into alleged corruption.

They include Ekrem Imamoglu, the mayor of Istanbul, who is widely considered the strongest potential challenger to Erdogan.

Imamoglu, who represents the CHP, has been imprisoned since March last year and faces criminal cases that could result in decades-long sentences.

German Chancellor Friedrich Merz reshuffles Cabinet

GEIR MOULSON n Berlin

German Chancellor Friedrich Merz reshuffled top posts on Friday as he tries to boost the fortunes of his deeply unpopular Government ahead of regional elections in which a far-right party could get its first state governor.

Merz took office less than 15 months ago with pledges to reform and turn around Germany's economy, Europe's biggest, after years of stagnation. But that economic turnaround has been slow to start. And the middle-of-the-road coalition of Merz's centre-right Union bloc and the centre-left Social Democrats, two traditional rivals, has yet to persuade voters that it can produce results.

That has resulted in Merz's popularity sinking to rock-bottom levels,



German Chancellor Friedrich Merz

while the far-right Alternative for Germany, or AfD, has gained support on the back of widespread discontent.

Merz took the opportunity to make a series of changes after a senior ally quit as the leader of his party's parliamentary group over personal conduct that undermined his credibility. Merz plans to put his chief of staff, Thorsten Frei, in

that job. The German leader said Health Minister Nina Warken will take Frei's place at the chancellery, a post that is key to the smooth functioning of the Government. She will be the first woman to take that job. Another close ally, Carsten , the general secretary of Merz's Christian Democratic Union party, will become health minister.

Merz said there will be further Cabinet changes, but didn't offer details. He said those decisions will take "a few days yet, and perhaps more time." "The personnel changes follow a clear line," he said. "We want a Government that works with great vigour and pleasure and also represents the personal diversity of our society and politics. We are a reform Government and want to continue showing that." (AP)

Democrats to finalise their 2028 presidential nominating calendar

JOEY CAPPELLETTI/ MEG KINNARD n Washington

Democrats are poised to lock in the party's 2028 presidential nominating schedule on Friday, likely cementing a dramatic break from decades of tradition by keeping Iowa off the top of the calendar and elevating more racially diverse States.

Either South Carolina or Nevada is expected to go first, and each state has aggressively campaigned for the coveted spot.

The decision by the Democratic National Committee's Rules and



Bylaws Committee will need to be approved by the full organization, which is scheduled to meet in August. The overhaul reflects

Democrats' effort to give greater influence to states that better mirror the party's diverse coalition, particularly Black and Latino voters,

after years of a calendar led by Iowa and New Hampshire, two states with overwhelmingly white electorates. "I think that it is good that we don't take the order for granted, and just copy and paste it every cycle," said New York Rep. Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez, a progressive considered a potential 2028 candidate.

The decision will also shape the opening stage of what is expected to be a crowded Democratic presidential primary. Without an incumbent or clear frontrunner, the states that vote first could once again play an out-

sized role in determining which candidates gain momentum, attract donors and emerge as viable contenders. Republicans still need to do their calendar. They're expected to stick with their traditional early-state lineup led off by Iowa and New Hampshire.

President Joe Biden successfully pushed to move South Carolina to the front of Democrats' 2024 calendar after the state revived his struggling 2020 presidential campaign. South Carolina has long been the first Southern contest and has served as a key test of candi-

dates' support among Black voters. But with Democrats now preparing for a wide-open presidential primary, the fight over the calendar has become more contentious.

In May, Democratic leaders in a handful of southern states lobbied for South Carolina to reprise its role as the party's first-in-the-nation contest holder, arguing in a letter to the DNC that the state best represents the initial playing field for presidential candidates to build the coalitions needed to win and serves as "a moral and political compass for our party and our nation." (AP)

Murmu urges Romanian to participate in India's growth

ASHWINI SHRIVASTAVA n Bucharest

President Droupadi Murmu on Friday asked Romanian companies to participate actively in India's growth story, citing significant untapped potential in economic partnership between the two countries.

Addressing the India-Romania Business Forum, she said India is today one of the world's fastest-growing major economies.

"Our economic growth is driven by sound macroeconomic fundamentals, a vibrant entrepreneurial ecosystem, a large and skilled workforce, and sustained commitment to reforms," Murmu said.

India is undergoing a remarkable transformation, emerging as a global leader



President Droupadi Murmu paid tribute at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier, at Bucharest, Romania. The monument embodies Romania's gratitude to its fallen soldiers and is a national symbol of patriotism, unity and peace

in technology, innovation, and sustainable development and experiencing significant success in sectors like renewable energy, digital technology, information technology, telecom, auto and auto-components, pharma and biotechnology, space and fintech, the President said. Romania, with its strategic location at the crossroads of Europe, highly skilled human resources, advanced industrial capabilities and strong integration with the European Union, remains a natural and valuable partner for India, she said.

Romania serves not only as an important destination for investment but also as a gateway to the wider European market, Murmu said. "There is significant untapped potential in our economic partnership.

Bilateral trade has expanded steadily over the years, but it remains well below its true potential," the President said.

Indian companies are exploring Romania as a strategic entry point to the European market, while Romanian businesses can explore new opportunities in India, she said.

"I am confident that our business communities will seize these emerging opportunities and transform them into successful commercial partnerships.

I also encourage Romanian companies to participate actively in India's growth story," Murmu said. She said our businesses can build resilient supply chains, generate employment, promote innovation and create sustainable prosperity for our peoples. (PTI)

Canada ready to respond if Trump's new tariffs go into affect: Carney

JIM MORRIS n Vancouver

Prime Minister Mark Carney said that Canada is intensifying negotiations with the United States to reach a comprehensive trade deal but is prepared to respond should President Donald Trump's threat of 50 per cent tariffs on Canadian goods come into effect.

The new tariffs, announced by Trump on Monday, are scheduled to come into effect Aug 19. "If these tariffs, or other measures come into force, there's a full range of things that we can do in that regard," Carney said after meeting with Canada's premiers and territorial leaders in Charlestown, Prince Edward Island.

Carney said "everything's on the table" if an agreement can't be reached before the tariffs kick in. "We don't need to respond in advance," he said. "In fact, I think it would be counterproductive at this stage to respond in advance." The new tariffs cover a wide range of goods, including honey, liquor, cement, dairy products, some wood



products, hockey sticks and other items. They exclude energy products, potash, fish and critical minerals, but would include goods previously protected from import taxes by the United States-Mexico-Canada Agreement, or USMCA.

That 2020 trade pact was not renewed by the US, triggering a new set of negotiations that could run until 2036. (AP)

PROSPECT



Former CAG Vinod Rai unveiling a coffee table book titled 'Vinod Rai, Essence and Times' which is a collection of photos, stories of the bureaucratic journey as well as his early life authored by former spokesperson of CAG BS Chauhan.

PIONEER PHOTO

Flipkart partners with India Post for parcel delivery

E-commerce firm Flipkart on Friday said it has partnered with the Department of Posts for the delivery of parcels to consumers through India Post.

Through this partnership, Flipkart will gain access to the Department of Posts' vast network of over 1.6 lakh post offices. This will enable wider market reach, improved delivery efficiency and enhanced serviceability, particularly in remote and rural locations, the e-commerce platform said in a statement. "Under the agreement, the Department of Posts will provide last-mile delivery services for Flipkart shipments across India," the statement said.

As part of the collaboration, Flipkart will utilise India Post's extensive network for parcel delivery services across urban, semi-urban and rural areas, including remote and underserved regions.

(PNS)

Adani Group says no plans to launch an airline

Adani Group on Friday denied media reports and market speculation that it is planning to enter the airline business, calling the claims "entirely baseless and factually incorrect."

"We would like to categorically deny the recent media reports and market speculation suggesting that Adani Enterprises is planning to launch an airline. These reports are entirely baseless and factually incorrect," an Adani Enterprises spokesperson said.

The spokesperson added that Adani Enterprises is not evaluating any proposal to enter the airline business.

(PNS)

SAIL declares financial results for Q1 FY27

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE
n New Delhi

The Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL) has declared its financial results on Friday for the quarter ending 30th June, 2026.

The company reported strong profitability in Q1FY27, with net profit rising by over 138 per cent compared to the corresponding period last year (CPLY). During Q1FY27, SAIL moderated volumes compared to CPLY by advancing certain scheduled repairs and maintenance during the quarter, a step necessitated by geopolitical volatility that disrupted the supply chain across the globe. This forward looking & planned interven-



tion is expected to support greater production stability and improved performance in the coming quarters.

Commenting on the results of the first quarter of the current financial year,

Chairman & Managing Director, SAIL, Dr Ashok Kumar Panda said, "Amid global uncertainties, the domestic steel industry demonstrated resilience backed by sustained demand

PERFORMANCE OF Q1 OF FY27 AT A GLANCE				
Particulars	Unit	Q1 25-26	Q4 25-26	Q1 26-27
Crude steel production	Million Tonnes	4.85	5.08	4.76
Sales volume	Million Tonnes	4.55	5.32	4.16
Revenue from operations	` Crore	25,921	30,813	26,246
Earnings before interest, tax, depreciation and amortization (EBITDA)	` Crore	2,925	4,762	4,356
Profit before exceptional items and tax	` Crore	890	2,653	2,303
Exceptional items	` Crore	0	(330)	(144)
Profit before tax (PBT)	` Crore	890	2,324	2,159
Profit after tax (PAT)	` Crore	685	1,680	1,636

in domestic steel consumption. SAIL, through enhanced operational efficiencies, prudent cost management and focused marketing initia-

tives, has delivered a significantly profitable first quarter in FY27. The company remains confident of leveraging robust manufacturing

capabilities and continues to strengthen performance while capitalising on the sustained domestic steel demand."

Inaugural Assam Premier League set to begin on August 1 with 8 teams in fray

TONY DAS
n Guwahati

The stage is set for the inaugural season of the Assam Premier League (APL), with eight teams preparing to battle for the coveted title across a packed 23-day cricketing calendar from August 1 to 23, 2026.

The tournament will get underway on August 1, with Charaideo Sunrisers taking on Barpeta Braves in the opening encounter at 2:00 pm. The opening day double-header will then see Tezpur Titans face Dibrugarh Warriors at 7:00 pm.

Season 1 will feature 43 matches, including 40 league-stage encounters, two semi-finals and the grand finale. Each team will face every other side once during the league stage, along with three reverse fixtures, setting up several intriguing rematches and potential rivalries as the race for the top four intensifies. The opening weekend will continue with another exciting double-header on August 2, as Barak Legends take on Nagaon Rangers before Guwahati Royals begin their campaign against Jorhat Stallions in the evening fixture.

Among the matches to watch out for will be the battle between Dibrugarh Warriors and Guwahati Royals, with the two sides meeting twice, first under lights on August 10 and again



on August 18. Charaideo Sunrisers and Guwahati Royals will also face off twice, on August 11 and August 19, setting the stage for another potentially compelling rivalry.

The schedule also throws up a number of repeat contests that could develop into marquee rivalries during the inaugural season. Tezpur Titans and Guwahati Royals meet on August 8 before renewing their rivalry on August 15, while Dibrugarh Warriors and Jorhat Stallions clash on the same two weekends, on August 8 and August 16. Barpeta Braves and Nagaon Rangers will face each other on August 7 and August 16, while Charaideo Sunrisers and Nagaon Rangers meet on August 9 and again on August 17.

The Barpeta Braves-Barak Legends contest will also get a second chapter, with fixtures scheduled for August 9 and August 17.

The final day of the league stage on August 20 could

prove decisive in determining the semi-final line-up, with Tezpur Titans taking on Barak Legends at 2:00 pm before Dibrugarh Warriors face Nagaon Rangers in the final league encounter at 7:00 pm.

The top four teams at the conclusion of the league stage will progress to the semi-finals on August 21. The second and third-placed teams will meet in the first semi-final at 2:00 pm, while the table-toppers will face the fourth-placed side in the second semi-final at 7:00 pm.

Following a break day on August 22, the inaugural Assam Premier League champions will be crowned on Sunday, August 23, with the grand finale scheduled for 7:00 pm. With eight teams representing different parts of Assam and a schedule featuring several repeat match-ups, the inaugural season is poised to create new cricketing rivalries while offering players a competitive platform to showcase their talent.

REC LTD Q1 FY27 profit jumps 23%, declares `4.25 interim dividend per share

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE
n New Delhi

The Board of Directors of REC Limited on Friday approved the standalone and consolidated financial results for the quarter ended June 30, 2026. REC reported a net profit of `4,149 crore for Q1 FY27, up 23 per cent from `3,362 crore in Q4 FY26. Net interest income stood at `5,212 crore compared to `4,961 crore in the previous quarter, registering a growth of 5 per cent.

Despite a dynamic operating environment, the company sustained a healthy net interest margin of 3.34 per cent, reflecting the strength of its lending portfolio and disciplined financial management. REC delivered an annualised earnings per share of `63.04 for the quarter ended June 30, 2026.

REC's standalone loan book stood at `5.90 lakh crore as on June 30, 2026, the largest for any CPSU-NBFC in India. Net worth grew 15 per cent year-on-year to `91,836 crore as on June 30, 2026, aided by growth in profits. The renewable energy portfolio continued to witness robust traction and grew to `78,596 crore, constituting 13.32 per cent of the overall loan composition. This reinforces REC's commitment to fostering sustainable infrastructure development and accelerat-



ing the growth of green energy in India. The infrastructure and logistics portfolio grew to `59,289 crore, accounting for over 10 per cent of overall loan assets.

Driven by sustained initiatives to improve asset quality, the company reduced its Stage-3 loan assets to total loan portfolio ratio to 0.11 per cent. The Capital Adequacy Ratio stood at 23.06 per cent as on June 30, 2026, against the regulatory minimum of 15 per cent mandated by RBI, indicating ample opportunity to support future growth. In line with its consistent dividend distribution track record, the Board of Directors declared the First Interim Dividend of `4.25 per equity share of face value `10 each.

The strengthening fundamentals of the Indian power sector have contributed to improved financial position of power utilities, resulting in stronger credit profiles and, consequently, lower provisioning requirements. Reflecting its customer-

centric approach, REC proactively shared these benefits with borrowers by rationalising lending rates, resulting in a yield of 9.55 per cent in Q1 FY 2026-27.

The company was recognised with the 'NBFC of the Year' Award at the 3rd Annual Bharat NBFC & FinTech Summit & Awards 2026 and the 'AI & GenAI Adoption Excellence Award' at the 2nd Bharat PSU Manthan & Excellence Awards 2026, underscoring its strong business performance, digital innovation, and leadership in leveraging advanced technologies.

REC Limited said it is strategically broadening its business footprint through targeted investments in conventional power, renewable energy and infrastructure & logistics development in the country. The company also continues to be a strategic partner to the Government of India in implementing government programmes, policy and reforms and is steadily fostering long-term growth.

Delhi Registrar restores members' rights over stilt parking in Dwarka Housing Society

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE
n New Delhi

The Registrar of Cooperative Societies (RCS), Delhi, has set aside resolutions passed by Shakti Cooperative Group Housing Society Ltd, Dwarka, declaring them illegal and unenforceable insofar as they sought to extinguish members' vested rights over stilt parking spaces.

In its order dated July 7, 2026, the RCS held that stilt parking spaces allotted to members between 2000-2003, after payment of approximately `77,000 per slot, are transferable and inheritable along with the flats.

The dispute arose from resolutions adopted in the

Society's Annual General Body Meetings of 2019 and 2020, which mandated that stilt parking be treated as part of the common areas and required surrender of such spaces upon transfer of flats. Members led by Dr Aruna challenged these resolutions, contending that stilt parking had been separately allotted for consideration nearly two decades earlier.

RCS Krishna Kumar Singh (IAS) observed that the Society had collected separate payments, issued receipts and allotment letters, and permitted exclusive use of stilt parking for over 20 years. "Rights which have crystallised through contractual allotment, payment of consideration and long-

standing possession acquire a vested character and cannot subsequently be divested by a mere resolution of the General Body," said the order.

The RCS relied on the principles laid down in the Delhi High Court's ruling in Vijay Gupta vs Nav Nirman CGHS Ltd, which held that once a cooperative society has allotted parking spaces for consideration and such allotments have remained acted upon over a long period, the society cannot subsequently divest members of their accrued rights by passing a resolution. The RCS further clarified that reliance on the Supreme Court's judgement in Dr GN Khajuria vs DDA was misplaced, as the factual and

legal context was distinguishable. The order directs Shakti CGHS Ltd to restore original stilt parking allotments within 15 days; recognise such allotments in all future transfers, succession, or membership changes; and avoid any further action inconsistent with the Delhi Cooperative Societies Act, 2003 and Rules, 2007. The complaint was accordingly allowed, providing relief to members who had contested the society's attempt to redefine their property rights.

The decision underscores that cooperative governance must remain fair, reasonable, and consistent with statutory principles and cannot override vested contractual rights.

Ujjivan SFB to launch the third edition of its Rath Yatra flagship campaign

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE
n Bhubaneswar

Ujjivan Small Finance Bank Limited (Ujjivan SFB) is set to launch the 3rd edition of its Rath Yatra flagship campaign, called 'Bhakti Ra Dori', across Odisha from 20th to 24th July.

This activity is an experiential activation where participants pull a virtual chariot, using the sacred journey of a 'Rath Yatra' experience, as a metaphor for purpose, direction and financial progress.

Ujjivan SFB aims to celebrate Odisha's rich cultural heritage while reinforcing its commitment to empower-



ing aspirations, fostering financial inclusion and build-

ing deeper connections with local communities. The five-

day activation will be hosted across six Ujjivan SFB branches in Odisha.

Commenting on the initiative, Lakshman Velayutham, Chief Marketing Officer, Ujjivan Small Finance Bank, said, "The response to last year's Mann Ki Rath was genuinely heartening. When you meet customers in a space they care about, the connections go far beyond a transaction. This year, we have woven technology into the cultural realm to make it more personal. We want to celebrate Rath Yatra alongside our customers and communities in Odisha, with a renewed sense of faith to realise one's aspirations."

DAILY SUDOKU

DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★★★★

HOW TO SOLVE IT

Sudoku is a logic puzzle where you fill a 9×9 grid so that numbers 1 to 9 appear once in every row, column, and 3×3 box, using elimination and logical deduction—no maths involved.

SOLUTION (24.7.26)

6	1	7	4	3	2	8	5	9
5	2	3	6	8	9	7	1	4
4	9	8	1	7	5	2	6	3
8	7	5	9	4	6	1	3	2
2	4	6	8	1	3	9	7	5
1	3	9	5	2	7	4	8	6
3	8	4	2	6	1	5	9	7
9	6	2	7	5	8	3	4	1
7	5	1	3	9	4	6	2	8

DOUBLE CROSSWORD

SATURDAY | JULY 25, 2026

ACROSS

1 Studious exterior of certain males (5)

6 Rod or Kathy, perhaps (5)

9 Reg Cole as an artist (2,5)

10 She is in time (5)

11 Dance with an eccentric bachelor (5)

12 Some artists can make music with it (5)

13 Half the guides in Pennsylvania can't fly! (7)

15 Little chap in a horse box (3)

17 The hard stuff (4)

18 In the red, you want a price cut and a pay increase (6)

19 Where fruit's concerned, loses out (5)

20 Agreement not to fast during an

DOWN

2 Easter puzzle? (6)

3 Deigns to change one's intention (6)

4 Like a fox's grisly end? (3)

5 Bear disaster at Birkenhead (5)

6 Bad situations bringing superficial damage (7)

7 Travel erratically out to the right (4)

8 Tales of a fabulous fellow (6)

12 Brainless as Billy? (5)

13 People who made pictures without a bit of pleasure (5)

14 Explosive part detonated, as is well known (5)

15 Cross this out, roughly, in part (5)

16 Can it help keep one's chest a bit warm in bed? (5)

18 Rhodesian name? (5)

19 One in a bottle of preventive medicine (7)

21 Right behind in support (6)

22 An intriguing thing to do (6)

23 It's of signal usefulness in the loft, say (6)

25 It's usually held to be transverse (5)

26 Transaction taking place in Greater Manchester (4)

28 A shot at goal, perhaps (3)

27 Leather parts remade? (5)

28 With some warmth, soft-heartedly tied in a knot (5)

29 Not the right member to describe the bowling (4,3)

30 It's gold coloured, you can tell! (5)

31 Cries of "Sell out!" at the end of the day (5)

SOLUTION (24.7.26)

ACROSS	27, Drilled	DOWN	24, Drawing
8, In-a word	30, D-re-ams	1, Ann(U)als	26, Time sharer
9, Well spent	31, Follow	2, Sweeping	28, Collector
13, Leave	32, Cases	3, Brings round	29, Alter-ed
14, Notes	35, Dates	4, Jet setter	30, De-D-uce
15, Im-it-ate	36, Sol-V-e	5, Sleight	32, Cut-backs
16, Past-I-ves	37, Not-iced	6, Spring roll	10, Si-opes
17, Alitch	39, C-or-sage	7, Annals(s)	33, Sed-a-te
18, Get-up	41, Clear	10, Si-opes	34, Ass-erts
20, Shrug	42, A-part	11, Str-a-t-s	38, C-hains
22, Out-set	43, Object-i-on	12, Temper	40, Ruby
23, Bowler	44, Cor-king	19, Tellers	
25, L-ist-ing		21, Rai-me-nt	

BRIEFLY

Volpato has tested positive for cocaine, says Police



Cristian Volpato, who represented Australia at the World Cup, has allegedly tested positive for cocaine and also for speeding, New South Wales state police said Friday.

They said the the 22-year-old Volpato, who switched allegiances from Italy to Australia before the World Cup, was allegedly clocked at 50 kilometers per hour (30 miles per hour) over the designated speed limit when police stopped him on Sydney's Anzac Bridge early Friday morning.

He was subjected to a roadside drug test which returned a positive result for cocaine, police said in a statement on Friday.

Volpato made three appearances for the Socceroos at the World Cup.

(AP)

British Open winner Ryan arrives back in New Zealand



Ryan Fox arrived back in New Zealand on Friday after carrying the British Open championship -winner's claret jug from one side of the world to the other, hankering for some sleep and a gourmet pie.

Fox was embraced at Auckland airport by his father, former All Blacks rugby player Grant Fox, as he arrived with his wife Anneke and two children. Fox birdied the final hole at Royal Birkdale last Sunday for his first major win.

"It's good to be back," he said.

A few hours later, media found the 39-year-old Fox at his local bakery, enjoying his favorite steak, bacon, jam and cheese pie. He hopes in coming days to able to show off his trophy to New Zealand, to get in some fishing and maybe a round of golf.

But first, sleep. Fox has had a hectic schedule of travel and interviews since his win.

(AP)

Glasgow 2026 gives CWG a fresh start

APARAJITA UPADHYAY n Glasgow

The OVO Hydro burst into a kaleidoscope of music, colour and Scottish pageantry on Thursday as the 23rd Commonwealth Games opened with an energetic indoor spectacle, celebrating Glasgow's heritage while signalling a fresh, more sustainable future for the Commonwealth movement.

King Charles III read aloud the message he had placed into the King's Baton at Buckingham Palace in March last year, which had since travelled through all 74 Commonwealth member nations during a 500-day global relay.

"It is my pleasure to declare the Games Open," King Charles III said before speaking on the theme of gathering and connecting for a common future with hope.

The British Monarch said the Baton had carried an additional message urging efforts to rid oceans and waterways of plastic pollution, "which can impact on human health."

"For these Games, the Relay has carried another message â€



to help remove the plastic pollution that harms our oceans and waterways, and can impact on human health.

"Addressing plastic pollution

complements the immense global efforts required to protect thirty per cent of the world's ocean by 2030.

"Caring for the ocean's natural capital ensures our communities and businesses can continue to thrive and vital global food resources can be enhanced through the establishment of marine reserves and no-take zones, to

restore threatened marine ecosystems and diminished fish stocks."

The ceremony blended traditional Gaelic heritage with contemporary pop, rap, and electronic performance, drawing heavily on the creative identity of a city recognised as a UNESCO City of Music.

Moving away from expansive open-air stadium shows, organisers staged the opening ceremony entirely within the 14,300-capacity indoor bowl, a first in Commonwealth Games history.

In another first, athletes from the 74 nations paraded into the arena at the very beginning of the show

rather than at the the end. The Indian contingent was led by Olympic medallists Mirabai Chanu and Lovlina Borgohain.

With the male athletes dressed in navy blue suits and the female participants in sarees and blazers, the Indian contingent entered to a huge cheer from the audience.

As the 74 batons were planted into a 200-square-metre living stage garden featuring native Scottish flora, spotlit pipers encircled the perimeter to lead a rendition of "Flower of Scotland," providing one of the evening's central traditional moments. (PTI)

Glasgow CWG make history with first-ever braille design medals

APARAJITA UPADHYAY n Glasgow

When medals are draped around the necks of Commonwealth Games podium finishers here, some winners would notice something unusual beneath their fingertips.

For the first time in the Games' history, the medals feature braille and tactile elements, making them accessible to visually impaired athletes. The move ties in with Glasgow 2026's emphasis on inclusion, reflected in a record 47 gold medals across six Para sports — the biggest Para programme at a Commonwealth Games.

Overall, 215 gold medals will be on offer across 10 sports and six Para sports.

While every host city puts its own stamp on the medals, Glasgow's design is a departure from the familiar circular shape. The medals are fashioned as a Reuleaux triangle, inspired by the city's coat of arms.

The patterns on the surface are drawn from the Finnieston Crane, one of Glasgow's best-known landmarks and a reminder of its shipbuilding past. The textured finish is inspired by tartan, a symbol closely associated with Scotland, while the three levels



on the medal represent the three steps of the podium.

The medal was designed by award-winning Militsa Milenkova, a Bulgarian-born artist in residence at the Glasgow School of Art. Her design was chosen from entries submitted by artists from the school's Silversmithing and Jewellery programme.

"I wanted the medal to be a stand-out edition of the Commonwealth Games medals," Milenkova said.

"When I was thinking about the design, I wanted to try and fit Glasgow into one shape. I was naturally drawn to the symbol of the city — the coat of arms. That's where I took the distinctive shape from." (PTI)

Lewis Hamilton looks for a chance to pressure Antonelli

JAMES ELLINGWORTHAP
n Mogyorod (Hungary)

Lewis Hamilton has a chance to pile pressure on Kimi Antonelli and Mercedes as the Formula 1 race heads to Hungary.

Hamilton has won the Hungarian Grand Prix eight times, making it his most successful event besides his

home British Grand Prix. It's a track where cornering ability, not raw power, tends to make the difference, which could suit his Ferrari.

"I think we've got a car that can compete. Mercedes is still the car to beat, and they won't be easy to beat this weekend, but I do think we've made subtle progress. Hopefully we can be fighting with them this weekend," Hamilton said on Thursday. It's the last race before F1's annual mid-season break, and the next race won't be until the Dutch Grand Prix on Aug. 23.

One Mercedes driver leads, the other is under pressure. "Still a lot of work to do, still a mountain to climb in the second half of the season, but I'm more focused than ever and really believe that we can fight," Hamilton said.

(AP)

Fernando Alonso links F1 future to better driving experience

ASSOCIATED PRESS
n Mogyorod (Hungary)

Fernando Alonso has suggested his future in Formula 1 could depend on whether the cars become more enjoyable to drive.

Alonso and Aston Martin have struggled with a slow and unreliable car, the first produced with car design great Adrian Newey in charge. Alonso scored the team's only point so far this season at the Monaco Grand Prix.

The two-time F1 champion turns 45 next week and signed what was described as a "multiyear" extension in 2024. He confirmed he still has a contract for 2027 with Aston Martin, "so I'm not moving."

"For me, I'm relaxed. As I've said many times, I'm thinking. I need to know what I do next year and in the years to come. I feel fresh, I feel motivated, I feel fast, but I need to



enjoy also what I do," Alonso said ahead of the Hungarian Grand Prix.

Alonso was sharply critical of the last two races in Britain and Belgium, where the cars ran out of battery power on the long straights.

"I think it's not fun to watch, it's not fun to drive, and we've been

repeating the same thing every single Grand Prix," he said. "It's not the same adrenaline that I used to have driving a Formula 1 car. That's something that I need to put on the table. It's not a problem with the competitiveness of the team. It's just a problem of whether Formula

1 gives me the adrenaline that I need to live."

Aston Martin is bringing a major package of upgrades to its car for the Hungarian Grand Prix. An engine upgrade from supplier Honda is expected later, but Hungary's relatively slow and twisty track could make up for the Aston Martin's lack of power. Alonso said he still believed Newey and Honda could deliver a world-beating car and engine combination given time.

"I think I have a pretty clear picture of the team, that we will fix all the problems. They take time, but I have no doubts, zero doubts, that Adrian will provide the best car on the grid sooner or later," he said.

"I would like to see the first step with this package... and I think there's going to be more to come next year, that's for sure, and in the years to come. On the power unit, I have no doubts as well."

Formula 1 parent company agrees to \$3M Las Vegas GP settlement

MARK ANDERSONAP
n Las Vegas

Formula 1 parent company Liberty Media, which also promotes the Las Vegas Grand Prix, has agreed to a settlement of about \$3 million to end a class-action lawsuit brought by spectators regarding the inaugural 2023 race.

The opening-night practice session on November 16, 2023, was halted after nine minutes when Carlos Sainz Jr drove over a water valve cover that severely damaged his Ferrari. Practice didn't resume until the early morning hours of November 17, ending at about 4 am local time.

Fans were removed from



the viewing areas before the 90-minute session took place.

Those who had tickets for only that practice session or bought three-night tickets are eligible for compensation under the settlement. Claims

must be filed by August 27.

Liberty Media and the Las Vegas Grand Prix did not admit fault under the settlement. A final approval hearing is scheduled for November 4 at US District Court of Nevada. (AP)

Joseph declined selection for Pakistan Tests, says Sammy

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA n Tarouba

West Indies head coach Darren Sammy has claimed that pacer Alzarri Joseph declined selection for the two Test home series against Pakistan beginning on Saturday. While announcing the squad for the series, Cricket West Indies said Joseph was unavailable due to personal reasons, Sammy divulged more details on the subject.

"Yeah, it is a big loss. Mr Joseph has declined selection. That's the reality of the situation," Sammy said at a press interaction ahead of the series opener.

"He was selected. I mean, he's now coming back from injury. And for reasons since, he has declined the selection. That is a decision that is way over my head. I leave that with the directors to come up with whatever solutions where contracted players get to decline selection," said the coach.

Joseph has played 42 Tests for



the West Indies, picking 130 wickets. He has played across formats for the regional team.

Despite Joseph's absence, Sammy remains confident of his side's bowling abilities. The attack includes Shamar Joseph, Kemar Roach, Jayden Seales and allrounders Justin Greaves and Keemo Paul. Spin options include Jomel Warrican, rookie Joshua Bishop and captain Roston Chase.



Spain coach De la Fuente says Argentina's conduct after World Cup final was unacceptable

GRAHAM DUNBARAP n Geneva

As FIFA investigates Argentina's conduct after the World Cup final, Spain coach Luis de la Fuente has described the incidents as "intolerable and unacceptable."

FIFA asked one of its disciplinary prosecutors Monday to report back on testy on-field confrontations after Spain's 1-0 win in extra time Sunday to dethrone the defending champion.

Argentina midfielder Leandro Paredes physically tangled with Spain players Eric Garcia and Gavi, and Spain captain Rodri was hit in the stomach as he ran past Argentina defender Nahuel Molina.

"It cannot be allowed," De la



Fuente told Spanish public broadcaster TVE on Thursday, adding he did not see the incidents at the time while "celebrating with other people."

"In any case, I find it intolerable and unaccept-

able from players of that caliber, whom I had been praising in the days before and who have a magnificent coach," the Spain coach said.

FIFA has given no details of the remit for its investigator, or if witness statements could be sought from

Spain players and staff. Argentina assistant coach Roberto Ayala apologised on Wednesday for his confrontation with Dani Olmo, which he described as a shove and not a punch.

Coach praises Spain's restraint: De la Fuente praised his players in the TVE interview for how they handled the situation at MetLife Stadium.

"I want to highlight our behavior in the face of that kind of aggression and provocation," the coach said. "Our players always kept their composure and behaved like true professionals." The Spain squad stood in a guard of honor for Argentina players walking to the podium to get their medals from US President Donald Trump. Minutes later, when Rodri lifted the trophy, most of the Argentina squad turned their backs on the ceremonial moment.

(AP)

On World IVF Day (July 25), Cloundnine Fertility has launched "Every Fertility Journey is Different—and Begins with Understanding" campaign that begins with the importance of personalised fertility care and understanding the unique concerns, challenges, and aspirations of every individual and couple seeking support. The campaign brings to life the many questions that often mark the beginning of a fertility journey—from concerns around irregular menstrual cycles and possible hormonal or ovulation-related challenges, to understanding the impact of male factor infertility, tubal factors, severe sperm-related concerns, or the need for fertility preservation. Each question represents a different fertility challenge, requiring an approach that is unique to the individual. Suresh Pandiyan, Chief Operating Officer, Cloundnine Group of Hospitals, said, "Fertility is deeply personal, and no two journeys are the same. The first step is not always treatment; it is understanding the individual's concerns, evaluating the underlying factors, and creating a pathway that is right for them. At Cloundnine Fertility, we believe in providing personalised care that combines clinical expertise with compassion, supporting couples at every step of their journey towards parenthood." As fertility conversations become more open and awareness around reproductive health continues to grow, the campaign aims to encourage individuals and couples to seek timely guidance, make informed decisions, and recognise that every fertility journey deserves a personalised approach.