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Samson-Sooryavanshi dilemma resurfaces as India eye 2-0 lead against West Indies



Trump targets Indian IT giants

US suspends Infosys, Tata, Wipro, HCL from green card programme

ASHOKE RAJ ■ New Delhi

The Trump administration has widened its crackdown on foreign-worker programmes, suspending major Indian IT companies, including Infosys, Tata, Wipro, and HCL, along with Cognizant and Capgemini, from the US programme employers use to sponsor skilled foreign workers for permanent residency.

US labor secretary Keith Sonderling said the Department of Labor was suspending the companies from the Permanent Labor Certification (PERM) programme, citing alleged misuse of the system. The department also suspended Microsoft and Adobe and said it would not process new or pending labour-certification applications from the affected companies.

The action matters for Indian technology professionals because PERM is a key step



THE DEPARTMENT OF LABOR WAS SUSPENDING THE COMPANIES FROM THE PERMANENT LABOR CERTIFICATION (PERM) PROGRAMME, CITING ALLEGED MISUSE OF THE SYSTEM

—US LABOR SECRETARY KEITH SONDERLING

in the employment-based green-card process. It is separate from the H-1B programme, but many foreign technology workers use H-1B

status for temporary employment before their employers seek permanent residency on their behalf.

Vice President JD Vance,

announcing the action, accused companies of abusing the immigration system and said the administration wanted US employers to prioritise American workers. Sonderling separately named Cognizant, Infosys, Tata, Wipro, HCL and Capgemini among the major IT outsourcing companies being suspended. The allegations have not been established in court.

GST Council eases norms, scraps arrest powers

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ New Delhi

The Goods and Services Tax (GST) Council on Thursday recommended several changes to ease compliance, reduce procedural burdens, and simplify the GST regime, while keeping the existing tax rate structure unchanged. Among the key decisions, the Council scrapped the arrest powers of tax officers and raised the threshold for prosecution to ₹5 crore from ₹1 crore.

It also recommended common standards for GST notices and proceedings and decided not to issue notices for monetary amounts of ₹10,000 or below. It will also withdraw pending notices below the threshold. The GST Council will implement the changes from April 1, 2027.

Announcing the decisions taken at the 57th meeting of the GST Council, Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman said it also decided to bring down the general penalty from ₹25,000 to ₹10,000. "GST Council today has recommended common standards for notices and proceedings and no notices below the prescribed monetary threshold of ₹10,000, including withdrawal of pending notices below the said threshold. We will not be issuing any notices for monetary thresholds of ₹10,000 or below. We will also withdraw pending notices below the said threshold. If it was



Union Minister for Finance and Corporate Affairs Nirmala Sitharaman during the 57th meeting of the Goods and Services Tax (GST) Council in New Delhi

THE POWER TO ARREST WILL BE REMOVED UNDER GST, AND THE PROSECUTION THRESHOLD WILL BE RAISED FROM ₹1 CRORE TO ₹5 CRORE —FINANCE MINISTER NIRMALA SITHARAMAN

issued, it will be withdrawn," said Sitharaman after the meeting.

Sitharaman said the power to arrest will be removed under GST, and the prosecution threshold will be raised from ₹1 crore to ₹5 crore.

The finance minister said the principle of trust drives the GST 2.0 process reform and is part of the

'Reform Express' under Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

A Committee of Officers, expected to submit its report within 3 months, will examine how the protect a genuine buyer who holds a proper invoice, has received the goods, and has paid his supplier in full.

The Council, comprising Union and state finance ministers, also recommended removing the minimum punishment. The Council also left the punishment, whether a fine, imprisonment, or both, to judicial discretion in each case. The Council also approved a simplified GST registration mechanism for small sellers operating through e-commerce platforms.

The ByStander



SC seeks stronger security, for women

RAJESH KUMAR ■ New Delhi

Giving top priority to the safety of women, especially after recent incidents of crimes against them in Delhi-NCR, the Supreme Court on Thursday issued a series of directions to the police and State Government to strengthen preventive measures, public transport security and surveillance.

Invoking the "Broken Windows" theory of policing while hearing the suo motu case it initiated over recent incidents of rape in Delhi



NCR, a bench of Justice JB Pardiwala and Justice K Vinod Chandran observed that a broken streetlight, a non-functional CCTV camera or an unattended complaint, though minor in isolation, together convey that public spaces are not being watched. The bench similarly noted that visible and unattended signs of civic neglect signal an absence of authority and create a haven for anti-social elements.

FULL REPORT ON >>> P8



Prime Minister Narendra Modi addresses the gathering during the inauguration of the 10th edition of the India Mobile Congress (IMC) 2026 in New Delhi

Digital India plugged welfare leakages: PM

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ New Delhi

Vowing to continue his fight against "wrong practices" for the good of people in need, Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Thursday said India's digital governance push has helped plug leakages in Government welfare schemes, with nearly ₹5 lakh crore saved from going into "wrong hands," thanks to direct benefit transfers.

Highlighting this achievement, he said nearly ₹50 lakh crore had been transferred directly to beneficiaries' bank accounts through the Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT), helping

ensure that Government aid reached its intended recipients.

Making these assertions at the inaugural session of the Indian Mobile Congress, the Prime Minister also called for a global framework to tackle cross-border cyber frauds and the growing threat of deep fakes.

He urged Governments, technology companies, telecom operators, and financial institutions to come together to prevent such frauds before they reach the people. He said India has gained considerable experience in tackling cyber frauds and is ready to share its learnings with the world.

Day 3: INDIA bloc takes protest to Rajghat

ABHINAV KUMAR JHA ■ New Delhi

Opposition MPs led by Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge and Lok Sabha Leader of Opposition Rahul Gandhi held a sit-in at Rajghat on Thursday, the third consecutive day of protests demanding the resignation of Chief Election Commissioner (CEC) Gyanesh Kumar over the Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of electoral rolls. Opposition leaders said the agitation would continue until Kumar steps down.

The day began with tight security around the Sansad Marg roundabout in central Delhi, where the MPs had been expected to gather. Delhi Police and central forces cordoned off approaches to the protest sites. The Congress had declared October 8 a "Black Day for Indian Democracy". General Secretary KC Venugopal directed State, district and block units to hold demonstrations. Protests were also reported in Patna, where RJD leader Tejashwi Yadav led an INDIA bloc march, and in Agartala.

Kharge hosted the MPs for lunch at Moets in Connaught Place, a day after a similar meeting at Sagar Ratna on Janpath. The MPs then boarded



Congress President Mallikarjun Kharge and party leader Rahul Gandhi about to board a bus towards Mahatma Gandhi's memorial at Rajghat for a peaceful protest in New Delhi

BJP ACCUSES PRIYANKA OF PUNCHING COP

New Delhi: As the Congress intensified its protest, the BJP on Thursday accused Rahul Gandhi of "inappropriately touching" a female constable and Priyanka Gandhi Vadra of "punching" a cop during their street protest, and claimed that the Congress leaders' actions were not consistent with their slogan of "smash the patriarchy".

The Congress was also trying to create "Nepal-and Bangladesh-like anarchy" in the country through its protests, as Rahul Gandhi is "desperate" to come to power, BJP spokesperson Pradeep Bhandari alleged.

Addressing a press conference at the BJP headquarters here, party spokesperson Sidharth Yadav accused Rahul and Priyanka of attacking police personnel during the protests. Yadav said the visuals being circulated were not of a protest but showed "the anarchy being spread in the national Capital" under the leadership of Rahul Gandhi and the Congress.

He alleged that Rahul "inappropriately touched" a woman police constable and claimed that Priyanka "punched a female police officer in the stomach".

buses for Rajghat, where thousands of supporters walked alongside. Among those present were Priyanka Gandhi Vadra, Venugopal, Vivek Tankha,

Manickam Tagore, Jothimani, Rajiv Shukla and Deepender Hooda. The MPs stayed at the memorial for about an hour before leaving.

Musk questions Ambani's clout, Centre hits back

PRAMOD KUMAR SINGH ■ New Delhi

World's richest businessman Elon Musk sharpened a public quarrel over satellite internet on Thursday by asking whether one of India's richest men decides who gets a licence. "Starlink is licenced in over 165 countries and has spent five years complying with every single law and requirement of the Government of India, so why still no licence? Is Ambani the real boss of India?" he wrote on X, replying to a post that accused the Government of protecting crony capitalists.

The line landed while the India Mobile Congress was underway in the Capital and the telecom ministry was still responding to an earlier accusation. On Wednesday, Musk had said Starlink was "being blocked by certain oligarchs to maintain their monopolistic chokehold on the Indian people." He added, "You can guess who they are... This is a crime against the people of India!" He named no firm then. The Thursday post removed the guesswork.

The Ministry of Communications rejected the charge. It said the authorisation framework for telecom and satellite services is "fair and non-discriminatory," and called any suggestion that the rules were being applied



selectively "baseless and misconceived." Three companies hold licences: Musk's Starlink, Reliance Jio's satellite venture and Bharti-backed Eutelsat OneWeb. None may sell service until security assessments and spectrum-related approvals are finished. Officials said those assessments are underway for all three licensees, and the companies remain "broadly at the same regulatory stage."

Minister of State for Communications Chandra Sekhar Pemmasani made the same point on the sidelines of the congress. The Department of Telecommunications has already issued licences and provisional spectrum, he said. What remains sits with the Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA). "As soon as it is cleared, they will get it. It has nothing to do with one company."

The dispute is not only about paperwork. Reliance Jio, Bharti Airtel and Vodafone Idea dominate India's mobile market.

From Darr to Dhanda, Nana Patekar's unforgettable screen legacy

RAHUL DATTA ■ New Delhi/Mumbai

"Darr sirf ek veham hai. Jo Darr gaya, samjho mar gaya," in the film *Prahaar* as a no-nonsense Army officer, and "Dhanda mein koi kisi ka Bhai nahin, koi kisi ka beta nahin," portraying ruthless underworld don Anna Seth in the film *Parinda*. Nana Patekar transcended the conventional grammar of Hindi film acting.

Endearing himself to cine-goers with his versatility in several other films, the 75-year-old actor passed away on Thursday morning following a cardiac arrest at

his home in Goa. He was later cremated in Pune with full State honours. Incidentally, Patekar also directed *Prahaar*.

Patekar did not confine himself to the make-believe world. He trained as a rifle shooter in his early 50s and competed at the national level. He also donned the Army uniform and spent more than two months with frontline troops during the Kargil War.

He was also a philanthropist who carried out social work through the NGO Naam Foundation and received acclaim for its work with farmers during a



Veteran actor Nana Patekar passed away on Thursday at the age of 75 at his residence in Dona Paula, Goa

drought in Maharashtra.

Away from films, the actor had a very different idea of what a good life looked

like. For years, his Pune farmhouse gave him a break from Mumbai and a chance to do something he gen-

uinely enjoyed: farming.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi expressed condolences and said the actor

gave the audience characters that will be remembered for generations.

Paying tributes, Modi



1951-2026

described Patekar as a *Krantiveer* (revolutionary) and said that through his film with the same name, the actor strongly attacked the evils prevalent in society. Incidentally, Patekar had played the lead role in the hugely successful film named *Krantiveer*.

"Few actors possessed the intensity, individuality and unmistakable presence that Shri Nana Patekar Ji had. He brought remarkable versatility and creativity to every role and gave us characters that will be remembered for generations," Modi said in a post on social media.

Classifieds

BEDKHALI NOTICE

I, Jaswinder Kaur, W/o late Natha Singh, R/o #998, Rajiv Colony, Sector 17, Panchkula, Haryana, Declare that my son, Rajinder Singh is out of my control. I disown him from my all moveable/ immoveable properties. Anybody dealing with him at his/her own risk.

We, Gurdayal, son of Yad Ram and Kailasho Devi, wife of Shri Gurdayal, residents of Valmiki Mohalla, village Nalvi, Tehsil Shahabad, District Kurukshetra, declare that our son Virendra Kumar from my movable and immovable properties anybody dealing with him own risk.

I, Mohinder Singh S/o Late Lal Singh R/o H.No 224, Street No. 12 C, Krishna Nagar, Amloh Road, Khanna {Ludhiana} declare that my son Amritpal Singh and His Wife Harpreet Kaur are out of my control. They are not looking after me and my wife. They have become disrespectful. I disown my son Amritpal Singh and His Wife Harpreet Kaur from my moveable and immovable properties. I and my any family member will not be responsible for their acts and conducts

I, Ashwani Kumar Arora, son of Shri Balram Das Arora, resident of House No. 191, Booth No. 120, Sector 8, Panchkula, Haryana, declare that my son Annol Arora is beyond my control. Therefore, I disinherit him from all my movable and immovable properties. I and my family will not be responsible for any financial, legal, or illegal actions committed against him before or after this date.

We, Sanju S/o Raju & Babli W/o Sanju # 1553, Sector-52, Chandigarh. our son Rahul and his wife Muskan are out of our control, we disown them from our all movable or immovable properties. anybody deal with them at their own risk.

We, Ashok Kumar Batra S/o Shri Sunil Kumar Batra and Sunita Rani W/o Ashok Kumar Batra R/o House No. 401/17, Char Marla Road, Shanti Nagar, Sonipat, declare that we have disowned and debarred our son, Rohit Batra, from all our movable and immovable properties. Any body deals with him at own risk.

We Jatinder Singh son of Jaspal Singh and Jaspreet Kaur wife of Jatinder Singh resident of House No. 507, Celebration Enclave, Opp-Bhullar Farm, Tarn Taran Road, Amritsar hereby inform that our daughter Japparneet Kaur is out of our control and has married Rakesh Kumar without our consent. We disinherit her from our movable and immovable property. Anybody dealing with them at their own risk. We and our family will not be responsible.

I, Shivani Mehta D/o Late Brij Kishore Sareen R/o A-196, Ranjit Avenue, Ajnala Road, Near Hartej Hospital, Amritsar have declare that my son Daksh Mehta is out of my control I disinherit him from my all movable and immovable properties anybody deal with him is his own risk and responsibility.

I, Kamlesh Devi W/o Late Kashmiri Lal R/o Ward No. 01, Village Basoli, Tehsil & District Una, Himachal Pradesh now at Village Landran, Mohali, Punjab declare that my son Dinesh Kumar and his wife Priya Devi and his son Dakash are out of my control. I disown them from all my moveable/immoveable properties. Anybody dealing with them will do so at their own risk.

I, Balbir Sharma S/o Dayala Ram Vill.Syonsar Tehsil Pehowa District Kurukshetra My daughter Vandana is out of my control I, disown him from all moveable and immovable properties. If anybody deals with him at their own risk.

I, Balwinder Kaur W/o Jarnail Singh R/o Village Malikpur, Tehsil Pehowa, District Kurukshetra, my son Hardeep Singh and daughter in law Kawaljeet Kaur wife of Hardeep Singh both are out of my control. I disown both of them from my movable and immovable property. They will be responsible for any unethical acts and transactions done by them in future. Anybody deals with them at his own risk. I or my family members will never be responsible for this.

I, Karnail Singh S/o Mota Singh Vill.Sandholi Tehsil Pehowa Distt Kurukshetra My Son Jagjeet Singh is out of my control. I disown them from all my moveable and immovable property If anybody deal with him at their own risk.

We, Jagir Singh S/o Gurbaksh Singh and Paramjeet Kaur W/o Jagir Singh R/o village Diwana, tehsil Pehowa district Kurukshetra our son Amrik Singh and his wife Navtej Kaur are out of our control We, disown him from all moveable and immovable properties. If anybody deals with him at their own risk.

I, Jaswinder Pal Singh S/o Harjinder Singh R/o VPO. Bootran, Distt. Jalandhar, Punjab declare that I am the son of Harjinder Singh and Rajinder Kaur and I am living separately. I break all my relations with them. I will not be responsible for any kind of transactions and good or bad deeds related to them, they will be responsible themselves. And I shall be responisble for all my transections. All Please Note.

We, Paramjit S/o Pritam Dass & Kashmir Kaur W/o Paramjit both R/o Village Bambian Wali, Distt. Jalandhar, Punjab declare that our son Ram Dutta & his wife Gurpreet Kaur are out of our control. We disinnherit them from our movable and immovable properties. We and our family shall not be held responsible for any of their acts deeds and things.

मैं अरुण कुमार पूत्र भारगीर लाल निवासी बाल्मीकि चौक फतेहाबाद हल्द्वीय बयान करता हूँ कि मेरी पत्नी मोनिका व मेरे दोनों अविवाहित बेटे साहिल व निखिल मेरे कहने सुनने से बाहर हैं। मैं तीनों को अपनी चल अचल सम्पत्ति से बेदखल करता हूँ। भविष्य में तीनों से लेनदेन करने वाला स्वयं जिम्मेदार होगी।

मैं नरेश पुत्र श्री जीतराम निवासी बनियानी तहसील कलानौर जिला रोहतक घोषणा करता हूँ कि मेरी पुत्री राखी मेरे कहने-सुनने से बाहर है। मैं राखी को अपनी चल-अचल संपत्ति से बेदखल करता हूँ। मेरा व मेरे परिवार का राखी से कोई वास्ता नहीं है। भविष्य में राखी अपने लेन-देन व अन्य कार्यों के लिए स्वयं जिम्मेवार होगी।

मैं शिवानी मेहता D/o Late Brij Kishore Sareen R/o A-196, Ranjit Avenue, Ajnala Road, Near Hartej Hospital, Amritsar have declare that my son Daksh Mehta is out of my control I disinherit him from my all movable and immovable properties anybody deal with him is his own risk and responsibility.

I, Kamlesh Devi W/o Late Kashmiri Lal R/o Ward No. 01, Village Basoli, Tehsil & District Una, Himachal Pradesh now at Village Landran, Mohali, Punjab declare that my son Dinesh Kumar and his wife Priya Devi and his son Dakash are out of my control. I disown them from all my moveable/immoveable properties. Anybody dealing with them will do so at their own risk.

I, No. 13755975N Ex Nk Sukhwinder Singh son of Late: Shri Ajmer Singh Resident of Vill: Neholka Po. Kurali Teh-Kharar Distt. SAS Nagar (Punjab) do hereby declare that name of my wife Smt. Kulbir Kaur and her date of birth 03 Apr 1975 in service documents and 20 Jan 1957 on my SPARSH PPO has erroneously been recorded. Her correct name is Kulvir Kaur and date of birth is 05 Apr 1976 as recorded on her Aadhar Card, PAN Card, Passport and revenue records. Please note.

I, Pooja Rani W/O Mr. Yudhvir Singh resident of Village Najo Chak, PO: Naurangpur, Tehsil & Distt Pathankot, Punjab declare that in my son's school record my name is wrongly entered as Pooja instead of Pooja Rani.

I, Service No 15346506H Rank hav Name Bamrotiya Narayan haja residing at Vill. Loej Distt. Junagadh (Gujrat) 362225 have changed my father name from Haja bha to Bamrotiya hajabhai hamirbhai vide Affidavit date 08.10.2026 before Magistrate Bathinda (PB).

I, Service No 15346506H Rank hav Name Bamrotiya Narayan haja residing at Vill. Loej Distt. Junagadh (Gujrat) 362225 have changed my Mother name from Jaitni Ben to Bamrotiya jethi hajabhai vide Affidavit date 08.10.2026 before

CHANGE OF NAME

Magistrate Bathinda (PB).

I, Vinod Kumar S/o Sh. Ramesh Lal Piplani H.No. 274 Sector-13, Extension Urban Estate, Karnal have changed my name from Vinod Kumar Piplani to Vinod Kumar.

I, Neha Attri W/o Parveen Kumar Attri R/o H.No.31, Housing Board, Near Distt Court, Bhiwani have changed my name from Neha to Neha Attri for all future purposes.

I, Balbinder Singh S/o Siri Ram R/o Bagh Mahanat Dhakki Road, Ward No. 2, V.P.O Hariana Distt. Hoshiarpur have changed my name to Balbinder Singh Riar. Concerned Note.

I Sumit Kumar S/o Babu Ram R/o #99 B Village bir Ghaggar Panchkula Chandimandir Cantt Panchkula Haryana 134107 that I have changed my minor son's name from first baby of Maya to Akshit.

I, No. 8038195X NK Raushan Kumar, S/o Umesh Bhagat Permanent resident of Village/Post Belkunda, District Vaishali, Bihar, and presently residing at Qtr. No. E3712, Sector E, Chandimandir Cantt, Panchkula, Haryana (c/o 56 APO, I have changed my minor daughter's name from Swety Malakar to Swety Saini.

I, Laksha S/o Shamshar R/o Near Bus Stand, Vilage Sarsod Tehsil Barwala, District Hisar, want to change my name from Laksha to Lakshay. I want to be known by Lakshay in the future.

I Babli Thapa w/o Service No: 5043693L EX-NK -Bal Bahadur Thapa Resident of Village-Raniya PO-Dhariwal Tehsil and Distt-Gurdaspur, Punjab, that I declare changed my name from Bably Thapa to Babli Thapa and 16/08/1969 to 12/06/1970 in my husband army record.

I Nimrat kaur bhullar w/o guriqbal singh R/o H. no 62A Ward no 5 Baba ishar singh nagar Moga have changed my name to Nimrat kaur.

I, Manish Kumar Singh S/o Sh. Maheshwar Singh, House No. 1197, Sector 45-B, Burail Chandigarh have changed my name from Manish Kumar Singh to Manish Kumar

I, Seema Rani, wife of Tarun Kumar and resident of House No. 250/13, Kalanaur Khurd, District Rohtak (Haryana), have changed my son's name from Devansh to Devansh Bhatia, his father's name from Tarun to Tarun Kumar, and my own name from Seema to Seema Rani. In the future, we should be known by these names.

I, Ashok legally father of No.15723738H Sigmnn Shukla Shrikant Ashok presently residing at Gothanpura, PO: Pimpalgaon, Pachora, Distt. Jalgaon, State- Maharashtra- 424203 declare That I have changed my name from Ashok to Ashok Dagadu Badgujar as per my Adhaar Card vide Affidavit No.IN-PB99015703686464Y dated 08.10.2026 before the Court of Bathinda.

I, Kavita D/o Shiv Sharma, House NO. 235/1, Kaimbwala Chandigarh have changed my name from Kavita to Kavita Sharma

I, Kavita W/o Teju, R/o Sante Majra Colony, Kharar Mohali Punjab have changed my name from Kavita to Silko.

I, Manju Kumar Jat D/O Ramotar Jy R/O Kabbir Mallik # 6366-B, Rajiv Vihar, Sector 13, Manimajra, Chandigarh have changed my name to Manju Kumari.

I, Sangeeta Garg W/o Sh. Shish Pal Garg # 851, Sector 25, Panchkula (Haryana) Declare that Sangeeta and Sangeeta Garg is one & same Person But my Correct name is Sangeeta Garg. Concerned Note.

I Simran W/o Mr. Harjeet Singh Sandhu R/o House No. 402, Vshranti City, Gazipur Road, Village Gazipur, Zirakpur SAS Nagar Mohali Punjab have changed my name after marriage from Simran to Simran Sandhu.

I, Archisha, D/o Pardeep Malik (residing at House No. 1727, Sector-18, Panipat)have changed my name from archisha to Archisha Malik for all future all perposes.

I, Ankit Kishor Singh S/o Kamal Kishore Singh R/o #3303, Sector 31-D, Chandigarh have changed my name from Ankit Kishor Singh to Ankit Kishore Singh vide Affidavit No. IN-CH64739350749251Y Dated 07.10.2026 before Notary, Distt. Court Chandigarh.

I, Gagandeep Singh S/o Satnam Singh R/o H NO. 549/10, Prem Nagar, Hardo Chhani Road, Gurdaspur (PB)-143521 have changed my name from GAGANDEEP SINGH to SINGH GAGANDEEP. In future SINGH is my surname and GAGANDEEP is my given name. Concerned note.

I, Baljit Singh S/o Gulzar Singh R/o Vill Riali Kalan tehsil Batala, Distt Gurdaspur have changed my name from Baljit Singh to Singh Baljit. In future Singh is my surname and Baljit is my given name.

I, Rajbir Kaur W/o Baljit Singh R/o Vill Riali Kalan tehsil Batala , Distt Gurdaspur have changed my name from Rajbir Kaur to Kaur Rajbir. In future Kaur is my surname and Rajbir is my given name.

I, Sukhjitt Singh S/O Baldev Singh R/O Vill. Surwind, P.O. Kaccha Pakka, Teh. Patti, Distt. Tarn Taran (Punjab) declare that Singh is my Surname and Sukhjitt is my Given Name. Concerned note.

I, Sushila W/o Suresh Kashyap R/o Gali No. 13, Surya Nagar, Hisar Haryana 125001 do hereby declare that I have changed the name of my minor son from Karn to Karan for future purpose.

I, Lakhwinder S/o. Vinod Kumar Resident of VPO Peedal, Tehsil Guhla District Kaithal Haryana have changed my name from Lakhwinder to Lakhwinder Kumar

I, Chajju Ram S/O Om Parkash R/O H.No 36, R-3 Huda Cheeka Tehsil Guhla District Kaithal Haryana have changed my name from Chajju Ram to Chhaju Ram.

I, Deva S/O Chet Ram R/O H.No 99 Kakrala Inayat tehsil Guhla district Kaithal Haryana have changed my name from Deva to Deba for all purposes.

I, Jogiya Ram, S/o Chanda Ram, resident of W.No. 5 Cheeka Tehsil Guhla District Kaithal Haryana, declare that I have changed my name from Jogia Ram to Jogiya Ram. This is for all future references.

I, Ujwal Singh S/o Santokh Singh R/o Vill Dhurian, PO Hussainpur Distt. Hoshiarpur declare that my surname is Singh and my given name is Ujwal. Concerned note.

I, Harjot Singh S/o Tarnjit Singh R/o Village Havelli, PO Mahilpur Tehsil Garhshanker Distt. Hoshiarpur Punjab declare that my name is Harjot Singh. My surname is Singh and my given name is Harjot. Concerned note.

I, Sakshi Mittal W/o Nitin Mittal, resident of House No. 2518, Sector 79, SAS Nagar, Mohali-160071, declare that I have changed my name from Sakshi Kansal to Sakshi Mittal.

I, Vishal Rana son of Sh. Jagdish Rana, resident of village Gazed, Post Office Doli, Tehsil Ramshehar, District Solan, Himachal Pradesh-174102 declare that I have changed my name from Vishal to Vishal Rana. All concerned Please may note.

I, Anomal Sharma S/O Late Vikrant Sharma R/O Flat No. 772, Tower No. 05, 2nd Floor, Palm Heights, (Dera Bassi), P.O. & Tehsil Dera Bassi, District Sas Nagar Mohali, Punjab-140507. I Have Changed My Name From Anomal Sharma To Annol Sharma.

I, Mayank S/O Sandeep Kumar, R/O H No 77, Ward 05, Prem Nagar, Tohana, Tehsil Tohana, District Fatehabad, Have Changed My Name From Mayank (Old Name) To Mayank Kansal (New Name).

I, Priyanka W/o Vipin R/o House No 64/15, Krishana Colony, Jind, Haryana 126102. have changed my minor Daughter name from Urvi to Varonika.

I, Rajender Kumar S/O Sant Lal R/o House No 784, New Basant Nagar, Panipat, Haryana 132103. have changed my name from Rajender Kumar to Rajinder Kumar.

I Nisha Goyal D/o Kalicharan Pathak R/O Flat No 1402, Tower 7, Near Bihari Market, Sector 85, Adore Grand Happy Homes Society, Faridabad - 121002 have changed my name to Nisha for all future purpose.

I Mohammad Yamin S/o Ali Mohammad R/o H.No.68, Gali No.2, Jattal Road, HP Petrol Pump, New Saini Pura Colony, Distt. Panipat, I have changed my name from Yamin to Mohammad Yamin for all purposes.

I, Surinder Pal Singh Chohan S/O Surjeet Singh R/O Kothi No.40, New Kabir Park, Po. Rayon & Silk Mills, Chheharta, Amritsar Have Changed My Name From Surinder Pal Singh Chohan To Surinder Pal Singh. Concerned To Be Noted.

I, Varinder Pal Kaur Chohan W/O Surinder Pal Singh R/O Kothi No.40, New Kabir Park, Po. Rayon & Silk Mills, Chheharta, Amritsar Have Changed My Name From Varinder Pal Kaur Chohan To Varinder Pal Kaur. Concerned To Be Noted.

I, Simarjot Singh Chohan S/O Surinderpal Singh R/O H.No.40, New Kabir Pak, Po. Rayon And Silk Mills, Amritsar Have Changed My Name From Simarjot Singh Chohan To Simarjot Singh. Concerned To Be Noted.

I Mohinder Kaur W/O Barinder Singh R/O C 422 New Partap Nagar Sultanwind Road Amritsar Have Changed My Name To Mahinder Kaur

I Birender Singh S/O Sadhu Singh R/O C 422 New Partap Nagar Sultanwind Road Amritsar Have Changed My Name To Barinder Singh

I, Gurpreet Singh S/o Nanak Singh R/o Block Verka, VPO Vallah Amritsar have declare that Gurpreet is my Given name and Singh is my Surname

I, Gagandeep Singh S/o Jarnail Singh R/o VPO Khalra, Tehsil Bhikhiwind District Tarn Taran have declare that Gagandeep is my Given name and Singh is my Surname

I, Sukhchain Masih S/o Mukhtar Masih R/o Wadala Viram, Amritsar have changed my name from Sukhchian to Sukhchian Masih

I, Sukhdeep Singh S/o Harjit Singh R/o Village Sarhali Kalan, District Tarn Taran have declare that Sukhdeep is my Given name and Singh is my Surname

I, Vishaldeep Singh S/o Ranjit Singh R/o Village Nangal Pannuan, P.O. Nag Kalan, District Amritsar have declared that Singh is my surname and Vishaldeep is my given name.

I Nirbhai Singh S/o Sawinder Singh R/o Vpo Vain Poin Teh Khadur Sahib Tarn Taran Have Changed My Name From Nirbhai Singh To Given Name Nirbhai Surname Singh

I Swinder Singh S/o Hari Singh R/o Vpo Vain Poin Tehsil Khadur Sahib Tarn Taran Have Changed My Name To Sawinder Singh

I, Amrit Ram S/o Himmat Ram R/o H.no. 423/1028, 1, New Model Town, G.T. Road, Chheharta, Amritsar - 143104 (Pb) have changed my name from Amrit Ram to Amrit Lal, please note.

I, Harpreet Singh S/o Samitar Singh R/o VPO Madho Ke, Tehsil Ajnala District Amritsar have declare that Harpreet is my Given name and Singh is my Surname.

I, Manda is Mother of Army No. 4594518L, Rank-SEP, Name- Salve Abhishek Gorakshanath, Posted at Unit 05, Mahar (Borders) R/o Village At Post Somathane, Tehsil-Sinnar, District-Nashik, State-Maharashtra Pin 422103 have changed my name from Manda to Manda Gorakshanath Salve vide affidavit No. 4893 dated 08.10.2026 executed before District Court Panchkula.

I, Harmesh S/o Sh. Ranjeet Singh R/o House No. 240, Sector-4, M.D.C., Village Bhainsa Tibba, Tehsil Panchkula, Haryana-134109. That I have changed my name from Harleen Kaur Vasdev to Harleen Kaur after marriage.

I, Jahangir Shiekh S/o Sh. Mathu Shiekh R/o House No. 709/8, Babu Dham Colony, Phase – 1, Sector – 26, Chandigarh – 160019. That I have changed my name from Jahangir Shiekh to Jahangir Sheikh.

I, Afshana Begum W/o Sh. Jahangir Sheikh R/o House No. 709/8, Babu Dham Colony, Phase – 1, Sector – 26, Chandigarh – 160019. That I have changed my name from Afshana Begum to Afsana.

I, Umar Shaikh S/o Sh. Jahangir Sheikh R/o House No. 709/8, Babu Dham Colony, Phase – 1, Sector – 26, Chandigarh – 160019. That I have changed my name from Umar Shaikh to Umar Sheikhah.

I, Jahangir Shaikh S/o Sh. Mathu Shiekh R/o House No. 709/8, Babu Dham Colony, Phase – 1, Sector – 26, Chandigarh – 160019. That I have changed my name from Umar Shaikh to Umar Sheikhah.

I, Talewar S/o Jai Dev R/o # 40 Pintu Kiryama Store Faidan Nizampur Chandigarh have changed my name to Talewar Singh.

I, Lakshami Rani Giri is Mother of Army No. 4584925A, Rank-HAV, Name- Basudev Giri, Posted at Unit 05, Mahar (Borders) R/o Baraghuni, Bara Ghuni, Purba Medinipur, West Bengal-721656 have changed my name from Lakshami Rani Giri to Lakshi Rani Giri vide affidavit No. 4836 dated 07.10.2026 executed before District Court Panchkula.

I, Shyam Bihari S/o Tulsi Ram Shukla R/o House No. 385-A, Gali No.3, Daria, Chandigarh, have changed my name from Shyam Bihari to Shyam Bihari Shukla.

I Lalita W/o Sh. Surinder Kumar R/o H.No. 250, Subhash Nagar, Rohtak, Haryana – 124001 declared that my old name is Lalita and I have to change my name from Lalita to Lalita Sehgal. In future I will be known as Lalita Sehgal for all purposes.

I, BALRAM CHOUDHARY S/o DHARAMPAL SINGH, father and natural guardian of my minor daughter, ABIRA, born on 09 February 2019, resident of 116/19, Subhash Road, Rohtak Haryana - 124001 hereby declare that my daughter's name has been changed from ABIRA to ABIRA CHOUDHARY. Henceforth, she shall be known and identified as ABIRA CHOUDHARY for all purposes and in all records/documents.

I Lakhwinder Singh S/O Mehar Singh R/O ward no 4, VPO Begowal tehsil bholath district Kapurthala declare that I have changed my minor son name from Sehajdeep Singh to Sahejdeep Singh. Please note.

I Deepak Kumar Jha Son of Sh. Dwijender R/o House No.1313, Tipra, Tehsil Kalka Distt Panchkula Haryana 133302. I have change the name of my Son from Abhijeet Nath Jha to Abhijeet Jha.

I, Sunil Kumar S/o. Baljeet Singh R/o. #Vill Malik Raipur, PO Marwa Kalan, Tehsil-Bilaspur, Distt Yamunanagar have changed my minor Son name from Dhurv to Dhruv.

I, Harleen Kaur Vasdev W/O Ajinder Singh resident of C/401 Status Enclave, Near Aakashwani, Makarpura Road, Vadodara. PINCODE 390010, Gujarat, India & at present H.No.201, Block U, Jalandhar Height 1, Jalandhar. P.O: Jalandhar Cantt, Dist : Jalandhar, Punjab,144005 have changed my name from Harleen Kaur Vasdev to Harleen Kaur after marriage.

I, Narinder Singh Dosanjh S/o Ajit Singh R/o Village Billa Nawab Tehsil Nakodar Distt Jalandhar, Punjab, India, am also known as Narinder Singh. Narinder Singh Dosanjh and Narinder Singh is one and same person.

I, Sapana W/o Jatinder Singh R/o St. No. 3 Khalsa Nagar Alipur Patiala (Punjab) have changed my name from Sapana Kaur to Sapana.

I, Jang Bahadar Singh S/o Shisha Singh R/o Village Khudda, Tehsil & Distt. Patiala (Punjab) have changed my name from Jang Bahadur Singh to Jang Bahadar Singh.

I Vineet Kumar S/o Sh. Tara Chand R/o House No. OU 38, Sector-30 Pinjore, District Panchkula, Haryana, declare that I have Changed my name from Vineet Kumar to Vineet Kumar Saini.

I, Pooja (Aadhar No. 2948 7335 6201) W/o Sh. Saksham Pahal R/o H.No. 2734, Urban Estate, Jind - 126102 (Haryana) have changed my minor daughter's name from Parnavi Pahal to Ayesha Pahal.

I, ACHHARU SINGH father of No : 12368559Y Rank Nk Name SANJAY SINGH of 126 Inf Bn (TA) JAK RIF, C/o 56 APO, resident of Ward No 01, Vill – Kukar Gundha, PO – Bara Gran, Distt - Kangra, State – Himachal Pradesh, PIN - 176122, have changed my name from ACHHARU SINGH to ACHHAR SINGH vide Affidavit No. IN-PB99209631801801Y Dated 08-10-2026 before Notary Public Pathankot (PB).

I, KAMAL KRISHAN ADHIKARI father of No : 10363511P Rank Nk Name SHUBHAM ADHIKARI of 126 Inf Bn (TA) JAK RIF, C/o 56 APO, resident of Vill– Chowik Kior, PO – Bhatawan, Tehsil – Khundian, Distt - Kangra, State – Himachal Pradesh, PIN - 176098, have changed my name from KAMAL KRISHAN ADHIKARI to KAMAL KRISHAN vide Affidavit No. IN-PB99208248828723Y Dated 08-10-2026 before Notary Public Pathankot (PB).

I, Parveen Singh S/o Bhagirath Singh R/o H.No.8, Gali No.2, Community centre, Navdeep Colony, Azad Nagar, Hisar have changed my name from Parveen Ladoia to Parveen Singh for all future purposes.

I, Navjot Singh S/o Paramjit Singh VPO Umai, Pehowa, Kurukshetra have changed my given name Navjot Surname Singh

I, Rahul S/o Paramjeet Vill.Bherian, Kurukshetra have changed my given name Rahul Surname Saini.

I, Simrandeep Singh S/o Jasbir Singh Vill.Rampur, Rajpura, Patiala have changed my given name Simrandeep Surname Singh

I, Simrandeep Singh S/o Jasbir Singh Vill.Rampur, Rajpura, Patiala have changed my Minor Daughter name Mehreet Kaur to changed given name Mehreet Surname Kaur

I, Samninder Kaur W/o Simrandeep Singh Vill.Rampur Near Balmiki Mandir, Patiala have changed my given name Samninder Surname Kaur

I, Samninder Kaur Bains W/o Simrandeep Singh Vill.Rampur Near Balmiki Mandir, Patiala have changed my given name Samninder Kaur

I, Jaswant Kaur W/o Ram Karn R/o Vill Mangoli Tehsil Babain Distt Kurkshetra Haryana Have Changed My Name From Jaswant Kaur To Jaswinder Kaur.

I, hitherto known as Prabgun Rayat S/o Rajinder Kumar R/o Ward No.13, Anand Nagar, Garshanker, Hoshiarpur, Punjab- 144527 have changed my name and shall hereafter be known as Prabhgunn Rayat.

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Captain Pargat’s First Punjab Outing Sends Unity Message, Puts Congress in Poll Mode

MONIKA MALIK ■ Chandigarh/Amritsar

A public show of strength at the airport, a multi-faith religious outreach, and repeated calls for unity marked Punjab Congress’ newly-appointed president Pargat Singh’s first visit to the state on Thursday, as the party sought to project a united face ahead of the 2027 Assembly elections.

Pargat, who replaced Ludhiana MP Amarinder Singh Raja Warring as Punjab Pradesh Congress Committee (PCCC) chief on October 3, arrived at Sri Guru Ram Das Jee International Airport around 9 am with Punjab Congress in-charge Sachin Pilot. A large gathering of party leaders and workers greeted them with drums and slogans. Pilot driving Pargat’s car to the Golden Temple added to the optics of unity.

But Pargat sought to keep politics out of the day’s religious programme. At the Golden Temple, he said he had come to offer “shukrana” and seek Guru Sahib’s blessings. “Today is not a day for politics. I will certainly do politics, but after a day or two,” he said, adding that Congress did not believe in the politics of hatred or confrontation.

Pargat’s itinerary itself carried a wider political message. After paying



obeisance at the Golden Temple, he visited the Durgiana Temple, St Paul Church and Bhagwan Valmiki Tirath Sthan. The programme also included Dera Ballan. He is scheduled to visit Mata Chintpurni in Himachal Pradesh on Friday.

The multi-faith outreach conveyed a message of secularism, harmony and inclusiveness. He stressed Congress’s commitment to the Constitution and Punjabiyat.

The timing is significant. With the 2027 election campaign taking shape, AAP and BJP have intensified outreach. AAP has promoted ‘Hamare Ram’, senior-citizen tirath yatra (pilgrimages), and ‘Shiv Mahima’, while BJP has maintained contact with deras, including Prime Minister Narendra Modi’s visit to Dera Ballan. Congress’s decision to

begin Pargat’s tenure with visits to shrines representing different communities carries an electoral subtext as parties seek to expand their appeal among Hindu voters.

Pilot identified drug abuse and corruption among Punjab’s major challenges and called for collective efforts to accelerate development. He said Congress leaders from all districts and constituencies would work together under Rahul Gandhi and said the party would seek a majority in 2027.

Pargat, a former Indian hockey captain and three-time Jalandhar Cantonment MLA, reinforced the team message. “Punjab is our target, and the Congress is the vehicle to achieve that goal,” he said, calling himself a team player and stressing that the party had space for everyone. His emphasis on unity

came after his meeting with Warring in Delhi. Pargat said Congress was united and differences of opinion were part of democracy. He maintained that the party would fight the 2027 elections together.

The unity projection came against visible absences. Warring, Gurdaspur MP Sukhjinder Singh Randhawa, Amritsar MP Gurjeet Singh Aujla and Jalandhar MP Charanjit Singh Channi were not part of the Amritsar programme as they were participating in a Rahul Gandhi-led protest in Delhi seeking the Chief Election Commissioner’s removal.

Senior leaders, including former Deputy Chief Minister OP Soni, former Minister Raj Kumar Verka, former MLAs Sukhwinder Singh Danny and Inderbir Singh Bolaria, accompanied Pargat. Verka said the leadership would work for Punjab’s welfare, while Bolaria called the gathering a sign of unity.

Pargat is likely to hold a meeting with the Punjab Congress leadership in Mohali as part of his initial engagements. He had urged workers to avoid large gatherings and ensure devotees were not inconvenienced.

For a leader beginning a new innings in a party that has struggled with factionalism, Thursday’s message was clear: first unity, then the election battle.

CBI Raid is BJP’s Punjab Poll Campaign, says CM Mann

PNS ■ Chandigarh

Punjab Chief Minister Bhagwant Mann on Thursday accused the BJP of using central agencies to launch its election campaign in Punjab, saying that the CBI search at his camp office signaled that elections would be held “on time”. He asserted that no raid would uncover “even a rupee” of corruption.

Mann also defended his OSD Rajbir Singh Ghuman, who did not appear before the CBI on Wednesday. Ghuman, named as an accused in the case, was ready to join the probe if properly summoned, Mann said, claiming the summons had not been served on him.

Speaking to mediapersons, Mann said the CBI action sent a clear message. “The CBI search at the Chief Minister’s Camp Office itself means that the Punjab Assembly elections will be held on time. The BJP has started preparing for the elections in Punjab and has chosen to begin its election campaign through the CBI,” he said.

Mann alleged that the BJP was trying to create fear and tarnish the image of an elected government through investigative

agencies. Drawing parallels with other states, he cited agency action around elections in West Bengal, Delhi, Chhattisgarh, Haryana, Rajasthan, and Uttar Pradesh.

He referred to Enforcement Directorate action against those close to West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee before elections, and to the arrests of AAP leaders Arvind Kejriwal and Manish Sisodia in Delhi before the polls. He also cited income-tax action against Congress leaders before elections in Haryana, Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh and Chhattisgarh.

On Ghuman’s failure to appear before CBI, Mann said there was no question of evading the investigation. “I am not afraid of any investigation. We have nothing to hide,” he said. The summons, he said, had not been served on his OSD. Ghuman was ready to appear once properly summoned.

Mann questioned the pace of the agency’s action, saying the CBI had cases pending for 10-15 years, while some investigations appeared to move overnight. “It seems as if an order came into their hands and officers immediately set out to act,” he

remarked.

Asked about the CBI registering the FIR on the directions of the Punjab and Haryana High Court, Mann retorted, “Don’t you know how the courts work?” He alleged that the sequence had been planned.

Rejecting corruption allegations against his government, Mann said systems had been moved online to reduce opportunities for bribery. “AAP leaders and workers are not from political families, so we don’t understand how to align our businesses with government policies. All

allegations are baseless,” he said.

Mann accused the BJP of using the ED and CBI to malign him. “They can conduct raids, send agencies and create pressure, but they cannot raid the hearts of Punjabis or silence their voice,” he said.

He said the agency should do its work. But people know the truth, he said. “No matter how many raids BJP conducts, it will not find even a rupee of corruption from us,” he said, adding that he had entered politics to serve Punjabis, not to loot Punjab.

BRIEFS

HARYANA GOVERNOR, CM MOURN NANA PATEKAR’S DEATH
CHANDIGARH: Haryana Governor Ashim Kumar Ghosh, Chief Minister Nayab Singh Saini, opposition leaders and other prominent persons on Thursday expressed grief over the death of veteran actor Nana Patekar, and remembered him for his powerful acting, unique dialogue delivery and dedication to social causes. In a post on X in Hindi, Chief Minister Saini said Patekar’s demise is a great loss to Indian cinema and his memorable roles will forever remain etched in memory.

MEGA PTM ACROSS 19,200 PUNJAB GOVT SCHOOLS ON OCTOBER 9

CHANDIGARH: A statewide Mega Parent-Teacher Meeting (PTM) will be held on October 9, across nearly 19,200 Government Primary, Middle, High and Senior Secondary Schools in all 23 districts, with approximately 25 lakh parents expected to participate. The Mega PTM will provide parents with an opportunity to spend time with their child’s teacher and understand what their child is doing well, where they may need help, and how encouragement at home and support at school can help them take the next step. “Every parent wants to see their child move forward. This Mega PTM is an opportunity to build the future of every single child and make Punjab’s schools number one in the world. When schools and families take that next step together, our children gain the confidence to lead and excel globally,” Punjab Chief Minister Bhagwant Mann said in a statement.

UT ADMINISTRATOR RELEASES ANNUAL REPORT OF CHANDIGARH RIGHT TO SERVICE COMMISSION

Chandigarh: Punjab Governor and UT Administrator Gulab Chand Kataria on Thursday released the Annual Report of the Chandigarh Right to Service Commission for the year 2025–2026. Mahavir Singh, Chief Commissioner, Chandigarh Right to Service Commission made a presentation and informed the Administrator that 556 services across 35 departments of the Chandigarh Administration have been notified under the Right to Service Act. Of these, 432 services are available online, while 124 services continue to be provided offline. The Administrator directed the officials to take immediate steps to make the remaining 124 services available online. He also directed them to bring more services under the ambit of the Right to Service Act and organise public awareness campaigns to inform citizens about the notified services and how to access them.

HOODA ALLEGES FARMERS FORCED TO SELL CROPS RS 400 PER QUINTAL BELOW EXPECTED RATES

Ambala: Senior Congress leader and former Chief Minister Bhupinder Singh Hooda on Thursday interacted with the farmers, commission agents and workers at grain market in Ambala and took stock of the ongoing crop procurement situation. He alleged that farmers were facing immense hardship due to inadequate government procurement and were being forced to sell their produce at rates up to Rs 400 per quintal lower than expected. Hooda claimed that farmers were struggling to get their crops procured, while the government was citing moisture content and other reasons for refusing procurement. He also alleged that arrangements for lifting the procured produce from the markets were inadequate, resulting in a shortage of space for the arrival and storage of the new harvest.

HARYANA HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION ORDERS STRUCTURAL AUDIT OF ALL GOVT SCHOOLS

CHANDIGARH: The Haryana Human Rights Commission has expanded the scope of proceedings initiated suo motu over the death of an 11-year-old student after the arch of the entrance gate of a government primary school in Sonipat collapsed, to examine the structural safety of all state-run schools. In its October 1 order, the commission directed that a structural safety audit of all government school buildings in the state be conducted and dilapidated, unsafe and hazardous buildings be identified, with timely remedial action ensured. The commission, comprising Justice Lalit Batra, along with members Kuldeep Jain and Deep Bhatia, observed that in view of the serious concerns arising from the incident, it would not be sufficient to confine the proceedings only to the school at Garhi Balinda in Ganaur in Sonipat district.

UT ADMINISTRATOR CONDUCTS SURPRISE INSPECTION OF SECTOR 26 MANDI

Chandigarh: Punjab Governor and UT Administrator Gulab Chand Kataria on Thursday conducted a surprise inspection of the Sector 26 Mandi. This was his fourth visit to the Mandi in the last one and a half years. During the inspection, the Administrator expressed strong displeasure over the poor condition of roads, sewerage and sanitation in the Mandi. He stressed the need for prompt action to improve basic infrastructure and cleanliness in the market.

ABDM WORKSHOP STRENGTHENS PUSH FOR DIGITAL HEALTHCARE INTEGRATION IN GURUGRAM

Gurugram : In a significant step towards strengthening digital healthcare infrastructure, a district-level workshop on the Ayushman Bharat Digital Mission (ABDM) was organised at the District Training Centre in Gurugram on Thursday. The workshop was conducted by the State ABDM team in coordination with Civil Surgeon Gurugram, Dr. Virender Baswana, and witnessed active participation from private healthcare institutions across the district. Representatives from the Indian Medical Association (IMA), Nursing Home Association, Indian Radiological and Imaging Association (IRIA), Dental Association, Ayush Department, National Integrated Medical Association (NIMA), along with directors and medical superintendents of private hospitals, clinics, diagnostic centres and healthcare establishments attended the programme. Dr. Disha from the State ABDM team delivered a detailed presentation on the key components of the mission, including the Ayushman Bharat Health Account (ABHA), Health Facility Registry (HFR), Health Professionals Registry (HPR), and ABDM-enabled Hospital Management Information Systems (HMIS). Participants were informed about the importance of creating ABHA IDs, which will facilitate the development of longitudinal digital health records and enable seamless sharing of healthcare information.

Haryana Ranks Fifth Among States in GST Collection, Says CM Saini

PNS ■ New Delhi/Chandigarh

Haryana Chief Minister Nayab Singh Saini, while participating in the 57th meeting of the GST Council in New Delhi on Thursday, said that the State has made a significant contribution to the country’s economy despite its relatively small geographical size, ranking fifth among all states in Goods and Services Tax (GST) collection. The GST Council was held under the chairpersonship of Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman.

He said that Haryana’s strong GST performance reflects the growing strength of its economy and the contribution of its industrial, business, trading and services sectors. State has established itself as an important economic hub and continues to contribute substantially to the national exchequer.

Saini said that Haryana collected gross GST of Rs 10,097 crore in September 2026, the fifth-highest collection among all states and accounts for more than 7 per cent of the country’s domestic GST.

He said that Haryana welcomes the new reforms being considered by the GST Council. Their objective is to usher in a new era of taxation based on system-driven risk assessment. These reforms also promote technology-enabled decision-making. He said that the proposals to increase the use of automation and technology in the processes of registration, amendment, cancellation and refunds are welcome and Haryana supports them.

Saini said that in 2025-26, Haryana’s State GST revenue, including the state’s share in IGST settlement, increased from Rs 39,743 crore to Rs 48,289 crore. This 22 per cent growth was the highest among all states, against the national average of 6 per cent. He said that during the first six months of the current year, State GST revenue has reached Rs 29,108 crore. During the corresponding period last year, it stood at Rs 23,058 crore. This represents a growth of 26 per cent, which is the second-highest among the states, against the national average of 16 per cent.

Blue, Yellow and a Political Hue: Punjab’s

MONIKA MALIK ■ Chandigarh

Punjab’s Government schools may soon get a makeover, but the paint has already found its way into the state’s political palette. An order to splash blue and yellow across 3,602 government schools has triggered a familiar Punjab debate — Is this merely a colour scheme, or has school renovation quietly discovered the ruling Aam Aadmi Party’s (AAP) flag?

The Education Department insists there is no politics in the paint. The Opposition, naturally, sees politics in every brushstroke. Between the two stands a Rs 80.45-crore government scheme under which schools will be whitewashed and colour-coded, with “egg custard” and “enamel rhapsody” shades prescribed for the makeover.

The order, issued on October 1, directs that the work be undertaken under the “Converting Government Schools into Smart Schools Scheme”. Selected schools will have their external buildings whitewashed and painted in the prescribed combination, while verandahs and corridors will also be covered. A graphical

design accompanying the directive shows the proposed blue-and-yellow treatment for the exterior walls.

That design, however, has given the Opposition something more to discuss than peeling walls and fresh paint. Its contention is simple — blue and yellow are close enough to the colours associated with the AAP flag to make the choice look less like neutral school branding and more like political colour-coding.

The colour controversy also comes against the backdrop of earlier instances in which the Punjab Government faced criticism over the use of political imagery and colours in school-related material. Months ago, the AAP Government drew flak over the distribution of free textbooks in carry bags featuring Chief Minister Bhagwant Mann’s sketch.

It later planned to distribute around four lakh schoolbags to Class XI and XII students carrying Mann’s image in a yellow turban along with the Sikhya Kranti logo. The use of yellow and blue — colours associated with the AAP’s political identity — on school material, designed and printed by the Punjab School

Education Board, had also drawn criticism.

Against that backdrop, the latest blue-and-yellow colour scheme for thousands of government schools has given the Opposition fresh ammunition to question whether the choice is purely aesthetic or carries a political imprint.

The Department rejects the charge, saying the colour selection is part of a planned painting and repair exercise and carries no political intent. But in Punjab politics, intent can sometimes matter less than appearance — and few things are more visible than a freshly painted government building.

The scale of the exercise is substantial. Of the 3,602 schools covered, 1,895 are primary schools, 764 high schools, 532 senior secondary schools, and 411 middle schools.

Amritsar tops the district list with 334 schools, followed by Patiala with 326, Ludhiana with 261, Gurdaspur with 240, Hoshiarpur with 236 and Jalandhar with 231. Tarn Taran has 192, Ferozepur 164, Sangrur 144, Fatehgarh Sahib 131, Bathinda 117 and Ropar 80 schools in the programme, with schools in

other districts also included.

For parents and students, the question is likely to be much simpler — will the paint actually mean cleaner classrooms, better-maintained buildings, and a more welcoming school environment? For the government, however, the controversy is a reminder that public works do not remain politically colourless for long. When thousands of buildings are painted in colours recognizable to political eyes, even a routine maintenance order can become a political talking point.

The government’s stated objective is straightforward: improve school appearance and infrastructure through a planned makeover. The political reaction has made the colour choice the headline instead.

And so, Punjab’s school walls have acquired an unexpected syllabus. There will be whitewash, repairs, corridors, and verandahs — and, alongside them, a lesson in political optics. Whether the final walls simply look brighter or resemble a party palette may now depend less on the paint contractor than on who is holding the political brush.

Punjab Launches HUNAR Portal to Connect Skilled Youth Directly with Industry

PNS ■ Chandigarh

Punjab has launched two digital platforms aimed at tackling two persistent challenges facing the state’s industrial sector — connecting companies with the right skilled workforce and making investment incentives easier to access and track. Chief Minister Bhagwant Mann on Thursday launched HUNAR Punjab and the Financial Incentives Module of Fast-Track Punjab, saying the initiatives would strengthen employment, investment, and ease of doing business.

The launches assume significance as Punjab has attracted around Rs 1.89 lakh crore in investment since 2022, generating 6.31 lakh jobs, according to the government. Industries Minister Aman Arora said around Rs 60,000 crore of investment is expected to fructify in the state this year, underlining the need for a more efficient industry-skilling and incentive-tracking system.

HUNAR — Hub for Upskilling, Networking, and Access to Rozgar — has been designed as a single workforce-matching platform bringing

industries, educational institutions, skill-development centres, and trained youth onto one system.

More than 1,700 institutions have already registered on the portal across seven administrative department categories. These include ITIs, polytechnics, colleges, universities, medical and nursing institutions and other skill-training centres.

The platform will allow companies to search for institutions offering specific technical or vocational courses and see the number of students undergoing training. Employers can then identify suitable talent and raise structured recruitment requirements directly with the relevant institutions.

The system is intended to address the existing disconnect between what industries require and what training institutions offer. It will also help companies locate skilled manpower closer to their operations, giving preference to local talent and potentially reducing recruitment time and costs.

HUNAR will not be limited to placements. Its four planned modules cover



Institute Discovery; Hiring and Placements; Internship and Industrial Training; and Industry-Institute Collaboration.

The platform will facilitate industry participation in curriculum design, faculty development, guest lectures, on-the-job training, placements and infrastructure and technology support, as well as CSR initiatives. It will also provide a structured mechanism for internships and industrial training involving companies, institutes, students, alumni and government departments. Dedicated dashboards, defined timelines, query and grievance-redressal

facilities and help-desk support have also been built into the system. The

- ◆ HUNAR links industry, institutes, and skilled youth on one platform
- ◆ More than 1,700 institutions have registered on the portal
- ◆ Four modules cover hiring, internships, training and collaboration
- ◆ Investors can track incentives through a digital ‘passbook’
- ◆ Fast-Track Punjab promises approvals within 45 days
- ◆ Punjab has attracted Rs 1.89 lakh crore investment since 2022

government plans a full rollout of all four modules, with separate logins and statewide monitoring of placements, training and industry-institute collaborations.

The second major initiative is the Financial Incentives Module on Fast-Track Punjab, designed as a digital passbook for investors.

Companies will be able to view the financial incentives available to them, track incentives already received, check utilization and see the balance still available. The system is aimed at eliminating the need to depend on multiple offices and manual processes for information on fiscal benefits.

Mann said the Fast-Track Punjab system would provide investors with a single-window mechanism for approvals, with all necessary permissions to be granted within 45 days of application through the portal.

The government said the two initiatives are part of a broader effort to digitize industrial governance, improve transparency, and reduce delays. Mann said e-office and online systems

were being expanded across departments to reduce unnecessary hurdles and corruption.

The Chief Minister said Punjab had received Rs 1.89 lakh crore in investment since 2022, creating 6.31 lakh employment opportunities. The government has projected continued investment and job creation as a central part of its industrial strategy.

He said the ultimate objective was to ensure that Punjab’s skilled youth find employment within the state rather than having to leave in search of opportunities.

Taking a swipe at previous governments, Mann said earlier administrations organized investment summits and signed MoUs, but the promised investments often failed to materialize. He claimed companies were now coming forward because of the investor-friendly environment created by his government.

Industries Minister Aman Arora said the department was digitizing its entire functioning to remove hurdles in investment approvals and ensure greater transparency.

[illegible][illegible]

the office of the undersigned within 30 days from the date of the publication of this notice, failing which the said share in the said property shall be sold to the undersigned with all the rights and benefits and no further claim whatsoever shall be entertained on any later stage.

Sd/-
SH. PAVITER SHINGH, P.C. ASSISTANT ESTATE OFFICER
EXERCISING THE POWERS OF ESTATE OFFICER, U.T. CHANDIGARH

PUBLIC NOTICE

BEFORE SH. PAVITER SHINGH, P.C. ASSTT. ESTATE OFFICER, U.T., CHANDIGARH.

SUBJECT: Transfer of Ownership in respect of the property of RESIDENTIAL, STATE, CHANDIGARH (PP 132) to the extent of 44.45% share on the basis of Registered Will of late Baran Dass Datta.

It is notified that information of general public and all concerned that as per record of this office Sh. Baran Dass Datta is the owner/possessor of RESIDENTIAL, STATE, CHANDIGARH (PP 132).

No objection to the said mutation of the said property shall be recorded if the said applicants shall be recorded /mutated in the property tax records of this office against the said owner/possessor of the said property I.D. Nos. 1E9LVZ2R0, 1EWC3T2W0 and 1E9LVZ2R0.

No claim shall be entertained after the

objection/protest with this office within 30 days from the date of publication of this notice. Otherwise the said property shall be sold to the undersigned with all the rights and benefits and no further claim shall be deemed that no objection and no objection to the said mutation of the said property shall be recorded /mutated. Consequently, the name of the said applicants shall be recorded /mutated in the property tax records of this office against the said owner/possessor of the said property I.D. Nos. 1E9LVZ2R0, 1EWC3T2W0 and 1E9LVZ2R0.

No claim shall be entertained after the

Sd/-
SH. PAVITER SHINGH, P.C. ASSISTANT ESTATE OFFICER
EXERCISING THE POWERS OF ESTATE OFFICER, U.T. CHANDIGARH

has been informed by Vinod Bhatta, Vikram Bhatta, Chandra Bhatta & Sh. Suresh Datta expired on 06/02/2012 and they have also been deceased since their death. The legal heirs of the deceased are:- ownerless/- (1) Ashraf Kumar (Son) (2) Ashwini Kumar (Sons) (3) Rajnikt Kumar (Daughter), Now, Vinod Bhatta & Vikram Bhatta have applied for the Transfer of Ownership in respect of RESIDENTIAL Site No-1154, Sector 22-B Chandigarh to the extent of 44.84% Share held by Late Vinod Bhatta in their favour, on the basis of Registered Will No-197 dated 12/02/2012 which has no information about any other legal heirs of the deceased other than mentioned above, the same may be intimated to the Estate Officer, U.T. Chandigarh, immediately. If anybody has any objection upon the mutation of the said share in the said property, in favour of the above named applicants, he/she may kindly make his/her claim in writing supported with affidavit duly attested by two witnesses before the District Judge, Chandigarh, within three months from the date of publication of this notice, failing which the said share in the said property will be mutated accordingly in

PUBLIC NOTICE

BEFORE SH. PAVITER SINGH, PCS, ASSISTANT ESTATE OFFICER, U.T., CHANDIGARH

SUBJECT:-Transfer of Ownership in respect of Residential Site No-526, Sector 18-B, Chandigarh (RP 459) to the extent of 100% share on the basis of Registered Will No-197 dated 12/02/2012.

It is notified for the information of general public and all concerned that as per record of this office, Late Vinod Bhatta & Vikram Bhatta were owners of the said Residential Site No-526, Sector 18-B, Chandigarh to the extent of 100% Share. It has been informed by Paramjit Kaur Singh that she had

before shall be entertained at any later stage.

**SH. PAVITER SINGH, CP ASSISTANT ESTATE OFFICER
EXERCISING THE POWERS OF STATE OFFICER, U.T. CHANDIGARH**

PUBLIC NOTICE

**BEFORE SH. PAVITER SINGH, CP, ASSTT.
ESTATE OFFICER, U.T., CHANDIGARH.**

**TRANSFER OF OWNERSHIP IN RESPECT
OF REGISTERED VILKAM BAGA IN RESIDENCE
No.1555, Sector-22-B, Chh. Road, Chh. Road
Chandigarh (PR 1744) to the extent of
66.6678% share on the basis of Registered Will
of Late Bannari Dass Baga**

Whereas, I have received information of general
public and all concerned that as per record of
this office Sh. Bannari Dass Baga is the
owner of a residential property known as RESIDENCE
No.1555, Sector-22-B, Chh. Road, Chh. Road
Chandigarh to the extent of 100% Share.

Whereas, I have received information that Sh.
Bannari Dass Baga expired on 06/02/2012 and they have
also intimated the following legal heirs of the deceased
owner/lessor:- (1) Rajesh Kumar (Daughter) (2) Ashvini
Kumar (3) Adesh Kumar (Son) Son, Vilam Baga,
Vilam Baga has been transferred to the Estate Officer,
U.T. Chandigarh, RESIDENTIAL SE No.1555, Sector-22-B,
Chh. Road, Chh. Road, Chandigarh to the extent of 66.6678% Share held by Late
Bannari Dass Baga in their favour, on the basis of Registered
Will Dated 13/02/2002. If anybody has any information about
any other legal heirs of the deceased other than mentioned
above, the same may be intimated to the Estate Officer, U.T.
Chandigarh, immediately, if anybody has any objection to
the above named applicants, he/she/they may furnish the
same in writing (supported with affidavit duly
attested by Magistrate/Notary) in the office of the
undersigned within 30 days from the date of
publication of this notice failing which the
transfer of the said share may be mutually
agreed in the name of above said beneficiary
and no further claim whatsoever shall be
entertained at any later stage.

**SH. PAVITER SINGH, CP ASSISTANT ESTATE OFFICER
EXERCISING THE POWERS OF STATE OFFICER, U.T. CHANDIGARH**

PUBLIC NOTICE

Whereas the above named applicants, heretofore may furnish the same in writing (supported with affidavit duly attested by a Magistrate/Notary) in the office of the undersigned within 30 days from the date of publication of this notice, failing which the same shall be in the said property will be mutated accordingly in the name of the said above said beneficiaries and no further claim shall be entertained at any later stage.

SH. PAINTER SINGH, PCS ASSISTANT ESTATE OFFICER, EXERCISING THE POWERS OF ESTATE OFFICER, UT, CHANDIGARH.

PUBLIC NOTICE

BEFORE SH. PAINTER SINGH, PCS, ASSTT. ESTATE OFFICER, UT, CHANDIGARH.

Whereas the above named applicant, heretofore may furnish the same in writing (supported with affidavit duly attested by a Magistrate/Notary) in the office of the undersigned within 30 days from the date of publication of this notice, failing which the same shall be in the said property will be mutated accordingly in the name of the said above said beneficiaries and no further claim shall be entertained at any later stage.

SH. PAINTER SINGH, PCS ASSISTANT ESTATE OFFICER, EXERCISING THE POWERS OF ESTATE OFFICER, UT, CHANDIGARH.

PUBLIC NOTICE

Whereas the above named applicant, heretofore may furnish the same in writing (supported with affidavit duly attested by a Magistrate/Notary) in the office of the undersigned within 30 days from the date of publication of this notice, failing which the same shall be in the said property will be mutated accordingly in the name of the said above said beneficiaries and no further claim shall be entertained at any later stage.

SH. PAINTER SINGH, PCS ASSISTANT ESTATE OFFICER, EXERCISING THE POWERS OF ESTATE OFFICER, UT, CHANDIGARH.

is concerned that as per record of this case, Sri Banarasi Das Baggia is the owner/lessor of RESIDENTIAL SITE No.1855, Sector-22B, District of Chandigarh in the name of Sri Banarasi Das Baggia. In this case and in the above said claim, right, title or interest in the above said property in any manner whatsoever by way of sale, gift, lease, inheritance, exchange, mortgage, charge, lien, trust, possession, easement, attachment otherwise howsoever, shall be deemed to be null and void. The undersigned is writing with supporting documents/evidence within a period of 15 days from the date of this notice, failing which said claim if any, shall be considered to be waived, abandoned and I shall be presumed to be a person having no claim of any nature in respect of the above said land and any subsequent claim shall not be bind our clients or their successors/ heirs/ assigns in any manner whatsoever.

Aakulotsh Agarwal Advocate
Ambala City, Haryana. Mob. 9416286016

**NOTICE ON 17.11.2020
11:00 Hrs. to 15:00 Hrs.**

**AVAILABLE PROPERTIES ON 17.11.2026 11:00 HRS TO 15:00 HRS
BEFORE THE START OF E-AUCTION, BY BIDDERS THROUGH
SB Alliance Pvt. Ltd ON ITS E-AUCTION SITE :
MEANS OF RTGS/NEFT**

ion of these properties has been taken by the Authorised Officers here is", "As is what is", and "Whatever there is" on 17.11.2026, (or property) due to the State Bank of India (Secured Creditor) from below Deposit will be as mentioned below against the property. "The payment, Fees, etc. Owing to anybody shall be the sole responsibility of the bidder by the Successful Bidder shall result in forfeiture of amount mentioned below / refer to Website : (a) <https://sbi.co.in>

Reserve Price EMD Increase Amount	Date & Time of Inspection of Property	Date/Time of E-Auction	Authorized Officer & Contact No.
Rs. 24,82,000.00	05.11.2026 11:00 Hrs. to 15:00 Hrs.	17.11.2026	Mr. Amit Shukla Mob: 75893-03261
Rs. 2,48,200.00		11:00 Hrs. to 15:00 Hrs.	
Rs. 10,000.00			

11) Knehar No 2589 Khatoni No 3404/3s Per Jamaabara Yild 2/2010-1
In the name of Smt Parveen Kaur W/o Sh Raj Singh vide Title Deed No
has East: 25' Monika Gupta, West: 20' Gali 35' Wide, North: 50' Sanjeev
(8) OF THE SECURITY INTEREST (ENFORCEMENT) RULES 2002(ENFORCER(S) & GUARANTOR(S)
to sell the Immovable assets in possession of Bank through public
banknet.com, FOR DETAILED TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF THE
BOHAR AUTHORIZED OFFICER



Editor's
TAKE

Gaza demands more than a ceasefire

Three years after the October 7 massacre, the last Israeli hostage is home, but Gaza lies devastated, while the region remains scarred and its future uncertain

Three years ago, on October 7, 2023, when Hamas-led gunmen killed about 1,200 Israelis and took 251 hostages, the massacre changed the politics of the region. That massacre was a crime, and no grievance excuses it. For the first time, no Israeli hostage remains in Gaza on this anniversary. But what followed was not justice. It was the near-annihilation of Gaza and its people.

The numbers are hard to hold in the mind. Roughly 74,000 Palestinians have been killed, according to Gaza's health ministry. About 80 per cent of structures are damaged. Most of the enclave's two million-plus residents have been displaced and squeezed into less than half the Strip. A UN commission of inquiry has found that acts of genocide were committed.

Fewer than half of Gaza's health facilities function even partially, and the World Health Organization says none has been restored to full capacity since the ceasefire. That ceasefire, imposed last October under Donald Trump's 20-point plan, has stopped the big offensives, not the dying.

The ministry counts 1,467 deaths since it began. The International Stabilisation Force has yet to deploy. The Palestinian technocratic committee meant to run Gaza has not taken charge. Israel says its troops hold about 64 per cent of the territory, and humanitarian access remains tightly restricted. The war did not stay in Gaza. It has spread to Lebanon, Syria and a wider confrontation with Iran that still grinds on, rattling energy markets and fuelling global anger at Israel.

Meanwhile, world attention has drifted, and with it the pressure that forced the truce. The real test comes after Israel's election, when the ceasefire's next phase will either move or quietly die. Gaza desperately needs help, not just help but a complete plan to reconstruct and rehabilitate the people who have endured a lot in the last three years.

The way forward is not mysterious, only unglamorous. Deploy the stabilisation force. Put Gaza's administration in Palestinian technocratic hands. Open the crossings fully and fund reconstruction at scale, not at leisure. Sequence Hamas's disarmament with Israeli withdrawal. Above all, restore a political horizon: without a credible path to Palestinian statehood, every ceasefire is an intermission. And accountability must cut both ways, for the October 7 atrocities and for Gaza's destruction.

India has real stakes in West Asia: millions of citizens working in the Gulf, its energy supply and the IMEC corridor, which needs a calm region. New Delhi formally backs a two-state solution and welcomed the Trump plan.

But friendship with Israel does not require silence on Gaza. New Delhi has access in Jerusalem that few capitals enjoy. It should use it to press for unhindered aid, an end to strikes and a political track, and offer the reconstruction help it can afford. A civilisational power cannot be seen to grieve for only one side.

The new-age policing: Smarter, faster, more humane

In a fast-changing world, police performance will be judged not by the number of tech-based applications launched, but by the number of crimes that do not take place



AJAY
SINGHAL

In the 1990s, when I first walked into a police station as a trainee IPS officer, policing was largely a race to catch up with crime. The tools were modest: a handwritten 'Rojnamcha', a temperamental black rotary-dial telephone, and the institutional memory of the MHC and beat constable. Success was measured by how quickly the police reached the scene, arrested the accused and restored order.

Three decades later, that paradigm is changing fundamentally. Technology, data and intelligence are enabling the police to move from reacting to crime to anticipating and preventing it. The critical question is no longer merely, "What happened?" but "What is likely to happen - and what can we do before it does?"

This is the essence of new-age policing: using technology not as an end in itself, but as an instrument to prevent crime, accelerate justice, protect the vulnerable and make policing more accessible, accountable and humane. In Haryana, this transformation is already visible - from Dial 112 and women's safety initiatives to cybercrime intervention, AI-assisted investigation, digital evidence and real-time intelligence. Based on more than five million calls each year, the average response time stays below seven minutes, whether in cities or the countryside. Motorbikes can navigate market streets where four-wheelers would get stuck.

When a woman is in danger, she presses one button on the Durga Shakti app, and her current location is sent to the same command centre. A woman who is travelling alone at night can register her journey and be effectively looked after until she gets home. This is not a reactive action; it is accompaniment.

The previous system largely failed to cope with cybercrime because criminals could be based in another country and money could vanish within minutes. The helpline 1930, connected to Dial 112 and manned by bank representatives who work with police officers, gets about 5,000 calls every day and freezes suspicious transfers before mule accounts can drain them.

Haryana leads the nation in preventing fraudulent transfers and has recovered about 40 per cent of funds defrauded within the state. Since June, any complaint (online) involving a loss of more than ₹1 lakh has automatically resulted in an e-Zero FIR. Prevention is now taking steps even further upstream; the 'Abhedya' app enables unknown international extortion calls to be kept from reaching the victim, and the Dual OTP pilot allows a trusted contact of a senior citizen to block



THE ULTIMATE TEST, HOWEVER, IS NOT THE NUMBER OF APPS LAUNCHED OR DATABASES CREATED. IT IS MUCH SIMPLER: HOW MANY CRIMES ARE PREVENTED, HOW MANY VICTIMS ARE PROTECTED, HOW QUICKLY JUSTICE IS DELIVERED, AND HOW MUCH PUBLIC TRUST THE POLICE EARN

The writer is the Director General of Police, Haryana.

a suspicious large transaction, providing a small amount of protection against the 'digital arrest' scam. The basic beat has also been reconsidered. With the Eagle app, an on-duty police officer can immediately compare a detainee's face with a database of offenders, exposing impersonators and avoiding lengthy detentions for law-abiding citizens. The National Automated Fingerprint Identification System (NAFIS) can match a blurred fingerprint recovered at a crime scene with entries in the national records in just a few seconds. Smart E-Beat records patrols using GPS, and the Crime and Criminal Tracking Network and System (CCTNS) links police stations to courts, jails and forensic facilities. Meanwhile, e-Sakshya ensures that crime-scene evidence is preserved in an unchangeable form.

The reforms go beyond the streets to affect the fundamental machinery of the justice system. When evidence parcels move from the police station to the forensic laboratory, a barcode is assigned to each one, creating a chain of custody that can withstand judicial scrutiny. Instead of making long, risky journeys, prisoners now attend court through secure video links.

Even people with no name are now being given one: an AI-assisted system matches the faces and fingerprints of unidentified bodies with those in the missing persons database, giving closure to families who have been waiting for years. Similarly, internal tools matter; complaint dashboards show where complaints go unaddressed, so accountability does not rely entirely on goodwill.

Crash data is converted into heat maps that show engineers where to redesign a curve, and cashless trauma care helps shorten the important golden hour. On motorways, number-plate recognition cameras continuously monitor the situation and also serve as a record for track-

ing vehicles that escape.

If we discuss only the possible outcomes of this transformation without going further, we would be poor guardians of it. The United States' experience with statistics-based policing - especially its use of dashboards, performance targets and strict enforcement of minor offences - shows that crime statistics can decrease even as community confidence falls.

Facial recognition, currently being developed to identify offenders who have admitted guilt and those who have jumped bail, and lawful interception can result in excessive surveillance unless strict legal safeguards, regular auditing and proper oversight are in place.

That is the reason why the key improvement does not lie in the server room: just as important as any software are training in de-escalation, awareness of bias and courtesy. Digital services matter too, because the 'HARSAMAY' portal lets citizens avoid queuing for a copy of an FIR or a verification certificate, and QR-code feedback at station counters gives each visitor a chance to share their views. By conducting online patrols and maintaining a visible presence on social media platforms, the community extends its area of responsibility into the digital environment.

"New Age Policing": In the fast-changing world, the performance will be judged not by the number of tech-based applications we launch, but by the number of crimes that do not take place, the number of people who are not harmed, and the citizens who do not even need to go into a police station for an FIR (now e-FIR/Zero FIR beyond jurisdiction).

The ultimate test, however, is not the number of apps launched or databases created. It is much simpler: How many crimes are prevented, how many victims are protected, how quickly justice is delivered, and how much public trust the police earn.

Daiv Vani

WISDOM FOR A MEANINGFUL LIFE

Running in Torn Spikes

Resources can be borrowed or bought, but the belief to keep running has to be built from within.

Gurvindervir Singh, a 25-year-old sprinter from Patial village near Bhogpur in Punjab, won bronze in the 100 metres at the Asian Games in Nagoya. For two to three years he trained in torn spike shoes because his family could not afford new ones. He was told Indians were not suited to the 100 metres, and even his father suggested he change events. He did not. He went on to become the first Indian to run under 10.10 seconds, clocking 10.09 at the Federation Cup in Ranchi. After he shared his struggles on social media, support came from people around the world.

Asked why he never changed his event, he said, "My coaches never told me that it was not possible, then why should I change my event?" The Mahabharata gives us Ekalavya, a young archer turned away from Drona's school, who practised alone before a clay image of the teacher and mastered the art with almost nothing. His story ended unjustly, with his thumb demanded as an offering. Gurvinder's story carries a gentler ending: coaches who believed in him, and a country that finally noticed.

We often postpone our efforts until the right equipment, circumstance or approval arrives, and in waiting we lose years. Today, begin one worthwhile task with exactly what you have, and trust the effort to attract the help it needs.

-DAIV

What patience teaches us about progress



SIDDHARTH
ROY

2ND OPINION

Concrete offers an unfashionable lesson to a civilisation addicted to speed: strength takes time. A freshly poured slab may look complete, but its real transformation has only begun. Cement reacts with water, particles bind, moisture is retained, and strength develops gradually. Engineers therefore do not simply pour concrete and walk away. They cure it, protect it and allow it to mature. What appears to be waiting is, in fact, part of construction.

Modern life has increasingly treated time as an obstacle. We want instant communication, instant delivery, instant profits and instant transformation. Governments announce targets with compressed timelines; businesses chase quarterly results; individuals measure progress through immediate outcomes.

Speed can certainly improve efficiency. But efficiency becomes dangerous when it is confused with haste. Some structures, whether physical or social, cannot be rushed without weakening what they are meant to sustain.

Curing is a useful metaphor for public policy. A bridge cannot be made safe merely by completing its visible structure. Its foundations, joints, materials and load-bearing elements must perform together over time. Similarly, a new law, institution or economic reform requires testing, adjustment and public acceptance. A policy may be announced in a day, but its consequences can take years to reveal themselves. The impatience to demonstrate results can encourage governments to privilege what is measurable immediately over what becomes valuable eventually.

The same principle applies to cities. Roads can be widened quickly, buildings can rise rapidly and new infrastructure can be inaugurated on schedule. Yet urban resilience depends on things less visible: drainage capacity, maintenance systems, open spaces, ecological buffers and institutional coordination. These cannot be improvised after a crisis. They require patient investment before the crisis arrives. The absence of visible progress does not mean the absence of progress.

There is also a personal lesson. Education, expertise, trust and character resemble concrete more than software. They cannot simply be downloaded. A student

needs years of reading and failure; a professional needs experience; trust requires repeated proof. Attempts to accelerate these processes may produce impressive appearances without corresponding depth.

Patience, however, should not become an excuse for inefficiency. Concrete is cured according to scientific requirements, not left indefinitely. Good engineering is not slow for the sake of being slow; it is deliberate where time affects performance. The wisdom lies in knowing what can be accelerated and what cannot.

Perhaps modern society needs this distinction more urgently than ever. We have become remarkably good at reducing waiting, but less skilled at understanding its purpose. Yet some forms of waiting are productive. They allow systems to settle, weaknesses to emerge and strength to develop.

Engineers know that a structure designed only for immediate performance may fail under tomorrow's load. The same is true of societies. Sustainable progress is not always the fastest progress. Sometimes, the most responsible thing we can do is build carefully, protect what is still developing, and give true strength the one resource no technology can manufacture: time, patience, discipline, attention, humility and care.

The writer, a civil engineer, is a consultant at Rashtriya Raksha University under the Ministry of Home Affairs

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Higher rates squeeze household budgets

Appropos, "RBI raises rate, loans get costlier", Oct 8. The Reserve Bank of India's decision to raise the repo rate by 25 basis points to 5.5 per cent comes as a crushing blow to middle-class households across the nation. While the central bank's intent to curb inflation is understandable, this upward revision will directly translate into higher Equated Monthly Instalments (EMIs) for housing, personal and educational loans, placing an immense burden on retail borrowers. For ordinary citizens, the timing could not be worse. Families are already wrestling with severe financial distress caused by the relentlessly rising prices of essential commodities, daily food items and healthcare services. Coupled with stagnant salaries and negligible income growth in recent years, this additional interest burden will severely squeeze already tight monthly household budgets, leaving virtually no room for savings or discretionary spending.

An increased EMI burden will force vulnerable families to make painful compromises on basic living standards or risk falling into debt traps. The RBI and the government must introduce targeted relief measures or capped loan resets to protect fixed-income borrowers.

N SADHASIVA REDDY | BENGALURU

Detention raises questions over dialogue

Appropos of the first-page story, "Day of detention ends with Rahul, Priyanka release at night" (The Pioneer, October 7), the detention of Opposition leaders raises serious questions about the space for dialogue. Hundreds of MPs staged a protest march to the Election Commission of India office to present their grievances concerning the Special Intensive Revision (SIR) exercise. Instead of avoiding engagement, the Election Commission should address the questions raised by opposition parties with clarity, logic and constitutional propriety.

Erecting barricades and making elaborate security arrangements against elected representatives, followed by the detention of lawmakers in large numbers, does little to strengthen confidence in democratic institutions. The concerns raised by the Opposition deserve a response rather than silence.

The political situation has changed. There was a time when the ruling establishment set the narrative, while the Opposition reacted. Today, the Opposition is raising issues that demand answers from those in power.

Leadership requires listening, accountability and the ability to address questions. As John C Maxwell observed, "A leader is one who knows the way, goes the way, and shows the way."

PK SHARMA | PUNJAB

Peaceful protest deserves space

The proposed protest at Jantar Mantar on October 10 raises important questions about the right to peaceful assembly and democratic participation. While Delhi Police has been informed about the protest, representatives of student organisations and the Cockroach Janata Party have said they will not wait for "permission" and that informing the police should be sufficient for necessary law-and-order and traffic arrangements.

The protesters have stated that the agitation will not be limited to demanding the resignation of the Chief Election Commissioner, Gyanesh Kumar. They are also seeking repeal of the 2023 law governing the appointment of election commissioners and reforms to the electoral system. If the protest remains peaceful, authorities should facilitate the exercise of citizens' constitutional rights while ensuring public safety and traffic management. The stated participation of young people from across the country, including members of the INDIA bloc, makes it important that their concerns are heard through lawful and peaceful means.

Dialogue and accommodation are preferable to confrontation. Democratic institutions are strengthened when citizens can express their concerns and grievances without fear.

BHAGWAN THADANI | MUMBAI



Indian Air Force (IAF) Surya Kiran Aerobatic Team aircraft perform manoeuvre during the Exercise Tarang Shakti 2026 in Jodhpur

PHOTO: PTI

India's AI opportunity lies beyond the race for bigger models

A child learns to recognise a chair from a handful of examples; today's most advanced AI systems require enormous computing power to achieve comparable generalisation. India should compete in the AI race, but also ask the deeper question: what does the 20-watt human brain know that our machines do not?



REPRESENTATIONAL IMAGE



SURESH PRABHU

SHOBHIT MATHUR

A child can learn what a chair is from a handful of examples. Give a child a few chairs of different shapes, sizes and colours, and soon the child can recognise a chair they have never seen before. They can distinguish a chair from a table, infer that a stool belongs to the same conceptual family, and apply the idea to objects in unfamiliar settings. Human intelligence generalises from remarkably little data.

Now consider what it takes to reproduce even a fraction of this general-purpose intelligence artificially. OpenAI's latest frontier model, GPT-6 Astra, was developed through the company's largest training run, involving more than 100,000 GPUs at its Stargate facility, according to reporting on its launch. OpenAI describes Astra as its most capable model yet, with state-of-the-art performance across reasoning, computer use, coding, science and professional work.

The contrast is extraordinary. A human brain, weighing roughly 1.3 kilograms, operates on approximately 20 watts of metabolic power. It learns continuously, generalises from sparse experience and adapts to situations it has never encountered. We can now build artificial systems of extraordinary capability, but achieving that capability requires industrial-scale computing infrastructure.

This is not merely a technological curiosity. It may be one of India's most important strategic opportunities. The global AI race is increasingly becoming a race of scale. The largest companies are accumulating GPUs, data, capital and engineering talent at a rate that few countries or institutions can match. India should absolutely participate in this race. We need computing infrastructure, foundational models, chips, data centres and world-class AI researchers. But there is little strategic value in deciding that our ambition is to become the second-best version of something that someone else has already built. There is no enduring national advantage in being second at the same game.

India needs to investigate a different question: why does biological intelligence achieve so much generalisation, abstraction and adaptability with so little energy and so little experience?

We still do not have a satisfactory scientific answer. We understand many components of the brain and have made enormous advances in neuro-

MODERN NEUROSCIENCE HAS DEVELOPED INCREASINGLY POWERFUL INSTRUMENTS FOR OBSERVING THE BRAIN FROM THE OUTSIDE. PERHAPS THE NEXT ADVANCES WILL REQUIRE US TO COMBINE THESE MEASUREMENTS WITH MUCH MORE SYSTEMATIC INVESTIGATION OF SUBJECTIVE EXPERIENCE FROM WITHIN. IT REQUIRES RECOGNISING THAT A COMPLETE SCIENCE OF COGNITION MAY NEED METHODS CAPABLE OF CONNECTING FIRST-PERSON EXPERIENCE WITH THIRD-PERSON MEASUREMENT

Suresh Prabhu is a former Union Minister and parliamentarian. Shobhit Mathur is the co-founder and Vice-Chancellor of Rishihood University

science, but we do not possess a comprehensive theory of how intelligence emerges from them. We do not fully understand how the brain forms abstractions, transfers knowledge across domains, learns continuously without catastrophic loss of previous knowledge, or constructs useful models of the world from relatively sparse experience.

These are precisely the questions that could produce disproportionate advances in AI. A better understanding of biological intelligence could lead to fundamentally different approaches to learning and computation. A new principle for generalisation could matter more than another generation of larger models. A radically more efficient architecture could matter more than another expansion of computing infrastructure. The largest opportunity may therefore lie not in scaling today's paradigm, but in discovering what today's paradigm is missing.

This is a difficult research programme, and that is precisely why universities should pursue it. Markets and companies naturally favour research with identifiable commercial returns. Fundamental questions about cognition, abstraction and consciousness may take decades to resolve and may produce no immediate product. Yet some of the most consequential technologies in modern history emerged from research whose eventual applications were impossible to predict at the time.

Modern neuroscience has developed increasingly powerful instruments for observing the brain from the outside. Perhaps the next advances will require us to combine these measurements with much more systematic investigation of subjective experience from within. It requires recognising that a complete science of cognition may need methods capable of connecting first-person experience with third-person measurement. This could become a distinctive Indian research programme: neuroscience, cognitive science, AI, mathematics, philosophy and contemplative practice brought together around one fundamental question: what are the computational principles of intelligence?

The objective should not be to build an Indian copy of GPT-6 Astra. By the time we reproduce today's frontier, the frontier will have moved again. The objective should be to understand something that the frontier itself does not yet understand.

India should therefore make two bets. We should invest aggressively in the infrastructure required to compete in today's AI economy. Alongside it, we should create long-horizon research programmes willing to pursue questions where the probability, timing and form of the payoff are unknown.

The second bet may turn out to be far more important. The 20-watt brain is telling us something profound. Intelligence does not necessarily require enormous amounts of computation. We simply do not yet understand how nature achieves it.

India's opportunity is to study that gap. If we spend the next decade trying to catch the leaders, we may become very good at following them. If we spend part of that decade discovering a fundamentally different theory of intelligence, we may have a chance to lead.

EC divide raises questions over autonomy



ANIL ANAND

These are troubled times for the Election Commission of India (ECI). For decades, the body has been the standard-bearer of impartial polling, embracing new technology and earning international acclaim as a guide to other democracies on free and fair elections. That reputation now faces its sternest test.

According to an investigative report in *The Indian Express* on September 23, 2026, two of the three members of the Commission, Election Commissioners Sukhbir Singh Sandhu and Vivek Joshi, came close to open revolt against Chief Election Commissioner (CEC) Gyanesh Kumar, only to return to the same table and project normalcy. Their grievance was procedural. They recorded objections 14 times in 10 months to decisions and orders taken without their knowledge. The charge against the CEC is that he has sought to centralise the Commission's functioning, a direct affront to the democratic spirit of a collegiate body.

Controversy is not new to Nirvachan Sadan. The biggest turmoil before this came under T N Seshan, when the poll panel was converted from a solo-driven vehicle into a three-member body. Seshan went to court against the government's decision and made his fellow Election Commissioners, G V G Krishnamurthy and Manohar Singh Gill, parties to the case. Later, CEC N Gopalaswami wrote to the government seeking the removal of Election Commissioner Navin Chawla. The government of the day rejected the plea, and Chawla, who had close links with the Gandhi family, ultimately retired as CEC himself.

In nearly two decades of covering the ECI, I have watched professional and personal rivalries between commissioners play out, sometimes in the open. This is different. An Election Commissioner dissenting from the other two, or the reverse, is one thing. Here, the majority of the Commission says it was bypassed by a minority.

The law is clear. Section 18(2) of the Chief Election Commissioner and other Election Commissioners (Appointment, Conditions of Service and Term of Office) Act, 2023, says all business of the Commission shall, as far as possible, be transacted unanimously. Where the CEC and the Election Commissioners differ, the matter "shall be decided according to the opinion of the majority". Even the procedure for transacting and allocating business can be regulated only by unanimous decision. The principle is older than the statute. In *T N Seshan vs Union of India* (1995), the Supreme Court stressed that Article 324 entrusts elections to the Commission, not to an individual.

The two Election Commissioners then wrote to the Cabinet Secretary about happenings in an autonomous constitutional body. The step is puzzling, though it conveys the gravity of the situation, since the proper authority was the President of India. The ECI has since said the letters concerned an officer on deputation and no policy matter.



At the heart of the row is the Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of the electoral rolls. A storm was already brewing around it. Former CEC S Y Qureshi has described the SIR in its present form as "illegal and unconstitutional". Now it emerges that much of it was done without the knowledge of two of the three commissioners. As reported, Sandhu and Joshi objected repeatedly to procedural flaws and to being kept out of the loop on adding new voters and deleting names. They described the steps on new voters as "unauthorised, illegal", warned against access to the voter database being centralised in Delhi while bypassing state officials, and flagged concerns over the integrity of the voter software. They also objected to IT department heads becoming super-heads on changes to the rolls while senior ECI officials were kept out. The full Commission did not meet between May and August 2026, which points to a deeper malady in the poll panel.

Did Kumar act on his own? Or is he part of a wider net, controlled from above, as Leader of Opposition in the Lok Sabha Rahul Gandhi alleges? Gandhi sees the report as vindication of his earlier charge that electoral manipulation helped the ruling dispensation win. At his press conference after the exposé, he tried to link the CEC to the top hierarchy of the Central government. Kumar can hardly feel comfortable after a former Kerala Chief Secretary claimed that Kumar, then a serving officer, had sounded him out about contesting the Lok Sabha election on a BJP ticket. Was he bidding on behalf of the saffron party bosses?

Surprisingly, the ruling BJP seems to have walked willingly into Gandhi's trap. The ECI's own rebuttal was guarded and deadpan, steering clear of the contentious issues. The BJP was more upfront, pressing its spokespersons into service "to defend the ECI". That drew a sharp remark from columnist Tavleen Singh, no one's idea of a critic of the right, in an X post: "Is the BJP not embarrassed that their party spokesmen are speaking on behalf of the Election Commission? Is that not in itself a giveaway?"

In an official statement, the Commission played down the leaks, saying "differing views and observations are a normal part of deliberation". It conceded that members held differing opinions but insisted these did not reflect its official position. On September 26, the three commissioners met together and promised that agendas would be circulated in advance and minutes recorded. That is an indirect admission of what was missing.

The government's role will come under scrutiny because Kumar is the first CEC appointed under the controversial 2023 Selection Act, which gave the executive a clear advantage on the selection panel by removing the Chief Justice of India. The exposé has revived the allegation that a centralised poll panel is being used to the government's advantage. Handled badly, it can have serious repercussions for the government, though it rises above party lines.

An institution whose only real currency is public trust cannot let that trust be settled through press notes and spokespersons. The way back lies in transparency: let the record of who decided what, and when, speak for itself.

The writer is a commentator on socio-political issues



VIRENDRA SACHDEVA

sporting ecosystem that has truly come of age.

For centuries, the image of Arjuna fixing his gaze on the eye of the bird has stood as India's timeless lesson in focus. In Aichi-Nagoya, that lesson came alive. Our archers saw nothing but the target: not the reputation of their opponents, not the weight of history, not the pressure of a watching nation. They saw only the ten, and they found it, time and again.

Our compound archers swept all three team titles, men's, women's and mixed, for the second consecutive Asian Games. The women's compound team equalled the world record in the final, and the mixed compound pair secured India's quota for the LA 2028 Olympics, where compound archery will make its Olympic debut.

Yet the defining story of these Games was written in recurve, a discipline long dominated by Korea. Our women's recurve team

ended Korea's run of seven successive Asian Games titles to claim India's first-ever gold in the event. Our mixed recurve pair won India's first medal in that event, and our men's recurve team earned a second consecutive silver. Then, on the final day, a 17-year-old held her nerve in the individual recurve final to win a historic gold and secure an Olympic berth for India. Her composure under pressure is a lesson in how fearless India's young athletes have become.

It is equally heartening that our women led from the front. From recurve to compound, they delivered whenever it mattered most, and they will inspire countless young girls across India to pick up a bow. These results weren't a day's success, but are the fruit of nearly fifteen years of sustained, collective effort: world-class infrastructure, quality equipment, international coaching expertise, sports science and regular global exposure. There were times when the podium felt within reach yet just beyond our grasp, but the faith of our coaches, support staff and families never wavered. In Nagoya, our athletes also contended with demanding conditions, long commutes, testing winds and heavy rains, yet their poise through it all speaks volumes about their character.

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This transformation would be incomplete without acknowledging the visionary leadership of our Prime Minister, Narendra Modi. Under his stewardship, sport has moved from the periphery of national priorities to its very centre. Khelo India has unearthed talent from the farthest corners of our nation, while the Target Olympic Podium Scheme has given our

elite athletes the support and dignity they deserve. Above all, the Prime Minister has changed how India regards its sportspersons. He stands beside them in triumph and in disappointment, assuring every young athlete from the smallest town that a billion hopes stand behind them.

Having been with the sports administration

for a while now, I have witnessed many campaigns, but Nagoya was a first even for me. While I was with the team, the Hon'ble Union Sports Minister personally called not once but twice to ask after our athletes, their preparation and their well-being. That is the culture the Government under Prime Minister Narendra Modi has built, one where the highest offices of the nation stand shoulder to shoulder with our athletes, not only on the podium but at every step of the journey.

When a nation honours its athletes, it begins to believe in them. Where there is belief, champions follow. The medals of Aichi-Nagoya, won by young Indians who refused to be intimidated, are the clearest testament to this new sporting India.

To our archers: you have filled 1.4 billion hearts with pride. To the coaches, support staff and families whose sacrifices so often go unseen: these medals belong equally to you.

I am confident that under the exemplary leadership of our Prime Minister, Narendra Modi ji, India will flourish in every sporting discipline and take its rightful place among the world's great sporting nations. As for our archers, they have shown Asia what they are capable of. They are ready for the Olympics, and the world will soon take note.

Jai Hind!

The writer is the Secretary General, Archery Association of India

A new generation takes aim



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SC’s forgiving nature led to rise in crime: Justice Datta

The Supreme Court on Thursday orally remarked that due to its forgiving nature in commutation of death sentences, the country is witnessing an increase in crime and this has to “come to an end somewhere”.

A bench of justices Dipankar Datta and Sheel Nagu was hearing a plea seeking premature release of a life convict whose death sentence was commuted to life imprisonment in a murder case. Justice Datta orally remarked that earlier murder convictions were based on the ‘rare of rare’ doctrine but times have changed.

“It is because of our forgiving nature, that India is facing these problems. Forgive, forgive, forgive, you have to draw a line somewhere,” he said. Justice Datta recalled that the Supreme Court commuted death sentence in a case where a man raped and murdered his elder daughter.

“The father goes to jail on life imprisonment on the basis of the mother’s testimony. After some years, the father comes out on parole and murders the mother in front of his younger daughter. “On the younger daughter’s testimony, he is given death sentence. And then death sentence is commuted to life sentence by the Supreme Court on the ground that he did not murder the younger child. That is why we say, our forgiving nature has to come to an end somewhere,” he said.



(PTI)

Kerala HC asks TDB for Sabarimala works timeline

As the Sabarimala pilgrimage approaches, the Kerala High Court has asked the Travancore Devaswom Board to give the timeframe within which the preparations for it will be completed.

A bench of justices Raja Vijayaraghavan V and KV Jayakumar directed the Board to place on record a detailed statement regarding each of the works to be completed, the expected date of completion and measures to ensure the quality of the work.

“The statement shall also specify the time frame within which each work is expected to be completed and the mechanism put in place to ensure that the works are completed within the stipulated time and in accordance with the required standards,” the court said.

It also asked the Board to state the manner in which the directions issued by Chief Minister VD Satheesan at the high-level meeting held on September 11 are proposed to be implemented and the steps taken to ensure compliance of the instructions.

The bench issued the directions while hearing a petition initiated by it regarding the various activities undertaken at the Lord Ayyappa temple during the monthly poojas there.

During the proceedings, the court was told by the state Government lawyer that several high-level meetings were convened by the State Devaswom Minister K Muralaeddharan and the CM to review the preparatory activities undertaken by various Government departments and the Board for the Sabarimala pilgrimage 2026-2027 and to issue necessary directions. The lawyer also told the court that the CM had issued a firm direction that all pilgrimage-related preparatory works across all departments shall be completed on or before October 31.



(PTI)

Supreme Court sets aside elections in 50 wards in Punjab, orders fresh polls

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE
■ New Delhi

The Supreme Court has ordered fresh elections in 50 municipal wards in Punjab after a fact-finding commission found “widespread obstruction during the nomination process” in the local body polls.

A bench comprising Chief Justice Surya Kant and Justices Joymalya Bagchi and V Mohana set aside elections in 50 wards — 28 in Patiala district and 22 in Moga. The top court passed the order after accepting the findings of a one-member commission headed by former high court judge Nirmaljit Kaur.

The local body elections took place on December 21, 2024. The commission was appointed on March 24, 2025, and it submitted its report on November 18, 2025.

“The principal finding of the Commission is of widespread obstruction during the nomination process, whereby nomination papers were



snatched, torn or destroyed, and candidates were assaulted, detained or threatened. “We accept the recommendations and direct that fresh elections be conducted in the relevant 50 wards. The entire process of re-election shall be completed within six weeks,” the bench said in the September 28 order which was uploaded last night.

The apex court noted the submission of senior advocate Kapil Sibal, appearing for the Punjab Government, that the state has no objection to the commission’s

SC directs steps to enhance women’s safety

RAJESH KUMAR
■ New Delhi

Giving top priority to the safety of women, especially after recent incidents of crimes against them in Delhi-NCR, the Supreme Court on Thursday issued a series of directions to the police and state government to strengthen preventive measures, public transport security and surveillance.

Invoking the “Broken Windows” theory of policing while hearing the suo motu case it initiated over recent incidents of rape in Delhi NCR, a bench of Justice JB Pardiwala and Justice K Vinod Chandran observed that a broken streetlight, a non-functional CCTV camera or an unattended complaint, though minor in

isolation, together convey that public spaces are not being watched. The bench similarly, noted that visible and unattended signs of civic neglect signal an absence of authority and create a safe haven for anti-social elements.

“A broken or inadequate streetlight, a non-functional CCTV camera, an unmonitored dark stretch, or an unaddressed public complaint may individually appear as minor administrative or infrastructural lapses. However, when such deficiencies remain visible and unattended over a period of time, they collectively convey a perception of neglect and diminished vigilance,” the Court observed.

In a slew of sweeping measures the bench has ordered enhanced patrolling around



educational institutions, stringent verification of drivers and assistants operating public transport and app-based cabs, real time monitoring of police patrolling and CCTV infrastructure through dedicated control room command centres or “war rooms”, removal of

illegally parked heavy vehicles creating blind spots and action against unauthorised liquor outlets and eateries.

The court directed the Delhi government’s chief secretary and the commissioner of police to submit periodic compliance reports. It said both officers would be “personally answerable” if the directions were not implemented seriously.

The bench directed that unauthorised liquor shops and establishments operating without requisite permissions be identified and dealt with in accordance with law. The top court issued notice to the Union Ministry of Home Affairs and the Delhi Transport Department and posted the matter for hearing on November 16. The bench asked

authorities to ensure real-time monitoring of vehicle tracking and SOS systems to strengthen preventive policing and curb sexual offences in the national capital.

In its order, the bench said the manner in which public spaces are maintained, visible police patrolling and surveillance, and the promptness with which reported deficiencies are addressed are equally relevant to crime prevention. It also underscored the importance of effective real-time monitoring of police patrolling and CCTV infrastructure through dedicated control room command centres or “war rooms”.

“Therefore, the Commissioner of Police, Delhi and the Chief Secretary, Government of NCT of Delhi,

are hereby directed to furnish a joint report on (i) whether dedicated control room command centres of this nature currently exist within the NCT of Delhi and, if so, their exact number and the corresponding areas of coverage,” the bench said.

“Hence, the police and the local administration shall consider instituting regular citizen-engagement meetings under the supervision of an officer to be designated for the purpose so that grievances may be received directly and their follow-up monitored efficiently,” it said. The bench said training in preventive policing should form part of the induction of police personnel and be reinforced through periodic training at regular intervals thereafter.

Set up panel to examine unethical pharma marketing practices: SC to Government

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE
■ New Delhi

The Supreme Court on Thursday directed the Centre to constitute a committee within two weeks to undertake a holistic and comprehensive examination of issues relating to unethical pharmaceutical marketing practices.

The apex court directed that the committee would endeavour to complete the exercise in a time-bound manner and submit its recommendations to the Centre within two months from the date of its first meeting, after duly undertaking the consultative process and considering the material and suggestions placed before it.

A bench of Justices Vikram Nath and Sandeep Mehta passed the order on a plea concerning alleged prevalence of unethical marketing and promotional practices by pharmaceutical companies in their dealings with healthcare professionals.

The petitioners claimed that such practices include direct or indirect monetary benefits,



gifts, hospitality, sponsored travel, entertainment and other inducements extended to medical practitioners with a view to influence their drug prescribing practices.

The bench noted that the Centre has proposed to constitute a three-member committee to examine the issue and make recommendations as to the appropriate statutory and regulatory framework for regulating the conduct of pharmaceutical companies.

“In view of the aforesaid discussion, and having regard to the constitutional obligation to protect the right to health as well as the continuing need for an effective and enforceable framework to

regulate pharmaceutical marketing practices, we consider it appropriate to exercise our jurisdiction under Articles 32 and 142 of the Constitution,” the bench said.

It said the directions issued by the court are intended to secure effective implementation of the existing framework and to facilitate the ongoing exercise of the Centre towards evolving an appropriate regulatory mechanism.

“The Union of India shall, if not already constituted, constitute the committee proposed by it within a period of two weeks from the date of this order,” it said.

The bench said the committee would undertake a comprehensive examination of all issues relating to unethical pharmaceutical marketing practices, including the adequacy of existing statutory and regulatory framework, the efficacy of mechanisms presently in place for monitoring, oversight and enforcement, and the measures required to ensure greater transparency, accountability and effective compliance.

Group of ex-judges dub Opposition attack on EC campaign without evidence

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE
■ New Delhi

A group of 42 retired judges have defended the Election Commission of India (ECI) against the Opposition onslaught and backed the Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of electoral rolls, describing it as a lawful exercise.

In an open letter to the “people of India”, the former judges of the Supreme Court and former chief justices and judges of various high courts said they hold no brief for any political party but felt compelled to speak as “silence is no longer a neutral choice”.

The signatories include Former Chief Justice of Jammu and Kashmir and Delhi High Court BC Patel, Former Chief Justice of Karnataka High Court Subhro Kamal Mukherjee, former

Supreme Court judges Hemant Gupta and Pankaj Mittal. The Opposition INDIA bloc leaders have accused Chief Election Commissioner (CEC) Gyanesh Kumar of revising electoral rolls to benefit the BJP and have sought his resignation. Both the BJP and the commission have rejected the allegation.

The former judges claimed that India’s constitutional bodies are under “sustained attack”, with the Election Commission of India at the centre of the assault.

“Even the higher judiciary, which we hold in high esteem, and statutory agencies have not been spared,” the letter pointed out. They said the attacks were not reasoned criticism but appeared to be a “calculated campaign” driven by vested political interests, with little



regard for the potentially devastating consequences of “destabilising the world’s largest democracy”.

The former judges described the attacks on the poll panel and other institutions as a “campaign without evidence”.

“Criticism of institutions is a democratic right. Denigration is not. Constitutional authorities are now branded ‘thieves’,

those revisions a conspiracy,” they said. The former judges said the allegations of “vote theft” are made at press conferences, “not before courts”.

“When the commission seeks a sworn declaration, none is filed. Electronic Voting Machines are blamed only after defeat. Victories won on the same machines go unquestioned,” the letter said.

In an apparent reference to the Congress, they said a party that governed the nation for over five decades now claims that the very system which elected it is rigged. “It does not act alone. Activist outfits with a long record of selective litigation lend these claims a veneer of legality,” it said.

They file petition, “one after the other” but seldom give proof. The courtroom becomes a stage, and when

the judgment is delivered, it is criticised whenever it does not serve their interests, the letter said.

“Vitriol is then amplified and disseminated on an industrial scale, with the deliberate aim of eroding public confidence in a well-established and widely trusted judicial system,” they said.

On Tuesday, the INDIA bloc MPs marched from Parliament, and Rahul Gandhi observed an eight-hour sit-in at Akashvani Bhawan. On Wednesday, the scene shifted to nearby Jantar Mantar as Gandhi and other INDIA bloc leaders held a street protest against Kumar before being detained by the police later in the evening.

Thursday marked the third day of continuous protests in the national capital by top Opposition leaders.

SC asks Centre to furnish details of rehab centres for disabled children across India

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE
■ New Delhi

The Supreme Court on Thursday sought State-wise details on the regulation, standards and monitoring mechanisms governing rehabilitation centres for children with disabilities across India.

A bench of Chief Justice Surya Kant and Justices Joymalya Bagchi and V Mohana asked the Centre to collect requisite data from all states and Union territories on the implementation of statutory frameworks, constitution of regulatory bodies, and oversight of such facilities, and place these on record through affidavits.

Appearing in the matter, advocate Rahul Bajaj highlighted glaring gaps in statutory compliance under both the Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act, 2016 (RPwD Act) and the Mental Healthcare Act, 2017.

He submitted that rehabilitation centres for persons with disabilities mandate compulsory state-level registration under the RPwD Act and pointed out the urgent need for collection of data to establish whether the designated statutory authorities have actually been constituted across states and whether they are active-



ly monitoring these institutions.

While referring to the Mental Healthcare Act, 2017, Bajaj flagged that only 10 states and Union territories have till now notified the requisite minimum standards for mental health establishments.

He underscored the lack of information concerning periodic audits and inspections conducted by authorities to enforce compliance and safeguard the welfare of institutionalised children.

The bench asked the Centre to coordinate with the states and compile a detailed report about setting up and functioning of statutory authorities under the RPwD Act, the formulation and notification of minimum standards across mental health establishments, and the inspection and monitoring protocols currently in place to supervise rehabilitation facilities.

It listed the matter for further hearing on October 22.

COMFED expands SUDHA’s presence in Assam, North-East

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE

■ Guwahati

Bihar State Milk Co-operative Federation Ltd (COMFED), which markets dairy products under the SUDHA brand, is strengthening its presence in Assam and the adjoining North-Eastern States through expanded processing capacity and a growing retail network.

As part of the expansion, Assam Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma inaugurated a 20,000 litres per day (LPD) milk processing plant at Kanyaka Dairy, Shantipur, Jamugurihat, Tezpur, Sonitpur, on Thursday. Shirsat Kapil Ashok, IAS, Chairman-cum-Managing Director, COMFED, attended the inauguration.

The new plant is expected to strengthen supplies to Tezpur and adjoining areas and support further expansion of SUDHA’s regional distribution network.

SUDHA expands retail network in Assam, North-East

COMFED began marketing SUDHA pouch milk and milk products in Guwahati in November 2018 through a third-party dairy facility at Amingaon. Since then, it has expanded operations to other parts of Assam and neighbouring states, Meghalaya and Arunachal Pradesh.

At present, COMFED’s Guwahati unit markets a range of SUDHA products, including pouch milk, curd, paneer, lassi, peda and milk cake, through approximately 2,200 retail outlets.

Average milk sales from the unit stand at around 50,500 litres per day. During the financial year 2025-26, the unit recorded a turnover of ₹121.17 crore and a profit of ₹8.06 crore, reflecting the



growing acceptance of the SUDHA brand in the region.

Assam offers significant potential for dairy sector

The North-East, particularly Assam, offers considerable potential for the organised dairy sector.

According to the National Dairy Development Board (NDDB), Assam’s household demand for milk and milk products is projected to increase to 89.87 lakh litres per day by 2030.

The projected increase indicates substantial scope to expand dairy supplies, processing infrastructure, and retail distribution in the State.

Expansion in the North-East requires reliable processing and distribution arrangements to serve markets spread across different locations and terrain. COMFED’s approach seeks to bring processing closer to these markets, improve supply reliability and make SUDHA products more widely accessible to consumers.

COMFED plans one lakh LPD dairy facility

COMFED has also begun steps to set up its own dairy processing facility in Assam, with a proposed capacity of one lakh litres per day.

For the proposed project, COMFED has requested the

Government of Assam to allot suitable land. The Assam Industrial Development Corporation (AIDC) has identified potential locations and shown them to COMFED for consideration.

Focus on ‘cooperation among cooperatives’

As a dairy cooperative federation, COMFED’s expansion also offers scope to advance the principle of “cooperation among cooperatives.”

Collaboration in milk sourcing, processing, distribution, and technical support can help cooperative institutions share resources and expertise, strengthen market access, and improve services for producers and consumers.

Such partnerships can connect Bihar’s established dairy cooperative network with opportunities in the North-East and support the wider development of cooperative dairying.

COMFED contributes to Assam flood relief

Alongside its business operations, COMFED has also contributed to relief efforts in Assam. During the recent floods, its Guwahati unit donated ₹4 lakh to the Chief Minister’s Relief Fund.

Assam Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma appreciated the contribution.

UP to become logistics hub as UPSIDA approves 4 new projects

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE

■ Lucknow

Uttar Pradesh is moving towards strengthening its position as one of the country’s leading industrial and logistics hubs, with the Uttar Pradesh State Industrial Development Authority (UPSIDA) approving four new warehousing and logistics projects across the state.

The projects include one silo project, two warehousing projects and one logistics park. These projects will be established in Pilibhit, Unnao, Gautam Buddha Nagar and Ayodhya districts.

The initiatives are being undertaken under the leadership and guidance of Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath to accelerate industrial development in the state and contribute to the vision of making Uttar Pradesh a \$1 trillion economy.



₹14,600 crore Investment Proposed Across 75 Projects

With approval for four new projects, UPSIDA has so far approved 75 projects under the Uttar Pradesh Warehousing & Logistics Policy-2022 and the PIP Policy.

These projects are proposed to be developed over approximately 960 acres of land, with a total proposed investment of around ₹14,600 crore.

Implementing these projects is expected to expand

the state’s modern warehousing and logistics infrastructure significantly. In particular, the projects will increase capacity for safe, scientific storage of food grains and provide farmers with better warehousing and logistics facilities.

The projects will also accelerate the development of warehousing clusters, modern distribution centres, silos and cold-chain facilities across the state. This is expected to make the

agricultural supply chain more efficient and seamless while facilitating faster movement of agricultural produce to markets.

New employment opportunities alongside investment

Growing investment in the warehousing and logistics sector is expected to strengthen the state’s infrastructure and generate significant direct and indirect employment opportunities.

These projects will stimulate local economic activity in areas such as transportation, warehousing, packaging, distribution, and allied services, contributing to inclusive economic growth.

Policy incentives strengthening investor confidence

The Uttar Pradesh Warehousing & Logistics Policy-2022, introduced by the state Government, aims to establish Uttar Pradesh as a modern, competitive and globally competitive

logistics hub.

Under the policy, the state provides investors with various incentives, financial assistance, tax-related benefits, and other facilitation measures to establish warehousing and logistics units in the State.

The rapidly expanding expressway network, industrial corridors, and rail and air connectivity further enhance Uttar Pradesh’s attractiveness as a preferred destination for investment in the logistics and warehousing sector.

UPSIDA is also placing particular emphasis on providing investors with a simple, transparent, and time-bound approval process, ensuring that investment proposals translate into ground-level projects at the earliest and contribute to investment, employment generation, and economic activity across the State.

Ghaziabad Municipal Commissioner hears public grievances

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE

■ Ghaziabad

Ghaziabad Municipal Commissioner Vikramaditya Singh Malik heard public grievances under the ‘Sambhav’ programme and directed concerned officials to take prompt action on all 19 references received during the public hearing.

Of the 19 grievances, eight pertained to the Construction Department, one to the Health Department, one to the Horticulture Department, three to the Street Lighting Department, three to the Property Department, one to the Tax Department, and two to the Jal Kal (Water Works) Department.

The concerned departments of the Ghaziabad



Municipal Corporation immediately took action on the complaints.

The Municipal Commissioner said that under the Sambhav programme, the department aims to address grievances received during the public hearing on the same day.

Several elected councillors also raised issues in their

respective wards and put forward suggestions in residents’ interest. Councillors from Ward No. 24 (Maharoli), Ward No. 74 (Vasundhara), Ward No. 89 (Vaishali), Ward No. 18 (Rajapur) and Ward No. 88 (Gandhi Nagar) discussed various civic issues. They offered suggestions for improving facilities in their areas.

Mega drive to remove illegal

encroachments in Vijay Nagar

The hearing also received a specific complaint about illegal encroachment in Vijay Nagar.

Taking the issue seriously, Municipal Commissioner Vikramaditya Singh Malik directed the concerned departments to conduct a joint mega enforcement drive in Vijay Nagar and take strict action against illegal encroachments.

During the public hearing, the Ghaziabad Municipal Corporation also initiated action on various complaints received.

Additional Municipal Commissioner Renu Singh, General Manager (Jal Kal) Kamakhya Prasad Anand, In-charge Horticulture Dr Anuj, Municipal Health Officer Dr

Mithilesh, Chief Tax Assessment Officer Anirudh Kumar, along with officials of the Street Lighting Department, were present during the hearing.

Special Street Lighting Campaign Ahead of Festivals

In view of the upcoming festivals, the Municipal Commissioner also directed the Street Lighting Department to undertake a special campaign across all wards to ensure street lights function properly and are properly maintained.

The complainants appreciated the Ghaziabad Municipal Corporation’s prompt response and action during the Sambhav public hearing and expressed gratitude for the timely resolution of their grievances.

Bastar Dussehra scripts a tale of tourism

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE

■ New Delhi

Besieged by Naxal menace for the last three decades, Bastar has now changed tack after the elimination of ultra-Left terror as it pulls tourists who are venturing into the region’s forests, waterfalls and tribal culture. Bastar’s tourism numbers are now telling a story the region has not been able to witness for a long time.

Post monsoon, Bastar is at its most dramatic: the forests thicken, the waterfalls swell, and the usual trickle of visitors turns into something closer to a rush. Hotel and homestay operators near the region’s main attractions say they have already started preparing for the crowds expected around Bastar Dussehra, Navratni and Diwali.

Dussehra itself runs for 75 days this year, and it is being treated as something more



than a religious calendar event. There is no Ravana effigy burnt here, unlike most of the country’s Dussehra celebrations. Instead, the festival builds around a massive chariot, local folk tradition and tribal belief systems that have nothing to do with the Ramayana. That difference is part of the draw. President Droupadi Murmu’s slated

attendance this year has only added to the attention the festival is getting, and officials expect it to anchor Chhattisgarh’s tourism calendar going forward.

Managing Director of the Chhattisgarh Tourism Board, Saumil Ranjan Chaubey puts it simply: the state is not chasing visitor numbers for their own sake. “The bigger goal is to connect tourism to

the local economy directly, through eco-tourism, homestays, adventure tourism and better infrastructure, while bringing in local youth, women, artisans and small entrepreneurs as the people running these businesses rather than watching from outside,” he said, adding, the improved security and connectivity in the region has added to the

uptick already visible on the ground.

Dussehra is only part of what is drawing people in. Chitrakote Falls, Tirathgarh and Kanger Valley have become regular stops on itineraries that once began and ended with the festival. Inside Kanger Valley, the Kutumsar and Kailash caves offer a different kind of visit altogether, closer to the region’s biodiversity and tribal life than to any festival schedule, and they are increasingly pulling tourism out of the main towns and into villages that rarely saw outside visitors before.

Homestays, local Bastariya food, Mahua-based products and handicrafts are turning into source of livelihood and income for people who had little access earlier. Guides, drivers, small shopkeepers, artisans, and women’s self-help groups are among the beneficiaries.

NTPC concludes electron quiz 2026-27; IIT Madras teams take top honours

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE

■ Noida

NTPC, India’s largest integrated power utility, concluded its flagship Electron Quiz 2026-27 on October 8, an initiative aimed at encouraging curiosity, learning and fresh thinking among young minds. Organised from September 5, beginning with the regional round in Lucknow and culminating in the National Finale in Noida on October 8, the quiz was conducted across nine regional locations.

At the Grand Finale, Advik Kabra and Ashish Cherian Thannickal of IIT Madras emerged as the national champions. Sreeram Madhavan V and Ishaan Joshi of IIT Madras secured the second position, while Waqar Moid and Parth Arya Bhat of IIT Kanpur finished third.

Winners receive cash prizes

At the national level, the winning team was awarded ₹1,00,000, while the second- and third-placed teams received ₹60,000 and ₹40,000, respectively.

Teams securing the fourth, fifth, and sixth positions received ₹16,000 each, while

the remaining 12 teams received ₹8,000 each.

Anil Kumar Jadli, Director (HR), NTPC, was present and congratulated the winners. He also complimented all participants for their enthusiasm and encouraged the students to carry forward the spirit of learning and curiosity in their future endeavours.

Speaking about NTPC’s own journey of transformation, Jadli highlighted how the company is evolving beyond its traditional identity into an integrated energy major. He encouraged the youngsters to embrace the same spirit of transformation and adaptability in their own lives and careers.

Over 1,100 teams participate

The regional rounds were held across nine cities-Lucknow, Patna, Ranchi, Raipur, Mumbai, Chennai, Hyderabad, Kolkata and Noida.

More than 1,100 teams participated in the competition, making this year’s edition one of the largest editions of the NTPC Electron Quiz.

At the regional level, the winning teams were awarded ₹60,000, while the



second- and third-placed teams received ₹40,000 and ₹20,000, respectively. Teams that secured fourth, fifth, and sixth positions received ₹8,000 each.

Among others, SN Panigrahi, Executive Director (HR); Premilata, Executive Director (Strategic HRD & Talent Development); senior executives; employees; and students from various institutes were present to encourage the finalists.

Quiz Organised Since 2004 Since 2004, the NTPC

Electron Quiz, themed ‘The World of Business & Management’, has been a flagship initiative that promotes learning and intellectual growth.

Over the years, the quiz has grown in scale and stature, giving students across the country a chance to learn and compete.

Meanwhile, NTPC Limited, a Maharatna company of the Government of India, is India’s largest integrated power utility with an installed capacity of over 91

GW. As the company strengthens its position across the energy value chain, NTPC is expanding beyond conventional power generation into renewable energy and emerging areas, including battery energy storage, nuclear power, carbon capture, and green chemicals.

The company is targeting 60 GW of renewable energy capacity by 2032, as part of its broader commitment to India’s evolving energy landscape.

Alok Tiwari entrusted with additional charge of managing director of DFCCIL



PIONEER NEWS SERVICE

■ New Delhi

Alok Tiwari, IRSE, Additional Member (Bridge), Railway Board, has been entrusted with the additional charge of Managing Director of Dedicated Freight Corridor Corporation of India Limited (DFCCIL), in addition to his existing responsibilities.

Tiwari assumed charge of the post on October 5, 2026. He was welcomed at the DFCCIL Corporate Office by Shobhit Bhatnagar, Director/OP&BD; Anurag Sharma, Director/Infrastructure; Pawan K Rai, Director/Project Planning; and B Mugunthan, Director/Finance, along with other senior officials of DFCCIL.

A 1988-batch IRSE officer, Tiwari has over 36 years of experience in Indian Railways, with extensive exposure to railway infrastructure planning, project execution, construction, safety, freight operations and administration.

Throughout his career, he has worked across the full project life cycle and has directly constructed and commissioned more than 1,000 km of railway infrastructure.

Extensive experience in railway infrastructure

Tiwari has held several key positions during his career, including Chief Administrative Officer, South East Central Railway; Principal Chief Safety Officer, South Western Railway; Divisional Railway Manager, Guntakal; and Chief Project Manager-cum-Group General Manager, RVNL.

His experience covers technical planning, major infrastructure projects, safety management, freight opera-

tions and organisational administration.

After assuming charge as Managing Director, Tiwari chaired a review meeting at the DFCCIL Corporate Office to take stock of key activities, ongoing works and operational priorities.

The meeting covered critical aspects of Dedicated Freight Corridor operations, construction, maintenance, asset reliability, safety, project progress and overall organisational performance.

Focus on Technology, Automation and Efficiency

During the review meeting, Tiwari emphasised the need for a coordinated, outcome-oriented, technology-driven approach across all functions, with a clear focus on improving efficiency, reliability, and productivity.

The meeting also discussed aligning the proposed East-West Dedicated Freight Corridor (EWDFC) and the way forward for its planning and development.

The meeting placed particular emphasis on greater mechanisation and automation in maintenance, adopting modern construction methodologies, wider use of precast solutions, and deploying Artificial Intelligence and digital technologies to enhance asset performance and enable data-driven decision-making.

Emphasis on knowledge management

The new Managing Director also stressed the importance of strengthening knowledge management and institutional memory within DFCCIL.

He called for creating a comprehensive digital repository of drawings

and critical project data at the Corporate Office, supported by robust backup and archival arrangements. The initiative aims to ensure systematic preservation and effective utilisation of institutional knowledge.

Tiwari also called on officers to maintain a strong focus on quality, cost-effectiveness, timely execution, and operational excellence while leveraging technology and innovation to enhance DFCCIL’s capabilities further.

With extensive experience in railway infrastructure, freight operations, safety, and project management, Tiwari takes charge at a key stage in the evolution of India’s Dedicated Freight Corridor network.

His leadership is expected to strengthen further DFCCIL’s focus on operational efficiency, asset reliability, technological innovation, and infrastructure excellence.

DFCCIL is entrusted with developing and operating the Dedicated Freight Corridors to enhance freight transportation capacity, improve logistics efficiency, and facilitate faster, safer, and more efficient movement of goods across the country.

PARADIP PORT AUTHORITY

e-TENDER CALL NOTICE

No.CE/PHD/ACCTS/07/26/328

Dtd.05.10.2026

Name of the Work: "Operation and Maintenance (O&M) of 2.50 MLD STP-II at Brundaban Colony for two years (2027-29)". Estimated cost: Rs.1,58,00,972.10. Last Date & time of submission : 26.10.2026 up to 18:00 Hrs. Refer our website for details: eprocure.gov.in/eprocure/app.

Sd/- Executive Engineer, PHD, PPA

PPA/PR/30/2026-27 dtd. 07.10.2026

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Rupee falls 13 paise to close at 96.88 against US dollar

The rupee depreciated by 13 paise to close at 96.88 against the US dollar on Thursday, on risk aversion in global markets amid escalation of geopolitical tensions.

Forex traders said the rupee is under pressure amid persistent headwinds, including global dollar strength (DXY trading near multi-month highs) and elevated Brent crude prices hovering near \$104 per barrel.

However, suspected intervention by the Reserve Bank of India supported the domestic unit at lower levels. At the interbank foreign exchange market, the rupee opened at 96.71 and touched a high of 96.65 against the greenback during intraday. At the end of the trading session on Thursday, the rupee closed at 96.88, down 13 paise over its previous close. On Wednesday, the rupee closed at 96.75 against the American currency. "We expect the rupee to trade with a negative bias on risk aversion in global markets amid escalation of geopolitical tensions. A strong dollar and surge in crude oil prices may also pressurise the rupee." However, declining odds of a rate hike by the US Fed in October and any intervention by the RBI may support the rupee at lower levels. Traders may also take cues from weekly unemployment claims data out of the US," said Anuj Choudhary, Research Analyst, Mirae AssetSharekhan. Forex traders said investors will wait for the RBI to take action against speculation on the USD/INR pair, with the Governor Sanjay Malhotra assuring to help in finding rupee to its true value, which is undervalued presently.

(PNS)

CIABC questions Karnataka's AIB tax model

CIABC, the industry association representing domestic Indian-made liquor companies, on Thursday questioned the effectiveness of Karnataka's Alcohol-in-Beverage (AIB) taxation regime and the preferential treatment given to the 'beer' category. The Confederation of Indian Alcoholic Beverage Companies (CIABC) countered claims made by the Brewers Association of India (BAI) that the new tax structure has boosted state revenues and encouraged consumption of milder alcoholic beverages. Citing State Government data for July-September 2026, CIABC said there is a "clear divergence" between volume growth and revenue contribution across Indian-made liquor (IML) and beer. IML sales rose marginally to 171.69 lakh cases (9 litres each) from 169.12 lakh cases a year ago, a volume growth of 1.52 per cent. Despite this near-flat volume performance, IMFL revenue rose 13.36 per cent, or ₹1,064.52 crore, to ₹9,033.21 crore from ₹7,968.69 crore.

Beer sales jumped 49.69 per cent to 126.68 lakh cases from 84.63 lakh cases. Beer revenue rose ₹228.57 crore, or 18.52 per cent, to ₹1,463.07 crore from ₹1,234.50 crore. "The contrast becomes even clearer when the incremental revenue is examined," said CIABC as Karnataka revenue growth continues to be driven by IML. Though beer volumes surged sharply after the implementation of the AIB framework, the bulk of incremental excise revenue continued to come from IFL, the association said, raising concerns over the efficiency and long-term sustainability of the new tax regime. "Total excise revenue during Q2 increased by ₹1,291.94 crore. Of this increase, approximately ₹1,064.52 crore or 82 per cent came from IMFL," said CIABC.

(PNS)

The ePlane Company inks pact with Noida International Airport for air taxi infra

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE
■ Mumbai

Ubify Technologies Pvt Ltd, which operates as The ePlane Company, on Thursday said it has signed an initial pact with Noida International Airport to develop infrastructure for air taxi operations.

The agreement sets up a comprehensive framework to co-develop the regulatory SOPs, vertiport management systems, and operational ecosystem specifically required to deploy ePlane's flagship e200X aircraft, it said.

This infrastructure partnership complements key engineering progress following the recent public unveiling of the full-scale electric air taxi e200X PT-01 prototype, the company said. This collaboration paves the way for e200X-powered airport-to-airport transit, intra-city commutes,

and emergency air ambulance services across the region, The ePlane company said.

With ground testing (for the prototype air taxi) currently underway, the Memorandum of Understanding ensures that the physical development of the aircraft is met with parallel advancements in ground operations and airspace integration, it said. "Deploying electric air taxis requires more

The Pioneer

CHANDIGARH | FRIDAY | OCTOBER 9, 2026

Sensex drops 1,045 points in broad Indian market sell-off

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE
■ Mumbai

Benchmark stock index Sensex tanked 1,045 points while Nifty slid to a 21-month low on Thursday following heavy selling in rate-sensitive, commodities and FMCG shares amid a sharp spike in crude oil prices and growing prospect of tighter domestic and global monetary conditions.

Falling for the second day running, the 30-share BSE Sensex tumbled 1,045.46 points, or 1.44 per cent, to settle at a more than two-and-a-half-year low of 71,593.24. During the day, it slumped 1,310.95 points, or 1.80 per cent, to 71,327.75. The BSE barometer had previously closed near this level on February 13, 2024.

The 50-share NSE Nifty dropped 371.25 points, or 1.64 per cent, to end at a 21-month low of 22,231.80. During the day, it 423.15 points, or 1.87 per cent, to a low of 22,179.90 — also its intra-day 52-week low.

From the 30 Sensex firms, ITC was the biggest loser, down by 4.24 per cent. InterGlobe Aviation dropped 3.36 per cent, Power Grid by 3.16 per cent, Bharat Electronics by 3.1 per cent,

Stock	Change (%)
TECH MAHINDRA	+0.44%
AXIS BANK	+0.25%
INFOSYS	+0.21%

Stock	Change (%)
ITC	-4.24%
INDIGO	-3.86%
POWER GRID	-3.16%
BEL	-3.10%
ADANI PORTS	-2.59%

Adani Ports by 2.59 per cent and NTPC by 2.43 per cent.

Tech Mahindra, Axis Bank and Infosys were the winners. Brent crude, the global oil benchmark, jumped 4.25 per cent to \$104.5 per barrel.

Foreign Institutional Investors (FIIs) offloaded equities worth ₹6,121.37 crore on Wednesday, according to exchange data. The Reserve Bank of India raised its benchmark repo rate by 25 basis points to 5.50 per cent on Wednesday, its first hike in nearly four years, while signalling that rate cuts are off the table in the near term and that further hikes could follow amid rising inflation, a weak rupee

and high crude oil prices. The six-member Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) of the RBI voted unanimously to raise the repo rate, and sprang a surprise with a shift in policy stance to "calibrated tightening" from "neutral".

"The domestic market continued in its sharp sell-off mode as the ripple effects of hawkish RBI policy weighed on rate-sensitive sectors, effectively resetting near-term valuation multiples.

This headwind was further amplified by persistent FII outflows, harder bond yields, and a depreciating INR," Vinod Nair, Head of Research, Geojit Investments Limited, said. Moreover, volatile crude oil prices hov-

ering stubbornly above the \$100 mark continue to be a hurdle for the national economy, he added.

The BSE SmallCap Select index dived 2.58 per cent and MidCap Select index tumbled 2.53 per cent. All BSE sectoral indices ended lower. Power slumped 3.51 per cent, Metal 3.34 per cent, Utilities 3.38 per cent, Realty 3.07 per cent, Capital Goods 3.02 per cent, Industrials 2.93 per cent, Services 2.76 per cent and Commodities 2.71 per cent. A total of 3,426 stocks declined, while 1,003 advanced and 225 remained unchanged on the BSE.

"Indian equity benchmarks ended sharply lower on Thursday as risk aversion intensified across the market. Crude oil remained the key source of pressure, with rising energy prices reviving concerns over a more persistent inflationary backdrop just a day after the RBI shifted its policy stance toward calibrated tightening.

"Elevated US Treasury yields and continued FII selling added to the pressure, while mixed global cues provided little support to domestic equities," Ponmudi R, CEO of Enrich Money, an online trading and wealth tech firm, said.

Govt to cap trade margins at 30% of MRP for anti-cancer drugs, say sources

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE
■ New Delhi

The Centre has decided to cap trade margins at 30 per cent of maximum retail price for all non-scheduled anti-cancer drugs, covering branded and generic, domestic and imported, patented, and non-patented medicines, Government sources said on Thursday.

The move addresses excessive trade mark-ups and aims to improve affordability while ensuring continued availability of these life-saving medicines, the sources said.

The decision, which is expected to be implemented later this month, will bring down prices of 110 anti-cancer drugs, including 35 patented medicines.

"The primary aim of the trade margin rationalisation

(TMR) is to prevent mis-selling malpractices. There is a tendency to sell drugs having a bigger margin, and since anti-cancer drugs are more expensive than the rest, we wanted to cap the trade margins on them," the sources said.

The move will lead to an estimated annual savings of ₹2,500 crore of cancer patients, they said.

The Supreme Court had on September 29 voiced its concern on the issue of

highly-inflated price of anti-cancer drugs. Barring for a uniform 16 per cent margin on all medicines, a bench of Justice Vikram Nath and Justice Sandeep Mehta told Solicitor General Tushar Mehta appearing for the Centre, "This is carnage. Plain and simple. The cancer drug is priced at an MRP of ₹27,000 despite being supplied to retailers for ₹2,700."

The Government sources, however, said the decision to cap the margins on the drugs was not related to the ongoing case but has been in the works since 2019.

The health department has constituted a committee to finalise the list of drugs, the sources said, adding that the issue of pricing of other medicines needs a calibrated approach.

Gold rebounds ₹3,600 to ₹1.52 lakh per 10 gram ahead of festive season

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE
■ New Delhi

Gold prices jumped ₹3,600 to ₹1.52 lakh per 10 grams in the National Capital on Thursday, rebounding from a two-session slide, as buying interest from jewellers and retailers improved ahead of the festive season.

The 99.9 per cent purity metal climbed ₹3,600 to ₹1,52,500 per 10 grams, inclusive of all taxes, according to the All India Sarafa Association. It had settled at ₹1,48,900 per 10 grams on Wednesday.

Traders said jewellers typically increase gold purchases in the form of raw material ahead of the festive season, when demand for jewellery tends to rise. Gold found some support on

Thursday after recovering from the two-month low; however, a strong dollar and elevated crude oil prices capped the upside, said Gaurav Garg, Head of Research at brokerage platform Lemonn.

However, silver moved in the opposite direction.

The white metal had resumed its downward march after three sessions of

trading flat, falling by ₹3,000 to ₹2.24 lakh per kilogram from ₹2.27 lakh per kg in the preceding session.

The metal hit its lowest level in more than three months, having last traded around this level on June 29.

Globally, spot gold was marginally higher at \$4,111.94 per ounce, while silver fell over 2 per cent to \$58.50 an ounce. "Gold is steady on Thursday as \$4,120 an ounce in global trade after touching a nine-week low in the previous session," said Vedika Narvekar, Research Analyst- Commodities & Currencies, Anand Rath Share and Stock Brokers Ltd.

The recovery remained constrained as renewed tensions in West Asia pushed crude oil prices to \$105 per barrel, she said.

GTRI urges Govt to scrap proposed October 15 UPI charges

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE
■ New Delhi

The Government should withdraw the proposed UPI charges, scheduled to take effect on October 15, and keep the digital payment system free for merchants and consumers, economic think tank Global Trade Research Initiative (GTRI) said on Thursday. It said that charging merchants could raise prices, squeeze small business earnings and weaken household demand.

The charges would also reduce UPI's price advantage over cards, benefiting US card networks and payment plat-

forms, the GTRI said, adding that an independent audit should establish and publish UPI's actual running costs.

"The Government should withdraw the proposed UPI charges scheduled to take effect on October 15 and keep UPI free for merchants and consumers," said GTRI Founder Ajay Srivastava.

Ending nearly six years of fully free UPI payments, the Government has introduced a 0.4 per cent fee on transfers worth more than ₹2,000 made to merchants through the platform from October 15, while explicitly ring-fencing everyday person-to-person transactions as well as small

payments from any charge.

Srivastava said that banks save on handling cash and operating ATMs and branches when customers use UPI, and payment apps gain customers' spending data and

opportunities to sell loans, insurance and mutual funds in a market serving more than 55 crore Indians. The Government, he said, benefits from wider digital payments and greater visibility of eco-

nomics transactions. "These benefits support the case for sharing UPI's running costs. If these institutions fund the system, UPI can remain free and preserve its advantage over cards. Charging merchants reduces that advantage and creates commercial opportunities for competing payment networks," he said.

He added that PhonePe and Google Pay, which together handle more than 80 per cent of UPI transactions, could earn a share of merchant fees if the fee-sharing arrangement provides for it. "Their market dominance would give them a large potential base for such earnings,"

Srivastava said, adding, "Visa and Mastercard could benefit when UPI loses part of its price advantage. Free UPI allows merchants to receive the full payment. An MDR reduces that benefit and could make cards more competitive. The card networks also seek access to UPI comparable to that enjoyed by RuPay credit cards."

India should resist US pressure to weaken UPI, drawing on Brazil's defence of Pix, its domestic digital-payment system, he said, adding that UPI's affordability and widespread acceptance are economic strengths that India should preserve.

Nasscom welcomes GST council move on services exports

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE
■ Mumbai

IT industry body Nasscom on Thursday said that the recommendations of the 57th GST Council meeting on overseas branches and R&D services address longstanding concerns related to service exports, input tax credit, refunds and compliance.

The Council, chaired by Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman, recommended removing existing restrictions on services supplied through overseas branches to qualify as exports, Nasscom noted in a statement. Under current regulations, services supplied from an Indian office to its overseas branch don't qualify as exports because both are treated as establishments of the same entity. "Subject to the other export conditions, it should reduce tax uncertainty, litigation and un-

necessary working capital costs," Nasscom said, noting that Indian companies frequently serve international clients through their overseas branch networks.

Ahead of the meeting, the industry body had flagged the Goods and Services Tax (GST) treatment of head office-to-branch office (HO-BO) transactions as a persistent source of litigation,

noting that the disparity between deliveries via overseas branches versus subsidiaries resulted in input tax credit reversals and additional compliance burdens for exporters.

The Council has also recommended amending the 'place-of-supply' rules for research, testing, certification, and engineering services conducted in India on

goods belonging to overseas clients.

Presently, the physical presence of a customer's prototype or sample in India can disqualify such services from being treated as exports. Nasscom said the proposed change will benefit engineering research and development (ER&D) firms, global capability centres (GCCs) and deep-tech startups providing testing services globally, while helping India attract more international mandates.

Among other measures, the industry body also welcomed the Council's decision to allow input tax credit for employee health and life insurance, the extension of inverted-duty refunds to input services, refund eligibility on plant and machinery, and faster refund processing timelines. For the e-commerce

segment, Nasscom noted that the proposed simplified registration mechanism for smaller sellers using platform warehouses in other states will facilitate interstate online trade without requiring dedicated physical premises in every state.

"The Council has addressed longstanding concerns affecting service exports, input tax credit, refunds, and compliance.

Its recommendations on notices, prosecution and arrest powers also signal a more proportionate approach to tax enforcement. "Nasscom has engaged with the Government on several of these issues through consultations and detailed submissions over the years. We appreciate the Council's consideration of industry concerns and the Government's continued openness to dialogue," Nasscom said.

Paytm slips 5% amid reports of deferred UPI merchant fees

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE
■ New Delhi

Shares of Paytm, One Mobikwik Systems and other fintech firms ended lower on Thursday amid reports that a proposal to defer the rollout of merchant discount rate (MDR) on UPI to January 1, from October 15, is under consideration.

One 97 Communications, which owns the Paytm brand, tanked 10 per cent to ₹1,560.60 during the day on the BSE. It finally ended at ₹1,640, down 5.42 per cent.

One Mobikwik Systems shares dropped 8.43 per cent to ₹234.40 in intraday deals. The stock later ended 4.57 per cent lower at ₹244.30.

Pine Labs declined 4.95 per cent to ₹168.75 during the day before ending at ₹169.75, down 4.39 per cent. Network People Services Technologies dropped by

3.39 per cent to close at ₹1,791.30. Last month, the Government allowed charging MDR under which transactions above ₹2,000 will attract a fee of 0.4 per cent. Shares of fintech firms jumped when the announcement was made last month amid hopes that this will generate additional revenue.

According to reports, a proposal to defer the rollout of merchant discount rate on Unified Payments Interface (UPI) to January 1 from October 15 is under consideration, with a decision expected in the next few days.

Meanwhile, economic think tank GTRI said on Thursday that the Government should withdraw the proposed UPI charges, scheduled to take effect on October 15, and keep the digital payment system free for merchants and consumers.

India advises nationals in Saudi Arabia to stay indoors



ASHOKE RAJ ■ New Delhi

India has issued a fresh advisory to its nationals in Saudi Arabia, urging them to remain “alert and vigilant” and follow instructions from local authorities amid the deteriorating security situation in the Kingdom following a series of Houthi attacks.

In its advisory, the Indian government asked all Indian nationals to remain cautious, stay indoors whenever necessary and closely monitor official communications from Saudi authorities.

“Indian nationals are advised to remain alert and vigilant, stay indoors as necessary, and follow the instructions issued by local authorities through official channels,” the advisory said. The government has also strongly advised Indian nationals not to circulate or repost videos, photographs or news related to the ongoing events. The move is

aimed at preventing the spread of unverified information during the heightened security situation.

The Embassy of India in Riyadh and the Consulate General of India in Jeddah, along with their outsourced services through VFS, continue to function normally, according to the advisory.

The Indian missions said they will continue to monitor developments and issue further updates and advisories whenever necessary. For emergency assistance, the 24x7 Pravasi Bharatiya Sahayata Kendra (PBSK) helpline is available at 8002471234. The Indian community has also been advised to follow the official social media handles of the Embassy of India for verified information and further updates. The advisory comes after recent Houthi attacks targeting Abha International Airport and King Khalid International Airport in

Riyadh. According to Saudi authorities, the attacks killed three people and injured 36 others.

Two people were killed and 28 injured in the attack on Abha airport, while the strike on King Khalid International Airport left one person dead and eight injured.

India has strongly condemned the attacks, calling the targeting of civilian infrastructure “completely unacceptable.” The Ministry of External Affairs also expressed condolences to the families of those killed and wished a speedy recovery to those injured. India also expressed solidarity with the people and government of Saudi Arabia amid the escalation.

The attacks have also affected commercial aviation in the region. An Air India flight from Delhi to Riyadh turned back mid-air and returned to the national capital amid heightened security concerns.

Air India and Air India Express have suspended flights to and from Riyadh until October 10, as airlines reassess operations amid the evolving security situation.

The latest developments have raised fresh concerns over aviation safety and the security of Indian nationals travelling to or residing in Saudi Arabia.

Italy’s Parliament gives final approval to Georgia Meloni’s electoral reform

GIADA ZAMPANO ■ Rome

Italy’s Parliament gave final approval Thursday to a sweeping overhaul of the country’s electoral system, handing Premier Georgia Meloni a key political victory while setting up a likely constitutional battle over the reform.

The proposal — dubbed by supporters and critics alike the “Stabilitum” or “Melonellum” — is widely viewed as an attempt to strengthen Italy’s political system while improving the electoral prospects of the centre-right coalition led by Meloni, which last month celebrated its record as Italy’s longest-serving Government since WWII.

Supporters say the law is designed to produce clearer election winners and more stable governments in a country known for frequent changes of administration. But the centre-left opposition dubbed it “scam law,” arguing the reform is unconstitutional. It has pledged to challenge it and bring it in front of Italy’s Constitutional Court once it takes effect.

The Chamber of Deputies approved the measure in a secret ballot by 227 votes to 164, giving definitive parliamentary approval to the legislation after months of heated debate. The reform introduces a big majority prize that will award bonus parliamentary seats in both houses of parliament to the winning pre-election alliance,



provided it wins at least 42 per cent of the national vote.

Critics contend that such a “majority prize” distorts voter representation and could conflict with previous court rulings that struck down elements of earlier electoral laws. A successful challenge could force Meloni’s conservative Government to revise the system before the next general election.

The new law abolishes Italy’s current mixed electoral system, in which about one-third of parliamentary seats are elected in first-past-the-post constituencies, and replaces it with a fully proportional system.

Meloni’s coalition says the changes will make it easier for voters to identify a governing coalition before elections and reduce the post-election bargaining that has often produced fragile governments. To qualify for the majority prize, parties will have to agree on a common prime ministerial candidate and political platform before the election.

Tanker attacked off Qatar in Persian Gulf, says UK



ASSOCIATED PRESS ■ Dubai

The British military said that several projectiles struck a tanker off the coast of Qatar, causing multiple casualties.

The United Kingdom Maritime Trade Operations Centre said the attack took place in the Persian Gulf, north of Qatar’s city of Madinat ash Shamal.

The city is on the northern tip of Qatar.

The UK military did not identify the tanker and did not provide any details about the casualties. There was no

immediate claim of responsibility for the attack and no comment from Qatar.

Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu’s former military secretary has accused the Israeli leader of altering official transcripts of phone calls from the morning of the October 7, 2023, Hamas-led attacks. The accusations by Maj Gen. Avi Gil came in a wide-ranging interview with the right-wing Israel Hayom newspaper.

In excerpts of the interview published Thursday, Gil accused Netanyahu of attempting to change records of their phone calls in the first hour of the attack, possibly in an attempt to shift blame for failures that morning from the prime minister to his advisers. Gil said he reported the attempt, allegedly made by Netanyahu’s chief of staff, to the attorney general.

Classifieds

CHANGE OF NAME

I, **hitherto** known as Ritu Bala W/o Sunil Kumar R/o Village Malakpur, Malikpur, Po. Narpur, Distt. Kapurthala, Punjab-144405 have changed my name and shall hereafter be known as Bala Ritu.

I, **hitherto** known as Santosh D/o Raj Kumar R/o Ghural, Po. Ghural, Distt. Jalandhar, Punjab-144106 have changed my name and shall hereafter be known as Gurmanpreet Kaur. I have changed only my name, not my religion.

I, **hitherto** known as Joseph Masih Akhtar S/o Harmesh Lal R/o H.No. 201, Khurla Kingra, Jalandhar, Punjab-144003, have changed my name and shall hereafter be known as Binder Kumar. I have changed only my name, not my religion.

I, **hitherto** known as Anjana Devi W/o Bansher Singh R/o H.No. C-46, Jalandhar-II, Po. Sansarpur, Distt. Jalandhar, Punjab-144024, have changed my name and shall hereafter be known as Anjna Kumari.

I, **Palwinder Singh** S/o Raghuvir Singh R/o VPO. Safdarpur, Tehsil Dasuya, Distt. Hoshiarpur, Punjab have changed my name to Given name as Palwinder & Surname as Singh.

I, **Ram Singh** S/o Narain Singh R/o H.No. BIX-701-34, Moh. Santokhpura, Jalandhar, Punjab have changed my name from Ram Singh to Ram Singh Bal.

I, **Sukhdev Singh** Balu S/o Ram Singh Bal R/o H.No. BIX-701-34, Moh. Santokhpura, Jalandhar, Punjab have changed my name from Sukhdev Singh Balu to Sukhdev Singh Bal.

I, **Amarjeet Kaur** Balu W/o Sukhdev Singh Bal R/o H.No. BIX-701-34, Moh. Santokhpura, Jalandhar, Punjab have changed my name from Amarjeet Kaur Balu to Amarjeet Kaur Bal.

I, **Sukhdev Singh** Bal S/o Ram Singh Bal R/o H.No. BIX-701-34, Moh. Santokhpura, Jalandhar, Punjab have changed my minor son name from Manvir Singh Balu to Manvir Singh Bal.

I, **Palwinder Singh** Butter S/o Piara Singh R/o VPO. Wadala Granthian, Tehsil Batala, Distt. Gurdaspur, Punjab-143506 have changed my name from Palwinder Singh Butter to Palwinder Singh.

I, **Hav M** Sanamacha Singh R/o Keinou, Nambol Sub Division, Po. Nambol, District Bishnupur, Manipur have change my daughter name from Mutum Henthoisana Devi to Tushita Mutum vide affidavit dated 07.10.2026.

I, **Sunita** M/o Nk Bhise Sachin Ratan serving in unit 1 EW Bn C/o 526 APO have changed my name from Sunita to Sunita Ratan Bhise vide affidavit dated 07.10.2026.

I, **Mitali** W/o Narinder Pal Singh Matharu R/o H.No. 31, Cool Road, Matharu House, Jalandhar have changed my name from Mitali to Mitali Kaur.

I, **Gagan Kumar** S/o Bharat Bhushan Sharma R/o H.No. 598/A, Street No. 08, Gulmohar City Ext., Jalandhar-144004 declare that Gagan Kumar and Gagan Kumar Sharma is one and the same person, both names are mine.

I, **Jaswinder Singh** Gлян S/O Jaswant Singh R/O Vpo. Takhtupura Distt. Moga Have Changed My Name From Jaswinder Singh Gлян To Jaswinder Singh.

I, **Kiranjeet Kaur** W/O Birbal Singh Sidhu R/O Vill. Jawahar Singh Wala Distt. Ferozepur Have Changed My Name Kiranjeet Kaur To Given Name Kiranjeet And Surname Kaur.

I, **Birbal Singh** Sidhu S/O Sukhdev Singh R/O Vill. Jawahar Singh Wala Distt. Ferozepur Have Changed My Minor Daughter’s Name Samreet Kaur To Given Name Samreet And Surname Kaur.

I, **Sonia** D/o Balwinder Singh R/o hoshiarpur Road back side GRD college Phagwara (Kapurthala) Have changed my name to sonia kaur.

I, **Renu Garg** W/o Ashwani Singla R/o H.No. 958 St.No. 7 Chander Nagar Civil Line Ludhiana Pb hereby declare that after my marriage, my name has been changed from Renu Garg to Ruhi Singla. I shall hereafter be known and identified as Ruhi Singla for all purposes, including Passport and other official records.

I, **Parwinder Kaur** W/o Baljeet Singh Brar R/o Bhagta Bhai (Bathinda) Have Changed My Name As Parwinder Kaur Brar.

I, **Baljeet Singh** S/o Nachhatar Singh R/o Bhagta Bhai (Bathinda) Have Changed My Name As Baljeet Singh Brar.

I, **Amrinder Singh** S/o Baljeet Singh Brar R/o Bhagta Bhai (Bathinda) Have Changed My Name As Amrinder Singh Brar.

I, **Nirmaljeet Kaur** R/o Dashmesh Nagar Zira Distt. Ferozepur have changed my name to Nirmaljeet Kaur Gill.

I, **Parminderjit** Kaur Aulakh W/o Tej Singh R/o Vill-Varnala Tehsil Zira (Ferozepur) Have Changed My Name To Parminder Jit Kaur.

I, **Ekta** D/o Kirpal Singh R/o V.P.O Dhadda Fateh Singh Distt. Hoshiarpur have changed my name to Ekta Kaur.

I, **Surinderpal** Kaur W/o Balkaran Singh, VPO – Butter Sarien, District – Sri Muktsar Sahib hereby declare that the correct spell of my name is Surinderpal Kaur instead of Surinder Pal Kaur.

I, **Sarabjit Kaur** W/O Dilbag Singh R/O Vpo Dadehar Sahib (Tarn Taran) Have Changed My Name Sarabjeet Kaur To Sarabjit Kaur. Please Note All.

I, **Karamjeet Kaur** W/o Sukhpreet Singh Pannu R/o Patti Jhanda VPO Dhudike Teh. & Distt. Moga- 142053 have changed my name to Karamjeet Kaur Pannu.

I, **Rajdeep** Singh Chani S/o Baldev Singh R/o Talwandi Bhai Distt. Ferozepur have changed my name to Rajdeep Singh.

I, **Shashi Kanta** W/o Arun Kumar D/o Om Parkash R/o Roop Nagar, Near Shanker Setia Di Kothi, Gidderbaha Distt. Sri Muktsar Sahib-152101 has changed my name to Shashi Kaira.

I, **Suraj** S/o Avtar Singh R/o Amloh Road, Guru Nanak Nagar, Khanna (Ludhiana) have changed my name to Suraj Singh.

I, **Sumrish Kumar** S/o Pawan Kumar R/o H.No.D-117, W.No.8, Focal Point, Khanna (Ludhiana) have changed my name to Sumrish Kumar Vij.

I, **Amandeep** Singh S/o Avtar Singh R/o H.No.74, Surya Enclave, Amloh Road, Khanna (Ludhiana) have changed my name to Amandeep Singh Udehan.

I, **Navneet Kaur** W/o Amandeep Singh Udehan R/o H.No.74, Surya Enclave, Amloh Road, Khanna (Ludhiana) have changed my name to Navneet Kaur Udehan.

I, **Sharanjeet** Kaur (Passport No. C9440013) R/o 28, Sand Cherry Crest, Brampton, Ontario, L6R 3B1, Canada, have changed my name after marriage as Sharanjeet Kaur Sains.

I, **Manpreet** Kaur Maan W/o Gagandeep Singh Brar R/o Village Devi Wala (Faridkot) have Changed my name to Manpreet Kaur After Marriage.

I, **Amardeep** Singh Kalyan S/o Sukhjant Singh R/o Street No. 11, Hira Singh Nagar, Kotkapura (Faridkot) have Changed my name to Amardeep Singh.

I, **Service** no. 19009798Y Rank NK Name Balveer Singh residing at Vill. Balliya Distt. Pilibhit (Uttar Pradesh) 262121 have changed my minor son name from Sunveer Singh to Dilraj Singh vide affidavit date 08.10.2026 before notary public Distt.court Bathinda (PB).

I, **Satish Kumar** Sharma, Service No: JC-371246F, Rank Sub Maj, S/o, Late Sh. Shiv Dulare Sharma, Permanent address: Village & Post Chaubisi, Tehsil Haidergarh, District-Barabanki, Uttar Pradesh, Pin Code-225124, Present address: Quter No-3356, Sector-E, Chandimandir Cantt, Panchkula, Haryana, Pin Code-134107, declare that I Have Changed my Daughter name from Vashnavi To Vaishnavi Sharma.

I, **JOICE MARY** ANITHA, spouse of JC-702125H Sub Maj G Vincent resident of House No 6/92, Vill-Appattuvilai, PO-Thuckalay, Distt-Kanyakumari, State-Tamilnadu, PIN-629175 have changed my name from JOICE MARY ANITHA to A JOICE MARY ANITHA vide Affidavit No 25337 dt 06/10/2026 before Executive Magistrate, District Court, Panchkula

I, **VEENA** is legally Wedded Spouse of Army No: 15577988N Rank: Hav Name: Ram Nibas Presently Posted at Unit: 105 Engr Regt C/o 56 APO Permanent Address: Village: Mubarikpur, Post: Khadaua, Tehsil/District: Etah, State: Uttar Pradesh- Pin: 207001 declare that in my Husband Service record my name is by mistakenly mentioned as VEENA but as per Civil/Govt. Documents my Correct name is VEENA KUMARI. Vide Affidavit No: 11AA 832730, Dated: 08/10/2026

I, **MIRA DEVI** is Legally Mother of Army No: 17014260P Rank Nk Name: Kartik Kumar Thakur Presently Posted at Unit: 410 Sata Regt Wksp C/o 56 APO Permanent Address: Vill: Makhla, Post: Raghunath Pur, Teh: Srirampur, Dist: Hooghly, State: West Bengal, Pin: 712247 declare that in my Son's Service record my name is by mistakenly mentioned as MIRA DEVI but as per Civil/Govt. Documents my Correct name is MIRA THAKUR. Vide Affidavit No: 11AA 832731, Dated: 08/10/2026

I, **MIRA THAKUR** is legally Mother of Army No: 17014260P Rank Nk Name: Kartik Kumar Thakur Presently Posted at Unit: 410 Sata Regt Wksp C/o 56 APO Permanent Address: Vill: Makhla, Post: Raghunath Pur, Teh: Srirampur, Dist: Hooghly, State: West Bengal, Pin: 712247 declare that in my Son's Service record my Date of Birth is by mistakenly mentioned as 01/02/1972 but as per Civil/Govt. Documents my Corrcet Date of Birth is 01/01/1967. Vide Affidavit No: 11AA 832732, Dated: 08/10/2026

I, **BAPUJI DATTUJI** SALWE is Father of Army No: 15586177K Rank: Hav Name: Salawe Mayur Bapuji Presently residing at Unit: 118 Engr Regt C/o 56 APO Permanent Address: Quarter No: LG-8, ACC Sindola Mines Colony, Near ACC Sports Club, Sindola, Shindola, Yavatmal, State: Maharashtra, Pin: 445307 declare that in my Son's Service record my name is by mistakenly mentioned as BAPUJI DATTUJI SALWE but as per Civil/Govt. Documents my Corrcet name is BAPUJI DATTUJI SALVE. Vide Affidavit No: 11AA 832733, Dated: 08/10/2026

I, **LATA** is Mother of Army No: 15586177K Rank: Hav Name: Salawe Mayur Bapuji Presently residing at Unit: 118 Engr Regt C/o 56 APO Permanent Address: Quarter No: LG-8, ACC Sindola Mines Colony, Near ACC Sports Club, Sindola, Shindola, Yavatmal, State: Maharashtra, Pin: 445307 declare that in my Son's Service record my name is by mistakenly mentioned as LATA but as per Civil/Govt. Documents my Correct name is LATA BAPUJI SALVE. Vide Affidavit No: 11AA 832734, Dated: 08/10/2026

I, **No** JC-356774N Rank Nb Sub, Name: Sudarshan Singh Presently Posted at Unit-GE (Utility) Chandimandir Panchkula, Haryana Permanent Address: 200 Gram Fazalpur, Post: Ganjalpur, Mandawar Rural PO: Mandawar, Dist-Bijnor, State: Uttar Pradesh Pin: 246721 declare that in my Service record my Son's Name is Wrongly Mentioned as ATHARVA SINGH SUDARSHAN but as per Civil/Govt Documents my Son's Correct name is ATHARVA SINGH. Vide Affidavit No: 11AA 832738, Dated: 08/10/2026, Before Executive Magistrate Panchkula, Haryana.

I, **SALESA BIBI** is Mother of Army No: 15573758H Rank: Hav Name: Abdul Kadir Presently Posted at Unit: 101 Engr Regt C/o 56 APO Permanent Address: Village Dhangu Sarah, Post: Badhani, Teh: Dhar Kalan, Dist: Pathankot, State: Punjab, Pin 145001 declare that in my Son's Service record my Name is by mistakenly mentioned as SALESA BIBI but as per Civil/Govt. Documents my Correct name is SULASHA BIBI. Vide Affidavit No: 11AA 832736, Dated: 08/10/2026

I, **Shajin S** Son of Stanly Permanent Address: House No: 8-202C, Vilage: Kuzhivilai Chevaracode Veeyanoor, Post: Veeyannur, Tehsil: Thiruvattar, Dist: Kanyakumari, State: Tamil Nadu, Pin: 629177 declare that I have Changed my Son's name from SHILJITH S to SHYILJITH S. Vide Affidavit No: 11AA 832735, Dated: 08/10/2026, Before Distrcet Court Panchkula, Haryana

I, **No** JC-314023L Rank: Sub Name: R Sivakumar Presently residing at HQ Coy, 16 Engr Br Regt (PMS), Chandimandir Cantt, Panchkula, Haryana declare that I have changed my Son's name from S RANJITH KUMAR to RANJITHKUMAR S. Vide Affidavit Dated: 08/10/2026

I, **S GANGA** DEVI is legally Wedded Spouse of No: JC-314990A Rank: Sub Name: D Jeyakumar Presently Residing at RHQ Camp, 16 Engr Br Regt (PMS), Chandimandir Cantt, Panchkula, Haryana, Declare that I have changed My Name from S GANGA DEVI to GANGADEVI S. Vide Affidavit Dated: 08/10/2026

I, **No** JC-314990A Rank: Sub Name: D Jeyakumar Presently Residing at RHQ Camp, 16 Engr Br Regt (PMS), Chandimandir Cantt, Panchkula, Haryana, Declare that I have changed My Daughter's Name from J KAVIPRADHA to KAVIPRADHA J. Vide Affidavit Dated: 08/10/2026

I, **No** JC-314990A Rank: Sub Name: D Jeyakumar Presently Residing at RHQ Camp, 16 Engr Br Regt (PMS), Chandimandir Cantt, Panchkula, Haryana, Declare that I have changed My Daughter's Name from J MAHATHI to MAHATHI J. Vide Affidavit Dated: 08/10/2026

I, **D SUBBULAKSHMI** is Mother of No: JC-314990A Rank: Sub Name: D Jeyakumar Presently Residing at RHQ Camp, 16 Engr Br Regt (PMS), Chandimandir Cantt, Panchkula, Haryana, Declare that I have changed my name from D SUBBULAKSHMI to SUBBULAKSHMI and Also Correct my Date of birth from 01/07/1957 to 03/09/1957. Vide Affidavit Dated: 08/10/2026

I, **DHARMARAJ** is Father of No: JC-314990A Rank: Sub Name: D Jeyakumar Presently Residing at RHQ Camp, 16 Engr Br Regt (PMS), Chandimandir Cantt, Panchkula, Haryana, Declare that I have changed my name from DHARMARAJ to DHARMARAJ A and Also Correct my Date of birth from 01/07/1953 to 12/07/1951. Vide Affidavit Dated: 08/10/2026

I, **ASHA DEVI** am Mother of Service No: 16118411Y Rank: Hav Name: Mahesh Yadav Presently residing at HQ Coy, 16 Engr Br Regt (PMS), Chandimandir Cantt, Panchkula, Haryana declare that in my Son's Service record my name is by mistakenly mentioned as ASHA DEVI but as per Civil/Govt. Documents my Correct name is ASHA YADAV and Also Correct my Date of birth from 01/01/1967 to 01/01/1965.

I, **No** JC-676155A Sub/MT Kadam Yuvraj Tayappa, resident of Village- Ridhore, Post- Ridhore, Tehsil- Madha, District- Solapur, State- Maharashtra, Pin-413250, In my son Piyush Yuvraj Kadam school record my and my wife name wrongly recorded as Yuvraj Kadam and Mother name Vanita Kadam instead of father name Kadam Yuvraj Tayappa and Mother name Vanita Yuvraj Kadam Vide affidavit No.IN-PB99154423017888Y dated 08 Oct 2026 before notary public Pathankot

I, **Gurugubelli** Sravani spouse of No.15524791W SWR Gurugubelli Raja Sekhar resident of Village- Dharmapuram, Post- Dharmapuram, Tehsil- Pondhuru, District- Srikakulam, State- Andhra Pradesh, Pin-532402, have changed my name from Gurugubelli Sravani to Singupurapu Sravani vide affidavit No.IN-PB99205289752298Y dated 08 Oct 2026 before notary public Pathankot

I, **Sureka** is legally mother of No. 4205569N Rank Nk Name Shinde Hiranam Bhagvatrao resident of at Karchundi, Post Manjarsumba, Bid (Rural), Beed, Distt - Maharashtra, PIN - 431122 have changed my name from Sureka to Sureka Bhagwat Shinde vide Affidavit dated 06 Oct 2026 sworn before executive Magistrate

I, **No**.4205569N Rank Nk Name Shinde Hiranam Bhagvatrao resident of at Karchundi, Post Manjarsumba, Bid (Rural), Beed, Distt - Maharashtra, PIN - 431122 have changed my minor son name from Shinde Shaurya to Shinde Shaurya Hiranam vide Affidavit dated 06 Oct 2026 sworn before executive Magistrate.

I, **Shinde** Bhagivatrao Ugaji is legally father of No. 4205569N Rank Nk Name Shinde Hiranam Bhagvatrao resident of at Karchundi, Post Manjarsumba, Bid (Rural), Beed, Distt - Maharashtra, PIN - 431122 have changed my name from Shinde Bhagivatrao Ugaji to Shinde Bhagwat Ugaji vide Affidavit dated 06 Oct 2026 sworn before executive Magistrate.

I, **G Laxmi** Wife of GS No.179028N MSW MASON G Dharu resident of Village- Shivampet Nanuthanda, Post- Shivampet, Tehsil- Narsapur, District- Medak, State- Telangana Pin- 502334, have changed my name from Laxmi to G Laxmi and date of birth from 19 yrs to 25 July 1978 Vide affidavit No.IN-PB98232240502906Y dated 05 Oct 2026 before Executive Magistrate Pathankot.

TAPAN MOHANTA ■ Ranchi

But India have so far backed the established opening combination of

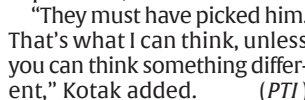


India's man-

He, however, claimed the important wicket of West Indies top-scorer Sherrane Rutherford in the penultimate over. India could be tempted to bring in all-rounder Nitish Kumar Reddy and trust him with the new ball, although that experiment did not work particularly well during the preceding ODI series. The spin department, on the other hand, looked settled after Kuldeep Yadav joined veteran Axar Patel in the eleven. The pair picked up two wickets apiece and kept West Indies batters under pressure. Rookie all-rounder Naman Dhir was another positive to emerge, finishing with impressive figures of 3/31 with his off-spin. For West Indies, batting has to produce far bigger total than 171 all out they managed in opening game. (PTI)



“One thing is obviously with the selectors, but I can give you an answer based



TAPAN MOHANTA ■ Ranchi

deeper into the innings. "Definitely, rotation of the strike. Our middle order have Hetty (Hetmyer) and Shai (Hope) as well, and they are very good players of spin. We see that when they bat through the middle, we put up big, challenging scores. So obviously, for our better players of spin, it's about batting longer into the innings," Rampaul said on eve of second T20 at the ISCA Stadium.



Ritu Patwari, Director and CSR Head, Avaada Foundation with State-Level Under-17 and Under-19 girls' cricket teams from Badnu, Rajasthan PHOTO

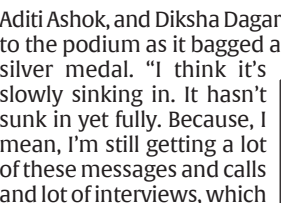
This extraordinary feat has been made possible by Avaada Foundation, the social impact arm of Avaada Group, which has been supporting the Rajasthan State-Level Under-17 and Under-19 Girls' Cricket Teams from Badnu for two years and has

Capturing their inspiring journey, Avada has launched "Badnu Ke Champions: Ghoonghat Se Helmet Tak," a campaign celebrating the transformation of young girls who are challenging social conventions and redefining possibilities through sport. The journey from the ghoonghat to the cricket helmet is more than a change in appearance; it symbolises a shift in mindset, growing confidence and the freedom to pursue ambitions. The campaign highlights how grassroots

AMIT KUMAR DAS ■ New Delhi

"My preparation is not gonna (going to) change, I am going to play in LET, just keep doing what I am doing, the cut-off date is June 2028, I will be playing as many event as possible till and may be get a win

Pranavi achieved the feat after carding a 15-under 265 at the Kasugai Country Club East Course last Saturday. Her fine run also carried the Indian women's team comprising



is very unusual for me. It's little overwhelming, but yeah, it's great to be first one to do it,' she said. (PTI)

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
Shariah

Bravo, who was speaking alongside West Indies great Chris Gayle on the sidelines of the World Championship of Legends here, said the growing dominance of aggressive batting has changed the dynamics of the game and placed greater demands on bowlers.



न्यूक्लियर पावर कॉर्पोरेशन ऑफ इंडिया लिमिटेड
Nuclear Power Corporation of India Limited
 (भारत सरकार का उद्यम) (A Government of India Enterprise)
 सीआईएन/CIIN: U40104MH1987GO1149458



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Advt. No. NPCIL/HQ/HRM/ET/2026/03

RECRUITMENT OF ENGINEERING GRADUATES IN NPCIL THROUGH GATE

NPCIL is a premier Public Sector Enterprise under the Administrative Control of the Department of Atomic Energy, Government of India having a comprehensive capability in all facets of Nuclear Technology namely Siting of NPPs, Design, Construction, Commissioning, Operation, Maintenance, Renovation, Modernization & Up-gradation, Plant Life Extension, Waste Management and Decommissioning of Nuclear Reactors in India, under one roof.

NPCIL is planning to recruit Engineering Graduates as Executive Trainees (ET-2027) in **Chemical, Civil, Computer Science, Electrical, Electronics, Instrumentation and Mechanical** Disciplines.

Interested candidates should possess valid GATE Score for the year 2025/2026/2027 in any of the disciplines mentioned above at the time of applying online in NPCIL. Shortlisting of candidates for interview will be done based on the GATE Score. The detailed advertisement will be available on NPCIL website www.npcilcareers.co.in & www.npcil.nic.in tentatively within 10 days from the date of announcement of GATE-2027 results.

Candidates may visit <https://gate2027.iitm.ac.in> or any of the GATE zonal websites of IISc and IITs for detailed information on GATE 2027.

Any further information/corrigendum/addendum would be uploaded only on the NPCIL websites mentioned above.

NPCIL strives to have a workforce which reflects gender balance and women candidates are encouraged to apply.



“स्वच्छ रहो, स्वस्थ रहो”
 कृषिआंदोलन, भारत सरकार द्वारा चलाया गया स्वच्छ भारत मिशन की प्रामाणिक कला है।
 स्वच्छता विद्युत – एक अग्रगण्य विकास



cbc48132/11/0002/2627

 SOUTH INDIAN Bank The South Indian Bank Ltd Regional Office-Delhi, 3rd Floor, Plot No.21, 21/1, Pusa Road, Karol Bagh, New Delhi - 110005 Phone: 011 4233 1664/011 4512 8661 Email: ro1008@siib.co.in	Ref: DEL/CRD/SAR/42/2026-27 E - AUCTION SALE NOTICE Date: 08-10-2026
	E-Auction Sale Notice for Sale of Immovable Assets under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with proviso to Rule 8(6) and 9(1) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002. (1) Mrs. Harjeet Kaur W/o Mr. Uttam Singh Sachar, Proprietor M/s. Levo Exports and residing at SCO 4, Gyan Singh Rarewata Market, 2nd Floor, Ludhiana, Punjab 141002 and Guarantors namely (2) Mr. Jasmeet Singh Sachar residing at 2177, Phase 2, Dugri, Urban Estate, Dugri Road, Ludhiana, Model Town Punjab 141002, (3) Mrs. Gurinder Kaur residing at 2177, Phase 2, Dugri, Urban Estate, Dugri Road, Ludhiana, Model Town Punjab 141002. (4) Mr. Balmeet Singh Sachar residing at 2177, Phase 2, Dugri, Urban Estate, Dugri Road, Ludhiana, Model Town Punjab 141002, (5) Mr. Uttam Singh Sachar residing at 2177, Phase 2, Dugri, Urban Estate, Dugri Road, Ludhiana, Model Town, Punjab 141002. Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the borrower/guarantor/ Legal heirs that the below described immovable properties mortgaged to the South Indian Bank Ltd, Branch Ludhiana (Secured Creditor), the Possession of which has been taken by the Authorised Officer of The South Indian Bank Limited (Secured Creditor), will be sold on "as is where is" basis, "as is what is" and "whatever there is" condition on 28-10-2026 for recovery of an amount of Rs. 9,01,52,063.57/- (Rupees Nine Crore One Lakhs Fifty Two Thousand Two Hundred and Sixty Three and Paise Fifty Seven Only) as on 14-09-2026, with future interest, costs and expenses etc. thereon due to The South Indian Bank Limited, Branch Ludhiana (Secured Creditor), from the above mentioned Borrower(s) and guarantor(s).

Item No. 1	
Name of Property Owner	Sh. Uttam Singh Sachar and Smt. Harjeet Kaur Sachar
Description of property	All that piece and parcel of property/factory land and building bearing M.C. No.B-XXIX-1768/4, admeasuring 630 Sq. Yards, comprised in Kharsa No.8366/824/3/4, 8363/824/3/1, Khata No.846/1424/1429 as per Jamnabadi for the year 1985-86, situated at Gill No.2, locally known as Street No.8, Mohalla Shimlupuri, Ludhiana in the joint name of Sh. Uttam Singh Sachar s/o Sh. Durbah Singh and Smt. Harjeet Kaur Sachar w/o Sh. Uttam Singh more particularly described under Sale Deed No. 1136 dated 02.05.1990 and Sale Deed No.6898 dated 20/06/1990 of SRO Ludhiana and bounded on North by Sajjan Bakery, South by Street 18 wide, East by Street 18 wide, West by Bhagat Singh.
Nature of possession (Item No.1)	Symbolic Possession
Item No. 2	
Name of Property Owner	Sh. Jasmeet Singh
Description of property	All that piece and parcel of property along with building thereon bearing M.C.No.B-XXII-2724/3, admeasuring 170-1/2 Sq. Yards, Comprised in Kharsa No.3531/258, 3532/258, 6161/259/1, 6161/259/3/1, 259/2, 6161/259/2, Khata No.1408/1926 as per Jamnabadi for the year 2010-11, situated at Gali No.1, locally known as Chet Singh Nagar, Gill Road, Ludhiana in the name of Sh. Jasmeet Singh S/o. Sh. Uttam Singh more particularly described under Sale Deed No.5471 dated 08/10/2015 of SRO Ludhiana and bounded on North by Road, South by Harmam Kaur, East by Asyan Cycles and West by Seller.
Nature of possession (Item No.2)	Symbolic Possession
Reserve Price (Item No.1)	Rs.1,56,25,730.00 (Rupees One Crore Fifty Six Lakhs and Twenty Five Thousand Seven Hundred Thirty Only)
Earnest Money Deposit EMD) (Item No.1)	Rs. 16,00,000.00 (Rupees Sixteen Lakhs Only) EMD shall be deposited on or before 27.10.2026 till 02.00 PM
Reserve Price (Item No.2)	Rs.47,60,300.00 (Rupees Forty Seven Lakhs Sixty Thousand Three Hundred Thirty Only)
Earnest Money Deposit EMD) (Item No.2)	Rs. 4,77,000.00 (Rupees Four Lakhs Seventy-Seven Thousand Only) EMD shall be deposited on or before 27.10.2026 till 02.00 PM
Bid Increment amount Item No.1	Rs. 50,000/- (Rupees Fifty Thousand Only)
Bid Increment amount Item No.2	Rs. 50,000/- (Rupees Fifty Thousand Only)
Date and time of E-auction Item No.1	28.10.2026 from 11:00 AM to 11:30 AM (with 5 minute unlimited auto extensions till sale is concluded)
Date and time of E-auction Item No.2	28.10.2026 from 12.30 PM to 01:00 PM (with 5 minute unlimited auto extensions till sale is concluded)

For detailed terms and conditions of the sale, please refer to the link provided in web portal of South Indian Bank Ltd, (Secured Creditor) website i.e. www.southindianbank.com. Details also available at <https://bankauctions.in>.

For any further clarification with regards to inspection of property, terms and conditions of the e-auction or submission of bids, kindly contact South Indian Bank Ltd on 9037-896-411 (contact number).

Sd/-
AUTHORISED OFFICER