

'India helped world discover true potential of democracy'

By 2047 we will realise dreams of freedom fighters, says Prez in maiden I-Day address

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

President Droupadi Murmu on Sunday asserted that by 2047 the country will realise all the "dreams" visualised by freedom fighters and reach its full potential. She also said that India has helped the world discover the "true potential of democracy".

Delivering her maiden address to the nation on the eve of the country's Independence Day, the President remembered the sacrifices of all the freedom fighters and pointed to the speedy growth of the country which, she said, is gaining new heights globally.

"We Indians proved skeptics wrong. Democracy not only grew roots in this soil but it was also enriched." She also said that India helped the world discover the true potential of democracy.

"India can be credited to have helped the world discover the true potential of democracy," she said in a nationwide televised address.

Murmu, 64, is India's first President to be born after Independence.

The first tribal President of India, Murmu said, "On 15 August 1947, we cut the shackles of Colonial rule. While celebrating the anniversary of that auspicious day, we salute all the freedom fighters. They sacrificed everything so that we can all breathe in a free India."

The President also touched on August 14 being observed as 'Partition Horror

Partition Horror
Remembrance Day' saying its
purpose was to promote social
harmony, human empower-
ment and unity.

Congratulating the countrymen on the occasion, Murmu said that "in celebrating Independence Day, we celebrate our 'Bharatiyata'."

"India is full of diversity.



President Droupadi Murmu addresses the nation on the eve of Independence Day, in New Delhi on Sunday.

But, we all also have something in common. It is this common thread that binds us together and inspires us to walk together with the spirit of 'Ek Bharat, Shreshtha Bharat',' she said in her speech which was first delivered in Hindi followed by English.

Asserting that India's economy is growing, she said that the country's "economic development is all-inclusive and regional disparities too are reducing."

She also pointed out that when the world has been "battling the economic consequences of the great crisis, India got its act together and is now moving forward."

The President praised the Government and the policy-makers for "beating global trends and helping the economy flourish."

The President said that India launched the biggest vaccination drive in human history with vaccines manufactured in the country itself. "Last month we crossed the 200-crore mark in cumulative vaccine coverage. In combating pandemics, our achievements have been better than those of many developed countries," she said.

Mentioning that farmers

and labourers deserve credit for the country's robust economy, Murmu said "The country's economic growth has become more inclusive, with narrower disparities. The National Education Policy (NEP) and digital India initiative played a major role here."

"Apart from the economy, we also focus on welfare measures too, such as housing and tap water schemes," she said.

While detailing Government policies and their aim to reduce disparity and encourage equality, Murmu said "keyword for India today is compassion for the down-trodden, the needy and for those on margins," the President further said.

Asserting that the source of the country's new confidence is youngsters, farmers, and women, Murmu said, "Gender

women," Mahmud said. "Gender inequalities are reducing and women are breaking many glass ceilings. Women have made a mark in the Panchayati Raj system too. Our daughters made us proud in the recent Common Wealth Games (CWG) as well. They are becoming fighter pilots and space scientists."

The President said the country will realize all the "dreams" seen by freedom

fighters for an Independent India, by 2047 and the youth would help fulfill the country's full potential.

"By the year 2047, we will have fully realized the dreams of our freedom fighters. We will have given a concrete shape to the vision of those who, led by Babasaheb Bhimrao Ambedkar, drafted the Constitution," she said.

She also welcomed the Government's decision to celebrate 'Janjatiya Gaurav Divas' on November 15 every year.

"Our tribal superheroes are not just local or regional icons but they are a source of inspiration for the entire nation," she said. Touching on the need to protect nature and the environment, she said "We need to preserve our environment and water resources, for future generations.

Looking after nature has been a part of our civilization and we should continue that," Murmu said before concluding her address.

The Independence Day celebration comes at a time when India, like most countries, is seen to be coming out of the grim shadows of Covid-19, which crippled normal life and marred economic activities after its outbreak in 2020.

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75
Azadi Ka
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Classifieds

PUBLIC NOTICE

I, **Army No. JC 247840P** RIS S.I Meetei of (Unit)HQ 16 (I) ARMD BDE C/o 56 APO declare that in my service record my Son's name is wrongly entered as Soibam Chingkhainganba Meetei instead of Soibam Chingkhainganba Meitei vide affidavit dated 10-08-2022 before Notary Pathankot, Punjab.

I, **Ganesh Paraji** Damodhare S/o Paraji R/o Gautam Nagar, Super Market, Parbhani District Parbhani, State Maharashtra, Pin -431401 declare that in my Army Service Record, my wife name and Date of birth are wrongly recorded as Panchshila & 04.02.1983 respectively. Her correct name is Panchashila Ganesh Damodhare & DOB is 02.09.1979.

I, **Rekha Rani** W/O Service NO.4001964A HAV. Surinder Singh R/O Vill.Chibber PO.Sarti Teh.Dharkalan Distt. Pathankot (Punjab) Declare that in My Husband Service Records My Name Wrongly Written is Rekha Kumari. Kindly Correct it as Rekha Rani. Vide Affidavit NO.AM 653752 Before Executive Magistrate, Dharkalan Distt. Pathankot (PB).

I, **Rekha Rani** W/O Service NO.4001964A HAV. Surinder Singh R/O Vill.Chibber PO.Sarti Teh.Dharkalan Distt. Pathankot (Punjab) Declare that in My Husband Service Records My Date of Birth Wrongly Written is 18.01.1980. Kindly Correct it as 12.03.1978. Vide Affidavit NO.AM 653751 Before Executive Magistrate, Dharkalan Distt. Pathankot (PB).

मै रमेश पुत्र श्री सुरत राम निवासी बीरबल नगर, शनिदेव मंदिर के पास, नरवाना जिला जौद अपने पुत्र भूपेन्द्र और उसकी पत्नी महक को कहे सुने से बाहर होने के कारण व अन्य फ़ैमिली मेंबर को परेशान करने के चतते अपनी चत अवल संपत्ति से बेदखल करता हूँ। उनके किसी कार्य, लेनदेन और वादविवाद के लिए मैं या मेरा परिवार जिम्मेदार नहीं है। जो करेगा अपनी जिम्मेदारी पर करेगा।

CHANGE OF NAME

I, **Deepti Rani** Sahoo W/o Bikram Kumar Sahoo R/o H.No.32, 1st Floor, Krishna Homes, Dashmesh Enclave, Dhakoli in my son's Devang Sahoo school record father name B.K.sahoo wrongly entered. His father correct name is Bikram Kumar Sahoo.

I, **No. JC-491405K** Rank Sub Roshan Lal Unit 4 JAT C/o 56 APO.Have Changed my Daughter Name from KR Pramilla To Pramila Kumari in my Service Record.

I, **Lakhbir Kaur** Sandhu D/o Bachittar Singh W/o Assa Singh Sandhu R/O Vpo. Jhatra Teh-Zira (Ferozepur) Punjab, India, changed my name to Lakhvir Kaur.

I, **Komalpreet Kaur** W/o Harjinder Singh Cheema R/o Vpo. Dhainthal Teh-Samana (Patiala) Punjab, changed my name to Komalpreet Kaur Cheema.

I, **Maan Singh** S/o Karnail Singh R/O Maste Wala (Ferozepur) changed my minor son name from Yadhinder Singh to Yadwinder Singh.

I, **Sarbjit Kaur** W/o Ranjit Singh R/o Jaura (Ferozepur) changed my name to Sarabjit Kaur.

I **Jyoti Bala** D/O Nek Ram And W/O Manoj Sharma R/O V.P.O.-Mamoon, Tehsil-Pathankot, Mamoon, Gurdaspur, Punjab-145001, Have Changed My Name To Jyoti Sharma.

I **Chhinder Pal** S/O Darshan Singh R/O Ward No-09, Mohalla Dherian, Shahkot, Jalandhar, Punjab-144702, Have Changed My Name To Shinder Pal.

I **Prem Kumar** Batra S/o Buta Ram Batra R/O H.No-1882, Chandigarh Road, Sector-32A, Focal Point, Ludhiana, Punjab-141010, have changed my name to Prem Batra.

I **Rakesh Kumar** S/O Roshan Lal R/O Kathgarh, Nawanshahr, Punjab-144522, Have Changed My Name To Rakesh Sharma.

I **Kewal Ram** S/O Sunder R/O Rupewali, Jalandhar, Punjab-144701, Have Changed My Name To Kewal Singh.

I **Gagan Nayyar** S/o Kundan Lal R/o Arvind Nagar, Bathinda road, Kotkapura, Distt Faridkot have changed my name to Gagan Kumar Nayyar.

I **Major Singh** S/o Pal Singh R/O Dhani Sham Singh Vill Ghangra Kalan Tehsil Jalalabad West District Fazilka have changed my name Major Singh to Mejar Singh.

I **Kamal Preet** S/o Nishan Singh R/O Vill Basti Sham Singh Wali (Swah Wala) Tehsil Jalalabad West District Fazilka have changed my name Kamal Preet to Kamalpreet Singh Sandhu.

I **Tarsem Lal** S/o Mulakh Raj R/o Pakka Kale Wala Tehsil Jalalabad West District Fazilka have changed my name Tarsem Lal to Tarsem Kumar.

I **Amandeep** D/o Tarsem Kumar R/o Pakka Kale Wala Tehsil Jalalabad West District Fazilka have changed my name Amandeep to Aman.

I **Manjit Singh** Son Of Taru Ram R/O Vpo Khamachon Tehsil Banga Distt Sbs Nagar 144505 Pb Have Changed My Name From Manjit Singh To Randhir Singh.

I **Ravinder Singh** S/O Paramjeet Singh R/O Vill. Bholluwala Distt. Ferozepur Have Changed My Name To Ravinder Singh Khosa.

I, **Kamlesh** Wd/o No. 3169702F Ex Sepoy Dharambir Singh resident of H No.95/735 Janta Colony, Rohtak (Haryana) declare that in my husband's Army record/PPO my name is written as Kamlesh, where as in my daughter Matric Certificate my name recorded is Kamlesh Devi. That names Kamlesh (as per service documents) and Kamlesh Devi (As per my daughter Matric certificate) pertain to one and same person. Vide Affidavit dated Aug 2022 before Notary Public Rohtak.

I, **Hardeep Kaur** Lally W/o Narinder Singh R/o Vill. Raiwal Bet, Po. Lohian Khas, Teh. Shahkot, Jalandhar Have Changed My Minor Daughter Name From Sukhmani To Sukhmani Kaur (Surname as Kaur).

I, **Balbir Ram** S/o Hari Ram R/o Vill. Kahanpur, Raipur Rasulpur, Jalandhar Have Changed My Name From Balbir Ram To Balvir Ram.

I, **Pritpal Singh** S/o Mohan Singh R/o 11B/173, New Ekta Nagar Tower Wali Street, Jalandhar-144009 have changed my name to Pritpal Singh Mankoo.

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Classified Advertisement
Contact: 9417419351

Punjab's two cops get President's Police Medal for Distinguished Services, 14 for Meritorious Services

PNS ■ CHANDIGARH

Punjab's two cops have been awarded with the President's Police Medal for Distinguished Service, announced by the Union

COURT NOTICE

PROCLAMATION REQUIRING THE APPEARANCE OF A PERSON ACCUSED
IN THE COURT OF **Ramanpreet Kaur Judicial Magistrate First Class, Amritsar**
CNR No.**PBAS03-004427-2019**
Next Date: **24-08-2022**
M/s Puri Woolen Mills

Vs.
Dev Bhoomi Spinning and Weaving Mills

Publication issued to:-
WHEREAS complaint/case has been made before me that (1) DEV BHOOMI SPINNING AND WEAVING MILLS through its Partner Akhilesh Goyal S/o Anil Goyal R/o Plot No.18 Industrial area Shamshi Kullu (H.P.) (2) Akhilesh Goyal So Anil Goyal Partner of DEV BHOOMI SPINNING AND WEAVING MILLS R/o Plot No.18 Industrial Area Shamshi Kullu (H.P.) has committed (or is suspected to have committed) the offence punishable under section 138 of Negotiable Instruments Act and it has been returned to a warrant of arrest thereupon issued that the said DEV BHOOMI SPINNING AND WEAVING MILLS cannot be found, and whereas it has been shown to my satisfaction that the said DEV BHOOMI SPINNING AND WEAVING MILLS has absconded (or is concealing himself/herself to avoid the service of the said warrant); Proclamation is hereby made that the said DEV BHOOMI SPINNING AND WEAVING MILLS is required to appear before this Court (or before me) on **24-08-2022** to answer the said complaint/case. For details logon to: https://highcourtchd.gov.in/?trs=distric_notice&district=Amritsar Dated, this day of 30-07-2022.
Judicial Magistrate First Class Amritsar

COURT NOTICE

(U/o 5 Rule CPC)
IN THE COURT OF **Ms. Shaveta Thakur Civil Judge Jr. Division-I, Nangal.**

Hussain Chand Vs.
Karan Singh and Others
CNR **NO.PROB0-000173-2020**
Next Date: **31-08-2022**
Suit for Declaration to effect that defendants no 10 to 24 are coming as Joint Mortgagees in Joint Possession of land measuring 4K-18M comprised Khewal No.161/150, Hadbast No. 273, Khatoni No.217, Khasra No. 16//23(2-4-18) situated within the revenue limits of Village Bhallan Tehsil Nangal Distt. Rupnagar.

Hussan Chand Vs.
Karan Singh and Others
PUBLICATION ISSUED TO:-
7. Raju S/o Late Piaru 8. Chhindo 9. Simro Both are D/o Late Piaru All Village Bela Dhanoli, Tehsil Nangal, Distt. Rupnagar
10. Surinderpal S/o Lajpat Rai S/o Har Parshad
12. Santosh Devi D/o Lajpat Rai S/o Har Parshad
15. Ranjit Kumar S/o Tilak Raj S/o Naranjan Dass All are R/o VPO Bhallan Tehsil Nangal Distt. Rupnagar

24. Bal Kishan S/o Sandhya D/o Mela R/o Near Atta Chakki Main Bazaar Una Tehsil and Distt. Una H.P. In above titled case, the defendant(s)/ respondent(s) could not be served. It is ordered that defendant(s)/ respondent(s) should appear in person or through counsel on **31-08-2022 at 10:00 a.m.** For details logon to https://highcourtchd.gov.in/?trs=distric_notice&district=Rupnagar Civil Judge Jr. Division-I Nangal

Dated, this day of 08-08-2022

Ministry of Home Affairs on the eve of 75th Independence Day on Sunday. Besides, the names of 14 other officers or officials have also been announced for the Police Medal for Meritorious Service (PPMS).

Recognising the outstanding services of the Punjab Police, the MHA has announced the names of the Punjab Police officers or officials to be awarded with the President's Police Medal for Distinguished Service (PPMDS) and Police Medal for Meritorious Service (PPMS).

Punjab's Bureau of Investigation (BOI) director B Chandra Sekhar, and Inspector General of Police (IGP), Intelligence, Jatinder Singh Aulakh have been awarded with the President's Police Medal for Distinguished Service.

Similarly, six PPS officers, including AIG Zonal CID Amritsar Varinder Singh, DCP Law and Order Amritsar Parminder Singh Bhandal, DSP

IRB Ludhiana Daljit Singh, DSP Commando Battalion Bahadurgarh Sanjeev Kumar, DSP PRTC Jahan Khelan Harjit Singh and DSP CID Jalandhar Harbhajan Lal are among 14 officers or officials have been selected for the Police Medal for Meritorious Service.

Remaining officials includes Inspector Raj Kumar, SI Sampuran Singh, SI Rajesh Kumar, SI Ram Darshan, SI Chander Parkash, SI Sakandar Singh, ASI Manjit Singh and ASI Prit Pal Singh.

The state Director General of Police (DGP) Gaurav Yadav, congratulating the awardees, expressed gratitude to the Union Ministry of Home Affairs for recognising the services of these officers and boosting the morale of the entire Punjab Police force.

“Such recognition plays a significant role in encouraging the Police force to work with more dedication and devotion, which is very much required in a border state having manifold security chal-

lenges,” he said.

PUNJAB GOVT TO HONOUR 7 WITH PARMAN PATRA FOR THEIR COMMENDABLE WORK

Punjab Government has selected seven personalities, who have done commendable work in various fields, to be honoured with Punjab Government Parman Patra-2022. “These personalities will be honoured with gold medal, shawl, and a signed certificate while being awarded the Punjab Parman Patra,” said the government spokesperson. Those selected to be honoured with Punjab Government Parman Patra includes Bathinda-resident Ramesh Kumar Mehta, Patiala's Pran Sabharwal, Amritsar's Hargun Kaur, Patiala's Amarjit Singh, Patiala's Jagjit Singh Dardi, Ropar's Jasmin Kaur, and the senior consultant at Punjab Government's Administrative Reforms Department Jasminder Pal Singh.

‘Shaheedi Smarak’ to be built in Kurukshetra in memory of martyrs of partition

PNS ■ CHANDIGARH

In the memory of those who were martyred at the time of partition, Haryana Chief Minister Manohar Lal Khattar on Sunday said that a world-class ‘Shaheedi Smarak’ will be built by Panchand Smarak Trust near Pipli in Kurukshetra district.

This ‘Shaheedi Smarak’ should be recognized at the national level, for which every section of the society should

ensure their contribution, said the Chief Minister.

“I will also make a contribution on personal level and on behalf of the State Government for the construction of this ‘Shaheedi Smarak,” said Khattar while speaking at the state-level programme to observe Partition Horrors Remembrance Day held in Kurukshetra on Sunday.



The Chief Minister earlier inaugurated two exhibitions organized by the Information,

Public Relations and Languages Department and Haryana Sahitya Akademi where the memories of partition were put on display through photographs, cartoons, and news stories. In his inaugural address, Khattar said that India will be completing its 75 years of independence on August 15, which is certainly a joyous and proud occasion but with the sweetness of freedom, the country had to also bear the trauma of partition.

राजेन्द्र विश्वनाथ आर्लेकर

राज्यपाल

हिमाचल प्रदेश



स्वतंत्रता दिवस पर

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समूचा राष्ट्र उमंग और उल्लास के साथ स्वतंत्रता का अमृत महोत्सव मना रहा है। आज स्वतंत्रता का पावन दिवस है। इस अवसर पर मैं समस्त प्रदेशवासियों को हार्दिक बधाई व शुभकामनाएं देता हूँ। राष्ट्रीयता की यह भावना हर घर पर तिरंगे से स्पष्ट हो रही है। हम सौभाग्यशाली हैं कि इस महापर्व के साक्षी बने हैं।

प्रदेशवासियो! यह ऐतिहासिक दिन है, जब यह राष्ट्र विदेशी साम्राज्य की दासता से मुक्त हुआ। असंख्य देशभक्तों के बलिदान और माँ भारती के वीर सपूतों के संघर्ष ने हमें स्वतंत्रता दिलावाई। इस मंगल दिवस पर मैं उन सभी देशभक्तों को श्रद्धासुमन अर्पित करता हूँ। मैं, उन वीर सपूतों को भी नमन करता हूँ, जिन्होंने स्वतंत्रता के उपरांत देश की एकता और अखण्डता को बनाए रखने तथा देश की सीमाओं की रक्षा के लिए अपना सर्वोच्च बलिदान दिया है। हिमाचल का इतिहास ऐसे अनेक वीर सैनिकों से भरा पड़ा है, इसी लिए यह वीरभूमि भी है। इन बलिदानी सैनिकों का गौरवमयी इतिहास हमारे लिए प्रेरणादायक है।


स्वतंत्रता दिवस हमें आत्म-विवेचन का अवसर भी प्रदान करता है। आगामी 25 वर्षों में अपना राष्ट्र कहां होगा इसका चिंतन आज करने की आवश्यकता है। हम अपना योगदान किस रूप में दे सकते हैं, यह महत्त्वपूर्ण है। मैं, प्रदेशवासियों का आह्वान करता हूँ कि वे सकारात्मक दृष्टिकोण अपनाकर देश व प्रदेश के विकास में आगे आएँ।

एक ओर जहां हम देश की आज़ादी का अमृत महोत्सव मना रहे हैं, वहीं दूसरी ओर हिमाचल प्रदेश भी अपने अस्तित्व के 75 साल पूर्ण कर रहा है। इस राज्य के प्रत्येक नागरिक ने इस विकास यात्रा में अपना महत्त्वपूर्ण योगदान दिया है, जिसके लिए मैं आप सभी को बधाई देता हूँ।

इस महत्त्वपूर्ण दिवस पर मैं राज्य की उन्नति एवं सर्वांगीण विकास की कामना करता हूँ। आइए, हम सब संकल्प लें कि निष्ठा और प्रतिबद्धता के साथ हम राष्ट्र और राज्य की उन्नति के लिए अपने कर्त्तव्य का निर्वहन करेंगे।

मैं पुनः समस्त प्रदेशवासियों को स्वतंत्रता दिवस पर बधाई देता हूँ और उनके खुशहाल एवं मंगलमय जीवन की कामना करता हूँ।

जय हिन्द! जय हिमाचल!



(राजेंद्र विश्वनाथ आर्लेकर)

BRIEFS

HARYANA CM HOISTS NATIONAL FLAG AT HIS RESIDENCE

Chandigarh: Haryana Chief Minister Manohar Lal Khattar while ensuring his pivotal participation in the country-wide celebrations being held under the 'Har Ghar Tiranga' campaign today hoisted the National flag at his residence Sant Kabir Kutir. Chief Minister also greeted the people of the state on the eve of Independence Day. Khattar said that the National Flag is the pride of every Indian. All the citizens of the country feel proud of hoisting the National Flag at their homes, while calling upon the countrymen to hoist the tricolour at their homes from August 13 to 15.

AGRI EXPERTS DWELL ON EMERGING CHALLENGES, SOLUTIONS OF KHARIF CROPS

Chandigarh: “Cultivation of maize, mustard and moong need to be promoted in a big way across the country and this must be accompanied by adoption of modern technology in the agriculture sector,” said ICAR deputy director general (Agriculture Extension) and Centre's Agriculture Commissioner Dr AK Singh, while speaking during an Indian Agricultural Research Institute (ICAR) consultation meet on 'Emerging challenges in plant protection of major kharif crops' n Sunday. Instead of focusing on wheat and rice, cultivation of 3Ms – maize, moong, and mustard – should be promoted as it can help the country in attaining self-sufficiency and at the same time help in enhancing the income of the farmers, he opined.

PUNJAB SOCIAL SECURITY DEPT TO HOLD PENSION CAMPS ENMASSE ON AUG 17

Chandigarh: To facilitate every beneficiary in Punjab, the Department of Social Security, Women and Child Development is holding pension camps enmasse on August 17 across the State. Convenience camps are being set up at different places to extend the benefits of pension schemes to the needy citizens of the State, said the Minister in-charge Dr Baljit Kaur, while appealing to the eligible citizen that he or she can come to Suwidha camp and submit his or her application form by fulfilling necessary conditions as per government's instructions. Similar convenience camps will be organized at different places in the state on every Wednesday in the month of August and September this year.

PUNJAB EXTENDS DATE TO SUBMIT APPLICATIONS FOR DCCS' PRESIDENT, MEMBERS UP TO AUG 16

Chandigarh: The last date for submission of applications (Online and Hard Copy) for three posts of Presidents in the District Consumer Commissions of Fazilka, Pathankot, and Malerkotla, besides seven posts of members in the districts of Kapurthala, Fazilka, Pathankot and Malerkotla, has been extended up to August 16, 2022 till 5 pm. Spokesperson said that the new appointments would strengthen the Commissions' functioning which was formed to promote and protect the rights of consumers as per the Consumer Protection Act 1986.

PUNJAB VB NABS HEAD CONSTABLE RED-HANDED ACCEPTING RS 20,000 BRIBE

Chandigarh: Punjab Vigilance Bureau has arrested a Head Constable (HC) Karaj Singh, posted at police station Zira, Ferozepur district, taking bribe of Rs 20,000. Spokesperson said that the accused HC Karaj Singh was arrested on the complaint of Karaj Singh from village Dhandian, tehsil Zira, who alleged that a mining case has been registered against his brother at police station Zira and the investigation in-charge HC Karaj Singh was demanding Rs 30,000 from him not to arrest his brother in this case but the deal has been struck at Rs 20,000.

MITRA FLAGS OFF PATTERN CYCLOTHON TO MARK AZADI KA AMRIT MAHOTSAV

Chandigarh: The CEO of Chandigarh Smart City Limited, Anindita Mitra, on Sunday flagged off Pattern Cyclothon organized by LEO Club Chandigarh in association with MCC, CSCSL, and Tourism Department on the occasion of celebrating 75 years of Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav. The rally started from Rose Garden and culminated at New Lake, Sector 42, Chandigarh. Mitra said that the aim of the event was to encourage the spirit of freedom, empowerment, and unity as well as highlight the importance of reducing carbon footprint under cycle4change initiative.

HARYANA DGP FLAGS OFF 'HAR GHAR TIRANGA' BIKE RALLY IN PANCHKULA

Chandigarh: Haryana DGP PK Agrawal on Sunday flagged off a bike rally which was organised by Haryana Police under 'Har Ghar Tiranga' campaign in Panchkula. DGP said that this year when we are celebrating the 75th anniversary of India's Independence, 'Har Ghar Tiranga' is also being organized to enhance patriotism and make every Indian aware about the love and respect for our 'Tiranga'. He also called upon the citizens to participate in this initiative by hoisting the Tiranga in their homes and offices.

Punjab resumes 'Shaheed-e-Azam Bhagat Singh State Yuva Award'

PNS ■ CHANDIGARH

Punjab Government, on the eve of the country's 75th year of Independence, has decided to resume the 'Shaheed-e-Azam Bhagat Singh State Yuva Award' — lying defunct since long.

“The aim to restart this award is to make the youth a partner in the state's development besides empowering

them. The Yuva Bhavan, constructed at Chandigarh for the youth, is being also renovated and revived as the Centre of Excellence for youth,” said the state's Sports and Youth Services Minister Gurmeet Singh Meet Hayer, after a meeting held at the Directorate of Youth Services at Sector-42 Yuva Bhavan.

Hayer said that the State Government is making continuous efforts to disseminate the ideology of Shaheed-e-Azam Bhagat Singh and prepare the youth for taking leadership role in the state. This award carries a cash amount of Rs 51,000, a medal, a scroll, a blazer and a certificate.

The Minister said that Shaheed-e-Azam Bhagat Singh State Yuva Award is given to two youths, between the age of 15 to 35 years, from each district of the State. “The required instructions have already been given to the Youth Services Department. The Youth welfare activities, NCC, NSS, social services, cultural activities, sports, tracking, national unity, blood donation, awareness against drugs, educational merit, heroic deeds, scouts and guiding and adventure activities are the criterion for the bestowing of award,” he said.

PUBLIC NOTICE

हिमाली- 40 (5 मल्ल), मंडी - पाउडां-दे पलाट ली मलखीअड मी सगिल वमर पुंडर मी उर्वेस लाल के नाम उ रे.सी मेड गेट डिपेंड डिनु के बावम मोरिजी नोलम गरी पडती मी उर्वेस लाल बासी - मरान न- 21/22 बाउड न-6 मडल टाडुन पाउडां,उति पाउडां निला पटआला रॉल सिम पलाट ली मलखीअड,उमिसलीदार (मल), पाउडां ली बावम ली डिपेंड मिडी-26-6-2022 बमोअडनाम बमोका-58, मिडी 15-6-2022 के अपर 'उ डिनु' के नाम उर्वेसी बरन सवोी स्वधमस पाउड रेंडी रे। डिपेंडउ रमज-वेन के अपर 'उ हिमाली- 40 (5 मल्ल), मंडी - पाउडां ली मलखीअड उललील बोडी सारी रे। नेवर किम डिअबडी नु सिम पलाट ली मलखीअड उललील बरन सवोी किम ल बा बोडी ली डिउरन रे उ किम डिमि के बडल उ 30 दिन के अंदर - ओवर लिम उमजपव नु गेट लिपे ओडरेस न ओमेल : dir.colon@punjab.gov.in 'उ डेंस प्रबल रे। डिमि मोड उ बमल किम डिअबडी के डिमि किम के डिउरन रे बोडी मुटबाडी नगी बोडी सारी रे।

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ऐडमिनिस्टरेटर तिनु मंडी टाडुनलिम,
पंचा,
मंडी बडन, मैक्टव -65 रे, मंगली पंचा,

OPINION 6
SAVING INDIA FROM UNRULY
NEIGHBOURS**WORLD 9**
FIRE AT COPTIC CHURCH IN CAIRO
KILLS 41, HURTS 14**SPORTS 11**
NEYMAR NETS 2 AS PSG BEATS
MONTPELLIER 5-2 IN FRENCH LEAGUE

CHANDIGARH, MONDAY AUGUST 15, 2022; PAGES 12 ₹2



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‘Partition Day reminds nation of suffering of Indians’

I pay homage to all those who lost their lives during the Partition: Modi

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■
NEW DELHI

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Sunday remembered ‘Partition Horror Remembrance Day’, saying the day “reminds the nation of the suffering and sacrifices of Indians”.

In tune with the PM, the BJP held peace rallies and programmes across the country to mark the occasion and hit out at the Congress for allowing the Partition. The BJP carried out a silent march led by party president JP Nadda at ‘Jantar Mantar’ in the national Capital to observe ‘Partition Vibhishika Diwas’.

In a tweet, the PM said, “Today, on ‘Partition Horrors Remembrance Day’, I pay homage to all those who lost their lives during the Partition, and applaud the resilience as well as grit of all those who suffered during that tragic period of our history.”

Last year, Modi declared that August 14 would be remembered as ‘Partition Horrors Remembrance Day’ every year to remind the nation of the sufferings and sacrifices of Indians during the Partition in 1947.

Union Home Minister Amit Shah also paid homage to lakhs of people who he said suf-



Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath participates in a silent procession on Partition Day, on the eve of Independence Day in Lucknow on Sunday

PTI

fered the brunt of the Partition in 1947 on the occasion of ‘Partition Horrors Remembrance Day’.

In a series of tweets, Shah said, “The Partition of the country in 1947 is that inhuman chapter of Indian history which can never be forgotten. The violence and hatred of the Partition claimed millions of lives and displaced innumerable people.”

He added that this day will remind the young generation about the torture and pain suffered by people during the Partition and will continue

to inspire countrymen to maintain peace and harmony in the nation.

The BJP targeted the Congress without naming it on the day in a video clip and sought to know why the Partition could not be prevented by those who were in charge then.

The BJP’s video featured Cyril John Radcliffe, whose partition map split Punjab and Bengal almost in half, questioning how a person who had no knowledge of Indian cultural heritage was allowed to divide India in merely weeks.

Significantly, the video which narrated the Partition story had visuals of the first Prime Minister of the country Jawaharlal Nehru appearing frequently as the voice-over continued recounting the horrors of the partition.

“Those who had no knowledge of India’s cultural heritage, civilisation, values, pilgrimages, in just three weeks, they drew the border between people living together for centuries”, the video said.

“Where were those people at that time who had the responsibility of fighting

against these divisive forces?”, the BJP tweeted along with the video.

The party has been organising exhibitions on the issue at various party offices and other places from August 12 to 14.

A six-member committee was set up to ensure the implementation of the idea across the country, which consisted of national general secretary Dushyant Gautam, former Union Minister Dr Harsh Vardhan, Narendra Rana, Anirban Ganguly, Priti Gandhi and Shakti Singh.

Tragedy of Partition can’t be misused to fuel hate: Cong

PM wants to mark August 14 as ‘Partition Horrors Remembrance Day’ to use it as fodder for his political battles: Jairam Ramesh

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■
NEW DELHI

The Congress on Sunday alleged that the real intent of Prime Minister Narendra Modi to mark August 14 as ‘Partition Horrors Remembrance Day’ is to use the traumatic events as fodder for his current political battles.

Congress general secretary, communications, Jairam Ramesh said the tragedy of the Partition, cannot be misused to fuel hate and prejudice.

He said the politics of hate will be defeated and the Congress will continue its efforts to unite India while upholding the legacy of Mahatma Gandhi, Jawaharlal Nehru, and Sardar Vallabhai Patel.

“The real intent of the PM to mark August 14 as ‘Partition Horrors Remembrance Day’ is to use the most traumatic historical events as fodder for his current political battles. Lakhs upon lakhs were dislocated and lost their lives. Their sacrifices must not be forgotten or disrespected,” Ramesh said in a series of tweets.

“The tragedy of the Partition cannot be misused to



fuel hate and prejudice. The truth is Savarkar originated the two-nation theory and Jinnah perfected it. Sardar Patel wrote, ‘I felt that if we did not accept the Partition, India would be split into many bits and would be completely ruined,’ he also said.

The Congress leader also asked, “Will the PM also recall today Syama Prasad Mookerjee, the founder of the Jan Sangh, who championed the Partition of Bengal against the wishes of Sarat Chandra Bose, and who sat in free India’s first Cabinet while the tragic consequences of the Partition were becoming evi-

dent?”

Alleging that the “modern-day Savarkars and Jinnahs” are continuing their efforts to divide the nation, Ramesh said the Indian National Congress will uphold the legacy of Gandhi, Nehru, Patel and many others who were untiring in their efforts to unite the nation.

“The politics of hate will be defeated,” he asserted.

Pakistan was carved out as a separate country after the division of India by the British in 1947. Millions of people were displaced and many lakhs of them lost their lives in the communal violence that followed.

Death cuts short the Big Bull’s run at 63

Jhunjhunwala passes away days after launch of his Akasa Air

TN RAGHUNATHA ■ MUMBAI

Billionaire investor, the ‘Big Bull’ of the Indian market, and Akasa Air co-founder Rakesh Jhunjhunwala passed away on Sunday, following a cardiac arrest.

He was 62 and is survived by his wife Rekha Jhunjhunwala and daughter Nishtha and two twin sons Aryaman and Aryaveer.

Jhunjhunwala, who was the 36th richest person in the country as per the Forbes’ 2021 list and had a net worth of around \$5.8 billion, was brought dead to the Breach Candy Hospital in Mumbai at 6:45 A.M. on Sunday.

His health had deteriorated over the past few weeks, and



he was being treated for kidney-related ailments and ischemic heart disease. The hospital certified that cardiac arrest was the cause of his death.

Jhunjhunwala, who had lived his life king size, had several vices. He had gone on record way back in 2013, saying: “I don’t have good habits. I smoke like a chimney, drink like a fish, eat like a pig. I don’t exercise. Yes. My health

worries me”.

He had recently teamed up with ex-Jet Airways CEO Vinay Dube and former IndiGo head Aditya Ghosh to launch Akasa Air, a low-cost airline. The airline took to the skies last week. He was seen in a wheelchair at the launch of Akasa Air. The airline currently has two aircrafts with an additional order for 70 more planes and flies to three cities.

BJP gets crucial portfolios in Maha Cabinet expansion

T N RAGHUNATHA ■ MUMBAI

The ruling BJP walked away with several crucial portfolios like Home, Finance, Housing, Revenue, and Rural Development in the Ministry allocations made belatedly by Chief Minister Eknath Shinde on Sunday in Maharashtra.

While Deputy Chief Minister Devendra Fadnis (BJP) has been vested with plum portfolios like Home, Finance & Planning, Law & Justice, Water Resources, Energy, Housing and Protocol. Chief Minister Shinde will handle the traditional Urban Development, GAD, IT, PWD (Public Projects), Transport and other departments.

In the portfolio allocations made by the Chief Minister five days after he expanded his Cabinet on August 9 through the induction of 18 new Ministers, BJP Minister Radhakrishna Vikhe-Patil was allocated Revenue, Dairy Development and Animal Husbandry, while Sudhir Mungantiwar was given



Forests, Cultural Affairs and Fisheries. Chandrakant Patil was handed Higher & Technical Education, Textiles and Parliamentary Affairs portfolio. Dr Vijaykumar Gavit was allocated Tribal Development, while Girish Mahajan was given Rural Development, Panchayati Raj, Medical Education, Sports & Youth Welfare. Mangal Prabhat Lodha was allocated Tourism,

Skill Development & Entrepreneurship, Women & Child Development.

Ravindra Chavan was given Public Works (excluding Public Enterprises), Food & Civil Supplies and Consumer Protection, while Atul Save got Cooperation, Other Backward & Bahujan Welfare. Suresh Khade was allocated the Labour department.

JK Rowling gets death threat over Rushdie tweet

PTI ■ LONDON

The police in Scotland on Sunday said they are investigating an online threat, believed to be from Pakistan, made to Harry Potter author JK Rowling in the wake of her support for Mumbai-born writer Salman Rushdie following his stabbing at a literary event in New York state.

Rowling, 57, shared screenshots of a Twitter message stating: “Don’t worry, you are next.” The same Twitter account, believed to be based in Pakistan, also posted messages praising the man who attacked Rushdie, 75, on stage at the event in New York state.

“We have received a report of an online threat being made and officers are carrying out enquiries,” Police Scotland said.

In her Twitter post, Rowling had said she felt “very sick” at the news about Rushdie’s attack and hoped he would recover, to which she received the threatening reply.

She shared a screenshot of the threat, writing: “To all sending supportive messages. Thank you. Police are involved (were already involved on other threats).” The Edinburgh-based author has previously faced threats over her stance on women’s rights issues and police have investigated similar threats.

the pioneer

wishes its readers a happy
INDEPENDENCE DAY

All the regional offices of The Pioneer will remain closed on 15 August, 2022 and there will be no edition of the newspaper on 16th August. Delhi Pioneer, English, will be available for our readers.



Army Jawan’s body buried in Siachen glacier found after thirty eight years

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■
NEW DELHI

The Army has found the mortal remains of one of its soldiers after 38 years in the Siachen glacier. The soldier has been identified as Lance Naik Chandra Shekhar. He was reported missing after an avalanche hit his team on the world’s highest battlefield.

A patrol team on Saturday found the remains of Shekhar in an old bunker at the Siachen glacier at a height of more than 16,000 feet. An identification disc around the neck of the skeleton helped the army ascertain his identity.

The soldier served in the 19 Kumaon Regiment and

hailed from Haldwani, Uttarakhand. He is survived by his wife and two daughters.

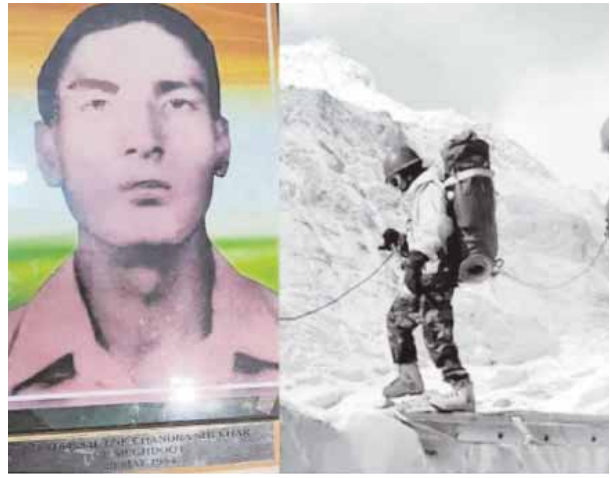
Giving details of the recovery, sources also said his elder daughter was eight years old and the younger one only four when the mishap took place. Several retired soldiers of his unit and family members are likely to attend the ceremony when his mortal remains arrive in Haldwani.

The mishap took place in 1984 shortly after the Indian army was deployed at the Siachen glacier. Shekhar was part of a team asked to capture Point 5965, an important feature that the Pakistanis were eyeing. The 19 Kumaon regiment unit was one of the first

to take part in actions when the Indian army was deployed at the glacier.

Shekhar’s unit had halted for the night when an avalanche hit it. Eighteen personnel, including an officer Second Lieutenant P S Pundir, were killed, sources said. While the mortal remains of 14 were found, five were missing. Shekhar’s body was found by a patrol team, they said, adding in summer months the teams fan out at the glacier to locate the missing soldiers.

In the past too, the patrolling teams have found remains of missing soldiers there. Harsh weather and avalanches have taken the lives of nearly 900 Indian soldiers



since Operation Meghdoot, the name given to deployment

at Siachen glacier began in 1984.



Artists pose for pictures near a sand sculpture on the eve of Independence Day, in Pune on Sunday

PTI

JeM affiliate PAFF takes responsibility for attack on Army camp

RAKESH K SINGH ■ NEW DELHI

The People's Anti-Fascist Force (PAFF), believed to be an affiliate of Pakistani terror group Jaish-e-Mohammad (JeM), has taken responsibility for the attack on an army camp in Rajouri in Jammu early on Thursday in which four soldiers lost their lives and two terrorists were liquidated in the operation.

The PAFF has issued two separate video messages claiming responsibility for the attack and warned of more such attacks to achieve its objective of internationalizing the Kashmir issue.

In one of the videos, a man with his face blurred warns to escalate attacks against the security forces which he dubbed as "Hindutva Forces".

"With Rajouri attack, we began such an operation. We will gradually calibrate to such a level that the international community knows that Kashmir is still a war zone," the man in the video warned.

The outfit further warned that it is determined to not allow India to conduct any G-20 meeting in Kashmir and that it will do anything and everything to stop this.

Besides hard military attacks, the outfit has exhorted the Kashmiri diaspora to raise the issue diplomatically and engage as many foreign governments as possible to highlight the issue.

Four Army jawans were killed in the terrorist attack on an Army camp in the Rajouri district of Jammu early on Thursday, just four days ahead of Independence Day. Both the terrorists involved in the attack were gunned down in the four-hour gunfight that ensued.

Nitish Govt to have panel for coordinating with its allies in Bihar

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ PATNA/NEW DELHI

To prevent any dissatisfaction within its allies in the new Mahagathbandhan Government led by Nitish Kumar, a formula has been worked out for allotting Ministerial berths.

A coordination committee will also be formed to take up issues raised by the alliance partners and ensure that differences do not come into the public domain and are sorted out internally.

Sources said the formula worked upon is one Ministerial berth to a party per every 4 MLAs. This means that the major partner RJD led by Deputy CM Tejashwi Yadav will have a greater share with 18 ministers followed by Nitish's JDU with 12 berths.

The Congress will end up with four Minister berths. The Grand Alliance at present comprises seven parties — JD(U), RJD, Congress, CPIML(L), CPI, CPI(M) and

HAM, which together have more than 160 MLAs in the 243-member Assembly.

Congress state in-charge Bhakta Charan Das said the party as of now will get three Ministers, with 2 taking oath on August 16 and others to be inducted in the next exercise. If the above formula worked, then Congress may get an additional berth later.

The Left parties will not join the Government and extend outside support. The Left block has 16 members in the Assembly. The Nitish-led Mahagathbandhan Government will go on for a floor test on August 24.

Das said the Congress MLAs who will become the Ministers are yet to be decided. "We will finalise the names of our legislators who will be part of the Nitish Kumar Cabinet on Monday," he said.

While Nitish is in touch with Tejashwi, JD(U) president Lalan Singh reached Delhi to meet RJD patriarch Lalu Yadav.

Army awarded 1 Kirti Chakra, 8 Shaurya Chakra on occasion of I- Day

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ NEW DELHI

The Army was awarded one Kirti Chakra, the second highest peacetime gallantry medal, besides eight Shaurya Chakra (third highest) on the occasion of Independence Day.

Two of the Shaurya Chakras out of eight were awarded the medal posthumously. All nine medals were given for the gallant actions of the soldiers in Jammu and Kashmir.

Giving details here on Saturday, officials said the Kirti Chakra was awarded to Naik Devendra Pratap Singh. The Shaurya Chakra awardees include MAJOR NITIN DHAANIA, MAJOR AMIT DAHIYA, SENA MEDAL MAJOR SANDEEP KUMAR, MAJOR ABHISHEK SINGH, HAVILDAR GHANSHYAM and LANCE NAIK RAGH VENDRA SINGH. The posthumous awardees are SEPOY KARN VEER SINGH and GUNNER JASBIR SINGH.

108: J&K Police personnel get maximum medals for gallantry

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ NEW DELHI

On the occasion of Independence Day, police personnel from Jammu and Kashmir bagged 108 police medals for gallantry (PMG), the most among States and Union Territories of the total 347 gallantry awards.

The CRPF personnel bagged the maximum number of medals with 109 gallantry awards in serving regions like Jammu and Kashmir and Maoist-affected areas. As many 87 personnel and officers won President's Police Medals for Distinguished Service.

Various categories of service medals, including for gallant action, have been awarded to 1,082 police personnel from CAPFs and state forces, said the Ministry of Home Affairs in a statement said Sunday.

"Among the majority of the 347 Gallantry Awards, 204 personnel are being awarded for their gallant action in Jammu & Kashmir, 80 personnel for their gallant action in Left Wing Extremism affected areas, and 14 personnel for their gallant action in North-East Region.

Among the personnel receiving Gallantry Awards, 109 are from CRPF, 108 are from J&K Police, 19 are from BSF, 42 are from Maharashtra, 15 are from Chhattisgarh, and the remaining from the other States/UTs and CAPFs," said MHA.

Among them, 347 have been awarded police medal for gallantry (PMG), 87 President's police medal for distinguished service, and 648 given police medals for meritorious service.

Out of the 347 gallantry awards, 204 personnel are being awarded for their gallant action in Jammu and Kashmir, 80 for displaying bravery in Left Wing Extremism or Naxal violence-affected areas, and 14 personnel for showing bravery in North-East Region, the Union

Home Ministry said. CRPF IGs Padmakar Santu Ranpise, Rajesh Kumar, CISF IG Hem Raj Gupta, SSB IGs Pankaj Kumar Darad, Pradeep Kumar Gupta, BSF IG Bhupendra Kumar Mehta, and DIGs Indraj Singh, Kamaljit Singh Banyal, Binay Kumar Jha were among the 87 persons won the President's Police Medals for Distinguished Service.

Intelligence Bureau's Joint Directors Rajiv Ahir, Sunita Kakran and Balbir Singh also got the President's Medal. Delhi Police's Assistant Commissioners Pancham Chand and Shivaji Chauhan also won the prestigious President's Police Medals for Distinguished Service.

The Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) has received the maximum gallantry medals at 109, followed by 108 to the J&K Police, 19 to the Border Security Force (BSF), and six each to the Indo-Tibetan Border Police (ITBP) and Sashastra Seema Bal (SSB). Within the state police forces, 42 gallantry medals have been given to Maharashtra, 15 to Chhattisgarh for the anti-Maoist operations.

Ghulam Rasool Bhat, Jatinder Singh, Faiz Mohd, and Allah Din Khatana of the Jammu and Kashmir Police have been awarded the Police Medal for Gallantry for their counter-terrorism operation on March 23, 2021, in the Shopian district that saw protests from locals.

The terrorist was neutralized in an hours-long complex operation. During the operation, "a huge number of miscreants had gathered from nearby villages and started pelting stones on security forces followed by sloganeering against them," reads the citation.

"These teams displayed utmost tolerance and kept the miscreants at bay. In this process, a few men of the law & order team got minor injuries. After a thorough search, bodies of 04 terrorists of LeT out-



DR. BHUPENDRA KUMAR MEHTA, IG (Med) Shri INDRAJ SINGH, DIG (Now IG) Shri KAMALJIT SINGH BANYAL, DIG (Now IG) Shri BINAY KUMAR JHA, DIG, (Now IG) Inspr (Min) VARGHESE VK

fit and their arms/ammunition were recovered from the site and the operation was called-off," said the citation.

Twenty Indo-Tibetan Border Police (ITBP) force personnel have been awarded various service medals, including for bravery, on the occasion of Independence Day.

The decorations include six police gallantry medals, three President's police medals for distinguished service, and 11 police medals for meritorious service, ITBP spokesperson Vivek Kumar Pandey said. Sashastra Seema Bal's (SSB) personnel got 20 awards including six medals for President's Police Medals for Distinguished Service.

Those awarded the bravery medals include Assistant Commandants (ACs) Prabhat Mukul Martin Minz and Amit Kumar, Assistant Sub Inspector Kuldip Raj, Head Constable Hamesh Kumar and Constables Brahm Chandra and Shakti Kumar. They have been awarded for undertaking two separate operations against Naxals in Chhattisgarh, the spokesperson said.

Seventy BSF personnel have been conferred with Police Medals which includes 19 Police Medals for Gallantry, 05 President's Police Medals for Distinguished Service, and 46 Police Medals for Meritorious Service. "Constable Kishan Kumar Dubey of 119 Bn BSF

made the supreme sacrifice in the line of duty while defending an FDL in Distt - Kupwara (J&K) on July 9, 2015, during unprovoked firing by Pak troops. For meticulous operational planning, exemplary courage, and operational acumen, Ct Kishan Kumar Dubey has been awarded Police Medal for Gallantry (Posthumously).

"During the intervening night of 7/8th August 2016, troops of 156 Battalion BSF while deployed in FDL Bhuriwala in Jammu Kashmir, noticed the movement of heavily armed militants trying to infiltrate into own side.

Party challenged the militants which further lead to an encounter in which SI Mahendra Yadav, HC Chandra Pal Singh, CT (Cook) BananSaha made the supreme sacrifice in the line of duty. Own party also neutralized one militant and recovered a huge quantity of Arms and Ammunition from the encounter site.

For the meticulous operational planning, exemplary combat audacity, operational acumen, and flawless conduct of operation, SI Mahendra Yadav, HC Chandra Pal Singh, CT (Cook) BananSaha have been awarded Police Medal for Gallantry (Posthumously) and Ct Harikesh Meena awarded with Police Medal for Gallantry," said BSF quoting the citation.



From Delhi to Kashmir — heavy security blanket for I-Day celebrations

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

India has not only been decked in tricolour hues in the lead up to the 76th Independence Day celebrations, but also put under a heavy security blanket, right from Delhi, the epicentre of the mega celebrations, to Jammu and Kashmir. The police machinery across states has been put on vigil to ensure that the celebrations are not hampered in any way.

In Delhi, where Prime Minister Narendra Modi will be addressing the nation from the ramparts of the historic Red Fort, security has been stepped up with Delhi Police deploying more than 10,000 personnel to guard the Mughal-era monument.

From facial recognition system (FRS) cameras installed at the entry point of the Red Fort to multi-layered security cover and deployment of over 400 kite catchers and fliers on rooftops and other sensitive locations in the fort area to counter any threats from sub-conventional aerial platforms - the area is under hawk-eye vigil.

With nearly 7,000 invitees expected to attend the event at the Red Fort, a five-kilometre area around the monument has been marked as "no kite flying zone" till the tricolour is hoisted. Dendrapa Pathak, Special Commissioner of Police (Law and Order), had said provisions of Section 144 have already been instituted in Delhi.

Anti-drone systems from Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) and other security agencies have also been installed, police said. In the

financial capital of the country, Mumbai, several law-enforcing units have been deployed to man the streets of the metropolis along with anti-drone systems, an official said.

According to the official, while there was no specific input in view of Independence Day, as a matter of routine, security of vital installations had been increased and officials have been asked to conduct spot visits. "We are conducting anti-sabotage checks. Since Wednesday, operation all out is underway comprising checking of hotels, vehicles and road barricading. Action is being taken against history-sheeters and those extorted," the official added.

The official also anticipated crowding as the country is celebrating Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav to mark 75 years of Independence.

In Kashmir, where the main function will be held at the Sher-e-Kashmir Cricket Stadium with Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha presiding over it, drones, snipers and policemen in plain clothes have been deployed for surveillance.

Vehicle checking has been intensified, according to officials, while police and paramilitary forces have been deployed in strength at many places in the city and elsewhere in the Valley to thwart any attempts by militants to disrupt the celebrations.

Random search of vehicles and frisking of people is also being carried out at several places in the Valley, they said. Sharp shooters have been deployed at all high-rise buildings around the stadium to prevent any untoward incidents.

I-Day occasion to remember freedom fighters, builders of modern India: V-P Dhankhar

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Independence Day is an occasion to remember the valiant freedom fighters whose courage and sacrifice brought us freedom and the builders of modern India, Vice President Jagdeep Dhankhar said on Sunday.

As India celebrates "Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav", it is time to recall and retell the inspiring stories of the great revolutionaries and freedom fighters to encourage the younger generation to imbibe the virtues of patriotism, sacrifice and service, he said.

In his message on the eve of 76th Independence Day, the vice president said as we celebrate the immense progress made over the last 75 years, "let us not forget how hard-won our freedom is."

"Independence Day is an occasion to remember and pay tribute to those valiant freedom fighters whose courage and sacrifice brought us freedom from the oppressive colonial



rule," he said. Dhankhar said this day is also an occasion to pay our gratitude to the builders of modern India whose hard work and dedication laid the foundation of a sovereign, stable and strong republic.

"Today, India is a country brimming with potential, surging ahead on the path of all round development... On this Independence Day, let us renew our pledge to uphold the civilisational ethos of 'Bharat' and constitutional values and rededicate ourselves to further gallop towards building an inclusive, progressive and prosperous India," he said.

Nadda takes part in silent procession to mark Partition Horrors Remembrance Day

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

BJP national president J P Nadda on Sunday participated in a silent procession here in remembrance of India's Partition in 1947 and the tragedy associated with it.

The procession from Jantar Mantar to Connaught Place also saw the participation of Union ministers Piyush Goel and Anurag Thakur, BJP vice president Vijayanti Panda, the party's Delhi unit president Adesh Gupta and ex-Union minister Harsh Vardhan, among others.

Holding the national flag, the participants marched silently to mark the Partition Horrors Remembrance Day, paying homage to people who died during Partition. Pakistan was carved out as a Muslim country after the division of



India by the British colonial rule in 1947. Millions of people were displaced and lakhs of them lost their lives in the communal violence that followed.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi had announced last year that August 14 will be observed as 'Partition Horrors Remembrance Day' in memory of the struggles and sacrifices of people. India will celebrate its Independence Day on Monday.

Seven decades after Partition, 94-yr-old woman recalls carnage, rebuilding life from scratch

PTI ■ AMBALA

There was bloodshed everywhere... Every other person on the train was mourning the loss of a loved one," says 94-year-old Kailash Rani, recalling the day she and her family were forced to flee their home in Pakistan's Rawalpindi during Partition.

"Some of our close relatives accompanying us were killed in cold blood by some youths," Rain said here on Sunday. The independence of India from British colonial rule in 1947 coincided with Partition that triggered widespread communal violence and resulted in an insurmountable refugee crisis.

Rani said her husband, Suraj Prakash, a businessman, faced communal violence and mindless hate before the family decided to leave Rawalpindi for somewhere safe.

"We were well settled and our family was very prosperous living in a posh colony there. Suddenly, riots erupted and we were forced to leave," the nonagenarian said. She said the sit-

uation was so bad at that time that they could not take any valuables with them.

"We buried all our gold ornaments in the corner of our house hoping to collect them after a few years once the situation would return to normal." Unfortunately, we have not been able to visit our ancestral house in 75 years. We don't even know if our house in Rawalpindi still exists," she said.

Rani said she and her family managed to reach the railway station and boarded a train headed to India. "There was chaos, fear and looting on the train. The train was overloaded with refugees. Thank God we reached Ambala safely," she said.

Like millions of others who were displaced during Partition, Rani and her family members had to rebuild their lives from scratch.

Initially, they lived in tents along with other families at Baldev Nagar Camp in Ambala city. "Later, we were shifted to mud houses.

India well-equipped to handle challenges: Union Min on Colombo allowing Chinese ship to dock

PTI ■ CHENNAI

Union Minister Sarbananda Sonowal on Sunday asserted that India is well equipped to handle any kind of challenges that may arise in the wake of Sri Lanka allowing a high-tech Chinese 'research' ship to dock in its waters.

His statement comes a day after the island nation said that it has allowed a Chinese military ship to anchor at the Hambantota port from August 16 till 22 for "replenishment purposes," amidst India's concerns over the presence of the vessel in the neighbourhood.

"We are well equipped and well prepared to handle any kind of situation effectively under the dynamic leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

That is clear," Sonowal said. The Minister of Ports, Shipping and Waterways was responding to a question from reporters here. To another query regarding Indian cargo ships depending on Colombo port, which acts as a transshipment hub in the Eastern

coast, he said, "The Ministry is very much committed to developing a transshipment hub on the Indian coasts. We have declared it earlier also." Chennai Port Trust Chairman Sunil Palwal intervened to say, India

already responded strongly on the issue relating to the Chinese ship and cautioned that "security situation of a country should not be discussed like this."

On the development of infrastructure at Ports across the country, the Union Minister said, "We have already started to develop our infrastructure in Paradip, Vishakapatnam and also in Chennai Port. We are also planning to develop infrastructure in Tuticorin port..."

Sonowal said his Ministry has planned to set up a new fishing harbour in Paradip Port, Vishakapatnam and also Chennai Port "within a short span of time".

"We have already sanctioned Rs 99 crore to Chennai (Port Trust) for the fishing harbour", he said.



Schoolchildren participate in a Har Ghar Tiranga campaign under Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav in New Delhi on Sunday

Punjab Police busts Pak-ISI backed module intending to carry out terror attack on I-Day

PNS ■ CHANDIGARH

Punjab Police on Sunday claimed to have thwarted yet another possible terrorist attack, a day ahead of Independence Day, by busting a Pak-ISI backed terrorist module with the arrest of four members associated with Canada-based gangsters.

The accused were associated with Arshdeep Singh alias Arsh Dala and Australia-based gangster Gurjant Singh alias Janta. They were apprehended from Delhi during the intelligence-led operation, carried out by the Counter-Intelligence unit of Punjab Police with the help of Delhi Police.

The Police have also recovered three hand-grenades (P-86), one IED, and two 9 mm pistols along with 40 live cartridges from the possession of arrested persons, said Punjab Director General of Police (DGP) Gaurav Yadav on Sunday, adding that this is the third such module of cross-border smuggling of arms and explosives that has been busted by the Punjab Police in less than a week. Those arrested have been identified as Deepak Sharma of Moga; Sandeep Singh of Ferozepur; Sunny Dagar of Delhi; and Vipin Jakhar of New Delhi, where all of them were taking shelter.

DGP said that following reliable inputs that associates of



Arsh Dala are being harboured by Vipin Jakhar at his accommodation in Goila Khurd village in New Delhi, teams of Punjab Police's SSOC Mohali along with Dwarka Police conducted a raid at their premises on Friday, and managed to arrest them after recovering two 9mm pistols (foreign-made) along with 40 live cartridges.

Working on the leads obtained during the questioning of the arrested persons, the police teams have also recovered one IED and three hand-grenades on Saturday from the locations pinpointed by them in Punjab," he said, adding that the arrested accused also revealed that they were being tasked by Arsh Dala to execute criminal activities in areas of Delhi and Punjab ahead of Independence day to disrupt the peace and harmony.

The investigations, so far,

revealed that Deepak Sharma, who is a history-sheeter and was wanted by the Punjab Police in two cases including of murder of Moga-based Jaswinder Singh alias Jassi, who was killed in March-2022, and another for firing on the house of Panchayat Secretary of Village Dala, Moga in June 2022, said DGP Yadav. He added that the accused Sandeep, who recently came back to India from Dubai, had provided logistic support to Deepak to carry out firing at the house of Panchayat Secretary.

The state police chief said that the accused Sunny Dagar, who is out from jail on parole, is an active member of Neeraj Bawana Gang and Tillu Tajpuriya gang active in Delhi and NCR region and has been facing various cases of heinous crimes including murder, attempt to murder, extortion, theft etc. Sunny Dagar was providing hideouts to Deepak

Sharma and Sandeep Singh in Delhi and nearby areas, while accused Vipin Jakhar was providing financial and logistical support to the other arrested and was involved in facilitating the movement of the accused from one hideout to another, he added.

Meanwhile, the Police have procured remand for five days of all the arrested persons after producing them at the local Mohali Court on Saturday.

PROCESS ON TO EXTRADITE GANGSTER ARSH DALA

Canada-based Arsh Dala, a native of Dala village in Moga, is a notorious gangster involved in various criminal activities in Punjab and abroad, and is most wanted by the Punjab Police. His involvement had also emerged in various targeted killings that took place in the border state of Punjab, besides, in cases of supplying militant hardware including RDX, IEDs, AK-47 and other arms and ammunition to modules in the state after getting them imported from Pakistan.

DGP Yadav said that the Punjab Police has initiated the process to extradite him from Canada, and soon, he will be brought to India. Notably, the Red Corner Notice against Arsh Dala has already been issued in May 2022.

Punjabis to get atta under Ghar-Ghar Ration scheme in single phase from Oct 1

PNS ■ CHANDIGARH

Armed with the resolute will to provide ration at the doorstep of the people, the State Government shall undertake the home delivery service of atta from October 1 this year. The scheme shall be implemented across the State in a single phase. For the purpose, the entire state has been divided

into eight zones.

"Under the scheme, the Government shall offer, to every beneficiary enrolled under NFSA, the option of home delivery of atta. Any beneficiary, who wishes to physically collect his entitlement of wheat from a Fair Price Shop (FPS), shall have an option of 'opt-out' through a suitable IT-intervention freely available to him.



The delivery cycle of distribution shall now be changed from quarterly to monthly cycle," said the state Food, Civil Supplies, and Consumer Affairs Minister Lal Chand Kataruchak.

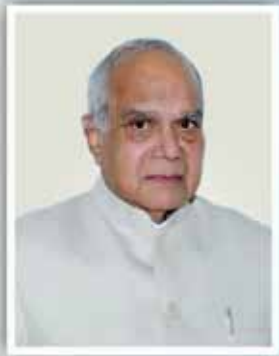
The home delivery service shall introduce the concept of Mobile Fair Price Shops (MPS) — which shall be a transport vehicle, preferably fitted with GPS facility and cameras to live

stream the handing over of atta to the beneficiary, said the Minister adding that it shall mandatorily have the facility of weighing scales in order to satisfy the customer about the weight of the atta before it is delivered.

An MPS shall enjoy a status similar to the 'Fair Price Shop' under the NFSA. Only MPS shall offer the facility of home delivery of Atta.

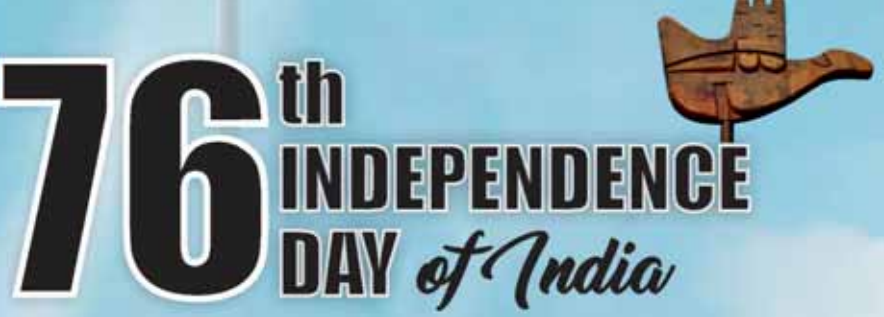
Ration scheme






Shri Banwarilal Purohit
Hon'ble Governor of Punjab and
Administrator, UT, Chandigarh





On this Independence Day, let us pay our tribute to all those freedom fighters who helped in the liberation of our country and celebrate history, culture and achievements of our people.

Also bring home India's National Flag  and hoist it to commemorate the 75 years of India's Independence.

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC RELATIONS, CHANDIGARH ADMINISTRATION





Heartiest Greetings on the 75th Anniversary of Independence Day

Monday, 15th August, 2022

आज़ादी के अमृत महोत्सव का यही पैगाम गर्व से करो हर वीर शहीद को सलाम

"India is celebrating its 75th year of Independence. We all are witnessing this wonderful and historic moment as 'Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav' which is also transforming into a mass movement."

- Narendra Modi



Information, Public Relations & Languages Department, Haryana

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PAPER WITH PASSION

India survives

India has proved the doomsayers wrong; it has progressed a lot in the last 75 years, but it has to do a lot more

The Narendra Modi Government is celebrating the 75th anniversary of Independence with massive fanfare, calling it Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav. Patriotism is in the air—quite literally—as competing with the Prime Minister in the display of tiranga is Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal. Then there are intellectuals, most of them Left-liberal, who are sullenly watching the march of Modi's nationalism which they intensely dislike. But if one objectively looks at the three quarters of a century of India as an Independent nation, one has to recognise that, despite all the failings and shortcomings, it has been a successful journey. The very fact that our nation still has the same boundaries and the same Constitution is itself a very comforting fact. When India became Independent, not many people in the world gave much of a chance to it to survive for too long as a democratic republic; and the fears and misgivings were real, not the results of conspiracy theories. It was a poor country, beset with all kinds of problems; it was even struggling to feed its teeming millions—a situation that continued for more than two decades after Independence. From the net per capita availability of food-grains ranging from 127 to 145 kg in 1946, it was 180.3 kg in 2018. Life expectancy was just 31 years, which has now crossed 70 years. The infant mortality and maternal mortality rates were very high, while education levels were very low.



Besides, there were mind-boggling diversity and divisive forces; apart from the eternal bane of caste, there were Hindu-Muslim communal tensions, militant regional/sub-nationalist movements, and other disruptive elements. But India survived in the early years, which was attributed to the towering personality of Jawaharlal Nehru, so people asked 'who after Nehru.' He died 58 years ago, the years in which the country faced humungous problems, from the Malthusian prospects in the 1960s to a brush with dictatorship (the Emergency, 1975-77) to militancy in Punjab and jihadist separatism in Kashmir to economic crisis in 1991. But India has not perished, neither as a nation nor as a democratic republic. This is not to say that all is well with our democracy and our republic. Our democracy has been weakened by several insidious mechanisms, the prominent among them being the anti-defection law. The republic has been undermined by all governments by way of introducing illiberal changes in the Constitution itself, beginning with the First Amendment in 1951, which curtailed the Fundamental Rights to Freedom of Expression and Property; the later eventually ceased to be a Fundamental Right, getting reduced to a legal right. Similarly, while a lot of economic development has taken place in the last 75 years, India remains a poor country; with its per capita income around \$2,300, its rank in the world is 144. India has progressed a lot in the last 75 years, but it has to do a lot more.

PICTALK



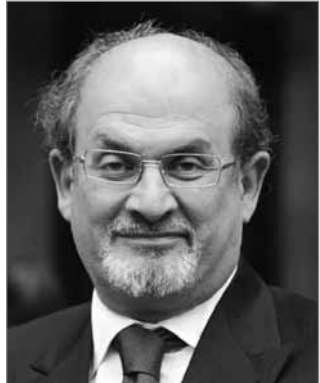
A 75-ft National Flag being unfurled at the southern tip of India, ahead of Independence Day, in Kanyakumari

PTI

A cowardly attack

Attack on Salman Rushdie opens up the debate on banning books in a democratic society

In a shocking incident, author Salman Rushdie was stabbed 10 times at an event in New York and was seriously injured. The attacker Hadi Matar follows Shia extremists on social media and is an admirer of Iran's Islamic Revolutionary Guard (IRGC). He has pleaded not guilty. Rushdie's book 'The Satanic Verses', published in 1988 was considered by Muslim clerics as disrespectful of Islam and the Prophet Mohammad. The novel led to a fatwa, a religious decree, by Iran's leader Ayatollah Khomeini. The threat forced him into hiding for several years. The author is likely to survive but may lose one eye. He was stabbed 10 times at Chautauqua Institution, where Rushdie was about to speak at the event. The suspect rushed onstage and stabbed him before being wrestled to the ground by staff and other people in the audience. Many world leaders condemned the attack and called it vicious and cowardly.



Back home, the Congress is drawing flak for banning the book. Rajiv Gandhi-led Congress Government was quick to ban the book on the pretext of disturbing law and order. Indeed banning a book or for that matter any work of art is tantamount to negating the very premise of democracy, to give everyone space to speak and express himself without any fear. However, certain reasonable restrictions apply. For instance, no sane society would allow books promoting child pornography or violent actions or drug abuse. Being blasphemous is a little different. It is debatable and should be debated within the boundaries of blasphemy. Satanic Verses is not the only book banned in free India. 'Rama Retold' or 'Ramayana', a spoof of the Ramayana by Aubrey Menen, was banned in 1955. 'The land of Lingam' 1937 Arthur Miles is still banned for being critical of Hinduism and phallic worship. 'Rangila Rasul', 1924, which dealt with Prophet Mohammad's relationships is banned to date. 'The Jewel in the Lotus', 1968 by Allen Edwardes for being oriental erotica The list is long; it even includes 'The Da Vinci Code', banned in Nagaland for its uncharitable comments on Jesus, and 'An Area of Darkness' by Nobel prize winner VS Naipaul, and even classic DH Lawrence's Lady Chatterley's Lovers. The books are frozen thoughts and when they melt in the reader's mind, they trigger a thought process. Needless to say, it depends upon the maturity of the individual or society if it can handle it. We can judge for ourselves how mature we are. We cannot be selective in banning books. Let there be a debate about it.

Saving India from unruly neighbours

India has two not-so-friendly neighbours in China and Pakistan; though India has moved on, they haven't



PRAFULL GORADIA

Pakistani rulers suffer from several obsessions; the Olympic torch passing through Srinagar before eventually reaching Chennai is one of many. How unfortunate that so many of their aspiring chess players were denied the opportunity to play on this world platform at the recent Olympiad at Chennai. This was a fleeting whim but now to trade with India is a chronic denial of so many needed items. Why? Presumably to teach India a lesson. Just because India and Pakistan were born simultaneously, in August 1947, Islamabad has taken it for granted that the two countries are comparable if not equal. How presumptuous to believe that a country and its rulers are, more or less, equal to a neighbour seven times larger. What is more remarkable is that India, at least until 2014 when the BJP came to power, also played along with the Pakistani mania of comparability, if not equality. Irritated by this mania, an Indian writer wrote that when a lion treats a rat as an equal, what else do you expect the world to feel? Perhaps take the lion to be a cat! The damage done to India's image over the years was far greater.

An expert on Strategy: Edward Luttwak years ago innovated the concept of Armed Suation which, if pursued, would make one's country appear stronger than it was. His favourite example was pre-World War II Italy which was then widely believed to be the most powerful air power in Europe. Foreign affairs become easier to conduct with Armed Suation than without it. The most recent example was that of China which appeared too powerful to be challenged in Taiwan. But when Nancy Pelosi, the Speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives decided to visit Taipei, against Chinese wishes, and did visit, the Chinese government could not do anything to prevent her. But until her airplane landed in Taipei, she attended the required official functions in the city and flew



out, there was tension. India, as brought up by the Nehru government, was the opposite. India and Pakistan were bracketed together.

When war came, as in 1947, 1965, and 1999 with Pakistan, the question on most lips was: who would win? Why should there have been any questions? For a Pakistan chess team to indicate to the world in Chennai that Islamabad does not still accept that Kashmir is an integral part of India is a show of defiance. It is the result of 74 years of inaction or weak action. To offer only one blunder of inaction as an example was the Simla Conference of 1972 between Indira Gandhi and Zulfikar Bhutto following the 1971 war. It was settled between the two leaders that the Line Control, that divides Kashmir and its part that Pakistan had gobbled up in 1947/48, would be the international border. There was to be no dispute in Kashmir left after India returned the 93,000 prisoners of war taken in Bangladesh the previous year.



THE LOGIC OF THIS SITUATION WAS TO THINK. ANY ENEMY WHO WISHES TO CONQUER AND KEEP TERRITORY WOULD NORMALLY LAUNCH HIS ATTACK IN SPRING AND NOT AUTUMN

We promptly returned the prisoners but let the LOC be until Bhutto could consolidate his position in his country. He had become prime minister only after the 1971 war ended. If this is how we run foreign affairs, instead of Armed Suation, India would be known for its Disarmed Suation and be pushed about by any of its neighbours and adversaries; not to say that the current government in Delhi is pursuing such a weak-kneed policy. To this day not a single POW has remained in India. The LOC is as it was.

How our government mishandled the China policy from the beginning until 1962 is well known but there was a way out even after all the mishandling. Our officers knew in the first few days that the Indian forces had not been prepared or equipped to be able to cope with either the enemy or the terrain or the cold weather. Moreover, any additional troops that the Army could send up to the mountains were going to be wearing their flimsy woolen pullovers, thin socks, and no

gloves and many of the soldiers had no better than canvas shoes. How on earth could such ill-equipped troops fight?

The logic of this situation was to think. Any enemy who wishes to conquer and keep territory would normally launch his attack in spring and not autumn. The Chinese invasion commenced on the 20th of October 1962. The opportunity for India was to withdraw to the plains of Assam where the terrain, the weather, and the clothes would be congenial. The Chinese would have had to occupy the Arunachal or NEFA then hillside through the bitter cold. Meanwhile, our Army would have gained time and got more ready and capable for a spring battle in conditions more of our choosing. But we did not do any of this and were slaughtered flat-footed or were caught frostbitten.

(The writer is a well-known columnist, an author and a former member of the Rajya Sabha. The views expressed are personal.)

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

HAPPY INDEPENDENCE DAY

Sir — What an excellent way to start the 75th platinum jubilee independence year (from 15th August 2022 onwards). Around 1 crore students in Rajasthan set a world record by singing patriotic songs (in the presence of world records officials from London, England) by singing songs such as "Sare jahan se accha..." "Vande maataram..." national anthem "Jana gana mana..." for 25 minutes, (at Sawai Mansingh stadium in Rajasthan).

This must be declared the 1st wonder of this excellent world. Because of harmony, inspirational acts, and good words of peace and unity. However, this should be followed by good deeds and good implementation. Congratulations to all the 1 crore participants and the entire India too. Let every nation emulate other nations only in good things. Not just words, but speedy implementation too.

Sahasra Nivriti Vislesha | Secunderabad

IMPACT OF FREEBIES ON THE ECONOMY

Sir — The Supreme Court made it clear that political parties cannot be banned on the pretext that they distribute freebies. Though it maintained that it is a financial strain on the country's economy.

The BJP and our PM are now talking about Freebies and now say that the freebies are akin to 'revdi culture'. They have forgotten that BJP has promised 15 lakhs to give freely to every person and afterward they said that it is an election juma. The party which tried to fool the public with promises which were not fulfilled is now talking against the freebies. What about BJP boasting that it is giving free ration to 80crores people with their fund, is it not freebies?

The freebies situation has now escalated into a full-fledged political crisis. According to AAP MP Sanjay Singh, the central Government committed bank frauds of around 12,40,000 crores and waived off loans of Rs crores of rupees to corporate friends. He further said that if the government would not waive off

THE BIG BULL IS NO MORE

The demise of an ace stock market investor Rakesh Jhunjhunwala often referred to as India's Warren Buffett is a huge loss to the Indian financial markets. He began investing with Rs 5,000 in 1985 when the Bombay Stock Exchange's benchmark index Sensex was at 150; it now trades at over 59,000. How the son of a civil servant came to the market in 1985 with almost nothing and turned it into a fortune, while he made a killing by investing in Titan. Going forward, it is the authenticity of his success story that makes it so powerful. Investors lapped up every word he said on markets and the economy. Company management regularly pitched to him in the hope that he invests with them. They know only too well the value of having him as an investor.

While investor appetite has waxed and waned over the years, the Big Bull has always been an incorrigible India optimist. Over the



years, he's been out there talking about what makes him so bullish—the skillset of its population and its favourable demographics being the two main reasons - more than any time in the past, he believes India's time has come. While he had plans to give away a large portion of his wealth to charity, the country, too, has lost a wealth creator.

N Sadhasiva Reddy | Bengaluru

loans to corporate persons then there would have been no necessity in increasing the GST on essential commodities. Is waiving loans of corporates, not a freebie and Revdi culture?

We have to make a distinction. If offering free education, free healthcare, or free power is a freebie?

These political parties should seek the trust of voters only on those promises which are possible to be fulfilled. The Supreme court's stand on this issue is thus laudable.

Zeeshaan | Kazipet

A SALUTE TO MARTYRS

Sir — At his funeral, the pathetic sight of his inconsolable mother and the relatives of our soldier Lakshman killed by the terrorists must have moved the hearts of even strong-willed persons.

It is unfortunate that invariably every day we are losing our valiant soldiers in our army camps in Jammu and Kashmir to terrorist attacks. If we count the number of precious lives of our army men lost right

from the Pulwama massacre to date, the figure will be nothing but alarming.

While abrogating Article 370 to do away with the special status given to Jammu and Kashmir and dividing Jammu and Kashmir into three states, the ruling dispensation assured that this move would bring the curtain down on any more terrorist attacks. Alas! The subsequent terrorist attacks that are frequent now and the death of our soldiers regularly have disproved this assurance given by the Government. The government might have taken such a move with good intentions but the results appear unproductive.

One wonders how the government is going to stall the gruesome death of our poor soldiers at the hands of the terrorists. It is time some serious action is initiated by the government to stall the sacrifice of our soldiers at the altar of those hard-core terrorists.

Tharcus S Fernando | Chennai

Send your feedback to: letterstopioneer@gmail.com

SOUNDBITE

You keep yourself busy in kite-flying, we will allocate the portfolios and it will be done soon.



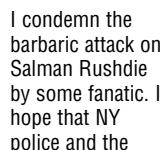
Maharashtra Deputy CM
—Devendra Fadnis



The Inflation Reduction Act's passage through Congress is nothing short of extraordinary. The United States is

taking a historic step towards the clean energy economy we need to meet our climate goals.

Founder Microsoft
—Bill Gates



I condemn the barbaric attack on Salman Rushdie by some fanatic. I hope that NY police and the court will take the strongest action possible against the attacker.



Writer
—Javed Akhtar



A podium finish at the SeoulEPrx. Well done Team India. What a jubilant way to mark 75 years of Independence of India. Mega job chaps!

Cricketer
—Virat Kohli

I'm not standing in Islamabad. We don't need to take any permission for the Tiranga yatra. there's no need to be scared.



BJP leader W Bengal
—Suwendu Adhikari

FIRST COLUMN

METHOD OF WORK IS KEY TO ORGANISATIONS

Internal leadership shapes judgement and processes



VINAYSHIL GAUTAM

Any institution needs a framework of reference to grow. Institutions have their own typologies, like anything else. Institutional typologies can be classified according to their size—large, medium, and small. They can be institutional types by their form of ownership.

They can be proprietary, partnerships, or limited to certain types of people. They can be constituted by people who have invested money in them, and the list can go on.

Besides the types of categories listed in the preceding paragraphs, there can be other types of institutions. The purpose of this text is not to focus on the types of institutions that exist or can exist. The purpose is to highlight how the institutions work. Conventionally this role is performed by a statutory body or a federating body, which decides the method of work. A statutory body determining how institutions work would have a legal status duly enshrined by the process of approval of the statutory body itself, in a legislative system. This legislative system can be an Assembly or a Parliament. Somewhere, a legal framework would come in. The important thing is to understand how it would all work. It is a method of work which will ultimately decide the probity, or indeed, the effectiveness, of the system.



There is a moral dimension also, because in the ultimate analysis, unless it is a private single proprietary ownership, every contributing stream of people who provide money and resources to the organization has a right to know how the institution they have provided money to, is functioning. There is a need to think about corrective measures. There is also a need to ensure that a basic commonsensical fair play is at the root of the institution. It is the system of monitoring which is at the core of organizational and institutional effectiveness. It is here where empirical data on orderly and deviant institutions becomes necessary. So far, it has been the responsibility of the consensus of the social segment where this institution is embedded to determine this. Thus, it is that the general public opinion becomes determinant of ultimate efficacy of the functioning of the institutions. In this the media plays an important role, because it has the responsibility of spreading facts and contributing to a healthy and fair opinion system. Internal leadership of the institution plays a crucial role, because between a flagrant violation of institutional probity and a very rigid form of framework of the institution lies the space for judgment and processes. When it comes to process, there are several indicators of assessing how well or not so well the institution is working. These process issues can be listed, enumerated, and explained. There can be several of them, including size of the institutional bodies, the focus of their sub-objective within the overall objective; how the central figure in that unit is identified, and the list can go on. For purposes of illustration, one could just focus on defining the objectives of the sub-body or indeed, the number of times it meets.

To begin at the top, just the number of times the board of an organization meets is a good example. In streams of organization, say, in education where the statutory systems are not equally rigorously articulated aberration can take place. There have been cases of several educational institutions where the Governing Body neither meets regularly nor for a given span of time. There have been examples in national chains where a newly set up institution in that chain did not meet for as much as nine months. It did not bother anyone particularly. To put it more simply, for the healthy running of institutions, there is a need to establish, observable, actionable, and cognizable method of work.

(The writer is a well-known management consultant of international repute. The views expressed are personal.)

India@75: Unshackle political bondages

Indian democracy must become attractive to skilled people such as those who have domain expertise



SUMEET BHASIN

Last month, the YSR Congress elected Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister Jagan Mohan Reddy as its chief for lifetime. In China, Xi Jinping has such credentials. India is a democracy. China is a one party nation and a totalitarian state. What kind of democracy the YSR Congress fosters is not just the business of Jagan Mohan Reddy, but also of those who have stakes in the Indian democracy.

The president of the Rashtriya Janata Dal has invariably been from within the Lalu Prasad Yadav family. Same is the case with the Samajwadi Party. Similar is the story of the Shiromani Akali Dal, the Shiv Sena, the Telangana Rashtra Samithi, and some others. On a closer look, the Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam also fits in the same slot. Even the Congress presents no different story in the last few decades.

The Representation of the People's Act has failed to stop some political parties becoming family-owned enterprises. India abolished the practice of Zamindari in 1951. Yet, their political avatars have mushroomed in many states, carving out territories by cashing in on identity politics, to imprison democracy to a few families.

At a time when India celebrates 75 years of Independence, while the world applauds the depth and diversity of democracy, lawmakers must introspect that under their watch the political zamindari has taken a large space, which should have otherwise been with the genuine leaders, who would have come from the political grinding to command leadership of a large base of the population.

That makes it incumbent for radical reforms to be carried out immediately by holding discussions with stakeholders in a time-bound manner to blank out any prospect of any family usurping a political party.

To put this to effect, the RPA Act can be suitably amended to prohibit a person from holding more than two terms of the post of the president of a political party. It should also be ensured that when that person leaves the post, it cannot be held by anyone who has family relations with him for not less than 10 years.

There is no denying the fact that politics in the country has become more caste-centric. This calls for a review of the reserved seats for the Lok Sabha, State Assemblies, Zila Panchayat and Local Bodies. Why should only a scheduled caste or tribe politician represent a reserved seat, and what stops a general category politician from working for such constituencies who have been disadvantaged for decades.

The Directive Principle of the Constitution and the teachings of Mahatma Gandhi call for social amity, and politics is the foremost means of achieving such aims. The aims for Samajik Samrasta (social inclusiveness) make it incumbent to shuffle reserved seats without attaching them to demographic profile, while also not impacting on the number of such seats. This will bring true inclusiveness. This will make the



MORE THAN 90 PER CENT OF THE POLITICAL WORKERS ARE NOT KNOWN TO HAVE ANY MEANS OF LIVELIHOOD. STILL, THEY AREN'T SEEN BEGGING ANYWHERE; RATHER THEY MOVE AROUND IN SPORTS VEHICLES

(The author is Director, Public Policy Research Centre.)



candidates from the reserved constituencies win from the general seats, which will boost their political profiles, and also make them take up more meaningful roles in the socio-economic progress of the nation than just being stereotyped as an SC or ST leader.

The reforms should also aim for provisions which will ensure that there is a larger participation of the political workers from the disadvantaged sections of the society in the Indian democracy to genuinely address aspirations of all the sections.

The Election Commission can be mandated to shuffle the reserved seats in each election so that there is a larger pool of leaders available to serve the nation in the true spirit of social democracy.

In this context, reforms should also take a closer look at the participation of women, scheduled caste and tribe leaders in all wings of democracy, and statutorily ensure that anomalies are addressed.

More than 90 per cent of the political workers are not known to have any means of livelihood. Still, they aren't seen begging anywhere, and rather they move around in sports vehicles. This is the story from Gram Panchayat to State capitals and the national capital. People don't pay much attention to their means of income, taking for granted that they must be hailing from well-off family backgrounds.

This brings to the attention the backgrounds of the likes of Akhi-

lesh Yadav or Aditya Thackeray, for there's no public records to show their sources of incomes to justify their lavish lifestyles. They are prominent names of Indian politics, but there would be millions of political workers who never had enough education to find jobs and so they found it convenient to join politics.

This is indeed India's paradox that we aspire for the country to be free from corruption but the life and breath of democracy are ensured by an army of workers who have no known sources of incomes. They may engage in ways which may not be appropriate for their livelihoods, while also incurring necessary expenditure on behalf of their political parties.

This again calls for deep reforms in electoral politics, and we should not be apologetic to admit that we need to pay a respectable salary to a political worker who is working full time. This salary has to be paid by political parties, but they have to be bound under the suitable law, which should be auditable by a government agency, with the oversight to be vested with the Election Commission. That will be the serious attempt to get rid of political corruption, as it will also pave the way for a close monitoring of the assets of the political leaders.

Additionally, the Election Commission must breathe fresh air and admit that there is no rationality in the expenditure ceilings in the Lok Sabha and the Assembly elec-

tions, and also on the grounds of the geography, as well as the size of the constituencies. There must be rationalization of expenditure ceilings, for this again is a ground for massive electoral corruption, as dummy candidates are put up to cover additional expenses of candidates, besides also being the reasons for more vices in the election system in the country.

In the 1990s, the political leaders brainstormed about India of the 21st century. We have been two decades old in the 21st century and our electoral democracy remains rugged and outdated, not rising to the challenges of the new era, where the people are educated, besides being aspirational, along with India aiming to take a prominent position on the high table in the international arena.

Until we shake off the dust that the electoral democracy has gathered over several decades, no genuine gains can go to the deserving people. India at 75 must ensure that anyone with fire in his or her belly to serve the nation can join politics without worrying for his or her livelihood and progress in politics.

Indian democracy must become attractive to skilled people such as those who have domain expertise of law, international relations, economy, social science, arts, informational and technology and so on. India at 75 must also be of skilled and honest politicians, and zero tolerance for the new-age zamindars.

POINTCOUNTERPOINT

'JUNGLE RAJ' HAS RETURNED TO BIHAR WITH THE RJD-JD(U) GOVERNMENT ASSUMING POWER IN THE STATE. —BJP SPOKESPERSON SAMBIT PATRA



HOW MANY PEOPLE FROM BIHAR DID THEY (BJP) MAKE A MINISTER AT CENTRE? I ASKED FOR FOUR MINISTERS FROM OUR PARTY. THEY DID NOT GIVE. —BIHAR CHIEF MINISTER NITISH KUMAR

Indian pharmaceutical industry poised to take off

Ever since the economic reforms of 1991, the domestic pharma industry has grown by leaps and bounds

The 75th Independence Day holds a lot of significance for the pharmaceutical industry in India. Over the past few decades since India's Independence, the industry has witnessed immense growth and emerged as one of the leading providers of drugs/medicines to countries worldwide.

From being non-existent in the 1970s to supplying crucial drugs to more than 200 countries in the fight against the pandemic, the Indian pharmaceutical industry has shown its prowess in its commitment to better health of people across the globe. With the government's strong push towards an 'Atmanirbhar Bharat', several initiatives both at the business and policy levels have been implemented to propel the pharmaceutical industry towards



NIKKHIL K. MASURKAR

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further heights.

Presently, the Indian pharmaceutical industry caters to more than 60 per cent of the global demand for different vaccines as well as ARV drug supplies, 30 per cent of UNICEF's annual supply worldwide and almost 60-80 per cent of UN purchases of medicines come from India.

Additionally, India also contributes nearly 57 per cent of APIs and 69 per cent of FPP (Finished Pharma Products) to the WHO's Pre-Qualified list. Furthermore, about 40 per cent of generics drug requirements in the US are met by India. All this is possible due to various initiatives that were taken to boost the domestic pharmaceutical industry. Here's a look at the significant ones that aided in the strong growth of the industry:

The Patent Act, 1970

This was the first patent act introduced after India became independent. It made the way for process patents and restricted patenting of end-products, which enabled manufacturers to develop alternative processes for proprietary products that were already there in the market.

The Drug Policy, 1978

The introduction of this policy along with the Price Control Order of 1979 turned out to be landmark events for the pharmaceutical industry in India. It not only enabled the setting up of a National Drug Authority but also provided a 'directional push' to the sector. The policy aimed at increasing the local production of bulk drugs, providing leadership to the PSUs,

reducing imports of bulk drugs, encouraging the growth of the local industry and reducing the selling prices of important drugs along with their formulations.

Hatch-Waxman Act 1984

Even though this Act was passed in the US, it helped in the proliferation of generic drugs and assisted a lot in the growth of the Indian generic industry. The Act established the economic and legal foundation for the present-day generic pharmaceutical industry.

The 1991 economic reforms

The Indian government in 1991 launched some major economic reforms and entered the world of globalisation. The economic reforms helped in market liberalisation, linking the Indian

pharmaceutical industry with the world economy. It also ensured the end of the 'License-Raj', which allowed the pharma industry to enjoy more freedom in the market. This created more leverage for domestic players and allowed market competition to produce better products. By liberalising the economy, the government increased business opportunities in the country. As a result, a number of entrepreneurs seized the opportunities and grew their pharmaceutical business from a small firm to a big company. Ever since the inception of these reforms, the domestic pharma industry has grown by leaps and bounds and currently exports medicines and drugs worth \$19 billion throughout the world.

Recently, the Cabinet also approved two schemes, namely

the Production Linked Incentive (PLI) scheme and the scheme on Promotion of Bulk Drug Parks, to promote domestic manufacturing of critical key starting materials/drug intermediates and APIs (Active Pharmaceutical Ingredients) in India.

The government has plans to develop three mega bulk drug parks in India in partnership with states. A sum of Rs 3,000 crore has been approved for this scheme for the next five years. Under the PLI scheme, financial incentives will be provided to eligible producers of identified 53 critical bulk drugs on their incremental sales over the base year (2019-20) for a period of six years.

The scheme will reduce the country's import dependence for critical KSMs/Drug Intermediates and APIs.

Conclusion

In the recent past, digitisation has also emerged as a key driver for the pharmaceutical industry, helping to deliver top-quality and hyper-personalized customer experiences and also improving business resilience and performance. Without any doubt, digitisation will play an active role in driving agility across the pharmaceutical value chain by bringing the sector closer to patients and doctors.

Most importantly, the pharma industry must work towards further innovation, by manufacturing effective new medicines/ drugs for emerging and unmet healthcare needs. Steps like these will enable the industry to transform into an innovation hub for the future.

AN ERA OF UNPRECEDENTED DEVELOPMENT AND SOCIAL WELFARE IN HIMACHAL PRADESH



Jai Ram Thakur
Chief Minister

On the occasion of 76th Independence Day of India, I extend my warm greetings to the people of the state. It is a special occasion for the people of the state as we are celebrating Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav while various celebrations are also being organized in state on the occasion of 75th year of the formation of Himachal Pradesh.

On this auspicious occasion, we overwhelmingly remember our great heroes of the freedom struggle who sacrificed their lives for the pride and glory of the country. It was the result of the tireless efforts of our brave freedom fighters that we got independence after suffering the brunt of oppression for a long time. We pay our heartfelt tributes to the freedom fighters, brave soldiers and all the great personalities of the country who made their supreme sacrifice for our freedom. Their dedication and patriotism will always inspire us to keep the unity and integrity of the country intact.

It is a matter of great pride for us that the freedom fighters, mass movement leaders and people of Himachal Pradesh made their unforgettable contributions in the freedom movement of the country, which has been recorded in

the history. We humbly pay our rich tributes to all those leaders and freedom fighters of the state, who fought against British rule.

We are grateful to the people of the state, who entrusted the responsibility to the BJP government in December, 2017 and I got the privilege of leading the government as the Chief Minister. This period of our government has witnessed unprecedented development.

Our government has established healthy and high traditions by setting aside the political vendetta. With a view to take Himachal Pradesh to new heights of development and progress, we have implemented various new schemes, which have proved milestones in ensuring the welfare of every section of the society.

Despite difficult geographical conditions and limited resources, this small hill state today has emerged as a model of development and public welfare for other states of the country. Even during the challenges posed by the Corona pandemic for over two years, we ensured to keep up the pace of development and facilitate the people of the state. Today, Himachal Pradesh has got a distinct identity and the achievements of the state in various fields have been appreciated at the national level.

Our government has made every effort to increase the self-respect of Himachalis and provide them ample opportunities to improve their standard of living. The State Government has taken a historic decision to not charge any bill from the electricity consumers upto 125 units

besides exempting people of the rural areas from paying water bills. The government is also providing 50 percent concession to the women in the fare in normal buses of Himachal Road Transport Corporation operating within the state.

The state government has benefited lakhs of senior citizens by reducing the age limit of old age pension from 80 years to 60 years so that senior citizens should lead a dignified life. The social security pension being paid to various sections has been increased and 3.07 lakh new cases of pension have been approved during this tenure. A budget provision of Rs. 1300 crore has been made for social security pension in this financial year, whereas about Rs. 436 crore were spent in 2017-18.

We have given top priority to provide the best health facilities to the people of the state by undertaking various initiatives. We started Himcare scheme to cover beneficiaries who could not avail benefit of the Ayushman Bharat Yojana of the central government to provide facility of free treatment. Under both these schemes, Rs.472.88 crore has been spent on the treatment of 4.57 lakh people of the state.

Our government is giving financial assistance of Rs. 3000 per month under Mukhyamantri Sahara Yojana to the people belonging to economically weaker sections of the society who are suffering from serious ailments. Financial assistance of Rs. 80 crore has been released to more than 20 thousand beneficiaries for medical

treatment. Under the Mukhyamantri Chikitsa Kosh, the poor people suffering from serious diseases are being provided free treatment in government hospitals of the state as well as in PGIMER Chandigarh, AIIMS Delhi and Sector-32 Government Hospital, Chandigarh.

With the support of the Central Government, AIIMS has been established in Bilaspur district and PGI's satellite center in Una. The Centre has also given six medical colleges for the state.

Today, the facility of 48 oxygen plants and more than one thousand ventilators are available in the state. A Medical Device Park is being set up in Nagarh in which 10,000 people will get employment. Our state has emerged as a pharma hub in Asia. Himachal Pradesh became the first state in the country to achieve the target of a nationwide campaign of vaccination against the global corona pandemic.

With a vision to ensure redressal of public grievances at their door-step, we took the unique initiative of Jan Manch. This has also helped in saving people's money and time. So far, 55, 249 complaints were received in Jan Manch organized at 256 places and most of them have been resolved. We have also started Mukhyamantri Seva Sankalp Helpline-1100 to enable people to resolve their grievances sitting at home. Around 96 percent of the more than 4.30 lakh complaints received have been resolved.

The state government has focused on ensuring women empowerment. Under the Mukhyamantri

Grihini Suvridha Yojana, free gas connections have been provided to 3.34 lakh families by spending Rs. 131 crore. As a result of the Mukhyamantri Grihini Suvridha Yojana and Ujjwala Yojana, women have got rid of many troubles and health related problems. Three cylinders per year are being provided free of cost to the beneficiary families under these schemes. Himachal Pradesh has been declared as the first chulha smoke free state of the country.

Our government is also ensuring financial assistance to women under Mukhyamantri Kanyadan Yojana, Mukhyamantri Shagun Yojana and Beti Hai Annol Yojana. Around Rs.550 crore has been spent on providing financial assistance to thousands of women of self-help groups through banks under the State Rural Livelihood Mission.

With a resolve to provide the facility of pucca houses to all the poor homeless people, around Rs. 90 crore has been spent by sanctioning houses to 7,091 families under the Mukhyamantri Awas Yojana. 7,893 houses have been sanctioned under Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana-Rural and 8,456 houses under Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana-Urban.

The ambitious Mukhyamantri Swavalamban Yojana, launched with the aim of providing self-employment opportunities to the youth, has proved to be very effective. So far, 4,377 units with an investment of Rs. 721 crore have been set up for which the state government has given a subsidy of Rs. 200 crore. Women are being given 35

percent subsidy to set up their industrial units. Under the Mukhyamantri Start-up Yojana, youth are being given training and financial assistance in various fields.

The government has made sincere efforts to strengthen the economy of the state by encouraging industrial activities. For the first time in the state the Global Investors' Meet was held at Dharamshala in which 703 MoUs with an investment of Rs 96,721 crore were signed. Industrial projects worth about 42 thousand crore rupees have been grounded. Himachal Pradesh has ranked at 7th position in the country in terms of ease of doing business.

Providing clean drinking water to the people of the state has been our priority. Under the Jal Jeevan Mission, we have installed 8.65 lakh tap connections in just two and a half years, whereas before this mission 7.63 lakh tap connections were provided in the state. Himachal has emerged as a leading state in the country in effective implementation of Jal Jeevan Mission.

The state government is implementing various schemes to benefit the farmers and horticulturists. The ambitious Prakritik Kheti Khushal Kisan Yojana has been adopted by 1.71 lakh farmers and the government has spent Rs 58.46 crore on this scheme. A provision of subsidy has been made for fencing of fields, providing anti-hail nets and polysheets under the Mukhyamantri Krishi Utpadan Sanrakshan Yojna. We have given relief to the fruit growers by providing a 6 percent subsidy on the purchase of car-

tons and trays sold through HPMC. New veterinary hospitals and veterinary dispensaries have been opened in the state.

Keeping in view the importance of the tourism sector in the economy of the state, the government is developing new tourist places. Nai Rahein-Nai Manzilein scheme has proved to be an effective effort in this direction, under which tourism activities are being encouraged at various places by spending Rs. 250 crore. The construction of Shivdham at Kangnihar in Mandi district is under progress and formalities are being completed for the construction of Greenfield airport at Nagehala. Approval has been given by the Central Government to construct seven ropeways in five districts of the state at a cost of Rs. 3232 crore.

The state government has given special priority for road construction. In the last four and a half years, 3903 km long roads and 266 bridges were constructed while 443 villages were provided with road connectivity. Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi has dedicated the Atal Tunnel Rohtang to the country and the state.

Our state has made remarkable progress in the field of education and is moving towards becoming the education hub. Sardar Patel University has been established in Mandi for the convenience of the students. Financial assistance is being provided to the economically weak meritorious students for the training of medical, engineering and other competitive examinations. On an average, the state government has increased the scholarship amount of the students by 80 percent.

With a view to provide better facilities to the citizens of the urban areas, sewerage schemes have

been established in 33 cities and 68 sewage treatment plants have also been installed. Under the Smart City Mission, the work of beautification and providing modern facilities to Shimla and Dharamshala cities is under progress.

Our government has increased the wages of unskilled daily wagers from Rs. 210 to Rs. 350. The honorarium of para workers has also been increased. The Government employees and pensioners have been given the benefit of the revised pay scale. A respectable increase has been made in the honorarium of the office bearers and members of Panchayati Raj Institutions and local urban bodies.

Keeping in view the difficult geographical conditions and administrative convenience of the state, our government has created 412 new gram panchayats and three municipal corporations. Along with filling up thousands of posts of different categories in various departments, many important institutions were opened and upgraded during this period. Himachal Pradesh has become the first state in the country to approve the Drone Policy. The state is also moving towards becoming a green state.

We are grateful to the Central Government and especially to Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi, who sanctioned development projects worth Rs. 10 thousand crores besides a special economic package of Rs. 800 crores. Apart from this, 90 percent grant is being given to the state in central sponsored schemes.

I am confident that with the full cooperation and efforts of the people, Himachal Pradesh will touch new heights of self-reliance by moving ahead fast on its journey of development and prosperity.

Independence Day Greetings to All Fellow Citizens on Completion of 75 Years of Freedom

Coming 25 years of 'Amrit Kaal' to be 'Kartavya Kaal' of every citizen

Let us build together India of our freedom fighters' dreams

“On the occasion of the Independence Day, grateful Indians bow to their countless freedom fighters. As the champion proponents of freedom had joined hands for the cause of independence, in the same way, we have to unite for the development of the country.”

- Narendra Modi

Watch live telecast of the Independence Day ceremony from the ramparts of the Red Fort on Doordarshan from 6:25 a.m. onwards

#HarGharTiranga

Ministry of Information and Broadcasting
Government of India

75
Azadi Ka
Amrit Mahotsav

More US lawmakers visiting Taiwan twelve days after Pelosi trip



AP ■ TAIPEI

A delegation of American lawmakers is visiting Taiwan just 12 days after a visit by US House Speaker Nancy Pelosi that angered China. The five-member delegation, led by Democratic Sen. Ed Markey of Massachusetts, will meet senior leaders to discuss US-Taiwan relations, regional security, trade, investment and other issues, the American Institute in Taiwan said. The institute represents the U.S. Government, which does not have official ties with Taiwan. China, which claims self-ruled Taiwan as its territory, responded to Pelosi's Aug. 2 visit by sending missiles, war-

ships and warplanes into the seas and skies around Taiwan for several days afterward. The Chinese government objects to Taiwan having any official contact with foreign governments, particularly with a high-ranking congressional leader like Pelosi. A Taiwanese broadcaster showed video of a U.S. Government plane landing about 7 p.M. Sunday at Songshan Airport in Taipei, the Taiwanese capital. While it wasn't confirmed who was on board, the American Institute issued a brief statement soon after announcing the delegation would be in Taiwan on Sunday and Monday as part of a trip to Asia.

The other members of the delegation are Republican Rep. Aumua Amata Coleman Rade-wagen, a delegate from American Samoa, and Democratic House members John Garamendi and Alan Lowenthal from California and Don Beyer from Virginia. Chinese warplanes have been crossing the midpoint of the Taiwan Strait on a daily basis even after the conclusion of the military exercises, with at least 10 doing so on Sunday, Taiwan's Defense Ministry said. The 10 fighter jets were among 22 Chinese military aircraft and six naval ships detected in the area around Taiwan by 5 pm On Sunday, the ministry said on its Twitter account.

Officials: Fire at Coptic church in Cairo kills 41, injures 14

AP ■ CAIRO

A fire ripped through a packed church during morning services in Egypt's capital on Sunday, killing at least 41 worshippers and injuring 14. The church quickly filled with thick black smoke, and witnesses said several trapped congregants jumped from upper floors to escape. "Suffocation, suffocation, all of them dead," said a distraught witness, who only gave a partial name, Abu Bishoy. The cause of the blaze in the Abu Sefein church in the working-class neighbourhood of Imbaba was not immediately known. An initial investigation pointed to an electrical short-circuit, according to a police statement. Footage from the scene circulated online showed burned furniture, including wooden tables and chairs. Firefighters were seen putting out the blaze while others carried victims to ambulances. Families waited for word on relatives who were inside the church.

Witnesses said there were many children inside the building when the fire broke out. "There are children we didn't know how to get to them," said Abu Bishoy. "And we don't know whose son this is, or whose daughter that is. Is this possible?" The country's health minister blamed the smoke and a stampede as people attempted to flee the fire for causing the fatalities. It was one of the worst fire tragedies in Egypt in recent years. Witness Emad Hanna said the church includes two places used as a daycare for children, and that a church worker managed to get many children out. "We went upstairs and found people dead. And we started to see from outside that the smoke was getting bigger, and people want to jump from the upper floor. ... We found the children." Egypt's Coptic Church and the country's health ministry reported the casualty toll. The church said the fire broke out while



a service was underway. The church is located in a narrow street in one of the most densely populated neighbourhoods in Cairo. Fifteen firefighting vehicles were dispatched to the scene to put out the flames while ambulances ferried casualties to nearby hospitals, officials said. President Abdel Fattah el-Sissi spoke by phone with the Coptic Christian Pope Tawadros II to offer his condolences, the president's office said. Sheikh Ahmed al-Tayeb, Al-Azhar's Grand Imam, also offered his condolences to the head of the Coptic church. "I am closely following the developments of the tragic accident," el-Sissi wrote on Facebook. "I directed all concerned state agencies and institutions to take all necessary measures, and immediately to deal with this accident and its effects." Health Minister Khaled Abdel-Ghafar said in a statement that two of the injured were discharged from a hospital while 12 others were still being treated. The Interior Ministry said it received a report on the fire at 9 a.M. Local time, and

that they found that the blaze broke out in an air conditioner in the building's second floor. The ministry, which oversees police and firefighters, blamed an electrical short-circuit for the fire, which produced huge amounts of smoke. Meanwhile, the country's chief prosecutor, Hamada el-Sawy, ordered an investigation and a team of prosecutors were dispatched to the church. Later on Sunday, emergency services said they managed to put out the blaze and the prime minister and other senior government officials arrived to inspect the site. Egypt's Christians account for some 10% of the nation's more than 103 million people and have long complained of discrimination by the nation's Muslim majority. Sunday's blaze was one of the worst fire tragedies in recent years in Egypt, where safety standards and fire regulations are poorly enforced. In March last year, a fire at a garment factory near Cairo killed at least 20 people and injured 24 more.



Despite public resentment, no progress in Iraq political deadlock

AP ■ BAGHDAD

Weeks after followers of an influential cleric stormed parliament, Iraq's political crisis shows no signs of abating, despite rising public anger over a debilitating gridlock that has further weakened the country's caretaker government and its ability to provide basic services. Iraq's two rival Shiite political camps remain locked in a zero-sum competition, and the lone voice potentially able to end the rift - the revered Grand Ayatollah Ali al-Sistani - has been conspicuously silent. For now, hundreds of supporters of Muqtada al-Sadr, a firebrand Shiite cleric, are still camped outside the legislative building in Baghdad, ready to escalate if their demands are not met. Al-Sadr has called for early elections, the dissolution of parliament and constitutional amendments. He has given the judiciary an end-of-the-week deadline to dissolve the legislature. His Shiite rivals in the Iran-backed camp have conditions of their own. They accused him of violating the constitution, prompting counter-protests that have spurred fears of bloodshed.

Gunman wounds 8 in late-night Jerusalem shooting



AP ■ JERUSALEM

A gunman opened fire at a bus near Jerusalem's Old City early Sunday, wounding eight Israelis in a suspected Palestinian attack that came a week after violence flared up between Israel and militants in Gaza, police and medics said. Two of the victims were in serious condition, including a pregnant woman with abdominal injuries and a man with gunshot wounds to the head and neck, according to Israeli hospitals treating them. The shooting happened as the bus waited in a parking lot near the Western Wall, the holiest site where Jews can pray. Israeli police said forces were dispatched to the scene to investigate. Israeli security forces also pushed into the nearby Palestinian neighbourhood of Silvan pursuing the suspected attacker. Later on Sunday, police said the suspected attacker turned himself in. Police did not immediately disclose details about the suspected attacker's identity. The attack in Jerusalem followed a tense week between

Israel and Palestinians in Gaza and the West Bank. Last weekend, Israeli aircraft unleashed an offensive in the Gaza Strip targeting the militant group Islamic Jihad and setting off three days of fierce cross-border fighting. Islamic Jihad fired hundreds of rockets during the flare-up to avenge the airstrikes, which killed two of its commanders and other militants. Israel said the attack was meant to thwart threats from the group to respond to the arrest of one of its officials in the occupied West Bank. Forty-nine Palestinians, including 17 children and 14 militants, were killed, and several hundred were injured in the fighting, which ended with an Egyptian-brokered cease-fire. No Israeli was killed or seriously injured. The Islamic militant group Hamas, which controls Gaza, stayed on the sidelines. A day after the cease-fire halted the worst round of Gaza fighting in more than a year, Israeli troops killed three Palestinian militants and wounded dozens in a shootout that erupted during an arrest raid in the West Bank city of Nablus.

Rushdie off ventilator and able to talk

PTI ■ NEW YORK

Salman Rushdie has been taken off a ventilator and was able to talk, a day after the Mumbai-born author was stabbed, in what US authorities said was a "targeted, unprovoked, preplanned" attack. Rushdie, who faced Islamist death threats for years after writing "The Satanic Verses", was stabbed by a 24-year-old New Jersey resident identified as Hadi Matar, a US national of Lebanese origin, on stage on Friday while he was being introduced at a literary event of the Chautauqua Institution in Western New York. "@SalmanRushdie off ventilator and talking! Continued prayers from all @chq," Chautauqua Institution president Michael Hill said in a tweet on Saturday night. Rushdie's agent, Andrew Wylie, also confirmed the news to the US media. Rushdie, 75, was put on a ventilator after he was stabbed by Matar. Earlier on Saturday, Matar pleaded not guilty to charges of attempted murder and assault at a brief court appearance

where he was denied bail. Matar was charged with attempted murder and assault in the stabbing of Rushdie and he pleaded not guilty. He made his appearance in court, wearing a black-and-white striped jumpsuit and handcuffed. Chautauqua County District Attorney Jason Schmidt provided the details of Rushdie's injuries in court during Matar's arraignment Saturday afternoon. The author's injuries include three stab wounds to the right side of the front of his neck, four stab wounds to his stomach, a puncture wound to his right eye and chest, and a laceration on his right thigh, according to the county prosecutor. "This was a targeted, unprovoked, preplanned attack on Mr Rushdie," Schmidt alleged. Matar faces up to 32 years if convicted of both charges, Schmidt said. The attack on Rushdie drew shock and condemnation from world leaders and literary stalwarts. US President Joe Biden said in a statement on Saturday that he and First Lady Jill Biden



were "shocked and saddened" to learn of the "vicious" attack on the author. "Salman Rushdie -- with his insight into humanity, with his unmatched sense for story, with his refusal to be intimidated or silenced -- stands for essential, universal ideals. Truth. Courage. Resilience. The ability to share ideas without fear. These are the building blocks of any free and open society. And today, we reaffirm our com-

mitment to those deeply American values in solidarity with Rushdie and all those who stand for freedom of expression," Biden said. "We, together with all Americans and people around the world, are praying for his health and recovery. I am grateful to the first responders and the brave individuals who jumped into action to render aid to Rushdie and subdue the attacker," he added.

UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres said he is "appalled" to learn about the attack on Rushdie. "The Secretary-General was appalled to learn of the attack on renowned novelist Salman Rushdie," a statement issued on Friday by his spokesperson said. "In no case is violence a response to words spoken or written by others in their exercise of the freedoms of opinion

and expression," Guterres said, conveying his wishes for Rushdie's early recovery. European Union foreign policy chief Josep Borrell "strongly" condemned the attack on Saturday night. "International rejection of such criminal actions, which violate fundamental rights and freedoms, is the only path towards a better and more peaceful world", Borrell tweeted. Rushdie lived in hiding and under police protection for years after late Iranian leader Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini put out a fatwa in 1989 calling for his death in retribution for his book The Satanic Verses. A report in The New York Times said according to prosecutors, Rushdie was stabbed roughly 10 times in the premeditated attack. "In court, prosecutors said that the attack on the author was premeditated and targeted," the report said, adding that Matar travelled by bus to the "intellectual retreat in western New York and purchased a pass that allowed him to attend" the talk "Rushdie was to give on Friday morning".

Rushdie attack should be wake-up call to sanction Iran, says Sunak

PTI ■ LONDON

The brutal attack on noted author Salman Rushdie should be a wake-up call for the West to impose tougher sanctions against Iran and proscribe the country's elite military unit as a terrorist organisation, British prime ministerial hopeful Rishi Sunak said on Sunday. The former Chancellor told 'The Daily Telegraph' that attempts to revive the Iran nuclear deal, known as the Joint Comprehensive Plan of



Action (JCPOA), may be futile and therefore it was important to assess action against Iran's

Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps (IRGC). He spoke as the suspect in the attack on Rushdie, Hadi Matar, was on Saturday charged with attempted murder and assault and remanded without bail. Preliminary investigations suggest his sympathies with the Shia extremism and IRGC. "The situation in Iran is extremely serious and in standing up to [Vladimir] Putin we can't take our eye off the ball elsewhere," Sunak told the newspaper.

Truss in commanding lead over Sunak in UK PM race

PTI ■ LONDON

The UK prime ministerial race frontrunner, Foreign Secretary Liz Truss, continues to hold on to a commanding 22-point lead over former Chancellor Rishi Sunak in the Conservative Party leadership contest, according to a new survey of Tory members on Sunday. In an Opinion poll for "The Observer" newspaper of 570 Conservative members with a vote in the election, Truss is on 61 per cent and the British Indian former minister is on 39 per cent. With under three weeks to go before the September 2 deadline for postal and online votes to be cast by the membership to elect a successor to outgoing Prime Minister Boris Johnson, Sunak seems to have closed the gap only slightly in recent days. "From the moment we knew the final two candidates, it has been clear that Truss has had all the momentum, and our latest poll sets out just how large her lead among the party members has become," Chris Curtis of Opinion told the newspaper. "With many members having already returned their ballot papers, it is now very unlikely Truss won't become Prime Minister in September. It's clear that Sunak's biggest problem is



trust. While some members respect his economic arguments, this hasn't been enough to overcome the view among members that he isn't honest or trustworthy enough for the top job, particularly after he called for Johnson to go," he said. Opinion's detailed questioning also uncovers a striking lack of enthusiasm for either candidate when members are asked whether they would prefer one of them to Johnson to run the party and country. When offered the choice of Johnson still being in No. 10 Downing Street, or Truss taking over, around 63 per cent of Tory members polled said they would prefer Johnson to be still in charge against 22 per cent who wanted Truss. On the other side, 68 per cent said they would prefer to still have Johnson than see him replaced by Sunak, who was preferred by just 19 per

cent. The poll also found that almost three in 10 of the Tory electorate (29 per cent) had already voted. Some 47 per cent said they would definitely be voting for the candidate they had opted for. Just 19 per cent said they had yet to make up their mind. Opinion said that while these findings meant it may still be possible for Sunak to pull off a "stunning comeback" to enter 10 Downing Street, but to do so he would have to win over almost all the undecideds and convert a sizeable chunk of those not fully behind Truss. The Foreign Secretary's support is particularly strong among older Conservative members, while Sunak's is far higher among younger ones. For Sunak the most cited reason was that he would be better at managing the economy (22 per cent), while 10 per cent said they regarded him as the most competent or intelligent. A main reason mentioned by people who backed Truss was dislike of Sunak (14 per cent). The same proportion (14 per cent) said the Cabinet minister was more honest and trustworthy, while 10 per cent chose the fact that he had remained loyal to Johnson and not called on him to resign.

Mexico President to bypass Congress to keep army in streets

AP ■ MEXICO CITY

Mexico's president has begun exploring plans to sidestep congress to hand formal control of the National Guard to the army, a move that could extend the military's control over policing in a country with high levels of violence. That has raised concerns because President Andrés Manuel López Obrador won approval for creating the force in 2019 by pledging in the constitution that it would be under nominal civilian control and that the army would be off the streets by 2024. Neither the National Guard nor the military have been able to lower the insecurity in the country, however. This past week, drug cartels staged



widespread arson and shooting attacks, terrifying civilians in three main north-west cities in a bold challenge to the state. Still, López Obrador wants to keep soldiers involved in policing, and remove civilian control over the National Guard, whose officers and commanders are mostly soldiers, with military training and pay grades. But the president no longer has the

votes in congress to amend the constitution and has suggested he may try to do it as a regulatory change with a simple majority in congress or by an executive order and see if the courts will uphold that. López Obrador warned Friday against politicising the issue, saying the military is needed to fight Mexico's violent drug cartels. But then he immediately politicised it himself. "A constitutional reform would be ideal, but we have to look for ways, because they (the opposition) instead of helping us, are blocking us, there is an intent to prevent us from doing anything," López Obrador said. The two main opposition parties also had a different positions when they were

in power. They supported the army in public safety roles during their respective administrations beginning in 2006 and 2012. When López Obrador was running for president, he called for taking the army off the streets. But being in power — and seeing homicides running at their highest sustained levels ever — apparently changed his mind. He has relied heavily on the military not just for crime-fighting. He sees the army and navy as heroic, patriotic and less corruptible, and has entrusted them with building major infrastructure projects, running airports and trains, stopping migrants and over-seeing customs.

ਆਜ਼ਾਦੀ ਦੇ 75ਵੇਂ ਦਿਹਾੜੇ ਮੌਕੇ ਗੁਰਦੀਪ ਸਿੰਘ ਪ੍ਰਤੀਨਿਧ ਪੰਜਾਬ ਅਤੇ ਰਾਜਸਥਾਨ ਸਟੇਟ ਵੱਲੋਂ ਵਿਸ਼ੇਸ਼ ਸਪਲੀਸੈਂਟ-ਮੋਬਾਇਲ ਨੰ : 98146-48165



HEARTIEST CONGRATULATION ON 75TH INDEPENDENCE DAY

KARTAR JEWELLERS

ਇੱਥੇ ਹਰ ਤਰ੍ਹਾਂ ਦੇ ਸੋਨੇ-ਚਾਂਦੀ ਦੇ ਜੇਵਰ ਨਵੇਂ-ਨਵੇਂ ਡਿਜ਼ਾਇਨਾਂ ਵਿਚ ਆਰਡਰ 'ਤੇ ਤਿਆਰ ਕੀਤੇ ਜਾਂਦੇ ਹਨ।

ਪ੍ਰੋ : ਰਵਿਦਰ ਸਿੰਘ

SARAFAN BAZAR, FARIDKOT



HEARTIEST CONGRATULATION ON 75TH INDEPENDENCE DAY

ਰਮੇਸ਼ ਸੰਨਜ਼ ਜ਼ਿਊਲਰਜ਼

(ਲੱਖੇ ਵਾਲੇ)

ਇੱਥੇ ਹਰ ਤਰ੍ਹਾਂ ਦੇ ਗਹਿਣੇ, ਡਾਇਮੰਡ ਜ਼ਿਊਲਰੀ ਹਾਲ ਮਾਰਕ ਸਰਟੀਫਾਈਡ ਕੀਤੇ ਮਿਲਦੇ ਹਨ।

ਰਮੇਸ਼ ਵਰਮਾ

ਤਹਿਸੀਲ ਰੋਡ, ਸਾਹਮਣੇ ਗੌਰਮਿਟ ਸੀਨੀਅਰ ਸੈਕੰਡਰੀ ਸਕੂਲ, ਜਗਰਾਉਂ।

ਵਰੁਣ ਵਰਮਾ

HEARTIEST CONGRATULATION ON 75TH INDEPENDENCE DAY

KRISHNA GOLD

ਇੱਥੇ ਹਰ ਤਰ੍ਹਾਂ ਦੇ ਸੋਨੇ-ਚਾਂਦੀ ਦੇ ਜੇਵਰ ਨਵੇਂ-ਨਵੇਂ ਡਿਜ਼ਾਇਨਾਂ ਵਿਚ ਆਰਡਰ 'ਤੇ ਤਿਆਰ ਕੀਤੇ ਜਾਂਦੇ ਹਨ।

PROP. MANISH KUMAR SARAF

GEETA BHAWAN ROAD, BARNALA

HEARTIEST CONGRATULATION ON 75TH INDEPENDENCE DAY

KANDA JEWELLERS

ਇੱਥੇ ਹਰ ਤਰ੍ਹਾਂ ਦੇ ਸੋਨੇ-ਚਾਂਦੀ ਦੇ ਜੇਵਰ ਨਵੇਂ-ਨਵੇਂ ਡਿਜ਼ਾਇਨਾਂ ਵਿਚ ਆਰਡਰ 'ਤੇ ਤਿਆਰ ਕੀਤੇ ਜਾਂਦੇ ਹਨ।

ਪ੍ਰੋ : ਪਿਪਲ ਸਿੰਘ ਰੋਡਾ

ਮੰਨ ਬਾਜ਼ਾਰ, ਕੋਟ ਟੌਲੀ ਖਾਂ, ਜਿਲ੍ਹਾ ਮੋਗਾ

ਪਿਪਲ ਸਿੰਘ ਰੋਡਾ

HEARTIEST CONGRATULATION ON 75TH INDEPENDENCE DAY

ਨੌਂ ਲੱਖਾ JEWELLERS

ਸ਼ਮਸ਼ੇਰ ਸਿੰਘ ਧੁੰਨਾ ਪ੍ਰਧਾਨ ਰਾਜਪੂਤ ਸਭਾ ਮੋਗਾ ਬੀਰਇੰਦਰ ਰੋਡ, ਸਰਾਫਾ ਬਾਜ਼ਾਰ, ਮੋਗਾ

ਅਰਜੀਤ
ਵਿਦਵਾਨ ਸਿੰਘ
ਵਿਦਵਾਨ ਸਿੰਘ

HEARTIEST CONGRATULATION ON 75TH INDEPENDENCE DAY

ਸੋਨੂ ਚੈਨ

ਇੱਥੇ ਹਰ ਤਰ੍ਹਾਂ ਦੇ ਸੋਨੇ-ਚਾਂਦੀ ਦੇ ਜੇਵਰ ਨਵੇਂ-ਨਵੇਂ ਡਿਜ਼ਾਇਨਾਂ ਵਿਚ ਆਰਡਰ 'ਤੇ ਤਿਆਰ ਕੀਤੇ ਜਾਂਦੇ ਹਨ।

ਪਤਾ : ਛੱਟੀ ਗਲੀ, ਨੇੜੇ ਵੀਰ ਜਨਰਲ ਸਟੋਰ ਸਰਾਫਾ ਬਾਜ਼ਾਰ, ਫਰੀਦਕੋਟ

HEARTIEST CONGRATULATION ON 75TH INDEPENDENCE DAY

VERMA JEWELLERS

ਇੱਥੇ ਹਰ ਤਰ੍ਹਾਂ ਦੇ ਸੋਨੇ-ਚਾਂਦੀ ਦੇ ਜੇਵਰ ਨਵੇਂ-ਨਵੇਂ ਡਿਜ਼ਾਇਨਾਂ ਵਿਚ ਆਰਡਰ 'ਤੇ ਤਿਆਰ ਕੀਤੇ ਜਾਂਦੇ ਹਨ।

ਪ੍ਰੋ : ਭਰੀਰਥ ਵਰਮਾ (ਟੋਨੀ)

MAIN BAZAR, FEROZEPUR CITY

ਸਮੂਹ ਦੇਸ਼ ਵਾਸੀਆਂ ਨੂੰ 75ਵੇਂ 'ਸੁਤੰਤਰਤਾ ਦਿਵਸ' ਦੀਆਂ ਲੱਖ-ਲੱਖ ਵਧਾਈਆਂ

Anmol Karan Jewellers

ਇੱਥੇ ਹਰ ਤਰ੍ਹਾਂ ਦੇ ਸੋਨੇ-ਚਾਂਦੀ ਦੇ ਜੇਵਰ ਨਵੇਂ-ਨਵੇਂ ਡਿਜ਼ਾਇਨਾਂ ਵਿਚ ਆਰਡਰ 'ਤੇ ਤਿਆਰ ਕੀਤੇ ਜਾਂਦੇ ਹਨ।

ਸਰਾਫਾ ਬਾਜ਼ਾਰ, ਲੁਧਿਆਣਾ

ਪ੍ਰੋ : ਗੁਰਮੀਤ ਸਿੰਘ

ਸਮੂਹ ਦੇਸ਼ ਵਾਸੀਆਂ ਨੂੰ 75ਵੇਂ 'ਸੁਤੰਤਰਤਾ ਦਿਵਸ' ਦੀਆਂ ਲੱਖ-ਲੱਖ ਵਧਾਈਆਂ

Amit Jewellers

ਇੱਥੇ ਹਰ ਤਰ੍ਹਾਂ ਦੇ ਸੋਨੇ-ਚਾਂਦੀ ਦੇ ਜੇਵਰ ਨਵੇਂ-ਨਵੇਂ ਡਿਜ਼ਾਇਨਾਂ ਵਿਚ ਆਰਡਰ 'ਤੇ ਤਿਆਰ ਕੀਤੇ ਜਾਂਦੇ ਹਨ।

Prop. Amit Bhandari

ਸਰਾਫਾ ਬਾਜ਼ਾਰ, ਲੁਧਿਆਣਾ



ਧਾਰੇ ਹਿਮਾਚਲਵਾਸੀਆਂ ਦੇ ਸੁਤੰਤਰਤਾ ਦਿਵਸ ਦੀ ਹਾਰਦਿਕ ਸ਼ੁਭਕਾਮਨਾएं

ਆਜ਼ਾਦੀ ਕਾ ਅਮ੍ਰਿਤ ਮਹੋਤਸਵ
ਪ੍ਰਗਤਿਸ਼ੀਲ ਹਿਮਾਚਲ ਦੀ ਸਥਾਪਨਾ ਕਾ 75ਵਾਂ ਵਰ੍ਹ
ਆਤਮਵਿਸ਼ਵਾਸ ਸੇ ਭਰਾ ਦੇਸ਼
ਨਿਰੰਤਰ ਗਤਿਮਾਨ ਹਿਮਾਚਲਵਾਸੀ
ਸਪਨਾਂ ਕੋ ਫੂਫ਼ ਸੰਕਲਪ ਏਵੰ
ਪਰਿਸ਼ਰਮ ਕੀ ਪਰਾਕਾਸ਼ਾ ਕੇ ਸਾਥ
ਨਵੀਂ ਚੇਤਨਾ, ਨਵੀਂ ਤਮੰਗ, ਨਵੀਂ ਊਰਜਾ, ਨਾਏ ਤਤਸਾਹ ਸੰਗ
ਕਦਮ ਦਰ ਕਦਮ ਬਢਤੇ ਹਮ, ਮਨਾ ਰਹੇ ਹੈ ਅਮ੍ਰਿਤ ਕਾਲ
ਫਹਰਾ ਰਹੇ ਹੈ ਹਰ ਘਰ ਤਿਰੰਗਾ, ਗੌਰਵ ਕਾ ਪ੍ਰਤੀਕ ਤਿਰੰਗਾ
ਰਾਸ਼ਟ੍ਰੀਯ ਅਖੰਡਤਾ ਕਾ ਸੂਚਕ ਤਿਰੰਗਾ
ਜਨ-ਆਕਾਂਸ਼ਾਓਂ ਕੋ ਦਰਸ਼ਾਤਾ ਤਿਰੰਗਾ
ਆਨ-ਬਾਨ ਔਰ ਸ਼ਾਨ ਤਿਰੰਗਾ
ਗਰਵ ਸੇ ਭਰੇ ਹਮ ਸਬ, ਫਹਰਾ ਰਹੇ ਹੈ ਹਰ ਘਰ ਤਿਰੰਗਾ।





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NEYMAR NETS 2 AS PSG BEATS MONTPELLIER 5-2 IN FRENCH LEAGUE

AP ■ PARIS

Neymar and Paris Saint-Germain's high-powered attack put on another impressive display in a 5-2 win over Montpellier in the French league as Kylian Mbappe opened his account but missed a penalty in his return from a groin injury.

Neymar scored twice on Saturday to take his tally to three goals in two league games for the defending champion on a night when Lionel Messi was held scoreless. The Brazil striker was also PSG's best player in pre-season friendlies as he looks to find his peak form for the World Cup in Qatar, which starts in November.

PSG also netted five goals in its league opener and Montpellier opted for a low defensive block to deny space for the hosts. But the pressure was too much for center back Falaye Sacko, who diverted Mbappe's off-target shot into his own net in the 39th minute.

Sacko then handled the ball in the 42nd when Lionel Messi juggled the ball on a dribbling run. Neymar wrongfooted Jonas



Omlin to convert the subsequent penalty for a 2-0 lead.

PSG capitalized on another blunder to add a third goal in the 51st. Mbappe blocked Omlin's pass and found Achraf Hakimi, whose deflected cross was headed home by Neymar.

Far from his best level, Mbappe still found the net with a flick from a corner in the 69th.

(Mbappe) is a competitor, he wants to be good, and he wants to be good quickly," PSG coach Christophe Galtier told Canal Plus.

"He needs a bit of time to be 100 percent fit. He will make even more difference when he will be 100 percent fit."

In his PSG debut, Portugal

midfielder Renato Sanches rounded off the scoring with a first-time effort in the 88th.

Omlin pulled off some outstanding saves to frustrate PSG for more than 30 minutes. The Swiss goalkeeper saved a penalty from Mbappe in the 23rd after Jordan Ferri had handled the ball. He then turned around the post a curling free kick from Messi in the 26th.

Montpellier scored with a close-range effort from Wahbi Khazri in the 58th and a half-volley from Enzo Tchato in stoppage time.

Earlier, Rennes' defensive issues were exposed as it squandered the lead to draw 1-1 with 10-man Monaco.

In a clash between two contenders for European spots, Monaco forward Breel Embolo pounced on a heavy touch from goalkeeper Dogan Alemdar to equalize with a sliding effort in the 73rd.

Rennes striker Gaetan Laborde opened the scoring by converting a

rebound in the 59th.

Monaco was down to 10 men in the 15th when midfielder Youssouf Fofana was red-carded for a stamp on Martin Terrier's ankle.

"We are extremely disappointed," Laborde said.

"When you play with 11 men against 10 almost the entire game, you must come away with three points. It was tense in the dressing room."

Despite its numerical superiority, Rennes looked shaky at the back.

Embolo proved a magnet for fouls

and Joe Rodon and Arthur Theate were booked for holding the forward in the 21st and the 23rd, respectively.

Steve Mandanda also received a yellow card in the 31st for catching Embolo in the face while attempting to punch the ball away.

Nikhat gifts PM Modi boxing gloves, Hima gives traditional gamocha

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Indian athletes expressed their elation at being honoured by Prime Minister Narendra Modi for their superlative showing at Birmingham Commonwealth Games with Nikhat Zareen gifting him her boxing gloves and sprinter Hima Das giving the traditional Assamese gamocha.

Modi, on Saturday, hosted the Indian contingent at his residence to felicitate the players.

The Indian athletes produced a sensational show in Birmingham, claiming 61 medals, including 22 gold, 16 silver and 23 bronze.

"Honoured to gift the boxing gloves signed by all the pugilists to our honourable Prime Minister @narendramodi sir. Thank you for this amazing opportunity. A great day spent with my fellow athletes who have made the country




proud," Nikhat tweeted.

The star boxer, world championship gold medallist, won the yellow metal in her weight category at the Games.


Hima wrote on her Twitter handle, "Elated to receive blessings from our honourable Prime Minister - Shri @narendramodi Ji, by virtue of Commonwealth Games 2022.

Fortunate to have presented him with our traditional gamocha, wrapped with immense gratitude from all of Assam."

Champion weightlifter Mirabai Chanu, who won the gold medal without breaking a sweat, a year after her historic silver at the Tokyo Olympics, thanked the PM for his words of encouragement.



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75th
ANNIVERSARY
of India's independence

Let us join hands to fulfil the aspirations of common people by ensuring them access to quality health facilities, a transparent and corruption free administration and world class education. Our collective efforts on these fronts will take our country and Punjab towards glorious heights of prosperity and well being. This will be the real tribute to countless martyrs and unsung heroes, who laid down their lives for the freedom of our country.



Bhagwant Mann
Chief Minister, Punjab

DEPARTMENT OF INFORMATION & PUBLIC RELATIONS, PUNJAB

LIBERTY

FASHION IS COMFORT

15th August

Independence Day

सभी प्रदेश वासियो को लिबर्टी परिवार की ओर से 75वे स्वतंत्रता दिवस की हार्दिक शुभकामनाएं

Raman Bansal

COO, Liberty group

LIBERTY SHOES LIMITED

Railway Road Karnal (Haryana)

Government of Haryana

75

Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav

Panchkula Metropolitan Development Authority

Presents

On the occasion of Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav

Laal Lakeer

A play based on the horrors of Partition

Chief Guest

Sh. Manohar Lal

Chief Minister, Haryana

August Presence

Sh. Gian Chand Gupta

Speaker, Vidhan Sabha, Haryana

Guest of Honour

Sh. Sanjeev Kaushal

Chief Secretary, Haryana

Date - Wednesday, 17th August, 2022 | Time - 5:30pm

Venue - Indradhanush Auditorium, Sector-5, Panchkula

Playwright

Dinesh Nair

Design and Direction

Dr. Navdeep Kaur

by Natya Griham, Chandigarh

You are Cordially Invited

Information, Public Relations & Languages Department, Haryana

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ON THE OCCASION OF INDEPENDENCE DAY - 2022

SHRI BANYWARILAL PUROHIT

On the historic completion of 75 years of our country's Independence, I extend my heartiest felicitations to the people of India, particularly of Punjab and Chandigarh.

On this day, I pay my respect-

ful reverence to all those self-sacrificing, devoted leaders and patriots who struggled, strived and sacrificed their lives for country's freedom. I also pay tributes to the brave members of our armed forces who laid down their lives while protecting the integrity and boundaries of our country.

This Independence Day assumes all the more importance as it marks not only the completion of 75 years of our evolutionary journey but also connotes the seven and half decades of our united efforts towards making the country's presence felt in the whole world as a fastest growing economy and a powerful Nation. India has crossed a milestone with completion of 75 years of

Independence. We are celebrating this occasion as Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav. It is heartening to note that our people, especially youngsters are participating enthusiastically in a variety of events and programmes organized to commemorate the land mark year. It is a great opportunity for not only the next generation but all of us to reconnect with our past. Our freedom struggle was an inspiring chapter in our splendid saga. In this 75 years of Independence let us rediscover the values that animated our glorious National Movement.

The unprecedented contribution of Punjab to the cause of Freedom of our country is unmatched anywhere in the history

of the world. The great martyrs Shaheed Bhagat Singh, Lala Lajpat Rai, Shaheed Udham Singh, Kartar Singh Sarabha, Dewan Singh Kalepani and many more who shed every drop of their blood and had languished in Jails, have left a rich legacy for all of us which demands unbounded love and respect for our motherland besides firm commitment to preserve India's glory and independence.

It is a matter of great pride to recall the laudable contribution of the people of Punjab who have always displayed courage and commitment to the cause of freedom. Punjab has always been on the forefront and known as a Progressive State of India.

Today, we have some challenges before us and we have to pay special attention to check social evils like, the menace of drug addiction, female foeticide and environment degradation. The Government of Punjab has resolved to banish drugs from the State. To effectively implement this campaign against drugs, the State has evolved a multi-pronged strategy leaving no stone unturned to nip in the bud.

Punjab Government has tightened the noose around the corruption plaguing the government machinery. Transparent and corruption free administrative set up is the basic right of a citizen of a democratic country. Let us all resolve to support

the efforts against corruption and addiction. Let us resolve towards making Punjab a Rangla Punjab.

Over the years, Chandigarh has been making impressive strides in fulfilling the socio-economic aspirations of the people. The Administration has brought numerous policies and programmes demonstrating its care and concern for the well-being of the Citizens. The Administration is working energetically for the development of the City by creating requisite infrastructure.

Believing in minimum government and maximum governance, Administration is making constant changes to our existing system to make it more stream-

lined and citizen centric. It is the matter of pride that Chandigarh has been awarded 'the Certificate of Excellence for the District Skill Development Plan 2020-21' and has also received SKOCH Order of Merit award 2021-22.

Inspired by the dynamic leadership of our Hon'ble Prime Minister, the Nation is asserting itself vigorously in the present. Considering the huge wealth of talent that the Nation is endowed with, future promises to be even rosier. It is in our hands to make that happen. Let us stay committed to evolve India that is inclusive and vibrant in growth opportunities.

I call upon the people of

Chandigarh and Punjab, Elected Representatives of Public, Civil & Police officers, Ex-servicemen, youth, doctors, academicians, Intellectuals, NGOs, Voluntary Organisations and Media to resolve to take our country to new heights with a new fervor and new energy. Let us, on this occasion, renew our pledge to collectively work hard performing our duties with sincerity, commitment, devotion and dedication, keeping the interest of our country upper most.

I once again extend my heartfelt greetings and best wishes to the people of Punjab and Chandigarh for a glorious future. May the devotion to the nation be the life breath that sustains and inspires us.

JOURNEY TOWARDS 'RANGLA PUNJAB'

Bhagwant Mann

Chief Minister, Punjab

It is a matter of great pride and honour for every Indian that our country has completed 75 years as an Independent and Democratic Republic today. I congratulate all the countrymen especially Punjabis in India and across the world on this historic occasion.

India's road to independence was long and hard, but equally difficult is the path to maintain this freedom. We are challenged by communalism, terrorism, illiteracy, poverty, unemployment among other problems. But it is to the credit of India and its people that we have overcome these hurdles to emerge as the largest functioning democracy in the world. As a colony of British Empire our country had suffered, but the brave and determined heroes of our freedom struggle made enormous sacrifices to remove the shackles of foreign imperialism.

It is on record that more than 80% of the great patriots who laid down their lives or were subjected to British tyranny in one form or other were Punjabis. The first Indian to lay down his life to free our country was also a Punjabi - Bhai Maharaj Singh. Then, followed a string of gems like Baba Ram Singh, Shaheed-e-Azam Bhagat Singh, Shaheed Rajguru, Shaheed Sukhdev, Lala Lajpat Rai, Shaheed Udham Singh, Kartar Singh

I am conscious of the fact that delivering on the dreams of Punjabis is not a smooth task and we will be tested at every step while on this mission. But we are working closely with the people and in unison with the ideals of Shaheed Bhagat Singh and Baba Sahib Dr BR Ambedkar, to achieve these goals.

75 Aam Admi Clinics

In order to provide quality and timely health services to the people, our government is dedicating 75 Aam Admi clinics to mark 75th Independence Day. These clinics will offer 41 health packages with nearly 100 clinical tests free of cost to the people. Our government has envisaged these clinics as the cornerstone in the revival of the healthcare system in Punjab.

Smashing Gangsters

The state government has launched a war against activities of gangsters in the state for which an Anti-Gangster Task Force headed by an ADGP Rank officer has been set up. We have a zero tolerance policy towards gangsters and the force is being equipped with advanced facilities and resources for this purpose.

Comprehensive law and order reforms are being introduced and jails are being modified of state into high security jails. The state government is committed to maintain law and order at every cost. Peace, amity and communal harmony are our top priority and the severest of action will be taken against anyone trying to disturb the hard earned peace of the state.

War against Drugs

In line with its core commitment to eliminate drugs from Punjab, the state government is waging an all out war against the menace. Police has been directed not to spare anyone conniving with the Drug Mafia.

SSPs/CPs are working in close coordination with the Special Task Force to catch the big sharks involved in the supply of drugs. Each and every Police officer will be held accountable for laxity in dealing with

spread of drugs within their jurisdiction.

The state government has also increased the number of OoAT clinics from existing 280 to 500 to ensure easy accessibility for treatment of recovering drug addicts.

Single pension for MLAs

Elected representatives of the people have the responsibility to set an example of an exemplary public life and to ensure that there is no wastage of public money. Moving in this direction, the state government has passed the 'Single Pension for MLA' bill which stipulates that each MLA will get only a single pension, instead of the earlier provision of permitting multiple pensions for every term.

Corruption free governance

It is the core ethos of the state government, which is visible in its actions from day one. An Anti-corruption helpline was launched within the first few days of forming the government and in a short period of time, several cases have been registered and arrests have been made, even against its own functionaries. A sterling example of this is the unprecedented action against its own Cabinet minister, who was removed and made to face the law.

The government has freed 9000 acres of Panchayat land from encroachment by influential persons.

As part of holistic urban planning, the government has launched a drive to check unauthorized colonies. Master plans of all remaining towns of the state will be completed in 2-3 years.

Focus on Education

Education is the bedrock of building a new society. Towards this end, we have adopted a Multi-pronged approach that is aimed at transforming government schools into 'Schools of Eminence'. To ensure that students get quality and affordable education, the government is regulating the fees of private schools by not allowing them to enhance their fees arbitrarily from this academic

year. In an unprecedented initiative, private schools are not permitted to force parents to buy books or uniforms from any particular shop.

Though teachers form the core of providing quality education to our children, the welfare of teachers has been neglected in previous years. The process of filling vacant posts and the recruitment of 5994 ETT Teachers and 8393 Pre-primary teachers is under process. This government has decided that teachers will now be deployed only for core-teaching tasks and a separate cadre will be created for non-teaching tasks.

The government is also establishing 19 industrial training institutes to impart quality Technical Education.

As per the demand of the industry, the government is considering to start 44 new courses in various ITIs.

Towards profitable and sustainable Agriculture

Agriculture is set for a revamp in Punjab as several measures are being introduced to make it profitable and sustainable.

As soon as it took charge the government began to promote Moong as the third crop, and the crop began to be procured at the MSP of Rs 7275/- per quintal, yielding an additional income of Rs 30000/- per acre. As a result, area under summer Moong doubled from 54,363 acres to 1,28,495 acres.

The government is working to encourage diversification of more crops such as pulses, maize, cotton and oilseeds by making their cultivation remunerative.

Subsidy worth Rs 1500 per acre has been provided for Direct Seeding of Rice- another landmark initiative of the government to save water. We are happy to see that 25,985 farmers have sown paddy via DSR this year. In addition, farmer data base is being integrated along with land records so that subsidies and other benefits can reach farmers in a transparent manner. A portal for tracking seeds, fertilizers, and pesticides from man-

ufacturing to end user for providing quality inputs to farmers has also been developed.

To promote Dairy sector and provide self employment to youth, 7000 new dairy units will be established in the next 2 years. Capital intensive infrastructure is being provided at the primary Co-operative society level at subsidized rates to reduce the cost of farm operations.

"Cooperative Machinery Tracker Application" has been created by the Cooperative department for optimal usage of agriculture implements.

Home Delivery of Rations

Home delivery of rations is another one of this government's revolutionary schemes to make the life of the common man easier. Markfed has been appointed as the agency to arrange milling, filling and distribution of Atta to PDS beneficiaries at their door step under National Food Security Act 2013. The state government shall offer, to 1.57 crore beneficiaries enrolled under NFSA, the option of home delivery of Atta. Any beneficiary, who wishes to physically collect his or her entitlement of wheat from an FPS, shall have the option to out-out through any other suitable IT intervention freely available to him.

Sewa Kendras

In another people friendly initiative, 122 new services have been launched through the Sewa Kendras. Working hours of Sewa Kendras have also been extended and now they are operational even on Saturday and Sunday.

Economically Weaker Sections will benefit with the construction of 25,000 EWS houses which will be available in different phases.

Maternal Health

The state government is committed to ensure absolute care of mother and child for which seven new Maternal and Child Health wings are being constructed at Gurdaspur, Nabha, Patti, Raikot, Muktsar, Talwandi Sabo and Derabassi.

Likewise, 2950 Health sub-centers are being upgraded to 'Tandarus Punjab Sehat Kendras' and work is underway to upgrade CHCs and PHCs across the state to five-star ratings.

Tribute to soldiers

As a humble tribute to the brave soldiers who lay down their lives while safeguarding the borders of the country and maintaining law and order, the state government has enhanced honorarium given to the families of martyred soldiers to Rs. 1 Crore.

Jobs

The state government has taken a historic decision to advertise 25,000 posts lying vacant in various Punjab Government Departments/Boards /Corporations/ Agencies within one month.

E-Governance initiatives

In a major step towards the E-Governance, the state government has recently launched Aadhar based e- Learner's Licence with deemed approval and downloading of Learner's Licence on mobile phones. This will benefit more than 5 lakh people annually.

Similarly, stamp papers in paper form have been abolished and is replaced by the electronic stamp system in which stamp papers of all denominations, can be obtained from stamp vendors or banks authorized by the Punjab Government.

The process of data entry of e-Girdawari is also being started through mobile application from this year. Revenue records like Jama-bandi, Mutations, Rapats/Roznam-chas and others of all the villages of the Tehsil/Sub Tehsil have been computerized. As many as 172 Fard Kendras have been made operational and records of about 13098 Revenue Estates have been digitised.

Punjab government has launched Direct buses from the state to Delhi airport in the first 100 days. The fare of state of the art luxury buses are

50% cheaper and they provide more facilities and comfort than private buses.

The state government is assisting NRIs through online grievance redressal and appointment of special grievance redressal officers.

Punjab government is committed to provide 100% clean piped drinking State government has prepared an action plan of 10 years for rejuvenation/ restoration of village ponds for which support of eminent environmentalist Sant Baba Balbir Singh Seochwal is also being taken. Eco-tourism will be developed and it is being planned to develop Ranjit Sagar Dam reservoir as an international tourism destination.

Work is underway to upgrade and improve the Shaheed Bhagat Singh Museum at Katkhar Kalan, Anglo-Sikh War Memorial and Museum, Aji Sarovar at Kharar, Pandav Sarovar at Gharuan and Art and Culture Center at Patiala.

A massive afforestation and greening drive namely 'Shaheed-e-Azam S. Bhagat Singh Hariywal Lehar' has been initiated in the State of Punjab for augmentation of forest and tree cover by planting more than 1.2 crore saplings.

With the active support and co-operation of our people the government is working hard to realise the dream of building 'Rangla Punjab'. I am hopeful that Punjab will scale new heights of development and prosperity in the state.

On this momentous occasion, let us rededicate ourselves to cement the bonds of love, peace and communal harmony enshrined by our great Gurus and saints, and to fulfil the vision of our freedom fighters and national heroes.

I call upon all Punjabis to play an active role in the journey to once again make Punjab prosperous, and a front runner state of the country.

Jai Hind