





# Classifieds

## PUBLIC NOTICE

**We Lajja Ram** S/o Sh. Chhajji Ram and Smt. Suresh Rani R/o Village Ramba Tehsil and District Karnal declare that our son Amit and his wife Sangeeta are out of our control. We disown them from our moveable and immovable property. They will be responsible for their transactions, good or bad, legal-illegal legal-illegal activities.

**I, Abhishek Ajit Acharya,** S/o Ajit Shuka Acharya, R/o House No. C-8/11, Sector 4, Near Eldico Panipat, declare that Abhishek Ajit Acharya, Abhishek A Acharya and Abhishek Acharya both are the names of one person. All Concerned Note.

**I, No. JC502282L** Rank Nb/SUB Jagtar Singh Unit of 24 Sikh r/o Nabipur Colony, Gurdaspur (Punjab) declare that in my Army Service record, name of my wife wrongly written as Charanjeet Kaur. Her correct name is Charnjeet Kaur. Concerned note.

**I, Service No. JC-424360H** Rank NB/SUB Shaikh Shiraj Rashid r/o VPO Kedgaon Distt Ahmednagar (Maharashtra) PIN-414005 Presnt Unit 25 MECH INF (RECCE &SP) c/o 56APO PIN-911725 declare that my daughter have changed her name from Zoya to Zoya Shiraj Shaikh due to wrong name record in my Army Service record.

**I, Service No. JC-424360H** Rank NB/SUB Shaikh Shiraj Rashid r/o VPO Kedgaon Distt Ahmednagar (Maharashtra) PIN-414005 Presnt Unit 25 MECH INF (RECCE &SP) c/o 56APO PIN-911725 declare that my mother have changed her name from Menaj Shaikh to Minaj Rashid Shaikh due to wrong name record in my Army Service record. Her correct Date of birth is 01.01.1950.

**I, Ram Bhagat** S/o Sh. Om Prakash R/o Village Singhapura Khurd, Teh. & Distt. Rohtak declare that my son Parveen Kumar and his wife Pinki are out of my control. So I disown them from my all moveable /immoveable properties. Any body dealing with them at their own risk.

**I Farha Kazmi** D/o Rehman Kazmi, R/o Flat no 705-E Ravindra Apartment Welfare Society Baltana, SAS Nagar Mohali, declare that i have changed my religion from Muslim to Hindu and also my name from Ferha Kazmi to Alisha.

**I Jarina** Mother of No 2704667x Hav Roshan Ali R/o VPO Barara Tehsil Barara (Ambala) Haryana the place that in Army Records of my son my DOB Wrongly Entered as 14/09/1961 Whereas my correct DOB is 01/01/1955. Please Note

**I Vicky Mohammad** S/o Sh Kashmir Singh R/o Village Bharari Lehri Sarail Bilaspur Himachal Pradesh, declare that i have changed my religion Muslim to Hindu, and also change my name from Vicky Mohammad to Vicky.

**I Slamudeen** Father of No 2704667x Hav Roshan Ali R/o VPO Barara Tehsil Barara (Ambala )Haryana the place that in Army Records of my son my DOB Wrongly Entered as 14/09/1959 Whereas my correct DOB is 01/01/1948. Please Note

**We, Surendra Kumar,** S/o late Shri Dhanpat Ram and Nirmala Devi, W/o Shri Surendra Kumar, R/o village Moginand, tehsil and district Panchkula, Haryana, declare that our son Sandeep Kumar and his wife Deeksha are out of our control, so we disown them from our moveable-immovable property, Anybody dealing with them at their own risk.

**I No-14421895F,** Rank-Hav(Opr), Name-Chanan Ram. Residence Of Vpo- Abiana Khurd, Tehsil-Anandpur Sahib, District-Rupnagar, State-Punjab Declare That I change My Mother's Name Jarnal Kaur To Jarnal Kaur And Date Of Birth 01-07-1954 To 01-01-1956

**I No-14421895F,** Rank-Hav (Opr), Name- Chanan Ram. Residence Of - Vpo- Abiana Khurd, Tehsil- Anandpur Sahib, District-Rupnagar, State- Punjab, Declare That I Change My Wife's Name (Jaswinder Kaur Jassi To Jaswinder Kaur) And Date Of Birth (20-06-1980 To 20-06-1979)

**I, Shiv Kumar** S/o Late Master Gopi Ram R/o Village Baiyanpur, Tehsil & Distt. Sonipat has disowned my son Vishal & his wife Jyoti from my all moveable-immovable property as they are out of my control. In future, if anybody deals with them, he/she will do at their own risk.

**I, Munesh Kumar** S/o Sh. Madan Lal Girdhar R/o # 1091/14 Krishna Colony Rohtak declare that my daughter Janvi Girdhar is out of my control. So I disown her from my all moveable/ immovable properties. Any body dealing with her at their own risk. I or my family are not responsible for any type of their any acts.

**I, Kewal Singh** S/o Hari Singh Plot No.4, Vill.Bakhli Khurd Tehsil Pehowa Distt.Kurukshetra. My Son Manpreet Singh and his Wife Simran Kaur are out of my control. I, disown them from all My moveable and immmoveable properties. If Anybody deals with him at Their Own risk

**I, Jay Narayan** S/o Telu Ram Vill.Lotni Tehsil Pehowa Distt.Kurukshetra My Brother Shyam Chand is out of My Control. I, Disown them from all my moveable and immmoveable properties. Anybody deal with him at their own risk.

**I, Ajit Singh** S/o Mukhtar Singh R/o Vill: Dhulka Teh: Baba Bakala (Amritsar) declare that my Son Lakhwinder Singh and his wife Daljit Kaur (Currently Abroad) is out of my control. so I disown with them from my moveable/immmoveable property. If anybody dealing with them at his/her own risk.

I, hitherto Known as Kuldip Kaur W/o Lakhvir Singh R/o Village Dhurkot, Tehsil & District Faridkot, Punjab-151203 have changed my name and shall hereafter be known as Charanjeet Kaur. It is certified that I have complied with other legal requirements in this connection.

**I, Sandeep Kaur** W/o Kamalpreet Singh R/o Village Haran Kaur Tehsil Khanna (Distt. Ludhiana) declare that in some documents my name is written as Sanjeev kaur. That said these names Sanjeev Kaur and Sandeep kaur are of one and same person.

**I, A Raja,** Father of R Elanchizan (Old Name) resident of 5/19 A, Pillaiyar Kovil Street, Kambatham, Latheri, Katpadi, VTC, Latteri, Sub District - Katpadi, District- Vellore, State - Tamil Nadu, PIN 632202, have changed name of my son from R Elanchizan (Old Name) and Elanchezhayan R (New Name) vide Affidavit dated 12 Apr 2024 sworn before Notary Public Sat Pal, Pathankot.

**I, Aslam Sanadi,** Father of Anam Asalam Sanadi (Old Name) resident of Vill - Mutnal, Post - Nandagaon, Tehsil - Gokak, Distt - Belgalavi, State - Karnataka, PIN - 591231, have changed name of my daughter from Anam Asalam Sanadi, D/o Asalam Meerassab Sanadi (Old Name) and Anam Sanadi D/o Aslam Sanadi (New Name) vide Affidavit dated 12 Apr 2024 sworn before Notary Public Sat Pal, Pathankot.

**We, Baljit Ram** Son of Shri Sohani Ram & Manjit Devi wife of Shri Baljit Ram, Both R/o House No. 98/1, Near motor market, village Faidan, Chandigarh, declare that our son Ajay Kumar and our daughter in law Madhu are out of our control. I disown him from my all movable and immovable properties, including bank Accounts. Any person who deals with him will do so at his/her own risks and responsibilities.

**मैं चंचल सिंह** पुत्र राम लाल निवासी शेोपुर सिद्धपुर, पोस्ट ऑफिस रनगढ़, रहसील व जिला पठानकोट। सूचित करता हूँ कि मेरा पुत्र गुगन सेनी और उसकी पत्नी नेहा सेनी, मेरे व मेरे परिवार के कहने में नहीं है। मैं उन दोनों को अपनी चर-अचल संपत्ति से बेदखल करता हूँ, उनसे लेनदेन करने वाला स्वयं जिम्मेदार होगा।[संबंधित नोट करें।]

**ਮੈਂ ਚੰਚਲ ਸਿੰਘ** ਪੁੱਤਰ ਰਾਮ ਲਾਲ ਜੱਤੂ ਜੋਗਲ ਦਾਸੀ ਬੰਨੀ ਪੁੱਤੀ, ਪਿੰਡ ਤੇ ਭੁਕਖਾਨਾ ਜੰਡਿਆਲਾ ਮੰਜੀ ਬਾਟਾ ਸਰਦ ਜਮਹੀਰ, ਜ਼ਿਲ੍ਹਾ ਜਲੰਧਰ ਜ਼ਿਲ੍ਹਾ ਵਰਦਾ ਹਾਂ ਕਿ ਮੇਰੇ ਮੁੰਡੇ ਪਿਤਾ ਸ੍ਰ ਗੁਰਮੇਧ ਸਿੰਘ ਪੁੱਤਰ ਰਾਮ ਸਿੰਘ ਦਾ ਸਹੀ ਨਾਮ ਜੱਤੂ ਜੋਗਲ (GAJJU JOHAL) ਅਤੇ ਗੁਰਮੇਧ ਸਿੰਘ (GURMEJ SINGH) ਘਰੇਲੂ ਨਾਮ ਹਿੰਦੋਂ ਨੇ ਨਾਮ ਇਕ ਹੀ ਇਕੱਠੇ ਤੇ ਹਨ। ਸਬੰਧਿਤ ਨੋਟ ਵਰਗੇ।

## CHANGE OF NAME

**I, Raj Kumar** S/o Sh Pritam Lal R/o H No 1090, Sector 28-B, Chandigarh have changed my minor daughter name from Kashi to Kashi Chaudhary.

**I, Sakshi Goyal** W/o Sumit Garg R/o 2207/08, H.B. Colony, Sector-15, Sonipat, Haryana have changed my name to Sakshi for all future purposes.

**I, Bharat Dewedi** S/o Sh. Kewal Krishan R/o #3395, Sector 47-D, Chandigarh have changed my minor daughter name from Arshia to Arshia Dewedi.

**I, Inder Jeet Kaur** w/o Atul Garg r/o Flat No. E-1202, 12th Floor, Wave Garden, Sector 85, Mohali have changed my minor daughter name from Lovpreet to Lovi Garg.

**I Amit Seli** S/o Sh. Brijender Paul Seli R/o # 1745, Pushpak Society, Sector 49B, Chandigarh, have changed my minor daughter's name from Sai Shreya Seli to Dhaanyia Seli.

**I Shalu** solemnly declare that before marriage my name was Shalu d/o sh sultan Singh R/o Saini mohalla jattal road panipat now After marriage my name is Shalu Lather w/o Abhinav Lather r/o h.no 471 sec-7 urban estate karnal.

**I, Vimla Devi** W/o Late Prem Singh, R/O VPO Mauli (Barwala) District Panchkula (Haryana), have changed my name from Vimla Devi to Bimla Devi.

**I Usha** lather solemnly declare that before marriage my name was Usha d/o sh Dayanand r.o village Imiota.distt.Chakhi DadrI.Now after marriage my name is Usha lather w/o. Abhishek lather r.o house n.471. sec 7 urban estate karnal.

**I, Nidhi** W/o Surinder Gulati R/o 2009, Kashmir Colony, Jagadhri, Distt Yamuna Nagar have changed my name from Nidhi to Nidhi Bhatnagar. In future I shall be known as Nidhi Bhatnagar.

**I, Sharad Kanwar** D/o Manohar Singh Shekhawat R/o Flat No. 707, H-Block, AGI Sky Garden Khajurla, Kapurthala. have changed my Name from Sharad Kanwar to Sharad Shekhawat.

**I, Gopal Krishan** alias Gopal Bajaj S/o Sh. Harbans Lal R/o 64, Gali No. 1, Kot Mahla Singh, Tam Taran Road, Amritsar declare that Gopal Krishan alias Gopal Bajaj refers to one and same person i.e. Gopal Krishan. Concerned note.

**I, Mukesh Kumar** S/o Satpal R/o VPO Kukanet Distt. Hoshiarpur have changed my minor Daughter's name from Ishika to Ishika Rani. Concerned Note.

**I, Kiran Sharma** W/O Shivinder Nath Joshi, H.No. 82, Professor Colony, Tilak Nagar, Amritsar have changed my name from Kiran Sharma to Kiran Joshi after my marriage. Concerned please note.

**I, Satnam Chand** S/o Varyam Chand R/o Jhoramali Tehsil & Distt. Sirsa (Haryana). That I have changed my name from Satnam Dass to Satnam Chand, in future my name is to be called as Satnam Chand.

**I, Satish** S/o Tek Ram, R/o House no. 1697, Ward No.8, Near Dholi Chappal, Naurang Panna, Village Siwah Panipat, declare that I have changed my name from Satish to Satish Kumar. All Concerned Note.

**I Sarojam** Mother of Army No. JC-303496K, Rank-SUB Name- MANOJ.G, UNIT HQ 616 (I) AD BDE have changed DOB from 1-07-1949 to 1-07-1950 through vide document No. IN-PB05725826856154W dated 12-04-2024

**I, Ramanpreet Kaur** W/o Jagdev Singh , House No. 3841, Sector 25-D, Chandigarh have changed my name from Ramanpreet Kaur to Neha Devi.

**I, Anusuya Devi** alias Anusuya W/o Nareesh Kumar, House No. 5188/B, Sector 38 West Chandigarh have changed my name from Anusuya Devi alias Anusuya to Anu Sharma.

**I, Lado** D/o Sunil Kumar, R/o House No. 574, Sector 10-D, Chandigarh have changed my name from Lado to Vanshika.

**I, Geetanji Mehta** D/O Dina Nath Mehta & W/O Jagdeep Ghai R/O House No 5821A, Sector 38 West, Chandigarh PIN 160036 have changed my name from Geetanji Mehta to Geetanji Ghai Nee Mehta.

**I, Vandana** D/O S K Malik & W/O Anil Bathla, R/O House No 147 Sector 40 A, Chandigarh PIN 160036 have changed my name from Vandana to Vandana Bathla.

**I, Priti Pundir** alias Priti W/O Sanjeev Kumar R/O VPO Mauli (Barwala) District Panchkula (Haryana), have changed my name from Priti Pundir alias Priti to Priti Chauhan.

**I, Manoj Kumar** S/o Ramdhari R/o Village Kulana, Tehsil Hansi, Distt. Hisar (Haryana) have changed my minor daughter's name from Meghna to Meghna Khudia for all purposes in future.

**I, Jaswinder Singh** S/o Kartar Singh R/o S-18/361, Opp. Shehzada Nand School, Chowk Pragdass, Amritsar, Punjab have changed my name from Rajwant Kaur to Rajwant Kaur Thind.

**I, Rajwant Kaur** W/o Jaswinder Singh Thind R/o S-18/361, Opp. Shehzada Nand School, Chowk Pragdass, Amritsar, Punjab have changed my name from Rajwant Kaur to Rajwant Kaur Thind.

**I, Palak Babbar** S/o Sh. Rajinder Kumar Babbar R/o 434/10 Mohalla Dera Sahib, Manimajra Chandigarh Do Have Changed My Name From Palak To Palak Babbar.

**I, Renu Babbar** W/o Sh. Rajinder Kumar Babbar R/o 1934 Near Quila, Manimajra Chandigarh Do Have Changed My Name From Renu To Renu Babbar.

**I, Shashi Kapoor** S/o Om Parkash R/o # 570, Burali, Chandigarh declare that in my daughters Maihar & Mohina Kumari documents my name has been wrongly mentioned as Parmod/Pramod instead of actual name Shashi Kapoor. In future I will use my name as Shashi Kapoor instead of Parmod/Pramod.

**I, Vinod Kumar** S/o Om Parkash, SCO No. 358/2, Sector 44D, Chandigarh, have changed my name to Vinod Chand.

**I Army No. 15686290N** CHM Virendra Kumar Tiwari, unit 2 Corps Sig Regt (AREN), c/o 56 APO have changed my wife's name from Rambha to Rambha Tiwari.

**I, Army No. JC-385823N** Sub Surjeet Singh, unit - 2 Corps Sig Regt (AREN), c/o 56 APO have changed my mother's name from Achhari Devi to Achari Devi.

**I, Vansh S/o** Bhupinder Singh R/o Village Ramkheri, Distt. Yamuna nagar.have changed my Name from Vansh Kumar To Vansh.

**I, Gurjeet Kaur** W/O Maninder Singh r/o Village Salahpur Bet, P.O. Chak Sharif, Distt Gurdaspur have changed my name from Gurjeet Kaur to Gurjit Kaur. Please Concerned note.

**I, Resam Singh** S/O Joginder Singh r/o Vill Bhet Pattan PO Bahadurpur Rajoa Teh Batala Distt.Gurdaspur changed my Name from Resam Singh to Resham Singh. Concerned note.

**I, Vansh Mittal** S/o Mohit Mittal R/o H.No- 40 B, Shastri Nagar Ambala City, Haryana have changed my name from Vansh Mittal to Vansh Shandilya.

**I, Yogesh S/o** Sh. Pawan kumar R/o Village Kalal Majri, Tehsil Naraingarh, Distt. Ambala Haryana have changed my name from Yogesh to Yogesh Dhiman. In future i use my name as Yogesh Dhiman .

**I, Madhu** W/o Sh. Ramesh Kumar R/o H.No- 37, Indira Colony, Jandli Ambala City have changed my name from Madhu to Madhu Bala.

**I, No. 14934298N** Rank Hav Name Karande Pandurang Ananda R/O Vpo Karungale, Tehsil- Shahuwadi, District- Kolhapur, State- Mh-415101 In My Army Service Record My Daughter's Name Wrongly Mentioned As Payal Karande. While Her Correct Name Is Payal Pandurang Karande As Per Her All Government Documents. Now I Am Going To Make It Correct As Payal Pandurang Karande In My Army Service Record Vide Affidavit 08.04.2024 Before Notary Public Hisar.

**I, Puja Singh** Is Legally Wedded Spouse Of No-14938237N, Rank L/Hav Name Dhirendra Kumar Permanently Resident Of Vpo- Baripura, Teh- Bisouli, Distt-Budaun, State - U.P.- 243601 Hereby I Changed My Name From Puja Singh To Pooja Garg Vide Affidavit Dated 11-04-2024.

**I, Anjali Barik** Is Mother Of No. 14929889L Rank Hav Name Jagannath Barik R/O Vpo Khodambari, District-Purba Medinipur, State-W.B.-721650 Have Changed My Date Of Birth From 12/03/1959 To 22/08/1955 In My Son's Army Service Record Vide Affidavit 12.04.2024 Before Notary Public Hisar.

**I, Dilip Chand** S/O Hari Chand Bhutani R/O H.No. 123, M.C. Colony, Near Sharma Dawakhana, Hisar (Haryana) 125001 Hereby Declare That I Have Changed My Name From Dilip Chand To Dalip Chand Bhutani For All Future Purposes. -Deponet

**I, Kailash Chand** Gandhi S/O Ram Kishan R/O H.No. 9, Vijay Nagar, Hisar (Haryana) 125001 Hereby Declare That I Have Changed My Name From Kailash Chand Gandhi To Kailash Chander Gandhi For All Future Purposes. -Deponet

**I, Sanjay Aggarwal** @ Sanjay Agarwal @ Sanjay Kumar Agarwal S/O Inder Sain R/O H.No. 122, Urban Estate-II, Hisar (Haryana) 125001 Hereby Declare That I Have Changed My Name From Sanjay Aggarwal @ Sanjay Kumar Agarwal To Sanjay Kumar Agrawal For All Future Purposes.

**I, Kusum Lata** W/O Parmod Kumar R/O H.No. 45, Urban Estate-II, Hisar (Haryana) 125001 Hereby Declare That I Have Changed My Name From Kusum Lata To Kusum Garg For All Future Purposes.

**I, No. 147944-N** Ex Petty Officer Vijay Kumar S/o Sh. Suraj Bhan R/o H.No. 99-1, Ward No. 29, Model Town, Rohtak (Haryana) declare that my daughter name Jyothi Ballan and her DOB 07 years are wrongly mentioned in my discharge book / Service record. But my daughter correct & actual name is Jyoti Balyan and her correct DOB is 21.09.1989. vide affidavit dated 12.04.2024 before Notary Public Rohtak.

I, Hitherto Known As Nishan Singh Son Of Rajwinder Singh Residing At Vpo Langiana District Ferozepur-152002 Punjab Have Changed My Name And Shall Hereafter Be Known As Singh Nishan

I, Hitherto Known As Nishan Singh Son Of Rajwinder Singh Residing At Vpo Langiana District Ferozepur-152002 Punjab Have Changed My Name And Shall Hereafter Be Known As Singh Nishan

**I, Des Raj** S/O Rulia Ram R/O Village Bhur Po Nangal Bhur Tehsil Pathankot District Pathankot Have Changed My Minor Son's Name From Kanvish To Kaushal Soni

I, Hitherto Known As Kabul Singh Sarkaria Son Of Dyal Singh Residing At H.No.16, Ranian Tehsil Lopoke District Amritsar-143110 Punjab Have Changed My Name And Shall Hereafter Be Known As Singh Kabal.

I, Hitherto Known As Girdhari Lal Son Of Bansal Lal Residing At H.No.18, Gali No.3, Aman Avenue, Majitha Road, Amritsar-43001 Punjab Have Changed My Name And Shall Hereafter Be Known As Rahul Kumar

**I Gurmeet Singh** S/O Sunder Singh R/O H.No.C-2279 Ranjit Avenue Amritsar Have Changed My Name To Gurmit Singh

**I, Rajneesh Kumar** S/O Charan Dass R/O D-380, Ranjit Avenue, Amritsar Have Changed My Name From Rajneesh Kumar To Rajneesh Sharma.

**I, Dharm Pal** Sharma S/O Shanker Dass R/O F-9/470, Gali No.4, Prem Nagar, Batala Road, Amritsar Have Changed My Name From Dharm Pal Sharma To Dharam Pal Sharma

**I, Sukhdev Raj** S/O Gurbachan Dass R/O Dhawan Jeweller Main Road Ajnala, Sunder Nagar Kharabad Road Mirankot Chowk, Amritsar Have Changed My Name To Sukhdev Raj Dhawan

**I, Rahul** S/O Sukhdev Raj Dhawan R/O Dhawan Jeweller Main Road Ajnala, Sunder Nagar Kharabad Road Mirankot Chowk, Amritsar Have Changed My Name To Rahul Dhawan

**I, Renu** W/O Sukhdev Raj Dhawan R/O Dhawan Jeweller Main Road Ajnala, Sunder Nagar Kharabad Road Mirankot Chowk, Amritsar Have Changed My Name To Renu Dhawan

**I Sarabjeet Kaur** W/O Navjeet Singh R/O 121-F, A-Block, Sandhu Colony, Amritsar Have Changed My Name From Sarabjeet Kaur To Sarbjeet Kaur. All Please Note.

**I, Rajneesh Kumar** S/O Vimal Sagar Chatrath R/O 3, Poodar Colony, Guru Arjan Dev Nagar, Po. Khalsa College, Amritsar Have Changed My Name From Rajneesh Kumar To Rajneesh Chatrath.

**I, Diljit Singh** S/O Mohan Singh R/O Vpo Sangna Sue Walian Hawelian, Chabhal Road, Amritsar Have Changed My Name Diljit Is My Given Name And Singh Is My Surname

**I, Bhabani Shankar** Swain Father Of No. 14930719n Hav Narendra Swain Residing At Kankhinda, Majhipali, Sambalpur, Sasan, Odisha-768200 Have Changed My Name From Bhabani Shankar Swain To Bhabani Sankar Swain And Date Of Birth From 16 July 1947 To 15 July 1945 Vide Affidavit No. In-Pb05791630141329w Dated 12-04-2024, Before Notary Public, Amritsar.

**I, Jogana Mandal** Mother Of No. 14934547f L/Hav Pintu Mandal Residing At Village Saheb Nagar, Po Saheb Nagar, Tehsil Tethatta, District Nadia, West Bengal-741156 Have Changed My Name From Jogana Mandal To Jamuna Mandal And Date Of Birth From 01 Jul 1960 To 19 Sep 1959 Vide Affidavit No. In-Pb05791306330390w Dated 12-04-2024, Before Notary Public, Amritsar.

**I, Jagadamba** W/o Surinder Kumar # 518, Village Mauli Jagran, Chandigarh have Changed my name to Poonam Devi.

**I, Inderjeet Singh** S/o Surinder Pal R/o Village Ghumiala, Tehsil Garhshankar, Distt. Hoshiarpur have changed my name to Singh Inderjeet.

**I, Karandeep Singh** S/o Jasvir Singh R/o Vill. Makowal, Po. Mutton, Tehsil Balachaur, Distt. SBS Nagar, Punjab declare that Given name as Karandeep & Surname as Singh.

**I, Parminder Chopra** alias Surinder S/o Sansari Lal R/o VPO. Rastgo, Distt. Jalandhar, Punjab-144201 have changed my name from Parminder Chopra alias Surinder to Parminder Chopra.

**I, Padmavati** Swain Mother Of No. 14930719n Hav Narendra Swain Residing At Kankhinda, Majhipali, Sambalpur, Sasan, Odisha-768200 Have Changed My Name From Padmavati Swain To Padma Swain And Date Of Birth From 16 Jul 1950 To 18 Oct 1951 Vide Affidavit No. In-Pb05790767351163w Dated 12-04-2024, Before Notary Public, Amritsar.

**I, Kusum Patil** Mother Of Army No. 14936646h L/Hav Suhās Patil Resident Of #172/1, Netaji Galli, Kuniye, Hukkeri, Belgaum, Karnataka-590014 Have Changed My Name From Kusum Patil To Kusum Bharamana Patil And Date Of Birth From 01-09-1959 To 05-04-1959 Vide Affidavit No. In-Pb05790734238513w Dated 12-04-2024, Before Notary Public, Amritsar.

**I, Bharmanna Patil** Father Of Army No. 14936646h L/Hav Suhās Patil Resident Of #172/1, Netaji Galli, Kuniye, Hukkeri, Belgaum, Karnataka-590014 Have Changed My Name From Bharmanna Patil To Bharamana Vitthoba Patil And Date Of Birth From 01-09-1949 To 01-06-1949 Vide Affidavit No. In-Pb05790695812306w Dated 12-04-2024, Before Notary Public, Amritsar.

**ਮੈਂ ਚੇਵਿੰਦਰ ਸਿੰਘ** ਪੁੱਤਰ ਚੇਚਲ, ਪਿੰਡ ਤੇ ਭੁਕਖਾਨਾ ਜੰਡਿਆਲਾ ਮੰਜੀ ਬਾਟਾ ਸਰਦ ਜਮਹੀਰ, ਜ਼ਿਲ੍ਹਾ ਜਲੰਧਰ ਜ਼ਿਲ੍ਹਾ ਵਰਦਾ ਹਾਂ ਅਪਣਾ ਨਾਮ ਬਦਲ ਕੇ ਪਵਨ ਕੁਮਾਰ ਰੱਖ ਲਿਆ ਹੈ।

**I Gulzar Khan** S/O Mohammad Hashan R/O Village Chhat Tehsil Derabassi Distt Sas Nagar Mohali (Pb.) Have Changed My Name From Gulzar Khan To Guljar Mohammad

**I Ashok Kumar** S/O Arjan Ram Village Bhogipur Po Takhatgarh The Anandpur Sahib Distt Rupnagar Have Changed My Name Ashok Kumar To Ashok Singh

**I Kulbhushan Kumar** S/O Prem Chand R/O Village Samgoli, Tehsil Dera Bassi Distt Sas Nagar Have Changed My Name From Kulbhoosan To Kulbhushan Kumar

**I, Saurabh** S/O Sh. Subhash Chander Bajaj R/O House No. 608 First Floor Sector -8 Panchkula, Haryana Have Changed My Name From Saurabh To Saurabh Bajaj

**I Dharamvir** S/O Ravi Chand R/O Sardaheri Taprian Tehsil Barara (Ambala) Have Changed My Name Dharamvir To Dharmveer.

**I Balkar Singh** S/O Chunnai Lal R/O H.No. 2105, Ward No.11, Gali No. 7, Bajwa Colony, Banur Distt Sas Nagar Mohali Have Changed My Name From Rahul To Rahul Rahul

**I, Preeti** W/O Karan Kumar R/O Ward No.21, Near Hari Krishan Gurudwara Sahib, Khanna Tehsil Khanna Distt Ludhiana Have Changed My Name To Preeti Sharma

**I, Usha Deshmukh** Is Legally Wedded Spouse Of Army No- 14650875a, Rank-Nk Name Deshmukh Sandip Suratsing Address Village - Raipur, Post- Raipur Distt - Buldhana, Tehsil-Buldhana State- Maharashtra, Pin 443001 Declare That I Have Changed My Name From Usha Deshmukh To Usha Sandip Deshmukh. Vide Affidavit No-Rd 0021650113, Dated-12-04-24

**I, Manjit Kaur** W/O Sh. Jagtar Singh R/O House No. Mubarkpur, SAS Nagar, Mohali Punjab 140201 Have Changed My Name From Manjit Kaur To Manjeet Kaur.

**I, Shivay** S/o Ramesh Singh, Vill Meghpur, PO Manakpur, Tehsil Nangal (Ropar) have changed my name from Shivay to Shivay Rana.

**I Lalsha Devi** W/O Rama Asra Prasad R/O #602, Village Himatgarh Dhakola, Dhakauli Sas Nagar Mohali Have Changed My Name From Lalsha Devi To Km Lalasa.

**I, Subhash Chand** S/o Ram Avtar R/o H.No. Ward No. 14, Geeta Colony, New Anaj Mandi, Banwala (Rural)128, Distt. Hisar (Haryana) 125121 hereby declare that I have changed my name from Subhash to Subhash Chand for all future purposes.

**I, Ranjit Kaur** W/o Balwinderjit Singh R/o Maduchhanga District Amritsar have changed my name from Ranjit Kaur to Harjit Kaur.

**I, Jagadamba** W/o Surinder Kumar # 518, Village Mauli Jagran, Chandigarh have Changed my name to Poonam Devi.

**I, Inderjeet Singh** S/o Surinder Pal R/o Village Ghumiala, Tehsil Garhshankar, Distt. Hoshiarpur have changed my name to Singh Inderjeet.

**I, Karandeep Singh** S/o Jasvir Singh R/o Vill. Makowal, Po. Mutton, Tehsil Balachaur, Distt. SBS Nagar, Punjab declare that Given name as Karandeep & Surname as Singh.

**I, Parminder Chopra** alias Surinder S/o Sansari Lal R/o VPO. Rastgo, Distt. Jalandhar, Punjab-144201 have changed my name from Parminder Chopra alias Surinder to Parminder Chopra.

**I, Padmavati** Swain Mother Of No. 14930719n Hav Narendra Swain Residing At Kankhinda, Majhipali, Sambalpur, Sasan, Odisha-768200 Have Changed My Name From Padmavati Swain To Padma Swain And Date Of Birth From 16 Jul 1950 To 18 Oct 1951 Vide Affidavit No. In-Pb05790767351163w Dated 12-04-2024, Before Notary Public, Amritsar.

**I, Kusum Patil** Mother Of Army No. 14936646h L/Hav Suhās Patil Resident Of #172/1, Netaji Galli, Kuniye, Hukkeri, Belgaum, Karnataka-590014 Have Changed My Name From Kus



# Crackdown begins against unfit school buses in Haryana; Committee to probe incident

PNS ■ CHANDIGARH

A day after six school children died and 20 sustained injuries in a tragic bus accident in Mahendragarh district, a special drive was conducted in several parts of Haryana on Friday to crack down on school buses plying without necessary documents and valid permits. Haryana Chief Secretary T V S N Prasad issued stringent directives to the civil and police administration to check within the next 10 days, the fitness of all school buses in their districts even as a committee was set up to probe the factors leading to the accident. According to officials, all departments concerned, including the traffic police, on Friday carried out special drives across the state to check whether school buses plying on the roads were following all norms and had necessary documents like roadworthiness, pollution under check, and valid permits. Meanwhile, Prasad chaired an emergency meeting and

was informed by Additional Chief Secretary, School Education, G Anupama that the Mahendragarh district municipal commissioner has assumed control over the management of the school whose bus was involved in the accident. The meeting, conducted via video conference and convened to reinforce safety measures in schools, saw participation from divisional commissioners, deputy commissioners, range additional DGPs, commissioners of police, and district SPs. It is very important that unfit buses be promptly replaced with new ones and trained drivers be engaged by schools to ensure safe transportation. If any school fails to comply with the instructions, strict and exemplary action be taken against those responsible, the chief secretary directed. As public servants, it is our collective responsibility to ensure that school children receive the highest standard of safe transportation facilities, he said.

He told the officials that he wanted strict action against all those responsible for the accident asserting that those who play with the lives of innocent children must face severe consequences. Strict action must be taken so that fear is instilled among those who engage in such callous actions, he added. Prasad said that numerous policies and guidelines have already been issued by the relevant departments for safety purposes. However, the effective implementation of these measures lies with the field officers, he said. He also cautioned officers that in the event of a recurrence of such an incident, decisive and unprecedented action will be taken at the senior level too. Prasad emphasised that all officers must ensure the replacement of unfit school buses with new ones by the school management. Additionally, they should screen and ensure that trained drivers are employed, he said. The officer instructed them to

send a clear message to all the schools to ensure strict adherence to safety instructions and guidelines issued by the relevant authorities for the protection of children. “I will personally monitor the situation closely and review it after 10 days. We demand perceptible improvement, and we will not settle for anything less,” he added. Police arrested three people, including the principal of the private school as well as the driver of the bus who was allegedly drunk and driving rashly. The committee has been set up by Mahendragarh deputy commissioner Monika Gupta for a thorough investigation to ascertain the causes and circumstances leading to the accident. “In the light of the tragic incident where a school bus of G L Public School, Kanina carrying students met with an accident near Unhani resulting in the loss of lives of six students and injuries to several students, it is imperative that a thorough investigation be conducted to ascertain the

causes and circumstances leading to this unfortunate event,” according to an order issued by Gupta on Thursday. In this regard, a committee has been constituted under the chairmanship of additional deputy commissioner, Mahendragarh to inquire into the matter and asked to submit its findings at the earliest so that further necessary action can be taken accordingly, said the order. The committee will also comprise sub-divisional magistrate, Kanina; deputy superintendent of police, Kanina and district education officer, Narnaul, it said. The accident occurred near Unhani village in Kanina in Mahendragarh when the bus was carrying around 40 children to the G L Public School. Police had said the driver was caught at the accident site and his medical examination confirmed he was under the influence of alcohol. They also said that the bus did not have a fitness certificate and other documents.

## About 1500 Election Code violation complaints received through cVigil app in Haryana: CEO Anurag Agarwal

MANOJ KUMAR ■ CHANDIGARH



Haryana Chief Electoral Officer Anurag Agarwal on Friday said about 1500 complaints through the Election Commission (EC's) cVigil app regarding violations of the Model Code of Conduct have been received since the announcement of the 2024 Lok Sabha elections in the State. cVIGIL is a mobile application that allows citizens to report incidents of political misconduct. Most of the received complaints are related to illegal hoardings, banners; distribution of money, gifts and liquor as well as the defacement of property. Additionally, around 75 written complaints have been received at the State Election Commission office. Most of the complaints are related to the transfer of government officers and employees. The officers of concerned departments have been asked to take action immediately. Moreover, as per the EC's guidelines, administrative authorities have been asked to ensure that officials transferred out of a district after serving three years are not posted in another district within the same parliamentary constituency. The rule applies to all officials involved in electoral work, either directly or in a supervisory role, he added. Talking to ‘The Pioneer’, the Chief Electoral officer said that the Union Home Ministry has been requested to deploy 200 more companies of central armed police forces in the run-up to Lok Sabha election in the State. A total of 19,812 polling stations have been set up, out of which, 6,224 are in urban areas and 13,588 are

rural polling stations. At least 2,289 polling stations are vulnerable and 63 critical polling stations. Electronic Voting Machines (EVMs) will be used for voting and adequate EVMs are available. Voter Verifiable Paper Audit Trail (VVPAT) machines will also be placed at all polling stations, he added. The CEO said that the law and order situation in the state is under control. Security is being reviewed from time to time. No politicians in the state have sought for additional security so far. No complaints from any politicians have been received at the Election Commission office that they were stopped by farmers while entering villages during the election campaign, he added. Agarwal further said that as per the available reports, the local administrative authorities have confiscated or seized about 40-50 per cent of the total licenced guns/weapons in the State so far. Authorities have been directed to keep a close watch on licensed gun holders. Seized weapons would be kept in police custody till the elections are over or till the local authorities think it's necessary, he added. The CEO further said, “About 70% voter turnout was recorded in the state, which was higher than the national average. This time our target is to achieve

a more than 80% voter turnout in the State. The Election Department is making strenuous efforts at the war footing level to ensure maximum participation of citizens in the voting for the Lok Sabha General Elections scheduled for May 25, 2024.” He further said that the Election Department is running a continuous campaign to educate voters and to increase voter turnout. In this series, the Deputy Commissioner cum District Election Officer of Faridabad took a unique initiative and administered the oath to more than 8.5 lakh people to vote together. Similarly, awareness campaigns are being conducted in other districts as well. Many districts have also created election icons at the district level, conveying the message of voting importance and democracy to citizens. Every eligible voter must exercise their voting rights, and citizens are being sensitized for this purpose, he added. Furthermore, Agarwal said that to increase voter turnout this time, the Election Commission of India has signed a memorandum of understanding with the Indian Postal Department and the Indian Banks Association to raise awareness among voters. “The main objective is to convey to voters that the participation of the public is crucial in a democracy, therefore, every citizen must exercise their franchise. Haryana has a large network of over 5600 branches of 62 banks. With the cooperation of banks, maximum awareness will be ensured at ATMs and branches to motivate citizens to come to banks to vote,” he added.

## SAD replaces Maluka as halqa in-charge

PNS ■ BATHINDA

A day after senior SAD leader Sikander Singh Maluka's IAS daughter-in-law Parampal Kaur Sidhu joined the BJP along with her husband Gurpreet Singh Maluka, SAD president Sukhbir Singh Badal held a meeting with the party workers from Rampura and Maur assembly segments in Bathinda district and appointed senior party leader and former Cabinet Minister Janmeja

Singh Sekhon as the in-charge of the Maur assembly segment, replacing Maluka. Since April 10, Maluka was seen actively campaigning alongside Harsimrat Kaur Badal in Maur. However, the political landscape took a turn when his son and daughter-in-law made headlines by joining the BJP on Thursday. Sidhu's potential candidacy from Bathinda Lok Sabha constituency as the BJP candidate added another layer of intrigue to the situation.

## Justice Zora Singh to Contest as Independent from Faridkot

PNS ■ CHANDIGARH

Justice (retired) Zora Singh, who was AAP's candidate from Jalandhar in 2019, has announced his decision to contest as an independent candidate from Faridkot Lok Sabha constituency. Justice Zora Singh, who previously headed Bargari sacri-lege cases commission, declared his intention to run as an independent candidate from the Faridkot parliamentary seat. Notably, Justice Zora Singh's

candidature represents a setback for AAP, given his previous affiliation with the party. The announcement comes amidst heightened political activity in Punjab, with AAP fielding Punjabi actor Karamjit Anmol as its candidate for Faridkot — a constituency that gained considerable attention, with various political players

vying for electoral supremacy. Speaking about his decision, Justice Zora Singh emphasized that AAP, much like the Akali Dal and Congress, has failed to deliver on its promises. He highlighted the discrepancy between electoral assurances and actual governance, expressing his disillusionment with traditional political parties.

## From ‘Shamajhdaar Begum’ to dafli beats, jaago — Punjab election authorities innovate to boost voter turnout

MONIKA MALIK ■ CHANDIGARH


With the Lok Sabha polls looming on June 1 in Punjab, authorities are rolling out creative campaigns to invigorate voter participation across the State. From traditional beats to modern mascots, a colorful array of strategies aimed to empower citizens and strengthen democracy. In the heart of Hoshiarpur, a dedicated nodal officer is taking to the streets with a rhythmic twist. Armed with a dafli (tambourine), a traditional drum, he traverses the town, his beats echoing through bustling markets and quiet alleyways alike. Whether on foot, aboard buses, or even amidst the rhythmic sway of train carriages, his mission remained singular: to stir the civic spirit and urge voters to mark their ballots on polling day. Not to be outdone, the ancient city of Malerkotla has unveiled its own electoral emissary: ‘Samajhdaar Begum’, a vibrant mascot, to educate and empower voters, especially the youth and women, ensuring that every voice is heard and every vote counts. But the innovation doesn't stop there. In the digital realm, the office of state's Chief Electoral Officer is harnessing the power of social media to amplify its message. Its online campaign is making significant strides in connecting with every corner of Punjab. Through real-time updates and engaging podcasts, it is inspiring citizens to embrace their civic responsibility and actively participate in the democratic process. This concerted effort has earned it the second position nationwide for active engagement on social media platforms and the effective dissemination of crucial electoral information to voters. Punjab CEO Sibin C revealed that Punjab claimed the second spot in the Social Media Index, with Maharashtra leading the chart, followed by Karnataka, Uttarakhand, and Uttar Pradesh. The CEO office's social media handles regularly update voters on Lok Sabha Elections, elector-related details, political party guidelines, and directives from the Election Commission of India. Furthermore, real-time updates on complaints received via the C-Vigil application are shared, ensuring transparency. “Additionally, the office has launched a podcast from Friday aimed at enhancing voter awareness by

providing insights into electoral processes, polling procedures, and the significance of civic participation. Through expert analysis and informative discussions, the podcast aims to empower voters as informed participants in the democratic process,” he added. In 2019, Punjab recorded a voting percentage of 65.96 per cent during the parliamentary polls, slightly below the national average of 67.11 per cent; while 2022 state assembly polls saw a higher turnout of 71.95 per cent — prompting the state authorities to set ambitious goals for the upcoming elections on June 1. Chief Electoral Officer has emphasized the importance of surpassing the 70 per cent mark this time. In a concerted effort to revitalize regions where voter participation lagged behind national and state averages, particularly in 2019 Lok Sabha elections, the state election authorities are rolling out initiatives aimed at boosting voter turnout. The Commission's focus is on approximately 12,000 polling stations, nearly half of the total 24,433 stations across 12 districts where participation was below par in the previous polls. **Malerkotla's New Mascot ‘Samajhdar Begum’ to Lead Voter Awareness Drive**

In an innovative move to boost voter awareness and engagement, Malerkotla Administration on Friday unveiled its newest ally in the mission for a stronger democracy, Samajhdar Begum — the voter awareness mascot. Introduced by Deputy Commissioner-cum-District Election Officer Dr Palavi, ‘Samajhdar Begum’ aimed to educate citizens about the importance of voting and making ethical choices during elections. Explaining the significance of the mascot, Dr Palavi highlighted that ‘Samajhdar Begum’ embodies the cultural richness and harmony of Malerkotla. “Her arrival coincides with the auspicious occasion of Eid-ul-Fitr...and Begum is here to assist the voters, clearing doubts and offering guidance throughout the election season,” said Dr Palavi, emphasizing that Begum would remain an integral part of the district's election activities, issuing timely messages to promote

informed voting decisions and recognize exemplary practices. With the goal of achieving a voter turnout exceeding 70 per cent, the administration is prioritizing voter registration, reaching out to IELTS centers and educational institutions to identify eligible voters. To encourage voter participation, Dr Palavi also announced the establishment of Model Polling Stations, Pink Polling Stations, PWD Polling Stations, and Youth Managed Polling Stations across both assembly constituencies. Additionally, various outreach efforts, including engaging labourers from brick kilns, factories, and commercial complexes, are underway to motivate voters.

**Dafli Beats, Jaago Rallies to Improve Voter Turnout** Through innovative initiatives and grassroots engagement, Hoshiarpur is setting the stage for a historic turnout on June 1, proving that democracy thrives when every voice is heard. To drum up enthusiasm for June 1 polls, the SVEEP (Systematic Voter's Education and Electoral Participation) officer Preet Kohli in Hoshiarpur has embarked on a musical mission like no other. Playing ‘dafli’ and a spirited slogan — ‘iss vaar, 70 paar’ (this time, cross 70 per cent), Kohli is on a mission to ensure a higher voter turnout than ever before. ‘Dafli’ holds a special place in Punjab's cultural fabric, often accompanying rural festivities and religious ceremonies. Seeking to tap into this cultural connection, Kohli's is engaging citizens in a dialogue about the power of democracy. “I am not here to sell anything,” Kohli reassured the passengers in Punjabi aboard a train bound for Jalandhar. “We're here with a simple request: vote on June 1. Don't treat it as a holiday. Bring along your family members and make your voices heard,” he appealed to the passengers. In addition to his musical outreach, Hoshiarpur District Administration had also organized a traditional ‘Jago’ ceremony at Rupowal village, drawing inspiration from Punjab's rich wedding customs. Around 400 villagers gathered to celebrate the ‘festival of democracy’, pledging to cast their votes with pride on the election day. As part of the broader awareness campaign, college students have also been enlisted to spread the word about the importance of voting.





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## Punjab Government

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on the auspicious occasion of*

# Vaisakhi



Department of Information and Public Relations, Punjab



# Glue of corruption binds Opposition, claims BJP

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ NEW DELHI

The BJP on Friday attacked INDIA Bloc parties over their alleged corruption and attempts to sow division on regional and religious lines, asserting that the ruling alliance-led by Prime Minister Narendra Modi stands for curbing graft.

Ahead of an INDIA Bloc rally in Tamil Nadu, in which DMK leader and Chief Minister M K Stalin and Congress leader Rahul Gandhi are expected to attend, BJP spokesperson Gaurav Bhatia claimed that the “glue of corruption” binds Opposition parties. Bhatia said the Gandhis are the “most corrupt” family and raised the 2G spectrum case involving the then telecom minister and DMK leader A Raja, as he targeted both opposition parties. With the opposition referring to the acquittal of all accused, including Raja, in the 2G case



to refute the corruption charge, Bhatia noted that the Supreme Court had cancelled all the 122 licenses allotted due to malpractices and expressed confidence that the Delhi High Court will consider the CBI's appeal and convict the guilty. He alleged that the DMK stands for “deceit, malpractice and kelpomania”, adding that the Dravidian party is a habitual “robber” of public money. He noted that DMK leader V Senthilbalaji continued to be a minister in the Tamil Nadu government for months after his arrest by the Enforcement Directorate in a corruption

case. Bhatia also referred to DMK leader Udhayanidhi Stalin's and Raja's alleged insult of Sanatan Dharma and the silence maintained by the Congress over it, and accused the opposition of “sowing religious discord and division”. Modi on the other hand had dubbed Tamil Nadu as India's pride and visited its temples as part of special rituals in the run up to the Ram temple's consecration ceremony to foster brotherhood as enshrined in the Constitution, the BJP spokesperson said.

## Modi assertion on holding Assembly polls in JK razed NC false narrative, says BJP

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ NEW DELHI

The BJP on Friday said Prime Minister Narendra Modi's assertion on holding Assembly elections in Jammu and Kashmir “demolished” a false narrative “being created” by the National Conference (NC), People's Democratic Parth(PDP) and other opposition parties.

The BJP's reaction came after the prime minister, while addressing a poll rally in Udhampur earlier in the day, asserted that the time was not far when the Assembly polls would be held in Jammu and Kashmir, which would also get its statehood back.

“I would like to congratulate the people of Jammu and Kashmir because the prime minister has reiterated his resolve to hold early elections in Jammu and Kashmir,” BJP leader Ashish Sood, who is the party's co-in charge for the Union Territory, said. He alleged that the top leaders of the National Conference, People's Democratic Party and other opposition parties were cre-



ating a false perception of the issue by claiming that the BJP-led Centre was afraid of holding Assembly elections in Jammu and Kashmir. “They were creating a false perception that things are not normal in Jammu and Kashmir, the security situation is normal and that the government of India is afraid of holding elections.. This was the kind of narrative Abdullahs, Muftis and others were creating which has (now) been demolished,”

Sood charged. Sood said Prime Minister Modi and Home Minister Amit Shah had earlier reiterated that the Centre will hold “early elections in Jammu and Kashmir as and when the security situation and other factors make it compatible”. “It's Modi's guarantee that elections will be held in Jammu and Kashmir, Muftis, Abdullahs and Gandhis should understand that Modi's guarantee never fails,” the BJP leader said.

## MEA advises Indian citizens not to travel to Iran, Israel till further notice



PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ NEW DELHI

India on Friday advised its citizens not to travel till further notice to Iran or Israel in view of prevailing situation. This caution comes amid reports that Iran is likely to launch direct attack on Israel with the next 48 hours.

Issuing note of caution, Ministry of External Affairs(MEA)also urged all Indians currently residing in Iran or Israel to get in touch with Indian embassies there and register themselves. The MEA also said Indians residing in Iran, Israel are requested to observe utmost precautions about their safety and restrict movements to minimum.

The ministry's advisory came on a day when reports said Iran would likely launch a direct attack on Israel within the next 48 hours. The report also said Iran was still weighing the political risks of a direct attack on Israel. The advisory comes after Iran threatened reprisals over an Israeli strike on the Iranian consulate in Syria 11 days ago, sparking fears of an escalation of violence in the Middle East. On Wednesday, Israel's foreign minister had threatened that the country's forces would strike Iran directly if it launched an attack from its

territory against Israel. Meanwhile, over 6,000 Indian workers are expected to arrive in Israel during April and May to help the country's construction sector meet a labour shortage following the outbreak of the Israel-Hamas conflict.

As part of the government-to-government (G2G) agreement, about 60 workers from India have already been sent via an “air shuttle” in the first week of April. A series of arrivals is expected in the coming weeks, a total of 850 by mid-April. In another development, India said it has relocated its staff from its consulate in Myanmar city of Sittwe to Yangon in view of the precarious security situation in that region of Myanmar. MEA spokesperson Randhir Jaiswal said India is closely monitoring the security situation in that country. “We are closely monitoring the security situation in Myanmar, particularly in the Rakhine State. Necessary steps have been taken to ensure the safety of our citizens,” he said at his weekly media briefing. “We have temporarily relocated our staff at CGI (Consulate General of India) Sittwe to Yangon. Our Consulate in Mandalay remains fully functional,” Jaiswal said.

## Lalu, Rahul exhibiting thoughts from Mughal era: Modi over Navratri videos

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ NEW DELHI

With Lok Sabha election campaign peaking up, several rounds of controversies oscillating between the BJP and Opposition parties has caught the attention of people across the country amidst other core issues.

The latest is the controversy over a video of RJD leader former Bihar Deputy Chief Minister Tejashwi Yadav eating fish escalated on Friday with Prime Minister Narendra Modi hitting out at Opposition parties, including RJD leader, saying even Tejashwi's father Lalu Prasad and Congress leader Rahul Gandhi are now into exhibiting thoughts from the Mughal era.

Accusing the Opposition of indulging in the politics of appeasement and going after a particular vote bank, the Prime Minister also claimed that such videos are being posted during periods considered auspicious by Hindus to tease and annoy most of India's population.

Tejashwi, who had clarified that the video was shot a day before Navratri began and was uploaded to “test the IQ of the BJP and Godi media followers,” said the BJP's politics is limited to what people



are eating and wearing because its governments have not done anything for the people.

Addressing a rally at Udhampur in Jammu and Kashmir, Modi referred to a video of Rahul Gandhi and Lalu Yadav cooking mutton in September last year and said, “Congress and other members of the INDIA alliance are not bothered about the feelings of most of the country's population. During Sawan (an aus-

picious month in the Hindu calendar), they are going to the house of a convicted man and cooking mutton. Not only that, they are also putting up videos and teasing the people of the country.”

“The law does not stop anyone from eating anything, and neither does Modi, but their intention is different. When the Mughals attacked, they were not satisfied with defeating the king alone. They did not get satisfaction

until they destroyed temples... they enjoyed doing this. In the same way, by uploading the video in the month of Sawan, they (the opposition) are exhibiting the thoughts of the Mughal era, attempting to tease people and fortify their vote bank,” the PM alleged.

Training his guns on Tejashwi Yadav, without naming him, the PM said uploading a video of consuming non-vegetarian food during Navratra

was also an attempt in the same direction.

“Who are you trying to please by hurting the sentiments of people? I know these people will now shower abuses on me for saying this, but it is my duty in a democracy to tell people what is right when lines are crossed, and I am doing my duty. They do this deliberately to attack the country's beliefs, so that a big part of the country watches their videos and gets uncomfortable. They have gone beyond appeasement and are giving evidence of their Mughal-like thinking,” the PM said.

On his part Tejashwi reacted to the PM's remarks without naming him and said that, instead of talking about the issues that matter, the BJP is focusing on what people are eating and wearing. “They are not talking about the issues of Bihar, how they will stop migration from the state or what they will do in the next five years if they are voted to power. And what will they say? They have done nothing in 10 years (at the Centre) and 17 years (in Bihar)... They will keep talking about what people are wearing and eating, and centre their politics around it,” he said.

## India lost 2.33 million hectares of tree cover since 2000: Global Watch

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

India has lost 2.33 million hectares of tree cover since 2000, equivalent to a six per cent decrease in tree cover during this period, according to the latest data from the Global Forest Watch monitoring project.

The Global Forest Watch, which tracks forest changes in near real-time using satellite data and other sources, said the country lost 4,14,000 hectares of humid primary forest (4.1 per cent) from 2002 to 2023, making up 18 per cent of its total tree cover loss in the same period.

## UK appoints Lindy as High Commissioner to India

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ NEW DELHI

The United Kingdom has appointed Lindy Cameron as its new high commissioner to India. She will succeed incumbent Alex Ellis.

“Lindy Cameron CB OBE has been appointed British High Commissioner to the Republic

of India in succession to Alex Ellis CMG who will be transferring to another diplomatic service appointment,” a British readout said on Thursday. The readout released by the United Kingdom High Commission in New Delhi said Cameron will take up her appointment this month. Cameron has been serving as

the Chief Executive of the UK's National Cyber Security Centre since 2020. She also had a stint as the director general of the UK's Northern Ireland Office. Her appointment comes as the UK and India are engaged in negotiations for a long-pending free trade agreement.

## Widening development financing gap posing challenge to achieving SDGs: UN

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ NEW DELHI

The widening development financing gap, now estimated at USD 4.2 trillion annually, exacerbated by the impacts of the Covid-19 pandemic poses a formidable challenge to achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), particularly in the world's poorest nations, according to a new UN report released here.

The ‘2024 Financing for Sustainable Development Report: Financing for Development at a Crossroads (FSDR 2024)’ report underscored the urgent need for a massive surge of financing and a reform of the international financial architecture to rescue the SDGs.

It emphasized the critical importance of mobilizing financing at scale to close the development financing gap, which has ballooned from USD 2.5 trillion before the pandemic.

Furthermore, the report noted that rising geopolitical tensions, climate disasters, and a global cost-of-living crisis have compounded the challenges, impeding progress on crucial development targets such as healthcare and education. UN Deputy Secretary-General Amina J. Mohammed stressed the urgency of the situation, emphasizing that without adequate financing, the 2030 targets cannot be met. With only six years remaining to achieve the SDGs, there is a risk of hard-won development gains being reversed, especially in the poorest countries, where almost 600 million people are



projected to continue living in extreme poverty by 2030.

“This report is yet another proof of how far we still need to go and how fast we need to act to achieve the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,” said UN Deputy Secretary-General Amina J. Mohammed. “We are truly at a crossroads and time is running out. Leaders must go beyond mere rhetoric and deliver on their promises. Without adequate financing, the 2030 targets cannot be met.”

“We're experiencing a sustainable development crisis, to which inequalities, inflation, debt, conflicts and climate disasters have all contributed,” added UN Under-Secretary-General for Economic and Social Affairs Li Junhua. “Resources are needed to address this, and the money is there. Billions of dollars are lost annually from tax avoidance and evasion, and fossil fuel subsidies are in the trillions. Globally, there is no shortage of money; rather, a shortage of will and commitment.”

According to the report, debt

burdens and rising borrowing costs are large contributors to the crisis. Estimates are that in the least developed countries debt service will be USD 40 billion annually between 2023 and 2025, up more than 50 per cent from USD 26 billion in 2022. Stronger and more frequent climate related disasters account for more than half of the debt upsurge in vulnerable countries.

The poorest countries now spend 12 per cent of their revenues on interest payments — four times more than they spent a decade ago. Roughly 40 per cent of the global population live in countries where governments spend more on interest payments than on education or health.

While investment in SDG sectors had grown steadily in the early 2000s, major sources of development funding are now slowing down. Corporate income tax rates are falling, with global average tax rates down from 28.2 per cent in 2000 to 21.1 per cent in 2023, due to globalization and tax competition.

## SC extends stay on former IPS officer sentence on Dhoni contempt plea

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court has extended the interim stay on the 15-day simple imprisonment handed to retired IPS officer G Sampath Kumar by the Madras High Court in a contempt of court case filed by former cricketer Mahendra Singh Dhoni.

A bench of Justices A S Oka and Ujjal Bhuyan has listed the matter for hearing on May 3.

“Interim order shall continue till further orders,” the bench said on Thursday.

The high court had, on December 15 last year, found Kumar guilty of committing criminal contempt and sentenced him to simple imprisonment for 15 days.

In his contempt petition, Dhoni had sought punishment for Kumar for his remarks against the judiciary in a written statement filed in response to a Rs 100-crore defamation suit. Dhoni had moved the court in 2014 against the former police officer for naming him in the Indian Premier League (IPL) betting scam.

In its order, the high court had said Kumar had consciously made an attempt to scandalise and lower the authority of this court and the Supreme Court. It was established that an affidavit or pleading presented by a party before a court was an act of publication. Kumar, by his specific words, had launched an indecent attack on the judiciary, with an intention to scandalise and undermine the dignity



and majesty of this court as well as the apex court, the high court had said.

It had said when a general statement was made against the court for granting an interim order, describing the order as an abuse of the process of law, it was not a fair comment.

Similarly, accusing the Supreme Court that it failed to focus on the “rule of law” cannot be accepted as a fair expression of grievance of a party to the dispute, the bench had added.

The high court had said Kumar was a responsible police officer who had the occasion to investigate a crime.

The freedom of speech and expression cannot be extended to undermine the statutory limits contained in the Contempt of Courts Act, the court had said, adding that since maintaining the dignity of courts is one of the cardinal principles of the rule of law, any publication or public speech that results in undermining it cannot be allowed, as held by the apex

court in several precedents. The high court had said the Contempt of Courts Act was enacted to secure public respect and confidence in the judiciary as an institution.

“If persons like Sampath Kumar were allowed to shake the confidence of the public in the impartial administration of justice, it should be treated as an attack on the judiciary.”

“In the present case, we are convinced that the statements made by the respondent in the additional written statement is with an intention to scandalise this court, to lower its authority and to destroy the confidence of people in the administration of justice.”

“From the language and the context, this court has no hesitation to hold that the respondent wants to convey a message in the additional written statement that the high court as well as the Supreme Court, while passing orders, either do not follow the rule of law or pass orders which are nothing but an abuse of the process of law”, the high court had said.

## CIC displeased over EC failure to furnish reply to RTI plea

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ NEW DELHI

The Central Information Commission (CIC) has expressed “severe displeasure” over the Election Commission (EC) not furnishing a reply to an RTI plea that had asked the poll panel about the action taken on a “representation” given to it by eminent citizens, raising questions on the credibility of EVMs and VVPAT machines during elections.

Former Indian Administrative Service (IAS) officer M G Devasahayam, who was one of the signatories to the representation on the credibility of electronic voting machines (EVMs), voter-verifiable paper audit trail (VVPAT) and the vote-counting process, had filed an application with the poll panel under the Right to Information (RTI) Act, seeking details of the action taken on it. The representation was sent to the EC on May 2, 2022.

Through the RTI application filed on November 22, 2022, Devasahayam wanted to know about the persons and public authorities to whom the representation was forwarded, details of any meetings held on the issue and all relevant file notings.

The EC did not give any response to him within the mandatory 30-day period and Devasahayam's first appeal to senior officials was also not heard. He approached the CIC in the second appeal, citing the lack of response from the poll panel. When quizzed by Chief Information Commissioner Heeralal Samariya, the central public information officer of the EC failed to give a satisfactory reply on why no response was furnished to Devasahayam. “Commission, after perusal of case records and submissions made during hearing, expresses severe displeasure over the conduct of the then PIO in not having provided any reply to the RTI application within the time-frame stipulated under the RTI Act. Therefore, commission directs the then PIO through the present PIO to furnish a written explanation for the gross violation of the provisions of the RTI,” Samariya said. He said if others are also responsible for the omission, then the CPIO shall serve a copy of the order on them and ensure that the written submissions of such people are sent to the CIC. Samariya also directed the EC to provide a point-wise response to the RTI application within 30 days. Noted technical professionals and academicians, including professors from Indian institutes of technology (IITs) and Indian institutes of management (IIMs), and former civil servants, including retired IAS, IPS and IFS officers, had written to the EC posing serious questions on the credibility of EVMs and VVPAT machines.



**PUBLIC NOTICE**

This is for general public that Mr. Rahul Mathur and Smt. Mamta Mathur seeking loan from Axis Bank Ltd vide application no. 22876711 for purchase of House No. 24, Land measuring 60 Bigha 01 Biswa 12 Biswahi (60 Sq. Yards). Comprised Under Khata/Khatuni No. 4546, under Khadra Nos. 158(4-0), Killa 1 Rakba 4 Bigha 0 Biswa, Shara 321600, i.e. 00 Bigha 12 Biswahi, situated at Lucky Vihar, Village: Gulabgarh, Derabassi, Distt SAS Nagar, Mohali. The original Sale Deed dated 20/09/2012 bearing Vaska no. 9770 in favour of Sh. Rajiv Kumar S/o Sh. Vard Parkash is lost and not traceable despite best efforts and DD9 bearing LR No. 455184/2024 dated 04/04/2024 has already been lodged with Punjab Police and if Any person found the same, or in case any person having any claim, right title or interest in the above said Sale Deeds/Property in any manner shall bring the same to the notice of undersigned in writing with supporting documents/evidence within 14 days from the date of this notice, failing which such claim if any shall be considered to be void/off abandoned.

**AMIT SHARMA & Co., Ch. No. 270, Dist Court Panchkula, Haryana, Mob No. 9216097146 and 8708484855**

**PUBLIC NOTICE**

**Subject** Transfer of Property ownership in respect of SHOP No 259 Area Auto market Sirsa measuring size 60 Sq yd situated at Auto Market Sirsa, bearing in respect of 100% share upon the intestate death of **Mahinder Kumar S/o Sh Kishor Lal**. Mahinder Kumar who was the owner of the subject ciled property to the extent of 100% as per record has expired and has no registered or un-registered WILL.

**Lilavati Widow, Santosh daughter, Manju Devi daughter, Suresh Kumar son and Sanjay Kumar son** Late Sh. Mahinder Kumar **resident of Kirti Nagar Sirsa** intends to apply for the transfer of said property in their favour being the legal heir

If any person is having objection against the transfer of the said property, he/she can submit objection in writing to the Secretary EO, MC Sirsa along with sup. poss. docs within 30 days from the date of publication of this notice. Other-wise the EO, MC Sirsa may sanction transfer of the property as per MC policy and may not entertain subsequent claim if any.

**Sanjay Kumar S/o Sh. Mahinder Kumar Kirti Nagar Sirsa**

**कार्यालय नगर परिषद सिरसा**

कार्यालय के प्रोसीडर डेस्क रिजॉर्ड अन्वय प्रक्री अर्बुद की SRS/007/1160 यादु हखम डेस्क नंवर 3RV1C118 जो कि श्रीमती कुम्या देवी पत्नी श्री दिनेश कुमार निवासी सिरसा के नाम दर्ज है। यह है कि श्रीमती कुम्या देवी पत्नी श्री दिनेश कुमार का खर्चवारा दिनांक 12/12/2022 को हो चुका है। मेरे पिता श्री दिनेश कुमार का खर्चवारा भी कोई अन्वय पहले हो चुका है। यह है कि इनके खर्चवारा के उपरांत रिजॉर्ड हकसिलियर एज. आर. एच. सिरसा के अनुसार 1-पर्स सोनी पुत्र 2-श्रीमति देशी पुत्री श्रीमती कुम्या देवी पत्नी श्री दिनेश कुमार निवासी सिरसा हर दो सम्पत्ता निगल सिरसा के नाम प्रोसीडर डेस्क रिजॉर्ड में दर्ज करके हो अनुपलब्ध है।

सूचित किया जाता है कि यदि प्रोसीडर अर्बुद की SRS/007/1160 यादु हखम डेस्क नंवर 3RV1C118 में इस नाम तब्दीली पर किसी आम व खास को कोई एतराज हो तो वह वह डेस्क प्रकाशन के 30 दिन के अंदर अंदर इस कार्यालय में हजिर अस्तलान व ककालन अपना खर्च प्रक्री अन्वय वाक्य पुनरे निगल उपरोक्त यूनिट मुलाकिक प्रस्तुत दस्तखती को आधार मुलाकिक के वाकालन के नाम केवल प्रोसीडर डेस्क वक्ली हो तब्दीली कर दिया जावे। इसमें नगर परिषद सिरसा की कोई जिम्मेवारी नहीं होती। बिहित हो।

कार्यालय अधिकारी नगरपरिषद सिरसा

**Lost & Found**

I, Satyapal W/o Sandeep Kumar, R/o House No. 2226, Sant Nagar, Sector-6, Behind Shigla Palace, Panipat, declare that my original allotment letter, memo no. 7206 dated 20.10.2013 and original conveyance deed no. 4978 dated 18-10-2017 which is dated 15.09.2023 which has been missing somewhere in Sant Nagar, Behind Shigla Palace, Panipat. Whose missing report is reference no. 132340762400216. If anyone finds it please contact the address mentioned above.

**PUBLIC NOTICE**

I, Saroj Bala W/o Sh. Rajender Singh R/o D/75, Bansad Vihar, Narwana, Distt. Jind, inform that original Sale Deed No. 3242/ 08.08.01 of SCO No. 1, Basant Vihar, Narwana (62.25 Sq.Yard) has been lost somewhere in Narwana. A DDR No. 132300282400408 has been lodged on 25.03.2024. If anybody has objection in this regard, please contact me at my Mob No. 9416664690 within 15 days of publication of this advt.

**आवश्यक सूचना**

नगर परिषद गोवाल के प्रोसीडर डेस्क रिजॉर्ड के अनुसार बचनमा में PU/D No. 34924030 नंवर नं. ... पर की ना पुत्र ना के नाम पर दर्ज है। अब इस प्रोसीडर पर अपना नाम पर दर्ज करने के लिए मुलाकिक निवासी वार्ड नं. ... गोवाल निगल सोनी पुत्र, नं. 7988899518 में इस ककालन में अपना अतिरिक्त पुत्र ख. श्री सोनाराम पुत्र मोती राम को मूल्य अमान पर व तब्दीली गोवाल द्वारा तब्दीली/ककालन प्रकालन रिजॉर्ड तथा अन्वय अन्वयक तब्दीली करके प्रस्तुत किया है। अब आम व खास को कोई एतराज हो तो वह सूचित किया जाता है कि यदि यह प्रोसीडर अर्बुद पर उपरोक्त अन्वयक/अन्वयको का नाम दर्ज करने पर कोई एतराज/अतिरिक्त हो, तो वह इस डेस्क प्रकाशन के 30 दिन के अंदर अंदर नगरपरिषद कार्यालय गोवाल में अपना एतराज/अतिरिक्त या दस्तखती सक्ती खीट प्रस्तुत करें अन्वय डेस्क अन्वय मुलुने के बाद PU/D No. 34924030 पर उपरोक्त अन्वयकी नं. ... नंवर 2, बचनमा 3, हन्ने नं. ... नेहा पुत्री सोनीराम का नाम दर्ज कर दिया जावे। निगल उपरान्त नगर परिषद गोवाल की किसी प्रक्री को कोई जिम्मेवारी नहीं होती।

कार्यालय अधिकारी/सचिव नगर परिषद, गोवाल।

**Public Notice**

The General Public is hereby informed that the 1. Original Sale Deed No 3288 dated 27.12.2012 Registered in the office of Joint Sub Registrar /Tehsil Elnabad, executed between Sukhvirinder Singh (Venditor) and Madan Lal So Sawarna Ram, Vijay So Madan Lal, Prashad So Ramchand Narandi relating to property consisting of Residential plot bearing 1/L Um-07/sarsai being 1871/1440 share of 8K-0M comprised in khewat/khatoni no. 645/684, sqm 248 Killa no 218-0 Unit. A property lost report bearing No. 1323683012400398 has been registered with Police Station City Elnabad, Distt Sirsa. Now Dhilal Jhorar son of Krishan Kumar Jhorar, the present owners of the said property became owner of the property vide Sale Deed Deed No. 1059 dated 20-06-2022 registered in the office of Joint Sub Registrar /Tehsil Elnabad inter alia consent mortgage of the said property with Punjab National Bank, Elnabad. If any person finds the original Sale Deed No. 3288 dated 27-12-2012 Registered in the office of Joint Sub Registrar /Tehsil Elnabad. In future, the same be handed over to Punjab National Bank, Elnabad. However, any misdeed done by any person will make him/her liable for criminal action. Further, any person claiming any right, title or interest over the property or otherwise having any objection can make representation to the undersigned within 7 days of the date of publication of this notice.

**Branch Manager, Punjab National Bank Elnabad 7587645442**

**PUBLIC NOTICE**

I, Sandeep Malhotra S/o Sh. Dharampal Malhotra R/o No. 5106, Indira Colony, Sonpat declares that my grandfather Sh. Alam Deo alias Aama Ram S/o Sh. Tullu Ram passed away on 30.05.1987 and his wife Smt. Sevi Bai passed away on 03.05.2015 and the mother of the deceased Alam Dev, Smt. Jamma Devi, had died a long time before the death of Alam Dev. The heirs of deceased Alam Dev are four sons: 1. Dharampal Malhotra, 2. Chandrabhan Malhotra, 3. Raj Kumar Malhotra, 4. Jagdish Malhotra and a daughter Urmila Arora. There is no other heir. Dharampal Malhotra died on 08.12.1981. His legal heirs are Sheela Malhotra (Wife) and three sons: 1. Sandeep Malhotra, 2. Yogesh Malhotra, 3. Neeraj Malhotra. There is no other heir of him. Chandrabhan Malhotra died on 24.08.2021. His legal heirs are Veena Malhotra (Wife) and three daughters: 1. Shilpa Raj, 2. Shweta Nagpal, 3. Priyanka. There is no other heir of him. Raj Kumar Malhotra died on 20.05.2021. His legal heirs are Raj Kumar (Wife) and two daughters: 1. Pragati Malhotra, 2. Mukta Arya. There is no other heir of him. Jagdish Malhotra died on 22.05.2008 and his wife Anita died on 16.11.2022. Parag Malhotra is the only son of deceased Jagdish Malhotra. There is no other heir of him.

**PUBLIC NOTICE**

This is to inform the General Public that Richa Sharma W/o Rajnish Kumar, R/o 39, Kamla Devi Avenue, Fatehgarh Churian Road, Amritsar is the owner in possession of property measuring 277.1 sq yards, bearing Khadra no. 92/24/1, situated at Nangal, near the old Sale Deed dated 08-10-2012, vide Vaska no. 13583. Book no. 1, Volume no. 5119, Page no. 5354. That the original SPA for the said property dated 03-05-2006, vide Vaska no. 1322, Book no. 4, Volume no. 934, Page no. 1011, for 277.1 sq yards, executed by Ashok Kumar and Anil Chaur through GPA Kuldeep Singh and Kanwaljit Kaur in favor of Gurgurpat Singh, has been lost on 09-01-2024, regarding which DDR no. 027 dated 26-03-2024 has been recorded at PS Ranjit Avenue, Amritsar. Now, Richa Sharma has applied for loan on the said property and if anyone has objection regarding the loss of the said SPA, can raise objection within 7 days at the District Courts Amritsar, Gurgurpat Singh, Panjab, Advocate on behalf of Union Bank of India Sd/- Richa Sharma W/o Rajnish Kumar

**COURT NOTICE**  
(U/o 5 Rule 20 CPC)

IN THE COURT OF **Ms. Aarti Sharma Civil Judge (Junior Division), Mukerian**

Paramjit Singh S/o Malkiat Singh R/o Village Nansota, Tehsil Mukerian, District Hoshiarpur.

**Vs.**

Champa Devi widow of Puran Chand R/o village Nansota, Tehsil Mukerian, District Hoshiarpur and others.

CNR No.:PBHOC0-000385-2023  
Next Date: -24-04-2024

Suit for permanent injunction

**PUBLICATION ISSUED TO:-** 3. Naven Kumar son of Puran Chand Resident of Village Nansota, Tehsil Mukerian, District Hoshiarpur

In above tiled 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 24-04-2024 at 10:00 a.m.

For details login to <https://highcourtchd.gov.in/?trs=districtnotice&district=Hoshiarpur>

**Ms. Aarti Sharma Civil Judge (Junior Division), Mukerian**

Dated, this day of 01-04-2024

**Public Notice**

This is informed to the General Public through this publication is informed that all the properties owned by Late Om Parkash, who expired on 16.09.2016 are now being transferred to his wife Hukmi devi, if any person is having any objection against the transfer of he/she can submit the objections in writing to the Estate officer, HSVP, Karnal, along with supporting documents within 30 days from the date of publication of this notice, otherwise the Estate Officer may accord permission to transfer/re-allocation of the said property as per HSVP policy and may not entertain subsequent claim, if any.

**सार्वजनिक सूचना**

इस नोटिस के माध्यम से सर्व सार्वजनिक को सूचित किया जाता है कि तनार परिषद के कुकर रिजॉर्ड में प्रक्री अर्बुद MCF/B/19/0264 केीत नगर श्रीवती हखमदी w/o श्री परतलकर के नाम दर्ज है। अन्वय डेस्क 18.02.2022 को हो चुका है। अन्वय रिजॉर्ड डेस्क के अनुसार अन्वय नौत के बाद अन्वय प्रक्री का ककालन वाकिस नै तब्दीली रज हू के अन्वय कोई अन्वय अरिस ना है। अन्वय किसी को इससे संबंधित कोई एतराज है तो वे इस नोटिस के प्रकालन के 30 दिन के अंदर तनार परिषद कार्यालय नै दर्ज कर्वा रहवत है।

**रायशकर गोविंद राम**

**THE BATALA COOP. SUGAR MILLS LTD., BATALA DISTT. GURDASPUR (PUNJAB)**

**BCSM/Molasses/2023-24**  
**E-Tender Notice for Sale of Molasses**

Online tenders are invited for sale of Molasses of 2,00,000 Qtls which is lying at all CSM of the State of Punjab. E-Bids will be opened on 03.05.2024 at 02.00 PM. in the presence of bidders who wish to be present.

The Earnest Money is @ Rs. 50.00 per quintals. The details for submission of e-bids will be available on the e-tender portal <http://eproc.punjab.gov.in>. The Batala Coop. Sugar Mills Ltd., Batala reserves the right to cancel any or all the e-Bids without assigning any reason.

For participation in the above e-tendering process, the bidders shall have to get themselves registered with the website <http://eproc.punjab.gov.in> and get user ID, Password, Class-2 or Class-3 digital Signature is mandatory to participate in the e-tendering process. For any clarification or difficulty regarding e-tendering process, please contact us on 98885-12169, 98966-22017 and 94650-92961.

In this regard any corrigendum, correction, appendix, time extension/postponement if any, will be uploaded on <http://eproc.punjab.gov.in>. All tenderers are requested to go through the said website on regular basis.

**General Manager CSM Batala**

**सार्वजनिक सूचना**

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**रायशकर गोविंद राम**

**सार्वजनिक सूचना**

मैं, अमित आचार्य, नं. 412554163293 पुरा पल्ड श्री राजेंद्र कुमार निवासी नं. 296, ओल्ड सक्की मंडी, पड़वार राखाम गोलाना, हिसार (हर्द) प्थात करत हू कि मेरे दादा जी आखिरका जी दसह पुत्र भोजा राम की तिथि 11.02.2013 व मेरी माता जी सुख कुरारी की तिथि 4.10.2015 को मृत्यु हो चुकी है मेरे माता पिता की कानूनी वारिस है। पुत्रा पुत्र, 2 अन्य पुत्र, 2 करारिया पुत्र, 8 हस्तत पुत्र, 5 अतिरिक्त पुत्र है। इनके अश्लवा मेरे माता पिता के और कोई अन्य वारसा नहीं है। यदि कोई वार्ता तो इसका मैं स्वयं जिम्मेवार हू। मेरे दादा जी व माता जी के नाम एक मं. 296 पड़वार राखाम गोलाना, हिसार में है जिसकी प्रक्री ID-1022UN9 है, अर्थात्काम मं. 296 का हाकम डेस्क नगर निगम के रिजॉर्ड में इस पार्क में दर्ज रहने में नाम ककालना चाहते हैं। अतः इस वार्ता किसी को कोई एतराज है तो 30 दिन के अन्दर 2 नाम निगल कार्यालय में प्रक्री अर्बुद अन्वय नगर निगम की किसी वार्ता जिम्मेवार नही होगी।

**कुतुब सचिव, नगर निगम, हिसार**

**सार्वजनिक सूचना**

नगर निगम, सोनीपत की सार्वजनिक शाखा के रिजॉर्ड अनुसार प्रोसीडर अर्बुद की नं. 1, JNUW/003 जोकि एतराज कोलेती, वार्ड नं. 10 में निवत है। सार्वजनिक खेद अनुसार सार्वजनिक निगल में ककालना का नाम दर्शन लाल दर्ज है। किसी की सार्वजनिक शाखा का नाम दर्ज न होने/ नाम गलत दर्ज होने/ मृत्यु दिनांक 18-10-2021 उपरान्त आधिकार शाखा प्रस्तुत की गई प्रोसीडर अर्बुद की नं. नाम तब्दीली व नाम दर्ज करने/अधिकार दूसरी की करारि रिजॉर्ड नं. 3334 दिनांक 03/10/1989 अनुसार प्रस्तुत किए गए है। जिसके अनुसार यदि किसी की व्यक्ति को इस वार्ता में संबंधित कोई अपुत्रि 20 से ज्यादा को अर्बुद इंडिक राष्ट्रीय सम्पत्ता पर व विज्ञापन की तिथि के 30 दिन के अंदर-अंदर लिखित रूप में नगर निगम को सार्वजनिक शाखा में आपुत्रि दर्ज करवाए अन्वया सार्वजनिक शाखा में प्रस्तुत किया गए दस्तावेजों के अनुसार पदना देवी (पत्नी), संजय कुमार (पुत्र), गुलाब सिंह (पुत्र), परन (पुत्र), सन्ना (पुत्री), सीमा देवी (पुत्री) ख. श्री रोशन लाल नाम दर्ज कर दिया जावेगा। जिसके लिए नगर निगम कार्यालय जिम्मेवार नही होगा।

क्षेत्रीय करणान बडिचारी, नगर निगम, सोनीपत

**सार्वजनिक सूचना**

सर्व सार्वजनिक को सूचित किया जाता है कि तनार परिषद, रोहताक की एक वक्श के सार्वजनिक के रिजॉर्ड में नई प्रोसीडर अर्बुद की नं. 1HGWL309 पुरानी प्रोसीडर अर्बुद की नं. NA नई व/यादु वार्ड कोलेती, पुरानी एल.जी.डी. रिजॉर्ड नं. NA व सर्व के अनुसार वाक लाज जी है। रिजॉर्ड नै ककालन वाक सीता कुमर नान से दर्ज है। अब तनार परिषद के रिजॉर्ड नै इस अर्बुद की नं. ती जार्जी निगलान नान सीता कुमर, रसुल एज आता के द्वारा तब्दीली/वक्शाल के आभार एज अन्वय नान तब्दीली ककालन चाहते हैं जिसकी वार्ता रिजॉर्ड अर्बुद की नं. 1HGWL309 पुरानी प्रोसीडर अर्बुद की नं. NA नई व/यादु वार्ड कोलेती, पुरानी एल.जी.डी. रिजॉर्ड नं. NA व सर्व के अनुसार वाक लाज जी है। रिजॉर्ड नै ककालन वाक सीता कुमर नान से दर्ज है। अब तनार परिषद के रिजॉर्ड नै इस अर्बुद की नं. ती जार्जी निगलान नान सीता कुमर, रसुल एज आता के द्वारा तब्दीली/वक्शाल के आभार एज अन्वय नान तब्दीली ककालन चाहते हैं जिसकी वार्ता रिजॉर्ड अर्बुद की नं. 1HGWL309 पुरानी प्रोसीडर अर्बुद की नं. NA नई व/यादु वार्ड कोलेती, पुरानी एल.जी.डी. रिजॉर्ड नं. 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FIRST COLUMN


THE SPIRITUAL POWER OF NAVRATRAS



ASHWINI GURUJII

Navratras encapsulate a profound spiritual journey of detoxification and realignment


Navratras come twice a year and mark the transition in seasons, winter-summer and summer-winter. According to Ayurveda, during this time, one should consume nourishing foods in minimal quantities to rid the body of the toxins collected during the rains. The nine nights and ten days of Navratri hold within them the energy of ten forms of shakti— shailaputri, brahmachari, Chandrakanta, kushmanda, skandmata, Katyayani, kaalratri, mahagauri, siddhidatri and paratha thus each Navratri has a specific purpose. In the Navratri weather changes, ie, various energies of this creation move from imbalance towards new normalcy, including our body. In these nine days, the prana shakti inside our body undergoes a process of re-alignment, ie from imbalance to new balance for the new season. For this re-aligning the body has to be kept light. Therefore our ancients prescribed fasting or upvaas in these nine days. Upavaas has a much greater connotation than what it is generally misunderstood as — mere holding back from eating certain foods. At Dhyani Ashram, sadhaks observe Upavaas in their authentic sense, that is, giving up pleasure to observe austerities during sadhana. This is done by celebrating, eating food for energy, not sensual pleasure, following a niyam of the sadhana your Guru has given you — a mantra, dhyani or a tantric practice where senses are kept under strict control and the focus is your ishta deva and all your thoughts and actions during those days are devoted to the ishta-deva. Charity and service are an intrinsic part of such sadhnas.



Apart from fasting, there are certain mantras also which are chanted on these days for a complete body detox. For the beginner, these nine days may be divided into 3 parts of 3 days each for the three parts of the body — the region below the navel, between the navel and shoulders and the upper head region, corresponding to the energies of the goddess Saraswati, goddess Lakshmi and goddess Durga respectively. The 9 devis originate from these 3 devis which in turn have their origin in Adi Shakti. These 3 parts are further divided into 3 parts each, thus the body is divided into 9 parts in all. In the first 3 days, the sadhak stops having spicy food and performs a havan at the morning and evening sandhya with the chants invoking ma durga. The offering of kala til along with ghrith is made and desi cows up and palash samadhi is used. In the next three days, sadhak stops intake of anna and only light foods are ingested to keep the body light. Havan for Ma Lakshmi is done at the two sandhya by making an offering of a sweet along with ghrith. In the last three days, the sadhak only consumes water and juice (not even milk as it is considered an animal product) and havan for Ma Saraswati is performed at the two sandhyas by making offerings of ghrith and guggal. On the 10th day, a complete fast is kept and once more Ma Durga or Ma Kali is invoked as on this day Ravan had invoked Ma Kali and Ram had invoked Ma Durga. This process brings about the required re-alignment. After this, the sadhak performs his sadhana and chants a specific mantra as prescribed by his/her Guru. With yog sadhana, all the energies that are invoked come to the sadhak. Navratras are days to prepare your body to accept the new energies of the coming season. For 9 days you re-align your body and after that on the 10th day accept new energies. Most people lighten their bodies by fasting for 9 days, only to make it heavy on the 10th day by crowding to restaurants and liquor shops. It is something like you clean your room and after that, you bring all the garbage back to the room. Fasting or any such technique will bear fruits only if carried out with a sense of detachment, for evolution. Therefore it is of utmost importance to observe fasts in tandem with yogic practices such as the Sanatan Kriya to reap maximum benefits.

*(The writer is a spiritual teacher; views are personal)*

Battle lines drawn in western UP




SIDHARTH MISHRA

As the battle intensifies, the BJP faces the formidable challenge of safeguarding its Hindu vote bank amidst the evolving electoral dynamics

A very unique, a kind of first time, battle is being fought in politically significant 16 Lok Sabha seats of western Uttar Pradesh, which votes in the first phase on April 19 or the second phase on April 26. Prime Minister Narendra Modi's whirlwind tour of the region is largely to counter the not so visible division in the Hindu votes. While the attack has been more direct on the Congress (its manifesto to be more specific) but an eye has also been kept on the moves of the BSP. This part of the state has two dominant communities — the Jats and the Muslims. The two together formed the part of former Prime Minister Chowdhary Charan Singh's electoral calculus. The Dalits, specially the Jatavs, numerically have the third largest presence. Charan Singh last contested a Lok Sabha polls in 1984 and managed to hold ground despite the Rajiv Gandhi juggernaut passing through the country. The Jat leader did not live very long after the polls and his traditional seat came to his son Chowdhary Ajit Singh in 1989. Here started the story of the shrinking of the fortunes of the Charan Singh Kisan politics. Ajit Singh in 1989 committed the grievous error of challenging his father's close lieutenant, Mulayam Singh Yadav's claim to the Chief Minister's chair of Uttar Pradesh. Mulayam Singh enjoyed backing of party veterans like Chowdhary Devi Lal and then Young Turks like Lalu Prasad Yadav and Nitish Kumar. Ajit lost and herein started the erosion in political stature of Charan Singh's family. Mulayam Singh in the 1990s, pushed a combination of the Muslims and non-Jat landholding agricultural communities like the Yadavs, Tyagis and to an extent the Gujjars under the umbrella of Samajwadi Party. This decade also saw rise of Dalit icon Kanshi Ram and Mayawati and their Bahujan Samaj Party. Mulayam Singh initially sought an alliance with them to add large numbers of Jatavs to counter the Jat dominance, it, however, ended in a bitter dispute as Mayawati decided to piggy ride on the BJP support to become chief minister. So by the turn of the millennium west UP had three major political forces Samajwadi Party, BSP and the BJP, correspondingly shrinking the influence of Chowdhary Ajit Singh's Rashtriya Lok Dal and of course the Congress. Entering into the second decade of the 21st century BJP had come to create its own set of Jat leaders. With the rise in the Ram Mandir sentiments and arrival of Narendra Modi on the scene, consolidating the non-Jat, other backward classes (OBC) votes in addition to the upper castes created a Hindu vote bank which was best exemplified in the loss of Chowdhary Ajit Singh





THE REGION SAW A HUGE FARMER UNREST, WHICH WAS EXPECTED TO ADVERSELY AFFECT THE FORTUNES OF THE BJP IN THE 2022 ASSEMBLY POLLS BUT THAT DID NOT HAPPEN

and his son Jayant Chowdhary both in the 2014 and 2019 Lok Sabha elections. Since 2019 a lot of developments have taken place. The region saw a huge farmer unrest which was expected to adversely affect the fortunes of the BJP in the 2022 assembly polls but that did not happen. The coming together of Jayant Chowdhary and Mulayam Singh Yadav's son Akhilesh Yadav was not of much consequence as chief minister Yogi Adityanath held on the challenge based largely on an affirmative administration and also much improved law and order situation. This time around another interesting battle is building up. Jayant Chowdhary moving to BJP side initially looked to have solved a lot of problem for the opposition alliance, which

quickly resolved their seats arrangement issues. However since then the third factor — BSP has entered the fray. The direct fight between the ruling alliance and the opposition block has now a third element to it. The BSP's strategy in the distribution of tickets is to build its core vote bank of Jatavs by using discontentment among specific communities to its advantage and hoping that Muslims would support its candidates wherever they are in position of strength vis-a-vis the opposition alliance. How does that affect the BJP? Playing on the bruised pride of the Thakur and Tyagi communities, on being ignored by the BJP, the BSP has fielded Rajput candidates in Ghaziabad and Gautam Buddha Nagar and a Tyagi from Meerut. In

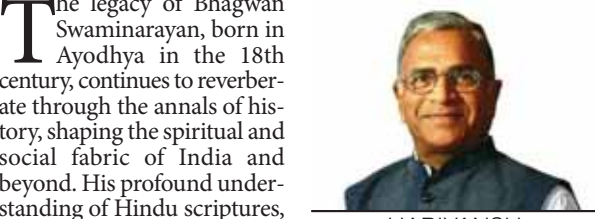
Muzaffarnagar, it has played the most backward caste (MBC) card by positioning a Prajapati candidate against BJP's sitting MP Sanjeev Balyan. MBCs have remained with the BJP since the 1990s. On such seats where there is huge presence of minority voters and where the opposition SP-Congress alliance is seen to be strong, BSP has another strategy. It has fielded Muslim candidates from seats that have Muslim population to the tune of 40 to 45 percent. The presence of these candidates have made the contests very tight. Given the scenario, the challenge for Modi-led BJP is to not let its Hindu vote bank disintegrate.

*(The writer is a political analyst and president, Centre for Reforms, Development & Justice; views are personal)*

Swaminarayan temple: The UAE's monument of harmony

This temple stands tall as a symbol of cultural integration, mutual respect and the evolving relationship between India and the UAE

The legacy of Bhagwan Swaminarayan, born in Ayodhya in the 18th century, continues to reverberate through the annals of history, shaping the spiritual and social fabric of India and beyond. His profound understanding of Hindu scriptures, coupled with a tireless seven-year pilgrimage across the length and breadth of the sub-continent, not only kindled spiritual awakening but also laid the foundation for significant social reforms. The subsequent lineage of Gurus carried forth this sacred mission, disseminating spiritual enlightenment and fostering societal progress among their devotees. It was under the sagacious guidance of Swami Shastriji Maharaj that the Bochasanwasi Shri



HARIVANSH

Akshar Purushottam Swaminarayan Sanstha (BAPS) was established in 1907, dedicated to nurturing individual growth through Hindu values of faith, service and global harmony. From its humble beginnings in the western part of Gujarat, the BAPS Sanstha has blossomed into a global phenomenon, transcending geographical boundaries and cultural divides. Its emblematic

Swaminarayan Temples, with their resplendent architecture and intricate designs, stand as timeless monuments of spiritual grandeur in various corners of the world. However, perhaps one of the most astonishing feats of this spiritual journey is the emergence of a magnificent temple amidst the unforgiving deserts of Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates (UAE). Today, this temple stands as a beacon of hope and harmony, welcoming over 60,000 visitors from diverse nationalities on peak days. The inception of the Swaminarayan Temple in the UAE can be traced back to April 5, 1997, when Holiness Pramukh Swami Maharaj prophesied the construction of a monumental Mandir in Abu Dhabi while seated atop a



dune in Sharjah. Despite initial skepticism and the formidable challenges posed by the region's social and political landscape, this prophecy manifested into reality 27 years later, with the unveiling of the largest temple in the Middle East in the Abu Mureikha area of Abu Dhabi. The journey from prophecy to fruition was fraught with obstacles, requiring unwavering

dedication and steadfast resolve from the BAPS Sanstha, as well as the timely intervention of Prime Minister Narendra Modi. In 2015, a historic meeting between Prime Minister Modi and UAE President HH Sheikh Mohammed bin Zayed al Nahyan marked a pivotal moment in the temple's trajectory. Their mutual commitment to realising Pramukh

Swami Maharaj's vision paved the way for the allocation of land for the temple in Abu Dhabi by the UAE Government. Central to the temple's narrative is the unwavering vision of HH Sheikh Mohammed bin Zayed al Nahyan, who emphasized the importance of preserving traditional architectural aesthetics. His endorsement of a traditional stone temple design in 2018 marked a significant milestone in the project's development. The temple's inauguration by Prime Minister Modi later that year, based on the approved design, served as a poignant affirmation of the enduring friendship between India and the UAE. The construction of the temple stands as a testament to the UAE's remarkable transfor-

mation from a desert country to a global powerhouse, driven by visionary leadership and unwavering determination. It symbolises the spirit of unity and cooperation that characterizes the nation's journey towards progress and prosperity. The temple's design, with its seven spires representing the seven emirates of the UAE, embodies the essence of harmony and inclusivity, reflected in the Wall of Harmony adorned with symbols from diverse cultures and nations. With meticulous attention to detail, the temple was constructed using a blend of ancient architectural principles and modern innovations. Despite the challenges posed by the scorching desert climate, innovative solutions such as nano tiles for flooring

ensured both functionality and aesthetics. The procurement of materials, including eighteen lakh bricks and seven lakh manhours of labor, underscored the monumental effort invested in realising this architectural marvel. Surrounded by artificial representations of the Ganga, Yamuna and Saraswati rivers, the temple evokes a sense of divinity and tranquility, serving as a sanctuary of peace amidst the bustling cityscape of Abu Dhabi. Its serene ambiance and awe-inspiring architecture stand as a testament to the transformative power of faith and the enduring bond between India and the UAE.

*(The writer is Deputy Chairman, Rajya Sabha; views are personal)*



# ‘US defence commitments to Japan, Philippines ironclad’

PTI ■ WASHINGTON

The United States’ commitments to the defence of Japan and the Philippines remain “ironclad,” President Joe Biden has said as he launched a new trilateral partnership in the strategic Indo-Pacific with the leaders of the two countries amid their separate territorial disputes with China. Biden’s comments came as he hosted the first-ever trilateral summit between the three countries, welcoming Filipino President Ferdinand Marcos Jr. to the White House a day after the official visit of Japanese Prime Minister Fumio Kishida. Japan and the Philippines have separate territorial disputes with China. In Tokyo’s case, the Senkaku Islands in the East China Sea and in Manila’s case areas of the South China Sea are disputed with Beijing. Biden also asserted that any attack on Philippine aircraft, vessels or its armed forces in the

South China Sea would invoke “our mutual defence treaty”. The visit to Washington by Marcos comes days after Manila accused a Chinese vessel of “highly dangerous manoeuvres” near the Second Thomas Shoal, a disputed maritime region near the Spratly Islands. The US-Japan-Philippines trilateral comes after the creation of groupings in the Indo-Pacific, starting with the Quad, comprising India, the US, Australia and Japan, and the AUKUS consisting of Australia, the US and the UK, amid increasing concerns over China’s military muscle-flexing in the region. The US president said “a great deal of history in our world will be written in the Indo-Pacific over the coming years”. “Today we commit to writing that story in the future together to build an Indo-Pacific that is free, open, prosperous and secure for all,” Biden said as he described the US, Japan and the Philippines

as “three allies, three steadfast partners and three proud democracies”. Biden said among the key areas where the countries are deepening ties are “first, technology and clean energy for securing our semiconductor supply chain”. “From securing our semiconductor supply chain to expanding trusted telecommunications in the Philippines to building a clean energy workforce, to expanding our cooperation across the entire board,” the US president said. “Second, we are deepening our maritime and security ties. I want to be clear, the United States’ defence commitments to Japan and the Philippines are ironclad. They’re ironclad. As I’ve said before, any attack on Philippine aircraft, vessels or armed forces in the South China Sea would invoke our mutual defence treaty,” he said. Biden also announced launching an economic corridor in the Philippines as part of the G-7’s partnership for global infra-

structure and investment. “This is the first corridor in the Indo-Pacific. It means more jobs for people across the entire region. It means more investment and sectors critical to our future clean energy, ports, railroads, agriculture, and much more,” he said. Japanese Prime Minister Kishida said amid the compound crisis faced by the global community, multi-layered cooperation between allies and like-minded countries is essential if they are to maintain and bolster a free and open international order based on the rule of law. “Today’s meeting will make history as an occasion that significantly pushed forward such an initiative. Japan, the US, and the Philippines are maritime nations connected by the Pacific Ocean and our natural partners. We share fundamental values and principles, and have supported regional economic development,” he said.

# Mali’s junta bans media from reporting on political activities

AP ■ BAMAKO

In a deepening crackdown, Mali’s ruling junta on Thursday banned the media from reporting on activities of political parties and associations, a day after suspending all political activities in the country until further notice. The order, issued by Mali’s high authority for communication, was distributed on social media. The notice said it applied to all forms of the media, including television, radio, online and print newspapers. Mali has experienced two coups since 2020, leading a wave of political instability that has swept across West and Central Africa in recent years. Along with its political troubles, the country is also in the grip of a worsening insurgency by militants linked to al-Qaida and the Islamic State group. The scope of the ban — or how

it would be applied in practice — was not immediately clear. It was also not known if journalists would still be allowed to report on issues such as the economy, which are closely tied to politics and who would monitor their work. The umbrella organisation that represents journalists in Mali responded with an unusually stern rebuttal. The group, known as Maison de le Press, or Press House, said it rejects the order and called on journalists to continue to report on politics in Mali. It also urged them to “stand tall, remain unified and to mobilize to defend the right of citizens to have access to information.” Mali’s national commission for human rights also expressed regret and profound concern over the decision in a statement published late Thursday. It warned the junta the decision could prove harmful. “Instead of calming the social

climate, these restrictions on fundamental rights and freedoms could potentially stir up trouble and tension, which the country does not need,” it said. The clampdown on the media followed a similar action on Wednesday, when the junta ordered the suspension of all activities by political parties until further notice, citing a need to preserve public order. The news was broadcast on state television as the population was celebrating Eid al-Fitr, the holiday marking the end of the holy month of Ramadan during which observant Muslims fast from dawn till dusk. Analysts said the move was likely a backlash against political figures, civil society and students who have expressed frustration with the junta’s failure to return the country to democratic rule as promised. “Recent weeks saw mounting pressure by political parties and figures,” Rida Lyammouri of the Policy

Center for the New South, a Morocco-based think tank, told The Associated Press. “For the first time, the public and politicians have publicly criticized junta leaders and accused them of a lack of seriousness.” Col. Assimi Goita, who took charge after a second coup in 2021, promised to return the country to democracy in early 2024. But in September, the junta cancelled elections scheduled for February 2024 indefinitely, citing the need for further technical preparations. The junta has vowed to end the insurgency that emerged in 2012 after deposing the elected government. It cut military ties with France amid growing frustration with the lack of progress after a decade of assistance, and turned to Russian contractors, mercenaries from the Wagner group, for security support instead. But analysts say the violence has only grown worse.

# US, Japan and S Korea hold drills in disputed sea

**Aboard The USS Theodore Roosevelt(AP):** A US carrier strike group led by the USS Theodore Roosevelt has held a three-day joint exercise with its allies Japan and South Korea as US President Joe Biden met for talks with leaders from Japan and the Philippines at the White House.

The duelling military and diplomatic maneuvers are meant to strengthen the partners’ solidarity in the face of China’s aggressive military actions in the region. A number of US and South Korean guided missile destroyers and a Japanese warship joined the April 10-12 drill in the disputed East China Sea, where worries about China territorial claims are rising. The Associated Press was one of several news organizations allowed a front-row look at the drills.

Rear Adm. Christopher Alexander, commander of Carrier Strike Group Nine, said the three nations conducted undersea warfare exercises, maritime interdiction operations, search and rescue drills and work focused on communication and data sharing. He told journalists Thursday on the Roosevelt that these drills would help improve communication among the United States and its allies and “better prepare us for a crisis in the region.” F/A-18E Super Hornet combat jets took off from the carrier’s flight deck, which also had anti-submarine MH-60R Seahawk helicopters. Journalists were flown more than an hour from Kadena Air Base, the hub of US Pacific air power. Kadena is on Japan’s southern island of Okinawa, which is home to about half of the 50,000 American troops stationed in Japan. “It is a busy time; there is a lot going on in the world,” Alexander said. “The significance of this exercise is we have three like-minded countries, three like-minded navies that believe in peace, security and stability in the western Pacific.” The participation of Japan and South Korea was another sign of improving ties between

the sometimes wary neighbours. The two US allies’ relationship has often been strained by the memory of Japan’s half-century colonization of the Korean Peninsula. Washington has been pressing them to cooperate so the three partners can better deal with threats from China and North Korea. This week’s huge parliamentary election defeat of the governing party of South Korean President Yoon Suk Yeol, who has sought better relations with Japan, could constrain his Japan-friendly efforts, but experts believe ties will remain stable. The latest naval exercise is part of Biden’s work to deepen security and diplomatic engagement with Indo-Pacific nations. Biden invited Japanese Prime Minister Fumio Kishida and Philippine President Ferdinand Marcos to the White House for their first trilateral talks Thursday, and has declared that the US defence commitment to the Pacific allies is “ironclad.” Tensions between China and the Philippines have risen over repeated clashes by the two nations’ coast guard vessels in the disputed South China Sea. Chinese coast guard ships also regularly approach disputed Japanese-controlled East China Sea islands near Taiwan. Beijing has defended its operations in the South China Sea and blamed the United States for creating tensions. China’s President Xi Jinping had a series of talks this week with senior officials from Vietnam, Russia and Taiwan. The US-Japan-South Korea naval exercises follow four-way drills held in the South China Sea, where Japan joined the United States, Australia and the Philippines. Participants carefully avoided mentioning China and said they were holding the exercises to safeguard a peaceful and stable Indo-Pacific. An area of long-simmering disputes, the South China Sea serves a key sea lane for global trade. Concerned governments include Vietnam, Malaysia, Indonesia, Brunei and Taiwan. (AP)

# Indian mission in Israel issues travel advisory

AP ■ WARSAW/ TEL AVIV

The Indian embassy in Israel on Friday issued an advisory for its nationals in the country, urging them to avoid unnecessary travel, amid fears of a retaliatory attack by Iran. The advisory came soon after the Ministry of External Affairs on Friday asked its citizens not to travel to Iran or Israel amid escalating tensions between the two countries following a strike on the Iranian consulate in Syria days ago. “In view of the prevailing security situation in the region, all Indian nationals in Israel are advised to avoid unnecessary travel, remain calm and follow safety guidelines issued by the local authorities,” an ‘important advisory’ released by the embassy on its social media handles said. “The embassy remains in touch with the Israeli authorities to ensure the safety of all our nationals,” it said. The mission has also asked all its nationals who are not yet registered with it to do so at a given link. The United States has also issued similar advisory to its



Women protest against Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's government and call for the release of hostages held in the Gaza Strip by the Hamas militant group in Tel Aviv, Israel, Thursday.

nationals telling them to restrict their movement and follow guidelines. Iran has blamed Israel for an attack on its diplomatic building in Damascus on April 1 in which two of its prominent

commanders were killed among others. Iran has vowed revenge to avenge the attack. The threat has led to worldwide diplomatic initiatives to thwart a possible further conflagration

in the region already struggling with Israel’s offensive in Gaza following a terror attack carried out by Hamas in its territory on October 7, and also regular exchange of fire between the Jewish state and Lebanese Shiite faction Hezbollah, which joined the war in solidarity with Hamas. Houthis, considered Iran’s proxy in Yemen, and other factions seen as close to Tehran have also from time to time carried out attacks against Israel and at assets of countries that seem to be supportive of the Jewish state, disrupting international waters and global trade routes. Poland’s government said on Friday the killing of a Polish aid worker by Israeli airstrikes in Gaza was “murder” and demands support from Israel in its own investigation and for the case to be brought before an independent court in Israel. Poland’s deputy foreign minister, Wladyslaw Teofil Bartoszewski, was addressing lawmakers in parliament on the April 1 death of Damian Sobol, 35, and six other workers of the World Central Kitchen charity, who were bringing food

to the needy in Gaza. He called the killings “shocking and disturbing” and said Poland expects Israel’s “full cooperation” in the murder investigation opened by Polish prosecutors in Przemysl, Sobol’s hometown. In the debate in parliament, many lawmakers said the killings should be considered a war crime. Bartoszewski said Poland was working with other countries whose citizens were killed in the shelling — Australia, Britain, Canada and the United States — to jointly press for a detailed investigation into how cars marked as humanitarian convoy could have become targets of repeated shelling by the Israeli army. He stressed that all international rule of defense were violated by that attack. He said that the dismissals and disciplinary measures applied to the officers responsible for the killings were “inadequate” and demanded that the case be tried by an independent court in Israel. He stressed that Poland is also demanding compensation to Sobol’s family. Sobol’s body has been brought to Poland, Bartoszewski said.

# Hindu temple demolished in Pak’s Khyber district

**Peshawar (PTI):** A historical Hindu temple near the Pakistan-Afghanistan border has been demolished and construction for a commercial complex has started at the site in the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa province that was closed since 1947 when the original occupants migrated to India. The ‘Khyber Temple’ was situated in the border town of Landi Kotal Bazaar in the Khyber district but had been vanishing brick by brick over the years. The construction at the site started about 10-15 days ago. Officials from various administrative departments either denied they were aware of the existence of the Hindu temple or claimed the construction was happening according to the rules. Tribal journalist Ibrahim Shinwari, said: “The temple was located in the centre of the Landi Kotal bazaar, which was closed in 1947 after the local Hindu families migrated to India.

# Indian-origin victim of UK’s Post Office scandal rejects apology

AP ■ WAJIMAA

An Indian-origin former manager of a Post Office in England wrongly jailed while pregnant has rejected the apology of a former boss of the government-owned entity during an ongoing public inquiry into the accounting scandal. Seema Misra, now 47, had her conviction quashed in April 2021 as the Court of Appeal ruled that she had been wrongly imprisoned over 12 years ago after being accused of stealing GBP 75,000 from her Post Office branch in Surrey where she was the sub-postmistress. During Thursday’s hearings for the Post Office Horizon IT inquiry in London, former Post Office Managing Director David Smith apologised for a congratulatory email he sent after Misra’s conviction. “It was intended to be a congratulatory email to the team, knowing that they had worked hard on the case,” Smith said in

his written evidence to the inquiry. “However, knowing what I do now, it is evident that my email would have caused Seema Misra and her family substantial distress to read and I would like to apologise for that... Even if this had been a correct conviction, I would never think that it was ‘brilliant news’ for a pregnant woman to go to prison and I am hugely apologetic that my email can be read as such,” he said. “However, seeing this email in the light of what I know now, I understand the anger and the upset that it will have caused and sincerely apologise for that,” he added. But, speaking to reporters later, Misra rejected the apology which comes many years after her ordeal. “I was eight weeks pregnant – they need to apologise to my youngest son. It was terrible. I haven’t accepted the apologies,” Misra told the BBC. “We had my conviction over-

turned, nobody came at that time to apologise. And now they just suddenly realised that when they have to appear in a public inquiry, they have to apologise,” she said. Misra was sent to Bronzefield prison in south-east England and served four-and-a-half months, later giving birth to her second son wearing an electronic tag. Smith told the inquiry that Misra had been used as a “test case” and the success of the case led to more confidence in the faulty Horizon IT accounting system. “How can they do a test on a human being? I’m a living creature. I heard that my case had been used as a test case before. But hearing it again and again, it’s just annoying. It makes me more and more angry, to be honest,” Misra told ‘Sky News’ concerning his evidence. The UK government, which formally owns Post Office Ltd, has paid out millions in compensation to hundreds of sub-

postmasters – many of them of Indian heritage – impacted by the faulty Horizon software. Earlier this year, British Prime Minister Rishi Sunak pledged action in the historic scandal which wrongly accused sub-postmasters of fraud. Last month, a new law tabled in Parliament introduced the Post Office (Horizon System) Offences Bill, a blanket exoneration to quash convictions brought about by erroneous Horizon evidence. A public inquiry in the case, underway in a phased manner, is expected to conclude in July. The controversial Horizon system, developed by the Japanese company Fujitsu, was first rolled out in 1999 to some post offices for variable tasks, including accounting and stocktaking. However, it appeared to have significant bugs, which could cause the system to misreport, sometimes involving large sums as in the case of these sub-postmasters.

# Pope will travel to Indonesia, PNG and Singapore

**Vatican City (AP):** Pope Francis will visit Indonesia, East Timor, Papua New Guinea and Singapore in September, the Vatican announced Friday, confirming the longest trip of Francis’ papacy that is sure to test his health, stamina and mobility. The Vatican confirmed the September 2-13 visit, saying the 87-year-old pope would visit Jakarta, Indonesia; Port Moresby and Vanimo, Papua New Guinea; Dili, East Timor; and Singapore. Further details will be announced later. Francis’ health has become a source of increasing concern and speculation, even though the pontiff is able to carry on with a rigorous schedule of meetings at the Vatican and even excursions to local parishes. Francis, who had part of one lung removed as a young man, had to cancel a planned visit to Dubai late last year after he came down with a bad case of bronchitis. He suffered from respiratory

problems all winter and had to curtail his participation in Holy Week events to save his energy for Easter. Francis has also been using a wheelchair for nearly two years because of bad knee ligaments, and has said that travelling has become increasingly more difficult. And yet at 11 days, the trip would be the longest of Francis’ papacy, outpacing by a few days some of his long trips to the Americas early on in his 11-year papacy. It will bring the Argentine Jesuit to the world’s most populous Muslim nation, Indonesia, as well as the former Portuguese colony of East Timor, where the Catholic Church wields enormous influence. There is also a chance of another leg to the trip being added later: This week, the Vatican foreign minister, Archbishop Paul Gallagher, was in Vietnam and discussed a papal visit, Vatican News reported, without providing details.

# Sexual assaults rise in Central African Republic

**Bangui (AP):** It was too late for the mother to shield her children when the two masked and armed Russian fighters burst into her home, held her at gunpoint and took turns raping her. Her five children were forced to watch in the dark.

Seated in a restaurant in Central African Republic’s capital, where she has since fled, she wiped away tears. Two years on, the assault has “stayed with me in my core,” she said.

The Associated Press does not identify survivors of sexual assault. She blamed the Russians who are part of the Wagner mercenary group that operates alongside Central African Republic’s army and has been accused by locals and rights groups of abuses. She

had seen them patrolling in her town of Bambari before. On the day of the assault, they were fighting rebels there. Gender-based violence is rising in Central African Republic amid ongoing conflict, weak legal and care systems and the stigma of speaking up, locals and aid groups say. Since 2020, incidents have jumped from about 9,200 reported cases to 25,500, according to cases tracked by the UN and partners. But international funding for the country has dropped, with gender-based violence receiving some of the least support. The humanitarian request for about USD 14 million received less than 15 per cent of that, according to the UN. Central African Republic has been in conflict since

2013, when predominantly Muslim rebels seized power and forced the president from office. Mostly Christian militias fought back. A 2019 peace deal only lessened the fighting, and six of the 14 armed groups that signed later left the agreement. Wagner, a UN peace-keeping mission and Rwandan troops are all on the ground to try to quell the violence. “More than 10 years on since this crisis unfolded, many people are still displaced, vulnerable and live at the mercy of armed groups,” said Lewis Mudge, Central Africa director for Human Rights Watch. A new dynamic has emerged as well whereby mercenaries aligned with the government are also, at times, preying on the local population.”

# Gang gets 122-year prison term for murdering Indian

PTI ■ LONDON

Four Indian-origin men in their 20s, who were found guilty of the murder of a 23-year-old delivery driver, also of Indian heritage, were on Friday sentenced to a total of 122 years’ imprisonment. Aurman Singh was pronounced dead at the scene when the local West Mercia Police attended reports of an attack in the Berwick Avenue area of Shrewsbury, western England, in August last year and went on to arrest four men on suspicion of murder. Arshdeep Singh, 24, Jagdeep Singh, 23, Shivdeep Singh, 27, and Manjot Singh, 24, were found guilty of murder with weapons including an axe, hockey stick and shovel. They were each sentenced to life imprisonment, with a minimum term of 28 years behind bars.



A fifth Indian-origin man, Sukhmandeep Singh, 24, believed to be the “inside man” who sent information about Aurman’s deliveries on the day he was murdered and found guilty of manslaughter was handed a 10-year sentence. “I am pleased that significant sentences have been handed to

these men for the brutal murder of Aurman Singh. These five men are dangerous individuals who will now serve a considerable sentence in prison where they cannot cause further harm to the wider public,” said Detective Chief Inspector (DCI) Mark Bellamy of West Mercia Police, who led the

murder investigation. “Aurman’s family have understandably been left shattered when he was tragically killed in a planned and brutal attack in Shrewsbury, and my thoughts and condolences remain with them. Today’s sentence should send a strong message to those who think they can come into our towns and cities to commit violent crime that we will not stop in our efforts to find them and put them before the courts,” he said. The sentencing hearing at Stafford Crown Court was presided over by Judge Kristina Montgomery, who described the case as “a very public execution,” in which Aurman had been left to die at the side of the road. It followed the five men’s conviction last month at the end of a six-week trial at the same court. Aurman’s family stated that there are no words that could

ever explain the impact the tragedy has had on their lives. The statement issued through the police reads: “Today a mother will grow old without her son. A sister will grow up without her brother. We don’t want what has happened to us to happen to another family. “It is an unbearable loss for us which has changed our lives. My daughter and myself will be living our lives for the sake of it but our happiness and the will to live is not there. “We would like to thank the police for conducting their investigation diligently and supporting us through this tough time.” West Mercia Police described it as a complex investigation, which involved forces across the country. Earlier, the police said that no evidence emerged that would clearly explain a motive behind the brutal attack on Aurman Singh throughout the trial.



# One of Ukraine’s largest power plants destroyed

AP ■ KYIV

A massive missile and drone attack destroyed one of Ukraine’s largest power plants and damaged others, officials said on Thursday, part of a renewed Russian campaign targeting energy infrastructure.

The Trypilska plant, which was the biggest energy supplier for the Kyiv, Cherkasy and Zhytomyr regions, was struck numerous times, destroying the transformer, turbines and generators and leaving the plant ablaze. As the first drone approached, workers hid in a shelter, saving their lives, said Andrii Gota, chairman of the supervisory board of the state company that runs the plant, Centreergo.

They watched the plant burn, surrounded by dense smoke and engulfed in flames. “It’s terrifying,” said Gota. Hours later, rescuers were still dismantling the rubble.

Speaking in Moscow, Russian President Vladimir Putin cast the attacks on Ukrainian energy facilities as a response to Ukrainian strikes that targeted Russian oil refineries.

The Trypilska plant supplied electricity to 3 million customers — but none lost power because the grid was able to compensate since demands are low at this time of year. Still, the consequences of the strikes could be felt in the coming months, as air conditioning use ramps up with summer. At least 10 other strikes overnight damaged energy infrastructure in Kharkiv, Ukraine’s second-largest city. Foreign Minister Dmytro Kuleba said more than 200,000 people in the region, which has been struck repeatedly, were without power.

Ukraine’s largest private energy operator, DTEK, described the slew of strikes as one of the most powerful attacks this year, while Energy Minister Herman Halushchenko told reporters it was a “large scale, enormous, missile attack that affected our energy sector very badly.” Russia has recently renewed strikes on Ukrainian energy facilities, and attacks last month blacked out large parts of the country — a level of darkness not seen since the first days of the full-scale invasion in 2022. The volume and accuracy of the attacks have alarmed the



country’s defenders and left officials scrambling for better ways to protect energy assets. The strikes have also tested Ukraine’s ability to make quick repairs. Ukraine’s leaders have pleaded

for more air defence systems to ward off such attacks, but those supplies have been slow in coming. “Today’s situation demonstrates that there’s nothing left to shoot down” the missiles, Gota said.

## Putin mocks planned Ukraine conference

AP ■ MOSCOW

Russia’s President Vladimir Putin on Thursday mocked a scheduled round of Ukraine peace talks in Switzerland, warning that Moscow will not accept any enforced plans that ignore its interests.

Switzerland’s government said Wednesday it will host a high-level international conference in June to help chart a path toward peace in Ukraine after more than two years of fighting, and expressed hope that Russia might join in the peace process someday. Putin charged that Russia hadn’t been invited to join June’s talks, while pointing at Swiss recognition that a peace process can’t happen without Russia.

“They aren’t inviting us there,” Putin said. “Moreover, they think there is nothing for us to do there, but at the same time they say that it’s impossible to decide anything without us. It would have been funny if it weren’t so sad.”

Russia has dismissed Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy’s peace formula requiring Moscow to pull back its troops, pay compensation to Ukraine and face

an international tribunal for its action.

Speaking during Thursday’s meeting with Belarusian President Alexander Lukashenko in Moscow, Putin said that Russia is open for negotiations, but will never accept “any schemes that have nothing to do with reality.”

Putin has repeatedly said that he sent troops into Ukraine in February 2022 to protect Russian interests and prevent Ukraine from posing a major security threat to Russia by joining NATO. Kyiv and its allies have denounced Russia’s military campaign as an unprovoked act of aggression. Putin has claimed that Russian forces have the upper hand after the failure of Ukraine’s counteroffensive last year, arguing that Ukraine and the West will “sooner or later” have to accept a settlement on Moscow’s terms.

Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov warned last week that prospective negotiations to end the fighting in Ukraine could be successful only if they take Moscow’s interests into account, dismissing a planned round of peace talks as a Western ruse to rally broader international support for Kyiv.

## Chinese official talks with North Korean counterpart meeting

Seoul (AP): A top Chinese official arrived in North Korea and held talks on how to boost their cooperation, North Korea’s state media reported on Friday, in the counties’ highest-level meeting in about five years.

Zhao Leji, who is chairman of China’s National People’s Congress and considered the No. 3 official in the ruling Communist Party, arrived in North Korea on Thursday. China’s government earlier said he will stay in North Korea until Saturday.

Zhao met his North Korean counterpart Choe Ryong Hae later on Thursday and discussed how to promote exchanges and cooperation on all areas such as politics, economy and culture, the North’s official Korean Central News Agency reported.

The two also exchanged views on unspecified regional and international issues of mutual concerns, KCNA said.

Zhao is one of the seven members of the Politburo Standing Committee, the Communist Party’s top leadership body headed by Chinese leader Xi Jinping.

Zhao’s visit to North Korea marked the first bilateral exchange involving a Chinese Politburo Standing Committee member since the coronavirus pandemic started. In 2019, the two countries held two summit meetings between Xi and North Korean leader Kim Jong Un.

Observers say North Korea and China are expected to hold a number of exchanges this year to mark the 75th year since they established diplomatic ties. North Korea has been seeking to boost its cooperation with China and Russia in the face of a standoff with the United States and South Korea over the North’s advancing nuclear program. China, North Korea’s biggest aid benefactor, is believed to have long provided clandestine assistance to North Korea in violation of international sanctions.

Kim travelled to Russia in September for a summit with Russian President Vladimir Putin. The US, South Korea and others accuse North Korea of supplying conventional weapons for Russia’s war in Ukraine in return for advanced weapons technologies and other support.

# Polish lawmakers vote to move forward with work on lifting abortion ban

AP ■ WARSAW

Polish lawmakers voted Friday to continue work on proposals to lift a near-total ban on abortion, a highly divisive issue in the traditionally Roman Catholic country, which has one of the most restrictive laws in Europe.

Members of the lower house of parliament, the Sejm, voted to work on four separate bills. Two of them propose legalizing abortion through the 12th week of pregnancy, in line with European norms.

One plan proposes decriminalizing assistance for a woman who terminates a pregnancy. And a fourth would keep a ban in most cases but allows abortions in cases of fetal defects — a right that was eliminated by a 2020 court ruling. The party of centrist Prime Minister

Donald Tusk is seeking to change the law to allow women to terminate pregnancies up to the 12th week of pregnancy. Abortion rights advocates said the decision to continue work on the bills, and not reject them outright, was a step in the right direction. But they also say that no real change in the law is likely to come soon.

And any liberalisation bill would likely be vetoed by President Andrzej Duda, a conservative who last month vetoed a bill making the morning-after pill, which is not an abortion pill but emergency contraception, available over-the-counter to women and girls 15 and older. Duda’s second and final term runs until the summer of 2025.

Abortion opponents are also mobilised in a country that has long considered Catholic faith

to be a bedrock of national identity but which is also in the process of fast secularisation. The Catholic church called on the faithful to make Sunday a day of prayer “in defence of conceived life”, in a statement carried by the state news agency PAP.

Currently abortions are only allowed in the cases of rape or incest or if the woman’s life or health is at risk. Reproductive rights advocates say that even in such cases, doctors and hospitals turn away women, fearing legal consequences for themselves or citing their moral objections.

According to Health Ministry statistics, only 161 abortions were performed in Polish hospitals in 2022.

The reality is that many Polish women already have abortions, often with pills mailed

from abroad. Groups that help provide the pills estimate that some 120,000 abortions are carried out each year by women living in Poland.

It is not a crime for a woman to perform her own abortion. But assisting a woman in such a case is a crime punishable by up to three years in prison. One of the four bills that passed for further work is a proposal by the Left that would decriminalise assisting a woman who has an abortion. The European Parliament adopted a resolution Thursday demanding the inclusion of the right to abortion in the European Union’s Charter of Fundamental Rights. Lawmakers called on Poland and Malta, the two countries with the toughest limitations on abortion, to lift restrictions on the issue.

## Ex-Prez Alvi advises Pakistanis to reset to change their destiny

PTI ■ ISLAMABAD

The people of Pakistan must “reset, alt-del and restart” to change their destiny, former president Arif Alvi has said, asserting that the “poor but hardworking” nation, polarised by political differences, deserves better.

Alvi, Pakistan’s president from 2018 to March 2024, took to social media platform X on Thursday to criticise the cash-strapped country’s current state of affairs.

“The argument by some that it has happened before and others have also done the same is no justification to continue on this path, as it is retrogressive thinking with no way forward,” the 74-year-old leader said. “To change our destiny is to Re-Think, Reset, Alt-Del, Clean the slate, Re-Start,” he said. “Who will do it? Who can do it? Is it even possible? I think it is, as we have the potential, and this poor but hardworking nation certainly deserves better,” the dentist-turned-politician said.

Bashing the deterioration of Pakistan’s economy, politics and judiciary, he said that there is severe stress on the country’s institutions, which are being



forced to take partisan positions. Asserting that the country’s economy needs political stability, which the International Monetary Fund (IMF), the Asian Development Bank (ADB) and other global institutions have pointed out, he said, “FDI (foreign direct investment) without local investment will also be an elusive dream.”

Alvi, who is a close aide of jailed former prime minister Imran Khan and a senior leader of the Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) party before becoming the president in 2018, said that a “total political farce is being perpetrated in the Parliament with a stolen mandate.”

Khan and his party have repeatedly said that the outcome of the February 8 general elections was rigged and that

## Russian military trainers arrive in Niger as relations deteriorate with US

Dakar (AP): State television in Niger has broadcast footage of Russian military trainers arriving in the country aboard a plane equipped with military supplies to boost its air defences amid deteriorating relations between Niger and the US. Two Russian trainers were filmed in front of the plane wearing military uniforms, caps and face coverings. The plane arrived Wednesday night, the report said, and carried military supplies to help Niger improve its air defences. “We are here to train the Nigerian army to use the military equipment that is here,” one of the Russian trainers said in French in Thursday’s broadcast. “We are here to develop military cooperation between Russia and Niger.”

Until recently, Washington considered Niger a key partner and ally in a region swept by

attempted coups in recent years. A US airbase was established as the heart of Niger’s counter insurgency operations in the sub-Saharan region known as the Sahel. Since 2012, the region has been gripped by a worsening insurgency fought by groups linked to Al Qaeda and the Islamic State group.

The US invested heavily in training Niger’s forces to beat back the insurgency that has ravaged the country and its neighbours. But last summer, some of those elite US-trained forces took part in a coup that ousted the elected president.

US relations with Niger took a further downturn last month when the junta announced on state television the flights from its airbase were illegal and that it no longer recognised the American military presence in the country.

## Uncertainty over elections could risk Sri Lanka’s economic recovery: ADB

Colombo (PTI): The “uncertainty” over the impending elections in Sri Lanka will cause a possible downward trend in the country’s economic outlook, the Asian Development Bank (ADB) has said. The island nation is set to face a presidential election in the last quarter of this year, while the parliamentary election is due mid-next year.

However, political uncertainty prevails in the country as opposition parties have pledged to reverse the current IMF-linked reforms, which have proved to be unpopular with the masses. President

Ranil Wickremesinghe, who has steered the recovery programme by going into a bailout deal with the International Monetary Fund (IMF) for a USD 2.9 billion facility, maintains that the island could once again face economic collapse if

the IMF programme reforms are not adhered to.

Outlining the economic risks Sri Lanka is facing, the ADB in its South Asian chapter’s economic trends report released yesterday said, “Among them the most important is uncertainty associated with the upcoming elections, including any possible impact on fiscal policy and reform implementation.” The ADB noted that there are signs of economic recovery in Lanka and emerging growth had revived in the second half of 2023 and is expected to continue in 2024 and 2025. “Inflation decelerated in single digits last year following a peak in 2022 and will remain below 10 per cent in 2024 and 2025. Challenges remain and the upcoming electoral cycle must not delay the reforms required to address the recent economic crisis.

## Nearly 12,000 homes flooded in Russian region bordering Kazakhstan as water levels rise

Moscow (AP): Nearly 12,000 houses have been flooded in a Russian region bordering Kazakhstan as water levels in the Ural River keep rising and threatening more deluge, authorities said on Thursday. The floods sparked evacuations of thousands in the Orenburg region, located some 1,200 kilometres (745 miles), south-east of the capital of Moscow after a dam on the river burst last week under the pressure of surging waters. Local authorities have declared a state of emergency in the region.

In a televised video conference with President Vladimir Putin, Orenburg governor Denis Pasler reported that a total of 11,972 houses are flooded, as well as 16 state medical facilities. Additionally, 3,600 houses — home to some 20,000 people — are in danger of

imminent flooding as water levels continue to rise. The situation is most dire in the city of Orenburg, the administrative capital of the region, Pasler said, where the water level in the Ural River reached a historical peak of 10.87 metres (about 36 feet). A total of 7,800 people have been evacuated from the flooded areas so far, he added. The overall damage from the floods is estimated to exceed 40 billion rubles (USD 428 million). Further east along the Kazakhstan border, authorities in the regions of Kurgan and Tyumen are also preparing for possible floods as water levels rise in local rivers. Floods have also hit Kazakhstan, where authorities have declared a state of emergency in 10 out of 17 regions of the country, according to Russia’s state news agency Tass.

# Sudan war: Children among most fragile survivors

AP ■ METCHE CAMP (CHAD)

The war in Sudan began a year ago. Here in a remote camp for tens of thousands of people who have fled into neighbouring Chad, the anniversary is marked by near starvation.

Assadig Abubaker Salih is a 42-year old mother of six. The family survived the hot, dusty journey from their home to this sprawling camp of wind-whipped blue tents stretching in rows toward the horizon.

“We are in a very bad situation. We have suffered since we left our country. My husband died,” she said. “There is nothing here. We need the essentials. We don’t even have sugar.” Back home, Sudan’s military, led by Gen Abdel Fattah Burhan, is fighting the paramilitary group known as Rapid Support Forces, commanded by Gen Mohammed Hamdan

Dagalo, for immensely greater resources — including power over the country’s more than 45 million people.

Close to 9 million people have fled their homes, according to the United Nations, and more than 1 million have left the country. Thousands have been killed in a conflict overshadowed by the ones in Gaza and Ukraine. The UN says it has asked for USD 2.7 billion in funding to respond to humanitarian needs but has received USD 155 million — or 6 per cent.

“It has been everyday Sudanese who have — often at great personal risk — stepped up to support each other,” Eatizaz Yousif, country director with the International Rescue Committee, said in a joint statement by aid groups urging the world to give more.

The UN has warned of an impending generational cata-

strophe. An estimated 3 million Sudanese children are malnourished. About 19 million children are out of school. A quarter of Sudan’s hospitals are no longer functioning. Aid organisations say women and children are bearing the worst of the conflict. Even here, across the border, resources are stretched thin after more than 570,000 Sudanese arrived over the past year. Aid workers warn they are set to run out of some supplies within weeks. Shortages of water and ways to keep clean mean a growing risk of disease. A growing number of children are arriving at the pediatric unit run by the Doctors Without Borders charity with pulmonary complications, a result of the harsh environment. The organization has also documented rising cases of hepatitis E, which can be deadly for pregnant women. “Many, many

of our babies are severely malnourished,” said Cordula Hafner, the Doctors Without Borders hospital coordinator at the camp. “The reason is hygiene, not enough food, not enough water. This is a crisis that will continue. We will see even more children like this.” More than 16,000 children younger than 5 arriving in Chad from Sudan have had severe acute malnutrition, according to the UN — a stage where the effects of hunger are clearly visible. Many people in this camp fled some of the conflict’s worst fighting in Sudan’s vast western region of Darfur. But the most desperate are trapped behind the front lines.

“We are seeing a catastrophe unfolding in North Darfur, where our teams have estimated that 13 children are dying each day of malnutrition and related health conditions at a

camp for displaced people,” Avril Benoît, executive director of Doctors Without Borders in the US, said in a statement. She urged Sudanese authorities to stop blocking aid.

Some Sudanese manage to get help in time. One mother of six, Rachid Yaya Mohammed, said she came to the hospital at this camp in Chad because she is six months pregnant. Two of her smallest children — twins — slept beside her. Conditions are expected to worsen in the coming lean season between harvests, when food reserves are depleted and rains drive up rates of malaria. Sudan plunged into chaos a year ago when clashes erupted in the capital, Khartoum, and spread.

In Darfur, brutal attacks by the Arab-dominated Rapid Support Forces on ethnic African civilians have revived memories of genocide.

Two decades ago, as many as 300,000 people were killed and 2.7 million were driven from their homes largely by government-backed Arab militias. The paramilitary Rapid Support Forces grew out of those militias known as the Janjaweed who were accused of widespread killings, rapes and other atrocities.

Now, prosecutors at the International Criminal Court say there are grounds to believe both sides in the current conflict are committing war crimes. West Darfur, especially its capital city of Geneina, has witnessed some of the worst atrocities including mass killings and rampant sexual violence against the African Masalit tribe, according to UN experts. The AP has reported that militias launched waves of attacks on Geneina and other towns, taking men away and burning their homes.

## Resolution in US Cong condemns Hinduphobia

AP ■ WASHINGTON

Celebrating the contributions of Hindus and Hinduism to the US, a prominent Indian-American Congressman has introduced a resolution in the House of Representatives condemning Hinduphobia, anti-Hindu bigotry, hate and intolerance.

The resolution that was introduced by Congressman Shri Thanedar on Wednesday has been referred to the House Committee on Oversight and Accountability.

The resolution reads that despite their positive contributions to the United States, Hindu Americans face stereotypes and disinformation about their heritage and symbols, and have been the targets of bullying in schools and on college campuses, as well as discrimination, hate speech, and bias-motivated crimes.

According to the FBI’s Hate Crimes Statistics Report, anti-Hindu hate crimes targeting mandirs and persons are annually on the rise while in parallel Hinduphobia in

American society is unfortunately rising, the resolution said. Noting that the United States has welcomed more than four million Hindus from all corners of the world since the 1900s, representing diverse racial, linguistic, and ethnic backgrounds, the resolution asserts that the country has greatly benefited from contributions by Hindu Americans in every aspect of the nation’s economy and every industry. About a fortnight ago, Indian-American Congressman Raja Krishnamoorthi, Ro Khanna, Thanedar, Ami Bera and Pramila Jayapal had written to the Department of Justice to request a briefing from them on the status of investigations concerning an alarming

increase in incidents of vandalism at houses of worship across the country including at Hindu temples to better understand existing law enforcement coordination between local agencies, the FBI, and the Civil Rights Division.

“Attacks at mandirs from New York to California have contributed to increased collective anxiety among Hindu Americans. Leaders from these impacted communities have expressed there are unfortunately “no leads” on suspects, leaving many to continue to live in fear and intimidation. Our communities remain concerned about law enforcement coordination regarding these bias-motivated crimes, and they are left wondering if there is appropriate federal oversight to ensure equal protection under the law,” said the letter dated March 29.

“The number of incidents and the closeness of the timing of incidents raise troubling questions about linkages and the intent behind them. It takes relatively few coordinated acts of hate to create fear nationally within a community that has often been marginalised or neglected, and we must work collaboratively to combat hate against all religious, ethnic, racial, and cultural minorities in America.

“We therefore request that you provide us with an understanding of what the Department’s strategy is specifically concerning hate crimes targeting Hindus in the United States,” said the letter. Khanderao Rand, Chief of Policy and Strategy from the Foundation for India and Indian Diaspora Studies said that in the first quarter of this year, there has been a sudden spike in vandalism as well as thefts in temples in America intimidating devotees.



# RBI rejects two applications for small finance bank

PTI ■ MUMBAI

The Reserve Bank of India has rejected two more applications, including that of Dvara Kshetriya Gramin Financial Services, for setting up small finance banks.

Earlier in July 2023, it had rejected three applications. RBI had received about a dozen applications to set up banks under the guidelines for ‘on tap’ Licensing of Universal Banks and Small Finance Banks (SFBs). The guidelines for ‘on tap’

licensing of Universal Banks and SFBs in the private sector were issued on August 1, 2016, and December 5, 2019, respectively. In a statement on Friday, the RBI said the examination of two more applications for setting up a small finance

bank has been completed as per the procedure laid down under extant guidelines. Based on the assessment of the applications, the central bank said it did not find applicants -- Dvara Kshetriya Gramin Financial Services Private Limited and

# Rupee falls 7 paise against US dollar

PTI ■ MUMBAI

The rupee depreciated 7 paise to close at 83.38 against the US dollar on Friday, weighed down by a massive sell-off in domestic equities and a strong greenback against major crosses overseas. Forex traders said elevated crude oil prices also dented investor sentiments. At the interbank foreign exchange market, the local unit opened at 83.36 and touched an intraday low of 83.44 against the greenback. The local unit finally settled at 83.38, registering a loss of 7 paise against its previous close.

On Wednesday, the rupee closed flat at 83.31 against the US dollar. Forex markets were closed on Thursday on account of Eid-ul-Fitr. Meanwhile, the dollar index, which gauges the greenback's strength against a basket of six currencies, was trading 0.51 per cent higher at 105.82. The US dollar rose to a five-month high on hot inflation. Headline and core inflation topped the forecast, leading to diminishing expectations of a rate cut by the US Federal Reserve in June. Hawkish FOMC meeting minutes supported the greenback. Forex traders said rising crude oil prices will have a negative impact on the rupee as it will threaten the current account dynamics of the country. Brent crude futures, the global oil benchmark, advanced 0.97 per cent to

USD 90.61 per barrel. “We expect the rupee to trade with a slight negative bias on weak global equities amid hawkish US data and surge in global crude oil prices. A positive tone in the US dollar may further pressurise the rupee.” However, FII inflows may support the rupee at lower levels. Traders may take cues from India's inflation and IIP data. Traders may also take cues from Michigan consumer sentiment and inflation expectations data from the US. USD/INR spot price is expected to trade in a range of Rs 83.10 to Rs 83.70,” said Anuj Choudhary Research Analyst, Sharekhan by BNP Paribas. On the domestic equity market front, Sensex declined 793.25 points, or 1.06 per cent, to settle at 74,244.90 points. The Nifty fell 234.40 points, or 1.03 per cent, to close at 22,519.40 points. Foreign Institutional Investors (FIIs) were net sellers in the capital markets on Friday as they sold shares worth Rs 8,027 crore, according to exchange data. “The dollar index rose to 105.35, leading to weakness in all currencies, including the rupee. Despite this, the strength of the Indian economy is expected to support the rupee. As a result, the rupee is likely to experience sideways movement with increased volatility, maintaining a range between 83.15-83.55,” said Jateen Trivedi, VP Research Analyst, - Commodity and Currency, LKP Securities.



Tally Solutions Private Limited -- suitable for granting of in-principle approval to set up a small finance bank. However, two remaining applications are still “under examination”. In May 2022, it announced the decisions on six applications. In July last year, the RBI had rejected applications of Akhil Kumar Gupta, Cosmea Financial Holdings Pvt Ltd and West End Housing Finance Ltd. As per the guidelines, the

initial minimum paid-up voting equity capital for a universal bank should be Rs 500 crore. Thereafter, the bank should have a minimum net worth of Rs 500 crore at all times. The minimum paid-up voting capital/net worth for SFBs should be Rs 200 crore. In case of urban co-operative banks desirous of voluntarily transiting into SFBs, the initial requirement of net worth is Rs 100 crore, which will have to be increased to Rs 200 crore within five years.

## Builders must file complaints against customers not paying on time: Delhi RERA Chief

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Builders should file complaints with regulatory authorities if customers do not pay due amount payable on residential or commercial properties purchased by them, Delhi-RERA Chairman Anand Kumar said. Addressing an event on the real estate sector, Kumar, who is the chairman of Real Estate Regulatory Authority, Delhi, cautioned real estate developers against falling in “trap of investors” as this could affect their cash flow and result into projects getting stalled. “There is a trap of investors, which happens,” he said, adding that there are many high net worth individuals who purchase many flats in hope of abnormal profit.



These investors pay at most 30 per cent of the total cost of the apartments and after that they stop paying their instalments, Kumar said, adding that such investors do not respond to reminders given by builders. Real estate developers are then forced to cancel the units,

which leads to disputes with customers, he said. “In case, you (builder) find any problem that somebody is not paying on time, you go to RERA first, before he comes to RERA. Because, RERA is meant not only for allottee but also for you,” Kumar told

developers. He noted that there are provisions in the RERA law where if somebody does not pay on time, builders can cancel the allotment of units and move forward. Kumar cautioned that if builders do not act against such investors, their “financial cycle will be disrupted” and there will be stalled projects. The Real Estate (Regulation and Development) Act, known as RERA, was passed by Parliament in March 2016 and the legislation came into force on May 1, 2016, with 69 of 92 sections notified. The Real Estate Regulatory Authority for the National Capital Territory of Delhi (Delhi-RERA) was established through a notification in November 2018. Kumar asked builders to comply with the provisions of the RERA law. He also spoke about the paucity of skilled and semi-skilled workforce in the real estate sector and said there is a need to provide training. “If we curb unauthorised development, then we can have 5,000 houses in the same land where we have 1,000 houses,” Kumar said, adding that unauthorised colonies are a pain point in areas like Delhi, Noida, Gurugram. Sanjay Kulshrestha, Chairman and Managing Director of HUDCO, said around 3 per cent of country's land contributes to 60 per cent of GDP and stressed on the need for real estate developers to venture to non-metro and smaller centres. Real-estate is the second largest employer after agriculture and is also one of the fastest growing sector, said Neel C Raheja, Chairman of CII National Committee on Real Estate and Housing and Group President of K Raheja Corp. “We are at the forefront of hiring people, training them and creating better livelihoods for them, he added. The real estate sector is pegged to be around 7.5 per cent of GDP, which is expected to grow to 15.5 per cent of GDP by 2047, Raheja said. In 2023, India has emerged as the office to the world, Sriram Khattar, Vice Chairman & Managing Director of DLF Rental Business, said. Khattar said the leasing of office space crossed 60 million square feet in 2023. “A milestone has been achieved. This firmly establishes the country's credentials as an office to the world,” he added.

### CHANGE OF NAME

**I Manjeet Kaur** W/O Surjit Ram R/O Village Dhanpind, Tehsil Phillaur, District Jalandhar Have Changed My Name From Manjeet Kaur To Manjit Kaur.

**I Kanwaljit Singh** S/O Hardev Singh R/O Patli Post Office Machhi Bugra (Ferozepur) Have Changed My Name From Kanwaljit Singh To Kanwaljeet Singh.

**I Rajpreet Singh** S/O Sarbjit Singh R/O H.No.-87 Vpo. Rasulpur (Mallah) Jagraon (Ludhiana) Have Changed My Name To Rajpreet Singh Sidhu.

**I Rajwinder Kaur** W/O No. 2442806 Ram Hav. Gurmell Singh R/O Bilaspur Distt. Moga Have Changed My Name To Jarnail Kaur.

**I Kulwinder Kaur** W/o Daljit Singh R/O #91 SBS Colony Rajpura Distt Patiala have changed my name to Mamta Rani.

**I Sunita Rani** W/o Gurpreet Ram R/O Vill Jansui Teh Rajpura Distt Patiala have changed my name to Mamta Rani.

**I, Surinder Pal** S/o Piara R/O Vpo. Dosanjh Kalan Teh-Phillaur (Jalandhar) have changed my name Surinder. and now Pal is my surname.

**I, Mandeep Kaur** W/o Ravinder Singh R/O Vpo. Dosanjh Kalan Teh-Phillaur (Jalandhar) have changed my name Mandeep. And now Kaur is my surname.

**I, Jagtar Singh** S/o Darshan Singh R/o Chuchak Wind (Ferozepur) have changed my name to Jagtar Singh Hundal.

**I, Jagtar Singh** Hundal S/o Darshan Singh R/o Chuchak Wind (Ferozepur) have changed my minor son name from Karanbeer Singh Hundal to Karanveer Singh Hundal.

**I, Sandeep Kaur** Dhillon D/o Darshan Singh R/o Vpo. Jalaldiwal Teh-Raikot (Ludhiana) have changed my name from Sandeep Kaur Dhillon to Sandeep Kaur.

**I, Pankaj Kumar** Chananna S/o Binder Kumar R/o Raikot (Ludhiana) have changed my name to Pankaj Kumar.

**I, Jasbir Singh** Bhatoo S/o Charan Singh R/o Bassian (Ludhiana) have changed my name to Jasvir Singh.

**I, Amritpal Kaur** Dhalialwal W/o Jaswant Singh Warainch, R/o Village Chung, PO Shaina, Distt. Barnala, have changed my name Amritpal Kaur.

**I, Jaswant Singh** S/o Malkit Singh R/o Village Chung, District Barnala, have changed my name Jaswant Singh Waraich.

**I, Harnaib Singh** Gill, S/o Gurdev Singh, R/o Burj Fatehgarh, District Barnala, have changed my name Harnaib Singh.

**I, Manjit Kaur** Gill W/o Gurnaib Singh, R/o Burj Fatehgarh, Distt. Barnala, have changed my name Manjeet Kaur.

**I, Sukhdev Kaur** Gill W/o Nachatar Singh Gill, R/o VPO Shaina, Distt. Barnala, have changed my name Sukhdev Kaur.

**I Kulveer Singh** Bhullar S/o Pritam Singh R/o/Vill Dhapali District Bathinda, have changed my name Kulveer Singh.

**I, Jagjit Kaur** W/o Ram Singh R/o VPO Patti Deep Singh Bhadaur Distt. Barnala, have changed my name Sandeep Kaur.

I Hitherto Known As Sunny S/o Sh. Vijay Kumar R/o Mohalla Balmiki, Mukerian, Distt. Hoshiarpur, Punjab have changed my name and shall hereafter be known as Sunny Kumar.

I Hitherto Known As Kosal Lumba S/o Sh. Devi Dass R/o W.No.7, Khulran Mohalla, Mukerian, Distt. Hoshiarpur, Punjab have changed my name and shall hereafter be known as Koshal Lumba.

**I Sukhbhinder Singh** Gill S/o Hardev Singh Vill. Jhorran (Ludhiana) have changed my name to Sukhbhinder Singh.

**I, Sarvjit Kaur** Buttar W/o Davinder Singh Buttar R/o Vill: Nathowal (Ludhiana) have changed my name to Sarvjit Kaur.

**I, Avtar** S/o Sh. Rajender Singh R/o #49 Near Khara Vill-Shahpur Po. Hamidpur Teh- Naraingarh Distt. Ambala (HR)-134203 has changed my name from Avtar to Avtar Singh.

**I, Kauri** W/o Sh. Avtar Singh R/o #49 Near Khara Vill-Shahpur Po. Hamidpur Teh-Naraingarh Distt. Ambala (HR)-134203 has changed my name from Kauri to Kaudi Devi.

**I Gusewak Singh** Sidhu S/O Iqbal Singh R/O Village Behbal Kalan District Faridkot Have Changed My Name To Gursewak Singh.

**I Viran Rani** W/O Gagandeep Singla R/O Hari Nau Road, Street No. 2, Kotkapura (Faridkot) Have Changed My Name To Veera Rani.

**I Jasveer Singh** Brar S/O Pritam Singh R/O Village Ghanie Wala (Faridkot) Have Changed My Name To Jasveer Singh.

**I Vipam Kumar** S/o Sh. Dharampal R/O VPO Damla, Tehsil Radaur, Distt Yamunanagar have changed my minor son name from Anav to Anav Kumar.

**I Sarvasv Khatter** S/o Om Parkash R/o H.No 204, First Floor, Sec 8, Urban Estate Karnal I declared that I have changed my daughter (minor) Name From Lubhani Khatter to Lubhani Khattar.

**I Ritu Bala** W/o Mohan Lal R/o #147, Karah Wala Chownk, Near Chahal Street and Distt: Patiala, Pin-147001 I have changed my name from Rittu Bala to Ritu Bala.

**I, Bhavna** @ Madhu Bala W/o Mukesh Chawla R/o Muhalla Near Jama Masjid (Malerkotla) stated that above the both names are mine, one & the same lady.

**I, Rakesh Kumar** S/o Ram Murti R/o Jagat Colony St.No.1, Khanna (Ludhiana) have changed my name to Rakesh Kumar Sharma.

**I Bhag Singh** S/o Puran Singh R/o Vill Kot Jaspat Teh & Distt Tarn Taran have changed my name to Singh Bhag.

**I, Prabsharan Kaur** Bhatia W/o Davinderjit Singh R/o 171/7 Near Kanniya School Ward No.7, Patti, District Tarn Taran, have changed my Name to Prabsharan Kaur.

**I Anand Sawroop** S/o Prem Sawroop Puri R/o Diwana Mahalla, Ward-3, Sultanpur Lodhi, PO- Sultanpur Lodhi, Dist- Kapurthala, Punjab- 144626, have changed my name to Anand Puri.

**I Joney Kumar** S/o Raj Kumar R/o 814, Basant City, Pakhowal Road, B/S Keys Hotel, Rajguru Nagar, Ludhiana, Punjab- 141012, have changed my name to Joney Arora.

**I Raj Singh** S/O Amrik Singh Resident Of Village Basti Ahme Wali, Langiana, Po Ferozepur City, Tehsil & District Ferozepur Have Changed My Name To Raj Singh Sidhu.

**I, Gurdial Singh** Kaura Son Of Kartar Singh Resident Of Village Changali Jadid, District Ferozepur Have Changed My Name To Gurdial Singh.

**I, Manjeet Kaur** Jossan Wife Of Sukhdev Singh Resident Of Village Lakha Bhedi, Mahalam District Ferozepur Have Changed My Name To Manjeet Kaur.

**I Sukhdev Singh** Jossan Son Of Sardara Singh Resident Of Village Lakha Bhedi, Mahalam District Ferozepur Have Changed My Name To Sukhdev Singh.

**I Neeraj Insa** Wife Of Parveen Kumar R/O Village Rupana District Sri Muktsar Sahib Have Changed My Name To Neeraj.

**I, Jaswinder** W/o Balkar Singh R/o VPO Dudla district Kurukshetra, have changed my name to Jasvinder Kaur.

**I, Surender Kaushik** S/O Ganga Saroop R/O Umri Road, Sector 30, Kurukshetra, have changed the name of my minor daughter from Palak to Palak Kaushik.

**I, Sukhwinder Singh** Son Of Sarabjit Singh, Residing At Village Lakhawal, Po. Kala Nangal, District Gurdaspur, Punjab-143521. Do Hereby Declare That I Have Changed My Name From Sukhwinder Singh To Singh Sukhwinder. All Nears And Dears May Note.

**I, Gurpreet Kaur** Wife Of Jagdeep Singh, Residing At Gobind Nagar, G.T. Road, Near Income Tax Office, Gurdaspur, Punjab-143521. Do Hereby Declare That I Have Changed My Name From Gurpreet Kaur To Kaur Gurpreet. All Nears And Dears May Note.

**I, No 17011556H** Rank NK Name Rajesh Kumar resident of Village Pawar, PO Naurangpur, Tehsil & Distt Pathankot (Punjab) have changed the name of my son from Rihaan to Rihaan Kundal vide Affidavit No IN-PB05528188126735W Dated 12 APR 2024 before Notary Public Pathankot (Punjab).

**I, No 4001991K** Rank Hav Name Dinesh Singh resident of Village Namala, PO Parmanand, Tehsil & Distt Pathankot (Punjab) have changed the name of my son from Suryansh to Suryansh Singh vide Affidavit No IN-PB05408102885034W Dated 12 APR 2024 before Notary Public Pathankot (Punjab).

**I, Surwase Nilesh** Shashikant resident of Village-Savargaon, Post- Nari, Tehsil-Barshi, District-Solapur, State-Maharashtra, Pin- 413404, have changed my Son name from Jay Nilesh Surwase to Jay Nilesh Surwase Vide affidavit No.IN-PB05070519907149W dated 10 April 2024 before notary public Pathankot

**I, Poonam** spouse of Surwase Nilesh Shashikant resident of Village- Savargaon, Post- Nari, Tehsil- Barshi, District- Solapur, State- Maharashtra, Pin- 413404, have changed my name from Poonam to Poonam Nilesh Surwase Vide affidavit No.IN-PB05069910245655W dated 10 April 2024 before notary public Pathankot

**I, Priyanka Tiwari** spouse of Ashutosh resident of Village- Umarsana, Post-Burhadana, Tehsil- Auraiaya, District- Auraiaya, State- Uttar Pradesh, Pin-206122, have changed my name from Priyanka Tiwari to Priyanka Vide affidavit No.IN-PB05400840627712W dated 11 April 2024 before notary public Pathankot

**I, Simol Kaur** Mother of No.4481532K Hav Bajir Singh resident of Village- Kotra Lehal, Post- Lehra Gaga, Tehsil-Lehra Gaga, District- Sangrur, State- Punjab, Pin- 148031, have changed my name & DOB from Simol Kaur to Simlo Kaur and DOB from 07 Aug 1965 to 01 Jan 1965 Vide affidavit No.IN-PB02990104915566W dated 03 April 2024 before notary public Pathankot

**I, Jalees Ahamad** resident of Near Kamar Colony Police Barial No.2 Pirbhora, District-Bareilly, State- UP, Pin- 243122, in my son Subhan Ahmad (APS MAMOON) school record my name wrongly recorded as Jalees Ahmad instead of Jalees Ahamad Vide affidavit No.IN-PB02988605151029W dated 03 April 2024 before notary public Pathankot

**I, Nilam** spouse of Jawale Gajanan Annasaheb resident of Village- Adagoan Jawale, Post- Antarwali Khandi, Tehsil-Paithan, District- Aurangabad, State- Maharashtra, Pin- 431121, have changed my name from Nilam to Nilam Gajanan Jawale Vide affidavit No.IN-PB04828860372000W 09 April 2024 before notary public Pathankot

**I, Dulal Chandra** Ghosh Father of Achintya Kumar Ghosh resident of Village-Sodepara, Post- Boinchhi, District Hoogly, State- West Bengal, Pin- 712134, have changed my DOB from 01 July 1956 to 15 Aug 1951 Vide affidavit No. AK 105332 dated 12 March 2024 before notary public Chinsurah (West Bengal)

**I, Jalees Ahamad** resident of Near Kamar Colony Police Barial No.2 Pirbhora, District-Bareilly, State- UP, Pin- 243122, in my son Arshad Ahmad (APS MAMOON) school record my name wrongly recorded as Jalees Ahmad instead of Jalees Ahamad Vide affidavit No.IN-PB02987994692336W dated 03 April 2024 before notary public Pathankot

**I, Valjayanti** spouse of No.2809613P L/NK Methe Atul Yashavant resident of Village-Chikhali, Post- Chikhali, Tehsil-Kagal, District- Kolhapur, State-Maharashtra, Pin-416235, have changed my DOB from 25 Oct 1995 to 25 June 1995 Vide affidavit No.IN-PB05587372329994W dated 12 Apr 2024 before notary public Pathankot

**I, No.15623523P** L/Hav Dharmendra Kumar Yadav resident of Village- Pariyawan, Post- Pariyawan, Tehsil- Sadar, District- Jaunpur, State- Uttar Pradesh, Pin-222138, have changed my Mother name from Fuldei to Phooldei Vide affidavit No.IN-PB05677962479611W dated 12 April 2024 before notary public Pathankot

**I, Krishna Ghosh** Mother of Achintya Kumar Ghosh resident of Village- Sodepara, Post-Boinchhi, District Hoogly, State-West Bengal, Pin- 712134, have changed my DOB from 01 July 1963 to 01 Jan 1969 Vide affidavit No. AK 105363 dated 12 March 2024 before notary public Chinsurah (West Bengal)

**I, No.15623523P** L/Hav Dharmendra Kumar Yadav resident of Village- Pariyawan, Post- Pariyawan, Tehsil- Sadar, District- Jaunpur, State- Uttar Pradesh, Pin-222138, have changed my Father name from Bhulat Yadav to Bhulai Yadav Vide affidavit No.IN-PB05678599354782W dated 12 April 2024 before notary public Pathankot

**I, Tanmoy Sarkar** resident of Village-Dhankal Defence Colony, Post- Kampa, Tehsil-Barrackpore, District- 24 Pargana (North) State- West Bengal, Pin-743193, have changed my Father Nripendra Nath Sarkar DOB from 05 Jan 1944 to 05 Jan 1960 Vide affidavit No.IN-PB05597600670366W dated 12 April 2024 before notary public Pathankot

**I, No.JC-332531K** Sub Maj/JE EMA Varadharajan S/O V Arumugam resident of F-73A-21, Rajaji Nagar, Mettur, Post-Madayanakutta, District- Salem, State- Tamil Nadu, pin- 636452, have changed my name from Varadharajan A to A Varadharajan Vide affidavit No.IN-PB05590567985847W dated 12 April 2024 before notary public Pathankot

**I, Ranjit Singh** S/o Bachan Dass Vill- Lalpur, Post Office-Barwa, Tehsil- Anandpur Sahib, District- Rupnagar My Son Sukhvir Singh is out of my Control. I Disown him from all My moveable and immoveable Properties. If Anybody deals with him at their Own risk and responsibility.

**I Rajni Bala** W/o Vikas Arora R/o H.no. 253 Mahesh Nagar Vill. Babayl Ambala Cantt that I have changed my name from Rajni Bala to Rajni. Concerned note

**I, Malti Devi** W/O Army No. JC 280300W Sub Pramod Kumar Singh R/O Vill Itimha P O Karma Teh Sasaram Distt Rohtas State Bihar Pin 821310 India Presently 327 Med Regt C/O 56 APO declared that in my service record documents my name wrongly written as Malati Devi instead of Malti Devi . My correct name is Malti Devi

**I, Bhagyashri** spouse of Yermdole Sagar Mohan age 34 resident of Village- Gokul Shirgaon, Post- Gokul Shirgaon, Tehsil- Karveer, District- Kolhapur, State- Maharashtra, Pin-416234, have changed my name from Bhagyashri to Bhagyashri Sagar Yermdole Vide affidavit IN-PB05400588326742W dated 11 April 2024 before notary public Pathankot

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# AN OASIS OF PEACE AND TRANQUILLITY

Discover the authentic rural life at Courtyard by Marriott Aravali Resort in the vicinity of Delhi



Nestled in the heart of the picturesque Aravali region in Haryana, Courtyard by Marriott Aravali Resort stands as a testament to the harmonious blend of modern comfort and natural beauty coupled with local flavours. This newly inaugurated haven offers an unparalleled experience for both business and leisure travelers seeking a respite from the bustling city life of nearby New Delhi. What is more it gives an authentic local experience. Spread across a unique 360-degree design layout, the resort boasts 158 spacious guest rooms, each offering breathtaking views of the panoramic Aravali ranges, verdant gardens, or the tranquil swimming pool. Whether it's a weekend escape or a brief stopover, guests are enveloped in luxury and tranquillity from the moment they arrive. For those seeking the perfect venue for weddings, social gatherings, or corporate events, the resort's expansive indoor and outdoor banquet spaces provide an ideal setting. With state-of-the-art technology and lush outdoor lawns spanning over 11,000 sq. ft., the possibilities are endless for creating memorable



moments amidst serene surroundings. Indulgence takes center stage at Courtyard by Marriott Aravali Resort, with an array of culinary delights awaiting guests at its four dining venues. From the lively ambiance of The Aravali Kitchen, offering a diverse selection of regional and international cuisines, to the exotic flavors of Huang, the Pan-Asian specialty restaurant, every dining experience is a journey of culinary discovery. Beyond gastronomic pleasures, guests

can rejuvenate their senses at the Levo Spa, featuring six treatment rooms and a range of holistic therapies administered by expert practitioners. Meanwhile, the three-tier swimming pool provides a refreshing oasis for relaxation and leisure. In addition to its luxurious accommodations and amenities, the resort offers an array of services tailored to enhance the guest experience. From pet-friendly offerings and collaborative lobby spaces to morning wellness activities and express laundry services, every aspect of the stay is designed to ensure comfort and convenience. Conveniently located less than an hour's drive from the Indira Gandhi International Airport, Courtyard by Marriott Aravali Resort is also in close proximity to several local attractions, including Damdama Lake, Sultanpur Bird Sanctuary, and Sariska Wildlife Sanctuary, inviting guests to explore the natural wonders of the region. Whether seeking a peaceful retreat, a memorable event venue, or a culinary adventure, Courtyard by Marriott Aravali Resort promises an unforgettable experience that epitomizes the essence of tranquillity, luxury, and hospitality.

## “WE THINK GLOBAL BUT ACT LOCAL”

**RAJNEESH KUMAR** General Manager of Courtyard Marriott talked to **THE PIONEER** about the resort's USP and why it is a no-miss destination for people looking for an enjoyable retreat

**Can you tell us what makes your resort stand out?**  
Absolutely. Firstly, our resort boasts a unique design and is considered an architectural marvel, attracting guests right from the start. Secondly, we prioritize providing our guests with an unforgettable experience, whether it's through our accommodations, dining options, or attentive service. At Courtyard Marriott, every individual is treated as a cherished guest, not just a customer, and we adhere to global standards of hygiene, service quality, and food offerings.

**Who is your target clientele?**  
Typically, our guests come from the Delhi NCR region, although we do receive occasional bookings from abroad. Our resort seamlessly blends Marriott's expertise with local flavours, offering guests a glimpse into rural India while maintaining international standards. We work on the maxim of 'think global, act local.'

**What kind of experience can guests expect during their stay at your resort?**  
Guests can anticipate an



**How well-equipped are you to host conferences and large events like weddings?**

Corporate gatherings and weddings are both within our expertise. We have extensive facilities for hosting conferences and seminars, and for weddings, we can accommodate large numbers of guests. In fact, we often reserve the entire resort for wedding parties to ensure an exclusive experience for the participants.

**What types of cuisine do you offer to guests?**

Our culinary offerings focus on authentic local cuisine that is both delicious and nutritious. Guests particularly enjoy our variety of parathas and other regional specialties.

**Lastly, what message would you like to convey to our readers?**

I would like to extend a heartfelt invitation to everyone to come and experience firsthand what our resort has to offer. We're confident that once you visit, you'll understand the unique charm and hospitality that sets us apart.

authentic rural experience. We meticulously plan their itineraries to include immersive rural activities such as pottery-making, rural trails, and traditional tasks like butter-making or milking cows. We have 'chaupal' where guests can intermingle, sit on charpais or cots. Our goal is to provide guests with a unique and memorable stay that reflects the charm of rural India.

## BHUTAN ON MY PLATE

**CHEF MICHAEL SWAMY** was recently in the national capital to bring us a unique culinary extravaganza from Bhutan. **SHOBORI GANGULI** recounts her experience of the royal tastes from this remote Himalayan kingdom



Bhutan has been sitting in my travel bucket list for years. Unfortunate not to have found the time to soak in one of the world's most bountiful wonderland, on top of the Himalayas, I was naturally excited to settle for the next best option — Honk at the Pullman, Aerocity, Delhi, when they decided to celebrate a wholesome culinary journey through Bhutan with itinerant Chef Michael Swamy of Cottage Chef Culinaire. The incredibly gifted Chef, fondly known as “The Historian Chef”, has an impressive repertoire of cuisines. From Indo-Portuguese to Bhutanese, right down to the remotest of India's wildlife reserves and sanctuaries, he keeps travelling from his base in Mumbai across the length and breadth of this country to bring the secret kitchens of India and its neighbourhood to mainstream fine dining tables. Chef Swamy is associated with the Bhutan based VEEN natural mineral water company. Although originating in Finnish Lapland, it was in the Kingdom of Bhutan in 2014 that the company found the purest waters in the world in the region's natural water springs located in the upper reaches of the Khana Bharti River in the foothills of the Himalayan district of Samtse. Chef Swamy had especially curated a seven course Royal Bhutanese meal for us though he admitted that he had to tone down the spicy accent of authentic Bhutanese cuisine to suit the north Indian palate. I was a wee bit disappointed because we in the South or the East of India love our spices. Anyway, what unfolded was a delectable culinary journey across the Himalayan kingdom. Unfortunately, for reasons I shall detail later, the first on the Chef's menu, a beverage called Top of the Mountain, a concoction of orange, fragrant mint leaves spicy jalapenos, herby coriander with lime and VEEN sparkling water never really reached my table.

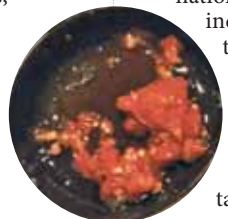


Anyway the soup, Ema Datshi, Chef Swamy's version of Bhutan's national dish, served in a fresh baked bun, and topped with native red rice crisps was absolute heaven. This certainly would be one of the rarest soups I have ever tasted. The oven fresh bun sat dry in the centre of the soup dish, with a generous filling of finely chopped fresh vegetable in a creamy sauce. Then a delicately flavoured steaming hot creamy soup was gently poured over the bun as it flowed out into the soup dish, like lava erupting from a volcano. Awesome is too weak a word for Chef's Ema Datshi.



For Appetizers we had Chapale, fried flour and buckwheat pastries filled with lamb. Served with a spicy chilly relish, the lamb was just adequately spiced to make it a light starter. Then came the Momos, spicy yak milk cheese stuffed dumplings, steamed and drizzled with freshly made Himalayan morel oil. While all of us here in the north think of momos merely as stuffed and steamed dumplings, vegetarian or non vegetarian, Chef Swamy's momos were a work of art, the cheese and chicken stuffing simply melting in one's mouth. Then there were Chicken wings, crispy chicken tossed in a selection of North Eastern peppers and Himalayan honey. Although served again with a spicy relish, this tilted towards the sweeter side, courtesy the honey. Among the appetizers, Chef Swamy's momos were the clear winners. Yet again, unfortunately, the next on the Chef's menu, a Palate

Cleanser of Gondhoraj Sorbet never arrived on my table. Then there was an inordinate silence from the Chef's kitchen for about 25 minutes, reasons for which I shall detail soon. The main course followed shortly. There was Bak Thuk noodles with warm cherry tomato, potato beans and radish salad. Alongside came Butter Poached Himalayan Trout, the tender mountain fish poached with butter and spiced with mustard and Bhutanese podi. The butter and spices made this Himalayan delicacy really stand out. This was accompanied by Doh Siyar Nei-long, a chicken curry with ginger, garlic, chilli and black sesame paste served with short-grain black and white rice. The woodiness of the sesame stood out, embracing the succulent chicken with an outstanding flavour. Chef Swamy played the perfect host, pacing from one table to another through the evening, serving one royal Bhutanese dish after another.



As someone closely following the F&B industry's journey of innovative ideas to increase footfalls, I felt an airport hotel does not quite have the ambience required to curate a Roving Chef yet. At Pullman for, instance, while we were treated to a unique dining experience, there was a constant rush of passengers, national and international, jet lagged individuals dragging themselves to the coffee shop. Then there were conferences and events all over the place. Although the staff at Pullman's Honk was extremely polite, courteous and responsive, taking care of each and every guest, Chef Swamy's Bhutanese fare did get overwhelmed by some regular orders being thrown into the kitchen like egg fried rice and dimsums at some tables. As mentioned at the outset this explained the oversight on the Chef's VEEN sparkling water concoction of orange and lime as also the Palate Cleanser Gondhoraj Sorbet.





# RAJASTHAN ROYALS NEED BETTER EXECUTION OF PLANS

PTI ■ MULLANPUR

A disappointed Rajasthan Royals will have to focus on better execution of their strategies for a swift turnaround when they face a highly inconsistent yet capable Punjab Kings in their Indian Premier League match here on Saturday.

The Royals had an excellent chance to register their fifth win on the trot and consolidate their totem pole position, but Rashid Khan's daring assault helped Gujarat Titans snatch a last-ball victory on Wednesday.

It might have come as a rude shock for the Royals at Fort Jaipur, and as such, they would want to treat it as an aberration and dish out a more refined outing against the Punjab side.

But it also highlighted some muddled thinking.

The Sanju Samson-led Rajasthan outfit lost to the Titans because of the below-par effort from Kuldip Sen (19th over) and Avesh Khan (20th over) at a vital passage, when they conceded 35 runs across 12 balls.

Here, the Royals made a slight tactical error by not letting Trent



Boult complete his quota in that match as the veteran left-arm pacer ended the match at 2-0-8-0. There is no gainsaying that Boult could have made a change in the script, but Samson leaving that option unused was a tad perplexing.

Of course, Boult has been largely used with the new ball in this iteration of the IPL, but in crunch situations nothing counts more than experience.

So, the Royals will be looking for an improvement in the strategising and execution part

against the Kings.

The Shikhar Dhawan-captained side has blown hot and cold so far in the tournament, winning two and losing three out of five matches.

The primary reason for their middling run this year is the

patchy form of their fancied batsmen as Punjab relied on cameos by uncapped Shashank Singh and Ashutosh Sharma to boost their batting.

Opener Jonny Bairstow (5 matches, 81 runs) and middle-order batter Jitesh Sharma (5

matches, 77 runs) are the most underwhelming of the lot, and it has robbed them of momentum upfront and in the business end of their innings.

Sam Curran has been above average with the ball, taking six wickets from five matches but the England all-rounder's needle has fallen behind from the halfway mark with the bat, despite scoring a 63.

The absence of injured Liam Livingstone from the middle-order too has reduced their firepower, and Kings will hope to have the Englishman back in their ranks at the earliest.

On the contrary, the Punjab bowlers have done marginally better, but their propensity to concede big runs while bowling first will be a concern.

A group consisting of bowlers such as Kagiso Rabada and Arshdeep Singh has given away 199, 199 and 182 runs in their last three matches and they will have to break the pattern against the Royals.

It's easier said than done as the Royals' batting unit has been in good shape as 185 is the lowest total it posted while batting first.

Outside the match calculations, the Royals will have another bigger worry to nullify. Over the last few editions of the IPL, the

Royals had begun strongly, just as they did this year, before tapering off after the mid-season.

As a result, they have managed to qualify for the play-offs only twice across the last six seasons.

Royals would dearly hope that the defeat against GT was not the beginning of another meltdown.

The Teams (from):

Punjab Kings: Shikhar Dhawan (c), Matthew Short, Prabhsimran Singh, Jitesh Sharma, Sikandar Raza, Rishi Dhawan, Liam Livingstone, Atharva Taide, Arshdeep Singh, Nathan Ellis, Sam Curran, Kagiso Rabada, Harpreet Brar, Rahul Chahar, Harpreet Bhatia, Vidwath Kaverappa, Shivam Singh, Harshal Patel, Chris Woakes, Ashutosh Sharma, Vishwanath Pratap Singh, Shashank Singh, Tanay Thyagarajann, Prince Choudhary, Rilee Rossouw.

Rajasthan Royals: Sanju Samson (c), Jos Buttler, Shimron Hetmyer, Yashasvi Jaiswal, Dhruv Jurel, Riyan Parag, Donovan Ferreira, Kunal Rathore, Ravichandran Ashwin, Kuldeep Sen, Navdeep Saini, Sandeep Sharma, Trent Boult, Yuzvendra Chahal, Avesh Khan, Rovman Powell, Shubham Dubey, Tom Kohler-Cadmore, Abid Mushtaq, Nandre Burger, Tanush Kotian, Keshav Maharaj.

## Hardik enjoys challenges, fans will start loving him: Kishan



PTI ■ MUMBAI

Hardik Pandya might have been at the receiving end of fans' ire in this IPL, but Ishan Kishan has little doubt that the Mumbai Indians skipper is "enjoying the challenge" of winning them over.

Pandya, who replaced Rohit Sharma as the regular skipper of Mumbai before the start of this IPL, has been consistently getting booed by the spectators inside the stadium and the situation was no different on Thursday night when MI faced Royal Challengers Bengaluru.

But he also found a small

corner of supporters at the Wankhede Stadium as MI registered a big win over RCB, and they were encouraged by star batter Virat Kohli.

"He (Pandya) loves challenges, he has been in this situation before and he is in that situation right now. He is not someone who will come out and talk about it and say let's stop this or that," Kishan told the media here after MI defeated RCB by seven wickets.

"I know that he must be enjoying it. I know him personally. I have spent a lot of time with him. He is ready for the challenges because you cannot complain to the fans,

they will come up with their explanations and their point of views," Kishan added.

Kishan said the 29-year-old all-rounder could turn all anger around with his performances.

"But knowing how Hardik Pandya thinks, he is happy with people doing it but I know that in the coming games he will do it with the bat and people will start loving him (again)," he said.

Kishan highlighted Indian fans' tendency to recognise the hard work of a cricketer, irrespective of their personal feelings towards him.

"People also recognise your hard work, what you are going through and still you

are doing so well for your team. I think people do recognise that."

"Our fans will be a little harsh on you but at the same time when you do well, or when you show that it is (still) not bothering you and (that) you are in a very good headspace, that might change. If not today, tomorrow. If not tomorrow, day after tomorrow," he said.

Kishan said Pandya's focus was on improving his outings.

"I feel happy about him that even in this situation he is so keen on performing, hitting six on the very first ball knowing that things can go different way and people will question you again. But that is something which Hardik has in himself and other players don't," Kishan noted.

Jasprit Bumrah was at the top of his game returning with 4-0-21-5 against RCB but the other MI bowlers were wayward. Kishan backed them to do well.

"We will get through that because planning is always there, we keep talking to our coaches, our captain, our video analyst," he said.

"The wicket was very good (for batters). When the wicket is so good, we cannot complain about our bowlers, who were also good, but (then) we finished the game in the 16th over.

"We have to look at the positives that the bowlers did a great job in restricting RCB below 200," he added.

## It is in my muscle memory: Suryakumar on his audacious shots

PTI ■ MUMBAI

The world's number one T20 batter, Suryakumar Yadav attributed the audacious array of shots he played against Royal Challengers Bengaluru to "muscle memory" and constant practice at nets.

Suryakumar dazzled with a 19-ball 52 studded with four sixes and five fours to help Mumbai Indians chase down RCB's 197-run target in just 15.3 overs.

"I just try to play the field. I practice these shots. It is in my muscle memory," Suryakumar said after MI's seven-wicket win in the IPL on Thursday night.

Asked about his favourite shot in the match against RCB, he said, "I think all the shots. The slice over point was my favourite."

Suryakumar was playing in his second match of this IPL after recovering from a sports hernia surgery.

"It is always good to be back in Wankhede. Joining the squad was great. Mentally I was here, just physically in Bangalore (for recovery at NCA).

"Coming at Wankhede, chasing 200, if there is dew it is important to take a chance. We wanted to finish early for the net run rate," said the 33-year-old.

Asked about Jasprit Bumrah's five-wicket haul, Suryakumar said, "It is always good to have Jasprit by your side. It has been 2 to



3 years, have never batted Jasprit in the nets. Either he breaks my bat or my foot."

On Ishan Kishan who make 69 off just 34 balls, he said, "That's what we have told him. Just go out and enjoy. His intent has been great. He

is enjoying the fruits."

Later in an interview with 'JioCinema', Suryakumar said whenever he came out to bat he would try to see how he could change the course of the game.

"I think about the shots I

play beforehand, because I have practiced all of them during the nets. I try to make sure that I bat according to the situation of the game. If the game is progressing slowly, then I think of how I could possibly speed it up.

"Whenever I go into bat, I always try to see how I can change the game and how I can control it with my abilities," he said.

On MI's performance so far, he said, "I think the train was always on track, it just took a while to get going. It's fine, we're coming back and have found our rhythm.

"It feels great to have won two games in a row at the Wankhede. It gives us great confidence and has improved the team's atmosphere as well."

Former Australia all-rounder Shane Watson said sky is the limit for Suryakumar when he's batting at his best.

"When his mind's free, he just lets loose. The sky is the limit for him when he's batting like that. He can hit them and does hit them all around the ground," said Watson.

"When he's in the type of form like he showed tonight, the poor bowlers, no one can bowl anywhere.

"He's got an incredible awareness of the field but then the skill to be able to manipulate the ball into those gaps, it's freakish stuff. The Mumbai Indians are very lucky to have him."

## OTHER SPORTS

### Mary Kom steps down as Paris Olympics Chef de Mission

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Six-time world champion boxer M C Mary Kom on Friday stepped down as India's chef-de-mission for the upcoming Paris Olympics, saying she is "left with no choice" due to some personal reasons.

Indian Olympic Association (IOA) President PT Usha announced that Mary Kom had asked to be relieved from her position in a letter addressed to her.

"I consider it an honour to serve my country in every way possible, and I was mentally prepared for it. However, I regret that I will not be able to uphold the prestigious responsibility and would like to resign, owing to personal reasons," the 41-year-old stated in a letter to Usha.

"It is embarrassing to retreat from a commitment, which I seldom do, but I am left with no choice. I am there to cheer on my country and the athletes



competing in this Olympic Games," with great expectations," she added.

The IOA had announced her appointment on March 21.

The celebrated boxer, who is also a bronze-medallist from the 2012 London Olympics, was to be the logistical in-charge of the country's contingent at the July 26-August 11 Games.

"We are sad that Olympic medal winning boxer and Chairperson of the IOA Athletes Commission Mary Kom has stepped down citing

personal reasons. We respect her decision and her privacy," Usha said in a statement.

"I shall make the appropriate consultations and soon make an announcement about the replacement for Mary Kom," Usha said she had a conversation with Mary Kom after receiving her letter.

"I completely understand her request and respect her decision. I have also conveyed to her that she will always have my own support and that of IOA. I also request everyone to respect the legendary boxer's privacy," she said.

Mary Kom has also won gold in the 2010 Asian Games besides being a multiple-time Asian champion.

IOA has appointed six-time Winter Olympian and luger Shiva Keshavan as deputy chef-de-mission, while veteran table tennis player and reigning Commonwealth Games champion Sharath Kamal will be India's male flag-bearer.

PTI ■ BISHKEK (KYRGYZSTAN)

Indian wrestlers Akash Dahiya and Anirudh Kumar kept themselves in contention for bronze medals at the Asian Championships but three of their team-mates exited the tournament after losing at different stages in their respective categories, here on Friday.

Competing in the non-Olympic 61kg category, Akash began with a close 10-8 win over Sardor Ruzimov from Uzbekistan and followed it up with a comfortable 7-3 victory over Korea's Sanghyeon Son in the quarterfinal.

However, Kazakhstan's Assyl Aitakyn proved to be too strong for the Indian in the semifinal and could not score a single point, losing his bout by technical superiority.



He will now fight it out with Mongolia's Enkhbold Enkhbat.

Yash Tushir (74kg) went out

of contention after losing his repechage round by technical superiority to Syrbaz Talgat from

Kazakhstan.

Also bowing out early was Sandeep Singh Maan (86kg), who lost his qualification

bout 0-5 to Japan's Tatsuya Shirai.

Vinay (92kg) also fizzled out in the 92kg qualification round, losing his bout by fall to veteran Kazakhstan wrestler Adilet Davlumbayev.

In 125kg, Anirudh Kumar began with a 3-0 win over Pakistan's Zaman Anwar but was outplayed by Iran's Amir Hossein Abbas Zare in the quarterfinal, losing by technical superiority.

Since the Iranian reached the final, it kept the door open for Anirudh and now he will fight for bronze against Bahrain's Shamil Magomed A Sharipov.

India had won three medals on Thursday through Udit (57kg, silver), Abhimanyou (70kg, bronze) and Vicky (97kg, bronze).

The men's free-style competition will conclude today and the women's bouts will begin on Saturday.