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## Modi Presides Over Lok Sabha Probables



Prime Minister Narendra Modi with Union Home Minister Amit Shah, Union Defence Minister Rajnath Singh, BJP National President JP Nadda, Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath and others during the BJP's Central Election Committee (CEC) meeting to finalise the first list of candidates for the upcoming Lok Sabha polls, in New Delhi

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ NEW DELHI

The BJP's Central Election Committee (CEC) convened a meeting late Thursday night at its Delhi headquarters, with deliberations led by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, regarding their first list of candidates running late into the night, suggesting the inclusion of several high-profile leaders in the first list. The CEC members, including Modi, the party's national president JP Nadda, and Union Ministers Amit Shah and Rajnath Singh, deliberated on potential candidates for States like Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Gujarat, Rajasthan, Assam, Chhattisgarh, Delhi, Goa, and

Uttarakhand, among others, to finalise the nominees. The CEC meeting, which began around 10:30 pm on Thursday, lasted for more than five hours. Before that, Shah and Nadda had met Modi at his residence to hold consultations, sources said. According to sources, the party may announce a list of 100-120 candidates in its first list. The party is likely to announce its candidates on "weak seats" in Uttar Pradesh before the Election Commission releases dates for the Lok Sabha elections.

In Uttar Pradesh, the BJP will not contest from all 80 seats and will reserve some for its potential allies like Rashtriya Lok Dal (RLD). In the last poll body meet, 56 UP seats were finalised.

The BJP, according to sources, employed a multi-layered and exhaustive process, encompassing public feedback, internal evaluations, and high-level strategic discussions, to select the candidates poised to represent the party in the upcoming electoral battle.

Sources said the BJP has harnessed technology to solicit feedback from the grassroots level.



## BJP to strengthen alliance, Yogi to revamp Cabinet

PNS ■ LUCKNOW/GUWAHATI

Ahead of the 2024 Lok Sabha elections, the BJP is set to maintain good relations with its existing allies by offering them more space in Assam and accommodating them in the Uttar Pradesh Government. Sources said Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath may expand his Cabinet and Suheldev Bharatiya Samaj Party president Om Prakash Rajbhar may be included in the Cabinet. Similarly the ruling BJP will contest 11 Lok Sabha seats in Assam, leaving three for its allies Asom Gana Parishad (AGP) and the United People's Party Liberal (UPPL). Assam Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma AGP will contest from Barpeta and Dhubri, while UPPL will field its candidate in Kokrajhar. The allies will support each other candidates in all the 14 constituencies. In the Yogi Government, JP leader Dara Singh Chauhan and an MLA from Rashtriya Lok Dal (RLD) may also get entry in Team Yogi. It is also speculated that one Jat and one Muslim from RLD may get a place in the Yogi Government. Sources said Yogi took the approval from the party high command on Thursday in the midst of CEC meeting.

## India Intent on National Defence

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ NEW DELHI

India on Friday sealed five major defence acquisition contracts worth ₹39,125 crore, including the procurement of BrahMos supersonic cruise missiles, radars, weapon systems, and aero-engines for MiG-29 jets, as part of efforts to boost the combat capabilities of the armed forces. The mega procurement projects were finalised amid India's lingering border row

with China in eastern Ladakh, and they will be implemented under the broad framework of the Government's policy to enhance domestic defence manufacturing. The contracts for the procurement of the platforms and weapon systems were signed in the presence of Defence Minister Rajnath Singh and Defence Secretary Giridhar Aramane, under whose guidance these deals were finalised, according to an official statement.



"These deals will further strengthen indigenous capabilities, save foreign exchange, and reduce dependency on foreign-origin equipment manufacturers in the future," the statement said. Two separate deals were finalised for the procurement of BrahMos missiles. The first one is for the procurement of BrahMos missiles from the BrahMos Aerospace Private Ltd (BAPL) at a cost of ₹19,518.65 crore. "These missiles would be

utilised to meet combat outfit and training requirements of the Indian Navy," the Defence Ministry said. The second contract is for the procurement of the ship-borne BrahMos system from the BAPL at a cost of ₹988 crore. These missiles will serve as the Indian Navy's primary weapon for maritime strike operations, fitted onboard various frontline warships. Capable of hitting land or sea targets from extended ranges with pinpoint accuracy at

supersonic speeds, the system enhances the Navy's combat capabilities. The deal for procurement of RD-33 Aero Engines for MiG-29 aircraft was signed with State-run aerospace giant Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL), costing ₹5,249.72 crore. The aero engines, to be produced by the Koraput Division of HAL, will sustain the operational capability of the MiG-29 fleet for its residual service life, fulfilling the Indian Air Force's needs.

## EC urges parties to maintain decorum

RAJESH KUMAR ■ NEW DELHI

Taking note of the concerning trends and cases of declining levels of political campaign discourse in recent elections, the Election Commission (EC) has urged political parties and their leaders to refrain from seeking votes based on caste, religion, or language. Additionally, they are warned not to insult the devotee-deity relationship or suggest any divine curse. The poll watchdog has emphasised the need for maintaining decorum in public campaigning, placing additional responsibility on star campaigners and candidates, particularly those who have been issued notices in the past. This advisory comes just days before the



model code is expected to come into effect with the announcement of the Lok Sabha and four State Assembly polls later this month. In its advisory, the EC has stated that candidates and star campaigners will face stern action for any violation of the Model Code of Conduct, replacing the previous practice of only 'moral censure'.

Furthermore, the EC has prohibited the use of temples, mosques, churches, gurdwaras, or any other place of worship for poll propaganda or electioneering. The EC's advisory also emphasises that references ridiculing devotee-deity relations or suggesting divine curse should not be made. Any surrogate or indirect

violation of the Model Code of Conduct will be dealt with sternly by the Commission. Star campaigners and candidates have been put on notice by the EC regarding violations, following previously known methodologies during elections to avoid breaches of the Model Code of Conduct. The commission will assess any indirect violations of the Model Code of Conduct as per the advisory to ensure fair and appropriate notices are issued in terms of timing and content for the forthcoming elections. For the General Election to Lok Sabha and to four State Legislative Assemblies, all phases and geographical areas of elections shall be considered for determining "repeat" offenses.

## Bengaluru Blasted

PTI ■ BENGALURU

A bomb blast at a popular eatery in the city on Friday left nine persons injured and police have launched a probe from all angles after it emerged that an earlier suspected gas leak was not the cause of the explosion. Police suspect that a bag at the eatery with a possible improvised explosive device (IED) could have exploded, even as the NIA and the IB have been apprised of the matter. Officials from the local unit of the National Investigation Agency (NIA) later arrived at the spot. Chief Minister Siddaramaiah said investigation is on to ascertain the cause and nature of the explosion at the popular Rameshwaram Cafe in Whitefield, and added it might have been caused by an



Security officials and others at the Rameshwaram Cafe after a fire caused by a suspected cylinder explosion, in Bengaluru, on Friday

"improvised explosive" device. The incident should not be politicised and everyone should cooperate, Siddaramaiah said, adding strict action would be taken against those involved. State police chief Alok Mohan described the explosion as a "bomb blast" and said nobody was seriously injured.

"At 1 pm, a bomb blast occurred at the hotel (cafe), nine people are injured, and no one is serious. We are investigating. FSL (forensic) teams have come and are checking. City police Commissioner and other officers are at the spot. We will certainly identify who did it," he said after visiting the spot.

## Yeh Badalta Mausam: India hit by freak weather

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ NEW DELHI

India is expected to witness high minimum temperatures in March, sounding alarms for the vital wheat crop, as the India Meteorological Department (IMD) predicts above-average day and night temperatures from March through May across the nation, attributed to El Niño conditions. Exceptions are noted in isolated regions of the northwest, northeast, central, and peninsular India, sparking concerns for agricultural yields. This could impact agricultural

activities and crop growth, particularly for wheat. The minimum or night temperatures are also likely to be above normal over most parts of the country, the IMD said on Friday. According to the IMD, the first half of March may see above-normal rainfall in north-western parts of the country, while the second half is likely to experience higher-than-normal temperatures. Monthly maximum temperatures for March are expected to be above normal over most areas of peninsular India, the northeast, the west central region, and the



northwest. Normal to below-normal maximum temperatures are likely to persist over most parts of east and east-central India and some parts of northwest India. During the season (March, April, and May), above-normal minimum temperatures are most likely over most parts of the country. IMD director general Mrutyunjay Mohapatra said at a press conference that India is likely to see above-normal maximum and minimum temperatures in most parts of the country during the "Hot Weather Season 2024" between March

and May, with El Niño conditions predicted to continue through the summer season and neutral conditions likely to develop thereafter. The El Niño conditions in 2023 ed to patchy and erratic monsoon in 2023, reducing India's foodgrain production by 6.1 per cent in the 2023-24 crop year (July-June). "During March, April, and May, an above-normal number of heatwave days are likely over most parts of the country except over Northeast India, Western Himalayan Region, Southwest Peninsula, and West Coast," he said.



Prime Minister Narendra Modi with West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee during a meeting, in Kolkata, on Friday



# Classifieds

## PUBLIC NOTICE

**This** is to inform general public and all that Vinod Kumar Mittal S/o Jethu Ram Mittal and Sharda Mittal W/o Vinod Kumar Mittal and Vinod Kumar S/o Jethu Ram and Sarda Rani W/o Vinid Kumar R/o # 605, Sector- 16, Panchkula Haryana. both are one and the same person.

**We, Harcharan Singh Bedi** S/o Late Harnam Singh Bedi & Charanjit Bedi W/o Harcharan Singh Bedi both R/o House no 1379, Sector 40-B, Chandigarh declare that our son Rameet Singh Bedi, his wife Shaveta Chawla and their daughter Aalya Nagpal are out of our control in all respects. We disown all of them from our movable-immovable properties. Anybody deals with them will do so at their own risk.

**I, Jamshed** s/o Sh. Kasa, r/o village Garhi Basic Tehsil Bapoli district Panipat, declare that my son Qurban and his wife Tarannum out of my control. I evict them from their movable and immovable property. I and my family will not be held responsible for any legal or illegal work.

**I, Pardeep Mehla** s/o Raghbir Singh r/o #491, Baldi, Distt. Karnal declare that my father's name wrongly registered as Raghubir Singh in my passport. My father's correct name is Raghbir Singh which should be recorded.

**I, Service No. 14931204A** Amar Bahadur Pal 25 Mech. Inf (R&SP) c/o 56 APO s/o Late Puna-wasi Ram Pal r/o Keshopur Sarpatha , Sant Ravidas Nagar, Gyanpur, (Uttar Pradesh)-221304 declare that in my service documents date of birth of my daughter Anjali Pal is 27.09.2007, which is wrong. Her correct DOB is 27.09.2008. I want to change my daughter's DOB from 27.09.2007 to 27.09.2008.

**I, Service No. 14931204A** Amar Bahadur Pal 25 Mech. Inf (R&SP) c/o 56 APO s/o Late Puna-wasi Ram Pal r/o Keshopur Sarpatha , Sant Ravidas Nagar, Gyanpur, (Uttar Pradesh)-221304 declare that in my service documents ,date of birth of my daughter Anamika Pal is 19.01.2009, which is wrong. Her correct DOB is 19.01.2010. I want to changed my daughter's DOB from 19.01.2009 to 19.01.2010.

**I, Service No. 14931204A** Amar Bahadur Pal 25 Mech. Inf (R&SP) c/o 56 APO s/o Late Puna-wasi Ram Pal r/o Keshopur Sarpatha , Sant Ravidas Nagar, Gyanpur, (Uttar Pradesh)-221304 declare that in my service documents, date of birth of my daughter Ankita Pal is 26.02.2011, which is wrong. Her correct DOB is 26.02.2012. I want to change my daughter's DOB from 26.02.2011 to 26.02.2012.

**I, Sanjeev Mattu** s/o Kashmir Masih r/o Village Sadhuchak Distt Gurdaspur (Punjab) declare that in my Matriculation Certificate of year 2019-20 under Roll No. 11175668 Sr. No. 0114176 Regd. No. A120/16456/0014, name of my father wrongly written as Kashmir Masih Mattu . His correct name is Kashmir Masih. Concerned note.

**I, Mai Lal** S/o Sh. Chelu Ram R/o Kirmara, Hisar (Haryana) declare that both Mai Lal and Mala Ram are my names and I am known and recognized by both these names.

**I, Neelam Devi** W/o Sh. Rampal R/o Kh No 177 ground floor,Gadi Road, Mungeshpur, North West Delhi 110039 has disowned my son Divanshu Khanna & his wife Gitika from my all movable-immovable property as they are out of my control. In future, if anybody deals with them, he/she will do at their own risk.

**I, krishan singh** s/o inder singh # village Dahar dist panipat lost my Id card no 220309212800597 HDFC bank Ltd, Panipat has been lost . If anybody found plz contact 9813585043.

**I, Gurbaksh** S/o Dhanna Ram, resident of village Harigarh Kingan, Tehsil Guhla, District Kaithal, in all my documents my name is Gurbaksh and date of birth is 01-01-1959, whereas in the army documents of my son Gurdeep Singh, my name is Gurbaksh Singh and date of birth is 01-01-1969. In future, as per my documents, I should be known by the name Gurbaksh and the date of birth 01-01-1959 is correct.

**I Anusyam** S Army No. 14687999m Nk Unit 138(I) Wksp Eme (2 Sig Gp) C/O 56 Apo Bathinda Cantt Now At Aruvikkara, Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala Declare That In My Army Record My Mother Anitha S Dob Is Wrongly Recorded As 01.08.1962. Her Correct Dob Is 13.12.1964.

**I, Jc-347476w** Sub (Retd.) Ramphal Singh Saharan, R/O Village Ramgarh Pandow, Distt. Kaithal, Haryana Do Hereby Solemnly States That My Wife's Name In My Service Records Has Been Erroneously Written As "Kamala Devi" Whereas My Wife's Correct Name Is Kamla Devi"

**I Gurmukh Singh** S/O Gurcharan Singh R/O #12a, Near Sigma City Chowk, Sharma Estate Zirakpur Distt Sas Nagar (Mohali) Declare That In My Passport My Father Name Is Wrongly Recorded As Chanan Singh. His Correct Name Is Gurcharan Singh.

**I, Savinder Kaur** Widow (Existing Name), Spouse Of Ex. Service No. 1534389K, Rank. Spr, Name- Late Joginder Singh. Resident Of Burj Rai Ke Post Office Burj Rai Ke Teh. Patti Distt Tarn-taran Punjab. Pin-143416. Have Changed My Name In Husband Service Document Surinder Kaur To Savinder Kaur And Date Of Birth 01.07.1953 To 01.01.1958 In Army Record. Before The Notary Adv. Savinder Kaur , It Is To Change The Name And Date Of Birth In Army Records And Dsc.

**I Anusyam** S Army No. 14687999m Nk Unit 138(I) Wksp Eme (2 Sig Gp) C/O 56 Apo Bathinda Cantt Now At Aruvikkara, Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala Declare That In My Army Record My Father's Name As Wrongly Recorded As V Sasidharan And Dob As 12.05.1956. His Correct Name Is Sasidharan V And Correct Dob Is 14.06.1953

**I Rachana Meena** W/O No. 27089950 NK Jitendra Kumar Meena R/O Doroli, Alwar State Rajasthan Have Changed My Name Form Rachana Kumari Meena To Rachana Meena.

**I, Suman** Spouse Of Jc704286K Sub/Na Pawan Kumar R/O Ch (Wc) Chandimandir, C/O 56, Apo Have Changed My Name From Suman Devi To Suman Vide Affidavit No.12007 Date 19.02.2024 Before District Court Panchkula

**I, Garima Nandal**, Daughter Of Jai Kanwar Nandal, Resident Of H.No. 2241 Sector 12, Part-2 Sonipat (Haryana)-131001, Declare That On My Aadhar Card And Pen Card, My Name Is Garima Nandal, But On My 10th Marksheet, My Name Is Garima. I Have Changed My Name From Garima To Garima Nandal For All Future Purposes.

**I, Kawaljit Kaur** D/O Army No.444239F Nk Bela Singh R/O Patti Doko Ki Chohla Sahib Taran Taran Punjab -143408 I Have Changed My Name Kamaljit Kaur To Kawaljit Kaur For All Future Purpose Vide Affidavit No.1461729091382w

**I Am Harpreet Singh** Sekhon S/O Jarnail Singh, R/O Village Dhrangwala, Tehsil Abohar, District Fazilka. That My Son Ajayveer Singh Sekhon Who Is Not In My Command And Does His Own Will. I Evict Him From My Movable Property. He Has Nothing To Do With Me . The Person Dealing With Them Will Be Responsible Himself.

**I Sudershan Mohan** Pal S/o Kulddeep Chand Sanghoi R/O A-71 Sandwoods Opulencia Sector 110 Mohali, Punjab-140307 Declare That My Name Is Wrongly Recorded As Sudershan Mohan Paul Which Is Being Changed As Sudershan Mohan Pal.

**I Kamli** W/O Nasib Chand Village Aulakh Po Bhaowal Tehsil Anandpur Sahib Distt Ropar Declare That My Son No 14917613h Rank Nk Name Mohinder Paul's Army Service Documents My Name Written As Kamala Devi And Dob 08-02-1950 Mistakenly. Whereas Her My Correct Name Is Kamli And Dob 01-01-1937

**We, Satvir Singh** S/O Sh. Jagbir Singh & Renu W/O Sh. Satvir Singh Both R/O #82, Vill-Raipur Rani, Distt. Panchkula (Haryana)- 134204 Declare That Our Son Ashish Are Completely Out Of Our Control. Therefore, We Disown Our Son From All Our Movable And Immoveable Properties. Anybody Dealing With Him Will Do At His Own Risk And Cost. We Will Have Nothing To Do With It.

**I, RAMJEET KAUR** is legally wedded Wife of Army No. 14941218N Rank NK Surjeet Singh Unit 8 mech C/O 56 APO Permanent resident Village and Post Office Kounterpur, Tehsil and Distt Pathankot Punjab. Delcare That in my Husband's service record my name & DOB wrongly mentioned Ramjeet Kaur & 17/10/1989 but my correct Name & DOB is Ramjit Kaur & 17/10/1987. Vide affidavit date 01/03/2024, 29/02/2024 Notary Harmanjeet Bedi Reg. 9774 Place Pathankot.

**I Sunil Kumar** S/O Sital Parkash R/O H.No.-175, St.No.-1, Near Post Office, Talwandi Bhai District Ferozepur Punjab Declare That My Father's Name Is Wrongly Mentioned As Shital Parkash In My School Certificates But In My Pan And Aadhaar Card My Father's Name Is Mentioned As Sital Parkash, Which Is Correct. So Shital Parkash And Sital Parkash Is One And The Same Of Person Of These Both Names.

**I SHEO KUMAR** SHAH SON OF SHIV LOTTAN SHAH, residing at VIL-LAGE CHANDPUR EZRA SISWA KHURD, SIWAN, BIHAR, PIN 841236 have Changed my minor Son name From RAKESH KUMAR to RAKESH KUMAR SHAH Vide Affidavit Dated 01 March 2024 before at Notray Ferozepur.

**I Usha** is legally Mother of No. 15801750Y NK (OCC) Pradeep Kumar Unit of 408 GUN MSL Regt C/o 56 APO Residing at Village and Post office Bhatauna Tehsil Bulandshahr Distt. Bhatauna State Uttar pradesh Pin-203001 Declare That my Name Usha Devi and my date of birth 01/07/1968 Wrongly written in my Son Army Service Records but my correct Name Usha date of birth 20/05/1969.

**I Harvir Singh** is legally Father of No. 15801750Y NK (OCC) Pradeep Kumar Unit of 408 GUN MSL Regt C/o 56 APO Residing at Village and Post office Bhatauna Tehsil Bulandshahr Distt. Bhatauna State Uttar pradesh Pin-203001 Declare That my Name Harbir Singh and my date of birth 05/03/1965 Wrongly written in my Son Army Service Records but my correct Name Harvir Singh date of birth 01/01/1965.

## CHANGE OF NAME

**I, Yogesh** S/o Rajkumar R/o 266/4 Kot Mohalla near Pani Tanki Sonipat 131001 has changed my name to Yogesh Pahuja for all purposes.

**I, Nirmal Bedi** S/O Hans Raj R/O Village and Post ofice Bhagowal, Distt Hoshiarpur, Punjab have changed my name from Nirmal Bedi to Nirmal Kumar. Concerned Note.

**I, Meena Bedi** W/O Nirmal Kumar R/O Village and Post office Bhagowal, Distt Hoshiarpur, Punjab have changed my name from Meena Bedi to Meena Rani. Concerned Note.

**I, Minakshi** Alias Minakshi Rani D/o Jai Singh R/o Village Paddi Khutti PO Salla Kalan Tehsil Garhshankar Distt. Hoshiarpur Punjab have changed my name from Minakshi to Minakshi Rani. Concerned note.

**I, Renu Kaur** W/o Gurpreet Singh R/o Village Fatehpur Pehlon, Distt Sahranpur, Uttar Pradesh have changed my name from Renu Kaur to Priyanka Kaur.

**I, Sukhbir Singh** S/o Paramjeet Singh R/o Village Milak Sukhi, PO Mandhar, Tehsil Jagadhri, Distt Yamuna Nagar have changed my name from Sukhbir Singh to Sukhbir Singh Assar. In future I shall be known as Sukhbir Singh Assar.

**I, Army No.15629572N** Sepoy/L/NK Saddam Hus-sain S/o Jalaludeen R/o Flat No.2-C, Ashiana Complex, Sector-20, Panchkula (Haryana) in my army record want to changed my mother name from Naageena to Nagina and her DOB is 1-1-1971.

**I, Sandeep Kumar** S/o Ram Kumar R/o VPO- Kapro, Distt.Hisar have changed my wife name from Renu Rani to Renu.

**I, Babita Rohila** alias Babita Rohilla W/o Sh. Lokesh Kumar Rohilla, R/o #186, Sector-8, Part- II, Karnal (Haryana) declare that both are the one and same person.

**I, Lokesh Kumar Rohilla** alias Lokesh Rohilla S/o Sh. Satpal Rohilla, R/o #186, Sector-8, Part- II, Karnal (Haryana) declare that both are the one and same person.

**I, Hemant Kumar** Washisht s/o Vimal Kumar Sharma r/o Villa No.117, Anand Vatika, Sector-36, Karnal have changed my name from Hemant Kumar Washisht to Hemant Kumar.

**I, Hukum Chand** S/o shri bindra ram R/o Gondhar tehsil nising Distt karnal Declare that I have change my name Hukum Singh to Hukum Chand for all purpose.

**I, Paramjeet Kaur** W/o Harminder Singh Kang R/o House No. 617, Sector -69, SAS Nagar Mohali, Punjab. I have changed my name from Paramjeet Kaur To Paramjeet Kaur Kang.

**I, Anita Sharma** W/o Sh. Sulakhnan Singh R/o H.No. 842/2, Gaushalda Road, Laxman Nagar, Sirsa Distt. Sirsa (Haryana). That I have changed my name from Anita Sharma to Sukhpreet Kaur , in future my name is to be called as Sukhpreet Kaur.

**I, Rajesh** s/o Chamel Singh r/o #896, Shei Khpura S.P. Sohana, Teh. & Distt. Karnal have changed my name from Rajesh Kumar to Rajesh.

**I, Preeti Sidhu** W/o Sh. Vishal Sidhu R/o H. No. 160, Vivek Vihar, Baltana, Zirakpur, Tehsil Derebassi, Distt SAS Nagar, Punjab 140604, declare that I have changed my name Preeti Malik to Preeti Sidhu.

**I, Sanjeev** S/o Sat Narayan R/o H.No. 158, Opposite Ravi Jyotshi, Bazar Kalan, Bahadurpur Gate, Tehsil & Distt. Hoshiarpur Punjab have changed my name from Sanjeev to Sanjeev Kumar. Concerned note.

**I, Smt. Mohinder Kaur** W/o No. 13838155 Late Nk (TS) Chaman Lal R/o Vill. Khanpur PO Mahilpur Tehsil Garhshankar Distt. Hoshiarpur Punjab have changed my date of birth from 15-12-1958 to 01-07-1953.

**I, Manjit Kaur** W/o Sh. Sukhminder Singh R/o 191/4 Govt Ramgarh Mohalla Govt. College Road Distt. Hoshiarpur Punjab have changed my name from Manjit Kaur to Manjeet Kaur Nijjar.

**I, Sushpal Singh** alias Shashpal Singh S/o Sukhdev Singh R/o H.No.73, Sant Chanan Singh Colony O/s Chatiwind Gate, Amritsar, Punjab have changed my name from Sushpal Singh Alias Shashpal Singh to Sushpal Singh.

**I, Ashok Kumar** Bhandari S/o Anirud Bhandari R/o H.No.979, Block-C, Sec-3, Housing Board Colony, Ranjit Avenue, PS Civil Line, Amritsar, Punjab have changed my name from Ashok Kumar Bhandari to Ashok Bhandari.

**I, Meetu Sonam** Wife of Sant Kumar Sachdeva Resident of House no. 845, Gali No. 02, Mullanpur Garib Dass, SAS Nagar, Punjab, have changed my name to sonam sachdeva

**I, RINKU GULATI** s/o Shivdayal Gulati Village Saha, Ambala, Haryana declared that RINKU GULATI and RINKU KUMAR is one or same person. But my correct name is RINKU GULATI. Please Note.

**I, Navdeepak Singh** s/o Mohinder Pal r/o H.No. 268/07 Mohalla Islamabad, Gurdaspur (Punjab) declare that in future I may please be known as Singh as my surname and Navdeepak as my given name. Concerned note.

**I, Amandeep** s/o Bua Ditta r/o VPO Kahnawan Distt Gurdaspur have changed my name from Amandeep to Aman Deep...

**I, Ramandeep** s/o Bua Ditta r/o VPO Kahnawan Distt Gurdaspur have changed my name from Ramandeep to Raman Deep.

**I , KRISHAN LAL** S/O RAM PYARA Resident of MULLANA TEHSIL BARARA DIST. AMBALA, HARYANA declared that I have changed my name from KRISHAN LAL to KRISHAN KUMAR . Please Note.

**I, Sahil @ Sahil** Sharma S/o Sandeep Kumar Sharma R/o Bahadurgarh, Tehsil and Distt. Hjaigar (Haryana) declares that I am known by two names Sahil and Sahil Sharma my both names Sahil @ Sahil Sharma are correct and used for the same one person. All concerned please note.

**I, Bishwa Ranjan** Behera S/o Bairagi Charan Behera R/o Tower No-03 Flat No-901, Emperium Happy Home, Virat Nagar Near Model Town, Panipat declare that I have changed my name from Bishwaranjan Behera to Bishwa Ranjan Behera. In future I should be known as Bishwa Ranjan Behera.

**I, Hari Krishan** S/o Pahalwan Chand R/o H.No.C9/1, Eldeco Estate one, sector 4, Panipat declare that in my Passport no.M2817065 name of my father is wrongly written Pahalwan Singh but my Father correct name is Pahalwan Chand.

**I, Goutam Bhutani** S/o Ravi Kumar Bhutani R/o 565/18 Dogran Mohalla, Near Sai Baba Mandir, Hisar (Hry.) have changed my name From Gautam to Goutam Bhutani For All purposes in future.

**I, Surinder Pal** Khurana S/o Sh. Parmeshwari Dass Khurana R/o House No. 421, Sector-8, Urban Estate, Pin-132001 Karnal, Haryana. I Have Changed My Name From Surindar Pal to Surinder Pal Khurana For All Future Purposes.

**I, Punam Khurana** W/o Sh. Surinder Pal Khurana R/o House No. 421, Sector-8, Urban Estate, Pin-132001 Karnal, Haryana. I Have Changed My Name From Poonam Khurana to Punam Khurana For All Future Purposes.

**I, Hitherto** Known As Ripandeep Singh Goraya Son Of Santokh Singh Residing At Village Ghanshampur Po Chananke Tehsil Baba Bakala District Amritsar-143114 Punjab Have Changed My Name And Shall Hereafter Be Known As Ripandeep Singh

**I, Hitherto** Known As Jaswant Kaur Wife Of Nanak Singh Residing At Village Kunjar Po Gagowali Tehsil Kalanaur District Gurdaspur-143511 Punjab Have Changed My Name And Shall Hereafter Be Known As Jaswinder Kaur

**I, Parminder Kaur** Kalsi W/O Gurdev Singh R/O H.No.303, Kot Atma Ram Sultanwind Road, Amritsar Have Changed My Name From Parminder Kaur Kalsi To Parminder Kaur

**I, Gurdev Singh** S/O Ajit Singh R/O H.No.303, Kot Atma Ram Sultanwind Road, Amritsar Have Changed My Minor Daughter's Name From Sargundeep Kaur Kalsi To Sargundeep Kaur

**I Hitherto** Known As Tajinder Kaur Wife Of Pargat Singh Residing At Bishankot, Distt.Gurdaspur Have Changed My Name And Shall Hereafter Be Known As Tejinder Kaur.

**I Hitherto** Known As Madhu Wife Of Ashwani Kumar Residing At Krishna Gali, Qaddi Hatti, Batala, Gurdaspur-143505 Punjab Have Changed My Name And Shall Hereafter Be Known As Veena Rani.

**I Kamaljeet Kaur** W/O Amarjit Singh R/O Vpo. Sarli Khurd, Distt Tarn Taran Have Changed My Name From Dhillon Kamaljeetkaur Sukhwantsingh To Kamaljeet Kaur

**I, Gurasees Singh** S/O Swinder Jit Singh R/O 431, Gali Pipal Wali, Mahna Singh Road, Ward No.41, Amritsar Have Changed My Name Gurasees Is My Given Name And Singh Is My Surname

**I, Savinderjit Singh** S/O Raghbir Singh R/O 431, Gali Pipal Wali, Mahna Singh Road, Ward No.41, Amritsar Have Changed My Name From Savinderjit Singh To Swinder Jit Singh

**I, Rattan Lal** And Rattan Chand S/O Basant Lal R/O H.No.27, Gali No.3, Batala Road, Vijay Nagar Amritsar Have Declare That Above Both Name's Are Mine One And Same Person

**I, Kewal Krishan** Sharma S/O Mool Raj R/O H.No.489-B, Basant Nagar, Majitha Road, Amritsar Have Changed My Name From Kewal Krishan Sharma To Kewal Krishan

**I, Bhawana Negi** D/O Rajender Singh Negi W/O Digamber Singh R/O H.No.P-50, Tyagi Enclave, New Amritsar Military Station Khasa Cantt, Amritsar Have Changed My Name To Bawana After Marriage

**I, Kasm Ali** S/O Ramjan Ali R/O. Vill. Khosa Dal Singh Wala Tehsil Zira Ferozepur Have Changed My Name To Kasam Ali To Kasm Ali

**I, Balbir Masih** S/O Kala Singh R/O Shahura District Amritsar Have Changed My Name From Balbir Masih To Dalbeer Singh

**I Varinder Kour** W/O Satnam Singh R/O H.No.11, Gali No.16, Mata Ganga Ji Nagar, Opp-Khu Bhai Manj Sahib, Tarn Taran Road, Amritsar Have Changed My Name As Varinder Kaur All Please Note It

**I, Muskan Bhandari** W/O Kashish Mahajan R/O H.No.21, Lane No.7, New Pawan Nagar Batala Road, Amritsar Have Changed My Name From Muskan Bhandari To Muskan Mahajan

**I, Ridhi Kathuria** D/O Rajiv Kathuria W/O Vaibhav Sehgal R/O 66, Kennedy Avenue, Albert Road, Amritsar Have Changed My Name From Ridhi Kathuria To Ridhi Sehgal After Marriage

**I, No. 15239076m** Hav (Skt) Praveen Bhagavant Ireshnavar Resident Of Babolal, Belagavi, Karnataka, Declare That I Have Changed My Daughter's Name From Sahana To Sahana Praveen Ireshnavar Vide Affidavit No. In-Pb91773146008021w Dated 01-03-2024, Before Notary Public, Amritsar.

**In** My Son No. 4201498a Nk/M.Keeper Navale Nand Kumar Ganpat, 21 Kumaon Services Documents My Name Wrongly Written As Ranjana Navale, Which Needs To Be Corrected As Housabai Ganpat Navale. Housabai Ganpat Navale Resident Of Sarola Somwanshi, Ahmदनagar, Maharashtra

**In** My Son No. 4201498a Nk/M.Keeper Navale Nand Kumar Ganpat, 21 Kumaon Services Documents My Name Wrongly Written As Navale Ganpat Vitthal, Which Needs To Be Corrected As Ganpat Vitthal Navale. Ganpat Vitthal Navale Resident Of Sarola Somwanshi, Ahmदनagar, Maharashtra

**I, Boota Singh** Son Of Sajjan Singh Resident Of Vill Balianwala Po Mehmoopura District Tarn Taran Changed His Name To Buta Singh

**I Manoj** S/o Ram Karan, H. No. 349 EB, Block Nangal Town Ship, (Rupnagar) have changed my name from Manoj to Manoj Yadav.

**I, Param Jeet Singh** S/o Dalbir Singh, B080, Sky Associate, Sector 28 Ridhi Sidhi, Alpha International City, Karnal, have changed name to Paramjeet Singh Chawla.

**I, Joginder Paul** S/o Om Parkash, 324 Sector 32A, Chandigarh, have changed name to Joginder Pal Sharma

**I, Hitherto** Known as Nisha Sethi W/o Ketan Tinna R/o Opp. BDO Office , Jhule Lal Colony, Fazilka 152123 Pb, have changed name and shall hereafter be known as Nisha Tinna.

**I, Baljit Kaur** Dhanerwal W/o Gurmeet Singh R/o Jawahar Nagar, Tohana (Fatehabad), have changed my name to Baljeet Kaur

**I, Manav** S/o Dinesh Kumar R/o Ram Nagar, Tohana (Fatehabad). Have changed my name to Manav Mehdiratta.

**I, Shivani Devi** W/o Rajender Kumar R/o Bulada Colony Tohana (Fatehabad), have changed my name to Shivani Rani.

**I, Bhim Singh** s/o Chanderbhan R/o israna dist. Panipat has changed my from bhim singh to Bheem Singh for all future purposes.

**I, Sushma Devi** w/o Chaman Lal R/o Village Doongh, Post office Kot, Tehsil Dhar kalan, Distt Pathankot, Punjab have changed my name to Sushma.

**I Pawan Kumar** Gupta S/o Moti Ram R/o H.No-168/6 Naya Bans Ambala City have changed my name from Pawan Kumar Gupta.

**I Rabeena** W/o Sabir Ali R/o Village Islamabad, District Kurukshetra have changed my name from Raveena to Rabeena.

**I Meenu Sharma** W/o Sh. Vinod Kumar R/o H.No. 45, Ashoka Nursery Ranjeet Enclave, Karnal have changed my name from Meenu Sharma to Meena.

**I Manjit Singh** S/o Sh. Jagmal Singh R/o Village Rollan Rawalan P/O Sarsehri Distt Ambala have changed my name to Manjit Singh Chahal.

**I Suresh Kumar** S/o Sh. Rattan Lal/R/o Village Fatehpur Tehsil Pundri Distt Kaithal (Haryana) have changed my Son name from Vikas to Vikas Gora.

**I Usha** D/o Sant Lal Kataria alias Dharmatmanand R/o H.No- 385 Sri Mandir Sat Guru Nagar Trust , Cloth Market Ambala City have changed my name from Usha to Dharmatmanand. Usha and Dharmatmanand is one and the same person

**I Raman Jot Singh** S/o Sh. Navinder Pal Singh R/o, H.No- 1734 Kacha Bazar Ambala Cantt have changed my name to Ramanjot Singh.

**I, Suraj Ramkrishan** Mishra S/o Late Sh. Chaturbhuj Mishra R/O House No 67-68, Preet Nagar , Police Line, Ambala City declare that I have changed my name from Ramkrishan to Suraj Ramkrishan Mishra . in future I will be known as Suraj Ramkrishan Mishra

**I, Sonia Singla** w/o Deepak Kumar Singla r/o #239, Moti Nagar, Behind K.R. Cinema, Karnal (Haryana) have changed my name from Sonia Singla to Sonia. In future I should be known as Sonia.

**I Sukhbir Singh** S/O Shivdev Singh R/o 71,Labour Colony , Near ITI ,Tehsil Jagadhri, Distt. Yamunanagar.have Changed my Name From SS Grewal To Sukhbir Singh for all future Purposes.

**I, Virender Singh** S/O Sh. Om Parkash R/O House No. 93-C, Gali No. 1, Basant Vihar, Karnal Have Changed My Minor Son Name From Vishesh To Vishesh Rozera. All Concerned Please Noted.

**I Virender Singh** S/O Sh. Om Parkash R/O House No. 93-C, Gali No. 1, Basant Vihar, Karnal Have Changed My Minor Son Name From Viraj To Viraj Rozera. All Concerned Please Noted.

**I Yadwinder Singh** Babra S/O Mangal Singh R/O HI 520 Phase 7 Mohali Change My Name Yadwinder Singh

**I Sunita Devi** W/O Devi Dayal R/O Village Ram Pur Sainian Tehsil Dera Bassi Distt Sas Nagar Have Changed My Name From Sunitta To Sunita Devi

**I Amarjeet Singh** S/O Avtar Singh , R/O Village Pratapnagar Ward No.07, Near Gurdwara Sahib, Ellenabad Have Changed My Name To Amandeep Singh

**I Anjali Gupta** W/O Manglesh Kumar R/O Lambi Gali Ward No.7, Mukerian Distt Hoshiarpur Have Changed My Name From Anjali To Anjali Gupta

**I Hardeep Singh** Chandi S/O Savinder Singh Resident Of Village Bhatmajra Sub Teh Ghanour, Tehsil Rajpura District Patiala Have Changed My Name To Hardeep Singh.

**I Mansi Sharma** D/O Ravi Kumar R/O Village Khodebet Tehsil Dera Baba Nanak Distt Gurdaspur Have Changed My Name To Mansi Ohri After Marriage.

**I Anju** W/O Kewal Parkash R/O Trivedi Camp, Mubarakpur Tehsil Dera Bassi Distt Sas Nagar Declare That Anju Alias Anju Bala Are Names Of One And Same Person. I Known With Both Names

**I Usha Rani** W/O Rajan Gulati R/O H.No- 1505 Sector- 15 Panchkula, Have Changed My Name From Usha Rani To Rashmi Gulati.

**I, Harpreet Kaur** D/O Jodh Singh, Holder Of



# Disrupted by Cong sloganeering, Governor's address cut short

MONIKA MALIK ■ CHANDIGARH

Punjab Assembly Budget session commenced on a turbulent note on Friday, marred by vehement protests and slogan-shouting by Congress MLAs against the Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) Government, the BJP-led Central and Haryana Governments. The unruly scenes unfolded as the Governor Banwarilal Purohit attempted to deliver his customary address to the House — a tradition marking the onset of the budget session. However, for the first time in the recallable history of Vidhan Sabha, the Governor has to cut short his address to the House.

As the Governor ascended the podium to commence his address, Punjab Congress president and Gidderbaha MLA Amrinder Singh Raja Warring spearheaded the Oppositions outcry, emphasizing the plight of farmers and demanding homage to Shubhkaran Singh, a young farmer who tragically lost his life amid clashes between protesting farmers and Haryana security personnel on February 21. “First, homage should be paid to Shubhkaran...It will be good if the Governor pays homage to the deceased young farmer,” he said.

Leader of Opposition Partap Singh Bajwa echoed Warring's sentiments, lambasting the Haryana Government's actions and urging the Punjab Governor to prioritize discussions on the farmers' grievances. “Haryana has sealed its borders with Punjab...You have not been able to protect your farmers,” Bajwa said to the Governor.

Responding, the Governor said: “I will request the Leader of Opposition that you have ample time to discuss these things. As per the agenda and custom, I am supposed to deliver my speech. After my speech, you can raise any issue.” “There might be so many serious questions. I agree. But this is the time to deliver my speech...Why you are obstructing? This is not fair...I request you...This House is for debate, you will get ample time,” said Purohit, in a pleading voice asking the Congress members to listen to his address.

The Speaker Kultar Singh Sandhwan also requested the Congress MLAs to let the Governor complete his customary address. However,



despite their repeated appeals for cooperation and adherence to protocol, the Congress MLAs persisted in their disruptive behaviour, raising slogans against the AAP-led Punjab Government, BJP led Haryana Government, and the Centre on the farmers' issue. Undeterred by pleas for decorum, the Congress mem-

unrelenting clamour and chaos, the Governor reluctantly announced his decision to abbreviate his speech, reading only the first and last paragraphs before abruptly concluding the same.

“As per the Rules, I am reading out the first line ... and the last para ... the rest of the speech be taken as read,” con-

timing and manner of the FIR lodged in Shubhkaran Singh's case, alleging procedural irregularities and an attempt to dilute the seriousness of the matter.

## Congress Disruption During Governor's Address an Insult to Assembly

Punjab Finance Minister Harpal Singh Cheema on Friday denounced the Congress' disruptive behaviour during the Governor's address at the beginning of the budget session, labeling it as “an insult” to the sanctity of the House and a desperate attempt to evade acknowledgment of the AAP-led Government's accomplishments.

In a scathing rebuke, Cheema lambasted the Congress MLAs for attempting to obstruct the Governor's speech, which included highlighting the State Government's achievements in the past year. He accused the opposition of fearing the dissemination of this information to the public through live broadcast, opting instead to create chaos and disrupt parliamentary proceedings.

“Despite being aware that obituary references, including those honouring the young farmer, Shubhkaran, who lost his life during the ongoing agitation on the Haryana borders, were scheduled after the Governor's address, the Congress attempted to disrupt the proceedings of the House during the speech,” said Cheema, addressing the media.

Cheema noted that the House intended to pay tribute to farmer Subhkaran Singh, who tragically passed away at the Khanauri border. However, the Congress MLAs sought to create chaos as the House proceedings were being broadcast live. “Following the registration of a zero FIR, the police were diligently investigating the matter...who all are responsible...who are the real accused...who fired and from where — ensuring that the perpetrators would be apprehended and held accountable,” he added.

Cheema, emphasized that the longstanding tradition dictates the commencement of the budget session with the Governor's address, followed by paying tributes to notable figures, including farmer Shubhkaran Singh, who lost his life during the farmers' struggle at Khanauri border between Haryana and Punjab.

# Governor claims improvement in law and order in Punjab

PNS ■ CHANDIGARH

Punjab Governor Banwarilal Purohit, in his “unread” address to the state Vidhan Sabha, claimed that significant strides were made by the Punjab Police's Anti-Gangster Task Force, established in 2022, in combating organized crime.

Interestingly, Purohit could read just a few lines during his customary address to the House on the first day of the session; and have to cut short amidst Congress' protest. After reading just the first and the last paras, he asked the House to consider it as “read”.

In a comprehensive overview of the AAP-led Punjab Government's achievements in the Governor's Address — tabled in the House — focusing on various sectors ranging from law and order to agriculture, education, healthcare, infrastructure, and social welfare, the Governor highlighted that the AGTF had arrested 951 gangsters and neutralized 14 of them involved in heinous crimes.

Additionally, 312 criminal modules were busted, leading to the recovery of 963 weapons and 208 vehicles used in criminal activities. The Governor also emphasized the Punjab Police's successful crackdown on drug smuggling, with 25,385 drug smugglers arrested and substantial amounts of narcotics seized, including 1,860 kg of heroin within the state and 147 kg intercepted at seaports in Gujarat and Maharashtra.

Shifting the focus to agriculture, Purohit underscored the State Government's initiatives to promote sustainable farming practices. He noted that 19,097 farmers had adopted direct seeding of rice on 1,70,000 acres during the financial year 2023-2024. Furthermore, efforts to support sugarcane farmers were acknowledged, with sugar mills disbursing Rs 2,558.03 crore to farmers for the 2022-23 crushing season. The Governor also highlighted the state's commitment to water conservation, citing a 38 per cent increase in the utilization of canal water during peak demand periods and the rehabilitation of dysfunctional canals, which contributed to groundwater



Punjab Chief Minister Bhagwant Mann led Vidhan Sabha in paying tribute to departed souls including Martyrs, Farmer and Political Personalities, who had passed away since the last session of the Assembly in Chandigarh on Friday. Pioneer Photo

recharge and irrigation efficiency.

In the realm of education, Governor lauded the Government's efforts to enhance access and quality. Over 9,500 teachers were recruited since April 2022, while pre-primary enrollment witnessed a 17 per cent increase. The implementation of a centralized admission portal for higher education benefited approximately 1.5 lakh students during the 2023-2024 academic session. Moreover, the regularization of over 12,000 qualified employees and the establishment of Schools of Eminence underscored the government's commitment to educational reform.

The Governor also highlighted significant strides in healthcare delivery, including the establishment of 664 operational Aam Aadmi Clinics, which catered to over 1.07 crore visitors. Free distribution of medicines worth Rs 450 crore and diagnostic tests valued at Rs 70 crore further enhanced access to healthcare services. Additionally, the state government's initiatives to provide free medicines, diagnostic facilities, and infrastructure upgrades in district hospitals underscored its commitment to universal healthcare.

Governor Purohit underscored the state's focus on infrastructure development, emphasizing the construction of civil air terminals and thermal power plants to bolster connectivity and energy security. The acquisition of the GVK Goindwal Sahib thermal

plant at a low cost and the development of the Shahpurkandi Dam project were highlighted as key milestones in infrastructure development.

Furthermore, the Governor outlined several social welfare initiatives aimed at enhancing the quality of life for citizens. These included the implementation of schemes like 'Bhagwant Mann Sarkar Tuhade Dwar' and 'Door-Step Delivery of Services,' which provided citizens with convenient access to government services. The expansion of free electricity schemes, financial assistance for veterans, and recognition of athletes' achievements demonstrated the government's commitment to social welfare and inclusive development.

In conclusion, Governor Purohit emphasized the state government's commitment to inclusive growth, sustainable development, and good governance. He urged all stakeholders to work collaboratively towards building a prosperous and equitable future for the people of Punjab, rooted in the principles of transparency, accountability, and social justice. The House will resume proceedings on Monday morning, when the members of the House will debate on the Governor's address.

## House Paid Tributes to 'Martyr' Shubhkaran

Punjab Vidhan Sabha on Friday paid heartfelt tributes to the young farmer Shubhkaran Singh, who tragically lost his life during the clashes between

the Haryana police and protesting farmers at the Punjab-Haryana border at Khanauri on February 21.

The farmer unions, seeking the legal guarantee on minimum support price (MSP), had been pressing for the status of “martyr” for the deceased farmer. Chief Minister Bhagwant Mann had promptly declared a compensation of Rs one crore along with a government job for the deceased farmer's younger sister.

The demand for the martyr status for the nine farmers who have succumbed during the recent Dilli Chalo protest echoed within the assembly. Partap Singh Bajwa, the Leader of the Opposition, appealed to the Speaker for official recognition of their sacrifice.

Apart from him, the House also mourned the passing of former Deputy Speaker Baldev Raj Chawla, as well as former MLAs Ranjit Singh Talwandi, Parkash Singh Garhdiwala, and Sohan Singh Bodal. Additionally, the assembly also commemorated the bravery of Agniveer Ajay Kumar, sepoy Harsimran Singh, Gurpreet Singh, Jagpal Singh Home Guard, among others.

Homage was also paid to Harbans Kaur, wife of eminent journalist and freedom fighter Jangir Singh, martyr Amrik Singh, martyr Naib Subedar Angeez Singh, and martyr Kuldeep Singh.

As a mark of respect, a two-minute silence was observed in memory of the departed, underscoring the somber mood that enveloped the House.

# Punjab Police initiative for prevention of sexual violence against children launched

PNS ■ CHANDIGARH

To ensure the safety and security of Women and Children in the state, Community Affairs Division and Women Affairs Wing of Punjab Police on Friday launched initiative Jagriti for the prevention of sexual violence against children specifically children in the age group of 5 to 12 years.

The initiative Jagriti is being backed

by the pivotal training program organised by the Community Affairs Division Punjab for 180 Punjab

Police officials at the Punjab Police Officer Institute here.

The comprehensive session focused on Child Sexual Abuse, Prevention and Provisions in Law.Special DGP Community Affairs Division and Women Affairs Gurpreet Kaur

Deo, while elucidating the Saanjh

Jagriti Program's objectives, emphasised its role in creating awareness among students (class 2nd to 5th), teachers, principals, and ancillary staff, including peons and drivers.

Director of Prasanchetas Foundation Manjula Sularia and State Coordinator of Bachpan Bachao

Andolan Yadwinder Singh conducted enlightening sessions on child sexual abuse awareness and the POCSO Act respectively on the occasion.

PNS ■ CHANDIGARH

Punjab Health Minister Dr Balbir Singh on Friday maintained that he has been informed that Shubhkaran Singh, the 22-year-old farmer from Bathinda, tragically succumbed to a fatal “firearm” injury during the fervent ‘Dilli Chalo’ protest at the Khanauri border on February 21.

Dr Balbir said that Shubhkaran was rushed to Rajindra Hospital, Patiala, after sustaining a critical head injury during the protest. Despite efforts to save him, he was pronounced dead upon arrival.

The post-mortem conducted on Wednesday night confirmed the cause of death as a firearm shot to the head, said

Dr Balbir, adding that he was yet to see the report as he was preoccupied with the ongoing Vidhan Sabha session.

“I have not seen the post-mortem report yet, but I have been informed that Shubhkaran died due to a firearm injury in his brain,” he said.

The autopsy report indicated that Shubhkaran passed away on the spot, with “metal pellets” discovered lodged in his brain.

While no bullet was recovered, the presence of metal pellets suggested the use of rubber bullets, as speculated by fellow protesters, during the confrontation with Haryana Police.

Punjab Government is yet to release

the full post-mortem report, a move that could potentially implicate the Haryana Police in the tragic incident. Despite earlier denials by the Haryana DGP regarding the use of pellet guns, Dr Balbir had previously accused the police of employing “illegal pellet guns” against protestors, resulting in severe injuries.

Pellets, whether metal or rubber, are typically loaded into short or long-range air guns and can prove fatal if they penetrate vital organs. With several theories going around as of now, the official post-mortem report can only put an end to all speculation and give the final answer to all the questions arising out of the young farmer's tragic death.

# Those MLAs who betrayed the party and cross voted, sold their soul: CM Sukhu

PNS ■ SHIMLA

In the backdrop of a political storm in the state in which six Congress MLAs defied party whip and were terminated from the membership of the assembly, Himachal Chief Minister Sukhvinder Singh Sukhu on Friday said that some Congress MLAs sold their souls and went against the party ethics to cross-vote in the Rajya Sabha elections. “Those who betrayed the party and above all played with the sentiments of the people of the state won't be spared even by the Almighty,” he said while addressing a public meeting in Dharampur in Kasauli assembly segment.

He stated that six rebel MLAs, escorted by the Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) and Haryana Police, reached Shimla by helicopter but abstained themselves from the house when the budget was supposed to be passed on 28h February with a motive to overthrow the government.

“It seemed that the BJP could not digest the numerous welfare schemes, launched by the State Government to benefit the people of the State,” he alleged. In the first budget, the state government took strenuous measures to curb corrup-

tion and similarly many provisions were made in its second budget for the welfare of the people, he added.

“I am here for the people of the State, for the development of my State, I am here for you all and not afraid of the conspiracies being hatched against me,” he said, adding that I will not allow the wealth of the state to be looted at any cost. My people are my strength and I am bound and committed to serve them until my last breath, he remarked.

In his emotional address, the Chief Minister said that the BJP was trying to destabilize the elected government, which was quite unfortunate. He said that leader of opposition Jai Ram Thakur was hungry for power whereas for me my people are my priority. The present state government will definitely complete its five years tenure.

Health and Family Welfare Minister Dr. (Col) Dhani Ram Sandhil said that democracy should prevail at any cost despite efforts by few to destabilize the government undemocratically. Chief Parliamentary Secretary Chaudhary Ram Kumar said the government will complete its full term despite the BJP's tactics to destabilize it. There has been no allegation of cor-



ruption against the state government in the last 14 months, he said.

Meanwhile, Himachal Pradesh minister Vikramaditya Singh met the state's six disqualified Congress MLAs in Haryana's Panchkula on his way to Delhi on Friday when he was also scheduled to hold talks with party chief Mallikarjun Kharge.

Talking to the media persons here, Chief Minister Sukhvinder Singh Sukhu said Vikramaditya Singh informed him on Thursday that some of the Congress rebels had approached him and wished to come back. “I told Vikramaditya Singh to talk to these rebel MLAs and the Congress central leadership,” the chief minister said, adding

that the family members of these rebel MLAs were talking to them and they want to be in the Congress.

“Vikramaditya Singh will meet with Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge in New Delhi today and we will see what development takes place but there is no threat to the government,” he said.

After the cross-voting, Vikramaditya Singh, state Congress chief Pratibha Singh's son, had announced his resignation from the Cabinet but softened his stand after a meeting with the observers.

Sukhu said the rebels are staying at a hotel in Panchkula. “We will see what to do when they enter Himachal,” he added. On whether the Congress would take the rebels

back, Sukhu said, “I have already cleared my stand on the issue...” The chief minister said at a press conference a day before that the party was ready to take the rebels back.

According to his official programme, Singh, who is the Congress-run state's public works minister, is on a two-day trip to Delhi where he will meet Union Minister for Road Transport and Highways Nitin Gadkari on Saturday.

Following the disqualification of the six rebel legislators, the effective strength of the House has reduced from 68 to 62 while the number of Congress MLAs has shrunk from 40 to 34. The BJP has 25 MLAs and the remaining three are Independents. The Independent MLAs were

among the nine MLAs who cross-voted in favour of the BJP Rajya Sabha candidate Harsh Mahajan.

## Crisis could have been avoided had grievances of MLAs addressed on time: PCC President

A day after Congress' central observers asserted that there was no threat to the government in Himachal Pradesh, state party chief Pratibha Singh on Friday said the political crisis could have been averted had the grievances of MLAs addressed time.

Pratibha Singh said there was acrimony towards Chief Minister Sukhvinder Singh Sukhu as 14 months after the Congress came to power in the state, leaders who worked hard to ensure the party's victory were not “accommodated” by him. “Fourteen months is a long period and I have been consistently urging the chief minister to accommodate leaders who worked hard for the victory of the party but nothing was done,” she said.

Pratibha Singh said Rajinder Rana — one of the six rebel MLAs — was a “tall leader” who had defeated former chief minister P K Dhumal and was expecting a Cabinet berth but was ignored. However, all the issues have now been sorted and the observers have given their report to the High Command. The matter will be discussed when the High Command calls us, she said.

# Hry BJP short-lists LS poll candidates

PNS ■ CHANDIGARH

The BJP has short-listed the probable candidates in Haryana for the upcoming Lok Sabha polls at a meeting of its state election committee.

The short-listed names would be sent to the central leadership, leaders of the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) said while exuding confidence that the performance of the 2019 general election will be repeated again and the “lotus will bloom on all 10 seats” in the state. Sources said in addition to the incumbent MPs, party leaders Kuldeep Bishnoi, Abhimanyu, Yogeshwar Dutt, Ashok Tanwar, late Rattan Lal Kataria's wife Banto Kataria, O P Dhankar and Vipul Goel are among the contenders for the Lok Sabha seats in Haryana.

The BJP won all the 10 parliamentary seats in Haryana in 2019. The Ambala Lok Sabha seat is currently vacant due to the death of MP Rattan Lal Kataria last year. The saffron party had forged an alliance with the Jannayak Janta Party (JJP) after the 2019 Assembly polls as it fell short of a simple majority in the 90-member state Assembly. However, in recent months, both the BJP and the JJP have said they are preparing to contest all the 10 Lok Sabha seats and remained non-committal on fighting the

upcoming election together.

The state election committee meeting was held in Delhi under the chairmanship of Haryana BJP chief Nayab Singh Saini. Chief Minister Manohar Lal Khattar, the party's Haryana in-charge Biplob Kumar Deb and other senior leaders were present.

## BJP forms 15-member election panel in Punjab

The Bharatiya Janata Party has formed a 15-member election committee for Punjab, with the state unit president Sunil Jakhar at its helm, to oversee the saffron party's electoral strategies and campaign in the state.

The committee comprises prominent leaders including the former Chief Minister Capt Amarinder Singh, Iqbal Singh Lalpura, Union Minister Som Prakash, Tarun Chugh, former state president Ashwani Sharma, former Minister Manoranjan Kalra, former MP Avinash Rai Khanna, Harjeet Singh Grewal, general secretary (organization) Mantri Srinivasulu, Rakesh Rathore, Drinal Singh Sodhi, Anil Sarin, Jagmohan Singh Raju, and Paraminder Singh Brar.

Jai Indar Kaur — who is also the chairperson of the Punjab BJP mahila morcha (women's wing) — is also part of this committee.



# Classifieds

## PUBLIC NOTICE

**I, Smt Sowran kaur** legally wedded spouse of Army no. JC-402056Y Sub Harbans Singh r/o H. No. 8889, St no. 15, Gurlpal Nagar, Ludhiana (Punjab) declare to change my name to Sawran Kaur, my correct date of birth is 10-07-1960.

**I, Surjeet Kaur** Is Mother Of Army No:15574529K Rank-L/Nk Jaswinder Singh Presently Posted At 474 Engr. Bde C/O 56 Apo Zirakpur, Punjab Declare That In My Son's Service Record My Name Wrongly Mentioned As Surjeet Kaur But My Correct Name Is Surjit Kaur. Vide Affidavit No-Rd 0021279699, Dated-02/03/24

**I, Surjit Kaur** Is Mother Of Army No: 15574529K Rank-L/Nk Jaswinder Singh Presently Posted At 474 Engr. Bde C/O 56 Apo Zirakpur, Punjab Declare That In My Son's Service Record My Date Of Birth Wrongly Mentioned As 30/09/1968 But My Correct Date Of Birth Is 12/11/1957. Vide Affidavit No-Rd 0021279697, Dated-01/03/24

**I, Mahekdeep Kaur** Is Daughter Of Jc No:340577 Rank-Sub Name-Mangal Singh, Presently Serving In 62 Engr Regt C/O 56 Apo Permanent Address: Vill-Tibri Post-Pull Tibri, Tibri, Gurdaspur, Punjab-143530 I Have Changed My Name From Mahekdeep Kaur To Mehakdeep Kaur.Vide Affidavit No-Rd 0021279696, Dated- 01/03/2024

**I, Sukhbeer Kaur** Is Legally Wedded Spouse Of Jc No:340577 Rank- Sub Name-Mangal Singh, Presently Serving In 62 Engr Regt C/O 56 Apo Permanent Address: Vill-Tibri Post-Pull Tibri, Tibri, Gurdaspur, Tibri, Punjab-143530 I Have Changed My Name From Sukhbeer Kaur To Sukhbir Kaur.Vide Affidavit No-Rd 0021279686 Dated-01/03/24

**I, No. Jc-3323891** Rank Sub Major (Hony Lt) Name Kuldeep Kumar Rana S/O Arjun Singh R/O Tehsil Sujanjpur, Dudhla, Hamirpur, Himachal Pradesh-177028 Have Changed My Mother Name From Krishna Devi To Krishni Devi And Also Change My Mother Date Of Birth From 01.07.1947 To 05.04.1935.

## CHANGE OF NAME

**I, Neetu** W/o Manjeet Singh R/o H. No. 23-24, Sirsa Road, Housing Board Colony, Hisar, Haryana declare that I have changed my name from Neetu to NEETU KAUR SONDHI for all future purpose.

**I, Rekha Rani** W/o Subhash Kumar R/o H.No.214, Dhangu Peer, Near Mata FullanWali Gail, Tehsil & District Pathankot, Have Changed My Name From Rekha To Rekha Rani, Kindly Note.

**I Shobha** W/o Bahadur Ram R/O #266/1, Gali No. 1A, Shanti Nagar, Manimajra, Chandigarh have changed my name to Shobha Devi.

**I, Rajwant Singh** S/o Gurbachan Singh R/o House No. 132, Village Lambi, District Sri Muktsar Sahib, Punjab declare that Rajwant Singh and Rajwant Singh Dhaliwal is one and the same person, known by both names.

**I, Harshkinder Singh** S/o Rajwant Singh R/o House No. 812, Phase-XI, Sector-65, SAS Nagar, Mohali, Punjab declare that Harshkinder Singh and Harshkinder Singh Dhaliwal is one and the same person, known by both names.

**I, Kalyan Singh** S/o Lakha Singh R/o House No.1, Sanaur Road, Tej Bagh Colony, Tehsil & Distt. Patiala have changed my name from Kalyan Singh Lakha Singh to Kalyan Singh.

**I, No. 15503270P** Rank: LD Name: Gurpreet Singh R/o Village Bhatwal Kalan, Tehsil Bhawanigarh, Distt. Sangrur, (Pb.) Unit: 4 Horse C/o 56 APO have changed Date of Birth of my father Gurdhir Singh from 12-03-1970 to 01-01-1967 due to wrongly entered in my service record.

**I, Seema** wife of No. 14939427M Rank: NK Name: Pawan Kumar R/o Village Majari, P.O. Budhi Bawal, Tehsil Kotkasim, Distt. Alwar, Rajasthan, Unit: 21 MECH. C/o 56 APO have changed my Date of Birth from 10-03-1990 to 06-07-1991 due to wrongly entered in my husband's service record.

**I, Army No. 14687504P** Rank: HMT Name: Munesh Kumar Unit: 2 CZW C/o 56 APO Pin- 906302, Resident of Village Ramgarhi, Jalesar, Po Jalesar, Dist. Etah, Uttar Pradesh-207302 have changed my Father's name from Desraj Singh to Deshraj Singh.

**I, Army No. 14687504P** Rank: HMT Name: Munesh Kumar Unit: 2 CZW C/o 56 APO Pin- 906302, Resident of Village Ramgarhi, Jalesar, Po Jalesar, Dist. Etah, Uttar Pradesh-207302 have changed my Mother's name from Shila Devi to Sheela Devi.

**I, Seema Rani** W/o Manoj Kumar R/o VPO Amin, Tehsil Thanesar, District Kurukshetra, declare that my name was wrongly written as Seema in some documents. My real name is Seema Rani. From now on, I should be known as Seema Rani.

**I, Parvesh** W/o Yoginder Singh R/o House No. 543, 13 Extension, Urban Estate, Karnal, have changed my name from Parvesh Arya to Parvesh.

**I Sehajbir Maan** S/O Rajpal Singh R/O 73(A) Majitha Road Palam Vihar Amritsar Punjab 143001 Declare That Amrit And Sehajbir Maan Are The Name Of The One And Same Person.

**I Avtar Singh** S/O Mohinder Singh R/O Rauke Kalan (Moga) Have Changed My Name To Avtar Singh Dhaliwal.

**I Balwinder Kaur** W/O Avtar Singh Dhaliwal R/O Rauke Kalan (Moga) Have Changed My Name To Balwinder Kaur Dhaliwal.

**I Satnam Singh** Purba S/O Major Singh R/O Purana Bazar, Khanna, District Ludhiana Have Changed My Name To Satnam Singh.

**I Jatinder Kaur** W/O Manpreet Singh Khosa R/O Village Kot Karor Kalan Distt. Ferozepur Have Changed My Name To Jatinder Kaur Khosa.

**I Amarjeet Sidhu** S/O Bhag Singh R/O Kapoor Enclave Jagraon Distt. Ludhiana Have Changed My Name To Amarjeet Singh.

**I Kuljit Kaur** W/O Surjit Singh R/O Vpo. Boparai Kalan Distt. Ludhiana Have Changed My Name To Kuljeet Kaur.

**I Manjinder Singh** Sidhu S/O Bhagwan Singh R/O Vpo. Deharka Tehsil Jagraon Distt. Ludhiana Have Changed My Name To Manjinder Singh.

**I Jatinder Singh** Dhanoo S/O Hameer Singh R/O Vpo. Talwandi Kalan Tehsil Jagraon Distt. Ludhiana Have Changed My Name To Jatinder Singh.

**I, Jagjeet Singh** S/o Sukhdev Singh Vill.Gaucharand ,Pehowa, Kurukshetra have changed my name Jagjeet Surname Singh.

**I, Radha** W/o Dinesh Singh R/o Shiv Mandir, Bipur Kalan,Pehowa,Kurukshetra have changed my name Radha Devi.

**I, Gurbaj Singh** S/o Santokh Singh R/o Village Kumhar Mazra,Chammu Kalan Distt. Kurukshetra have changed my Given name Gurbaj Surname Singh.

**I, Baljeet Singh** S/o Randhir Singh Village Seonsar, Tehsil Pehowa District Kurukshetra, Haryana declare that my minor daughter real name is Ritika Singh instead of Ritika and Her mother real name is Sandip Gill instead of Sandeep Kaur. Her date of birth is 09-06-2007.

**I, Inderjeet Kaur** wife of Shri Sardar Anup Singh, resident of village Baiyali, Tehsil Bawani khara, District Bhiwani, declare That in some of my documents my name is INTERJEET KAUR and in some documents my name is INTERJEET KOUR. That INTERJEET KAUR @ INTERJEET KOUR both are my names.

**I, KRISHANA** is mother of No 15613524K RANK HAV NAME PRAVEEN KUMAR R/O VILL - ZAHIDPUR, PO - KOSLI, TEHSIL - KOSLI, DISTRICT - REWARI, STATE - HARYANA - 123302, have changed my name from KRISHANA to KRISHNA in my son's army service record vide affidavit 29.02.2024 before notary public Hisar.

**I, No. 15613524K** RANK HAV PRAVEEN KUMAR S/O Sh. Ram Nath R/O VPO- Zahidpur, Tehsil – Kosli, District – Rewari, State Haryana, Pin-123302, have Changed my Son's Name from ANKIT KUMAR to ANKIT in my army service record vide affidavit 12.02.2024 notary public Kosli.

**I, legally** wedded Anju Bai W/O No. 15613524K RANK HAV PRAVEEN KUMAR R/O VPO - Zahidpur, Tehsil Kosli, District - Rewari, State - Haryana, Pin- 123302, have Changed my Name from ANJU YADAV to ANJU BAI in my husband army service record vide affidavit 12.02.2024 Notary Public Kosli.

**I, NO. 3203005W** RANK HAV NAME AMAN KUMAR R/O 204, VRINDAVAN RESIDENCY, FLORA ENCLAVE, GANGAPURAM, GOVINDPURAM, DISTRICT GHAZIABAD, STATE U.P. 201012, in my army service record my son's name wrongly mentioned as ARNAB CHOUDHARY while his correct name is ARNAV CHAUDHARY which is also mentioned in his all government documents. Now, I want to make it correct as ARNAV CHAUDHARY in my army service record vide affidavit 01.03.2024 notary public Hisar.

**I, No. 15480431X** RANK DFR NAME RAJESH KUMAR INDOLIA R/O VPO PURAMANA, DISTRICT AGRA, STATE - U.P. – 283122, in my army service record my daughter's name was wrongly mentioned as ANUSHIKA while her correct name is ANUSHKA which is also mentioned in her all government documents. Now, I want to make it correct as ANUSHKA in my army service record vide affidavit 01.03.2024 notary public Hisar.

**I, RUBI KUMARI** is legally wedded spouse of NO. 3203005W RANK HAV NAME AMAN KUMAR R/O 204, VRINDAVAN RESIDENCY, FLORA ENCLAVE, GANGAPURAM, GOVINDPURAM, DISTRICT GHAZIABAD, STATE - U.P. - 201012 have changed my name from RUBI KUMARI to RUBY CHOUDHARY in my spouse army service record vide affidavit 01.03.2024 notary public Hisar.

**I, No. 15480431X** RANK DFR NAME RAJESH KUMAR INDOLIA R/O VPO PURAMANA, DISTRICT AGRA, STATE U.P. 283122, in my army service record my daughter's name wrongly mentioned as ISHA INDOLIA while her actual name is ISHA which is also mentioned in her all government documents. Now, I want to make it correct as ISHA in my army service record vide affidavit 01.03.2024 notary public Hisar.

**I, SWATI SAMANTARAY** is legally wedded spouse of NO. 14644586P RANK HAV NAME GYANA RANJAN CHHOTARAY R/O VPO NAHARKANTA, TEHSIL - BHUBANESWAR, DISTRICT - KHORDA, STATE - ODISHA - 752101, have changed my name from SWATI SAMANTARAY to SWATI CHHOTARAY in my spouse army service record vide affidavit 01.03.2024 notary public Hisar.

**I, SHRIDEVI** is legally wedded spouse of NO. 14684326M RANK HAV NAME SHIVAPUTRAHUGAR R/O VILLAGE - HANJAGI, TEHSIL - INDI, DISTRICT- VIJAYAPURA, STATE - KARNATAKA - 586211, have changed my name from SHRIDEVI to SHRIDEVI HUGAR in my spouse army service record vide affidavit 01.03.2024 notary public Hisar.

**I, SUNITA DEVI** is legally wedded spouse of NO. 14658289M RANK HAV NAME DHARMENDRA LAMBA R/O VPO KARANGA BARA, TEHSIL - FATEHPUR, DISTRICT - SIKAR, STATE - RAJASTHAN - 332301, have changed my name from SUNITA DEVI to SUNITA in my spouse army service record vide affidavit 01.03.2024 notary public Hisar.

**I, MALLIKA DEVI** is daughter of NO. 15614048H RANK HAV NAME RAKESH KUMAR R/O VPO QADIAN, TEHSIL - BATALA, DISTRICT - GURDASPUR, STATE - PUNJAB - 143516, have changed my name from MALLIKA DEVI to MALLIKA DEVI in my father's army service record vide affidavit 29.02.2024 notary public Hisar.

**I, SADHANA DAS** is legally wedded spouse of NO. 14932456Y RANK HAV NAME RABIN KUMAR DAS R/O VPO KUNJAPUR, DISTRICT EAST MEDINIPUR, STATE - W.B. - 721431, have changed my name from SADHANA DAS to SADHANA GUCHHAIT DAS in my spouse army service record vide affidavit 01.03.2024 notary public Hisar.

**I, NO. 18003954L** RANK NK NAME PALURI NAYAB RASOOL posted at 234 ARMD ENGR REGT C/O 56 APO, R/O VPO- GANGANPALLI, TEHSIL – SARI AVADHUTHA KASINAYANA, DISTRICT – CUDDA PAH, STATE – A.P. – 516217, in my army service record my son's name wrongly mentioned as SHAIK ASHARAF while her correct name is SHAIK ASHARAF which is also mentioned in his all government documents. Now, I want to make it correct as SHAIK ASHRAF in my army service record vide affidavit 29.02.2024 Executive Magistrate Hisar.

**I, Beena Malhotra** w/o Sanjay Malhotra and D/o Late. Sant Ram r/o H.No. 14-15, Shastri Market, Jalandhar, Punjab declare that Beena Malhotra and Beena Rani is one and the same person.

**I, Manjit** w/o Kashmir Lal R/o Vill. Paddi Khalsa, Po. Virk, Tehsil Phillaur, Distt. Jalandhar have changed my name from Manjit to Manjit Kaur.

**I, Ronica Bedi** D/o Nar Singh Dev Singh Bedi R/o H.No.2347/1, Sector 45 C, Chandigarh- 160047. have changed my name and shall hereafter be Known as Ronica Singh.

**I, Sunita** D/o Jai Chand Jatasra W/O Karmal Singh Malik R/o 728,Umrā (137), Hisar, Haryana- 125033. Have changed my name and shall hereafter be Known as Sunita Malik.

**I, Neesha** D/o Ranjit Pal W/o Kulwinder Kumar R/o Sarhali, Jalandhar, Punjab-144633. have changed my name and shall hereafter be Known as Neesha Kumari.

**I, Karam Kaur** W/o Baldev Raj R/o Ward no. 3, Bale Bale Palace De Back Side, Reru, Nurpur, Jalandhar, Punjab, India declare that my son who is living abroad, have changed his Haripal to Hari Pal. (Given name as Hari & Surname as Pal)

**I, Navkiran Seghal** S/o Gulshan Seghal R/o VPO. Bholath, Tehsil Bholath, Kapurthala, Punjab, have changed my daughter Rihanna's name from Rihanna to Rihanna Seghal, now she had known by Rihanna Seghal.

**I, Jagpreet Singh** s/o Harjit Singh r/o H.No. 25, Bhai Ghaniya Ji Nagar, Phagwara Distt. Kapurthala declare that Jagpreet Singh & Jagpreet Singh Sachdeva both are my names & one and the same person.

**I, Mahesh Kumar** Alias Mahesh Gupta S/o Husan Lal Gupta R/o H.No. 92, Backside Dussehra Ground, Pura Road, Jalandhar Cantt, Jalandhar-144005, Punjab have changed my name from Mahesh Kumar Alias Mahesh Gupta to Mahesh Gupta.

**I, Jaswinder Kaur** W/o Gurpreet Singh R/o VPO. Kala Sanghian, Distt. Kapurthala-144623, Punjab have changed my name from Jaswinder Kaur to Kaur Jaswinder.

**I, Mandeep Singh** Girm S/o Chuhar Singh Girm R/o Vill. Gujjarpur Khurd, PO. Paddi Matwali, Distt. SBS Nagar-144510, Punjab have changed my name from Mandeep Singh Girm to Mandeep Singh.

**I, Raman** S/O Prem Masih Village Dhariwal P/O Lakhnawal Tehsil/Distt- Gurdaspur. Have Changed My Name Raman to Raman Mattu. Concerned Note.

**I, Hithar** To Known As Jashanpreet S/O Mangal Singh R/O Village- Thikriwal Goraya, Po- Qadian-143516, Tehsil- Batala, Distt- Gurdaspur, Punjab. Have Changed My Name And Shall Hereafter Known As Jashanpreet Singh.

**I Neelam Chand** W/O Kiran Chand R/O 54/A, Mataf Majri, Banso Gate Karnal Have Changed My Name From Neelam To Neelam Chand. In Future I Shall Be Known As Neelam Chand.

**I Parvinder Kaur** W/O Satinder Pal Singh R/O #14/1436 Street No.3 Sultanwind Road Tej Nagar Amritsar Have Changed My Name To Prabhpreet Kaur.

**I, Manjeet Kaur** Virk (D/O Chuhar Singh) W/O Surjeet Singh R/O Vill. Babeli, P.O Bhabianna, Tehsil Phagwara, Distt. Kaupurthala, Punjab, India Have Changed My Name From Manjeet Kaur Virk To Manjeet Kaur.

**I, Taranjit** D/O Jhalman Singh R/O Mohalla Roop Lal Wala, V.P.O Apra, Tehsil Phillaur, Distt. Jalandhar, Punjab, India Have Changed My Name From Taranjit To Taranjit Kaur.

**I Sarman Singh** S/O Gurbachan Singh Village Gill Waraich Tehsil & Distt Tarn Taran Have Changed My Name To Sarwan Singh.

**I Lalit Kumar Sharma** S/o Kharaiti Lal Sharma R/o H.No. 5a Baghi Road Dashmesh Nagar Ferozepur City Have Changed My Name To Lalit Kumar.

**I Baldev Singh** S/o Gurmej Singh R/o Gulamwala Tehsil And District Ferozepur Have Changed The Name Of My Minor Son Balraj Singh To Balraj Singh Sidhu.

**I, Ajay Dhuna** S/o Subhash Dhunna R/o 35, Green Avenue (Kapurthala) have changed my name to Ajay Dhunna.

**I, Harjinder Singh** Dhaliwal S/o Jit Singh R/o Vpo. Talwandi Rai (Ludhiana) have changed my name to Harjinder Singh.

**I** Harkirat Singh S/o Bhagwant Singh Vill Jallu-pur Khara, Tehsil Baba Bakala, Distt Amritsar have changed my name from Harkirat Singh to Harkirat Singh Khaira.

**I** Bhupinder Singh Bhullar S/o Surjit Singh Vill Wazir Bhullar, Tehsil Baba Bakala Amritsar Punjab have changed my name from Bhupinder Singh Bhullar to Bhupindersingh Surjitsingh Bhullar.

**I** Navtejbir Singh Sandhu S/o Harbhajan Singh R/o Village Lohgarh, Tehsil Baba Bakala, Distt. Amritsar Punjab have changed my name Navtejbir Singh Sandhu to Navtejbir Singh.

**I** Jaswinder Singh Jawanda S/O Lakhvir Singh R/O Vill. Bhaini Baringan (Ludhiana) Have Changed My Name Jaswinder Singh.

**I, Lakhwinder** Singh Sran S/O Buta Singh Sran R/o Sarawan (Faridkot) have changed my minor son name from Vishvejeet Singh Sran to Vishavjeet Singh Sran.

**I** Jagmeet Kaur Brar W/o Kulwinder Singh R/o No. 1858 Kothe Dashmsh Nagar, V.P.O. Kotbhai, Distt.Sri Muktsar Sahib-152101 have changed my name to Jagmeet Kaur.

**I, Karandeep** Singh Mangat S/O Meor Singh R/o VPO Katani Kalan, Tehsil & District Ludhiana (Punjab) have changed my name to Karandeep Singh.

**I** Kiranpreet Kaur Sandhu W/o Amritpal Singh R/o Village Daroli Bhai (Moga) have changed my name to Kiranpreet Kaur.

**I** Jaikumar S/O Sheo Ram R/O Village Sipianwala (20), District Yamuna Nagar, Haryana-135103 Have Changed My Name To Balbir Singh.

**I** Sonia Bansal W/O Arun Kumar R/O H.No.65 Sewak Colony Patiala Punjab 147001 Have Changed My Name To Sonia.

**I** Arun Kumar Bansal S/O Sat Pal Gupta R/O H.No.65 Sewak Colony Patiala Punjab 147001 Have Changed My Name To Arun Kumar.

**I** Sharanjit Kaur W/O Sikander Singh R/O Village Gidri, PO- Bilaspur, Tehsil Payal, District- Ludhiana, Punjab- 141421, Have Changed My Name To Sharanjit Kaur Hajai.

**I** Sonia Gupta W/O Arun Kumar R/O H.No.65 Sewak Colony Patiala Punjab 147001 Have Changed My Name To Sonia.

**I** Arun Kumar Gupta S/O Sat Pal Gupta R/O H.No.65 Sewak Colony Patiala Punjab 147001 Have Changed My Name To Arun Kumar.

**I** Rewant Sharma S/O Ram Kumar Sharma R/O House No-2039/B-2, Street No-1, Basant Nagar, Shivpur, Ludhiana, Punjab-141008, Have Changed My Name To Rewant Mal Sharma.

**I** Tehal Singh Atwal S/O Harbhajan Singh R/O Village Atal Mazara, PO- Sahiba, Teh- Balachaur, Distt- Shaheed Bhagat Singh Nagar, Punjab- 144525, Have Changed My Name To Tehal Singh.

**I** Poonam Sharma D/O Kapil Dev Sharma And W/O Yogesh Malhotra R/O B-28/925/13, Surya Enclave, Pakhowal Road, Punjab Mata Nagar, Ludhiana, Punjab- 141001, Have Changed My Name To Aakriti Malhotra.

**I** Barjinder Singh Sidhu S/O Jarnail Singh R/O H.No.- 172 A, Patel Nagar, Bathinda, Bathinda, Punjab- 151001, Have Changed My Name To Barjinder Singh.

## VACATION NOTICE



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

### NOTICE

Notice is hereby given to the Applicant/ Co-applicant/ Guarantors/ Mortgagees/ M/S. BOORCHAND CHAMAN LAL, SHIVAM TRADERS, SHRI KRISHNA EXPORTS, RICHA SETIA, RABIA SETIA, SHIVAM SETIA/ NISHA SETIA/ NEELAM SETIA, MUNISH SETIA/ RAGHAV SETIA, STAR AGRIWAREHOUSING AND COLLATERAL MANAGEMENT LIMITED, JAMMU AND KASHMIR BANK LIMITED, to vacate the movable articles in the property situated at KHASRA NO 18/18(8-0), 19(8-0) 20(2-0) WAKIA RAKBA, BALACHAK, TESHILTARN TARAN AMRITSAR ALONGWITH COPY OF JAMABANDI YEAR 2008-09 SHOWING KHASRA NO 18/18, 19, 20 KHATA/KHATAUNI NO 146/279, 147/280, 168/317 HADBAST NO 52 MUTATION NO 4543, the possession of which is taken by ICICI Bank Limited, on February 13, 2024 under section 13(4) of the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act 2002, within the period of 7 days from the date of publication of this notice.

Please take note that if you fail to vacate the movable articles, ICICI Bank Limited, will be constrained to auction the property along with the movable articles lying in the property at your own cost and consequences and ICICI Bank Limited, will not be responsible for the same.

Date : March 02, 2024  
Place: Tarn Taran, Amritsar

SD/- Authorised Officer  
ICICI Bank Limited

**Save Energy for the benefit of self and nation**  
**HIMACHAL PRADESH STATE ELECTRICITY BOARD LTD.**  
(A State Government Undertaking)

**PRESS TENDER NOTICE**  
(E-tendering mode only)

Online tender are hereby invited by the undersigned for and on behalf of on behalf of Managing Director, HPSEBL, Shimla-4 for below described work on the prescribed from the eligible manufactures/authorize dealers. The tender documents are available on HPSEBL website [www.hptenders.gov.in](http://www.hptenders.gov.in).

Tender No.	HPSEBL/RELPH DB-10/23-24-028
Name of Work	Tender for Repair of spare OFWF cooler of Generator Transformer of 3x42 MW Larji Power House.
Estimated Cost	₹4,95,777/-
Earnest Money	₹4957/-
Cost of Tender Documents inclusive GST (Non-refundable)	₹590/-

**Key Dates:-**

1. Date of Sale of Tender	02-03-2024 (12:30 PM) to 07-03-2024 upto (02:00 PM)
2. Last date of receipt of tender	07-03-2024 upto 03:00 PM
3. Date of Bid Opening	07-03-2024 (04:30 PM)

The detail tender notification can be viewed/ downloaded free of cost from website <http://www.hptenders.gov.in>.

Resident Engineer,  
Larji Power House Division,  
HPSEBL, Thalout

**THE BATALA COOP. SUGAR MILLS LTD., BATALA DISTT. GURDASPUR (PUNJAB)**  
BCSM/Molasses/2023-24  
Website: [www.smbatala.com](http://www.smbatala.com) Email: [batalacsm@rediffmail.com](mailto:batalacsm@rediffmail.com)  
**e-Tender Notice for Sale of Molasses**

Online tenders are invited for sale of Molasses of 2,00,000 Qtls which is lying at any CSM of the State of Punjab. E-Bids will be opened on 26.03.2024 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, 89686-22017 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

**सेन्ट्रल बैंक ऑफ इंडिया**  
**Central Bank of India**

1911 से आपके लिए "केन्द्रित" "CENTRAL" TO YOU SINCE 1911

**NOTICE**

Reserve Bank of India vide circular no. RBI/2022-23/168 CO.CE.PD.PRS.No.S1233/13-01-018/2022-23 dated 23.01.2023 had advised Banks to execute revised locker agreement with locker customers by 31.12.2023. We have informed our locker customers about the above requirement through SMS/Mail/Letters.

In this regard Central Bank of India seek cooperation of locker customers who have not executed revised locker agreement till now to execute the revised locker agreement without further delay to enable bank to comply with the directions of Reserve Bank of India.

Dy. General Manager (Operations)  
Central Office-Mumbai

Date : 29.02.2024

**J&K Bank**  
This is for the information of the general public that: **M/s Gaurav Singla and Company** Shop No. 311 Grain Market, Mansa, Punjab Sole Proprietorship Concern of Mr. Amrit Pal S/o Sh. Saroop Chand R/o H. No. 340, Ward No. 18 Pind Wali Gail Mansa has approached our bank for Mortgage Loan Scheme for Traders of Agriculture Produce i.e. "Mandi Finance" against Secured Overdraft Facility of Rs. 10,50,000/- (Rupees Ten Lac Fifty Thousand only), i.e. Residential property measuring 14x50 sq. Feet having measurements and boundaries as north- 14 Feet Dillon Singh, South-Street wide 7 feet site 14 feet, East-50 feet Roshan Lal, West-50 Feet Tehal Singh situated at Ward No. 18 Opposite Madras Handloom, Backside Old Gausalla Road, Mansa, Tehsil and District Mansa owned and possessed by Mr. Amrit Pal S/o Sh. Saroop Chand R/o House No. 340, Ward No. 18, Pind Wali Gail, Mansa vide Sale Deed No. 7650 dated 10-02-2012 registered on 10.02.2012 with Sub Registrar, Mansa. Public in general is hereby informed that any person's, body/ies, institution's having any objection to the mortgage of the above said property in favor of the Bank as mentioned herein above may contact the under-signed and file his/her/their objection within seven days from the date of publication of this notice failing which no objection shall be entertained in this regard and it shall be presumed that nobody has any objection to the mortgage of the said property to the Bank and the same is free from all previous encumbrances, charges, liens, and litigations.

Dated: 01.03.2024 Tel. 9876000063, 9419230003, 9906320137 J&K Bank, Mansa

**Jammu and Kashmir Bank Ltd. MANSA**  
**PUBLIC NOTICE**

**SDS COLLEGE OF ANIMAL SCIENCES**  
Damkora Road, Tohana Fatehabad, Haryana

**INTERVIEW NOTICE**

In order to fill up the vacant 01 Principal & 04 Teaching Staff. Candidate should have at least bachelor's degree in Veterinary Sciences and AH form a recognized university and should be registered with VCI with a maximum age not more than 70 years.

Candidates should mail their resume at [sdstohana@gmail.com](mailto:sdstohana@gmail.com) up to 08/03/2024 and should bring original documents on the date of interview.

Director Management (+91-99910-40111)

**GAUR COLLEGE OF EDUCATION**  
14 K.M. Stone Barwala Road, Behbalpur (Hisar)  
Approved by NCTE, Jaipur, Affiliated to CRS Univ., Jind

Asstt. Professor REQUIRED for B.Ed.

- Perspectives in Education-08
- Pedagogy Subject. -16 (English, Hindi, Mathematics, Science, Sanskrit, Commerce, Social Studies, Computer Science)
- Asstt. Professor-03, Health & Physical Edu., Fine Arts, Performing Art (Music/Dance/Theatre)

**Non Teaching Staff Members :**

- Officer Manager-01
- Office cum Account Asstt.-01
- Office Asstt. cum
- Store Keeper -01
- Computer Operator-1
- Lab Assistant-01
- Technical Assistant-01
- Helper & Supporting Staff-01
-







# Destination Uttarakhand: Leading the way



“Under the visionary leadership of Hon’ble Prime Minister Narendra Modi, we are committed to the holistic development of our state, leveraging its natural beauty, rich cultural heritage, and immense potential. Through sustainable policies and strategic initiatives, we aim to foster economic growth, improve infrastructure, and enhance the quality of life for all our citizens. Our goal is to make Uttarakhand a model of progress, where tradition meets innovation, and every individual can thrive in a conducive environment for prosperity and well-being.”

—Pushkar Singh Dhami,  
Chief Minister, Uttarakhand

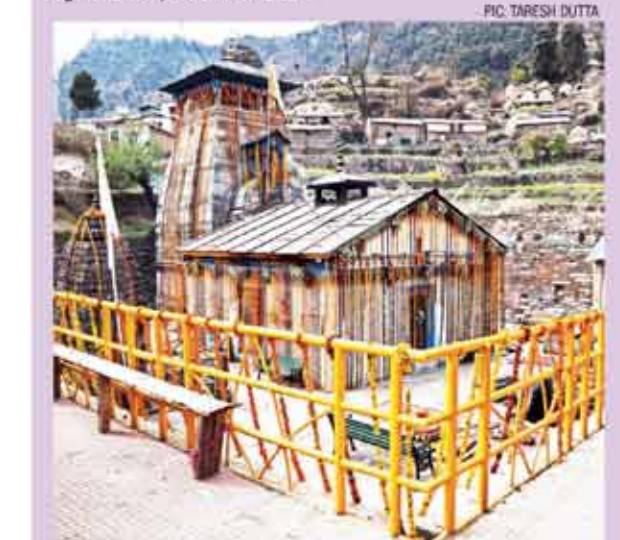
## Uttarakhand shines as the ultimate wedding destination

Under the visionary guidance of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Uttarakhand is poised to become the next premier destination for weddings worldwide

Uttarakhand, which lies amidst the magnificent Himalayas, is a northern state known for its spiritual importance, spectacular terrains, and rich cultural legacy. Also known as the land of gods – ‘Devbhoomi’, Uttarakhand has forever known as one of the most revered pilgrimage destinations for lakhs of devotees. The state has, however, seen a change in recent years, developing much more than a spiritual destination. In a recent development, Uttarakhand is on the path of emerging as the next best destination when it comes to the world of destination weddings. All thanks to the visionary guidance of Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

The notion of Prime Minister Narendra Modi to make Uttarakhand the next best wedding destination reflects the views of numerous who acknowledge the state’s endless prospects. The Prime Minister encouraged the youth to embark upon the campaign ‘Wed in India’ at the inauguration of the Uttarakhand Global Investors Summit in Dehradun back in December 2023. During his address, he urged wealthy families to pick Uttarakhand as the destination for their celebrations.

The distinctive natural magnificence and myriad cultural tapestry depict the charm of Uttarakhand as the perfect wedding destination. From the serene lake of Nainital to the snow-capped mounts of Auli, each part of the state exhibits a feel of charisma and allure. Partners looking for a truly memorable experience can host their marital ceremonies amid the serene lake in Tehri, the beautiful hills of Mussoorie, or the age-old temples of Haridwar.



Triyuginarayan

What makes Uttarakhand a unique destination for weddings is not only its stunning places, but also its rich legacy and lively rituals. Weddings hosted in the state are not simply ceremonies but detailed experiences imbued with ancient traditions and rituals. From the spiritual atmosphere of Rishikesh to the holy flame at Triyuginarayan, every place presents a remarkable glimpse into the state’s cultural tapestry.

Furthermore, the notion of Prime Minister Modi stretches beyond the celebration of togetherness. He looks forward to strengthening the local economy and supporting the denizens of Uttarakhand by encouraging destination weddings in the state. The inflow of visitors and investment prospects will in turn help in generating employment, enriching infrastructure, and promoting overall development.

Some of the famous places in Uttarakhand to host destination weddings include Triyuginarayan, Rishikesh, Joshimath, Shantikunj Haridwar, Golden Temple, Chakrata, Harisi, Dehradun, Kanatal, Mussoorie, Auli, Tehri Lake, Ramnagar, Narendranagar, Brahmatel, Nainital, Almora, Rankhet, Bhimtal, Ramgarh, Mukteshwar, Ranigat, Naukuchiat, and Ghoralghat, among others.

The vision of Prime Minister Narendra Modi to make Uttarakhand the best preference for destination weddings is a depiction of everything that makes this state remarkable. Uttarakhand is all set to evolve into a global leader in the tourism sector, as the state moves ahead towards emerging as one of the most favoured wedding destinations. Tourists, adventurers, and entrepreneurs are attracted to the state as it offers the best of yoga retreats, adventure sports, and cultural experiences.



PM Narendra Modi along with Pushkar Singh Dhami, CM, Uttarakhand, visiting Badrinath Dham

The picturesque northern state of Uttarakhand is well-known for its spiritual importance and stunning natural magnificence. Among the various destinations that attract devotees and visitors alike, Badrinath and Kedarnath stand out as emblems of devotion and serenity. At the vanguard of restoring these consecrated places and uplifting their prospect for spiritual tourism is Prime Minister Narendra Modi, whose relentless dedication and commitment have prompted transformative tasks in Uttarakhand.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi shares a deep-rooted affinity with Uttarakhand, especially Badrinath and Kedarnath, and this is apparent through his multiple visits and visionary endeavours aimed at uplifting these venerated pilgrimage sites. His spiritual reverence for Baba Kedar, exemplified through periodic visits to Kedarnath Dham, highlights his dedication to the spiritual and cultural legacy of the region. The aspirations of PM Modi are much more than only reverence; he foresees a new individuality for Uttarakhand by promoting Badrinath and Kedarnath Dham to international importance.

The most important aspect of this vision of PM Narendra Modi is the complete reconstruction of Kedarnath Dham, an undertaking close to his heart since the beginning of his tenure as the Prime Minister. The wrecking floods of 2013 initiated a revitalised emphasis on revamping Kedarnath, with PM Modi spearheading measures to assure that the reconstruction showcases brilliance and divinity befitting its essence. From building the statue of Adi Guri Shankaracharya to observing the progress first-hand, PM Modi’s hands-on strategy highlights his dedication to maintaining the sanctity of Kedarnath.

Furthermore, strategic endeavours by PM Modi spread beyond Kedarnath to enclose the holistic growth of the

The reconstruction measures, associated with PM Modi’s focus on maintaining its spiritual significance, have reformed Kedarnath to its previous glory, drawing pilgrims from across the world

spiritual infrastructure of Uttarakhand. Projects such as the Badrinath Dham Master Plan modelled after the Kashi Vishwanath Corridor, seek to remake Badrinath into a smart spiritual hilltown, portraying the vision of PM Modi for incorporating tradition with modernity. The Delhi-Dehradun Economic Corridor and the Rishikesh Kamprayag Rail Project additionally highlight his dedication to improving connectivity and accessibility to these holy places.

The result of these endeavours by Prime Minister Modi is discernible, with Uttarakhand seeing a revival in spiritual tourism and pilgrimage footfall. The All Weather Road Project, also known as the Chardham Road Project, seeks to link the four Dhams of Uttarakhand, enabling seamless journeys for devotees and visitors alike. Likewise, the Rishikesh Kamprayag Rail Project, with its enterprising timeline and ingenious technique, vows to improve accessibility to Kedarnath and adjacent areas.

The importance of Kedarnath and Badrinath surpasses spiritual borders, echoing with believers and nature lovers globally. Situated amid the snow-capped peaks of the Himalayas, Kedarnath carries a unique place as one of the 12 Jyotirlingas and an essential visit during the esteemed Chardham Yatra. The reconstruction measures, associated with PM

Modi’s focus on maintaining its spiritual significance, have reformed Kedarnath to its one-time glory, drawing pilgrims from across the world.

The recent inauguration of pivotal infrastructure projects by Prime Minister Modi emphasises the continuous renewal measures in Kedarnath. From unveiling the statue of Adi Guri Shankaracharya to inaugurating essential projects like the Saraswati retaining wall and Teerth Purohit houses, the visit of Prime Minister Narendra Modi signifies a revived dedication to promoting the spiritual legacy of Uttarakhand. His passion

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## Boosting spiritual tourism in Uttarakhand through Badrinath and Kedarnath

ate and emotional association with Kedarnath, prominent in his genuine talk, echoes with devotees and strengthens the importance of these religious places.

The transformative effect of such enterprises by PM Modi grows beyond infrastructure growth, facilitating inclusive development and sustainable tourism methods in Uttarakhand. His focus on policy incentives and sectoral priority, especially on tourism and renewable power, has placed Uttarakhand as a beam of sustainable evolution. The advancement of the state in infrastructure expansion and its dedication to utilising natural resources have not only supported the economy, but also presented its prospects on the international level.

The unwavering faith of Prime Minister Narendra Modi in Badrinath and Kedarnath has instigated a revival of spiritual tourism in Uttarakhand. By means of far-sighted endeavours and innovative interventions, PM Modi has restored these reli-

gious places, maintaining their sanctity while steering into a new period of prosperity and expansion.

“I extend my sincere congratulations to the Government of Uttarakhand for the incredible accomplishments achieved in recent years. This admirable progress stands as a testament to the sustained enactment of strategic approaches, with a sharp focus on paramount sectors such as tourism and renewable energy. It brings me happiness to see the significant improvements in infrastructure growth, establishing superior benchmarks for sustainable development.

Uttarakhand’s aggressive strategy towards harnessing its natural resources and boosting tourism not only strengthens its economy but also showcases its potential on the global level. I wholeheartedly admire the state’s relentless dedication to promoting inclusive expansion, and I eagerly foresee its persistent conquest in the years to come,” said Prime Minister Narendra Modi.



Devotees throng Kedarnath Temple to seek divine blessings

Prime Minister Narendra Modi’s journey included visits to religious sites like Parvati Kund and Adi Kailash Parvat, depicting the deep-rooted spiritual inheritance of the land and emphasising its possibility for expansion and tourism

## PM Modi’s visit strengthens tourism and socio-economic growth in Uttarakhand

The visit of PM Narendra Modi to Pithoragarh district in October 2023 has memorialised an important landmark in the history of Uttarakhand, along with highlighting the cultural and spiritual richness of the state. The PM’s journey included visits to religious sites like Parvati Kund and Adi Kailash Parvat, depicting the deep-rooted spiritual inheritance of the land and emphasising its possibility for expansion and tourism.

PM Modi initiated his spiritual journey at Parvati Kund, a venerated pilgrimage place enrobed amid the scenic landscapes of Uttarakhand. Attired in traditional local dress, the Prime Minister engaged himself in the spiritual auras, offering devotees with utmost reverence. His participation in the traditions, including playing the power drum and conch shell, demonstrated his respect for the local customs and rituals, resounding with the beliefs

dents, both at Parvati Kund and in the border village of Guri, echoed his compassion and his consideration for their welfare. Engaging with the locals, he listened to their grievances, shared their pleasures, and reaffirmed his government’s commitment to their upliftment. This personal touch endeared him to the individuals as well as facilitated a feeling of belonging and solidarity among them.

In addition to the spiritual essence, the visit of PM Modi also had substantial importance for the socio-economic growth of Uttarakhand. The inauguration and laying of the foundation of development projects worth Rs 4,200 crore in Pithoragarh highlighted the government’s dedication to infrastructure growth and employment generation in the region. These endeavours are aimed at boosting development, improving connectivity, and enhancing the quality of life for the citizens of Uttarakhand.

Moreover, the historic visit of Prime Minister Modi to Adi Kailash Parvat carries huge importance for the tourism sector of Uttarakhand. Being the first Indian Prime Minister to visit this sacred site, PM Modi has attracted awareness to the area’s untapped prospect as a tourist destination. His exploration of the local art, craft, and products, as well as his engagement with the Indo-Tibetan trade center in Guri village, has demonstrated the cultural multiplicity and commercial possibilities of Uttarakhand.

Moreover, PM Modi’s exchange with the residents of the local people.

The visit of the Prime Minister to Parvati Kund was not just a symbolic gesture but also a testament to the dedication to maintaining and encouraging India’s cultural legacy. By performing ‘aarti’ at the Shiva-Parvati temple and meditating before the Adi Kailash peak, PM Modi observed the sacredness of the land and sought blessings for the prosperity and well-being of the country.

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## Scouring Uttarakhand’s untapped tourism potential: Uttarakhand Tourism Policy 2030

With the introduction of the Uttarakhand Tourism Policy 2030, the state sketches a transformative approach towards recognition at a global level as a diverse tourism hotspot while prioritising sustainable development and inclusive growth

Uttarakhand is famous among tourists for its abundance of natural wonders. Even today, the state holds an untapped potential ready to be utilised. With the introduction of the Uttarakhand Tourism Policy 2030, the state sketches a transformative approach towards recognition at a global level as a myriad tourism hotspot while prioritising sustainable development and inclusive growth.

The main principle of the Uttarakhand Tourism Policy 2030 lies in empowering all stakeholders within the tourism sector, assuring that each contributes to and benefits from Uttarakhand’s journey towards evolution. By means of a suitable framework, the policy seeks to facilitate goals and interests, promoting holistic expansion.

Apart from its traditional essence of a spiritual and wellness destination, Uttarakhand strives to present its multi-faceted allure. From heritage and nature tourism to wilderness adventures and wellness retreats, the state pledges memorable experiences for every visitor. Further, the focus on all-weather tourism, including winter and Alpine ventures, seeks to draw tourists all year long.

Foremost to the Uttarakhand Tourism Policy 2030 is the making of authentic and genuine experiences, leveraging Uttarakhand’s cultural and natural wealth. Tourism clusters and circuits will be designed to present new destinations, catering to various interests and likes.

The Uttarakhand Tourism Policy 2030 also prioritises sustainability with an emphasis on conserving the state’s environmental and cultural legacy. Measures to preserve natural resources, wilderness, and cultural assets are vital, assuring Uttarakhand stays unspoiled and inviting for future generations.

In line with the digital era, Uttarakhand seeks to fulfill growing visitor anticipations through technology integration. Online platforms will be operated for advertising bookings, and data dissemination, improving comfort and trust for visitors.

Private sector involvement is promoted, with the government encouraging ease of doing trade for hospitality and tourism undertakings. This combined strategy is anticipated to propel innovation and development.

The Uttarakhand Tourism Policy 2030 also emphasises high-value tourism to minimise adverse effects on the environment and civilisation while spreading benefits to local neighborhoods. The Hub & Spoke model strives for balanced regional growth, improving infrastructure and



PM Narendra Modi along with Pushkar Singh Dhami, CM, Uttarakhand, during their visit to Jageshwar Dham Temple, a part of Manaskhand Mandir Mala Mission

## Rekindling religious splendour: Manaskhand Mandir Mala Mission

The heart of ‘Manaskhand Mandir Mala Mission’ lies in the dedication to reviving and restoring the essence of 48 mythological temples, with a special emphasis on 16 notable ones spread across various districts of Kumaon

Uttarakhand is abode to a number of ancient temples and sacred sites. These temples are spread across the Kumaon area and have served as a source of belief and faith for a long time, attracting believers from various parts of the world.

However, over the course of time, several of these religious places aren’t known to devotees as their magnificence is shadowed by disrepair and a dearth of connectivity. In a favourable turn of events, Pushkar Singh Dhami, CM, Uttarakhand, has acknowledged tremendous cultural and spiritual importance of these temples and has ventured on a visionary initiative known as the ‘Manaskhand Mandir Mala Mission’, to restore and rejuvenate these architectural wonders across the state.

The core of this enterprising endeavour lies in the dedication to reviving and restoring the essence of 48 mythological temples, with a special emphasis on 16 notable ones spread across various districts of the Kumaon area. Admired for hundreds of years, these temples are all set to witness a massive transformation, with infrastructural modification plans sought to improve their accessibility and magnificence. CM Dhami’s vision is just not limited to material renovations, but also encloses a holistic strategy that contains enhanced road connectivity, hospitality and lodging services, and conservation measures.



Baijnath

Garjiya Devi Temple

Gurudwara Nanakmatta Sahib

Jageshwar Dham Temple

Kasar Devi Temple

pilgrimage for visitors, enhanced road infrastructure will also make way for more significant economic prospects for the local residents living in these remote locations.

Integration of contemporary conveniences with traditional spirituality is paramount to the Manaskhand Mandir Mala Mission. This idea of CM Dhami expands beyond just infrastructure expansion; it contains the establishment of a facilitative atmosphere for devotees and visitors alike. The allotment of budgets for the expansion of encompassing locations and the provision of hospitality services highlights the government’s dedication to assuring an unforgettable and enriching experience for tourists.

In his goal of realising this notion, CM Dhami, during his meeting with PM Narendra Modi in January 2024, had requested support for the ongoing work of the Manaskhand Mandir Mala Mission. In the meeting, CM Dhami presented a detailed proposal summarising the purposes and essentials of the Manaskhand Mandir Mala Mission. This depicted his resolution to garner the required resources for a successful under-



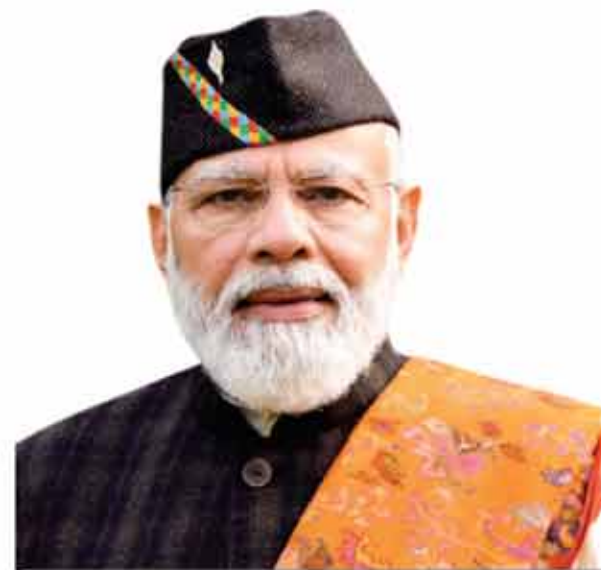
Bagnath Temple

taking of the mission, as well as highlight the urgency and importance of this initiative in boosting the economic and cultural landscape of Uttarakhand.

### MANASKHAND EXPRESS

In a recent development that observes an important landmark in the completion of CM Dhami’s vision, the launch of the Manaskhand Express is nearing its scheduled date. Manaskhand Express is a special train service being launched under the Manaskhand Mandir Mala Mission that will connect Kalkata to Tanakpur.

This upcoming long-route train is scheduled to begin operations on April 15 and will function as a robust connection between the temples of the Kumaon area and devotees from across the nation. The Manaskhand Express will be supported by local and regional transportation services and hospitality arrangements and represents the essence of inclusivity and accessibility that underpins the Manaskhand Mandir Mala Mission. Furthermore, the Uttarakhand government’s dedi-



“I congratulate the Uttarakhand government on the remarkable progress achieved in the last few years. This has been made possible by sustained policy push and focus on key sectors such as tourism and renewable energy. Alongside, the state has made significant strides in infrastructure development, setting new benchmarks for sustainable growth. Uttarakhand’s commitment to harnessing its natural resources and promoting tourism has not only bolstered its economy but also showcased its potential on the global stage. I applaud the state’s dedication to inclusive development and look forward to its continued success in the years ahead.”

—Narendra Modi,  
Prime Minister

cation to conserving the legacy and cultural heritage of the state is apparent in its measures to frame a Heritage Act for the preservation and advancement of historical sites and temples. By launching individual master plans for each of the 16 temples recognised under the Manaskhand Mandir Mala Mission, the government is laying the groundwork for their exhaustive revival. The confluence of different departments and divisions beneath a cooperative mission emphasises the collective exuberance pushing this transformative endeavour.

As the Manaskhand Mandir Mala Mission picks up speed, it bears the assurance of not just restoring religious sites but also reviving the socio-economic sector of the region. The conjunction of custom and modernity, spirituality, and infrastructure expansion, showcases the vision of CM Pushkar Singh Dhami for a resurgent Uttarakhand. By utilising the rich cultural legacy of the state and directing it into sustainable growth endeavours, the Manaskhand Mandir Mala Mission stands as an example of the ability of visionary leadership to shape the future of a country.



PM Modi and CM Dhami with local people during their visit to district Pithoragarh

border villages. With the launch of the Vibrant Village Programme, the border villages in Uttarakhand and as well as other states will benefit greatly, eventually steering in a fresh phase of endless possibilities for the state while reflecting the spirit of Sabka Saath, Sabka Vikas.

## PM Modi’s ‘Vibrant Village Programme’ bolsters Uttarakhand’s rural economy

PM Modi’s enterprising ‘Vibrant Village Programme’ has arisen as a silver lining for the isolated border villages, marking a transformative period of comprehensive growth and economic upliftment

Spanning across 19 border regions, including Uttarakhand, the programme strives to revive 3,000 villages over a 10-year-long course. It bears an important goal of preventing migration by furnishing fundamental conveniences and promoting socio-economic sustainability, in the infancy stage of the program, 662 villages with a total population of 1,42,000 are being supported by means of an investment of Rs 4,800 crore.

Focus on infrastructure and connectivity growth is one of the key elements of the Vibrant Village Programme.

The allotment of Rs 2500 crore for building roadways and improving connectivity will give a boost to economic activities in various villages across the country where the geographical landscape constitutes steep difficulties. It will foster access to markets, and enhance the overall quality of life for locals.

Along with bolstering the nation’s financial stability, the programme also supports the importance of inclusive growth as a cornerstone of India’s advancement by prioritising the development of

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## A spot of good news

India's leopard population surges despite facing challenges from humans and Nature

Amid rising environmental and human-animal conflict challenges, India's leopard population has recorded an increase to reach the enviable count of 13,874. This rise underscores the resilience of these magnificent creatures and the success of conservation efforts in our country. Leopards in India inhabit diverse landscapes, from dense forests to even urban areas. However, this proximity to human settlements often leads to conflict as leopards venture into villages in search of food or territory, resulting in attacks on livestock and occasionally on humans. Such encounters pose a significant threat to both leopard populations and human communities. Climate change exacerbates these challenges by altering natural habitats and prey availability. Besides, forest fragmentation, loss of biodiversity and other changes contribute to the stress on leopard populations. Besides, poaching is a lucrative business and many influential people engage in it by employing locals while themselves remaining anonymous; they must



be identified and brought to book. Despite these adversities, the surge in India's leopard population can be attributed to various factors, including conservation initiatives and stricter wildlife protection laws. The Government and non-governmental organisations (NGOs) have been actively involved in habitat preservation, anti-poaching efforts and raising awareness among local communities about leopard conservation. Techniques such as camera trapping and satellite tracking provide valuable insights into leopard behaviour, habitat usage and population dynamics, aiding conservation strategies. Community-based conservation approaches have shown promising results. Engaging

local communities in conservation efforts fosters a sense of ownership and responsibility in them. To ensure the continued growth of leopard populations, there is a need for concerted Government efforts. Though the rise in leopard population is welcome, it cannot be at the cost of human lives. Awareness campaigns must be launched in leopard-inhabited areas about their behaviour, conservation importance and conflict prevention strategies. Low-cost innovative ways can be employed so that human lives are not lost: In Sundarbans, for example, they wear masks at the back of their heads to dodge the Royal Bengal Tigers. Then there is an immediate need to strengthen habitat conservation efforts, including reforestation, establishment of wildlife corridors and curbing human encroachment into natural habitats. There is also a need to dispel the misconceptions that rural communities are hostile towards animals; they have been living with wild animals for centuries. Law enforcement agencies must rigorously enforce wildlife protection laws to combat poaching, illegal wildlife trade and habitat destruction. Collaborating with international organisations and neighbouring countries to address transboundary conservation issues will also help. We need a new wildlife policy that takes into account the prevailing conditions and balances human-animal interests.



Theyyam artistes perform at Chala Kadankottu Makkam Bhagavathi temple, in Kannur

PTI

## Why do Indians do better abroad than in India?

The root cause of this paradox can be attributed to the lamentable state of public education in the country

Regarding global achievements, Indians have left an indelible mark across diverse fields, from technology and entrepreneurship to academia and healthcare. Yet, an intriguing paradox persists – why do Indians often find unparalleled success on foreign lands but encounter unique challenges within their homeland? This thought-provoking question demands immediate attention and the exploration of the multifaceted challenges. Why do Indian minds shine bright internationally, but systemic deficiencies mar the domestic educational landscape? Well, there lies a critical anomaly – the failure to replicate this success on home soil is primarily due to the state of public education. The EW story "Why Indians Succeed Everywhere Except in India" adeptly dissects the paradox of Indian success on the global stage against a backdrop of domestic struggles, attributing this paradox to the unfortunate state of public education, which is accurate.

**Education and Governance:** Thought leaders underscore the symbiotic relationship



between the quality of education and the overarching progress of the nation. Recognizing education as a catalyst for effective governance and economic prosperity, it is crucial to position education at the forefront of national development strategies. **The Crisis in Primary and Secondary Education** One cannot help but ponder the intricacies of the connection between education and our nation's destiny. If education is the bedrock upon which a society is built, then what does the current state of our primary and secondary say about the trajectory of the world's largest democracy? The ASER surveys unveil a stark truth – a significant portion of our youth lacks even the basic skills expected at their grade level.

It's not just about rote learning or lack of infrastructure; it's a systemic failure that threatens the very foundation of our future. Yet, as we traverse the proposed solutions and underlying assumptions, a more discerning response is required to navigate the intricacies with utmost scrutiny. **Higher Education: A Crisis of Quality** You throw that graduation cap in the air, but does it open doors to a world of opportunities? India is tackling the woes of higher education – the mismatch between degrees and employability. What's the deal with most engineering, arts, science, and commerce graduates being deemed unemployable? It's time to question the very essence of what higher education institutions are delivering and whether they're preparing graduates for the dynamic job market. The portrayal of India's higher education system is a sad reflection of the systemic challenges faced by graduates and the subsequent migration of talent abroad. **The Brain Drain Dilemma:** While we proudly export our talent to foreign shores, the

numbers reveal a disconcerting truth – a drain on our intellectual capital that could have been harnessed for national growth. Is it a necessary sacrifice or a symptom of deeper issues within our educational framework? A thought-provoking analysis probes the migration patterns of Indian graduates and school leavers to foreign shores, challenging the conventional narrative of brain drain. Balancing the discourse on brain drain by acknowledging the positive impact of the diaspora would bring a more nuanced perspective to the debate. **A Vision for Change: A Unified Call to Action** The portrayal of the emigration of skilled individuals as a loss for India is correct. While the emigration of skilled individuals is sometimes portrayed as a positive development, the reality is that India loses out on valuable talent. India needs a detailed program to reverse this trend, attract exceptional scientists and researchers back home, and invest more in R&D. *(The writer is an educator; views are personal)*



RADHIKA SHRIVASTAVA

lamentable state

of the democracy being practised in the country.

**AG Rajmohan | Anantapur**

**TAMIL NADU'S CONTROVERSIAL AD**

Sir – It is a matter of shame and eyebrow-raising to see the Tamil Nadu Government display an advertisement for the new Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) spaceport in Kulasekarapattinam featuring a rocket with the flag of China. When the mat-

**M Pradyu | Kannur**

**THE SUCCESS OF SAGAR MANTHAN**

Sir – The tactfulness of our Indian Security agencies is so impressive in terms of their activeness for their stringent actions, especially for seizing the Nacro products from the Arabian Sea. This time, it was codenamed as 'Sagarmanthan-1'. It is a point of con-

**Kirti Wadhawan | Kanpur**

**LETTERS TO THE EDITOR**

**Mission Gaganyaan**

**P**M Modi has announced the selection of four

astronauts for the Gaganyaan mission,

marking a historic moment as they will be

the first Indians to travel to space in an indige-

nous space vehicle. These astronauts were chosen

and selected for the mission four years ago

and have undergone extensive training in

Russia. Currently, the training programme is

underway at the ISRO training centre in India.

Before the astronauts set foot in the crew capsule,

a humanoid named Vyommitra will be

launched on Gaganyaan to ensure safety.

**Preetiyukta Mohakud | Bhubaneswar**

**cern as well as appreciation on both**

**nodes. Appreciation because, our Navy**

**is actively vigilant in addressing these**

**concerns, at the same time concerning**

**because India is pumped with such**

**contraband of 3,132 kg which costs around**

**Rs. 2000 crores, as per international**

**market valuation, which is huge and**

**applaudable.**

**We must cherish the alertness of the trio**

**the Gujrat Police, NCB and the Indian**

**Navy. But this very incident raised**

**eyebrows that still in the eye of Narco**

**Dealers and smugglers, the route of the**

**Arabian Sea is fragile and easy to**

**breach. We must not forget the incident**

**of 26/11. Strengthening the eastern and**

**western coast of India is the utmost**

**responsibility of our Naval forces.**

**Send your feedback to:**

**letterstopioneer@gmail.com**

**Indian diplomacy:**

**Leveraging soft power**

**India is strategically positioning itself on the global stage, leveraging soft**

**power elements to deepen diplomatic ties and foster regional stability**

**power with the exchanges of**

**Buddhist ideas, sacred objects**

**and trading relations).**

**Invoking the cultural linkages**

**with the region and the religion**

**of Buddhism, India seeks to**

**overcome the territorial**

**tensions between the two**

**nations by fostering a positive**

**people-to-people tie across**

**the border.**

**Prime Minister Narendra**

**Modi has strategically leveraged**

**Buddhist heritage as cultural**

**assets to strengthen ties**

**with Asian countries.**

**Exploring its historical ties**

**to Buddhism, India is not only**

**preserving its cultural legacy**

**but also strengthening its soft**

**power and attracting visitors**

**from around the world.**

**Through these initiatives, India**

**can bolster its image as a flag-**

**bearer of ancient civilizations**

**and traditions. Moreover, ven-**

**tures like these also contribute**

**towards economic develop-**

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**affinity towards Asian coun-**

**tries while projecting itself as**

**a model of religious toler-**

**ance, pluralism and a respon-**

**sible global nation.**

**Speaking of being a respon-**

**sible global stakeholder, take**

**for instance our commitment**

**to humanitarian assistance. The**

**recent incident in which the**

**Indian Navy in swift response**

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**Aden, sent the missile destroy-**

**er INS Vishakhapatnam shows**

**India's role as a responsible**

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**In the realm of diplomacy,**

**every gesture and every inter-**

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**stage. Through proactive**

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**partnerships, India continues**

**to strengthen its position as a**

**key player in international**

**affairs, contributing to regional**

**stability and global cooperation.**

*(The writer is an associate*

*professor, views are personal)*

**SANTOSH MATHEW**

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FIRST COLUMN

CHERISH THE INSTRUCTIONS OF GOD

The verses of the Bhagavad Gita offer profound insights into life's purpose



AJIT KUMAR BISHNOI

Let me start with verse # 3.8 of the Bhagavad Gita, which is, "You should always do your duty. Because action is superior to inaction. Maintenance of the body will also not be possible through inaction." We all know what our duties are according to time, place and circumstances. We also know that neglecting our duties impacts our maintenance. For example, a student does not pay attention to his studies. What happens subsequently? He finds it hard to maintain himself. For whose benefit was this verse spoken? Let me take another verse, which is very famous. I am referring to verse #2.47, which goes like this, "You have a right only in action, not ever in predetermining fruits. You should not speculate about the fruit of action; your attachment to inaction also should not be there." For whose benefit was this verse spoken? Do we have any other right except to do our duties? And we must not neglect to do them. As regards the results of our actions, the right to decide them has been kept by God with Himself. The third verse chosen by me is very telling, in which Lord Krishna promises, "People who worship Me with undivided attention, meditating on Me, for these regular practitioners of yoga, I help in getting what one does not have and provide security of what one has." Verse after verse the Lord is cajoling us to do what will fulfil all our desires, which are according to dharma. God couldn't be a party to anything against dharma. Could He? The fourth verse in this connection is: "Where there is yogeshwara Shri Krishna and where there is Arjuna (meaning us), there will be opulence, victory, wealth and morality." (18.78) What are our desires generally? That we should succeed in our endeavours. We would if we were aiming for what is according to morality, i.e. dharma. The same is about



wealth. Don't we need enough resources for our maintenance? Not only wealth, there will be 'saubhagya' (good fortune). Who benefits from all these? We do; God doesn't because He is complete in all respects. (3.22) The next verse is about gaining peace and a perfect destination. Lord Krishna instructs, 'In all respects, take My shelter only. By My mercy, you will achieve supreme peace and the eternal abode.' What is it that we lack after gaining material needs, comforts, etc.? It is peace, which is what God is promising. Not only that, God is also assuring eternal abode, which is free from the defects of this material world. How nice it will be to not be subjected to repeated birth and death? God is prepared to grant this also. God is always wanting to give. He has so much to give if we become deserving. Isn't that fair? How do we become deserving? Lord Krishna describes, 'Develop My consciousness; become My devotee; make sacrifices for Me; and offer obeisance to Me.' (18.65) One may feel that all these activities relate to God. Yes, they do but do they benefit Him? No, far from it; they only purify our existence. And God had to set some conditions to qualify for His special favour. How else was He to reward anyone? Just focus on how easy they are to do. I will take up one more verse, which is, 'Having My consciousness, you will cross all impediments by My grace.' (18.58) This is quite an amazing offer from God. Aren't we all struggling with one problem or another throughout our lives? We do, but our ego comes in the way. We are not prepared to accept that somebody can be superior to us and to such an extent that we have to take His shelter and His alone. (18.66) We would rather suffer but won't do as instructed by God. Do we realise that our acts will benefit the world if we obey God's instructions? We will become better persons by following dharma – the rules for proper behaviour. We will fit in the System created by God, which is required for the creation to exist eternally. (The writer is a spiritual teacher, views are personal)

# MSP methodology and farmer demands



UTTAM GUPTA

Questions arise about the rationale and implications of adopting Dr Swaminathan's proposed methodology for MSP calculation



Co-terminus with the legal guarantee for Minimum Support Price (MSP) for all crops, another demand raised by the farmers relates to how the MSP is fixed. They want it to be calculated based on the recommendations of the National Commission on Farmers (NCF) under Dr MS Swaminathan (2006). All along, the Commission for Agricultural Costs and Prices (CACP) - a statutory body under the Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare - has been setting MSP at the level of the so-called comprehensive cost or C2 cost. C2 is arrived at by adding three components viz. A2 covers all paid-out expenses, both in cash and in kind, incurred by farmers on seeds, fertilizers, chemicals, hired labour, fuel and irrigation; FL is the imputed value of unpaid family labour; and rental value of owned land and imputed cost that would be incurred on owned fixed capital assets (OFCA), call it to return on assets or RoA. Put simply, MSP is equal to A2 + FL + RoA. It takes care of all the costs incurred by the farmer for growing the crop - both paid out and own - besides including an element of profit i.e. RoA. That is why it is bandied as 'comprehensive'. The formula was used for determining MSP till FY 2017-18. The Government normally accepts recommendations made by CACP. In its fifth report submitted in October 2006, the NCF recommended that MSP should be "at least 50 per cent more than the weighted average cost of production". The recommendation did not specifically mention what 'measure of costs' would be used. However, Dr Swaminathan clarified: "When we recommended 50 per cent over costs, we meant complete costs called C2, which includes all assumed costs". Can the clarification given by him many years after the report was finalized and submitted be taken to mean that the Commission had meant it that way? A recommendation emerges from deliberations and is based on consensus among



IN ITS FIFTH REPORT SUBMITTED IN OCTOBER 2006, THE NCF RECOMMENDED THAT MSP SHOULD BE 'AT LEAST 50 PER CENT MORE THAN THE WEIGHTED AVERAGE COST OF PRODUCTION.' THE RECOMMENDATION DID NOT SPECIFICALLY MENTION WHAT 'MEASURE OF COSTS' WOULD BE USED

members. This also applies to a clarification given on an important aspect of the recommendation. That would not have been possible as you can't expect Dr Swaminathan to go back to other members and check. The big question is: Is giving the farmer at least 50 per cent more than the 'C2' costs logical? The purported rationale for giving 50 per cent extra is that she should get a handsome profit after covering all paid-out costs. Profit as it is understood in business parlance is essentially meant to give a return to the owner for her invested capital. In the case of a farmer, her investment in crop growing business is by way of 'land' and 'OFCA' besides her labour. But, remuneration/return for all these is already incorporated under C2. To give a further sweetener (read: 50 per cent profit) over and above these would be illogical. Let us understand this with the help of an example. In the case of paddy, the all-India weighted average A2 cost for the 2017-18 Kharif season, as estimated by the CACP, was Rs 840 per quintal; A2+FL cost: Rs 1,117 per quintal and C2 costs: Rs 1,484 per quintal. In the total cost of Rs 1,484 per quintal, the amount going towards the farmer's income was Rs 644 per quintal (1484-840). Of this, Rs 277 per quintal (1117-840) was for FL and Rs 367 per quintal (1484-1117) for RoA. If one were to go by NCF recommendation as clarified by Dr Swaminathan, the farmer would have to be given Rs 742 per quintal (0.5x1,484) in addition to an income of Rs 644 per quintal already built into C2 thus taking the total to Rs 1386 for each quintal of paddy. This translates to 93 per cent of C2 costs. Taken as a proportion of the revised MSP of Rs 2226 per quintal, this will be 62

per cent. Where does one get such a fantastic return? This is happening because the farmer is being remunerated twice over first under C2 and then a further profit of 50 percent. Furthermore, the way profit is calculated '50 per cent of C2; you end up giving a 'return on return': RoA component under C2 being Rs 367 per quintal, she gets a fortuitous gain of Rs 183.5 (0.5x367). Unequivocally, there is a flaw in the above method. Either, the government should continue with the extant method of using C2 for fixing MSP. On the other hand, if it wants to go for 50 per cent profit, then this should be applied only to the paid-out costs namely A2. In other words, MSP should be set at A2+FL plus 50 per cent of A2. On this basis, in the above example, the MSP would be Rs 1537 per quintal (1117+0.5x840). What did the Modi - government do? In its poll manifesto for 2014, the BJP had promised to implement NCF recommendations on MSP. The announcement in this regard was made by the then Union Finance Minister Arun Jaitley in his Budget speech for FY 2018-19. Later, while replying to a debate in Parliament, Jaitley clarified that 'the production cost would be taken as actual paid A2 plus FL'. In other words, it decided to set MSP at A2+FL plus 50 per cent of A2+FL; it comes to Rs 1675 per quintal (1117x1.5). The formula adopted by the incumbent government also suffers from a flaw to the extent that 'it also adds return on the imputed cost of family labor' which is unjustified. Have received wage/income for the work done on the field, how can a farmer also earn a profit on it? In the above example, this fortuitous amount is Rs 138 per quintal (277x0.5).

Moreover, the very approach of the Dr Swaminathan committee of arriving at a profit by taking a percentage of the cost is susceptible to sharp increases in payments to farmers. With every rupee increase in the cost, farmers' profit will increase by 0.5 rupees. At present, most of the agricultural inputs are subsidized. On fertilizers, there is a massive subsidy (urea is sold at about 1/10th of its cost). If the subsidy is slashed leading to a steep rise in the cost of fertilizers, the formula will give an unwarranted bonanza to the farmers by a corresponding increase in profit. At a fundamental level, profit is meant to reward an entity for the capital invested in any enterprise. This is precisely what was being done before the FY 2018-19. That formula (read: C2 for fixing the MSP) ought to have been continued. The MSP setting exercise suffers from another aberration. The cost of producing a crop varies from place to place depending on the soil conditions, weather, irrigation, price of inputs and so on. However, to arrive at MSP, the CACP takes the 'weighted average' (WA) cost of production. When the price determined in this manner is given to all farmers, those producing at a higher cost stand to lose whereas others with lower cost make a fortuitous gain. Today, the government is trapped in the vicious cycle of having to procure farmers' produce at ever-increasing MSP, now under pressure to pick up 'all of it' at MSP which can denude the exchequer. This, in turn, is because it is trying to substitute the role of the market. It should disentangle from this trap and focus on agri-market reforms which alone can help farmers get a good price. (The writer is a policy analyst, views are personal)

# Delhi's floral splendour: A tale of tulips and traditions

## The Delhi Tulip Festival stands as a testament to resilience, beauty and the enduring spirit of life's eternal dance

Nestled within the heart of New Delhi's diplomatic enclave of Chanakyapuri, Shanti Path emerges as a mesmerizing canvas painted with vibrant hues, adorned by a tapestry of tulips in an array of colors - red, white, pink, yellow, and purple. The 'Delhi Tulip Festival', now in its second consecutive year, came to a close on February 21, 2024, having commenced on February 10. Visitors, drawn from distant lands, stood in awe at the spectacle of nature's grandeur, echoing the immortal verses of poets like P. B. Shelley and John Keats. As the festival unfolded, the city's roundabouts and parks, maintained by the New Delhi Municipal Council and the Delhi Development Authority,



RAJDEEP PATHAK

bloomed with the arrival of Spring, welcoming all with renewed grandeur. But what is the story behind these tulips? Originating centuries ago in the ancient lands of Persia, tulips held significance as symbols of love and prosperity. Their journey along the silk routes carried tales of exotic lands and distant horizons, captivating hearts from Istanbul to Amsterdam. It was

in the fields of the Netherlands during the Dutch Golden Age that tulips blossomed into a cultural icon. Despite uncertainty surrounding its introduction to Western Europe, the efforts of individuals like Botanist Carolus Clusius in the late 16th century popularized tulips, leading to the famous 'tulip mania' of the 17th century. By the 19th and 20th centuries, tulip cultivation flourished in the Netherlands, solidifying its position as the world's leading producer. The association between tulips and the Netherlands was further immortalized with the iconic song 'Tulips from Amsterdam' in the 1950s. Intriguingly, it was through diplomatic channels that tulips found their way into the gardens of New Delhi.



Indo-Dutch relations provided fertile ground for this botanical ambassador to take root, inspired by festivals like the 'Amsterdam Tulip Festival' and Srinagar's Tulip Garden. Imported from the Netherlands, these tulips have been lovingly nurtured by skilled gardeners trained by the NDMC's horticulture department.

As the sun casts its golden rays upon the city, tulips burst into bloom, transforming every corner into a canvas of nature's masterpiece. From the picturesque avenues of Shanti Path to the vibrant Tulip Festival Garden, each location becomes a testament to the enduring cycle of life and beauty. Engaging citizens through various competitions

and events, the festival fosters a deeper connection to nature's rhythms and the bonds of community. Sh. Amit Yadav, the NDMC Chairman, revealed that seven types of tulips were planted, with three lakh bulbs sourced from the Netherlands and an additional 40,000 bulbs donated by the Dutch Embassy. From early to late bloomers, each tulip whispers tales of resilience and renewal. This festival not only celebrates beauty but also underscores the importance of stewarding and protecting nature for future generations. The Delhi Tulip Festival epitomizes the fusion of urban elegance and ecological consciousness, enchanting visitors and serving as a beacon for sustainable tourism. Beyond

its aesthetic charm, it stands as a testament to the power of beauty and art in fostering global connections and enhancing a city's allure. As visitors from around the world gather to admire the kaleidoscopic beauty of tulips, the festival becomes a celebration of global heritage, transcending cultural barriers and fostering understanding and appreciation among people of diverse backgrounds. In more ways than one, the festival symbolises the resilience and endurance of nature, standing tall amidst the chaos of urban life. As the curtains draw to a close on the Tulip Festival, the flowers continue to adorn the cityscape with their vibrant hues. Amidst the bustling rhythm of urban life, the tulip

stands as a silent sentinel of hope, its petals a testament to the enduring spirit of life's eternal dance. Today, the tulip serves as a symbol of resilience and endurance, having traversed oceans and centuries to become a cherished emblem of beauty worldwide. While the curtains have been drawn on the Tulip Festival, the flowers continue to stand tall, adorning the cityscape with their vibrant hues. This festival is more than just a local event; it's a part of global heritage, a celebration where visitors from around the world gather to admire the kaleidoscopic beauty of colors spanning far and wide. (The writer is programme executive, Gandhi Smriti and Darshan Sansthan, views are personal)



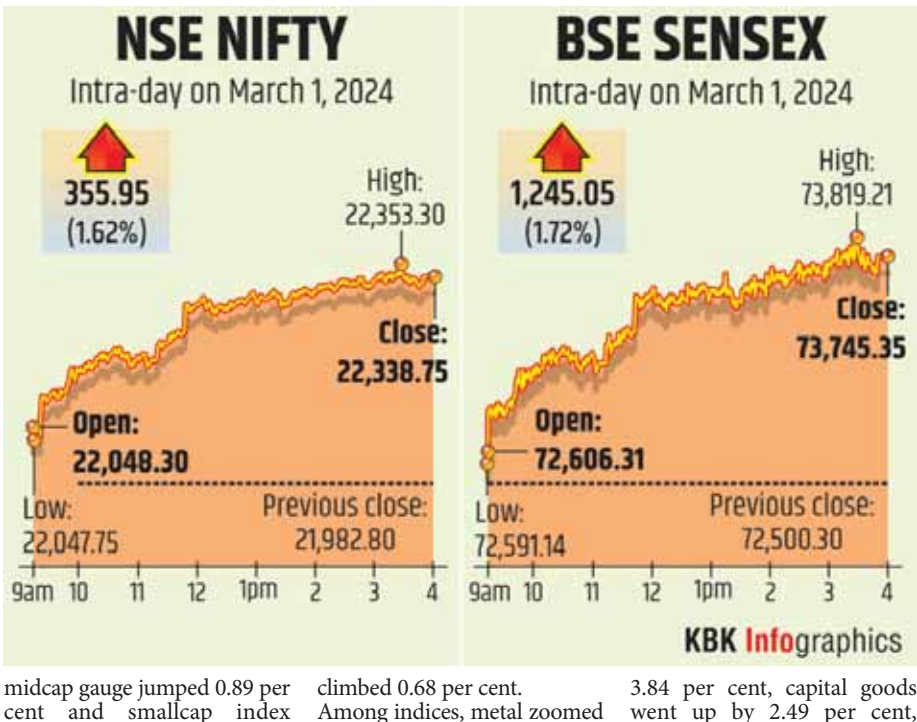
# Sensex, Nifty hit record high

PTI ■ MUMBAI

Benchmark equity indices Sensex and Nifty rallied more than one-and-a-half per cent to hit their lifetime highs on Friday helped by impressive GDP data and fresh foreign fund inflows. The 30-share BSE Sensex jumped 1,245.05 points or 1.72 per cent to reach 73,745.35 — its all-time closing peak. During the day, it zoomed 1,318.91 points or 1.81 per cent to hit a record intra-day high of 73,819.21. The Nifty climbed 355.95 points or 1.62 per cent to settle at a new closing high of 22,338.75. During the day, it soared 370.5 points or 1.68 per cent to reach its intra-day record peak of 22,353.30. A rally in global markets and auto sales numbers added to the positive momentum in the equity markets, analysts said. Among the Sensex firms, Tata Steel jumped over 6 per cent

while JSW Steel climbed more than 4 per cent. Larsen & Toubro, Titan, Maruti, IndusInd Bank, ICICI Bank and Tata Motors were the other major gainers. HCL Technologies, Infosys and Tech Mahindra were the laggards. India's economy grew by better-than-expected 8.4 per cent in the final three months of 2023 — the fastest pace in one-and-a-half years. The growth rate in October-December was higher than 7.6 per cent in the previous three years, and it helped take the estimate for the current fiscal (April 2023 to March 2024) to 7.6 per cent, according to the data released by the National Statistical Office (NSO) on Thursday. India's manufacturing sector growth climbed to a five-month high in February amid a sharper uptick in factory production and sales, supported by both domestic

and external demand, a monthly survey said on Friday. The seasonally adjusted HSBC India Manufacturing Purchasing Managers' Index (PMI) rose from 56.5 in January to 56.9 in February, pointing to the strongest improvement in the health of the sector since September 2023. "Better-than-expected Q3 FY24 GDP and ease in US inflation added buoyancy in both domestic and global markets. As the general election draws closer, stellar economic growth data raised confidence among investors for a pre-election rally. "On the global front, in-line US personal consumption expenditure data and benign Euro zone inflation will influence global central banks to take a dovish view on interest rates," said Vinod Nair, Head of Research, Geojit Financial Services. In the broader market, the BSE



midcap gauge jumped 0.89 per cent and smallcap index climbed 0.68 per cent. Among indices, metal zoomed 3.84 per cent, capital goods went up by 2.49 per cent,

bankex climbed 2.48 per cent, auto advanced 2.23 per cent, energy (2.14 per cent), oil & gas (2.14 per cent), commodities (2.12 per cent) and industrials (1.91 per cent). IT and tech were the laggards. A total of 2,387 advanced while 1,451 declined and 109 remained unchanged. In Asian markets, Tokyo, Shanghai and Hong Kong settled with gains. European markets were trading in positive territory. The US markets ended in the green on Thursday. Foreign Institutional Investors (FIIs) turned buyers on Thursday as they bought equities worth Rs 3,568.11 crore, according to exchange data. The BSE benchmark climbed 195.42 points or 0.27 per cent to settle at 72,500.30 on Thursday. The Nifty gained 31.65 points or 0.14 per cent to 21,982.80. Global oil benchmark Brent

crude climbed 0.82 per cent to USD 82.58 a barrel. Leading stock exchanges BSE and NSE will conduct a special trading session in the equity and equity derivative segments on Saturday to check their preparedness to handle major disruption or failure at the primary site. The special live trading session will have intra-day switch over from Primary Site (PR) to Disaster Recovery (DR) site. The exchanges said there will be two sessions — the first from 9:15 am to 10 am on the PR, and the second from 11:30 am to 12:30 pm on the DR site. "Trading members are requested to note that the exchange will conduct a special live trading session with intraday switch over from Primary Site (PR) to Disaster Recovery Site (DR) on Saturday, March 2, in equity and equity derivatives segments," BSE and NSE said in separate circulars.



## Indian logistics market to grow at 8.8 per cent annually by 2029

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Indian freight and logistics market is estimated to grow at 8.8 per cent annually to USD 484.43 billion by 2029 from USD 317.26 billion in 2024 due to technological advancement, as per a report released at logistic fair LogiMAT India. LogiMAT India 2024, the satellite show of Europe's biggest intralogistics exhibition LogiMAT Stuttgart, is organised by Messe Stuttgart India Pvt Ltd on February 28-March 1 at India Expo Mart. According to a statement, the integration of cutting-edge technologies and advancements in intralogistics, automation, warehousing, and transportation management heralds a transformative era for the logistics sector in India. Indian freight and logistics market is poised for remarkable growth. 2024 projections indicate a surge in market size to USD 317.26 billion by 2024, with a projected CAGR of 8.83 per cent, catapulting it to USD 484.43 billion by 2029. This surge not only signifies robust economic expansion but also holds the promise of substantial job creation and enhanced business scalability, it stated. Together, these developments are set to redefine the logistics landscape, ushering in a new

era of efficiency and innovation. Sachin Patil, MD and CEO of Messe Stuttgart said the transformative potential of new technologies and innovations showcased at LogiMAT India is immense. "We envision these advancements to not only attract substantial investments to India's logistics sector, but also to create a significant number of jobs, driving economic growth and prosperity," he added. Furthermore, these technologies have the potential to scale logistics businesses to unprecedented levels, enabling them to optimise operations, enhance customer service, and achieve greater profitability, the statement said. By leveraging robotics, automation, AI, and other cutting-edge solutions, logistics companies can streamline processes, reduce costs, and stay ahead of the competition in today's dynamic business environment, it pointed out. Messe Stuttgart India Pvt Ltd is the wholly-owned subsidiary of Landesmesse Stuttgart GmbH. With a focus on innovation and technology, the event provides a comprehensive platform for industry professionals to explore the latest trends and advancements in the intralogistics, transportation, warehousing and automation sectors.

## Gold jumps ₹350; silver rallies ₹400

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Gold prices jumped Rs 350 to Rs 63,320 per 10 grams in the national capital on Friday amid strong trends in the global markets, according to HDFC Securities. The precious metal closed at Rs 62,970 per 10 grams in the previous trade. Silver also rallied Rs 400 to Rs 74,500 per kg, while it settled at Rs 74,100 per kg in the previous close. "Spot gold prices (24 carats) in the Delhi markets are trading at Rs 63,320 per 10 grams, up by Rs 350, taking bullish cues in the overseas market," Saumil Gandhi, senior analyst of commodities at HDFC Securities, said.



In the international markets, spot gold at Comex was trading at USD 2,045 per ounce, up by USD 11 from the previous close. Following the release of the Personal Consumption

Expenditure (PCE) price index data, which indicated signs of slowing inflation in the US and raised expectations of a monetary policy rate cut by the Federal Reserve later this year,

Gandhi said. After the release of the data, the yellow metal prices surged to a four-week high, he added. Silver was also up at USD 22.60 per ounce, while it had ended at USD 22.50 per ounce in the previous close. Investors will also look forward to the release of major macro data, including global US manufacturing PMI (January) and ISM manufacturing (February) which will shape the expectations for the Fed's monetary policy rate outlook and further direction for the gold prices, Praveen Singh, Associate VP, Fundamental Currencies and Commodities at Sharekhan by BNP Paribas, said.



## Rupee settles 1 paisa lower at 82.90 against US dollar

PTI ■ MUMBAI

The rupee settled 1 paisa lower at 82.90 (provisional) against the US dollar on Friday amid rising crude oil prices in the overseas market and increased demand for the American currency from importers. However, a rally in equity markets and robust domestic macro-economic data supported the local currency and restricted the fall, forex traders said. At the interbank foreign exchange market, the local unit opened at 82.86 and traded in a narrow range of 82.84 and 82.91 against the greenback. The local unit finally settled at 82.90 (provisional) against the dollar, down 1 paisa from its previous close. On Thursday, the rupee settled 2 paise higher at 82.89 against the US dollar. Meanwhile, the dollar index, which gauges the greenback's strength against a basket of six currencies, dipped marginally by 0.02 per cent to 104.07. Anuj Choudhary, Research Analyst, Sharekhan by BNP Paribas, said the US dollar rose on month-end rebalancing by importers and oil marketing companies. "We expect the rupee to trade with a slight positive bias on improved risk sentiments in the domestic markets following stellar GDP data and positive domestic equities. However, strong US dollar and elevated crude oil prices may cap the sharp upside," Choudhary said. He said the traders may remain cautious ahead of ISM manufacturing PMI and construction

spending data from the US. "USD-INR spot price is expected to trade in a range of Rs 82.60 to Rs 83.10." Brent crude futures, the global oil benchmark, surged 1.26 per cent to USD 82.94 per barrel. On the domestic equity market front, Sensex climbed 1,245.05 points, or 1.72 per cent, to settle at a new peak of 73,745.35. The Nifty rose 355.95 points, or 1.62 per cent, to close at a record 22,338.75. A monthly survey released on Friday showed India's manufacturing sector growth climbed to a five-month high in February amid a sharper uptick in factory production and sales, supported by domestic and external demand. The seasonally adjusted HSBC India Manufacturing Purchasing Managers' Index (PMI) rose from 56.5 in January to 56.9 in February, pointing to the strongest improvement in the health of the sector since September 2023. According to the government data released on Thursday, India's economic growth accelerated to 8.4 per cent in the October-December quarter of this fiscal, mainly due to double-digit growth in manufacturing and a good showing by mining & quarrying and construction sectors. The government's fiscal deficit at Rs 11 lakh crore at January end touched 63.6 per cent of the revised annual target. In the corresponding period last year, the fiscal deficit or gap between the expenditure and revenue was 67.8 per cent of the Revised Estimates (RE) of the Union Budget 2022-23.

## India set to become global semiconductor manufacturing destination: Industry

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

The Union Cabinet's nod to three upcoming semiconductor manufacturing units is a step towards self-sufficiency and makes the country's dream of becoming a global chip making destination achievable, according to industry players. The Union Cabinet on Thursday approved setting up three semiconductor-making units, entailing an investment of Rs 1.26 lakh crore, as part of an attempt to cut India's dependence on imports to meet the requirements of chips. According to S P Kochhar, Director General, COAI (Cellular Operators Association of India), the approval for these units which has come under India's Semiconductor Mission is a positive and commendable development. "This is a progressive step for India and the strongly emerging manufacturing ecosystem in the country. We believe this serves as an excellent example for



our nation towards attaining self-sufficiency in line with our prime minister's vision of

our nation towards attaining self-sufficiency in line with our prime minister's vision of

'Atmanirbharta' and will further inspire India's goals to become a global manufacturing and supply chain hub"

he said. Kochhar said that with the output from these facilities being poised to benefit various sectors, it is expected to provide a fillip to the 'Digital India' mission through increased technological prowess and advancement of the indigenous industrial ecosystem, besides generating employment and attracting more investments in the country. Chairman of ICEA (India Cellular and Electronics Association) Pankaj Mohindroo said the move will pave the way for setting up more semiconductor fabrication plants (Fab) and outsourced semiconductor assembly and test units (OSAT) in the country. "The emergence of Bharat as a global semiconductor manufacturing destination no longer seems to be a distant dream. By 2027 we will have the FAB and OSAT units producing. By the end of the decade, we may have more than 10 fabs and 20 OSAT units in production besides many semiconductor product companies," Mohindroo said.

## GDP growth in FY24 likely to be within striking distance of 8 per cent: SBI report

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

The GDP growth for the current financial year could be within striking distance of 8 per cent, a study by the State Bank of India (SBI) said on Friday, a day after India posted an 8.4 per cent growth in the December quarter, and revised upwards the estimates for the preceding two quarters. "The third quarter GDP numbers jolted the psyche and cognitive framework of most in markets, while sweeping some by a pleasant surprise. Clearly, right policy prisms and perspectives can trump irrational expectations bordering fault lines," SBI said in its research report 'Ecowrap'. It noted that defying all estimates, the economy grew 8.4 per cent in the third quarter of 2023-24 after exhibiting more than 8 per cent growth in the preceding two quarters. The buoyancy in indirect tax mop-up (32 per cent year-on-year growth), gap between Gross Domestic Product (GDP) and Gross Value



Added (GVA) growth widened. "For fiscal 2023-24 GDP growth is expected to increase 7.6 per cent and GVA growth by 6.9 per cent... We estimate fourth quarter GDP growth at 5.9 per cent, which we believe is an understatement. Thus it is most likely that FY24 GDP growth could be within striking distance of 8 per cent," the SBI study said. The National Statistical Office (NSO) has revised GDP estimates for the first and second quarters of this fiscal to 8.2 and 8.1 per cent from 7.8 per cent and 7.6 per cent, respectively. With the revisions, the GDP growth during April-December works out to be 8.2 per cent. The SBI report further said with the government's efforts to ensure quality of life for all citizens and stopping leakage of benefits through direct benefit transfer, for the first time the per capita GDP at current prices crossed Rs 2 lakh mark in 2023-24. In constant prices, too, per capita GDP has increased to Rs 1.24 lakh in the current fiscal.





# PLAY ON

SHOBORI GANGULI takes an indulgent plunge into a theatrical restaurant pool that proves to be a novel immersive culinary experience

Along the winding fine dining streets of South Delhi's heart and lungs, Mehrauli, you must stop at a place that literally invites you to come in and Play. Yes, Play is all about a delectable indulgence in all things heady about Asian and Mediterranean confluence. I find fusion too limiting a term for the entity Play has created. The unique decor, the theatrical culinary presentation, the awesome open air terrace, everything about Play exudes the kind of warmth you so desire on a frosty winter evening. Of course, in the company of good friends. Standing out in all its opulence at the Qutub Complex, Play has carefully sought to extend the norms of conventional wining and dining to forge a cocktail bar and restaurant with innovation writ large. Kanishk Tuteja, the creative force behind Play, envisions a space where culinary artistry seamlessly meets theatrical elegance. As the founder, he expresses that "Play transcends the traditional definition of a



restaurant — it's a stage for unforgettable experiences. The fusion of diverse flavours, mirrored illusions, and dynamic ambiance invites guests to embark on a journey of luxury and delight at Play, where every moment is meticulously crafted for those who seek the extraordinary." To dwell briefly on the décor, which while being overwhelming is only a part of what Play has on offer, we are informed that the interior design has drawn inspiration from the "theatrical elegance" and "blending" influences of Asian and Mediterranean cultures. Mirrored elements on the walls indeed create mesmerising spatial illusions, promising to cast a magical spell even before the heady spirits and aromatic flavours flow in to gently lure you into wonderland. As explained by Play's General Manager Kunal Kumar, the place promises to remain etched in our memories well beyond the moment of our departure. The special menu crafted by Chef Rishi Prakash for us indeed continues to linger on even now. As I mentioned, the Asian and




Mediterranean confluence of cuisine and culture is Play's signature touch. From specially infused sushi to inventive tapas, each dish has a unique narrative. Chef Bulut's theatrical presentation skills were on full display which elevated the dining experience to another realm altogether. Alongside Play's signature gems Black Cod Miso and the irresistible Baklava, Chef Bulut's mastery of a visually stunning and theatrical presentation certainly made the evening special. The specially crafted menu for us included a Leaks and Chicken soup alongside an option of Vietnamese Banh Pho. We savoured an array of appetizers — Soy Caramel Mushroom, Guaca Beets Tart, a Mock Meat Stir

Fry. The meat eaters were of course treated to an Arabic Lemon Garlic Fish, Char Siu Chicken and a scrumptious Shrimp Avocado Tart. The salads comprised a healthy mix of Moroccan Carrot and Quinoa, with Beet Root Carpaccio. From the Chef's Theatre came Lamb Adana and Cottage Cheese Shish Touk. The main course was a refined amalgamation of Buck Wheat Pancake, Sundried Tomato Barley, Japanese Katsu Curry, Tofu and Chicken Cutlet, and River Sole. For desserts, we literally dug into the Mixed Berry Cheesecake and Chocolate Forest. I and my friends resolved to return for more fun at Play. Highly recommended for an evening or afternoon of guilt-free indulgence.



## Talking Tokyo

For a city known for its love for butter chicken, Guppy celebrates a decade of educating Delhiites about Japanese flavours, writes **PAWAN SONI**





In the hospitality industry, where employee turnover is high, encountering someone who has remained with a group for 15 years and been with the brand since its inception 10 years ago is rare. I had the pleasure of meeting Chef Saurabh Sharan at Guppy, which is celebrating its tenth anniversary. Hailing from a humble background and raised in Bihar, I was intrigued to learn about Chef Saurabh Sharan's journey from Bihar to managing one of Delhi's finest Japanese restaurants. The chef, with a smile, shared that he always remained open to learning. Starting at a junior level, he had the opportunity to work with some of the best chefs, and today, he has risen through the ranks. We began our lunch eagerly. The first one was Yo! Guppy, which had a subtle hint of wasabi with a sour



mix. It was so delightful that we ordered another round. On the culinary front, we began with the fried calamari. I was expecting the typical breaded calamari, but what arrived was a delightful surprise. The calamari was pan-fried a la plancha style, seared in high heat, and served with quality olives, cherry tomatoes, and pepper coulis. Absolutely delicious, though it reminded me more of Spanish tapas. A side of garlic bread would have perfected this dish for me. The salmon tartare is another dish worth trying, with fresh avocado, tobiko for crunch, and umami flavors from bonito mayo. The braised eel on top of pan-fried sushi rice was delightful, though I would have preferred it served in smaller pieces for easier eating with chopsticks. The only disappointing dish on the



menu was the Ramen burger, where the noodles were shaped into a bun. Once a popular trend on the internet and globally, I found the ramen to be overly crispy, and the pork belly, bacon, and tomatoes overloaded the burger. While it may be visually appealing for Instagram, consuming all the ingredients in one bite proved to be a challenge. The meal ended on a sweet note with a deconstructed banoffee cake, featuring toffee sauce and caramelized banana served with fresh cream alongside banana cake. In a world where most brands struggle to survive even a few months, Guppy is celebrating its 10th anniversary. For a city known for its love of butter chicken, Guppy not only serves but also educates many Delhiites about Japanese flavors, becoming a favorite among its patrons. This achievement is truly commendable.

Author is a food critic and founder of the Big F Awards



# KAPIL BACKS BCCI STRICTNESS ON DOMESTIC CRICKET

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

A few players will suffer, but let it be,” said legendary former India captain Kapil Dev on Friday as he backed the BCCI’s decision to terminate central contracts for lack of commitment to domestic cricket, calling it a much-needed step to protect marquee first-class events like the Ranji Trophy. Ishan Kishan and Shreyas Iyer were on Wednesday excluded from the BCCI’s central contracts after ignoring the board’s diktat to play in the Ranji Trophy. The decision evoked mixed reactions with some former players like Kirti Azad and Irfan Pathan backing the out-of-favour duo. Kapil refrained from taking names but said the BCCI’s decision to assert the importance of domestic cricket was long overdue.

“Yes, few players will suffer, kuch logon ko taqleef hogi, hone do lekin desh se badhkar koi nahi hai (some people will feel hurt but let it be because nobody is bigger than the country). Well done,” he said. “I congratulate the BCCI for taking the much needed step to protect the status of domestic cricket. I was sad to see domestic cricket being given the skip by players once they had established themselves in international cricket,” the captain of the 1983 World Cup-winning side observed in his statement. The BCCI, while announcing the central contracts, urged the players to give due importance to domestic competitions. The 25-year-old Kishan did not turn up for Jharkhand throughout the team’s campaign in Ranji Trophy despite not being on national duty after leaving the tour



of South Africa in December citing personal reasons. He instead focussed on preparing for the IPL next month for his franchise

Mumbai Indians. Iyer, on the other hand, did not make himself available for Mumbai’s Ranji quarterfinal

against Baroda after being excluded from the Indian team after the second Test against England. He, however, has been

picked for Mumbai’s Ranji semifinal against Tamil Nadu starting March 2. “It was high time the message was given and this strong step by the BCCI will go a long way in restoring the prestige of domestic cricket,” he added. Kapil asserted that it was the duty of established stars to play domestic cricket as they owe their success to their respective states. “I have always believed in the process of international players making themselves available to play for their respective states. It helps them extend their support to domestic players. Also it is a nice way to pay back for the services rendered by the state association in grooming a player,” he said. Kapil also expressed his gratitude to the BCCI for enhancing the pension of former cricketers, saying it has come as a major relief

to families of several yesteryear players. In 2022, the board had announced a hike in the monthly pensions of former cricketers — both men and women. Former first-class men’s cricketers, who earlier got Rs 15,000 per month are now getting Rs 30,000, while former Test players, who got Rs 37,500, are now getting Rs 60,000. Women international players, who received Rs 30,000 prior to the revision are now receiving Rs 52,500, while first-class cricketers who retired before 2003 and were getting Rs 22,500 are now getting Rs 45,000. “I am also happy that the BCCI has increased the pension amount of the players. This was a much needed boost to those whose family depends on the pension received,” added Kapil.

We are thrilled to have Shreyas in team for Ranji semifinal: Rahane

PTI ■ MUMBAI

Mumbai captain Ajinkya Rahane on Friday backed Shreyas Iyer to put the contractual turmoil behind him and deliver a punchy performance for the team in the Ranji Trophy semifinal against Tamil Nadu, beginning here on Saturday. Shreyas along with Jharkhand’s Ishan Kishan were not considered for the annual central contracts after both the players skipped the Ranji matches of their respective teams in violation of BCCI’s diktat. Shreyas sat out of Mumbai’s quarterfinal against Baroda here while complaining of back pain.

“He’s an experienced player. His contribution has been amazing whenever he turned up for Mumbai. We are thrilled to have him in our team for the semifinal,” Rahane told the media here at the BKC Ground. Rahane said Shreyas would not require any extra motivation to do well for Mumbai against TN. “I don’t think he needs any encouragement or advice. He has always contributed with the bat for Mumbai, and him being around other players in the dressing room will also help the team’s cause,” said Rahane. However, Rahane himself is waging a personal battle after scoring just 115 runs from six matches at an average of 12.77 with a lone fifty. But the 35-year-old did not read much into those anaemic numbers. “It’s just a phase and you have to respect it (not scoring runs). When you’re batting well and scoring runs, it happens consistently. There’s nothing wrong with my batting. I just have to remain positive and back my game and instinct,” he said. Rahane said he needed to bat freely to get back into his run-scoring ways. “I just have to go out there and play freely. I feel as a player you have to be confident and respect a phase, move forward and learn whatever you can. You don’t want to go too far ahead,” he added.

## He is the new Ravi Ashwin: Vaughan on Bashir

PTI ■ LONDON

Former England captain Michael Vaughan feels England have discovered a “world-class superstar” in young off-spinner Shoaib Bashir, who has the skills to emulate the success of India’s Ravichandran Ashwin. Despite England’s five-wicket loss in Ranchi, 20-year-old Bashir, playing only his second Test, impressed as he returned with a match haul of eight wickets. His magnificent performance included a five-wicket haul in the first innings. Ashwin, on the other hand, is regarded as one of the best off-spinners in the history of Test cricket. The senior spinner recently became only the second Indian bowler to snare 500 wickets in the longest format and is set for his 100th Test in Dharamsala next week against England. “One of the great weeks, celebrating another world-class superstar that we’ve unearthed, Shoaib Bashir. That’s what we’re celebrating. Second Test match, eight wickets, he’s the new Ravi Ashwin, and we’ve unearthed him.



“So, we’re celebrating a new superstar in English cricket,” Vaughan said on Club Prairie Fire’s YouTube channel. India handed England their first series defeat under coach Brendon McCullum and skipper Ben Stokes after winning the fourth Test in Ranchi to take a 3-1 lead in

the ongoing series. Vaughan backed England to win the dead rubber in Dharamsala. “They will go with their best XI. It’s going to be cold in Dharamsala and it will suit England. I expect England to win,” Vaughan said.



BCCI to conduct women red ball tournament in Pune

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Women’s red-ball cricket will return to India’s domestic calendar after six years when the BCCI conducts a Senior Inter Zonal Multi-Day Trophy in Pune from March 28. The move comes after the Indian women’s team’s return to Test cricket. The side has played Tests against Australia and England in the recent years. Domestic red ball cricket for women was last held in 2018. “It is a welcome step taken by BCCI. The national team has started playing Test cricket again and we need the next generation of cricketers to play red ball cricket at the domestic level,” former India pacer Amita Sharma told PTI. “I would also want red ball to be played at the state level and not just zonal level. Back in the day we had both those events,” she added. The Maharashtra Cricket Association will be hosting the tournament which will feature six teams, representing East, West, North, South, Central, and North-East zones. They will be competing in a series of five matches to be played across three days each, which is a day more than the two-day games played in the 2018 season. The tournament will begin right after the ongoing Women’s Premier League, which ends on March 17. It will start with the quarterfinals between East Zone and North East Zone and West Zone and Central Zone on March 28 with the semifinals slated on April 3.

## Made some mental adjustments to convert starts into big scores: Shafali

PTI ■ BENGALURU

Big-hitting batter Shafali Verma says she has made minor adjustments to her approach towards the game in the last one year, which is helping her convert good starts into big knocks in the ongoing Women’s Premier League. Verma struck a half century and stitched a second-wicket stand of 82 runs with Alice Capsey (46) as Delhi Capitals defeated Royal Challengers Bangalore by 25 runs in a WPL match here on Thursday night. RCB could only muster up 169/9 in their 20 overs, pursuing a 195-run victory target. “Last time in the WPL, I was getting out in the 30s or 40s. Those knocks taught me a lot. I think because of that, now I want to convert a 30 or 40-run score into a 50 for the team



and for myself,” Verma told ‘Jio Cinema’. “The main change is a slight adjustment in my mindset and I want to take this forward,” she added. Verma’s team is currently top of the table with two wins from three matches. The 20-year-old Verma, who became the youngest to play cricket for India when she debuted as a 15-year-old, also acknowledged the positive impact of playing alongside seasoned Australian Meg Lanning in her WPL team. “When a very experienced person is standing across from you, your body language changes on its own. Playing with a player like that and building partnerships is a great privilege in my opinion. “She has changed the game with her batting,” she said. Delhi Capital will next taken on Gujarat Giants on Sunday.

## Australia 13-2 as New Zealand strikes back late

AP ■ WELLINGTON

The almost comical run out of Kane Williamson for a second-ball duck was one of many setbacks suffered by New Zealand on the second day of the first test Friday as it fell 217 runs behind Australia. That was until the very end of the day when Australia batted for a second time after passing up the chance to make New Zealand follow on. Tim Southee dismissed Steve Smith and Marnus Labuschagne to have Australia 13-2 in its second innings after it had led by 204 on the first. At stumps Usman Khawaja was 5 not out and nightwatchman Nathan Lyon was 6 not out. Lyon was dropped at slip by Tim Southee off the last ball of the day. Smith was out for a duck to the third ball of the innings, bowled by Southee, and Labuschagne fell to Southee in the fifth over for 2. After falling for 1 in the first innings, it was Labuschagne’s lowest aggregate score in a test in his career. They were the 12th and 13th wickets to fall in the day which mostly had not gone New Zealand’s

way. First, New Zealand needed more than a full session to claim one wicket and end Australia’s first innings. In that time Cameron Green and Josh Hazlewood put on 116 runs to increase Australia’s total from 279-9 after the first day to 383. Green finished 174 not out. Then New Zealand lost three wickets at 12 and two at 29, was 29-5 before Glenn Phillips’ half century from 41 balls slowed its steady downhill slide. New Zealand eventually was all out for 179 in 43.1 overs, a deficit of 204. Phillips made 71 and Matt Henry 42. “Obviously the way Cam Green played with Hazlewood, they put on a massive partnership and that wasn’t exactly ideal for us wanting to wrap up the tail,” Phillips said. “At the end that’s what test cricket is about.” New Zealand always will be able to look back and pinpoint where this match began to get away from it. It started on the second day when Australia was 89-4 and Mitch Marsh made a fast 40 in a 67-run fifth-wicket partnership which seemed to energize Cameron Green.



Green went on to reach his century in the last over of the first day and was able to form an heroic last-wicket partnership with Hazlewood which frustrated New Zealand for all of the first session and an additional 20 minutes before Hazlewood fell for 22. This test match is the first in eight years between New Zealand and Australia in New Zealand, has been much anticipated and this match at the Basin Reserve is sold out on all five days. Watching Australia go from 267-9 on day one when the match was about even to 383 when Australia was totally in charge left fans dispirited. Tom Latham fell for 5 when New Zealand was 12, changing his decision to leave

a ball from Mitchell Starc too late and directing the ball back onto his stumps. Then disaster. Williamson played a ball from Starc back past the bowler. Will Young at the non-striker’s end turned to watch the ball, then looked up to see Williamson had set off for a run. Young turned to see the ball heading straight to mid off and looked again to see Williamson bearing down on him on a collision course. As Young swerved to his left, Williamson dodged to his right and the pair collided in mid-pitch as Starc tried to take evasive action. Williamson was stranded as Marnus Labuschagne’s throw hit the stumps directly at the non-striker’s end. Williamson walked off without looking back. New

Zealand had lost two wickets in two balls and that became three in five when Rachin Ravindra drove too freely too early in his innings and sliced the ball directly to Nathan Lyon at point. Wicketkeeper Alex Carey caught Daryl Mitchell (11) off Cummins from the last ball of the 17th over and Young (9) from Mitch March off the first ball of the 18th as New Zealand slumped to 29-5. Phillips and Tom Blundell provided New Zealand’s first real period of competitiveness in all of the second day in a partnership of 84 for the sixth wicket. Both played aggressively and runs came quickly. Phillips reached his third test half century, his second against Australia and his first in New Zealand. But Blundell fell next ball, caught by Travis Head at short leg off Nathan Lyon and the innings sputtered again. Phillips was out for 71 off 70 balls and Henry took his 42 runs from 34 balls with four sixes as New Zealand briefly looked like avoiding the follow-on. But he holed to Labuschagne off Nathan Lyon with New Zealand still four runs short.

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### AUCTION OF JEWELS/GOLD ORNAMENTS

The following person who has availed loan against pledge of gold ornaments have not repaid the amount in spite of our demand notices. Therefore, please take notice that if the principal/interest and other charges are not paid on or before **16.03.2024**, the pledged ornaments will be publicly auctioned on **16.03.2024 at 4 PM** in the bank's premises subject to rules and regulations of Bank. The Bank Reserves right to Cancel/Postpone the auction or any other convenient date without further notice and assigning reasons therefore.

Jewel Loan A/c	Gross weight of the ornaments (in grams)	Net weight of the ornaments (in grams)	Name of the borrower
42029580000000326	40.760	31.740	DINESH RAWAT

Place : Chandigarh | Date : 01.03.2024 Sd/- Branch Head

## USP

### NMIMS Chandigarh Announces Narsee Monjee Half Marathon 2024

**Chandigarh:** NMIMS Chandigarh on Friday announced the second edition of the Narsee Monjee Half Marathon 2024, slated to take place on March 10. This year, the theme of the marathon is 'Mental-Wellbeing' and is dedicated to promoting physical well-being, building a spirit of community, fostering team spirit and celebrating achievements. Dr. Jaskiran Kaur, Campus Director, gave a virtual tour of the campus to the media representatives while academic heads, Dr. Rashmi Nagpal (School of Law), Dr. Jyotsna Singh (School of Technology Management and Engineering) and Dr. Naimitya Sharma (School of Commerce) provided an overview of the three schools on the campus respectively. The Student Council members representing the three schools, Dhruv Kapoor and Anmol Chohan (SoC), Priyanshi Grover and Pragya Singh (SoL) and Raghav Yogi and Neha Sachdeva (STME), shared highlights of the mega-successful marathon held last year. They also unveiled the T-shirt and the cash prize poster. The press conference saw the unveiling of the various categories of the Narsee Monjee Half Marathon 2024. It will cater to various age groups and fitness levels, with participants having the option to choose from the 5 km run, 10 km run, and the challenging 21.5 km Half Marathon categories. Participants of the marathon can expect various support services ranging from T-shirts, finisher medals, and timing bibs, to hydration, nutrition support, and medical and Physiotherapy assistance. Additionally, finishers will be facilitated with e-certificates and memorable race photos to celebrate their achievements, while exciting cash prizes, trophies, and gift hampers await the winners across each category, motivating participants to give their best.

### 'Snow Marathon Lahaul' invites city marathoners to the world's highest marathon at Sissu

**Chandigarh:** After the success of the first and second edition of Snow Marathon, this year's third Snow Marathon will be organized on March 10 at Sissu (Lahaul and Spiti), being organized by Reach India in association with Himachal Tourism and District Administration. The key organizer Rajiv Kumar informed that Snow Marathon Lahaul has the distinction of being the only snow marathon in Asia and the highest in the world. Likewise every year, the marathon is being organized at Sissu, at the North Portal end of the Atal Tunnel, located at an altitude of nearly 10,000 feet near Manali wherein athletes and marathoners from every corner of the country are participating. This marathon is being organized in four categories - 42 kilometer full marathon, 21 kilometer half marathon, ten kilometer and five kilometer. Fun runs are also being organized to encourage local participation. Rajiv said that apart from athletes, defence personnel, especially Navy and Army, are participating like every year. So far, 25 sailors have confirmed participation in this event. Apart from that, ten foreign marathoners are also participating in this edition.

### PUBLIC NOTICE

**ICICI Home Finance** Registered office: ICICI Bank Towers, Bandra-Kurla Complex, Bandra (East), Mumbai- 400051

**Corporate Office:** ICICI HFC Tower, JB Nagar, Andheri Kurla Road, Andheri East, Mumbai- 400059  
**Branch Address:** SCO 154, 1st floor, Red Square Market, UE-1, Near Telephone Exchange, Hisar- 125001  
**Branch Address:** Shanti Complex, 1st floor, Building No. 4307/12-14, Jagadhari Road, Opposite Civil Hospital, Ambala Cantt- 133001  
**Branch Address:** 1st floor, SCO No. 397, Sector-20, Urban Estate, Panchkula, Haryana -134116

The following borrower/s have defaulted in the repayment of principal and interest of the loans facility obtained by them from ICICI Home Finance Company Limited ("ICICI HFC") and the loans have been classified as Non-Performing Assets (NPA). A notice was issued to them under Section 13 (2) of Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act-2002 on their last known addresses, however it was not served and hence they are hereby notified by way of this public notice.

Sr. No.	Name of the Borrower/ Co-Borrower/ Guarantor/ (Loan Account Number) & Address	Property Address of Secured Asset/ Asset to be Enforced	Date of Notice Sent/ Outstanding as on Date of Notice	NPA Date
1.	Krishan Kumar (Borrower), Kavita Devi (Co-Borrower), Mandi Saiyaniy Near Naher Kothi Hansi Hansi Haryana- 125033. LHPN000001266657	H. T. No 197/21 Mandi Saniyan House Bearing Hansi Haryana- 125033. Bounded By- North: 22 Ft. 6 H/o Gajinder, South: 18ft 11 Road, East: 60 Ft H/o Prabhasi, West: 54 Ft 3 H/o Ram Kumar.	12-02-2024 Rs. 9,92,689/-	03/02/ 2024
2.	Somnath God (Borrower), Seema Devi (Co-Borrower), H No. 277 1 Hallomajra, Chandigarh Chandigarh Chandigarh- 160002. LHAMB00001397451	Khwat Khatoni No. 665/1331, Khasra No 171/1/13(4-0) Plot No. 15 of 72 Sayd, Residential House At Sky City Lalru Derabassi Na Na Zirakpur Punjab- 140603. Bounded By- North: Oth Owner, South: Oth Owner, East: Oth Owner, West: Street .	12-02-2024 Rs. 6,62,948/-	03/02/ 2024
3.	Somnath God (Borrower), Seema Devi (Co-Borrower), H No 277 1 Hallomajra, Chandigarh Chandigarh Chandigarh- 160002. LHAMB00001397452	Khwat Khatoni No. 665/1331, Khasra No. 171/1/13(4-0) Plot No. 15 f 72 Sayd, Residential House at Sky City Lalru Derabassi Na Na Zirakpur Punjab- 140603. Bounded By- North: Oth Owner, South: Oth Owner, East: Oth Owner, West: Street.	12-02-2024 Rs. 26,628/-	03/02/ 2024
4.	Sohan Lal (Borrower), Rajni Devi (Co-Borrower), Vpo Mehnadpur 451, Near Sondohra Near Sondohra Yamunanagar Yamunanagar Haryana- 133204. LHPN000001377329	Ward No. 1 Naraingarh Rakba Mouza Hussaini Na Plot No. 12 A Ambala Haryana- 133203. Bounded By- North: Plot No. 14, 44 Ft, South: Plot No. 12, 44 Ft, East: Street, 24.75ft, West: House Other, 24.75ft.	12-02-2024 Rs. 15,46,392/-	03/02/ 2024
5.	Sohan Lal (Borrower), Rajni Devi (Co-Borrower), Vpo Mehnadpur 451, Near Sondohra Near Sondohra Yamunanagar Yamunanagar Haryana- 133204. LHPN000001377330	Ward No. 1 Naraingarh Rakba Mouza Hussaini Na Plot No. 12 A Ambala Haryana- 133203. Bounded By- North: Plot No. 14, 44 Ft, South: Plot No. 12, 44 Ft, East: Street, 24.75 Ft, West: House Other, 24.75ft.	12-02-2024 Rs. 58,792/-	03/02/ 2024

The steps are being taken for substituted service of notice. The above borrower/s and/or their guarantors (as applicable) are advised to make the payments of outstanding within period of 60 days from the date of publication of this notice else further steps will be taken as per the provisions of Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002.

Date : March 02, 2024 Place : Hansi, Zirakpur, Ambala Authorized Officer ICICI Home Finance Company Limited