

OPINION 6
AN OPEN LETTER TO SHEHBAZ SHARIF

WORLD 9
PUTIN ACCUSES WEST OF FUELING GLOBAL CONFLICTS

MONEY 10
HOUSEHOLD SAVINGS DECLINE DUE TO RISING HOME, AUTO, PERSONAL LOANS

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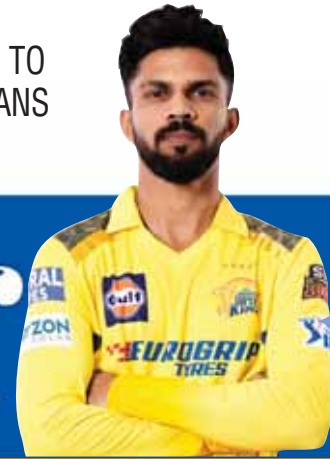
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CSK AIM TO CONTINUE ASCENT TO TOP THREE 12 SPORTS

ED stonewall for Kejriwal

RAJESH KUMAR ■ NEW DELHI

Jailed Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal, who has sought 'relief' from the Supreme Court to enable him to campaign for the Lok Sabha polls, faced opposition from the Enforcement Directorate (ED), which is probing the AAP leader's role in a multi-crore excise policy. In a fresh affidavit filed on Thursday in the apex court, the ED opposed interim bail for Kejriwal, stating that the right to campaign for elections was "not fundamental" and that no political leader has ever been granted interim bail for campaigning, even if they are not contesting polls.

The move comes a day before the Supreme Court is set to hear Kejriwal's interim bail plea in the case on Friday. Sources also said the ED is preparing to file a chargesheet in the liquor scam in which Kejriwal has been named as the kingpin.

Interestingly, the ED said such an approach would incentivise every criminal to become a politician and being in campaign mode throughout the year while committing rampant offences and violations of laws in the country.

"Around 123 elections have taken place in the past three years and if interim bail is granted for election campaigning then no politician could be arrested



File Photo: PTI

and kept in judicial custody since elections take place all year round," the ED said.

It said there are numerous examples where politicians contested elections in judicial custody and some have even won but were never granted interim bail on this ground.

"It is relevant to note that the right to campaign for an election is neither a fundamental right nor a constitutional right and not even a legal right," the agency said.

It said to its knowledge, "no political leader has been

granted interim bail for campaigning even though he is not the contesting candidate. Even a contesting candidate is not granted interim bail if he is in custody for his own campaigning."

"In light of the above, any special concession in favour of the arrestee enlarging him on interim bail for campaigning in general election would, in the humble submission of the respondent, amount to anathema to the rule of law and equality and create a precedent which would

unscrupulous politicians to commit crimes, avoid investigation under the garb of one election or the other be it municipal election, or panchayat election or Assembly election or general election and thereafter upon being arrested, seek interim bail to campaign for one election or the other thereby creating two separate classes in the count viz. ordinary people who are bound by the rule of law as well as the laws of the country and politicians who can seek exemption from the laws in

the hope of securing interim bail to campaign for elections. In this regard, it may be noted that in the past five years, 123 elections have been held in various states in India," it said. The ED said in a federal structure, no set of election is more significant than another and therefore, every politician at every level would argue that if he is not let out on interim bail, he would suffer irreversible consequences.

"Under the Prevention of Money Laundering Act alone presently there are many politicians who are in judicial custody and their cases are examined by competent courts upholding their custody.

"There must be several political leaders in judicial custody throughout the country in non-PMLA offences.

"There is no reason why a special prayer for a special treatment by the petitioner be acceded to."

"Grant of interim bail merely for political campaigning would militate against and will be discriminatory to the rule of equality as work/business/ profession or activity of every citizen is equally important to him or her. It would not be possible to hold that work of a small farmer or a small trader is any less important than political campaigning of a political leader who admittedly is not contesting.



File Photo: PTI

Testing times ahead for BJP in Haryana

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ NEW DELHI/CHANDIGARH

Just a few days ahead of the sixth phase of Lok Sabha elections in Haryana, the BJP-led Nayab Singh Saini Government has been trying to keep its flock together, while there has been a demand for a floor test by JJP leader Dushyant Chautala, who not very long ago was a partner with the BJP in the Manohar Lal Khattar Government. While Dushyant wrote to Governor Bandaru Dattatreya seeking a floor-test for the present Haryana Government to prove its majority on floor of the House, the Congress, which had earlier demanded the imposition of President's rule and early Assembly elections in the State, also sought time from the Governor for a meeting with a party delegation. This comes days after three Independent MLAs withdrew support from the

BJP Government, extending support to the Congress. However, Saini maintained that his Government is not in trouble. He told reporters in Karnal that his Government won a confidence vote in March and "if it comes to seeking the trust vote, I will do it again when the time comes".

The BJP currently has 40 MLAs in the Assembly, shy of the majority mark of 45 in the now 88-member House. Technically, the BJP Government has the support of 43 MLAs (including Independents) now, though it claimed on Tuesday that four JJP MLAs too may offer "tactical assistance" to the Government if needed, taking its strength to 47. The BJP coalition Government in March 2024. Of the JJP's 10 MLAs, at least six have distanced themselves from Chautala.

Russia says US poking nose into India affairs

PTI ■ MOSCOW

The US has not yet provided any reliable evidence of the involvement of Indian citizens in the murder plot of a Khalistani terrorist in that country, Russia has said, as it accused Washington of meddling in India's domestic affairs and the ongoing elections.

In November last year, US federal prosecutors charged Indian national Nikhil Gupta with working with an Indian Government employee in the foiled plot to kill Gurpatwant Singh Pannun. Pannun, wanted in India on terror charges, holds dual citizenship of the US and Canada. He has been designated as a terrorist by the Union Home Ministry under the anti-terror law Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act.

Russian Foreign Ministry spokesperson Maria Zakharova, when asked to respond to a report by *The Washington Post* claiming that India is trying to adopt the policies as Russia and Saudi Arabia, said, "According to the information we have, Washington has not yet provided any reliable evidence of the involvement of Indian citizens in the preparation of the murder of a certain GS Pannun.

Sandeshkhali rape victim turns 'hostile'



SAUGAR SENGUPTA ■ KOLKATA

After Saturday's "fake video", on Thursday, emerged the 'fake FIR' in the Sandeshkhali mass rape case, threatening to dent and disturb the BJP's soaring graph in the Basirhat parliamentary constituency.

Things tended to boomerang against the saffron outfit, even as the Trinamool Congress' sting teams worked overtime to turn the Sandeshkhali rape-and-land-grab cases upside down.

Some women on Thursday said the police complaint that they were made to sign on blank sheets were not about rape but about non-payment of hundred days' work schemes.

"We were tricked into signing the blank papers ... we were told that the signed papers would be used to claim the 100-days' work dues ... we had no idea that rape stories would be written

there. We discovered later that rape complaints had been lodged in our names. This is a blatant lie," they said. The woman said the incident took place on the day the National Commission for Women visited the island. "A woman called Piyali who is an outsider did it all ... we told them that we had not received money as part of the 100 days' job scheme. But in the name of getting us to write a complaint to that effect she made us sign on a blank sheet," she said.

The BJP immediately rose up to control damage by saying the TMC is threatening the women to change their versions.

"Earlier they showed a fake and paid video and now they are coming up with this ... The leadership will have to say what has to be said but it is clear that it is the same TMC which has been threatening the villagers into submission for the past 10 years once again have started doing so ... though I haven't seen it ... if the video is true then the women are being threatened to contradict their statements," a local BJP leader at Basirhat said on conditions of anonymity.

State BJP leader Priyanka Tibrewal asked, "What the TMC was doing for the past several months ... why they have suddenly brought this fake video and fake FIR issue ... this is an afterthought ... but the damage has already been done ... earlier they said the women were lying and now they are saying they were tricked to lie."

INDIA Bloc to meet EC over turnout figures



PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ NEW DELHI

Leaders of the Opposition INDIA Bloc are likely to meet the Election Commission on Friday over their demand to promptly release the absolute voter turnout figures in the ongoing Lok Sabha polls after each phase. The Opposition leaders will also raise the issue of alleged "use of religious symbols" by the BJP in its campaign, sources added.

INDIA Bloc parties, including the Congress, Trinamool Congress and the Communist Party of India (Marxist), have written to the poll panel separately so far, expressing concern over the alleged "delay" in the release of the voter turnout data in the first two phases.

Various Opposition parties have also approached the poll panel over speeches made by Prime Minister Narendra Modi and other BJP leaders during poll campaigns, alleging that the Model Code of Conduct had been violated.

Amid the Opposition's allegations, the poll watchdog had asserted that booth-wise data of the "actual number of votes polled" is available to the candidates soon after the voting ends. Opposition parties have also sought the details of the number of voters who exercised their franchise.

In a statement issued last week, the EC also said it attaches "due importance" to the timely release of voter turnout figures after each phase of the poll, and said not just constituency, but booth-wise data of the actual number of votes polled is available with the candidates, which is a statutory requirement.

Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge had written to leaders of various Opposition parties on the issue of alleged "discrepancies" in the voting data released by the EC. In his letter, Kharge urged that the INDIA Bloc leaders to "collectively, unitedly and unequivocally" raise their voice on the issue.

The EC officially shared the turnout figure for the first two phases of Lok Sabha polls on April 30.

HOLY DAYS AHEAD



Kedarnath temple being decorated ahead of its opening for the 'Char Dham Yatra' in Rudrapurag PTI

Deadlock over, Air India Express will take to the skies again

RAJESH KUMAR ■ NEW DELHI

After two and a half days of stalemate, Air India Express and the crew reached a middle ground on Thursday, putting an end to the suffering of hundreds of flyers.

The Air India Express cabin crew has decided to withdraw strike and join back for duty after the airline assured to look into all the issues raised by the cabin crew.

Besides, the airline has agreed to withdraw the termination letters issued to 25 cabin crew and the management will review the cases as per service regulations, they added. The Tata Group-owned airline has cancelled more than 170 flights since Tuesday night after the cabin crew started

reporting sick to protest against the alleged mismanagement at the airline.

Following the cancellation of several flights and the inconvenience to passengers, the Government had to get involved. At the request of the Regional Labour Commissioner Ashok Perumalla, a meeting was held on Thursday between Air India Express Union and the airline CEO to reach a solution. Apparently, after the meeting, a middle ground has been reached and the strike will end, much to the relief of the travellers.

In the email notice of termination it sent to the affected employees, the airline added that the widespread sick leave "violated the Air



Air India and other planes parked at the airport in Mumbai on Thursday. Air India Express on Thursday cancelled 85 flights or around 23 per cent of the total daily capacity as the disruptions due to the cabin crew shortage continue. Air India will operate services on 20 of its routes to minimise inconvenience to passengers PTI

India Express Limited Employees' Service Rules as are applicable" in addition to breaching the relevant laws.

The emailed statement followed Air India Express CEO Aloke Singh's announcement that the

airline was curtailing flight services until May 13 as a result of the cabin crew crisis. A section of the cabin crew

has alleged mismanagement and lack of equality in the treatment of staff. A conciliation process is happening under the Industrial Disputes Act after a union representing a section of the Air India Express cabin crew had filed a complaint before the labour department last year.

Room sharing, lack of proper support, revised salary structure and alleged differential treatment of experienced crew members of Air India Express are among the issues being flagged by the striking cabin crew.

On Wednesday, the Civil Aviation Ministry sought a report from Air India Express on the cancellation of flights and also asked the airline to resolve the issues

promptly. Discontent has been brewing among a section of staff at Air India Express since the start of the process to merge AIX Connect, formerly AirAsia India, with itself. Regardless of the actions taken by Air India Express, such as the dismissal of employees who went on mass leave without notice, it is ultimately the passengers who bear the brunt.

The situation with Air India Express is even more dire, as many passengers are finding out about flight cancellations only after completing security checks.

Soon after 30 crew members were sacked for staging mass sick leave, the Air India Express on Thursday announced that the airline

has cancelled 85 flights as flight operations were disrupted by shortage of cabin crew members.

"We will be operating 283 flights today. We have mobilised all resources and Air India will support us by operating on 20 of our routes. However, 85 of our flights stand cancelled and we urge our guests booked to fly with us to check if their flight is affected by the disruption before heading to the airport," said the airline in the statement.

In case their flight is cancelled or delayed beyond three hours, the Air India Express said the passengers may opt for a full refund or reschedule to a later date without any fees.

Classifieds

BEDKHALI NOTICE

I, Rashpal Kaur W/o Sh. Jatinder Kumar R/O H No. 81, Ward No. 13, Kurali, SAS Nagar, Mohali declare that my daughter Harshita Prabha is out of my control. I disown her from my movable & immovable properties. Anybody dealing with her at their own risk.

We, Raj Kumar S/o Sh. Sant Ram And Latresh W/o Raj Kumar R/o H No.1861, Sector 52, Chandigarh declare that our son Ajay Kumar is out of our control. We disown him from our movable & immovable properties. Anybody dealing with him at their own risk.

I, Neelam W/o Randhir Singh R/o # 25, Mauli Jagran, U.T. Chandigarh, my son Sarem Singh is out of my control. I disown him from my moveable/immovable properties. Anybody dealing with him at his/ her own risk.

I, Krishan Kumar son of Shri Desraj, resident of Village Garhi Ujale Khan, Tehsil Gohana, District Sonapat, Haryana declare that my real daughter Jyoti is out of control of mine and my other family members. So I disowned him from my entire moveable and immovable properties. If anybody deals with him should be held responsible for all kinds of act and deeds.

I, Babita W/o Raj Kumar R/O House No. 2269, Sector 52, Chandigarh inform that my son Paras and his wife Mayawati Kumari out of my control. I disown them from my all moveable and Immovable Properties. Anybody deal with them at their own Risk.

I, Yogesh Kumar Sharma S/O Jagdev Prasad Sharma R/O St No.02, Ward No.1, Near Sheelta Mala Mandir Prem Nagar, Gulabgarh Road Dera Bassi Distt Mohali GT Declared That I Break All My Relationship With My Brother Sanjay Kumar Sharma And His Family Anybody Dealing With Him On Their Own Risk.

I, Lajja Ram S/o Tarloka Ram R/O Village Jhinwarheri, Tehsil Thanesar District Kurukshetra, have evicted my son Sanjeev Kumar, his wife Kavita Rani from all my movable-immovable properties, as they are out of my control. Anybody dealing with them at their own risk.

I, Harvinder Kaur W/o Kulwant Singh R/O H.No 1168/1, Housing Board Colony, Shahabad Markanda District Kurukshetra have evicted my son Ravinder Singh, his wife Mamta, from all my movable immovable properties, as they are out of my control. Anybody dealing with them at their own risk.

I, Sultan Chand S/O Pala Ram Vill.Sandholi Tehsil Pehowa Distt.Kurukshetra My son Vishal Kumar is out of my control. I. disown them from all My moveable and immoveable properties. If Anybody deals with him at their Own risk.

I, Shubh Lata W/O Sham Lal R/O Vpo- Kalichpur, Tehsil-Dinanagar, Distt- Gurdaspur. My Son Krish Sharma Is Not In My And My Family Saying Out Of Control. So I Disinherit Them From My Movable And Immovable Property. I Shall Not Be Responsible.

I, Ajit S/O Arjan R/O Vill. Dayal Pur, Distt.Jalandhar declare that my son Deepak Kumar & his wife Shalu and their children Samarth and Vandana alias Khushi and Sunny son of my deceased son Paramjit and Priya daughter of my deceased daughter Sunita they all are out of my control. I disinherit them from my movable and immovable properties. I and my family members shall not be held responsible for any kind of dealings done with them.

मैं, सुशीला पत्नी स्व. राजबीर निवासी 863/19, गली नंबर 7, आर्य नगर, रोहतक अपने पुत्र दीपक, पुत्रवधु मीना को मेरे कहने-सुनने से बाहर होने पर अपनी समस्त चल-अचल संपत्ति से बेदखल करती हूँ। भविष्य में इससे लेन-देन करने वाला व्यक्ति स्वयं जिम्मेवार होगा, मेरी व मेरे परिवार की कोई जिम्मेवारी नहीं होगी।

PUBLIC NOTICE

I, No.JC-332311A Sub Tirath Singh S/O ILAM SINGH R/O Vpo Dhakdei Tehsil Nakur Distt Saharanpur U Declare That In My Army Record My Mother Name Is Wrongly Recorded As Shiksha Devi And Dob As 07.01.1950. And My Father Dob As 07.01.1945. My Mother Correct Name Is Shiksha And Her Dob Is 01.01.1955. My Father's Correct Dob Is 01.01.1953

I, Kavneet Kaur D/O Hardeep Singh R/O #2586, Phase XI, SAS Nagar Declare That In My Educational Qualification Certificates My Father's Name Wrongly Mentioned As Satinder Pal Singh Alias S.P. Singh. My Father's Correct Name Is Hardeep Singh.

I, Poonam Rani W/O Raj Kumar Has Changed My Name From Punam Rani To Poonam Rani, My Daughter Simranjit Has Passed 10th Vide UID 7488702. Date Of Declaration Of Result Was 24-07-2021.

I, Ramu, Father of Army No.: 16114195Y Rank: L/Nk Name- Santosh Gaikwad, Presently Posted at Unit: CME Pune, Maharashtra 411031, Permanent Address: 138/8 Plot No. 20, Malgav Road Purv Datt Colony, Near Kesarkhane Mala, Miraj, P.O:Miraj, District: Sangli, Maharashtra-416410 I have changed my name from Ramu to Ramu Maruti Gaikwad. Affidavit Number: RD 0021185433, Date: 08/05/24

I, No.15617641M, Hav Sandeep S/O Umed Singh R/O VPO Bamla Teh & Distt Bhiwani declare that in my service record my daughter name is Nikita. Which is incorrect. Correct name is Nikita Kumari.

I, No.JC-708768W Rank NB/SUB Name Sandeep Kumar Unit 189 military hospital panagar,West Bengal Pin 901321 husband of Sarita My wife Sarita's date of birth has been wrongly entered as 01/03/1986 in my army records, my wife's correct date of birth is 03/01/1986 place make it correct.

CHANGE OF NAME

I, Sharbdeep Singh S/O Sh Narinder Singh R/O House No 54 Rampur Suii District Panchkula Haryana, have changed my name Sharbdeep Singh to Sharbdeep.

I, Rahul S/O Ram Sawaroop Sharma R/o #395 Village Abheypur, Panchkula, Haryana, have changed my name to Rahul Sharma.

I, Kamaldeep Virk W/O Gurjinder Pal Singh Virk R/O H No. 27, Sector 8-A, Chandigarh have changed my name from Kamaldeep Virk to Kamaldeep Kaur Virk.

I, Manpreet Kaur W/o Jaspreet Singh R/o 81 New Darshani Bagh Manimajra Chandigarh have change my name from Manpreet Kaur to Jyoti. That Manpreet Kaur and Jyoti is one and same person.

I, No.1535402P Sep Gurmej Singh (Retd.) S/O Late Sh. Fauja Singh R/O Village Garhi Langri, (Plot No. 2), P.O. Karah Sahib, Tehsil Pehowa, District Kurukshetra declare that in my service record my wife's name is wrongly written as Suwinder Kaur instead of Surinder Kaur. Note all concerns.

I, 15690544X HAV Mahender Goli S/O Goli Buchi Reddy R/O 31 NSR, Chandimandir Cantt declare that in my Army Service Documents Name & DOB of my Father and DOB of My Mother erroneously mentioned as Father's - Butchi Reddy 01.07.1960 instead of Buchi Reddy 01.01.1967 and Mother's DOB 01.07.1965 instead of 01.01.1968. vide affidavit dated 03.05.2024 before Distt court Panchkula.

I, Jatinder Singh r/o #2578 Sector 19-C, Chandigarh have changed my name to Jatinder Singh Thind.

I, Amarjeet Singh Bisht S/O Dalip Singh R/O H.No-6, Govt Ayurvedic Dispensary Sector 37-D, Chandigarh Have Changed My Name From Amarjeet Singh Bisht To Amarjeet Singh. Amarjeet Singh Alias Amarjeet Singh Bisht Are One And The Same Person.

I, Rajiv Chaudhary S/O Sh Bholu Ram R/O Village Rauwala, Po Chikan (185) Pinjore, Panchkula That I Have Changed My Name From Rajiv Chaudhary To Rajiv Kumar.

I, Sandeep Garg S/O Sh. Subhash Garg R/O 577, HUDDA Ground, Part No. 2, Sector-12, Sonipat, Haryana-131001 have changed the name of my minor daughter Timsi age 17 years and she shall hereafter be known as Timsi Garg.

I, Gurdev Singh S/O Sh. Gyan Singh R/O Village Magror, Tehsil and Distt. Ropar have changed my name from Gurudev Singh to Gurdev Singh.

I, Sunita Kumari W/o Ajay Kumar R/O Hira Colony Dholwaha Road VPO Hariana Distt. Hoshiarpur have changed my name to Sunita Devi. Concerned Note.

I, Onkar Kanojia is Legally Son of Satish Kumar Resident of House No - E -211, Gali No - 71, Mahavir Enclave , Part - 3 D. K. Mohan Garden , S .O. West Delhi 110059 Have Changed My Name From Onkar Kanojia To Omkar Kanojia Vide Affidavit Dated 08-05-2024 Before Shri Sat Pal, Notary, Pathankot.

I, Ram Singh S/o Mahinder Singh R/O Vill. Mojo Mazara PO Thakkarwal Tehsil Garhshankar Distt. Hoshiarpur Punjab have changed the name of my minor daughter from Neeraj to Neeraj Kaur. Concerned note.

I, Divya Goel D/o Brij Mohan Goel R/O 1659, Bilaspur, Bye pass Road, Jagadhri, Distt Yamuna Nagar have changed my minor son's name from Aarav to Aarav Verma.

I, Haneet Singh S/O Paramjit Singh Chhabra R/O 51, Ward no. 5, Buria, Yamuna Nagar have changed my name from Haneet Singh to Haneet Singh Chhabra.

I, Paramjit Singh S/O Ram Singh Chhabra R/O 51, Ward no. 5, Buria, Yamuna Nagar have changed my name from Paramjit Singh to Paramjit Singh Chhabra.

I, Ravinder Kaur W/O Paramjit Singh Chhabra R/O 51, Ward no. 5, Buria, Yamuna Nagar have changed my name from Ravinder Kaur to Ravinder Kaur Chhabra.

I, Balistar S/o Ram Shay, House No 3376, Mauli Complex Chandigarh inform that in my Pan card my name wrongly recorded Balister. My correct name is Balistar, DOB wrongly recorded 15.04.1963, My correct DOB is 25.04.1963. Father name wrongly recorded Ram Singh. My father correct name is Ram Shay.

I, Rakesh Kumar s/o Jagdish Singh r/o #1031, Durga Nagar, Thanesar, Kurukshetra, Haryana have changed my name from Rakesh Kumar to Rakesh.

I, Satwinder Kaur w/o Heera Singh r/o village Barna, Dera Pyara Singh, Thanesar (Kurukshetra) Haryana have changed my name from Satwinder Kaur to Sukhwinder Kaur.

I, Varinder Kumar S/o Sh. Bholu Ram R/o # 727/C, Rathpur Colony Pinjore, District Panchkula Have changed my name to Virender Kumar.

I, Arvind Sharma s/o Shri Kishori Lal R/O #106 Milk Colony, Dhanas Sector 14 West, Chandigarh have changed my name from Arvind Sharma to Arvind Kumar Sharma.

I, Himanshu Gohri S/O Sh. Sunder Sham R/O H.no. 876, Sec-14, Sonipat have changed my daughter's name Yashita to Yashita Gohri for all future purposes.

I, Rajinder S/O Chandervir R/O #486, Sector 25-D, Chandigarh. I have changed my minor son's name from Parul to Paras.

I, Sonia Kohli W/O Sachin Kumar R/O House No.109, Ward No.11, Mohalla Saidan Wala, Tehsil-Shahabad, Distt. Kurukshetra have changed my name from Sonia Kohli to Bhanupriya.

I, Nisha Rani w/of Late Sh.Suraj Verma resident of House No.644/2, Near Thandi Sarak Purewal Colony, Panipat declare that I have changed my name Nisha Rani to Nisha Both Name are some of the one person and my Husband name Suraj Verma and Suraj Both Name of the one person.

I, Sita Ravamma Tala Tala Mother of Bhaskar Reddy Tala Tala R/o #532, Sector 47-A, Chandigarh have changed my name from Sita Ravamma Tala Tala to Sitaravamma Talatala vide Affidavit Dated 09-05-2024 before Notary, Distt. Court Chandigarh.

I, Paramjit Singh S/O Harinderjit Singh R/O Village Bhatrana Tehsil & Distt. Hoshiarpur Punjab have changed my name from Paramjit to Paramjit Singh. Concerned note.

I, Vinay S/O Joginder Pal R/O Village Ramdasspur, Daulatpur, Alawalpur, Distt. Jalandhar 144301 Punjab have changed my name from Vinay to Vinay Vinay. Concerned note.

I, T J Kalavathi Mother of T J Sivakumar R/o #251, Tribune Colony, Baltana, Mohali have changed my name from T J Kalavathi to T J Kalavathy vide Affidavit Dated 09-05-2024 before Notary, Distt. Court Chandigarh.

I, Krishna Reddy Tala Tala Father of Bhaskar Reddy Tala Tala R/o #532, Sector 47-A, Chandigarh have changed my name from Krishna Reddy Tala Tala to Talatala Krishna Reddy vide Affidavit Dated 09-05-2024 before Notary, Distt. Court Chandigarh.

I, Bindiya Verma w/o Amit Verma R/O House No. 1017/16, Amam Bara Chowk, Gurdaspur (Punjab) have changed my name from Bindiya Verma to Bindiya. Concerned note.

I, Rimpal Singh s/o Prem Singh r/o VPO Gazikot Distt Gurdaspur (Punjab) declare that in my Passport , name of my wife has been wrongly written as Ruhith Thakur. Her correct name is Roohi Thakur. Concerned note.

I, Rajat, S/o Praveen, R/O House No. 2510/B, Sector 47-C, Chandigarh, presently residing at 14792 67A Avenue, Surrey, BC V3S4P9, declare that I have changed my name from Rajat to Rajat Choudhary. All concerned may note.

I, Rohit Son of Sanjeev Kumar, Resident of House No. 8583/5, Railway Road, Near Police Post No. 2 Ambala City Haryana-134003 have changed my name from from Rohit to Nimrit.

I, Gagandeep Singh S/O Paramjit Singh R/o VPO Wadala Viram, Block Majitha, Amritsar, Punjab have changed my name from Gagandeep Singh to Singh is my surname and Gagandeep is my given name.

I, Sukhjinder Singh S/O Gurdial Singh R/O VPO Kot Khehra, Tehsil Baba Bakala, Distt. Amritsar, Punjab have changed my son's name from Simerjit Singh to Simranjit Singh.

I, Lokesh S/o Mangla Ram, R/O Village Kohand, Tehsil Gharounda, Distt. Karnal declared that in my passport no.-T7187835 my date of birth 05.01.1991, my Father's name is Mangla, and my wife's name is Akta which is wrong. But in my other documents is my correct date of birth 22.10.1990 and my father's name is Mangla Ram and my wife's name is Ekta. All concerned note.

I, Shobha Rani mother of No. 14448582M Gnr (MACP NK) Dhaurav Dev (Retd.) Village Khichian, PO & Tehsil Mukerian, Distt Hoshiarpur (Pb), have changed my name from Shobha Rani to Shobhba Rani. My correct date of birth is 01.01.1963. Concerned note.

I, Smt. Gurmit Kaur W/O No. 1512802 Late Spr Ram Rattan R/O Vill. Randhawa Barota PO Sandhran Tehsil & Distt. Hoshiarpur Punjab have changed my name from Gurmit Kaur to Gurmit Kaur. Concerned note.

I, Aman Dhiman Alias Amninder Kaur W/o Harpartap Dhiman R/O H.No. 57/6, DC Road, Opp. Session House, Ward No. 22, Distt. Hoshiarpur Punjab have changed my name from Aman Dhiman Alias Amninder Kaur to Aman Dhiman. Concerned note.

I, Jeet Singh S/o Kishan Singh R/O Village Tajpur Kalan, PO Bhagawal, Distt. Hoshiarpur have changed my name from Jeet Singh to Ajit Singh, Concerned note.

I, Amarjit Kaur W/O Late Sh. Garja Singh R/O H.No. 99-A, Sector 30-B, Chandigarh have changed my name from Amarjit Kaur to Gurmit Kaur.

I, hitherto known as Nagar Mal Agarwal S/O Moman Chand residing at Ward No-17, Moti Lohar Wali Gali, Barwala (Rural)(128), Barwala, Hisar, Haryana-125121 have changed my name and I shall hereafter be known as Nagar Mal Goyal. It is certified that I have complied with other legal requirements in this connection.

I, Kavita Rani W/O Sham Sunder R/O D-812, D-Block, Ranjit Avenue, Amritsar Have Changed My Name From Kavita Rani To Kavita Arora

I, Daljit Kaur Sidhu W/O Ranjit Singh R/O Vpo Khukhrana District Moga Have Changed My Name From Daljit Kaur Sidhu To Daljit Kaur

I, Balbir Kaur Khinda W/O Chanan Singh R/O Vpo Bharawal Tehsil Khadar Sahib District Tarn Taran Have Changed My Name From Balbir Kaur Khinda To Balbir Kaur

I Taniya Verma D/O Darbari Lal W/O Deepak Verma R/O Ward No.5 Krishana Gali No.2 Dhariwal Gurdaspur Have Changed My Name To Taniya

I, Sarbjeet Singh S/O Mohinder Singh R/O H.No.1242, Gali No.6, East Gobind Nagar, Sultanwind Road, Amritsar Have Changed My Name From Sarbjeet Singh To Sarabjeet Singh

I, Sonu And Gopal Krishan S/O Jeet Lal R/O H.No.531, Gali Mochia Wali, Hakima Gate Amritsar Have Declare That Above Both Name's Are Mine One And Same Person

I, Subash S/O Ravi Dass R/O H.No.35, Navi Abadi, Faizpura Amritsar Have Changed My Name From Subash To Subash Chander

I, Sanjogta W/O Subash Chander R/O H.No.35, Navi Abadi, Faizpura Amritsar Have Changed My Name From Sanjogta To Sanjogita

I Ria Alias Manisha Bhatia W/O Vikas Bhatia R/O H.No. 581 Basant Avenue Amritsar Have Changed My Name To Ria Bhatia

I, Gurpreet Kaur W/O No.Jc 281683A Sub Pardeep Singh R/O Vpo Nanowal Jinder, District Gurdaspur Have Changed My Date Of Birth From 18.09.1978 To 26.04.1977 Vide Affidavit No. In-Pb12242189527474w Dt.04.05.2024 Before Notary Public Amritsar

I, Jasbir Mehra W/O Prem Singh R/O H.No.A-415, Shri Guru Teg Bahadur Nagar, Pnjarapole, Gaushalia Mehta Road, Amritsar Have Changed My Name From Jasbir Mehra To Jasbir Kaur

I, Nishan Singh S/O Rajwinder Singh R/O Vpo Langiana District Ferozepur Have Changed My Name Nishan Is My Given Name And Singh Is My Surname

I, Samreet Kaur D/O Sukhdev Singh R/O Gobind Nagari Mour Road, Muktsar, Sri Muktsar Sahib Have Declare That Kaur Is My Surname And Samreet Is My Given Name.

I, Jala Mitalba Jagatsinh Spouse Of No.15507154k Rank Ald Parmar Jorubha Bharatsing R/O 46 Armd Sq Regt C/O 56 Apo Have Changed My Name From Jala Mitalba Jagatsinh To Parmar Mitalba Jorubha Vide Affidavit No. In-Pb13883937634027w Dt.09.05.2024 Before Notary Public Amritsar

I Kushagar Kapoor S/O Sameer Kapoor R/O H.No.12 Race Course Road Beauty Avenue Inside Dr Ravi Pal Lane Amritsar Have Changed My Name To Kusharg Kapoor.

I Rajdeep Kour Wife Of Jatinder Singh R/O H.No. 63 Near Radha Krishan Mandir Village Mahal, Mahal Sub Urban Amritsar Punjab. Have Changed My Name To Rajdeep Kaur.

I Yakub S/O Anwer Masih R/O H.No.2834/27 Ward No.8 New Abadi Karampura Fatehgarh Churian Road Amritsar Have Changed My Name To Yakub Masih

I Neeta Gill W/O Yakub Masih R/O H.No.2834/27 Ward No.8 New Abadi Karampura Fatehgarh Churian Road Amritsar Have Changed My Name To Neeta

In My Services Documents My Son's Name Wrongly Written As Harshit Singh Mahara, Which Needs To Be Corrected As Saumya Mehra. I No. 4196193n Hav Shyam Singh, 21 Kumaon.

In My Services Documents My Daughter's Name Wrongly Written As Shaumya, Which Needs To Be Corrected As Saumya Mehra. I No. 4196193n Hav Shyam Singh, 21 Kumaon.

I, Sukhminder Singh S/O Late Surinder Singh R/O House No.271, First Floor, Phase-6, Mohali-160055 have changed my name to Sukhminder Singh Mavi.

I, Raj Satinder Kaur W/O Sukhminder Singh Mavi R/O House No.271, First Floor, Phase-6, Mohali-160055 have changed my name to Raj Satinder Kaur Mavi.

I, Hitherto Known As Virender Kumar Devgun S/O Jagtar Singh R/O Mahal Patti, Vpo Uppali, Barnala Pin Code 148105 Have Changed My Name And Shall Hereafter Be Known As Virender Kumar Sharma.

I, Rajiv Kumar S/O Roshan Lal R/O House No.67 Ward No. 12, Ganesh Nagar, Rajpura Tehsil Rajpura Distt Patiala Have Changed My Name From Rajiv Kumar To Rajiv Kumar Saini.

I, Parwati Wife Of Sadhu Singh Is Permanent Resident Of Village Sabalpur, Tehsil, Jagadhri, District Yamunanagar, Haryana, India. Declare That I Have Changed My Name From Parwati To Parwati Devi. Please Concerned May Note.

I, Sukhdeep Kaur W/O Rajinder Singh Toor Resident Of Basti Alalabad, Fatehgarh Panjtoor, Distt Moga, Punjab (India) Have Changed My Name Sukhdeep Kaur To Sukhdeep Kaur Toor Concern Note.

I, Shilpa Arura Wife Sunny Zindal Daughter Shatish Arora Resident Of Flat No. 1025, Tower No. 7, 10th Floor, South City Vip Road, Zirakpur Tehsil Dera Bassi District Mohali Have Changed My Name From Shilpa Arora To Shilpa Arura.

I, Baljit Kaur Alias Mandeep Kaur W/O Gurdeep Singh R/O Village Buttar Siviya Tehsil Baba Bakala, District Amritsar Punjab Have Declare That My Real And Correct Name Baljit Kaur W/O Gurdeep Singh. All Concerned Note It.

I, No.TJ6524X Sub Narinder Singh S/O Tarsem Singh Serving From 155 INF BN (TA) JAK RIF R/O Kala Manj Kothi Mukerian Tehsil Mukerian Distt Hoshiarpur Have Changed My Daughter Name From Sneha Jassal To Sneha Vide Affidavit No.Pb13454434874568w, Dt 08.05.2024.

I, Pushpender Chauhan S/O Sh. Sunil Kumar R/O, H.No. 246, Village Raipur Roran, Distt Karnal(Haryana) have changed My Name Pushpender to Pushpender Chauhan. My name be known as Pushpender Chauhan in future.

I, Sandeep Bhardwaj s/o Bidhi Chann adhar no. 235562527999 #254/18, Village Kaleran, Tehsil & District Ambala, Haryana declared that my daughter's (Yamini Sharma) documents my name mentioned Sandeep Sharma. But Sandeep Bhardwaj and Sandeep Sharma is one & same person.

I, Reena Devi w/o Sandeep Bhardwaj adhar no. 222818435953 #254/18, Village Kaleran, Tehsil & District Ambala, Haryana declared that my daughter's (Yamini Sharma) documents my name mentioned Reena Sharma. But Reena Devi and Reena Sharma is one & same lady.

I, Jaspal S/o Mehar Singh R/O village Khewra Tehsil Rai, District Sonipat, have changed my minor son's name from Lakshya to Lakshya Antil.

I, Sanjay Pradhan S/O Joginder Pradhan R/O B-4, Dayal Bagh, Post Office Mahesh Nagar, Ambala Cantt, Haryana-133001, declare that name of mine and my father has been wrongly written as Sanjay Pradhan and Joginder Pradhan in my Service Records. The actual name of mine and my father are Sanjay Pradhan and Joginder Pradhan.

I, Baljeet Kaur D/o Gurnam Singh S/O Budh Singh R/O Village Haripur Tehsil Thanesar District Kurukshetra, have changed my name from Kamaljeet Kaur to Baljeet Kaur.

I, Tarun Saini s/o Rameshwar Dass Saini R/o # 314-B Sector 51-A Chandigarh have changed my name to Tarun Kumar Saini.

I, Vimal Kumar S/O Rajinder Sain R/O 489R, Model Town, Tehsil Jagadhri, Distt. Yamuna Nagar, have changed my Name from Vimar Kumar To Vimal Kumar.

I, Kimti Lal S/O Santosh Kumar R/O Vill. Bir Kheri Distt Kurukshetra have changed my name from Keemti Lal to Kimti Lal.

I, Ravinder Singh S/O Sh. Devraj residing at house no 18-B, Palam Vihar-D, Ambala Cantt, Haryana pincode-133001, have changed the name of my Minor son Agastya aged 6 years and he shall hereafter be known as Agastya Singh.

I, Ram Kumar Jaswal S/O Sant Ram, 104-Rajnagar, Ward No-7, Nangal (Ropar) have changed my name from Ram Kumar Jaswal to Ram Kumar.

I, Sanya Lata W/o Ram Kumar S/O Sant Ram, 104-Rajnagar, Ward No-7, Nangal (Ropar) have changed my name from Sanya Lata to Sneh Lata.

I, Raman Kumari W/O Prem Kumar Kapoor, H.No, 167 Kilan Area, Nangal Township (Ropar) have changed my name from Raman Kumari to Raman Kapoor .

I, Sukhjit Kaur W/O Avtar Singh, 306A Sector 1B, Mandi Gobindgarh, Fatehgarh Sahib, have changed name to Sukhjeet Kaur.

I, Sonia Alias Sonia Rani W/O Sandeep Kumar R/O H.No-663, Housing Board Colony Sec-7 Ambala City have changed my name from Sonia Alias Sonia Rani to Sonia Sachdeva .

I, Kamla W/o Siya Ram R/O Village Neemwala Tehsil Rajauand Distt Kaithal inform that in may all documents my DOB wrongly mentioned as 01-01-1965. But my correct or actual DOB 16-06-1967

I, Nishi Sharma daughter of Sh. Harish Chandra Sharma R/O House No. 735, Sector 16 Urban Estate Karnal declared that my father's name actual spelling is Harish Chandra Sharma instead of Narish Chandra Sharma which is written by mistake in High School U.P Board Certificate. Other than this rest of all certificates has correct spellings i'e Harish Chandra Sharma and both are the same person.

I, Ravi Kant Bhutra S/O Jagdish Prasad Bhutra R/O House No. 997/8, Lal Masjid Wali Gali, Panipat, declare that I have changed my name from Ravi Kant to Ravi Kant Bhutra. And in my education documents my father's name is written as Jagdish Bhutra and my other documents my father's name is Jagdish Prasad Bhutra is written. Jagdish Prasad Bhutra and Jagdish Bhutra both are names of my father. All concerned note.

I, Harpreet Kaur W/o Amrik Singh R/O #89 Street No 7 Ghuman Nagar B Patiala have changed my name from Harpreet Kaur Aurora to Harpreet Kaur.

I, Amrik Singh S/O Narinder Singh R/O #89 Street No 7 Ghuman Nagar B Patiala have changed my name from Amrik Singh Aurora to Amrik Singh.

I, Manorma Yadav is Wife of No. 16118370A, NK, Ajeet Kumar Yadav of Unit 22 Engr Regt C/O 56 APO Ferozepur Resident at Village and Post Office Mirzapur Bazar, Tehsil Sadar District. Gorkhpur State UP Pin-273016 have change my name in all documents from Manorama Yadav to Manorma Yadav Vide Affidavit Dated 09 May 2024 before at Notray Ferozepur.

I, H. K Moudgill S/O Baldev Singh Moudgil R/O 6341/6 Ahluwalia Building Ambala Cantt Changed My Name To Harjinder Kumar Moudgil.

Congress in Haryana seeks time to meet Governor; Says ready to parade all MLAs

Hooda says 45 of 88 sitting MLAs in Haryana Assembly are against Saini-led Government

PNS ■ CHANDIGARH

Two days after three Independent MLAs withdrew support to the Nayab Singh Saini Government, the Haryana Congress on Thursday wrote a letter to Governor Bandar Dattatreya, seeking an appointment. The former Chief Minister and Leader of Opposition Bhupinder Singh Hooda said that with the withdrawal of support by three independent candidates, the BJP-led government in the State has lost majority. Congress party is ready to parade all its MLAs before the Governor, he added.



MLAs in front of him. Congress is ready to parade all its MLAs before the Governor," he said.

In response to a question on JJP writing a letter to the Governor, Hooda said that JJP should also organize a parade of all its 10 MLAs before the Governor. "If this happens, then there will be a total of 45

(Dadri), Randhir Singh Gollen (Pundri), and Dharampal Gonder (Nilokheri) withdrew support from the BJP Government and extended it to the Congress party on Tuesday. Though the Saini Government maintains that there is no immediate threat to it and its leaders state that "the govern-

ment will complete its full term", the Opposition has stepped up the ante against the ruling party.

Talking to reporters, the former Haryana Chief Minister Manohar Lal Khattar claimed that many MLAs are in touch with the BJP and there is "nothing to worry about". Chief minister Nayab Singh Saini too asserted that there was no problem for the government.

Political observers said that the BJP government appears safe for now. According to prevailing norms, a no-trust motion against a government can't be moved within six months of the previous one. In this case, the BJP government

Political crisis in Haryana

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Vikramaditya Singh and Anand Sharma, among 12, file nominations in Himachal

PNS ■ SHIMLA

Congress leaders Vikramaditya Singh and Anand Sharma were amongst the 12 leaders who filed their nomination papers in Himachal Pradesh on Thursday, taking the total number of nominations filed in the past three days to 21.

Singh, who filed his nomination from the Mandi Lok Sabha seat, attacked BJP candidate Kangana Ranaut in an oblique reference while Sharma, who filed his nomination papers from Kangra, shunned the "outsider" tag, and said they had never questioned why Prime Minister Narendra Modi, hailing from Gujarat, contested elections from Varanasi.

"We are doing politics of development, she is doing politics of entertainment," said Singh, adding that this "picture" directed by Leader of Opposition Jai Ram Thakur would fail at the "box office" on June 1.

Singh, who was accompanied by his mother and state Congress chief Pratibha Singh, Chief Minister Sukhvinder Singh Sukhu and Congress Working Committee (CWC) member and Himachal in-charge Rajiv Shukla, while Assembly Speaker Kuldeep Singh Pathania and Cabinet Minister Chander Kumar accompanied Sharma.

"Kangana had started her campaign 20-25 days back and from morning to evening, she used abusive words for us but has not uttered a single word on her vision for this parlia-



mentary constituency", he said, adding that she should tell people what she wanted to do.

Mandi would be made a smart city and Jalori Jot tunnel would be constructed on the line of the Rohtang tunnel. The remote Pangi area of Chamba would also be connected through the tunnel, Singh said, adding, "I would take forward the long and deep relation with the people of Mandi." The Congress candidate, who is the son of former chief minister late Virbhadra Singh, scion of erstwhile Rampur estate, Singh is pitted against actor and BJP candidate Kangana Ranaut.

Chief Minister Sukhvinder Singh Sukhu claimed that winds of change are visible in the country and after the first three phases of Lok Sabha polls, the BJP has been washed out in the South and halved in the North. "Vikramaditya Singh would win by a margin of over two lakh," said Sukhu.

Later, addressing public rallies in favour of Singh and Sharma at Mandi and Dharamshala, Sukhu said that the MLAs who "sold" them-

selves would be behind the bars. Investigations are underway and soon "big things" will come out. He also targeted the BJP candidate from Dharamshala assembly seat Sudhir Sharma and alleged that the Dharamshala MLA also "sold himself in the political market".

He was apparently referring to six Congress rebel MLAs who voted in favour of the BJP in Rajya Sabha elections, and later joined the BJP and are now contesting the Assembly by-polls from their respective seats on BJP ticket.

"This is an election between honesty and corruption and the issue of horse-trading by the BJP would be kept before the people, besides public welfare work undertaken by the state government like restoration of the Old Pension Scheme and Rs 1,500 monthly to women," said CM Sukhu.

Interacting with the media, Sukhu claimed that he has extensively toured the constituency and people are praising the policies of the Congress government and the efforts made during the monsoon dis-

aster, and they are against the BJP for allegedly not standing with the state during the disaster.

After filing the nomination, Anand Sharma rejected the "outsider" tag given to him by the BJP and said that he is a Himachali, born in Shimla. "We have never questioned that PM Narendra Modi is from Varanasi, we do not have such a small mindset," he said. Sharma, a four-time Rajya Sabha member and former Union minister who would take on BJP candidate Rajeev Bhardwaj, was accompanied by Speaker Kuldeep Singh Pathania and Cabinet Minister Chander Kumar.

"This is not a new place for me and we are going to the people and trying to convey our message to every voter. Our focus would be on promoting eco-tourism and adventure sports in Kangra and Chamba districts falling under the Kangra Lok Sabha seat," Sharma said while talking to media persons.

Expansion of railways and setting up central institutions and a trade park in Chamba would also be the priorities, and at present 11 out of 16 MLAs in the Kangra parliamentary seat are from the Congress, while one seat of Dharamshala is going for bypolls along with the Lok Sabha elections, he added.

Among others who filed the nominations were Congress rebel and BJP candidate Ravi Thakur, who filed his nomination papers for Lahaul and Spiti assembly by-polls. He was accompanied by Leader of Opposition Jai Ram Thakur.

Our government's work speaks for itself: CM Mann campaigns in Jalandhar

PNS ■ CHANDIGARH

Punjab Chief Minister Bhagwant Mann on Thursday, campaigned for the AAP candidate from Jalandhar Pawan Kumar Tinu in Shahkot and said that he is happy that he didn't even have to speak anything now to ask for votes as his government's work speaks for itself.



"Your zero electricity bills speak for us, 43,000 government jobs are speaking, the water in 'kassi' and 'rajwahe' is speaking, closed toll plazas and your ration cards are telling the story," he said. Mann said that he closed 16 toll plazas in Punjab and now it saves Punjab about 60 lakhs daily. He said that zero electricity bills have lightened the financial burden of the common people. With the saved money now they can take care of other things too.

Mann said that he is not like other chief ministers or political leaders. He is one of them (common people) and he is with them. He said that other chief ministers used to stay away from the public whereas he is always among the people. He said that traditional politicians are miserable because the sons and daughters of common families became CM, MLA and ministers. He said that he has 32 teeth and most of

the time what he says turns out to be true. He said during the 2022 Punjab assembly elections I predicted that everyone from the Badal family will lose, Majithia, Sidhu, Captain, Bhathal, Maluka, Baltoha, they all will lose and they did, they all lost the MLA election. He voiced, 'Punjab Banega Hero', the people of Shahkot responded with, 'iss baar 13-0'.

Mann said that if everything went right, then the party supremo Arvind Kejriwal will come out of jail. He said that we'll have our lion back and I'll bring him to Punjab right after his release, because Punjab gave us our breakthrough in 2014 with 4 MPs. He said that the BJP is no longer saying '400+' because they know their ship is sinking. On the other hand, the AAP is winning all 13 seats in Punjab, seats of Delhi, Kurukshetra, Gujarat and Assam. He said that we'll have 30-

Punjab CEO urges farmers' organizations to avoid election campaign disruptions

MONIKA MALIK ■ CHANDIGARH

Amidst the bustling atmosphere of election campaigns and the ongoing farmers' agitation, Punjab Chief Electoral Officer (CEO) Sibin C on Thursday issued a plea to the farmers' unions, urging them to refrain from disrupting election campaigns of Lok Sabha candidates in the State. The call for cooperation comes in the wake of escalating tensions and opposition against BJP candidates and leaders in the rural areas.

Notably, BJP candidates and leaders have encountered protests and been greeted with black flags during their campaign outings, particularly in rural regions. Moreover, the entry of BJP leaders has also been barred in several villages, adversely affecting their election activities.

The CEO's request to the farm unions came days after he, in an interview with The Pioneer, had described the ongoing farmers' agitation as a significant challenge in ensuring free, fair, and peaceful elections while safeguarding the security of candidates, especially the BJP. In fact, the Punjab BJP unit had also submitted a formal complaint with the CEO office regarding the same. The CEO has sought a detailed action taken report from the state police chief.

On the other hand, a farmers' delegation, led by the heads

of different factions Bhartiya Kisan Union (BKU) — Balbir Singh (Rajewal), Harinder Singh (Lakhawal), and Harmeet Singh (Kadian) — submitted a memorandum to the CEO outlining their demands for fair electoral processes.

The memorandum demanded that political leaders, candidates, and security forces refrain from employing high-handed tactics towards the citizens questioning them during election campaigns. They also warned that any undue interference or intimidation by government machinery or the Election Commission would bear consequences for the integrity of the electoral process.

The delegation emphasized the necessity for candidates to address citizens' queries in a peaceful manner, highlighting a growing trend of active civic engagement among voters in Punjab. Citizens, emboldened by recent historic protests, are asserting their right to scrutinize candidates' promises and records, marking a significant shift in democratic engagement.

"This newfound assertiveness is particularly evident in Punjab, where the farming community, having played a pivotal role in recent historic protests, has become a symbol of peaceful resistance. The experiences garnered during these protests have instilled a sense of empow-

erment among farmers and labourers, urging them to participate actively in the electoral process," read the memorandum.

The farmers' memorandum also underscored the challenges posed by traditional one-sided electoral affairs, where candidates monopolize discourse. As India celebrates 76 years of Independence, citizens are increasingly vocal about their concerns, demanding accountability and transparency from political leaders, it added.

"However, the surge in civic engagement has faced resistance from some politicians accustomed to unilateral control. Instances of peaceful questioners being detained or harassed have sparked outrage, prompting calls for electoral fairness and respect for constitutional rights," said the memorandum, with the BKU denouncing such tactics, vowing to uphold peace while demanding accountability from candidates and law enforcement agencies.

The delegation emphasized its dedication to peaceful engagement and urged the Election Commission to facilitate open dialogue between candidates and voters. It also cautioned against violations of citizens' rights and held the government and law enforcement accountable for any transgressions of democratic principles.

Ensure level playing field, security of all candidates during campaign period: CEO to all DCs, CPs, SSPs

Punjab CEO, in a circular issued to all the all Deputy Commissioners-cum-District Election Officers, Commissioners of Police, and Senior Superintendents of Police on Thursday, instructed them to ensure a level playing field for all candidates and their security.

The CEO stressed that ensuring the security of candidates is one of the primary responsibilities of the district election machinery and the Election Commission of India is serious about this matter.

He said that it has come to

his attention that numerous incidents have been reported from various parts of the state, and these were highlighted through various complaints and reports in the media, involving political party candidates being obstructed by agitating farmers, thereby impeding the candidates' democratic right to campaign and convey their manifesto to the citizens of the State. Such actions go against the directions and guidelines of the ECI, he added.

"It has been observed that gatherings by protesting farmers are often held without permissions, despite orders by the District Magistrates under Section 144 of CrPC and loudspeakers are also used without permission," he added.



Former Haryana Chief Minister and Star campaigner of the BJP, Manohar Lal Khattar addressed a rally in Rania in support of BJP candidate Ashok Tanwar. Hisar candidate Ranjeet Singh Chautala and former MP Sunita Duggal were also present.

Congressization of BJP is complete in Punjab; 6 out of 12 have Congress links

MONIKA MALIK ■ CHANDIGARH

In a political landscape where the "lotus" blooms, the roots of the Congress are entwined deeply within Punjab, often hailed as the heartland of political fervour, is witnessing a captivating saga where the "hands" that once upheld the Congress emblem are now raising the banner of the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP).

Despite Prime Minister Narendra Modi's fervent call for a "Congress-mukt Bharat" (Congress-free India), the BJP's trajectory in Punjab tells a different story.

Consider this: The saffron brigade in Punjab is now led by a former Congress stalwart—the one who had led the Congress in 2019 Lok Sabha elections. Out of the 12 candidates fielded by the BJP, four boast direct affiliations with the Congress, while two others carry a legacy from the grand old party. Adding to this mix, the party's core group includes several former Congress leaders, with an ex-Congress leader heading the State's women wing. But that's not all! Among the candidates fielded by the saffron party, only three bear the hallmark of traditional BJP membership.

Many BJP leaders in Punjab, though in murmurs,

have expressed their dissatisfaction with what they see as the "Congressization" of their party. They believed that their years of hard work to build the party in Punjab have been overlooked, with several senior BJP leaders notably absent from the campaign trail.

The influx of Congress leaders to the BJP — which commenced prior to the 2022 state

assembly elections and persists to the present day — prompted scrutiny of the leadership and organizational framework within the state party unit. These occurrences highlight specific shortcomings within the party's previous leadership and organizational structure, which over the years have struggled to adequately convey the party's policies to the public or establish a robust presence in the state.

The phenomenon prompted reflection on why the BJP, despite being the world's largest political party, has struggled to establish a strong political base in Punjab for the past 72 years. One possible explanation is that the BJP had never contested elections independently in Punjab before. Historically, the BJP had been part of the ruling coalition in Punjab, but always as a junior partner to the

Shiromani Akali Dal (SAD). However, the longstanding alliance between these two parties fractured when the BJP introduced contentious farm laws, which have now been repealed.

The need to import leaders from the Congress, who previously questioned the BJP's policies, also raised eyebrows among grassroots workers, who feel their loyalty and dedication have been disregarded. Workers are dismayed that those, who have all along been criticizing the BJP, are now being rewarded with the positions, and party tickets. The trend has raised concerns about the BJP's ability to attract voters in Punjab and called into question the party's grassroots organizational strength.

Arun Narang, the former MLA of Abohar, made a significant decision in July 2023 when he parted ways with the BJP. His departure was fueled by a poignant reason — the elevation of his former opponent, Sunil Jakhar, whom he had defeated in the 2017 assembly polls, to the position of Punjab BJP president.

Expressing his dismay, Narang had, at that time, remarked, "It's disheartening to witness the individual I defeated in 2017 Vidhan Sabha

CONG LEADERS IN BJP	
Punjab BJP president	Sunil Jakhar
BJP Candidates	Preneet Kaur Ravneet Singh Bittu Rana Gurmeet Singh Sodhi Arvind Khanna. Sushil Kumar Rinku Hans Raj Hans
Core Committee members	Capt Amarinder Singh Manpreet Singh Badal Rana Sodhi Kewal Singh Dhillon Arvind Khanna Fatehjang Singh Bajwa Harjot Kamal Daaman Thind Bajwa,
Punjab BJP Mahila Morcha president	Jai Inder Kaur
Other Congress leaders	Karamjit Kaur Chaudhary

elections ascend to such a prominent role within the party."

Making it clear that he harboured no personal animosity towards Jakhar's affiliation with the BJP, Narang found it unsettling that the party seemed to disregard its longstanding mem-

bers in favour of newcomers. Reflecting on his four-decade-long tenure with the party, Narang had stated, "After dedicating a significant portion of my life to this party, witnessing such disregard for loyalty made me reassess my allegiance. It became clear that this wasn't the

when the grand old party won eight out of the total 13 seats in the State.

Of the 12 candidates fielded by the BJP, four bear direct connections to the Congress, serving as a potent reminder of the intricate ties that bind the two parties. Former Union Minister and four-time MP Preneet Kaur is seeking reelection on BJP ticket from Patiala, while two-time MP Ravneet Singh Bittu has been re-nominated by the BJP from Ludhiana. Congress' former Minister Rana Gurmeet Singh Sodhi also succeeded in bagging the BJP ticket from Ferozpur — something which he could not achieve while being in Congress. And for the crucial seat of Sangrur — the Chief Minister Bhagwant Mann's bastion, BJP has laid its bet on Congress' former MLA Arvind Khanna.

Furthermore, two other candidates — Sushil Kumar Rinku from Jalandhar, and Hans Raj Hans from Faridkot — also boast a history of association with the grand old party, lending credence to the notion of a Congress-yukt BJP taking shape in the State.

Starting his political journey with the Congress' NSUI wing, Rinku won his first election from Jalandhar west assembly segment in 2017. However, he left the Congress and joined the rul-

ing Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) to win the Jalandhar bypolls in 2023. In a surprising over, Rinku shifted loyalties to BJP in March this year, days after the AAP declared him as its candidate from Jalandhar.

Sufi singer Hans Raj Hans, who is currently the BJP MP from Delhi West, was a member of Congress party from 2014 to 2016. He had started his political journey with the Shiromani Akali Dal (SAD) in 2009.

Delving deeper into the BJP's inner circle unveiled a tapestry woven with threads of Congress heritage. The party's core group features several former Congress leaders — right from former Chief Minister Capt Amarinder Singh, former Finance Minister Manpreet Singh Badal, Rana Sodhi, Kewal Singh Dhillon, Arvind Khanna, Fatehjang Singh Bajwa, Harjot Kamal, Daaman Thind Bajwa, among others — who have seamlessly transitioned into their new political home, bringing with them a wealth of experience and expertise.

But the crossover doesn't end there. Leading the charge for women empowerment within the BJP is another former Congress leader — Jai Inder Kaur, the daughter of Capt Arvind and Preneet Kaur — who is heading the party's state women's wing.

Classifieds

CHANGE OF NAME

I, Nidhi Kataly C/o Nitin Kataly R/O H.No. 85, J.P. Nagar, Jalandhar, Punjab have changed my name from Nidhi Nagpal to Nidhi Kataly, after marriage.

I, Veena W/O Sher Muhammed R/O Vill. Ishwa, Po. Koti, Teh. & Distt. Solan (HP) have changed my name to Praveen.

I, hitherto Known as Sonia W/O Vishal Bharat R/O H.No. 107, Vasant Vihar, Kapurthala-144601, Punjab have changed my name and shall hereafter be known as Sonia Chouhan.

I, hitherto Known as Vishal Bharat S/O Krishan Lal R/O H.No. 107, Vasant Vihar, Kapurthala-144601, Punjab have changed my name and shall hereafter be known as Vishal Bharat Chouhan.

I, Nitika Setia W/O Karan Chopra R/O H.No. 75, Urban Estate, Kapurthala have changed my name from Nitika Setia to Nitika Chopra.

I, Arjun S/O Bharat Bhushan R/O H.No. 14, Hoshiarpur Road, Hardeep Nagar, Jalandhar have changed my name from Arjun to Arjun Choudhary.

I, hitherto Known as Raj Kumar Grover S/O Vir Chand Grover R/O H.No. B-5/59, Mohalla Jatpura, Kapurthala-144601, Punjab have changed my name and shall hereafter be known as Raj Kumar.

I, A Atiia am legal spouse of No. 14703965, Rank CHM Name Bendang Toshi presently residing at Vill. Chungtia, Po. Mokochung, Distt. Mokochung, State Nagaland, PIN-798601 have changed my name from A Atiia to Benjiongtia vide Affidavit dated 09/05/2024 before Magistrate Jalandhar.

I, No. 14703965 Rank CHM Name Bendang Toshi presently residing at Vill. Chungtia, Po. Mokochung, Mokochung, State Nagaland, PIN-798601 have changed my son name from B Meren Jamir to Naktimereen B Jamir vide Affidavit dated 09/05/2024 before Magistrate Jalandhar.

I, Neizhiko am legal spouse of JC-590484M Sub Razuolhuo Angami presently residing at Vill. Mesulumi, Po. Pftusero town, Distt. Phek, State Nagaland - 797107 have changed my name from Neizhiko to Neizkou Terhuja vide Affidavit dated 09/05/2024 before Magistrate Jalandhar.

I, Keneingutuo am legal daughter of JC-590484M Sub Razuolhuo Angami presently residing at Vill. Mesulumi, Po. Pftusero town, Distt. Phek, State Nagaland - 797107 have changed my name from Keneingutuo to Keneingutuo to Kenel Mary Terhuja vide Affidavit dated 09/05/2024 before Magistrate Jalandhar.

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I Daljit Kaur D/O Gurbax Singh W/O Satnam Singh R/O H.No.206, Near Billa Karyana Store, Islamabad, Hoshiarpur, Punjab Have Changed My Name To Kaur Daljit.

I Rachna Tiwari Wife Of Ajay Kumar Resident Of Amliha Post Tatiyaganj Mandhana Kanpur Nagar Uttar Pradesh 209217 Have Changed My Name From Rachana Tiwari To Rachna Tiwari Vide Affidavit No.IN-PB14082006656250W Dated 09-05-2024, Distt. Court Place Amritsar.

I Balveer Singh S/O Maghar Singh R/O Vpo. Hamirgarh Distt. Bathinda Have Changed My Name To Balvir Singh.

I Sohan Lal Kansal S/O Diwan Chand R/O Bagha Purana Distt. Moga Have Changed My Name To Sohan Lal.

I Promila Kansal W/O Sohan Lal R/O Bagha Purana Distt. Moga Have Changed My Name To Promila Devi.

I Makhan Lal Bansal And Makhan Lal S/O Om Parkash R/O Vpo. Bhinder Kalan Distt. Moga Am Known By Above Both Names.

I Gurmeet Singh Soorhar S/O Karnail Singh R/O Vpo. Takhanwadh Distt. Moga Have Changed My Name To Gurmeet Singh.

I, Hitherto Known As Amritpal Kaur D/O Tejinder Singh R/O Ward Number-24 Near N.S Bawa School Preet Nagar Bahona Chowk Moga District Moga 142001 Punjab Have Changed My Name And Shall Hereafter Be Known As Amritpal Wadhe.

I Gurpartap Singh S/O Jarnail Singh Toor R/O Majri Distt. Ludhiana Have Changed My Name To Gurpartap Singh Toor.

I, Manuja P spouse of No.15701707H Hav Vinoth Kumar R resident of Village- Kilviliachur, Post-Vaduganthangal, Tehsil- K V Kuppam, District- Vellore, State-Tamil Nadu, Pin-632304, have changed my name from Manuja P to Manuja V Vide affidavit No.IN-PB12739042066394W dated 06 May 2024 before notary public Pathankot

I, Subhash Chander Sagar S/O Late Sh. Bal Krishan R/O Flat No. 3236, The Chandigarh Police Co-operative House Building Society (1), Sector 51-D, Chandigarh declare that Subhash Chander Sagar S/O Late Sh. Bal Krishan and Subhash Chander S/O Late Sh. Bal Krishan is one and the same person.

I, Gayatri Devi W/O Late Sh. Jagjit Singh R/O House No. 369, Sector 2, Panchkula (Haryana) declare that my correct name is Gayatri Devi and not Gayatri Devi as mentioned in some documents. Gayatri Devi and Gayatri Devi is one and the same person.

I, Ajay S/O Subhash R/O Village Barsola Tehsil and Distt. Jind Have Changed My Name From Ajay To Ajay Bhabher.

I, Ruby Devi W/O Service No. 14673399Y Rank NK Vinod Kumar Unit of 77 ARMW WKSP C/o 56 APO that in my husband's service record my name is wrongly mentioned as Ruby Kumari but my actual name is Ruby Devi. Concerned note.

I Dalvinder Singh S/O Gurbachan Singh R/O Village Narel khera district Sirsa (Haryana) have changed my name to Dalvinder Singh.

I Satinder Kaur W/O Jaswinder Singh Walia R/O Shalimar Avenue, Near Harinaam Sankirtan Mandir, Kapurthala Have Changed My Name To Satinder Kaur Walia.

I Jaswinder Singh S/O S.Pritam Singh R/O Shalimar Avenue, Near Harinaam Sankirtan Mandir, Kapurthala Have Changed My Name To Jaswinder Singh Walia.

I Ashok Kumar S/O Late Mohan Lal R/O H No 75, Bank Colony, Jamalpur Awana, Focal Point, Ludhiana, Punjab - 141010, Have Changed My Name To Ashok Kumar Verma.

I Nirmal Kaur W/O Sadhu Singh R/O Village, Bairsal Kalan, PO - Hambowal Bet, Distt-Ludhiana, Teh-Samrala, Punjab-141115, Have Changed My Name To Sukhinder Kaur.

I Raj Kumari W/O Sat Pal Bhatia R/O #65, Jhili Road, New Green Park Colony, Patiala (Punjab) Have Changed My Name To Raj Bhatia.

I Rajat Pahwa S/O Sh. Krishan Kumar Pahwa R/O H. No. 216, Sec 14, Urban Estate Kamal I Declared That I Have Changed My Daughter(Minor) Name From Vaanya To Vaanya Pahwa.

I, Neelam W/O Karamveer R/O Vill Sharfabad Majra Subhri(74) Distt Karnal Have Changed My Name From Neelam Devi To Neelam. In Future I Shall Be Known As Neelam.

I, Reena W/O Jasvinder Singh, R/O Near Old Petrol Pump Ram Nagar Colony Bilaspur, Tehsil Bilaspur, Distt Yamunanagar Have Changed My Name From Reena To Reena Rani.

I Raj Kumar S/O Moti Singh R/O # 212-B, Chopra Garden, Near Shiv Shakti School, Yamunanagar Have Changed My Name From Raj Kumar Singh To Raj Kumar.

I Sonia Rani W/O Raj Kumar R/O # 212-B, Chopra Garden, Near Shiv Shakti School, Yamunanagar Have Changed My Name From Renu Bala To Sonia Rani.

I, Sandeep Singh Bhajaney S/O Kewal Singh R/O Vill. Ramgarh Sivan (Ludhiana) have changed my name Sandeep Singh.

I, Surinderpal Singh Sibia S/O Ranjit Singh R/O Vill. Ramgarh Sivan (Ludhiana) have changed my name Surinderpal Singh.

I, Paramjeet Kaur W/O Jagir Singh R/O Village- Chhichhra, Po-Chak Sharif Tehsil/Distt- Gurdaspur, Punjab. Have Changed My Name From Paramjeet Kaur To Paramjit Kaur.

I, Gurpreet Kaur W/O Ravinder Kumar Village- Saidowal Kalan Tehsil/Distt- Gurdaspur. Declare That In My Husband's Passport No. Y2030533 My Name Wrongly Written As Gurreet Kaur. My Correct Name Is Gurpreet Kaur According To My Aadhar Card.

I, Sham Singh Dhuparh S/O Harnam Singh R/O House No.276 Ward No.1, Backside Yash Hospital, Jail Road, Gurdaspur. Tehsil/Distt- Gurdaspur, Punjab-143521. Have Changed My Name From Sham Singh Dhuparh To Sham Singh.

I, Daljeet Kaur Wife Of JC-502341 Nb Sub Tarjinder Singh, Resident Of Village- Bagol, Po-Ghorewah. Tehsil- Gurdaspur, District- Gurdaspur, Punjab, Pin-143517. Have Changed My Name From Daljit Kaur To Daljit Kaur Vide Affidavit No.IN-PB05437782769282W Dated 12-04-2024 before Executive Magistrate Kahnawan (Pb).

I, Poonam Dhuparh W/O Sham Singh R/O House No.276, Ward No.1, Backside Yash Hospital, Jail Road, Gurdaspur. Tehsil/Distt- Gurdaspur, Punjab-143521. Have Changed My Name From Poonam Dhuparh To Poonam.

I, Amanjeet Kaur W/O No.15141521K EX HAV (MACP NB SUB)- Harjit Singh Resident Of Village- Gill (Shakri) Po-Bhagowal Tehsil And Distt-Gurdaspur, Punjab, That I Declare Changed My Name From Amanjeet Kaur In My Husband Army Record.

I, Sonia wife of Ajay Singh resident of Village Chack Bharian, P.O. Ghiala, Tehsil and Distt Pathankot (Punjab) have changed the name of my daughter from Deepanshi to Deepanshi Thakur vide Affidavit No. IN-PB13954824376752W dated 09 May 2024 before Notary Public Pathankot (Punjab).



केनरा बैंक
(भारत सरकार का उद्यम)

Canara Bank
(A Govt. of India Undertaking)





E-AUCTION SALE NOTICE

CANARA BANK Recovery & Legal Section Regional Office Panipat-132103, Ph. 0180-4088335, Mob: 7015926780, EMAIL: <ropptrec@canarabank.com>

E-AUCTION SALE NOTICE

SALE NOTICE OF IMMOVABLE ASSETS UNDER THE SECURITISATION AND RECONSTRUCTION OF FINANCIAL ASSETS AND ENFORCEMENT OF SECURITY INTEREST ACT, 2002 UNDER RULES 8(6) & 9 OF THE SECURITY INTEREST (ENFORCEMENT) RULES, 2002

Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower (s) and Guarantor (s) that the below described immovable properties mortgaged/charged to the Secured Creditor, the possession of which has been taken by the Authorised Officer of Canara Bank will be sold on "As is where is", "As is what is", and "Whatever there is" in Eaucution arranged by the service provider M/s e-Procurement Technologies Limited-Auction Tiger, Contact: Mr. Praveenkumar Thevar (9722778828 D:079-68136891), Email id: Praveen.thevar@auctiontiger.net OR Support@auctiontiger.net through the website (https://canarabank.auctiontiger.net).

LAST DATE OF RECEIPT OF EMD IS 27.05.2024 UPTO 5:00 P.M.

DATE OF E-AUCTION IS 29.05.2024 (12:30 PM TO 1:30 PM)
(with unlimited extension of 5 minutes duration each till the conclusion of the sale)

Sl. NO.	Branch Name/Name & Address of the Borrower(s)/ Guarantor(s)	Brief Description of Property/ies	Total Liabilities as on specified Date	Reserve Price (in Rs.)	Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) (in Rs.)	Details of A/c No.	
						IFSC CODE	Possession notice
1.	Canara Bank : Gohana Branch, Authorised Officer :- Sh. Kunal Vashisht (M) 8572803979, E-mail: cb19674@canarabank.com	All the part and parcel of Khewat no. 706/644, Khatoni No. 755 measuring 16K-11M in which his 5/331th share come to 0.5M i.e. 150 sq yds and mutation no. 6111 situated at Near Hanuman Mandir, VPO-Bichpuri, Tehsil Gohana Dist. Sonepat in the name of Sh. Vijay Kumar S/O Sh. Ram Phal H. No. 479(Nr. Hanuman Mandir) VPO-Bichpuri, Tehsil Gohana Dist. Sonepat - 131301, 2. Sh. Rajbir Singh (Guarantor) S/O Sh. Pharihad Singh H. No. 907 VPO Baroda Tehsil Gohana Dist. Sonepat - 131301.	Total liabilities as on 28.04.2021 Rs. 3,67,206.66/- plus further interest & other charges (minus recovery if any)	Rs. 4.17 Lakhs	Rs. 0.42 Lakh	209272434	CNRB0019674
2.	Canara Bank : Gohana, Authorised Officer, Major Vikram Jeet Singh (M) 8572803446 E-mail: cb3446@canarabank.com	Residential House on Plot measuring 100 Sq. yds. i.e. 3 Marla 3 Sarsai i.e. 30/495 share of total land 2K-15M comprised in khewat no. 47, Khata no. 65, Rect&Killa no. 34/16/3 (2-15), having dimensions East to West 15ft, North to South 60ft, situated in Abadi Gandhi Nagar, Tehsil Gohana, Distt. Sonepat in the name of Sh. Iqbal Singh s/o Sh. Suraj Bhan.	Total liabilities as on 18.09.2023 Rs. 10,26,813.58 plus further interest & other charges (minus recovery if any)	Rs. 18.97 Lakh	Rs. 1.90 Lakhs	209272434	CNRB0003446
3.	Canara Bank, Gohana Branch, Authorised Officer :- Sh. Kunal Vashisht, (M) 7496919674, E-mail: cb19674@canarabank.com	Residential building situated on land which is part of khewat no. 2664, Killa No. 271/16/1, moja Gohana, Ward No. 17, Abadi Balraj Nagar also known as Devi Lal Nagar, Meham Road, inside MC Limit, Gohana in the name of Sh. Ravinder S/O Sh. Om Parkash Traders Opposite Devi Lal Nagar Meham Road Gohana- 131301, 2. Sh. Ravinder S/O Sh. Om Parkash (prop.) R/O House No. 158 13, Tau Devi Lal Nagar Gohana - 131301, 3. Sh. Ramesh Kumar S/O Sh. Devi Singh (guarantor) R/O H. No. - 298 A, Ward No. 12 Gohana - 131301.	Total liabilities as on 28.03.2022 Rs. 6,63,789.89 plus further interest & other charges (minus recovery if any)	Rs. 6.20 Lakh	Rs. 0.62 Lakhs	209272434	CNRB0019674
4.	Canara Bank : Gohana Branch, Authorised Officer, Sh. Kunal Vashisht, (M) 7496919674, E-mail: cb19674@canarabank.com	Land/plot measuring 50 sq yds i.e. 1.66 marlas, i.e. 5/480 share of total land 8k-0m, having dimensions East to West 10 ft, North to South 45 ft, comprised in khewat no. 170/1148, Khata no. 174 rect and killa no. 287/11(8-0), situated in Moja Gudha ward no. 17, Balrajnagar Gohana, Tehsil Gohana Dist Sonepat within MC limit Gohana Tesil Gohana distt Sonepat in the name of Sh. Ramchander S/O Sh. Kalam Singh.	Total liabilities as on 07.04.2021 Rs. 4,71,943.58 plus further interest & other charges (minus recovery if any)	Rs. 9.75 Lakhs	Rs. 0.98 Lakh	209272434	CNRB0019674
5.	Canara Bank, Gohana, Authorised Officer, Sh. Kunal Vashisht, (M) 7496919674, E-mail: cb19674@canarabank.com	Commercial Property measuring 92.27 Sq.Yards which is part of khewat no. 1980 Khatoni No. 2133 Killa No. 242/20/1(4-12) in which 3/92 share comes to 0K-03M i.e. 92.27 Sq.Yards as per jamabandi 2015-16 situated in W.No. 10, Krishna Nagar within M.C limit of Gohana, District Sonepat vide transfer deed (Blood Relation) no 2190 at 22.07.2016 O/o SR Gohana & mutation no 20649 in the name of Sh. Rajender Singh.	Total liabilities as on 11.07.2023 Rs. 73,63,087.73 plus further interest & other charges (minus recovery if any)	Rs. 79.20 Lakhs	Rs. 7.92 Lakh	209272434	CNRB0019674
6.	Canara Bank, Bahalgarh Branch Authorised Officer, Sh. Jagbir Singh (M) 7496918284, E-mail: cb18284@canarabank.com	1. Commercial Building (with GF only) measuring 248 Sq. yards (as per title deed) i.e. 5/299 total land 14 Bigha-19 Biswa which is part of Khewat no. 1427/1341 Khata no. 2027, 2028, 2029, 2030 Killa no. 2861 (4-16), 2921(3-8), 6126/2922(0-19), 2843/1(0-3), 2843/1(5-2), 2843/2(0-11), as per jamabandi 2016-17, situated in Moja Patti jatan, Abadi Rajiv Colony Extension, Murthal Road Tehsil & Distt. Sonepat in the name of Smt. Sheela W/O Sh. Ranbir Singh SONIPAT-131001 2. Sh. Inderjit S/o Sh. RANBIR SINGH (Guarantor) VPO. REWLI SONIPAT-131001 3. Smt. RUBY W/O Sh. Inderjit (Guarantor) HOUSE NO. 53/1 VPO. REWLI SONIPAT-131001.	Total liabilities as on 07.04.2021 Rs. 28,65,292 plus further interest & other charges (minus recovery if any)	Rs. 73.00 Lakhs	Rs. 7.30 Lakh	209272434	CNRB0018284

Other terms and conditions:

(a) The property is being sold with all existing and future encumbrances, whether known or unknown to the bank. The authorized officer/secured creditor will not be responsible for any third-party claims, rights, or dues. The purchaser should conduct due diligence on all aspects related to the property to their satisfaction. Bidders are advised to satisfy themselves with the title and correctness of other details pertaining to the secured assets, including the size/area of the immovable secured asset in question and ascertain any other dues, liabilities, or encumbrances from the concerned authorities to their satisfaction before submitting the bid. The purchaser shall not be entitled to make any claim against the authorized officer/secured creditor in this regard at a later date.

(b) In the event of any default in payment of any of the amounts, or if the sale is not completed due to default on the part of the purchaser/bidder within the aforementioned time limit, the bank shall be entitled to forfeit all monies paid by the purchaser/bidder till then and put up the secured asset(s) for sale again, in its absolute discretion. Further, all costs and expenses incurred by the bank on account of such resale shall be borne and paid by the defaulting purchaser.

(c) Auction/bidding shall be only through Online Electronic Bidding through the website www.indianbankseaction.com. Bidders are advised to go through the website for detailed terms before taking part in the e-auction sale proceedings.

(d) The property can be inspected with prior appointment with the authorized officer on or before the date of submission of EMD, 27.05.2024.

(e) The property will be sold for the price which is more than the Reserve Price, and the participating bidders may improve their offer further through the auction process.

(f) EMD amount of 10% of the Reserve Price is to be deposited by way of Demand draft in favour of Authorized Officer of respective Canara Bank Branches, OR shall be deposited through RTGS/NEFT/Fund Transfer to credit of account of respective Canara Bank Branches, on or before 27.05.2024 by 05.00 pm.

(g) After payment of the EMD amount, the intending bidders should submit a copy of the following documents/details on or before 08.02.2024 05.00 PM, to Canara Bank respective Branches/regional office panipat by hand or by email.

(h) Demand Draft/Pay order towards EMD amount. If paid through RTGS/NEFT, acknowledgement receipt thereof with UTR No.

(i) Photocopies of PAN Card, ID Proof and Address proof. However, successful bidder would have to produce these documents in original to the Bank at the time of making payment of balance amount of 25% of bid amount.

(j) For sale proceeds of Rs. 50 (Rupees Fifty) lacs and above, the successful bidder will have to deduct TDS at the rate 1% on the Sale proceeds and submit the original receipt of TDS certificate to the Bank.

(k) All charges for conveyance, stamp duty/GST registration charges, etc., as applicable, shall be borne by the successful bidder only.

(l) Authorized Officer reserves the right to postpone/cancel or vary the terms and conditions of the e-auction without assigning any reason thereof.

(m) In case there are bidders who do not have access to the internet but are interested in participating in the e-auction, they can approach the concerned Regional Office as a facilitating centre. For further details, contact No.7015926780, E-mail : ropptrec@canarabank.com

STATUTORY 15 DAYS SALE NOTICE UNDER THE SARFAESI ACT, 2002
Date:- 09.05.2024 PLACE : PANIPAT AUTHORIZED OFFICER, CANARA BANK

SYMBOLIC POSSESSION NOTICE

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

Whereas The undersigned being the Authorized Officer of ICICI Bank Limited under the Securitisation, Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 and in exercise of the powers conferred under section 13 (12) read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) rules 2002, issued demand notices upon the borrowers mentioned below, to repay the amount mentioned in the notice within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said notice.

As the borrower failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the borrower and the public in general that the undersigned has taken Symbolic possession of the property described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on him/ her under Section 13(4) of the said Act read with Rule 8 of the said rules on the below-mentioned dates. The borrower in particular and the public in general is hereby cautioned not to deal with the property and any dealings with the property will be subject to the charge of ICICI Bank Limited.

Sr. No.	Name of the Borrower/ Loan Account Number	Description of Property/ Date of Symbolic Possession	Date of Demand Notice/ Amount in Demand Notice (Rs.)	Name of Branch
1.	Ashok Singh/ Rita/ Rangesh Rani/ Lovely/ LBGDP000			

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

Table with 7 columns: Sr. No., Name of Borrower(s), Details of the Secured asset(s), Amount Outstanding, Reserve Price, Date and Time of Property Inspection, Date & Time of E-Auction.

The online auction will take place on the website of e-auction agency C1 India Private Limited (https://www.bankeuctions.com). The Mortgages/notice are given a last chance to pay the total dues with further interest till June 05, 2024 before 05:00 PM failing which, this/these secured asset/s will be sold as per schedule.

The Prospective Bidder(s) must submit the Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) Demand Draft (DD) (Refer Column E) at ICICI Bank Ltd First Floor, Mc International, The Mall, Mall Road Amritsar-143001 on or before June 05, 2024 before 05:00 PM and thereafter they need to submit their offer through the above mentioned website only on or before June 05, 2024 before 05:00 PM along with scan image of Bank acknowledged DD towards proof of payment of EMD.

Authorized Officer ICICI Bank Limited

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

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The online auction will take place on the website of e-auction agency C1 India Private limited (https://www.bankeuctions.com). The Mortgages/notice are given a last chance to pay the total dues with further interest till June 20, 2024 before 05:00 PM failing which, this/these secured asset/s will be sold as per schedule.

Authorized Officer ICICI Bank Limited

SBI State Bank of India भारतीय स्टेट बैंक POSSESSION NOTICE

Table with 5 columns: Name of Account/Borrower & address, Name of Owner of property etc., Description of Immovable/Moveable Property, Date of demand Notice, Date of Possession Notice, Amount(s) as per demand Notice.

Whereas the Authorized Officer under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act 2002 and in exercise of powers conferred under section 13 read with Security Interest Enforcement Rules 2002, issued demand notice(s) to borrower(s) / Guarantor(s) on the dates mentioned hereunder, calling upon the Borrower(s) / Guarantor(s) to repay the amount(s) mentioned in the respective demand notice(s) within 60 days of the date of the notice.

The Borrower(s) / Guarantor(s) having failed to repay the amount(s) notice is hereby given to the respective Borrower(s) / Guarantor(s) and the public in general that the Authorized Officer has taken symbolic possession of the Property / Properties described herein below, in exercise of the powers conferred on him/her under section 13(4) of the said Act read with rule 8 & 9 of the said rules, on the dates mentioned against each account.

The Borrower(s) / Guarantor(s) in particular and the public in general are hereby cautioned not to deal with property/properties, and any dealing with the property/properties will be subject to the charge of the State Bank of India branch SMEC, Yamuna Nagar for the amount(s), mentioned herein below besides interest and other charges/expenses against each account.

Authorized Officer, State Bank of India, Yamuna Nagar

CHANDIGARH HOUSING BOARD A CHANDIGARH ADMINISTRATION UNDERTAKING

PUBLIC NOTICE

Table with 5 columns: Sr. No., NAME OF THE PURCHASER, NAME OF THE SELLER, D.U. NO., CATEGORY SECTOR.

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

WEAR MASK, WASH YOUR HANDS, WATCH YOUR DISTANCE

PUBLIC NOTICE

The General Public is hereby informed by Branch Head, Punjab National Bank, Branch MCC Sector 12, Karnal (Haryana) that the Original Sale Deed No. 995 dated 21.11.2008 registered with the office of Sub Registrar, Tehsil Narsing, District Karnal, executed between Sh. Kuldip Singh son of Sh. Banarsi Dass, Sh. Anandjeet Singh of Sh. Amarjeet Singh son of Sh. Dider Singh and Sh. Birsa Singh, Anokh Singh sons of Sh. Kamal Singh (Previous Owners) relating to Property situated at Tehsil Narsing, District Karnal for the Loss of above said Original Sale Deeds, Now Ms. Udaya Singh, FDR/FR bearing No. 13230652400543 dated 08.05.2024 has also been registered with Police Station, Narsing, District Karnal for the Loss of above said Original Sale Deeds.

सार्वजनिक सूचना

इस पब्लिक नोटिस के माध्यम से, सभाकार को सूचित किया जाता है कि निम्न कर्ता निम्नी म. 47/1589 न्यू माडल कॉलोनी, अम्बाला शहर से मुकद. ख. हरी म. के कानूनी अधिकारों को खोने के लिए एक प्रार्थना पत्र पर हस्ताक्षर करने में प्रसन्न हुआ है। प्रार्थना पत्र पर हस्ताक्षर करने वाले व्यक्ति का नाम है: सुरेश कुमार, नगर निगम अम्बाला।

HOUSING BOARD HARYANA PUBLIC NOTICE

It is for the information of General Public that Sh. Ashok Kumar S/o Sh. Hajan Lal R/o H.No. 46, Mohalla Frash Khana, Narnaul, Mohinderghar, has applied for transfer of his Flat/House No. 338, Ram Bagh Mohalla, Bhiwani, District Karnal, Haryana in favour of Sh. Jitender S/o Sh. Asharam R/o 316/03, Suncity, Sec. 36A, Rohtak. Any person regarding transfer of this flat has any objection he/she should file objection with the undersigned in writing, in person, to this office within 15 days from the date of publication of this notice.

HOUSING BOARD HARYANA PUBLIC NOTICE

It is for the information of General Public that Sh. Pawan Kumar S/o Sh. Chhotu Ram R/o VPO Kairu Teh. Tosham Bhiwani Haryana has applied for transfer of his Flat No. 10, 75/5F in Housing Colony, Colony Sector- 34, Rohtak (Hr.) in favour of Smt. Poonam W/o Sh. Vinod Kumar R/o Gaoan Jeetpura Umerwas 10 Bhiwani Haryana-72030. Any person regarding transfer of this flat has any objection he/she should file objection with the undersigned in writing, in person, to this office within 15 days from the date of publication of this notice.

HOUSING BOARD HARYANA PUBLIC NOTICE

It is for the information of General Public that Sh. Smt. Seema W/o Sh. Satish Kumar Chawla R/o H.No. 338, Ram Bagh Mohalla, Bhiwani, District Karnal, Haryana in favour of Sh. Jitender S/o Sh. Asharam R/o 316/03, Suncity, Sec. 36A, Rohtak. Any person regarding transfer of this flat has any objection he/she should file objection with the undersigned in writing, in person, to this office within 15 days from the date of publication of this notice.

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PUBLIC NOTICE

The General Public is hereby informed that the original Sale Deed No. 811 dated 17.06.2002 Registered in the office of Sub Registrar/Tehsil Narnaul executed between Sh. Vishal Singh S/o Sh. Raghubir Singh, Smt. Mukesh W/o Sh. Raghubir Singh and Smt. Babi D/o Sh. Raghubir Singh (Vendor) and Sh. Raj Kumar S/o Sh. Shimeen (Vendee) relating to property consisting of or situated at Nangal Choudhary Road Narnaul could not be traced/inscribed/lost. A FIR/DD bearing No. 13230082400576 dated 20.03.2024 has also been registered with Haryana Police Citizen Service for loss of the original Sale Deed No. 811 dated 17.06.2002. The present owner of the property described above who became owner of the property vide Sale Deed No. 889 dated 15.06.2006 registered in the office of Sub Registrar/Tehsil Narnaul intends to create mortgage of the said property with Punjab National Bank, Court Road Narnaul. If any person finds the original Sale Deed No. 811 dated 17.06.2002 in future, the same be handed over to Punjab National Bank, Court Road Narnaul. However, any misuse thereof by any person will make him/her liable for criminal action. Further, any person claiming any right, title or interest over the property or otherwise having any objection can make representation to the undersigned within 7 days of the date of publication of this notice.

सार्वजनिक सूचना

इस पब्लिक नोटिस के माध्यम से, सभाकार को सूचित किया जाता है कि निम्न कर्ता निम्नी म. 1807, नगर निगम अम्बाला शहर से मुकद. ख. नरिंद सिंह के कानूनी अधिकारों को खोने के लिए एक प्रार्थना पत्र पर हस्ताक्षर करने में प्रसन्न हुआ है। प्रार्थना पत्र पर हस्ताक्षर करने वाले व्यक्ति का नाम है: सुरेश कुमार, नगर निगम अम्बाला।

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PAPER WITH PASSION

Air turbulence

Air India Express cabin crew's moody 'sick leave' hits operations, leaves fliers high and dry

In the realm of air travel, few situations are as frustrating as flight cancellations. The anticipation of reaching a destination is replaced by uncertainty and inconvenience. Such was the case recently when Air India Express, the low-cost subsidiary of Air India, found itself in a crisis, leading to a wave of flight cancellations. The flag carrier of India has long been grappling with financial woes and operational challenges. Despite various restructuring efforts, the airline has struggled to stay afloat in a fiercely competitive industry. The latest crisis began when over 300 senior cabin crew members of Express flights reported sick at the last minute, resulting in the cancellation of more than 90 flights since Tuesday night, leaving airports in disarray and passengers seething with frustration. Of course, Air India has now lent a helping hand to its subsidiary, deciding to operate 20 flights against 74 Express cancellations on Thursday, and sacking 30 crew members over "sick leave". The root cause of this crisis stems from longstanding grievances articulated by Air India Express Employees Union (AIXEU). They have voiced concerns about unfair treatment, citing instances where internal job postings were filled with external candidates, bypassing qualified internal staff. The owners, on their part, do not recognise AIXEU. The Regional Labour Commissioner in New Delhi has also criticised the management for alleged violations of labour laws, highlighting a lack of responsible decision-making. Adding to the turbulence is Air India's ongoing financial struggles and operational challenges.



Air India Express, despite its parent company's losses, remained profitable. In 2021, it was sold to the Tata Group, which merged it with AirAsia India. It aimed to capture the budget aviation market with a focus on non-trunk routes and ancillary services. It is the only profitable airline in the Tata Group's aviation stable — AirAsia India, Vistara and Air India — incurred a combined loss of Rs 15,530 crores. The fallout from these cancellations has been significant, with passengers expressing their frustration on social media platforms. Long queues, missed connections and inadequate communication have characterised the scenes at airports. In response, Air India Express has issued apologies and promises of improved services, but the damage to passenger trust has been done. The Indian aviation sector has huge potential but the issues of mismanagement are galore. The Govt must proactively ensure that the fliers are not taken for a ride and the airlines also do not incur losses. Besides, the pandemic years were very traumatic for the industry and it is slowly recovering. The Govt must resolve the crisis before it snowballs into a crisis and takes down the whole sector. Looking ahead, the fate of Air India and its subsidiaries remains uncertain. Only time will tell whether Air India Express and its counterparts can rise above the chaos and emerge with flying colours.

airline made a profit of Rs 116.84 crore, while the other airlines in the Tata Group's aviation stable — AirAsia India, Vistara and Air India — incurred a combined loss of Rs 15,530 crores. The fallout from these cancellations has been significant, with passengers expressing their frustration on social media platforms. Long queues, missed connections and inadequate communication have characterised the scenes at airports. In response, Air India Express has issued apologies and promises of improved services, but the damage to passenger trust has been done. The Indian aviation sector has huge potential but the issues of mismanagement are galore. The Govt must proactively ensure that the fliers are not taken for a ride and the airlines also do not incur losses. Besides, the pandemic years were very traumatic for the industry and it is slowly recovering. The Govt must resolve the crisis before it snowballs into a crisis and takes down the whole sector. Looking ahead, the fate of Air India and its subsidiaries remains uncertain. Only time will tell whether Air India Express and its counterparts can rise above the chaos and emerge with flying colours.

PICTALK



Students perform during the celebration of Nobel laureate Rabindranath Tagore's birth anniversary, in Nadia

PTI

Enigma of copyright in the digital world

Policy-makers face the formidable challenge of revising copyright laws effectively to tackle the complexities presented by AI

People often say that in this digital world, nothing remains secret. Even personal details can be accessed through the Internet. The quantum of information on the Internet is so vast that, despite the security measures, it is not cent per cent foolproof. In such a scenario, one must critically examine copyright's relevance in the digital world. Copyright rules and laws traditionally protect every creation or innovation, so the original creator retains credit for their work and is aptly rewarded through monetary benefits. When an author creates a book, they automatically own the copyright. This gives them the exclusive right to reproduce, distribute, perform, and display the book and create derivative works based on it. In most countries, copyright protection for a book typically lasts for the author's lifetime plus 50-70 years. During this time, others generally cannot reproduce or distribute the book without the author's permission unless their use falls under a specific exception, such as fair use or fair dealing. Within the realm of music,



this signifies that the individual responsible for creating a song, the writer of the lyrics, the composer, or the performer, possesses the sole entitlement to utilise, disseminate, and capitalise on that song. In India, organisations such as the Indian Performing Right Society (IPRS) and Phonographic Performance Limited (PPL) administer the rights of copyright owners and collect royalties on their behalf for the public performance and broadcast of songs. Copyright also extends to research works, protecting and monetising one's creations through patents. Unfortunately, journal publishers own the copyright for research publications. The publishers amass massive amounts through subscriptions and advertisements without providing any monetary benefit to the authors. Most of the reputed journals

do peer reviews free of cost, take processing charges from authors, and get subscription fees and advertisements as revenue. What does the poor researcher get? A mental satisfaction of getting published in a high-impact journal? In a way, it's not fair. A few magazines, of course, practice giving honorariums to the authors. Despite having stringent copyright rules and regulations, its efficacy is questionable in the rapidly evolving digital age landscape. The widespread availability of digital content and the simplicity of sharing information on the Internet have presented unprecedented difficulties and intricacies for existing copyright rules. Today, one can easily copy content from online resources without crediting the original creator. Content available on social media sites, including photographs, is widely reproduced. Identifying the original content creator, be it literary or artistic works, is often difficult. Even stringent protective measures like user authentication mechanisms such as passwords, multi-factor authentication (MFA),

and role-based access controls (RBAC) to restrict access to authorised individuals or groups and watermarking techniques often fail to prevent the infringement of copyrights. The advent of AI in digital platforms has complicated the situation. As AI systems become more sophisticated, their ability to create, replicate, and modify content raises intricate legal questions regarding ownership and authorship. Though AI can do any role, it lacks the human touch in its creation that connects human minds. While individuals are accountable for creating and instructing these algorithms, the AI system autonomously produces the outcome, erasing the distinction between human and machine authorship. The current necessity lies in incorporating ethical, cultural, and economic considerations while crafting a new policy that effectively balances the rights of creators and AI developers.

(The writer is an adjunct faculty at the National Institute of Advanced Studies, Bengaluru; views are personal)



BIJU DHARMAPALAN

Policy-makers face the formidable challenge of revising copyright laws effectively to tackle the complexities presented by AI

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An open letter to Shehbaz Sharif

We tolerated terrorist violence for many years but when we could no longer tolerate it, we went to Parliament to do away with Article 370. But we did not resort to violence

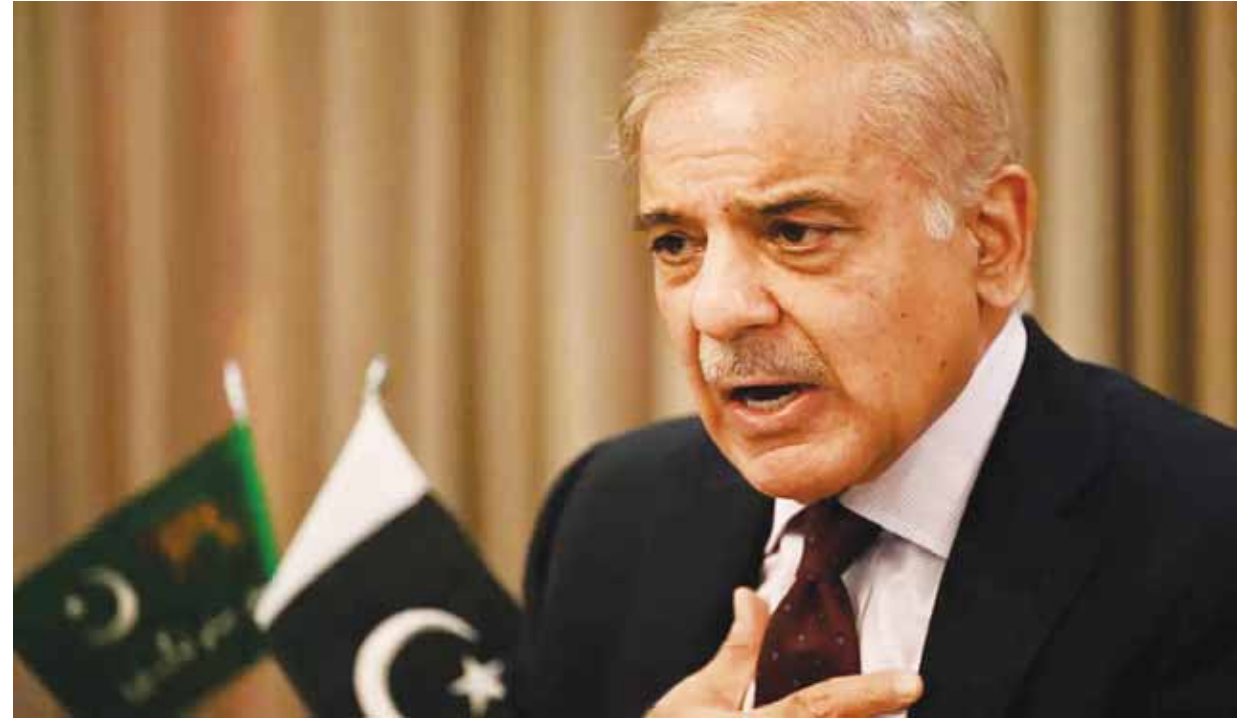


PRAFULL GORADIA

Dear Vazir-e-Azam Shehbaz Sharif Sahab, I have taken the privilege of writing to the Prime Minister of our neighbouring country, which, till 76 years ago, was part of us, but separated in acrimonious circumstances. I'm sure that you're aware, as a lot of in India are, that this separation and the aftermath it gave rise to continues to not only cast its shadow over the subcontinent but also torment relations between various communities. This open letter to you is a humble attempt, not to hark back to the events of those decades and apportion blame, but to address the contentiousness of modern-day issues that continue to trail in their wake.

Whenever the issue of Ayodhya, the Gyan Vapi temple (Varanasi) or the Krishna Janmabhoomi (Mathura) comes up, my mind travels to Lahore and the Gurudwara Shaheed Gunj at the Naulakha Bazar locality of your splendid city. The ownership of the place was disputed by the local Muslims who claimed that the place had originally been a mosque. It had been converted into a gurudwara by the local Sikhs during the reign of Maharaja Ranjit Singh. When opportune in the 19th century, the people of the city, led by some Muslim Leaguers, went to court over this. They did not win their case for the re-conversion of the gurudwara into a mosque. Legal counsel argued that an appeal could be filed if necessary, right up to the Privy Council. However, the then premier of Punjab Sir Sikanar Hayat Khan advised against any further action as it might open a Pandora's Box across the subcontinent, which was then undivided. Sikanar Hayat also advised against any further litigation.

Any use of the argument of adverse possession might cause the return of many of the temples that had come into Muslim possession. What was then perhaps overlooked was that a Hindu temple is a residence of the divine and not merely a prayer hall. The pratimas (icons) are the first step in the quest for spirituality. Ultimately, spirituality can be



active by having a darshan of the avatar of the divine. In Sikhism, they do not have an icon nor the scope of spirituality in the same way as in a Hindu temple. Prophet Moses, the founding prophet of Judaism, the first of the three Semitic religions—also called Religions of the Book—known in Islam as Hazrat Moosa, had expressly forbidden any idol worship by the second of his Ten Commandments; "Thou shalt not make any graven image of thy lord the god". Your faith has rigidly adhered to this particular Commandment.

However, it does pain me no end to state that you have carried this adherence way too far. In your country, over 75 temples have been desecrated or pulled down after independence in 1947, a sordid trend that is continuing. From my Urdu teacher who was a scholar, I have learnt that it is your bounden duty as a momin (believer) to desecrate butts (idols) installed by kafirs (infidels). But for the sake of friendly relations between us two neighbours, your people should desist from such desecrations. I am saying this after

POLITICAL LEADERS OF YOUR GENERATION MIGHT STILL FIND COMFORT IN THE NOTION THAT INDIANS ARE A PEACEFUL AND DORMANT LOT AND THEREFORE WON'T REACT MUCH. THAT MIGHT INDEED HAVE BEEN THE CASE A COUPLE OF DECADES AGO, BUT IT IS NO LONGER SO

accepting the fact that Islam detests parasti (idol worship) and insists on majahab parasti (adherence to the faith) alone. But we live in a world where adherents of other religions too have equal rights to profess and practice their faith, without hurting others. I appeal to you to care for our sentiments and not target the temples and idols that still survive.

Political leaders of your generation might still find comfort in the notion that Indians are a peaceful, and also dormant, lot and therefore won't react much. That might indeed have been the case till a couple of decades ago but is no longer so. India and Indians are changing. Real change in our civilizational journey was heralded in December 1992, of which I was fortunate to be a humble part.

In India, we have begun a movement to restore the temples that were casualties of the medieval age. I shall shortly be writing to Madam Sheikh Hasina, Prime Minister of our eastern neighbouring country. Dozens of temples continue to be desecrated in her country every year. You would agree that good neigh-

bours do not hurt each other. Kindly, remember that there are thousands upon thousands of mosques built upon the ruins of ancient temples. So far, we have preferred to approach the courts of law and minimize unilateral action. I appeal to you to also eschew violence.

In Kashmir too, over 130 temples were attacked and desecrated even as India continued to hold control over the state's territory. I am aware that Pakistan took great umbrage when we abrogated Article 370, but it is my wonder that we had to do so? We tolerated terrorist violence for many years, but when we could tolerate it no longer, we went to Parliament to do away with Article 370. But you would certainly appreciate that we did not resort to violence even on this issue. Our Muslim compatriots are cooperating to a moderate degree, even in the state of Kashmir. This is a trend which we hope continues.

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

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

EVOLUTION OF MONETARY POLICY

Madam — Apropos the news article, "Evolution of Monetary Policymaking in India" published on May 8, this is my response. The journey of India's monetary policy from its inception to the present day is a saga of adaptation and evolution. From the establishment of the Reserve Bank of India to the modern era of inflation targeting, each phase has been marked by its unique challenges and responses. The nationalisation of banks in 1969 marked a pivotal moment, transitioning monetary policy towards a more centralised, planned approach. However, external shocks like the oil crises of the 1970s tested the resilience of this system, necessitating revisions and reforms.

The introduction of the Multiple Indicator Approach in 1998 reflected a shift towards a more holistic understanding of economic dynamics. Yet, the global financial crisis of 2008 exposed vulnerabilities, prompting a recalibration towards inflation targeting. While inflation targeting has its merits, recent disruptions such as demonetization and the pandemic have highlighted its limitations in addressing supply-side pressures. As the landscape of inflation evolves, a nuanced and comprehensive policy framework is imperative, one that combines the principles of inflation targeting with proactive measures to mitigate supply-side disruptions. In essence, the history of India's monetary policy underscores the need for continual adaptation in the face of evolving economic realities.

Vihaan Reddy | Bengaluru

REFLECTIONS ON ELECTIONS

Madam — Apropos the news article, "Elected leaders need to rethink," published on May 8, this is my response. Election times unveil a complex tapestry of our democracy, woven with threads of hope, disappointment, and societal reflection. As citizens, we witness the ritual dance of power, where promises collide with reality, and ideals meet the harsh edges of pragmatism. The model code of conduct, ostensibly a guardian of fair play, often feels like

Political manoeuvring



Apropos the news article, "Modi, Lalu in a tug of war on Muslim quota," published on May 8, this is my response. The recent political discourse surrounding reservations in India has taken a contentious turn, with various parties embroiled in a heated debate over extending reservation benefits to Muslims. Prime Minister Narendra Modi has vehemently opposed such a

mere whisper against the cacophony of electoral fervor. Expenditure limits crumble under the weight of unchecked spending, leaving us disillusioned with the integrity of the process.

The impact of elections extends beyond just voting, as they can turn schools into battlegrounds, with political theatre taking centre stage and the future suffering while the eloquence of our founding luminaries seems lost amidst the mudslinging and vitriol of contemporary discourse. Yet, amidst the chaos, there is a glimmer of hope embodied by figures like APJ Abdul Kalam, whose legacy reminds us of the transformative power of leadership rooted in humility and service.

Arya Kapoor | Kolkata

BEGGING IS AN EPIDEMIC

Madam — Apropos the news article, "Benevolent hearts: Dynamics of begging and household donations," published on May 8, this is my response. Begging has been ingrained in the roots of Indian society for ages. This sickening culture has become a fashion, a compulsion, a profes-

move, labelling it as a ploy to undermine existing quotas for SC, ST, and OBC communities. The BJP accuses its rivals of attempting to appease a specific vote bank by advocating for Muslim reservations while disregarding the principles of social and educational backwardness outlined in the Constitution and the Mandal Commission report. Conversely, opposition figures argue that denying reservations to Muslims would be unjust and tantamount to disenfranchisement. Amidst these exchanges, accusations of conspiracy and attempts to manipulate voter sentiments loom large. The charged rhetoric underscores the high stakes of the ongoing Lok Sabha elections, where competing visions of governance, identity, and social justice are at play. As citizens, it's imperative to critically engage with these debates and hold our leaders accountable for their promises and policies.

Kiara Sharma | Mumbai

sion and even a kind of recreation in our country. Beggars in India easily outnumber their ilk in other big countries. To the Westerners, India is a land of mendicants. Beggars are found everywhere—on roads, crossings, footpaths, etc. But their favourite hangouts are bathing ghats, temples, religious fairs, railway stations, trains and bus stands. It is a real nuisance to be confronted by street beggars in all places. Like the Almighty, they seem to be omnipresent. You are waiting for a bus or walking down a road with your friend, and beggars suddenly appear from nowhere and start an endless volley of supplications until you give them a few coins out of sheer disgust and helplessness. The monstrous practice of begging cannot be eradicated from our society because millions are living 'below the poverty line, yearning for a morsel of food. Unfortunately very little has been done by our past and present governments to obliterate the social illness of begging.

Ranganathan Sivakumar | Chennai

Send your feedback to: letterstopioneer@gmail.com



FIRST COLUMN

EU-CHINA RELATIONS AT A CROSSROADS

Xi embarks on a strategic journey across Europe, a move laden with symbolism



KUMARDEEP BANERJEE

Geo-political adjustments are getting done, bilaterally and plurilateral, even as the world's largest democracies are busy calming their domestic constituencies, where a key rallying agenda is China. The two largest democracies, India and the US, both of whom have their own set of issues with China, are in the middle of some of the most competitive election processes, ever seen across the globe. Meanwhile, the EU, or at least many of its member countries, not to mention US allies such as Australia are carefully recalibrating the entangled web of engagement with China.

It is by no coincidence that Chinese Premier Xi Jinping, was on a strategic three-nation tour of Europe, earlier this week. This tri-nation tour, during which the Chinese premier, also met the European Union president Ursula Von der Leyen, comes after a gap of almost 5 years and is also a time when many European nations have been blaming China for pushing highly subsidised electric vehicles into their markets, making several European auto factories redundant. The Europeans also wanted to focus on China playing a larger role in stabilising its "friends without limits" Russia, in the war against Ukraine, pushing up fuel-aided inflation across the region. The Europeans in the plain speak, they are known for, outlined clearly in the president's press statement, "the first topic where we exchanged views on was the geopolitical situation. We especially discussed Ukraine and the conflicts in the Middle East. We agree that Europe and China have a shared interest in peace and security. We count on China to use all its influence on Russia to end Russia's war of aggression against Ukraine. President Xi has played an important role in de-escalating Russia's irresponsible nuclear threats, and I



am confident that President Xi will continue to do so against the backdrop of the ongoing nuclear threats by Russia. We have also discussed China's commitment not to provide any lethal equipment to Russia. More effort is needed to curtail the delivery of dual-use goods to Russia that find their way to the battlefield. And given the existential nature of the threats stemming from this war for both Ukraine and Europe, this does affect the EU-China relations. "The message from the EU to China was, don't help Russia in its unjust war on European soil, or else the bilateral relation would be in trouble. No surprises, Ukraine and the Middle East didn't feature, till the bottom three paragraphs of the press statement issued by the Chinese team, post the trilateral meeting.

Also no surprises with the language which read "On the Ukraine crisis, President Xi pointed out that China, France and the EU all wish to see an early ceasefire and return of peace in Europe, and support political settlement of the crisis. China has been working vigorously to facilitate talks for peace. China's objective and just position and its constructive role have been widely recognized by the international community. China is ready to stay in communication with relevant parties." The other significant element of these conversations was traded, as all parties involved are feeling the constraints of escalating fuel costs, the volatile geo-political environment and, the post-Covid, supply chain mismatch. The EU provided sharp pointers on Chinese subsidised products, free and fair access to each other's markets and supply chain resiliency in their conversations. A defensive China maintained that the two sides have extensive common interests and broad space for cooperation in green and digital transition. It is necessary that they properly address economic and trade frictions through dialogue and consultation, and accommodate each other's legitimate concerns." China has started making, the right moves to woo back some of its largest market partners, at a time when India and the US, the other key stakeholders in the Indo-Pacific theatre, are busy with their elections. India will get over elections in about a month, and an agile nimble China policy outlook awaits.

(The writer is a policy analyst; views are personal)

Economic progress in India: A reality check

Despite notable achievements, economic progress falters due to the neglect of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises, Public Sector Undertakings and agricultural reforms



ATUL SEHGAL



India has come a long way since 2014 in the matter of various indices and parameters of economic development. Consider this. India has increased her per capita income through this decade from USD 1560 to USD 2500, a 60 per cent increase. It has purportedly lifted 400 million persons out of poverty during the decade. Its foreign exchange kitty has increased from USD 322 billion to USD 640 billion during the same period. These are impressive figures. Large figures are always impressive, but they need to be checked, compared and corroborated to be sanctified. Consider this now. The per capita income of India increased from USD 600 to USD 1560 for the period from 2004 to 2014 which is a bigger increase of 160 percent. Its foreign exchange reserves increased from USD 107 billion to USD 322 billion between 2004 and 2014. Whereas the surge from 2004 to 2014 was 200 per cent, it was only 100 per cent in the next decade.

The above comparative figures talk aloud about India's poor economic development in the last decade. This is not an overall performance report on the current NDA government. This government has many unprecedented achievements to its credit. But on the economic front, it doesn't seem to have delivered. Why has the NDA not been able to deliver on the economic front? There are several reasons.

Neglect of MSMEs: The micro, small and medium enterprises sector in the country did not receive the attention due to it. This sector is the main source of employment generation. Imports from China continued to swell and many manufacturers closed down their factories to become traders and distributors. Poor implementation of the Make in India programme: The Make in India was a well-conceived ambitious programme



THE GOVERNMENT DID WELL TO BLUEPRINT REFORMS IN THE AGRICULTURAL SECTOR—THOSE RELATED TO MSP AND PROCUREMENT OF AGRICULTURAL PRODUCE. BUT THE GOVERNMENT FAILED TO IMPLEMENT IT BY CAPITULATING IN FRONT OF FAKE PROTESTERS MASQUERADING AS FARMERS

to boost indigenous manufacturing. The scheme had its points of deficiency but regrettably, the major driving points of the grandiose scheme remained largely on paper and were never implemented properly. The result—share of manufacturing in the economy continues to stagnate at 14 percent.

Absence of bureaucratic reforms: Our obsolete, corruption-ridden colonial bureaucratic system had never delivered earlier and cried for reforms. But the reforms did not come. The result was a failure of key developmental programmes like the 100 Smart Cities Programme. The government did a remarkable job of establishing GST and promulgating the IBC. This enabled a clean-up of banks and a sharp decline in their NPAs. However, the failure of the government to increase the ease of doing business by cutting down on bureaucratic red tape is a big reason behind the continuing lack of a suitable ecosphere for business and big investment.

Failure to implement Agricultural Reforms: The government did well to blueprint reforms in the agricultural sector—those related to MSP and procurement of agricultural produce. But the government failed to implement the same by capitulating in front of fake protesters masquerading as farmers.

Neglect of PSUs: The government paid very little attention to the state and central PSUs which account for 15 per cent of the total economic activities in the country. It kept on harping on the absence of the need for the government to be in business. This

was an impractical approach to handling the Indian economy and failed to tap the big PSUs in which so much of public money had been invested.

Failure to bring about judicial reforms: Justice in this country continues to be delayed, denied and derailed. Despite big talks to the contrary, the government did nothing in the direction of judicial reforms. This was and remains a big dampener to FDI and even domestic investment in new business.

Notwithstanding the above, we must bear in mind that most of the previous governments had left deep pits in our economy that needed to be filled to prepare the ground for the rapid holistic development of the country. The UPA government, between 2004 and 2014 did produce better numbers for FE reserves and economic growth rate but the money generating that investment and growth was preponderantly from the huge proportion of parallel-black money economy out of the overall economy. Money was meagrely flowing for the critical sectors of defence and infrastructure and even for some important socialistic schemes. Modi 1.0 and Modi 2.0 changed this by bringing economic discipline and curbing corruption and economic malfeasance. It brought GST and IBC and did the clean-up of Banks by bringing down drastically the NPAs. It severely dented the black money economy. These were the pits filled by the Modi government that have prepared fertile soil for the fast-track economic progress of the country now. Given the above, it is imper-

ative and is also expected that the Modi government, if returned to power, will take the undermentioned steps to boost real progress on the economic front. Economic progress is the foundation of the overall progress of a country. Progress on other fronts like defence, foreign affairs, etc. has been significant but sustainable multifaceted development can only be achieved on the foundation of a strong and healthy economic bottom line.

The country needs drastic institutional and bureaucratic reforms. It needs urgent implementation of the farming sector reforms which were shelved after so much drum beating. The education sector calls for a thorough overhaul to replace the colonial Macaulay established system with an indigenous system in tune with the nation's ethos and tradition.

Sloganeering and political gamesmanship need to be replaced by serious, earnest and committed steps for boosting investment, trade, manufacturing and exports. India has a huge potential for becoming an economic powerhouse in quick time but we need to go about building our economy with due seriousness and dedication, rising above narrow interests of caste, class, political affiliations and last but not least, political expediency. It is very much hoped that Modi 3.0, with a two-thirds majority, will usher in the much-needed administrative, bureaucratic and judicial reforms for the speedy economic progress of the country.

(The author is a management consultant; views are personal)

India and Armenia strengthen defence ties amidst regional instability

As the Turkey-Azerbaijan-Pakistan axis looms, the growing Indo-Armenia partnership emerges as a vital defence against destabilising forces

In recent years, the strategic partnership between India and Armenia has undergone a remarkable transformation—fired by their shared commitment to fortify defence capabilities and confront regional security challenges head-on. Against the backdrop of Armenia's enduring struggle with Azerbaijan and Turkey's support for Azerbaijan's advantages, the precipitating connection between Armenia and India stands for recognition. Armenia's proximity to India and both agreeing to diversify their strategic alignment, deserves special attention on the global stage.



PADMALOCHAN DASH

particularly amidst the enduring conflict with Azerbaijan, is evident through heightened defence spending and collaborations with nations such as India and France. India's involvement with Armenia's military not only strengthens its defensive capabilities but also serves to counterbalance external-internal influences like Turkey and Pakistan in the South Asian region. The expanding Indo-Armenian

partnership encompasses various facets, including the exchange of weaponry, joint military exercises, and strategic consultations, all aimed at enhancing defense readiness and security in their respective regions.

Advanced Weaponry and Joint Exercises: The acquisition of state-of-the-art weaponry highlights the growing defense cooperation between India and Armenia. Reports indicate ongoing provision of military hardware from India to Armenia, including multiple-launch rocket systems, anti-tank missiles, and radar systems. Additionally, joint military exercises and training programs are underway to enhance preparedness and interoperability between their

armed forces. These collaborative efforts facilitate the exchange of expertise and tactics, fostering effective coordination for potential future operations, from joint exercises to intelligence sharing, both nations are committed to showcasing their military capabilities and strengthening their strategic partnership.

Geopolitical Determinations: Armenia's pivotal role in the International North-South Transport Corridor (INSTC) offers India diversified trade routes and enhanced access to Eurasian markets, bolstering strategic interests in economic resilience and geopolitical balancing. Conversely, India's military support for Armenia underscores its commitment to preserving regional peace and countering aggressive

manoeuvres by the Turkey-Azerbaijan-Pakistan axis. Through the realisation of mutual interests, India and Armenia can reshape security dynamics in the South Caucasus region by challenging the dominance of larger geopolitical actors and their support for rogue powers.

Turkey-Azerbaijan-Pakistan Axis: The Turkey-Azerbaijan-Pakistan axis poses a substantial threat to respective regional stability, with Turkey's unwavering support for Azerbaijan during the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict then raising concerns about potential escalations. The longstanding military partnership between Turkey and Pakistan, characterised by defence production, joint training exercises, and high-level military dialogues, under-

scores their concerted efforts to advance mutual geopolitical goals and exert influence in the regions. This axis represents a significant challenge to the security and stability of the South Caucasus and South Asian regions, as that axis seeks to consolidate its power and undermine the influence of other regional stakeholders. Responses and Ongoing Efforts: In response to the burgeoning influence of the Turkey-Azerbaijan-Pakistan axis, India's steadfast support for Armenia signifies a resolute stance against their aggressive manoeuvres in the region. Aimed at preserving a delicate balance of power, India and Armenia are all set to intensify their collaboration to address these threats. While Turkey's stance on

Kashmir validates the burgeoning Indo-Armenia defence cooperation, the nexus between Turkey's involvement in the Kashmir issue and Pakistan's alignment with Azerbaijan's agenda cannot be seen as a mere happenstance, rather a meticulously orchestrated strategy with far-reaching intention. In this backdrop, the urgent need for a meticulously planned multilateral defence partnership underscored. This becomes essential to counter the unholy Turkey-Pakistan-Azerbaijan axis thereby ensuring stability in both the Caucasus and South Asian regions.

The Promising Prospects: The emerging strategic cooperation between India and Armenia holds immense promise for enhancing region-

al security and advancing shared interests. Both nations are poised to deepen their partnership and address prevailing challenges through concerted efforts in military collaboration and strategic alignments. India's steadfast support for Armenia underscores its dedication to maintaining peace and stability in the Caucasus region. With far-reaching implications for global geopolitical outcomes, the Indo-Armenia partnership has the potential to redefine the regional balance of power and contribute significantly to the stability and prosperity of both the Caucasus and South Asian regions.

(The writer is working with an Independent Think Tank, views are personal)

कार्यालय नगर निगम सोनीपत नगर निगम सोनीपत के संचालक शाखा के रिपोर्ट...

पब्लिक नोटिस कार्यालय के प्रोवैटी टैक्स रिपोर्ट अनुसार प्रोवैटी...

कार्यालय नगर निगम सोनीपत नगर निगम सोनीपत के संचालक शाखा के रिपोर्ट...

NOTICE TO THE GENERAL PUBLIC It is for the notice of the General Public that Rajesh Kumar S/o Sh. Sardari Lal R/O H.No. 1032...

फेनरा बैंक Canara Bank BRANCH OFFICE :- BAROAT POSSESSION NOTICE (SECTION 13(4)) (For Immoveable property)

कार्यालय नगर निगम सोनीपत नगर निगम सोनीपत के संचालक शाखा के रिपोर्ट...

सार्वजनिक सूचना नगर परिषद हंजी असेमेंट रिपोर्ट वर्ष 2021-22 में हाउस टैक्स आर्डी...

PUNJAB & SIND BANK Branch : Sri Guru Ram Dass Marg, Tarn Taran PHYSICAL POSSESSION NOTICE (FOR IMMOVABLE PROPERTY)

PUBLIC NOTICE The general public is informed that the shop whose property I.D. No. 60GF3011 whose area is 20 square yards...

TRIKAL DARSHI MAHARISHI BALMIKI ASHRAM MANAGEMENT SOCIETY (REGD.) BURAIL, SECTOR 45, CHANDIGARH आवश्यक सूचना

Bank of Baroda TENDER FOR ALTERNATE PREMISES & EQUIPMENT DEPARTMENT AT SECTOR 26, GRAIN MARKET, CHANDIGARH

बैंक ऑफ बड़ोदा Bank of Baroda BRANCH: Kakawal Ludhiana, SCO-1, Dhir Colony, Kakawal Road, Ludhiana -141007

PUBLIC NOTICE Plot No. 359, HSIIDC, Phase-V, Sector-56, Industrial Estate, Kundli, Distt. Sonapat measuring 1012.50 Sq. meters...

MODERN COLLEGE OF EDUCATION V.P.O. Dehra, Tehsil Samalkha, Distt. Panipat-132122

CHANDIGARH HOUSING BOARD A CHANDIGARH ADMINISTRATION UNDERTAKING

DEMAND NOTICE UNDER SECTION 13(2) OF SECURITIZATION AND RECONSTRUCTION OF FINANCIAL ASSETS & ENFORCEMENT OF SECURITY INTEREST ACT 2002 (SARFAESI ACT)

PUBLIC NOTICE I Prinshu Jain Designated partner of Decades Packaging India LLP announce that Decades Packaging India LLP has changed its registered address...

CHANDIGARH HOUSING BOARD A CHANDIGARH ADMINISTRATION UNDERTAKING

CHANDIGARH HOUSING BOARD PUBLIC NOTICE

इंडियन बैंक Indian Bank ZONAL OFFICE: S.C.F. 88, URBAN ESTATE, PHASE 1, DUGRI, LUDHIANA.

LOST FOUND I, Vishal Gupta S/o Sat Pal Gupta R/O B-9/318/2, Mandi Street, Sangrur, Punjab declares that I have lost TDI Receipt No. MP2- 10395...

PUBLIC NOTICE Before Secretary, CHB Exercising the Powers of the Estate Officer, UT Chandigarh.

Subject:- Transfer/ Mutation of Allotment/ Registration D.U. No. 2255-1 of MIG (L) Category in Sector 45-C, Chandigarh...

Rule-8 (1) POSSESSION NOTICE (for Immoveable Property) Whereas, the undersigned being the Authorized officer of the INDIAN BANK, Ludhiana...

PUBLIC NOTICE NOTICE is hereby given that one, Arjunjit Singh (hereinafter referred to as the said Mortgagee) has agreed to create mortgage in respect of the commercial shop bearing Property ID No. 14K12W/29...

PUBLIC NOTICE If any body has any objection upon the mutation of the publication of this notice, failing which, the ownership of the said dwelling unit shall be transferred in favour of above said claimant(s).

SECRETARY CHANDIGARH HOUSING BOARD, CHANDIGARH WEAR MASK, WASH YOUR HANDS, WATCH YOUR DISTANCE

Rule-8 (1) POSSESSION NOTICE (for Immoveable Property) Name of the Branch/Borrower/Guarantor/Owner of Property Description of the Mortgage Property/ies Date of Demand Notice Date of Possession Nature of Possession Amount Outstanding

LOST FOUND All persons having any claim against or in respect of the said Project more particularly in respect of the Schedule hereunder or any part thereof by way of sale, exchange, mortgage (equitable/registered or otherwise), gift, trust, inheritance, family arrangement, maintenance, bequest, partnership, possession, lease, sub-lease, tenancy, license, usufruct, pledge, deposit, easement or otherwise whatsoever hereby requested to notify the same in writing to me/us with supporting documentary evidence in the address mentioned herein below within 7 days from the date hereof, failing which the claim of claimant, if any, of such person or persons will be deemed to have been waived and/or abandoned and my client shall proceed with the disbursement of loan and creation of mortgage in respect thereof.

PUBLIC NOTICE If any body has any objection upon the mutation of the publication of this notice, failing which, the ownership of the said dwelling unit shall be transferred in favour of above said claimant(s).

SECRETARY CHANDIGARH HOUSING BOARD, CHANDIGARH WEAR MASK, WASH YOUR HANDS, WATCH YOUR DISTANCE

पंजाब नेशनल बैंक Punjab National Bank (Government of India Undertaking)

LOST & FOUND I, Kulbir Singh S/O Ramphal Singh R/O Bata Colony Ward No. 06, Nissing District Karnal, Haryana declare that my original registry is Sale deed No. 2/1 dated 05.04.1994 and Sale Deed No. 948 dated 30.10.2018 is registered at Sub Registrar Nissing.

PUBLIC NOTICE If any body has any objection upon the mutation of the publication of this notice, failing which, the ownership of the said dwelling unit shall be transferred in favour of above said claimant(s).

SECRETARY CHANDIGARH HOUSING BOARD, CHANDIGARH WEAR MASK, WASH YOUR HANDS, WATCH YOUR DISTANCE

पंजाब नेशनल बैंक Punjab National Bank Possession Notice for Immoveable Property in case of one borrower (For Immoveable property)

LOST & FOUND I, Kulbir Singh S/O Ramphal Singh R/O Bata Colony Ward No. 06, Nissing District Karnal, Haryana declare that my original registry is Sale deed No. 2/1 dated 05.04.1994 and Sale Deed No. 948 dated 30.10.2018 is registered at Sub Registrar Nissing.

PUBLIC NOTICE If any body has any objection upon the mutation of the publication of this notice, failing which, the ownership of the said dwelling unit shall be transferred in favour of above said claimant(s).

Classified Advertisement

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CHANDIGARH HOUSING BOARD A CHANDIGARH ADMINISTRATION UNDERTAKING

SECRETARY CHANDIGARH HOUSING BOARD, CHANDIGARH WEAR MASK, WASH YOUR HANDS, WATCH YOUR DISTANCE

CHANDIGARH HOUSING BOARD PUBLIC NOTICE

SECRETARY CHANDIGARH HOUSING BOARD, CHANDIGARH WEAR MASK, WASH YOUR HANDS, WATCH YOUR DISTANCE

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Putin accuses West of fueling global conflicts

AP ■ MOSCOW

Russia on Thursday wrapped itself in patriotic pageantry for Victory Day, as President Vladimir Putin celebrated the defeat of Nazi Germany in World War II by hailing his forces fighting in Ukraine and blasting the West for fueling conflicts around the world. Even though few veterans of what Russia calls the Great Patriotic War are still alive 79 years after Berlin fell to the Red Army, the victory remains the most important and widely revered symbol of Russia's prowess and a key element of national identity. Putin has turned Victory Day — the country's most important secular holiday — into a pillar of his nearly quarter-century in power and a justification of his military action in Ukraine. Two days after beginning his fifth term in office, he led the festivities across Russia that recall the nation's wartime sacrifice.



Commander-in-Chief of the Russian Ground Forces Oleg Salyukov, left, Russian Defense Minister Sergei Shoigu, centre, and Russian President Vladimir Putin leave Red Square, walk, after the Victory Day military parade in Moscow, Russia, Thursday, May 9, 2024, marking the 79th anniversary of the end of World War II. AP/PTI

"Victory Day unites all generations," Putin said in a speech in Red Square that came on the coldest May 9 in decades amid some snow flurries. "We are going forward relying on our centuries-old traditions and feel confident that together we will ensure a free and secure future of Russia." As battalions marched by and military hardware — both old and new — rumbled over the cobblestones, the sky cleared briefly to allow a flyby of warplanes, some of which trailed smoke in the white, red and blue of the Russian flag. Putin hailed the troops fighting in Ukraine as "our heroes" for their courage, resilience and self-denial, adding that "all of Russia is with you." He accused the West of "fueling regional conflicts, inter-ethnic and inter-religious strife and trying to contain sovereign and independent centers of global development." With tensions with Washington over Ukraine soaring to their highest level since the Cold War, Putin issued another stark reminder of Moscow's nuclear might. "Russia will do everything to

prevent global confrontation, but will not allow anyone to threaten us," he said. "Our strategic forces are in combat readiness." Nuclear-capable Yars intercontinental ballistic missiles were pulled across Red Square, underscoring his message. The Soviet Union lost about 27 million people in World War II, an estimate that many historians consider conservative, scarring virtually every family. Nazi troops overran much of the western Soviet Union when they invaded in June 1941, before being driven back all the way to Berlin, where the USSR's hammer and sickle flag was raised above the ruined capital. The US, UK, France and other allies mark the end of the war in Europe on May 8. The immense suffering and sacrifice in cities like Stalingrad, Kursk and Putin's native Leningrad — now St Petersburg — still serve as a powerful symbol of the country's ability to prevail against seemingly overwhelming chal-

lenges. Since coming to power on the last day of 1999, Putin has made May 9 an important part of his political agenda, featuring missiles, tanks and fighter jets. Medal-bedecked veterans joined him Thursday to review the parade, and many — including the president — wore the black-and-orange St George's ribbon that is traditionally associated with Victory Day. About 9,000 troops, including about 1,000 who fought in Ukraine, took part in Thursday's parade. Although the US and UK ambassadors did not attend, Putin was joined by other dignitaries and presidents of several former Soviet nations along with a few other Moscow allies, including the leaders of Cuba, Guinea-Bissau and Laos. In his speech, he accused the West of "revanchism ... hypocrisy and lies" in seeking to play down the Soviet role in defeating Nazi Germany. Putin described Victory Day as "very emotional and poignant."

"Every family is honoring its heroes, looking at pictures with dear faces and remembering their relatives and how they fought," he said. Putin, 71, talks frequently about his family history, sharing memories of his father, who fought on the front during the Nazi siege of the city and was badly wounded. As Putin tells it, his father, also named Vladimir, came home from a military hospital during the war to see workers trying to take away his wife, Maria, who had been declared dead of starvation. But the elder Putin did not believe she had died — saying she had only lost consciousness, weak with hunger. Their first child, Viktor, died during the siege when he was 3, one of more than 1 million Leningrad residents who died in the 872-day blockade, most of them from starvation. For several years, Putin carried a photo of his father in Victory Day marches — as did others honoring relatives who were war veterans — in what was

Taliban sound warning to journalists, experts

AP ■ KABUL

The Taliban on Thursday warned journalists and experts against working with Afghanistan International TV. It's the first time they have told people not to cooperate with a specific outlet. Afghanistan International TV, which is headquartered in London, is accessible through satellite, cable and social media. A spokesman for the Taliban-controlled Ministry of Information and Culture alleged the station was committing professional violations and violating moral and legal boundaries. The Media Violations Commission wanted all journalists and experts in Afghanistan to cease their collaboration with the station, said ministry spokesman Habib Ghofran. "At the commission's meeting held yester-

day (Wednesday), it was decided that participating in discussions and facilitating the broadcast of this media outlet in public places is prohibited," added Ghofran. He didn't give further details, including what would happen to those who cooperated with the station. The director of Afghanistan International TV, Harun Najafzada, said the decision would not affect the channel because it had no employees or freelancers in the country. "We don't have anyone on the ground and rely on the reporting of Afghan citizens," said Najafzada. "That's more challenging, but we have tough verification. It's a threat to free media, to other media, and to put pressure on us to forgo out professional standards. It's not going to work." Afghanistan fares abysmally in terms of press freedom. The latest index from Reporters

without Borders ranked the country 178 out of 180. It ranked 152 last year. RSF said that three radio reporters were arrested in April for broadcasting music and receiving calls from female listeners during shows. Local authorities weren't available to confirm the arrests. Also last month, the Taliban suspended two TV stations for failing to "consider national and Islamic values." The director for one of the suspended stations, Barya TV, rejected the Taliban's allegations. The station is still off air. Latif Sadiq said the station wasn't informed about the suspension. "The reports that they repeatedly warned (Barya) are absolute lies," Sadiq said on Thursday. "They have decided on their own that (Barya) television is off, broadcasting is off, and they said the case will go to court."

Japanese aircraft makes emergency landing after glitch

AP ■ TOKYO

Tokyo (AP): A Japanese defence aircraft carrying eight people made an emergency landing at a commercial airport in central Japan on Thursday after a cockpit window inadvertently slid open during its training flight, officials said. No damage or injuries were reported. The Japan Air Self-Defence Force said its C-2 transport aircraft experienced the window glitch on Thursday afternoon after taking off from the Iruma Air Base north of Tokyo for a training flight. The incident caused the pilot to request an emergency landing at the nearby Niigata airport, about 300 kilometers (186 miles) north of the air base. The aircraft landed safely and there was no damage or injury from the mishap, officials said. The JASDF said the roughly 20-inch square window on the left side of the cockpit, which is designed to slide open only manually, did not fall off the aircraft.

Spanish court shelves tax probe against Shakira

AP ■ MADRID

Madrid (AP): A Spanish investigative magistrate on Thursday provisionally shelved the latest probe into an alleged case of tax fraud by pop star Shakira following recommendations by prosecutors. The Colombian singer had been under investigation for the alleged evasion of 6.7 million Euros (USD 7.2 million) in taxes on her 2018 income via an offshore company. She denied wrongdoing. State prosecutors who initially brought the allegations said Wednesday "there is not sufficient evidence" of a possible fiscal crime and recommended that the probe be closed. In a statement Thursday, the investigating court said that given that there is no accusation on behalf of prosecutors or the regional government of Catalonia in northeastern Spain, there was no cause to proceed further with the case. The court said "there is no indication that can prove that Shakira Isabel M R had consciously and voluntarily omitted information and documentation with tax significance."

IS group claims bombing in Afghanistan

AP ■ ISLAMABAD

The Islamic State group claimed responsibility for a bombing in Afghanistan's northeast that killed police officers who were part of an anti-poppo crop campaign. A motorcycle was booby-trapped and exploded, targeting a Taliban patrol in Faizabad town in Badakhshan province, killing and wounding 12 members of the patrol as well as destroying a four-wheel drive vehicle, the group said in a statement late Wednesday. Abdul Mateen Qani, a spokesman for the Interior Ministry, said the officers were on their way to destroy poppy crops in the area. The Islamic State group's affiliate in Afghanistan, a major Taliban rival, has conducted attacks on schools, hospitals, mosques and Shiite areas throughout the country. In March, the group said one of its suicide bombers detonated an explosive belt among Taliban gathered near a Kandahar bank to receive their salaries. The Taliban pledged to wipe



out the country's drug cultivation industry and imposed a formal ban in April 2022, dealing a heavy blow to hundreds of thousands of farmers and day laborers who relied on proceeds from the crop to survive. Opium cultivation crashed by 95% after the ban, a report from the UN Office on Drugs and Crime said last November. Protests are rare in Afghanistan under Taliban rule, but there was a backlash in Badakhshan last week in response to the poppy eradication campaign. It prompted a high-ranking delegation led by the chief of military staff Fasihudin Fitrat to visit the region and negotiate with protesters. Protests erupted last Friday after a man was shot and killed by the Taliban for resisting poppy eradication attempts in Darayum district. Another was killed on Saturday during a protest in Argo district.

Pak leadership vows not to allow May 9 'executors' to get away

PTI ■ ISLAMABAD/LAHORE

Pakistan's top civil and military leadership Thursday strongly condemned the unprecedented violence by the supporters of jailed former prime minister Imran Khan on May 9 last year and vowed not to allow its "executors" to get away with their acts which were aimed at establishing an "individual's dictatorship". On May 9 last year, violent protests erupted after the arrest of Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf chief Imran Khan by paramilitary Rangers from the premises of the Islamabad High Court. His supporters vandalised a dozen military installations, including the Jinnah House (Lahore Corps Commander house), Mianwali airbase and the ISI building in Faisalabad. The Army headquarters in Rawalpindi was also attacked by the mob for the first time. On the first anniversary of the riots, the Pakistan Army issued a statement saying its entire leadership "strongly condemn the criminal acts perpetrated on 9th May 2023".

Terming May 9 (Black Day) as one of the "darkest days in our national history", the Inter-Services Public Relations - the media wing of the army - said that the politically motivated and brainwashed miscreants in an act of rebellion deliberately resorted to violence against state institutions and vandalised sacred symbols of the state and the sites belonging to national heritage. The army said that after failing to undermine national harmony and stability, the planners, facilitators and executors of this conspiracy embarked upon a sinister campaign of hate against the Armed Forces and the state with an intent to twist the narrative to their advantage and shift the blame on the state institutions. "It is precisely for this reason there can neither be any compromise with the planners, facilitators and executors of the 9th May tragedy nor they would be allowed to hoodwink the law of land," it said. "Bringing the real culprits of 9th May to justice is para-

mount to ensure that in future, no one dares to desecrate the memories of our heroes and the symbols of our unity through such unwarranted conduct in future," it added. Addressing a meeting of the cabinet, Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif said that the real aim of the May 9 violence was to end democracy and establish kingship and an "individual's dictatorship". He said that the May 9 violence was not just a rebellion against Pakistan but against the state, including the army and its chief Gen Asim Munir to create a divide in the country. "There can absolutely be no soft-peddling of what happened on May 9 and there can be no absolution for those who orchestrated, supported, and assisted the attempt to damage the foundations of our nation," he said in a post on X. In a message, President Asif Ali Zardari said, "May 9, 2023, will always be remembered as a dark day in Pakistan's history when a politically instigated mob ran amok across the country, damaging public

property and military installations." Condemning the violence, he said that the incidents "severely tarnished" the country's image and thus only "served the interests of Pakistan's enemies". Defence Minister Khawaja Asif said that the accountability of the perpetrators and conspirators of the May 9 violence would be taken to its logical conclusion because the characters behind the violence were known to everybody. Information Minister Atta Tarar said there was evidence about who was involved in the May 9 acts, emphasising that these need to be brought to justice. The violence was also condemned by Punjab Chief Minister Maryam Nawaz who emphasized "bringing the plotters to justice was necessary". Pakistan Peoples Party chief Bilawal Bhutto-Zardari condemned the May 9 acts as "yet another dark chapter in the nation's history". He said the "instigator behind the strongly condemnable events of May 9 is well-known to

everyone". Meanwhile, Imran Khan refused to apologise for the May 9 riots, a day after the military ruled out dialogue with his party unless they tendered a public apology over the unprecedented violence. Khan, who spoke to the media after the court proceedings in the 190 million pounds Al Qadir corruption case at Adiala jail on Wednesday, said that he was ready to face an inquiry into the sit-in that his Pakistan Tehreek-Insaf party staged in 2014. "I condemned the May 9 incidents in front of (former) chief justice Umar Ata Bandial," the 71-year-old former cricketer-turned-politician said when asked whether he would apologise for the May 9 violence. Khan has been incarcerated since August last year after he was booked in several cases ranging from corruption to violating the Official Secrets Act. Following the May 9 violence last year, Imran Khan and hundreds of his party workers are being tried under multiple

cases, including one under the stringent Official Secrets Act in connection with the violence. The government organised several events on the first anniversary of May 9 violence to honour victims whose monuments were defiled by the protestors. A heavy contingent of police was deployed outside the residence of Imran Khan in Lahore and his party offices across Punjab province to prevent any protest by the party on the first anniversary of the May 9 violence. PTI Secretary-General Omar Ayub Khan said the government launched a crackdown against his party workers to stop them from taking to the streets but they would hold demonstrations. "Regardless of the crackdown, peaceful rallies and protests will be held all across Pakistan in the morning (of May 9)," he said. A Punjab police officer told Press Trust of India that Khan's party would not be allowed to hold any rally in the province on May 9. Authorities in Islamabad have declared all gatherings as illegal.

Prez pins Sri Lanka's economic stability on IMF programme

AP ■ COLOMBO

Colombo (PTI): Sri Lankan President Ranil Wickremesinghe on Thursday told lawmakers that there was no "alternative path" to economic recovery for the island nation other than the IMF-prescribed reform plans. Sri Lanka has been facing the worst economic crisis, leading to a sharp rise in the prices of essential commodities, including fuel, since its independence from the British in 1948. President Wickremesinghe's address to Parliament came on the second anniversary of the public uprising against President Gotabaya Rajapaksa's government over handling the unprecedented economic crisis in the country. On May 9, 2022, Prime Minister Mahinda Rajapaksa was forced to resign following anti-government protests. Ranil Wickremesinghe replaced him as prime minister. Two months later, Wickremesinghe replaced Gotabaya Rajapaksa as the president to save the balance term until the end of 2024. Wickremesinghe succeeded to steer the bankrupt economy. "When I assumed leadership, our nation was in crisis, the economy was severely contracted with inflation soaring to 70 per cent," Wickremesinghe, also the finance minister, told

Parliament. The president said the budget deficit had surged to over 10-12 per cent, resulting in an increase of interest rate to 30 per cent. He added that there were insufficient funds to import food and essential goods even for a week and the "majority of the population found themselves on the streets with some enduring lengthy queues for necessities". He said under the IMF bailout of USD 2.9 billion, the government implemented economic discipline. He said he anticipated a growth of 3 per cent this year. He said the interest rates had also decreased substantially to as low as 10-13 per cent. "I reiterate once more there exists no alternative path to reconstructing our economy. No other programme rivals the efficiency of the one currently in place, nor does any other plan offer a viable alternative," he said. Separately, the Election Commission of Sri Lanka said on Thursday the island nation will hold a presidential election between September 17 and October 16. Although the two main opposition leaders and several others had already announced their candidature for the presidential poll, Wickremesinghe has not announced his intention to seek a second term.

Yoon rejects S Korean opp calls for probe against wife, top officials

AP ■ SEOUL

South Korea's president on Thursday dismissed calls for independent investigations into allegations involving his wife and top officials, drawing quick, strong rebukes from his political rivals. After his conservative ruling party suffered a heavy loss in the recent April 10 parliamentary elections, President Yoon Suk Yeol faces what appears to be his biggest political challenge yet as opposition parties would extend their control of the National Assembly to 2028. The opposition has recently stepped up its demand for an independent investigation into first lady Kim Keon Hee over various scandals, such as her

alleged involvement in a stock price manipulation scheme and the release of spy camera footage showing her receiving a luxury bag from a Korean American pastor. In a news conference marking his two years in office, Yoon said he apologizes for what he calls "my wife's unwise behavior" in accepting the Christian Dior bag but refused to elaborate because the scandal is under investigation by prosecutors. Yoon described the demand for a new, special investigation on Kim's shares price allegation as a political offensive, as Kim wasn't charged or convicted from investigations that began when the Democratic Party was in power. Yoon already in January

had vetoed a bill calling for the appointment of an independent counsel to investigate his wife's stock price allegation. During Thursday's conference, Yoon also made it clear that he opposes another Democratic Party-led push for a special investigation into suspicions surrounding the death of a marine who drowned during a search for flood victims in 2023. Yoon called the marine's death heartbreaking, but stressed that police and an anti-corruption investigation agency have already been examining the case. Yoon said he would approve a new independent investigation if police and the anti-corruption investigation agency fail to address public suspicions over the case.

House rejects Greene's effort to remove Speaker Johnson

AP ■ WASHINGTON

Hardline Rep Marjorie Taylor Greene tried and failed in sudden action Wednesday to oust Speaker Mike Johnson, her long-shot effort swiftly and resoundingly rejected by Democrats and Republicans tired of the political chaos. One of Donald Trump's biggest supporters in Congress, Greene stood on the House floor and read a long list of "transgressions" she said Johnson had committed as speaker. Colleagues booed in protest. Greene of Georgia criticized Johnson's leadership as "pathetic, weak and unacceptable". No sooner than Greene triggered the vote on her motion

to vacate the speaker from his office, the Republican Majority Leader Steve Scalise countered by calling first for a vote to table it. An overwhelming majority, 359-43, kept Johnson in his job, for now. It's the second time in a matter of months that Republicans have tried to oust their own speaker, an unheard-of level of party turmoil with a move rarely seen in U.S. history. As Greene pressed ahead despite pushback from Republicans at the highest levels, GOP lawmakers filtered towards Johnson, giving him pats on the back and grasping his shoulder to assure him of their support. "We need steady hands at the wheel," Johnson said after-

ward. "The country desperately needs a functioning Congress." The Georgia Republican had vowed she would force a vote on the motion to vacate the Republican speaker if he dared to advance a foreign aid package with funds for Ukraine, which was overwhelmingly approved late last month and signed into law. But in recent days it seemed her effort had cooled, as she and Johnson met repeatedly for a potential resolution. Johnson of Louisiana marched on, saying he had been willing to take the risk, believing it was important for the US to back Ukraine against Russia's invasion and explaining he wanted to be on the "right side of history."

BABA FARID UNIVERSITY OF HEALTH SCIENCES, FARIDKOT

(Admission Branch)
Admission Notice for PPMET (Basic B.Sc. Nursing) Course, session 2024

Online applications are invited alongwith requisite fee for admission to Basic B.Sc. Nursing course in all the Govt./University constitute/Private colleges of Punjab through University website from **09.05.2024 to 23.05.2024**. Prospectus for admission to Basic B.Sc. Nursing course will be available on university website from **09.05.2024**. The **Entrance Test (PPMET- 2024) for admission to Basic B.Sc. Nursing course will be conducted on 05.06.2024**

Note:- Any Notification/Corrigendum/Amendment by Govt. of Punjab will be followed. For Prospectus/fee details/schedule/online counseling/details & updates visit us at: www.bfhs.ac.in

REGISTRAR

001/12/234/2023/34047 Dated CHD :- 5/9/2024

Household savings decline due to rising home, auto, personal loans

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Household savings are estimated to have declined for the third year in a row in FY24 as liabilities on account of interest towards housing and vehicle loans have continued to rise, but the trend could reverse in 2024-25 on account of the impact of RBI's curbs on personal loan. The net household savings declined sharply by Rs 9 lakh crore to Rs 14.16 lakh crore in three years to 2022-23, as per the National Account Statistics 2024 data released by the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (MoSPI). Explaining the data, ICRA Chief Economist Aditi Nayar attributed the declining trend in household savings to a sharp 73 per cent year-on-year increase in liabilities during 2022-23. She further said that as per the indication the trend of decrease in household savings has continued in 2023-24, the data for which is likely to be released later. However, the trend could reverse in 2024-25 as Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has taken measures to curb unsecured personal loans, she told PTI. Chief Economic Advisor V Anantha Nageswaran



attributed the decline to a shift in portfolio where savings were being channelised to real assets. "Household net financial savings flows were lower in FY23 and there were some concerns around that, which said households are saving less. But, in reality, it was a portfolio shift where the savings were going into real assets," Nageswaran had said at a NCAER event on Wednesday. Following is an explainer of what household savings means, the historical data and the outlook for 2024-25.

1. What does households mean? Households include everything that is not government or corporate within the national accounts statistics system of classification. It can include partnership and sole proprietorship. 2. How has the household savings been historically? Household savings had touched a peak of Rs 23.29 lakh crore in 2020-21 — the year which saw the second wave of the Covid pandemic. Following that it has been on a decline. It then fell to Rs 17.12 lakh crore in 2021-22 and further to Rs 14.16 lakh crore in 2022-23. 3. What are the liabilities that erode household savings? Liabilities are mainly the housing, auto, personal and other loans that an entity takes from financial

institutions. Loans to households by financial corporations and NBFCs increased four-fold to Rs 3.33 lakh crore in 2022-23 from Rs 93,723 crore in 2020-21. It grew 73 per cent in 2022-23 over Rs 1.92 lakh crore worth of loans in 2021-22. 4. Why are the liabilities going up? According to Nayar, a part of this is towards housing loans. We have seen the housing market recover after Covid and housing sales have touched highs in the next few years post Covid. But it is not just housing loans where household liabilities have gone up. It also includes vehicle and education, agri and business loans. "It looks quite likely that household liabilities will go up in FY24 so some of these trends may continue. However, with the recent tightening of regulation by RBI, we do expect that some categories of personal loans will see slower growth in FY25. And that will augur well for household savings rate for the current fiscal," Nayar said. Seeing a surge in personal loans, the RBI in November last year, raised the provisioning requirement for unsecured loans, including personal loans.

Sensex tumbles over 1,000 points

Nifty falls below 22,000 amid poll uncertainties

PTI ■ MUMBAI

Equity benchmark Sensex on Thursday crashed over 1,000 points while the Nifty dived below the 22,000 level due to across-the-board selloff amid general election uncertainties. Besides, persistent foreign fund outflows and heavy selling pressure in HDFC Bank, Larsen & Toubro and Reliance Industries weighed on investor sentiment, traders said. Declining for the third day running, the 30-share BSE Sensex dropped 1,062.22 points or 1.45 per cent to settle at 72,404.17. During the day, it tanked 1,132.21 points or 1.54 per cent to 72,334.18. The NSE Nifty dived 345 points or 1.55 per cent to 21,957.50. It tumbled 370.1 points or 1.65 per cent to 21,932.40 during the session. "The broader market witnessed volatility, underscoring caution on account of Q4 earnings and general election uncertainties, which led investors to stay on the sidelines. We expect the trend to continue in the short term as the market slid below the physiological level of 22,000. The global indices are trading with mixed cues ahead of the BOE policy meeting later today and US inflation figures due next week," Vinod Nair, Head of Research, Geojit Financial Services, said.



From the Sensex basket, Larsen & Toubro tanked over 5 per cent after March quarter earnings. Asian Paints, JSW Steel, ITC, Bajaj Finance, IndusInd Bank, Tata Steel, NTPC, Bajaj Finserv, HDFC Bank, Reliance Industries and Power Grid were among the laggards. In contrast, Tata Motors, Mahindra & Mahindra, State Bank of India, Infosys and HCL Tech were the gainers. Meanwhile, the country's largest lender SBI reported 18.18 per cent growth in the March quarter consolidated net profit to Rs 21,384.15 crore against Rs 18,093.84 crore in the year-ago period. Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Ltd (HPCL) on Thursday posted a 25 per cent fall in its March quarter net profit on lower refining margins and announced one free bonus share for every two

shares held. In the broader market, the BSE smallcap gauge declined 2.41 per cent and midcap index dropped 2.01 per cent. Among the indices, oil and gas lost 3.41 per cent, capital goods dropped 3.37 per cent, metal tanked 3.13 per cent, industrials (2.92 per cent), utilities (2.59 per cent) and commodities (2.39 per cent). On the other hand, auto emerged as the major gainer. Foreign Institutional Investors (FIIs) offloaded equities worth Rs 6,669.10 crore on Wednesday, according to exchange data. "Nifty ended sharply lower led by institutional selling and traders squaring up due to nervousness on election progress. World shares were mostly lower on Thursday ahead of the Bank of England's policy decision and after the US market's pause stretched

into a second day and as Chinese stocks rose after China reported better-than-expected trade figures for April," said Deepak Jasani, Head of Retail Research, HDFC Securities. In Asian markets, Shanghai and Hong Kong settled with gains, while Seoul and Tokyo ended lower. European markets were trading on a mixed note. Wall Street closed mixed in overnight trade on Wednesday. Global oil benchmark Brent crude climbed 0.48 per cent to USD 83.89 a barrel. "The market is continuously witnessing pressure ahead of the election outcome. We don't have any global reason for this correction, while some uncertainty ahead of the big event is causing profit-booking in the market. Our market has been largely driven by domestic investors, including both HNIs and institutional investors, for the last few months. "Now, they are sitting on the sidelines for the last couple of days and taking some profit off the table ahead of the big event, while FIIs are continuously selling in our market, which is pushing the market lower. The Volatility index, India VIX, has risen 70 per cent from its lows, which is also creating some uncertainty among traders and investors," Santosh Meena,

Fairfax backed Go Digit to float IPO

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Go Digit General Insurance Ltd, a firm backed by Canada-based Fairfax Group, is set to launch its initial public offering on May 15. The initial share sale will conclude on May 17 and the bidding for anchor investors will open for a day on May 14, according to the Red Herring Prospectus (RHP). Go Digit's proposed IPO comprises fresh issuance of equity shares worth Rs 1,125 crore and an Offer For Sale (OFS) of 5.47 crore equity shares by a promoter Go Digit

Infoworks Services and existing shareholders. At present, Go Digit Infoworks Services owns an 83.3 per cent stake in the company. Proceeds from the fresh issuance have been proposed to be utilised for the augmentation of the company's capital base and maintenance of solvency levels and general corporate purposes. Cricketer Virat Kohli and his wife and actor Anushka Sharma are among the investors in the firm. They are not selling any shares in the IPO.

In March, Go Digit secured approval from the Securities and Exchange Board of India (Sebi) to float the IPO. The company had first filed the Draft Red Herring Prospectus (DRHP) with the Sebi in August 2022 to raise funds through an initial share sale. However, it was thwarted primarily due to certain compliance requirements pertaining to the employee stock appreciation rights scheme. Sebi returned Go Digit's draft IPO papers on January 30, 2023, and asked the company to refile the documents with

certain updates. Following this, the company again filed the preliminary IPO papers with Sebi in April 2023. Go Digit offers motor insurance, health insurance, travel insurance, property insurance, marine insurance, liability insurance, and other insurance products, to meet the needs of the customers. It is one of the first non-life insurers in India to be fully operated on the cloud and has developed Application Programming Interface (API) integrations with several channel partners.

IHCL expands partnership with CG Hospitality

PTI ■ MUMBAI

Indian Hotels Company (IHCL) on Thursday announced a strategic partnership with CG Hospitality with a plan to grow its portfolio in the Indian sub-continent to 25 hotels by 2025, involving a total investment of around Rs 4,000 crore. The portfolio of 25 properties by 2025, will include 11 operating hotels with 900 keys and will add

another 14, which will be under one platform — 'Ekyam' — to pursue opportunities in destinations that offer adventure experiences across the Indian Ocean and Greater Himalayan regions and wildlife escapes, IHCL Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer Puneet Chhatwal told reporters. IHCL's Vice President Commercial Ram Maheshwari will lead the 'Ekyam' platform, he added.

Maruti Suzuki to re-energise small car segment

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Betting big on the entry-level segment, Maruti Suzuki India on Thursday said it will continue to "re-energise" the small car segment as the automaker expects the vertical to revive over the next few years, according to MD & CEO Hisashi Takeuchi. Speaking at the launch of the new generation Swift here, he noted that the automaker aims to cater to the diverse needs of customers as it aims to sell 40 lakh units by 2030-31. Takeuchi noted that the entry-level segment continues to be a high volume vertical accounting for around 28 per cent of the overall domestic passenger vehicle sales. "For us to maintain our leadership position, it is important to cater to diverse customer segments. The hatchback segment in India continues to be a high-volume segment, accounting for approximately 28 per cent of total passenger vehicle sales," Takeuchi said. Interestingly, the premium hatchback segment contributes nearly 60 per cent of total hatchback sales, he noted. "As a market leader, we took the responsibility to re-energise the hatchback segment at a time when this segment really needs a



catalyst for growth," Takeuchi said. He noted that the company has a strong belief in India's growth story. "As the government aims to make India a developed country by 2047, we can expect increased economic activity and robust demand for automobiles in the coming years," Takeuchi stated. With only 32 vehicles per 1,000 people compared to over 600 in developed countries like Japan, India presents a vast pool of car aspirants, he said. "As car ownership rises, the hatchback segment will serve as an entry point for many customers, and thus shall expand," Takeuchi noted. Therefore, the hatchback segment will continue to remain relevant for India, and the company's focus on this segment will persist, he added.

Fitch affirms ratings of Axis Bank, ICICI Bank on supporting operating environment

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Fitch Ratings on Thursday affirmed the ratings of Axis Bank and ICICI Bank with a stable outlook citing supportive operating environment and large domestic franchise. Fitch Ratings has affirmed India-based Axis Bank and ICICI Bank's Long-Term Issuer Default Rating (IDR) at 'BB+', the global agency said in two separate rating commentaries. Fitch has also affirmed the banks' Government Support Rating (GSR) at 'bb+' and Viability Rating (VR) at 'bb'. Fitch said its IDR ratings reflect expectation of a moderate probability of extraordinary state support from the government relative to large state banks.

The agency said its expectation of a supportive operative environment is on account of India's robust medium-term growth potential. Fitch expects GDP growth of 7 per cent in 2024 and 6.5 per cent in 2025, supported by investment prospects. "The economy has been resilient as healthy business sentiment, steady financial markets and the government's capital spending buffered global economic headwinds and inflation. These factors are conducive for banks to sustain profitable business, provided risks are well-managed," Fitch said. With regard to Axis Bank, Fitch said the bank's appetite for growth is likely to remain above the sector average, albeit similar to other large private banks.

HPCL Q4 net falls 25 per cent, records ₹16,000 profit in FY24

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Ltd (HPCL) on Thursday reported a 25 per cent fall in its March quarter net profit on lower refining margins and announced one free bonus share for every two shares held. Its consolidated net profit of Rs 2,709.31 crore in January-March - the fourth quarter of the 2023-24 fiscal year - compares to Rs 3,608.32 crore in the same period of the previous financial year, according to a company's stock exchange filing. The firm earned USD 6.95 on turning every barrel of crude oil into fuel in the quarter against USD 14.01 per barrel gross refining margin a year back and USD 8.50 per barrel margin in the preceding quarter.



Its net profit was also lower because of the Rs 2 per litre cut in petrol and diesel prices. HPCL and two other state fuel retailers were affected in March ahead of the announcement of general elections. The reduction came just as international oil prices climbed, leading to a drop in marketing margins. The firm's pre-tax profit from downstream petroleum dropped 22 per cent in the quarter. HPCL board also approved a

1:2 bonus issue - 1 free share for every 2 shares held. Turnover was higher at Rs 1.22 lakh crore when compared to Rs 1.15 lakh crore in January-March 2023. For the full 2023-24, HPCL reported a record net profit of Rs 16,014.61 crore as opposed to a loss of Rs 6,980.23 crore in the previous year. The annual profit benefited from the nearly two-year-long freeze in petrol and diesel prices. While the freeze was affected when crude oil (the input used for making fuels like petrol and diesel) started rising in 2022 post-Russia's invasion of Ukraine, international rates moderated in most of 2023, helping companies like IOC book handsome profits. It was only in mid-March that petrol and diesel prices were cut by Rs 2. The rate cut, which came just before the

general elections, happened when crude oil prices started inching up. For FY2023-24, the revenue from operations stood at Rs 4,61,638 crore (Rs 4,66,192 crore during the previous year). The average gross refining margin (GRM) for 2023-24 (April 2023 to March 2024 fiscal) was USD 9.08 per barrel as opposed to USD 12.09 per barrel during the previous financial year. "The reduction in GRMs is in line with the trend of international product cracks," the company said in a statement. The Board of Directors has recommended the issue of bonus shares in the ratio 1:2 - one new bonus equity share of Rs 10 each for every two existing equity shares of Rs 10 each fully paid up, subject to the approval of shareholders.

India's exports rise in 115 nations out of 238 destinations in 2023-24: Data

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

India's exports have increased to as many as 115 countries out of the total 238 destinations during 2023-24 despite the global economic uncertainties, according to commerce ministry's data. These 115 export destinations, which account for 46.5 per cent of India's export basket, include the US, UAE, Netherlands, China, UK, Saudi Arabia, Singapore, Bangladesh, Germany and Italy. The country's merchandise exports dipped by 3 per cent to USD 437.1 billion in the last fiscal. However, services exports rose to USD 341.1 billion in 2023-24 as against USD 325.3 billion in 2022-23. The data showed that despite persistent global challenges, overall exports (goods and services together) hit the

highest level in 2022-23. Overall exports reached USD 778.2 billion in 2023-24 as compared to USD 776.4 billion in 2022-23, registering a marginal growth of 0.23 per cent. The share of India's merchandise exports has also increased marginally from 1.70 per cent in 2014 to 1.82 per cent in 2023. India's rank in world merchandise exporters too has improved from 19th to 17th during the same period. Further, India's export to its top 10 destinations witnessed a 13 per cent year-on-year increase in 2023-24. The UAE has emerged as the primary destination, with a substantial 12.71 per cent growth in export value at USD 35.6 billion. Similarly, exports to Singapore that surged by 20.19 per cent to USD 14.4



billion, to the UK (up 13.30 per cent to USD 13 billion), and to China (up 8.70 per cent to USD 16.7 billion) also recorded healthy growth indicating a sustained demand for Indian products. The data showed that the exponential growth rates observed in countries like Russia (35.41 per cent), Romania (138.84 per cent),

and Albania (234.97 per cent) underscore the exploration of new markets. "Strengthening trade relations with these nations could unlock untapped opportunities and bolster India's overall export competitiveness," an official said. The country's outbound shipments to regions including CIS (commonwealth of independent states, Oceania and Europe too witnessed expansion during 2023-24 over 2022-23. The top five export destinations driving export growth in CIS region during 2023-24 are Russia, Uzbekistan, Ukraine, Armenia and Tajikistan. Similarly, the top five destinations driving India's export growth in Oceania region in the last fiscal are

Australia, Timor Leste, Samoa, Vanuatu and Solomon Island. And in Europe, the major countries where Indian exporters recorded healthy growth in their shipments during 2023-24 are the UK, Romania, Albania, Netherlands and Greece. On the commodities front, as many as 17 items have registered an increase in exports in 2023-24 over the last financial. These sectors constitute 48.4 per cent of India's export basket. These sectors include engineering, electronic goods, pharmaceuticals, and cotton yarn/fabrics/handloom products. However, there were notable decline in key sectors in the last fiscal such as petroleum products (- 13.66 per cent) and gems and jewellery (- 13.83 per cent).

According to the data, of the 229 source nations, India's imports have declined from 124 countries in 2023-24. The top 10 source countries, which constitute 59.3 per cent of India's import basket, include China, USA, Saudi Arabia, Indonesia, Russia, and Switzerland. Decline in imports are reported from countries like the UAE, Qatar, Kuwait and Oman and it highlights the need for India to bolster its trade relations, especially with GCC (Gulf Cooperation Council) member countries, the official said. "While some declines may stem from market dynamics or economic conditions, they also present opportunities for policy makers to reconsider trade strategies, prioritize domestic production, and foster indigenous industries," the official added.

Meanwhile, India Exim Bank on Thursday projected that India's merchandise exports would rise by 12.3 per cent to USD 116.7 billion during April-June this fiscal. "Positive growth in India's exports could be as a result of India's strong GDP growth fundamentals and outlook, sustained momentum in manufacturing and services sector, backed by expected global easing of monetary tightening spurring global demand, and to some extent due to base effect," it said in a statement. The outlook is, however, subject to risks of uncertain prospects for advanced economies, geopolitical shocks, the Middle East crisis leading to the intensification of the Red Sea crisis and deepening geo-economic fragmentation, among other factors, it added.

Russian Cultural Centre celebrates victory day with the Cottage



PNS ■ NEW DELHI

In commemoration of the 179th Anniversary of the Victory Day of the Russians, a delegation led by Eliana Burman, president of Indian Association of Russian Compatriots, along with families of various Russian citizens living in India visited "the cottage", Tolstoy Marg, Janpath to pay homage to the eminent luminary and renowned Russian writer Leo Tolstoy.



Photos: Pankaj Kumar/Pioneer

THE ENCHANTING TAPESTRY OF INDIAN CULTURE

The Kendra Dance Festival mesmerised audiences with its captivating blend of dance and storytelling, showcasing India's rich heritage. From spiritual explorations to mythological tales, each performance left a lasting impression, says **SAKSHI PRIYA**



Step into a world where art transcends boundaries and narratives come alive through graceful movements. The Kendra Dance Festival 2024, hosted at the prestigious Kamani Auditorium in New Delhi, was a mesmerising journey through the rich tapestry of Indian culture. Over three enchanting evenings from May 3 to May 5, 2024, this festival promised and delivered an unforgettable exploration of Indian culture through the captivating art of dance drama.

Each night unfolded a unique dance drama, transporting audiences to a different realm. The festival opened with *Parikrama*, a production that transcended the boundaries of entertainment to delve deep into the human psyche. Through a harmonious blend of direction, choreography, lighting, costumes and production *Parikrama* entranced the audience. The choreography, a brilliant fusion of movements mainly derived from the Chhau dance form, drew a standing ovation, highlighting the dedication and skill of the performers. Principal performer artist Shivam Sahni, essaying the challenging role of Atma, spoke of the difficulty in portraying a non-being showcasing the depth and complexity of the production.

The visionary direction of Padmashri Shobha Deepak Singh transformed the



stage into a realm of spiritual exploration. The production beautifully depicted the cyclical nature of existence, from birth to liberation, drawing from the profound concepts of Indian philosophy. The audience was taken on a journey from the potentiality symbolised by *Hiranyagarbh* to the manifestation of the soul as *Atma*, exploring the soul's struggle against the senses and its quest for liberation, ultimately achieving *Moksha*. The innovative use of lighting and sound coupled with a thoughtful script added layers of depth to the performance making it a profound theatrical experience.

The second night brought the epic *Mahabharata* to life with *Karna*. This captivating dance drama delved into the complexities of human existence through the lens of the enigmatic Karna. We stood witness to his struggles and triumphs, his unwavering ideals, and the timeless questions of morality and righteousness that his life embodied. The choreography, expressive and evocative, brought Karna's life to vibrant life on stage, evoking both sympathy and admiration from the audience. The performance was a visual masterpiece, with every detail from the expressive dance to the exquisite costumes contributing to its exceptional excellence. The unwavering support from the audience filling every seat in the auditorium further solidified the importance of celebrating and preserving Indian culture.

The final evening culminated with *Meera*, in vibrant portrayal of renowned saint

poetess. This dance drama, titled after its central figure, delved into her life and legacy. Meera's poetry bursting with vibrancy and effervescence resonated with audiences carrying messages of liberation and inner awakening. The performance challenged societal norms and redefined Meera's image offering an introspective exploration of the struggles faced by women. Drawing inspiration from Rajasthani dance styles, the choreography beautifully captured Meera's enduring influence. The Kendra Dance Festival's success was solidified by the audience's profound engagement with the performances evident in the thunderous applause and heartfelt comments such as "heaven for the eyes" and "a soulful performance."

Throughout the festival, the commitment of the Shriram Bharatiya Kala Kendra to preserve and promote India's rich cultural heritage was evident. Their tireless efforts in organising this exceptional dance festival have not only enriched our lives but also provided a platform for these alluring stories to be shared with the world. The choreography for all three performances by Shashidharan Nair, combined with Padmashri Shobha Deepak Singh's visionary direction, created an alluring experience that celebrated the timeless beauty of Indian culture.

As Padmashri Shobha Deepak Singh aptly stated, "The Kendra Dance Festival's productions are not just performances; they are reflections of our cultural essence and timeless wisdom." The Dance Festival was

a testament to the power of artistic expression and a celebration of the enduring relevance of Indian culture in today's world. It was an unforgettable journey that left a lasting impression on all who were fortunate enough to witness its magic. The deepest appreciation is reserved for Padmashri Shobha Deepak Singh for her visionary leadership and unparalleled artistic direction. Under her guidance, the Kendra Dance Festival has transcended mere entertainment to become a transformative and unforgettable experience showcasing the profound beauty and depth of Indian culture to audiences worldwide.

The three-day celebration of dance was an enduring and compelling experience where storytelling, acting, dance, drama, and music converged to create an unforgettable spectacle. The festival beautifully showcased the rich tapestry of Indian history and mythology weaving together narratives that resonated with audiences and left a lasting impression. The performances were a testament to the cultural heritage of India offering a glimpse into its vibrant traditions and timeless stories. This festival was a celebration of artistic excellence and a tribute to the depth and beauty of Indian culture. This festival wasn't just a celebration of dance; it was a celebration of heritage, a testament to the enduring power of storytelling and a glimpse into the soul of India.



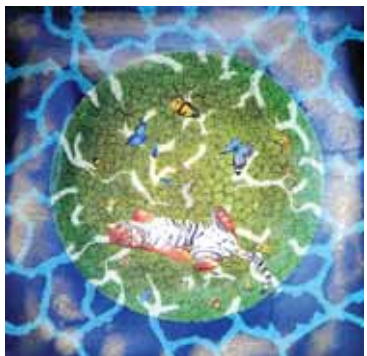
A Journey through Creativity and Appreciation

SAKSHI PRIYA explores the world through the eyes of master artists and emerging talents whose works redefine the boundaries of creativity

Embark on an alluring journey into the vibrant world of art with *Detente: A Haven of Artistic Rhapsody*, an exhibition that celebrates the spirit of creativity and cultural diversity. This exhibition showcase of modern and contemporary Indian and international art invites spectators to explore a variety of artistic themes and narratives, each piece offering a unique perspective on evolution, culture, and society.

Stepping into the gallery feels like entering an enchanted world where each painting tells a captivating story, inviting viewers on a journey of emotions and creativity. The exhibition, featuring works by renowned master artists such as MF Hussain, SH Raza, GR Santosh, Satish Gujral, Manu Parekh, B Prabha, Anjali Ela Menon, Ajay Samir, Anup Kumar Chand, Ashok Bhowmick, alongside contributions from contemporary and participating artists like M Narayan, Bahaar Dhawan Rohatgi, Sanuj Birla, Aditee Garg and more, is a testament to the richness and diversity of contemporary Indian and international art.

The artwork demands to be seen and appreciated by all, showcasing the exquisite talent of each artist. Visitors stand before the paintings, interpreting and admiring the work in their unique way, captivated by the details, patterns,



and colours. This experience highlights the immense value and appreciation for art in today's world. The gallery itself feels like a journey through memory lane which continues to resonate even after they are no longer with us. Their art speaks volumes, as the saying goes, "an artist's work always stays with us." Artists like SH Raza, GR Santosh, MF Husain, B Prabha, and Satish Gujral demonstrate their mastery through their paintings, with each piece reflecting their profound skill and artistic vision. The walls of the gallery

exude a mesmerising aura, showcasing the true worth and beauty of these artworks. M. Narayan's artwork, with its focus on equestrian aesthetics, captures the power and speed of horses through expressionist strokes and dynamic lines. His paintings convey the thrilling energy and elegant beauty of horses and polo players, drawing viewers into a world of vivid colours and bold strokes. Satish Gujral's canvas delves into the depths of history, channelling an expressionist grandeur of gesture and space. Bahaar Dhawan Rohatgi's art invokes a sense of calmness with abstract explorations

performative in nature. Her work invites viewers to join in transporting them to the realm of magnificent creatures through intricate narratives and expansive spaces. The artwork of Anup Kumar Chand is described as a tribute to the majesty of nature, particularly awe-inspiring tigers. His paintings create a world of fantasy shapes where colours seamlessly blend with the background resulting in a harmonious visual symphony. Sanuj Birla's exceptional painting is noted for its excellence in art, creating dreamy visions inspired by movies and comic books holding a special place in everyone's heart. Each artist's work is celebrated for its uniqueness and ability to evoke a range of emotions and interpretations making the exhibition a truly immersive and inspiring experience for all visitors. The exhibition is not just about showcasing art; it is about honouring the legacy of artists and the impact of their work. It is a celebration of power, grace, and beauty. As visitors immerse themselves in this artistic journey, they

are transported to a world where time slows down and the boundaries between reality and fantasy blur. The gallery becomes a testimony to the immersive experience that art can offer, where every piece evokes a beautiful sense of emotion and reality. Sumer Raj Chadha, the founder of Gallery West End reflects on his appreciation for art, nurtured over the years by his grandmother, Santosh Raj Chadha, a passionate art collector. He says, "This exhibit is a tribute to a true art aficionado and a fervent connoisseur of beauty, our vanguard, late Santosh Raj Chadha, my beloved grandmother. She sowed the seed of love for art and has been a custodian of creative curiosity in our family." Chadha's dedication has transformed this exhibition into a platform for artists to showcase their talent and connect with enthusiasts. His commitment to honoring artistic legacies and encouraging creativity shines in every aspect of this remarkable exhibition. 'Detente: A Haven of Artistic Rhapsody' is more than just an art exhibition; it is an incredible source of inspiration and an immersive journey into the artistic vision of modern and contemporary artists. It is a place where art speaks to everyone, inviting them to delve into realms of exploration, connection, and inspiration.

Photos: Pankaj Kumar/Pioneer



CSK AIM TO CONTINUE ASCENT TO TOP THREE

PTI AHMEDABAD

Despite being hit by the absence of key bowlers due to injuries as well as international commitments, Chennai Super Kings will still like to display their on-field ruthlessness while taking on wooden spoons Gujarat Titans in a 12th round IPL encounter here on Friday.

Caught in a mid-table logjam with 12 points from 11 games, the away match against Gujarat will be very important for Ruturaj Gaikwad's men as they are still not assured of a play-off berth and a defeat could really dent their chances.

With Deepak Chahar and Matheesha Pathirana out of the tournament due to injuries and Mustafizur Rahman back on national duty, CSK's bowling attack sans Ravindra Jadeja and Tushar Deshpande can at best be termed second string. A lot will depend on how the

three CSK spinners — Ravindra Jadeja, Mitchell Santner and Moeen Ali bowl on a two-paced track.

Yet, the manner in which CSK defended a total of 167 in Dharamsala against Punjab Kings will give their fans hope of upping the ante against Titans, who have already lost seven in the tournament so far.

A win will take them to third place in the standings, ahead of Sunrisers Hyderabad by virtue of better net run-rate. Among the three teams stuck on 12 points, only CSK (+0.700) enjoys a positive net run-rate.

On paper, bottom-placed Titans are still in the mix but with a maximum tally of 14 points, it would be very difficult for the Shubman Gill-led side to get into the top four.

The side is low on confidence having managed just one win from their last five matches and has struggled in all departments of the game.



Their bowling has lost firepower in absence of the injured Mohammed Shami, while the captaincy responsibility has weighed down heavily on the talented opener Gill, who has three single digit scores and a highest of 35 in his last five outings.

Sai Sudharsan, Shahrukh Khan and David Miller have also

been inconsistent. The bowling unit needs to improve its performance as the likes of Mohit Sharma and Josh Little have been leaking runs in the Powerplay.

While defending a paltry 147, their bowlers gave away 92 runs in the Powerplay against RCB, who chased down the target in just 13.4 overs.

Matthew Wade, Wriddhiman Saha, Kane Williamson, Abhinav Manohar, B. Sai Sudharsan, Darshan Nalkande, Vijay Shankar, Jayant Yadav, Rahul Tewatia, Noor Ahmad, Sai Kishore, Rashid Khan, Joshua Little, Mohit Sharma, Azmatullah Omarzai, Umesh Yadav, Shahrukh Khan, Sushant Mishra, Kartik Tyagi, Manav Suthar, Spencer Johnson, Sandeep Warrier and BR Sharath.

Chennai Super Kings: Ruturaj Gaikwad (c), MS Dhoni (wk), Aravely Avanish, Ajinkya Rahane, Shaik Rasheed, Moeen Ali, Shivam Dube, RS Hangekar, Ravindra Jadeja, Ajay Yadav Mandal, Daryl Mitchell, Rachin Ravindra, Mitchell Santner, Nishant Sindhu, Deepak Chahar, Tushar Deshpande, Mukesh Choudhary, Simarjeet Singh, Prashant Solanki, Shardul Thakur, Maheesh Theekshana and Sameer Rizvi.

TEAMS (FROM)
Gujarat Titans: Shubman Gill (c), David Miller,

Will KL Rahul step down from LSG captaincy for last two games?

PTI NEW DELHI

All but out of contention for the IPL play-offs, KL Rahul's future as Lucknow Super Giants skipper is uncertain for the remaining two games after the team received a pasting at the hands of Sunrisers Hyderabad at home on Wednesday. It is a foregone conclusion that the LSG skipper, who was roped in before the auction in 2022 for a record Rs 17 crore, is unlikely to be retained before the mega auctions in 2025. However, there is speculation that the skipper might step down on his own and concentrate on batting during the next two games.



"There is a five-day gap before the next game against DC. As of now, no decision has been taken but it is understood that if Rahul plans to just concentrate on his batting for the remaining two games, the management won't mind," an IPL source told PTI on conditions of anonymity.

Videos of LSG owner Sanjiv Goenka's agitated conversation with Rahul emerged on social media after Sunrisers Hyderabad openers Travis Head (89 not out off 30 balls) and Abhishek Sharma (75 off 28 balls) reached a target of 167 in less than 10 overs. This was after the home team batters struggled to get going on the same track.

Worse, Rahul's (29 off 33 balls) batting in the Powerplay has been one of the biggest reasons for LSG's below-par show in the cash-rich league and it seems that Goenka has finally run out of patience.

The India star has scored 460 runs in 12 games and could

again cross the 500-run mark for the season but it is his strike-rate of 136.09 which is the problem.

LSG are still mathematically in contention as they can reach 16 points by winning their remaining two games — vs Delhi Capitals in New Delhi on May 14 and vs Mumbai Indians at Wankhede on May 17. However, it will be very difficult to massively improve upon the net run-rate (-0.760).

In case, Rahul decides to step down, vice-captain Nicholas Pooran, easily the team's most impactful batter in the season, is likely to take over for the remaining two games.

Backing of captain Cummins, SRH support staff matters a lot: Abhishek Sharma

PTI HYDERABAD



The unwavering support from skipper Pat Cummins and the entire think-tank played a big role in his success in the on-going IPL, reckoned Sunrisers Hyderabad opener Abhishek Sharma.

The 23-year-old Punjab left-hander fired from all cylinders for Hyderabad this season, making 401 runs from 12 matches and those runs have come at an awesome strike-rate of 205.

"Our support staff and Pat (Cummins), the way they think, I have never seen anyone else think like that," Abhishek said on JioCinema Match Centre Live after their record 10-wicket win over Lucknow Super Giants here

on Wednesday. "They're like, 'Go out there and express yourself. Play as aggressively as you can, we'll back you. I think that matters a lot,'" said Abhishek, who has hit 35 sixes so far, highest by any batter this season.

The SRH openers Abhishek (75 not out off 28 balls) and Travis Head (89 not out off 30 balls) scaled down 166 in just 9.4 overs, rewriting the

record for the quickest chase of 150-plus in T20 cricket.

SRH's total of 167 was also the highest by any team by the end of the tenth over in men's T20s.

"I think this approach was something I took on during the Syed Mushtaq Ali Trophy," said Abhishek who played a key role in Punjab winning the domestic T20 title last season.

Abhishek (485 runs from 10 matches) was the second highest run-getter behind Riyan Parag (510) of Assam in last season's SMAT.

"I feel when I play this way, look at the ball, and react, my shots come off better and the bowler comes under pressure. I always thought if I play in the IPL, I'll try to maintain this," he added.

PUBLIC NOTICE

1. Mrs. Neeti Poonia W/o Mr. Chetan Wadhwa R/O H.No. 20, 21 H.C.S. Model Town, Fatehabad hereby solemnly affirm & declare as under:

- That, I am the owner of Nursing Home Unit No.2, Soma Township 2, village Matana, District Fatehabad vide Registered Deed No. 6474 dated 27-12-2019 between Mrs. Niti Poonia and Mr. Dharam Pal S/o ShPremSawroop & Mr. Satya Pal S/o Dev Chand.
- That Whereas original Conveyance Deed No. 3276 dated 01-08-2019 between M/s VikasBuildmart Private Limited & M/s Dharam Pal S/o ShPremSawroop & Mr. Satya Pal S/o Dev Chand R/o #236 A Model Town, Fatehabad First Page of conveyance deed is missing and not traceable in original.
- That the deponent of the above named persons has not misused or encumbered the same in any manner in any type or in any loan with any person financial institution or Bank.
- That the above said property is free from all encumbrances. There is no charge of any kind whatsoever on the above said plot. The title of the property is clear, marketable and undisputed.
- That now Mrs. Niti Poonia W/o Mr. Chetan Wadhwa R/O H.No. 20, 21 H.C.S. Model Town, Fatehabad will be mortgaging the above said property with Bank of India, Fatehabad Branch, District Fatehabad in consideration of credit facility. If any person or financial institution or Bank have any sort of interest in any manner or objection in respect of mortgaging the property with the above he can file his objection with the above authority i.e. Bank of India, Fatehabad within Ten days of above authority within ten days of publication of this notice.

Deponent

OTHERS SPORTS

UWW suspends Bajrang; SAI approves his training stint abroad but wrestler cancels trip

PTI NEW DELHI

World governing body UWW has suspended Bajrang Punia till the end of this year following NADA's decision to hand him a provisional suspension for refusing to undergo a dope test.

However, in a rather surprising decision, the Sports Authority of India (SAI) sanctioned close to Rs nine lakh for his training abroad despite being well aware of NADA's order.

Bajrang, one of the country's most successful wrestlers, was suspended by NADA on April 23 after being served a whereabouts failure notice on April 18.

In his defence, the Tokyo Olympics bronze-medallist

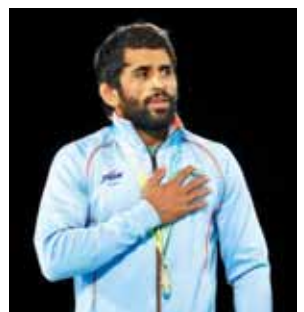
said he never refused to give his sample for testing but merely asked the Dope Control Officer to explain the presence of expired kits which were brought to take his sample.

Bajrang told PTI that he has not received any communication from the UWW about his suspension but the world governing body while updating its internal system clearly mentions that he stands suspended.

"Suspended for the following reason until Dec 31, 2024," reads the update on Bajrang's profile.

"Provisionally suspended by NADO IND for alleged ADRV (Anti-Doping Rule Violation)," was the reason mentioned.

Interestingly, the Mission Olympic Cell (MOC), in its



April 25 meeting, was informed that Bajrang has been sanctioned Rs 8,82,000 plus air fare (actual) for his proposal to train at Dagestan, Russia from May 28.

Bajrang's initial proposal was for a 35-day training trip from April 24 but, as per the minutes of MOC meeting, due to "conflicting travel dates due to

his whereabouts failure, he chose to defer the travel plans from 24th April, 2024 to 28th May, 2024."

The proposal also included travel plans of his strength and conditioning coach Kaazi Kiron Mustafa Hasan and his sparring partner Jitender. Neither Sandip Pradhan, the SAI Director General, nor Col. Rakesh Yadav, joint CEO TOPS, responded to calls or messages, when PTI reached out for an explanation for the decision to sanction his training.

Bajrang confirmed that he had given a proposal for approval to SAI.

"I am also surprised that SAI cleared it. I have actually cancelled my plan, I am not going anywhere for training

now," Bajrang said, adding that his lawyer has filed the reply to NADA.

In the same MOC meeting Sarita Mor, who competes in the women's 57kg category, was sanctioned Rs 5,96,000 for her training stint in the USA along with her husband and coach Rahul Mann from May 5.

Anshu Malik had locked the women's 57kg category Paris Olympics quota during the Asian Qualifiers in Bishkek.

Anshu's training stint in Japan, along with her father and coach Dharamveer Malik, was also approved at a cost of Rs 14,67,000.

If WFI decides to hold one final selection event, Sarita will have to emerge winner in the trials to challenge quota-winner Anshu.

Diksha set for landmark 100th start on LET

PTI SEOUL

Diksha Dagar will become the first Indian woman golfer to play 100 events on the Ladies European Tour when she tees up at the Aramco Team Series Korea, her first appearance in the series.

Diksha, who turned pro in 2019 and won on LET in her first full season, has been a regular on LET since then.

Currently ninth on the LET Order of Merit, Diksha turned 23 in December. She is one of the three Indians to tee off at the New Korea Country Club. The other two Indians in the field are Pranavi Urs and Vani Kapoor.

Diksha will also lead the team of Czech Tereza Melecka and Korean Do Yeon Park, while Pranavi and Vani are in the team led by Singaporean Shannon Tan, who has already won once in her rookie season. Diksha was part of the winning team in the Aramco Team



Series in London in 2021. That was the year when the series was played across five countries. Diksha has finished in the Top-10 of the individual section only once. That first Top-10 came this year in Tampa Florida, where she was tied sixth.

Diksha, a lock-in for the Olympic Games in Paris, is ranked 147th in the world and the second best Indian after Aditi Ashok (53rd).

A gold medallist at the 2021 Deaflympics, Diksha is also a recipient of the Arjuna Award in 2023.

"Representing India is the biggest honour one can have so I am looking forward to my second Olympic appearance," said Diksha, who is the only golfer to have played at both the Summer Olympics (2021 Tokyo) and the Deaflympics (2017 and 2021). Diksha is one of only two Indian women to have won on the LET and she has done it twice — once in Investec South African Women's Open in 2019 and in Czech Ladies Open in 2023.

"For the present my focus is the LET, where I have won twice and I want to do better," said Diksha, who is also aiming to get to the LPGA Tour in the United States.

Diksha, who won once in the Tipsport Czech Ladies Open and was T-3 at the Amundi German Masters and Hero Indian Open last year, was also third in the Order of Merit. She had nine individual Top-10 finishes and one more in the team event in Hong Kong.

Real Madrid rallies late to beat Bayern 2-1 and reach another Champions League final

AP MADRID

After yet another magical night at the Santiago Bernabeu Stadium, Real Madrid is back in the Champions League final. The 14-time European champion pulled off another thrilling comeback on Wednesday, rallying to defeat Bayern Munich 2-1 and reach the final for the second time in three seasons.

Like it happened so many times in 2022, Madrid needed some late drama to advance. Joselu scored in the 88th minute and then in stoppage time as Madrid advanced 4-3 on aggregate to set up a final against Borussia Dortmund on June 1 in London.

"Well, it has happened again what has happened so many times before," Madrid coach Carlo Ancelotti said. "It's inexplicable. Fans who push us on, a fantastic stadium, players who never stop believing - it's simply something magical."

Bayern had taken the lead on an Alphonso Davies goal in the 68th - and then deep in stoppage time thought it had equalized but hadn't because of an offside call that Bayern coach Thomas Tuchel described as "disastrous" and "against the rules."

Joselu's first goal was a tap in after Bayern goalkeeper Manuel Neuer spilled an easy save. The second was initially called off for offside but was eventually allowed after video review.

"You always dream of being part of moments like this," the 34-year-old Joselu said. "Not even my best dreams were as good as this."

It will be Madrid's record-extending 18th European Cup final, and ninth in the Champions League era, also a record. Madrid beat Liverpool when it last made it to the final in 2022, a season marked by several late comebacks like that one it pulled off on Wednesday.

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DETAILS OF BORROWERS AND OUTSTANDING AMOUNT

Sr. No.	CUSTOMER NAME	LOAN A/C NO.	AMOUNT OUTSTANDING (IN RS.)	DATE OF RECALL NOTICE	GROSS WEIGHT	NET WEIGHT
B.O.: AJNALA [PB]						
1	MANPREET SINGH	XXXXXXXXXX9905	75775.700	4/20/2023	25.550	23.150
B.O.: AMRITSAR [PB]						
2	SURAJ	XXXXXXXXXX5704	127379.010	3/22/2024	45.100	43.620
B.O.: DINANAGAR [PB]						
3	PALWINDER SINGH	XXXXXXXXXX6968	170915.000	2/15/2024	46.700	46.700
B.O.: GRAIN MARKET RA PB						
4	PAWAN KUMAR	XXXXXXXXXX7374	77873.000	2/8/2023	18.900	16.000
B.O.: JAGRAON [PB]						
5	HARPREET SINGH	XXXXXXXXXX6748	71000.000	2/20/2024	19.300	19.000
B.O.: JHANDUKE MNS PB						
6	JASVIR KAUR	XXXXXXXXXX1953	117574.000	10/10/2023	39.900	39.200
B.O.: KHADAUR SAHIB [PB]						
7	GURPREET SINGH	XXXXXXXXXX8048	66631.710	3/22/2024	21.200	17.200
B.O.: LAMBRA [PB]						
8	JASPREET SINGH	XXXXXXXXXX1152	82298.900	2/28/2024	23.100	20.400
B.O.: LUDHIANA [PB]						
9	MUNISH DHAWAN	XXXXXXXXXX2703	203286.000	2/15/2024	56.500	56.000
10	MUNISH DHAWAN	XXXXXXXXXX6192	99860.050	10/25/2023	91.300	83.500
B.O.: MAKHU FZR PB						
11	RAJWANT KAUR	XXXXXXXXXX3104	52132.000	5/30/2023	12.200	11.700
B.O.: MANSA [PB]						
12	BABBU KAUR MANSHAHIA	XXXXXXXXXX8460	108579.000	8/25/2023	31.000	30.700
B.O.: MOHALI PHASE 11 MHL PB						
13	SIMRANJEET SINGH	XXXXXXXXXX5856	40770.000	2/15/2024	10.100	10.000
B.O.: MUNDIAN KALAN, LUDHIANA [PB]						
14	DINA NATH PRASAD	XXXXXXXXXX0466	36697.000	8/25/2023	11.900	11.900
B.O.: PATHANKOT [PB]						
15	HEERA LAL	XXXXXXXXXX5590	48676.000	2/15/2024	12.400	12.400
16	VISHAL KUMAR	XXXXXXXXXX6192	40949.000	10/25/2023	9.700	9.700
B.O.: PATTI [PB]						
17	CHRANJIT SINGH	XXXXXXXXXX0123	96335.280	12/28/2023	26.200	25.400
B.O.: PUTLIGHAR AMR PB						
18	ANMOLPREET SINGH	XXXXXXXXXX7189	294089.310	5/30/2023	140.200	123.600
B.O.: QUADIAN [PB]						
19	MANJINDER KAUR	XXXXXXXXXX9613	57662.000	12/28/2023	16.100	15.100
B.O.: SHERKHAN WALA FZR PB						
20	TARNBIR SINGH	XXXXXXXXXX6191	351115.160	2/15/2024	117.300	113.700
B.O.: SUDHAR [PB]						
21	PATNALA SHIVA	XXXXXXXXXX1747	142474.000	12/28/2023	37.400	33.200
B.O.: TARIN TARAN [PB]						
22	GURJEET SINGH	XXXXXXXXXX0098	44300.000	2/20/2024	12.700	12.500
23	SARFARAZ AHMAD	XXXXXXXXXX2778	49894.880	2/15/2024	15.700	15.500
B.O.: ZIRAKPUR ZRK PB						
24	ANU DEVI	XXXXXXXXXX5007	44631.000	4/20/2023	9.700	9.200
B.O.: PAONTA SAHIB PAO HP						
1	KARAN PAL	XXXXXXXXXX8822	70545.000	11/2/2023	22.640	17.600
B.O.: RAMPUR HP						
2	VIJAY KUMAR	XXXXXXXXXX9172	91886.000	1/17/2024	28.060	20.760
3	SUNDER SINGH	XXXXXXXXXX6259	139096.000	2/25/2024	43.020	33.920
4	JAG DEVI	XXXXXXXXXX2387	114705.000	2/15/2024	32.770	26.960
5	PRAMOD KUMAR	XXXXXXXXXX4293	34348.000	10/10/2023	11.930	8.160
6	VINOD KUMAR	XXXXXXXXXX7863	59865.000	10/10/2023	19.240	13.900
B.O.: CHANDIGARH [CH]						
1	MOHAMMAD AFSAR	XXXXXXXXXX3776	45693.000	28-12-2023	13.400	13.200
B.O.: SECTOR 38, CHANDIGARH [CH]						
2	BUTA SINGH	XXXXXXXXXX1848	85710.000	28-12-2023	20.100	19.800

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