



Pakistan invites diplomatic strike for Pahalgam carnage

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ New Delhi

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Wednesday here reviewed security situation in the wake of the Pahalgam terrorist attack killing 26 people and took stock of preparedness to prevent recurrence of such incidents.

He was also briefed during the Cabinet Committee on Security (CCS) meeting about the ongoing operations to track down the perpetrators of the dastardly act and overall plans to enhance the security grid in Jammu and Kashmir.

Union Home Minister Amit Shah, Defence Minister Rajnath, External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar and National

Security Advisor (NSA) Ajit Doval took part in the high level meeting that went on for over two-and-a-half hours. The prime minister has vowed that these behind the attack will not be spared and brought to justice.

Among those also present at the crucial meeting were Cabinet Secretary T V Somanathan, Defence Secretary Rajesh Kumar Singh, Foreign Secretary Vikram Misri, besides the prime minister's two principal secretaries P K Mishra and Shaktikanta Das.

Earlier in the day, Home Minister Shah visited Baisaran in Pahalgam, the site where terrorists struck on Tuesday evening, as well as the hospital where some

of the injured were being treated. Incidentally, Prime Minister Modi, who cut short his visit to Saudi Arabia and returned to New Delhi on Wednesday morning, was briefed about all aspects of the incident at the airport by Jaishankar, Doval and Foreign Secretary Vikram Misri.

Meanwhile, Rajnath Singh cautioned people responsible for the "cowardly terrorist attack" on innocent citizens in Pahalgam will soon get a "strong response" to their nefarious acts on Indian soil, in the first clear indication of India's possible response to the massacre.

While vowing a befitting reply, he also said India will not only hunt down the people who perpetrated the attack but will also



Prime Minister Narendra Modi chairing a meeting of the Cabinet Committee on Security (CCS) on Wednesday. At least 26 people were killed in a terror attack in Pahalgam of Jammu and Kashmir PTI

trace those "sitting behind the scenes" who had conspired to carry out the deadly act on the Indian soil. The defence minister made these assertions while delivering the annual Arjan Singh Memorial lecture here. Hours before the address, the Defence Minister reviewed the security situation in Jammu and Kashmir that was attended by NSA Doval and Chief of

Defence Staff (CDS) General Anil Chauhan, Army Chief General Upendra Dwivedi, Navy Chief Admiral Dinesh K Tripathi and Air Chief Marshal A P Singh.

Also present in the meeting was Defence Secretary Rajesh Kumar Singh. "Yesterday, in Pahalgam, our country lost many innocent citizens in a cowardly attack by terrorists targeting religion.

IN A FIRST, INDUS TREATY SUSPENDED

New Delhi: Adopting a tough stance a day after the Pahalgam terrorist attack, India on Wednesday took a slew of measures including Indus Waters Treaty of 1960 in abeyance with immediate affect till Pakistan credibly and irrevocably abjures its support for cross-border terrorism.

Announcing these steps, Foreign Secretary Vikram Misri said "Recognising the seriousness of this terrorist attack, the Cabinet Committee on Security (CCS) decided upon the following measures — The Indus Waters Treaty of 1960 will be held in abeyance with immediate effect until Pakistan credibly and irrevocably abjures its support for cross-border terrorism.

Secondly, the check post Attari will be closed. Those who have crossed over with valid endorsements may return through that route before 1st May 2025. Thirdly, Pakistani nationals will not be permitted to travel to India under the SAARC visa Exemption scheme.

Why tourists and why Pahalgam?

MOHIT KANDHARI ■ Srinagar

Despite launching a massive man-hunt to track down the footprints of perpetrators behind the brutal massacre of tourists in the South Kashmir area of Pahalgam, the security forces could not find anything significant during the day.

Ground reports claimed helicopters and drones scanned the Baisaran forest area over Pahalgam in search of the terrorists but failed to track down their footprints.

Preliminary reports indicated a group of four Lashkar-e-Taiba (LeT) terrorists, including two locals, executed the terror plot at the behest of their Pakistan-based handlers to disrupt the peak tourist season and spread the reign of terror in the region.

The two locals, involved in the attack, have been identified as Aadil Thakur of Bijbehara and Aasif Sheikh of Tral.

Reports also claimed the terrorists were armed with sophisticated AK rifles, armour-piercing bullets, and helmet-mounted cameras to record the

'barbaric' strike on the Indian tourists holidaying at a famous picnic spot.

Before launching the targeted strike, the terrorist handlers had carefully zeroed in on the Baisaran meadow, a popular hotspot for tourists during the peak summer season.

The terrorists were well aware of the fact that none of the security personnel were deployed at the tourist hotspot, and they could freely target the tourists as 'sitting ducks'

Since the objective was to derail the blooming tourist season in the valley, the terrorists took advantage of the complacent security environment in the region.

The terrorists were well aware of the fact that none of the security personnel were deployed at the tourist hotspot, and they could freely target the tourists as 'sitting ducks'.

The Baisaran meadow, located six

kilometers uphill from the main town of Pahalgam in the Anantnag district, not only became a death trap for tourists but also provided enough time to the terrorists to flee the area without coming on the radar of the security forces.

After the attack took place around 2.30 p.m. on Tuesday, the security forces arrived at the location after about an hour. The terrorists exploited the time lag to their advantage and vanished into the deep jungles before the security forces could launch any counter terrorist operations in the area.

The absence of a road network and undulating terrain further delayed the arrival of security forces and others to rescue the injured after the terrorists opened fire on tourists.

Eyewitness accounts and initial reports suggested the terrorists had a free run for about 15 to 20 minutes in the area.

According to ground reports, several injured succumbed to their injuries due to excessive blood loss as they could not be shifted to the nearby hospital in the absence of direct road connectivity between Pahalgam and Baisaran.

Will not bend before terror: Amit Shah

MOHIT KANDHARI ■ Srinagar

Shaken by the brutality of the Pahalgam massacre, which left 26 tourists dead and 17 others wounded on Tuesday, ordinary Indians have united in grief and rage, demanding swift retaliation against the perpetrators from the government.

Echoing similar sentiments, Union Home Minister Amit Shah on Wednesday asserted that the country will not bend before terror and that those responsible for the killing of tourists at Pahalgam will not be spared.

Selective targeting of tourists, belonging to one faith, has not only devastated families but also shaken the public conscience.

To register their protest against the barbaric strike, people across Jammu and Kashmir on Wednesday observed a complete shutdown.

Across the Valley, political, religious, social and professional organisations condemned the killing of tourists at the famous Baisaran meadow of Pahalgam.

Protests were held in several parts of



Union Home Minister Amit Shah visiting the site of the Pahalgam terror attack in Anantnag district, Jammu and Kashmir. PTI

Jammu city, with many protesters raising anti-Pakistan slogans and demanding surgical strikes to destroy terror bases in the neighbouring country.

Before the mortal remains of tourists were dispatched to their native places, the Union Home Minister attended the

wreath-laying ceremony in Srinagar.

Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha and Chief Minister Omar Abdullah also paid their tributes to the victims.

The Home Minister later interacted with families of the slain persons and other survivors of the attack.

The ByStander



Tourists evacuate, airlines called to action

RAJESH KUMAR ■ New Delhi

A day after the terror attack in Pahalgam, over 6,000 passengers departed Srinagar between 0600 hrs and 2300 hrs, as tourists rushed to leave Jammu and Kashmir. Airlines were also directed to waive cancellation and rescheduling fees. Meanwhile, nearly 90 per cent bookings for Jammu and Kashmir have been cancelled by tourists over safety concerns.

The Ministry of Civil Aviation has instructed airlines to temporarily operate more flights out of Srinagar to handle the rush of tourists who want to cancel their holiday and leave Jammu and Kashmir in the wake of Tuesday's terror attack.

Airlines were also advised to waive cancellation and rescheduling fees. The Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) has issued advisory to airlines to "take swift action" to increase flights to and

The Ministry of Civil Aviation has instructed airlines to temporarily operate more flights out of Srinagar to handle the rush of tourists who want to cancel their holiday

from Srinagar to facilitate evacuation of stranded tourists. IndiGo, Air India and SpiceJet are operating a total of seven extra flights in addition to their normal scheduled services from Srinagar.

The Ministry of Civil Aviation asked the airlines to ensure there is no surge in airfares on the Srinagar route, and airlines will be operating additional flights to the city. Civil Aviation Minister K Rammohan Naidu on Wednesday said that strict instructions were given to airline companies to avoid any fare surges, and that fares are being monitored and kept at reasonable

levels. His comments also came against the backdrop of some websites apparently showing ticket prices of over ₹50,000 for flights to Srinagar.

Terrorists struck at a prime tourist location in Pahalgam in south Kashmir on Tuesday, killing at least 26 people, mostly tourists, and injuring several others. Among the deceased were two foreigners—one each from the UAE and Nepal—and two locals.

"In the aftermath of the incident in Pahalgam, there is an unexpected demand from tourists seeking to return to their homes. In this regard, the airlines are advised to take swift action to increase the number of flights in response to heightened demand and also to ensure uninterrupted connectivity from Srinagar to various destinations across India, facilitating evacuation of stranded tourists," read the DGCA advisory released on Wednesday, April 23.

Pakistan, China and Bangladesh shed crocodile tears for India

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE/AGENCIES ■ New Delhi/Islamabad/Dhaka/Beijing

A day after the Pahalgam attack in which 26 people were killed, Pakistan, China and Bangladesh on Wednesday condoled the deaths of tourists.

"We are concerned at the loss of tourists' lives in an attack in Anantnag district. We extend our condolences to the near ones of the deceased and wish the injured a speedy recovery," Pakistan Foreign Office spokesperson said in Islamabad responding to media queries about the attack.

Terrorists opened fire in Pahalgam on Tuesday afternoon, killing 26 people, mostly tourists, in what is the deadliest attack in the Valley since the Pulwama strike in 2019.

On Tuesday, The Resistance Front (TRF), a proxy of the banned Pakistan-

based Lashkar-e-Taiba (LeT), claimed responsibility for the attack. Officials said it was possible the terror group members had crossed over from Kishtwar in Jammu and reached Baisaran through Kokernag in south Kashmir.

Days earlier, Pakistan Army Chief General Asim Munir described Kashmir as Pakistan's "jugular vein," triggering a sharp response from New Delhi. "Our stance is very clear, it was our jugular vein, it will be our jugular vein, and we will not forget it. We will not leave our Kashmiri brothers in their heroic struggle," General Munir said while addressing the first Overseas Pakistanis Convention in Islamabad on April 15. The event was also attended by Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif, senior ministers and Pakistanis living abroad. India had slammed Munir's remarks.

Come winter, welcome entry ban on all vehicles registered outside Delhi

RAJESH KUMAR ■ New Delhi

In a move to tackle the high pollution load from commercial vehicles entering Delhi, the Commission of Air Quality Management (CAQM) on Wednesday issued an order banning on entry of all vehicles from November 1, 2025. Only BS-VI diesel, CNG, LNG and electric goods vehicles, including Light Goods Vehicles (LGVs), Medium Goods Vehicles (MGVs) and Heavy Goods Vehicles (HGVs), will be allowed entry into Delhi from that date, the commission said in an order. The CAQM said the order will apply to all such vehicles registered outside Delhi.

The Commission has also issued order not to give fuel to End of Life (EoL) vehicles, identified through the Automatic Number Plate Recognition cameras or other such systems installed at the fuel pump stations from June 1, 2025 in Delhi and Gurugram, Faridabad, Ghaziabad, Gautam Budh Nagar and sonipat will ban the fuel from November 1, 2025 and from April 1, 2026, it will be applicable in the rest of the national capital region.

According to experts, transport is the key contributors to air pollution in Delhi. There were 79.5 lakh vehicles registered as of March 31, 2023. Of these, 20.7 lakh were private cars. The total number of vehicles registered in Delhi was 1.2 crore, with 33.8 lakh being private cars, as per the Delhi Statistical Handbook 2023. The ever-growing vehicular traffic in Delhi - NCR has been a prime contributor to the enhanced vehicular emissions in the region and such large number of vehicles also cause traffic congestions and jams at major intersec-

tions and critical public places, thereby further enhancing the pollutant load from vehicular emissions.

"Such non-BS-VI compliant transport/commercial goods vehicles carrying essential commodities / providing essential services shall however be permitted to enter Delhi, but only for a limited period up to October 31, 2026 beyond which goods /services shall also have to be catered only through CNG / LNG / BV / BS-VI diesel vehicles'. Transport Department/ Traffic Police in Delhi & the NCR States may accordingly widely disseminate this direction amongst all stakeholders and ensure strict compliance w.e.f. 01.11.2025 through effective implementation/enforcement measures at all border entry points to Delhi and regular monitoring/review of the same' Quarterly Reports on the action taken by the concerned agencies shall be furnished to commission," reads the order.

However, non-BS VI vehicles carrying essential commodities or providing essential services will be granted temporary exemption until October 31, 2026. After that, even essential services must switch to cleaner fuels.

The CAQM said commercial vehicles, especially older diesel ones, significantly contribute to Delhi-NCR's air pollution, particularly during winter. The decision is aligned with the Graded Response Action Plan (GRAP), which already restricts entry of polluting vehicles during high-pollution days. The commission has directed the transport departments and traffic police in Delhi and neighbouring states to ensure strict enforcement of this order at all 126 border entry points and 52 toll plazas equipped with



Delhi Noida border

Automatic Number Plate Recognition cameras. Quarterly compliance reports must be submitted by all implementing agencies, the CAQM said.

There is no restriction on entry of Diesel goods vehicles to BS-VI standards and all vehicles running on LNG, CNG or electric vehicles into Delhi at any point in time of the year.

"WHEREAS, the ever-growing vehicular traffic in Delhi — NCR has been a prime contributor to the enhanced vehicular emissions in the region and such large number of vehicles also cause traffic congestions and jams at major intersections and critical public places, thereby further enhancing the pollutant load from vehicular emissions;

"Whereas, within the vehicular sector, while transport/commercial goods vehicles are generally reported to be utilised extensively, these are often poorly maintained and thus are significantly high on emissions; WHEREAS, it has been established through various assessment studies that all classes of transport/commercial goods vehicles —

LGVs' MGVs and FIGVs particularly those with pre-BS-VI standards have significantly higher emission potential and these while passing through NCR areas and moving into Delhi contribute adversely to the overall vehicular pollution load in the entire NCR," it said.

On the barring fuel to overaged vehicles, the Commission ordered not to give fuel to such vehicles (End of Life-EoL) vehicles, identified through the Automatic Number Plate Recognition cameras or other such systems installed at the fuel pump stations from June 1, 2025 in Delhi and Gurugram, Faridabad, Ghaziabad, Gautam Budh Nagar and sonipat will ban the fuel from November 1, 2025 and from April 1, 2026, it will be applicable in the rest of the national capital region. 'Immediate ical action should be taken in respect of such BoL vehicles, including impounding and further disposal in accordance with RVSF Rules, 2021 and other extant policies of the respective State Governments and the GNCTD. There are 61, 14,728 overaged vehicles in Delhi; 27,50,152 in Haryana; 12,69,598 in UP and 6,20,962 in Rajasthan.

"Traffic surveillance cameras installed on major roads which facilitate the traffic police to challan vehicles for traffic violations and the Integrated Command Control Centers for traffic management in NCR cities/districts shall also be used for supplementing action against EoL vehicles found plying on roads, using camera feeds from strategic traffic points/ intersections. Transport Department of GNCTD and the NCR States may accordingly widely disseminate this direction amongst all stakeholders including fuel stations and ensure its strict compliance through effective implementation / enforcement measures," it said.

Classifieds

BEDKHALI NOTICE

We, Surinder Kumar Son of Shri Paras Ram and Anarkali Wife of Shri Sunder Kumar Residents of H. No. 388, Sector 25, Part 2, Huda Panipat, Distt Panipat, Haryana, declare that our son Sanjay Kumar @ Bittu is out of our control, we debar him from all our moveable / immoveable properties. Anybody dealing with him will do so at his/her own risk and responsibility.

I, Nirmala Rani W/o Late Lajja Ram R/o Village Barwala, Tehsil & Distt. Panchkula, my daughter Renu Bala is out of my control. I disown her from my moveable/ immoveable properties. Anybody dealing with her at his/her own risk.

I Shyam Singh S/o Sh. Singh Ram R/o Bir Ghaggar Chand Mandir (391) Chandimandir Cantt. Panchkula Haryana inform that my son Sachin and his wife Babli are out of my control. I disown them from my all moveable and Immoveable Properties. Anybody deal with them will do at their own Risk. I and my family members will not be responsible for their any activities.

I Pinki Devi W/o Late Sh. Jaswant Singh R/o Village Subhri, Distt. Karnal, declare that my daughter Tannu who is unmarried are out of my control. I evict her my moveable and immovable property. Anyone who deals with her in future for anything will be responsible for it by itself, I am not responsible for anything about herself.

I, Kirori Mal S/o Sh. Ghisa Ram R/o H.No. 286, Housing Board Colony Sirsa Road Hisar, (Haryana), evict my son Rahul and daughter-in-law Karuna from my moveable-immovable property as they are not in my and my family's control. Both of them will be responsible for any of their transactions and dealings, I and my family will not have any responsibility in this.

We, Jeet Kumar S/o Gurbaksh Singh and Asha Rani W/o Jeet Kumar, H.No. 1212 G/F, HUDA Plots, Sector-19, Panchkula, disown our son Praveen Kumar, his wife Neetu Rani from all our movable / immovable properties as both beyond our control. Anybody deals the do at own risk, we shall not be responsible.

I Maya W/o Late Trilok Chand R/o Surya Nagar Defence Enclave Boh Road Ambala Cantt distt. Ambala that my son Sagor, his wife Manvi and their sons Riyansh and Sohrit are out of my control so I disown them from all my moveable immoveable properties. In future anybody dealing with them at their own risk , me and my family will not be responsible .

I, Baldev S/o Mastan Singh Vill helwa Tehsil Pehowa distt Kurukshetra, My Son Jitender Singh and his Wife Kamaljeet is out of my control. I disown them from my all moveable and immovable properties.. If anybody deals with them at his own risk.

I, Indu Bala w/o Late. Ashwani Kumar, House No. 543, New Swaraj Enclave, Sector 127, Kharar, Distt. S.A.S.Nagar hereby declare that my son Gourav Sharma and his wife Minakshi Devi are out of my control. So I disown them from my moveable and immovable property. In future anybody deals with them will be responsible themself.

PUBLIC NOTICE

I Aanshu son of Shri Surjeet Singh resident of Paju Kalan Tehsil, Safidon District Jind, hereby declare on my affidavit that the correct name of my father is Surjeet Singh and the correct name of my mother is Manesh. Which is correct as per my birth certificate. Whereas in my 10th DMC, my father's name is shown as Surjeet instead of Surjeet Singh and my mother's name is shown as Munesh instead of Manesh, which is wrong. Which should be corrected as per my birth certificate.

It is for general information that i, serva sukh s/o nihal singh residing at tehsil-kanina, mundia khera(35), po-dongra ahar, dist-mahendragarh, Haryana -123021 declare that the name of mine has been wrongly written as sarva sukh in my minor son vinay aged 16 years in his cbse class 10th educational documents. the actual name of mine is serva sukh which may be amended accordingly. it is certified that i have complied with other legal requirements in this connection.

It Is For General Information That I Sachin Bishnoi S/O Radhey Shyam Residing Ward No 15, Sadulshahar District Ganganagar (335062), Rajasthan Declare That Name Of Mine, My Mother And My Father Has Been Wrongly Written As Sachin, Darshana Devi And Radhey Shyam Bishnoi In My 10th Educational Documents. The Actual Name Of Mine, My Mother And My Father Are Sachin Bishnoi, Darshna And Radhey Shyam Respectively, Which May Be Amended Accordingly. It Is Certified That I Have Completed With Other Legal Requirements In This Connection.

I Ex No-15595301, Rank-Sep, Name- Bhajan Singh. Residence Of - Vpo-Balamgarh Alias Mandwara, Tehsil & District-Rupnagar, State-Punjab-140108 Declared That Correct My Daughter Name Spelling Mandeep Kaur To Ramandeep Kaur And Date 30-06-1990 To 05-02-1991 In My Army Records.

I Riteshwari W/o No 3396540P NK GD Sanjeev Kumar S/O VV Attar Singh Mandi Ward No 6 , Nurpur Distt Kangra Teh and PO Nurpur State HP 176202 have changed my DOB From 21 Nov 1978 to 24 April 1978.

I Sawinder Singh @ Surinder Singh S/O Late Amarjit Singh R/O H.No.4455, Sham Nagar Rajpura Distt.Patiala Declare That In My Lic Policy No.165058250 My Name Is Written Surinder Singh. Sawinder Singh @ Surinder Singh Is The Same Person. Both Names Is Mine.

CHANGE OF NAME

I, Abanti Panda W/o Kula Pradeep Panda R/o 760-A, Friends Colony, Yamuna Nagar have changed my name from Meenu Meenu to Abanti Panda.

I, Sunita W/o Jai Kumar R/o Rampur Majra, Sabapur (121), PO Sabapur, Distt. Yamuna Nagar – 135101 (Haryana), INDIA declares that I have changed my minor daughter's name from Rubi to Ruby.

I, Jitender S/o Kulwant Singh R/o VPO Khurdban, Tehsil Radaur, Distt Yamuna Nagar have changed my name from Jitender Singh to Jitender. In future I shall be known as Jitender.

I, Sunita W/o Jai Kumar R/o Rampur Majra, Sabapur (121), PO Sabapur, Distt. Yamuna Nagar – 135101 (Haryana), INDIA declares that I have changed my minor son's name from Dax to Daksh.

I, Sapttar Singh S/o Sultan Singh R/o Village Ariyanwala, PO Malakpur Bangar, Tehsil Bilaspur, Distt Yamuna Nagar have changed my name from Sapttar Singh to Sapatter Singh.

I hitherto known as Gural S/o Jatinder Singh, R/o Village Machhrauli (263), PO Machrauli, Tehsil Bilaspur, Distt. Yamuna Nagar - 135102, Haryana, INDIA have changed my name and shall hereafter be known as Gural Sandhu.

I Ram Anjor s/o Bhagauti r/o House No. 1785, Indira colony, Mani Majra, Chandigarh declare that my name is wrongly recorded as Ram Ajore. My correct name is Ram Anjor. And my father's name is also wrongly recorded as Bhagwati prashad. My father's correct name is Bhagauti.

I, Ritu Bhardwaj W/o Rajeev Bhardwaj R/o H.No.249-A, Gali No.3, Patiala Road, Dashmesh Colony, Zirakpur, Mohali have changed my name from Ritu Bhardwaj to Ritu Rani.

I Kailash Kumari is legally M/o No.2500317K Hav Narsh Kumar R/o Village- Kalakote, Distt. Rajouri, Jammu and Kashmir, have changed my name from Kailash Devi to Kailash Kumari and DOB from 01 July 1969 to 01 January 1966.

I Hargen (Adhaar No. 509735055768) Alias Manoj Kumar Bhardwaj S/O Late Shri Ramkumar R/O Gram Rangdih, Po Rangdih, Sarai Meer, Azamgarh UP-276305 Have Changed My Name From Manoj Kumar Bhardwaj To Hargen For All Futrue Intent Purposes & Change Of Name In My Adhaar Card.

I, Krishan Lal Mutti S/o Shobh Raj R/o Village Kalotha, PO Aika, Tehsil Ratia, Distt. Fatehabad have changed my name from Krishan Lal Mutti to Krishan Lal for all future purposes.

I, Kanta Rani Girdhar W/o Late Sh. Satish Kumar Girdhar Residing at H.No. 46, Sector 9, Panchkula, have changed my name to Kanta Rani.

I, Mahender Singh S/o Mal Singh R/o village Sikanderpur, Tehsil & Distt. Sirsa declares that both names i.e. Mahinder Singh and Mahender Singh are mine and of one & same person. All concerned please note.

I, Jeet Singh alias Jit Singh S/o Mahender Singh R/o Village Sikanderpur, Tehsil & Distt. Sirsa declares that both names i.e. Jeet Singh alias Jit Singh are mine and of one & same person. All concerned please note.

I, Sanjeet Kumar Rajak S/o Shri Sadanan Rajak R/o Siria Jha Tola Semaria,Distt., Araria, Bihar declare that I have Changed my name from Sanjeet Kumar Rajak to Sanjeepa Nand Giri Maharaj.

I, Priya (DOB 05.02.1996) W/o Guddu R/o Village Sikanderpur Urf Gaus Gadh, PO-Bansdai, Tehsil-Nakur, District- Saharanpur, (UP) PIN-247341, INDIA have changed my name from Priya Devi to Priya due to wrong name record in Army service record of my husband.

I, Shilpa Saluja W/o Sachin Saluja R/o Flat No. 1902, Tower 3 Sector 67, M3M Merlin, PO Badshahpur, Gurgaon -122101, declare That I have changed my name from Shilpa Choudhary to Shilpa Saluja for all future purposes.

I, Manmohan Abrol S/o Puran Chand Azad R/o H.No. 1428/6 Azad Bhawan, Civil Hospital Rohtak -124001, declare That I have changed my name from Manmohan to Manmohan Abrol for all future purposes.

I Raj Kiran S/o Sh. Desraj R/o H.No. 542/18, Arya Nagar Rohtak 124001 declare That I have changed the name from Raj Kiran Rajkiran In future I will be called as Rajkiran for all purposes.

I Suman Goyal w/o Ajay Kumar r/o Village Adda Devigarh, Teh. Dudhan Sadhan Distt. Patiala have change my Name Suman to Suman Goyal Plz Noted.

My name is Monika and in future i will be known as Monika Punia.

I Ritu Goeel Aadhar No. 2878 9962 5804. Wife Of Sh.Vikas Goel, House No. 491, Sector 7, Panchkula, Haryana. I Have Changed My Minor Son Name From Atharv To Atharv Goel

I, Ashok Kumar S/o Satbir Singh R/o Nehla, Sub-Tehsil-Bhuna, Distt. Fatehabad. In my son Dinesh 10th Marksheet of Haryana Education Board Bhiwani Year 2023 Roll No-1023093748 his mother name is Suman Devi. Which is incorrect. Correct name is Suman.

I Hem Raj Bhagat Alias Hemraj S/O S. Mela Ram, Adhar Card No-766601161443, Residence Of #-2115, Sec-79, Po-Sohana, Tehsil & Distt-Mohali (Sas Nagar), State-Punjab Declare That I Have Changed My Name From Hem Raj Bhagat Alias Hemraj To Hem Raj.

I Bala Devi W/o Kali Ram Bansal R/o House No. 41/4, Ekta Market, Gali No. 4, Burail, Sector 45, Chandigarh have changed my name from Bala Devi to Raj Bala Bansal.

I Anisha Raturi D/o Ravindra Parsad R/o House No 186, New colony, Khuda Lahora, Chandigarh have changed my name from Anisha Raturi to Anshika Raturi.

I Aman S/o Sh. Mukesh Kumar, H. No. 342, Phase 7, SAS Nagar Mohali Punjab have changed my name from Aman to Aman Kanojia.

I Mukesh Kumar S/o Chaman Lal House No H E 342, Sector 62, Phase-7, S.A.S. Nagar Mohali Punjab-160062 have changed my name from Mukesh Kumar to Mukesh Kumar Kanojia.

I Adiraj Ahluwalia s/o Khushwant Singh r/o #698 sector 11B Chandigarh 160011 have changed my name from Adiraj Ahluwalia to Adiraj Singh Ahluwalia.

I, Payjeet Kaur alias Bhavjit Kaur daughter of Sompal alias Sundar Singh Resident of Village Mundhal Tehsil Chandpur Distt. Bijnor UP informs that Payjeet Kaur and Bhavjit Kaur both names are mine, one and of the same person. It is also stated that my father Sompal alias Sundar Singh is also known with both names. Please note all concerned.

I, Dinesh Kumar Gujral S/o Hans Raj Gujral R/o # 1218, Mukarji Park, Jagadhri, Distt Yamunanagar have changed my name from Dinesh Kumar to Dinesh Kumar Gujral.

I Rajni W/o Swaran Singh, R/O # 2079, Shri Nagar Colony Jagadhri, Distt. Yamunanagar have changed my name from Rajni Rani to Rajni.

I, Charu Garg W/o Manoj Kumar Garg R/o # 216, Sarojani Colony, Part-2, Yamunanagar have changed my name from Charu Garg to Charu.

I, Manoj Kumar S/o Banarasi Dass Garg R/o # 216, Sarojani Colony, Part-2, Yamunanagar have changed my name from Manoj Kumar to Manoj Kumar Garg.

I, Sukarampal S/O Sh. Karam Singh R/O Village Adiyana Tehsil Madladda District Panipat, Declare That In My Documents My Father Was Known As Sukarampal. But Now My Father's Name Has Been Changed To Sukrampal In My Documents.

I, Baby W/o Rajeev Mandal # 3449, Mauli Jagran Complex, Chandigarh have changed my name to Sandhya.

I Suman Lata W/o Narender Kumar Kajal R/o 209 Village Sheikhpura P O SP Sohana Tehsil & district Karnal have changed my name from Suman Lata to Suman Kajal for all future purposes.

I, Kajal Sharma W/o Sh. Sandeep R/o Near Bus Stand, Village Intal Kalan, Distt. Jind, have changed my name from Monika to Kajal Sharma

I, No. 1086859W Ex Dfr Jagtar Singh S/O Shri Ajit Singh R/o VPO Miani, W.No. 05, Tehsil Dasuya Distt. Hoshiarpur Punjab have changed the date of birth of my mother from Smt. Piar Kaur from, 15-02-1942, 20-08-1938,

I, Jasvinder Kaur wife of No. 1061431Y Ex Naik Swarn Singh resident of Village Bhulle Chak, PO Pul Tibri, Tehsil & Distt Gurdaspur (Pb) have changed my name from Jasvinder Kaur to Jaswinder Kaur and my correct date of birth is 05.06.1958 vide Affidavit/Estamp Certificate No. IN-PB28613405543189X dated 23 Apr 2025.

I, No. 1061431Y Ex Naik Swarn Singh S/O Sh.Veer Singh resident of Village Bhulle Chak, PO Pul Tibri, Tehsil & Distt Gurdaspur (Pb) have changed my name from Swarn Singh to Swaran Singh vide Affidavit/Estamp Certificate No. IN-PB28615387531509X dated 23 Apr 2025.

I Neha Gaba W/o Amit Taneja R/o House No – 1263.B, Urban Estate, Sector- 9, Karnal Haryana pin 132001 have changed my name to Neha Taneja.

I, Rajanbir Singh S/o Tarlochan Singh R/o 20 S.C.F, Kabir Park, Amritsar, Punjab-143002 have changed my name from Rajanbir Singh to Rajanbir Singh Uppal.

I, Lovepreet Singh S/o Gurbhej Singh , Majitha, Kathu Nangal, Kathunangal, Amritsar, Punjab-143502 have changed my name from Lovepreet Singh to Singh is my surname and Lovepreet is my given name.

I, Prabhjot Kaur W/o Navjot Singh, R/o VPO Shahzada, Distt. Amritsar, Punjab-143504 have changed my name from Prabhjot Kaur to Kaur is my surname and Prabhjot is my given name.

I, Charanjeet Kaur Alias Harjit Kaur W/o Bhupinder Singh R/o H.No. 175/22, Red Road, Kurukshetra, have changed my name from Charanjeet Kaur Alias Harjit Kaur to Harjit Kaur.

I, Karm Veer S/o Raj Kishan R/o 37, Near Devi Mandir, Golpura, Kurukshetra, have changed my name from Karm Veer to Karamveer Singh.

I, Ritu Rani, W/o Satish Kumar, R/o H. No. 58, Partap Nagar, Jahajpallu Hisar (Haryana) have changed my name from Ritu Rani Kumar to Ritu Rani for all purposes in future.

I Kimmy Singla (Aadhar No. 514024212814) W/o Sh. Ankush Mittal R/o H.No. 1006, Sector-5, Urban Estate Kurukshetra, Tehsil Thanesar, District Kurukshetra have changed my name from Kimmy to Kimmy Singla. In future I should be known as Kimmy Singla.

I Rajeev Goyal S/o Sh. Surinder Mohan Goel R/o House No 496B, Subhash Nagar, Yamunanagar Tehsil Jagadhri Distt Yamunanagar , Haryana have changed my name from Rajeev Goyal to Rajeev Kumar Goyal.

I, Om Datt S/o Prithvi Ram R/o Vill & PO – Uchana, Distt. Karnal (Haryana)-132001, have changed my name from Om Datt to Om Dutt.

I, Jitender Kumar S/o Sh. Badri Nath R/o House No. 1608, Sector-24, Panipat, declares that I have changed my name from Jitendra Kumar to Jitender Kumar, for all future purposes.

I, Ravi Kumar S/O Diwan Chand Residing At House No-469/11, Dhand Road, Adarsh Nagar, Kaithal, Distt- Kaithal, Haryana-136027 Have Changed The Name Of My Minor Son Kavya Aged 14 Years And He Shall Thereafter Be Known As Krish Rawal. It Is Certified That I Have Complied With Other Legal Requirements In This Connection.

I, Hitherto Known As Malkeet Kaur Wife Of Gurpreet Singh Residing At Vpo Dalam, Tehsil Batala District Gurdaspur-143511 Punjab Have Changed My Name And Shall Hereafter Be Known As Balwinder Kaur

I, Hitherto Known As Pardeep Kaur Wife Of Rakesh Saini Residing At H.No.142, Prem Nagar, Saingarh, Pathankot-145001 Punjab Have Changed My Name And Shall Hereafter Be Known As Pinky Saini

I, Hitherto Known As Sukhchain Kaur Wife Of Sakattar Singh Sandhu Residing At Kotla Sadar, Tehsil Ajnala District Amritsar-143606 Punjab Have Changed My Name And Shall Hereafter Be Known As Sukhchain Kaur Sandhu.

I, Hitherto Known As Paramjit Kaur Wife Of Jagir Singh Residing At Village Ghot Pokhar, Tehsil And District Gurdaspur -143530 Punjab Have Changed My Name And Shall Hereafter Be Known As Malkit Kaur.

I, Hitherto Known As Saranjit Kaur Wife Of Satpal Singh Residing At Badawal Kalan, Po Samrai District Gurdaspur-143602 Punjab Have Changed My Name And Shall Hereafter Be Known As Kiranbeer Kaur

I Suresh Kumar S/O Diwan Chand R/O 1118-B Akash Avenue Fatehgarh Churian Road Amritsar Have Changed My Name To Suresh Kumar Sharma

I Jarmanjeet Singh Son Of Sandhuraj Singh R/O H.No. 1101 Guru Aram Dass Colony Naraingarh Chheharta Amritsar Punjab Have Declare That Singh Is My Surname And Jarmanjeet Is My Given Name.

I Prince Kumar Gupta S/O Shyam Parshad Gupta Resident Of 26-A, Baba Deep Singh Colony, New Hamidpura, Chheharta, Amritsar. I Have Changed My Name From Prince Kumar Gupta To Prince Kumar. All Concerned Please Note.

I, No.2496503/Nk Jaspal Singh S/O Kulwant Singh R/O Village Dhand Tehsil And District Tarn Taran Have Changed My Daughter's Name From Probjot Kaur To Prabjot Kaur Vide Affidavit No.In-Pb28461733614803x Dt.03.04.2025 Before Before Executive Magistrate Jhabal Kalan

I, Sandeep Kaur W/O Ravinder Singh R/O Saidopura, Po Ram Tirath District Amritsar Have Declare That Sandeep Is My Given Name And Kaur Is My Surname

I Davinder Kaur Kamboj Wife Of Iqbal Singh R/O L-1/1105, Dashmesh Avenue Gurnam Nagar Sultanwind Road Amritsar Changed My Name To Davinder Kaur

I Iqbal Singh Kamboj Son Of Harnam Singh R/O L-1/1105, Dashmesh Avenue Gurnam Nagar Sultanwind Road Amritsar Changed Name To Iqbal Singh

I, Harpreet Singh S/O Davinder Singh R/O Jhanke Po Udhoke Kalan Uchoke Kalan District Amritsar Have Declare That Harpreet Is My Given Name And Singh Is My Surname

I, Akashdeep Singh S/O Manjit Singh R/O Vpo Makowal Tehsil Ajnala District Amritsar Have Declare That Akashdeep Is My Given Name And Singh Is My Surname

I Pramjeet Kaur W/O Baldev Singh R/O Vill. Mandiala, Near Gurdwara Sahib, Chabhal Road, Fatahpur, Amritsar Have Changed My Name From Pramjeet Kaur To Pramjeet Kaur. All Please Note.

I, Anupam Wife Of Ajay Kumar Presently Residing At Vill Jaral Po Nabahi Teh Sarkaghat Distt Mandi (Hp) Pin175024 Have Changed My Name From Anupam To Anupam Sharma Vide Affidavit No.In-Pb28440526683339x Dt.23.04.2025 Before Notary Public Amritsar

I, Hari Chand Sharma Father Of Ajay Kumar Presently Residing At Vill Vill Jaral Po Nabahi Teh Sarkaghat Distt Mandi (Hp) Pin 175024 Have Changed My Name From Hari Chand Sharma To Hari Chand Vide Affidavit No.In-Pb28440526683339x Dt.23.04.2025 Before Notary Public Amritsar

I, Doult Ram Father Of No.Jc 248827x Ris Sanjeev Kumar R/O Village Petu Po Bhararu Tehsil Joginder Nagar, Petu (282) Mandi, Himachal Pradesh-176120 Have Changed My Name From Doult Ram To Daulat Ram Vide Affidavit No.In-Pb28505464813522x Dt.23.04.2025 Before Notary Public Amritsar

I, Lavjeet Singh Sandhu W/O Jaskaranjit Singh Sandhu R/O H.No.141, New Model Town, Rayon & Silk Mills, Chheharta, Amritsar Have Changed My Name From Lavjeet Kaur Sandhu To Lavjeet Kaur. All Concerned Please Note.

I, Manprit Singh Sandhu S/O Tarsem Singh R/O Vpo Jallupur Khera, Tehsil Baba Bakala District Amritsar Have Changed My Name From Manprit Singh Sandhu To Manprit Singh

I, Surya S/o Sh. Vinod Kumar R/o Village Chirod, Teh. and Distt. Hisar (Haryana) declare that I have changed my name from Surya to Surya Kumar for all future purpose.

I, Ramesh Sehra S/o Sh. Shyam Dass R/o 3042, Sector 14, Hisar, (Haryana) declare that I have changed my name from Ramesh Sehra to Ramesh Kumar for all future purpose.

I, Harjeet Kour W/o Balvinder Singh R/o House No. 133-A, Gali No. 05, Jawahar Nagar, Hisar (Haryana) declare that I have changed my name from Harjeet Kour to Harjeet Kaur for all future purpose.

I, Tanya D/o Sh. Ramesh Kumar R/o 3042, Sector 14 Part-II, Hisar, (Haryana) declare that I have changed my name from Tanya Sehra to Tanya for all future purpose.

I, Sanya D/o Sh. Ramesh Kumar R/o 3042, Sector 14 Part-II, Hisar, (Haryana) declare that I have changed the name of my father from Ramesh Sehra to Ramesh Kumar for all future purpose.

I, Hitherto Known As Parksho Devi Wife Of Rasalu Ram Residing At Ghurala Post Office Gurdaspur Tehsil And District Gurdaspur-143521 Punjab Have Changed My Name And Shall Hereafter Be Known As Parkash Wati.

I, Nidhi Khanna W/o Rohit Monga R/o H.No.918, Krishna Bhog Atta Chakki, Near Ganesh Mandir Lohgarh Chownk Amritsar have changed my name from Nidhi Khanna to Nidhi Monga.

I Baldev Singh Sangha S/O Dhanna Singh R/O Vpo. Jogewala Tehsil & District Moga Changed Minor Daughter's Name Jasveen Kaur To Jasveen Kaur Sangha.

I Varleen Kaur D/O Baljit Singh Sidhu R/O Village Daudhar Sharki District Moga 142053 (Punjab) Have Changed My Name To Varleen Kaur Sidhu.

I Gurinder Singh S/O Hakam Singh R/O Village Daudhar Sharki District Moga 142053 (Punjab) Have Changed My Name To Gurinder Singh Sidhu.

I Randeep Kaur W/O Jaswant Singh R/O Vill. Reshwal P.O. Mandiala Hoshiarpur Declared That My Minor Son Karanveer Singh Given Name As Karanveer And Surname Singh.

I Manjit Singh S/O Sucha Singh R/O Vpo. Johal Tehsil Dasuya District Hoshiarpur Punjab Have Changed My Name To Manjit Singh Johal.

I Sunita Rani W/O Balvir Singh R/O Vpo, Bassi Purani Tehsil & District Hoshiarpur Punjab Have Changed My Name From Sunita Saini To Sunita Rani.

I Hari Singh S/O Kishan Singh R/O .H.No.B-19/250, Central Town Hoshiarpur Punjab Declare That My Given Name As Hari And My Surname As Singh.

I Narender Kumar S/O Prem Chand R/O H.No.122 Scheme No.3 Palahi Road Shaheed Bhagat Singh Nagar Phagwara District Kapurthala State Punjab Have Changed My Name From Narender Kumar Dhiman To Narender Kumar.

I Babli Dhiman W/O Narender Kumar R/O H.No.122, Scheme No.3 Palahi Road Near Apollo Child Hospital Shaheed Bhagat Singh Nagar Phagwara District Kapurthala State Punjab Have Changed My Name From Babli To Babli Dhiman.

I Kamaljit Kaur Dhaliwal W/O Tejinderpal Singh R/O Vpo. Morkarima Distt. Ludhiana Have Changed My Name To Kamaljit Kaur.

I Bachittar Singh S/O Mukhtiar Singh R/O Vill. Rauwal Distt. Ludhiana Have Changed My Name To Bachitter Singh.

I Paramjit Kaur W/O Jagjit Singh Gill R/O Vpo. Kokri Kalan Tehsil & Distt. Moga Have Changed My Name To Paramjeet Kaur Gill.

I Mohinder Singh Kainth S/O Surjit Singh R/O Vpo. Kotha Guru Distt. Bathinda Have Changed My Name To Mohinder Singh.

I, Gurjinder Singh S/o Harjinder Singh R/o Village Sirkian PO Sahawal Distt Gurdaspur (Punjab)- 143531 have changed my name from Gurjinder Singh to Singh Gurjinder. In future Singh is my surname and Gurjinder is my given name. Concerned note.

I, Sandeep Mahajan S/o Sham Sunder Mahajan R/o House Number 166, Chatti Gali, Dinanagar, Distt Gurdaspur (Punjab) declare that I am also known as Sandeep Kumar. That Sandeep Mahajan and Sandeep Kumar is one and the same person i.e myself. Concerned note.

I, Hardeep Kaur, wife of Rajinder Singh, resident of Dera Baba Nanak Road, Sukerpura, House No. 49/181, Jamanuwalli Gali, Ward No. 1, Batala, Gurdaspur, declare that Dalbir Kaur and Hardeep Kaur are one and the same person.

I, Angrej Kaur W/o Rampal Singh, Balarha, Fatehgarh Sahib, have changed name to Kaur Angrej.

I, Khujani W/o Miyan Singh R/o Bhigga Patti VPO Dhamtan Sahib, The Narwana Distt Jind-126116 Haryana. have change my name Khujani to Khajani.

I, Mukesh Rani W/o Mukesh R/o Koth Kalan, Sub Tehsil Kheri Jalab, Tehsil Narnaund, Distt. Hisar declare that in my son's 10 th Marksheet my name is recorded as Mukesh which is wrong. My correct name is Mukesh Rani. I want to get change my name from Mukesh to Mukesh Rani in my son's 10 th Marksheet.

I Rajwinder Kaur W/O Davinder Singh R/O Vill. Alipur Wazir Sahib Teh. Dudhan Sadhan Distt. Patiala Declare That The Name Is Written Mother Rajvinder Kaur In My Daughter's Gurleen Kaur School Record Which Is Incorrect. That My Daughter's Gurleen Kaur Mother Name Rajvinder Kaur May Kindly Be Mentioned In His School Recordas.

I, Nihal Son Of Sh. Charanjit Singh R/O House No. 68, Gillico Valley, Ropar, Tehsil & District

Punjab on High Alert After Pahalgam Terror Attack: CM Orders Sweeping Security Measures Across State

PNS ■ CHANDIGARH

A day after the deadly terror attack in Jammu and Kashmir's Pahalgam that claimed the lives of 26 innocent tourists, Punjab is on the edge, responding swiftly and comprehensively to the escalating threat. The state has rolled out a multi-layered security response, with an all-encompassing crackdown that spans from educational institutions to international borders. Chief Minister Bhagwant Mann, following a high-level security review meeting on Wednesday morning, declared that Punjab is in a state of high alert, with law and order now accorded the "highest priority".

Security has been drastically beefed up across Punjab — especially in over 160 educational institutions housing students from Jammu and Kashmir — as well as tourist hubs, religious sites, and public spaces with heavy footfall.

Chief Minister Mann also ordered intensified security deployment along the state's sensitive border with J&K in Pathankot, where specialized units from the Army, Border Security Force (BSF), and Punjab Police's anti-sabotage squads have been mobilized. A red alert has been sounded, with inter-state and inter-district checkpoints now under constant surveillance, while security forces operate in joint coordination to thwart any further escalation.

Condemning the Pahalgam attack as "barbaric and inhuman, Mann asserted that the safety of every citizen remains paramount. Addressing media after the review meeting with top civil and police officials — including Chief Secretary KAP Sinha and DGP Gaurav Yadav, Mann emphasized that no one will be allowed to disrupt Punjab's hard-earned peace. "Punjab Police is fully capable of foiling any attempt to destabilize the state. We have forged a seamless coordination mechanism between the Punjab Police, Army, and BSF to counter any emerging threat," he said.

Mann also revealed that the state is in constant touch with the J&K Administration to ensure the safe return of Punjabis currently stranded in the Kashmir valley, particularly tourists and students. "We are monitoring the situation in real-time. Our primary concern is the safety of our people — whether in Punjab or in Jammu and Kashmir," he said.

He further urged the citizens to remain calm and uphold the values of communal harmony and unity. "The terrorists have no religion. Their only objective is to sow fear and divide society. We will not let them suc-

ceed," Mann said.

Appealing to the public to avoid panic and display the spirit of brotherhood, he added, "This is the time to stand together as one — across castes, creeds, and communities."

The security response in border regions has been particularly intense. In Pathankot — Punjab's northernmost district sharing a border with J&K — security agencies launched round-the-clock surveillance. The Madhopur checkpoint on the Pathankot-Jammu National Highway has become a focal point for rigorous inspections, manned by Army personnel, BSF units, and Punjab Police's Special Operations Group (SOG).

According to Pathankot Senior Superintendent of Police (SSP) Daljinder Singh Dhillon, joint Quick Response Teams (QRTs) have been stationed to respond immediately to any untoward situation. "This level of preparedness is absolutely necessary. We are leaving nothing to chance," he said.

Additional security measures have been taken in light of intelligence suggesting the involvement of a top Lashkar-e-Taiba (LeT) commander in the Pahalgam incident. Sketches of three suspected terrorists have been released by security agencies, prompting Punjab Police to increase patrols and surveillance across high-risk zones. Explosive-sniffing dog squads have been deployed in several sensitive areas, with more expected to join shortly.

SSP Dhillon said that the entire operation is being monitored from the Pathankot police's command-and-control center, ensuring real-time surveillance and coordinated response. Joint Quick Response Teams (QRTs), comprising personnel from the Army and Punjab Police, have also been stationed at the border for immediate action in case of any threat.

DGP Gaurav Yadav confirmed that a state-wide alert was issued within hours of the attack, with Punjab stepping up vigilance along its 530-km border with Pakistan and J&K. "Pakistan is continuing its proxy war strategy — whether through terror modules or drone-based smuggling operations. But we are prepared. We've dismantled several modules before and we will continue to do so," said DGP Yadav. He maintained that Punjab is coordinating in real-time with the central intelligence agencies and the J&K Police.

The nexus of gangsters, smugglers, and terrorists continues to be a concern for the state. "Ever since we tightened the noose around drug peddlers and gangsters, they've started collaborating with cross-border terror out-

fits. But let me assure the people of Punjab — we're watching them, and we will act decisively," said Mann, adding that anti-drone technology will soon be deployed to curb aerial smuggling of weapons and narcotics.

Notably, police across districts adjoining Jammu — particularly in Gurdaspur and Pathankot — have also sealed alternative routes that connect with the Jammu division. Vehicles entering Punjab from J&K are undergoing thorough checks at multiple barriers, and police checkpoints have been reinforced with additional personnel.

SHO Vijay Kumar of Naranot Jaimal Singh Police Station said: "All police personnel, posted at border outposts, have been asked to remain in a state of heightened alert, especially after reports of suspected individuals being sighted near the international border earlier this week."

The Chief Minister reiterated his government's unwavering commitment to ensuring peace and stability in Punjab. "We are the second line of defense after our Army. Punjab has seen the dark days of terror. We've come too far to go back now," he said.

PROTESTS ERUPT ACROSS PUNJAB; BOTH HINDU, MUSLIM COMMUNITIES UNITE IN CONDEMNATION

Widespread protests swept across Punjab on Wednesday in the wake of the heinous terror attack on tourists in Pahalgam, Kashmir. For the first time in recent memory, members of both Hindu and Muslim communities took to the streets together, united in grief and rage, denouncing the act of terror and raising slogans against Pakistan.

In Ludhiana, outside the historic Jama Masjid, Muslim protesters led by the Shahi Imam of Punjab, Maulana Muhammad Usman Rahmani Ludhianvi, condemned the attack as a "shameful act against humanity". He said: "Those responsible should be hanged in public squares. This cowardly act of asking victims' religion before killing them cannot be tolerated."

Emphasizing that terrorism has no religion, he said: "Killing an innocent is like killing all of humanity — this is what the Holy Quran teaches." The Imam's voice echoed across communities as he stood shoulder-to-shoulder with others burning effigies of terrorists and chanting "Pakistan Murdabad" and "Down with Terrorism".

In a rare and powerful gesture of solidarity, Hindu organizations including Shiv Sena and the Hindu Suraksha Samiti held simultaneous protests in Amritsar, Jalandhar, and Phagwara. They too burned Pakistan's flags

and demanded strict action from the Indian government.

In Phagwara, protestors gathered at Hanumangarhi Mandir, offering prayers for the departed souls and observing a moment of silence. The streets resounded with chants of unity, and leaders across religious lines called for a fast-track trial and immediate punishment for those involved.

The Pahalgam attack, one of the deadliest in the region in recent decades, has drawn nationwide condemnation. "The time has come to stand united," said community leader Muhammad Mustaqem, adding, "We will not let these terror outfits divide us."

INCIDENT TRIGGERS PANIC: 12K KASHMIR BOOKINGS CANCELLED FROM PUNJAB

Pahalgam terror attack has sent shockwaves through Punjab's travel and tourism sector, with over 12,000 bookings to the region cancelled in just two days. Taxi and tempo operators in Jalandhar, alarmed by the sudden collapse in demand, staged a strong protest on Wednesday, demanding decisive action from the government to restore public confidence and punish those responsible for the attack. Led by the Taxi Union, the protesters condemned the killing of innocent civilians and described the attack as a direct blow to national peace and security. "This is not just a tragedy — it's a betrayal of trust. Tourists don't feel safe anymore," said the Taxi Union president Hardeep Singh Raju.

He revealed that the Amarnath Yatra and general tourism bookings from Punjab to Kashmir, which peak during the summer, have collapsed overnight. "We were looking at a good season. Now, it's all gone. People are cancelling even Vaishno Devi tours. The damage runs into crores," he said.

The protestors plan to submit memorandums to the Punjab Government and local police, demanding heightened security assurances for tourists. Meanwhile, travel agents across Punjab and hoteliers in Kashmir are reporting mass cancellations, with airfares from Srinagar skyrocketing and inbound travel plummeting despite slashed prices.

"This attack has derailed the entire tourism season," said Karan Saggar, a Ludhiana-based travel agent. "If the government doesn't step in swiftly, thousands of families connected to this industry — from cab drivers to hotel staff — will be left devastated," he added.

For many in the industry, Tuesday's attack didn't just claim lives — it marked the sudden and heartbreaking end of a thriving tourist season.

Haryana CM says those responsible for this attack will not be spared

PNS ■ GURUGRAM/CHANDIGARH

Haryana Chief Minister Nayab Singh Saini on Wednesday said that those responsible for the "cowardly" attack on tourists in Jammu and Kashmir's Pahalgam will not be spared. At least 26 persons -- mostly tourists -- were killed by terrorists on Tuesday at the Baisaran meadows in Pahalgam in one of the worst terror attacks on civilians in Kashmir in the past many years.

"We strongly condemn the cowardly and planned attack on tourists. Those who have committed this act will not be spared, and strict action will be taken against them," Saini told reporters in Gurugram, asserting that the Centre's resolve to fight against terror is firm. The Chief Minister said that the nation stands united in these challenging times. He described the incident as a cowardly act that claimed the lives of innocent people. He said that the sacrifice of the people will always be remembered and assured their families of the government's support.

The Chief Minister also spoke with the family of Indian Navy officer Lieutenant Vinay Narwal, who lost his life in the Pahalgam attack. He offered his condolences and reassured them that the Haryana government stands firmly with them in their time of grief. It should be mentioned here that Karnal resident Narwal, 26, was among the victims of Tuesday's terrorist attack. He was looking forward to celebrating his 27th birthday on May 1, for which his family had planned a grand event. Narwal, who was on a honeymoon trip with his wife Himanshi, was allegedly shot dead in front of her. His mortal remains will reach his native place in Karnal, where the family will perform his last rites.

Paying tribute to Lt Narwal, the Former Chief Minister Bhupinder Singh Hooda strongly condemned this terrorist attack and said that the guilty should not be spared, as he called for a decisive strike against terrorism. There is anger in the whole country due to this cowardly act of terrorists and the whole country is united against terrorism. The country demands from the government that the culprits should not be spared under any circumstances and said there should be

a decisive attack against terrorism and a strong message should be given to the enemies of the country. Hooda said the cowardice and barbarity shown by the beasts who targeted innocent tourists in Pahalgam is intolerable. "Until those cowards and their masters are brought to justice, the victim families will not get justice," he said.

Condemning the terrorist attack on tourists in Pahalgam, Haryana Transport Minister Anil Vij said, "I want to state that this is Narendra Modi's India. Where, when, and how the response will come, I don't know—but I do know that they will receive such a strong reply that they will never dare to do something like this again, and even those who send them will hesitate to think about it."

MARTYR SIDDHARTH'S SACRIFICE WILL FOREVER INSPIRE YOUTH TO SERVE THE NATION

The Chief Minister also visited the residence of Flight Lieutenant Siddharth Yadav in Rewari to express his condolences following the officer's sacrifice. He prayed for the eternal peace of the departed soul and assured the grieving family of all possible support from the Haryana Government. Saini said that the entire nation stands proud of the selfless sacrifice made by this courageous son of Mother India. He paid tribute to Flight Lieutenant Siddharth, acknowledging his bravery and dedication to the nation. His sacrifice will continue to inspire future generations to serve their country. At such a young age, Siddharth achieved new heights in the sky, and even in his final moments, he ensured the safety of hundreds of innocent by diverting the aircraft away from populated areas.

It is noteworthy that on April 2, Flight Lieutenant Siddharth Yadav's Jaguar aircraft crashed in the fields of Suvarada village, approximately 12 km from the city, after taking off during a training sortie in Jamnagar, Gujarat. His fellow Manoj Kumar was also aboard during the practice session. Realizing the imminent danger, Siddharth directed Manoj to eject from the plane and skillfully maneuvered it away from populated areas, ultimately sacrificing his life in the crash to prevent greater loss of life and property.

Himachal Govt. prohibits small PET water bottles and littering of non-biodegradable waste

PNS ■ SHIMLA

The Himachal government has issued a notification prohibiting the use of polyethylene terephthalate (PET) bottles (up to 500 ml) in all indoor official meetings, conferences, and events organized by the government departments, Boards, Corporations and other state government organizations.

Director, Environment, Science and Technology, D.C. Rana on Wednesday said that this decision has been made keeping in view the widespread use of PET water bottles, which have raised significant environmental concerns due to their high potential for littering.

He said this prohibition also applies to HPTDC hotels and private hotels in the state. These entities shall adopt sustainable alternatives such as glass bottles, water dispensers/kiosks of steel containers. He added that all the government organizations would carry out IEC activities to discourage the use of small plastic PET bot-

tles in public interest. The state government has also authorized the officials from different departments to compound offences in respect of these prohibited items.

The State Government has imposed fine of Rs. 5000 for littering of one time use plastic items, compostable and bio-degradable plastic carry bags, used for serving and consuming food or otherwise, by individual(s) or any institution/commercial establishment (educational institutions, offices, hotels, shops, restaurants, sweetshops, dhabas, temple complexes, industrial establishment, banquet halls etc.) within its premises and on roads, streets, hill slopes, drains, forest areas, public parks, all public places etc.

The ban on the use of small PET bottles will come into effect from 1 June, 2025 in the public interest, allowing Government organizations, including HPTDC and private hotels, sufficient time to dispose of existing stock and avoid financial loss

Gurugram to receive 670 million liters per day water supply after May 31: CM Saini

PNS ■ GURUGRAM/ CHANDIGARH

Haryana Chief Minister Nayab Singh Saini on Wednesday said that after May 31, a total of 670 million liters per day (MLD) of water supply will be made available to residents of Gurugram. He directed officials to ensure this is achieved to prevent any inconvenience to the public during the summer season. In addition, 400 new electric buses will soon be deployed in Gurugram to enhance public transportation, he added.

Chairing the 14th meeting of the Gurugram Metropolitan Development Authority (GMDA) in Gurugram, Saini emphasized the need for timely execution of development projects and directed the concerned officials to expedite ongoing works so that the public can benefit without delay.

During the meeting, a development budget of approximately Rs 3,034.82 crore was approved to accelerate the pace of infrastructure and civic improvements.

Launch of 5-4-3-2-1-0 Campiagn by India's UNESCO Chair

PNS ■ CHANDIGARH

In an urgent yet hopeful call to action, noted scientist and health advocate Dr. Rahul Mehra, National Representative of India to the UNESCO Chair on Global Health and Education and Executive Chairman of Tarang Health Alliance, launched a nationwide campaign titled '5-4-3-2-1-0: Countdown to a Healthy Life!' at a media workshop in Chandigarh on Wednesday.

Mehra noted that the life expectancy of an Indian is just around 70 years, compared to 85 in Japan. Unfortunately, an average Indian is only "healthy" till the age of 60 years. This is because physical and mental diseases are taking their toll. One in four Indians has diabetes and one in ten heart disease. Mental health issues are rising rapidly, especially among youth. He emphasized that the most cost-effective solution is prevention - and that starts with health education in schools. "The only window to change this trajectory is during school years, when children are still forming their habits."

The campaign, aimed at embedding healthy habits early in life, begins its rollout in Haryana, the first state to formally partner with Tarang Health Alliance to integrate structured health education into school curricula. Since April 2024, Haryana has piloted the programme in 12 government schools, successfully demonstrating how simple, everyday actions can transform health outcomes.



"We chose to begin in Haryana because the state has demonstrated a rare commitment to health education," said Mehra. "By allowing Tarang Health Alliance to work closely with its public education system, Haryana has created the ideal conditions for grassroots health learning. We are confident the state will emerge as a national leader in driving this mass awareness and behaviour change."

"If we want to improve the country's long-term health, we must begin with our children," he added. "Changing adult behaviours is difficult. But if we empower our children with the right skills early on, they will carry these habits throughout their lives. The 5-4-3-2-1-0 campaign gives India a simple, science-based framework to do exactly that."

The campaign outlines six daily health habits in an easy-to-remember countdown:

- 1: Engage in at least one hour of physical activity every day
- 2: Limit recreational screen time to two hours or less every day
- 3: Consume three servings of protein-rich foods daily
- 4: Wash hands properly with soap and water at least four times a day (after going to toilet, before breakfast, lunch, and dinner)
- 5: Eat five servings of fruits and vegeta-

bles daily

- 4: Wash hands properly with soap and water at least four times a day (after going to toilet, before breakfast, lunch, and dinner)
- 3: Consume three servings of protein-rich foods daily
- 2: Limit recreational screen time to two hours or less every day
- 1: Engage in at least one hour of physical activity every day
- 0: Avoid tobacco, sugary drinks, and salty packaged snacks

These habits are not just for children - they are designed to encourage families and schools to work together in building a culture of health. Schools are being urged to incorporate the campaign into morning assemblies, administer a student health pledge, conduct creative competitions like poster-making, and engage parents through PTAs and community sessions.



Chandigarh: In a moving celebration of Earth Day, Sacred Heart Senior Secondary School, Sector 26, Chandigarh, held a thought-provoking assembly that eloquently blended environmental consciousness with the visionary ecological teachings of Pope Francis. Class V students captivated the audience with a compelling skit titled "The Earth's Promise", powerfully portraying the interconnectedness between humanity and nature. The performance echoed Pope Francis' urgent call to protect our common home, underscoring the moral imperative of environmental stewardship. The atmosphere grew even more poignant as the students followed up with a soul-stirring rendition of 'Earth is Our Home — a song that resonated with the Pope's enduring message of unity, care, and responsibility towards the planet. Together, the skit and song transformed the assembly into a heartfelt reminder of our duty to nurture and preserve the Earth for generations to come.

HRY GOVT HIKES DEARNESS ALLOWANCE TO 55 PC
Chandigarh: The Haryana Government has decided to increase the Dearness Allowance (DA) and Dearness Relief from 53 to 55 percent for its employees and pensioners. According to a statement, these revised rates will be effective from January 1, 2025. A spokesperson said that according to an order issued by the Finance Department, the revised Dearness Allowance and Dearness Relief will be given with the salary/pension of April 2025. At the same time, the arrears for the period from January 2025 to March 2025 will be paid in May 2025.

CM SAINTI PAYS TRIBUTE TO LATE OSAMU SUZUKI, FORMER GLOBAL CHAIRMAN OF SUZUKI MOTORS

Delhi: Haryana Chief Minister Nayab Singh Saini on Wednesday visited Yashobhoomi in Dwarka, Delhi, to pay tribute to the late Osamu Suzuki, former Global Chairman of Suzuki Motors. Osamu Suzuki passed away on December 25, 2024, at the age of 95. A prayer meeting was held at the Yashobhoomi convention center in Dwarka to honor his memory. The Chief Minister offered floral tributes to a portrait of the late Osamu Suzuki and prayed for the peace of his soul. He also interacted with members of Suzuki Motors' management and later visited an exhibition showcasing the remarkable life journey of late Osamu Suzuki.

LICENCE OF SONIPAT DOCTOR CANCELLED FOR VIOLATING PC & PNDDT ACT

Chandigarh: Dr Kuldeep Singh, Director General Health Services (DGHS), Haryana, said that the sex ratio of the state up to April 22, 2025 is 911 as per Civil Registration System (CRS) portal. Licence of one BAMS doctor of Sonipat district who was found violating PC & PNDDT Act and MTP Act has been cancelled by Council of Indian Medicine, Haryana. Out of 1500 MTP Centres in the state, 379 MTP centres have been closed and registration of 16 MTP centers has been suspended in the last one month. There is a declining trend in the sale of MTP Kit in Haryana.

AGRICULTURE MINISTER REVIEWS WHEAT PROCUREMENT PROCESS AT AMBALA MANDI

Ambala: Haryana Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare Minister Shyam Singh Rana visited the Mandi (grain markets) of Ambala City and Ambala Cantonment on Wednesday to review the ongoing wheat procurement process. During his visit, he not only checked the moisture content in the wheat piles but also interacted with the farmers and asked if they were facing any issues regarding the purchase of their crops, weighing, payments, or any other concerns. Rana also spoke with commission agents (arhtiyas) and took feedback about the facilities being provided in the Mandi. He reviewed the current status of wheat arrival, procurement, and lifting of wheat from the concerned procurement agencies. Responding to the demand for sunflower crop procurement raised by the commission agents, the Minister assured them that sunflower purchase will begin from the next season. Later, he also visited the Ambala Cantonment grain market and gave directions to improve the lifting process there.

55.89 LAKH METRIC TONNES OF WHEAT PROCURED IN HARYANA SO FAR: MINISTER

Chandigarh: Haryana Minister of State for Food, Civil Supplies and Consumer Affairs Rajesh Nagar on Wednesday said that 55.89 lakh metric tonnes of wheat were procured in the State so far. Presiding over a meeting with department officers, he sought information about timely lifting of grains from the mandis of the state and payment to the farmers. Notably, grain procurement in Haryana began on April 1. Till April 22, a total of 55.89 lakh metric tonnes of wheat has been purchased in the state. Out of this, around 26.36 lakh metric tonnes of wheat has already been lifted. This wheat was bought from approximately 3.43 lakh farmers, and payments worth Rs 5,556.81 crore have been transferred directly into their bank accounts. The Minister further said that mustard procurement is being done by HAFED and Haryana Warehousing Corporation. As of April 22, 6.23 lakh metric tonnes of mustard have been purchased, and around 4.47 lakh metric tonnes have been lifted. A total of Rs 2,459.04 crore has been deposited into the accounts of farmers for mustard procurement.

Editor's TAKE

Humanity dies in Pahalgam

Terrorists slaughter 28 tourists – a tragic reminder that terror still haunts the Valley

In one of the deadliest terror attacks in Jammu and Kashmir since the abrogation of Article 370 in 2019, 28 tourists were massacred on Tuesday in the tranquil Baisaran meadow near the popular hill resort of Pahalgam. The Resistance Front (TRF), a proxy terror outfit of the Pakistan-based Lashkar-e-Taiba (LeT), claimed responsibility. This attack has not only shocked the nation but also reopened deep-seated concerns about the fragile security scenario in Kashmir.

The tourists, who included honeymooners, families, and two foreign nationals—from Nepal and the UAE— were gunned down in a sudden gunfire. Despite existing security measures, including checkpoints and patrols, the attackers managed to infiltrate and execute their mission with clinical precision, raising serious questions about intelligence and on-ground preparedness.

This incident is not an isolated act of violence but appears deeply orchestrated. It coincided with two significant geopolitical events: The visit of US Vice President JD Vance to India and Prime Minister Narendra Modi's diplomatic mission in Saudi Arabia. Additionally, it followed a combative speech by Pakistani Army chief General Asim Munir, intensifying suspicions that the attack was calibrated to internationalise the Kashmir issue and portray the region as a nuclear flashpoint. The synchronicity is disturbingly reminiscent of the Chittisinghpura massacre in 2000, where 36 Sikhs were murdered days before US President Bill Clinton's visit.

By targeting tourists – symbols of normalcy and economic recovery—the terrorists aimed to derail the narrative of a stable Kashmir and provoke communal unrest across India. Since Article 370 was revoked, the Indian government has maintained a tight security apparatus in Kashmir, focusing on counter-insurgency and infrastructure development to boost tourism. While there has been a marked decline in local recruitment into terrorist groups, proxies like TRF have stepped up infiltration, especially using foreign fighters and sleeper cells.

The attack also underscores significant lapses. Despite heavy surveillance, there was no forewarning of this operation. The use of Army uniforms by terrorists highlights a dangerous tactic to bypass trust and checkpoints. Tourists, previously considered off-limits, are now being directly targeted, expanding the threat matrix. But the question is why now? Indeed it has to do with the arrival of US Vice President JD Vance. Pakistan may be attempting to paint Kashmir as unstable and urge foreign intervention.

Tourism in Kashmir has seen a resurgence post-370, contributing significantly to the local economy. Attacking tourists directly threatens this recovery. The brutal nature of the attack – execution-style killings – aims to spread fear and signal the reach and intent of the perpetrators.

India now faces the dual challenge of responding decisively to terror while safeguarding the fragile gains in Kashmir. It is time to enhanced human intelligence and local collaboration to detect sleeper cells. Deployment of smart surveillance technologies in vulnerable areas is a must and should be taken on priority. In the wake of this unspeakable tragedy, India faces a critical inflection point – one that demands not just a military or tactical response, but a comprehensive strategic recalibration.

First and foremost, a robust diplomatic offensive is essential. India must intensify international pressure on nations that provide safe haven or support to terror outfits, directly or indirectly. This includes leveraging global forums such as the United Nations, and bilateral partnerships to isolate state and non-state actors that are responsible for terrorism. Silence and inaction on terror can no longer be diplomatically acceptable – strategic complacency must be met with unwavering clarity and consequence.

Second, the long-term antidote to terrorism lies not only in security but in stability. Continued economic development and civic engagement in Jammu and Kashmir are key to undermining extremist narratives. Investment in education, job creation, tourism infrastructure, and inclusive governance empowers local communities, weakens recruitment for terror networks, and fosters a sense of belonging among youth. A region that thrives economically is harder to radicalise. Most critically, it is time to revisit and reinforce the security architecture surrounding tourism. Tourists – once regarded as ambassadors of peace and economic revival – have now become targets. This demands a thorough overhaul of safety protocols, especially in remote and high-traffic areas like Pahalgam. The aim is not to deter tourism, but to restore confidence. Kashmir must not once again become a hostage to fear.

Leaderspeak



The dastardly killing of innocent, unsuspecting tourists by terrorists in Pahalgam yesterday around 2:30 PM has deeply hurt, shocked, and saddened us all. The Congress Party unequivocally condemns this cowardly act of terror and those responsible for it in the strongest possible terms. This attack is a direct assault on the unity and integrity of our nation.

MALLIKARJUN KHARGE, PRESIDENT, CONGRESS PARTY

Contempt plea against Dubey

Madam — The Supreme Court on Tuesday 22 April said it will hear next week a contempt plea filed against BJP MP Nishikant Dubey for his controversial remarks blaming Chief Justice of India (CJI) Sanjiv Khanna for “civil wars” in the country.

The matter was brought before a Bench comprising Justice B.R. Gavai and Justice Augustine George Masih by a lawyer who highlighted that the Attorney General had not responded to the request for sanction to initiate contempt proceedings.

“The remark is viral. Dubey says CJI responsible for civil wars. No reply from Attorney (General),” the lawyer said, prompting Justice Gavai to respond, “List it next week.”

Dubey had sharply criticized the judiciary, claiming that if the Supreme Court continues to frame laws, then Parliament and state assemblies might as well be shut down.

His comments came after the Centre assured the court that it would hold off on implementing controversial provisions of the Waqf (Amendment) Act, following judicial scrutiny. The BJP was quick to distance itself from Dubey's explosive comments.

Party president J.P. Nadda called the statements personal opinions and reiterated the BJP's “utmost respect for the judiciary,” instructing party leaders to refrain from such remarks in the future.

Political fault lines shift in Bihar

With caste dynamics, coalition equations, and leadership challenges all in play, the stage is set for a high-stakes political showdown between the NDA and the Mahagathbandhan

The Bihar polls at the end of the year are pretty unpredictable. Currently, there will be no cakewalk for the BJP, RJD, Congress or the JD(U). The churning is quietly taking place in Bihar politics. There could be a potential shift in power dynamics. The BJP, playing second fiddle to the Janata Dal (United) for the past two decades, is eyeing a lead role. The RJD wants to form the government.

Two crucial power groups are in the fight. On one side, the NDA and, on the other, the Mahagathbandhan, which comprises the RJD, Congress, and the Left parties. Intra-party and inner-party dynamics are in full swing.

The NDA and Mahagathbandhan are making calculated moves for a high-stakes political showdown. Encouraged by consecutive victories in states where the odds were against it, a revitalised BJP has now set its sights on Bihar after winning Delhi.

Bihar's caste politics is interesting. Backward classes comprise 63.13 per cent of the population, and the upper caste is only 15.52 per cent. Other Backward Classes comprise 27.12 per cent of the backward class category, while the Extremely Backward Class population numbered 36 per cent. Dalits comprise almost 19.65 per cent and

Yadavs account for 14.26 per cent. Kurmi, Nitish Kumar's Kurmi caste, also categorised as OBC, is 2.87 per cent of the population. In the last Assembly polls, upper castes, around 15 per cent of the population, dominated ticket distribution in many parties. BJP gave 47.3 per cent of its tickets to upper caste candidates, whereas Congress gave 40 per cent of its seats to upper castes.

In the 2020 Bihar assembly elections, the Mahagathbandhan did not win a simple majority in the 243-member legislative assembly, missing it by just 12 seats. The RJD was the largest party in the House but could not form the government.

For the 2025 polls, JD(U) has confirmed Nitish Kumar as the chief ministerial face. The well-known poll expert Prashant Kishor predicted that Nitish Kumar would end his political career. The RJD has opted for its leader, Tejaswi Yadav. Congress has not opened its cards yet. A series of meetings between Congress and the RJD, which began this month, continues.

The Janata Dal (United) party and the BJP coalition currently rule Bihar. Nitish Kumar's deteriorating health, caste balance, and the functioning of the alliance make Bihar politically unpredictable. Even if the



BJP chooses Nitish, his health issues could significantly impact the election outcome.

The JD(U) wants to bargain for more seats with the BJP. In 2020, the JD(U) ran for 115 seats but only won 43. In contrast, the BJP ran for 110 seats and won 74. The Mahagathbandhan, which consists of RJD,

Congress, and some smaller parties, pose stiff opposition. The RJD and top Congress leaders met in Delhi last week to advance the alliance.

Political realignments since 2020 — the VIP joining the MGB, the LJP aligning with the NDA and the Rashtriya Lok Samata Party merging into the JD(U) — complicate the poll picture.

A key development since 2020 has been the change in the power equation within the NDA, with the BJP emerging stronger. The BJP has strategically cultivated non-dominant other backward classes (OBCs) and non-dominant Dalit communities.

Union Home Minister Amit Shah visit-

ed Bihar for two days. Prime Minister Narendra Modi will visit Bihar.

RJD chief Lalu Prasad Yadav made a surprising announcement, stating that he is open to reconciling with his socialist ally, Nitish Kumar. In response to this mischievous statement, Nitish remarked that he had inadvertently aligned with the RJD. Tejaswi Yadav, however, asserted that there is no place for Nitish in the Mahagathbandhan. Many believe that Nitish, known for his U-turns, could switch sides.

The INDIA opposition bloc has appointed Tejaswi Yadav, the Rashtriya Janata Dal (RJD) leader and former Bihar Deputy Chief Minister, as head of its coordination committee for the upcoming Bihar Assembly elections. This decision was made during a meeting of the six alliance partners in Patna on April 17.

The Congress and Left parties in the Mahagathbandhan are worried that the RJD will wait until the last minute to finalise seat-sharing agreements. The Congress party is unhappy with the weak constituencies it was given in 2020. It only won 19 out of the 70 seats it contested in the last election. The CPI(ML), which did

well in 2020, wants a larger share of seats. Since 2005, the RJD has had difficulty regaining power, except for short periods in 2015 and 2022.

Currently, Tejaswi Yadav has two main tasks. First, he needs to expand the support beyond its core groups of Muslims and Yadavs to include other castes. This involves a stronger grassroots campaign, as the traditional voting trends are changing. The Congress has not developed younger leadership in Bihar. Its old core groups of Muslims and Dalits have shifted to other parties. The party has launched the 'Samvidhan Leadership Programme' to eye marginalised communities.

The main parties face challenges both within their groups and from outside, and a significant political change is expected. A point to note is that Nitish Kumar's EBC is intact and challenges the RJD-Congress alliance.

There could be many more changes before November; they would be interesting to watch. In politics, one week is said to be long. Six months is really long.

(The author is a popular columnist. Views are personal)

SECOND Opinion

BY SHARMILA VAIDYA

In my most rewarding 26 years of experience working as an educator, I have had the privilege of working with students from diverse backgrounds and in different educational settings. It is during this period I started administering the state mandated IQ tests. These tests were administered to measure an individual's cognitive abilities, mostly logical reasoning, memory and verbal mathematical aptitude. They tell us how well someone can solve abstract problems under specific conditions.

I was surprised to see how these standardised tests categorised and measured individuals by numbers and scores often disregarding their potential, experiences and abilities, making it inherently biased.

This realisation prompted me to explore what IQ, intelligence and success fully mean in the real world. Hence, I decided to conduct a small survey. To get a fair sampling, I included people of different backgrounds - educators, parents, students, homemakers and professionals.

My questions were:
1. What qualities make you see someone as intelligent?
2. Do you think people with low IQ can be successful?
I was pleasantly surprised to see the responses from the survey. According to the survey - some of these qualities were,

- someone who is empathetic, creative, problem-solving, curious, open to ideas, a good communicator, accepting without being judgmental ... and many more. Most people also believe that individuals with lower IQ scores can achieve success - especially when they possess strong emotional intelligence (EQ).

Based on this survey I concluded that there was a shift in people's perception from iQ to EQ . In general, the meaning of intelligence exceeded beyond the confinement of standardised test. In order to get a broader understanding of intelligence I started researching the different types of intelligences as per psychological theory.

In the 1980s, Harvard psychologist, Howard Gardner proposed a theory that broke away from the “one-size-fits-all” model of intelligence. He introduced eight distinct types of intelligence that reflected the diverse ways humans learn, express themselves, and solve problems. These were:

Linguistic Intelligence: Word savvy like, writers, storytellers
Logical: Mathematical Intelligence: Analytical thinkers, like scientists and engineers

Musical Intelligence: Musically inclined, like musicians, Kinesthetic Intelligence: Physical grace and skill like, dancers

Spatial Intelligence: Visual and spatial thinkers like architects and artists

Interpersonal Intelligence: People skills and empathy like, therapists, teachers, and leaders.

Intrapersonal Intelligence: Deep self-understanding like philosophers and spiritual leaders

Naturalistic Intelligence: Attunement to nature, like, gardeners and environmentalists.

Among other psychologists that followed, Daniel Goldman played an important role in introducing the concept of Emotional Intelligence, which includes empathy, self-awareness and emotional regulation which demonstrated that EQ plays an important role in personal success.

Together, these theories encourage us to look beyond IQ scores and appreciate the depth and diversity of human potential. Hence, even if one wasn't considered academically intelligent and didn't fit in the traditional high IQ “cookie cutter” mould, many have been very successful and have contributed to society at large. Examples include:

Thomas Edison was considered “difficult” in school and reportedly had very little formal education. His teachers thought he was slow or unable to learn. Despite this, he became one of the most prolific inventors in history.

Walt Disney was reportedly fired from a newspaper job for “lacking imagination,” and he struggled academically. His success came through storytelling, creativity, and persistence.

Therefore, we must reconsider the tendency to label someone as lazy or unintelligent based solely on conventional standards. I believe my experience along with research and survey findings strongly support this perspective, which is aptly captured in the quote: “A high IQ may open a door, but emotional intelligence determines how far you'll go once you walk through it.”

(The writer is an educator based in the US. Views are personal)

Why EQ matters more than IQ

PAHALGAM ATTACK: TERRORISTS ARE ENEMIES OF ENTIRE MANKIND

Once again Kashmir is lying in blood. It is very sad to note that atleast 26 people mostly tourist were killed and several were injured by the Terrorist. The gruesome attack should be condemned by each and every one. The Government boasted a lot after abrogation of Article 370 that the terrorism will come to an end in Jammu and Kashmir. After the rhetoric of Amit Shah and PM Narendra Modi that there is normalcy in Jammu and Kashmir the attack has proved that the Central Government has failed miserably to crumble down the terrorism. While many tourist were enjoying a peaceful afternoon amidst snow-capped peaks and pine forests the militants had split blood in Pahalgam. This an direct attack on the Indian state . The entire nation is in great shock. Previously in the gruesome terror attack in Jammu and Kashmir over 43 brave soldiers were killed. Every now and then many innocents people's

are being killed by terrorism. Now killing of 26 tourist is act of barbarians and act of cowardice and assault on the values of humanity . Conceded that there can be genuine grievances of the people and individuals but violence is certainly not an option for redressal. It is a crime against humanity and has to be condemned by one and all. The terrorists are the enemies of entire mankind and they do not belong to a particular religion or particular country. All religions are great and love should be the universal religion. I request the Government to take stringent action against those are behind the terror attack. My sympathies to the families and prayers to the injured. At this moment the nation must stand by the families of the brutally killed innocent people and make all efforts to bring the culprits and give them exemplary punishment.

ZAKIR HUSSAIN | KAZIPET

National Panchayat Day

Madam — The evolution of Panchayat Raj System in India can be traced back to ancient Vedic period. On 24 April 1993 Panchayat Raj system in India came into effect with the enactment of the 73rd Constitutional Amendment Act on 22/23 December 1992, was ratified by state legislatures and came into effect on 24 April 1993.

To mark the establishment of Panchayat Raj Institutions (PRIs) in India through constitution, “National Panchayat Raj Day” is observed every year on 24 April to promote grassroots democracy, rural development, inclusive governance, women empowerment, ensure accountability and transparency, strengthening local governance, and empower rural communities.

The decentralisation of power, e-governance, capacity building, and financial oversight are some of the core responsibilities of PRIs in India. This day mainly focus on enhancing participatory governance, rural upliftment, rural women empowerment, and digital transformation in village-level administration.

The Constitution of India recognises PRIs as “Institutions of Self-governance”. Currently, there are nearly 2.63 lakh Panchayats, 31.47 lakh elected representatives of PRIs of which 14.54 lakh are women. It is important for achieving inclusive growth and addressing issues like climate change and rural-to-urban migration.

B. MADHUSUDHAN REDDY | KARIMNAGAR

Mangoes can be a health risk!

Madam —Mango is a fruit rich in flavor, nutrition, and energy. It contains essential vitamins such as A and C, along with iron—nutrients that are highly beneficial for the eyes, skin, and immune system.

However, consuming mangoes before their natural season poses serious health risks, especially when they are artificially ripened using harmful chemicals like calcium carbide.

This chemical accelerates the ripening process unnaturally, but its toxic compounds can damage the stomach, liver, and nervous system. Prolonged exposure or consumption may lead to ulcers, nausea, and in severe cases, even increase the risk of cancer.

It is therefore wise to prefer naturally ripened mangoes and prioritize health over momentary pleasure. Naturally ripened mangoes are available only during the proper mango season. The ones found in markets before that time are often treated with hazardous substances to enhance their appearance and ripen them prematurely. In fact it is the duty of the Government that no food item is sold which is a health risk.

Those who indulge in this practice must be behind the bars. So, for now, stay away from your “beloved” mango— and choose health over desire. A little patience today can ensure a safer and sweeter tomorrow!

BHAGWAN THADANI | MUMBAI

ABDUL MBODD | MUMBAI

WAVES 2025: Redefining global media diplomacy

WAVES weaves together storytelling, technology and international cooperation to reshape the global media and entertainment. This summit marks a decisive leap into a future where India leads with innovation, cultural capital and strategic foresight

FIRST
Column

Come May 1st, India has truly arrived with the WAVES Entertainment Summit being held in Mumbai from 1st to 4th of May 2025. The summit echoes the vision envisaged in 2019 by PM Modi in his speech at the inauguration of the National Museum of Indian Cinema; highlighting Indian cinema as a powerful medium of global outreach and soft power, calling it a “silent force” that shapes global perceptions and connects cultures. He emphasised cinema’s potential to promote film tourism, inviting international filmmakers to explore India’s diverse landscapes. The design of WAVES is an unusual convergence of like-mindedness of M&E stakeholders; individuals or institutions that think alike in carving out a landscape that will be suited for the global fraternity responsible for creating content and its consumption.

WAVES 2025 brings a bold new phase of soft power diplomacy, focusing on transformative and technology-driven partnerships. Innovation in this segment is bound to create a new buzz for foreign policy tie-ups, carried forward on the wings of emerging tools such as Artificial Intelligence (AI), Virtual Reality (VR), and immersive content ecosystems. The diverse participation at WAVES will open unprecedented avenues for multilateral cooperation and dialogue across critical areas of knowledge sharing, media engagement, storytelling ecosystems, and digital co-productions. It provides India with an unparalleled opportunity to assert global leadership in the creative domain; by fusing its creativity quotient, strategic foresight, and cultural capital into a soft power matrix that fosters goodwill and purposeful international collaboration.

At the heart of WAVES 2025 lies its evocative tagline: “Connecting Creators, Connecting Countries”, a bold declaration of India’s intent to reposition itself as a global M&E powerhouse. As a summit that seeks to reimagine communication diplomacy, one of its most awaited outcomes is the WAVES Declaration, a visionary charter that could reshape the media discourse globally.

Rarely has a platform attempted to knit together creativity, business, leadership, and soft power into a cohesive global identity. But WAVES seeks to do just that, with a Global Media Dialogue, a declaration of shared values, and a structured roadmap for the M&E industry that reflects the ethos of a borderless, tech-enabled, creatively interconnected world. The declaration will place communication-clear, coherent, and collaborative-at the centre of a new global information order, founded on equity, access, equality, and participation.

WAVES has quietly but effectively given a new meaning to soft power diplomacy wherein all constituents that create charisma associated with knowledge sharing and storytelling play a critical role in bilateral or multilateral cooperation. It would be appropriate to mention that diplomacy will adorn new wings of change based on creativ-



ity, innovation and the spirit of collaboration. WAVES will truly be the “Mahakumbh” of ideas, opportunities, experiences and knowledge sharing.

The philosophical underpinning of WAVES 2025 can be distilled into the 7 Cs of Communication: Clarity, Conciseness, Concreteness, Correctness, Coherence, Completeness, and Courtesy. These seven pillars not only ensure effective storytelling but serve as diplomatic principles guiding cross-border media collaboration. They offer a timeless framework as we enter an era where communication is the new currency of power, diplomacy, and development.

With narratives shaping geopolitics, trade, and international perception, there is a pressing need for a Global Media Charter, a binding commitment from nations to protect freedom of creative expression, foster diverse storytelling, and ensure ethical media practices. WAVES 2025 can be the birthplace of this transformative shift. In a world increasingly governed by digital influence and algorithmic reach, a unified declaration will help navigate the



CHAITANYA K PRASAD

THE SUMMIT ALSO AIMS TO INCREASE INDIA’S GLOBAL MARKET SHARE IN MEDIA, ATTRACT MAJOR INVESTMENTS, AND ENCOURAGE CO-PRODUCTION BETWEEN INDIAN AND INTERNATIONAL PLAYERS. BY BRINGING TOGETHER CREATORS, INVESTORS, AND POLICYMAKERS, WAVES OFFERS A SHARED SPACE TO BUILD PARTNERSHIPS AND GROW IDEAS

ethical dilemmas of deepfakes, information disorder, and cultural homogenisation. It’s not just about content anymore; it’s about cultural continuity, technological responsibility, and global unity through creative collaboration.

WAVES isn’t just about short-term buzz, it’s about building something lasting. It understands that media and entertainment (M&E) isn’t a quick fix but a long-term strategic play. At its heart is a clear goal: to make India the global content hub and a net exporter of stories. With its rich cultural diversity and languages, India has all the ingredients to build a strong intellectual property base that resonates worldwide.

The summit also aims to increase India’s global market share in media, attract major investments, and encourage co-production between Indian and international players. By bringing together creators, investors, and policymakers, WAVES offers a shared space to build partnerships and grow ideas. Platforms like WaveXcelerator and WAVES Bazaar will help startups and innovators scale up and plug into global markets.

WAVES 2025 is designed to be a complete experience. The Global Media Dialogue brings together ministers and top policymakers from around the world to exchange ideas. The Thought Leaders Track will host key sessions exploring future trends and challenges in media.

In the Exhibition Zone, companies will showcase the latest in gaming, animation, VR, and AI. The WAVES Bazaar will act as a meeting ground for buyers and sellers to find the right collaborators. WaveXcelerator will give startups a chance to pitch live and attract investors.

The Bharat Pavilion will spotlight India’s storytelling journey; from folk tales to futuristic formats. The CreateSphere will feature masterclasses, creators’ meet-ups, and the grand finale of the Create in India Challenge. And finally, a series of cultural performances will bring together talent from across the globe, blending tradition with innovation.

WAVES is expected to drive real outcomes, from new content partnerships and global investments to job creation and policy support. It will help position India as a creative and tech-savvy media partner for the world. With cutting-edge tech on display, including AI tools and immersive experiences, the summit will also show how India is shaping the future of media.

By promoting co-productions, content exchanges, and new distribution deals, WAVES could help Indian stories travel further. It also gives international stakeholders a chance to build real connections with Indian creators-paying the way for shared growth and innovation. Most importantly, it sets the stage for India to lead the way in global media diplomacy.

The timing couldn’t be better. According to the EY-FICCI 2025 M&E Report, India’s media sector grew to INR 2.5 trillion in 2024 and is expected to touch INR 2.7 trillion in 2025.

Digital media now makes up 32% of total revenue, with digital ads growing fast. OTT platforms grew by 18%, driven by regional stories finding global fans. The report projects that the sector will hit INR 3.1 trillion by 2027, powered by gaming, animation, and immersive tech. WAVES gives these numbers real meaning, by turning data into action, partnerships into policy, and content into soft power. It’s where the industry meets diplomacy and the future is co-created.

India is no longer on the sidelines of the global media conversation, it is setting the agenda. With WAVES 2025, India is articulating a bold creative vision for the world: one that transcends platforms, breaks silos, and builds coalitions of creators. WAVES 2025 isn’t just another summit, it is a cultural declaration, a geopolitical realignment of media narratives, and a commitment to connect not just creators, but countries, cultures, and communities.

By placing communication at the heart of global partnerships, WAVES brings together not only markets but also minds and meanings. The world is watching, and India is ready to lead.

(The writer is former Civil Servant, writes on Cinema and Strategic Communication. Views are personal. Inputs provided by Zoya Ahmad and Vaishnavi Srinivasan)

Reclaiming our humanity: A call to connection in a fragmented world

Amid global turmoil, Danish explorer Thor Pedersen’s journey to every country without flying stands as quiet proof that kindness and shared humanity endure — even in the unlikelyest places. It’s a story of contrast, conviction, and hope

Septuagenarian Dr Iain McGilchrist, a world-renowned philosopher, psychiatrist and neuroscientist, recently addressed a symposium titled The Future of Humanity, where he delved into some of the most pressing questions at the heart of our existence-the existence of what is good, beautiful, and true. Reflecting on his lifetime, he observed that these fundamental transcendental values have been increasingly sidelined, decried, debased, and even destroyed. “It is not just that we are distracted from the truth,” he noted, “but we demand protection from it, lest it hurt us-in case life itself hurts us.”



DEBASISH BHATTACHARYYA

This observation resonates deeply in a world increasingly perceived as unkind, unfeeling, and unconcerned,

where the very essence of humanity-compassion, love, and concern-seems to be vanishing at an alarming rate.

In our hyper-competitive socio-political environment, every sphere of life-familial, social, professional, and spiritual-is under strain. Systems meant to support them are collapsing. Yet amid this bleakness, glimmers of hope remain. One such beacon is a traveller’s journey-marked by twists, encounters, and insights, offering a powerful affirmation of the human spirit.

Take the journey of Thor Pedersen, a Danish explorer. Thor is the only person in history to travel to every country in the world without flying. Between 2013 and 2023, he visited over 200 nations-India being his 168th-using only ships, trains, buses, and other ground or sea-based transport. His journey was more than a feat of endurance; it became a profound exploration of humanity, transcending borders, cultures, and beliefs.

At the heart of his experience lay a simple truth: “People are just people.” Wherever he went, he met ordinary people living ordinary lives-finding joy in food, music, and sports, and valuing safety and stability over political and religious



divides. Across every border he crossed, he was met with kindness and generosity. Strangers offered him meals, shelter, contacts, translations, or simply a smile when he needed it most-true to the spirit of our shared humanity.

His realisation deepened when he observed: “If we reduce people to numbers and statistics, we create distance and lose empathy. Divide and conquer is an age-old strategy, and it works well-but at what cost? We can keep dividing the world until, eventually, we all sit alone.”

However, the Danish globetrotter’s voyage was not without challenges. He encountered a few unpleasant incidents and individuals along the way, threatened by drunk, armed, and hostile men, battling cerebral malaria, and being held at gunpoint. While all this, however, did not dishearten him, we are reminded of Gandhiji’s profound words: “You must not lose faith in humanity. Humanity is like an ocean; if a few drops of the ocean

are dirty, the ocean does not become dirty.”

Thor’s journey, devoid of privilege and elitism-underscores vital truths:

a) Even if gentleness and kindness seem to be in decline, they continue to thrive quietly at the grassroots.

b) Though humanity struggles to find its rightful place in a world consumed by the relentless pursuit of power, pleasure, and profit, it is not lost - only marginalised.

c) As we glamourise wealth, we risk losing the very qualities that define us as human-compassion, care, and cooperation.

History bears witness to countless individuals who, in moments of crisis, be it accidents, tragedies, or desperate need - step forward uninvited, saving lives and rekindling faith in humanity. Though often overlooked, their actions quietly pull humanity back from the brink.

That said, the world remains enmeshed

in grave, interconnected crises-war, inequality, poverty, climate change-all demanding collective will. Sadly, world leaders, despite their promises, continue to ignore the catastrophic plight of millions. As they routinely gather to design an ostensibly better future, they remain either unable or unwilling to respond-revealing not just a failure of meaningful action, but a failure of intent.

Grim Realities

For long, we have viewed the world as manipulable and controllable-ripe to be bent to our will. Therefore, few doubt that many crises plaguing our world are not mere accidents of fate or unavoidable circumstances; they are often the deliberate outcomes of power-driven agendas. Fueled by greed, ruthless self-interest, and an insatiable thirst for domination, these forces ignite brutal conflict, widespread deprivation, environmental devastation, racism, and religious extremism-creating

a reality steeped in suffering and division.

Poverty, an affront to human dignity, heightens vulnerability to abuse. Tied to climate change, it’s set to intensify-new research led by Dr Timothy Neal (University of New South Wales) warns the average person could be 40% poorer if global temperatures rise by 4°C.

Shockingly, those who hold power-whether in struggling countries, developing economies, or even the most developed nations-have often abandoned humanity as the foundation of governance. Opportunistic toxic politics and hybrid forms of authoritarianism continue to destroy the sacred ground of human dignity, pushing aside the cardinal principle that must guide all leadership: People Over Everything.

Even the COVID-19 crisis-exposing vulnerabilities and inequities-failed to instil lasting solidarity. Human dignity remains dispensable.

What of more grim realities?

According to the Geneva Academy, more than 45 armed conflicts are currently raging across the Middle East and North Africa. Africa follows closely, with over 35 non-international armed conflicts (NIACs). Asia remains a battleground for 19 such conflicts, while Europe contends with seven.

Bleak as it may seem, this is a call to action-one urging us to deepen our commitment to humanistic values, where every life is worthwhile, wanted, and welcomed.

While it may be simplistic to expect everything to align perfectly with the humanistic way, it is crucial to recognise the deeper causes of suffering, distress, and anguish within the fabric of human society-locally, nationally, and globally. In an age of deep disillusionment, we must remember: the world is not merely a map of borders, but a shared home.

As Professor Harvey Whitehouse of Oxford reminds us: “Remembering that we are all related and experience many of the same challenges could be the key to solving global problems-from inter-group conflicts to poverty and the climate crisis.”

What kind of world do we want to live in? If we fail to address this, we risk sliding into a soulless existence-a world full of people, yet empty of humanity. We may exist, but we will not truly live. The degradation of humanity is not inevitable. Though messiness and imperfection are part of what makes us human, it is in our ability to reclaim substantive conversation and enrich our relationships, based on humanistic virtues. Our hearts and minds-feeling, willing, knowing, sensing-must not grow numb to the suffering that surrounds us. We must not be swayed by eloquent words, empty rhetoric, or the shallow display of symbolism. Only through real, tangible action can we reclaim what is slipping away-the very essence of our shared humanity.

The imperative of our times: Reawakening our humanity — Embracing what matters most-People, planet, and our shared future.

(The writer is columnist and author. He is former Deputy General Manager, India International Centre, Delhi. Views expressed are personal)

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA ■ New York

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA ■ Barnegat
Township

The blaze, burning in Ocean and Lacey

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA ■ Karachi

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA ■ New York

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA ■ London

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA ■ Atlanta

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA ■ Kyiv

Putin declared a 30-hour unilateral ceasefire on Saturday, but Ukraine and British officials said Russian attacks continued during the alleged pause. The Associated Press was unable to verify whether a ceasefire was in place along the roughly 1,000-km front line.

Amritsar: Guru Nanak Dev University's Hindi Department, in collaboration with the Central Hindi Directorate, held a two-day national seminar titled "Indian Knowledge System: A Multidimensional Legacy", highlighting India's rich literary and philosophical traditions. Eminent scholars and cultural figures from across the country participated.

Man City scores late winner to beat Aston Villa 2-1

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA ■ Manchester

Pep Guardiola celebrated wildly as Manchester City took a big step toward Champions League qualification with a 2-1 victory over Aston Villa in the Premier League. With clenched fists, the City manager roared with delight after Matheus Nunes struck deep into stoppage time at the Etihad Stadium. “I was so happy. I have to admit it,” Guardiola said after a win that could help salvage a troubled season for his once dominant team.

The late winner moved four-time defending league champion City up to third in the standings, with the top five securing a place in European club soccer's top competition. Nunes fired home from a tight angle in the fourth minute of added time after Jeremy Doku's low cross through the box. The game had looked destined to end in a draw after Bernardo Silva's first-half goal had been canceled out by a Marcus Rashford penalty.

There is still likely to be a tense battle for the Champions League with a clutch of teams in contention going into the final weeks of the season and just four points separating third to seventh in the standings. But City's fate is in its own hands after a troubled campaign that saw its title defense unravel before Christmas and its hopes of winning the Champions League end in the playoffs.

A top-five finish would go some way to ending the season on a high — and Guardiola's celebration was evidence of just how important the win could prove to be.

“We have a lot of pressure for the club to go to the Champions League,” said Guardiola, whose City team won the competition for the first time in 2023.

“If we win the next four games, it will have been so important,” he added.



Victory moved City up to 61 points and above Nottingham Forest in fourth and Newcastle in fifth. Chelsea is sixth and Villa, with 57 points, is seventh.

England's top flight will be given a bonus fifth Champions League place because of the performances of English teams in Europe this season. Both City and Villa have played a game more than their top-five rivals. But City knows a perfect record from its remaining four league games would guarantee a place in next season's Champions League.

It would be the 15th season in a row that City has qualified for the competition and would provide an uplifting finale to a campaign that brought an end to Guardiola's recent dominance of English soccer.

There is likely to be a rebuild in the off-season, with Kevin De Bruyne leaving and Silva and Ilkay Gundogan also in the latter stages of their careers. But it was Silva who provided the opener for City in the seventh minute from close range after

Omar Marmoush's cutback. Rashford had already hit the post for Villa by that point after bursting into the box seconds after kickoff. And the on-loan Manchester United forward was on the score sheet in the 18th — equalising from the penalty spot following a VAR review of Ruben Dias' foul on Jacob Ramsey in the box.

Defeat was a blow to Villa's hopes of making it back-to-back seasons in the Champions League after returning to the competition for the first time in 41 years this term and advancing to the quarter-finals. “Of course, today we lost, but there are still matches to play, still points to play (for). We will have chances to get the Champions League,” Villa manager Unai Emery said.

“I am happy how we are reacting, how every player is facing the moment we are (in).” Both City and Villa are also in the semifinals of the FA Cup.

Villa plays Crystal Palace on Saturday, and City plays Nottingham Forest on Sunday.

World Cup Olympics of cricket, says Steve Waugh

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA ■ Madrid

At a time when the relevance of ODIs has become a topic of debate, former Australian captain Steve Waugh has battled for the format, saying that it would never lose significance as the quadrennial World Cup is akin to the “Olympics of cricket”.

In an interaction with select media on the sidelines of the Laureus World Sports awards here, Waugh said despite the pressure of shorter formats, ODIs are holding ground as was evident from the record viewership garnered by the 2023 World Cup. “Everyone seems to think one-day cricket's not going to survive, but then you have the World Cup and it's huge and the ratings are massive and people love it and fall back in love with the game. Then it dies down for a couple years and we go through the same scenario,” Waugh said.

“So right now, somehow we're managing to fit three formats of the game in and there's pressure of T10 maybe coming in, so could be four, four formats of cricket. I don't know how that's all going to get managed, but right now it seems to be going okay. “World Cup is significant for one-day cricket. It's pretty much the Olympics, to play (the World Cup) every four years,” he added. Cricket will have its share of spotlight in the actual Olympics as well when it makes a comeback to the Games after more than 100 years in the 2028 Los Angeles edition.

Waugh also offered his views on other issues concerning international cricket right now, including the obvious Indian dominance in the administration of the sport and the revenue sharing arrangement that favours big Test-playing nations.

A recent study by the World Cricketers Association (WCA) claimed that the BCCI currently receives 38.5 per cent of the global cricket revenue, and recommended the figure be brought down to 10 per cent to ensure fairer distribution.

Calling for equal pay for all Test players regardless of nationality, Waugh said: “If you play a Test match, every player who plays a Test match should have equal pay.

“No one listened to me, but I said that in 1999 in an article, that every Test match player should get paid the same. You play a Test match, the fee should be exactly the same,” added the 59-year-old.

The report also highlighted the congested international schedule, with overlapping bilateral and domestic leagues making it difficult to manage player workload and team commitments. When pointed out that only the IPL has a designated window, Waugh was candid: “BCCI runs world cricket, that's why they have their own window. Simple.”

Bumrah among best but unfair to compare others with him

Among players, Waugh hailed Indian pace spearhead Jasprit Bumrah as one of the finest pacers of modern era, but said it would be unfair to assess other Indian fast bowlers using the same yardstick.

“Bumrah obviously is one of the best bowlers of this modern era, if not of all time. It's very hard when you're judging the other players on him because he's at the elite level. But India have got plenty of backup and plenty of quick bowlers,” he felt. Bumrah has led India's pace attack almost single-handedly for quite a while and remains one of the most feared bowlers across formats. However, frequent injury concerns have plagued his career in recent times. The 31-year-old was India's standout performer during the four-match Test series in Australia, which the visitors lost 1-3. “There's plenty of Indian bowlers out there. Obviously, Bumrah had a great series (in Australia). (Mohammed) Siraj did pretty well and some of the young guys coming through,” he said.

With Rohit Sharma and Virat Kohli in the twilight of their international careers, both are eyeing the 2027 ODI World Cup as their swansong. The duo has already announced their retirement from T20Is.

Waugh said their participation will depend on “form, fitness and motivation.”

“I'm not sure. I mean I don't follow their careers that closely but they've both been incredible cricketers for India,” the former skipper said when asked if he sees them playing a role in the 2027 edition.

Every career has got to end at some stage. They've both been outstanding and they're still world-class players now but lots of things coming up.

15 selected for NCOEs from ASMITA sub-junior hockey league

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA ■ New Delhi

Five under-16 girls from Mizoram are among the 15 hockey players selected by the Sports Authority of India to be inducted into the various National Centres of Excellence (NCOEs).

Seen as the building block for women's hockey in India, the girls have been chosen after the conclusion of the 2024-25 season of the ASMITA leagues matches.

The 15 selected for training at the NCOEs include three players from Haryana and two each from Jharkhand and Odisha, besides girls from Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka and Uttar Pradesh. Piyush Dubey, hockey's High Performance Director for SAI and Khelo India, said these girls have been chosen keeping future Olympics in mind.

“We have to think of a pathway and these girls have the potential to make it to the senior national team. In the last three-four years, ASMITA has provided the opportunity to see so many players in action and this is a welcome change in our hockey ecosystem. This did not exist before,” said Dubey.

He added that many players like Sunelita Toppo, Sujata Kujur and Sakshi Rana have emerged from this hockey league and are now representing India. Six teams featuring 120 under-16

players took part in the ASMITA sub-junior hockey league's final phase.

A total of 17 matches were played in the Rs 15.5 lakh prize money event. SAI Shakti won the team championship for the third consecutive time beating Madhya Pradesh Hockey Academy 2-1 in the final match at the Major Dhyan Chand National Stadium here.

Mizoram's ascendancy in women's hockey has been quite startling. For the first time in its history, the tiny North-eastern state, known for its footballers and boxers, won a bronze medal in the senior national women's hockey championship in Panchkula.

Dubey said the Mizoram girls have shown immense improvement in the last five-six years and credit goes to the coaches who are working at the SAI centre in Thenzawl. Lalrothuami, a 2009 junior India player, said young girls are taking interest in hockey and some 40 are training at the SAI centre.

Mizoram have found a unique way to attract youngsters to play hockey. The image and profile of current Indian women's team player and Tokyo Olympian Lalremsiami have been used in advertisements and social media to attract girls to participate in trials.

“The response has been fairly good from the villages. Two of our girls — Lalthantluangi and Lalrinpuii — are ASMITA products and are junior Indian team members. They are a great adver-

tisement for us and we are very happy that five Mizoram girls have been selected for training at NCOEs,” said Lalrothuami.

“Our players need more competitive exposure and better training ecosystem. In terms of skills, all players are more or less equal but Mizo girls are stronger and have the stamina.

We hope they will utilise the facilities at NCOEs well.” However, selection at NCOEs does not guarantee long-term membership. There are two assessments every year and players are judged on the three basic parameters — physical strength, sports science tests and skills.

The following players have been selected:

For NCOE Lucknow: Shweta Upadhyay (Haryana), Rashi (Haryana).

For NCOE Mumbai: Laldinpuii (Mizoram), Binita Karketta (Jharkhand), Suneli Burh (Odisha), Salmi Jadia (Odisha).

For NCOE Delhi: Tulashi (Andhra Pradesh), Pearlin (Karnataka), Vanlarinluii (Mizoram), Lalnulfelli (Mizoram).

For NCOE Sonipat: Diya (Haryana).

For NCOE Bhopal: Aradhana Rajbhar (Uttar Pradesh), Shivani Khalko (Jharkhand).

For NCOE Kolkata: Loicy Lalthanpuii (Mizoram), Lalfakwami (Mizoram).

CHANGE OF NAME

I, Baljeet W/o Gurpreet Singh R/o H.No.23-C, Punjab Avenue, Subhana, Jalandhar, Punjab-144022, have changed my name from Baljeet to Baljeet Kaur.

I, Sewa Kaur Sandhu W/o S. Gian Singh Sandhu R/o Vill.Pawen, Po.Jhinger Kalan, Tehsil Dasuya, Distt. Hoshiarpur, Now presently residing at H.No.68, Isherpuri Model Colony, Cantt. Road Mithapur, Jalandhar, Punjab-144022, India and I am known by all these name i.e. Sewa Kaur, Sewa Kaur Sandhu and Baljit Kaur and all names are mine i.e. one and same person.

I, Rekha Arora W/o Gautam Arora R/o H.No. 461-A, New Defence Colony, Phase-1, Lane No. 12, Deep Nagar, Jalandhar-144005, Punjab have changed my name from Rekha Arora to Rekha.

I, Sarbjeet Kaur W/o Harinder Singh R/o 7, Karam Singh Colony, Ajanla Road, Gurdwara Palah Sahib, Amritsar, Punjab have changed my name from Sarbjeet Kaur to Sarbjit Kaur.

I hitherto known as Tara Devi W/o Saravjit Singh R/o 1220, Khera Mohalla, Near Masjid, Yamuna Nagar, Tehsil Jagadhri, Distt Yamuna Nagar-135001, Haryana, India have changed my name and shall hereafter be known as Rekha Rani.

I, Neeraj (04/01/1990) W/o Rohit R/o Village Khanjarpur, Post Office/Tehsil Modinagar District Ghaziabad (Uttar Pradesh)-201204, India have changed my name from Neeraj Devi to Neeraj due to wrong name recorded in my husband army service record.

I hitherto known as Chanchal Gera Alias Kanika Baveja D/o Ganpat Rai Gera and W/o Sachin Baveja R/o 1026/924, Near National High School Building, Model Colony, Yamuna Nagar, Tehsil Jagadhri, Distt. Yamuna Nagar-135001, Haryana, India have changed my name and shall hereafter be known as Kanika Baveja.

I, Vishram Singh Gurjar Is Father Of Army No: 14936240p Rank: Hav Name- Surendra Singh Gurjar Presently Posted At Unit: 24 Mech Inf C/O 56 Apo Jaisalmer, Rajasthan Permanent Address: Village- Peepalki, Post. - Peepalki,, Teh: Sikrai, Dist -Dausa, State: Rajasthan, Pin: 303509 Declare That I have Changed My Name From Vishram Singh Gurjar To Vishram Gurjar And Also Correct My Date Of Birth From 17/03/1954 To 01/01/1960. Vide Affidavit No:48aa 901531, Dated: 23/04/2025

I, Bilal Devi Is Mother of Army No: 14936240P Rank: Hav Name- Surendra Singh Gurjar Presently Posted at Unit: 24 mech inf C/o 56 Apo Jaisalmer, Rajasthan Permanent Address: Village- Peepalki, Post - Peepalki, Teh: Sikrai, Dist -Dausa, State: Rajasthan, Pin: 303509 declare that I have changed my name from Bilal Devi to Beela Devi and Also Correct my Date of birth from 17/03/1959 to 01/01/1964. Vide Affidavit No: 48AA 901536, Dated: 23/04/2025

I, Pushpa Devi am Mother of Army No-18004489W Rank: NK Name: Komal Singh Presently Posted At Unit: 57 Engr Regt C/o 56 APO Permanent Address: 155, Bich ka Purva, Ajhuva, Kanwar, Kaushambi, Uttar Pradesh-212217 Declare that I have changed my name from Pushpa Devi to Dulariya. Vide Affidavit No-48AA 901534, Dated: 23.04.2025

I, Sweetsy spouse of No. GS-181771F PNR Sukhwinder Singh resident of Ward No.1, Near Bharat Gas Godown Khanpur Chowk, Pathankot, Tehsil & District Pathankot, State- Punjab, Pin-145001, have changed my DOB from 10 Oct 1987 to 10 Jan 1987 Vide affidavit No.IN-PB25200180066306X dated 11 April 2025 Pathankot

I, Puspab Subedi Mother of No.JC-390968H Sub Bishal Mani Subedi resident of Village- Resheep Division, Deepak Toll, Post- Mungpoo, Tehsil- Kurseong, District- Darjeeling, State- West Bengal, Pin-734313, have changed my name from Puspab Subedi to Pushpa Subedi Vide affidavit No.IN-PB26275736106076X dated 15 April 2025 before notary public Pathankot

I, Dharmbir S/o Ratan Singh, R/o Village Jai Jai Wanti Tehsil Julana Distt. Jind, Haryana. My name Dharambir Singh is recorded in my Passport But in other all documents my name is Dharmbir. In future I will be known as Dharmbir.

I, Rajesh Gumber S/O Sh. Tilak Raj R/O H.No. 72-73, C-Block, Sirsa, Distt. Sirsa (Haryana). That I Have Changed My Name From Rohit To Rohit Arora , In Future My Name Is To Be Called As Rohit Arora.

I, Kanchan W/O Sh. Rohit Arora R/O 893, Sector 20, Part-2, Huda Sirsa, Distt. Sirsa(Haryana). That I Have Changed My Name From Kanchan To Kanchan Arora , In Future My Name Is To Be Called As Kanchan Arora.

I, Neeraj (04/01/1990) W/o Rohit R/o Village Khanjarpur, Post Office/Tehsil Modinagar District Ghaziabad (Uttar Pradesh)-201204, India have changed my name from Neeraj Devi to Neeraj due to wrong name recorded in my husband army service record.

I, Gurprit Kaur W/o Ravinder Singh Vill Asmanpur, Usmanpur, Pehowa, Kurukshetra, Have Changed My Name Gurprit Surname Kaur

I, Gurprit Kaur W/o Ravinder Singh Vill Asmanpur, Usmanpur, Pehowa, Kurukshetra, Have Changed My Minor Son Name Avi Singh To Given Name Avi Surname Singh

I, Suman Devi W/o Rajesh Kumar R/o Pooja Colony, Pehowa, Kurukshetra Have Changed My Name Suman Rani,

I, Trilochan Kaur W/o Sarbjit Singh R/o Vill. Karahami Tehsil Thanesar Distt. Kurukshetra have changed my name from Trilochan Kaur to Harjeet Kaur after marriage

I, Rekha w/o Amit Kumar r/o village Mehra, Tehsil Ladwa, Kurukshetra have changed my name from Rekha to Rekha Rani. Now my name should be considered as Rekha Rani.

I, Neeraj (04/01/1990) W/o Rohit R/o Village Khanjarpur, Post Office/Tehsil Modinagar District Ghaziabad (Uttar Pradesh)-201204, India have changed my name from Neeraj Devi to Neeraj due to wrong name recorded in my husband army service record.

I, Ningappa Gadennavar Is Legally Father Of Pranita Ningappa Gadennavar (Daughter) Presently Resident At Honnapur, Kittur, Belagavi, Kamataka, Pin-591115. Have Changed My Daughter Name From Pranita Ningappa Gadennavar To Pranita Gadennavar Vide Affidavit No-In-Pb28771708089796X Dated 23-04-2025 Before Notary Public District Court Gurdaspur Punjab.

I, Kuldeep Kaur Wife Of No 2461651m Ex Nk(Ts) Late Sarup Singh R/O 12-D, Scheme No-5 Improvement Trust Colony Jail Road Gurdaspur. Tehsil/Distt- Gurdaspur. Punjab. Declare That My Son Name Gurman Singh Randhawa. Studing In Doon International School Gurdaspur 10th Class In My Son School Record My Name From Bhupinder Randhawa To Bhupinder Pal Singh Randhawa.

I, Bupinder Randhawa S/O Balkar Singh R/O 12-D, Scheme No-5 Improvement Trust Colony Jail Road Gurdaspur. Tehsil/Distt- Gurdaspur. Punjab. Declare That My Son Name Gurman Singh Randhawa. Studing In Doon International School Gurdaspur 10th Class In My Son School Record My Name From Bhupinder Randhawa To Bhupinder Pal Singh Randhawa.

I, Gurdeep Kaur D/O Gurnam Singh W/O Mandip Singh R/O Village Seel, Distt. Patiala (Punjab) Have Changed My Name From Gurdeep Kaur Gandeey To Gurdeep Kaur.

I, Pavithra H S Is Legally Wife Of Service No.16114211 Rank: Hav. Name: Pradeep P Unit: 1 Aer C/O 56 Apo, Residing At Village Boovanahalli, Post Boovanahalli, Taluk Hassan, Distt. Hassan (State) Karnataka, Pin- 573220, Have Changed My Name From Pavithra Hs To Pavithra H S.

I, Vishal Mani S/O Mukandi Ram R/O House No 205, Colony 2, Khudda Lahora, Chandigarh Have Changed My Name Vishal Mani Raturi.

I, Ponnarasi S Is Legally Wife Of Service No. Jc315602k Rank: Nb/Sub Name: P Ganesh Unit: 21 Engr Regiment C/O 56 Apo, Residing At Village Puthiyamputhur, Post Ottapidaram, Distt. Tuticorin (State) Tamil Nadu, Pin- 628402, Have Changed My Name From G Ponnarasi To Ponnarasi S.

I, Service No. Jc315602k Rank: Nb/Sub Name: P Ganesh Unit: 21 Engr Regiment C/O 56 Apo, Residing At Village Puthiyamputhur, Post Ottapidaram, Distt. Tuticorin (State) Tamil Nadu, Pin- 628402, Have Changed My Son's Name From Hashwin To G Hashwin.

I, Rohit S/O Sh. Krishan Lal R/O 893, Sector 20, Part-2, Huda Sirsa, Distt. Sirsa(Haryana). That I Have Changed My Name From Rohit To Rohit Arora , In Future My Name Is To Be Called As Rohit Arora.

I, Kanchan W/O Sh. Rohit Arora R/O 893, Sector 20, Part-2, Huda Sirsa, Distt. Sirsa(Haryana). That I Have Changed My Name From Kanchan To Kanchan Arora , In Future My Name Is To Be Called As Kanchan Arora.

I, Rajesh Gumber S/O Sh. Tilak Raj R/O H.No. 72-73, C-Block, Sirsa, Distt. Sirsa (Haryana). That I Have Changed My Name From Rajesh Gumber To Rajesh Kumar, In Future My Name Is To Be Called As Rajesh Kumar.

I Hitherto Known As Deepak Kumar S/O Jagmohan Lal, Residing At House No 105, Dhanowali Road, Bhullar Enclave, Dakoha, Distt Jalandhar Punjab 144023, Have Changed My Name And Shall Hereafter Be Known As Deepak Dhari.

I Hitherto Known As Subham S/O Manjit Kumar, Residing At Post Office Sham Chaurasi, Sham Chaurasi, Dist Hoshiarpur, Punjab 144105, Have Changed My Name And Shall Hereafter Be Known As Subham Kumar.

I, Meenal W/O Sh. Jitin Kumar Sardana Pal R/O 536, Sector-20, Huda Colony, Sirsa, Distt. Sirsa(Haryana). That I Have Changed My Name From Meenal To Meenal Sardana, In Future My Name Is To Be Called As Meenal Sardana.

I Kirandeep W/O Jarman Singh R/O Vill Bhaini Badeshan Po Bhorchi Rajputana Tehsil Baba Bakala Distt Amritsar Rural Punjab I Have Changed My Name From Kirandeep To Kirandeep Kaur And Kirandeep Is My Given Name And Kaur Is My Surname.

I Varinder Singh S/O Balvir Krishan R/O Vpo Sarhal Mundi, Tehsil Phailaur, Distt Jalandhar Have Changed My Name Varinder And Now Singh Is My Surname.

I Rajinder Singh S/O Harwant Singh R/O Lodhwan Pratham Po Lodhwan Tehsil Indora Distt Kangra Hp Declare That I Have Changed My Name From Rajinder Singh S/O Harwant Singh To Rajinder Singh S/O Harbans Singh . Pleas Note

I Rahul Chambyal S/O Rajender Singh R/O Lodhwan Pratham Po Lodhwan Tehsil Indora Distt Kangra Hp Declare That I Have Changed My Name From Rahul Chambyal S/O Rajender Singh To Rahul Chambyal S/O Rajinder Singh . Pleas Note.

I Balbir Kaur W/O Gurjant Singh Dullat R/o Vill Khairpur Jattan , P.o Khanpur Gandian , teh Rajpura Distt Patiala changed name as Balbir Kaur Dullat and my DOB is 13/8/1959.

I, Prem Singh S/O Satwant Singh R/o #296, St.No.4, Near Gurdwara Nanak Darbar, Sector 25-B, Mandi Gobindgarh (Fatehgarh Sahib) have changed my name to Prem Singh Lotey.

I, Pardeep Kumar S/O Krishan Lal R/o H.No.91/27, Bramhpuri Mohalla, Novelty Cinema Road, Khanna (Ludhiana) have changed my name to Pardeep Verma.

I, Harjit Singh S/O Mohinder Singh R/o #313, Sec.19-B, Mandi Gobindgarh (Fatehgarh Sahib) also known as Harjit Singh Lotey, these both names are mine, one & same person.

I Hitherto Known As Sudershan Singh S/O Larju Ram, Residing At Village Rehatur, Post Office Tatwail, Tehsil Fatehpur, Tatbail 152, Kangra, Himachal Pradesh, 176058. Have Changed My Name And Shall Hereafter Be Known As Darshan Singh.

I, Hitherto Known As Karan S/O Ravinder Singh, Residing At Pati Munpur, Vpo. Phloriwai, Garha, Jalandhar, Punjab-144022, India, Have Changed My Name And Shall Hereafter Be Known As Karandeep Singh.

I, Neha Saini D/O Hukamchand Saini R/O 1521, Saini Colony Dharuhera, Na, Dharuhera, Malpura (295), Industrial Area Dharuhera, Rewari, Haryana - 123110, Have Changed My Name To Nisha Saini.

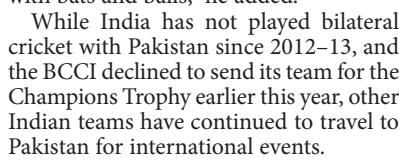
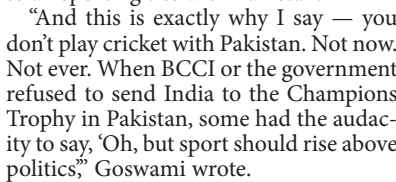
I Anu D/O Ram Krishan And W/O Yogesh Kumar R/O Gali No.2, Vikas Nagar, Khandwala, Chheharta, Amritsar-I, Amritsar, Punjab - 143105, Have Changed My Name To Anu Sharma.

I, Kavita W/o Vipan Kumar R/o Vill: Lodhi Chak Distt. Hoshiarpur Pb, have changed my minor son's name from Krishna to Krishna Kumar.

I, Kavita W/o Vipan Kumar R/o Vill: Lodhi Chak Distt. Hoshiarpur Pb, have changed my name to Kavita Kumari.

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“To target and kill innocent civilians in



"And now... This bloodshed again. It breaks something inside you. It makes you question how many more times we're expected to stay silent, stay 'sporting,' while our people die. No more. Not this time," he added. An "outraged" Olympic bronze medal-winning boxer and ruling BJP member Vijender Singh also called for

“Heartbroken by the horrific terrorist attack in Pahalgam. My thoughts are with the victims and their families. Terror has no place in our world, we must stand united against hatred and violence,” Bindra added.

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HANUMANGARH

Established by Government of Rajasthan & Recognized by UGC, New Delhi

Admission Open

M.Phil Clinical Psychology

(RCI Approved)

Academic Year 2023-26



Online Application Start Date	05 April 2025
Online Application End Date	30 April 2025
List Of Provisionally Eligible Candidates For The Written Exam	05 June 2025
Date Of The Written Entrance Examination (Offline)	10 June 2025
List Of Candidates Who Qualified For The Interview	11 June 2025
Interview Date For The Qualified Candidates	11 June 2025
Result Declaration Date	20 June 2025
Last Date For Admission	15 July 2025
Course Commencement Date	01 August 2025

Total No. of seats: 12

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For more details contact:

Yogendra Swami

HOD, Admissions

SKD University, Hanumangarh

Mob : 9772545330, 8875132111

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“आप सभी को राष्ट्रीय पंचायती राज दिवस की ढेरों शुभकामनाएं।
पंचायतें भारतीय लोकतंत्र का आधारस्तंभ हैं,
जिनकी मजबूती में ही नए भारत की समृद्धि निहित है।
आइए, आत्मनिर्भर भारत के निर्माण में अपनी पंचायतों को
और अधिक सशक्त करने का संकल्प लें।”
- नरेन्द्र मोदी

On the occasion of
National Panchayati Raj Day

State Level Gram Utthan Sammelan

April 24, 2025 | 9:00 AM
Tau Devi Lal Stadium, Sector 3, Panchkula

Chief Guest

Sh. Nayab Singh Saini

Chief Minister, Haryana

Presiding over by

Sh. Krishan Lal Panwar

Development and Panchayat Minister, Haryana

August Presence

**Speaker and Deputy Speaker,
Haryana Legislative Assembly**

and

Council of Ministers, Government of Haryana

**On this occasion, Social Security Pension will be
distributed to newly identified 41,591 beneficiaries**

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